

Faith, Finances, and the God Who Rewards

Hebrews 11:6; Luke 12:13-34

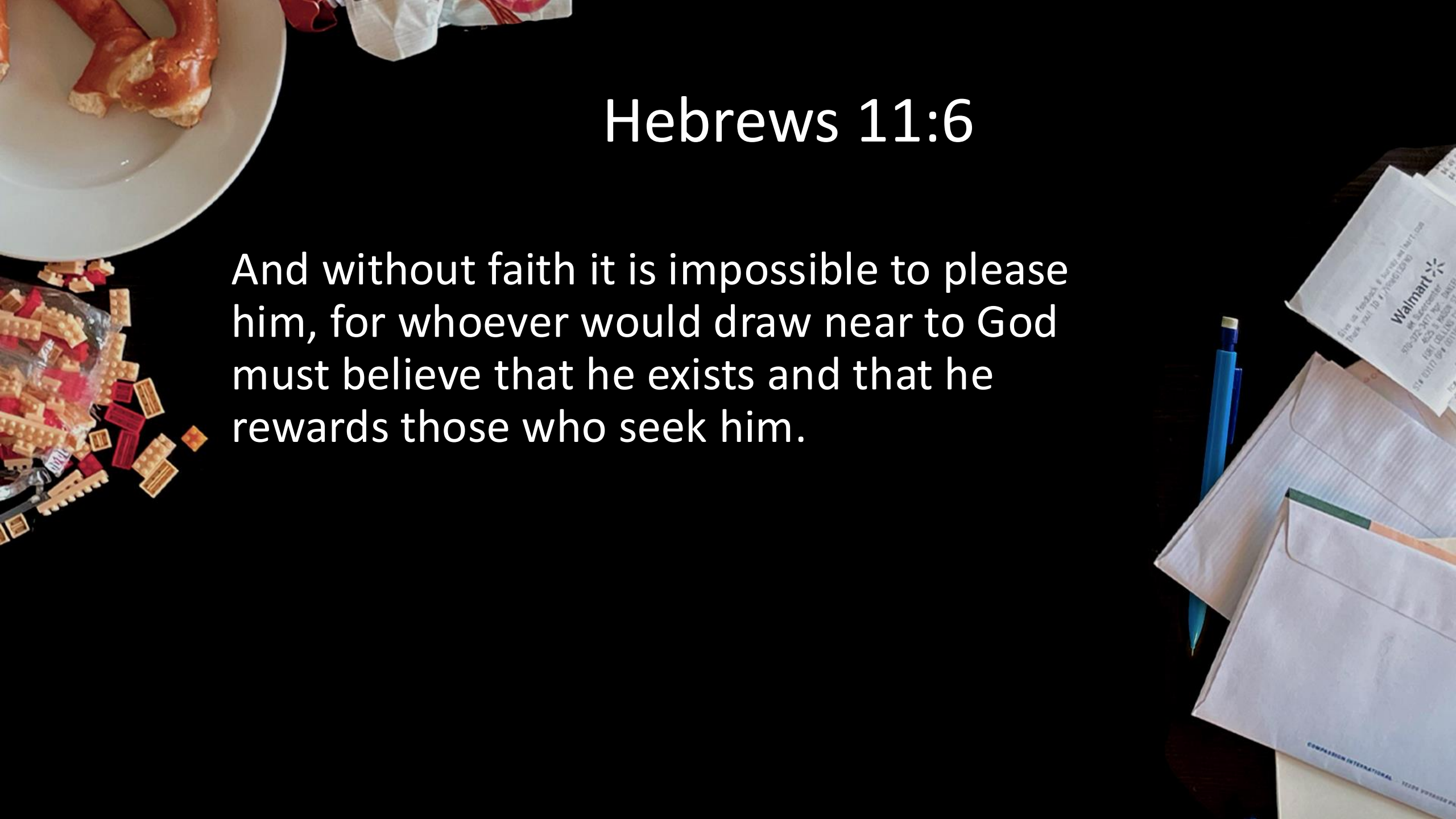




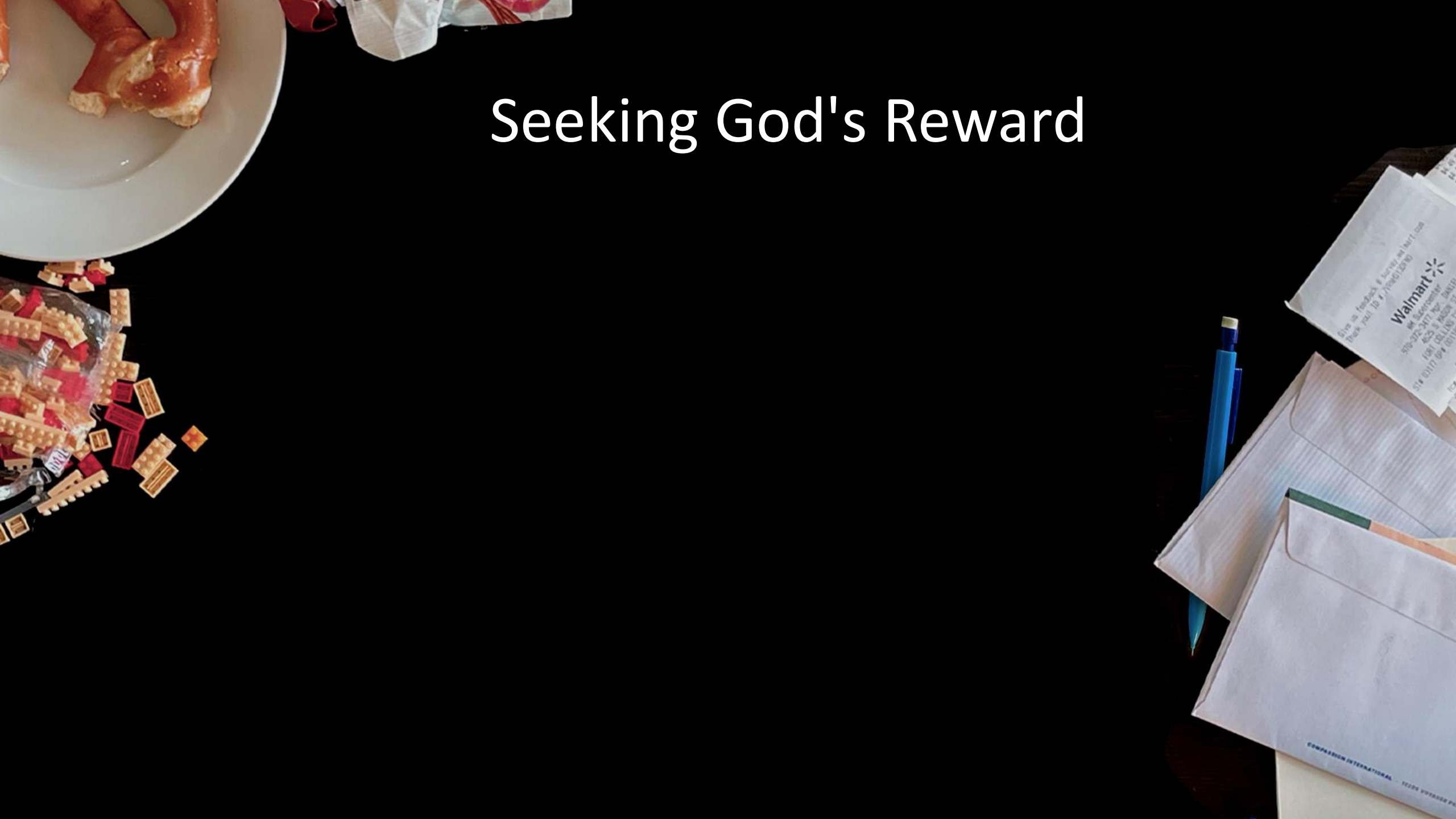


Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

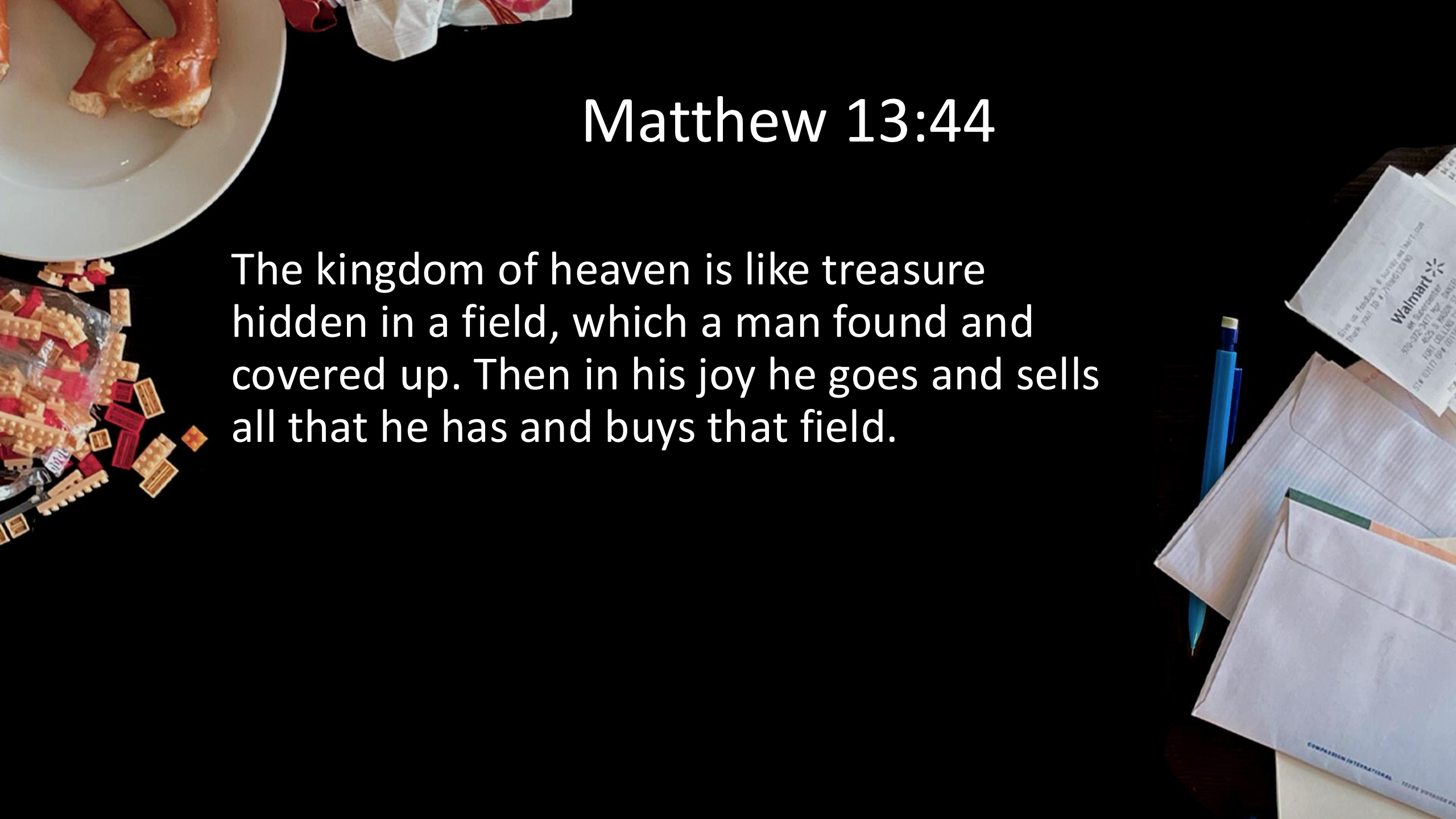


Seeking God's Reward



Matthew 13:44

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.







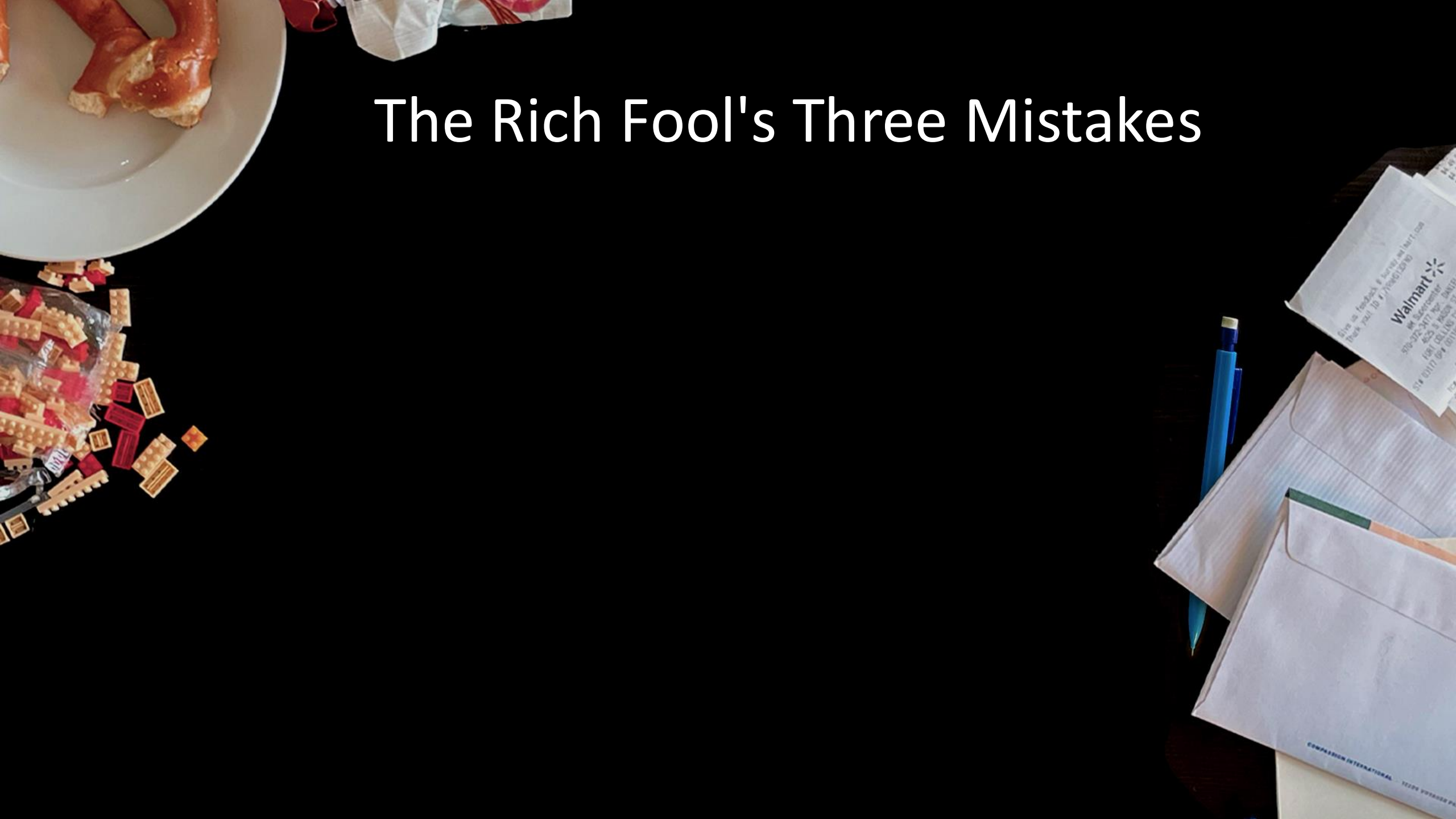
Luke 12:16-21

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Luke 12:16-21

And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

The Rich Fool's Three Mistakes





The Rich Fool's Three Mistakes

- He thought his life was his own.
“my crops, my barns, my grain, my goods”



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- He thought security came from accumulation.
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"my crops, my barns, my grain, my goods"
- He thought security came from accumulation.
"I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones"
- He thought he had time.
"Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry"





The Rich Fool's Three Mistakes

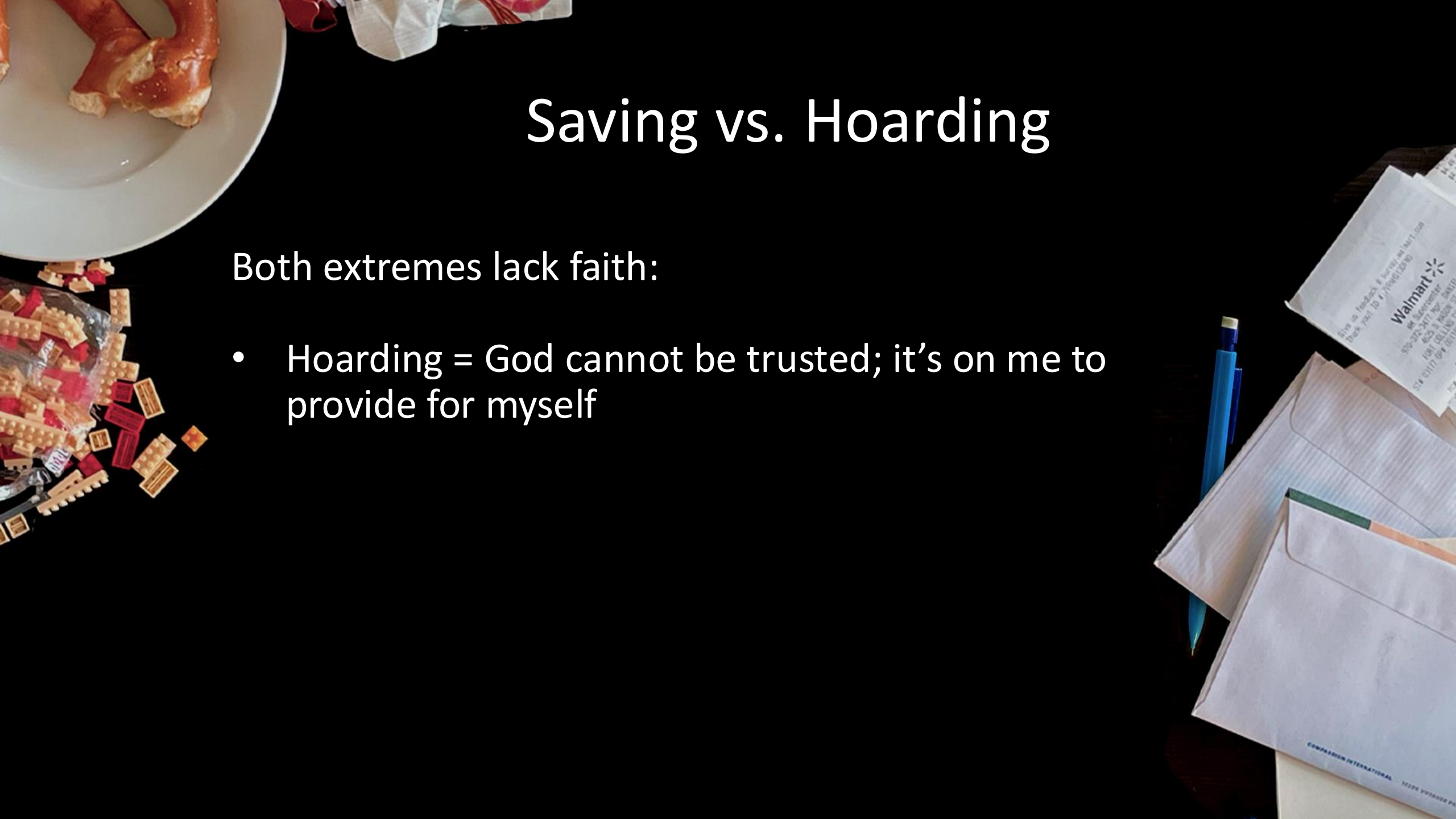
- **Proverbs 21:20 (NIV)**
The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down
- **Proverbs 30:8b-9**
Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the LORD?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.



Saving vs. Hoarding

Both extremes lack faith:

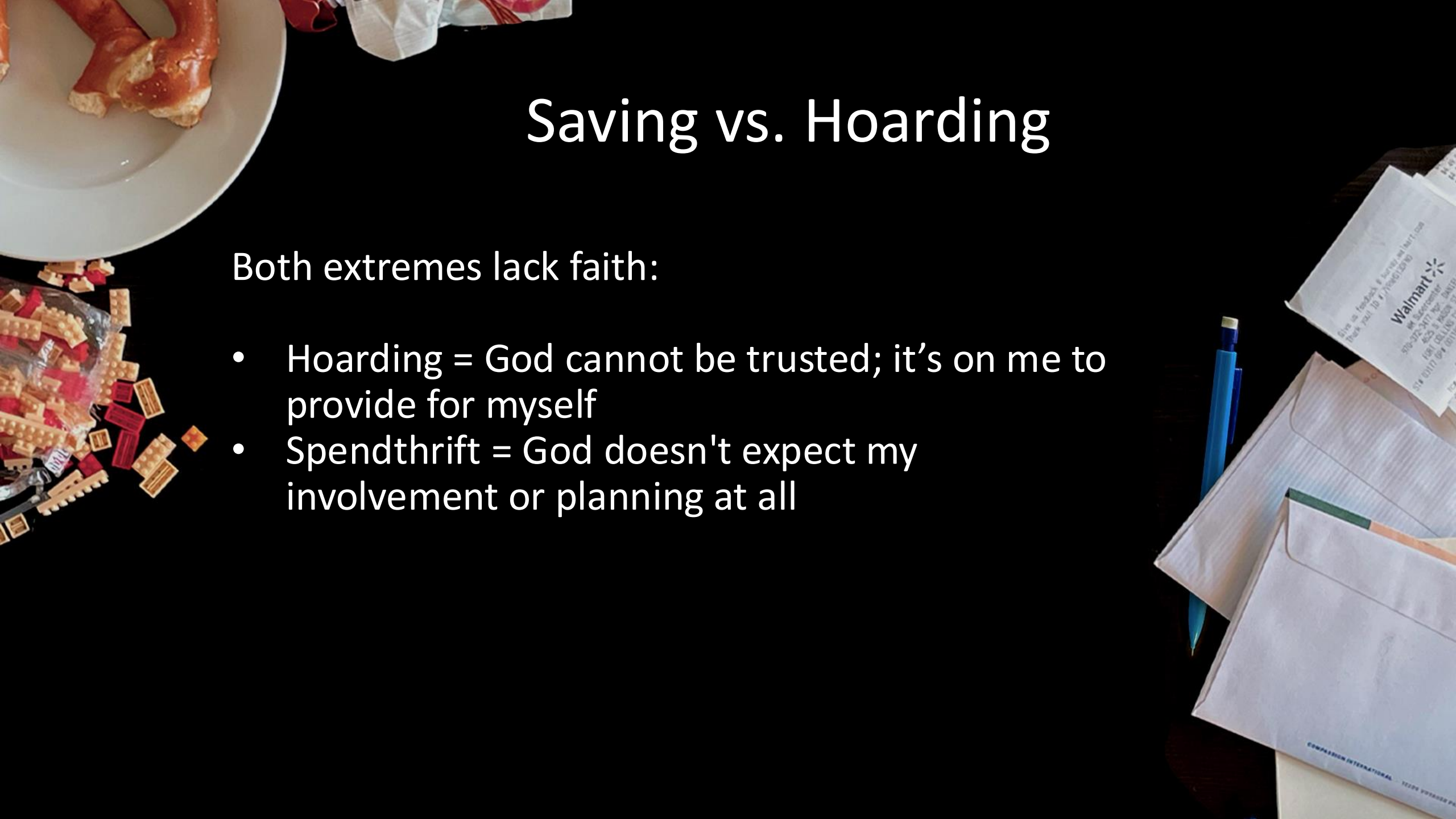
- Hoarding = God cannot be trusted; it's on me to provide for myself



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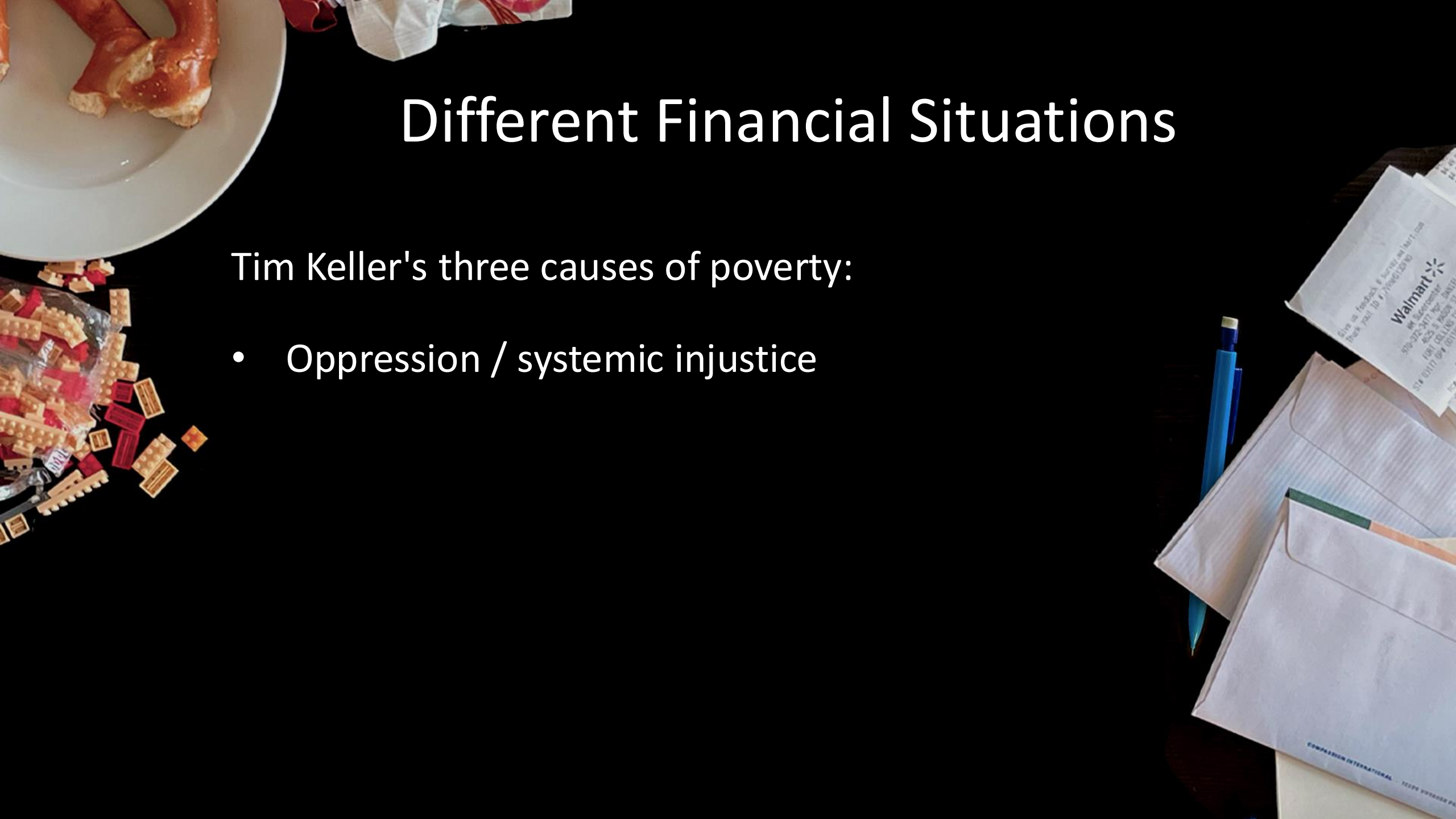
Faith = I spend and save wisely and live generously, trusting God for today and tomorrow



Different Financial Situations

Tim Keller's three causes of poverty:

- Oppression / systemic injustice





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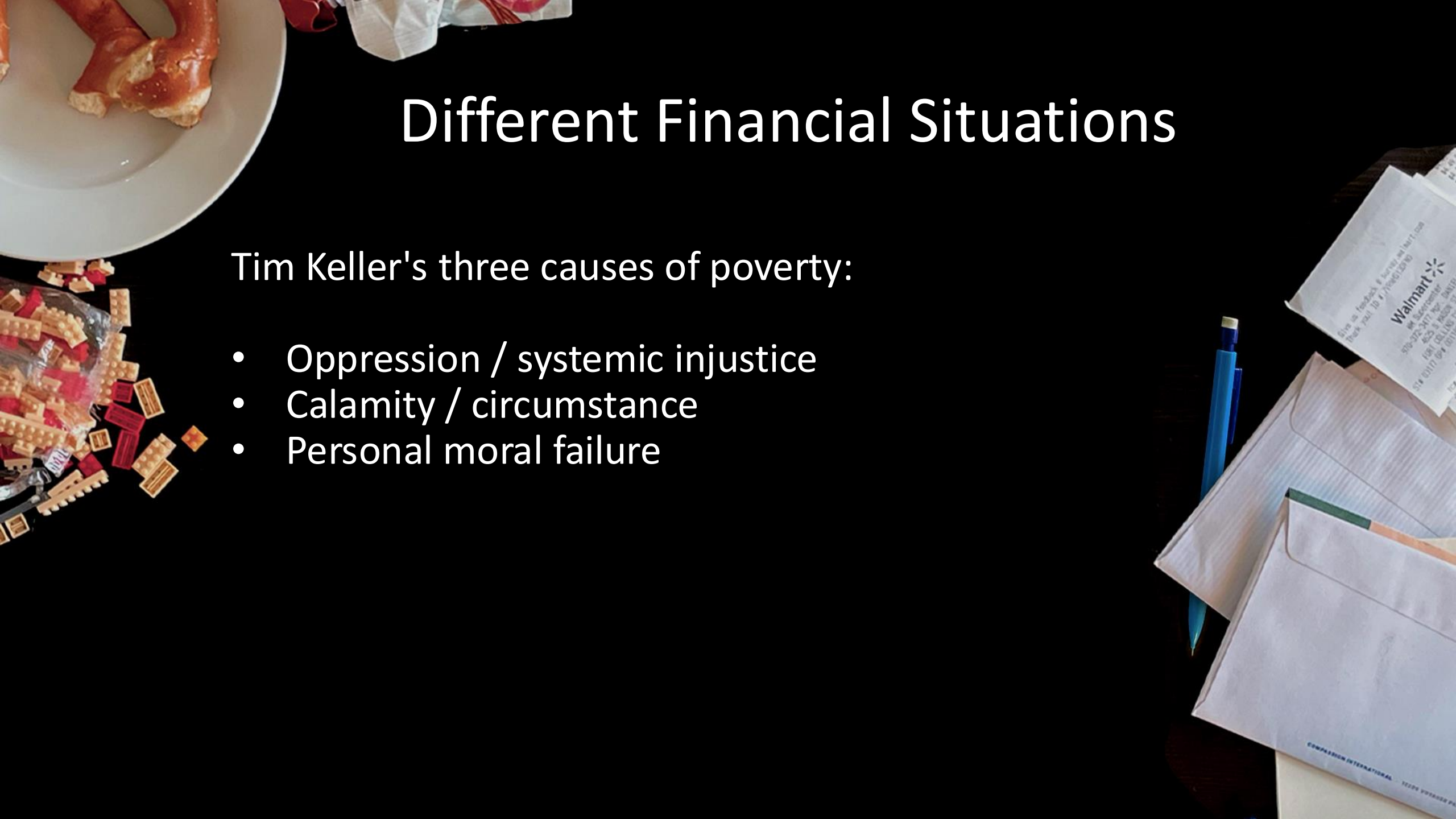
- Oppression / systemic injustice
- Calamity / circumstance

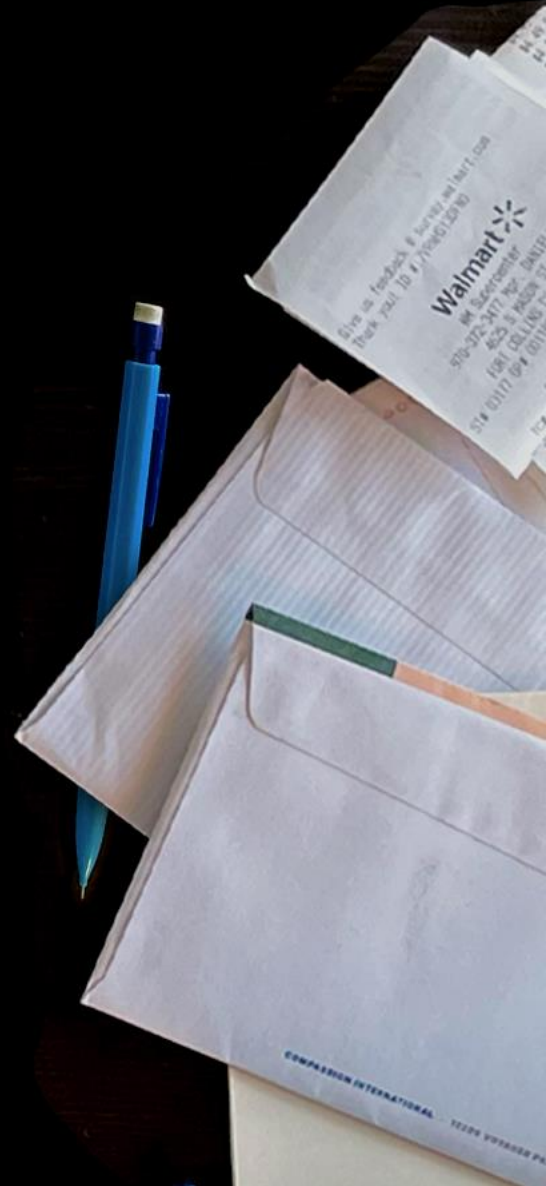


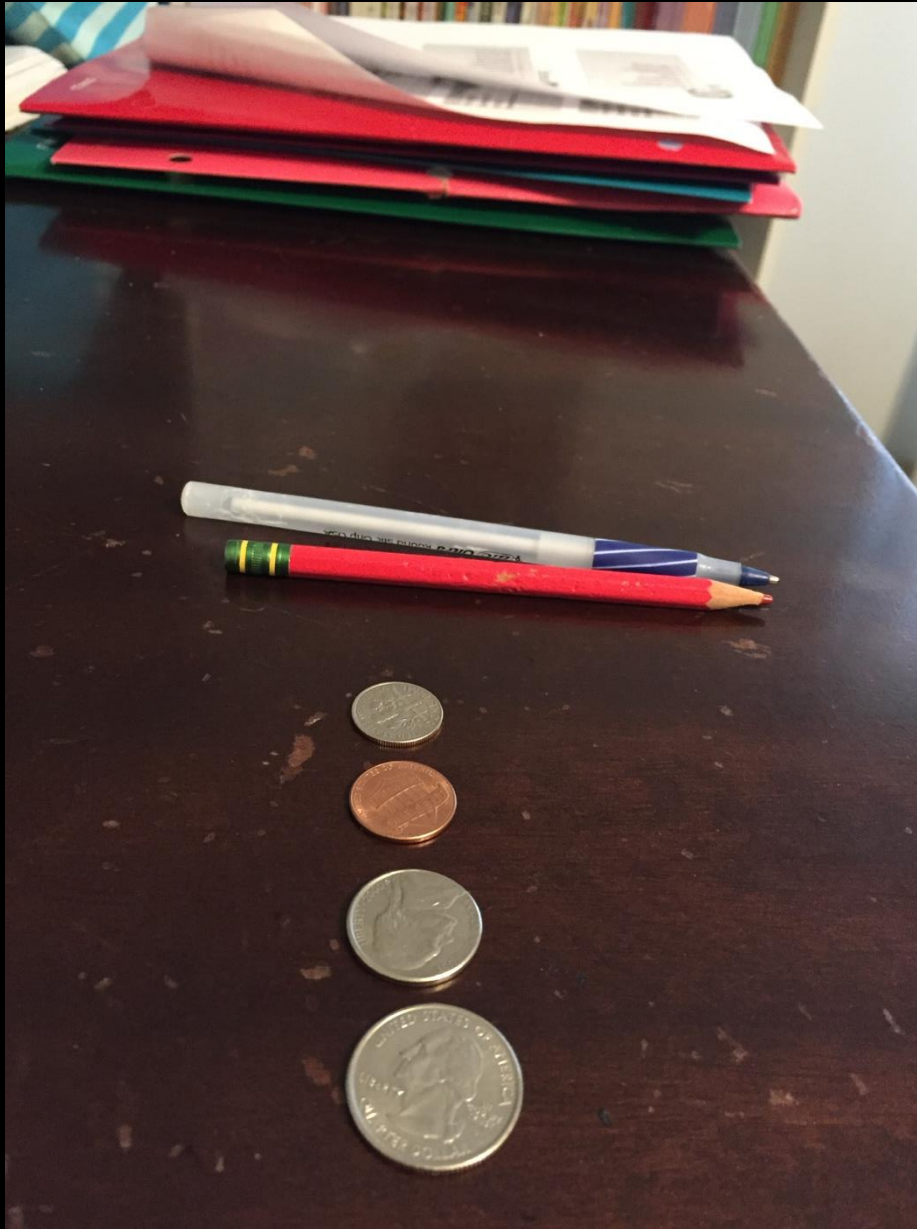
Different Financial Situations

Tim Keller's three causes of poverty:

- Oppression / systemic injustice
- Calamity / circumstance
- Personal moral failure



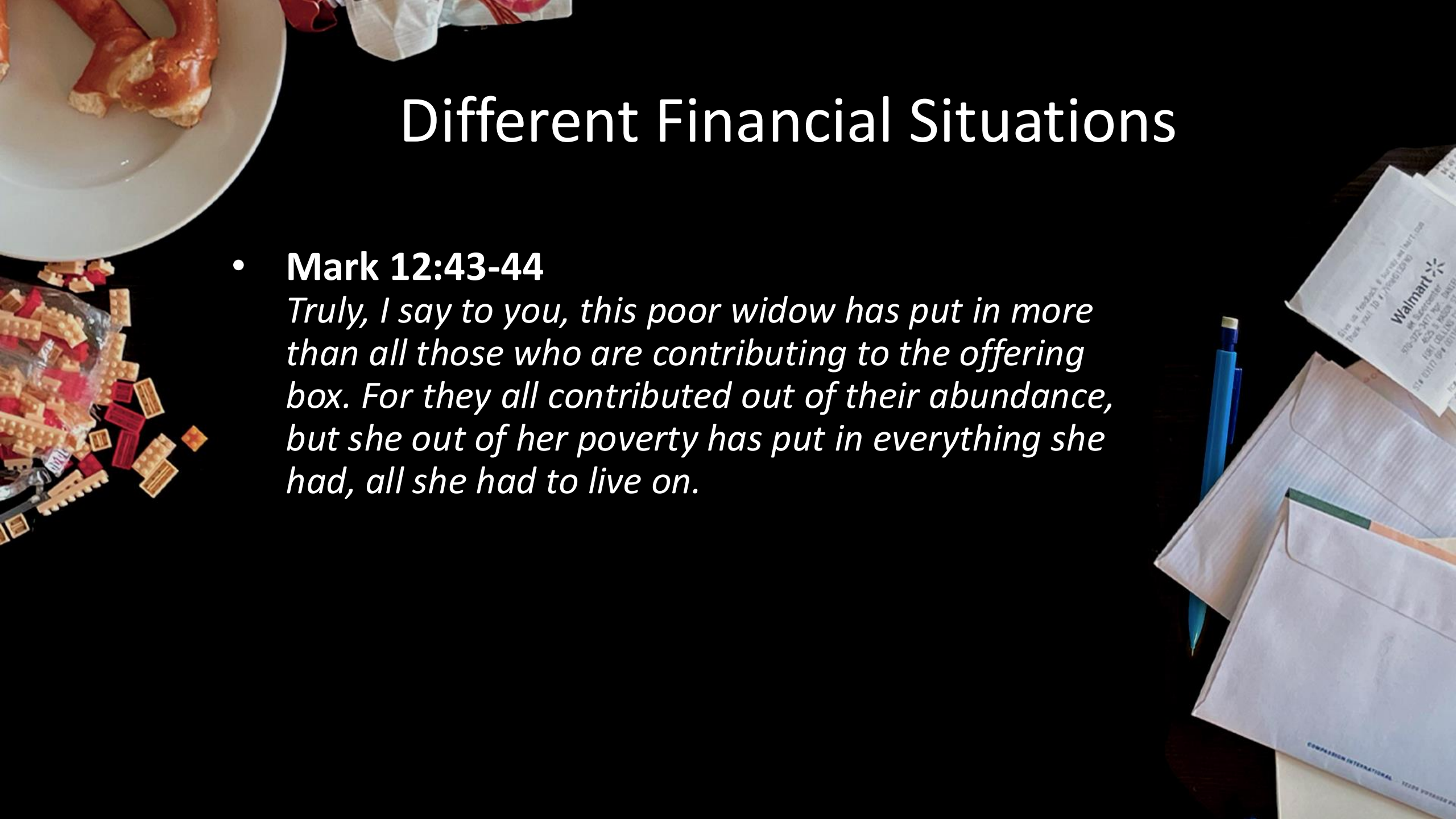


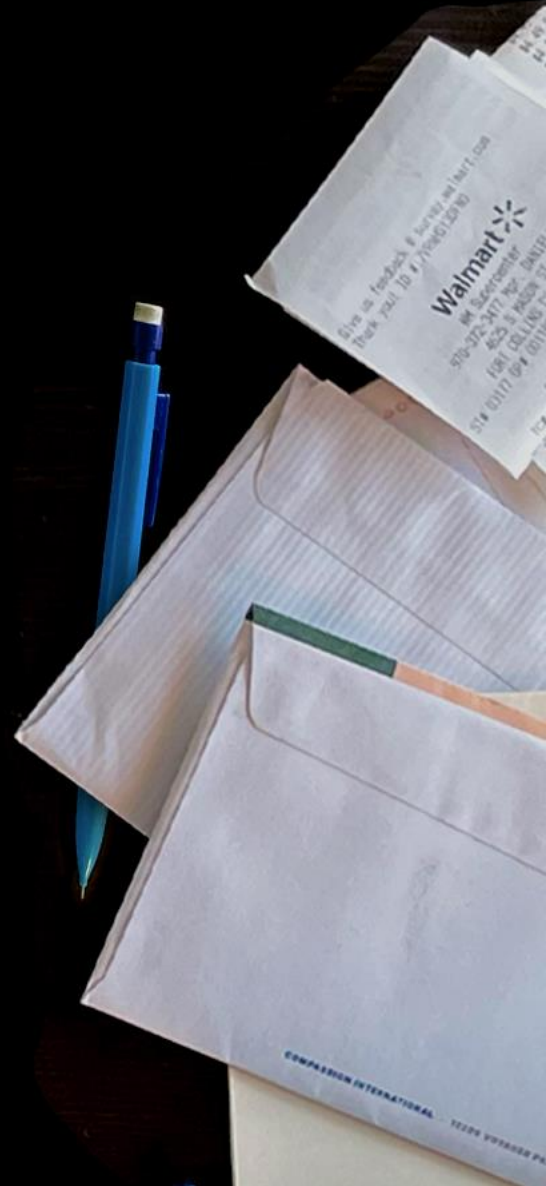


Different Financial Situations

- **Mark 12:43-44**

Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.





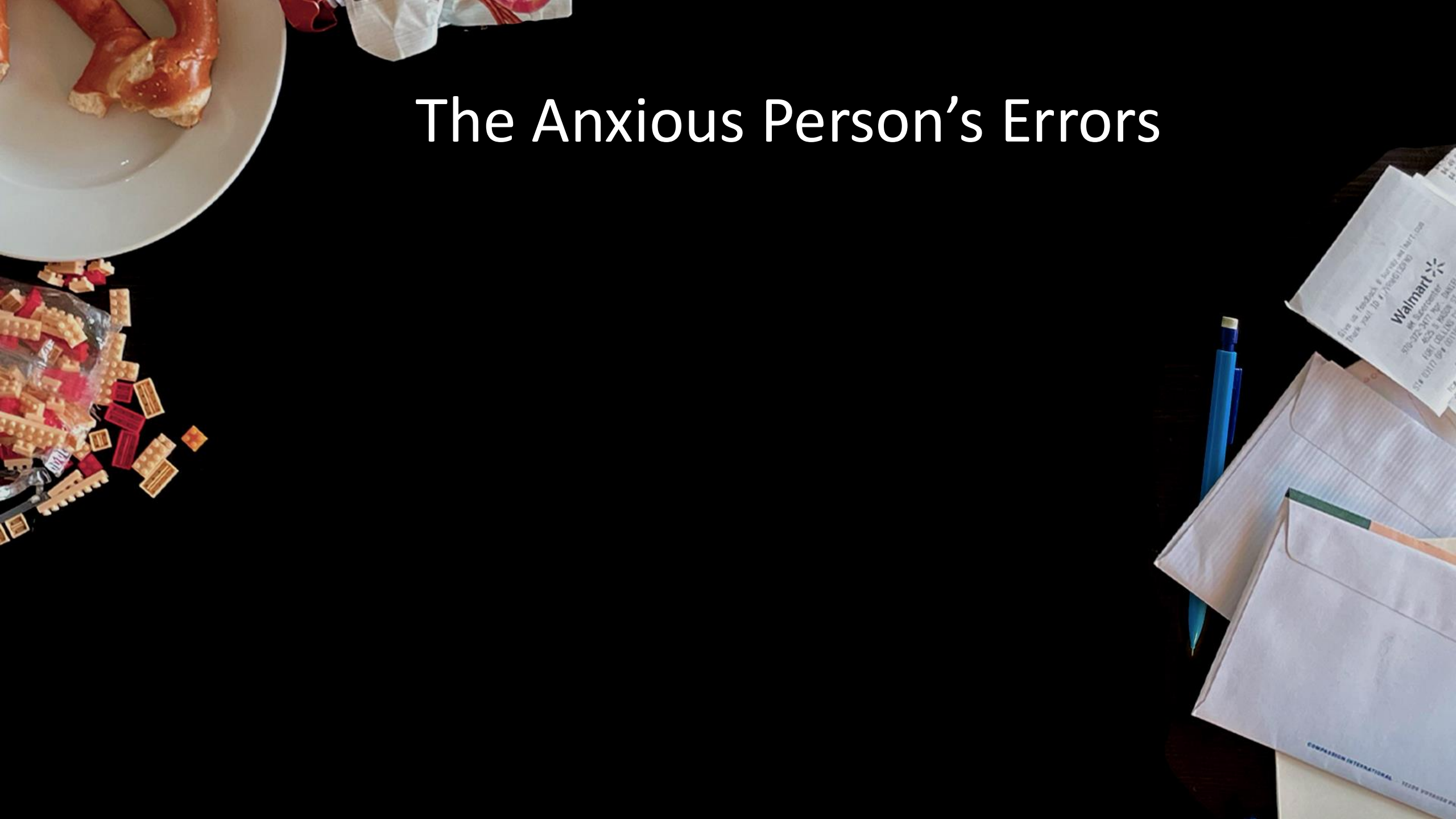
Luke 12:22-30

And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

Luke 12:22-30

If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

The Anxious Person's Errors





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- They think worry gives them control.
"Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?"



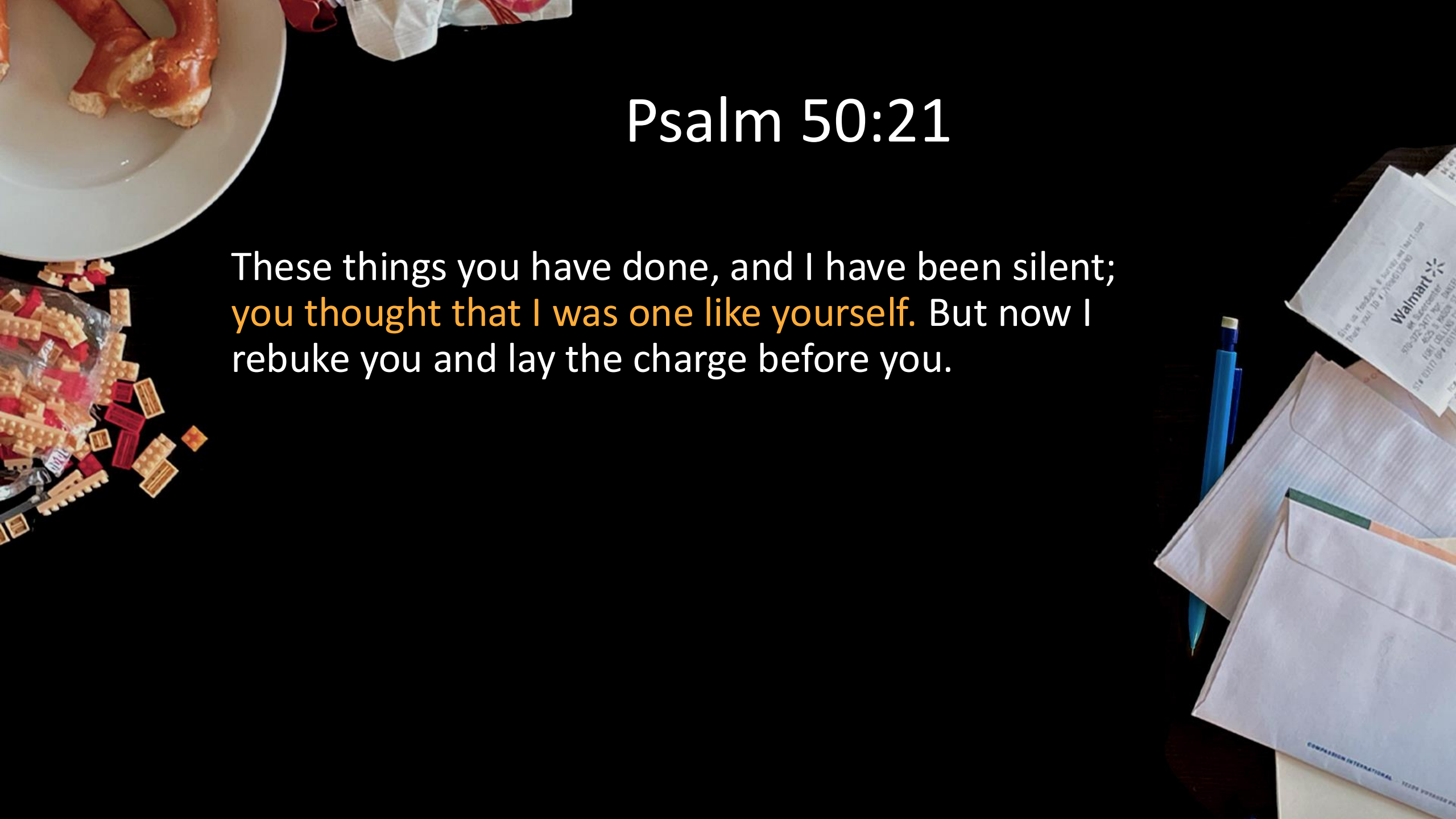
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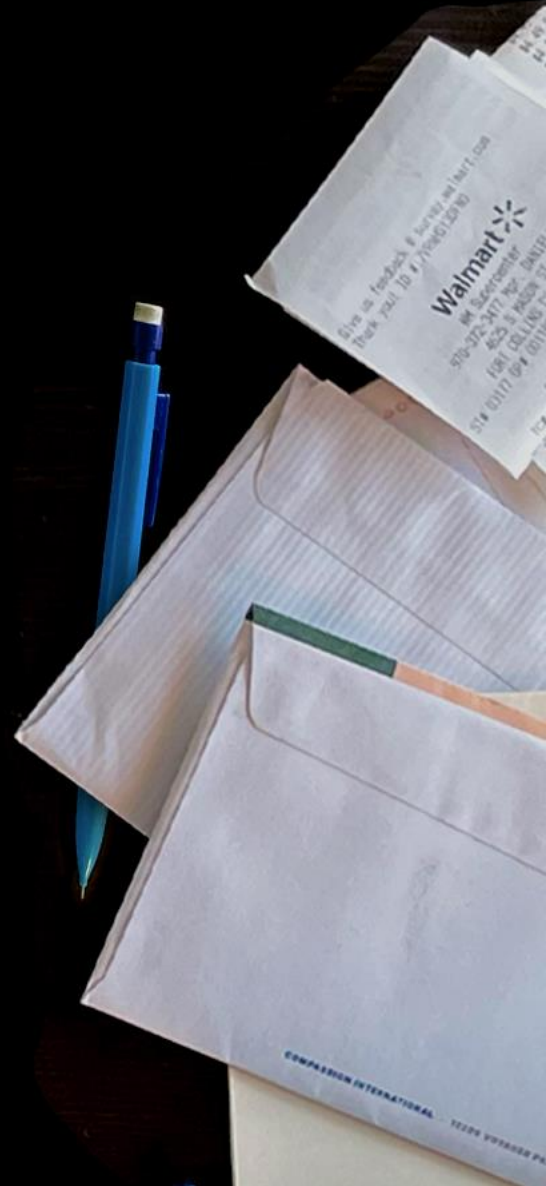
- They think their provision depends on themselves.
"Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap"
 - They think worry gives them control.
"And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"
 - They think God's care isn't enough.
"Consider the lilies...how much more will he clothe you"
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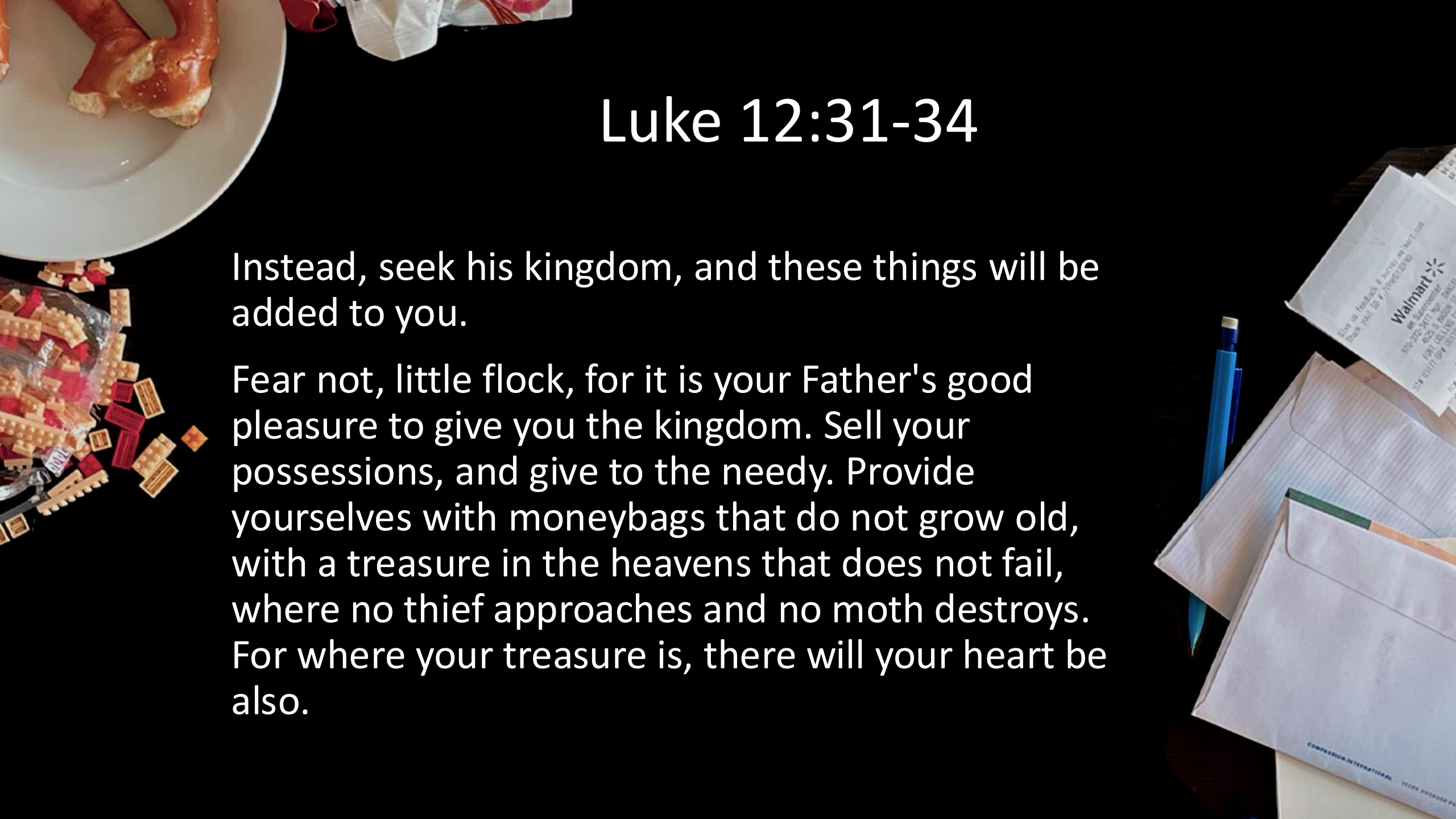


Psalm 50:21

These things you have done, and I have been silent;
you thought that I was one like yourself. But now I
rebuke you and lay the charge before you.





A dark wooden table with various items on it. In the top left, a white plate holds a large, golden-brown pretzel. Below the plate, a pile of colorful cereal pieces (orange, red, and yellow) is scattered. In the bottom right, a Walmart receipt is visible, partially covered by a blue pen and several white envelopes. The receipt has the Walmart logo and some text, including 'Give us feedback & receive a \$100 Walmart gift card'.

Luke 12:31-34

Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.





Seek First His Kingdom

- Seek first His kingdom:
Is God Himself our ultimate treasure, or are we searching for peace, security, joy, and comfort from our wealth?



Faith In Our Finances

- Seek first His kingdom:
Is God Himself our ultimate treasure, or are we searching for peace, security, joy, and comfort from our wealth?
- Give generously and willingly
2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion..."

