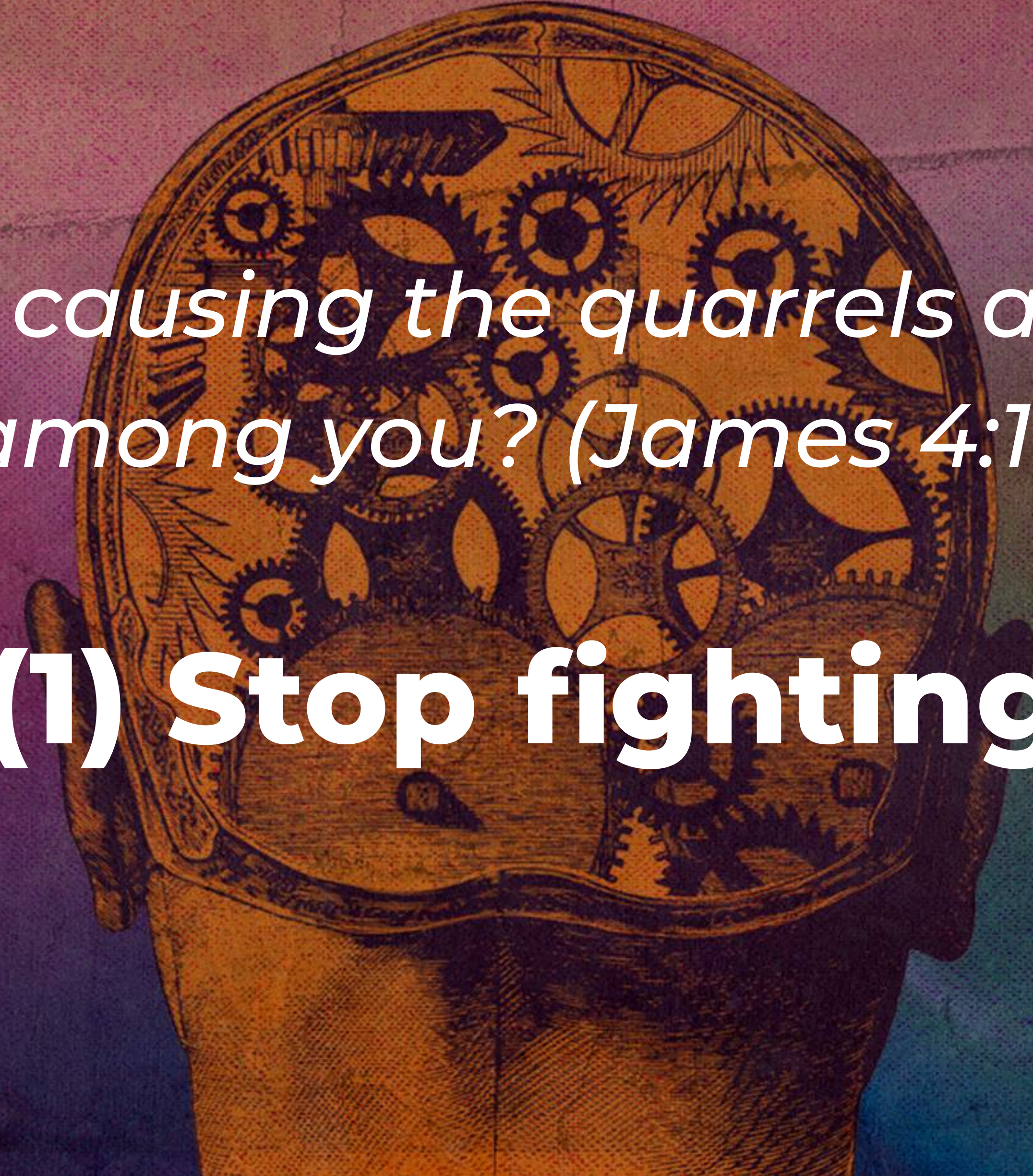




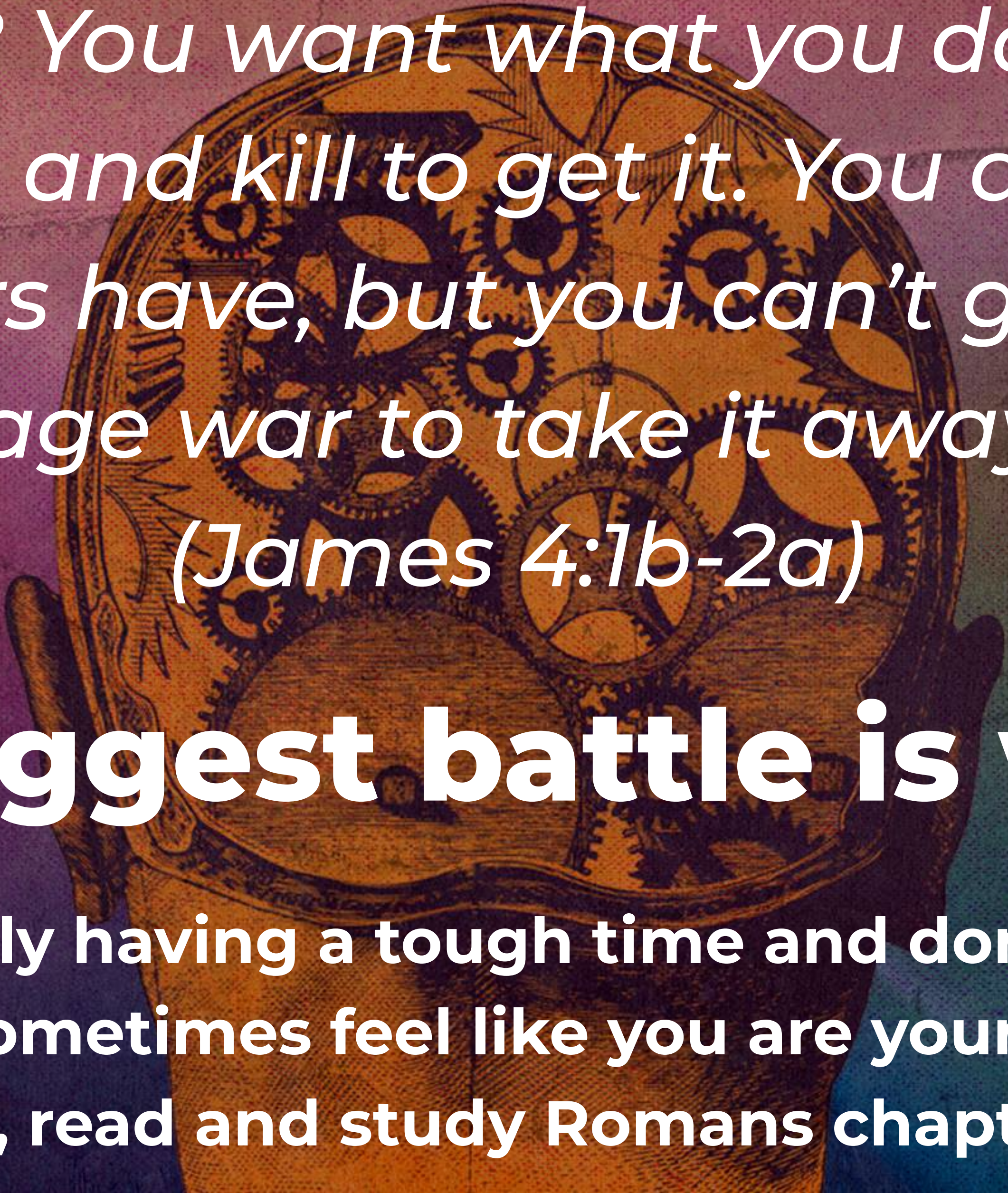
TIME FOR AN UPGRADE

James 4

A detailed illustration of a mechanical watch movement, showing various gears, cogs, and a winding mechanism, all contained within the silhouette of a human head. The watch is rendered in a golden-brown color, contrasting with the dark, textured background of the head. The background of the entire image is a gradient of colors, transitioning from a warm orange-brown at the top to a deep blue at the bottom.

*What is causing the quarrels and fights
among you? (James 4:1a)*

(1) Stop fighting.

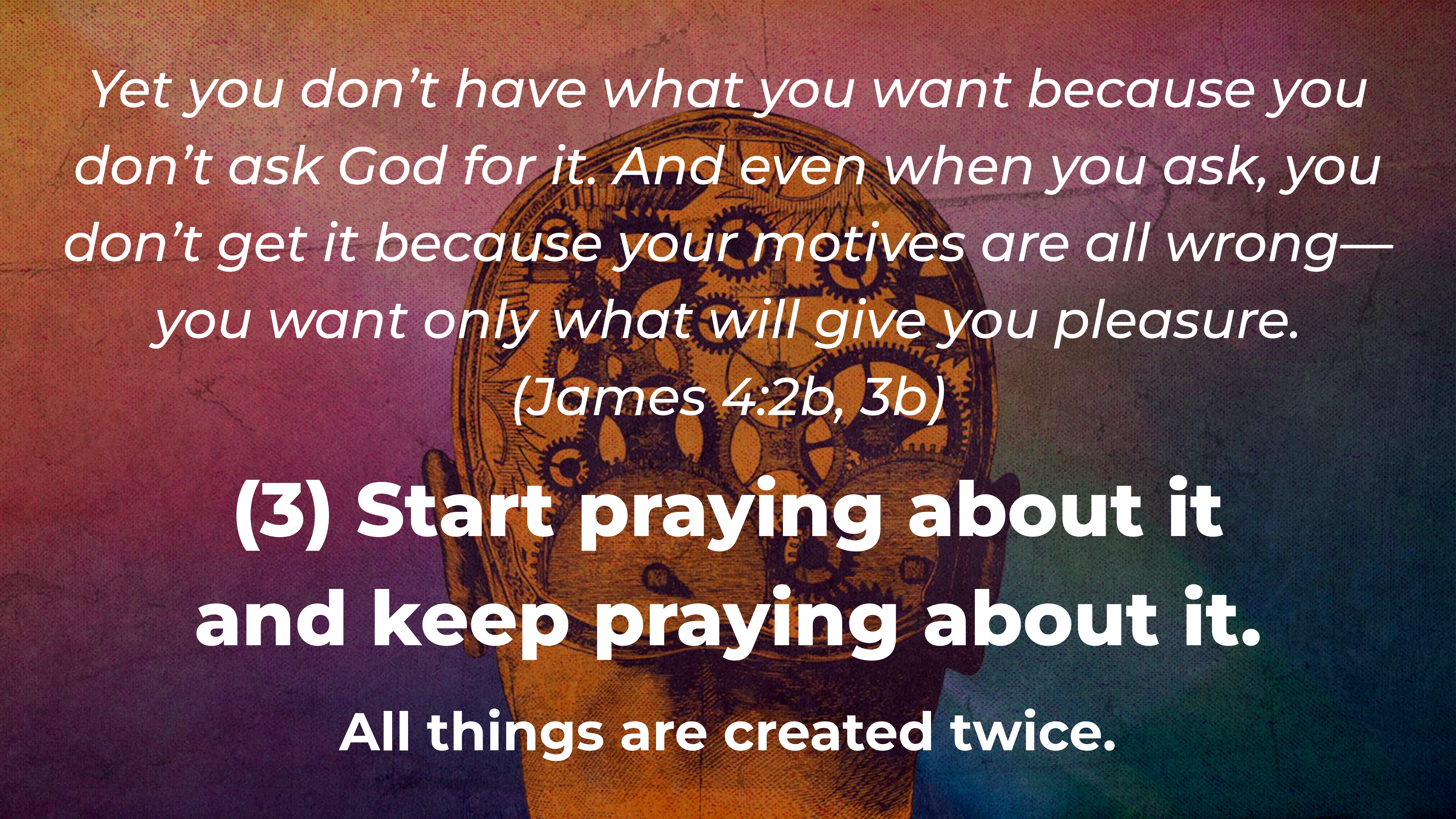
A hand holding a clock mechanism with gears inside a head silhouette. The background is a gradient of purple and blue.

Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them.

(James 4:1b-2a)

(2) The biggest battle is within us.

If you are really having a tough time and don't understand why you sometimes feel like you are your own worst enemy, read and study Romans chapters 6-8.




Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

(James 4:2b, 3b)

**(3) Start praying about it
and keep praying about it.**

All things are created twice.



You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. (James 4:4)

**(4) Be God's friend
not the world's companion.**

**What this world is coming to is not as
important as who I am going to.**

*Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning?
They say that God is passionate that the spirit he
has placed within us should be faithful to him.*

(James 4:5)

(5) Yield to the Holy Spirit.

*“Don't destroy yourself by getting drunk, but let
the Spirit fill your life.” (Ephesians 5:18)*

And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." So humble yourselves before God.

(James 4:6-7a)

(6) Practice being humble.

We never know how far we can go with these commands until we actually start doing them.

*James 4:7b Resist the devil, and he will
flee from you. (James 4:7b)*

(7) Fight temptations.

**Don't ever lose heart battling the negative
influences that are thrust upon you.**

*Come close to God, and God will come
close to you. (James 4:8a)*

(8) Practice the presence of God.

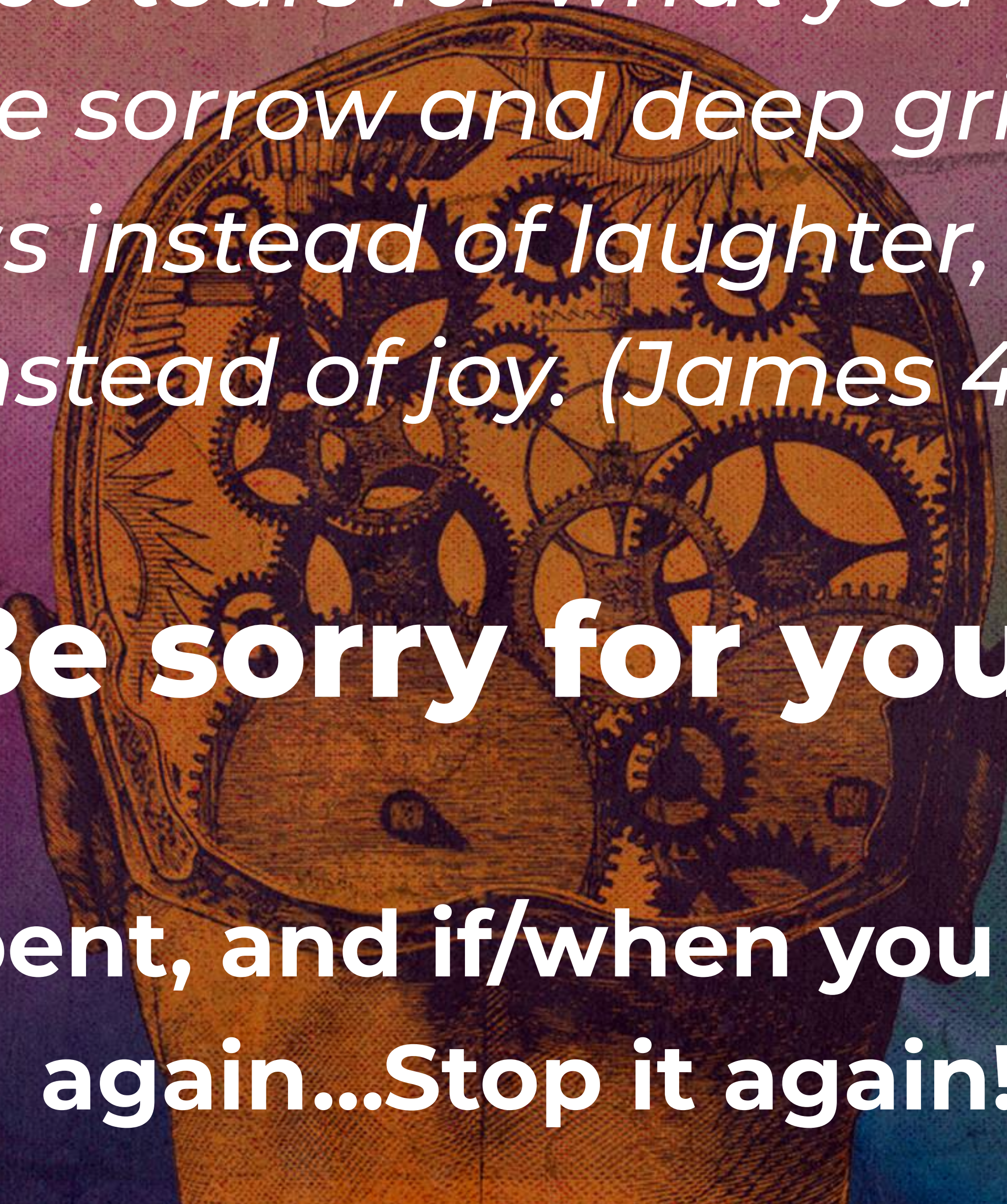
*Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts,
(James 4:8b)*

(9) Live clean.

*for your loyalty is divided between God
and the world. (James 4:8)*

(10) Commit.

**You cannot short cut your spiritual
development. There is a price that must be
paid and a process followed.**

A hand holding a pocket watch with gears visible inside. The watch is positioned in the center of the image, with the hand holding it from the bottom. The gears are intricate and detailed, showing various sizes and shapes. The background is a dark, textured surface with a gradient of colors from purple to blue.

*Let there be tears for what you have done.
Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there
be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom
instead of joy. (James 4:9)*

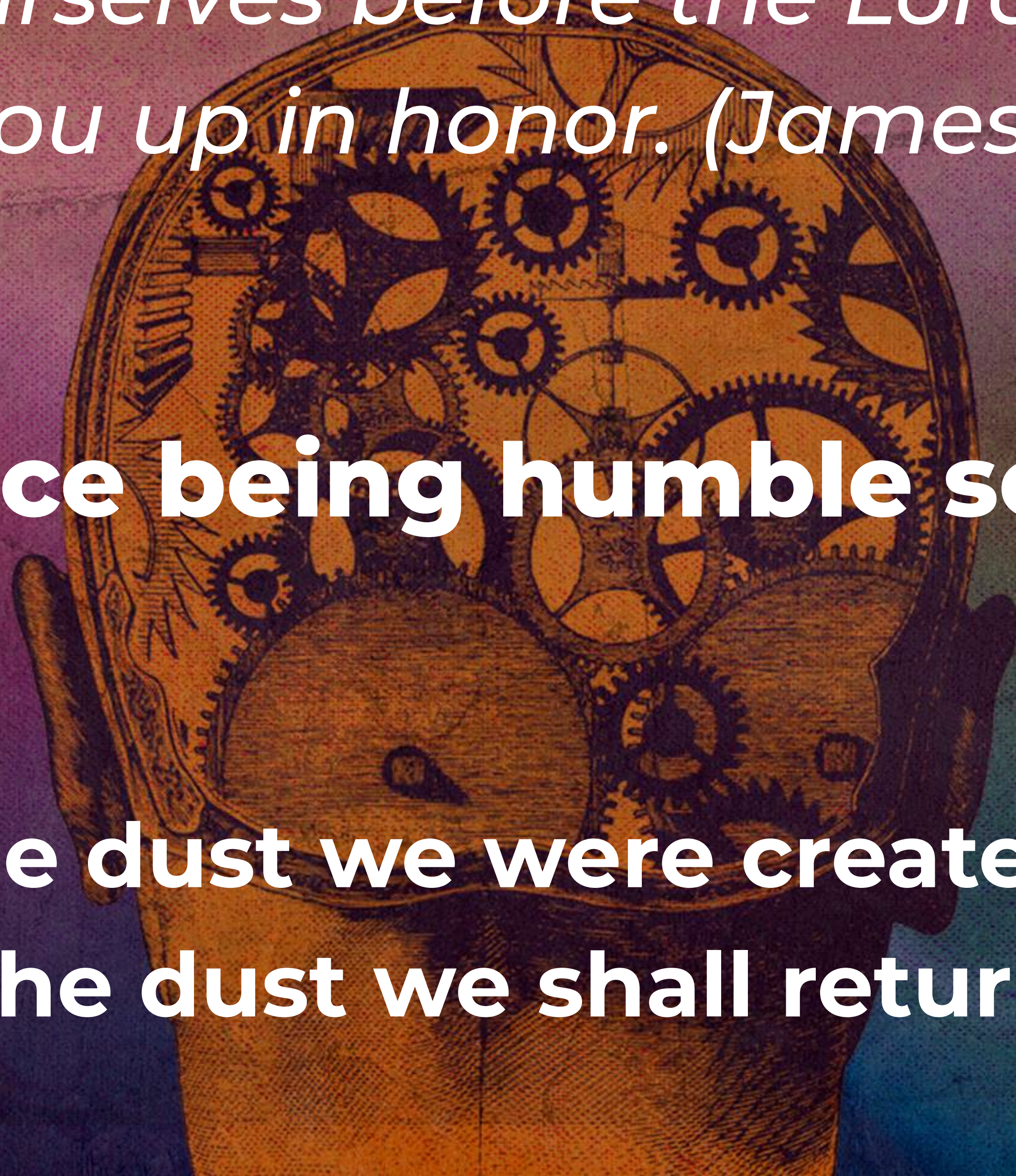
(11) Be sorry for your sin.

**Repent, and if/when you do it
again...Stop it again!**

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. (James 4:10)

(12) Practice being humble some more.

From the dust we were created and to the dust we shall return.



*Don't speak evil against each other,
dear brothers and sisters. (James 4:11)*

(13) Speak well of others.

**Always seek to defend the absent and plead the
cause of those who don't live up to your expectations.
We never know the full backstory of choices people
make. Don't tear people down.**

If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God's law. (James 4:11)

(14) You ain't judge.

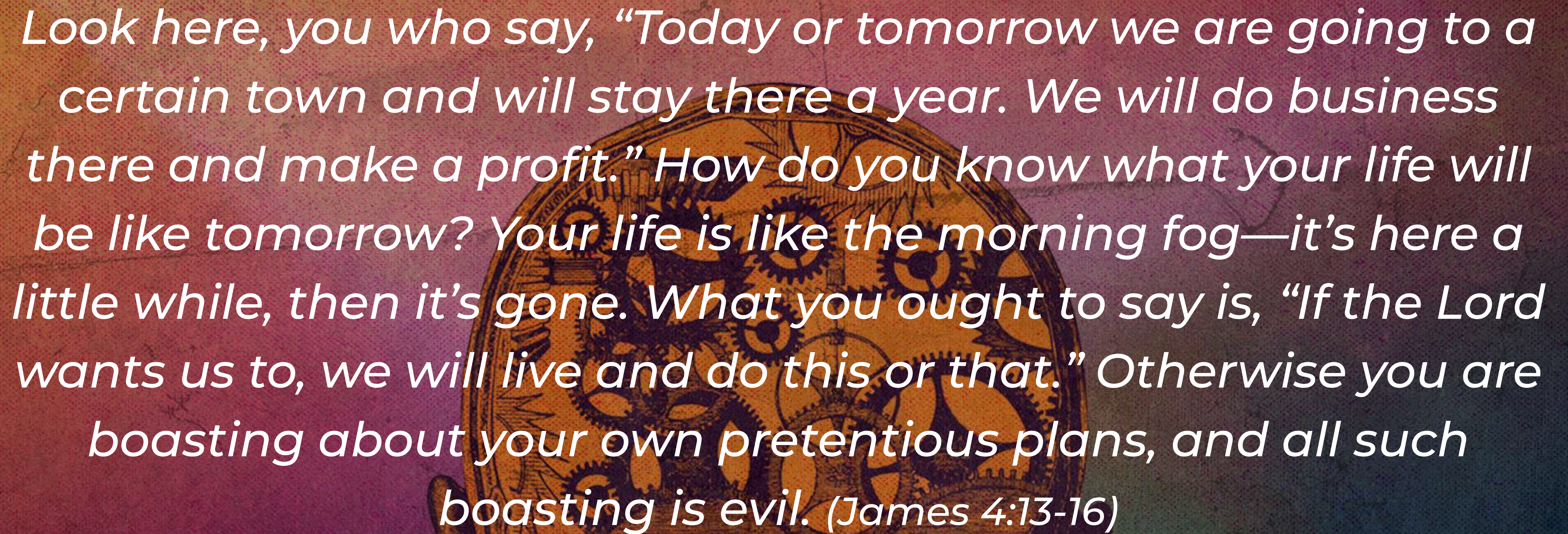
If and when you assassinate someone else's character you are actually firing darts at God.

But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. (James 4:11)

(15) Obey God.

God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor? (James 4:12)

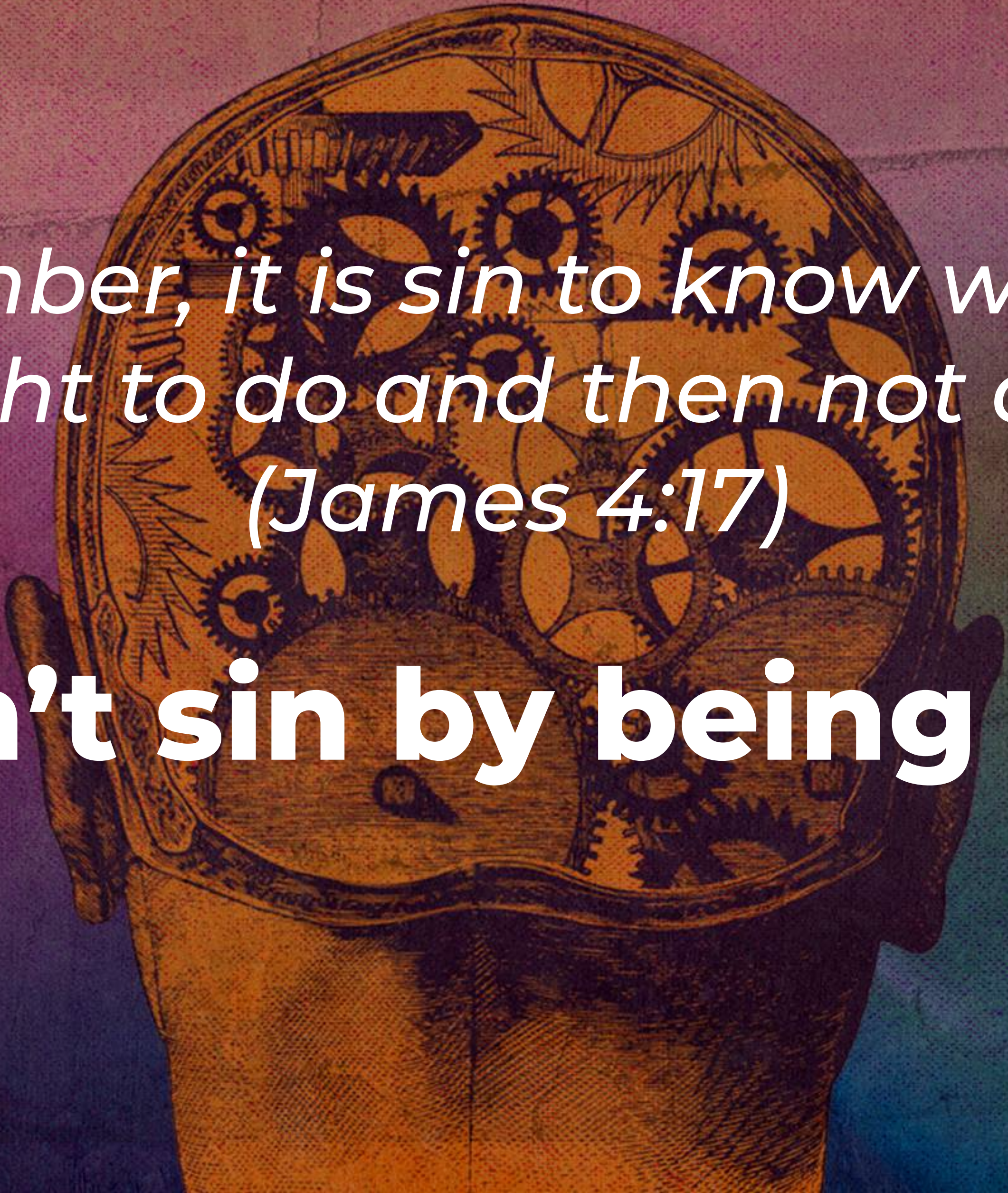
(16) Let God be God.



Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.” How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone. What you ought to say is, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.” Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil. (James 4:13-16)

(17) Promote God’s providence.

In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:6)

A detailed illustration of a human head in profile, facing left. The interior of the head is filled with a complex mechanical system of interlocking gears, cogs, and shafts, rendered in a dark, textured style. The background of the entire image is a gradient of colors, transitioning from a warm, reddish-brown at the top to a deep, dark blue at the bottom. The overall aesthetic is that of a vintage or industrial-themed graphic.

Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.
(James 4:17)

(18) Don't sin by being passive.

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK



- (A) Write/Type a note listing good things you can do to obey God this week.**
- (B) Prayerfully knock them out/check them off.**
- (C) It's time for an upgrade!**