

# Two Voices - Two Choices



*1 And Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had gone to Shechem to make him king. 2 So it happened, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard it (he was still in Egypt, for he had fled from the presence of King Solomon and had been dwelling in Egypt), 3 that they sent and called him. Then Jeroboam and the whole assembly of Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,*

4 *"Your father made our yoke heavy; now therefore, lighten the burdensome service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, and we will serve you."*

5 *So he said to them, "Depart for three days, then come back to me." And the people departed.*

6 *Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who stood before his father Solomon while he still lived, and he said, "How do you advise me to answer these people?"*

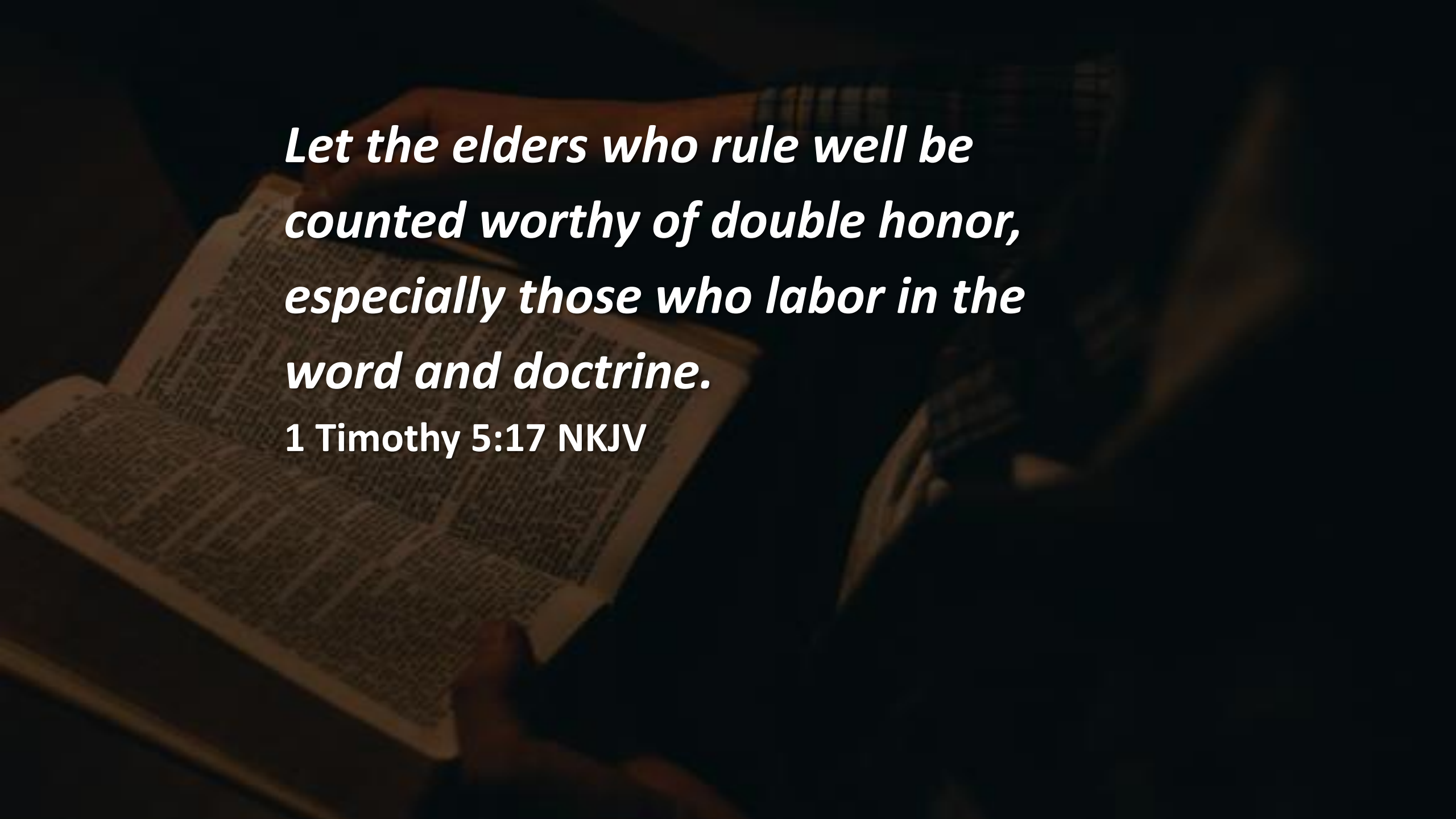
*7 And they spoke to him, saying, "If you will be a servant to these people today, and serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever."*

*8 But he rejected the advice which the elders had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him. 9 And he said to them, "What advice do you give? How should we answer this people who have spoken to me, saying, 'Lighten the yoke which your father put on us'?"*

*10 Then the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, "Thus you should speak to this people who have spoken to you, saying, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you make it lighter on us' — thus you shall say to them: 'My little finger shall be thicker than my father's waist! 11 And now, whereas my father put a heavy yoke on you, I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!'"*

*12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had directed, saying, "Come back to me the third day." 13 Then the king answered the people roughly, and rejected the advice which the elders had given him;*

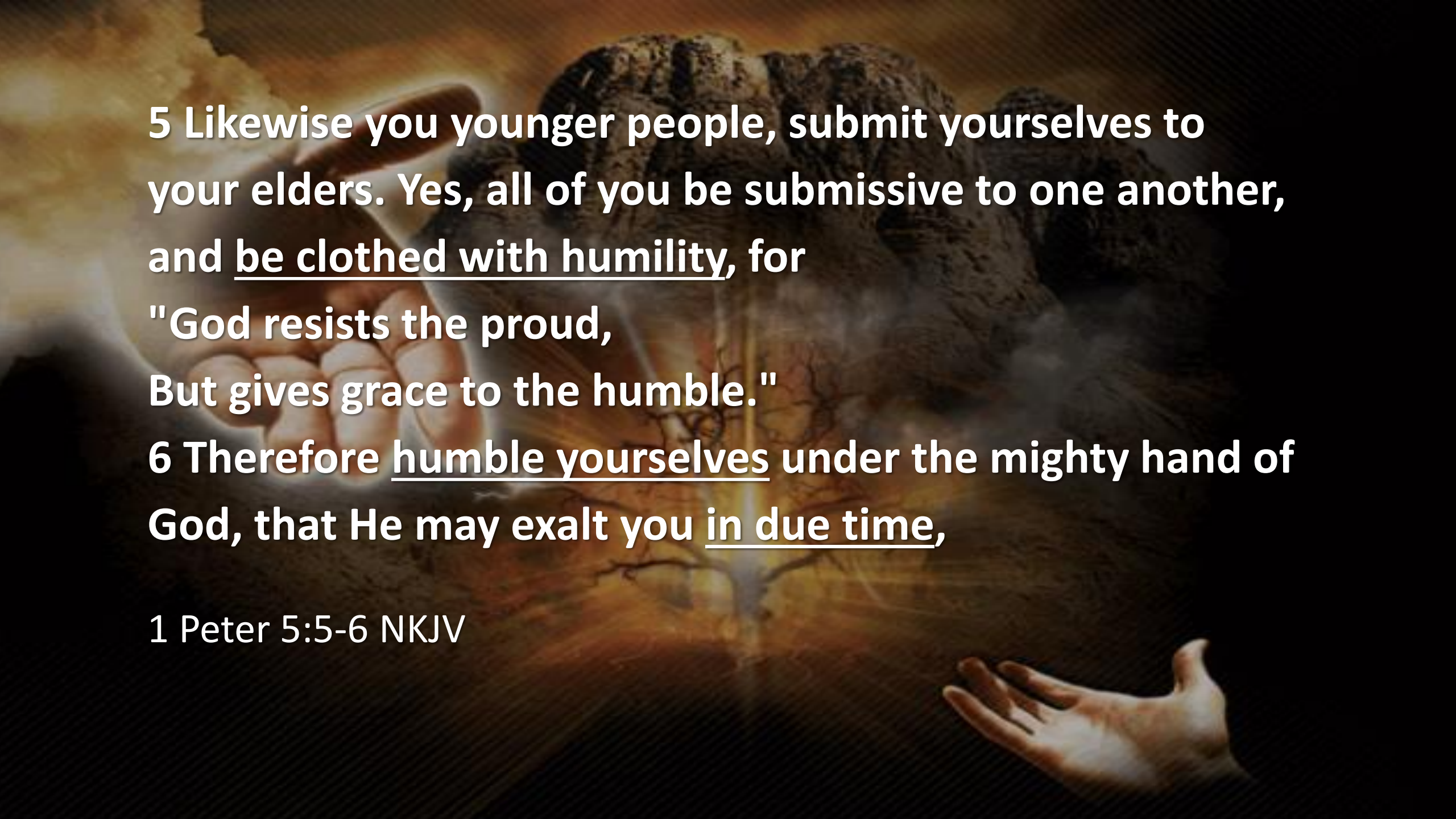
*14 and he spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, saying, "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!"*

A dimly lit scene showing a person's hands holding an open book. The person's face is partially visible on the right side, looking down at the text. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the book and the person's hands.

***Let the elders who rule well be  
counted worthy of double honor,  
especially those who labor in the  
word and doctrine.***

**1 Timothy 5:17 NKJV**





5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for

"God resists the proud,  
But gives grace to the humble."


6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

1 Peter 5:5-6 NKJV



**When your heart is filled with pride and you are confronted with two voices-two choices, pride will tip the scale in the wrong direction.**



A man with short dark hair, wearing a grey t-shirt and dark pants, is kneeling in a church. He has his hands clasped together in front of his face, eyes closed, in a prayerful posture. The church interior features rows of wooden pews on either side of a central aisle. The lighting is soft and somewhat dim, creating a contemplative atmosphere. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the man.

**12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another,**

Colossians 3:12-13 NKJV

*21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to you!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*

Matthew 16:21-23 NKJV



Galatians 5:15 *But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!*



*“Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud...He who heeds the word wisely will find good, and whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he.”*

Proverbs 16:18

*11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

Isaiah 55:11 KJV



Hebrews 3:7-11 NKJV

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you will hear His voice,

8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,

In the day of trial in the wilderness,

9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me,

And saw My works forty years.

10 Therefore I was angry with that generation,

And said, 'They always go astray in their heart,

And they have not known My ways.'

11 So I swore in My wrath,

'They shall not enter My rest.'"

