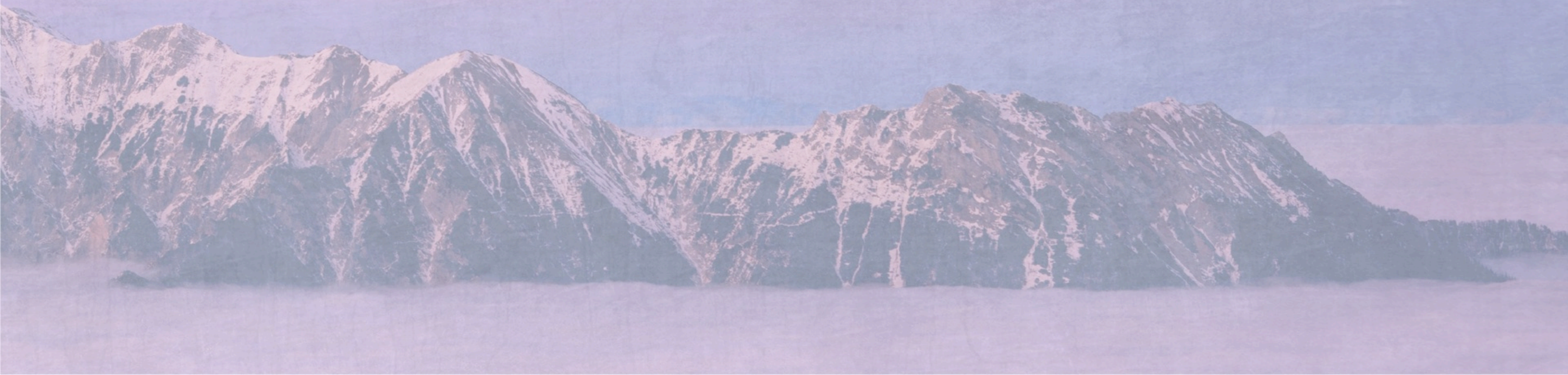
Kingdom living is skilled living



Kingdom living is skilled living

Wisdom as skill

- **Embroidery—Ex. 28:3**
- **Metal working—Ex. 31:3**
- **Leadership—Deut. 34:9**
- **Diplomacy—2 Sam. 14:20**
- **Military Strategy—Isa. 10:13**

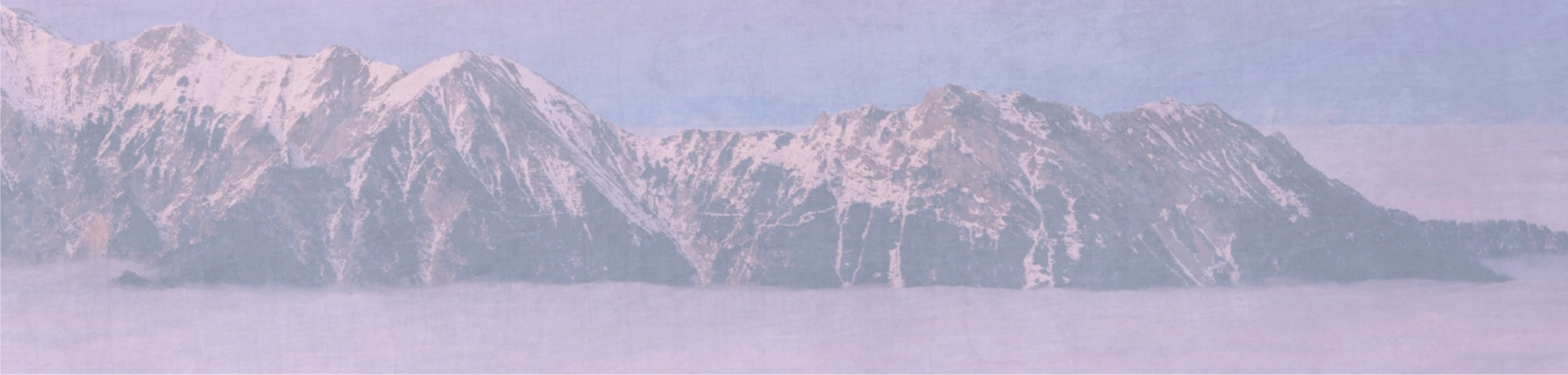
God’s intention for work
—Genesis 1:27-28, 2:7, 15

[27]So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

[28] And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:27-28

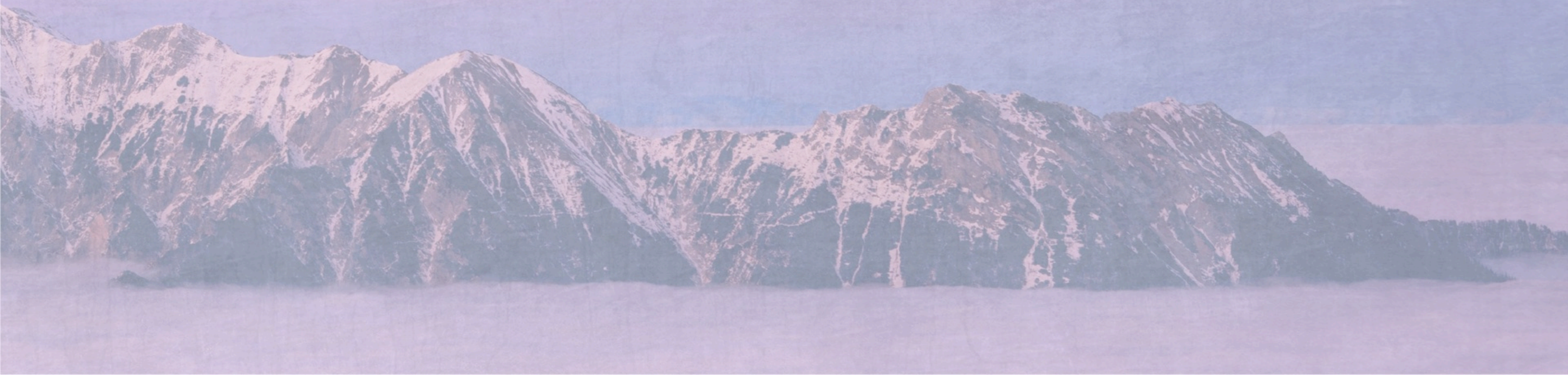
God’s intention for work
—Genesis 1:27-28, 2:7, 15



God’s intention for work —Genesis 1:27-28, 2:7, 15

- Powerful Partnership

Culture is what we do with God’s creation



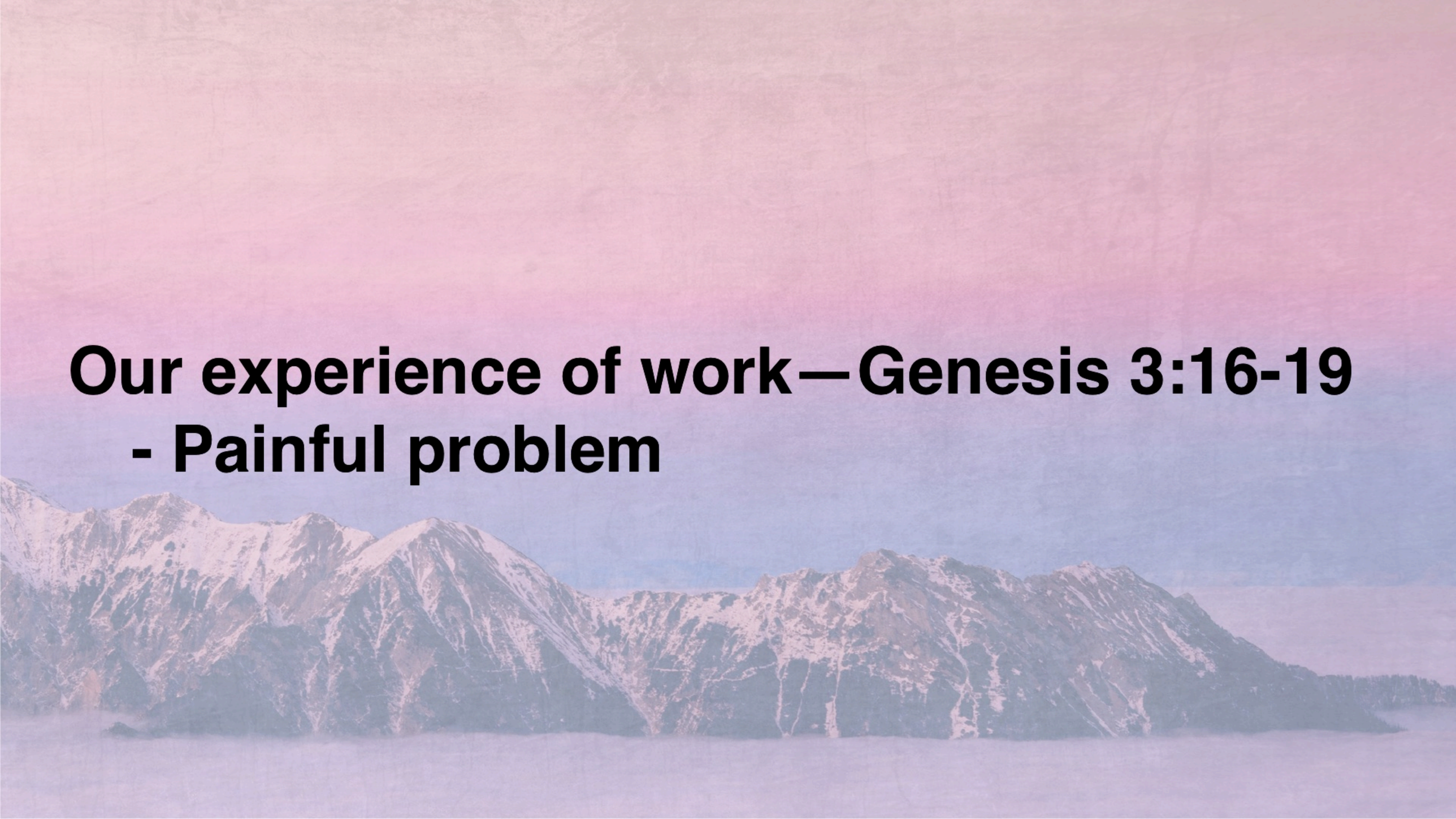
The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2:15

then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Genesis 2:7

Our experience of work—Genesis 3:16-19



Our experience of work—Genesis 3:16-19

- Painful problem

Genesis 1-3 Hebrew Word Play

Ishshah=Woman

Ish=man

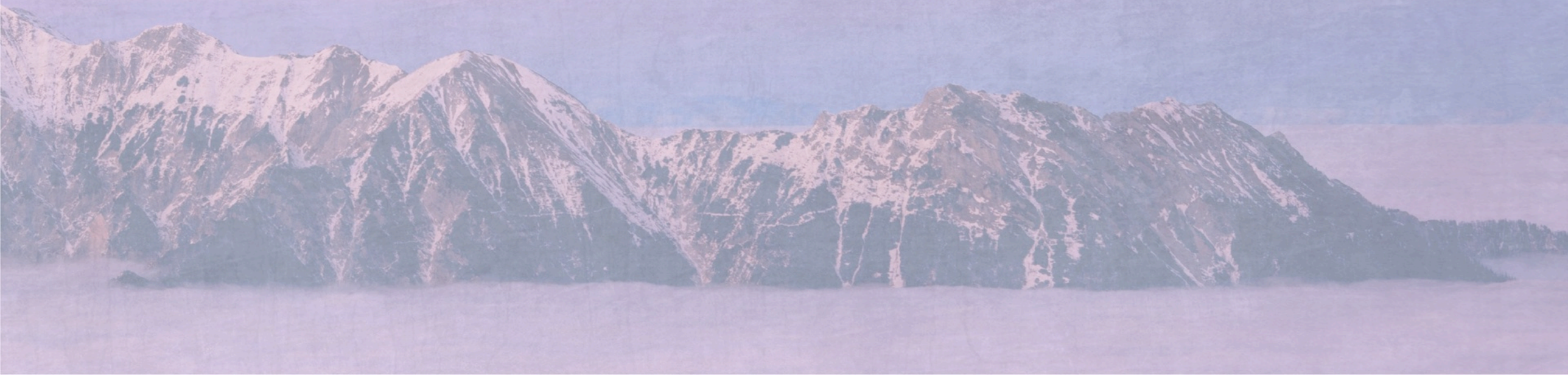
Adam=mankind/man

Adamah=ground

“You get your pain from where you came.”

—Julie Galambush

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work



Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road! There is a lion in the streets!"

Proverbs 26:13

The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.

Proverbs 26:16

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

II. Idolize the power of work—11:4, 7, 16:3, 8-9, 16

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

II. Idolize the power of work—11:4, 7, 16:3, 8-9, 16

a. Power is in the partnership—16:3, 9

b. Prosperity perishes—16:8, 16, 11:4, 7

“And now in one hour’s time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds to justify my existence. But will I?”

—Harold Abrahams
Chariots of Fire

The way of a sluggard is like a hedge of thorns, but the path of the upright is a level highway.

Proverbs 15:19

[29]and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Matthew 27:29

We are not to avoid the problem of work or idolize the power of work. We are to redeem the promise of work.

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

II. Idolize the power of work—11:4, 7, 16:3, 8-9, 16

III. Redeem the promise of work—11:1, 10

“This saying brings righteousness into the marketplace and grounds economic fair play in the good pleasure of God.”

—Raymond C. Van Leeuwen

**A just balance and scales are the Lord's;
all the weights in the bag are his work.**

Proverbs 16:11

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

II. Idolize the power of work—11:4, 7, 16:3, 8-9, 16

III. Redeem the promise of work—11:1, 10

a. See all work as God's work

“The righteous are willing to disadvantage themselves to advantage the community; the wicked are willing to disadvantage the community to advantage themselves.”

—Bruce Waltke
The Book of Proverbs, p.97

Proverbs' Three Responses to Work

I. Avoid the problem of work—6:6-11

II. Idolize the power of work—11:4, 7, 16:3, 8-9, 16

III. Redeem the promise of work—11:1, 10

a. See all work as God's work

b. Be "The Righteous" at work

“One of the main messages of Proverbs is —you’ve never really thought enough about anything.”

—Tim and Kathy Keller
God’s Wisdom for Navigating Life