

OVERCOMING COMPLACENCY

A six week study of Malachi

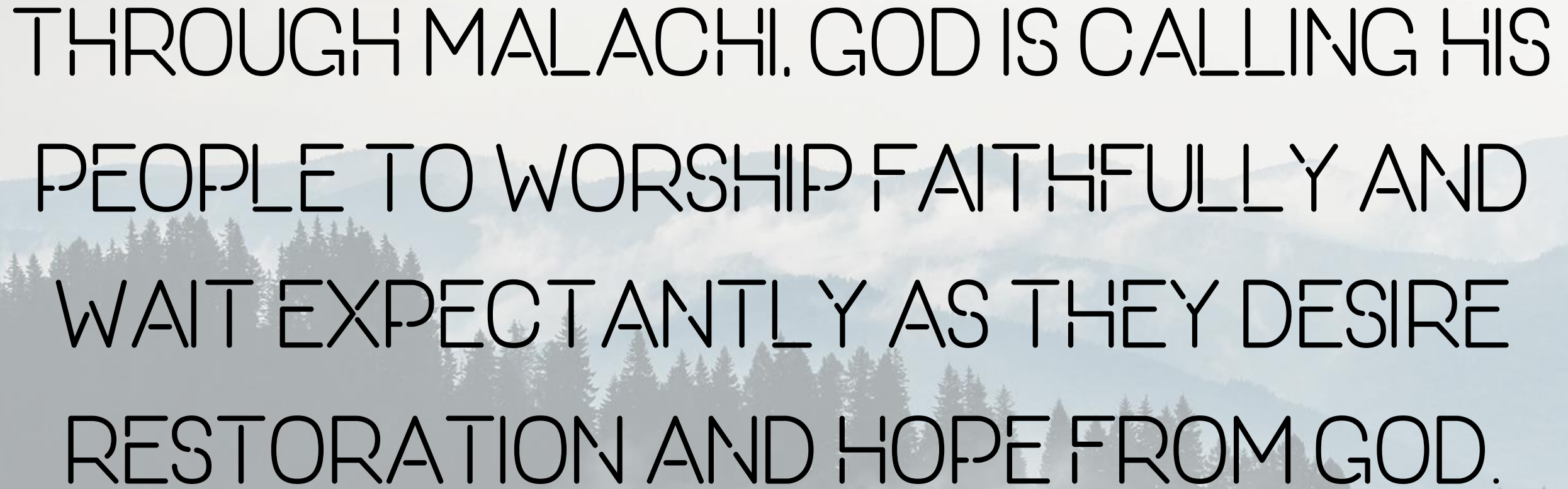


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HONOR GOD'S NAME

MALACHI 1:6 - 2:9

A misty mountain landscape with evergreen trees and rolling hills. The text is overlaid on this background.

THROUGH MALACHI, GOD IS CALLING HIS
PEOPLE TO WORSHIP FAITHFULLY AND
WAIT EXPECTANTLY AS THEY DESIRE
RESTORATION AND HOPE FROM GOD.

⁶"A son honors his father, and a servant his master. But if I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is your fear of me? says the LORD of Armies to you priests, who despise my name."

Yet you ask: "How have we despised your name?"

⁷"By presenting defiled food on my altar." "How have we defiled you?" you ask. When you say: "The LORD's table is contemptible."

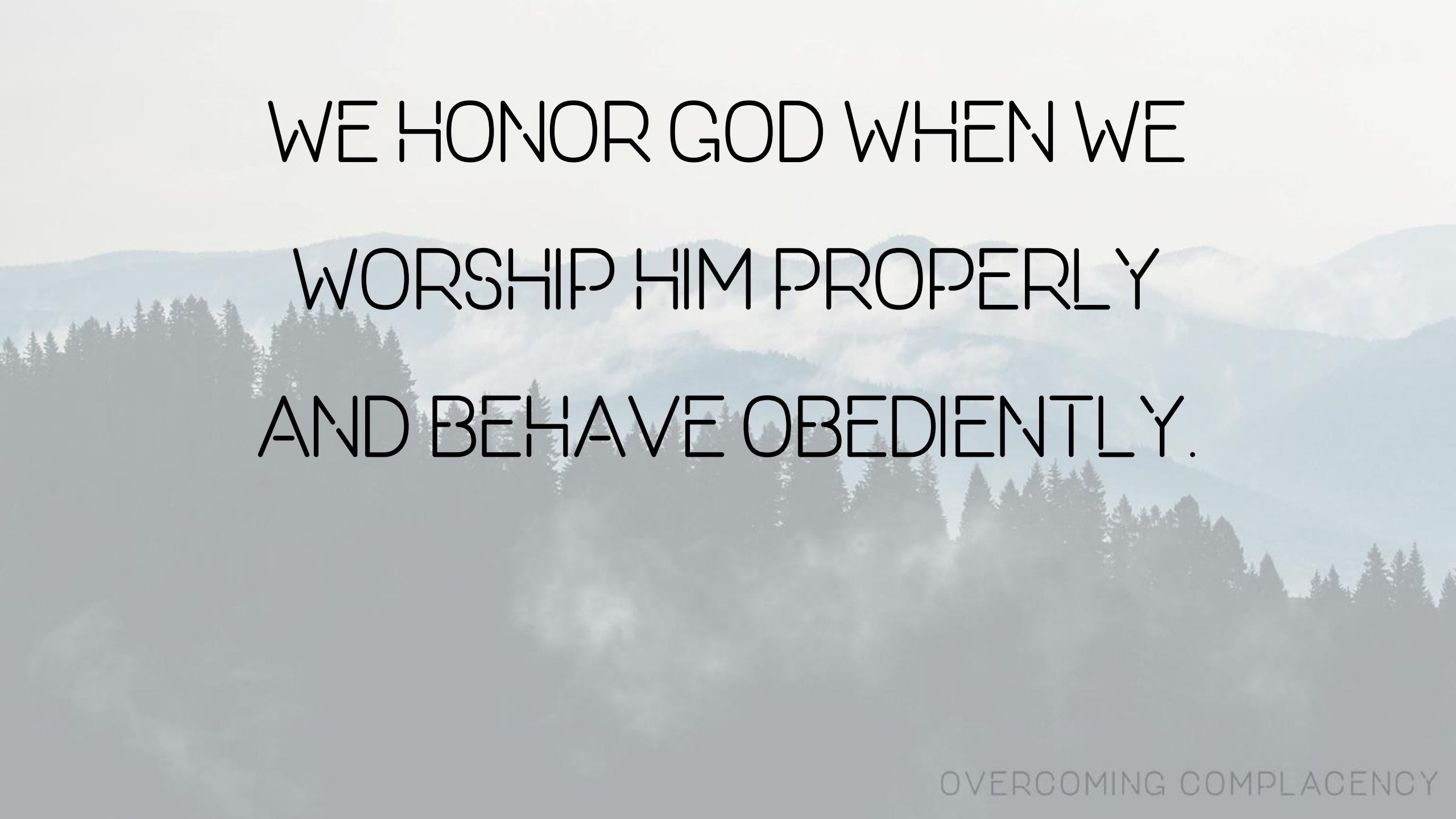
8" When you present a blind animal for sacrifice, is it not wrong? And when you present a lame or sick animal, is it not wrong? Bring it to your governor! Would he be pleased with you or show you favor?" asks the LORD of Armies. 9" And now plead for God's favor. Will he be gracious to us? Since this has come from your hands, will he show any of you favor?" asks the LORD of Armies.

¹⁰"I wish one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would no longer kindle a useless fire on my altar! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD of Armies, "and I will accept no offering from your hands. ¹¹"My name will be great among the nations, from the rising of the sun to its setting. Incense and pure offerings will be presented in my name in every place because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD of Armies.

12" But you are profaning it when you say: 'The Lord's table is defiled, and its product, its food, is contemptible.' 13 You also say: 'Look, what a nuisance!?' And you scorn it," says the LORD of Armies. "You bring stolen, lame, or sick animals. You bring this as an offering! Am I to accept that from your hands?" asks the LORD.

¹⁴"The deceiver is cursed who has an acceptable male in his flock and makes a vow but sacrifices a defective animal to the Lord. For I am a great King," says the LORD of Armies, "and my name will be feared among the nations.

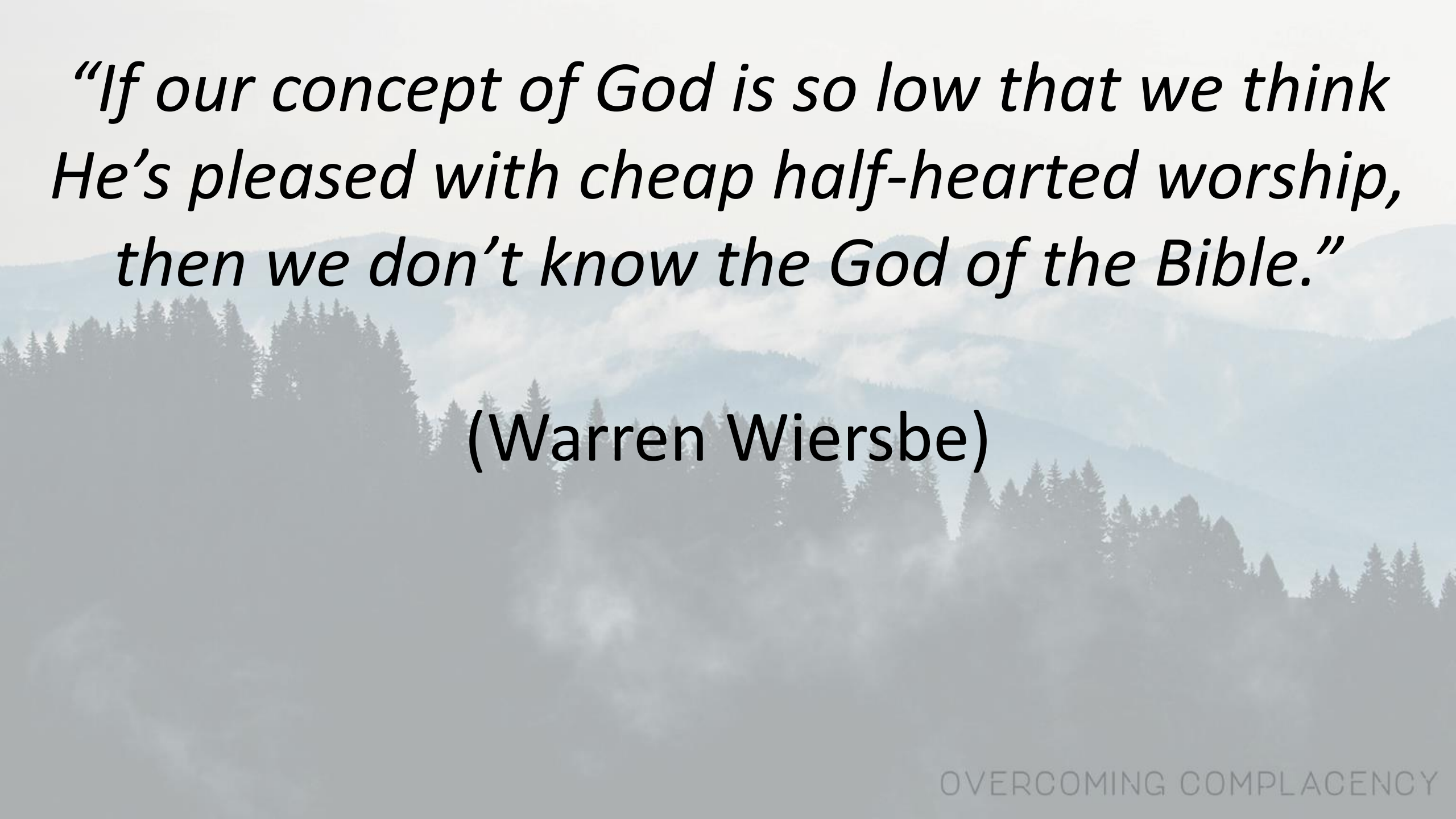
Malachi 1:6-14 (CSB)



WE HONOR GOD WHEN WE
WORSHIP HIM PROPERLY
AND BEHAVE OBEDIENTLY.

A misty mountain landscape with evergreen trees and rolling hills. The scene is hazy, with soft light filtering through the clouds and mist. The mountains are layered, creating a sense of depth. The evergreen trees are dark against the lighter background. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

THE VALUE OF OUR GIFTS
ARE DETERMINED BY
THE CONDITION OF OUR HEARTS.



“If our concept of God is so low that we think He’s pleased with cheap half-hearted worship, then we don’t know the God of the Bible.”

(Warren Wiersbe)

¹"Therefore, this decree is for you priests: ²If you don't listen, and if you don't take it to heart to honor my name," says the LORD of Armies, "I will send a curse among you, and I will curse your blessings. In fact, I have already begun to curse them because you are not taking it to heart.

³"Look, I am going to rebuke your descendants, and I will spread animal waste over your faces, the waste from your festival sacrifices, and you will be taken away with it.

⁴Then you will know that I sent you this decree, so that my covenant with Levi may continue," says the LORD of Armies. ⁵"My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave these to him; it called for reverence, and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. ⁶True instruction was in his mouth, and nothing wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and integrity and turned many from iniquity.

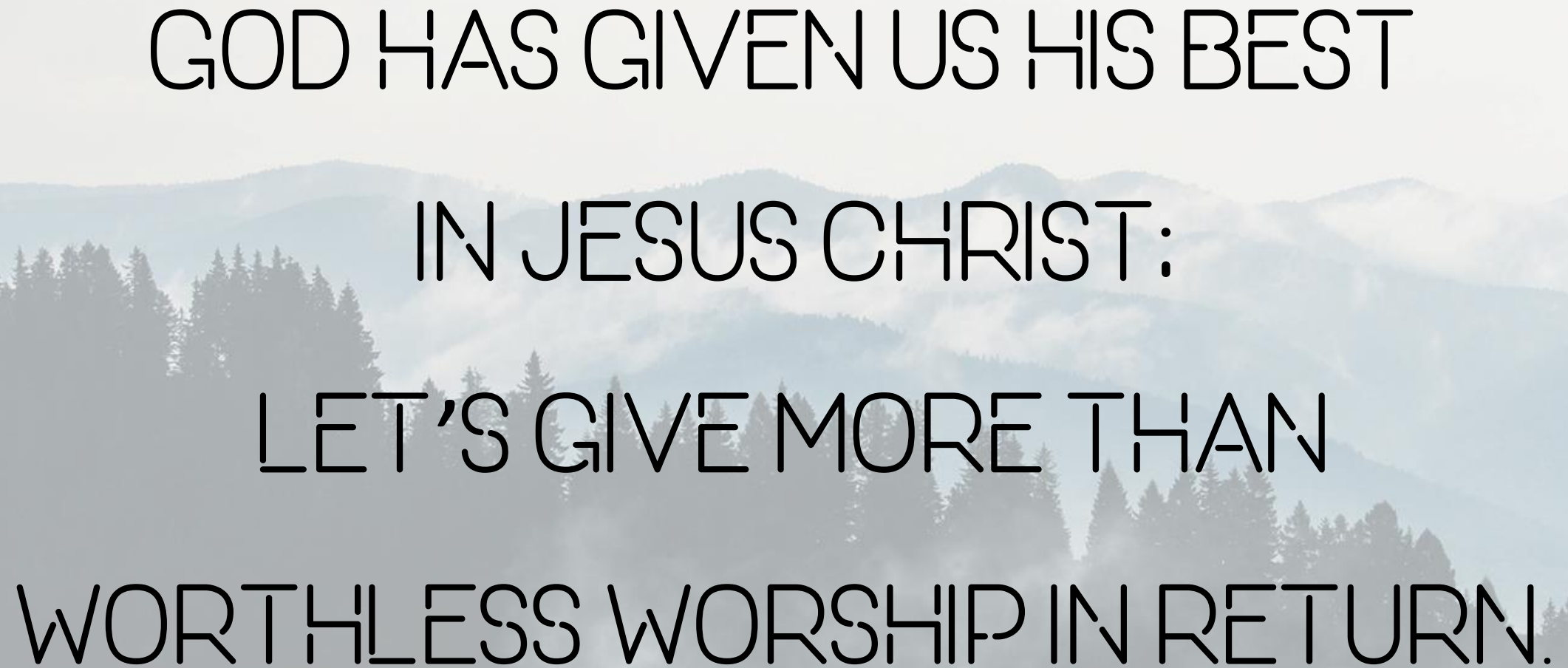
⁷For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should desire instruction from his mouth, because he is the messenger of the LORD of Armies. ⁸"You, on the other hand, have turned from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have violated the covenant of Levi," says the LORD of Armies.

⁹"So I in turn have made you despised and humiliated before all the people because you are not keeping my ways but are showing partiality in your instruction."

Malachi 2:1-9 (CSB)

A misty mountain landscape with evergreen trees and rolling hills. The text is overlaid on this background.

WE TEACH WITH OUR WORDS.
BUT WE TEACH MORE DYNAMICALLY
WITH OUR LIVES.



GOD HAS GIVEN US HIS BEST
IN JESUS CHRIST:
LET'S GIVE MORE THAN
WORTHLESS WORSHIP IN RETURN.

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