

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery



**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity**



**In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us**



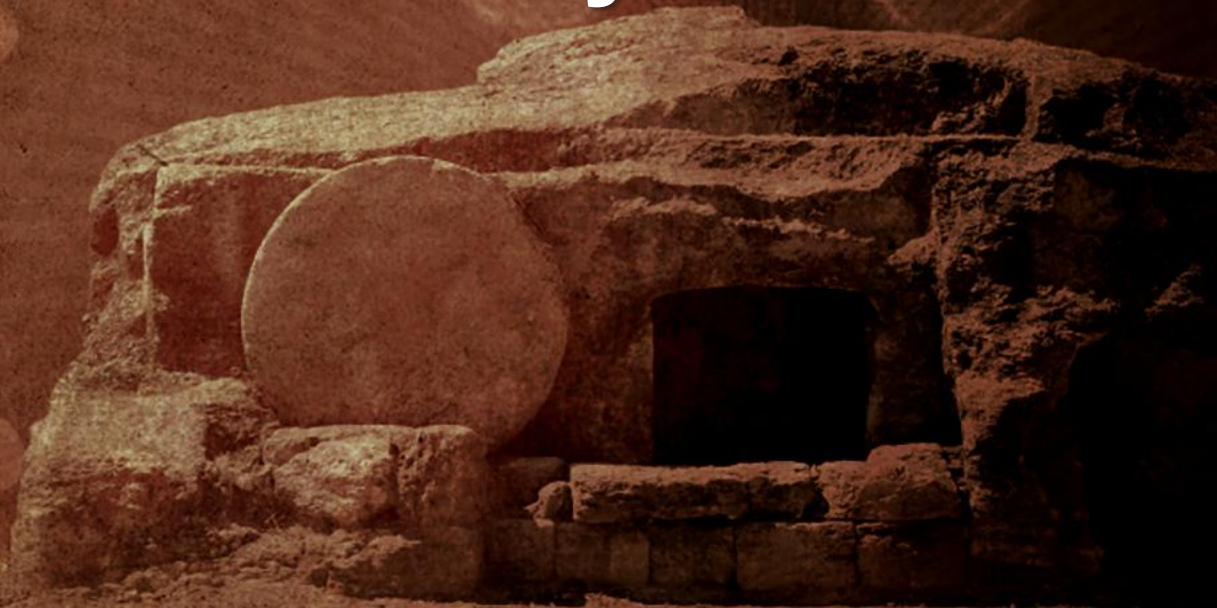
**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin**



**See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand**



**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory**



**See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold**



**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive**



**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive**



**What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes**



**What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes**





O Praise The Name

**I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree**

**His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone**

**O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God**

**Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King**

**O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God**

**He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face**

**O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God**



The Disciplemaker's Prayer

Deut 6:1-9, Mark 3:13-14; 12:30-31, Matt 28:18-20, John 17:20, Acts 1:8, 1 Cor 4:16-17



Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving me a disciplemaking way of life in Christ Jesus. As I go through every part of this day, help me to love you and love the people who cross my path—starting with my family.

Don't let me miss the adventures you are sending my way to live and speak the Good News about Jesus today. Draw my heart to you and to specific people you want me to pull close for Jesus-like disciplemaking friendships. By your Word and Spirit, transform me into a follower of Jesus who loves you, loves people, and makes disciples—who make more disciples, *ad infinitum*.

—In Jesus' name, amen.

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Answer these two questions for each of these areas:

Where do I see God at work? How can I join Him?

My Family

My friends who do know Jesus

My Friends who don't yet know Jesus

My heart

The Disciplemaker's Prayer

Deut 6:1-9, Mark 3:13-14; 12:30-31, Matt 28:18-20, John 17:20, Acts 1:8, 1 Cor 4:16-17



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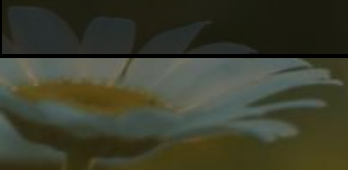
My friends who do know Jesus

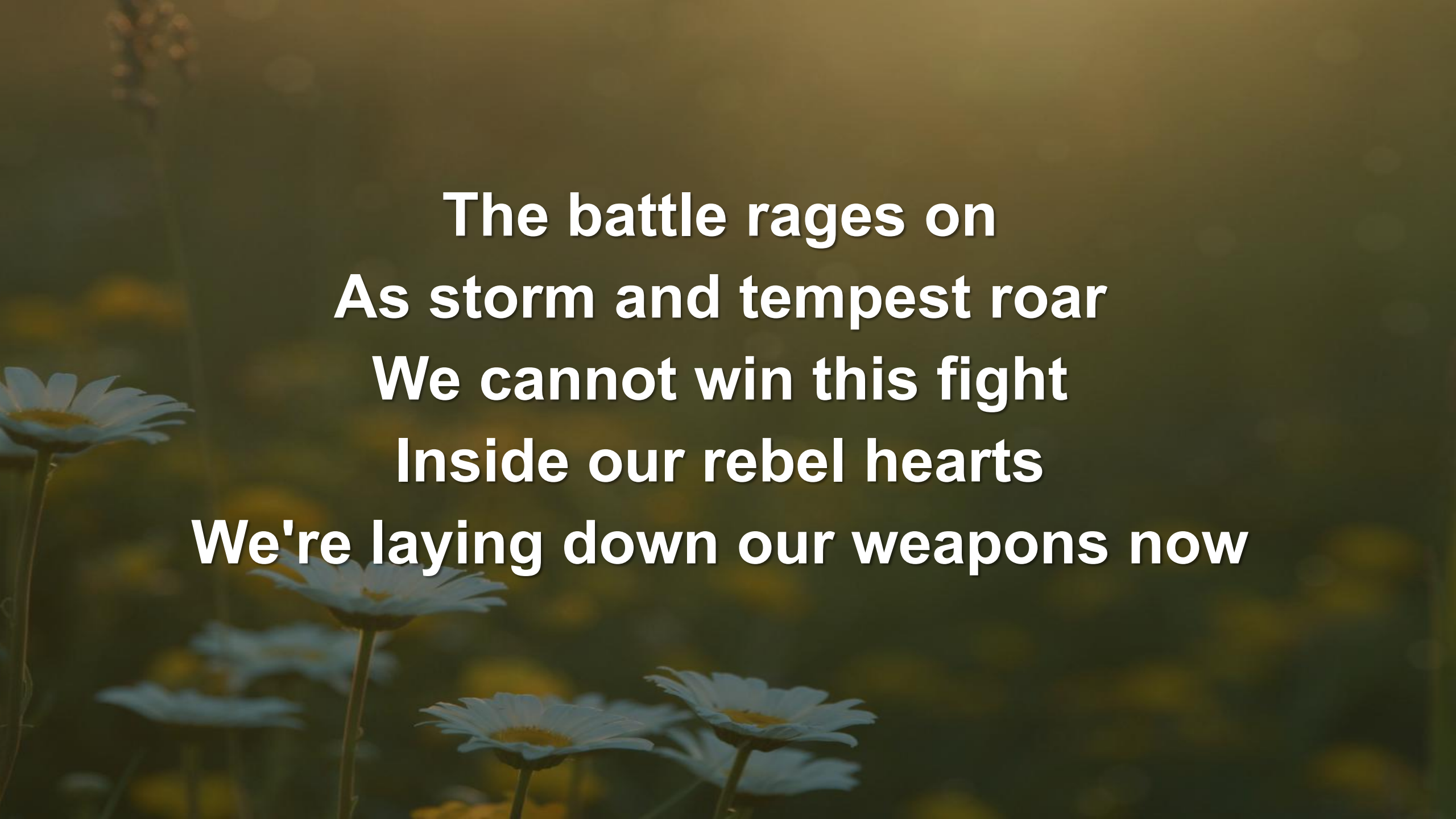
My Friends who don't yet know Jesus

My heart


03:00

White Flag






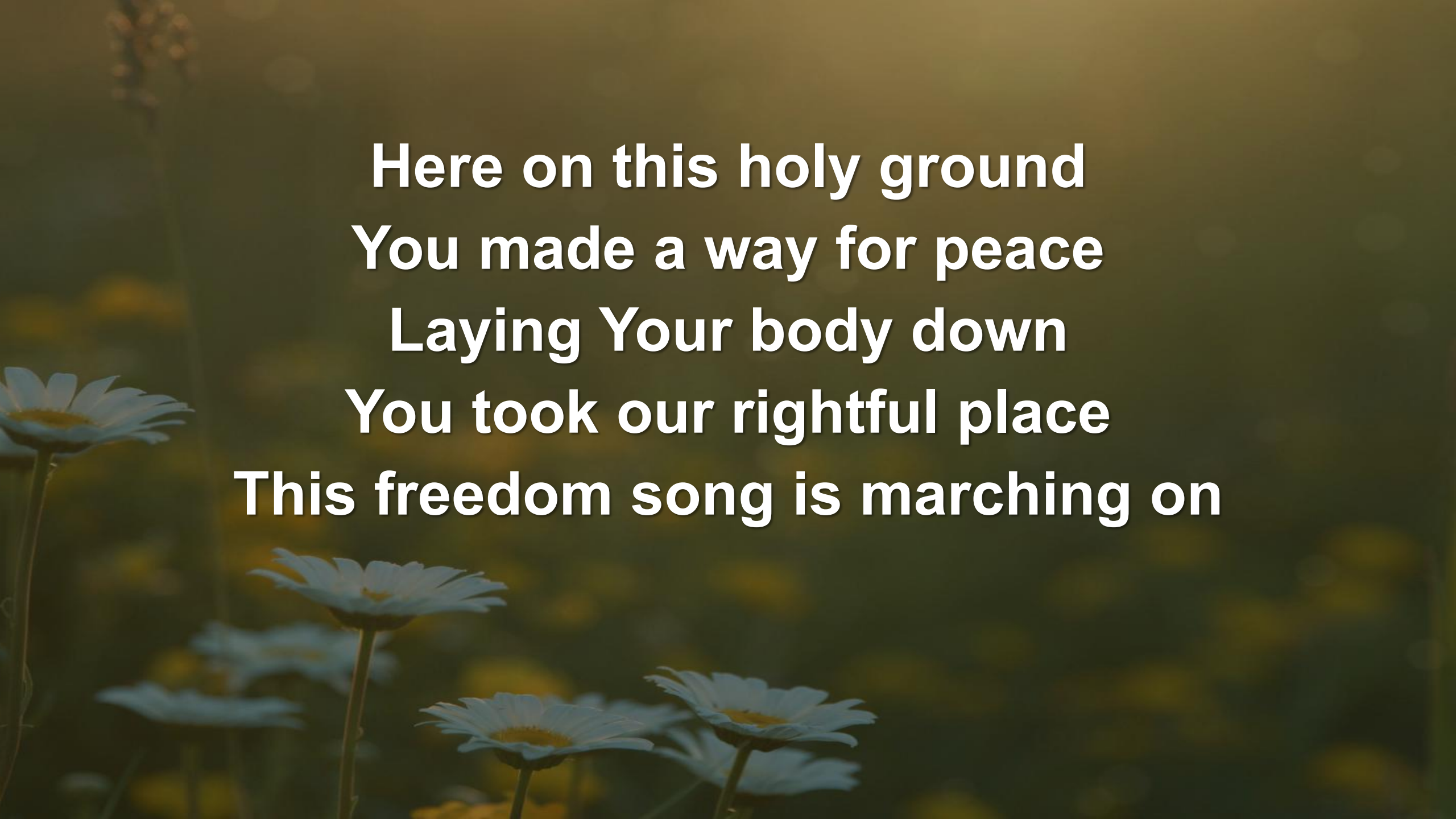
**The battle rages on
As storm and tempest roar
We cannot win this fight
Inside our rebel hearts
We're laying down our weapons now**




**We raise our white flag
We surrender all to You
All for You**




**We raise our white flag
The war is over
Love has come Your love has won**




**Here on this holy ground
You made a way for peace
Laying Your body down
You took our rightful place
This freedom song is marching on**




**We raise our white flag
We surrender all to You
All for You**




**We raise our white flag
The war is over
Love has come Your love has won**




**We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high
We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high**




**We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high
We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high**




**We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high
We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high**



**We lift the cross
Lift it high lift it high
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Lift it high lift it high**



**We raise our white flag
We surrender all to You
All for You**



**We raise our white flag
The war is over
Love has come Your love has won**



Prayer Team Meeting

TONIGHT, August 10th

7:00pm at Common Ground

Any questions, please contact
Ronda Sidener (309-825-3787)



Impact Life Blood Drive

THIS Thursday, August 14th

2:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Crosswalk Sanctuary

Sign up online if you'd like to
donate!

Fall Festival Food Tent Help

Monday, September 1st

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Lake Park Pavilion

6 volunteers needed – sign up in church foyer

Contact Lori Leskovisek (309-202-7505)

for any questions

TRAIL LIFE

A Christ-centered, boy-focused mentoring and adventure program, designed to grow character, leadership, and faith through hands-on activities.

Ages 5-17 are welcome!

The 4 troops in Central IL (Morton, Princeville, Roanoke, and Springfield) are hosting their annual Open Houses in August to share about the fun, fellowship, and purposes of their programs. Parents can meet leaders, learn about their mission, and see how their sons can thrive in a Godly environment as we raise up the next generation of courageous, Christ-following men.

COME JOIN US

MORTON, Troop IL-0316

Open House - 8.25.25, 6pm - 7:15pm
Bethel Lutheran Church, Morton, IL
TrailLife.IL316@gmail.com
309.287.5714

PRINCEVILLE, Troop IL-2717

Open House - 8.18.25, 6pm - 7:15pm
11044 N. Princeville Jubilee Road,
Brimfield, IL
aheim25@gmail.com
712.216.0166

ROANOKE, Troop IL-0356

Open House - 8.18.25, 6pm - 7:15pm
Apostolic Christian Church, Roanoke, IL
blgerber77@gmail.com
309.231.1387

Check out a local Trail Life
troop's Open House in August!

Trail Life is a Church-Based,
Christ-Centered, Boy-Focused
outdoor adventure, leadership,
and mentoring program for
boys ages 5-17.

SPRINGFIELD, Troop IL-2702

Open House - 8.25.25,
6pm - 7:15pm
Together Church, Springfield, IL
steve@tconng.org
217.741.2471

Find a troop near you!



Church Cleaning



We need help for September & October!

Please sign up on the silver board in the foyer.

The background is a dark blue textured surface, possibly representing stone or concrete, with a prominent horizontal crack. Two large, light blue plus signs are positioned on either side of the word 'REPORT'.

ENCOURAGING REPORT

1 Thessalonians 3



The Role of Suffering (vv. 1-5)
The Power of Mutuality (vv. 6-10)
The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

1 Thessalonians 3:1-2a

So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. ²We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ...



A 300-mile journey!

Paul had to know
how they were
doing, so he sends
Timothy.

1 Thessalonians 3:1-2

So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. ²We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to **strengthen** and **encourage** you in your faith,

Strengthen – To make stable, set firmly, confirm

Encourage – “To come alongside”

1 Thessalonians 3:3-4

³ so that no one would be unsettled by these **trials**. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. ⁴ In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be **persecuted**. And it turned out that way, as you well know.

Trials (n) “Pressures” and Persecuted (v) “Pressed”

Oppression, affliction, tribulation, distress

1 Thessalonians 3:5

⁵ For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the **tempter** had **tempted** you and that our labors might have been in vain.

Tempt: To try, to expose, to test maliciously by enticing to sin

⁴ On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who **tests** our hearts. **1 Thess. 2:4**

Test: To examine, to prove genuine, to approve, to deem worthy

1 Thessalonians 3:3-5

³ so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. ⁴ In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain.

Trials are unsettling.

Trials aren't a surprise to God and shouldn't be to us.

What the enemy means for evil, God uses for good.

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

Though a Son, He learned obedience through what he suffered. **Heb. 5:8**

Not my will, but yours be done!

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

Suffering teaches us.

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. **1 Peter 1:6-7**

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

Suffering teaches us.

Suffering refines us.

Suffering results in praise.

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:8-9

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

Suffering teaches us.

Suffering refines us.

Suffering results in praise.

Suffering increases our love for and joy in Christ.

Suffering points us to our future reward.

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4

The Role of Suffering (vv.1-5)

Suffering teaches us.

Suffering refines us.

Suffering results in praise.

Suffering increases our love for and joy in Christ.

Suffering points us to our future reward.

Suffering produces perseverance.



I don't always feel it
That's when I need it the most
So, I will keep on singing
'Til my soul catches up with my song
There's times when my hands go up freely
And times that it costs
There's days when a praise comes out easy
Days when it takes all the strength I got



I'll bring my hard-fought, heartfelt
Been-through-hell hallelujah
And I'll bring my storm-tossed, torn-sail
Story-to-tell hallelujah

'Cause God, You've been patient
God, You've been gracious
Faithful, whatever I'm feeling or facing
So I'll bring my hard-fought, heartfelt, it-is-well hallelujah



I've wrestled with the darkness
But I'm tryin' to reach for the light
The struggle keeps me honest
And it breaks down the walls of my pride
'Cause faith isn't proven like gold
'Til it's been through the fire,
My head, heart, and hands are feeling heavy
But that's when I lift them just a little higher



I'll bring my hard-fought, heartfelt
Been-through-hell hallelujah
And I'll bring my storm-tossed, torn-sail
Story-to-tell hallelujah

'Cause God, You've been patient
God, You've been gracious
Faithful, whatever I'm feeling or facing
So I'll bring my hard-fought, heartfelt, it-is-well hallelujah



The Power of Mutuality (vv. 6-10)

The sharing of a feeling,
action, or relationship



Krispy Kouign

fried egg & cheddar, on a maple kouign amann.

ham, sausage, avocado, bacon



1 Thessalonians 3:6

⁶ But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you.

The Power of Mutuality

Mutual Ardor

Ardor: passion, fervor, zeal, wholeheartedness, eagerness, intensity, energy, fire, emotion, feeling, earnestness, sincerity, enthusiasm, dedication, devotion

He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. 1 Thess. 3:6b

1 Thessalonians 3:7-8

⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸ For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 3:7-8

⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸

For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord.

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?

The Power of Mutuality

Mutual Ardor

Mutual Joy

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 4

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you. Gal. 4:19

1 Thessalonians 3:10

¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— ¹² that is, that you and I may be **mutually encouraged** by each other's faith. **Romans 1:11-12**

The Power of Mutuality

Mutual Ardor

Mutual Joy

Mutual Encouragement

**Are you experiencing this
with other believers?**

The Power of Mutuality

Mutual Ardor

Mutual Joy

Mutual Encouragement

You don't find community.

You build it.

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

**Surrendering Control to God
and Releasing the Power of God**

“May God...”

**Inviting God’s active work
into each other’s lives**

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus **clear the way** for us to come to you.

Kateuthyno: Kah – Tooth – Uno
“To Remove all of the hindrances”

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus **clear the way** for us to come to you.

We need/want more time with each other!

What are the hindrances to this?

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

We need/want overflowing love for...

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for **everyone** else, just as ours does for you.

We need/want overflowing love for...
Everyone!

The Gift of Prayer (vv. 11-13)

¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

We need/want to become more like Christ!

We need/want more time with each other!
We need/want overflowing love for everyone!
We need/want to become more like Christ!

**God, please do this
work in our hearts!**

What is God saying to you this morning?
How is he calling you to respond?

The Role of Suffering: “Father, use suffering to teach us, refine us, lead us to praise, increase our love for Christ and joy in Him, point us to our future reward, and produces perseverance in us.”

The Power of Mutuality: “Father, grow our shared ardor, joy, and encouragement with other Jesus followers.”

The Gift of Prayer: “Father, Give us more time together, more love for everyone, and more Christlikeness.”

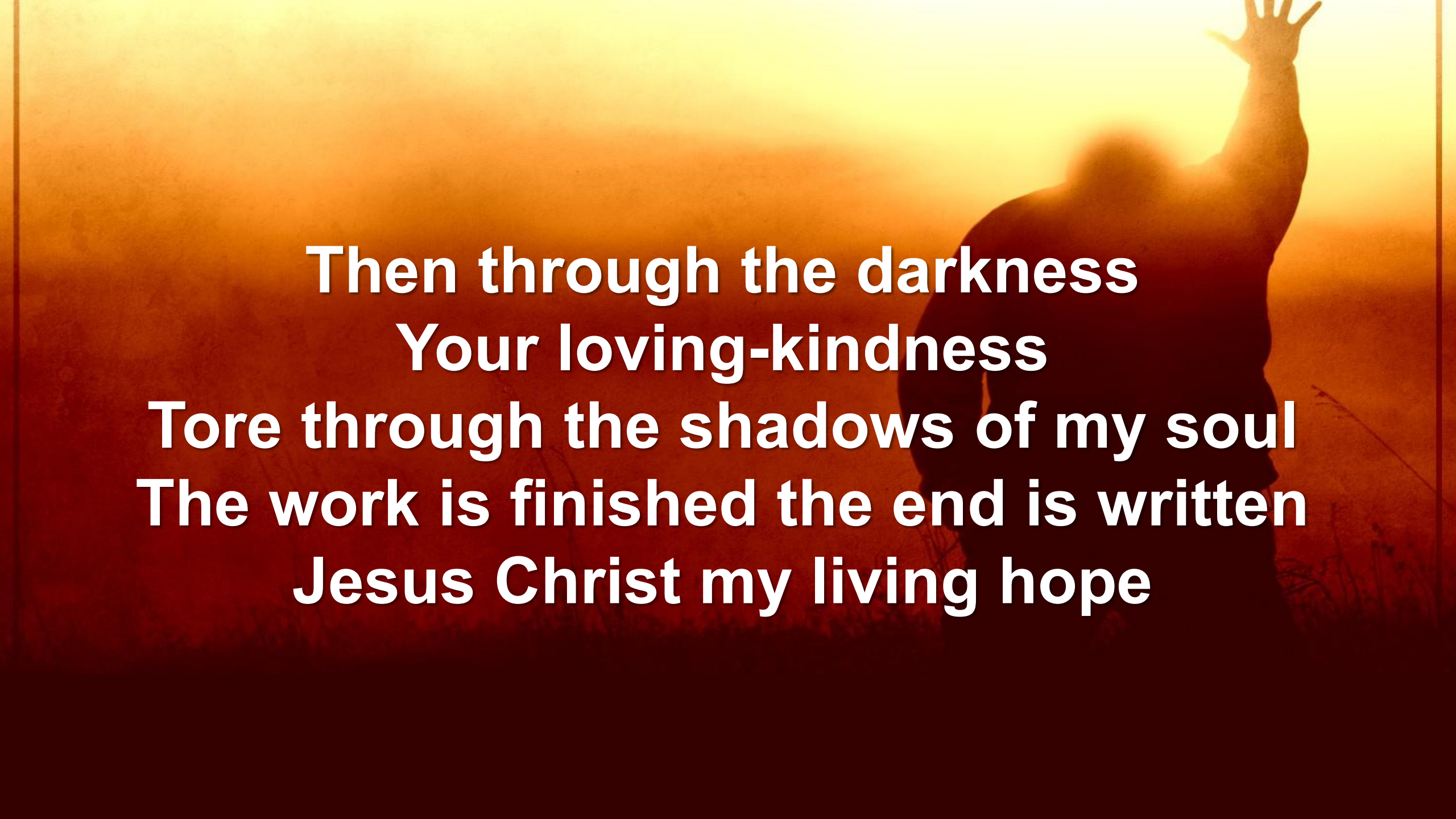
Who is God calling you to intentionally follow Jesus with?

“Draw my heart to you and specific people you want me to pull close for Jesus-like discipling friendships...”

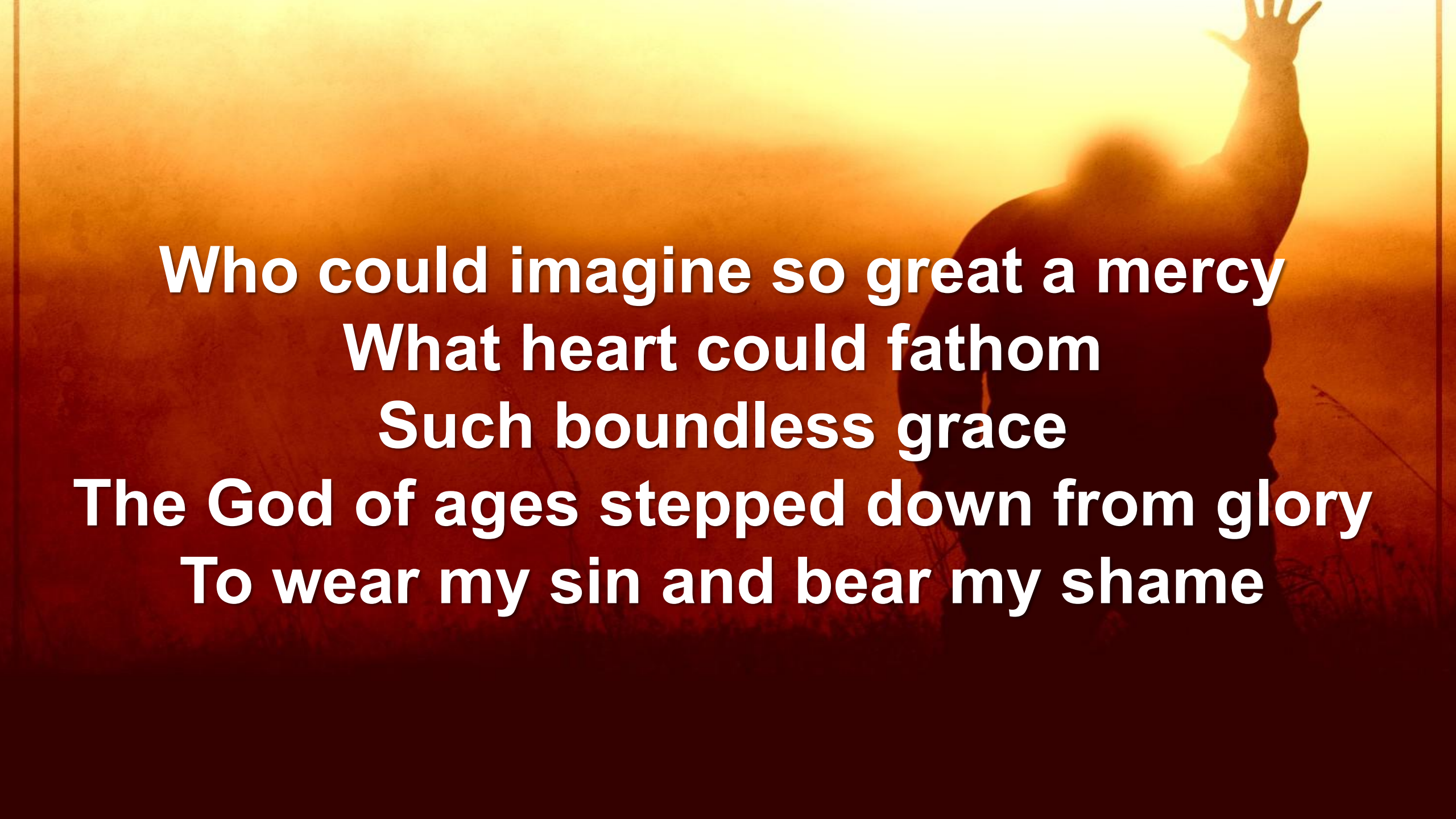
Living Hope



**How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night**



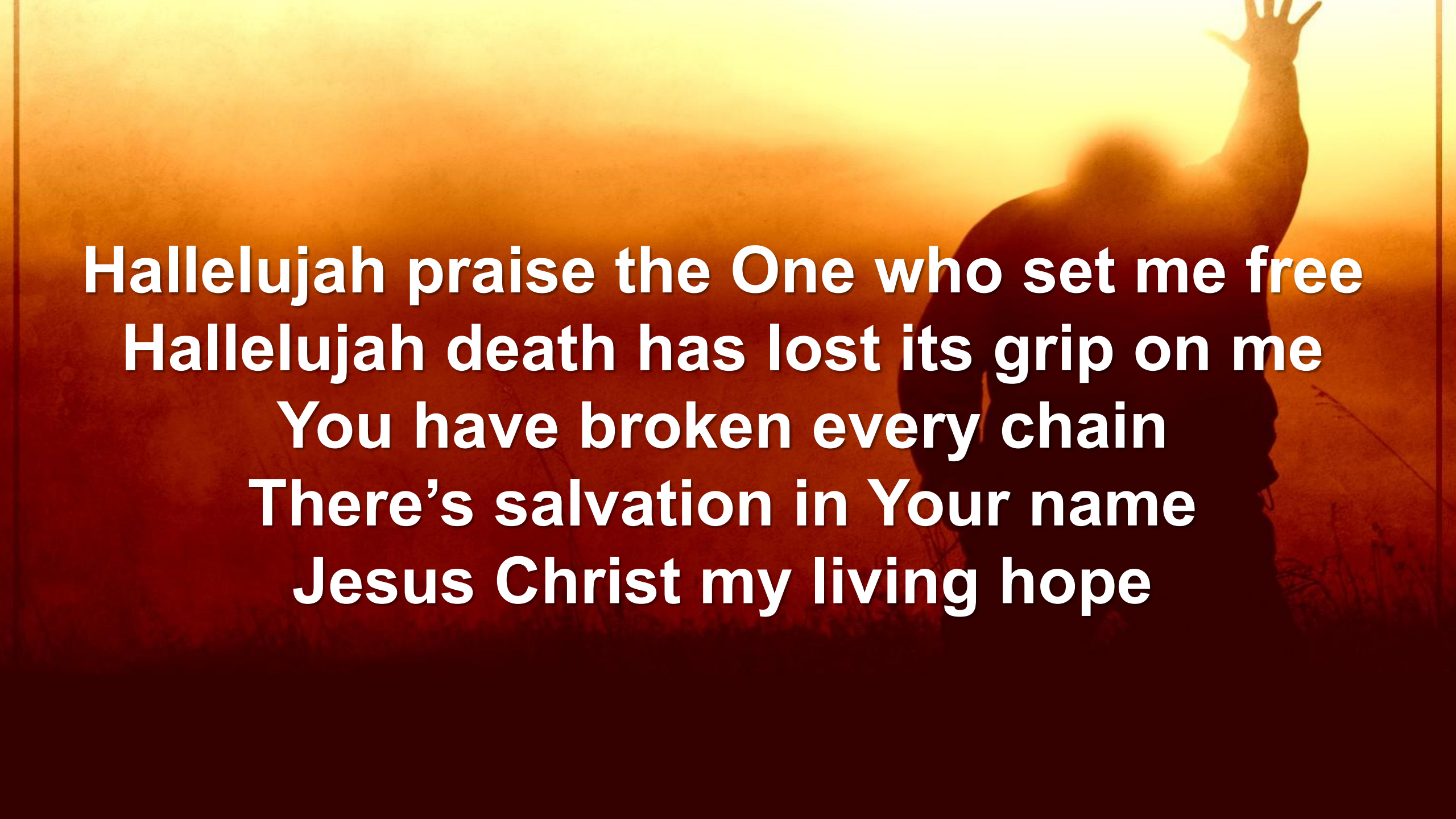
**Then through the darkness
Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope**



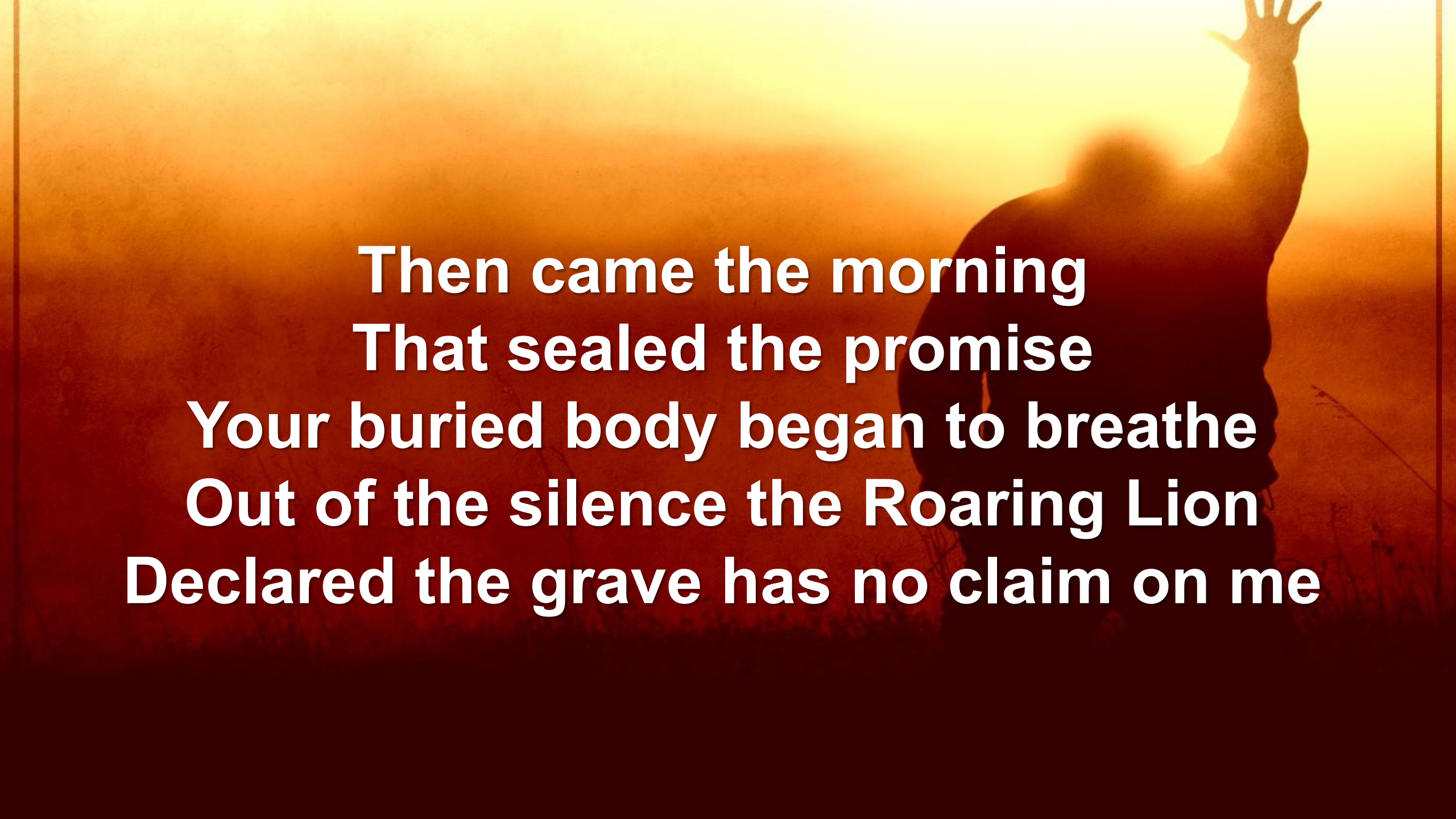
**Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom
Such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame**

A person is shown in silhouette against a bright, hazy background of a sunset or sunrise. The person's arms are raised in a gesture of praise or surrender. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of orange, yellow, and red.

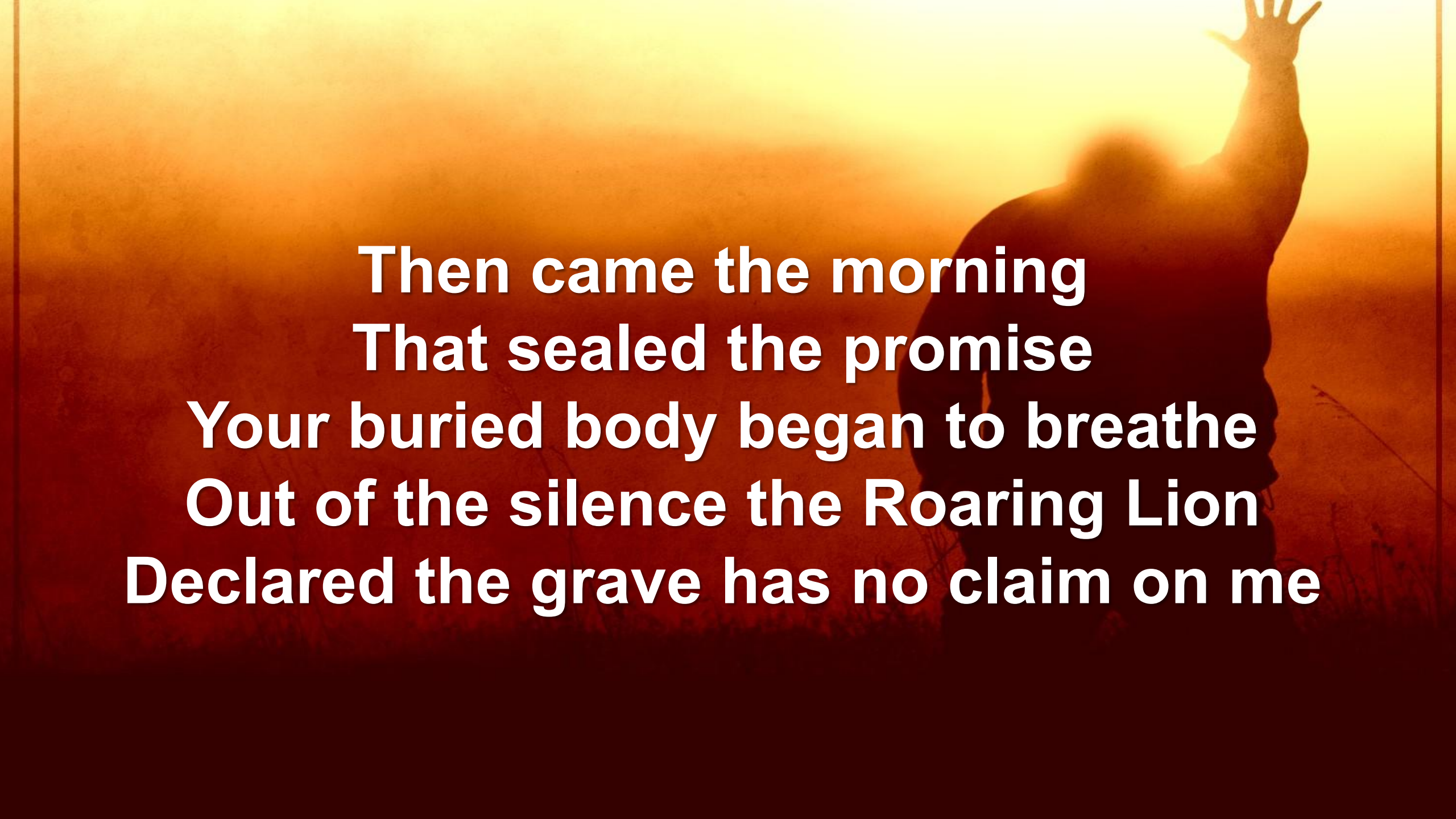
**The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope**



**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

A silhouette of a person is shown from the side, with their right arm raised high towards a bright, hazy light source, likely the sun at sunrise or sunset. The background is a warm, orange-yellow gradient. Overlaid on the image is a five-line text in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

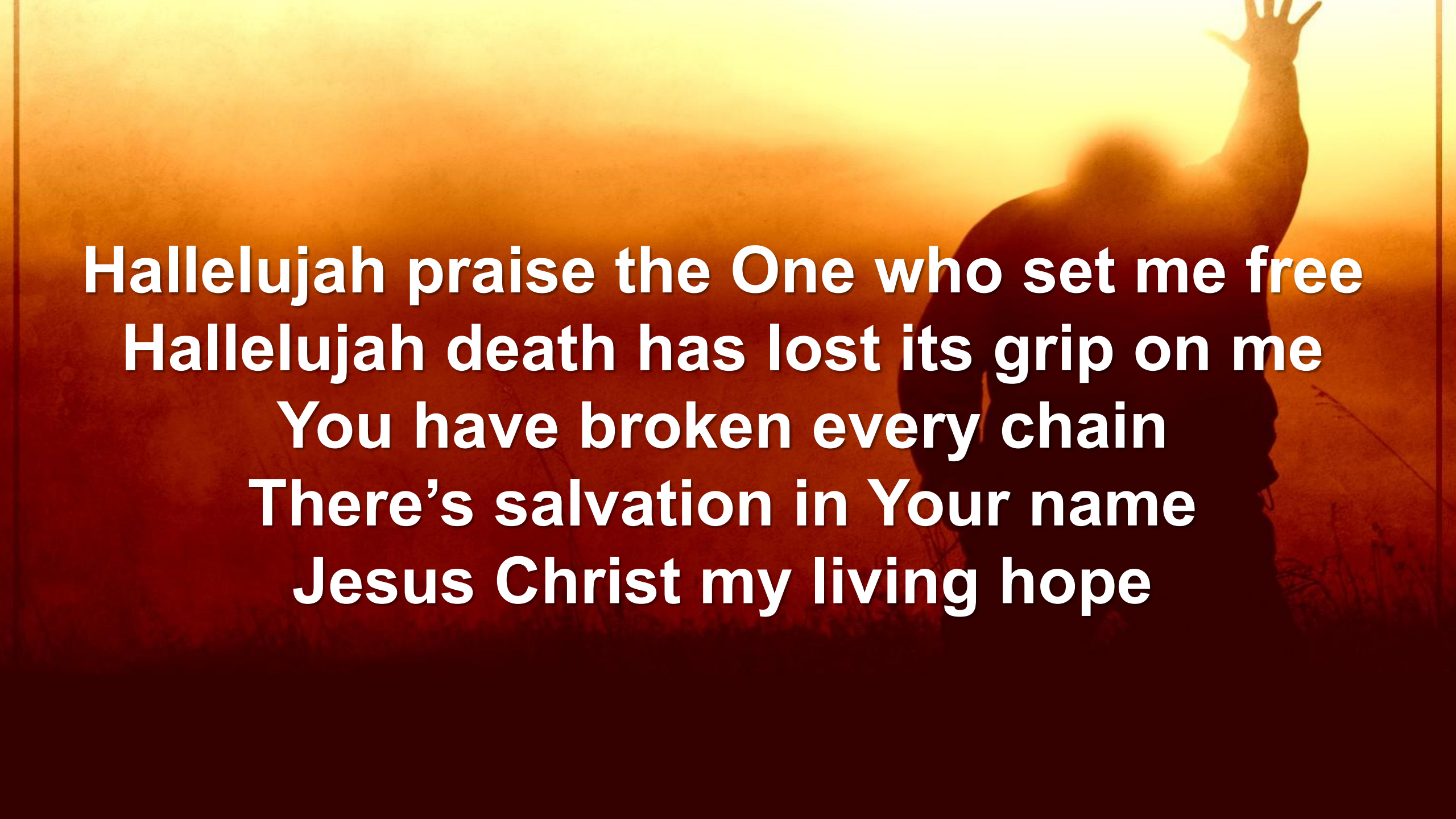
**Then came the morning
That sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me**



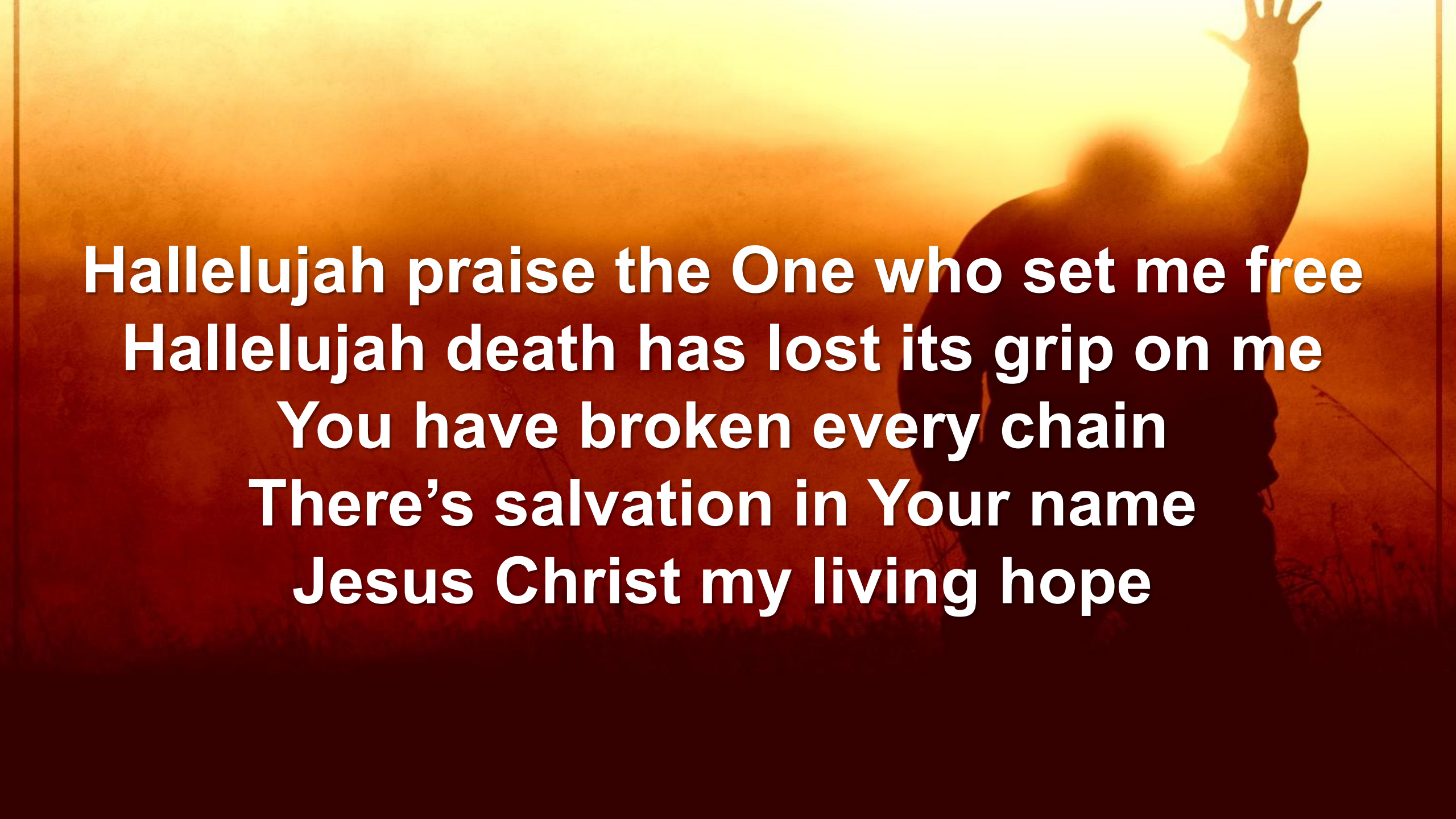
**Then came the morning
That sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field, with their arms raised high towards a bright, glowing sunset. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, facing away from the viewer. The background is a vast, hazy landscape under a sky filled with warm, golden light. The overall mood is one of triumph and spiritual uplift.

Jesus Yours is the victory



**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**



**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field, with their arms raised high towards a bright, glowing sun. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, creating a sense of awe and spiritual connection. The person's figure is dark against the bright background, and their arms are spread wide, reaching towards the light. The overall mood is one of hope, faith, and praise.

**Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope**



Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Great Commission



Matthew 28:18-20