



# Work for the Glory of God

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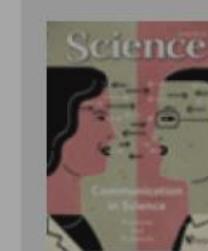
On 4 July, good news arrived in the inbox of Ocorrafoo Cobange, a biologist at the Wassee Institute of Medicine in Asmara. It was the official letter of acceptance for a paper he had submitted 2 months earlier to the *Journal of Natural Pharmaceuticals*, describing the anticancer properties of a chemical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

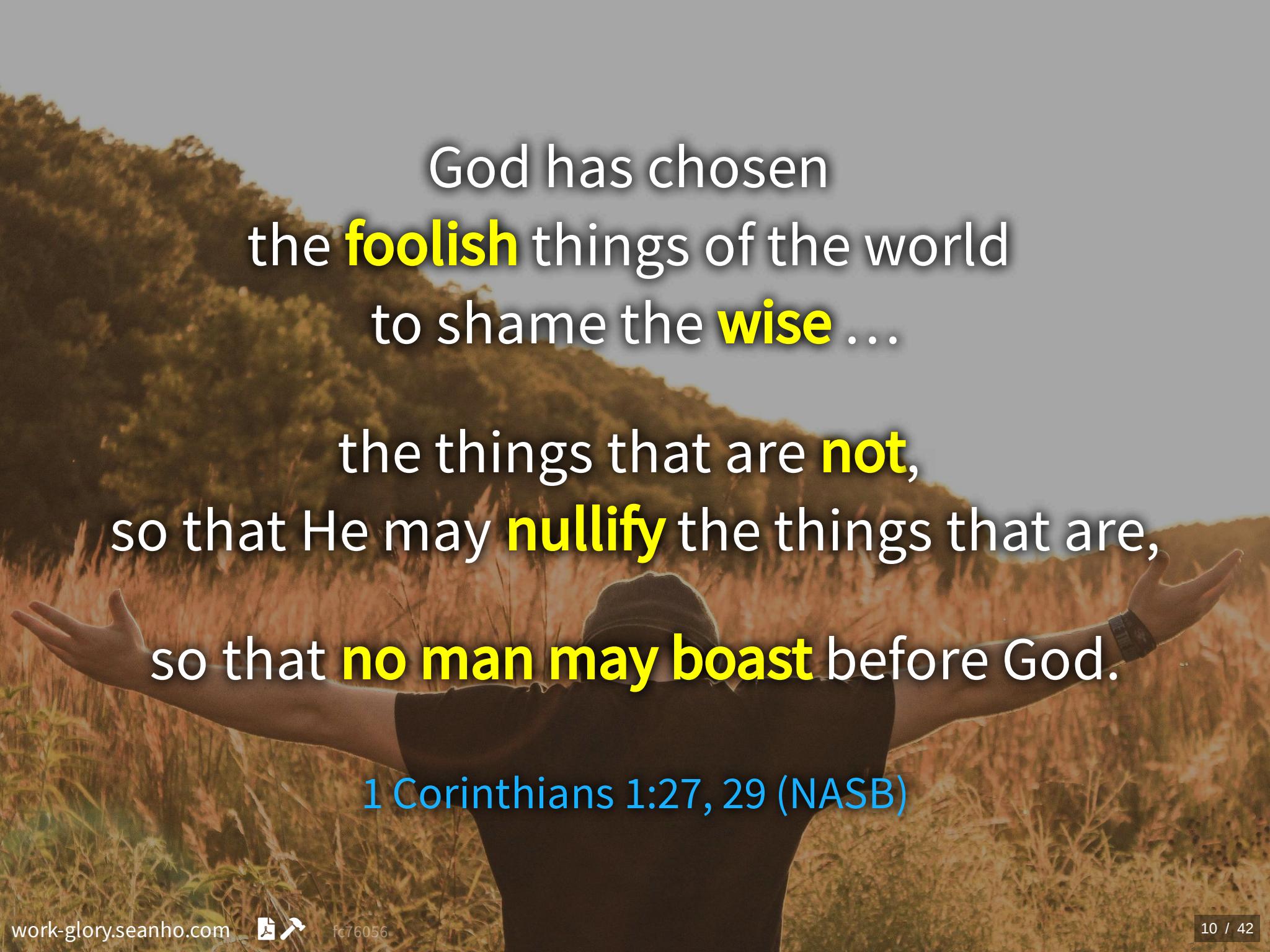
but they could find **no ground**

for complaint or any fault,

because he was **faithful**,

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

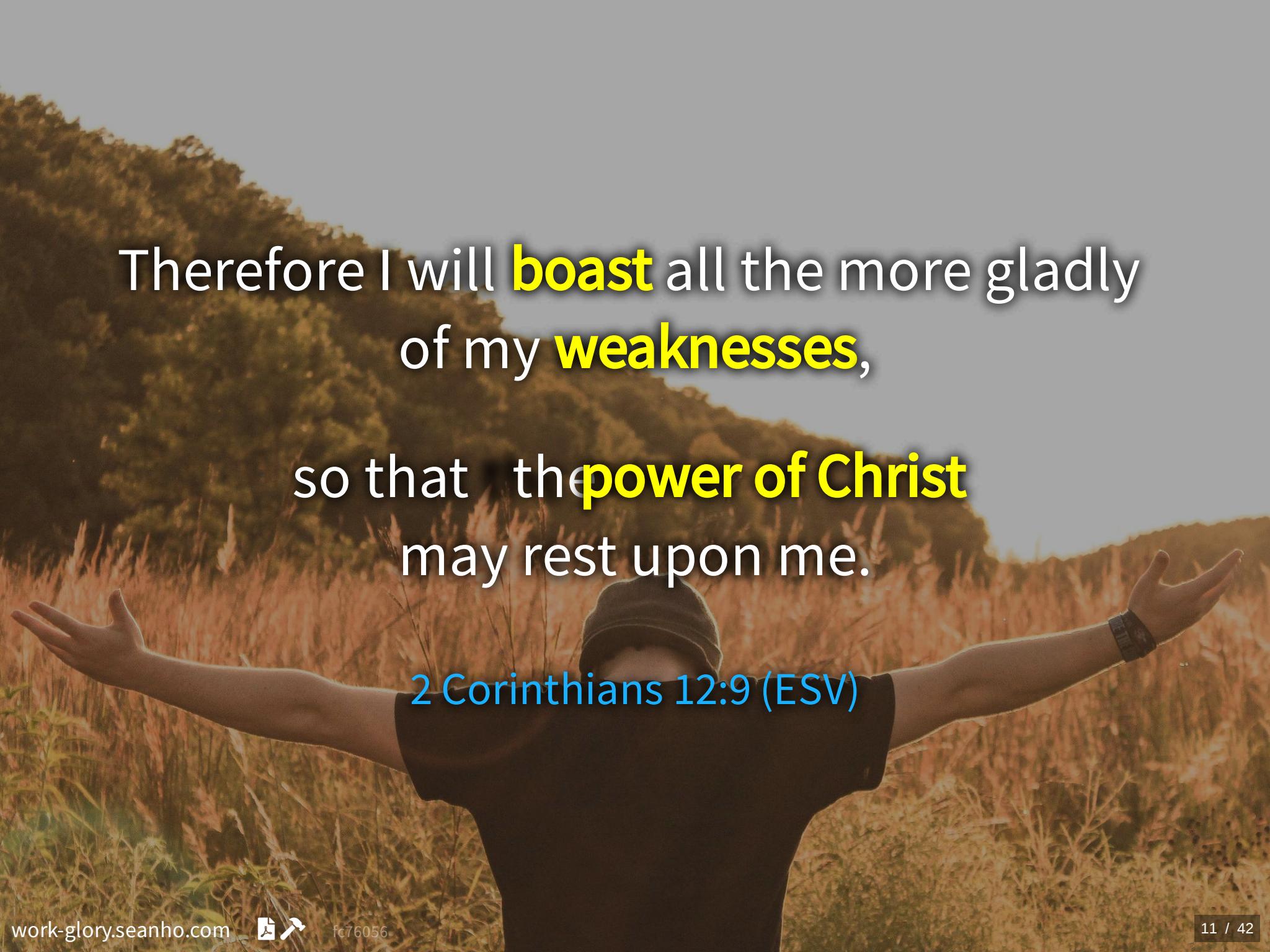
Daniel 6:4 (ESV)

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 towards the sky. The background shows a line of trees under a clear blue 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 pens are scattered on the desk. The scene is dimly lit, creating a focused atmosphere.

# 1. The Snare of Professionalism

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

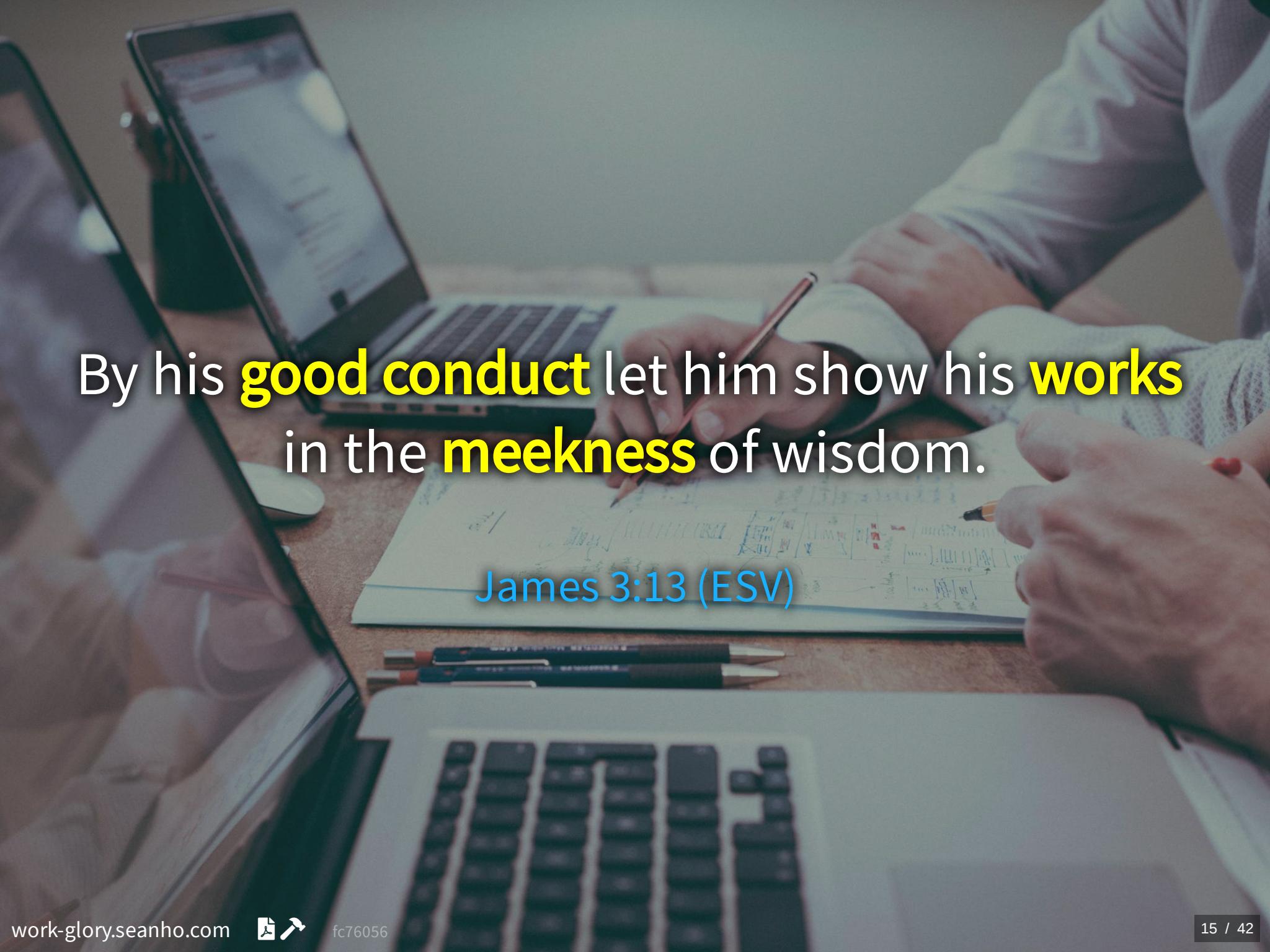
Who is **wise** and **understanding** among you?  
By his **good conduct** let him show his **works**  
in the **meekness** of wisdom.

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 working at a desk. A laptop is open in the background, and a smartphone and a tablet are also visible. The person is writing in a notebook with a pen. The text overlaid on the image is in yellow and white.

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

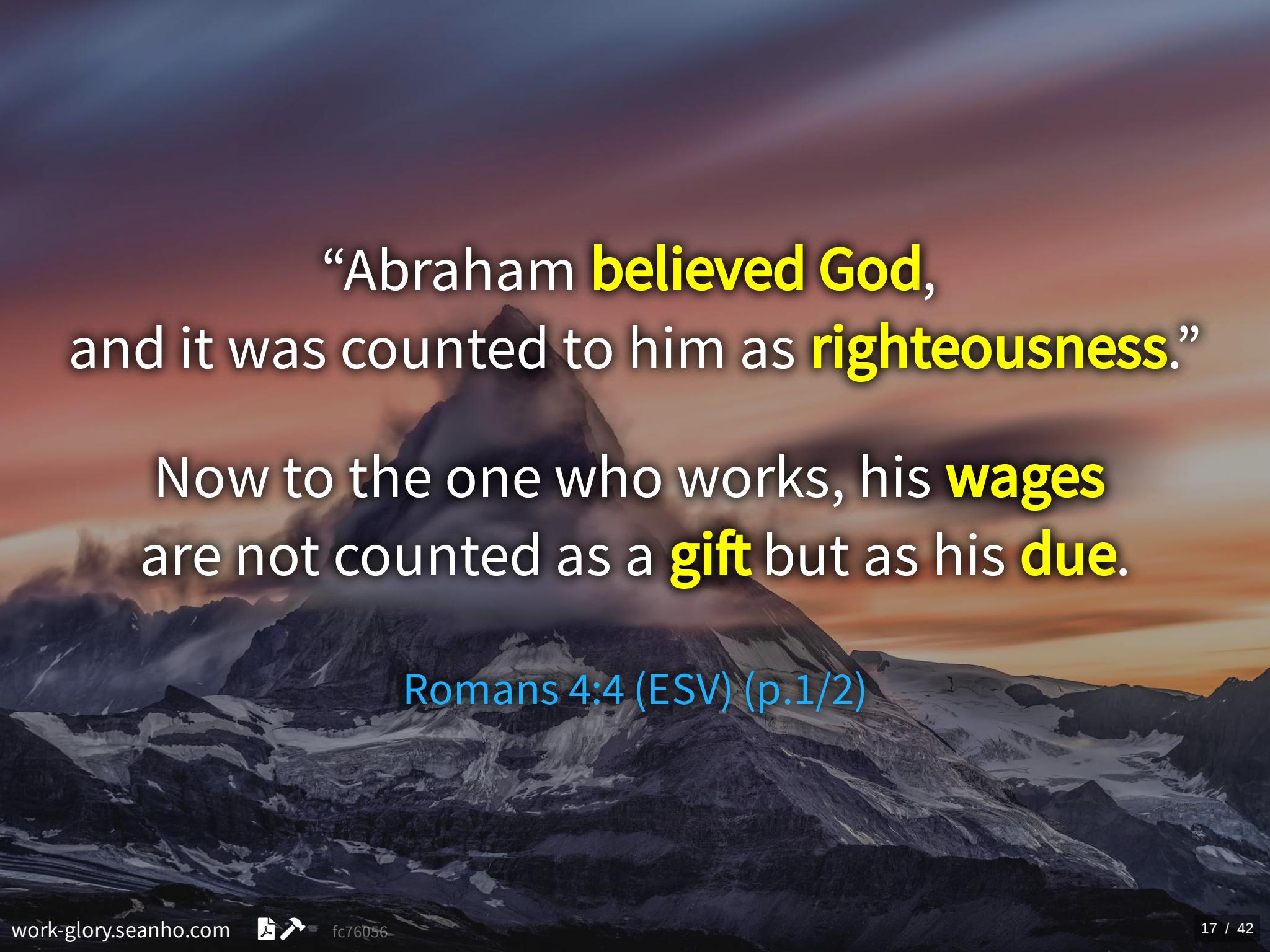
James 3:13 (ESV)

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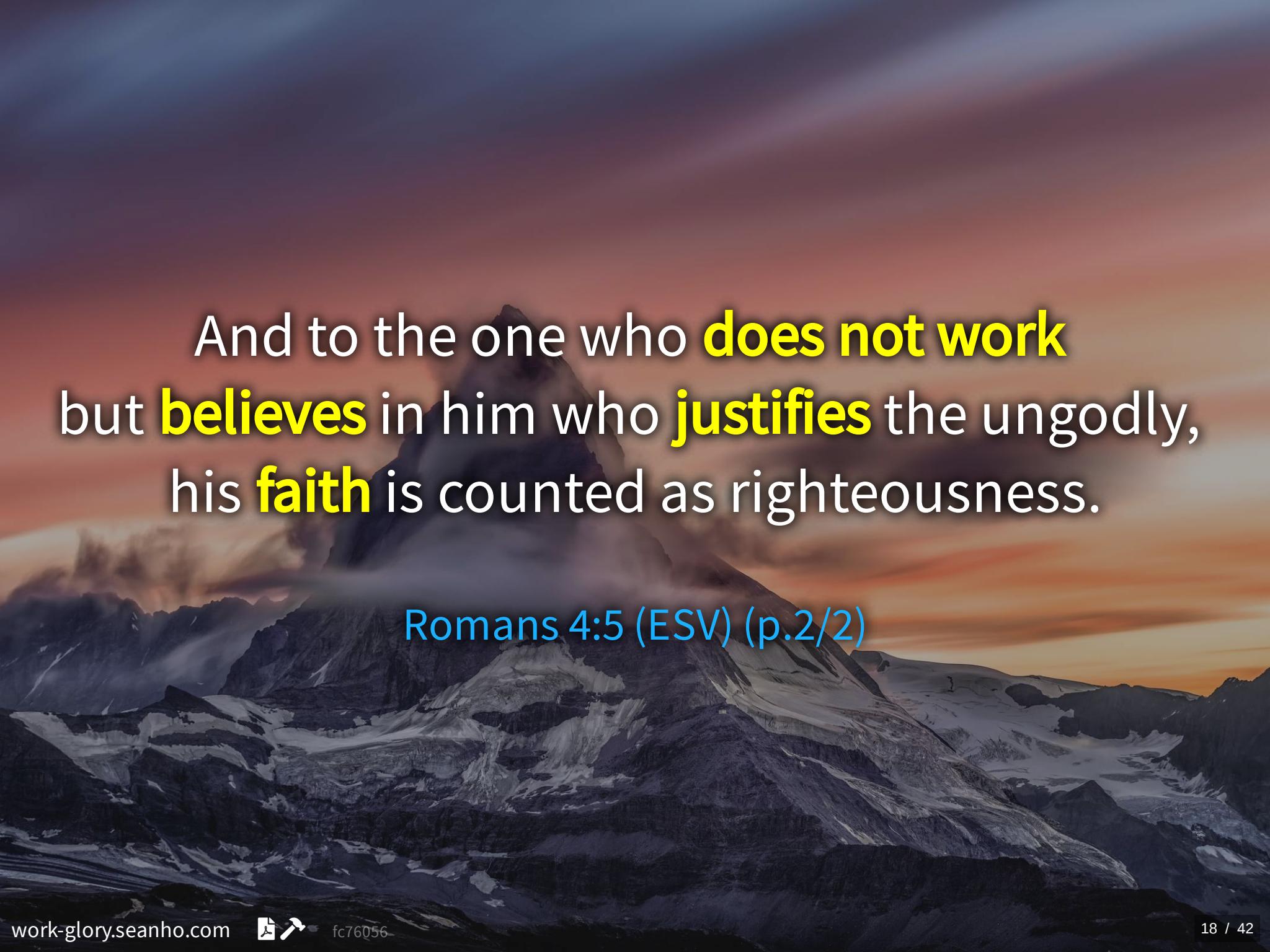
1. Chasing the Guild
2. Building Ambition
3. **Earning Wages**

The background of the slide features a wide-angle photograph of a mountain range under a sky filled with warm, orange and yellow hues from a setting or rising sun. The mountains are dark and rugged, with some snow or ice visible on their peaks.

“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)

The background of the slide features a majestic mountain range under a sky filled with warm, orange and yellow hues from a setting or rising sun. The mountains are partially covered in snow and ice, with deep shadows in the valleys.

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

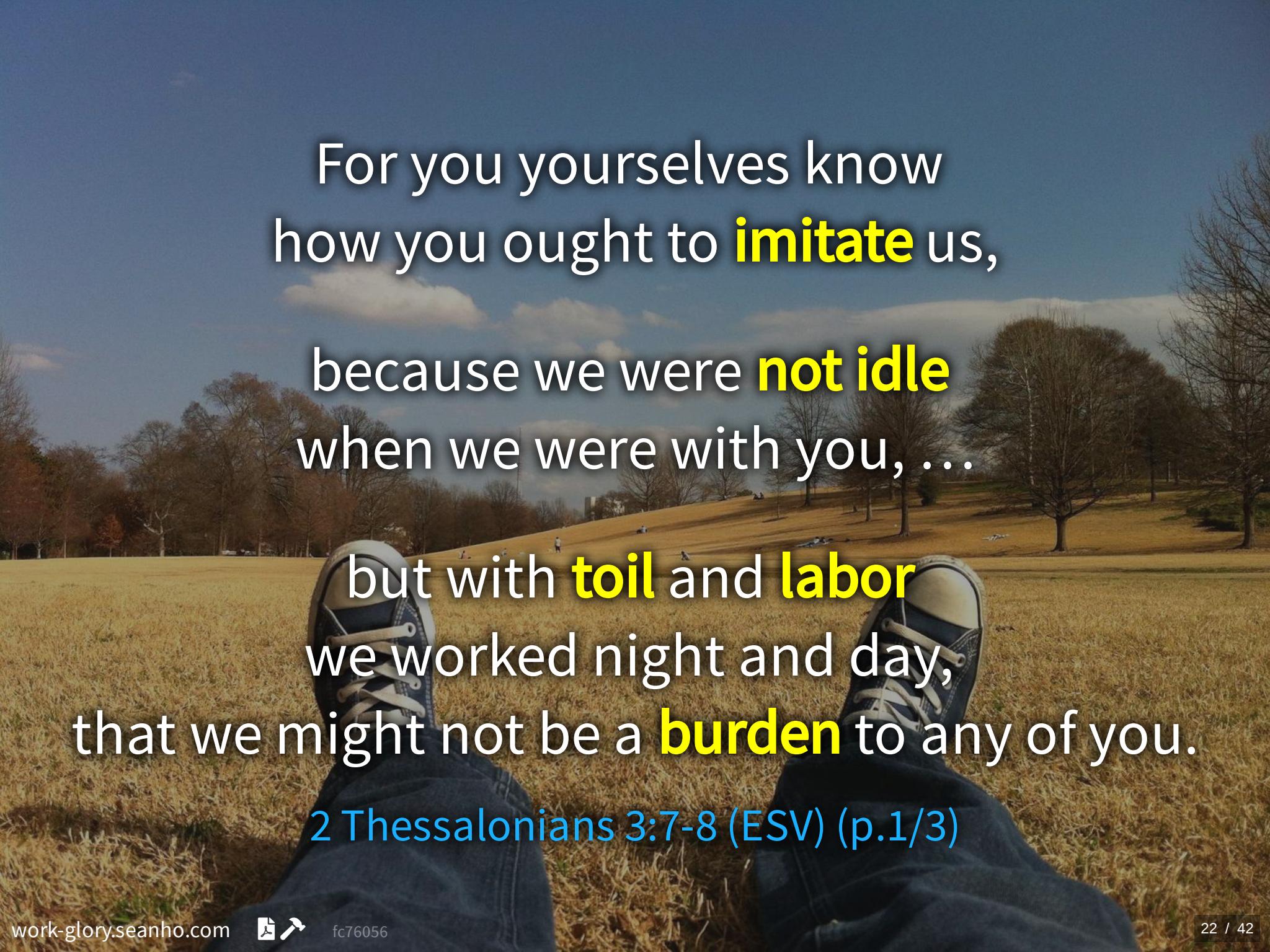
1. The Snare of Professionalism
2. **The Blessing of Employment**
3. The Grace of God's Work

**Work to train  
your heart**



## 2. The Blessing of Employment

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

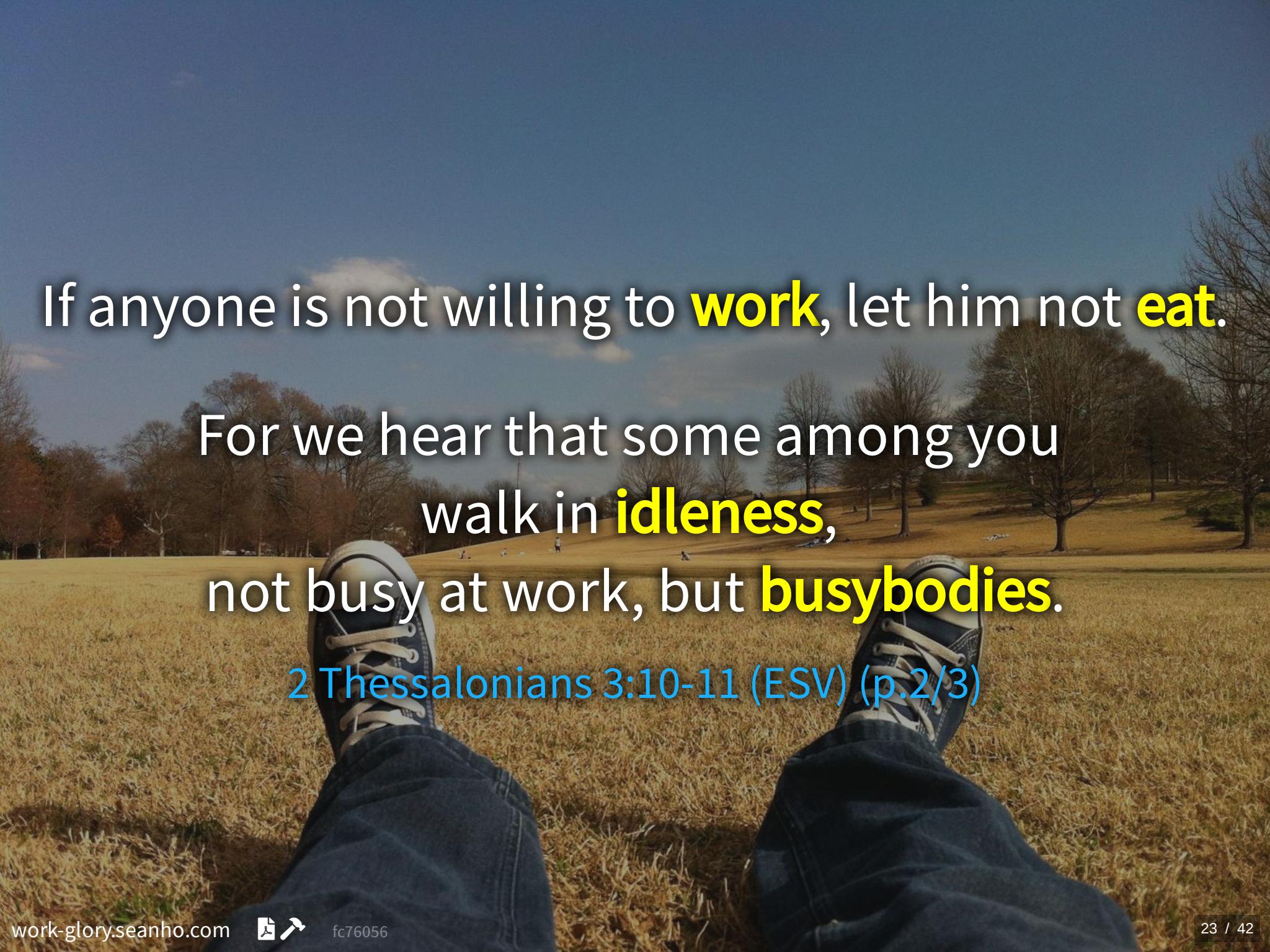


For you yourselves know  
how you ought to **imitate** us,

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.

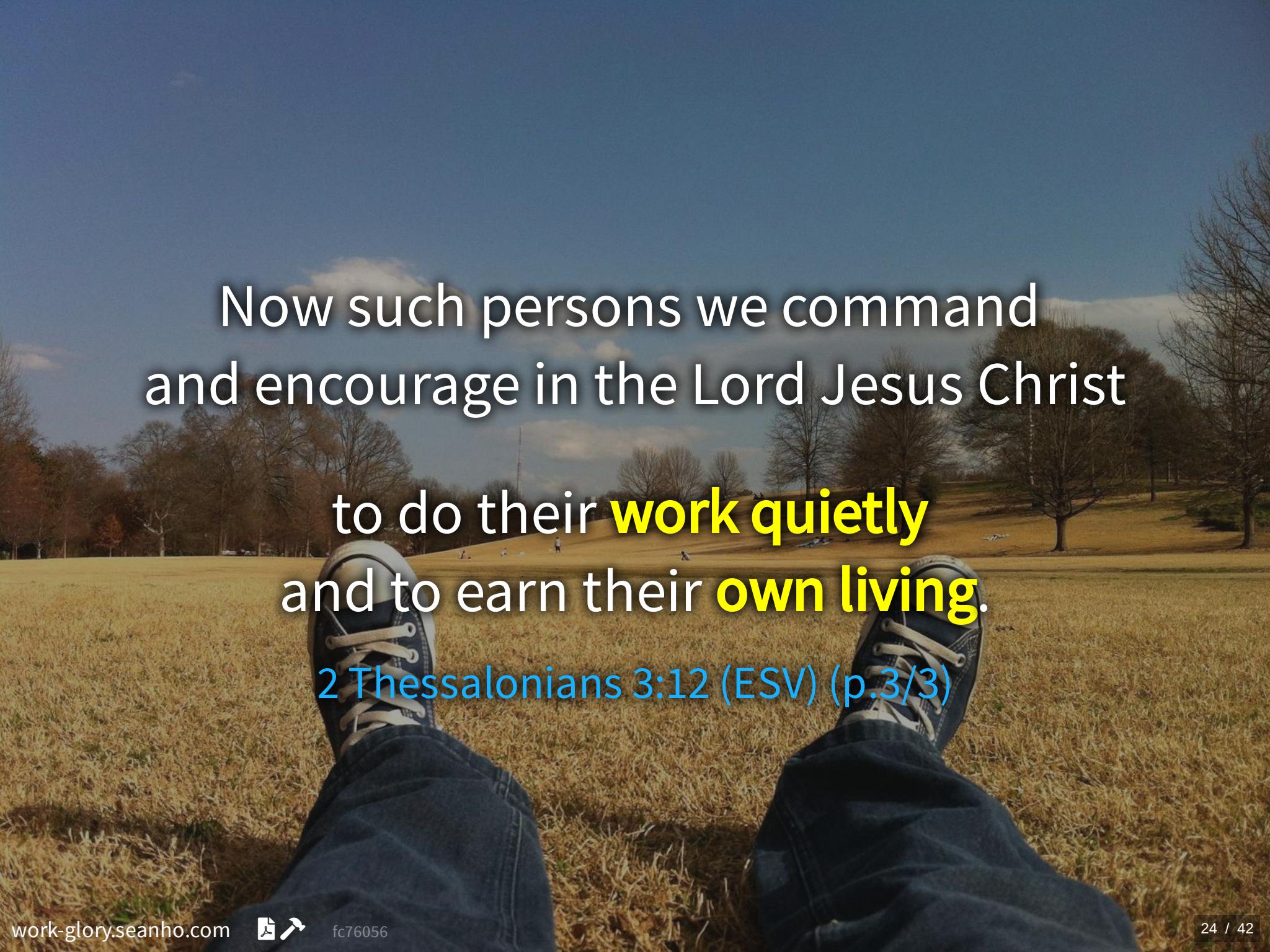
2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 (ESV) (p.1/3)

A photograph of a person's legs and feet wearing dark jeans and white sneakers, sitting on a grassy hillside. In the background, there's a park with trees, some people walking, 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)



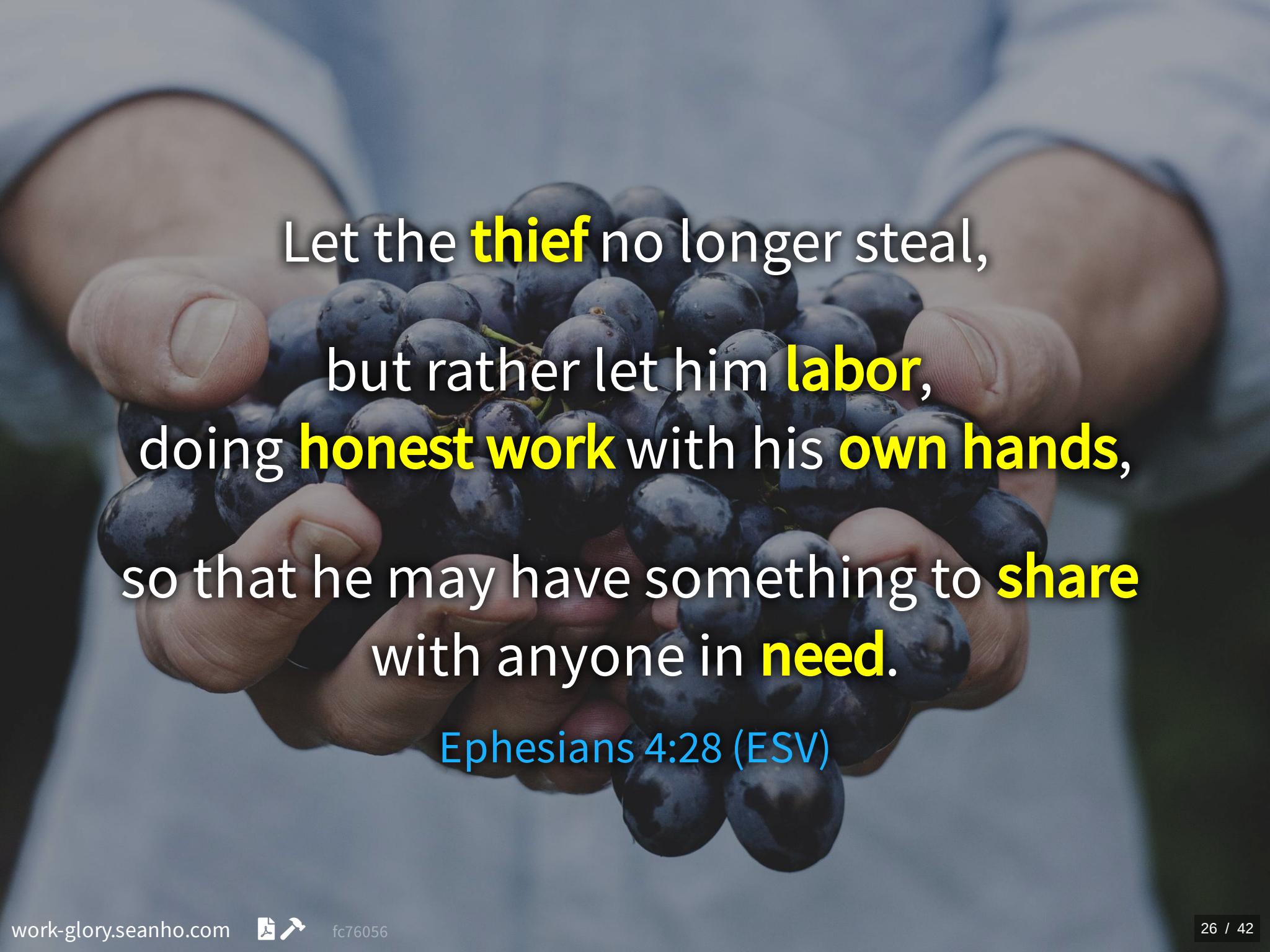
Now such persons we command  
and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ  
to do their **work quietly**  
and to earn their **own living.**

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 solid, dark grey or black, making the dark grapes stand out. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the grapes and the skin of the hand.

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)

A close-up photograph of a hand with dark-painted fingernails holding a dark-colored bowl. Inside the bowl is a bunch of dark purple grapes with some green stems and leaves. The background is a dark, textured surface.

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)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a dark, shallow bowl. The bowl is filled with a bunch of ripe, dark purple grapes with some green stems and leaves visible. The hands have dark-painted fingernails. The background is a dark, textured surface.

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)



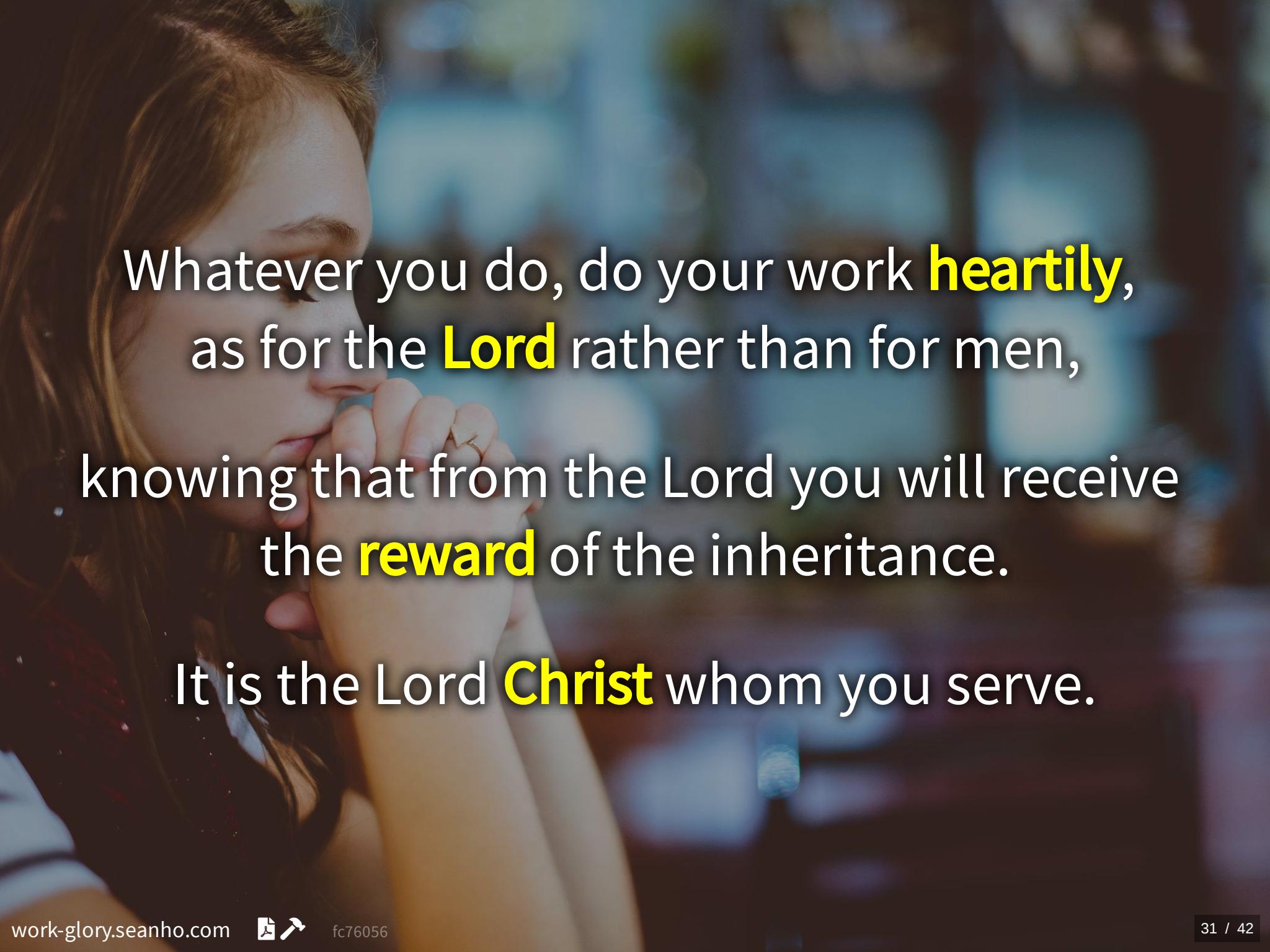
## 2. The Blessing of Employment

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

A close-up photograph of a woman with long brown hair, seen from the side and slightly from behind. She is wearing a dark-colored top. Her head is tilted back and down, resting against her hand which is propped under her chin. Her eyes are closed, suggesting prayer or deep contemplation. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with warm lighting.

**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)



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.

# Work for the Glory of God

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

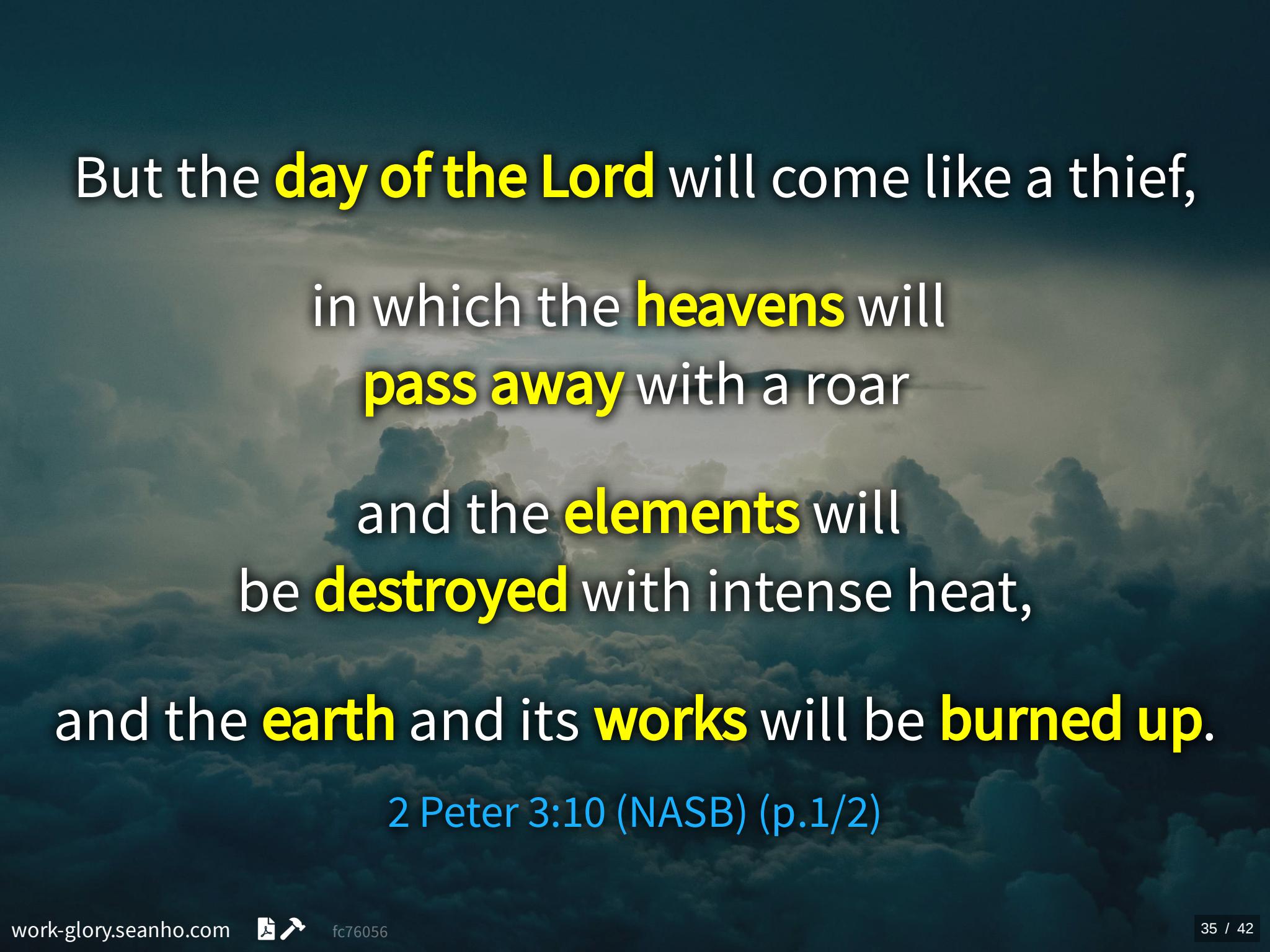
Toil for  
God's kingdom  
by resting  
in His victory

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 serene.

### 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.**

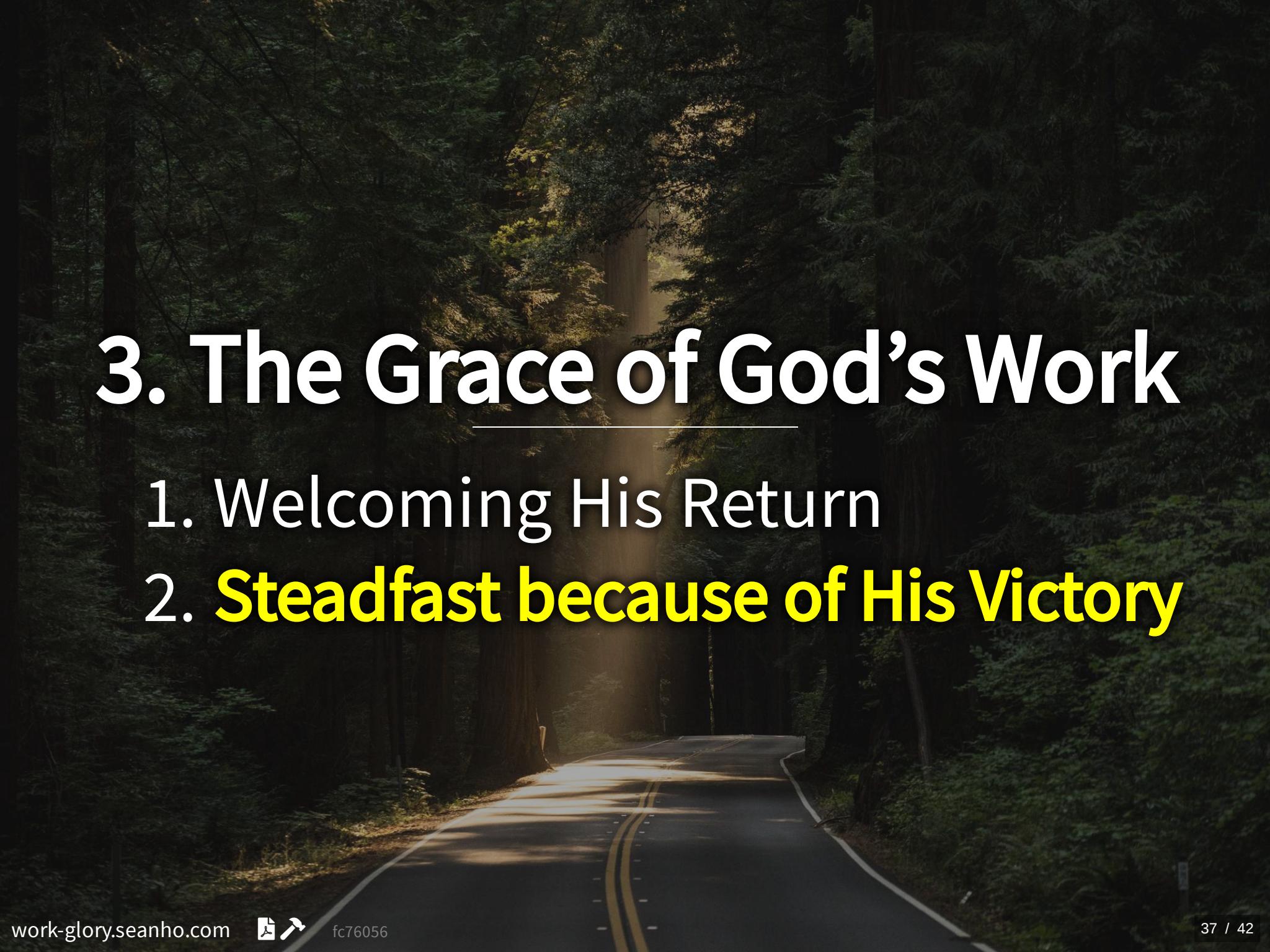
2 Peter 3:10 (NASB) (p.1/2)

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!

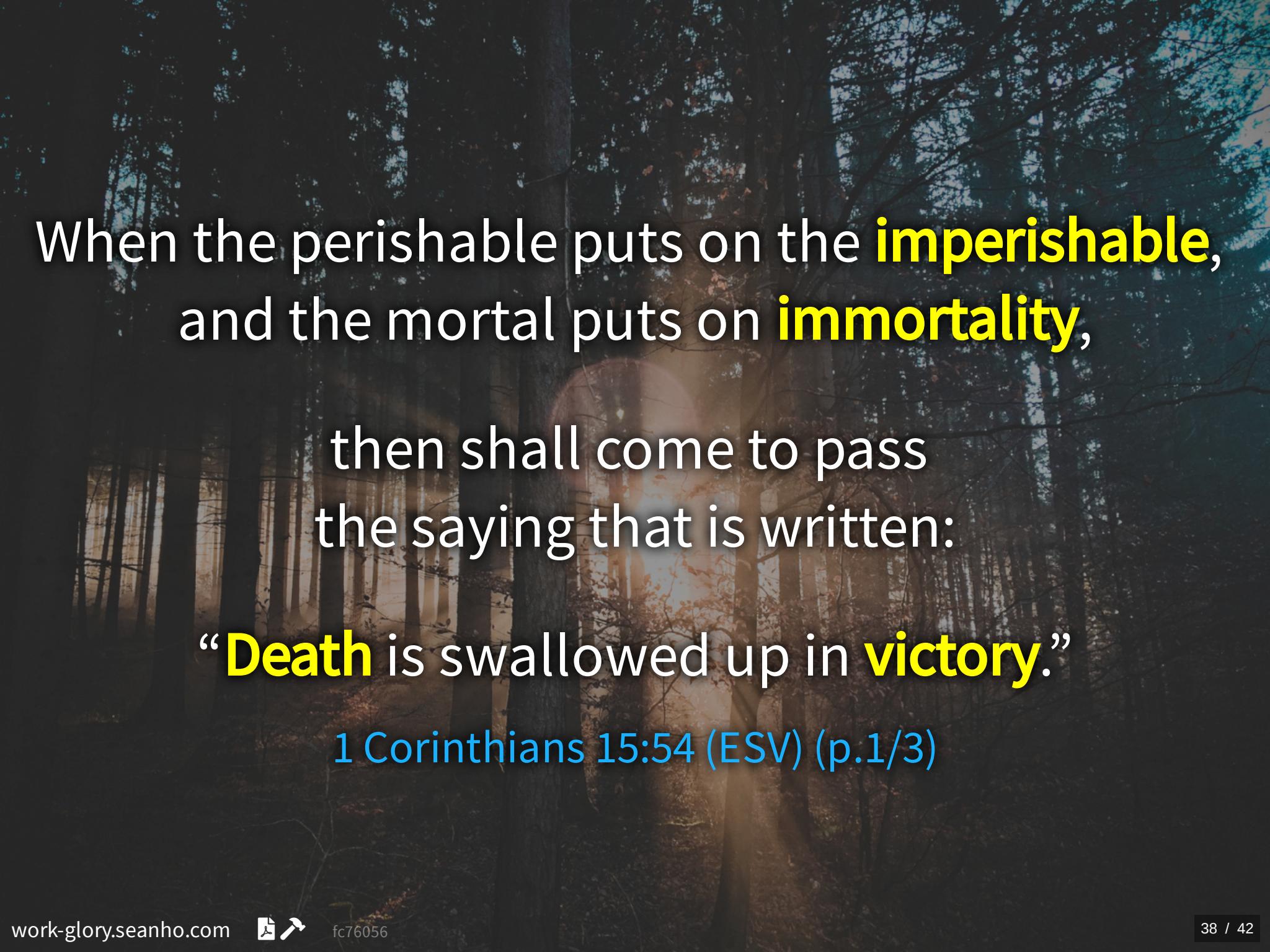
2 Peter 3:11-12 (NASB) (p.2/2)

A photograph of a dark, winding road through a dense forest. Sunlight filters through the tall evergreen trees, creating bright beams and casting long shadows on the asphalt. The road curves away from the viewer, disappearing into the distance.

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

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

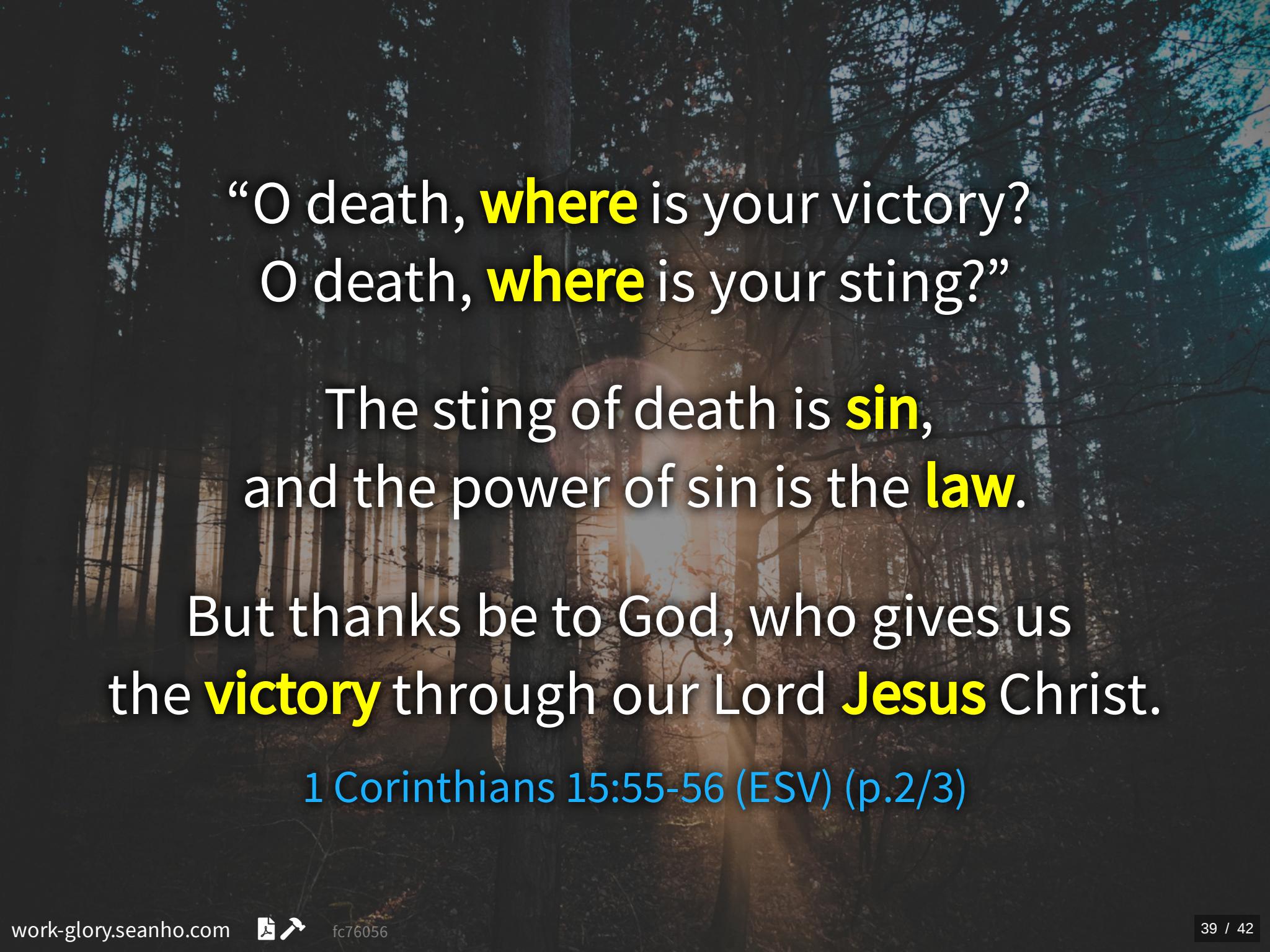


When the perishable puts on the **imperishable**,  
and the mortal puts on **immortality**,

then shall come to pass  
the saying that is written:

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

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

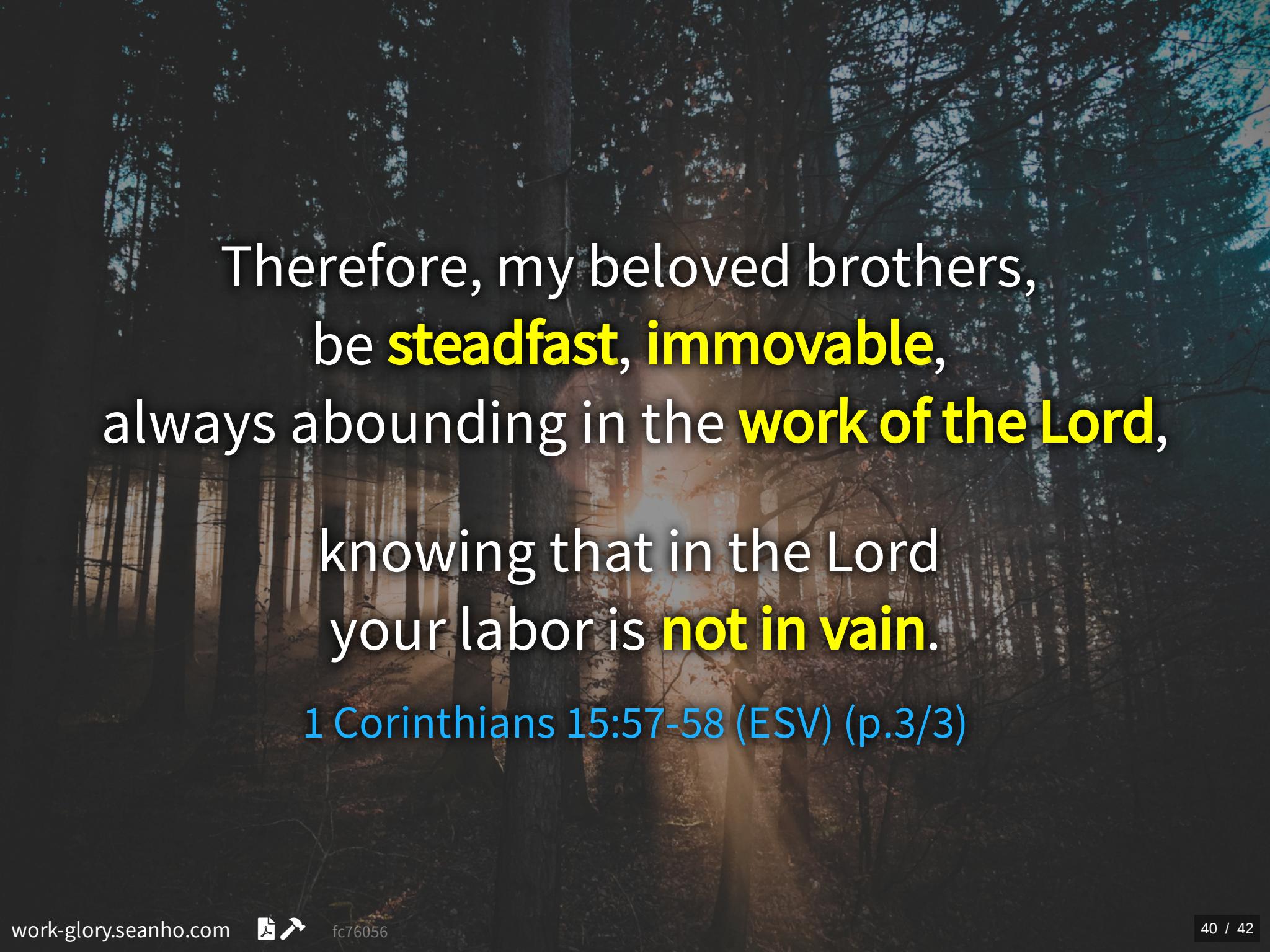


“O death, **where** is your victory?  
O death, **where** is your sting?”

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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