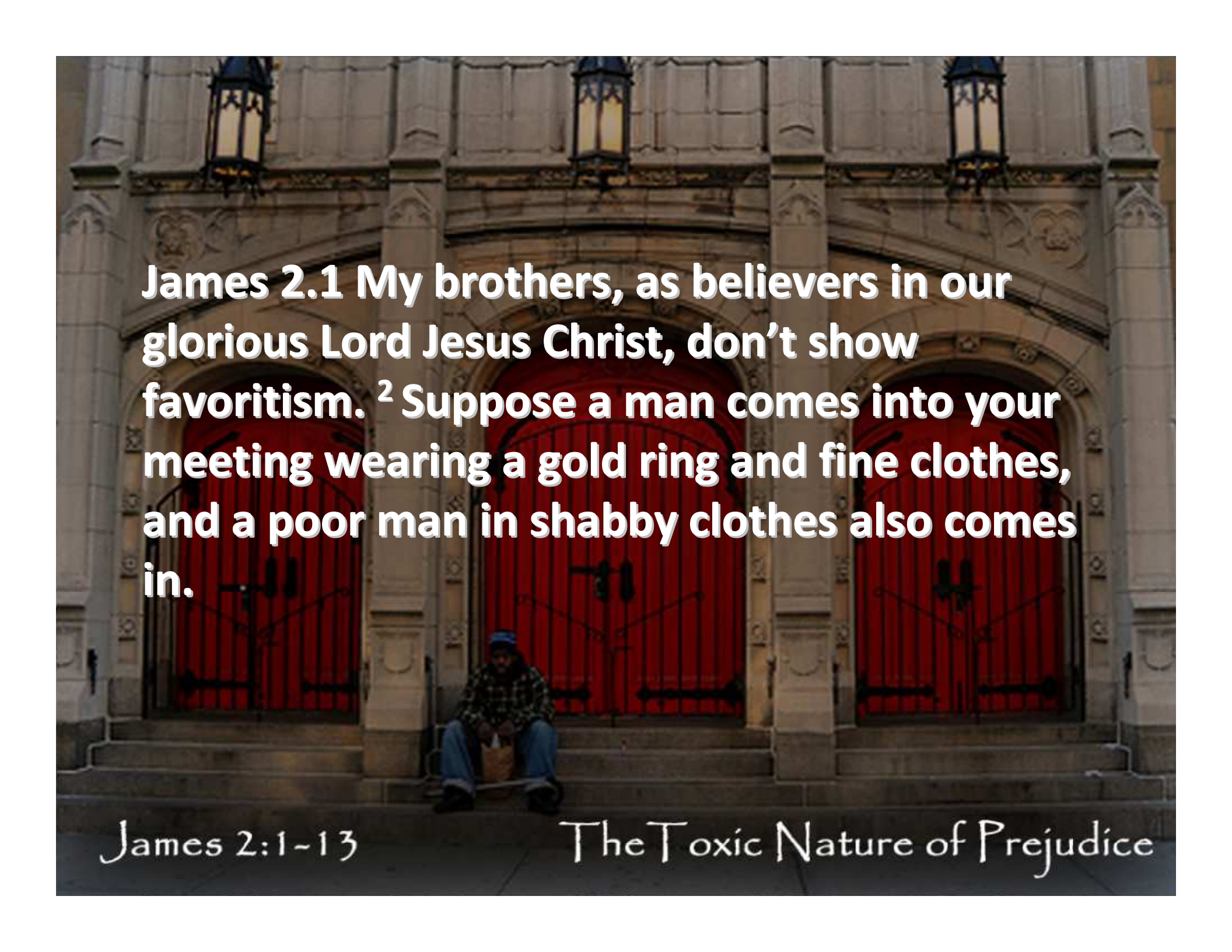




PLAYING FAVORITES:
The Toxic Nature of Prejudice

James 2:1-13



James 2.1 My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in.

James 2:1-13

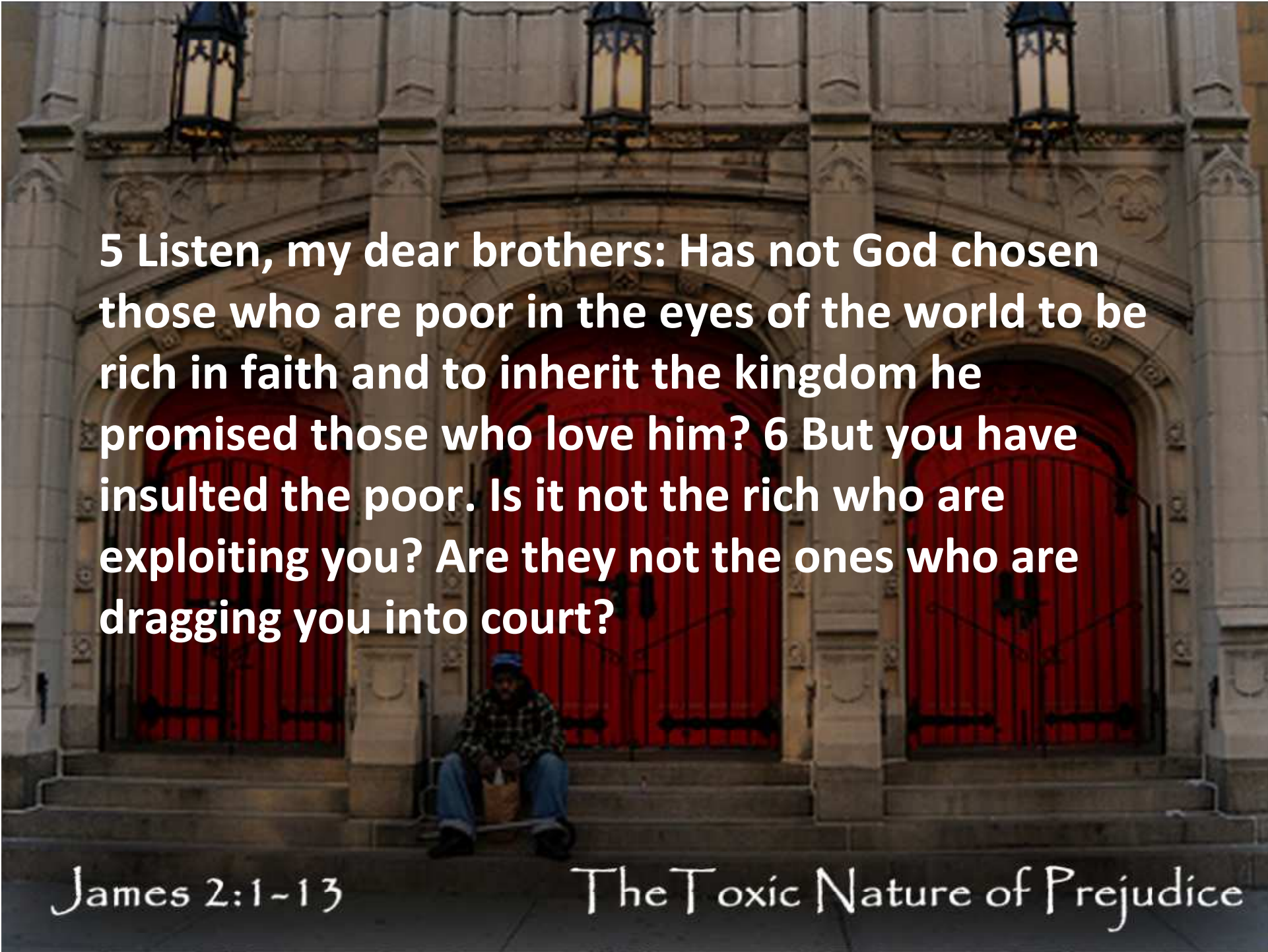
The Toxic Nature of Prejudice



³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:1-13

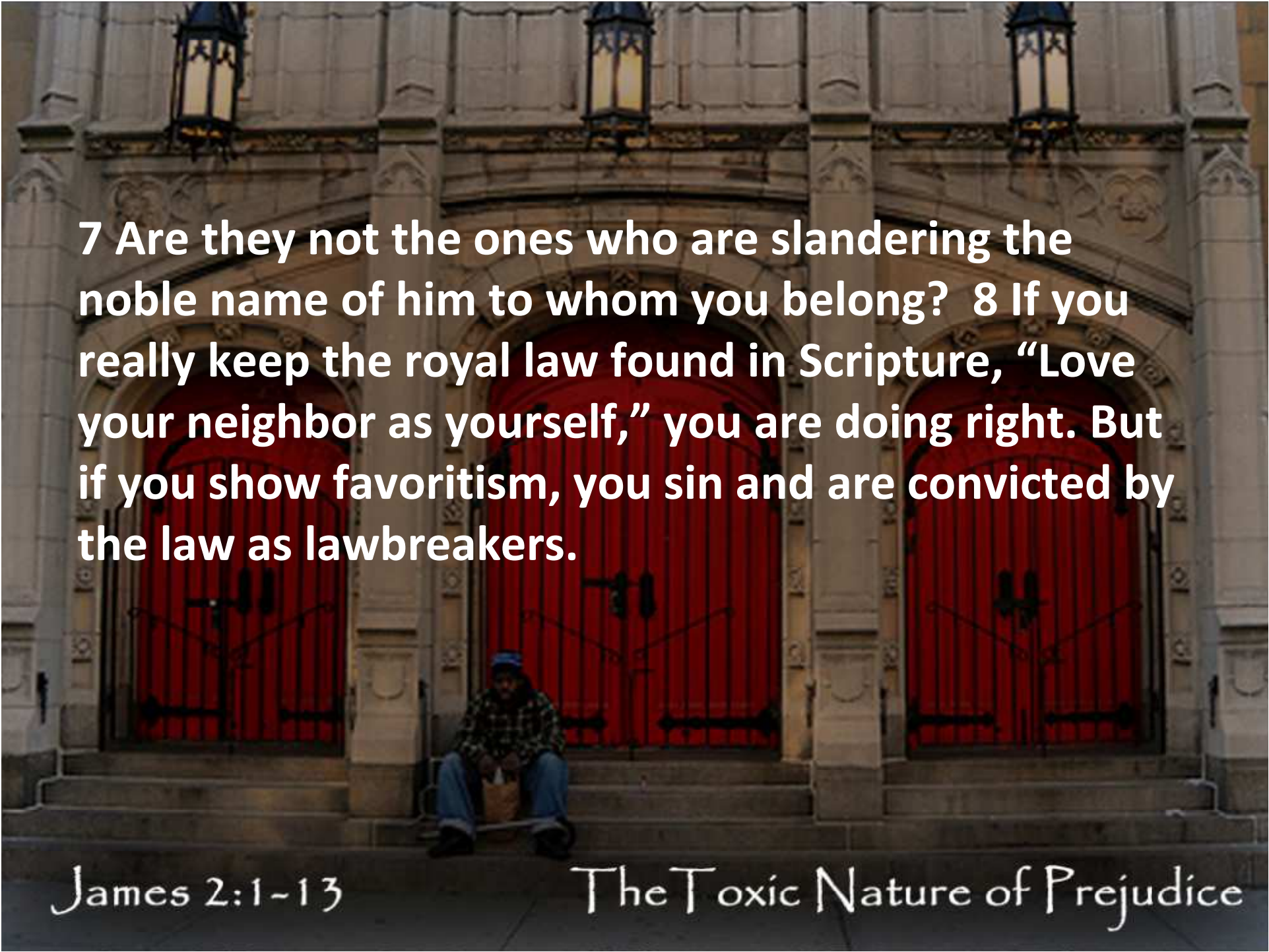
The Toxic Nature of Prejudice



5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

James 2:1-13

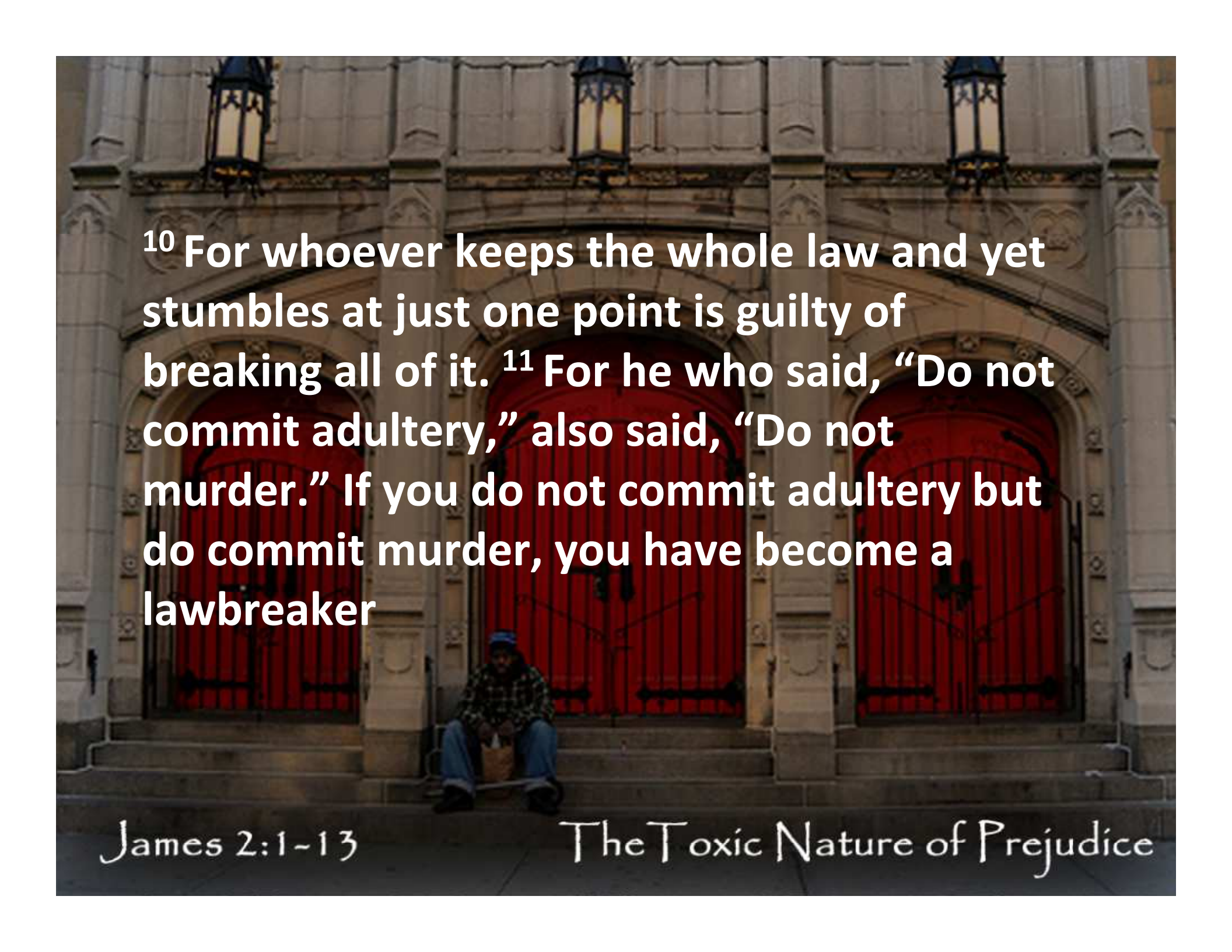
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7 Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? 8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

James 2:1-13

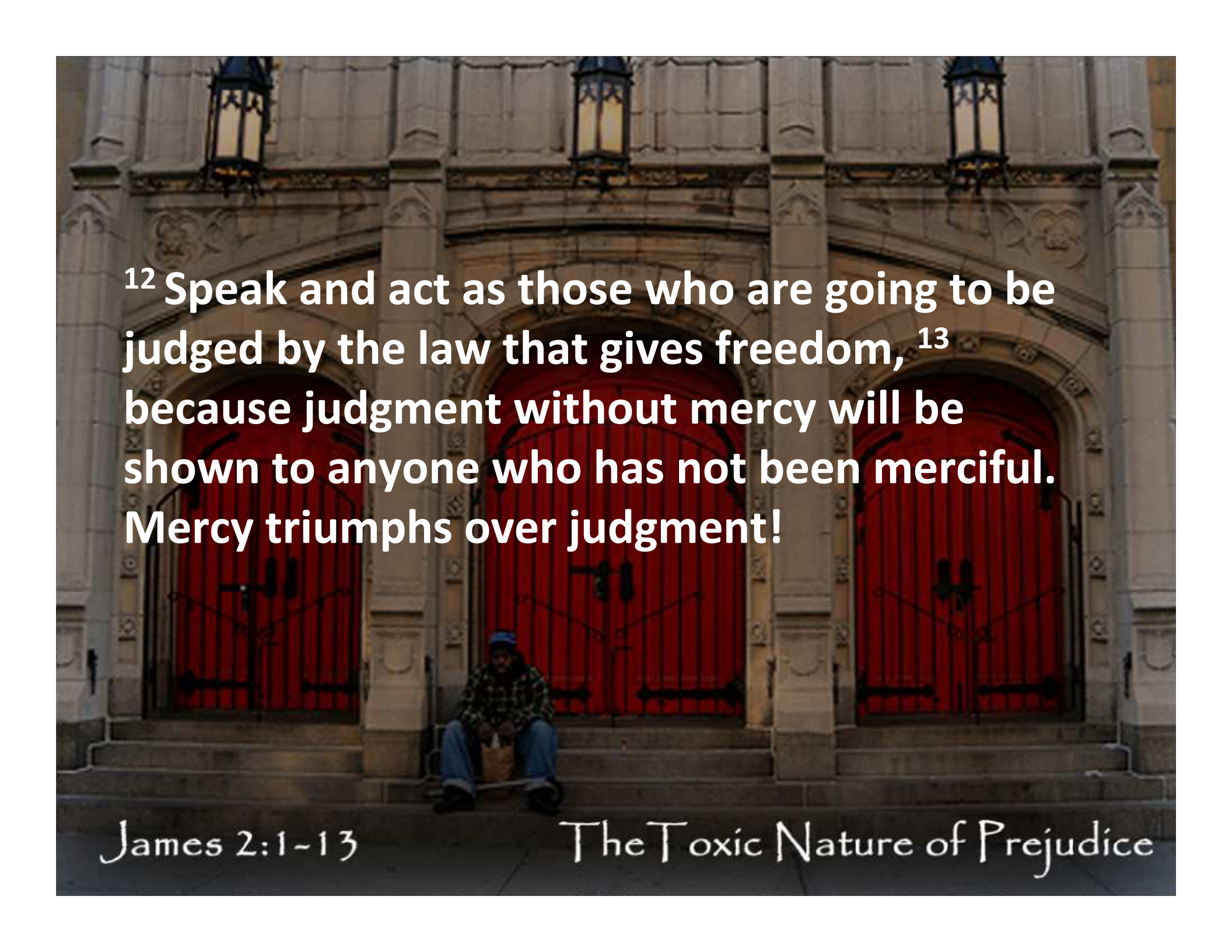
The Toxic Nature of Prejudice



¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker

James 2:1-13

The Toxic Nature of Prejudice



¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

James 2:1-13

The Toxic Nature of Prejudice

Prejudice is Toxic!

- *Contrary to our Identity.*
- *Contrary to the Heart of God.*
- *Contrary to Common Sense*
- *Contrary to a Heart of Love.*

James 2:1-13

The Toxic Nature of Prejudice



**The Transforming Power of the
Gospel Calls us to a Heart of Mercy,
not Prejudice.**

- *Take the initiative.*
- *Show respect.*
- *We will be held to account.*

James 2:1-13

The Toxic Nature of Prejudice