

# Work for the Glory of God

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## 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

Aspire to be a **fool**,  
not a professional

Work to train your **heart**

Toil for God's kingdom  
by resting in His **victory**

“If innovation is purely **market driven**,  
we could have amazing advances in **inventions**  
that leave the world even **more divided**....

“If we have **optimism**  
but we don’t have **empathy**,  
  
it doesn’t matter how much  
we master the **secrets of science** –  
  
we’re not really **solving problems**,  
we’re just working on **puzzles**

Bill Gates, Stanford commencement 2014

# Work for the Glory of God

1. The Snare of **Professionalism**
2. The Blessing of **Employment**
3. The Grace of **God's Work**

**Aspire to be a fool,  
not a professional**



# 1. The Snare of Professionalism

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1. Chasing the **Guild**
2. Building **Ambition**
3. Earning **Wages**

## NEWS

## Who's Afraid of Peer Review?

John Bohannon

[+ See all authors and affiliations](#)

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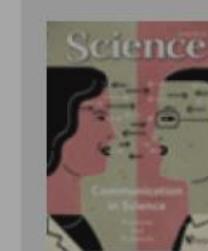
A spoof paper concocted by *Science* reveals little or no scrutiny at many open-access journals.

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On 4 July, good news arrived in the inbox of Ocorrafoo Cobange, a biologist at the Wassee Institute of Medicine in Asmara. It was the official letter of acceptance for a paper he had submitted 2 months earlier to the *Journal of Natural Pharmaceuticals*, describing the anticancer properties of a chemical that Cobange had extracted from a lichen.

In fact, it should have been promptly rejected. Any reviewer with more than a high-school knowledge of chemistry and the ability to understand a basic data plot should have spotted the paper's short-comings immediately. Its experiments are so hopelessly flawed that the results are meaningless.

I know because I wrote the paper. Ocorrafoo Cobange does not exist, nor does the Wassee Institute of Medicine. Over the past 10 months, I have submitted 304 versions of the wonder drug paper to open-access journals. More than half of the journals accepted the paper, failing to notice its fatal flaws. Beyond that headline result, the data from this sting operation reveal the contours of an emerging Wild West in academic publishing.

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The high officials and the satraps sought to find a ground for **complaint** against Daniel with regard to the **kingdom**,

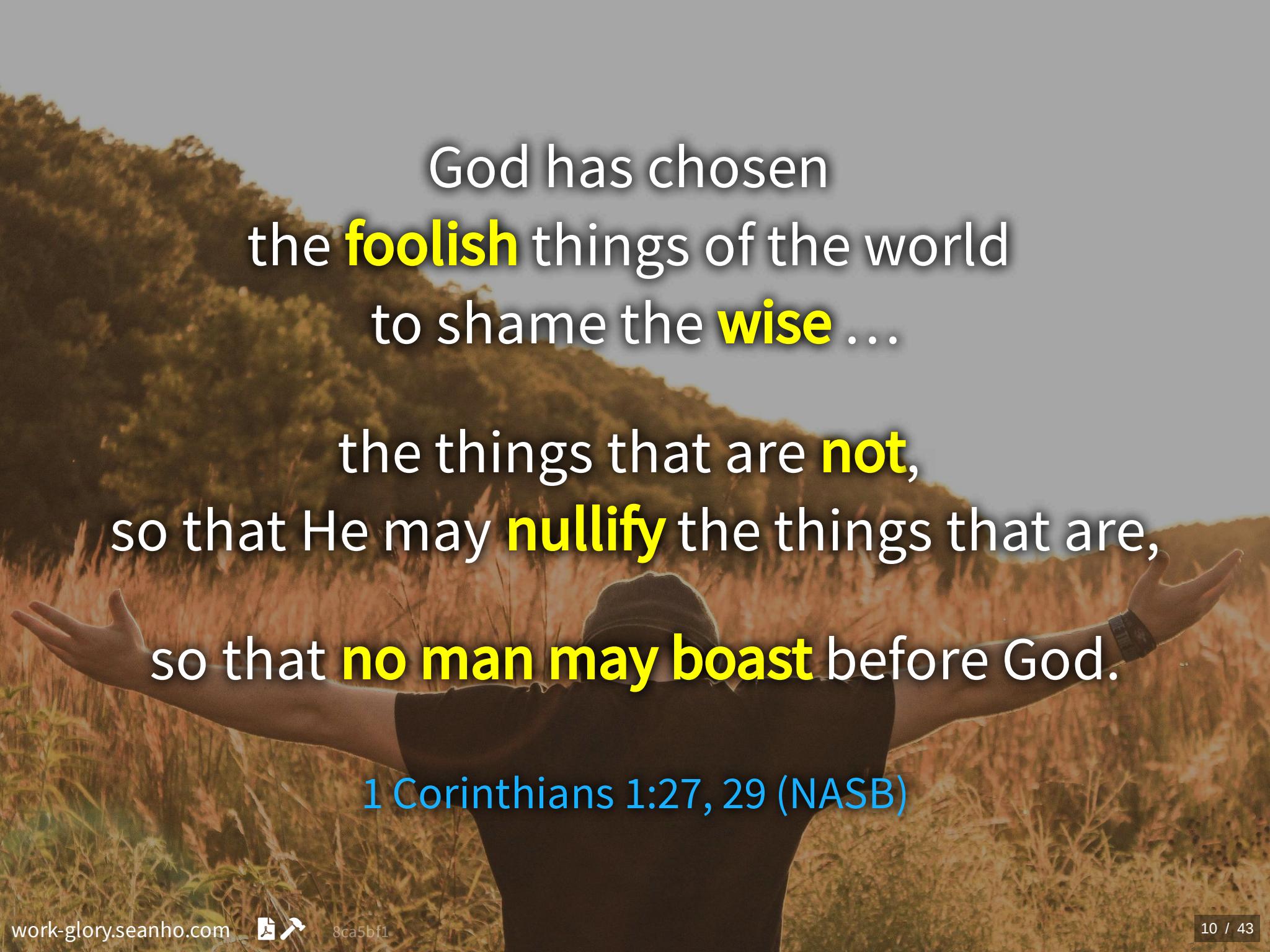
but they could find **no ground**

for complaint or any fault,

because he was **faithful**,

and **no error** or **fault** was found in him.

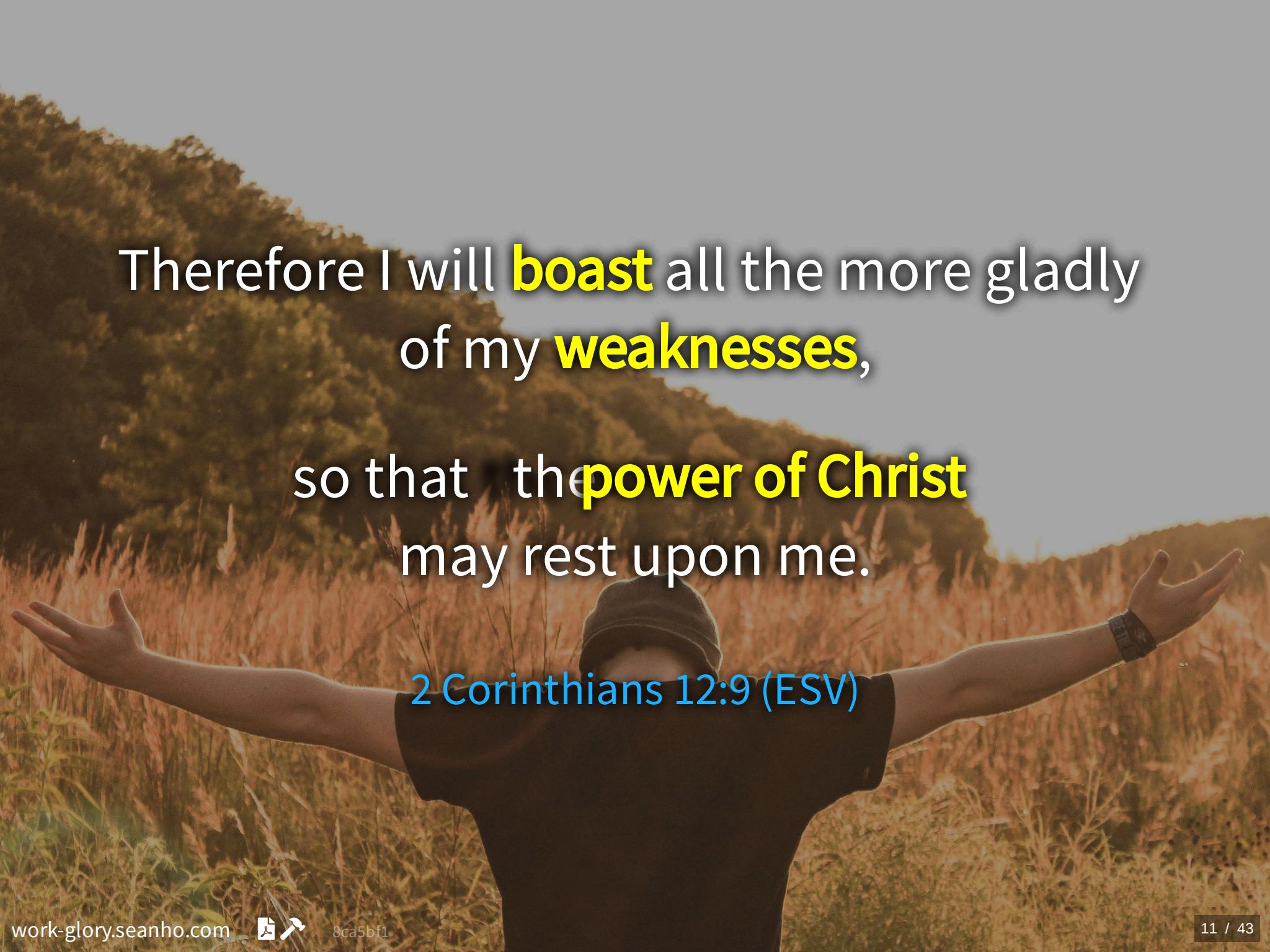
Daniel 6:4 (ESV)

A photograph of a person from the waist up, wearing a dark t-shirt, standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The person's arms are outstretched wide to the sides. The background shows a hillside covered in green trees under a clear sky.

God has chosen  
the **foolish** things of the world  
to shame the **wise** ...

the things that are **not**,  
so that He may **nullify** the things that are,  
so that **no man may boast** before God.

1 Corinthians 1:27, 29 (NASB)

A photograph of a person from the waist up, standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The person is wearing a dark t-shirt and has their arms raised wide open. They are looking upwards towards the sky. The background shows more of the same field stretching into the distance under a clear sky.

Therefore I will **boast** all the more gladly  
of my **weaknesses**,

so that the **power of Christ**  
may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV)

A photograph of a person's hands working at a desk. A laptop is open in the background, and a smartphone is held in the foreground. The person is writing in a notebook with a pen. Several other pens are scattered on the desk.

# 1. The Snare of Professionalism

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1. Chasing the Guild
2. **Building Ambition**
3. Earning Wages

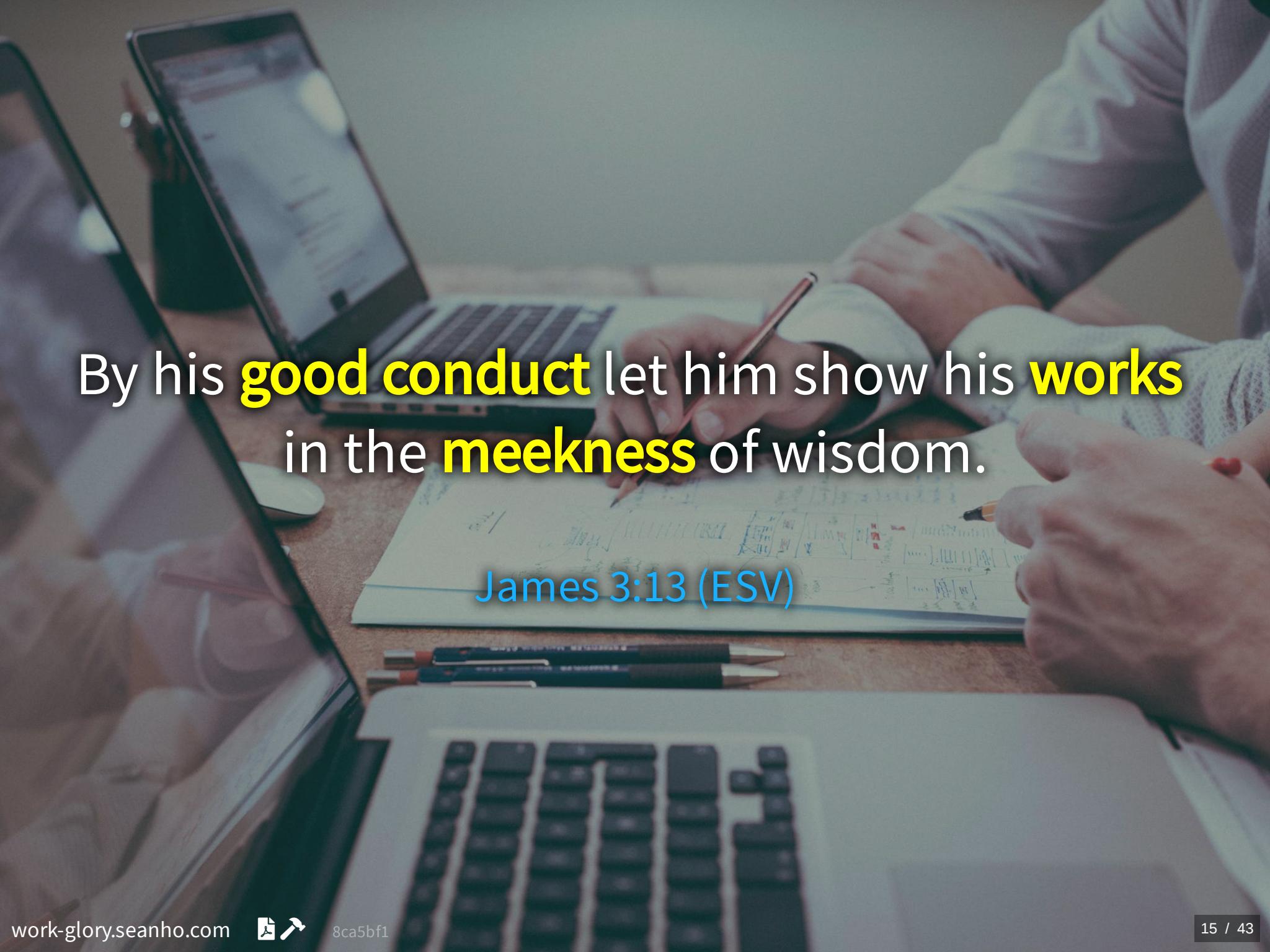
Who is **wise** and **understanding** among you?  
By his **good conduct** let him show his **works**  
in the **meekness** of wisdom.

James 3:13 (ESV) (p.1/2)

But if you have bitter **jealousy**  
and selfish **ambition** in your hearts,  
do not **boast** and be false to the truth.

This is **not** the wisdom  
that comes down from above,  
but is **earthly**, unspiritual, demonic.

James 3:14-15 (ESV) (p.2/2)

A photograph of a person's hands writing in a notebook with a pen. In the background, there are multiple computer monitors and a keyboard, suggesting a workspace. The text overlay is positioned in the upper left area of the image.

By his **good conduct** let him show his **works**  
in the **meekness** of wisdom.

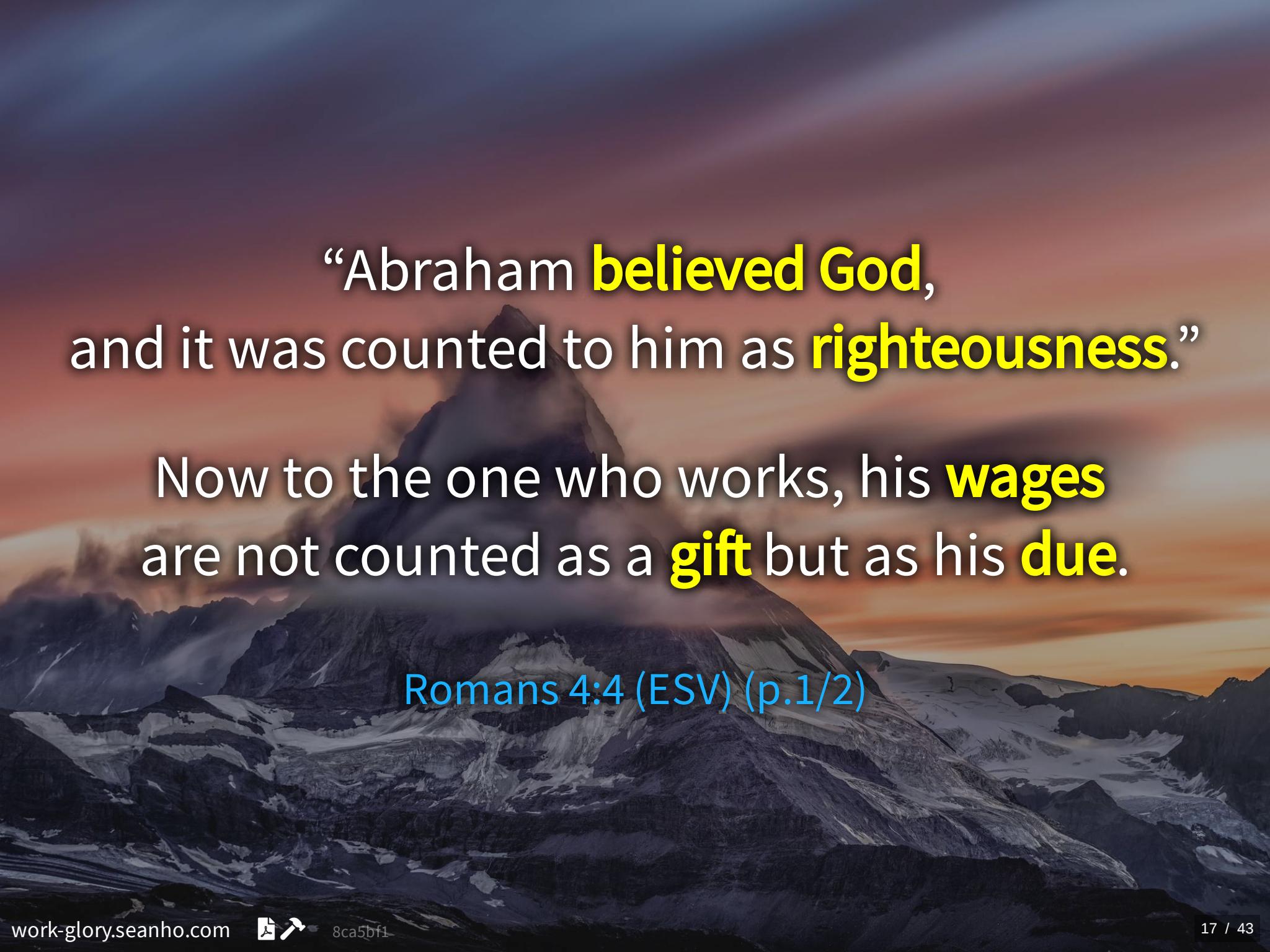
James 3:13 (ESV)

A blurred background image of a person sitting at a desk, working on a laptop. A smartphone is propped up next to the laptop, and a notebook with writing is on the desk. A hand is visible holding a pen over the notebook.

# 1. The Snare of Professionalism

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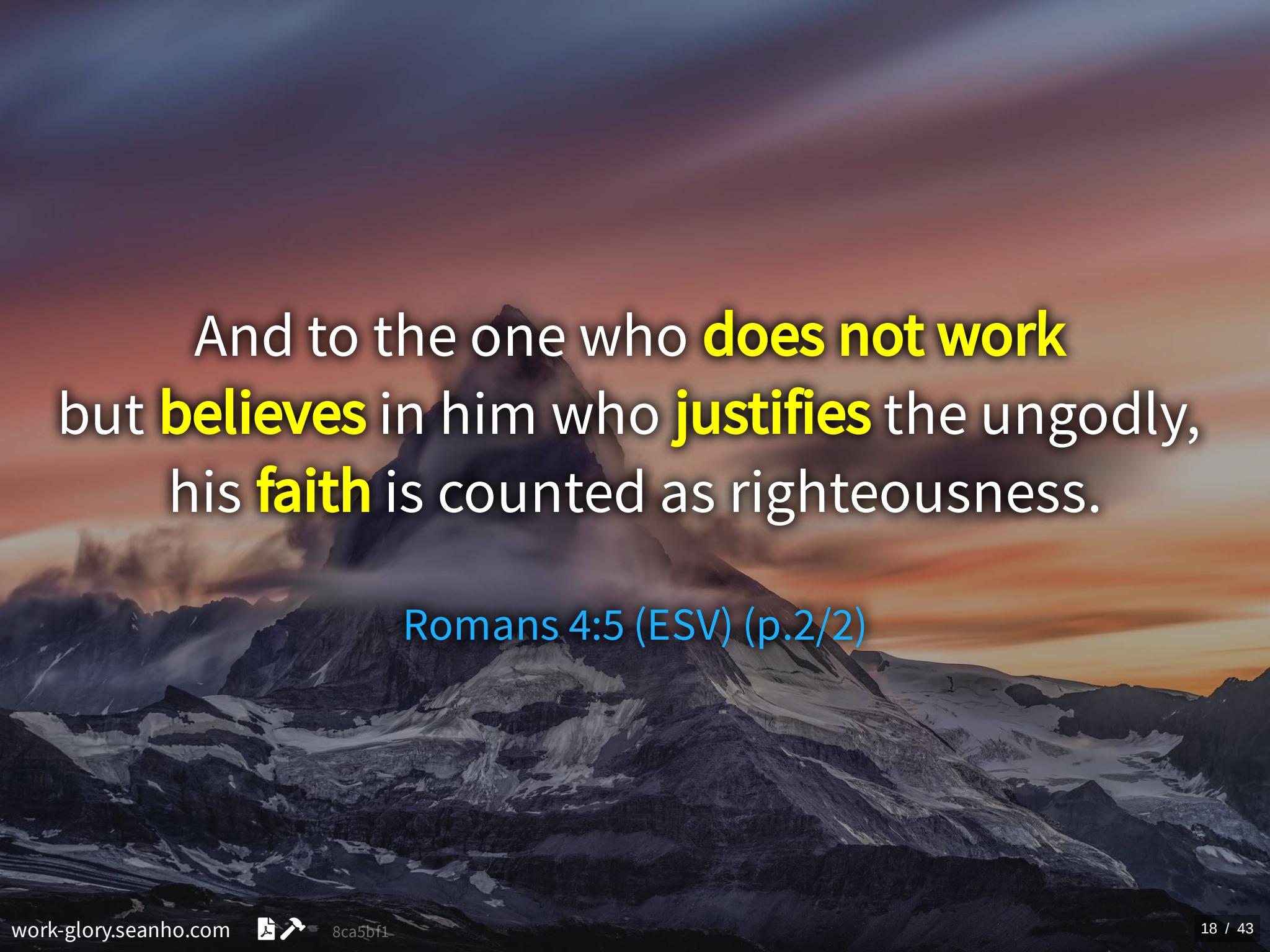
1. Chasing the Guild
2. Building Ambition
3. **Earning Wages**

The background of the slide features a wide-angle photograph of a mountain range under a sky transitioning from deep blue to warm orange and yellow hues. The mountains are rugged, with some peaks partially covered in snow or ice. The lighting suggests either a sunrise or sunset, casting long shadows and highlighting the textures of the mountain slopes.

“Abraham **believed** God,  
and it was counted to him as **righteousness**.”

Now to the one who works, his **wages**  
are not counted as a **gift** but as his **due**.

Romans 4:4 (ESV) (p.1/2)

A wide-angle photograph of a mountain range under a dramatic sky. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow hues from the setting or rising sun, which are reflected in the misty clouds. In the foreground, dark, rugged mountain peaks rise, their slopes partially covered in snow and ice. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

And to the one who **does not work**  
but **believes** in him who **justifies** the ungodly,  
his **faith** is counted as righteousness.

Romans 4:5 (ESV) (p.2/2)

# Work for the Glory of God

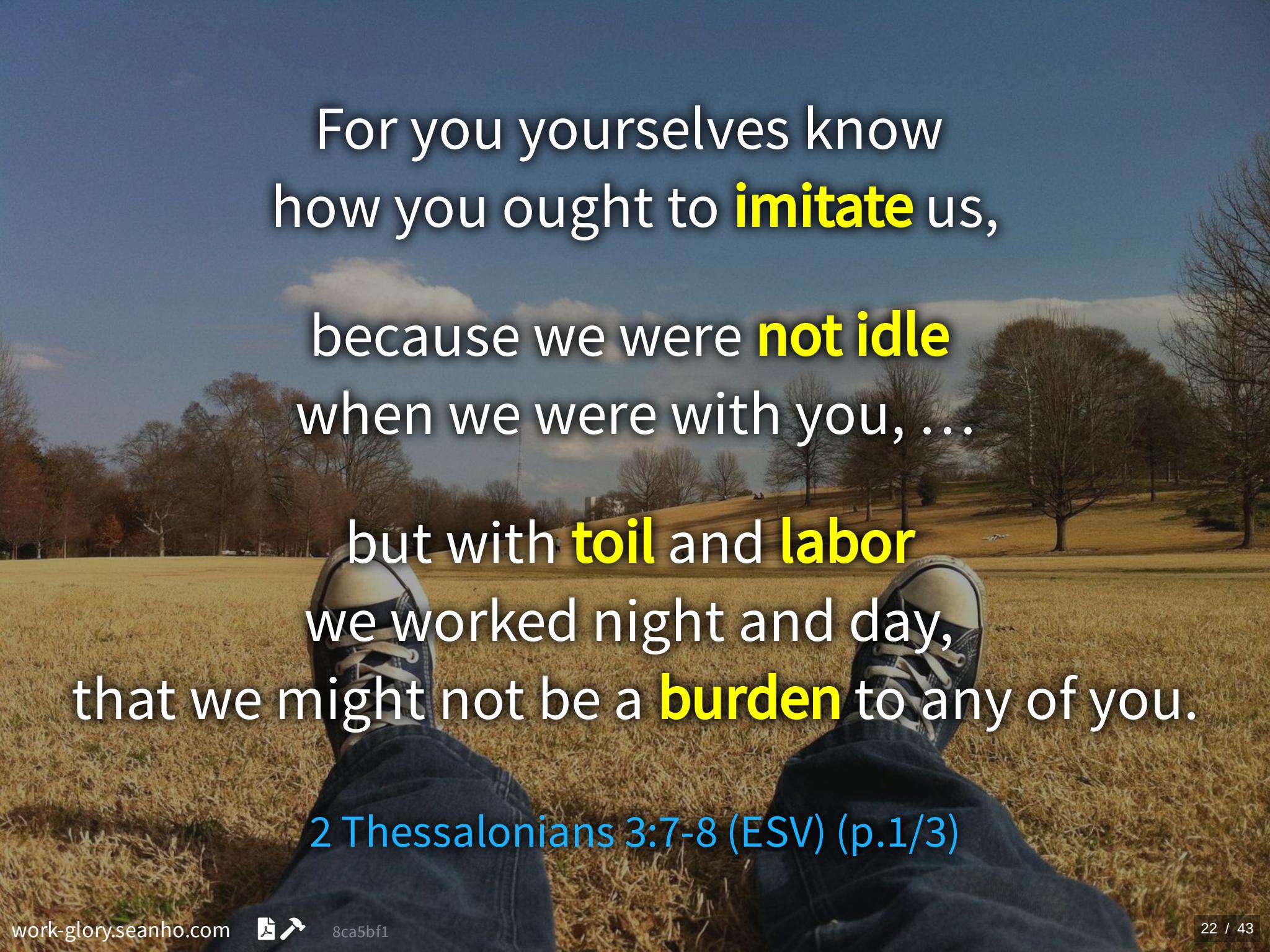
1. The Snare of Professionalism
2. **The Blessing of Employment**
3. The Grace of God's Work

**Work to train  
your heart**



## 2. The Blessing of Employment

1. Rejecting **Idleness**
2. **Sharing** Generously
3. Training our **Heart** Attitude

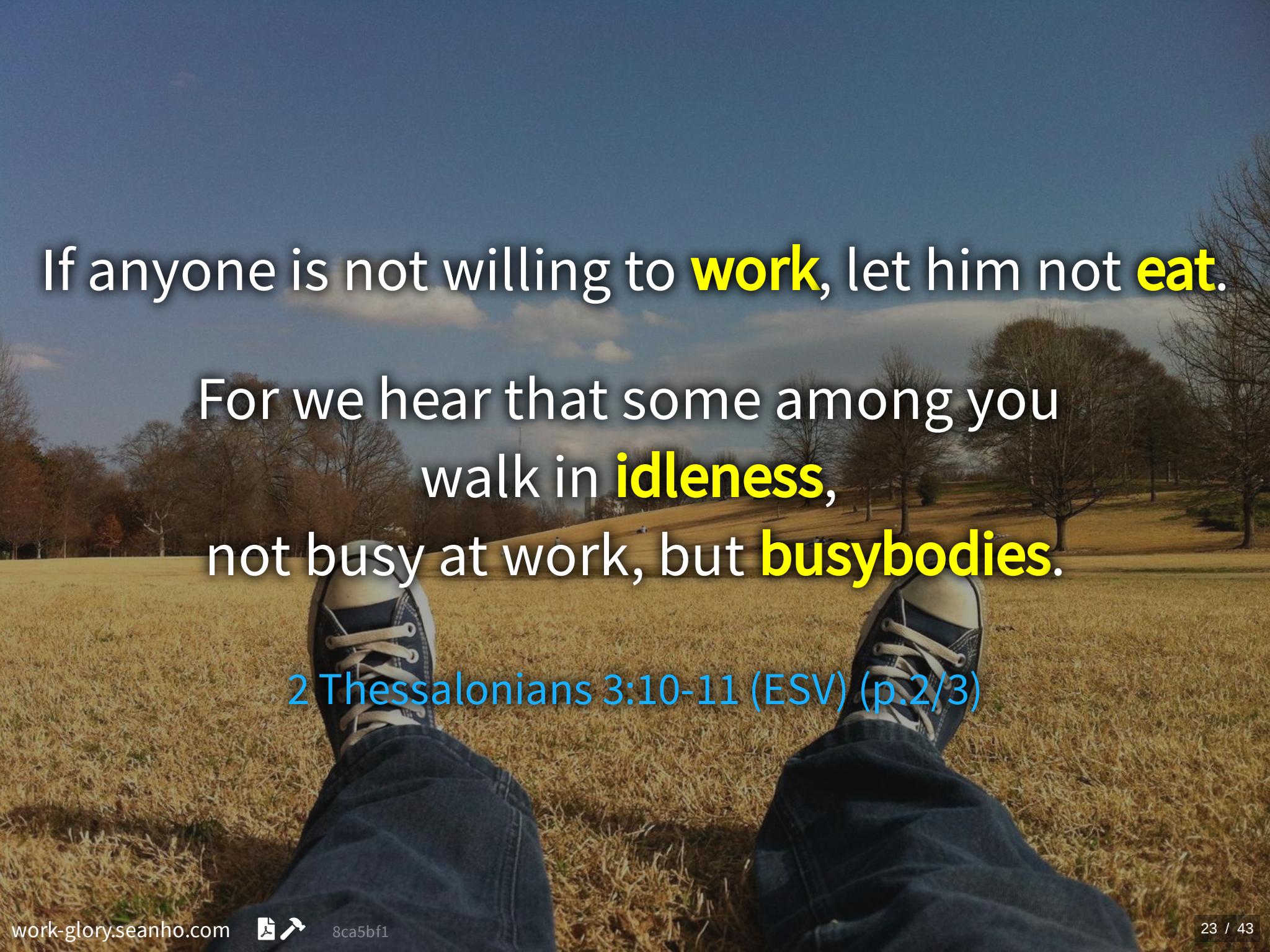
A photograph of a person's legs and feet wearing jeans and white sneakers, sitting on a grassy hillside. They are looking out over a field of dry grass towards a line of bare trees under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

For you yourselves know  
how you ought to **imitate** us,

because we were **not idle**  
when we were with you, ...

but with **toil** and **labor**  
we worked night and day,  
that we might not be a **burden** to any of you.

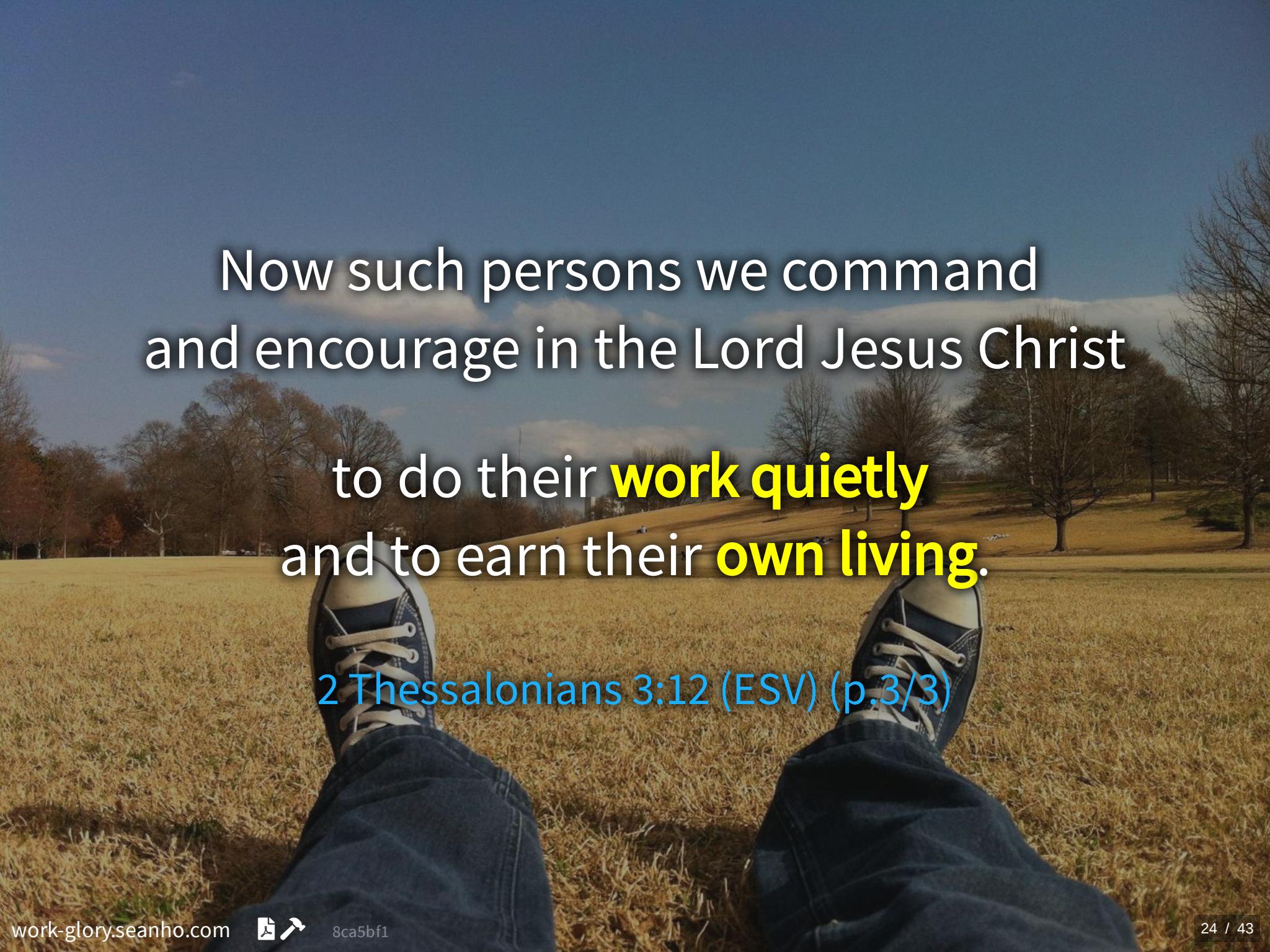
2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 (ESV) (p.1/3)

A photograph of a person's legs and feet wearing dark jeans and blue sneakers, sitting on a grassy hillside. They are looking out over a landscape with bare trees and a cloudy sky.

If anyone is not willing to **work**, let him not **eat**.

For we hear that some among you  
walk in **idleness**,  
not busy at work, but **busybodies**.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-11 (ESV) (p.2/3)

A photograph of a person's legs and feet wearing dark jeans and Converse-style sneakers, sitting on a grassy hillside. They are looking out over a valley with scattered trees, some bare and some with autumn-colored leaves. In the distance, there are hills and mountains under a blue sky with white clouds.

Now such persons we command  
and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ

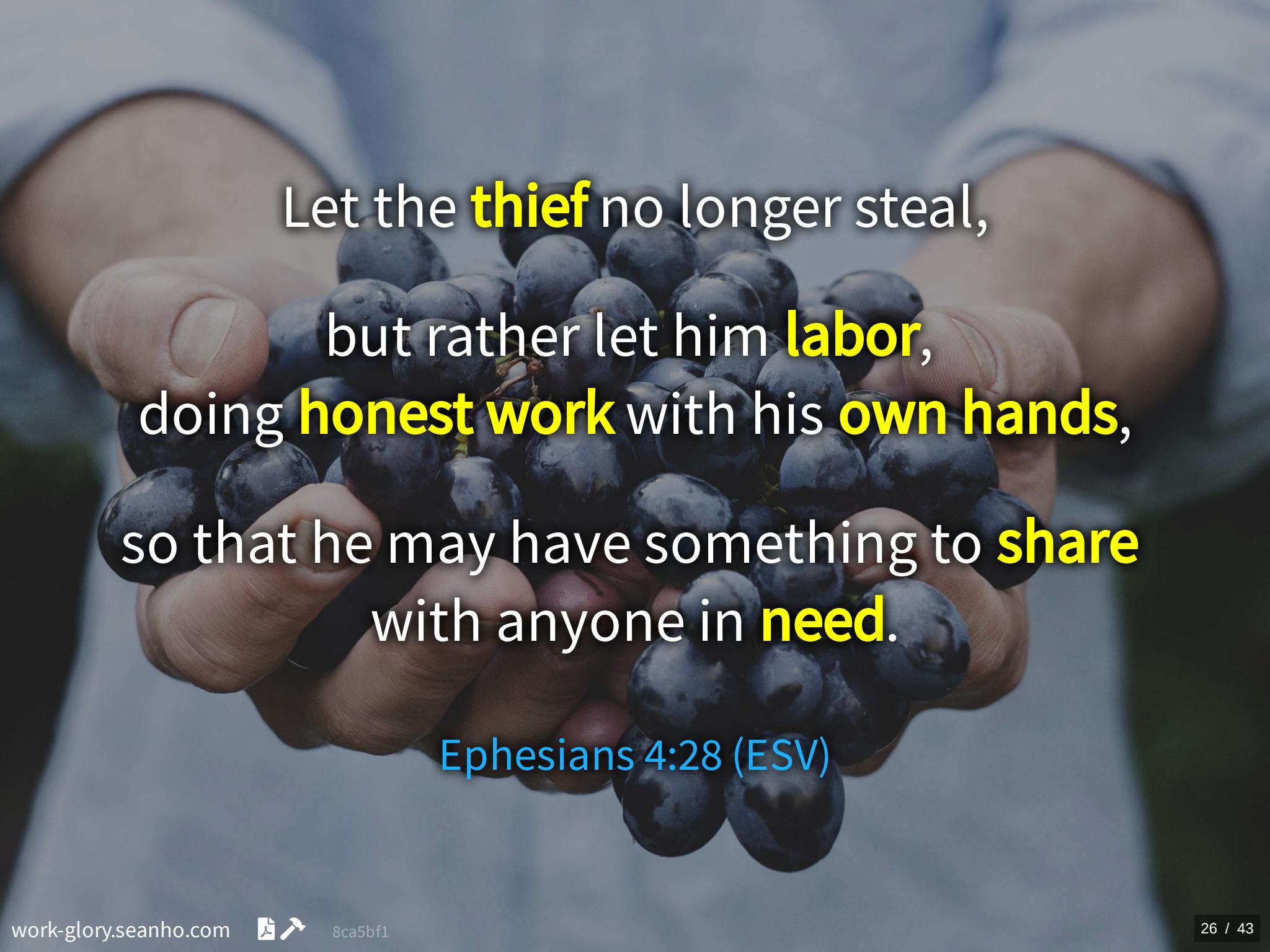
to do their **work quietly**  
and to earn their **own living.**

2 Thessalonians 3:12 (ESV) (p.3/3)



## 2. The Blessing of Employment

1. Rejecting Idleness
2. **Sharing Generously**
3. Training our Heart Attitude

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a bunch of dark, ripe grapes. The hand is visible from the fingers, gripping the stem of the grapes. The background is a plain, light color.

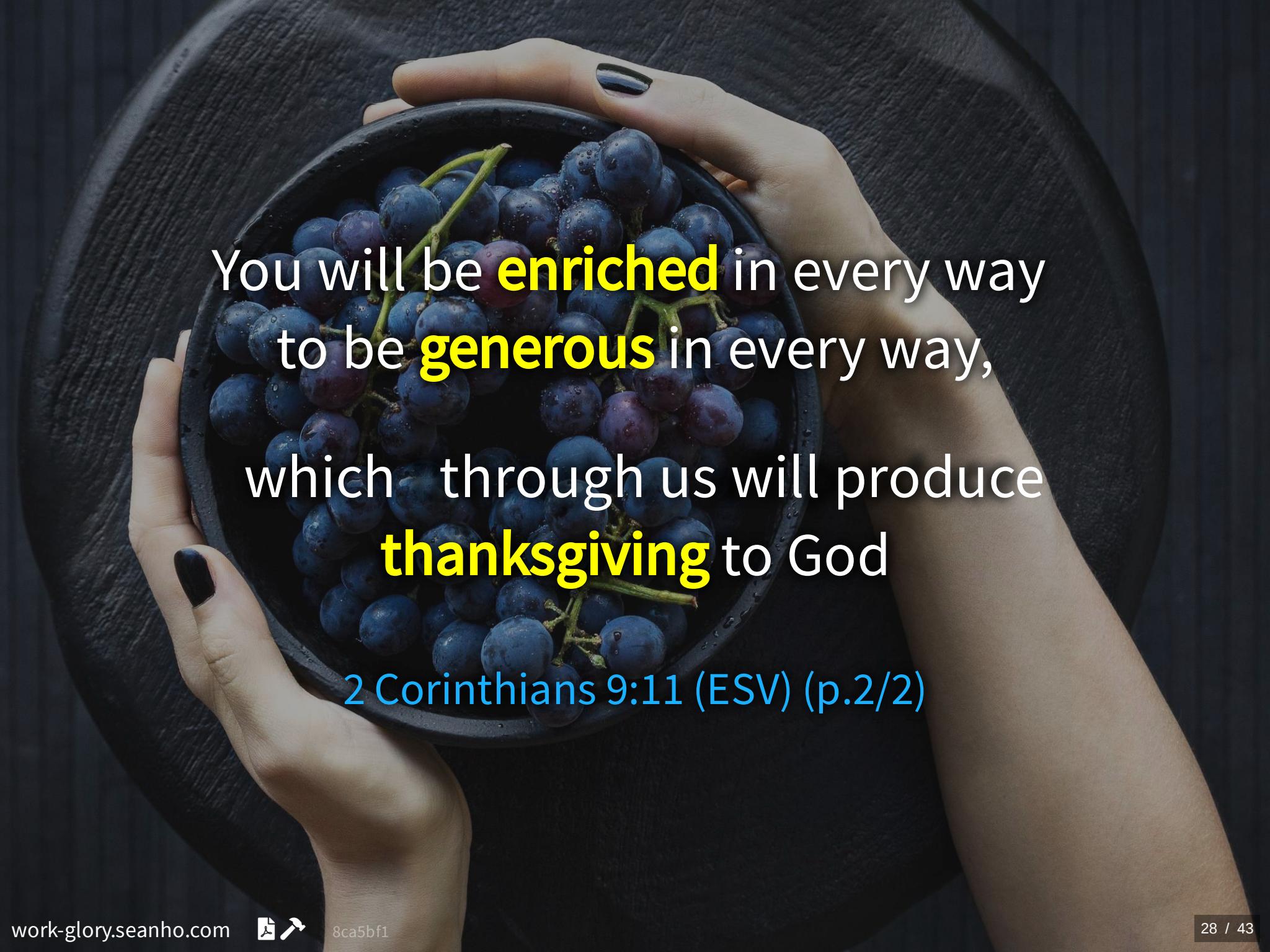
Let the **thief** no longer steal,  
but rather let him **labor**,  
doing **honest work** with his **own hands**,  
so that he may have something to **share**  
with anyone in **need**.

Ephesians 4:28 (ESV)



He who supplies **seed** to the sower  
and **bread** for food  
will **supply** and **multiply** your seed for sowing  
and increase the**harvest** of your **righteousness.**

2 Corinthians 9:10 (ESV) (p.1/2)



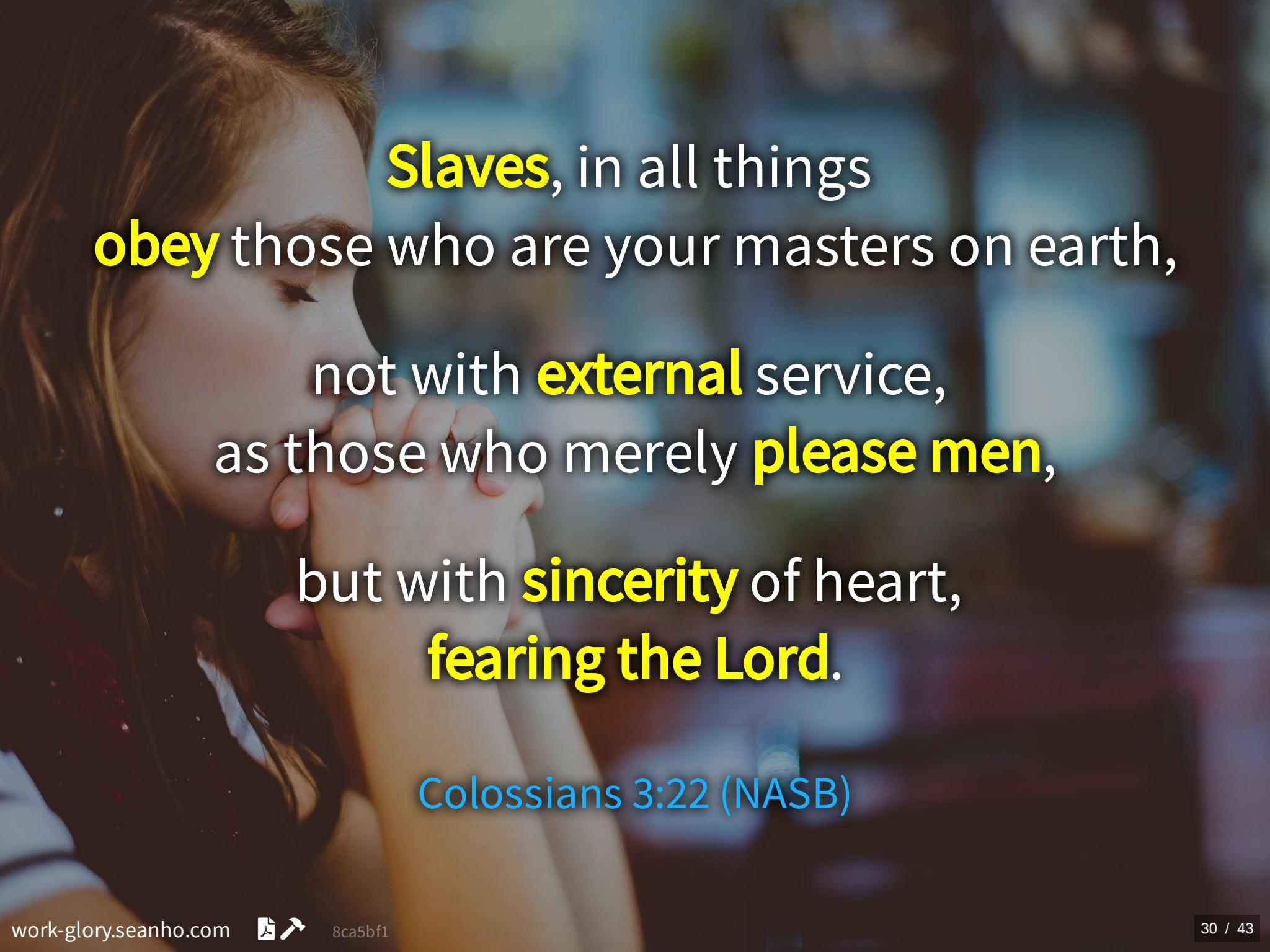
You will be **enriched** in every way  
to be **generous** in every way,  
which through us will produce  
**thanksgiving** to God

2 Corinthians 9:11 (ESV) (p.2/2)



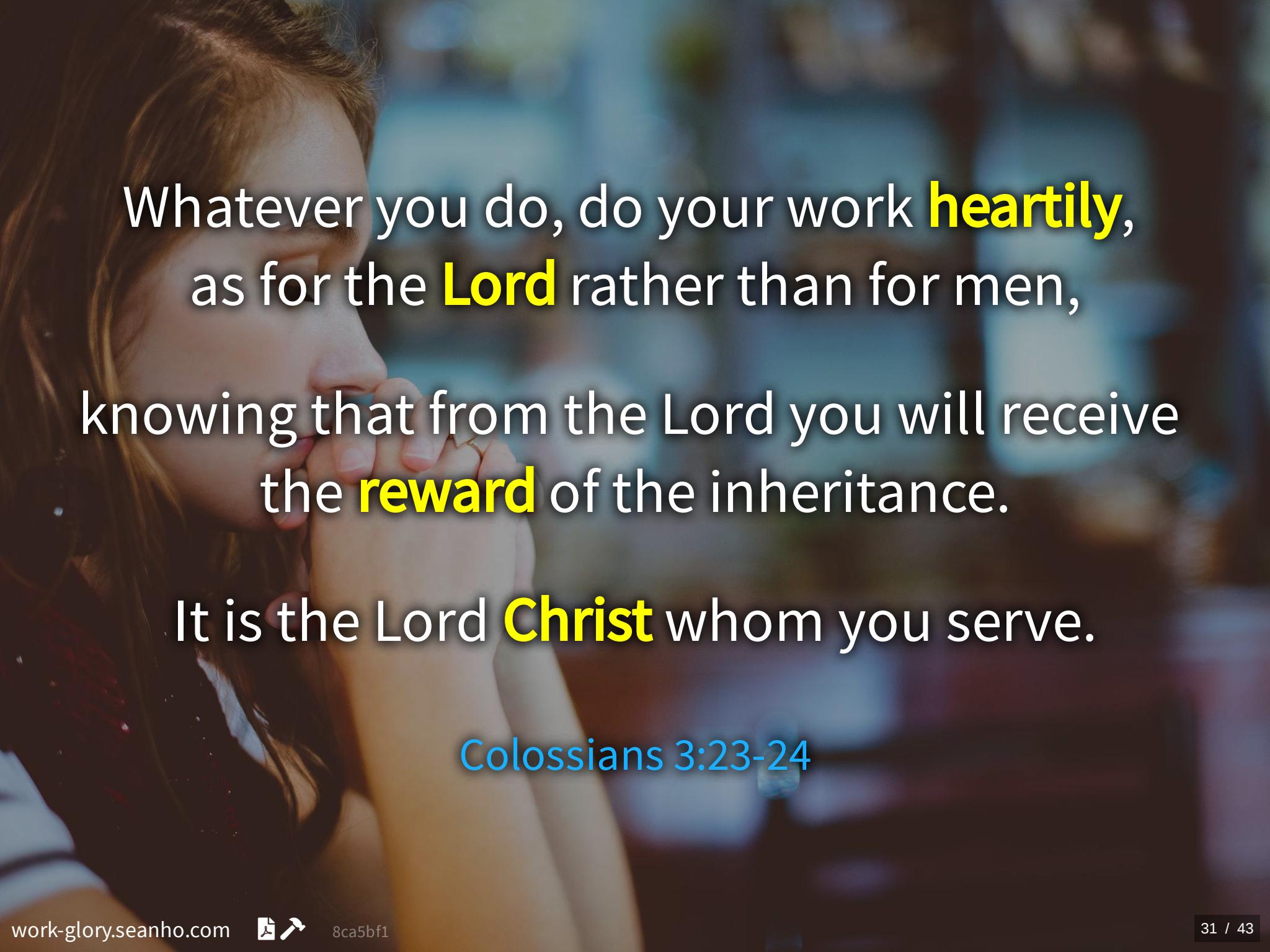
## 2. The Blessing of Employment

1. Rejecting Idleness
2. Sharing Generously
3. **Training our Heart Attitude**

A close-up photograph of a woman with long, wavy red hair. She is shown from the side and is holding her hands together in a prayerful gesture. Her eyes are closed, and she appears to be in a state of quiet contemplation or deep prayer. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting.

**Slaves**, in all things  
**obey** those who are your masters on earth,  
not with **external** service,  
as those who merely **please men**,  
but with **sincerity** of heart,  
**fearing the Lord.**

Colossians 3:22 (NASB)

A close-up photograph of a woman with long brown hair holding a small child. They are both looking down at the child's hands, which are clasped together. The background is blurred.

Whatever you do, do your work **heartily**,  
as for the **Lord** rather than for men,  
knowing that from the Lord you will receive  
the **reward** of the inheritance.

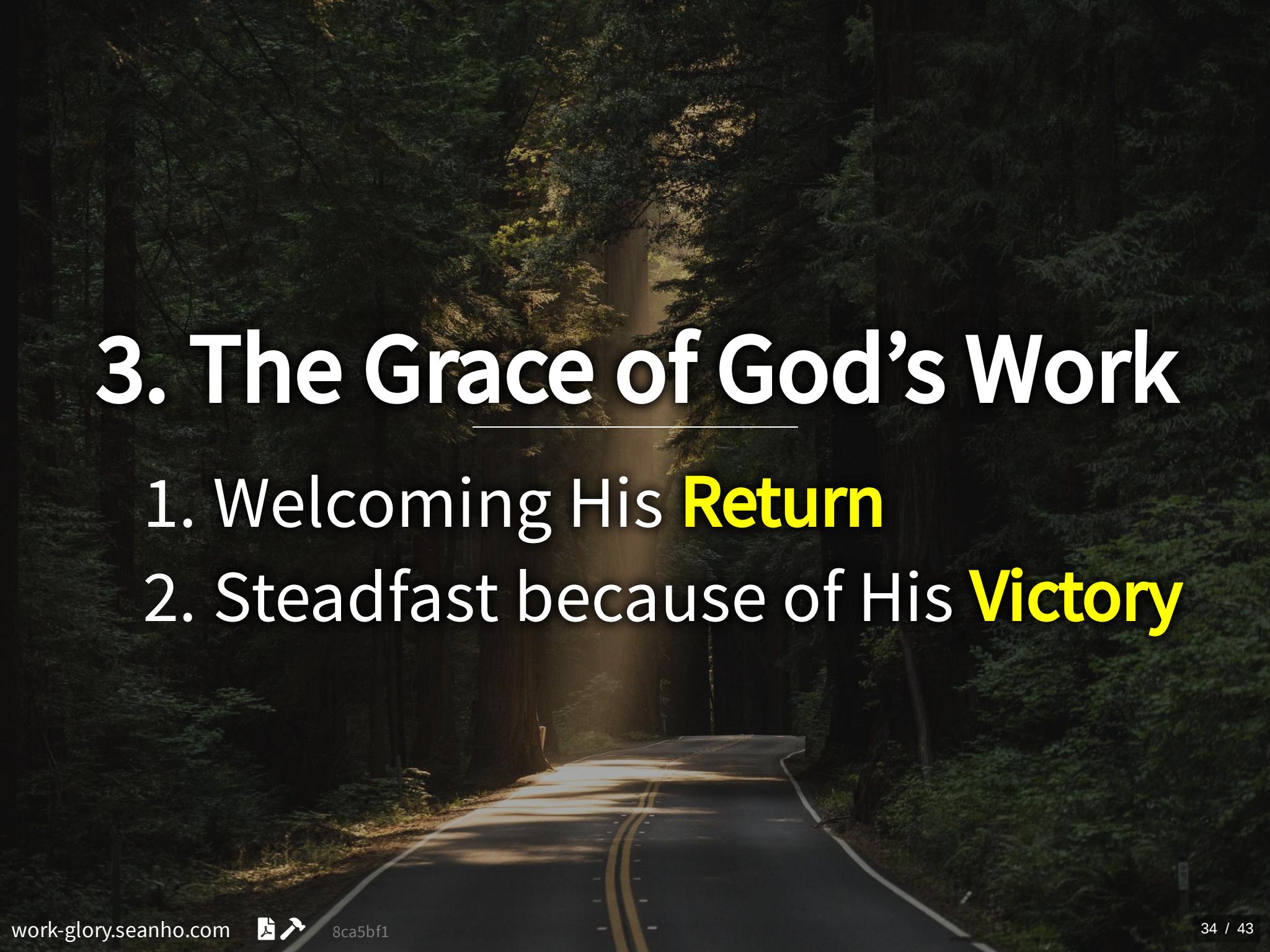
It is the Lord **Christ** whom you serve.

Colossians 3:23-24

# Work for the Glory of God

1. The Snare of Professionalism
2. The Blessing of Employment
3. **The Grace of God's Work**

Toil for  
God's kingdom  
by resting  
in His victory

A photograph of a dark, winding road through a dense forest. Sunlight filters down from above, creating bright highlights on the road surface and the surrounding green foliage. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and contemplative.

### 3. The Grace of God's Work

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1. Welcoming His **Return**
2. Steadfast because of His **Victory**

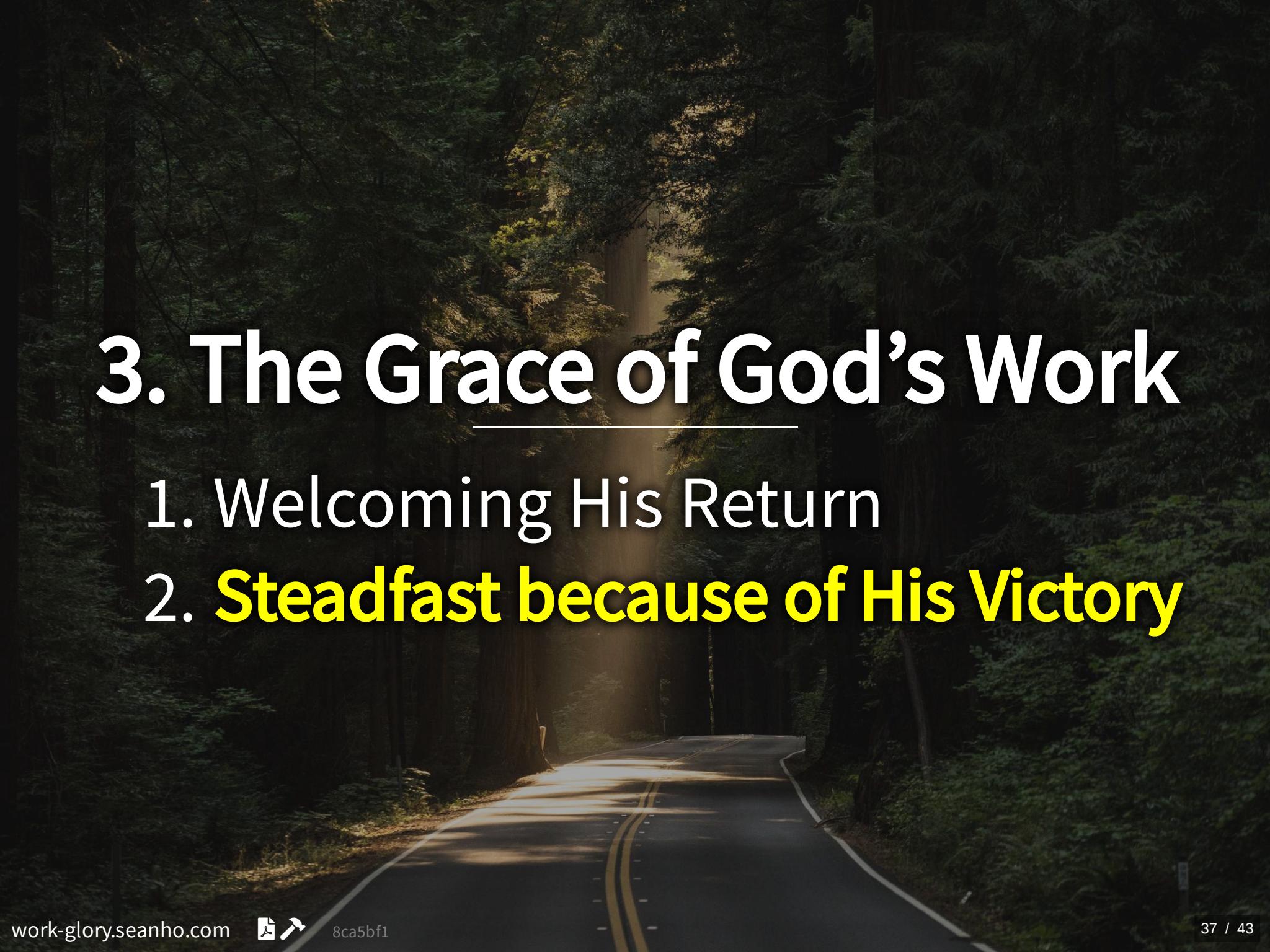
But the **day of the Lord** will come like a thief,  
in which the **heavens** will  
**pass away** with a roar  
and the **elements** will  
be **destroyed** with intense heat,  
and the **earth** and its **works** will be **burned up**.

2 Peter 3:10 (NASB) (p.1/2)

Since all these things  
are to be **destroyed** in this way,

what sort of people ought you to be  
in **holy conduct** and **godliness**,  
**looking for** and hastening  
the coming of the day of God!

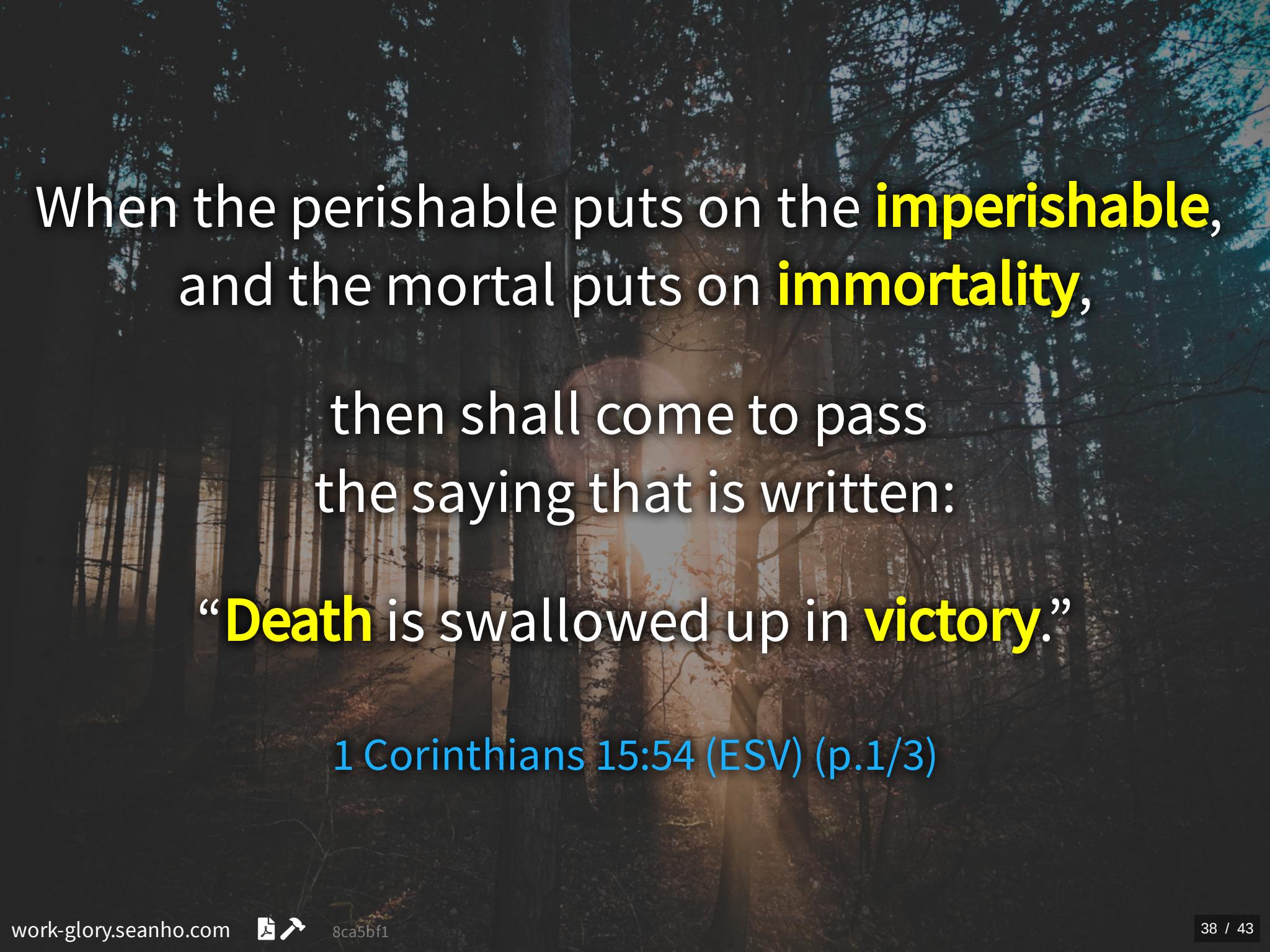
2 Peter 3:11-12 (NASB) (p.2/2)

A photograph of a dark, winding road through a dense forest. Sunlight filters down from above, creating bright highlights on the road surface and the surrounding green foliage. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and serene.

### 3. The Grace of God's Work

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1. Welcoming His Return
2. **Steadfast because of His Victory**

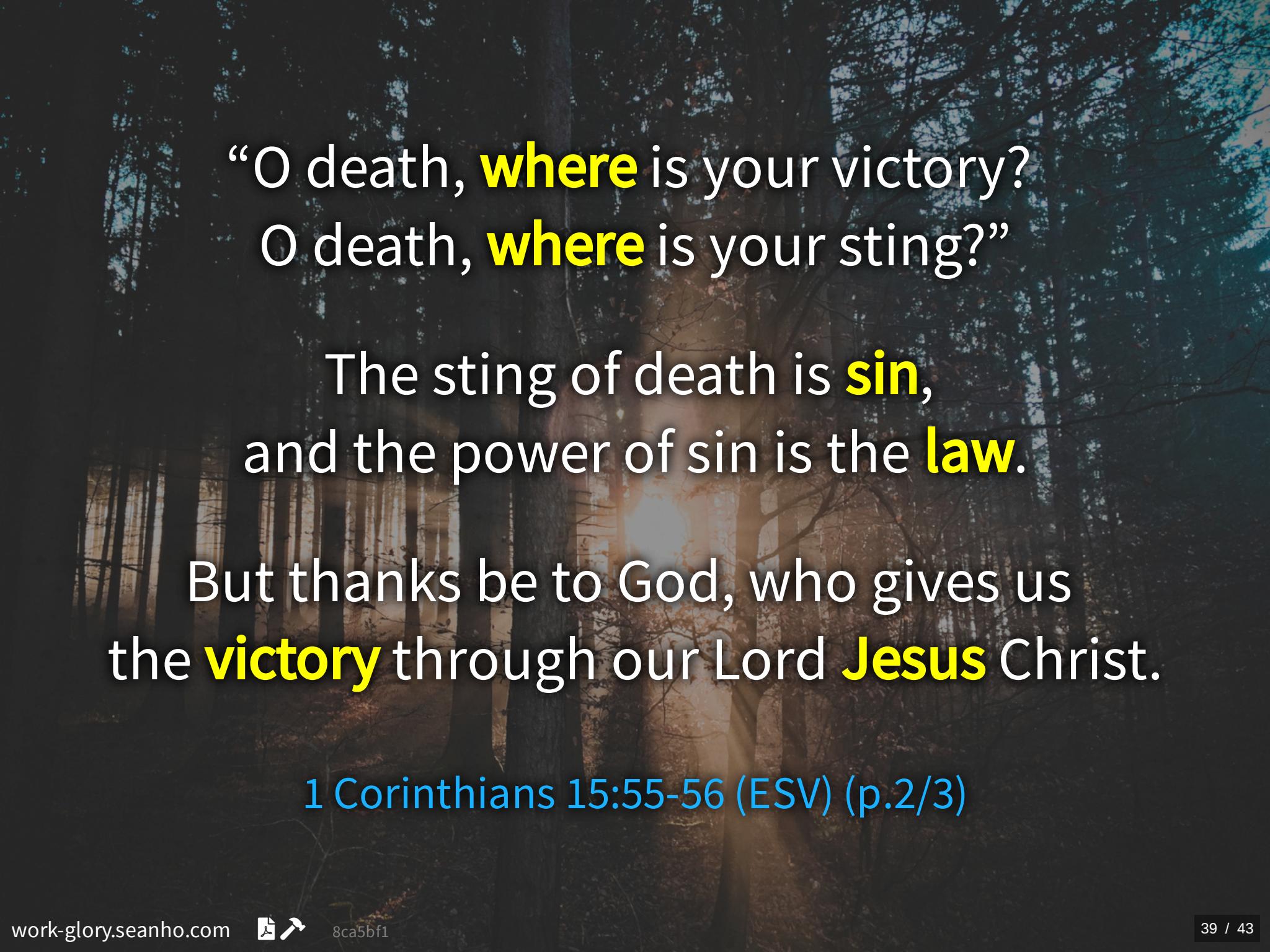


When the perishable puts on the **imperishable**,  
and the mortal puts on **immortality**,

then shall come to pass  
the saying that is written:

“**Death** is swallowed up in **victory**.”

1 Corinthians 15:54 (ESV) (p.1/3)

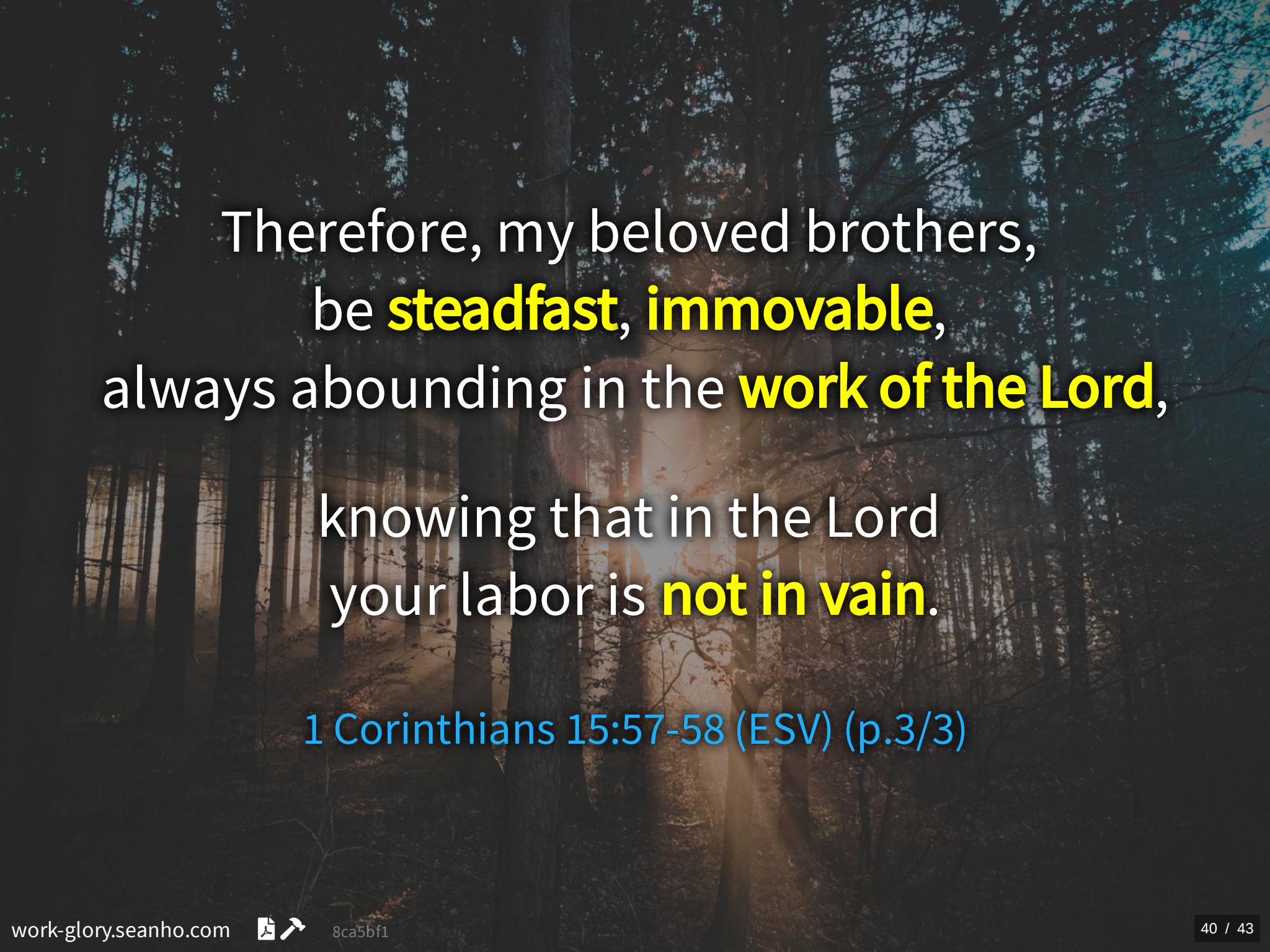


“O death, **where** is your victory?  
O death, **where** is your sting?”

The sting of death is **sin**,  
and the power of sin is the **law**.

But thanks be to God, who gives us  
the **victory** through our Lord **Jesus** Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:55-56 (ESV) (p.2/3)



Therefore, my beloved brothers,  
be **steadfast, immovable,**  
always abounding in the **work of the Lord,**  
knowing that in the Lord  
your labor is **not in vain.**

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (ESV) (p.3/3)

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