

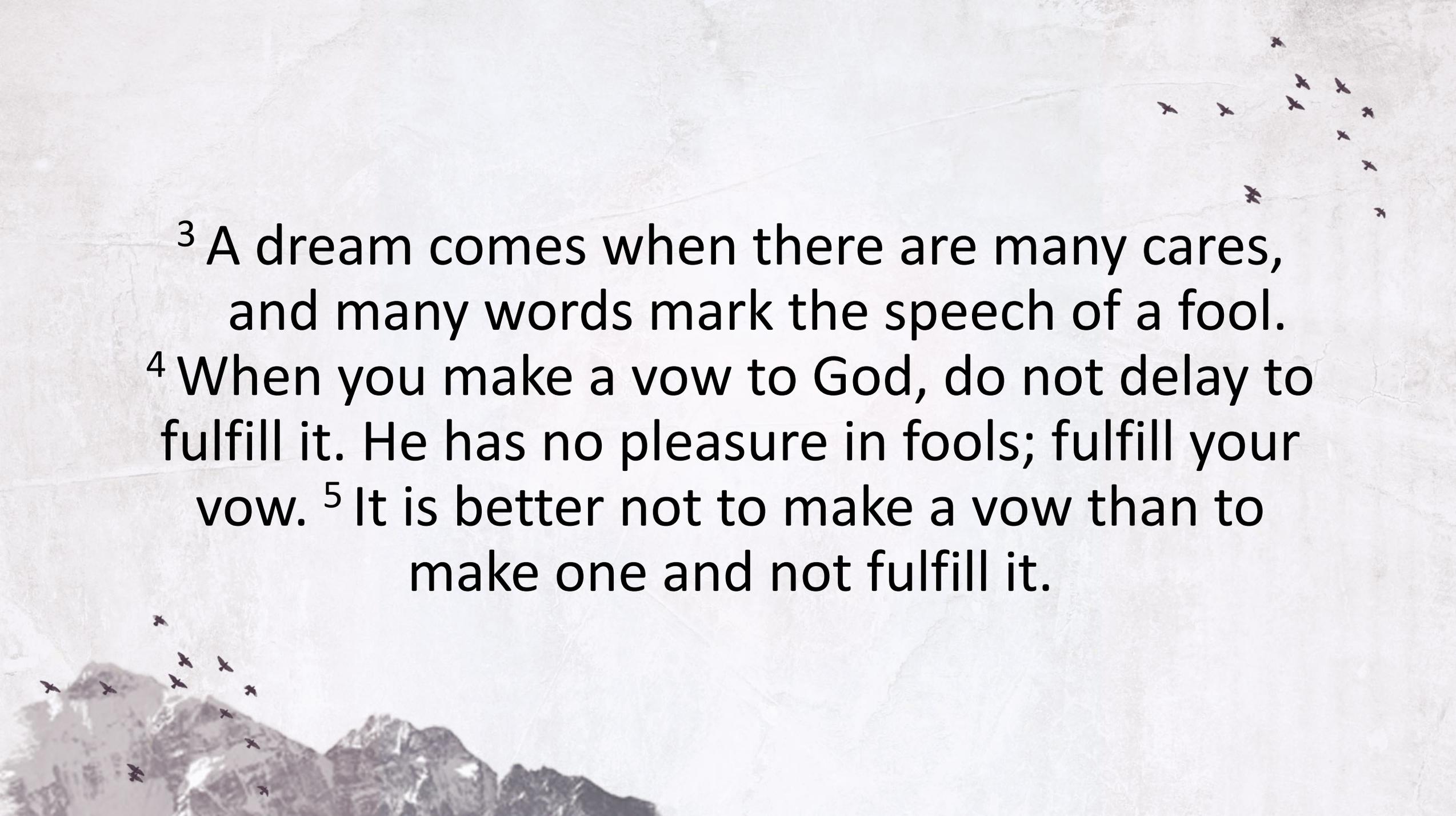


ECCLESIASTES

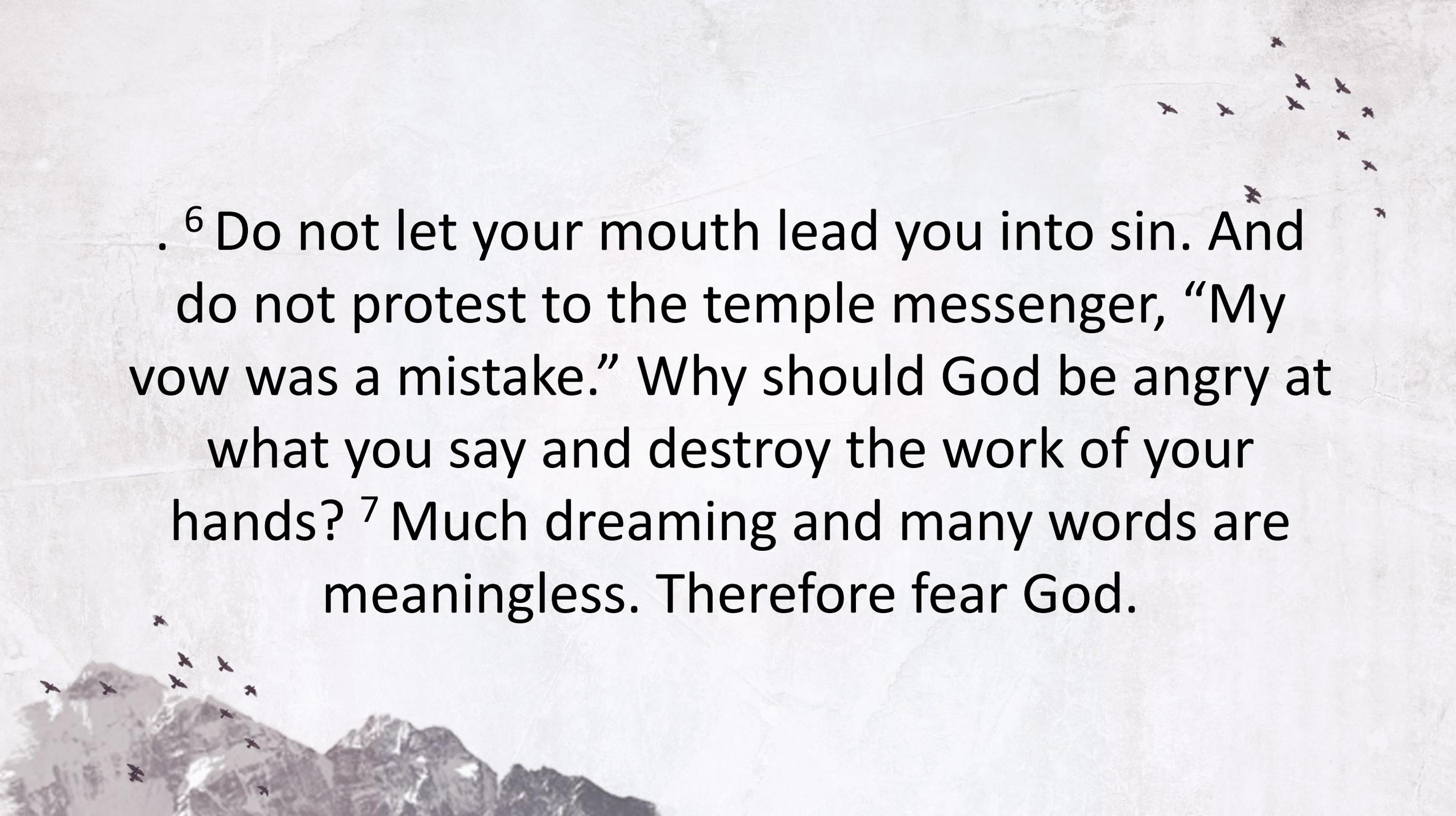
MEANINGLESS OR MISSIONAL?

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

¹ Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. ² Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few.

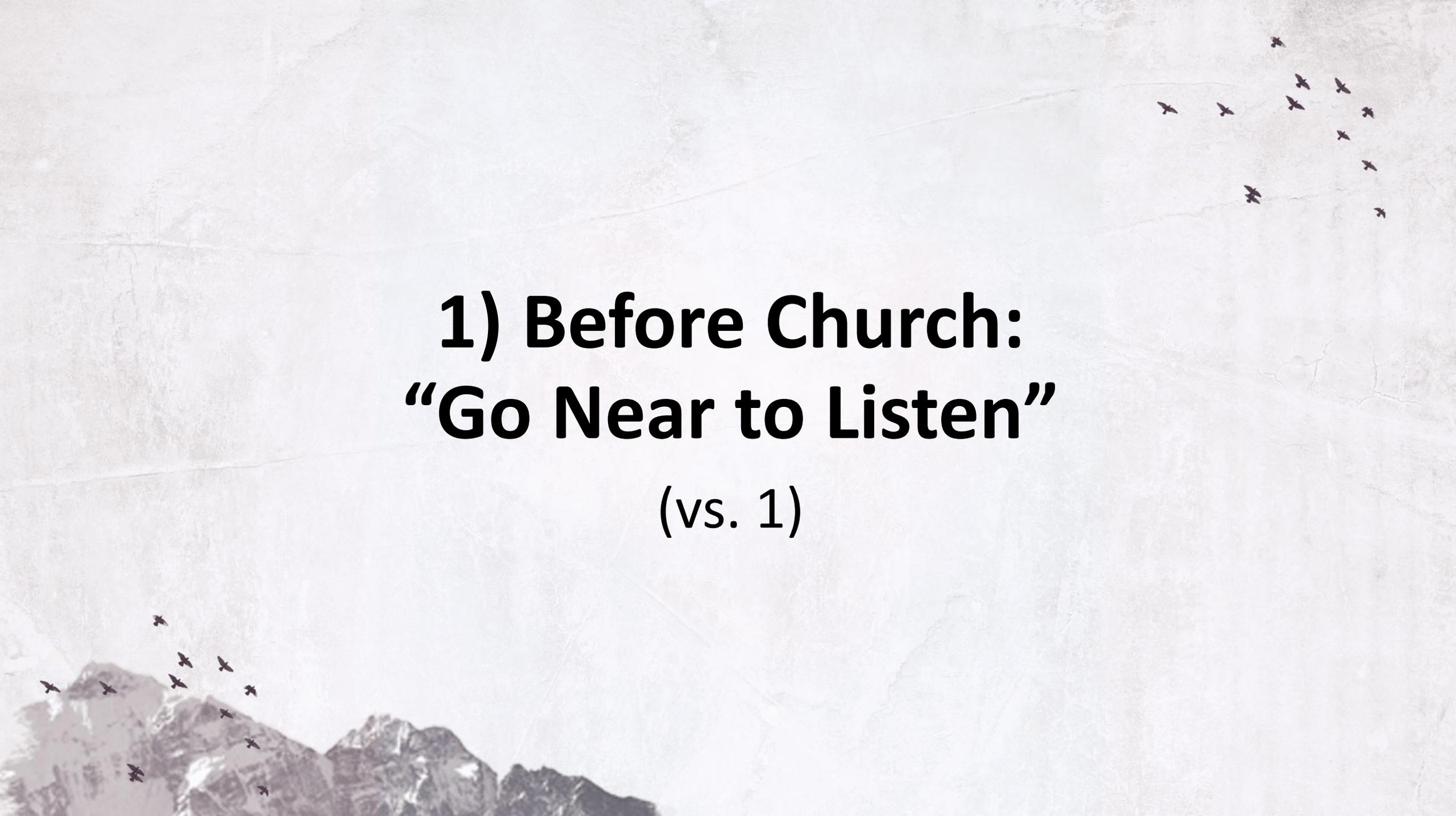


³ A dream comes when there are many cares,
and many words mark the speech of a fool.
⁴ When you make a vow to God, do not delay to
fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your
vow. ⁵ It is better not to make a vow than to
make one and not fulfill it.



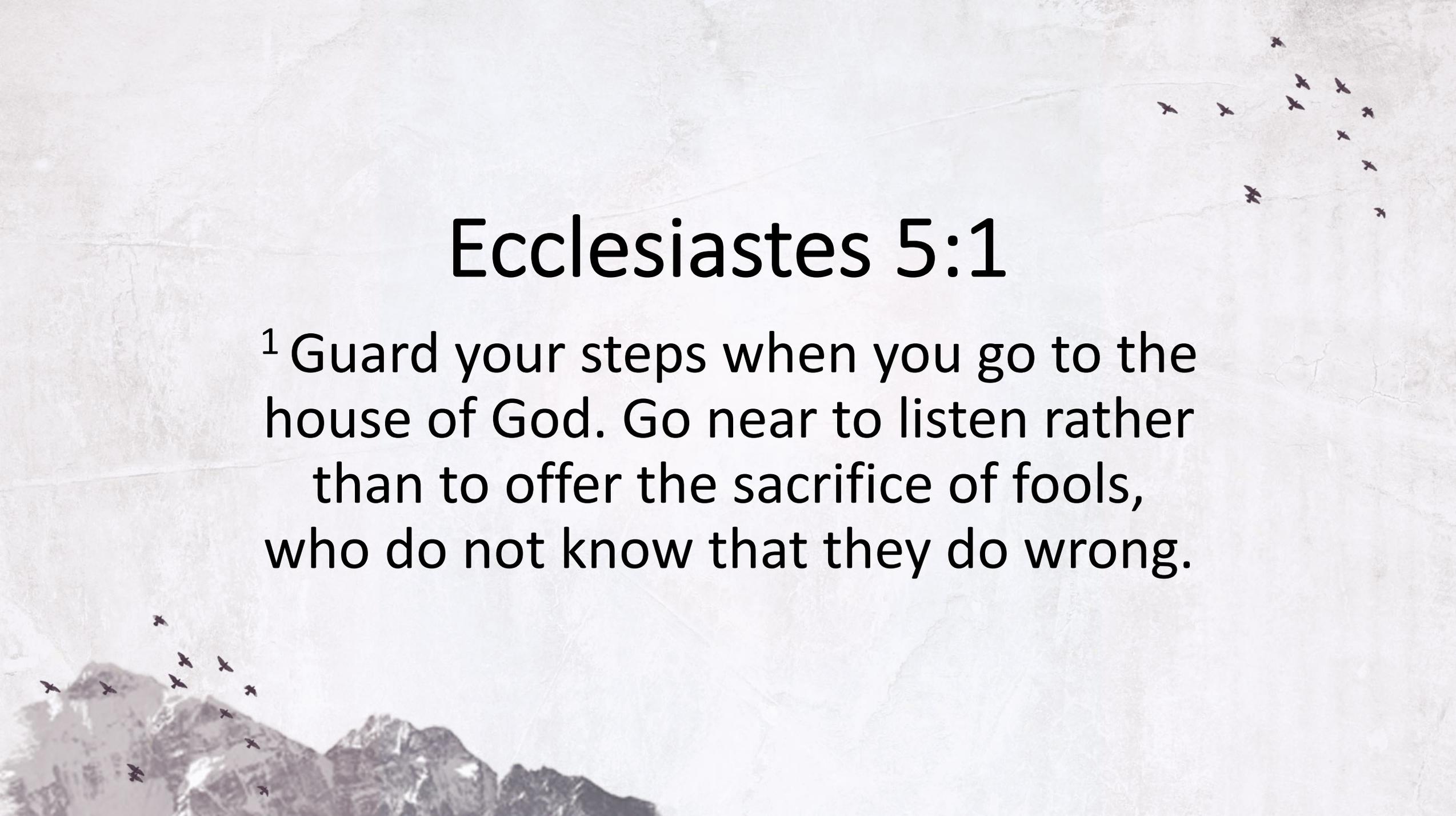
.⁶ Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, “My vow was a mistake.” Why should God be angry at what you say and destroy the work of your hands? ⁷ Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore fear God.



The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a map or a piece of paper, with faint lines and shading. In the upper right and lower left corners, there are clusters of small, dark bird silhouettes in flight. The central text is prominently displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

1) Before Church: “Go Near to Listen”

(vs. 1)

The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a wall or paper, with a faint mountain range visible at the bottom. Several small, dark silhouettes of birds are scattered across the sky, some appearing to fly in a loose formation.

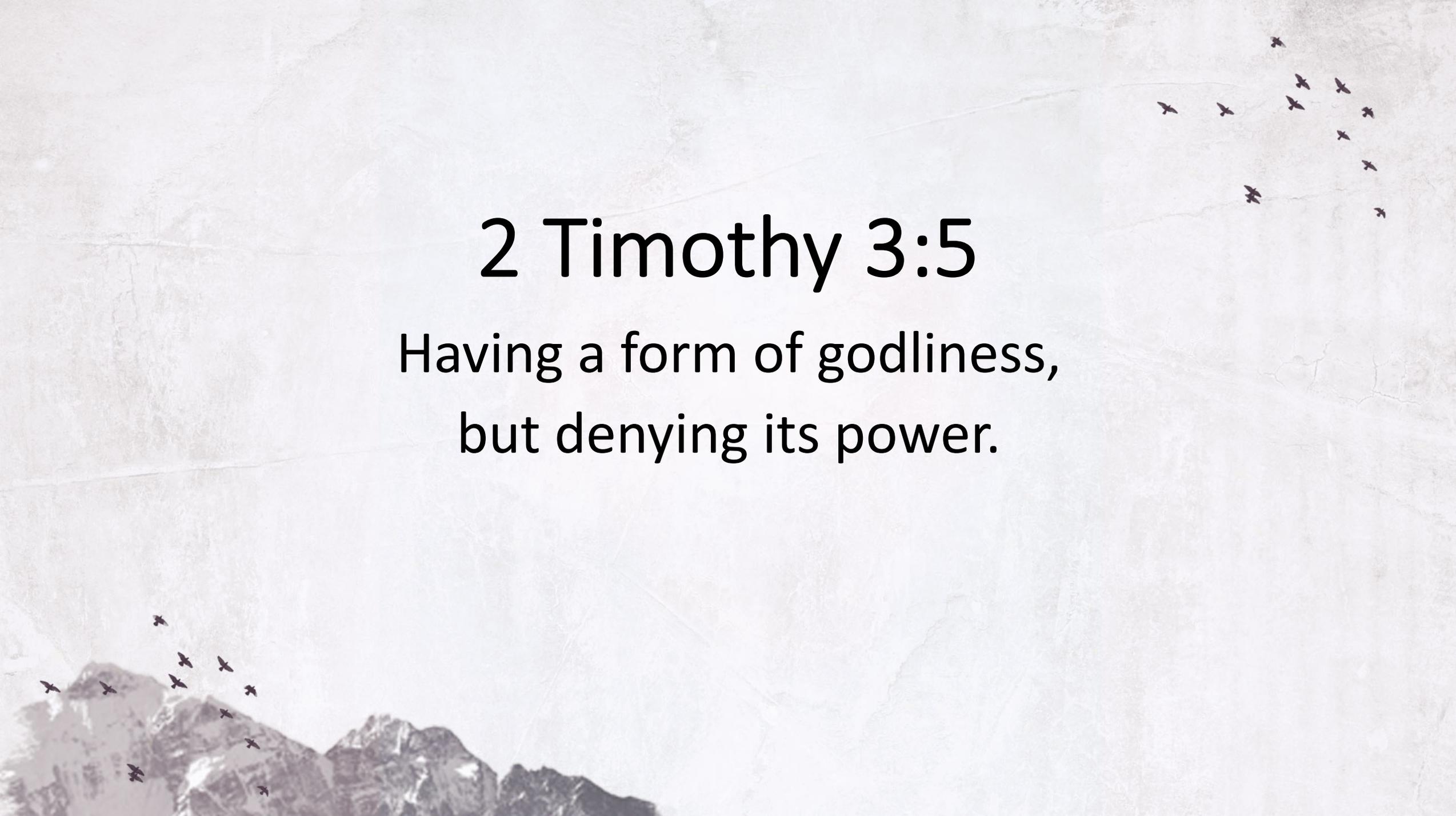
Ecclesiastes 5:1

¹ Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong.

The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly representing a sky or a wall. In the upper right and lower left corners, there are clusters of small, dark, stylized bird silhouettes in flight. The overall aesthetic is minimalist and serene.

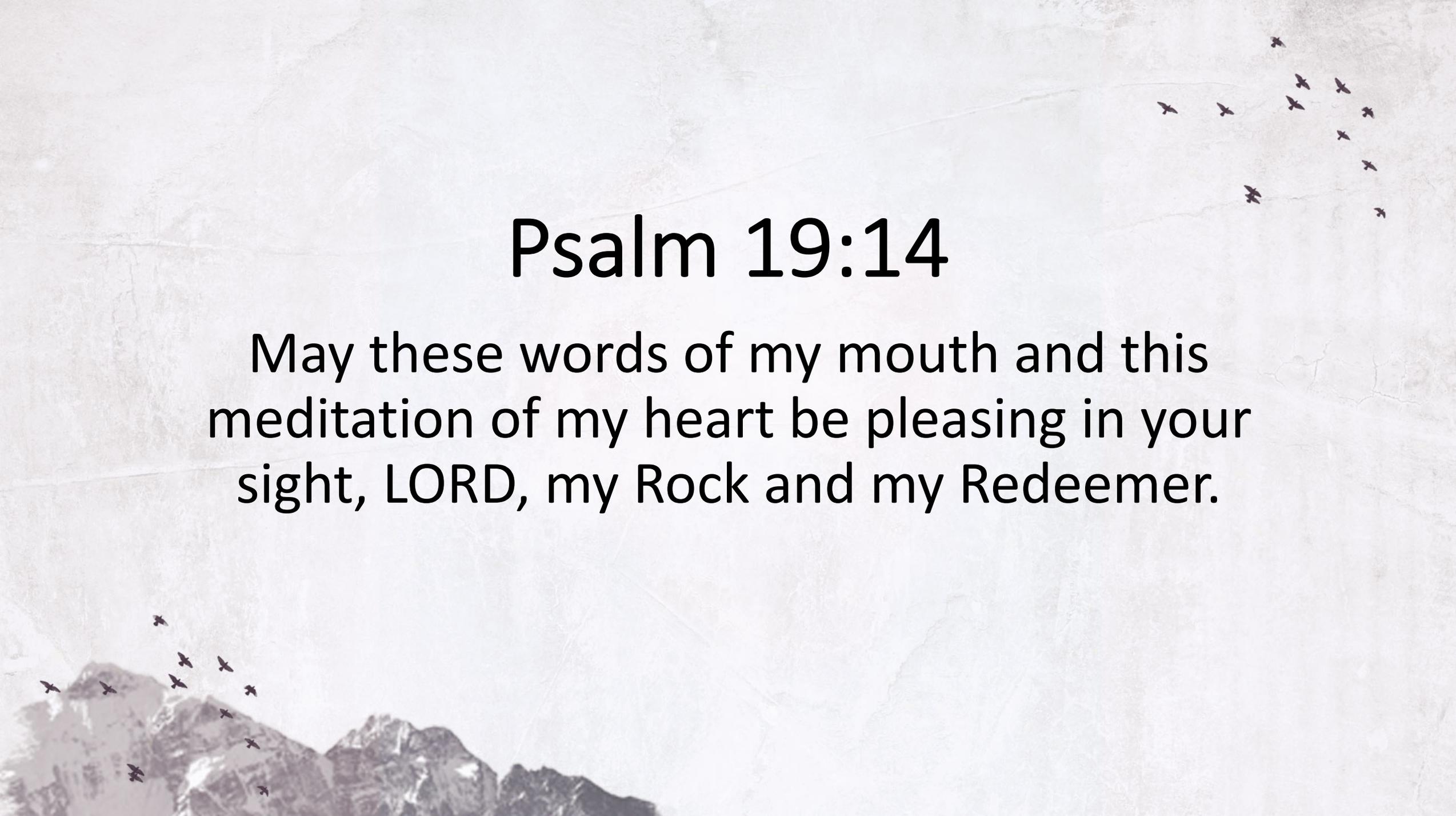
1 Samuel 16:7

People look at the outward appearance, but the
LORD looks at the heart.

The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of paper, with a faint, large-scale pattern. In the lower-left corner, there is a dark, silhouetted mountain range. Scattered across the sky are several small, dark bird silhouettes in flight, some appearing to fly towards the right and others away from the viewer.

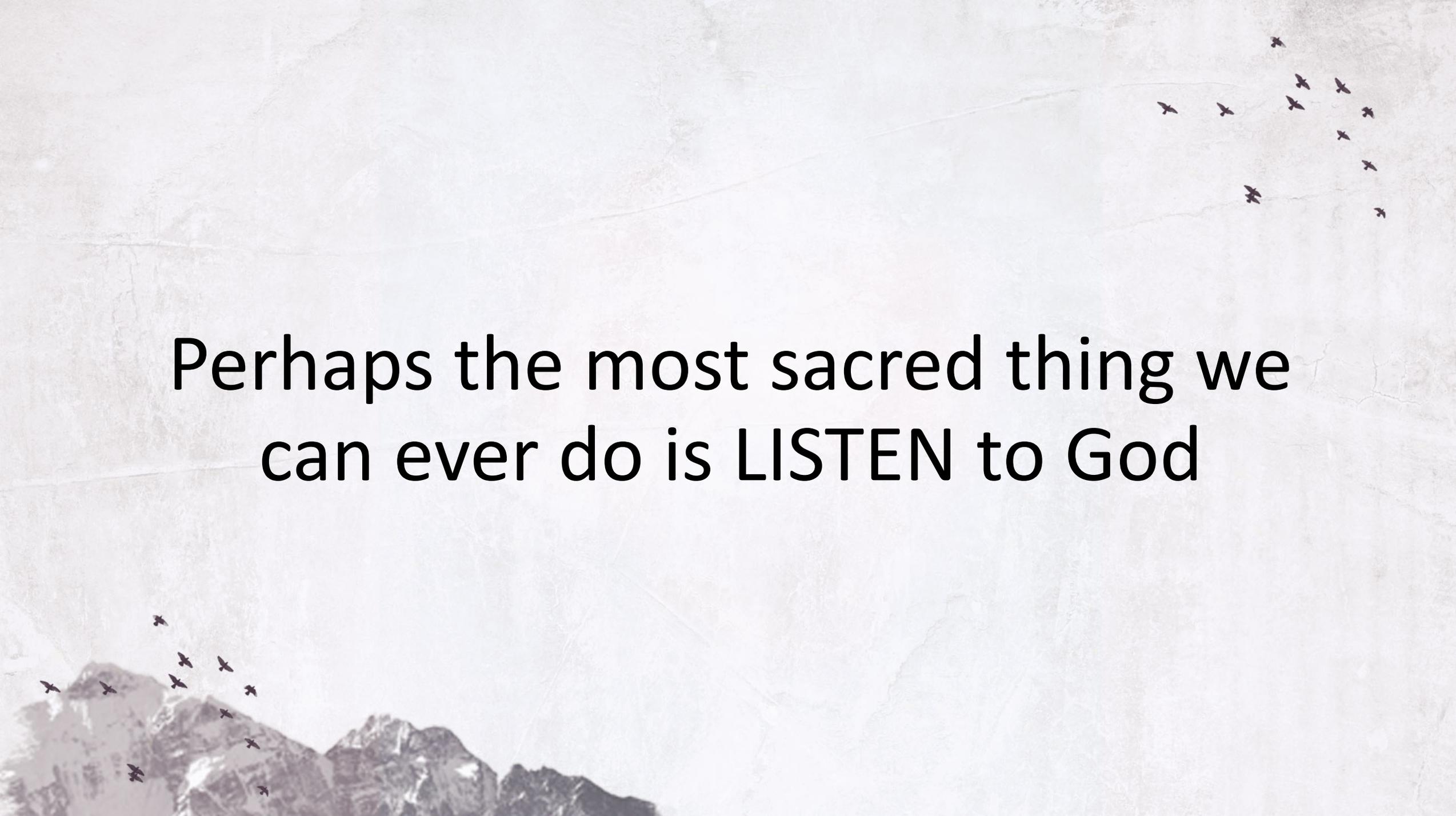
2 Timothy 3:5

Having a form of godliness,
but denying its power.

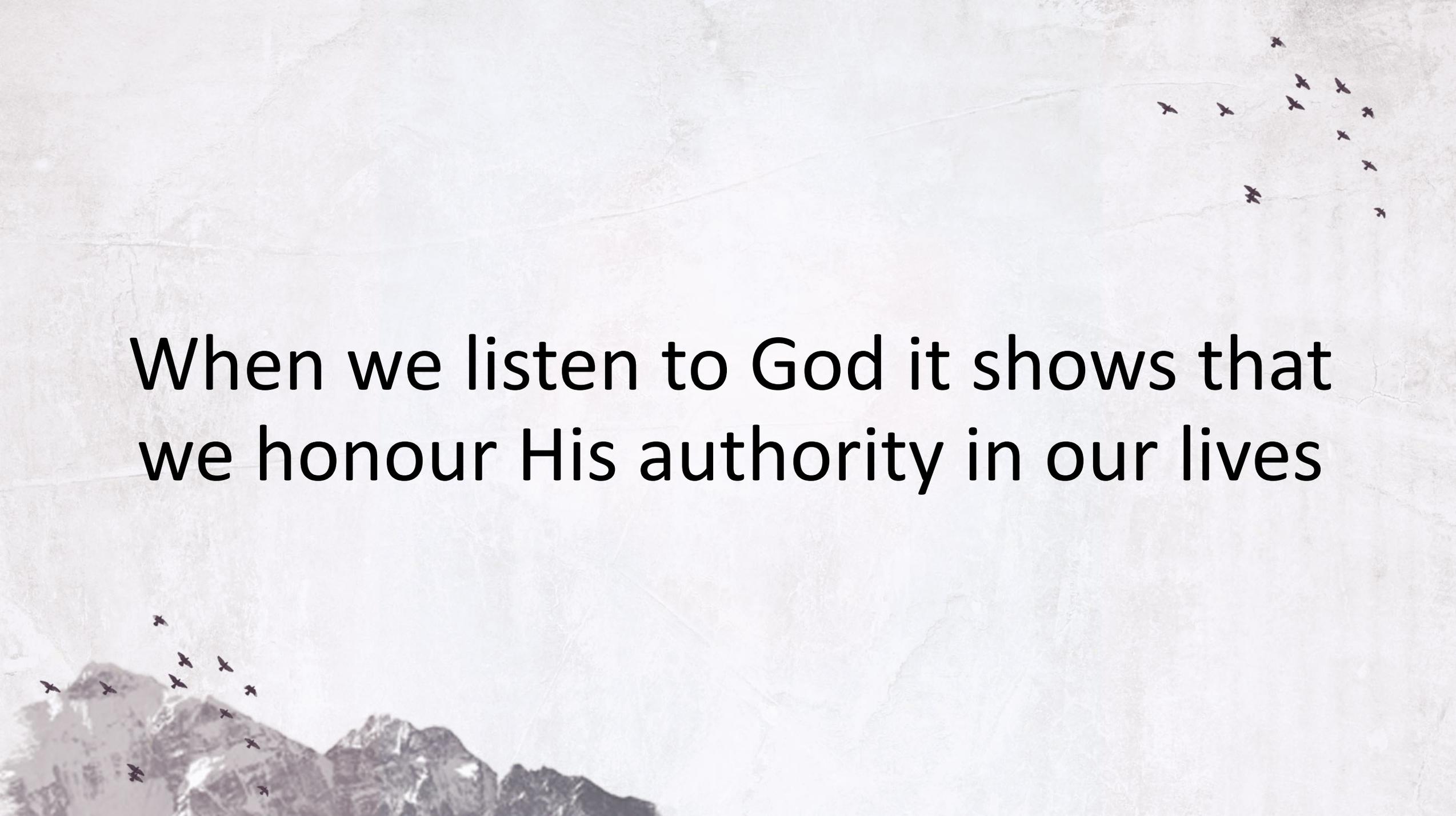
The background features a soft-focus, light-colored mountain range with several birds in flight scattered across the sky. The birds are small, dark silhouettes, some appearing to fly in a loose formation. The overall tone is serene and natural.

Psalm 19:14

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.



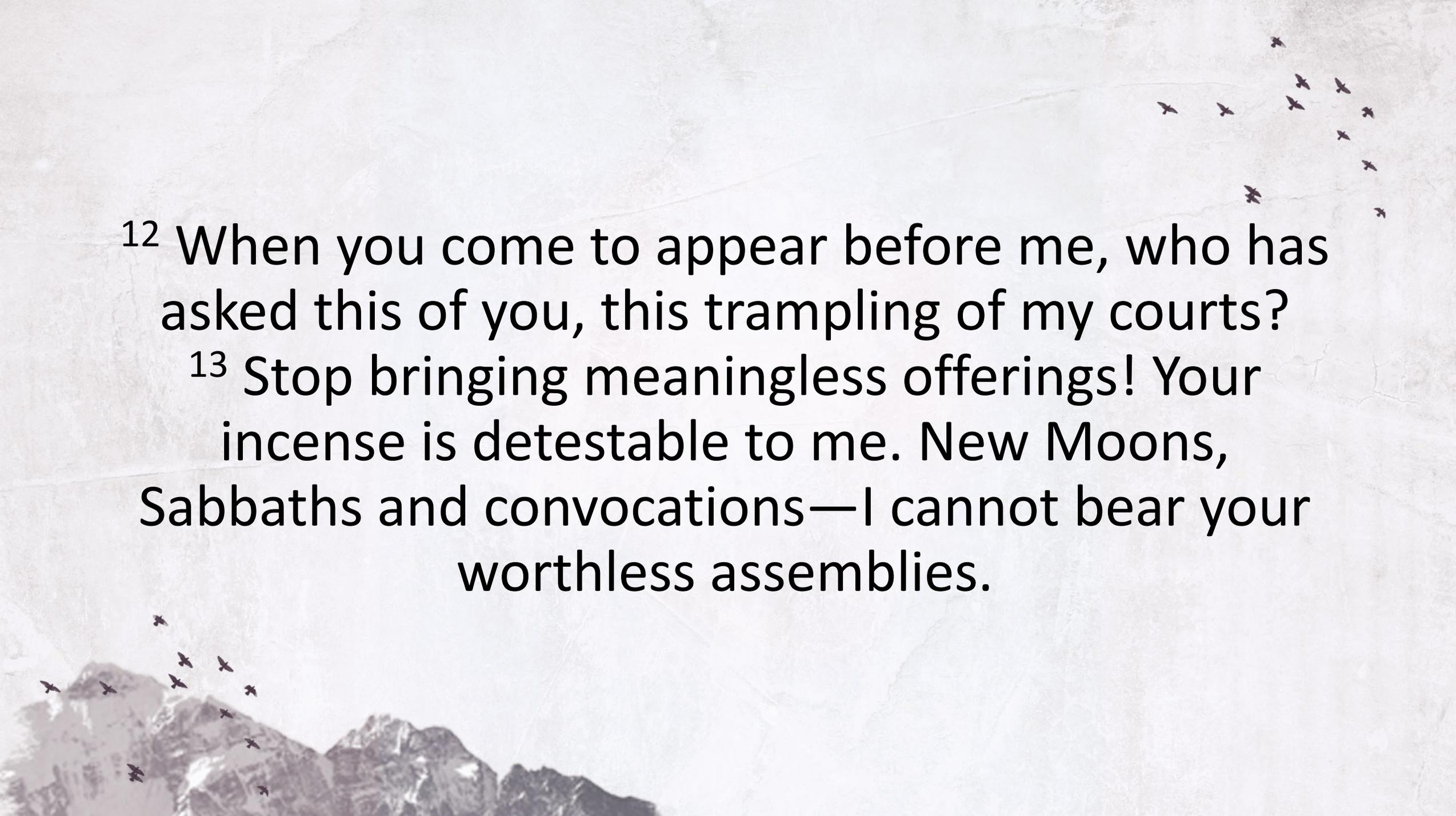
Perhaps the most sacred thing we
can ever do is LISTEN to God

The background features a soft-focus, light-colored mountain range with several birds in flight scattered across the sky. The birds are small, dark silhouettes, some appearing in small groups. The overall aesthetic is serene and natural.

When we listen to God it shows that
we honour His authority in our lives

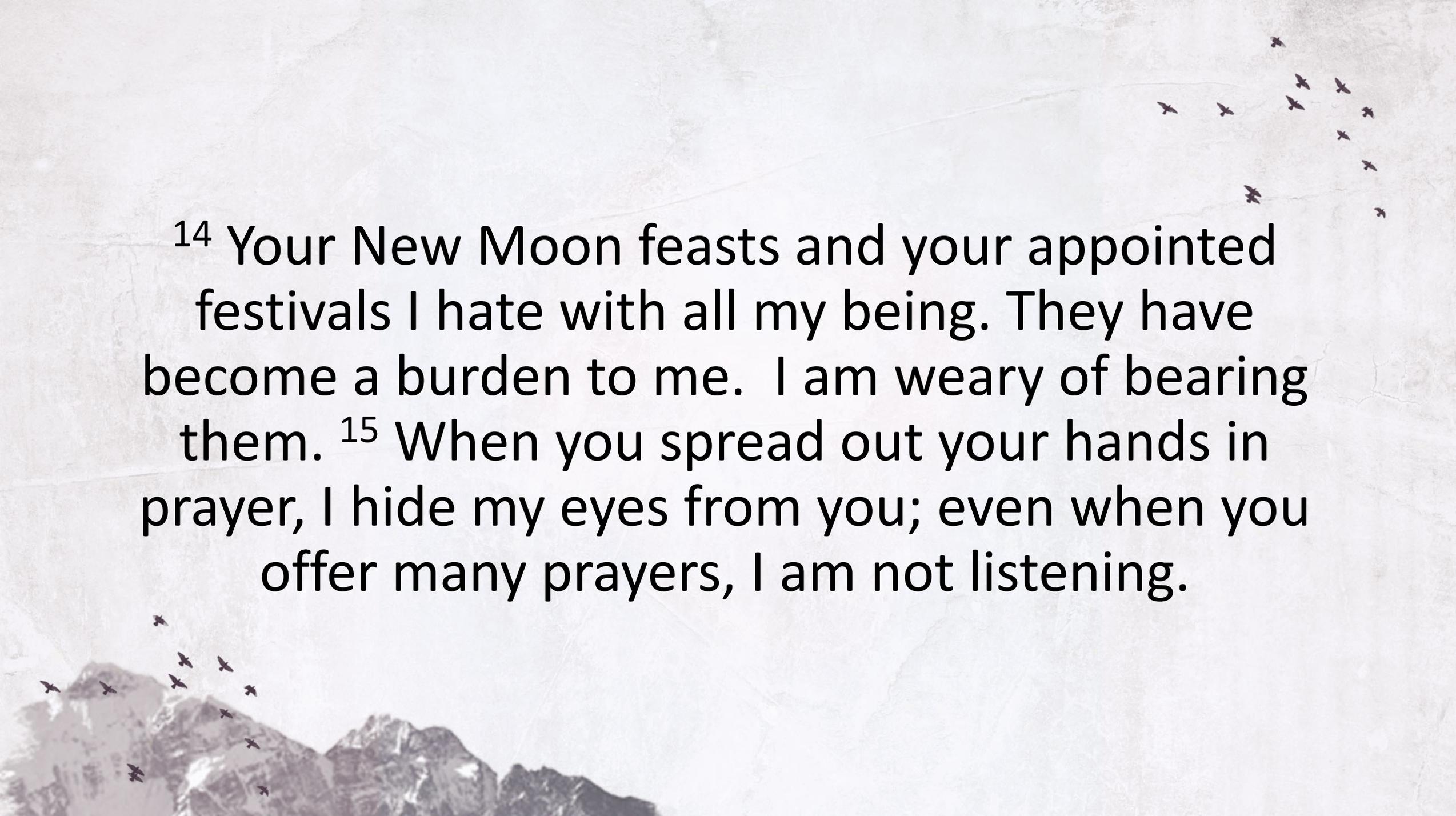
Isaiah 1:11-15

¹¹ “The multitude of your sacrifices—what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.

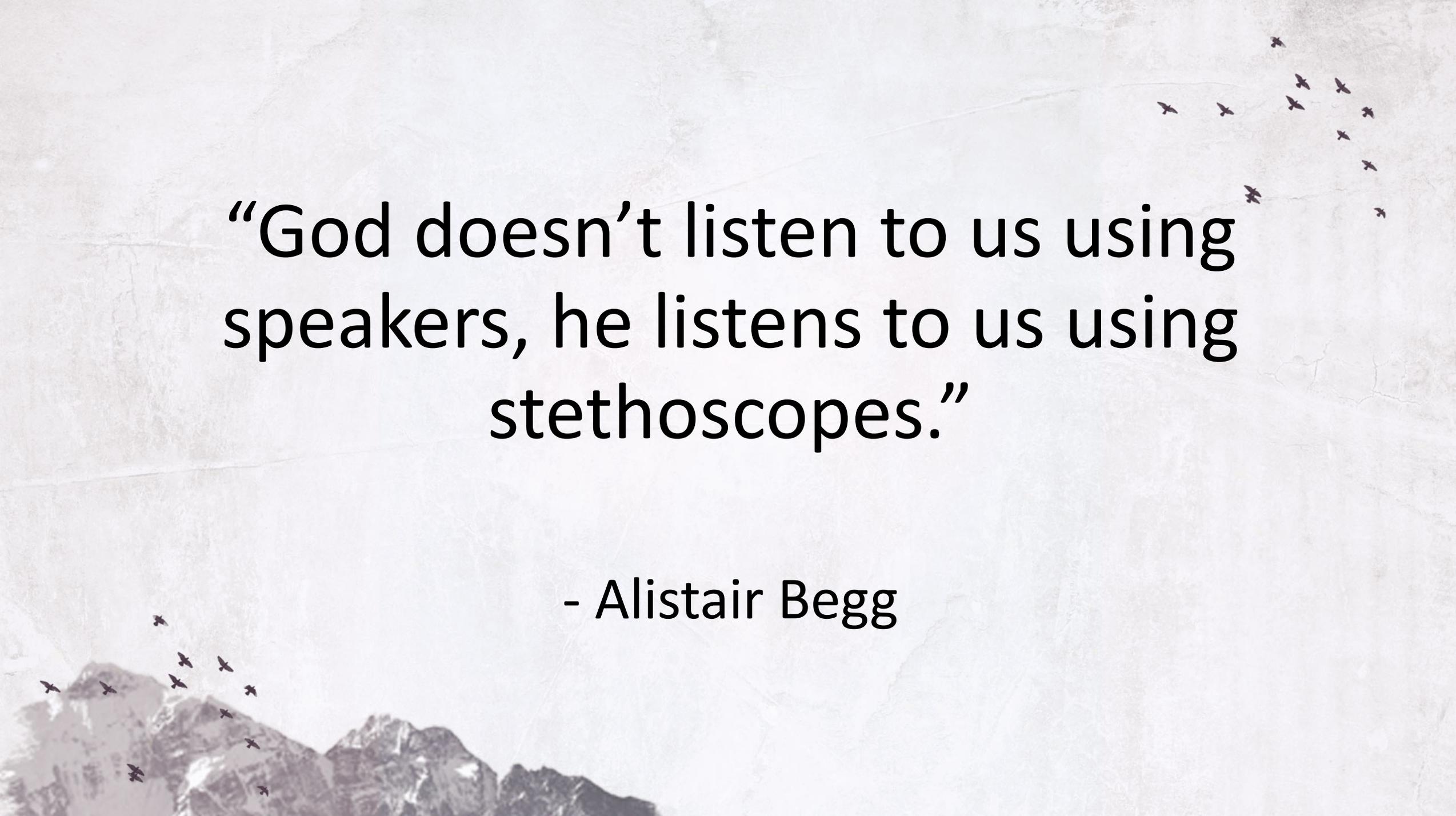


12 When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts?

13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.

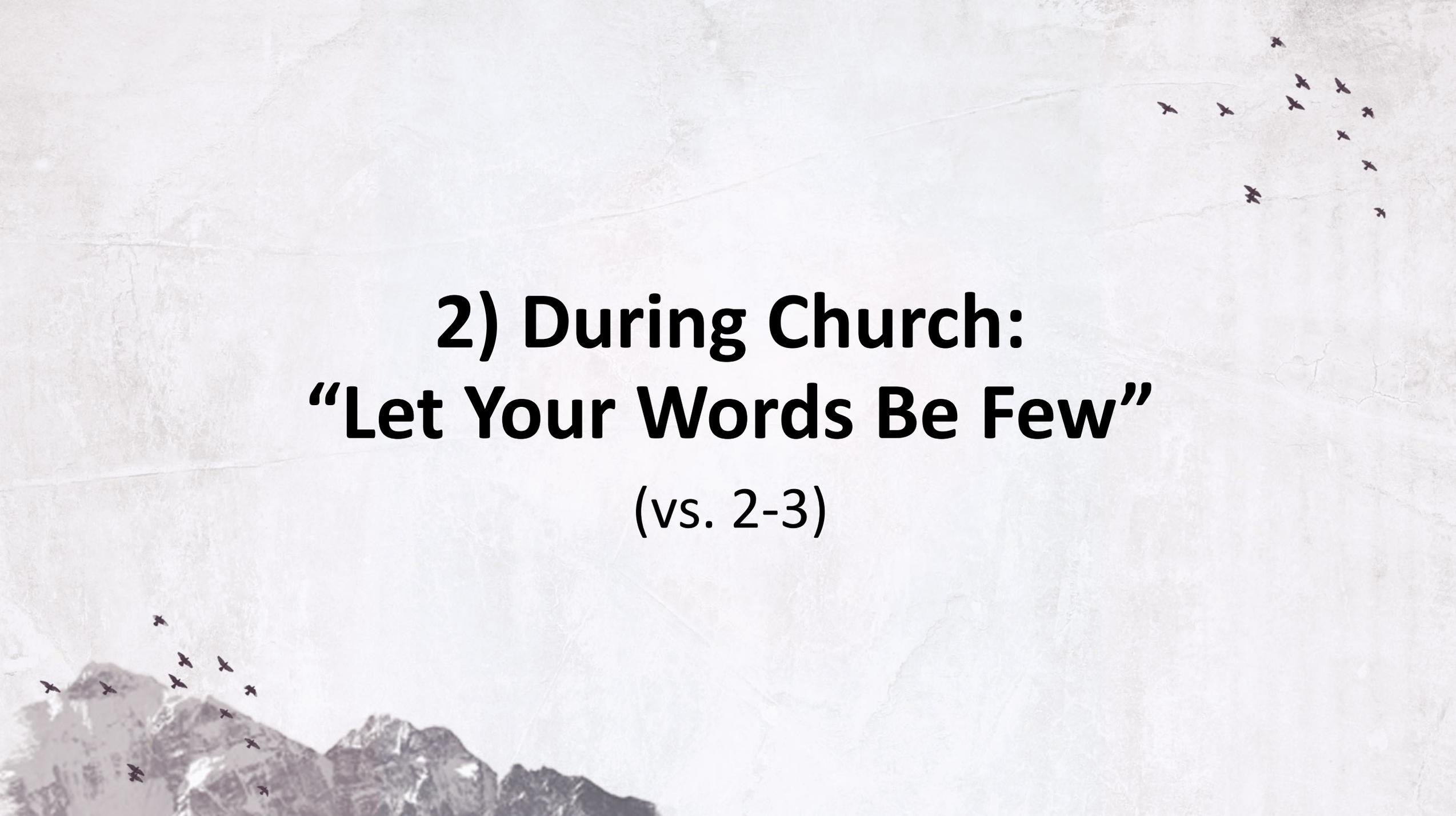
The background features a soft-focus landscape of a mountain range with snow-capped peaks. The sky is filled with numerous small, dark silhouettes of birds in flight, scattered across the upper and lower portions of the frame. The overall color palette is muted, consisting of light greys, off-whites, and soft browns.

¹⁴ Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me. I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening.

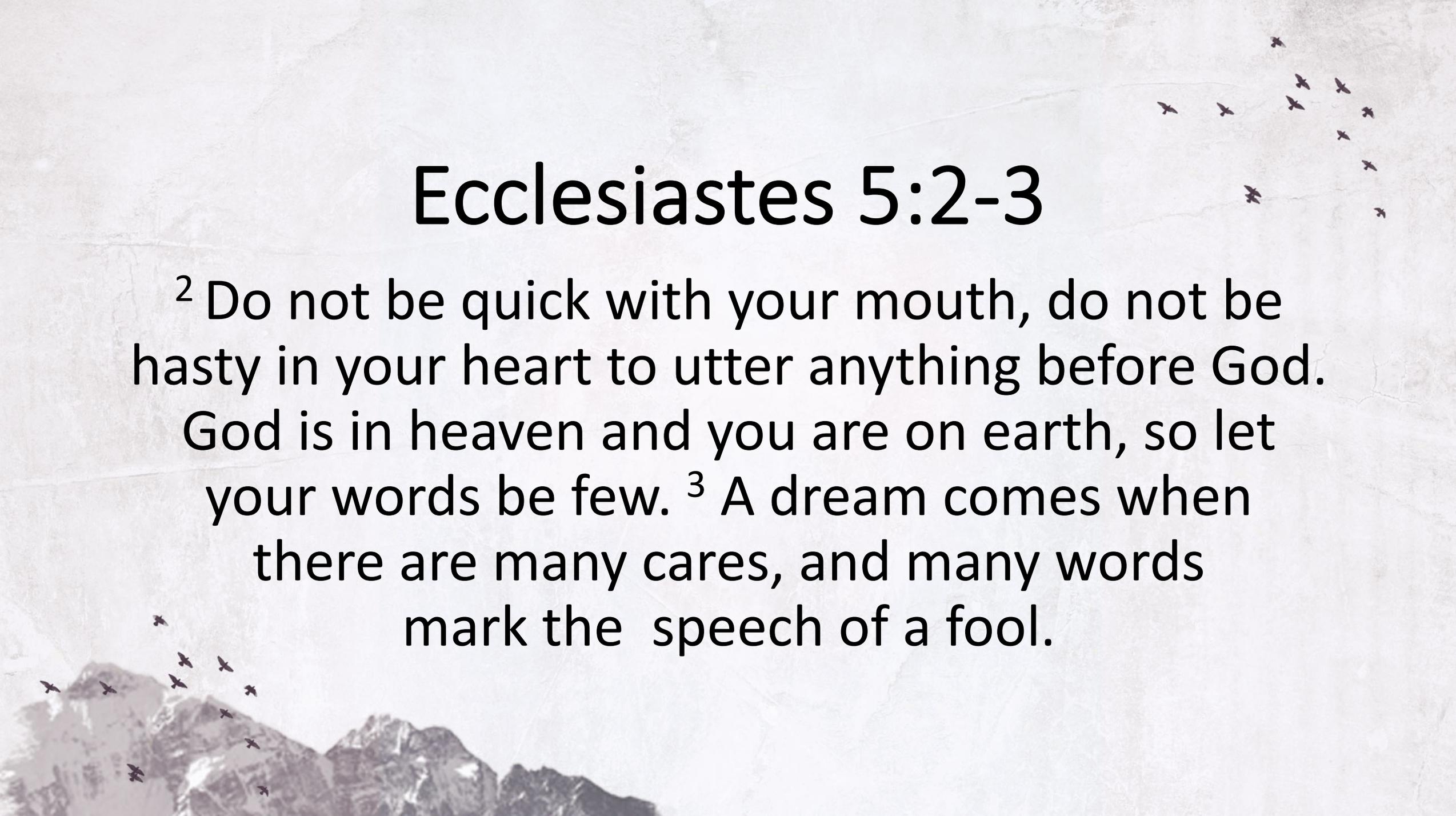
The background of the image is a light, textured surface, possibly paper or parchment, with a subtle mountain range visible at the bottom. The mountains are rendered in a soft, muted purple and grey tone. Numerous small, dark silhouettes of birds are scattered across the sky, some appearing to fly in a loose formation. The overall aesthetic is serene and contemplative.

“God doesn’t listen to us using
speakers, he listens to us using
stethoscopes.”

- Alistair Begg

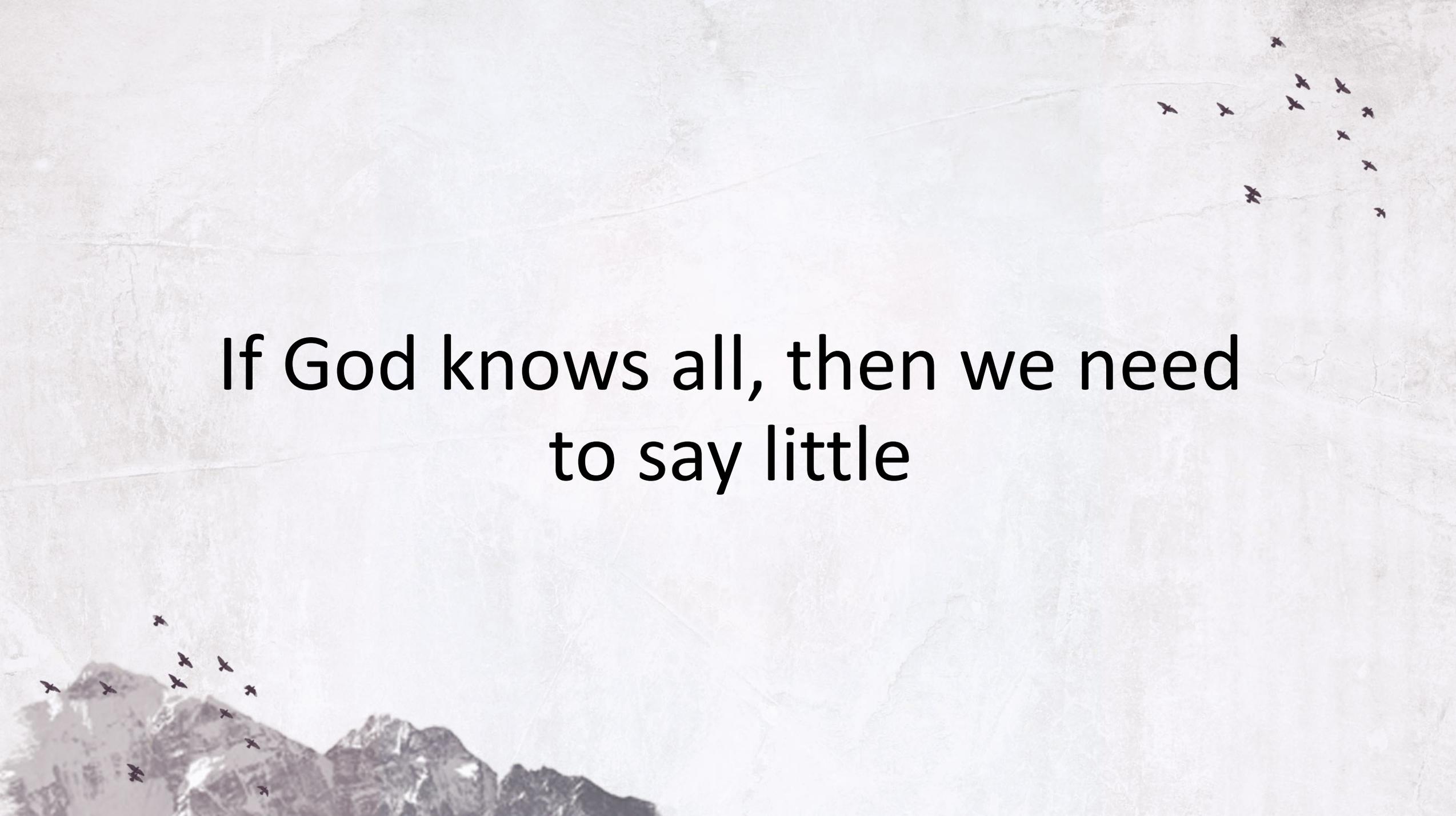
The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a piece of paper or parchment, with faint, sketchy outlines of a mountain range. In the upper right and lower left corners, there are clusters of small, dark, stylized bird silhouettes in flight, scattered across the sky.

**2) During Church:
“Let Your Words Be Few”
(vs. 2-3)**

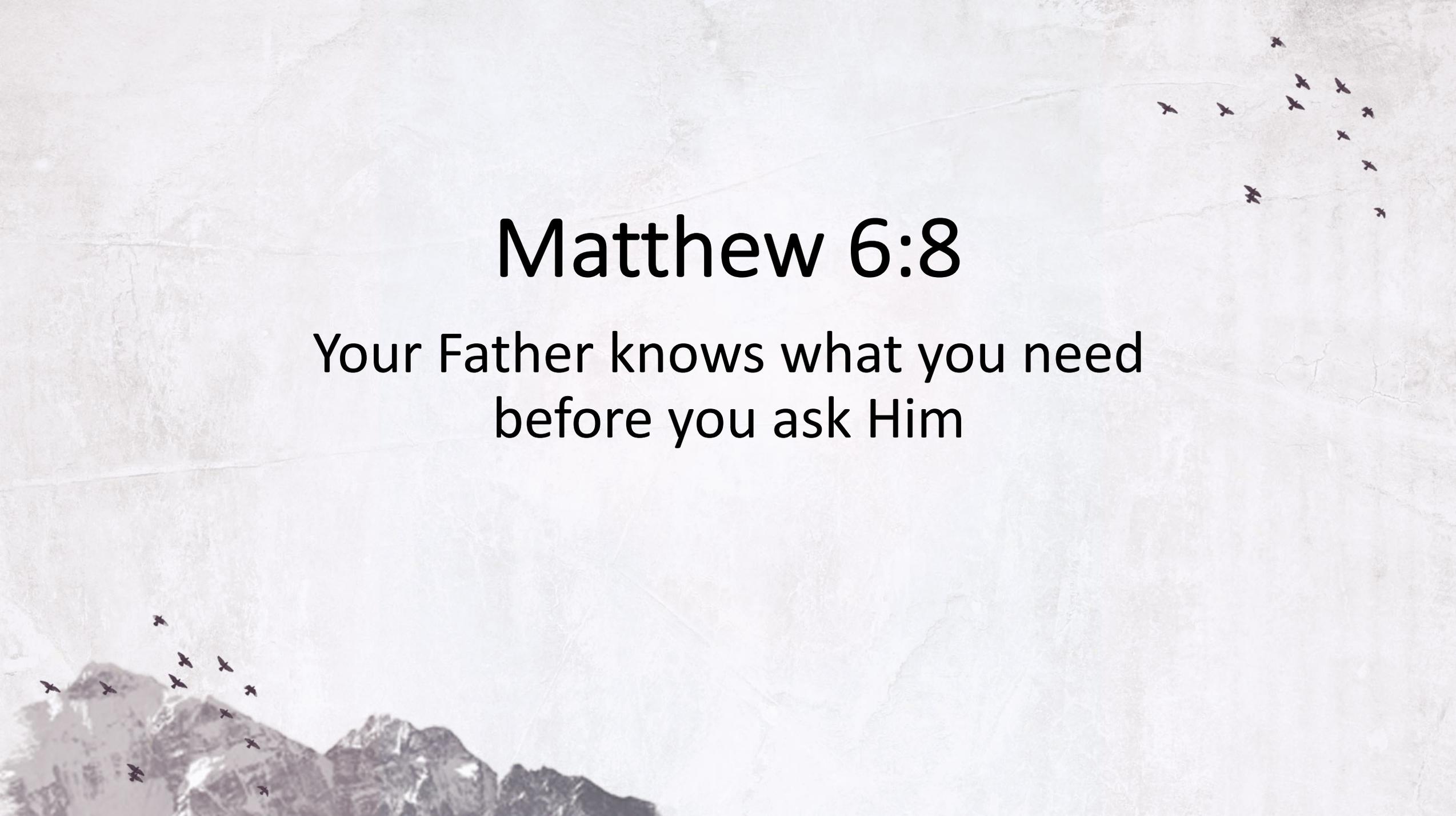


Ecclesiastes 5:2-3

² Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. ³ A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool.

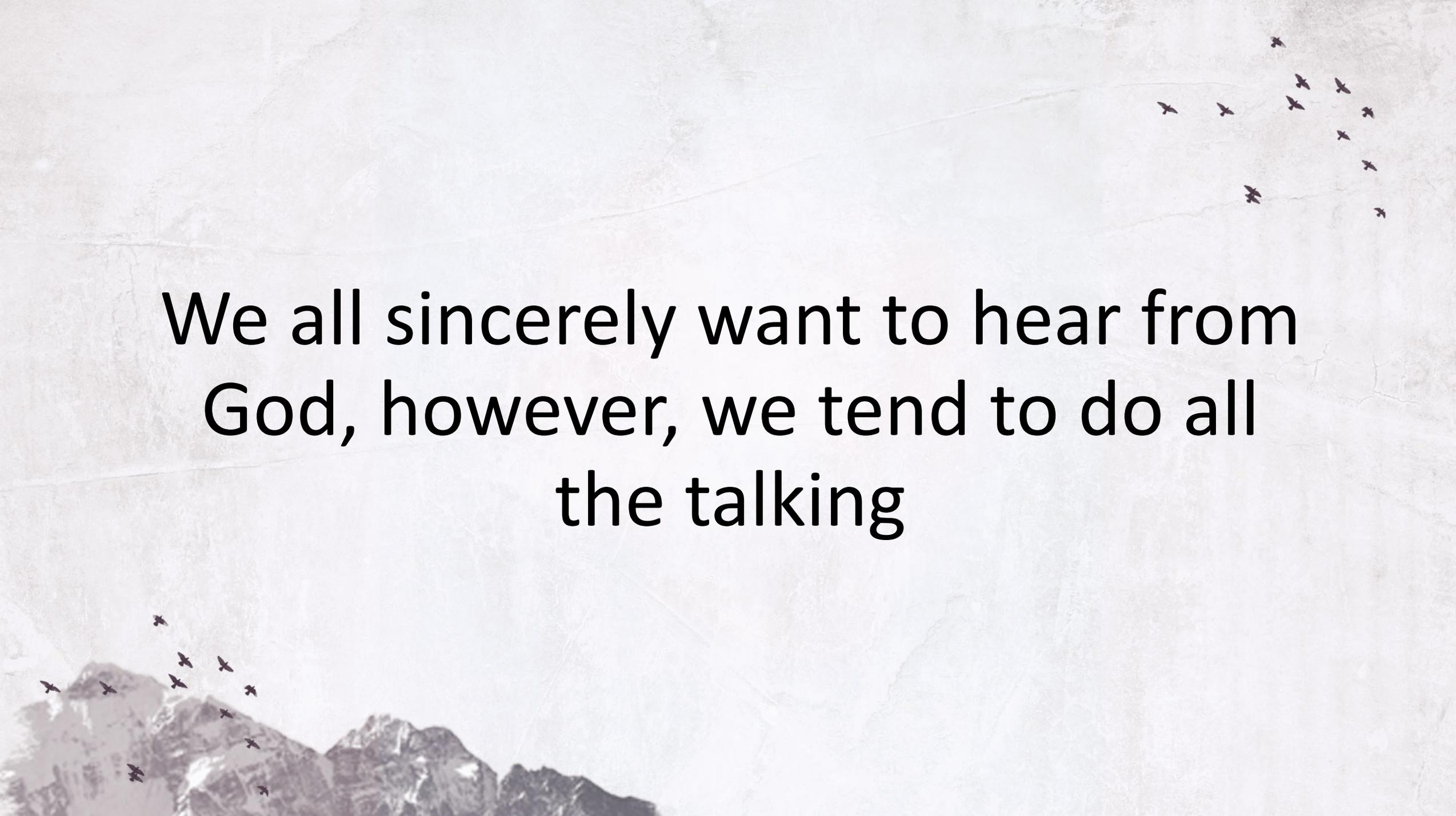


If God knows all, then we need
to say little

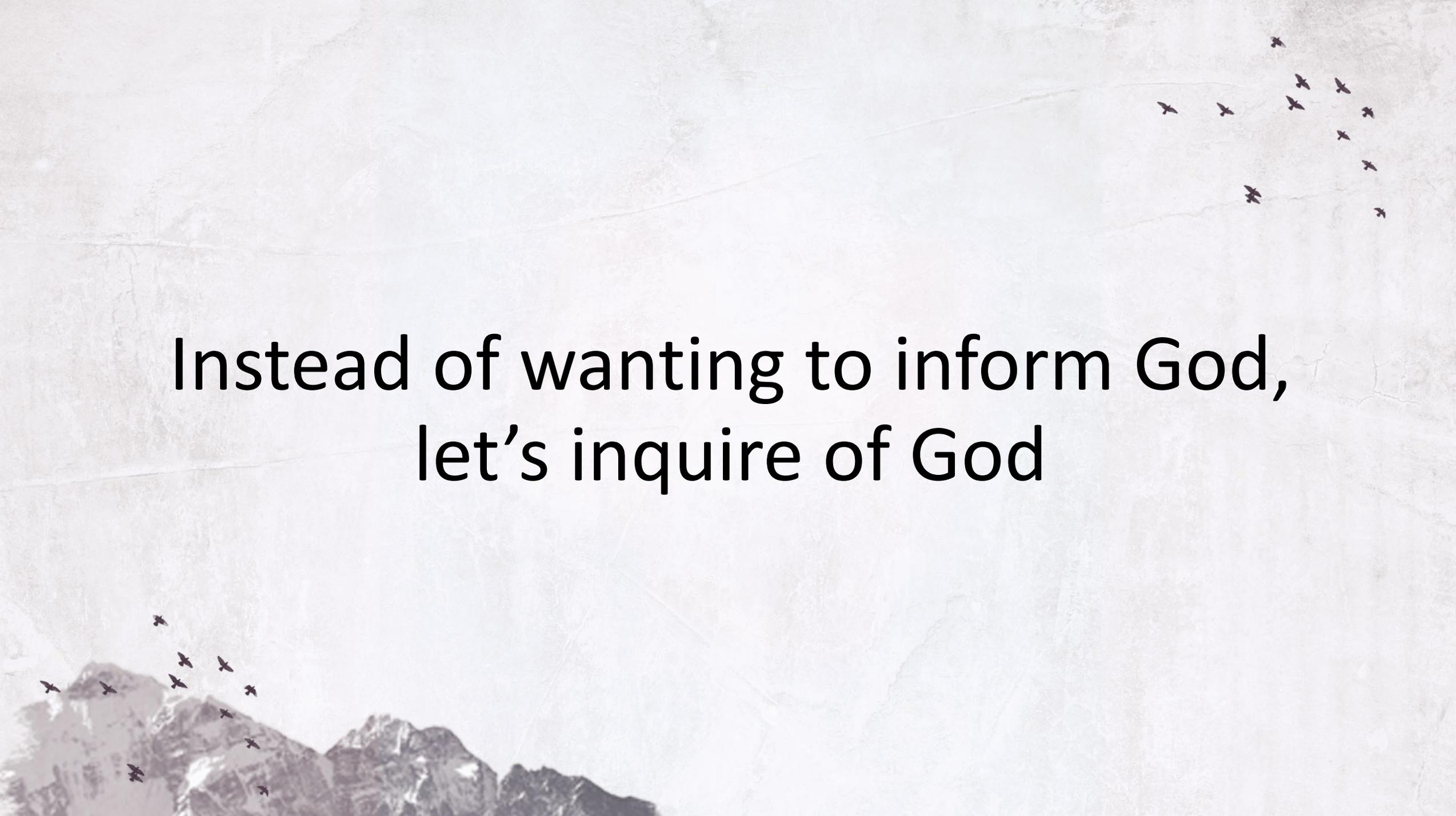
The background of the slide features a soft-focus, light-colored mountain range. The mountains are rendered in shades of pale beige and cream, with some darker, more detailed peaks visible in the lower-left corner. Scattered across the sky are numerous small, dark silhouettes of birds in flight, some appearing as simple 'x' marks and others as more detailed shapes with wings spread. The overall aesthetic is serene and minimalist.

Matthew 6:8

Your Father knows what you need
before you ask Him



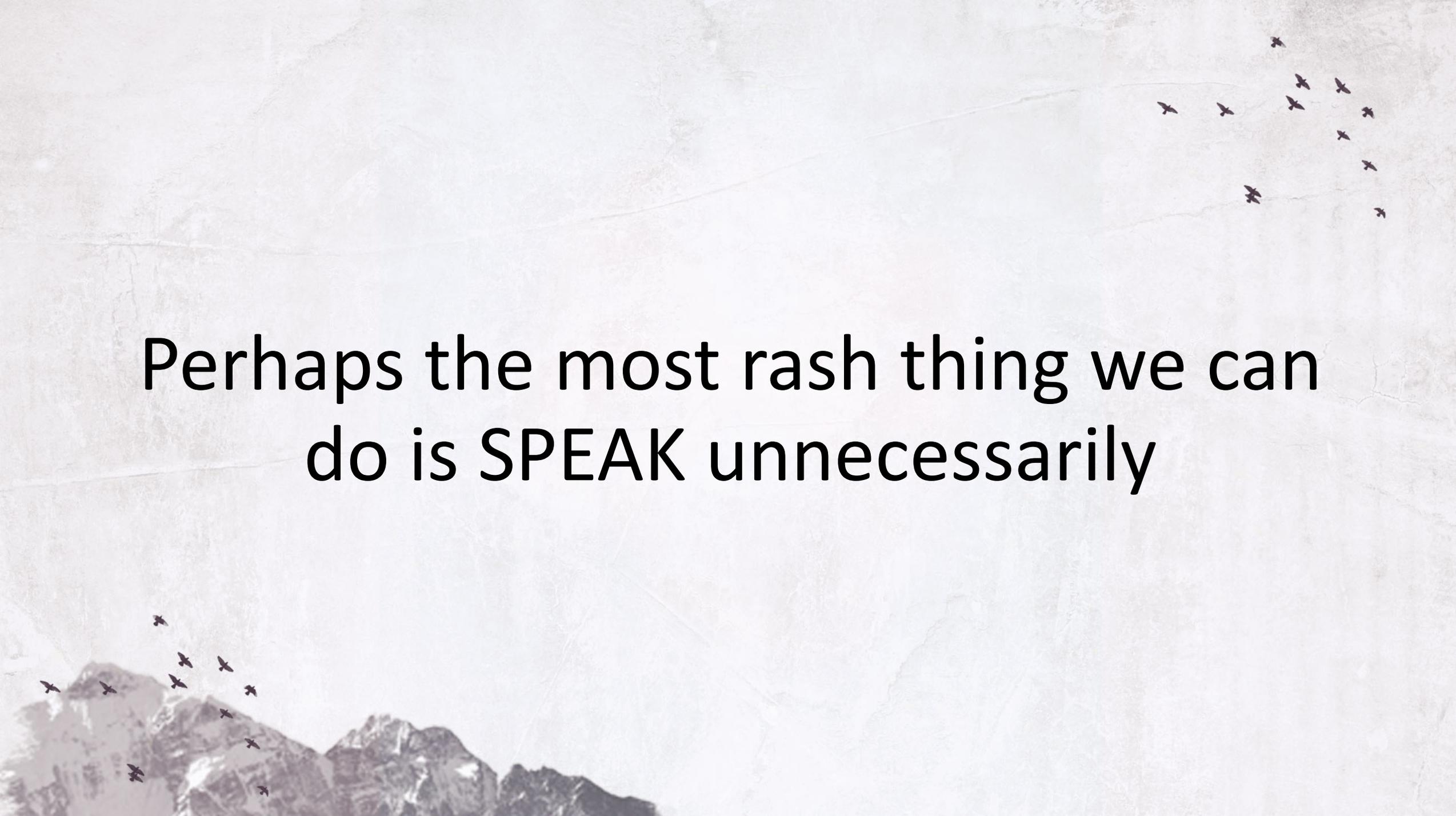
We all sincerely want to hear from
God, however, we tend to do all
the talking

The background features a soft-focus, light-colored mountain range with several birds in flight scattered across the sky. The birds are small, dark silhouettes, some appearing in small groups. The overall aesthetic is serene and ethereal.

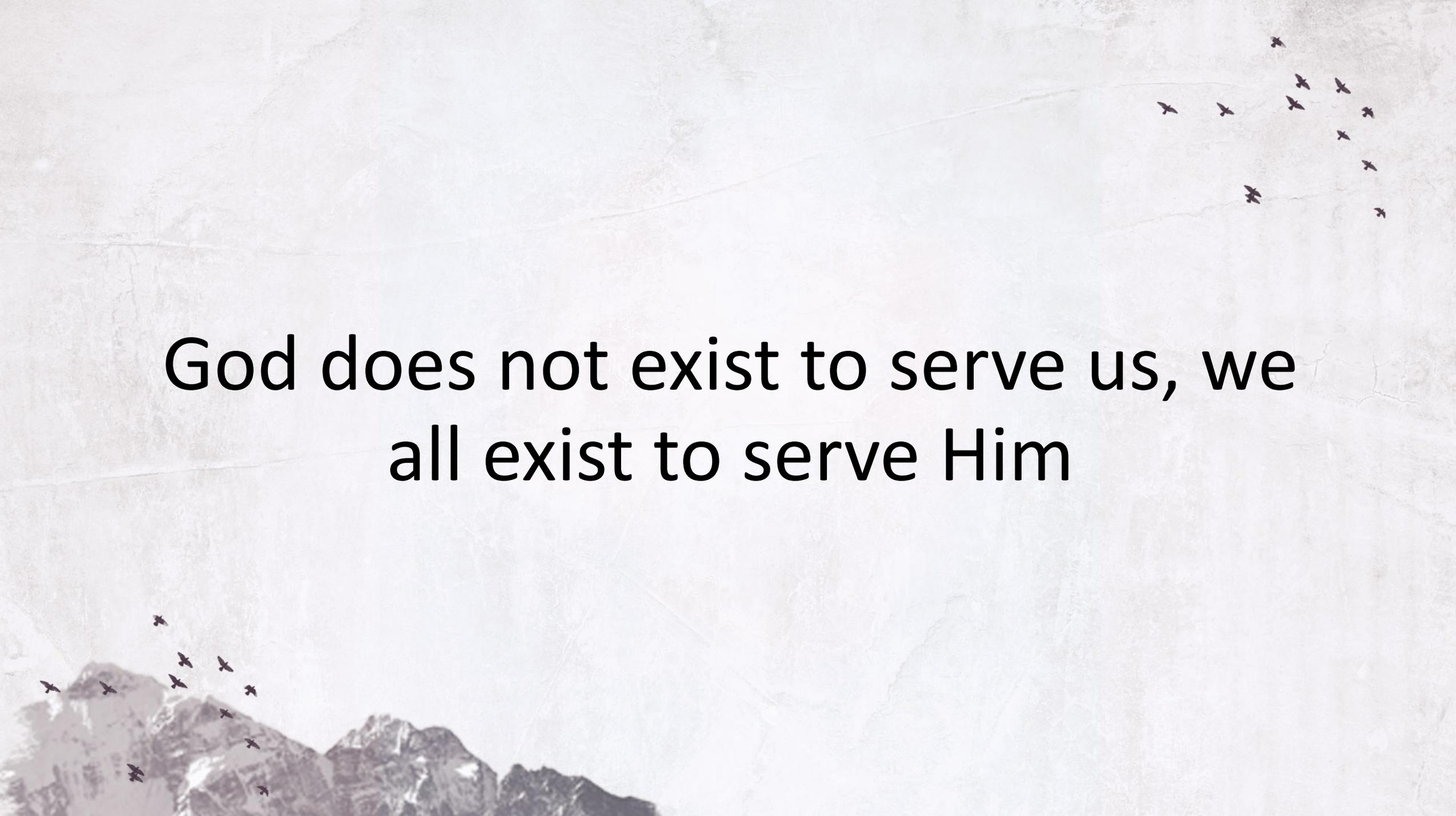
Instead of wanting to inform God,
let's inquire of God

1 Samuel 3:10

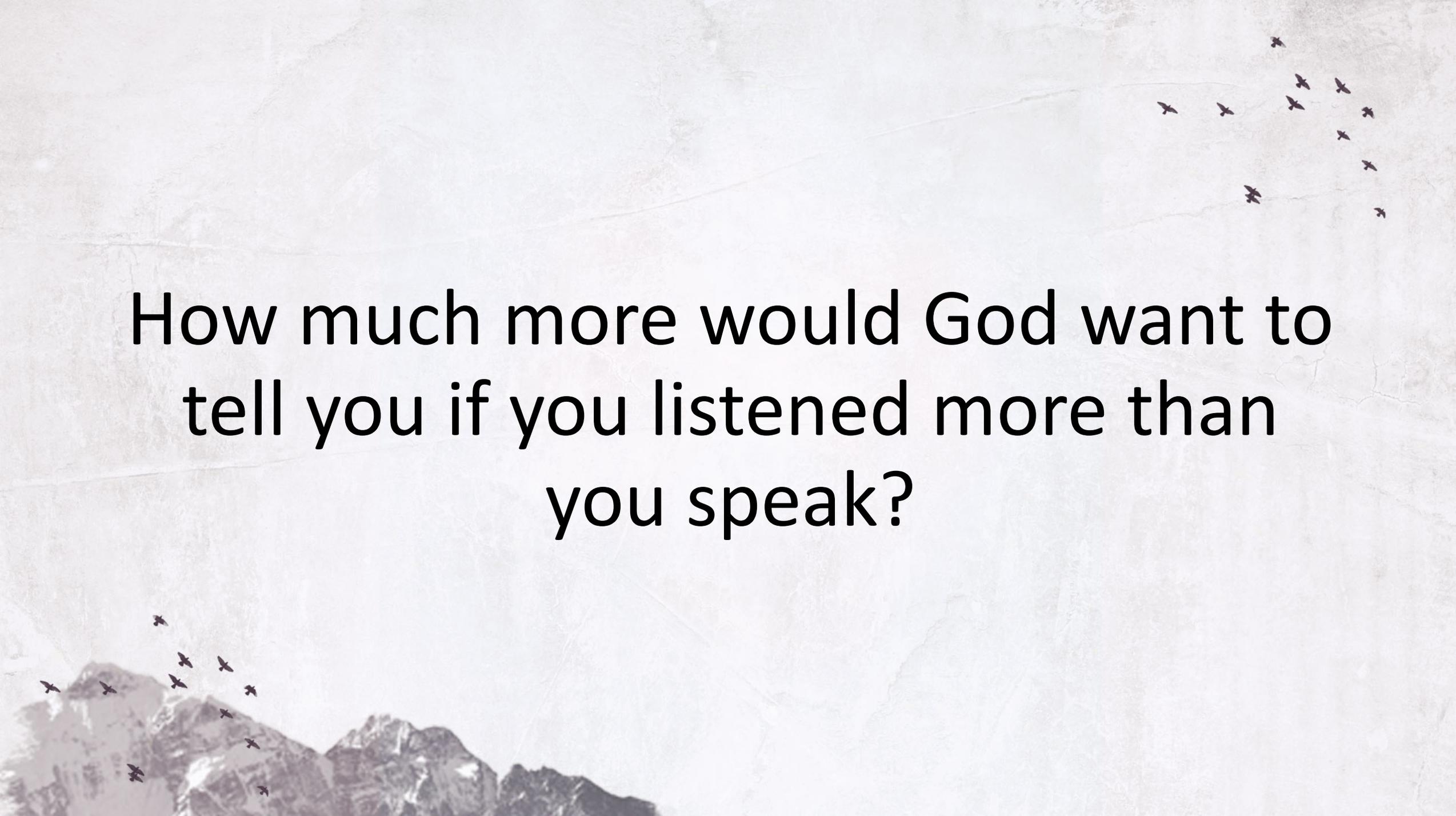
“Speak, your servant is listening”



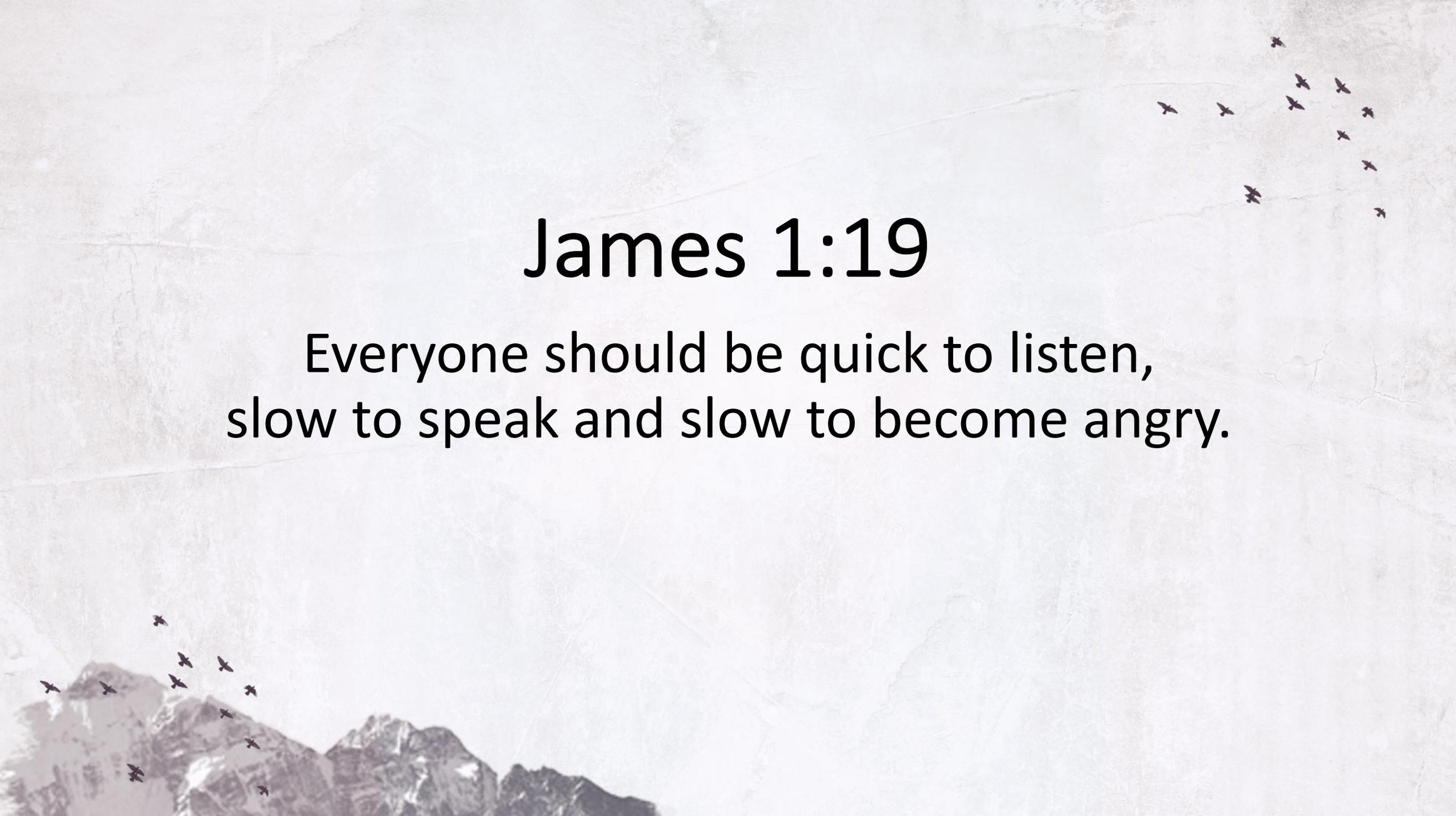
Perhaps the most rash thing we can
do is **SPEAK** unnecessarily

The background features a soft-focus, light-colored mountain range with several birds in flight scattered across the sky. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

God does not exist to serve us, we
all exist to serve Him

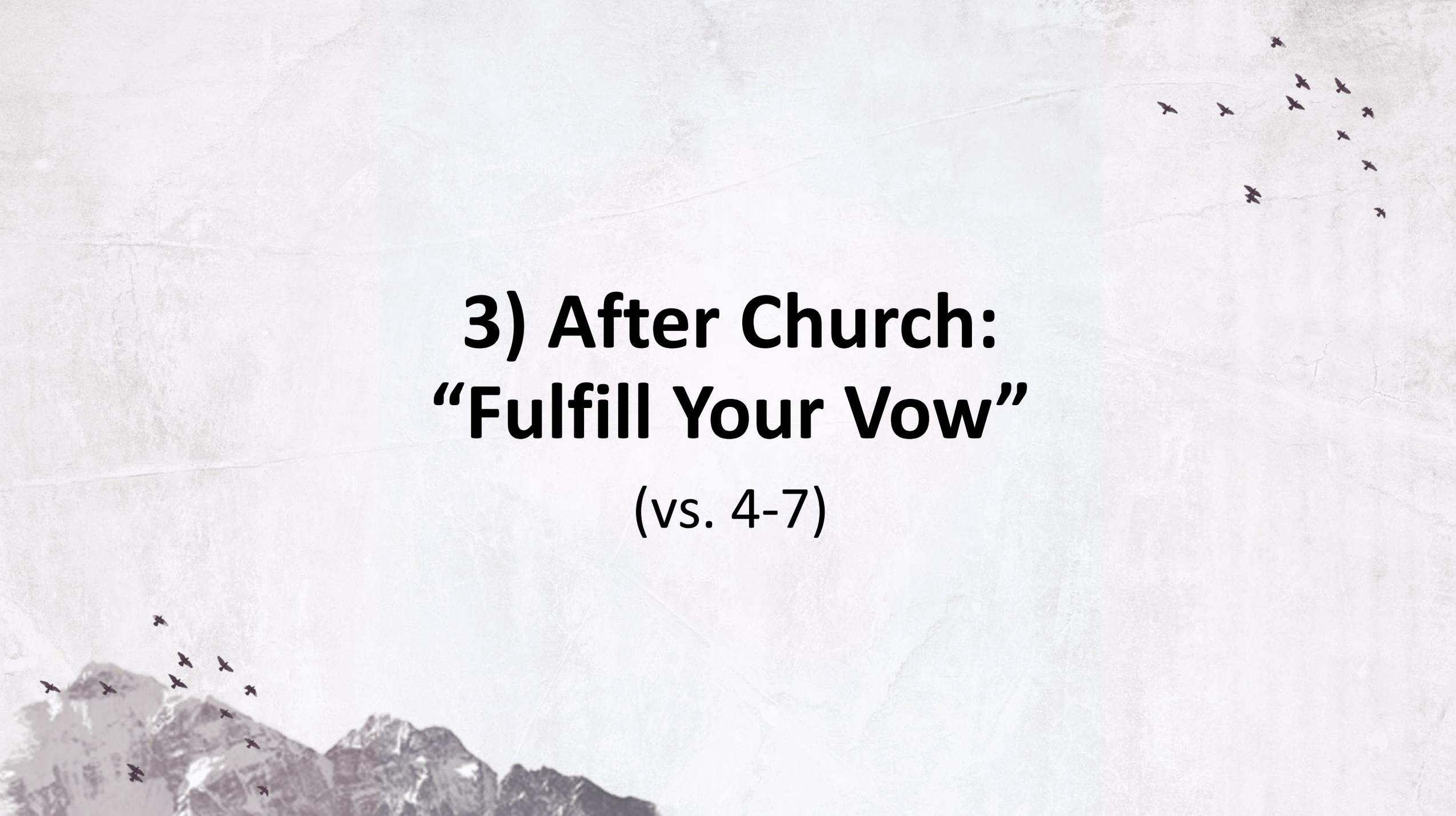
The background features a soft-focus landscape of a mountain range with snow-capped peaks. The sky is a pale, hazy blue, and several small, dark silhouettes of birds are scattered across it, some in flight and others perched on the mountain ridges. The overall tone is serene and contemplative.

How much more would God want to
tell you if you listened more than
you speak?

The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a piece of paper or parchment, with faint, stylized mountain ranges. In the upper right and lower left corners, there are clusters of small, dark bird silhouettes in flight, scattered across the sky.

James 1:19

Everyone should be quick to listen,
slow to speak and slow to become angry.

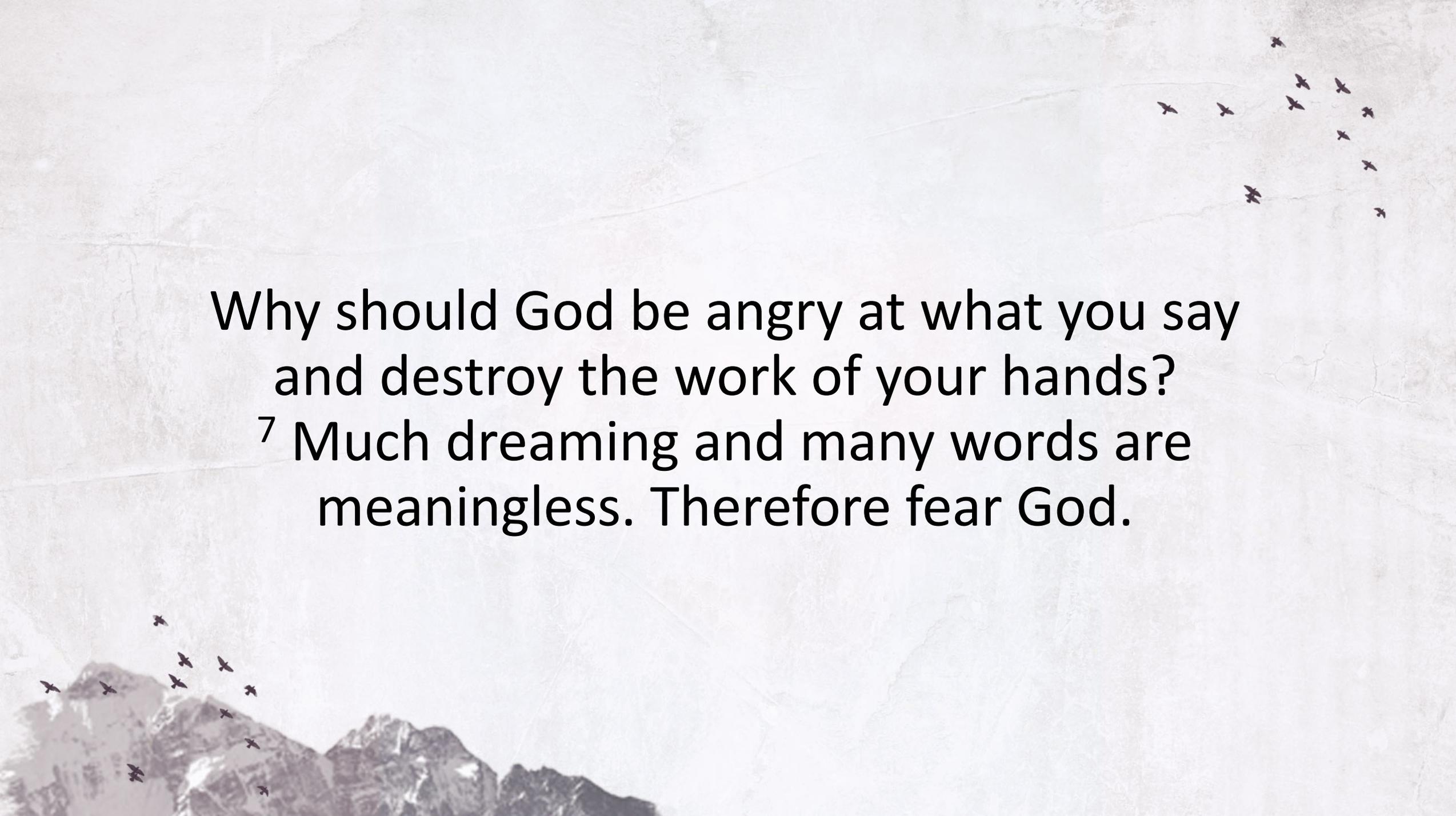
The background features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a map or a piece of paper, with a faint mountain range visible at the bottom. A flock of birds is scattered across the upper right and lower left portions of the image.

3) After Church: “Fulfill Your Vow”

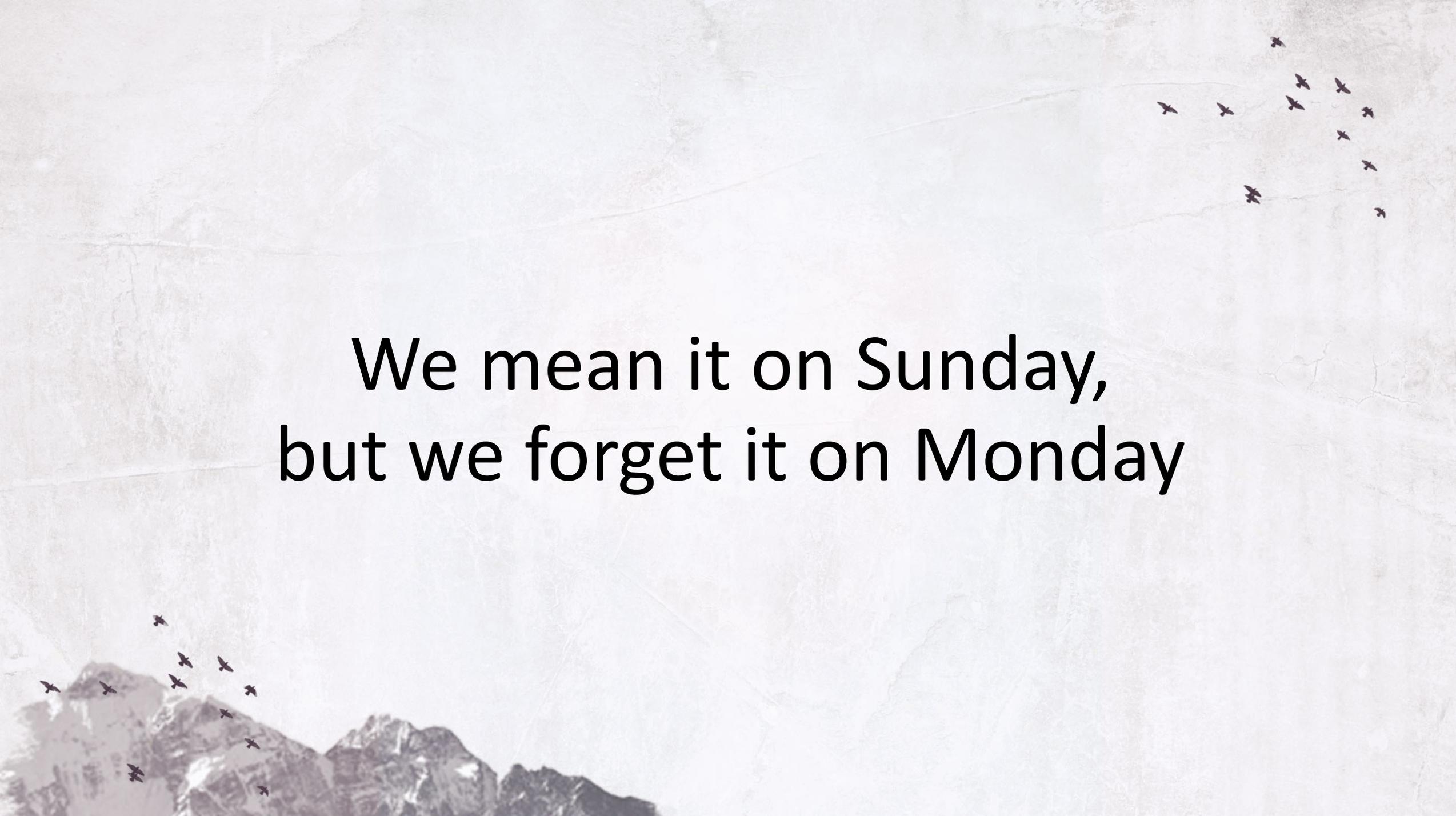
(vs. 4-7)

Ecclesiastes 5:4-7

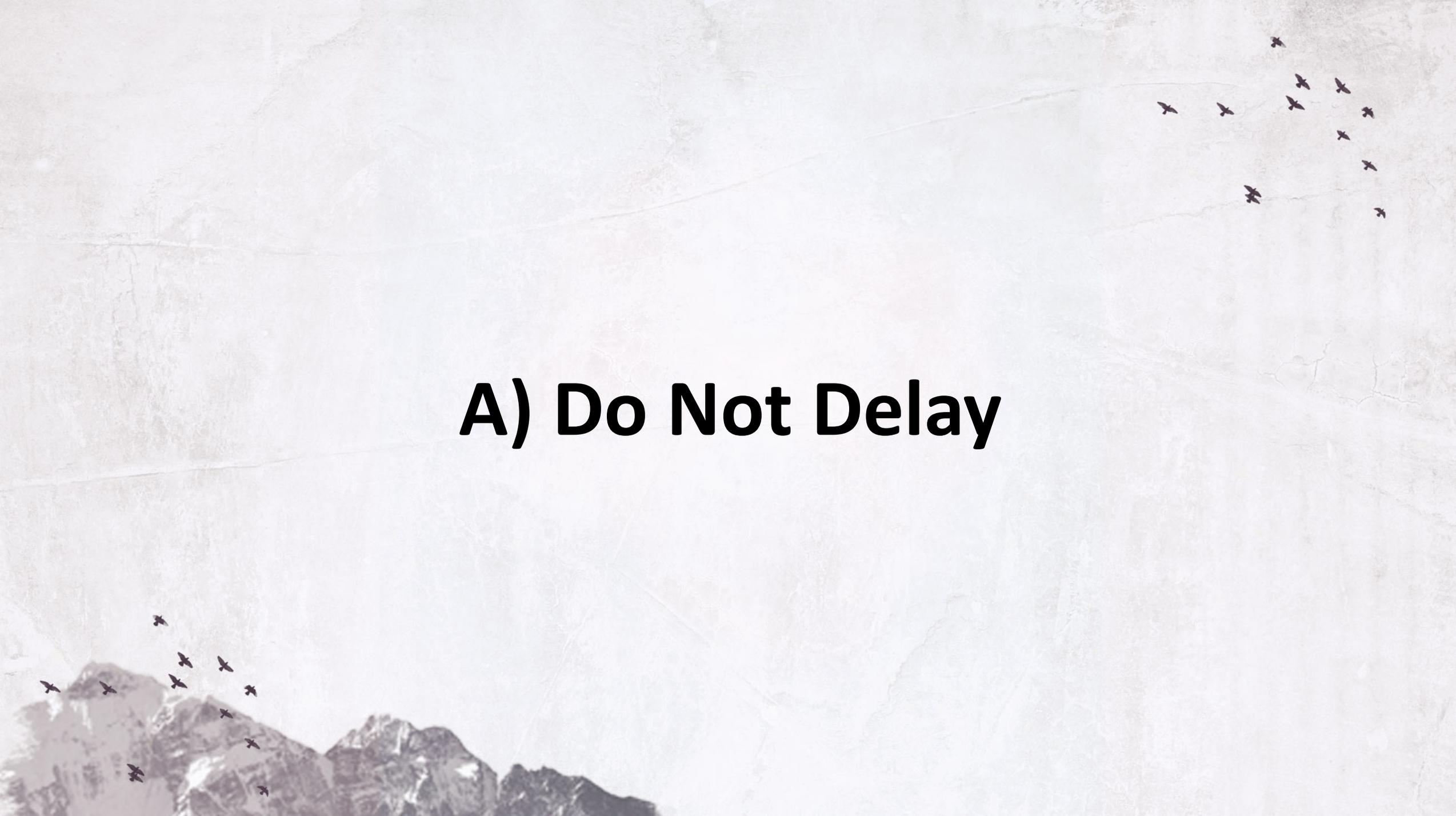
⁴ When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. ⁵ It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it. ⁶ Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, “My vow was a mistake.”



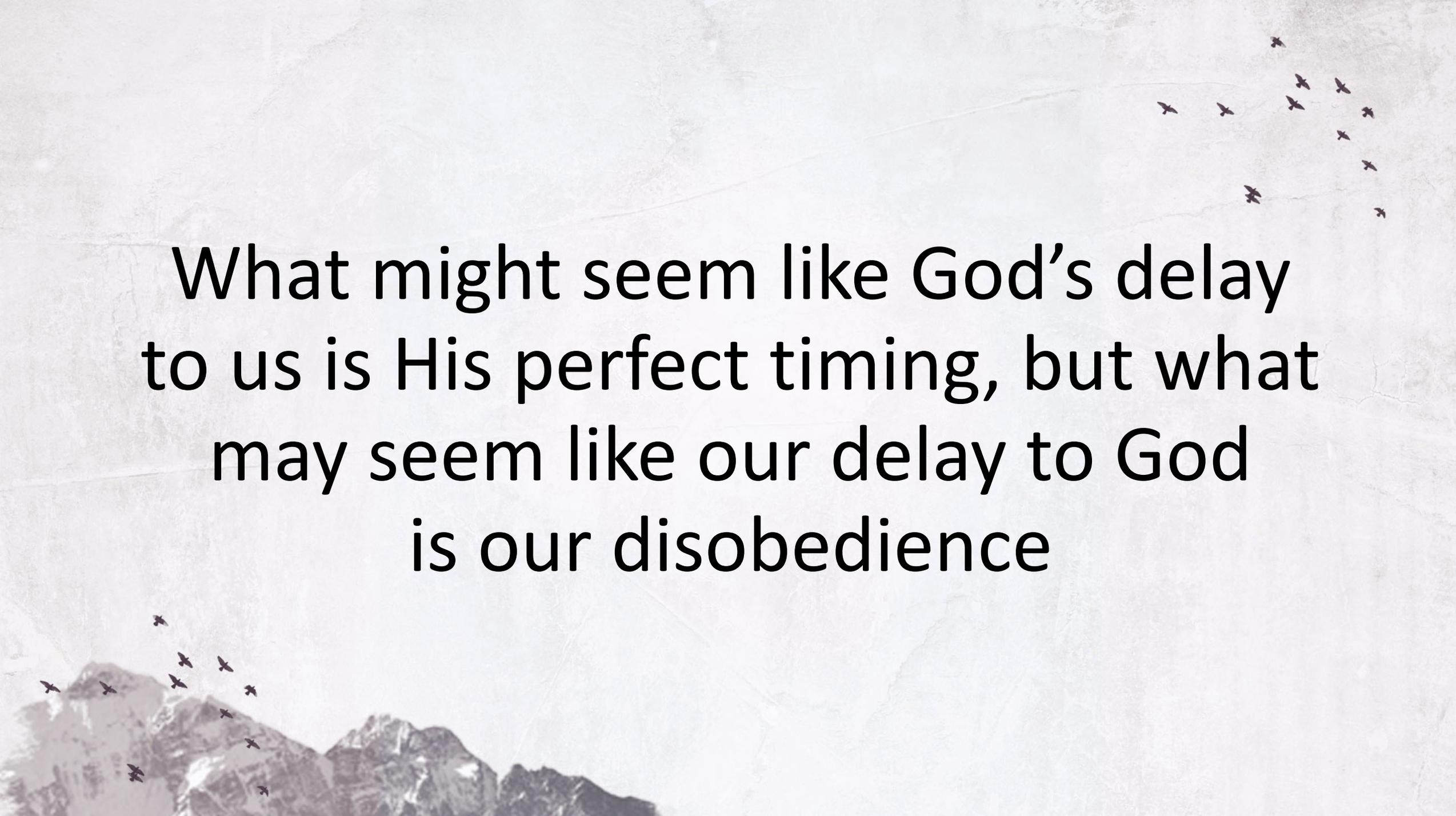
Why should God be angry at what you say
and destroy the work of your hands?
⁷ Much dreaming and many words are
meaningless. Therefore fear God.



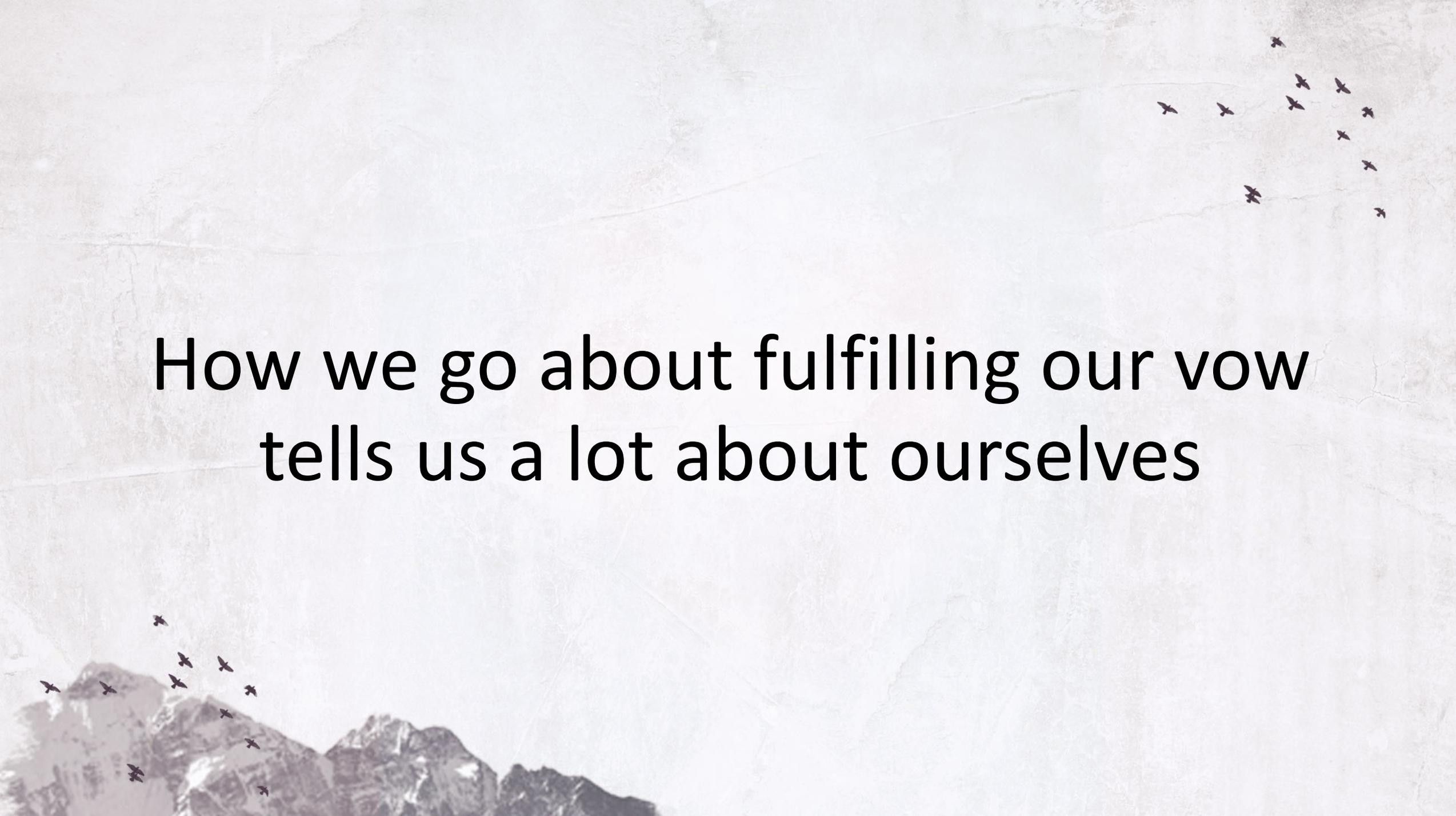
We mean it on Sunday,
but we forget it on Monday

A flock of approximately 15 birds is flying across a vast, light-colored, textured sky. The birds are scattered across the upper and lower portions of the frame. In the bottom left corner, a range of dark, jagged mountains is visible, partially obscured by the birds. The overall scene is a wide, open landscape with a soft, hazy atmosphere.

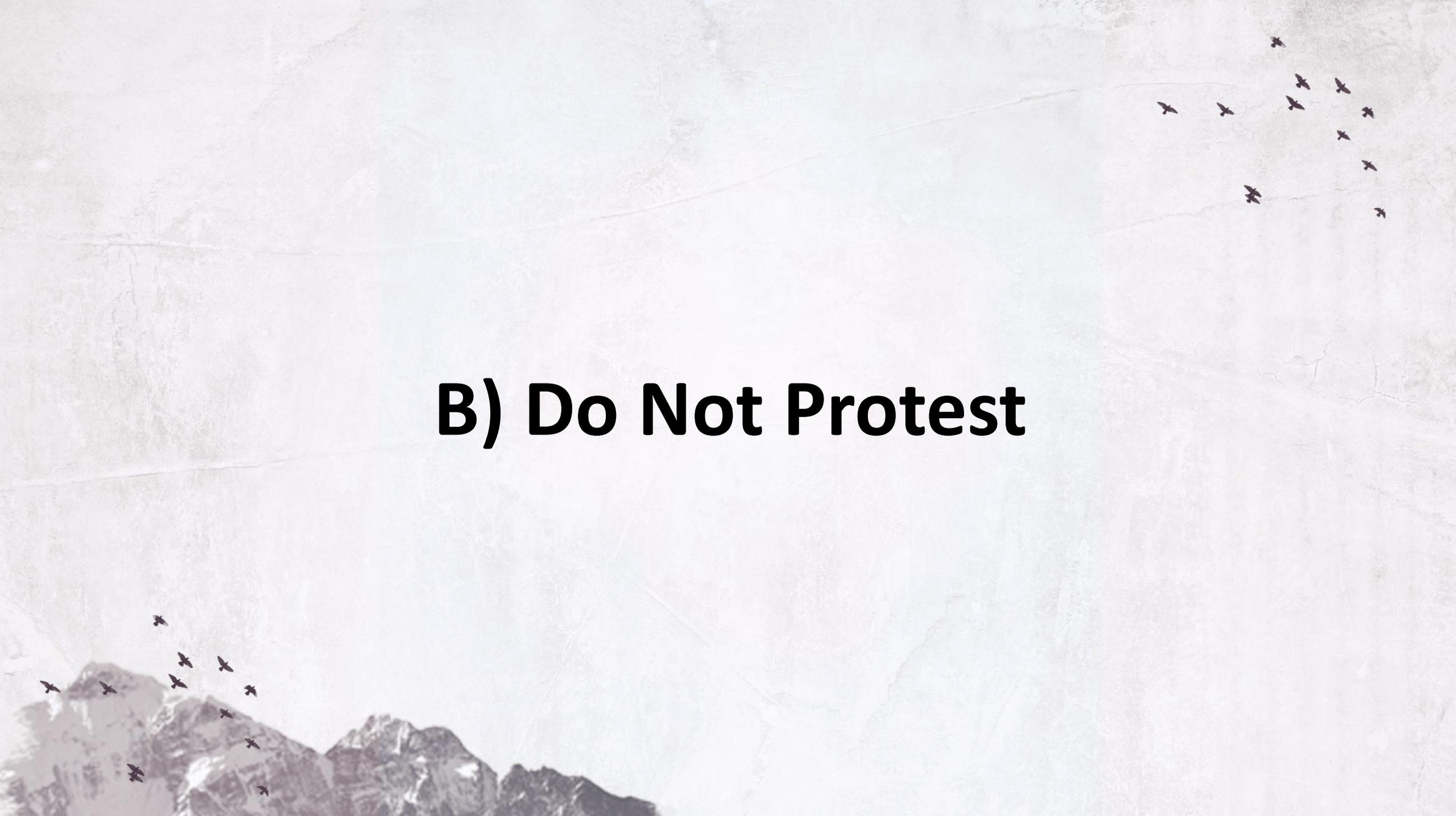
A) Do Not Delay

The background features a soft-focus landscape of snow-capped mountains under a pale sky. Numerous small, dark silhouettes of birds are scattered across the sky, some appearing to fly in a loose formation. The overall aesthetic is serene and contemplative.

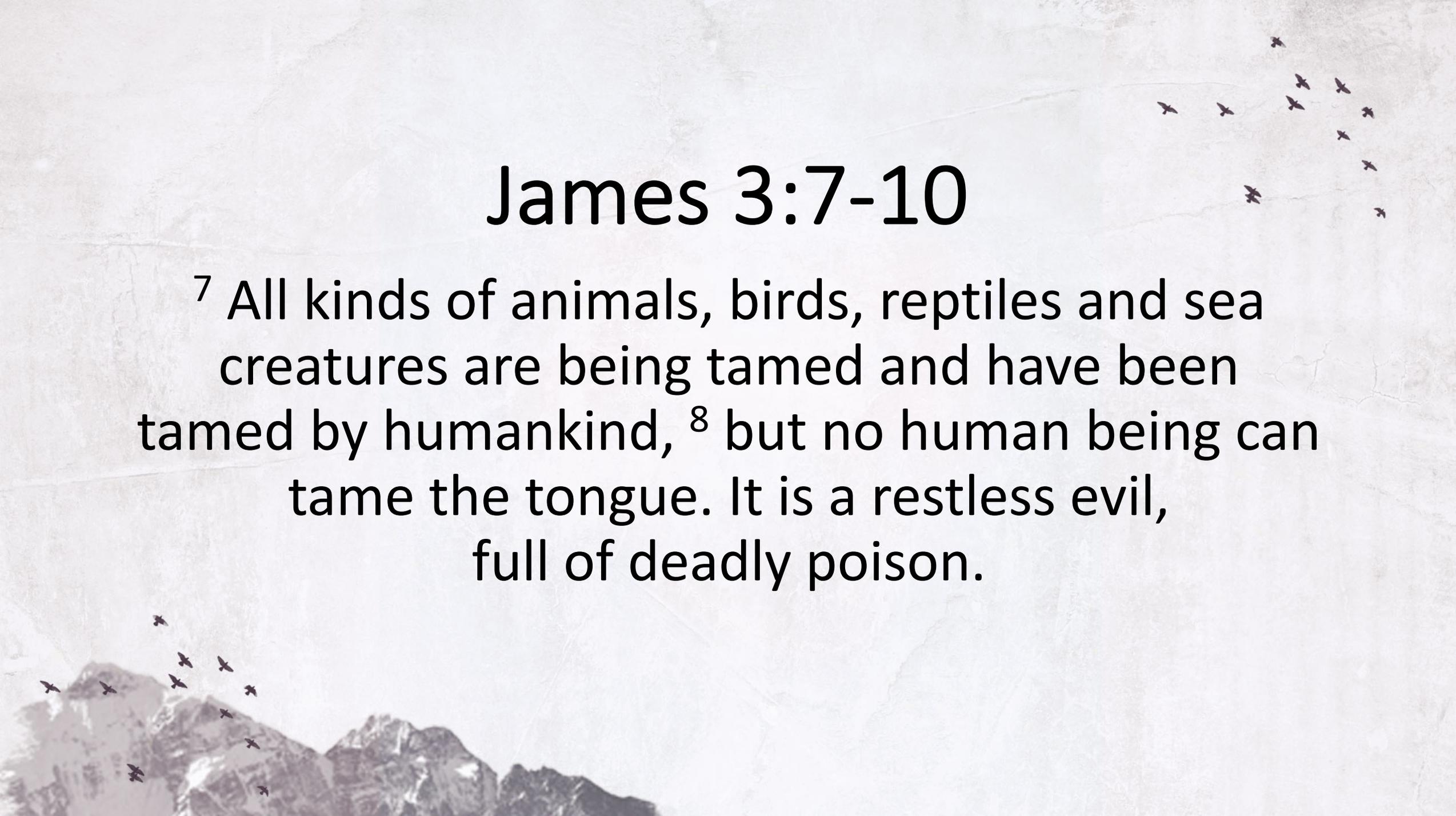
What might seem like God's delay
to us is His perfect timing, but what
may seem like our delay to God
is our disobedience



How we go about fulfilling our vow
tells us a lot about ourselves

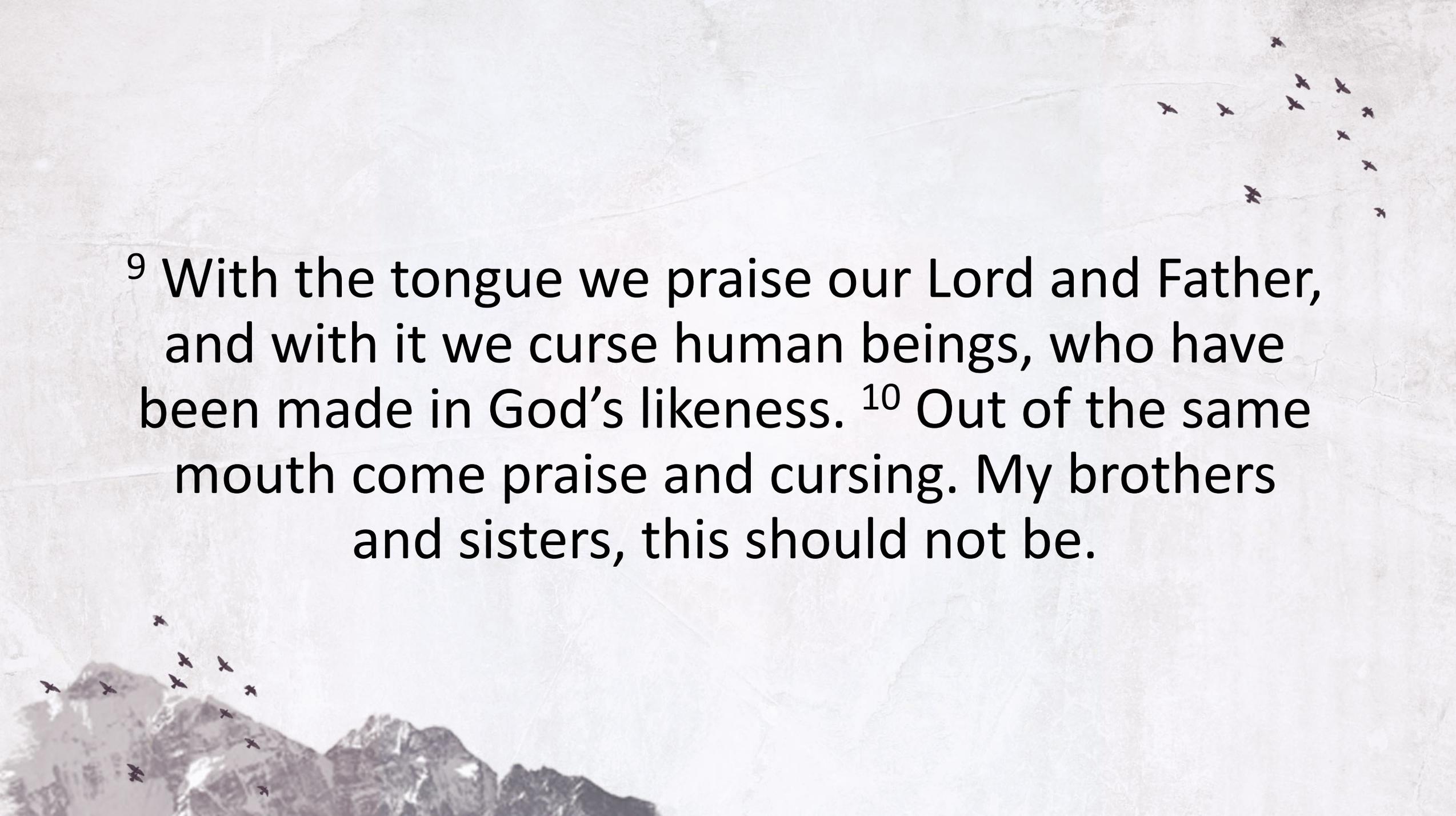
The background of the image is a light, textured surface, possibly a piece of paper or a wall, with a subtle, warm-toned gradient. In the lower-left corner, there is a dark, jagged silhouette of a mountain range. A flock of approximately 15-20 small, dark birds is scattered across the sky, with some flying near the mountains and others higher up in the upper right quadrant.

B) Do Not Protest

The background of the slide features a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a map or a parchment-like texture. In the upper right and lower left corners, there are faint, stylized illustrations of birds in flight, scattered across the sky. The overall aesthetic is clean and minimalist.

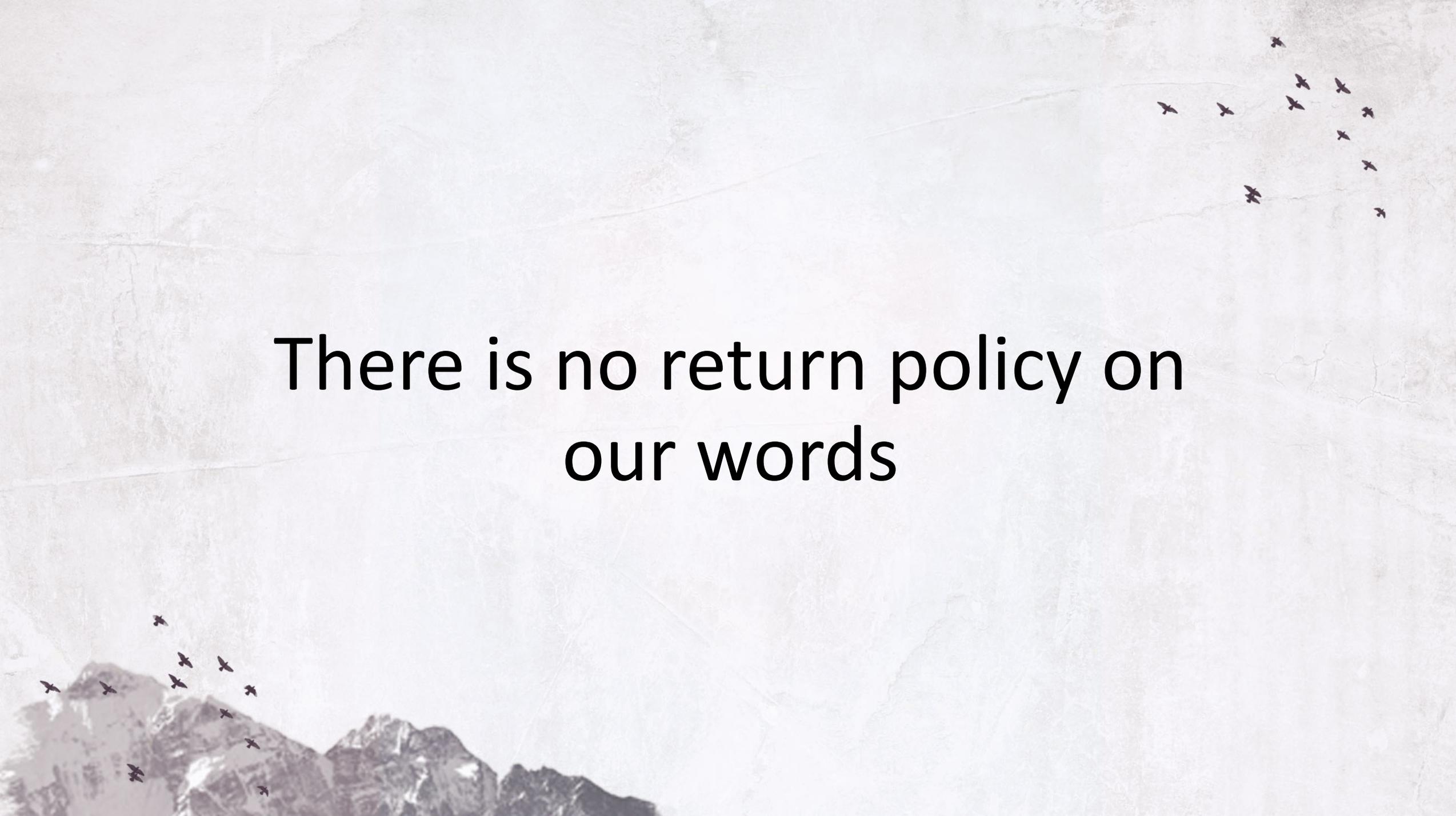
James 3:7-10

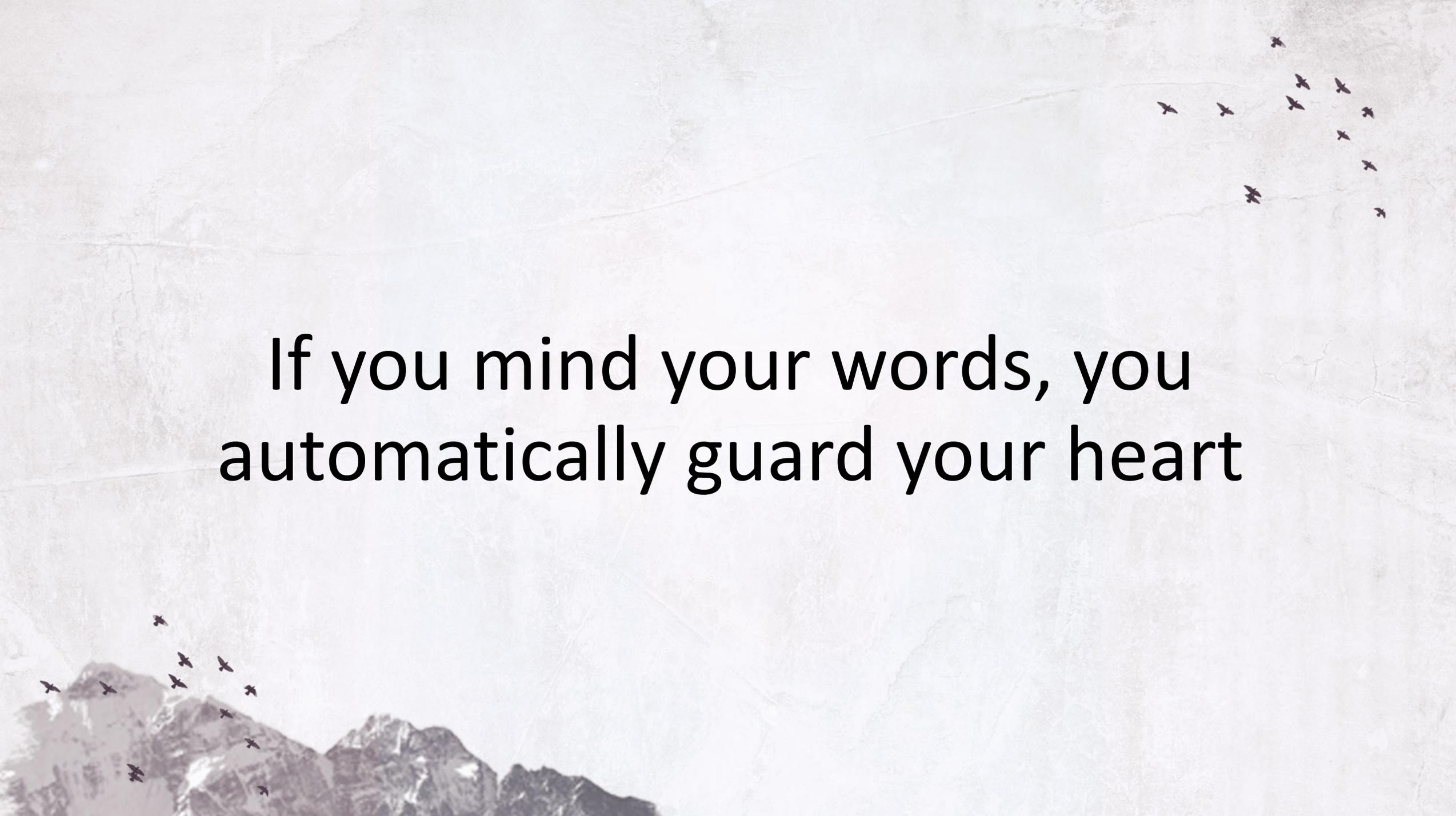
⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by humankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

The background features a soft-focus landscape of rugged mountains under a pale, overcast sky. Numerous small, dark silhouettes of birds are scattered across the sky, some in flight and others perched on the mountain peaks. The overall tone is muted and atmospheric.

⁹ With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father,
and with it we curse human beings, who have
been made in God's likeness. ¹⁰ Out of the same
mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers
and sisters, this should not be.

There is no return policy on
our words

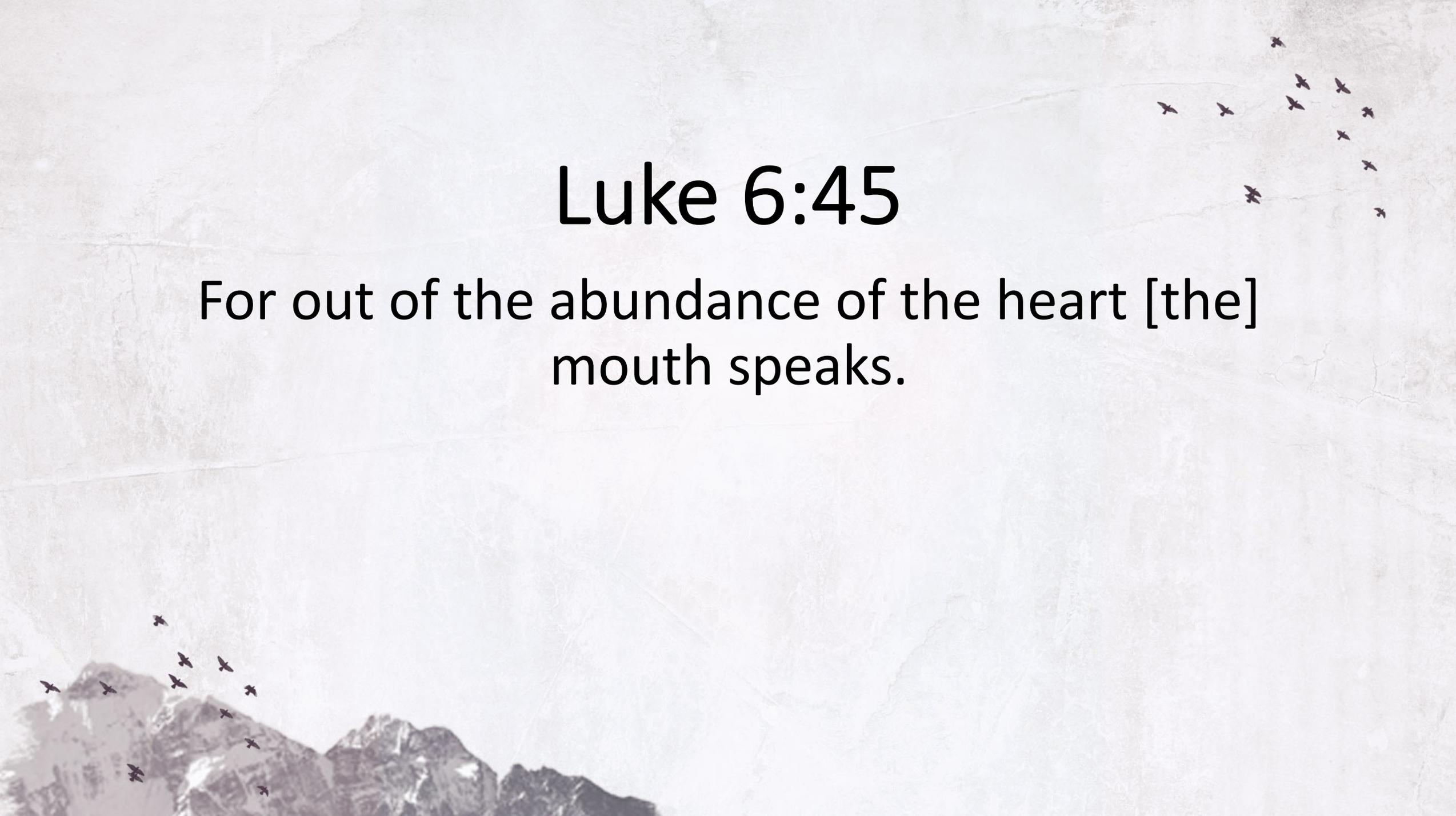




If you mind your words, you
automatically guard your heart

Luke 6:45

For out of the abundance of the heart [the] mouth speaks.





ECCLESIASTES

MEANINGLESS OR MISSIONAL?