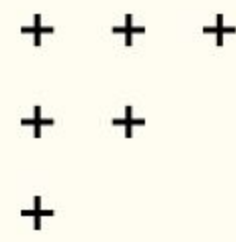


Acts.





All who believe, belong.



Acts 11:1-18

- + The Story of the Gentiles has Spread
VERSE 1
- + Peter is Confronted
VERSES 2-3
- + Peter's Explanation
VERSES 4-17
- + Conviction and Worship
VERSE 18

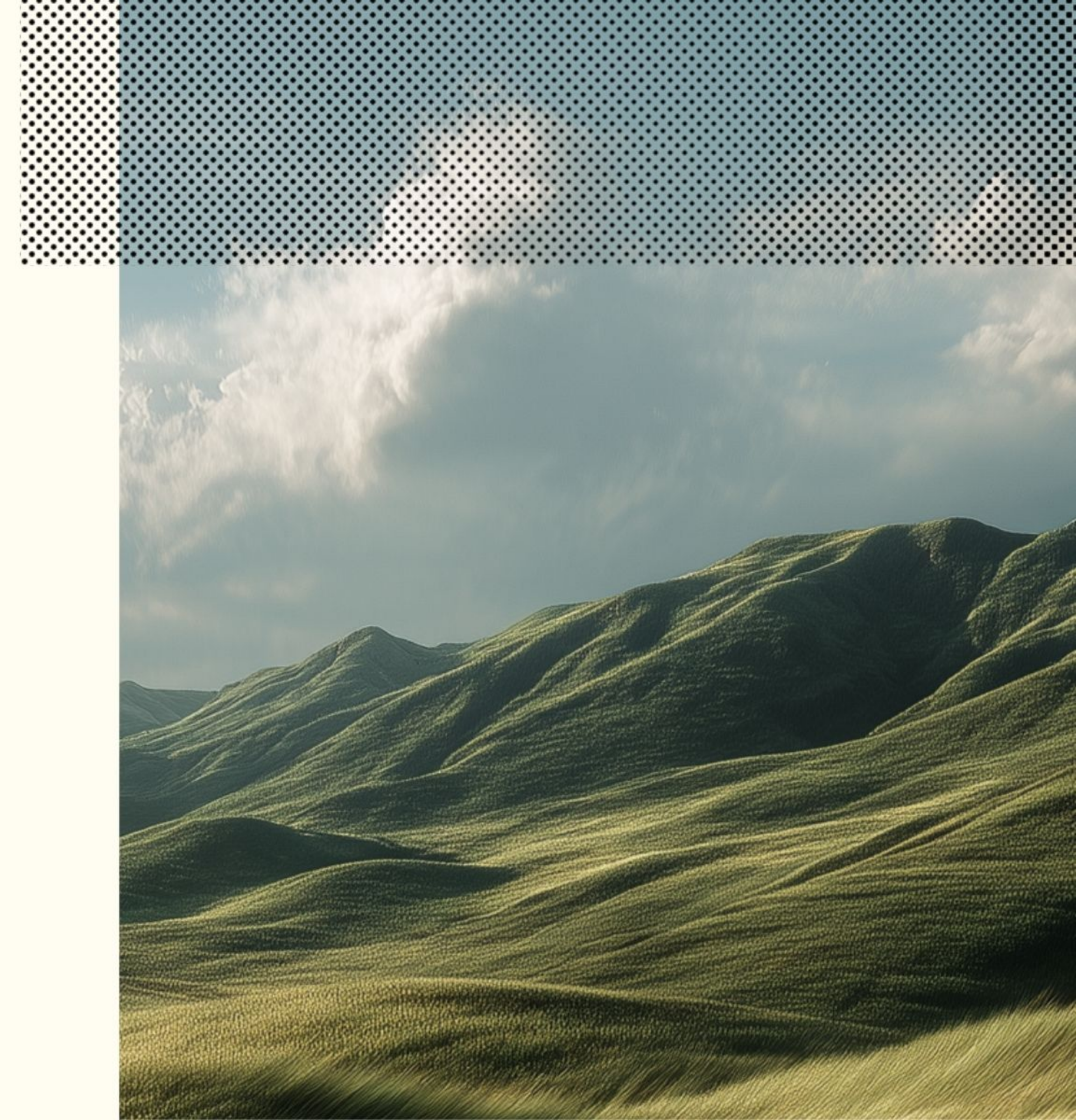




Acts.

“Our sheets easily fill with educational, racial, cultural, and spiritual rejects, and we cry, “By no means, Lord—they are not my type!” The result, of course, is a Christianity that grows solely on homogeneous lines. We then only seek to win our own kind, and thousands never come to grace who, humanly speaking, would have if they were given the chance...”

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“If we are resisting God’s overtures in this regard, we need to hear the words of Alexander Whyte:

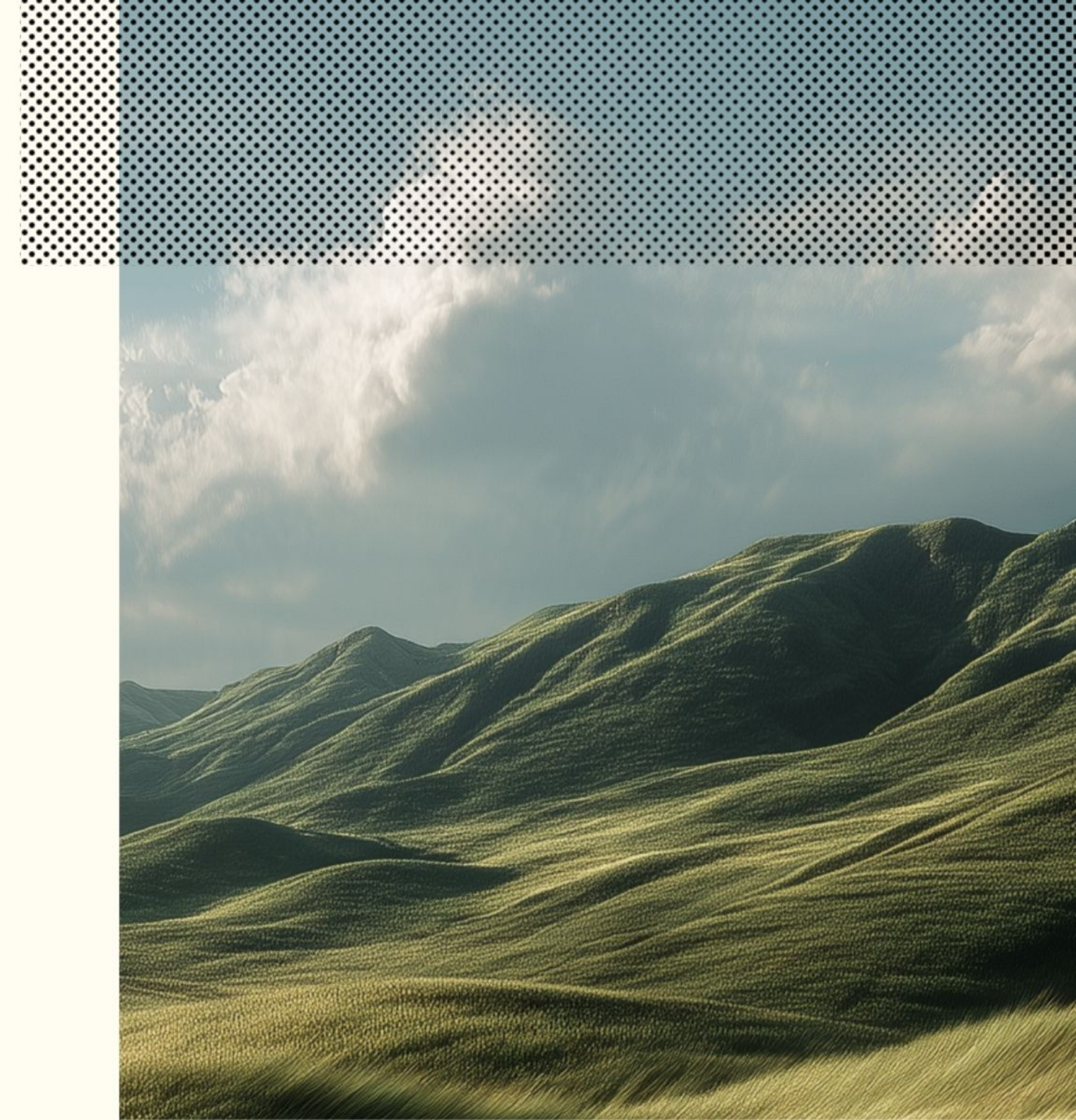
It would change your whole heart and life this very night if you would take Peter and Cornelius home with you and lay them both to heart. If you would take a four-cornered napkin when you go home, and a Sabbath-night pen and ink, and write the names of the nations, and the churches, and the denominations, and the congregations, and the ministers, and the public men, and the private citizens, and the neighbors, and the fellow-worshippers—all the people you dislike, and despise, and do not, and cannot, and will not, love.”

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“Heap all their names into your unclean napkin, and then look up and say,
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people. I cannot do it, and I will not try...”

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“If you acted out and spake out all the evil things that are in your heart in some such way as that, you would thus get such a sight of yourselves that you would never forget it.”

KENT HUGHES



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Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³ “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.”

ACTS 11:1-3 ESV



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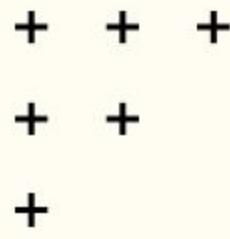
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VERSE 1

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+ The Story of the Gentiles has Spread

VERSE 1

+ Peter is Confronted

VERSES 2-3

+ Peter's Explanation

VERSES 4-17

But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶ Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷ And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸ But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹ But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven.

ACTS 11:4-10 ESV



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+ The Story of the Gentiles has Spread

VERSE 1

+ Peter is Confronted

VERSES 2-3

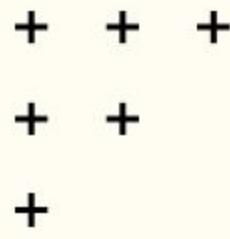
+ Peter's Explanation

VERSES 4-17

And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea.¹² And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.¹³ And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter;¹⁴ he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.'

ACTS 11:11-14 ESV





+ The Story of the Gentiles has Spread

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+ Peter is Confronted

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+ Peter's Explanation

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ACTS 11:11-14 ESV

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality"...

ACTS 10:34 ESV



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+ +
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+ The Story of the Gentiles has Spread

VERSE 1

+ Peter is Confronted

VERSES 2-3

+ Peter's Explanation

VERSES 4-17

As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

ACTS 11:15-17 ESV



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+ The Story of the Gentiles has Spread

VERSE 1

+ Peter is Confronted

VERSES 2-3

+ Peter's Explanation

VERSES 4-17

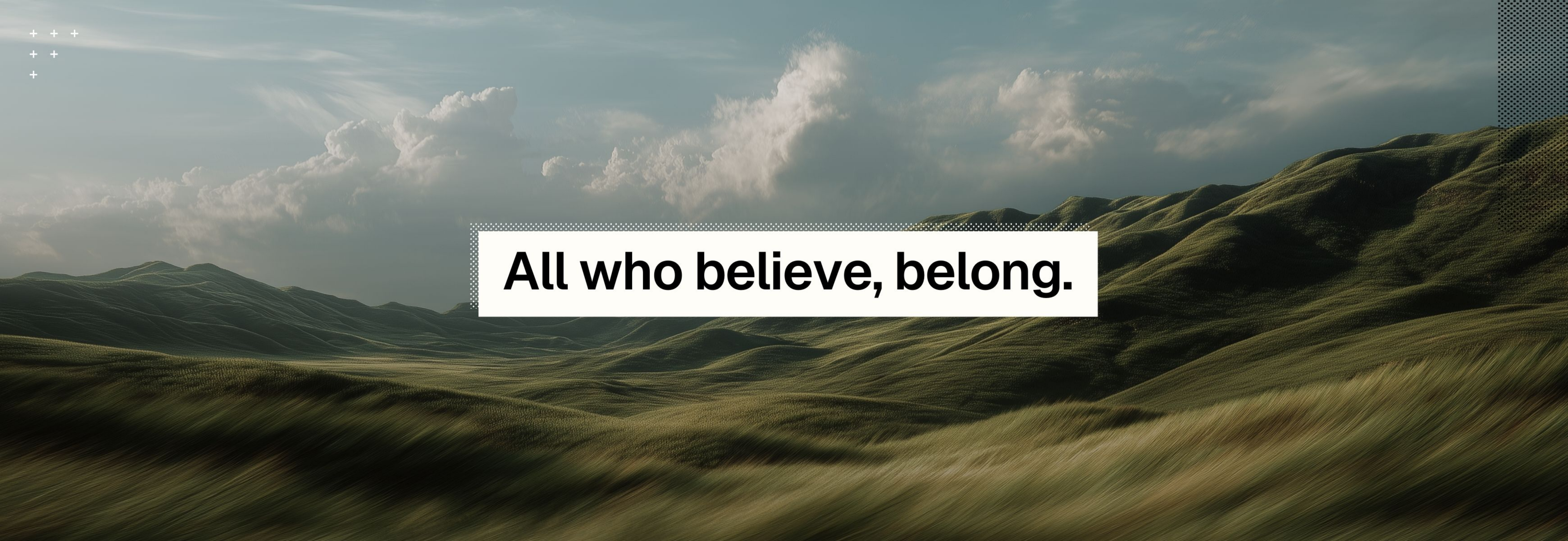
+ Conviction and Worship

VERSE 18

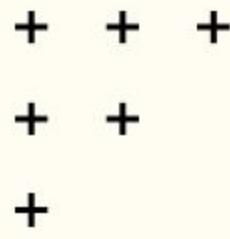
When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

ACTS 11:18 ESV





All who believe, belong.



Recognizing Gentile Inclusion

So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality...

ACTS 10:34 ESV

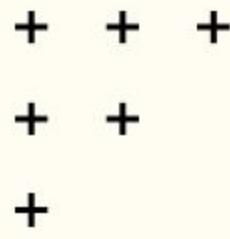
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Recognizing Gentile Inclusion

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ACTS 10: 34 ESV

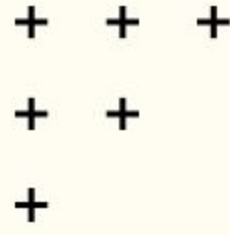
...who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

ACTS 11:17 ESV

...Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

ACTS 11: 18 ESV





Self Reflection

I understand that God shows no partiality.

Who am I to stand in God's way?

Then to the _____ also God has granted
repentance that leads to life.





Who am I to stand in God's way?

1 Seclusion

2 Aggression

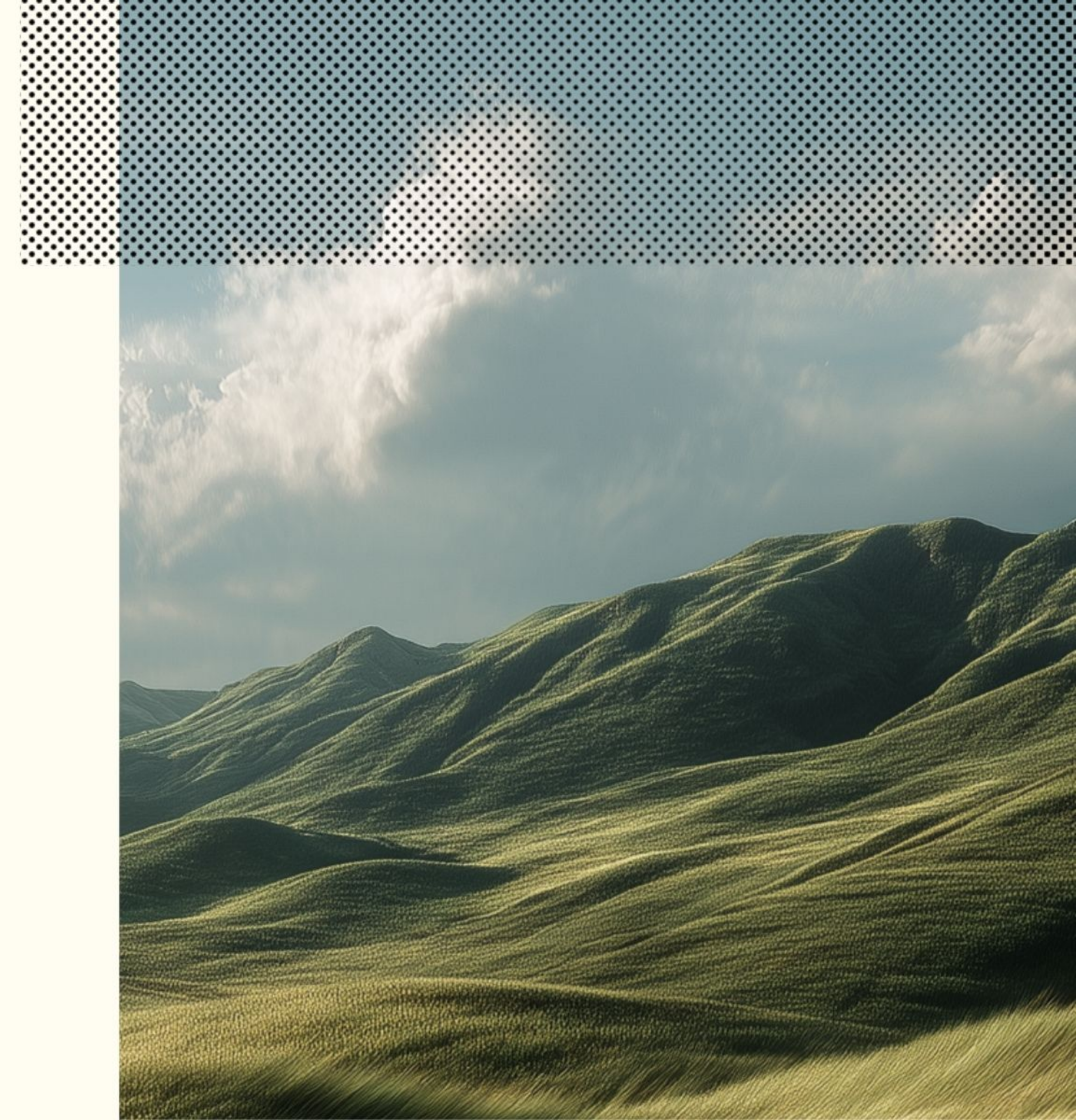
3 Favoritism



All who believe, belong.

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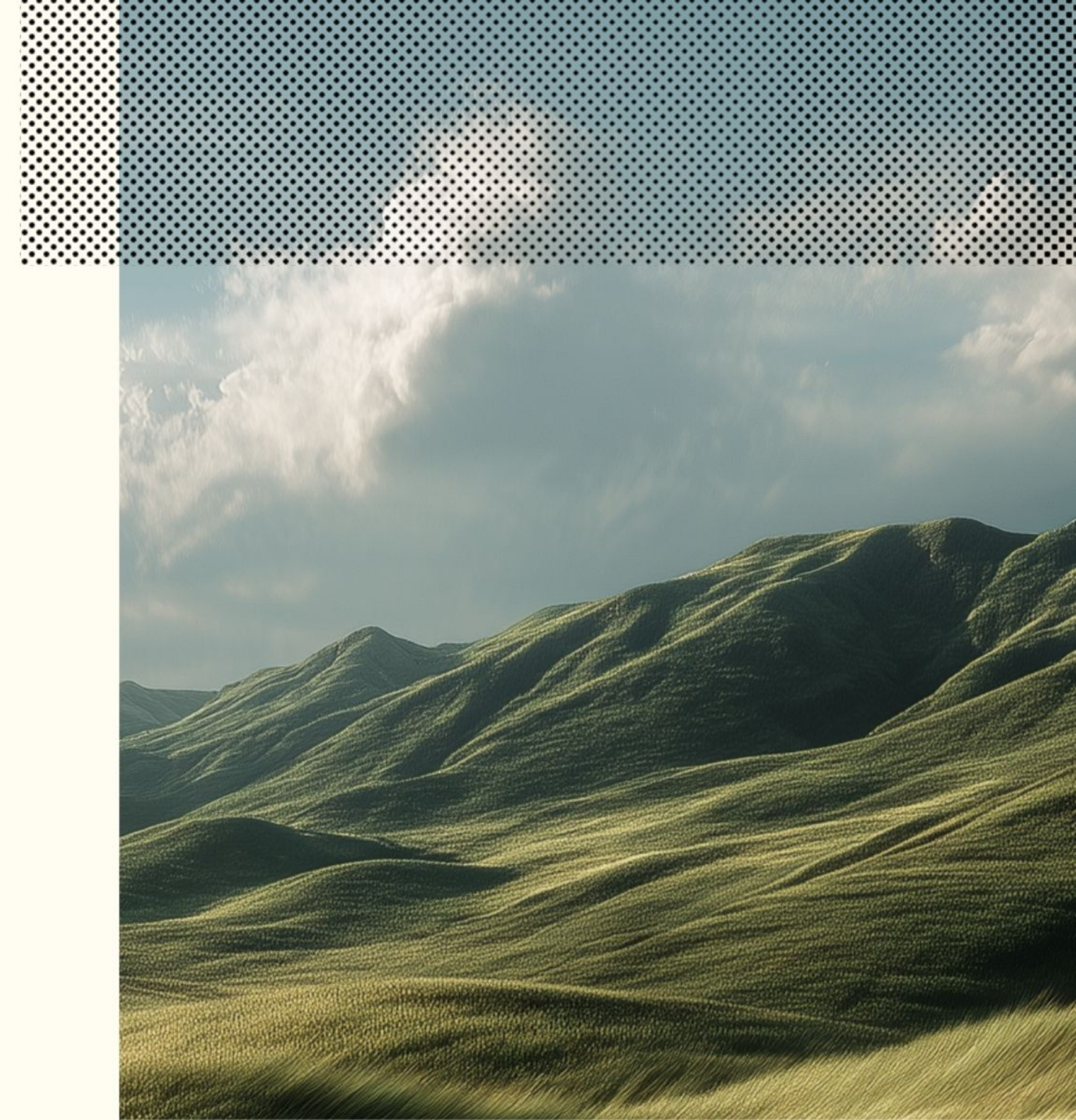
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“...Do we dare write down the names of individuals and groups to which we have in effect said, “By no means, Lord”? Only God can give us the grace to love them, and he will do exactly that if we ask him.”

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