

2 CORINTHIANS

A Verse-by-Verse Study



2 Corinthians 4: 2 (NIV)

Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 4: 2 (NIV)

Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 4: 2 (NASB)

*but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in trickery nor distorting the word of God, but **by the open proclamation of the truth** commending ourselves to every person's conscience in the sight of God.*

Question?

What is Paul
saying here?

Question?

What does it
mean to
commend
ourselves to
every person's
conscience?

2 Corinthians 4: 2 (NASB)

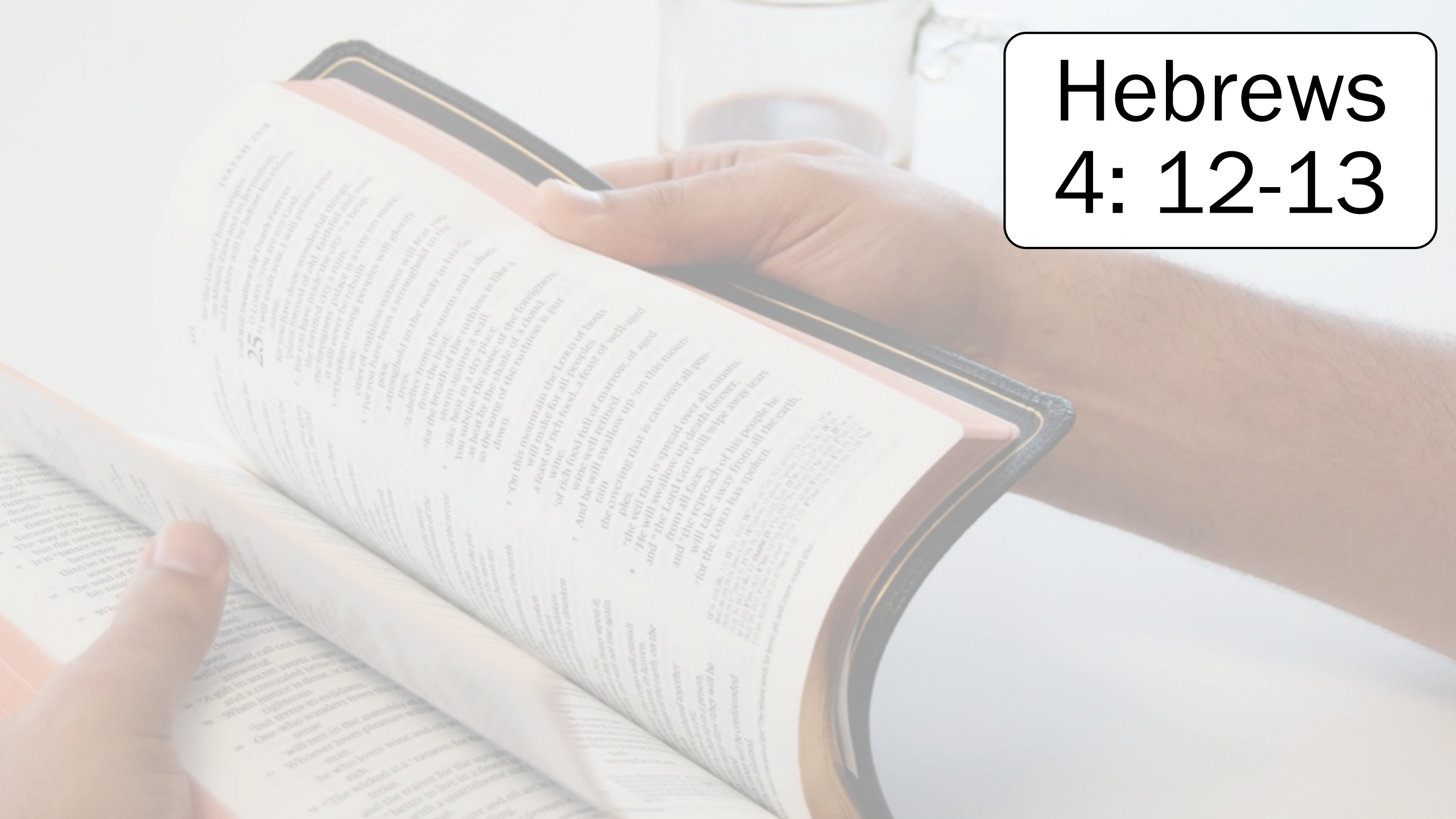
but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in trickery nor distorting the word of God, but by the open proclamation of the truth commending ourselves to every person's conscience in the sight of God.

Question?

Why would Paul
add in the sight
of God?

Hebrews

4: 12-13



Hebrews 4: 12-13 (NASB)

*For **the word of God** is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and **able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.***

Hebrews 4: 12-13 (NASB)

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

2 Corinthians 4: 3 (NASB)

*And even if our gospel is veiled, it is
veiled to those who are perishing,*

Question?

Who is
perishing?

Question?

What does it
mean that they
are perishing?

Question?

Why do many
people not
understand or
accept the
gospel?

2 Corinthians 4: 4 (NASB)

*in whose case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

Question?

Who is the god
of this world?

Question?

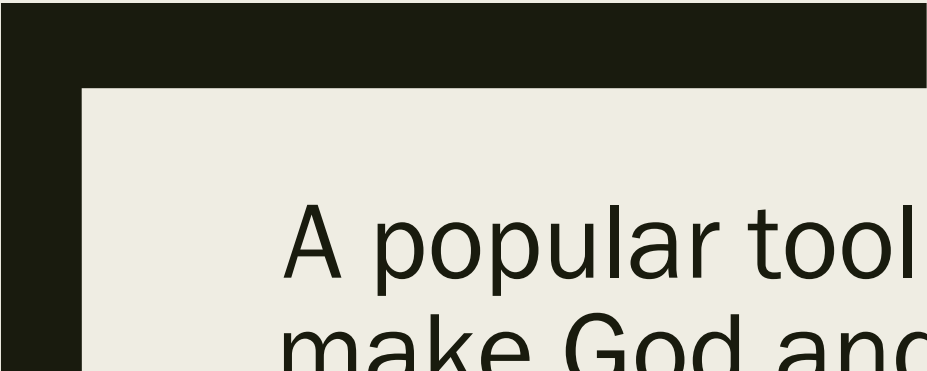
What is satan
doing?

2 Corinthians 4: 4 (NASB)

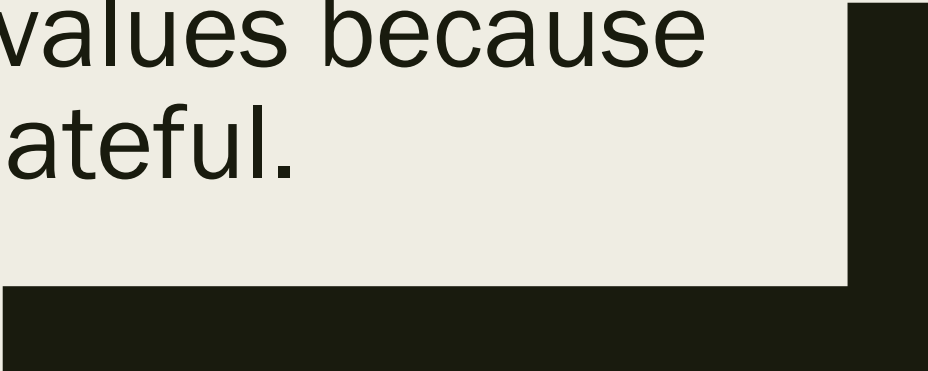
in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Question?

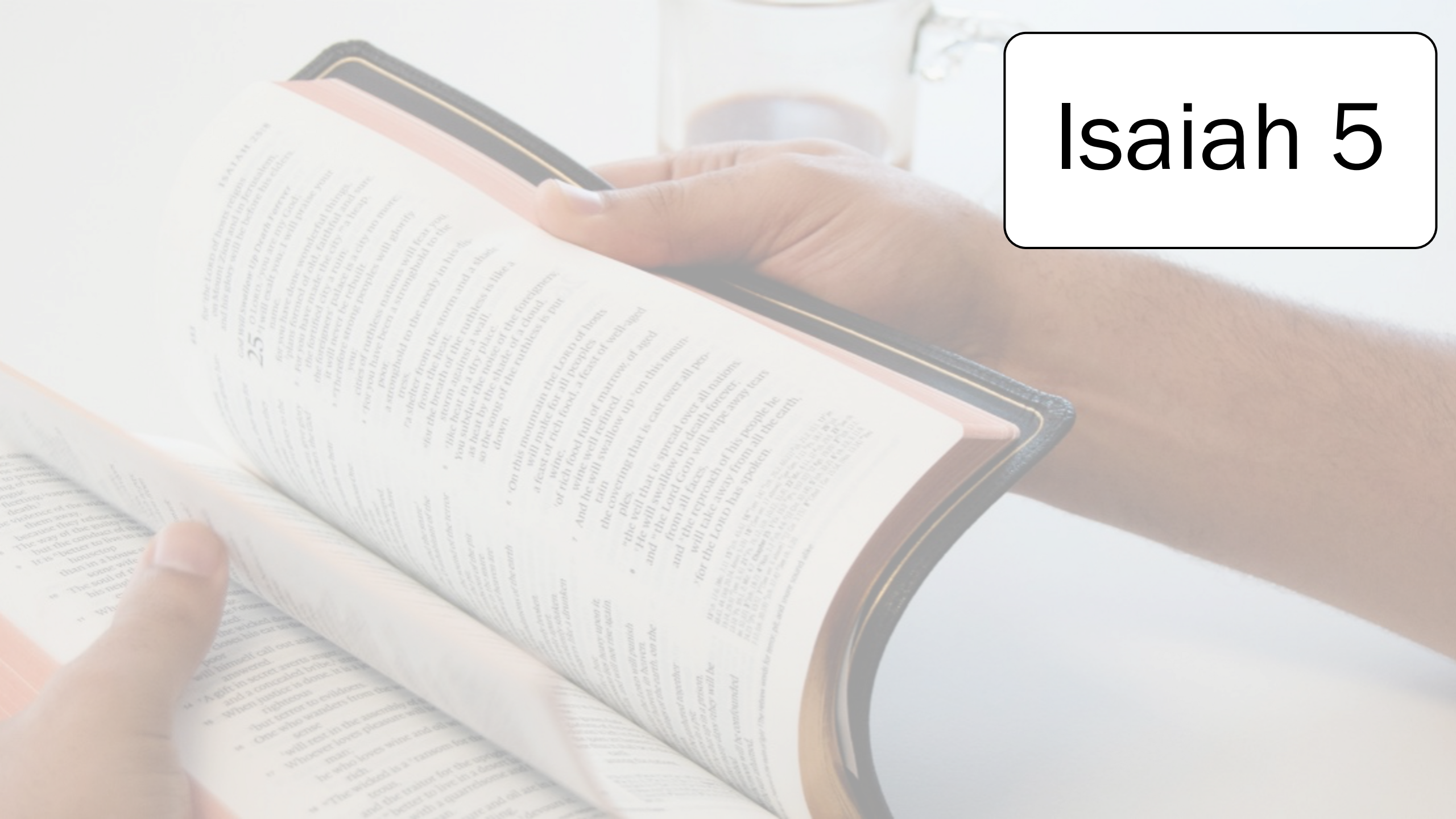
What methods
does satan use
to try to blind
people to the
Truth?



A popular tool satan is using today is to make God and His Word so offensive to people's lifestyles that society will be blinded by their desires and will violently stand against God and His values because they are seen as hateful.



Isaiah 5



Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Materialism

Isaiah 5: 8 (NIV)

*Woe to you who add house to
house
and join field to field
till no space is left
and you live alone in the land.*

Question?

How does
materialism
blind the eyes of
the world?

Question?

When someone
gets everything
they want, does
the satisfaction
and contentment
last?

Question?

What is a
common problem
seen among
those that have
amassed great
wealth and/or
popularity?



Isaiah 5: 11 (NIV)

*Woe to those who rise early in the
morning
to run after their drinks,
who stay up late at night
till they are inflamed with wine.*

Question?

When do you
think it means
to be inflamed
with wine?

Isaiah 5: 12 (NIV)

*They have harps and lyres at their
banquets,
pipes and timbrels and wine,
but they have no regard for the
deeds of the Lord,
no respect for the work of his
hands.*

Question

*What does it sound like is going on
with harps and lyres, pipes and
timbrels and wine?*

Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Materialism
2. Alcohol/Drugs/Celebration

Question?

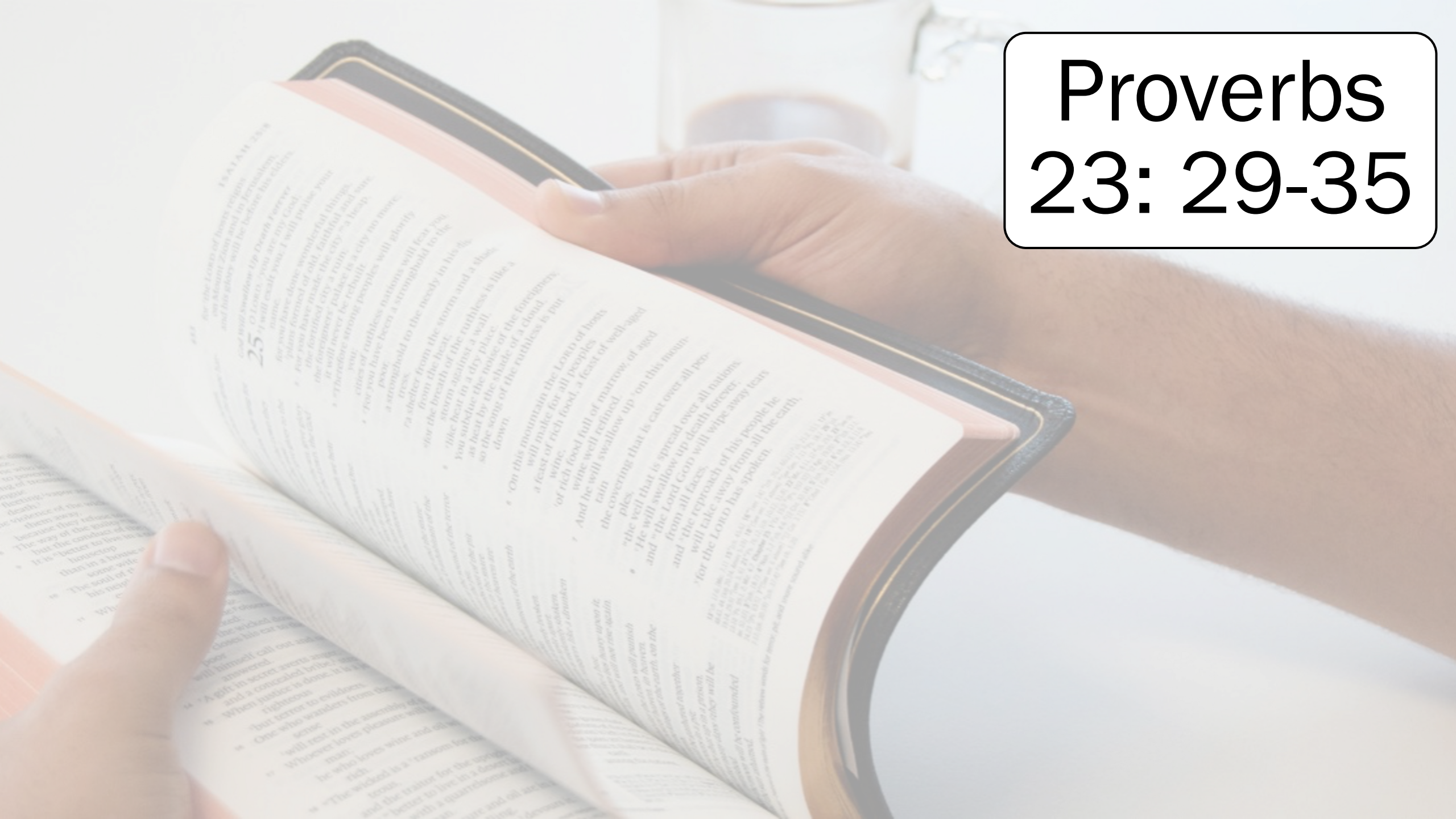
Do we see
alcohol and drug
use in our
society today?

Question?

How does
alcohol and drug
use blind the
eyes of the
world?

Proverbs

23: 29-35



Proverbs 23: 29-35 (NIV)

*Who has woe? Who has sorrow
Who has strife? Who has
complaints? Who has needless
bruises? Who has bloodshot
eyes?*

*Those who linger over wine, who
go to sample bowls of mixed wine.*

Proverbs 23: 29-35 (NIV)

*Do not gaze at wine when it is red
when it sparkles in the cup, when it
goes down smoothly!*

*In the end it bites like a snake and
poisons like a viper.*

*Your eyes will see strange sights, and
your mind will imagine confusing
things.*

Proverbs 23: 29-35 (NIV)

You will be like one sleeping on the high seas, lying on top of the rigging.

“They hit me,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt! They beat me, but I don’t feel it!

When will I wake so I can find another drink?”

Isaiah 5: 18 (NIV)

*Woe to those who draw sin along
with cords of deceit,
and wickedness as with cart
ropes,*

Question?

What is this
describing?

Isaiah 5: 19 (NIV)

*to those who say, “Let God hurry;
let him hasten his work so we may
see it.*

*The plan of the Holy One of
Israel—let it approach, let it come
into view, so we may know it.”*

Question?

What is this
describing?

They are mocking God because they believe that God is a God of love and would never judge them.

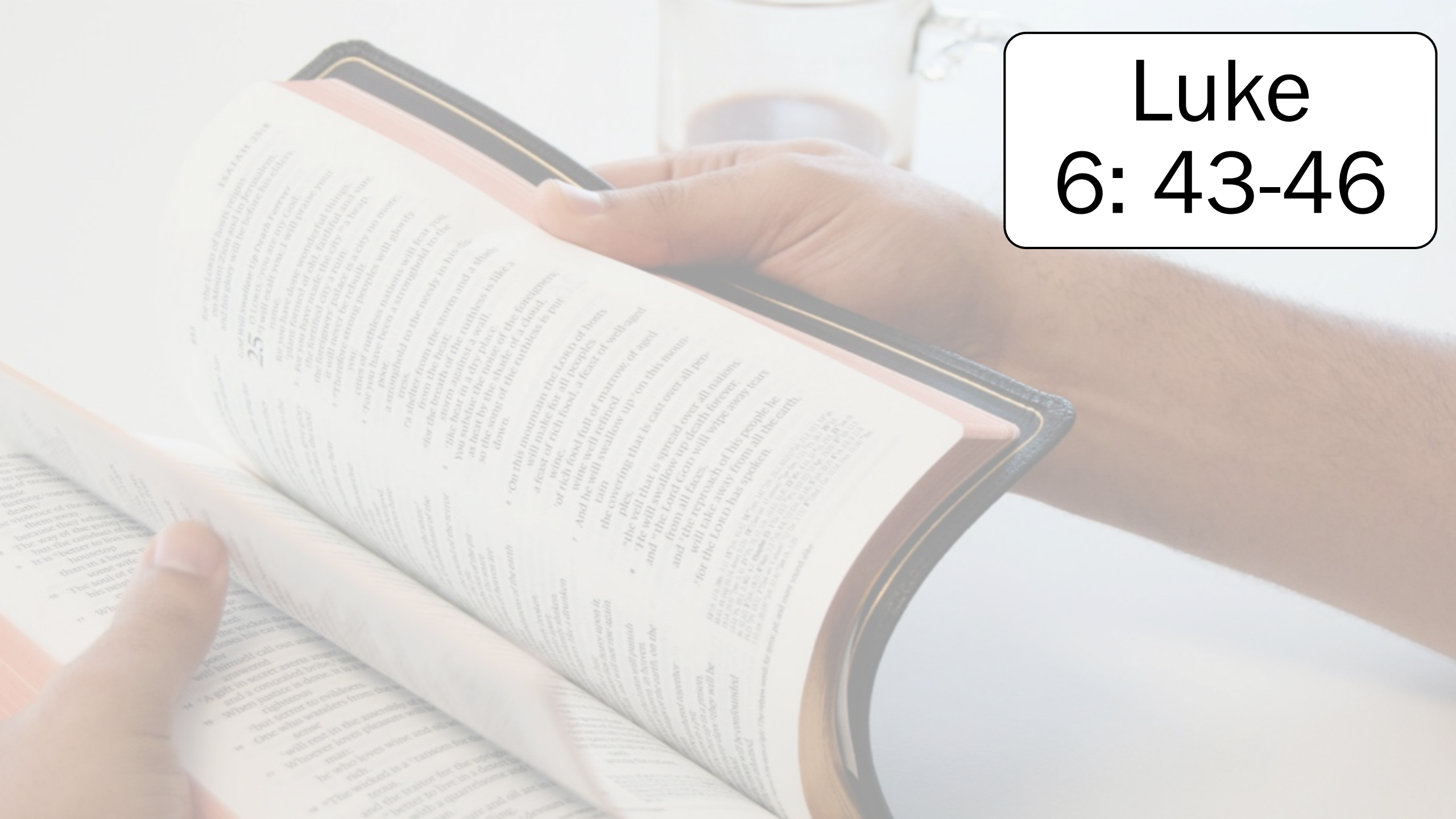
They are living a sinful lifestyle and justifying their sin while talking about God at the same time.”

Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Materialism
2. Alcohol/Drugs/Parties
3. Hypocrisy

Luke

6: 43-46



Luke 6: 43-46 (NIV)

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars.

Luke 6: 43-46 (NIV)

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Luke 6: 43-46 (NIV)

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

Isaiah 5: 20 (NIV)

*Woe to those who call evil good
and good evil,
who put darkness for light
and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet
and sweet for bitter.*

Question?

What is this
describing?

Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Covetousness
2. Alcohol/Drugs/Parties
3. Hypocrisy
4. Deception

Question?

Do you see
mankind today
being deceptive
by attempting to
redefine what is
good?

- Adultery is now an affair
- Homosexuality is now gay
- An unborn baby is a fetus
- Abortion is a woman's choice
- Pornography is now freedom of expression
- To disagree with someone is now hate

- Virginity is considered dysfunctional
- To warn of the dangers of sin is being racist or bigoted
- Faith is for those that are old fashioned
- Scripture is oppressive
- Children determine their gender

- The Bible contains hate-speech
- Biblical Marriage is homophobic
- There is no Hell
- Everyone goes to heaven
- To say Jesus is the only way is not inclusive of other religions

Isaiah 5: 21 (NIV)

*Woe to those who are wise in their
own eyes
and clever in their own sight.*

Question?

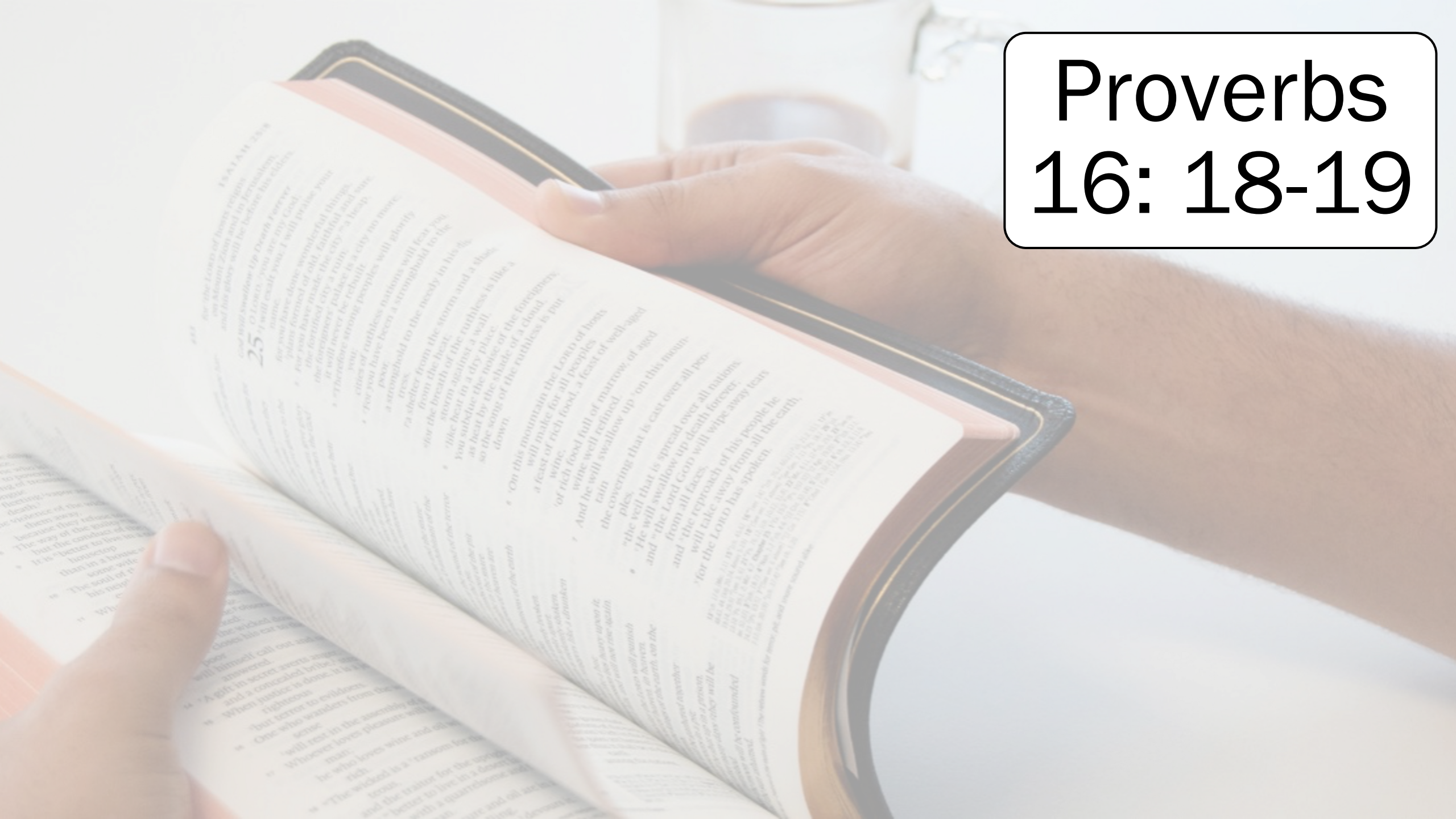
What is this
describing?

Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Materialism
2. Alcohol/Drugs/Parties
3. Hypocrisy
4. Deception
5. Pride

Proverbs

16: 18-19

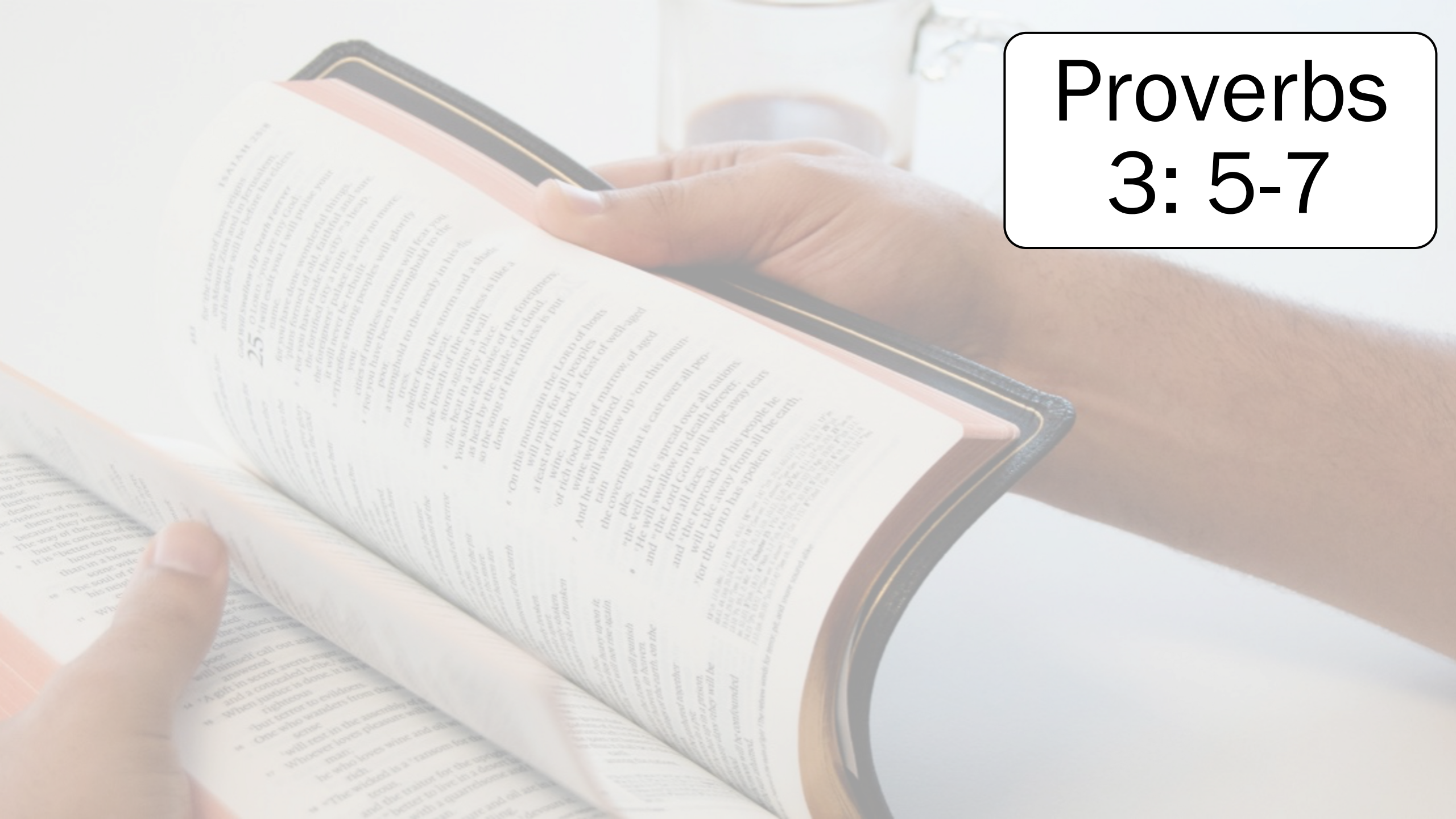


Proverbs 16: 18-19 (NIV)

*Pride goes before destruction,
a haughty spirit before a fall.
Better to be lowly in spirit along
with the oppressed
than to share plunder with the
proud.*

Proverbs

3: 5-7



Proverbs 3: 5-7 (NIV)

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own
understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths
straight.*

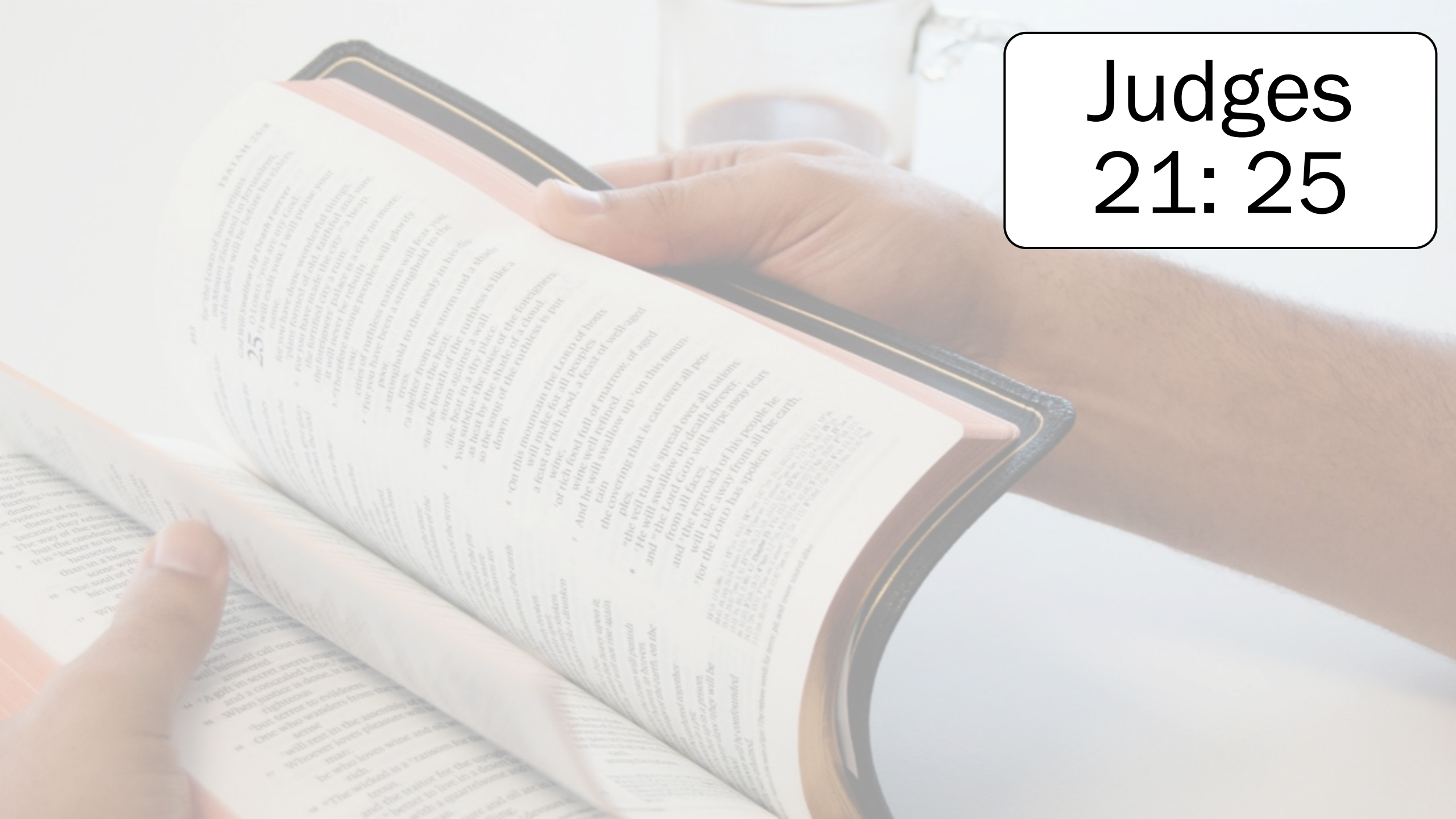
Proverbs 3: 5-7 (NIV)

*Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord and shun evil.*

Question

What are some signs that a person or a nation is becoming prideful?

Judges 21: 25



Judges 21: 25 (NASB)

*In those days there was no king in
Israel;*

**everyone did what was right in his
own eyes.**

Deuteronomy 12: 8

Deuteronomy 12:8 (NASB)

*“You shall not do at all what we
are doing here today,*

**every man doing whatever is right
in his own eyes;**

Question?

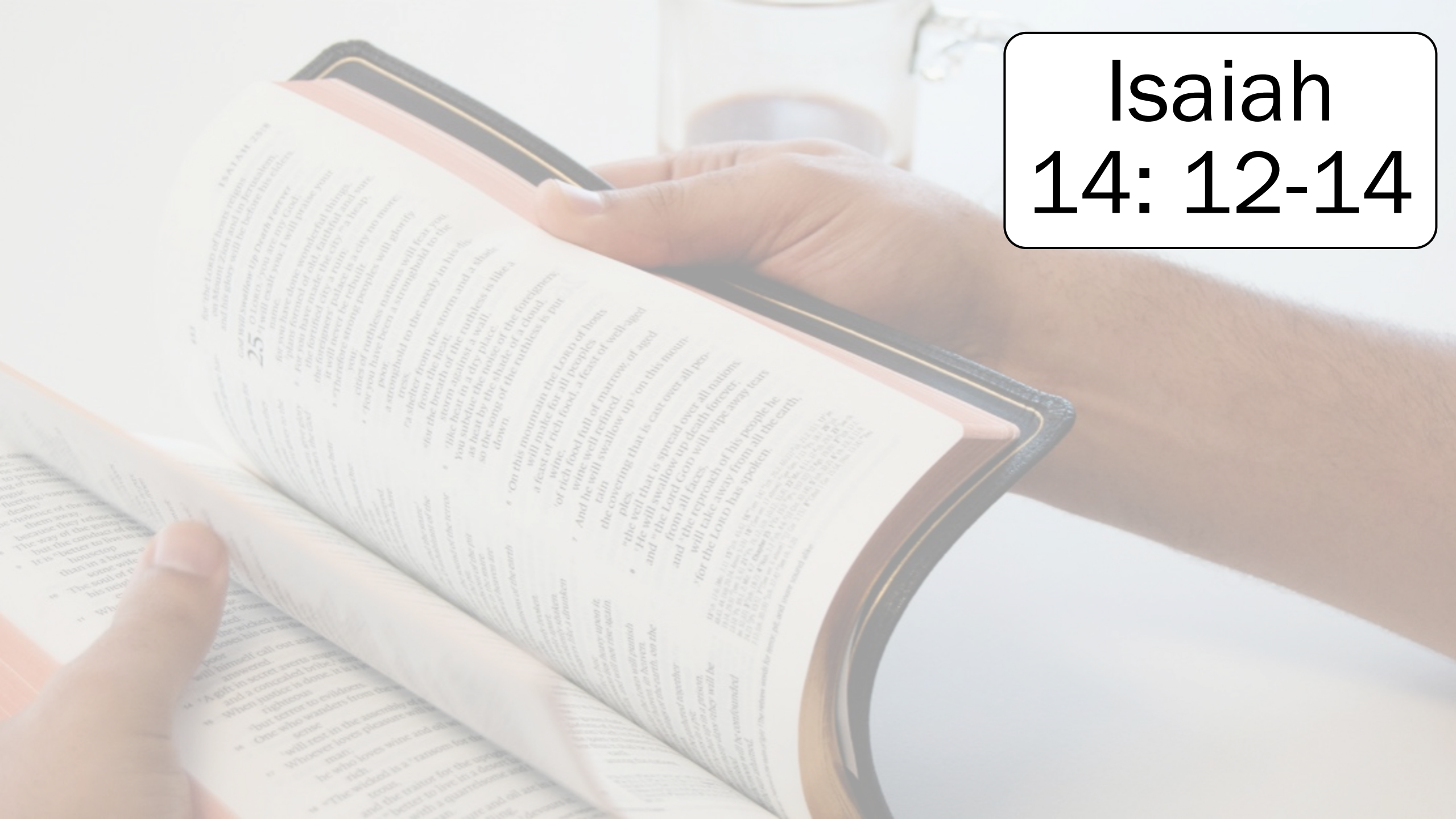
Who becomes
God if we are
the ones that
determine what
is right or
wrong?

Question?

Why do you
think mankind
wants to be
god?

Isaiah

14: 12-14



Isaiah 14: 12-14 (NASB)

*How you have fallen from heaven,
morning star, son of the dawn!
You have been cast down to the
earth,
you who once laid low the
nations!*

Isaiah 14: 12-14 (NASB)

*You said in your heart,
“I will ascend to the heavens;
I will raise my throne
above the stars of God;*

Isaiah 14: 12-14 (NASB)

*I will sit enthroned on the mount
of assembly,
on the utmost heights of Mount
Zaphon.*

*I will ascend above the tops of the
clouds;*

Isaiah 14: 12-14(NASB)

I will make myself like the Most High.”

Isaiah 14: 15 (KJV)

*Yet thou shalt be brought down to
hell, to the sides of the pit.*

A photograph of a long, narrow wooden suspension bridge stretching into the distance, surrounded by dense green trees. The bridge has wooden railings and a wooden deck. The lighting is soft, suggesting a forest setting.

The national anthem of
hell is, "I Did It My Way."

Peter Kreeft

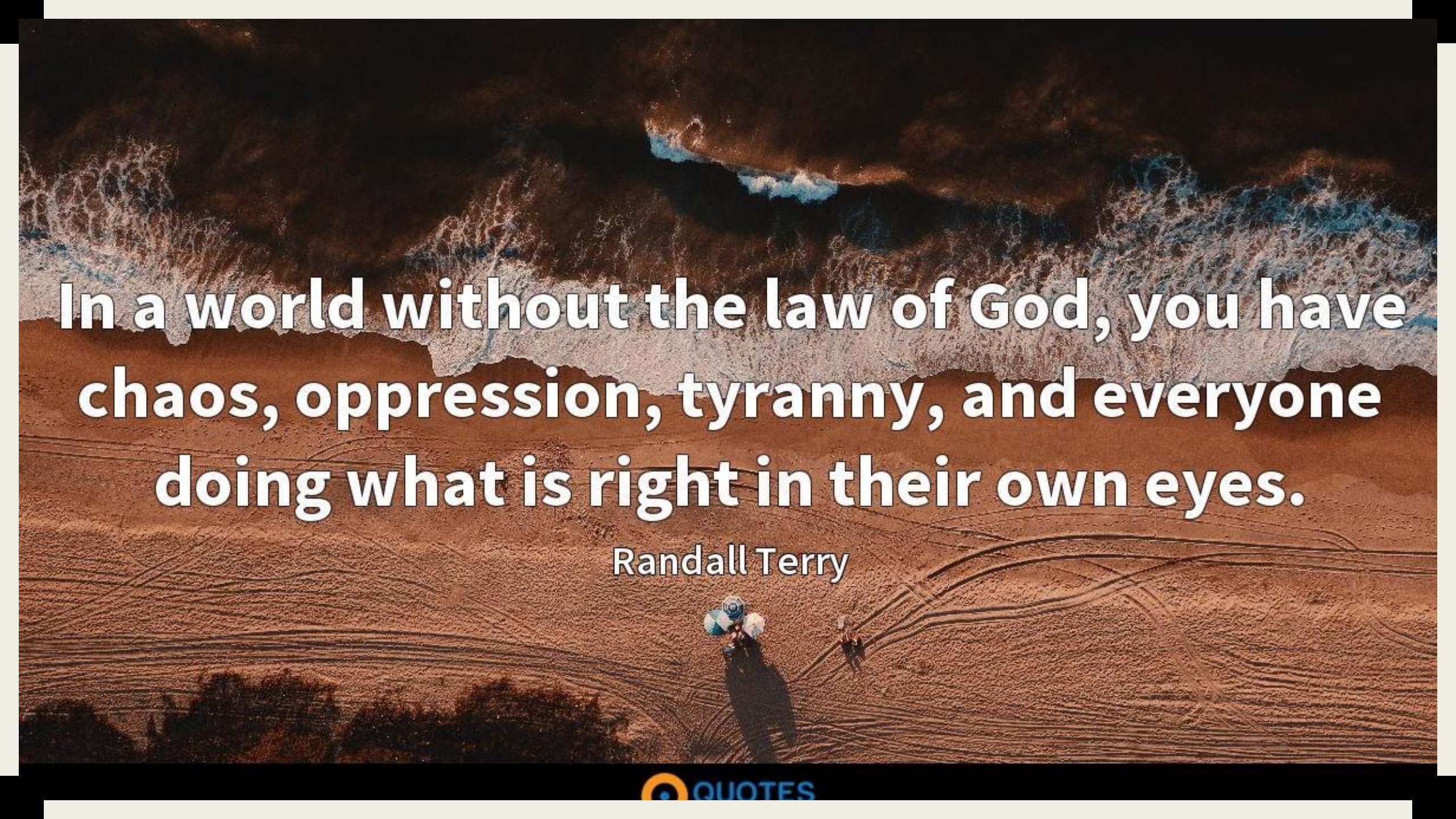
I did it my way lyrics

*For what is a man, what has he
got?*

If not himself then he has naught

To say the things he truly feels

*And not the words of one who
kneels*

An aerial photograph of a beach. The top half shows dark, turbulent waves crashing onto the shore, with white foam visible. The bottom half shows a wide expanse of golden-brown sand, marked with numerous curved and straight tire tracks. Two small figures are visible on the sand: one person standing near a beach umbrella, and another person further away. The overall mood is one of natural power and human presence in a vast landscape.

**In a world without the law of God, you have
chaos, oppression, tyranny, and everyone
doing what is right in their own eyes.**

Randall Terry

CHURCH OF SWEDEN OFFICIALLY DROPS CALLING GOD 'LORD', 'HE' TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE



Isaiah 5: 22-23 (NIV)

*Woe to those who are heroes at
drinking wine
and champions at mixing
drinks,*

who acquit the guilty for a bribe,

but deny justice to the innocent.

Question?

What is this
describing?

The legal system and government officials abusing their authority to punish the innocent by finding them guilty and finding the guilty innocent so they can be set free.

Six Tools Satan uses to Blind a Nation

1. Materialism
2. Alcohol/Drugs/Parties
3. Hypocrisy
4. Deception
5. Pride
6. Injustice/ Double Standard

Question?

*Do we see any
injustice or
double
standards in our
courts today?*

Church

Clever Churchgoers Avoid Arrest By Disguising Themselves As Rioters

June 1st, 2020



474.3k
Shares



366.5k

SHARE



49.1k

SHARE



SHARE

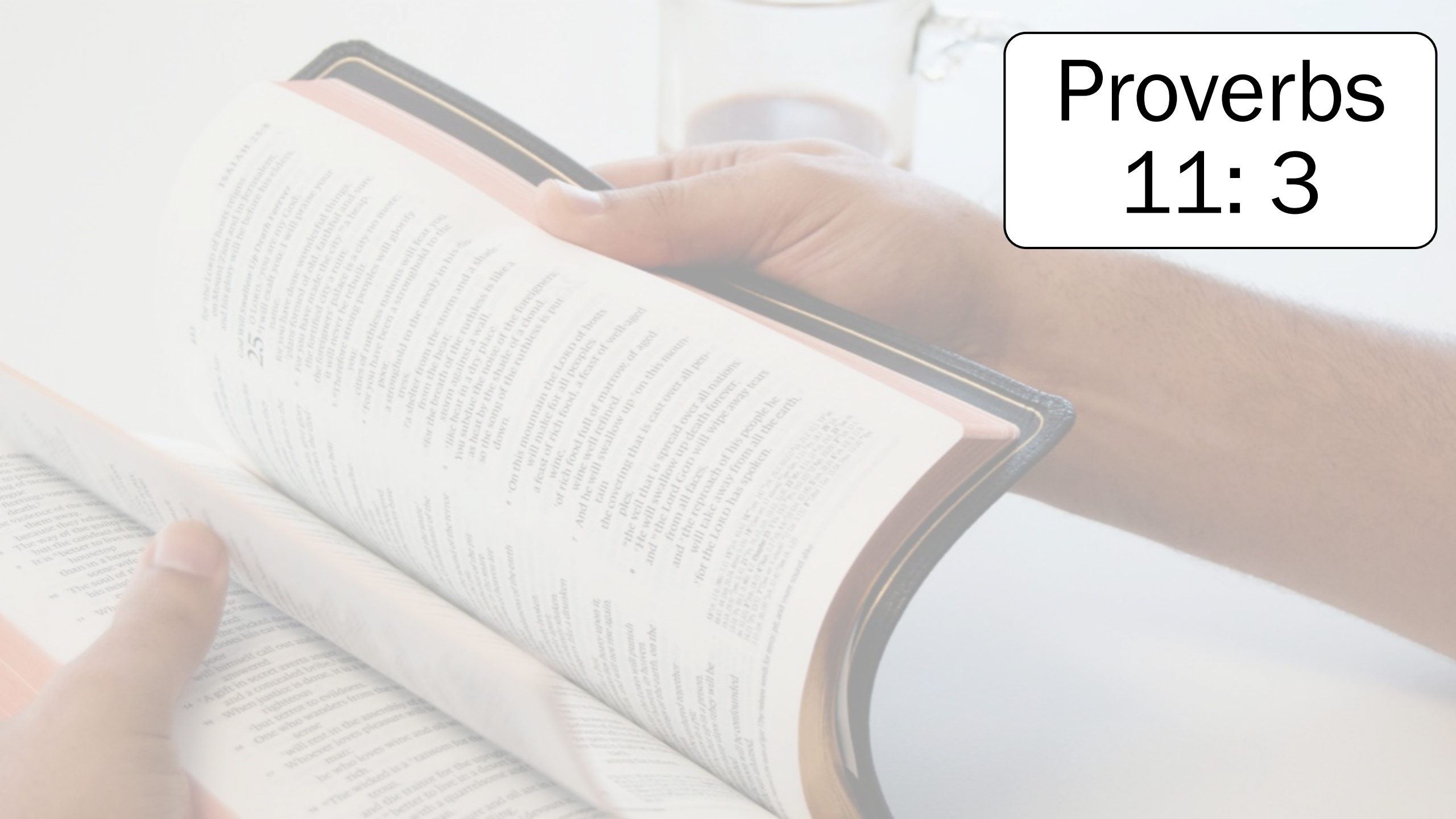
LOS ANGELES, CA—Religious people in Southern California have found a bold, creative solution for in-person meetings in spite of the continuing lockdown. This past weekend, several area churches attended church services disguised as righteously indignant rioters.

"We already have the righteous indignation thing down," said one church elder. "Now, we've simply added black balaclavas, hoodies, Guy Fawkes masks, and baseball bats!"

We found that when we do this, we can meet in large groups without much interference from the local authorities. It's been a delightful experience."

Proverbs

11: 3



Proverbs 11: 3 (NIV)

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

Six Sins that will Destroy a Nation

1. *Covetousness*
2. *Alcohol/Drugs/Parties*
3. *Hypocrisy*
4. *Deception*
5. *Pride*
6. *Injustice/ Double Standard*

Question?

How can you
recognize a
society that is
blinded by
satan?

Isaiah 5: 24 (NIV)

Therefore, as tongues of fire lick up straw and as dry grass sinks down in the flames, so their roots will decay and their flowers blow away like dust;

for they have rejected the law of the Lord Almighty and spurned the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2 Corinthians 4: 5 (NASB)

For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants on account of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4: 6 (NASB)

For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4: 7 (NASB)

But we have this treasure in earthen containers, so that the extraordinary greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

Question?

What treasure is
Paul talking
about?

Question?

What do you
typically store
your treasures
in?



A clay jar is the cheapest storage container you can get.

Also, during Paul's lifetime, clay jars were often used to store trash or refuse.

Question?

What earthen
containers or
clay jars is Paul
referring to?

Question?

Why would God
store such a
valuable
treasure in a
cheap clay
container?

2 Corinthians 4: 7 (NASB)

But we have this treasure in earthen containers, so that the extraordinary greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*

Afflicted

Greek: thlibó (thlee'-bo)

- To press hard upon(as grapes)
- To trouble
- To afflict
- To distress

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed;

Question?

What does it
mean to be
pressed or
afflicted but not
crushed?

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*

Perplexed

Greek: aporeó (ap-or-eh'-o)

- To see no way out
- Be at a loss (mentally)
- To not understand
- To be perplexed.

Question?

What does it
mean to see no
way out but not
be in despair?

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*

Question?

What does it
mean to be
persecuted but
not abandoned?

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*

Struck Down

Greek: kataballó (kat-ab-al'-lo)

- To throw to the ground
- To be knocked down as an athlete or fighter
- To put in a lower place:

Question?

What does it
mean to be
knocked down
but not
destroyed?

2 Corinthians 4: 8-9 (NASB)

*we are afflicted in every way, but
not crushed; perplexed, but not
despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not
destroyed;*