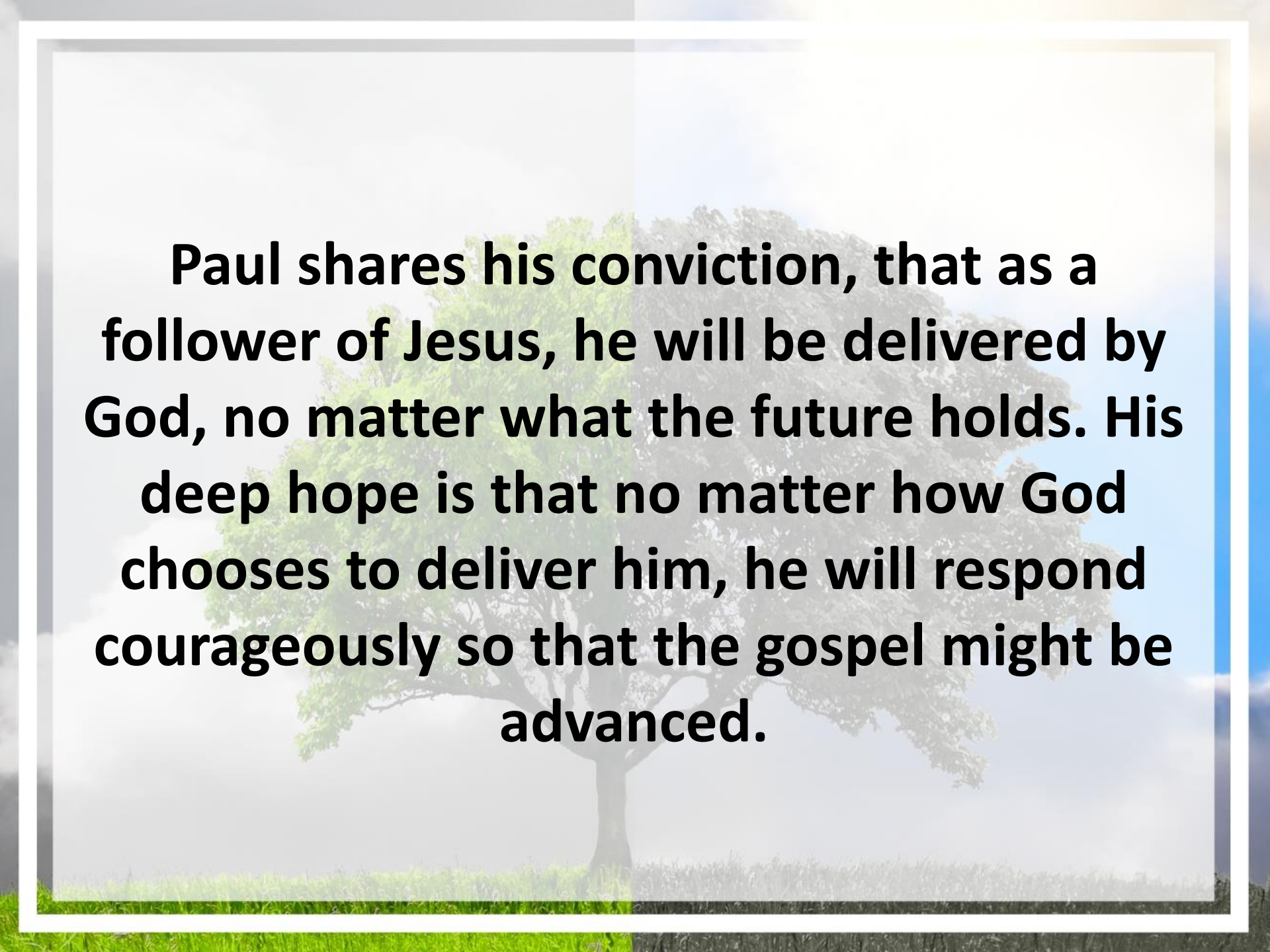




Always Delivered

October 1, 2017

A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a blue sky with a white cloud. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The background is a soft-focus landscape with green grass and a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, black font.

Paul shares his conviction, that as a follower of Jesus, he will be delivered by God, no matter what the future holds. His deep hope is that no matter how God chooses to deliver him, he will respond courageously so that the gospel might be advanced.

Philippians 1:18b-26

¹⁸ Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

Philippians 1:18b-26

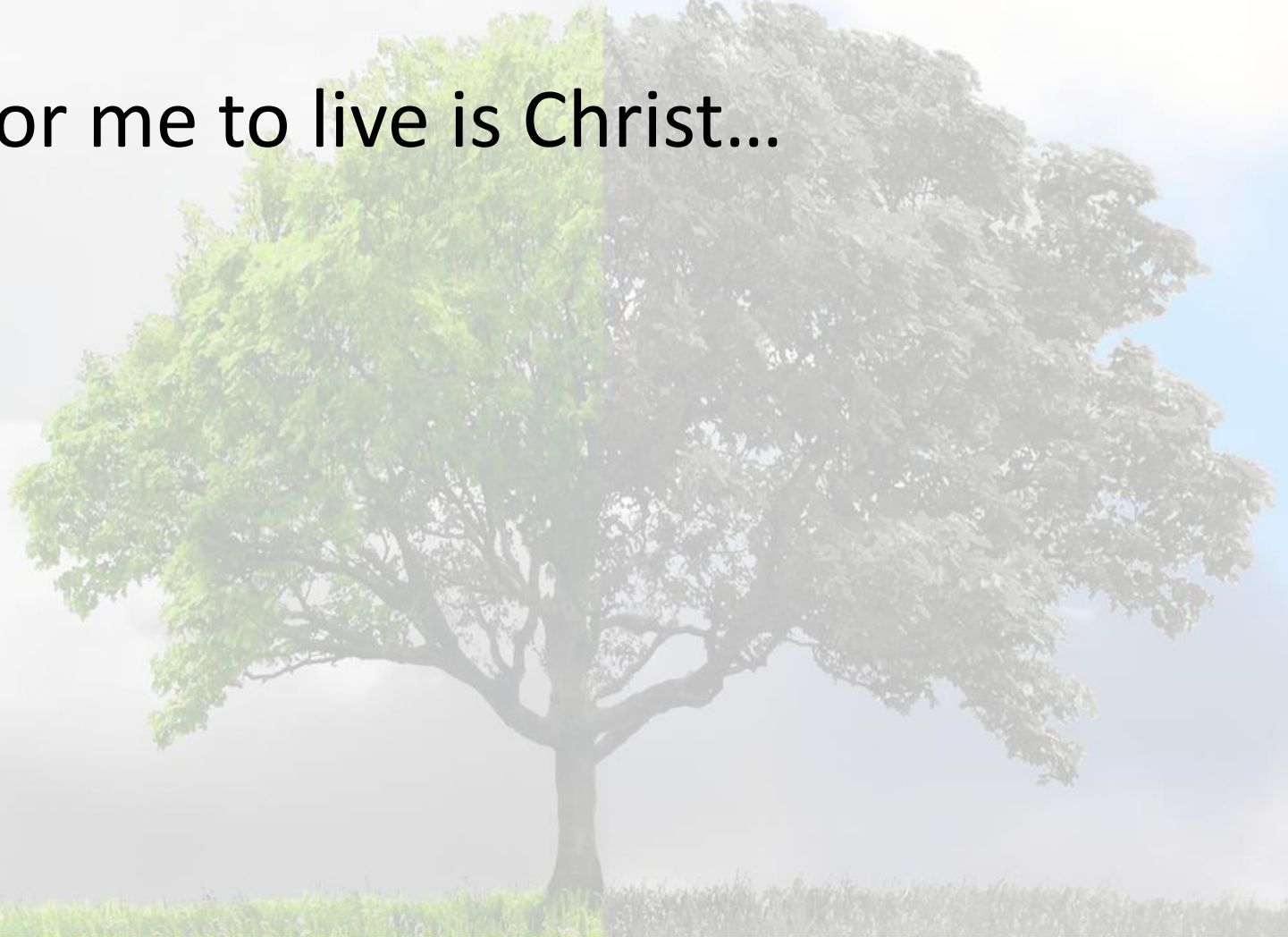
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Two possibilities for Paul's deliverance...



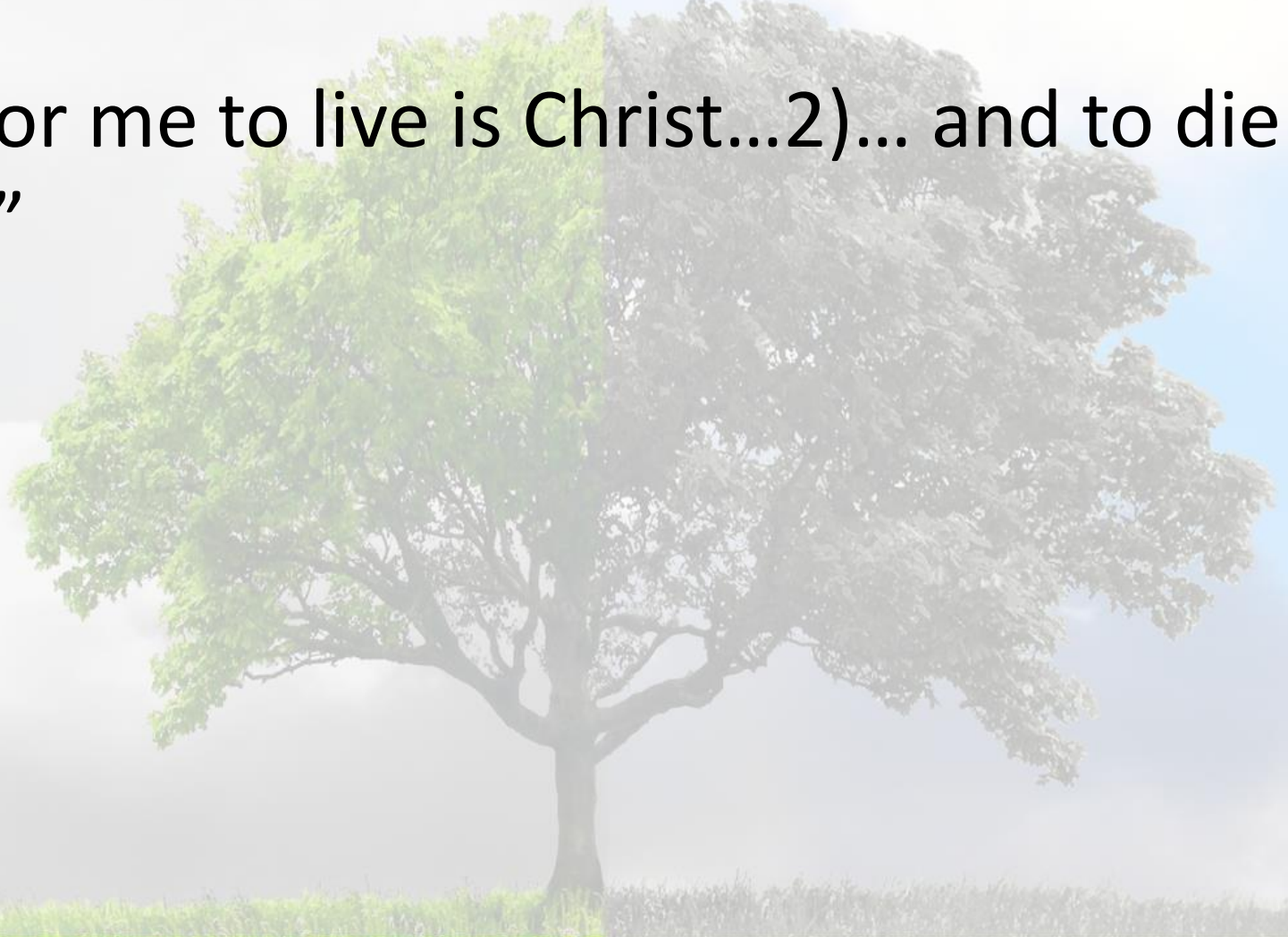
Two possibilities for Paul's deliverance...

1) "For me to live is Christ..."

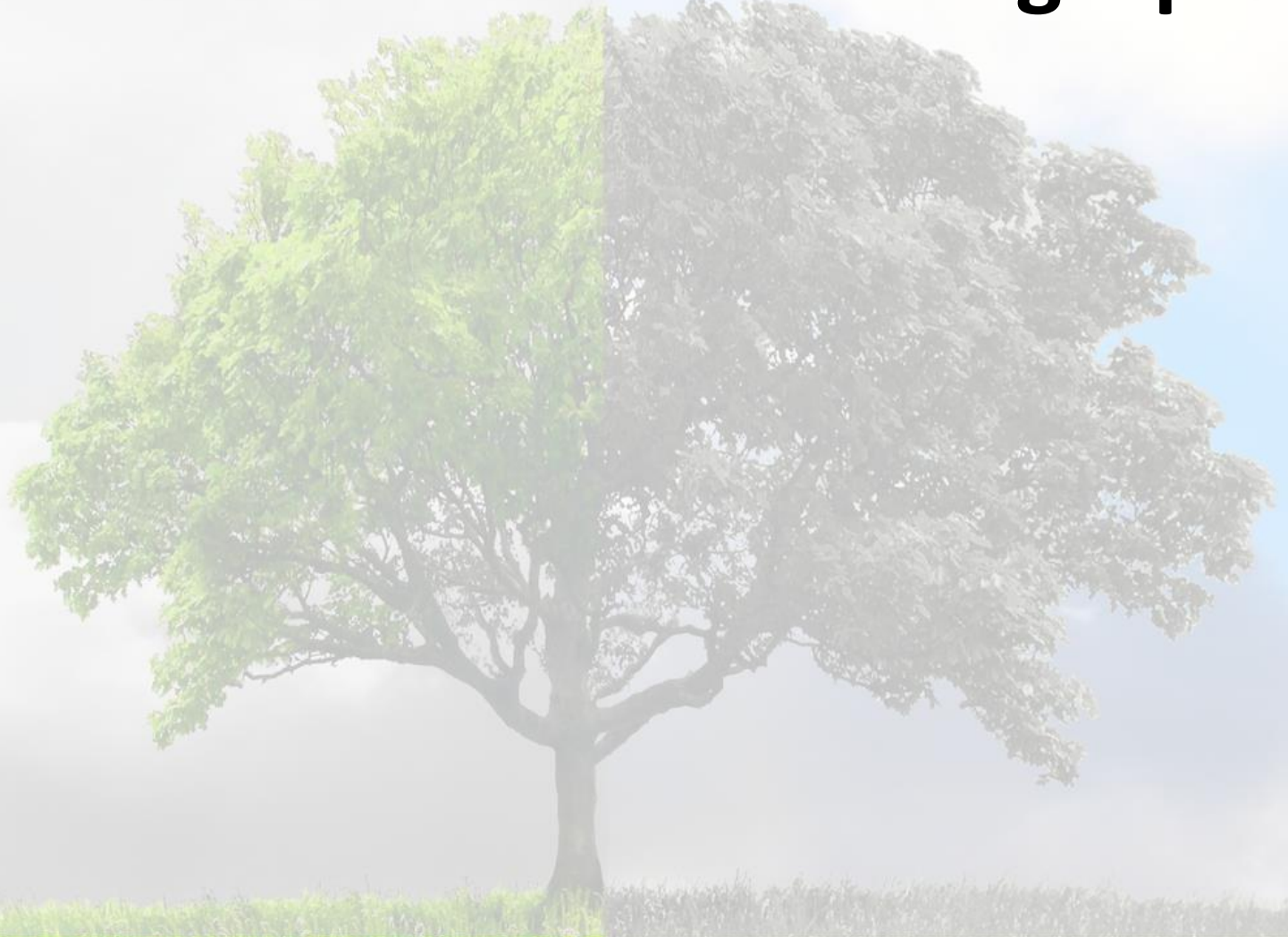


Two possibilities for Paul's deliverance...

1) "For me to live is Christ...2)... and to die is gain."

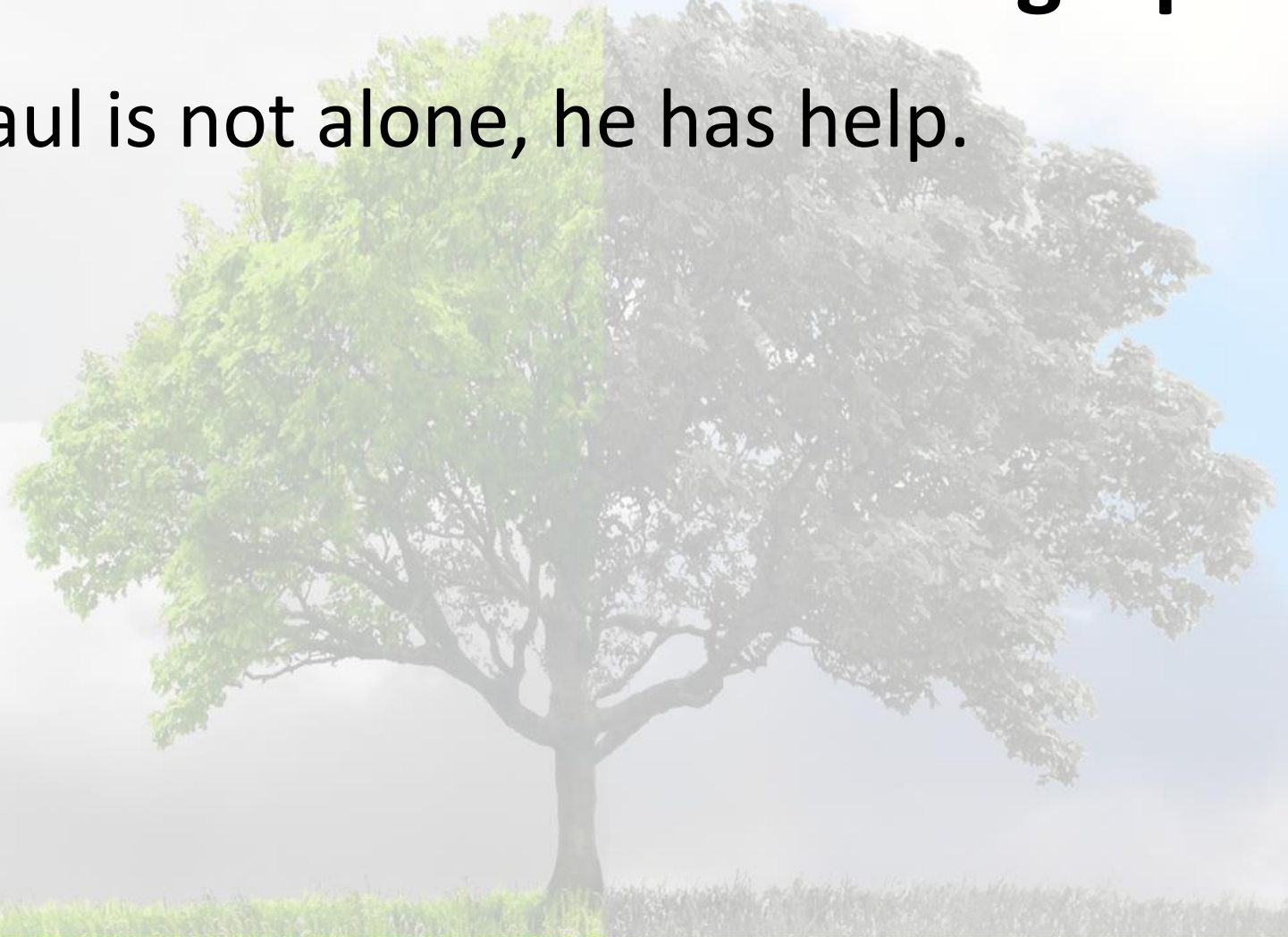


1. God will deliver Paul from prison to continue to advance the gospel.



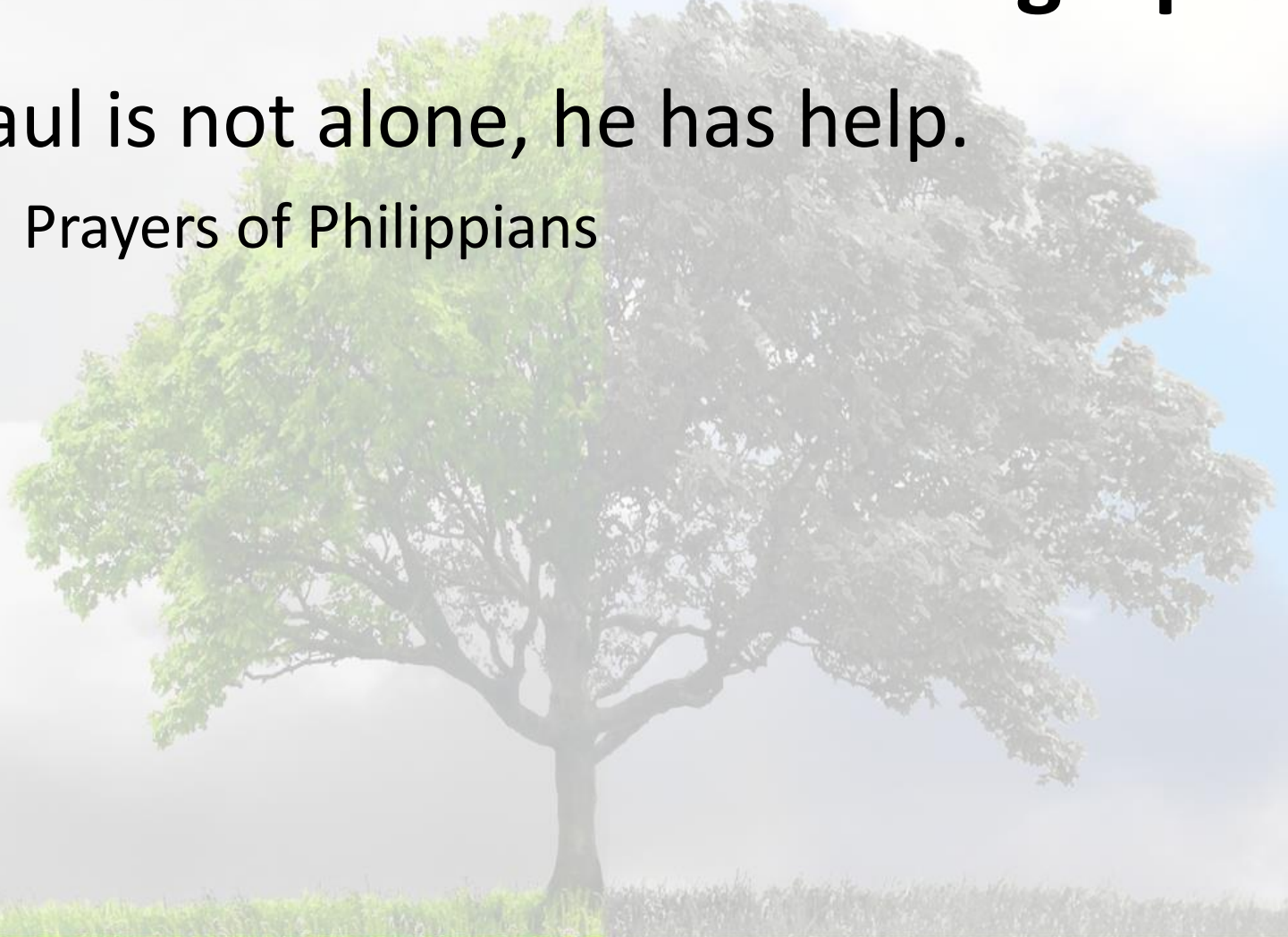
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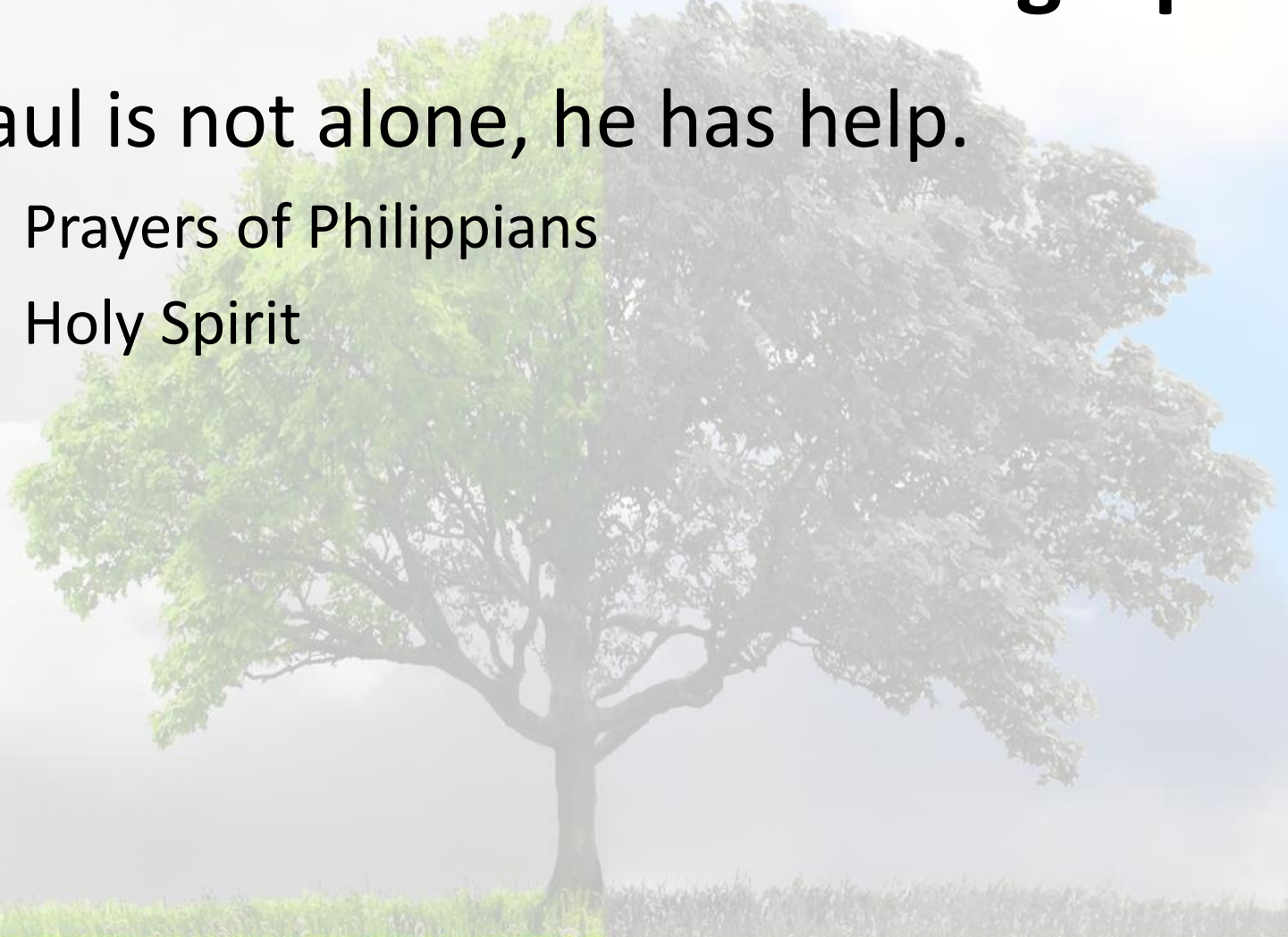
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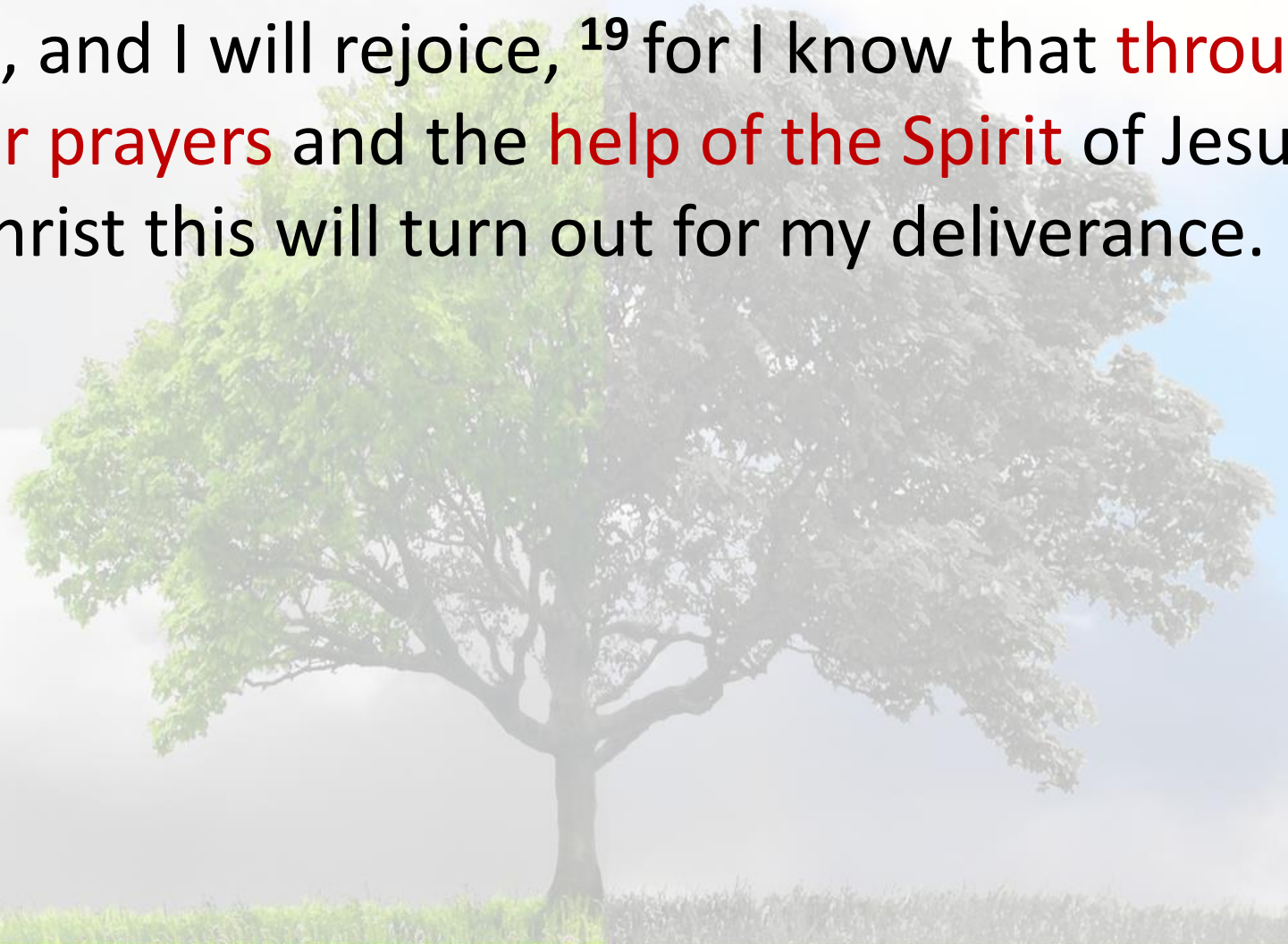
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 - Holy Spirit



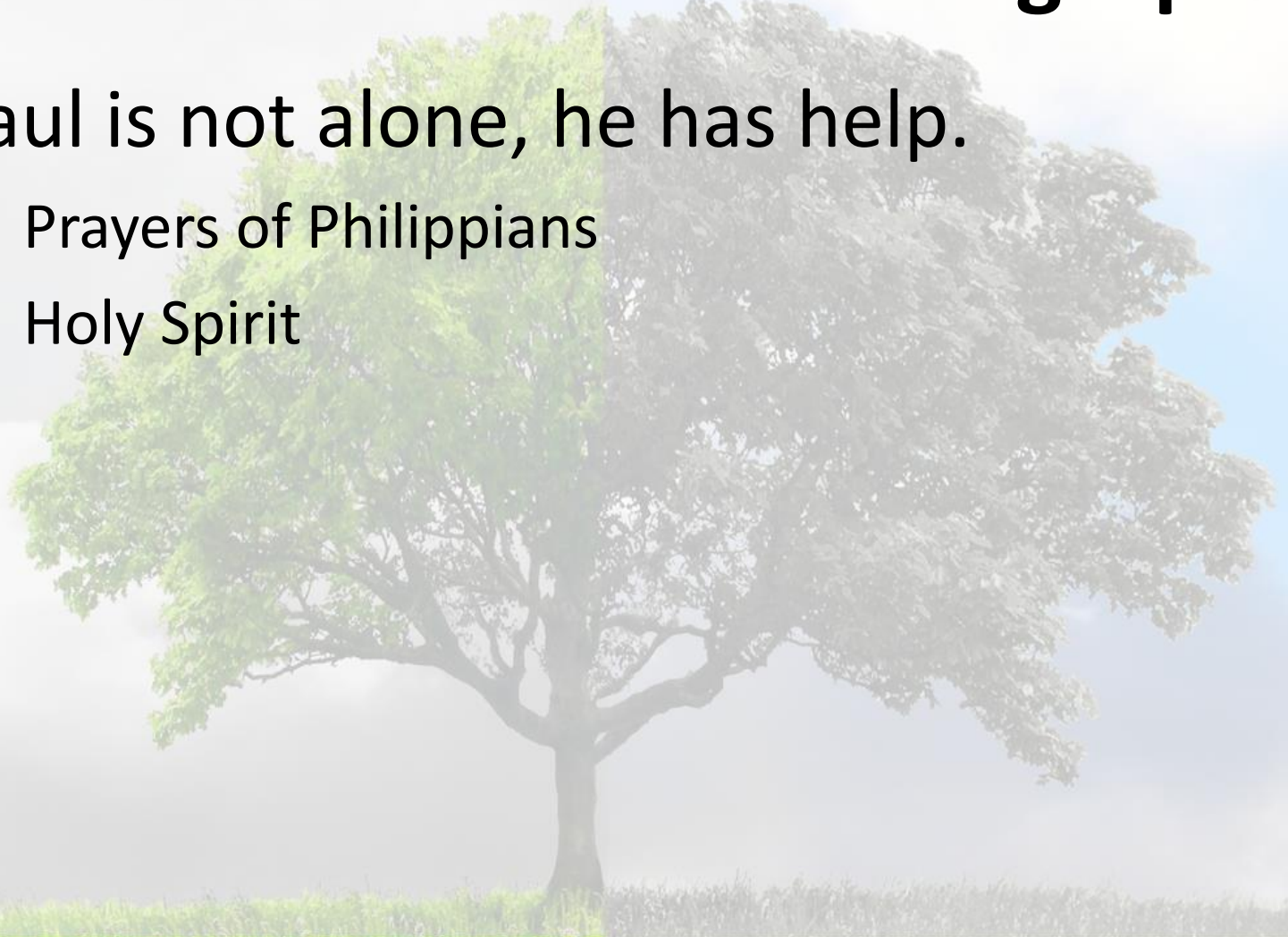
Philippians 1:18b-19

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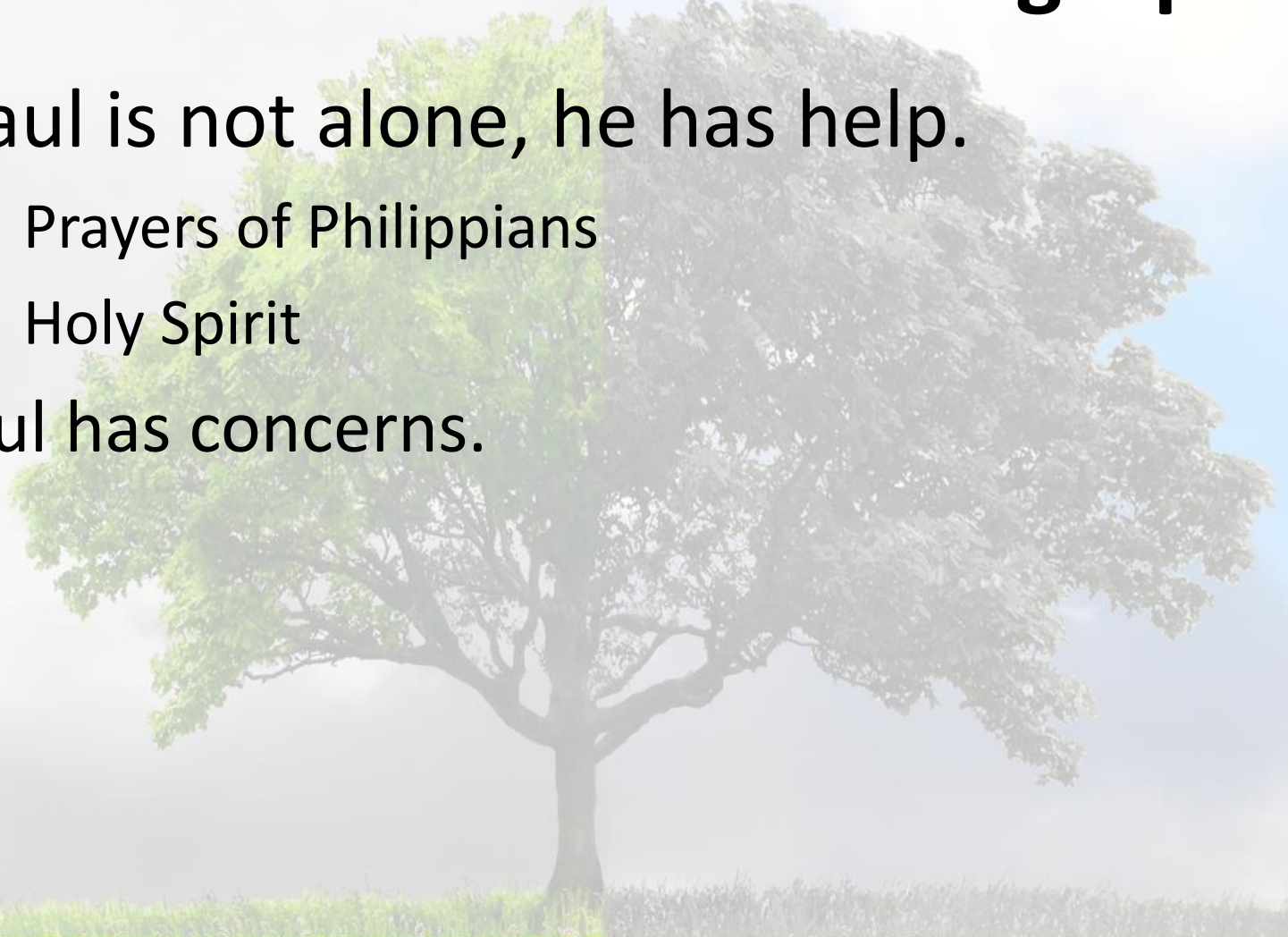
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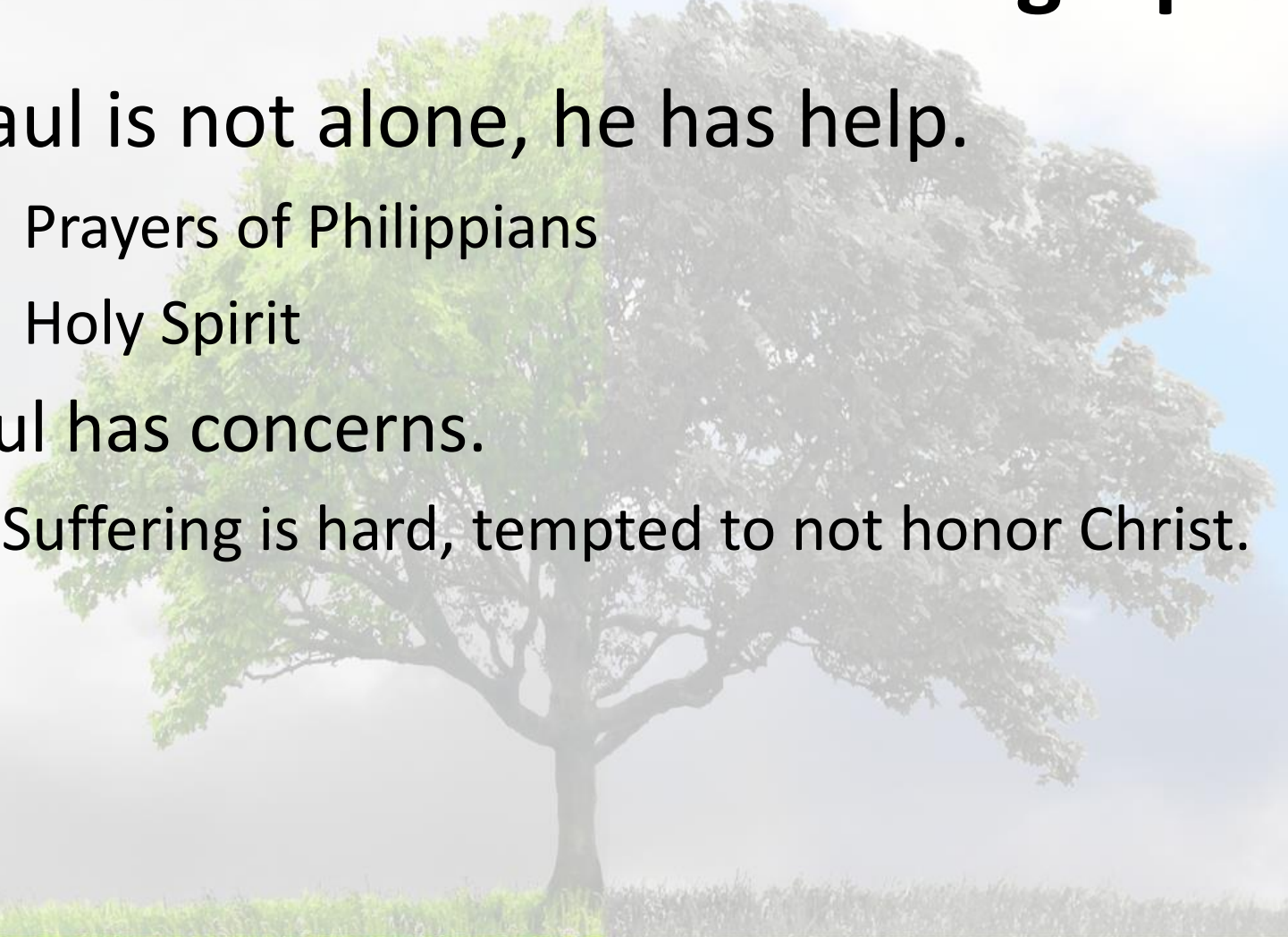
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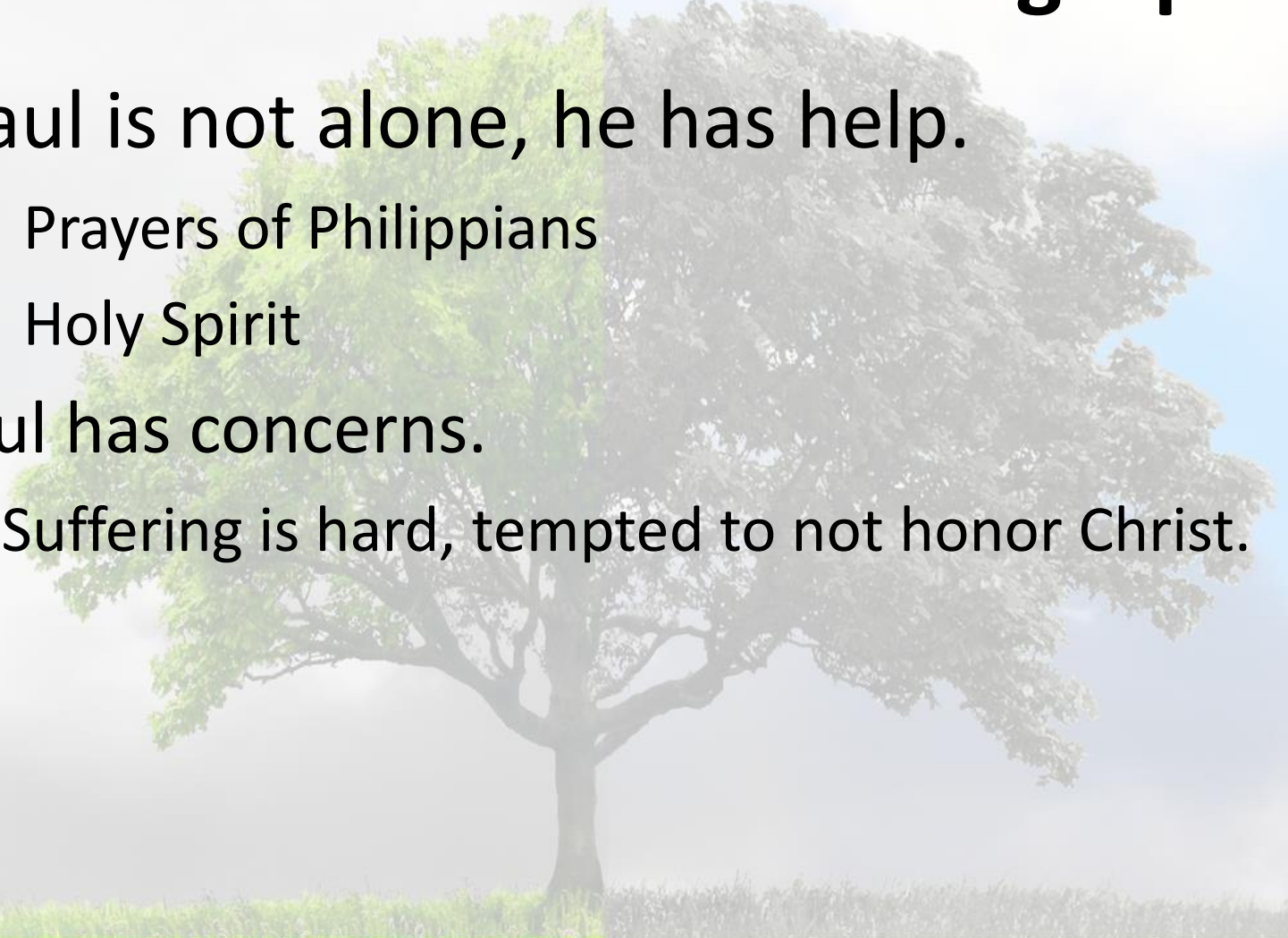


Philippians 1:18b-20

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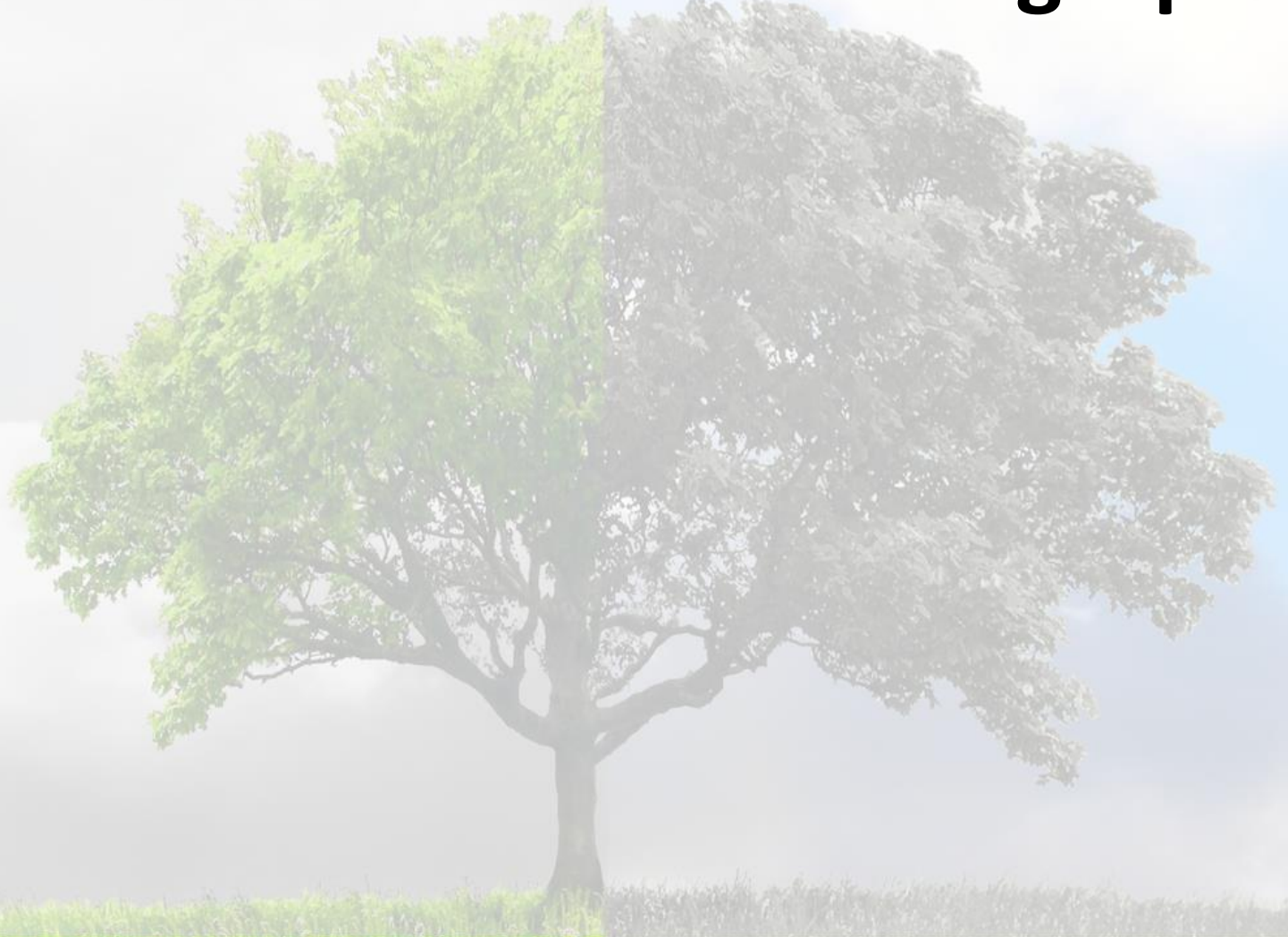
Philippians 1:18b-26

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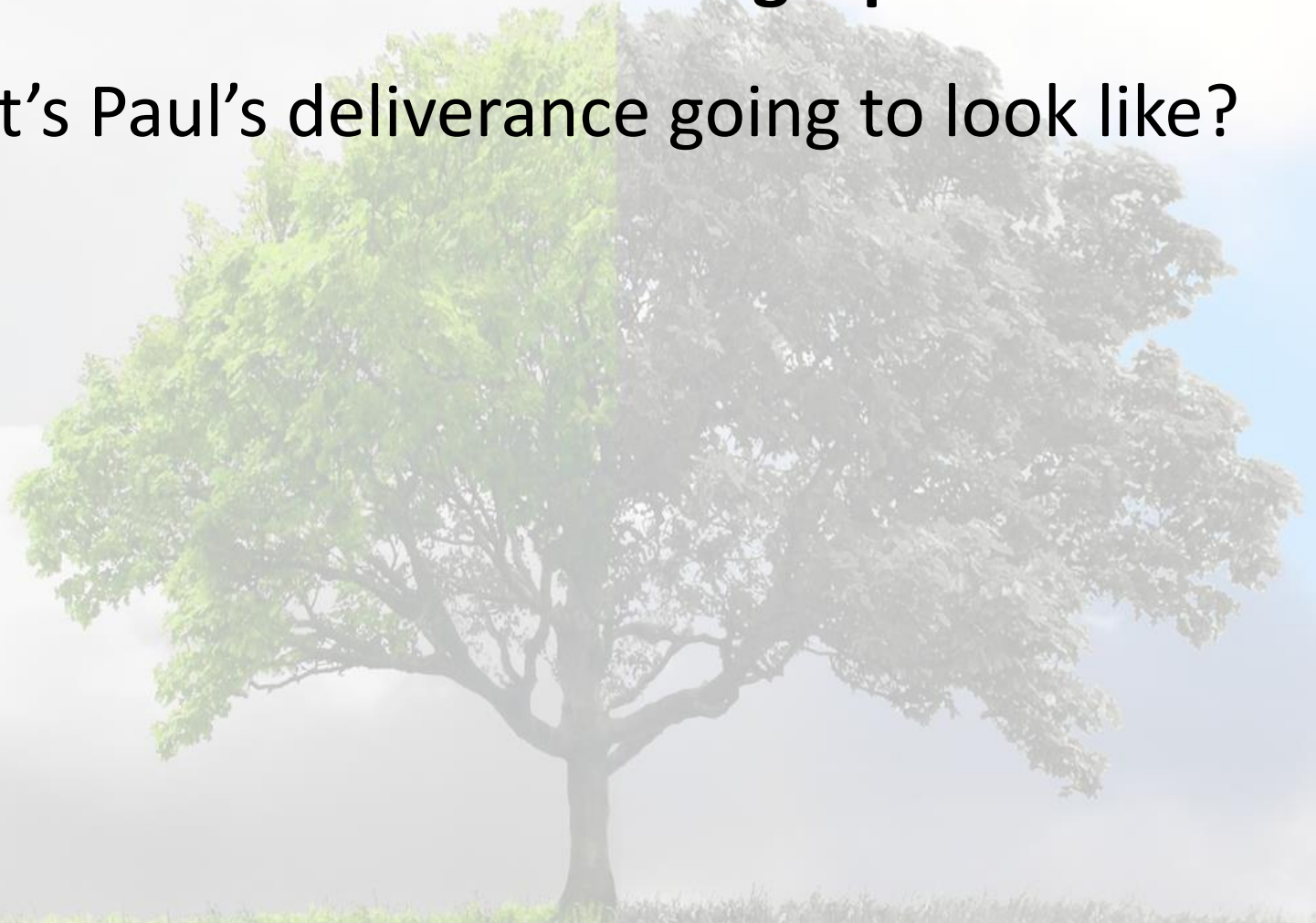
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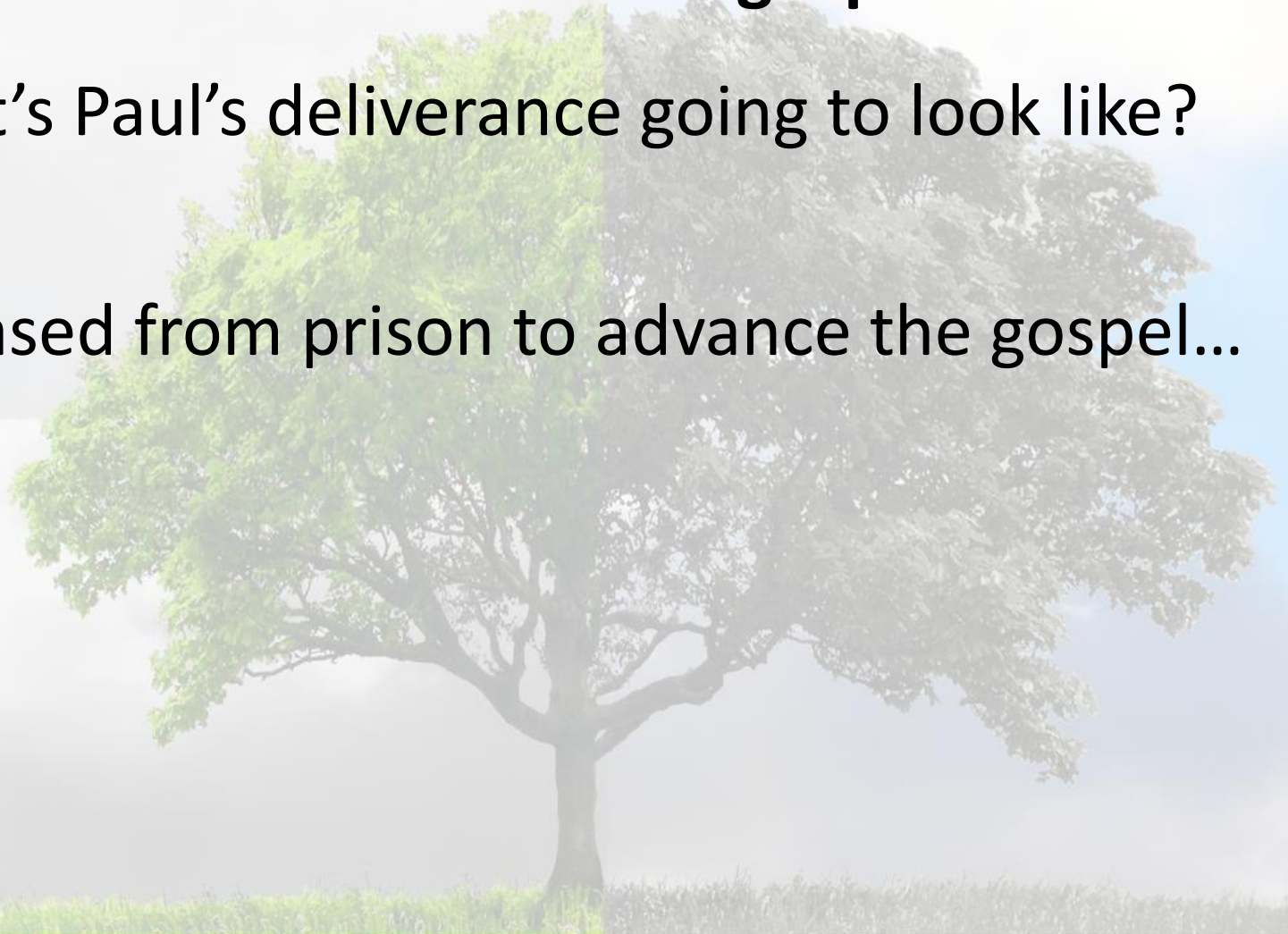
What's Paul's deliverance going to look like?



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What's Paul's deliverance going to look like?

Released from prison to advance the gospel...

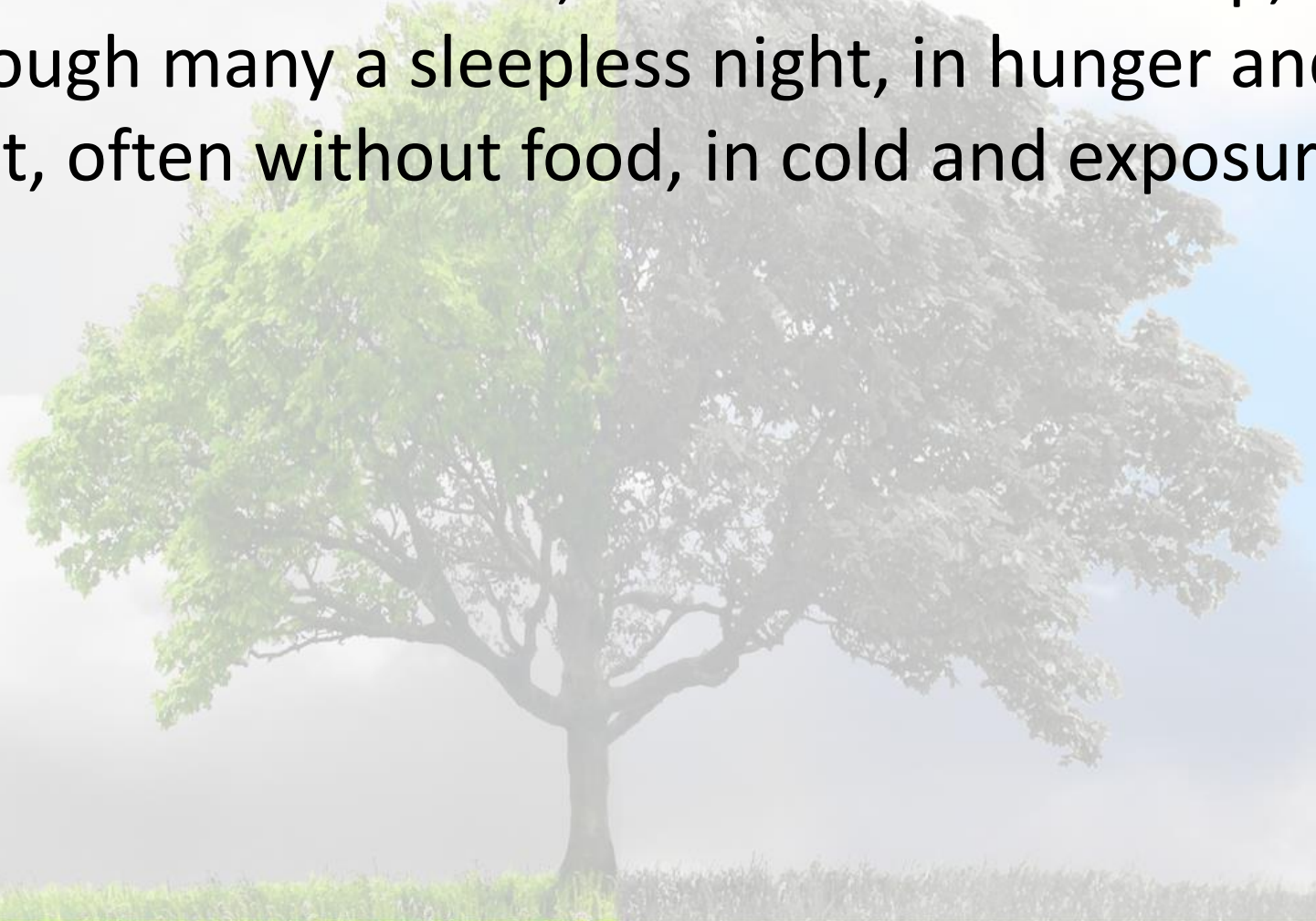


2 Cor 11:23b-27

²³ far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger

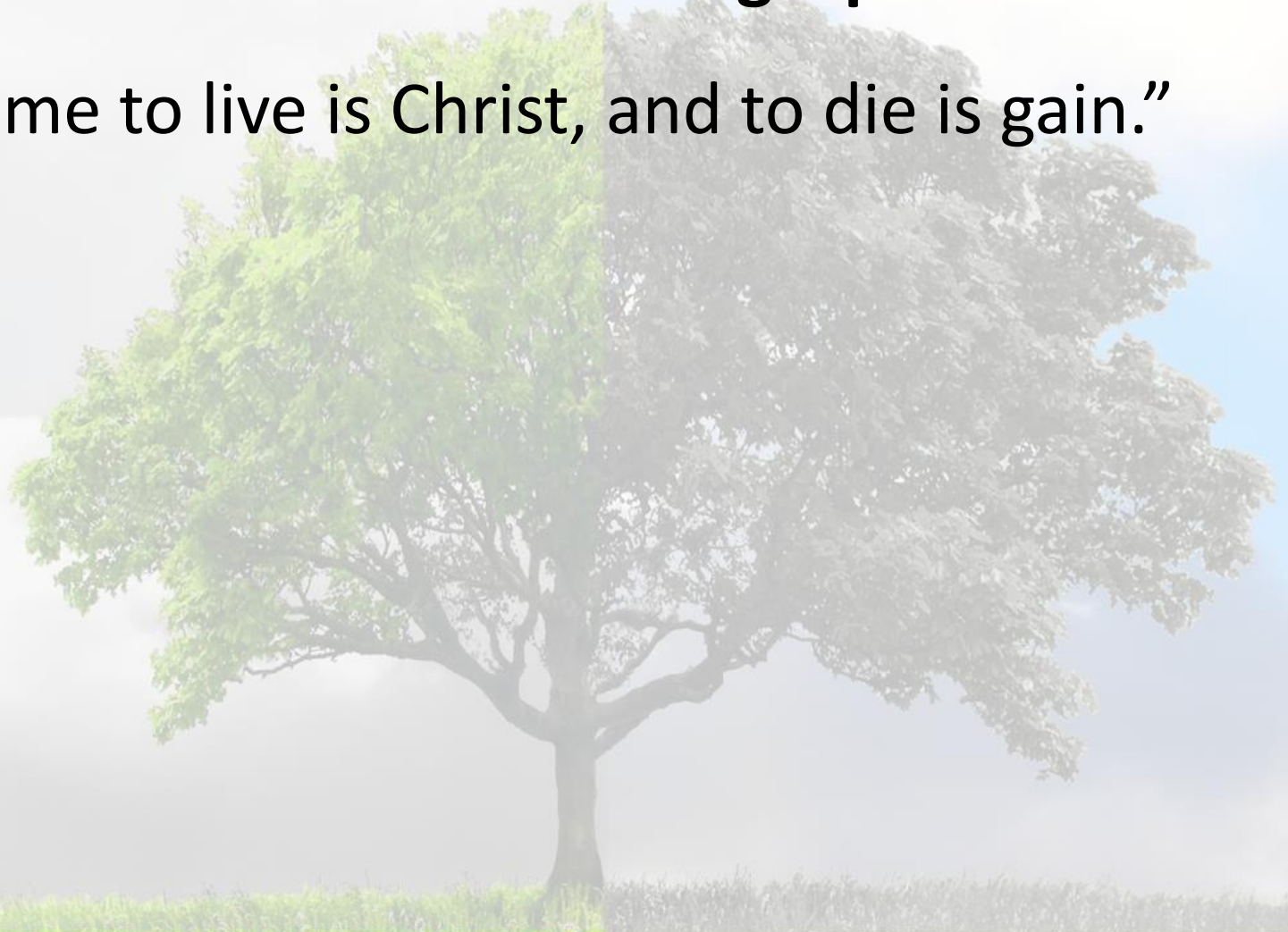
2 Cor 11:23b-27

from false brothers; ²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.



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“For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”



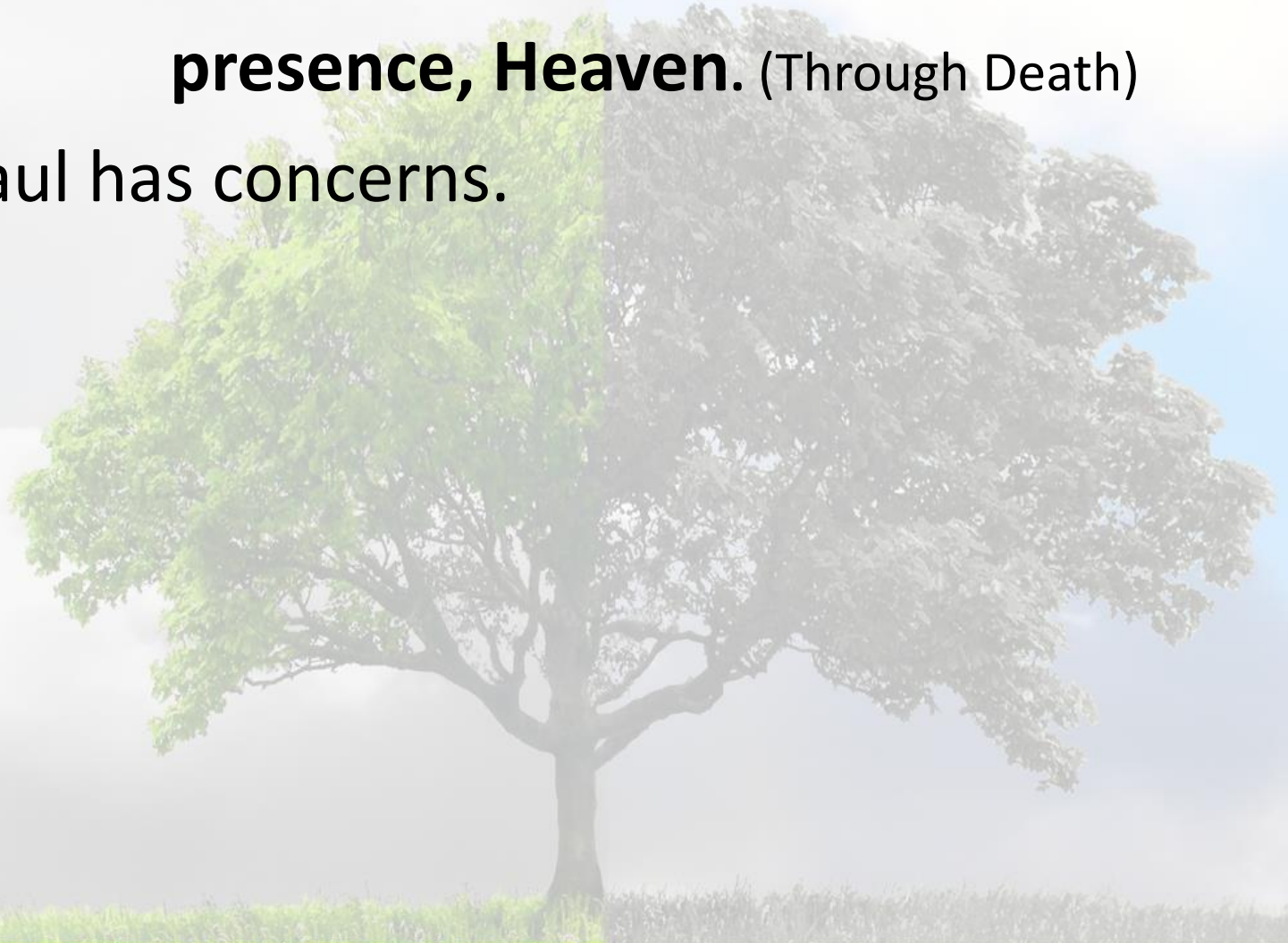
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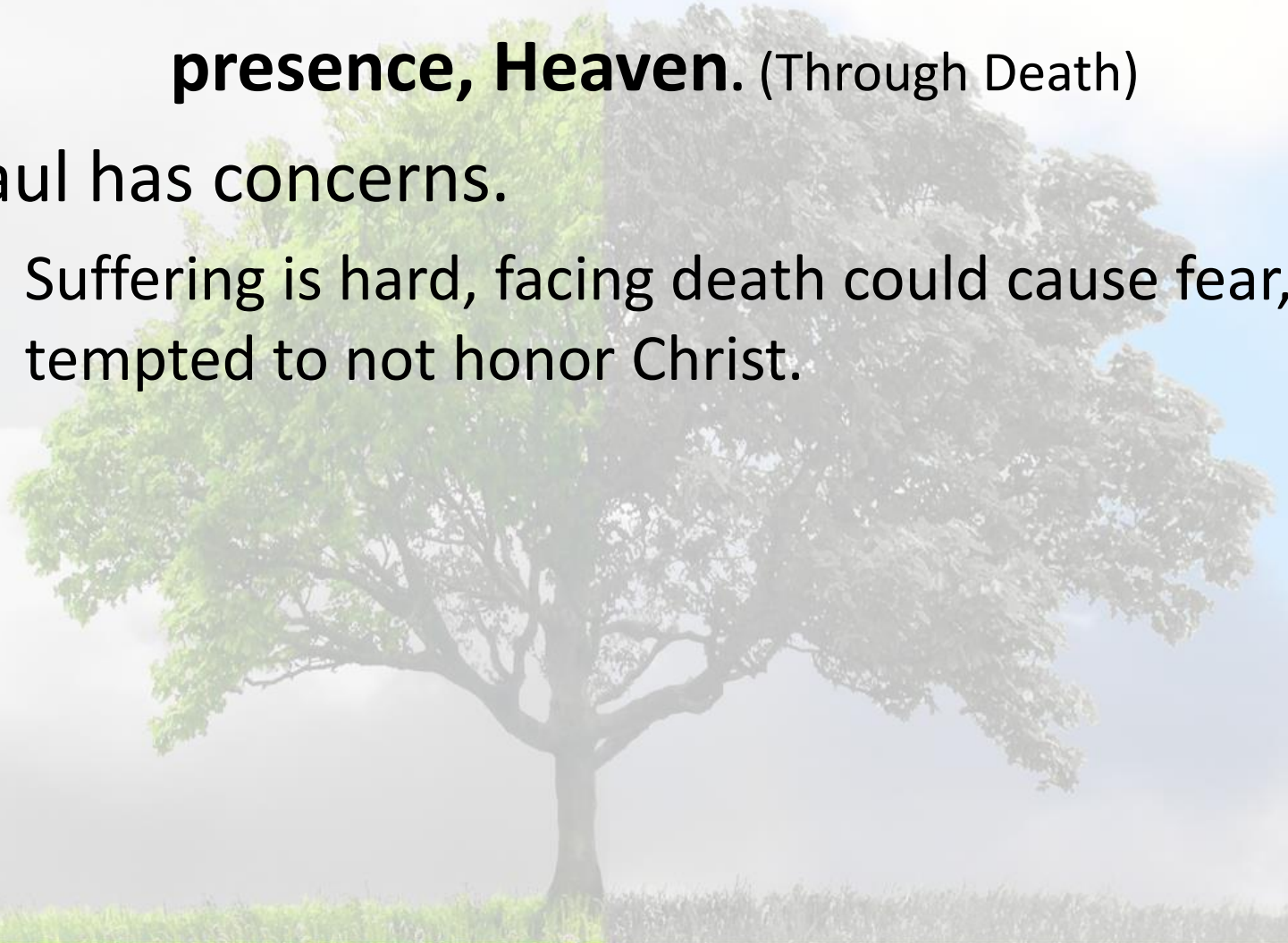


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Philippians 1:18b-20

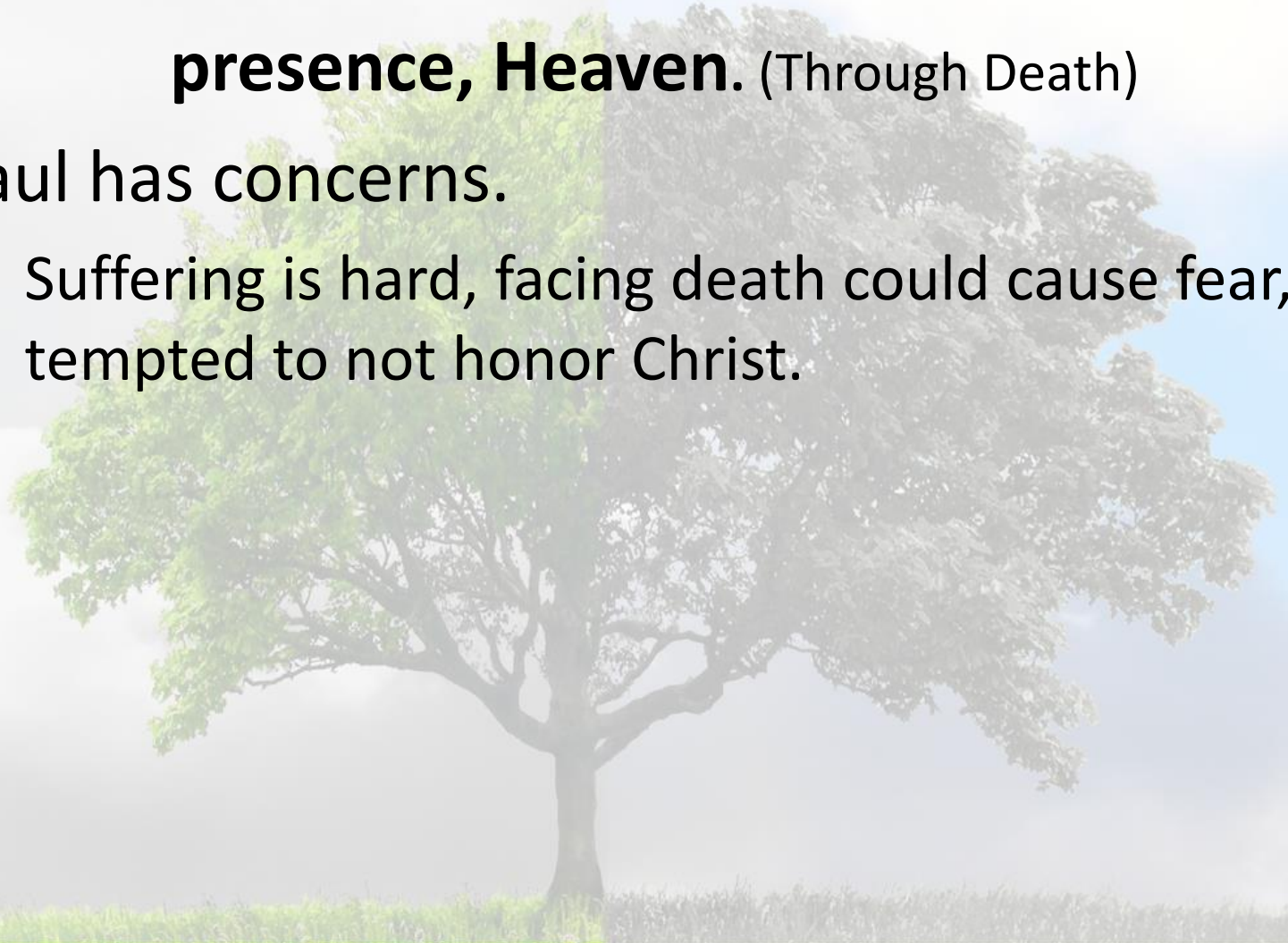
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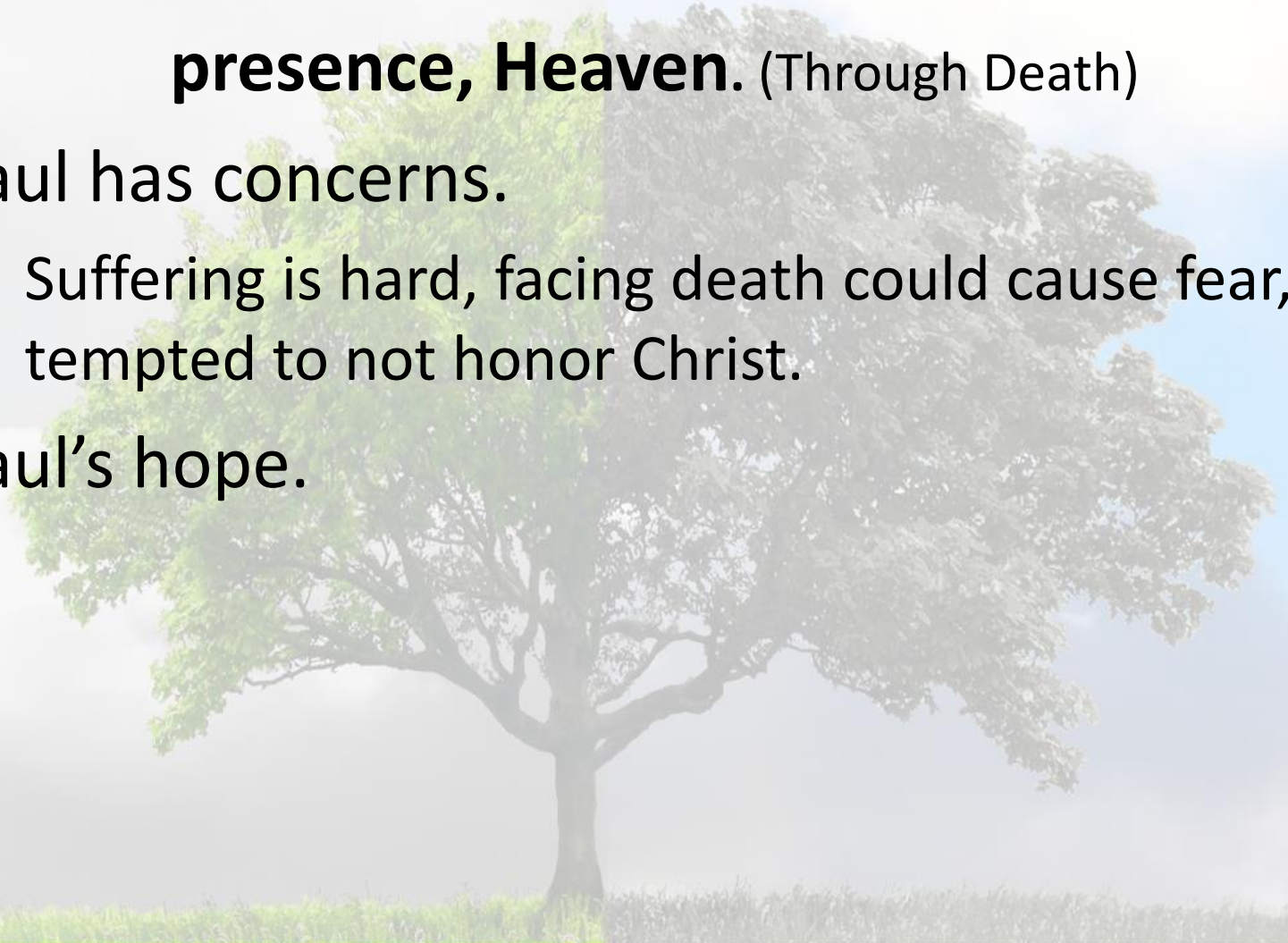
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Philippians 1:18b-26

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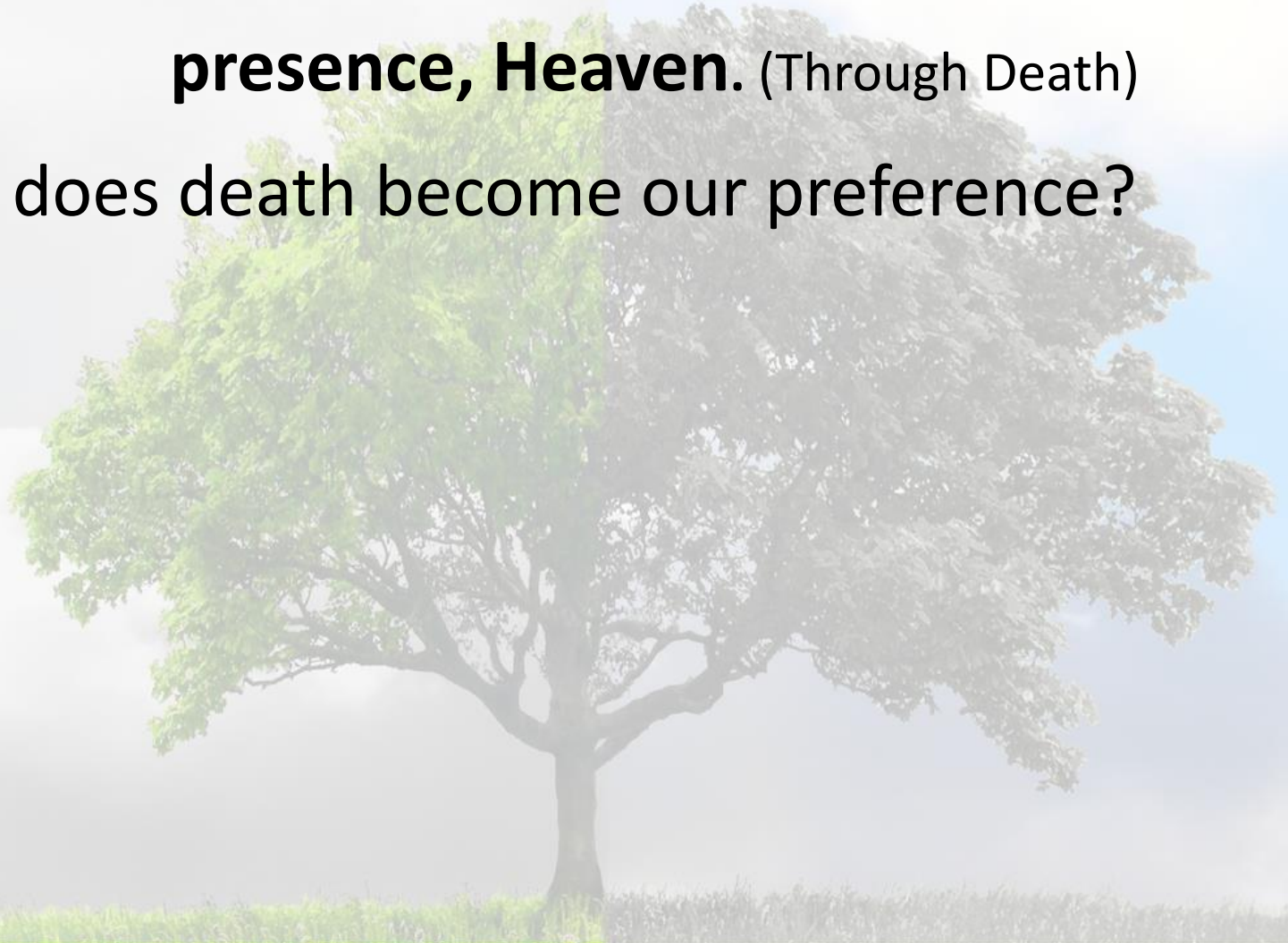
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How does death become our preference?

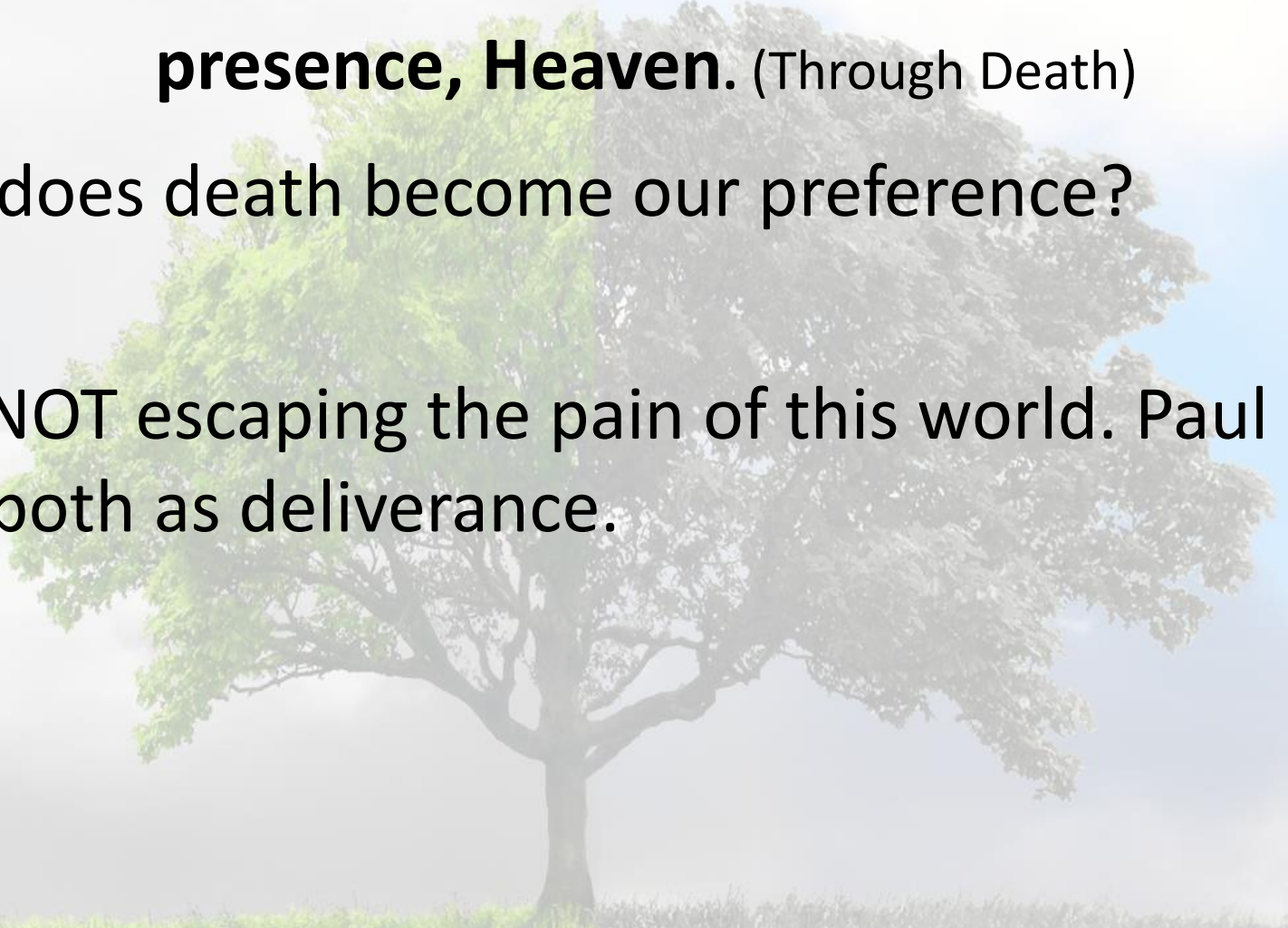


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IT IS NOT escaping the pain of this world. Paul sees both as deliverance.

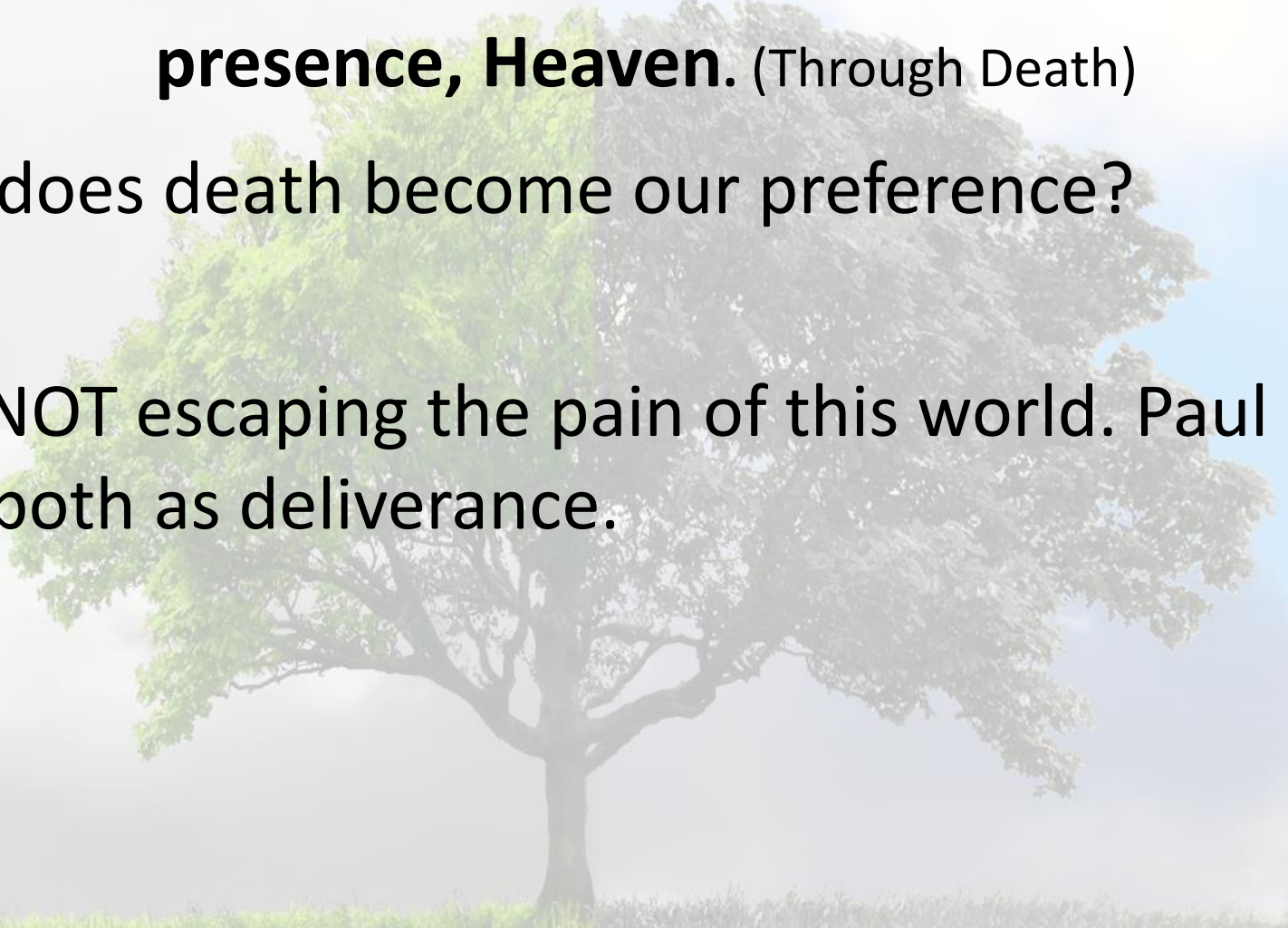


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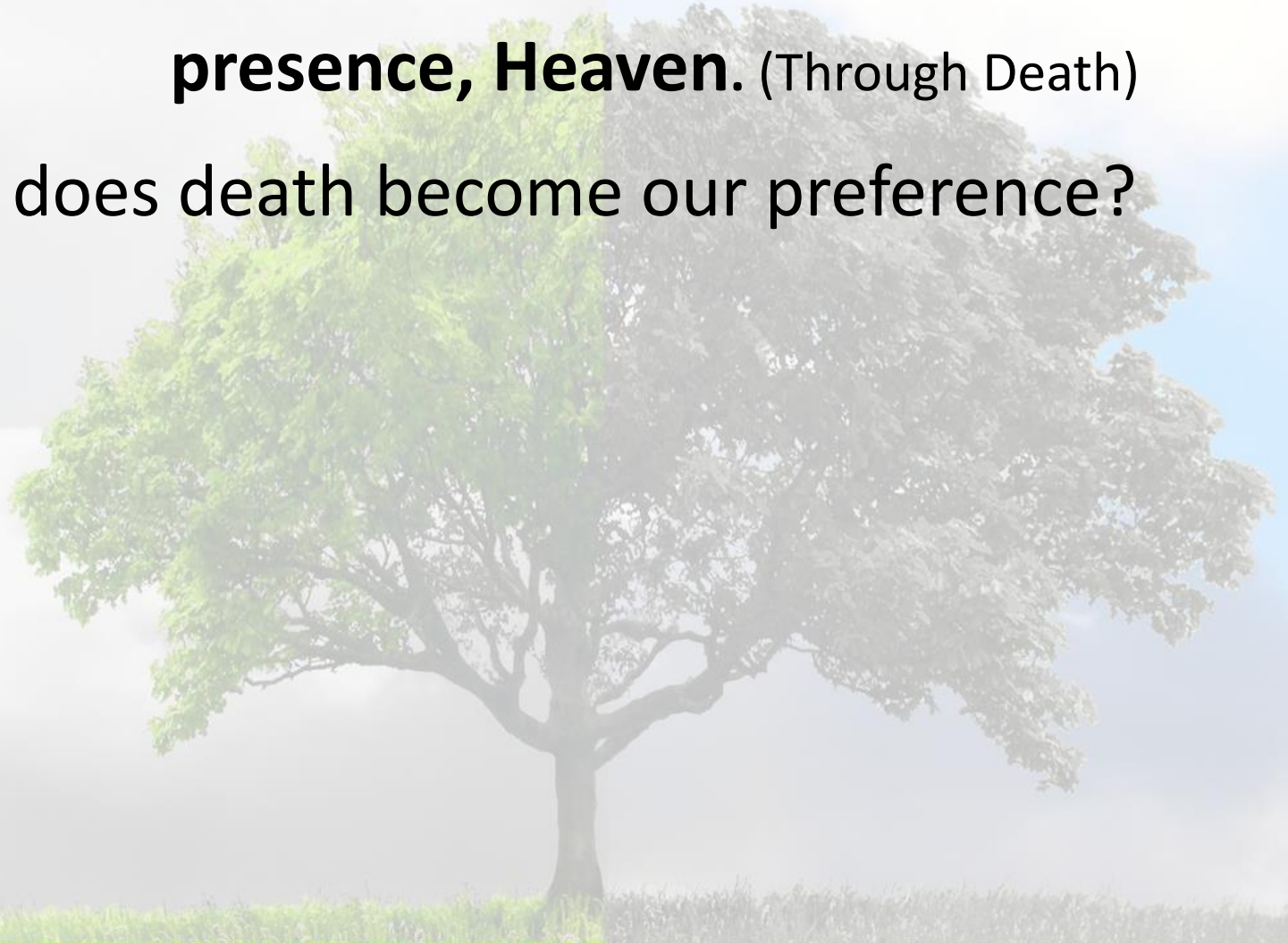
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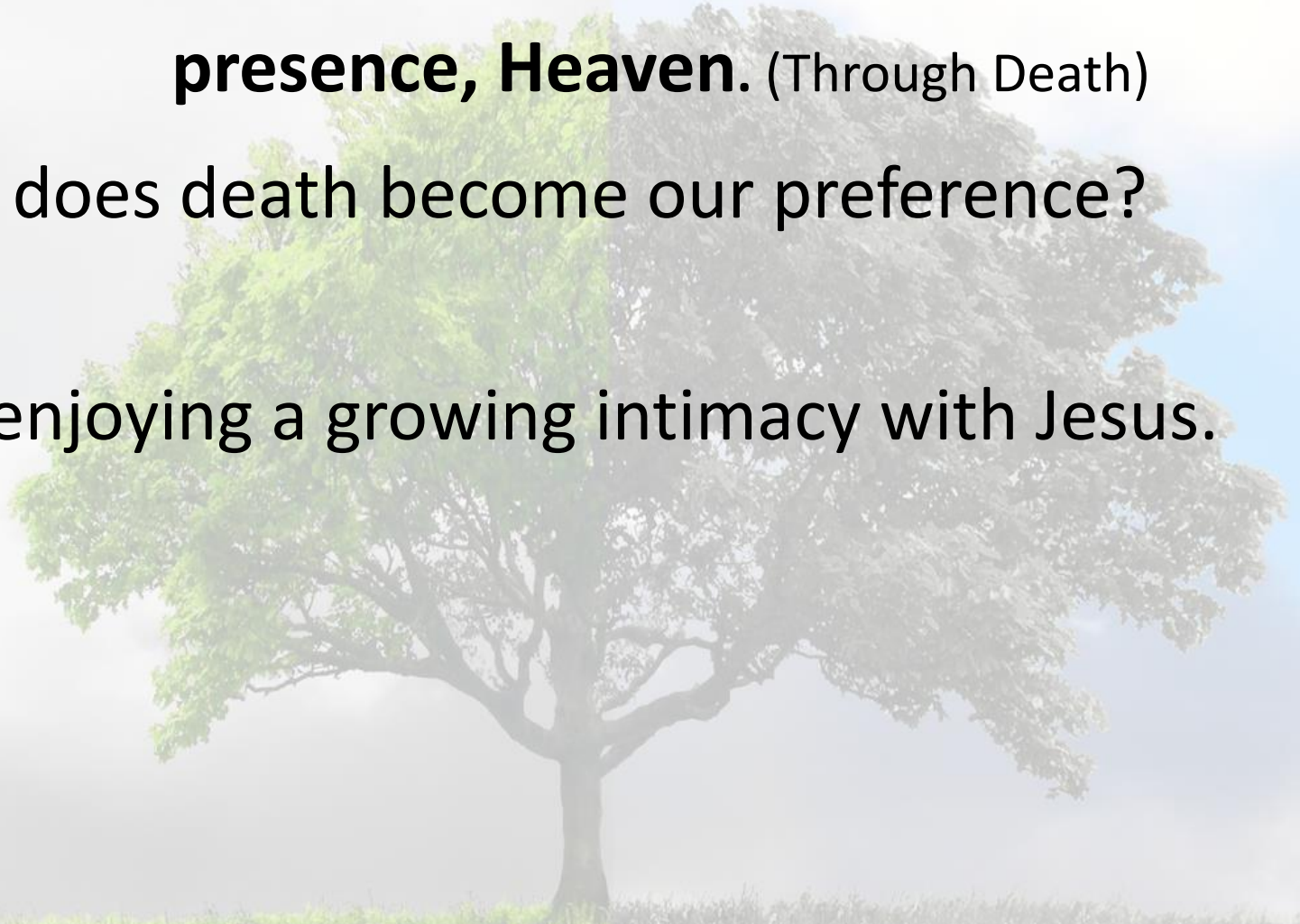


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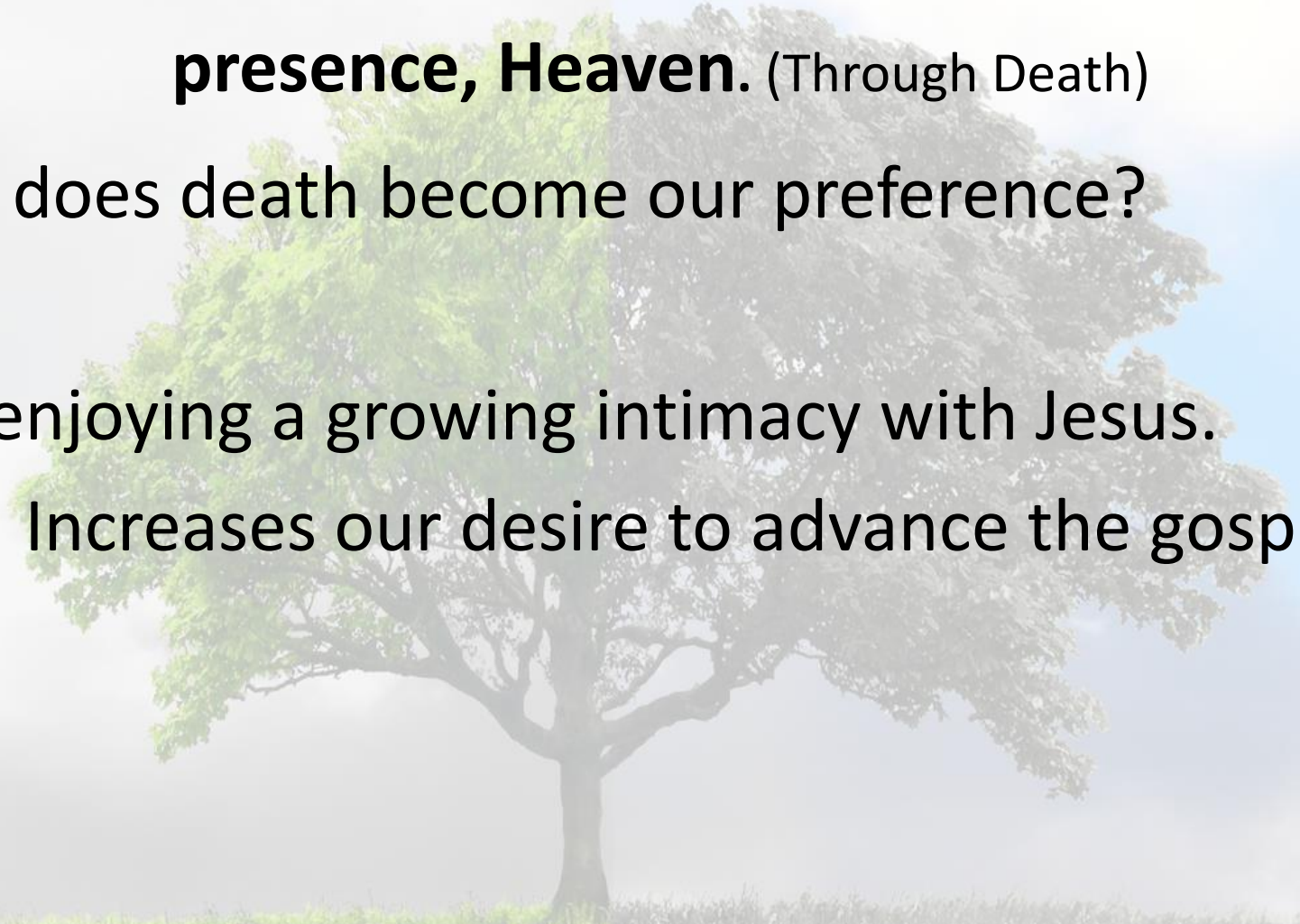
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It IS enjoying a growing intimacy with Jesus.

- Increases our desire to advance the gospel.



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How does death become our preference?

It IS enjoying a growing intimacy with Jesus.

- Increases our desire to advance the gospel.
- Increases our desire to be in HIS immediate presence.

3 basic perspectives...



3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...



3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...

Advance Comfort



3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...

Advance Comfort ----->



3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...

Advance Comfort -----> Avoid Pain

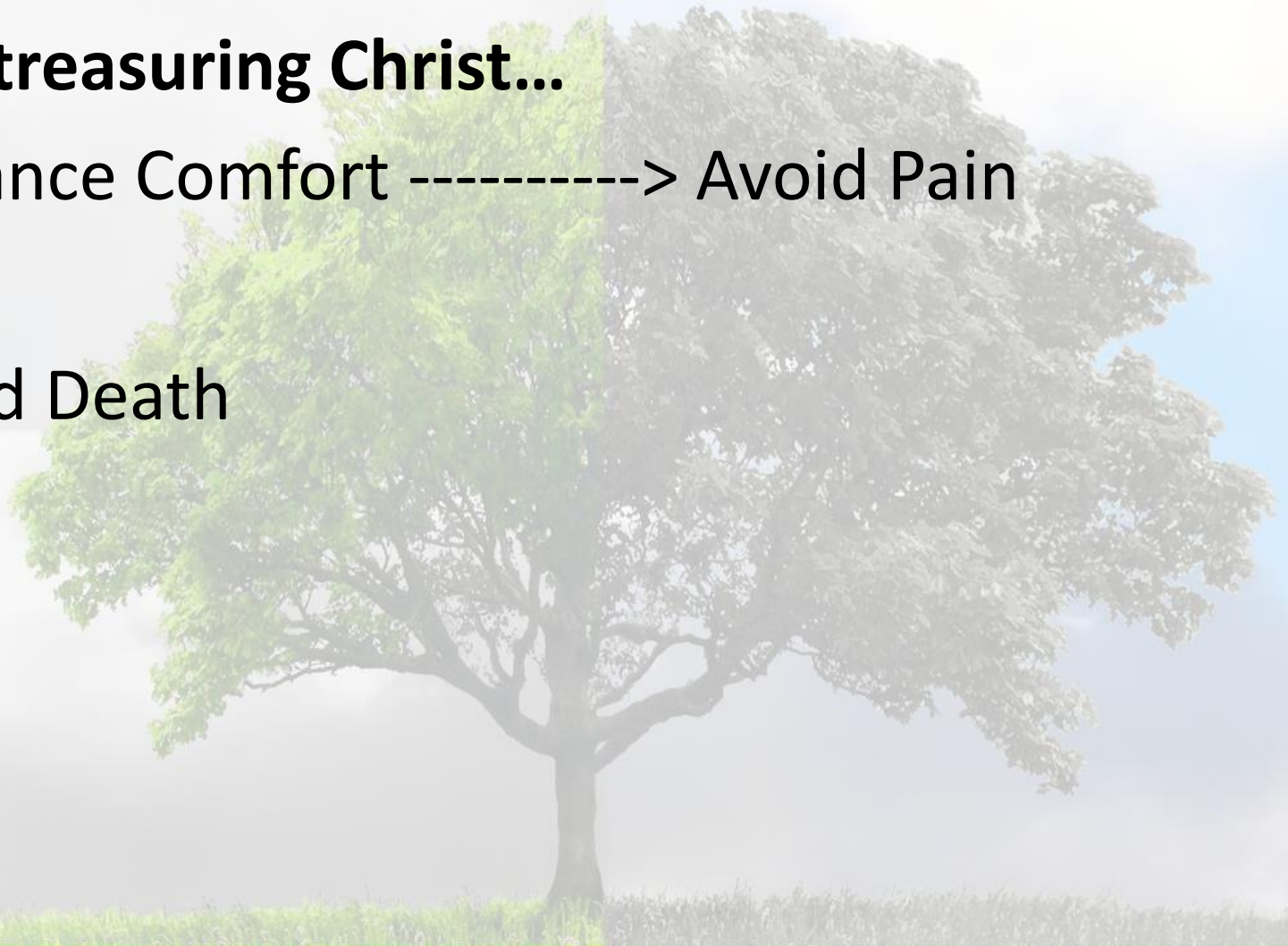


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Still figuring it out...



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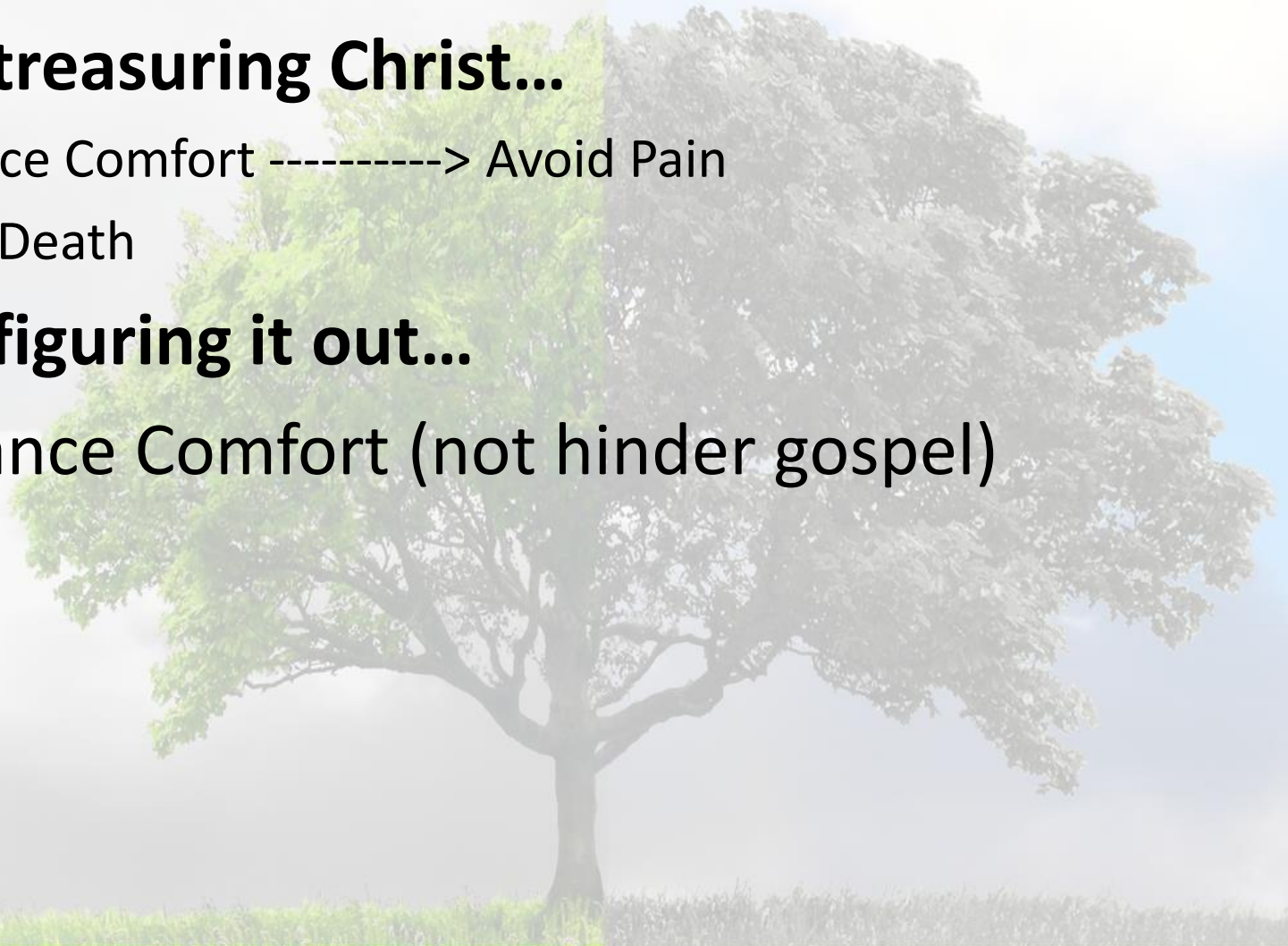
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Avoid Death

Still figuring it out...

Advance Comfort (not hinder gospel)



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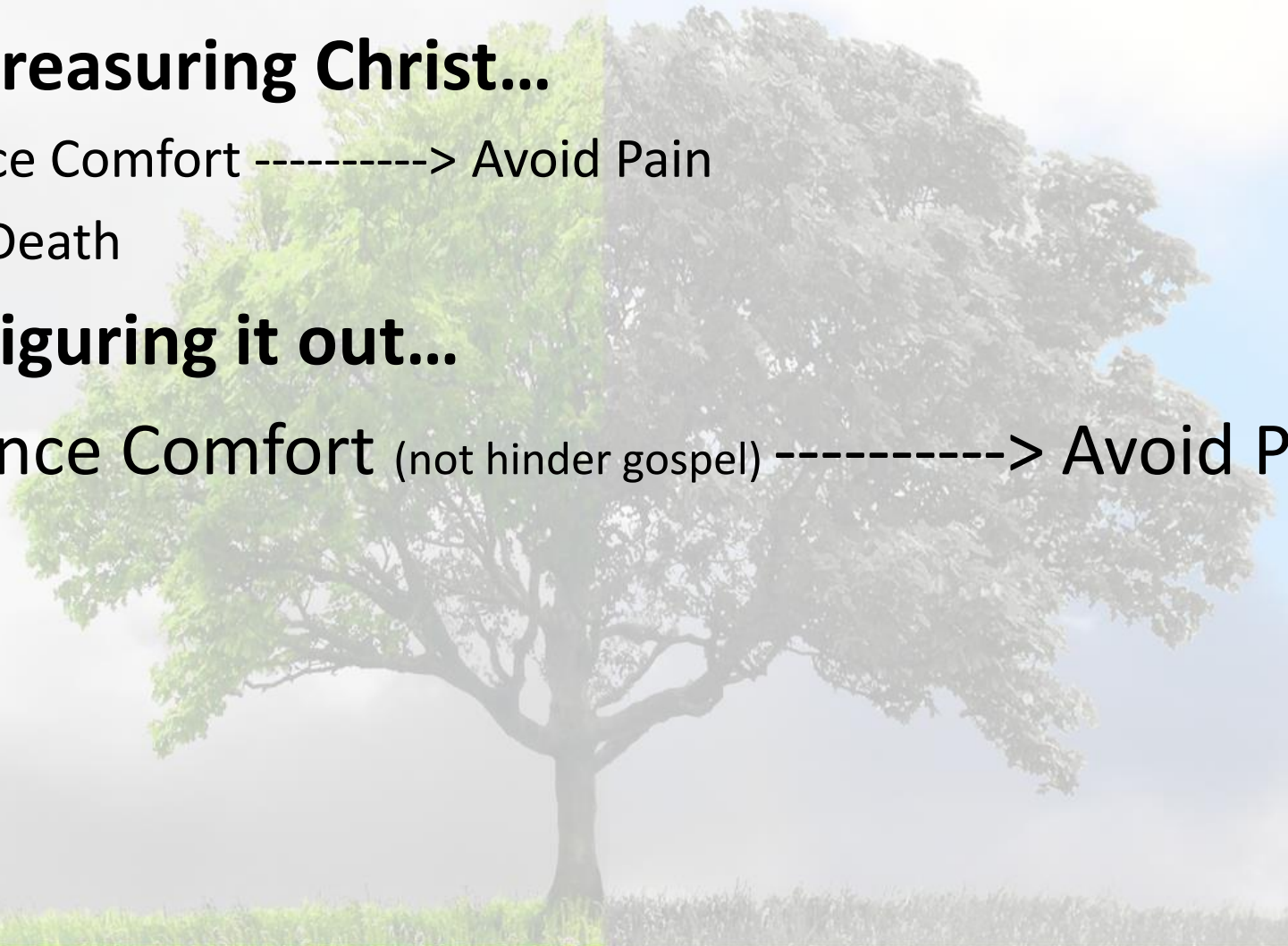
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Paul and Passionate followers...



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Paul and Passionate followers...

Advance Gospel

3 basic perspectives...

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Avoid Death

Still figuring it out...

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Delay Death

Paul and Passionate followers...

Advance Gospel ----->

3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...

Advance Comfort -----> Avoid Pain

Avoid Death

Still figuring it out...

Advance Comfort (not hinder gospel) -----> Avoid Pain

Delay Death

Paul and Passionate followers...

Advance Gospel -----> Accept Pain

3 basic perspectives...

Not treasuring Christ...

Advance Comfort -----> Avoid Pain

Avoid Death

Still figuring it out...

Advance Comfort (not hinder gospel) -----> Avoid Pain

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Paul and Passionate followers...

Advance Gospel -----> Accept Pain

Anticipate Death

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Avoid Death

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Advance Comfort (not hinder gospel) -----> Avoid Pain

Delay Death

Paul and Passionate followers...

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Anticipate Death

“For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”