

# Stories from EXILE



## **Daniel 1:3–4**

<sup>3</sup> Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, <sup>4</sup> youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. (ESV)





A group of people, seen from behind, walking away into a hazy, blue-tinted landscape. They are carrying bags, suggesting a journey or migration. The scene is atmospheric and somber.

# Daniel

“God is my judge”

The background of the slide is a solid blue color. Faintly visible in the background is a group of people, likely refugees, walking away from the viewer in a desert-like environment. They are carrying bags and wearing head coverings.

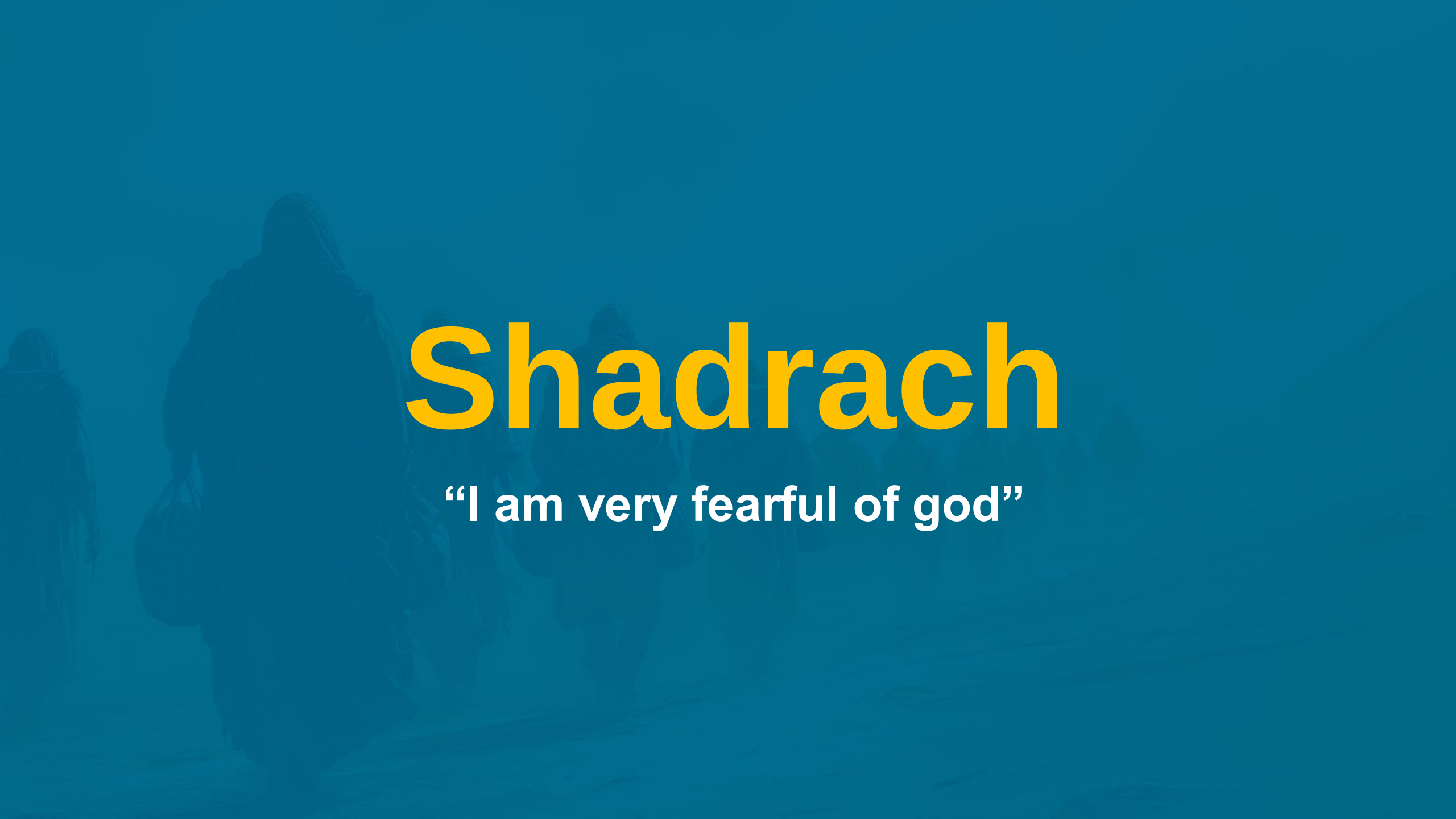
# Belteshazzar

“O Lady (the wife of Bel) protect the king”

The background of the slide is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this is a faint, semi-transparent image of a group of people walking away from the viewer. They are carrying bags, suggesting a journey or migration. The image is positioned on the left side of the slide, with the text overlaid on it.

# Hannaniah

“YHWH is gracious”

The background of the slide features a photograph of a group of people, likely refugees or migrants, walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are carrying bags and wearing heavy clothing. The entire image is covered with a solid blue overlay.

# Shadrach

“I am very fearful of god”



A group of people, seen from behind, walking away into a hazy, blue-tinted landscape. The figures are silhouetted against the light, and the overall atmosphere is somber and contemplative. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Mishael

**“Who is what God is?”**



The background of the slide is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this is a faint, semi-transparent image of a group of people, likely pilgrims, walking away from the viewer in a desert landscape. They are wearing traditional head coverings and carrying bags, suggesting a journey or pilgrimage.

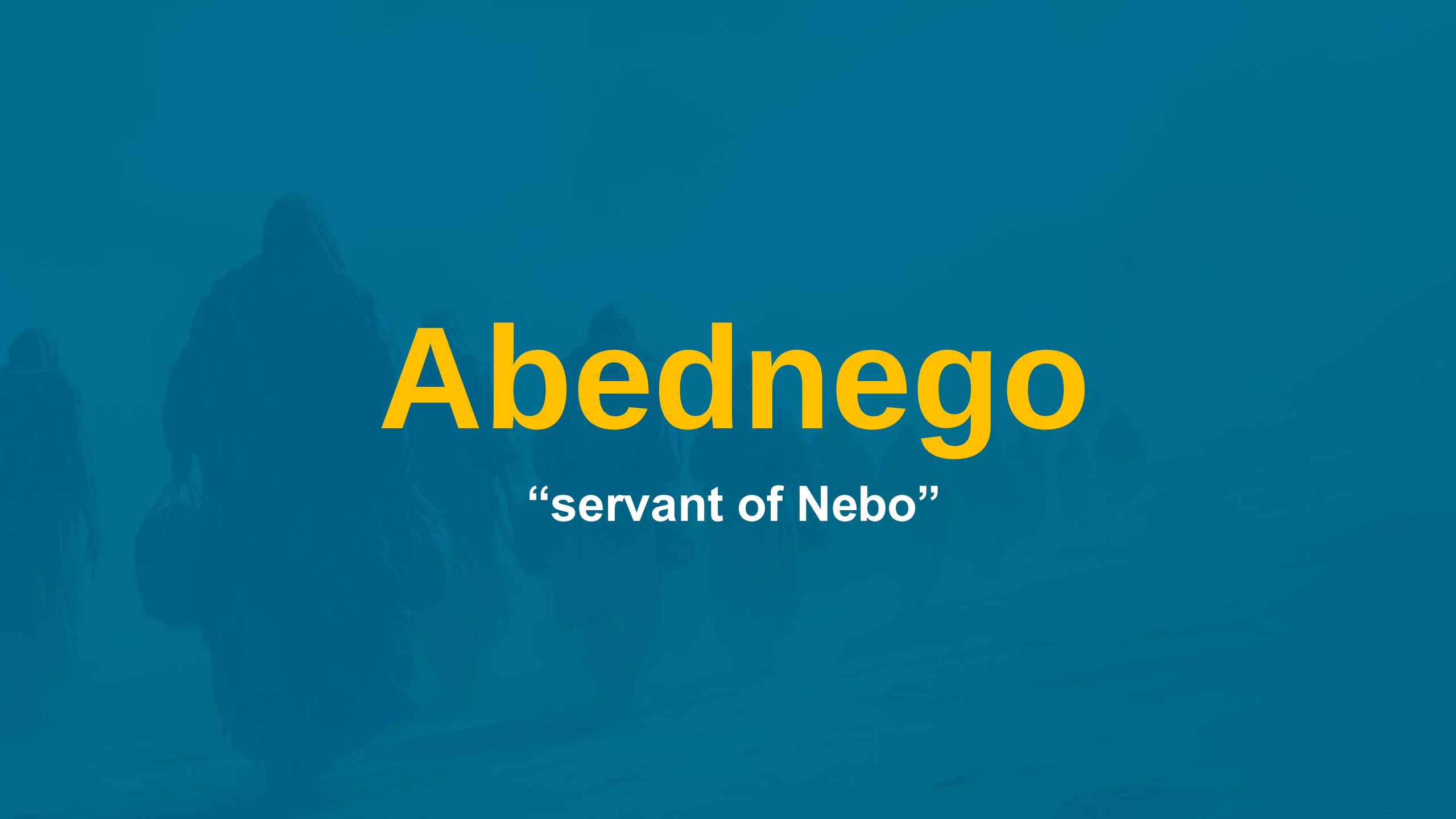
# Meshach

**“I am of little account”**

The background of the slide features a blue gradient with faint, dark silhouettes of several people walking away from the viewer, carrying bags, which suggests a journey or displacement.

# Azariah

“YHWH is a helper”



# Abednego

“servant of Nebo”

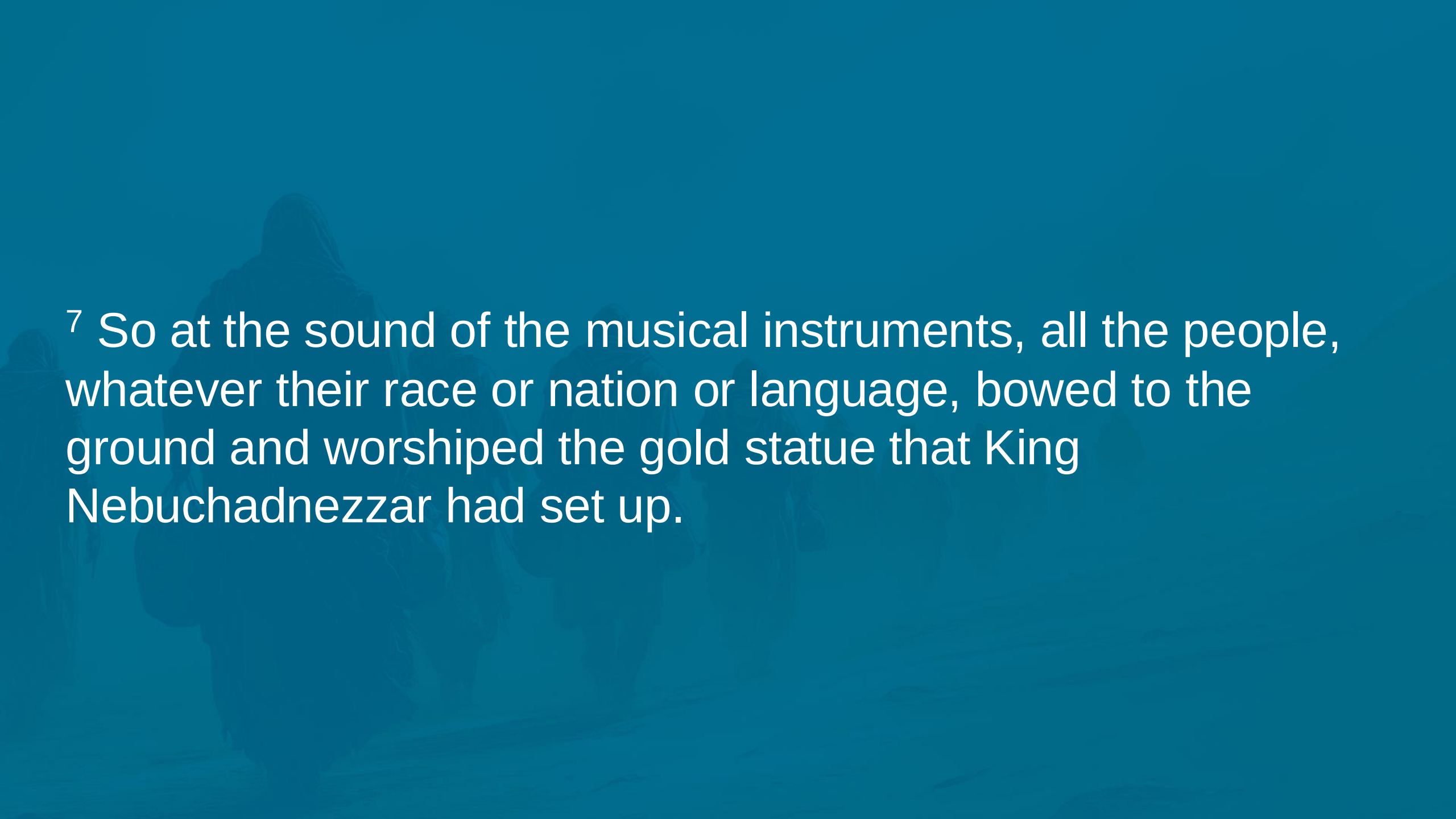
## **Jeremiah 29:10-14**

<sup>10</sup> This is what the Lord says: “You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. <sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. <sup>12</sup> In those days when you pray, I will listen. <sup>13</sup> If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. <sup>14</sup> I will be found by you,” says the Lord. “I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.” (NLT)



## **Daniel 3:4-12.**

<sup>4</sup> Then a herald shouted out, “People of all races and nations and languages, listen to the king’s command! <sup>5</sup> When you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments, bow to the ground to worship King Nebuchadnezzar’s gold statue. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who refuses to obey will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.”



<sup>7</sup> So at the sound of the musical instruments, all the people, whatever their race or nation or language, bowed to the ground and worshiped the gold statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

<sup>8</sup> But some of the astrologers went to the king and informed on the Jews. <sup>9</sup> They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “Long live the king! <sup>10</sup> You issued a decree requiring all the people to bow down and worship the gold statue when they hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments. <sup>11</sup> That decree also states that those who refuse to obey must be thrown into a blazing furnace. <sup>12</sup> But there are some Jews—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—whom you have put in charge of the province of Babylon. They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up.”

A group of people, mostly women wearing headscarves, are walking away from the camera. They are carrying bags and appear to be in a line. The background is a solid blue color.

# The Pressure to Bend the Knee

## **Matthew 10:32-33**

“Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.”



The background of the slide features a solid teal color. Overlaid on this is a faint, semi-transparent image of a group of people walking away from the viewer. The figures are mostly in silhouette, with some wearing head coverings like hoods or hijabs. They are carrying bags and appear to be in motion, possibly on a path or street. The overall mood is somber and evocative, suggesting themes of displacement or resistance.

# The Art of Confident Resistance

## **Daniel 3:13-15.**

<sup>13</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him. When they were brought in, <sup>14</sup> Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up? <sup>15</sup> I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?”

## **Daniel 3:16-18**

<sup>16</sup>“O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. <sup>18</sup> But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”

A group of people, mostly women wearing headscarves, are walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are carrying bags and baskets, suggesting they are migrants or refugees. The image is overlaid with a solid blue color.

# The Result of Resistance

## **Daniel 3:16-18**

<sup>19</sup> Nebuchadnezzar was so furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face became distorted with rage. He commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than usual. <sup>20</sup> Then he ordered some of the strongest men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. <sup>21</sup> So they tied them up and threw them into the furnace, fully dressed in their pants, turbans, robes, and other garments. <sup>22</sup> And because the king, in his anger, had demanded such a hot fire in the furnace, the flames killed the soldiers as they threw the three men in. <sup>23</sup> So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames.

A group of people, seen from behind, walking away from the camera on a path. They are carrying bags and wearing head coverings. The entire image is overlaid with a solid blue color.

# God Will Be With Us



## **Daniel 3:16-18**

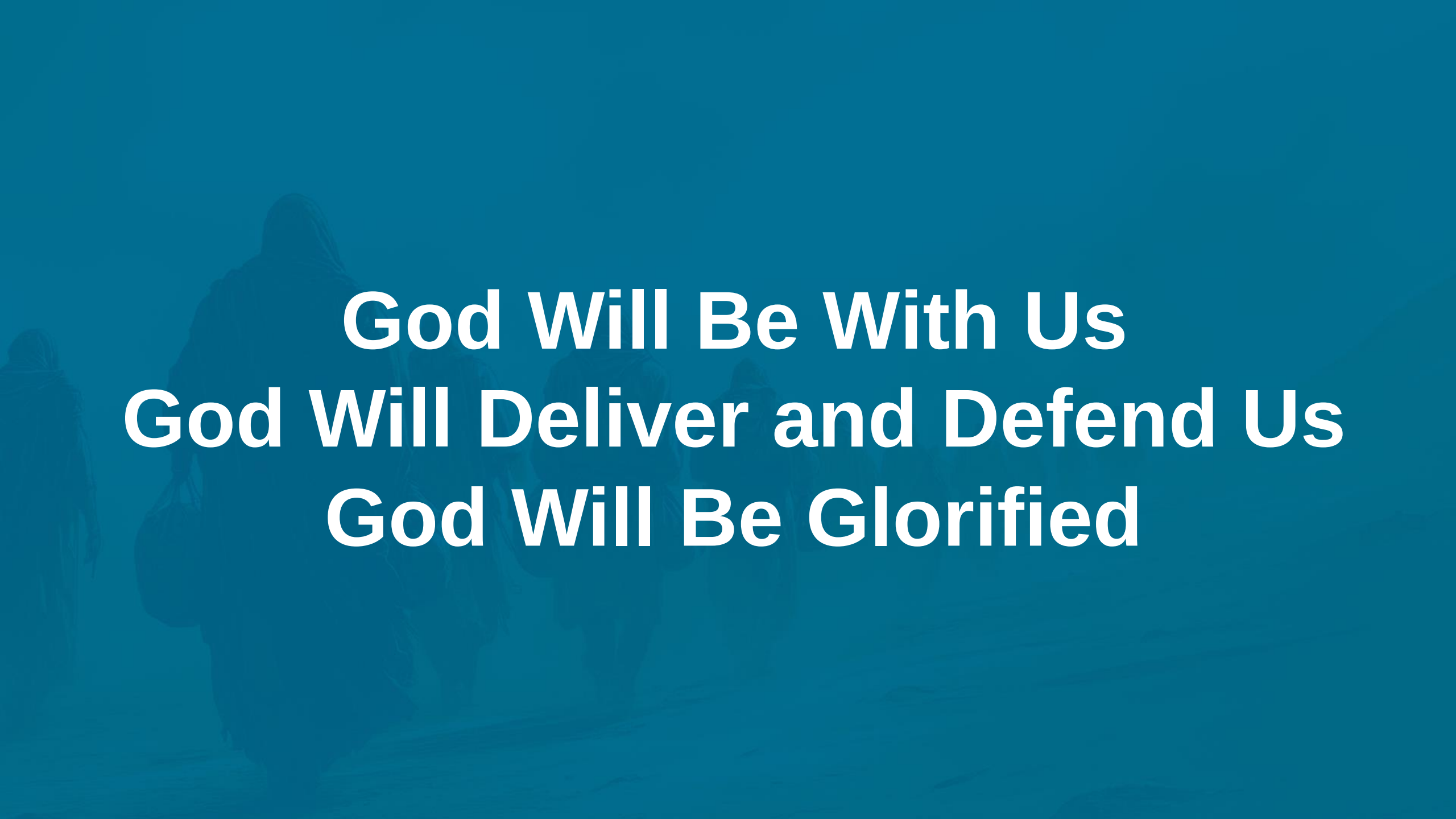
<sup>24</sup> But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, “Didn’t we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?” “Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did,” they replied. <sup>25</sup> “Look!” Nebuchadnezzar shouted. “I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!” <sup>26</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!”

A group of people, seen from behind, walking away from the camera. They are carrying bags and appear to be in a desert or arid environment. The image is overlaid with a solid blue background.

**God Will Be With Us  
God Will Deliver and Defend Us**

## **Daniel 3:26-27**

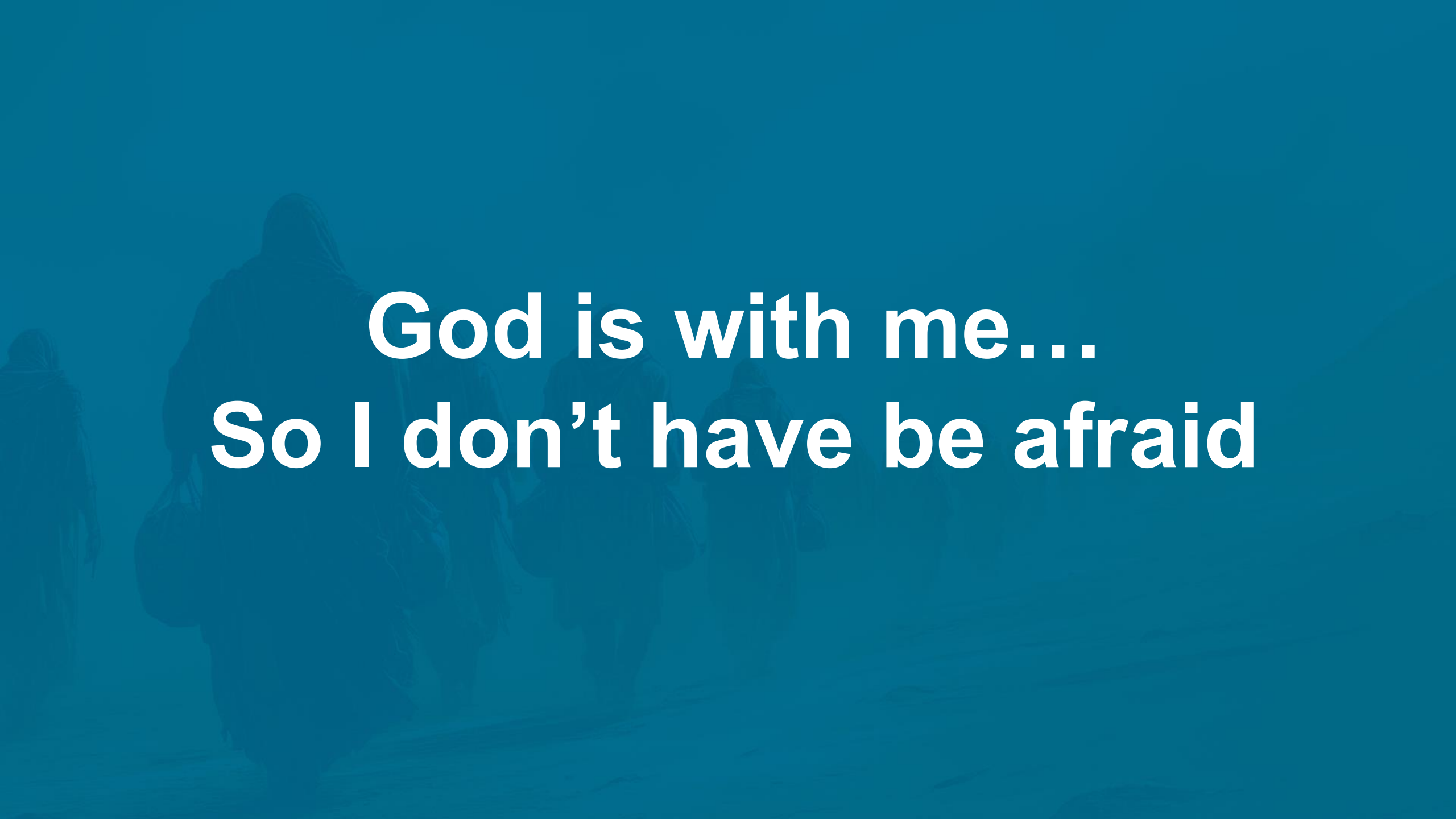
<sup>26</sup> So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. <sup>27</sup> Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke!

A group of people, seen from behind, walking away from the camera. They are carrying bags and appear to be on a journey. The background is a solid blue color.

**God Will Be With Us**  
**God Will Deliver and Defend Us**  
**God Will Be Glorified**

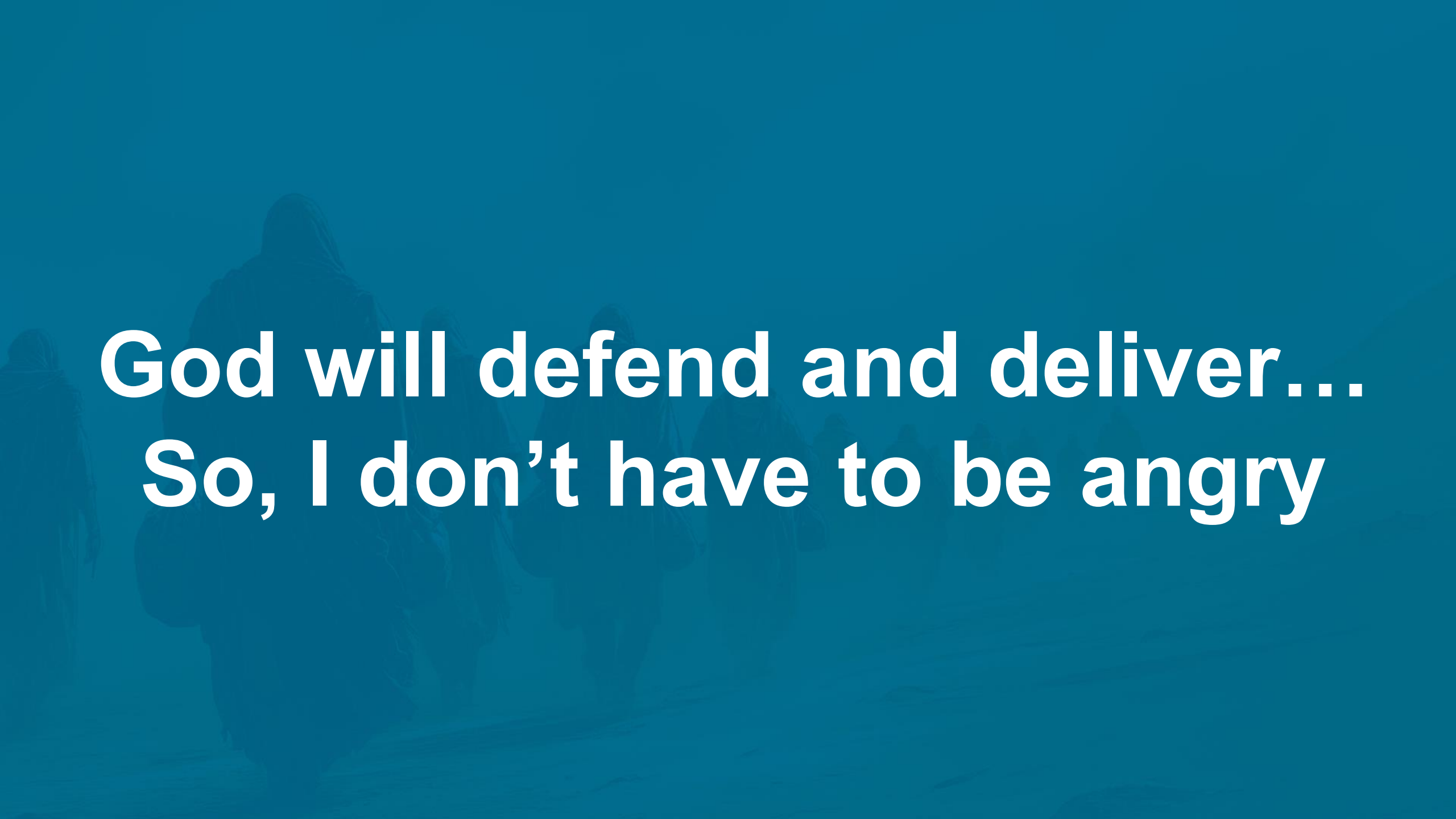
## Daniel 3:26-27

<sup>28</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king’s command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. <sup>29</sup> Therefore, I make this decree: If any people, whatever their race or nation or language, speak a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be torn limb from limb, and their houses will be turned into heaps of rubble. There is no other god who can rescue like this!” <sup>30</sup> Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to even higher positions in the province of Babylon. (NLT)

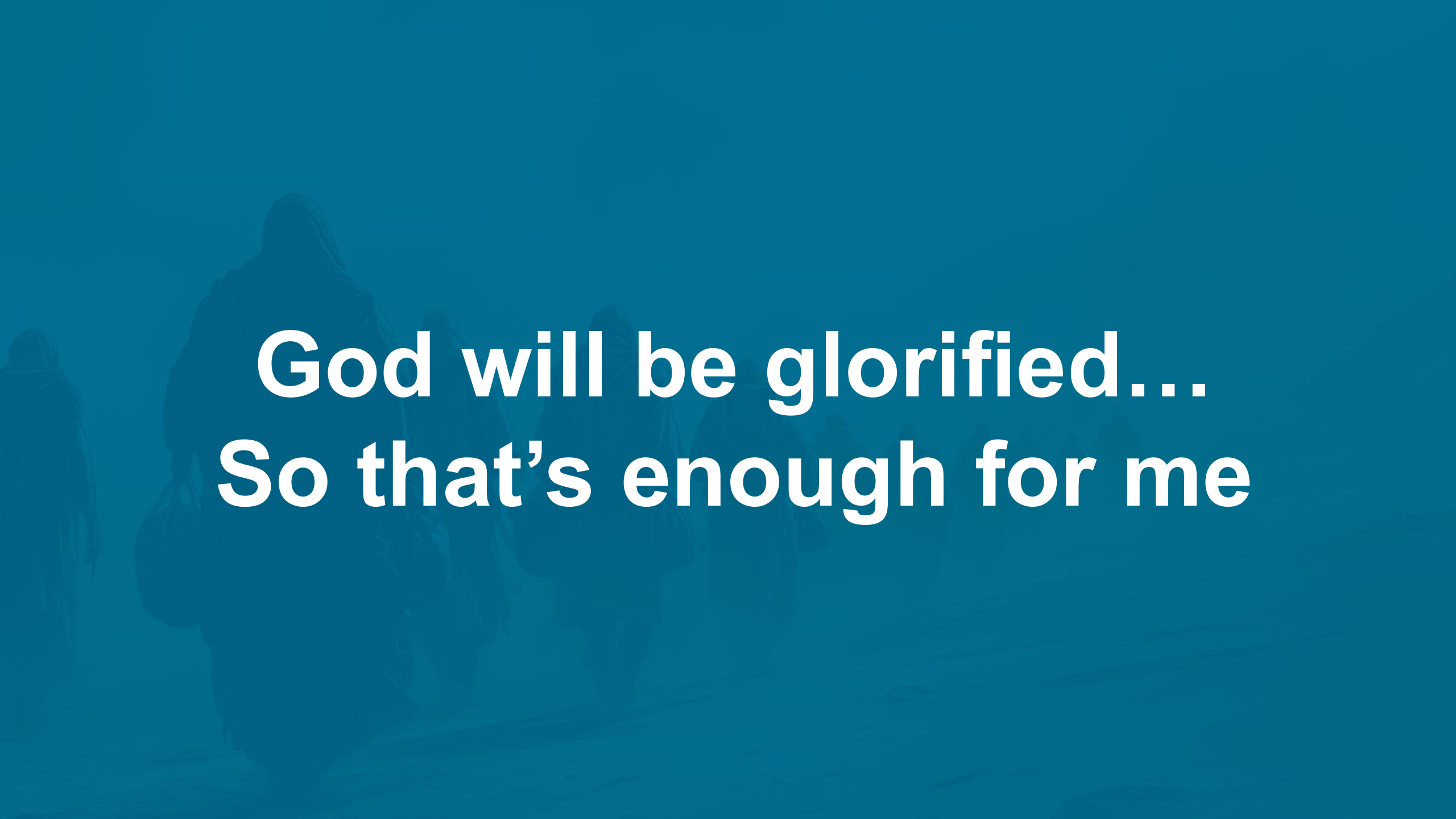
A group of people, seen from behind, walking away into a hazy, blue-tinted environment. They are carrying bags, suggesting a journey or migration. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

**God is with me....  
So I don't have be afraid**



A group of people, mostly women wearing headscarves, are walking away from the camera on a path. The image is overlaid with a solid blue gradient. White text is centered on the image.

**God will defend and deliver...**  
**So, I don't have to be angry**

A group of people, seen from behind, are walking away on a path. They are carrying various bags and backpacks. The entire scene is overlaid with a solid blue tint. The text is centered over the image.

**God will be glorified...  
So that's enough for me**