




BLIND SPOTS

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. A diamond-shaped sign is visible at the intersection. The text is centered over the image.

Luke 15:28

**But he was angry and refused to go
in. His father came out and
entreated him,**

An aerial photograph of a road intersection with yellow lane markings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

Luke 15:29

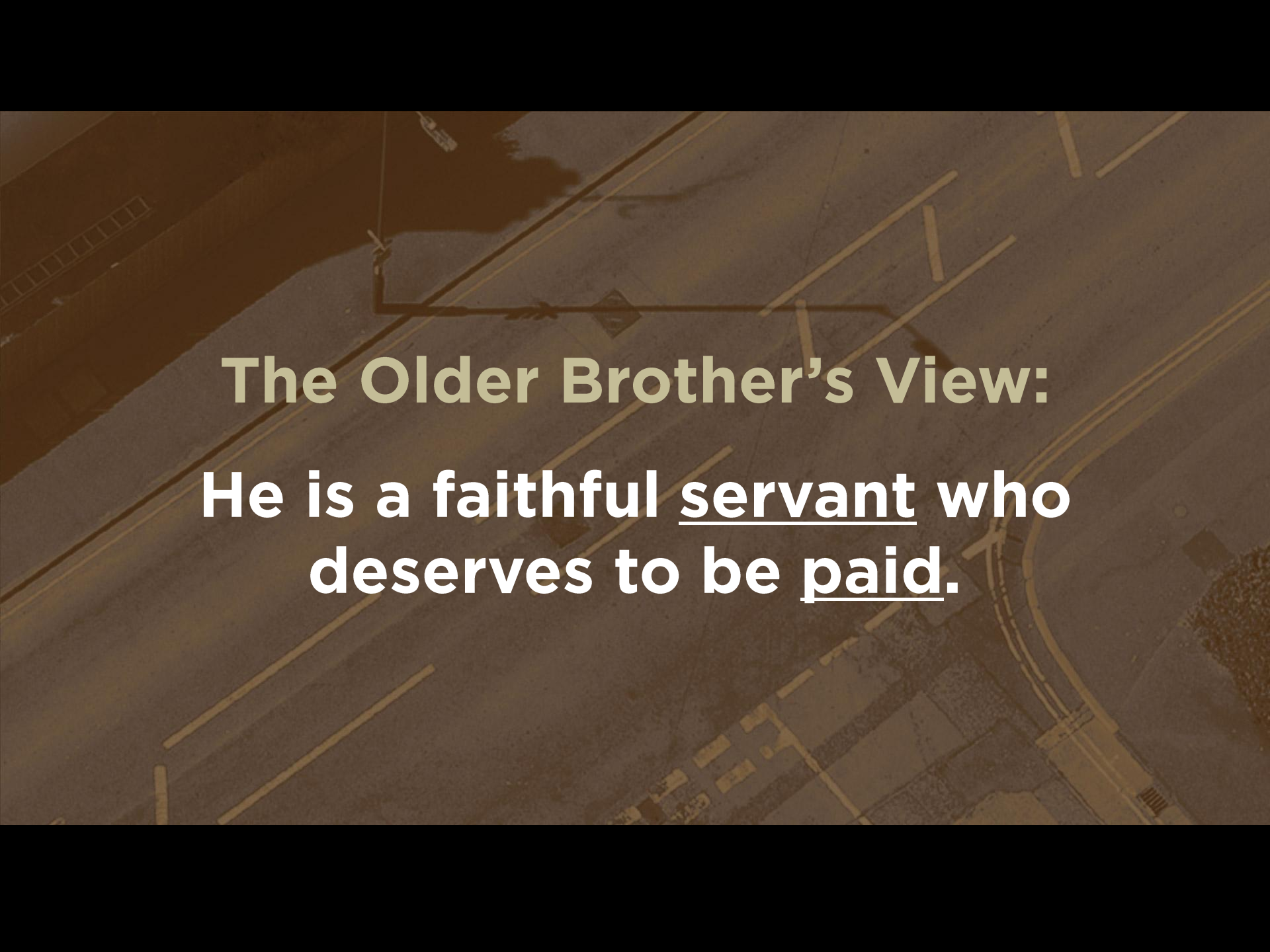
but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing a traffic light and lane markings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

Luke 15:30

**But when this son of yours came,
who has devoured your property
with prostitutes, you killed the
fattened calf for him!'**

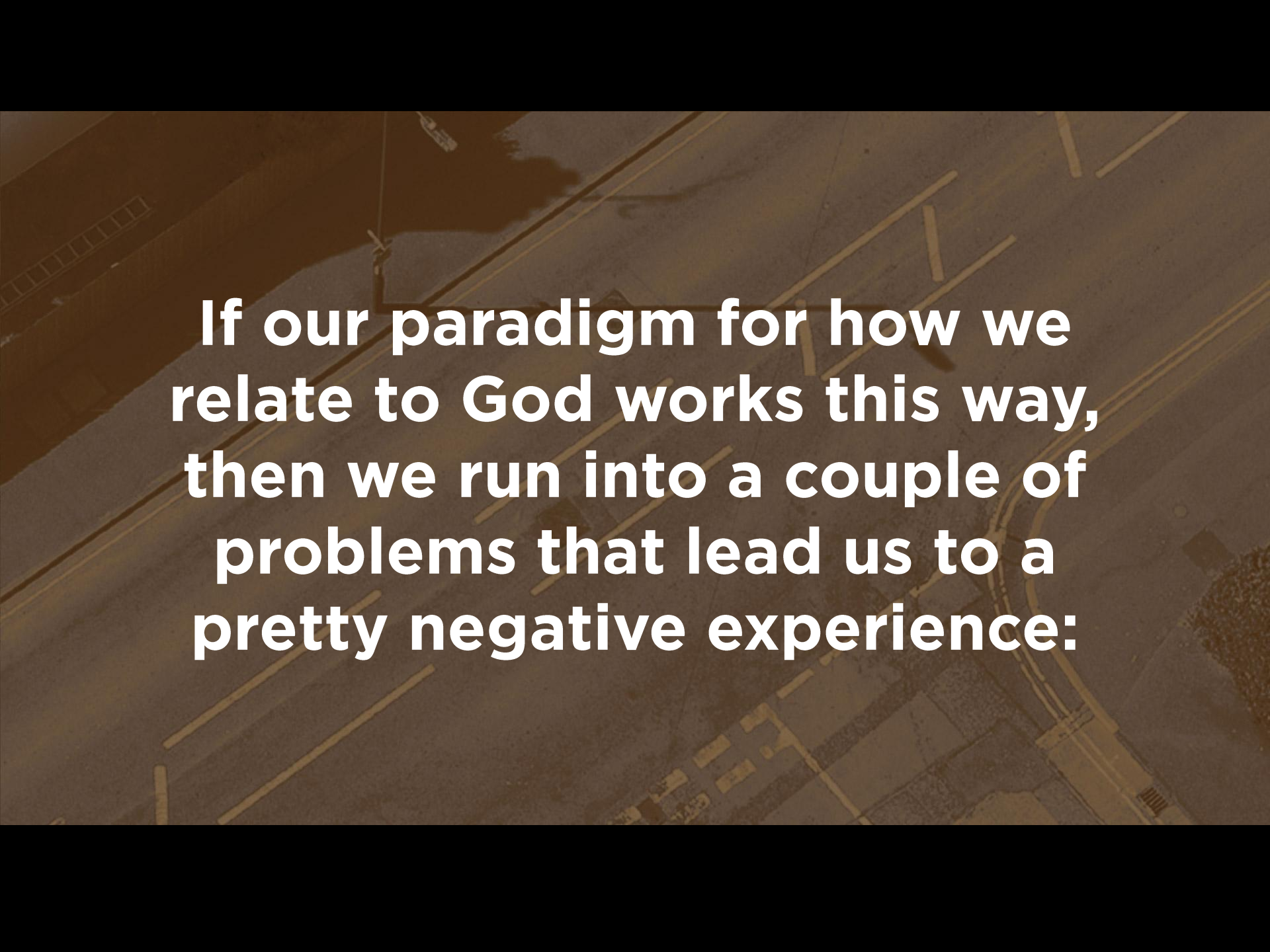


An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The image shows a multi-lane road with yellow and white lane markings, a diamond-shaped road sign, and a building in the background. The text is centered over the image.

**The Older Brother's View:
He is a faithful servant who
deserves to be paid.**



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An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing lane markings and a building. The image is overlaid with a dark brown, semi-transparent filter. Centered on the image is a block of white text.

If our paradigm for how we relate to God works this way, then we run into a couple of problems that lead us to a pretty negative experience:

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The image shows multiple lanes of traffic, lane markings, and a central intersection point. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

1. When we live up to our standards:

We expect a certain kind of life

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a dark brown semi-transparent filter. A prominent dark shadow is cast across the road surface, suggesting a person or object just out of frame. The road has yellow lane markings and a diamond-shaped sign. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

2. When we fail:

We experience devastating guilt





Luke 15:31

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.'

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The image shows a multi-lane road with yellow and white lane markings. A street sign is visible at the intersection. The text is centered over the image.

Luke 15:32

It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.””



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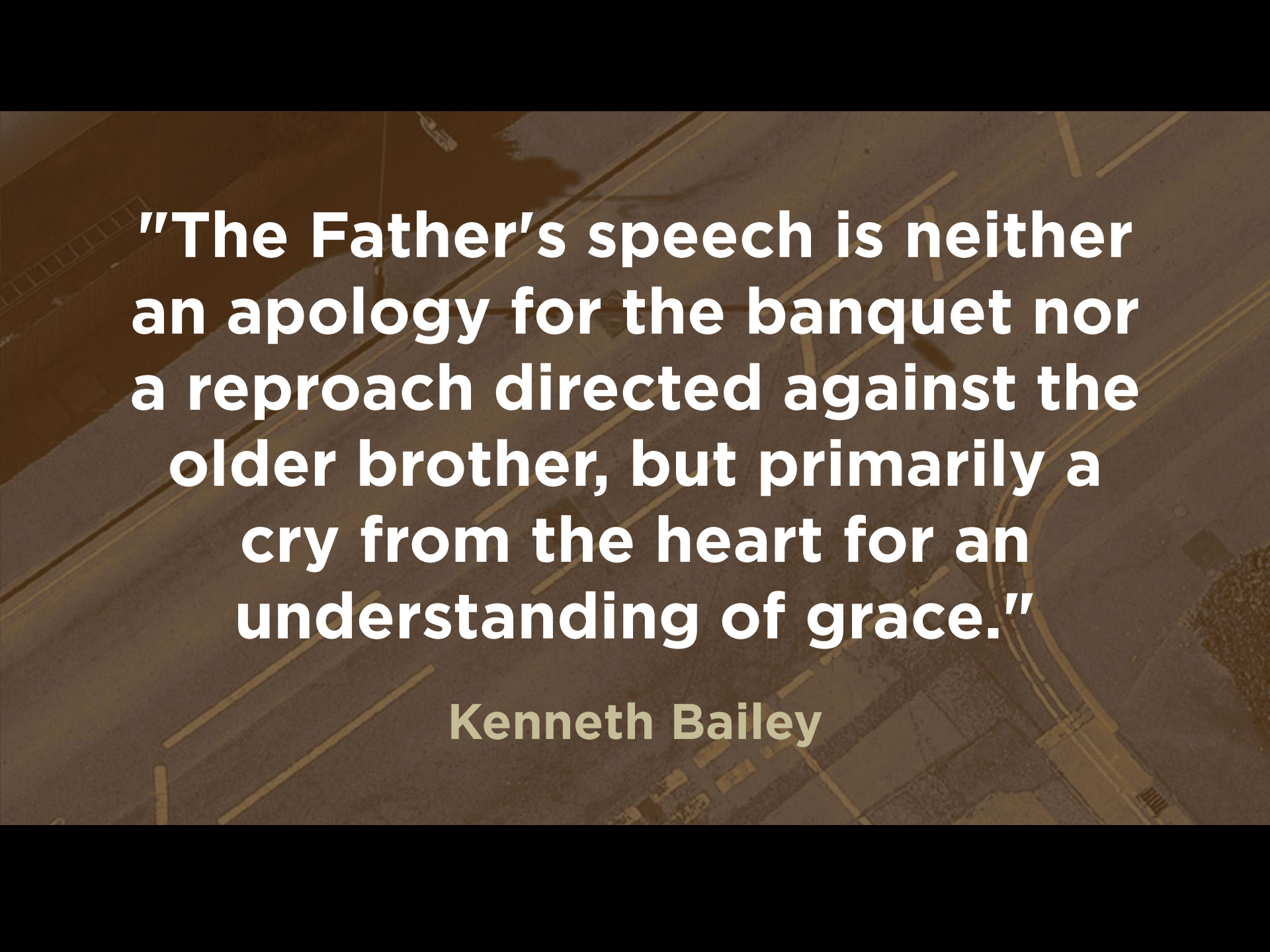
An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing lane markings and a diamond-shaped sign. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

The Father's View:

**He is a beloved son who is an
heir to everything.**



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An aerial photograph of a city street grid, showing a network of roads and buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered and reads:

"The Father's speech is neither an apology for the banquet nor a reproach directed against the older brother, but primarily a cry from the heart for an understanding of grace."

Kenneth Bailey



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An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The image shows a multi-lane road with yellow and white lane markings, including a roundabout on the right side. The text is centered over the road.

**Reorientation to the gospel:
Step into the party!**

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing lane markings, a stop sign, and a traffic light pole. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text "How does that change my life?" is centered in white, bold font.

How does that change my life?



An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing lane markings and a central diamond-shaped sign. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

**If you want to improve your
marriage...**

Ephesians 5

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The image shows a multi-lane road with yellow and white lane markings, a crosswalk, and a stop sign. The text is centered over the image.

**If you want to serve the
poor/be generous...**

2 Corinthians 8:9

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing multiple lanes and a roundabout. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

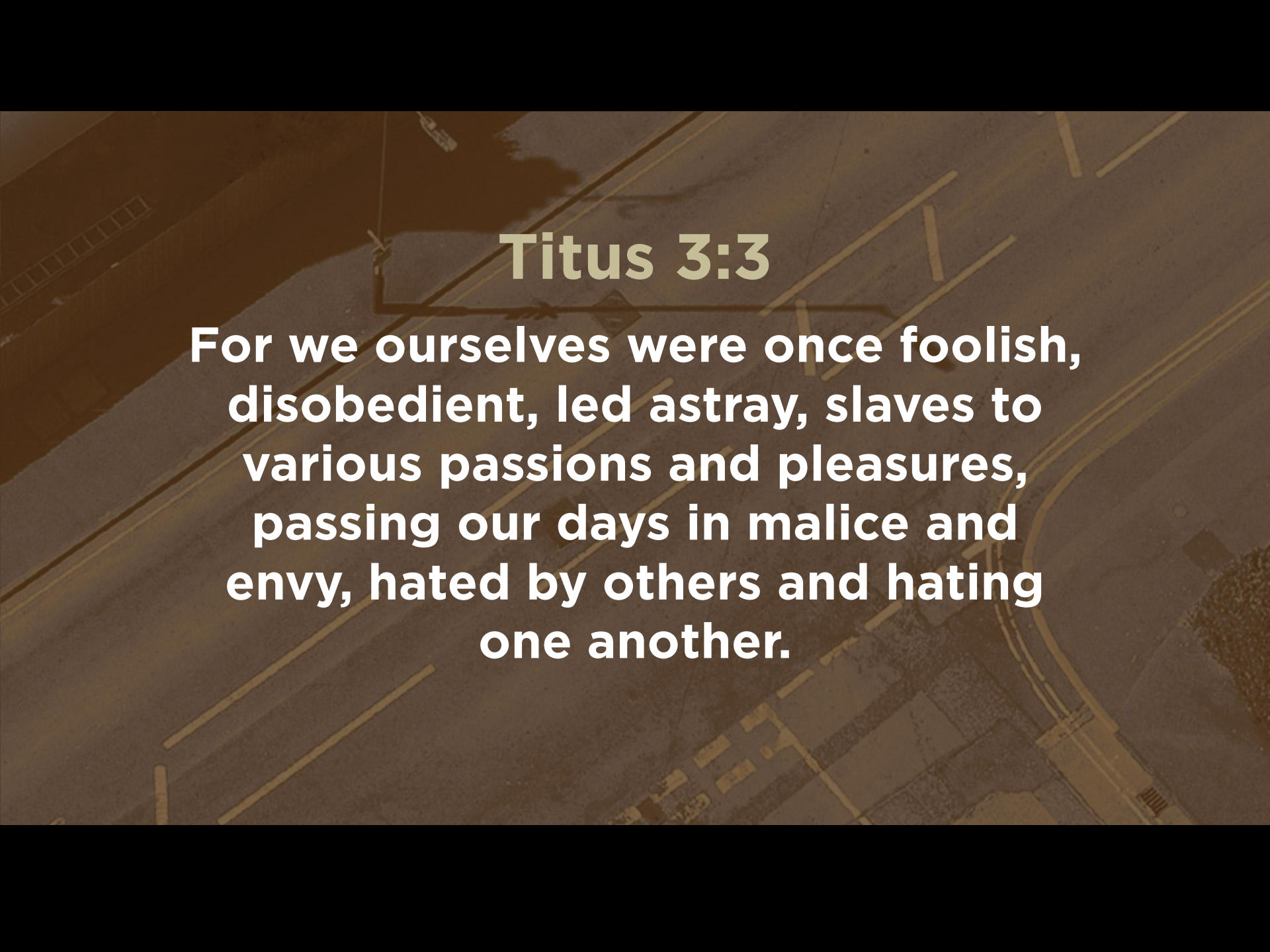
**If you want to challenge social
ills and impact society/politics...**

Titus 3:1-8




Titus 3:1-2

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing multiple lanes and a central island. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

Titus 3:3

**For we ourselves were once foolish,
disobedient, led astray, slaves to
various passions and pleasures,
passing our days in malice and
envy, hated by others and hating
one another.**

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. A diamond-shaped sign is visible at the intersection. The text is centered over the image.

Titus 3:4

**But when the goodness and loving
kindness of God our Savior
appeared,**

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

Titus 3:5

**he saved us, not because of works
done by us in righteousness, but
according to his own mercy, by the
washing of regeneration and
renewal of the Holy Spirit,**

An aerial photograph of a road intersection, overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.


Titus 3:6-7

whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:8

The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.



An aerial photograph of a road intersection, showing a diamond-shaped sign in the center. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent brown filter. The text is centered on the image.

Change your perspective:
You are God's beloved child,
and heir to his kingdom.

