

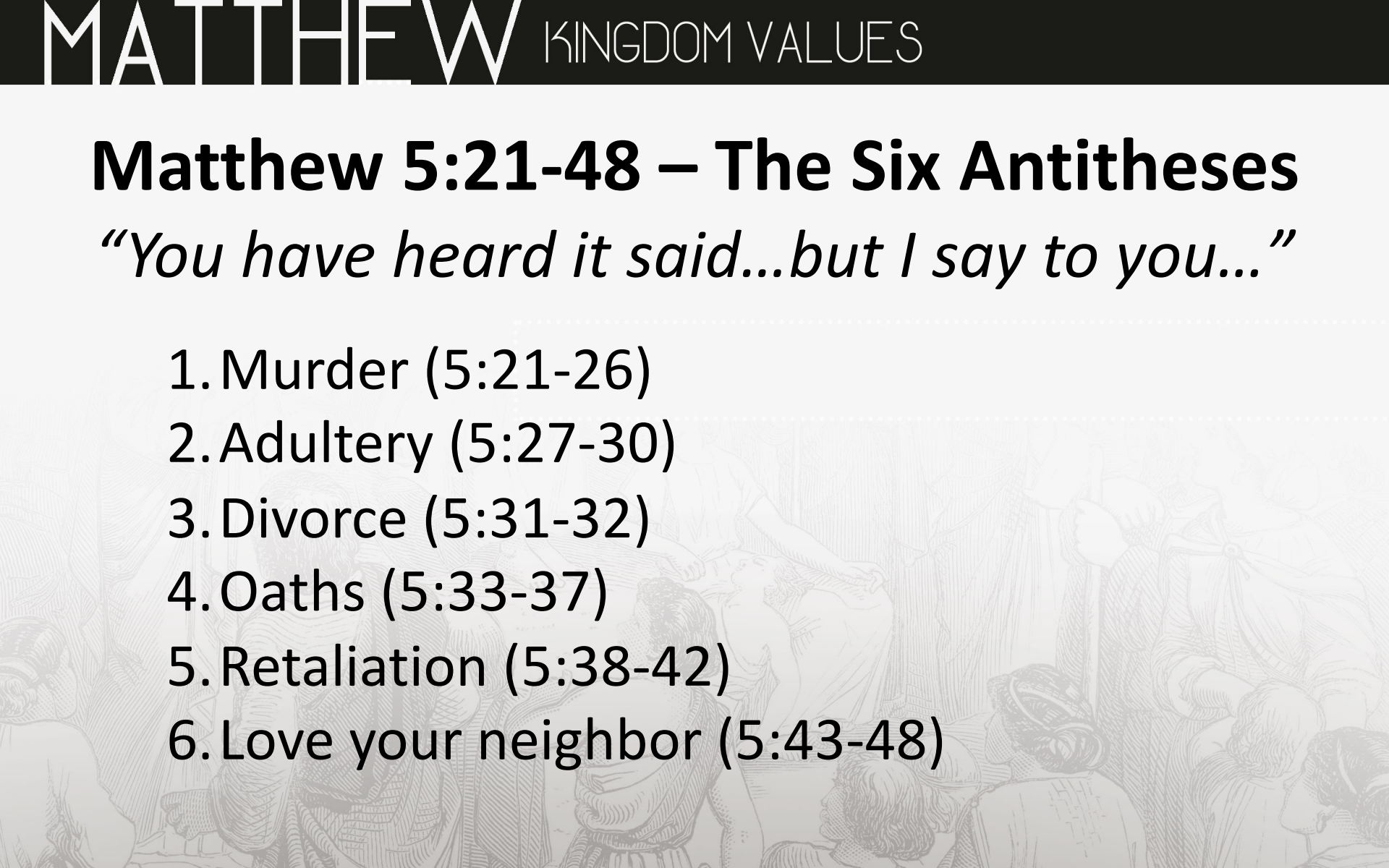
MATTHEW

KINGDOM VALUES



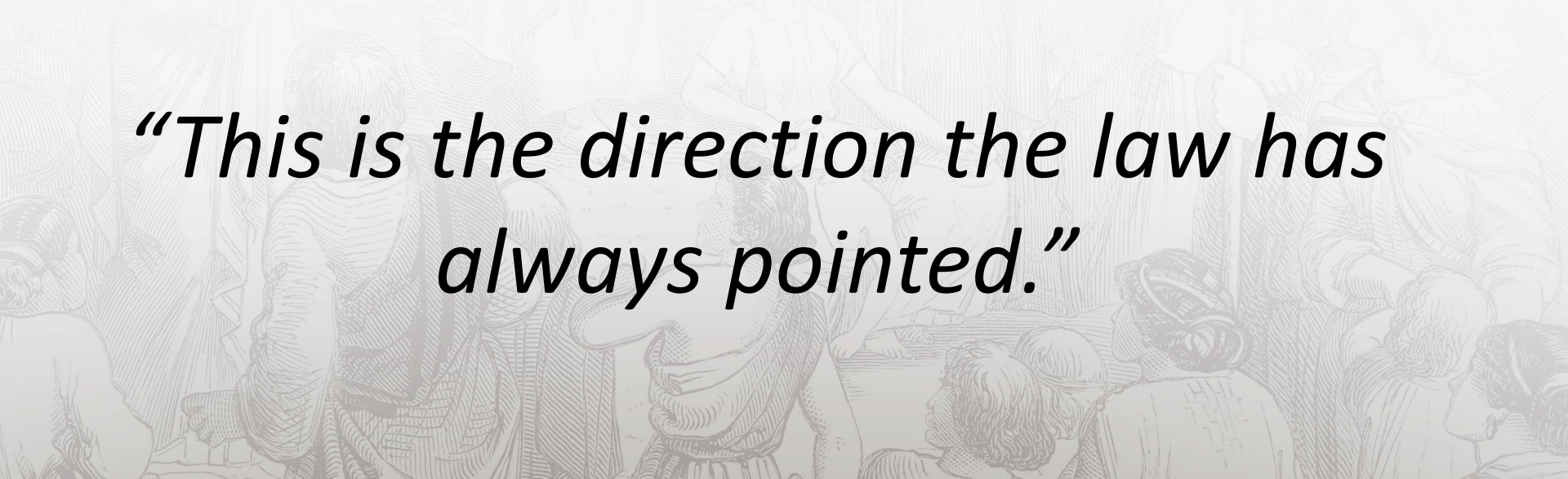
Matthew 5:21-48 – The Six Antitheses

“You have heard it said...but I say to you...”

1. Murder (5:21-26)
 2. Adultery (5:27-30)
 3. Divorce (5:31-32)
 4. Oaths (5:33-37)
 5. Retaliation (5:38-42)
 6. Love your neighbor (5:43-48)
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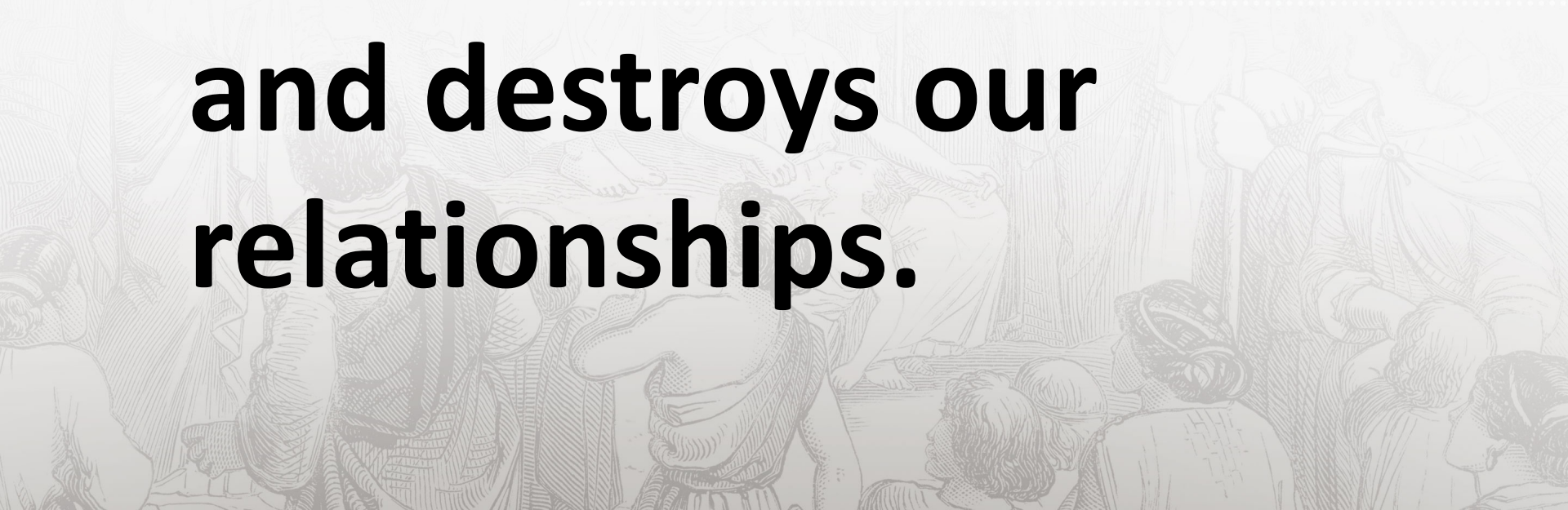
**Big Idea for the Antitheses:
Jesus goes to the heart of the
law on his own authority.**

*“This is the direction the law has
always pointed.”*



Matthew 5:21-26 – Murder

**Sinful anger damages
and destroys our
relationships.**



²¹ “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’



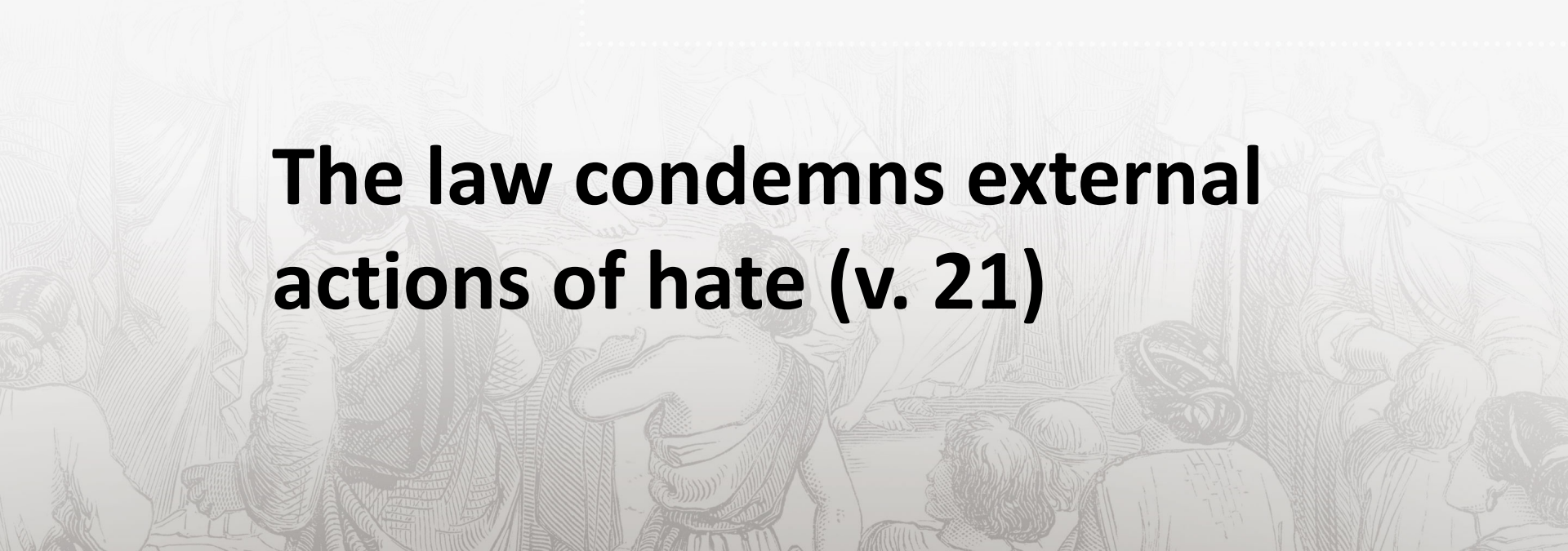
21 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not murder*; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’

“Murder” – Hebrew: Ratsach

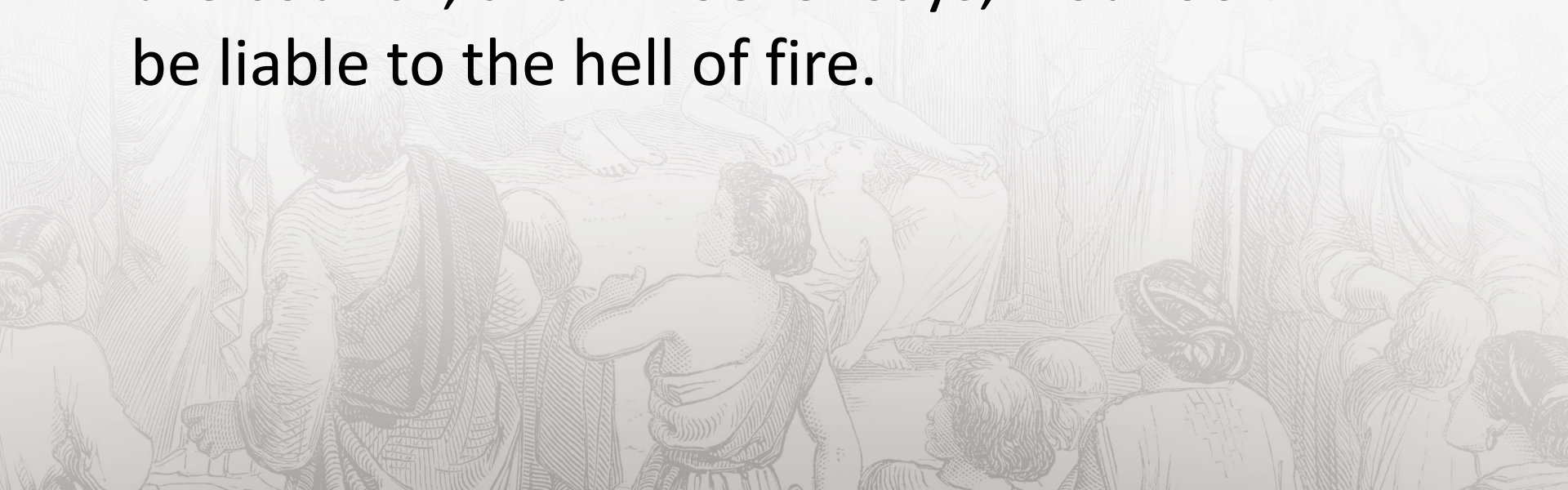
Depriving a person of life by illegal and intentional killing, also used when people are killed by negligence or carelessness.

21 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, *‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’*”

The law condemns external actions of hate (v. 21)



22 *But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment;*
whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.



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The law condemns external actions of hate (v. 21) *and* internal attitudes of hate (v. 22)

22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment;
whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

Jesus is not condemning all anger.

Ephesians 4:26 “Be angry and do not sin.”

²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; **whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council;** and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

“Whoever calls his brother raca”

Raca – fool, blockhead, idiot, imbecile

²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

“Fool” – Gk. “Moré” → moron

Moré – worthless fool, with connotations of immorality.

Matthew 5:21-22

**1. The law must sink deeper
and extend wider in our lives.**



Matthew 5:21-22

1. The law must run deeper and extend wider in our lives.

2. The consequences of our sin run deeper and extend wider.

Matthew 5:21-22

The law condemns both external actions of hate (v. 21) *and* internal attitudes of hate (v. 22)

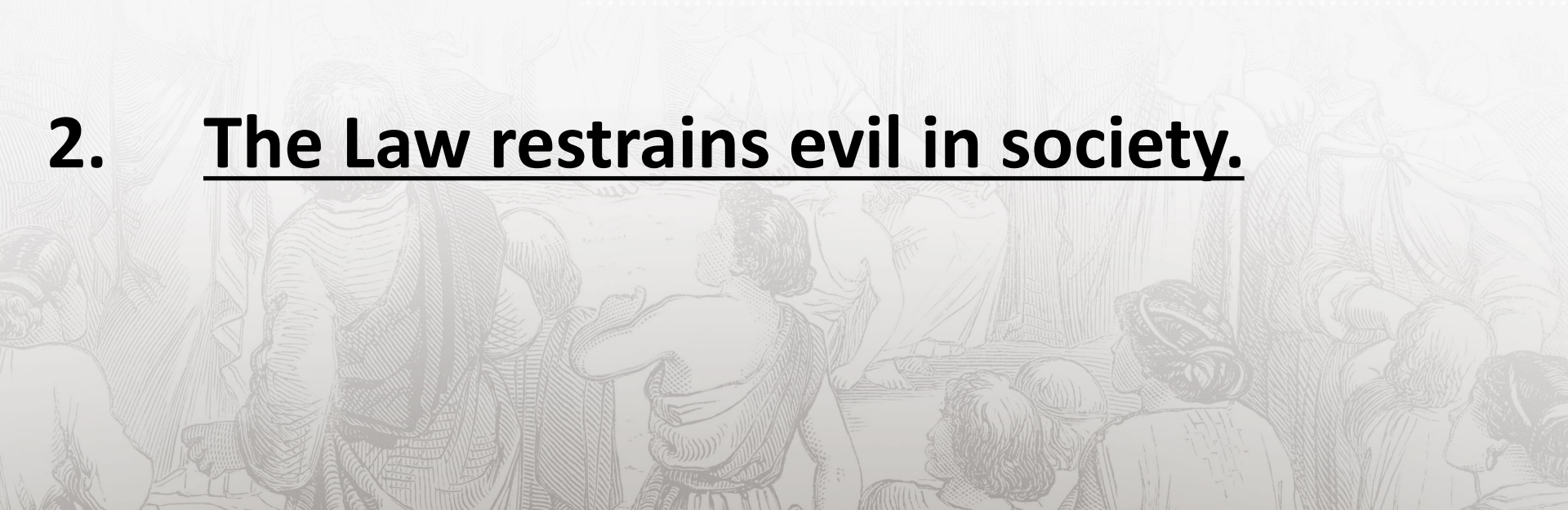
The three uses of the Law

1. The Law is a mirror: Show us God's righteousness and our need for Christ.



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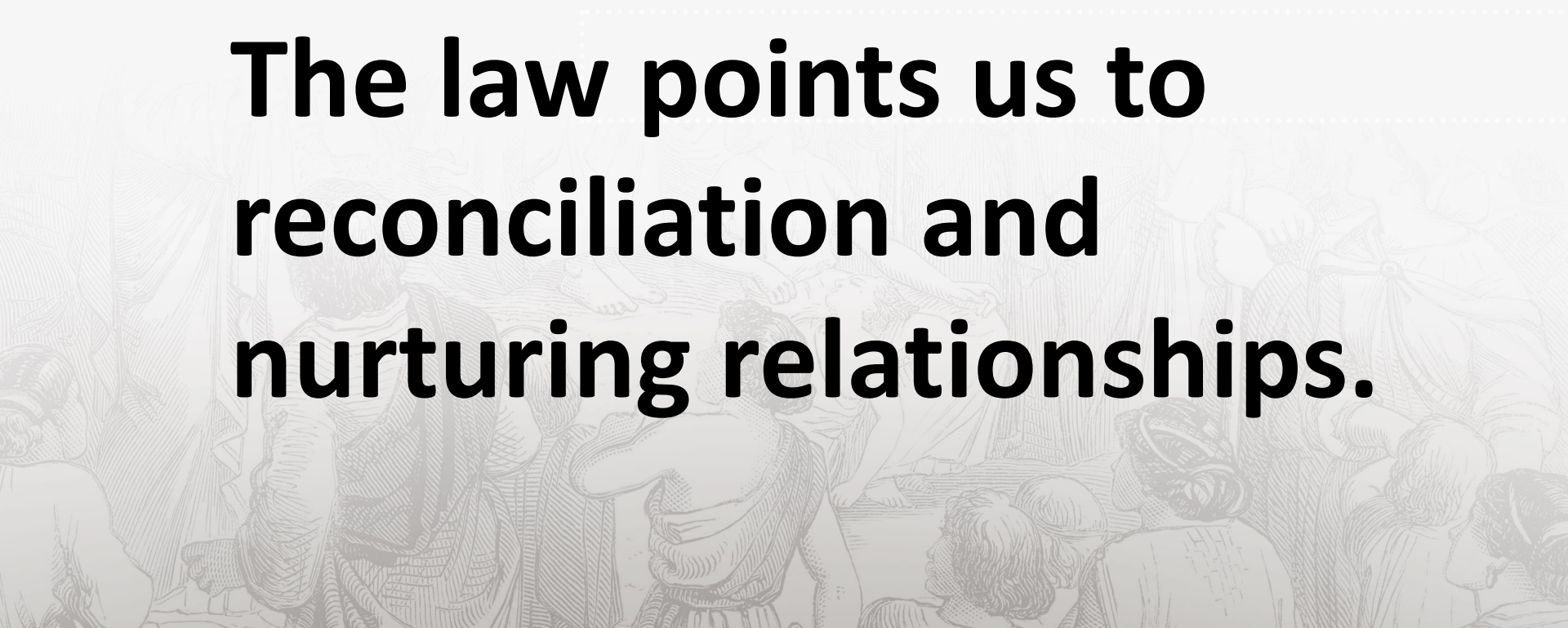


The three uses of the Law

1. The Law is a mirror: Show us God's righteousness and our need for Christ.
2. The Law restrains evil in society.
3. The Law is a guide to daily life.

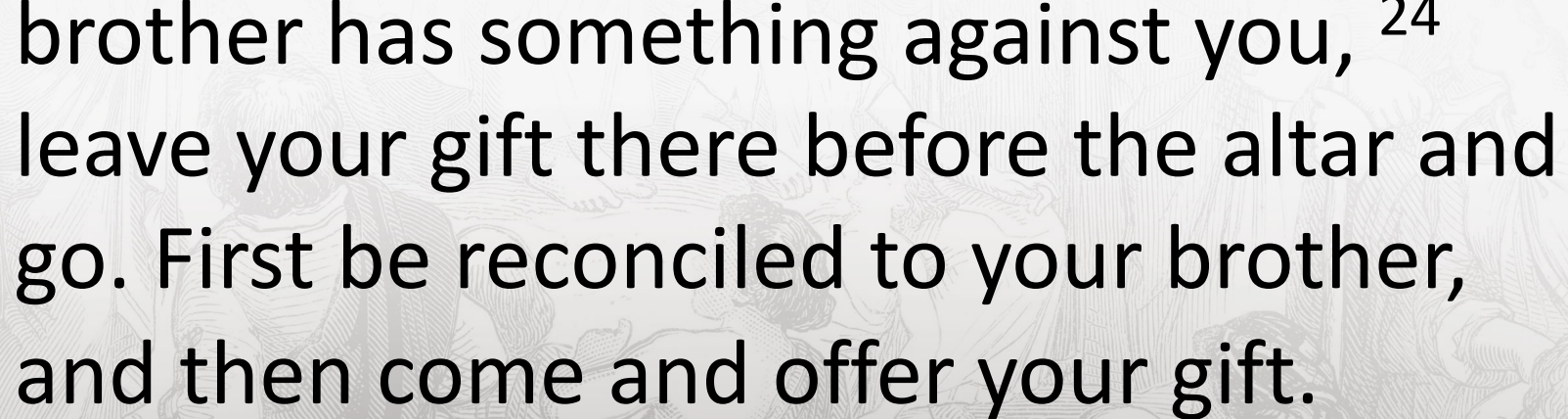
Matthew 5:23-26

**The law points us to
reconciliation and
nurturing relationships.**



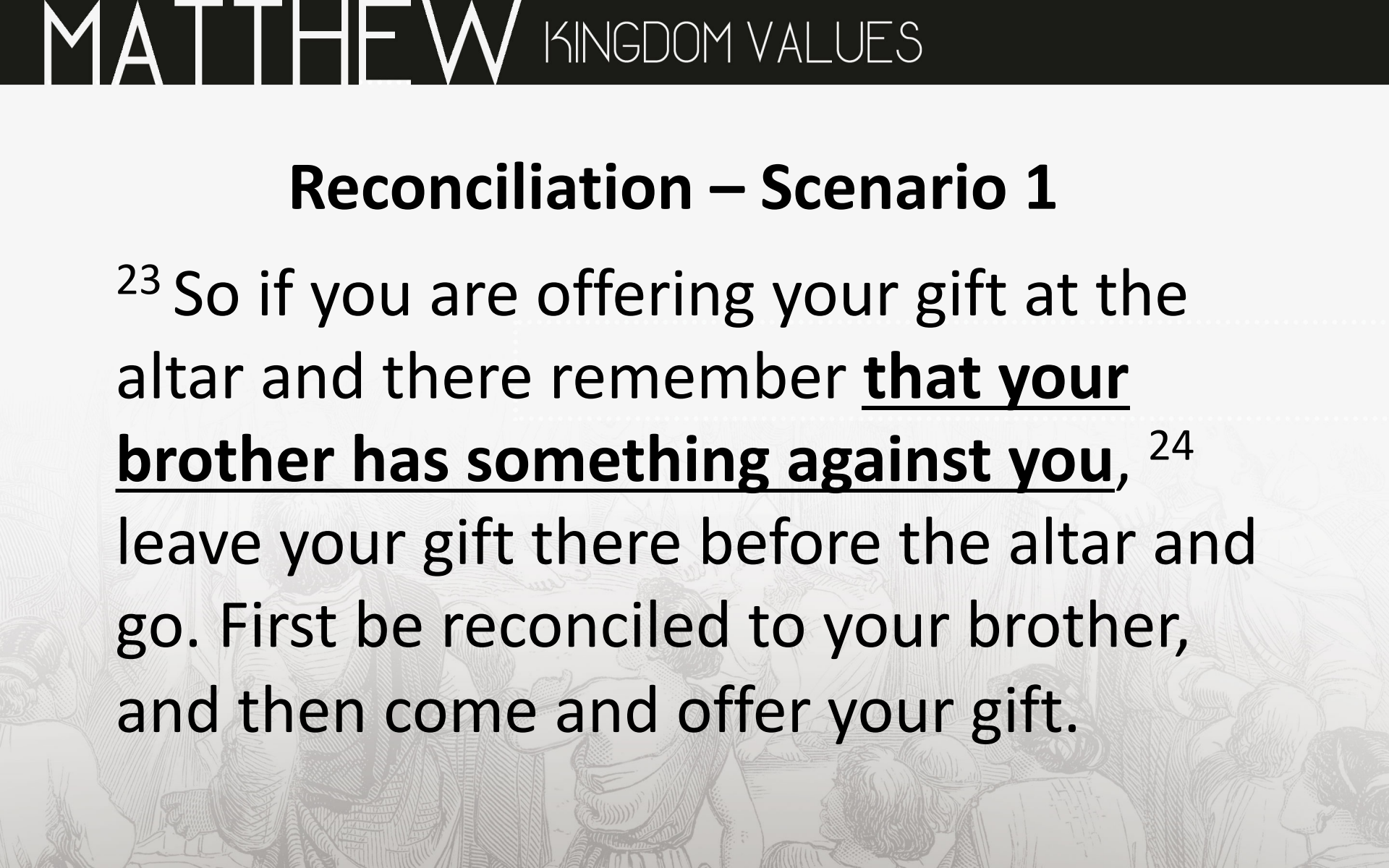
Reconciliation – Scenario 1

²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

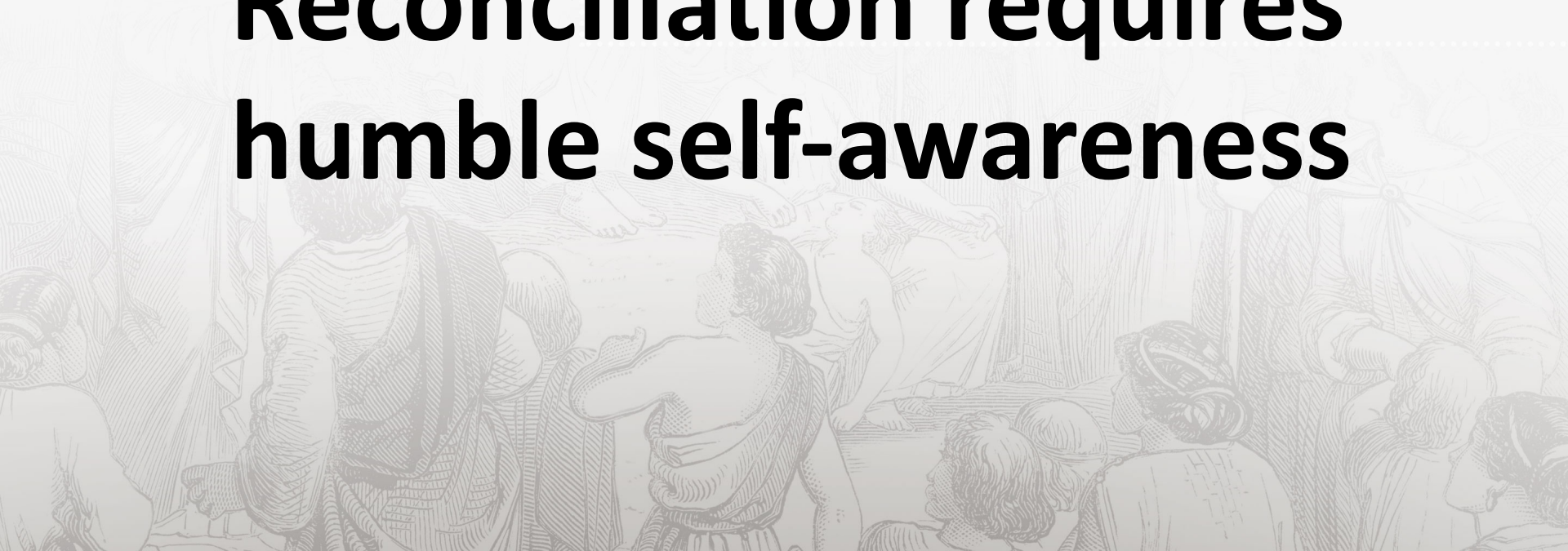


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**Reconciliation requires
humble self-awareness**

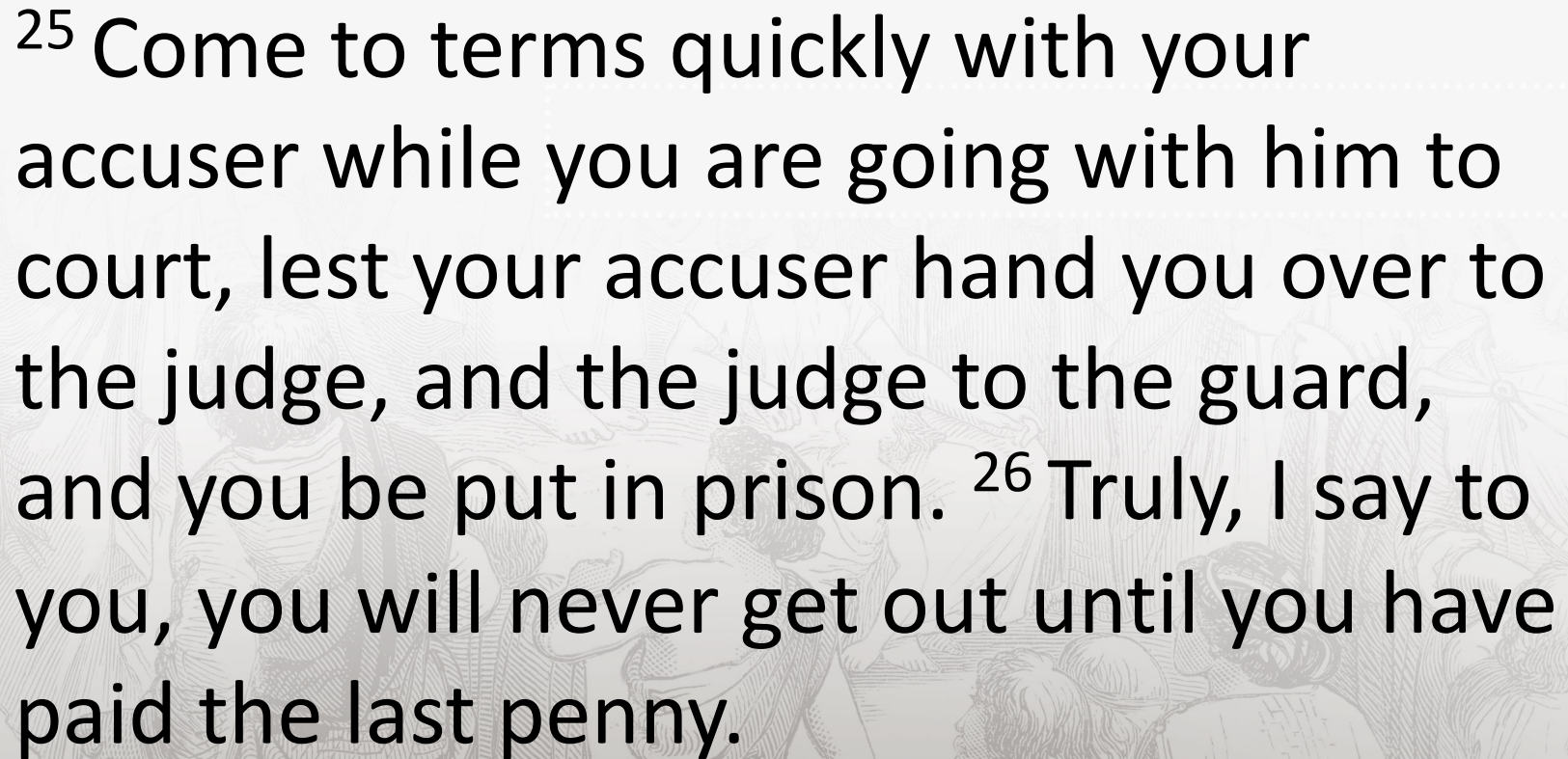


**Reconciliation
requires initiative
and decisive actions.**



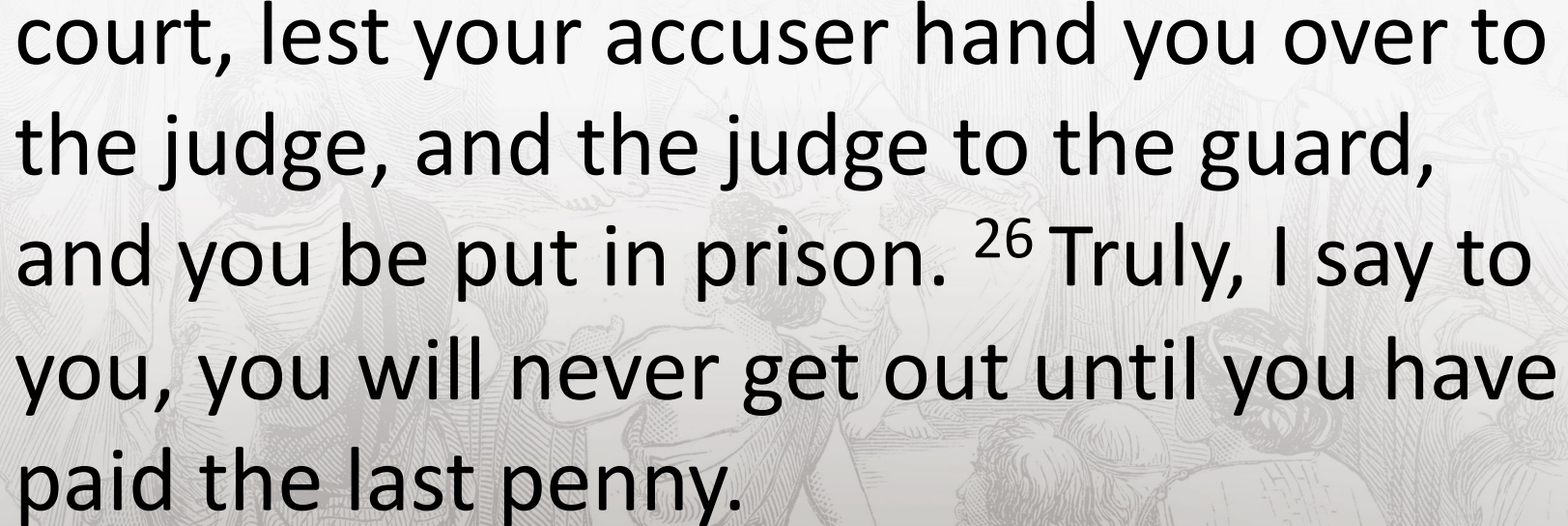
Reconciliation – Scenario 2

²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶ Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.



Reconciliation – Scenario 2

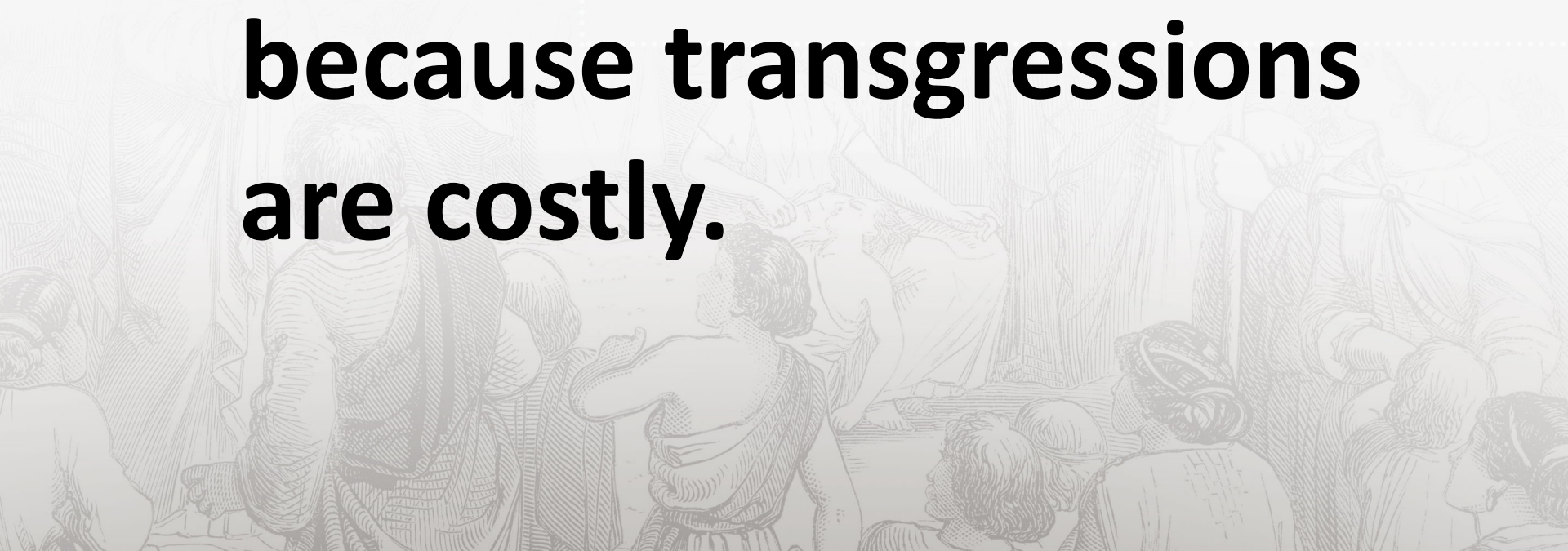
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**Reconciliation extends
from our friends to our
enemies.**

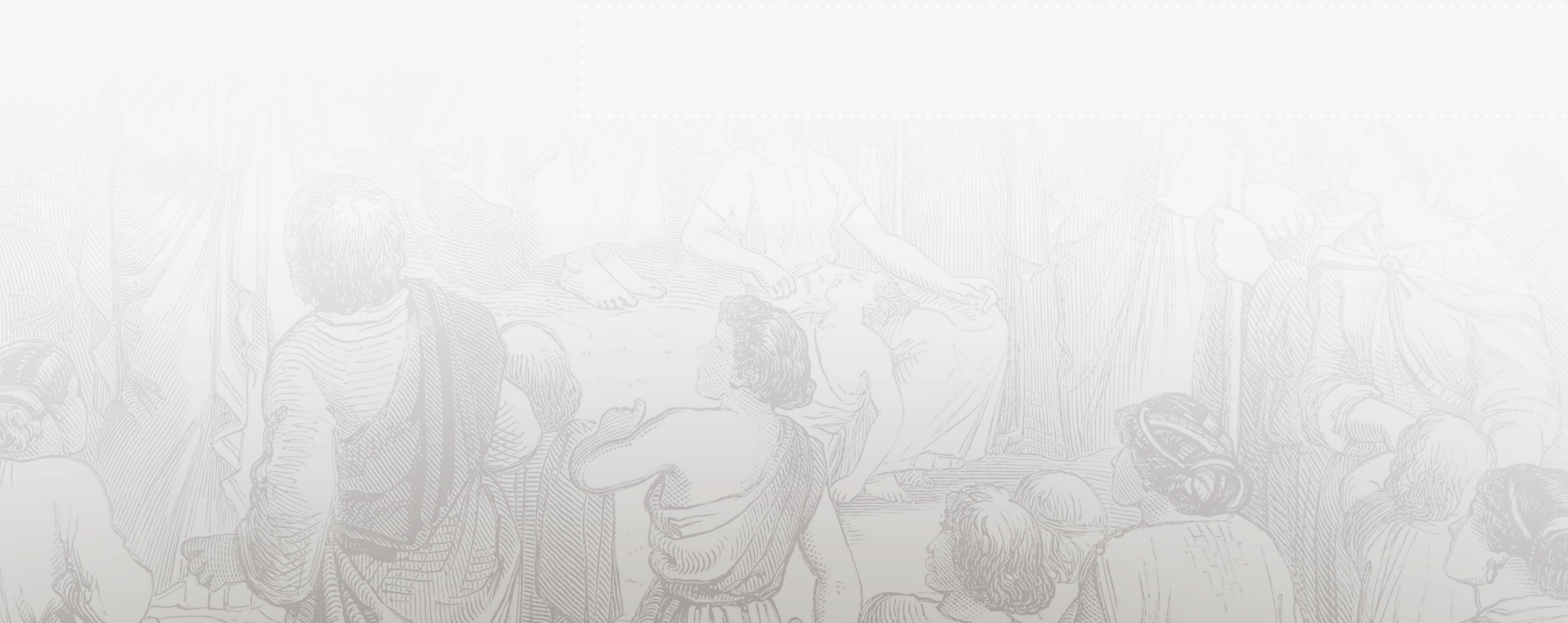


**Reconciliation is costly...
because transgressions
are costly.**



1. Reconciliation requires humble self-awareness.
2. Reconciliation requires initiative and decisive action.
3. Reconciliation extends from our friends to enemies.
4. Reconciliation is costly.

So...Therefore...What Now?



So...Therefore...What Now?

Where are you cultivating sinful anger? Do you murder in your heart?

If you have wronged someone, what is your next step?

Where do you need to own up to how you have hurt people?

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