

## TAUNT AND TRIUMPH (Luke 23:27-43)

November 24, 2019

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When it comes to our faith, the world in which we live is filled more frequently with taunts than with triumphs. They are far more likely to cry out *“If you are the Son of God”* (as in Luke 23:35 & 37), rather than *“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation”* as in Paul’s epistle to the Colossians 1:15. As we turn the page to a new church year, we end the narration of the greatest story in all history, and in so doing we signal the new beginning that story promises all of us. The triumph speaks louder than the taunts.

*The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”* – Luke 23:35

### Jesus to the world ...

1. **The rulers ...** \_\_\_\_\_.  
Luke 23:35
2. **The soldiers ...** \_\_\_\_\_.  
Luke 23:36-37
3. **The criminals ...** \_\_\_\_\_.  
Luke 23:39
4. **Satan ...** \_\_\_\_\_.  
Matthew 4:3, 4:5, 4:6, 4:9

*“You have spoken arrogantly against me,” says the Lord...* – Malachi 3:13

*Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”* – Luke 23:34

### Jesus to us ...

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* – Colossians 1:13-14

2. **The** \_\_\_\_\_  
Malachi 3:17-18, Genesis 3:15, Col 1:15 Luke 23:34
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **God**  
Col 1:15-17, 19
4. **Triumphant** \_\_\_\_\_!  
Colossians 1:18-20, Malachi 3:17, Luke 23:42-43, John 14:1-3

*Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”* – Luke 23:43

### Questions for individual or group reflection:

Recall a time when you were teased as a kid.  
How’d it feel?

Who have you taunted because you didn’t value them?

Why did the world taunt Jesus? (see John 1:10-13)

What didn’t they understand/value about Him?

How did Jesus rescue us?

How is Jesus a more faithful son than Adam? than Israel?

What do you believe about Jesus?

How did God act to spare His people as prophesied in Malachi 3:17?

How is Christ’s deity relevant in respect to our reconciliation with God?

Did Christ parade His divinity in visible power?

How did God use weakness for victory?

How is Christ’s victory yours?

How does knowing you are victorious in Christ allow you to face life’s taunts with hope?

**Pray:** Dear Jesus, thank you that you endured the taunts of the people you came to save. Thank you that the sneering of the rulers, the mocking of the soldiers and the temptations of Satan didn’t deter you from the purpose for which you came into the world. For just as the Apostle John noted, you were in the world, and although the world was made through you, the world did not receive you, but rather taunted and rejected you. Thank you, Lord, that by faith we are able to ask your forgiveness and receive your grace. Thank you that you have rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into your Kingdom. Lord, may we continually look forward to that day that you return, knowing that when you do, you will take us to be with you in paradise forevermore. In Your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

### Do:

- Examine what taunts you allow to linger in your mind...
- Then find a Word of God that speaks against each of those taunts.
- Joyfully look to that day when Jesus returns with hope – knowing that on that day you will stand triumphant over today’s taunts.

**Memory Verse:** *“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.”* – Colossians 1:13





A surreal landscape featuring a tree that is half-dead (brown branches) and half-living (green foliage). A path leads towards the tree, flanked by a field of golden-brown grass on the left and a lush green field on the right. The sky is dramatic, with large, billowing clouds in shades of yellow, orange, and white. Several birds are flying in the sky. The overall mood is one of hope and triumph.

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Rev. Christopher Sutton, Chaplain USN







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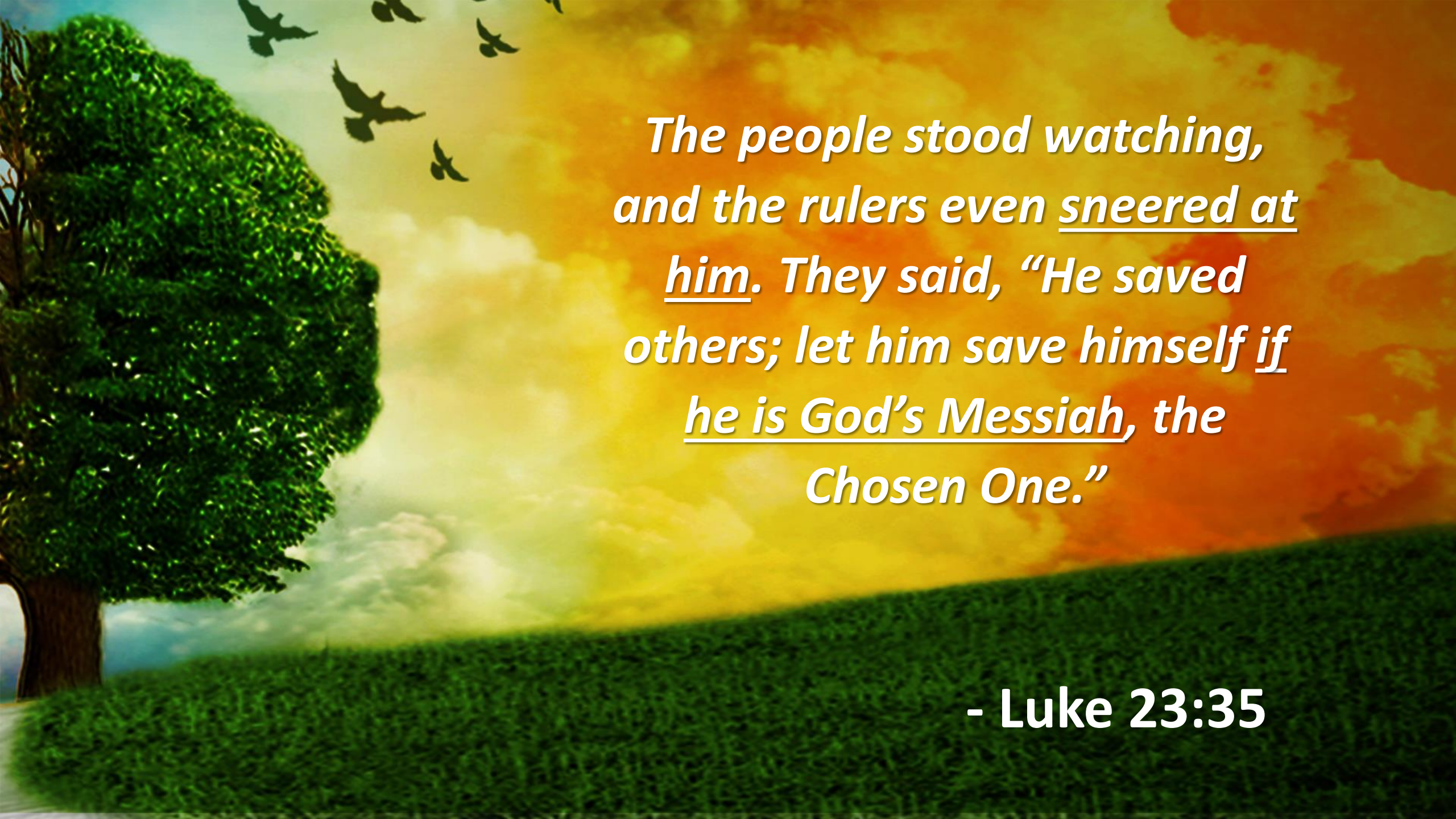
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*The people stood watching,  
and the rulers even sneered at  
him. They said, “He saved  
others; let him save himself if  
he is God’s Messiah, the  
Chosen One.”*

**- Luke 23:35**



A landscape scene featuring a large tree on the left with a green canopy and bare branches on the right. Several birds are flying in the sky above the tree. The sky is filled with large, billowing clouds in shades of yellow, orange, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The foreground is a green, grassy hill.

**Jesus to the world ...**





# Jesus to the world ...

## 1. The rulers ... sneered.

*The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."*

- Luke 23:35



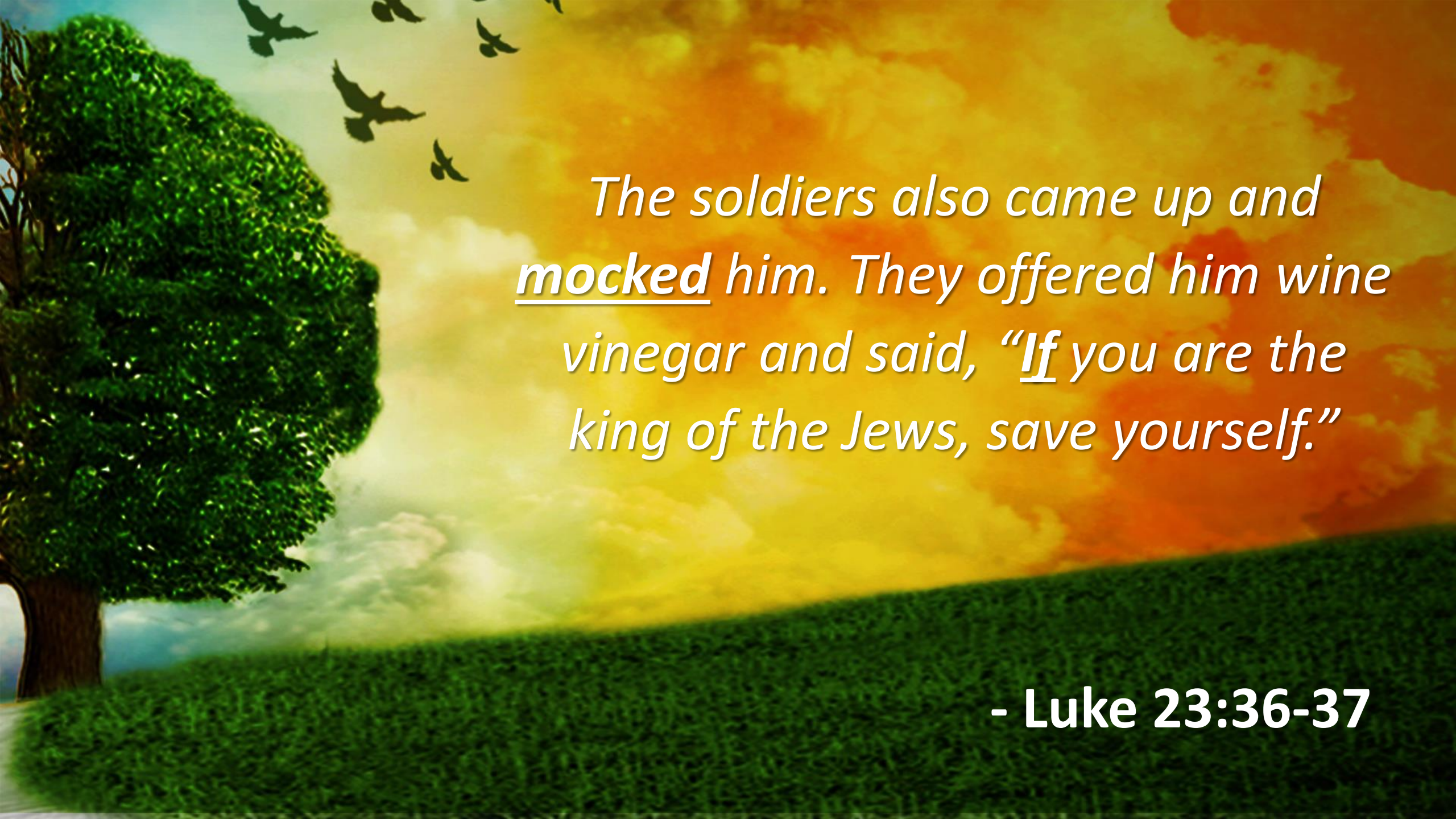


# Jesus to the world ...

1. The rulers ... sneered.

2. The soldiers ... mocked.





*The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”*

**- Luke 23:36-37**





# Jesus to the world ...

1. The rulers ... sneered.
2. The soldiers ... mocked.
3. The criminals ... hurled insults.





*One of the criminals  
who hung there hurled  
insults at him: “Aren’t  
you the Messiah? Save  
yourself and us!”*

**- Luke 23:39**






# Jesus to the world ...

1. The rulers ... sneered.
2. The soldiers ... mocked.
3. The criminals ... hurled insults.
4. Satan ... challenged.





*The tempter came to him and said,  
“If you are the Son of God, tell  
these stones to become bread.”*

**- Matthew 4:3**





***If you are the Son of God,”  
he said, “throw yourself down. ...***

**- Matthew 4:6**





*"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."*

**- Matthew 4:9**




*"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."*



**- Matthew 4:9**





*“You have spoken  
arrogantly against me,”  
says the Lord...*

**- Malachi 3:13**





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forgive them, for  
they do not know  
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**- Luke 23:34**







Jesus to us ...



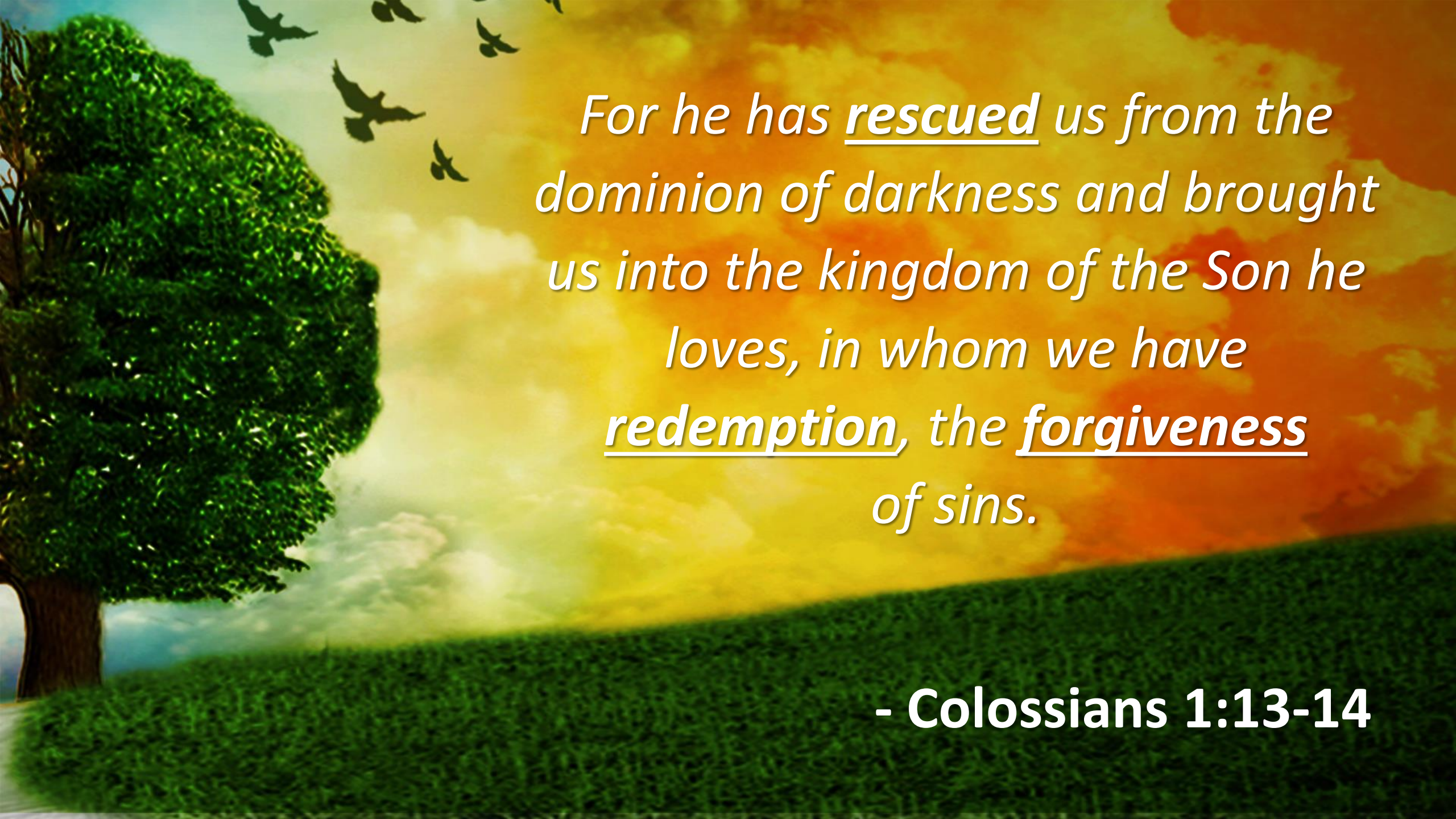




Jesus to us ...

1. Rescuer.





*For he has rescued us from the  
dominion of darkness and brought  
us into the kingdom of the Son he  
loves, in whom we have  
redemption, the forgiveness  
of sins.*

**- Colossians 1:13-14**



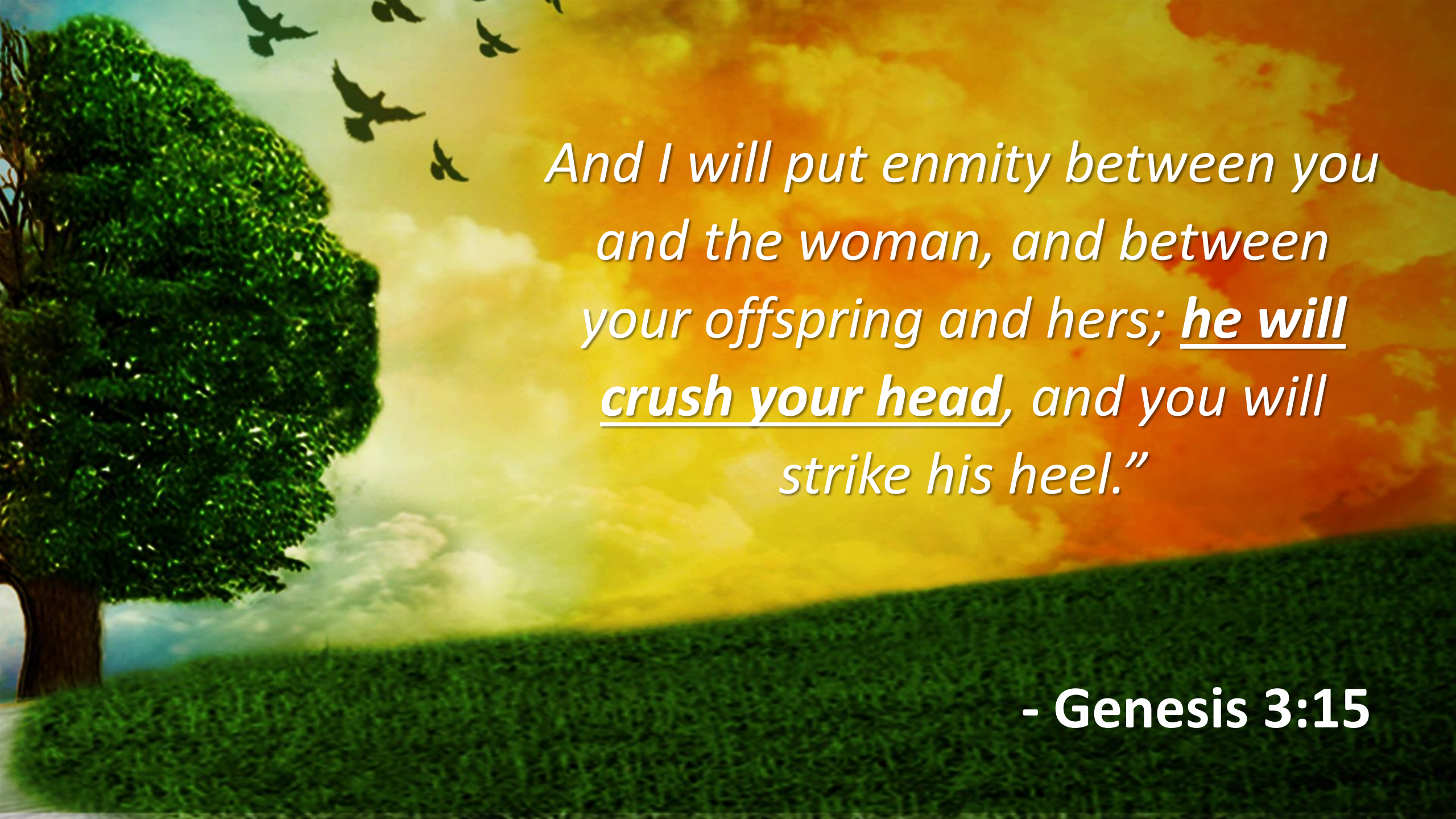
A landscape scene featuring a large, leafy green tree on the left side of a grassy hill. The sky is filled with soft, golden-yellow clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. Several dark birds are shown in flight, scattered across the upper portion of the sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

# Jesus to us ...

1. Rescuer.

2. The Faithful Son.





*And I will put enmity between you  
and the woman, and between  
your offspring and hers; he will  
crush your head, and you will  
strike his heel.”*

**- Genesis 3:15**





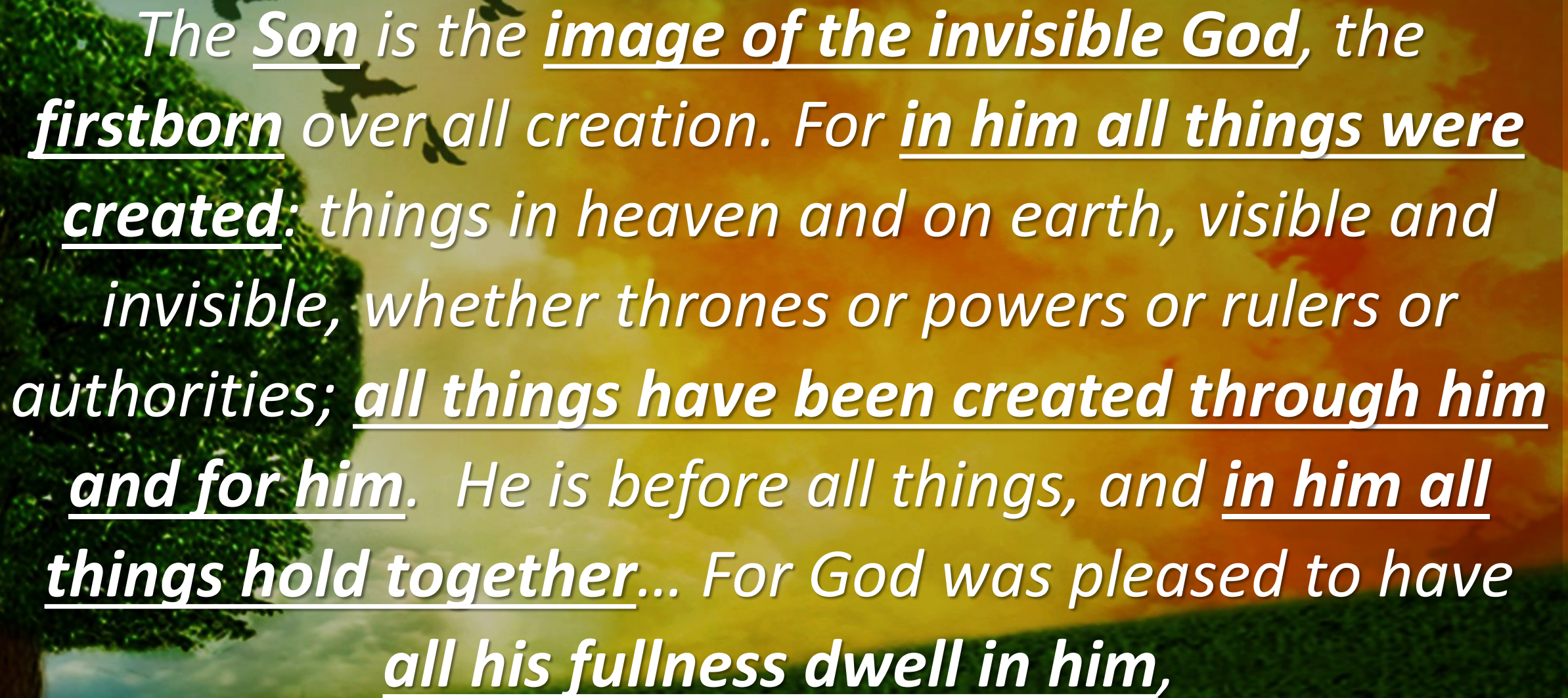
# Jesus to us ...

1. Rescuer.

2. The Faithful Son.

3. Creator God.





*The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 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. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together... For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,*

**- Colossians 1:15-17, 19**

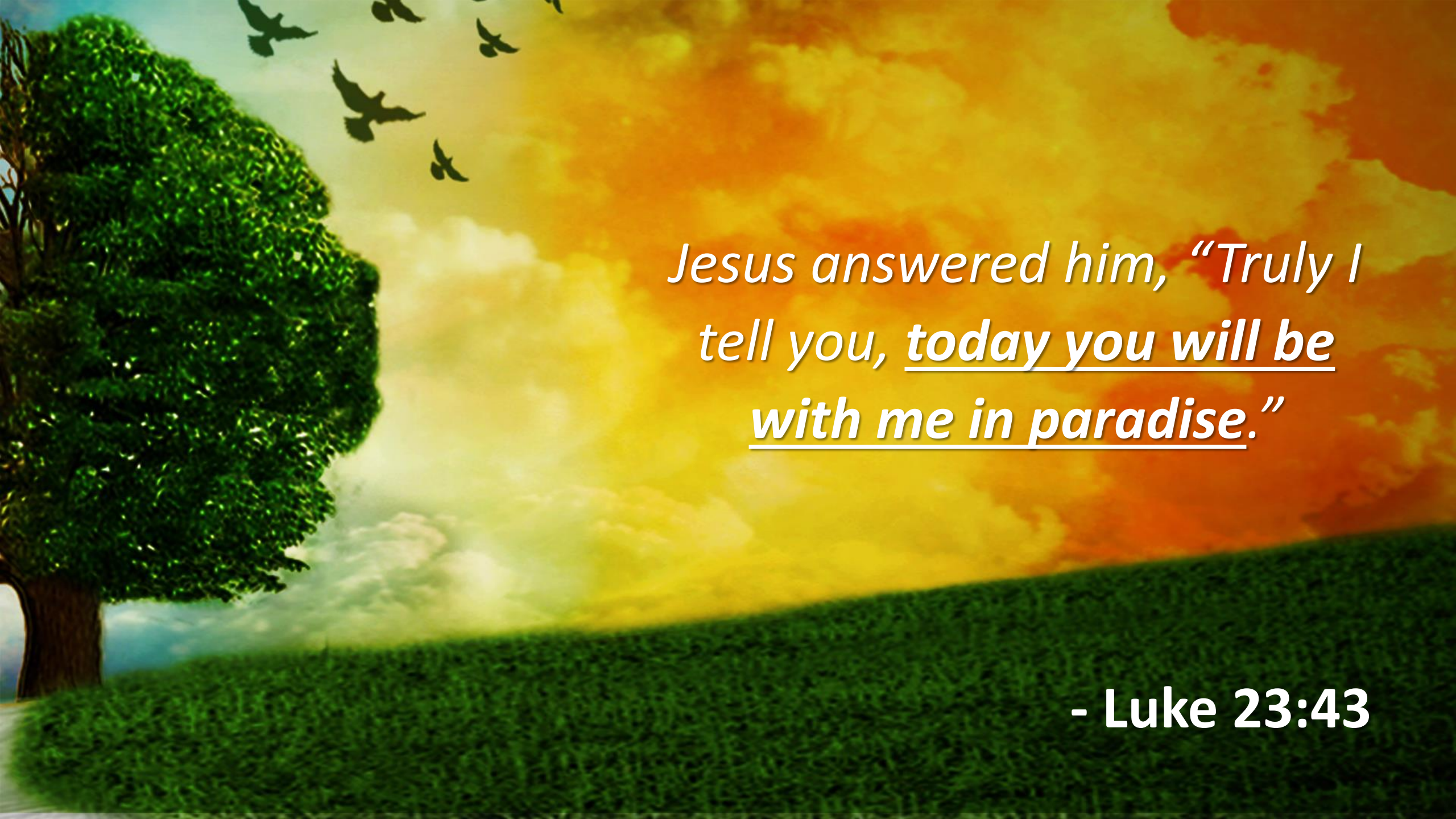




# Jesus to us ...

1. Rescuer.
2. The Faithful Son.
3. Creator God.
4. Triumphant Victor!

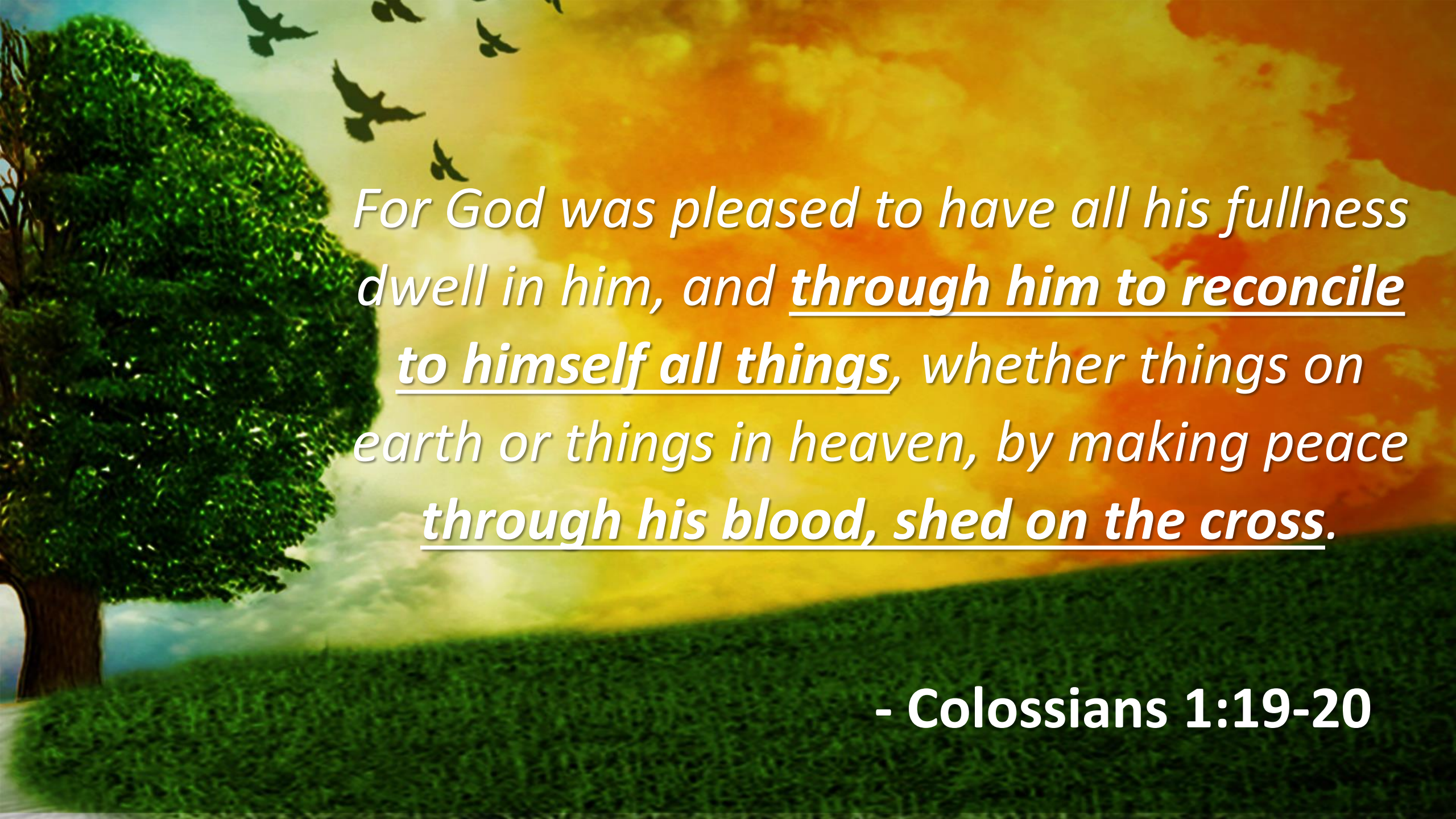




*Jesus answered him, “Truly I  
tell you, today you will be  
with me in paradise.”*

**- Luke 23:43**

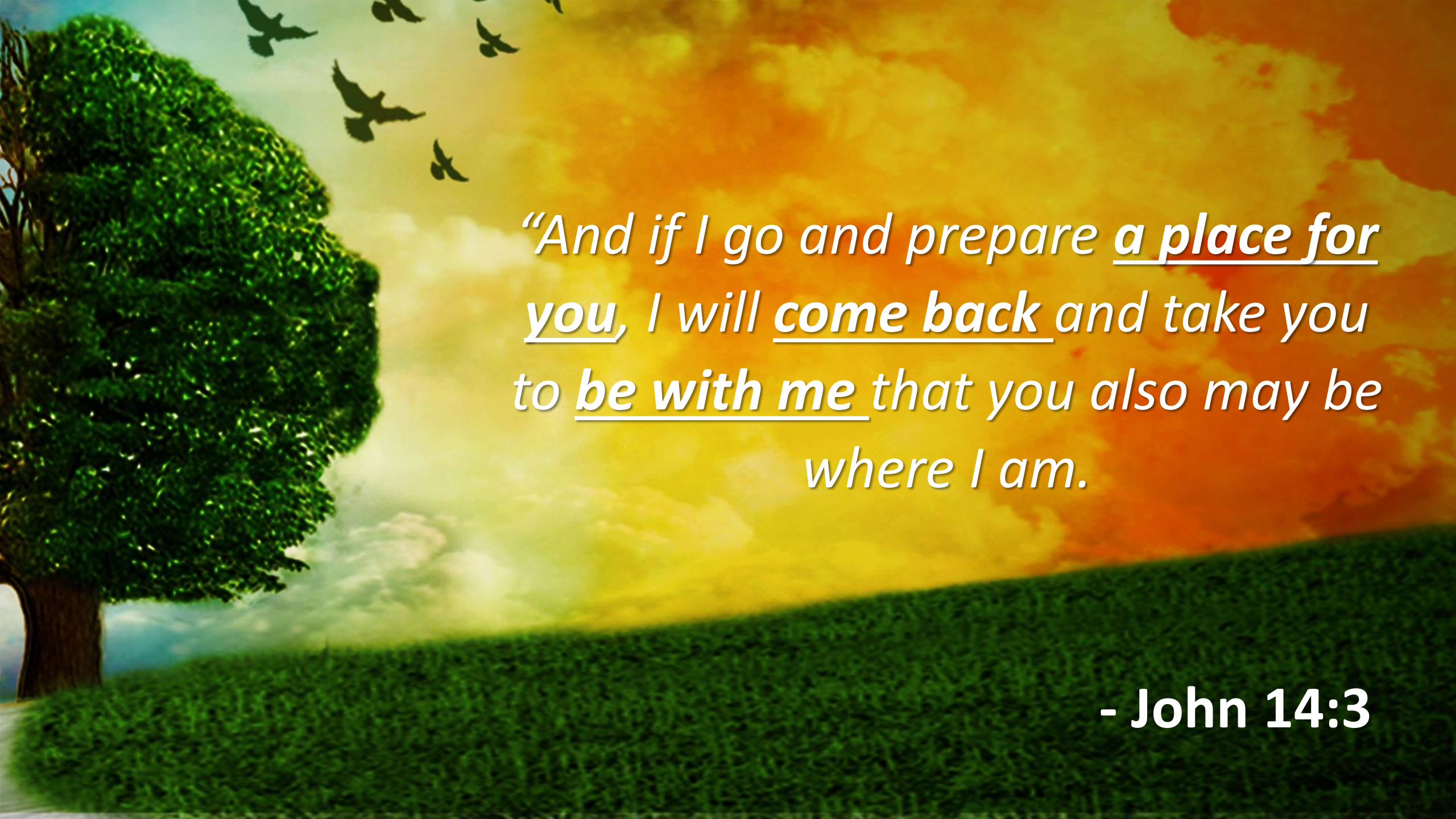




*For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.*

**- Colossians 1:19-20**





*“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.*”

**- John 14:3**





# Jesus to us ...

1. Rescuer.
2. The Faithful Son.
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