



# Better than Ever

Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023

# WORLD'S CHAMPS

## Akron—1920—Professionals

















Galatians 4:23 (ESV): “Against  
such things there is no law.”



# Better than Ever

Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023

NEW HEIGHTS  
CHURCH



Something Better

Fall 2023

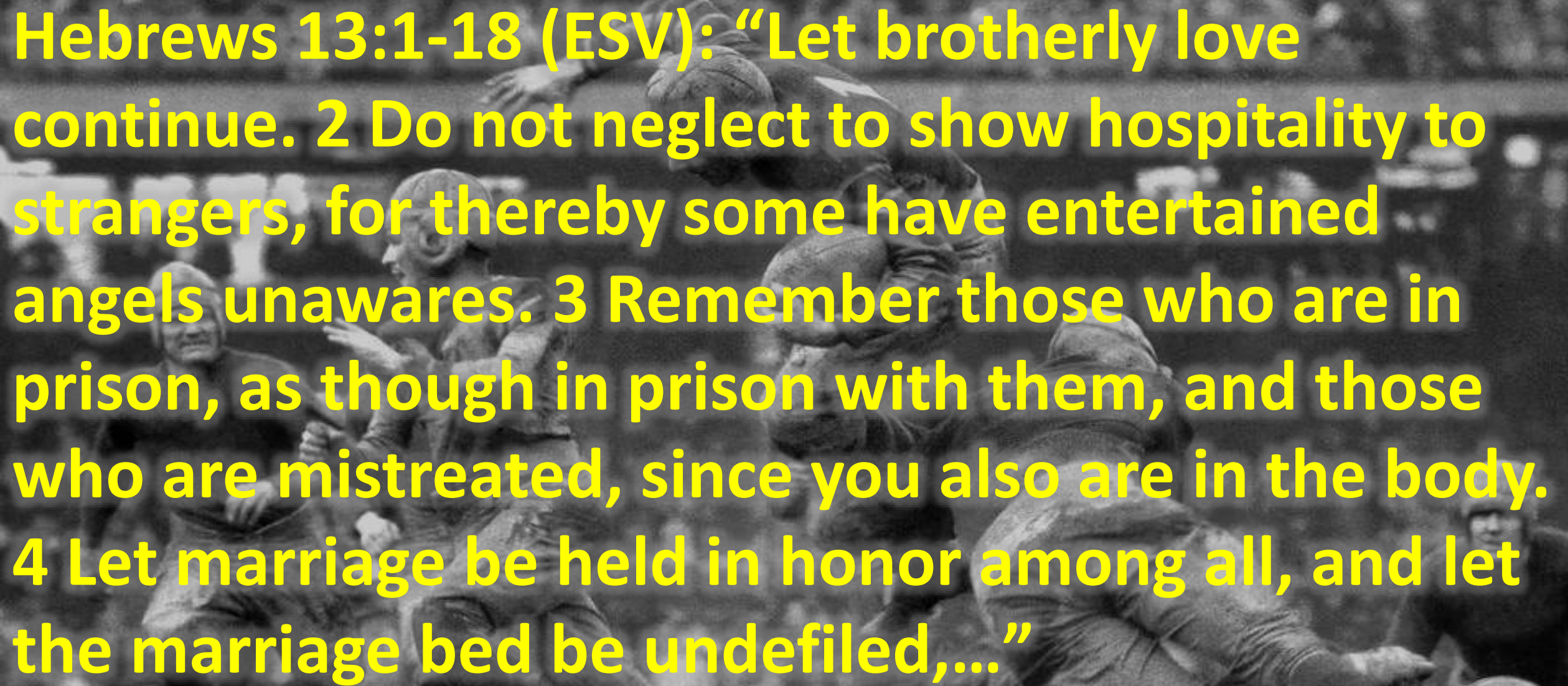




# Better than Ever

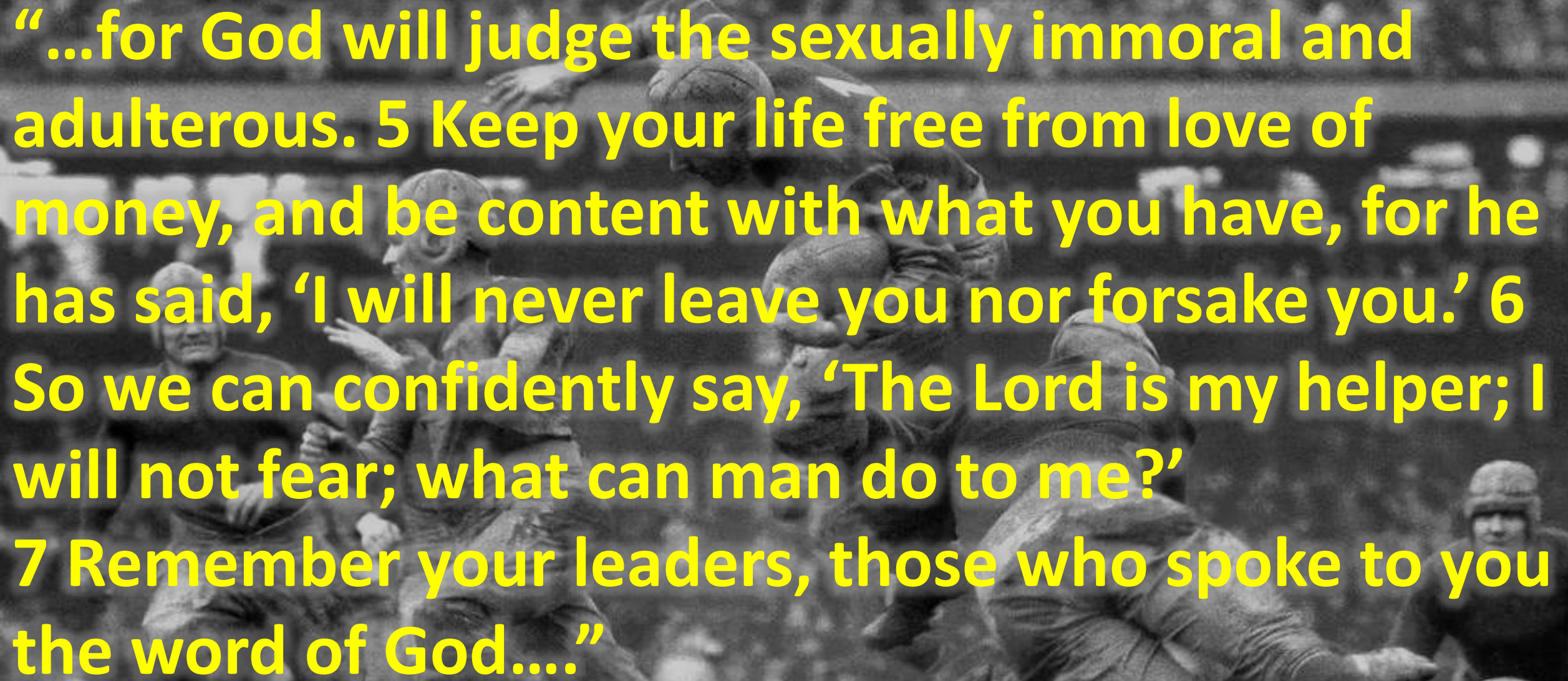
Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023



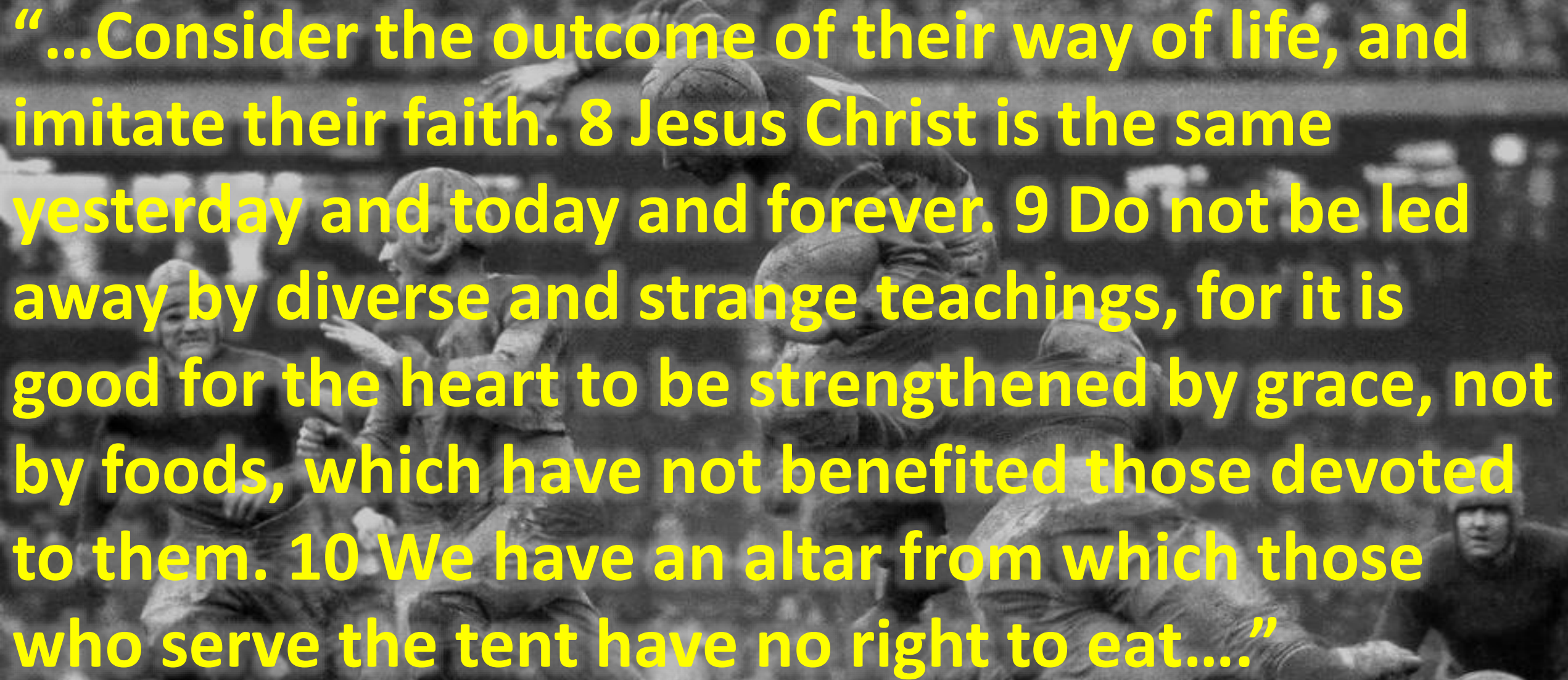
Hebrews 13:1-18 (ESV): “Let brotherly love continue. 2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. 3 Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. 4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled,...”

**Better than Ever**



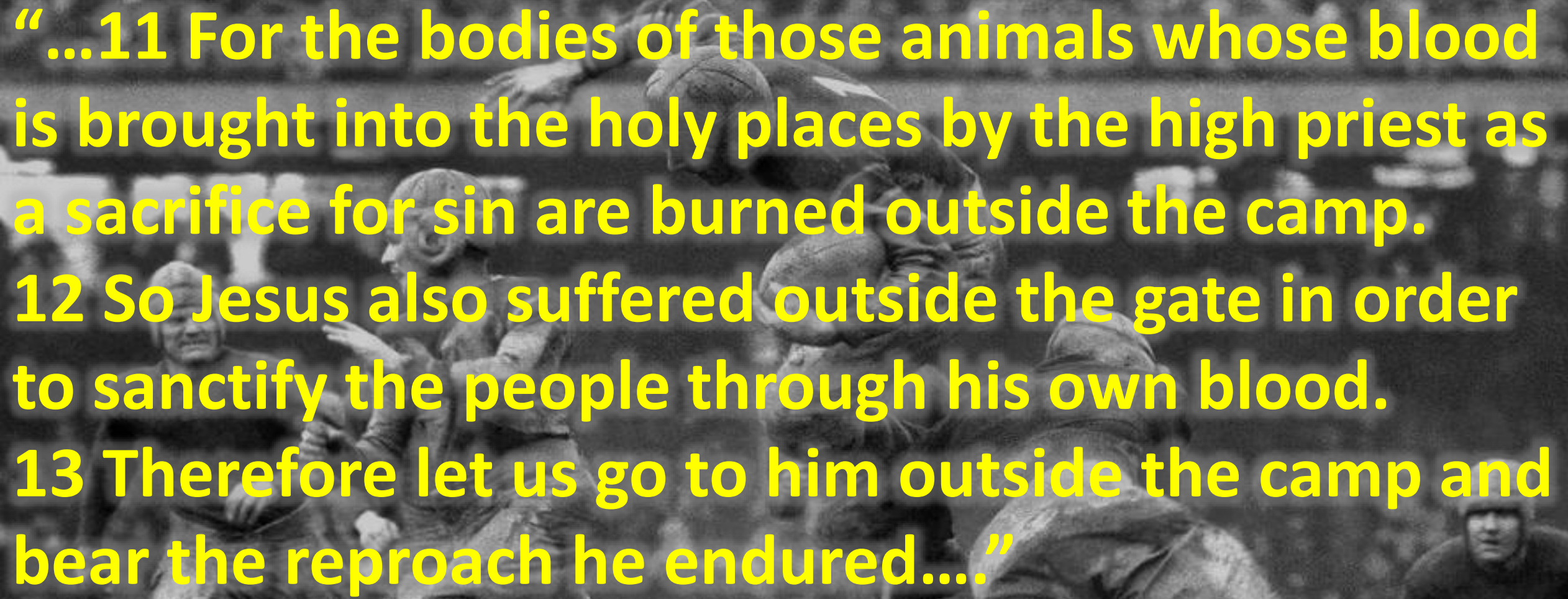
“...for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. 5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ 6 So we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?’ 7 Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God....”

**Better than Ever**



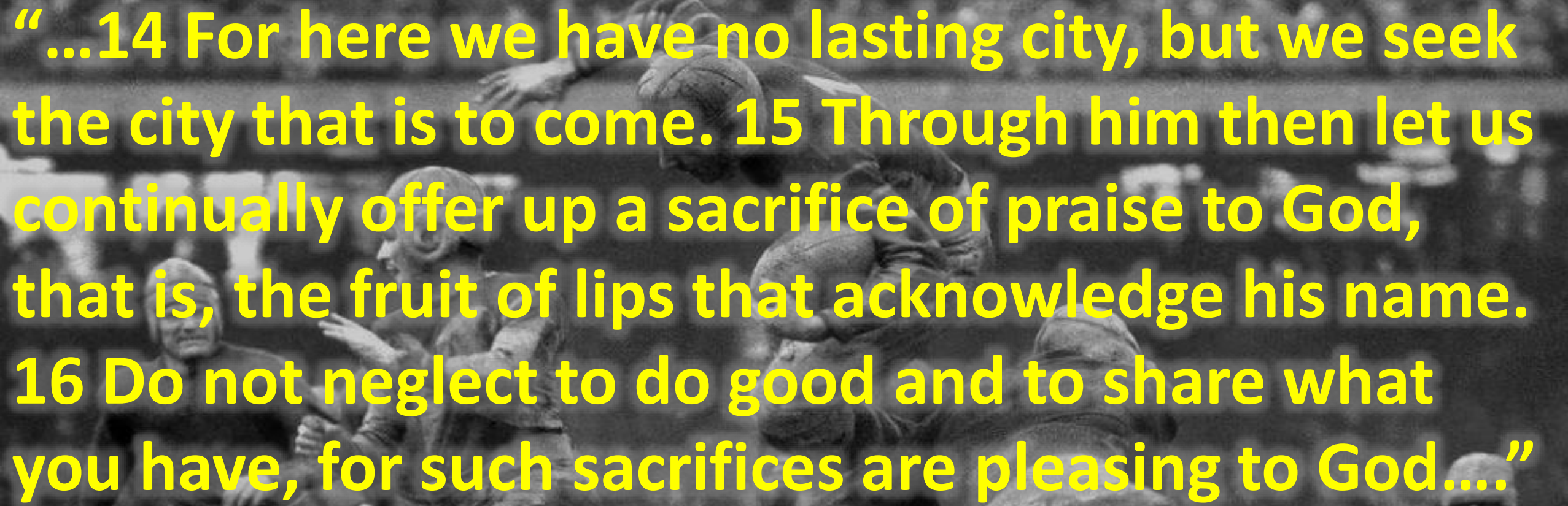
“...Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. 9 Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. 10 We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat....”

**Better than Ever**



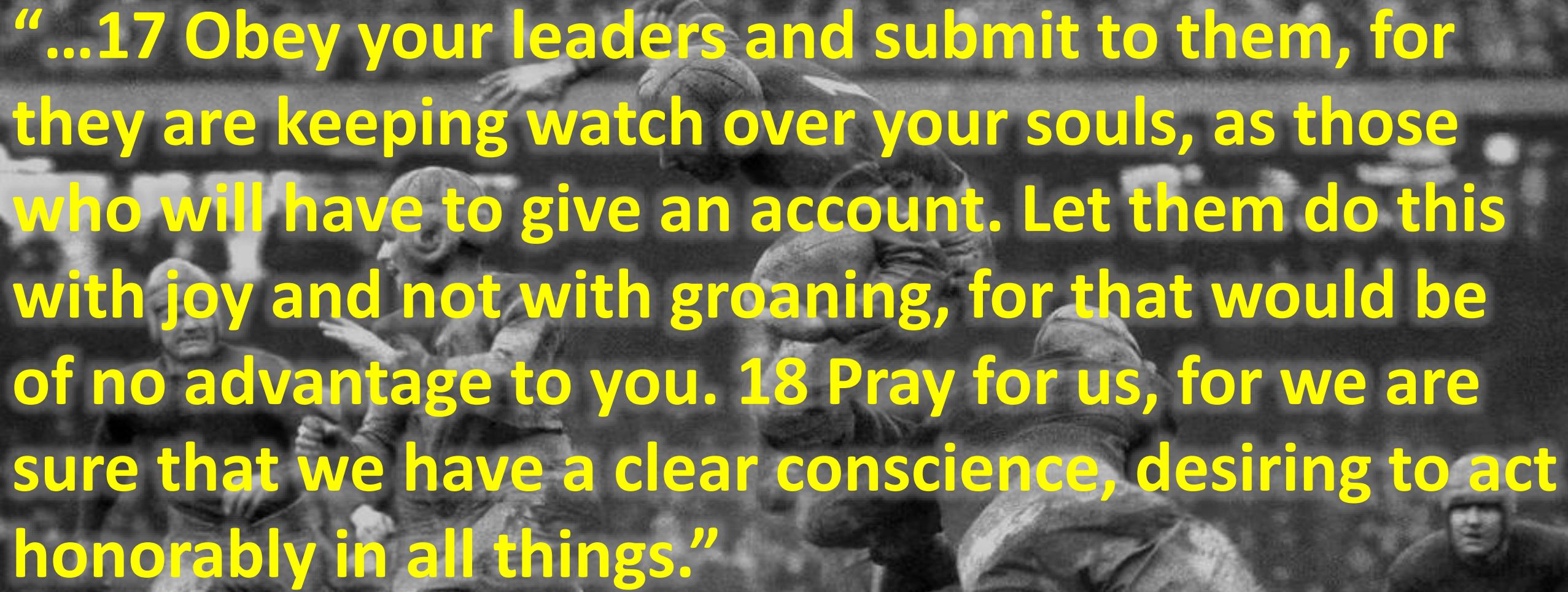
“...11 For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp.  
12 So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.  
13 Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured...”

**Better than Ever**

A black and white photograph of American football players in action on a field. The players are wearing helmets and jerseys, and are in various poses, suggesting a game in progress. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the players.

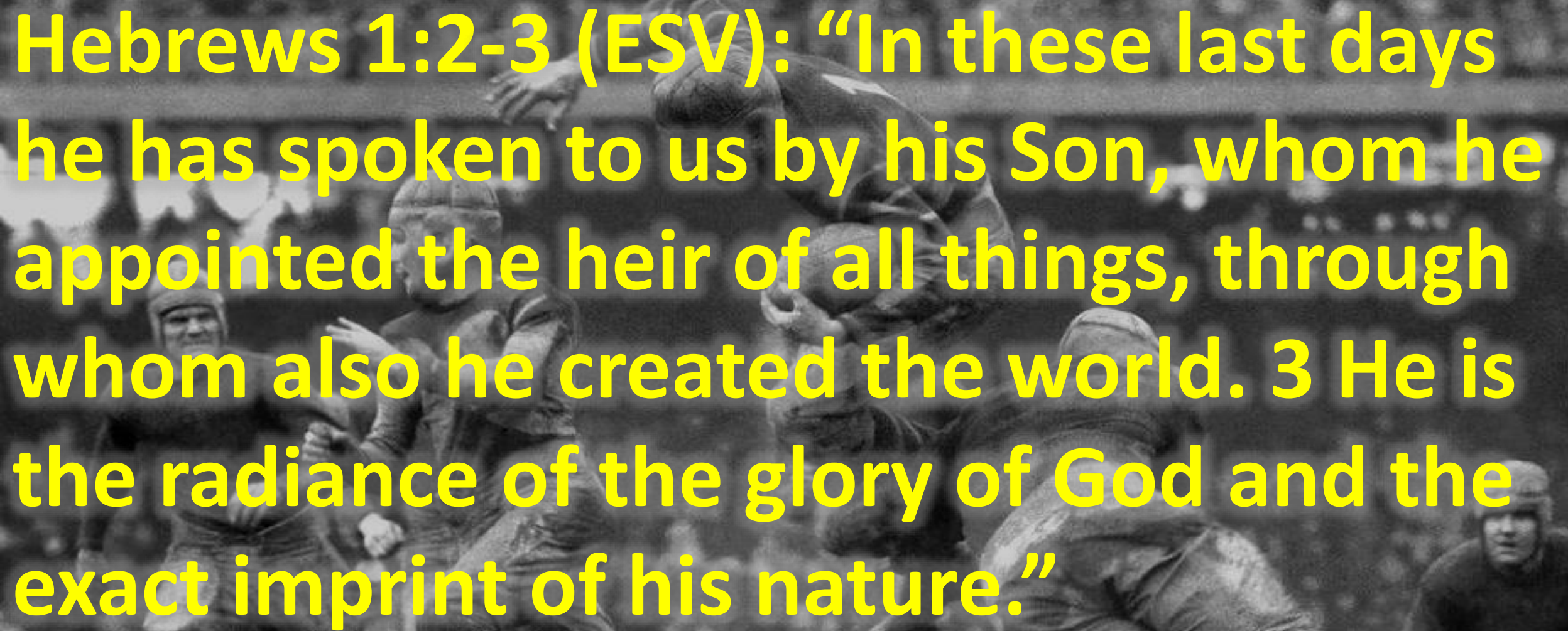
“...14 For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. 15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. 16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God....”

**Better than Ever**



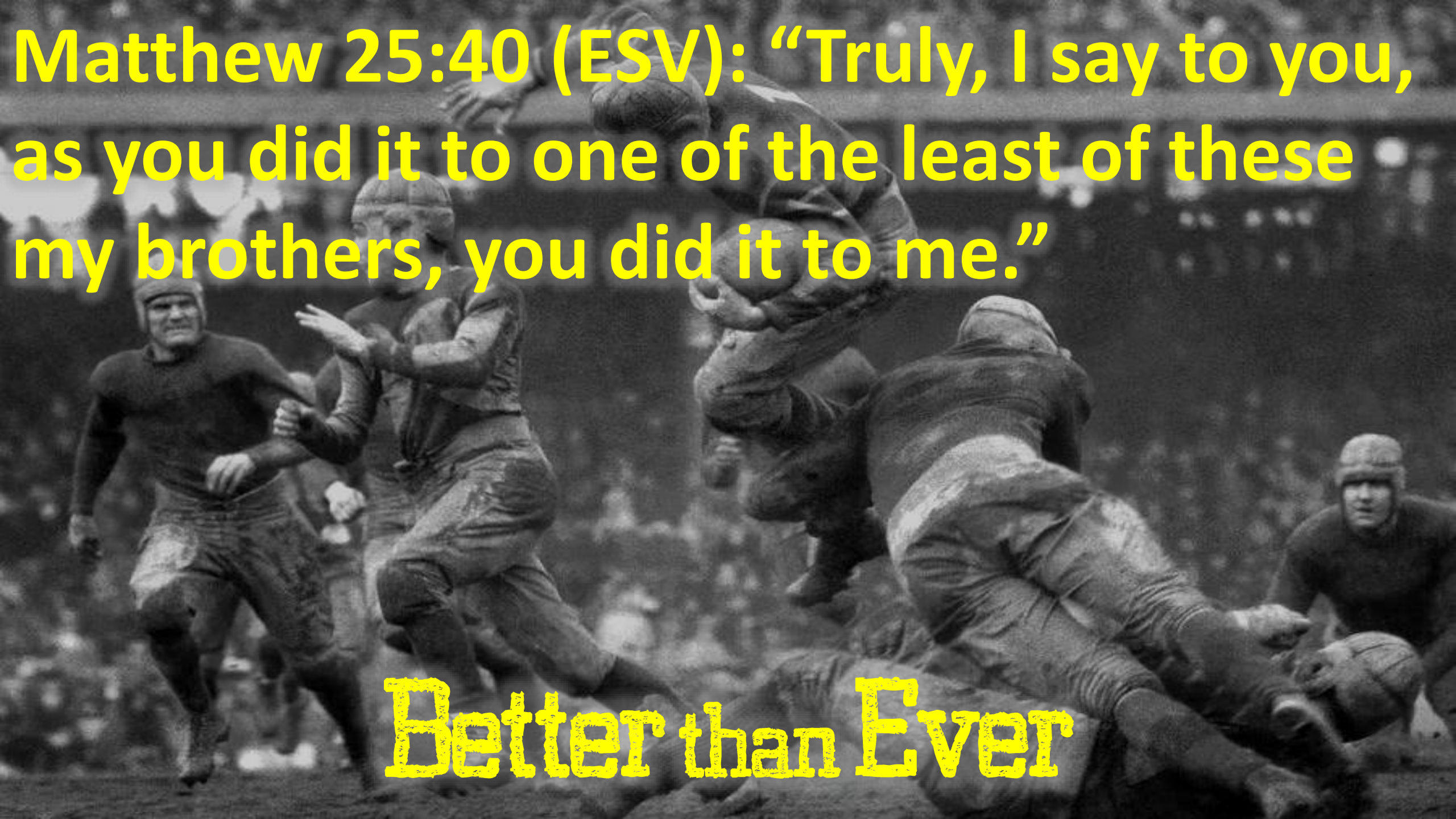
“...17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. 18 Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things.”

**Better than Ever**



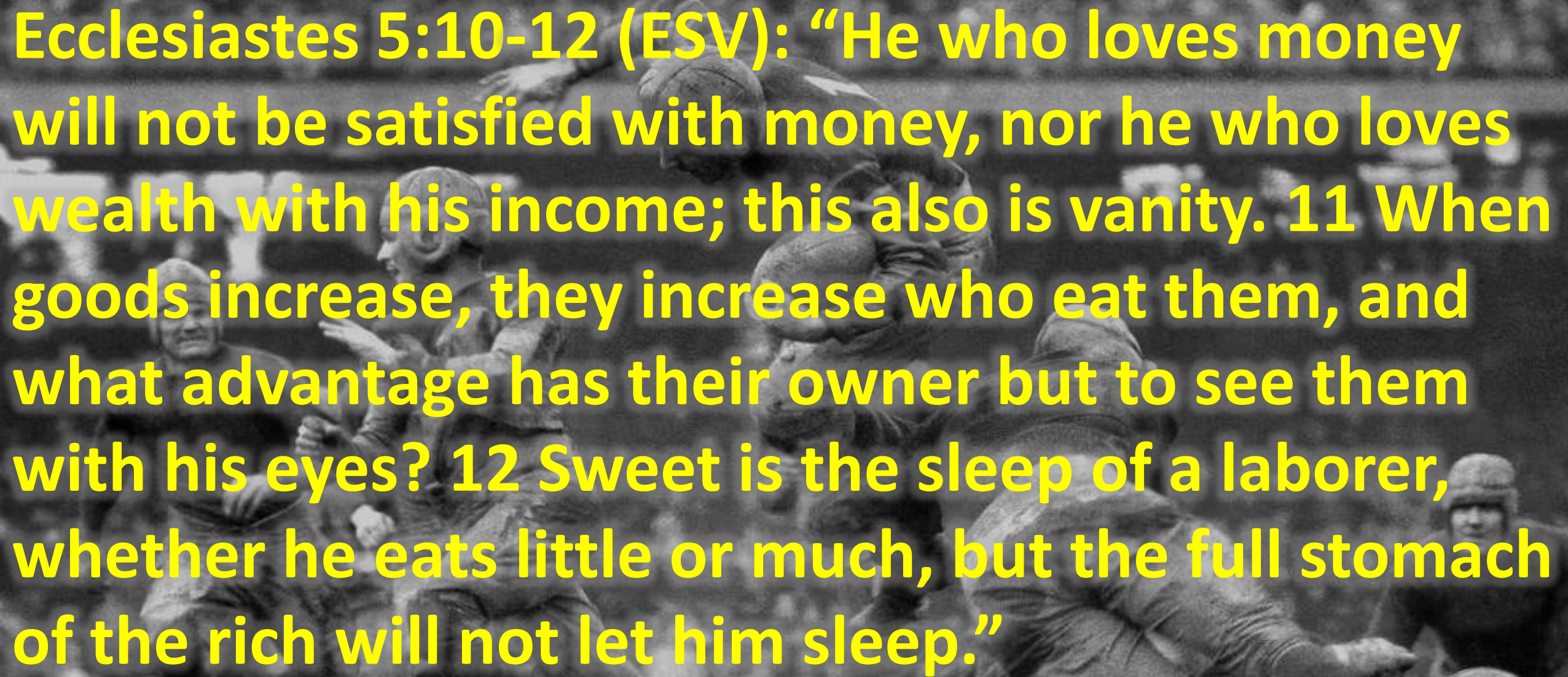
Hebrews 1:2-3 (ESV): “In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.”

**Better than Ever**

A black and white photograph of a football game. In the center, a player is being tackled by another player. To the left, a player is running with the ball. To the right, a player is on the ground. The background shows a crowd of spectators in a stadium.

Matthew 25:40 (ESV): “Truly, I say to you,  
as you did it to one of the least of these  
my brothers, you did it to me.”

**Better than Ever**



Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 (ESV): “He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. 11 When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? 12 Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.”

**Better than Ever**



2 Peter 1:3 (NIV): “His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.”

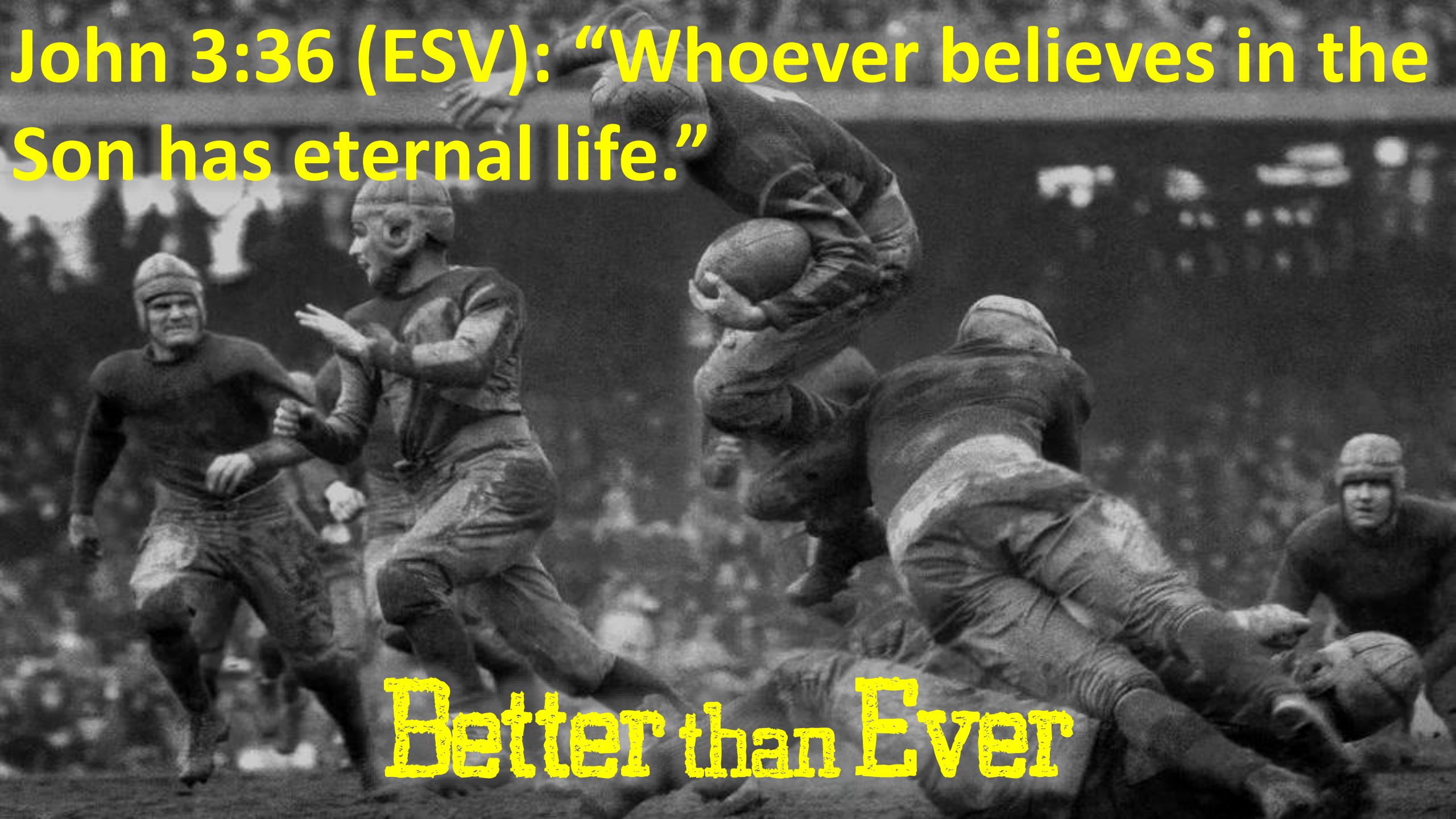
**Better than Ever**

Romans 7:18 (ESV): “I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.”

Better than Ever

**John 3:36 (ESV): “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life.”**

**Better than Ever**

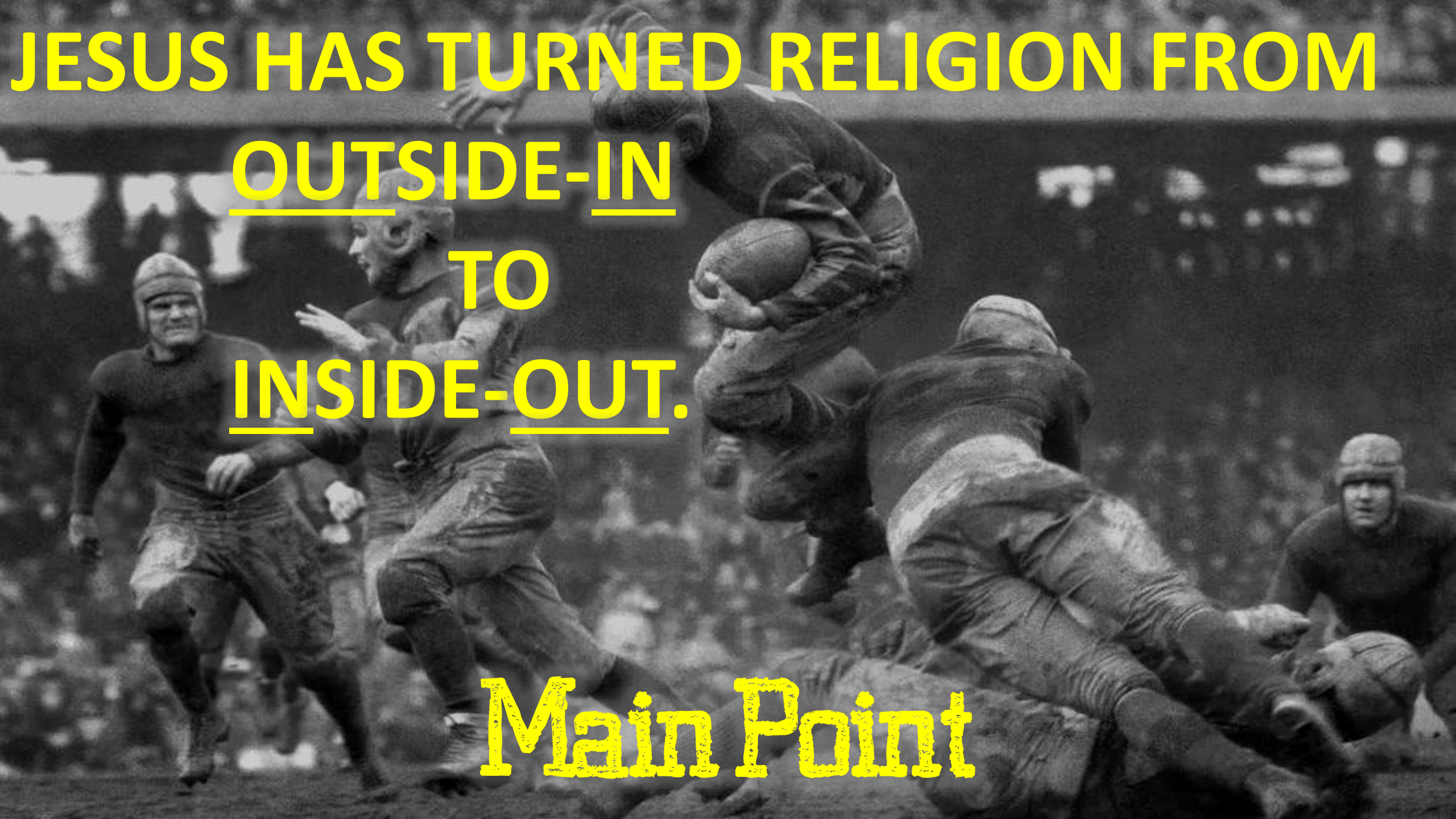




# Better than Ever

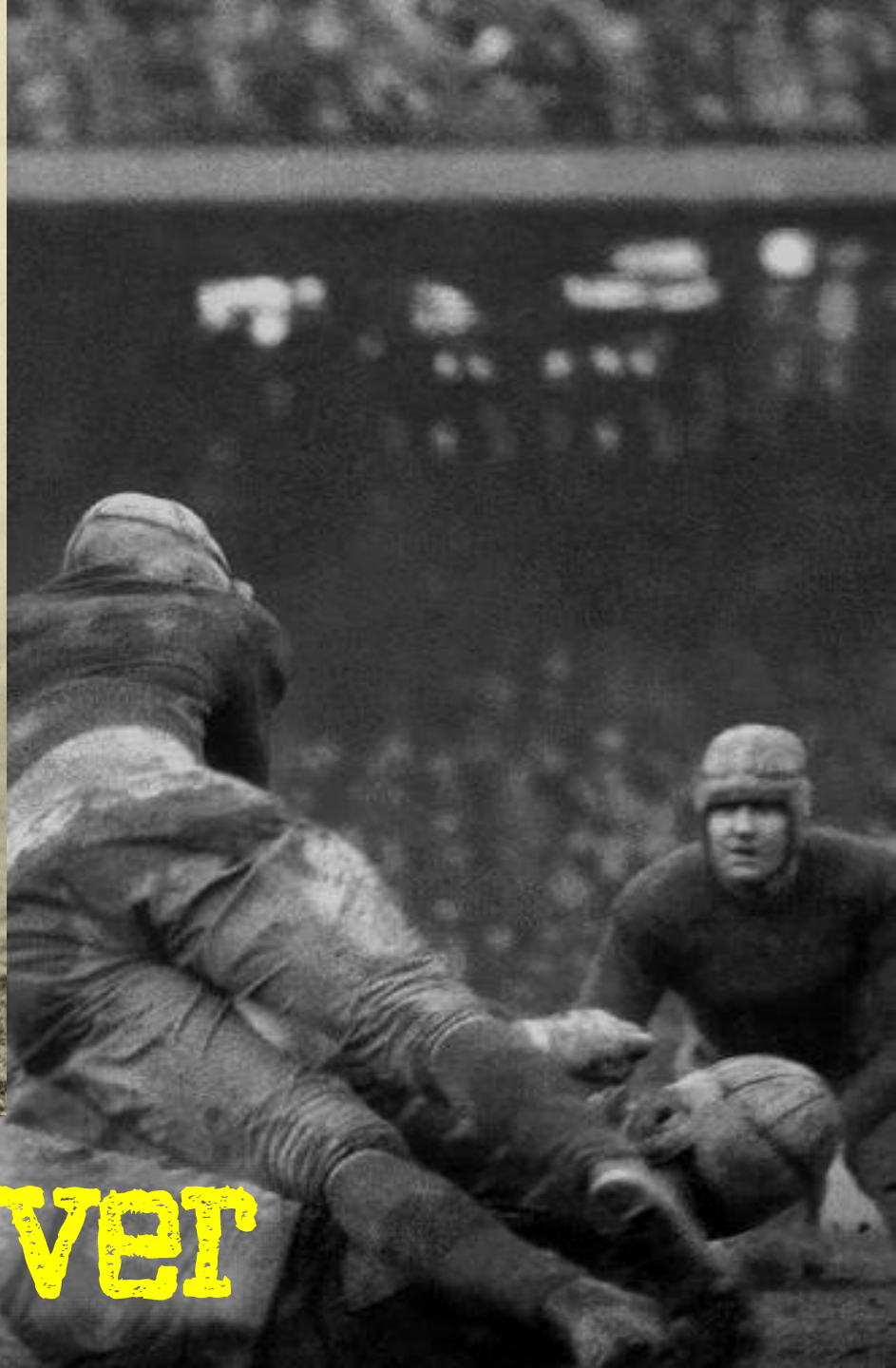
Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023



JESUS HAS TURNED RELIGION FROM  
OUTSIDE-IN  
TO  
INSIDE-OUT.

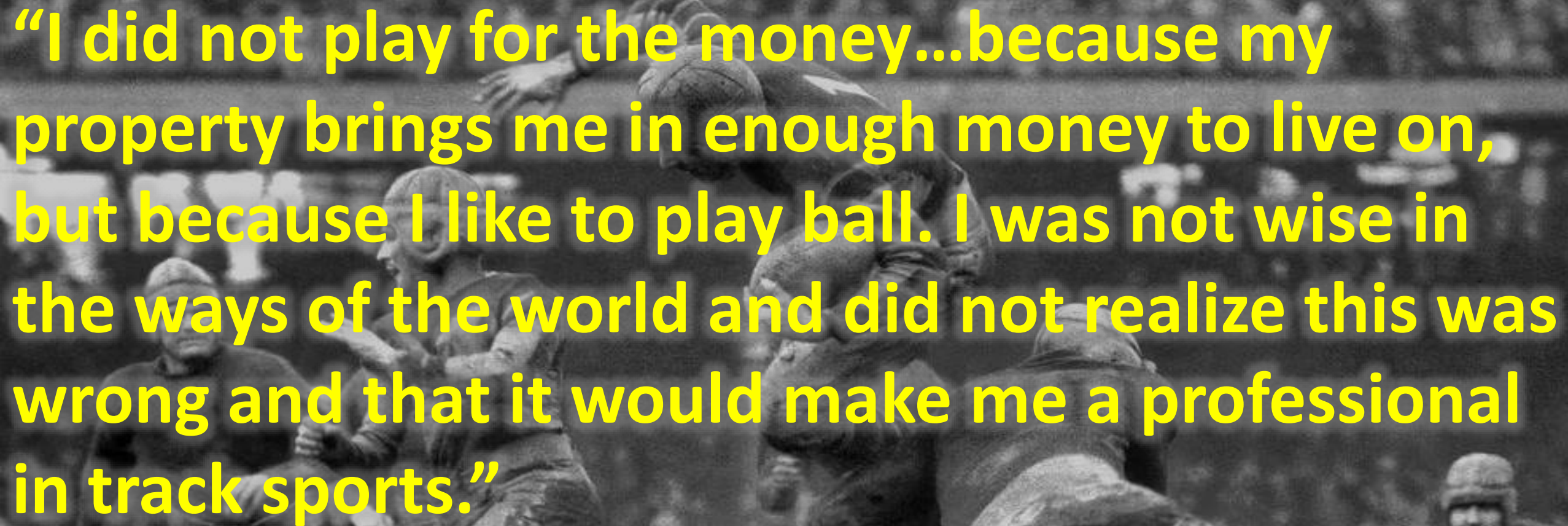
Main Point



Better than Ever



**Better than Ever**



“I did not play for the money...because my property brings me in enough money to live on, but because I like to play ball. I was not wise in the ways of the world and did not realize this was wrong and that it would make me a professional in track sports.”

(From Jim Thorpe's letter to the AAU as quoted in James Ring Adams' article "The Jim Thorpe Backlash: The Olympic Medals Debacle and the Demise of Carlisle" in American Indian Magazine, Summer 2012)

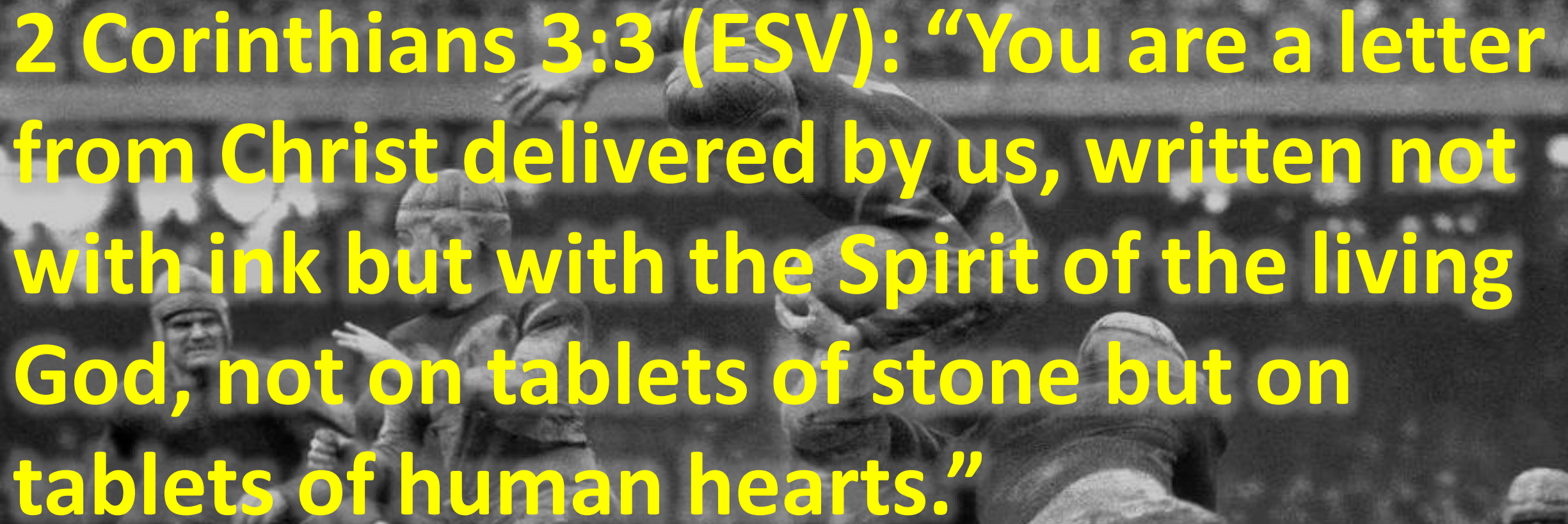
**Better than Ever**



**“My earning days in athletics are at an end and while sports have been my livelihood, I really played for the love of competition.”**

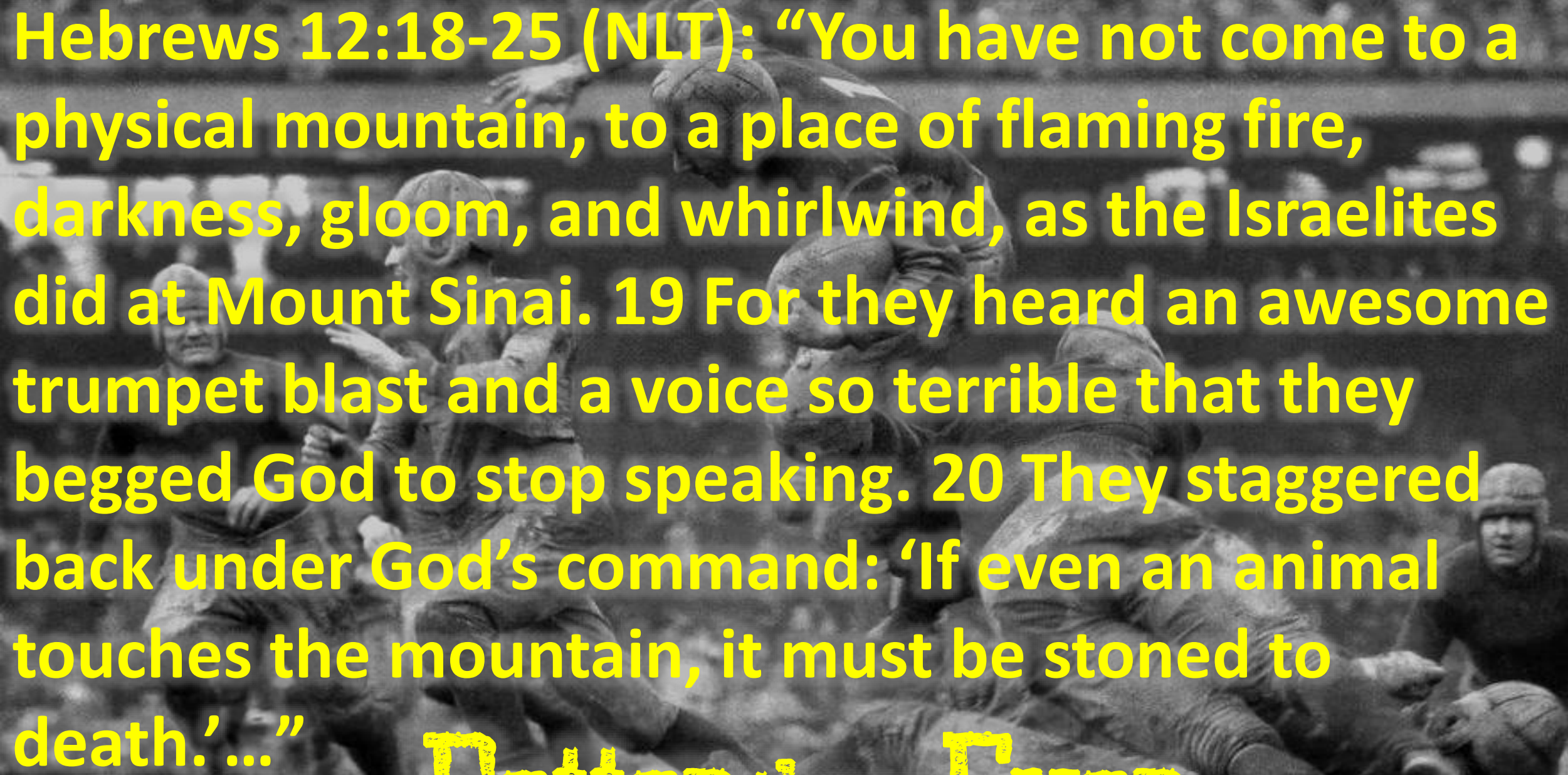
**(Jim Thorpe, as quoted in the article “Jim Thorpe and the Shoe-Steels” by Derrick C. Parker and Andrew Feight at [sciotohistorical.com](http://sciotohistorical.com))**

**Better than Ever**

A black and white photograph of American football players in action on a field. The players are wearing helmets and jerseys, and are in various poses, suggesting a game in progress. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the players.

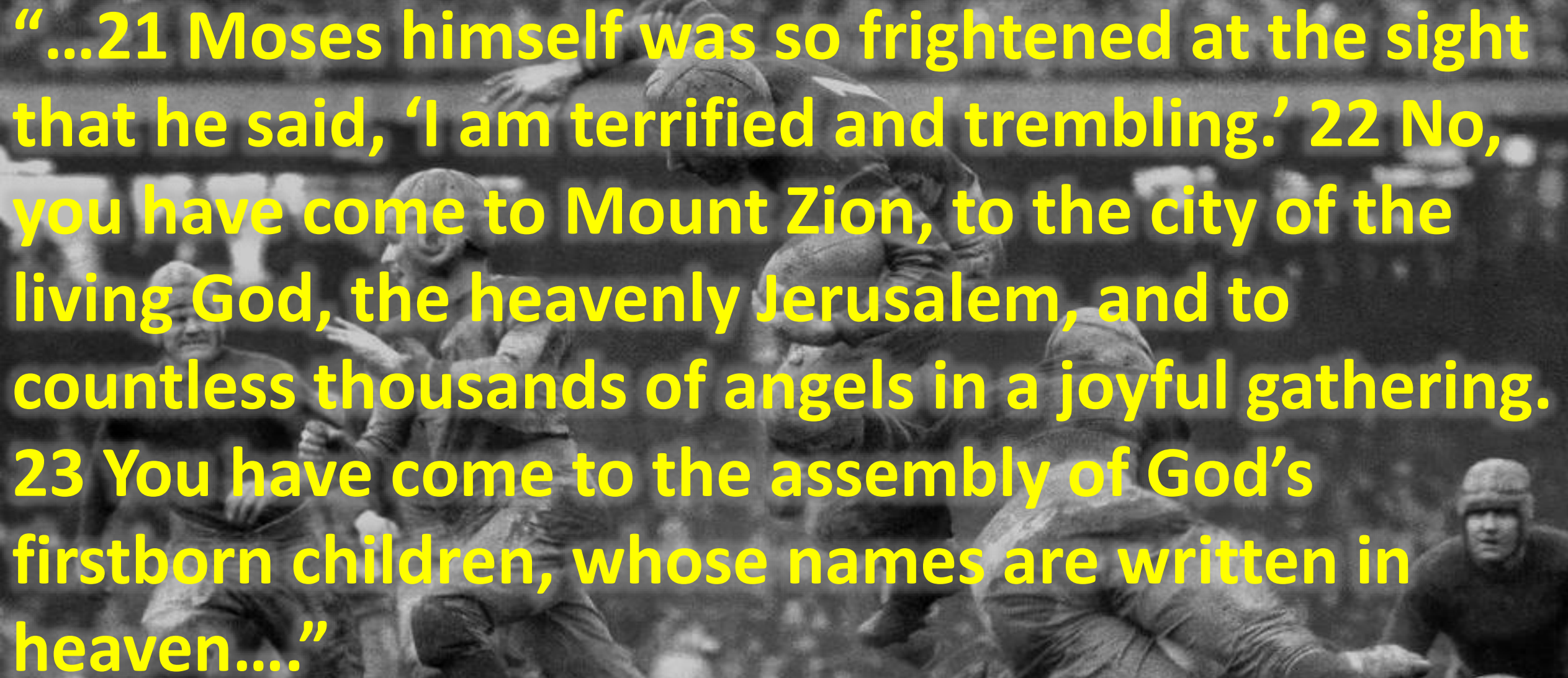
**2 Corinthians 3:3 (ESV): “You are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.”**

**Better than Ever**



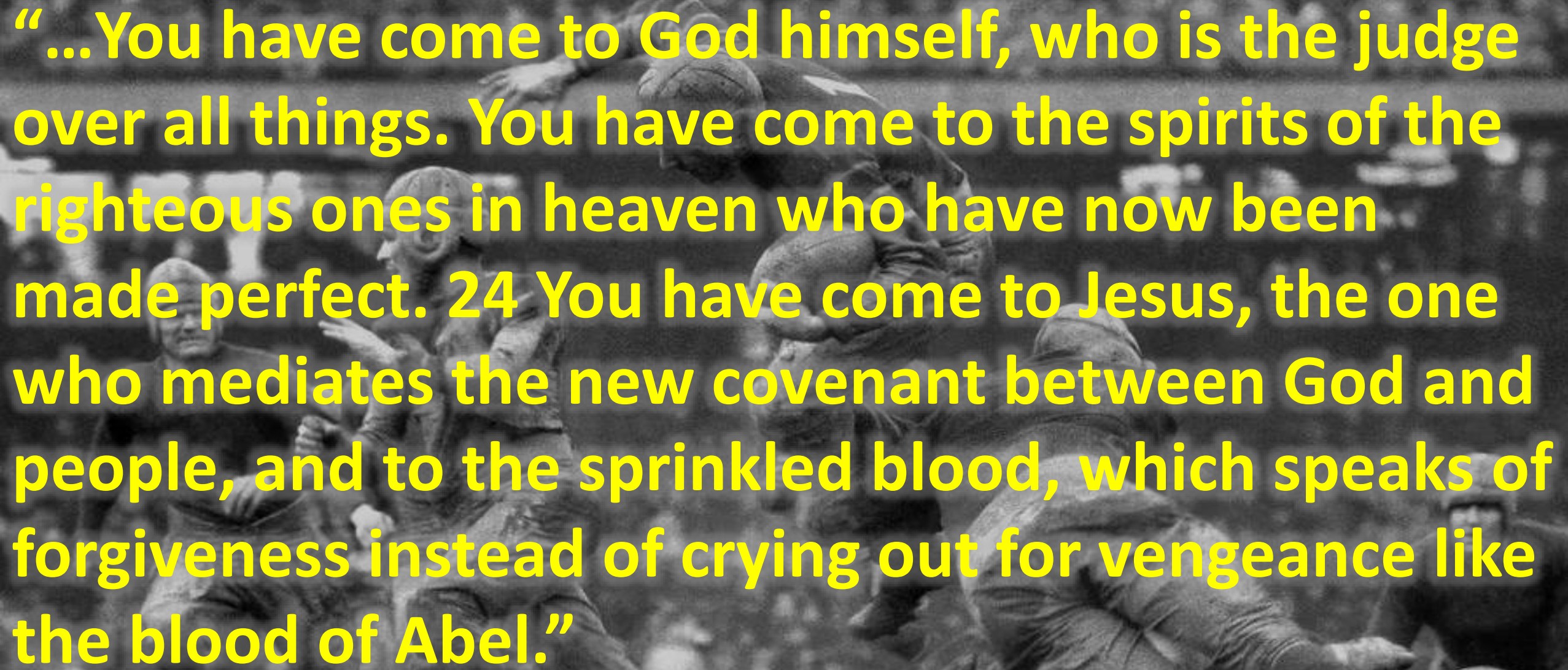
Hebrews 12:18-25 (NLT): “You have not come to a physical mountain, to a place of flaming fire, darkness, gloom, and whirlwind, as the Israelites did at Mount Sinai. 19 For they heard an awesome trumpet blast and a voice so terrible that they begged God to stop speaking. 20 They staggered back under God’s command: ‘If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.’...”

**Better than Ever**



“...21 Moses himself was so frightened at the sight that he said, ‘I am terrified and trembling.’ 22 No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering. 23 You have come to the assembly of God’s firstborn children, whose names are written in heaven....”

**Better than Ever**



“...You have come to God himself, who is the judge over all things. You have come to the spirits of the righteous ones in heaven who have now been made perfect. 24 You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel.”

**Better than Ever**



# Better than Ever


Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023



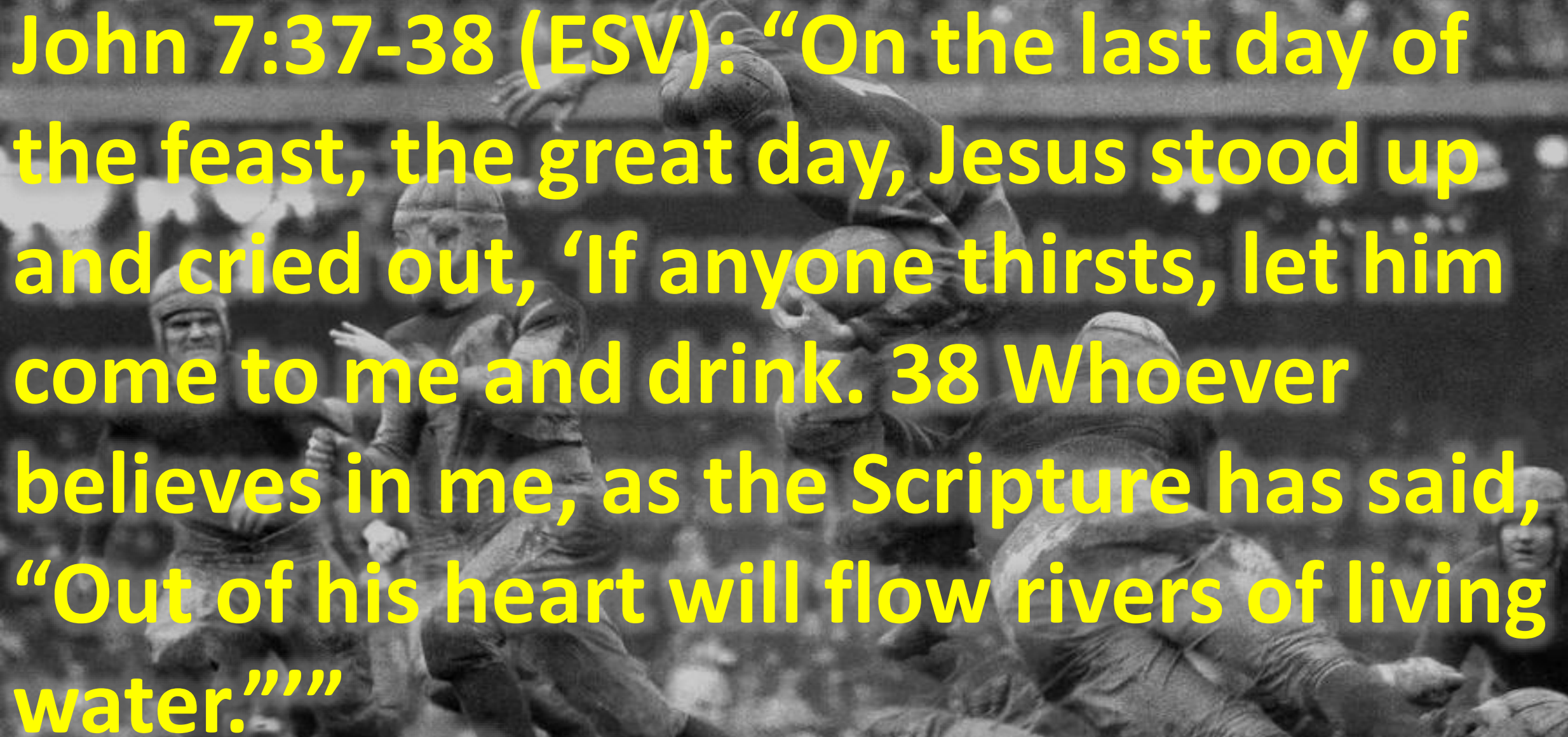
ATTACK YOUR HEART.

Application

A black and white photograph of a football game. In the center, a player is jumping high to catch a football. To his left, another player is running towards him. In the foreground, a player is diving or falling. To the right, another player is running. The background shows a crowd of spectators in a stadium.

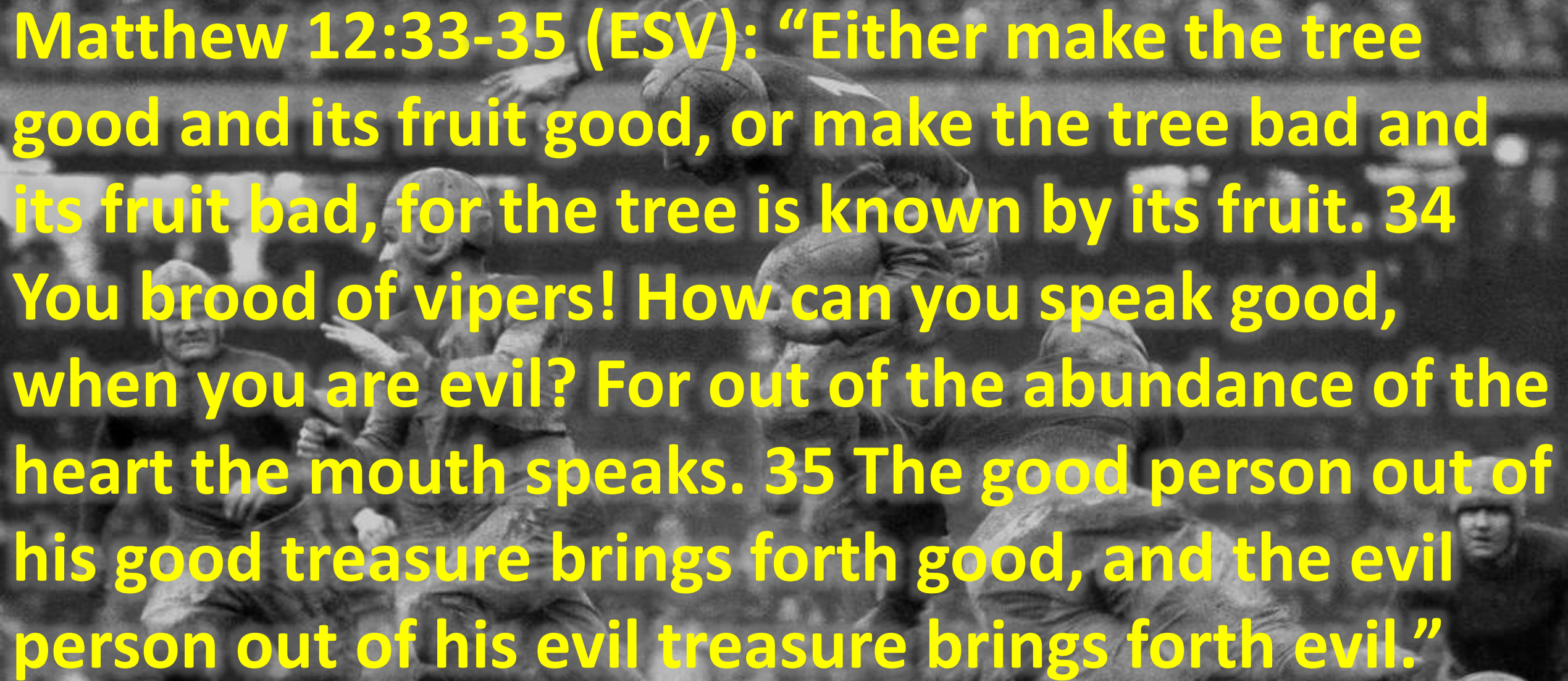
Proverbs 4:23 (ESV): “Keep your heart  
with all vigilance, for from it flow the  
springs of life.”

**Better than Ever**



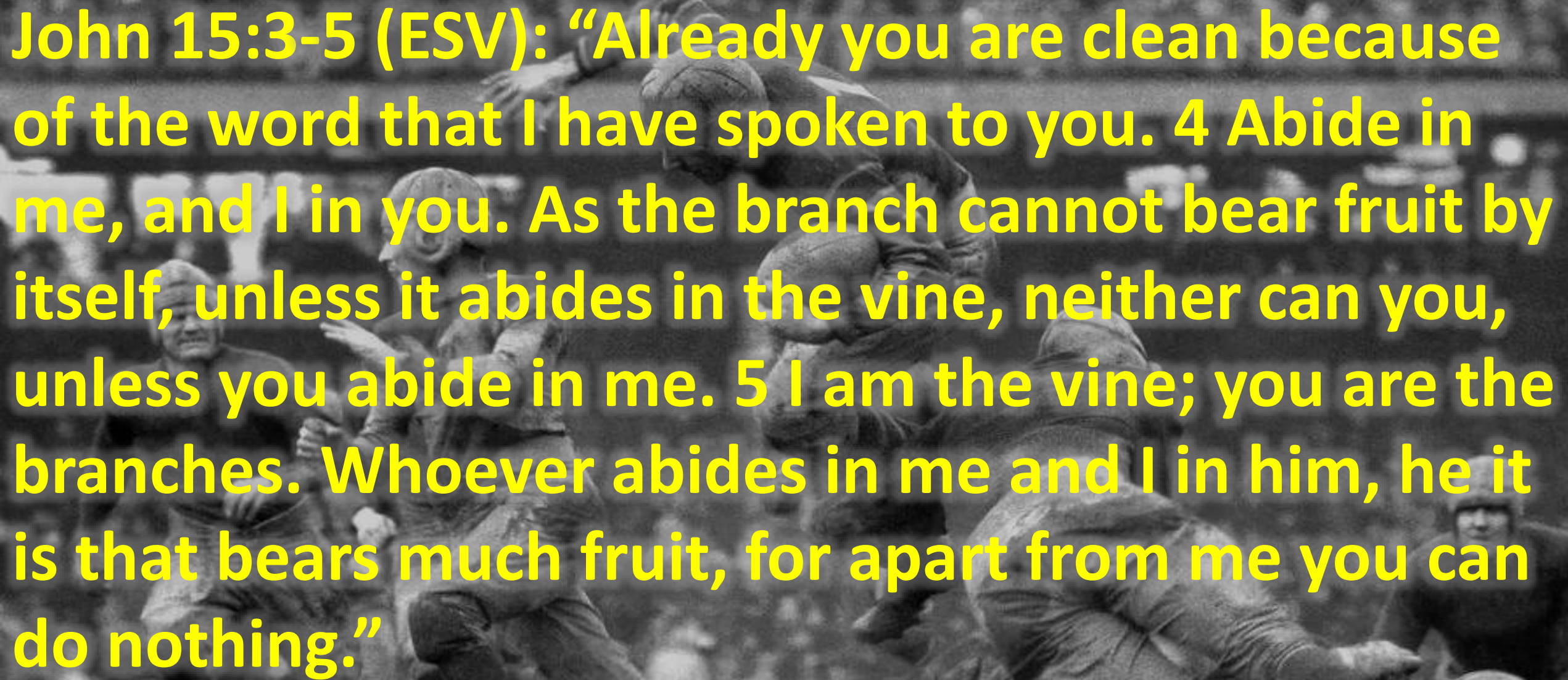
John 7:37-38 (ESV): “On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, “Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”””

**Better than Ever**



Matthew 12:33-35 (ESV): “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. 34 You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.”

**Better than Ever**



John 15:3-5 (ESV): “Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

**Better than Ever**



# Better than Ever

Hebrews 13:1-18

November 19, 2023

NEW HEIGHTS  
CHURCH



Something Better

Fall 2023



1 > 99



MATTHEW 18:10-14