



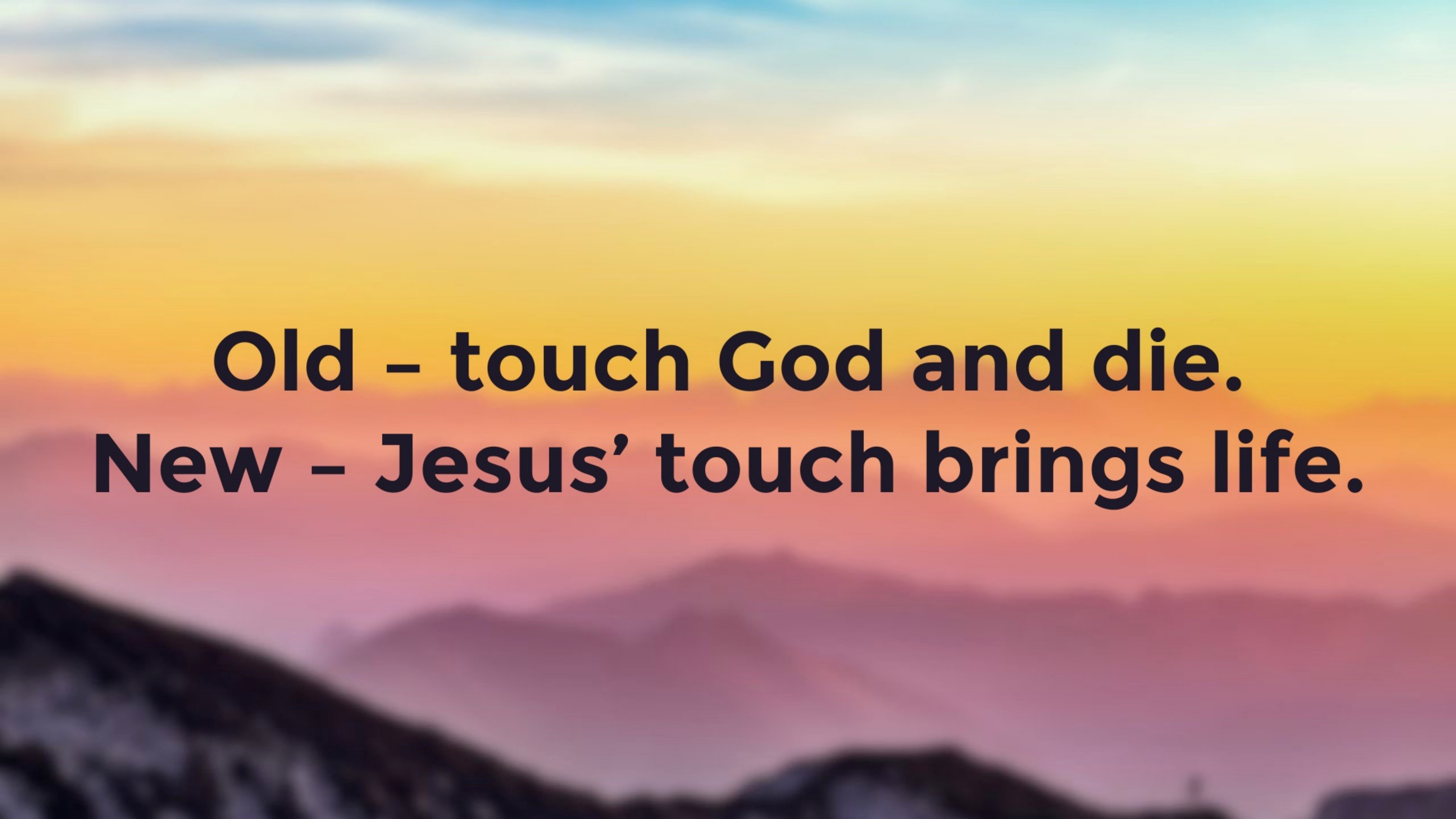
HOLY GOD.

Touching the Untouchable

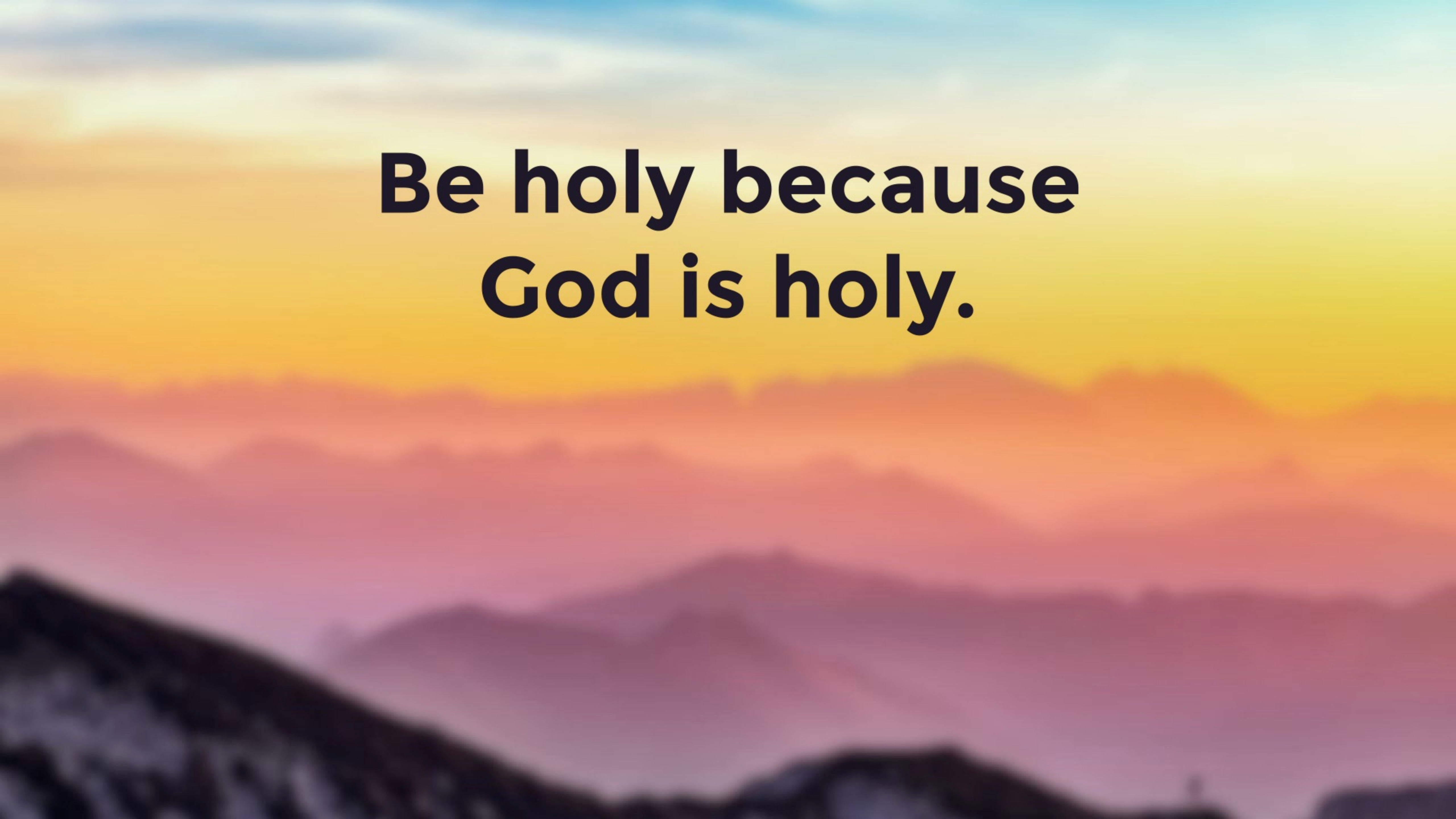


“He isn’t safe, but he is good.”

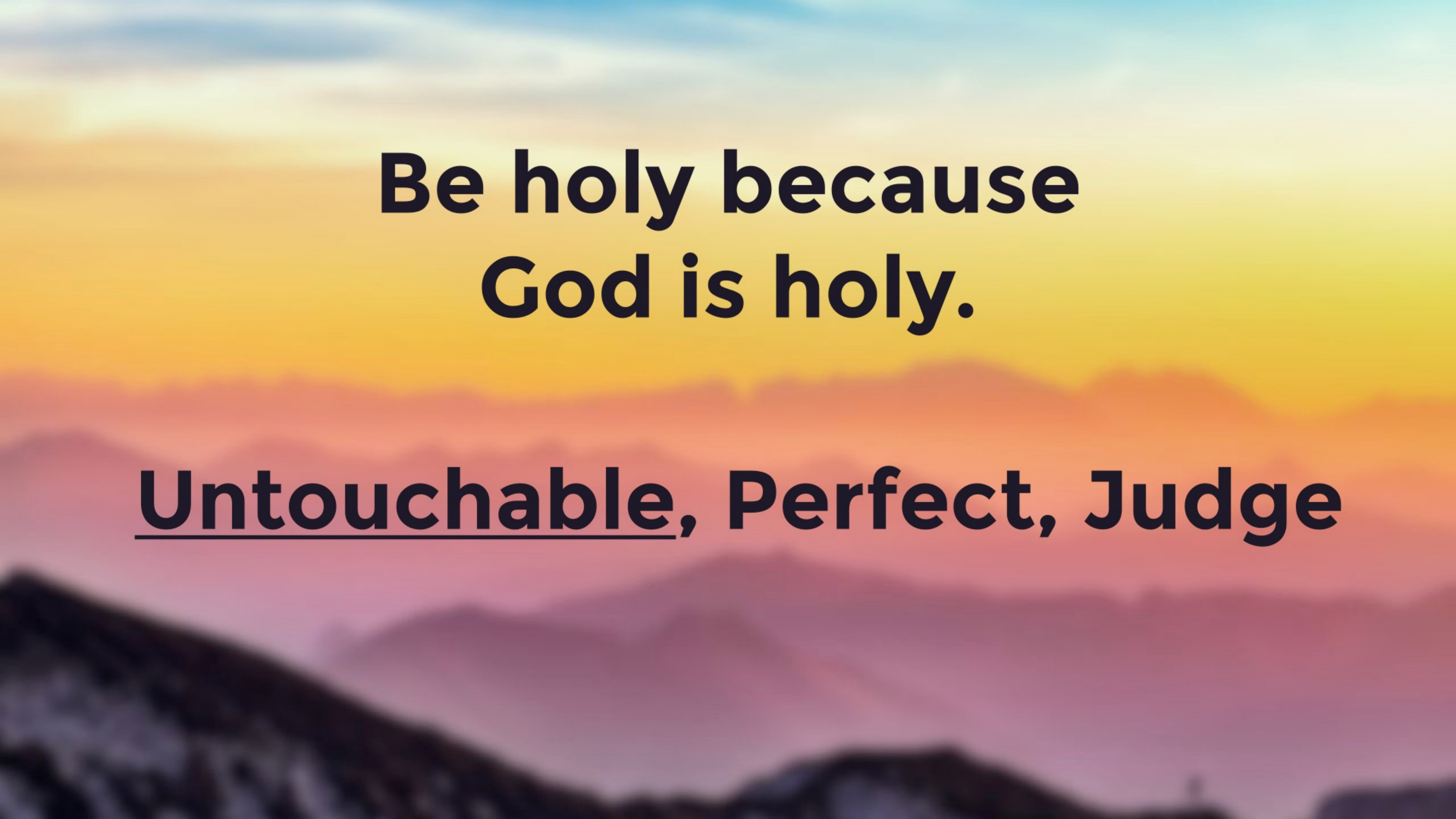
C.S. Lewis - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.



Old – touch God and die.
New – Jesus' touch brings life.



**Be holy because
God is holy.**



**Be holy because
God is holy.**

Untouchable, Perfect, Judge

lepra

corpses



DEATH



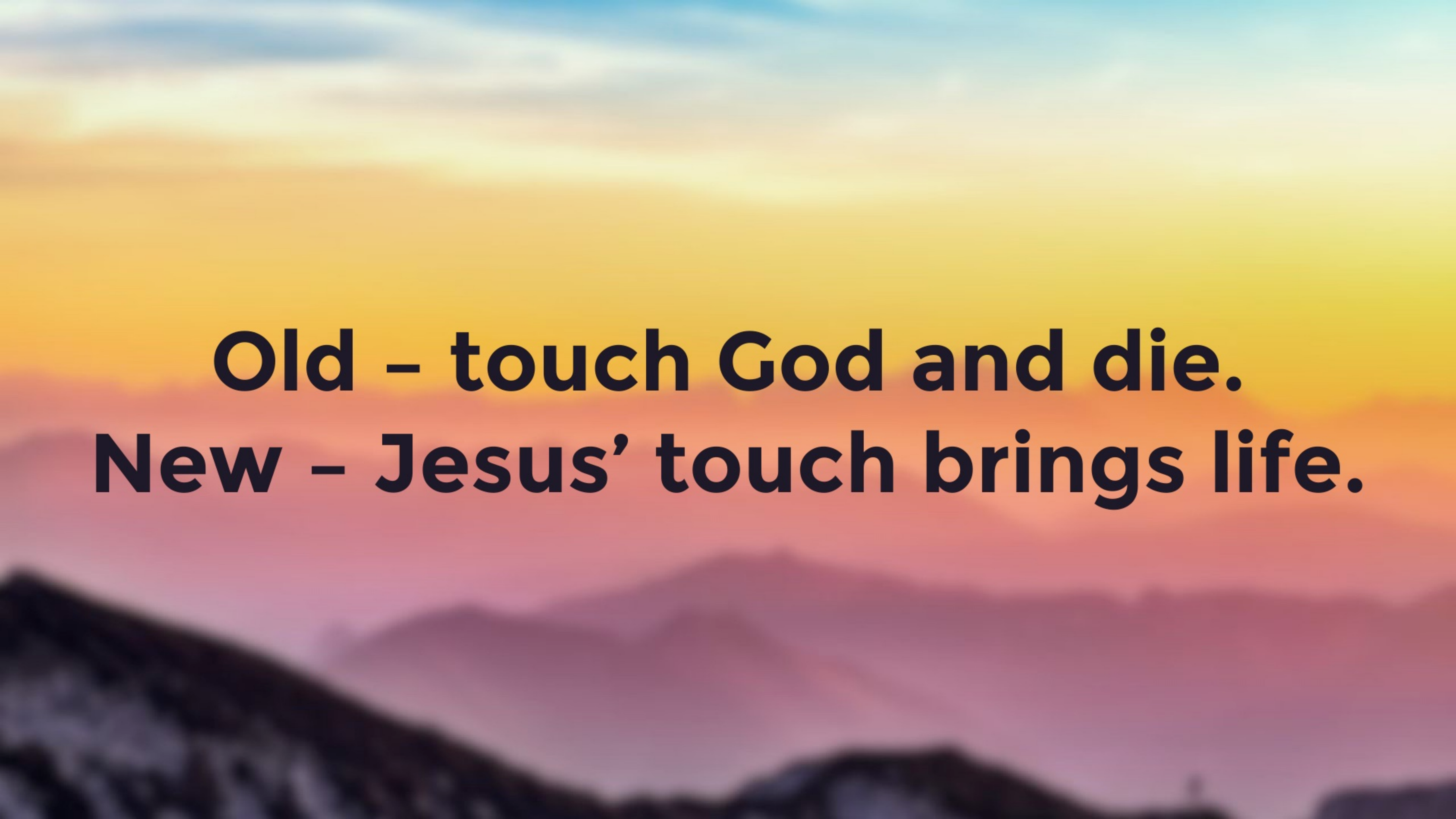
bodily discharges



I would suggest, though, that compassion animates the Jewish purity system; it was a protective and benevolent system intended to preserve God's presence among his people, a presence that could be of considerable danger to humans if they approached God wrongly.

Access to sacred space was heavily restricted, not out of a lack of compassion but out of the belief that this holy God not only was merciful and loving but also was a powerful force that could be dangerous.

Matthew Thiessen - Jesus and the Forces of Death, p.11.



Old – touch God and die.
New – Jesus' touch brings life.

24 “Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

lepra

corpses



DEATH



bodily discharges

Jesus and the walking dead (lepra)

⁴⁰ A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said. ⁴¹ Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” ⁴² Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed.

Mark 1:40-42 NLT

lepra

corpses



DEATH



bodily discharges

Jesus and the Dead Womb (discharges)

²⁸ For she thought to herself, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.”

²⁹ Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition.

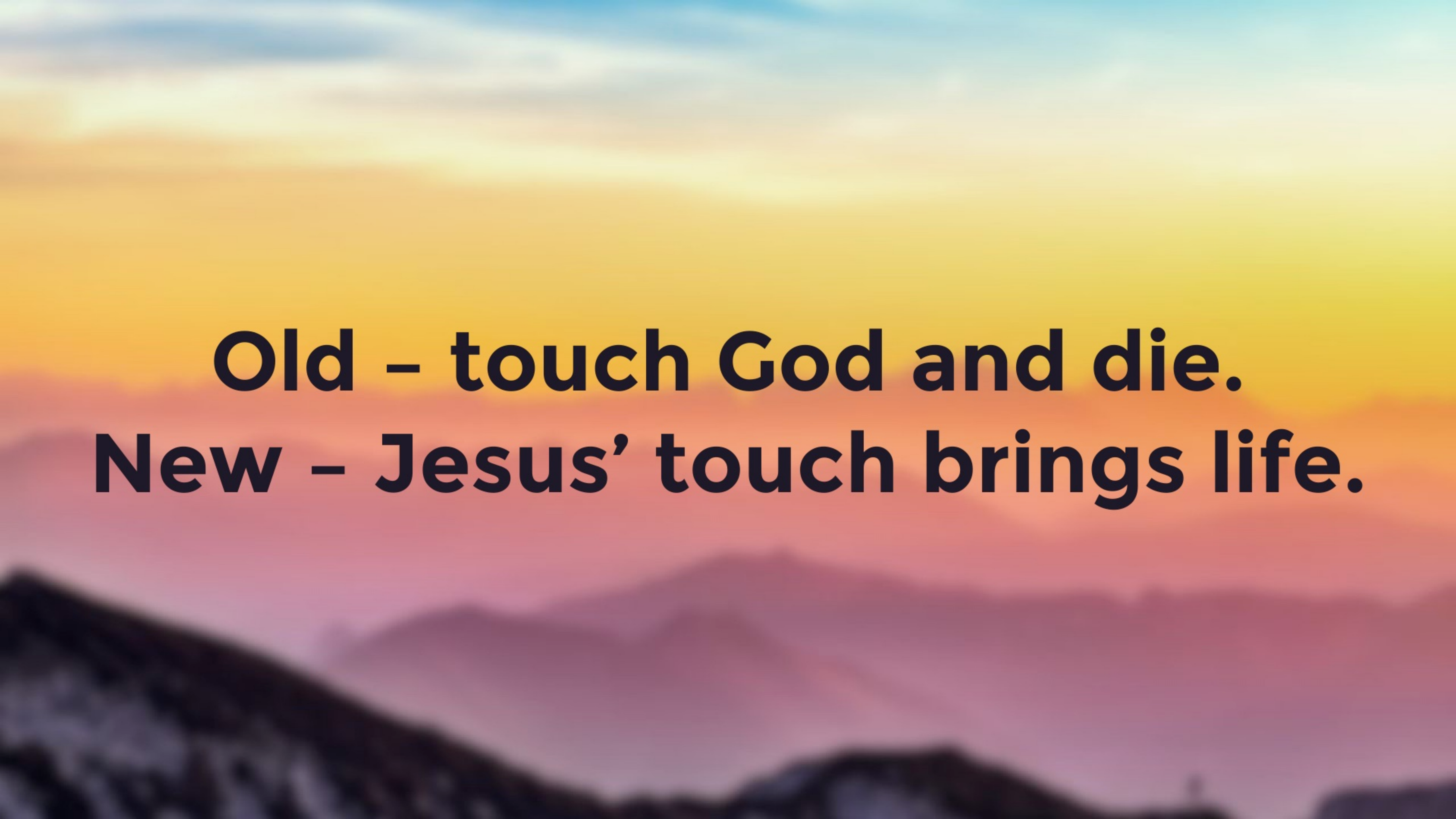
³⁴ And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”

Matt 5:28-29, 34 NLT

Jesus and the Dead Girl (corpses)

⁴¹ Holding her hand, he said to her, “Talitha koum,” which means “Little girl, get up!” ⁴² And the girl, who was twelve years old, immediately stood up and walked around! They were overwhelmed and totally amazed.

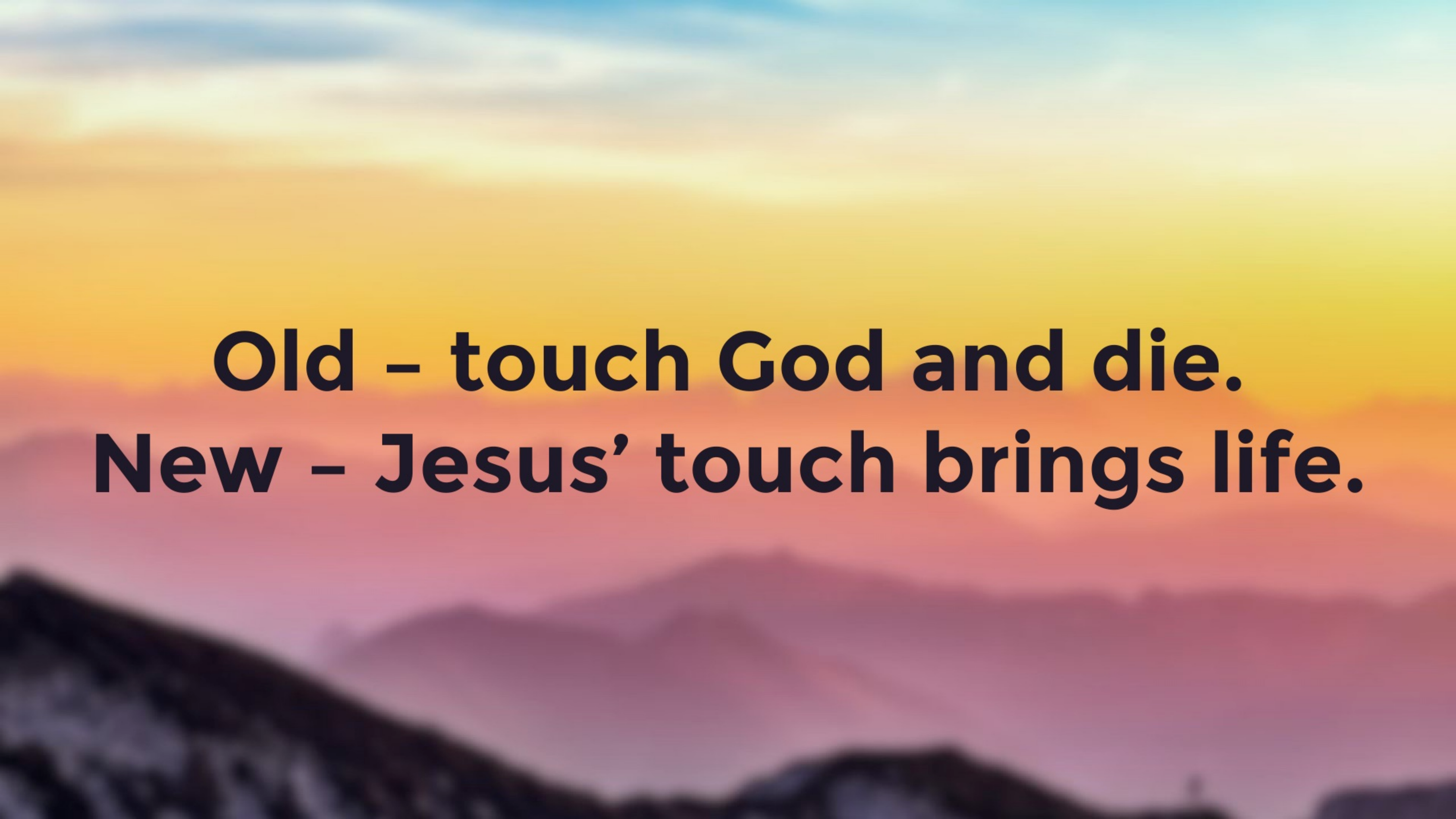
Mark 5:41-42 NLT



Old – touch God and die.
New – Jesus' touch brings life.

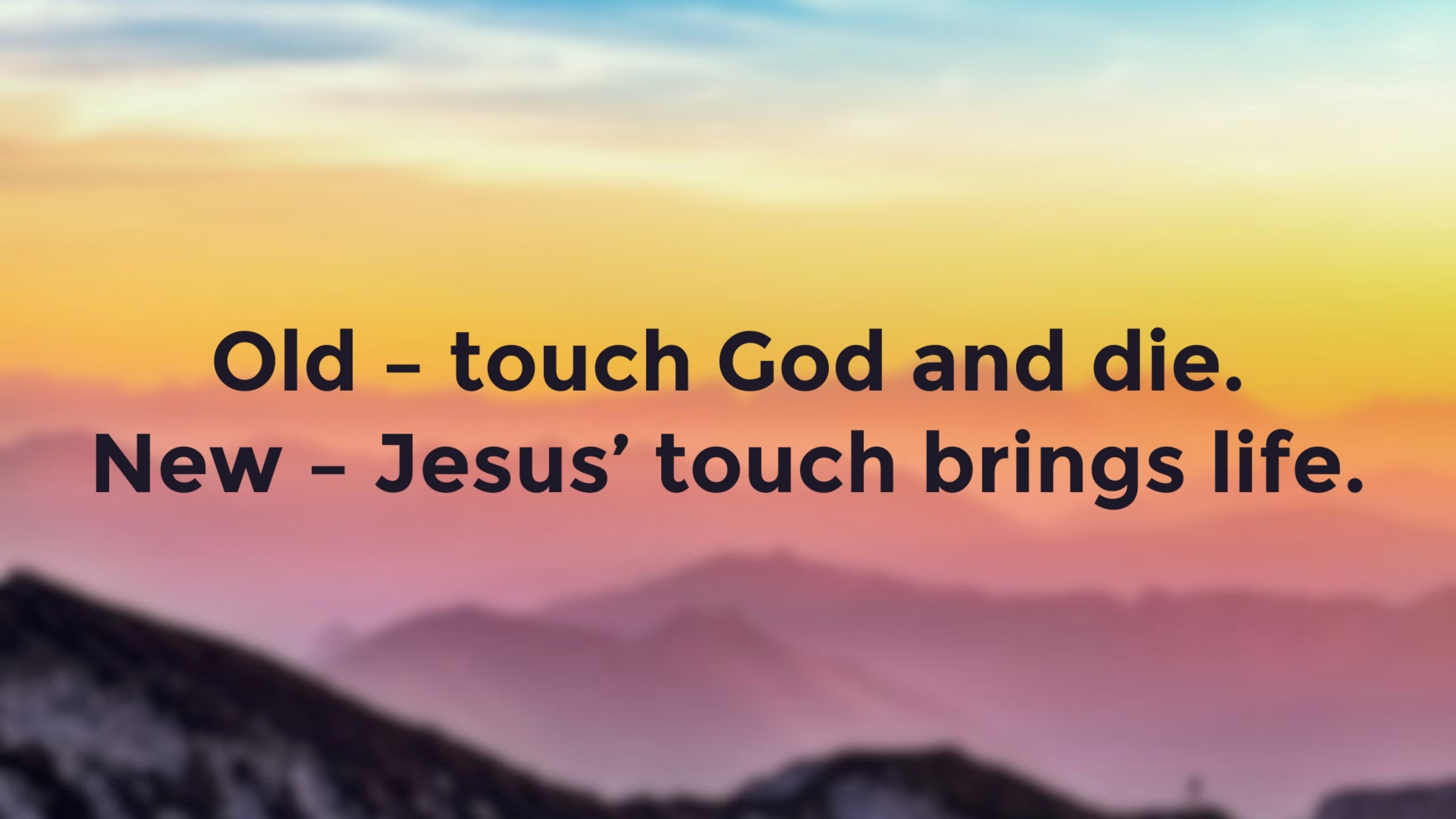
In the Gospel Jesus deals with the ritual impurity that represents death (lepra, discharges, corpses)... **before dealing with humanity's moral impurity that represents eternal death.**

He overcomes death through his own death and resurrection, bringing life to all, who believe.



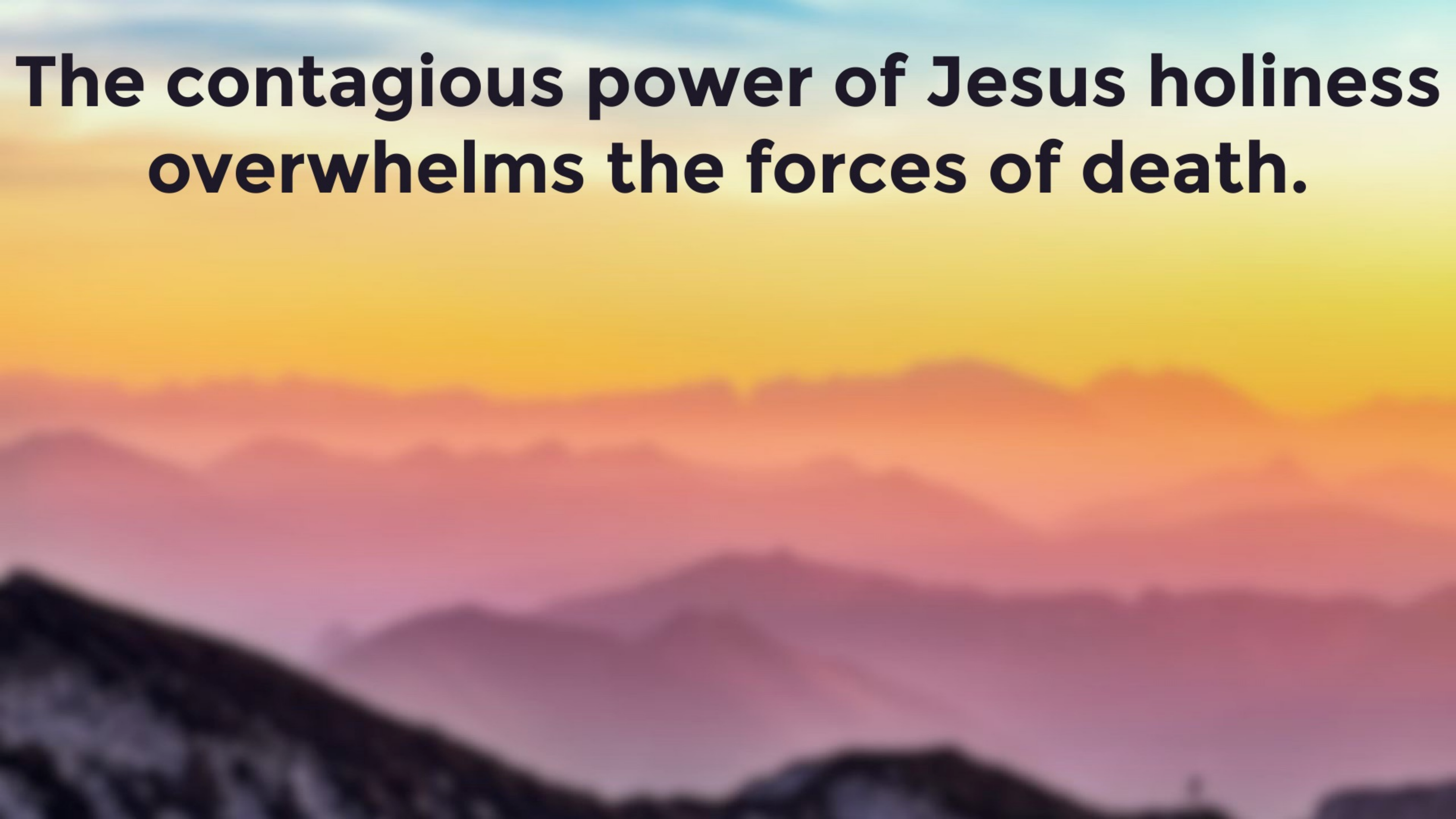
Old – touch God and die.
New – Jesus' touch brings life.





Old – touch God and die.
New – Jesus' touch brings life.

**The contagious power of Jesus holiness
overwhelms the forces of death.**



**The contagious power of Jesus holiness
overwhelms the forces of death.**

All who believe are Clean in Christ

**The contagious power of Jesus holiness
overwhelms the forces of death.**

**All who believe are Clean in Christ
Jesus touches people through you**

**The contagious power of Jesus holiness
overwhelms the forces of death.**

**All who believe are Clean in Christ
Jesus touches people through you
Jesus draws people into the Church
community**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The sermons central point concerning God's Holiness was, 'Old – touch God and die. New – Jesus' touch brings life.' What does this mean in understanding the Bible? What does this mean for humanity's relationship with God?
2. Take the time to Read Mark 5:21-43 together. What were the three causes of ritual impurity (two are dealt with by Jesus in this story)? What stands out about the actions of Jesus in these stories?
3. Jesus' touch makes us ultimately clean in our heart and now free to touch a Holy God. How is this truth effecting your prayer life? Your interactions with the unsaved? You living a holy life?

COMMUNION

