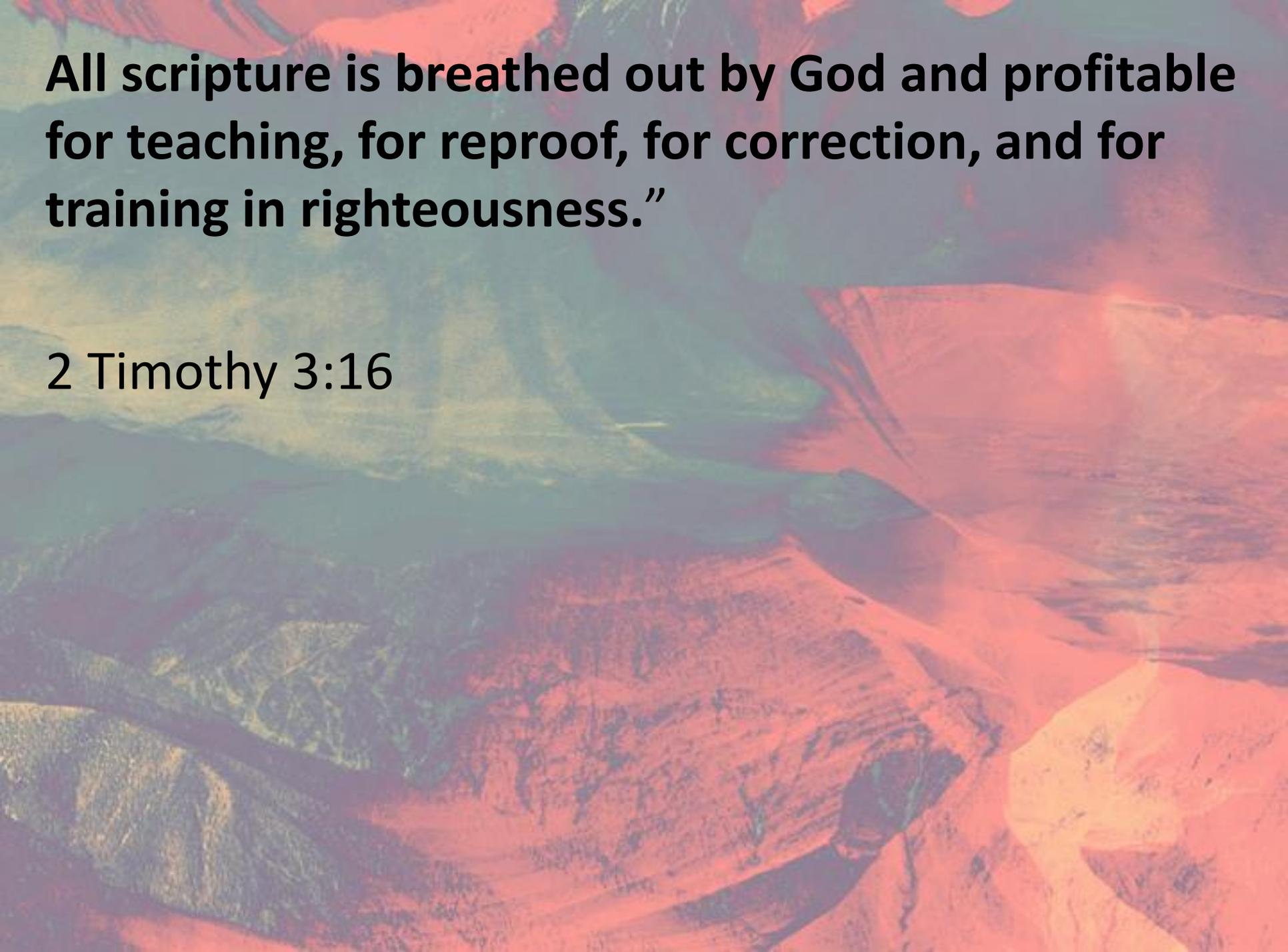




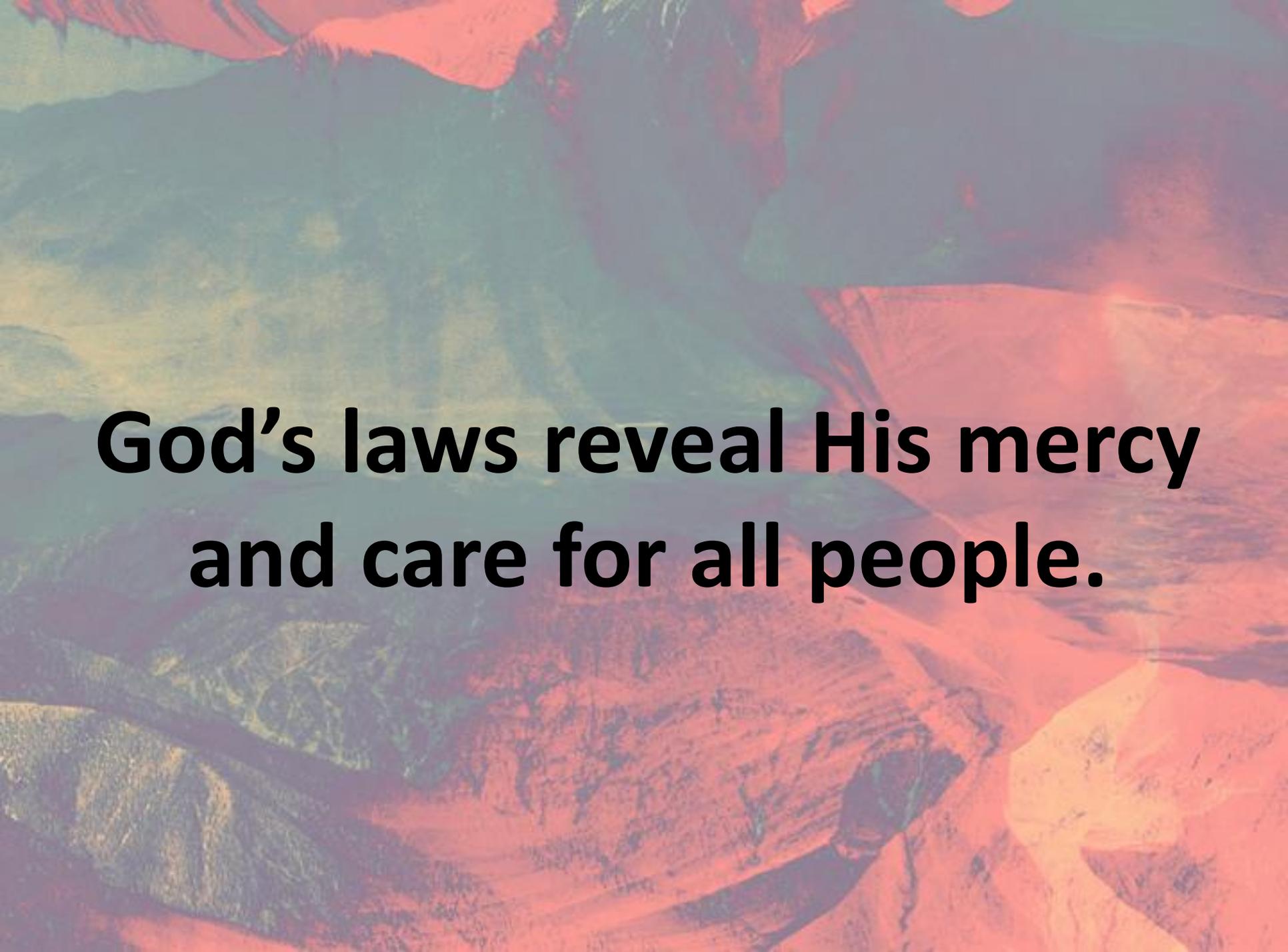
EXODUS

GOD MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon. The landscape is characterized by deep, winding canyons with walls of reddish-orange sandstone. The floor of the canyons is a mix of red sand and patches of green vegetation, including small trees and shrubs. The lighting is bright, creating strong shadows and highlights on the sand and rocks.

All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”

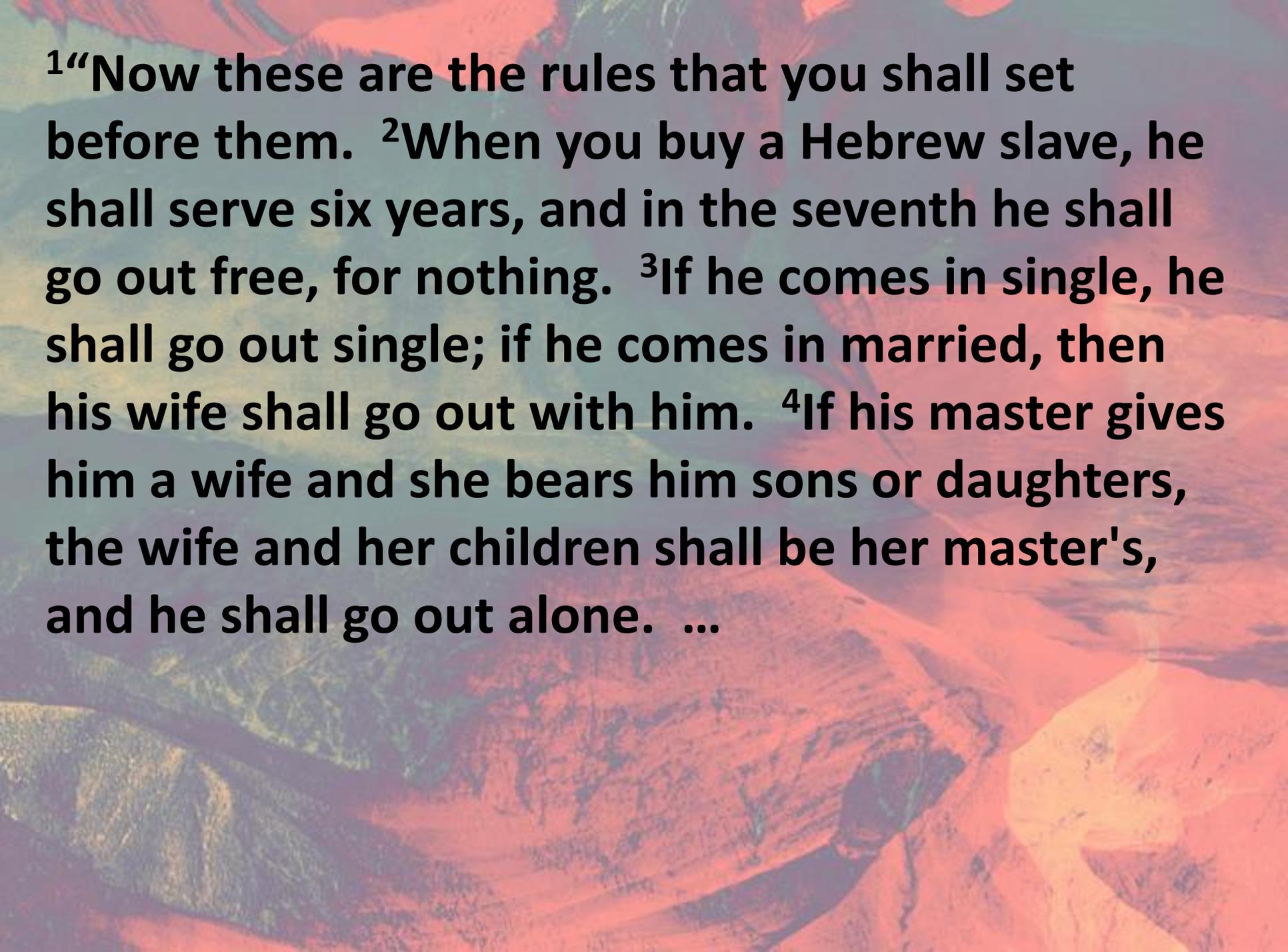
2 Timothy 3:16

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon, likely the Grand Canyon, showing a winding river and a bridge. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue and purple gradient. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

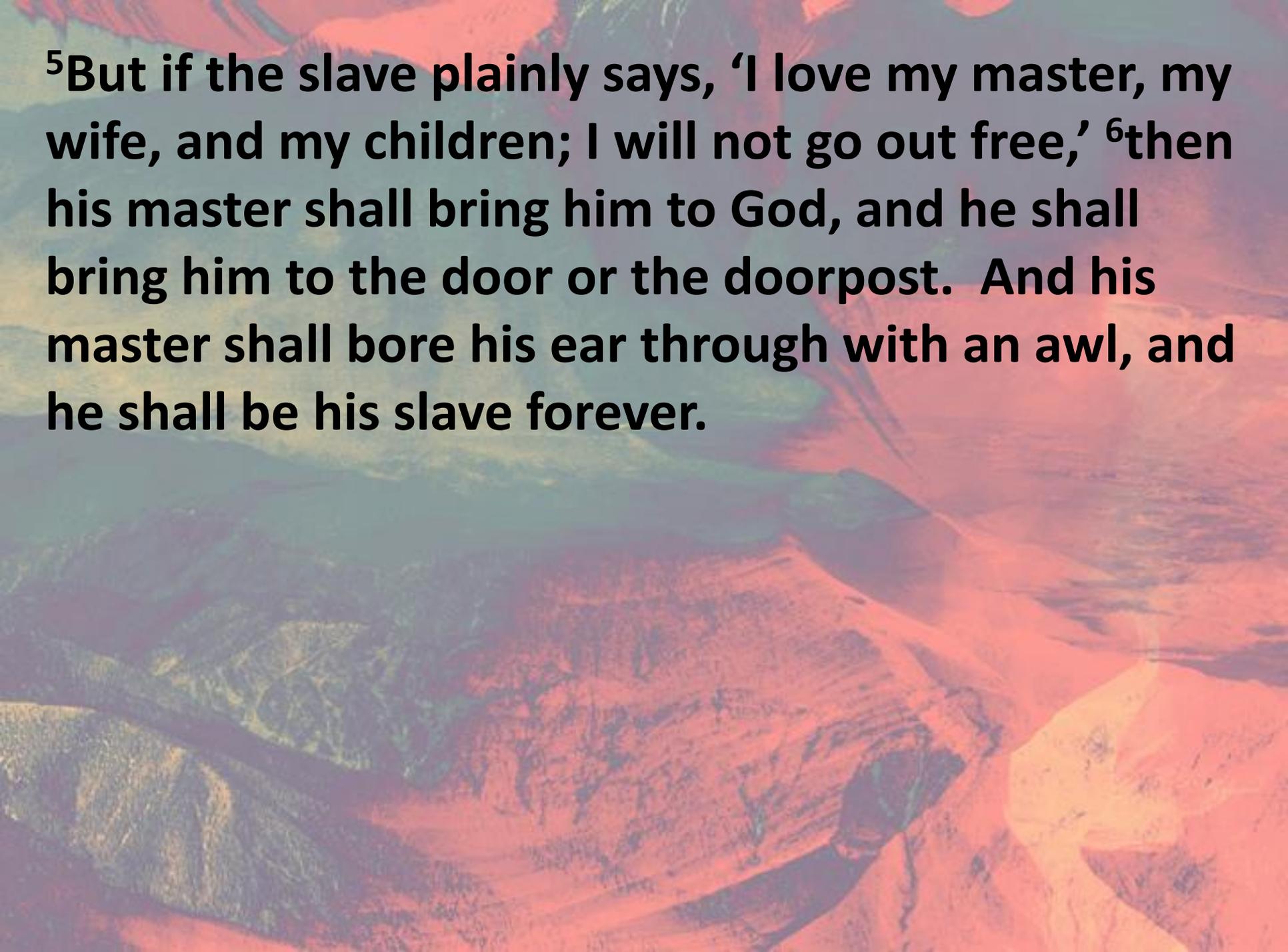
**God's laws reveal His mercy
and care for all people.**

Slavery and Polygamy

Exodus 21:1

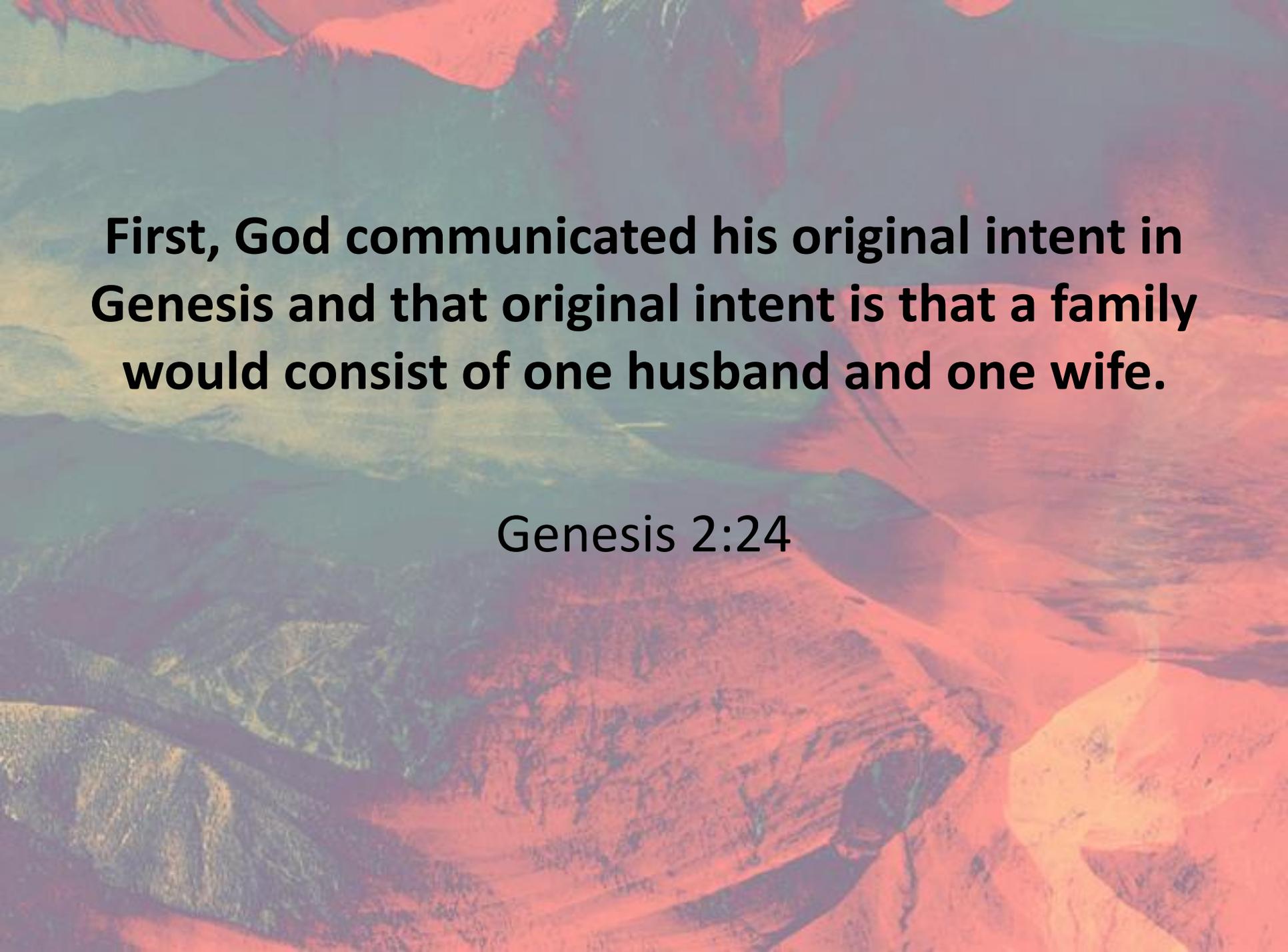


¹“Now these are the rules that you shall set before them. ²When you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve six years, and in the seventh he shall go out free, for nothing. ³If he comes in single, he shall go out single; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. ⁴If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out alone. ...



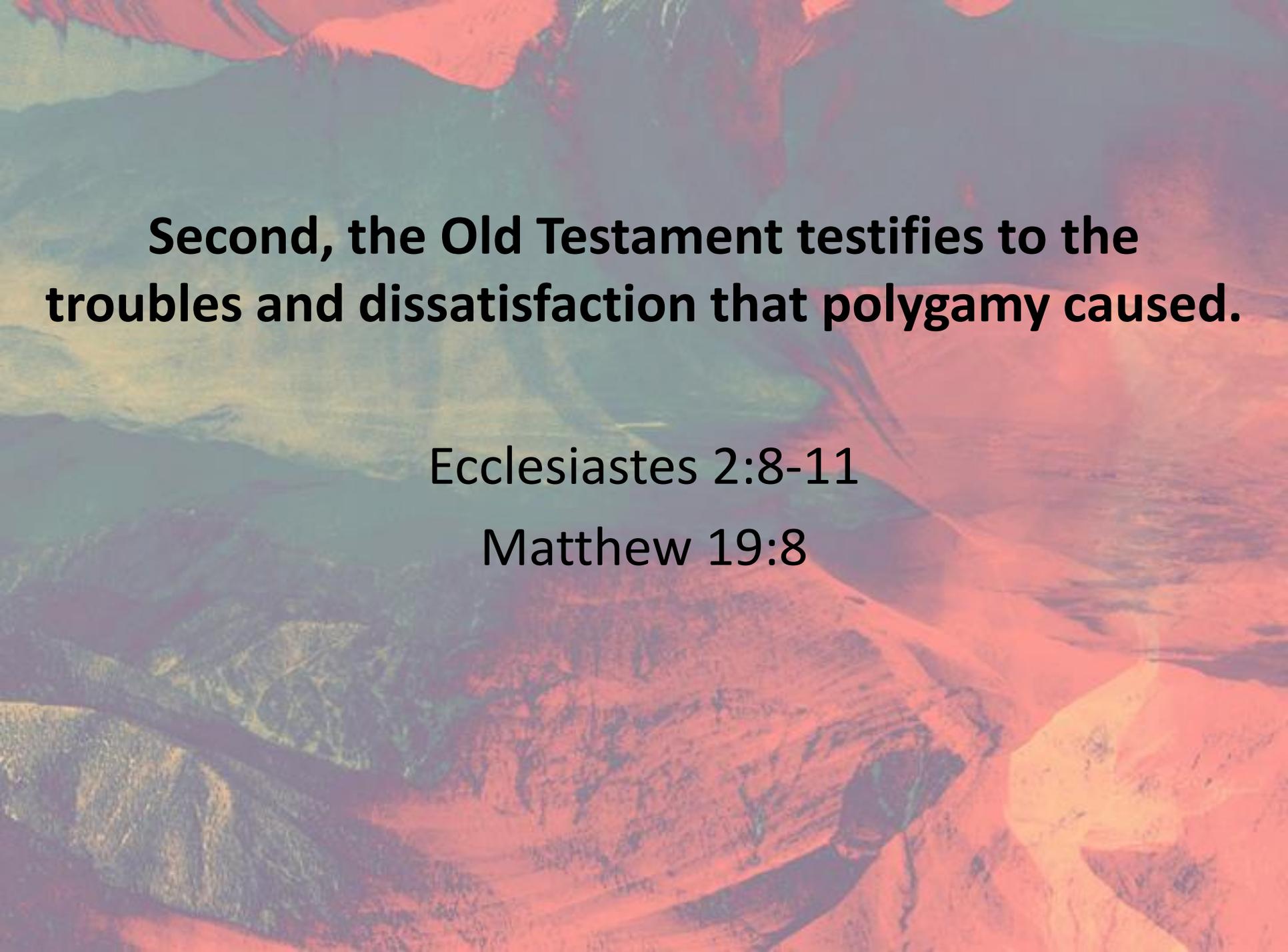
⁵But if the slave plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,’ ⁶then his master shall bring him to God, and he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall bore his ear through with an awl, and he shall be his slave forever.

7“When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do. 8If she does not please her master, who has designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has broken faith with her. 9If he designates her for his son, he shall deal with her as with a daughter. 10If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, or her marital rights. 11And if he does not do these three things for her, she shall go out for nothing, without payment of money.

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon with vibrant red rock formations and green vegetation. The text is overlaid on the image.

First, God communicated his original intent in Genesis and that original intent is that a family would consist of one husband and one wife.

Genesis 2:24

An aerial photograph of a desert landscape, likely the Grand Canyon, showing a winding road through the red sandstone rock formations. The lighting is bright, creating strong shadows and highlights on the rugged terrain.

Second, the Old Testament testifies to the troubles and dissatisfaction that polygamy caused.

Ecclesiastes 2:8-11

Matthew 19:8

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon with vibrant red and orange rock walls. A winding river flows through the center of the canyon. The lighting creates strong shadows, highlighting the rugged terrain.

Third, the New Testament clearly communicates and holds Christians' accountable to God's original intent as the right model to follow.

1 Timothy 3:2

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon with vibrant red rock walls and a winding river. The text is overlaid in the center.

**Do you delight in the law of
God?**

**⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.**

**The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.**

**⁸The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.**

**The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.**

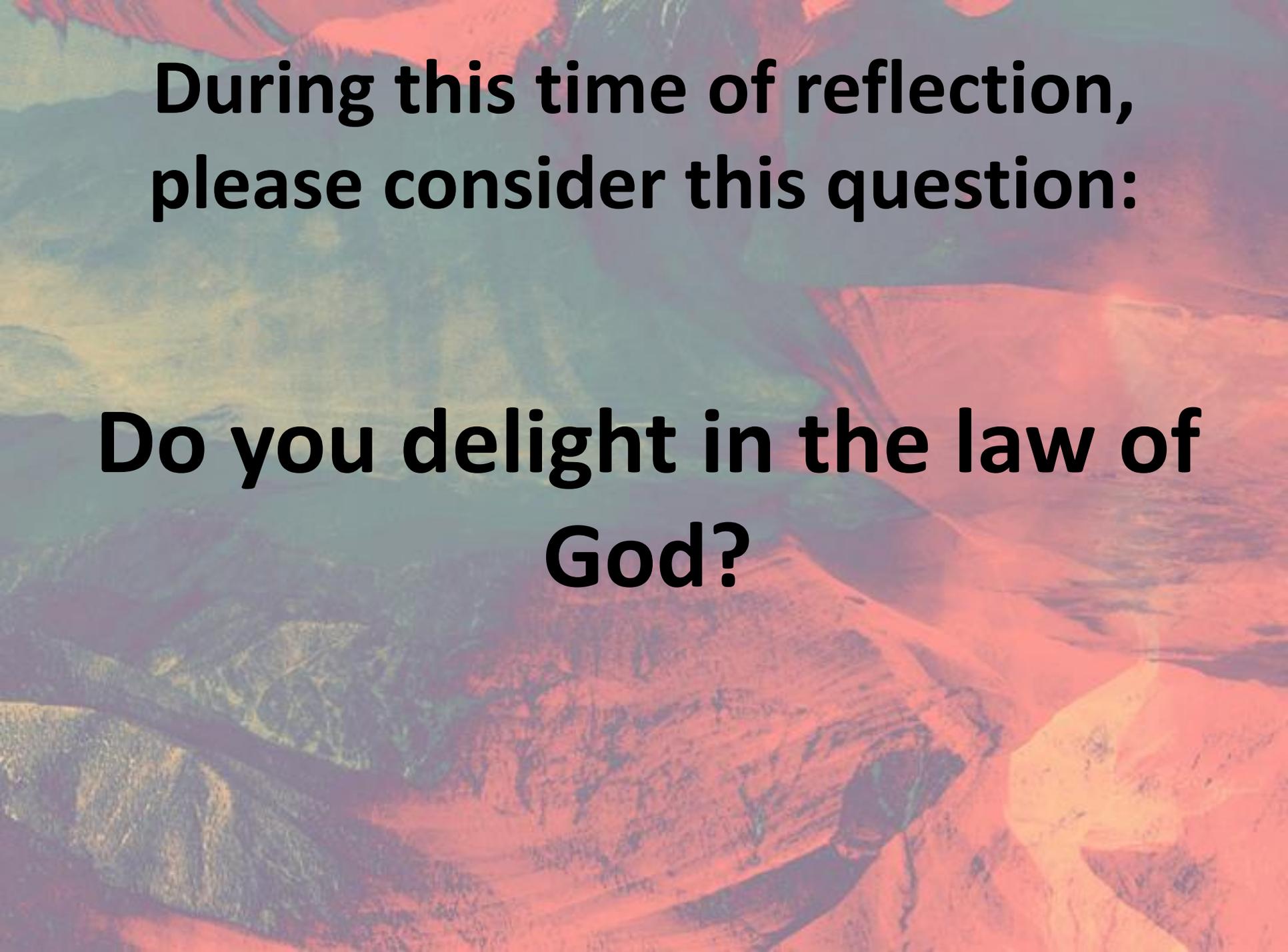
...

**⁹ The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever.**

**The decrees of the LORD are firm,
and all of them are righteous.**

**¹⁰ They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.**

**¹¹ By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.**

An aerial photograph of a desert canyon with vibrant red and orange rock walls and a winding river. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

**During this time of reflection,
please consider this question:**

**Do you delight in the law of
God?**