

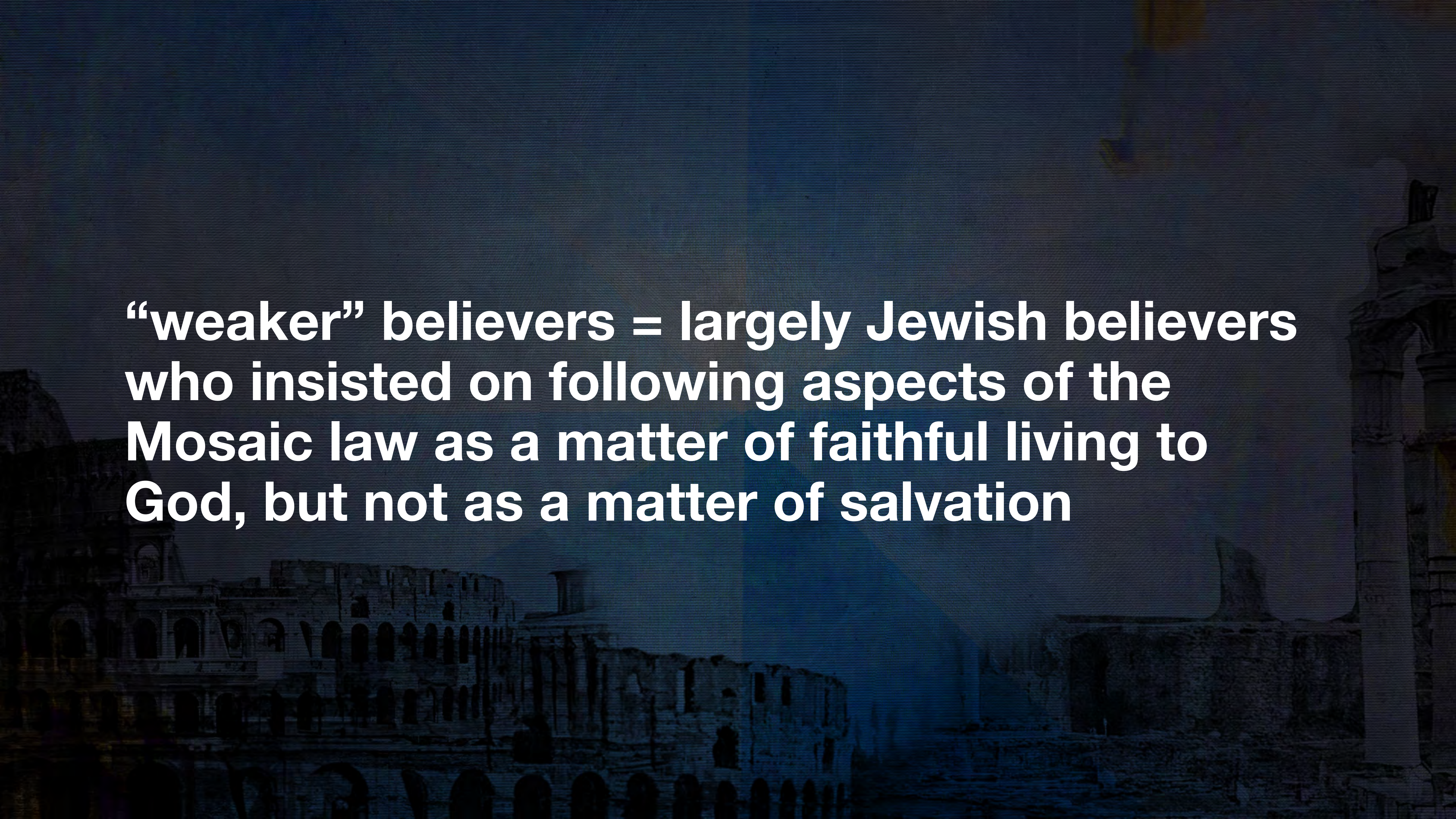


Rescued

God's Plan For Redemption Revealed In Romans

Week 21 - Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

Pastor of Fellowship Groups David Wright — Reston Bible Church — Sunday, June 14, 2026



“weaker” believers = largely Jewish believers who insisted on following aspects of the Mosaic law as a matter of faithful living to God, but not as a matter of salvation



Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

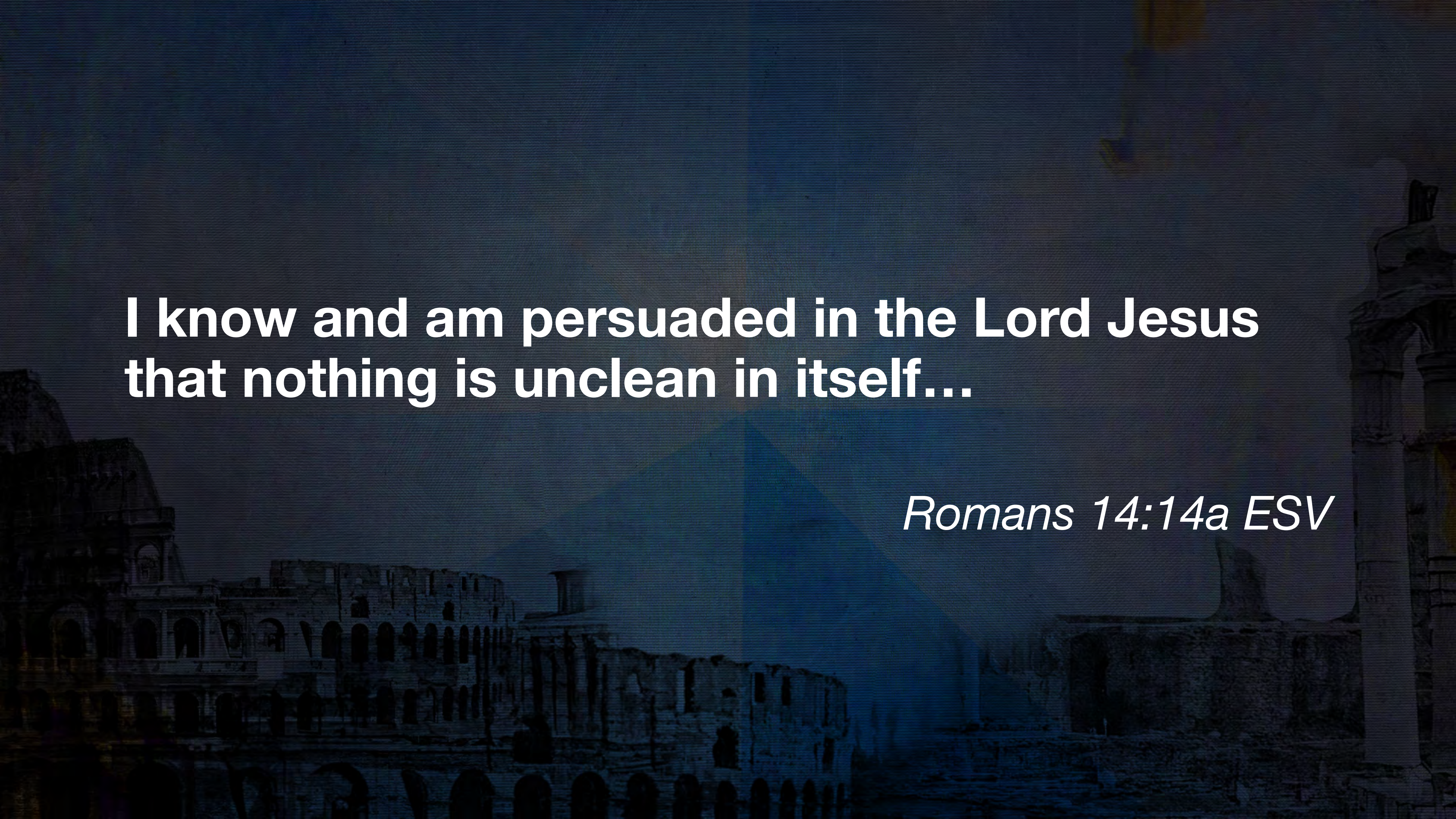


As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.

Romans 14:1 ESV

**One person believes he may eat anything,
while the weak person eats only vegetables.
Let not the one who eats despise the one who
abstains, and let not the one who abstains
pass judgment on the one who eats, for God
has welcomed him.**

Romans 14:2-3 ESV

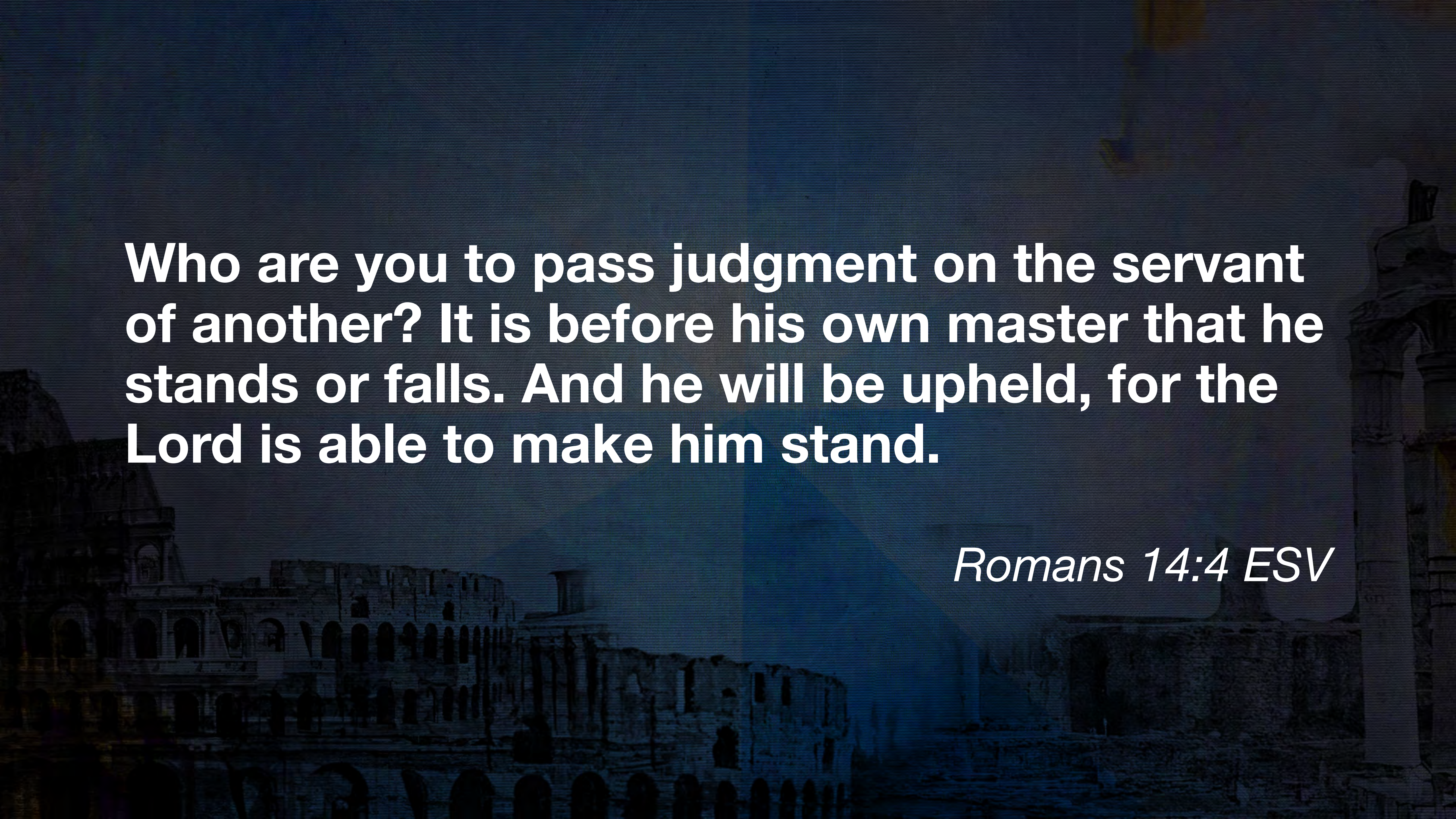


**I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus
that nothing is unclean in itself...**

Romans 14:14a ESV

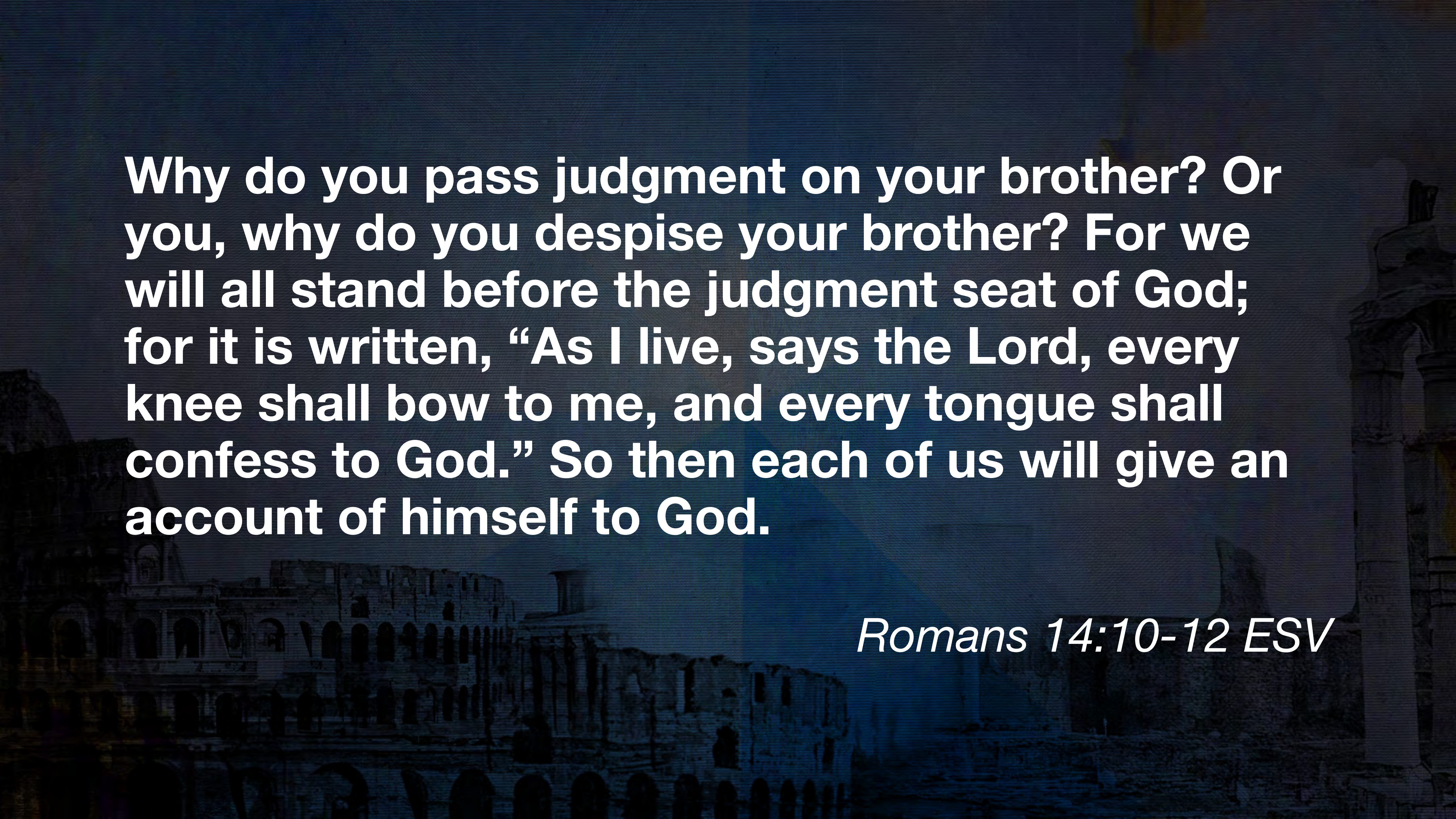
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Romans 14:2-3 ESV



Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:4 ESV

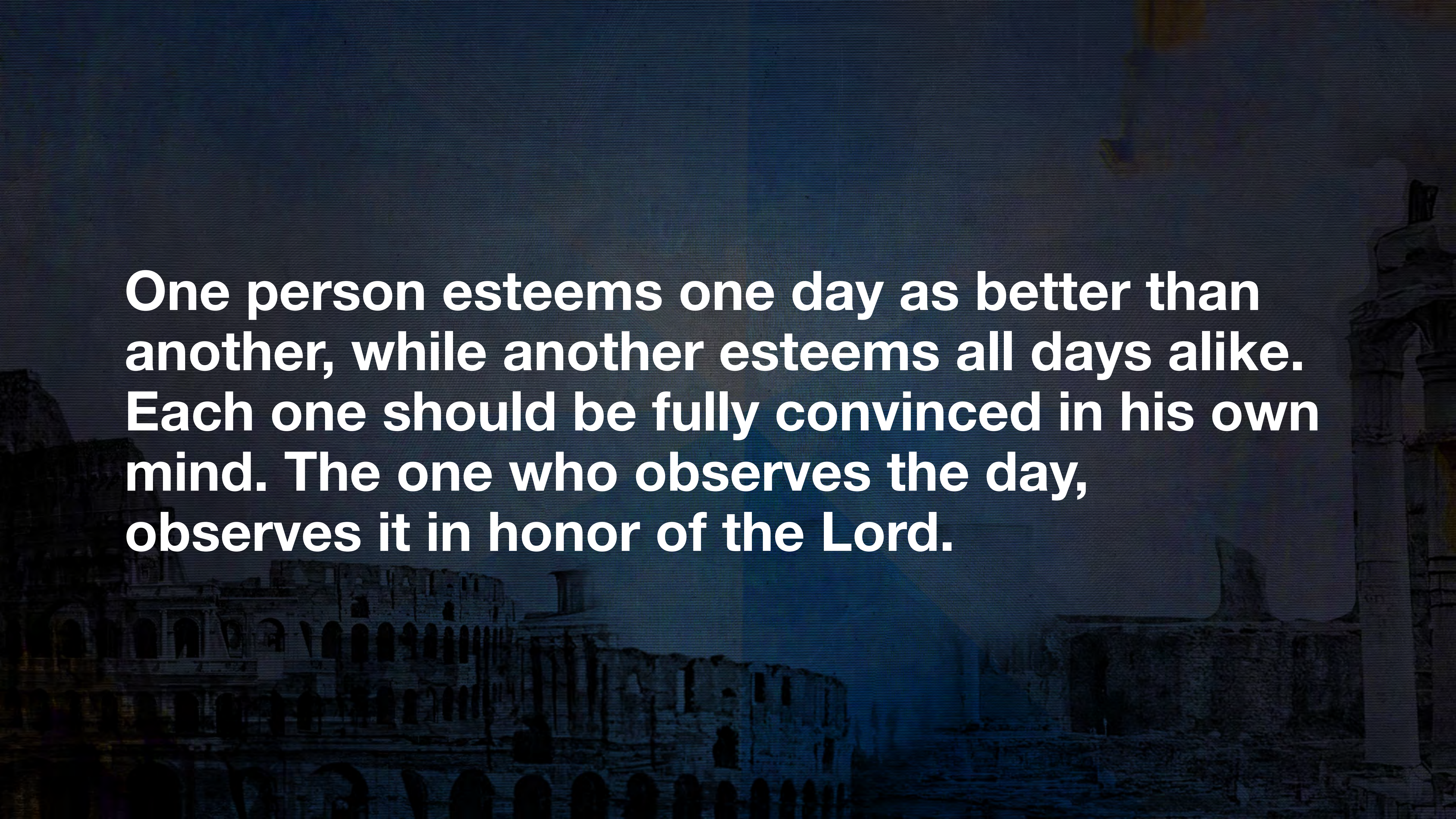


Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

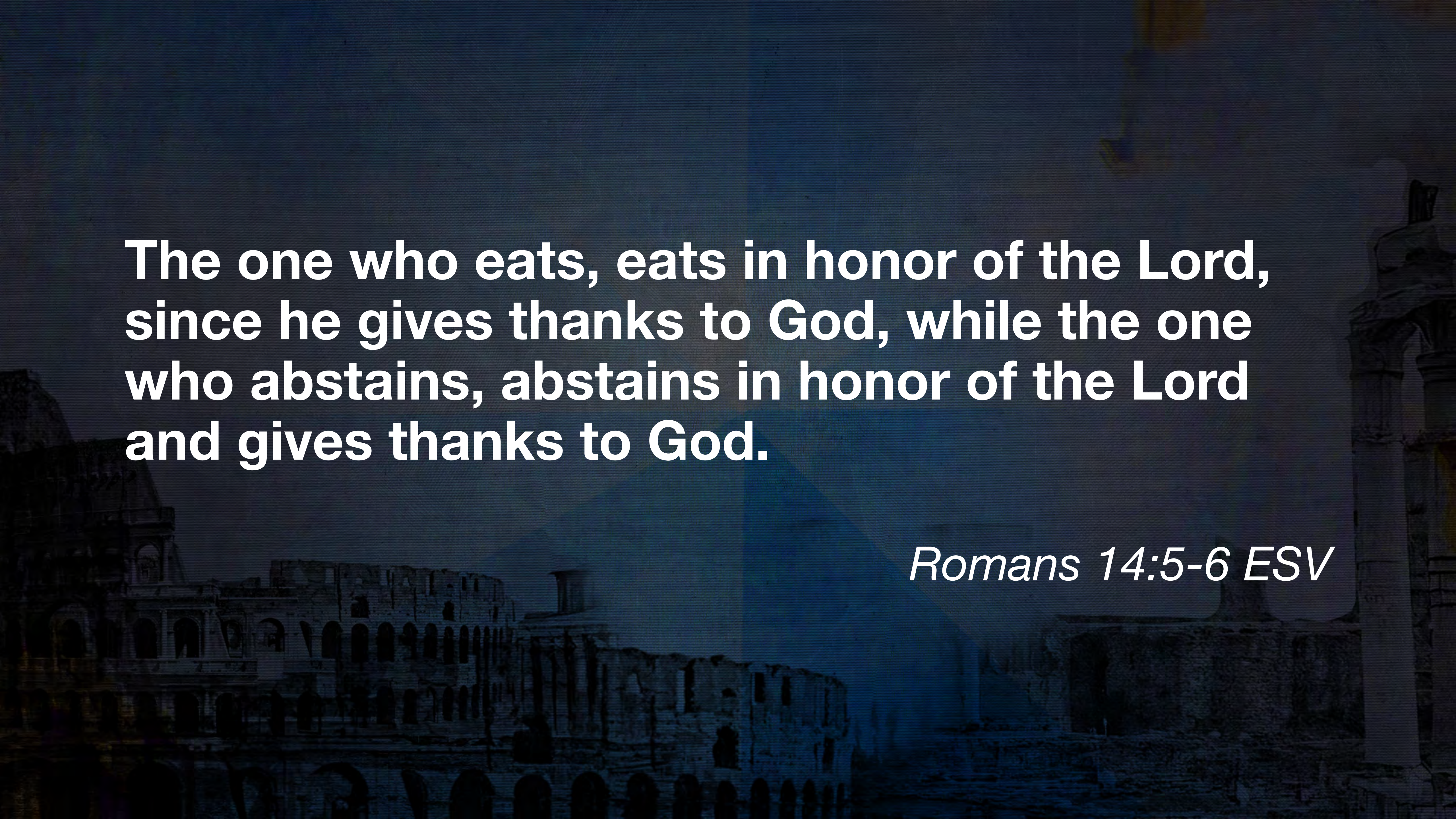
Romans 14:10-12 ESV

Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

- 1. Leave the judgment to the master who owns the servant.**

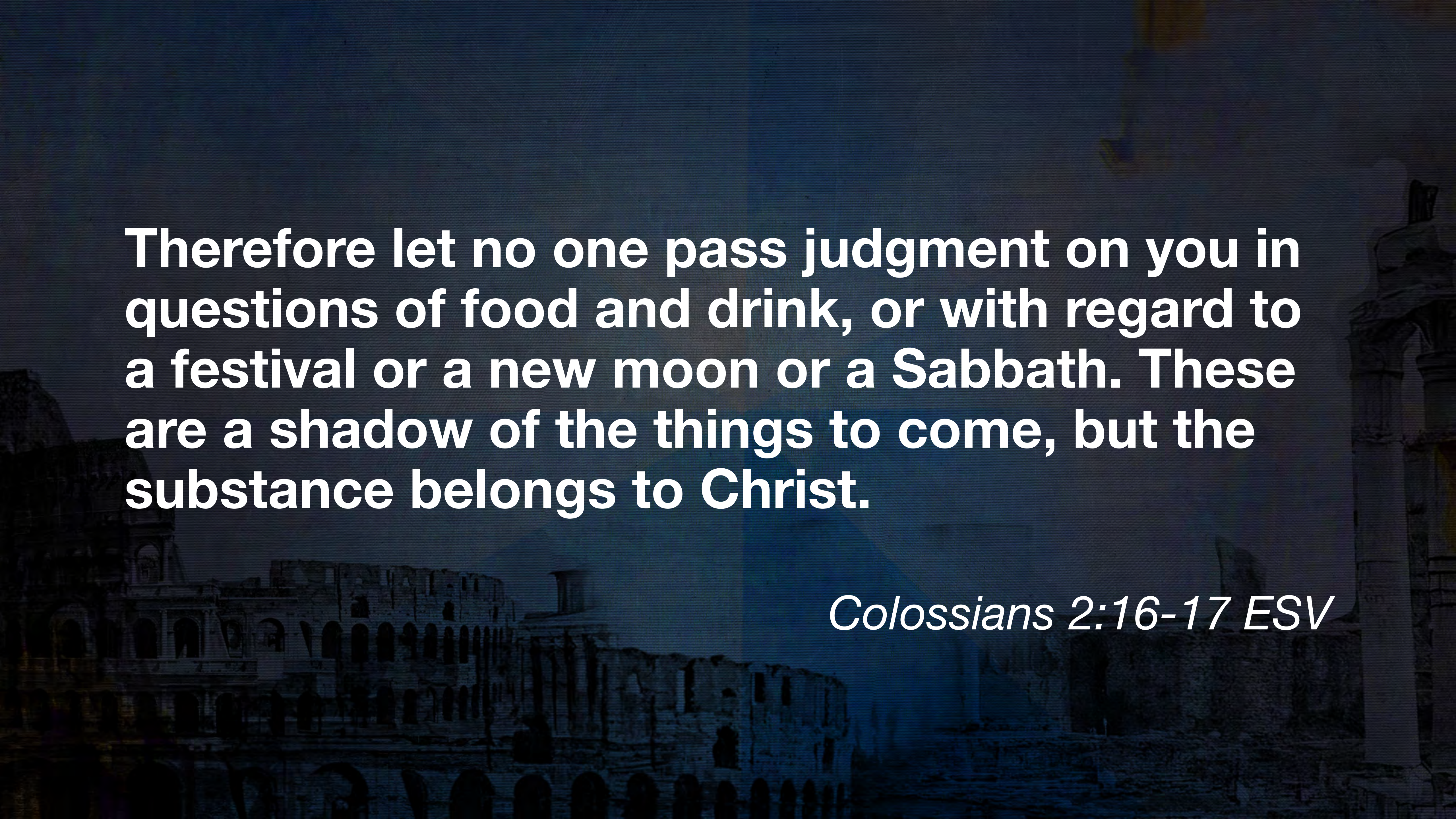


One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord.



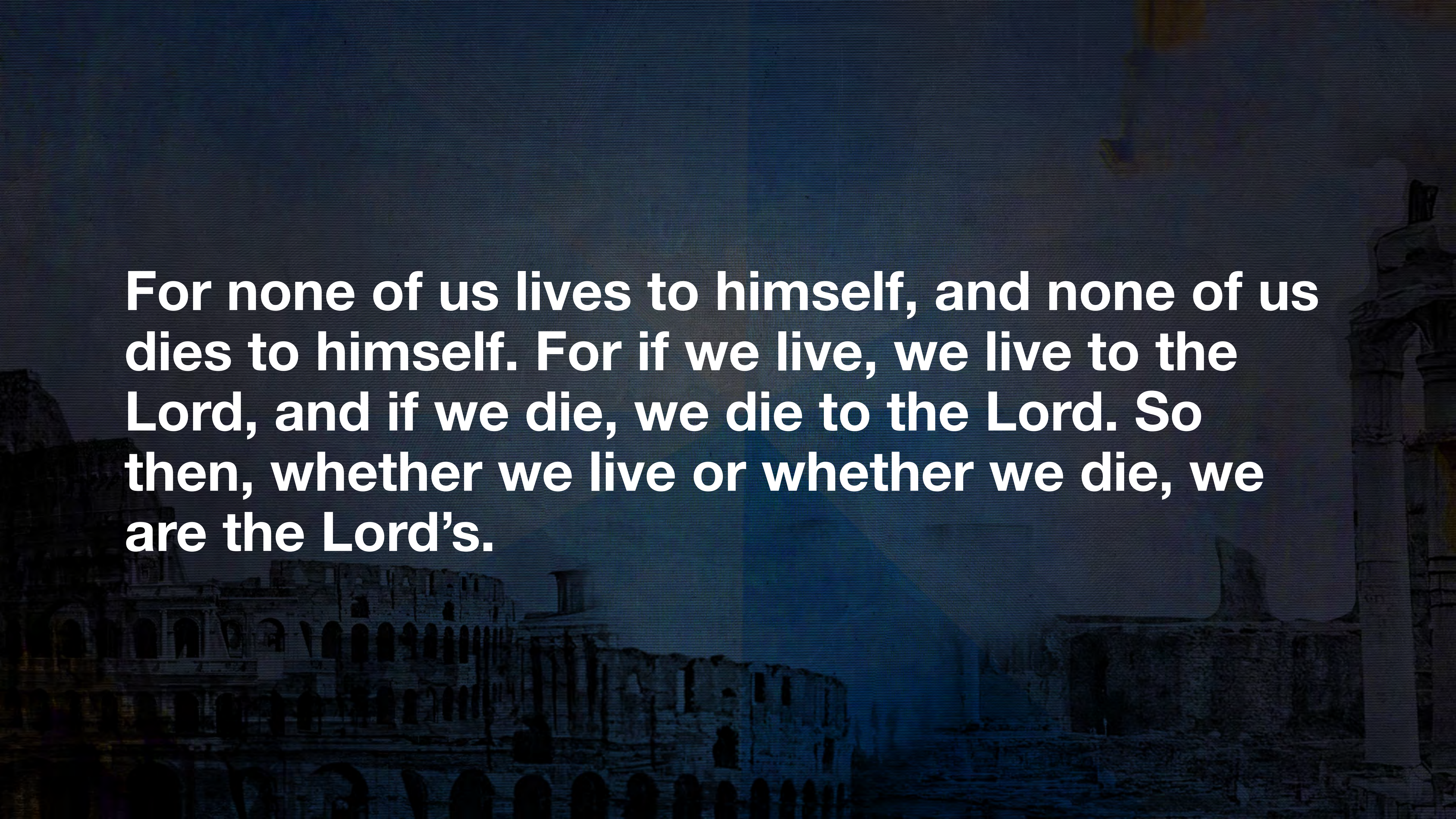
**The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord,
since he gives thanks to God, while the one
who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord
and gives thanks to God.**

Romans 14:5-6 ESV



Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

Colossians 2:16-17 ESV

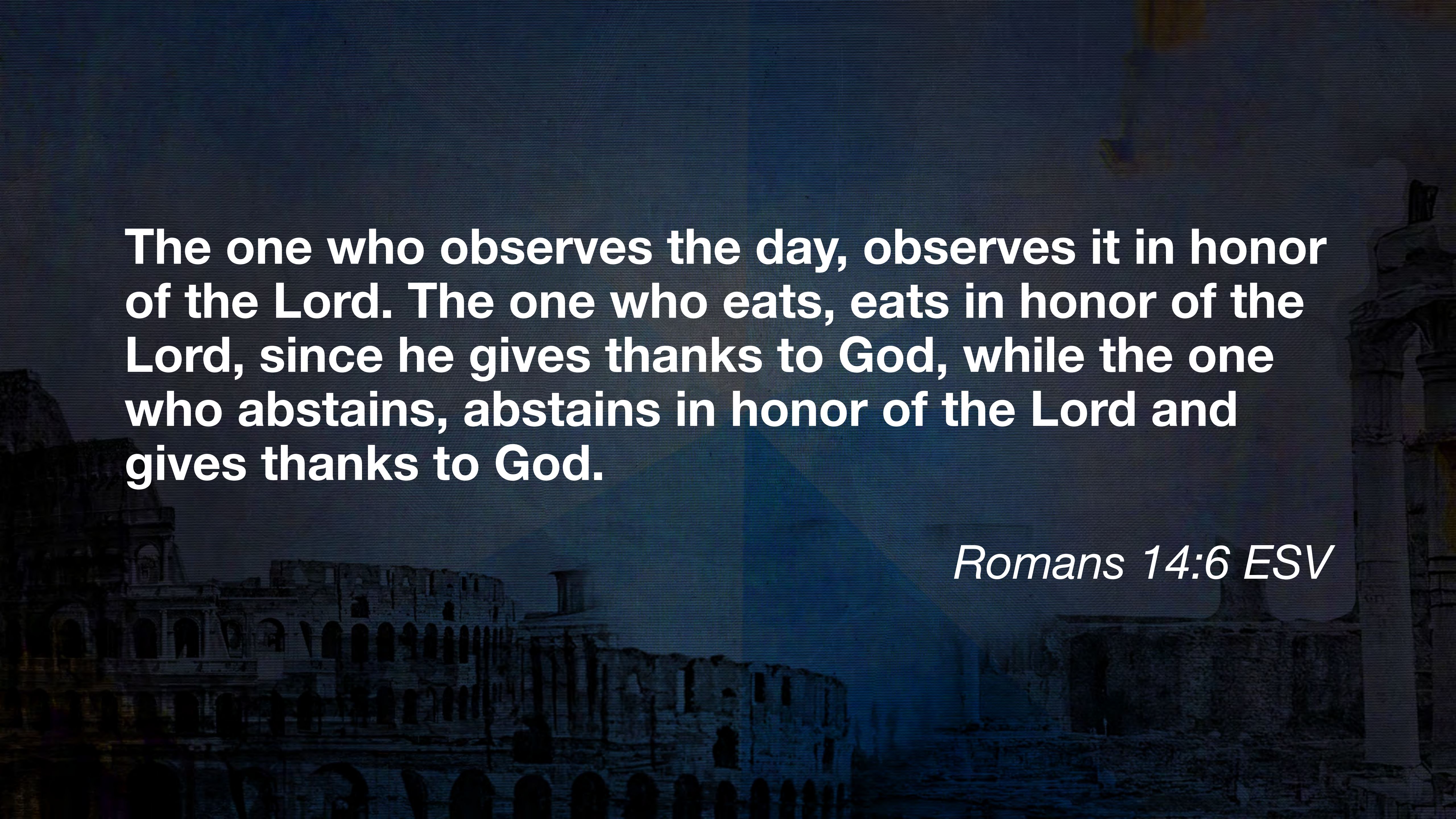


For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.



**For to this end Christ died and lived again,
that he might be Lord both of the dead and of
the living.**

Romans 14:7-9 ESV



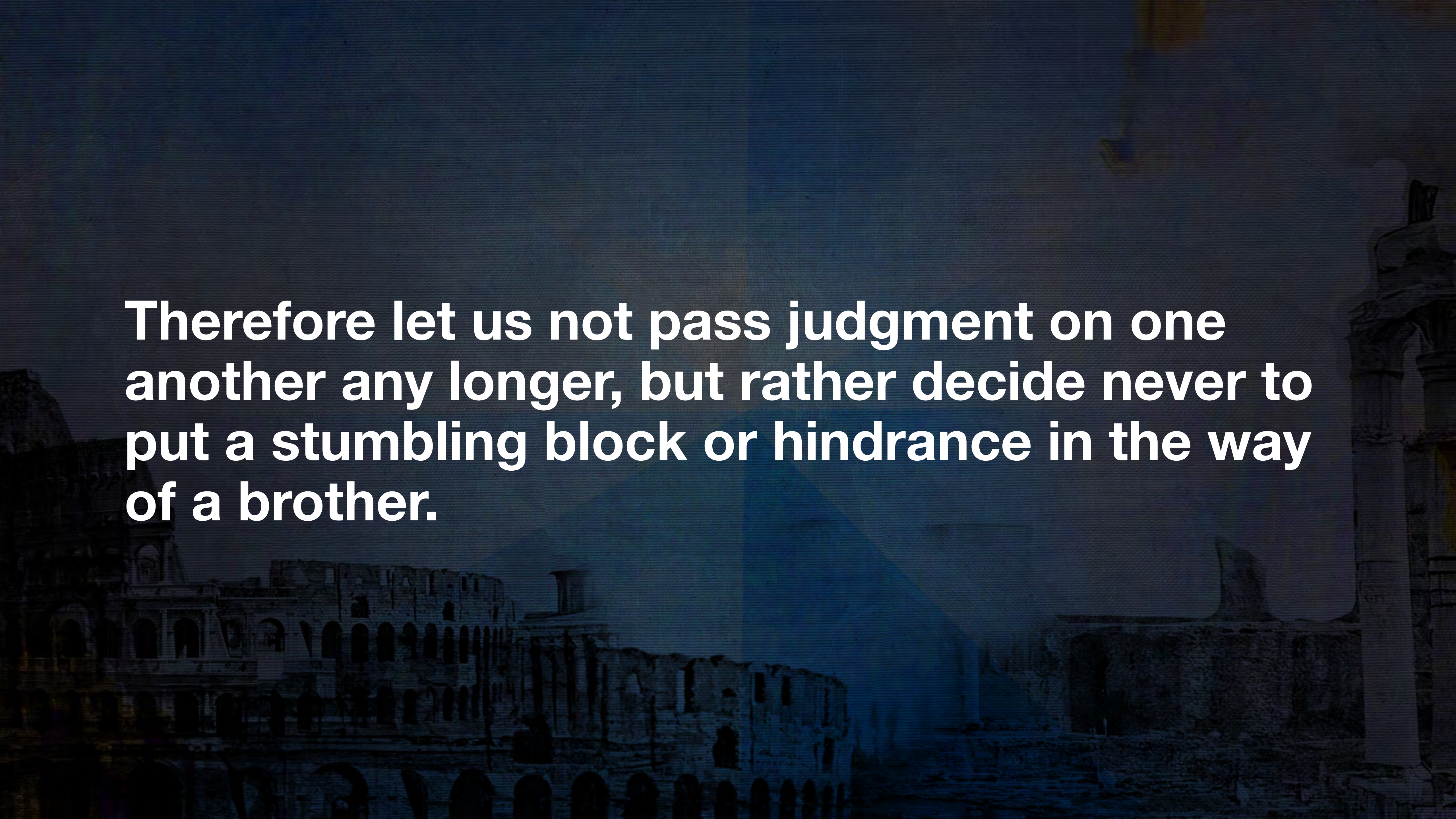
The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.

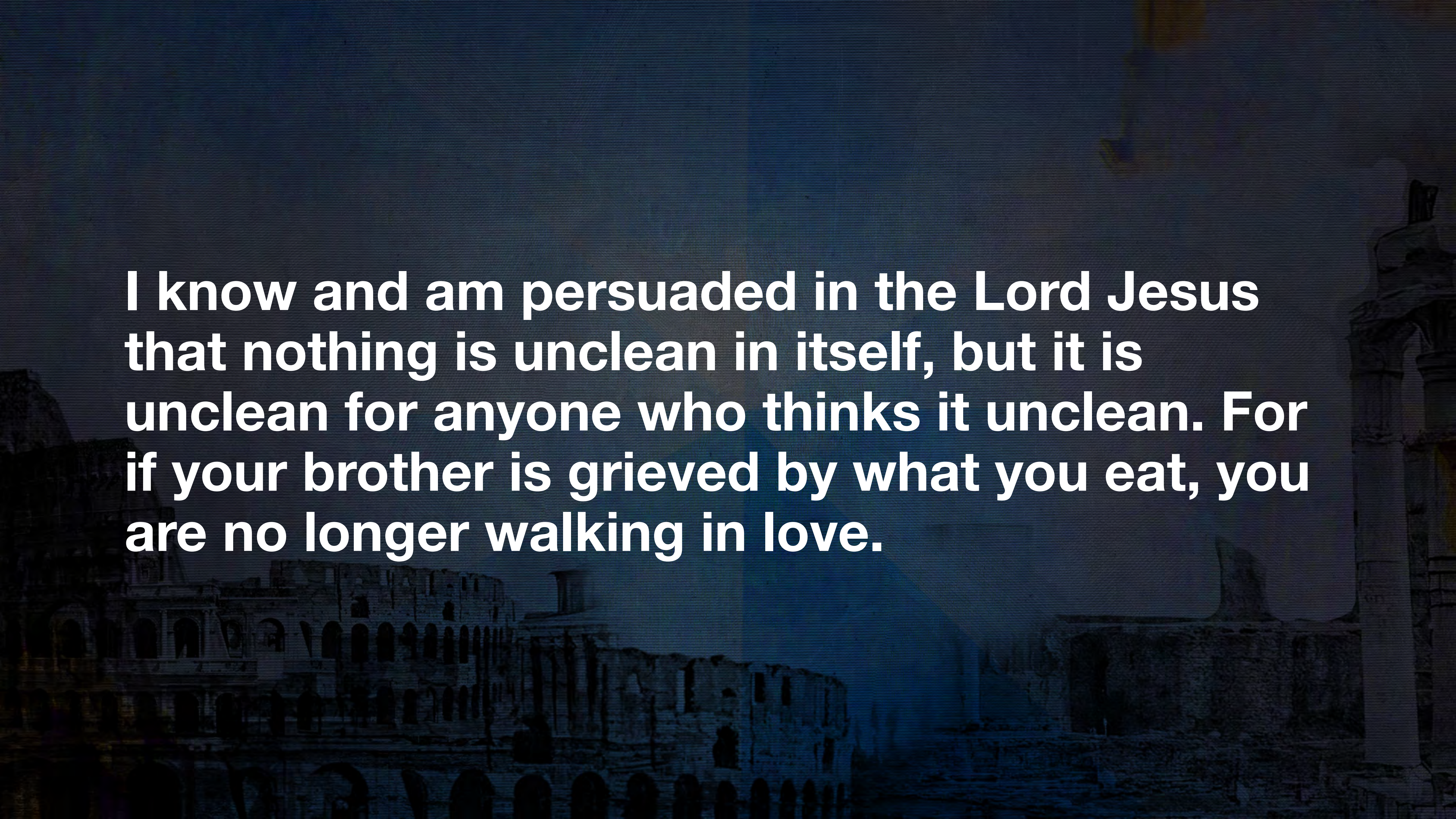
Romans 14:6 ESV

Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

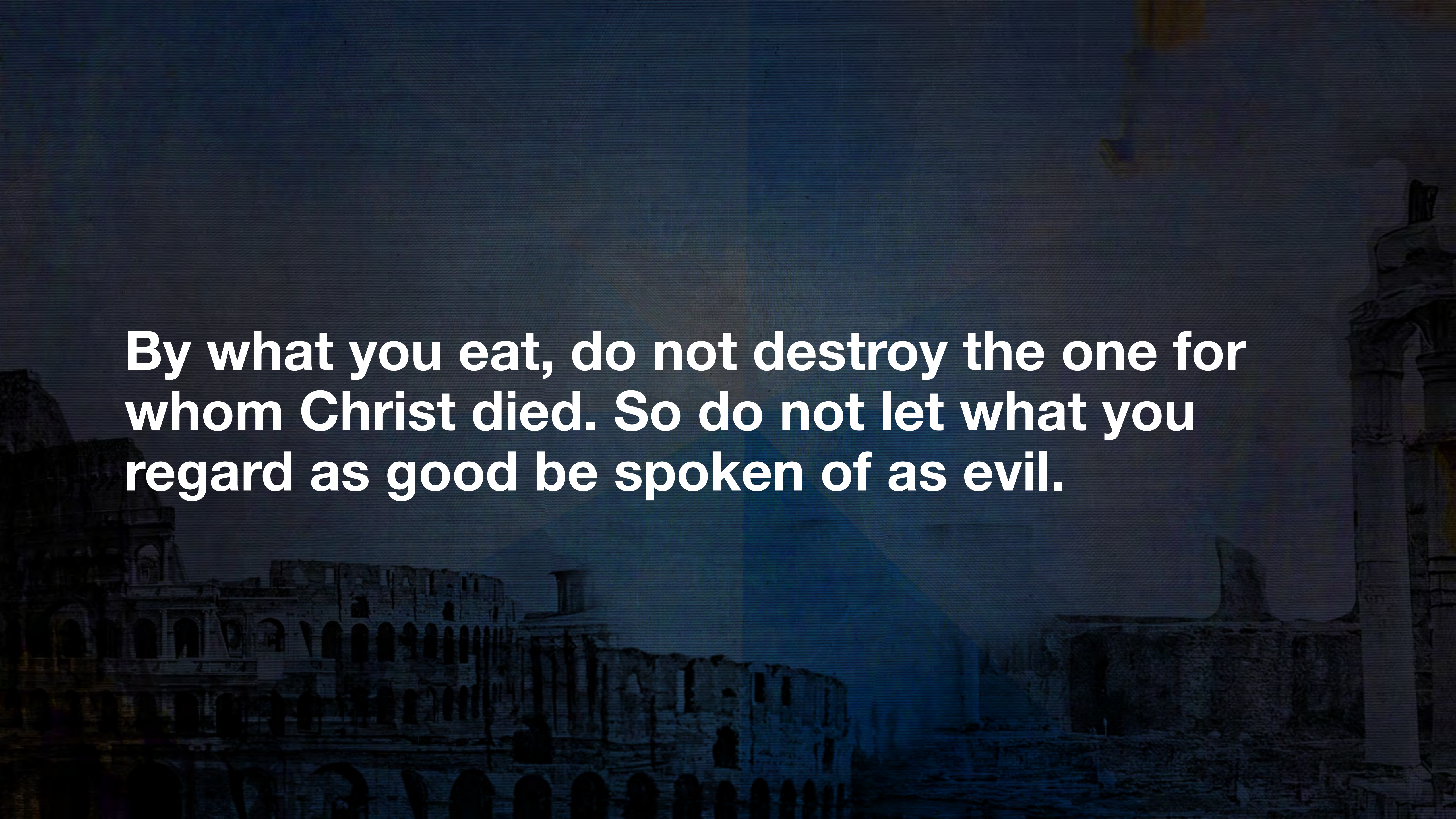
- 1. Leave the judgment to the master who owns the servant.**
- 2. Honor the conscience that also seeks to honor the Lord.**

Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

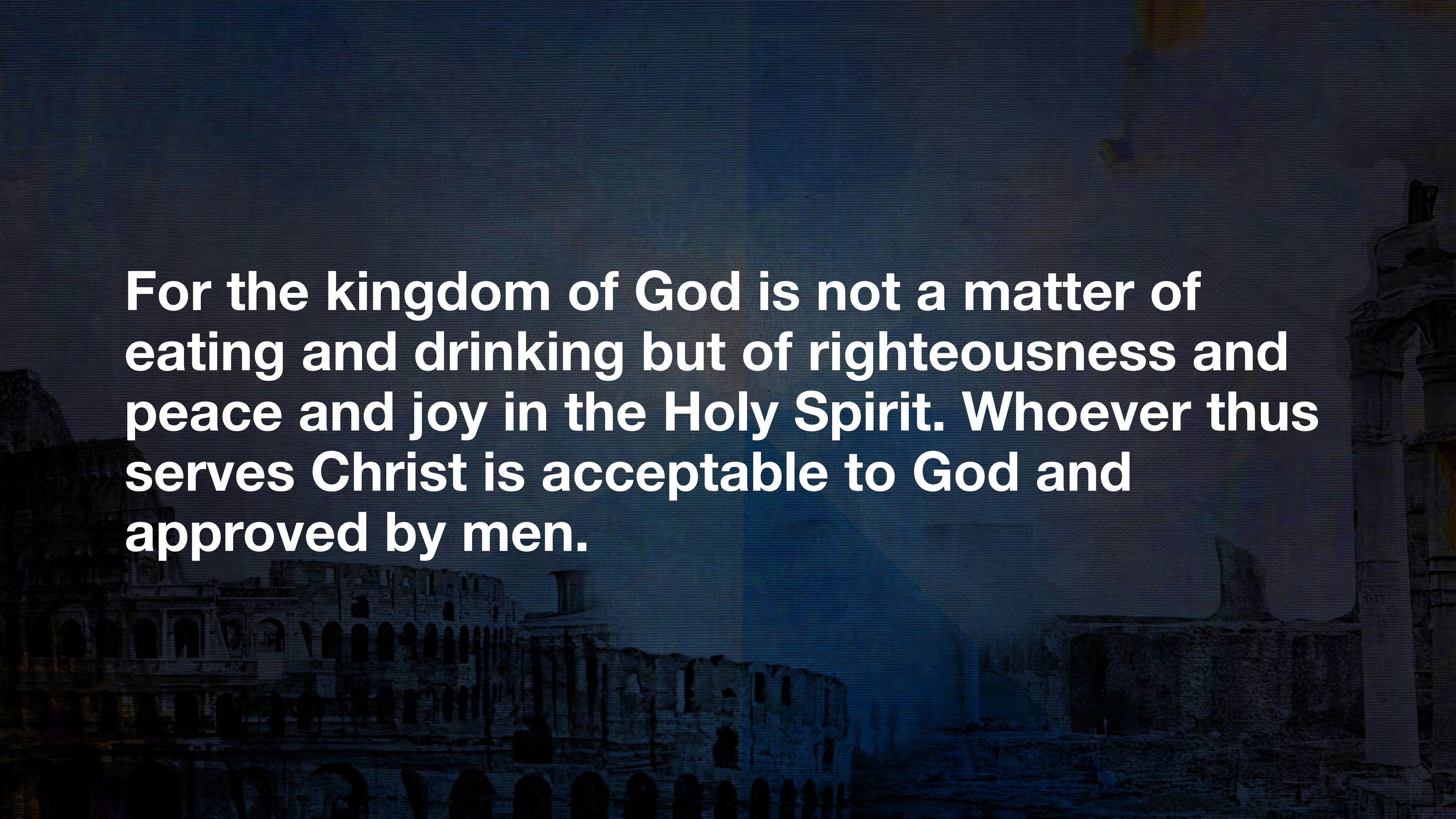




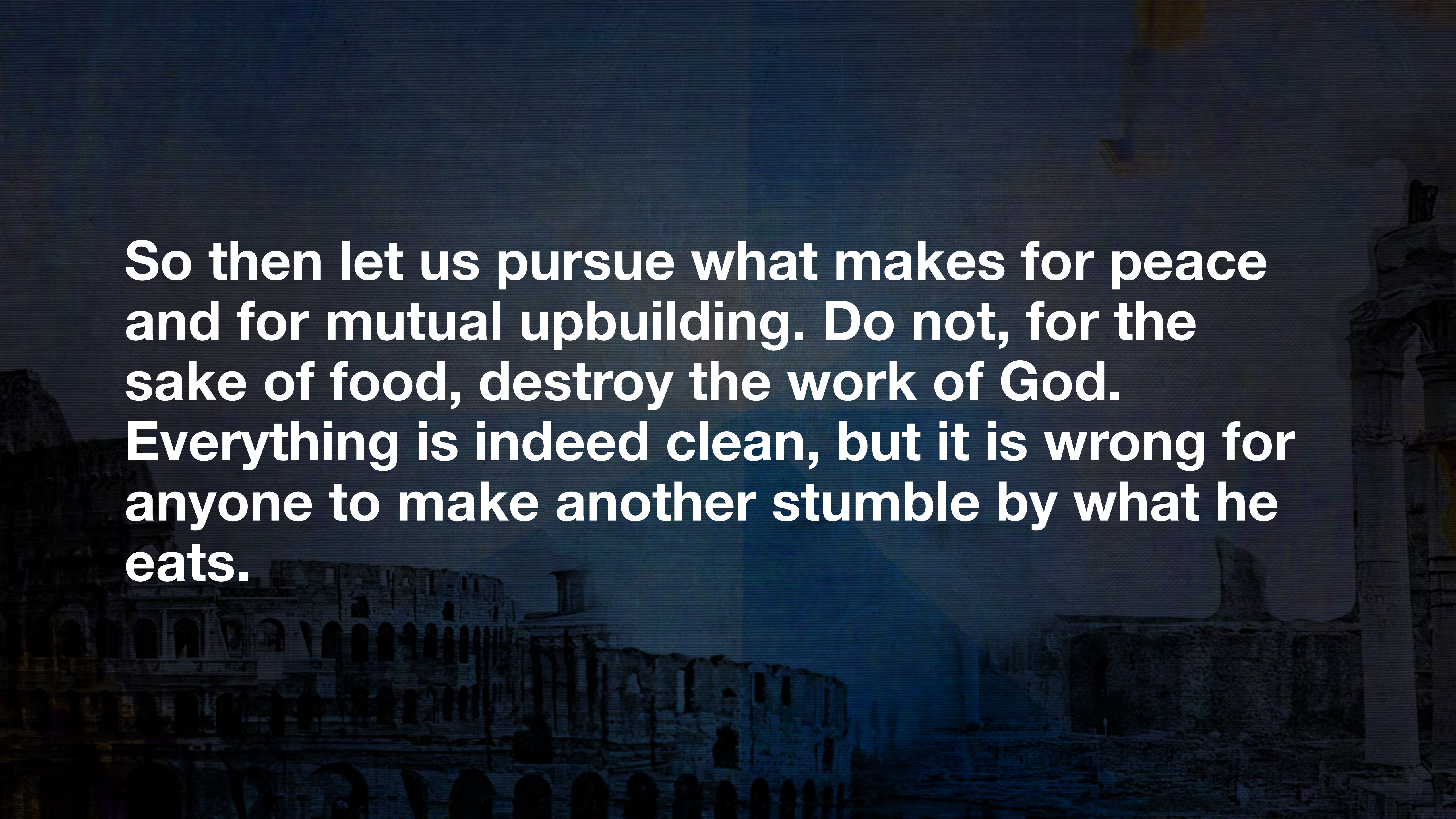
I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love.



By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil.



For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.



So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats.



It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.

Romans 14:13-21 ESV

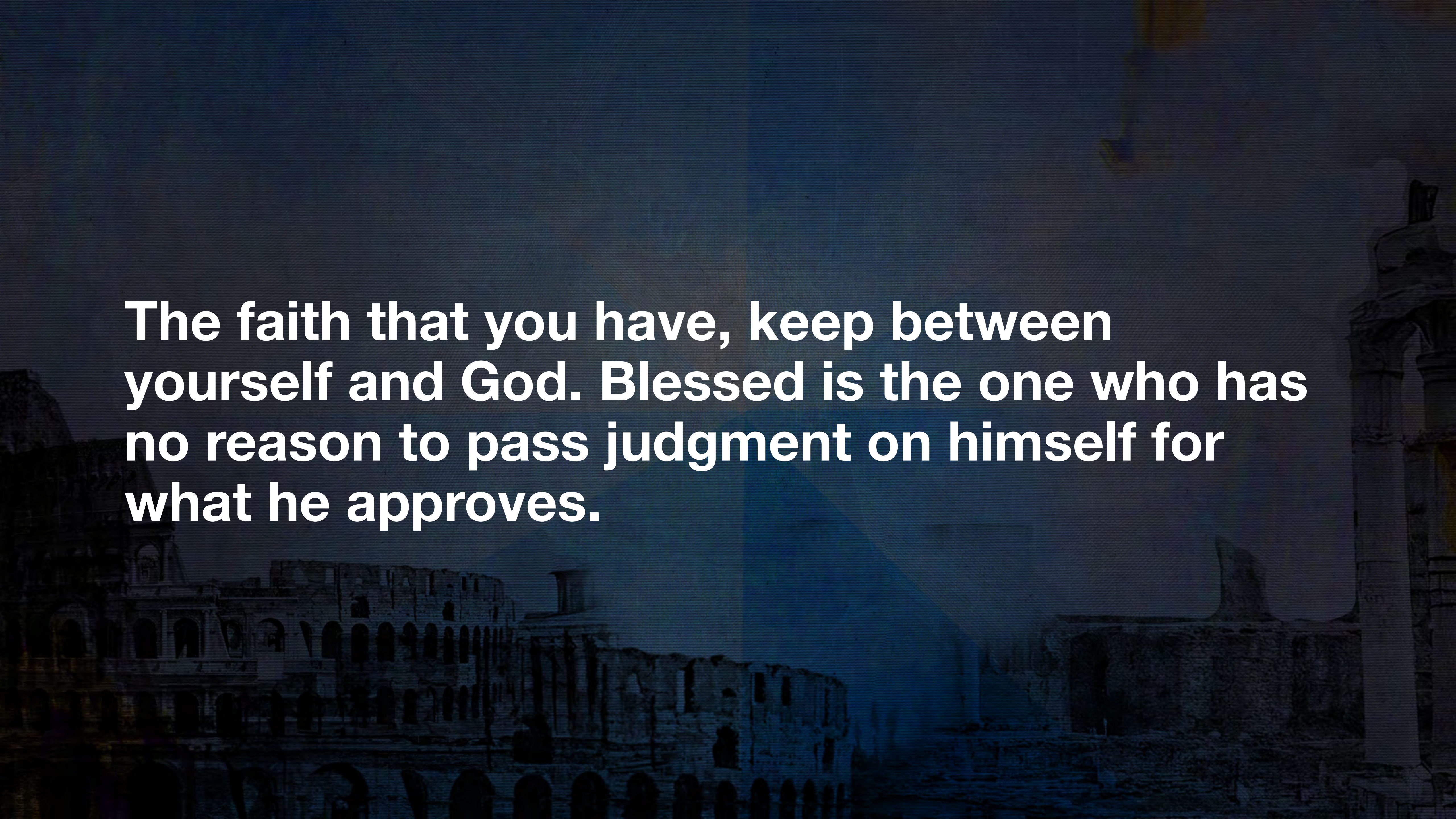
Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

- 1. Leave the judgment to the master who owns the servant.**
- 2. Honor the conscience that also seeks to honor the Lord.**
- 3. Build up other believers rather than pressuring them to compromise their conscience.**

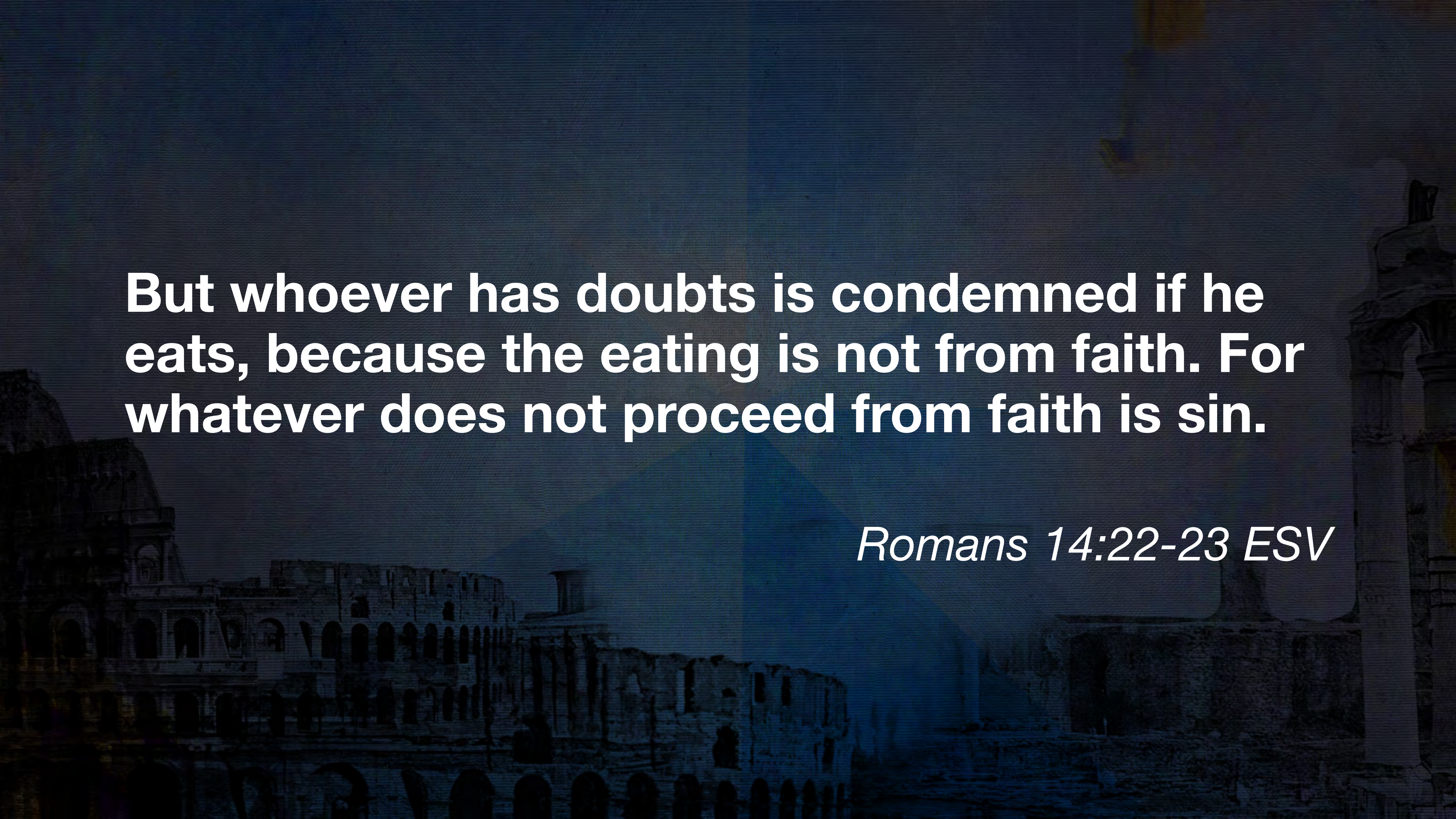


**Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.**

1 Corinthians 13:7 ESV



The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves.



But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Romans 14:22-23 ESV

Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

- 1. Leave the judgment to the master who owns the servant.**
- 2. Honor the conscience that also seeks to honor the Lord.**
- 3. Build up other believers rather than pressuring them to compromise their conscience.**
- 4. Honor your own conscience and act from faith.**

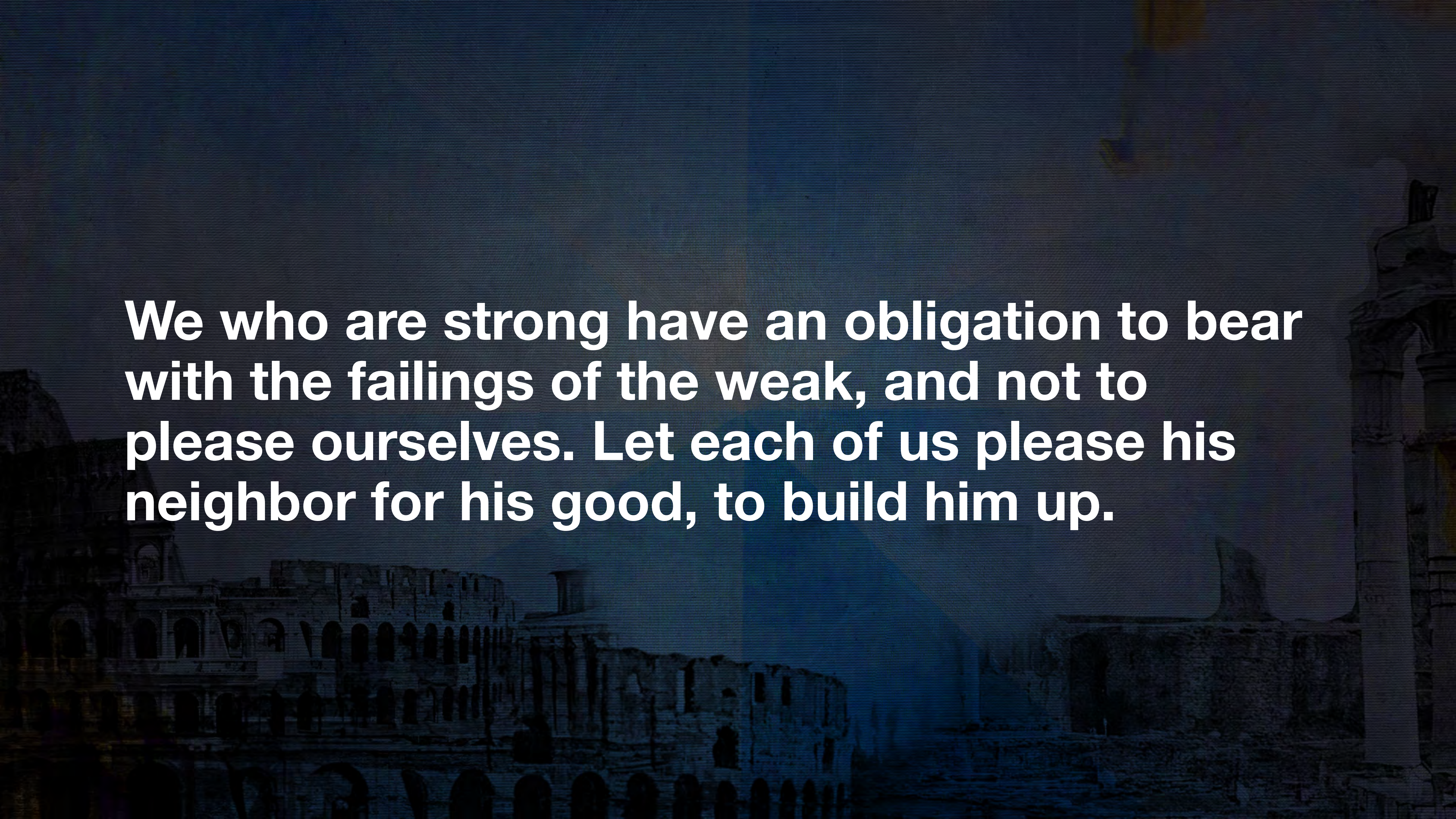


**Every way of a man is right in his own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the heart.**

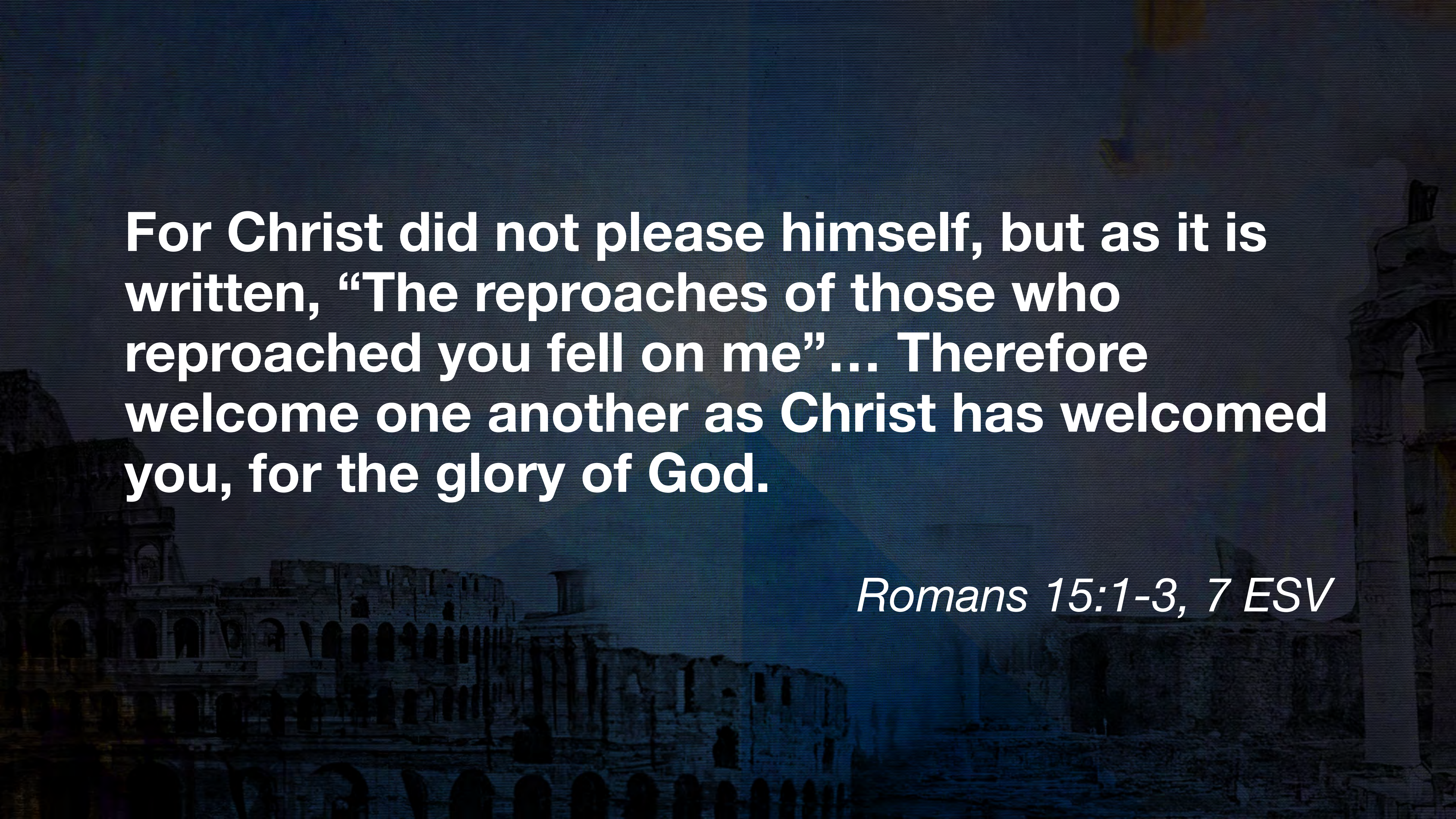
Proverbs 21:2 ESV

Bearing With One Another When Consciences Differ

- 1. Leave the judgment to the master who owns the servant.**
- 2. Honor the conscience that also seeks to honor the Lord.**
- 3. Build up other believers rather than pressuring them to compromise their conscience.**
- 4. Honor your own conscience and act from faith.**
- 5. Imitate the welcoming heart of Christ.**

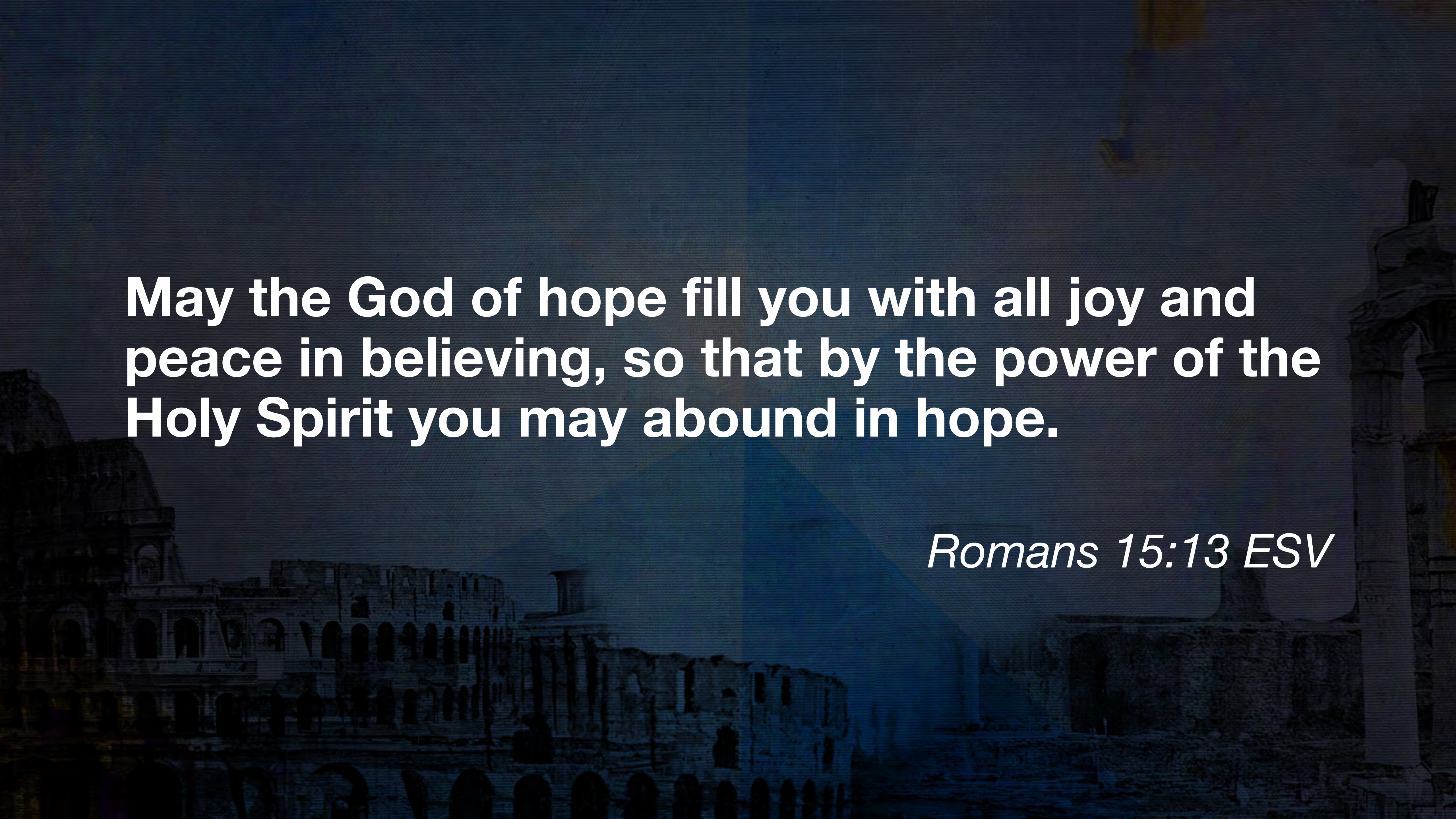


We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.



For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me”... Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:1-3, 7 ESV



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

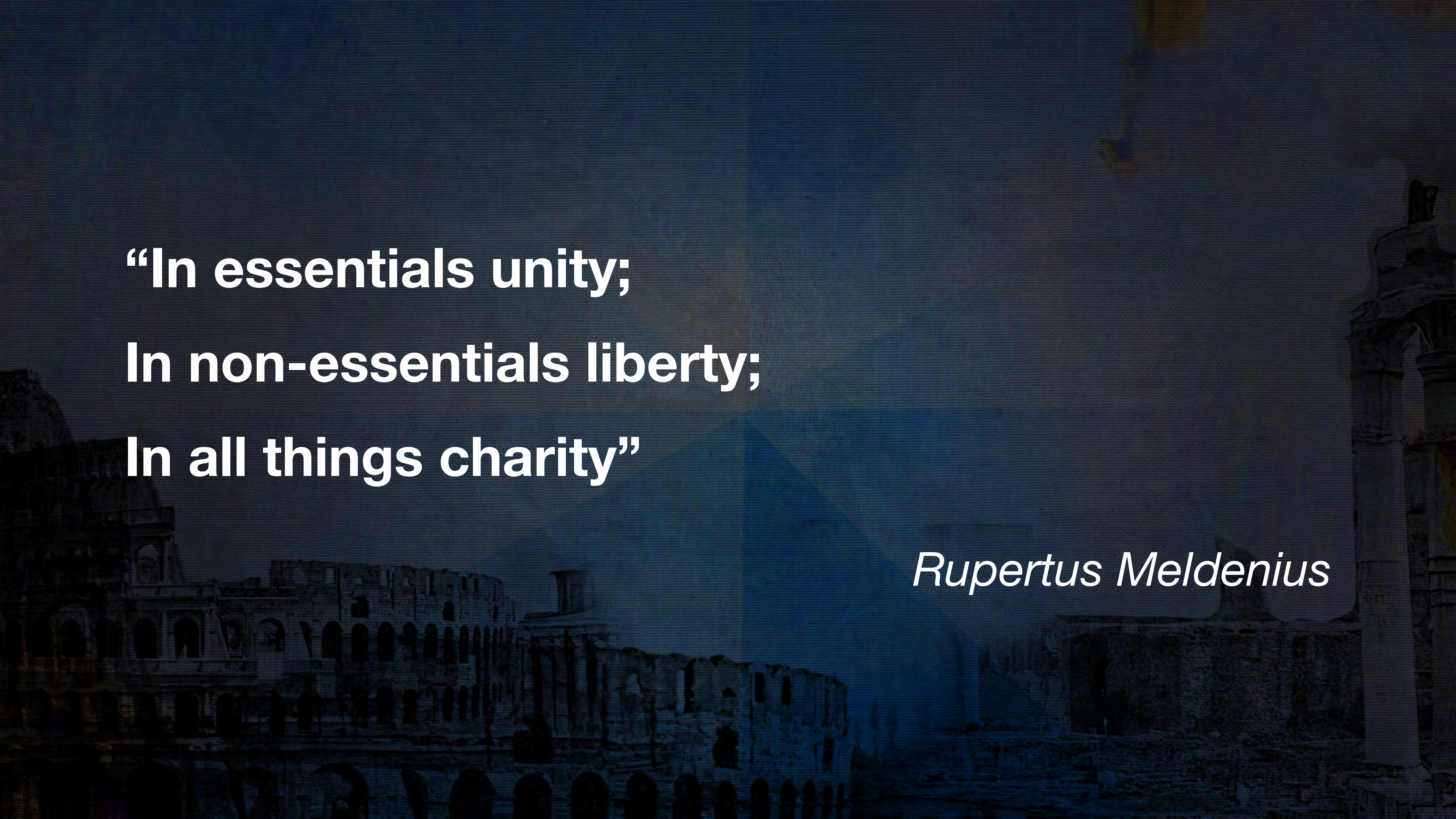
Romans 15:13 ESV

Takeaway Questions

- **On what issues of Christian living is your conscience most often pricked?**
- **Where have you treated a matter of conscience as if it was a core Christian conviction?**

Takeaway Questions

- **Is there another believer who you need to apologize to for having unfairly judged?**
- **How can Christ's example prompt you to bear with and build up those in your shepherd group who have more sensitive consciences?**



**“In essentials unity;
In non-essentials liberty;
In all things charity”**

Rupertus Meldenius