



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
Mt. 5:5

Mt. 5:5 Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Review

Several weeks ago, we began the exegesis of this great sermon preached by the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16

A. The Setting, 5:1-2

B. The Sayings, 5:3-12

1. What We Are, 5:3-5

a. Poor in Spirit, 5:3

b. Pressed in Soul, 5:4

Tonight, we continue studying this great sermon, The Sermon on the Mount, focusing upon verse 5.

c. Patient in Strife, 5:5

Mt. 5:5 Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

- ❖ Remember the political conditions during this moment in history. The Jews were under Roman domination, and Jesus makes such a puzzling statement.
- ❖ From an earthly perspective, consider the profundity of the meek in charge of the earth.
- ❖ To gain clarity of the word “meek,” consider the antonym of it:



What is the opposite word for Meek?

bold

assertive

arrogant

immodest

brave

superior

pretentious

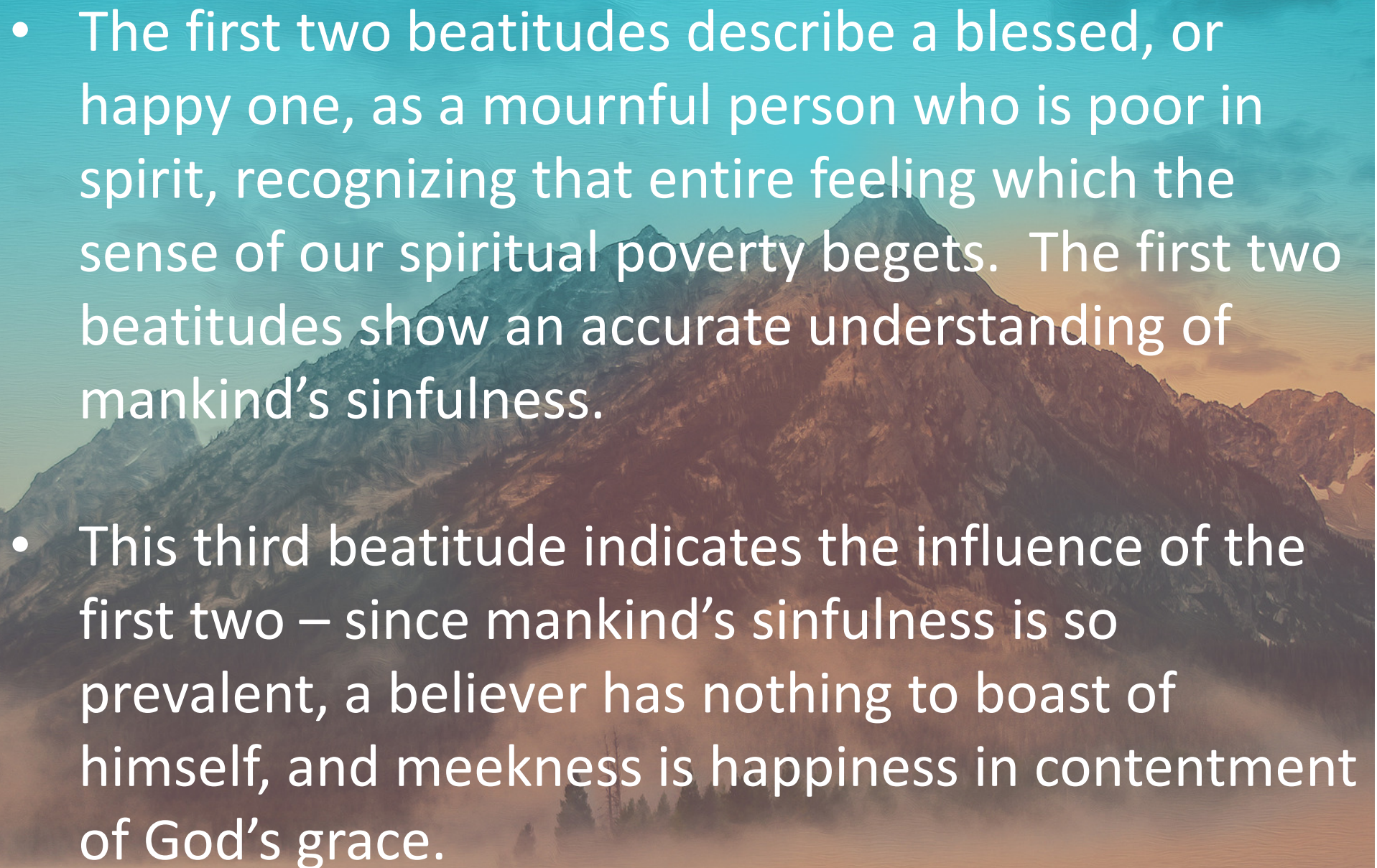
lordly

imperious

bossy

overbearing

<https://thesaurus.plus/antonyms/meek>

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- The first two beatitudes describe a blessed, or happy one, as a mournful person who is poor in spirit, recognizing that entire feeling which the sense of our spiritual poverty begets. The first two beatitudes show an accurate understanding of mankind's sinfulness.
 - This third beatitude indicates the influence of the first two – since mankind's sinfulness is so prevalent, a believer has nothing to boast of himself, and meekness is happiness in contentment of God's grace.

- A meek individual is unpretentious, self-controlled, and free from malice and vengefulness.

1 Pet. 3:4 But *let it be* **the hidden man of the heart**, in that which is not corruptible, *even the ornament of* **a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.** ...

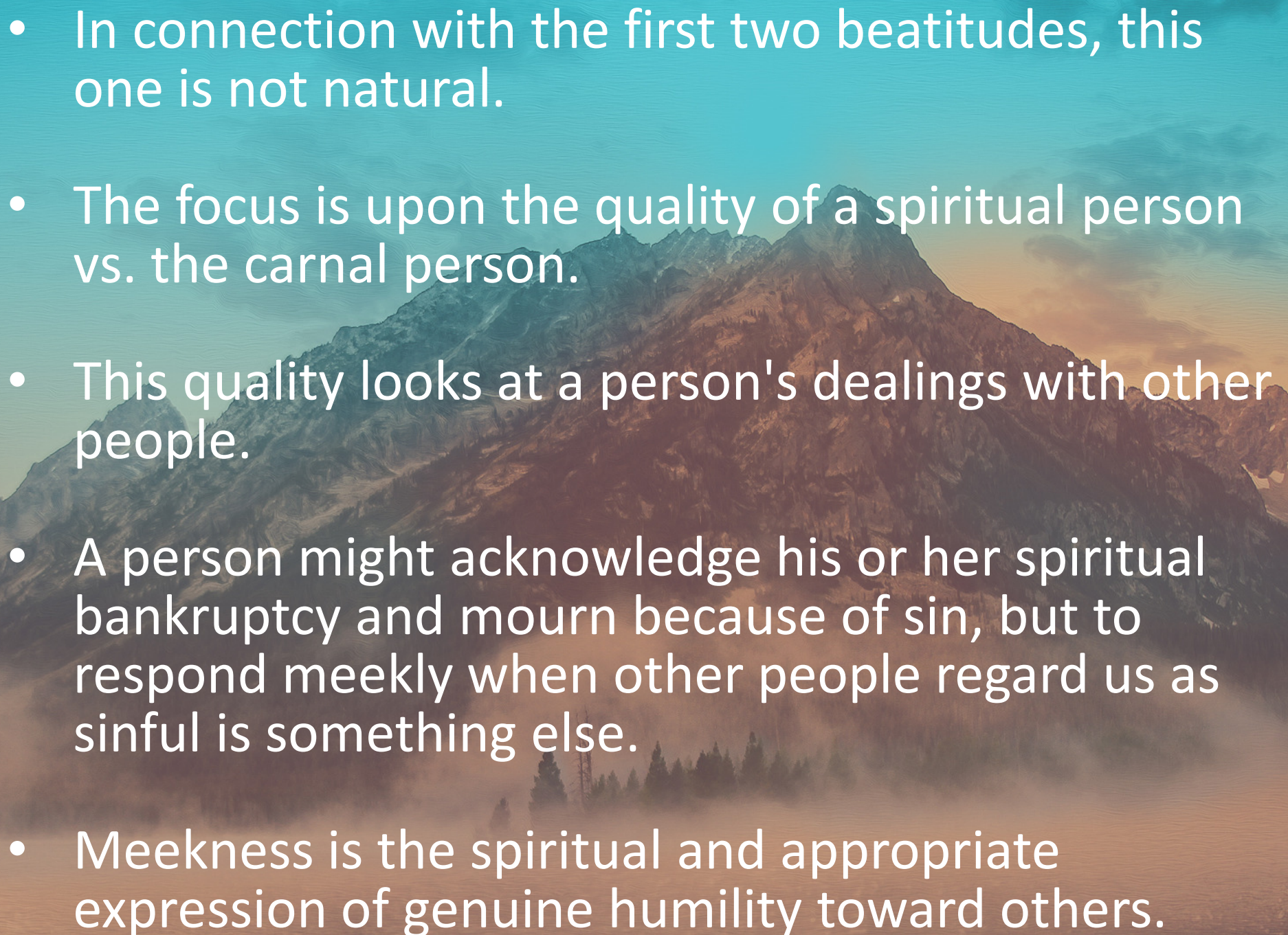
14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, **happy are ye**: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

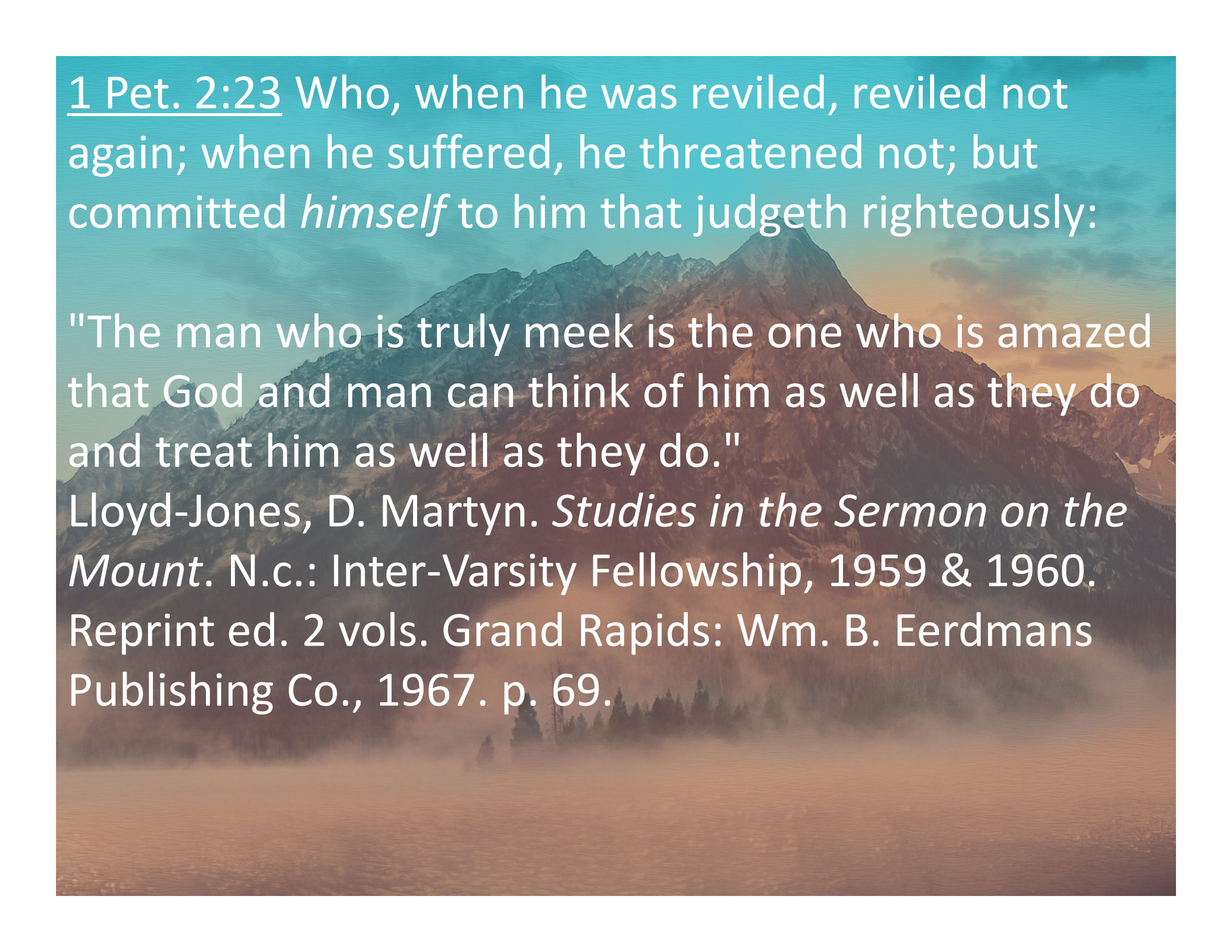
15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be ready always to give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you **with meekness** and fear:

- Jesus stated this beatitude as a quote from Psa. 37:11:

Psa. 37:11 But **the meek shall inherit the earth**; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

- A general statement in the Book of Psalms is the impetus for the beatitude spoken in the great Sermon on the Mount.
- How many contemporaries at that moment even considered that verse?
- Jesus brought it to everyone's attention.

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- In connection with the first two beatitudes, this one is not natural.
 - The focus is upon the quality of a spiritual person vs. the carnal person.
 - This quality looks at a person's dealings with other people.
 - A person might acknowledge his or her spiritual bankruptcy and mourn because of sin, but to respond meekly when other people regard us as sinful is something else.
 - Meekness is the spiritual and appropriate expression of genuine humility toward others.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, with a lake in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The text is overlaid on this background.

1 Pet. 2:23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:

"The man who is truly meek is the one who is amazed that God and man can think of him as well as they do and treat him as well as they do."

Lloyd-Jones, D. Martyn. *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*. N.c.: Inter-Varsity Fellowship, 1959 & 1960. Reprint ed. 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967. p. 69.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, with a lake in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall tone is serene and majestic.

Original Word: πραῦς

Transliteration: praus

Definition: meekness

Usage: mild, gentle.

This difficult-to-translate root (*pra-*) means *more than* "meek." ***Biblical meekness is not weakness but rather refers to exercising God's strength under His control*** – i.e. demonstrating power without undue harshness.

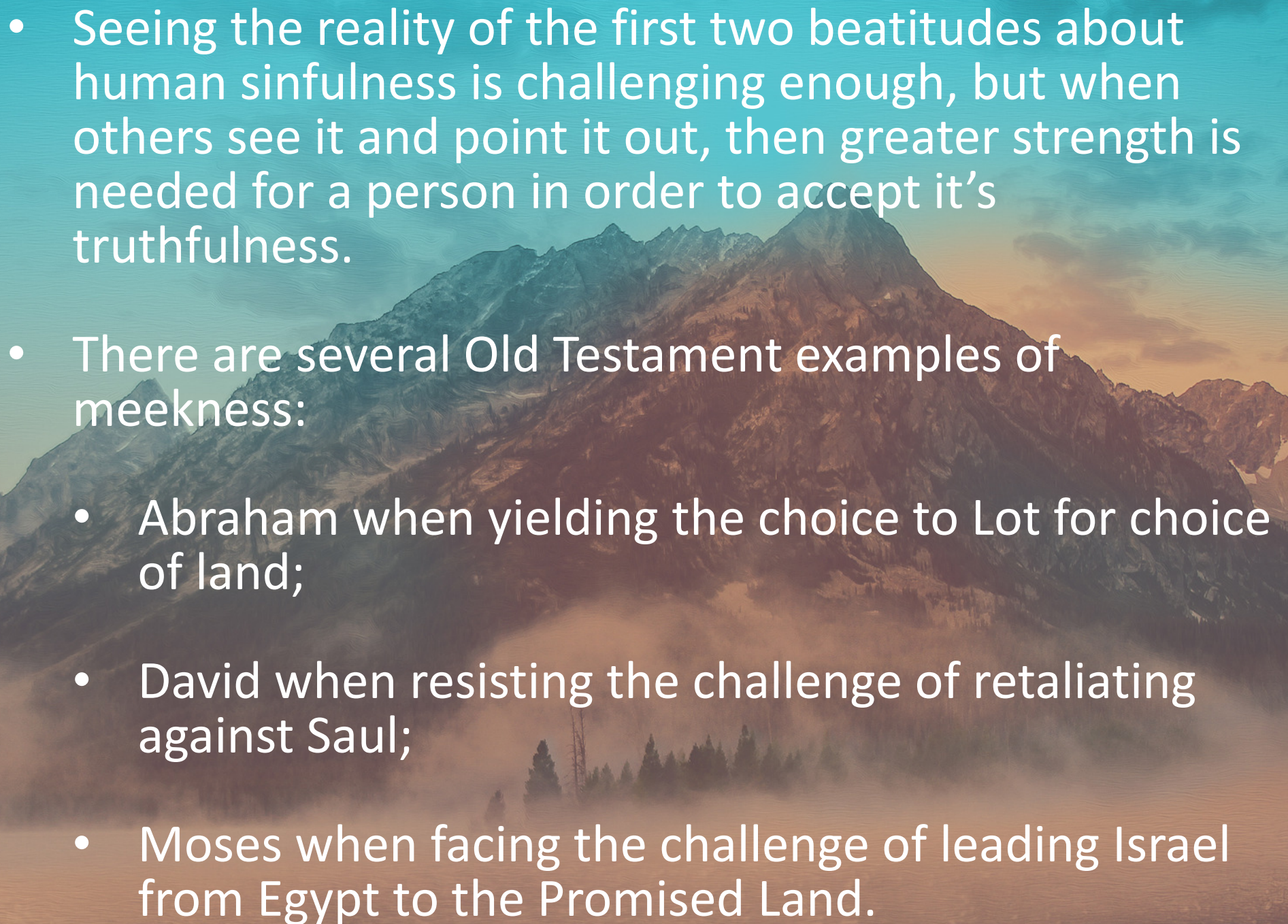
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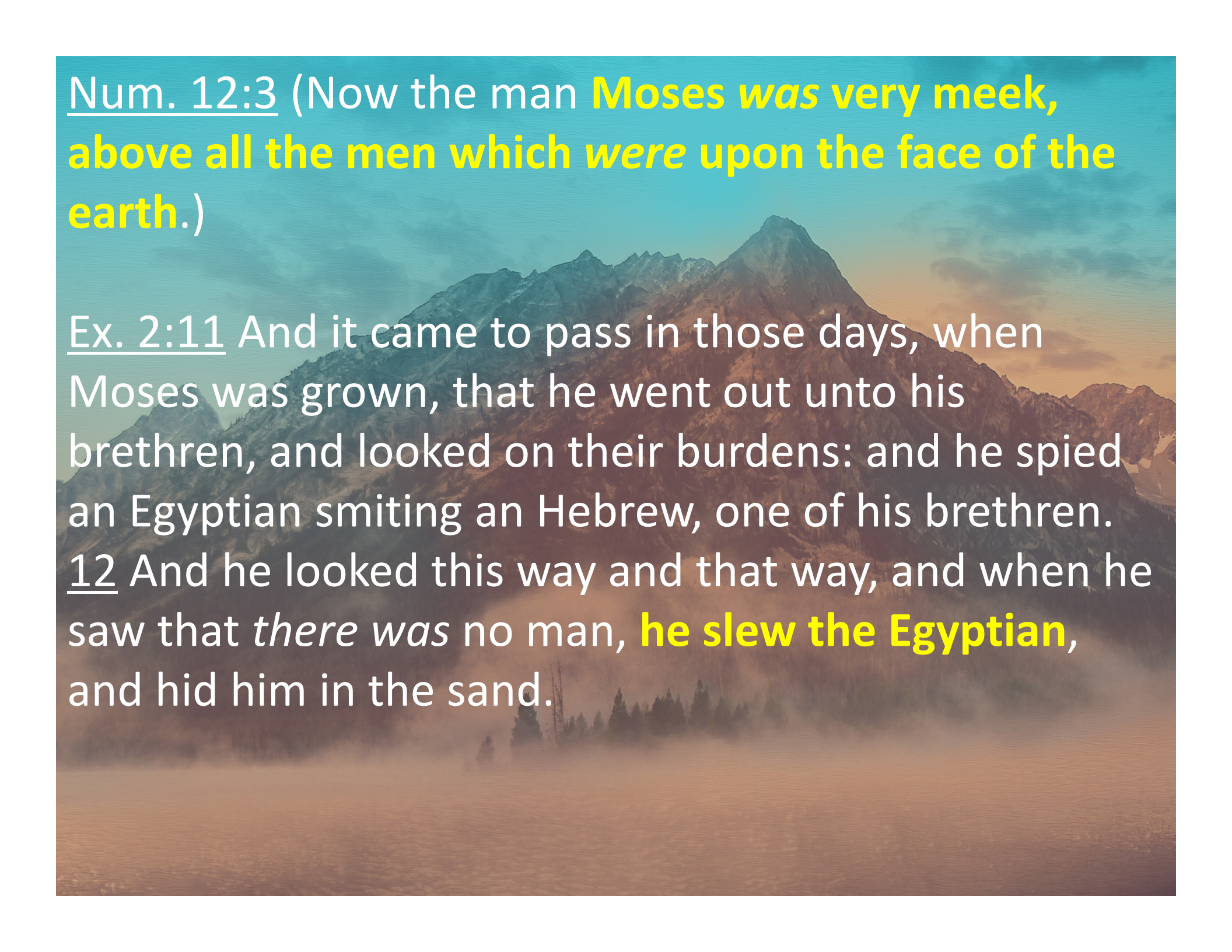
MEEK

1. Mild of temper; soft; gentle; not easily provoked or irritated; yielding; given to forbearance under injuries.

2. Appropriately, humble, in an evangelical sense; submissive to the divine will; not proud, self-sufficient or refractory; not peevish and apt to complain of divine dispensations. Christ says, 'Learn of me, for I am *meek* and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls.' Mt. 11:29.

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/meek>

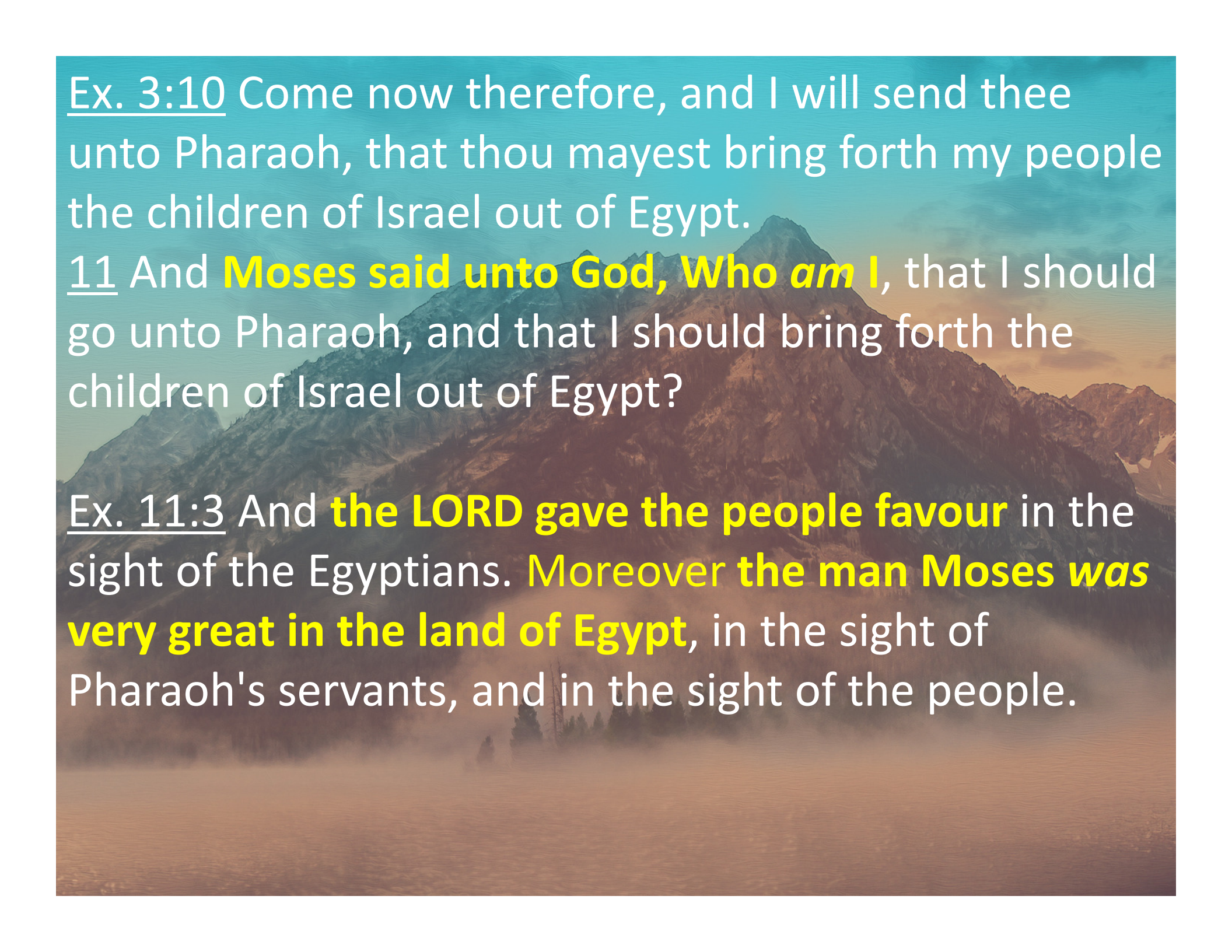
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- Seeing the reality of the first two beatitudes about human sinfulness is challenging enough, but when others see it and point it out, then greater strength is needed for a person in order to accept its truthfulness.
 - There are several Old Testament examples of meekness:
 - Abraham when yielding the choice to Lot for choice of land;
 - David when resisting the challenge of retaliating against Saul;
 - Moses when facing the challenge of leading Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, with a lake in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water in the lake is calm, reflecting the light from the sky. The overall mood is peaceful and majestic.

Num. 12:3 (Now the man **Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.**)

Ex. 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

12 And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that *there was* no man, **he slew the Egyptian,** and hid him in the sand.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, some with patches of snow. In the foreground, there is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, reflecting the light. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

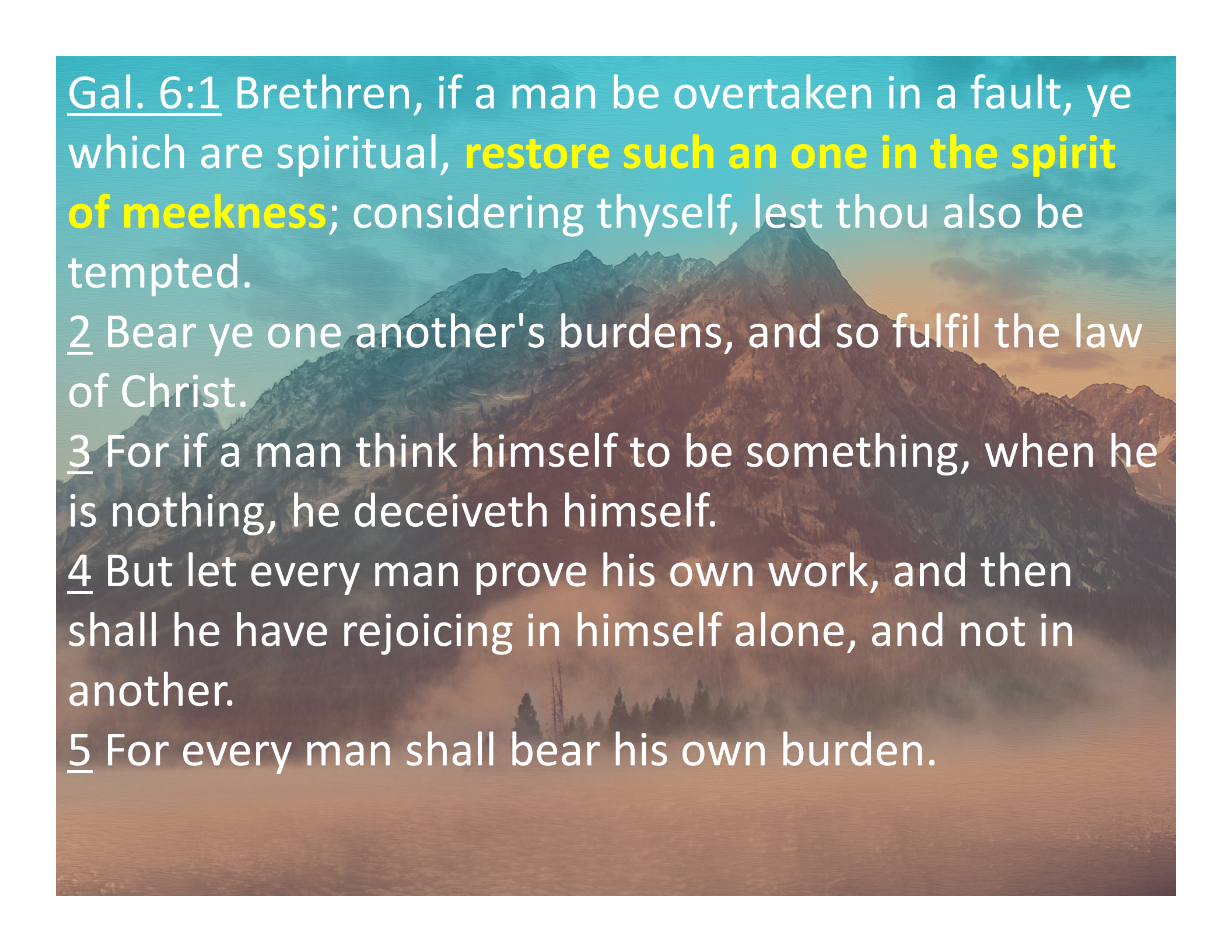
Ex. 3:10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

11 And **Moses said unto God, Who am I**, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

Ex. 11:3 And **the LORD gave the people favour** in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover **the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt**, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.

Ex. 32:19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and **Moses' anger waxed hot**, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

- Moses, the meekest man of all the men upon the face of the earth, was humble, courageous, passionate, and faithful.
- Moses, the servant of God, distrusted himself, but he trusted his God.
- In the New Testament there are several references to meekness:

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains under a sunset sky, with a calm lake in the foreground reflecting the light. The text is overlaid on this background.


Gal. 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, **restore such an one in the spirit of meekness**; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

5 For every man shall bear his own burden.



Gal. 5:22 But **the fruit of the Spirit is** love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 **Meekness**, temperance: against such there is no law.

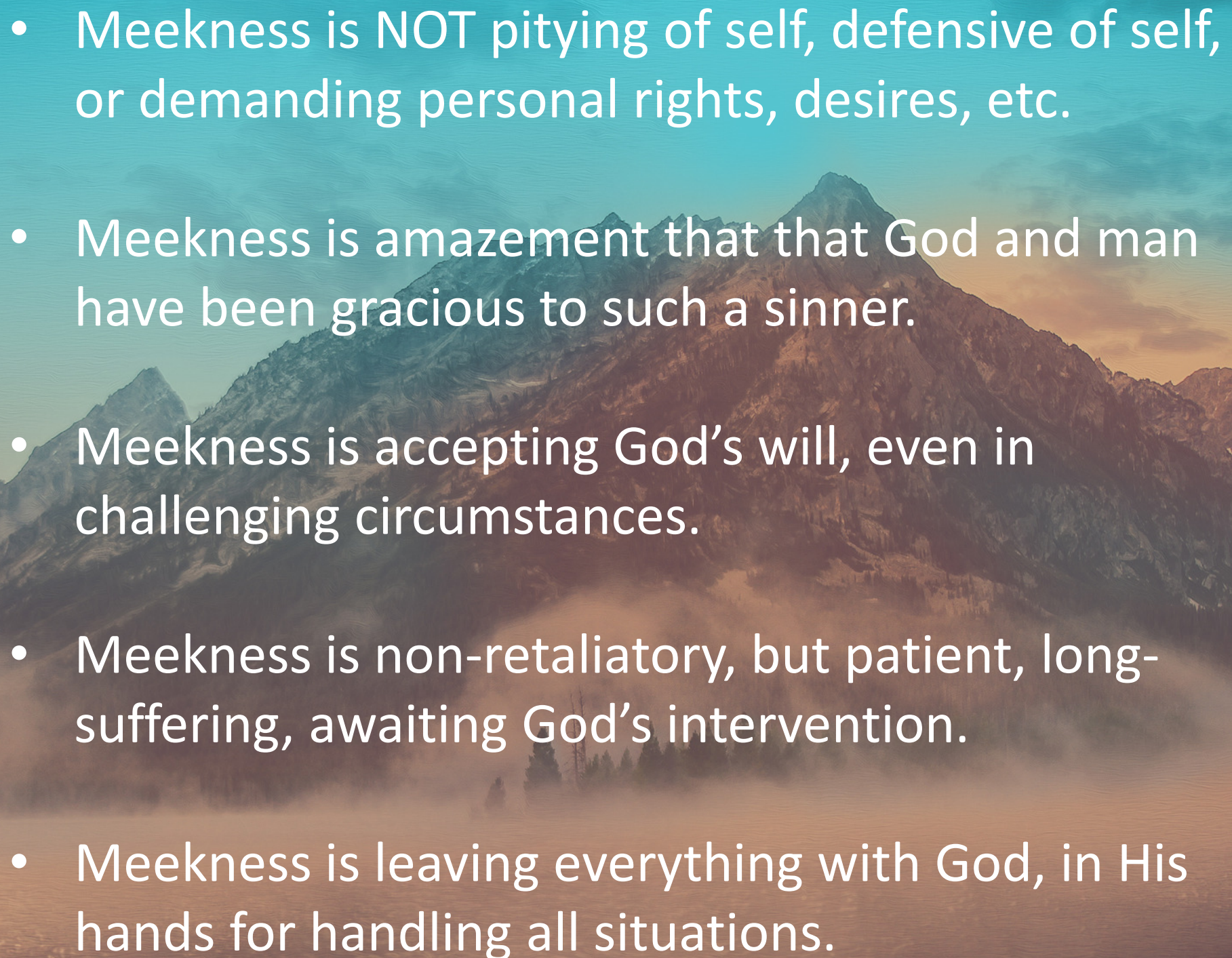
2 Cor. 10:1 Now I Paul myself beseech **you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ**, who in presence *am* base among you, but being absent *am* bold toward you:

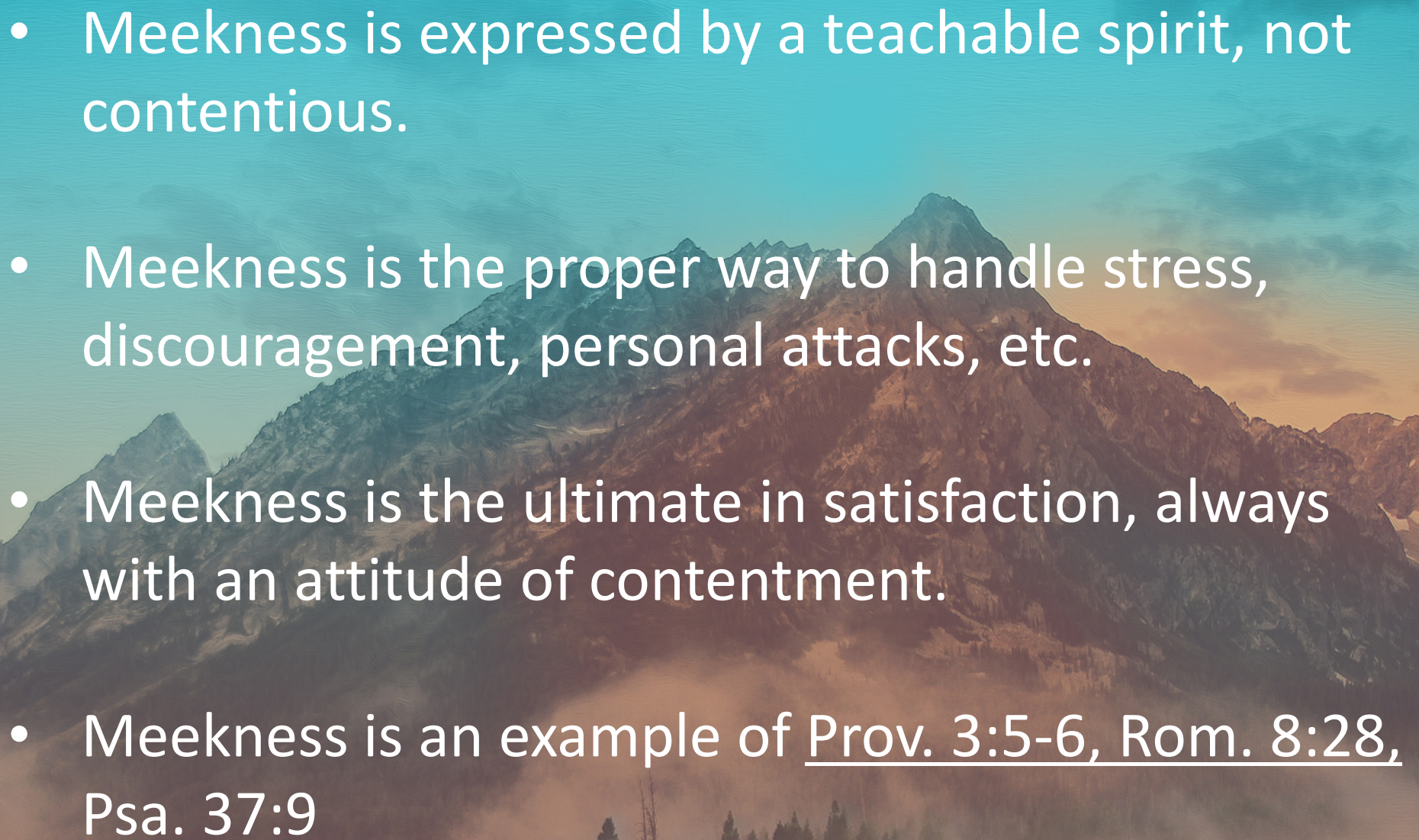
Jas. 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **receive with meekness the engrafted word**, which is able to save your souls.

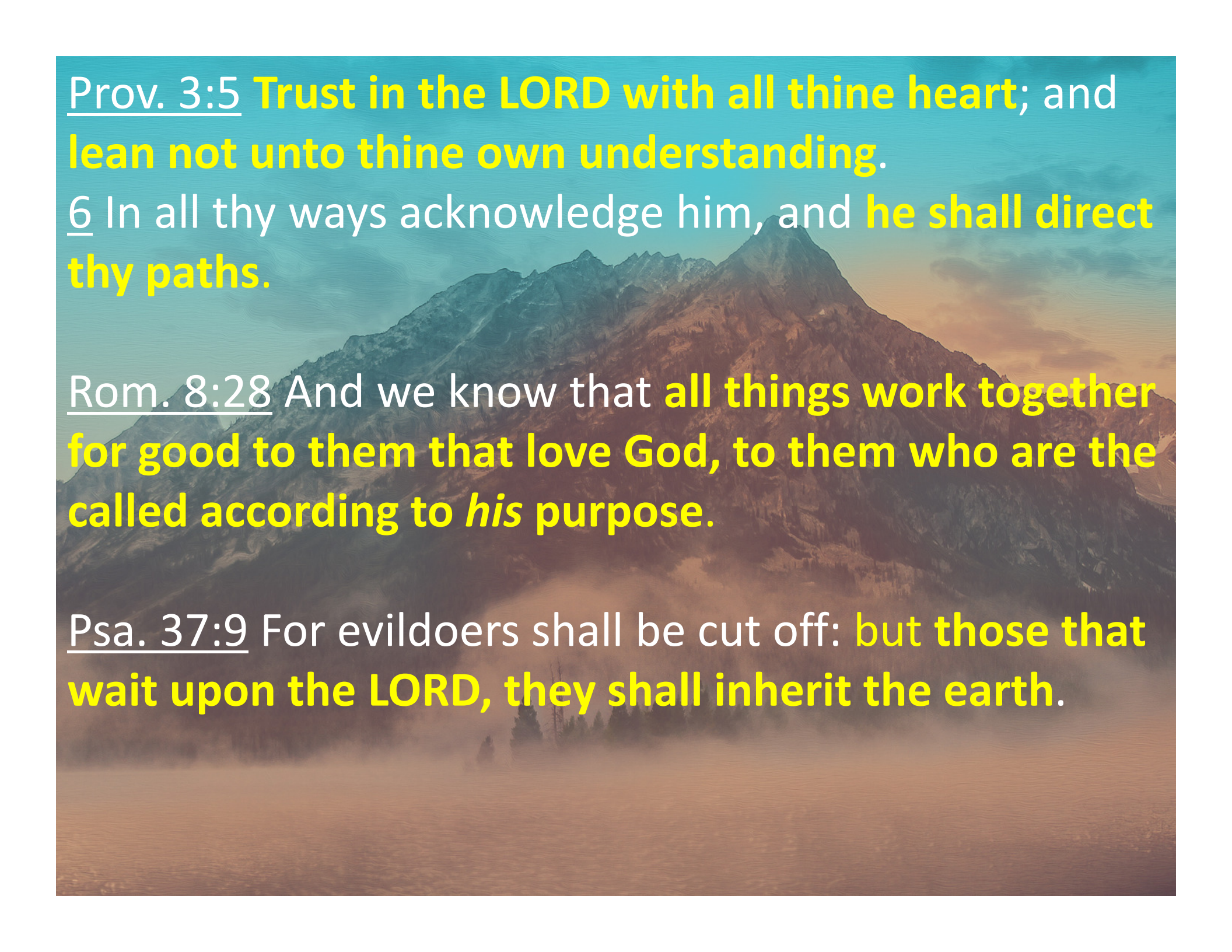
Jas. 3:13 Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his **works with meekness of wisdom.**

Summary

- Meekness is not a natural strength; it is spiritual fruit of a faithful believer.
- Meekness is not weakness; meekness is submission to the control of the Holy Spirit's power.
- Meekness is an exhibition of faith in God's control of everything.

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- Meekness is NOT pitying of self, defensive of self, or demanding personal rights, desires, etc.
 - Meekness is amazement that that God and man have been gracious to such a sinner.
 - Meekness is accepting God's will, even in challenging circumstances.
 - Meekness is non-retaliatory, but patient, long-suffering, awaiting God's intervention.
 - Meekness is leaving everything with God, in His hands for handling all situations.

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- A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains with a prominent peak in the center. The foreground shows a calm body of water reflecting the sky and mountains, with a line of trees along the shore. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall tone is peaceful and majestic.
- Meekness is expressed by a teachable spirit, not contentious.
 - Meekness is the proper way to handle stress, discouragement, personal attacks, etc.
 - Meekness is the ultimate in satisfaction, always with an attitude of contentment.
 - Meekness is an example of Prov. 3:5-6, Rom. 8:28, Psa. 37:9



Prov. 3:5 **Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.**

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and **he shall direct thy paths.**

Rom. 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.**

Psa. 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off: **but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.**

- Consider the ingredients of this wonderful prophecy fulfilled by the Lord Jesus in Luke 4:18-19:

Isa. 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto **the meek**; he hath sent me to bind up **the brokenhearted**, to proclaim liberty to **the captives**, and the opening of the prison **to them that are bound**;

- The greatest example of meekness – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mt. 11:28 **Come unto me**, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for **I am meek and lowly in heart**: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

An Invitation

Zeph. 2:3 **Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth**, which have wrought his judgment; **seek righteousness, seek meekness**: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger.

Conclusion

Psa. 37:1 **Fret not thyself** because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

4 **Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.**

5 **Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him;** and he shall bring *it* to pass. ...

7 **Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself** because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: **fret not thyself** in any wise to do evil. ...



11 But **the meek shall inherit the earth**; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

22 For *such as be* blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and *they that be* cursed of him shall be cut off.

23 The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth *him with* his hand.

25 I have been young, and *now* am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

26 *He is* ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed **is blessed**.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, some with patches of snow. In the foreground, there is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, with a line of evergreen trees along the shore. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

28 For **the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints;** they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

29 **The righteous shall inherit the land,** and dwell therein for ever. ...

34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and **he shall exalt thee to inherit the land:** when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see *it*.