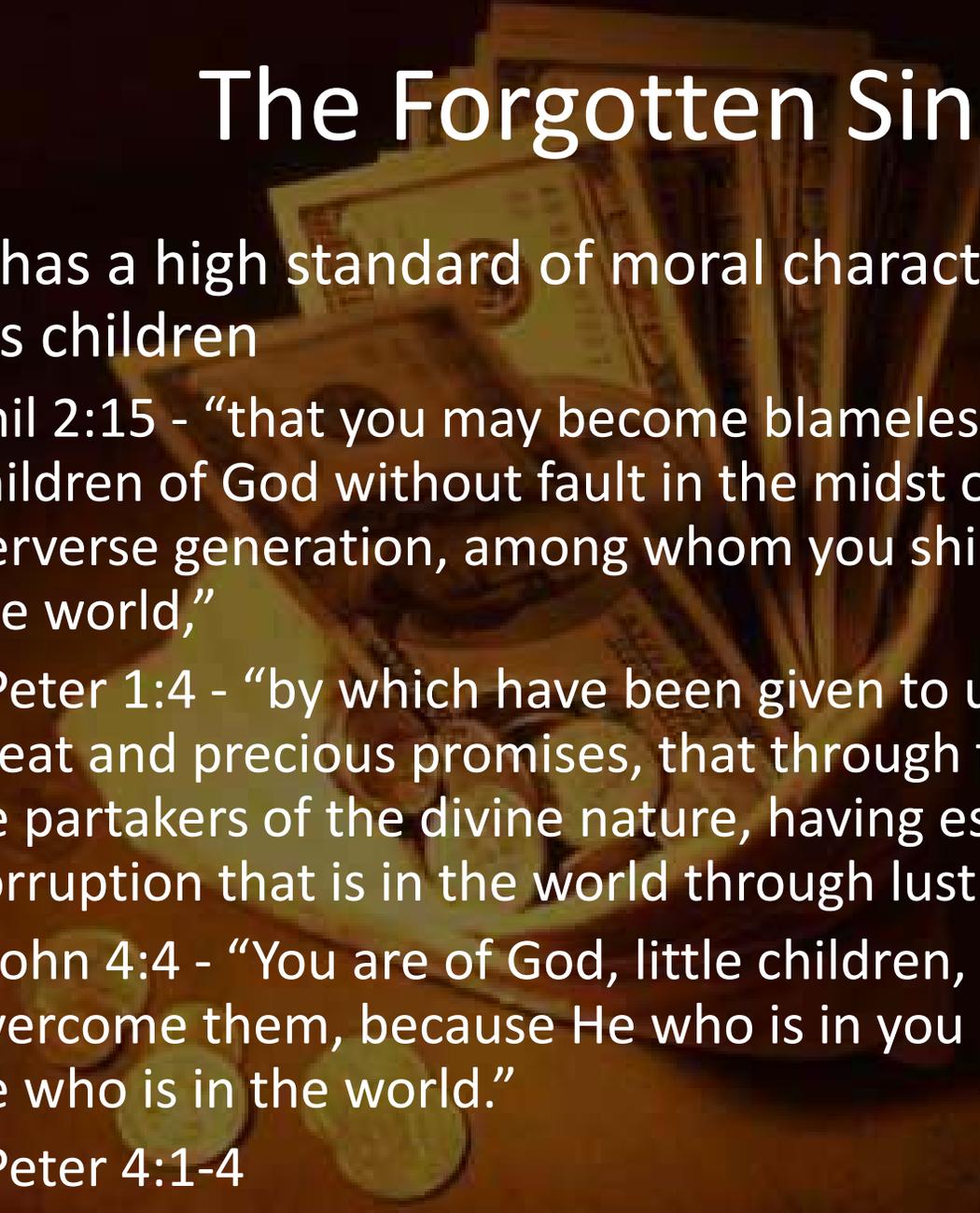




# The Forgotten Sin

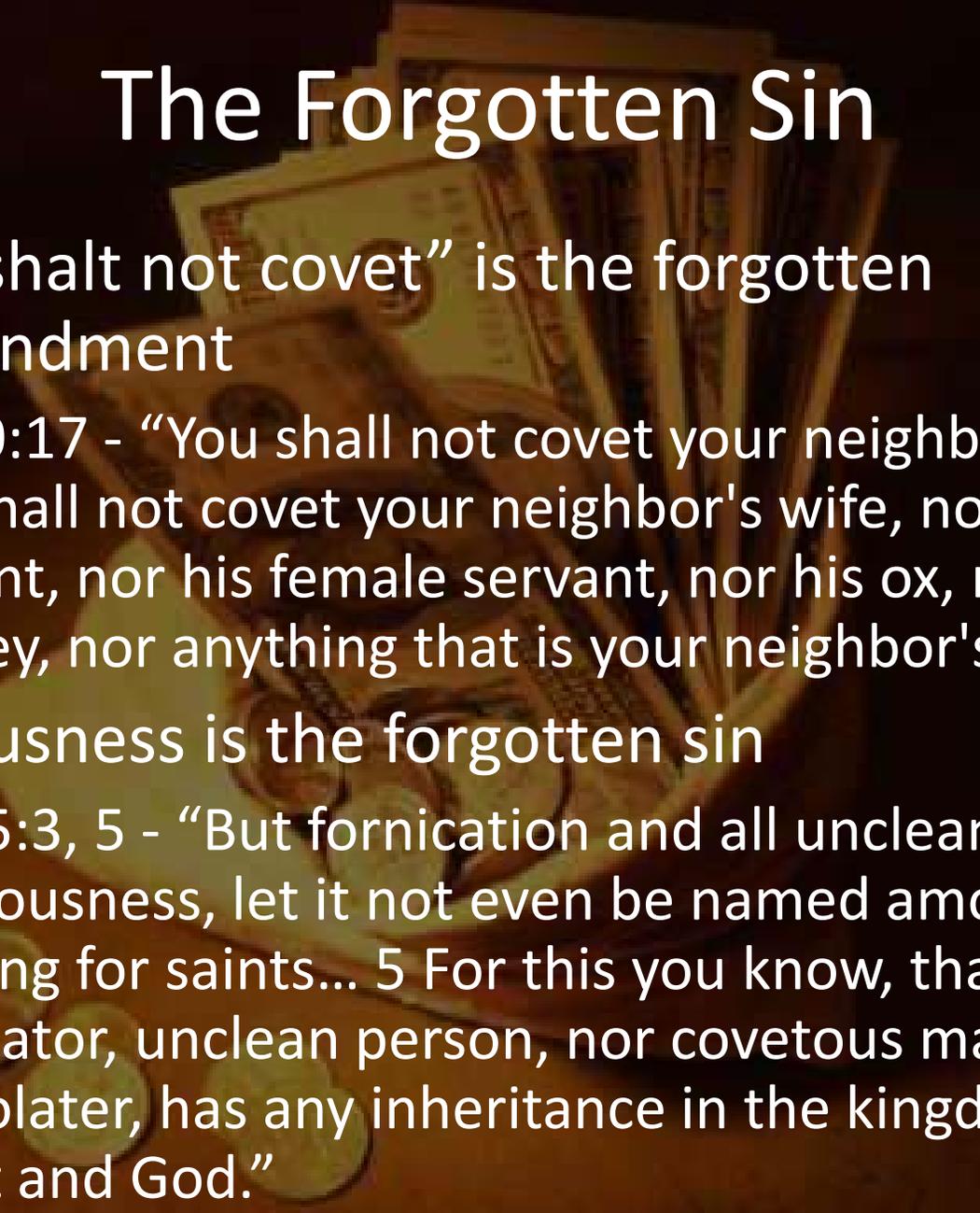
Ex. 20:17; Eph. 5:3, 5

# The Forgotten Sin



- God has a high standard of moral character He expects of His children
  - Phil 2:15 - “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,”
  - 2Peter 1:4 - “by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”
  - 1John 4:4 - “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”
  - 1Peter 4:1-4

# The Forgotten Sin



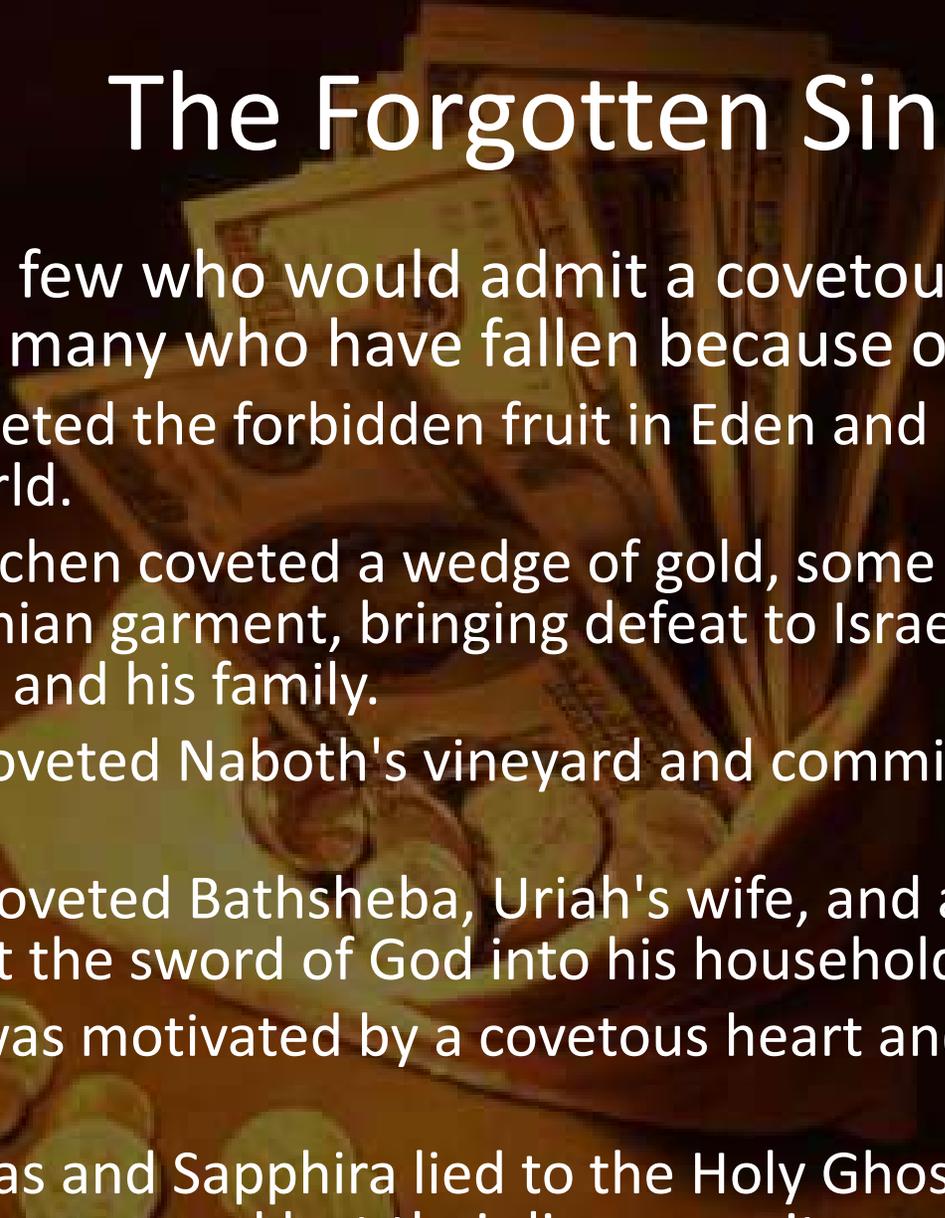
- “Thou shalt not covet” is the forgotten commandment
  - Ex. 20:17 - “You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.”
- Covetousness is the forgotten sin
  - Eph. 5:3, 5 - “But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints... 5 For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”

# The Forgotten Sin

A wooden bowl overflowing with US dollar bills and coins, with several coins scattered on the surface in front of it.

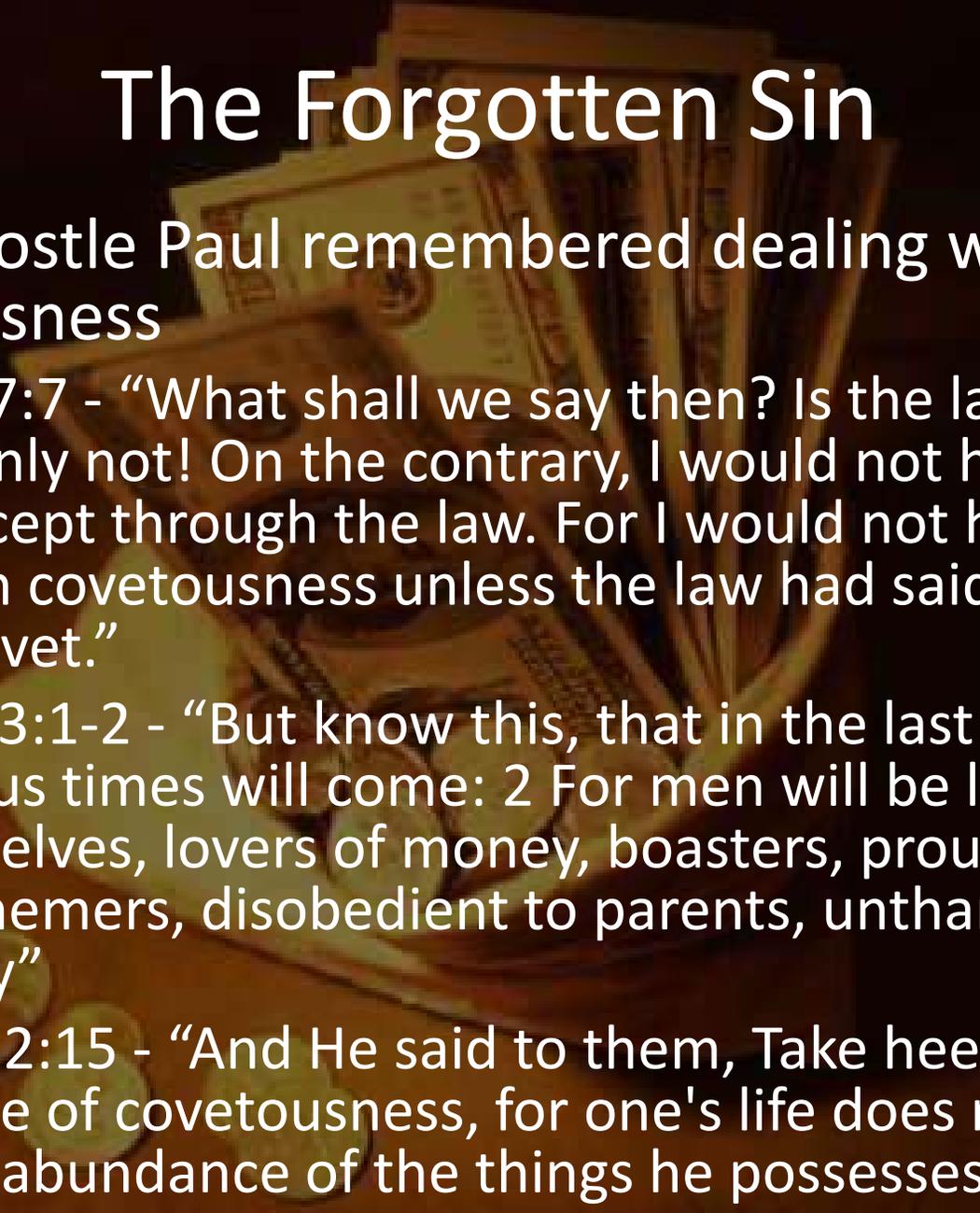
- It is the rare commandment regarding an attitude that is difficult to discern and prove by actions; it is a sin that is more about attitude than behavior and deeds
- One can be guilty of covetousness without saying or doing a thing

# The Forgotten Sin

A fan of Euro banknotes and coins is positioned in the background of the slide. The banknotes are fanned out, showing various denominations, and several coins are scattered in the foreground. The overall theme is wealth and greed, which aligns with the title 'The Forgotten Sin'.

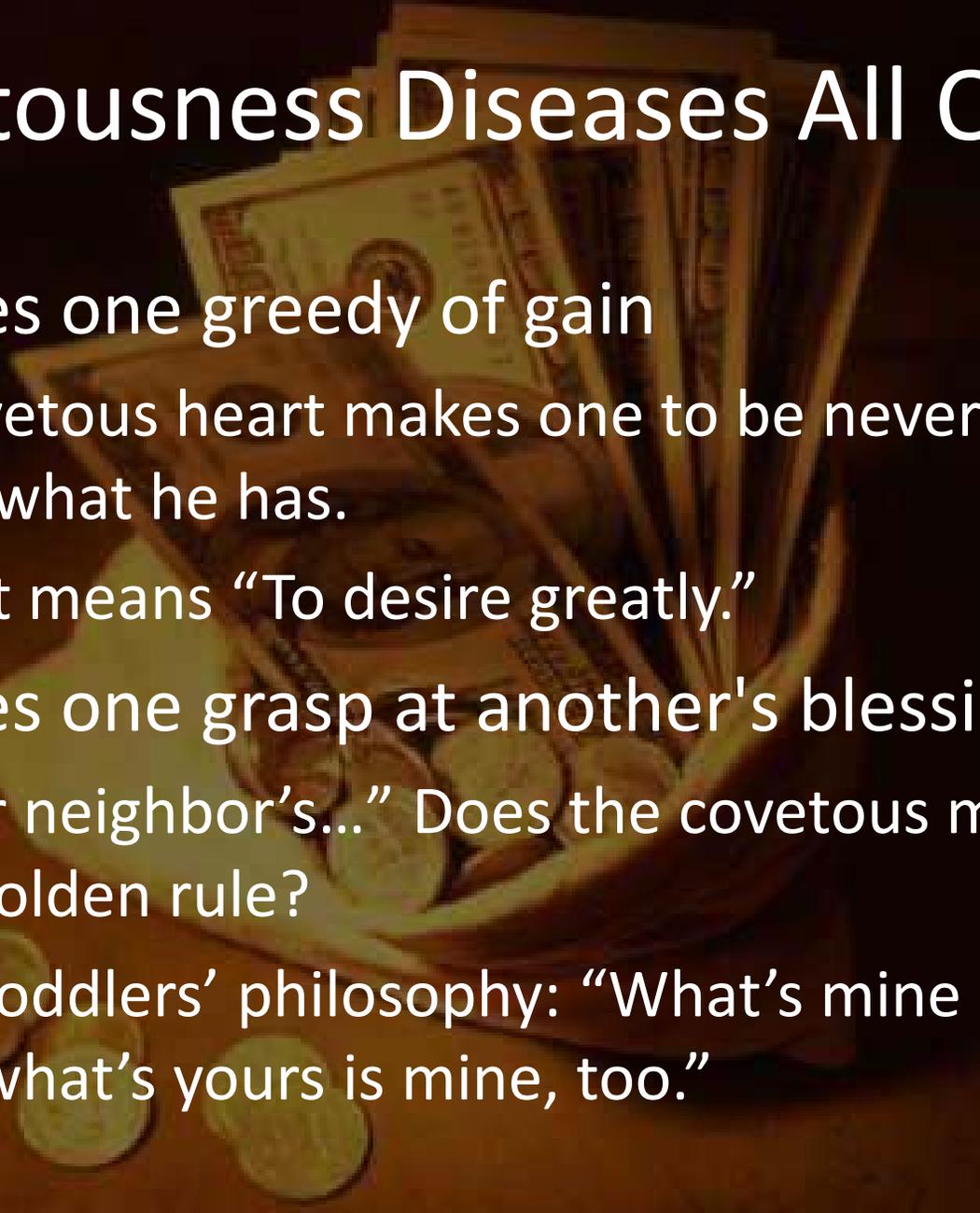
- There are few who would admit a covetous heart. But there are many who have fallen because of it.
  - Eve coveted the forbidden fruit in Eden and brought sin into the world.
  - At Ai, Achan coveted a wedge of gold, some silver, and a Babylonian garment, bringing defeat to Israel and death to himself and his family.
  - Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard and committed murder to get it
  - David coveted Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, and as a result brought the sword of God into his household for generations.
  - Judas was motivated by a covetous heart and sold Jesus for silver.
  - Annanias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Ghost to cover covetousness and lost their lives over it.

# The Forgotten Sin



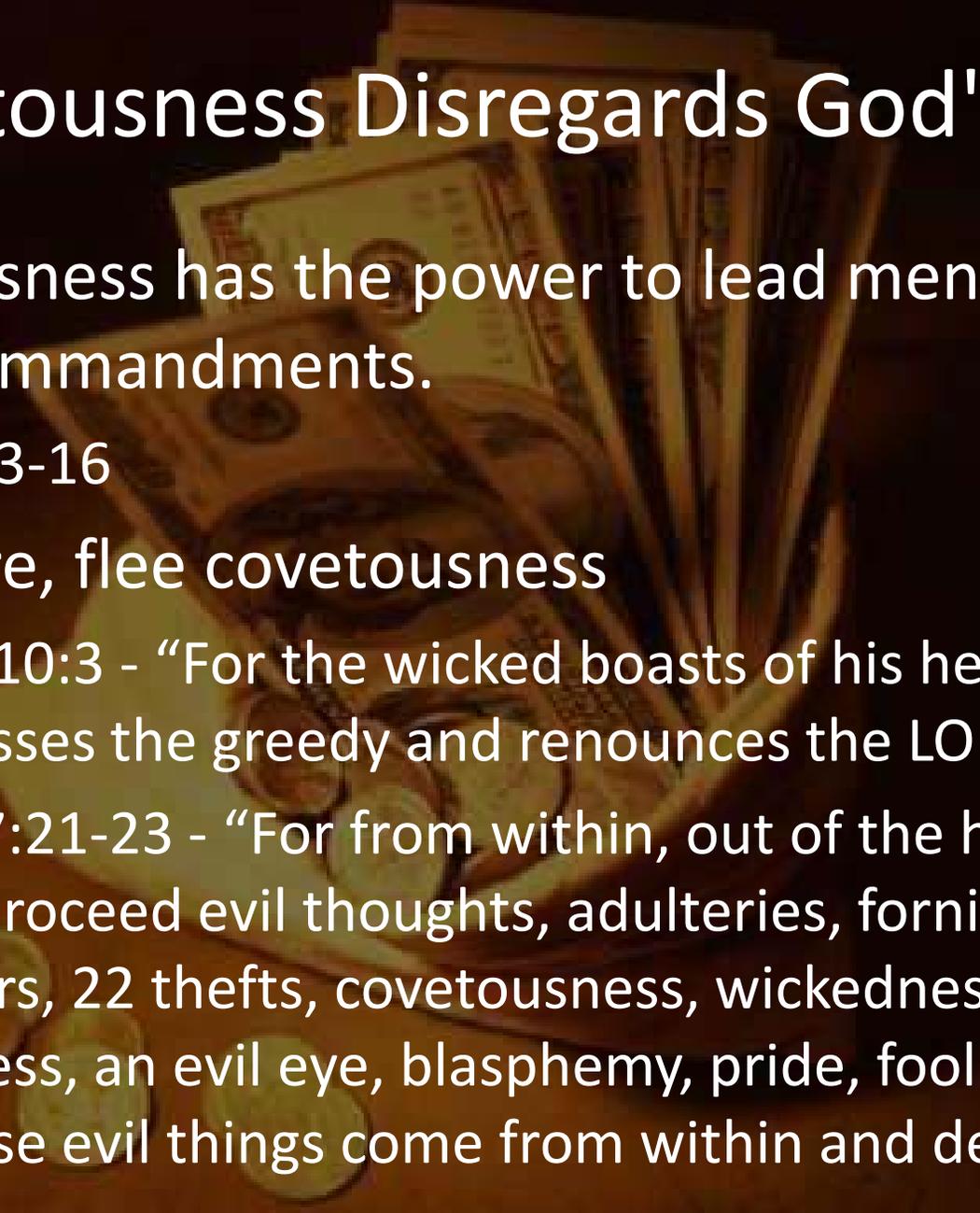
- Even apostle Paul remembered dealing with covetousness
  - Rom. 7:7 - “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, You shall not covet.”
  - 2Tim. 3:1-2 - “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy”
  - Luke 12:15 - “And He said to them, Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

# Covetousness Diseases All Of Life



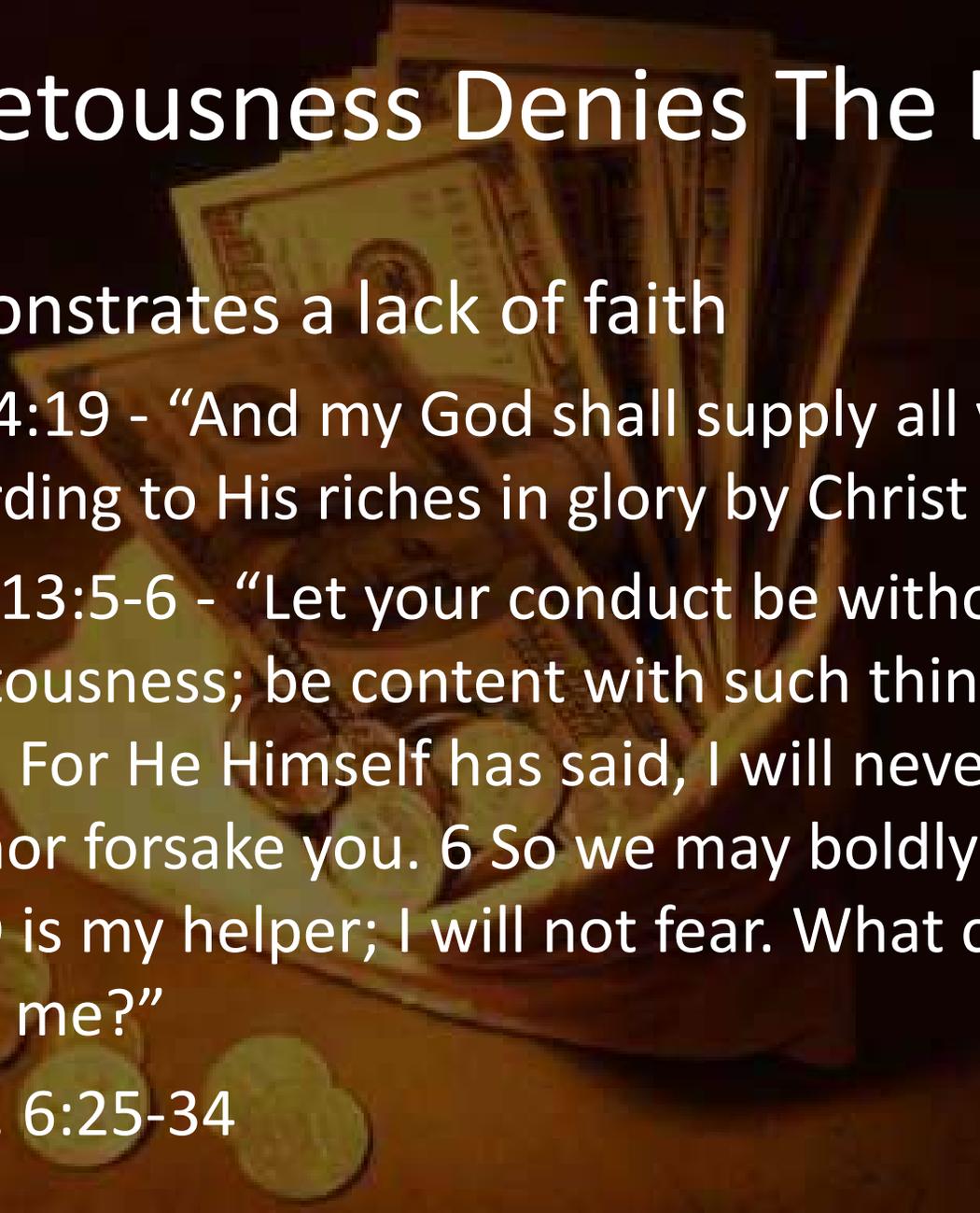
- It makes one greedy of gain
  - A covetous heart makes one to be never satisfied with what he has.
  - Covet means “To desire greatly.”
- It makes one grasp at another's blessings
  - “Your neighbor’s...” Does the covetous man apply the golden rule?
  - The toddlers’ philosophy: “What’s mine is mine, and what’s yours is mine, too.”

# Covetousness Disregards God's Law



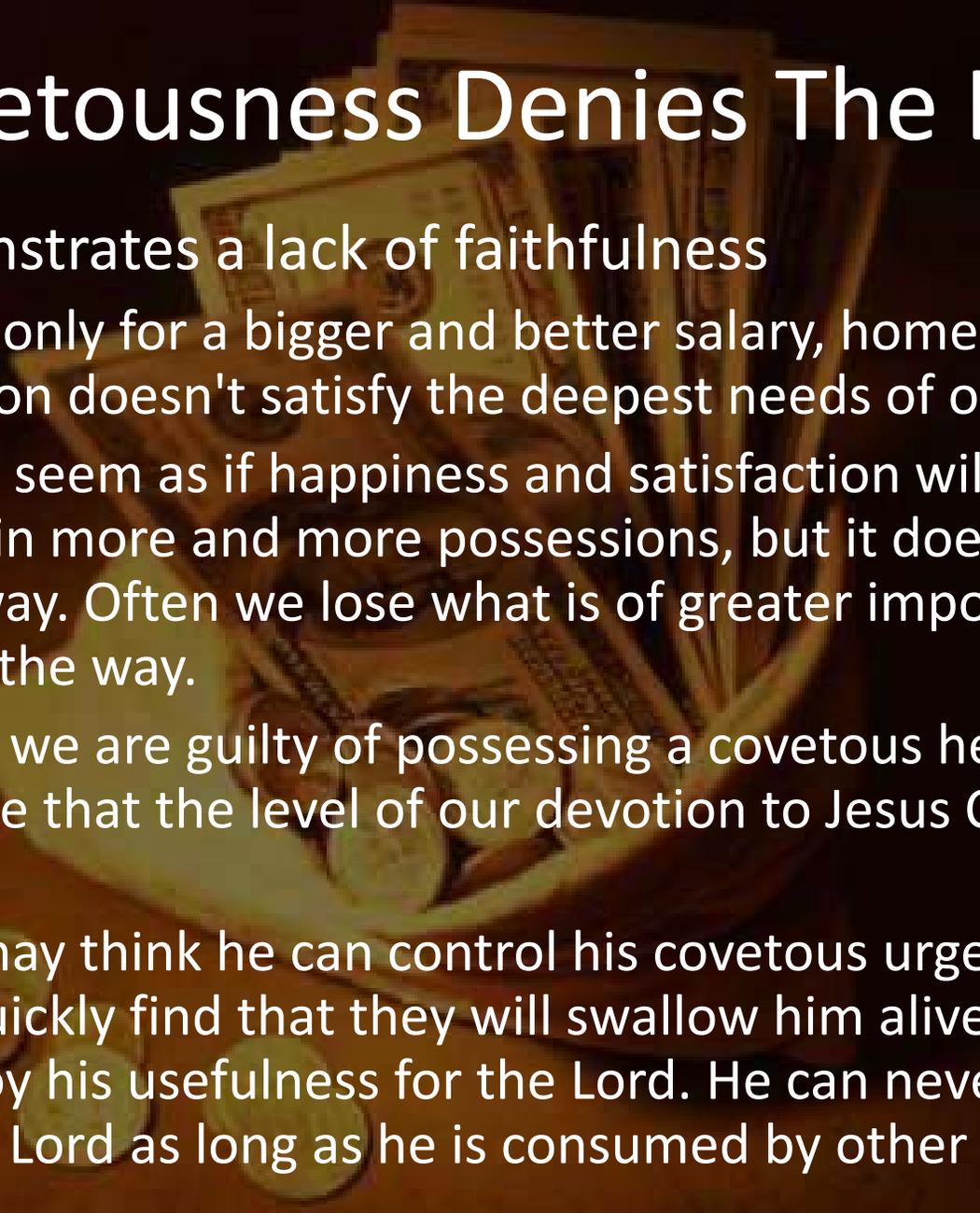
- Covetousness has the power to lead men to break other commandments.
  - Ex. 20:3-16
- Therefore, flee covetousness
  - Psalm 10:3 - “For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He blesses the greedy and renounces the LORD.”
  - Mark 7:21-23 - “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within and defile a man.”

# Covetousness Denies The Lord



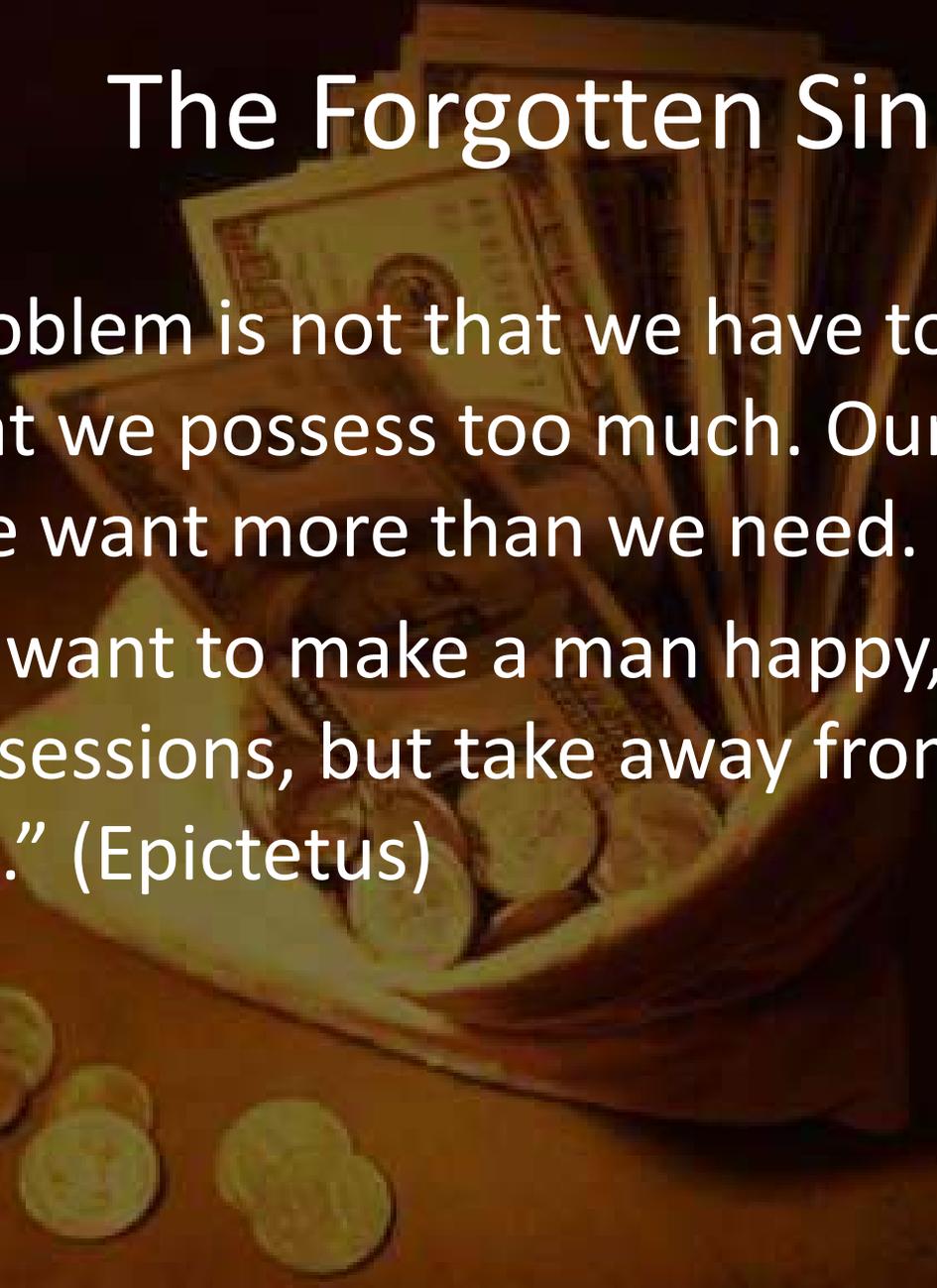
- It demonstrates a lack of faith
  - Phil. 4:19 - “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”
  - Heb. 13:5-6 - “Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. 6 So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”
  - Matt. 6:25-34

# Covetousness Denies The Lord



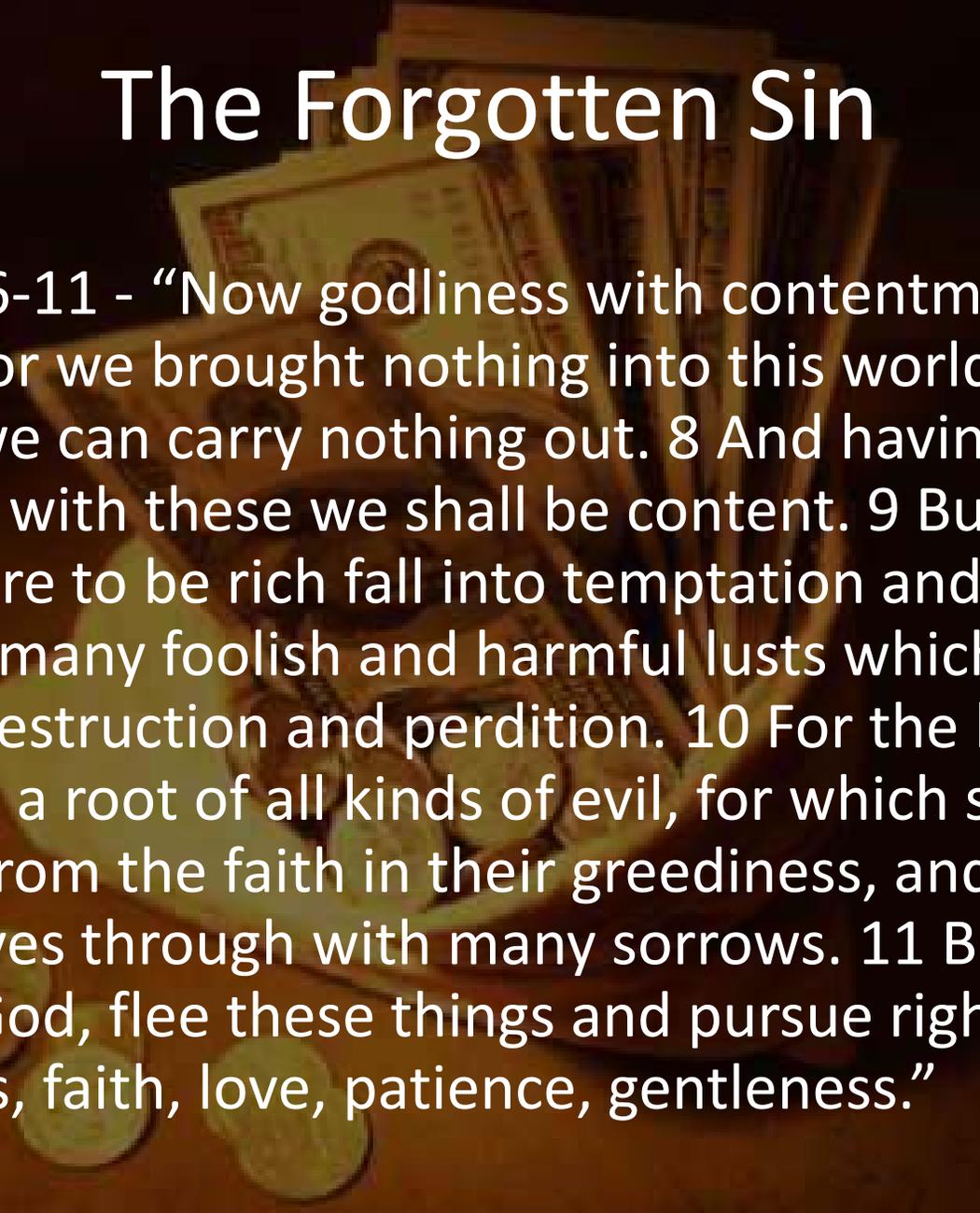
- It demonstrates a lack of faithfulness
  - Living only for a bigger and better salary, home, car, or vacation doesn't satisfy the deepest needs of our hearts.
  - It may seem as if happiness and satisfaction will increase as we gain more and more possessions, but it doesn't work that way. Often we lose what is of greater importance along the way.
  - When we are guilty of possessing a covetous heart, we can be sure that the level of our devotion to Jesus Christ will suffer.
  - One may think he can control his covetous urges, but he will quickly find that they will swallow him alive and will destroy his usefulness for the Lord. He can never be faithful to the Lord as long as he is consumed by other things.

# The Forgotten Sin

A wooden bowl overflowing with US dollar bills and coins, with several coins scattered on the surface in front of it.

- Our problem is not that we have too little, nor is it that we possess too much. Our problem is that we want more than we need.
- “If you want to make a man happy, add not to his possessions, but take away from his desires.” (Epictetus)

# The Forgotten Sin



- 1Tim. 6:6-11 - “Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 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. 10 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. 11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.”