

IDOL

FACTORIES



— THE HEART'S SEARCH —
FOR SATISFACTION

**“We have become a society of performers,
desperate for applause.”**

- Os Guinness

17 And Samuel said, “Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel. 18 And the Lord sent you on a mission and said, ‘Go, devote to destruction the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’

1 Samuel 15:17-31

19 Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you pounce on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the Lord?” 20 And Saul said to Samuel, “I have obeyed the voice of the Lord. I have gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have devoted the Amalekites to destruction.

1 Samuel 15:17-31

21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.” 22 And Samuel said,

1 Samuel 15:17-31

“Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king.”

1 Samuel 15:17-31

24 Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. 25 Now therefore, please pardon my sin and return with me that I may bow before the Lord.” 26 And Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.”

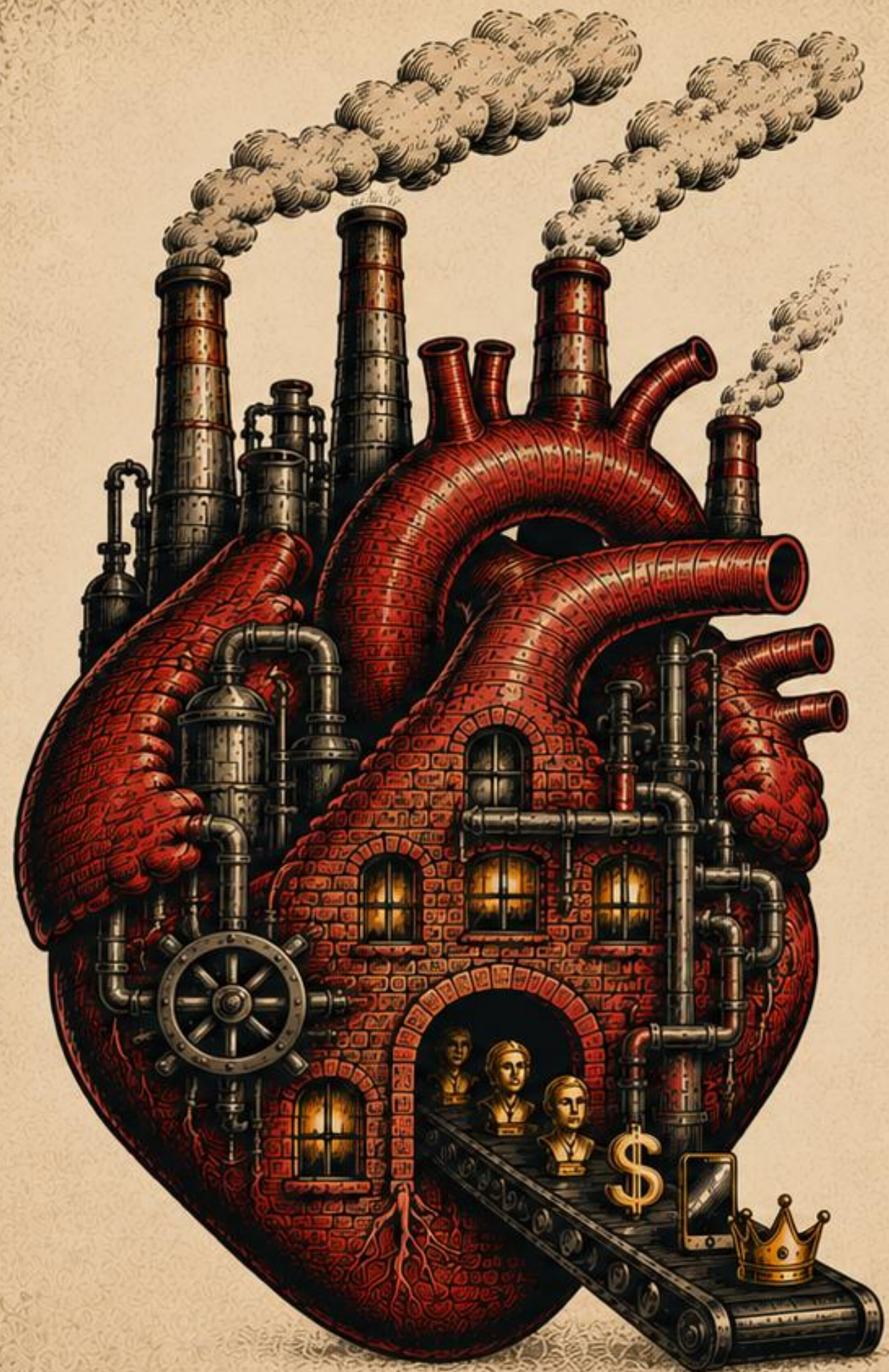
1 Samuel 15:17-31

27 As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore. 28 And Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. 29 And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.”

1 Samuel 15:17-31

30 Then he said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may bow before the Lord your God.” 31 So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul bowed before the Lord.

1 Samuel 15:17-31



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Outline

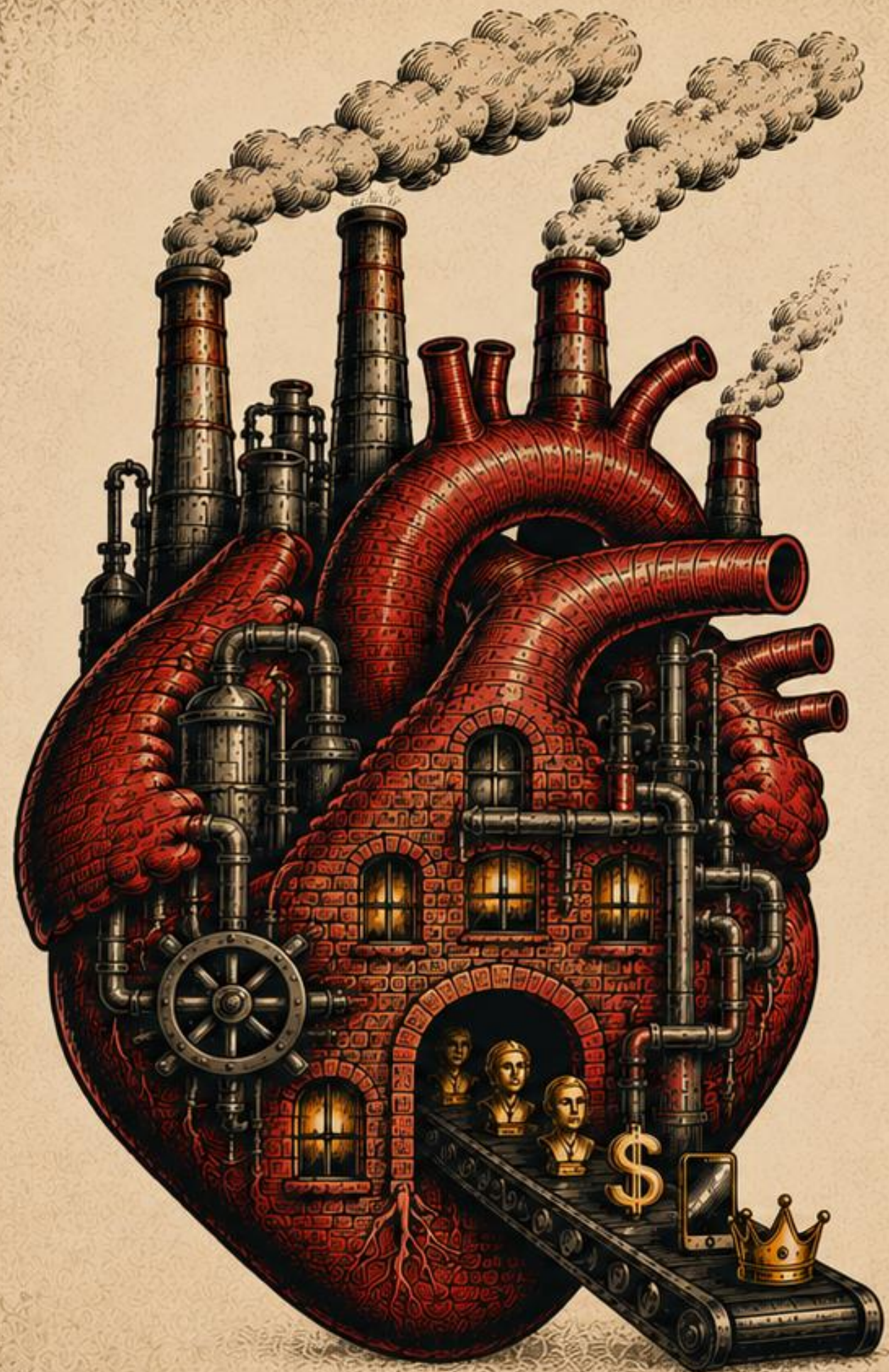
- **Definition Of The Idol Of Approval**
- **Description Of The Idol Of Approval**
- **Deliverance From The Idol Of Approval**

“The person whose opinion matters most to us becomes our functional lord. When people are big and God is small, people control us. Since we need something from them, we give them power over us.”

- Ed Welch

Definition of Approval Idolatry

Seeking people's approval above God's approval and using people to give us value rather than doing good to them because we love them.



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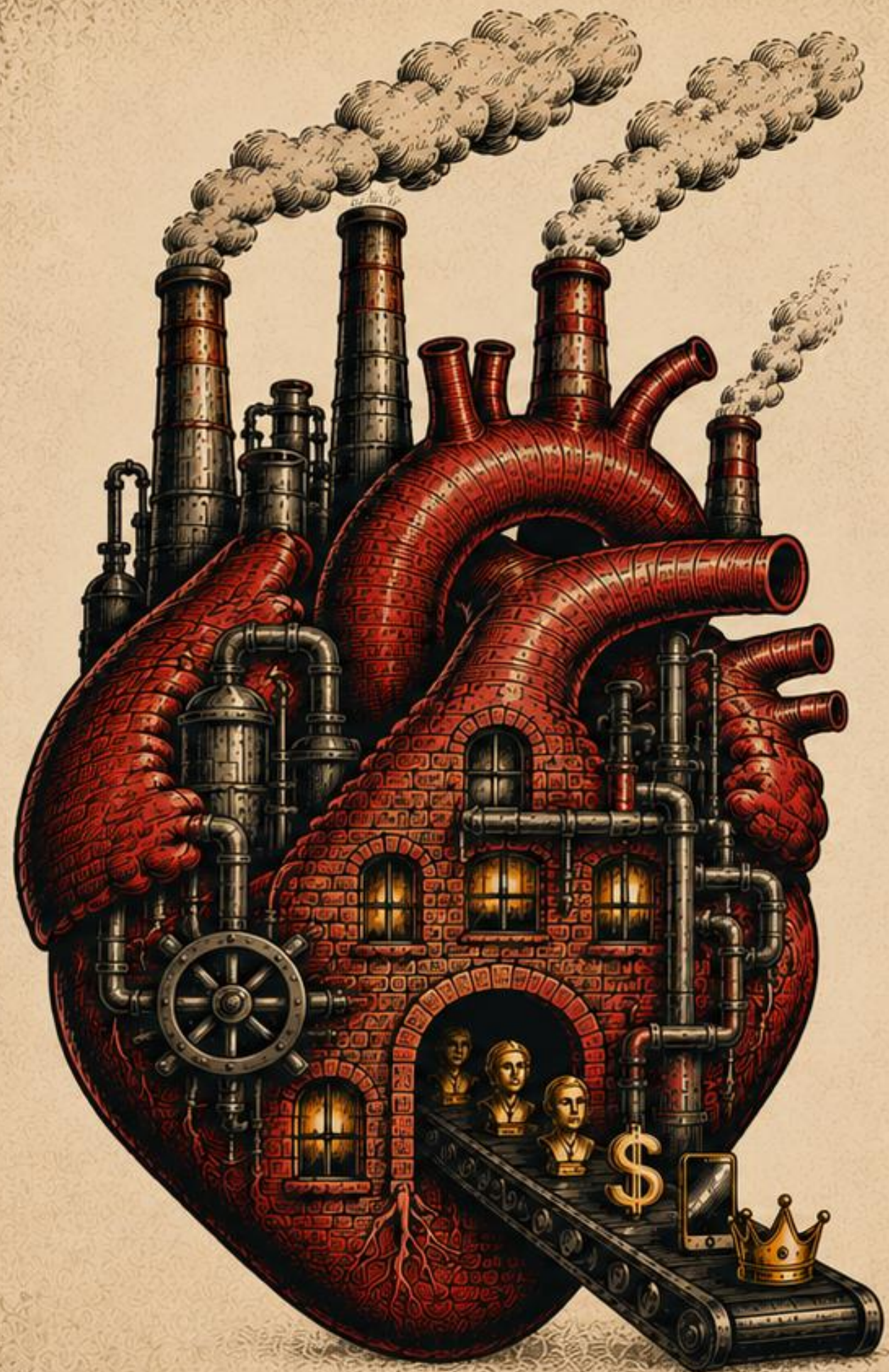
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Description of Approval Idolatry

An Overemphasis On Appearance

Defensiveness

Anxiety



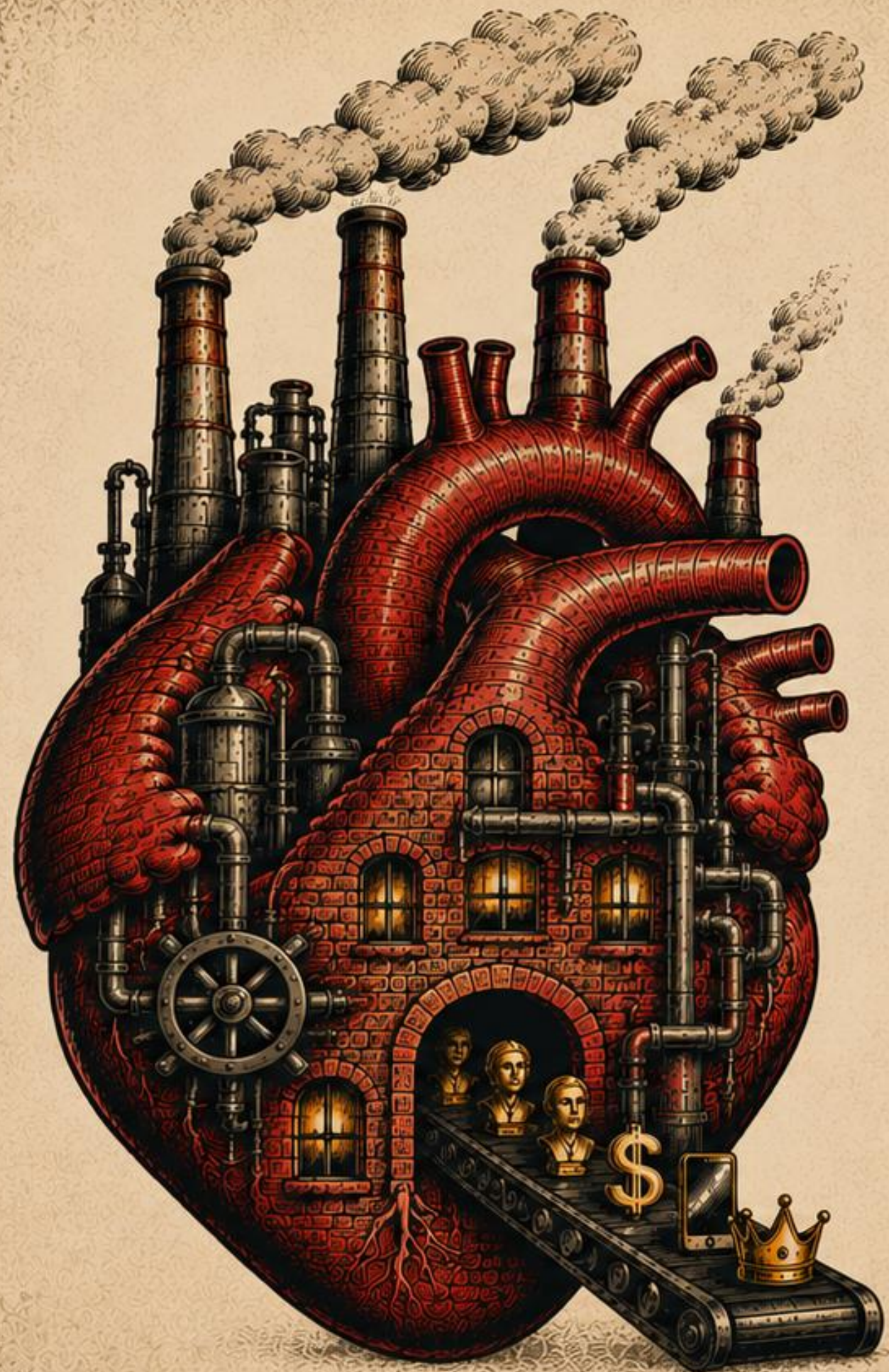
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**Am I overly concerned with my appearance?
How important is my physical appearance
to me versus my character? Am I more
concerned with looking good than being
godly? Am I more afraid of public disgrace
than divine displeasure?**



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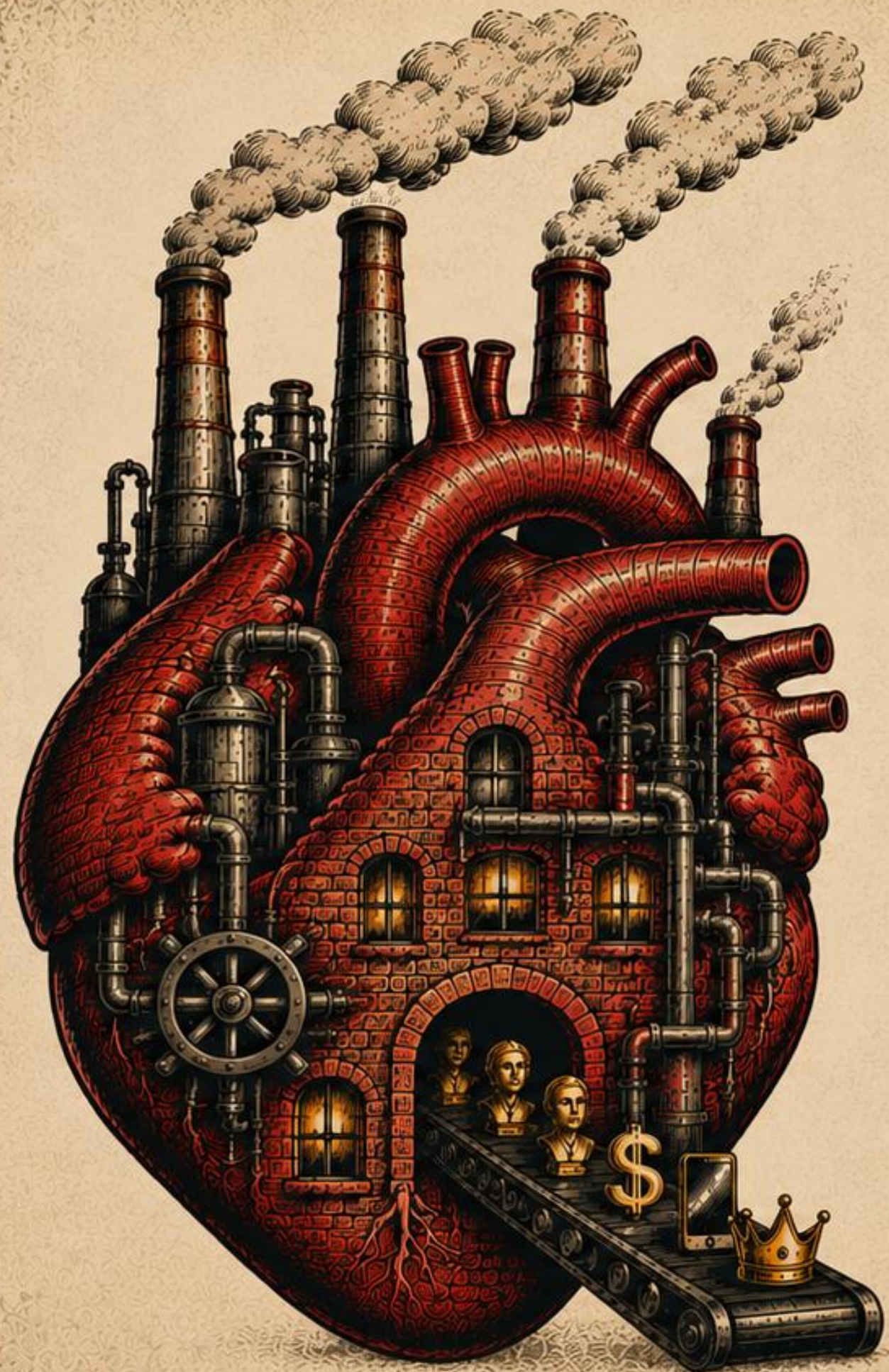
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“People pleasers often respond poorly to correction because criticism threatens what they desire most—acceptance and approval.”

- Lou Priolo



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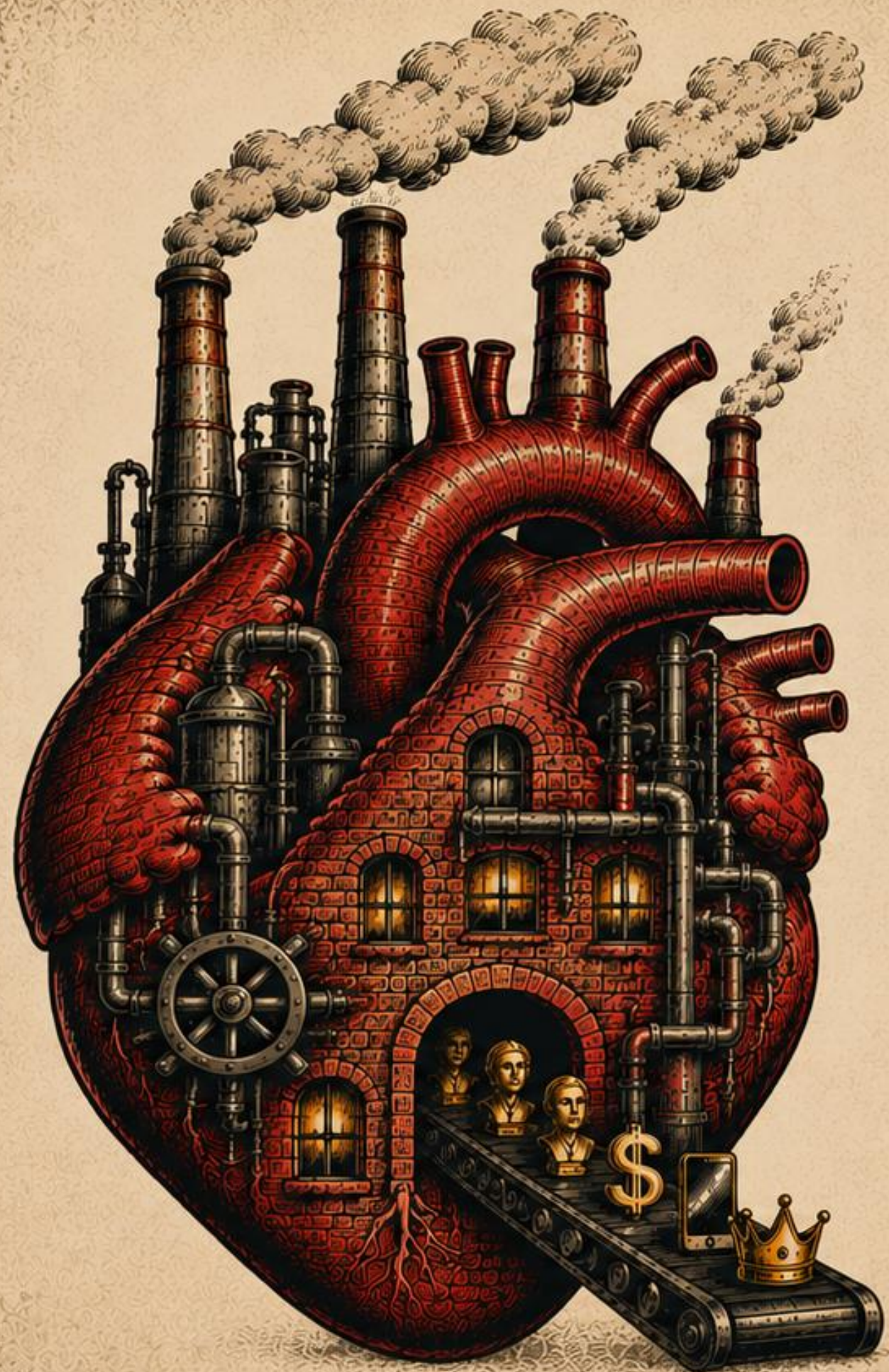
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“People pleasers live in constant anxiety because they are trying to satisfy expectations they cannot control.”

- Lou Priolo



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“You can please some of the people some of the time, and all of the people none of the time.”

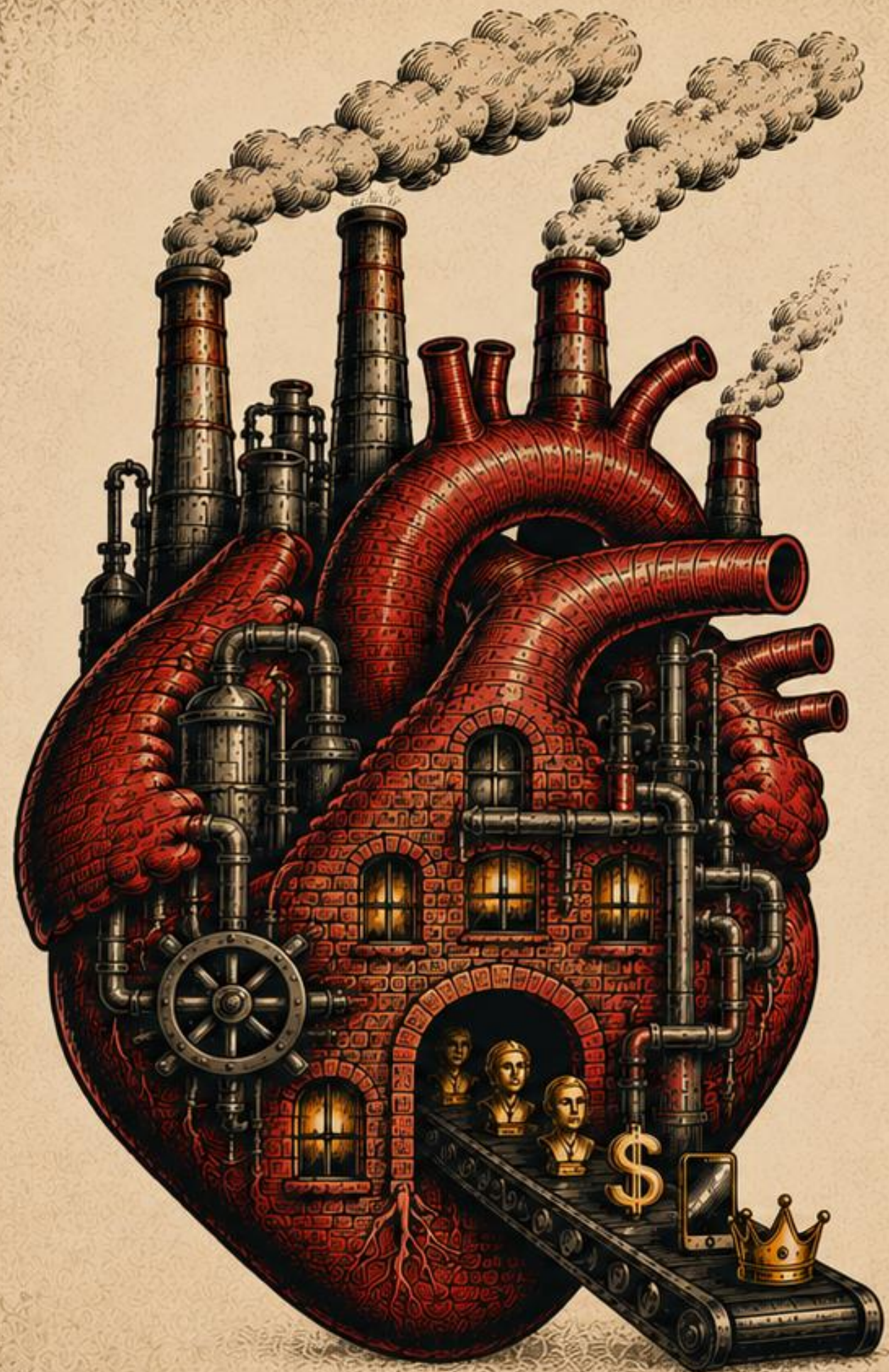
- Lou Priolo

“How much happier you would be if you only knew that these people cared nothing about you! How much larger your life would be if yourself could become smaller in it... You would break out of this tiny and tawdry theater in which your own little plot is always being played, and you would find yourself under a freer sky.”

- GK Chesterton

“If any man thinks little of you, do not be angry with him; for if he knew you better he would think less of you.”

- Charles Spurgeon



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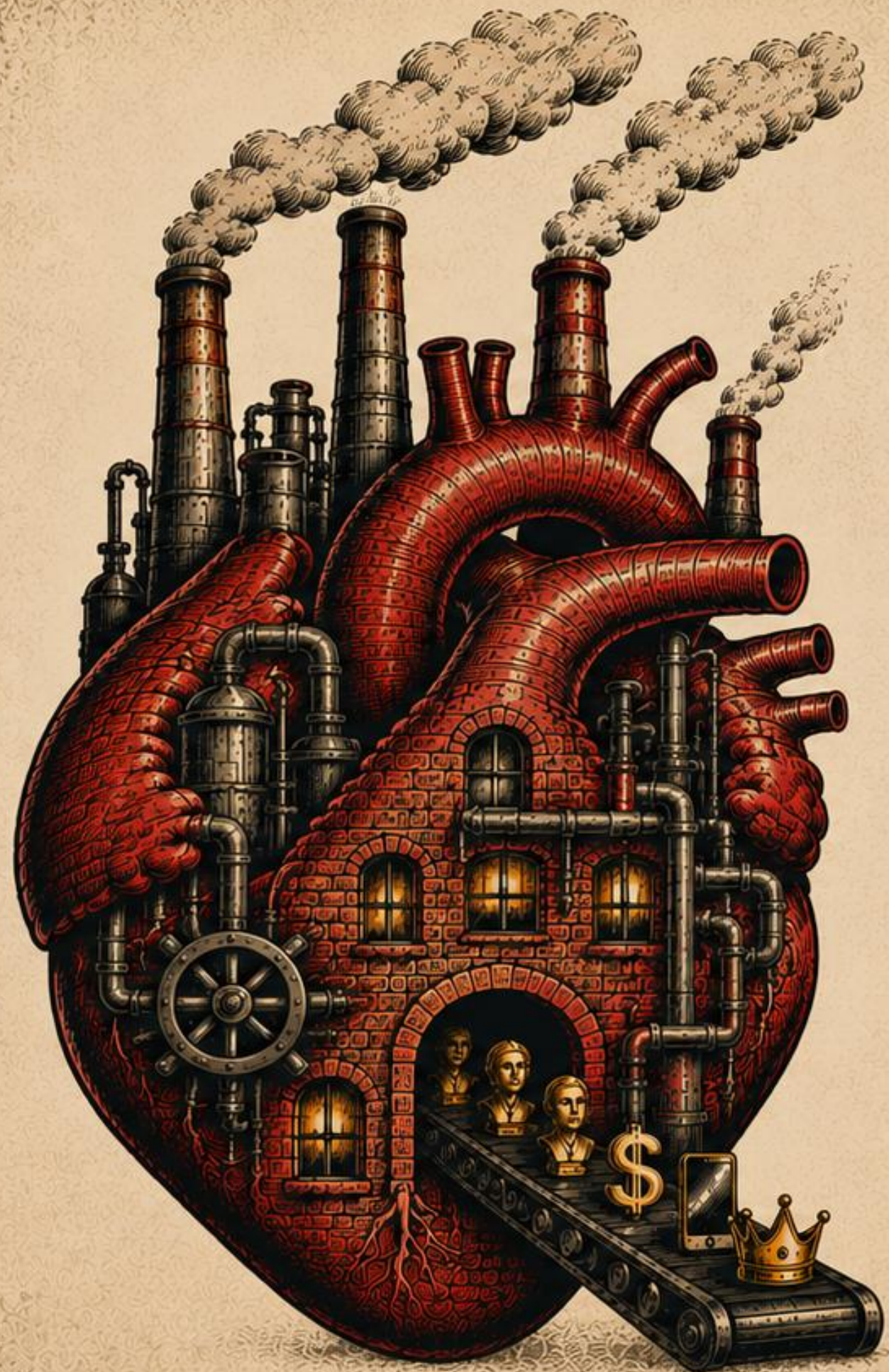
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**“The great spiritual battle begins
and never ends with the reclaiming
of our belovedness.”**

- Henry Nouwen



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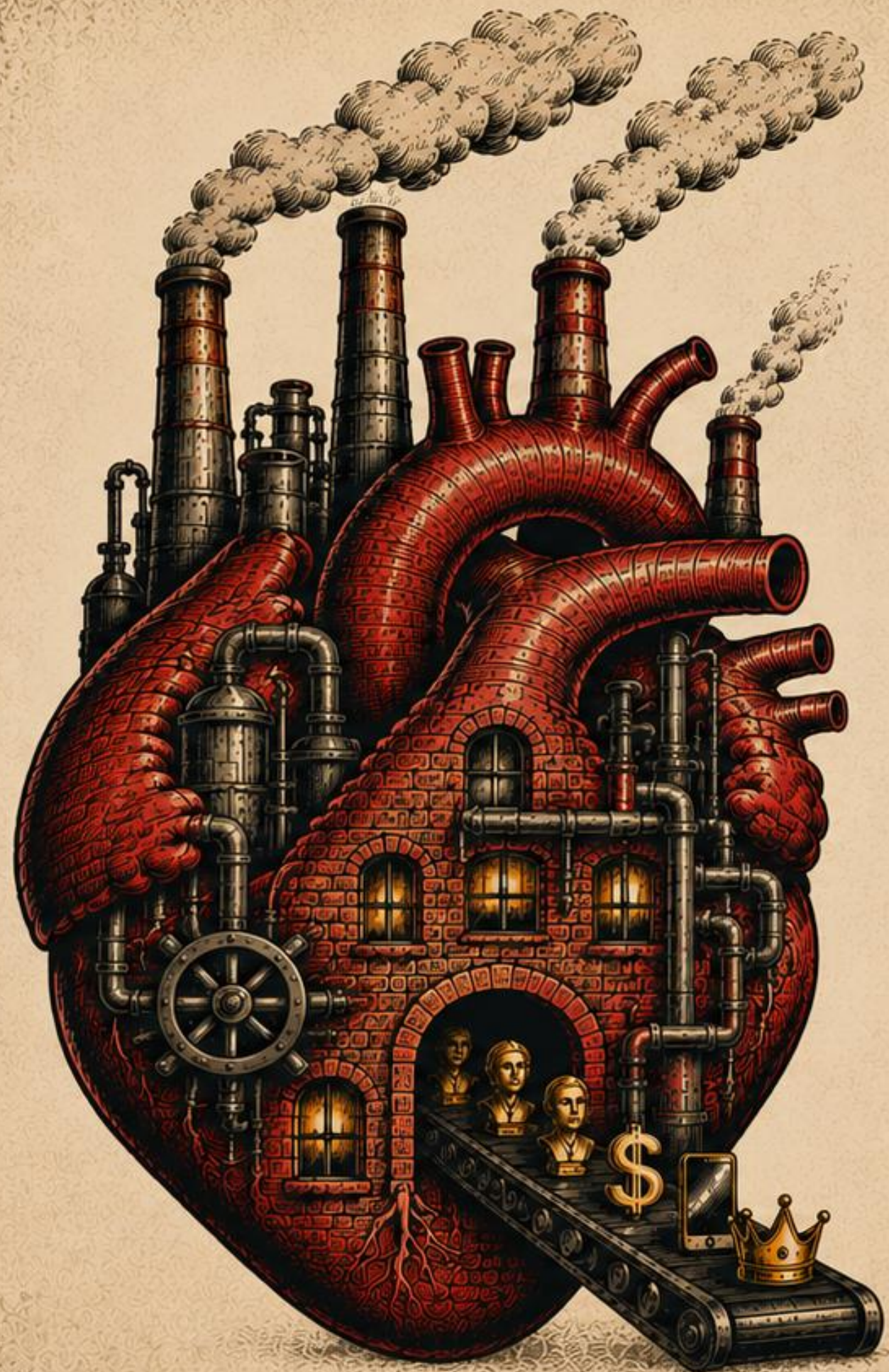
“The most liberating thing in the world is to know that God is pleased with you because of Christ. Then you don’t need to spend your life trying to get everyone else to be pleased with you.”

- John Piper

**Make the smile of God
the goal of your life!**

***“Never mind man’s frown if you have
God’s smile.”***

- Catherine Booth, Co-Founder Salvation Army



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