

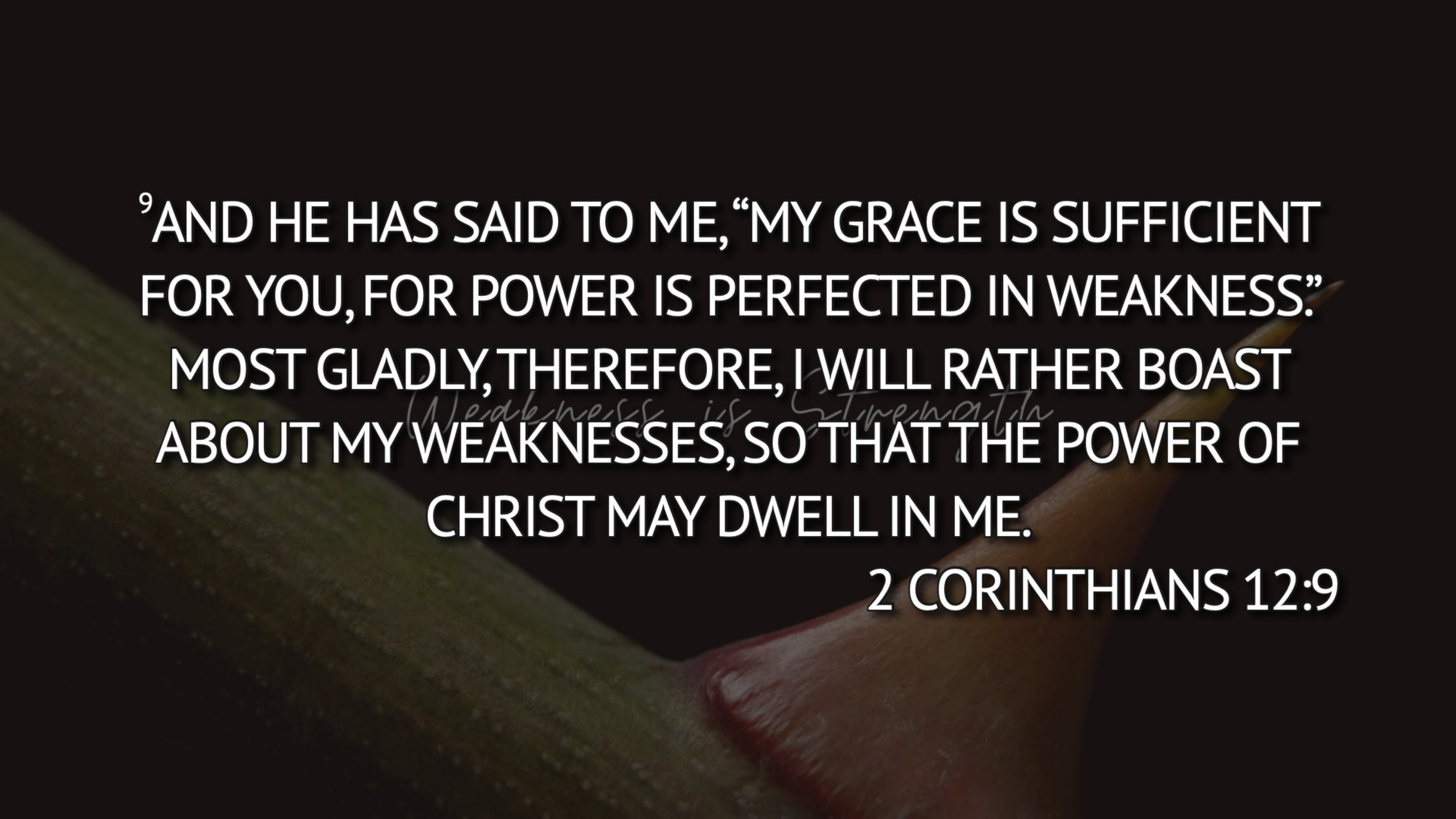
⁷BECAUSE OF THE SURPASSING GREATNESS OF THE
REVELATIONS, FOR THIS REASON, TO KEEP ME FROM
EXALTING MYSELF, THERE WAS GIVEN ME A THORN
IN THE FLESH, A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO TORMENT
ME—TO KEEP ME FROM EXALTING MYSELF!

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7

A close-up photograph of a green plant stem, possibly a rose, with a sharp, reddish-brown thorn. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the image.

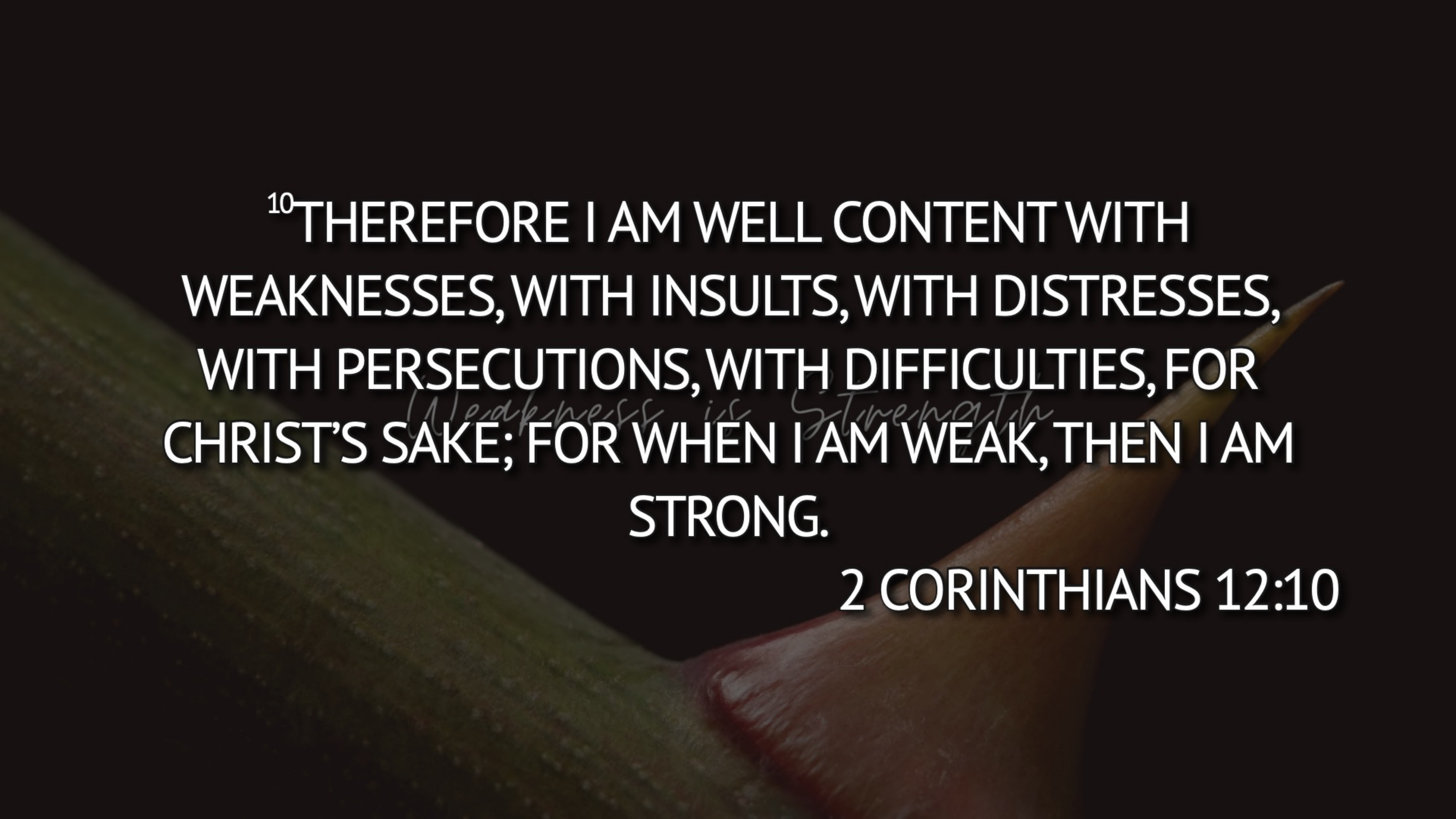
⁸CONCERNING THIS I IMploRED THE LORD THREE
TIMES THAT IT MIGHT LEAVE ME.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:8



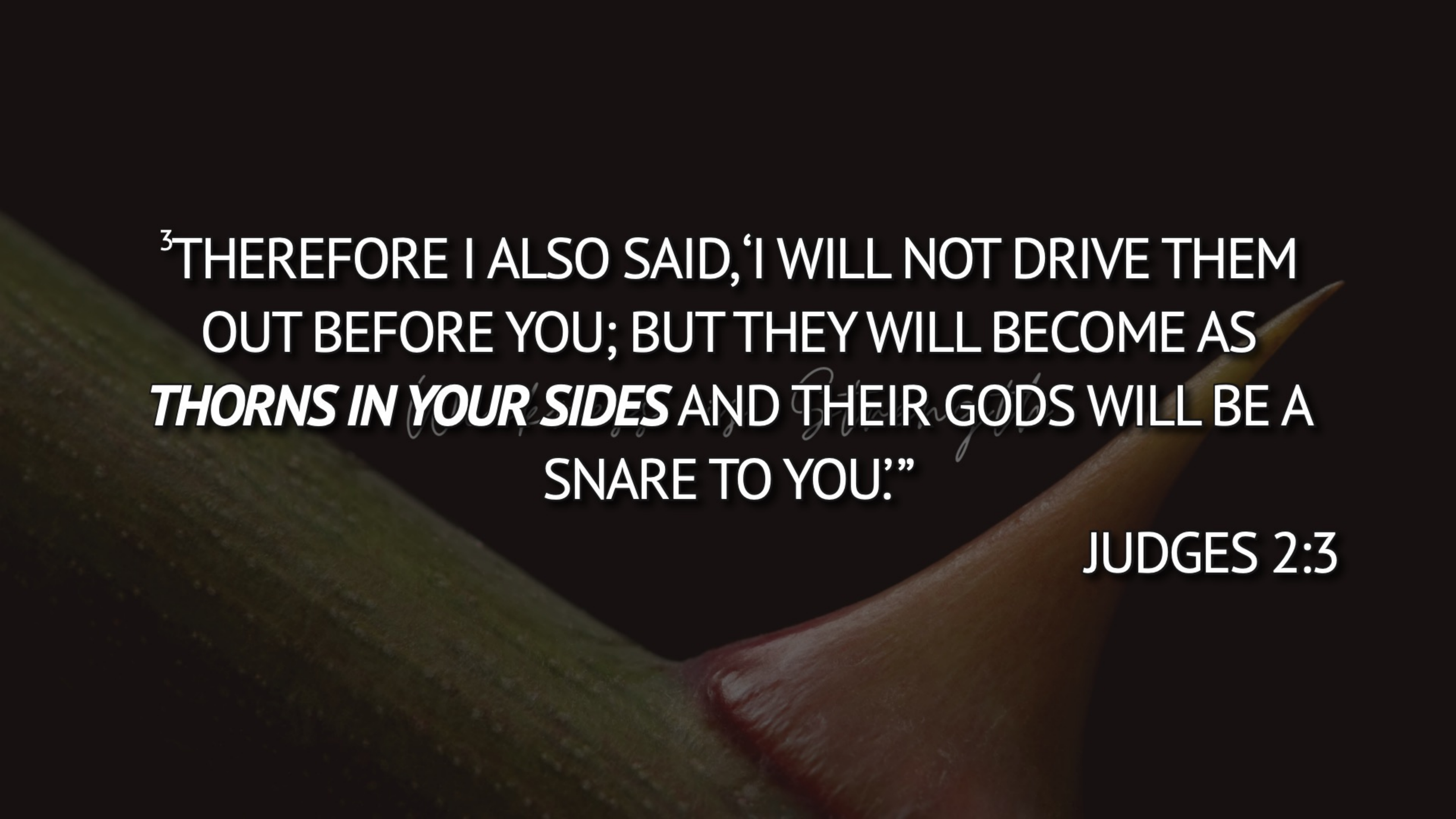
⁹AND HE HAS SAID TO ME, “MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT
FOR YOU, FOR POWER IS PERFECTED IN WEAKNESS.”
MOST GLADLY, THEREFORE, I WILL RATHER BOAST
ABOUT MY WEAKNESSES, SO THAT THE POWER OF
CHRIST MAY DWELL IN ME.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9



¹⁰ THEREFORE I AM WELL CONTENT WITH
WEAKNESSES, WITH INSULTS, WITH DISTRESSES,
WITH PERSECUTIONS, WITH DIFFICULTIES, FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE; FOR WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM
STRONG.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:10

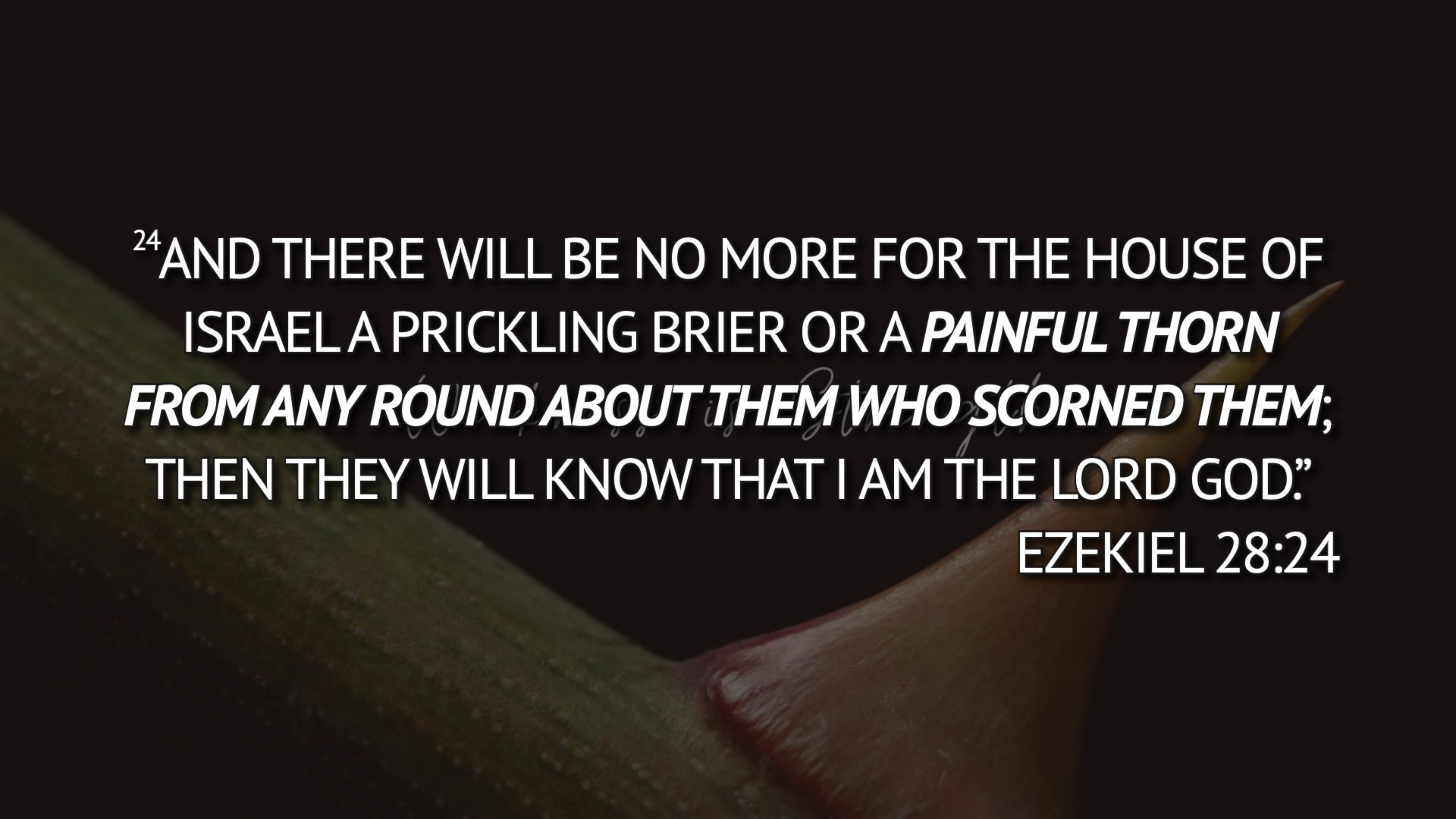


³THEREFORE I ALSO SAID, 'I WILL NOT DRIVE THEM
OUT BEFORE YOU; BUT THEY WILL BECOME AS
THORNS IN YOUR SIDES AND THEIR GODS WILL BE A
SNARE TO YOU.'"

JUDGES 2:3

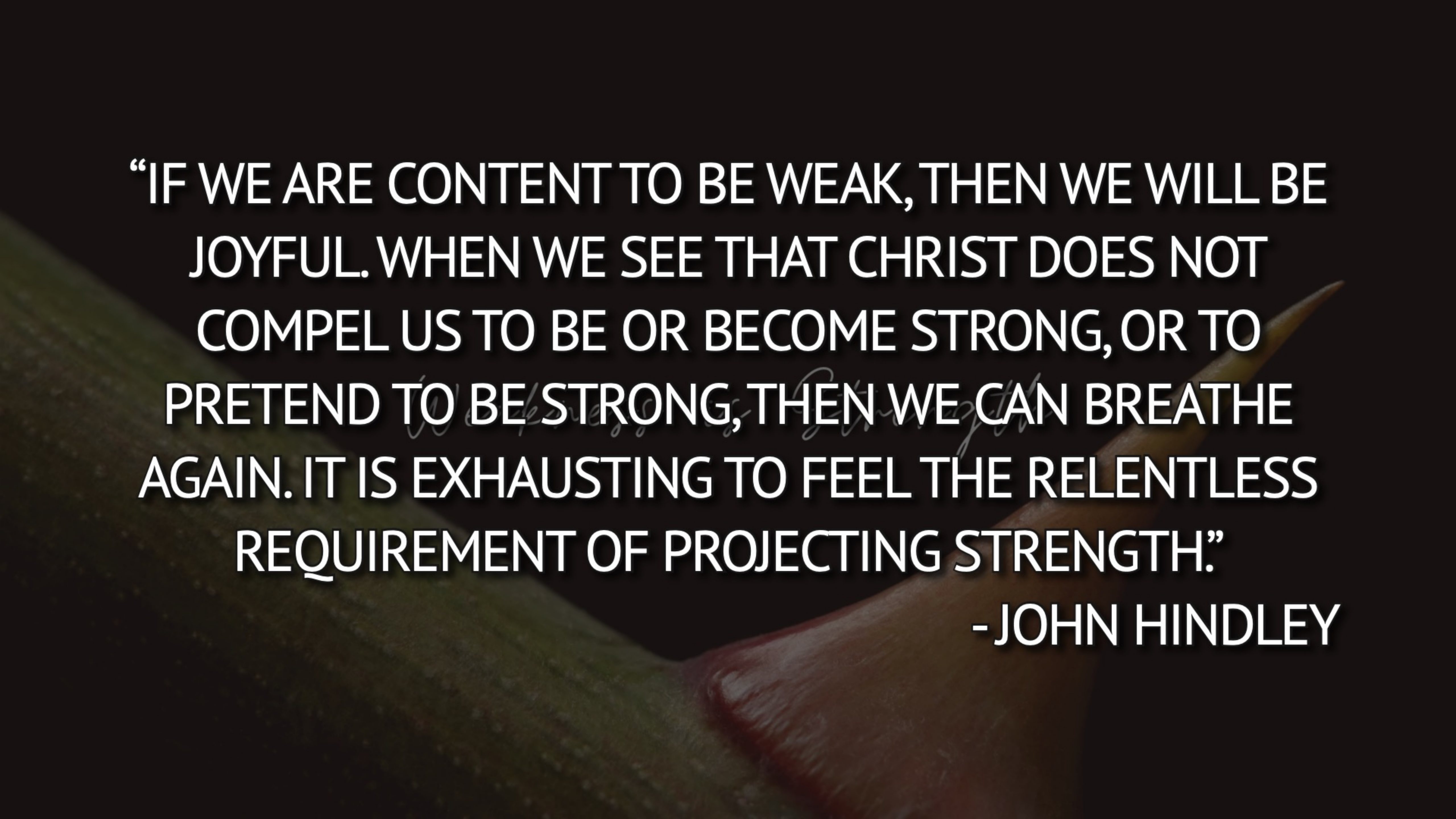
⁵⁵BUT IF YOU DO NOT DRIVE OUT THE INHABITANTS
OF THE LAND FROM BEFORE YOU, THEN IT SHALL
COME ABOUT THAT THOSE WHOM YOU LET REMAIN
OF THEM WILL BECOME AS PRICKS IN YOUR EYES
AND ***AS THORNS IN YOUR SIDES***, AND THEY WILL
TROUBLE YOU IN THE LAND IN WHICH YOU LIVE.

NUMBERS 33:55

A close-up photograph of a green plant stem with a sharp, reddish-brown thorn. The thorn is positioned diagonally across the frame, pointing towards the upper right. The background is dark and out of focus.

²⁴AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE FOR THE HOUSE OF
ISRAEL A PRICKLING BRIER OR A *PAINFUL THORN*
FROM ANY ROUND ABOUT THEM WHO SCORNE *THEM*;
THEN THEY WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD GOD.”

EZEKIEL 28:24



“IF WE ARE CONTENT TO BE WEAK, THEN WE WILL BE JOYFUL. WHEN WE SEE THAT CHRIST DOES NOT COMPEL US TO BE OR BECOME STRONG, OR TO PRETEND TO BE STRONG, THEN WE CAN BREATHE AGAIN. IT IS EXHAUSTING TO FEEL THE RELENTLESS REQUIREMENT OF PROJECTING STRENGTH.”

-JOHN HINDLEY