



UNSHAKABLE

<sup>1</sup> By the rivers of Babylon,  
There we sat down and wept,  
When we remembered Zion.

<sup>2</sup> Upon the willows in the midst of it  
We hung our harps.

<sup>3</sup> For there our captors demanded of us songs,  
And our tormentors mirth, saying,  
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion." ...

**PSALM 137:1-9**

...<sup>4</sup> How can we sing the Lord's song  
In a foreign land?

<sup>5</sup> If I forget you, O Jerusalem,  
May my right hand forget her skill.

<sup>6</sup> May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth  
If I do not remember you,  
If I do not exalt Jerusalem  
Above my chief joy. ...

**PSALM 137:1-9**

...<sup>7</sup> Remember, O Lord, against the sons of Edom  
The day of Jerusalem,  
Who said, "Raze it, raze it  
To its very foundation."  
<sup>8</sup> O daughter of Babylon, you devastated one ...

**PSALM 137:1-9**

... How blessed will be the one who repays you  
With the recompense with which you have repaid us.

<sup>9</sup> How blessed will be the one  
who seizes and dashes your little ones  
Against the rock.

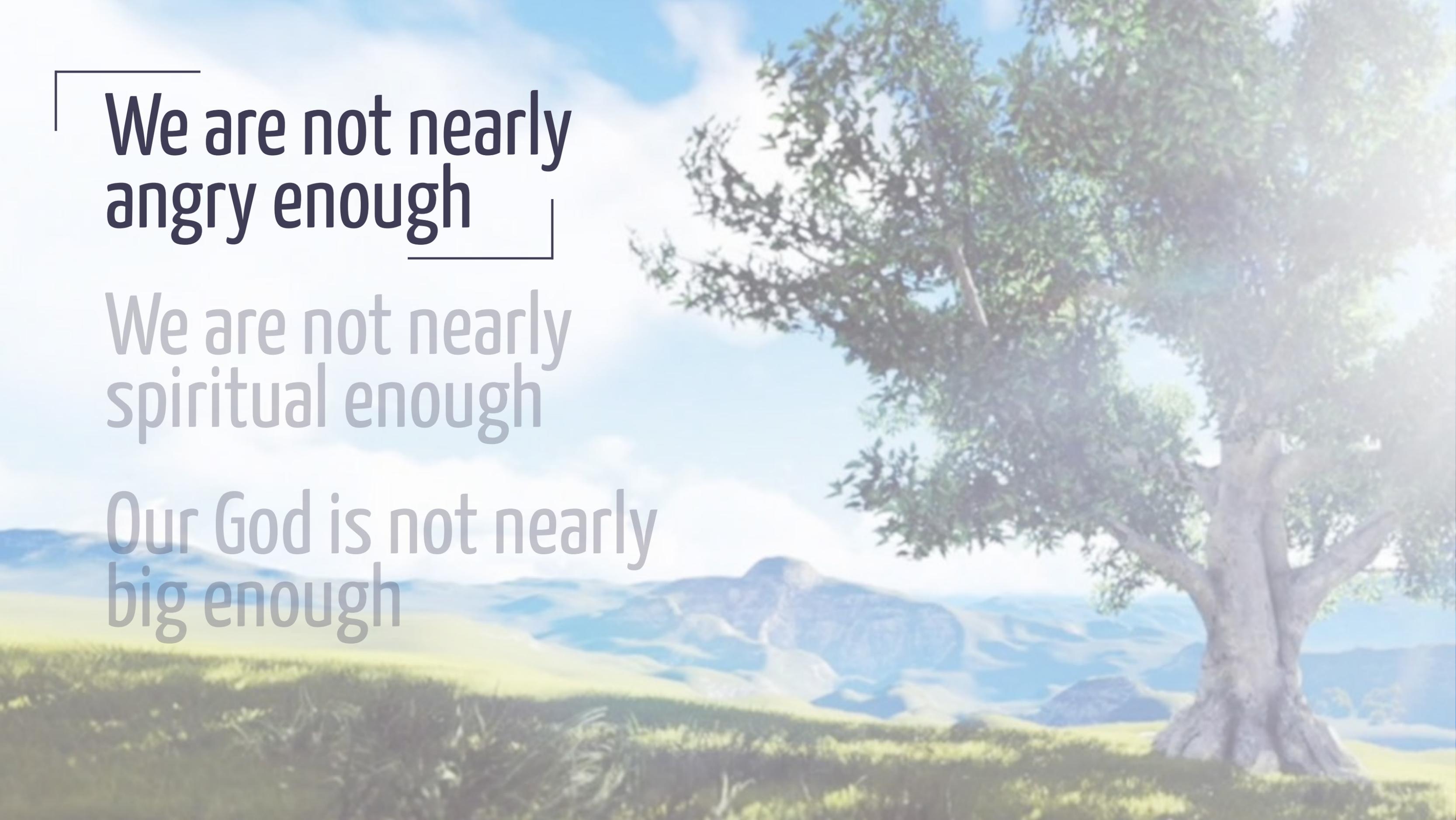
**PSALM 137:1-9**

**We are not nearly  
angry enough**

**We are not nearly  
spiritual enough**

**Our God is not nearly  
big enough**





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"By the rivers of Babylon,  
There we sat down and wept,  
When we remembered Zion."

**PSALM 137:1**

"When I heard these things,  
I sat down and wept."

**NEHEMIAH 1:4**

"By the rivers of Babylon,  
**There we sat down and wept,**  
When we remembered Zion."

"When I heard these things,  
**I sat down and wept.**"

PSALM 137:1 | NEHEMIAH 1:4

Remember, Lord, what the Edomites did  
on the day Jerusalem fell.  
"Tear it down," they cried,  
"tear it down to its foundations!"

**PSALM 137:7**

"How can we sing the songs of the Lord  
while in a foreign land?"

**PSALM 137:4**

# What does Psalm 137 show us?

- ▶ It shows us the emotional authenticity of the Bible.

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**Anger:** the emotional means we use to recover what we have lost.

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A scenic landscape featuring a large, leafy tree on the left side of the frame. The foreground is a lush green field. In the background, there are rolling hills and a range of mountains under a bright, clear sky. The sun is shining brightly, creating a lens flare effect. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image, enclosed in a thin black border.

**Before we act our anger,  
we should pray our anger.**

"Remember, Lord, what the Edomites did  
on the day Jerusalem fell."

**PSALM 137:7**

# To ask God to remember is to ask God to act

- ▶ God "remembered" Noah
- ▶ God "remembered" Rachel
- ▶ God "remembered" his covenant with Abraham

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"Happy is the one who seizes your infants  
and dashes them against the rocks."

**PSALM 137:9**

"At a church service in Munich where I was speaking I saw him. The former SS man who had stood at the so-called shower room door at the processing center at Ravensbrook. With the other guards he had often run his hands over the naked bodies as they walked by and responded callously to requests for help. ...

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... He was the first of our actual jailers that I had ever seen after the war, and suddenly it was all there again: the heaps of clothing, Besty's pained, blanched face, and after the church service he came up to me and said, "How grateful I am for your message, Fraulein! To think, that as you say, He has washed away my sins." His hand was thrust out to ...

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... shake mine, but my hand stayed at my side. Angry, vengeful thoughts boiled through me. I tried to smile, I struggled to raise my hand, but I could not. I silently prayed, "Jesus, I cannot forgive him; give me your forgiveness," and as I took his hand, the most incredible thing happened: from my shoulder, along my arm and through my hand, a current seemed to pass, while into my heart sprang a love for this stranger that almost overwhelmed me."

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