

LEADER'S GUIDE

THE ANSWER TO

**BAD** RELIGION

IS NOT

**NO** RELIGION

A GUIDE TO

**GOOD RELIGION** FOR SEEKERS,

SKEPTICS, AND BELIEVERS

MARTIN THIELEN

AUTHOR OF THE BEST-SELLING  
WHAT'S THE LEAST I CAN BELIEVE AND STILL BE A CHRISTIAN?

WITH JESSICA MILLER KELLEY

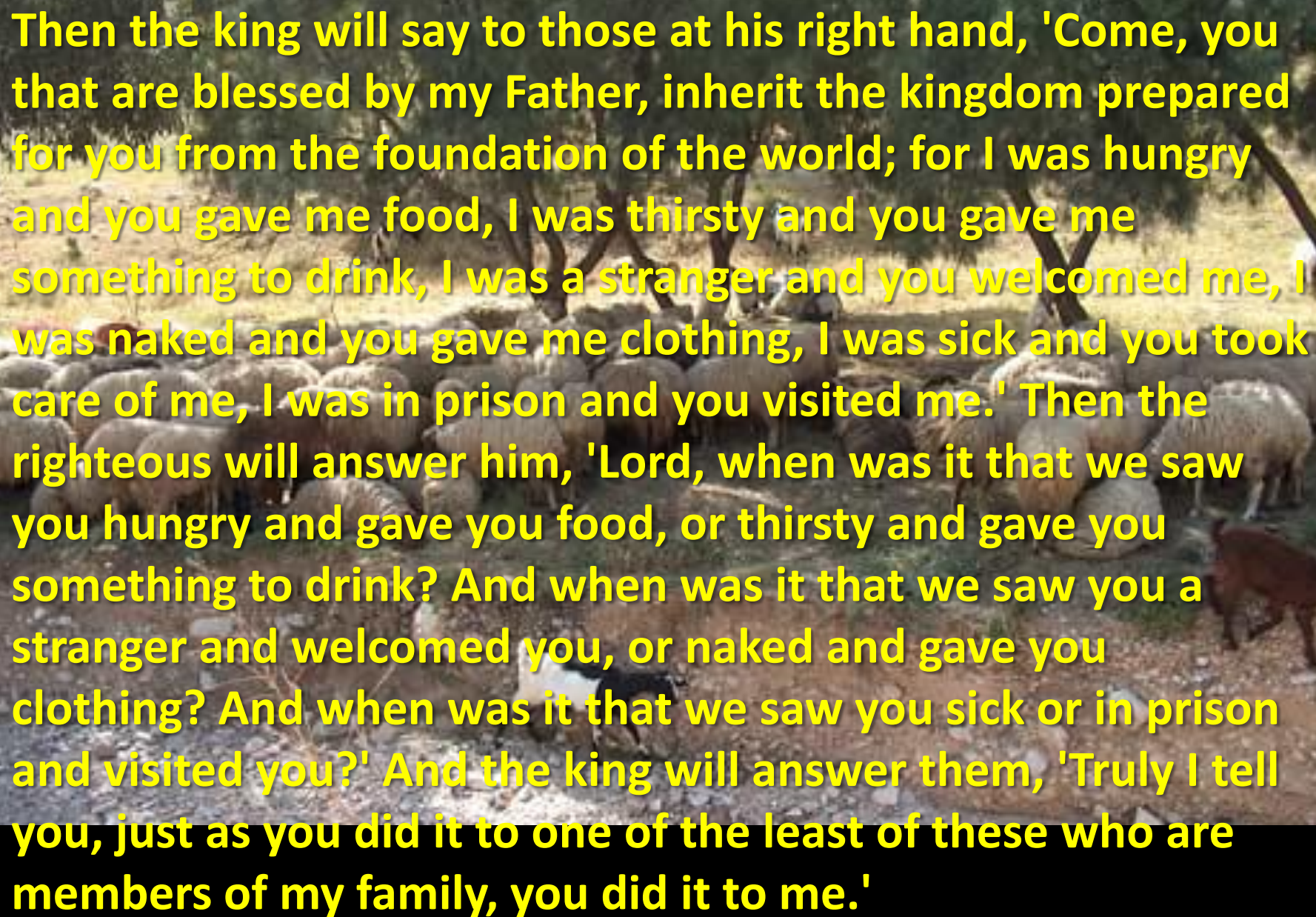
**Sermon: Good Religion Engages in Service**

Matthew 25:31-46

right goats  
welcomed hand  
clothing sick  
glory gave  
accursed  
stranger  
prepared sheep one  
naked  
thirsty  
drink  
king  
prison left  
care least  
hungry  
eternal  
Come  
visited  
righteous Lord  
saw

## Matthew 25:34-40 (NRSV)

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

A photograph of a flock of sheep in a field. The sheep are of various colors, including white, brown, and black. They are scattered across a grassy area with some trees in the background. The lighting suggests it might be late afternoon or early morning.









**Our sins of *omission* can be just as serious as our sins of *commission*.  
Some may hear this story as a call to serve others in a specific way.**



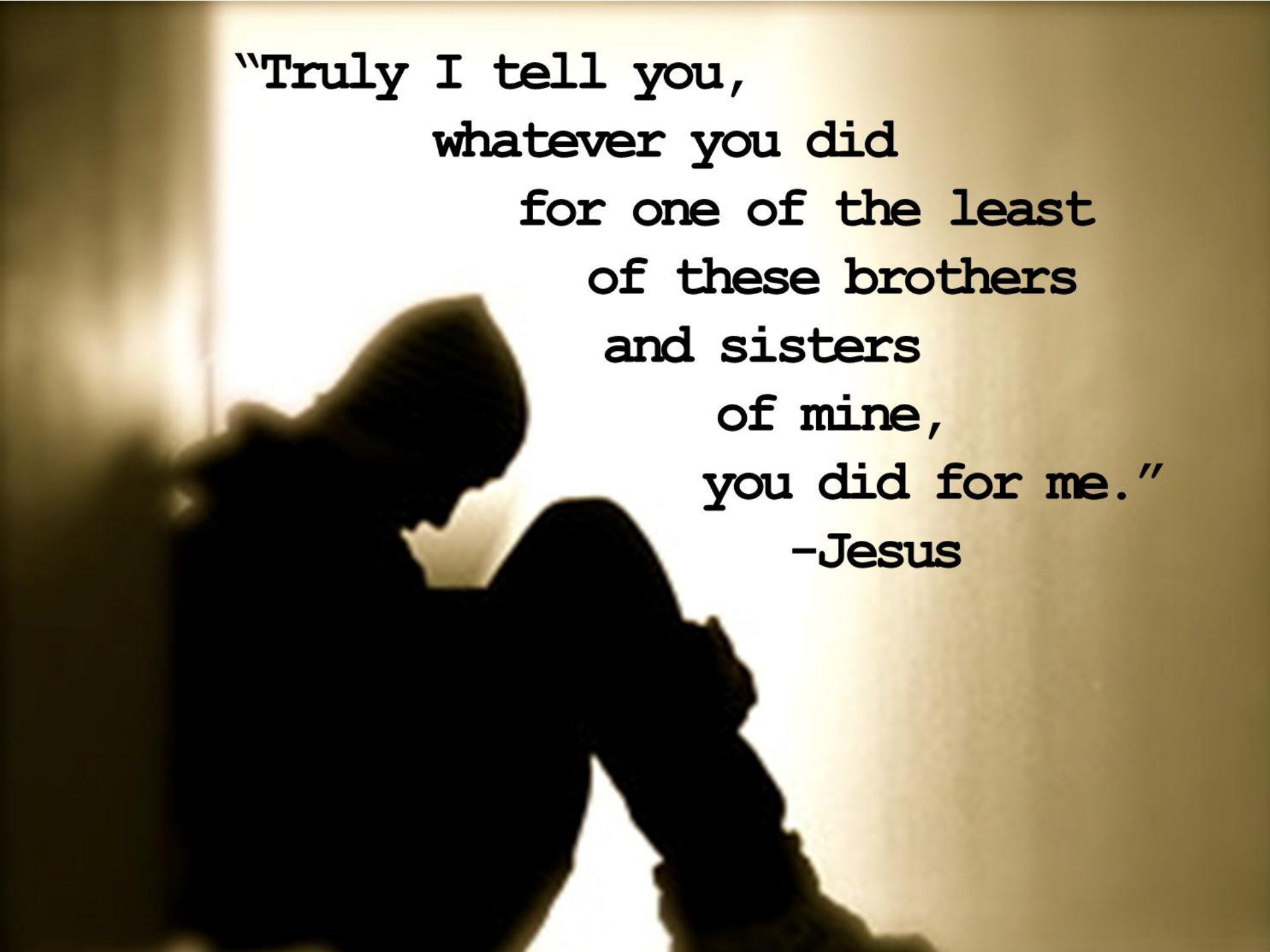


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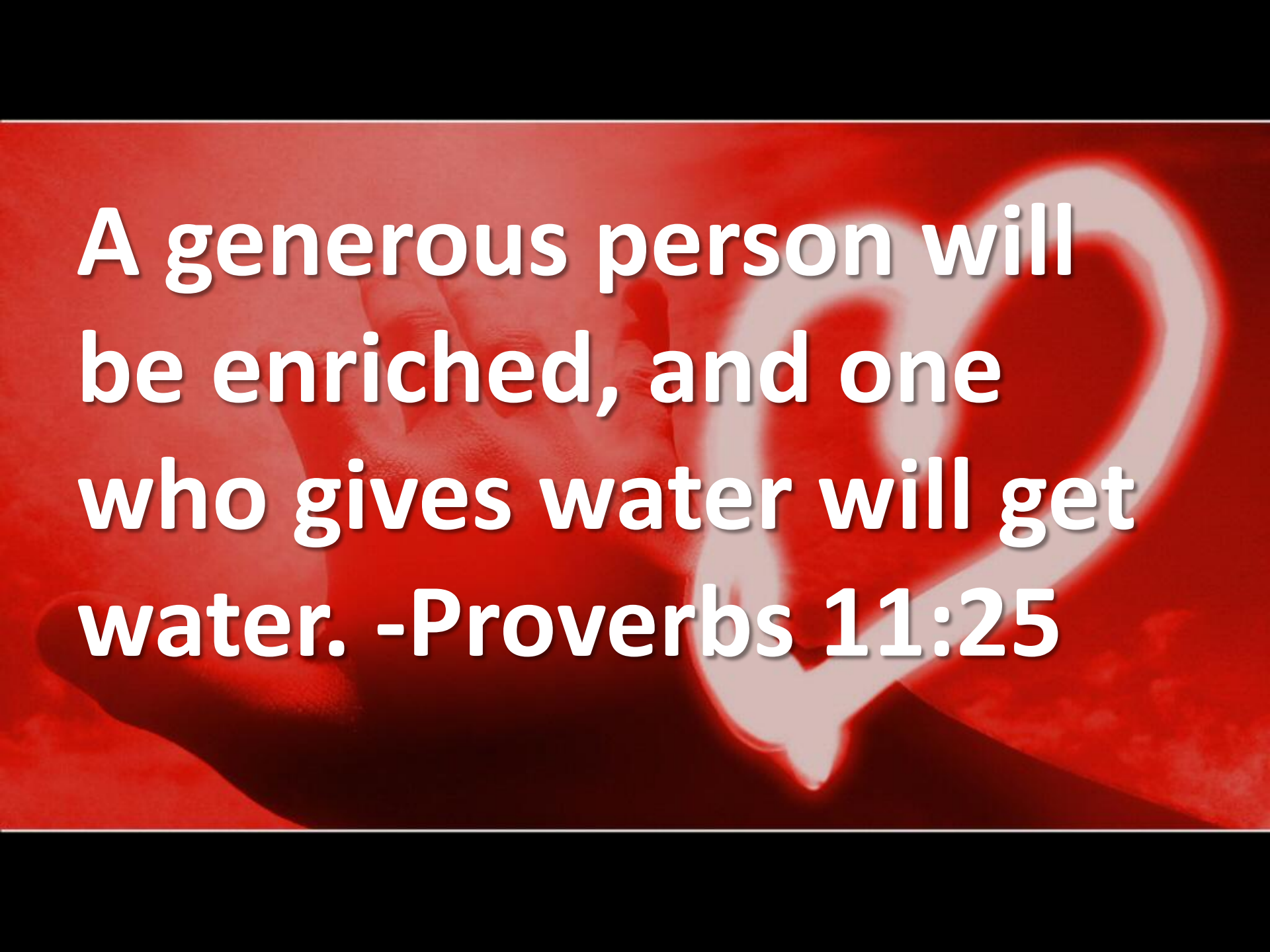
**Some may conclude the whole point of Christianity is doing good deeds.**





"Truly I tell you,  
whatever you did  
for one of the least  
of these brothers  
and sisters  
of mine,  
you did for me."

-Jesus



**A generous person will  
be enriched, and one  
who gives water will get  
water. -Proverbs 11:25**

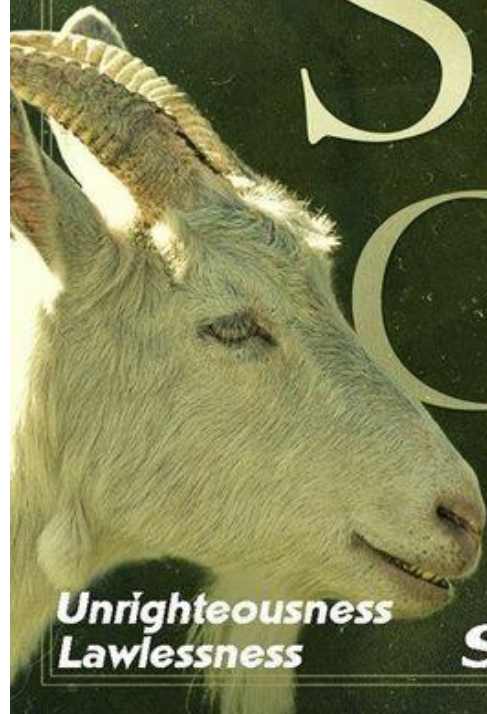




**He will separate  
the sheep from the goats.**

**WHO will you listen to and follow?**

*The*  
**Sheep**  
*and the*  
**Goats**



**Unrighteousness**  
**Lawlessness**

*Matthew 25:31-46*

**Who is your**  
**SHEPHERD?**



**Righteousness**  
**Guarding Torah**