



# WELCOME!

Asbury United Methodist Church

*Open Doors with Loving Hearts*

January 18, 2026





# CENTERING SONG

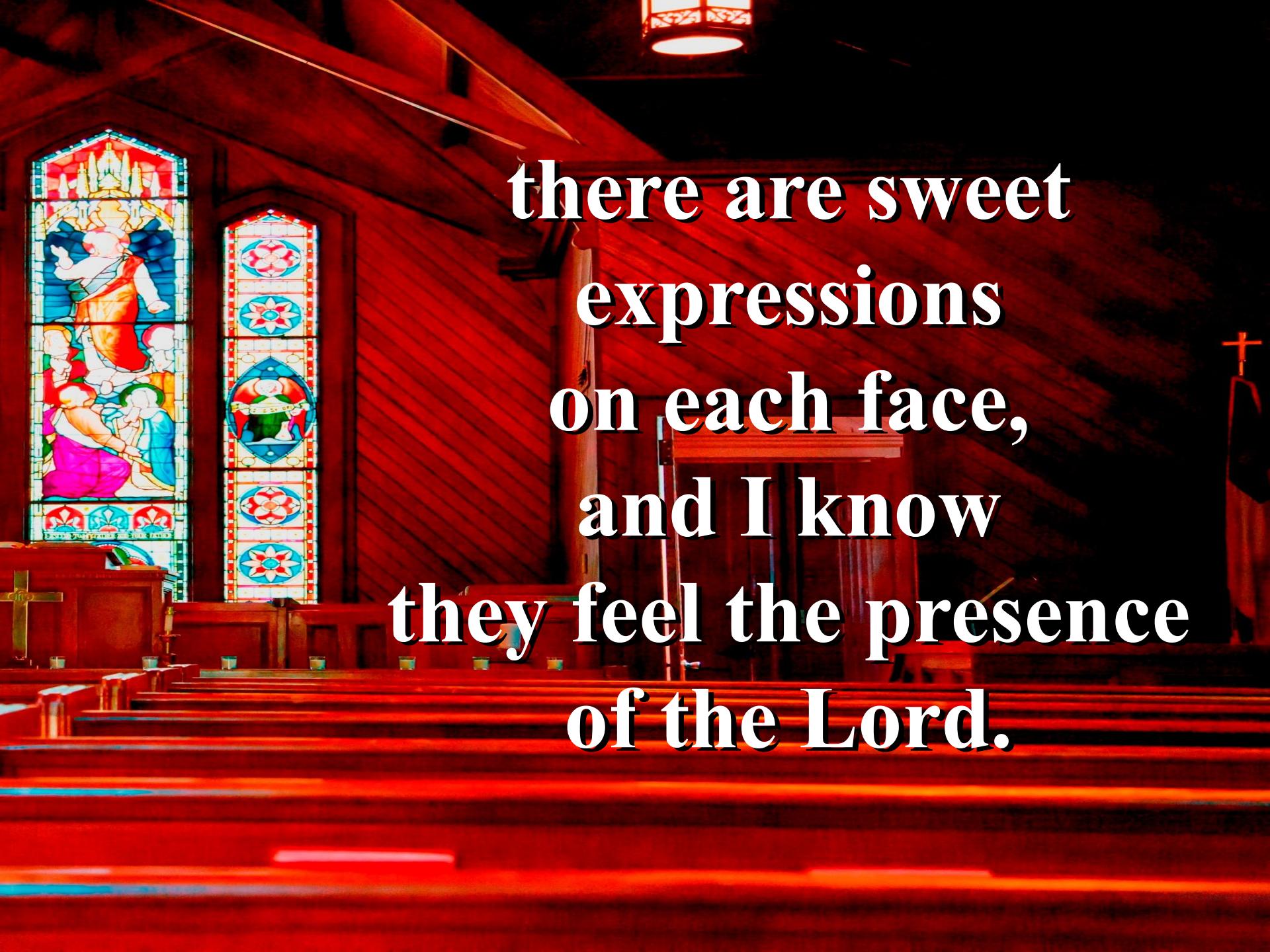
**“SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT”**  
**UMH 334**

# Sweet, Sweet Spirit

334

WORDS: Doris Akers, 1962

There's a sweet,  
sweet Spirit  
in this place,  
and I know that it's  
the Spirit of the Lord

A photograph of a church interior. The foreground shows rows of wooden pews. On the left, there are two large stained-glass windows depicting religious figures. The ceiling is dark with wooden beams, and a single light fixture hangs from the center. A wooden cross is mounted on the wall to the right. The overall atmosphere is warm and reverent.

there are sweet  
expressions  
on each face,  
and I know  
they feel the presence  
of the Lord.

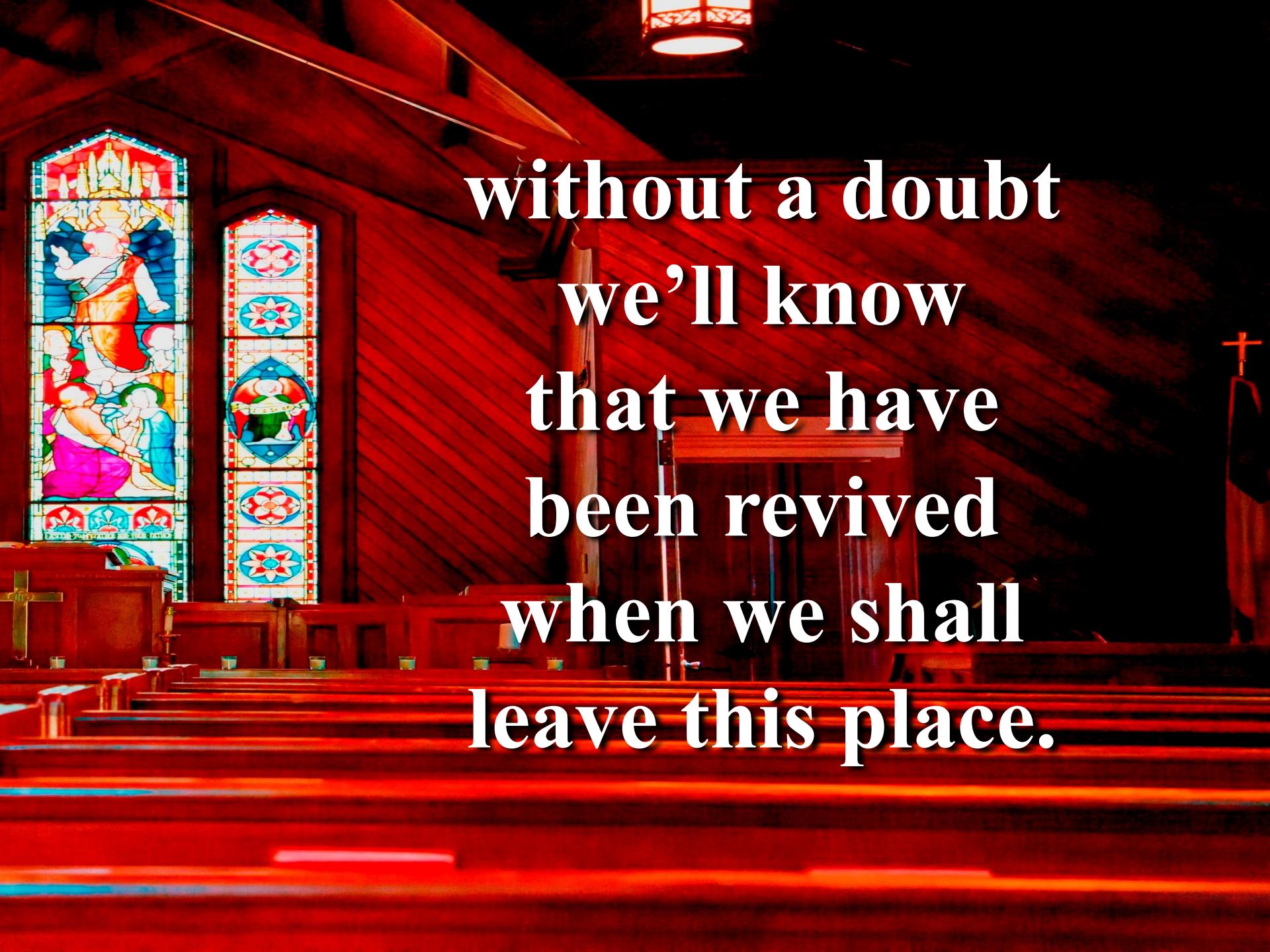
The background image shows the interior of a church. The floor is made of dark wood planks. In the foreground, there are rows of wooden pews. On the left, there are two large stained-glass windows. The window on the left depicts a figure in a red robe, possibly the Virgin Mary, with other figures below. The window on the right has a repeating floral or geometric pattern. A single chandelier hangs from the dark wooden ceiling in the background.

*Refrain*

**Sweet Holy Spirit,  
sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us,  
filling us with your love;**

The background image shows the interior of a church. The foreground consists of rows of wooden pews. On the left, there are two large, colorful stained-glass windows depicting religious figures and scenes. The ceiling is made of dark wood beams, and a single light fixture hangs from the center. The overall atmosphere is warm and reverent.

and for these blessings  
we lift our hearts  
in praise;



without a doubt  
we'll know  
that we have  
been revived  
when we shall  
leave this place.



# UNITY IN THE Body of Christ

EPHESIANS 4

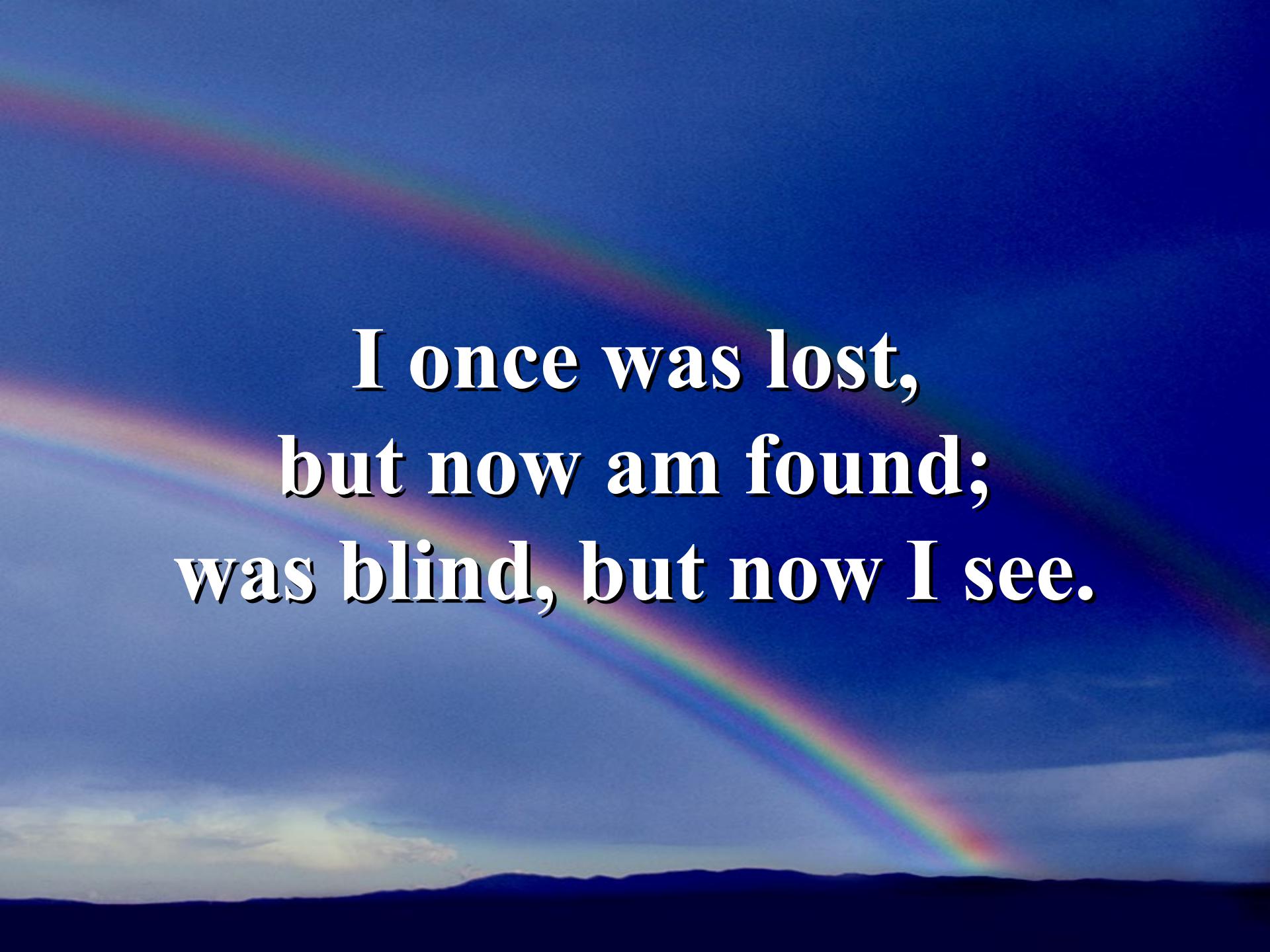
**“AMAZING GRACE”**

# Amazing Grace

378

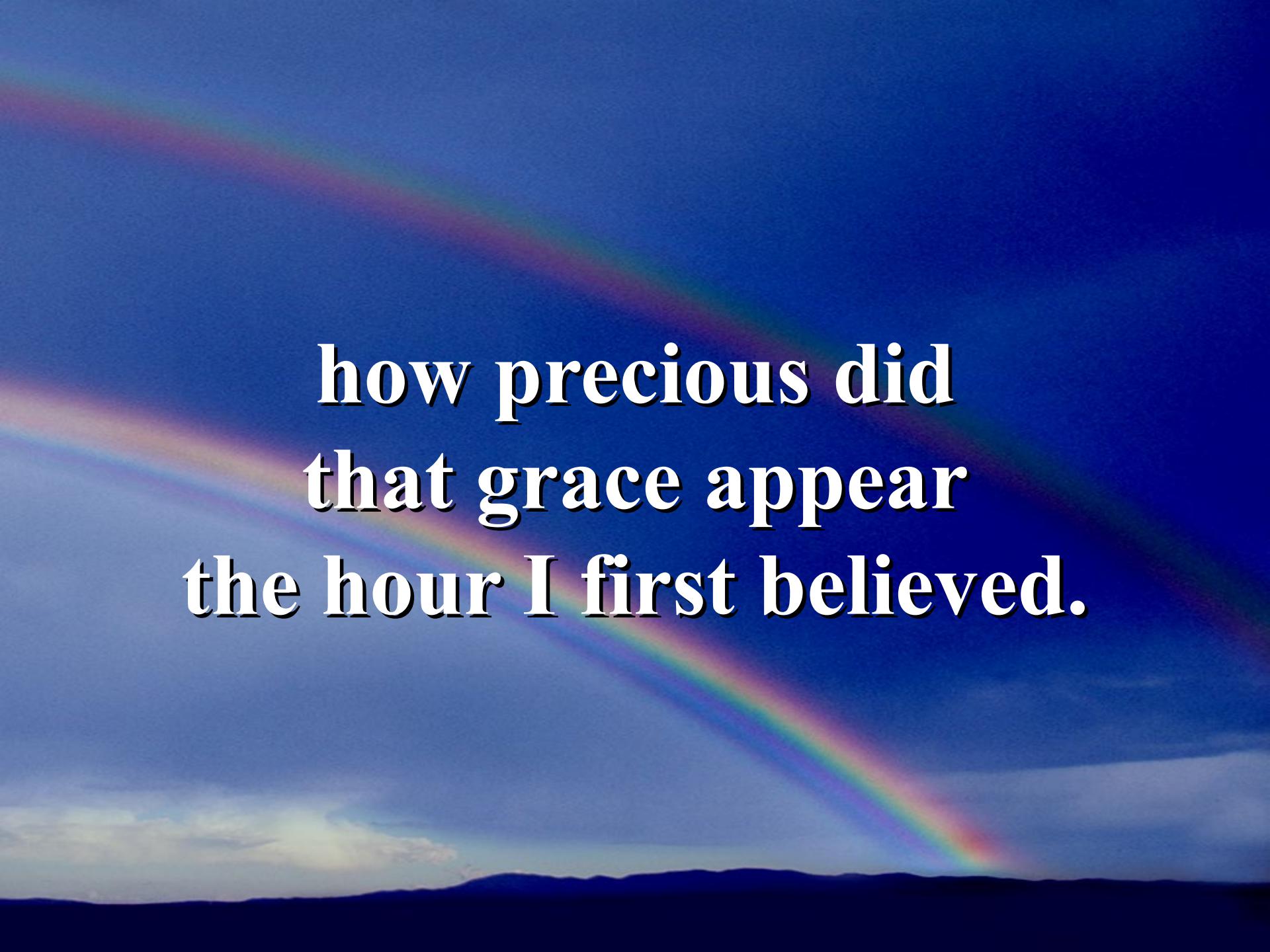
WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon. (1 Chr. 17:16-17)

1. Amazing grace!  
How sweet the sound  
that saved a  
wretch like me!

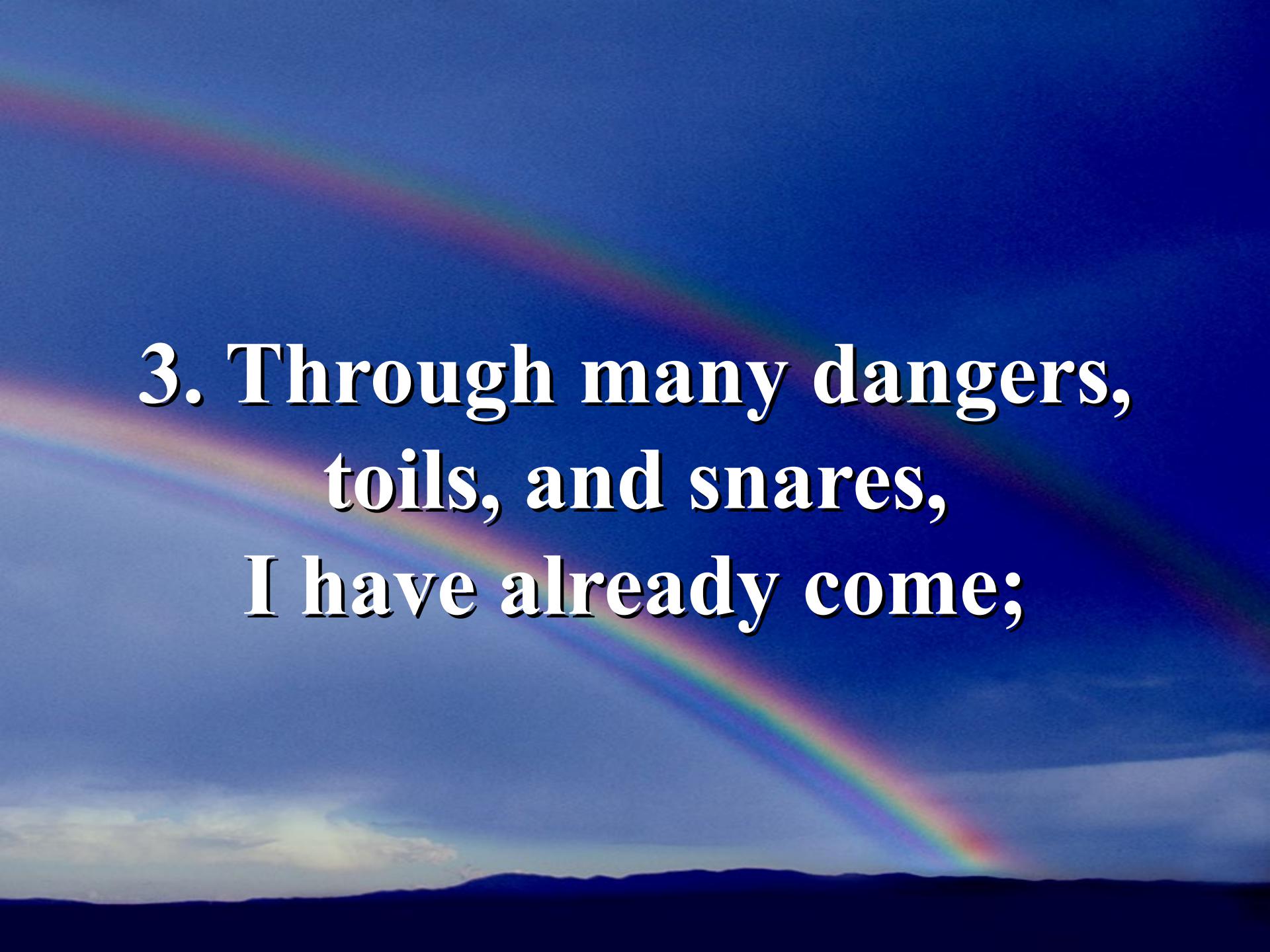
A photograph of a vibrant rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing a dark silhouette of land or mountains. The rainbow's colors are clearly defined, transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right.

I once was lost,  
but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.

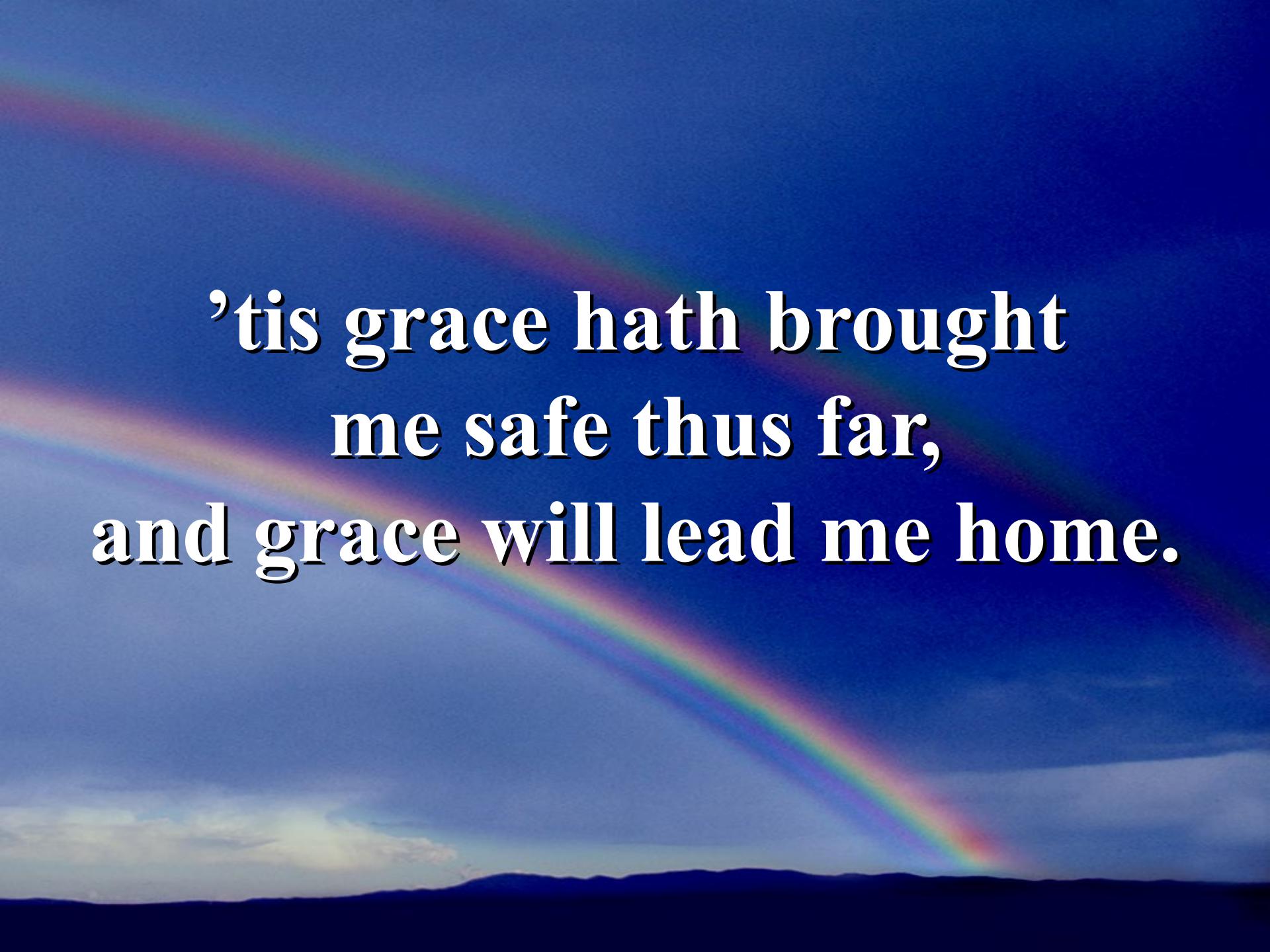
2. 'Twas grace that taught  
my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;

A photograph of a rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The rainbow's colors are vibrant, transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The horizon line is visible at the bottom, appearing dark against the bright sky.

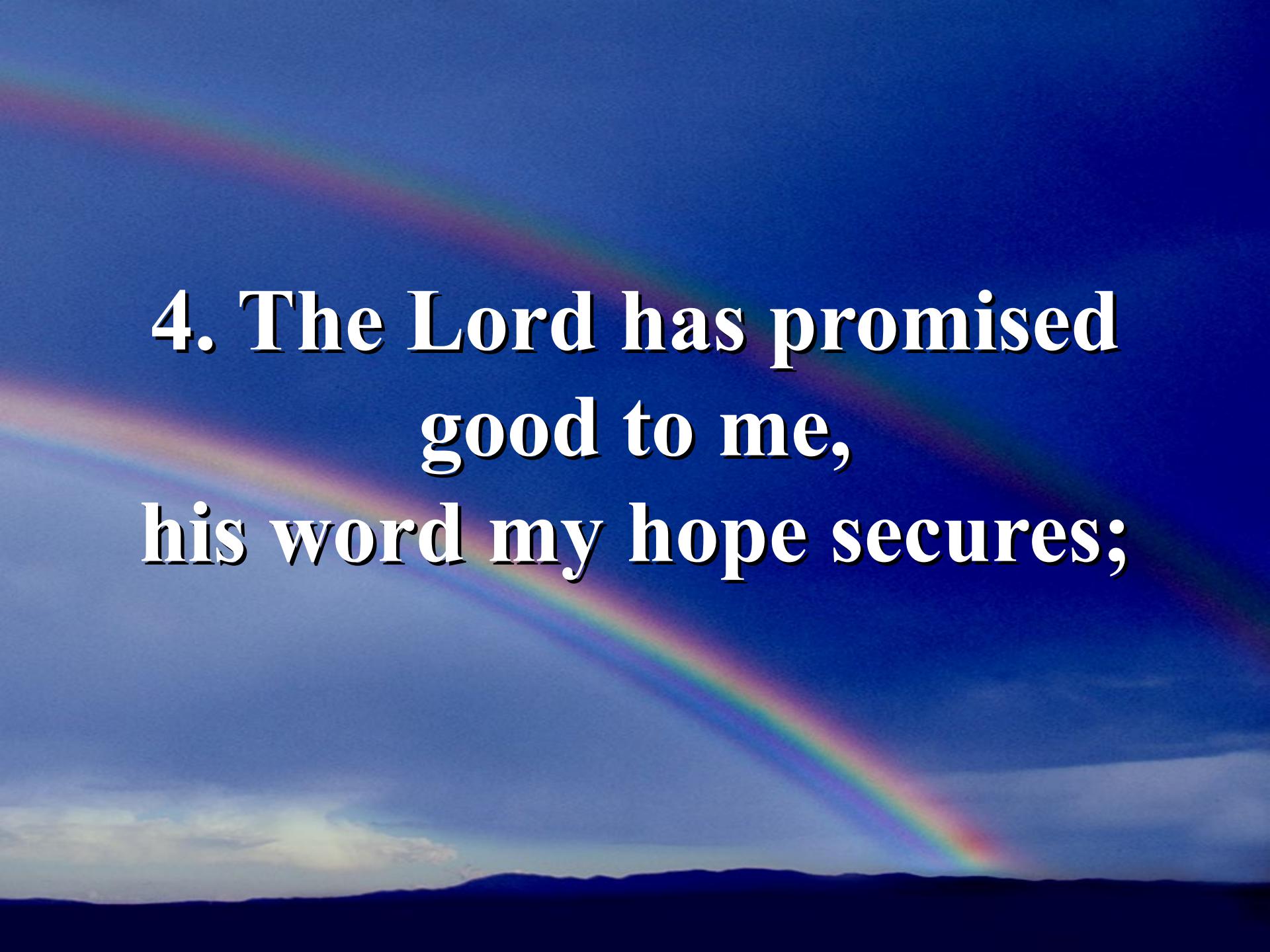
how precious did  
that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

A photograph of a rainbow arching across a clear blue sky. The rainbow is composed of distinct colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. It starts from the bottom left and curves upwards and to the right. The background is a deep, clear blue, and the horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing a dark silhouette of land or water.

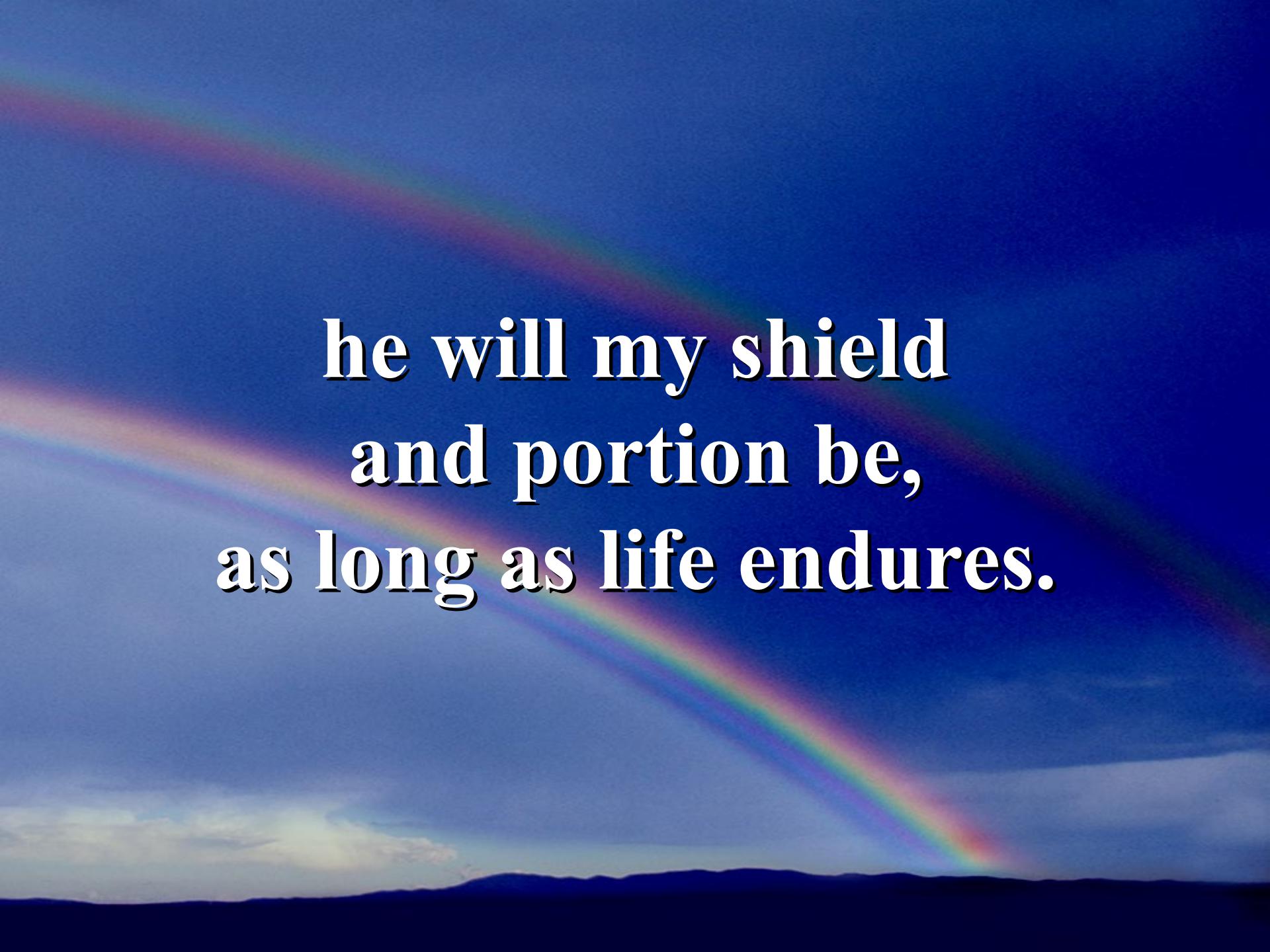
3. Through many dangers,  
toils, and snares,  
I have already come;

A photograph of a rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The rainbow is composed of distinct colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. It starts from the upper left, dips down towards the center, and then curves back up towards the upper right. The sky is a gradient of blue, darker at the top and lighter near the horizon. In the very bottom foreground, there are dark, indistinct shapes that appear to be the tops of hills or mountains.

'tis grace hath brought  
me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

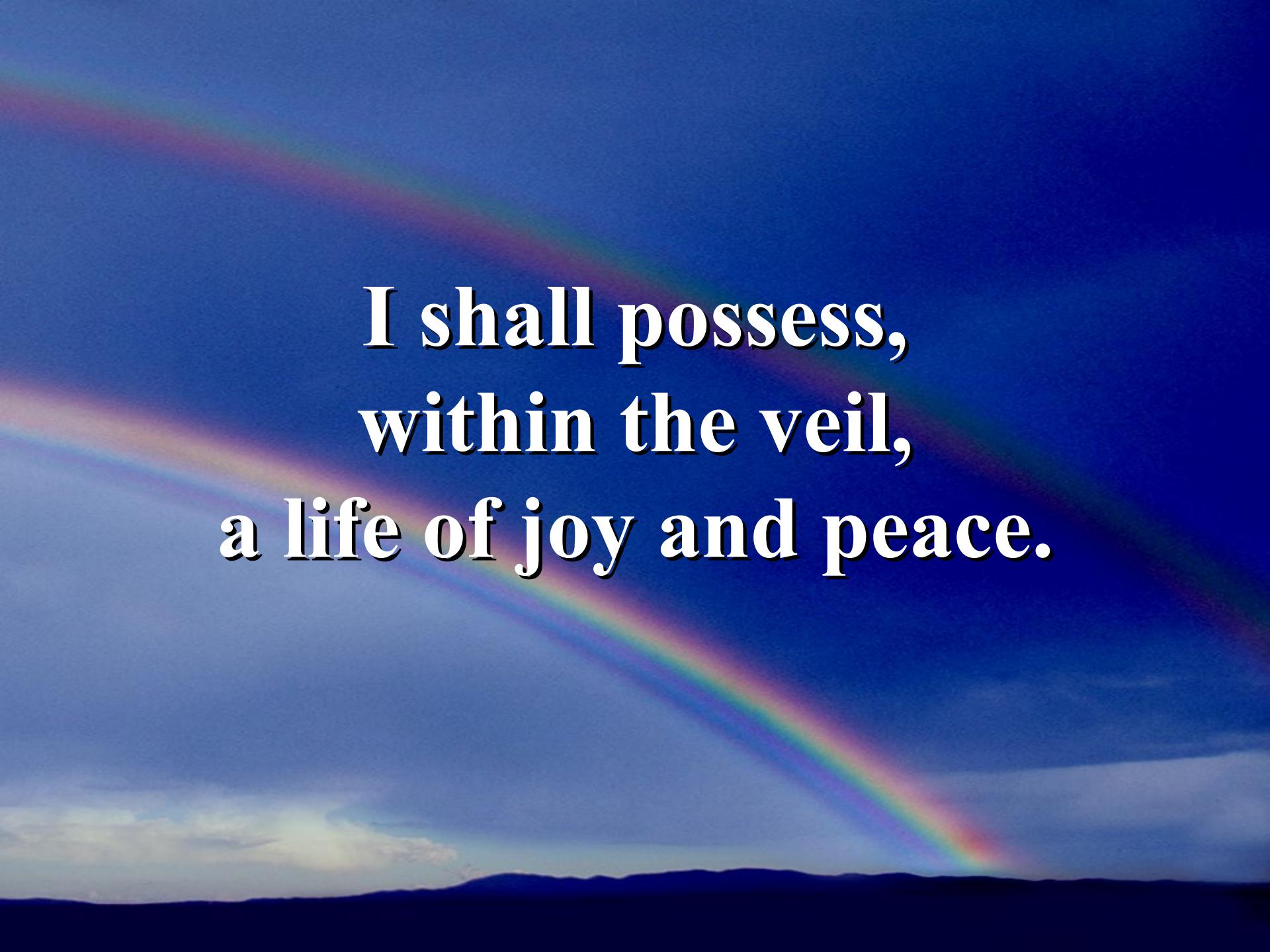
A photograph of a rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The rainbow is composed of distinct colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. It is set against a backdrop of a dark, hilly landscape at the bottom of the frame. The sky above the rainbow is a rich, saturated blue.

4. The Lord has promised  
good to me,  
his word my hope secures;

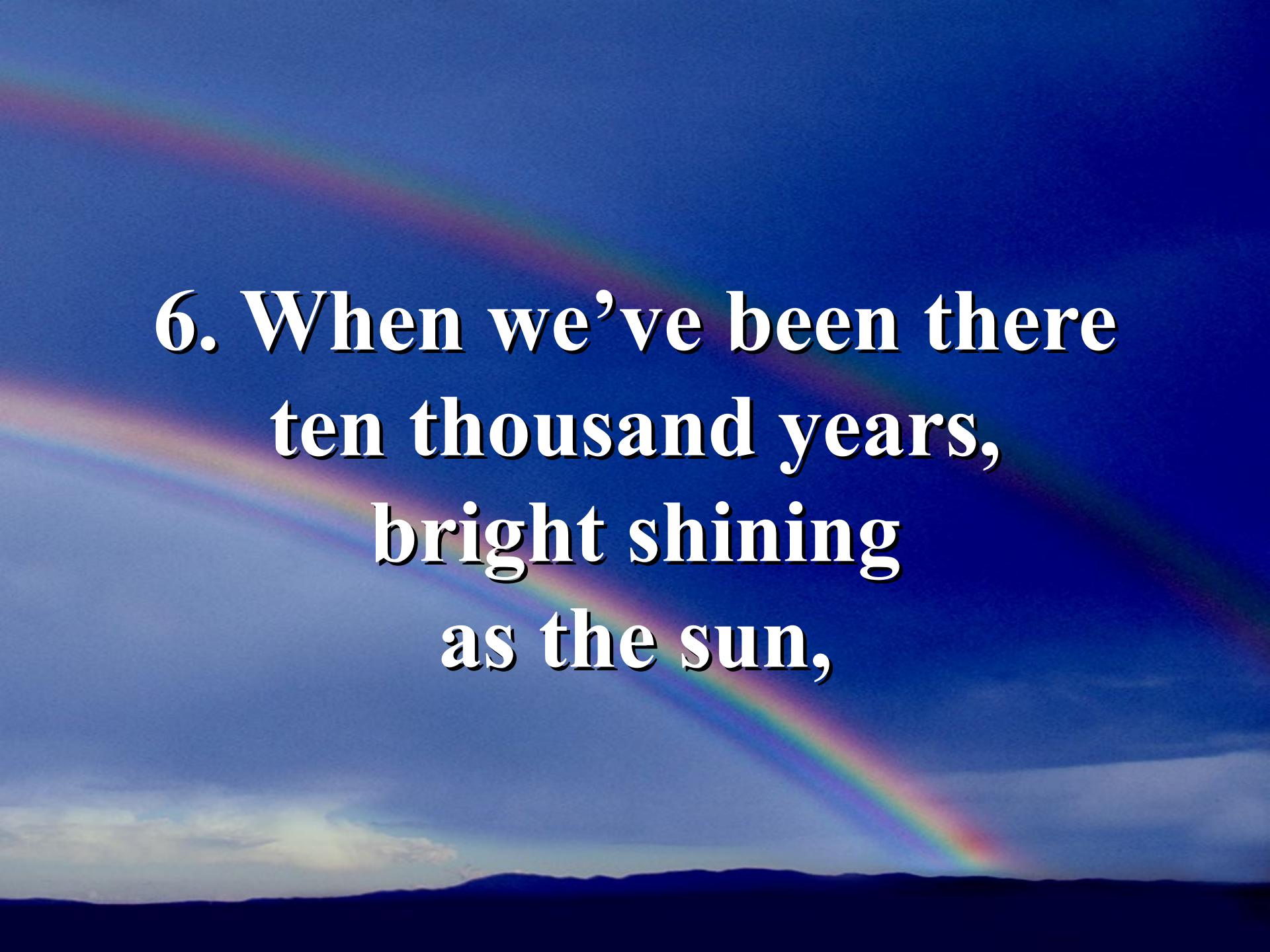
A photograph of a rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing a dark silhouette of land or mountains. The rainbow's colors are vibrant, with distinct bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.

he will my shield  
and portion be,  
as long as life endures.

5. Yea, when this flesh  
and heart shall fail,  
and mortal  
life shall cease,

A photograph of a vibrant rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. In the foreground, a dark, silhouetted landscape, possibly a range of mountains or hills, is visible at the bottom of the frame.

I shall possess,  
within the veil,  
a life of joy and peace.

A photograph of a rainbow arching across a clear blue sky. The rainbow is composed of distinct colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. It starts from the bottom left and curves upwards and to the right. The background is a deep, saturated blue, and the horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing a dark silhouette of land or water.

6. When we've been there  
ten thousand years,  
bright shining  
as the sun,

A photograph of a vibrant rainbow arching across a deep blue sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The horizon line is visible at the bottom, showing a dark, silhouetted landscape. The rainbow's colors are clearly defined, transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right.

we've no less days  
to sing God's praise  
than when  
we'd first begun.

# PRELUDE





# UNITY IN THE Body of Christ

EPHESIANS 4

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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**Birthday/Anniversary**



# CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** Can you hear God's call?

**People:** Christ's voice is heard far and near.

**Leader:** Can you discern God's Word?



**People:** Christ calls one and all.

**Leader:** God speaks of light and life.

**People:** Christ loves the mighty and the small.



**Leader:** The Spirit breathes joy and compassion.

**All:** We are called into fellowship together.



## OPENING SONG

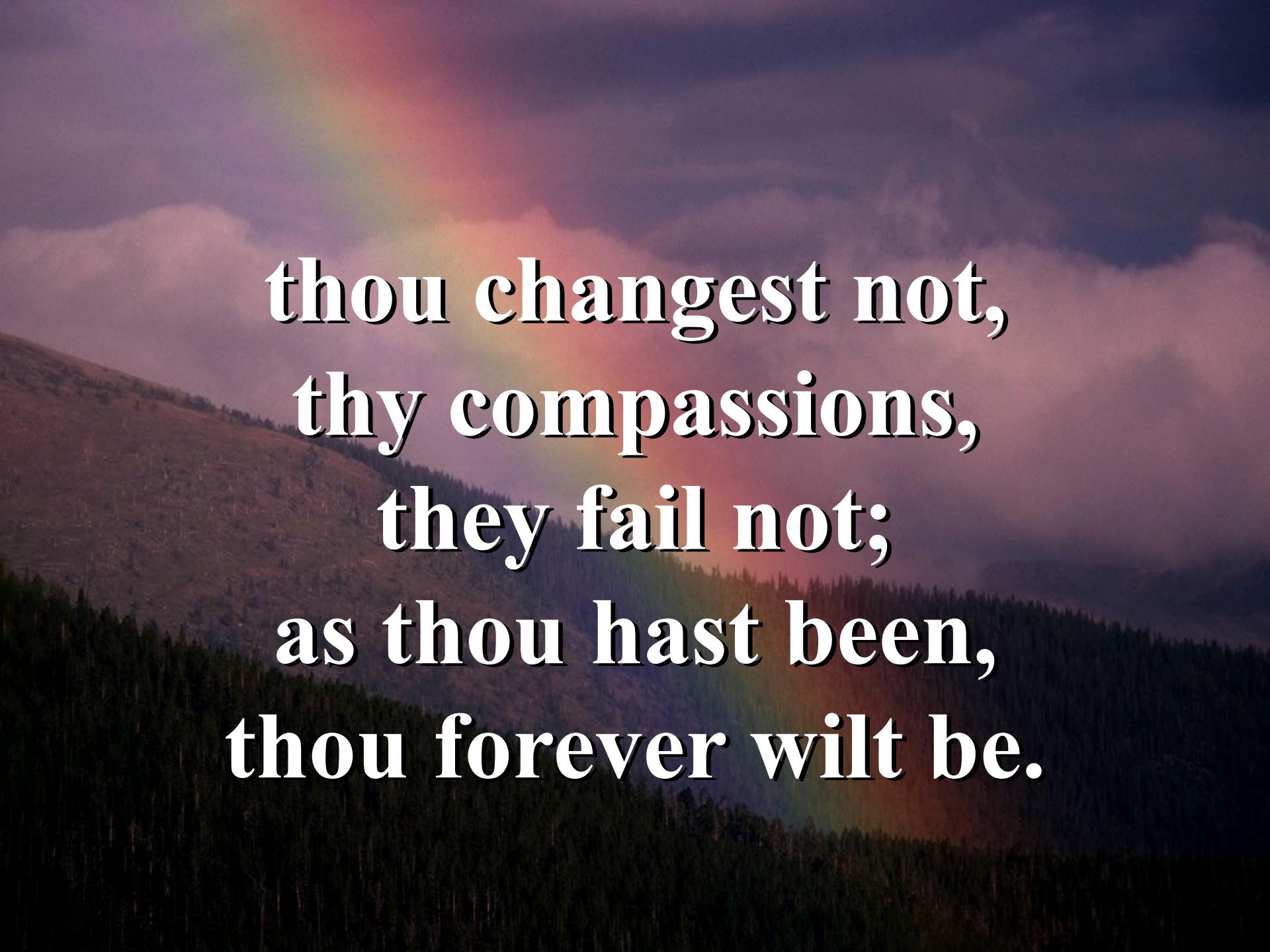
“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”

# Great Is Thy Faithfulness

140

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 (Lam. 3:22-23)

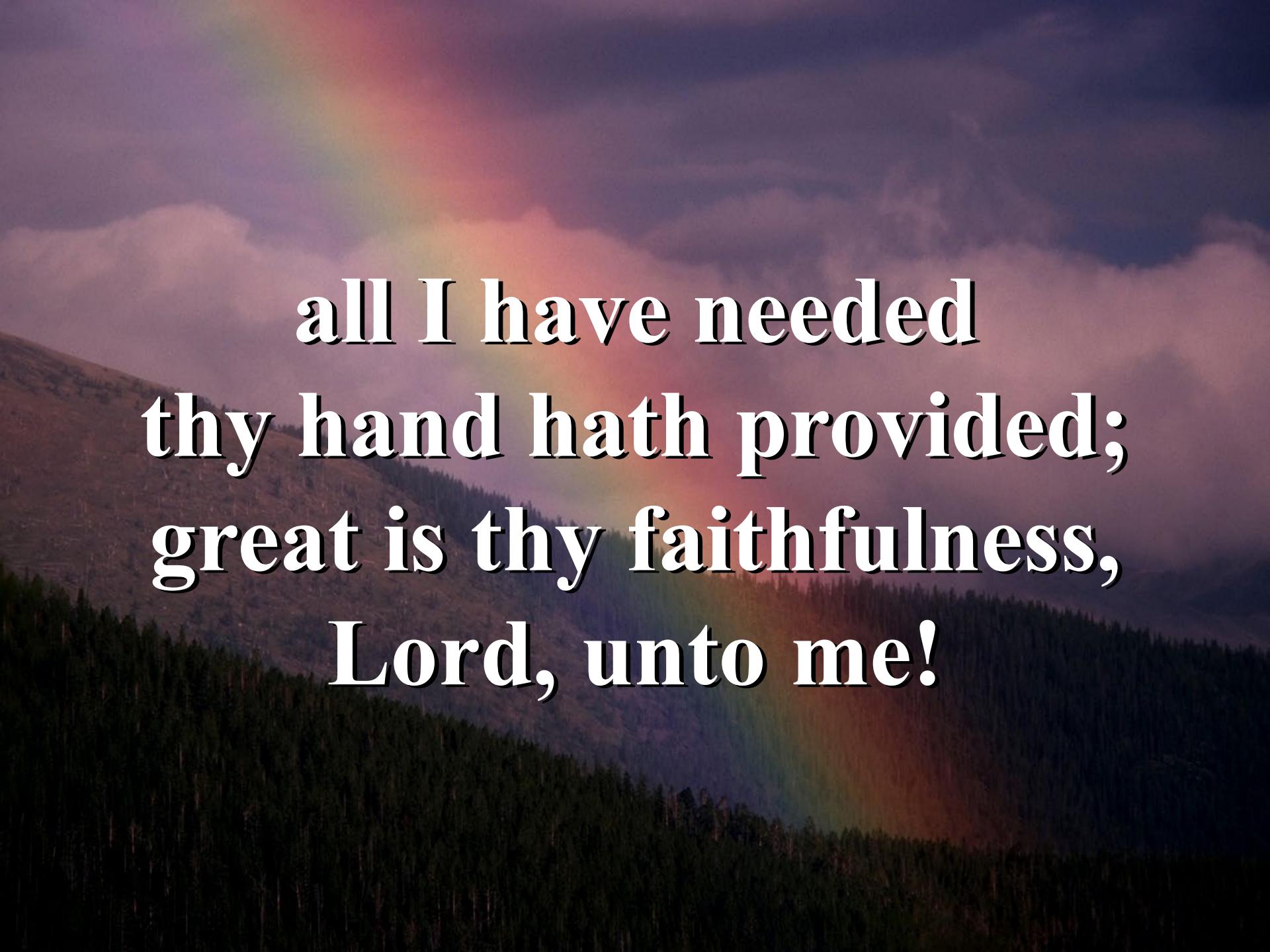
1. Great is thy faithfulness,  
O God my Father;  
there is no shadow  
of turning with thee;



thou changest not,  
thy compassions,  
they fail not;  
as thou hast been,  
thou forever wilt be.

## *Refrain*

Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning  
new mercies I see;



all I have needed  
thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness,  
**Lord, unto me!**

A landscape photograph of a mountainous area at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with warm, orange, and yellow hues, with a faint rainbow visible on the left. Dark, silhouetted mountain peaks and a forested hillside are in the foreground and middle ground.

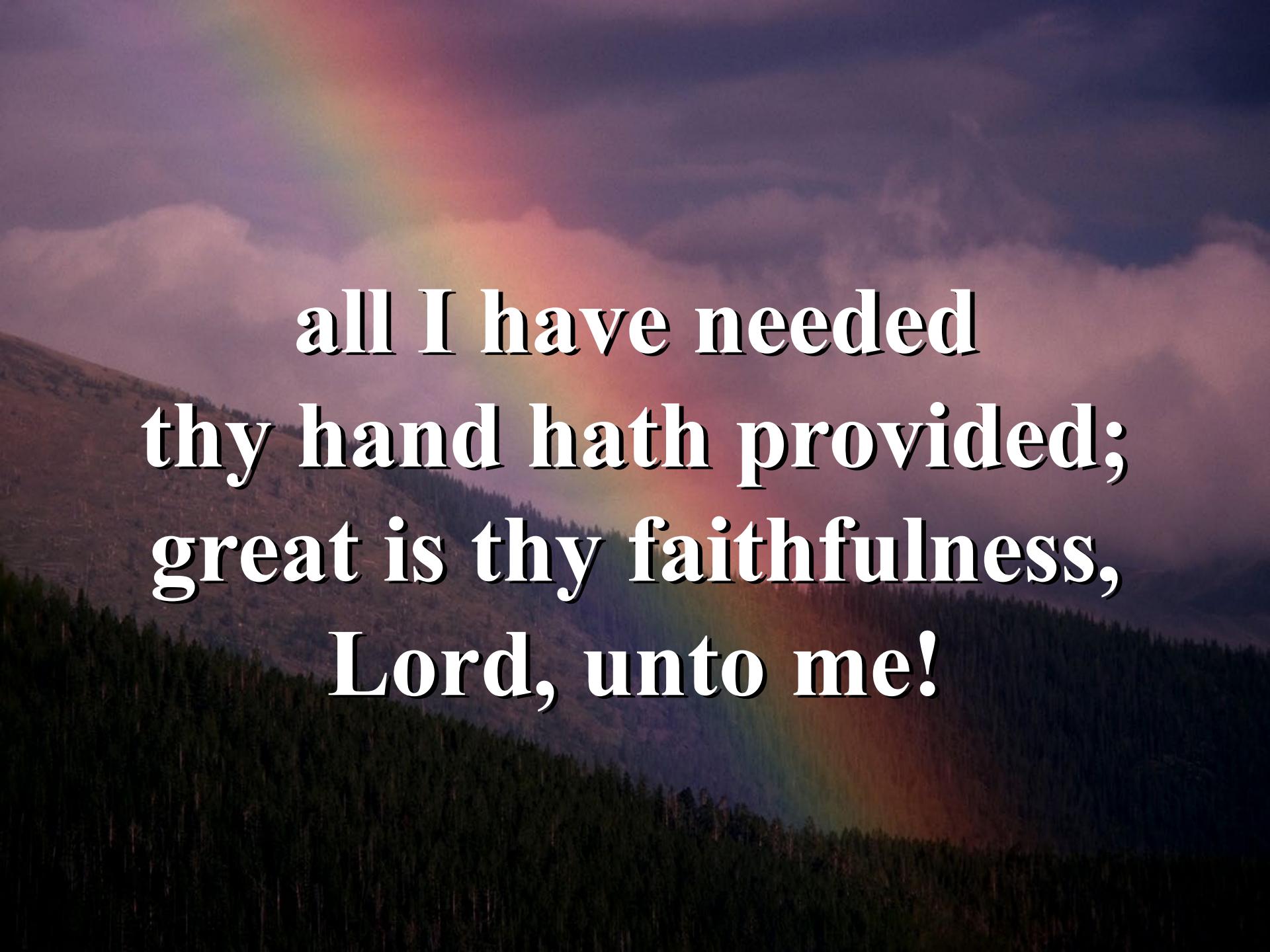
2. Summer and winter  
and springtime  
and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars  
in their courses above



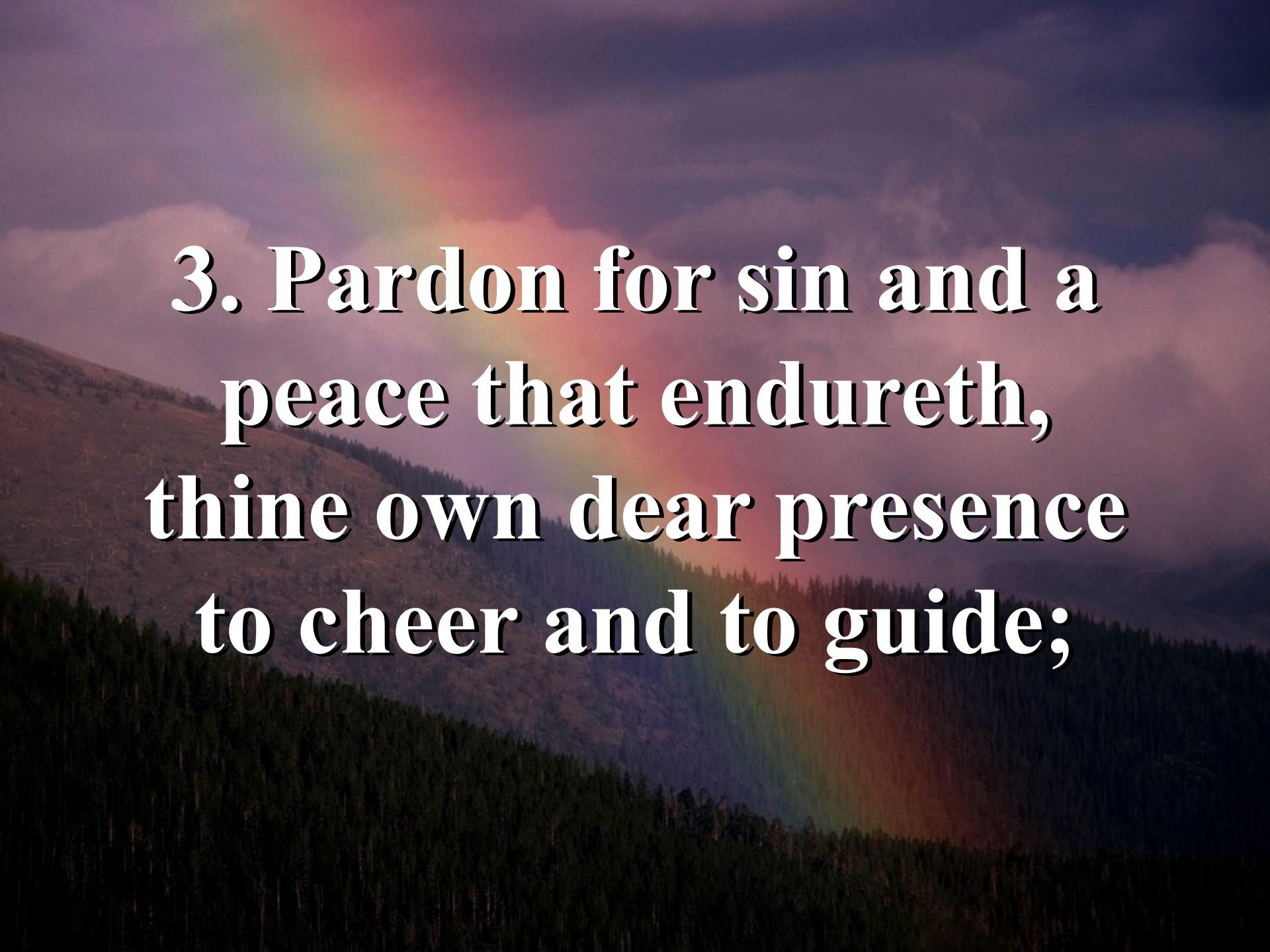
join with all nature in  
manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness,  
mercy, and love.

*Refrain*

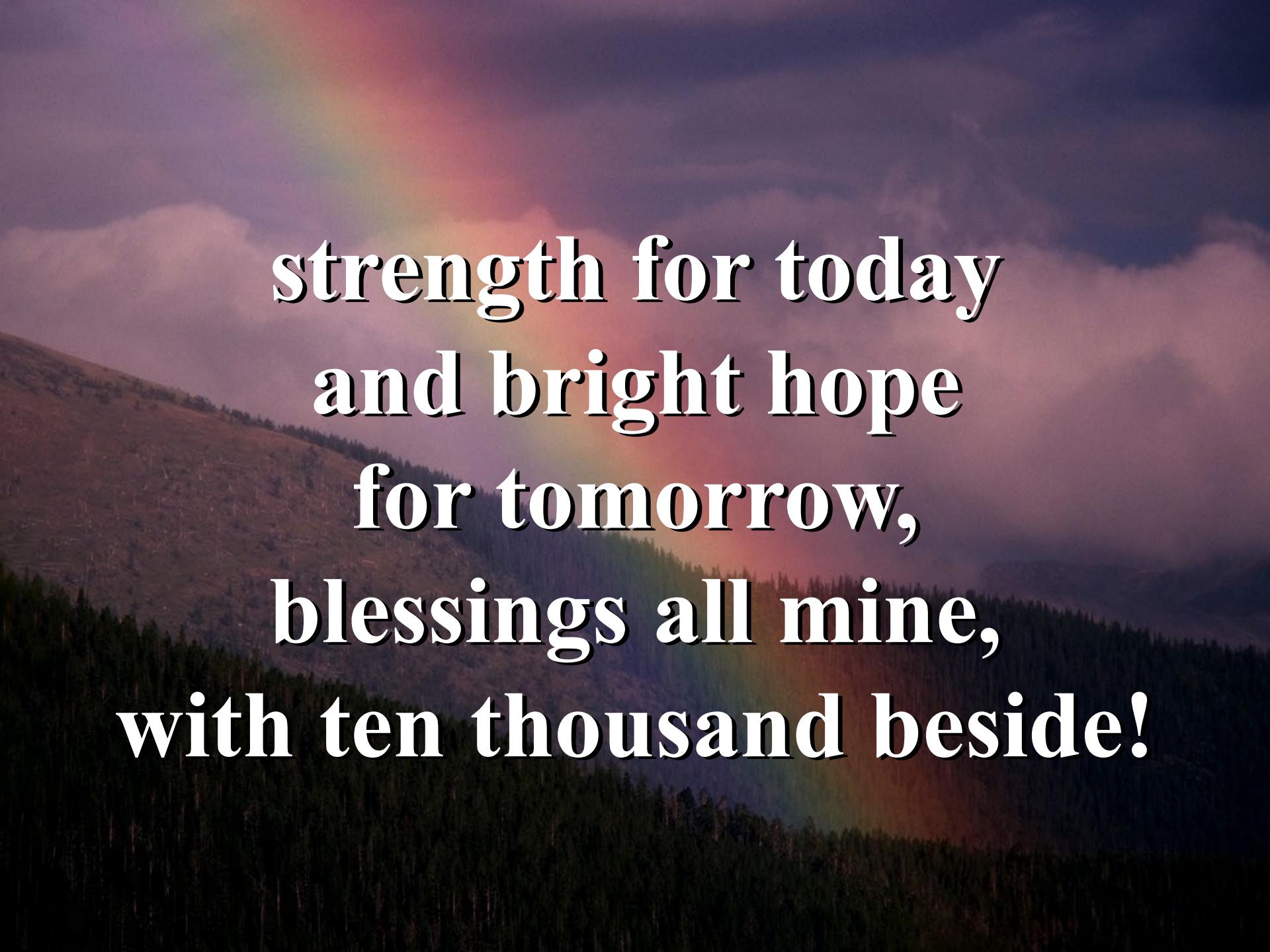
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning  
new mercies I see;



all I have needed  
thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!



3. Pardon for sin and a  
peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide;

A landscape photograph of a mountainous area at sunset. The sky is filled with warm, orange, and yellow hues, with a faint rainbow visible on the left. Dark, silhouetted mountain peaks and a forest line the horizon. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

strength for today  
and bright hope  
for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning  
new mercies I see;

A landscape photograph of a forested hillside at sunset. The sky is filled with warm, orange, and red hues, with a faint rainbow visible on the left. The foreground is dark, silhouetted trees, while the background shows a forested hillside with a dark, cloudy sky above.

all I have needed  
thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!

# OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, may our spirits be polished arrows in the quiver of your searching love. May our words ring true with shouts of praise. Use us, Gracious God, as instruments of your mercy and compassion. Fashion us into vessels of your abiding Spirit, that

**a world torn by brokenness and  
pain might touch your healing  
love through our fellowship with  
you and with one another. Amen.**

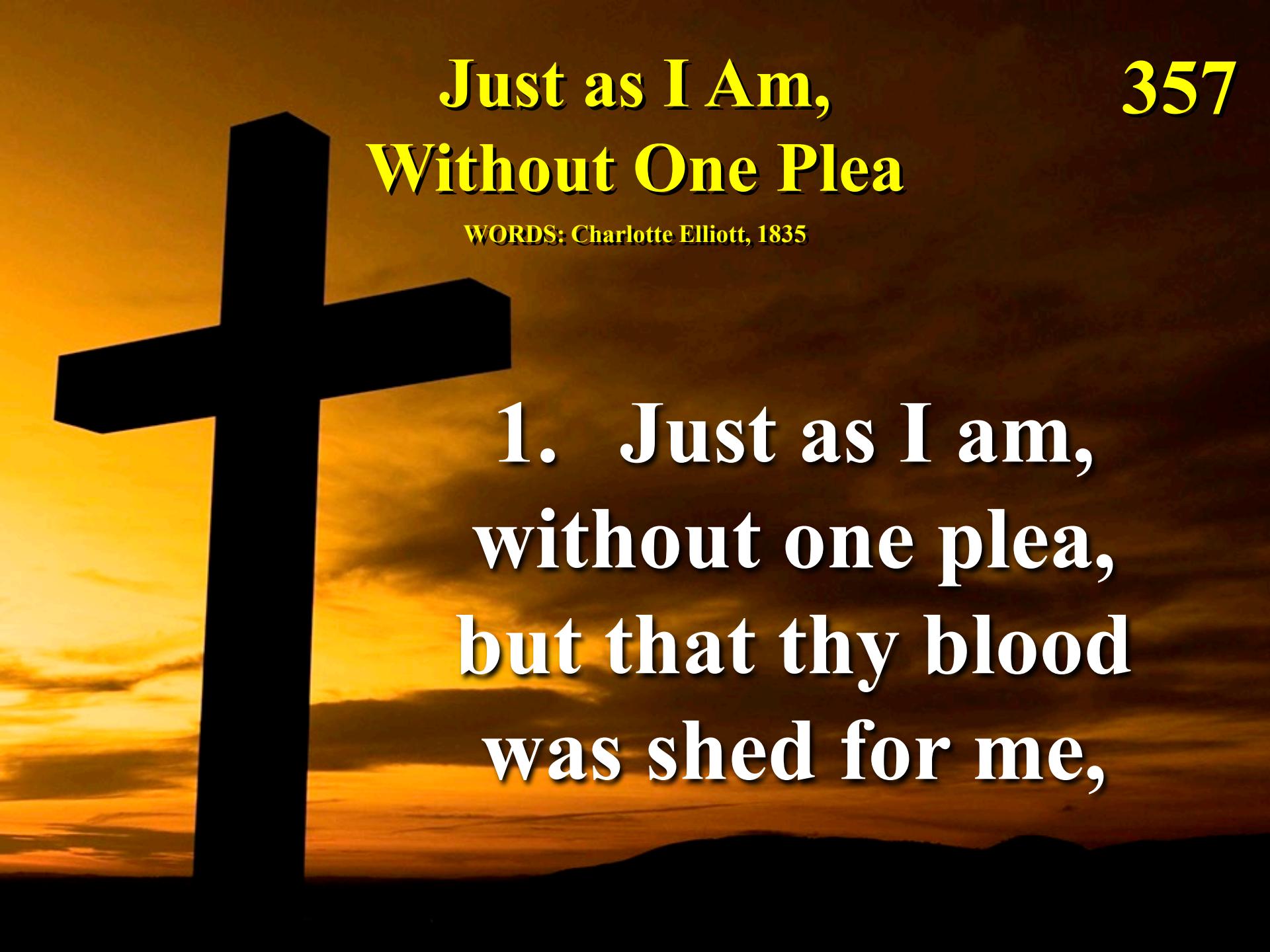




**“Just as I Am”**

# Just as I Am, Without One Plea

WORDS: Charlotte Elliott, 1835



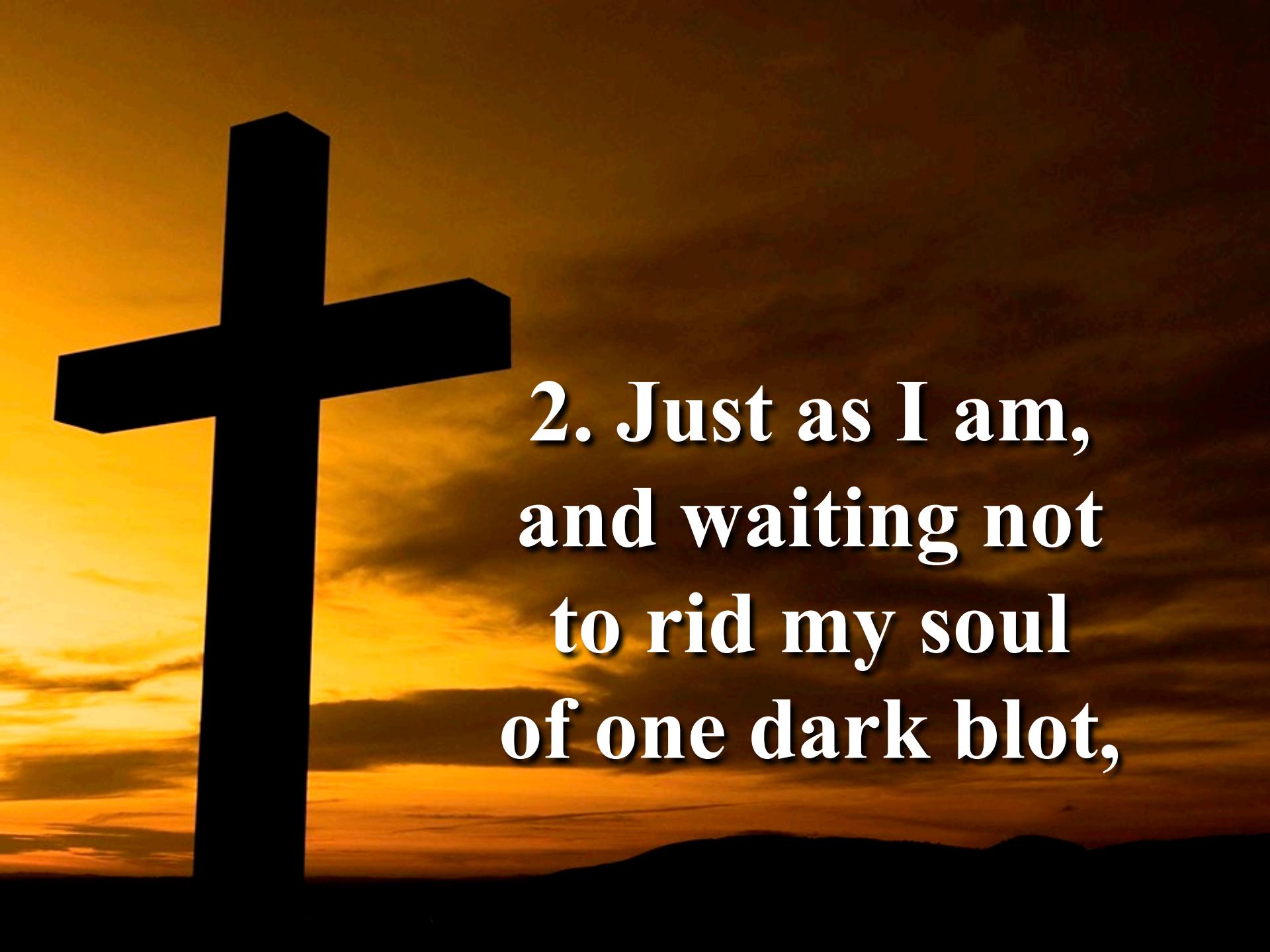
1. Just as I am,  
without one plea,  
but that thy blood  
was shed for me,



and that thou bidst me  
come to thee,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



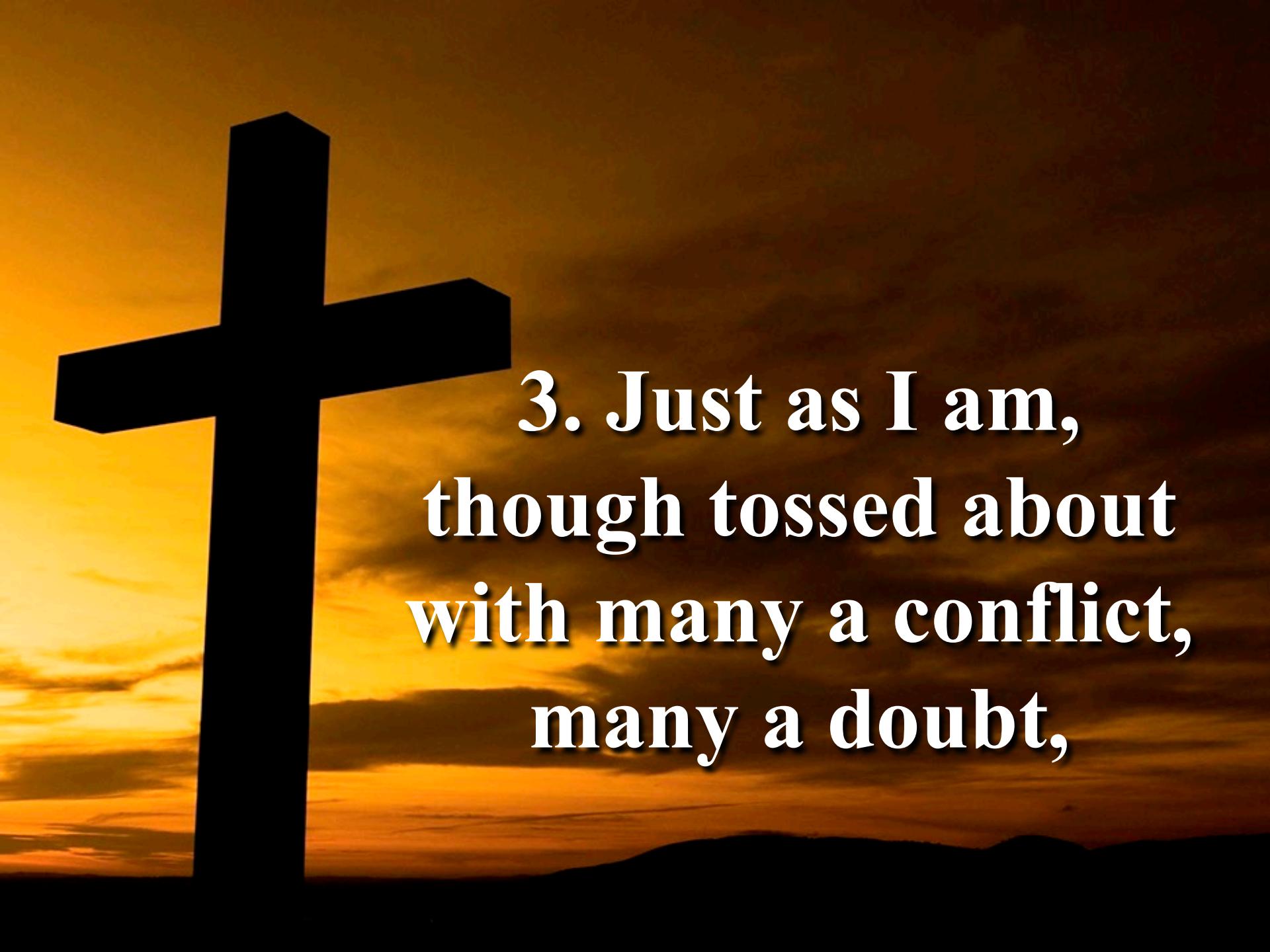
2. Just as I am,  
and waiting not  
to rid my soul  
of one dark blot,



to thee whose blood  
can cleanse  
each spot,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



3. Just as I am,  
though tossed about  
with many a conflict,  
many a doubt,



fightings and fears  
within, without,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



4. Just as I am,  
poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches,  
healing of the mind,



yea, all I need  
in thee to find,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



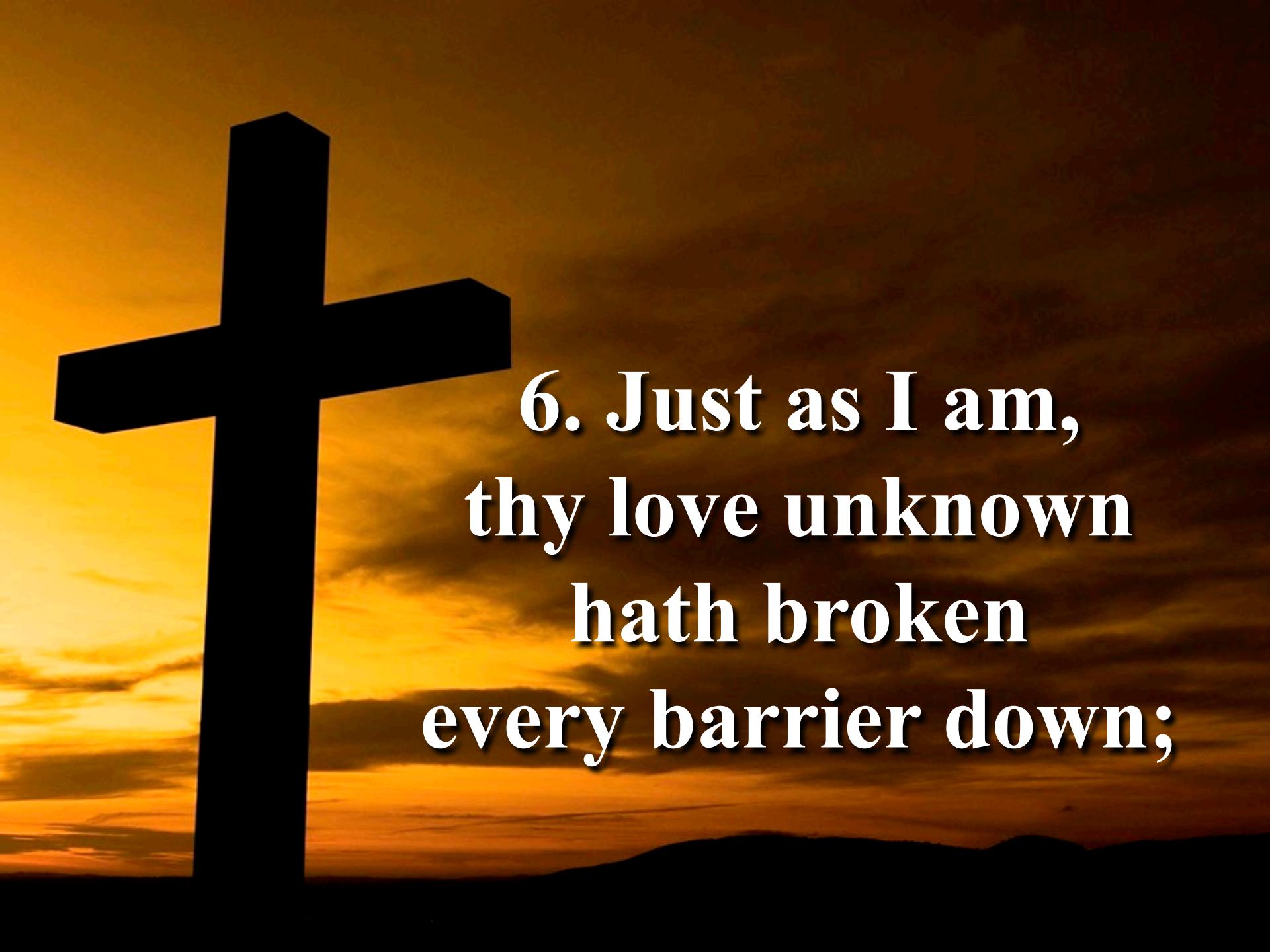
5. Just as I am,  
thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon,  
cleanse, relieve;



because thy promise  
I believe,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



6. Just as I am,  
thy love unknown  
hath broken  
every barrier down;



now, to be thine,  
yea, thine alone,

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God,  
I come, I come.



# OFFERING:

Praising God with Our Gifts  
Open Doors with Loving Hearts



## **“DOXOLOGY”**

**Praise God, from whom all  
blessings flow; Praise Him, all  
creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly  
host; Praise Father, Son, and  
Holy Ghost! Amen.**



# “CHILDREN’S MESSAGE”





## **“PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION”**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.



# SCRIPTURE

## JOHN 1:29–42



29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ 31 I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32 Then John



gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. 33 And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.” 35 The next day



John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” 37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?” 39 “Come,” he replied, “and



you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. 40 Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ).

42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).





**“WHO’S LOOKING FOR YOU?”**



## **“PRAYER OF CONFESSION”**

**Merciful God, when we succumb to despair and get lost in our fears of inadequacy, remind us who we are and whose we are. We long to feel worthy of your love and to rest secure in your call to be a light to the nations. Remind us, Loving Presence, to speak words of hope**



like Isaiah, and words of encouragement like Paul. When others ask us if we have found the Lamb of God, give us the courage and the faith to boldly proclaim: “Come and see!” Amen.





## “WORDS OF ASSURANCE”

**God polishes us as arrows in the quiver of holy love. Christ calls us and sanctifies us to be the saints of God. The Spirit fills us with light and leads us home. Amen.**





# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



# **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in  
heaven, hallowed be thy  
name thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as  
we forgive those who trespass  
against us. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from  
evil, for thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory  
forever. Amen.



# CLOSING SONG

“THE SUMMONS”

# The Summons

2130

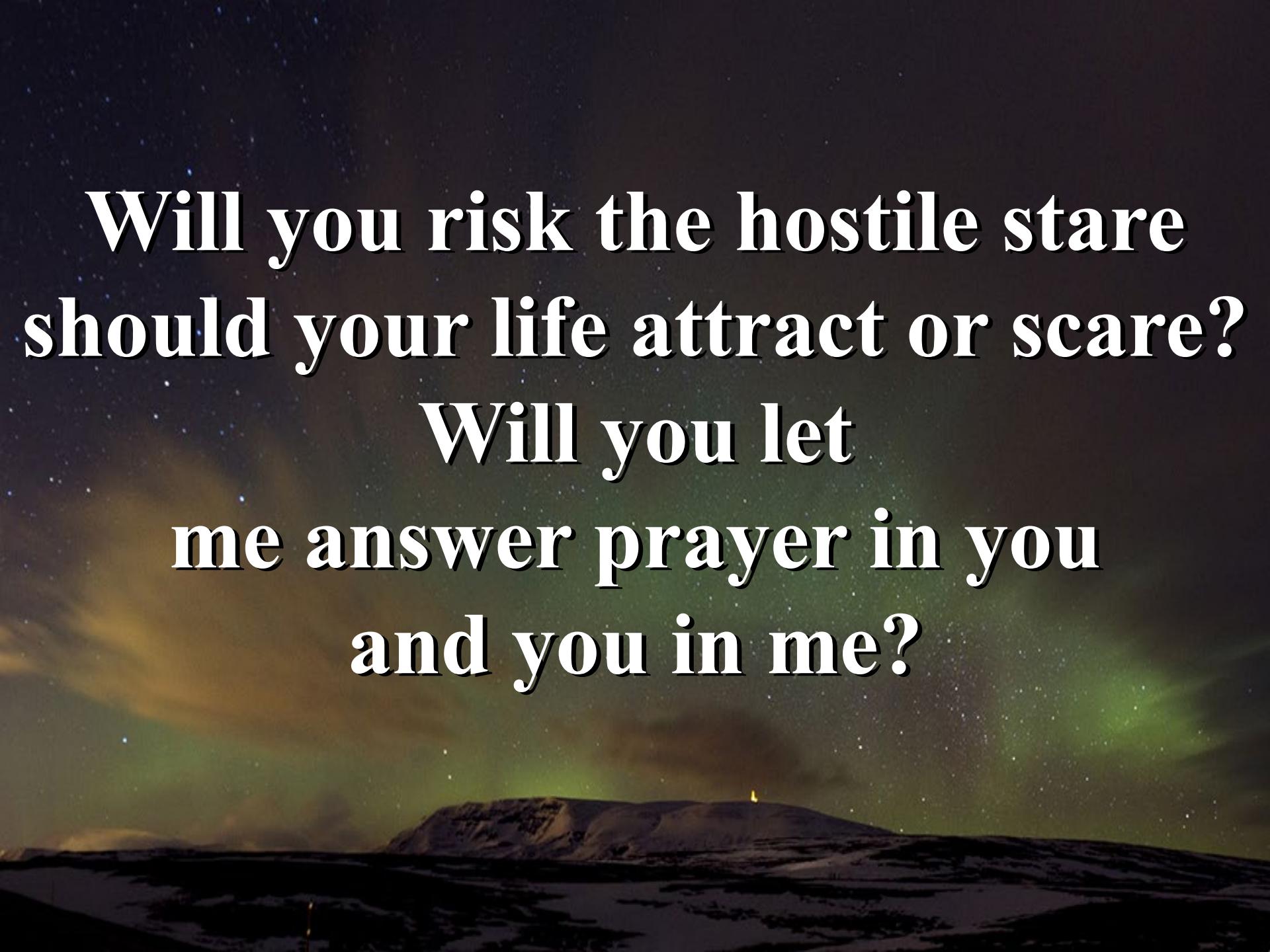
John Bell

1. Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?

Will you go  
where you don't know  
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let  
my life be grown in you  
and you in me?

2. Will you leave  
yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care  
for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?



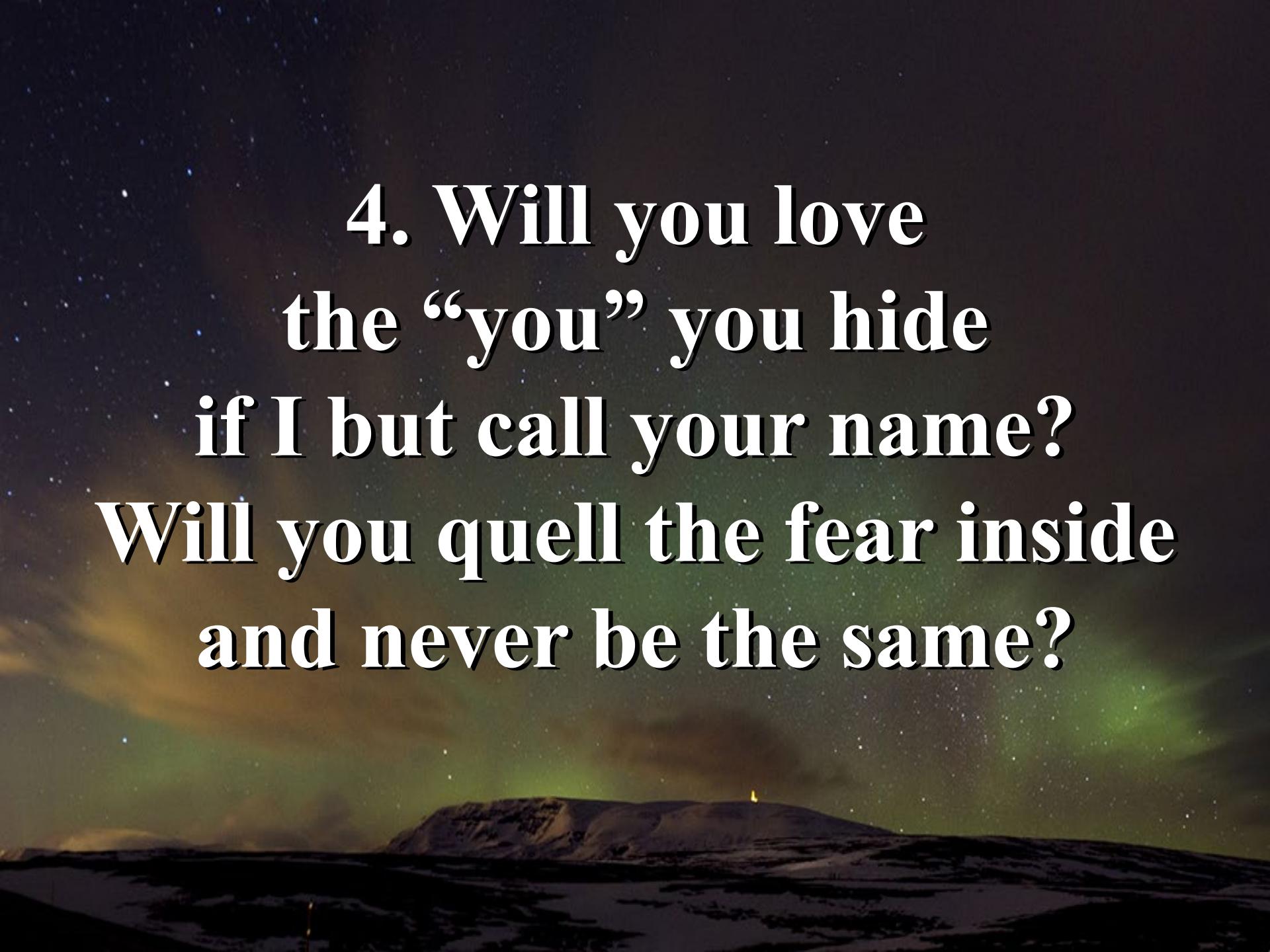
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?

Will you let  
me answer prayer in you  
and you in me?

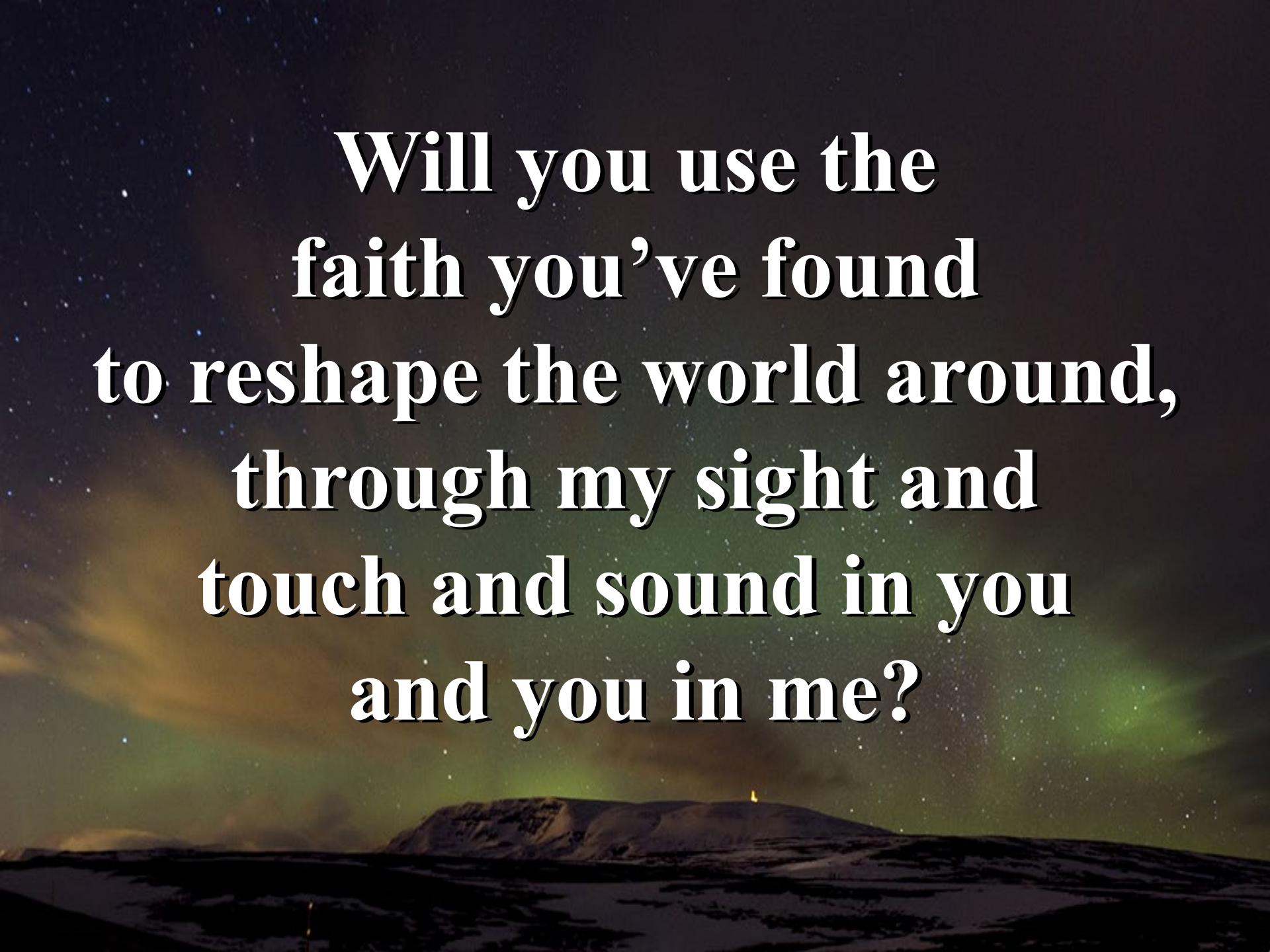
3. Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to  
what I mean in you  
and you in me?

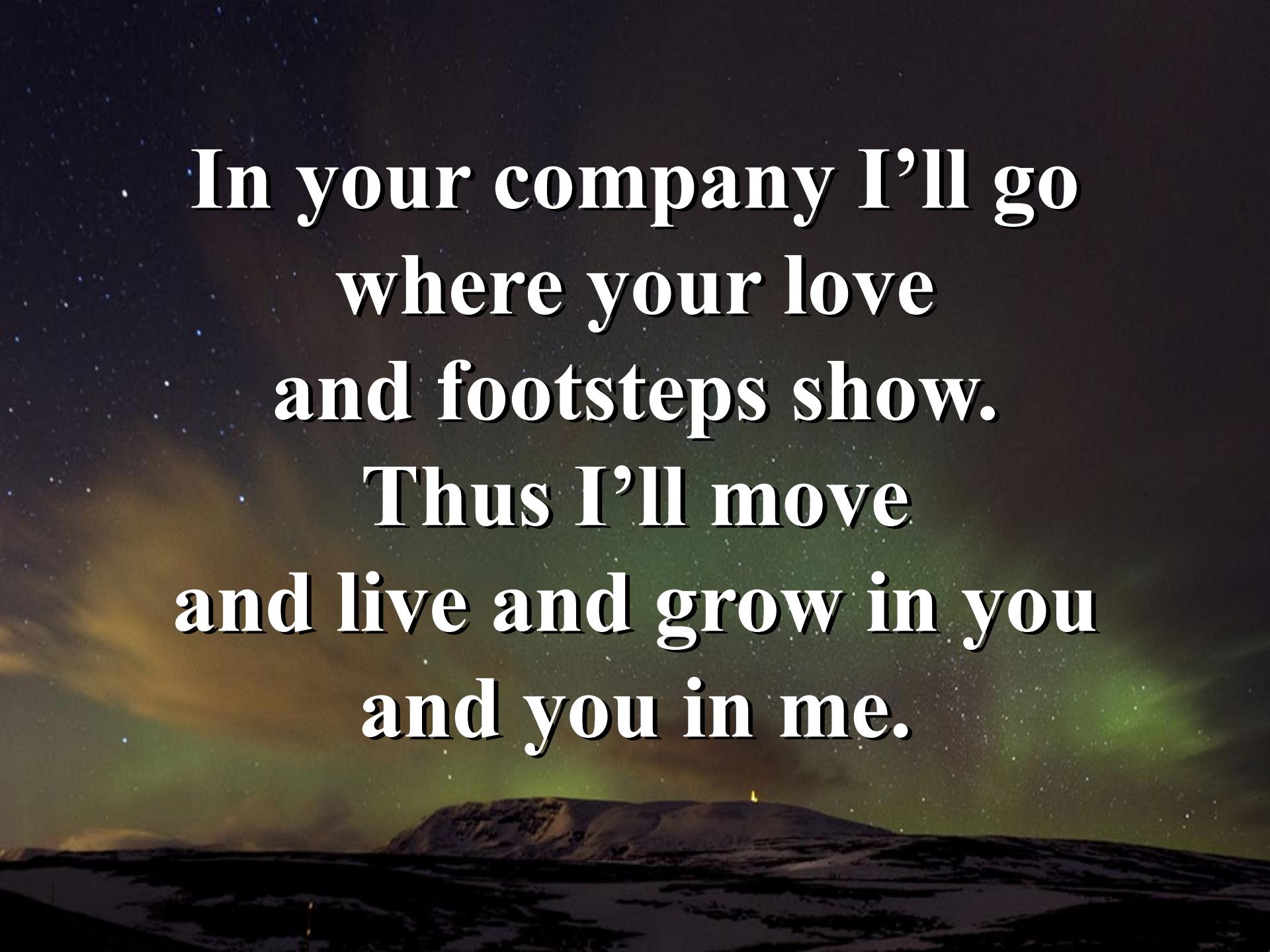


4. Will you love  
the “you” you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?



Will you use the  
faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and  
touch and sound in you  
and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons  
echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.



In your company I'll go  
where your love  
and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move  
and live and grow in you  
and you in me.



# BENEDICTION

**Leader:** Sing a new song as you leave this place.

**People:** We go in the love of the One who strengthens us.

**Leader:** Heed the call that stirs within you.

**People:** We go in service of our call to follow Christ.

**Leader:** Walk forth as saints of God.

**People:** We go in fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

**Leader:** Bring hope to the ends of the earth.

**All:** We go to be a light to the nations.



# 564 Threecold Amen

Walter Henry Hall (1862-1935)



# CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

