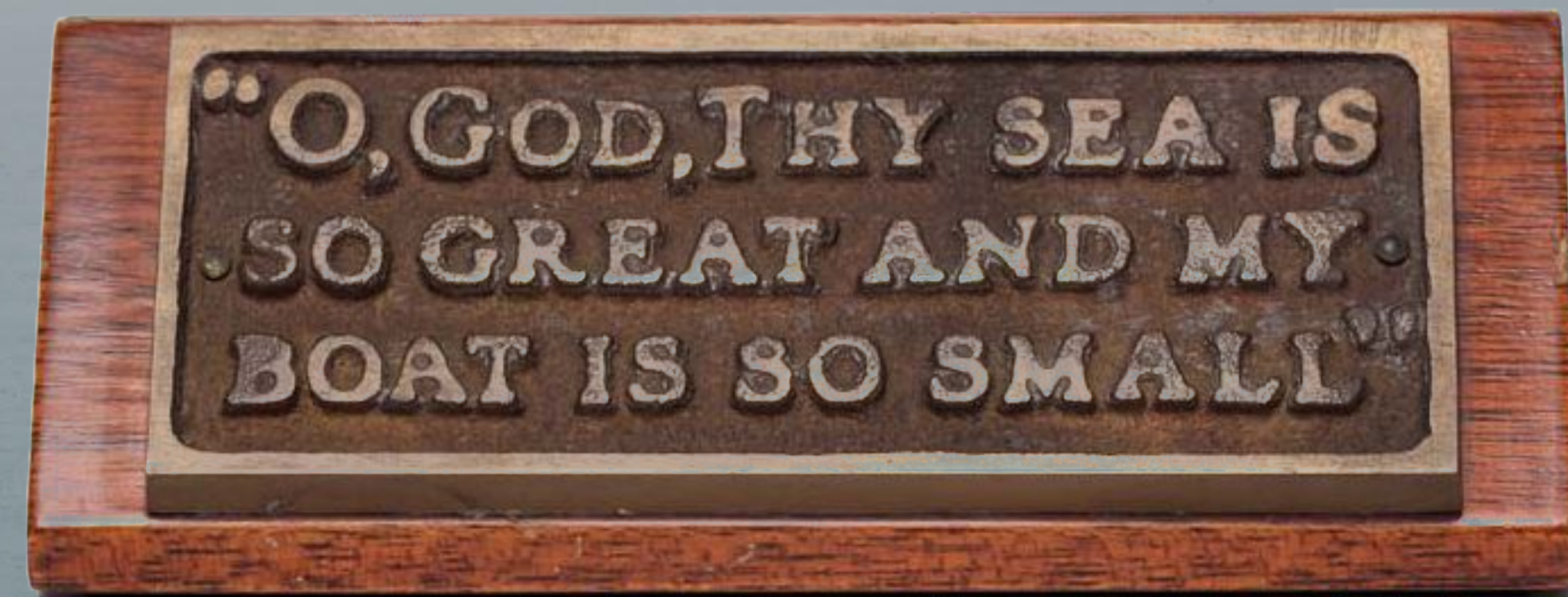


beginnings

Imago Dei



"O, GOD, THY SEA IS
SO GREAT AND MY
BOAT IS SO SMALL"



In the beginning, God...



In the beginning, God created...

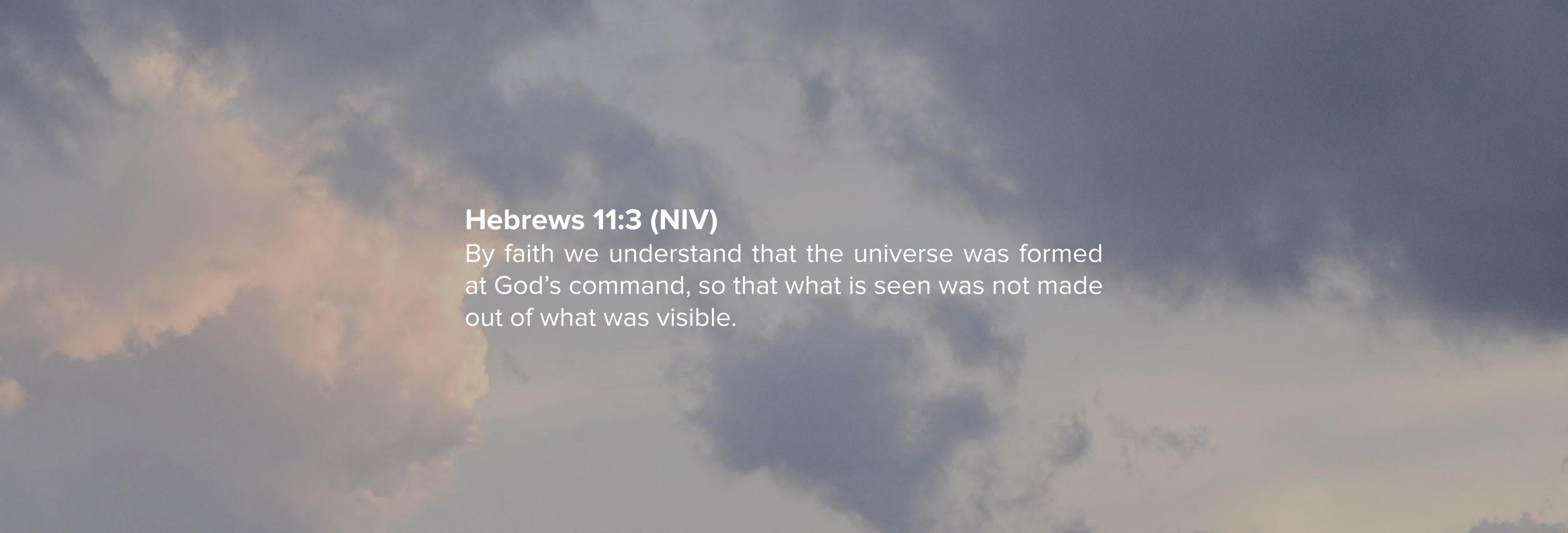


Special Creation

God produced the world and its life forms through supernatural acts.

Psalm 33:6-9 (NIV)

By the word of the Lord, the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. ⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. ⁸ Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him. ⁹ For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.



Hebrews 11:3 (NIV)

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.



“I think it very unmeet in these tremendous mysteries to
go farther than we have God’s own light to guide us.”

- *Richard Baxter, 17th Century*



Genesis 1:26–27 (NIV)

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.



Genesis 1:2 (NIV)

Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the ***Spirit of God*** was hovering over the waters.

John 1:1-3 (NIV)

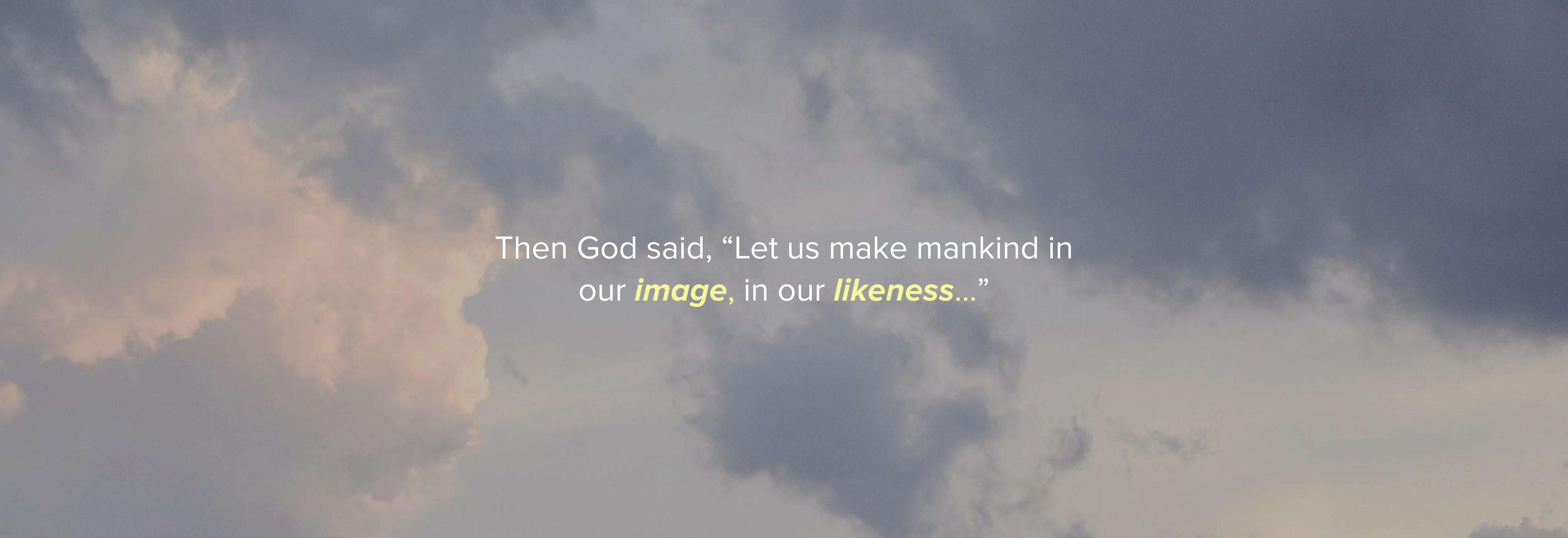
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² *He was with God in the beginning.* ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Colossians 1:16-17 (NIV)

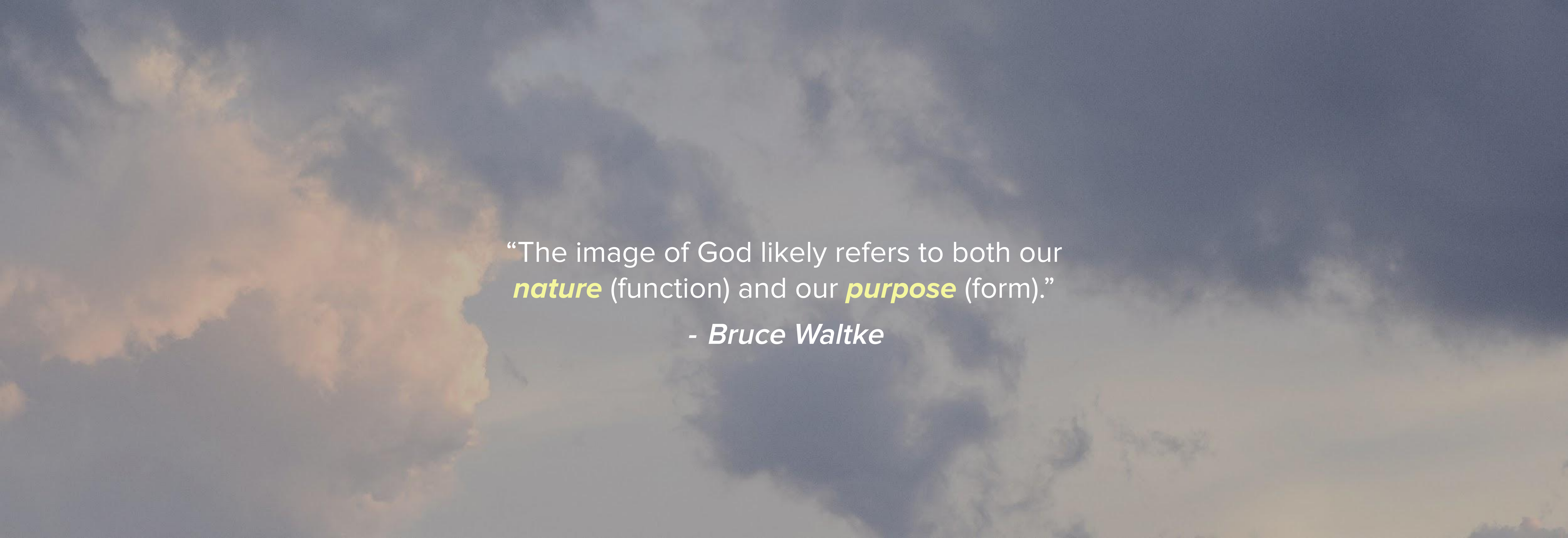
For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; ***all things have been created through him*** and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of *the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



Then God said, “Let us make mankind in
our *image*, in our *likeness*...”



“The image of God likely refers to both our ***nature*** (function) and our ***purpose*** (form).”

- *Bruce Waltke*



“The original readers of the text would have understood this statement this way: ‘Let us make man to be *like* us and to *represent* us.’”

- *Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology*



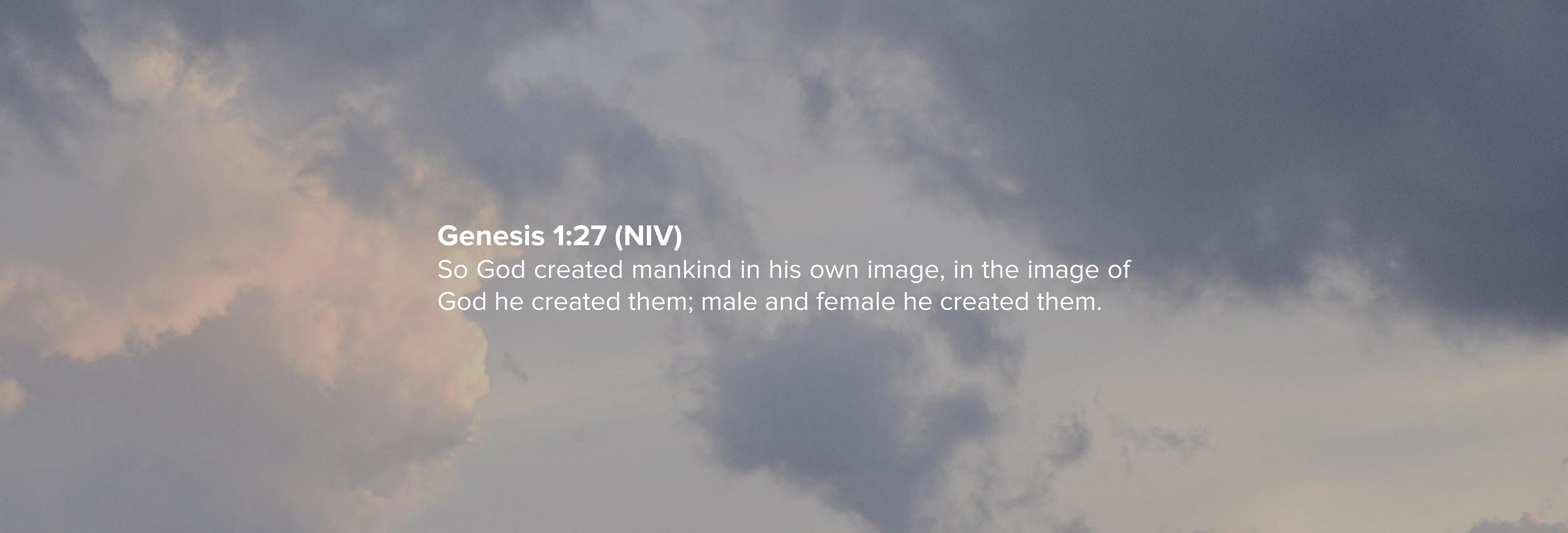
Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, **so that** they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”



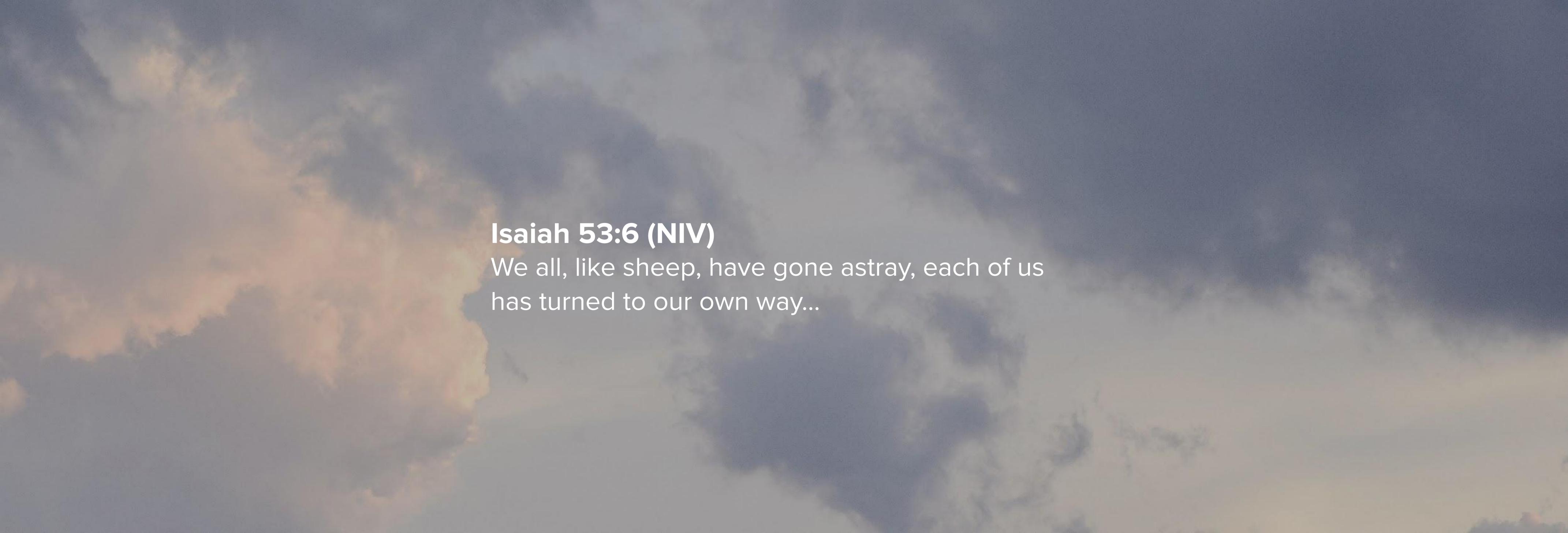
**What did mankind inherit as
God's image-bearers?**

Rulership & Sonship



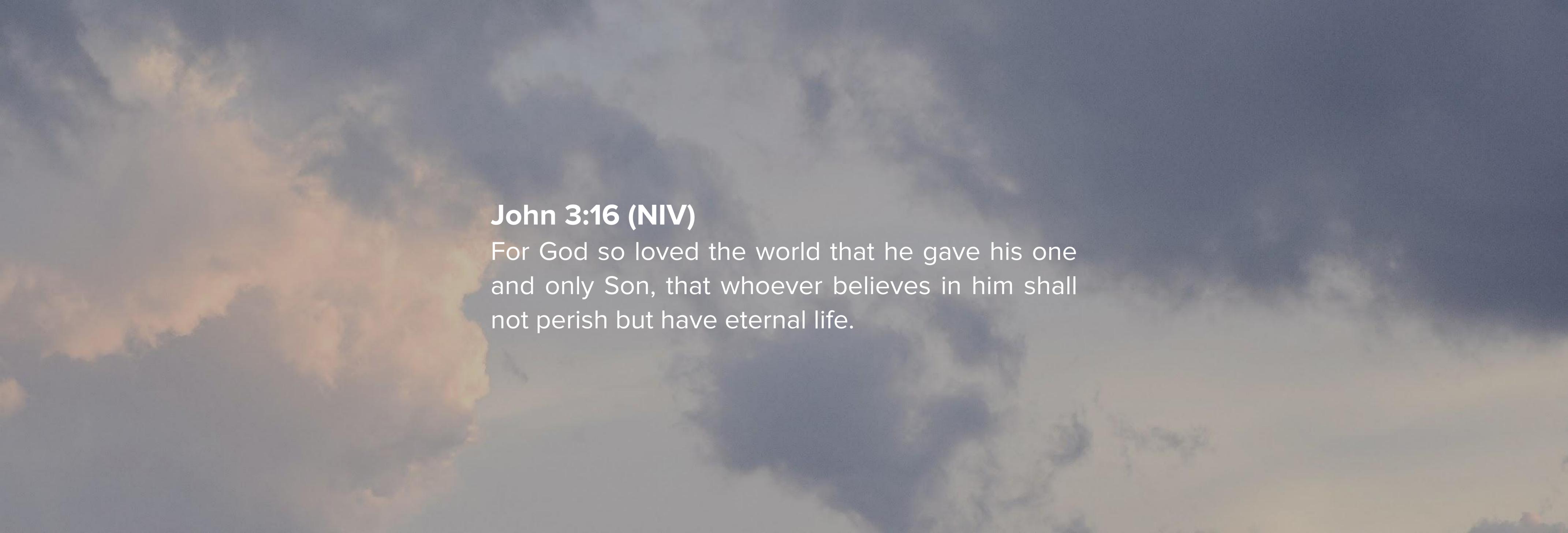
Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of
God he created them; male and female he created them.



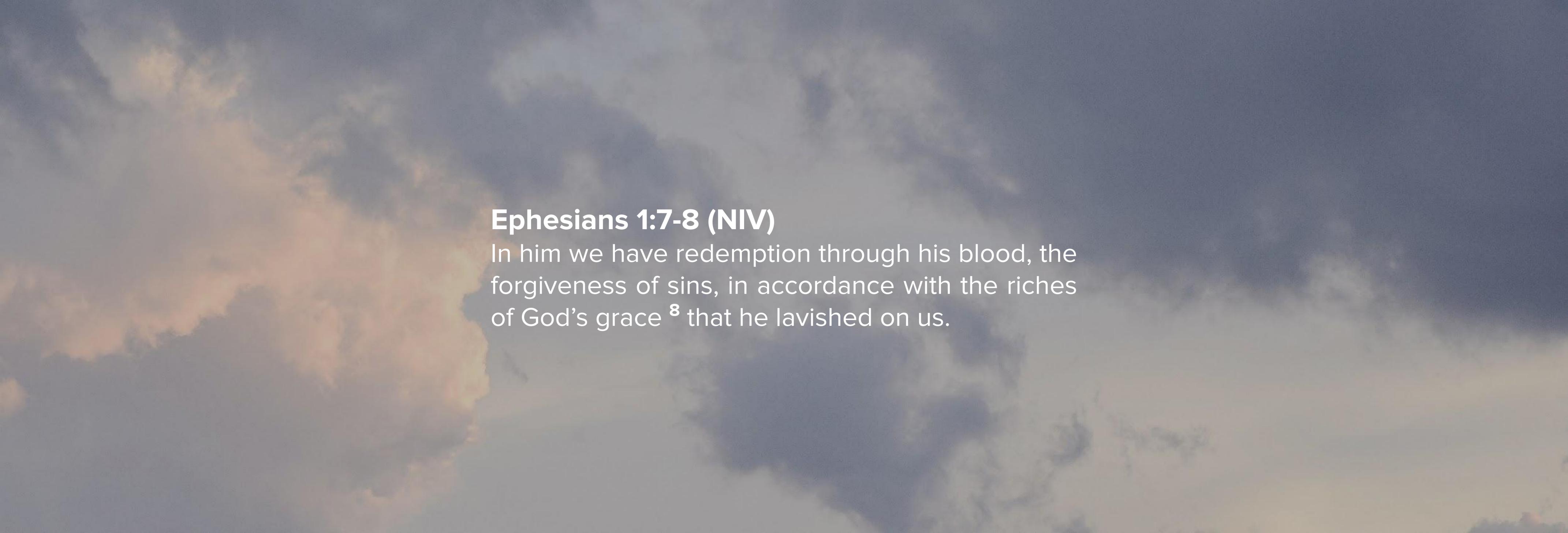
Isaiah 53:6 (NIV)

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us
has turned to our own way...



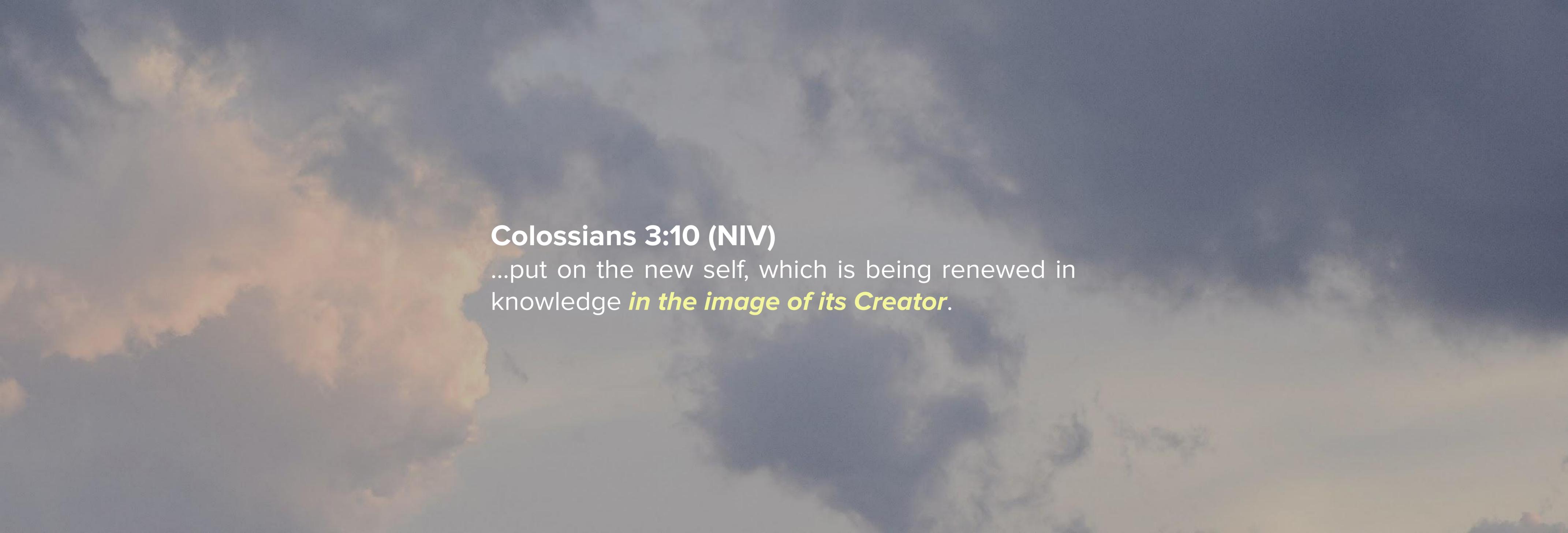
John 3:16 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.



Ephesians 1:7-8 (NIV)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us.



Colossians 3:10 (NIV)

...put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge *in the image of its Creator*.



Communion Slide



Loving Choices Slide