

A painting of a man with a beard, wearing a turban with red, blue, and green stripes and a white robe. He is holding a large, glowing yellow scroll that is open, revealing a bright, golden light. The background is dark and moody, with a small table and a bowl visible in the lower right corner.

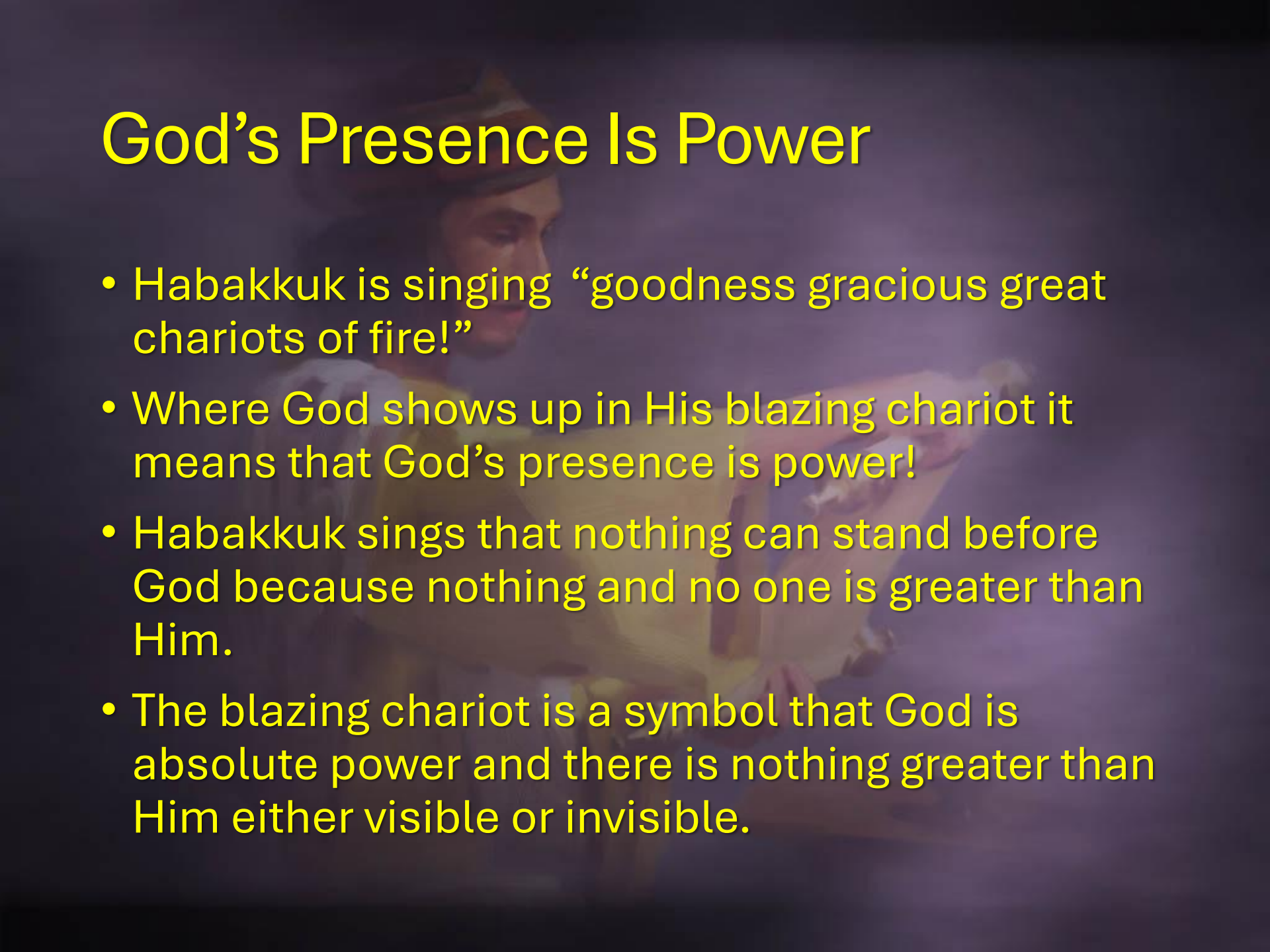
Goodness Gracious Great Chariots of Fire

Habakkuk 3:1-19, 2 Kings 6:14-17

Background of Habakkuk 3

- Habakkuk 3 is a prayerful song played on stringed instruments with wild passion and rapid changes in rhythm.
- Habakkuk envisions God riding in on a chariot of salvation conquering and crushing all enemies.
- When chariots occur in connection with God's appearing, we should envision God waging war against evil.

God's Presence Is Power



- Habakkuk is singing “goodness gracious great chariots of fire!”
- Where God shows up in His blazing chariot it means that God's presence is power!
- Habakkuk sings that nothing can stand before God because nothing and no one is greater than Him.
- The blazing chariot is a symbol that God is absolute power and there is nothing greater than Him either visible or invisible.

God's Presence Is Boundless

- David reflects in Psalm 68:17 that God's power and might are limitless.
- The chariots of God signal that God is among His people and that He brings His holiness with Him.
- When God's countless, boundless and innumerable armies show up, they signal the presence of God and His holiness.
- The chariots of God are a symbol of God's absolute power.

God's Presence Judges

- Isaiah sees God coming in fire and with chariots, bringing His judgment on sin with Him.
- Two things happen with fire:
 - Fire purifies
 - Fire destroys
- God always does both in His judgment.
- It is a fearful thing to fall under the judgment of God.

Conclusion

- Elisha knew and believed what Habakkuk sang about.
- What Elisha believed about God changed his faith, improved His outlook, formed his prayers and gave him new vision.
- God rides into our lives with His flaming chariot of salvation purifying sin wherever He goes.
- *“Do not be afraid, for those who are with you are more than those who are with them.”*