

# HOPE IN THE LORD

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-24

# WESTERN WALL IN JERUSALEM

Part of the wall that surround the Temple mount, site of the First and Second Temples of Jerusalem.

- Place of prayer  
Hope...restoration



# LAMENTATIONS 3:22-24

- The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
- <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

# LAMENTATIONS: BACKGROUND

- Author : Jeremiah the prophet
- Dated: 586 BC
- coincided with the fall of Jerusalem to Babylonians



# HORRORS OF DESTRUCTION

- Devastation
- Slaughter of kings, princes, elders, priests, prophets and commoners alike.
- Severe famine.
- Worship of God ended.

Judah was judged because of her disobedience.

# JEREMIAH'S PERSONAL LAMENT

- experienced grief and sorrow during a national disaster

# JEREMIAH'S PERSONAL LAMENT

- experienced grief and sorrow during a national disaster.
- I am the man who has seen affliction  
under the rod of his wrath;  
<sup>2</sup> he has driven and brought me  
into darkness without any light;  
<sup>3</sup> surely against me he turns his hand  
again and again the whole day long.

**PUNISHMENT**

**HOPELESSNESS**

**UNRELENTING**

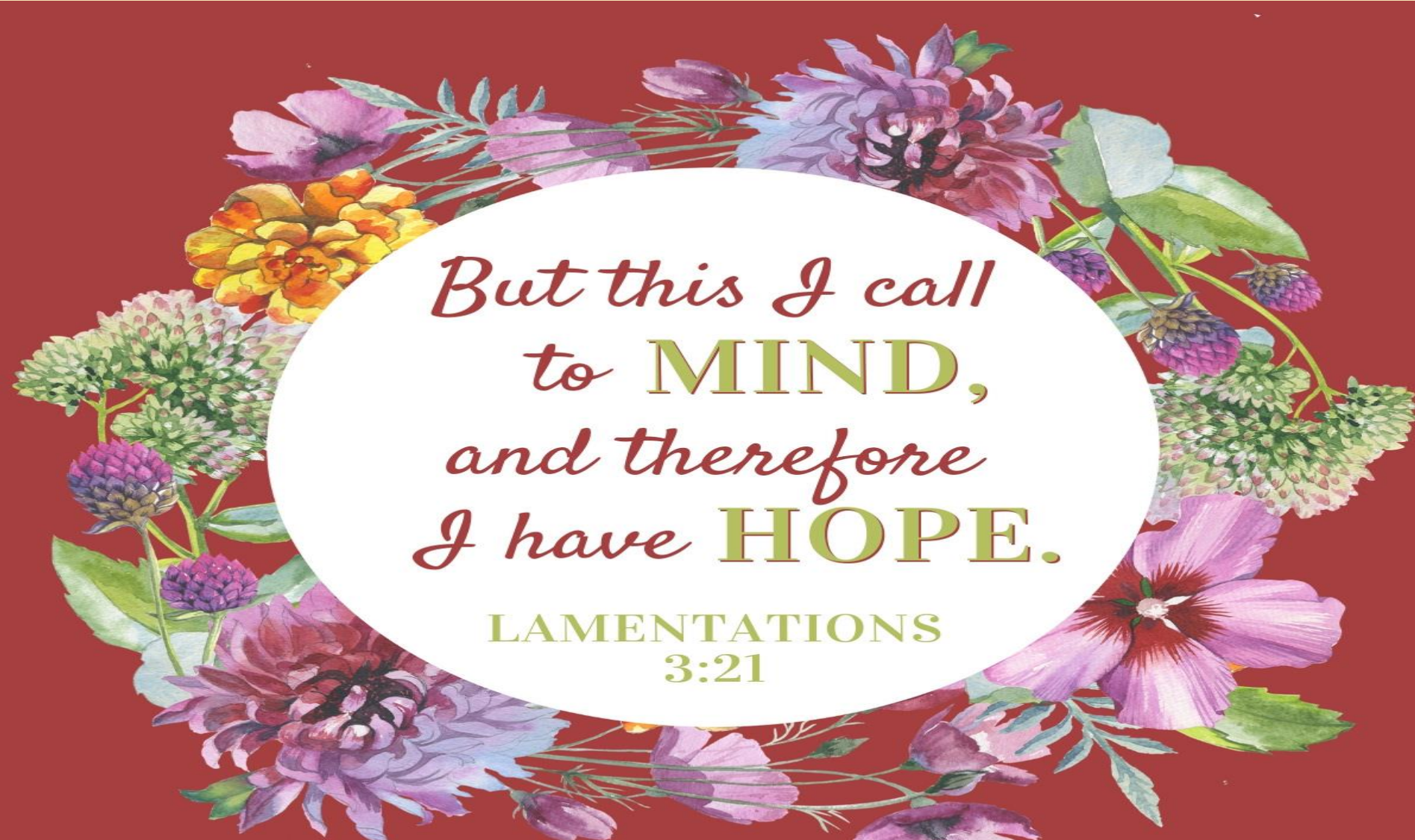
# TROUBLED EMOTIONS

- <sup>17</sup> I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is.  
<sup>18</sup> So I say, “My splendor is gone and all that I had hoped from the LORD.”
- <sup>19</sup> I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall.  
<sup>20</sup> I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me.



# TROUBLED EMOTIONS

- deprived of peace, prosperity and hope (v17-18)
- soul is downcast from afflictions (v 19-20)
- shut out my prayer (v 8)... period of spiritual dryness



*But this I call  
to **MIND**,  
and therefore  
I have **HOPE**.*

**LAMENTATIONS  
3:21**

# TURNING POINT

- Call to mind' or **to remember** :
- Deliverance from Egypt, or
- Prophecy : deliverance from exile in Babylon.



# JEREMIAH 29:10

- “For thus says the LORD:  
When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.”
- Prophecy
- the nation and temple was restored after exile

# REMEMBRANCE:

- The **steadfast love** of the LORD never ceases;  
his **mercies** never come to an end;  
<sup>23</sup> they are **new every morning**;  
**great is your faithfulness.**  
<sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my **portion,**” says my soul,  
“therefore I will **hope in him.**”

# STEADFAST LOVE... NEVER CEASES

## *CHESED*

- unbreakable devotion to the covenant with His chosen people, Israel
- God 'tied' Himself in a covenant of love
- revealed to Moses at Mt Sinai (Exodus 34:6)

A scenic landscape of rolling hills and mountains at sunrise or sunset. The foreground shows a rocky, grassy slope. The middle ground features rolling hills with patches of green and brown grass. In the distance, a valley is filled with mist or fog, and more mountains are visible under a soft, golden sky.

GOD IS MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS  
SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN  
STEADFAST LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS

EXODUS 34:6

# PSALMS 136:1-9

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

*His love endures forever.*

- <sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods.

*His love endures forever.*

- <sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

*His love endures forever.*

- <sup>4</sup> to him who alone does great wonders,

*His love endures forever.*

**HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER**



- who by his understanding made the heavens,  
*His love endures forever.*  
<sup>6</sup> who spread out the earth upon the waters,  
*His love endures forever.*

- <sup>7</sup> who made the great lights—  
*His love endures forever.*  
<sup>8</sup> the sun to govern the day,  
*His love endures forever.*  
<sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to govern the night;  
*His love endures forever.*

## **HIS UNCHANGING LOVE**

# Hebrew - *racham*

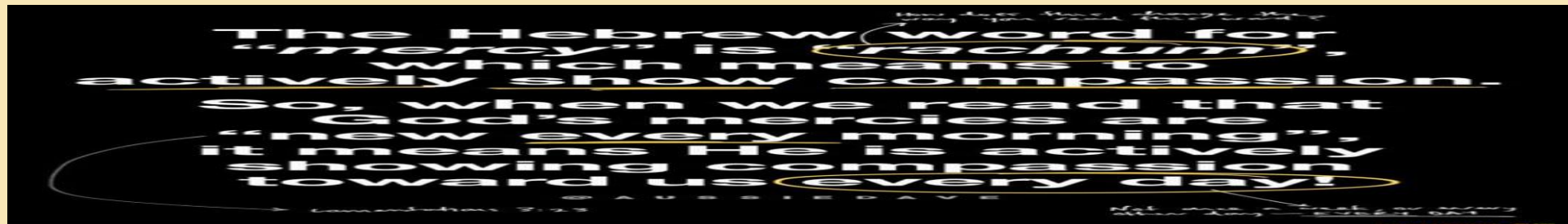
- Derived from Hebrew word meaning: to love, to love deeply, have mercy, be compassionate, have tender affection, and have compassion.
- Translated
  - *Mercy* 30 times
  - *Compassion* 4 times
  - ***Womb*** 4 times



**MERCY**

# MERCY

- to show acts of compassion
- CHESED lead to MERCY
- ‘New every morning’  
God shows His compassion towards us every day.



# MERCY

- 'womb' – place of warmth, protection and nourishment.



Isaiah 66:13



# LOVE IS UNCEASING AND UNCHANGING

- Complete devotion to us in a covenant.
- Mercy towards us is renewed every day.

# LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

- The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;  
<sup>23</sup> they are new every morning;  
**great is your faithfulness.**

# GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS

## *Great :*

- God can deliver in every situation no matter how grim it appears.
- God raised the Persian king to conquer Babylon and initiated the return of His people.

## *Psalms 75:6-7*

- No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves.
- It is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.

For no matter how  
many promises God  
has made, they are

**yes**  
in Christ.

*2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV*

***Faithfulness:*** :

- His word and promises are reliable.



- <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my **portion**,” says my soul, “therefore I will **hope in him**.”

# PORTION (HELEQ)



I am your  
portion  
and your  
inheritance  
among the  
children  
of Israel.

Numbers 18:20

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And the LORD said to Aaron,  
“You shall have no  
inheritance in their land,  
neither shall you have any  
portion among them. I am  
your portion and your  
inheritance among the  
people of Israel.

Numbers 18:20

# GOD IS MY PORTION

- As Children of God, we have a **better portion** from our Father (John 1:12)
- <sup>4</sup> For he chose us in him before the creation of the world....
- In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for **adoption to sonship** through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will
- Ephesians 1:4-5

# SPIRITUAL BLESSING: SALVATION

- <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
- <sup>13</sup> And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

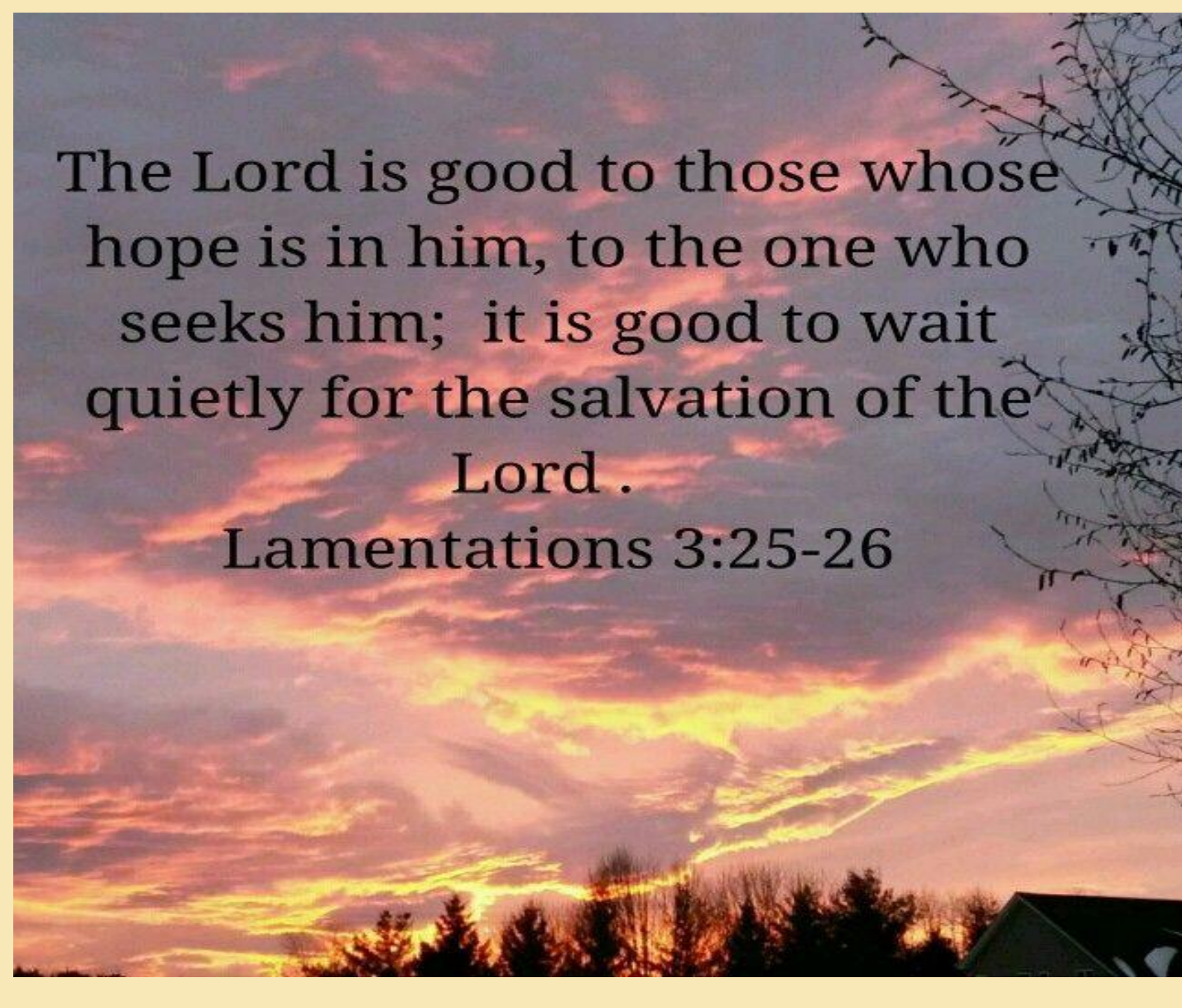
# I HAVE HOPE IN HIM:

- of the steadfast love and mercy of God (v22,23)
- the LORD is my portion ( v24)

## Romans 5:1-2

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

- Our hope .. based on the love of God,
- not on unfounded optimism



The Lord is good to those whose  
hope is in him, to the one who  
seeks him; it is good to wait  
quietly for the salvation of the  
Lord .

Lamentations 3:25-26

Good to those  
whose hope  
is in the Lord

Wait and  
hope in Him

**B**

For no one is cast off  
by the Lord forever.  
Though he brings grief,  
he will show  
compassion,  
so great is his unfailing  
love.

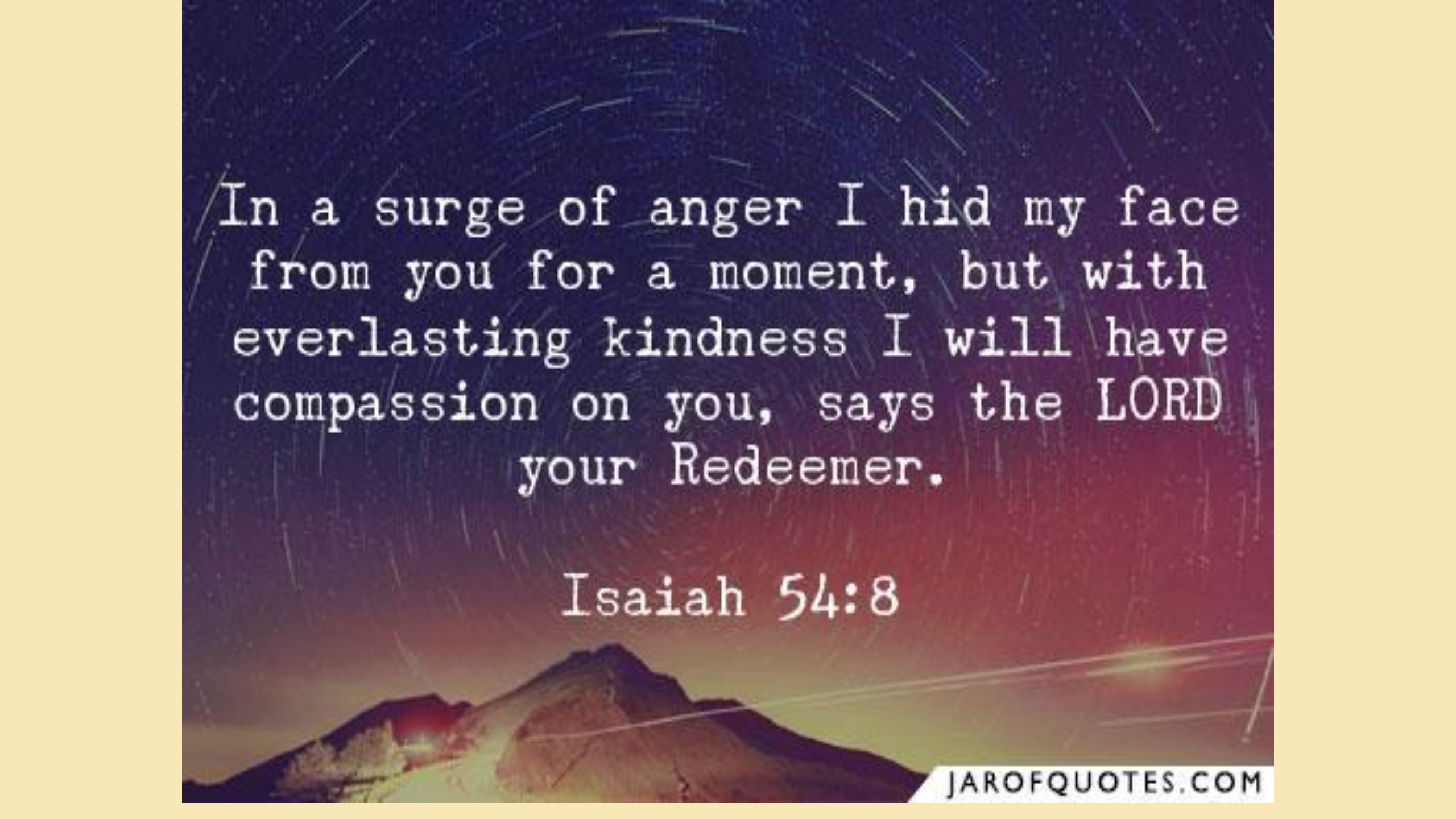
~ Lamentations 3:31-32 NIV

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**HE WILL NOT  
PUNISH FOREVER**

Lamentations 3:31-32



A night sky with star trails, transitioning from dark blue at the top to a reddish-orange glow near the horizon. In the foreground, the dark silhouette of a mountain range is visible against the lighter sky.

In a surge of anger I hid my face  
from you for a moment, but with  
everlasting kindness I will have  
compassion on you, says the LORD  
your Redeemer.

Isaiah 54:8

# GOD IS SOVEREIGN

- Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it?

<sup>38</sup> Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that **good and bad** come?

**over all, good  
and bad**

# APPLICATION

# ARE WE TROUBLED?

- Fear of uncertain future
- Despaired by current struggles
- accidents, failures, sickness, natural disasters, wars
- Loss of Hope
- Question God's sovereignty

**HE IS CHESED**



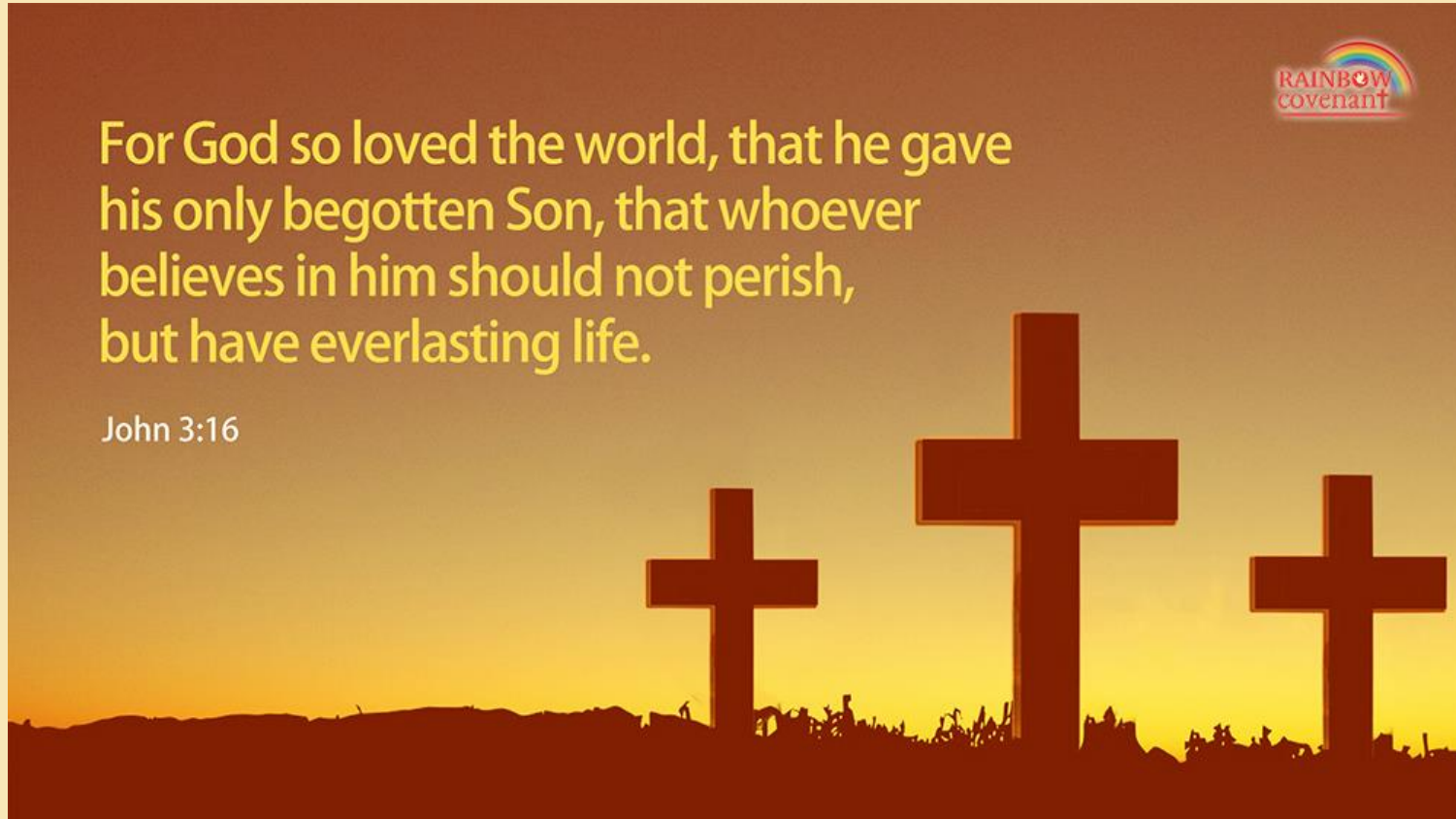
**HIS LOVE IS STEADFAST  
AND HE IS MERCIFUL.**

# GAVE HIS ONLY SON



For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

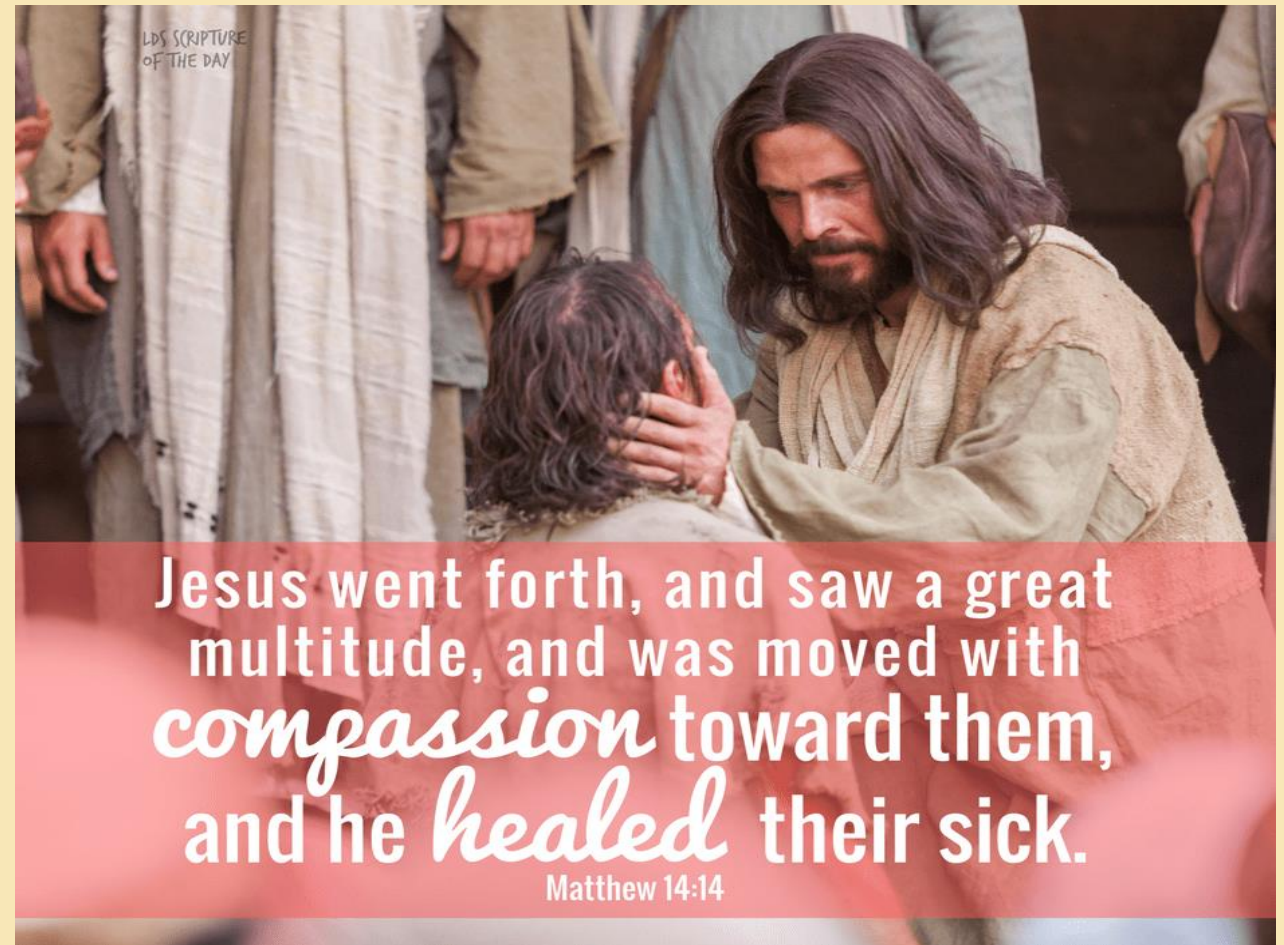


# JESUS SHOWED COMPASSION

- on the lost, Matt 9:36
- on the sick, Matt 14:14

When he saw the crowds,  
he had compassion on them,  
because they were harassed and helpless,  
like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36



Jesus went forth, and saw a great  
multitude, and was moved with  
*compassion* toward them,  
and he *healed* their sick.

Matthew 14:14

- on the lost, Matt 9:36
- On the sick, Matt 14:14
- On physical needs / hunger  
Matt 14:16-21





# HOW GREAT IS THE LOVE OF GOD

And may you  
have the power  
to understand,  
as all God's  
people should,  
how wide,  
how long,  
how high,  
and how deep  
His love is.

Ephesians 3:18 NLT

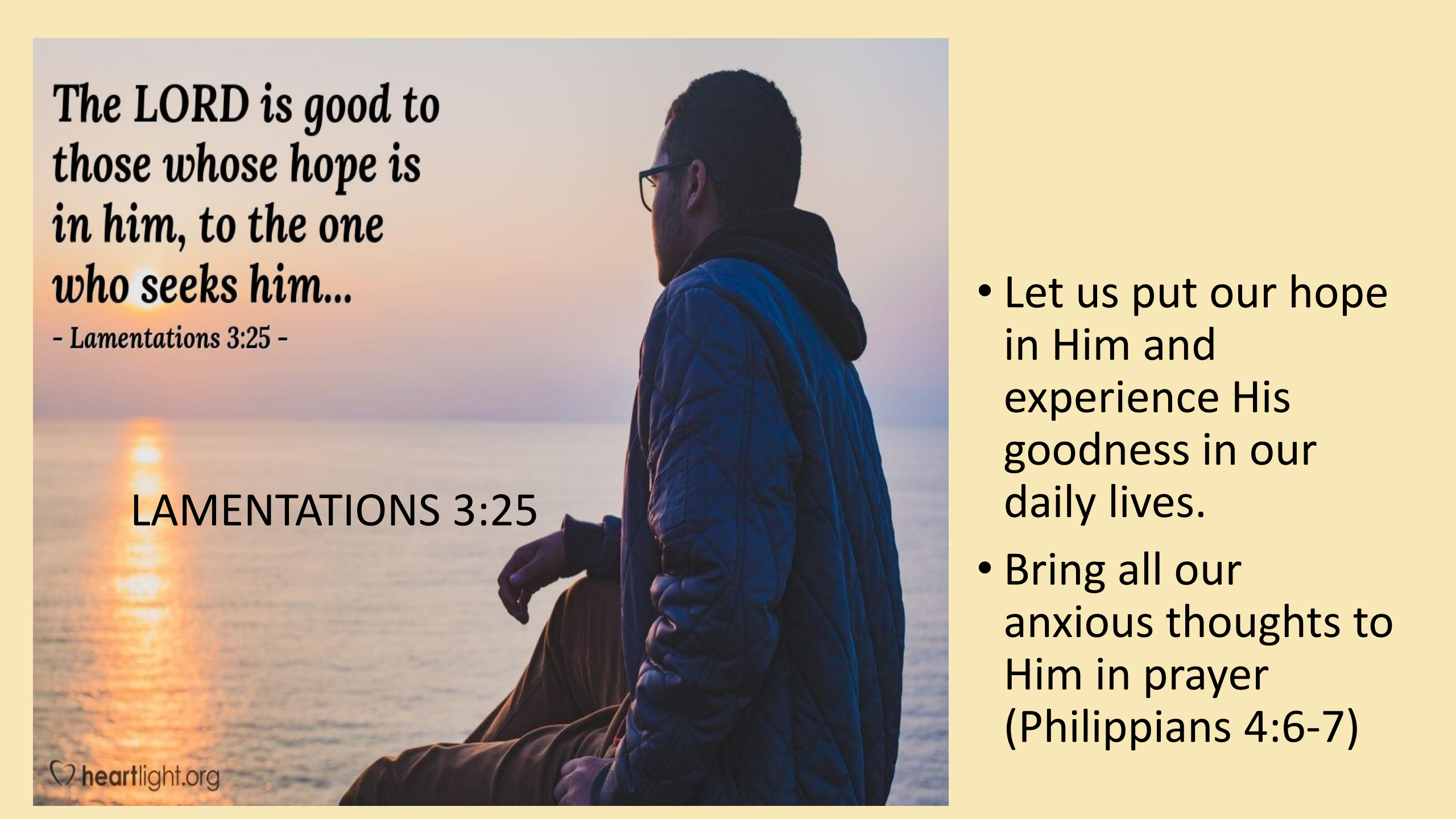


# GOD'S LOVE IS INFINITE

- Wide- cover all experiences
- Long- the length of our lives
- High-rises to the heights joys / celebrations
- Deep- reaches to the depths of our discouragement and despair

# HIS LOVE ( CHESED )

- The active force of God whereby **He actively seeks to come to the aid** of those with whom He has established a relationship
- He display **His strength in showing mercy and kindness in a steadfast way**
- His love and mercy **never fail** because it is impossible for God to be weakened to the point of failure



**The LORD is good to  
those whose hope is  
in him, to the one  
who seeks him...**

*- Lamentations 3:25 -*

**LAMENTATIONS 3:25**

- Let us put our hope in Him and experience His goodness in our daily lives.
- Bring all our anxious thoughts to Him in prayer (Philippians 4:6-7)

# HOPE IN THE LORD

- however dark the night,
- however deep the fear,
- however hopeless the situation,

**Only the steadfast love and mercy of God is reliable.**