



# **WHO IN THE WORLD DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?**

***A STUDY IN EPHESIANS***



# **But God... (Part 3)**

**Ephesians 2:10**

*The Purpose of God for His Children*

“The purpose of Ephesians is to promote a love for one another that has the love of God and Christ as its basis.”



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

<sup>1</sup> As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

**Ephesians 2:1-5**



<sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

**Ephesians 2:1-5**

<sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

**Ephesians 2:6-9**

**Future: God has a  
prepared purpose for us.**



<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus for good  
works, which God prepared  
beforehand, that we should walk in  
them.

**Ephesians 2:10**

The conjunction... “for” tells us why this salvation is not of human origin or by human works. The reason is that “we” (recipients of salvation) are “his” (God’s) workmanship.



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

# 1. God's workmanship

<sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

**Psalm 100:3**

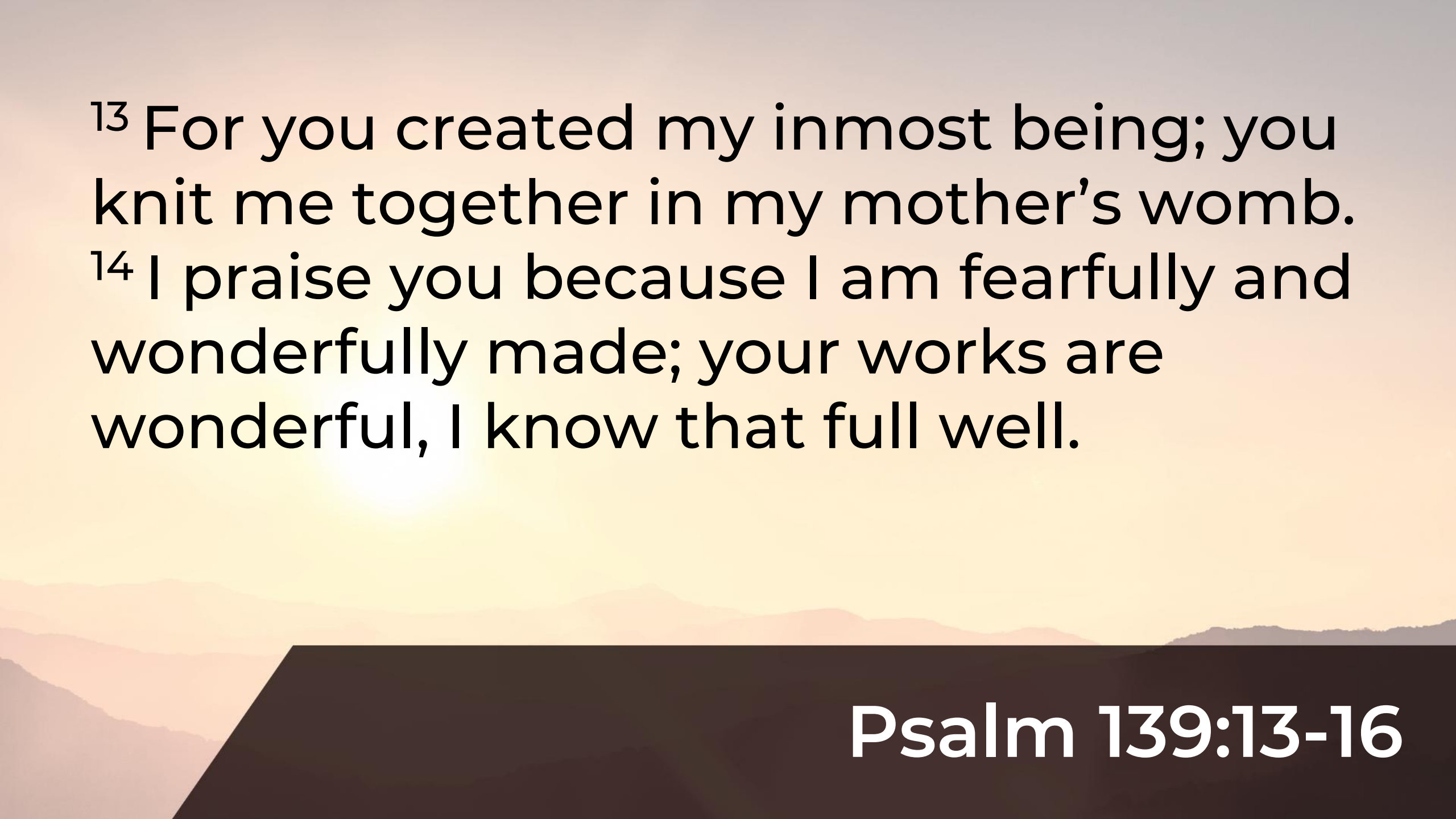
<sup>19</sup> You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were  
bought at a price...

1 Corinthians 6:19-20









<sup>13</sup> For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

**Psalm 139:13-16**

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place.  
When I was woven together in the  
depths of the earth, <sup>16</sup> your eyes saw my  
unformed body. All the days ordained  
for me were written in your book before  
one of them came to be.

**Psalm 139:13-16**



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1. God's workmanship
  2. Created in Christ Jesus

<sup>22</sup> You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

**Ephesians 4:22-24**

<sup>14</sup> May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation.

**Galatians 6:14-15**



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1. **God's workmanship**
  2. **Created in Christ Jesus**
  3. **For good works**

**The purpose of this creation is that believers will do good works. God's workmanship is not achieved by good works, but it is to result in good works...**

<sup>14</sup> [Christ] gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Titus 2:14

- Titus 1:16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.
- Titus 2:7 Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,
- Titus 2:14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.
- Titus 3:1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,
- Titus 3:8 The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.
- Titus 3:14 And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.

- **Paul exhorted Titus to be an example of good works (2.7)**
- **We are to be zealous to do good works (2.14)**
- **We are to be ready to do good works (3.1)**
- **We are to be devoted to doing good works (twice, 3.8, 14)**

# Examples of good works



<sup>36</sup> Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity.<sup>37</sup> In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.

**Acts 9:36-39**

<sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, “Please come to us without delay.”

Acts 9:36-39

<sup>39</sup> So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.

Acts 9:36-39

<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

**Acts 10:38**

<sup>9</sup> No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, <sup>10</sup> and is well known for her good deeds, *such as* bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

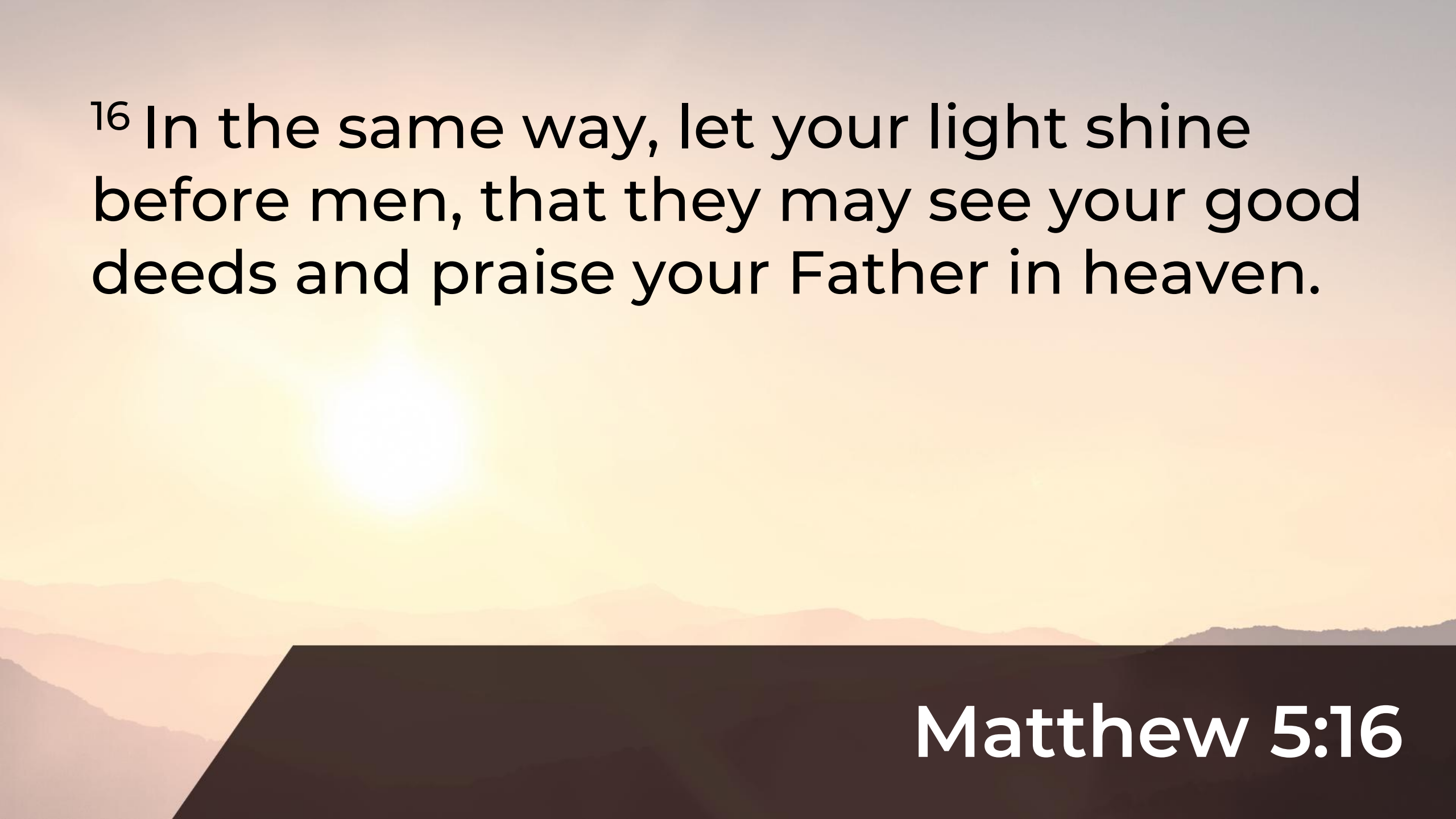
1 Timothy 5:9-10

<sup>1</sup> I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. <sup>2</sup> I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.

**Romans 16:1-2**



# Purposes for good works



<sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

**Matthew 5:16**

<sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:12

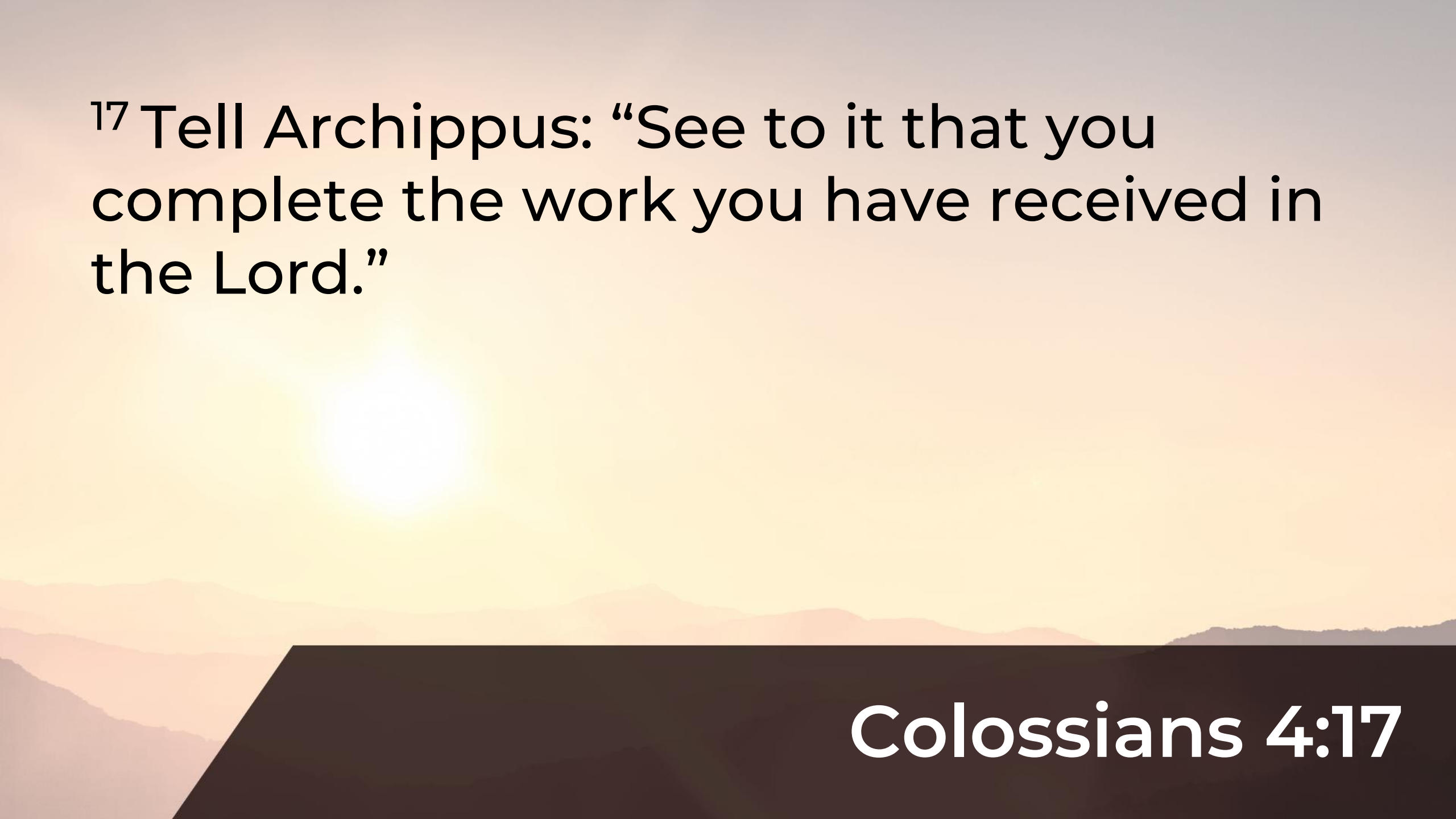
<sup>10</sup> And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

**Colossians 1:10**

<sup>8</sup> This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Titus 3:8

1. God's workmanship
2. Created in Christ Jesus
3. For good works
4. Prepared in advance by God  
for us to do



<sup>17</sup> Tell Archippus: “See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord.”

**Colossians 4:17**



<sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets,  
the evangelists, the shepherds and  
teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the  
work of ministry, for building up the  
body of Christ,

**Ephesians 4:11-12**

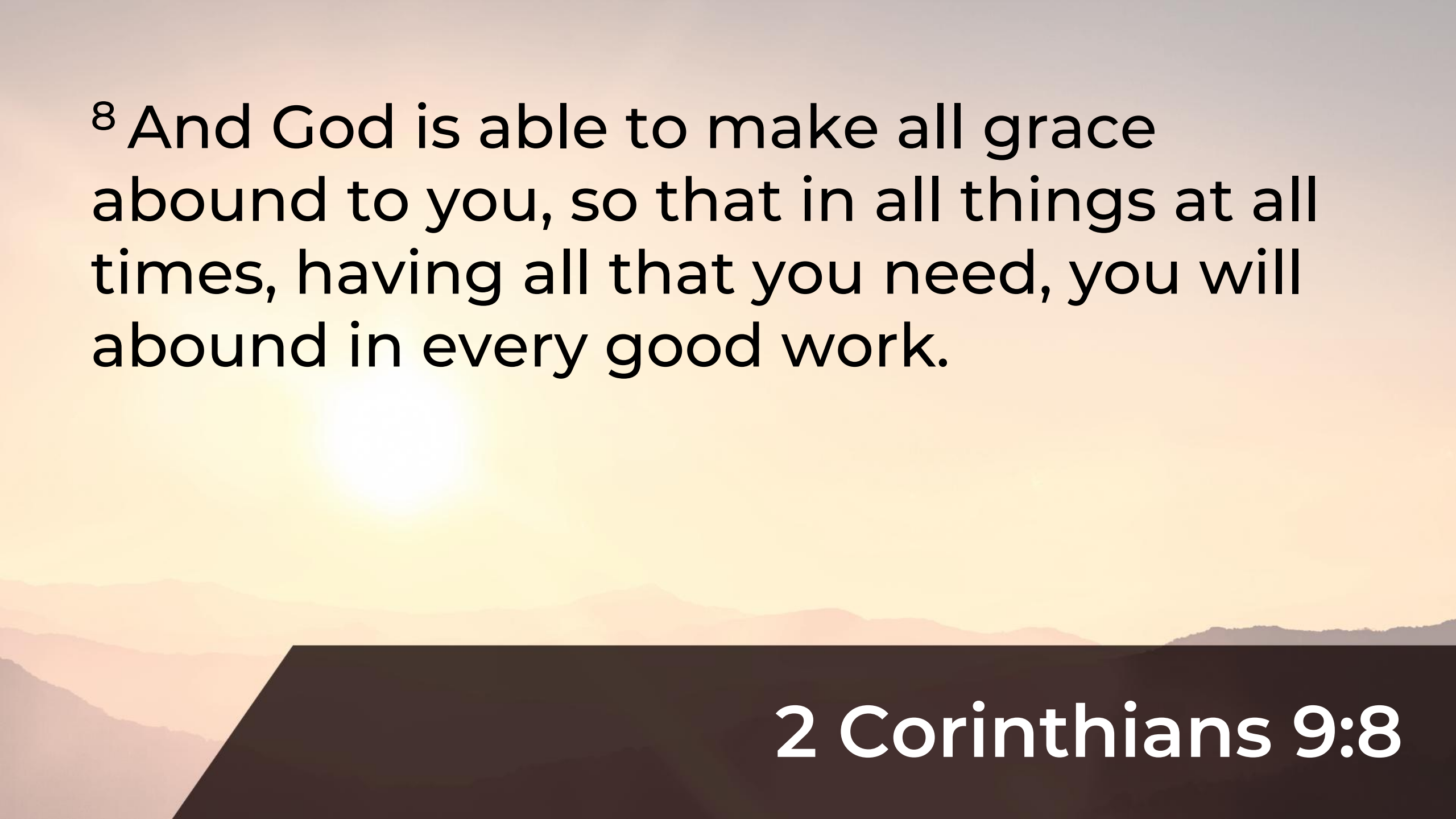
<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

<sup>21</sup> If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

2 Timothy 2:21





<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

**2 Corinthians 9:8**

<sup>16</sup> May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, <sup>17</sup> encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

**2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10:24



# Applications

<sup>19</sup> So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 4:19

<sup>17</sup> Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

**James 4:17**