

# Esther

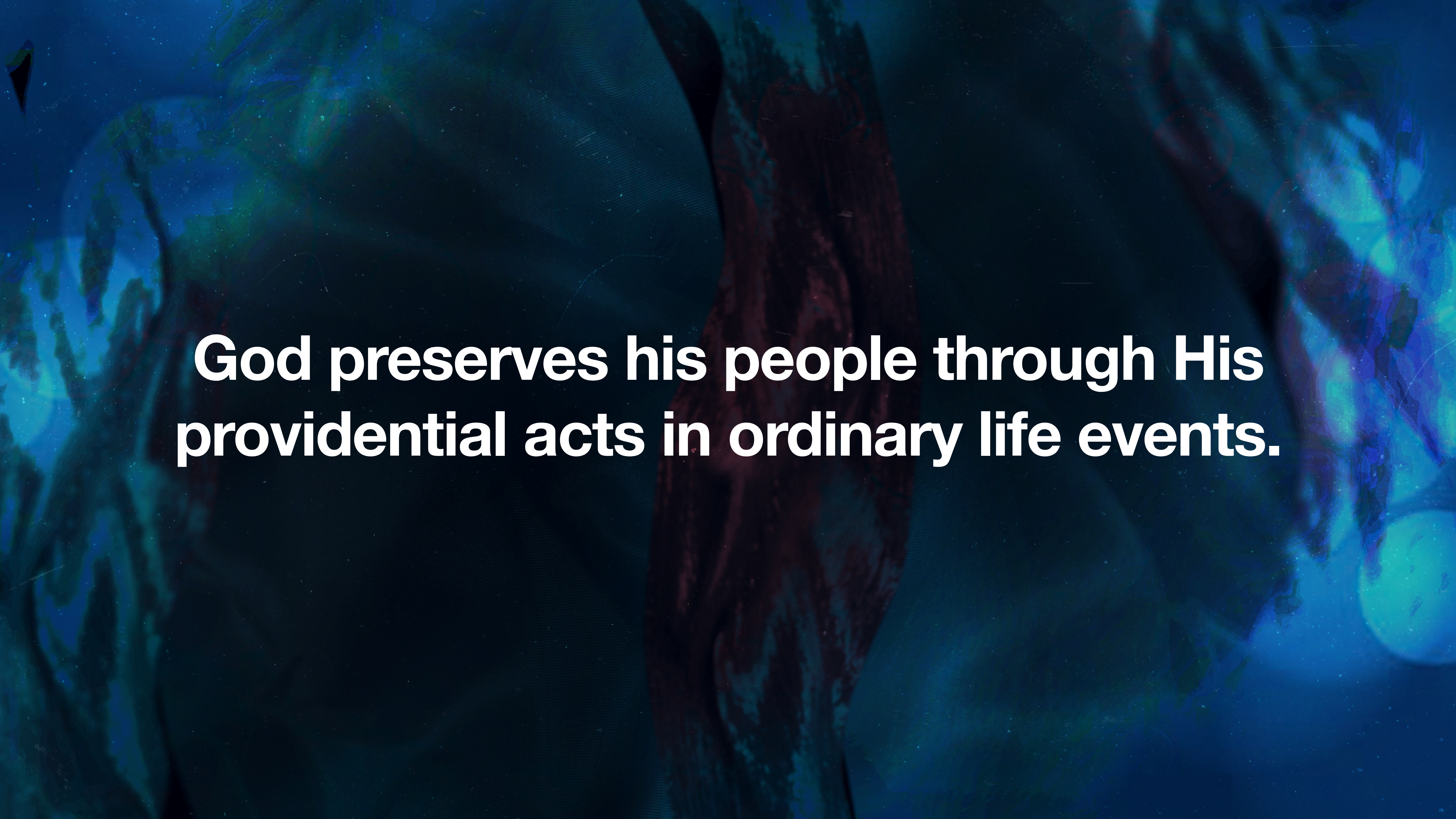
Week 5

The Great Reversal



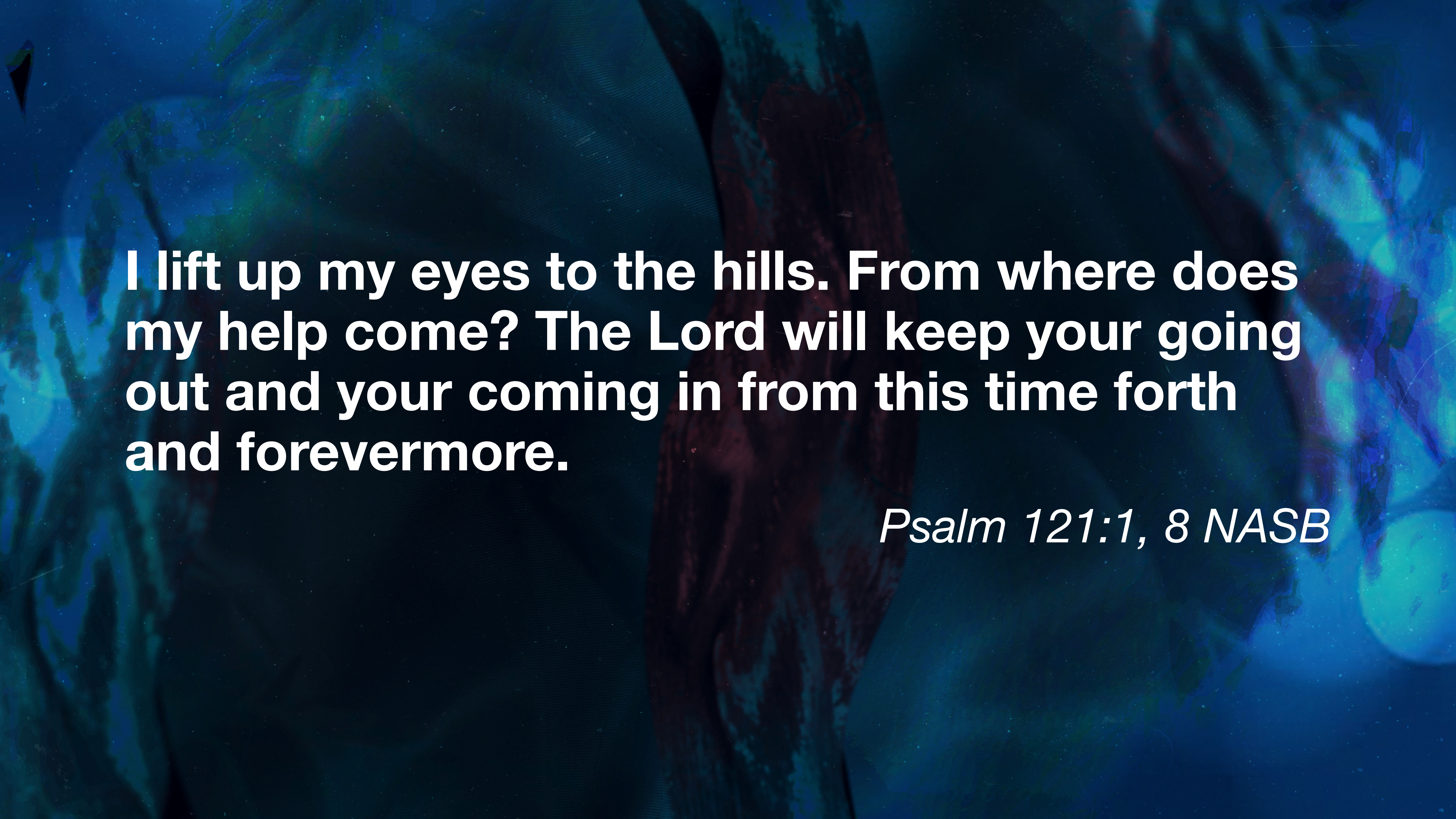
Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp - Reston Bible Church - Sunday, October 12, 2025





**God preserves his people through His  
providential acts in ordinary life events.**





**I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does  
my help come? The Lord will keep your going  
out and your coming in from this time forth  
and forevermore.**

*Psalms 121:1, 8 NASB*



# **1. Haman's Pride on Full Display**

**And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai. Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh.**



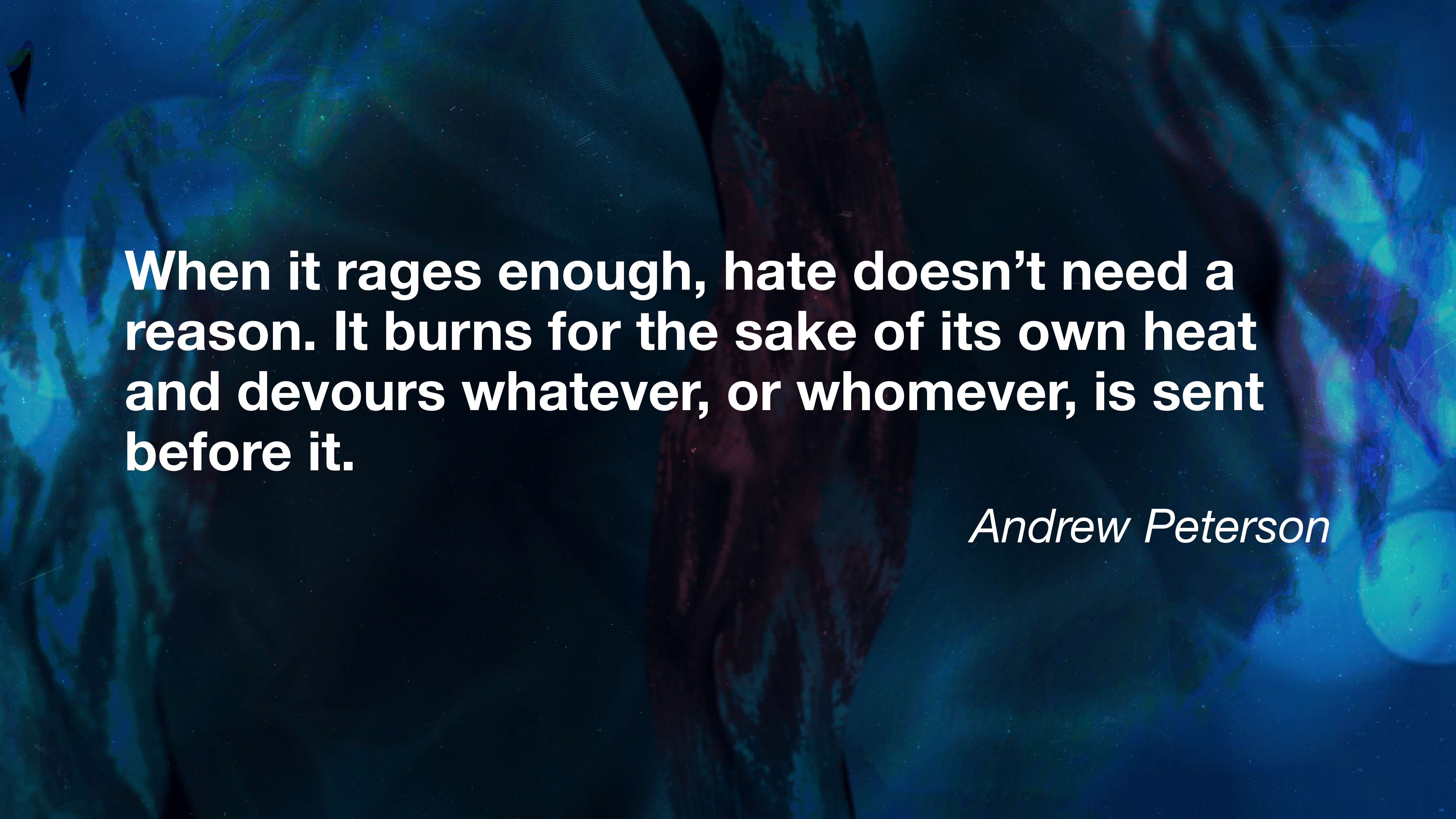
**And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. Then Haman said, “Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king.**



**Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.” Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, “Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast.” This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made.**

*Esther 5:9-14 ESV*





**When it rages enough, hate doesn't need a reason. It burns for the sake of its own heat and devours whatever, or whomever, is sent before it.**

*Andrew Peterson*

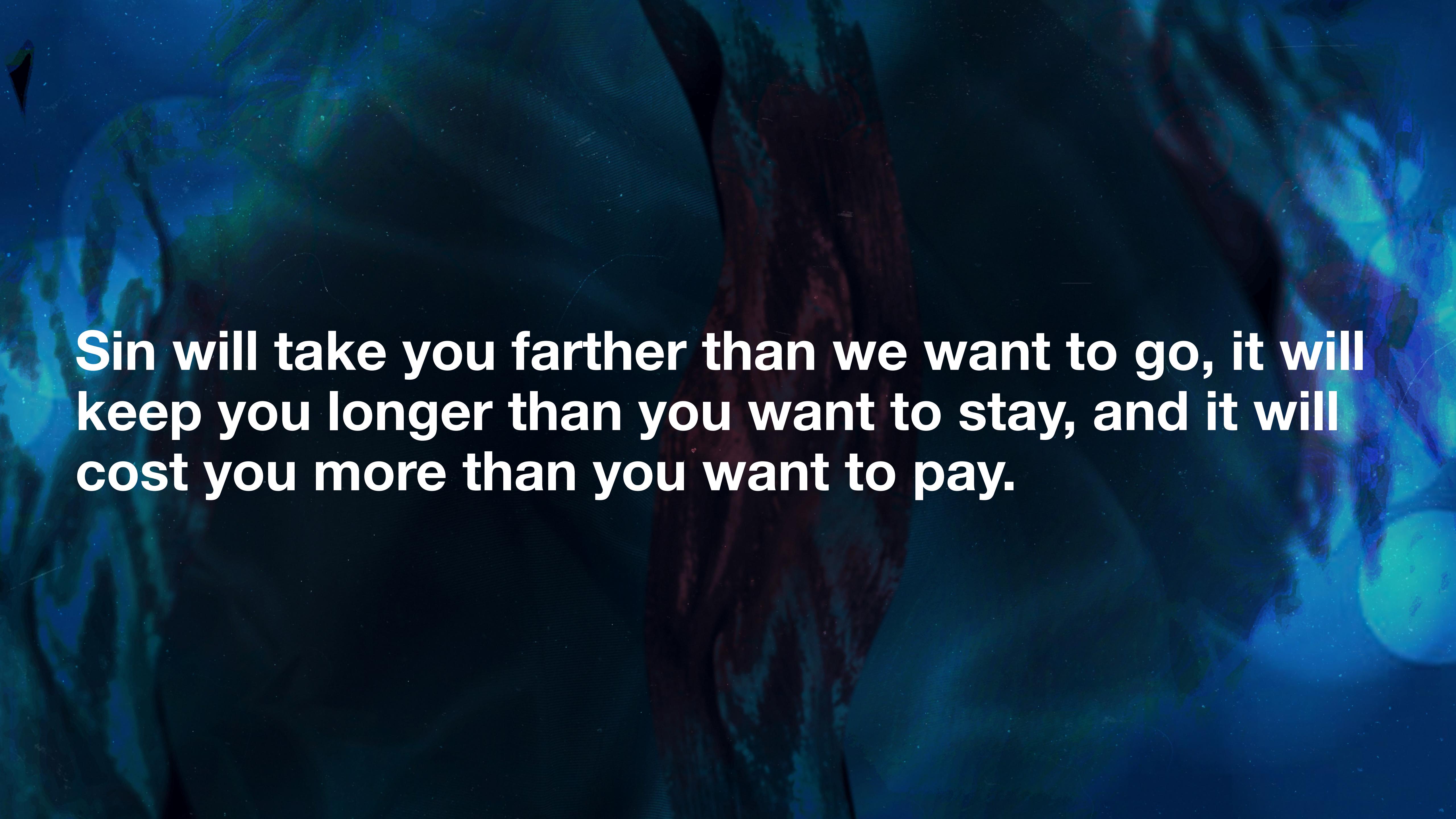




**Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,  
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.**

*Proverbs 13:20 ESV*





**Sin will take you farther than we want to go, it will keep you longer than you want to stay, and it will cost you more than you want to pay.**



## **2. It Just So Happens...**

**On that night the king could not sleep. And he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the chronicles, and they were read before the king. And it was found written how Mordecai had told about Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, and who had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.**



**And the king said, “What honor or distinction has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?” The king's young men who attended him said, “Nothing has been done for him.” And the king said, “Who is in the court?” Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to speak to the king about having Mordecai hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for him.**



**And the king's young men told him, “Haman is there, standing in the court.” And the king said, “Let him come in.”**

*Esther 6:1-5 ESV*



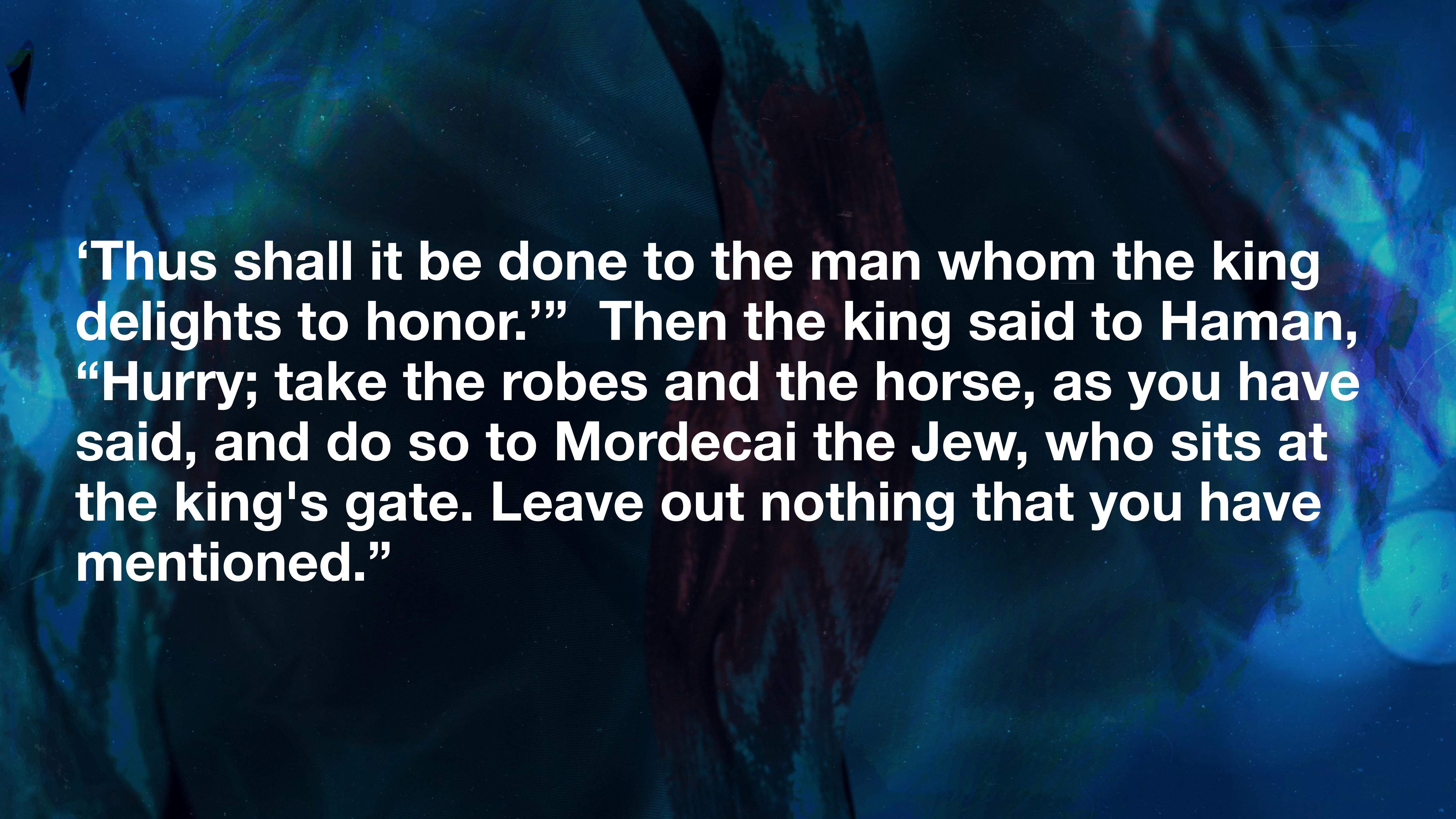
### **3. Exaltation and Humiliation**

**So Haman came in, and the king said to him, “What should be done to the man whom the king delights to honor?” And Haman said to himself, “Whom would the king delight to honor more than me?” And Haman said to the king, “For the man whom the king delights to honor,**



**let royal robes be brought, which the king has worn, and the horse that the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown is set. And let the robes and the horse be handed over to one of the king's most noble officials. Let them dress the man whom the king delights to honor, and let them lead him on the horse through the square of the city, proclaiming before him:**





**‘Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor.’” Then the king said to Haman, “Hurry; take the robes and the horse, as you have said, and do so to Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king's gate. Leave out nothing that you have mentioned.”**



**And Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, “If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of the Jewish people, you will not overcome him but will surely fall before him.”**

*Esther 6:1-10, 13 ESV*





**Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty  
spirit before a fall.**

*Proverbs 16:18 ESV*



## 4. Reality Revealed

**So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. And on the second day, as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king again said to Esther, “What is your wish, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.”**



**Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have been silent, for our affliction is not to be compared with the loss to the king.”**



**Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther,  
“Who is he, and where is he, who has dared to  
do this?” And Esther said, “A foe and enemy!  
This wicked Haman!” Then Haman was  
terrified before the king and the queen.**

*Esther 7:1-6 ESV*



## **5. God's Judgment Imposed**

**And the king arose in his wrath from the wine-drinking and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm was determined against him by the king.**



**And the king returned from the palace garden to the place where they were drinking wine, as Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. And the king said, “Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?” As the word left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Moreover, the gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, is standing at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.”**



**And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the wrath of the king abated.**

*Esther 7:7-10 ESV*



# 1. Embrace the God of Ironic Reversals

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

*2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV*



**I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.**

*Galatians 2:20 ESV*



## 2. Resist the Consuming Power of Anger

**Speak when you are angry and you'll make  
the best speech you'll ever regret.**

*Henry Ward Beecher*



# Choose to Leave it With God

**Repay no one evil for evil... Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.**

*Romans 12:17, 19-20 ESV*





**Thank God that you are not what you could be but  
under other circumstances you likely would be.**



# Only Believers Can Release Life's Pain

**For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

*Matthew 6:14-15 ESV*



### 3. Choose Humility

**Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you.**

*1 Peter 5:5-6 ESV*

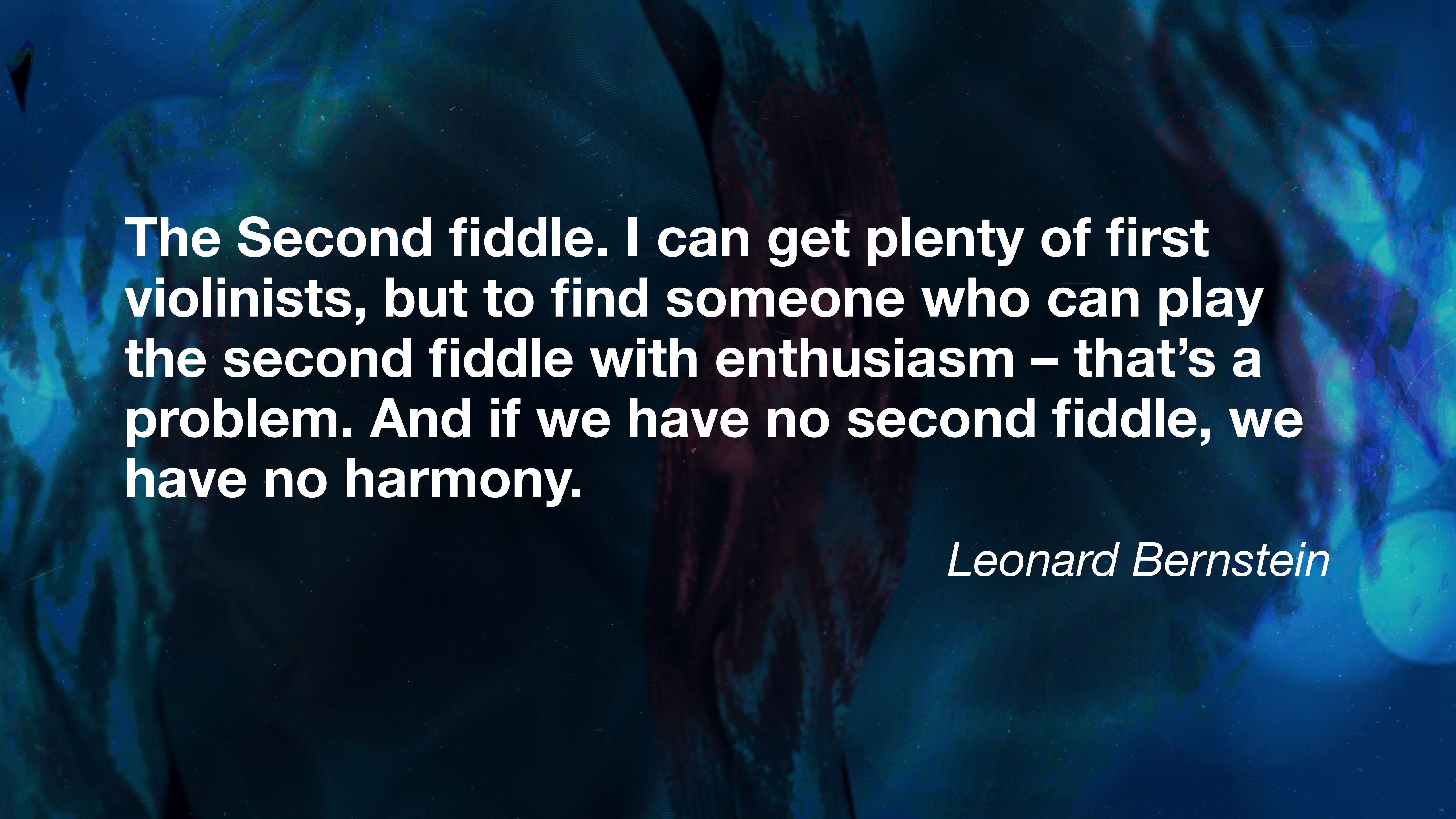




**Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and  
whoever humbles himself will be exalted.**

*Matthew 23:12 ESV*





**The Second fiddle. I can get plenty of first violinists, but to find someone who can play the second fiddle with enthusiasm – that's a problem. And if we have no second fiddle, we have no harmony.**

*Leonard Bernstein*



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- **Embrace the God of Ironic Reversals**
  - **Resist the Consuming Power of Anger**
  - **Choose Humility**