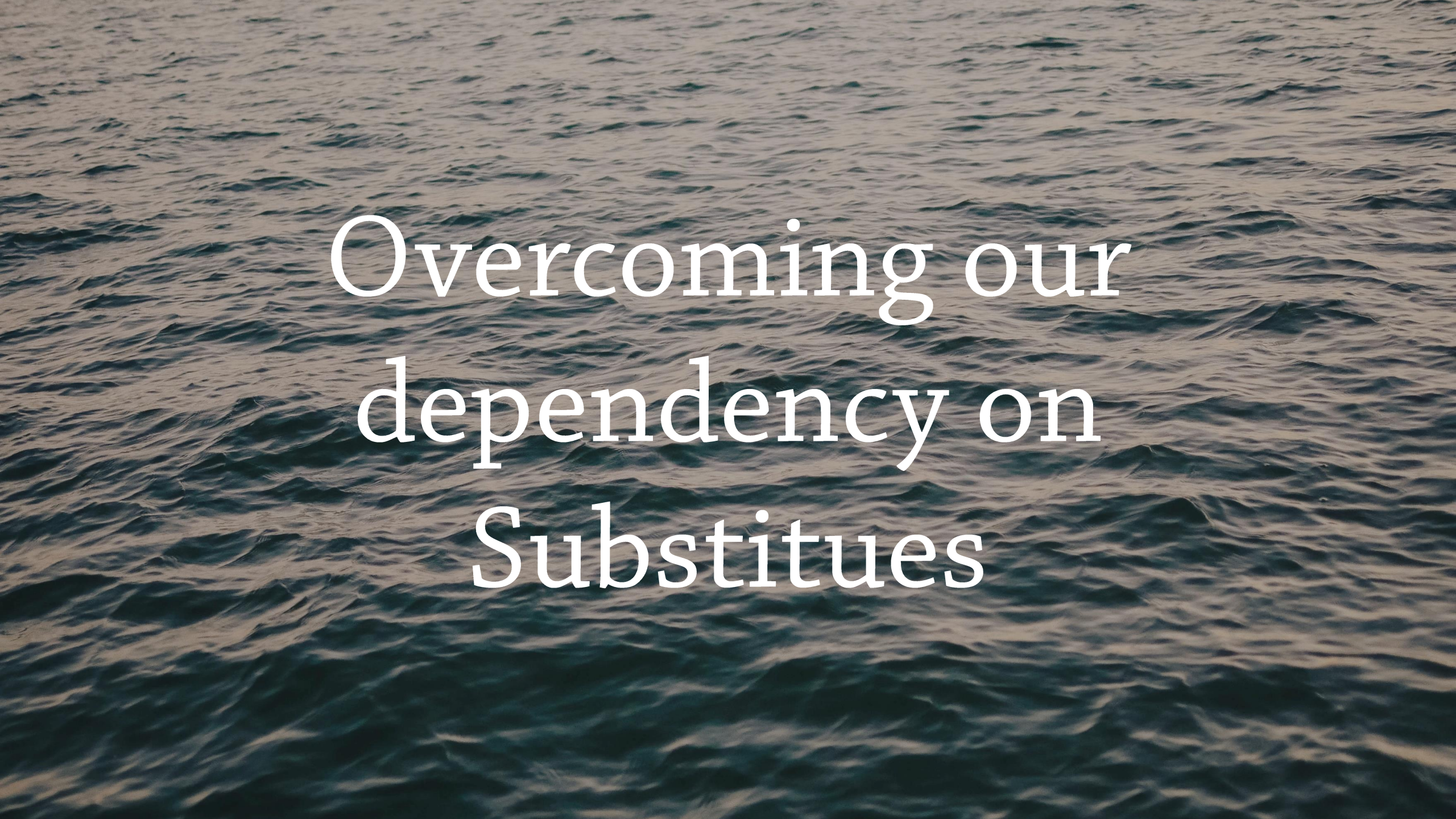




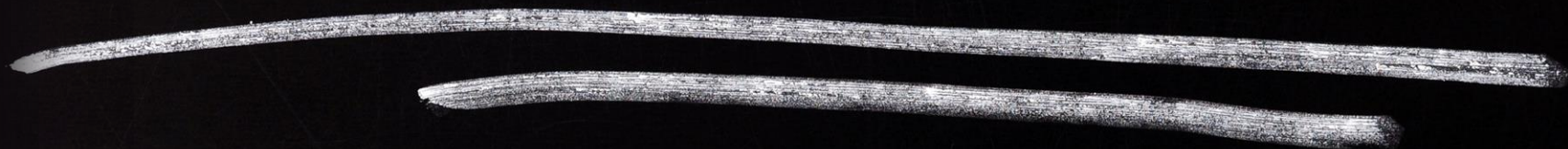
unleashing
worship



Overcoming our
dependency on
Substitues

POP

QUIZ!



1. WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER
TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT
THING THAT WE DO IN OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE ?

2. WHAT 3 THINGS DO YOU
ENJOY THE MOST IN OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE ?

3. WHAT'S THE 1 THING WE
DO IN OUR SERVICE THAT
YOU LIKE THE LEAST?

4. WE HAVE BEEN EXPERIMENTING
WITH SOME THINGS IN OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE.

DO YOU LIKE EXPERIMENTING -OR-
DISLIKE EXPERIMENTING?





You have made us for yourself,
And our hearts are restless
until they find rest in you.

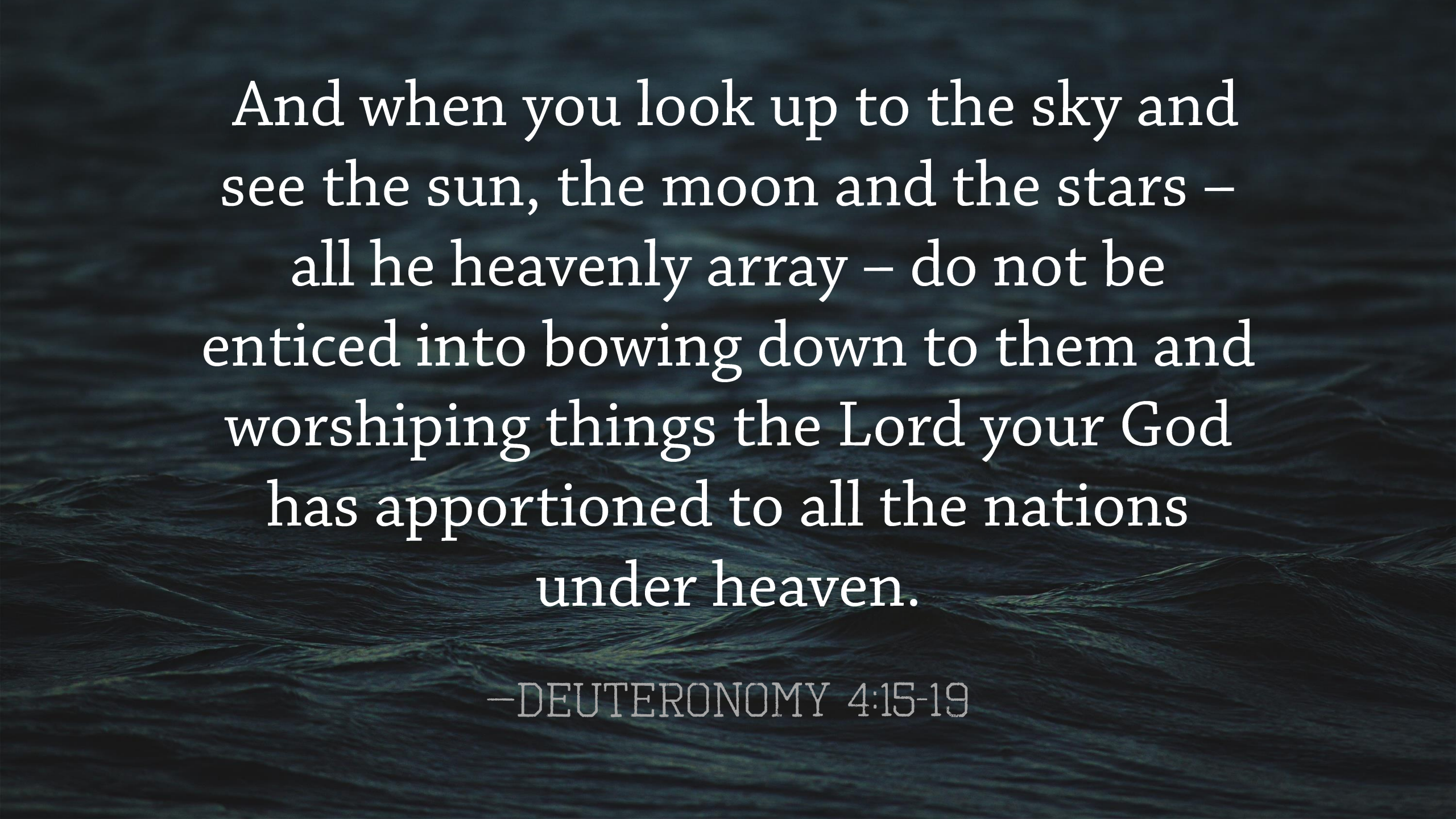
—ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO



Appreciation that we were
created by a loving God

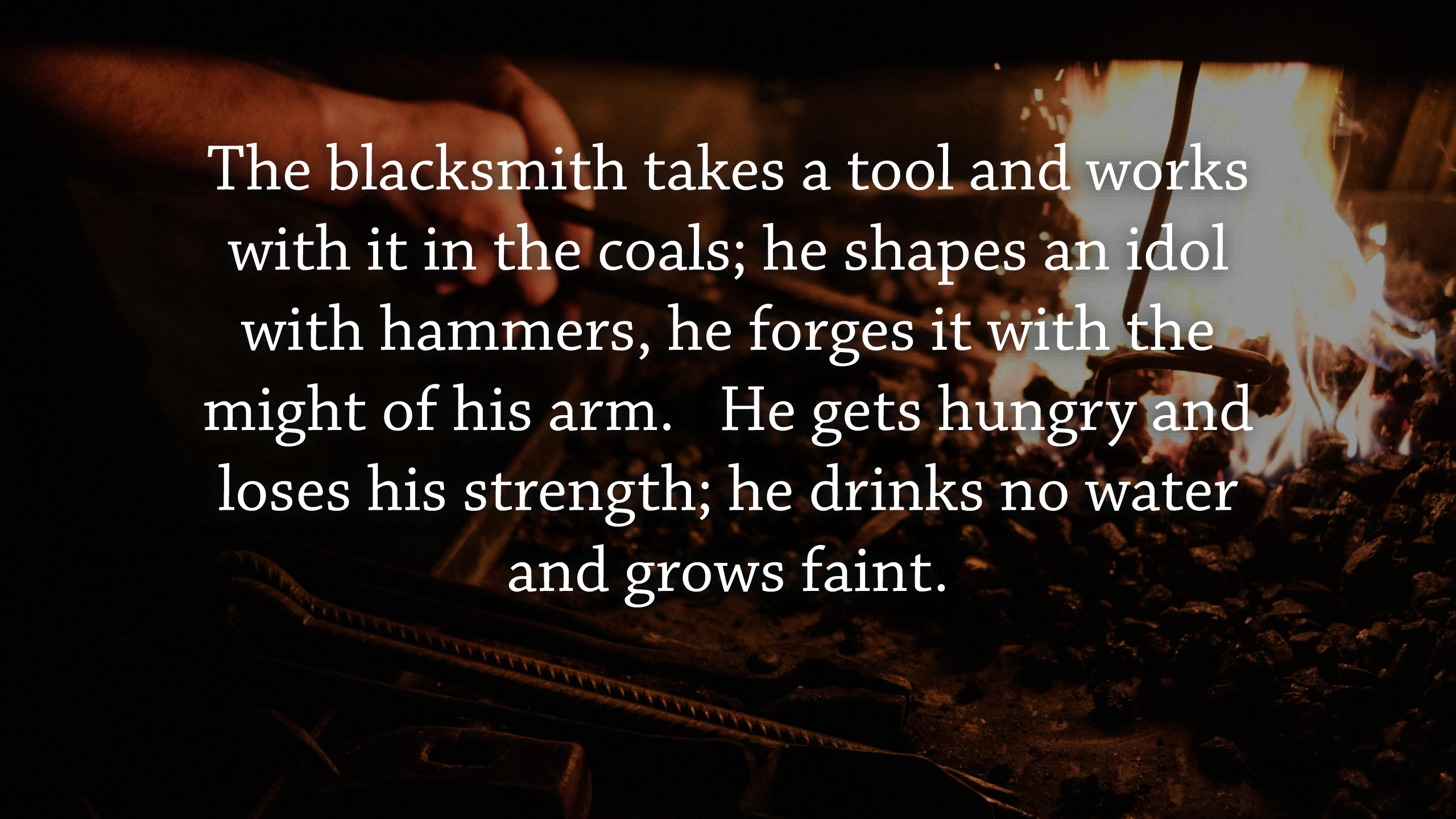
Appreciation that our lives are
sustained by a loving God

Watch yourselves very carefully, so that you do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman, or like any animal on earth or any bird that flies in the air, or like any creature that moves along the ground or any fish in the waters below.

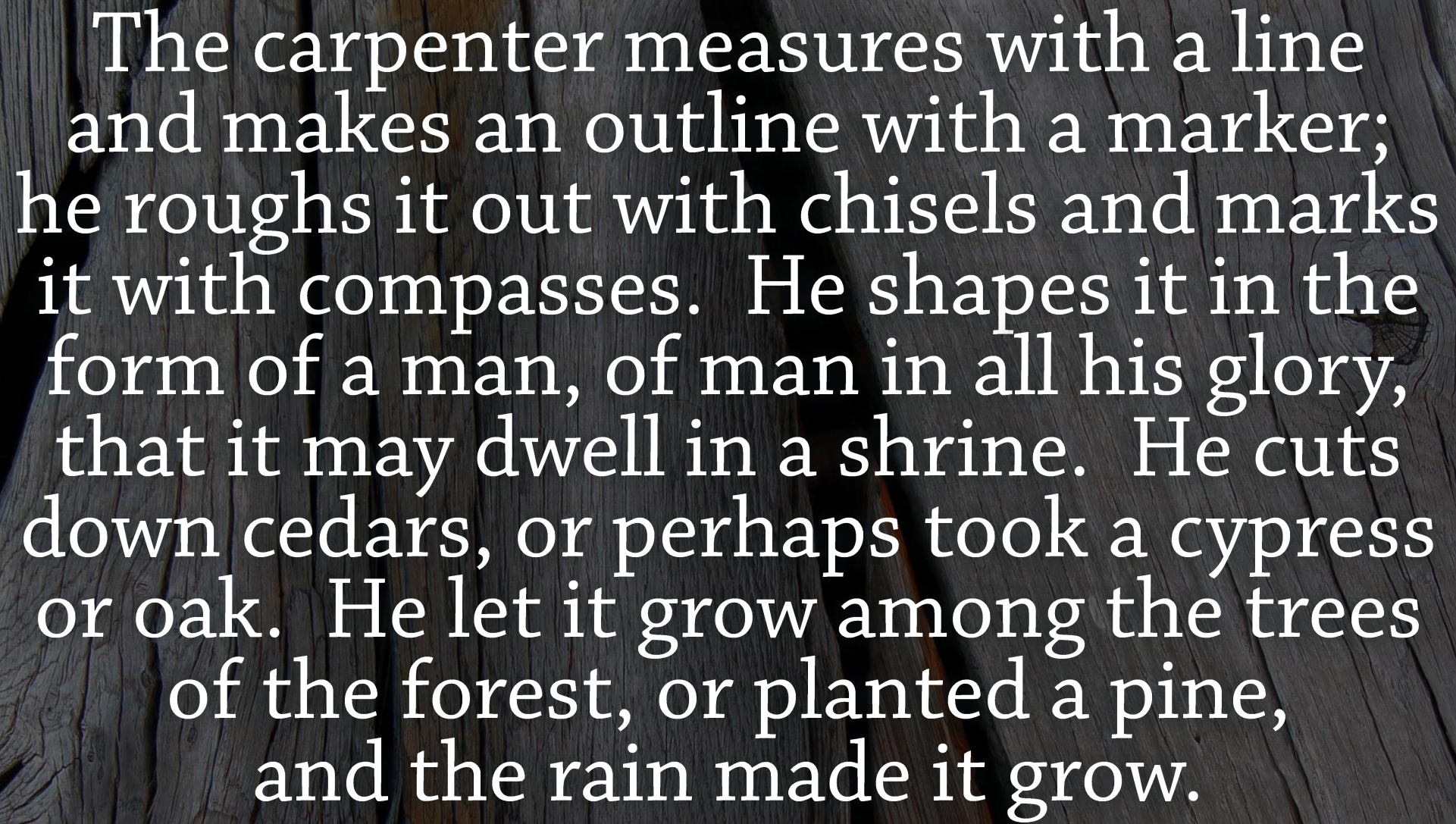


And when you look up to the sky and
see the sun, the moon and the stars –
all the heavenly array – do not be
enticed into bowing down to them and
worshiping things the Lord your God
has apportioned to all the nations
under heaven.

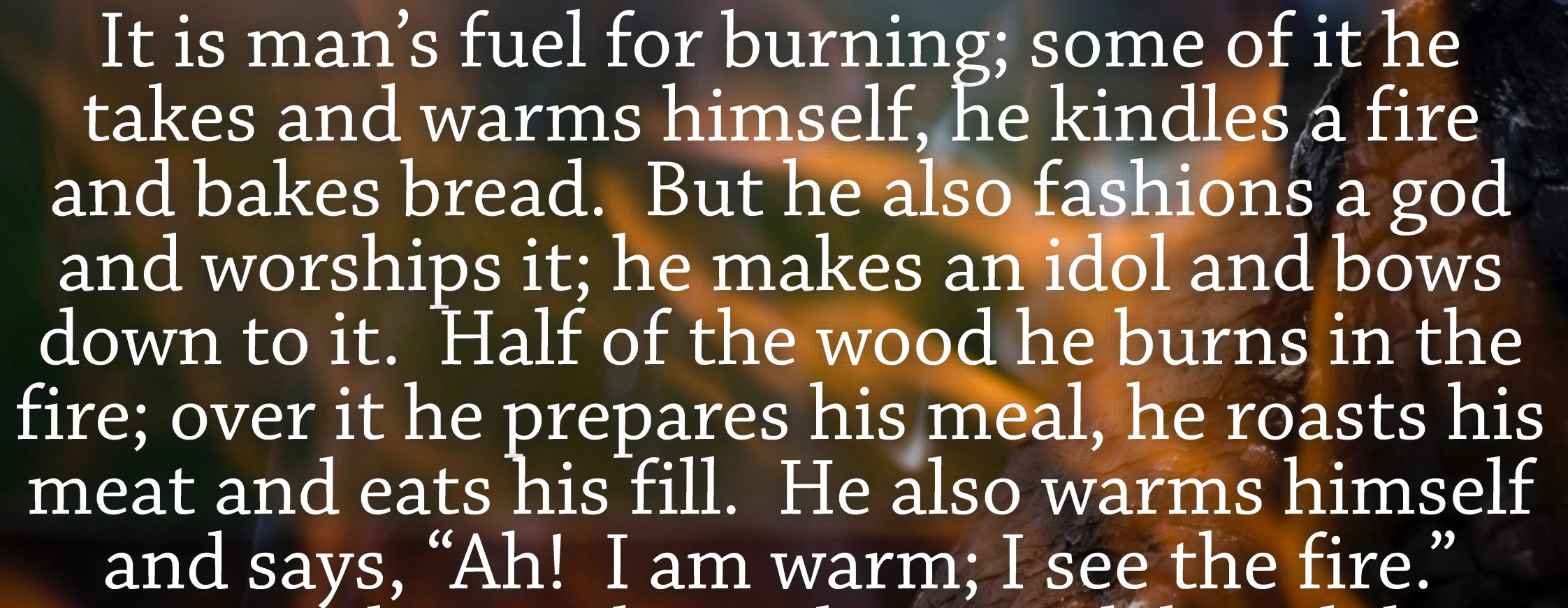
—DEUTERONOMY 4:15-19

A blacksmith is shown working at an anvil. The background features a bright, glowing furnace with flames. The blacksmith's hands are visible, holding a tool and working on a piece of metal. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the furnace. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

The blacksmith takes a tool and works
with it in the coals; he shapes an idol
with hammers, he forges it with the
might of his arm. He gets hungry and
loses his strength; he drinks no water
and grows faint.



The carpenter measures with a line
and makes an outline with a marker;
he roughs it out with chisels and marks
it with compasses. He shapes it in the
form of a man, of man in all his glory,
that it may dwell in a shrine. He cuts
down cedars, or perhaps took a cypress
or oak. He let it grow among the trees
of the forest, or planted a pine,
and the rain made it grow.



It is man's fuel for burning; some of it he takes and warms himself, he kindles a fire and bakes bread. But he also fashions a god and worships it; he makes an idol and bows down to it. Half of the wood he burns in the fire; over it he prepares his meal, he roasts his meat and eats his fill. He also warms himself and says, "Ah! I am warm; I see the fire."

From the rest he makes a god, his idol; he bows down to it and worships. He prays to it and says, "Save me; you are my god."

They know nothing, they understand nothing; their eyes are plastered over so they cannot see, and their minds closed so they cannot understand. No one stops to think, no one has the knowledge or understanding to say, "Half of it I used for fuel; I even baked bread over its coals, I roasted meat and I ate. Shall I make a detestable thing from what is left? Shall I bow down to a block of wood?"



Do not store up for yourselves
treasures on earth...

Do not worry about your life...

Anyone who loves his father
or mother more than me
is not worthy of me...

DANGEROUS TENDENCIES IN WORSHIP

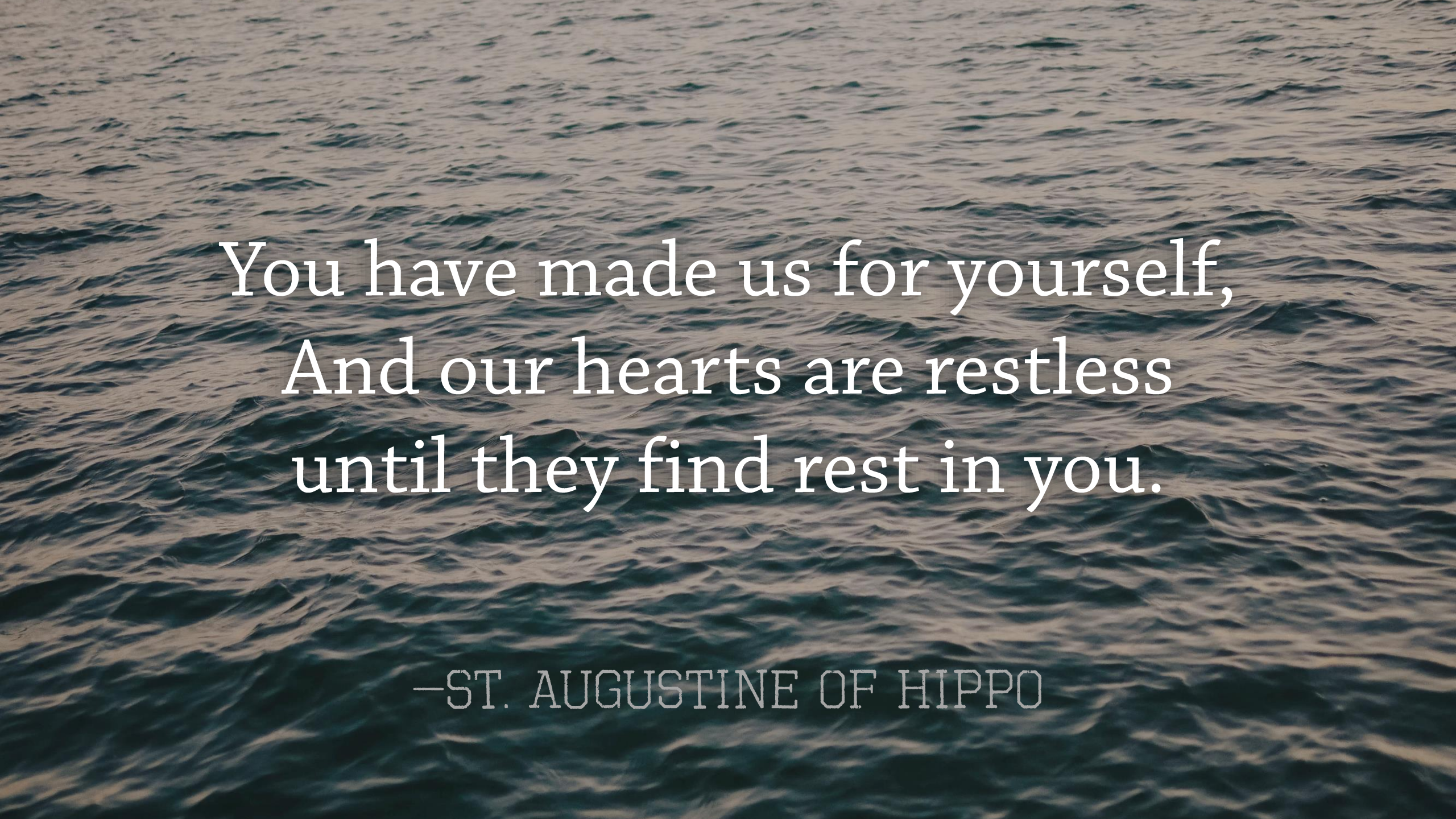
TENDENCY 1:

What we make can
substitute for God.

DANGEROUS TENDENCIES IN WORSHIP

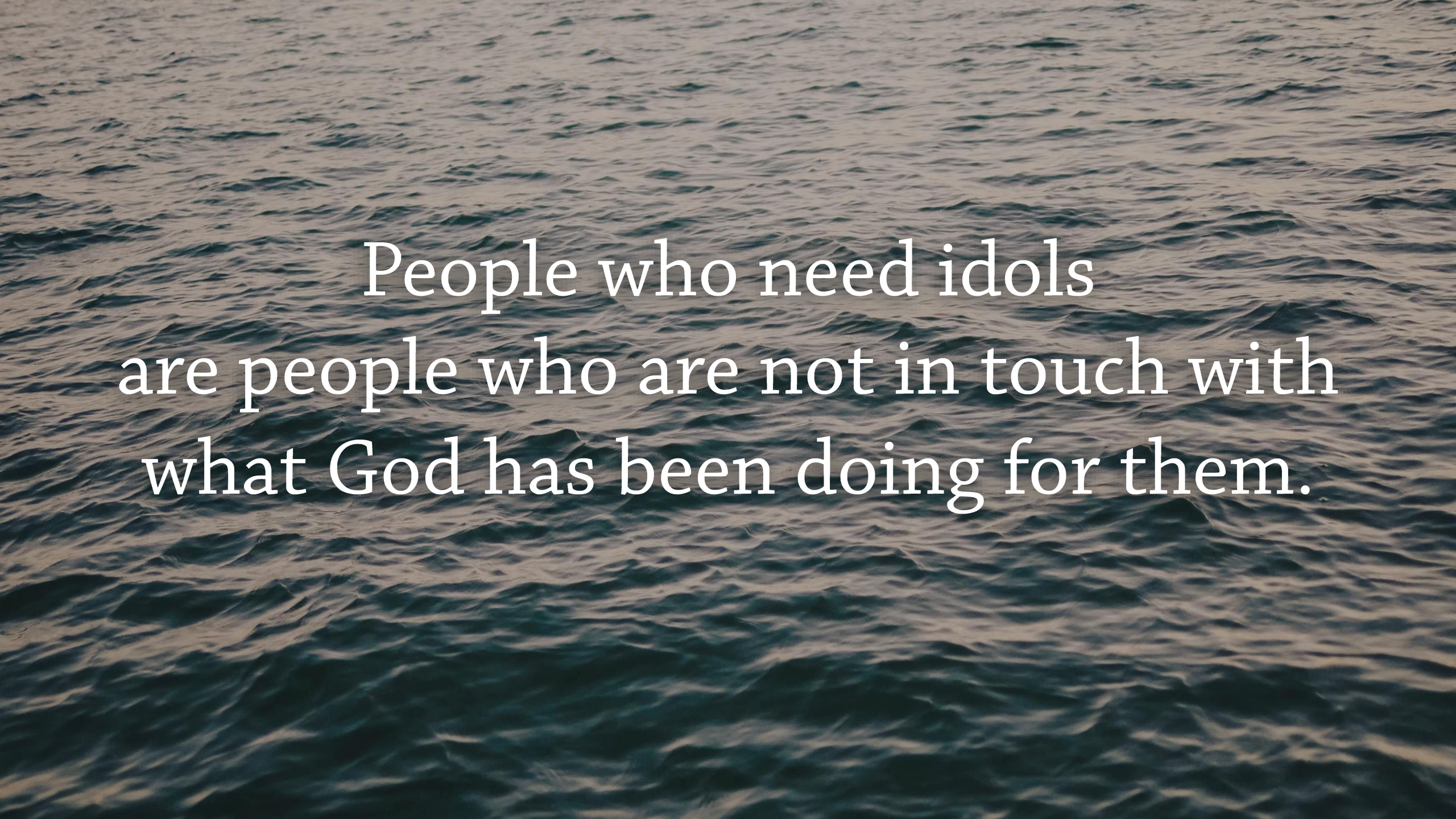
TENDENCY 2:

What God has made
can substitute for God.



You have made us for yourself,
And our hearts are restless
until they find rest in you.

—ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO



People who need idols
are people who are not in touch with
what God has been doing for them.



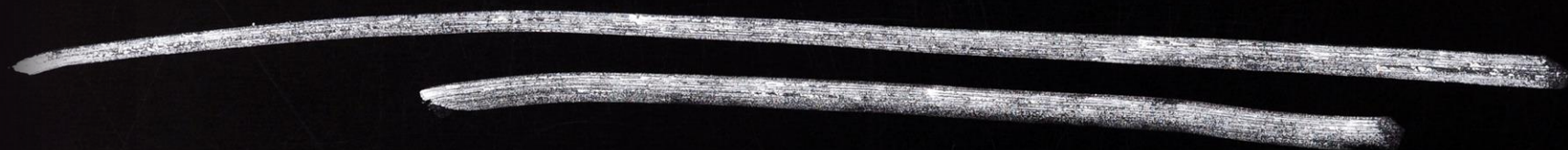


Appreciation that we were
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