

An aerial photograph of Prague, Czech Republic, taken during the "golden hour" of sunset. The Vltava River flows through the center of the image, reflecting the warm orange and yellow light of the setting sun. Several bridges span the river, including the prominent Charles Bridge in the foreground. The city's architecture is visible, featuring red-tiled roofs, historic buildings, and a large church with a green dome on the left. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

# **WELCOME to the International Baptist Church of Prague**

**SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021**



A scenic landscape featuring a range of rugged, snow-capped mountains in the background. In the middle ground, a dense forest of dark green trees lines the shore of a calm lake. The lake's surface is perfectly still, creating a clear reflection of the mountains and the forest above. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The word "SERMON" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, bold, yellow font.

# SERMON



# IBCP Church Motto 2021

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23





## **IBCP Motto 2020 - Romans 8:28**

**And we know that in all things  
God works for the good  
of those who love him, who have been  
called according to his purpose.**



# THE CONTEXT

## Fall & Destruction of Jerusalem & Exile to Babylon – 586BC



## THE COMPLAINT 3:1-6

- <sup>1</sup> I am the man who has seen affliction  
under the rod of his wrath;
- <sup>2</sup> he has driven and brought me  
into darkness without any light;
- <sup>3</sup> surely against me he turns his hand  
again and again the whole day long.
- <sup>4</sup> He has made my flesh and my skin waste away;  
he has broken my bones;
- <sup>5</sup> he has besieged and enveloped me  
with bitterness and tribulation;
- <sup>6</sup> he has made me dwell in darkness  
like the dead of long ago.

## THE COMPLAINT 3:15-20

<sup>15</sup> He has filled me with bitterness;  
he has sated me with wormwood.

<sup>16</sup> He has made my teeth grind on gravel,  
and made me cower in ashes;

<sup>17</sup> my soul is bereft of peace;

I have forgotten what happiness is;

<sup>18</sup> so I say, “My endurance has perished;  
so has my hope from the LORD.”

<sup>19</sup> Remember my affliction and my wanderings,  
the wormwood and the gall!

<sup>20</sup> My soul continually remembers it  
and is bowed down within me.

## THE CONFIDENCE 3:24-26, 31-33

<sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,  
“therefore, I will hope in him.”

<sup>25</sup> The LORD is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul who seeks him.

<sup>26</sup> It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the LORD.

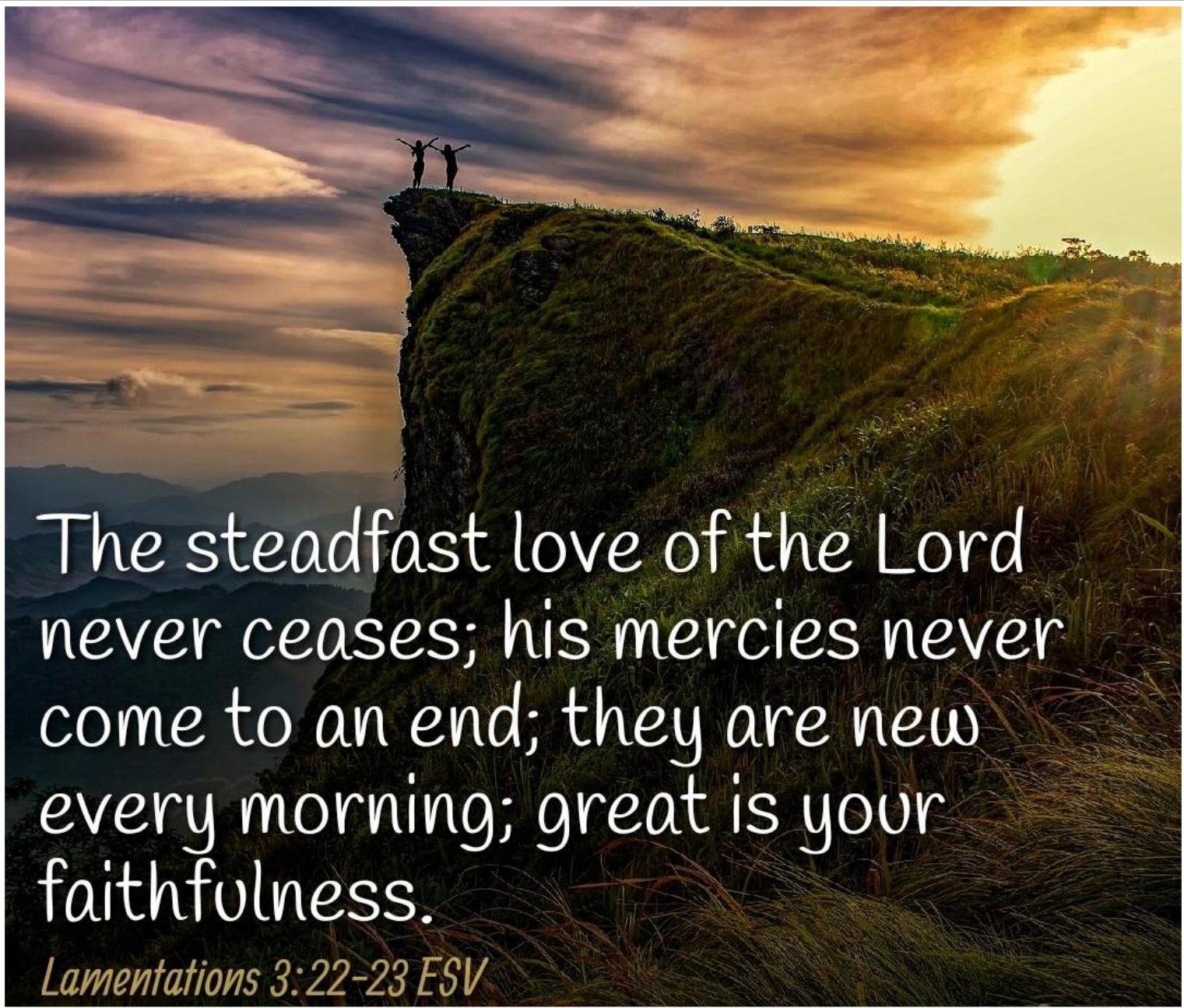
<sup>31</sup> For the Lord will not cast off for ever,

<sup>32</sup> but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

<sup>33</sup> for he does not willingly afflict  
or grieve the children of men.



## THE CONFIDENCE 3:22-23



The steadfast love of the Lord  
never ceases; his mercies never  
come to an end; they are new  
every morning; great is your  
faithfulness.

*Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV*

# THE CONFIDENCE 3:22-23

All day long I have held out my  
hands to an obstinate people, who  
walk in ways not good, pursuing  
their own imaginations-

Isaiah 65:2

Romans 10:21

<sup>21</sup> ***But concerning Israel he says,  
“All day long I have held out my  
hands  
to a disobedient and obstinate  
people.”***



## THE CONFIDENCE 3:22-23

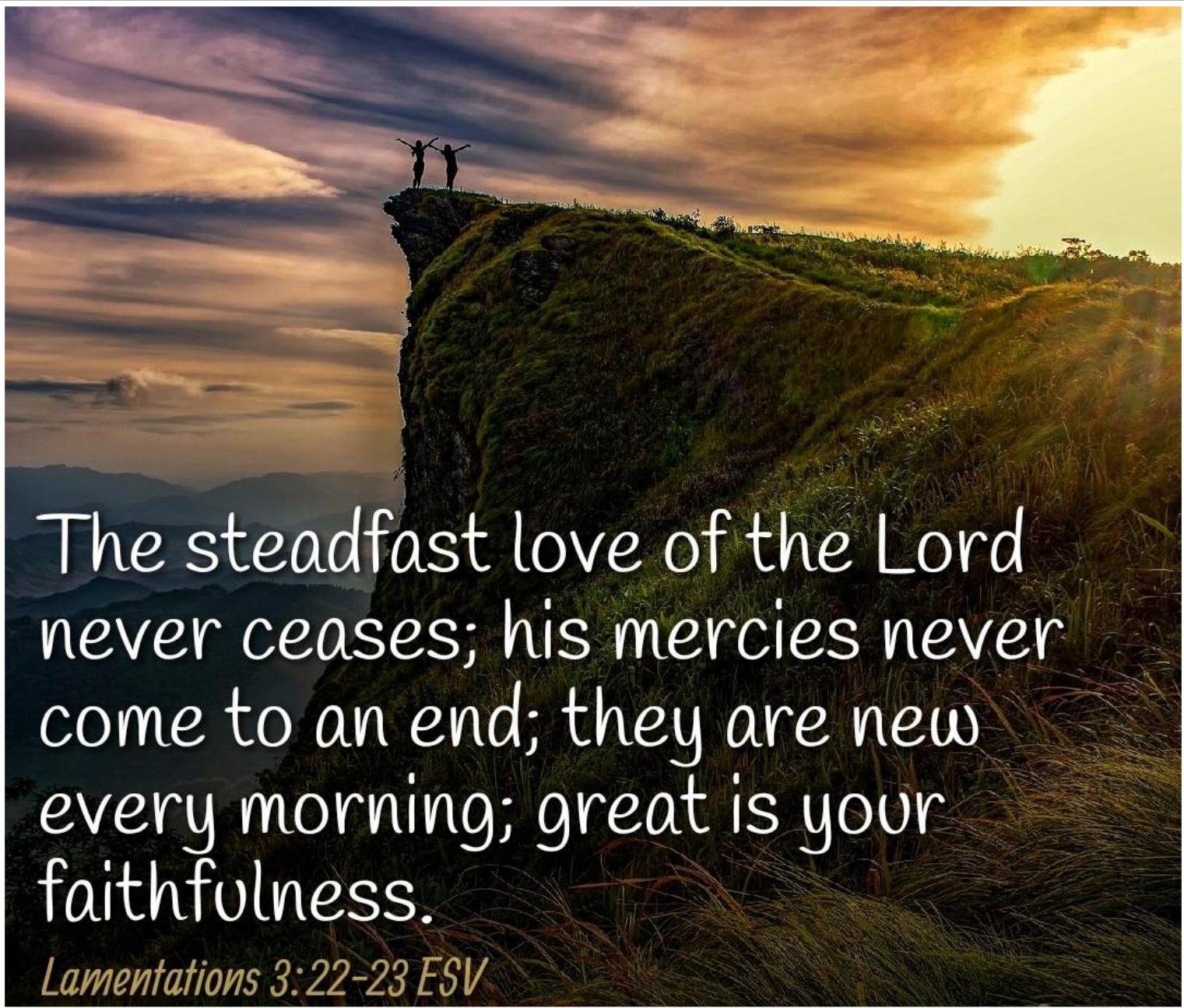


So he got up and went to his father. 'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him.

**Luke 15:20**



## THE CONFIDENCE 3:22-23



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To  
God  
be the Glory!