



ACTS 29 | A diverse, global family of church-planting churches



800

TOTAL
CHURCHES



627

TOTAL
MEMBERS



173

TOTAL
CANDIDATES



312

TOTAL
APPLICANTS

STATS ACCURATE TO JUNE 30 2019

52

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED BY ACTS 29 CHURCHES

Albania, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte D'Ivoire, Denmark, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Mexico, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Scotland, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States, Vietnam, Wales, Zambia, Zimbabwe

31

LANGUAGES IN WHICH ACTS 29 SERVICES ARE HELD

American Sign Language, Afrikaans, Albanian, English, Burmese, Chichewa, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Lingala, Luganda, Mandarin, Nepalese, Polish, Portuguese, Pedi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Slovak, Swahili, Tagalog, Telugu, Thai, Tsonga, Turkish, Urdu, Zulu.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 2018:

NEW COUNTRIES

Albania, Colombia, Côte D'Ivoire, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, Zimbabwe.

NEW LANGUAGES

Albanian, Nepalese, Pedi, Russian, Tagalog, Zulu.



335 OF OUR CHURCHES

HAVE ACTIVE PLANS IN PLACE TO PLANT



\$26.7 MILLION
PLEGGED

TO CHURCH PLANTING BY ACTS 29 CHURCHES

IN 2019

NUMBERS BY NETWORK

NETWORK	MEMBERS	CANDIDATES	APPLICANTS
Australia & New Zealand	23	8	12
Canada	15	7	3
Emerging Regions	23	10	47
Europe	55	28	42
Latin America	30	21	74
Southern Africa	11	8	14
US Midwest	76	11	21
US North Atlantic	86	11	26
US South Central	101	24	20
US Southeast	90	26	36
US West	117	19	17

COLLABORATIVES

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR COLLABORATIVES:

[CHURCH IN HARD PLACES →](#)

[RURAL COLLECTIVE →](#)

[ISLAM COLLABORATIVE →](#)



A pair of hands is shown holding a string of warm white lights. The background is a bokeh of similar lights, creating a soft, glowing effect. The overall color palette transitions from dark blue on the left to a bright cyan on the right.

1000 *in for* 1000

acts29.com/1000



ECCLESIASTES

MAKING SENSE OF A COMPLEX WORLD



OBSERVATION
What does it say?

INTERPRETATION
What does it mean?

APPLICATION
What does it matter?

OBSERVATION

What does it say?

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil.

(2:24)

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

The key to happiness is contentment with the good gifts God has given us.



APPLICATION

What does it matter?

Be content to enjoy God's good gifts, tracing them to the Giver Himself.



OBSERVATION

What does it say?

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil.

(2:24)

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil.

(2:24)

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

The key to happiness is contentment with the good gifts God has given us.



The best we can hope for is that God might give us good things and the power to enjoy them so that we might be distracted from the vanity of life under the sun.



APPLICATION

What does it matter?

Be content to enjoy God's good gifts, tracing them to the Giver Himself.



Praise be to God that He's not the great Giver of distractions but rather the great Giver of Himself in Jesus Christ. In Him, we can learn the secret of contentment in any situation, doing it all to the glory of God.





OBSERVATION
What does it say?

INTERPRETATION
What does it mean?

APPLICATION
What does it matter?

OBSERVATION

What does it say?

God is the
one you must fear.

(5:7)

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

The key to happiness
is a Proverbs-like
fear of the LORD —
reverence, love,
and humility leading
to obedience.



APPLICATION

What does it matter?

Bend your knee in
glad submission
to the one true King.



OBSERVATION

What does it say?

God is the
one you must fear.

(5:7)

God is the
one you must fear.

(5:7)

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

The key to happiness
is a Proverbs-like
fear of the LORD —
reverence, love,
and humility leading
to obedience.



Watch your step.
God is distant
and unpredictable.
You never know
what he might do.



APPLICATION

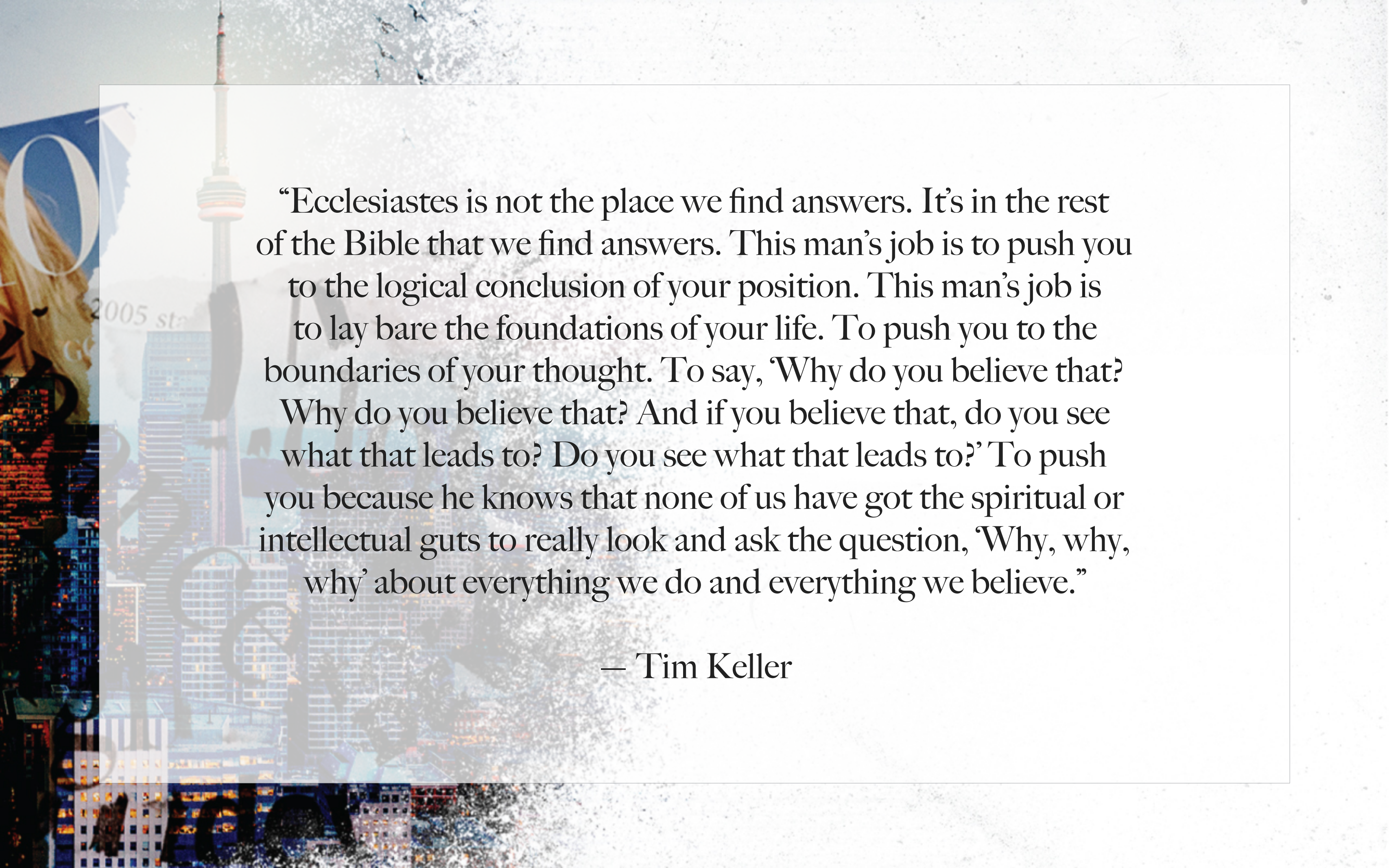
What does it matter?

Bend your knee in
glad submission
to the one true King.



Praise be to God that we can
confidently draw near to Him
by grace through faith in the
finished priestly work of Jesus.
It's that kind of grace that fans
into flame true fear of the
LORD — reverence, love, and
humility leading to obedience.





“Ecclesiastes is not the place we find answers. It’s in the rest of the Bible that we find answers. This man’s job is to push you to the logical conclusion of your position. This man’s job is to lay bare the foundations of your life. To push you to the boundaries of your thought. To say, ‘Why do you believe that? Why do you believe that? And if you believe that, do you see what that leads to? Do you see what that leads to?’ To push you because he knows that none of us have got the spiritual or intellectual guts to really look and ask the question, ‘Why, why, why’ about everything we do and everything we believe.”

— Tim Keller



IN THE HAND OF GOD

Ecclesiastes 8:1-9:12




Who is like the wise?

And who knows the interpretation of a thing?

A man's wisdom makes his face shine,
and the hardness of his face is changed.

— VS I

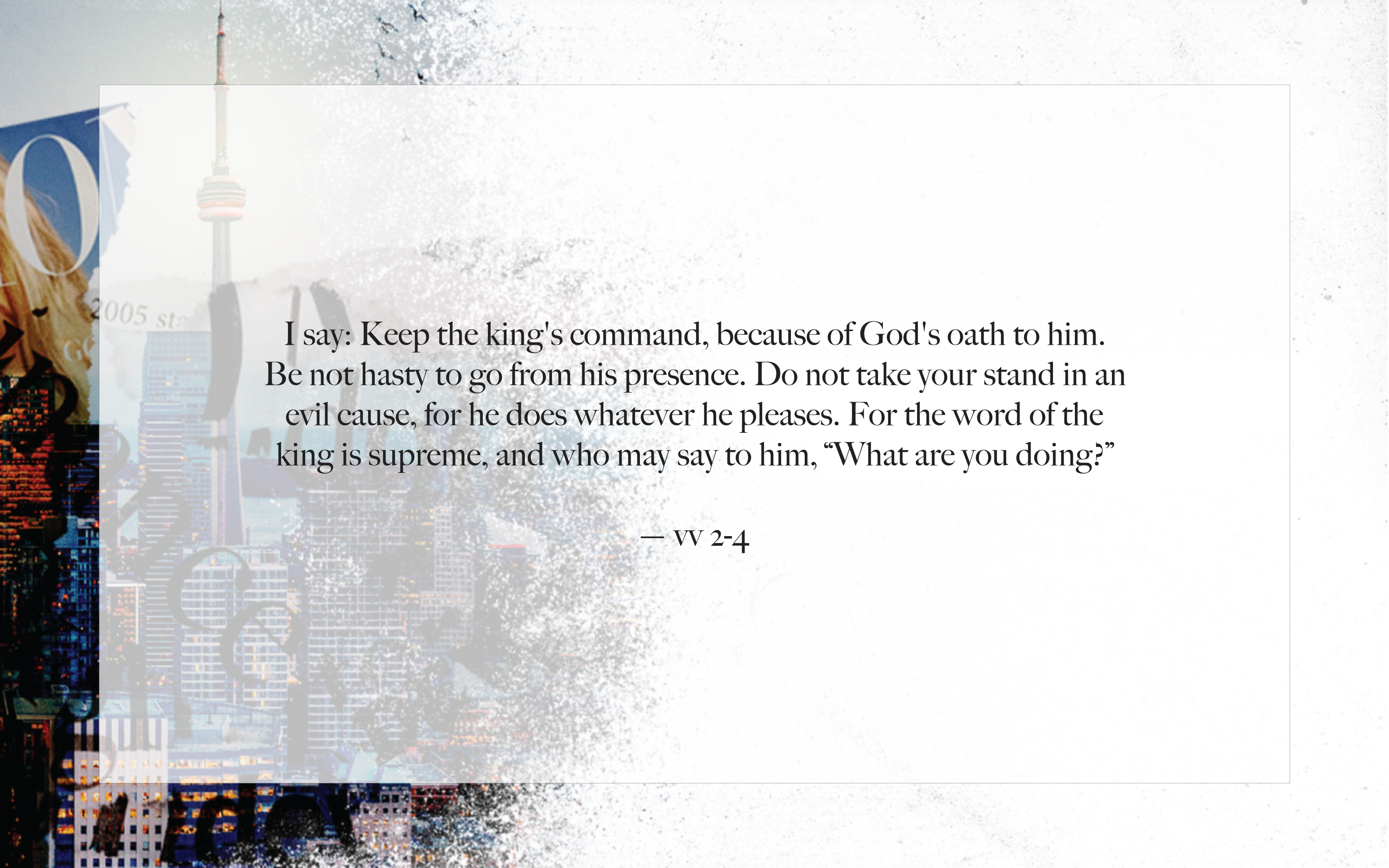


Who is like the **WISE**?
And who **KNOWS**
the interpretation of a thing?

— Ecclesiastes 8:1

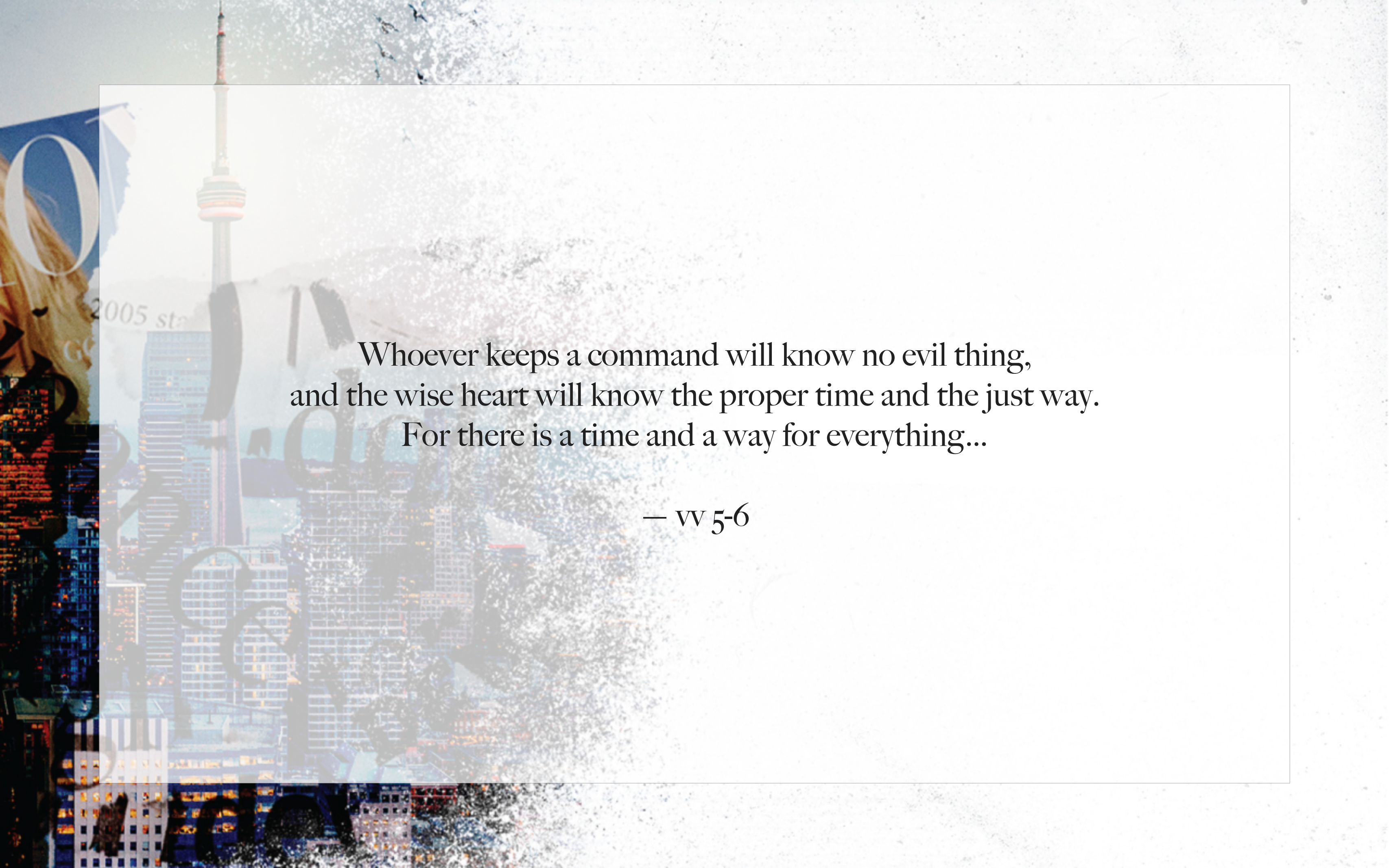
Even though a **WISE** man
claims to **KNOW**,
he cannot find it out.

— Ecclesiastes 8:17



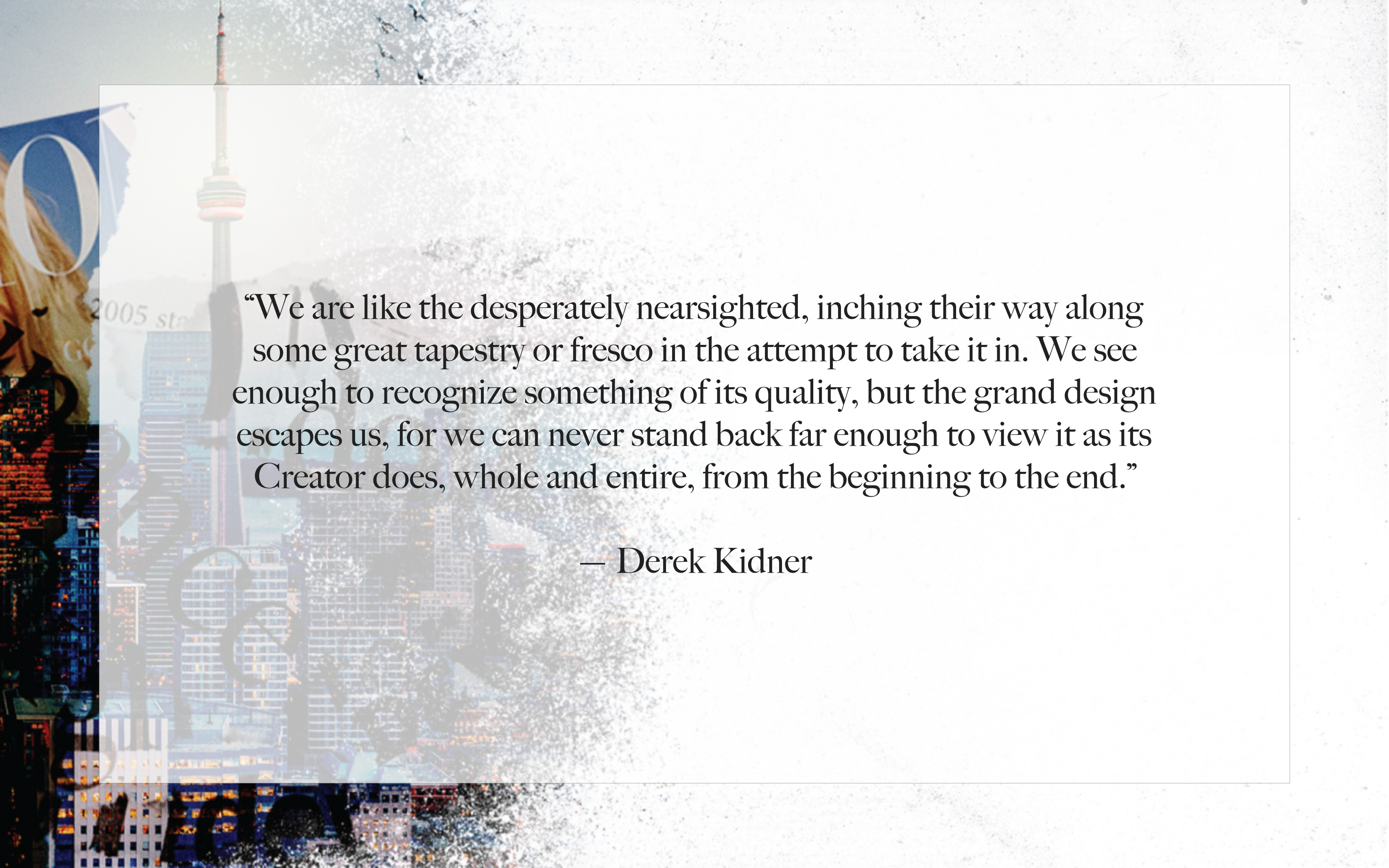
I say: Keep the king's command, because of God's oath to him. Be not hasty to go from his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil cause, for he does whatever he pleases. For the word of the king is supreme, and who may say to him, "What are you doing?"

— vv 2-4



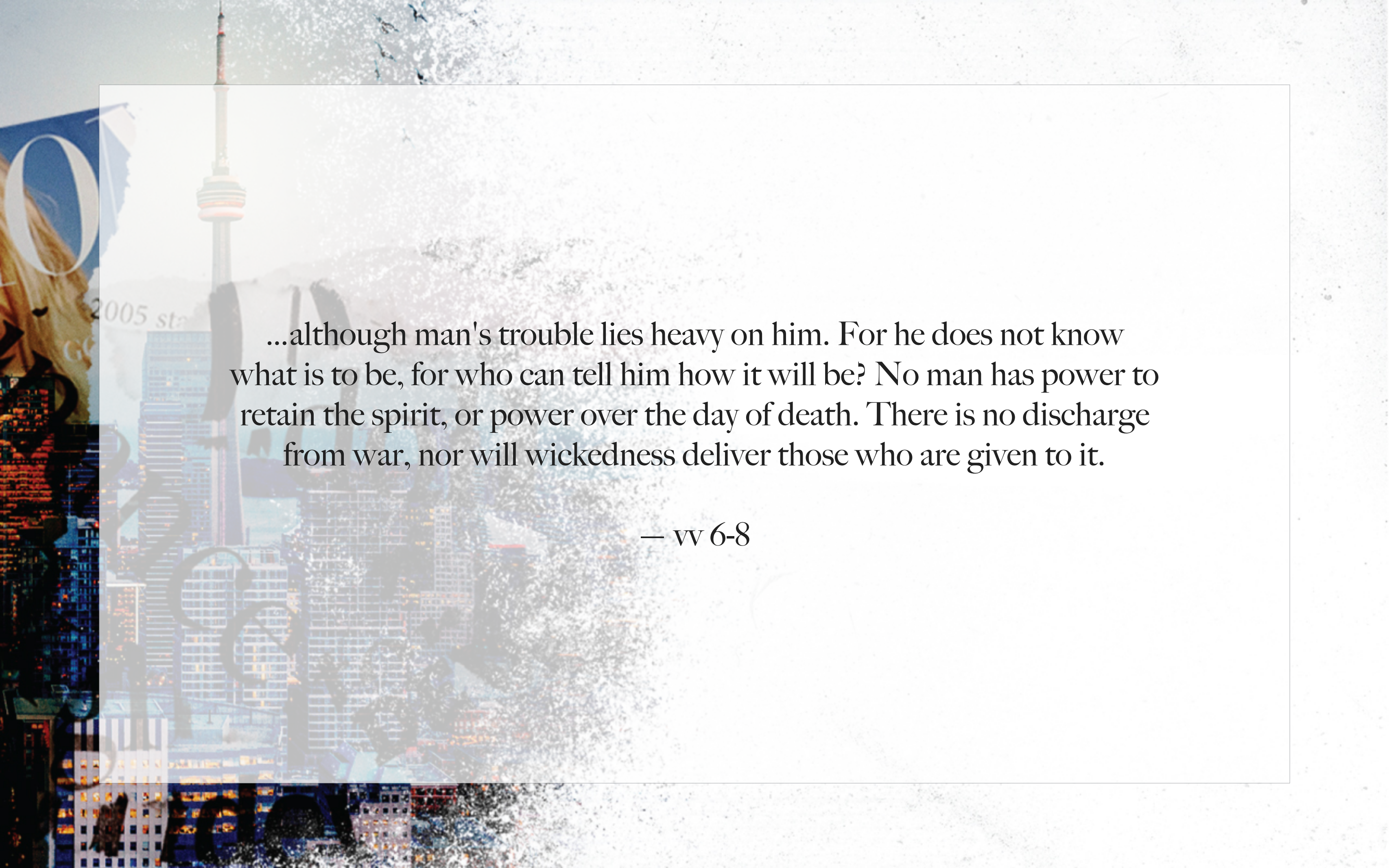
Whoever keeps a command will know no evil thing,
and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way.
For there is a time and a way for everything...

— vv 5-6



“We are like the desperately nearsighted, inching their way along some great tapestry or fresco in the attempt to take it in. We see enough to recognize something of its quality, but the grand design escapes us, for we can never stand back far enough to view it as its Creator does, whole and entire, from the beginning to the end.”

— Derek Kidner



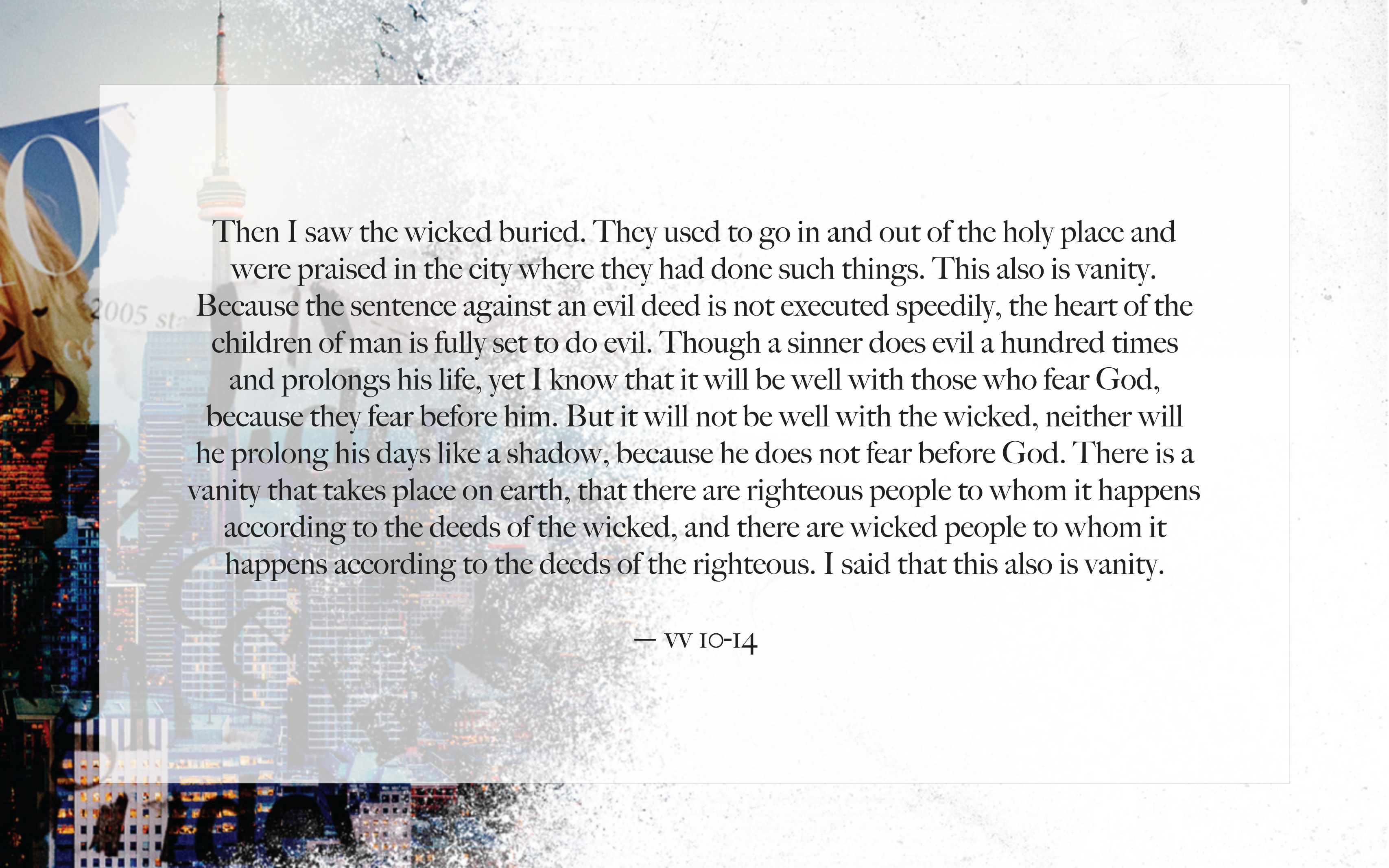
...although man's trouble lies heavy on him. For he does not know what is to be, for who can tell him how it will be? No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. There is no discharge from war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are given to it.

— vv 6-8



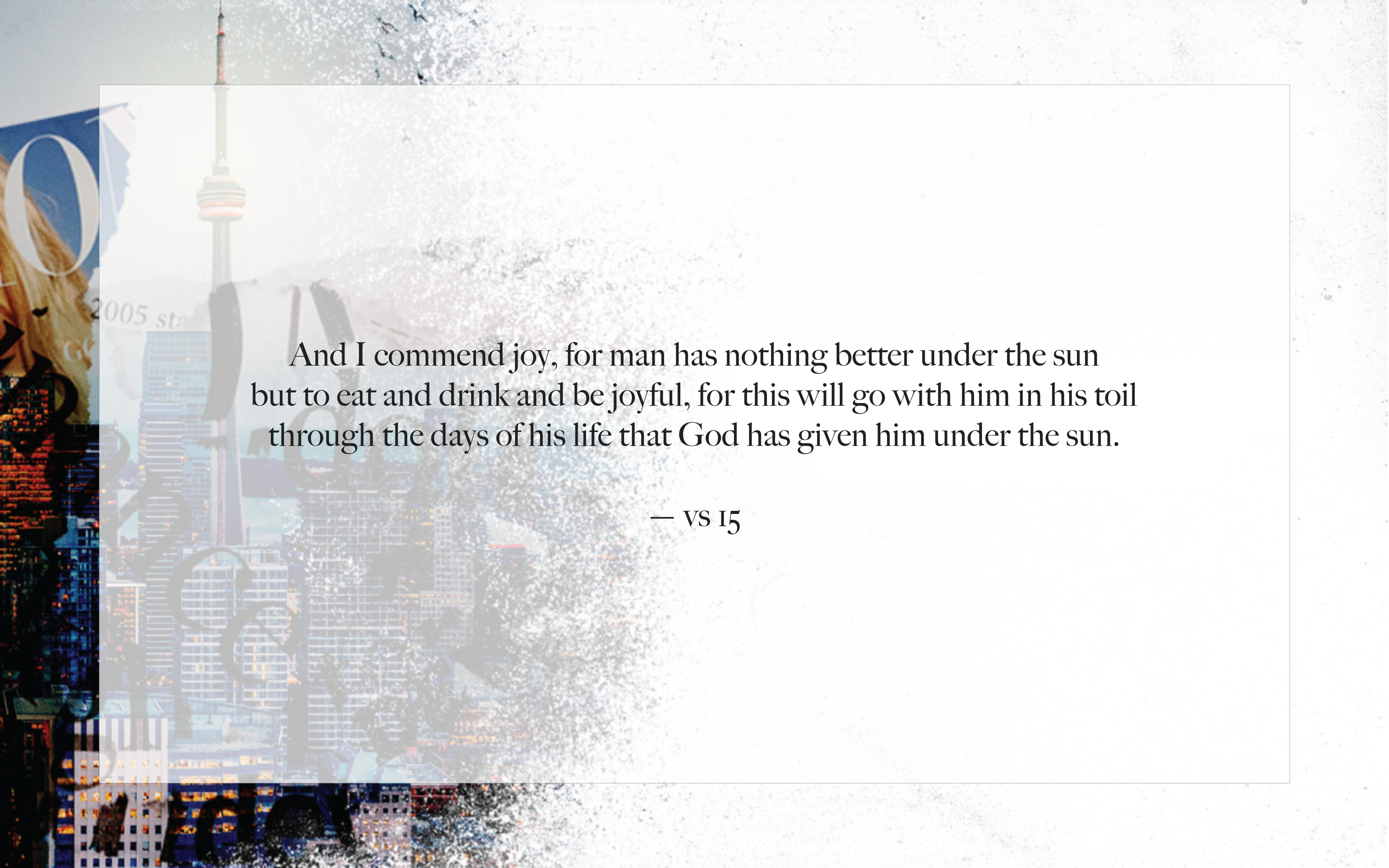
All this I observed while applying my heart to all that is
done under the sun, when man had power over man to his hurt.

— vs 9



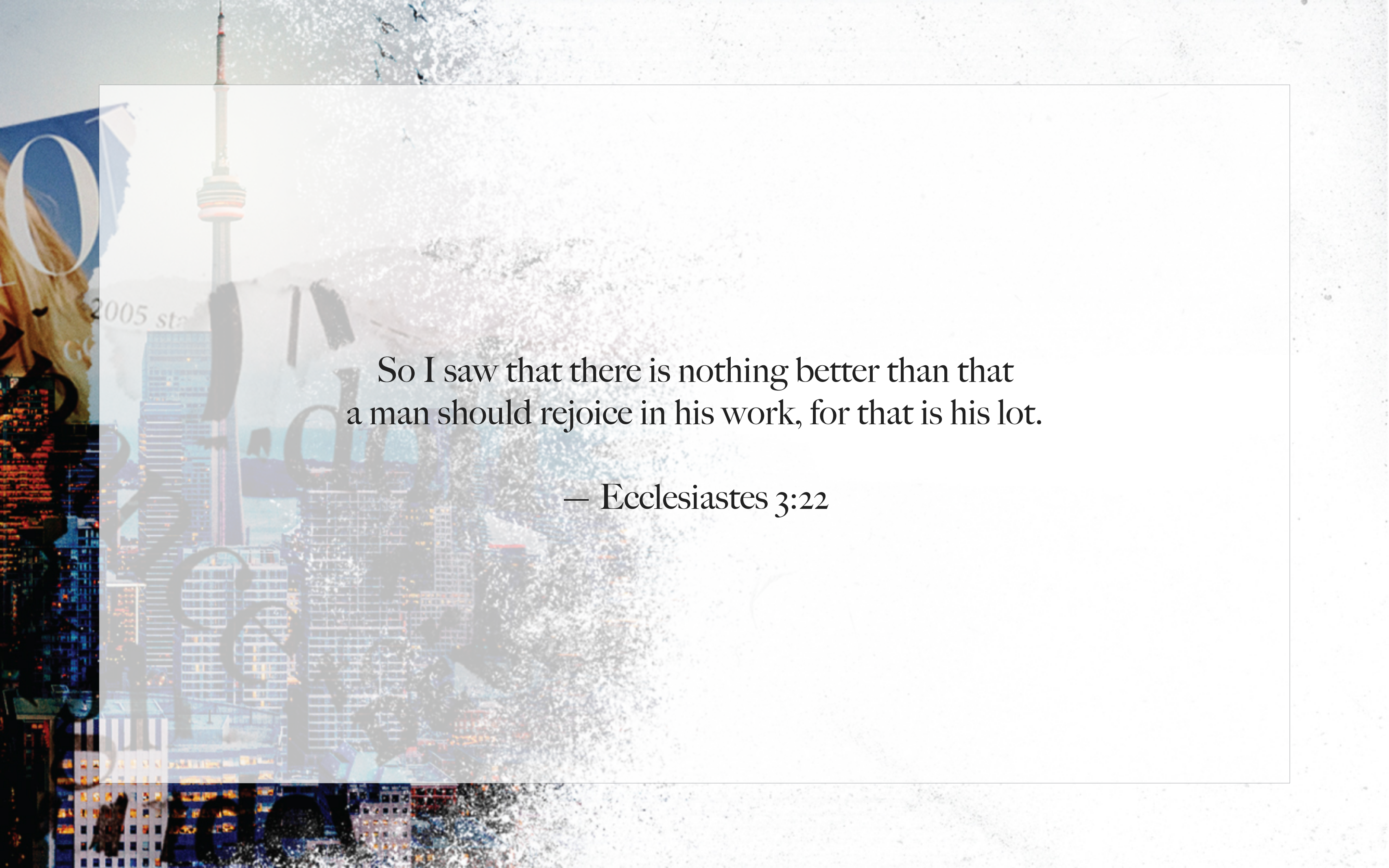
Then I saw the wicked buried. They used to go in and out of the holy place and were praised in the city where they had done such things. This also is vanity. Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil. Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him. But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God. There is a vanity that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the wicked, and there are wicked people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.

— VV 10-14



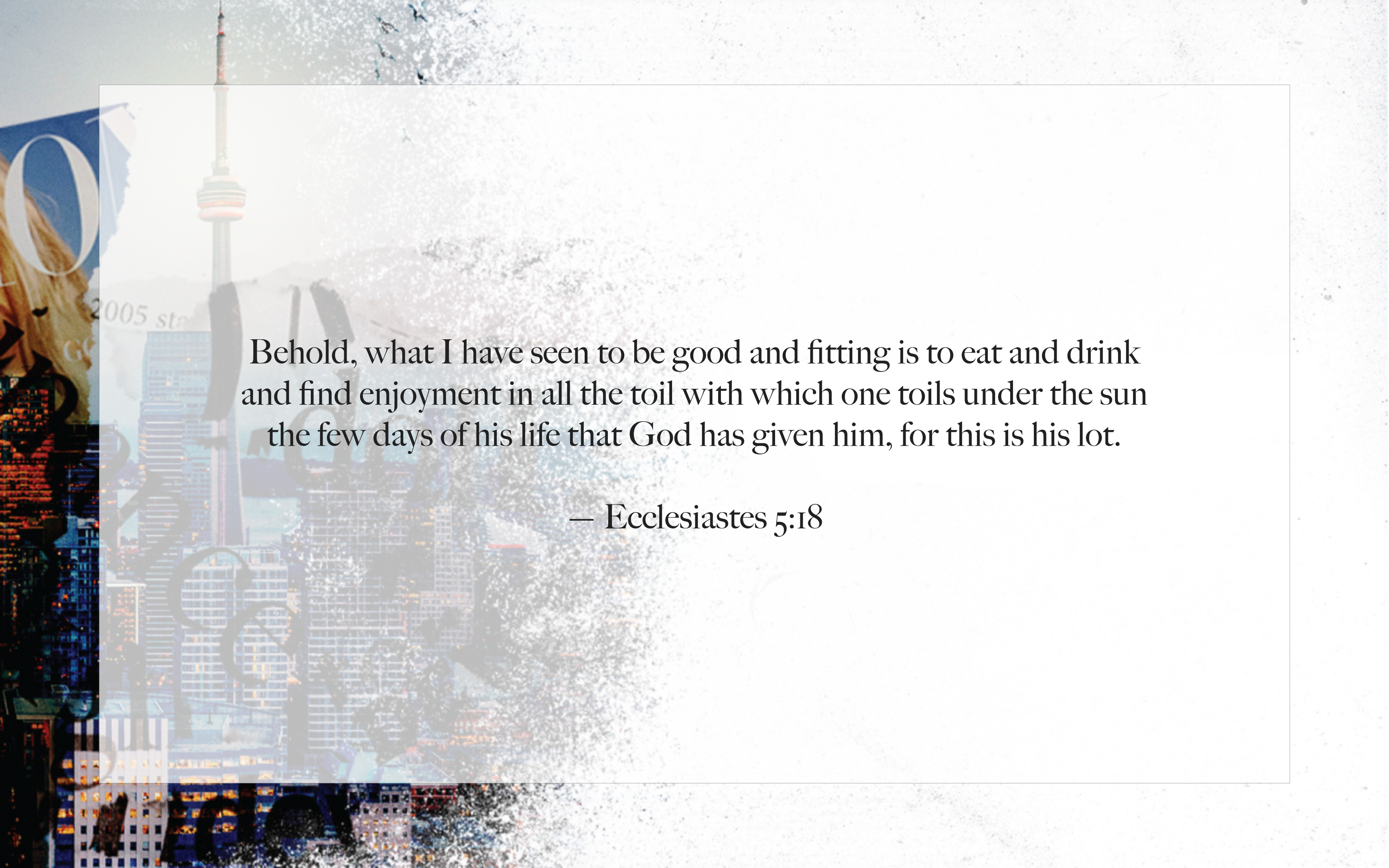
And I commend joy, for man has nothing better under the sun
but to eat and drink and be joyful, for this will go with him in his toil
through the days of his life that God has given him under the sun.

— VS 15



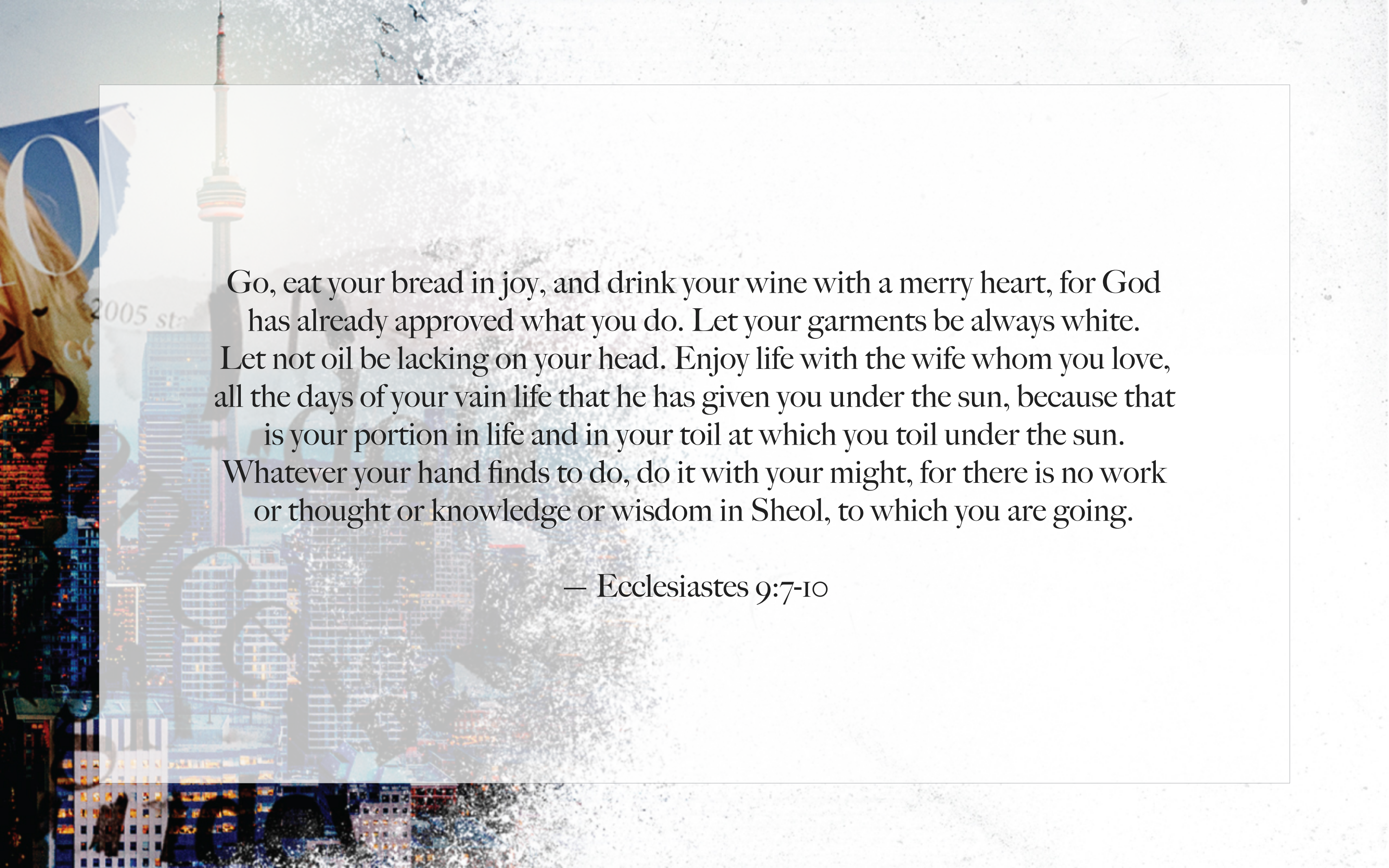
So I saw that there is nothing better than that
a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot.

— Ecclesiastes 3:22



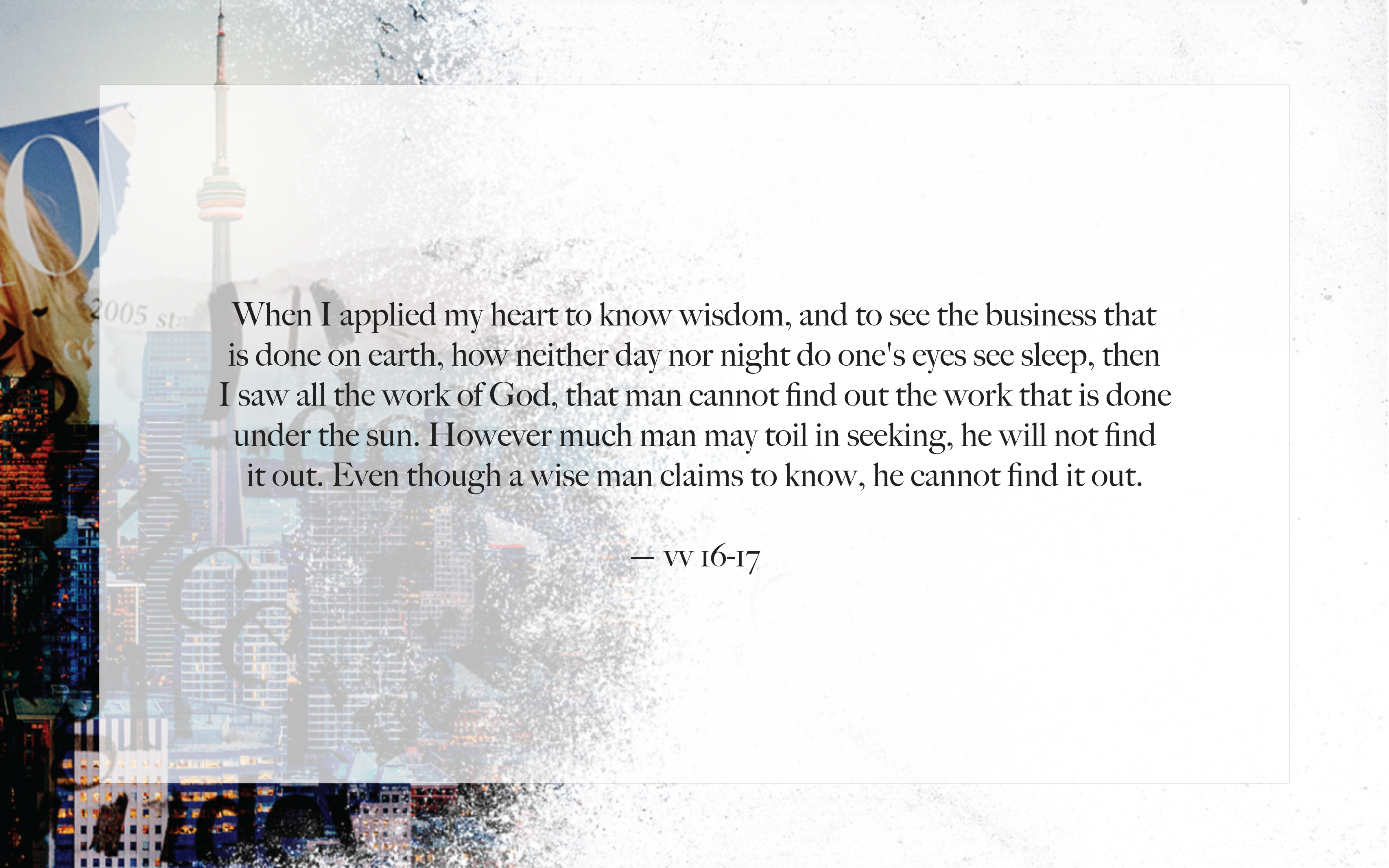
Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink
and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun
the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.

— Ecclesiastes 5:18



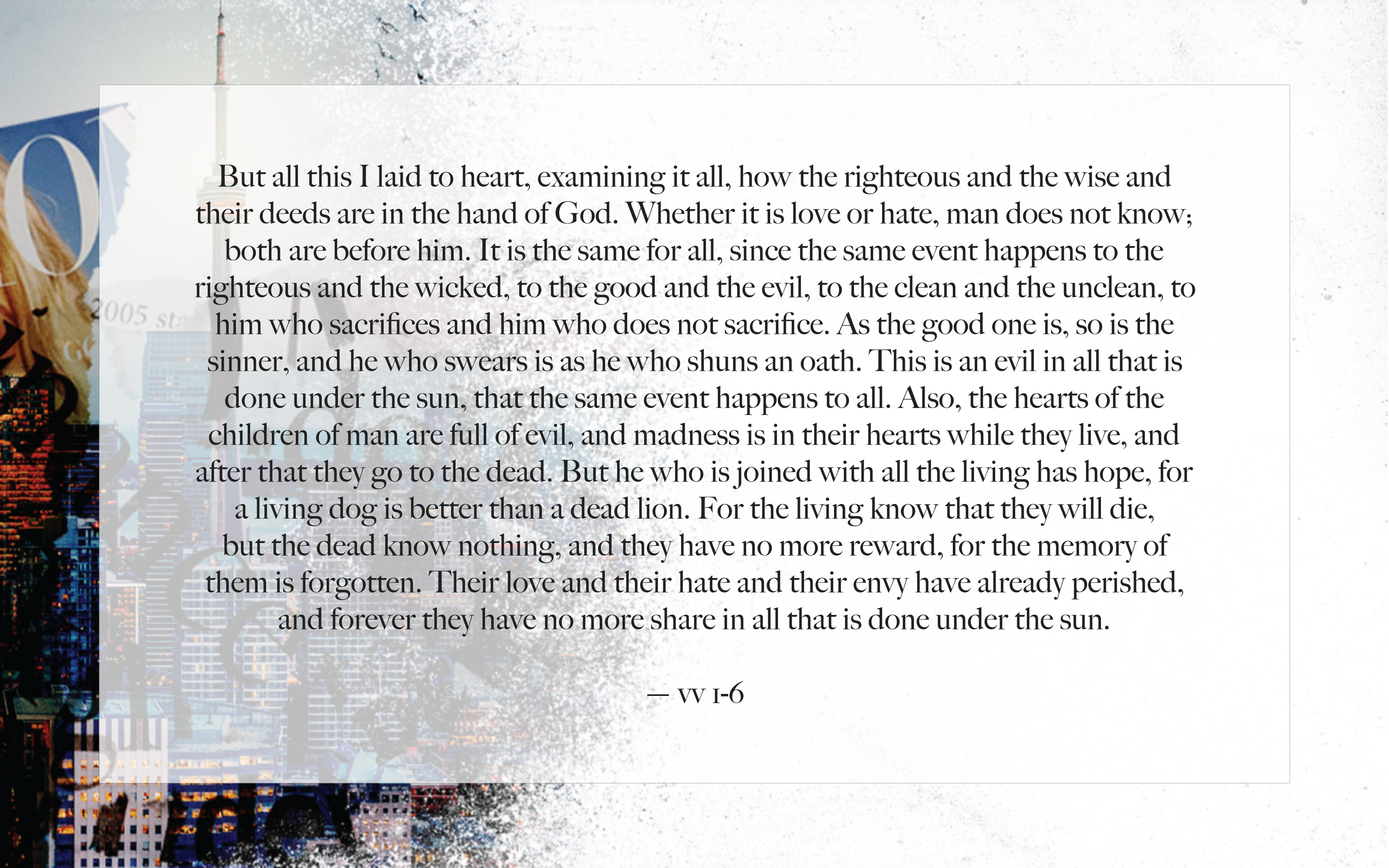
Go, eat your bread in joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do. Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head. Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

— Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

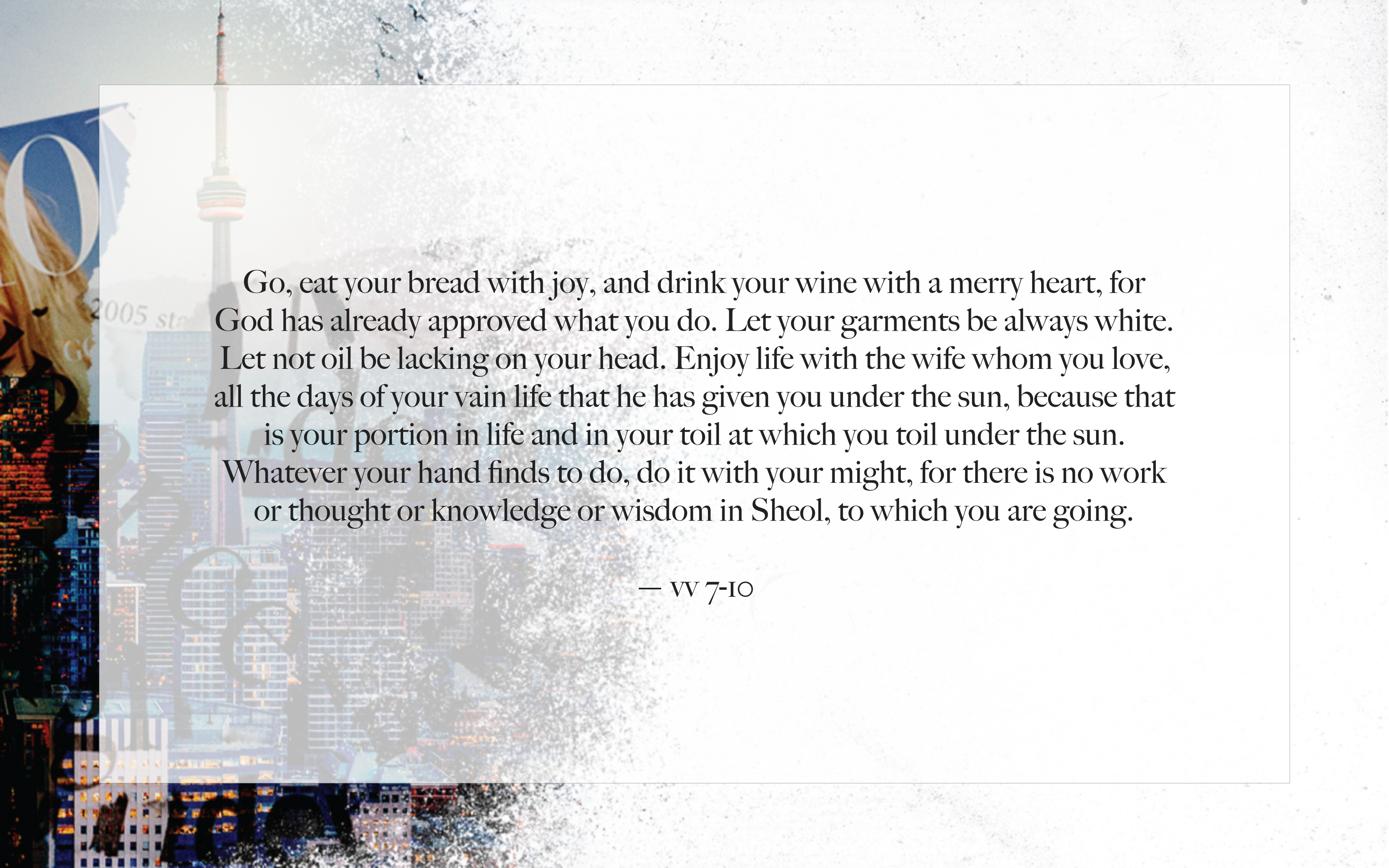


When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on earth, how neither day nor night do one's eyes see sleep, then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

— vv 16-17

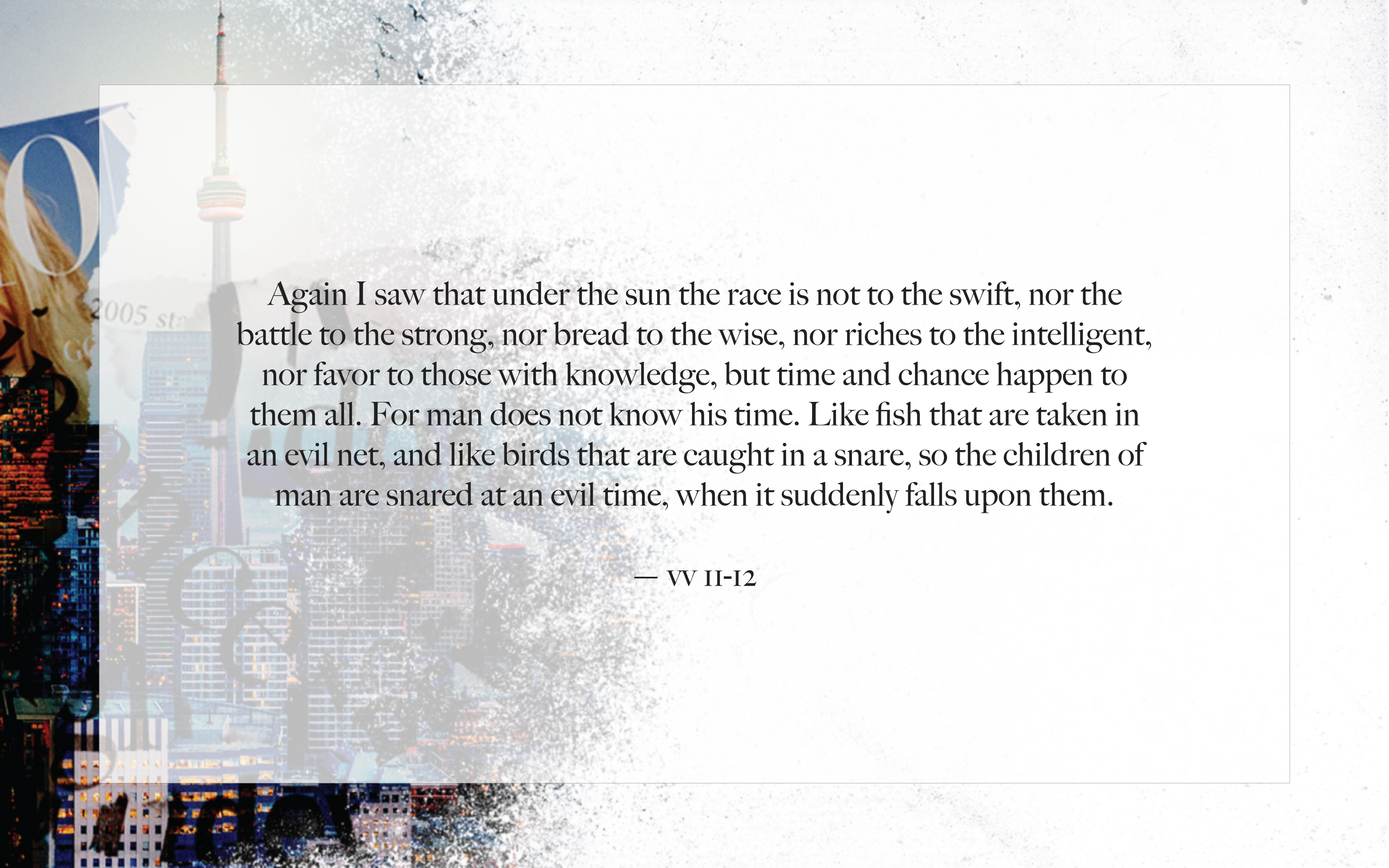


But all this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God. Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him. It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all. Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.



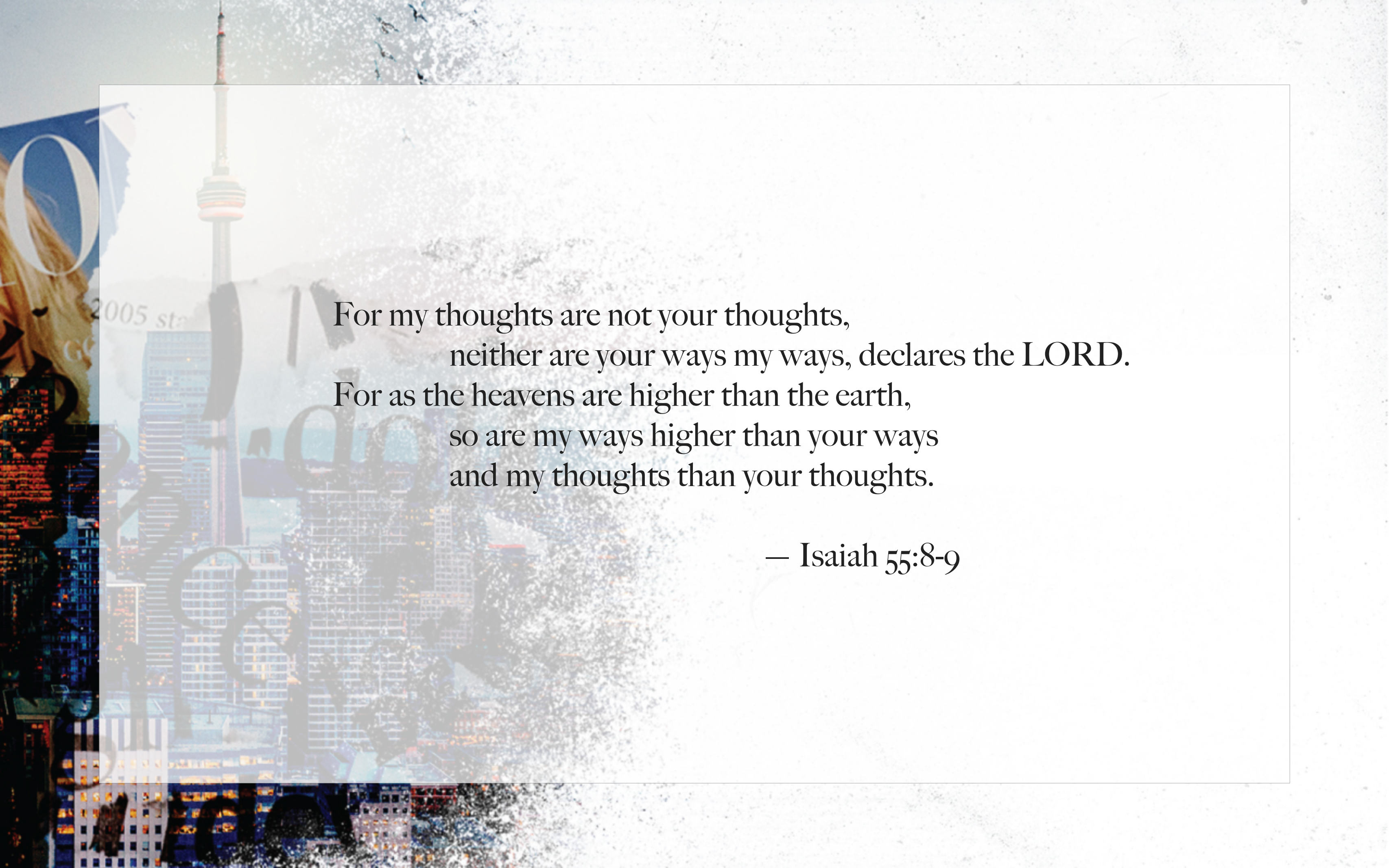
Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do. Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head. Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

— vv 7-10



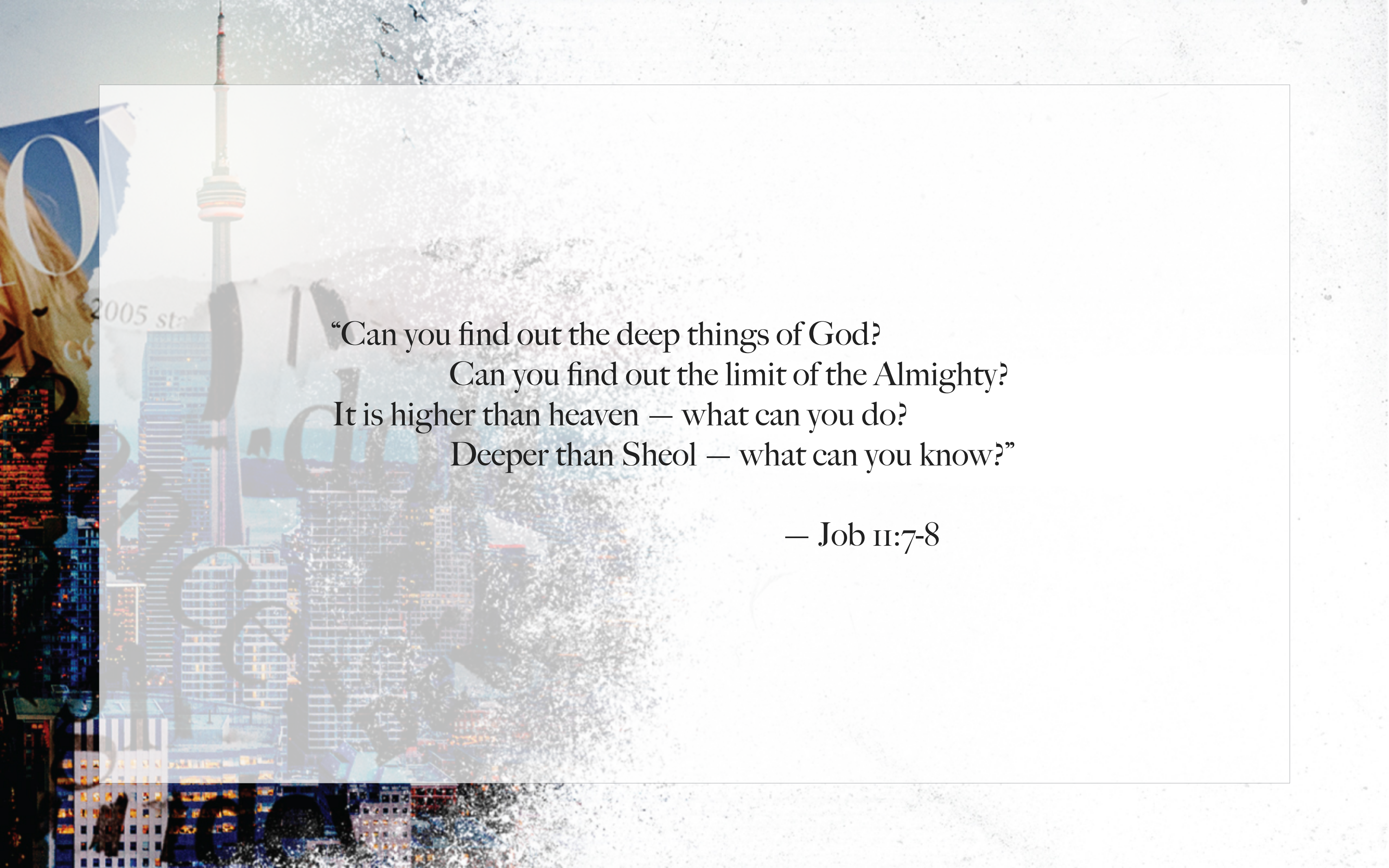
Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.

— VV II-12



For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

— Isaiah 55:8-9



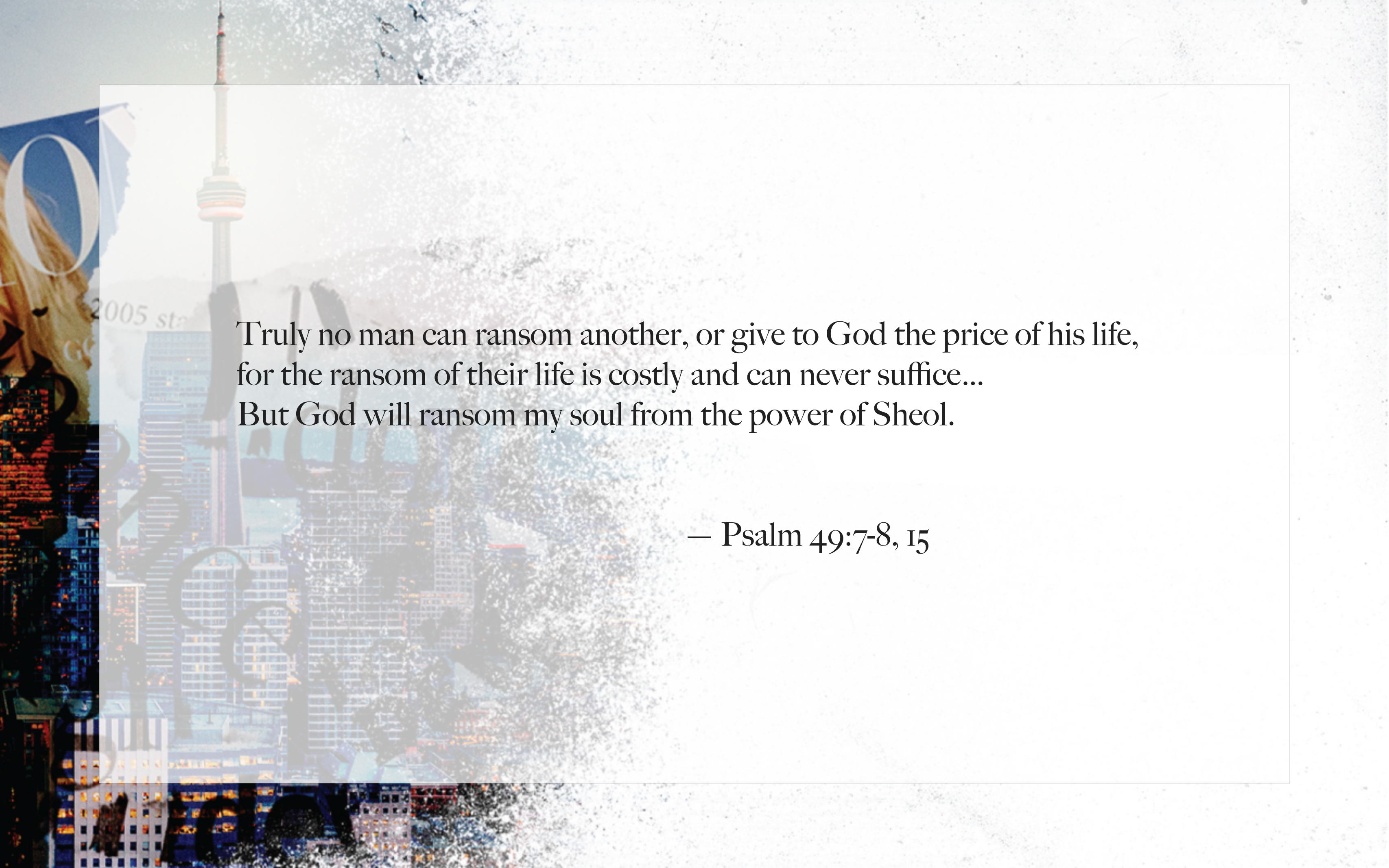
“Can you find out the deep things of God?
Can you find out the limit of the *Almighty*?
It is higher than heaven — what can you do?
Deeper than Sheol — what can you know?”

— Job II:7-8



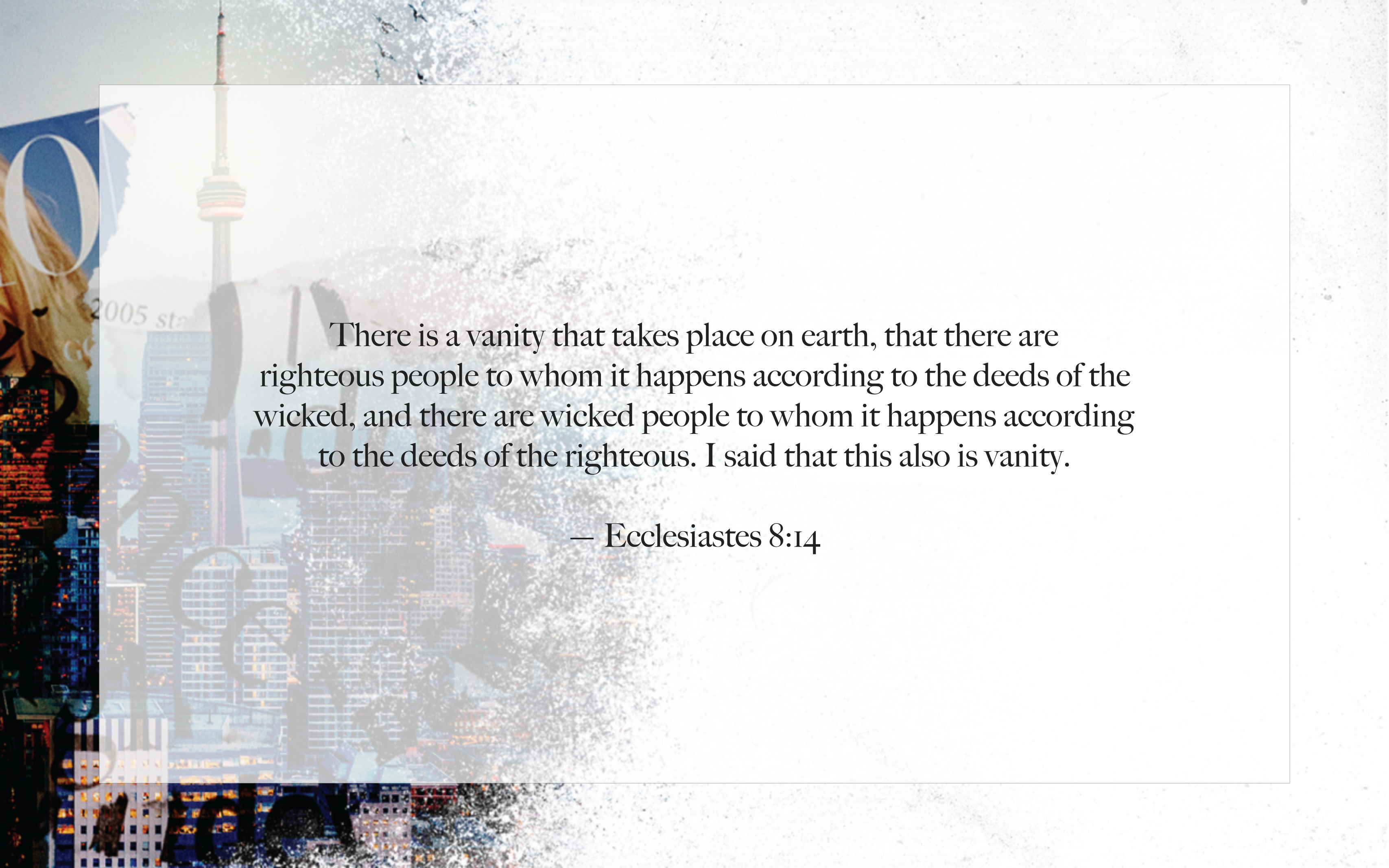
Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

— Romans 11:33



Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life,
for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice...
But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol.

— Psalm 49:7-8, 15



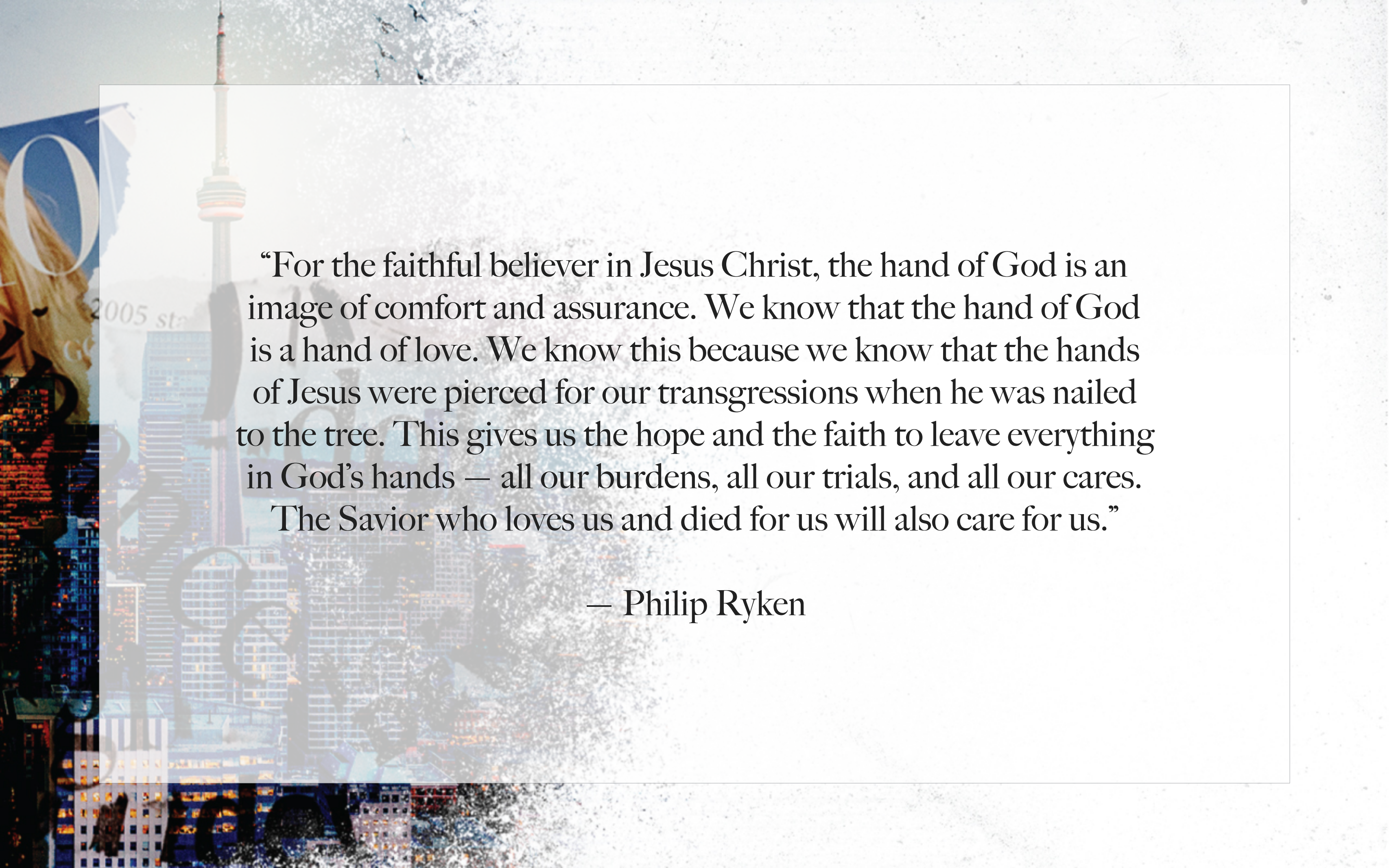
There is a vanity that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the wicked, and there are wicked people to whom it happens according to the deeds of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.

— Ecclesiastes 8:14



For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

— 2 Corinthians 5:21



“For the faithful believer in Jesus Christ, the hand of God is an image of comfort and assurance. We know that the hand of God is a hand of love. We know this because we know that the hands of Jesus were pierced for our transgressions when he was nailed to the tree. This gives us the hope and the faith to leave everything in God’s hands — all our burdens, all our trials, and all our cares. The Savior who loves us and died for us will also care for us.”

— Philip Ryken



ECCLESIASTES

MAKING SENSE OF A COMPLEX WORLD