



# Seeking the Heart of God

“The God of the Powerless”

# The Powerless, The Weak, The Helpless

Romans 5:6 (3 Translations)

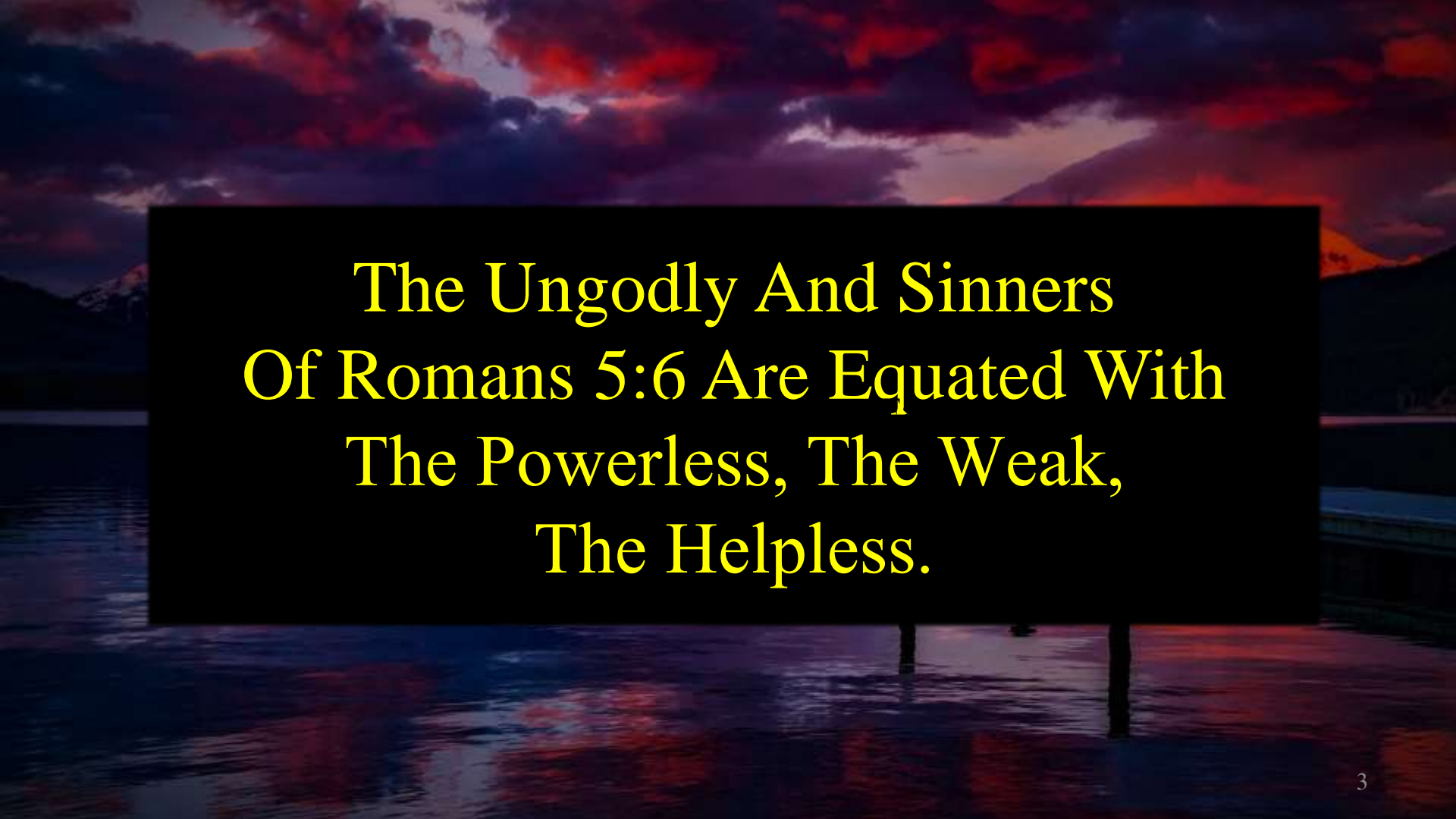
(NIV) You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

---

(ESV) For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

---

(NLT2) When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners.



The Ungodly And Sinners  
Of Romans 5:6 Are Equated With  
The Powerless, The Weak,  
The Helpless.



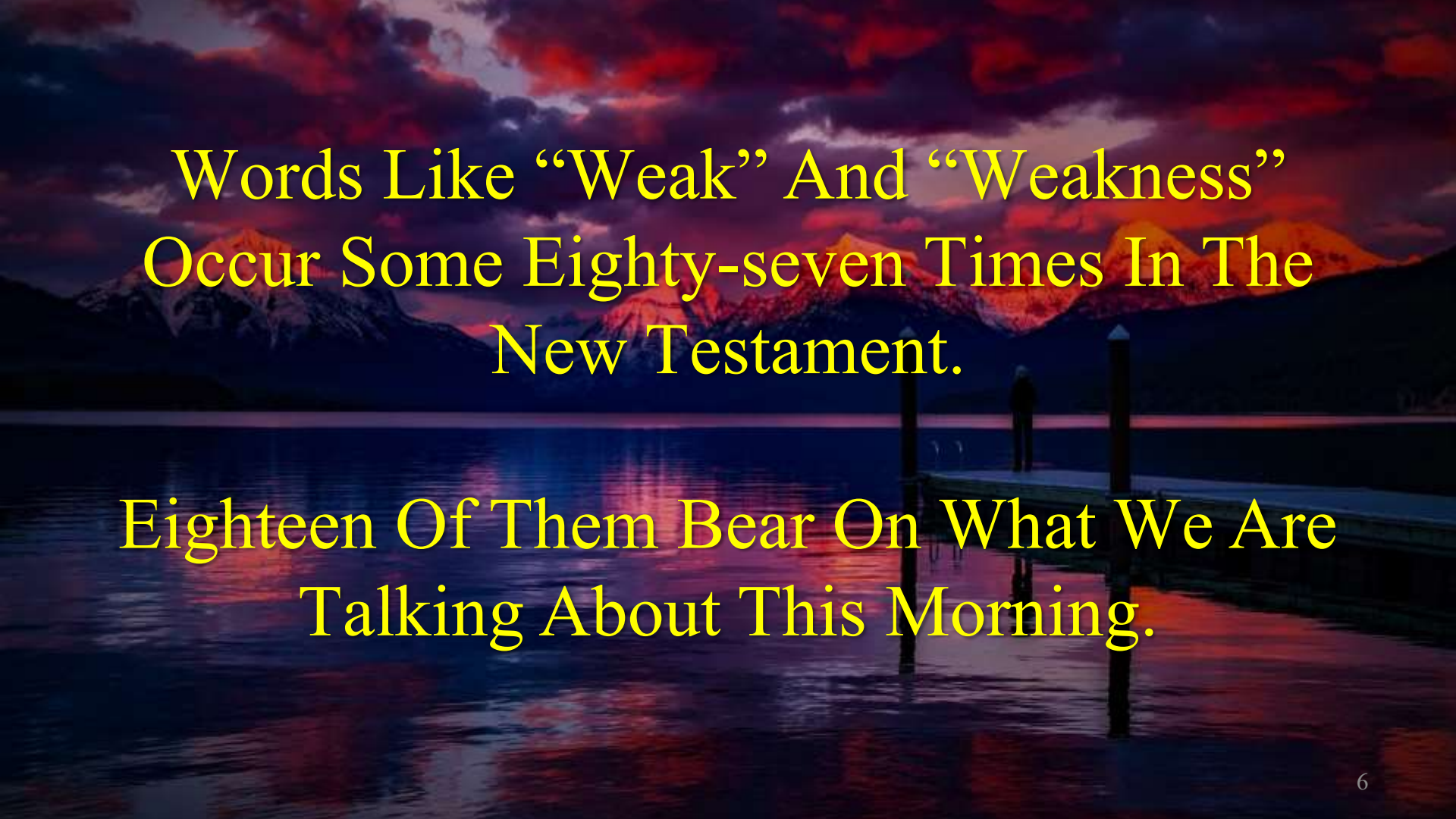
# God Has A Compassionate View Of...

- The Weak Individual?
  - Are we not all, at one point or another, “the weak”?
  - If God is against the weak, He is against us all.
  - He seeks to bring strength to the weak, but loves them while they are still weak.
- *Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?* 2 Corinthians 11:29
- *Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.* Romans 14:1

# God Has A Patient View Of...

- Moral and Spiritual Weakness?
  - He does not view it as intolerable.
  - But, He works to free us and bring us to maturity.
- *So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. Colossians 1:28*





Words Like “Weak” And “Weakness”  
Occur Some Eighty-seven Times In The  
New Testament.

Eighteen Of Them Bear On What We Are  
Talking About This Morning.



There Is Not A Word Of Condemnation In  
Any Passage That Mentions The Weak.

There Is Only Concern!

# In Scripture, Weakness Is Not...

- Commended.
- Promoted .
- Callous Wickedness.
- The Same As Impenitence.

It Is A Present State Of Being In Which One Is Loved  
And From Which One Is Encouraged To Grow.





At Some Point In Time In Our Lives,  
We Have All Been The One Who Is Weak.

In Some Aspect Our Lives,  
We Have All Had, Or Still Have, A  
Weakness Or A Sin, About Which We  
Feel/Felt Helpless Or Powerless.

# Favorite Bird?

“A Man Of The Word And The Bird!”





# What Is Your Favorite Bird?





The Great  
American  
Philosopher  
Charlie Brown  
Had Something  
To Say About  
Sparrows.



# God Is For Sparrows And People

Luke 12:6-7 (NIV)

Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God.

Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.



## Isaiah 42:1-4 (NIV)

*"Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope."*





Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

*And a voice from heaven said,  
"This is my Son, whom I love;  
with him I am well pleased."*

# Traitors And Sinners

*Luke 15:1-2 (NIV)*

*Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."*



# Better To “Overhear” Than “Hear”

- Then, Jesus told them (the sinners and tax collectors) three parables.
- The 99 secure sheep and the One lost sheep
- The Nine secure coins and One lost coin.
- The *lost/bad* son and the *secure/good* son.
  - Jesus doesn’t soft pedal the sinful nature of the younger son. He is shown as a parent-dishonoring, self-serving, irresponsible, wasteful, and immoral, spoiled brat.



The background image is a scenic landscape at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds that are illuminated from below by a low sun, creating a vibrant orange and red glow. In the distance, several mountain peaks are visible, their tops also catching the low light. The foreground consists of a body of water, likely a lake or a wide river, which reflects the colors of the sky and the silhouettes of the mountains. On the right side of the image, a wooden pier or dock extends into the water, supported by several vertical posts. The overall mood is contemplative and serene, with a strong sense of natural beauty and tranquility.

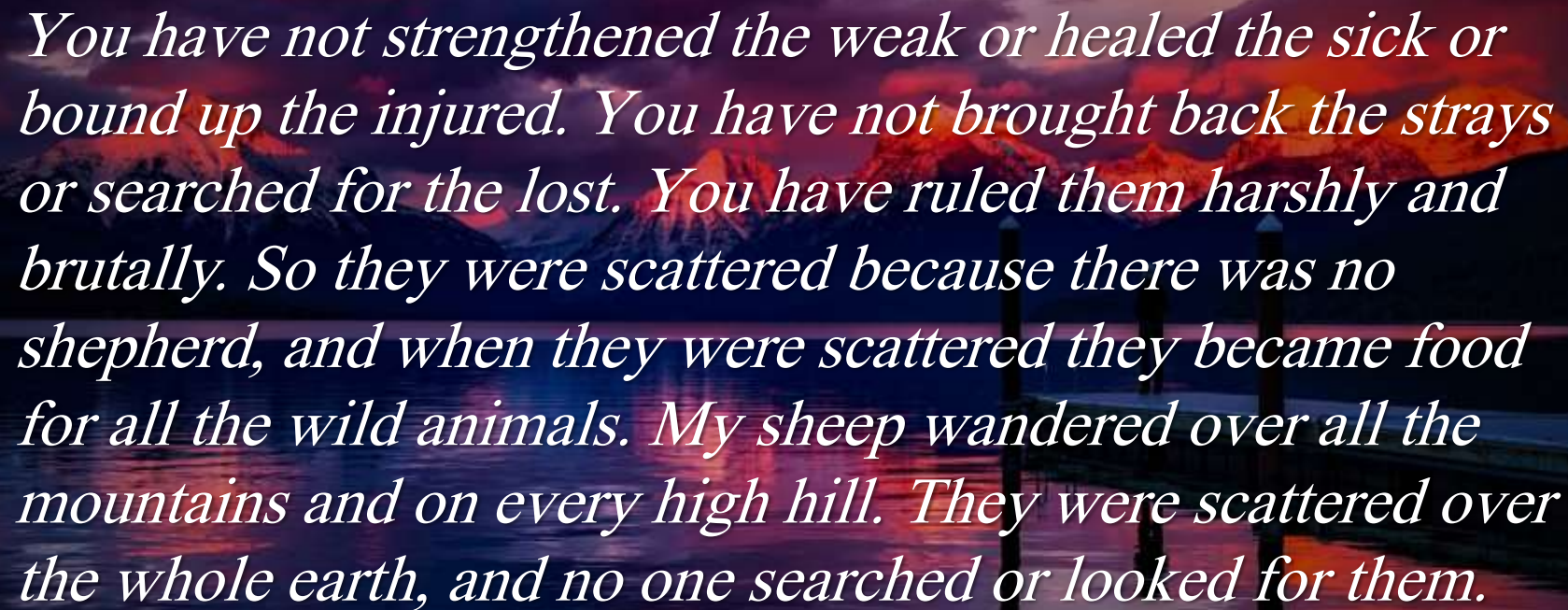
Do The Weak, The Powerless, The Sinners  
Of This World Feel Drawn To You And Me  
Like They Were To Jesus?

# God's Takes A Harsh View of Shepherds Who Do Not Have A Heart For Sheep.

Ezekiel 34:1-6 (NIV)

*The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock.*



The background of the image is a scenic landscape. In the foreground, there is a body of water reflecting the colors of the sky. A wooden pier with several vertical posts extends from the right side into the water. In the middle ground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains. The sky is filled with clouds, which are illuminated from below by a low sun, creating a vibrant palette of reds, oranges, and purples. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

*You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them.*



The Ungodly And Sinners  
Of Romans 5:6 Are Equated With  
The Powerless, The Weak, The Helpless.

They Are The Flock, The Weak, The  
Injured, And The Lost Of Ezekiel 34.



“GOD LOVES YOU

just the way you

But He

**REFUSES**

To leave you that way.

He Wants You To Be

**JUST LIKE JESUS.”**

— Max Lucado