



# EXODUS

life in the  
wilderness

# **EXODUS 34**

**God is "rewinding the tape"**




**The covenant the Israelites had broken is being reestablished.**

## **EXODUS 34:6-7**

**gives us one of the clearest  
self-revelations of God in  
all of Scripture**

We could call it a “sermon” that God preaches about himself that is referenced throughout the rest of the Old Testament.

A landscape featuring a blue sky with light clouds and a range of brownish, rocky hills. The foreground is a flat, brownish ground with some sparse green vegetation. The overall scene is somewhat desaturated and has a vintage, slightly grainy appearance.

**The more we behold God for who He is,  
the more we are transformed  
and anchored in Him.**

The LORD said to Moses, “Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.<sup>2</sup> Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain.<sup>3</sup> No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain.”

**EXODUS 34:1-3**

<sup>4</sup> So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands.

**EXODUS 34:4**

<sup>5</sup> Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD.

**EXODUS 34:5**

<sup>6</sup> And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming,  
“The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious  
God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,

**EXODUS 34:6**

<sup>7</sup> maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

**EXODUS 34:7**

"The LORD, the LORD..."

**YAHWEH: "I AM WHO I AM"**

The eternal, self-existent One

An aerial photograph of a rugged, mountainous landscape. The terrain is characterized by deep, winding valleys and steep, rocky slopes. A river or stream flows through the lower part of the valley, creating a network of channels. The overall color palette is dominated by earthy tones, including browns, tans, and muted greens, suggesting a semi-arid or high-altitude environment. The lighting creates strong shadows, emphasizing the topography.

**"The compassionate and gracious God..."  
or "merciful and gracious."**

**Mercy means God does not give us what we deserve.**

**Grace means that God gives us what we don't deserve.**

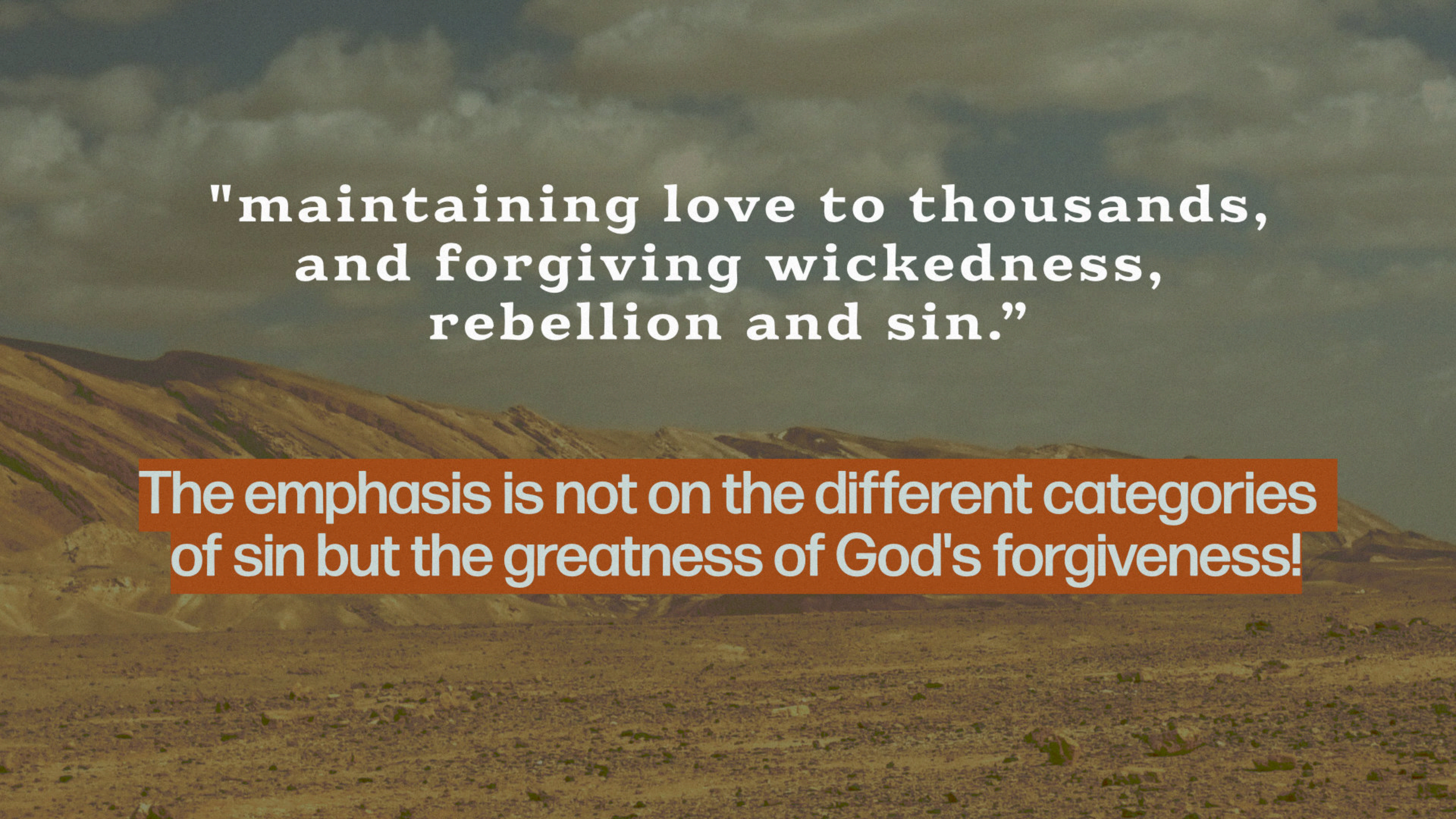
**"slow to anger"**

**The Hebrew phrase literally means  
"long of nose."**

**God is not quick to "turn red" due to anger-  
he is patient and not quick-tempered.**

**"abounding in love and faithfulness"**

**God is dependable no matter the  
circumstances and challenges in our lives.**

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there is a vast, flat expanse of dry, brownish-yellow earth with sparse, low-lying green and brown vegetation. In the middle ground, a range of rolling hills or low mountains stretches across the horizon, their slopes also covered in similar sparse vegetation. The sky above is filled with soft, grey clouds, creating a diffused light across the scene. The overall color palette is muted, dominated by earthy tones and greys.

**"maintaining love to thousands,  
and forgiving wickedness,  
rebellion and sin."**

**The emphasis is not on the different categories  
of sin but the greatness of God's forgiveness!**

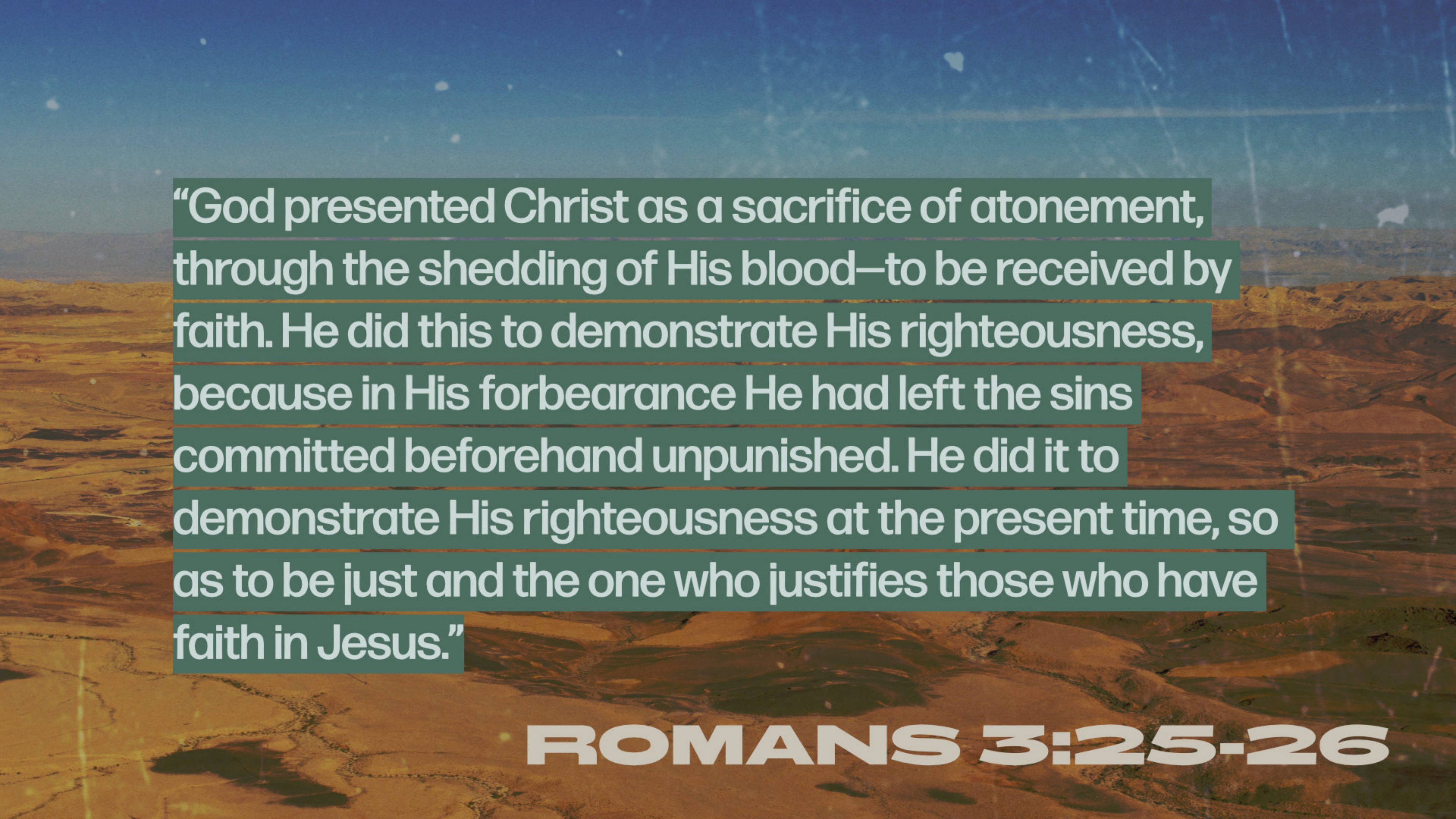
**Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished;  
he punishes the children  
and their children for the sin of the parents  
to the third and fourth generation.”**

**Sin and unfaithfulness has consequences but  
the emphasis is the contrast:**

**God’s steadfast love to “thousands”**

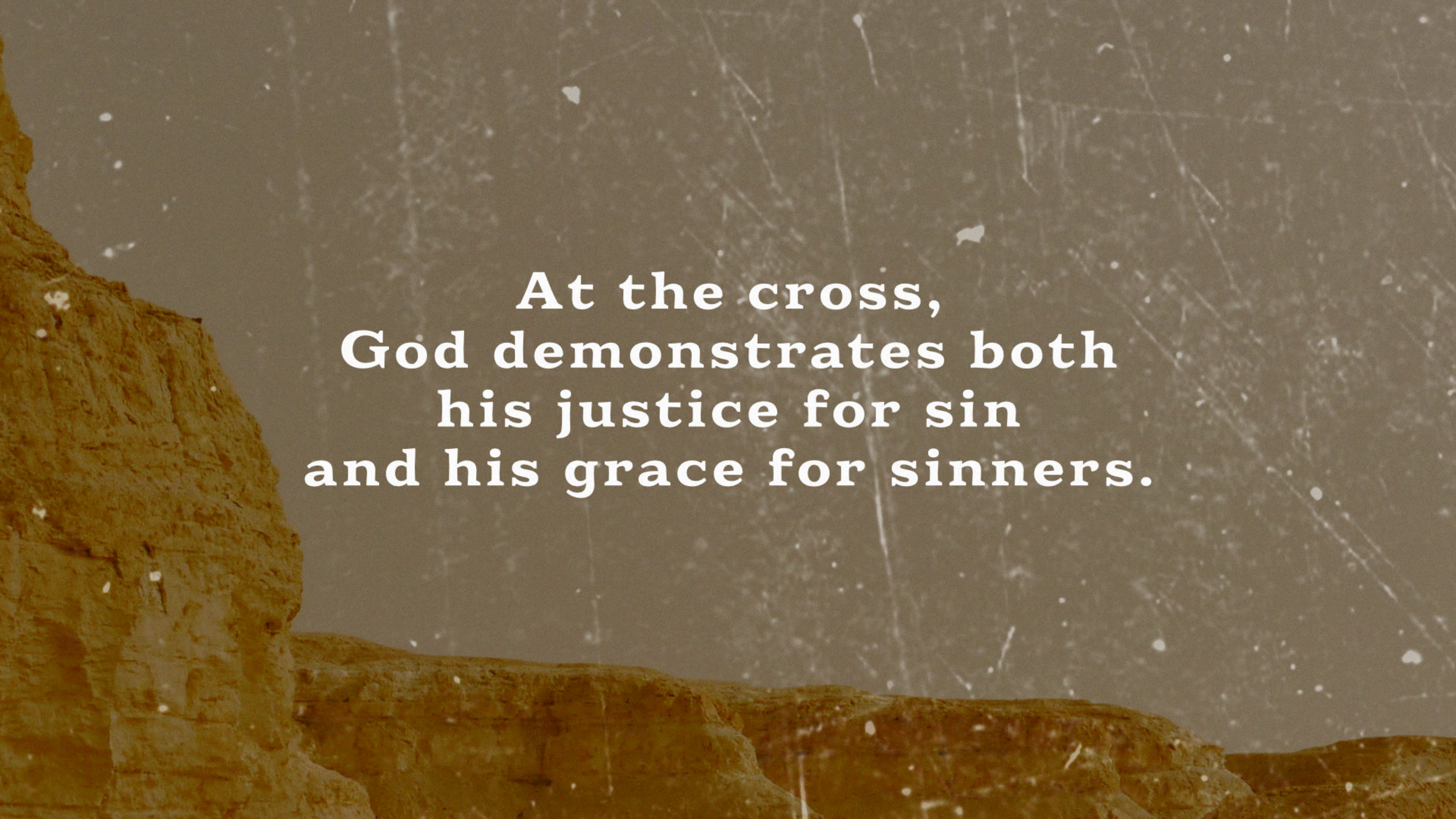
# **THE TENSION:**

**How can God be both just and gracious?**

An aerial photograph of a vast, arid desert landscape. The terrain is a mix of light brown and tan sand dunes and valleys, with some darker, possibly rocky or mineral-rich patches. The sky above is a clear, deep blue. Overlaid on the center of the image is a large block of white text with a semi-transparent green background, arranged in ten horizontal lines.

“God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of His blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished. He did it to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”

**ROMANS 3:25-26**



**At the cross,  
God demonstrates both  
his justice for sin  
and his grace for sinners.**

<sup>8</sup>Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped.

## **EXODUS 34:8**

**When we meditate on who God is,  
it should lead us to humility,  
gratitude and worship.**

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD.

**EXODUS 34:29**

<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the LORD, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another

**2 CORINTHIANS 3:18**

# Beholding Jesus transforms us

peace instead of anxiety

joy even in trials

deeper hunger for God's word and to pray

endurance in challenges

growing gentleness and patience with others

sensitivity to sin