

Faith that Tames the Tongue

James 3:6-10

Kristina Flour

**Do my words
matter to God?**

James: Keep the Faith

- Stands the **Test** (1:2-12)
- Demands a **Change** of Heart (1:19-25)
- Loves **Impartially** (2:5-9)
- **Acts** (2:15-24)
- Tames the **Tongue** (3:6-10)

Plattenkogel, Austria. Lukas Budimaier

6 The **tongue** also is a **fire**,
a **world of evil** among the parts of the body.

It **corrupts** the whole body,
sets the whole **course** of one's life on fire,
and is itself set on fire by **hell**.

James 3:6 (NIV) (p.1/3)

- 7 All kinds of **animals**, birds,
reptiles and sea creatures
are being **tamed**
and have been tamed by mankind,
- 8 but **no** human being can **tame the tongue**.
It is a **restless evil**, full of **deadly poison**.

James 3:7-8 (NIV) (p.2/3)

9 With the tongue
we **praise** our Lord and Father,

and with it we **curse** human beings,
who have been made in God's **likeness**.

10 Out of the **same** mouth
come **praise** and **cursing**.

My brothers and sisters, this **should not be**.

James 3:9-10 (NIV) (p.3/3)

Faith that Tames the Tongue

James 3a

1. **Course** (v3-6)
2. **Control** (v7-8)
3. **Cleanliness** (v9-10)

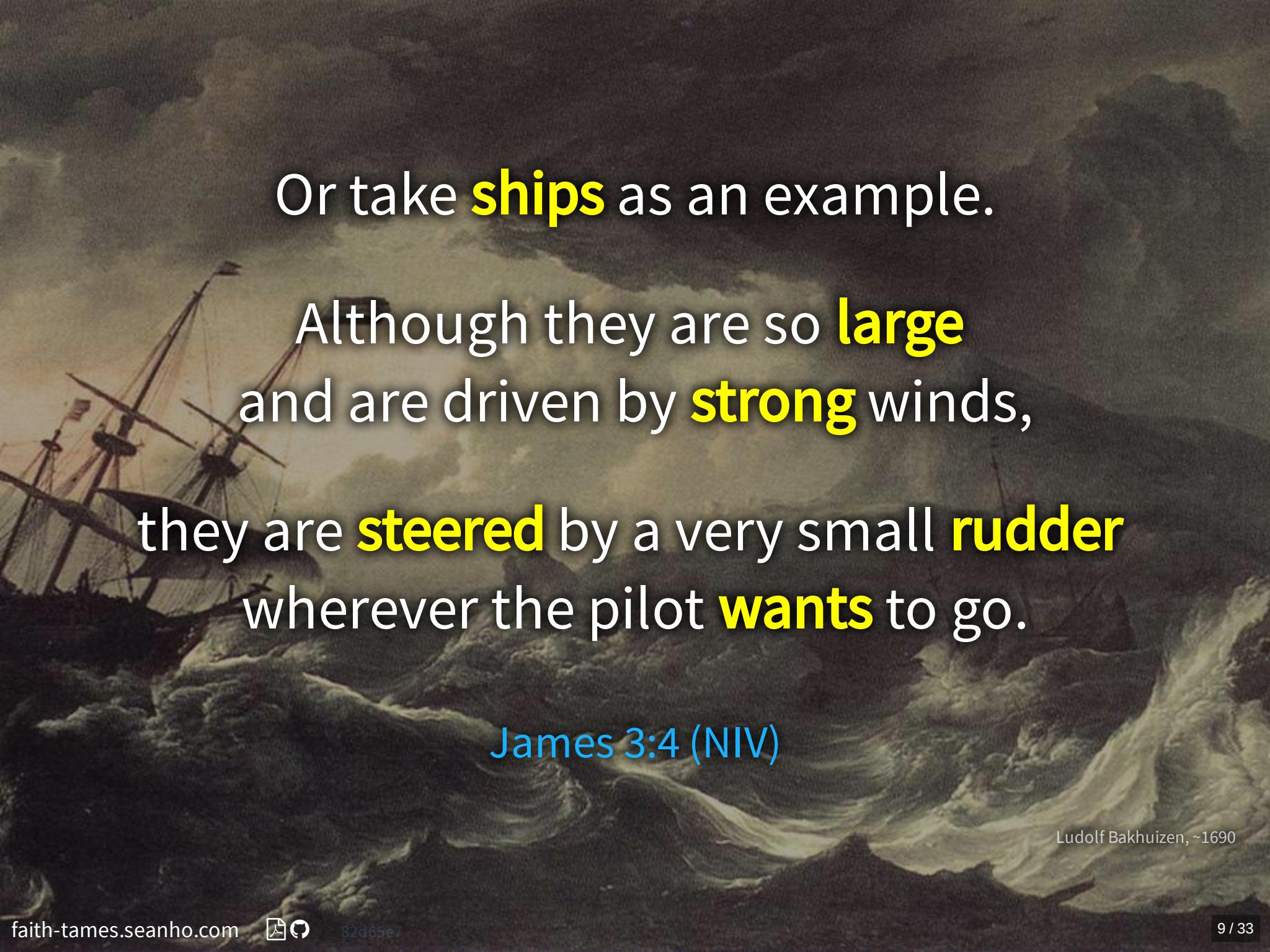


When we put **bits**
into the mouths of **horses**
to make them **obey** us,

we can **turn** the whole animal.

James 3:3 (NIV)

Violeta Pencheva

The background of the slide is a dramatic painting of a ship in a stormy sea. The sky is dark and filled with turbulent clouds. In the lower left foreground, the hull and rigging of a three-masted sailing ship are visible, partially submerged in dark, churning waves. The overall mood is one of struggle and power.

Or take **ships** as an example.

Although they are so **large**
and are driven by **strong** winds,

they are **steered** by a very small **rudder**
wherever the pilot **wants** to go.

James 3:4 (NIV)

Ludolf Bakhuizen, ~1690

A photograph of a forest fire on a hillside at night. The sky is dark orange from the fire. In the foreground, there are some bushes and a few houses. In the background, a large hillside is covered in flames. Power lines are visible across the scene.

Consider what a great **forest**
is set on **fire** by a small **spark**.

James 3:5 (NIV)

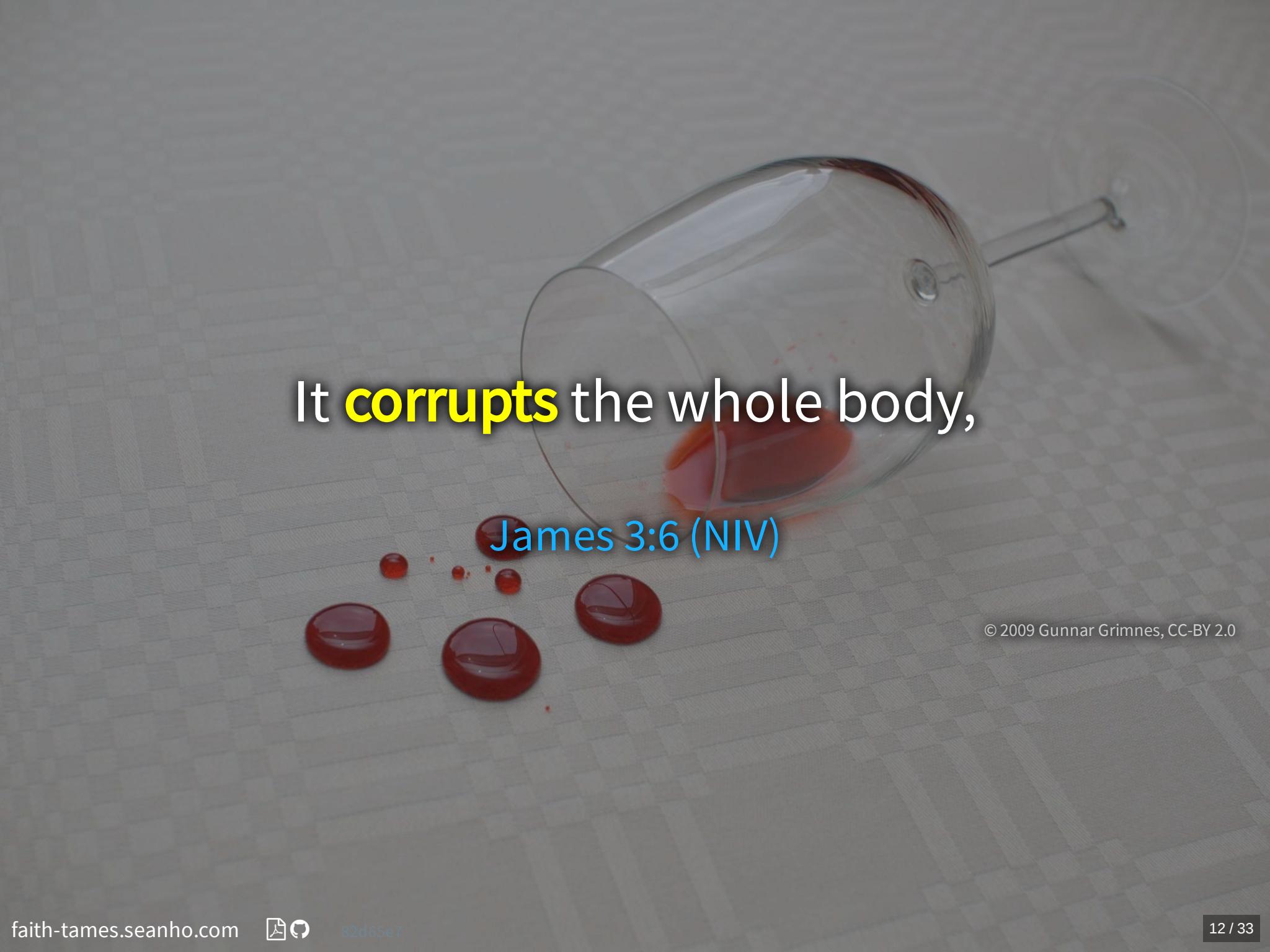
Estreito da Calheta, Portugal. Michael Held



The **tongue** also is a **fire**,
a **world of evil** among the parts of the body.

James 3:6 (NIV)

Gulf of Mexico. NASA

A photograph of a clear wine glass lying on its side on a light-colored tiled floor. Red wine is spilling out of the glass onto the tiles. Several large, reflective red drops are scattered on the floor around the base of the glass.

It **corrupts** the whole body,

James 3:6 (NIV)

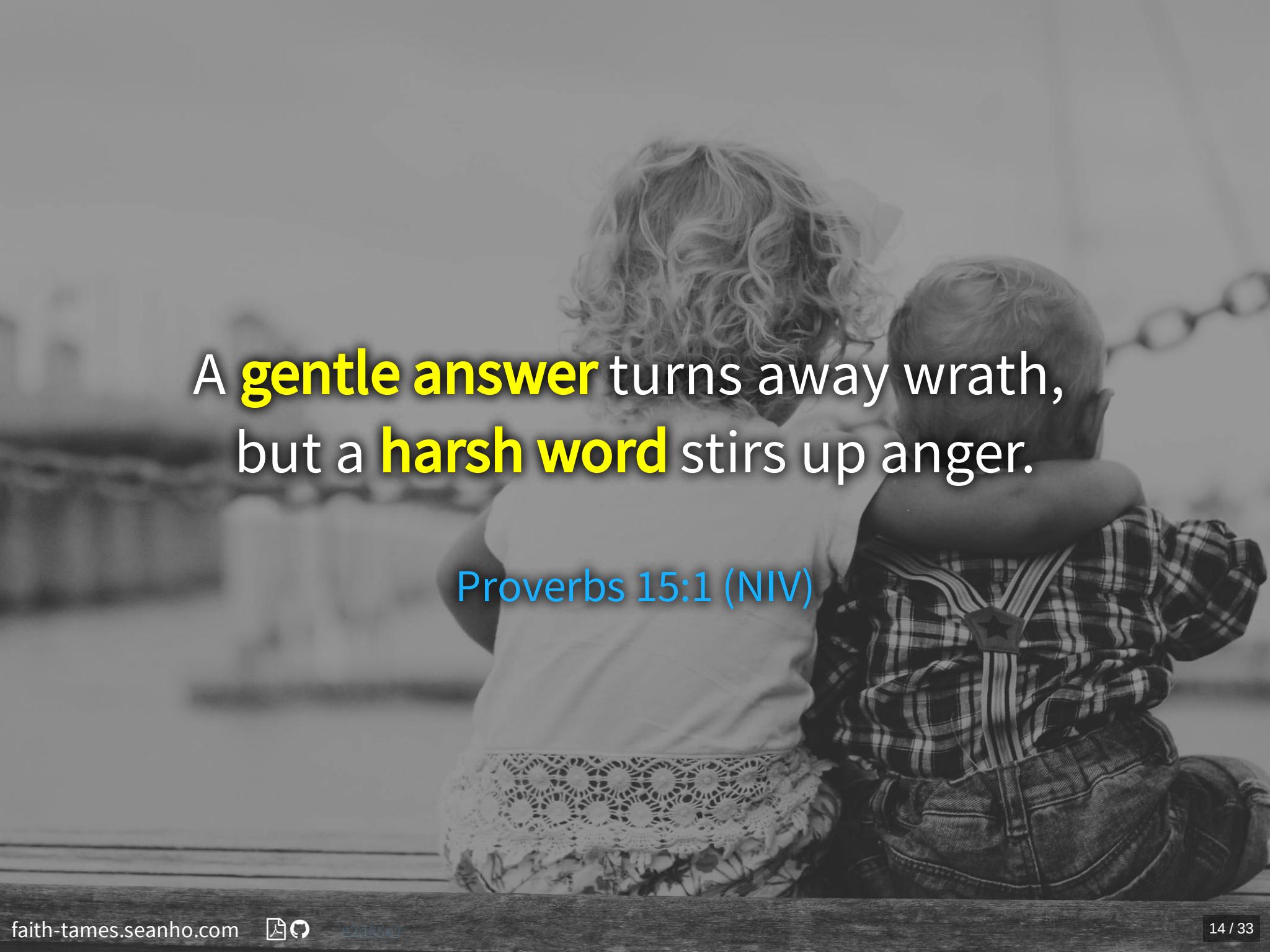
© 2009 Gunnar Grimnes, CC-BY 2.0

A person is walking through a field of fire. A large circular ring of fire is above them, resembling a celestial body or a portal. The scene is set against a dark background.

sets the whole **course** of one's life on fire,
and is itself set on fire by **hell**.

James 3:6 (NIV)

Peter John Maridable



A **gentle answer** turns away wrath,
but a **harsh word** stirs up anger.

Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)

Do I believe my
words
can affect the
course of my life?

Faith that Tames the Tongue

James 3a

1. Course (v6)
2. **Control** (v7-8)
3. Cleanliness (v9-10)



All kinds of **animals**, birds,
reptiles and sea creatures
are being **tamed**
and have been tamed by **mankind**,
8 but **no** human being can tame the **tongue**.

James 3:7-8 (NIV)

Flängan, Norberg. Adam Morse

A close-up photograph of a woman with long, wavy brown hair. She is resting her chin on her right hand, with her fingers tucked under her chin. Her eyes are closed or looking downwards, suggesting a thoughtful or prayerful state. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with warm lighting.

He who is **slow** to anger
is better than the **mighty**,

And he who rules his **spirit**,
than he who captures a **city**.

Proverbs 16:32 (NASB)

Ben White



It is a **restless evil**, full of **deadly poison**.

James 3:8 (NIV)

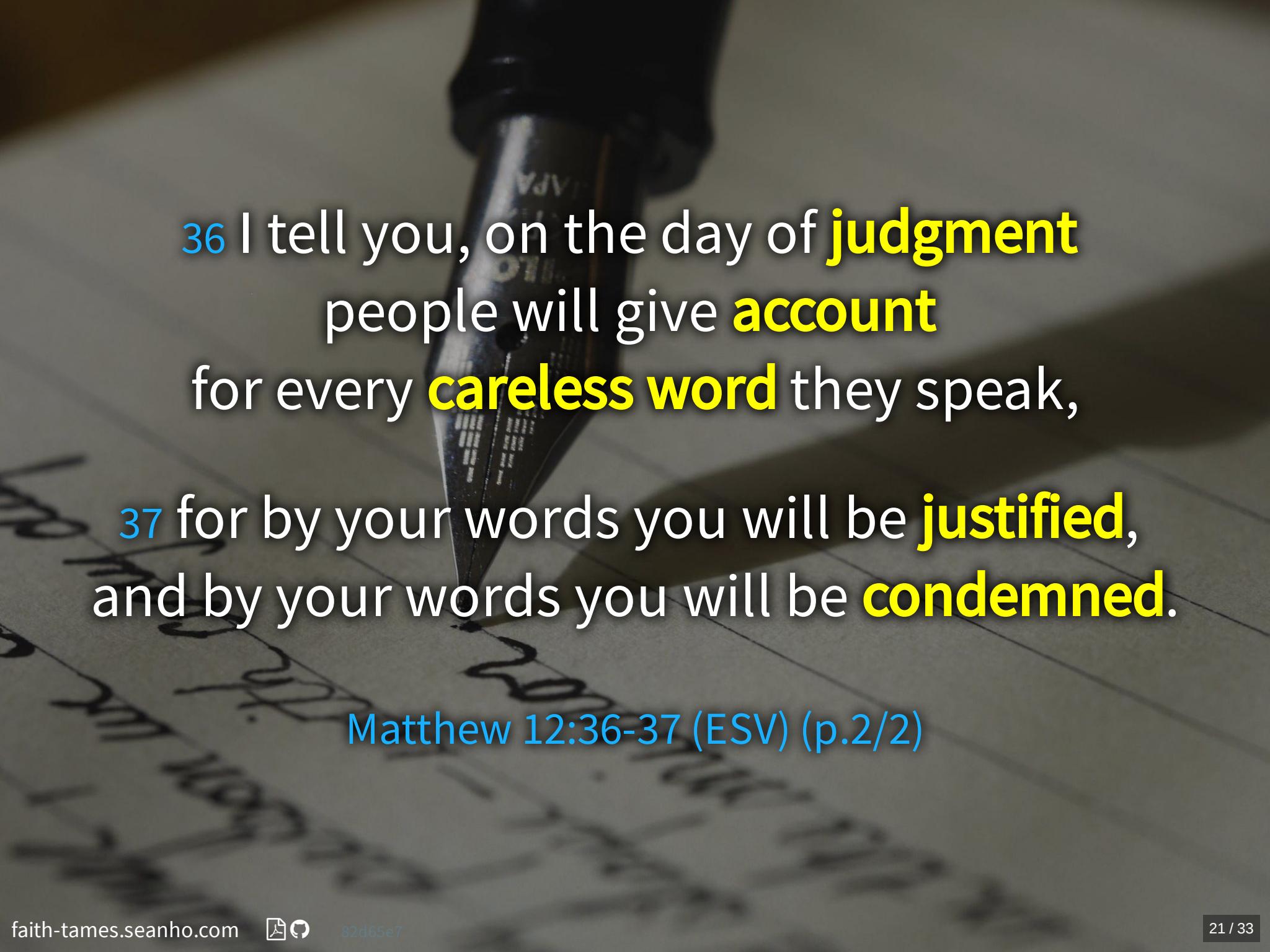
Tainan City, Taiwan. Boris Smokrovic

For out of the abundance of the **heart**
the **mouth** speaks.

35 The good **person** out of his good **treasure**
brings forth **good**,
and the evil **person** out of his evil **treasure**
brings forth **evil**.

Matthew 12:34-35 (ESV) (p.1/2)

Aaron Burden

A black and white photograph of a wooden gavel resting on an open Bible. The gavel is positioned vertically, with its head at the top and handle pointing downwards. The Bible is open to a page with text visible on both sides. The lighting is dramatic, creating strong shadows and highlights on the wood and paper.

36 I tell you, on the day of **judgment**
people will give **account**
for every **careless word** they speak,

37 for by your words you will be **justified**,
and by your words you will be **condemned**.

Matthew 12:36-37 (ESV) (p.2/2)



Everyone should be quick to **listen**,
slow to **speak** and slow to become **angry**

James 1:19 (NIV)

How have I tried
and failed to
control my tongue?

Faith that Tames the Tongue

James 3a

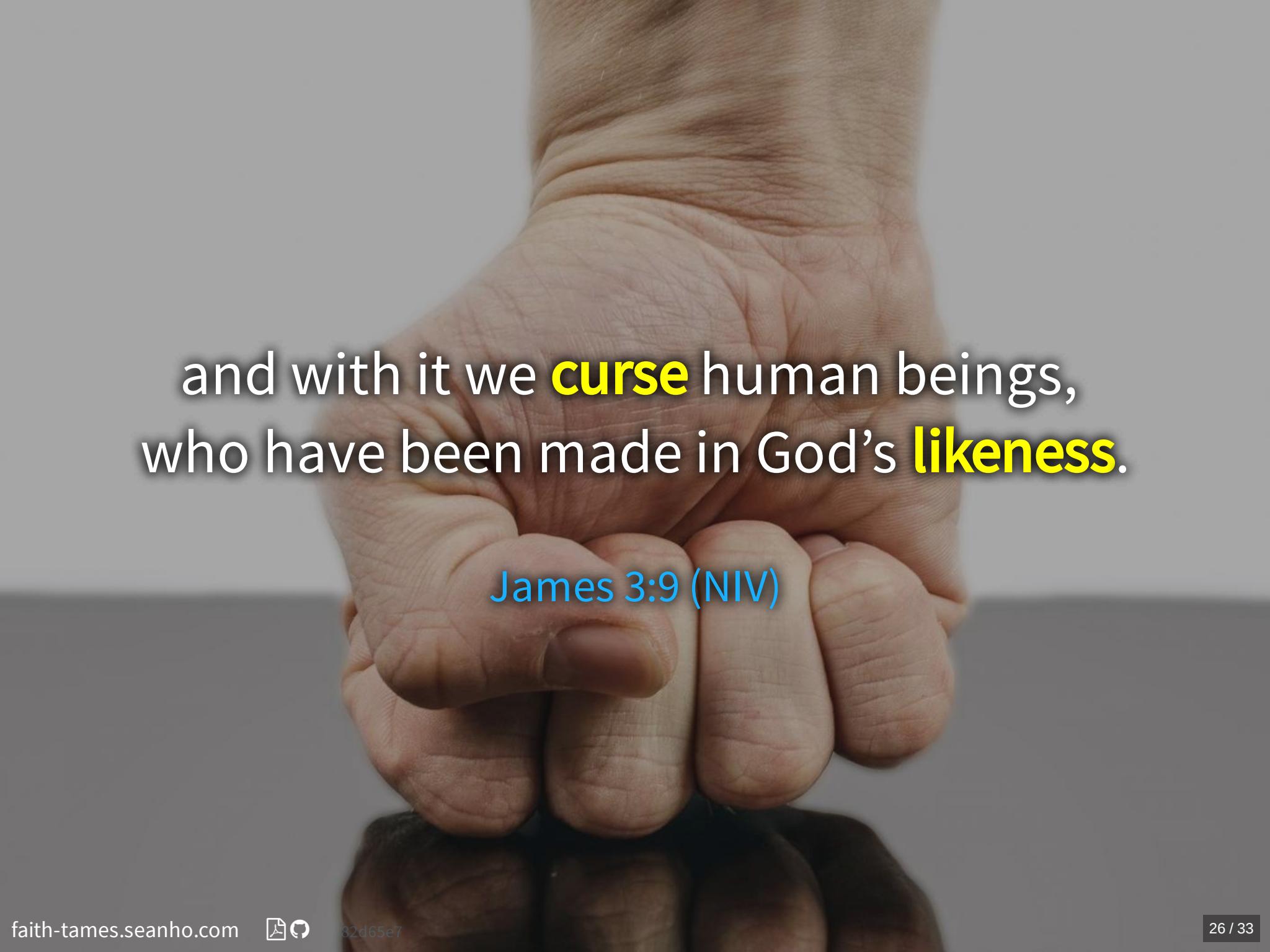
1. Course (v3-6)
2. Control (v7-8)
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With the tongue we **praise**
our Lord and Father,

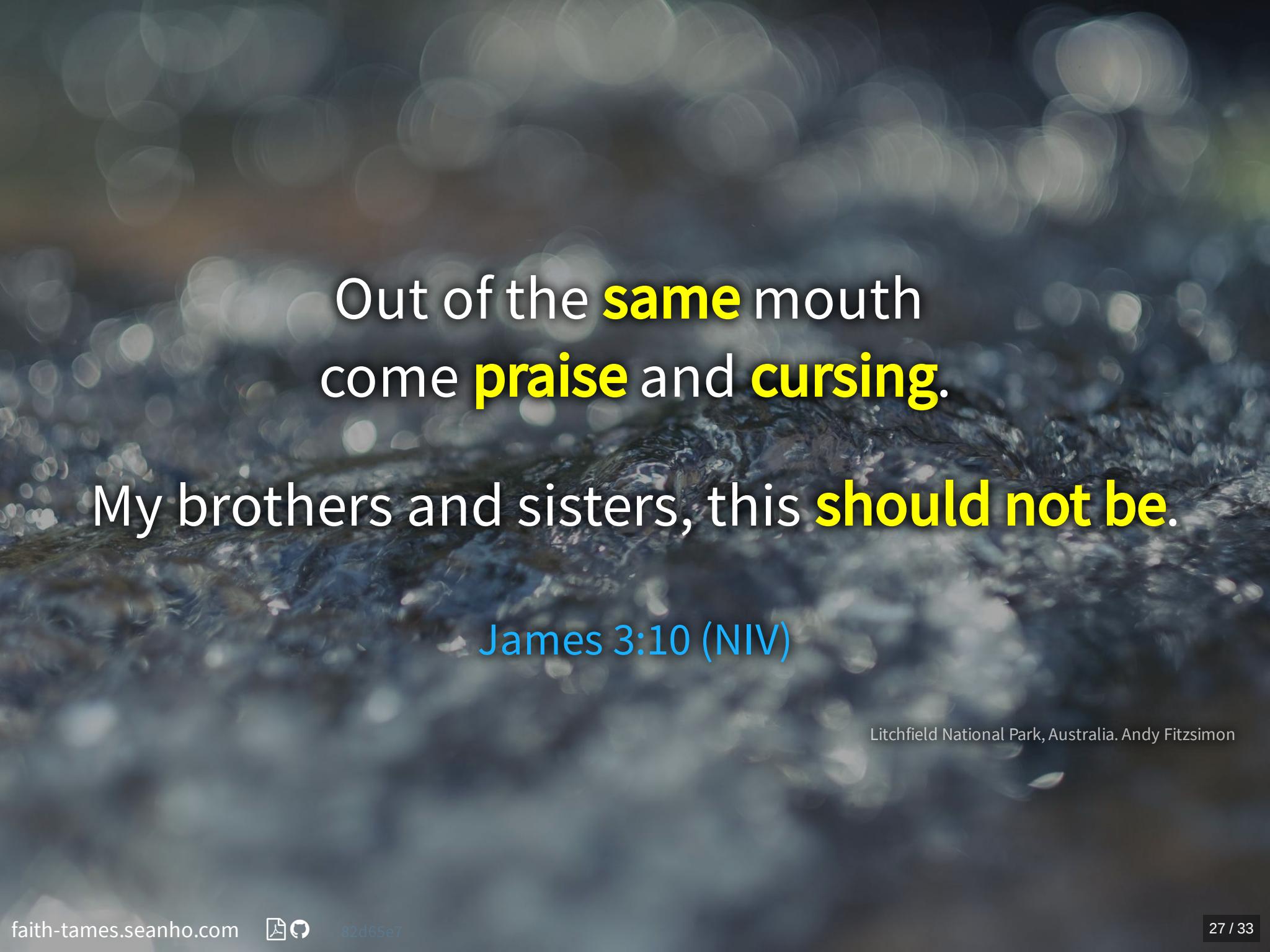
James 3:9 (NIV)

Los Angeles. Edwin Andrade



and with it we **curse** human beings,
who have been made in God's **likeness**.

James 3:9 (NIV)

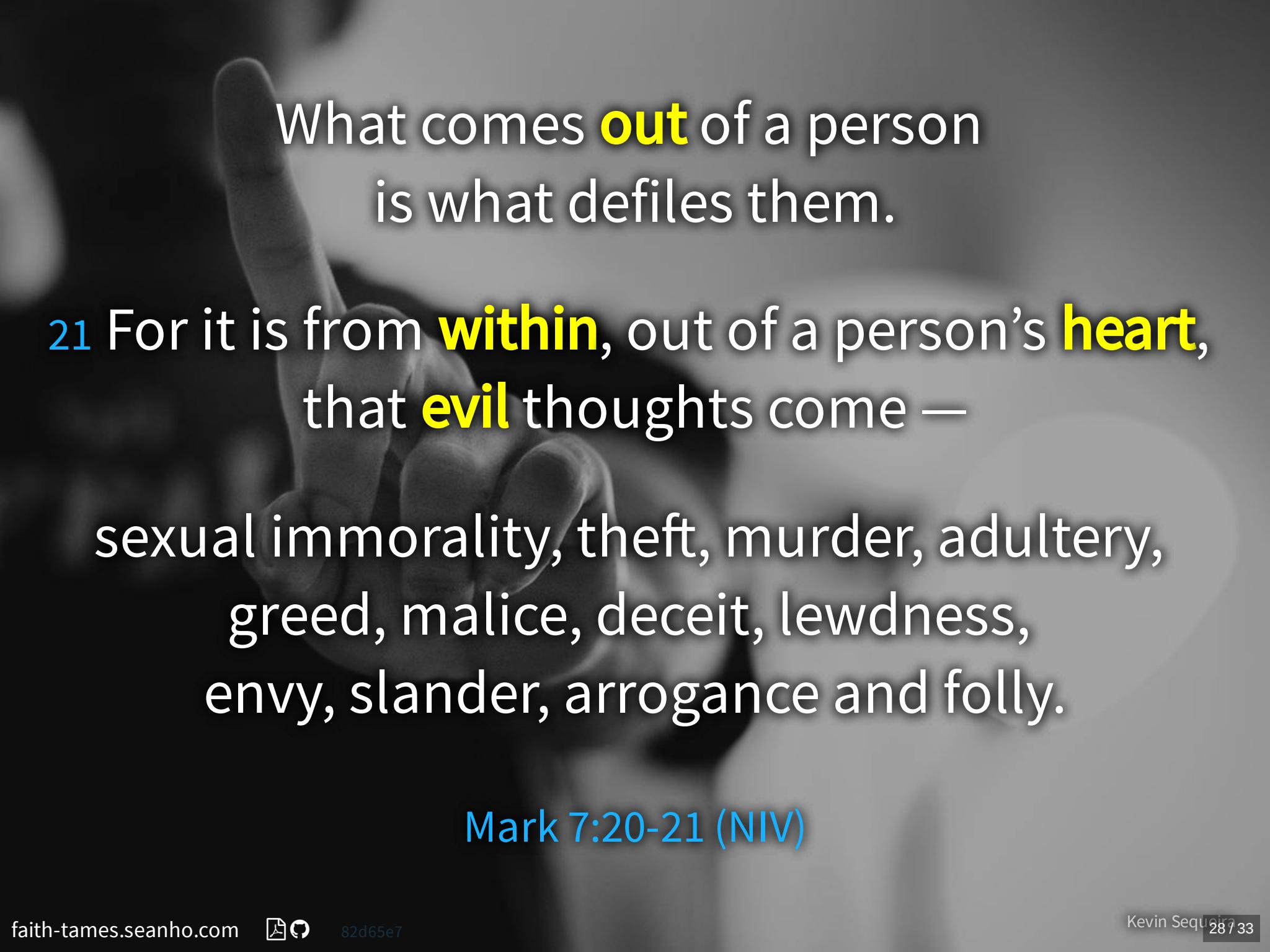


Out of the **same** mouth
come **praise** and **cursing**.

My brothers and sisters, this **should not be**.

James 3:10 (NIV)

Litchfield National Park, Australia. Andy Fitzsimon



What comes **out** of a person
is what defiles them.

21 For it is from **within**, out of a person's **heart**,
that **evil** thoughts come —

sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,
greed, malice, deceit, lewdness,
envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

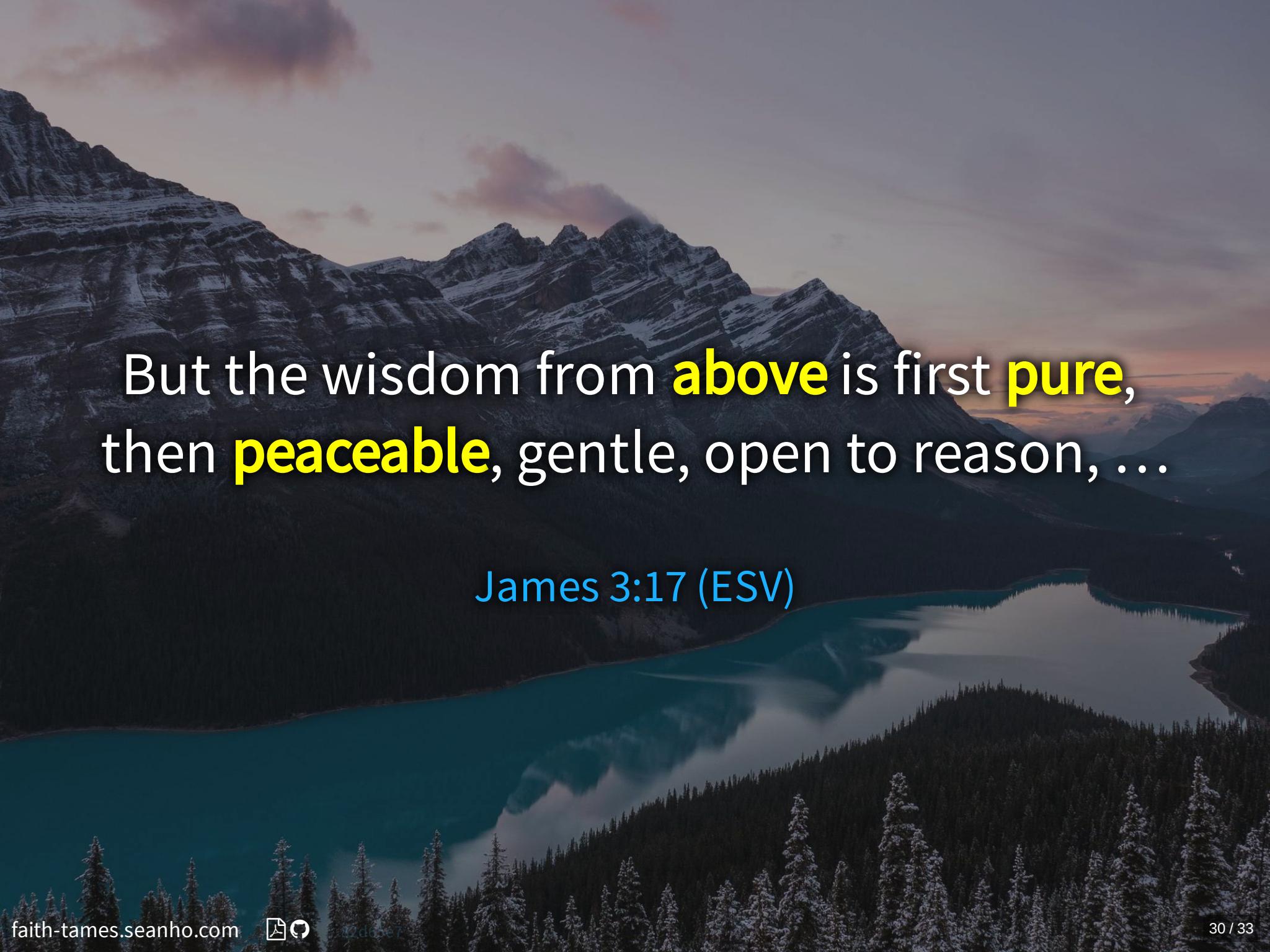
Mark 7:20-21 (NIV)

The background of the slide is a photograph of a coastal scene at either sunrise or sunset. The sky is a gradient from dark blue at the top to orange and yellow near the horizon. Large, dark rock formations are silhouetted against the lighter sky and water. Waves are visible crashing against the rocks.

Anyone who is never at **fault**
in what they **say**

is **perfect**,
able to keep their whole body **in check**.

James 3:2 (NIV)

A wide-angle photograph of a mountain range during sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, warm colors of orange, yellow, and pink. In the foreground, there's a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. A large, turquoise-colored lake curves through the middle ground, its surface reflecting the sky. The background features several majestic, rugged mountains with patches of snow on their peaks.

But the wisdom from **above** is first **pure**,
then **peaceable**, gentle, open to reason, ...

James 3:17 (ESV)

Does my pattern
of speech differ
at home, at work,
and at church?

Anyone who is never at **fault**
in what they **say**

is **perfect**,

able to keep their whole body **in check**.

James 3:2 (NIV)

