

Praying Inside a Fish



**7“When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you,
Lord,**

and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.

**8“Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from
God’s love for them.**

**9But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to
you. What I have vowed I will make good.**

I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the Lord.’ ”

**10And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited
Jonah onto dry land. Jonah 2:7 – 10**

**When we find ourselves feeling trapped,
we can turn to God.**



7Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

8If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

9If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

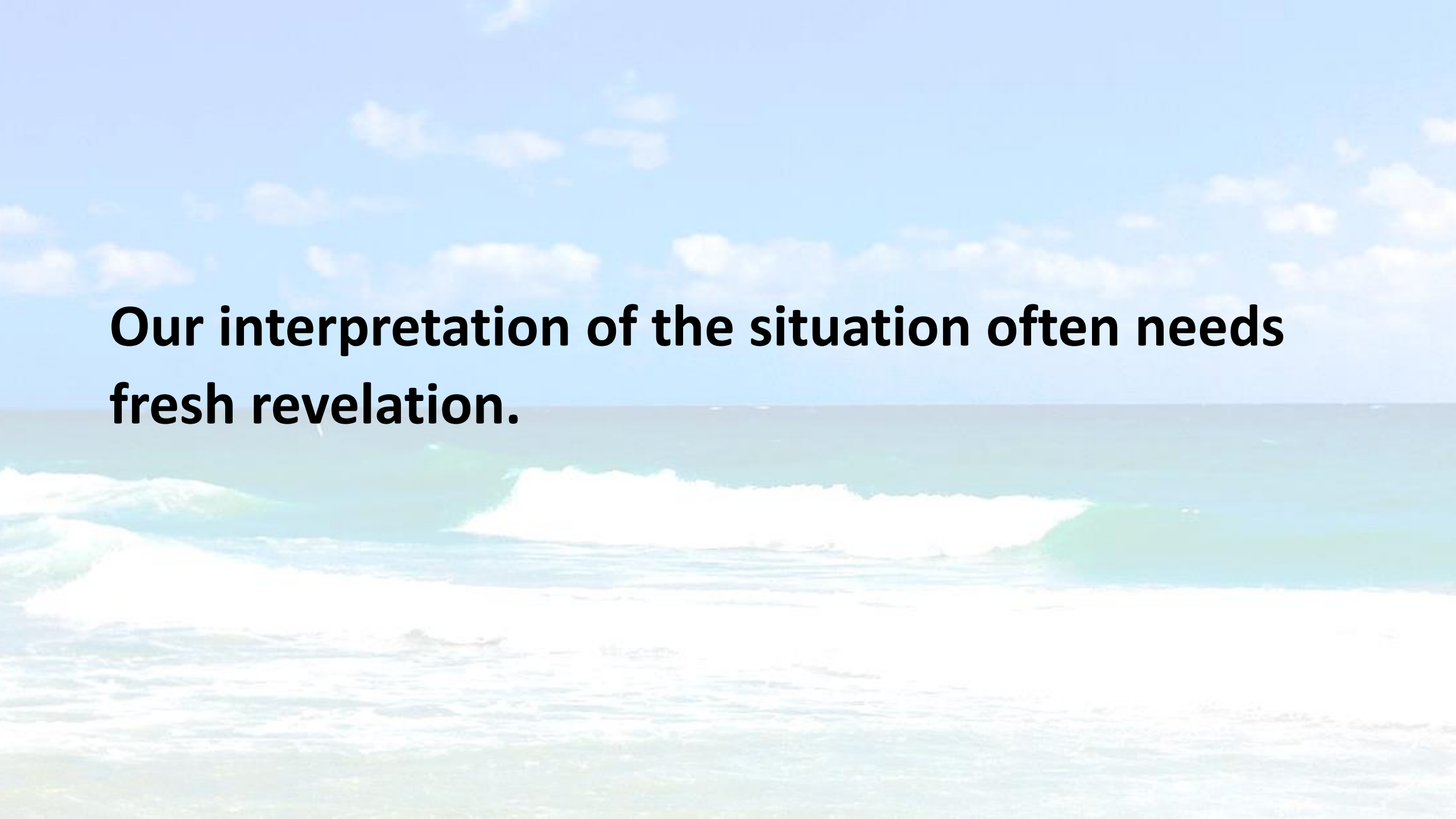
10even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

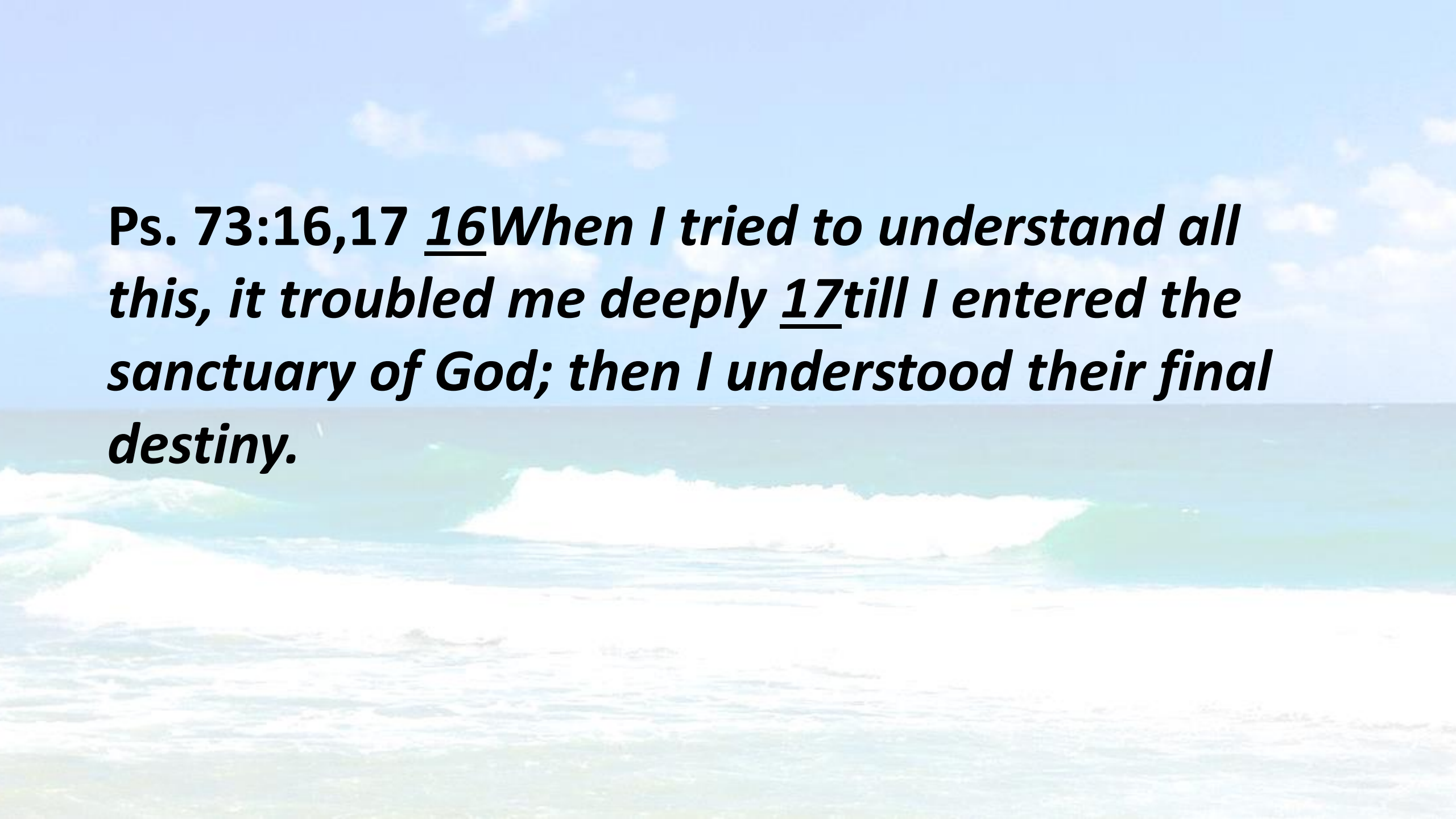


***11If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,”***

***12even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day, for darkness
is as light to you. Psalm 139:7-12***

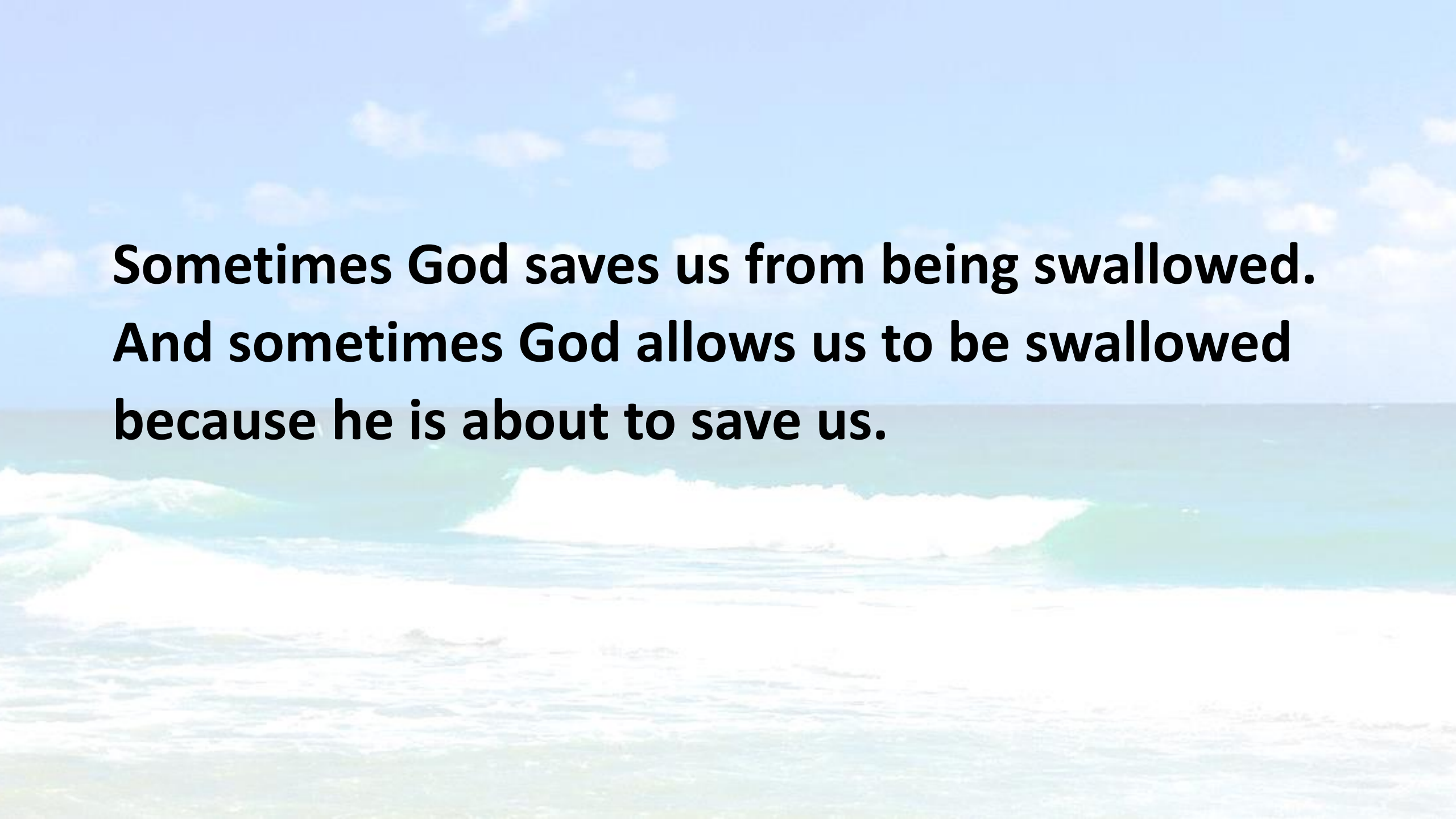
**Our interpretation of the situation often needs
fresh revelation.**





Ps. 73:16,17 16When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply 17till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.

**Sometimes God saves us from being swallowed.
And sometimes God allows us to be swallowed
because he is about to save us.**



A wide-angle photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, the ocean's surface is covered in white foam from breaking waves. The water transitions from a pale turquoise near the shore to a deeper blue further out. The horizon line is visible in the distance. The sky above is a clear, vibrant blue, populated with numerous small, fluffy white clouds. Centered horizontally across the middle of the image is a line of bold, black, sans-serif text.

When nobody is there to hear our cry, God hears us.

A scenic view of a beach with waves crashing onto the shore under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The text "Jonah's prayers are not original." is overlaid in the center.

Jonah's prayers are not original.



God doesn't put a time limit on us.

God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 1Peter 3:9

**Jonah is not saved because he remembered God.
He's saved because the Lord remembered him.**



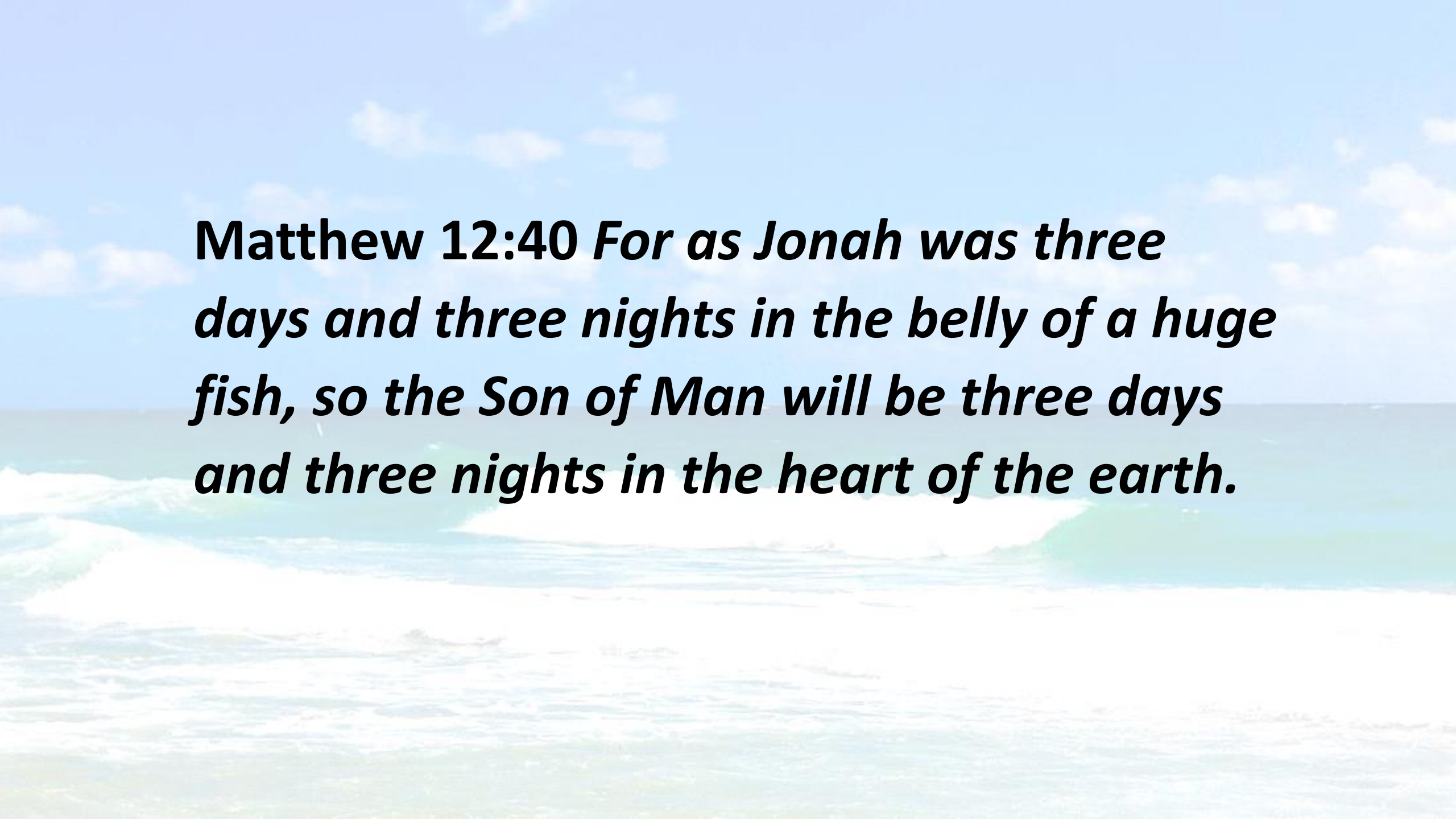


v8 is Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God's love for them.

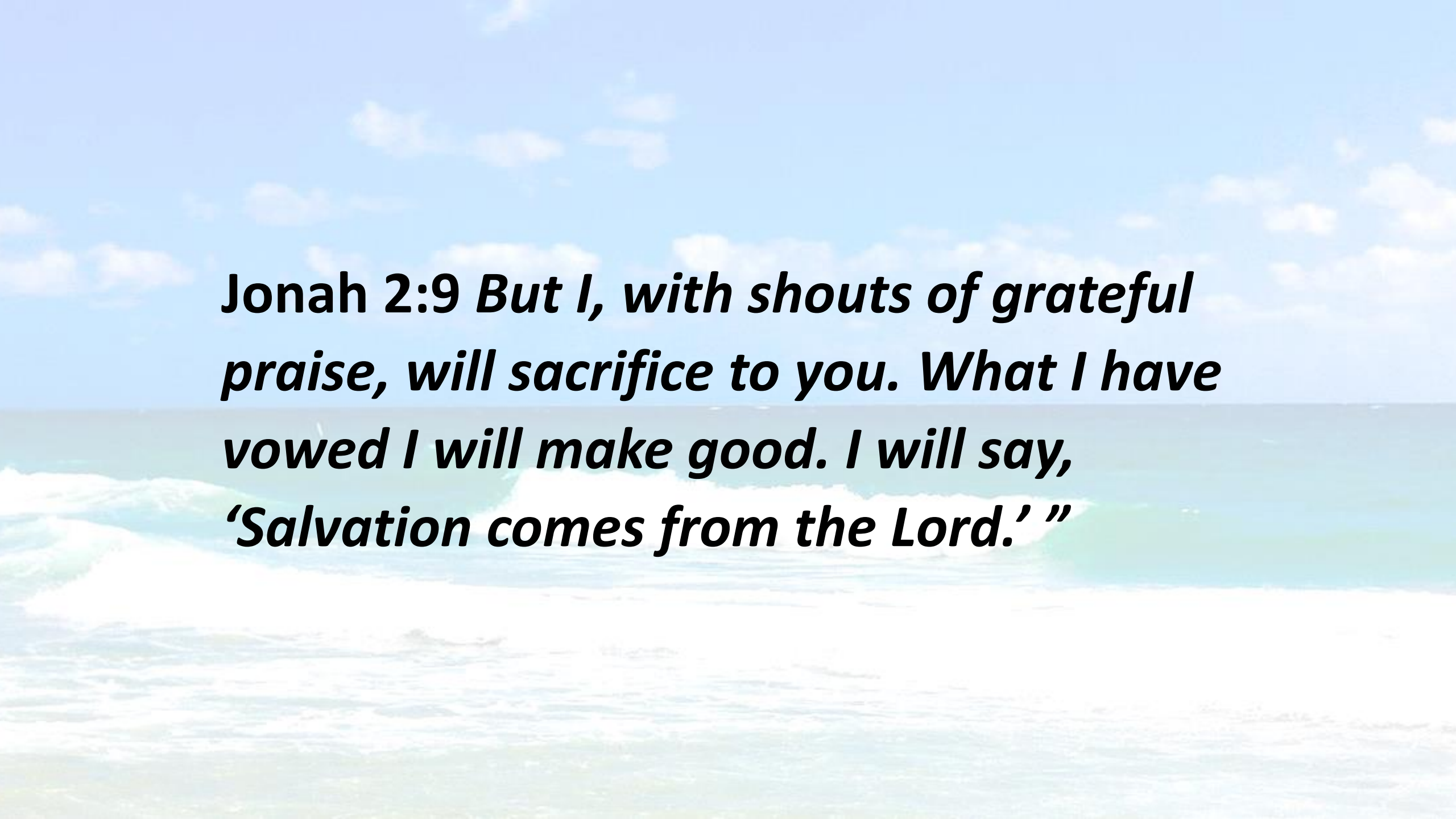
Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.



**Jonah's confinement gives him
greater clarity to identify the idols.**



Matthew 12:40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.



***Jonah 2:9 But I, with shouts of grateful
praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have
vowed I will make good. I will say,
'Salvation comes from the Lord.' ”***