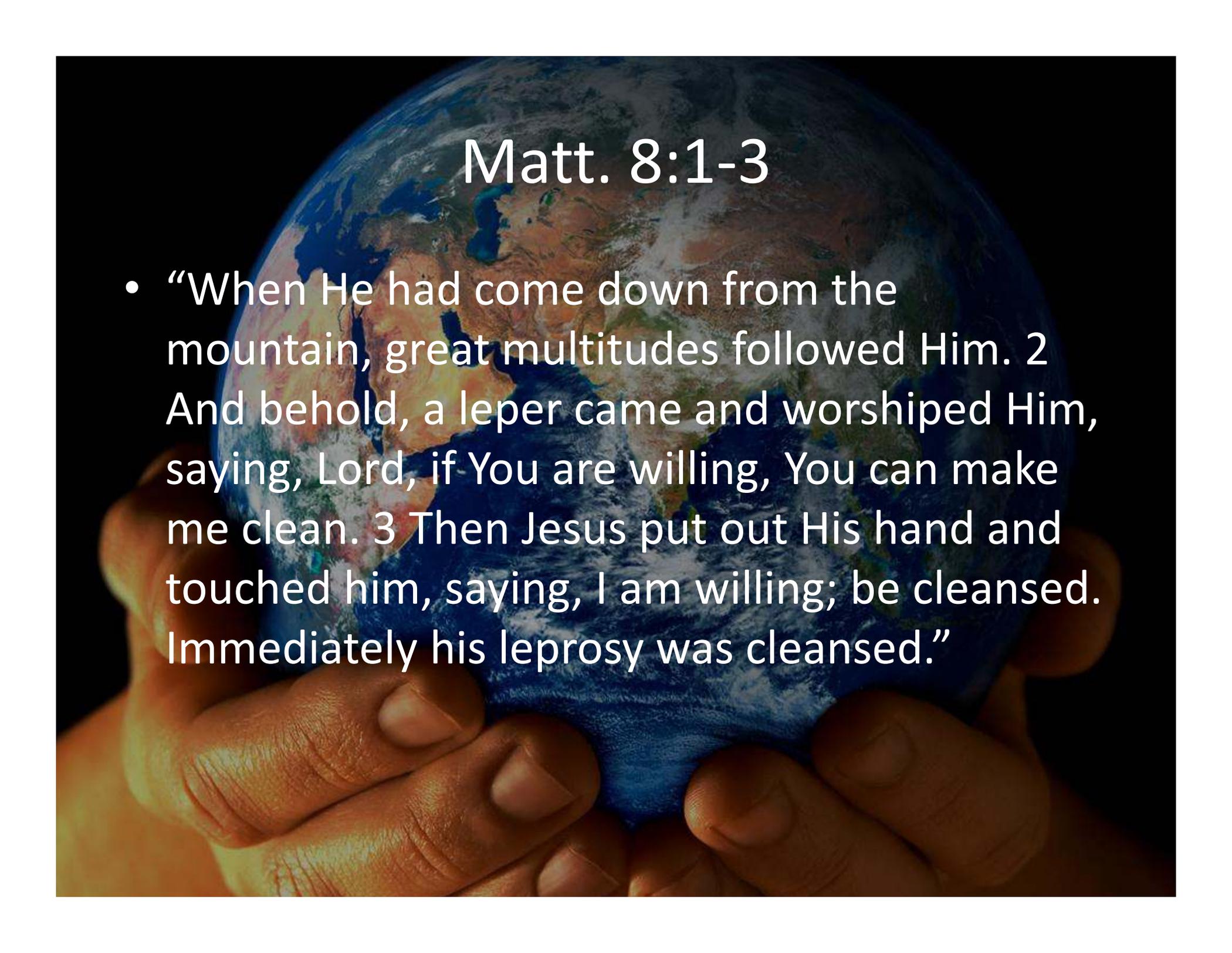


A pair of hands is shown holding a small, realistic-looking globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned at the bottom and sides of the globe, with fingers gently gripping it. The globe shows continents in shades of brown and green, and oceans in deep blue. The background is dark, making the hands and the globe stand out. The overall mood is one of care and stewardship.

The Touch of the Master's Hand

Matthew 8:1-3

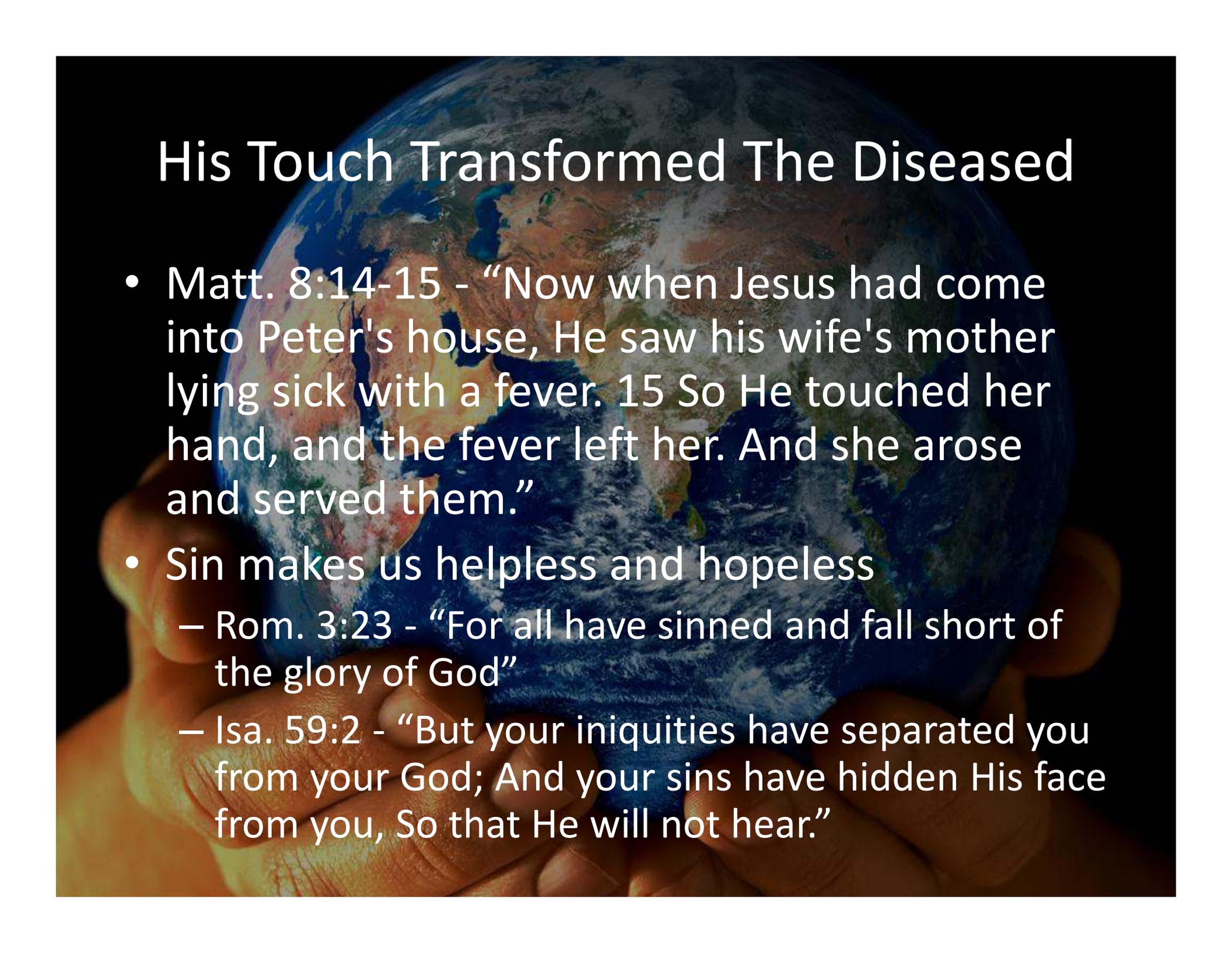
A pair of hands is shown holding a globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned at the bottom and sides of the globe, with fingers gently gripping it. The globe shows the continents of Africa, Europe, and Asia, with blue oceans and white clouds. The background is dark, making the globe and hands stand out.

Matt. 8:1-3

- “When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. 2 And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean. 3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, I am willing; be cleansed. Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.”

The Touch of Christ is the Touch of God

- Simon becomes Peter
- Jacob becomes Israel, the Prince of God.
- Abram is transformed into Abraham.
- Moses the murderer becomes Moses the leader of God's people
- A nobody teenager named Jeremiah became the weeping prophet of God and the perennial favorite of the Jews.
- James and John, the Sons of Thunder, were changed into an early martyr and the Apostle of love
- A powerful, transforming touch indeed!

A pair of hands is shown holding a globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned at the bottom and sides of the globe, with fingers gently gripping it. The globe shows the continents of North and South America, with blue oceans and white clouds. The background is dark, making the hands and the globe stand out.

His Touch Transformed The Diseased

- Matt. 8:14-15 - “Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. 15 So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them.”
- Sin makes us helpless and hopeless
 - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
 - Isa. 59:2 - “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.”

His Touch Transformed The Diseased

- Jesus removes our sins and restores our wellbeing
 - Psalm 103:12 - “As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us”
 - 2Cor. 5:17 - “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

His Touch Transformed The Deaf

- Mark 7:32-35 - “Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him. 33 And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. 34 Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened. 35 Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly.”

A pair of hands is shown holding a small, realistic-looking globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned at the bottom and sides of the globe, with fingers gently gripping it. The background is dark, making the globe and hands stand out. The globe shows continents in shades of brown and green, and oceans in deep blue. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the details of the globe.

His Touch Transformed The Deaf

- The saved can hear the will of God clearly and enjoy the privilege to speak to Him often and openly
 - 1Cor. 2:12-16
 - Heb. 4:16 - “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

His Touch Transformed The Blind

- Matt. 9:27-30 - “When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, Son of David, have mercy on us! 28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, Do you believe that I am able to do this? They said to Him, Yes, Lord. 29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith let it be to you. 30 And their eyes were opened.”
- John 9:6, 25 - “When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay... 25 He answered and said, Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.”

His Touch Transformed The Blind

- Enlightenment is greater than physical vision
 - Isa. 42:5-7 - “Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: 6 I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, 7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house.”
 - 1Peter 2:9-10 - “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

His Touch Transformed The Doomed

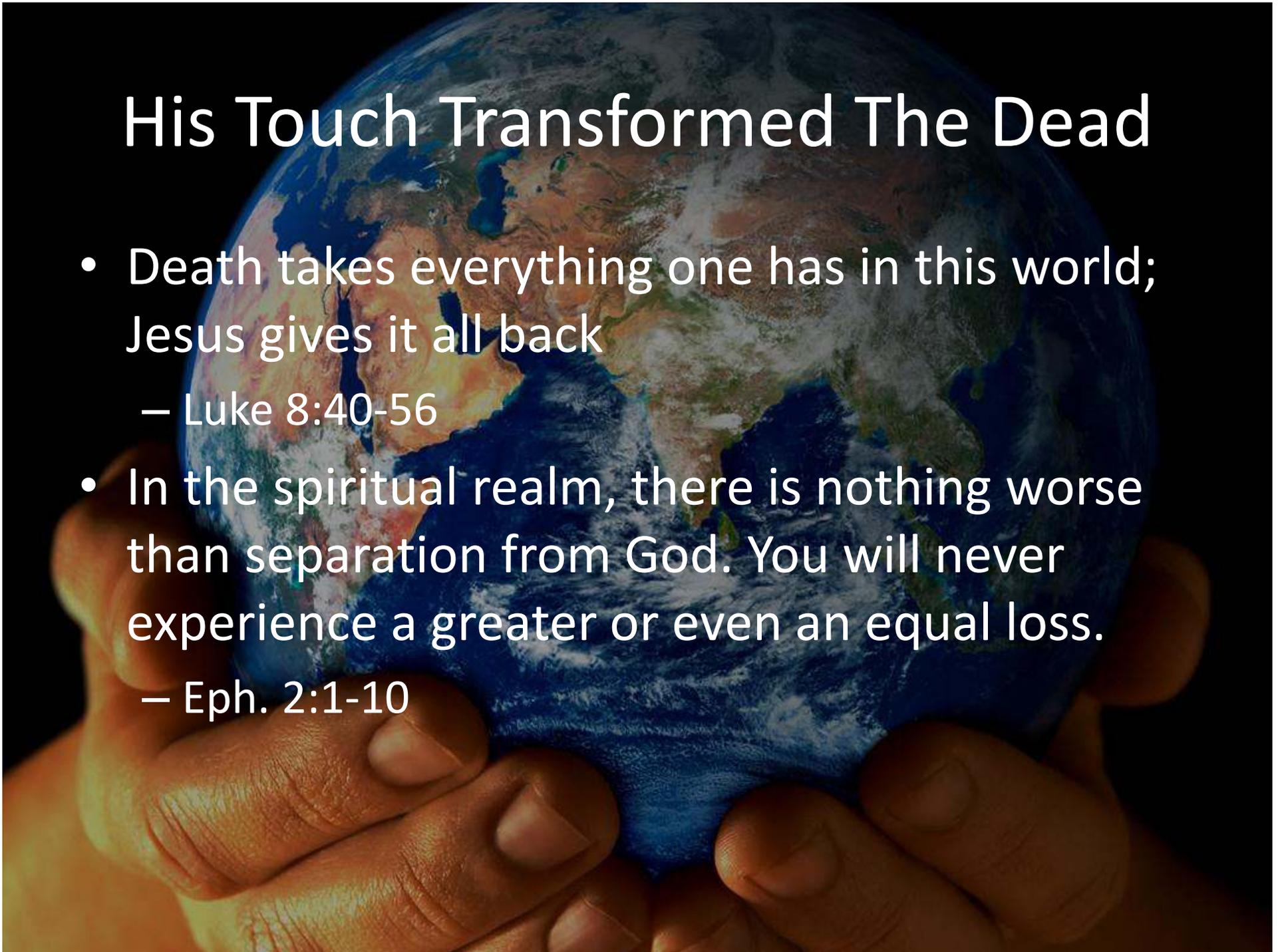
- Matt. 8:2-3 - “And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean. 3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, I am willing; be cleansed. Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.”
- Sin separates us from God, all heavenly beings, and the righteous, and places us in the company of fellow spiritual lepers in the eternal leper colony of hell

His Touch Transformed The Doomed

- 2Thes. 1:8-9 - “In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power”
- Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- Prov. 13:15 - “Good understanding gains favor, But the way of the unfaithful is hard.”
- Gal. 6:7 - “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

His Touch Transformed The Dead

- Death takes everything one has in this world; Jesus gives it all back
 - Luke 8:40-56
- In the spiritual realm, there is nothing worse than separation from God. You will never experience a greater or even an equal loss.
 - Eph. 2:1-10



His Touch Transformed The Deceived

- Luke 22:50-51 - “And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. 51 But Jesus answered and said, Permit even this. And He touched his ear and healed him.”
- Malchus was with the wrong crowd. There is no indication Malchus was ever saved.
- But Jesus makes no distinction among sinners; all are candidates for His grace

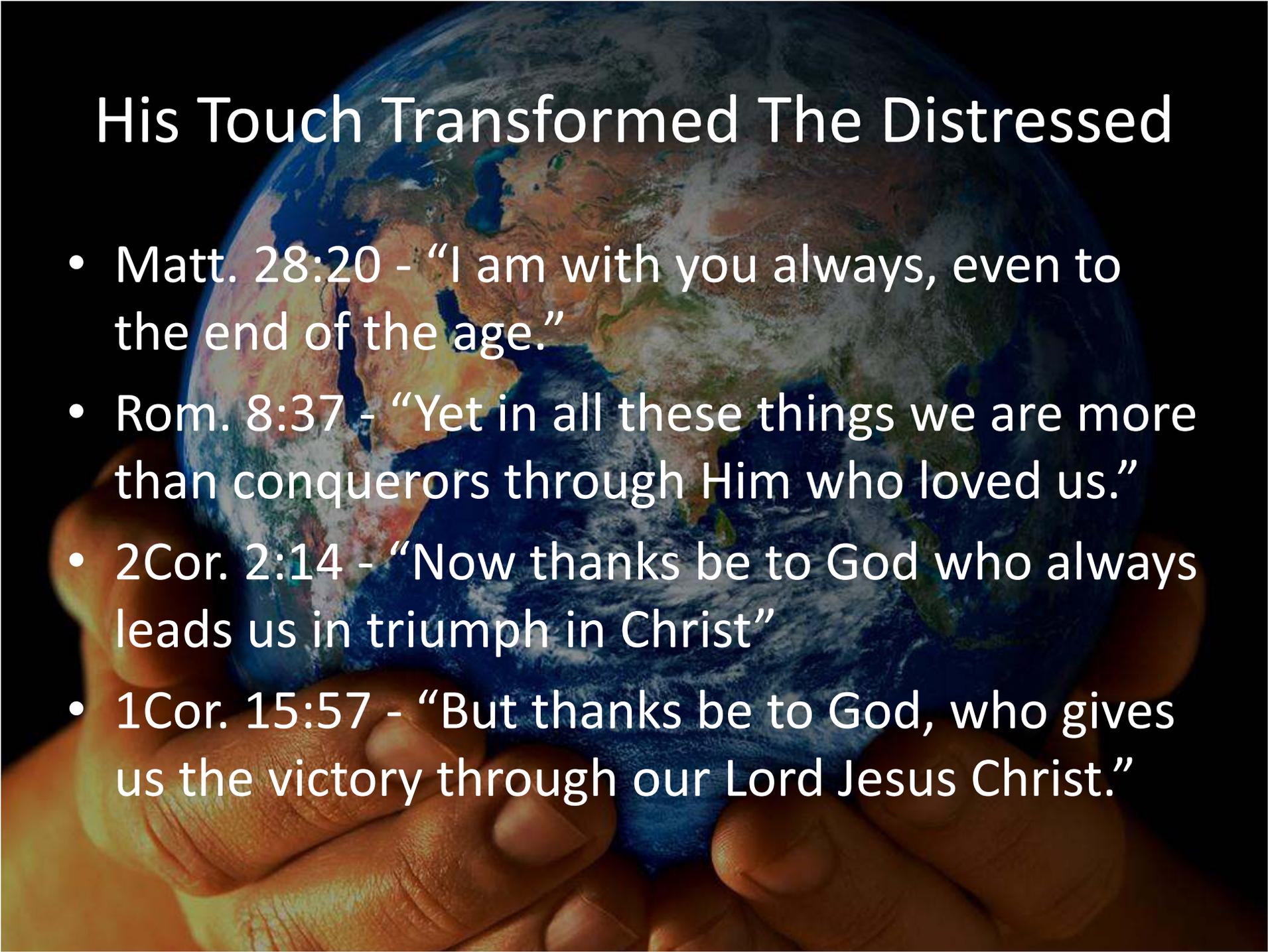
His Touch Transformed The Deceived

- Matt. 11:28-30 - “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”
- Isa. 55:1-3 - “Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. 3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you”
- John 7:37 - “On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.”

His Touch Transformed The Distressed

- He excels in lifting the fallen and encouraging the downcast
 - Matt. 17:7 - “But Jesus came and touched them and said, Arise, and do not be afraid.”
 - Mark 6:45-51



A pair of hands, one from the left and one from the right, are shown holding a small, realistic globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned as if cradling the globe, with fingers gently gripping it. The background is dark, making the hands and the globe stand out. The globe shows continents and oceans in detail.

His Touch Transformed The Distressed

- Matt. 28:20 - “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
- Rom. 8:37 - “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”
- 2Cor. 2:14 - “Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ”
- 1Cor. 15:57 - “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”