

BIBLE

Prophecy

SUNDAY

"OF ISSACHAR, MEN WHO HAD UNDERSTANDING OF THE TIMES, TO KNOW WHAT ISRAEL OUGHT TO DO, 200 CHIEFS, AND ALL THEIR KINSMEN UNDER THEIR COMMAND."

1 CHRONICLES 12:32 ESV

The Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24-25 is end times teaching by JESUS. Parallel passages are found in Mark 13 & Luke 21.

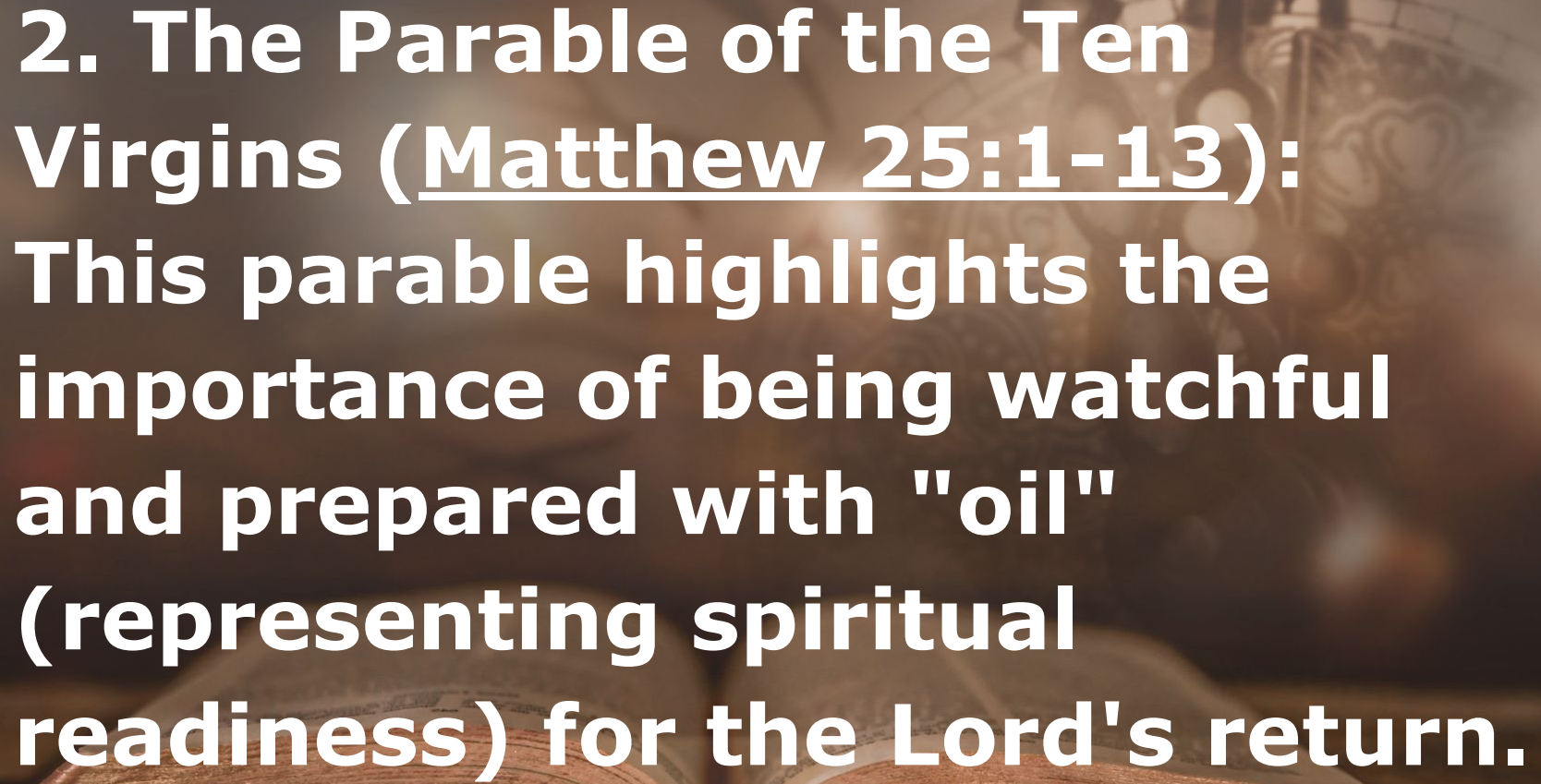
What JESUS said in Matthew 24:

- **Deception - False Christs and Prophets**
- **Lawlessness**
- **Wars and Rumors of Wars**
- **Famines & Pestilences**
- **Earthquakes**

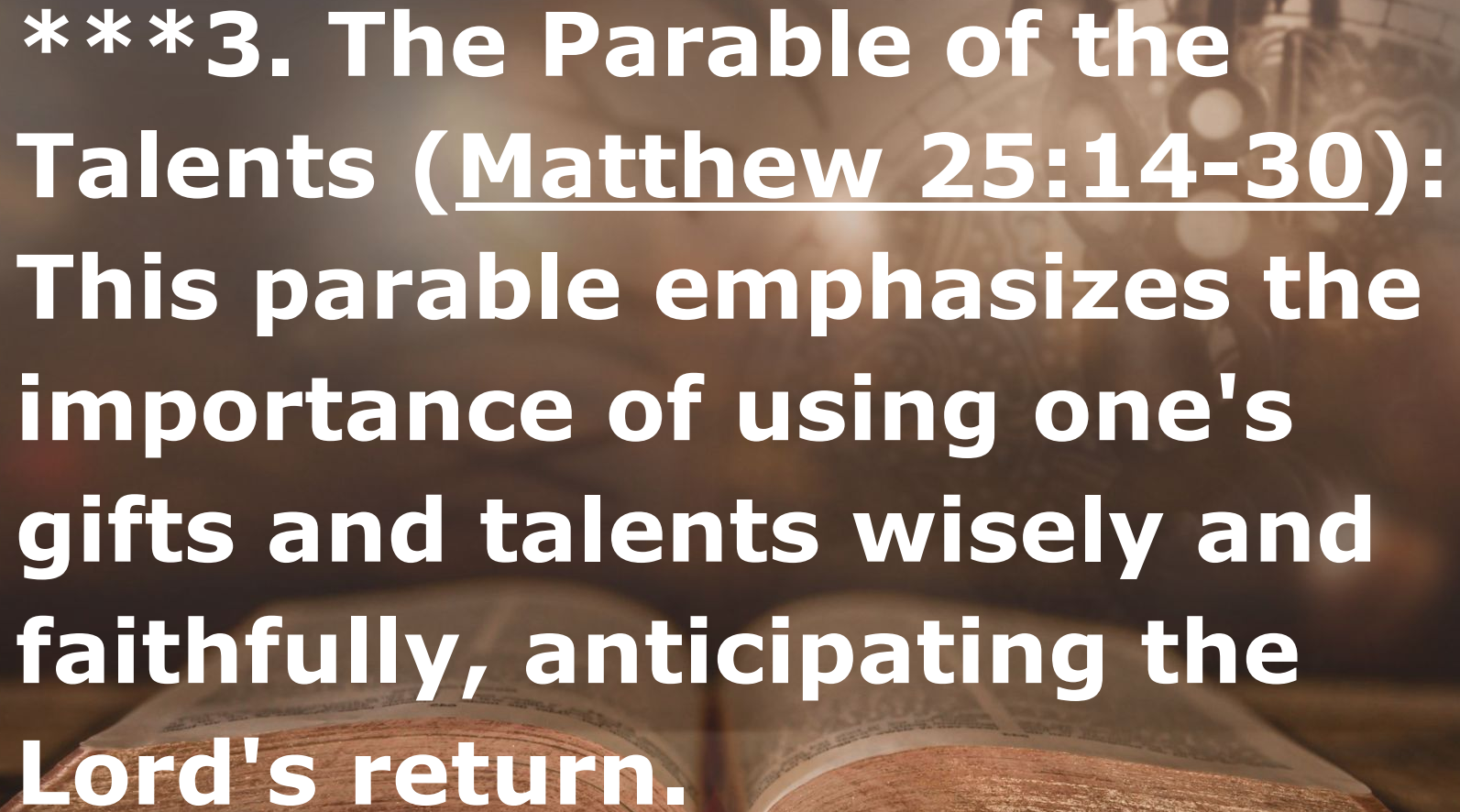
1. The Parable of the Unfaithful Servant (Matthew 24:45-51):

**This parable warns against
being found unprepared and
unfaithful in one's
responsibilities.**

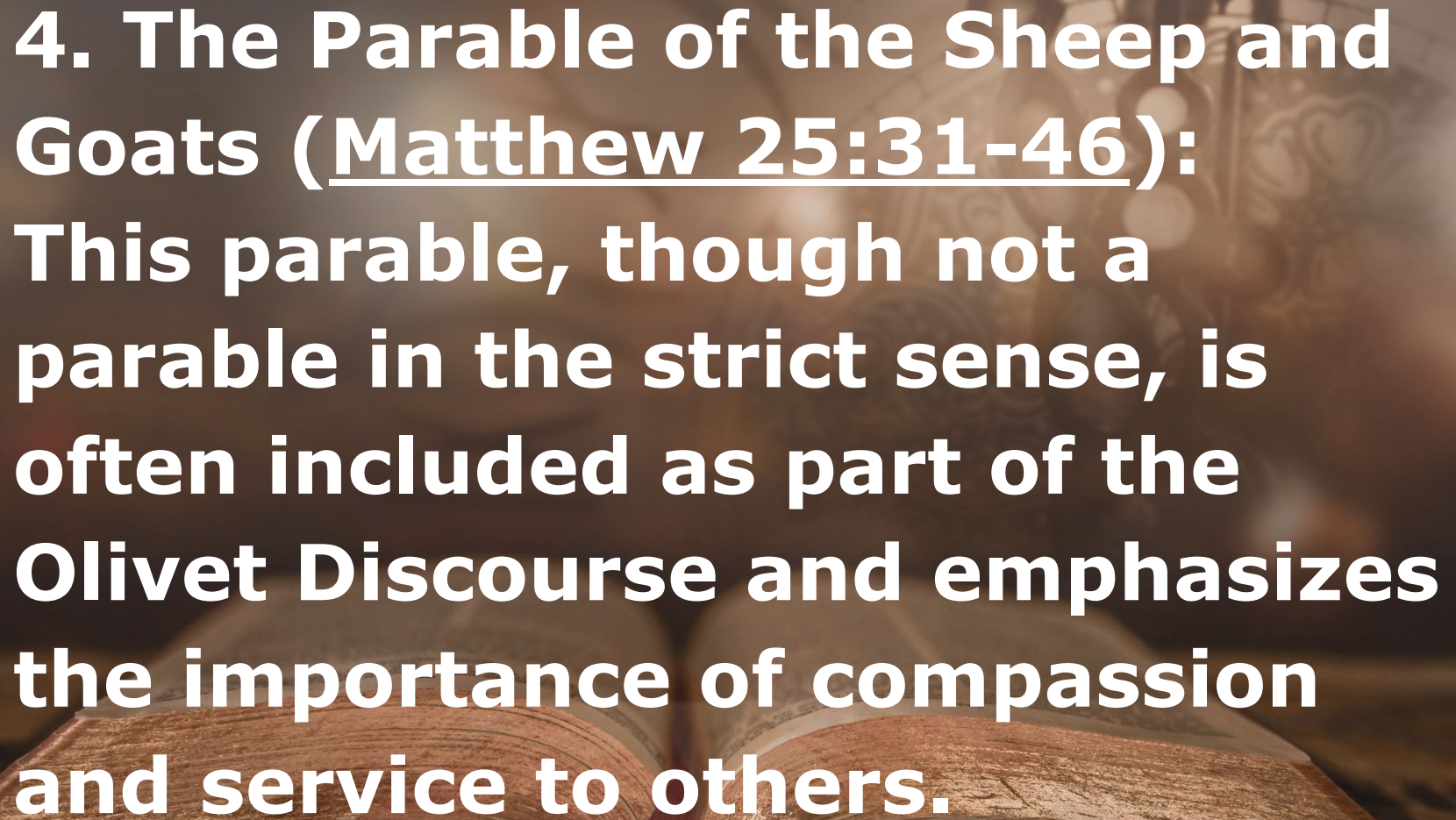




2. The Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13):
This parable highlights the importance of being watchful and prepared with "oil" (representing spiritual readiness) for the Lord's return.



*****3. The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30): This parable emphasizes the importance of using one's gifts and talents wisely and faithfully, anticipating the Lord's return.**



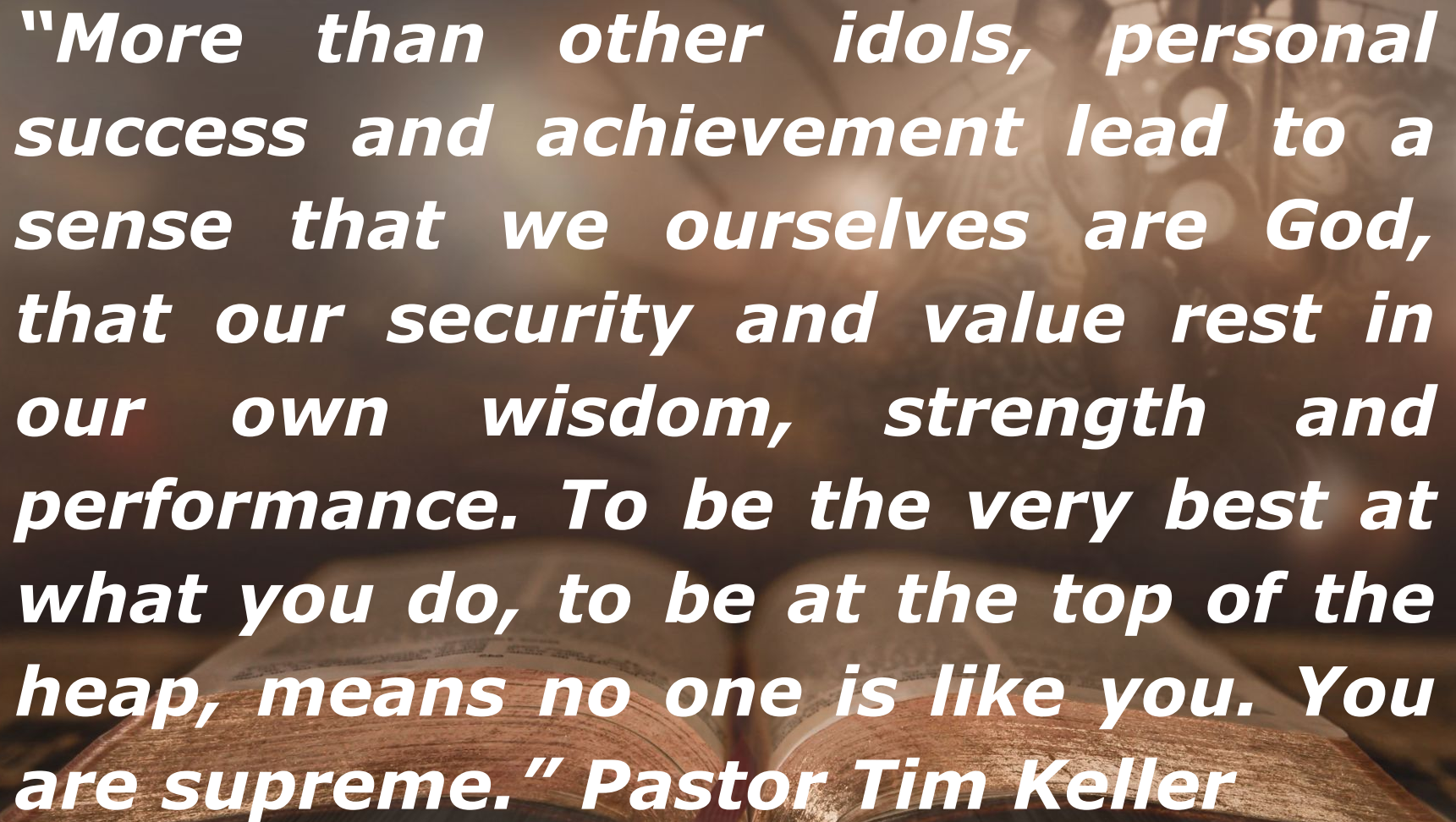
4. The Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-46):
This parable, though not a parable in the strict sense, is often included as part of the Olivet Discourse and emphasizes the importance of compassion and service to others.

2 Western Culture Lies about Success:

- 1. If you work hard enough, you can be anything that you want to be.**
- 2. You can be the best in the world.**

The Parable of the Talents teaches us 5 important things about the Biblical meaning of success while dispelling the 2 great cultural lies.

***Quote from book, Counterfeit Gods. (Next Slide)**

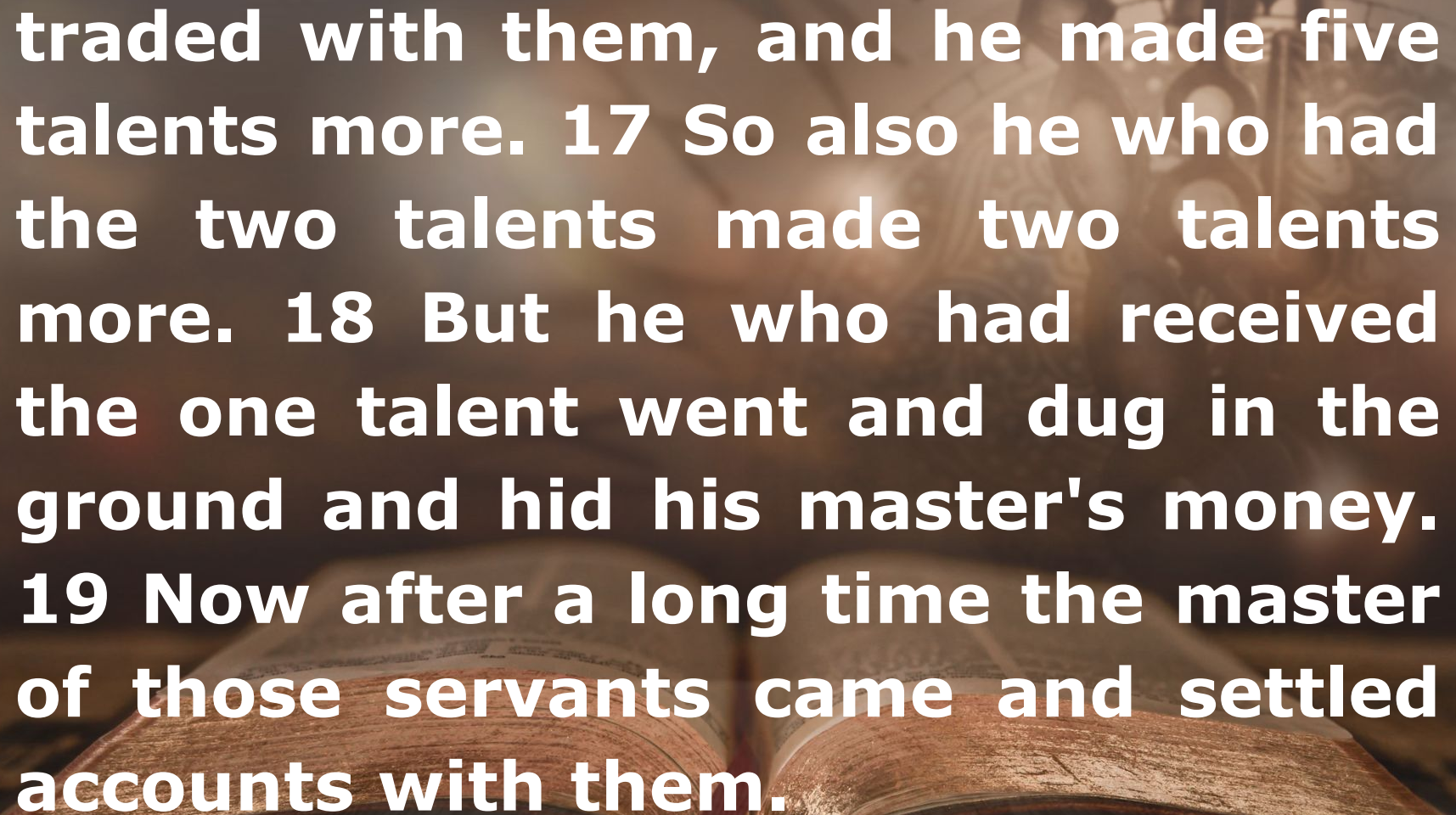
An open book with a mechanical gear background. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, italicized font.

"More than other idols, personal success and achievement lead to a sense that we ourselves are God, that our security and value rest in our own wisdom, strength and performance. To be the very best at what you do, to be at the top of the heap, means no one is like you. You are supreme." Pastor Tim Keller

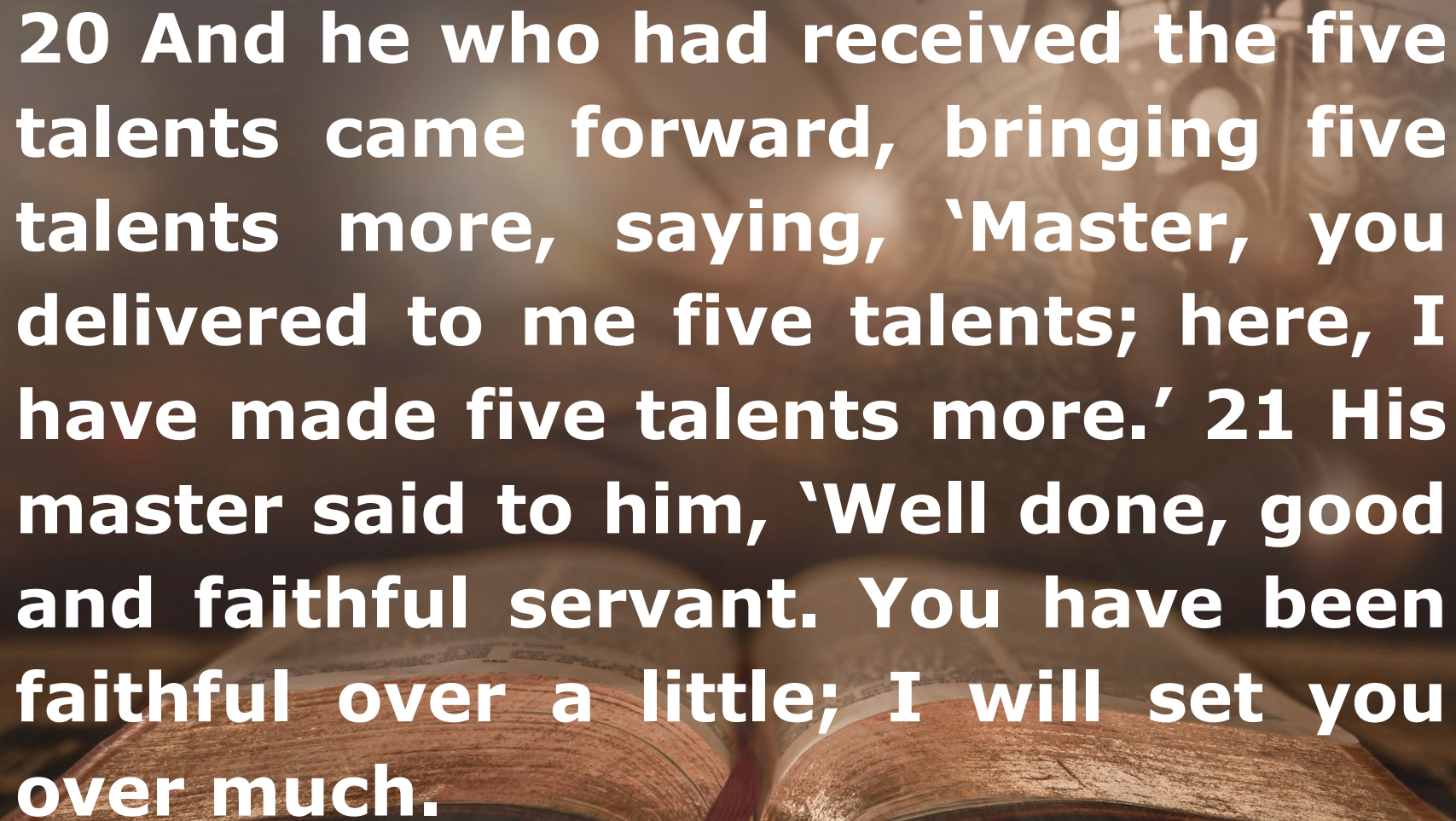
Matthew 25:14-30 ESV

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

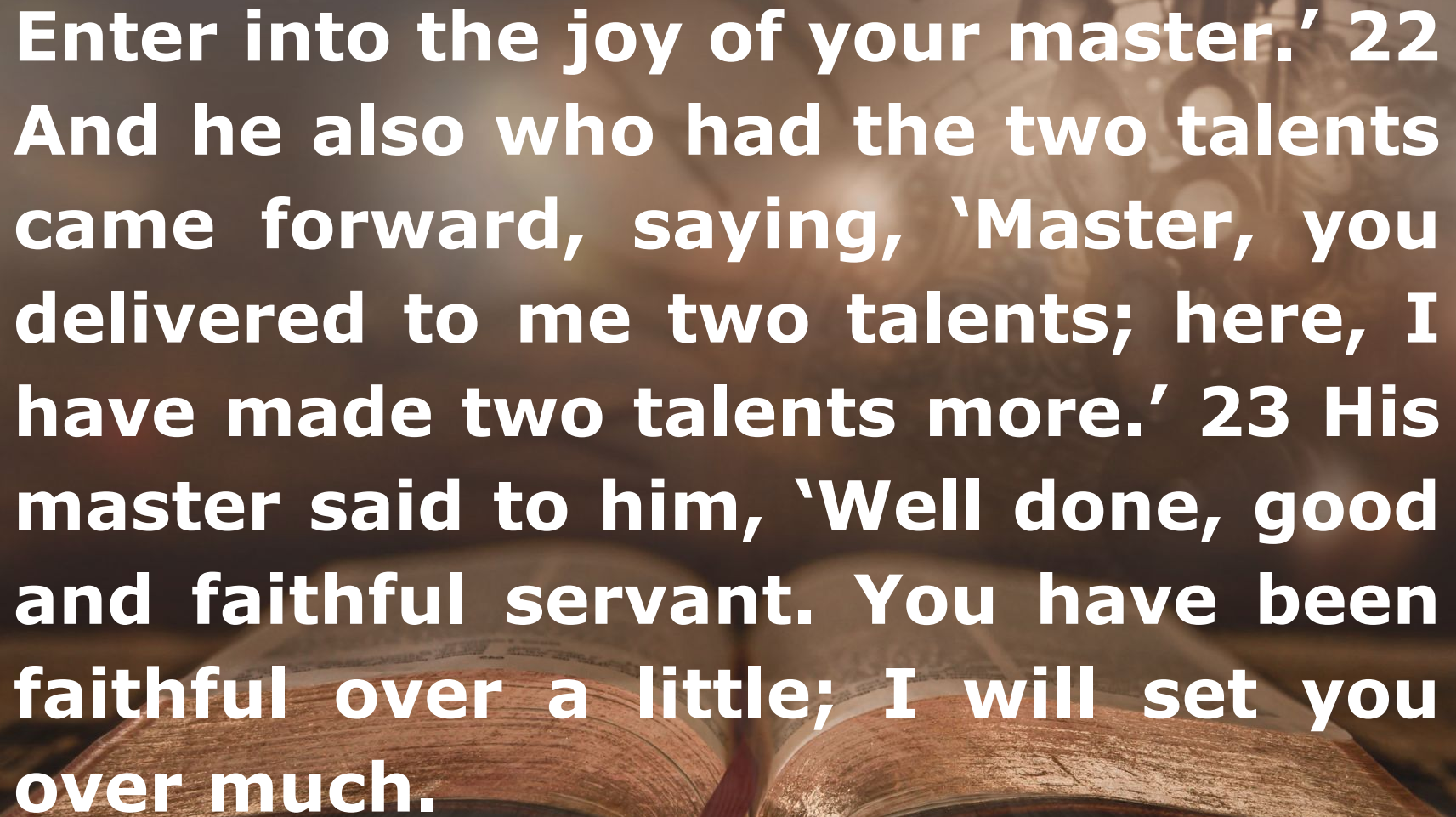
15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and

An open book with a dark cover and aged, yellowed pages is positioned at the bottom of the frame. The background is a dark, sepia-toned image of intricate mechanical gears and machinery, creating a sense of industry and time. The text is overlaid in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

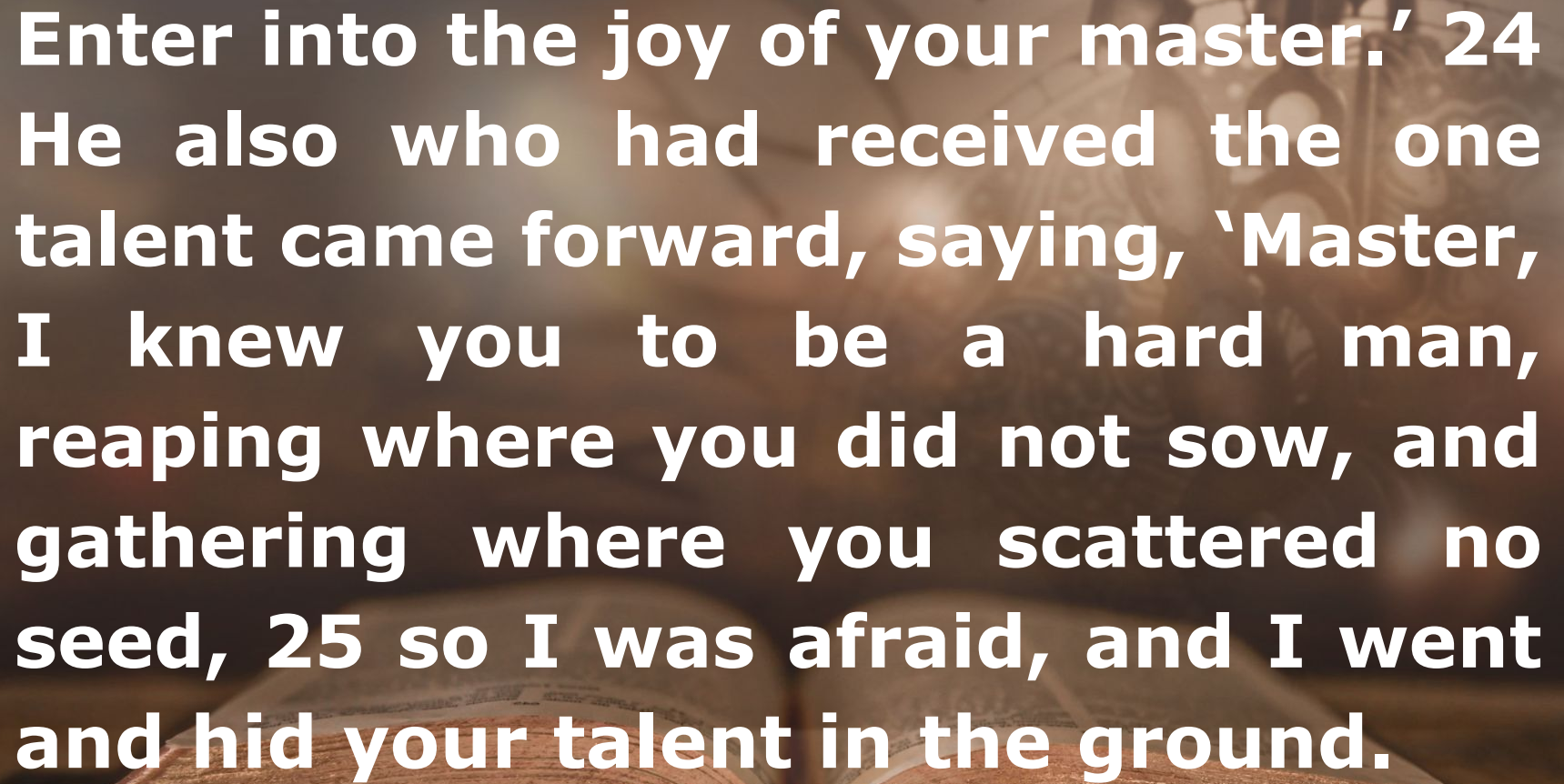
traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.



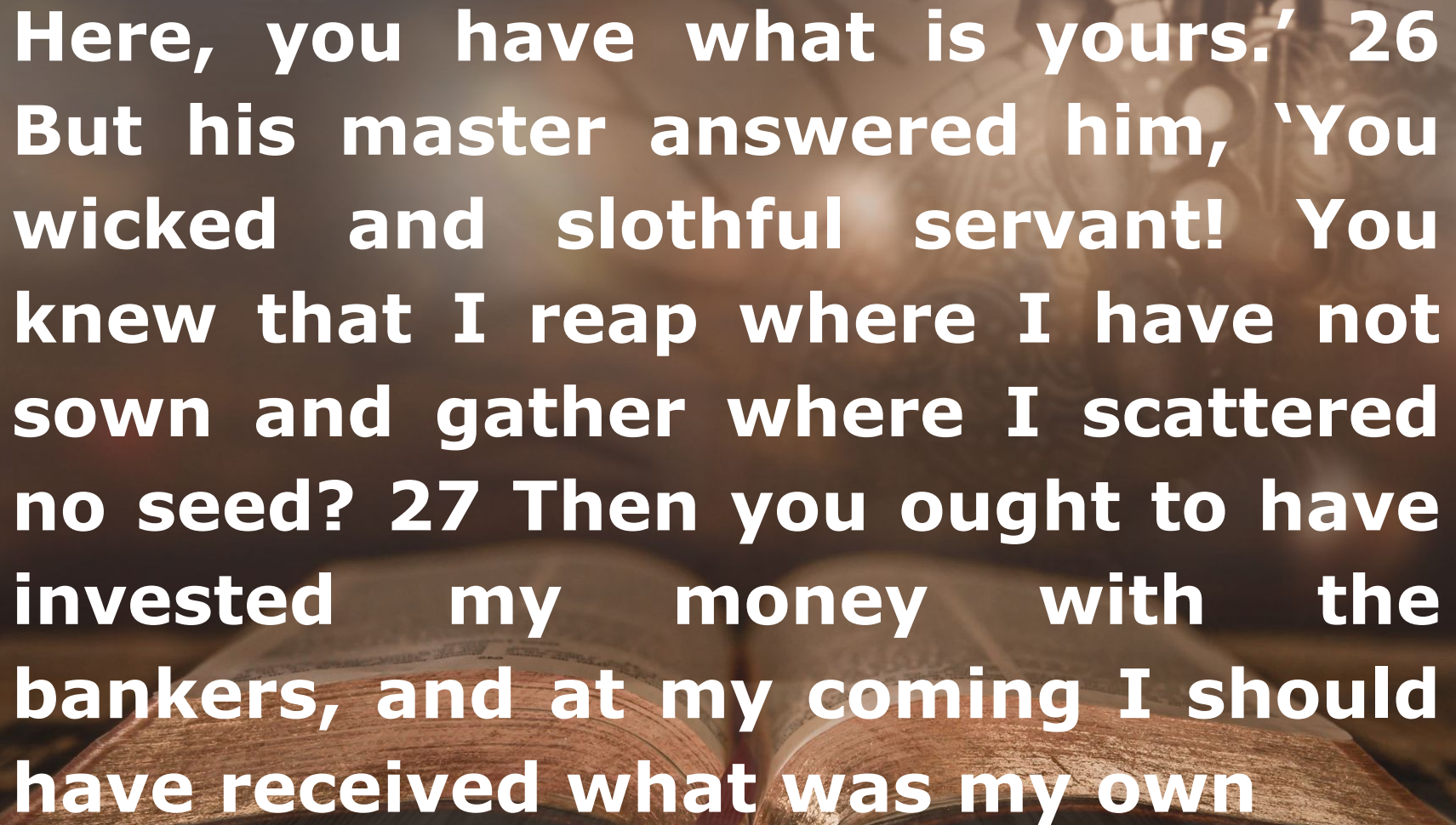
20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.



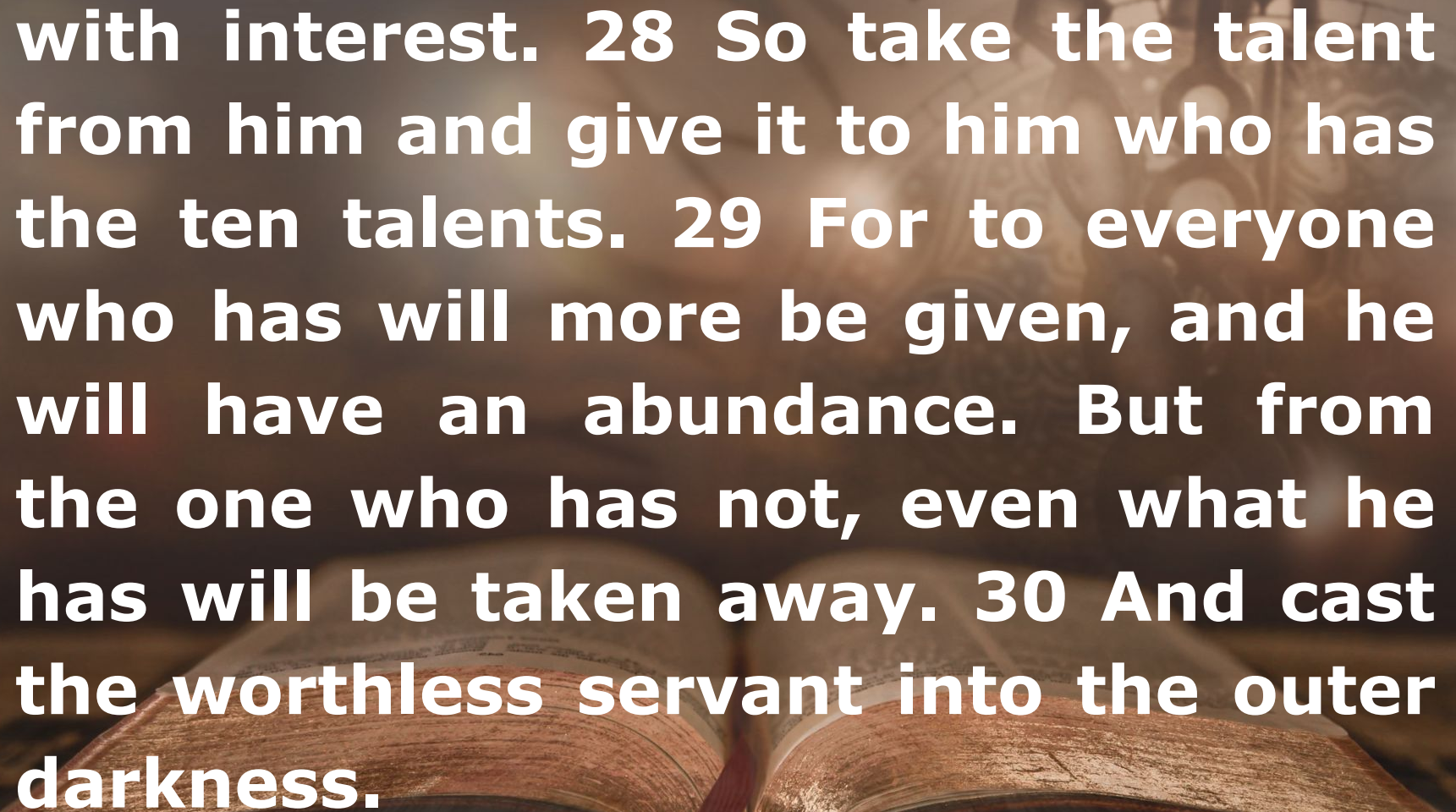
**Enter into the joy of your master.' 22
And he also who had the two talents
came forward, saying, 'Master, you
delivered to me two talents; here, I
have made two talents more.' 23 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good
and faithful servant. You have been
faithful over a little; I will set you
over much.**

An open book with aged, yellowed pages is shown from a top-down perspective. The book is open to two pages, and the text is overlaid on the image. In the background, a large, intricate mechanical gear system is visible, rendered in a dark, semi-transparent style. The overall lighting is warm and slightly dim, creating a sense of depth and focus on the text.

**Enter into the joy of your master.' 24
He also who had received the one
talent came forward, saying, 'Master,
I knew you to be a hard man,
reaping where you did not sow, and
gathering where you scattered no
seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went
and hid your talent in the ground.**

An open book with a mechanical gear overlay. The text is overlaid on the book's pages.

**Here, you have what is yours.' 26
But his master answered him, 'You
wicked and slothful servant! You
knew that I reap where I have not
sown and gather where I scattered
no seed? 27 Then you ought to have
invested my money with the
bankers, and at my coming I should
have received what was my own**



with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness.

**In that place there will be weeping
and gnashing of teeth.””**



**1. SUCCESS IS A PRODUCT OF
OUR WORK.**



Genesis - God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. We were made to work.

**Talents - spiritual gifts from God, abilities that God has given to you.
(Romans 12:6-8)**

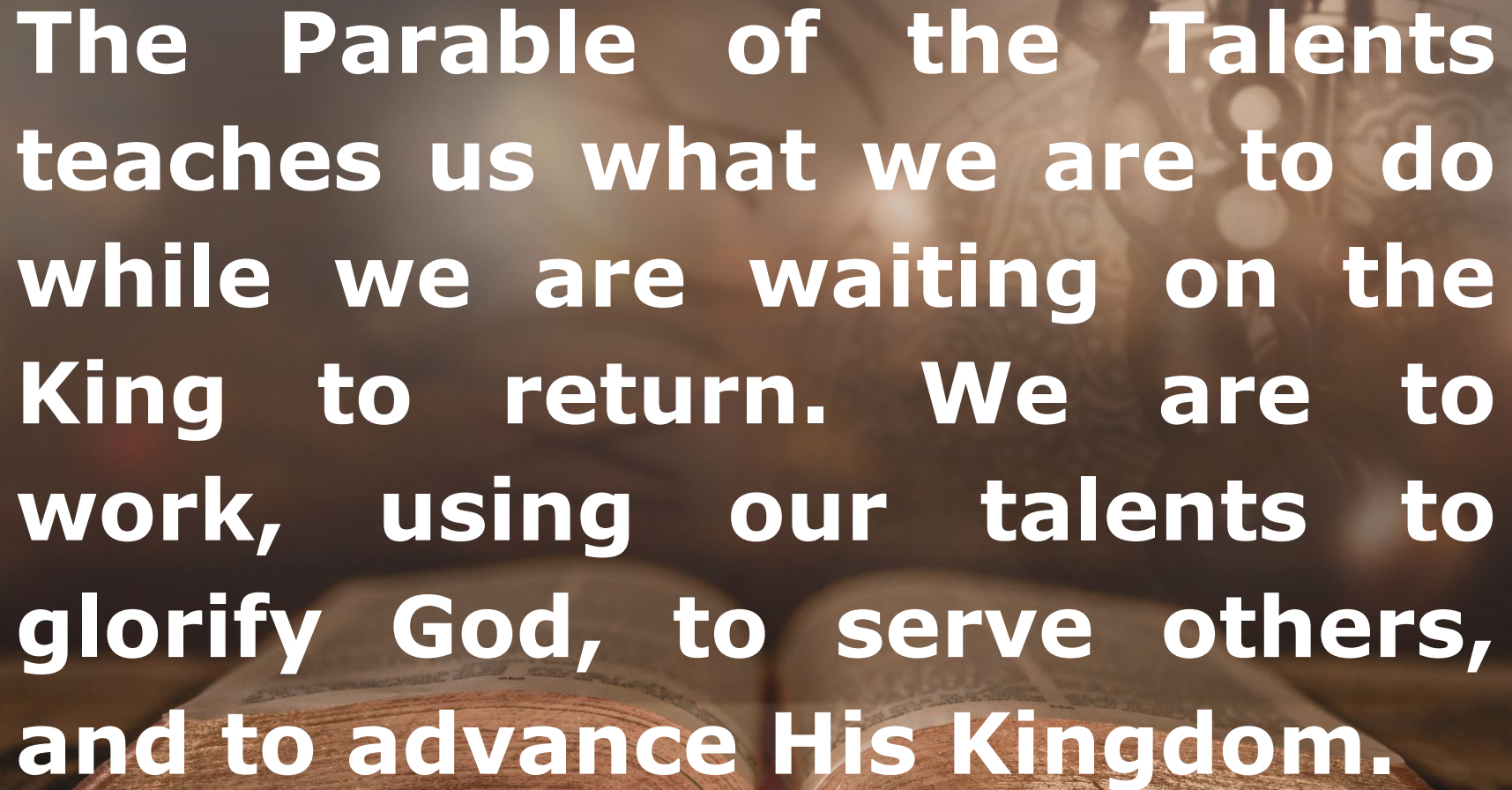
Salvation - “Bus ticket to Heaven.” It doesn’t matter what we do while we wait for the bus.

IT DOES MATTER!!!

Luke 19:13 ESV

**“Engage in business until I
come.” *JESUS***





The Parable of the Talents teaches us what we are to do while we are waiting on the King to return. We are to work, using our talents to glorify God, to serve others, and to advance His Kingdom.

**2. GOD ALWAYS GIVES US
EVERYTHING WE NEED TO DO
WHAT HE HAS CALLED US TO
DO.**



The servant who received 5 talents had everything necessary to produce 5 more; the servant who received 2 had everything necessary to produce 2 more; and the servant who received 1 had everything necessary to produce 1 more.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

**“For we are His workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for
good works, which God
prepared beforehand, that we
should walk in them.”**



**3. WE ARE NOT ALL CREATED
EQUAL.**



Matthew 25:15 ESV

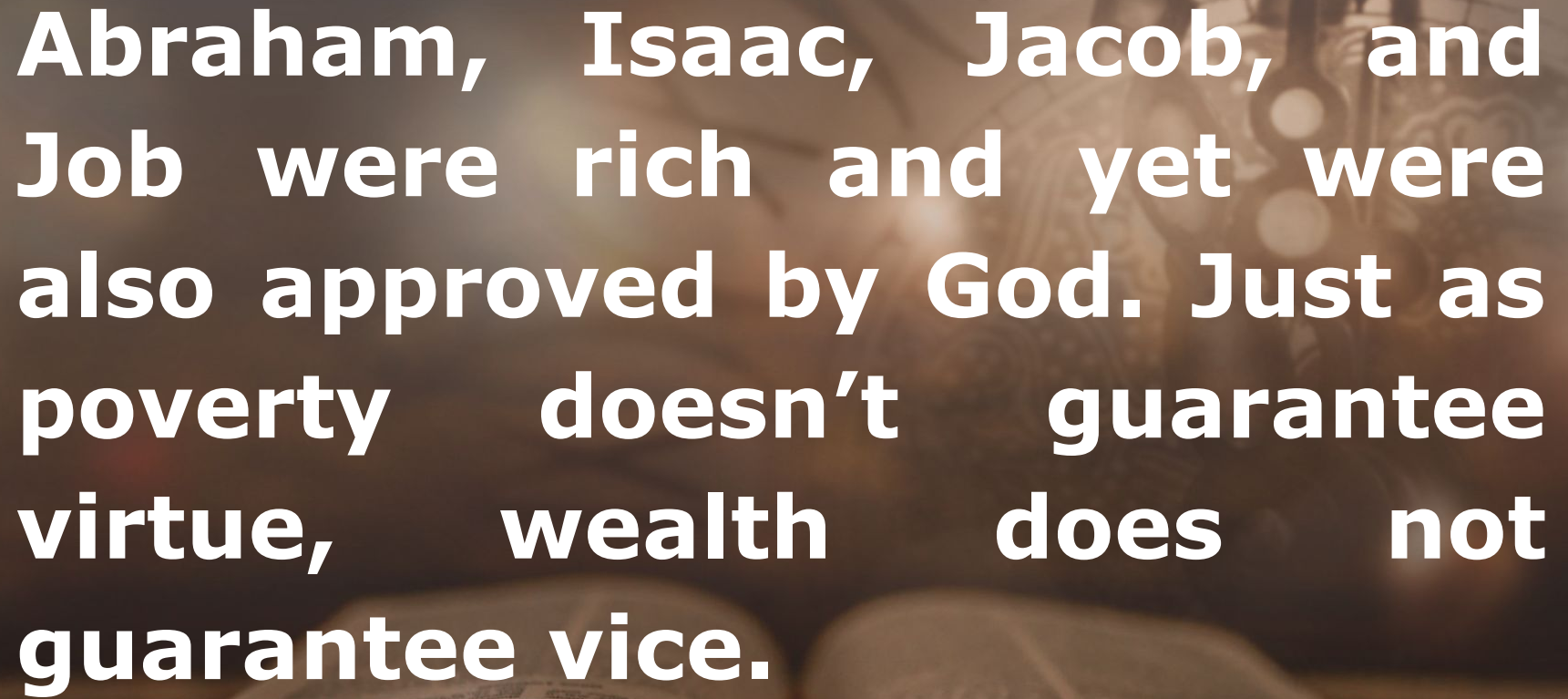
“To one he gave five talents,
to another two, to another
one, to each according to his
ability. Then he went away.”

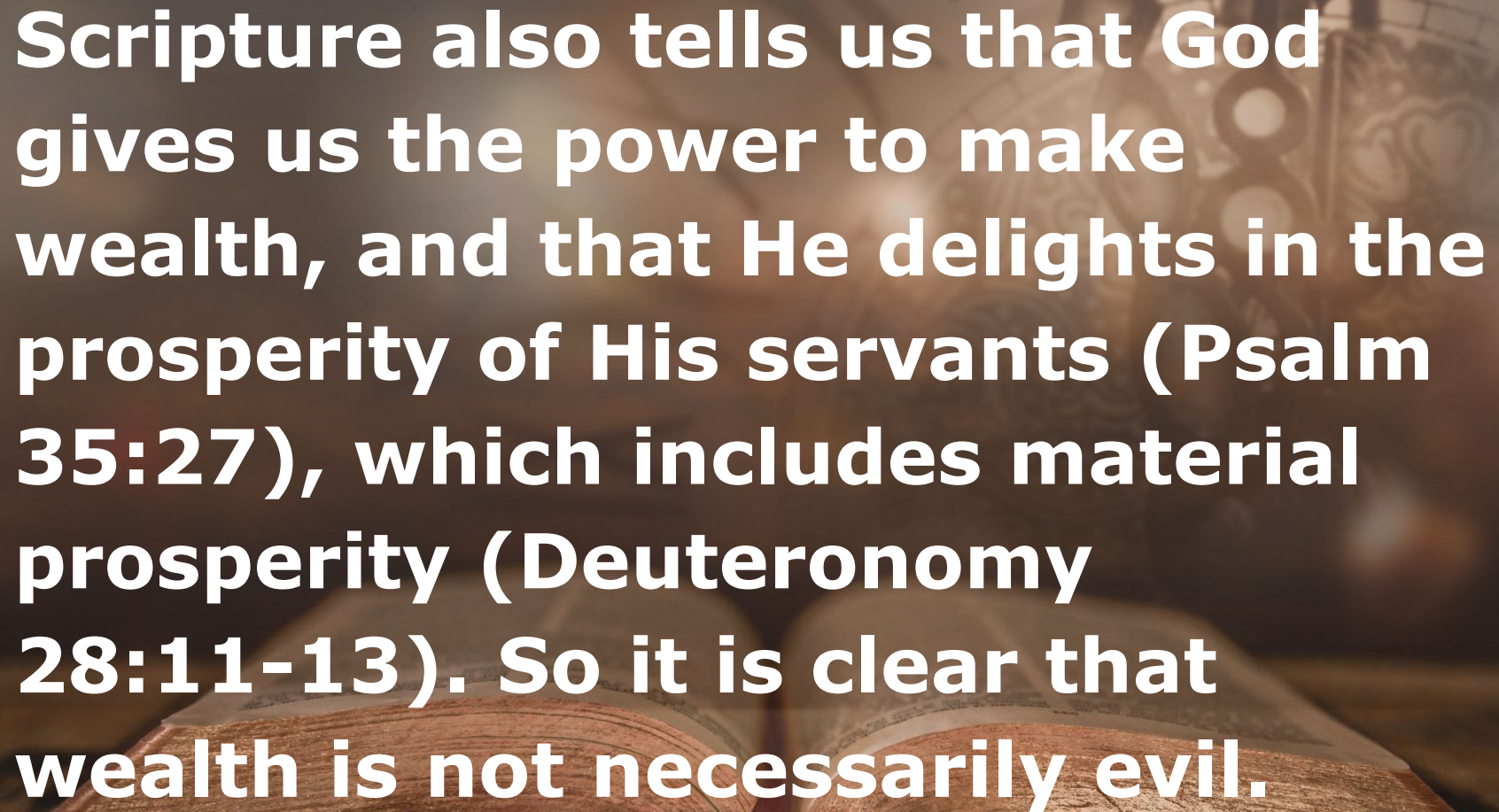


Diversity is woven into the very fabric of creation!

God's Economy: There is equality in the amount produced, not what is given. It took just as much work for the 5 to produce 5, and the 2 to produce to 2. The reward given is the same. The Lord measures success by degree of effort, as should we!

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Job were rich and yet were also approved by God. Just as poverty doesn't guarantee virtue, wealth does not guarantee vice.





Scripture also tells us that God gives us the power to make wealth, and that He delights in the prosperity of His servants (Psalm 35:27), which includes material prosperity (Deuteronomy 28:11-13). So it is clear that wealth is not necessarily evil.

1 Timothy 6:10 ESV

“ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”

“A Christian should earn all they can, give all they can, and save all they can.” Pastor John Wesley



**4. WE WORK FOR THE
MASTER, NOT OUR OWN
SELFISH PURPOSES.**



Colossians 3:23-24 ESV

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”

1 Peter 4:10 ESV

**“As each has received a gift,
use it to serve one another, as
good stewards of God's varied
grace.”**



“Chariots of Fire” depicts Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian, preparing to run in the 1924 Olympics. Liddell’s athletic success has made him a celebrity. His sister believes that Eric’s popularity has caused him to forget his promise to return to China as a missionary.

Liddell assures her that he will return to China, but first he must run in the Olympic Games. He believes that God made him for a purpose, but God also made him fast. When he runs, Liddell says, he feels God's pleasure. He goes on to say, *"To give that up would be to hold Him in contempt. To win is to honor Him."*

**5. WE WILL BE HELD
ACCOUNTABLE.**



1 Corinthians 3:11-13 ESV

11 “For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—

13 each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done."



1 Timothy 5:8 ESV

“But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

Proverbs 10:4 ESV

**“A slack hand causes poverty,
but the hand of the diligent
makes rich.”**



The Lord also looks at the motives of the heart.

Are you working to make yourself look good, or are you working to glorify God?

The background features an open book with aged, yellowed pages, resting on a dark surface. Overlaid on the top half of the image is a faint, semi-transparent clock face with intricate gears and hands, suggesting a theme of time or mechanics. The overall lighting is warm and slightly dim, creating a contemplative atmosphere.

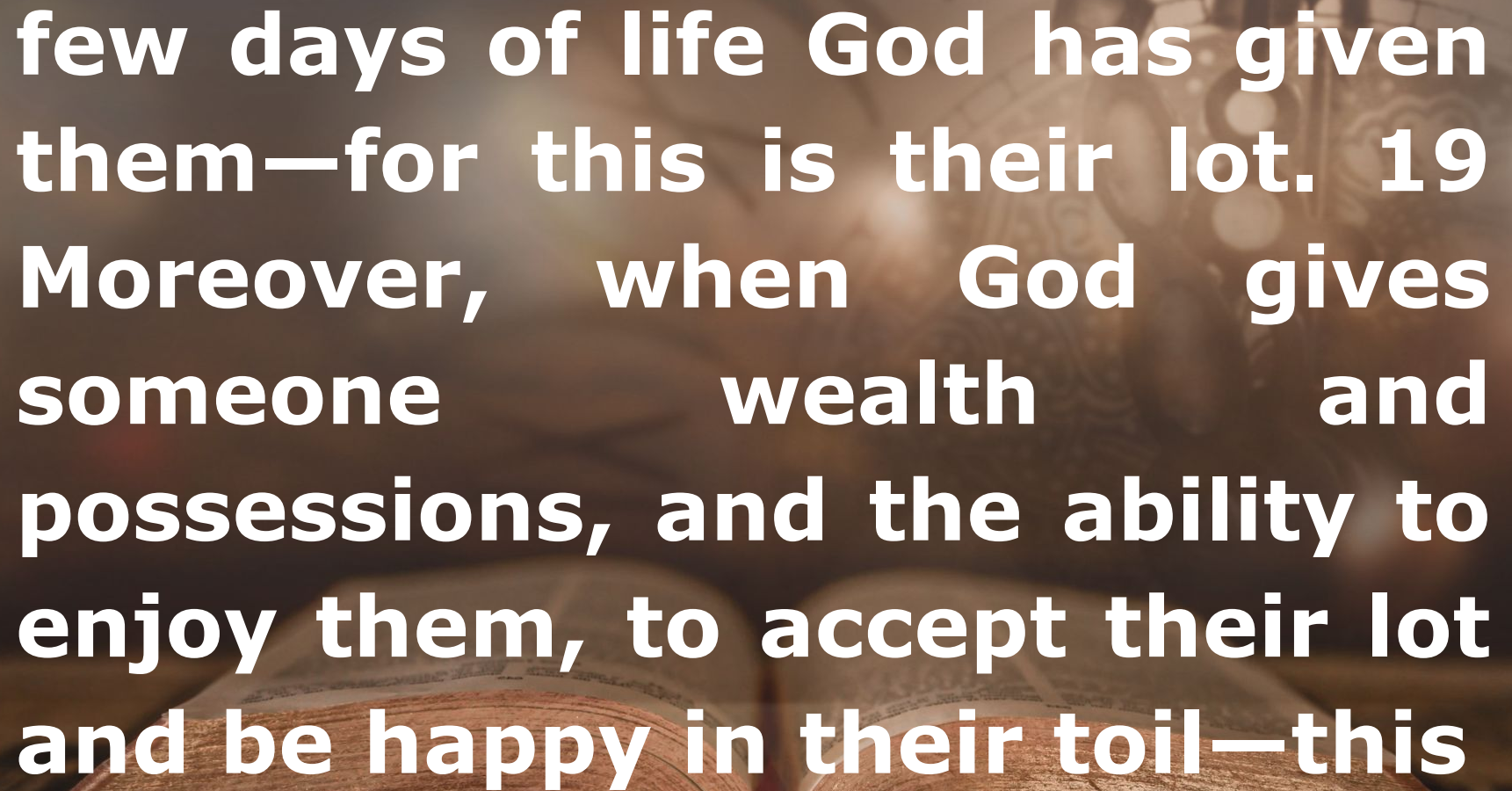
James 2:26 ESV

“For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.”

***The Parable of the 10 Virgins and the Talents.**

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 NIV

18 "This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the

An open book with aged, yellowed pages is shown from a top-down perspective. The book is open to two pages, and the text is overlaid on the image. The background is a warm, golden-brown color with a subtle pattern of faint, repeating circular motifs, possibly representing a decorative border or a background texture. The text is in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered on the page.

**few days of life God has given
them—for this is their lot. 19
Moreover, when God gives
someone wealth and
possessions, and the ability to
enjoy them, to accept their lot
and be happy in their toil—this**

is a gift of God. 20 They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart."



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