

Honor the LORD with your possessions,
And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
So your barns will be filled with plenty,
And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (New King James Version)



Growing in Faith

**Money in the
Kingdom of God**

**Honoring God
With Our Money**



Beginning Thoughts

**Honoring God
With Our Money**

1. Everything Belongs To The LORD



Psalm 24:1

The earth *is* the LORD's, and all its fullness,
The world and those who dwell therein.





Psalm 50:10-11

*For every beast of the forest is Mine,
And the cattle on a thousand hills.
I know all the birds of the mountains,
And the wild beasts of the field are Mine.*

2. We are Stewards of the Money



*Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ
and stewards of the mysteries of God.
Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.*

1 Corinthians 4:2



Dangers of Money



Dangers of Money

Disappear

*Will you set your eyes on that which is not?
For riches certainly make themselves wings;
They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.
Proverbs 23:5*



Dangers of Money

Enslave

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (money).

Matthew 6:24



Dangers of Money

Now godliness with contentment is great gain.
1 Timothy 6.6



Dangers of Money

*For we brought nothing into this world,
and it is certain we can carry nothing out.
And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.
1 Timothy 6:7-8*



Dangers of Money

Hurt

*But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare,
and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in
destruction and perdition.*

1 Timothy 6:9



Dangers of Money

Hurt

For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:10



Dangers of Money

Haughty – Trust in Riches

Command those who are rich in this present age not
to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches ...

1 Timothy 6:17



Dangers of Money

Haughty – Trust in Riches

nor to trust in uncertain riches...
but in the living God,
who gives us richly all things to enjoy.
1 Timothy 6:17

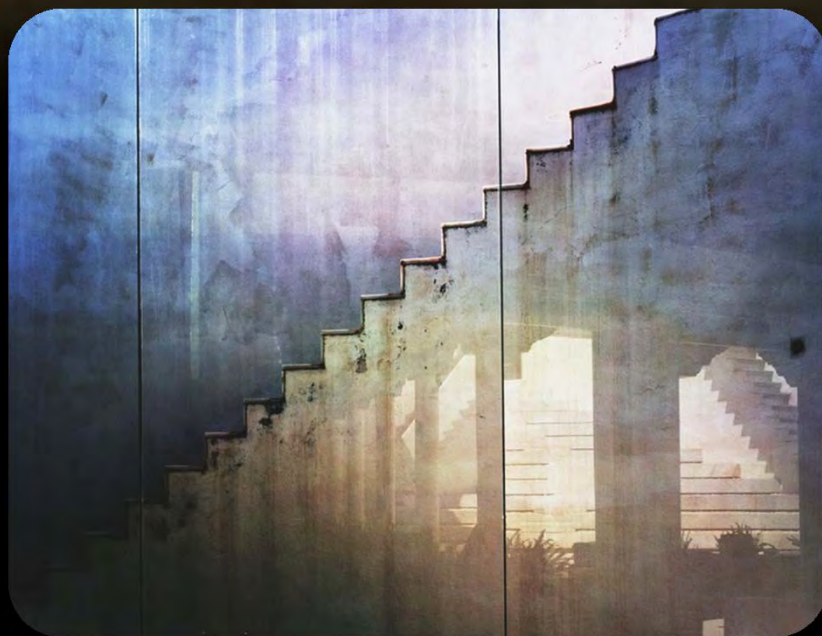


**Priesthood
to offer
Spiritual Sacrifices**

**Honoring God
With Our Money**

1 Peter 2:4-5

Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house...



1 Peter 2:4-5

...a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



1 Peter 2:4-5

...a holy priesthood,
to offer up spiritual sacrifices
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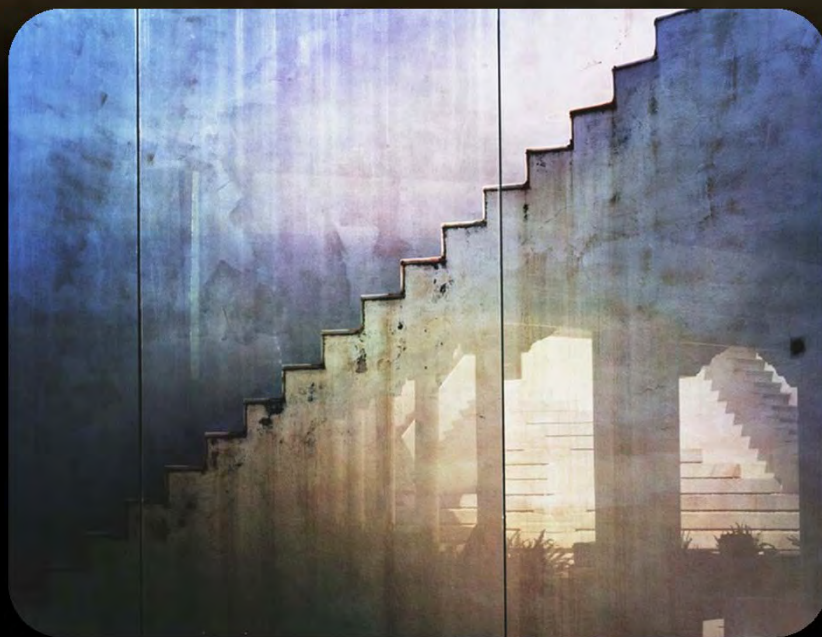
1 Peter 2:4-5

...a holy priesthood,
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1 Peter 2:4-5

Not All Offerings Are Acceptable Spiritual Sacrifices



Genesis 4 – First Sacrifice to the Lord



Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering.

Genesis 4:3-5

Genesis 4 – First Sacrifice to the Lord



And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.
So the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it.”

Genesis 4:6-7

Genesis 4 – First Sacrifice to the Lord



Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

Genesis 4:8

Genesis 4 – First Sacrifice to the Lord



LESSON:

People often get discouraged and upset at how God blesses others, because of their giving, and not them.

Genesis 4 – First Sacrifice to the Lord



Why did God accept one offering
and reject the other offering?

1 Peter 2:4-5

What Constitutes an Acceptable Spiritual Sacrifice?

Three Things



Hebrews 11:4

By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.



Giving in Faith

*But without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for he who comes to God must believe that He is,
and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
Hebrews 11:6*



Giving in Joy

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart,
not grudgingly or of necessity;
for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7



Joy

Giving in Love

Let all *that you do* be done with love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



Giving in Love

*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,
and though I give my body to be burned,
but have not love, it profits me nothing.*

1 Corinthians 16:14



**Those Three Should Be
In All Offerings or Sacrifices**

The Offerings of Giving Praise and Worship

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

Hebrews 13:15

Offered in Faith

Offered in Joy

Offered in Love



The Offerings of Giving Our Money

*But do not forget to do good and to share,
for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*

Hebrews 13:16

Offered in Faith

Offered in Joy

Offered in Love



The Offerings of Giving Ourselves

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God...

Romans 12:1

Offered in Faith

Offered in Joy

Offered in Love



The Offerings of Giving of Service

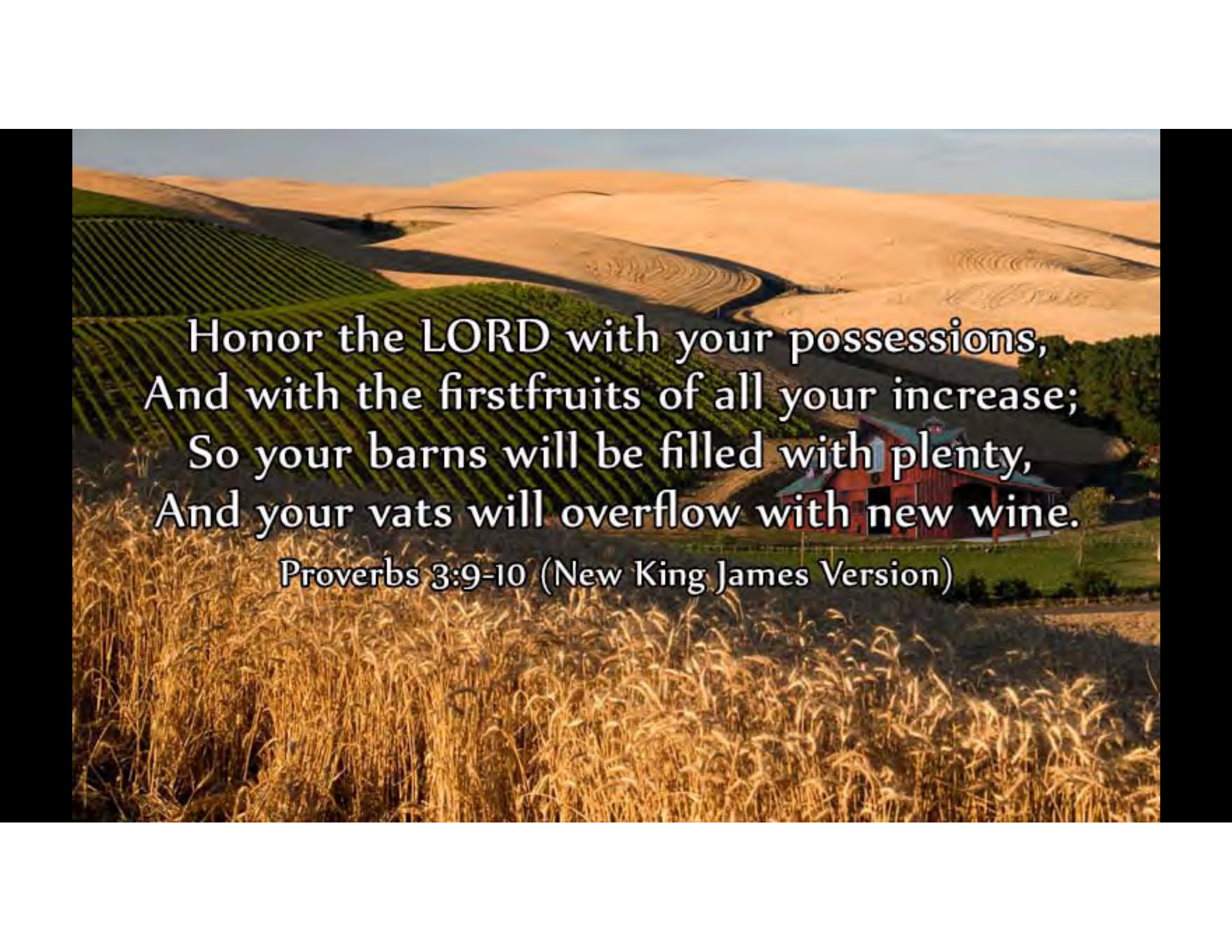
*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God...
which is your reasonable service.* Romans 12:1

Offered in Faith

Offered in Joy

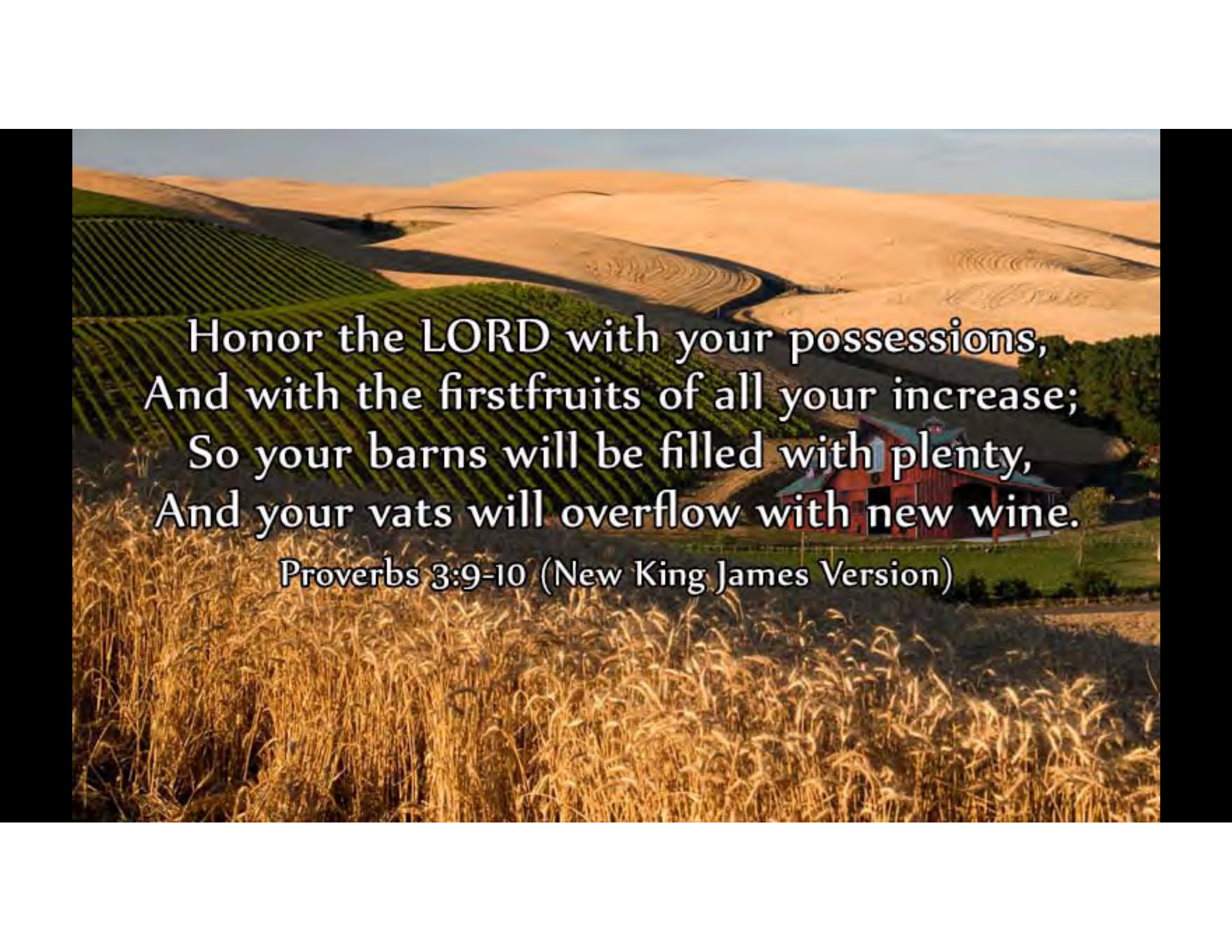
Offered in Love





Honor the LORD with your possessions,
And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
So your barns will be filled with plenty,
And your vats will overflow with new wine.

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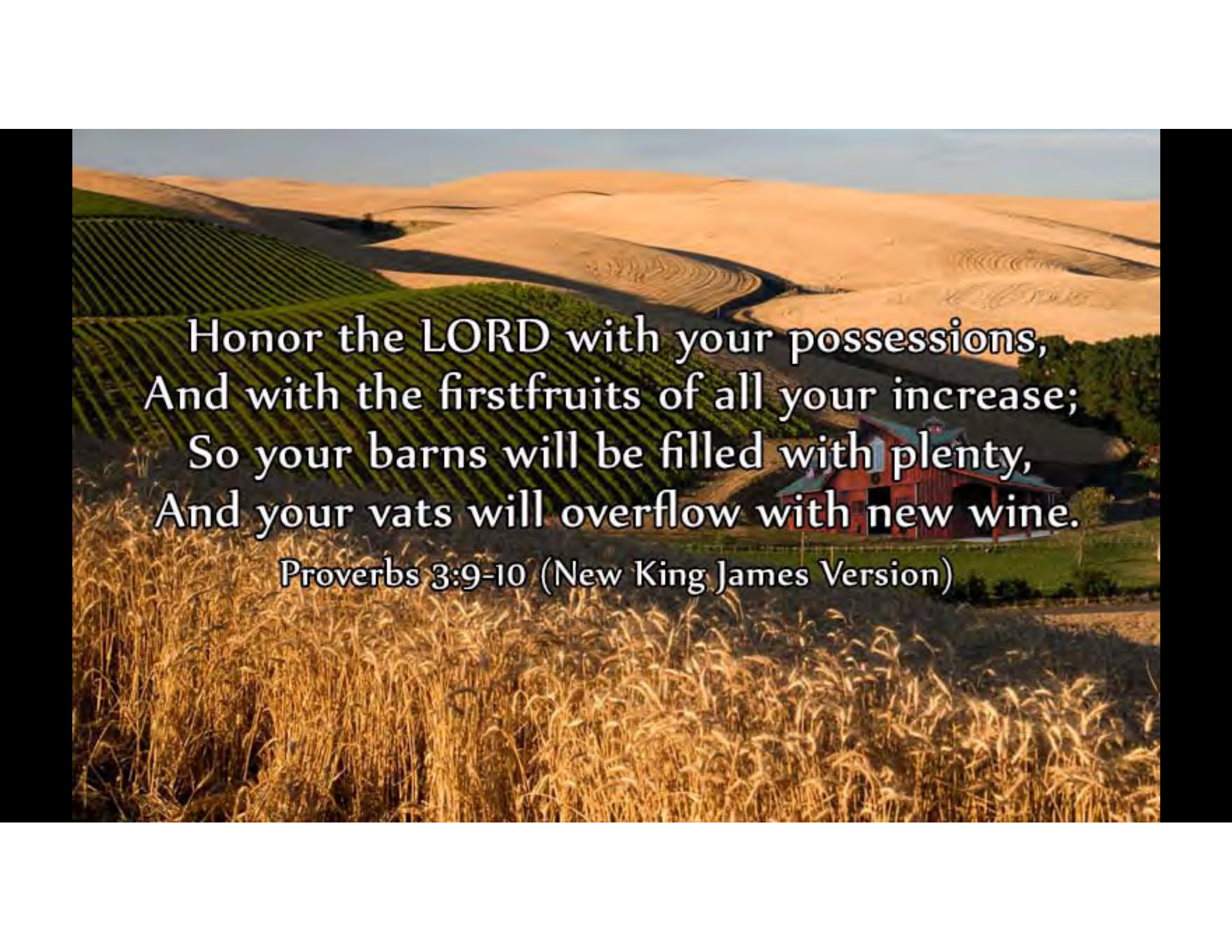
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A Promise

A Condition



Honor the LORD with your possessions,
And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
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Promise Great Blessing



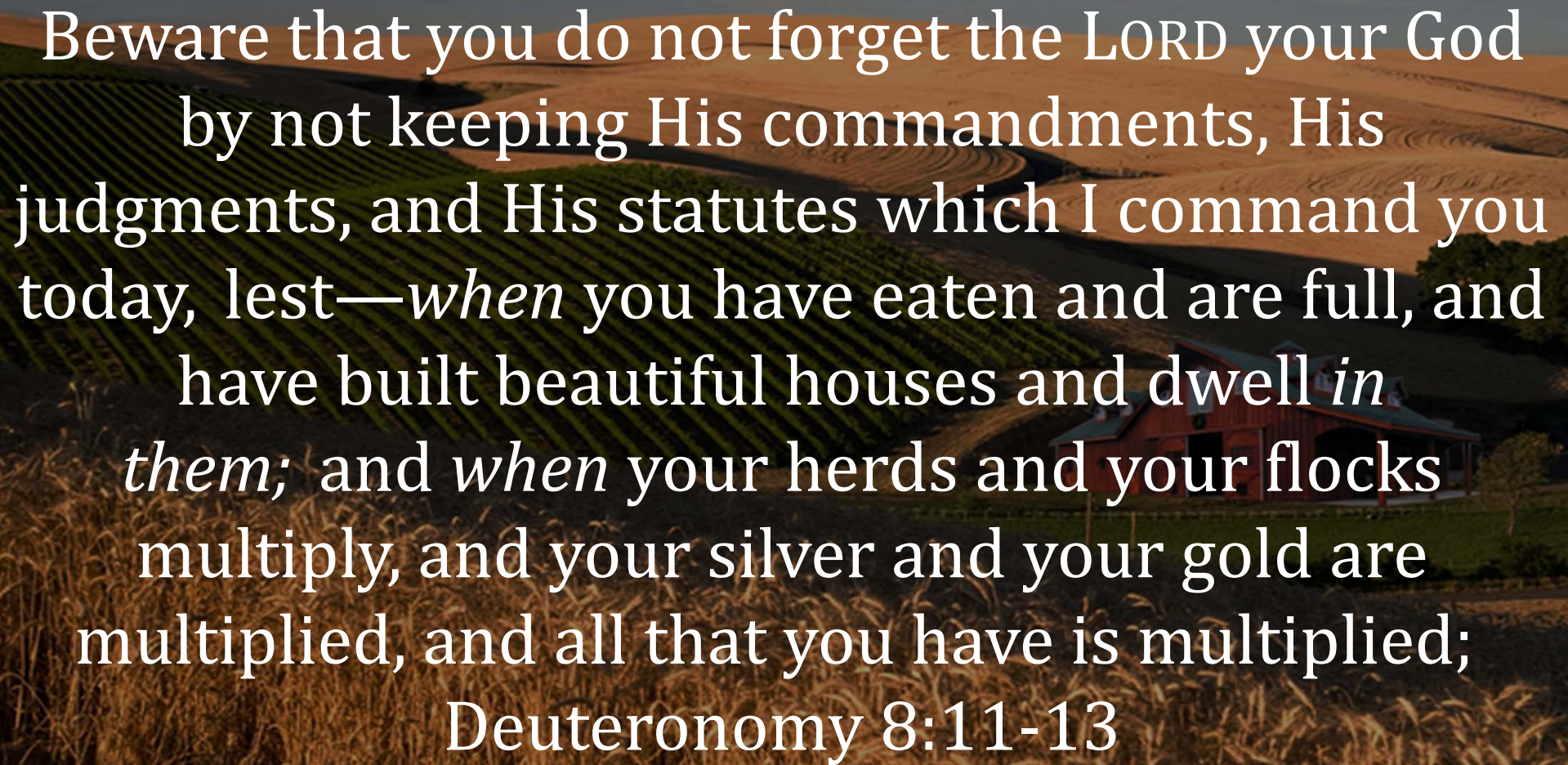
Condition
Honoring with your
possessions

What does that mean?

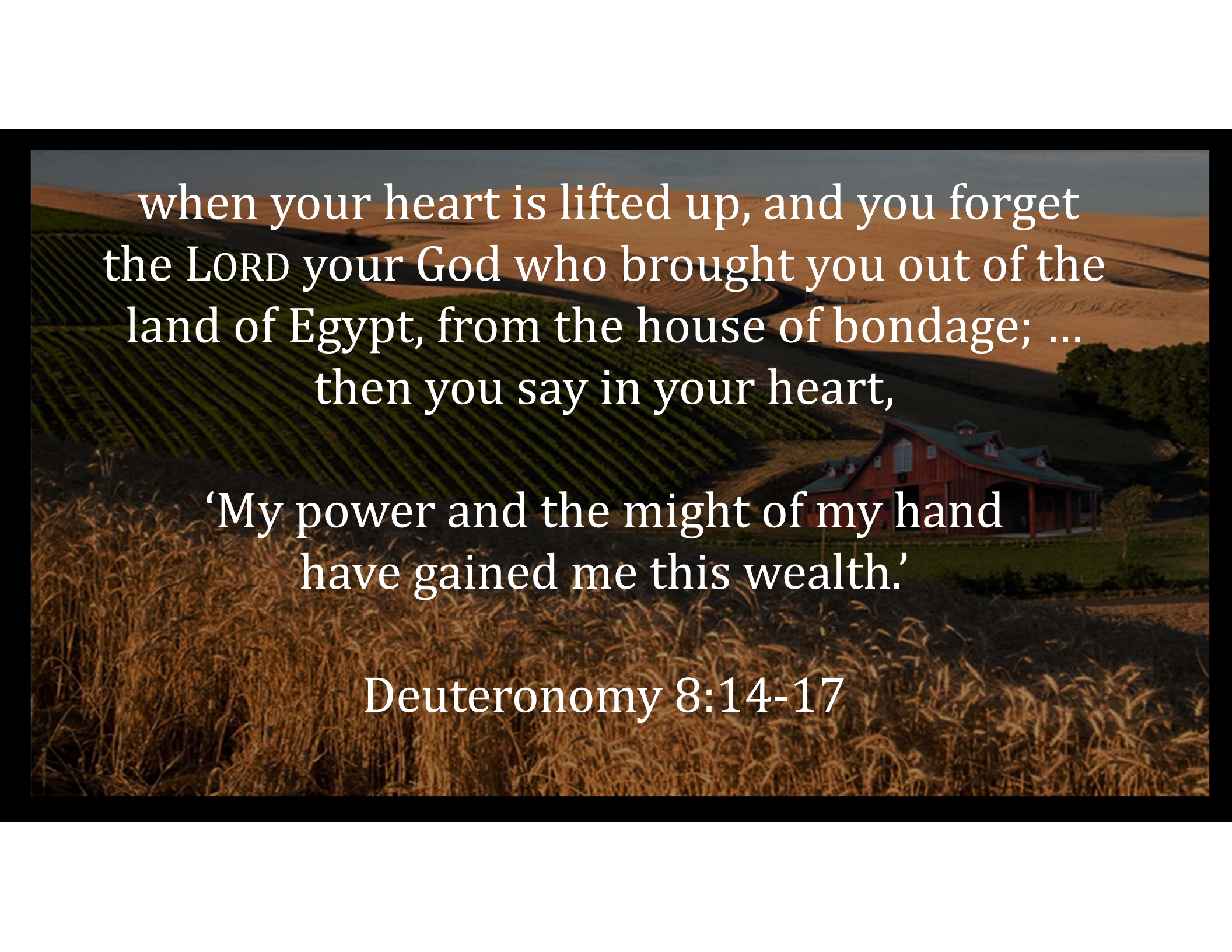


Contrast

Dishonoring
God with your
possessions

The background image is a pastoral landscape. In the foreground, there are golden-brown wheat fields. In the middle ground, a red barn with a blue roof is visible, surrounded by green grass. The background features rolling hills with distinct agricultural patterns, possibly terracing or different crops, under a soft, hazy sky. The overall tone is warm and serene.

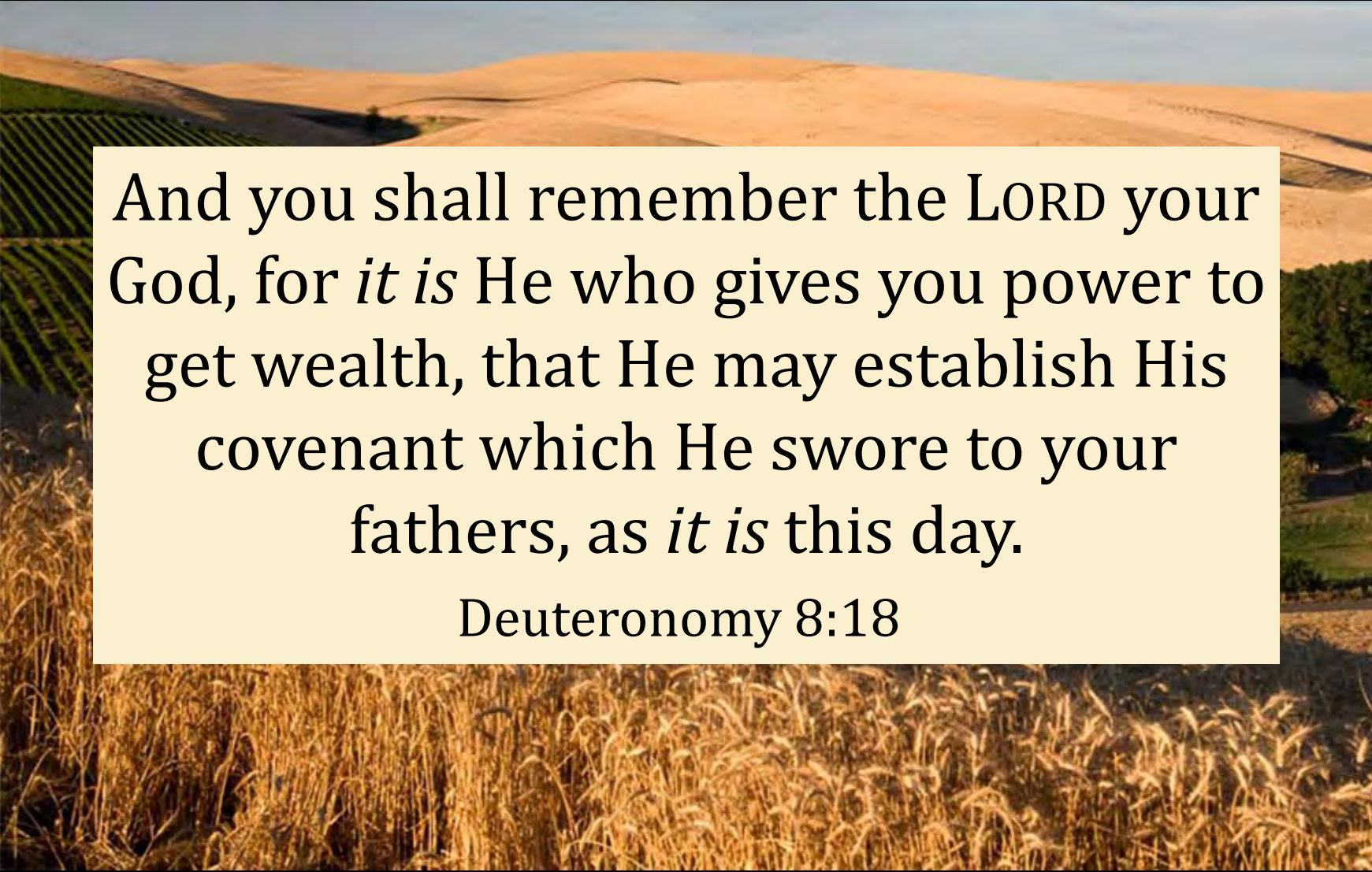
Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God
by not keeping His commandments, His
judgments, and His statutes which I command you
today, lest—*when* you have eaten and are full, and
have built beautiful houses and dwell *in*
them; and *when* your herds and your flocks
multiply, and your silver and your gold are
multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied;
Deuteronomy 8:11-13

The background image is a composite landscape. The foreground is filled with tall, golden wheat. In the middle ground, there's a red barn with a green roof and a small porch. Behind the barn, the land rises into rolling hills. The left side of the hills is covered in green crops, possibly corn, planted in neat rows. The right side of the hills is a mix of green grass and some trees. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

when your heart is lifted up, and you forget
the LORD your God who brought you out of the
land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; ...
then you say in your heart,

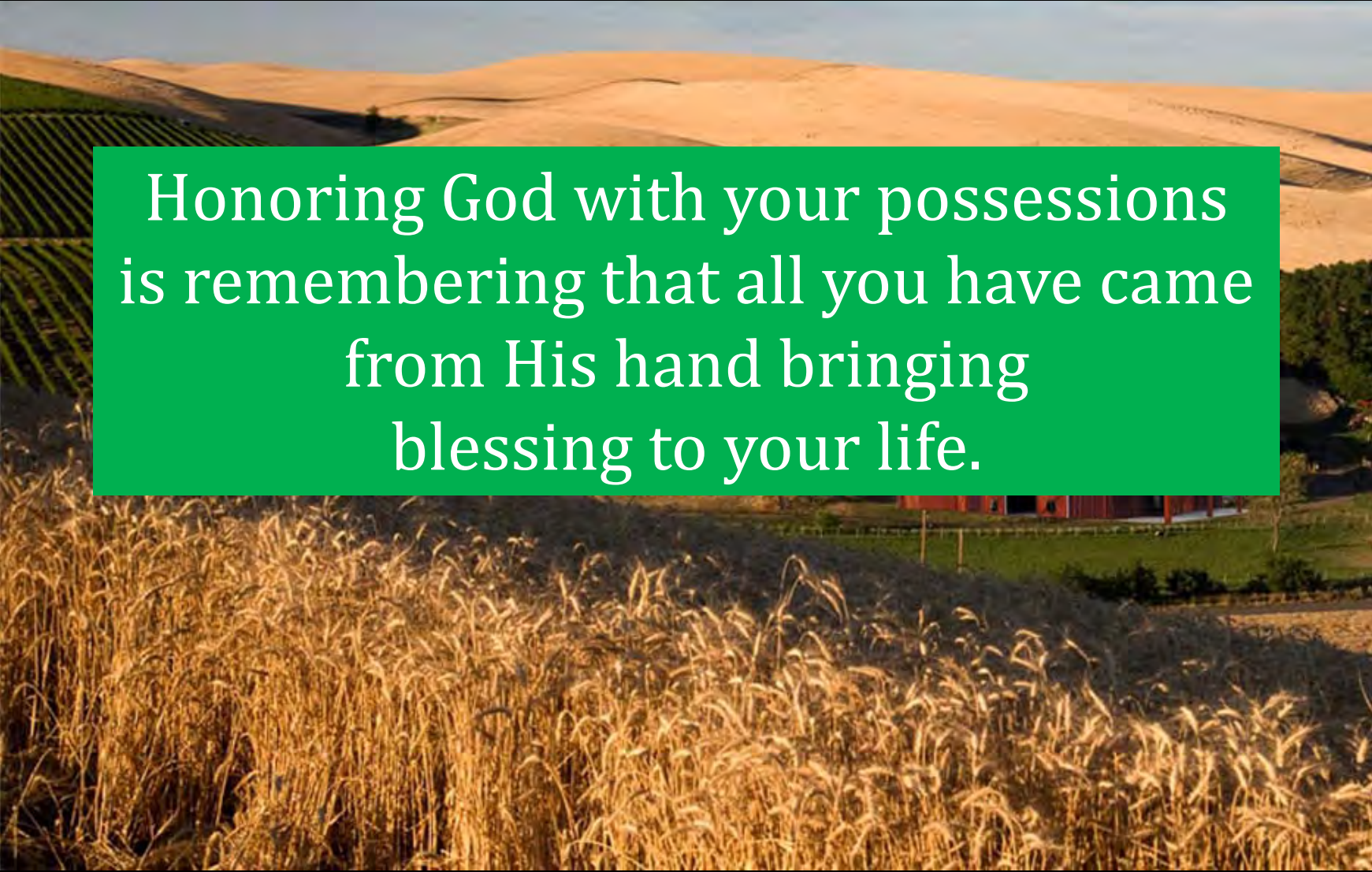
‘My power and the might of my hand
have gained me this wealth.’

Deuteronomy 8:14-17

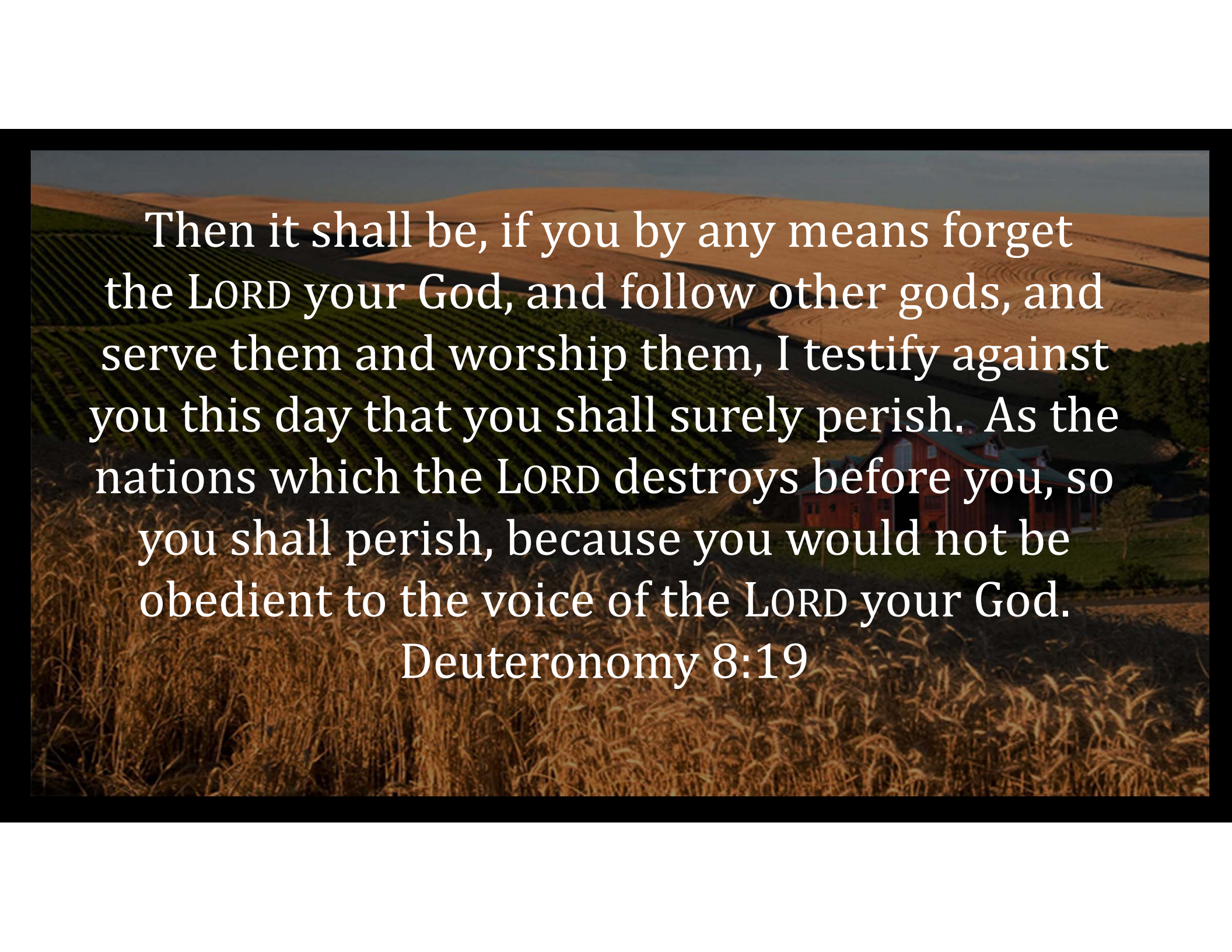


And you shall remember the LORD your
God, for *it is* He who gives you power to
get wealth, that He may establish His
covenant which He swore to your
fathers, as *it is* this day.

Deuteronomy 8:18



Honoring God with your possessions
is remembering that all you have came
from His hand bringing
blessing to your life.

The background image is a scenic landscape. In the foreground, there is a field of tall, golden-brown grass. In the middle ground, a red barn with a green roof is visible, partially obscured by the grass. The background features rolling hills with green fields and sandy dunes under a clear sky.

Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 8:19

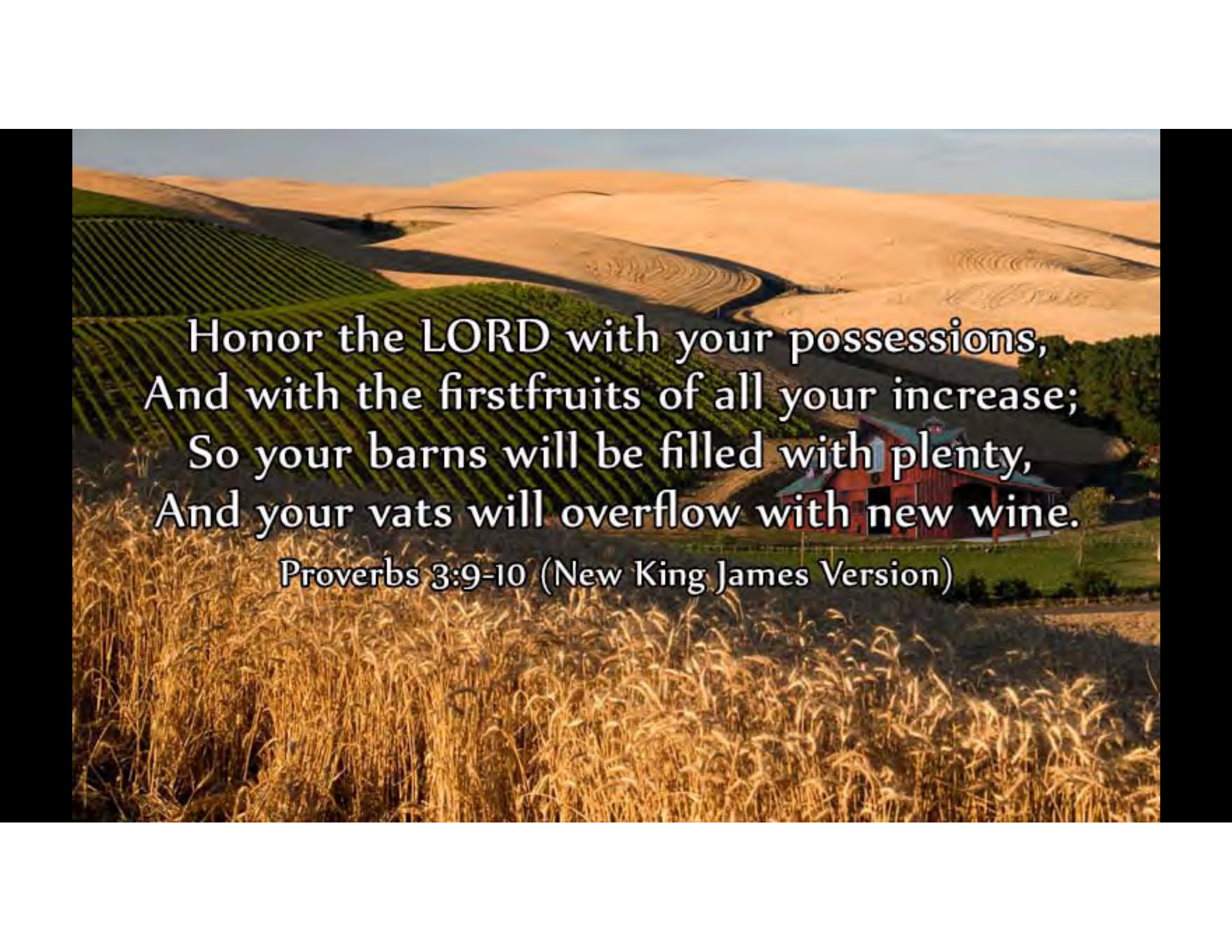
Condition For Blessing?





Honoring The Lord With Your Possessions

First Fruits
Alms
Tithe
Sowing and Reaping



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