




SEEKING

Him




In our series so far...

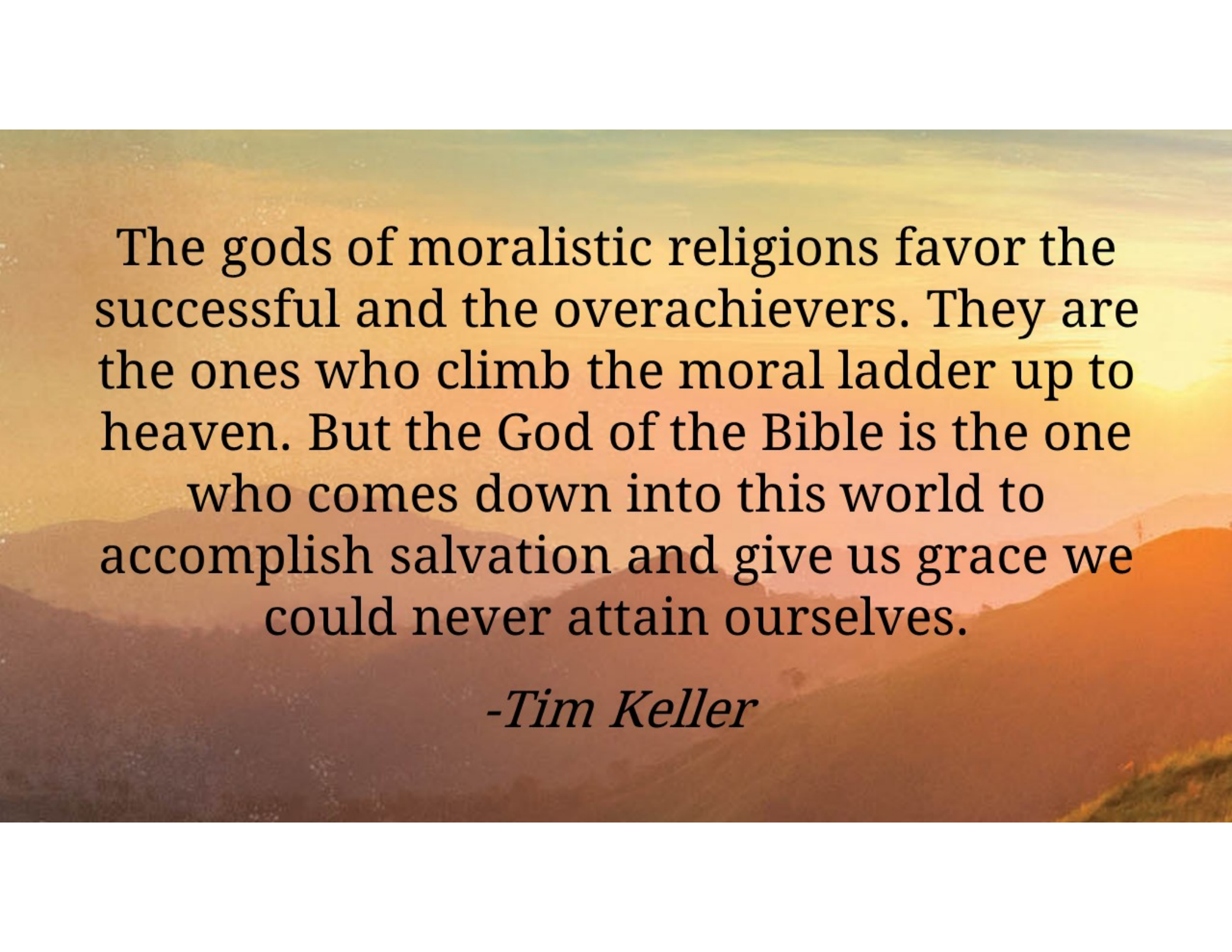
We've covered *humility*,
honesty and *repentance* –
having fun yet?



God doesn't expect you to
meet his requirements on
your own He
provides grace.

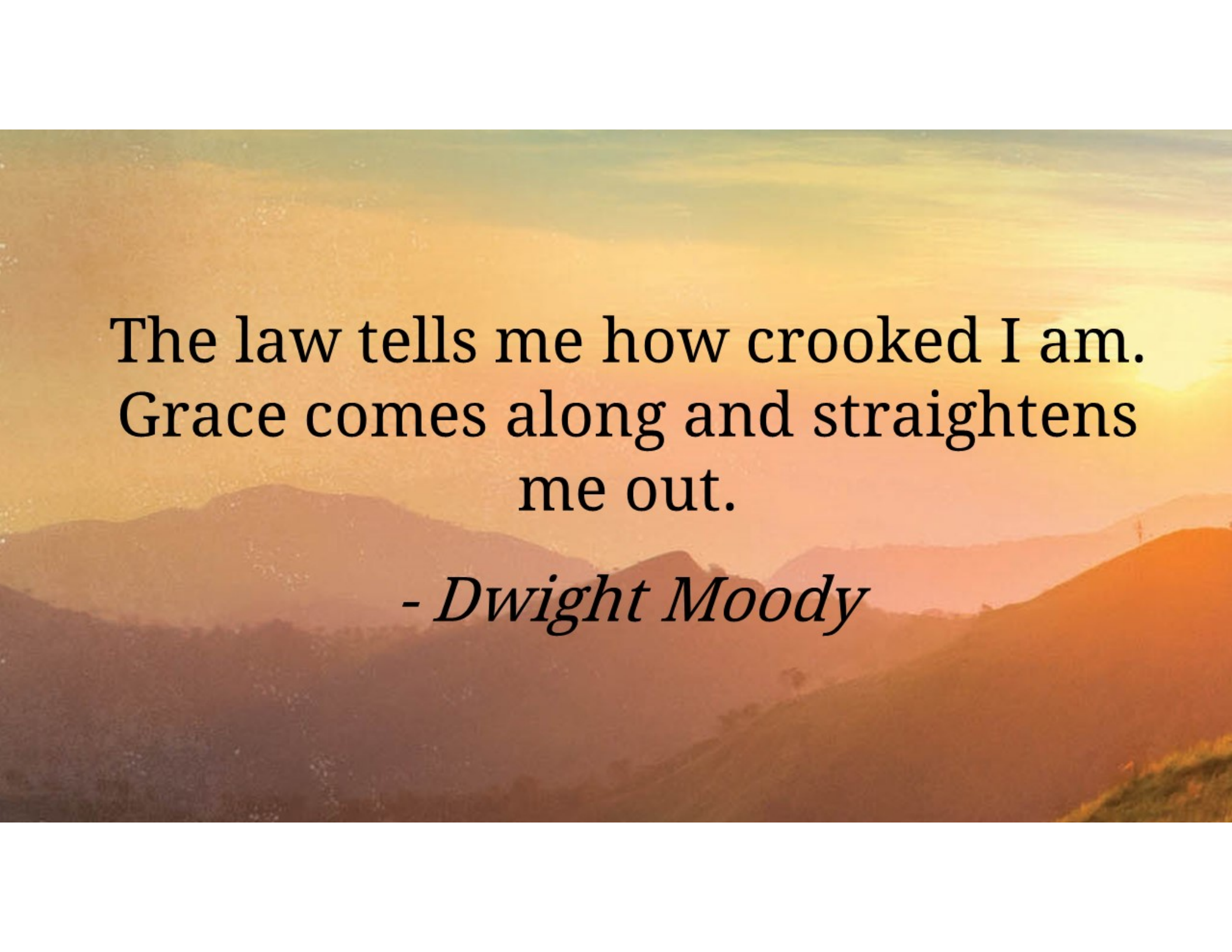


One aspect of God's amazing grace:
God doing for us what we could
never do for ourselves.



The gods of moralistic religions favor the successful and the overachievers. They are the ones who climb the moral ladder up to heaven. But the God of the Bible is the one who comes down into this world to accomplish salvation and give us grace we could never attain ourselves.

-Tim Keller

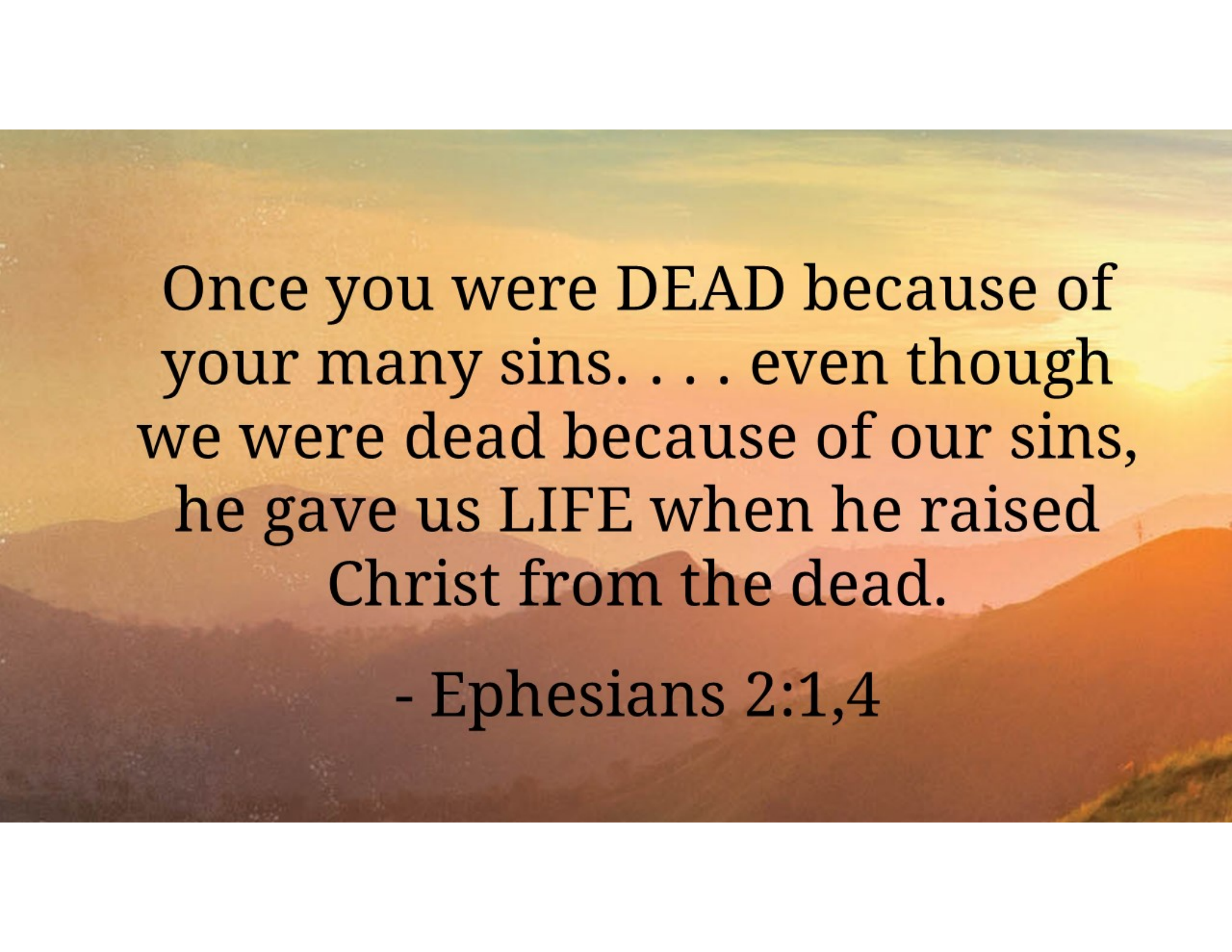


The law tells me how crooked I am.
Grace comes along and straightens
me out.

- *Dwight Moody*

A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a warm, hazy orange and yellow, with the sun visible on the right side, creating a bright glow. The hills are silhouetted against the sky, with some greenery visible on the slopes. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

How does grace “straighten” us?



Once you were DEAD because of
your many sins. . . . even though
we were dead because of our sins,
he gave us LIFE when he raised
Christ from the dead.

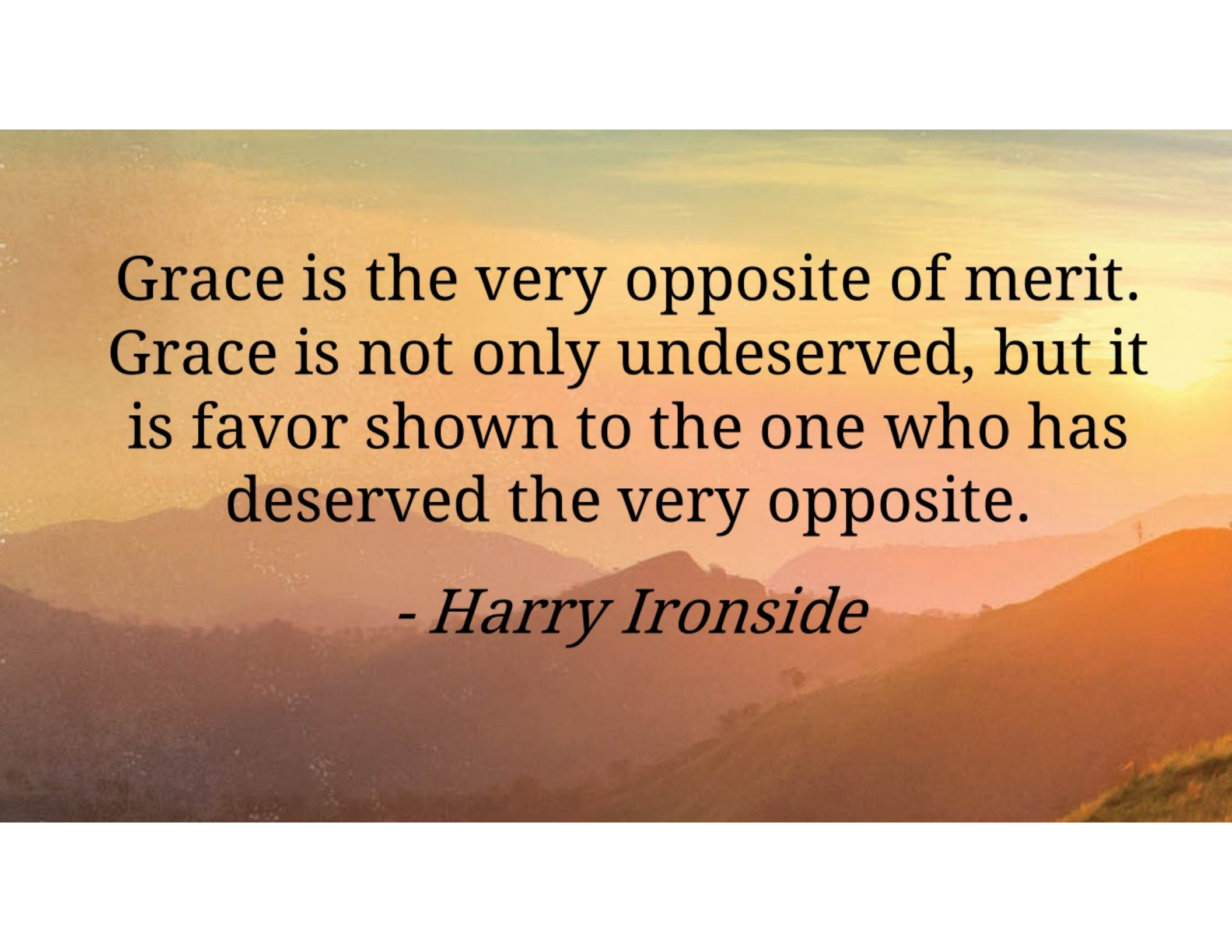
- Ephesians 2:1,4



Theology 101:

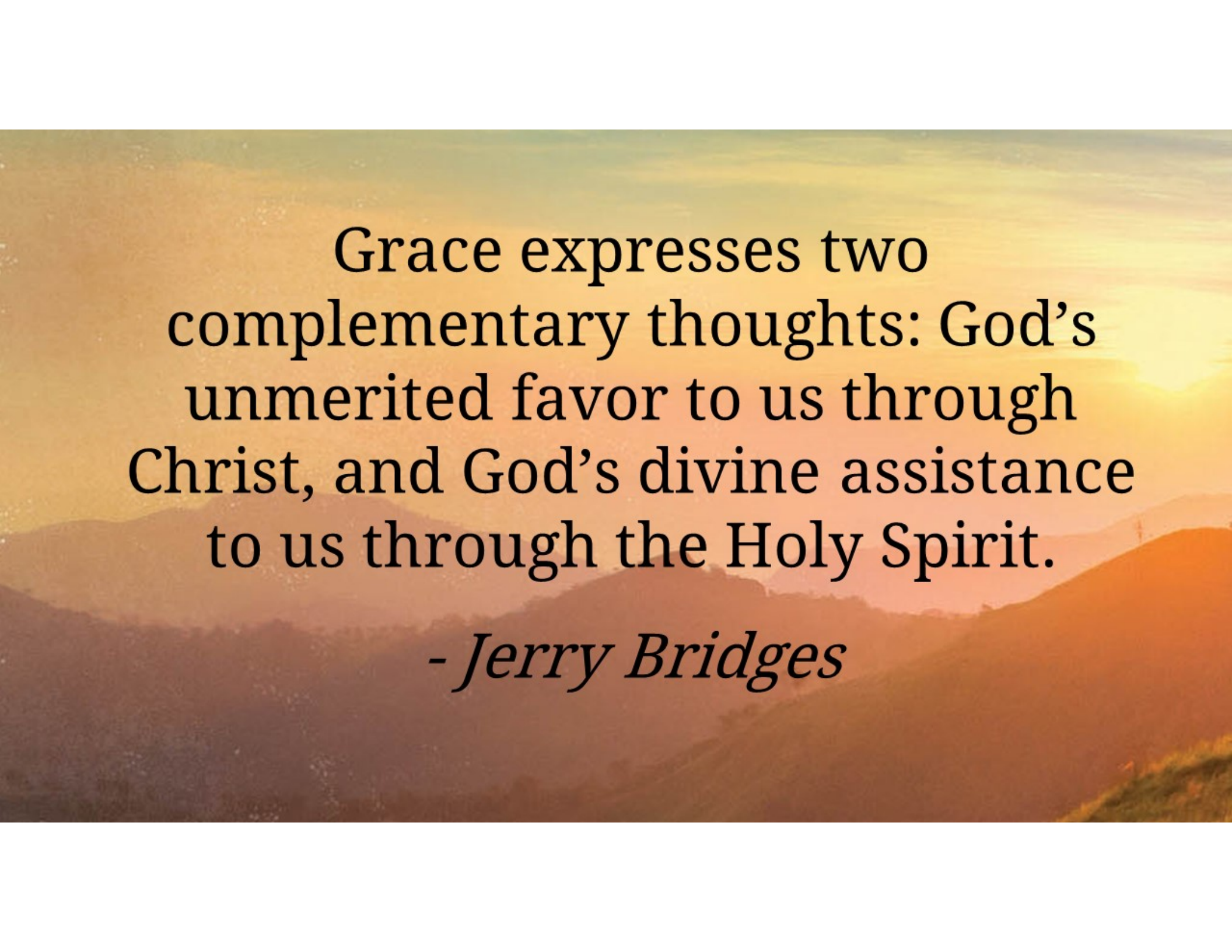
A) You start dead
spiritually

B) Christ makes you alive



Grace is the very opposite of merit.
Grace is not only undeserved, but it
is favor shown to the one who has
deserved the very opposite.

- Harry Ironside



Grace expresses two
complementary thoughts: God's
unmerited favor to us through
Christ, and God's divine assistance
to us through the Holy Spirit.

- Jerry Bridges



How does grace “assist” us?

FOUR MOVEMENTS OF GRACE



SAVES



RETRAINS



SUSTAINS

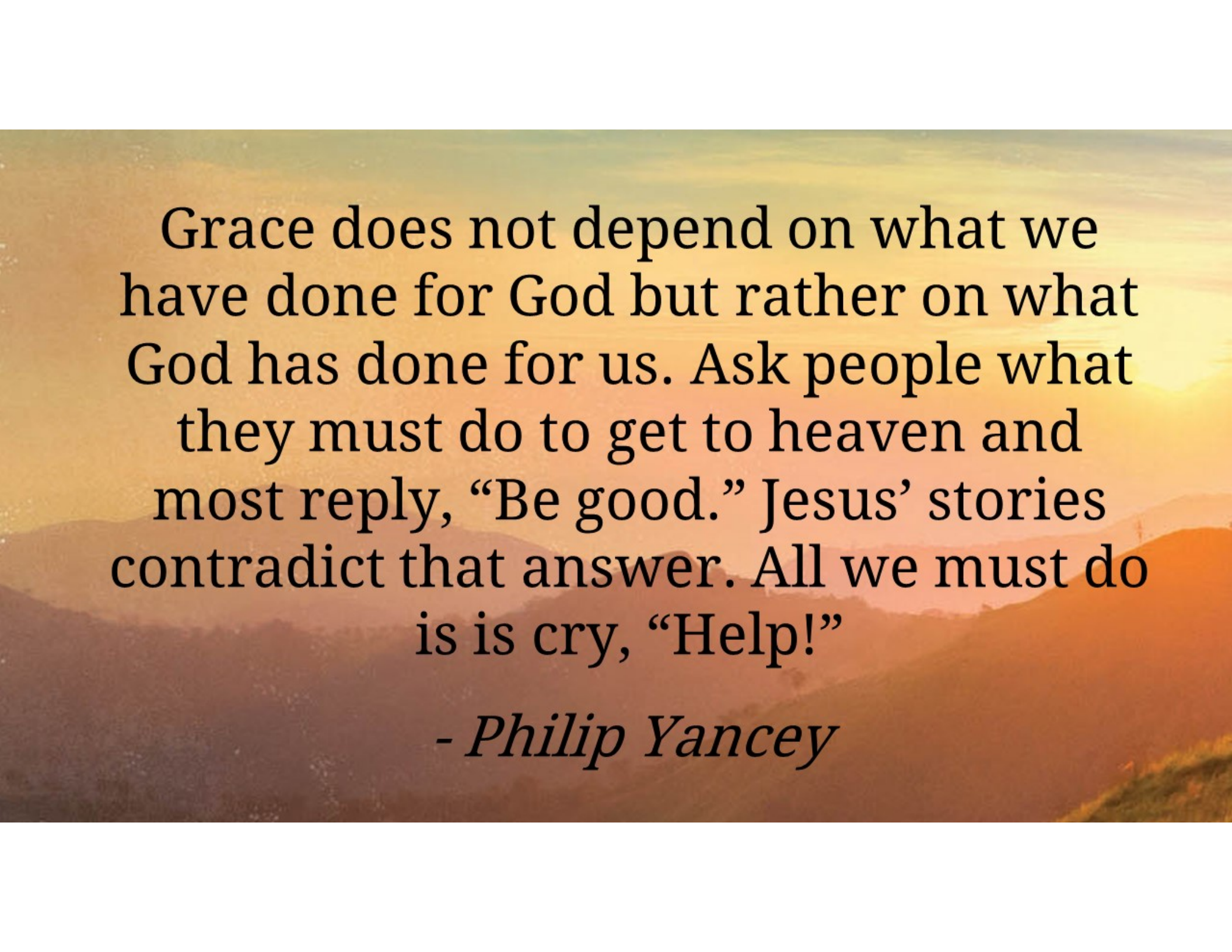


ENERGIZES

1. Grace Saves

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

Ephesians 2:8



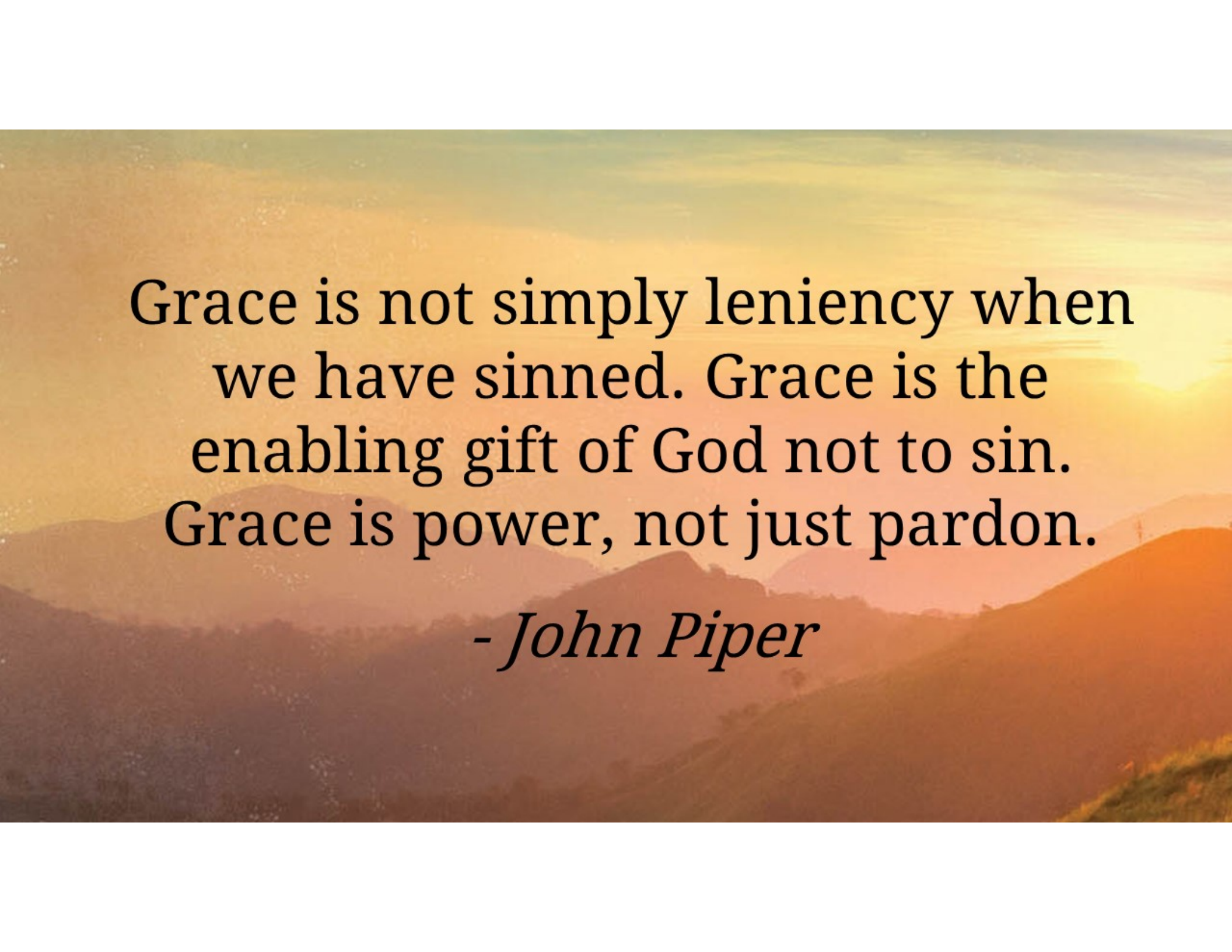
Grace does not depend on what we have done for God but rather on what God has done for us. Ask people what they must do to get to heaven and most reply, “Be good.” Jesus’ stories contradict that answer. All we must do is cry, “Help!”

- Philip Yancey

2. Grace Retrains

For the grace of God has appeared to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

Titus 2:11-12



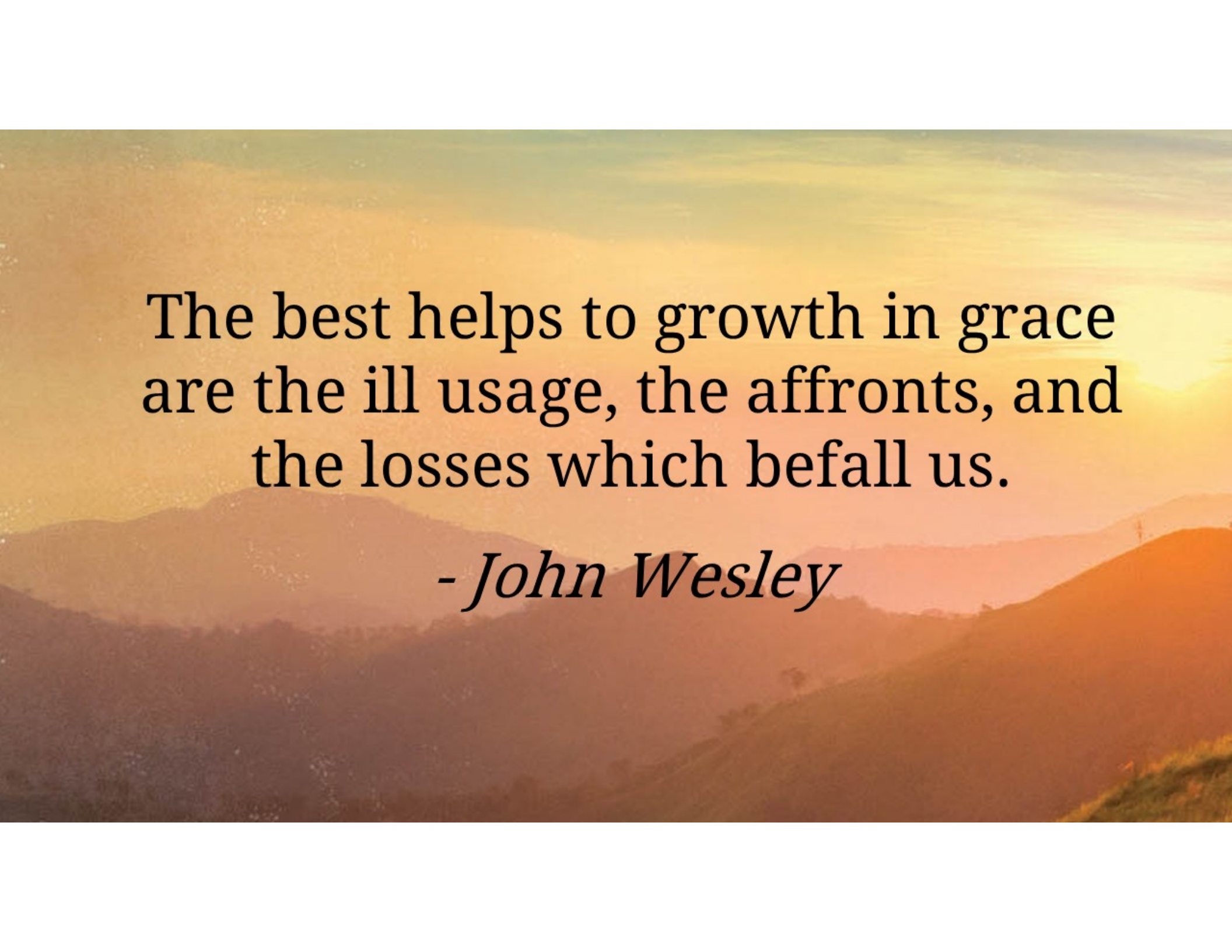
Grace is not simply leniency when
we have sinned. Grace is the
enabling gift of God not to sin.
Grace is power, not just pardon.

- John Piper

3. Grace Sustains

Let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

- Hebrews 4:16



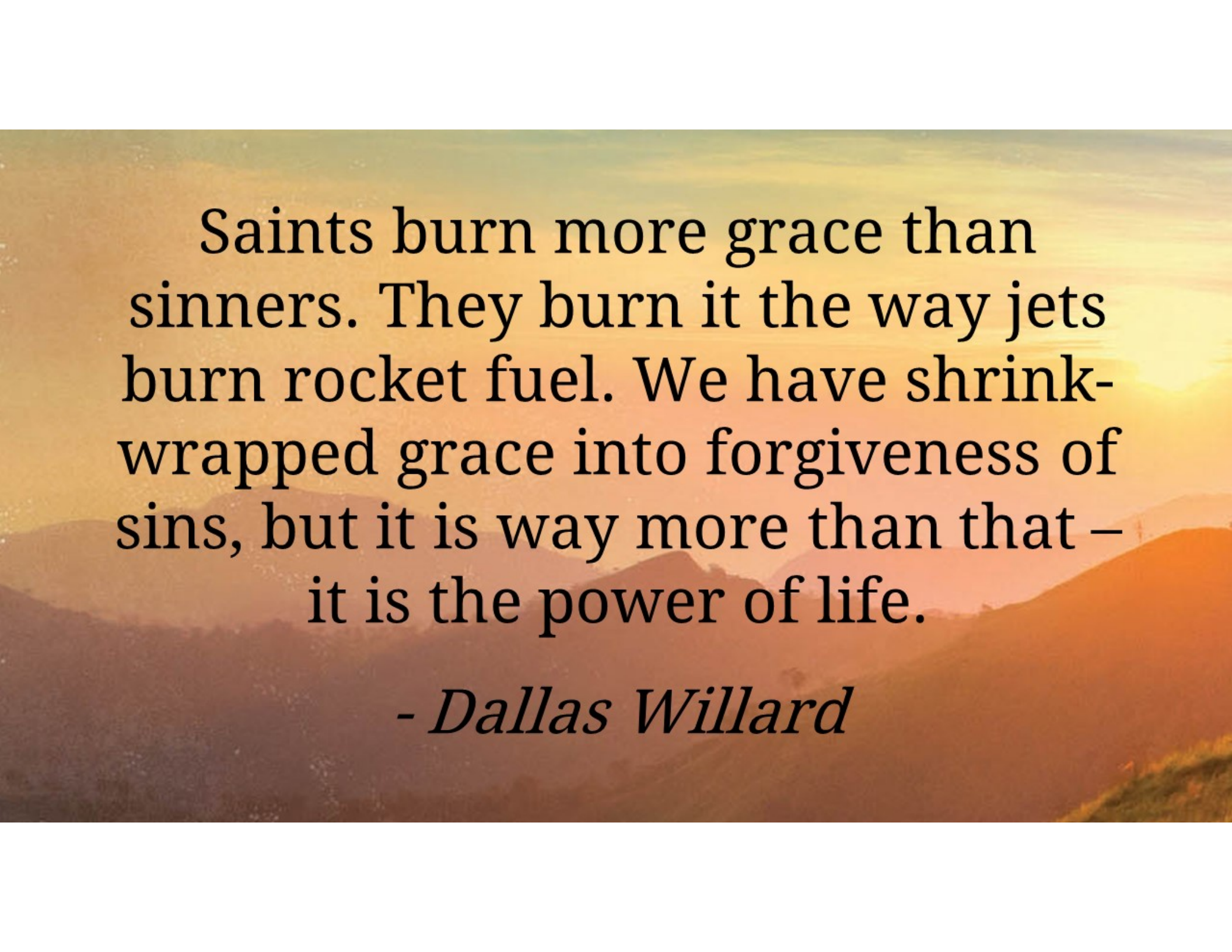
The best helps to growth in grace
are the ill usage, the affronts, and
the losses which befall us.

- John Wesley

4. Grace Energizes

Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and power to do what pleases him.

- Philippians 2:12-13



Saints burn more grace than sinners. They burn it the way jets burn rocket fuel. We have shrink-wrapped grace into forgiveness of sins, but it is way more than that – it is the power of life.

- Dallas Willard



How

do we live by the power of grace?



Receive the gift of grace:

Grace teaches us that God loves us
because of who God is,
not because of who we are.

- Philip Yancey

 **Never leave grace:**

Between here and heaven, every
minute that the Christian lives will
be a minute of grace.

- Charles Spurgeon

 Admit you need grace:

Imperfection is the prerequisite for
grace. Light only gets in through
the cracks.

- Philip Yancey



Cry up for grace:

Grace only has one direction that it can take. Grace always flows down.

- Alexander Whyte

 Do it NOW:

God never gives strength for tomorrow, or for the next hour, but only for the strain of the minute.

- Oswald Chambers



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