

Fire Upon the Earth

Luke 12:49-59

Francesco Ungaro

What does a heart
on **fire** for God look
like?

49 “I came to cast fire on the earth,
and would that it were already kindled!

50 I have a baptism to be baptized with,
and how great is my distress
until it is accomplished!

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.1/6)

51 Do you think that I have come
to give peace on earth?
No, I tell you, but rather division.

52 For from now on in one house
there will be five divided,
three against two and two against three.

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.2/6)

53 They will be divided,
father against son and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.3/6)

54 He also said to the crowds,
“When you see a cloud rising in the west,
you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’
And so it happens.

55 And when you see the south wind blowing,
you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’
and it happens.

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.4/6)

56 You hypocrites! You know how to interpret
the appearance of earth and sky,
but why do you not know
how to interpret the present time?

57 “And why do you not judge
for yourselves what is right?”

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.5/6)

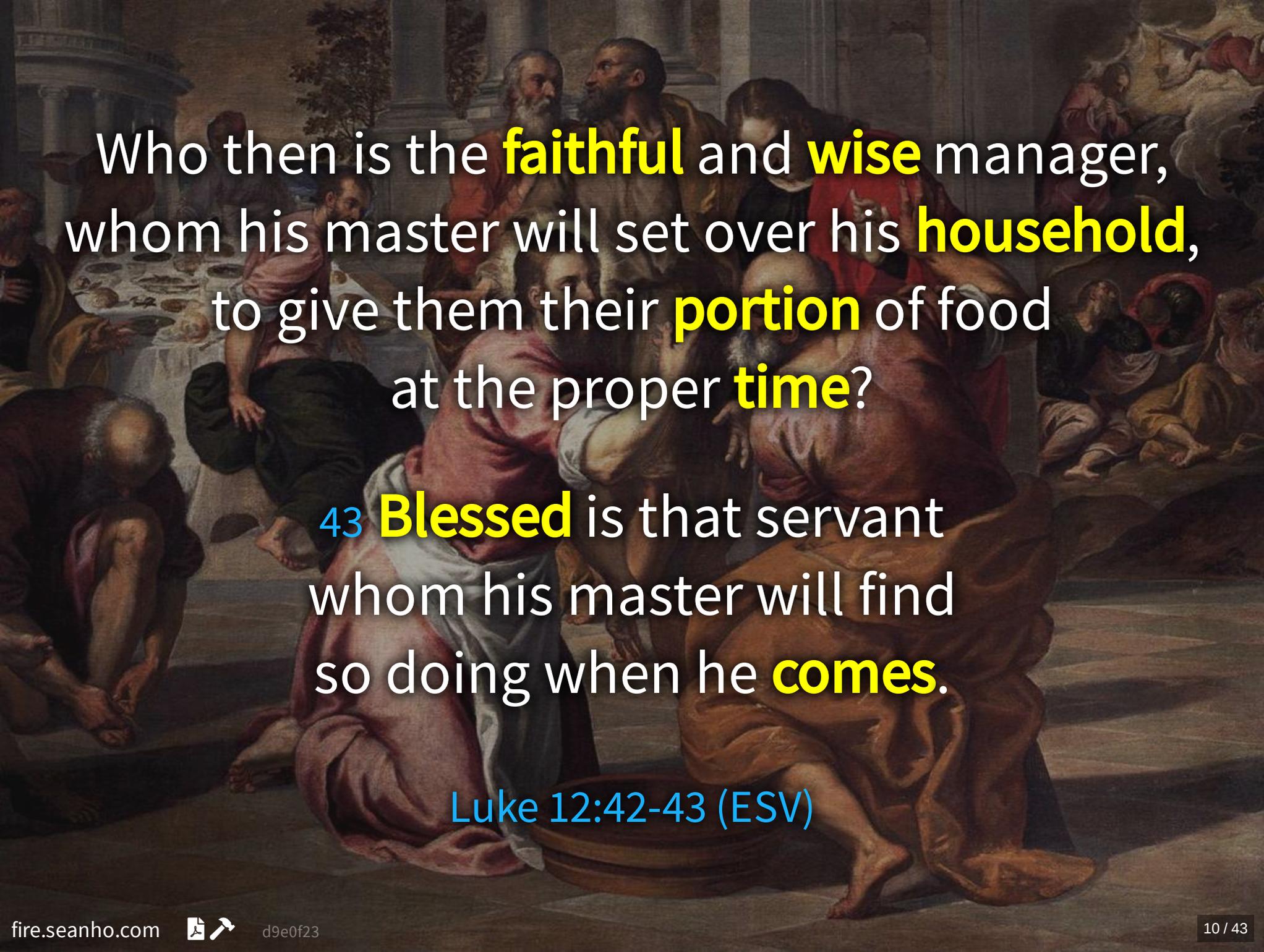
58 As you go with your accuser
before the magistrate,
make an effort to settle with him on the way,
lest he drag you to the judge,
and the judge hand you over to the officer,
and the officer put you in prison.

59 I tell you, you will never get out
until you have paid the very last penny.”

Luke 12:49-59 (ESV) (p.6/6)

Luke 12: **Priorities** of the Kingdom of God

- Not Man's **Affirmation** (v1-12)
- Not Building **Wealth** (v13-21)
- Not Health/**Security** (v22-34)
- Faithful **Stewardship** (v35-48)
- **Fire** Upon the Earth (v49-59)



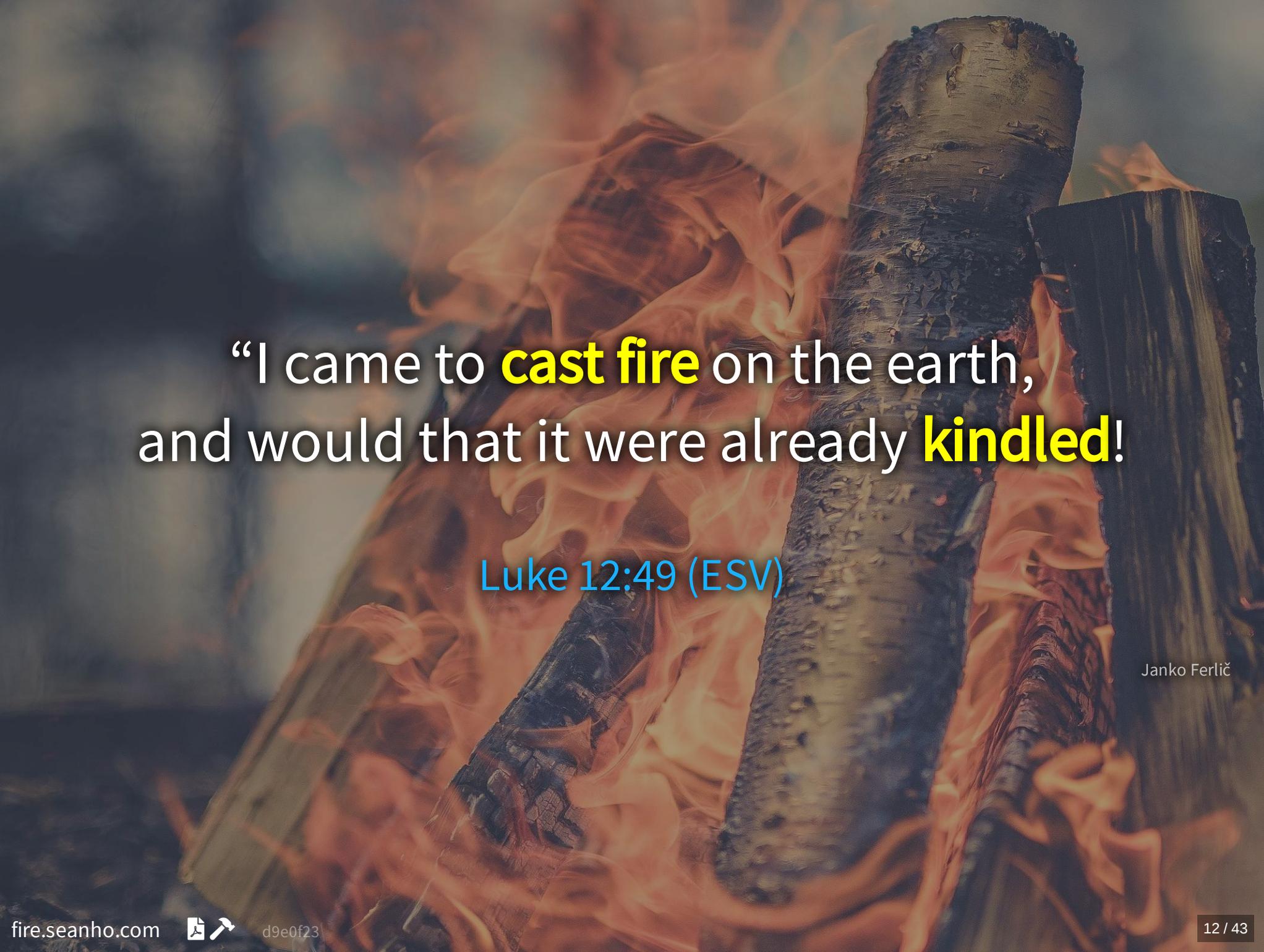
Who then is the **faithful** and **wise** manager,
whom his master will set over his **household**,
to give them their **portion** of food
at the proper **time**?

43 Blessed is that servant
whom his master will find
so doing when he **comes**.

Luke 12:42-43 (ESV)

Fire Upon the Earth (Lk12)

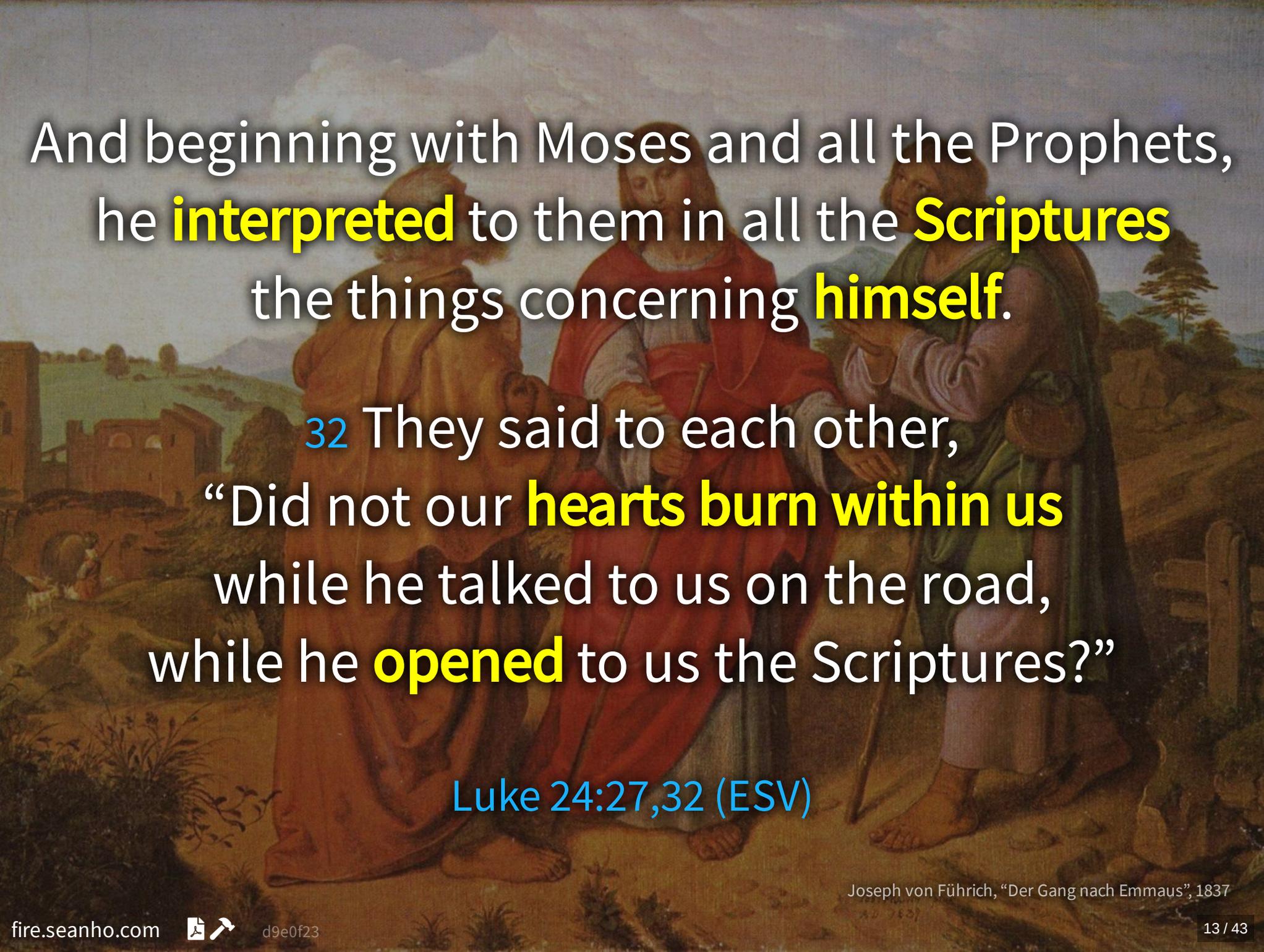
1. Kindle the **Flame** (v49-50)
2. Love God Over **Family** (v51-53)
3. **Plan** for Christ's Return (v54-56)
4. Pursue **Mercy**, Not Vengeance
(v57-59)



“I came to **cast fire** on the earth,
and would that it were already **kindled!**”

Luke 12:49 (ESV)

Janko Ferlič



And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets,
he **interpreted** to them in all the **Scriptures**
the things concerning **himself**.

32 They said to each other,
“Did not our **hearts burn within us**
while he talked to us on the road,
while he **opened** to us the Scriptures?”

Luke 24:27,32 (ESV)

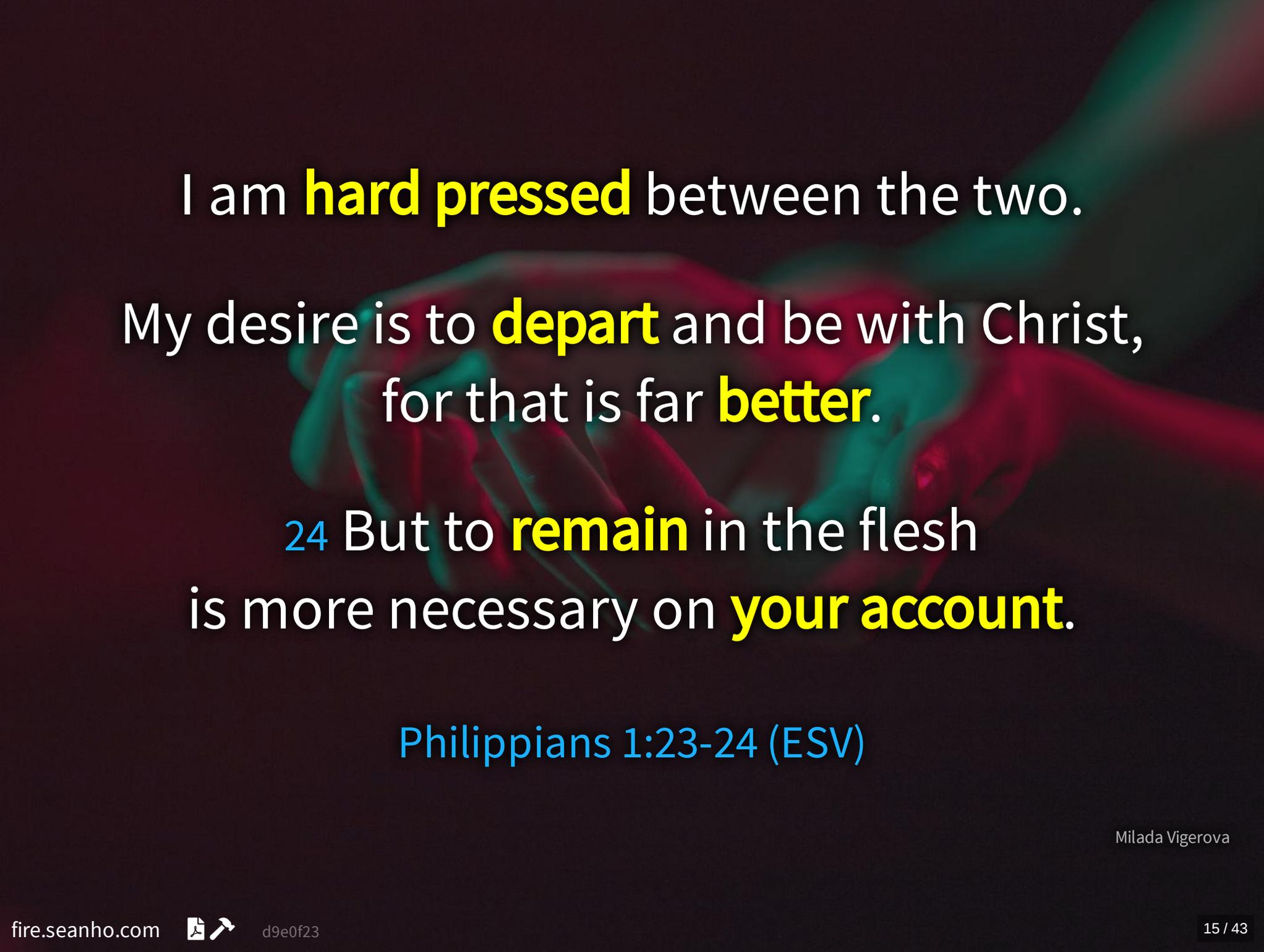
Joseph von Führich, “Der Gang nach Emmaus”, 1837

“I came to **cast fire** on the earth,
and would that it were already **kindled!**

I have a **baptism** to be baptized with,
and how great is my **distress**
until it is accomplished!

Luke 12:49-50 (ESV)

HH Long Bay, Vietnam. Vincent Guth
2



I am **hard pressed** between the two.

My desire is to **depart** and be with Christ,
for that is far **better**.

24 But to **remain** in the flesh
is more necessary on **your account**.

Philippians 1:23-24 (ESV)

Milada Vigerova

I have a **baptism** to be baptized with,
and how great is my **distress**
until it is accomplished!

Luke 12:50 (ESV)

I baptize you with **water** for repentance,
but he ... will baptize you
with the **Holy Spirit** and **fire**.

12 His **winnowing fork** is in his hand,
and he will clear his threshing floor
and gather his **wheat** into the barn,
but the **chaff** he will burn
with **unquenchable fire**.

Matthew 3:11-12 (ESV)



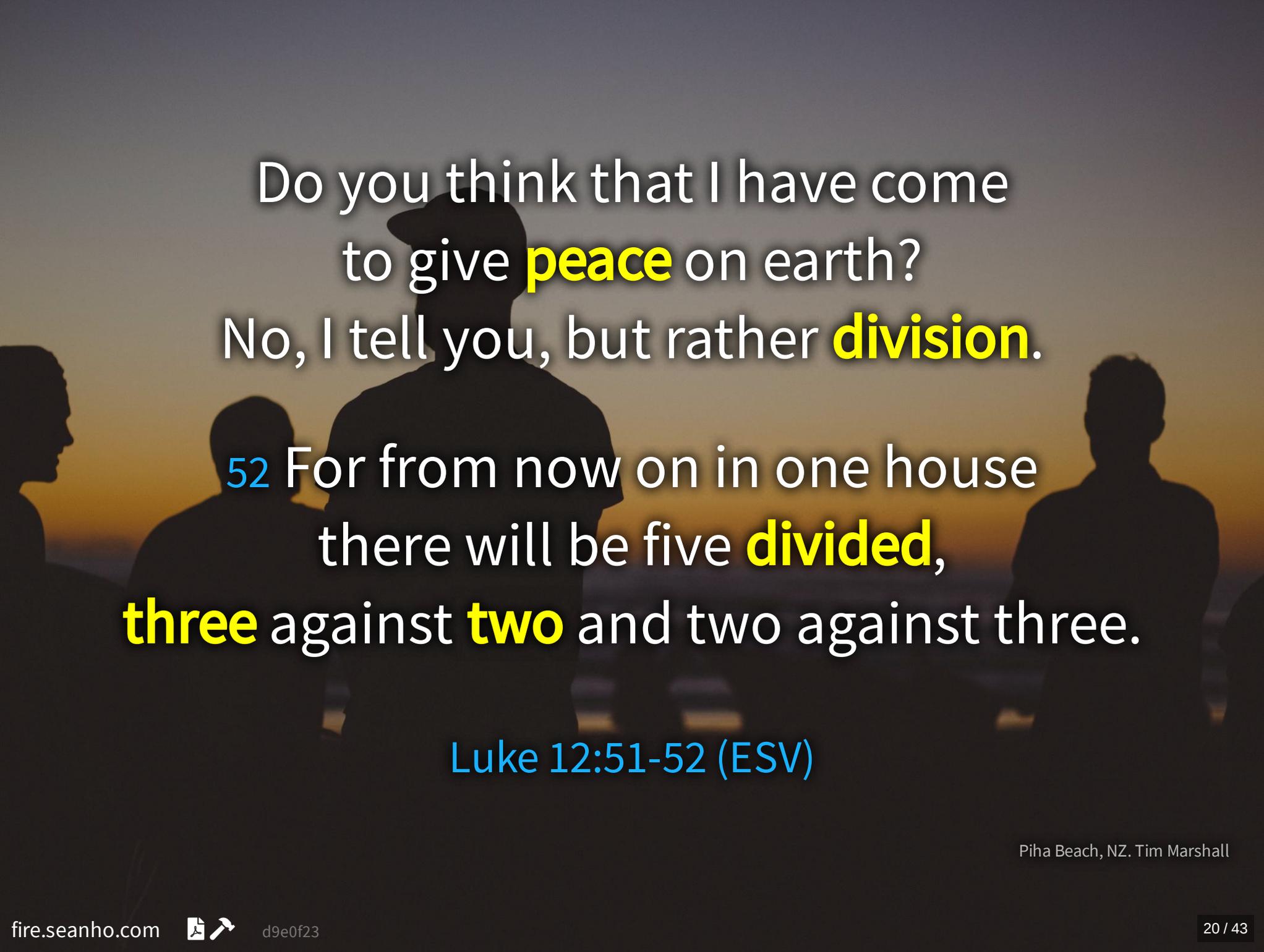
Let us offer to God acceptable **worship**,
with **reverence** and awe,
29 for our God is a **consuming fire**.

Hebrews 12:28-29 (cf Dt4:24) (ESV)

Samuel Ferrara

Fire Upon the Earth (Lk12)

1. Kindle the Flame (v49-50)
2. **Love God Over Family** (v51-53)
3. Plan for Christ's Return (v54-56)
4. Pursue Mercy, Not Vengeance (v57-59)

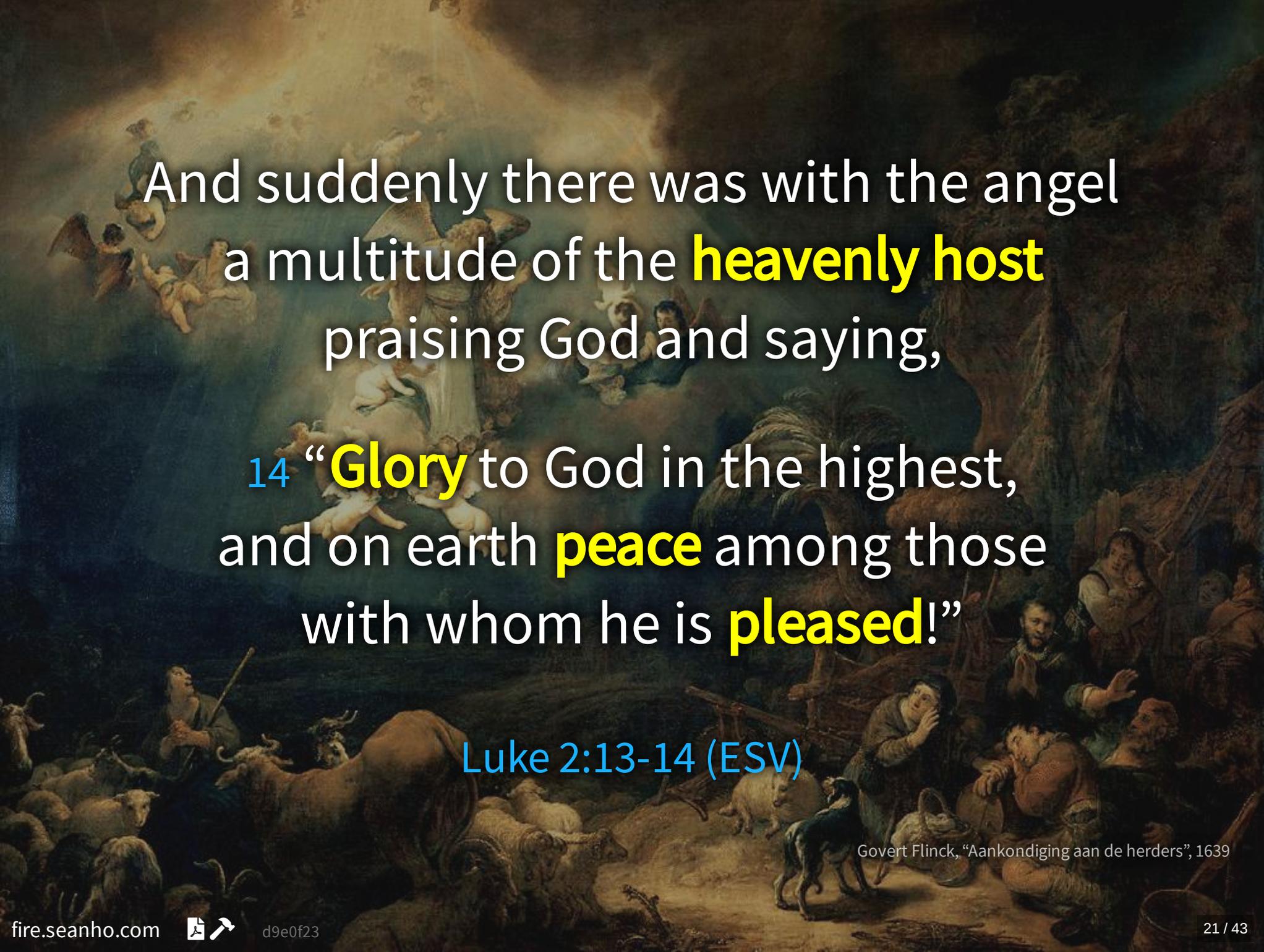
The background of the slide features silhouettes of several people standing against a warm, golden sunset sky. The silhouettes are dark and positioned around the edges of the frame, creating a sense of a group of people gathered together.

Do you think that I have come
to give **peace** on earth?
No, I tell you, but rather **division**.

52 For from now on in one house
there will be five **divided**,
three against **two** and two against three.

Luke 12:51-52 (ESV)

Piha Beach, NZ. Tim Marshall



And suddenly there was with the angel
a multitude of the **heavenly host**
praising God and saying,

14 “**Glory** to God in the highest,
and on earth **peace** among those
with whom he is **pleased!**”

Luke 2:13-14 (ESV)

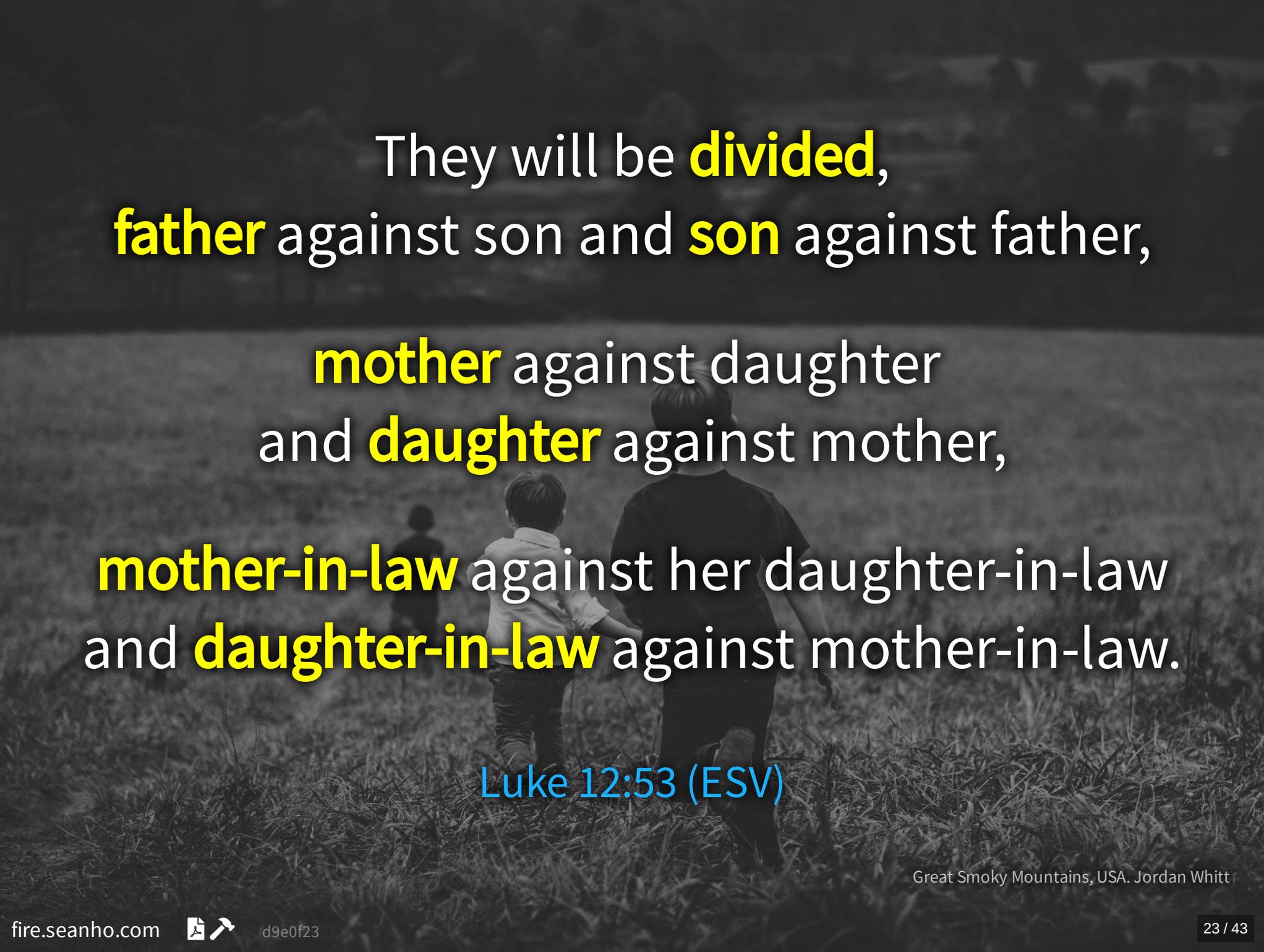
Govert Flinck, “Aankondiging aan de herders”, 1639

The background of the slide is a reproduction of Rembrandt's painting 'Simeon's Song of Praise' (1631). The painting depicts the infant Jesus being presented in the Temple. Simeon, an elderly man with a long white beard, is shown in the center, holding the child. He is surrounded by other figures, including the Virgin Mary and Joseph, in a dimly lit, crowded interior. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the central figures against a dark background.

Behold, this child is appointed for
the **fall** and **rising** of many in Israel,
and for a **sign** that is **opposed** –
35 and a **sword** will pierce through
your own **soul** also –
so that **thoughts** from many hearts
may be **revealed**.

Luke 2:34-35 (ESV)

Rembrandt, "Simeon's Song of Praise", 1631



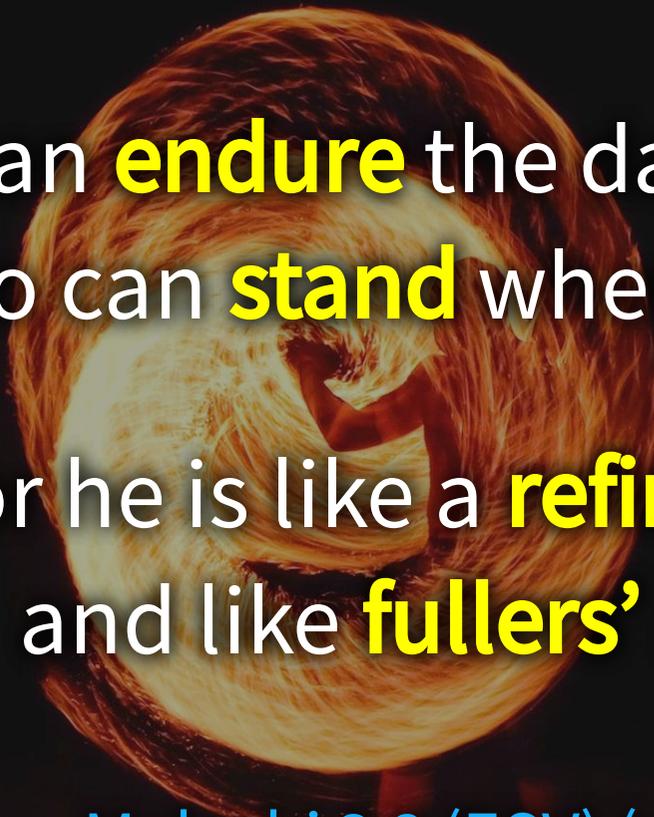
They will be **divided**,
father against son and **son** against father,
mother against daughter
and **daughter** against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and **daughter-in-law** against mother-in-law.

Luke 12:53 (ESV)

Great Smoky Mountains, USA. Jordan Whitt

His **winnowing fork** is in his hand,
and he will clear his threshing floor
and gather his **wheat** into the barn,
but the **chaff** he will burn
with **unquenchable fire**.

Matthew 3:12 (ESV)



But who can **endure** the day of his **coming**,
and who can **stand** when he **appears**?

For he is like a **refiner's fire**
and like **fullers' soap**.

Malachi 3:2 (ESV) (p.1/3)

Peter John Maridable

You have said, 'It is **vain** to serve God.
What is the **profit** of our keeping his **charge**
or of walking as in **mourning**
before the Lord of hosts?

15 And now we call the **arrogant blessed**.
Evildoers not only **prosper**
but they put God to the **test** and they **escape**.'

Malachi 3:14-15 (ESV) (p.2/3)

Then once more you shall see the **distinction**
between the **righteous** and the **wicked**,
between one who **serves God**
and one who does **not** serve him.

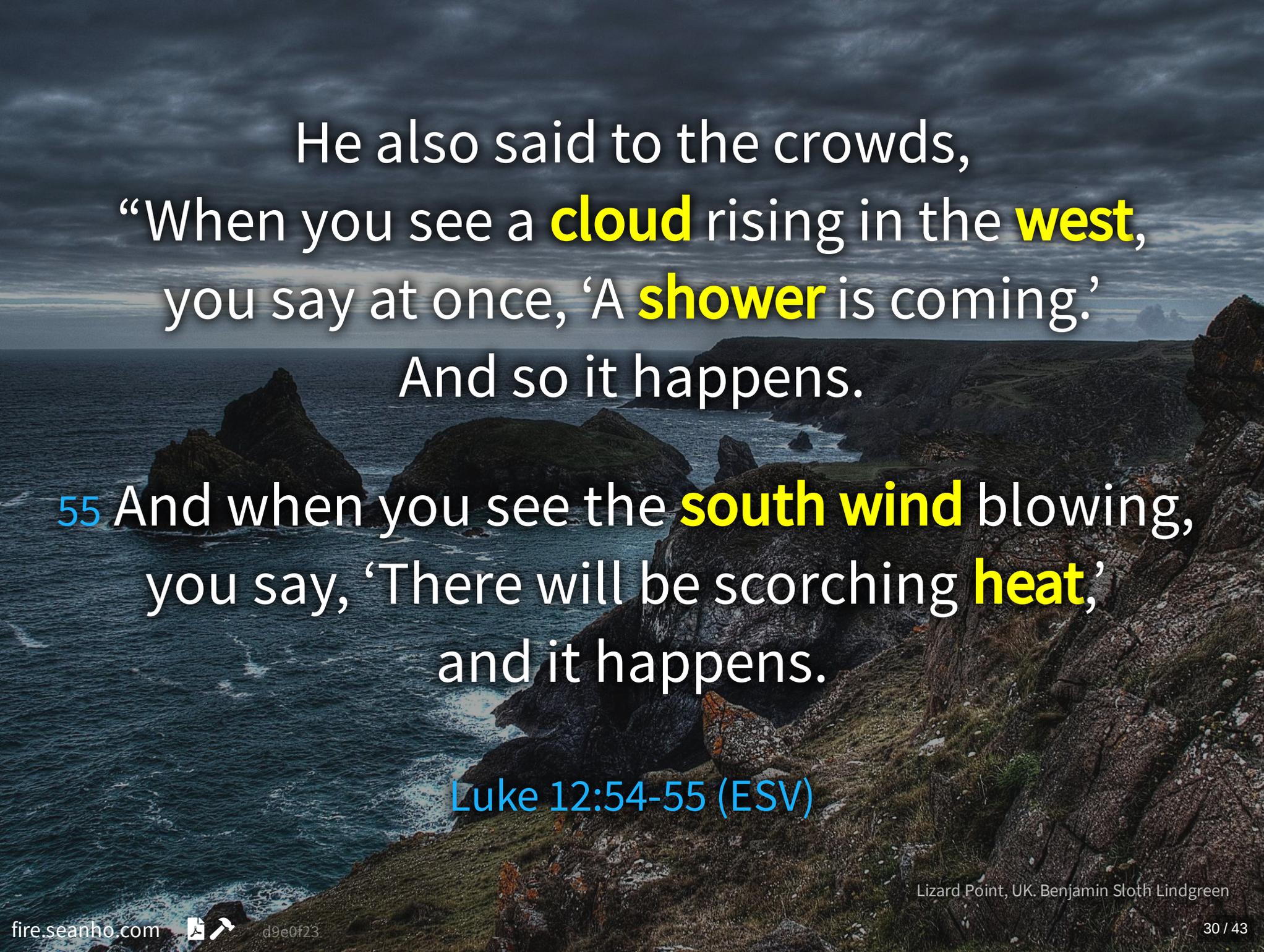
Malachi 3:18 (ESV) (p.3/3)

Dominik QN, Thailand

Am I **willing** to let
God's fire **divide** my
family?

Fire Upon the Earth (Lk12)

1. Kindle the Flame (v49-50)
2. Love God Over Family (v51-53)
3. **Plan for Christ's Return** (v54-56)
4. Pursue Mercy, Not Vengeance (v57-59)



He also said to the crowds,
“When you see a **cloud** rising in the **west**,
you say at once, ‘A **shower** is coming.’
And so it happens.

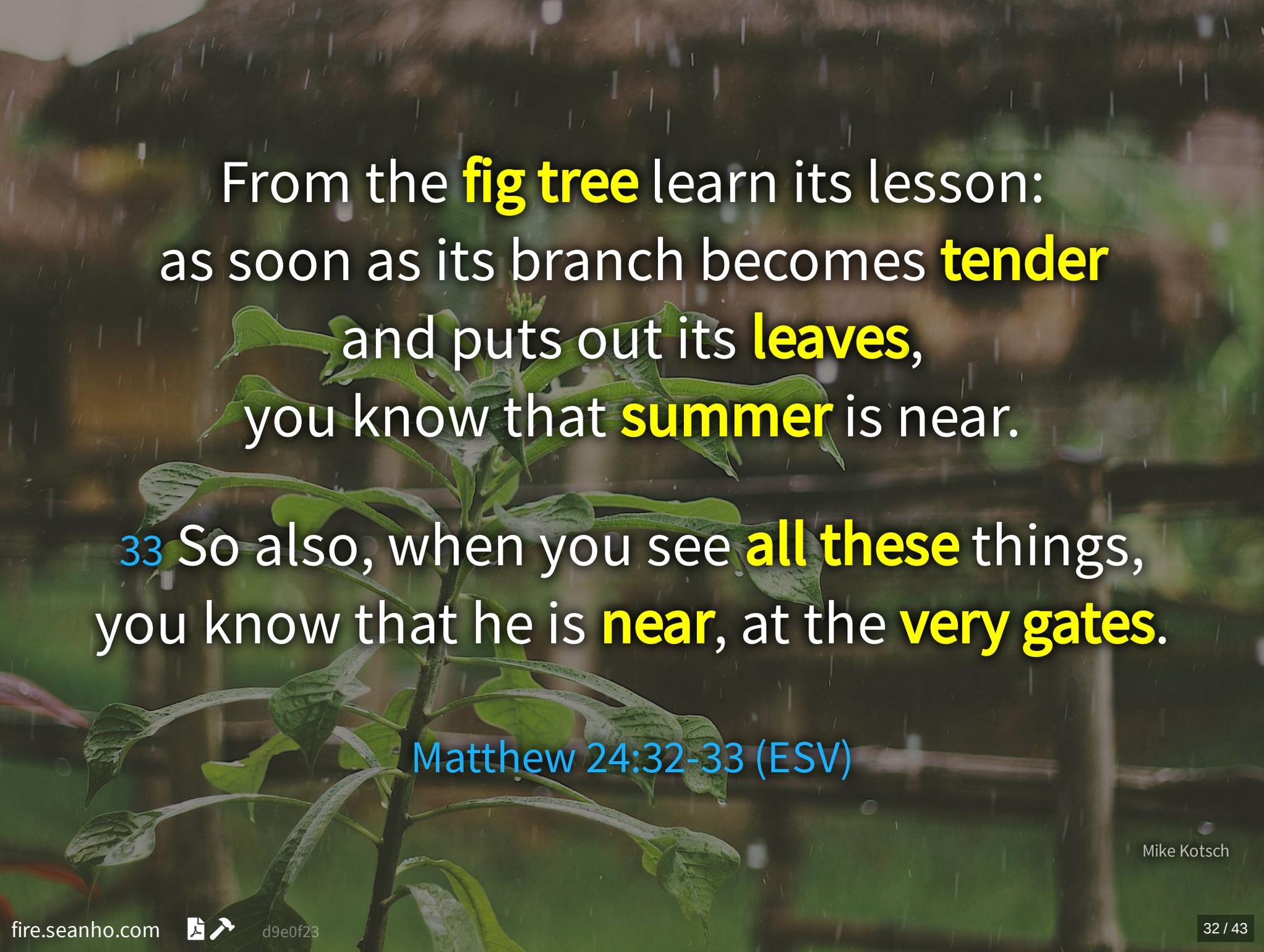
55 And when you see the **south wind** blowing,
you say, ‘There will be scorching **heat**,’
and it happens.

Luke 12:54-55 (ESV)

You **hypocrites!**

You know how to **interpret**
the appearance of **earth and sky**,
but why do you not know
how to interpret the **present time?**

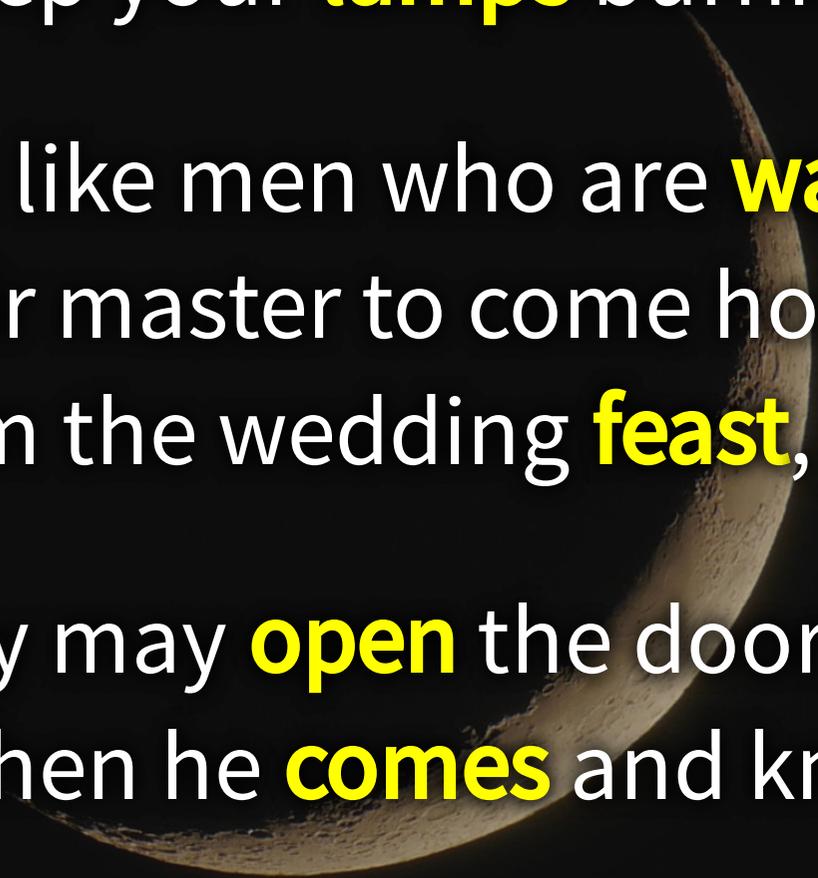
Luke 12:56 (ESV)



From the **fig tree** learn its lesson:
as soon as its branch becomes **tender**
and puts out its **leaves**,
you know that **summer** is near.

33 So also, when you see **all these** things,
you know that he is **near**, at the **very gates**.

Matthew 24:32-33 (ESV)



Stay dressed for **action**
and keep your **lamps** burning,
36 and be like men who are **waiting**
for their master to come home
from the wedding **feast**,
so that they may **open** the door to him
at once when he **comes** and knocks.

Luke 12:35-36 (ESV)

Do I make my **plans** with the
imminence of Christ's **return**?

Fire Upon the Earth (Lk12)

1. Kindle the Flame (v49-50)
2. Love God Over Family (v51-53)
3. Plan for Christ's Return (v54-56)
4. **Pursue Mercy, Not Vengeance**
(v57-59)

A photograph of a group of people sitting around a round wooden table in a meeting. Several hands are visible, some holding papers and one holding a pen. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, golden light source from the right. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

“And why do you not **judge**
for yourselves what is **right**?”

Luke 12:56 (ESV)

Helsinki, Finland. Thomas Drouault

As you go with your **accuser**
before the **magistrate**,
make an effort to **settle** with him on the way,

Luke 12:58 (ESV)

Wesley Tingey

lest he drag you to the **judge**,
and the judge hand you over to the **officer**,
and the officer put you in **prison**.

59 I tell you, you will never get out
until you have paid the very last **penny**.”

Luke 12:58-59 (ESV)

If you, O Lord, should **mark iniquities**,
O Lord, who could **stand**?

4 But with you there is **forgiveness**,
that you may be **feared**.

Psalm 130:3-4 (ESV)

Hirzel, Switzerland. Ricardo Gomez Angel



So **speak** and so **act** as those who are to be **judged** under the **law of liberty**.

13 For judgment is **without mercy** to one who has **shown no mercy**.

Mercy **triumphs** over judgment!

James 2:12-13 (ESV)

Nancy, France. Rémi Walle

Do I care more
about **winning** than
showing **mercy**?

I baptize you with **water** for repentance,
but he ... will baptize you
with the **Holy Spirit** and **fire**.

12 His **winnowing fork** is in his hand,
and he will clear his threshing floor
and gather his **wheat** into the barn,
but the **chaff** he will burn
with **unquenchable fire**.

Matthew 3:11-12 (ESV)

