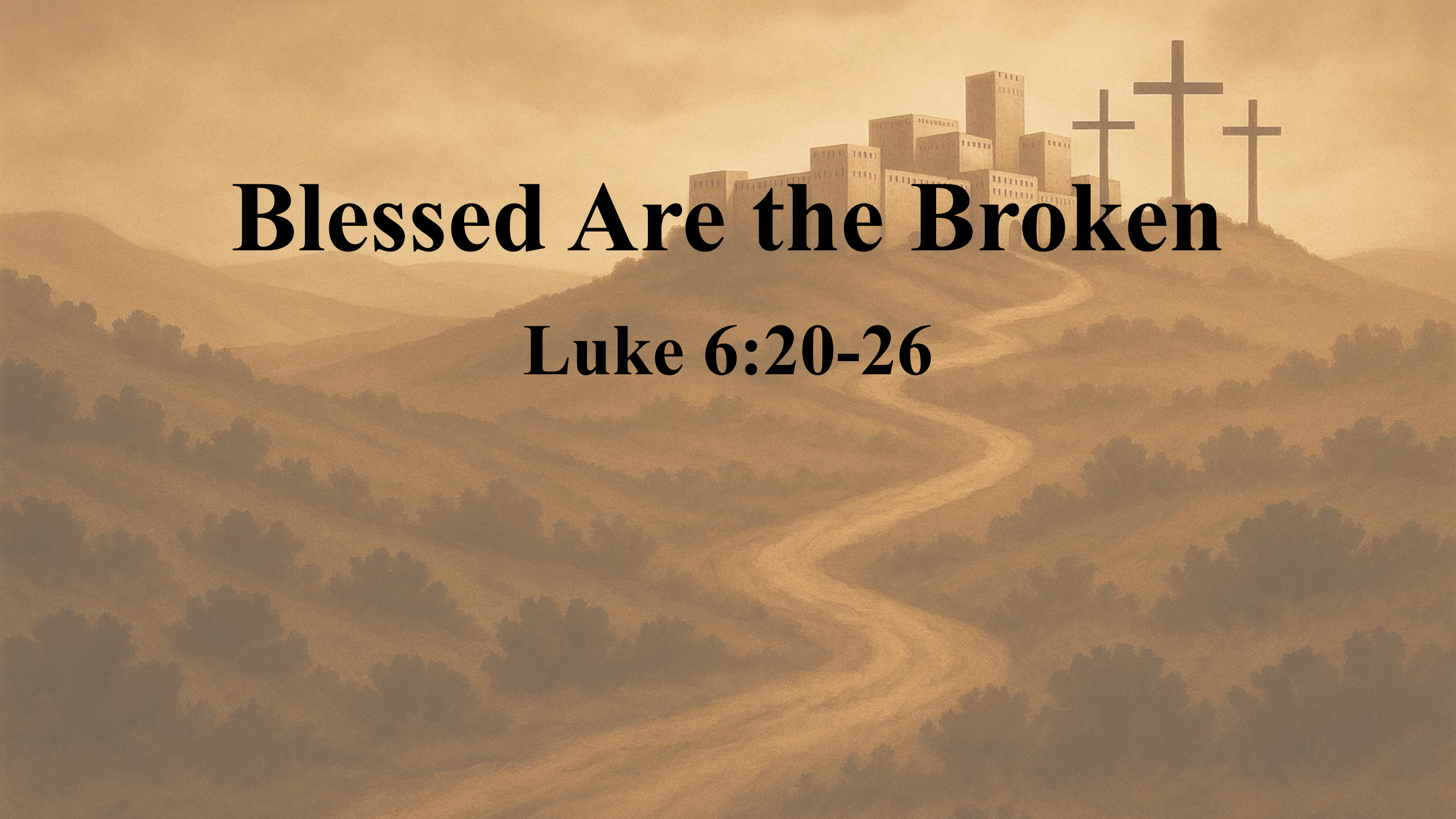


A sepia-toned illustration of a winding dirt road leading up a hill to a city with crosses on the skyline. The road curves through a hilly, forested landscape. In the background, a city with several tall, rectangular buildings is visible, with three large crosses standing prominently on the right side of the skyline. The overall tone is warm and contemplative.

Blessed Are the Broken

Luke 6:20-26

Luke 6:20-23

And turning His gaze toward His disciples, He began to say,
“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you,
and insult you, and scorn your name as evil,
for the sake of the Son of Man. Be glad in that day and leap
for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.
For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets.

Luke 6:24-26

But woe to you who are rich,
for you are receiving your comfort in full.

Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

Woe to you when all men speak well of you,
for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

Main Point

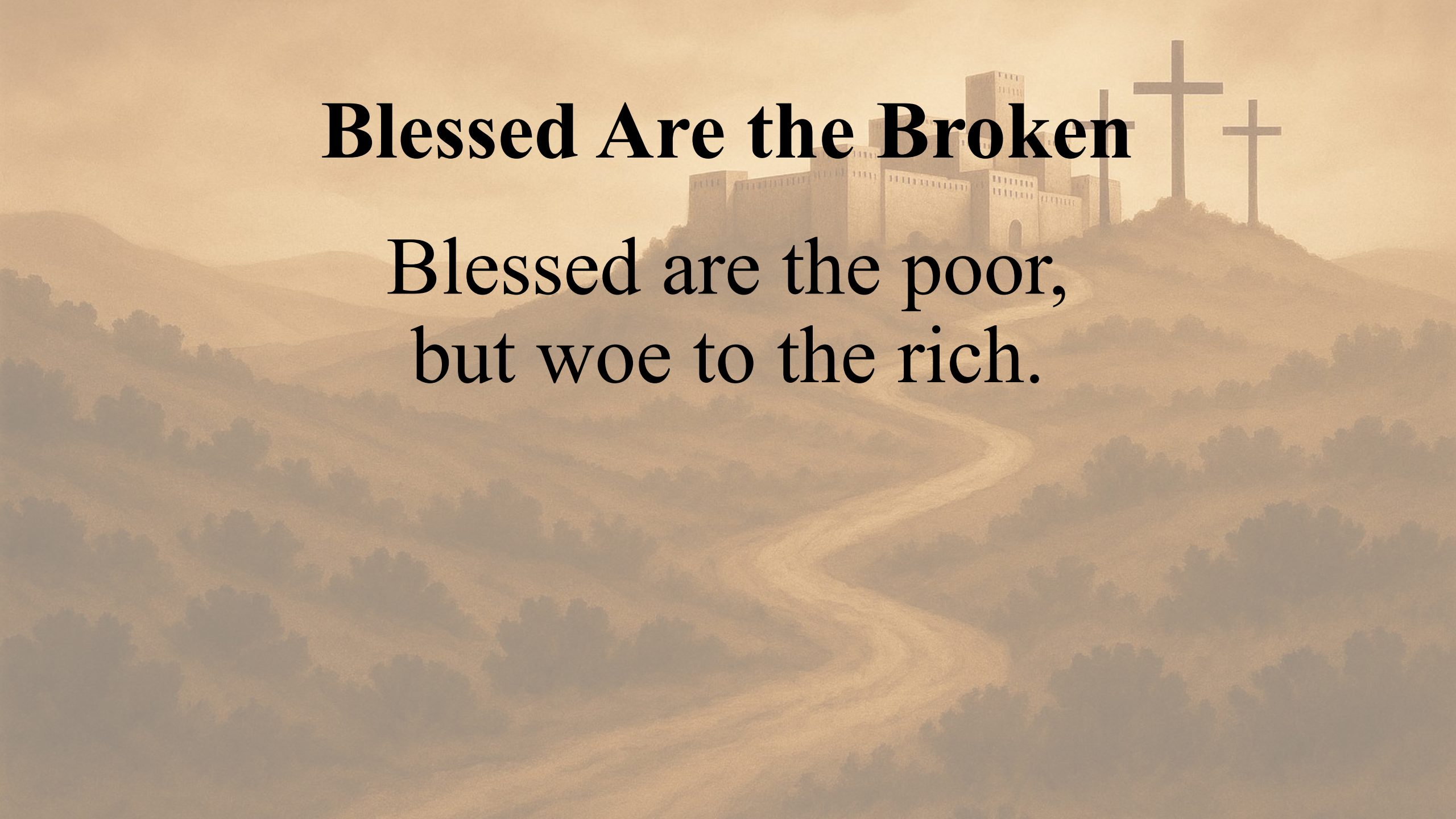
Eternal blessing will come to those who see their brokenness and need, but eternal deprivation will come to those who are fit and self-satisfied.

Luke 6:20

And turning His gaze toward His disciples,
He began to say...

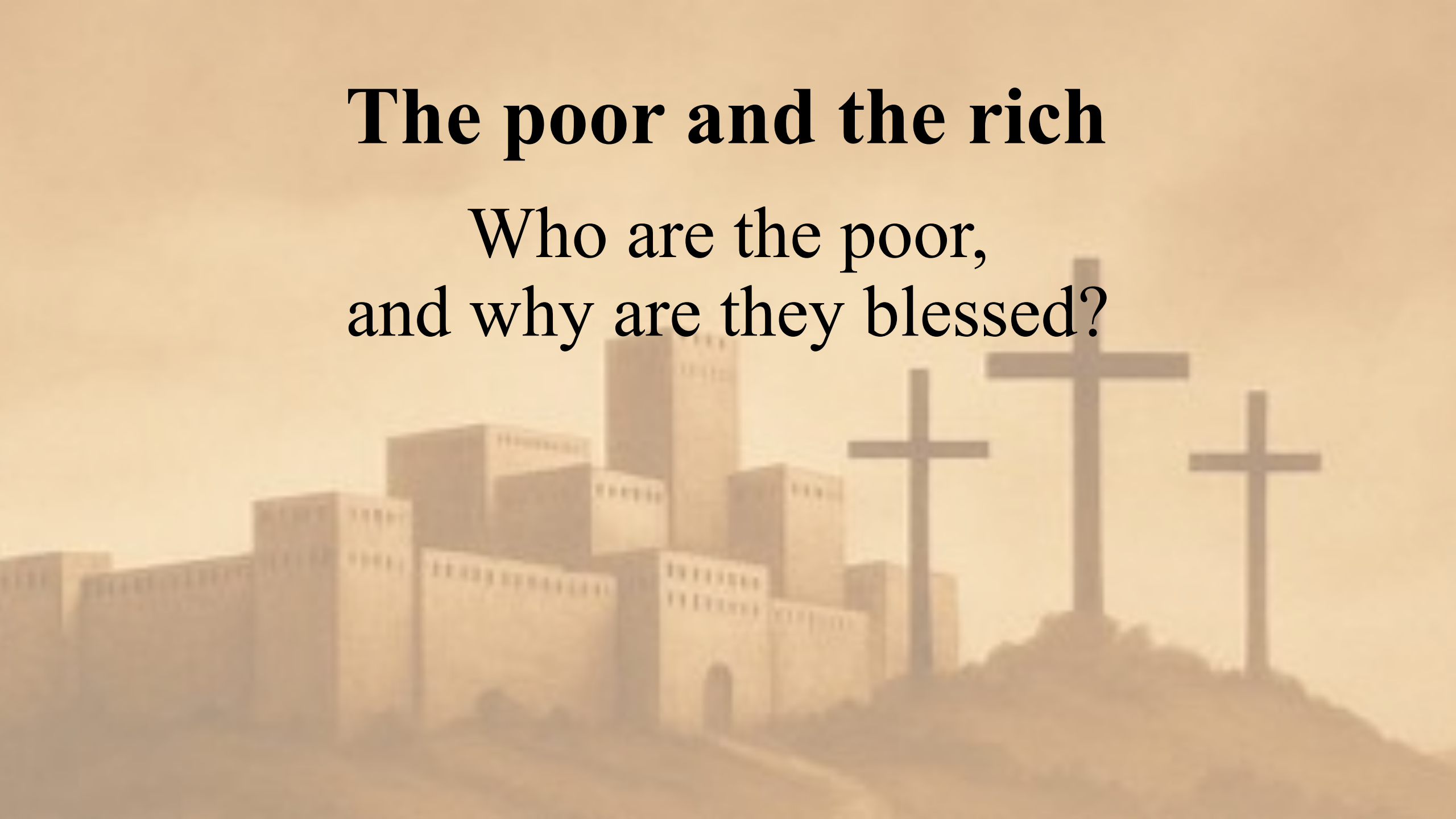
Blessed Are the Broken

Blessed are the poor,
but woe to the rich.



The poor and the rich

Who are the poor,
and why are they blessed?



Luke 6:20

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Luke 6:20

“Blessed are **you who are poor**,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

While Jesus had in mind the materially poor,
he was not glorifying poverty as a marker
of blessing nor was He making poverty
a pre-requisite for blessing.

Luke 6:20

“Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

Matthew 5:3

“Blessed are the poor *in spirit*,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Poverty is a material manifestation
of helplessness and dependence,
but blessing is not found in a *material
condition* but in a *spiritual disposition*
that reveals the work of grace.

This work is heard in the confession,
“I need!”

Luke 6:20

“Blessed are **you who are poor**,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Luke 6:20

“**Blessed are you** who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed refers to what the faith-filled poor
are not what they feel or experience.

In other words, this blessing
is *not* circumstantial!

Luke 6:20

“Blessed *are* you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

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Luke 6:20

“Blessed are you who are poor,

for *yours* is the kingdom of God.

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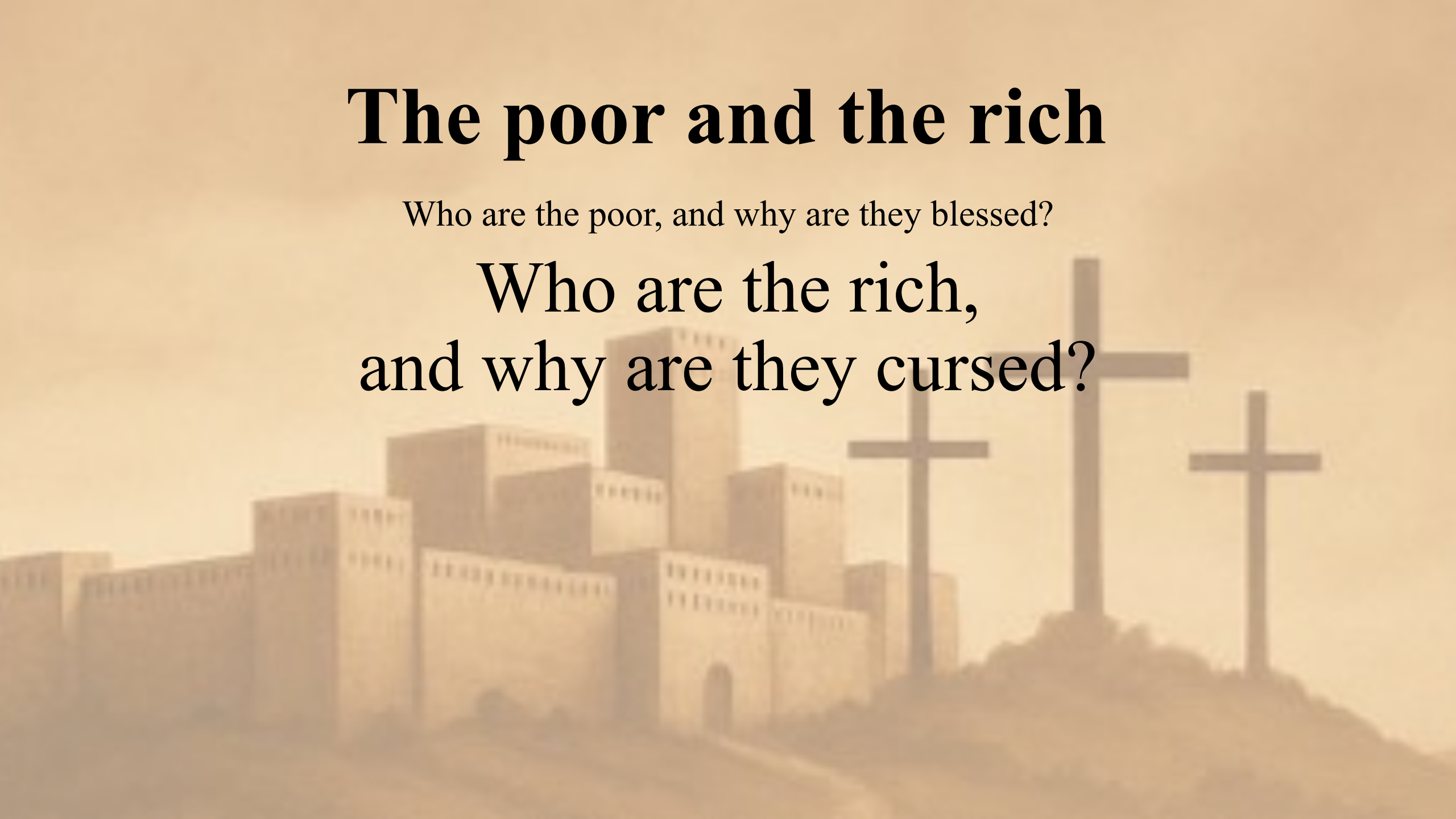
Those who have recognized their broken dependence and have thrown themselves upon Christ are both citizens and heirs of Christ's kingdom.

It belongs to them as an eternal and inestimable possession!

The poor and the rich

Who are the poor, and why are they blessed?

Who are the rich,
and why are they cursed?



Luke 6:24

But woe to you who are rich,
for you are receiving your comfort in full.

Luke 6:24

But woe to **you who are rich**,
for you are receiving your comfort in full.

The rich Jesus had in mind were not
necessarily those with material wealth
but those whose wealth had become
their source of security and comfort.

Proverbs 11:28

He who trusts in his riches will fall,
But the righteous will flourish like the green leaf.

Luke 6:24

But woe to **you who are rich**,
for you are receiving your comfort in full.

Luke 6:24

But ***woe to you*** who are rich,
for you are receiving your comfort in full.

Luke 6:24

But woe to you who are rich,

for you are receiving your comfort in full.

Luke 6:24

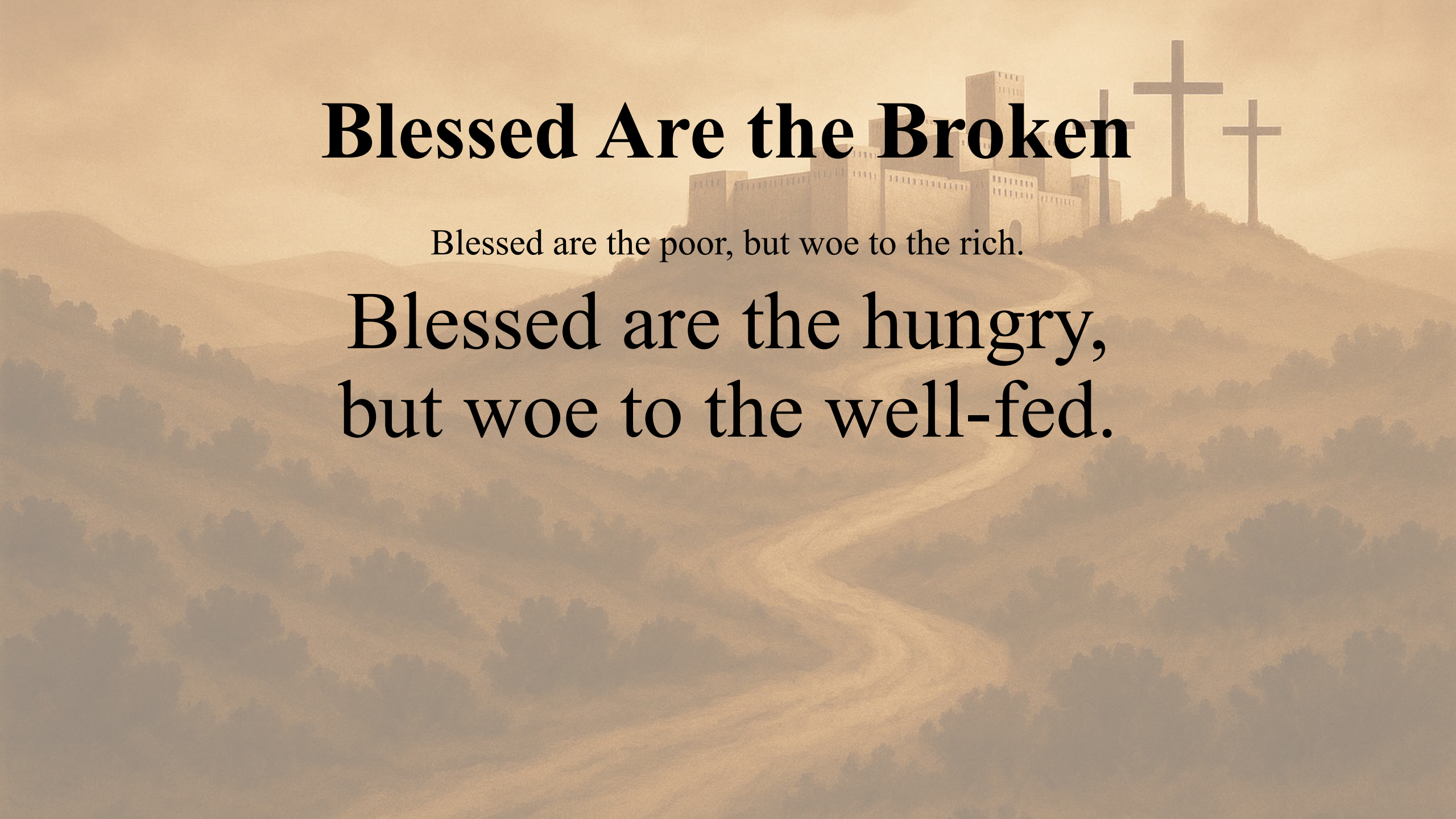
But woe to you who are rich,

***for* you are receiving your comfort in full.**

There is a form of comfort
afforded to the rich in this world,
but it is fleeting and empty.

Because these rich do not see themselves as needy, they do not look to God for comfort and will not receive from Him the everlasting comfort promised to the poor in spirit.

Blessed Are the Broken

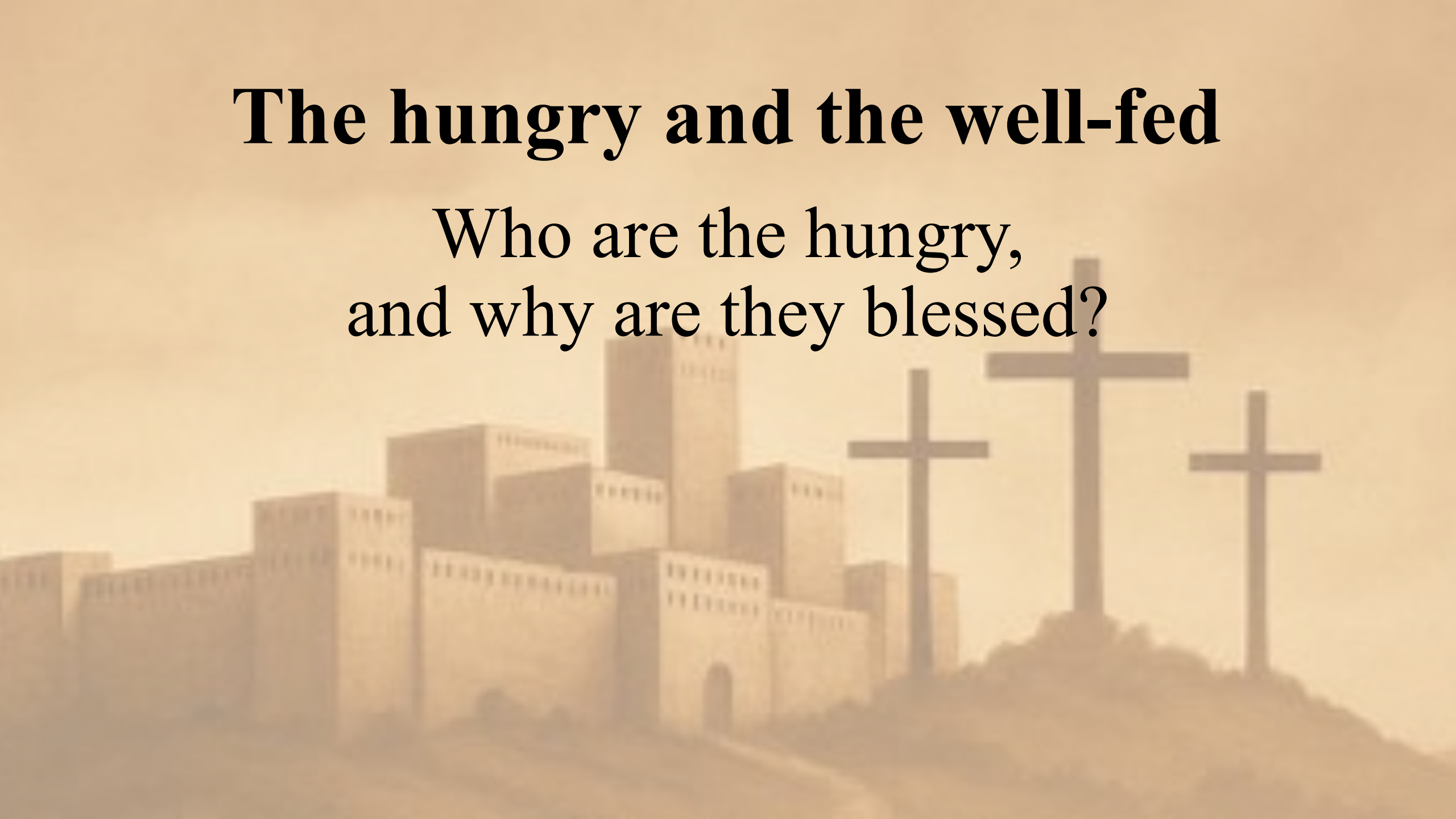
The background is a sepia-toned illustration. It depicts a large, multi-towered castle or fortress situated on a hill. A winding path leads up to the castle. On the right side of the hill, there are three large, simple crosses. The foreground is filled with dense, dark foliage, possibly trees or bushes, which are rendered in a soft, painterly style. The overall atmosphere is somber and contemplative.

Blessed are the poor, but woe to the rich.

Blessed are the hungry,
but woe to the well-fed.

The hungry and the well-fed

Who are the hungry,
and why are they blessed?



Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you shall be satisfied.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are **you who hunger now**,
for you shall be satisfied.

Hunger goes hand in hand with poverty
as a physical manifestation of deprivation.

The hunger pangs we feel are visceral
reminders of our need.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you shall be satisfied.



Blessing is not guaranteed to those who hunger only but to those whose hunger drives them to God for satisfaction.

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you shall be satisfied.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who hunger now,

for *you shall be* satisfied.

Notice the *already-but-not-yet*
aspect of this promise.

Luke 6:21

Blessed *are* you who hunger now,
for you *shall be* satisfied.

Notice the already-but-not-yet
aspect of this promise.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who hunger now,

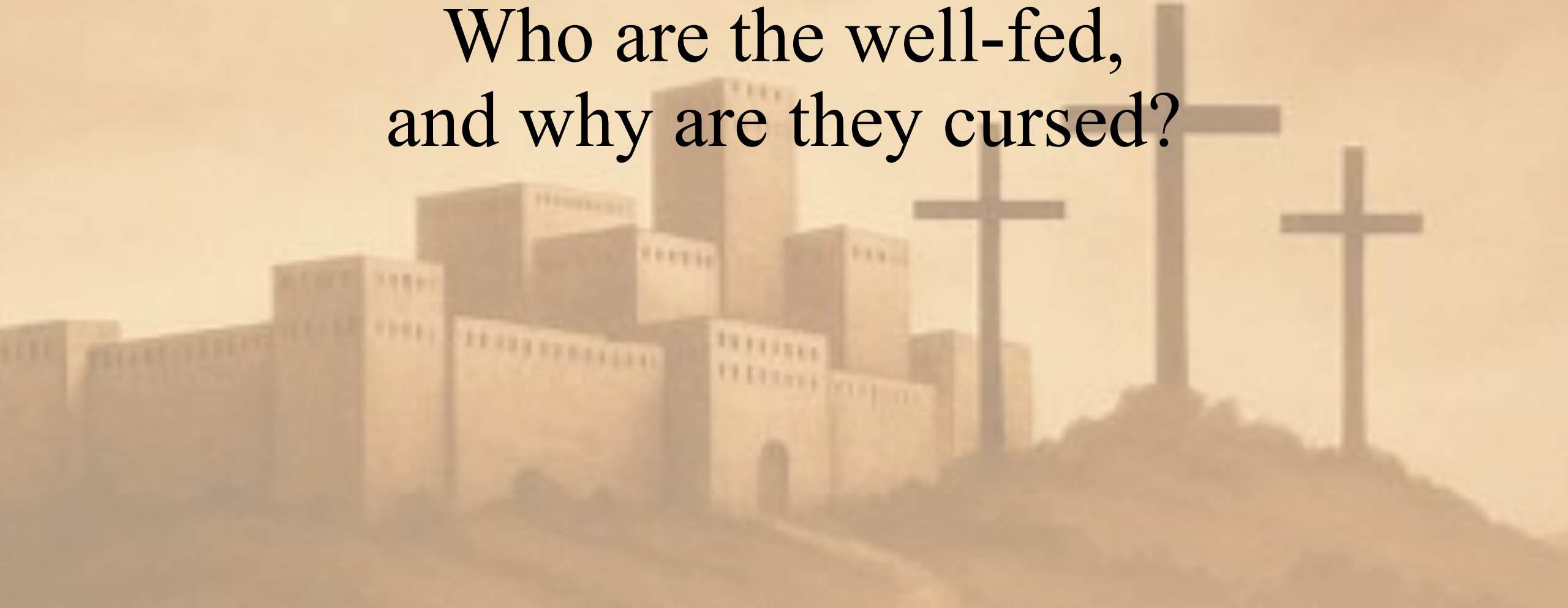
for **you shall be *satisfied***.

The satisfaction promised is
a satisfaction of soul experienced
in part now but in full then.

The hungry and the well-fed

Who are the hungry, and why are they blessed?

Who are the well-fed,
and why are they cursed?



Luke 6:25

Woe to you who are well-fed now,
for you shall be hungry.

Luke 6:25

Woe to **you who are well-fed now**,
for you shall be hungry.

Just as deprivation marks the poor,
so *abundance* marks the rich.

But this is an abundance
that is *self*-satisfying.

Psalm 73:2-4

But as for me, my feet came close to stumbling,

My steps had almost slipped.

For I was envious of the arrogant

As I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

For there are no pains in their death,

And their belly is fat.

Luke 6:25

**Woe to you *whose bellies are fat* now,
for you shall be hungry.**

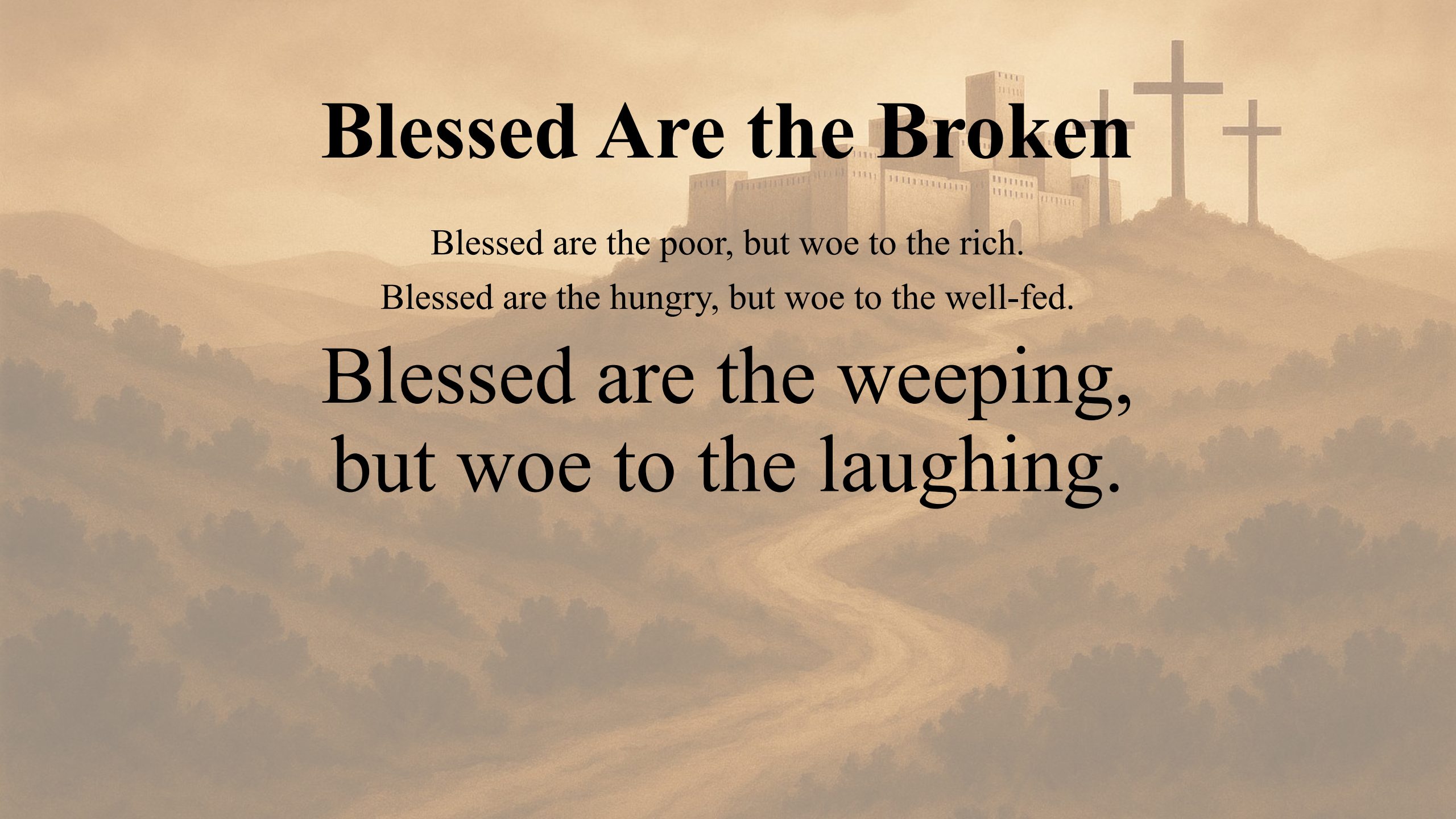
Luke 6:25

Woe to you whose bellies are fat now,

for *you shall be* hungry.

Though the self-satisfied rich have
abundance now, they will find themselves
in an everlasting state of deprivation!

Blessed Are the Broken

The background is a sepia-toned illustration. In the upper right, a hill rises with a castle or fortress on its crest. Several large, simple crosses are visible on the hillside, some appearing to be part of the landscape or perhaps markers. The foreground is filled with a dense, misty forest of trees, with a winding path or road visible through the lower center. The overall atmosphere is somber and contemplative.

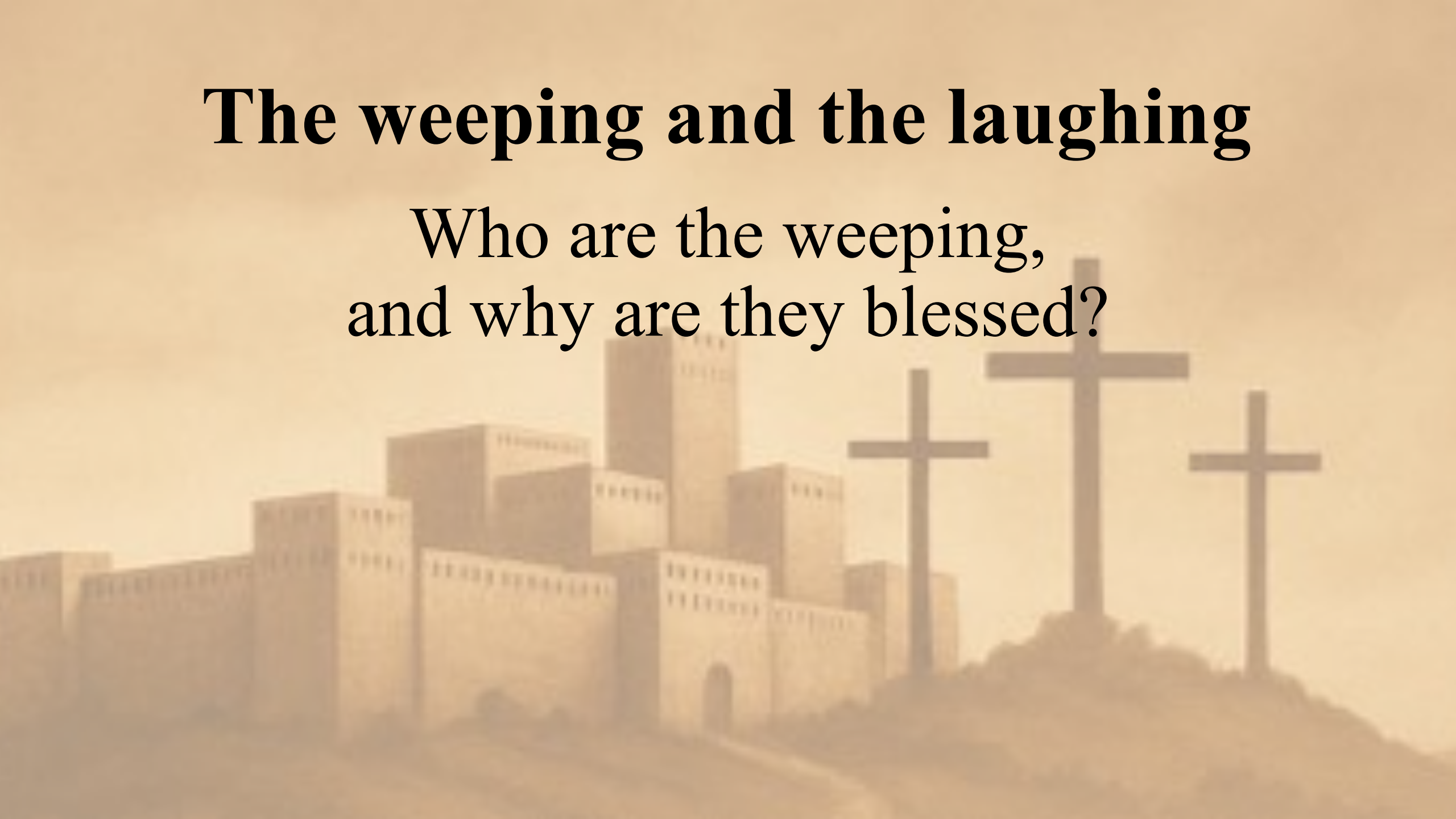
Blessed are the poor, but woe to the rich.

Blessed are the hungry, but woe to the well-fed.

Blessed are the weeping,
but woe to the laughing.

The weeping and the laughing

Who are the weeping,
and why are they blessed?



Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you shall laugh.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are **you who weep now**,
for you shall laugh.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are **you who *wail* now**,
for you shall laugh.

This wailing is associated with
the miserable conditions of poverty.

Jesus was not speaking of self-pity
but of Godward mourning or lament.

Matthew 5:4

**“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.”**

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
Because the LORD has anointed me
To bring good news to the afflicted;
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to captives
And freedom to prisoners;
To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn.

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
Because the LORD has anointed me
To bring good news to the afflicted;
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to captives
And freedom to prisoners;
To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD
And the day of vengeance of our God;

To comfort all who mourn.

Those who see their own need
and the desperate needs of others
and who cry out to God for relief
will be blessed with true comfort.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you shall laugh.

Luke 6:21

Blessed are you who weep now,

for you shall laugh.

Psalm 30:10-12

Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me;

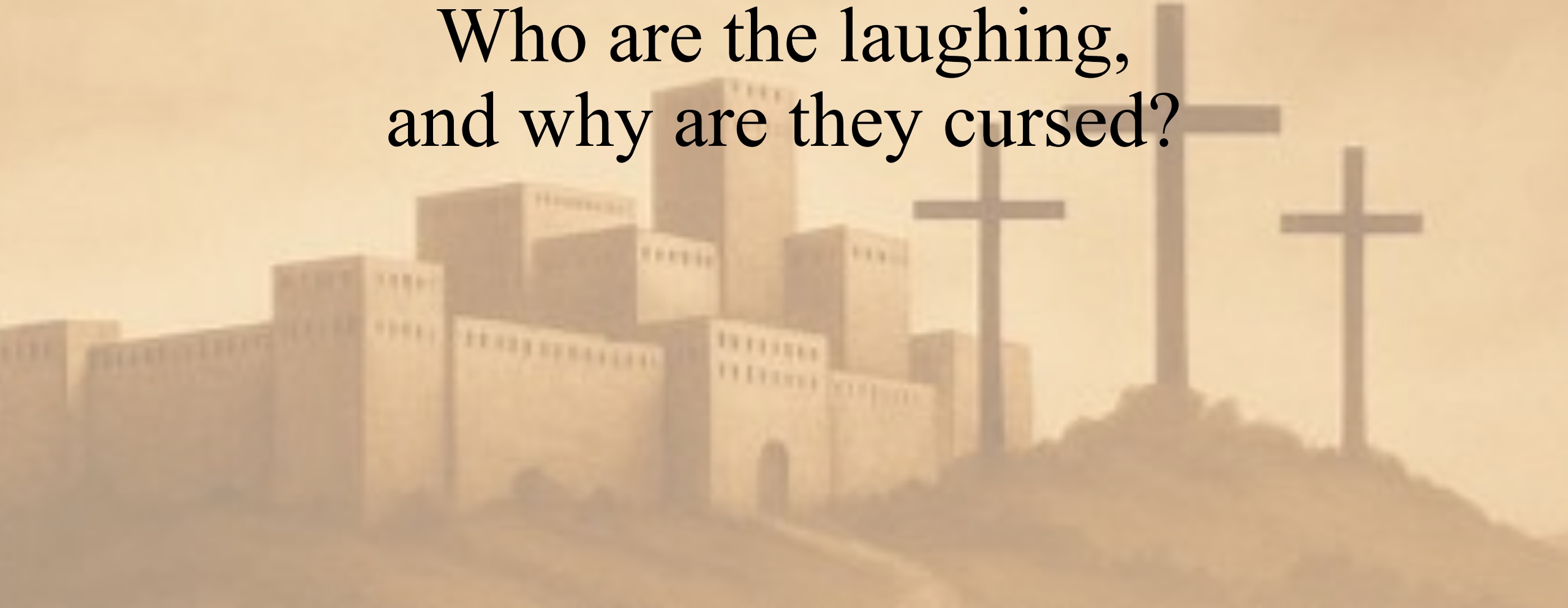
O LORD, be my helper.

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,
That my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

The weeping and the laughing

Who are the weeping, and why are they blessed?

Who are the laughing,
and why are they cursed?



Luke 6:25

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you shall mourn and weep.

Luke 6:25

Woe to **you who laugh now**,
for you shall mourn and weep.

This is not a condemnation of *laughter*
but of self-satisfied and worldly revelry
that flows from a heart of complacency
or perhaps even from contempt.

Luke 6:25

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you shall mourn and wail.

Luke 6:25

Woe to you who laugh now,

for *you shall* mourn and wail.

The rich and self-satisfied revel now in their worldly abundance, often dismissing or even deriding the poor, but the Lord is going to bring about a wholesale and eternal reversal of fortunes.

The self-satisfied rich will be eternally poor and hungry, weeping and wailing in misery.

Revelation 3:17

Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.”

For Reflection

Do you see yourself as *poor in spirit* –
as broken and dependent upon the Lord?

Are you hungering for the satisfaction
that only the Lord can give?

Are you mourning your sin and brokenness
and the sins and brokenness of your neighbors?

Is your continuing confession, “I need!”