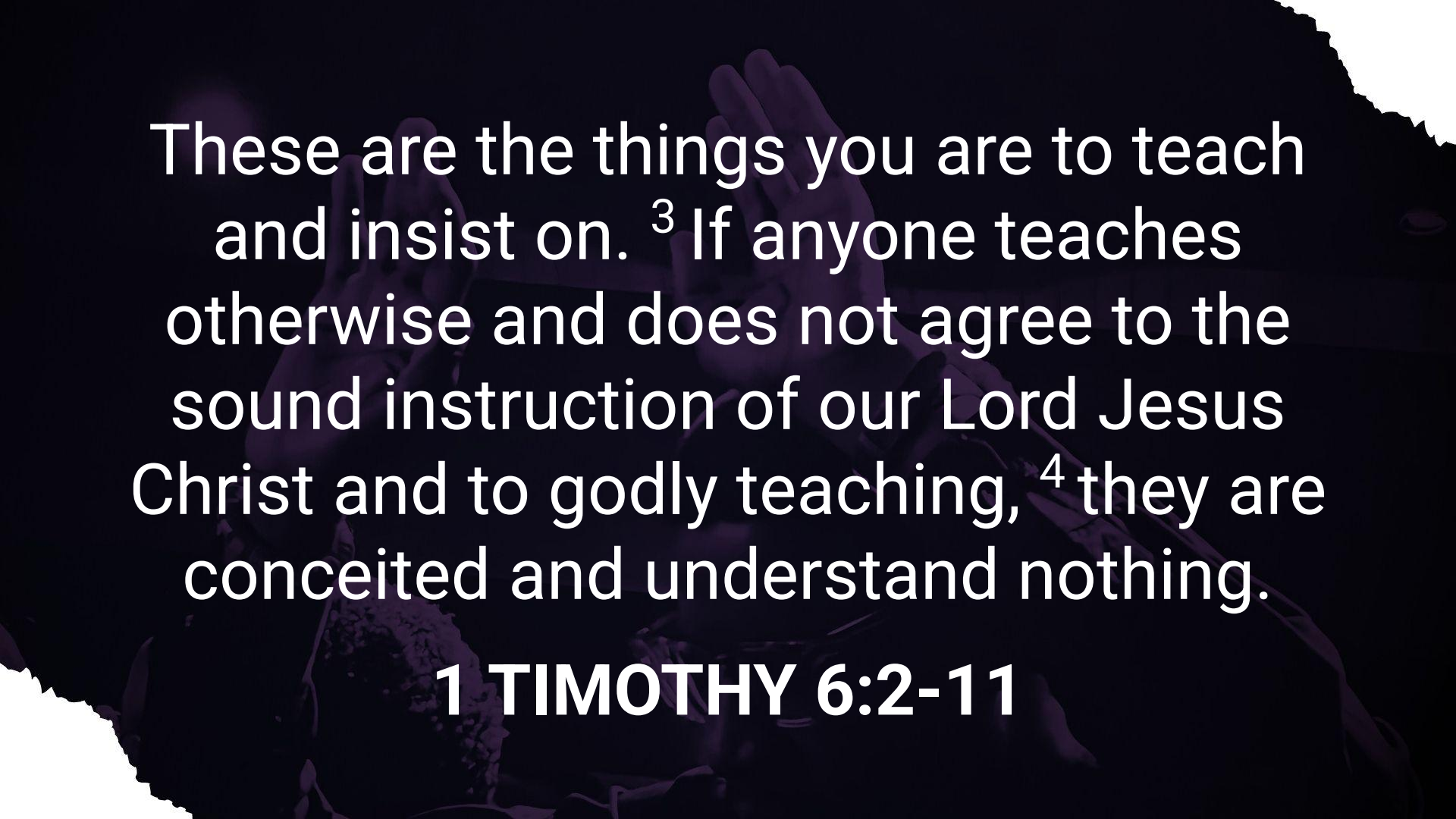




# THE PURSUIT

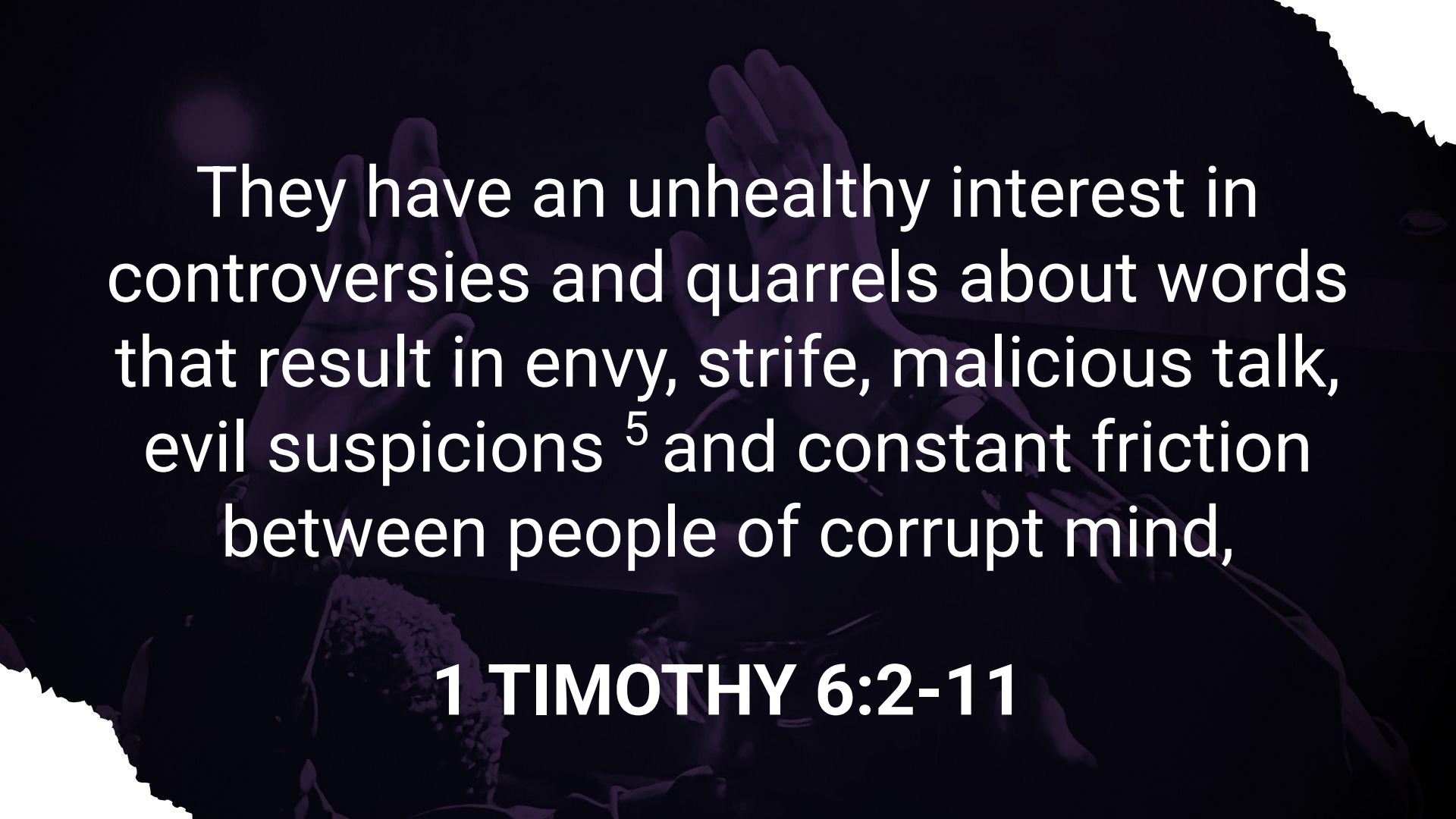
A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The person is wearing a crown made of small, light-colored flowers. The background is dark and indistinct. The word "GODLINESS" is superimposed in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

**GODLINESS**



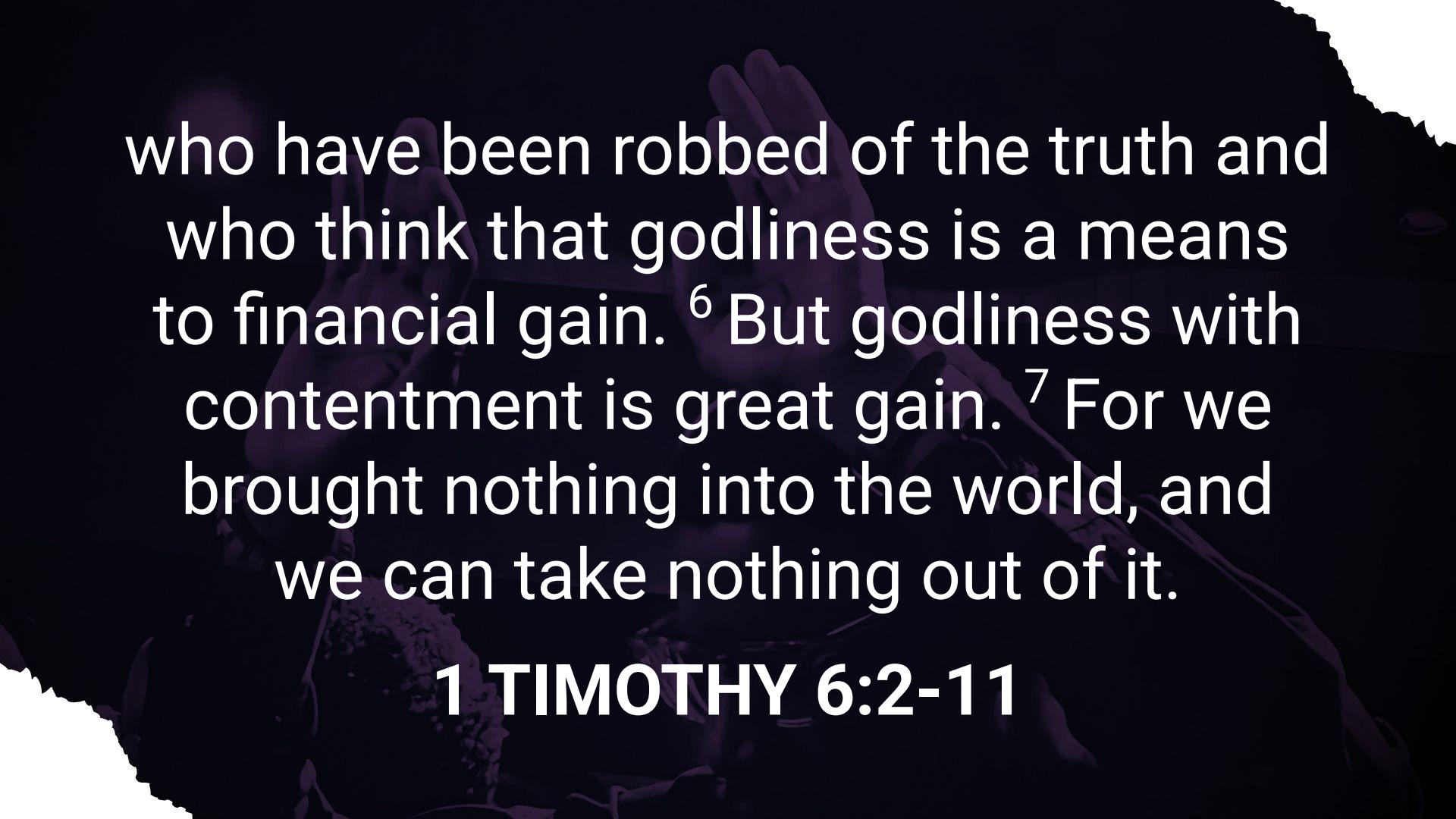
These are the things you are to teach  
and insist on. <sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches  
otherwise and does not agree to the  
sound instruction of our Lord Jesus  
Christ and to godly teaching, <sup>4</sup> they are  
conceited and understand nothing.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**



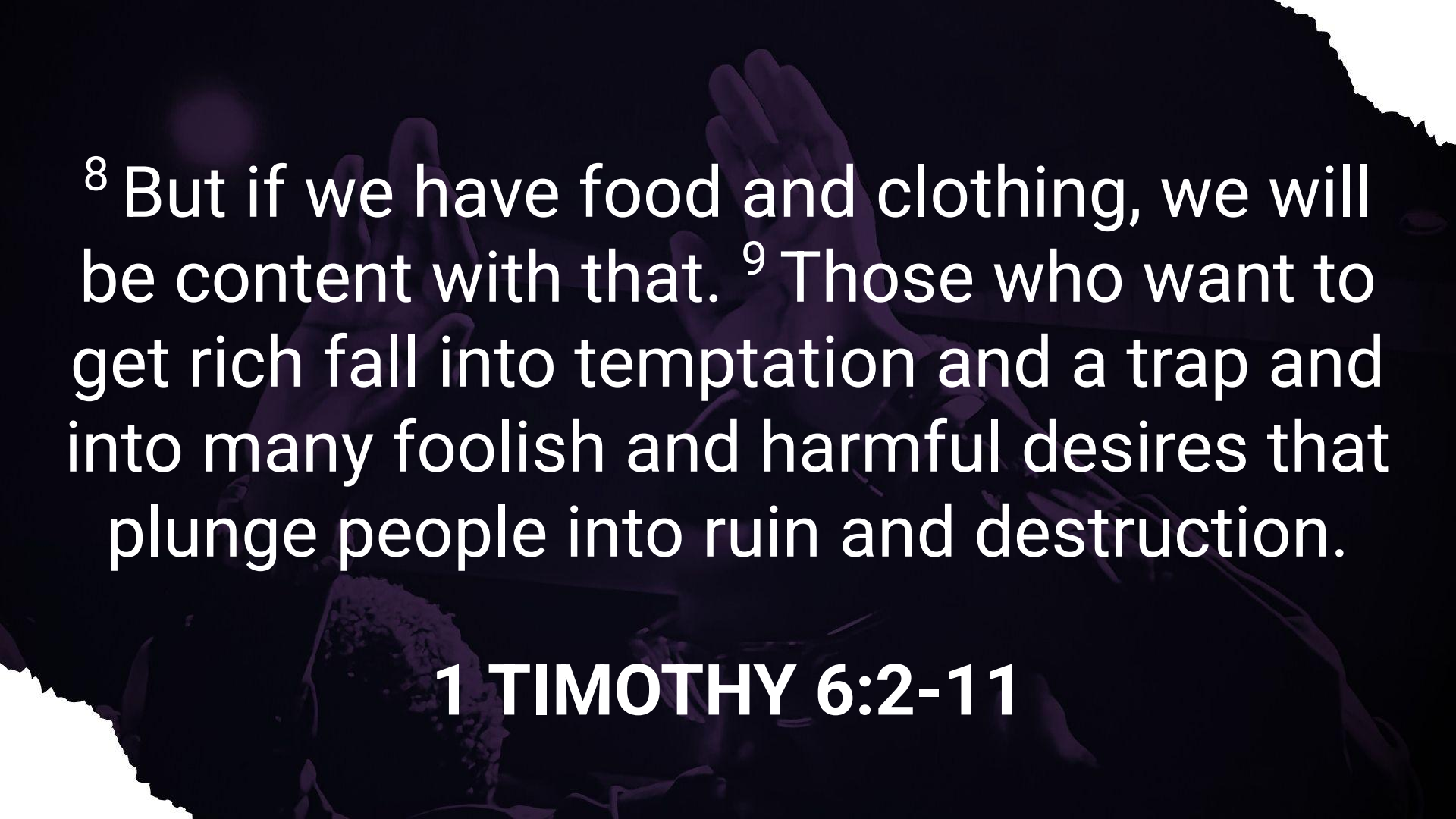
They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions <sup>5</sup> and constant friction between people of corrupt mind,

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**



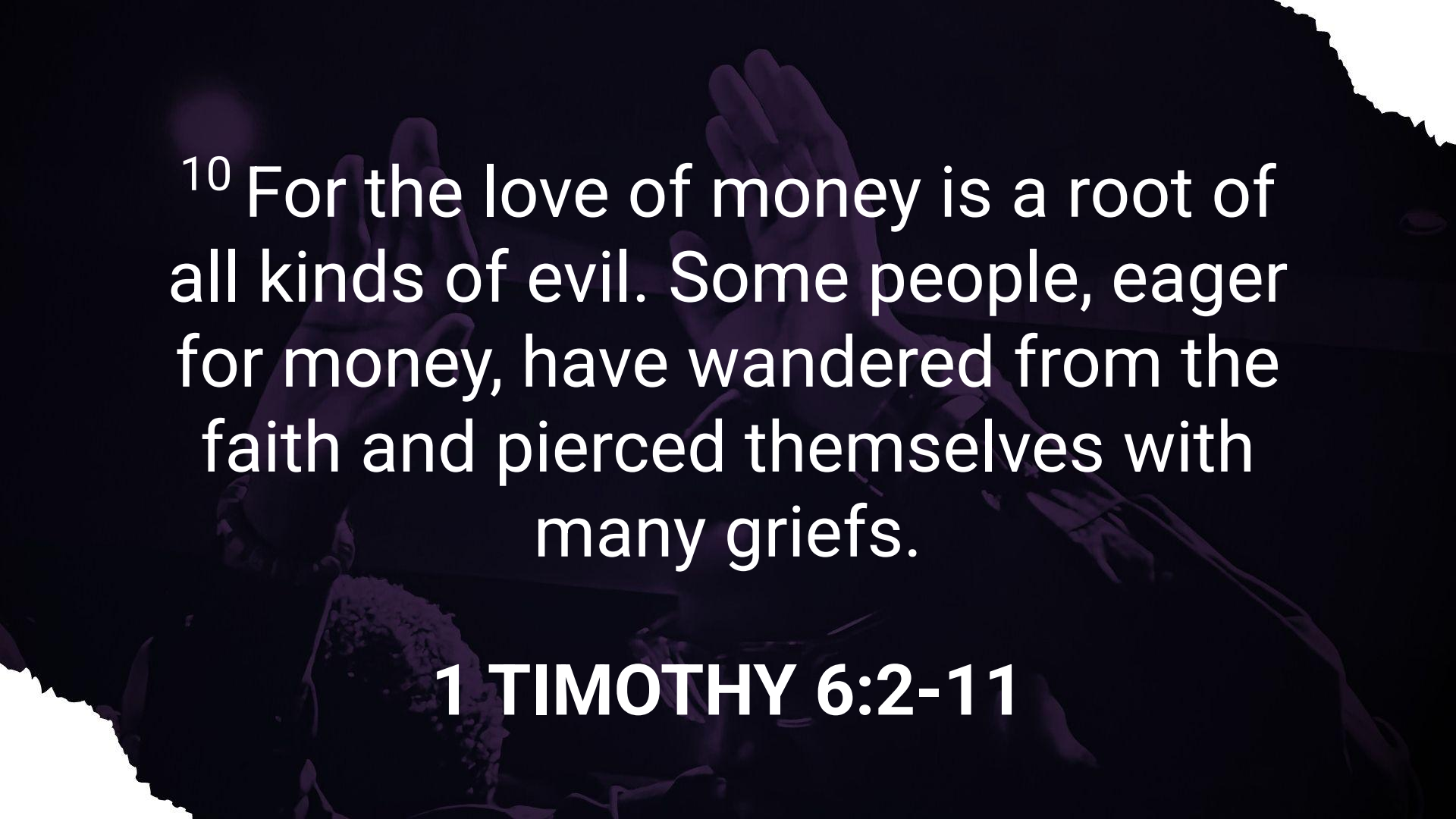
who have been robbed of the truth and  
who think that godliness is a means  
to financial gain. <sup>6</sup> But godliness with  
contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we  
brought nothing into the world, and  
we can take nothing out of it.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**



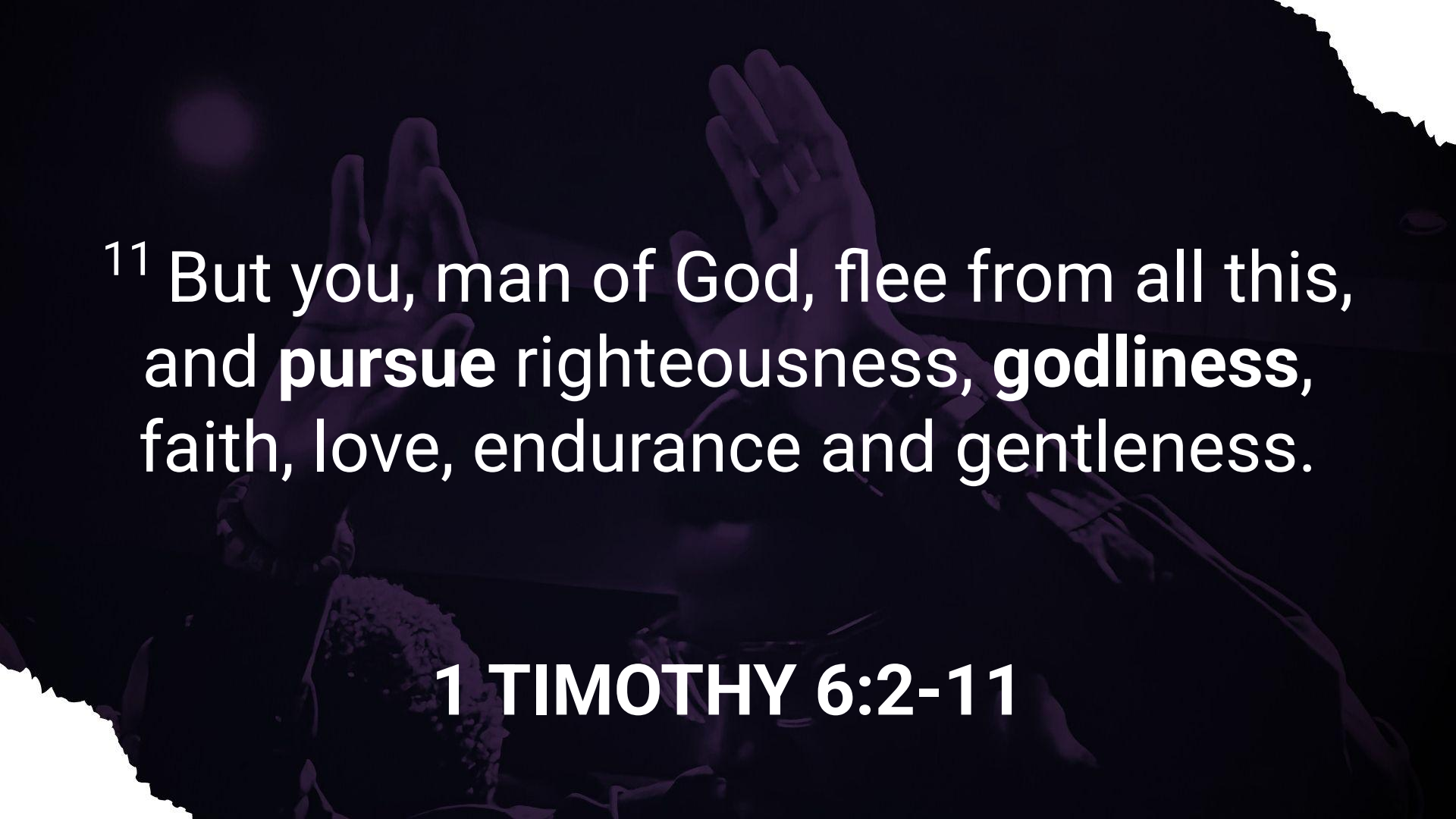
<sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or supplication. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The lighting is soft, highlighting the person's hands and the texture of the robe.

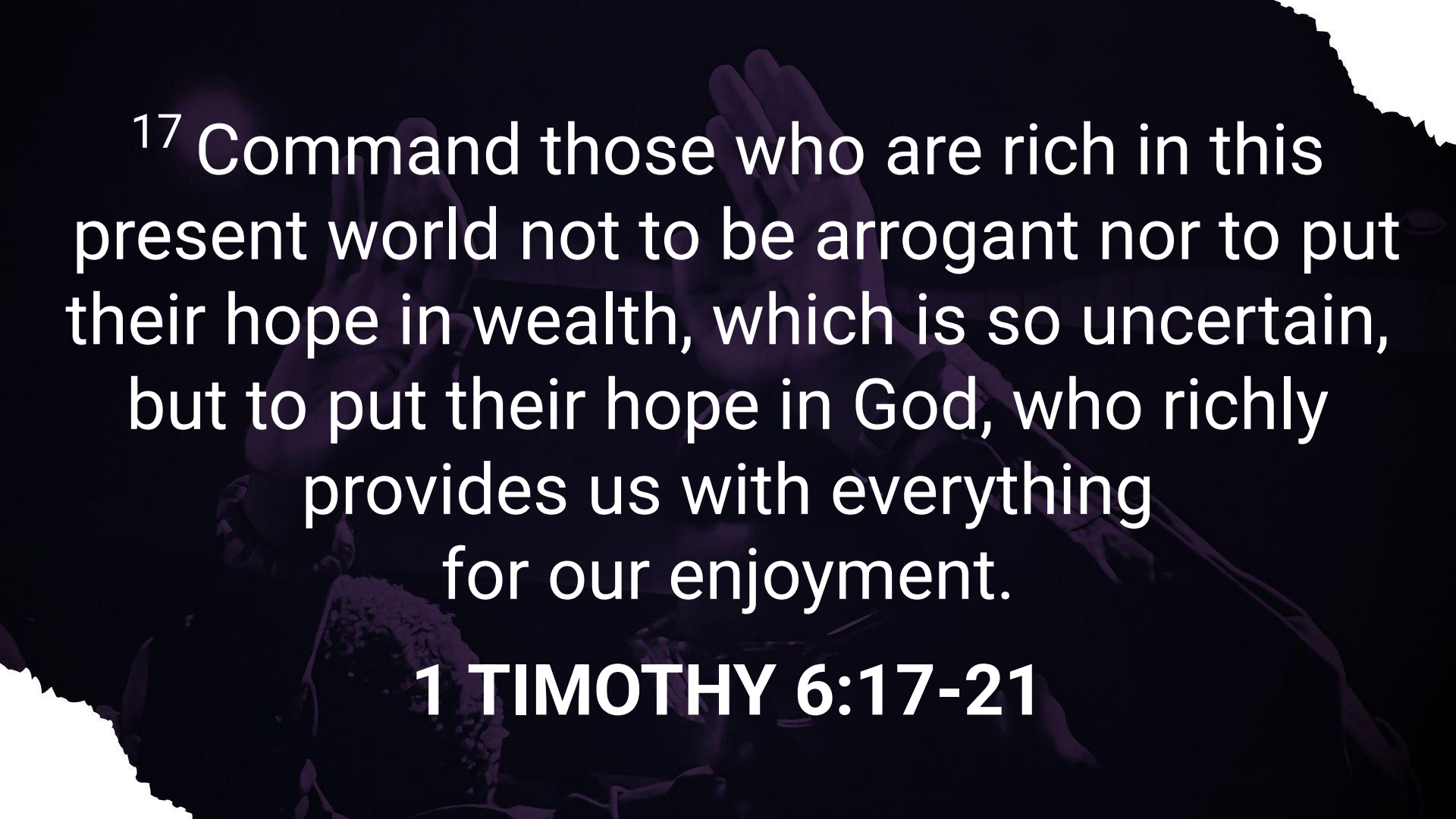
<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**



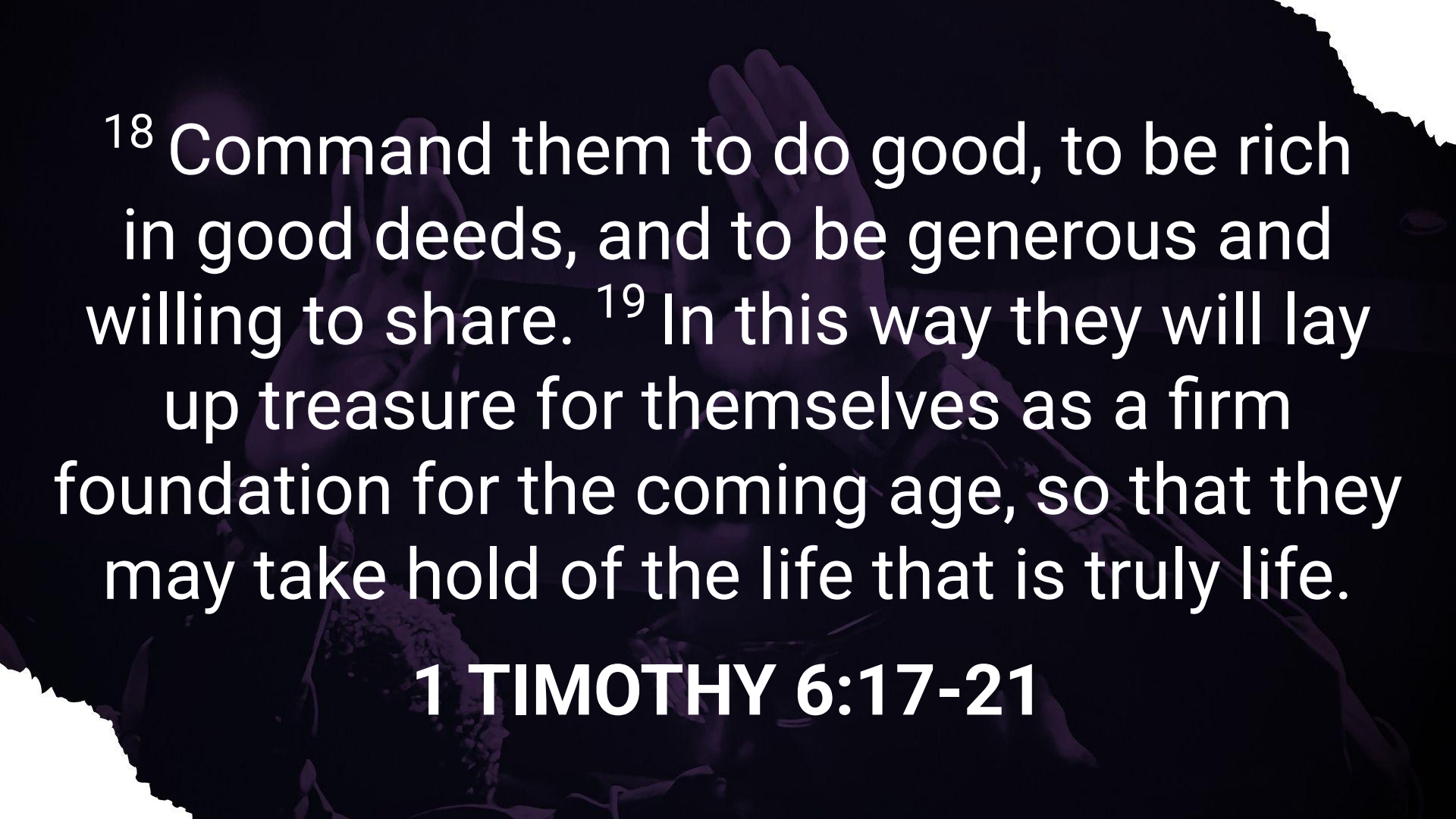
<sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this,  
and **pursue** righteousness, **godliness**,  
faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11**



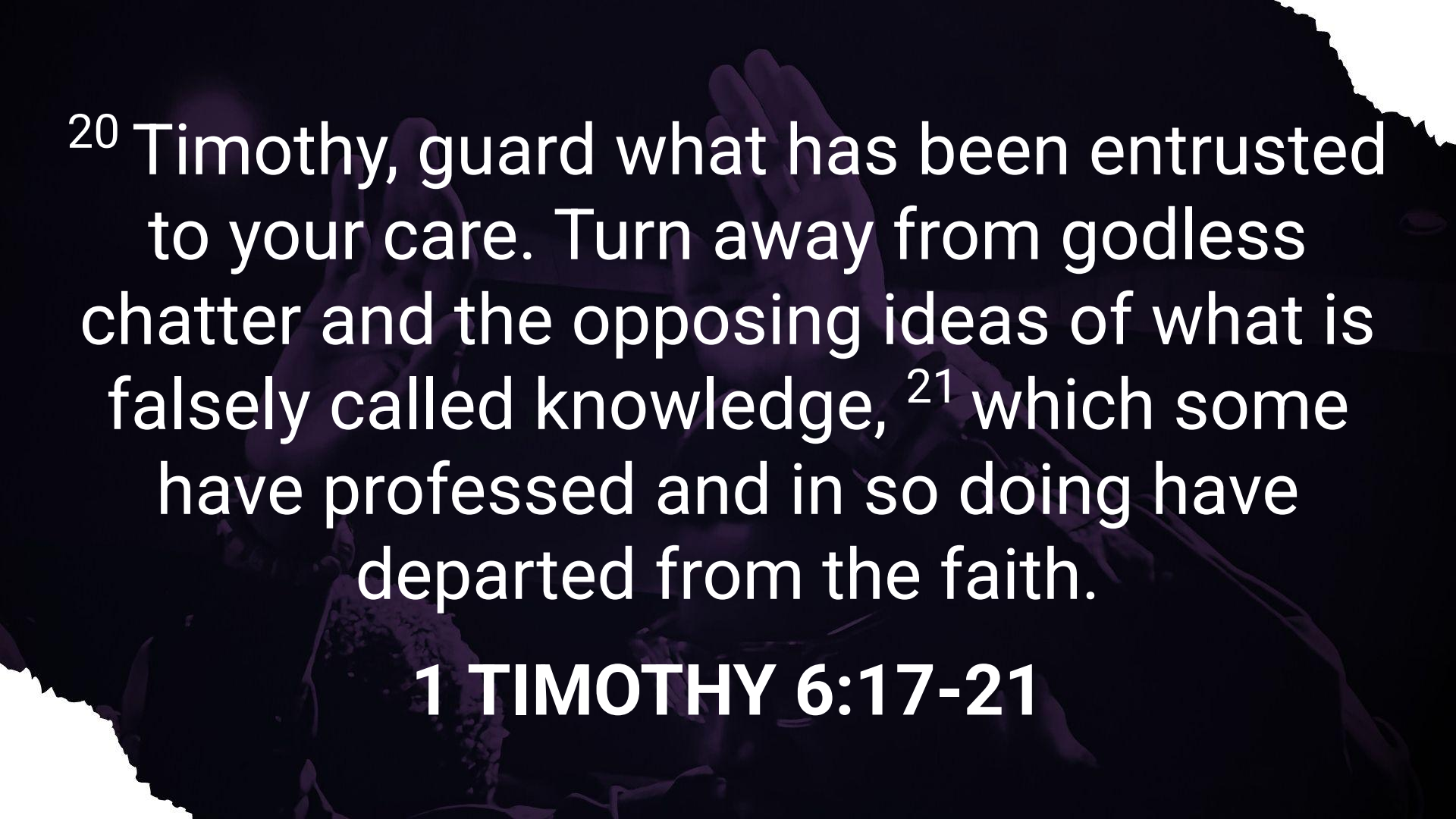
<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-21**

A background image showing a pair of hands, one palm up and one palm down, holding a small green plant with soil. The image is dark and moody, with the hands and plant being the primary light sources.

<sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-21**



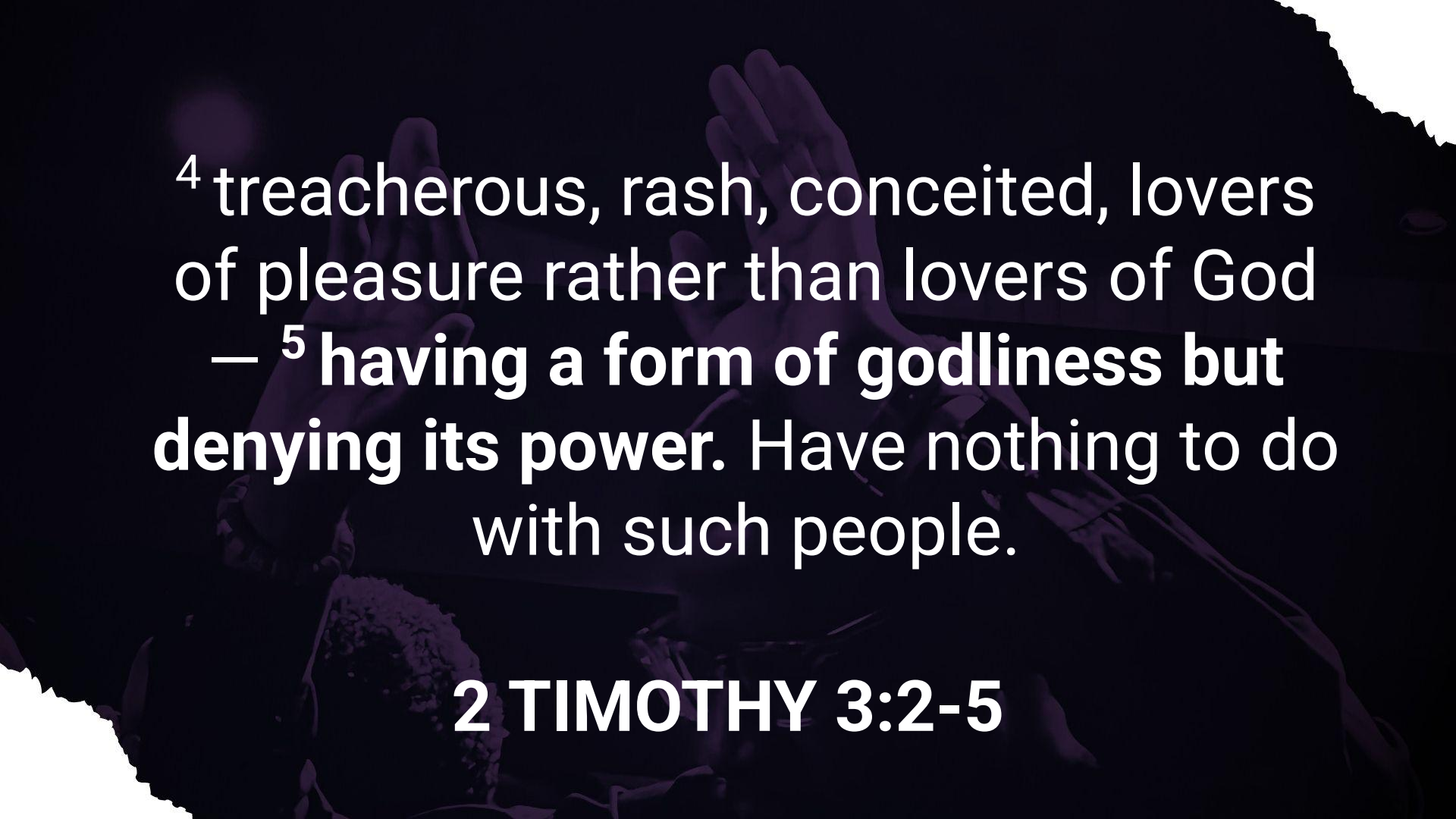
<sup>20</sup> Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, <sup>21</sup> which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-21**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is a warm, golden sunset sky with soft clouds. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards.

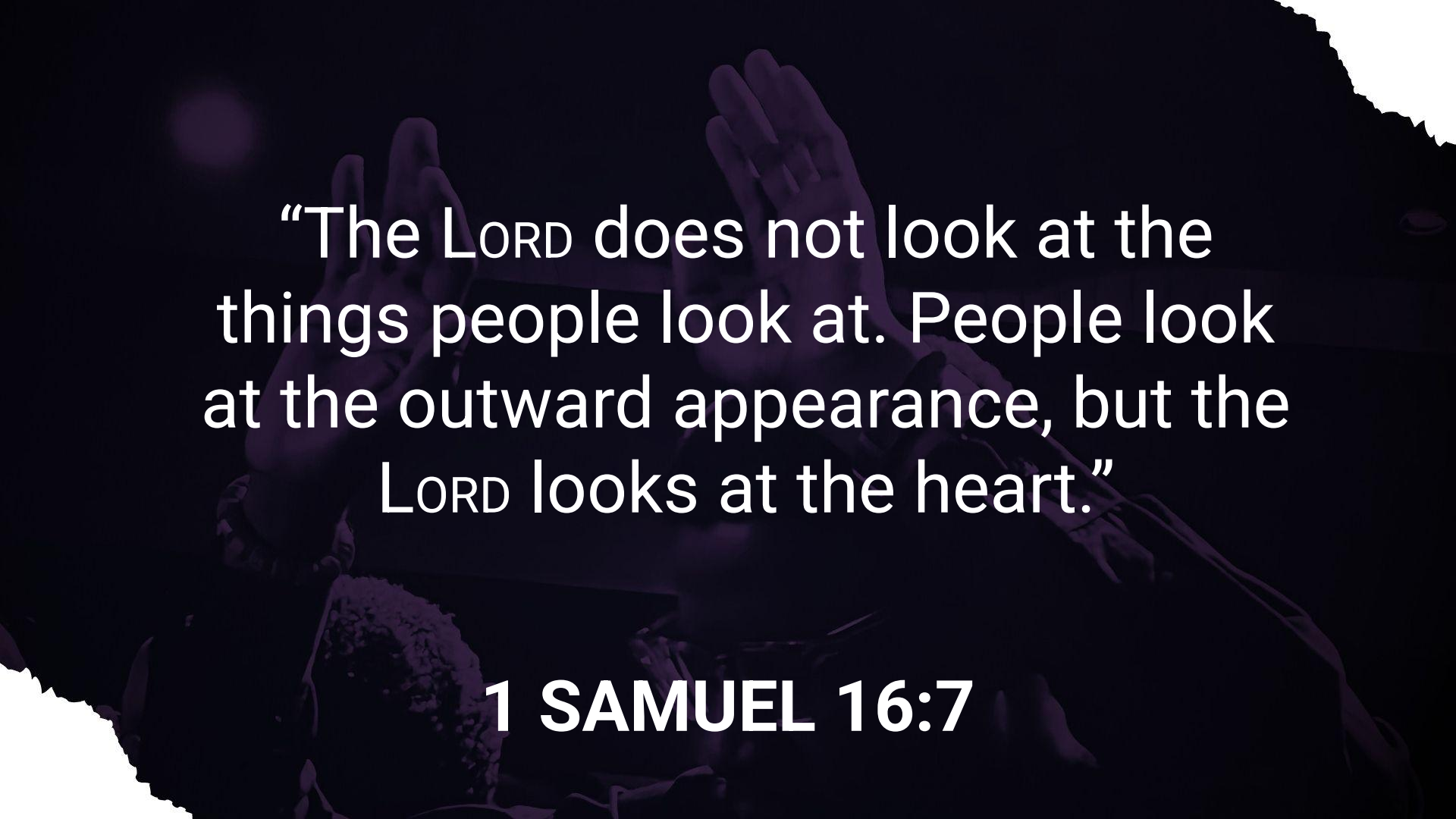
<sup>2</sup> People will be lovers of themselves,  
lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive,  
disobedient to their parents, ungrateful,  
unholy, <sup>3</sup> without love, unforgiving,  
slanders, without self-control, brutal,  
not lovers of the good,

**2 TIMOTHY 3:2-5**



<sup>4</sup> treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers  
of pleasure rather than lovers of God  
— <sup>5</sup> **having a form of godliness but  
denying its power.** Have nothing to do  
with such people.

**2 TIMOTHY 3:2-5**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is a warm, golden sunset sky with soft clouds. The overall mood is spiritual and contemplative.

“The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

**1 SAMUEL 16:7**



<sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “**No**” to **ungodliness** and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and **godly lives** in this present age.

**TITUS 2:12**















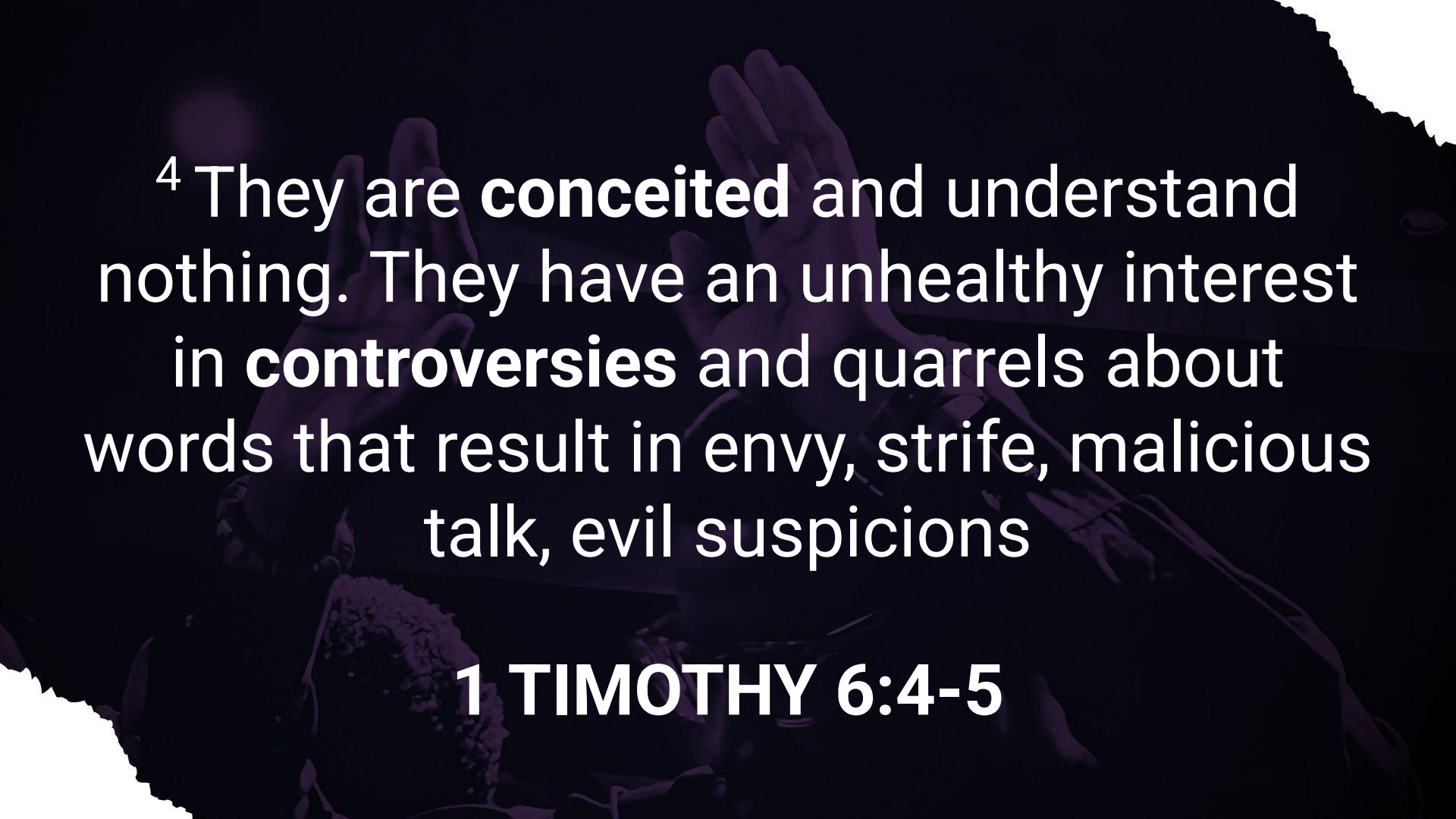






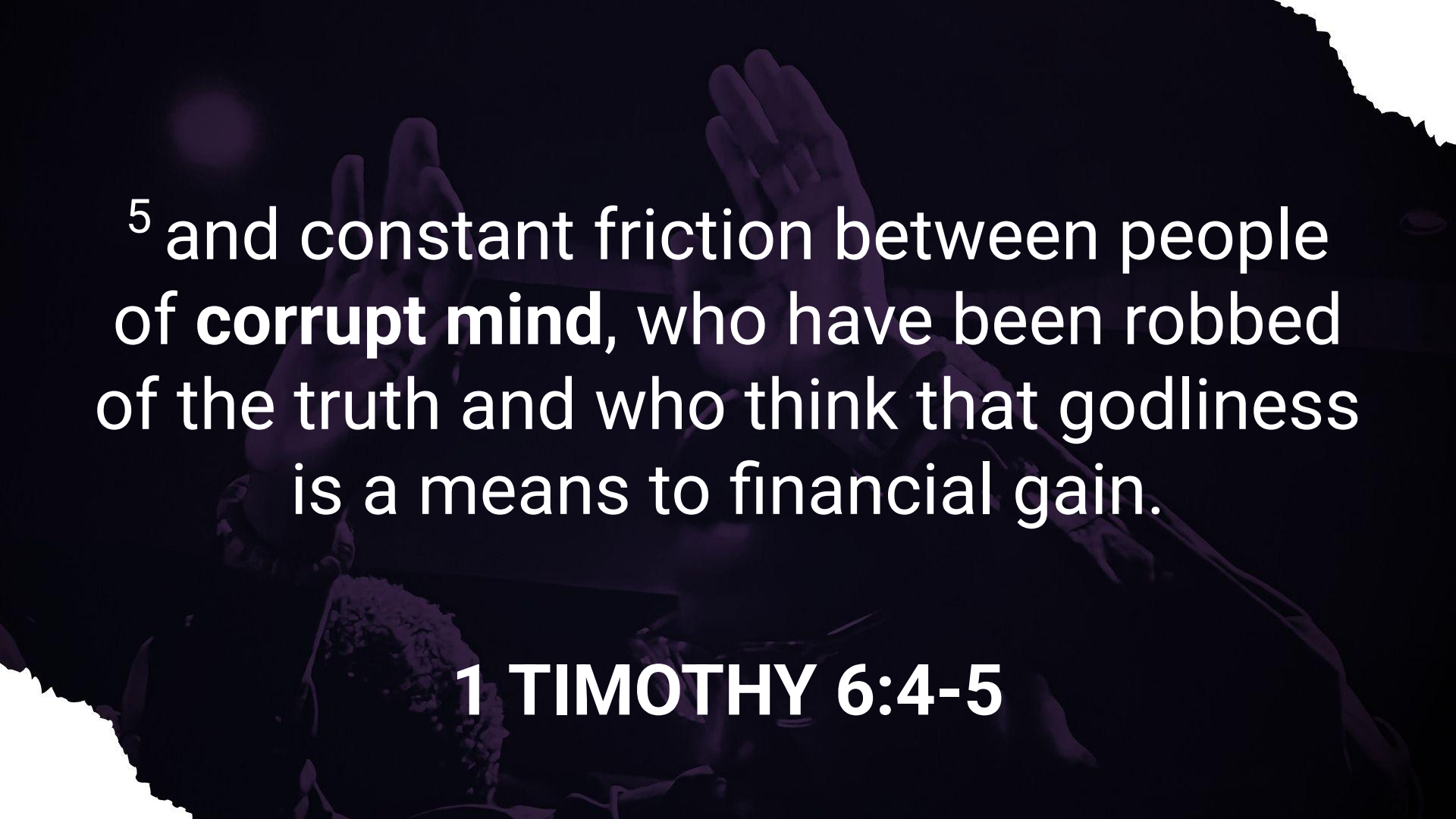
A dark, high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person's hands raised in a gesture of surrender or protest. The person is wearing a dark jacket with a textured collar. The background is dark and indistinct. The word "CORRUPTION" is overlaid in large, bold, white capital letters across the center of the image.

**CORRUPTION**



<sup>4</sup> They are **conceited** and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in **controversies** and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions

**1 TIMOTHY 6:4-5**



<sup>5</sup> and constant friction between people of **corrupt mind**, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:4-5**

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person with their hands raised in the air. The person's face is mostly obscured by deep shadows, but their eyes appear to be closed. They are wearing a dark, long-sleeved garment. The background is dark and indistinct, with some faint, out-of-focus light sources visible. The overall mood is dramatic and expressive.

**A) CONCEITED**

A person is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or worship. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting with some light sources. The overall mood is solemn and spiritual.

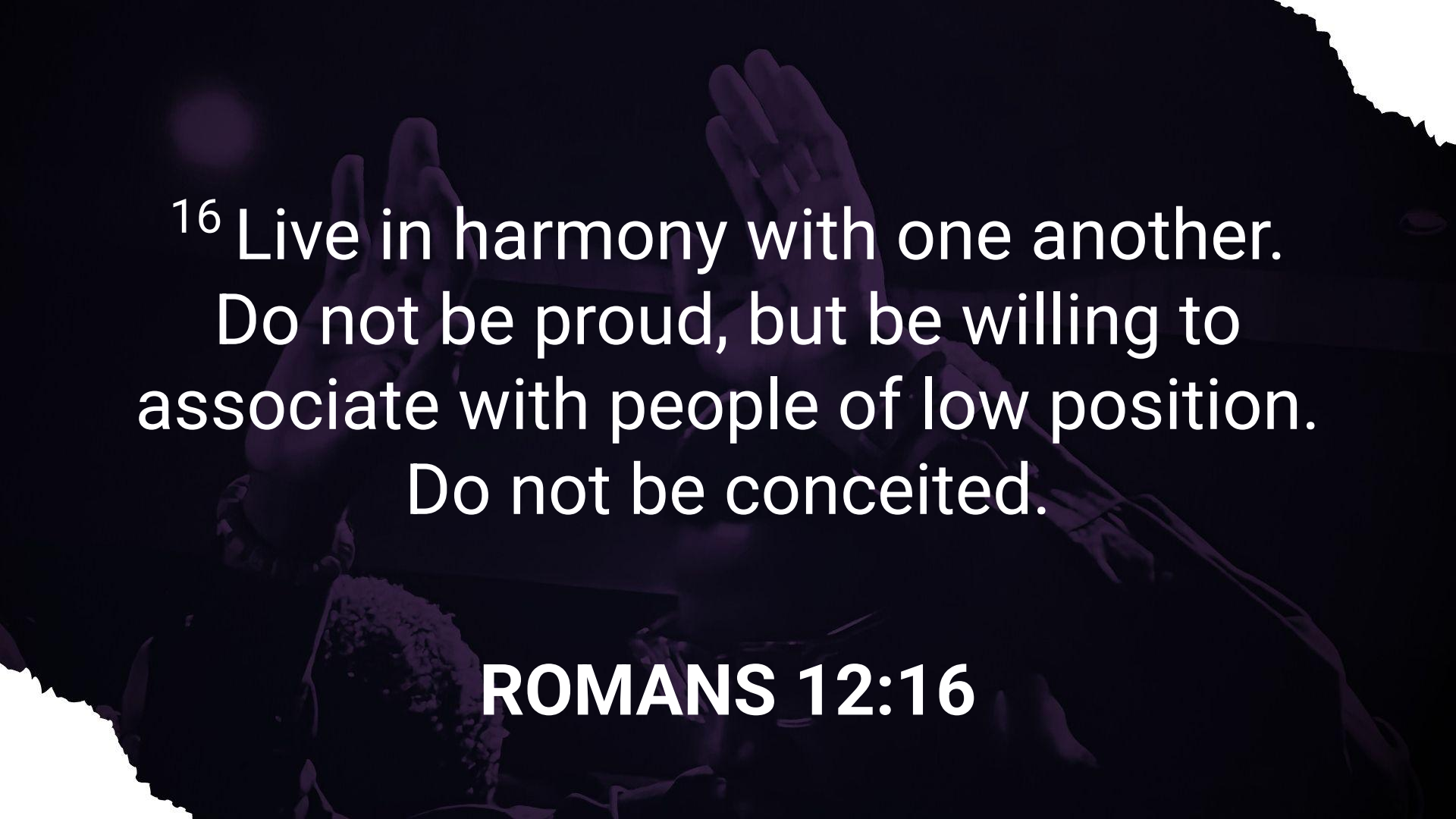
<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition  
or vain conceit.

**PHILIPPIANS 2:3**

A person is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are wearing a dark, long-sleeved garment. The background is dark and out of focus, with some light sources visible. The overall mood is spiritual and contemplative.

<sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking  
and envying each other.

**GALATIANS 5:26**

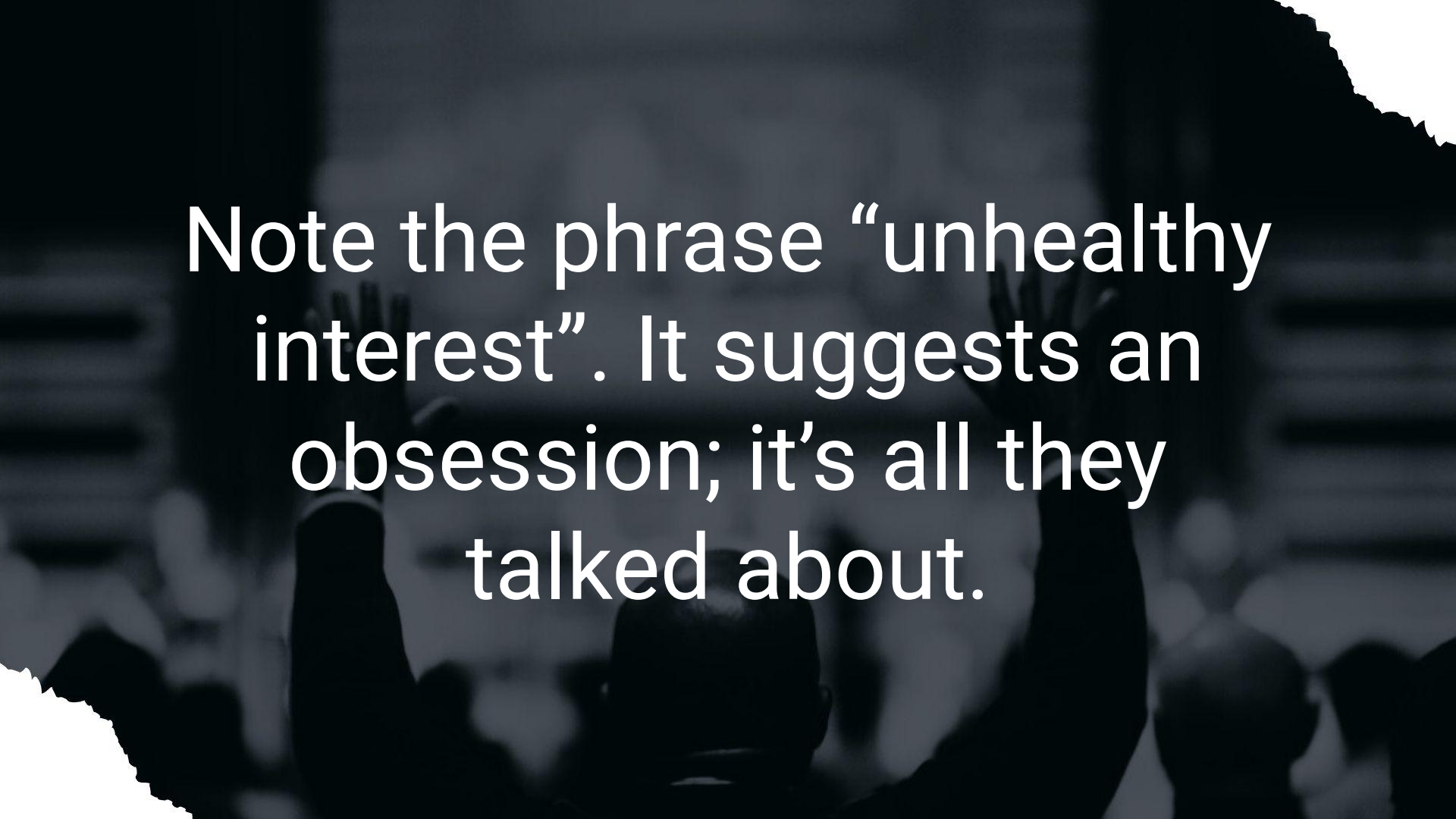


<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another.  
Do not be proud, but be willing to  
associate with people of low position.  
Do not be conceited.

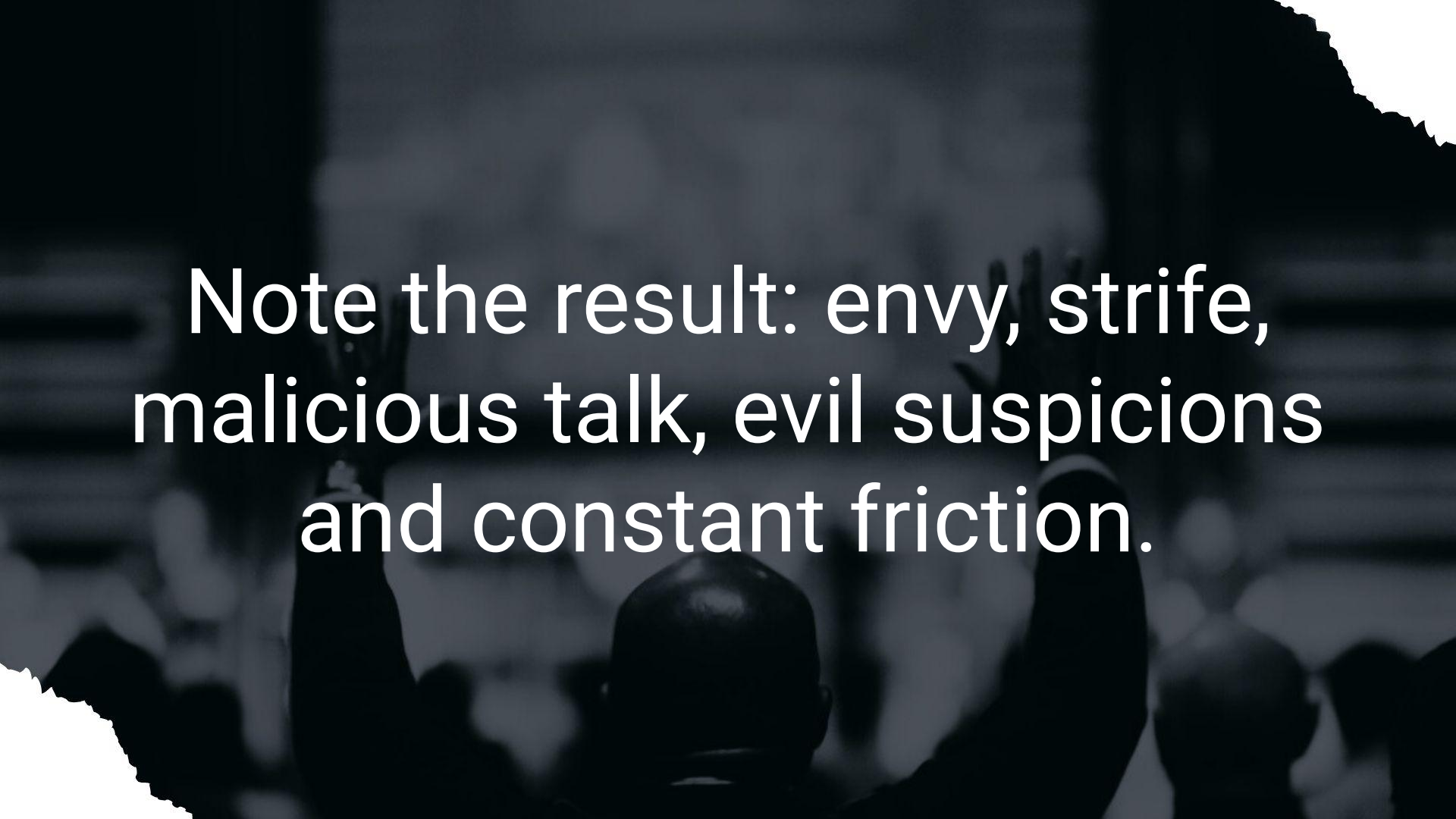
**ROMANS 12:16**



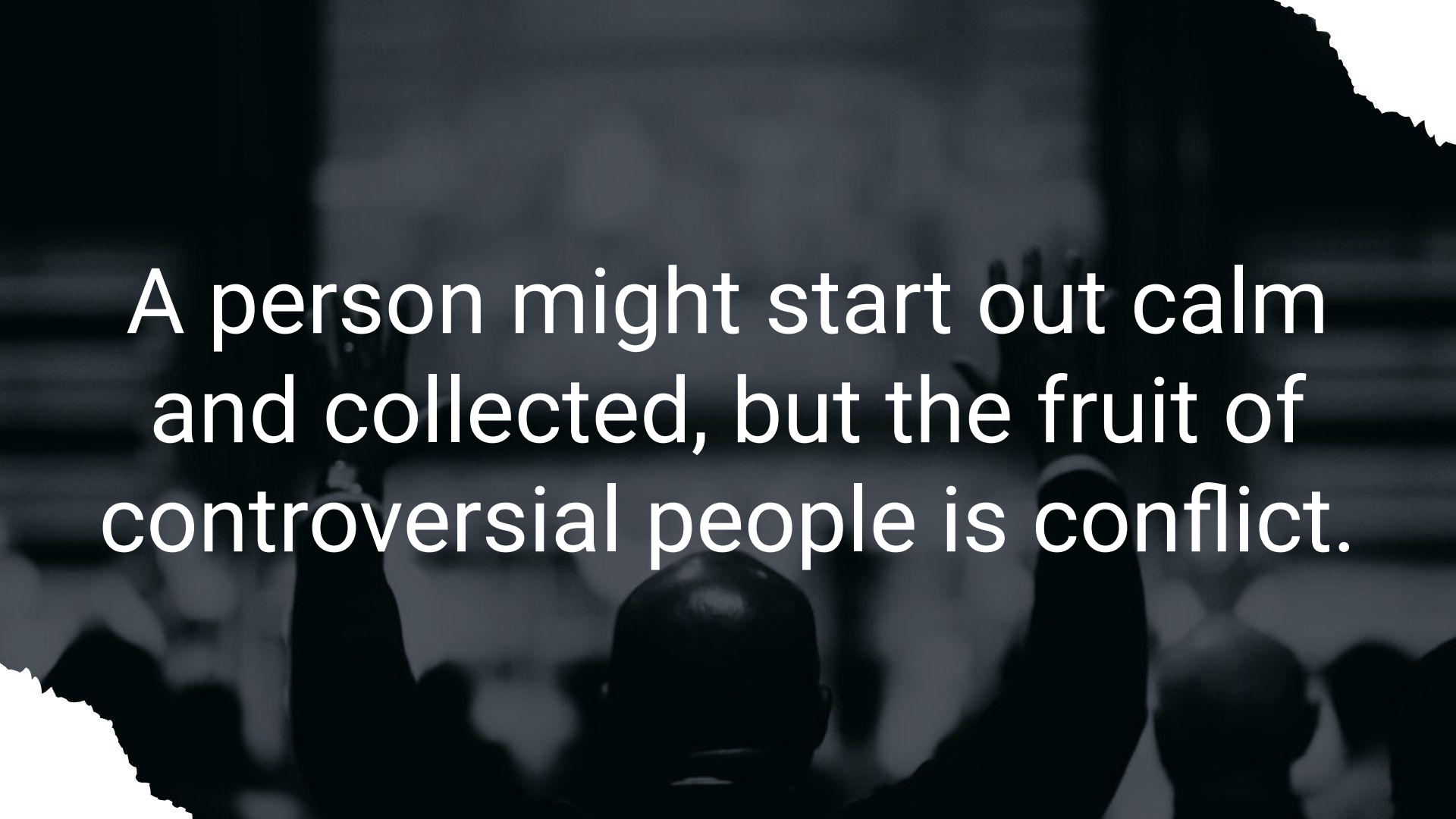
**B) CONTROVERSIAL**



Note the phrase “unhealthy interest”. It suggests an obsession; it’s all they talked about.



Note the result: envy, strife,  
malicious talk, evil suspicions  
and constant friction.



A person might start out calm  
and collected, but the fruit of  
controversial people is conflict.

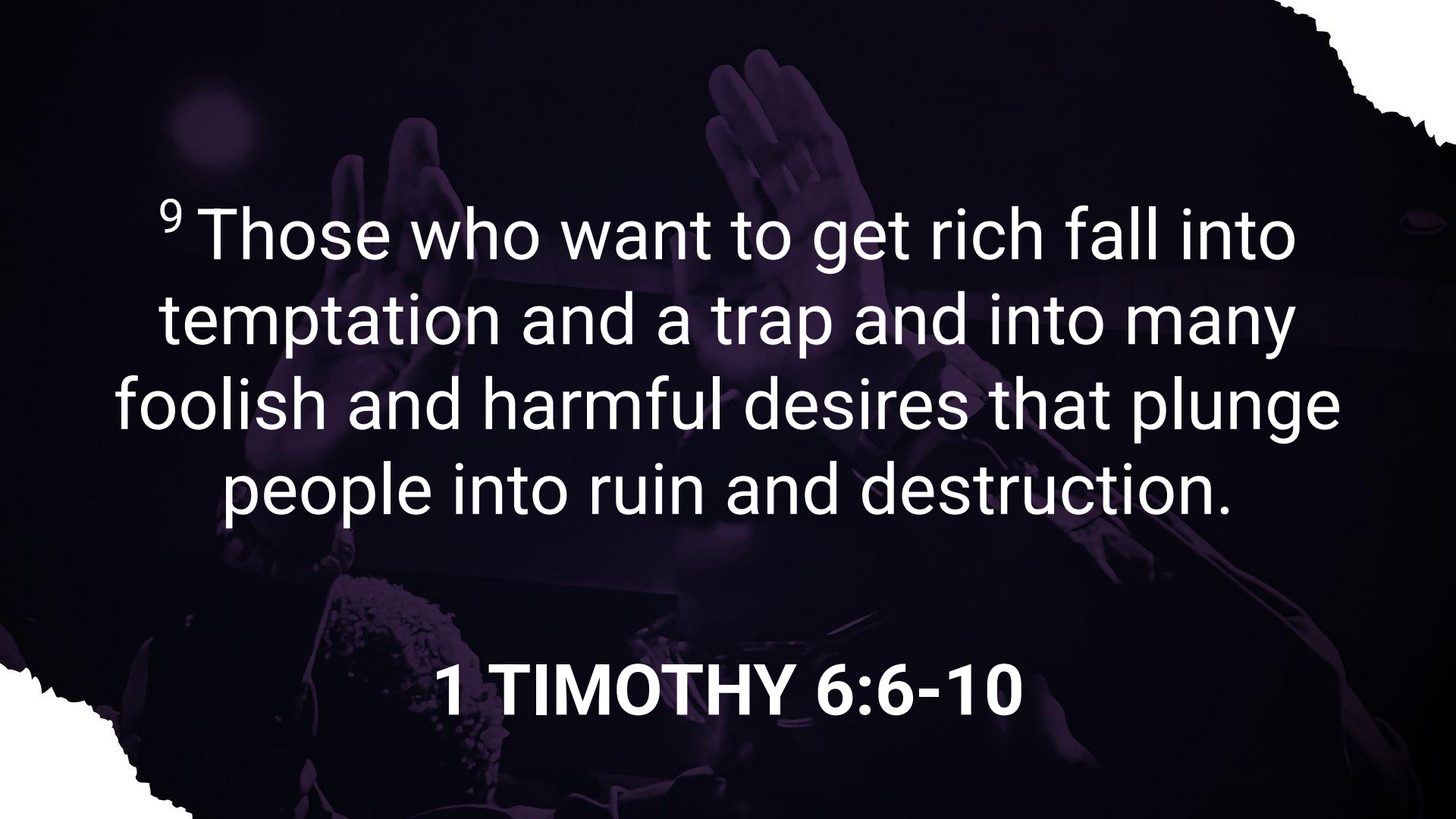


**CONTENTMENT**



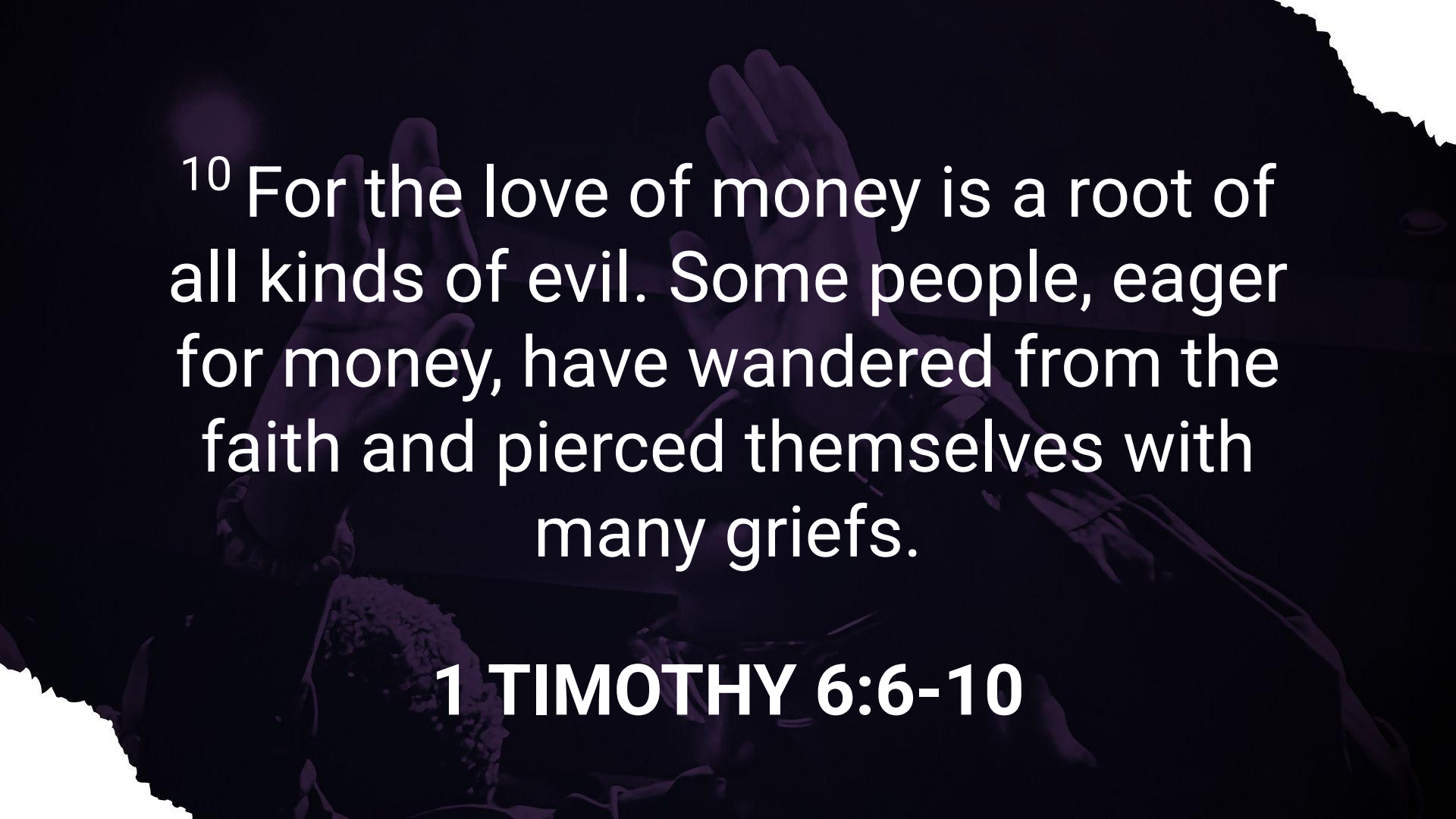
<sup>6</sup> But godliness with **contentment** is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, **we will be content with that.**

**1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10**

A person wearing a dark, textured garment with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The background is dark and moody, with some light reflecting off the person's hands and the texture of their clothing.

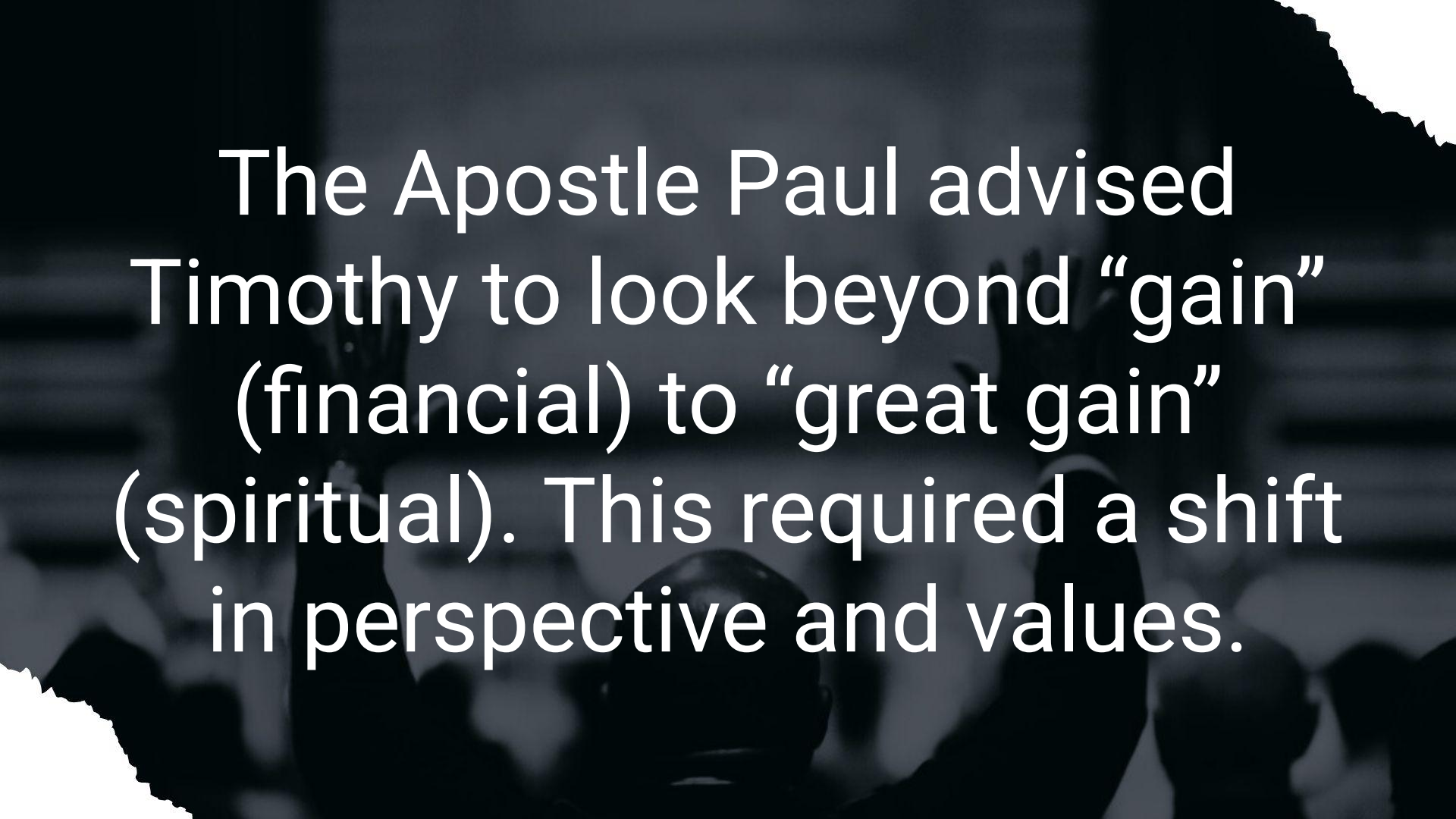
<sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10**

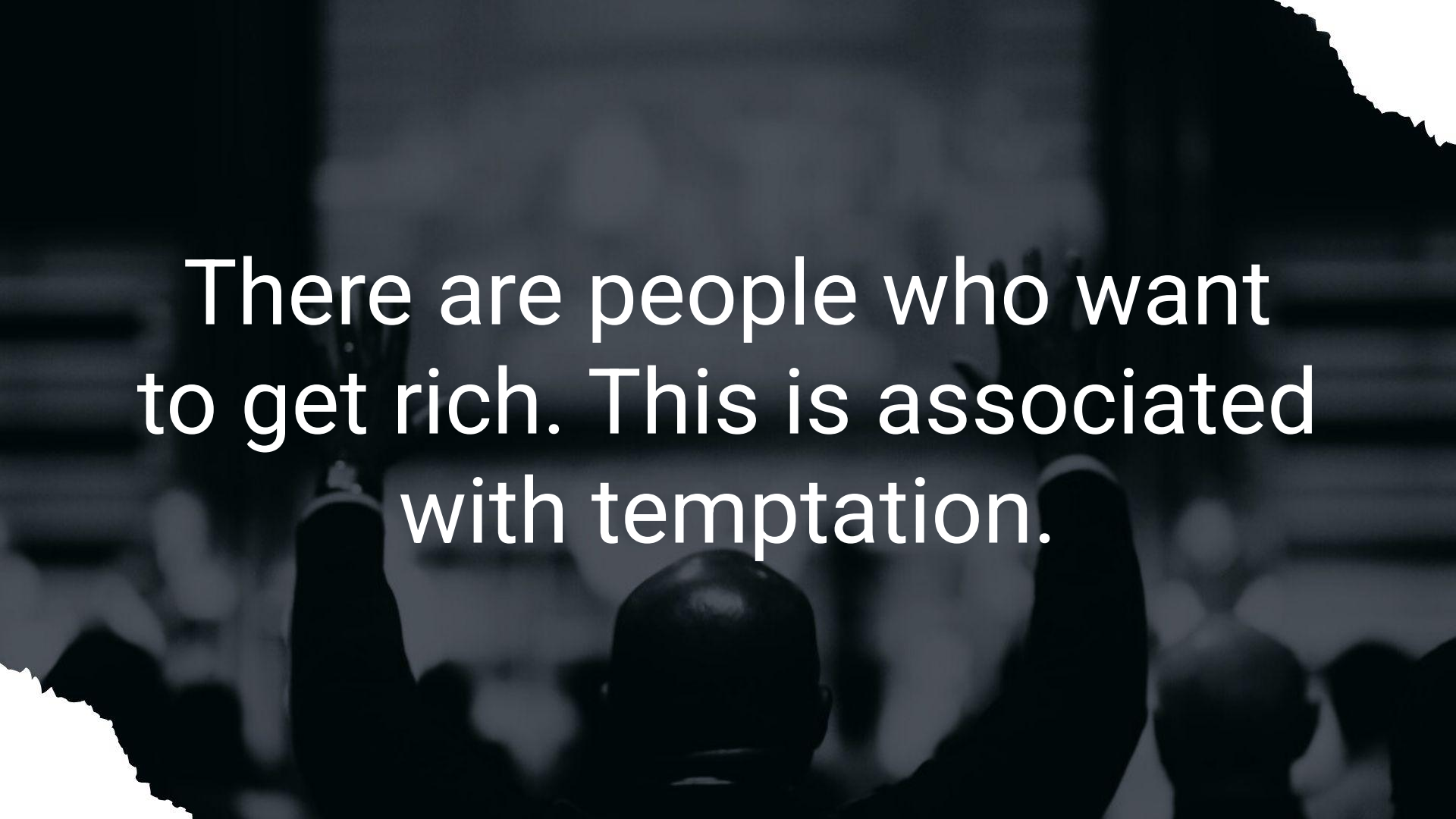
A person is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark, textured garment. Their hands are raised in a gesture of prayer or distress, with fingers spread. The background is dark and moody, with some light reflecting off the person's skin and the texture of their clothing. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

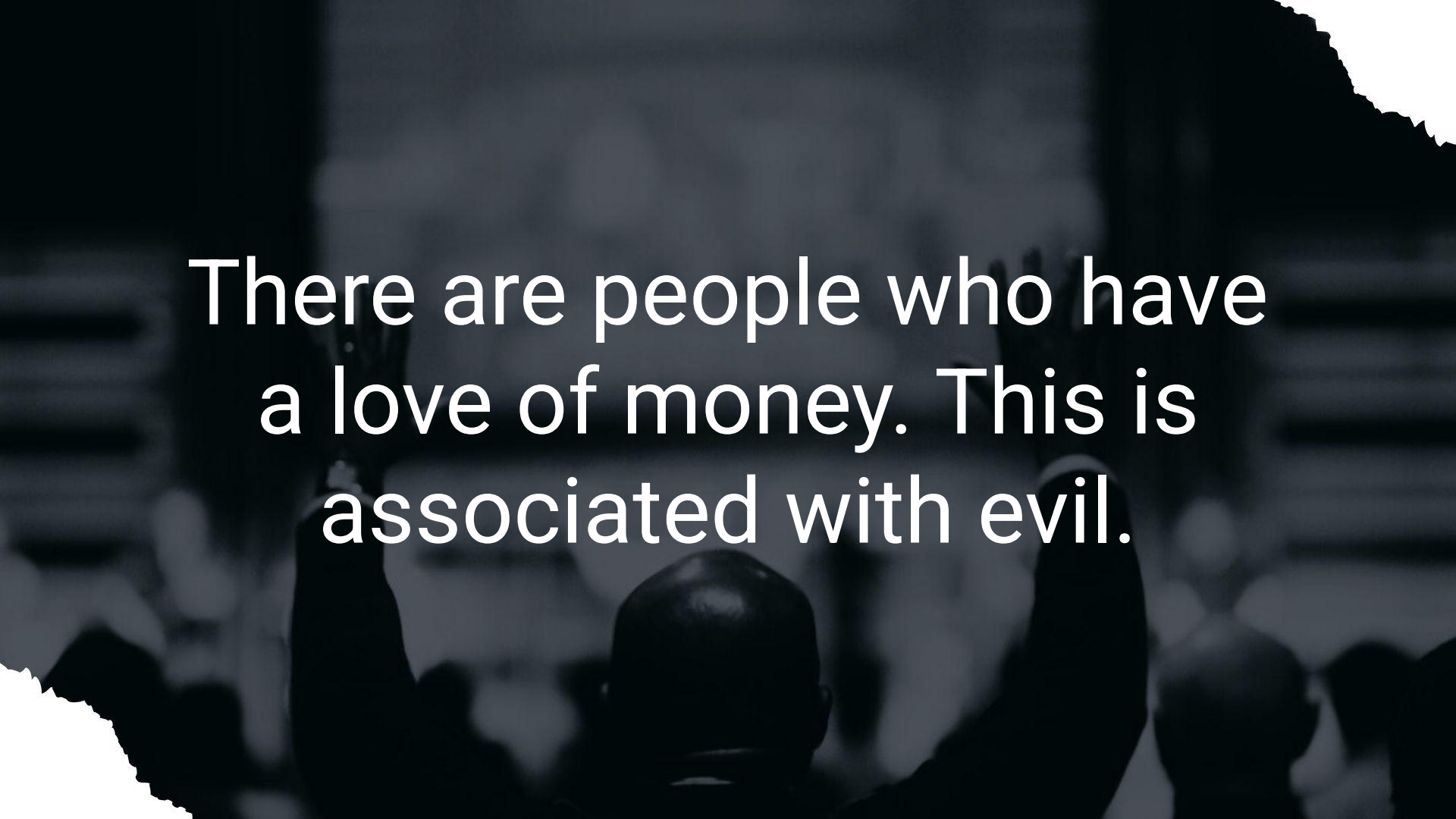
**1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10**



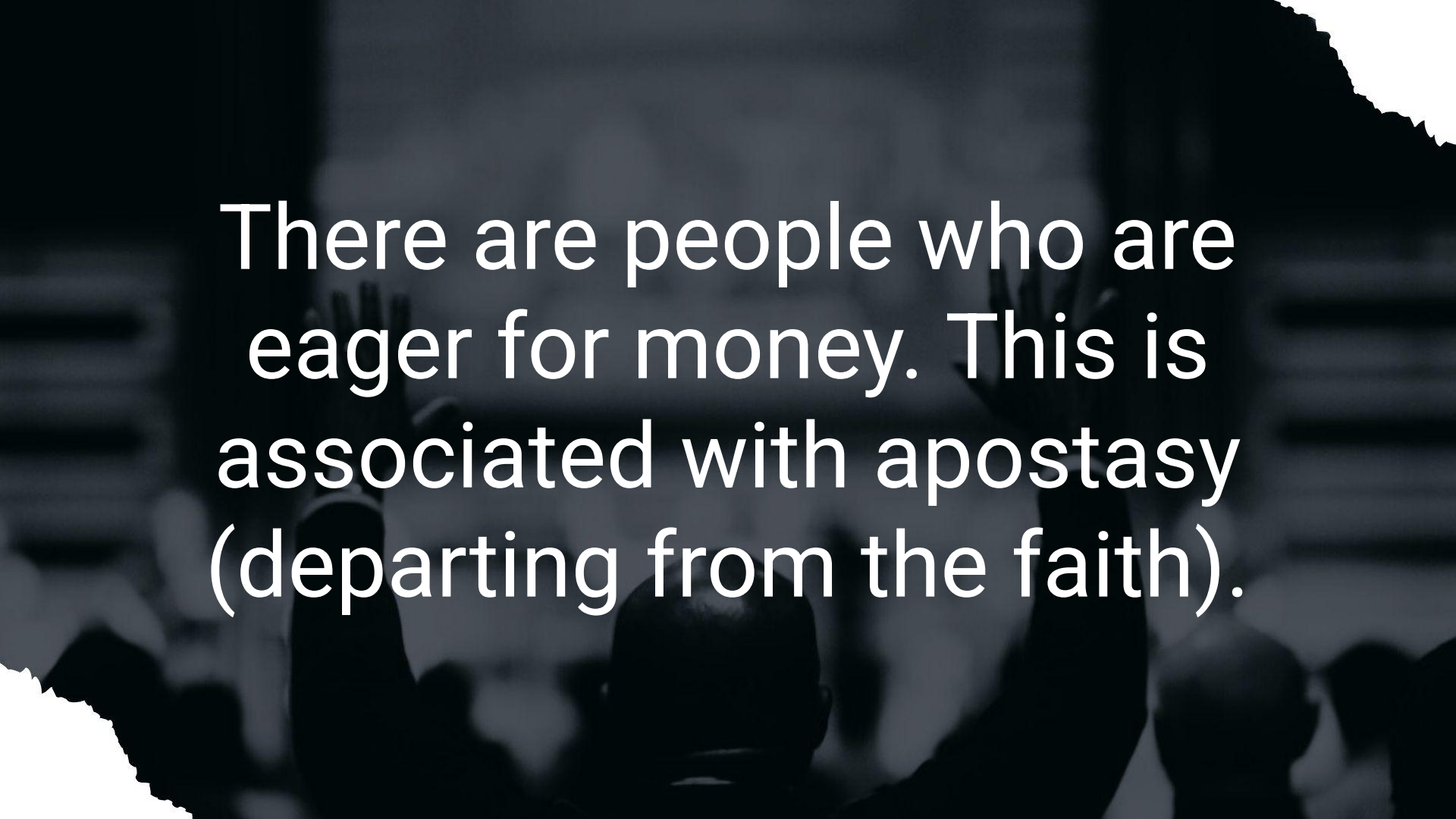
The Apostle Paul advised Timothy to look beyond “gain” (financial) to “great gain” (spiritual). This required a shift in perspective and values.



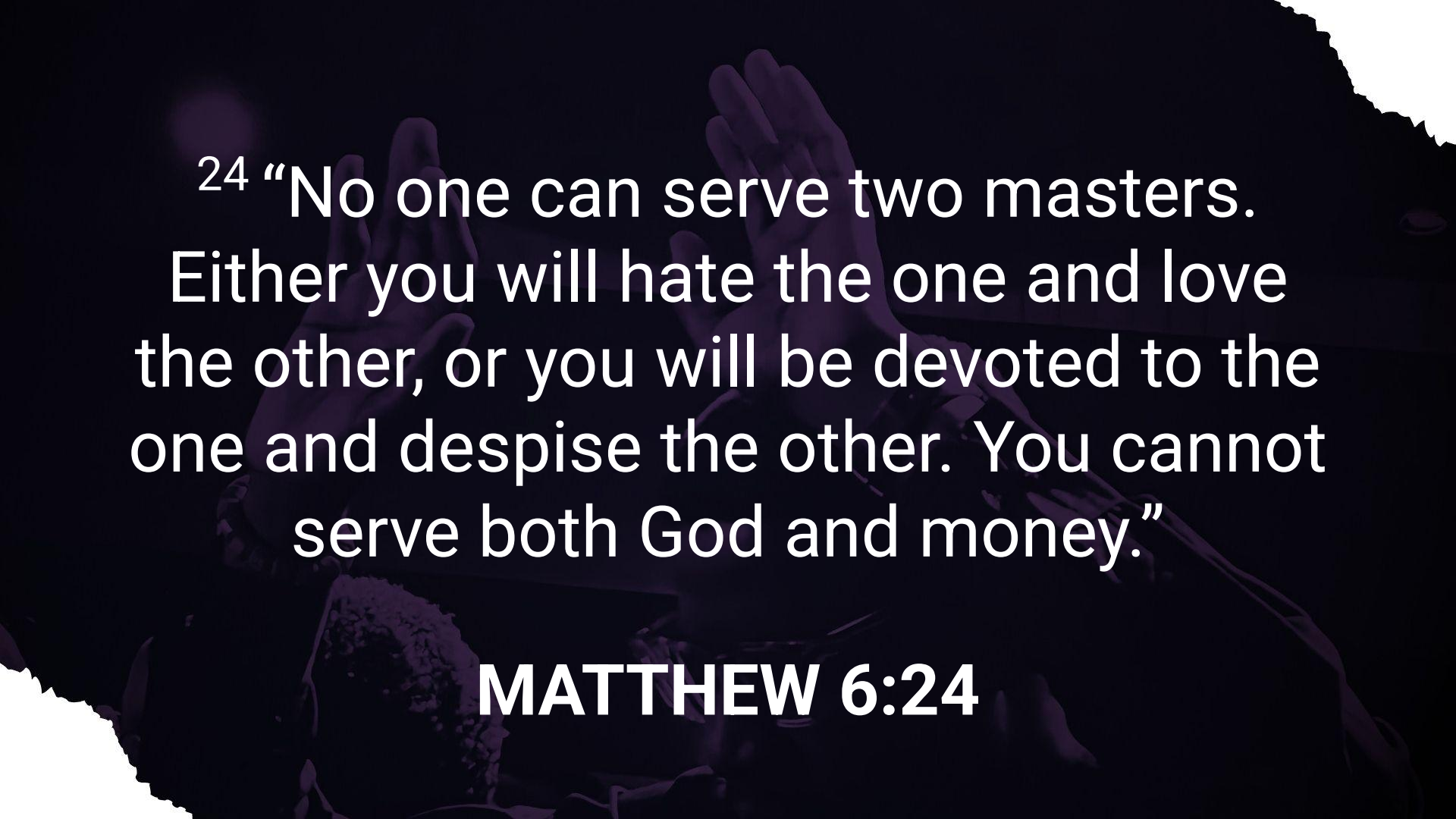
There are people who want  
to get rich. This is associated  
with temptation.



There are people who have  
a love of money. This is  
associated with evil.



There are people who are  
eager for money. This is  
associated with apostasy  
(departing from the faith).



<sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

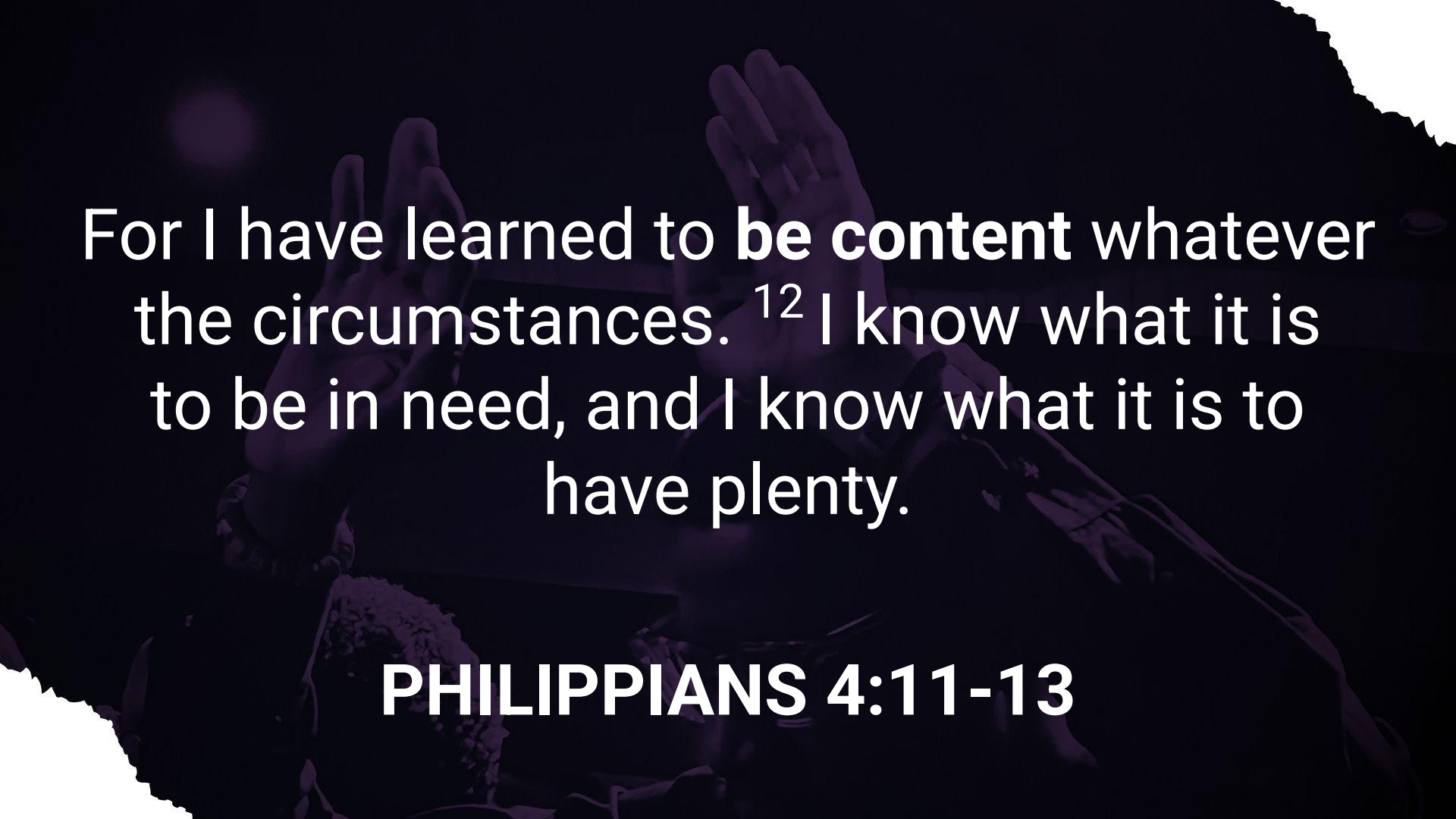
**MATTHEW 6:24**



Contentment is a decision to  
trust in and rest in God  
no matter what happens.

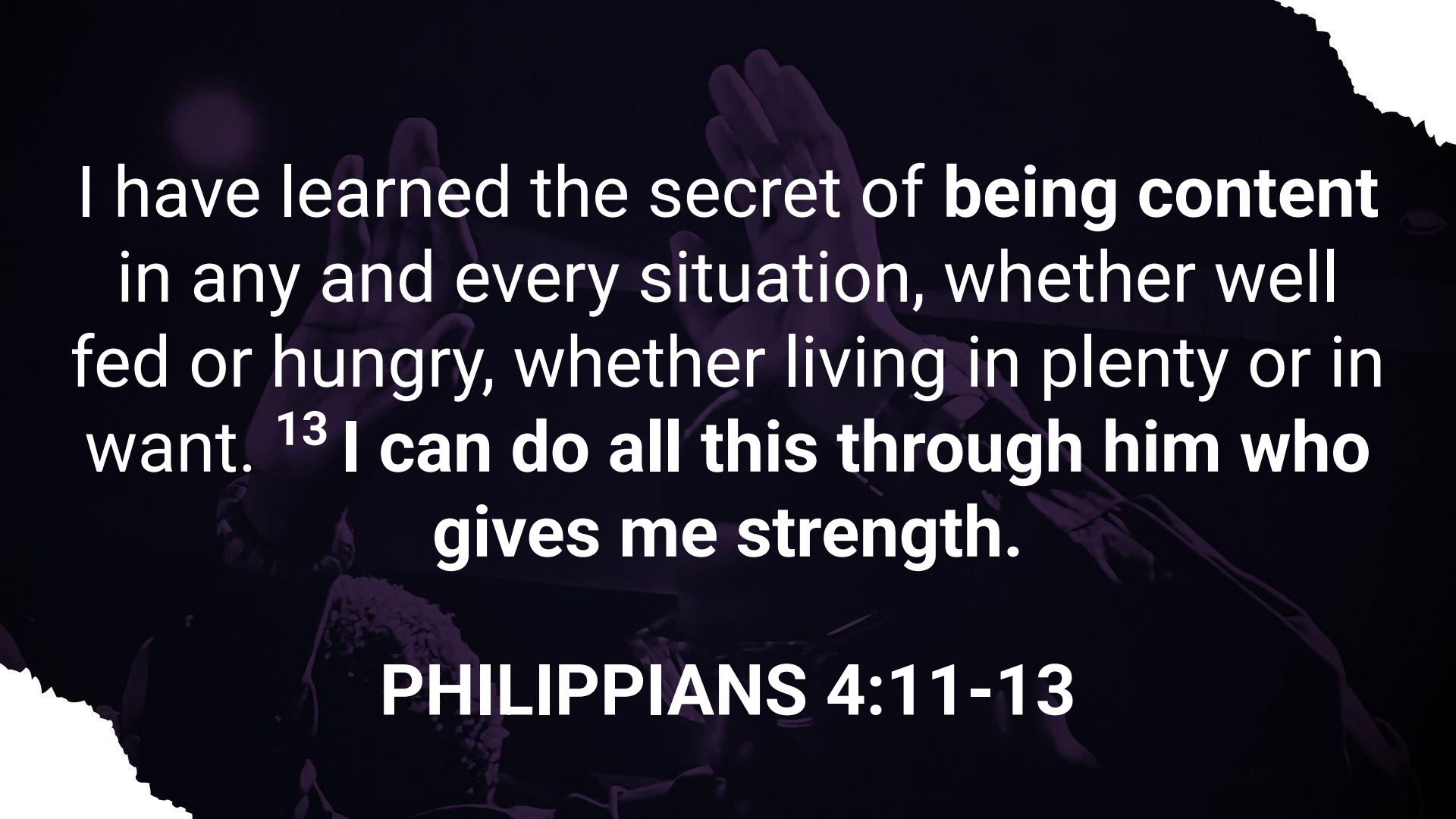
A black and white photograph of a crowd of people, mostly seen from behind or in silhouette, with their arms raised high in the air. The background is bright and out of focus, suggesting an outdoor event or a large indoor gathering. The overall mood is one of celebration or collective action.

Living in a First World nation,  
contentment is countercultural.  
We need to challenge ourselves  
to adopt this type of kingdom  
mindset.

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The background is a warm, golden sunset sky with soft clouds. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards. The overall mood is one of peace and devotion.

For I have learned to **be content** whatever  
the circumstances. <sup>12</sup> I know what it is  
to be in need, and I know what it is to  
have plenty.

**PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13**

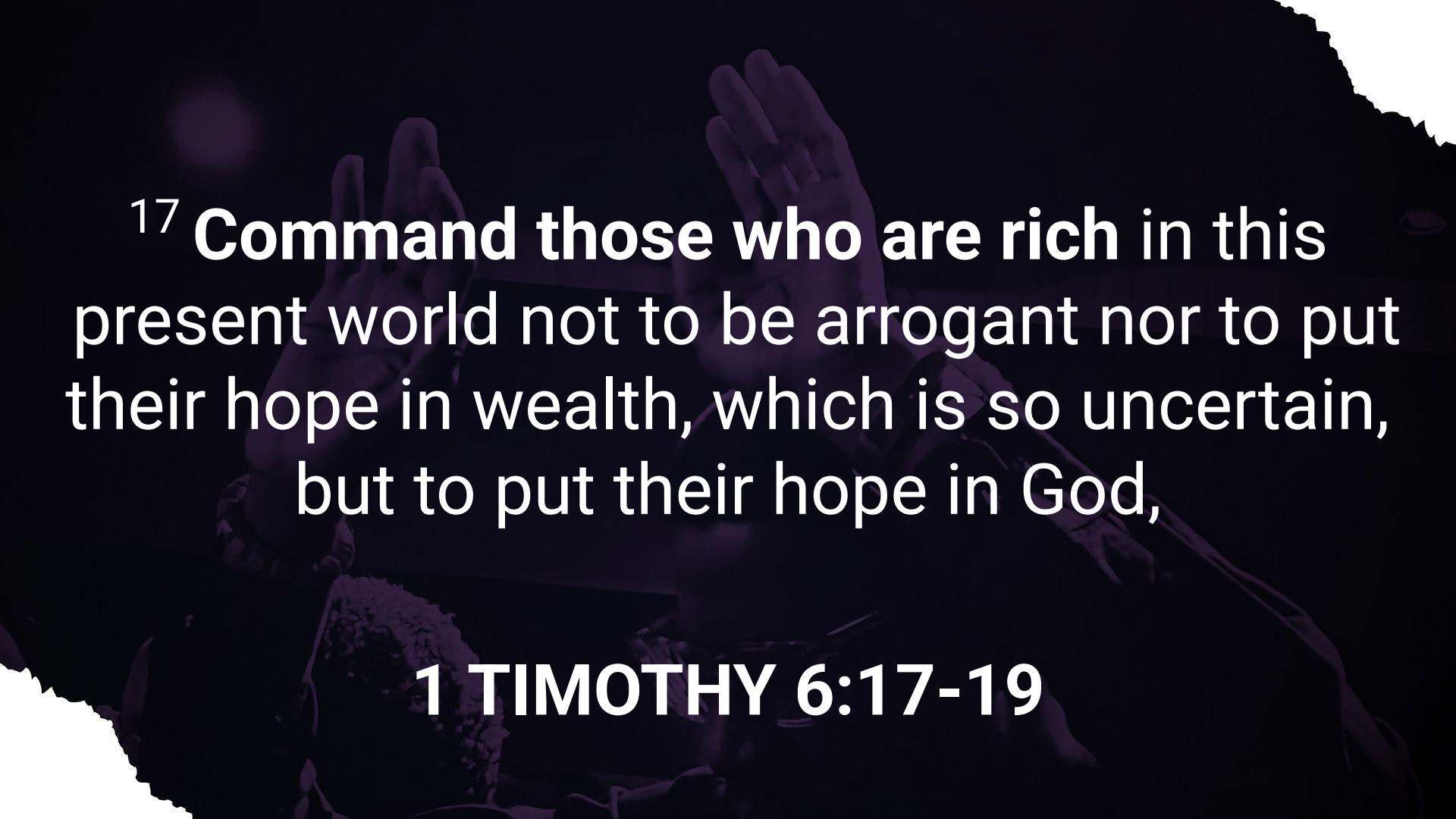
A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The person's face is not visible, and the focus is on their hands and the text overlaid on the image.

I have learned the secret of **being content**  
in any and every situation, whether well  
fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in  
want. <sup>13</sup> **I can do all this through him who  
gives me strength.**

**PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13**

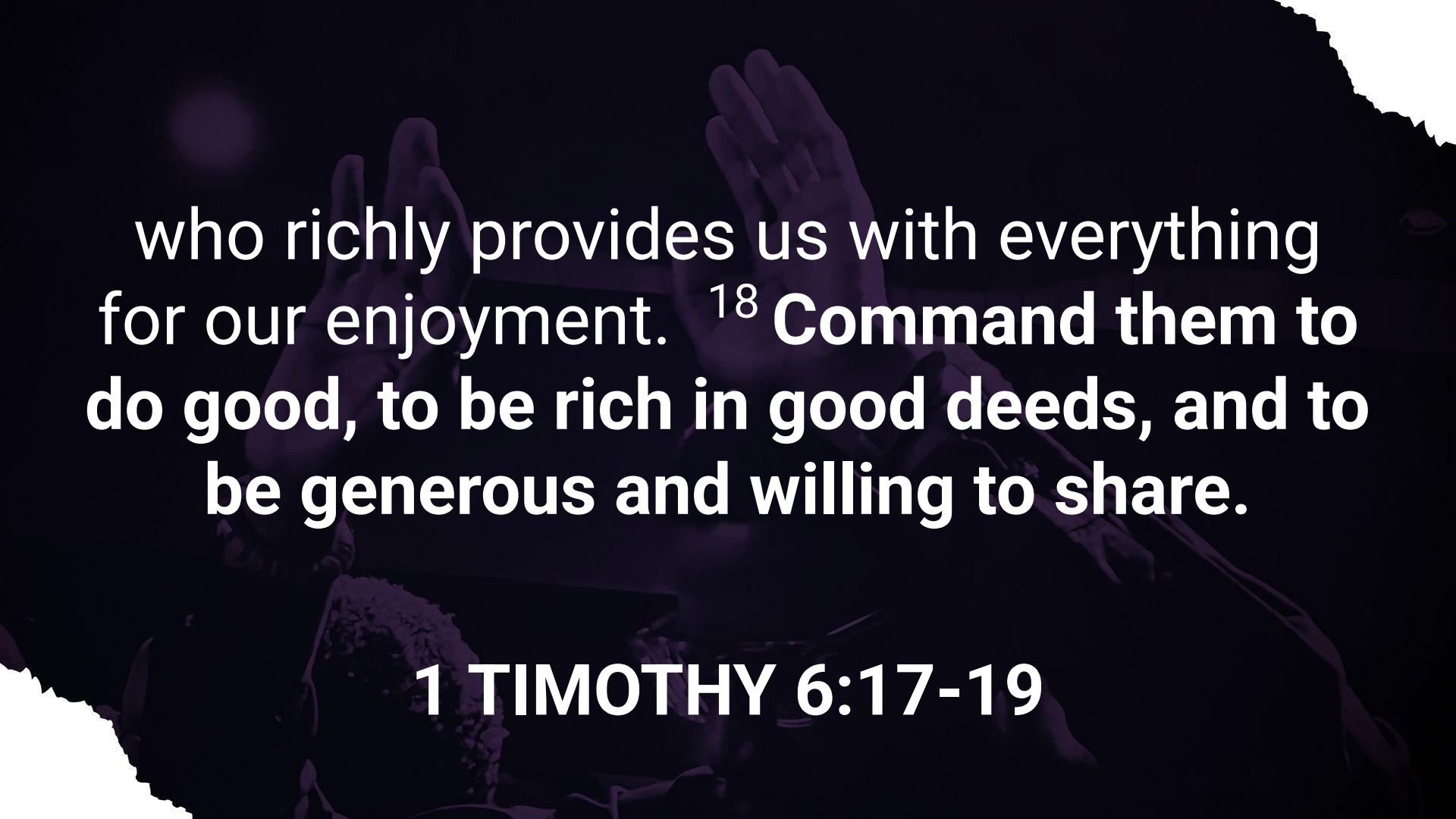
A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person in a dark environment. The person's hands are raised in a gesture of surrender or command, with palms facing forward. The person is wearing a dark jacket and a watch on their left wrist. The background is dark and indistinct, with some faint light sources visible. The word "COMMAND" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

**COMMAND**



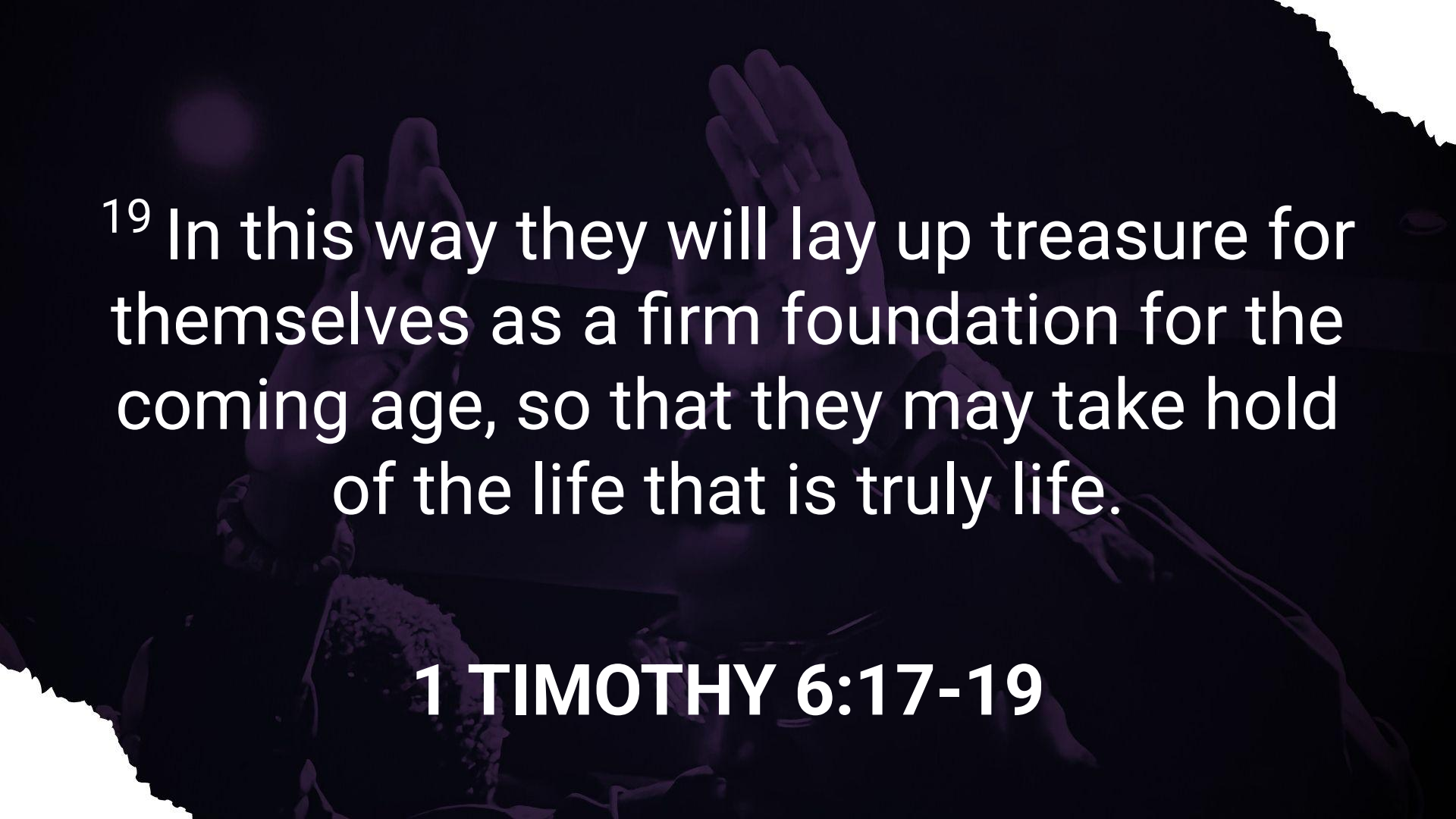
<sup>17</sup> **Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God,**

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19**



who richly provides us with everything  
for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> **Command them to  
do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to  
be generous and willing to share.**

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19**

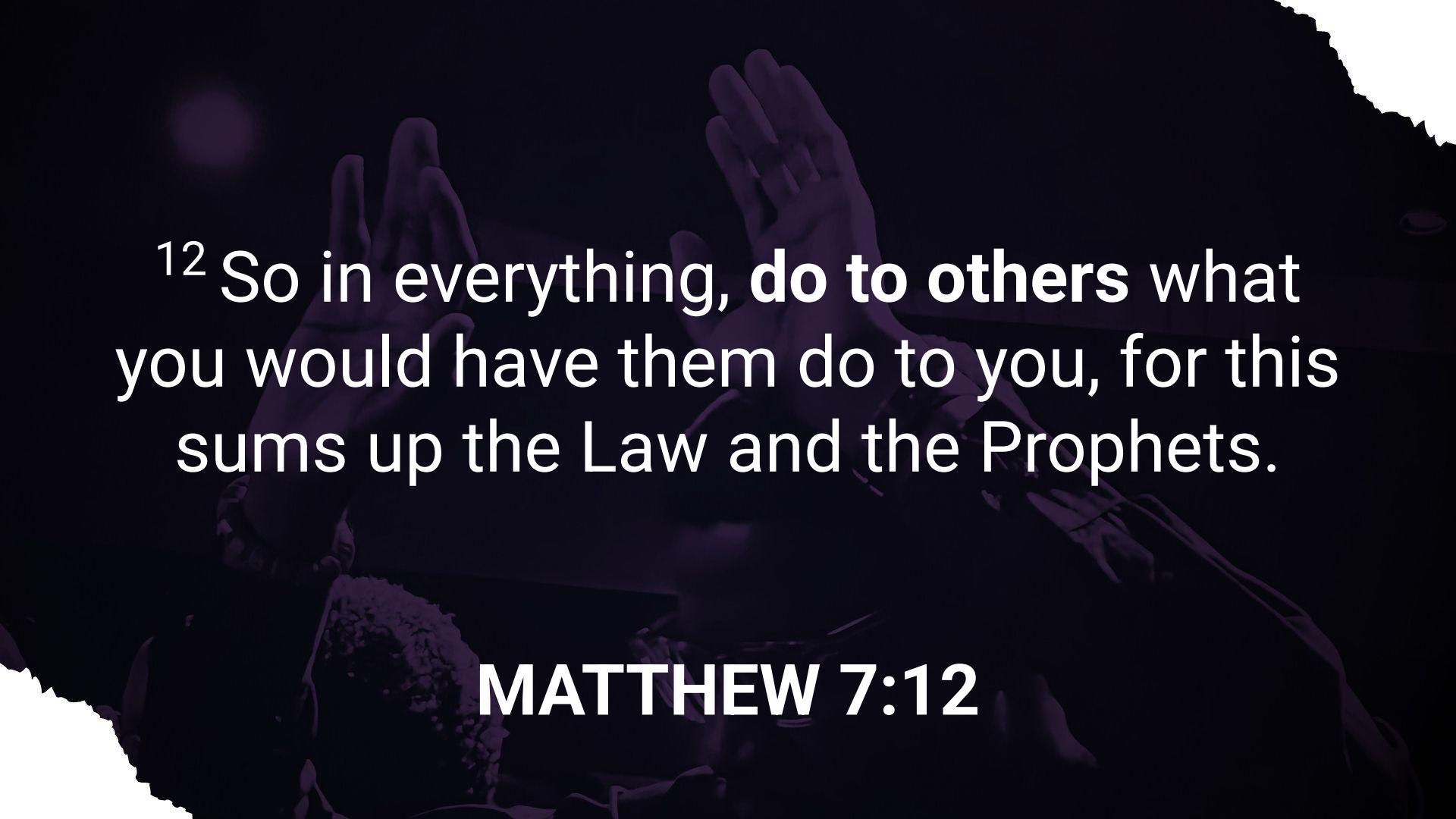


<sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

**1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19**

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person with their hands raised in a gesture of surrender or prayer. The person's face is partially visible, looking down. In the foreground, a cake is visible on the left side. The background is dark and indistinct.

**A) GOOD DEEDS**



<sup>12</sup> So in everything, **do to others** what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

**MATTHEW 7:12**

A person is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards. The background is a mix of blue and white, with a soft, ethereal light effect. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity,  
**let us do good to all people**, especially  
to those who belong to the family  
of believers.

**GALATIANS 6:10**



# **B) GENEROUS SHARING**

A photograph of a person's hands raised in a gesture of prayer or worship, set against a dark background. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. The text is centered over the hands.

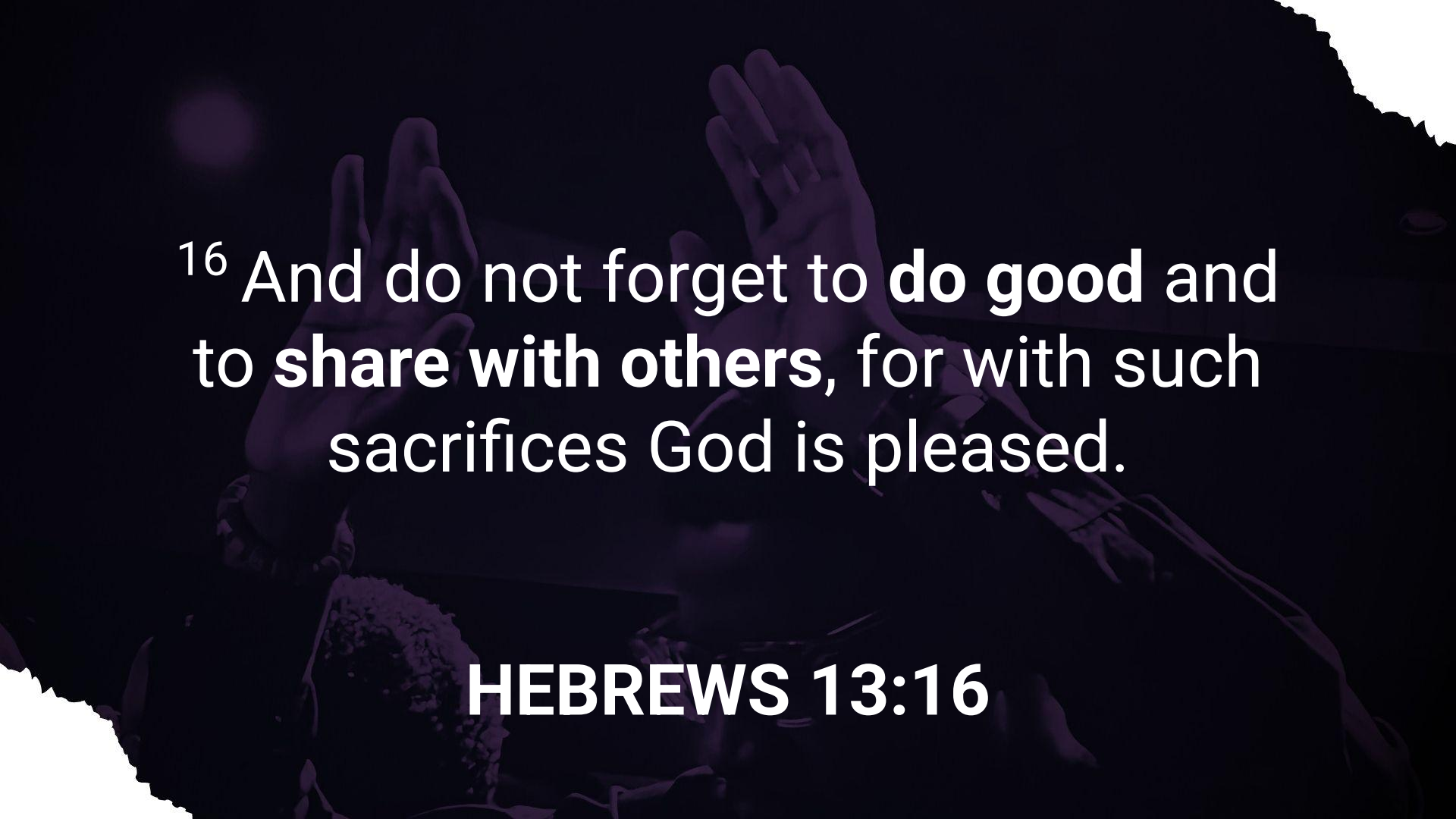
<sup>13</sup> Share with the Lord's people  
who are in need.

**ROMANS 12:13**

A person is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are wearing a dark, long-sleeved garment. The background is dark and out of focus, with some light reflecting off a surface behind them. The overall mood is spiritual and reverent.

God loves a cheerful giver.

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:7**



<sup>16</sup> And do not forget to **do good** and  
to **share with others**, for with such  
sacrifices God is pleased.

**HEBREWS 13:16**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The lighting is soft, highlighting the person's hands and the texture of the robe.

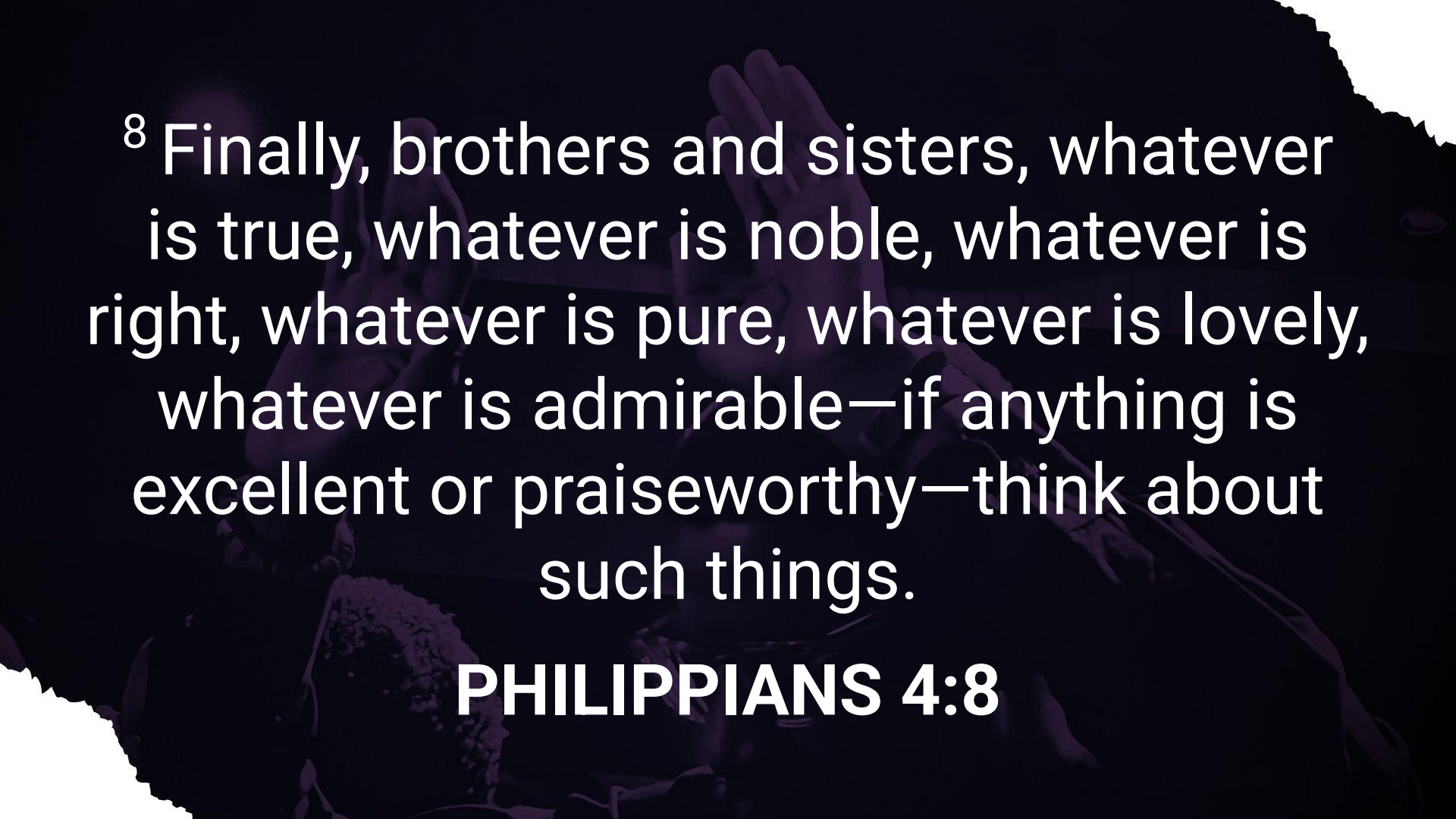
<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
joy, peace, forbearance, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness  
and self-control.

**GALATIANS 5:22-23**



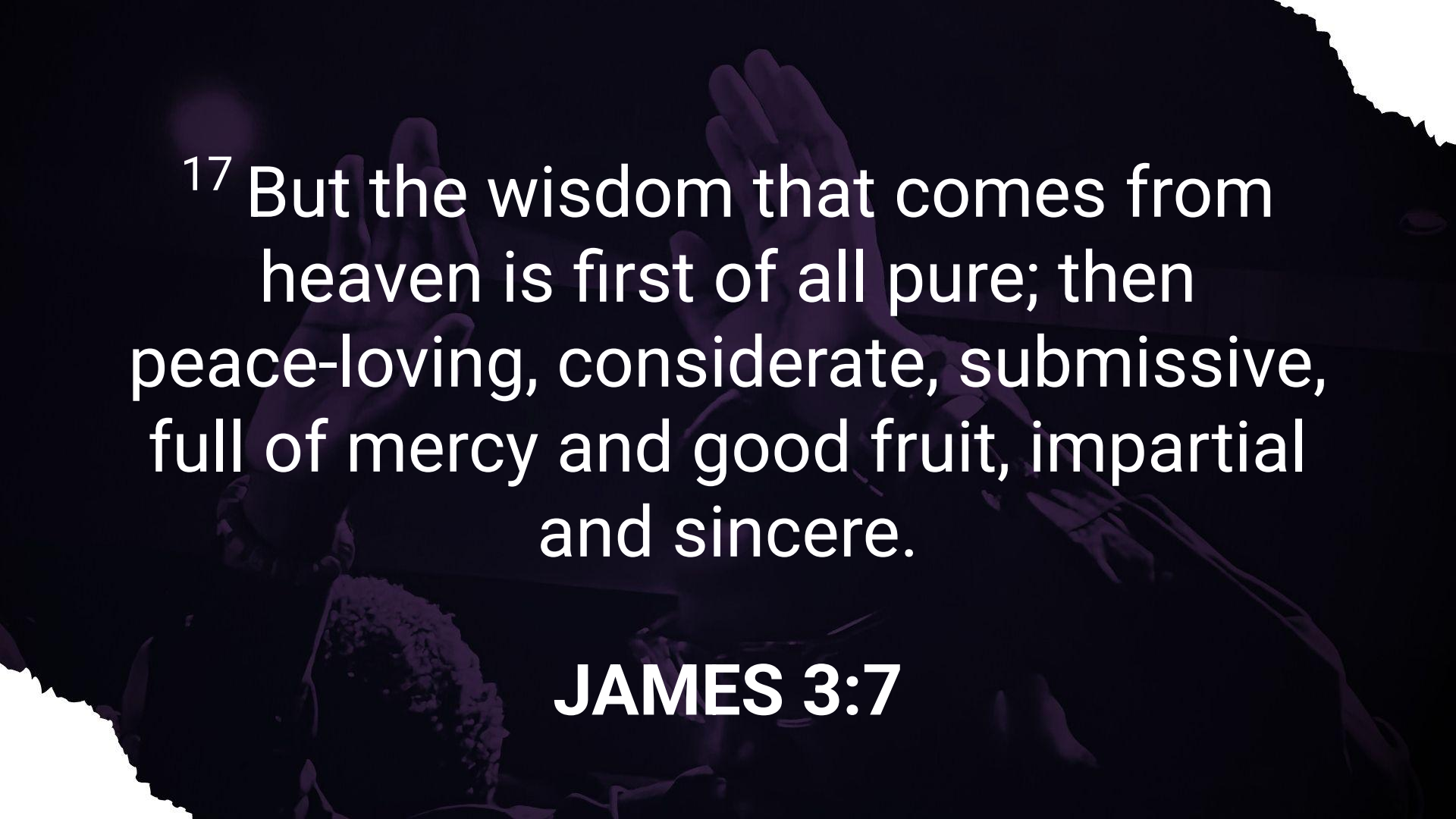
<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people,  
holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves  
with compassion, kindness, humility,  
gentleness and patience.

**COLOSSIANS 3:12**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards.

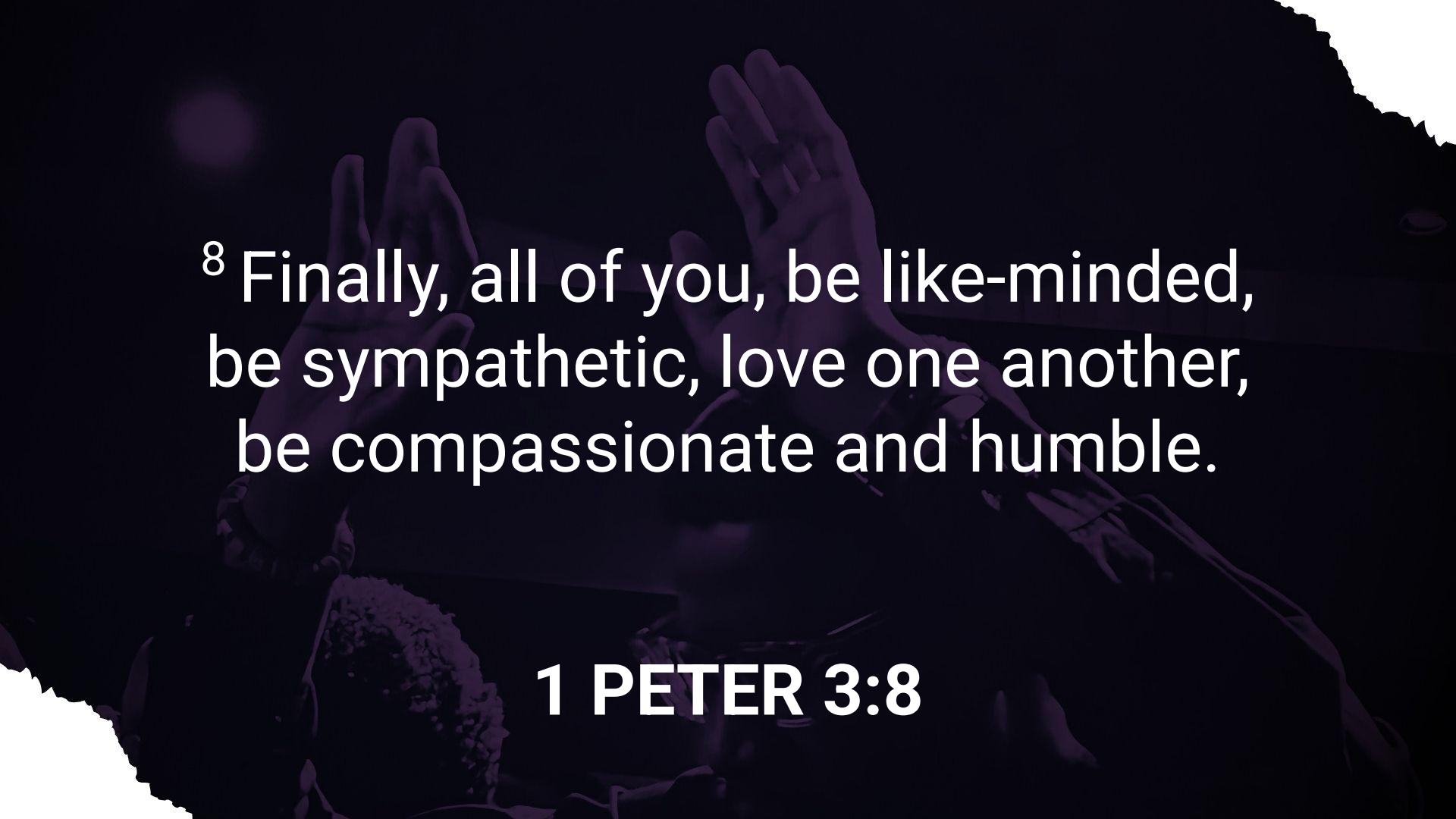
<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or supplication. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The person's face is not visible, and the focus is on their hands and the text overlay.

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

**JAMES 3:7**

A person wearing a blue robe is shown from the chest up, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is a warm, golden sunset sky with soft clouds. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, be like-minded,  
be sympathetic, love one another,  
be compassionate and humble.

**1 PETER 3:8**



# **SERMON REVIEW:**

- 1) CORRUPTION
- 2) CONTENTMENT
- 3) COMMAND



# THE PURSUIT