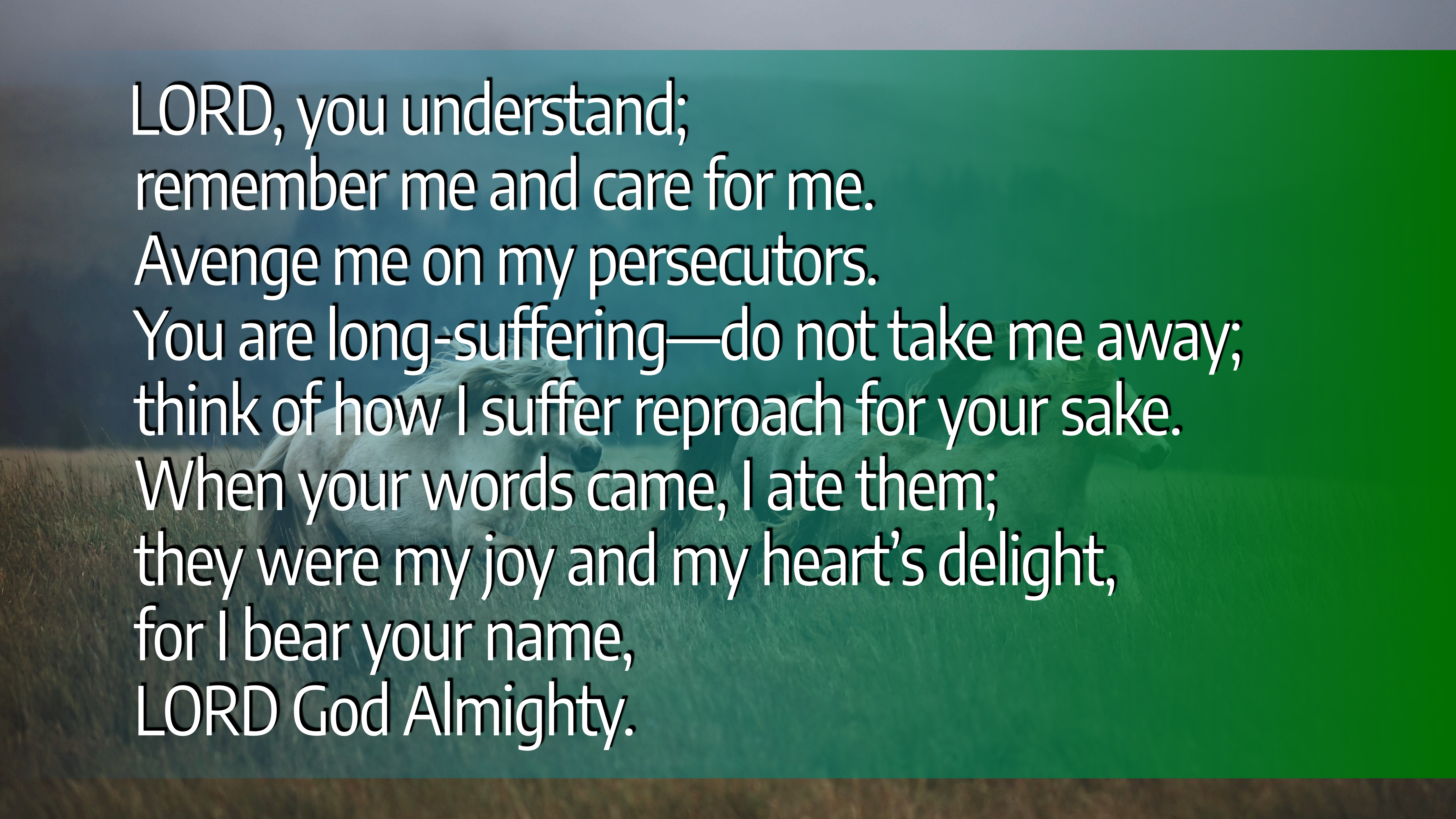


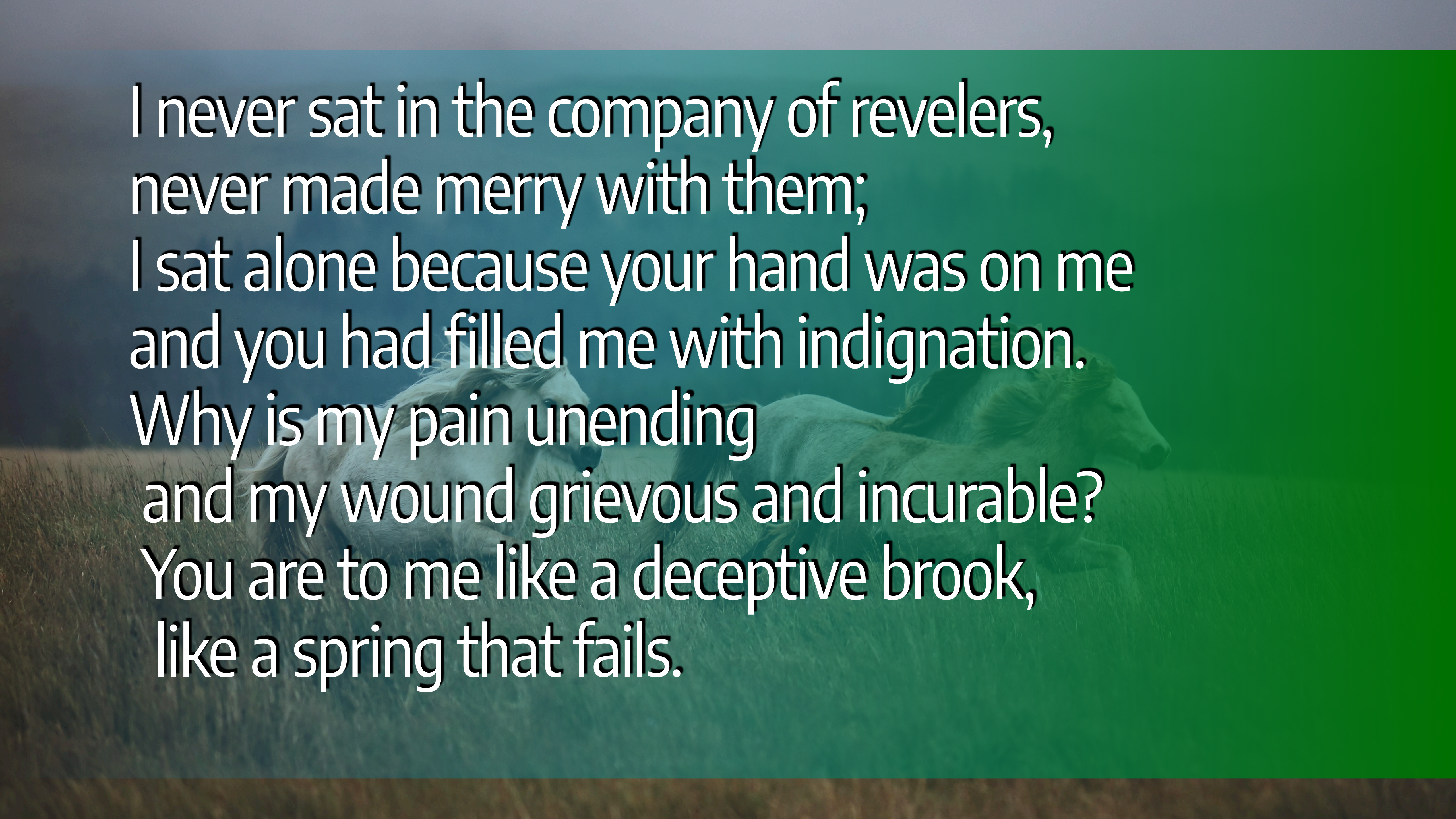
The Life of Jeremiah



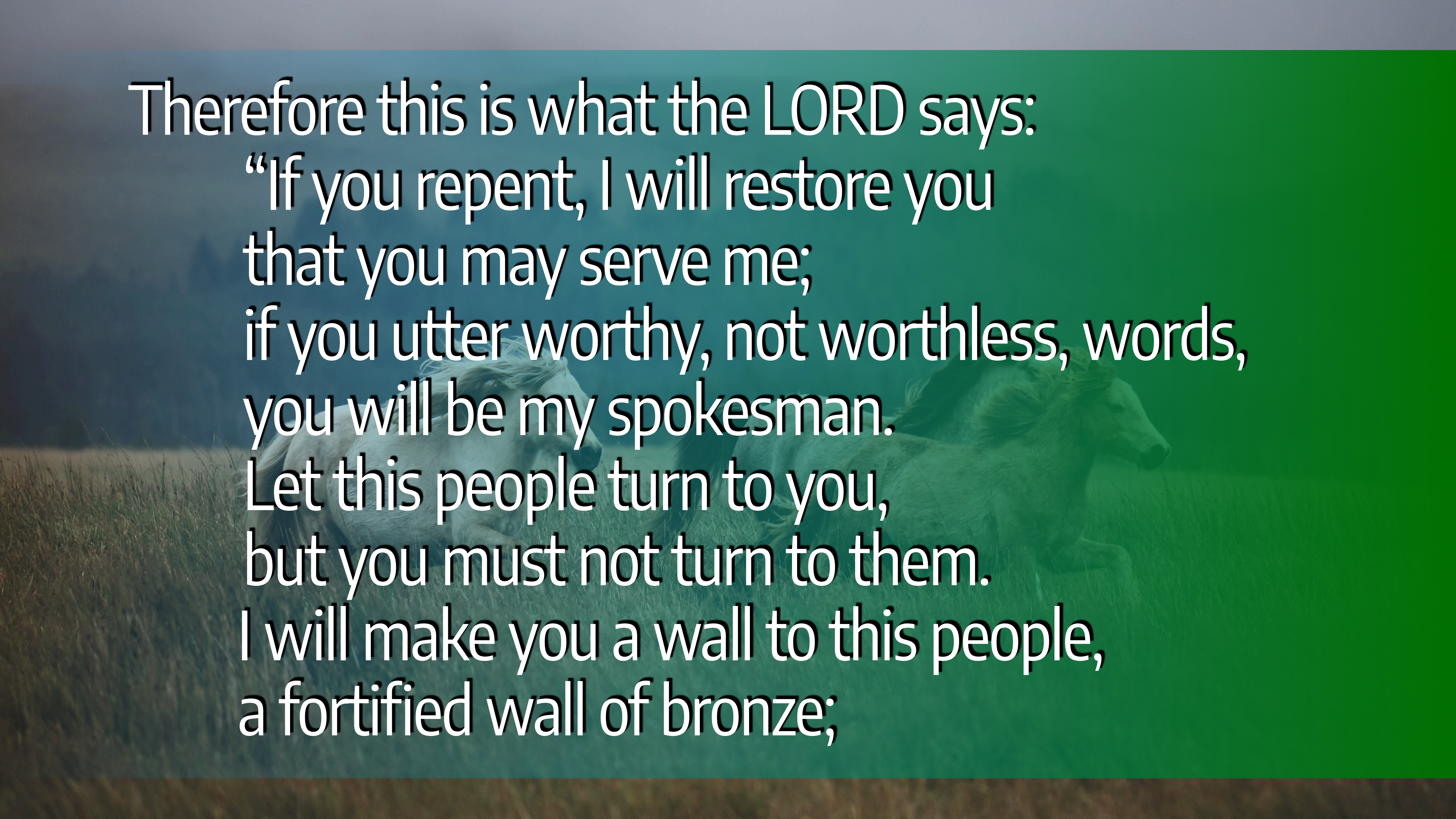
What God Gets Out of Your Life
Jeremiah 15:15-21



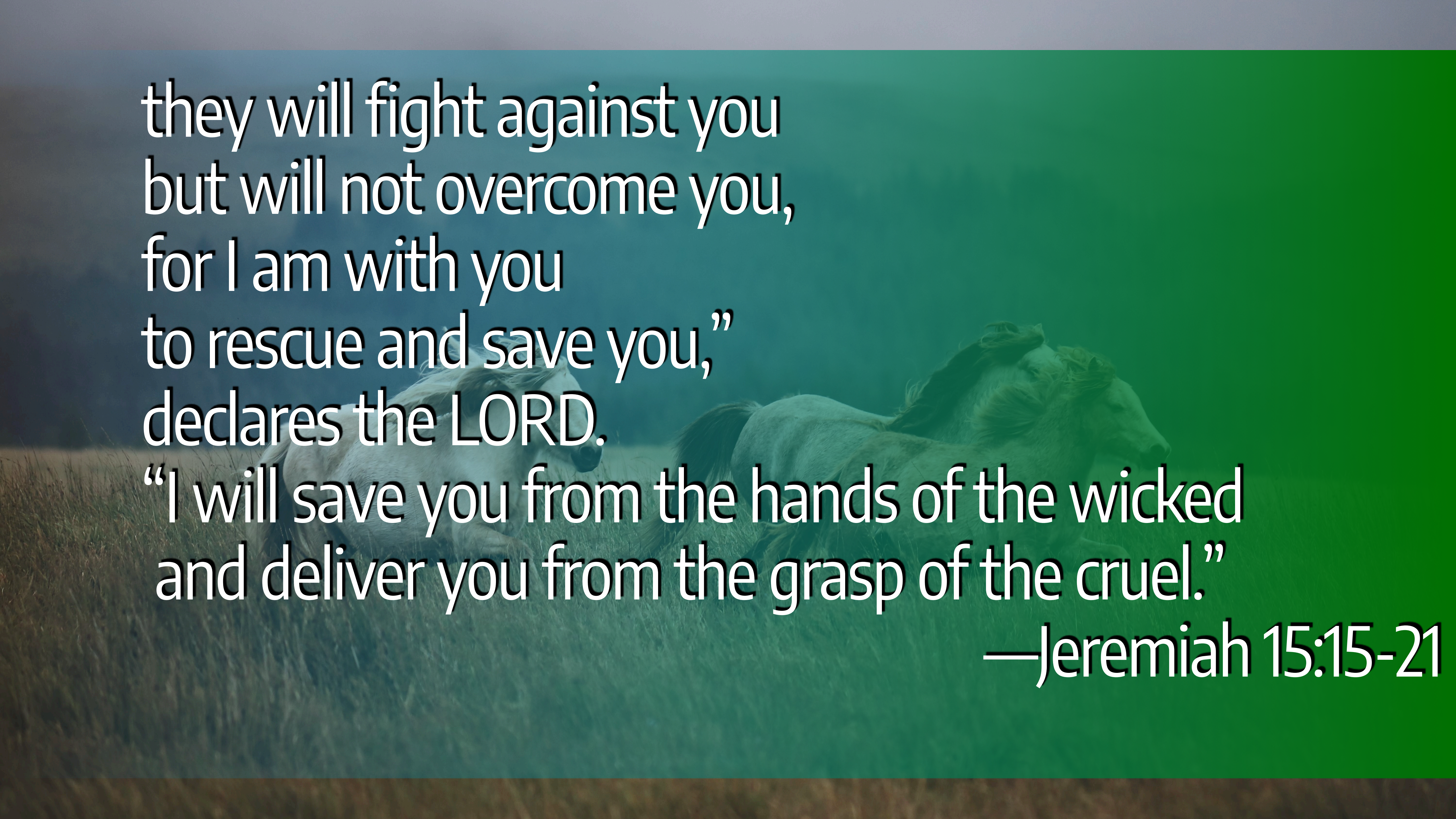
LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.
When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name,
LORD God Almighty.

The background image shows two horses, one white and one grey, in a field of tall grass. The image is partially covered by a semi-transparent green overlay on the right side. The text is written in white, bold, sans-serif font over the image.

I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?
You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.



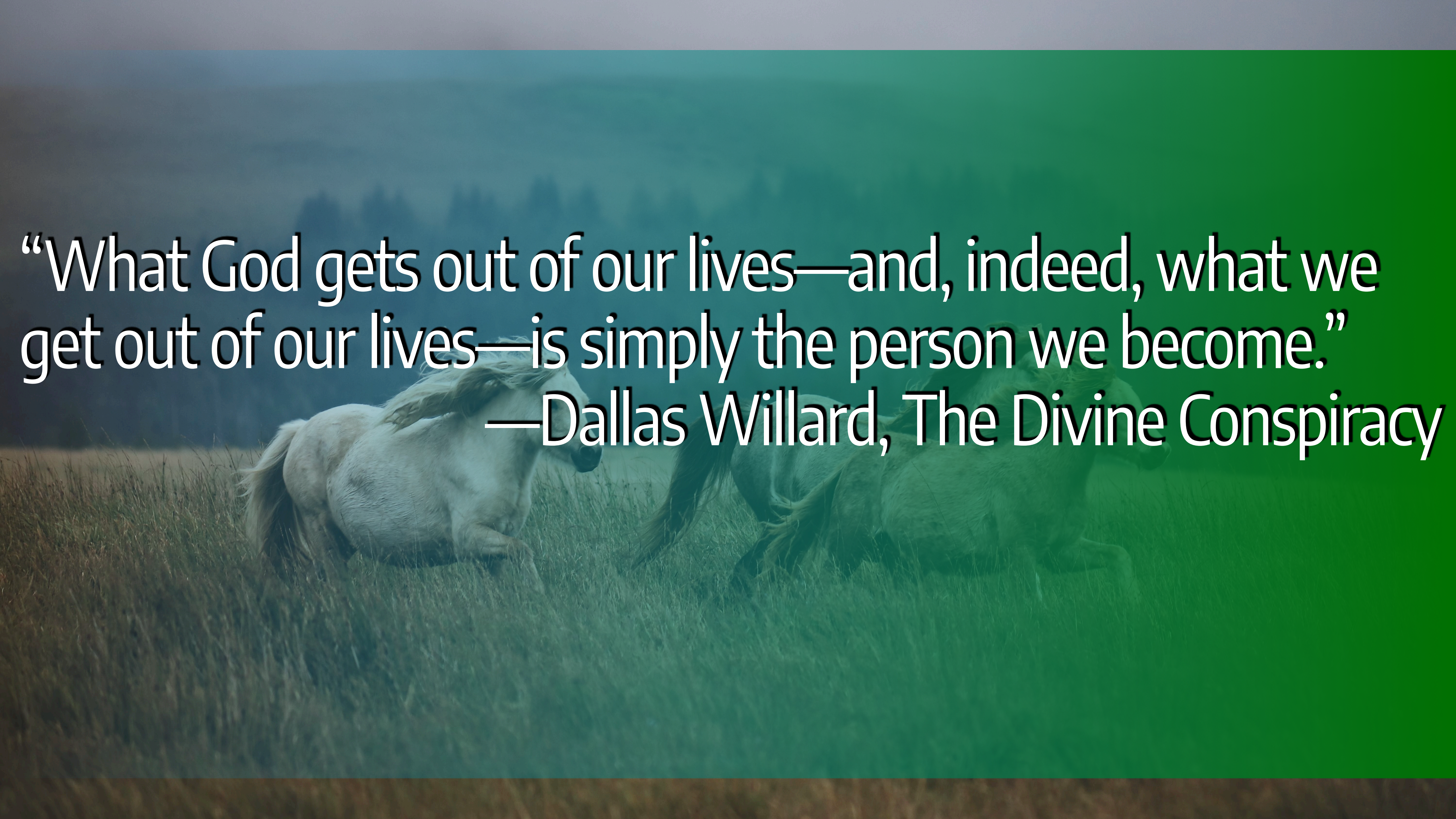
Therefore this is what the LORD says:
“If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.
I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;

A background image of two horses in a field, overlaid with a green gradient. The horses are light-colored and appear to be grazing or resting. The text is white and positioned on the left side of the image.

they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,”
declares the LORD.

“I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”

—Jeremiah 15:15-21

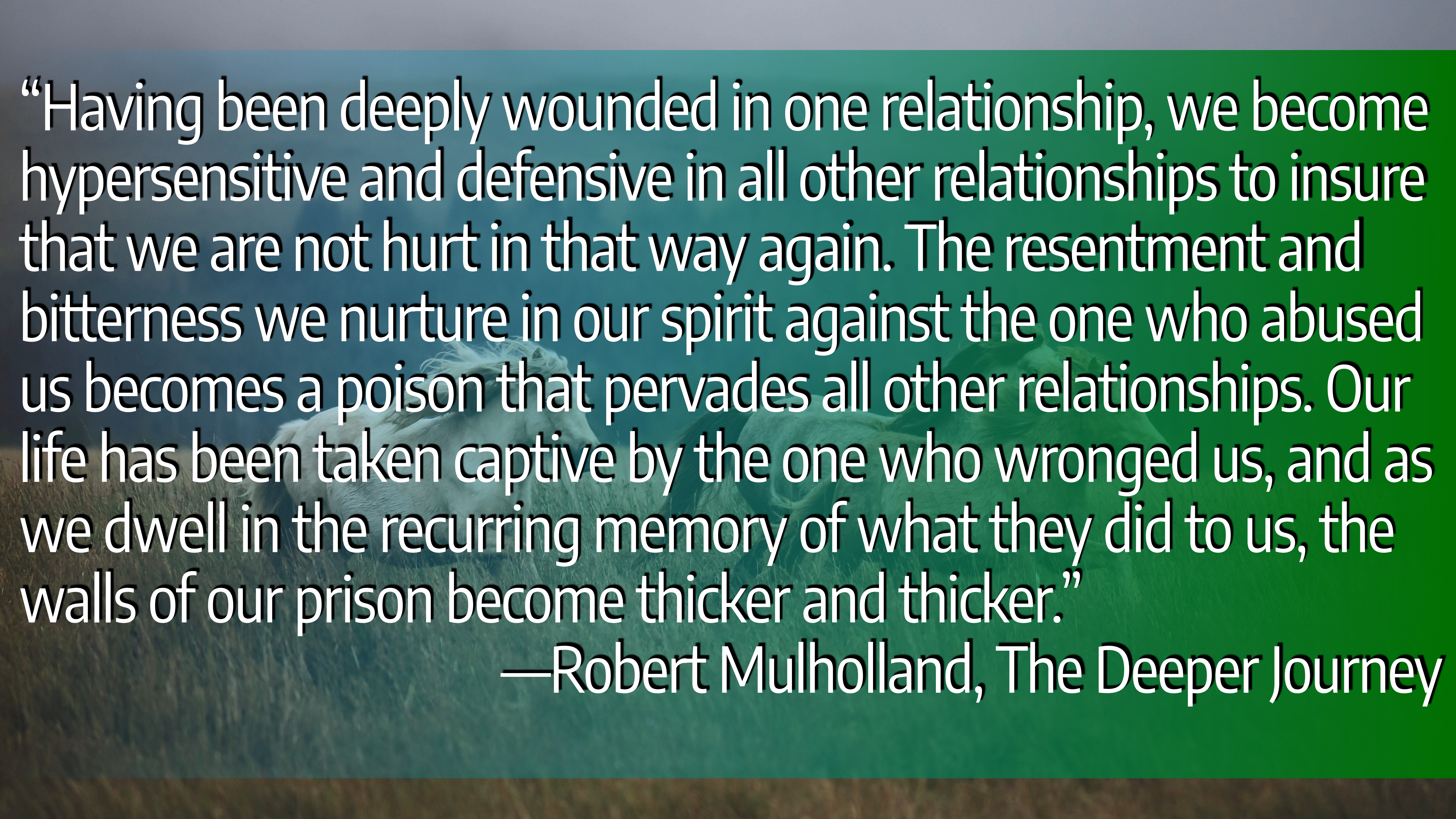
The background image shows two horses, one white and one dark, resting in a field of tall grass. A semi-transparent green overlay covers the right side of the image. Overlaid on the image is a quote in white text.

“What God gets out of our lives—and, indeed, what we get out of our lives—is simply the person we become.”
—Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy*

Who Jeremiah Was Becoming

1. Resentment and bitterness





“Having been deeply wounded in one relationship, we become hypersensitive and defensive in all other relationships to insure that we are not hurt in that way again. The resentment and bitterness we nurture in our spirit against the one who abused us becomes a poison that pervades all other relationships. Our life has been taken captive by the one who wronged us, and as we dwell in the recurring memory of what they did to us, the walls of our prison become thicker and thicker.”

—Robert Mulholland, *The Deeper Journey*

Who Jeremiah Was Becoming

1. Resentment and bitterness
2. Disillusionment



Who Jeremiah Was Becoming

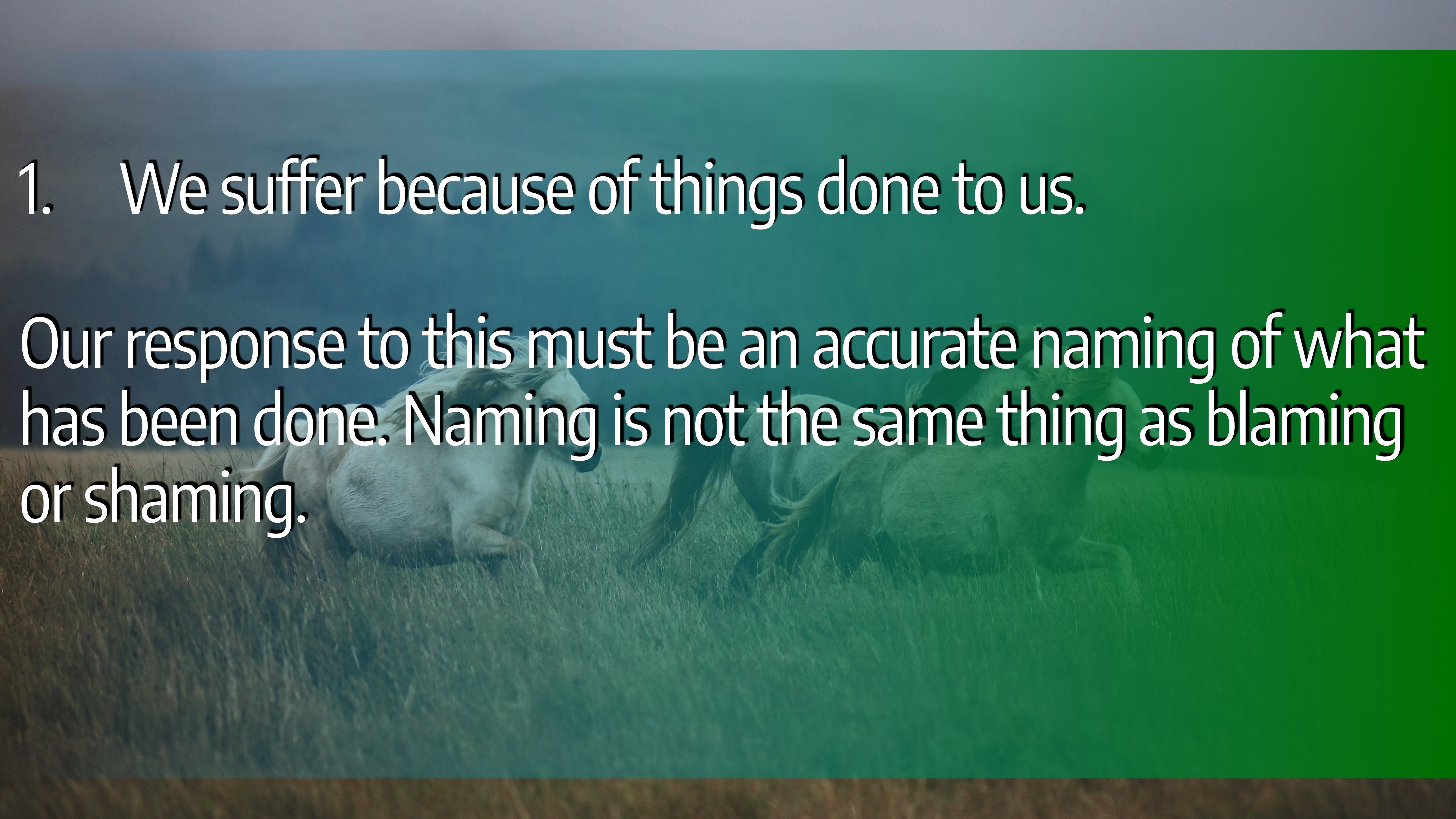
1. Resentment and bitterness
2. Disillusionment
3. Loneliness



Who Jeremiah Was Becoming

1. Resentment and bitterness
2. Disillusionment
3. Loneliness
4. Self-pity



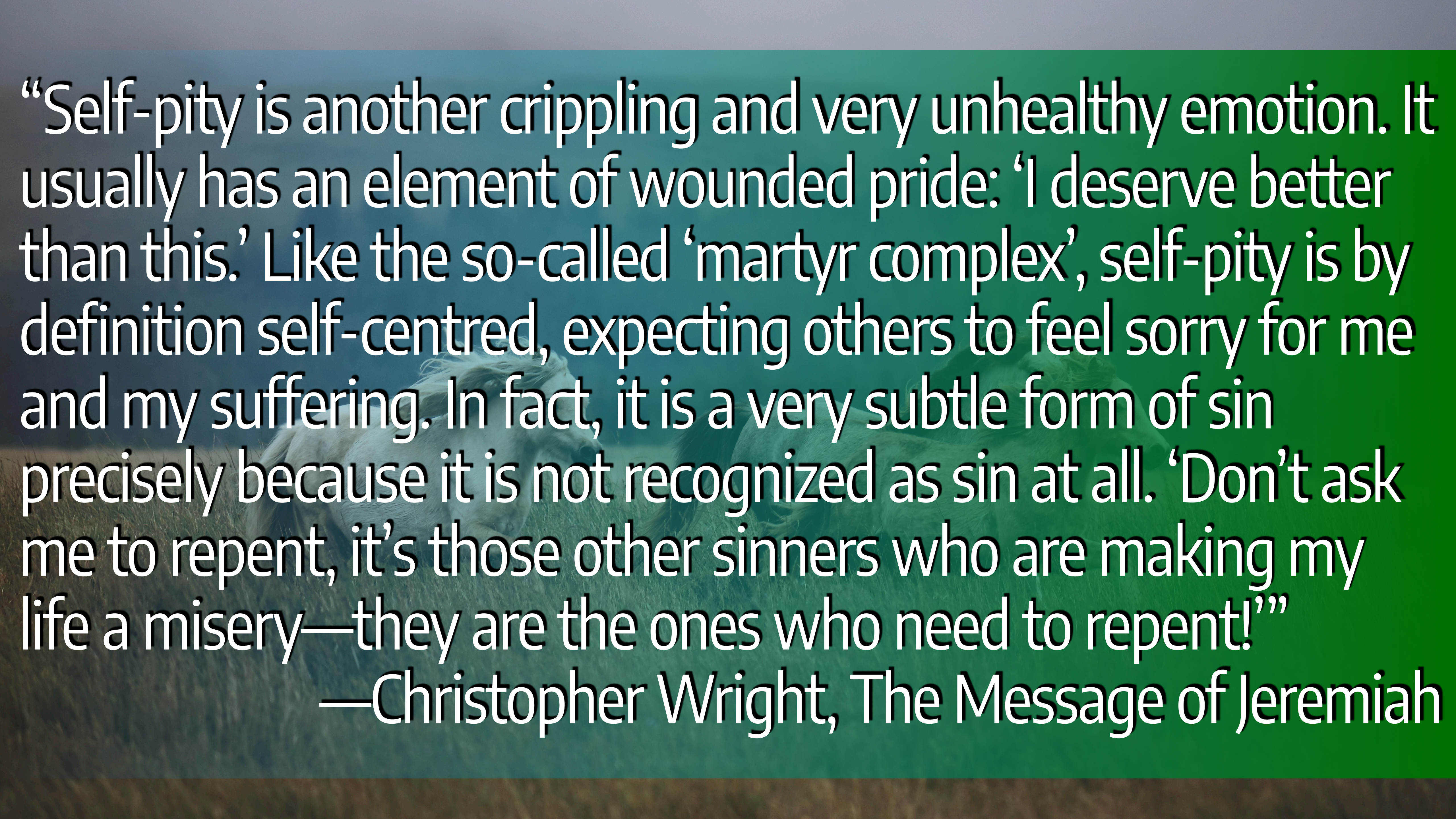
The background image shows two horses, one white and one dark, lying down in a grassy field. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent green overlay. The text is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

1. We suffer because of things done to us.

Our response to this must be an accurate naming of what has been done. Naming is not the same thing as blaming or shaming.

2. We suffer because of our response to the things done to us.



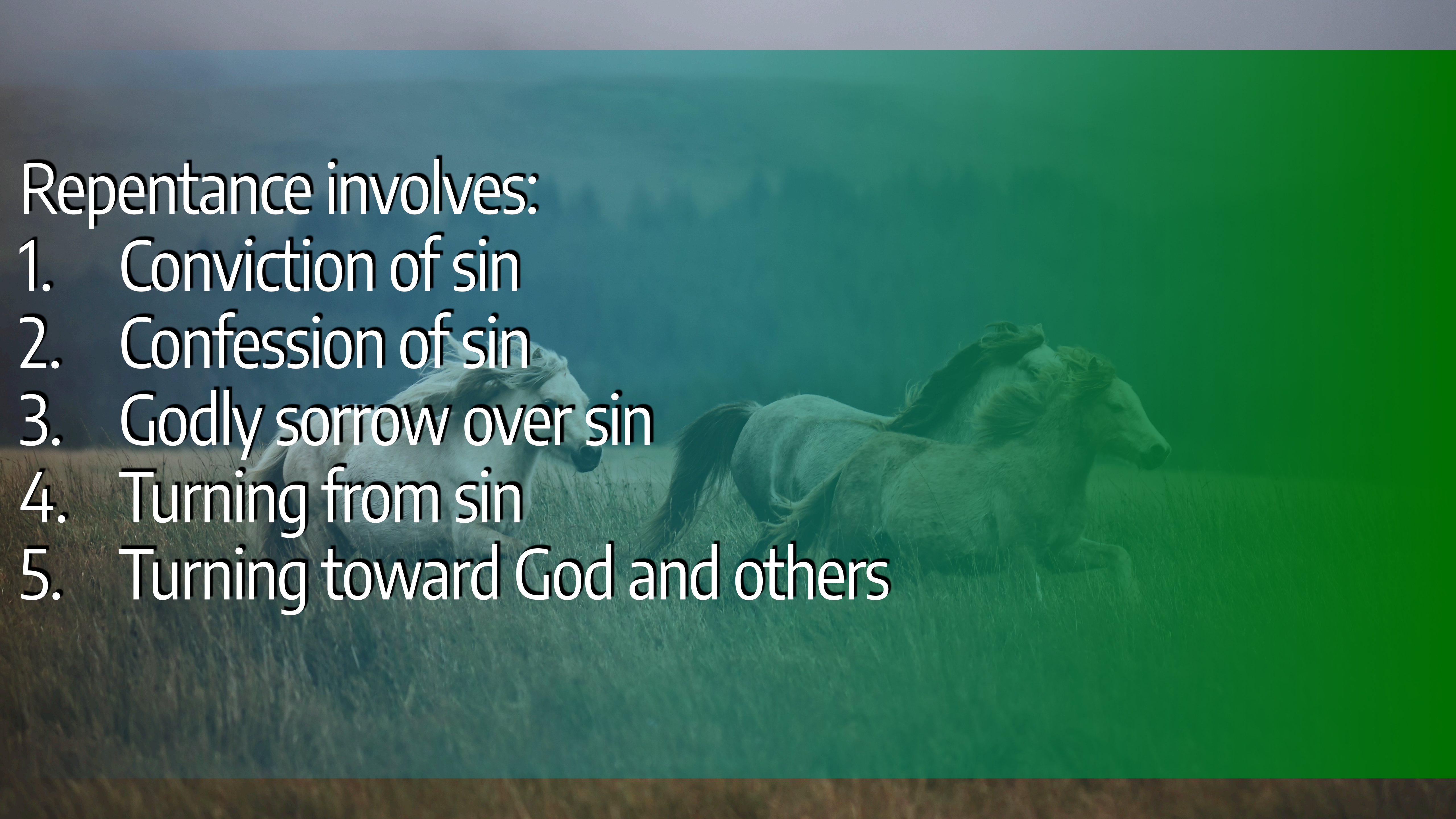


“Self-pity is another crippling and very unhealthy emotion. It usually has an element of wounded pride: ‘I deserve better than this.’ Like the so-called ‘martyr complex’, self-pity is by definition self-centred, expecting others to feel sorry for me and my suffering. In fact, it is a very subtle form of sin precisely because it is not recognized as sin at all. ‘Don’t ask me to repent, it’s those other sinners who are making my life a misery—they are the ones who need to repent!’”

—Christopher Wright, *The Message of Jeremiah*

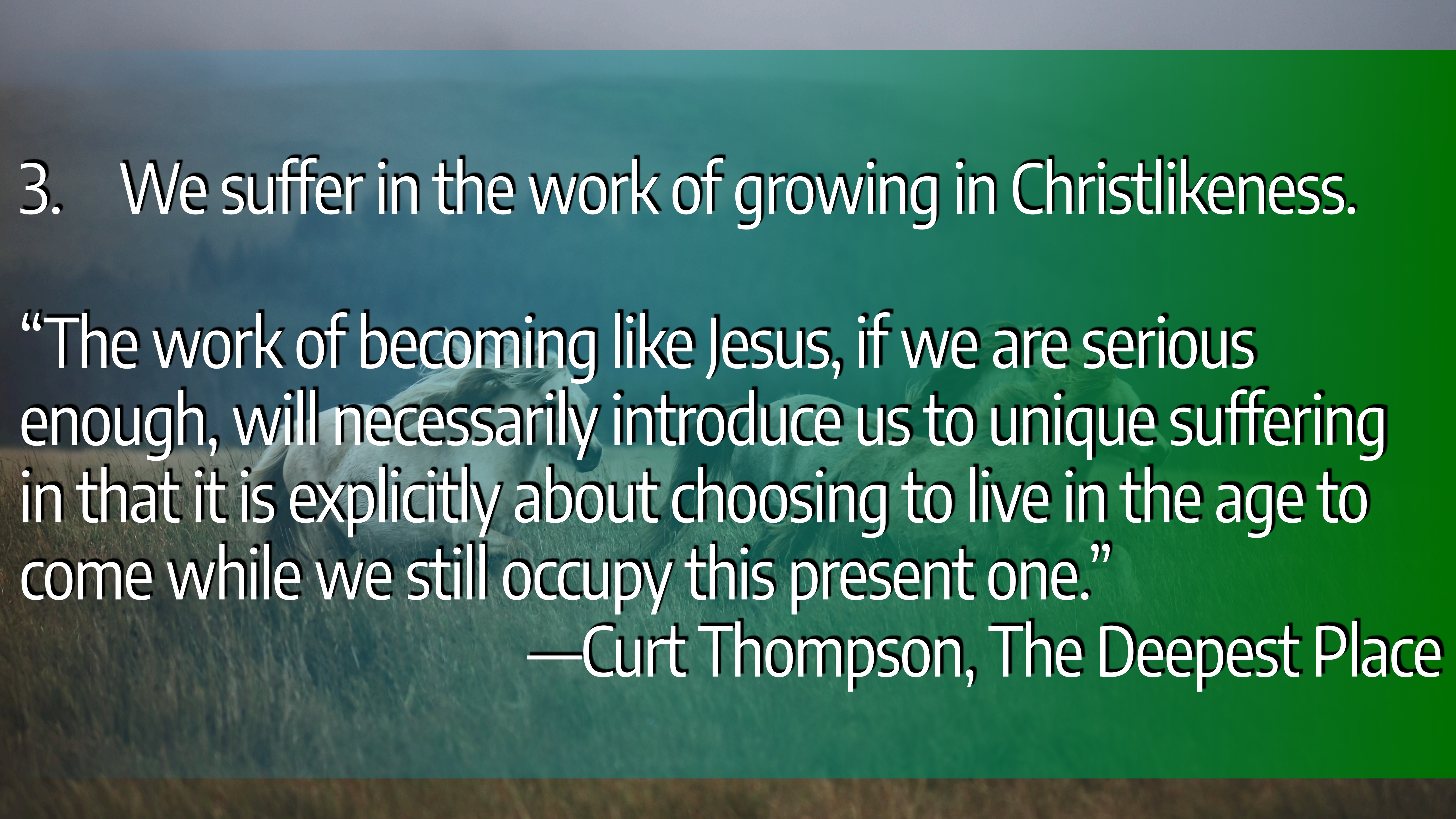
This is the second of Jeremiah's five laments in the book (see 12:1-4; 15:10, 15-18; 17:14-18; 18:19-23; 20:7-18).

The issue: The worthless words Jeremiah was uttering came in how this lament had come all the way to accusing God of being a spring that fails.

The background of the slide features a photograph of two horses galloping through a field of tall grass. The image is partially obscured by a semi-transparent green overlay that covers the right half and the top portion of the frame. The horses are captured in motion, with their manes and tails flowing. The overall mood is dynamic and energetic.

Repentance involves:

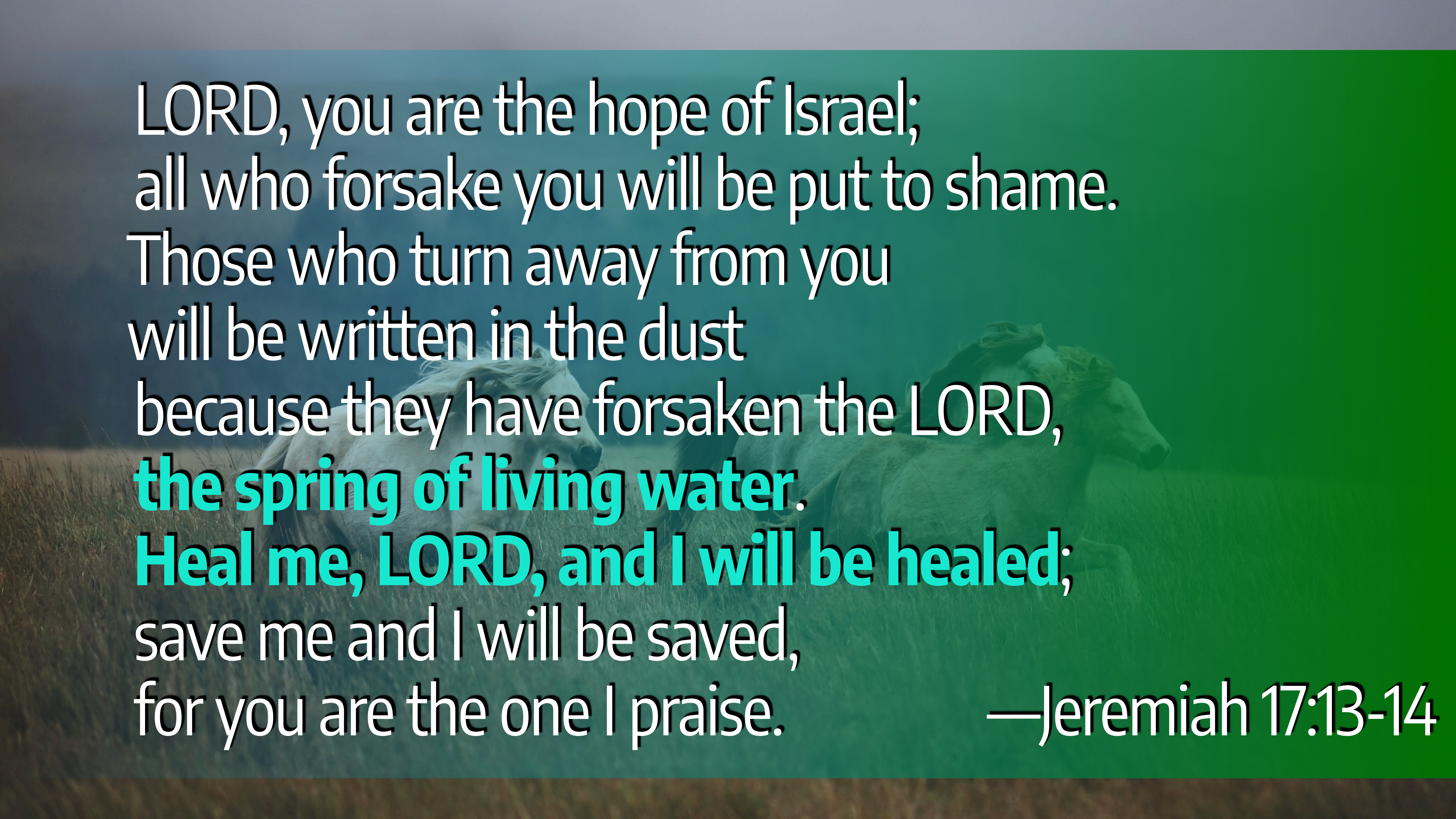
1. Conviction of sin
2. Confession of sin
3. Godly sorrow over sin
4. Turning from sin
5. Turning toward God and others



3. We suffer in the work of growing in Christlikeness.

“The work of becoming like Jesus, if we are serious enough, will necessarily introduce us to unique suffering in that it is explicitly about choosing to live in the age to come while we still occupy this present one.”

—Curt Thompson, *The Deepest Place*



LORD, you are the hope of Israel;
all who forsake you will be put to shame.
Those who turn away from you
will be written in the dust
because they have forsaken the LORD,
the spring of living water.
Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed;
save me and I will be saved,
for you are the one I praise.

—Jeremiah 17:13-14