

Filling in the blank



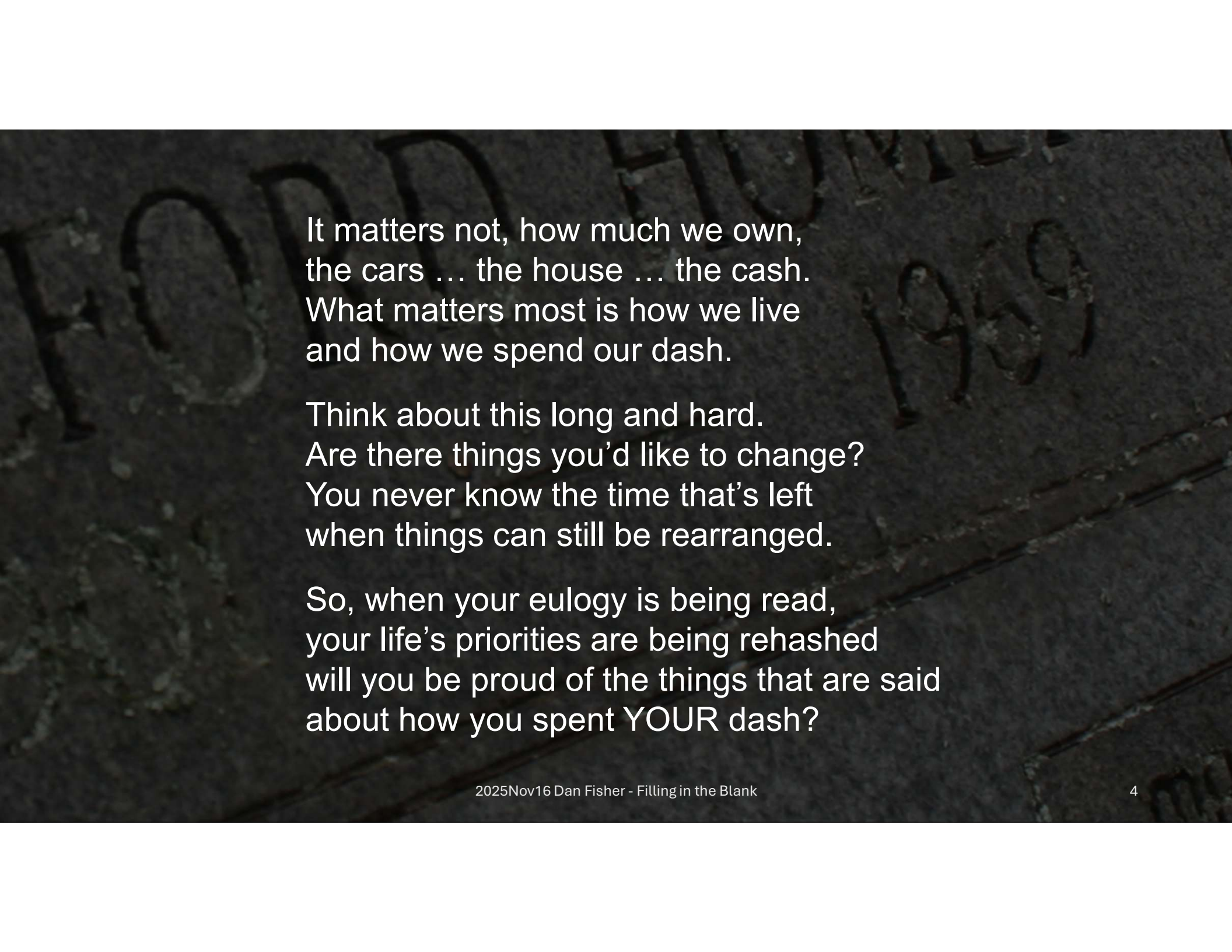
The Dash by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the dates on his tombstone
from the beginning ... to the end.

He noted first the date of birth
then of the other one with tears,
but he said what mattered the very most
was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents the whole of time
a person spends on the earth.
And only those who loved them most
know what that line is worth.



It matters not, how much we own,
the cars ... the house ... the cash.
What matters most is how we live
and how we spend our dash.

Think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
You never know the time that's left
when things can still be rearranged.

So, when your eulogy is being read,
your life's priorities are being rehashed
will you be proud of the things that are said
about how you spent YOUR dash?

A close-up photograph of a dark, textured surface, likely a car's body panel, showing embossed text. The word 'FORD' is visible on the left, and the year '1969' is on the right. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture and the raised letters.

1. Life is short

“Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. ² He comes forth like a flower and fades away; he flees like a shadow and does not continue.” Job 14:1-2

“All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall ...” Is 40:6-8

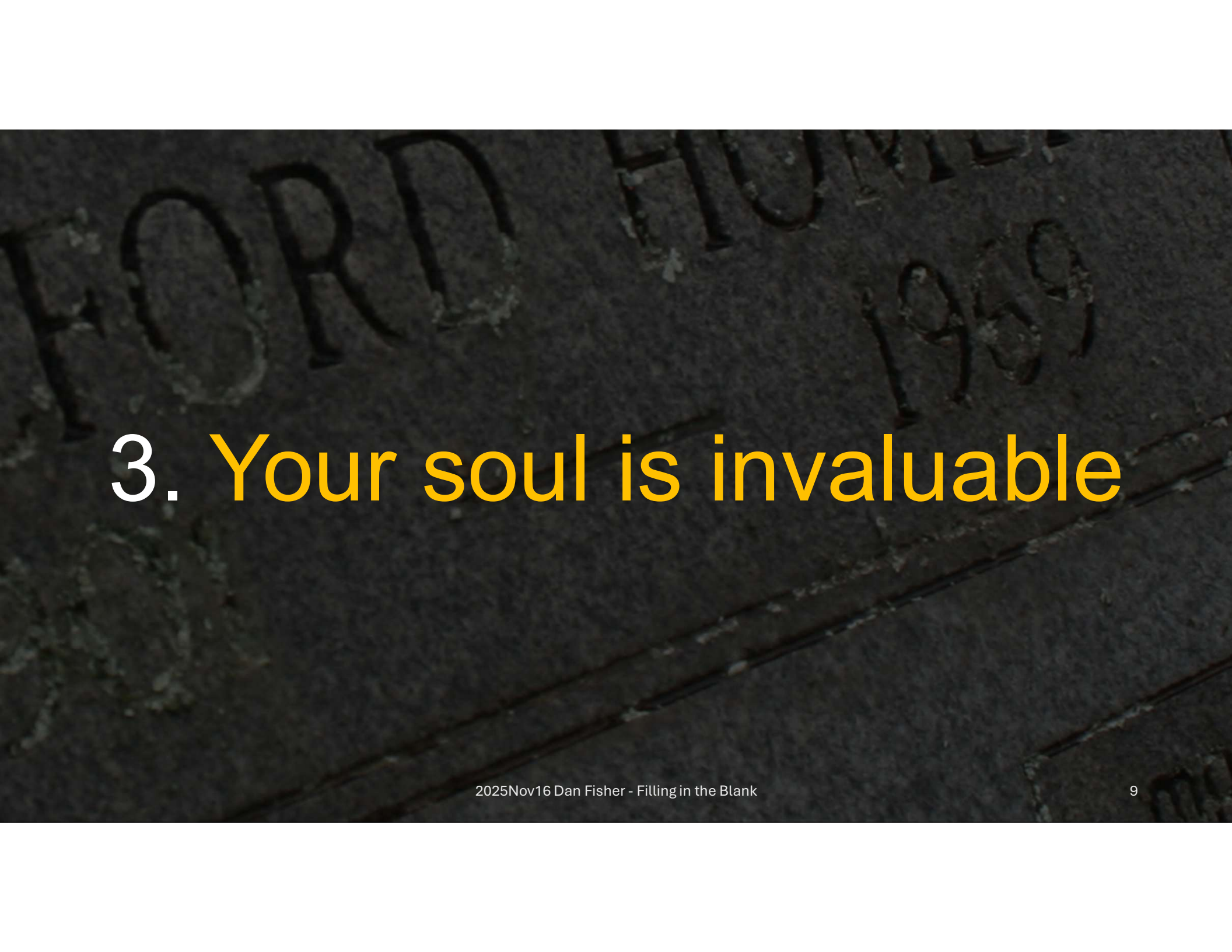
“What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” Js 4:14



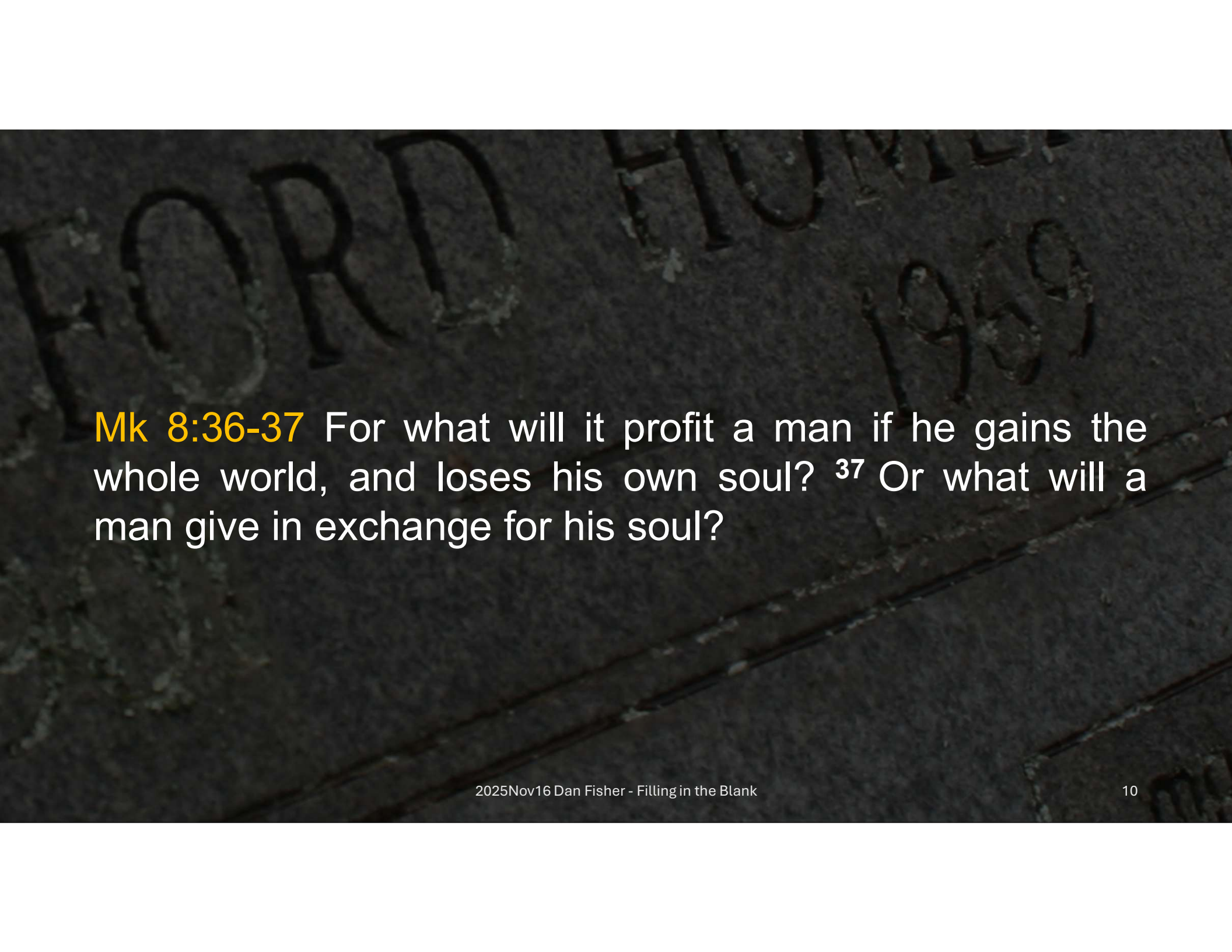
Ps 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

A close-up photograph of a dark, textured surface, likely a piece of metal or stone, with embossed text. The word 'FORD' is visible on the left, and the year '1969' is on the right. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture and the raised letters.

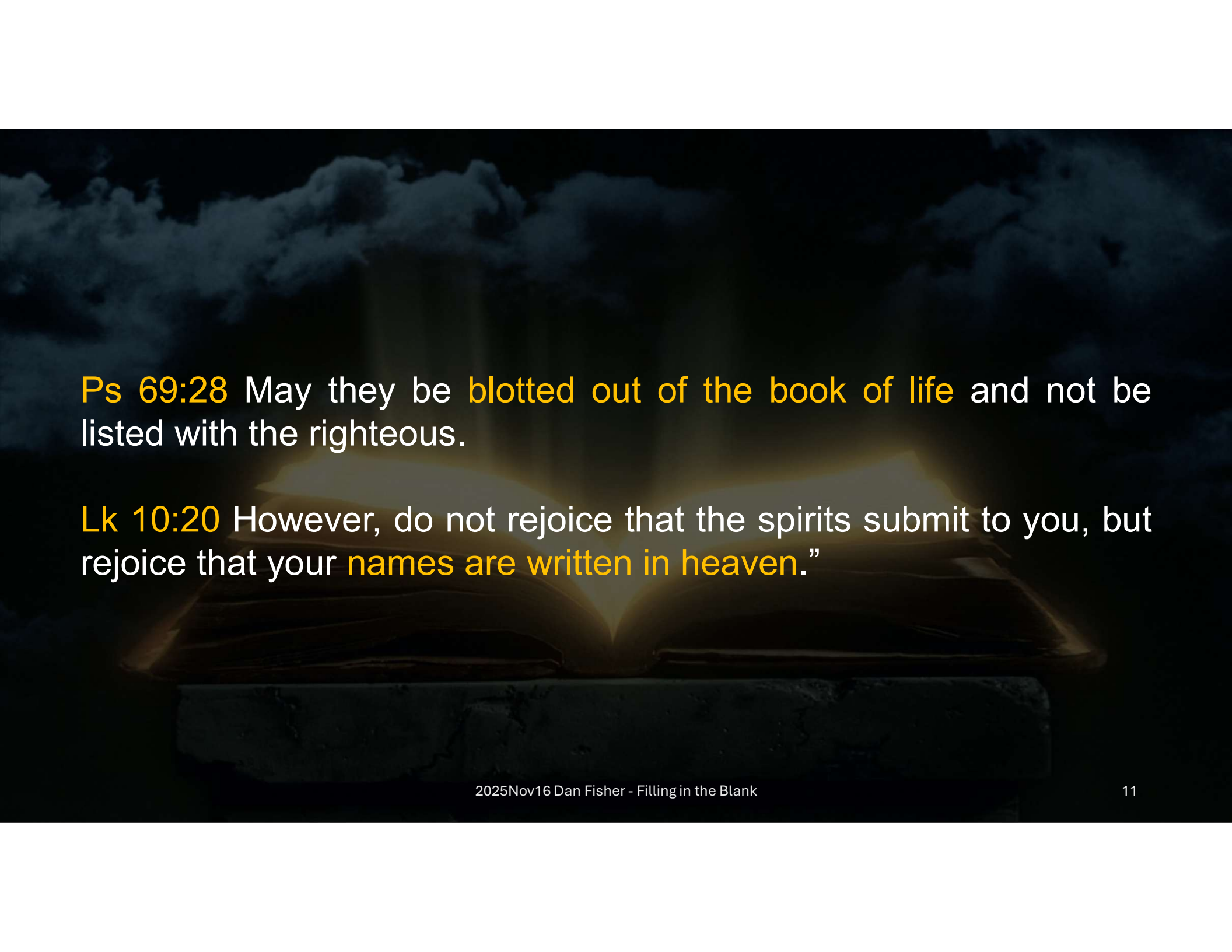
2. Eternity is long

A close-up photograph of a dark, textured surface, likely a piece of metal or stone, with embossed text. The word 'FORD' is visible on the left, and the year '1969' is visible on the right. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture and the embossed letters.

3. Your soul is invaluable

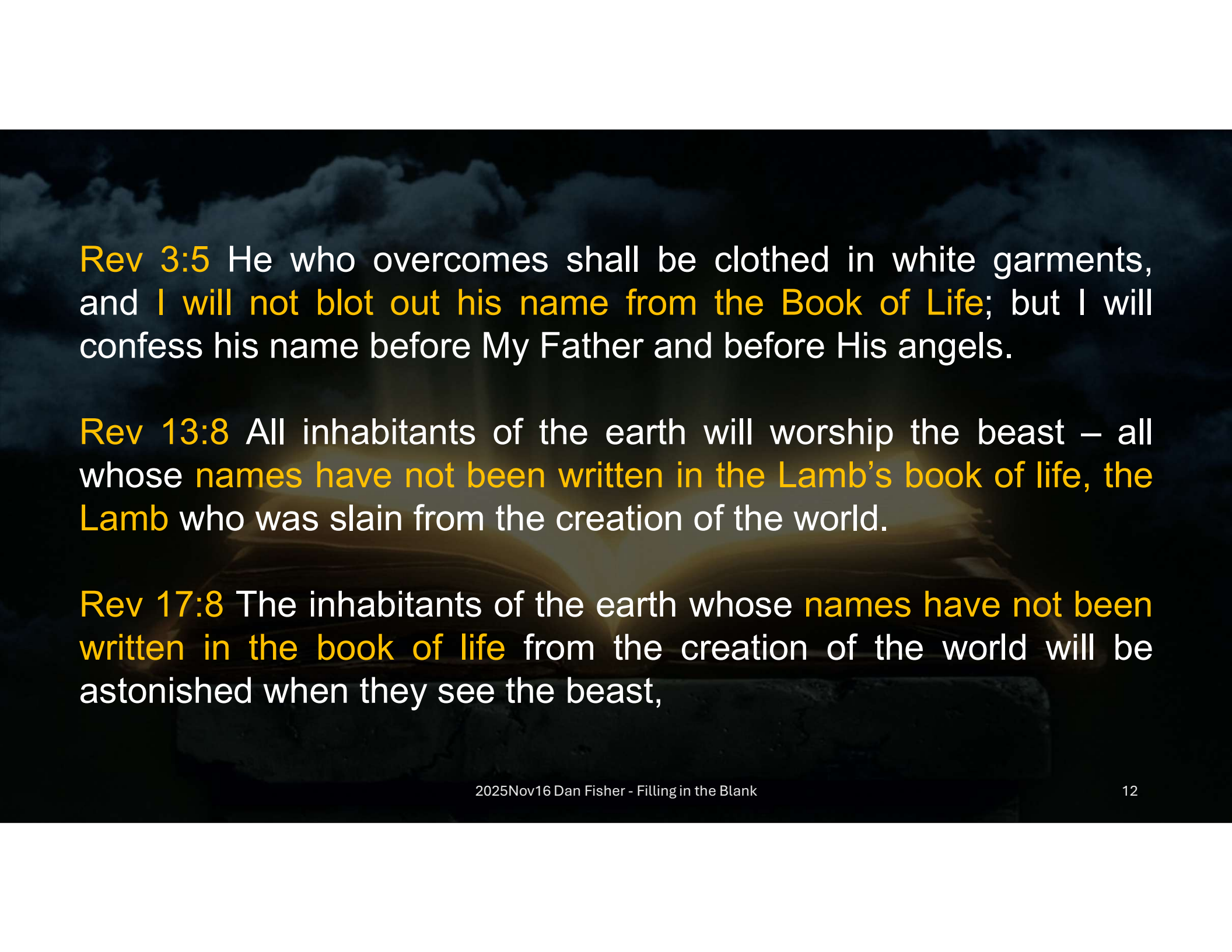


Mk 8:36-37 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? ³⁷ Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?



Ps 69:28 May they be **blotted out of the book of life** and not be listed with the righteous.

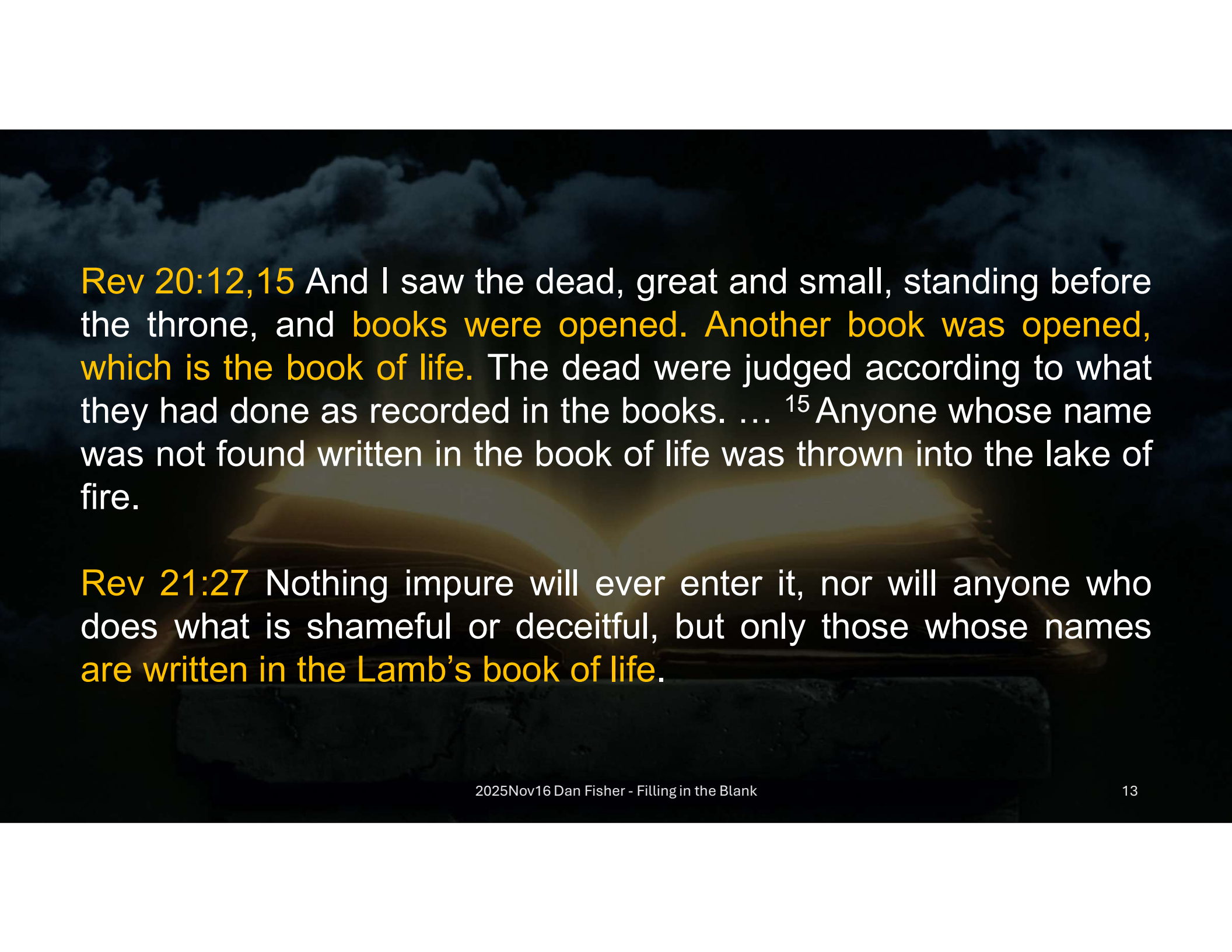
Lk 10:20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your **names are written in heaven.**”

The background of the slide features a dramatic sunset or sunrise over a body of water, with a large, open book resting on a dark, textured surface in the foreground. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, and a bright, golden light emanates from the horizon, creating a strong lens flare effect that illuminates the scene. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Rev 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and **I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Rev 13:8 All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast – all whose **names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life**, the **Lamb** who was slain from the creation of the world.

Rev 17:8 The inhabitants of the earth whose **names have not been written in the book of life** from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast,



Rev 20:12,15 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and **books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life.** The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ... ¹⁵ Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

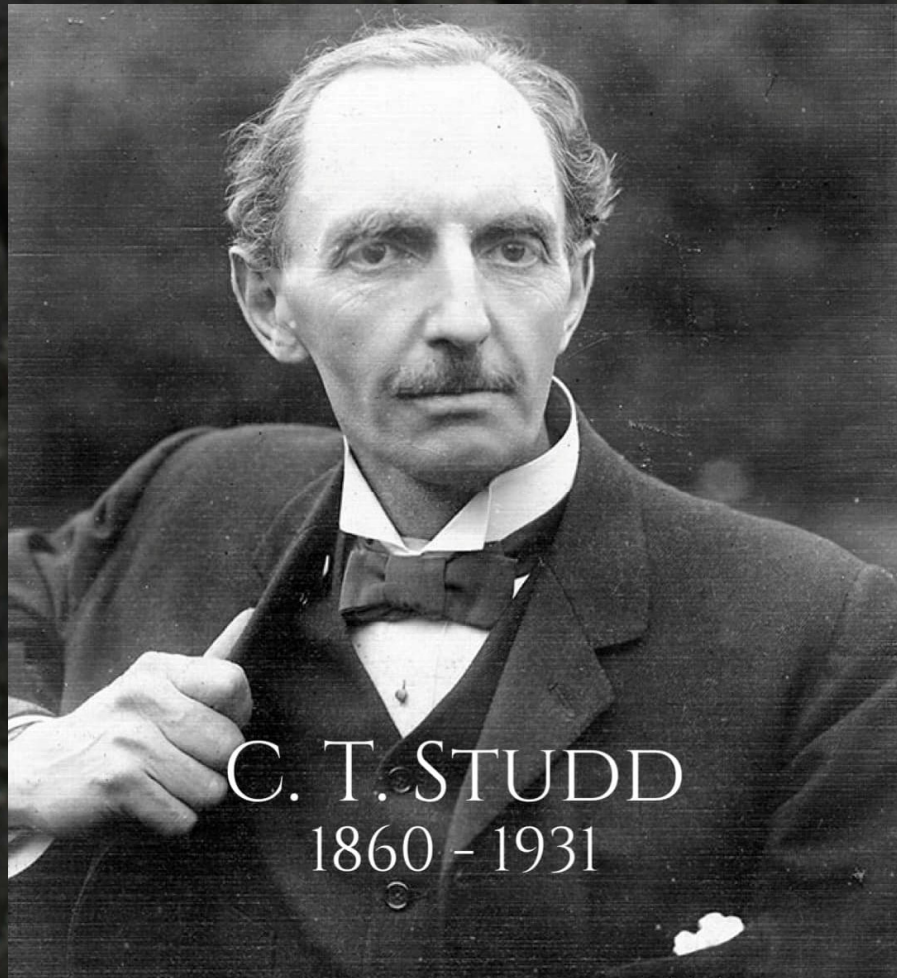
Rev 21:27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names **are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

A close-up photograph of a dark, textured surface, likely a metal casting, showing embossed text. The word 'FORD' is visible on the left, and the year '1969' is on the right. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture and the raised letters.

4. Time is precious

Rom 13:12-13 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

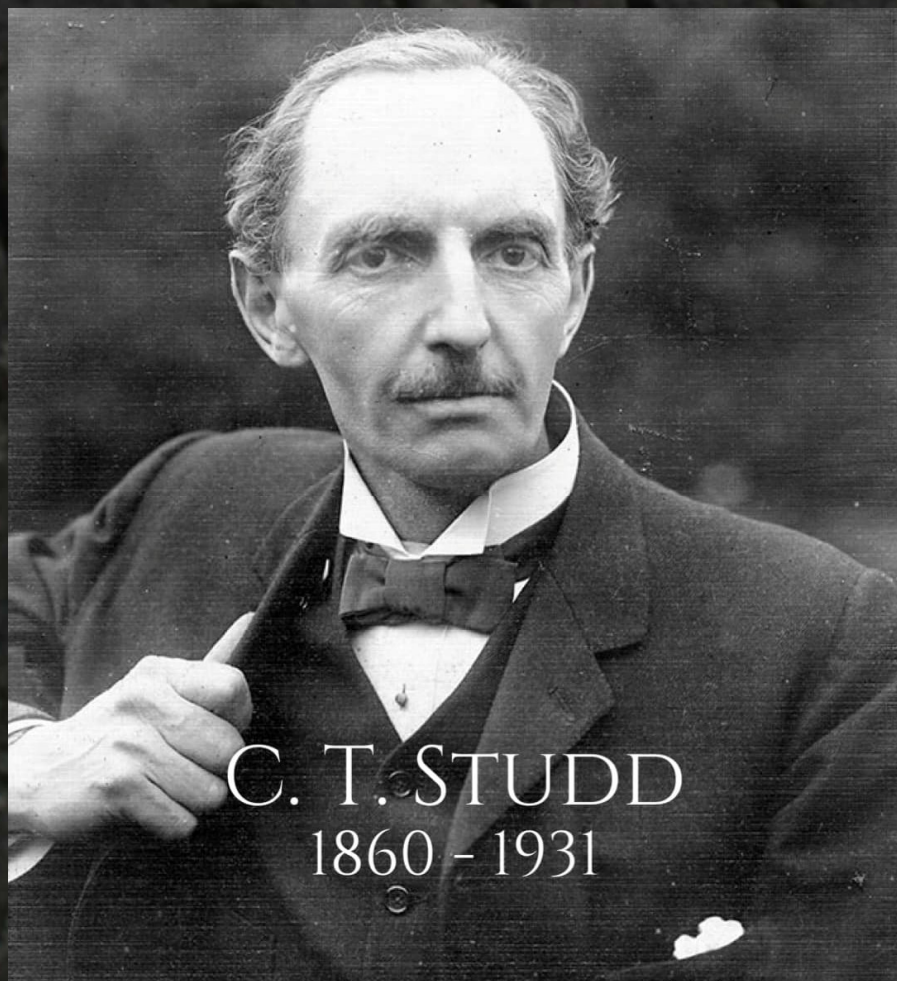
Eph 5:16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.



Only One Life

Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, a few brief years,
Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;
Each with its days I must fulfill,
Living for self or in His will;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.



Only one life, yes only one,
Now let me say, "Thy will be done";
And when at last I'll hear the call,
I know I'll say 'twas worth it all";
Only one life,' twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgment seat;
Only one life,' twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.