

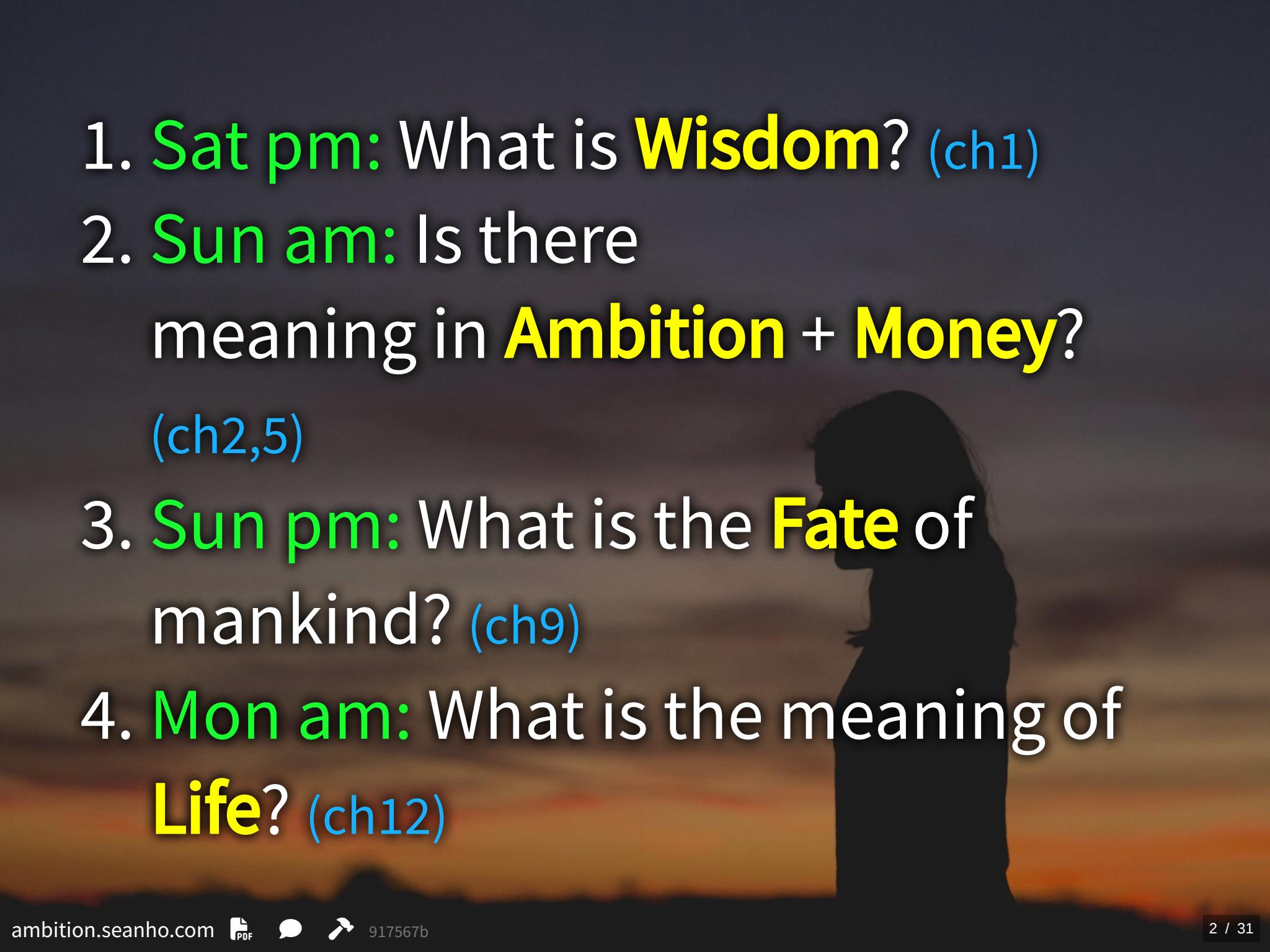


Ambition

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

The Meaning of Life (2/4)

Caleb George

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- A dark silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, facing right, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with warm orange and yellow hues.
1. Sat pm: What is **Wisdom**? (ch1)
 2. Sun am: Is there meaning in **Ambition + Money**? (ch2,5)
 3. Sun pm: What is the **Fate** of mankind? (ch9)
 4. Mon am: What is the meaning of **Life**? (ch12)

**What are my
goals in life?**

1 I said in my heart, “Come now,
I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.”
But behold, this also was vanity.

2 I said of laughter, “It is mad,”
and of pleasure, “What use is it?”

Ecclesiastes 2:1-2 (ESV) (p.1/8)

3 I searched with my heart
how to cheer my body with wine
– my heart still guiding me with wisdom –

and how to lay hold on folly,
till I might see what was good for the children of
man
to do under heaven during the few days of their
life.

Ecclesiastes 2:3 (ESV) (p.2/8)

4 I made great works.

I built houses and planted vineyards for myself.

5 I made myself gardens and parks,
and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees.

6 I made myself pools from which to water
the forest of growing trees.

Ecclesiastes 2:4-6 (ESV) (p.3/8)

7 I bought male and female slaves,
and had slaves who were born in my house.

I had also great possessions of herds and flocks,
more than any who had been before me in
Jerusalem.

Ecclesiastes 2:7 (ESV) (p.4/8)

8 I also gathered for myself silver and gold
and the treasure of kings and provinces.

I got singers, both men and women,
and many concubines, the delight of the sons of
man.

Ecclesiastes 2:8 (ESV) (p.5/8)

⁹ So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem.

Also my wisdom remained with me.

Ecclesiastes 2:9 (ESV) (p.6/8)

10 And whatever my eyes desired
I did not keep from them.

I kept my heart from no pleasure,
for my heart found pleasure in all my toil,
and this was my reward for all my toil.

Ecclesiastes 2:10 (ESV) (p.7/8)

11 Then I considered all that my hands had done
and the toil I had expended in doing it,

and behold, all was vanity and a striving after
wind,

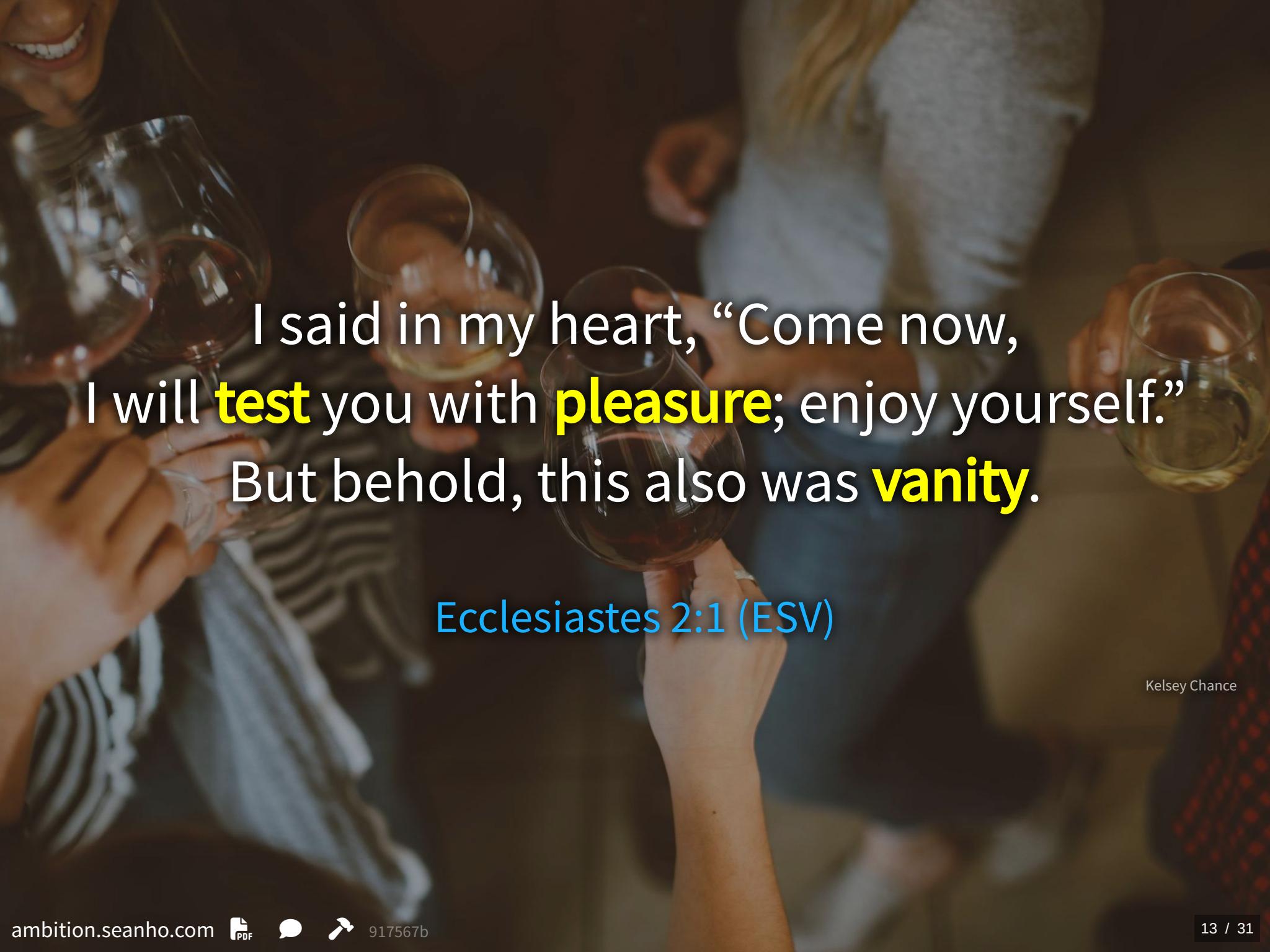
and there was nothing to be gained under the
sun.

Ecclesiastes 2:11 (ESV) (p.8/8)



Ambition (Ecc2)

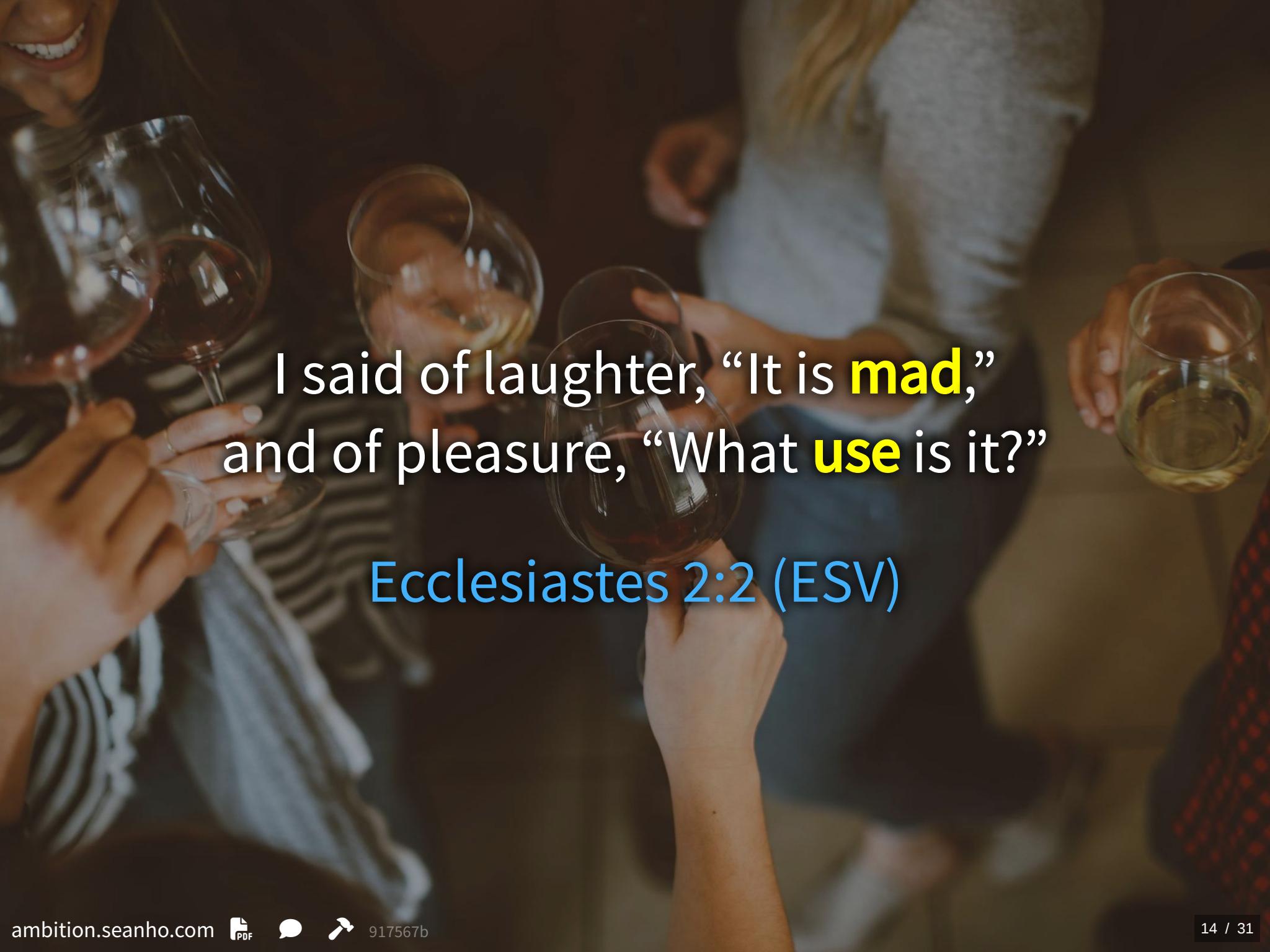
1. Pleasure (v1-3)
2. Projects (v4-6)
3. Possessions (v7-9)

A photograph showing several people from the waist up, holding glasses of various beverages (red wine, white wine, beer) in a social setting. They appear to be at a party or a casual gathering. The lighting is warm and focused on the glasses and hands.

I said in my heart, “Come now,
I will **test** you with **pleasure**; enjoy yourself.”
But behold, this also was **vanity**.

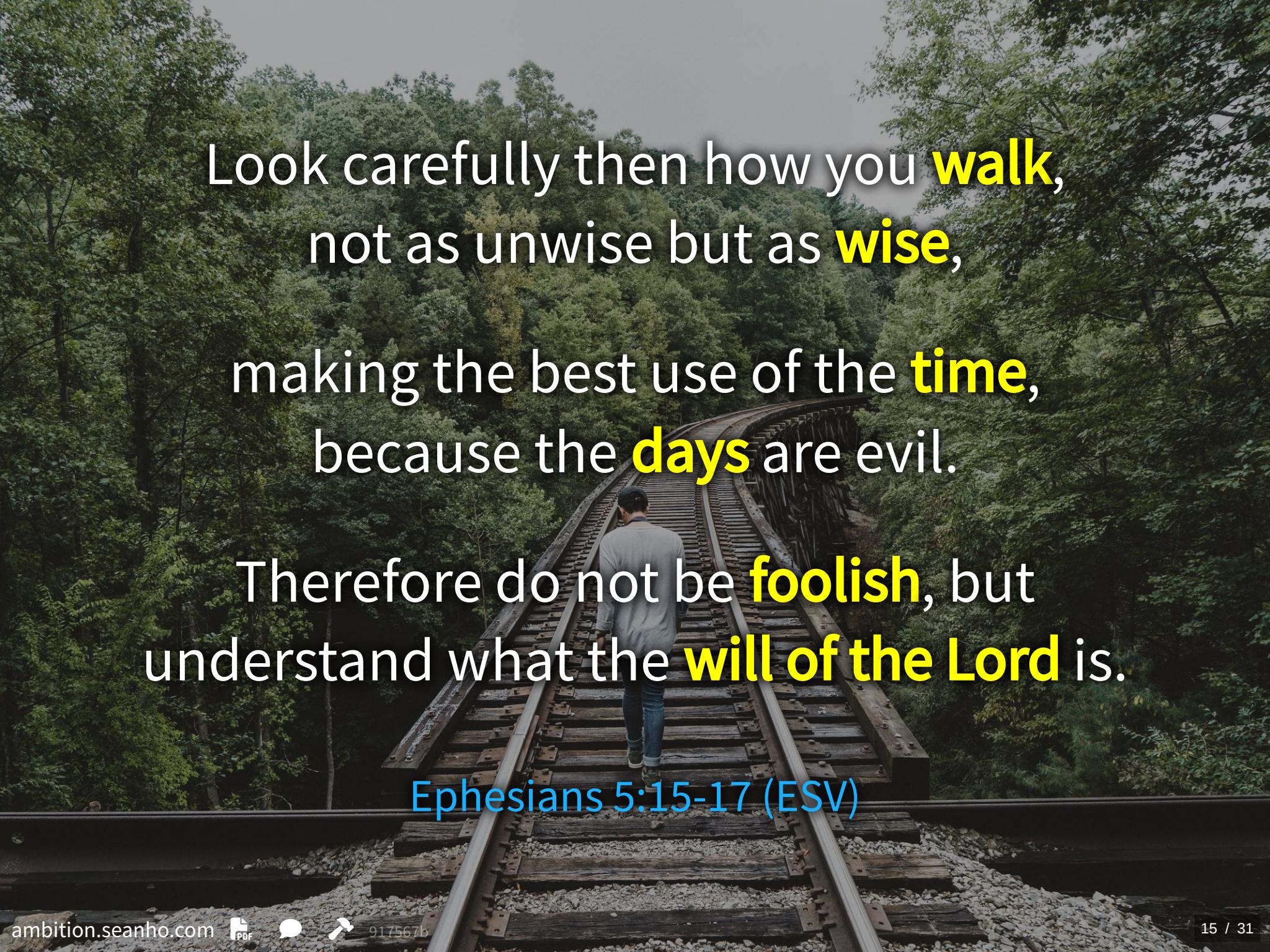
Ecclesiastes 2:1 (ESV)

Kelsey Chance

A photograph showing several hands holding wine glasses, some containing red wine and others white, against a dark background. The scene suggests a social gathering or toast.

I said of laughter, “It is **mad**,”
and of pleasure, “What **use** is it?”

Ecclesiastes 2:2 (ESV)

A photograph of a man from behind, walking away on a set of railroad tracks that curve through a dense forest. The tracks are made of wood and metal, and the surrounding trees are lush and green.

Look carefully then how you **walk**,
not as unwise but as **wise**,
making the best use of the **time**,
because the **days** are evil.

Therefore do not be **foolish**, but
understand what the **will of the Lord** is.

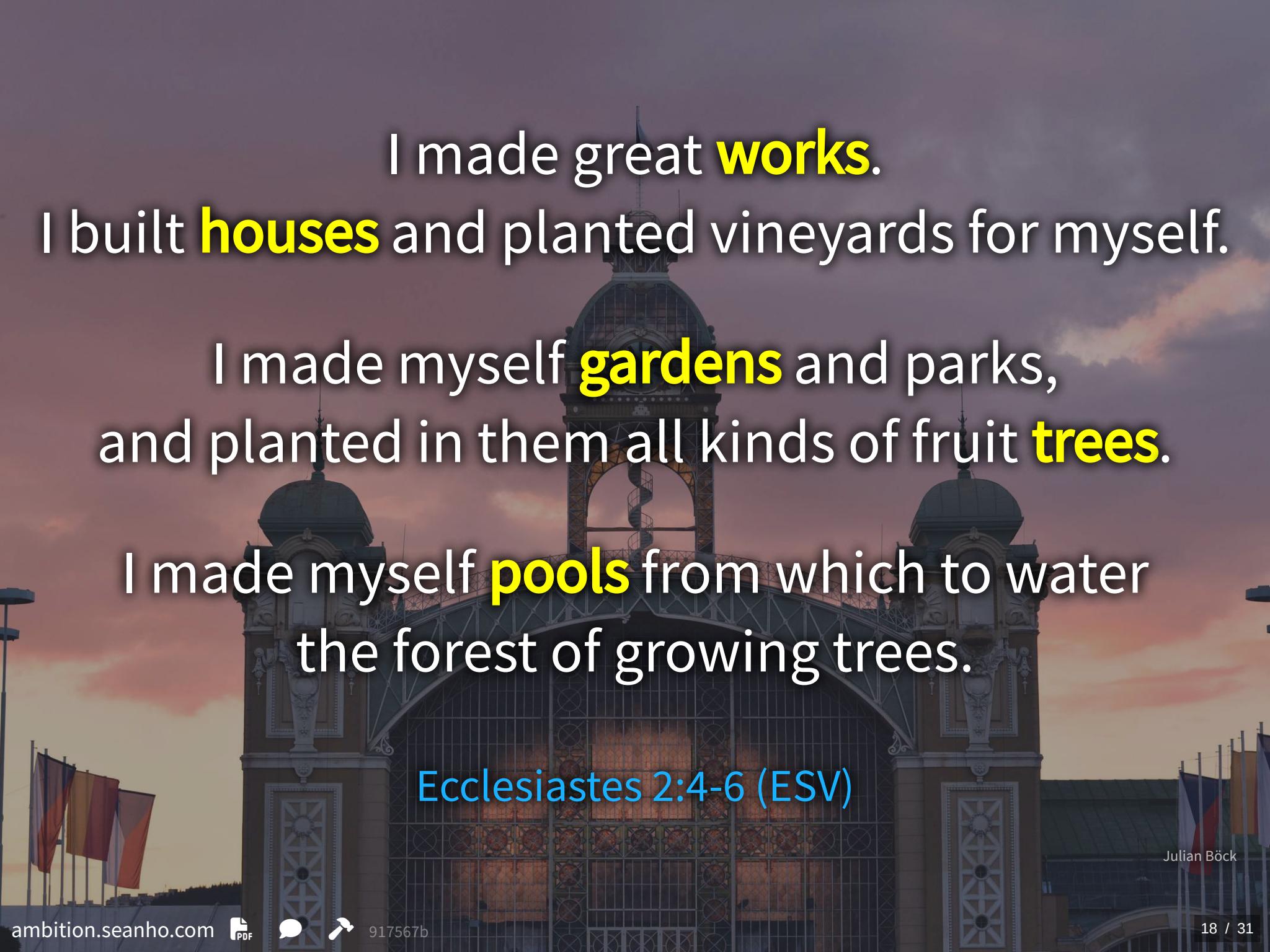
Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)

Is it wrong to
pursue happiness?



Ambition (Ecc2)

1. Pleasure (v1-3)
2. **Projects** (v4-6)
3. Possessions (v7-9)

The background image shows a large, ornate building with multiple domes and a central tower, set against a sunset sky with clouds.

I made great **works**.

I built **houses** and planted vineyards for myself.

I made myself **gardens** and parks,
and planted in them all kinds of fruit **trees**.

I made myself **pools** from which to water
the forest of growing trees.

Ecclesiastes 2:4-6 (ESV)

Julian Böck

Then I considered all that my **hands** had done
and the **toil** I had expended in doing it,

and behold, all was **vanity** and a striving after
wind,

and there was nothing to be gained **under the**
sun.

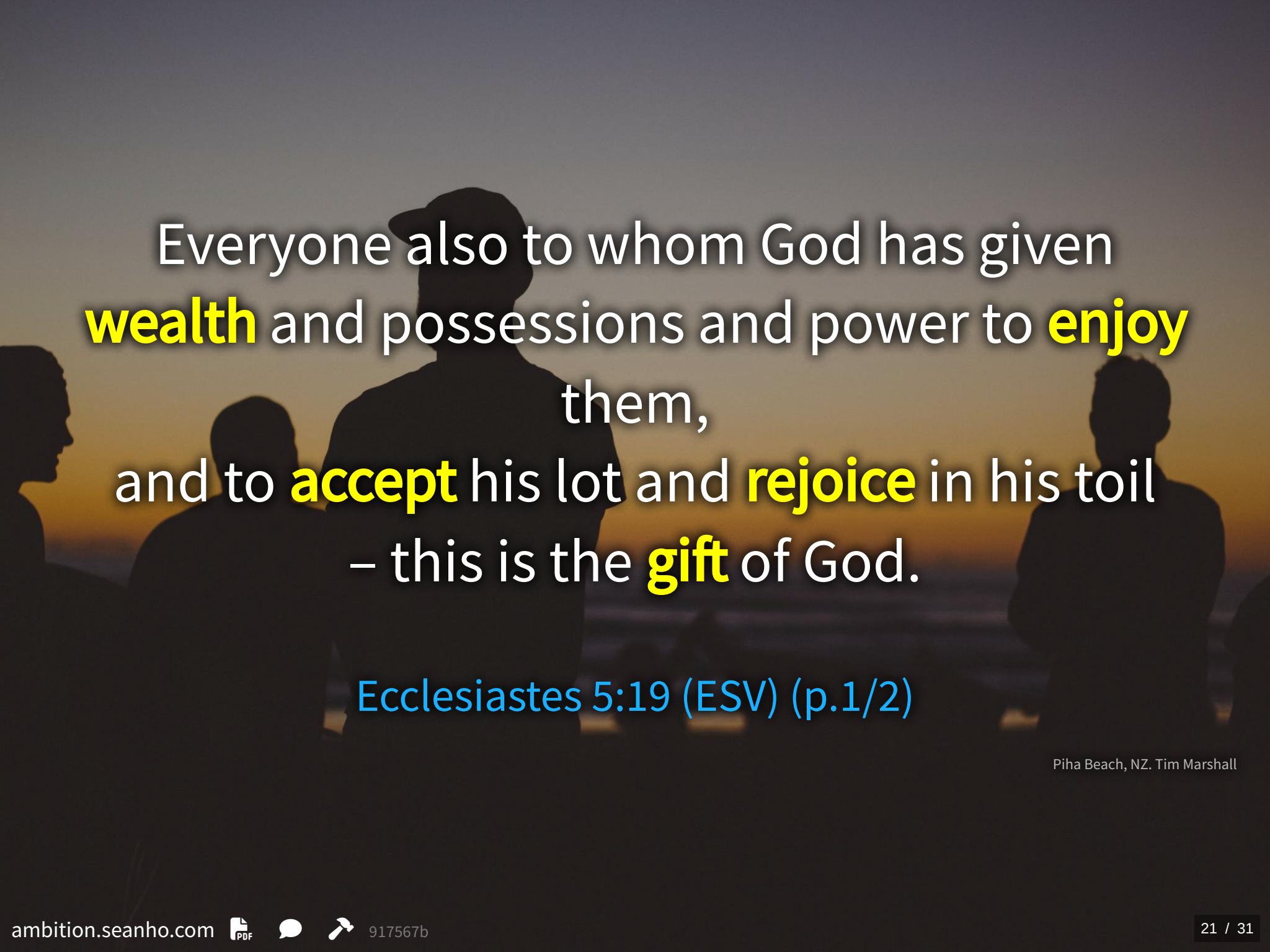
Ecclesiastes 2:11 (ESV)

Ian Espinosa



My heart found pleasure in all my **toil**,
and this was my **reward** for all my toil.

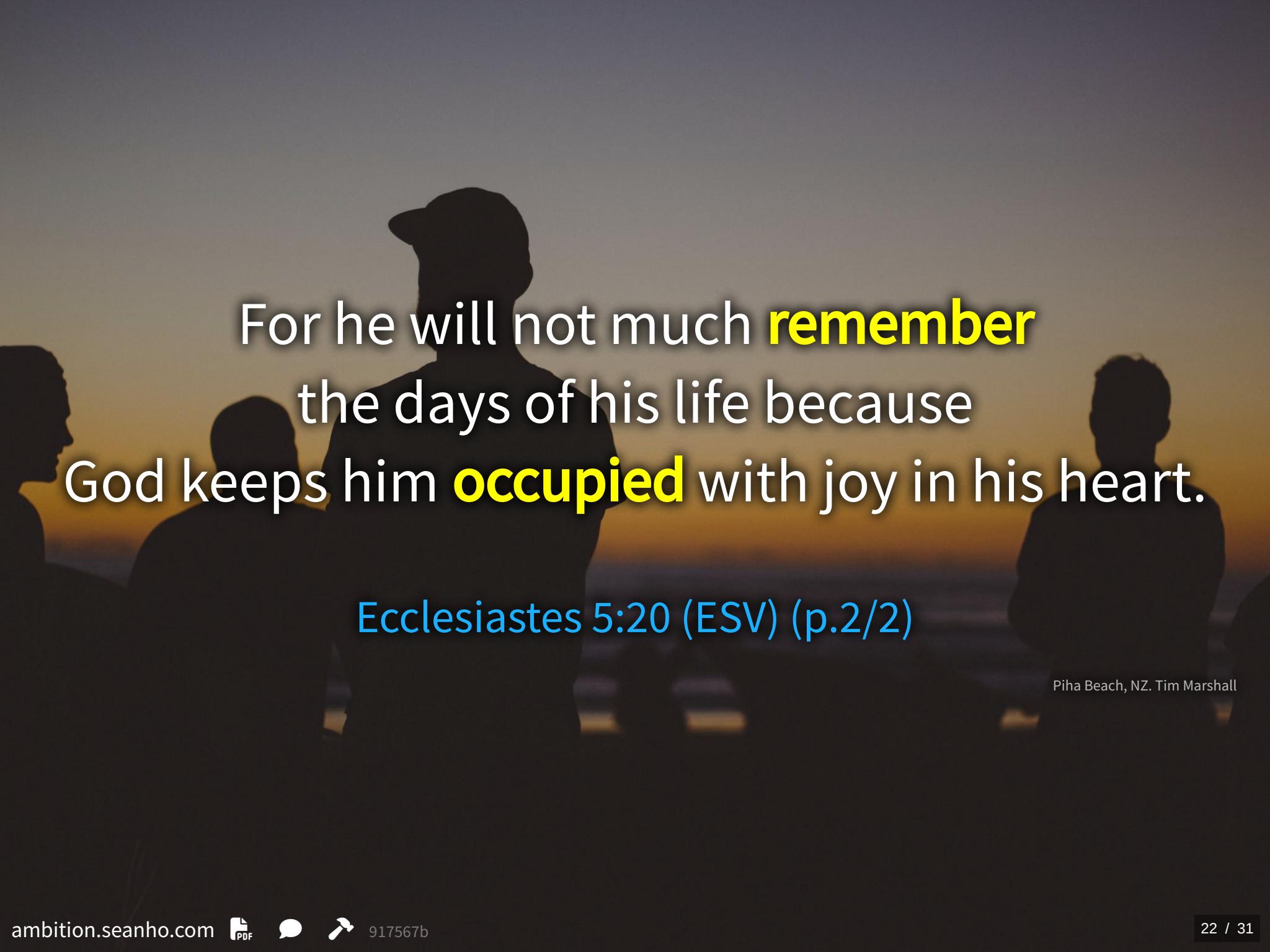
Ecclesiastes 2:10 (ESV)

A photograph showing silhouettes of several people standing on a beach at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, and the horizon shows the ocean. The people are dark shapes against the bright sky.

Everyone also to whom God has given
wealth and possessions and power to **enjoy**
them,
and to **accept** his lot and **rejoice** in his toil
– this is the **gift** of God.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 (ESV) (p.1/2)

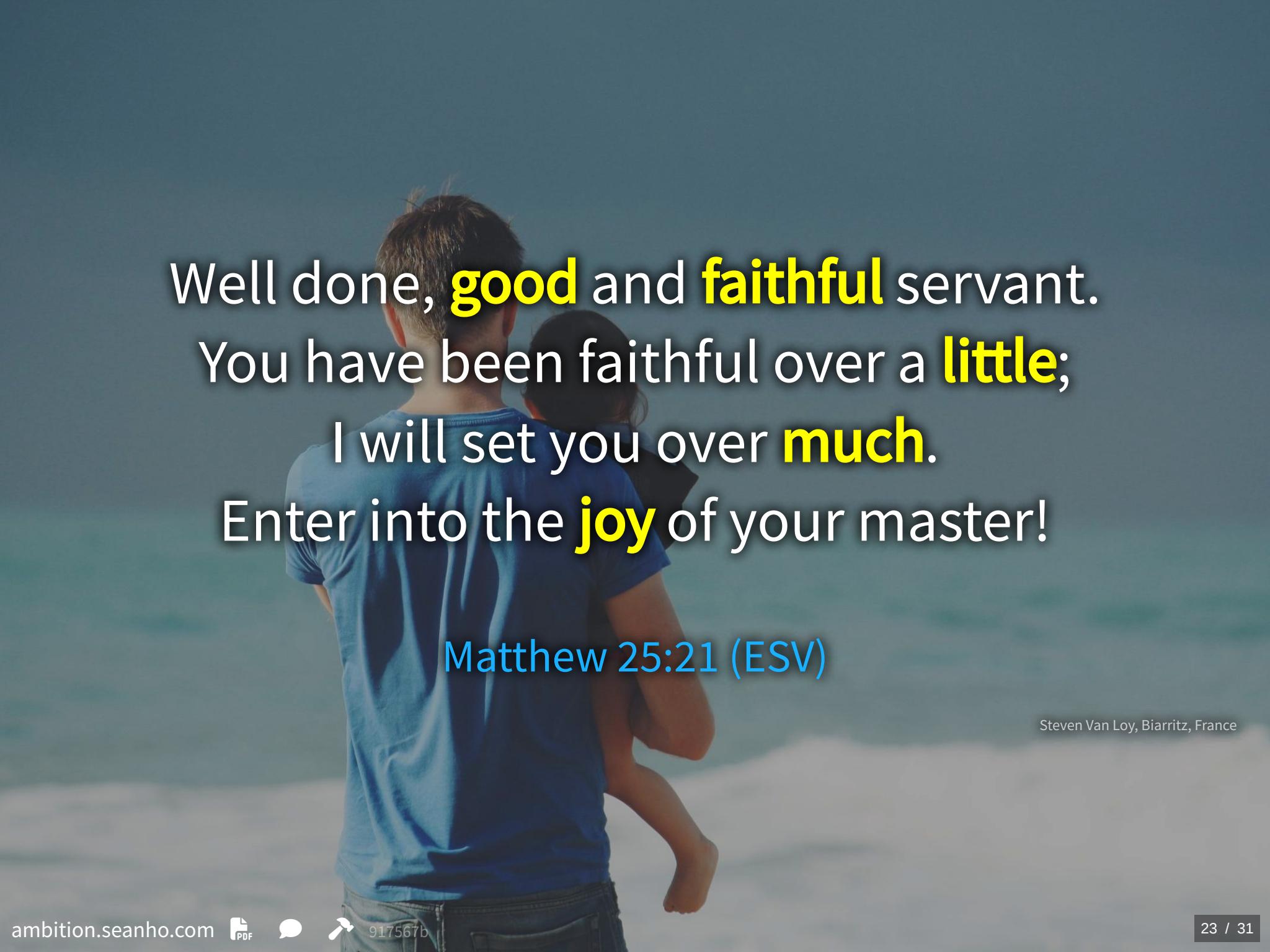
Piha Beach, NZ. Tim Marshall

A photograph showing silhouettes of several people standing on a beach at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, and the horizon shows the ocean. The silhouettes are dark against the bright background.

For he will not much **remember**
the days of his life because
God keeps him **occupied** with joy in his heart.

Ecclesiastes 5:20 (ESV) (p.2/2)

Piha Beach, NZ. Tim Marshall

A photograph of a man from behind, wearing a blue t-shirt and jeans, walking away from the camera towards a body of water. The scene is set outdoors with a clear sky.

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!

Matthew 25:21 (ESV)

Steven Van Loy, Biarritz, France

Have I had the
satisfaction of
a “job well done”?



Ambition (Ecc2)

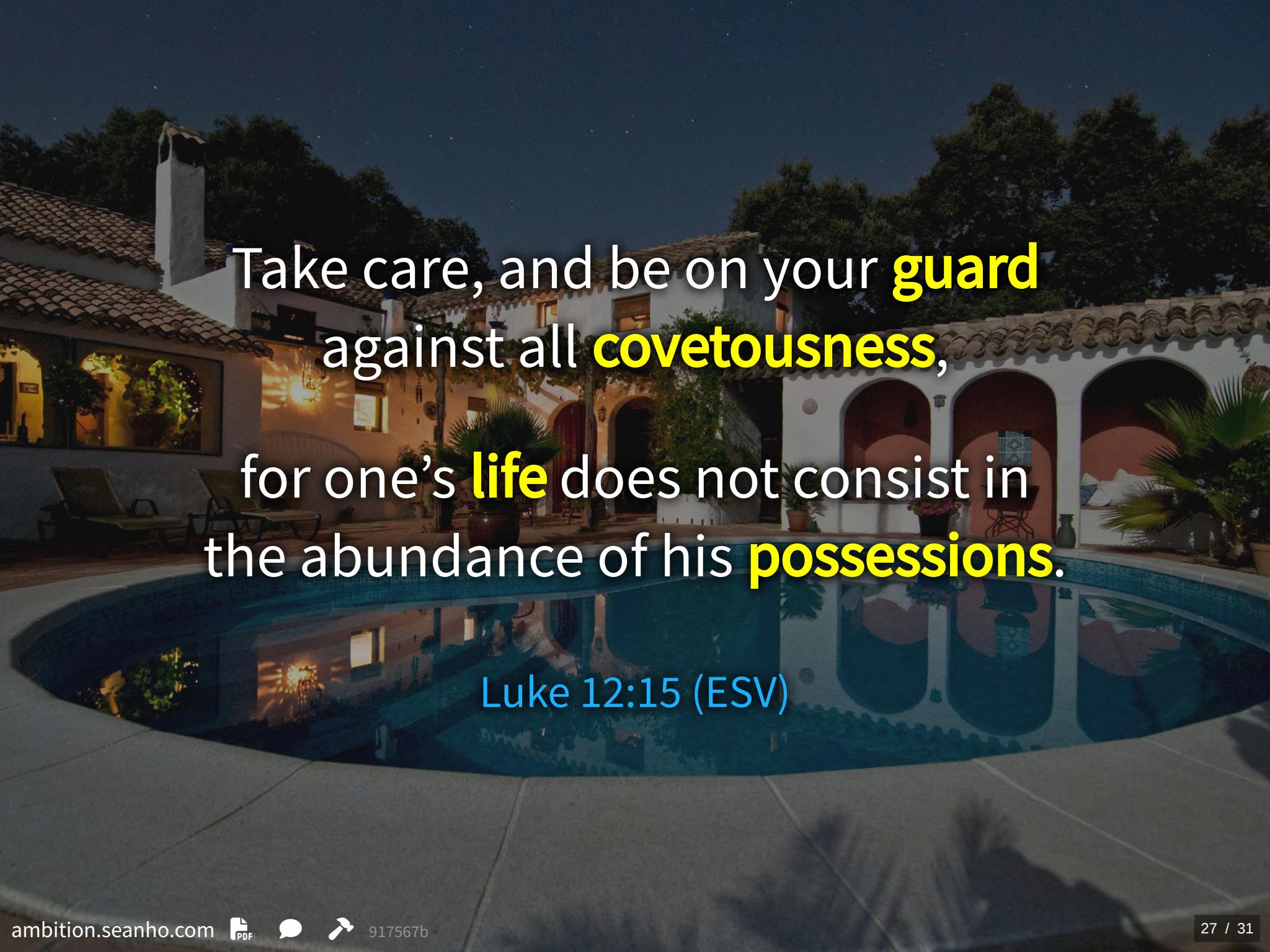
1. Pleasure (v1-3)
2. Projects (v4-6)
3. Possessions (v7-9)

I had also great **possessions** of herds and flocks,
more than any who had been before me in
Jerusalem.

I also gathered for myself **silver** and **gold**
and the **treasure** of kings and provinces.

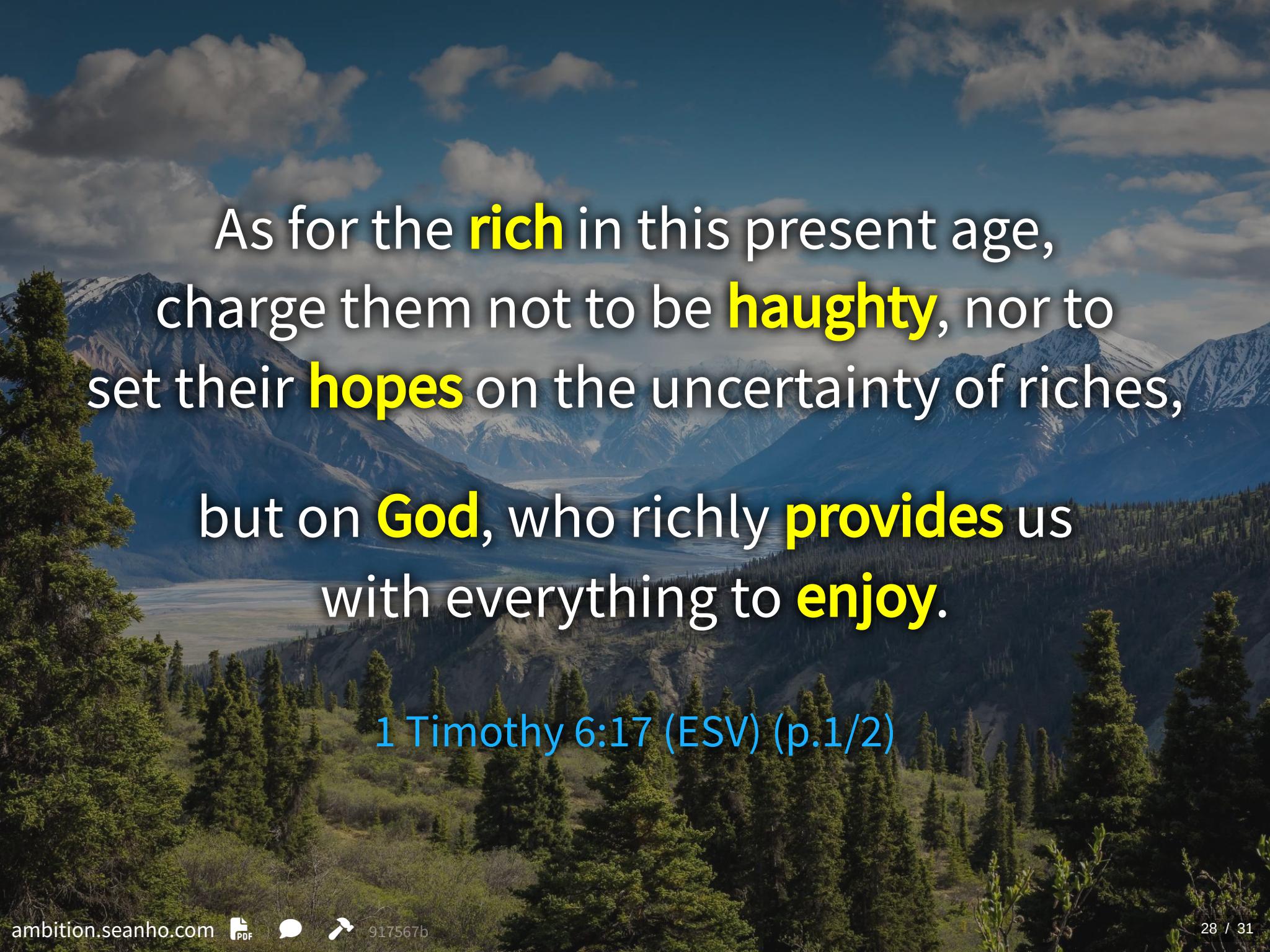
Ecclesiastes 2:7,8 (ESV)

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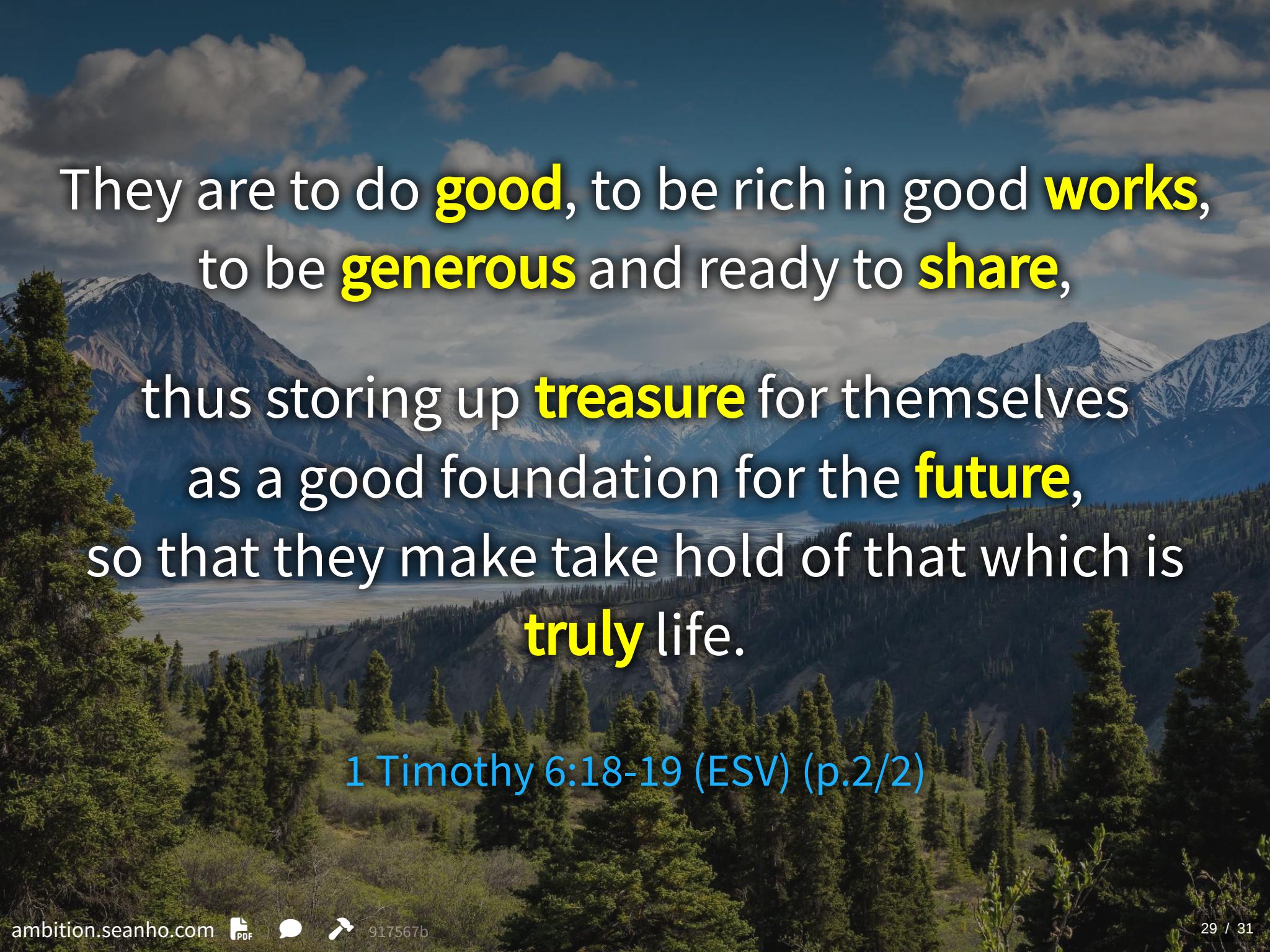
Take care, and be on your **guard**
against all **covetousness**,
for one's **life** does not consist in
the abundance of his **possessions**.

Luke 12:15 (ESV)



As for the **rich** in this present age,
charge them not to be **haughty**, nor to
set their **hopes** on the uncertainty of riches,
but on **God**, who richly **provides** us
with everything to **enjoy**.

1 Timothy 6:17 (ESV) (p.1/2)

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains with snow-capped peaks in the background. In the middle ground, there's a valley with a mix of green fields and dense forests. The foreground is filled with the tops of tall evergreen trees. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

They are to do **good**, to be rich in good **works**,
to be **generous** and ready to **share**,
thus storing up **treasure** for themselves
as a good foundation for the **future**,
so that they make take hold of that which is
truly life.

1 Timothy 6:18-19 (ESV) (p.2/2)

**What gives me
security?**

1. What are my **goals** in life?
2. Is it wrong to pursue **happiness?** (**Eph5:15-17**)
3. Have I had the **satisfaction** of a “job well done”? (**Mt25:21**)
4. What gives me **security**?
(1Tim6:17-19)