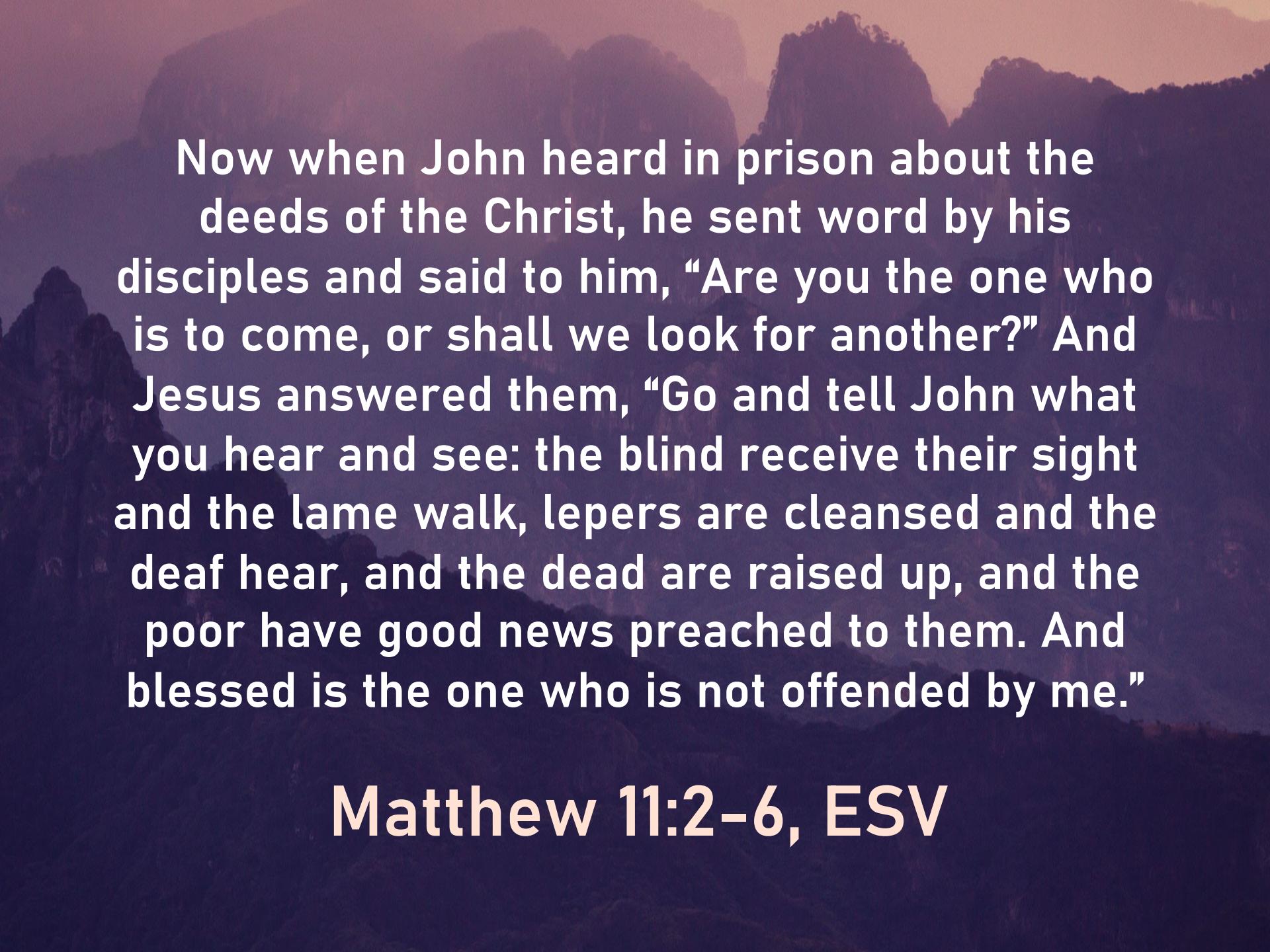




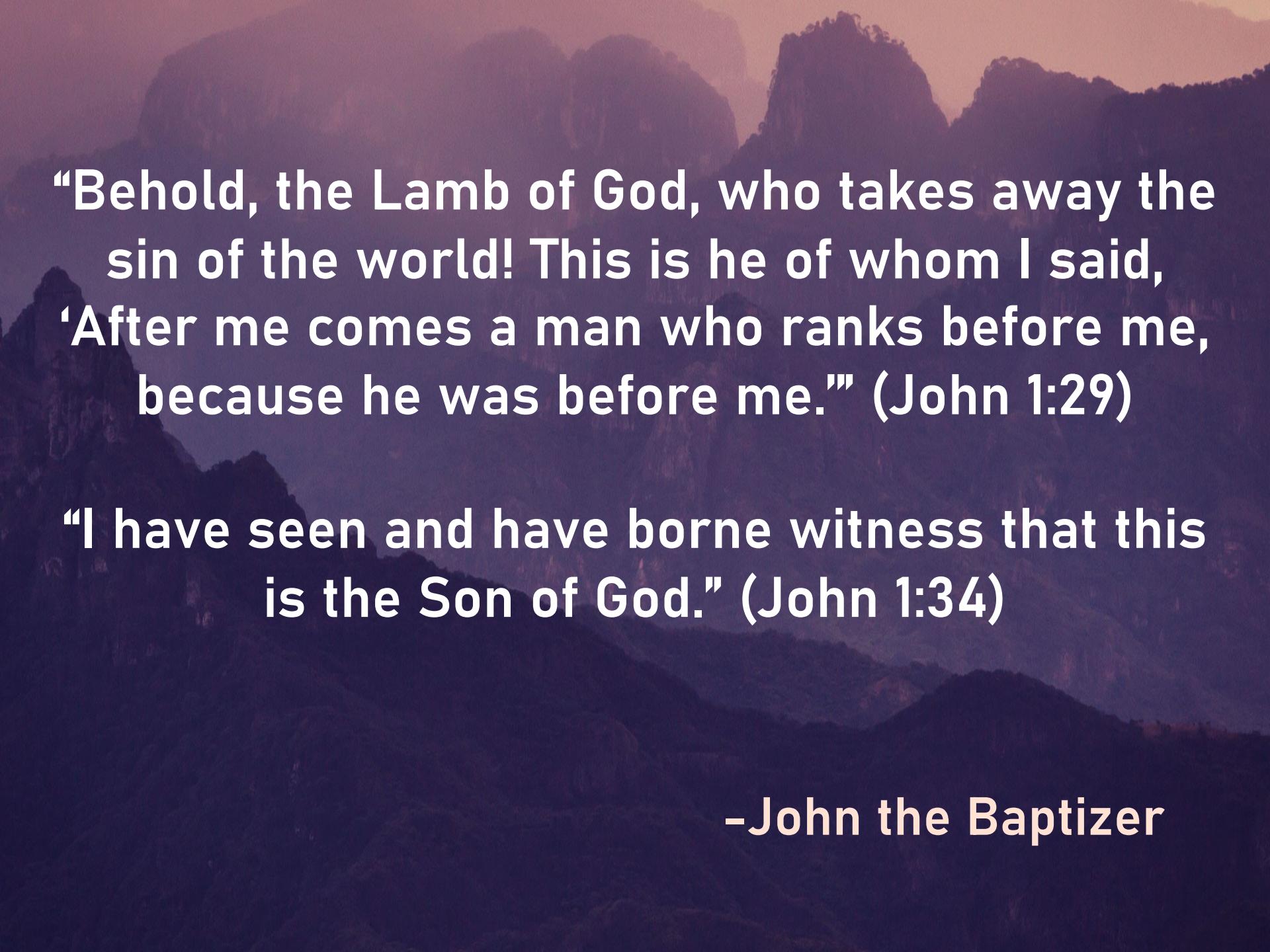
# The Unexpected One

Matthew 11:2-19



Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

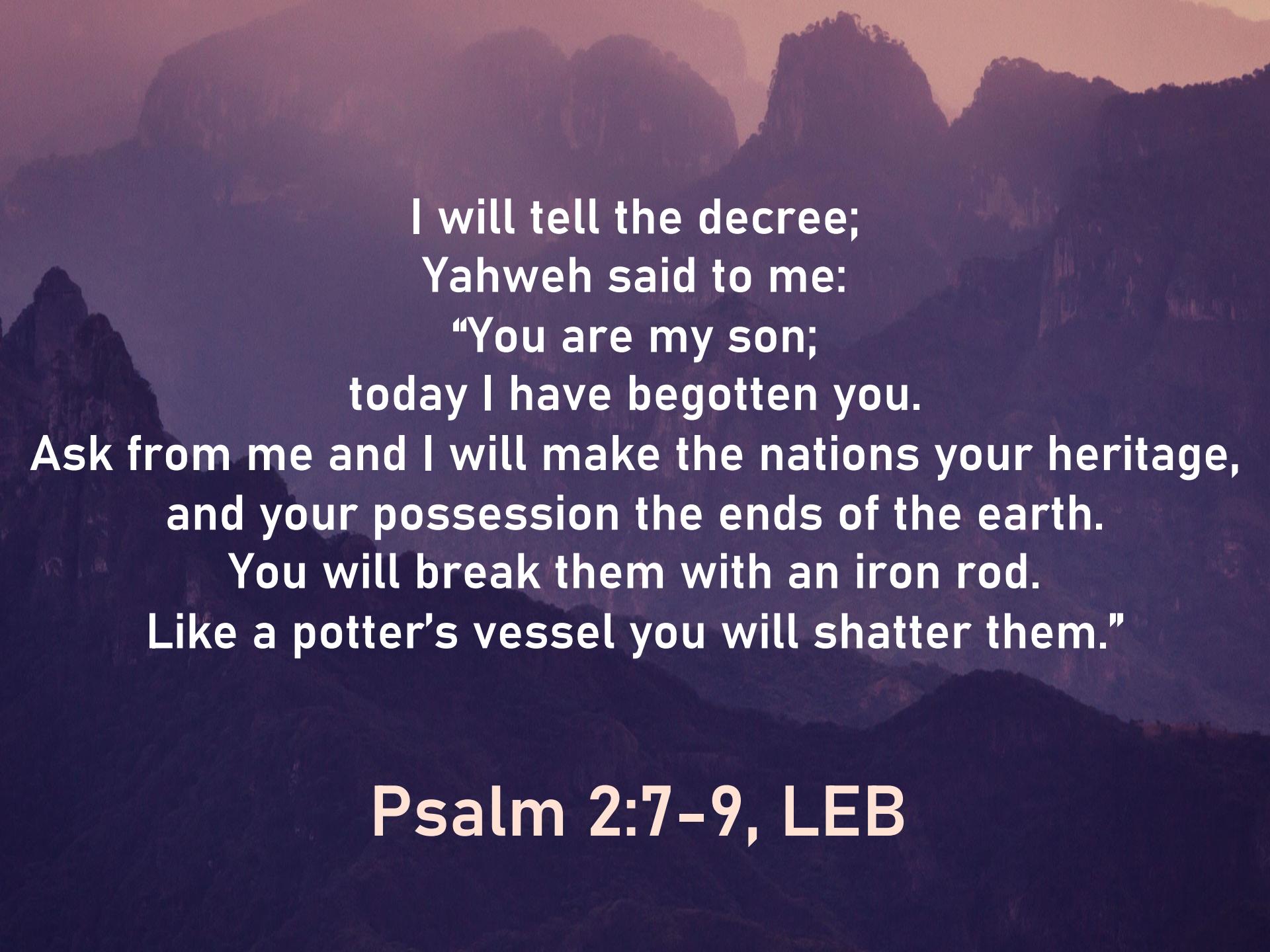
Matthew 11:2-6, ESV



**“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.” (John 1:29)**

**“I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” (John 1:34)**

**-John the Baptizer**



I will tell the decree;  
Yahweh said to me:  
“You are my son;  
today I have begotten you.  
Ask from me and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and your possession the ends of the earth.  
You will break them with an iron rod.  
Like a potter’s vessel you will shatter them.”

Psalm 2:7-9, LEB

You were looking on until a stone was chiseled out—that not by hands—and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and it broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold all at once broke into pieces and they became like chaff from the summer threshing floor, and the wind carried them away and any trace of them could not be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and it filled the whole earth...

Daniel 2:34-35, LEB

...And in the day of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, and the kingdom will not be left for another nation, and it will bring an end to all these kingdoms, but it will stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that a stone from the mountain was chiseled out but not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, thereby the great God made known to the king what will be in the future, and the dream is certain and its explanation trustworthy."

Daniel 2:44-45, LEB

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: *the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.* And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

Matthew 11:2-6, ESV



# It's hard to see past the bars...

- Health
- Marriage
- Career
- Finances
- Family
- Church

- **Isaiah 29:18-20a**

And on that day, the deaf shall hear the words of a scroll, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of gloom and darkness. And the meek have joy after joy in Yahweh, and the needy of the people shall rejoice in the holy one of Israel. For the tyrant shall be no more...

- **Isaiah 35:5-7**

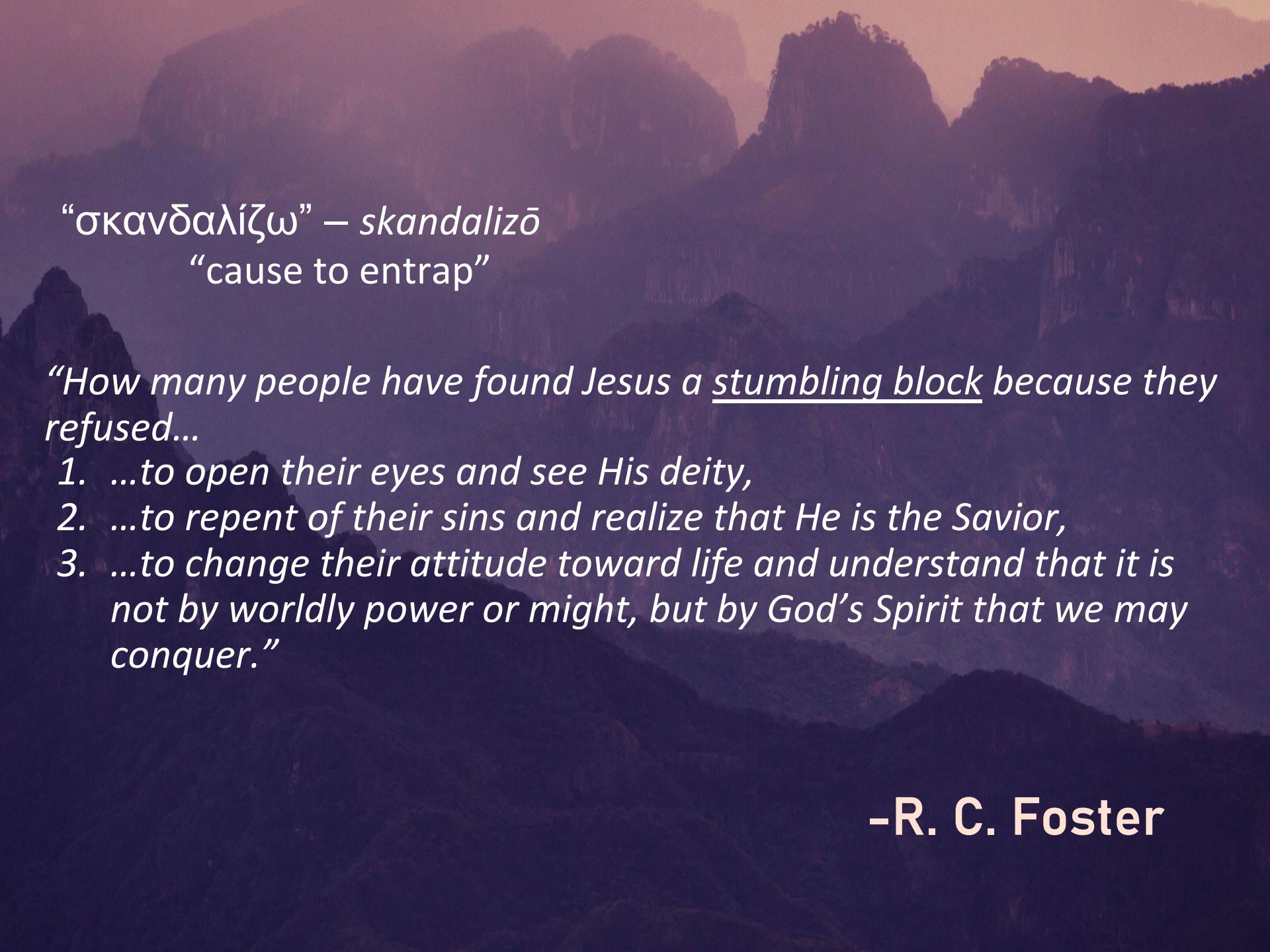
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened. Then the lame shall leap like the deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing for joy, for waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water. Her resting place is in a settlement of jackals; the grass shall become like reeds and rushes.

- **Isaiah 29:18-20a**

And on that day, the deaf shall hear the words of a scroll, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of gloom and darkness. And the meek have joy after joy in Yahweh, and the needy of the people shall rejoice in the holy one of Israel. For the tyrant shall be no more...

- **Isaiah 35:5-7**

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the **ears** of the **deaf** shall be opened. Then the **lame** shall leap like the deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing for joy, for waters shall break forth in the **wilderness** and streams in the **desert**. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water. Her **resting** place is in a settlement of jackals; the grass shall become like **reeds** and rushes.

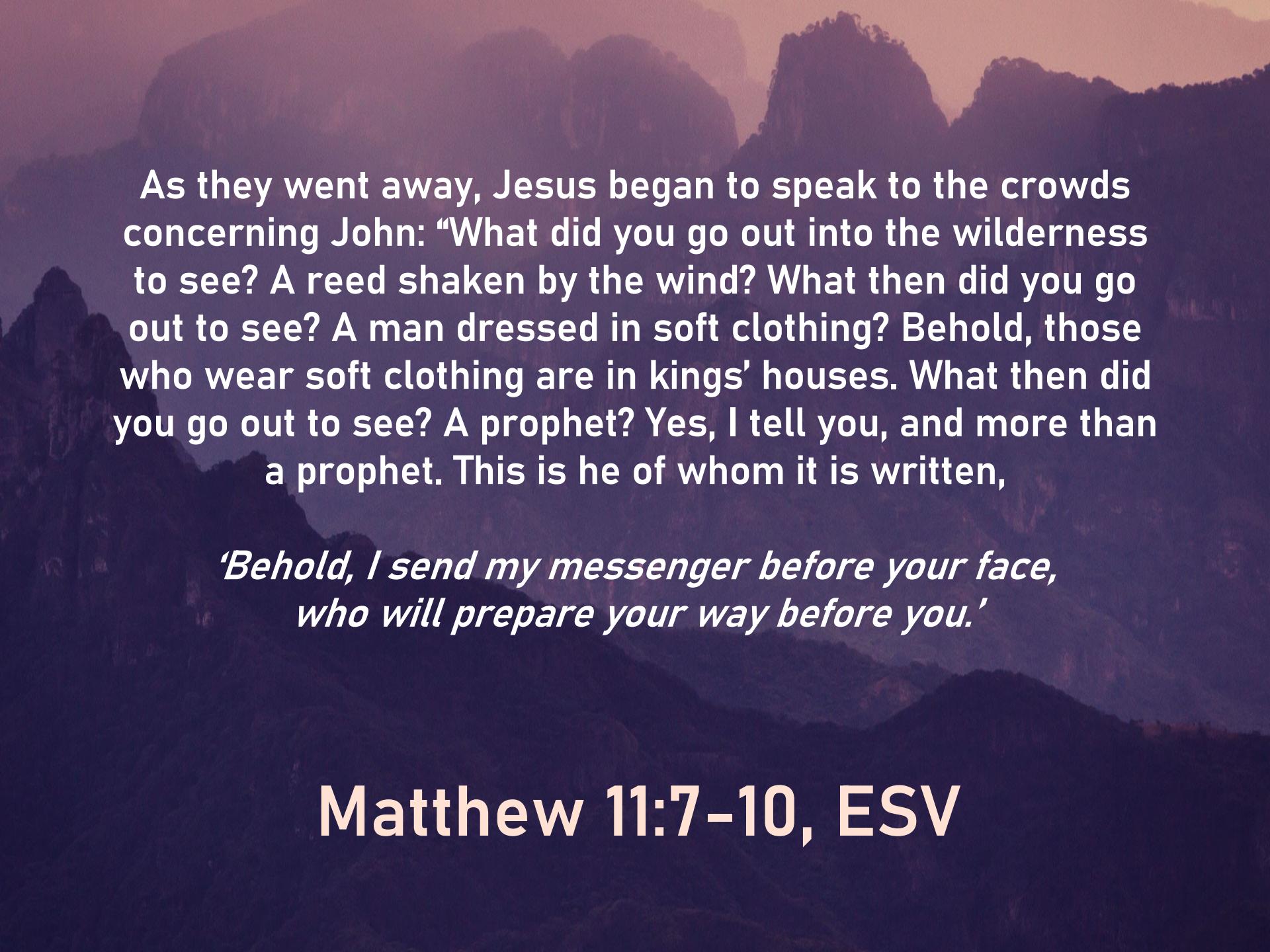


“σκανδαλίζω” – *skandalizō*  
“cause to entrap”

“How many people have found Jesus a stumbling block because they refused...

1. ...to open their eyes and see His deity,
2. ...to repent of their sins and realize that He is the Savior,
3. ...to change their attitude toward life and understand that it is not by worldly power or might, but by God's Spirit that we may conquer.”

-R. C. Foster



As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

*'Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.'*

Matthew 11:7-10, ESV

# Common Pitfalls of Preachers

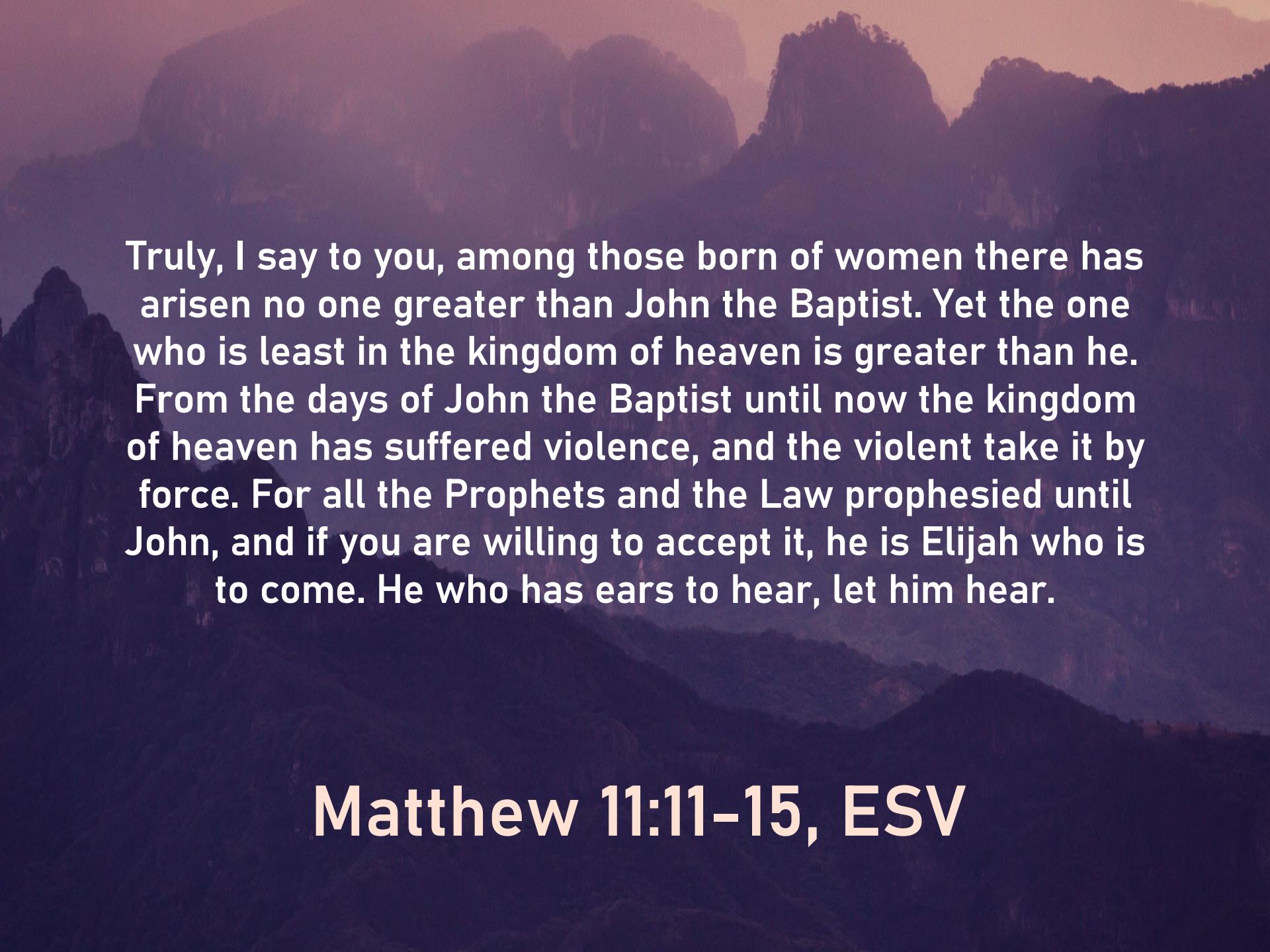
## Popularity & Luxury

### Popularity

- *“What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?”*

### Luxury

- *“What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.”*



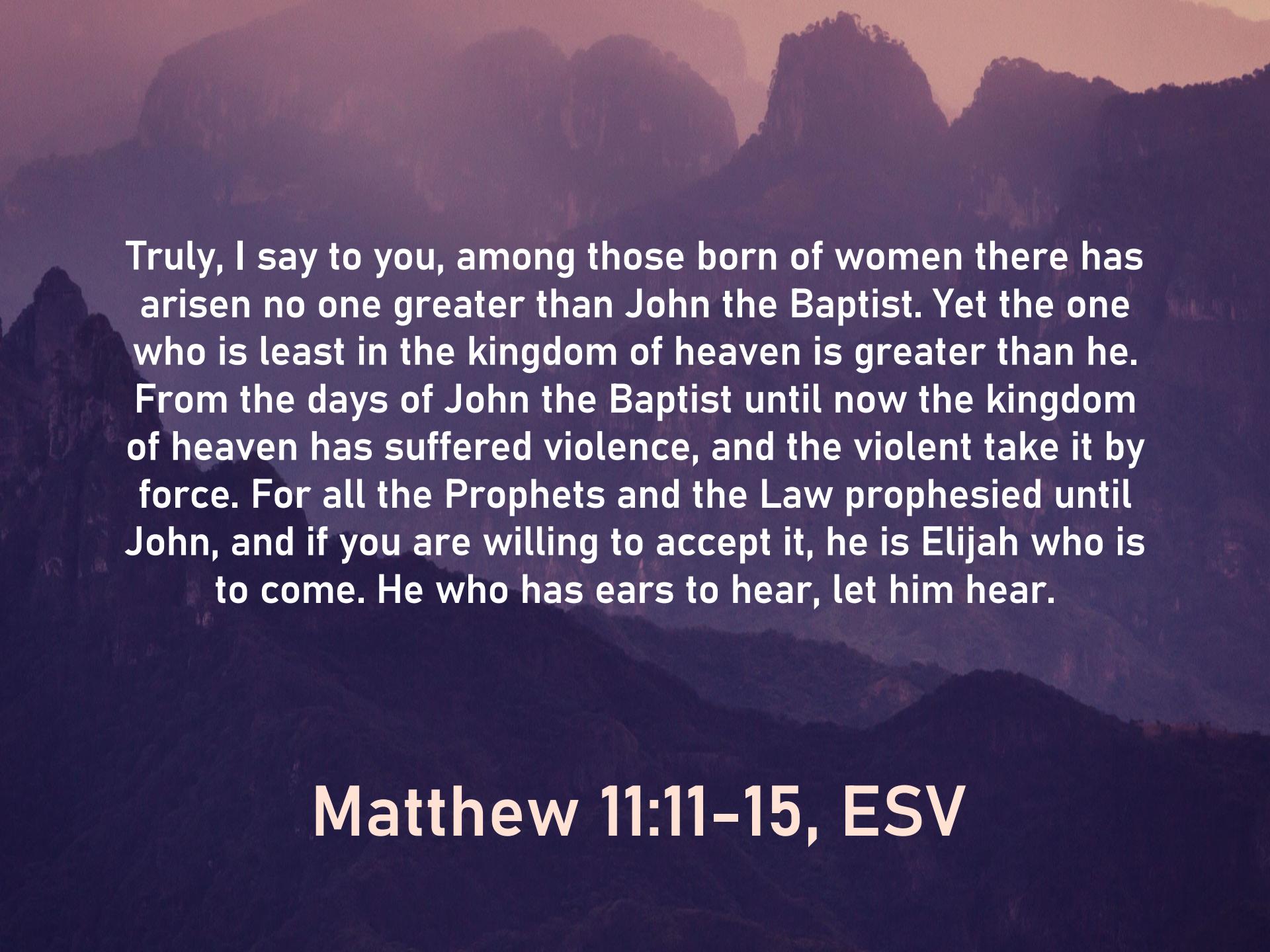
Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 11:11-15, ESV

YOU SHALL



NOT PASS



Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 11:11-15, ESV

“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

*‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’*

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

Matthew 11:16-19, ESV



What are your expectations of Jesus?