

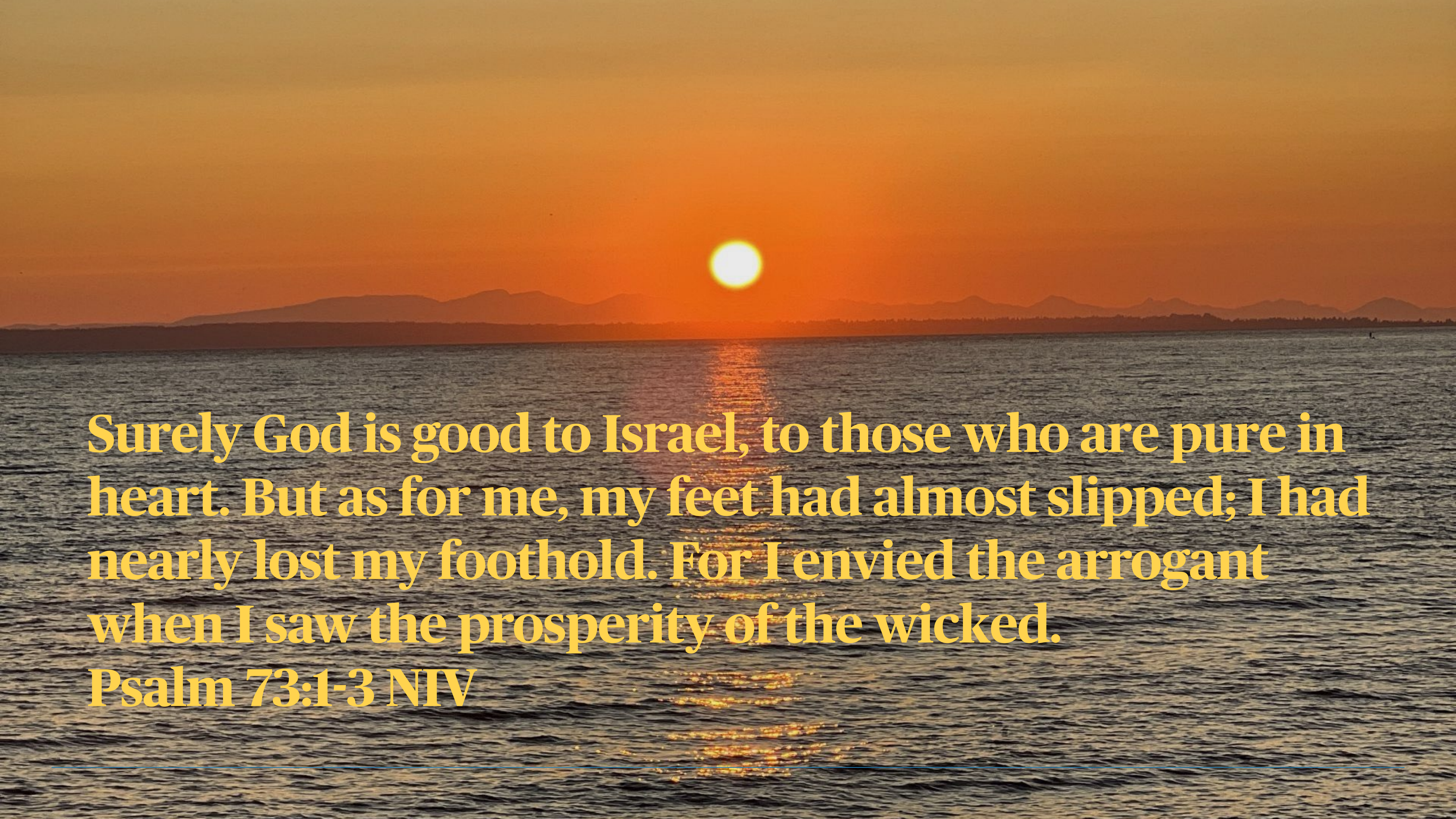


Summer in the Psalms

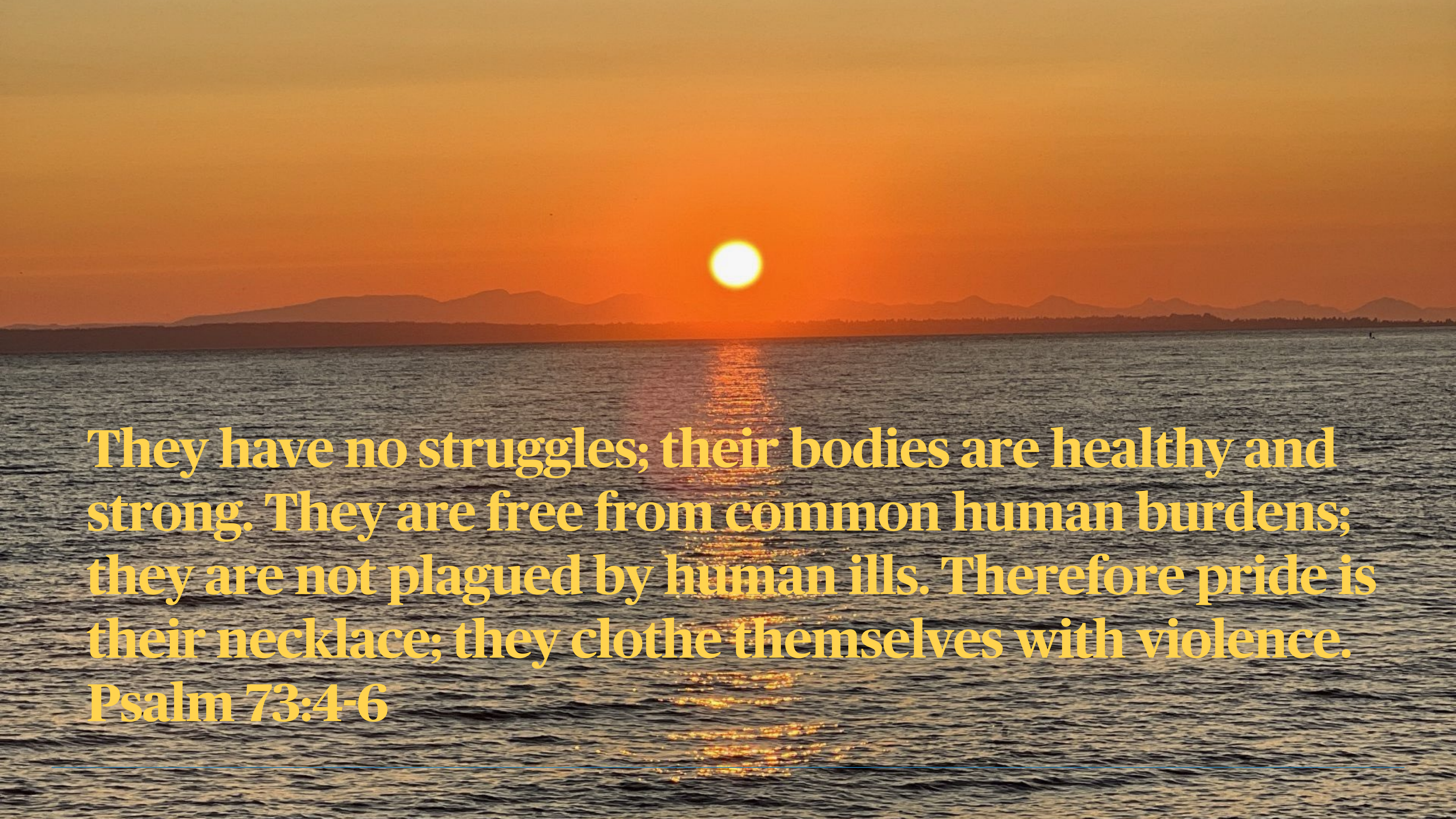
Summer sermon series

When Life Seems Unfair

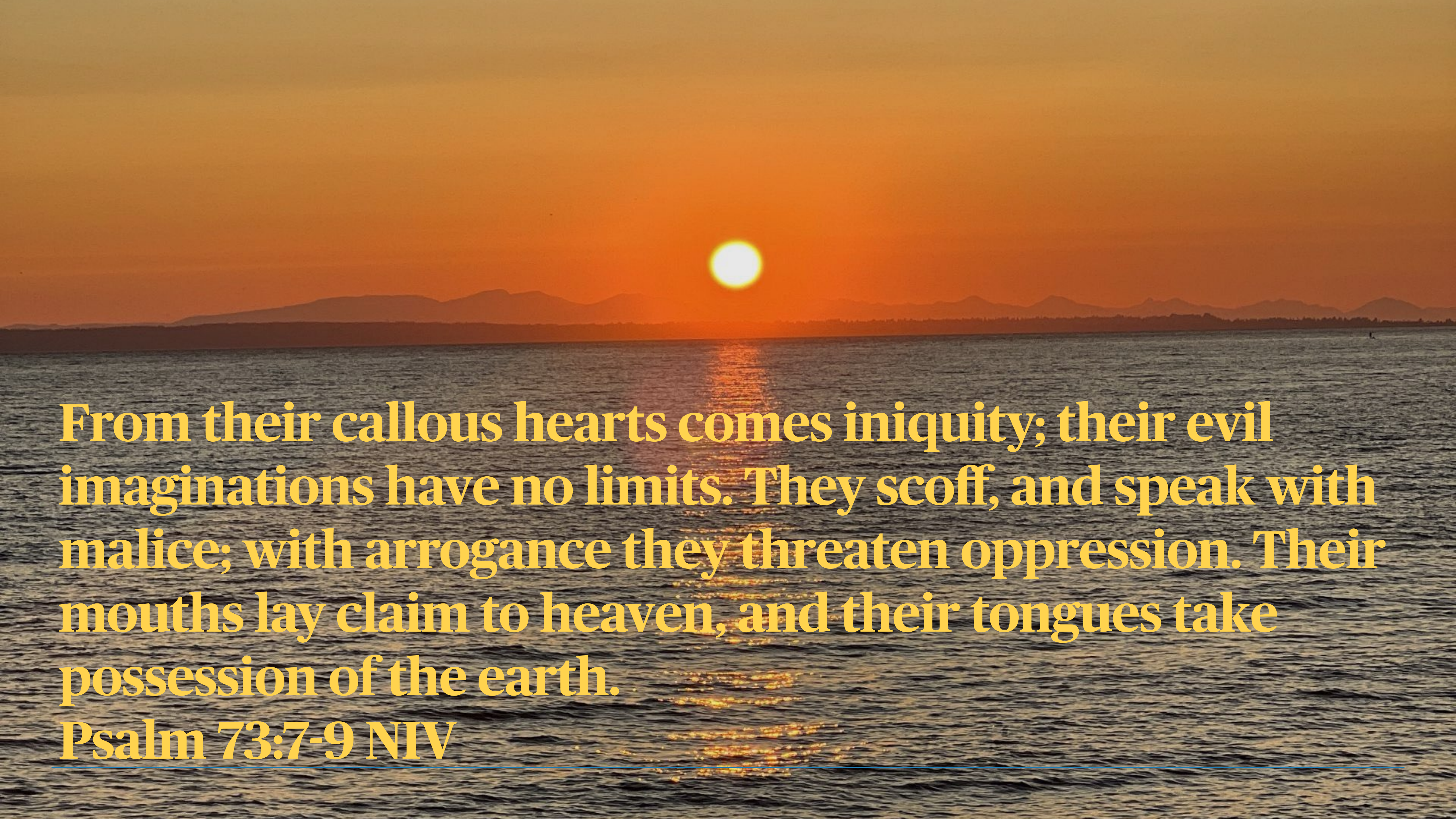
Psalm 73:1-28



Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
Psalm 73:1-3 NIV

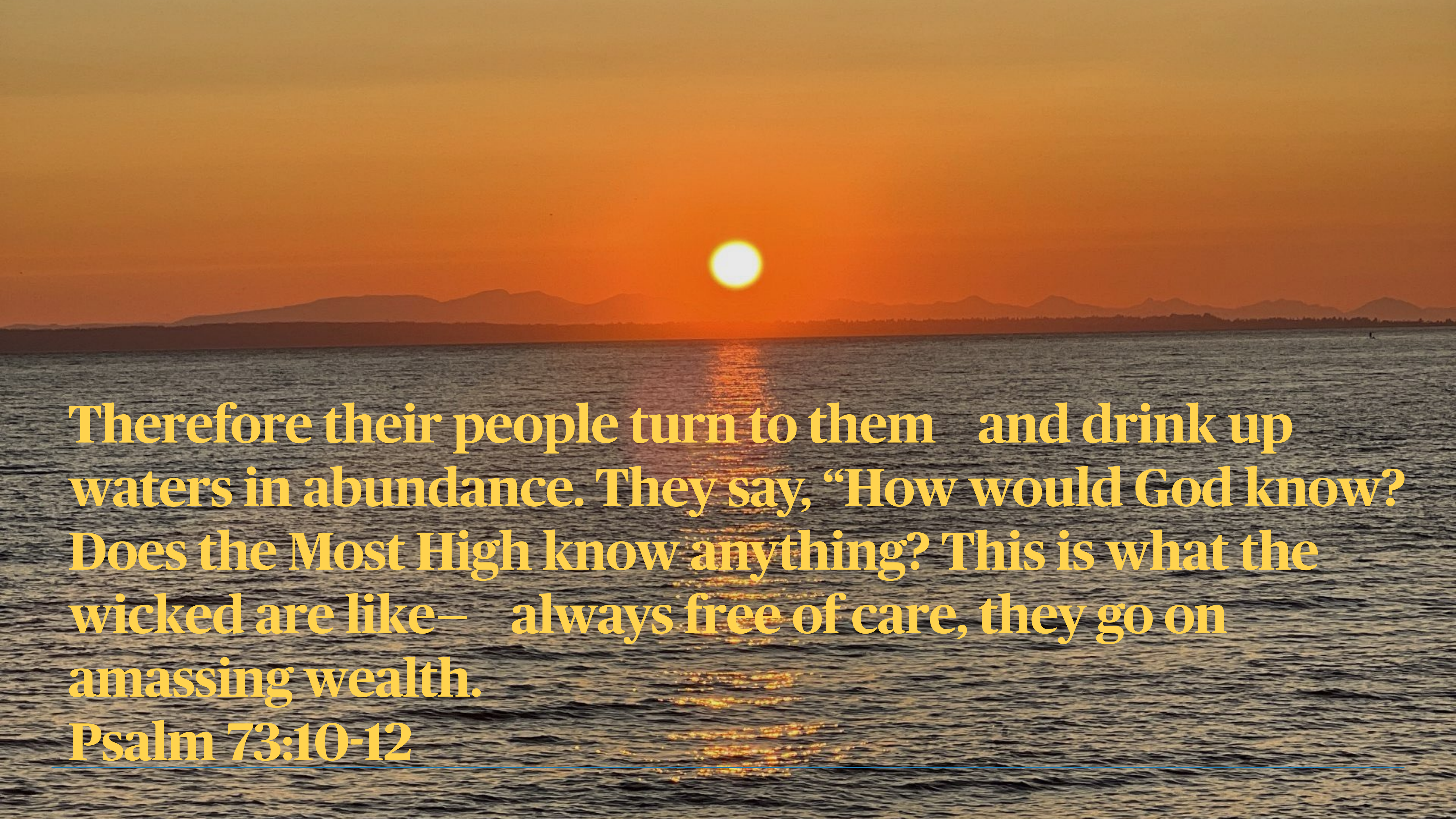
A serene sunset scene with a bright orange sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering reflection on the dark blue water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the glowing sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills. Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence.
Psalm 73:4-6

A serene sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering path of light across the dark, rippling water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the orange and yellow sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

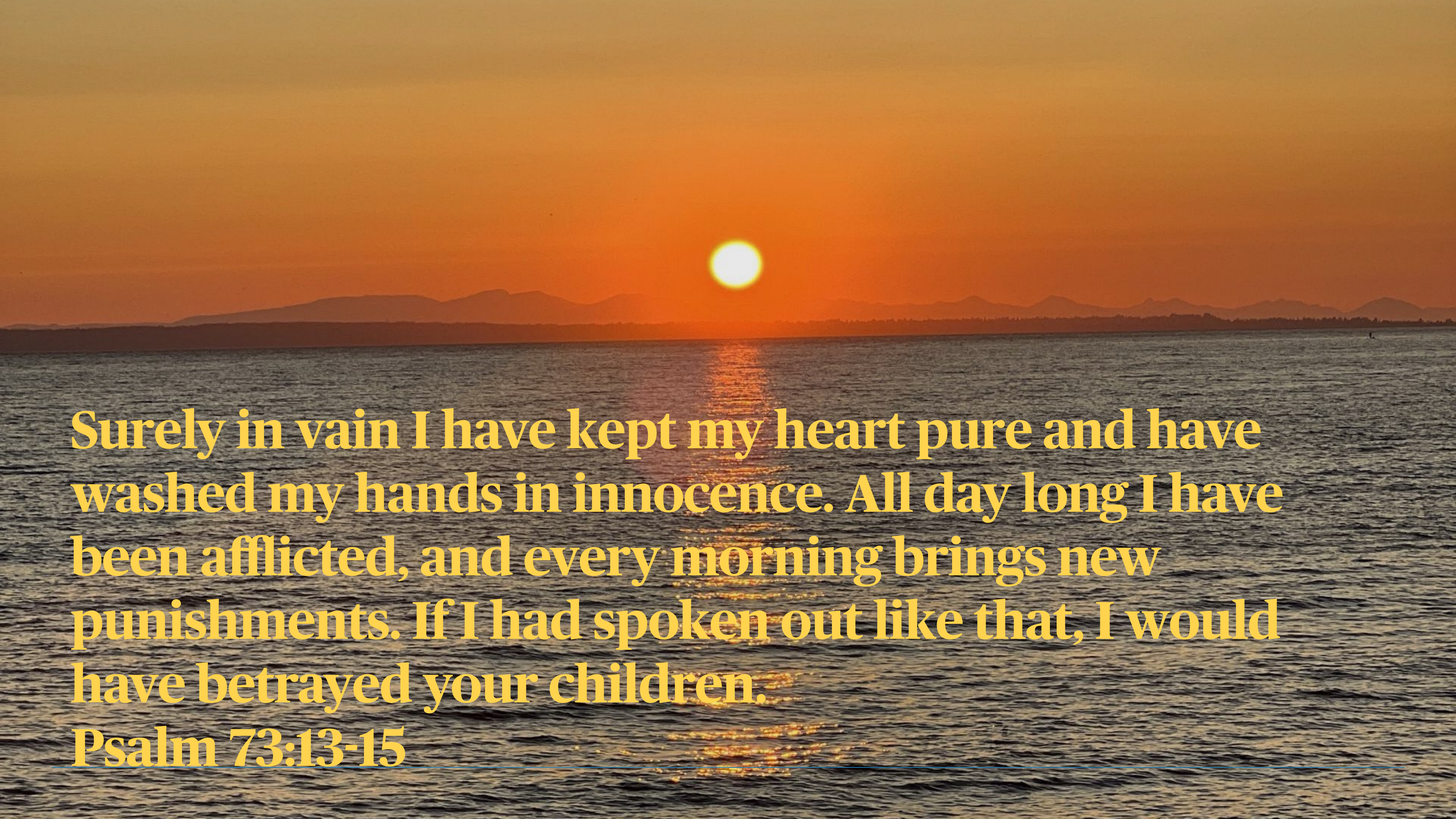
From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits. They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth.

Psalm 73:7-9 NIV



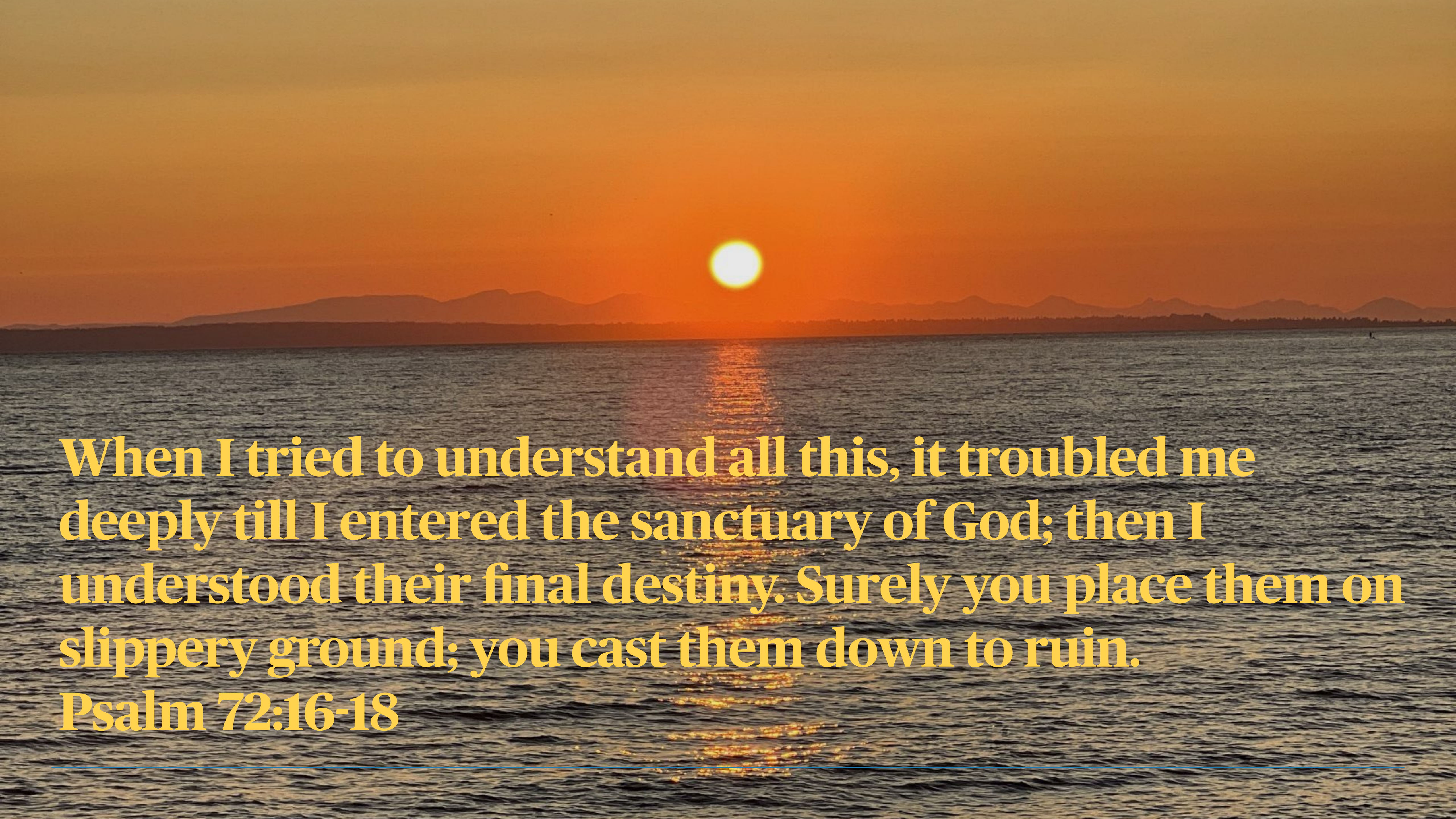
Therefore their people turn to them and drink up
waters in abundance. They say, “How would God know?
Does the Most High know anything? This is what the
wicked are like— always free of care, they go on
amassing wealth.

Psalm 73:10-12

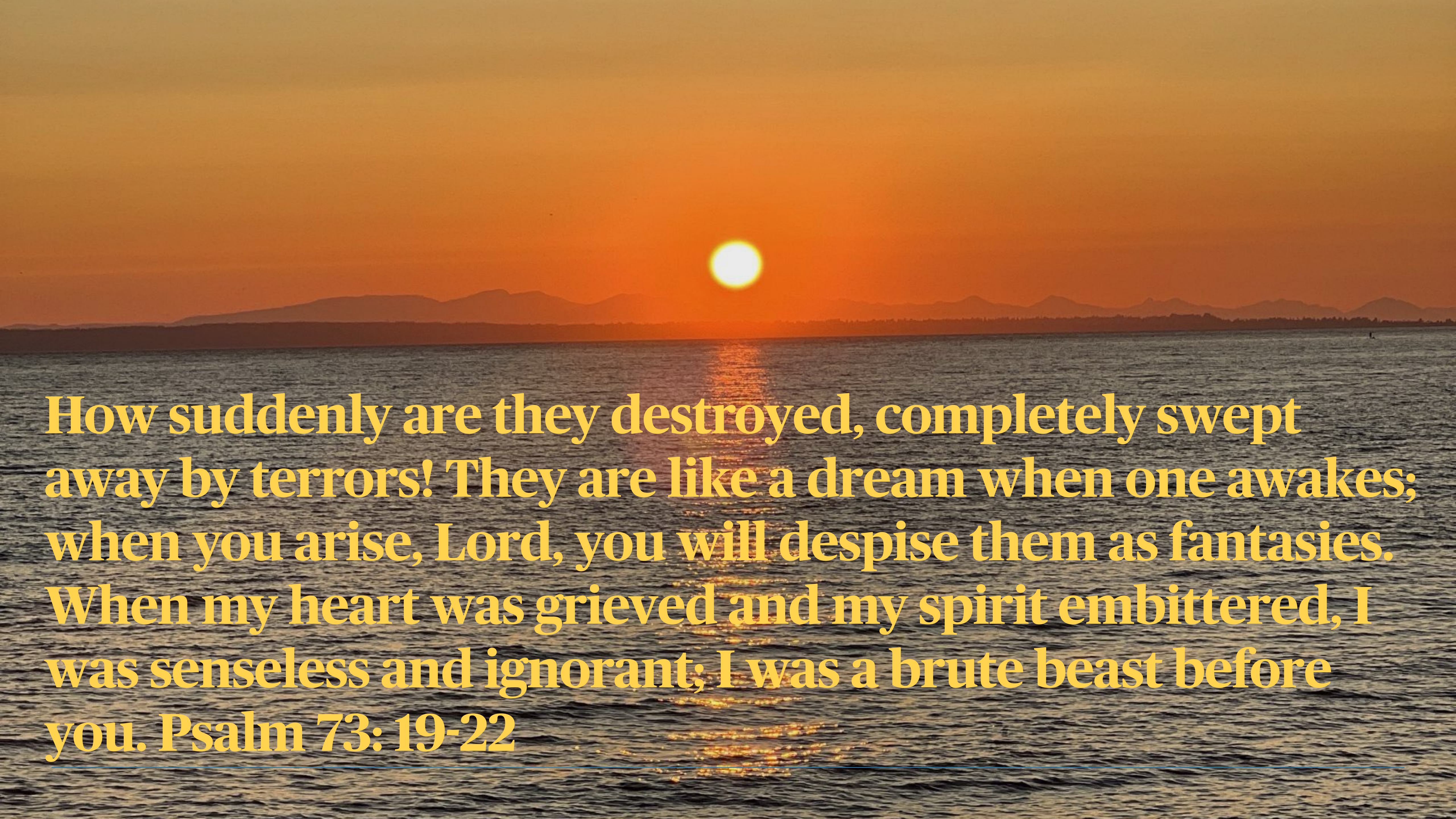
A serene sunset scene with a bright orange sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering reflection on the dark blue water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the glowing sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments. If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed your children.

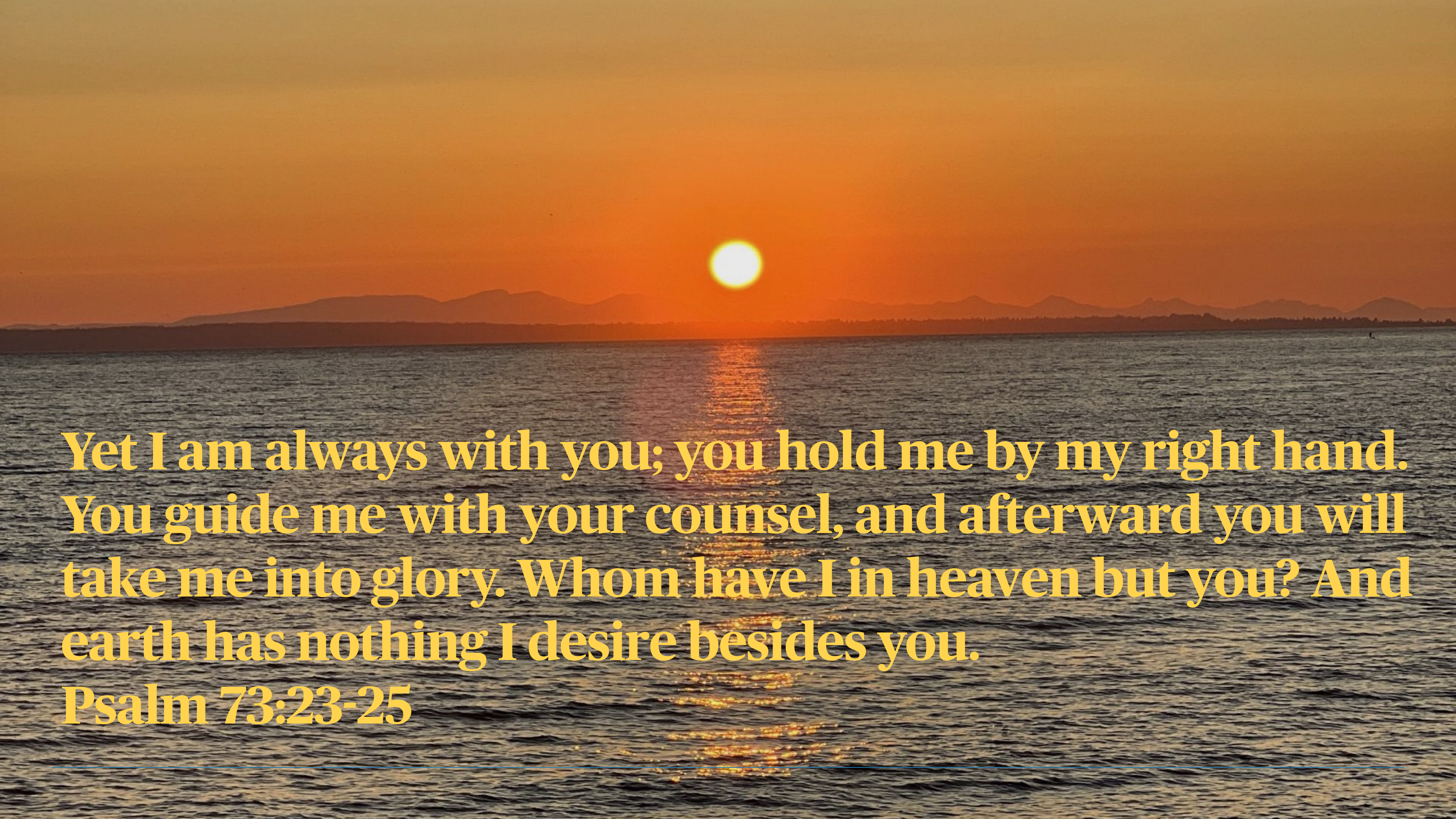
Psalm 73:13-15

A serene sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering path of light across the dark, rippling water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the orange and yellow sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me
deeply till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I
understood their final destiny. Surely you place them on
slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin.
Psalm 72:16-18**

A serene sunset scene with a bright orange sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering reflection on the dark blue water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the glowing sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies. When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. Psalm 73: 19-22



**Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.
You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will
take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And
earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

Psalm 73:23-25

A serene sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The background features a range of mountains under the warm light of the setting sun.

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. Psalm 73:26-28

A person wearing a red robe is shown from the chest up, with their head buried in their hands in a gesture of despair or prayer. They are sitting on a red surface, and a thick Bible is resting on their lap. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "Why, God?" is overlaid in white, serif font across the person's face.

Why, God?

A B O V E



“Faith STRUGGLES when it
focuses on man. Faith
TRIUMPHS when it focuses
on God.”

Dr. H.B. Charles Jr.



Asaph Looked Back

**“No matter what happens, God
and God alone is good.”
Psalm 73:1-3**



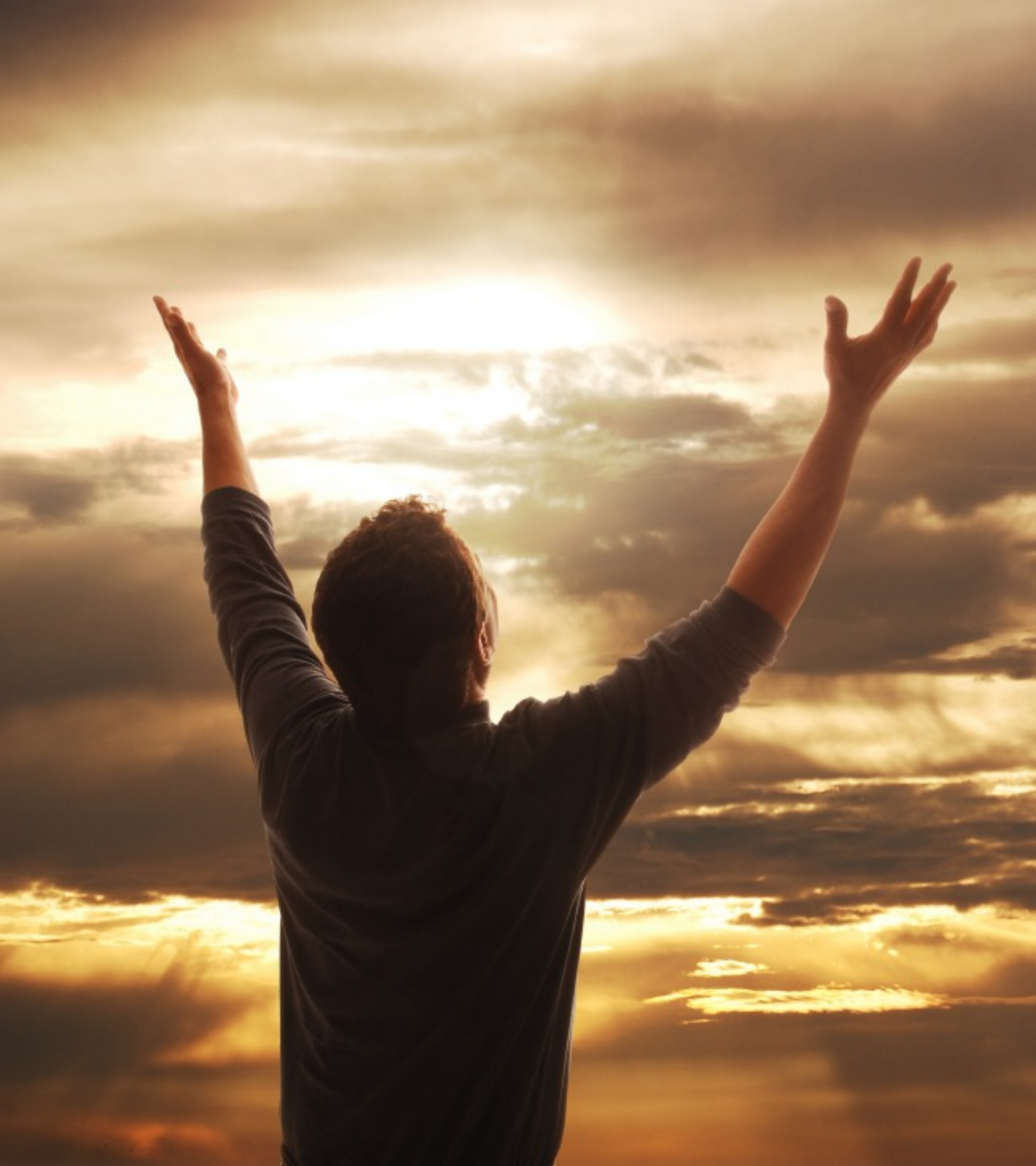
Asaph Looked Around

Why would the wicked have everything that was only promised to God's covenant people? Psalm 73:4-12



Asaph Looked Within

**“Have I been wasting my time?
Why take the trouble to be pure?”
Psalm 73:13-15**



Asaph Looked Up

What changes our perspective?
WORSHIP
Psalm 73:16-24

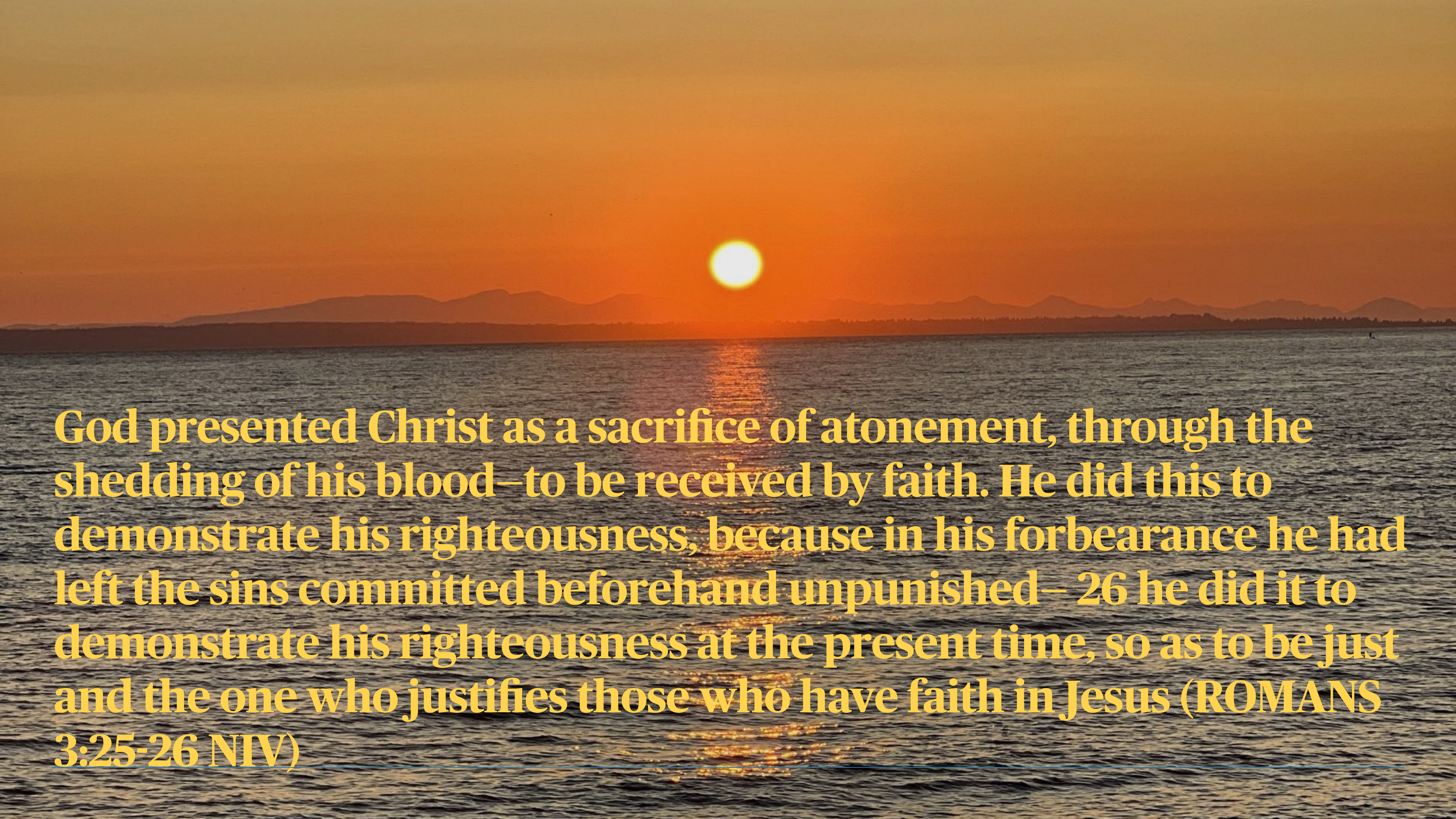
A serene sunset scene with a bright orange sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering reflection on the dark water. In the distance, a range of mountains is silhouetted against the glowing sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (Romans 12:1-3 NLT)

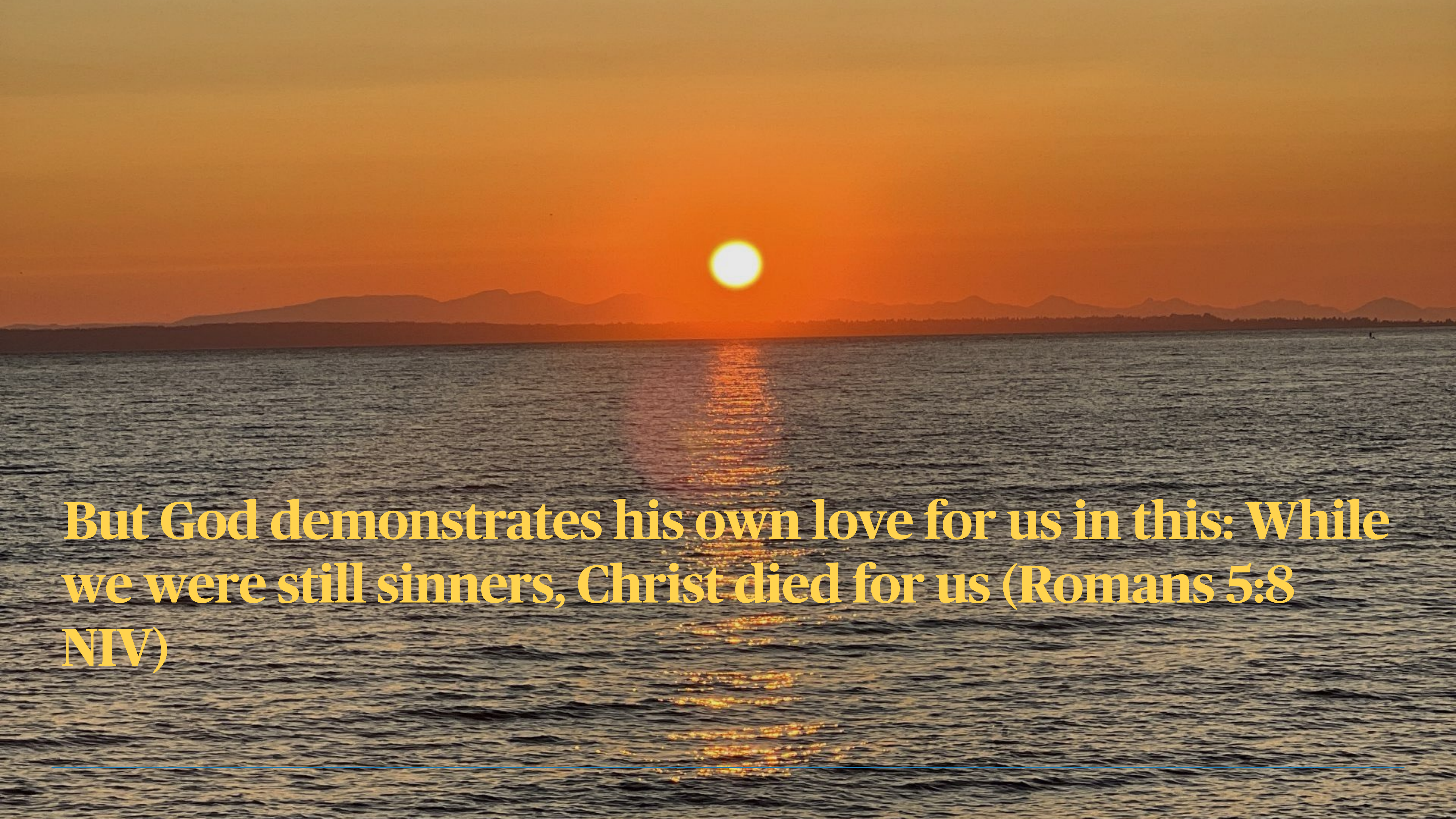


Our Responsibility

**Trust in God's GOODNESS & Tell
of God's GREATNESS
Psalm 73:26-28**

A serene sunset scene with a bright orange sun low on the horizon, casting a shimmering reflection on the dark water. Silhouetted mountains are visible in the distance under a warm, orange-hued sky.

God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— 26 he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus (ROMANS 3:25-26 NIV)



But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8 NIV)



COMMUNION: A REALITY CHECK

We Look To CHRIST

We look INSIDE

We look AROUND

We look UP