

# THE BOOK OF 1 TIMOTHY

**“Godliness NOT To Be Used  
As A Means To Earthly Gain”**  
(1 Timothy 6:1-5)



# **“Godliness NOT A Means To Earthly Gain”**

(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



- Introduction / Greeting (1:1-7)
- The Lawful Use of the Law (1:5-11)
- Paul : A Pattern (1:12-17)
- Fight the good fight (1:18-20)
- Pray for leaders (2:1-7)
- Behavior of men & women in the church (2:8-15)
- Qualifications of elders (3:1-7)
- Qualifications of Deacons (3:8-13)
- Behavior in God's House (3:14-16)
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- Treatment of One Another (5:1-25)
- “Treatment of Elders ...” (5:17–25)

## 1 Timothy 6:1–5 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and *His* doctrine may not be blasphemed. <sup>2</sup> And those who have believing masters, let them not despise *them* because they are brethren, but rather serve *them* because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.



## 1 Timothy 6:1–5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, <sup>4</sup> he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup> useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a *means of* gain. From such withdraw yourself.

# **“Godliness NOT A Means To Earthly Gain”**

(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



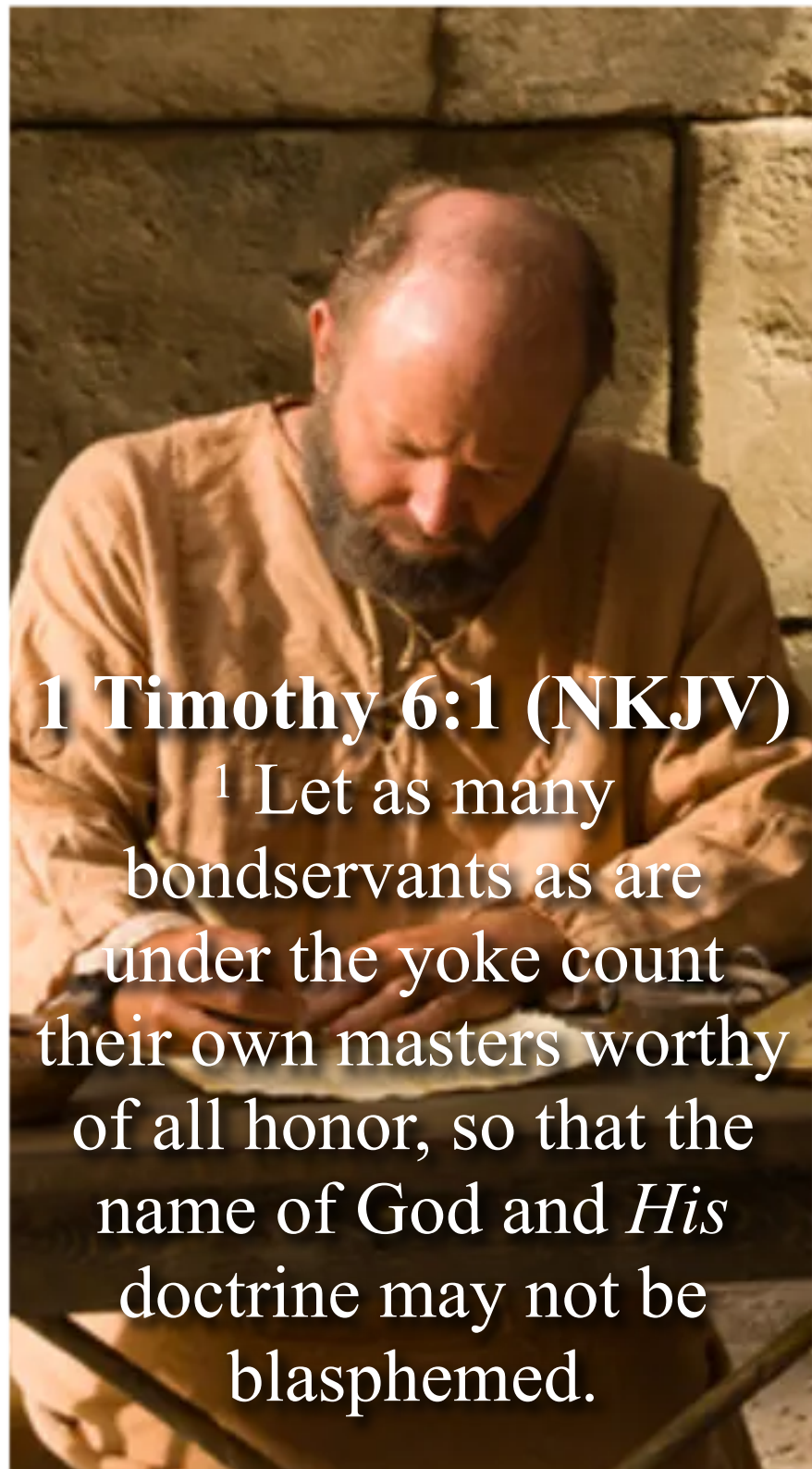
## **WE ARE TO BE A “FUNCTIONAL” FAMILY**

“Up to this point in this letter, Paul has been giving instructions on matters that touched Timothy’s relationship with the whole congregation. Almost the whole of the remainder of the letter is concerned with specific directions to Timothy to assist him in dealing with various groups and individuals within the congregation” (Reese p. 217).



# “Godliness **NOT** A Means To Earthly Gain”

(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



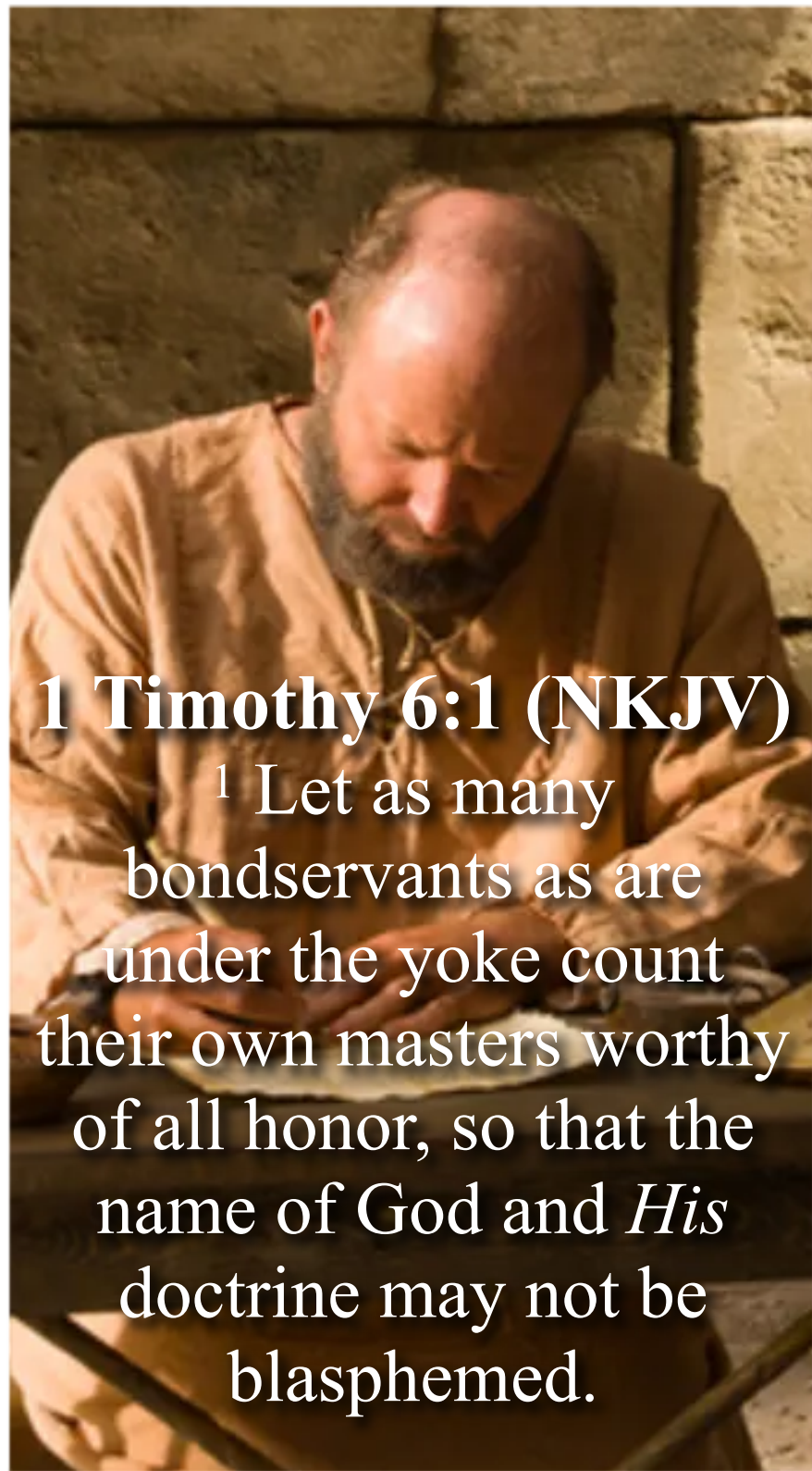
## ■ CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)

- ▶ **“Let”** : “to hold a view, ... an opinion, to consider, to regard.” (Louw Nida 31.1)
- ▶ **“bondservants ... under thee yoke”** : A servant / slave. The condition of the slave was not easy and that it could be very oppressive.
  - Many passages in the NT address the responsibilities of slaves (1 Cor. 7:21-24; Eph. 6:5-8; Col. 3:22-25; 1 Pet. 2:18)
  - Some estimate 60 mil. slaves in the 1st Century Roman world.



# “Godliness **NOT** A Means To Earthly Gain”

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## 1 Timothy 6:1 (NKJV)

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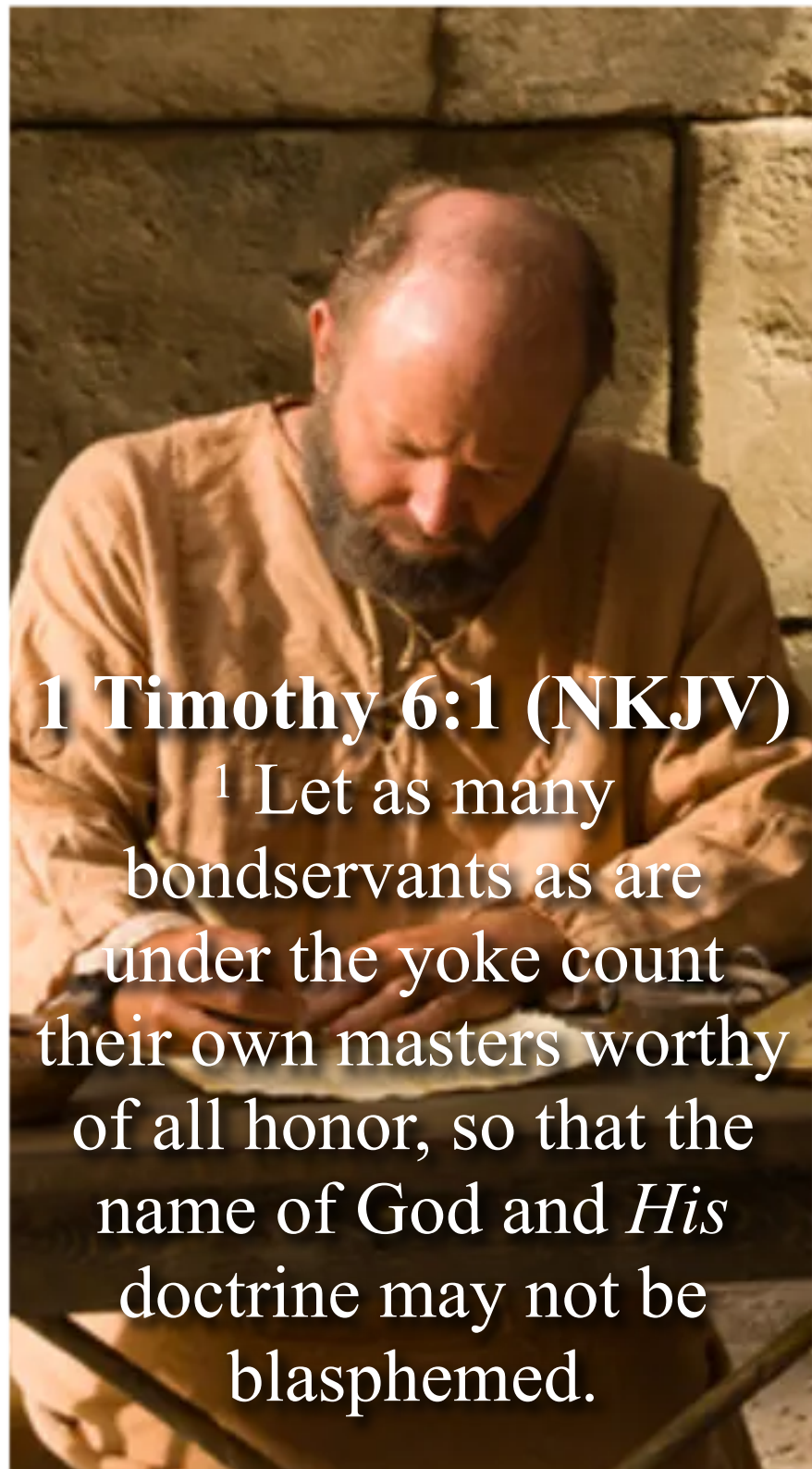
## ■ CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)

- ▶ “**count their own masters worthy of all honor**” : “to have an inner attitude of genuine respect for their masters which finds outward expression in word, manner, and conduct” (Hiebert p. 107)
- Christians were obligated to be godly in whatever state they were in. This would be especially difficult if a master was cruel, yet God does not give the slave the right to dishonor even a cruel master (1 Peter 2:18ff).



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(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



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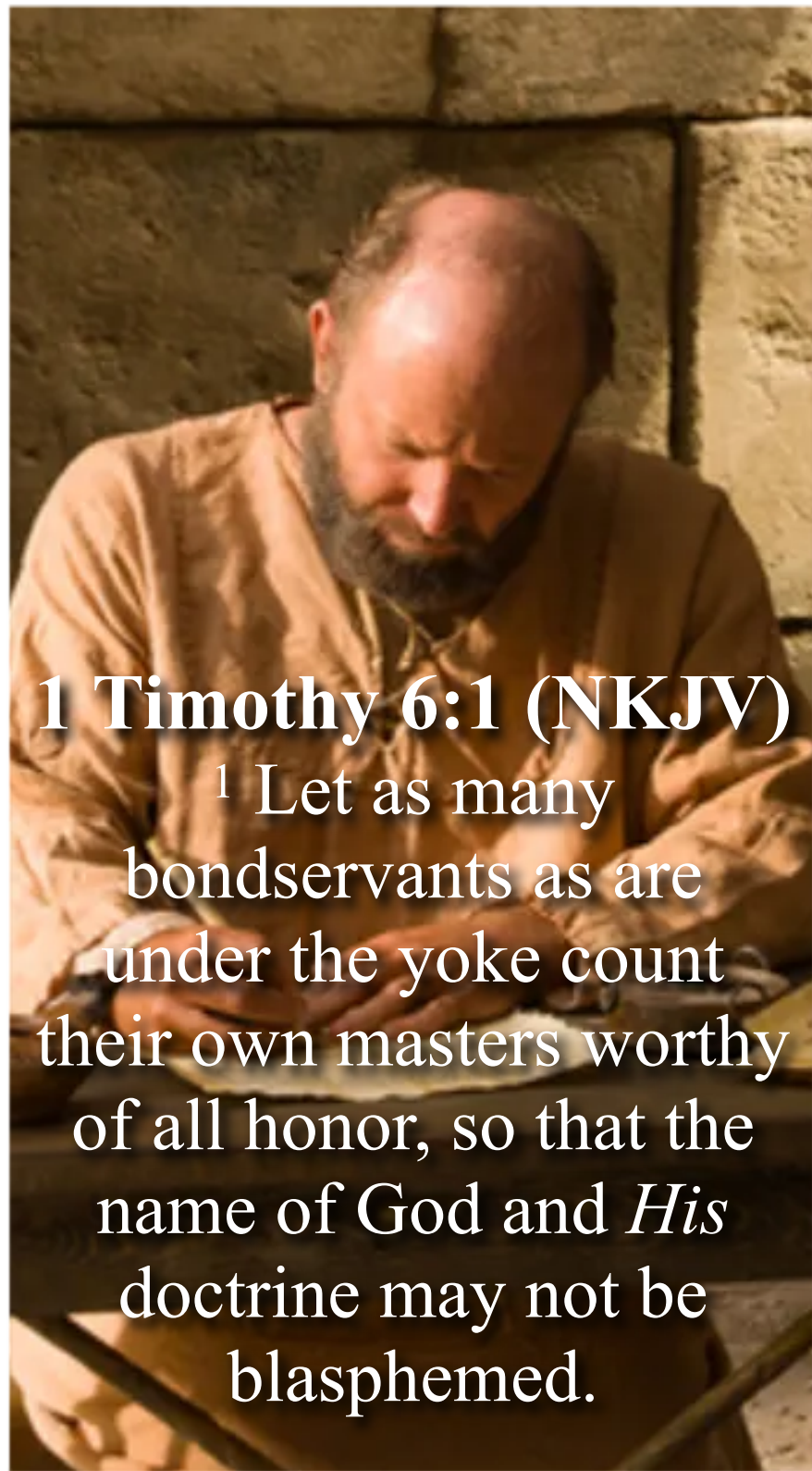
## ■ CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)

- ▶ The very grounds of the gospel of Christ stands opposed to slavery, but as this passage and others demonstrate, changing the cultural norm was a to occur over time by changing hearts, not through revolt or violence.
- ▶ Christian masters also had a special obligation to their slaves, whether Christians or not (cf. 1 Cor. 7:21; Eph. 6:5-9; 1 Pet. 2:18).
- ▶ The attitude of Christ was to be displayed by both classes.



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(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



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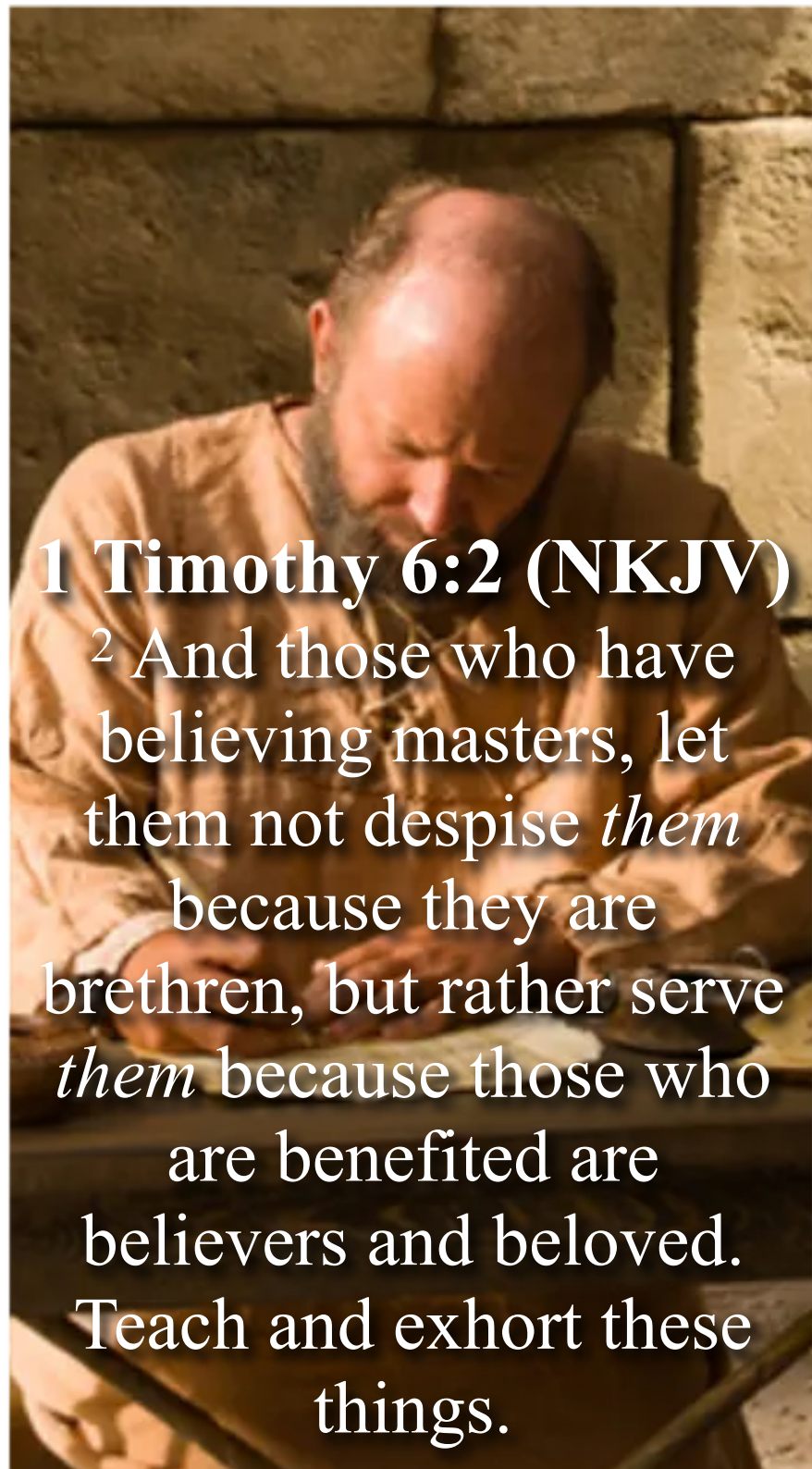
## **CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)**

- ▶ **“So that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed”** : (blasphemeō) means “to speak reproachfully, to revile, rail at, calumniate” (Wuest). (cf. 2 Sam. 12:14; Rom. 2:24).
- We must not give occasion for people to find a cause to speak against Christ and the Gospel (1 Timothy 5:7,14).
  - The gospel is about changing hearts, not forcefully reshaping society.



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(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



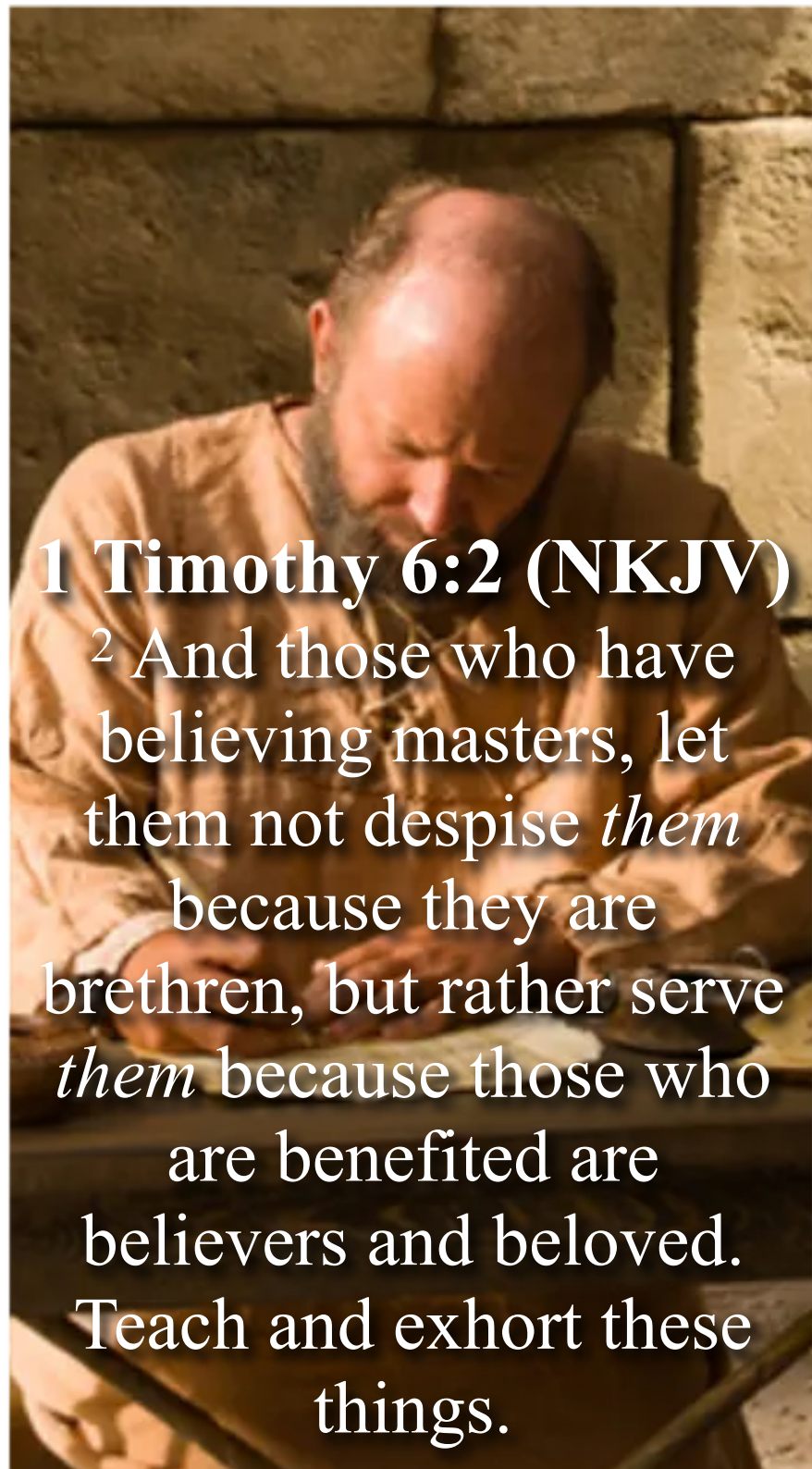
## ■ CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)

- ▶ “And those who have believing **masters**” : Some masters were Christians, (Philemon; cf. 1 Cor. 7:21; Eph. 6:5-9; 1 Pet. 2:18)).
  - Such a situation would be more like the modern day employer / employee relationship.
- ▶ “**let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them**” : The fact that his master is a Christian would not relieve him of his duty, and should inspire even better service.



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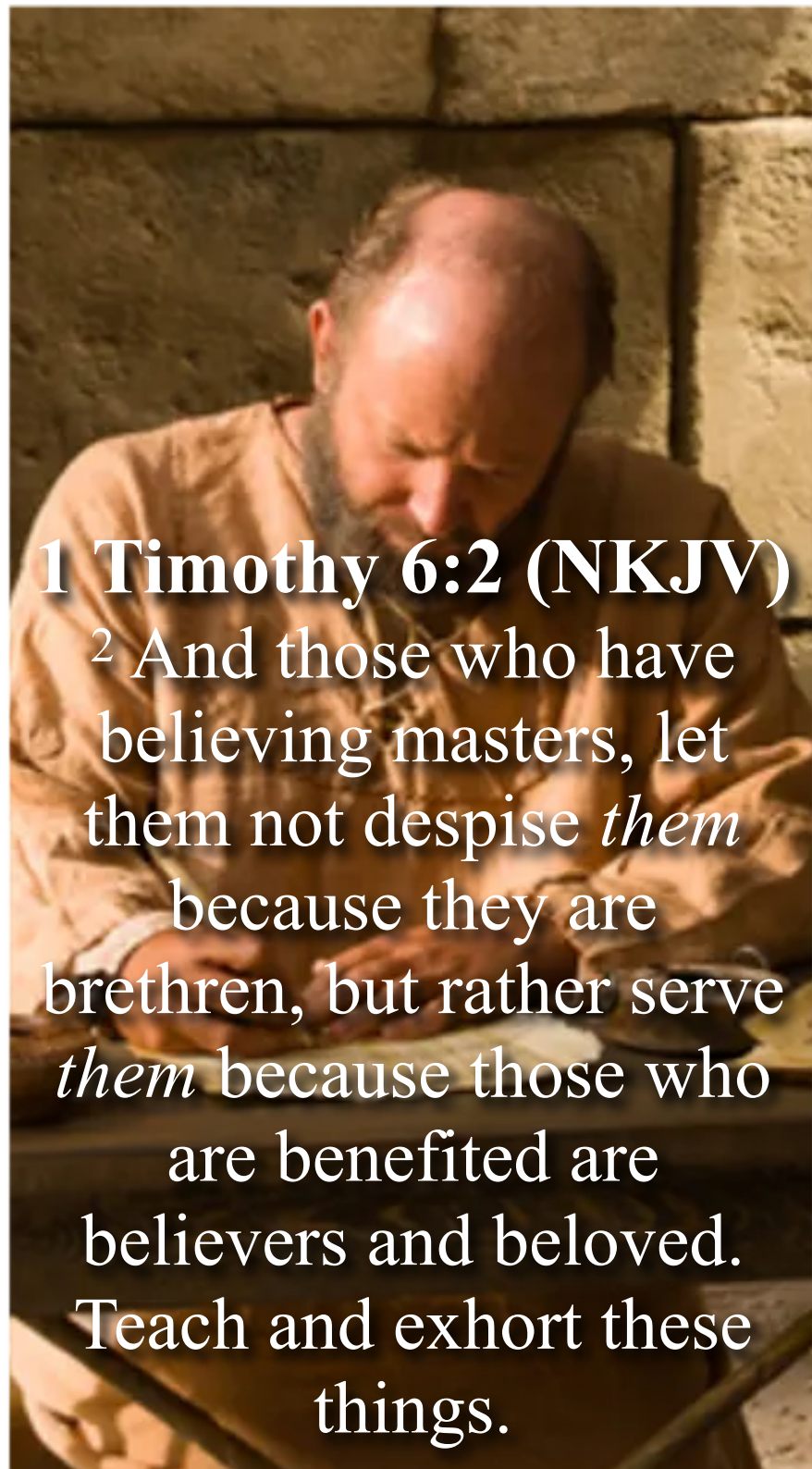
▶ “because those who are benefited are believers and beloved.” : The slave needs to be reminded that God sees his Christian master as “faithful”, that is a believer.

- In addition, such a master is beloved by God and should be beloved by the servant.
- The Christian slave needs to remember the person benefiting from his labor is a fellow Christian! Such service would likewise be beneficial to him.



# “Godliness **NOT** A Means To Earthly Gain”

(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



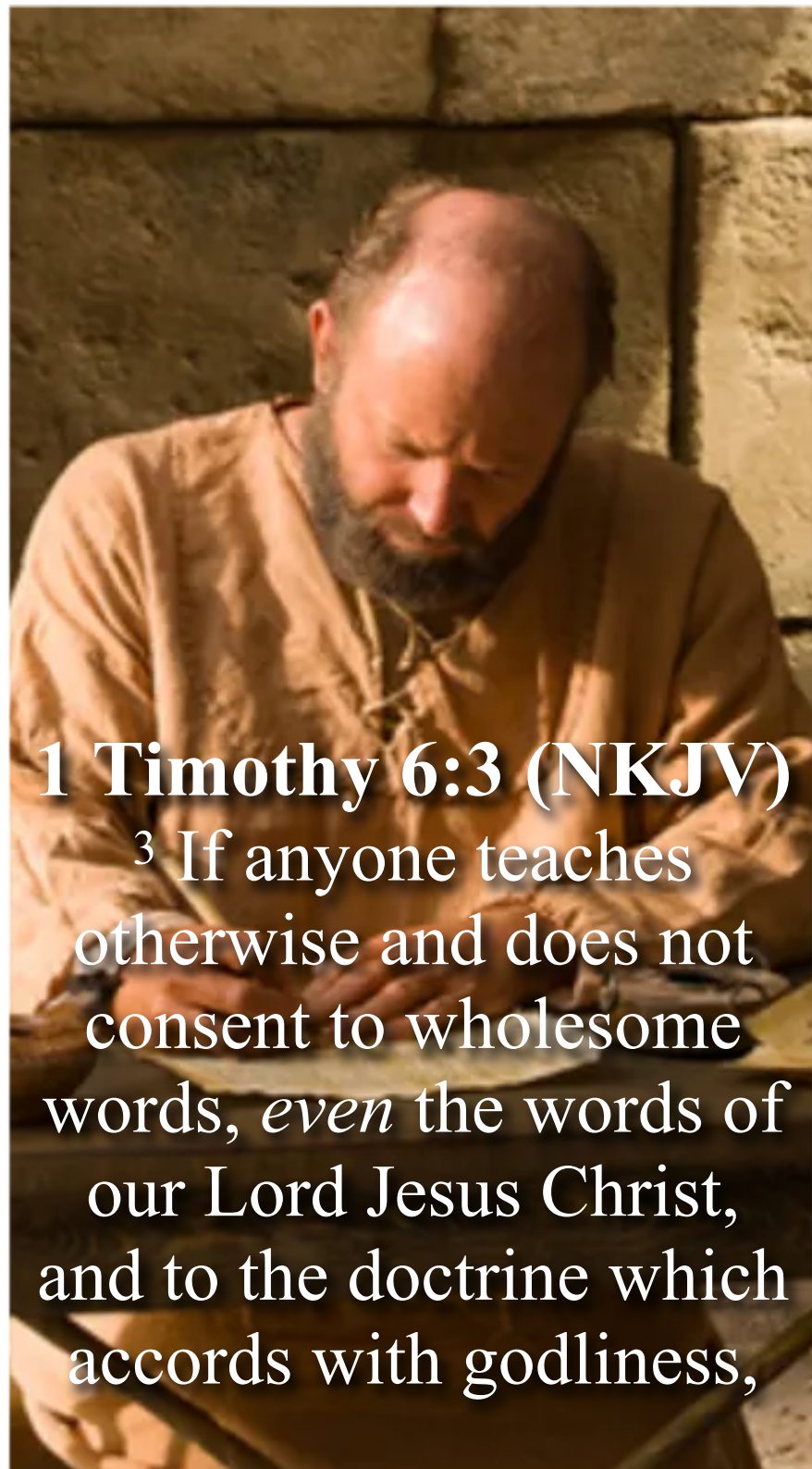
## ■ CONDUCT OF SERVANTS (6:1-2)

- ▶ “**Teach and exhort these things.**” : Timothy is to faithfully teach the truth in contrast to those who will not (cf. 4:11 & 5:7).
- No doubt some slaves would not like this teaching (6:1-2), Timothy must still teach it.
  - This is an obvious contrast with the next verse - There would be false teachers who would readily take advantage of the slaves proclivity to discontentment and desire for immediate freedom.



# **“Godliness NOT A Means To Earthly Gain”**

(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



## **1 Timothy 6:3 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness,

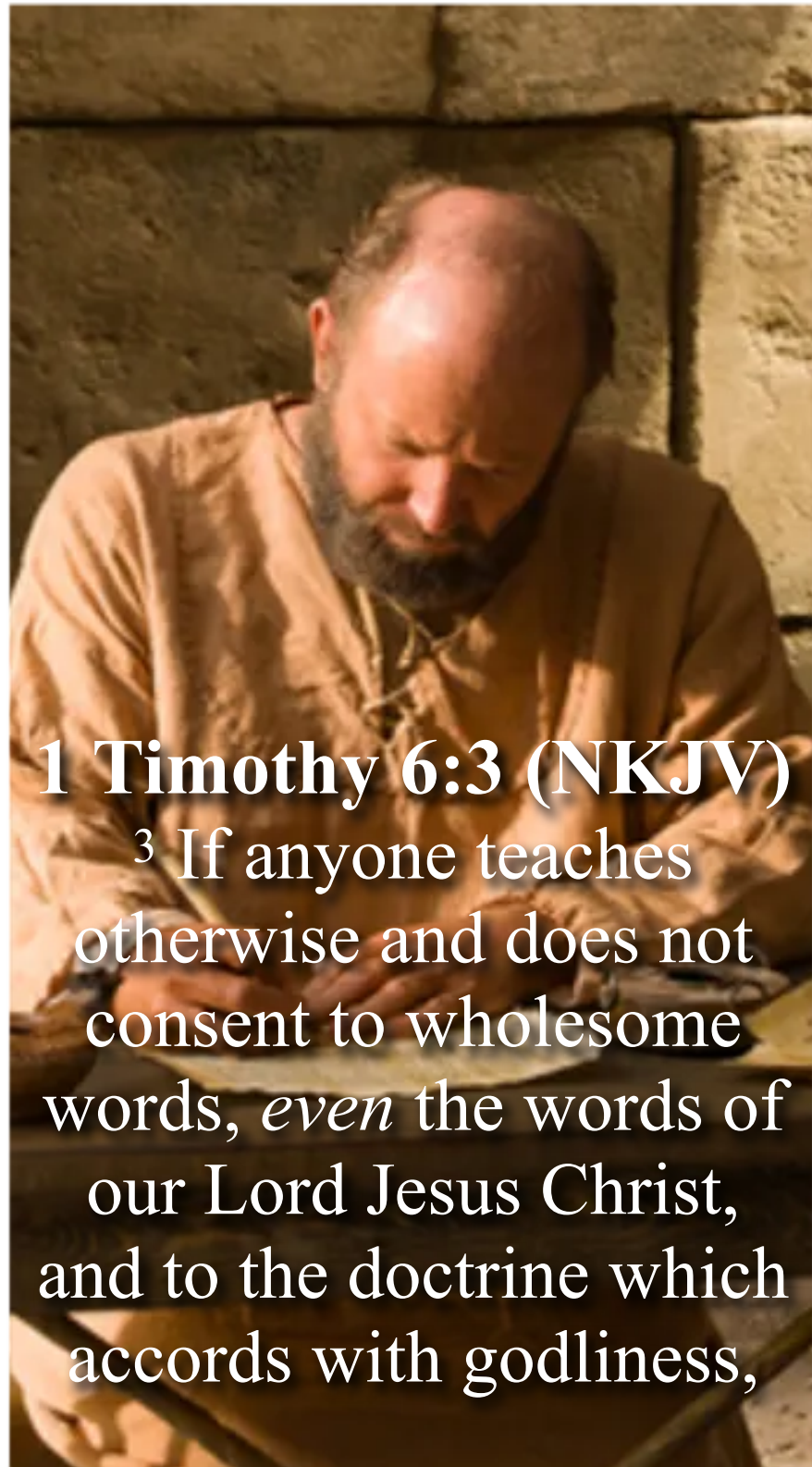
## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ **“If anyone teaches otherwise.” :**  
The specific reference is regarding the conduct of slaves, but the principle can be applied to any teaching of Christ.
- Timothy was left at Ephesus and charged to see that “no other doctrine” was taught (1:3).
- The Spirit “expressly” foretold of departures “from the faith” and “doctrines of devils” (4:1ff; cf. Ro. 16:17. Ga. 1:6, 7)



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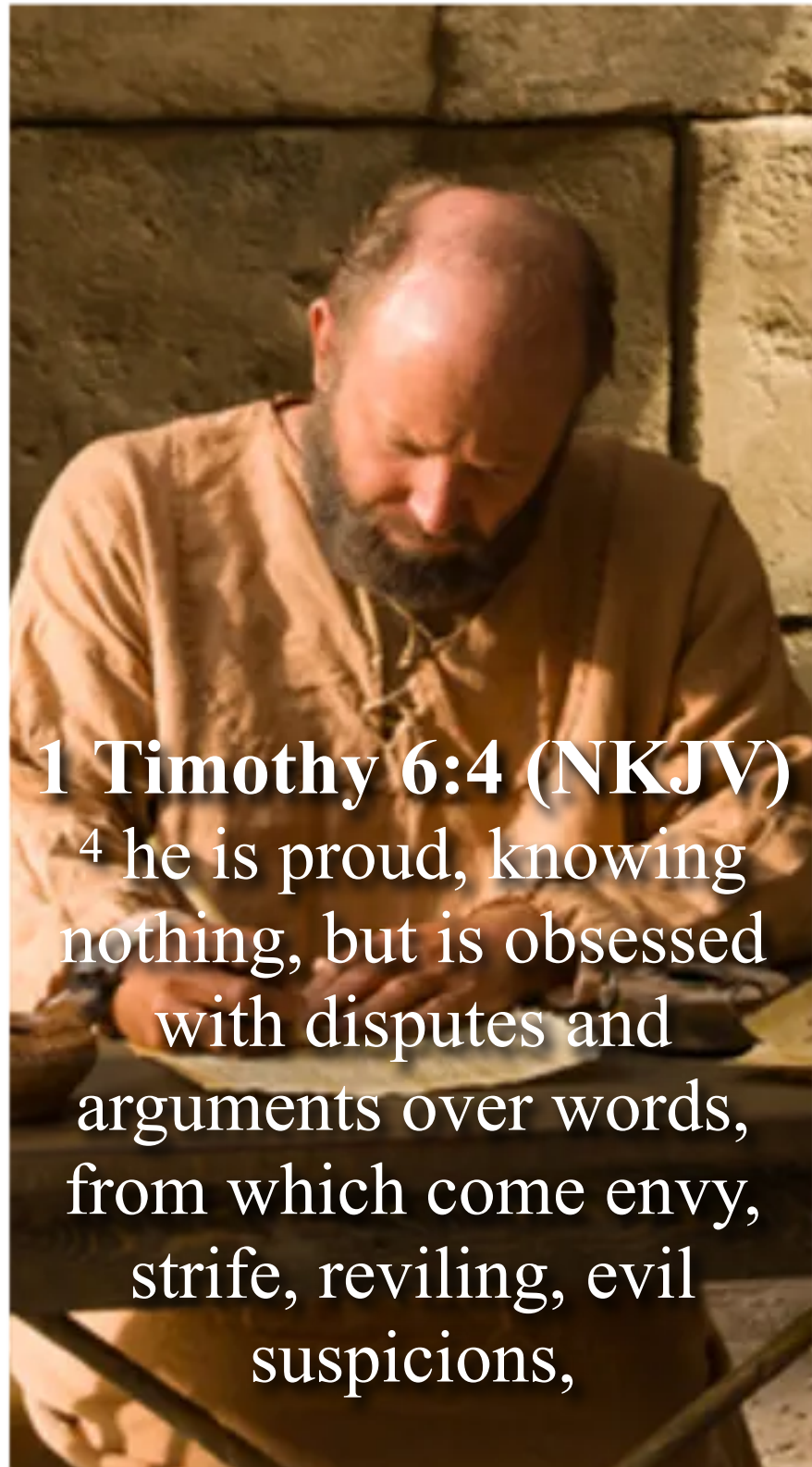
## ■ **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ “**and does not consent**” : Three things in this verse that identify sound doctrine :
- **Wholesome** words, (sound, healthy; beneficial)
  - Even the **words of our Lord** Jesus Christ, (The source / authority)
  - The doctrine which **accords with godliness**, (Those who reverence God and truly serve Him will only teach that which engenders respect and obedience to God)



# **“Godliness NOT A Means To Earthly Gain”**

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## **1 Timothy 6:4 (NKJV)**

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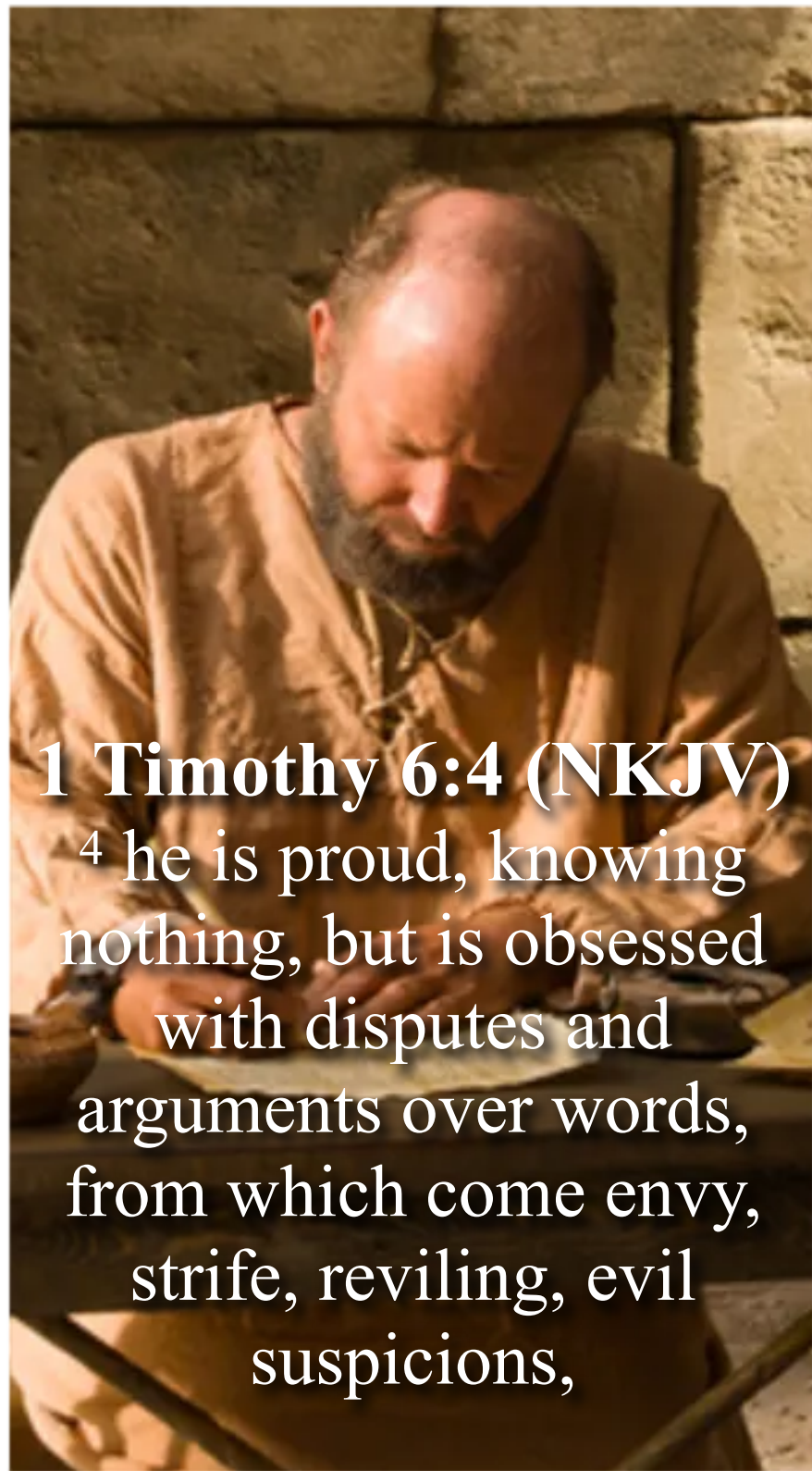
## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ **“he is proud, knowing nothing”** : Puffed up, that is blinded by pride, literally the term here means to “wrap in smoke” (ch. 1:7; 3:6. Pr. 25:14; 26:12; Ro. 12:16; 1 Co. 3:18; 8:1, 2; Ga. 6:3; Col. 2:18; 2 Th. 2:4; 2 Ti. 3:4; 2 Pe. 2:12, 18; Jude 10, 16)
- Thinks he is smart, but Paul says he is ignorant (1:4-7; 6:5, 20).
- Ever learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth (2 Tim. 3:7)



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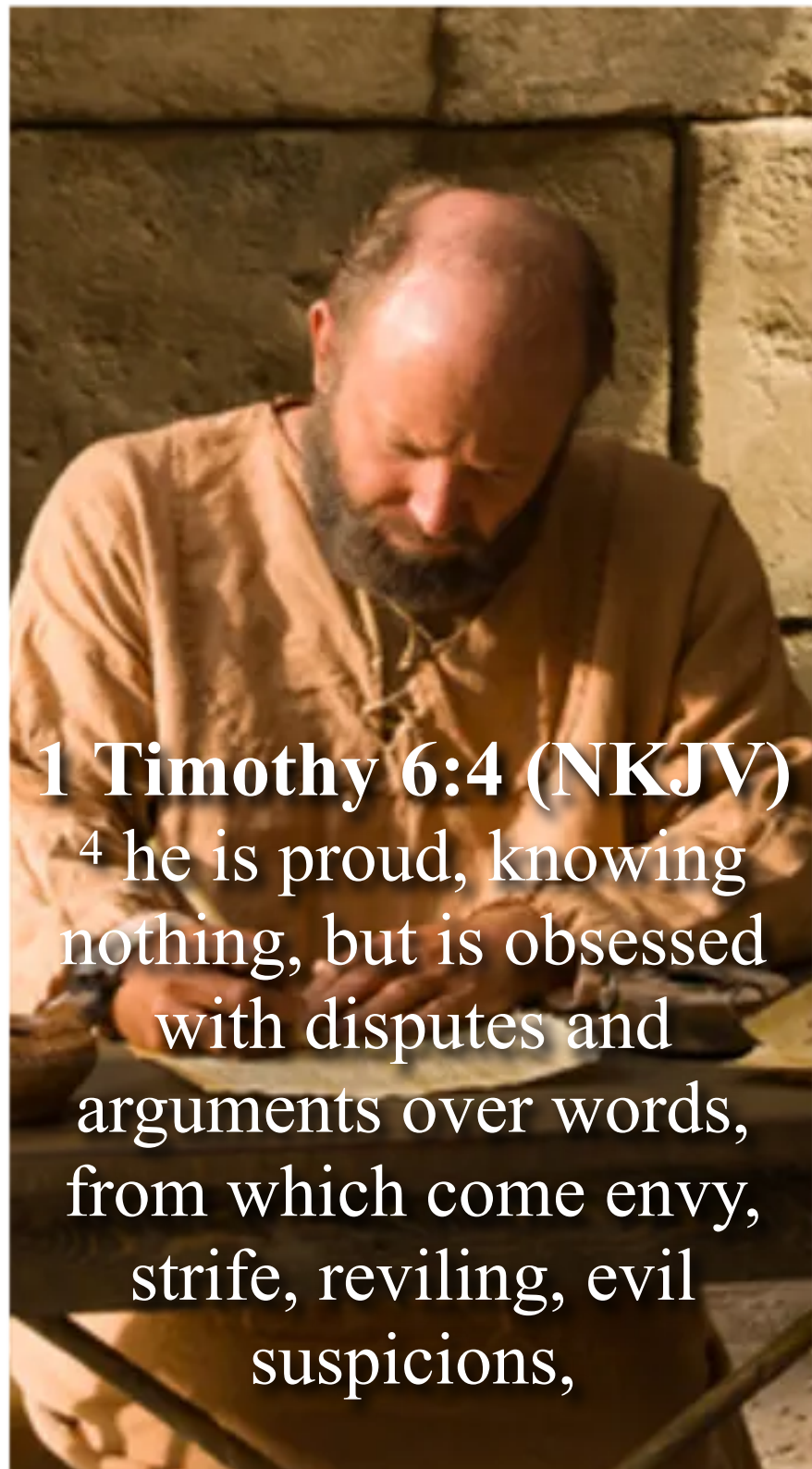
## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ **“but is obsessed with”** : See is “SICK” with ... in contrast to “wholesome.”
- His questions pertain to matters of no profit, and his strifes of words (logomachia - ‘a war of words’) is equally a waste of time. Jewish teachers were especially given to such (cf. 1 Tim. 1:4; Acts 18:15).
- These men are not trying to discover the truth, rather they seek conceal the truth (6:5)



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- ▶ **“but is obsessed with”** : See is “SICK” with ... in contrast to “wholesome.”
- Paul is not condemning the discussion of Biblical truths that are “controversial” with unbelievers, for Jesus and the apostles were often in the thick of controversy (Acts 15:2; 17:1-2; Matthew 22). In fact, Jesus got involved in answering questions that were controversial (John 4:19ff; Matthew 19:3ff)



# “Godliness **NOT** A Means To Earthly Gain”

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## ■ WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)

- “**from which come ...**” : Paul summarizes the results of such teaching
- **envy** : Amongst themselves
  - **strife** : Contention, bitter discord. not a division produced by the truth (Mat 10:34).
  - **reviling** : Slander, name calling
  - **evil suspicions** : Timothy will find that false teachers will accuse him of all sorts of horrible things.



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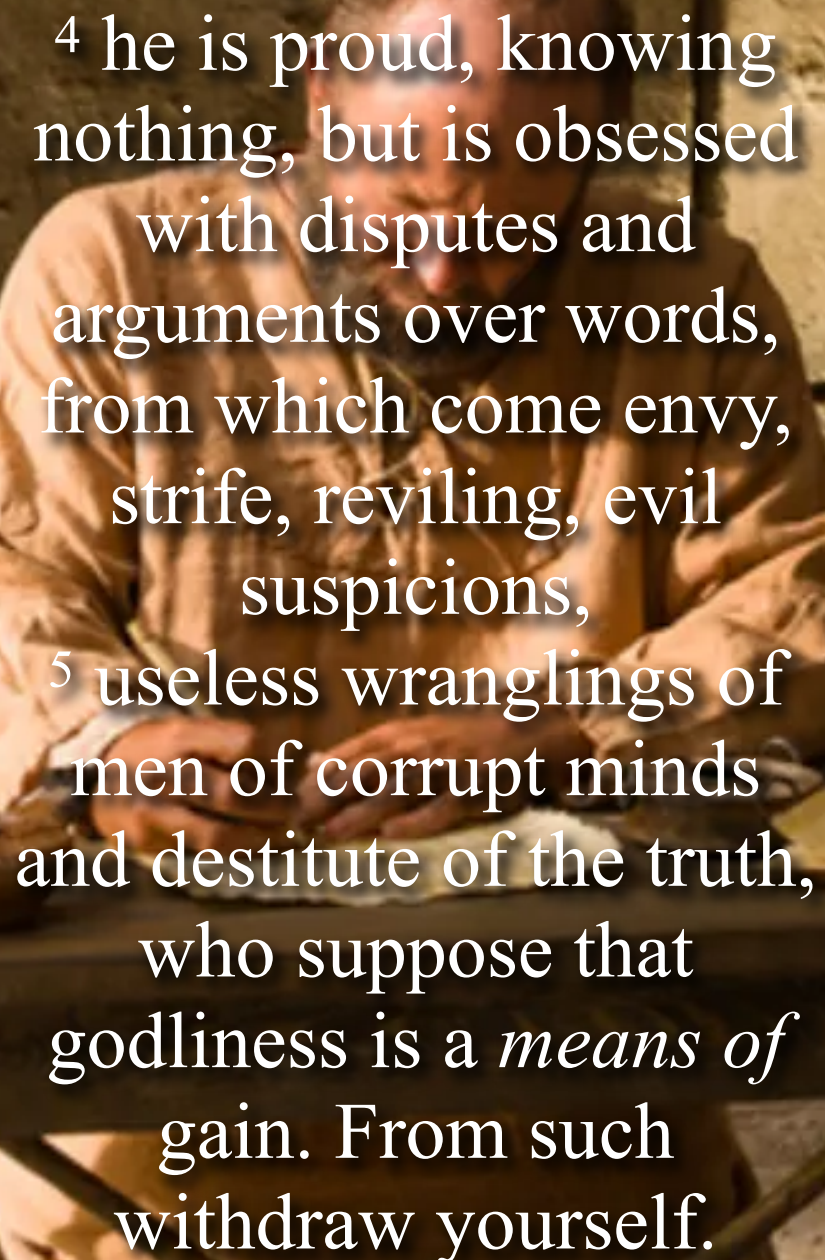
- ▶ “from which come ...” : Paul summarizes the results of such teaching
- **useless wranglings** : Constant strife, mutual irritations ...
  - **men of corrupt minds** : a consequence of rejecting the truth (Rom 1:28; Eph 4:17; 2 Tim 3:8; Titus 1:15)
  - **destitute of the truth** : implication may be they once possessed the truth (1:19; Titus 1:14).



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## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ **“who suppose that godliness is a means of gain”** : Unfortunately, there have been false teachers since, even as there are false teachers today, who suppose that their gain is evidence of God’s approval, and who use their religion as a means of prosperity.
- Thus, they make merchandise of their subjects (cf. 2 Pet. 2:3) like modern day TV evangelists and mega church “pastors.”



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## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE & FALSE TEACHERS (6:3-5)**

- ▶ **“From such withdraw yourself.” :**
- Some texts omit these words. Some think this instruction is too obvious to be denied, hence, the words were added to complete the thought.
  - Lenski says, “Paul does not need to say what Timothy and churches are to do after he has said what these false teachers are.” (Rom. 16:17)



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(1 Timothy 6:1–5)



## **FAILURE TO**

RESPECT ONE ANOTHER,

EXHORT ONE ANOTHER,

HONOR AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

FULFILL ONE'S INDIVIDUAL  
OBLIGATIONS

DEAL FAIRLY & JUSTLY

**IS a FAILURE TO  
RESPECT AND  
HONOR CHRIST!**







# THE BOOK OF 1 TIMOTHY

**“Godliness NOT To Be Used As A  
Means To Earthly Gain”**  
(1 Timothy 6:1-5)

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## **2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: <sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, <sup>4</sup> traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!