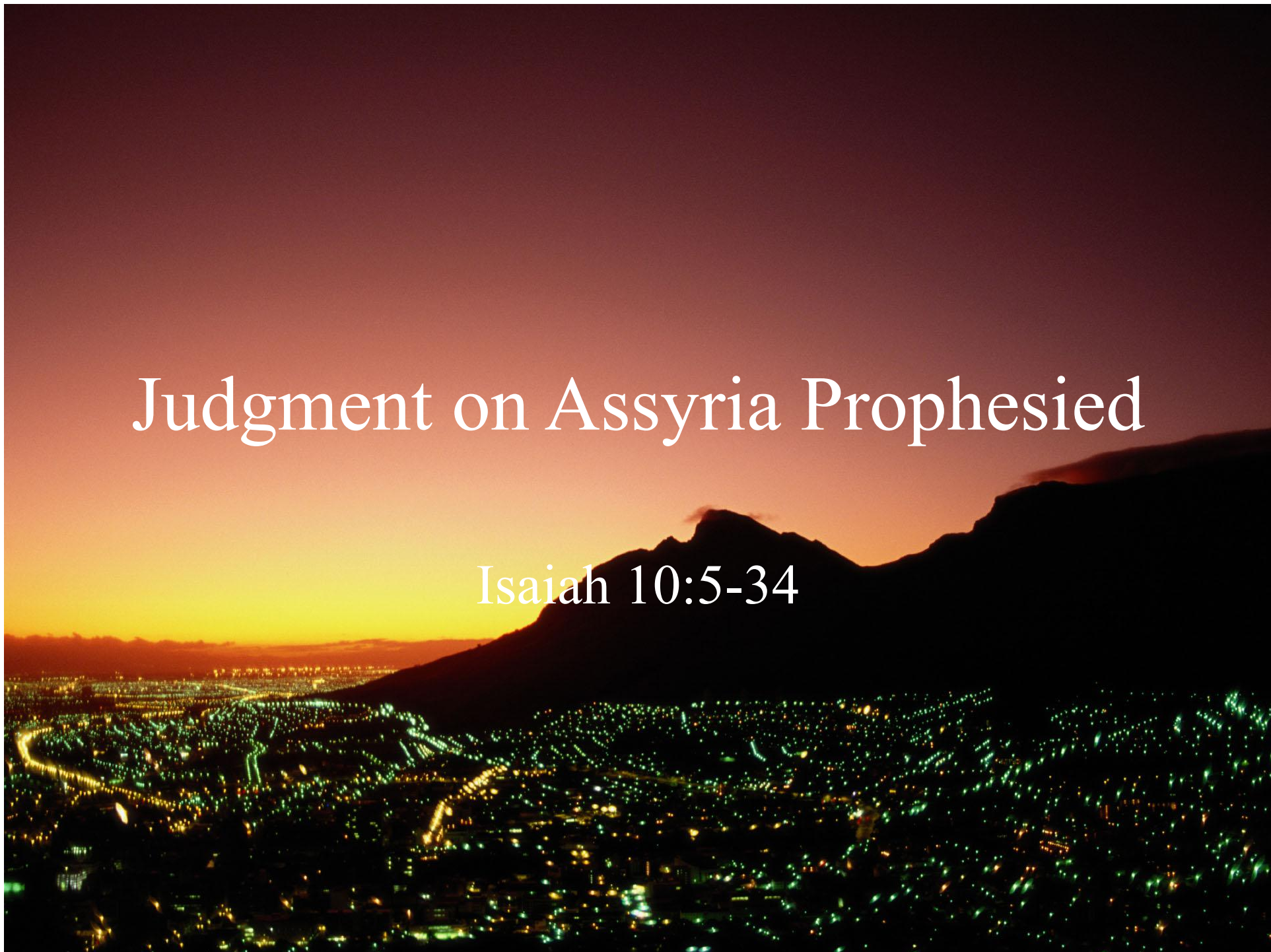


# Judgment on Assyria Prophesied

Isaiah 10:5-34



## Review Principle

Our certainty is in the LORD  
and His Essence—and by  
extension His promises—not  
**our conjectures** about how He  
will apply His essence to  
history or fulfill His promises.

# Woe to Assyria!

<sup>5</sup>Woe (HOY) to Asshur, **the rod** of **my wrath**  
And **the staff** **it** in their hand, **my indignation**

<sup>6</sup>Into a godless nation **I am sending them**  
And upon a people of my fury **I am commissioning**  
**them**

In order to capture booty

**Mahe Shalal**

and in order to plunder plunder

**Hash-Baz**

And in order to establish it as a trampled land like  
mud on the road.

# Arrogance = Misunderstanding

<sup>7</sup>But **he** does not thusly compare (DAMAH)  
And **his heart** does not thusly weave (CHASAB)

For to exterminate is in **his heart**

And to thoroughly cut-off nations not a few

<sup>8</sup>For he says, “Are not my **princes** at the same time  
kings?”

<sup>9</sup>”Is not like Karkemiysh Kalno,

Certainly like Arpad is Hamath!

Certainly like Dammeseq is Shomron!



# Keep Your Eye on Kingdoms and Deities

<sup>10</sup>Just as **my hand found**  
the **kingdoms** of the vain deities,  
And  
their carved images were greater than **Yerushalam and Shomron**,

<sup>11</sup>Will not just as **I did**  
**to Shomron**  
and  
to her vain deities,

Likewise **I do**  
**to Yerushalam**  
and  
to her idols?”

# The Master Speaks about Comparisons

<sup>12</sup>And so it will be

when He shall bring to completion (BATSA), the Master (Adonai), all his works in Mount Tsion and in Yerushalam:

“I will visit upon the fruit of the greatness of heart of the king of Assyria

and

upon the glory of the height of his eyes.

# v13

For he has said,

“In the power of my hand I have done  
And in my wisdom for I am discerning.

And I cause to turn the borders of peoples

And their stores I have plundered  
And I cause to bring down like a mighty  
despot those who dwell there.

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# Misinterpretation of History

1. The Assyrian mistakenly relates success in conquest to his own self-worth.
2. This statement demonstrates his arrogance mentioned in v12.
3. He incorrectly assigns a cause-effect relationship between his battlefield victories and his talents—physical might and intellectual wisdom.
4. The starting point for this completely erroneous view of history is a lack of fear of the LORD.
5. In our day, most interpreters of current historical events also begin with this faulty reasoning.

# v14

And then it found like a bird's nest, my hand, the  
wealth of the peoples

And like the gathering of eggs that have been  
abandoned, so all the earth I gathered.

And there was not the flapping of a wing or  
opening of a mouth or chirping.



v14

And then **it found** like a bird's nest **my hand** the  
wealth of the peoples

And like the gathering of eggs that have been  
abandoned, so all the earth **I gathered.**

And there was not the flapping of a wing or  
opening of a mouth or chirping.



# The Comparisons Continue

1. The reconstruction of recent historical events for the Assyrian is not inaccurate in v14.
2. However the reason why he had such ease in conquest is the central problem of his understanding.
3. Whereas he thinks his success is because of his own inner worth and outer prowess, he is 100% wrong.
4. Notice again the nature of his comparison: who is he and what are the nations like?

v14

And then **it found** like a bird's nest **my hand** the  
wealth of the peoples

And like the gathering of eggs that have been  
abandoned, so all the earth **I gathered.**

And there was not the flapping of a wing or  
opening of a mouth or chirping.



# The Assyrian Metaphor of v14

## The Metaphor

- The hand of someone who finds a bird's nest
- The birds' nests
- The birds' eggs
- The person gathering eggs
- The lack of flapping wings/opening mouth/chirping

## The Referent

- The Assyrian's strength
- The nations
- The wealth of the nations
- The Assyrian himself
- The completeness of desolation

v15

Shall it boast itself against, the axe, the One who  
cuts with it?

Will it exalt itself, the saw, upon the One who  
moves it to and fro?

Like the moving to and fro a rod, even the one  
who raises it

Like the raising up, a club, not wood

v15

Shall it boast itself against, the axe, the One who cuts with it?

Boasting

Will it exalt itself, the saw, upon the One who moves it to and fro?

Like the moving to and fro a rod, also the One who raises it

Manipulation

Like the raising up, a club, not wood

of

The User



# YHWH's Comparison

## The Metaphor

- The Axe
- The One who wields the axe
- The Saw
- The One who uses the saw
- The Rod
- The One who raises it
- The Club
- Not Wood

## The Referent

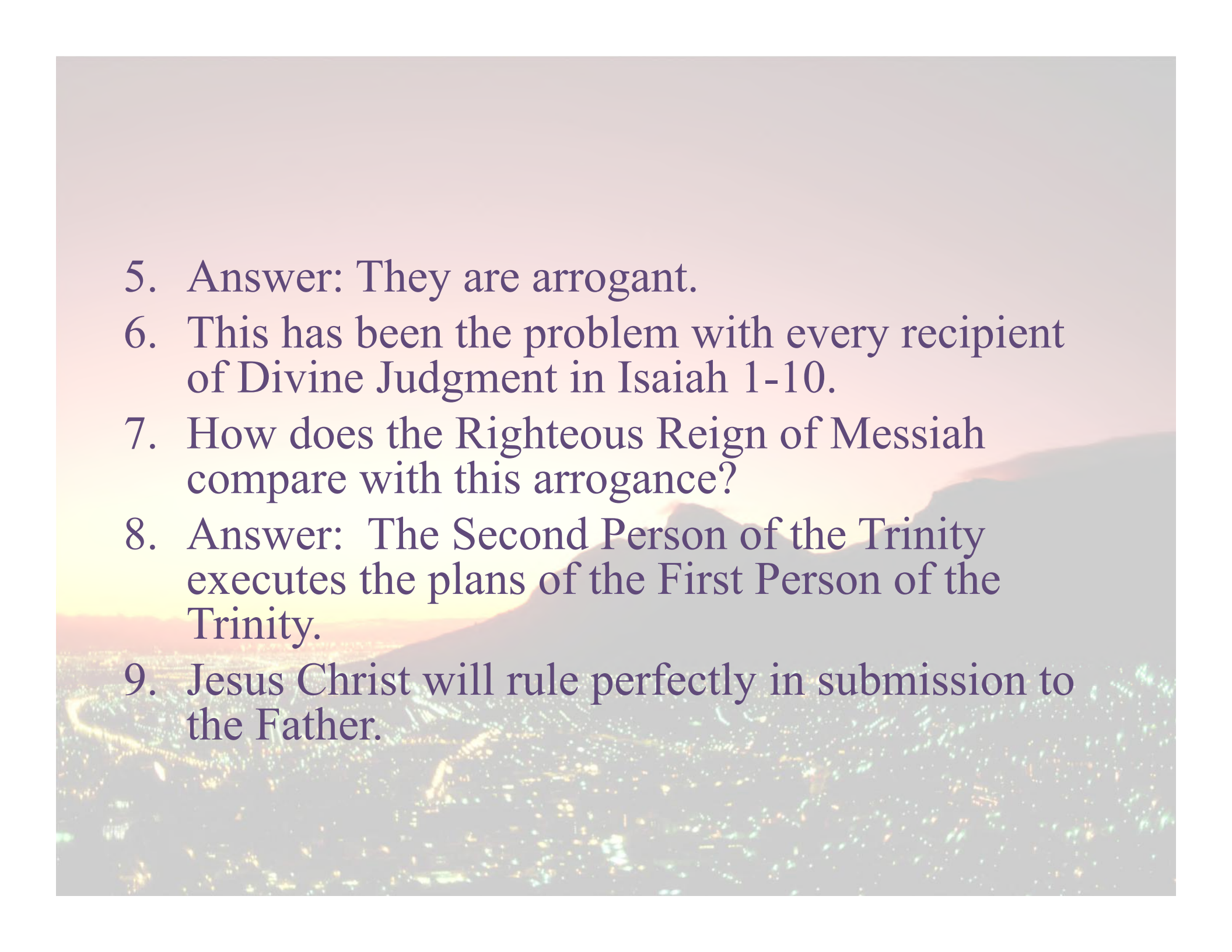
- Assyria
- The LORD
- Assyria
- The LORD
- Assyria
- The LORD
- Assyria
- The LORD

Exalting over

Commanding

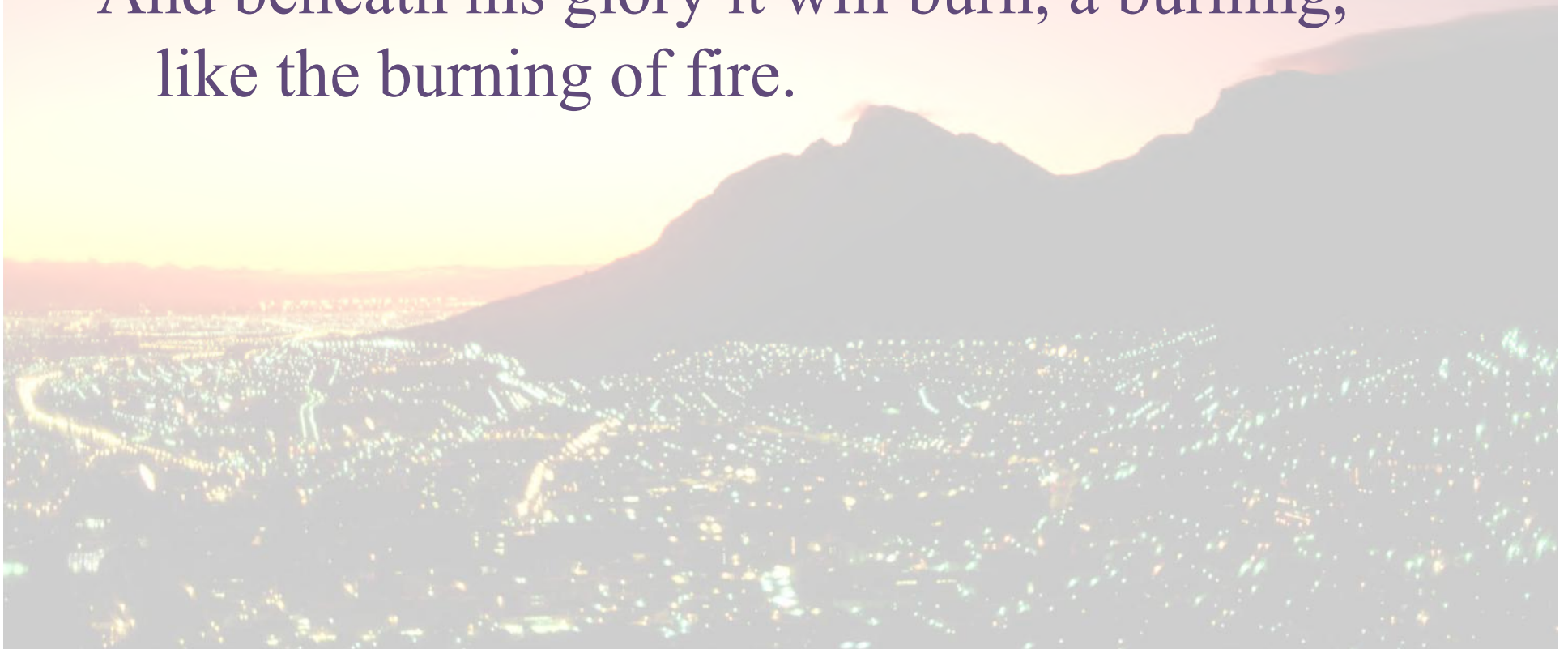
# Exalting and Wielding

1. The LORD's assessment leaves no middle ground.
2. The creature is either submissive to the Creator or in out-right rebellion against Him.
3. Notice the difference in comparison:
  - The Assyrian sees himself as gathering the nations.
  - The LORD sees the Assyrian as rebelling against Him.
4. What is the nature of the LORD's charge against Assyria?

- 
5. Answer: They are arrogant.
  6. This has been the problem with every recipient of Divine Judgment in Isaiah 1-10.
  7. How does the Righteous Reign of Messiah compare with this arrogance?
  8. Answer: The Second Person of the Trinity executes the plans of the First Person of the Trinity.
  9. Jesus Christ will rule perfectly in submission to the Father.

v16

For this reason He will send, the Master, YHWH  
of the Armies, to his healthy ones leanness  
And beneath his glory it will burn, a burning,  
like the burning of fire.

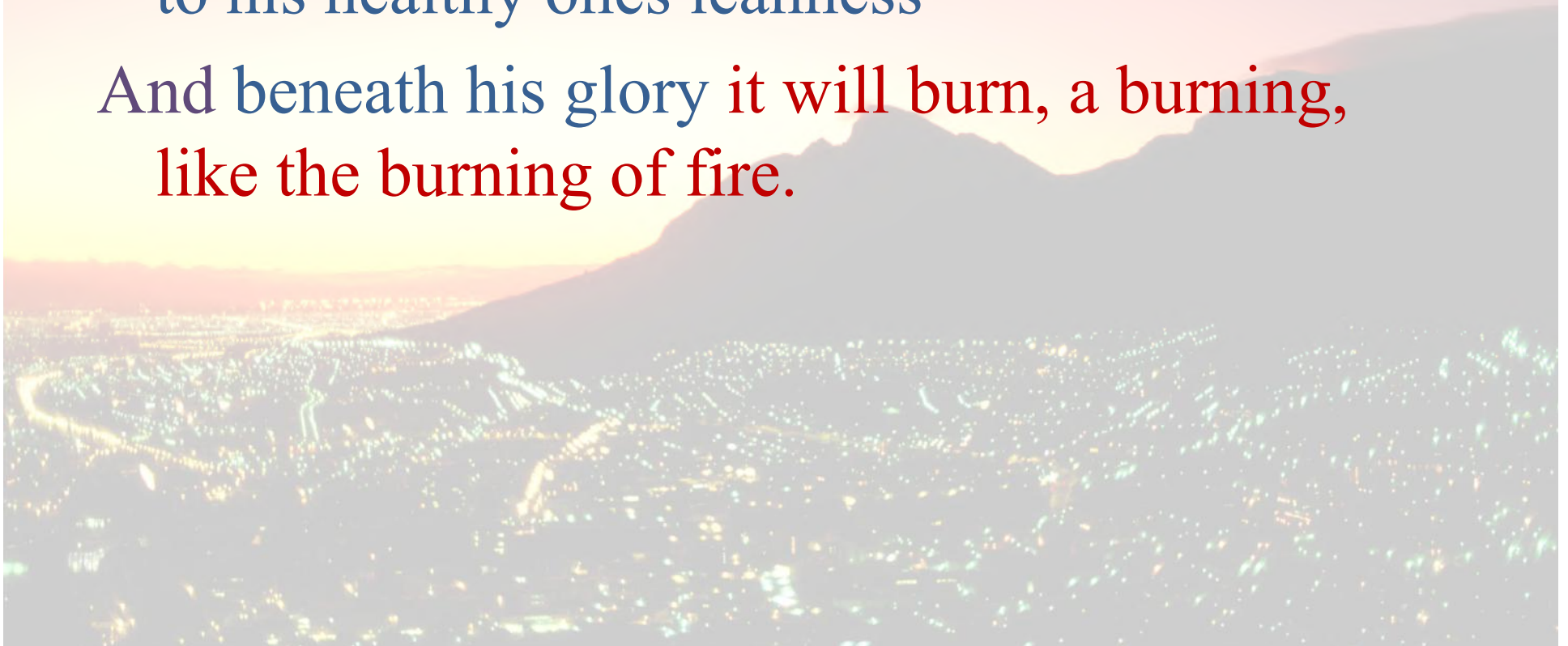


v16

For this reason

He will send, the Master, YHWH of the Armies,  
to his healthy ones leanness

And beneath his glory it will burn, a burning,  
like the burning of fire.



# Closing Principle

The overestimation of a creature's innate value, prowess, or sufficiency relative to the Creator is sufficient grounds for the crushing force of God's judgment.

This is a major principle of the Word of God, and it points to the original rebellion of Satan against God and the question of who has the right to rule.