

The Discipline of Worship

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale
The Gathering
Ray of Hope Christian Church
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Psalm 95:1-7

Psalm 95:6-7a

Come let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our
Maker; for he is our GOD and we
are the people of his pasture, the
flock under his care.

1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)

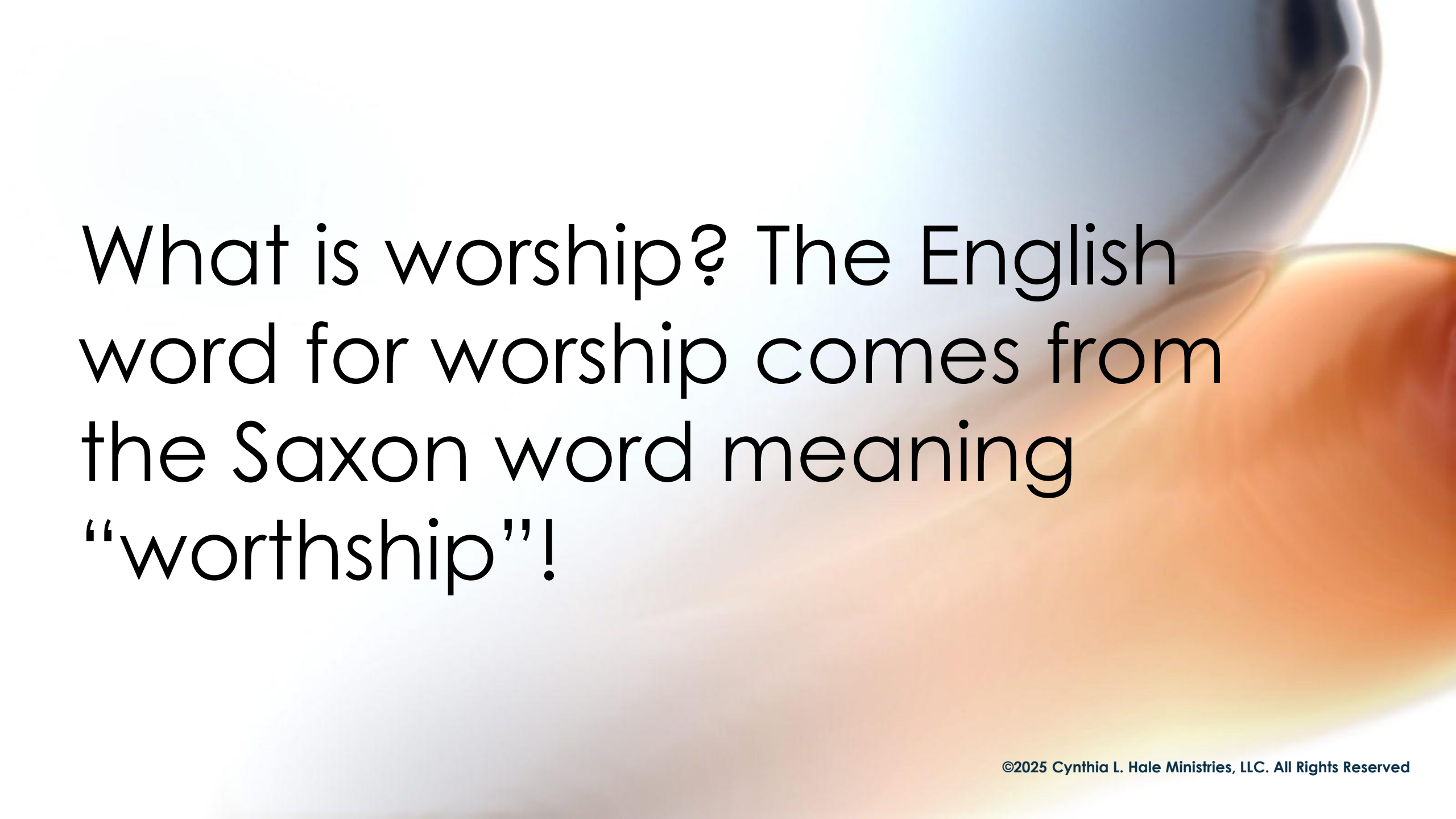
Discipline yourself for the purpose
of godliness!



The Spiritual Discipline of Worship



Worship requires a balanced approach of both desire and discipline.



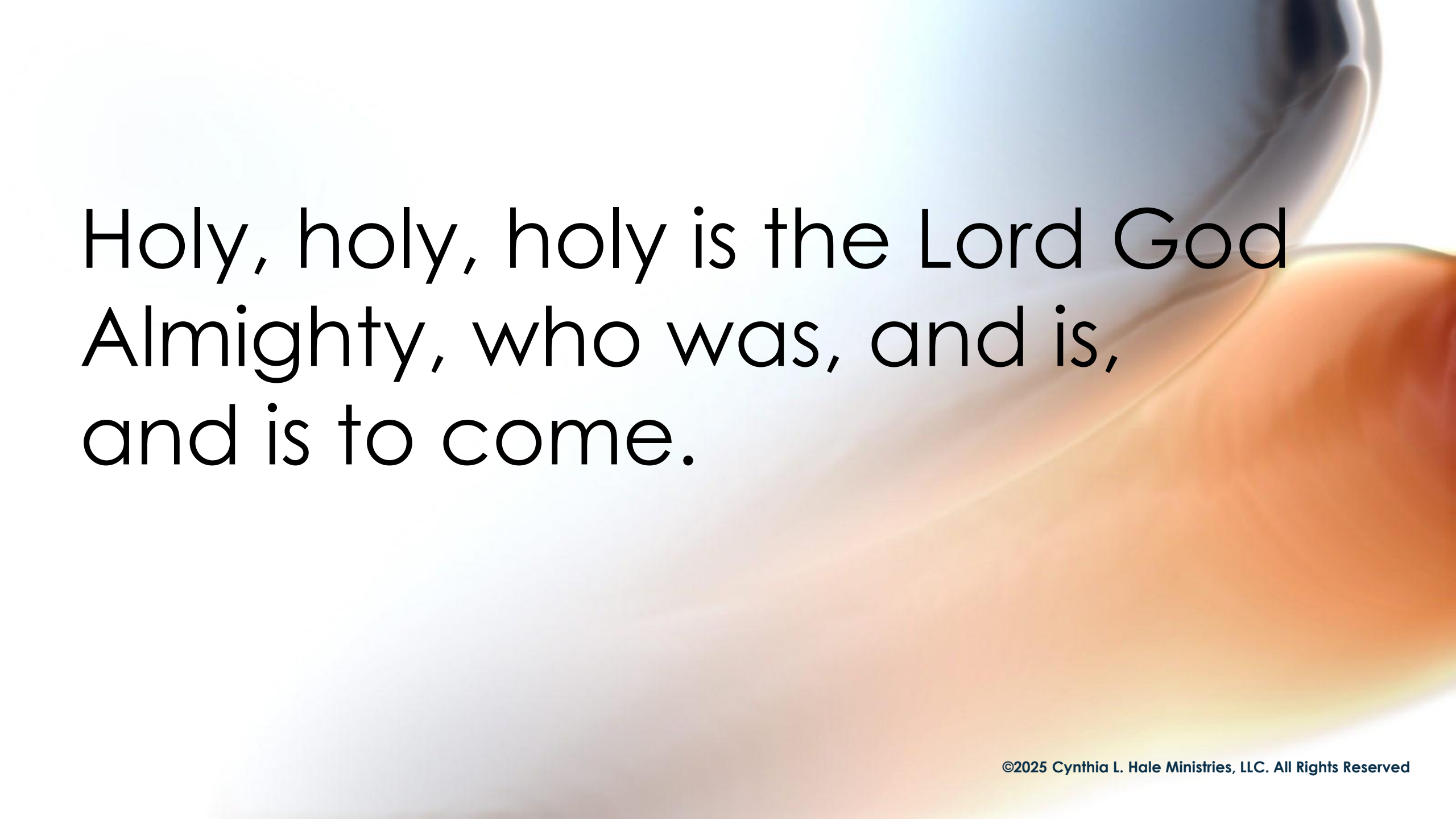
What is worship? The English word for worship comes from the Saxon word meaning “worthship”!



Great is the Lord and most
worthy of praise.

Revelation 4:11

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and
power.



Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God
Almighty, who was, and is,
and is to come.

Revelation 5:9-12

You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men and women for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.



We were created to praise God.



The chief aim of humans is to
worship God and enjoy his favor
forever.

1 Peter 2:9

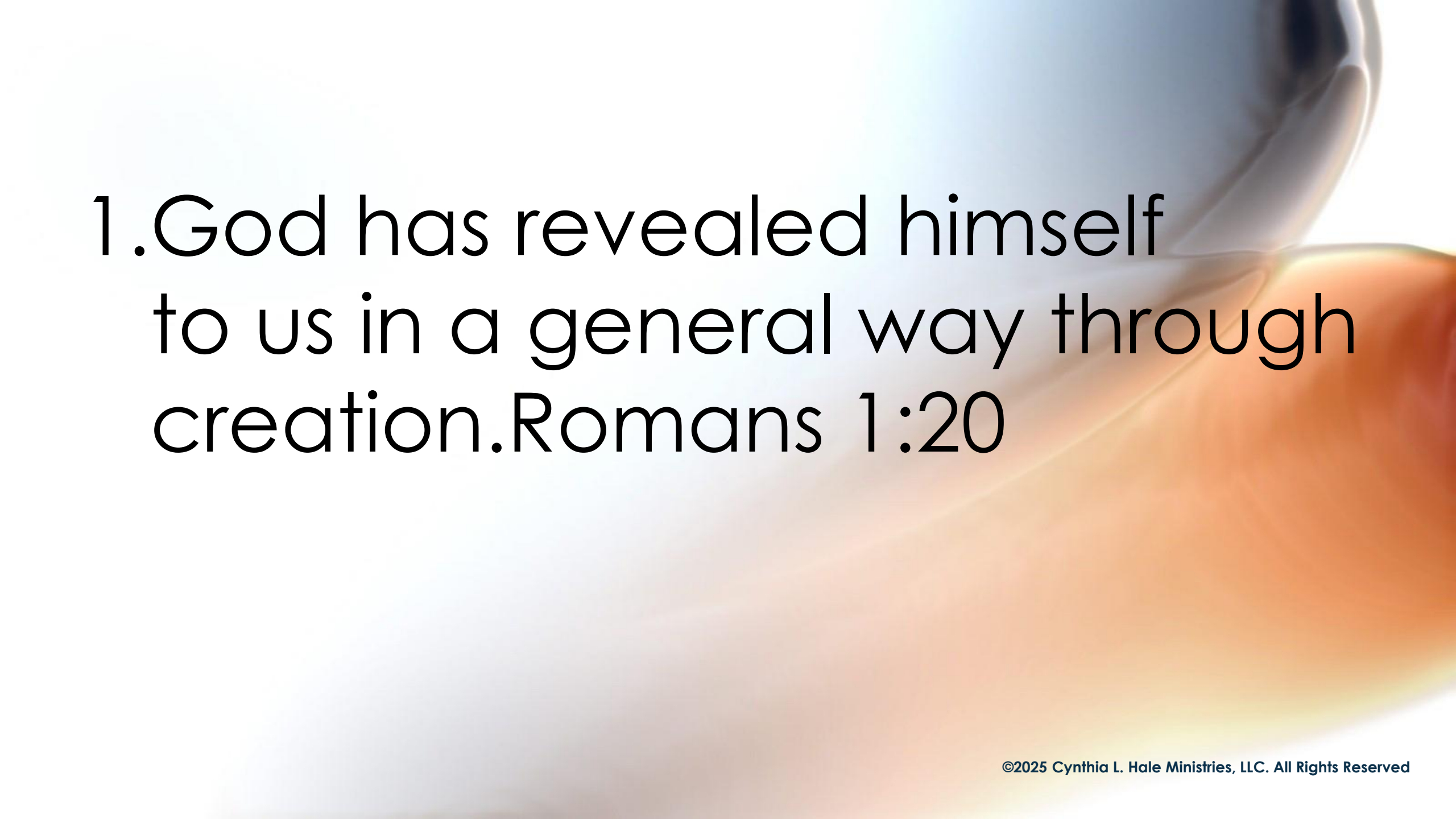
We were saved to worship
God.



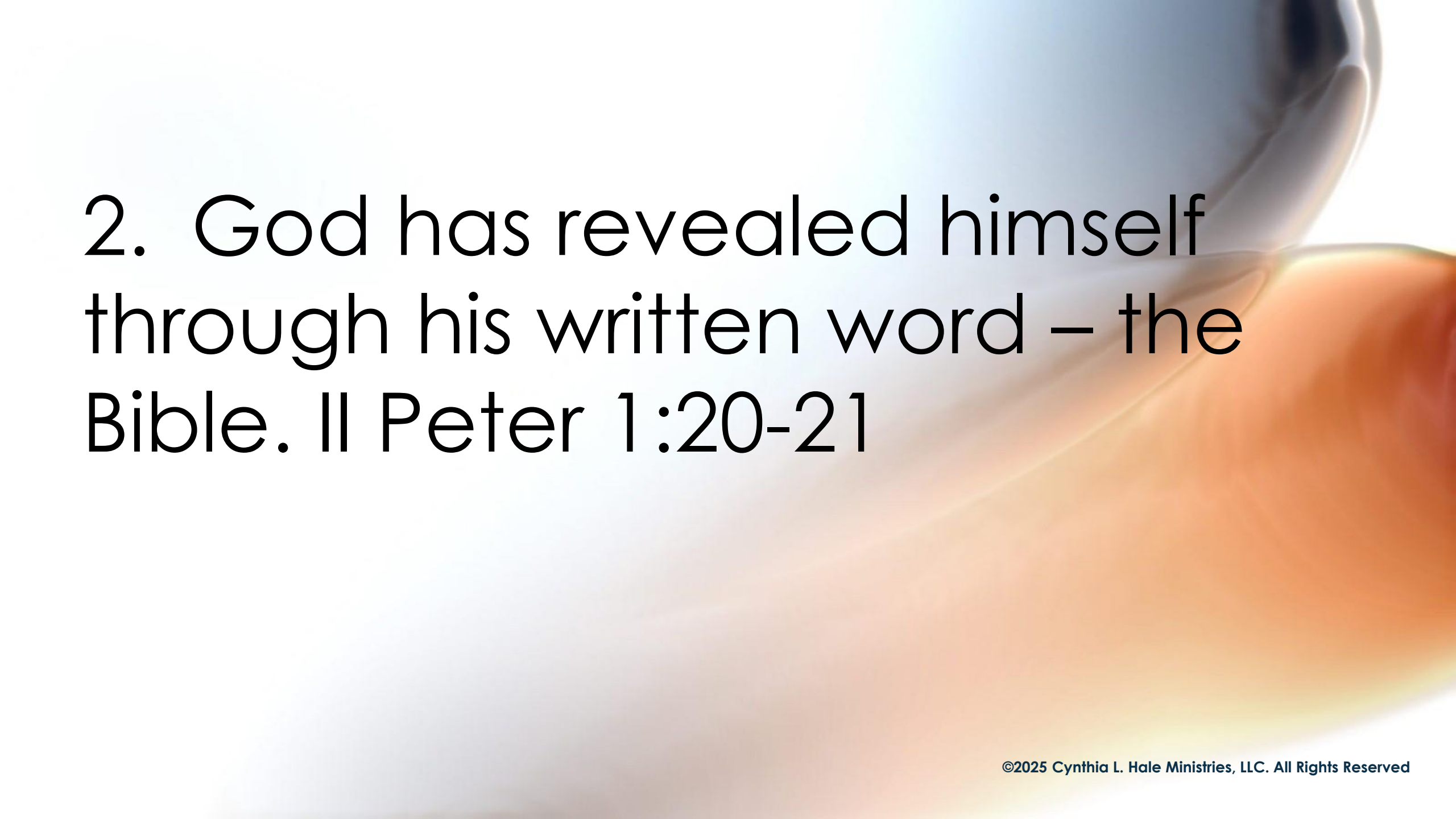
What a person worships is usually a good indication of what is really valuable to him/her.

Evelyn Underhill

Worship is the total adoring response of humans to the one eternal God self-revealed in time.



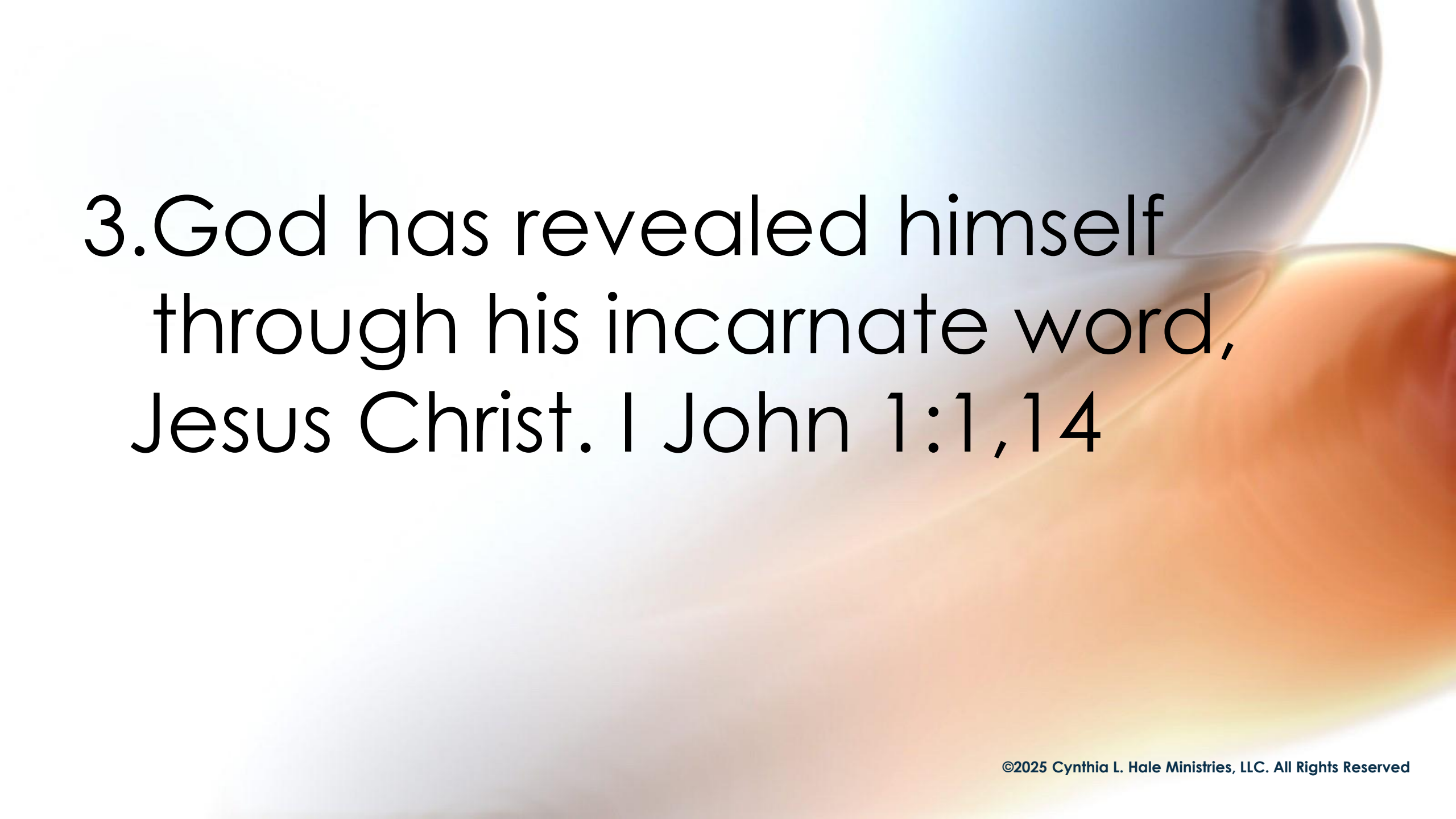
1. God has revealed himself
to us in a general way through
creation. Romans 1:20



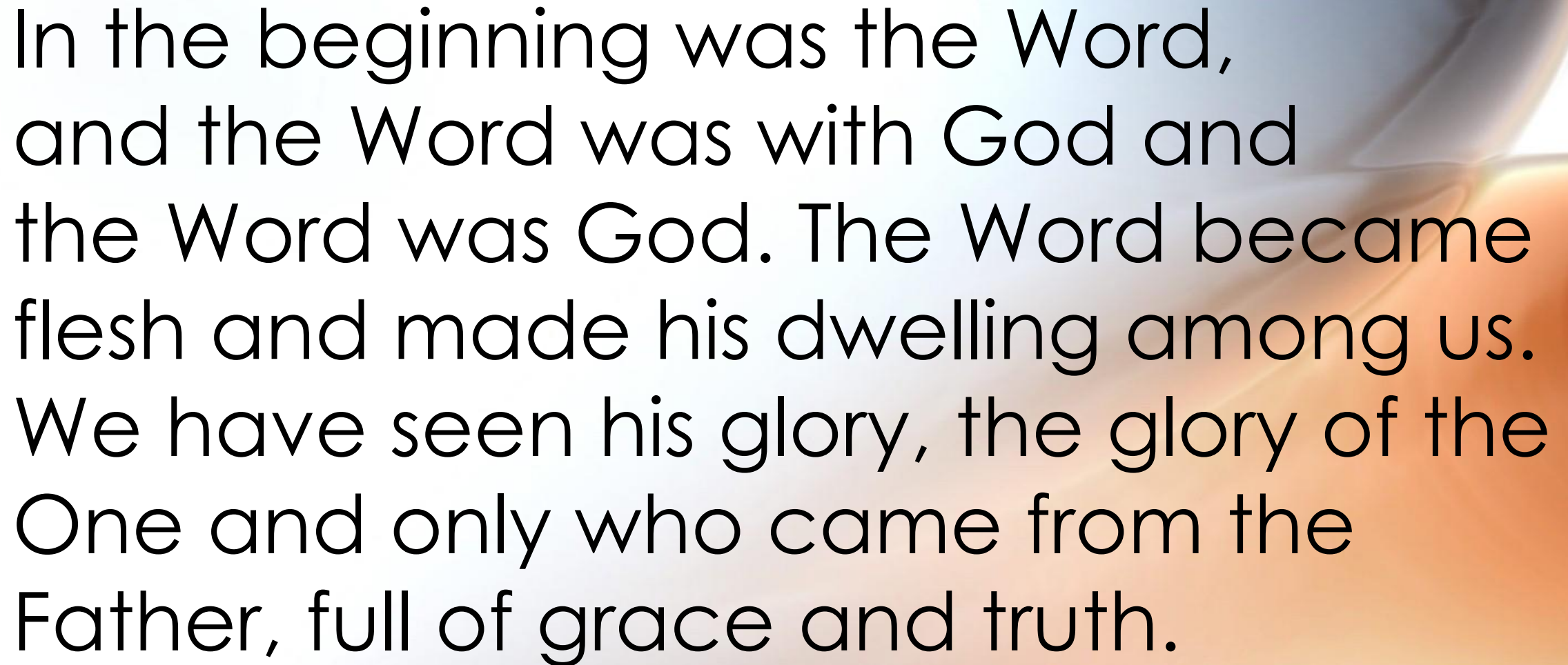
2. God has revealed himself
through his written word – the
Bible. II Peter 1:20-21

II Peter 1:20-21

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of humans, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



3. God has revealed himself
through his incarnate word,
Jesus Christ. I John 1:1,14



In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God and
the Word was God. The Word became
flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the
One and only who came from the
Father, full of grace and truth.



Worship is corporate and it is public!

Hebrews 10:24-25

Psalm 122:1

I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”



Luke 4:1 4ff



Worship is corporate and public.

Worship is also
personal and private.

Psalms 89:1-2

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

Luke 5:16

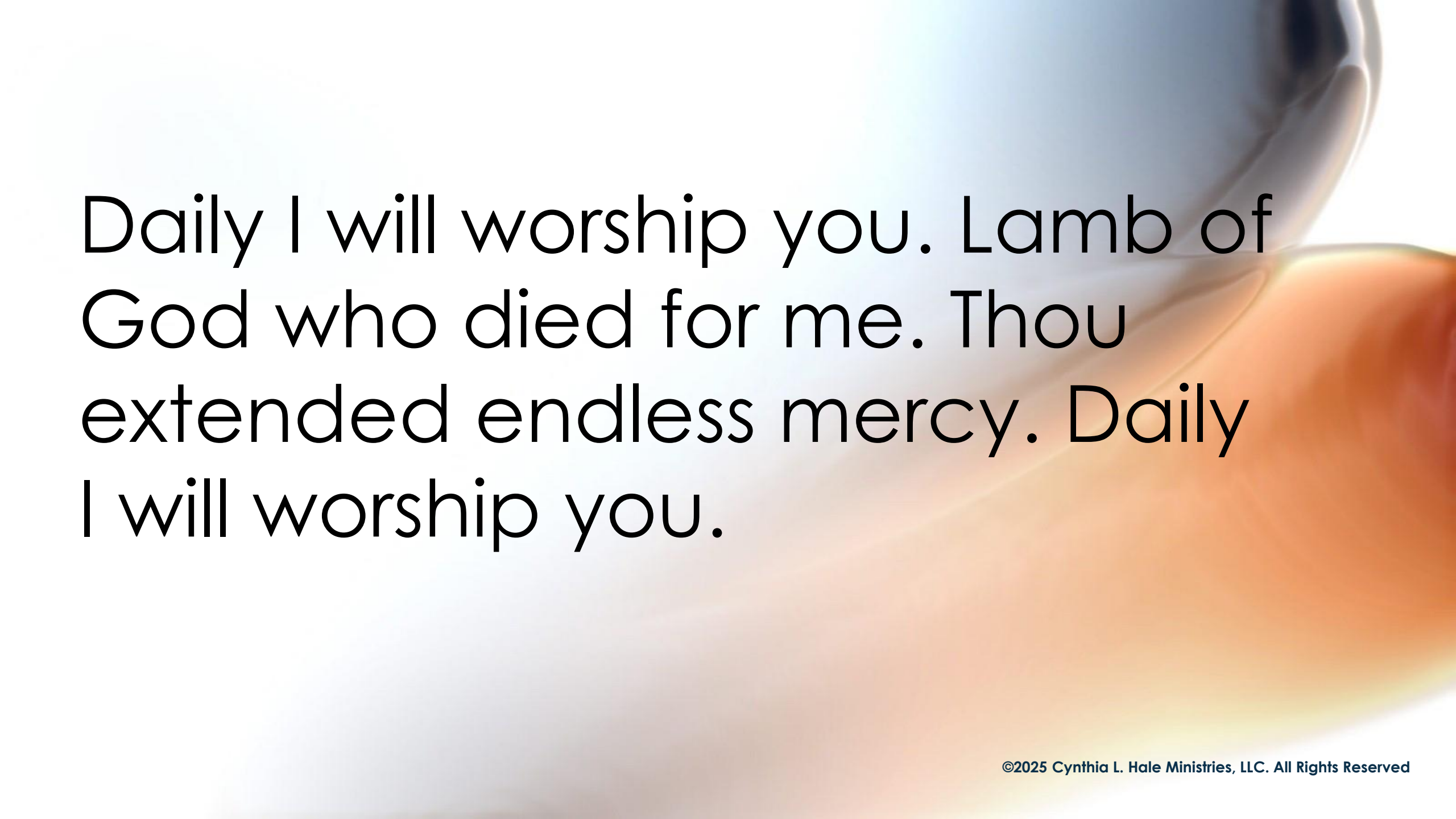
Jesus “would withdraw to desolate places and pray.”

Matthew Henry

Public worship will not excuse us
from secret worship.

Geoffrey Thomas


There is no way that those who neglect secret worship can know communion with God in the public services of the Lord's Day.



Daily I will worship you. Lamb of
God who died for me. Thou
extended endless mercy. Daily
I will worship you.

Discussion or Reflection:

Do you realize that this is the Sovereign Lord of the Universe who longs to spend intimate time with you daily? How does that make you feel? Are you a private worshipper of God, why or why not?



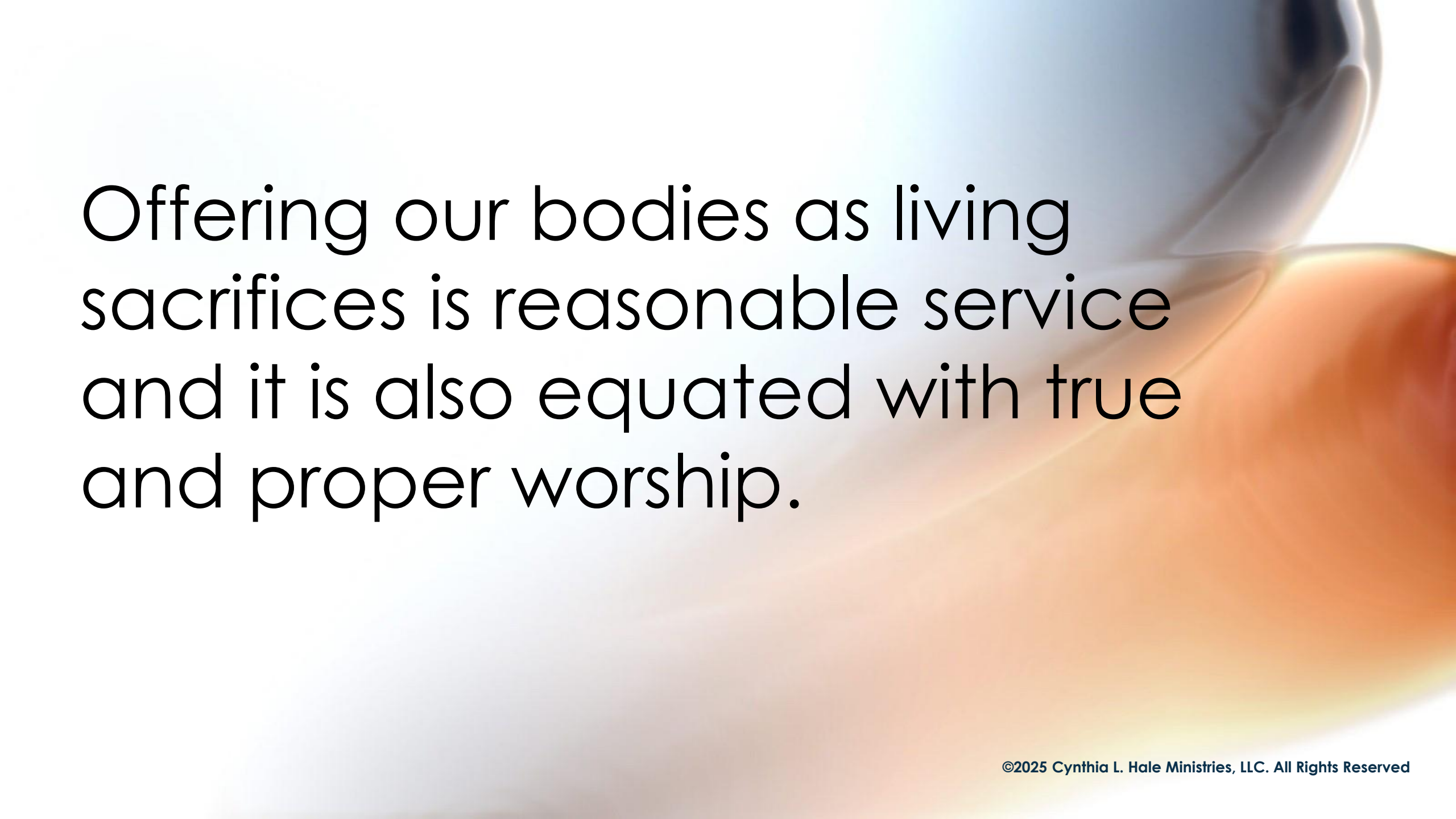
God's ultimate aim in worship
is to conform us to the image of
Christ to make us godly.

Romans 12:1-2

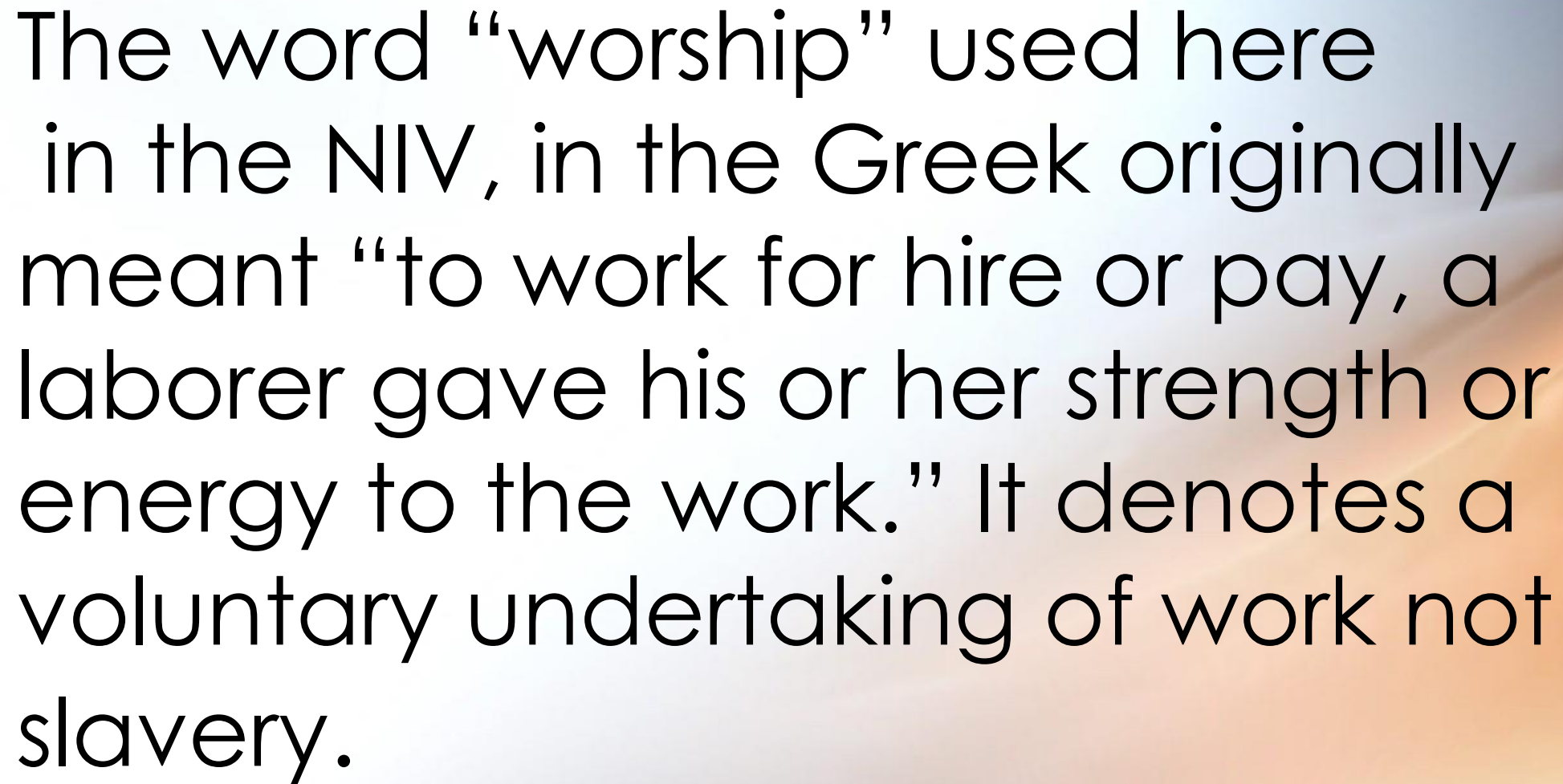
Therefore, brothers and sisters,
in view of God's mercy, to offer
your bodies as a living sacrifice
holy and pleasing to God – this
is your true and proper worship!



Make a decisive dedication of
ourselves and place ourselves on
the altar as an offering to God.



Offering our bodies as living sacrifices is reasonable service and it is also equated with true and proper worship.



The word “worship” used here in the NIV, in the Greek originally meant “to work for hire or pay, a laborer gave his or her strength or energy to the work.” It denotes a voluntary undertaking of work not slavery.

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