

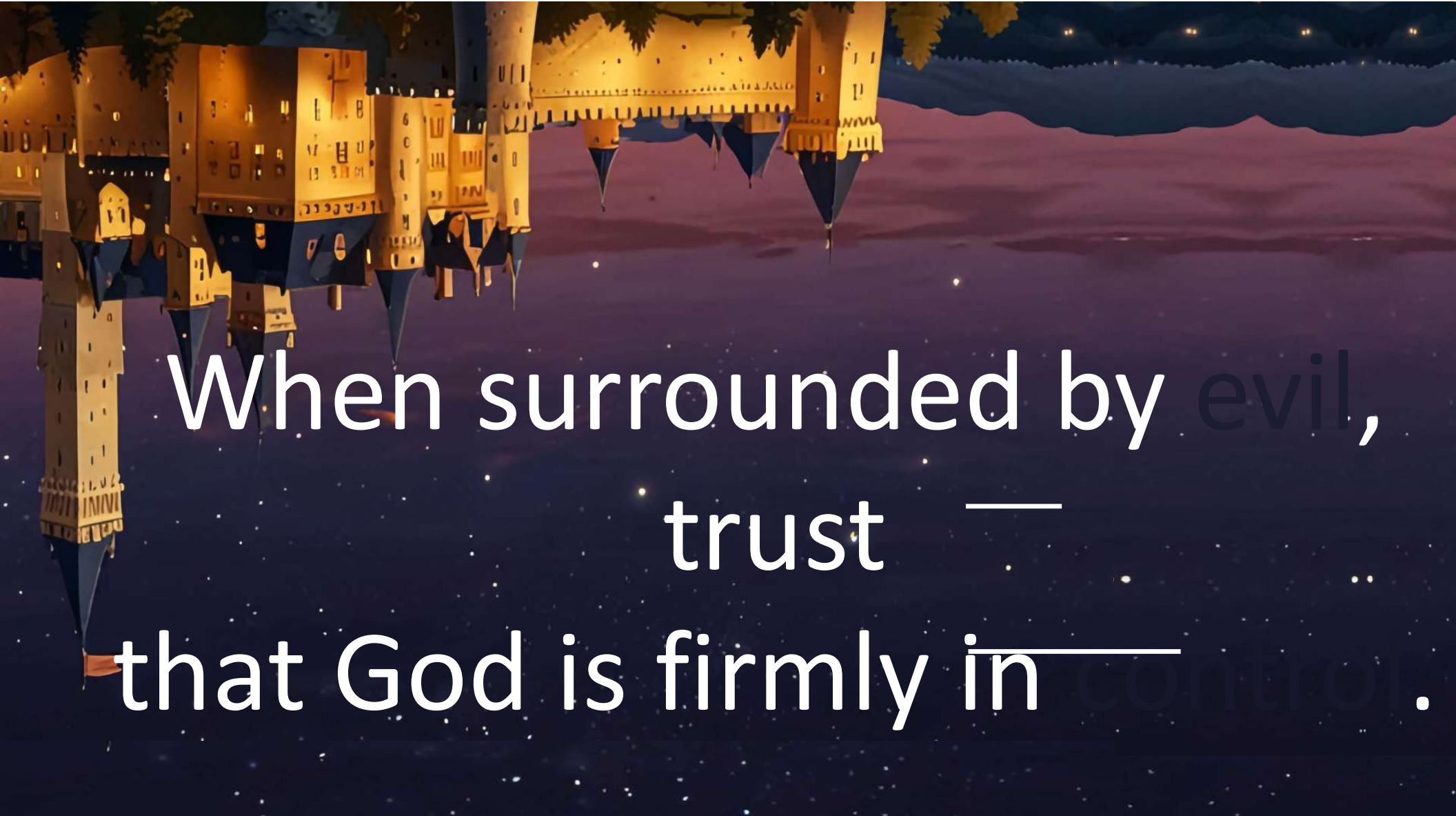
A digital illustration of a castle at night, oriented upside down. The castle is illuminated from within, with warm yellow light glowing from its windows and towers. The sky is a deep, dark blue, speckled with numerous small white stars. The overall scene is a surreal, inverted landscape.

# The Upside-Down Kingdom

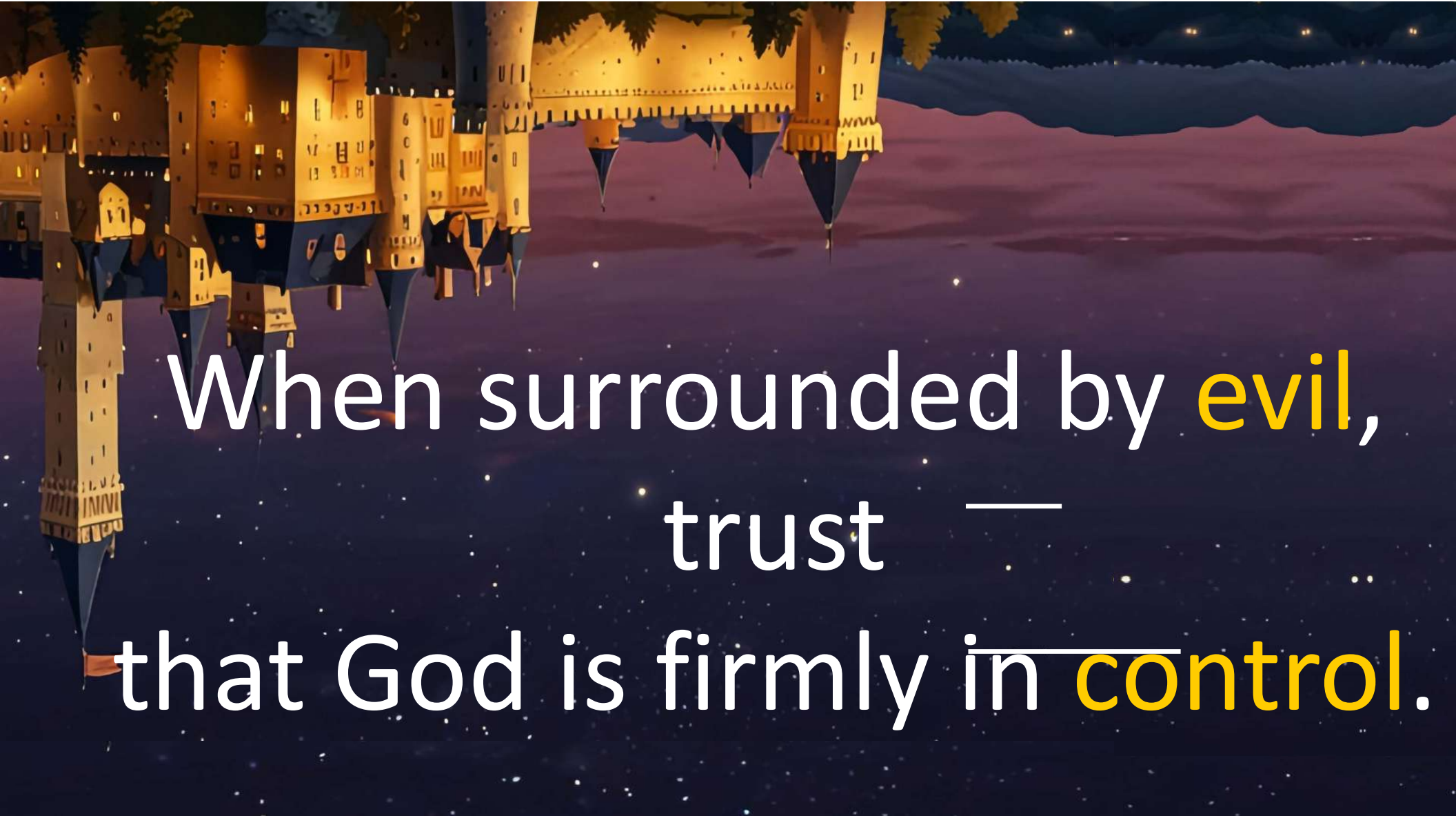




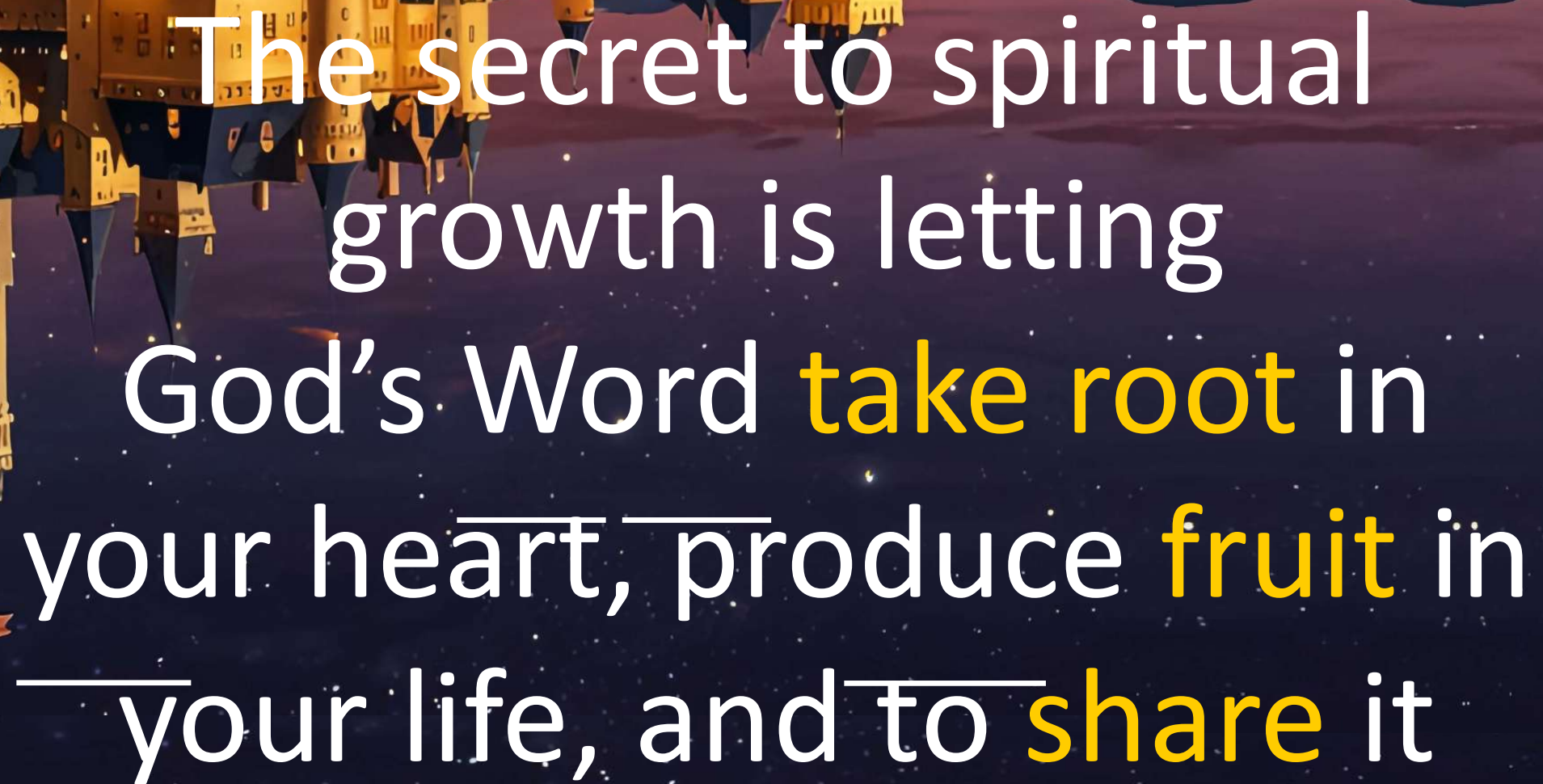
# Matthew 13:24-43



When surrounded by evil,  
trust —  
that God is firmly in — .



When surrounded by **evil**,  
trust —  
that God is firmly in **control**.

The background of the image is a stylized night scene of a city. On the left, there are several tall, illuminated buildings with windows glowing yellow. In the center, there are more buildings, some with blue awnings or canopies. The sky is dark blue and black, filled with small white stars. The overall atmosphere is serene and spiritual.

The secret to spiritual  
growth is letting  
God's Word **take root** in  
your heart, produce **fruit** in  
your life, and to **share** it





# 1. The Presence of Evil (vv. — 24-30)



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*“Weed” – (Gk.) “zizaniōn” (or darnel)*



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*“Weed” – (Gk.) “zizaniōn” (or darnel)  
– a poisonous ryegrass that resembles  
wheat in early development stages*



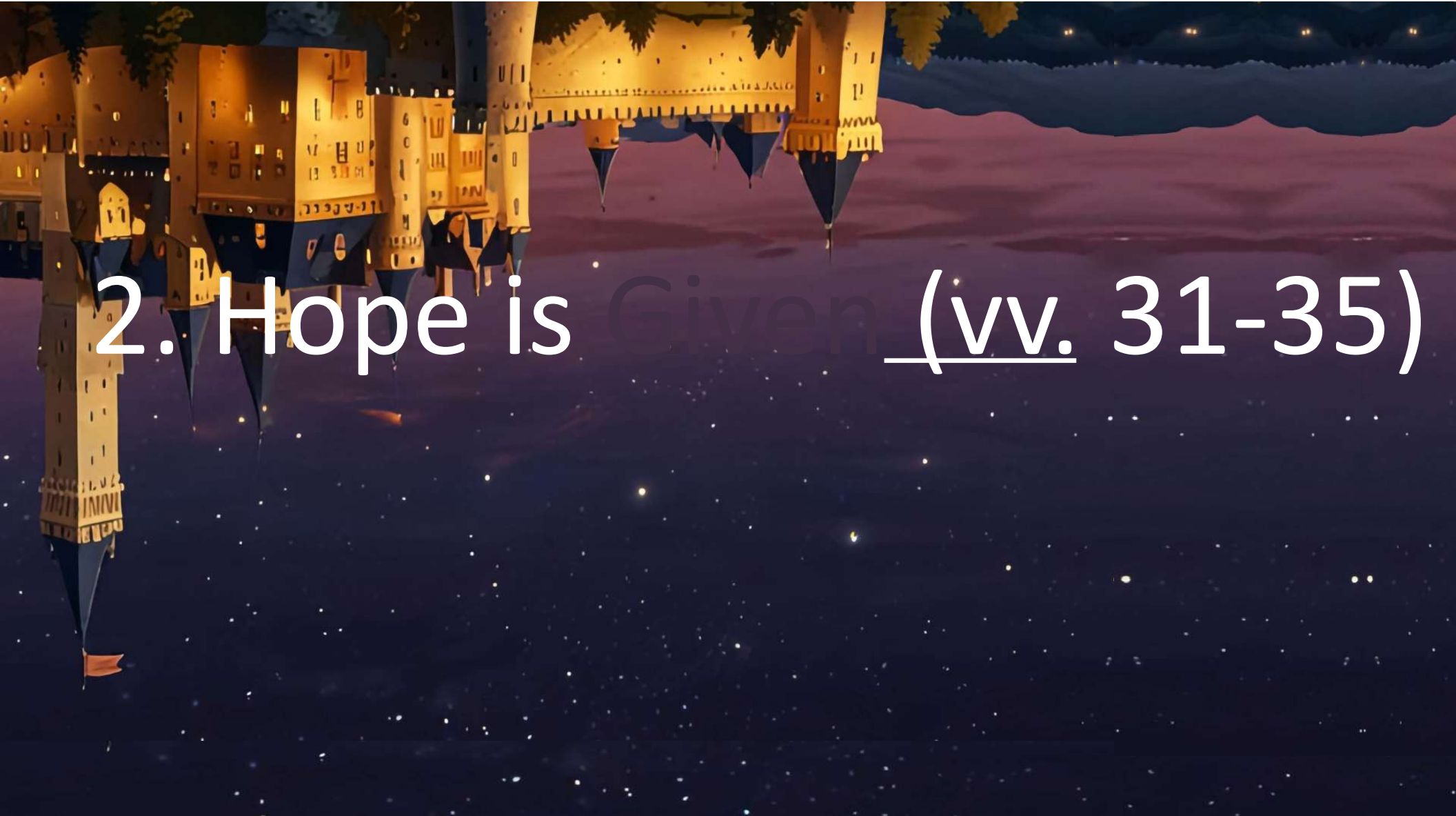
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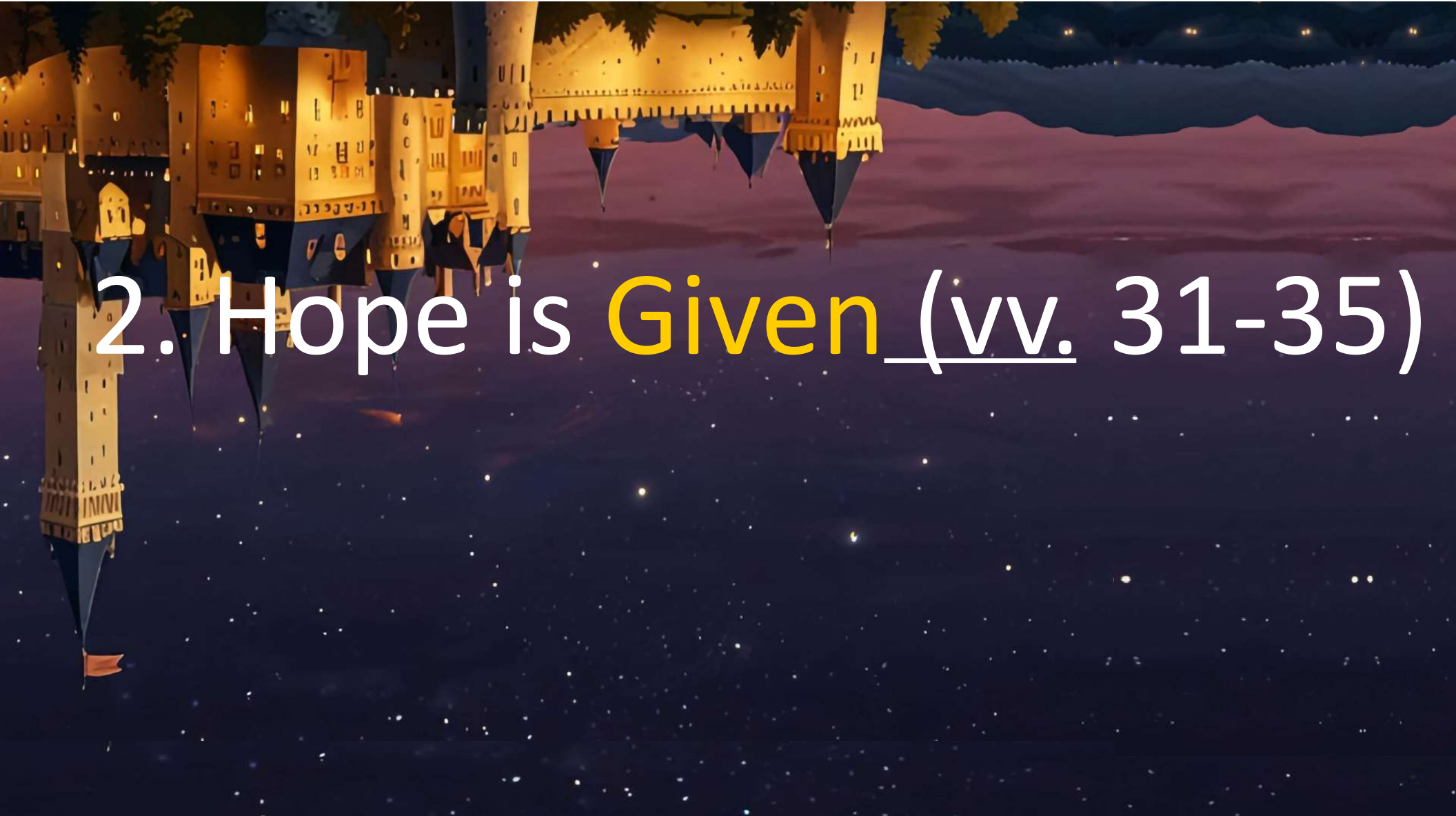
*– a poisonous ryegrass that resembles wheat in early development stages*

*— toxic and causes sickness if consumed*





## 2. Hope is Given (vv. 31-35)



## 2. Hope is **Given** (vv. 31-35)

A night scene of a city with illuminated buildings and hot air balloons against a starry sky. The buildings are lit up with warm yellow lights, and several hot air balloons with blue and white patterns are floating in the dark sky. The background is a deep blue with many small white stars.

## 2. Hope is Given (vv. 31-35)

*Jesus' message would spread and  
grow like a mustard seed*

A night scene of a city with illuminated buildings and hot air balloons against a starry sky. The buildings are lit up with warm yellow lights, and several hot air balloons with blue and white patterns are floating in the dark sky. The background is a deep blue and purple gradient, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with small white stars.

## 2. Hope is Given (vv. 31-35)

*The spread of Jesus' Kingdom and truth is impossible to stop*





3. A Gracious Explanation  
—— (vv. 36-43)

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top half shows a cityscape at night, with buildings illuminated by warm yellow lights. This scene is reflected in a body of water, creating a symmetrical effect. The bottom half of the image is a dark, starry night sky with numerous small white stars scattered across it. The text is overlaid on this background.

# 3. A Gracious Explanation

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(vv. 36-43)



# 3. A Gracious Explanation

—— (vv. 36-43)

*Distinguishing good from evil is not  
always easy or clear right away*

A night scene of a city with illuminated buildings and a starry sky. The buildings are lit up with warm yellow lights, and the sky is dark with many small white stars. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# 3. A Gracious Explanation

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(vv. 36-43)

*Instead of simply reacting, ask  
God for wisdom first*



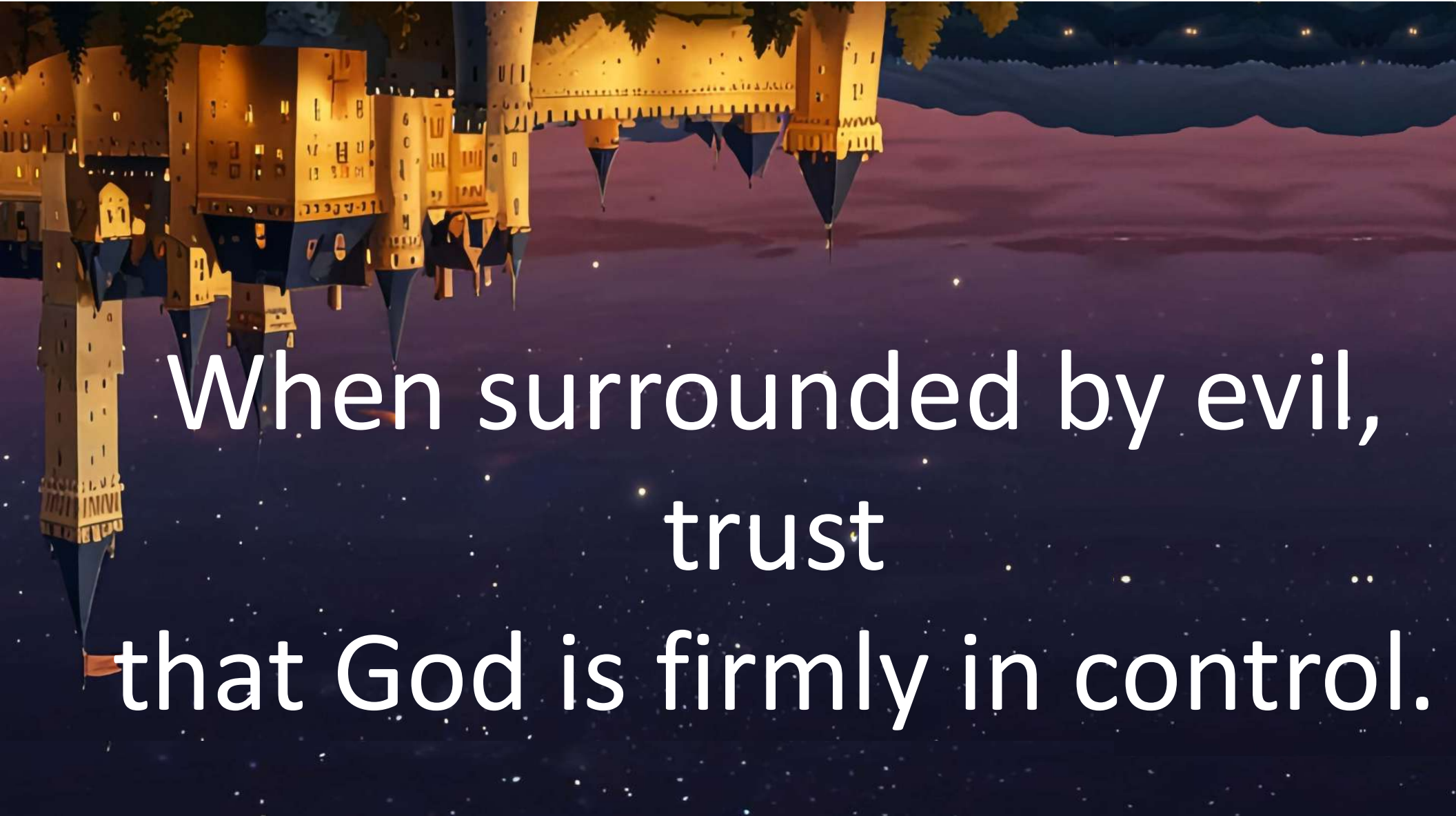
# 3. A Gracious Explanation

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(vv. 36-43)

*Remember, God is not only perfectly good and loving, He is also just!*





When surrounded by evil,  
trust  
that God is firmly in control.





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