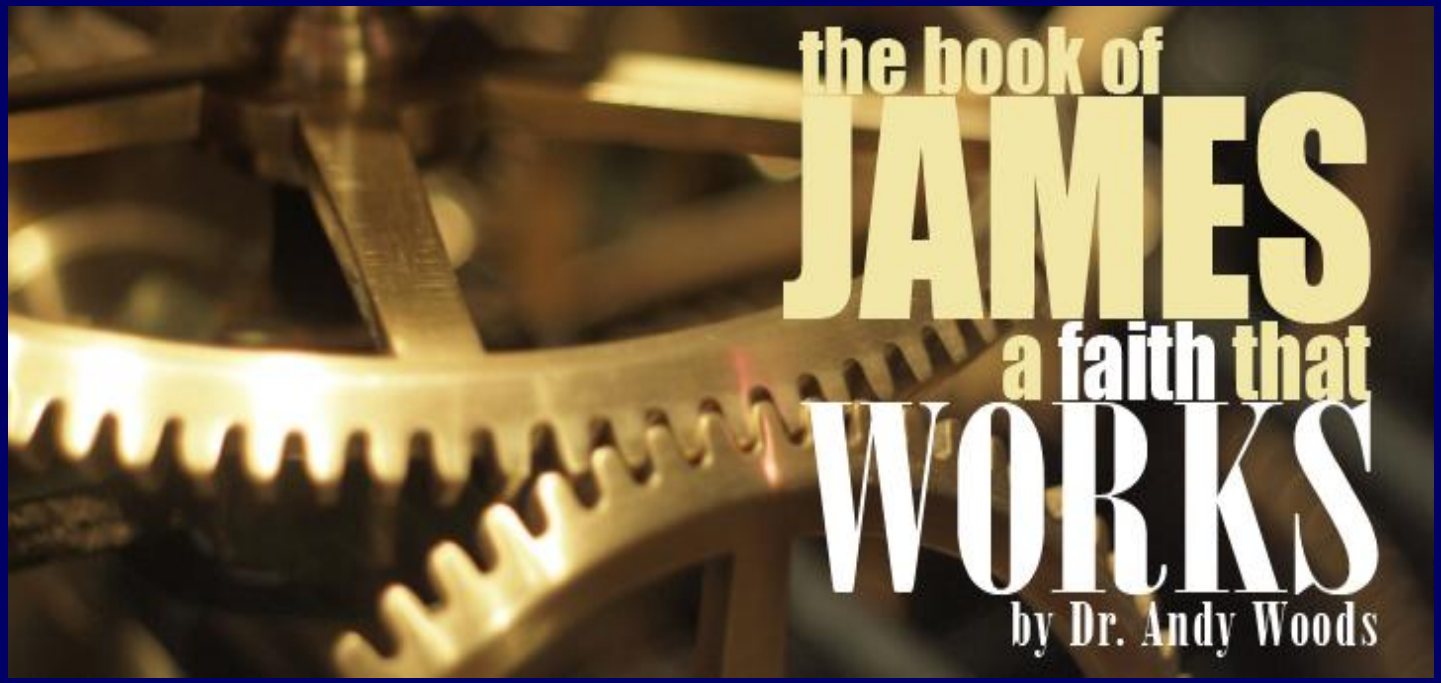
PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS





Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Answering Eleven Questions



1) Who wrote it? – **James**
2) What do we know about the author? – **Christ's ½ Brother**
3) Who was the audience? – **Believing Jews in the Diaspora**
4) Where was if written from? – **Jerusalem**
5) When was the book written? – **A.D. 44–47**
6) What was the book's occasion? – **Practical righteousness**
7) What is the book's purpose? – **Achieving practical righteousness**
8) What is the book about? – **Practical righteousness**
9) What is the book's theme? – **Daily living**
10) What makes the book different? – **Practicality**
11) How is the book organized? – **Faith and Wisdom**

JAMES STRUCTURE

I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)

II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



JAMES STRUCTURE

I. **<u>Faith (James 1:1–3:12)</u>**

II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
  - Trials (1:2-18)
  - Obedience to the Word (1:19-27)
  - Favoritism (2:1-13)
  - Faith manifesting works (2:14-26)
  - Tongue (3:1-12)



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James 1:2-18

- Trials – Jas 1:2-18
  - Rejoicing during trials – Jas 1:2-12
  - Command not to charge God with temptation – Jas 1:13-18



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- Faith (1:1–3:12)
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Faith Obeys God

(James 1:19-27)

I. Need for Slowness in Speaking & Anger (1:19-20)

II. Need for Obedience to God's Word (1:21-25)

III. Need for True Religion (1:26-27)



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Favoritism
(2:1-13)

I. Command: no favoritism (2:1)

II. Situation: favoritism in the assembly (2:2-3)

III. Reasoning: favoritism is contrary to God's character & purposes (2:4-13)



JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
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  - Tongue (3:1-12)



Faith Manifesting Works
(2:14-26)

- Thesis: works accompany **useful** faith (2:14)
- Five illustrations (2:15-26)
  1. Needy brother (2:15-17)
  2. Demonic monotheist (2:18-19)
  3. Abraham (2:20-24)
  4. Rahab (2:25)
  5. Lifeless corpse (2:26)



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  - **Tongue (3:1-12)**



Taming the Tongue
(3:1-12)

I. The Tongue's Influence (3:1-5)
   A. Teaching (1)
   B. All of Life (2)
   C. Illustrations (3-5)



II. The Tongue's Evil Potential (3:6-12)
   A. Satanic Potential (6)
   B. Untamable (7-8)
   C. Inconsistency (9-12)



JAMES STRUCTURE

I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)

II. **Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)**



Structure

- **Wisdom (3:13–5:20)**
  - Wisdom defined (3:13-18)
  - Spirituality (4:1-12)
  - Commerce (4:13-17)
  - Use of wealth (5:1-6)
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James 3:13

“Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.”



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Human or Earthly Wisdom
(3:14-16)

- Jealous (Prov. 6:34)
- Selfish ambition (Prov. 16:18)
- Arrogant (Prov. 8:13)
- Earthly, natural (Prov. 14:12)
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- Contentious (Prov. 11:29)



Adapted from Wilkinson and Boa, *Talk Thru the Bible*, 466.

Mark 7:20-23

“[20] And He was saying, ‘That which proceeds **out of the man**, that is what defiles the man. [21] For **from within, out of the heart** of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, [22] deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. [23] All these evil things **proceed from within** and defile the man.’”



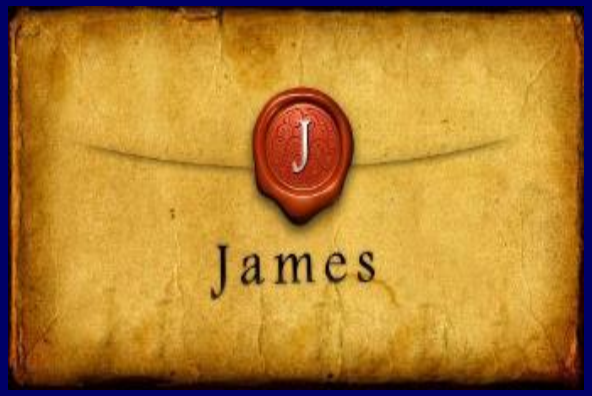
Galatians 5:19-23

“19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: sexual immorality, impurity, indecent behavior, 20 idolatry, witchcraft, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, 21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.’”



Date
(AD 44-47)

- AD 70
- AD 62-63
- AD 49
- AD 48-49
- Sermon on the Mt
- Primitive congregational worship (Jas 2:2; 3:1; 5:14)
- Jas 1:1 = Acts 8:1-4; 11:19



Order of Paul's Letters

1. Galatians (A.D. 49)
2. 1–2 Thessalonians (A.D. 51)
3. 1–2 Corinthians (A.D. 56)
4. Romans (A.D. 57)
5. Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, Philippians (A.D. 60–62)
6. 1 Timothy, Titus (A.D. 62–66)
7. 2 Timothy (A.D. 67)



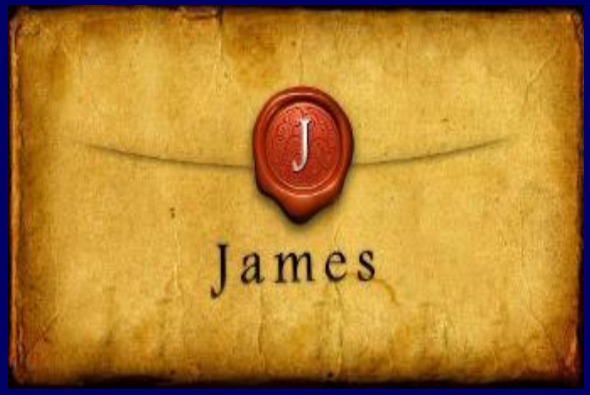
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Human or Earthly Wisdom
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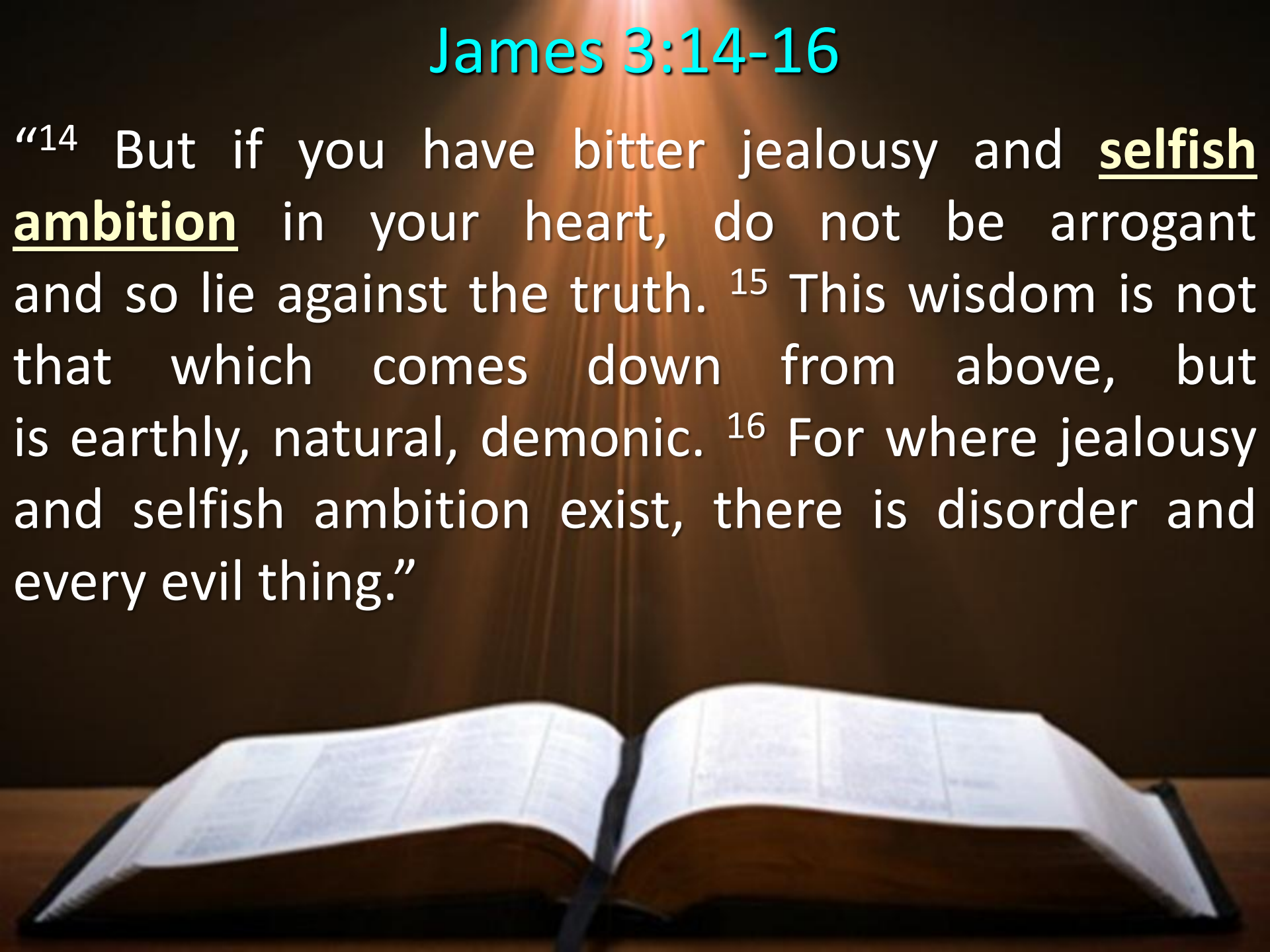
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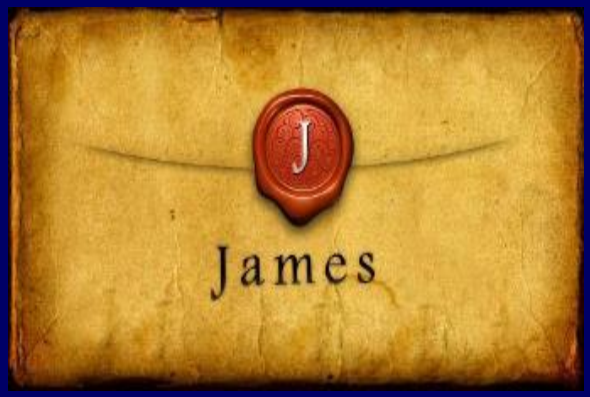
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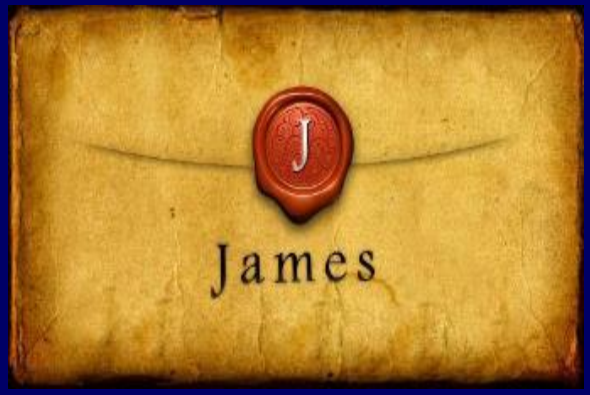
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Scripture and Pride

- Prov 16:18
- Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17
- 1 Tim 3:6
- Acts 12:21-23
- 2 Cor 12:7
- 1 Pet 5:5



Hall of the Humbled

(Prov. 16:18; 1 Peter 5:5)

- Satan (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- Uzziah (2 Chron 26:16)
- Herod (Acts 12:20-23)
- Paul (2 Cor 12:1-10)



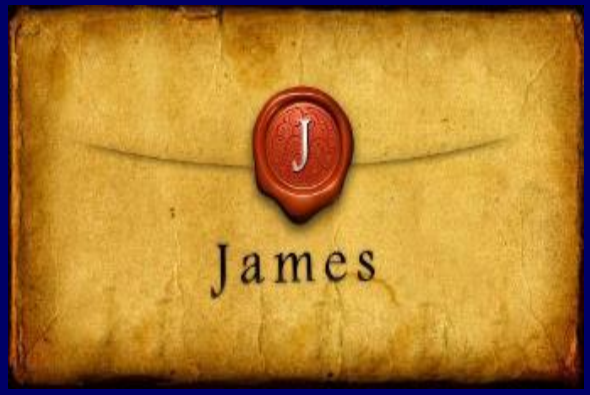
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Ecclesiastes 1:9

"That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new **under the sun**."



James 3:14-16

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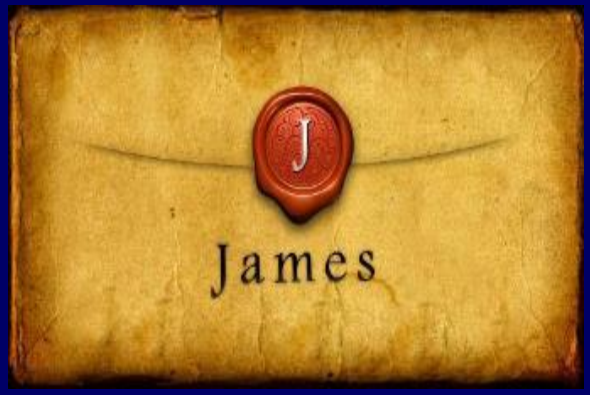


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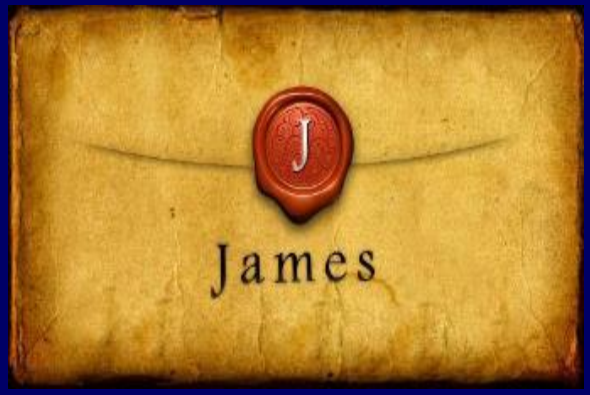
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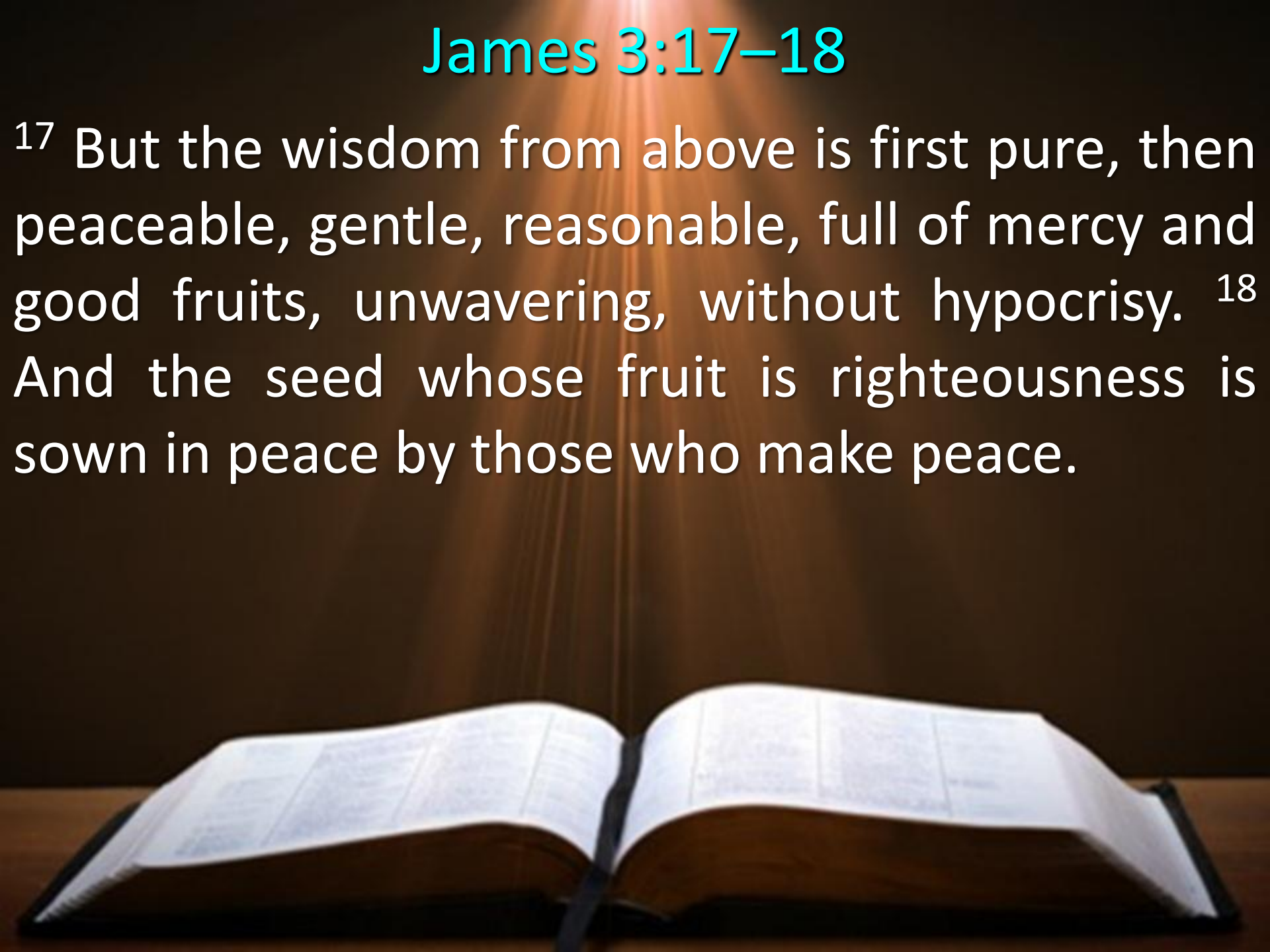
Wisdom
(3:13-18)

- Wisdom is demonstrated by her actions (3:13)
- Human or earthly wisdom (3:14-16)
- **Heavenly wisdom (3:17-18)**



James 3:17–18

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



Heavenly Wisdom
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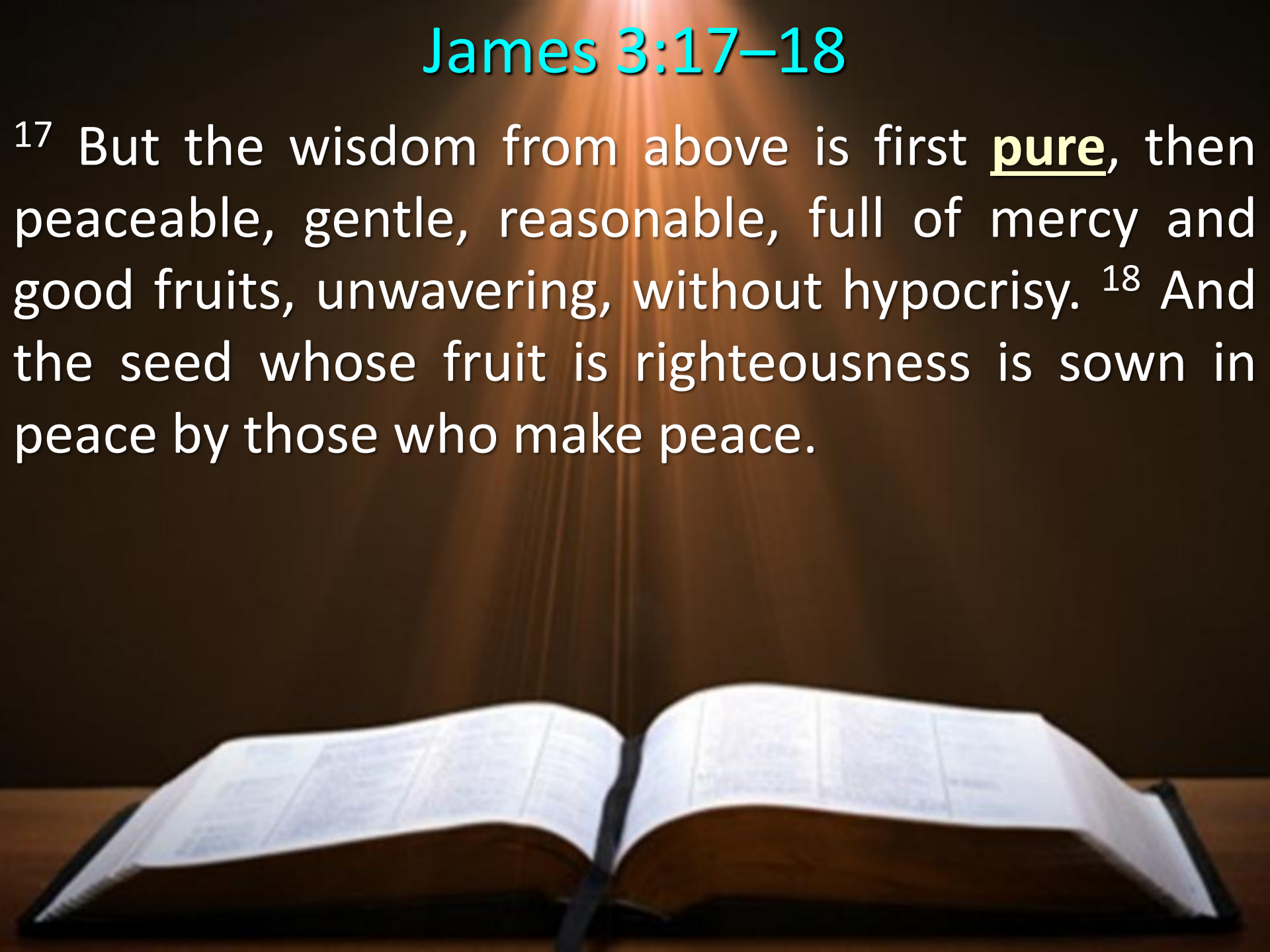


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- Gentle (Prov. 16:32)
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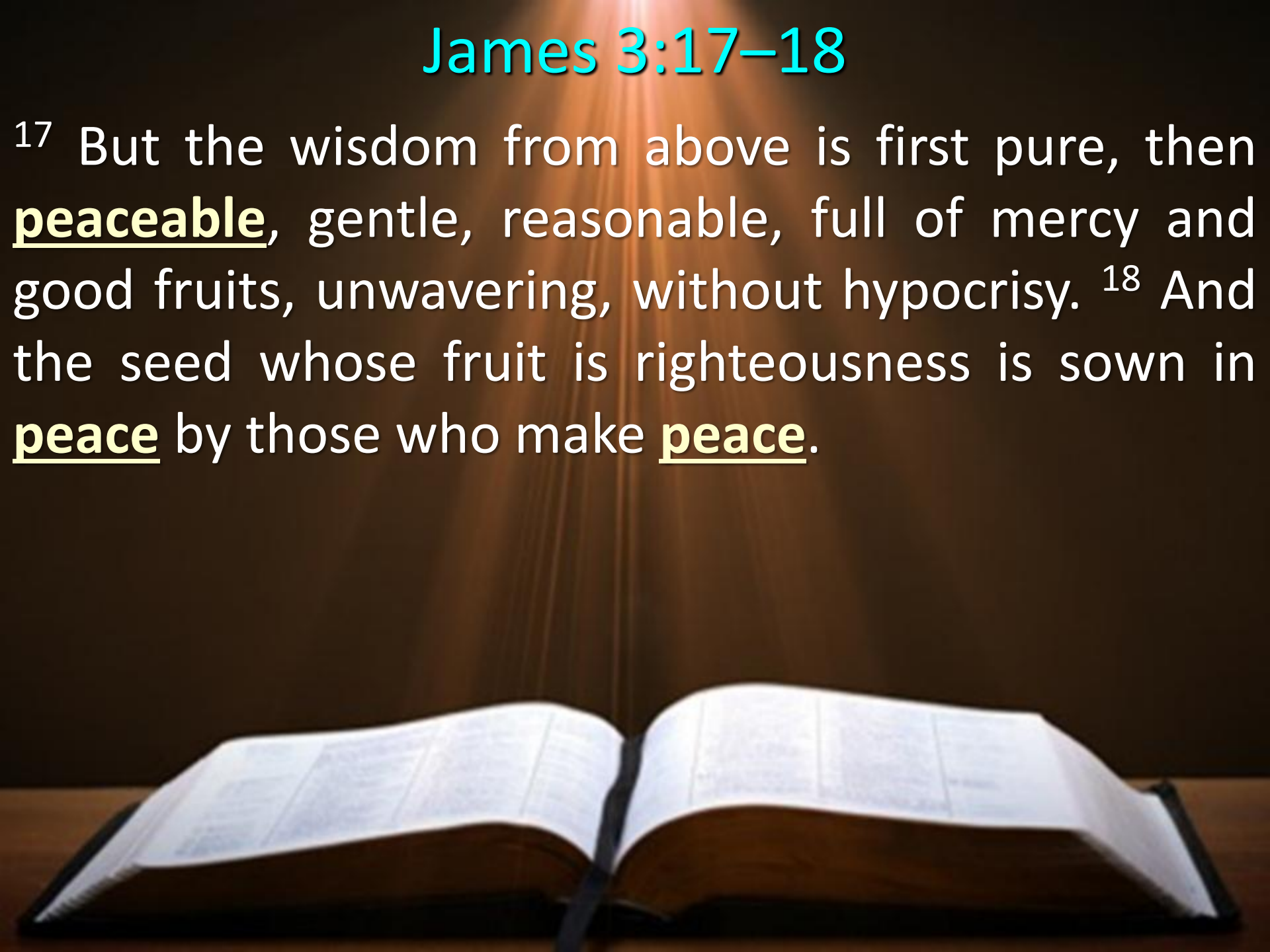
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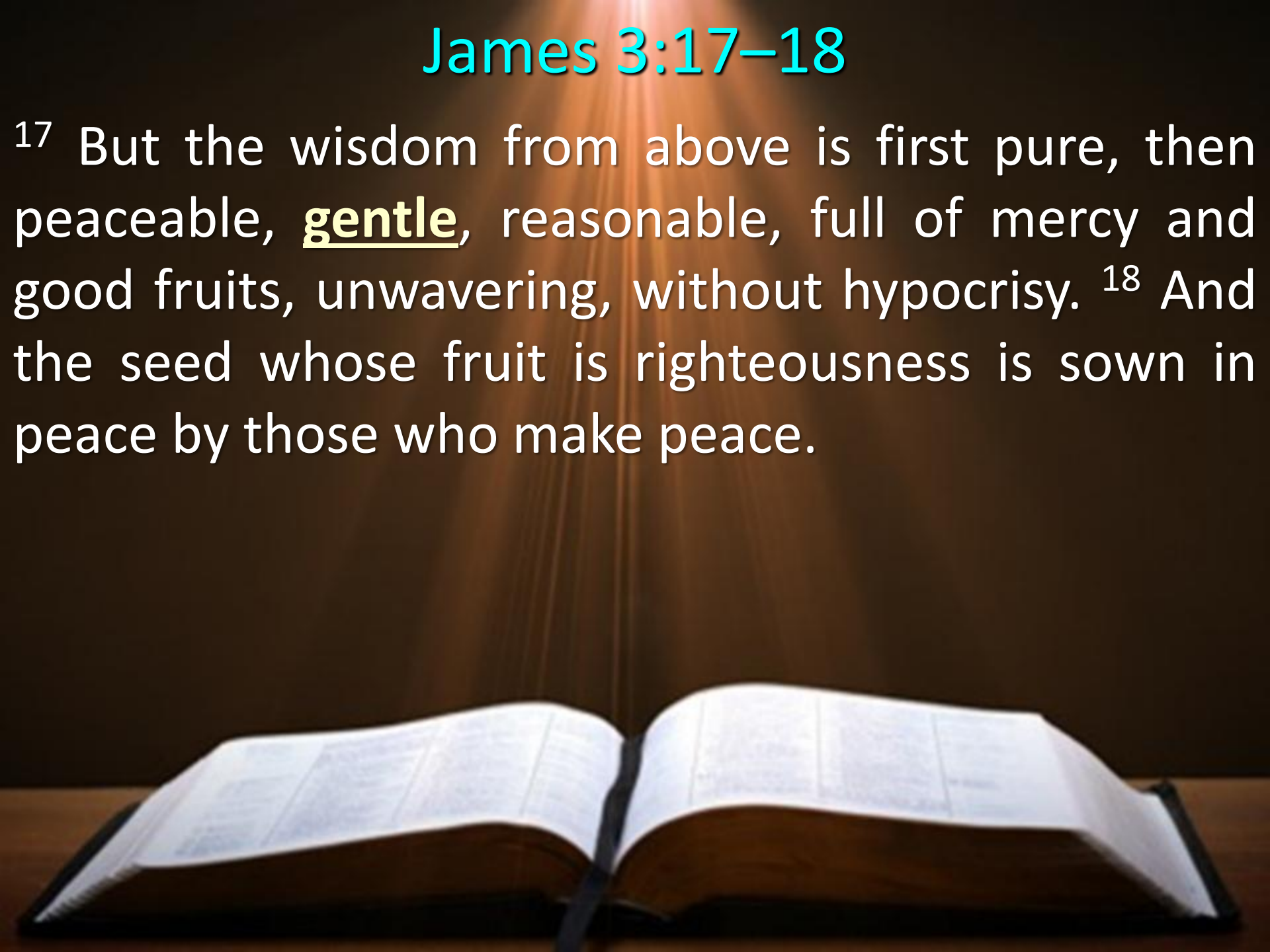
Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His
name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, **Prince of Peace**. 7 There will be no end to
the increase of His government or of peace, On the
throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and
to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on
and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will
accomplish this.



James 3:17–18

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, **gentle**, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



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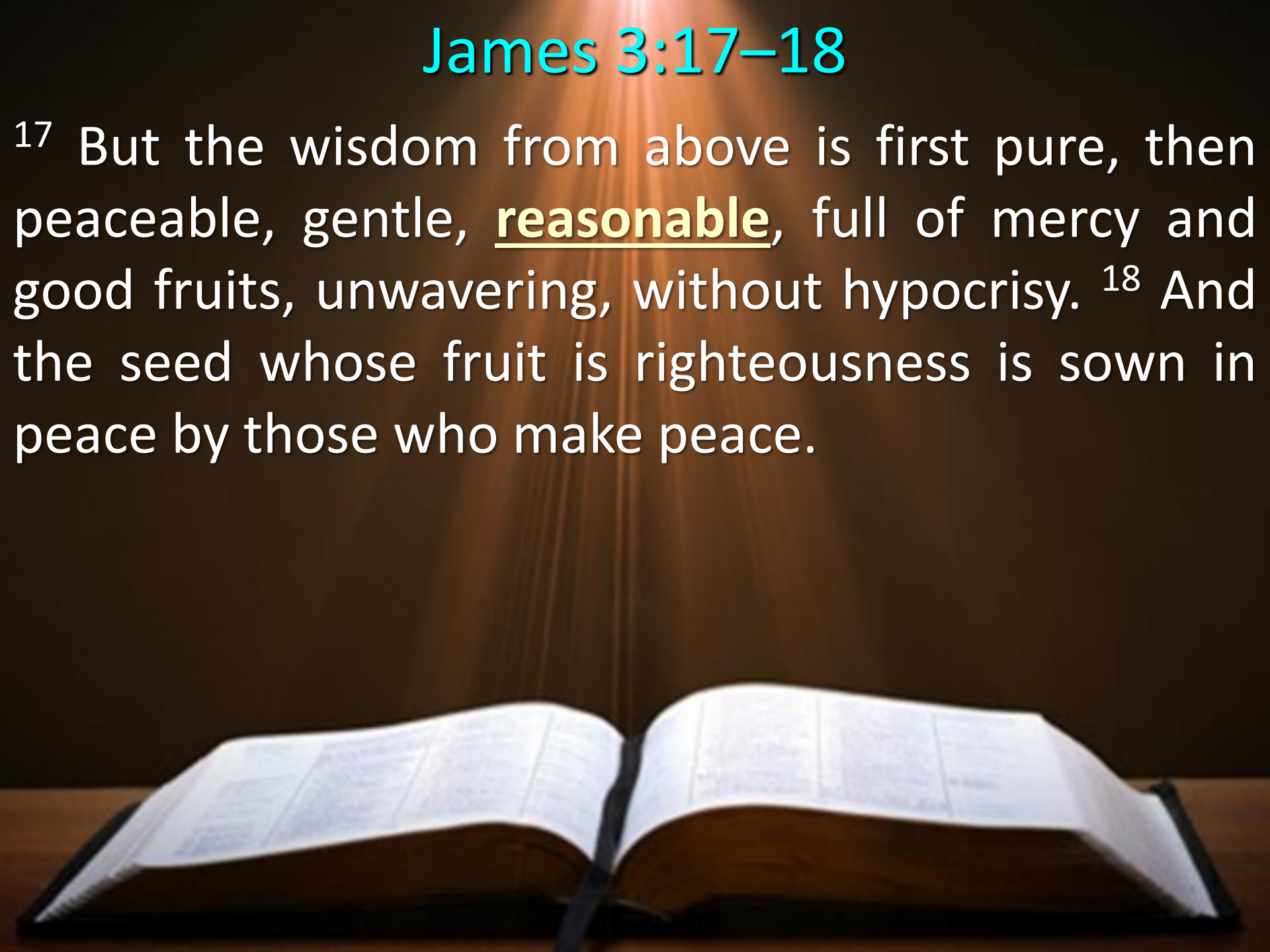
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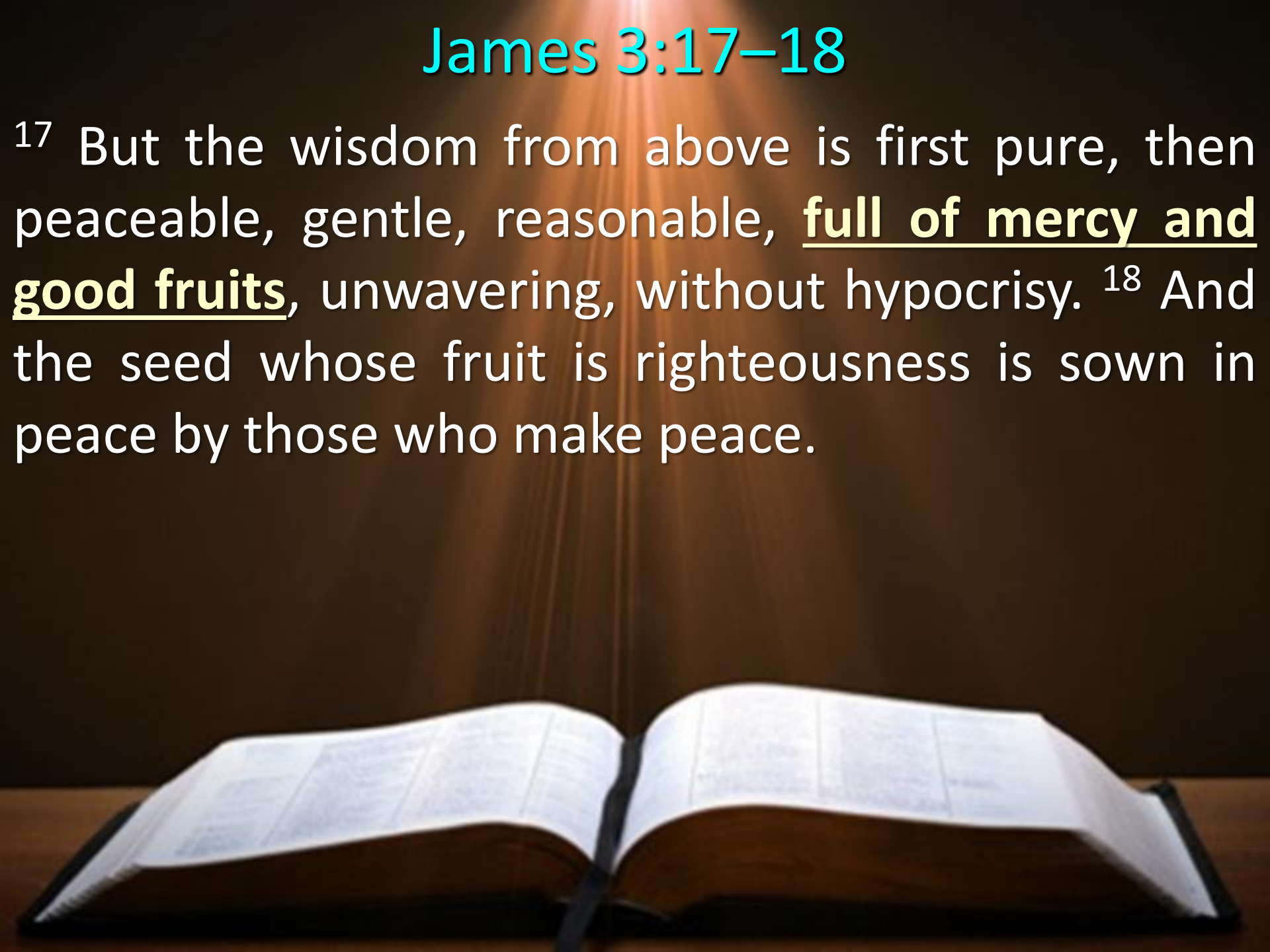


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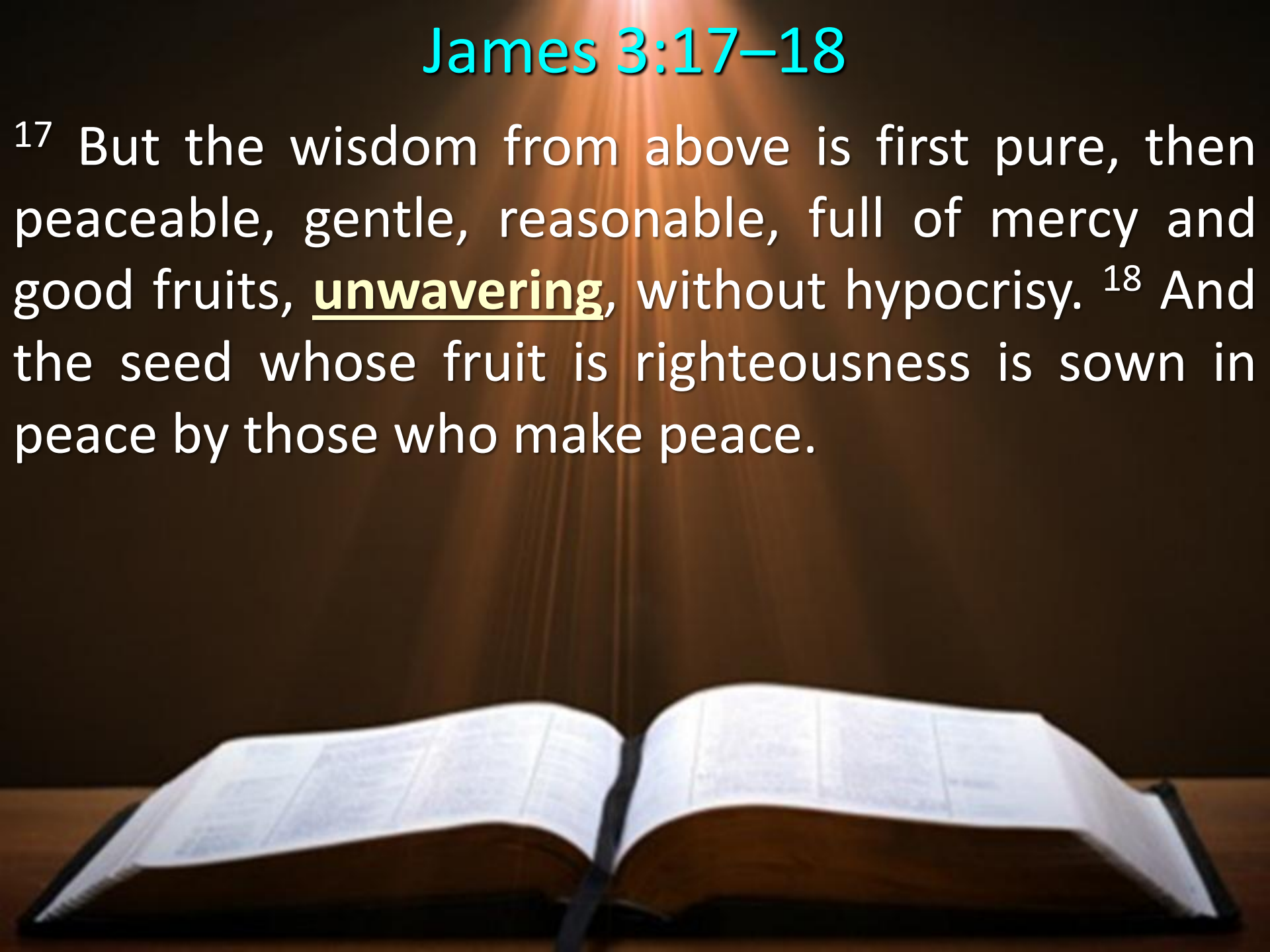
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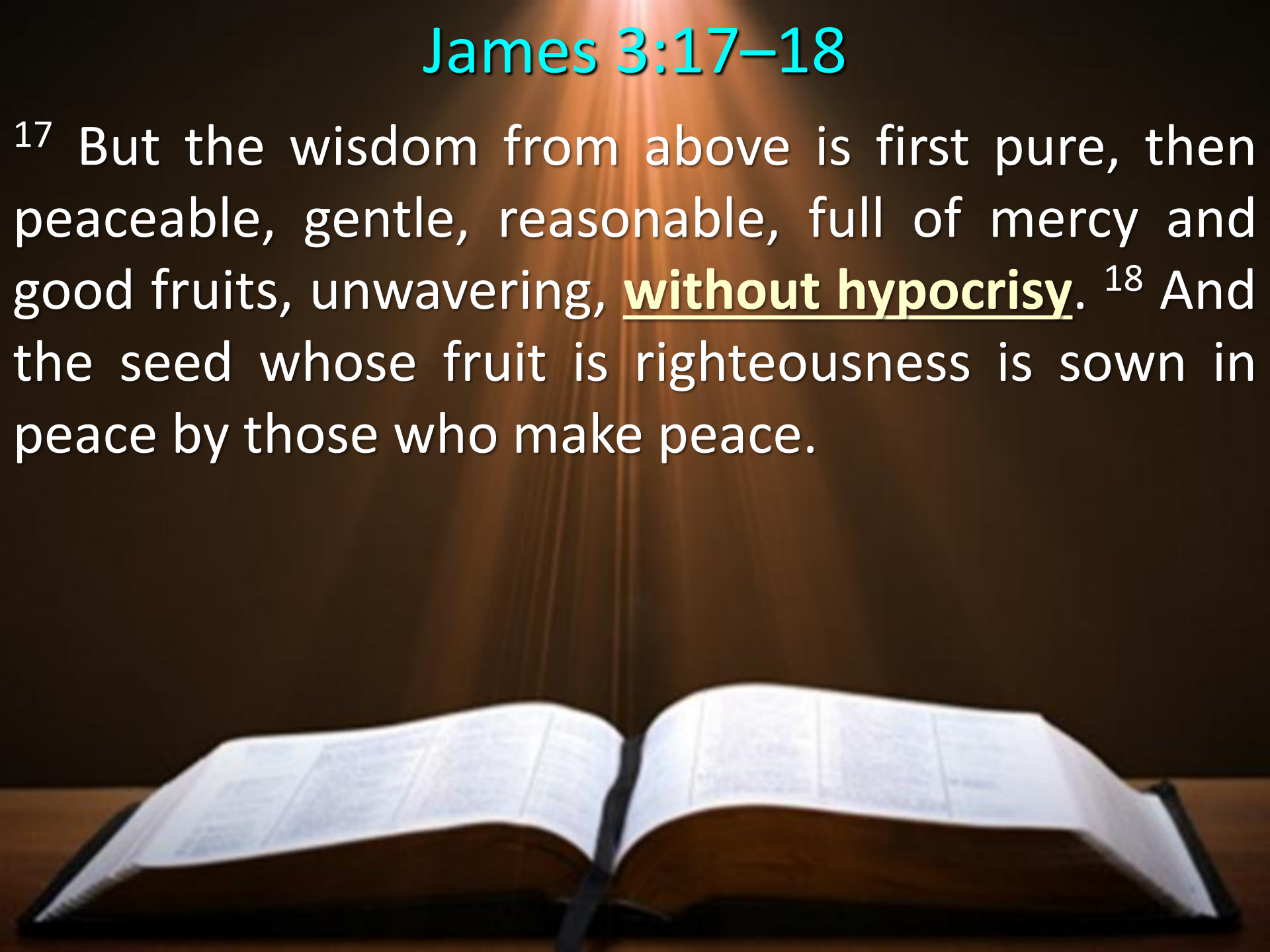


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CONCLUSION

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  - Waiting for the Lord's return (5:7-12)
  - Prayer (5:13-18)
  - Restoration of the erring brother (5:19-20)

