



Advent

HOPE — LOVE — JOY — PEACE — CHRIST



Advent

the arrival of a notable
person, thing, or event.

The background is a dark green color with a subtle, repeating geometric pattern of small triangles. Overlaid on this is a large, faint, light-green clock face. The clock face has numbers from 1 to 12, with the hands pointing towards the 10 and 2 o'clock positions. A sword is also visible, its hilt and blade extending across the left side of the image, partially overlapping the clock face.

Isaiah 9:1-7

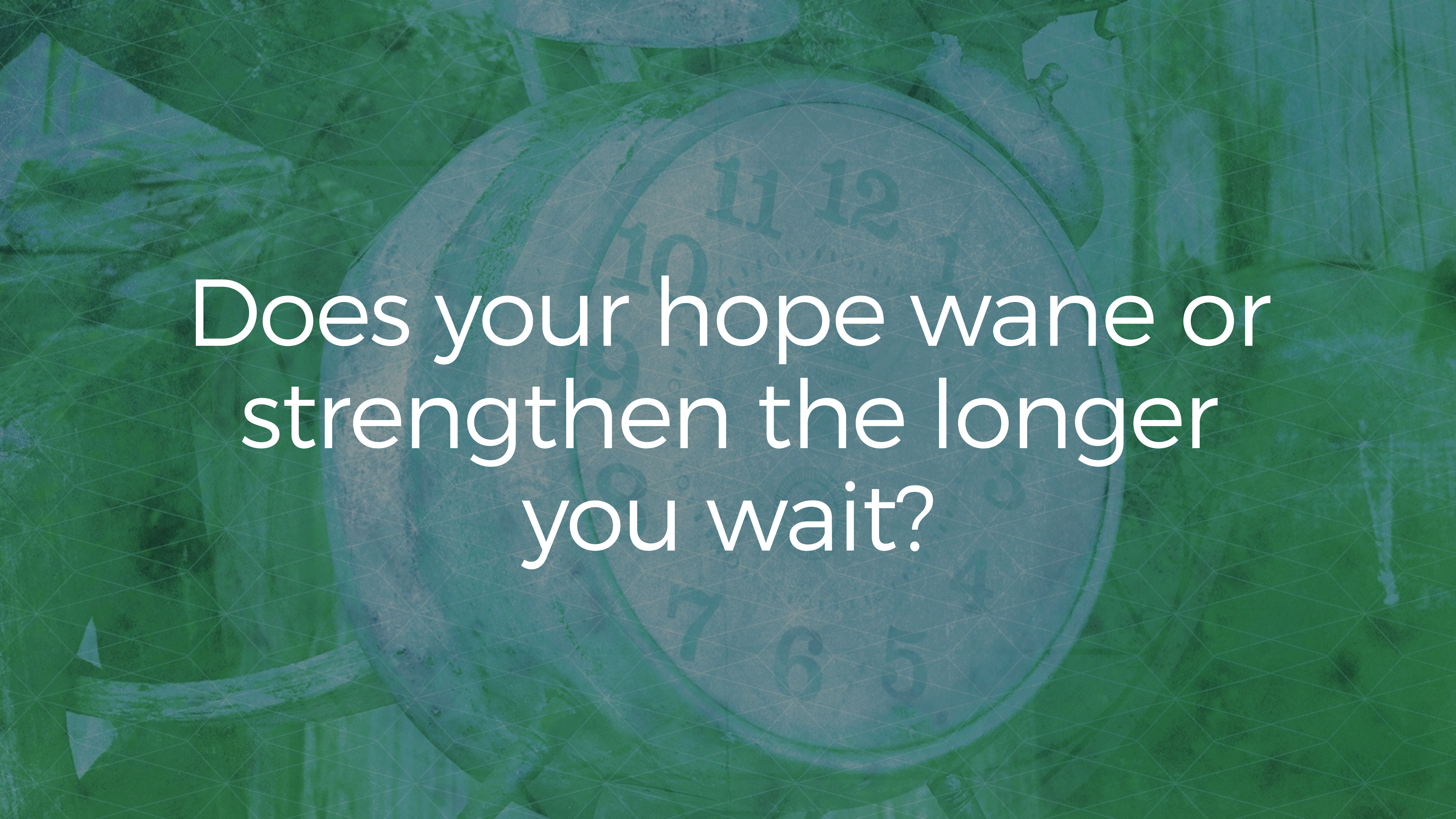
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Waiting in Hope



How well do you
handle waiting?



Does your hope wane or
strengthen the longer
you wait?



A Prayer of Hope

ROMANS 15:13



Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.



HOW TO

Lose Hope

ISAIAH 8:11-22 | p. 637



misdirect your fear

ISAIAH 8:11-15

The background is a green-tinted image of an antique clock face, possibly from a pocket watch, featuring a diamond-shaped grid pattern. The clock face is circular with numbers 1 through 12. The text "sanctuary or snare?" is centered over the clock face in a white, sans-serif font.

sanctuary or snare?



ignore God's Word

ISAIAH 8:16-20



A wide-angle, high-angle shot of a snowy town square at night. In the center stands a tall, brightly lit Christmas tree, its branches covered in white lights and red ornaments. The tree is the focal point, with a large crowd of people gathered around its base. The people are mostly seen from behind, their silhouettes dark against the snow and the bright lights of the tree. They are wearing winter coats and hats, some with red pom-poms. The square is covered in a layer of snow, and the surrounding buildings are illuminated with warm, yellow light. Strings of white lights are strung across the square, and colorful, arched light displays are visible on the buildings to the left and right. The overall atmosphere is festive and communal.

Open your heart to everyone



Christmas isn't about
sentimentality but about
our harsh reality.



shift the blame

ISAIAH 8:21-22



HOW TO

Abound in Hope

ISAIAH 9:1-7



know that God
remembers

ISAIAH 9:1



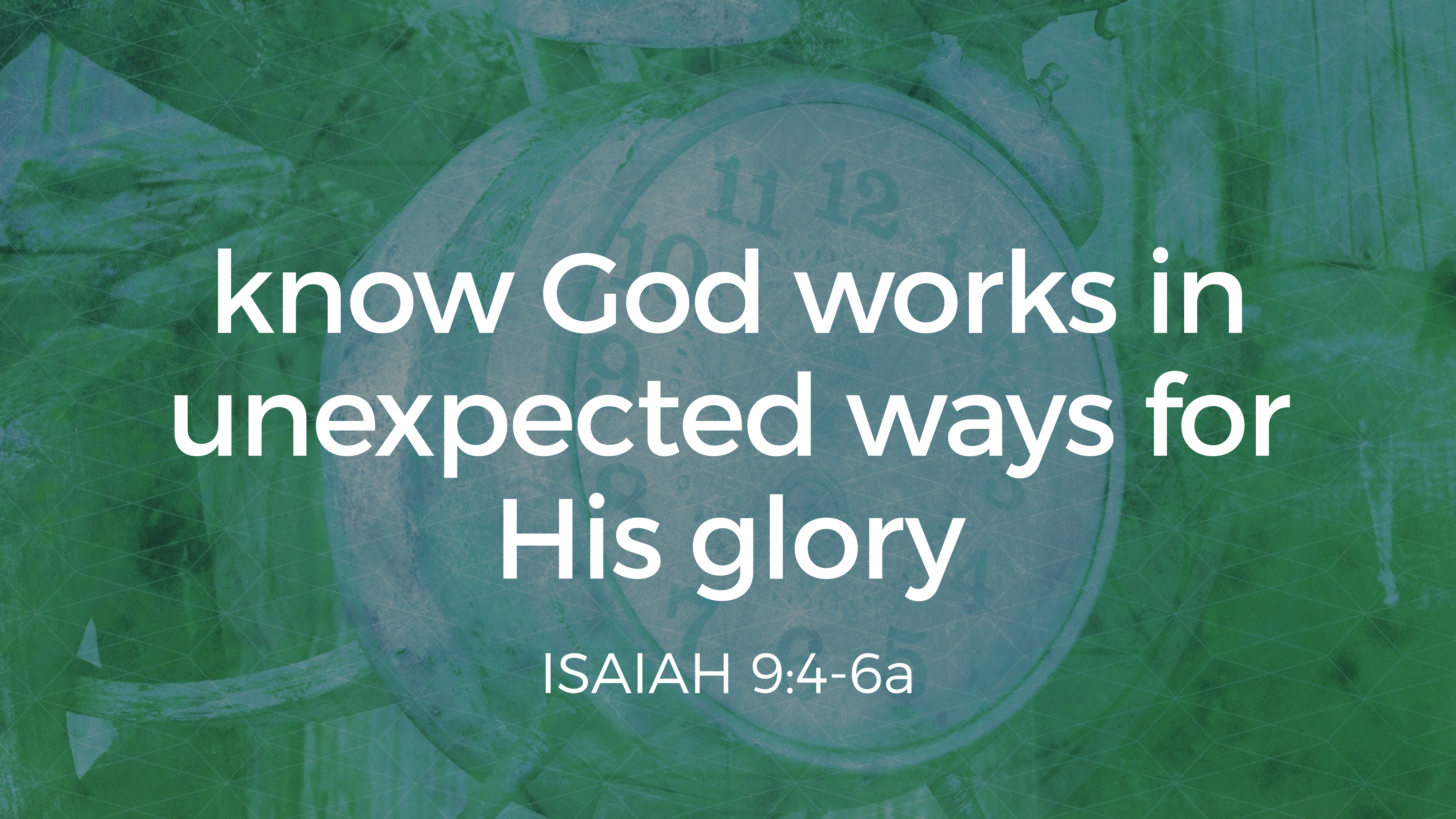
embrace God's grace

ISAIAH 9:2-3



Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.



know God works in
unexpected ways for
His glory

ISAIAH 9:4-6a

The background is a green-tinted photograph of an antique alarm clock. The clock is positioned in the center, with its circular face and two bells at the top visible. The numbers on the clock face are faint and partially obscured by a white, semi-transparent diamond-shaped grid pattern that covers the entire image. The text "the day of Midian?" is centered over the clock face in a white, sans-serif font.

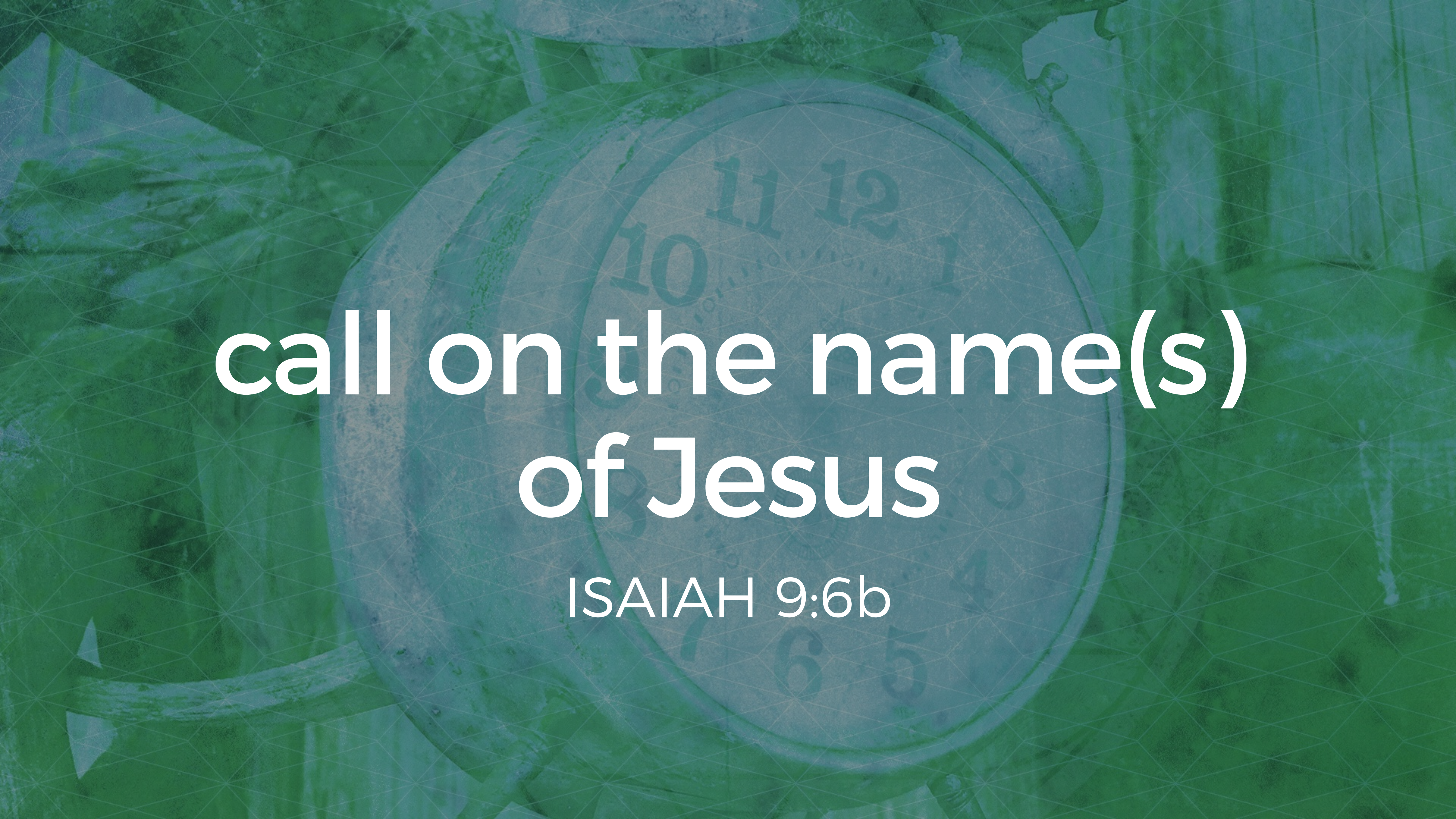
the day of Midian?



incarnation

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

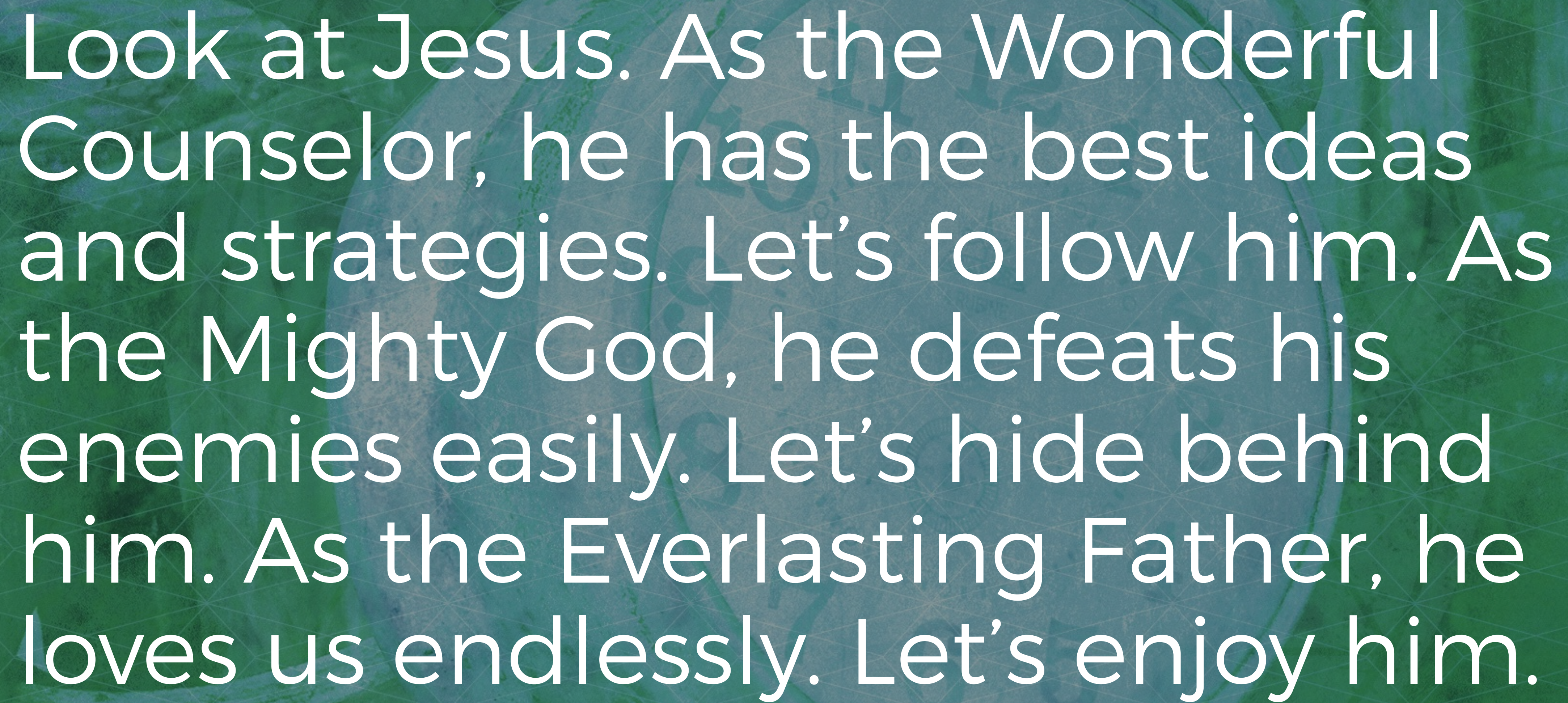


call on the name(s) of Jesus

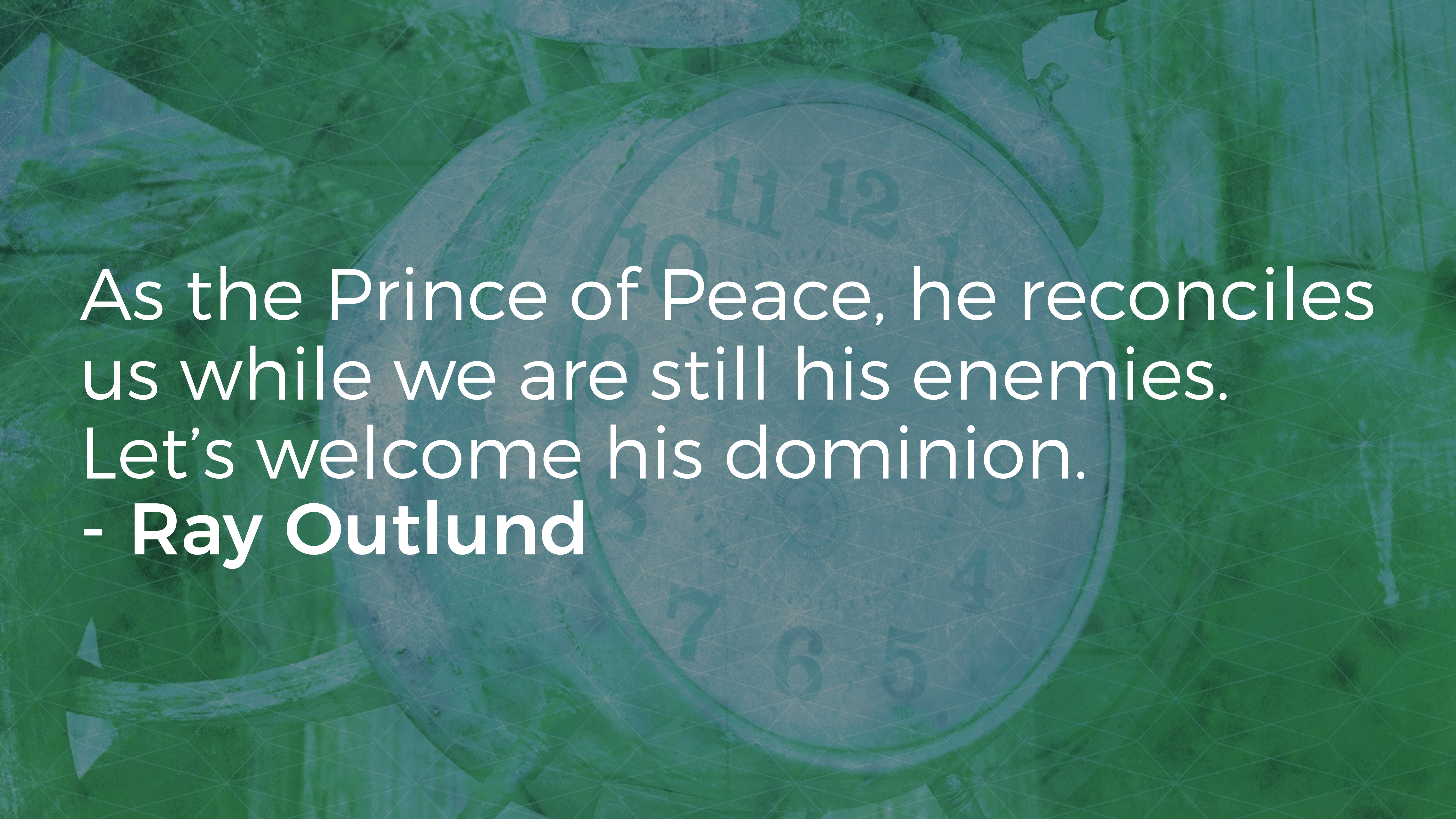
ISAIAH 9:6b



What name brings
you comfort?



Look at Jesus. As the Wonderful Counselor, he has the best ideas and strategies. Let's follow him. As the Mighty God, he defeats his enemies easily. Let's hide behind him. As the Everlasting Father, he loves us endlessly. Let's enjoy him.



As the Prince of Peace, he reconciles
us while we are still his enemies.
Let's welcome his dominion.
- Ray Outlund



rest in the zeal of the LORD

ISAIAH 9:7

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.



repent
request
rejoice



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