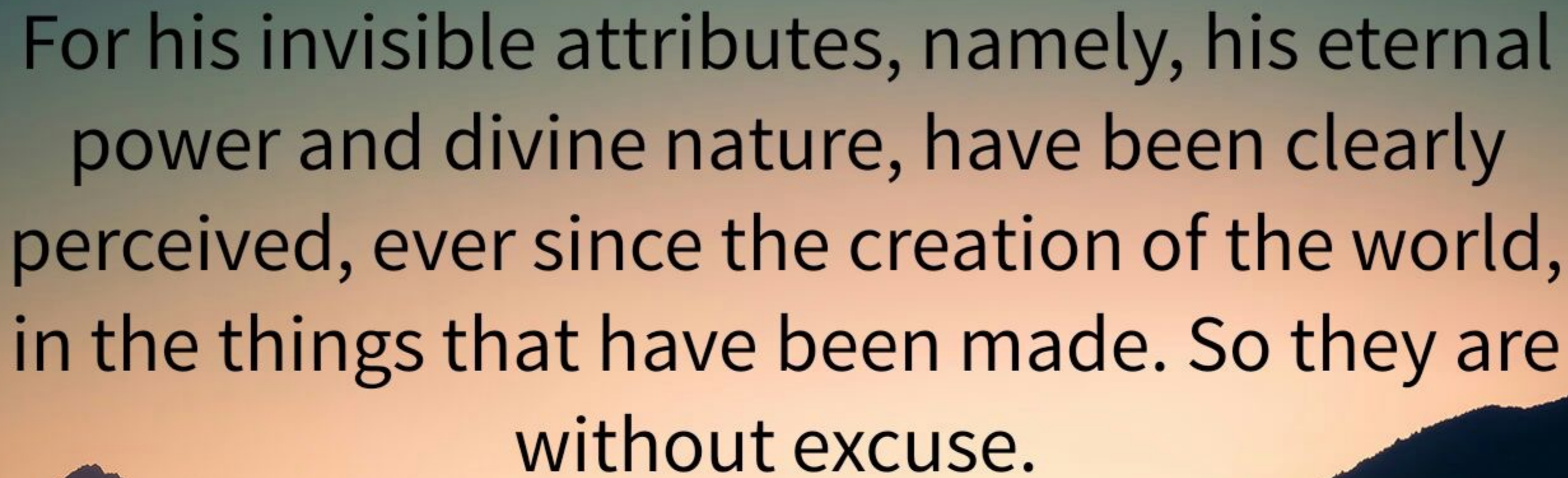


Welcome  
Sanford Family & Friends

## 2 Peter 1:3 – 6 (ESV)

*3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and **excellence**, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to **supplement your faith with virtue**, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with **godliness**,*



For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Romans 1:20 ESV



Every good and perfect gift is from above,  
coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights,  
who does not change like shifting shadows.

**James 1:17**



# Matthew 5:45

*... He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. (NKJV)*

**For God so  
loved the world,  
that he gave his  
only Son, that  
whoever believes  
in him should not  
perish but have  
*eternal life.***

-John 3:16



**BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS  
OWN LOVE FOR US IN THIS:  
WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS,  
CHRIST DIED FOR US.**

**ROMANS 5:8**



# PSALM 103

*Praise for the LORD's Mercies*

*A Psalm of David.*

**B**LESS <sup>a</sup>the LORD, O my soul;  
And all that is within me,  
*ble*ss His holy name!

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
And forget not all His benefits:

3 <sup>a</sup>Who forgives all your  
iniquities,

Who <sup>b</sup>heals all your diseases,

4 Who redeems your life from  
destruction,



We exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

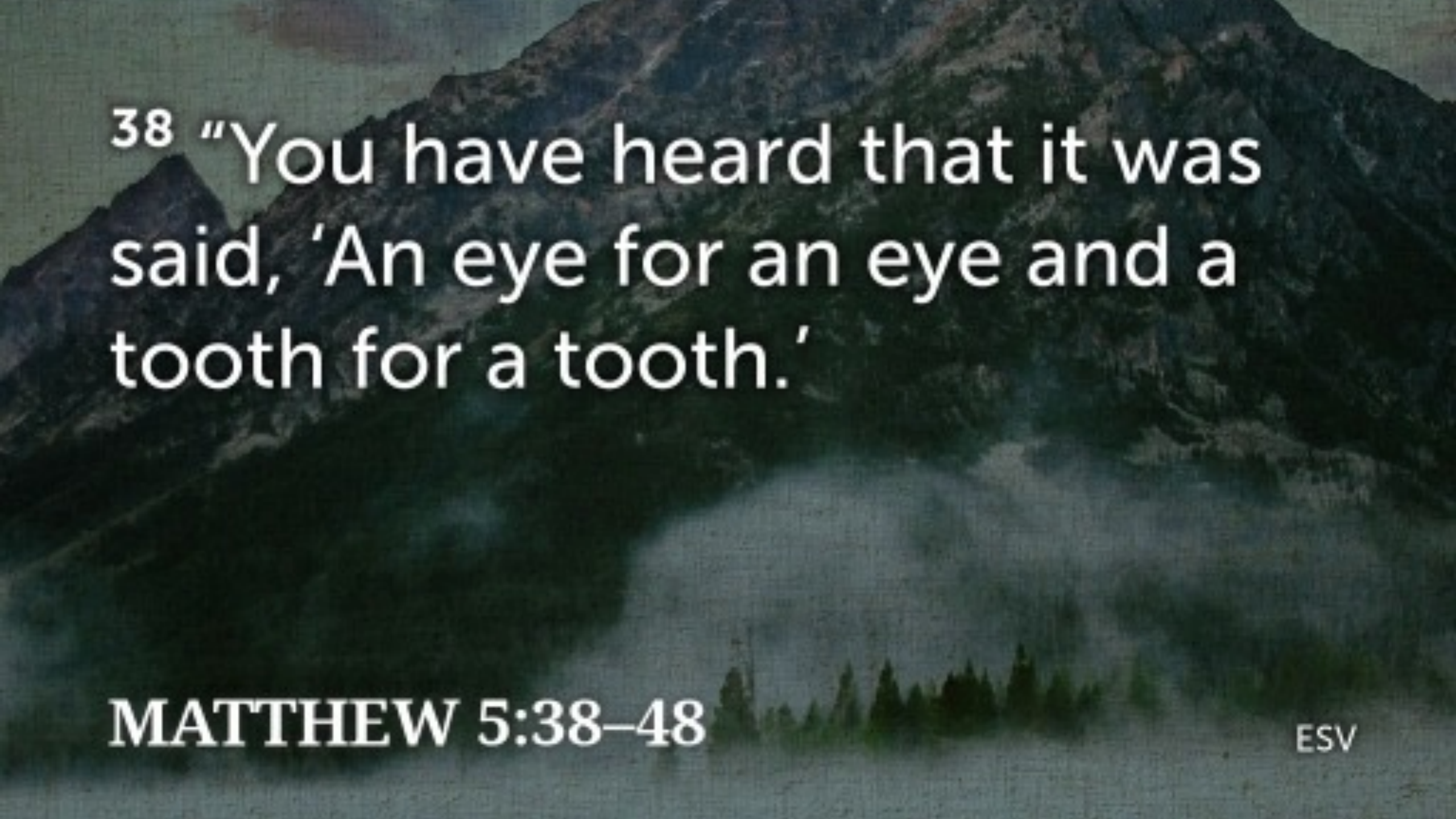
† Thessalonians 2:12



# The Christian Virtue of “Benevolence”

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**We must give as He has given to us!**

A dark, atmospheric landscape featuring rugged mountains in the background and a dense forest of evergreen trees in the foreground. The scene is dimly lit, creating a somber and contemplative mood. The text is overlaid in white, providing a stark contrast against the dark background.

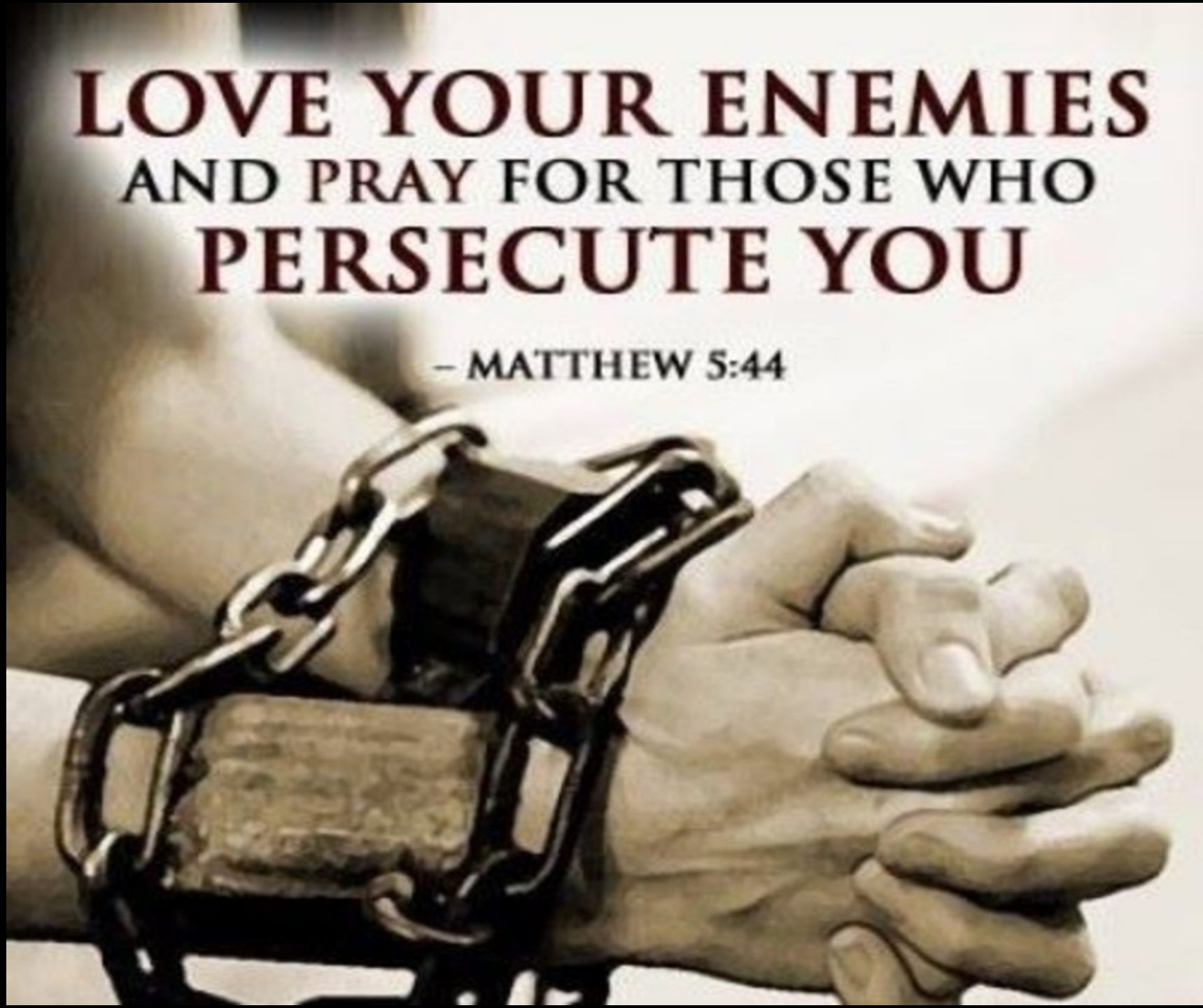
**38** "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

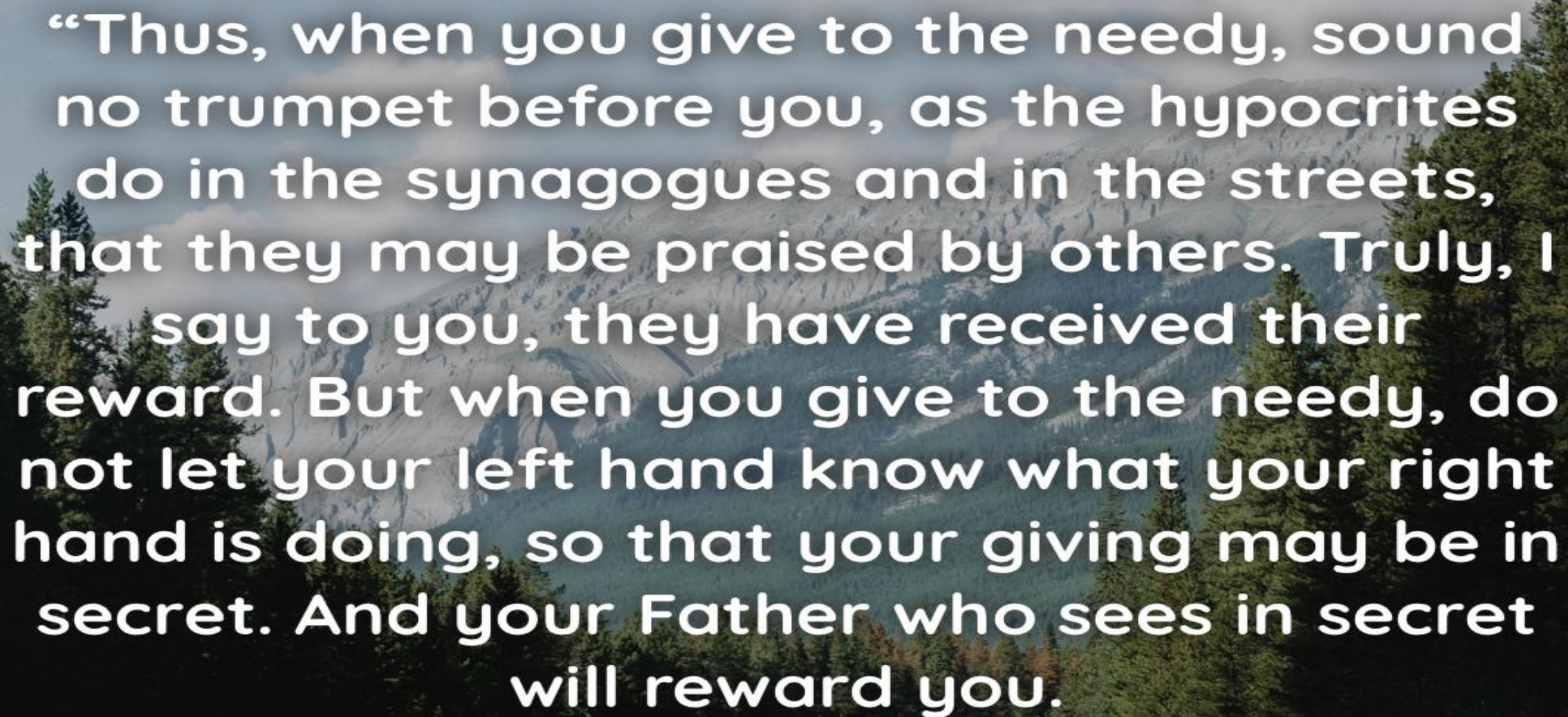
**MATTHEW 5:38–48**

ESV

**LOVE YOUR ENEMIES  
AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO  
PERSECUTE YOU**


– MATTHEW 5:44





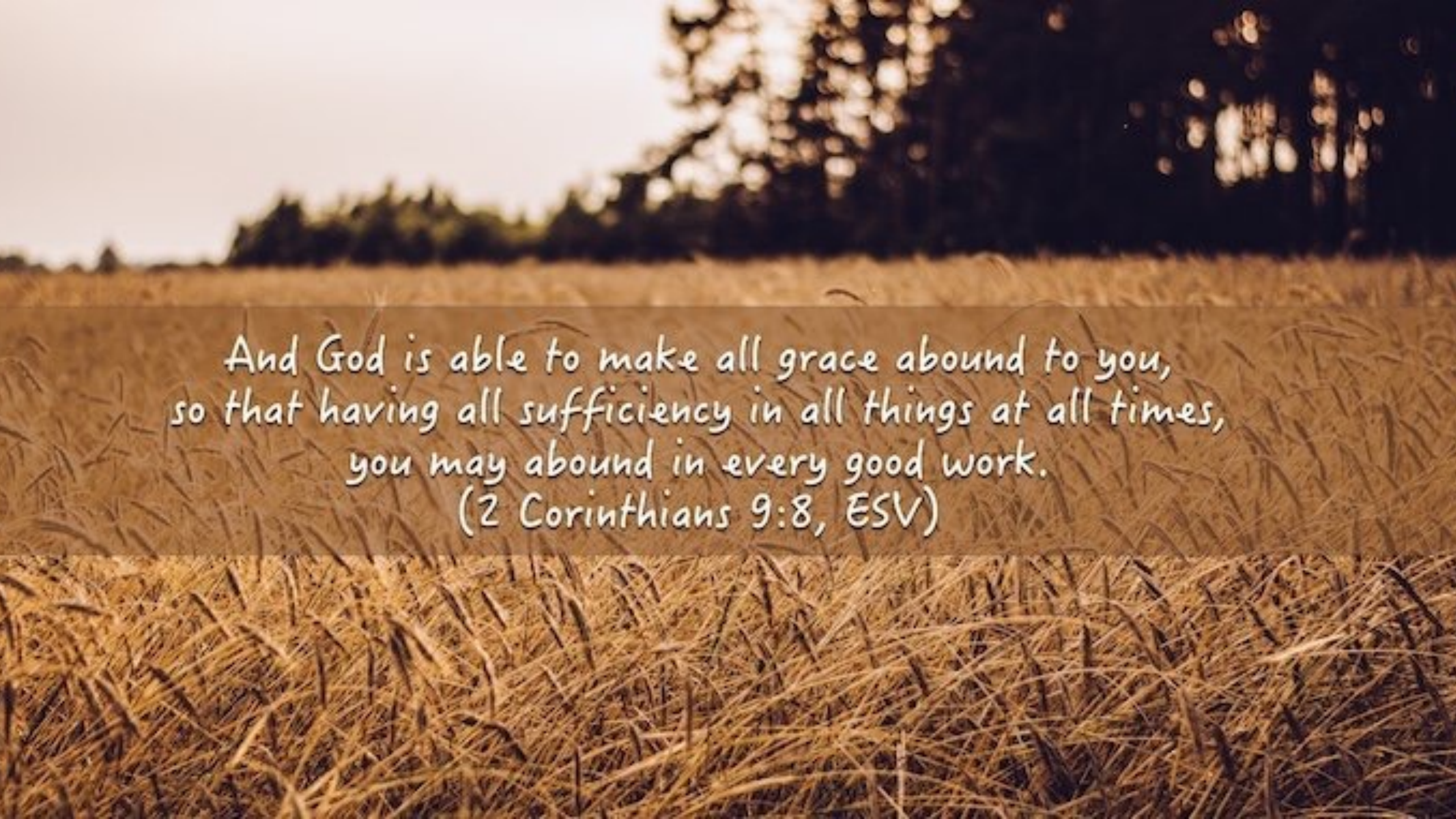
“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

~ Matthew 6:2-4



In what  
ways  
must we  
give?

- Financially
  - 2 Corinthians 9:7
  - Acts 4:32
  - Acts 4:34 – 35
  - Galatians 6:10
- Time & Effort
  - James 1:27
  - Matthew 25:35 – 36
  - Matthew 25:40
- Concern
  - Philippians 4:10
  - Philippians 4:14
  - Galatians 6:2



And God is able to make all grace abound to you,  
so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times,  
you may abound in every good work.  
(2 Corinthians 9:8, ESV)

# BAPTISM



BURIED WITH HIM IN DEATH  
RAISED TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE

Have you received God's greatest gift of salvation  
in Christ Jesus by obeying the Gospel?