

A serene landscape at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and purples, with a faint rainbow visible. The foreground shows a calm body of water reflecting the sky and the dark silhouettes of a forest on the far shore.

Delight Yourself in the Lord

10/13/2024

Ted Ohrn

Psalm 37:1-2

Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
be not envious of wrongdoers!

For they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.

Psalm 37:3-7

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

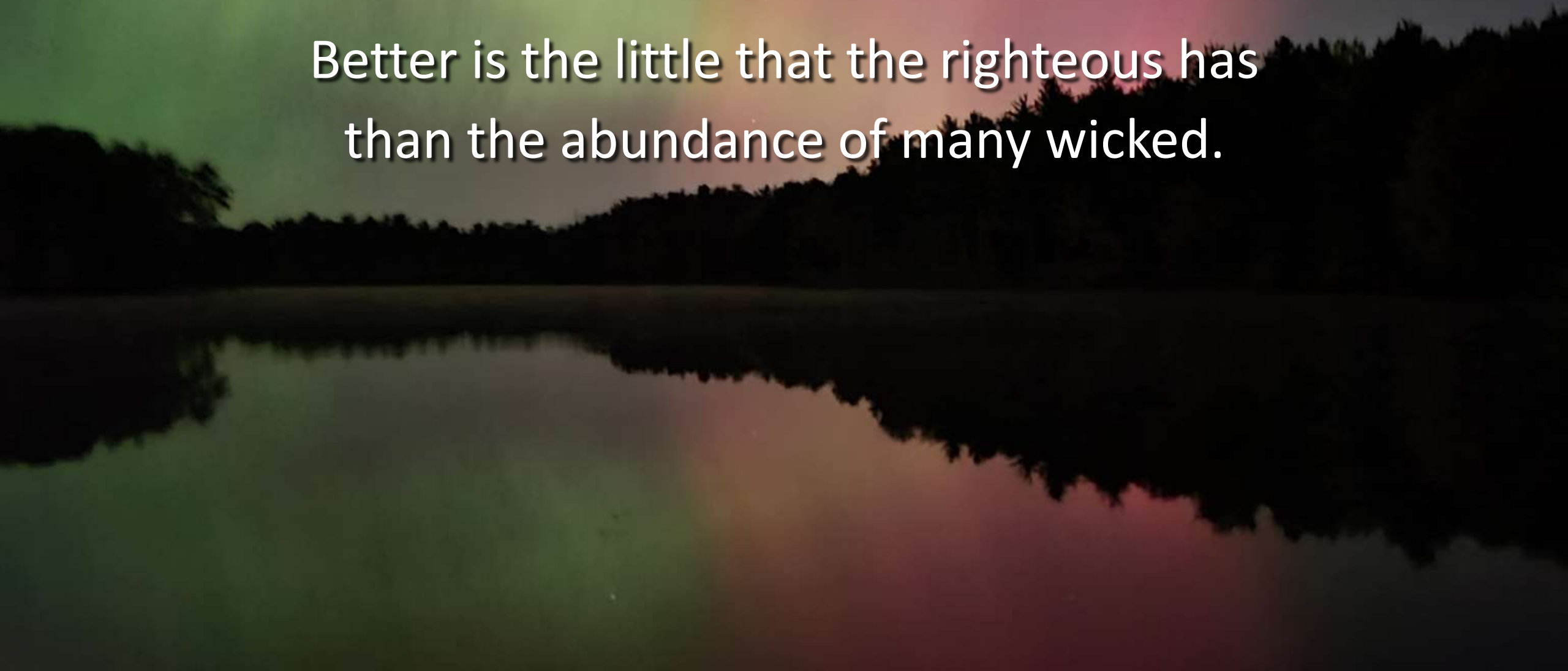
Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;

Psalm 37:16

Better is the little that the righteous has
than the abundance of many wicked.



Ecclesiastes 4:6

Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls
with toil and chasing after the wind.

A serene landscape at sunset or sunrise, featuring a calm body of water reflecting the colorful sky and the dark silhouettes of trees along the shore.

Hebrews 12:11

- No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Point #1

Keep the long-view in mind

- Though the ungodly may prosper now, their end is coming
- God sees us and will support us if we patiently wait, and trust, and act according to God's purposes
- The peace we have with righteousness is better than the stuff of the world

Rest assured that God will take care of you

Ps 37:18 The Lord knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever;

19 they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance.

...

25 I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

26 He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.

What does it mean to delight in the Lord?

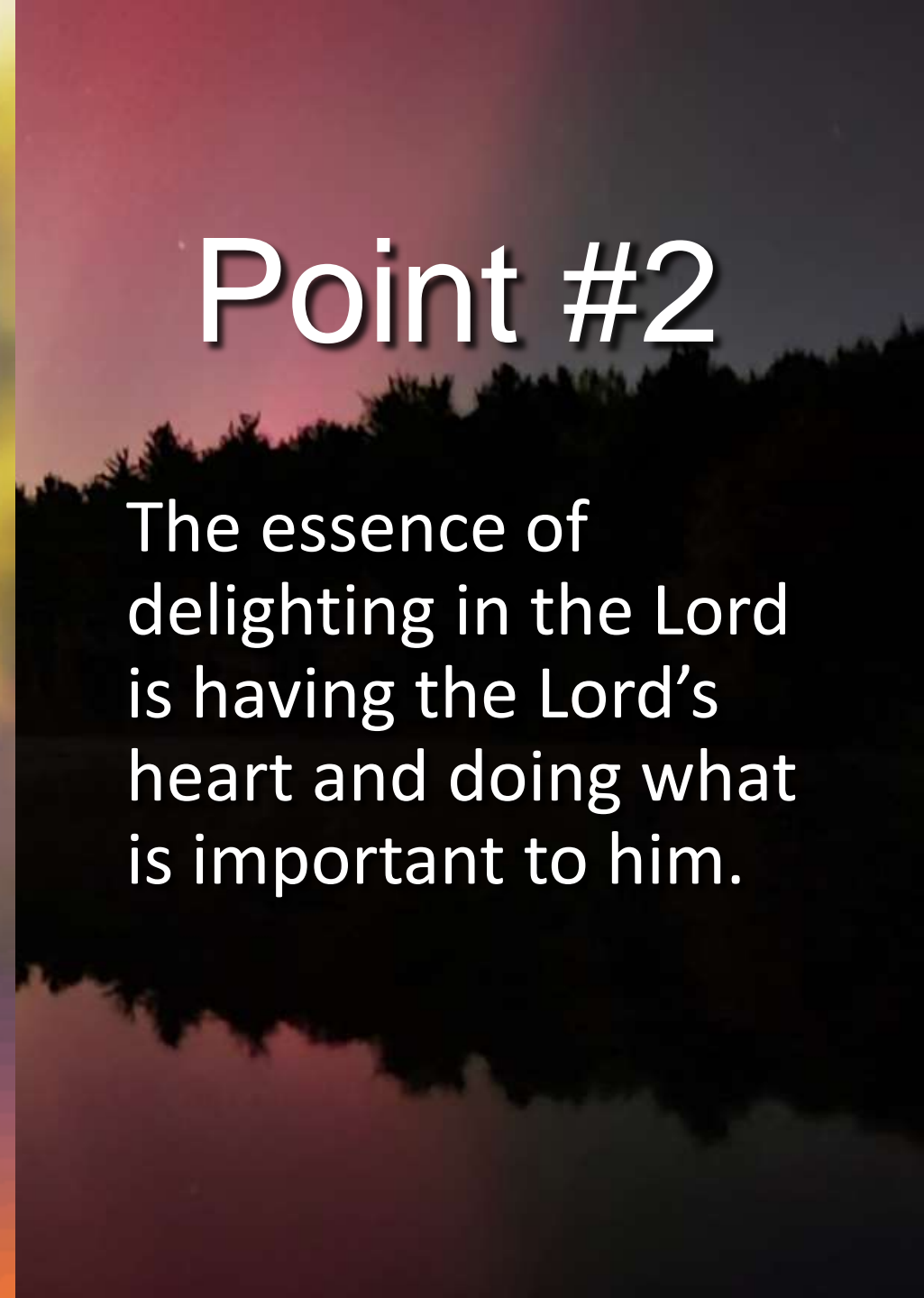
Ps 147:11 No, the LORD's delight is in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

John 8:28b "I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me. 29 The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."

A close-up photograph of a hand reaching upwards, palm facing up, towards a bright sun. A faint rainbow is visible in the background, arching across the sky. The lighting is warm and golden, creating a sense of hope and aspiration.

Point #2

A dark silhouette of a tree line against a sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright orange near the horizon. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The essence of delighting in the Lord is having the Lord's heart and doing what is important to him.

Psalm 37:23-24

The Lord makes firm the steps
of the one who delights in him;

though he may stumble, he will not fall,
for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

Psalm 37:5,6

Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him, and he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.

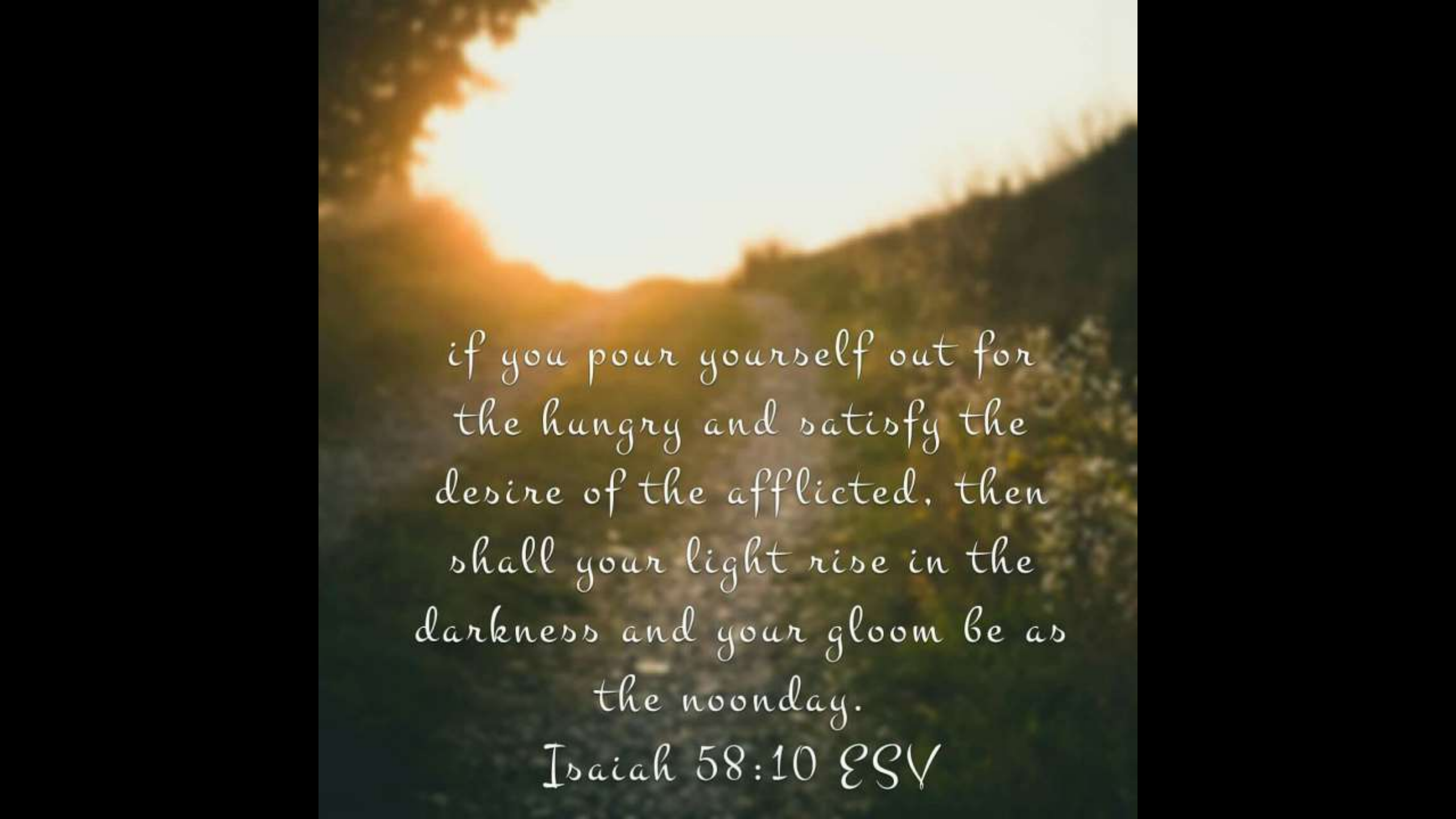
Isaiah 58:6-9

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.



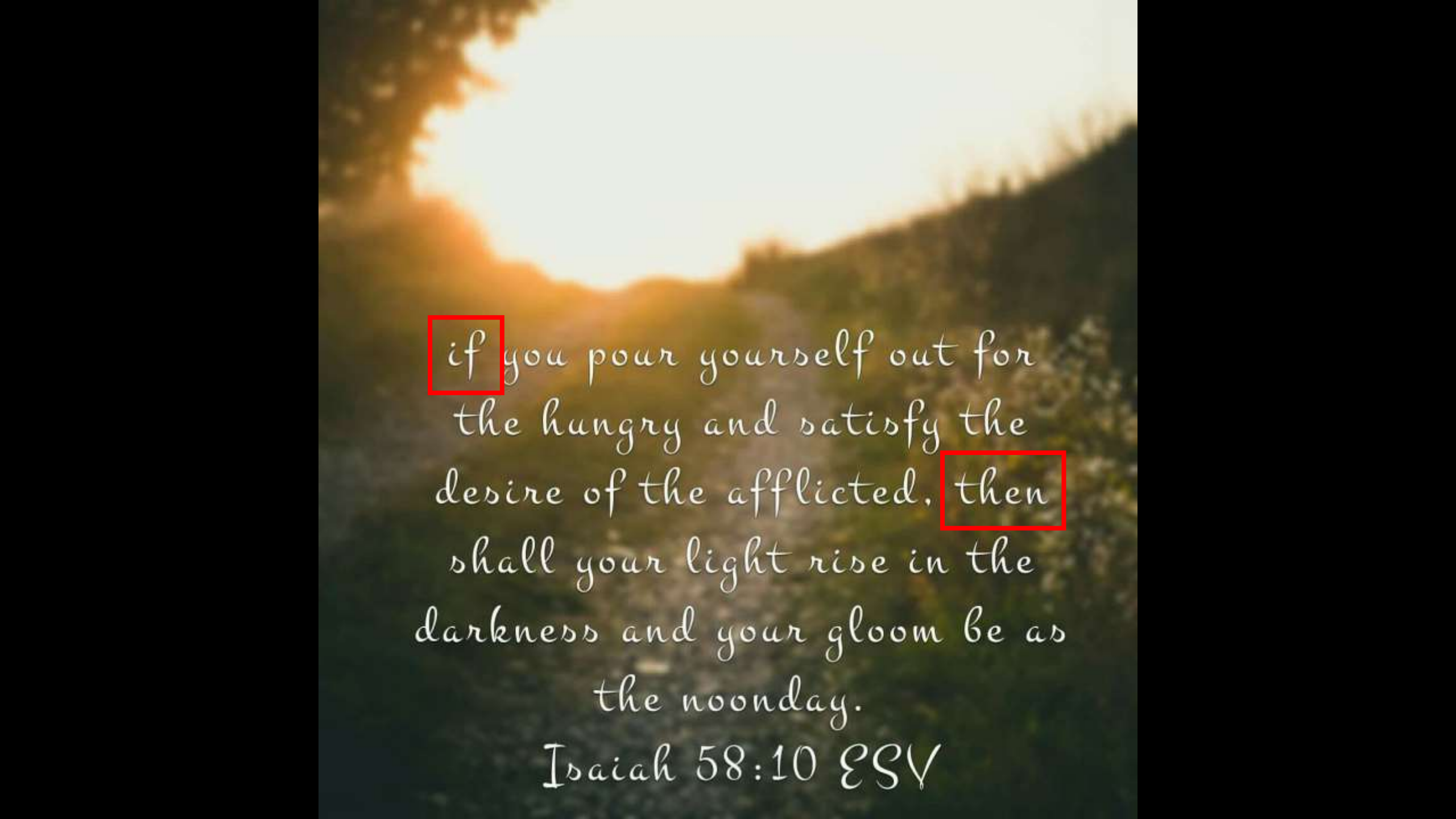
*if you pour yourself out for
the hungry and satisfy the
desire of the afflicted, then
shall your light rise in the
darkness and your gloom be as
the noonday.*

Isaiah 58:10 ESV

And the Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong; and you
shall be like a watered garden, like a
spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

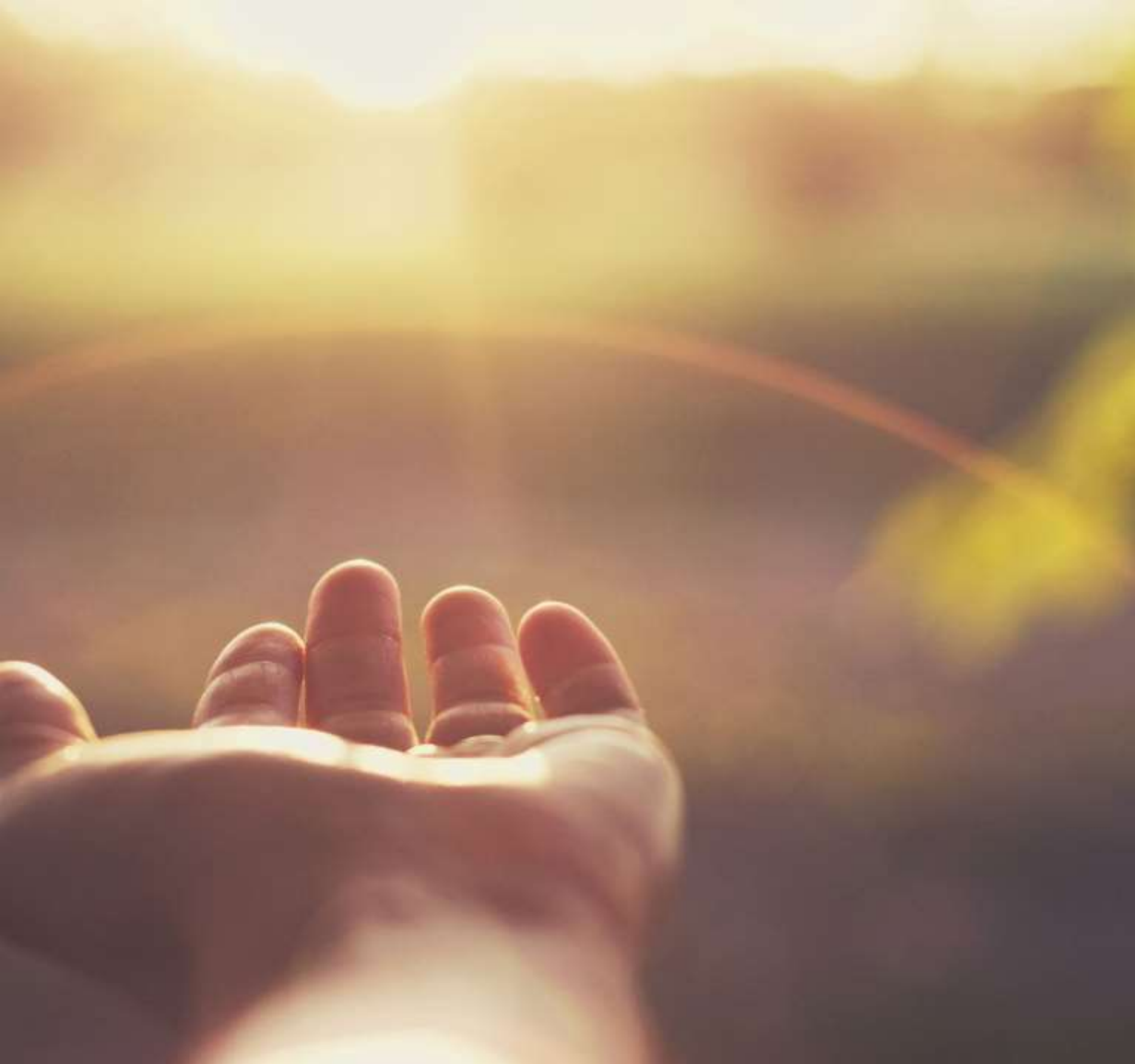
ISAIAH 58:11





if you pour yourself out for
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Point #3

- Even as we experience the victories of our faith in this life, God has planned for something better for us.



Inherit the Land

9... but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

11 But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

for those blessed by the Lord shall inherit the land,

34 Wait for the Lord and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off.

Hebrews 11:13-16

Heroes living by faith

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

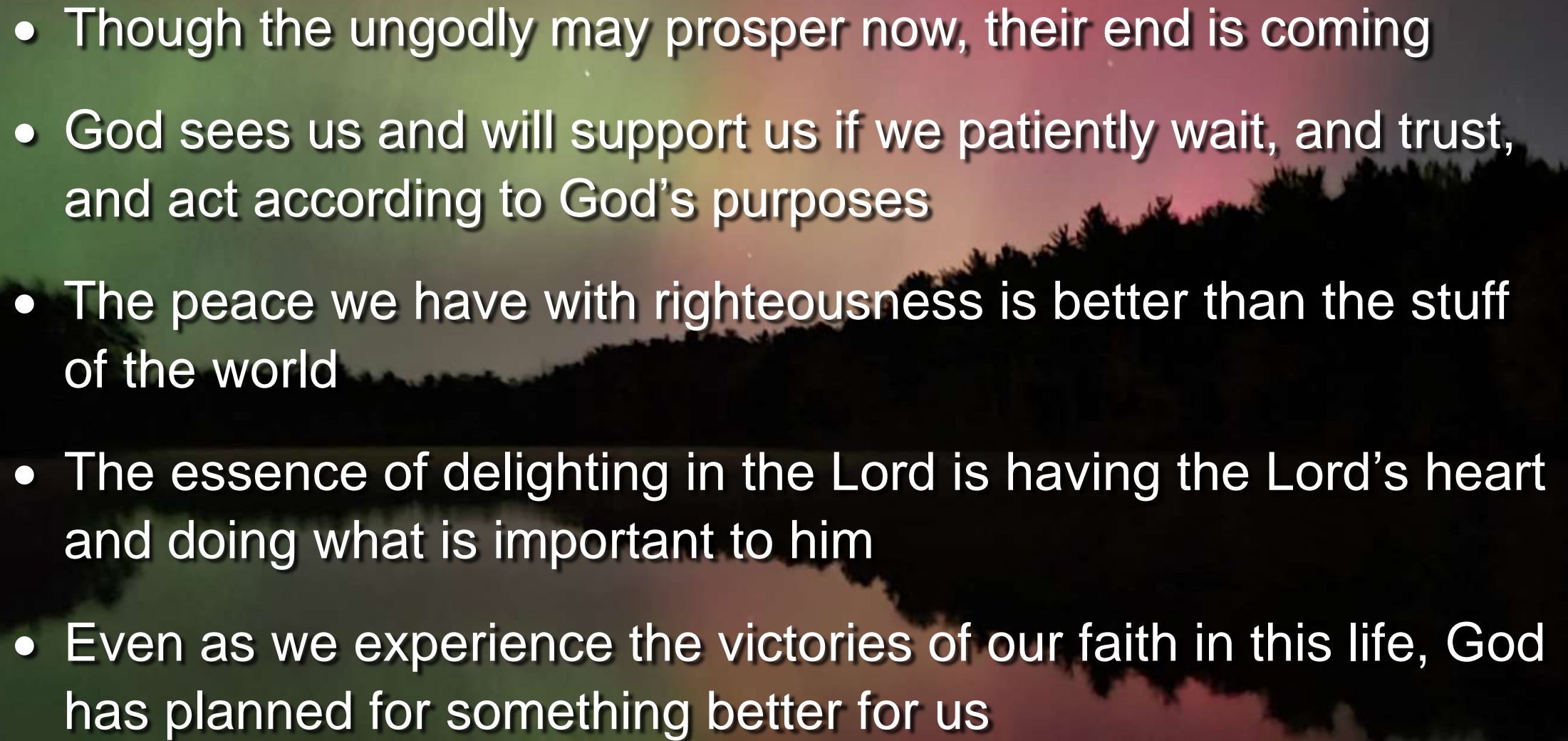
Hebrews 11:39-40

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Psalm 37:39-40

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;
he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

The Lord helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

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- Though the ungodly may prosper now, their end is coming
 - God sees us and will support us if we patiently wait, and trust, and act according to God's purposes
 - The peace we have with righteousness is better than the stuff of the world
 - The essence of delighting in the Lord is having the Lord's heart and doing what is important to him
 - Even as we experience the victories of our faith in this life, God has planned for something better for us