

A photograph taken from the interior of a tent, looking out through the open entrance. The tent's brown fabric and black poles are visible in the foreground. Outside, a vast landscape unfolds under a soft, golden light, likely from a setting or rising sun. In the distance, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon. The sky is a mix of pale blue and warm yellow, with a few wispy clouds. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

# The Mission of Moses





Background

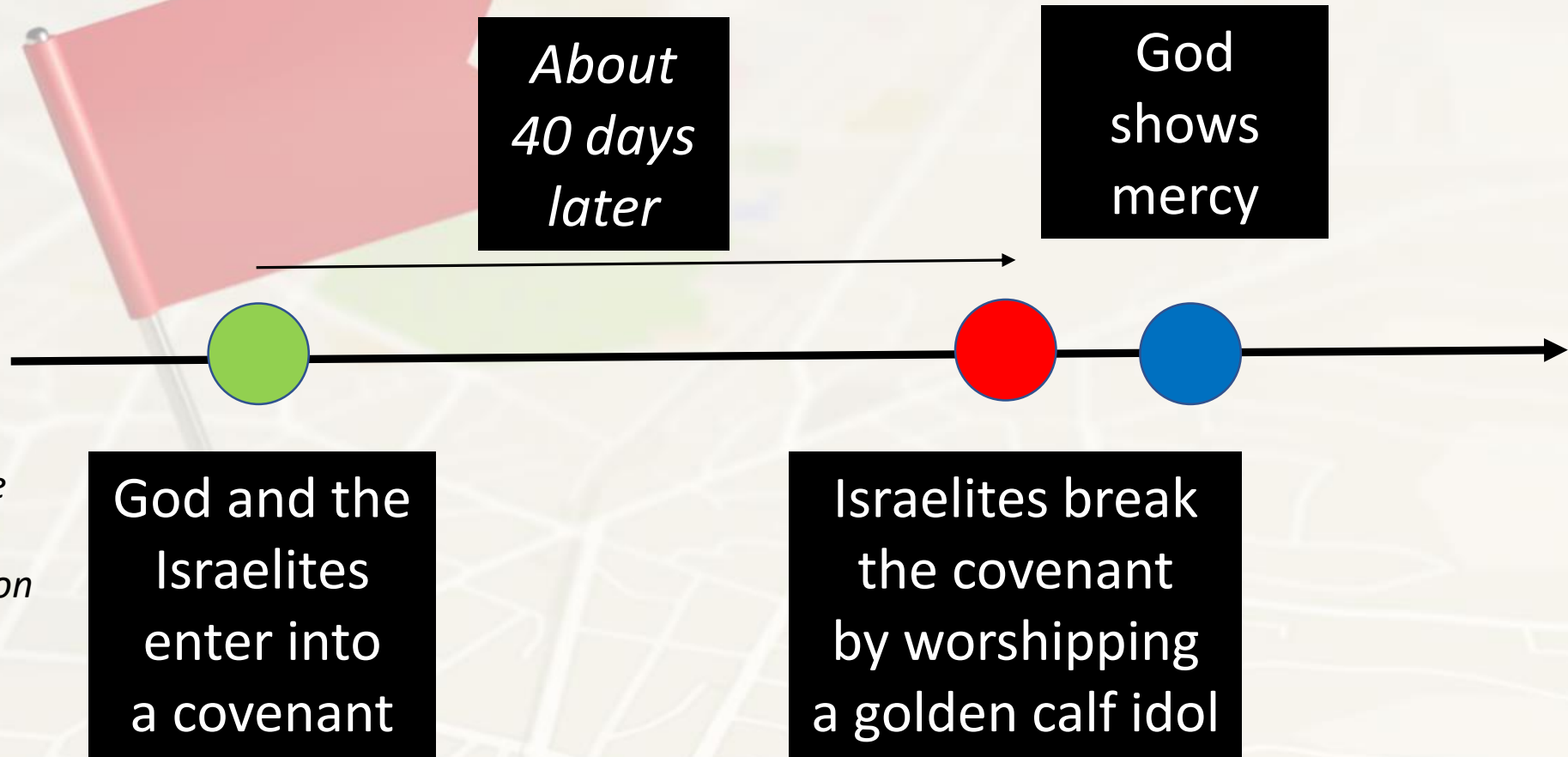




**First stop:**  
**Mount Sinai**

**Destination:**  
**Promised Land**

# First stop: **Mount Sinai**



# Exodus

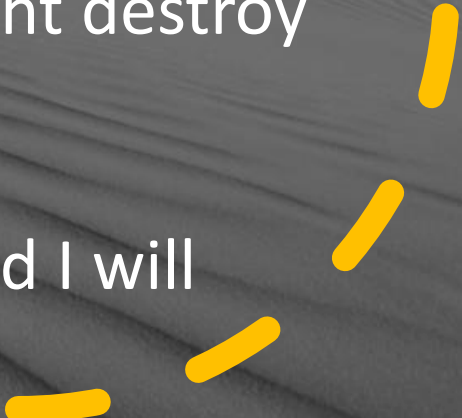
## 33: 1-3, 5b

<sup>1</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Leave this place, you and the people you brought up out of Egypt, and go up to the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’”

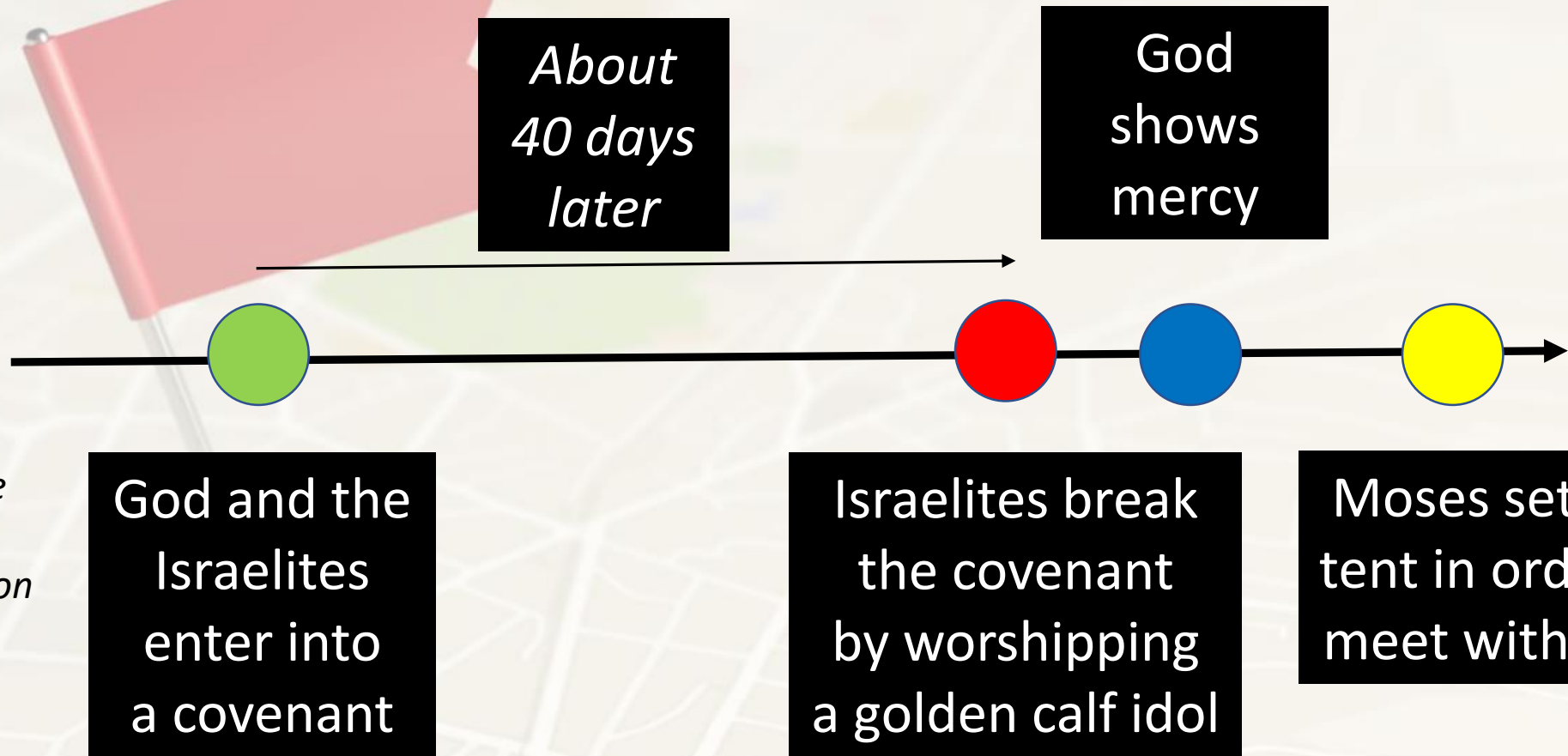
<sup>2</sup> I will send an angel before you and drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

<sup>3</sup> Go up to the land flowing with milk and honey. But I will not go with you, because you are a stiff-necked people and I might destroy you on the way.”

<sup>5b</sup> Now take off your ornaments and I will decide what to do with you.””



# First stop: Mount Sinai





## Exodus 33: 7-11

<sup>7</sup> Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting.

<sup>9</sup> And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood *at* the door of the tabernacle, and *the LORD* talked with Moses.

<sup>11</sup> So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.



# Exodus 33:11

<sup>11</sup> So the LORD spoke to Moses **face to face**, as a man speaks to his friend.

# Numbers 12: 6-8

<sup>6</sup> he said, "Listen to my words:

"When there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, reveal myself to them in visions,

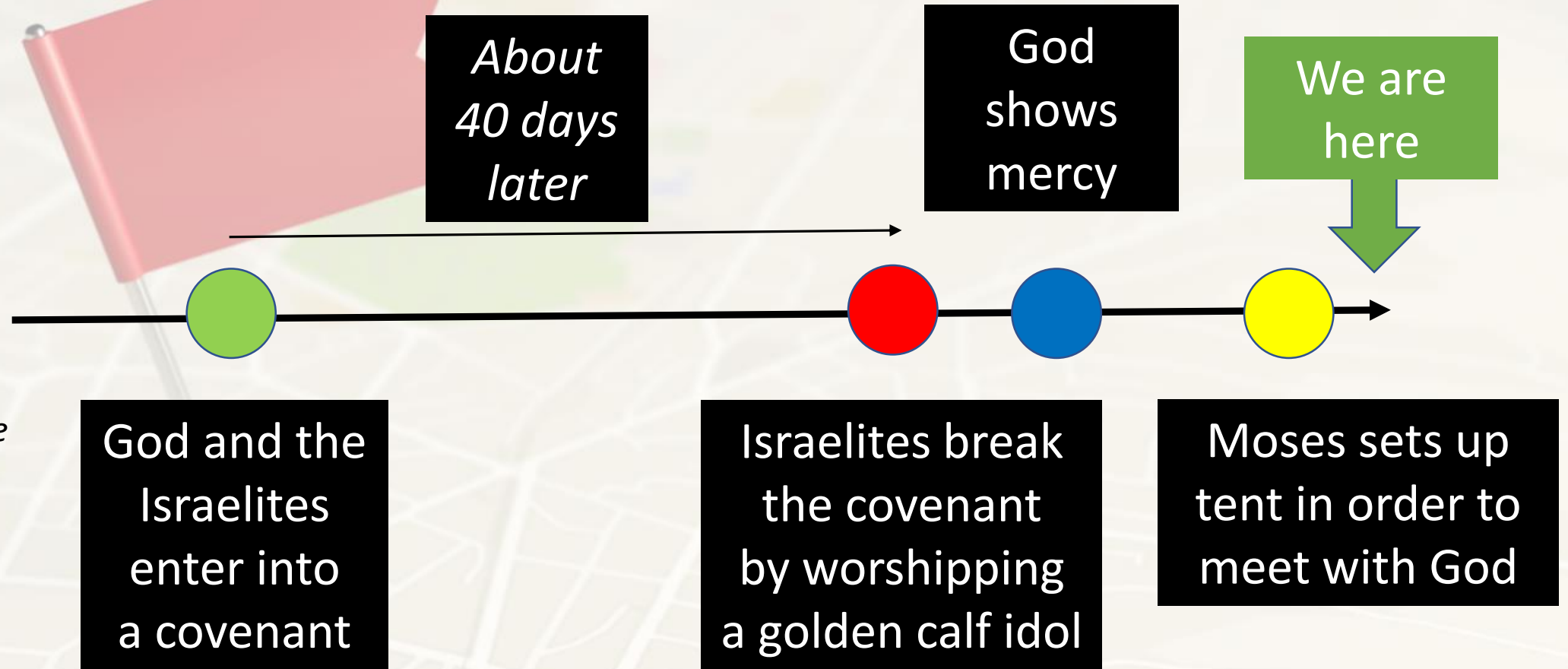
I speak to them in dreams.

<sup>7</sup> But this is not true of my servant Moses;

he is faithful in all my house.

<sup>8</sup> **With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD...**

# First stop: **Mount Sinai**



*God would take Israel as His special people on earth*

*Israel would worship and serve God only*

# Exodus 33: 12-23

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but You have not let me know whom You will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me.’ <sup>13</sup> If You are pleased with me, teach me Your ways so I may know You and continue to find favour with You. Remember that this nation is Your people.”



# Exodus 33: 12-23

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, “If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.

<sup>16</sup> How will anyone know that You are pleased with me and with Your people unless You go with us? What else will distinguish me and Your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”



# Exodus 33: 12-23

<sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, “Now show me Your glory.”

<sup>19</sup> And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim My name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.



# Exodus 33: 12-23

<sup>20</sup> But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

<sup>21</sup> Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup> When My Glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but My face must not be seen.”



# During this conversation, Moses made two requests:

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1. For God's Presence to accompany Israel
2. To personally know God more



Moses' first  
request –  
God's Presence  
to accompany  
Israel

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me.’

<sup>13</sup> If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.





*“If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here.”*

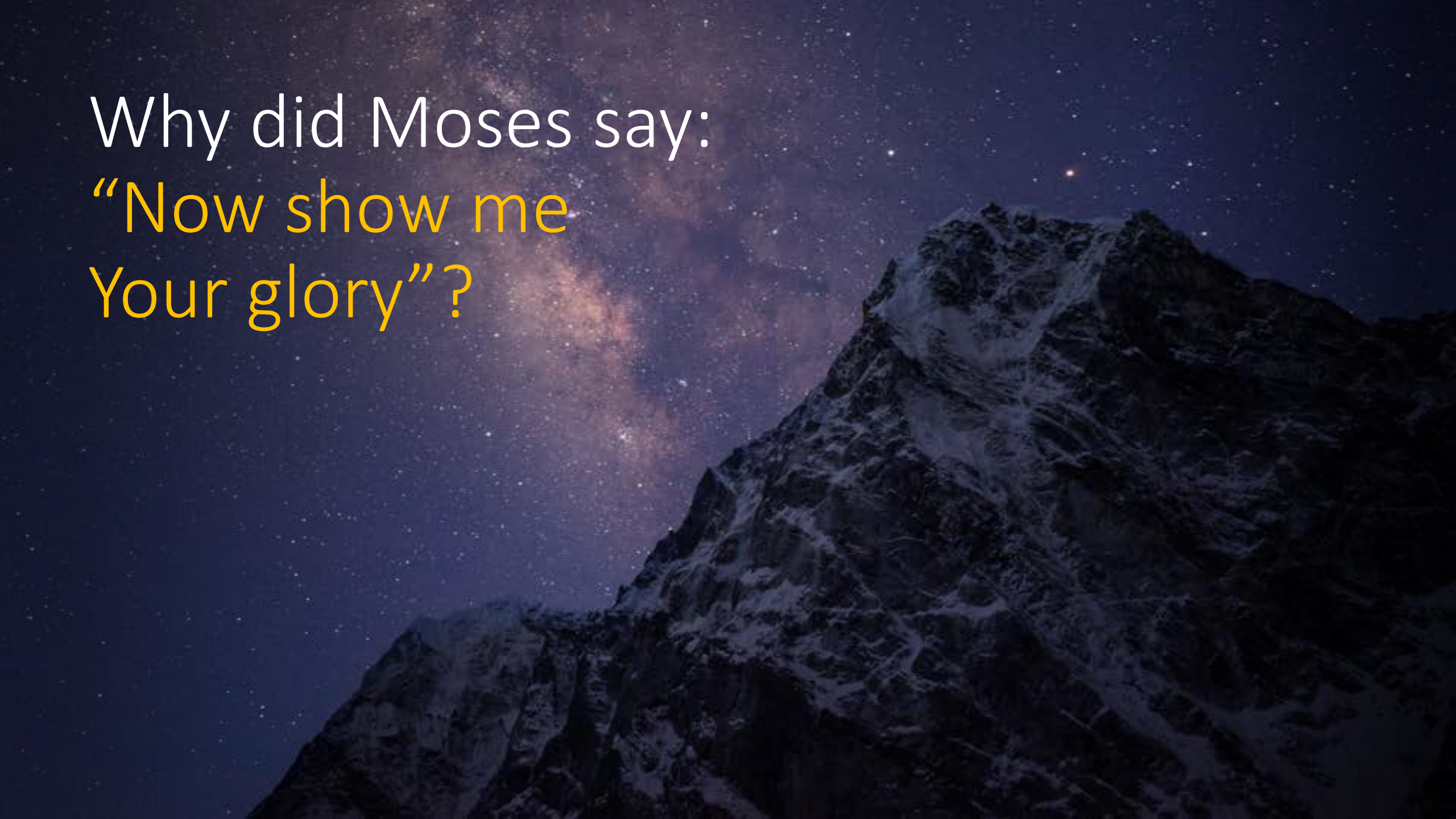
Moses would trade the Promised Land for God’s company and fellowship instead.

Moses' second request – to personally know God more

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me.’ <sup>13</sup> If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.” .....

..... <sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible in the upper left, and a large, dark, snow-capped mountain peak in the lower right. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Why did Moses say:  
“Now show me  
Your glory”?

A photograph taken from the interior of a tent, looking out through the open doorway. The tent's dark brown fabric and metal poles are visible in the foreground, framing the view. Outside, a vast landscape unfolds under a clear blue sky. In the distance, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon. The overall scene is peaceful and expansive.

**What can we learn from this passage?**

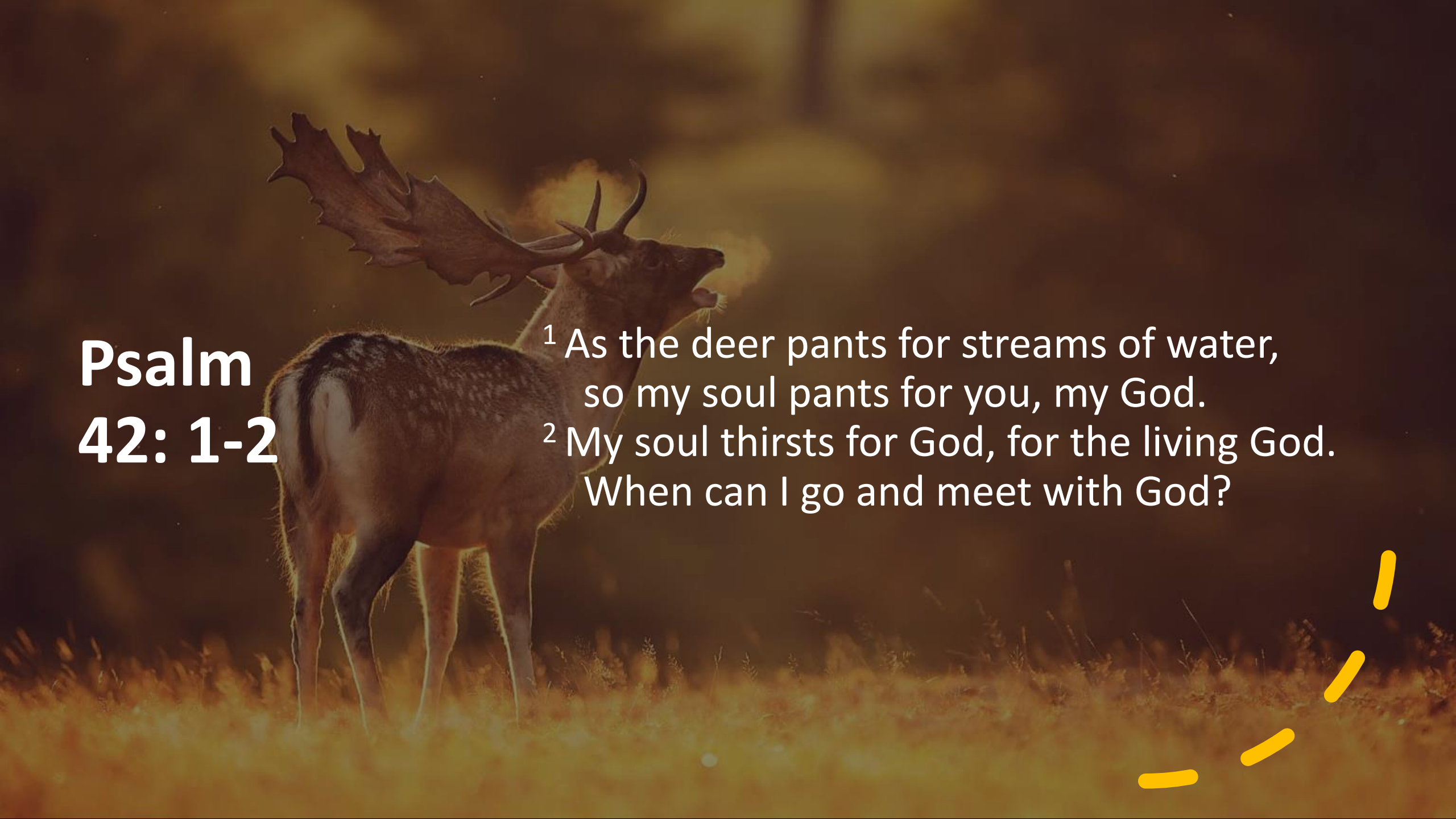
More than anything else, the **MOST** precious gift God has given us is **Himself**.

A photograph of three sheep on a grassy hill. One large sheep is in the center, flanked by two smaller lambs. They are standing on a lush green slope that rises towards the right. The sky is filled with heavy, grey clouds, suggesting an overcast day. The overall mood is serene and pastoral.

## Psalm 84:2,10

<sup>2</sup>My soul yearns, even faints,  
for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh cry out  
for the living God.


<sup>10</sup>Better is one day in your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere...



**Psalm**  
**42: 1-2**

<sup>1</sup> As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.

<sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When can I go and meet with God?



# Psalm 16:11

<sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life;  
In Your presence *is* fullness of joy;  
At Your right hand *are* pleasures  
forevermore



# Philippians

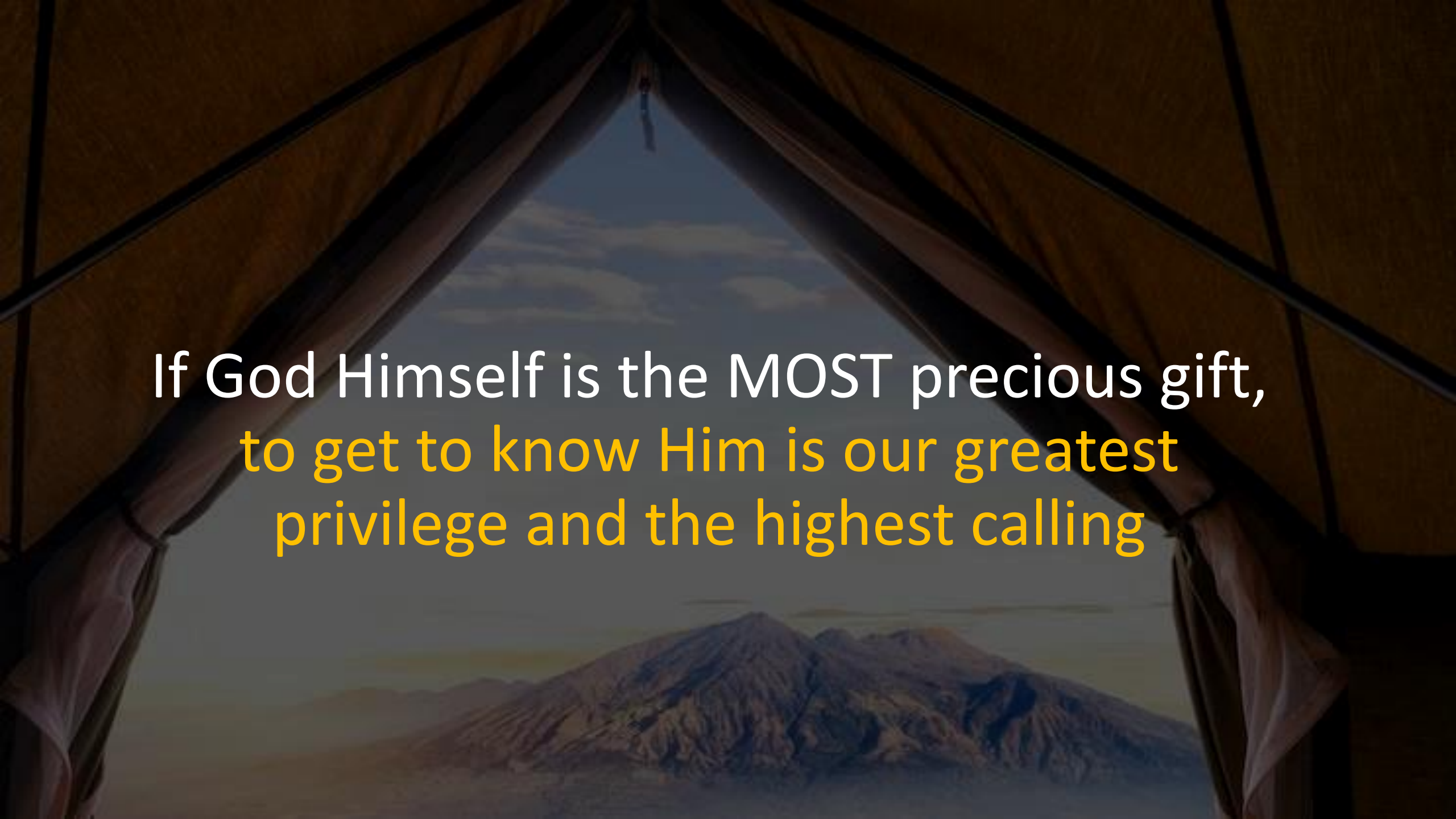
## 1:23-24

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<sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.



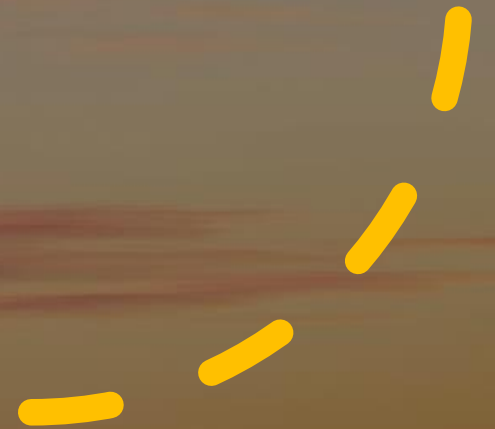


A photograph taken from the interior of a tent, looking out through the open doorway. The tent's dark brown fabric and metal poles frame the view. Outside, a vast landscape unfolds under a soft, overcast sky. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the light. In the middle ground, a range of rugged, snow-capped mountains stretches across the horizon. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

If God Himself is the MOST precious gift,  
to get to know Him is our greatest  
privilege and the highest calling

# John 17:3

And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.



# Jeremiah 9:23-24


Thus says the Lord, “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom. Let not the mighty man boast in his might. Let not the rich man boast in his riches. **But let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me.** That I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice and righteousness in the earth. From these things I delight,” declares the Lord.



# Philippians 3:8

<sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things...



A photograph taken from the interior of a tent, looking out through the open entrance. The tent's dark brown fabric and metal poles frame the view. Outside, a vast landscape unfolds under a pale, overcast sky. In the foreground, a wide, flat plain stretches towards a range of rugged, brown mountains. The mountains have a textured, rocky appearance with some snow or light-colored patches. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

Knowing God and being close to Him is the  
highest currency in the Kingdom of God

# Exodus 33: 12-23

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, “If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. <sup>16</sup> How will anyone know that You are pleased with me and with Your people unless You go with us? What else will distinguish me and Your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”



# How do you know if God is pleased with you?

We know that God is pleased when He is  
with us -- His Presence is with us.

It is when we are allowed to draw close to  
Him.

A photograph taken from inside a tent, looking out through the open doorway. The tent's interior is visible in the foreground, with its brown fabric walls and support poles. Outside, a vast landscape unfolds under a bright, hazy sky. In the distance, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon. The overall atmosphere is one of tranquility and natural beauty.

**Which category do you fall into?**

Know God to serve Him better  
or

Serve God to know Him better



# Hosea 6:6

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I want you to show love,  
not offer sacrifices.

I want you to know me  
more than I want burnt  
offerings.



The critical question for our generation—and for every generation—is this: If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you ever had on earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, if Christ was not there?”

John Piper



# Application: Pray like Moses

Father God, help me to desire You,  
know You and to please You.





When you go through your life  
with God, it is different.

Not just because God will  
guide you;

Not just because God will  
strengthen you;

God's company makes  
all the difference.