





**If I'm Honest...**

Real Life in the Psalms

*A psalm of Asaph.*

<sup>1</sup> Surely God is good to Israel,  
to those who are pure in heart.

<sup>2</sup> But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;  
I had nearly lost my foothold.

<sup>3</sup> For I envied the arrogant  
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**Psalm 73:1-3 (NIV 2011)**



<sup>2</sup> But as for me, **my feet had almost slipped;**  
**I had nearly lost my foothold.**

<sup>3</sup> For I envied the arrogant  
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**Psalm 73:2-3 (NIV 2011)**





<sup>4</sup> They have no struggles;  
their bodies are healthy and strong.  
<sup>5</sup> They are free from common human burdens;  
they are not plagued by human ills.  
<sup>6</sup> Therefore pride is their necklace;  
they clothe themselves with violence.  
<sup>7</sup> From their callous hearts comes iniquity;  
their evil imaginations have no limits.

**Psalm 73:4-7 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>8</sup> They scoff, and speak with malice;  
with arrogance they threaten oppression.  
<sup>9</sup> Their mouths lay claim to heaven,  
and their tongues take possession of the earth.  
<sup>10</sup> Therefore their people turn to them  
and drink up waters in abundance.

**Psalm 73:7-10 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>11</sup> They say, “How would God know?  
Does the Most High know anything?”

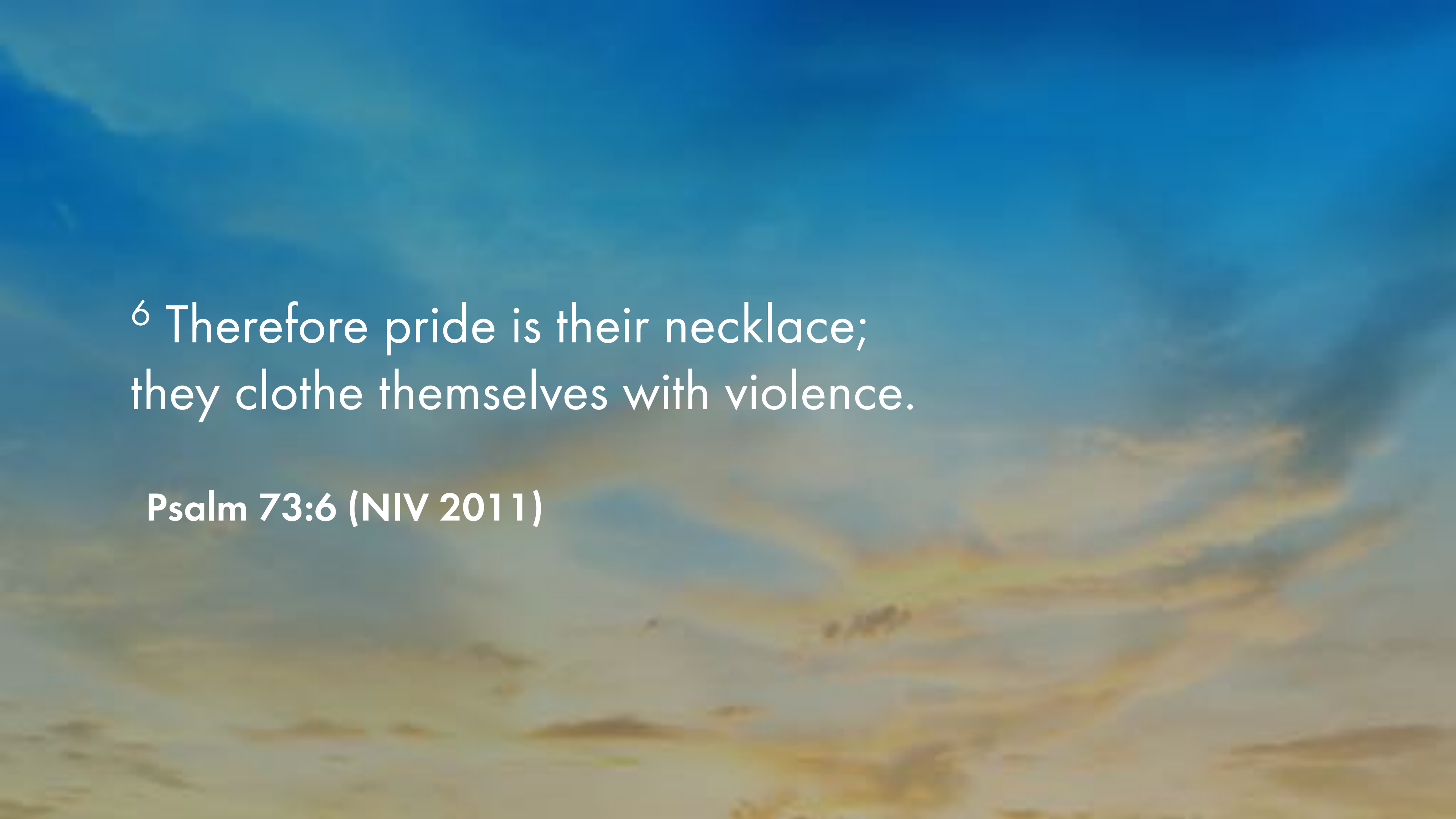
<sup>12</sup> **This is what the wicked are like—  
always free of care, they go on amassing wealth.**

Psalm 73:11-12 (NIV 2011)



<sup>4</sup> They have no struggles;  
their bodies are healthy and strong.  
<sup>5</sup> They are free from common human burdens;  
they are not plagued by human ills.

**Psalm 73:4-5 (NIV 2011)**



6 Therefore pride is their necklace;  
they clothe themselves with violence.

**Psalm 73:6 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>8</sup> They scoff, and speak with malice;  
with arrogance they threaten oppression.

**Psalm 73:8 (NIV 2011)**



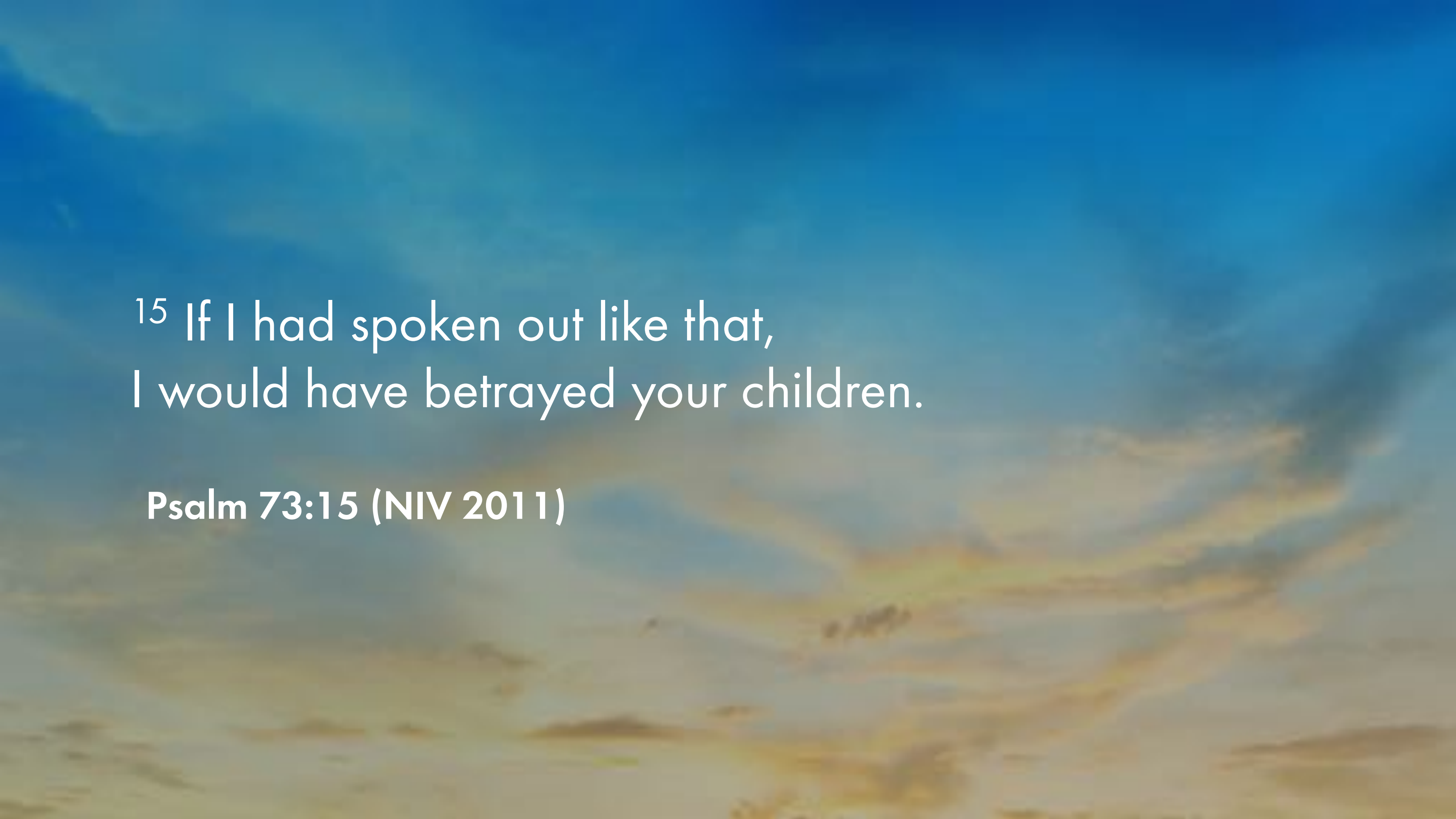
<sup>11</sup> They say, "How would God know?  
Does the Most High know anything?"

**Psalm 73:11 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>13</sup> Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure  
and have washed my hands in innocence.

<sup>14</sup> **All day long** I have been afflicted,  
and **every morning** brings new punishments.

Psalm 73:13-14 (NIV 2011)



<sup>15</sup> If I had spoken out like that,  
I would have betrayed your children.

**Psalm 73:15 (NIV 2011)**



<sup>16</sup> When I tried to understand all this,  
it troubled me deeply

<sup>17</sup> till **I entered the sanctuary of God;**  
then I understood their final destiny.

**Psalm 73: 16-17 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>17</sup> till I entered the sanctuary of God;  
**then I understood their final destiny.**

**Psalm 73:17 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>18</sup> Surely you place them on slippery ground;  
you cast them down to ruin.

<sup>19</sup> How suddenly are they destroyed,  
completely swept away by terrors!

<sup>20</sup> They are like a dream when one awakes;  
when you arise, Lord,  
you will despise them as fantasies.

**Psalm 73:18-20 (NIV 2011)**



<sup>12</sup> People, despite their wealth, do not endure;  
they are like the beasts that perish.

<sup>13</sup> This is the fate of those who trust in themselves,  
and of their followers, who approve their sayings.

<sup>14</sup> They are like sheep and are destined to die;  
death will be their shepherd ...

Their forms will decay in the grave,  
far from their princely mansions.

**Psalm 49:12-14 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>28</sup> "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice  
<sup>29</sup> and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

**John 5:28-29 (NIV 2011)**

24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

**John 5:24 (NIV 2011)**



21 When my heart was grieved  
and my spirit embittered,  
22 I was senseless and ignorant;  
I was a brute beast before you.

**Psalm 73:21-22 (NIV 2011)**

23 Yet I am always with you;  
you hold me by my right hand.

24 You guide me with your counsel,  
and afterward you will take me into glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you?  
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

26 My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart  
and my portion forever.

**Psalm 73:23-26 (NIV 2011)**

<sup>27</sup> Those who are far from you will perish;  
you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.  
<sup>28</sup> But as for me, it is good to be near God.  
I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge;  
I will tell of all your deeds.

**Psalm 73:27-28 (NIV 2011)**



<sup>25</sup> Whom have I in heaven but you?  
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.  
<sup>26</sup> My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart  
and my portion forever.

**Psalm 73:25-26 (NIV 2011)**

24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

**John 5:24 (NIV 2011)**