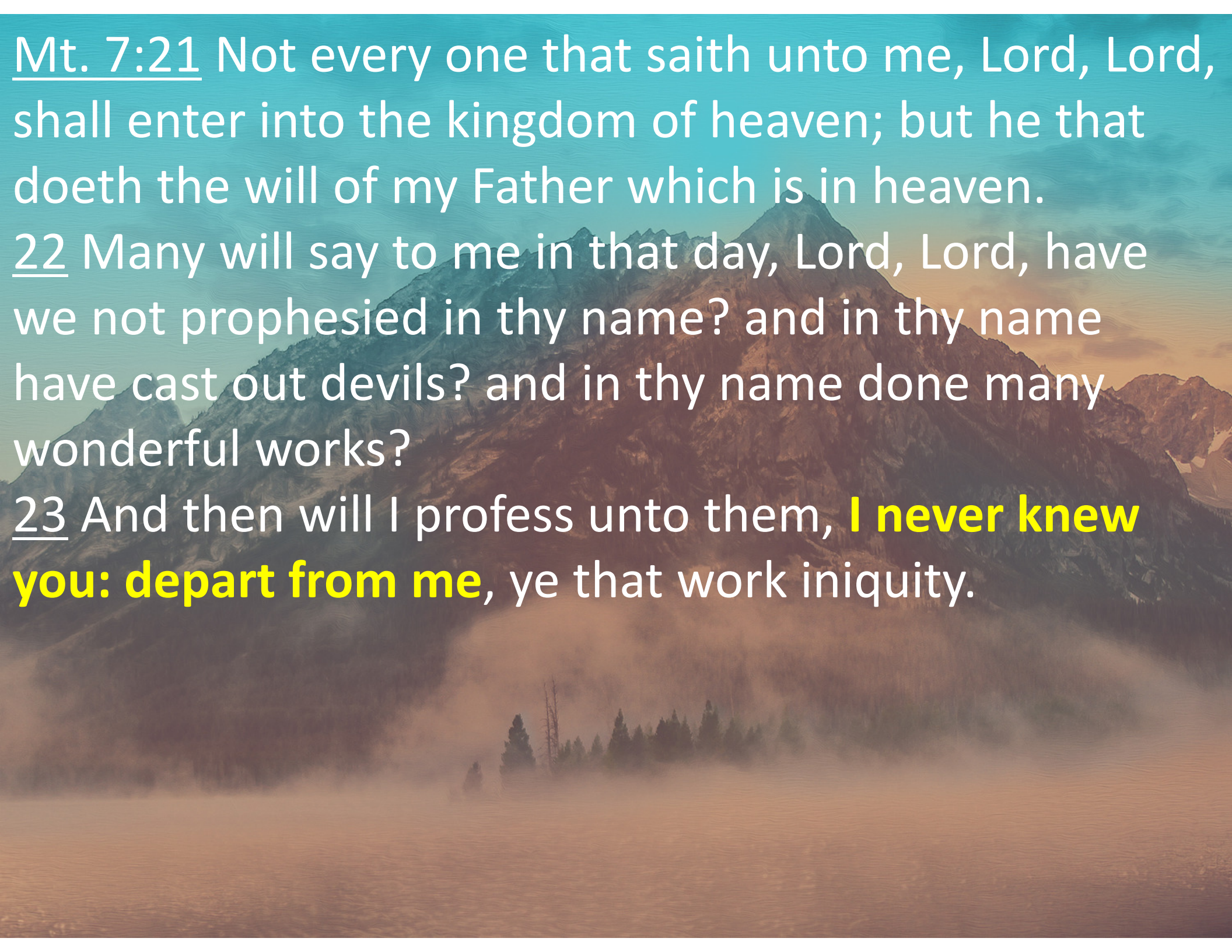




THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
Mt. 7:21-23

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

Mt. 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me**, ye that work iniquity.

Review

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

II. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BELIEFS, 5:17-20

III. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BIBLE, 5:21-48

IV. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BURDENS, 6:1-34

V. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BEHAVIOR, 7:1-29

A. The Fool Exhibited, 7:1-5

B. The Father Extolled, 7:6-12

C. The Future Explained, 7:13-14

D. The Frauds Exposed, 7:15-23

1. Beware of False Prophets, 7:15-20

a. What False Prophets Pretend, 7:15

b. What False Prophets Produce, 6:16-20



(1) Their Fruits, 7:16-18

(a) The Curse Emphasized, 7:16

i. Such knowledge is obtainable, Mt. 7:16, 20

ii. Such knowledge is through observation, 7:20 “...by their fruits...”

iii. Such knowledge has opposition, Mt. 7:15

(b) The Contrast Emphasized, 7:17-28

i. Unexchangeable Life, 7:17

ii. Inescapable Law, 7:18

(2) Their Future, 7:19-20

(a) Damnation, 7:19

(b) Discrimination, 7:20

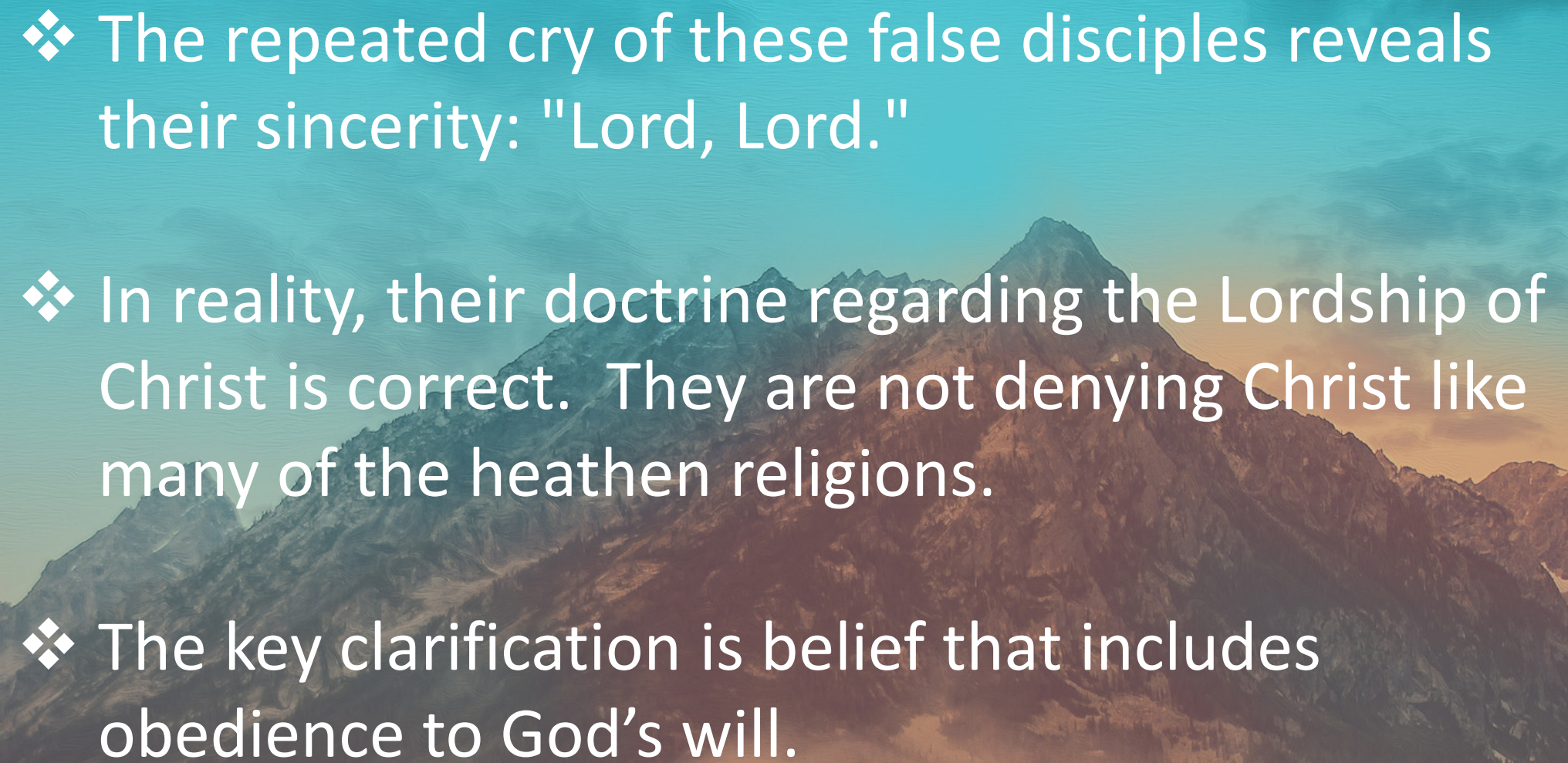
❖ Verses 15-20 deal with false prophets, but verses 21-23 deal with false followers.

There are two claims in Mt. 7:21-23: (1) False prophets produce false followers who will not enter into the kingdom of heaven. (2) Jesus contrasts those who say one thing but do not know Him.

2. Beware of False Profession, 7:21-23

a. A Test, 7:21

Mt. 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

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- ❖ The repeated cry of these false disciples reveals their sincerity: "Lord, Lord."
 - ❖ In reality, their doctrine regarding the Lordship of Christ is correct. They are not denying Christ like many of the heathen religions.
 - ❖ The key clarification is belief that includes obedience to God's will.

Jas. 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: **the devils also believe, and tremble.**

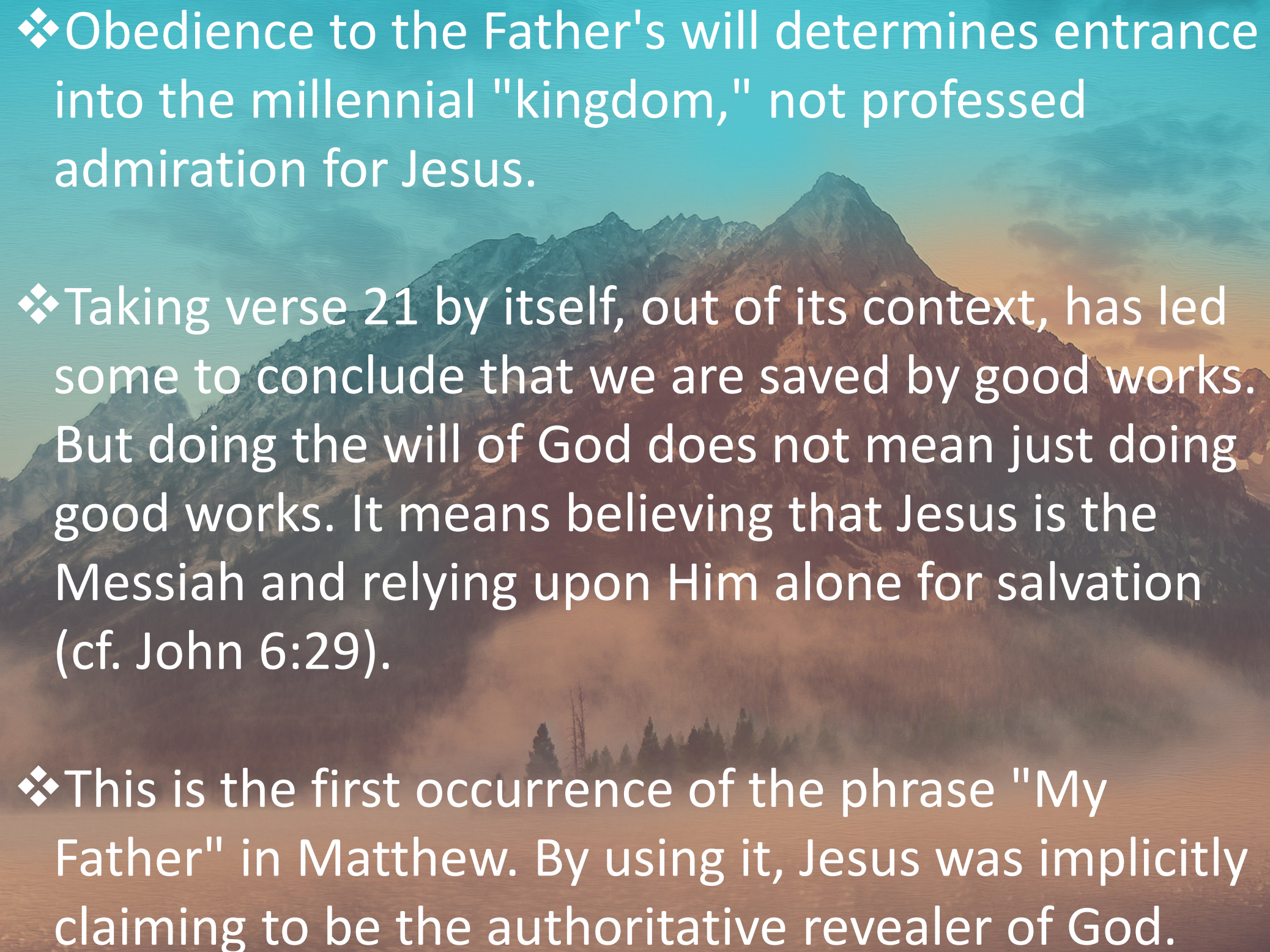
Jn. 8:31 **Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;**

34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.**

42 Jesus said unto them, **If God were your Father, ye would love me:** for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word.

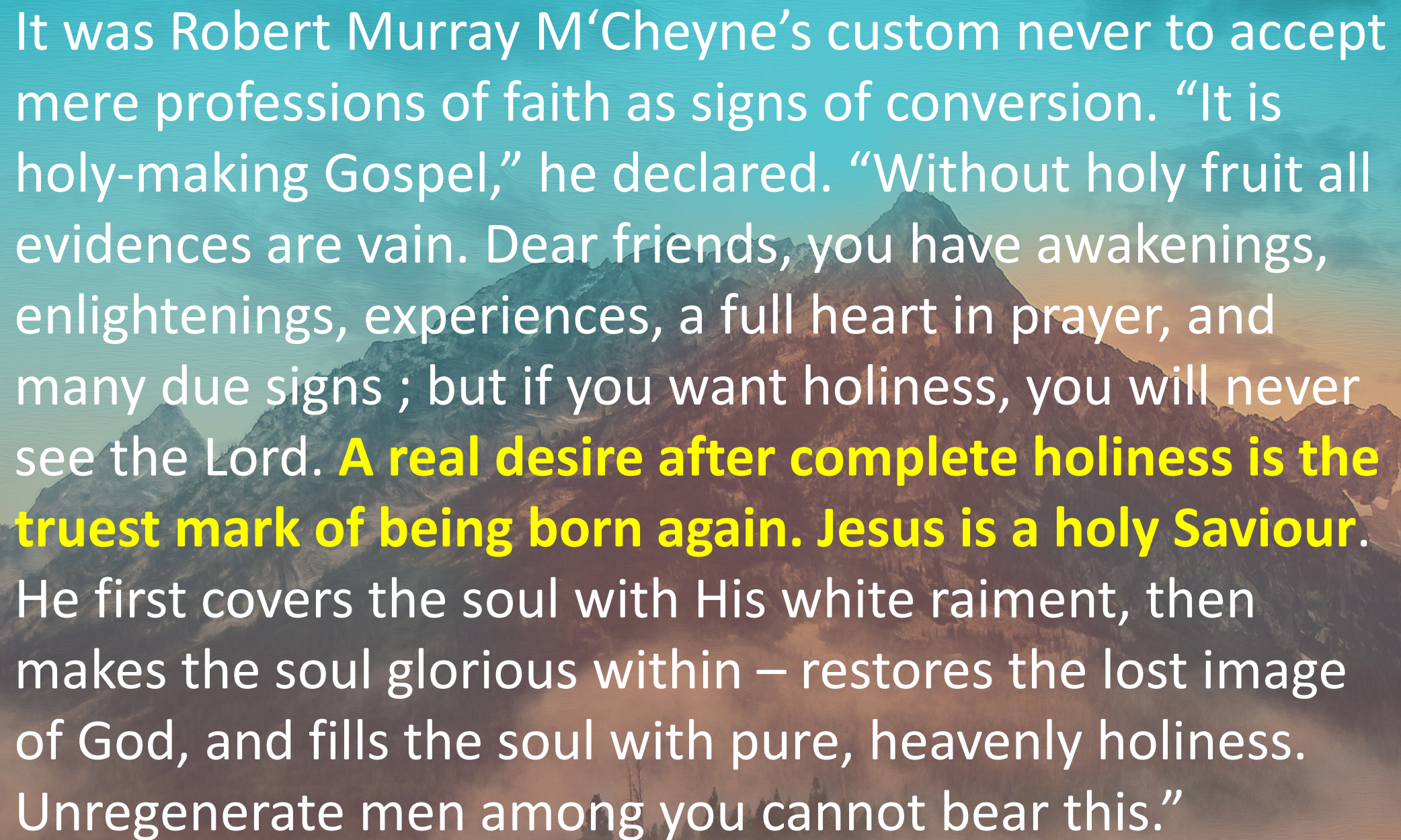
44 **Ye are of your father the devil,** and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

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- ❖ Obedience to the Father's will determines entrance into the millennial "kingdom," not professed admiration for Jesus.
 - ❖ Taking verse 21 by itself, out of its context, has led some to conclude that we are saved by good works. But doing the will of God does not mean just doing good works. It means believing that Jesus is the Messiah and relying upon Him alone for salvation (cf. John 6:29).
 - ❖ This is the first occurrence of the phrase "My Father" in Matthew. By using it, Jesus was implicitly claiming to be the authoritative revealer of God.

Luke 6:46 And **why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?**

- ❖ The proposition is stated in Mt. 7:21, and then elaborated upon and illustrated in 7:22-23.
- ❖ The emphasis is to avoid self-delusion and self-deception: the key is righteousness from God's perspective.

Heb. 12:14 Follow peace with all *men*, and **holiness**, without which no man shall see the Lord:



It was Robert Murray M'Cheyne's custom never to accept mere professions of faith as signs of conversion. "It is holy-making Gospel," he declared. "Without holy fruit all evidences are vain. Dear friends, you have awakenings, enlightenings, experiences, a full heart in prayer, and many due signs ; but if you want holiness, you will never see the Lord. **A real desire after complete holiness is the truest mark of being born again. Jesus is a holy Saviour.** He first covers the soul with His white raiment, then makes the soul glorious within – restores the lost image of God, and fills the soul with pure, heavenly holiness. Unregenerate men among you cannot bear this."

<https://www.mcheyne.info/his-life/>

❖ The simple, alarming truth is, Jesus said that many *professing* Christians will go to hell.

A.W. Pink listed five types of “professors” of Christianity:

A.W. Pink, *An Exposition of the Sermon on the Mount.*” Baker Book House. Grand Rapids. 1982. Pp. 381-383.

1) Nominal professors: They bear the name of “Christian” but that is all.

2) Formal professors: They have become involved in ritualistic action, claiming Christianity.

1 Cor. 6:9 **Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, **shall inherit the kingdom of God.**

3) Deceived professors: Prov. 30:12 They are very religious, possessing a cold, rigidity of “Christianity.” They have “faith in faith” but little resemblance of the “fruit of the spirit.”

Prov. 30:12 *There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.*

4) Hypocritical professors: Make-believe religionists who play the part, pretending to be Christians.

5) Genuine believers: This is the real believer that is obedient out of love to the Savior.

❖ Jesus made a most profound and revelation of eternal truth – religious action is NOT a proof of spirituality. Love for Christ is revealed by obedient fellowship with Him.

Conclusion

1 Jn. 2:3 And **hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.**

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But **whoso keepeth his word**, in him verily is **the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.**

6 He that saith he abideth in him **ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**