

L I V I N G T H E J E S U S

PARADOXES

Least Is Greatest



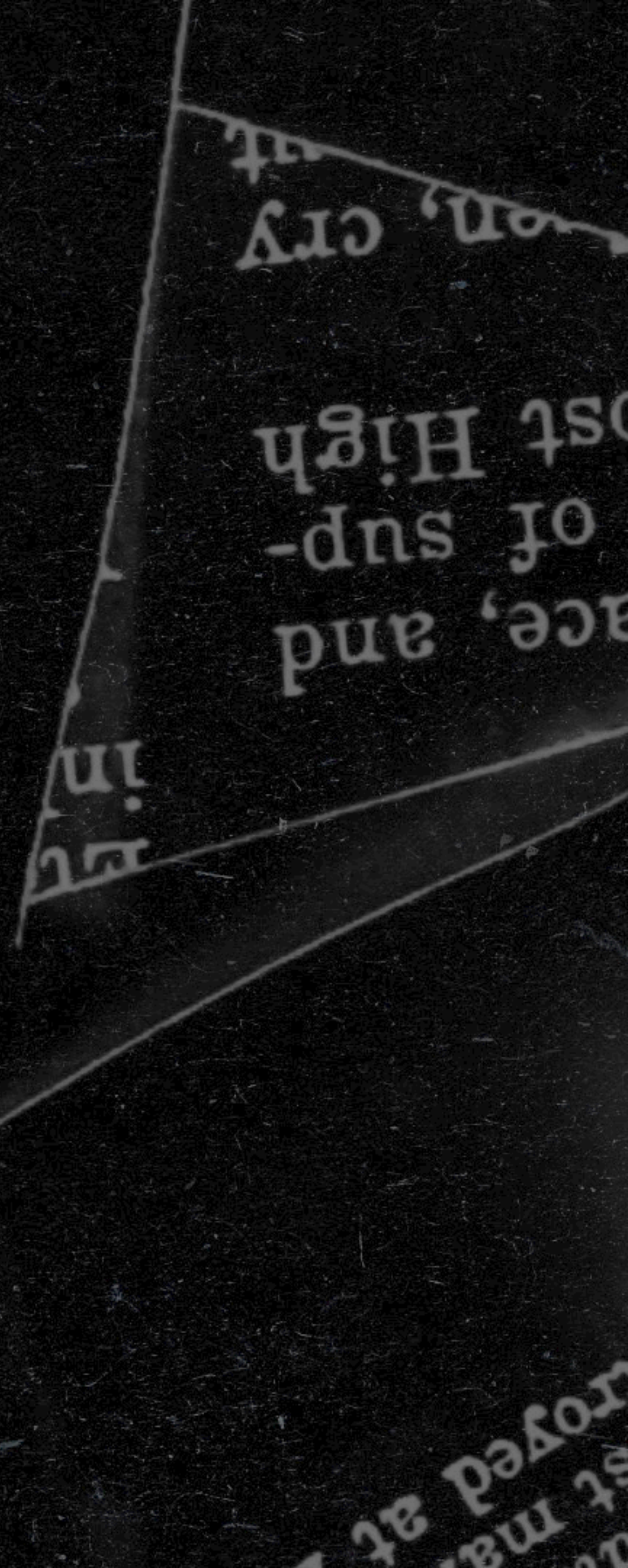
MATTHEW 20:25-28

²⁵ Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,

MATTHEW 20:25-28

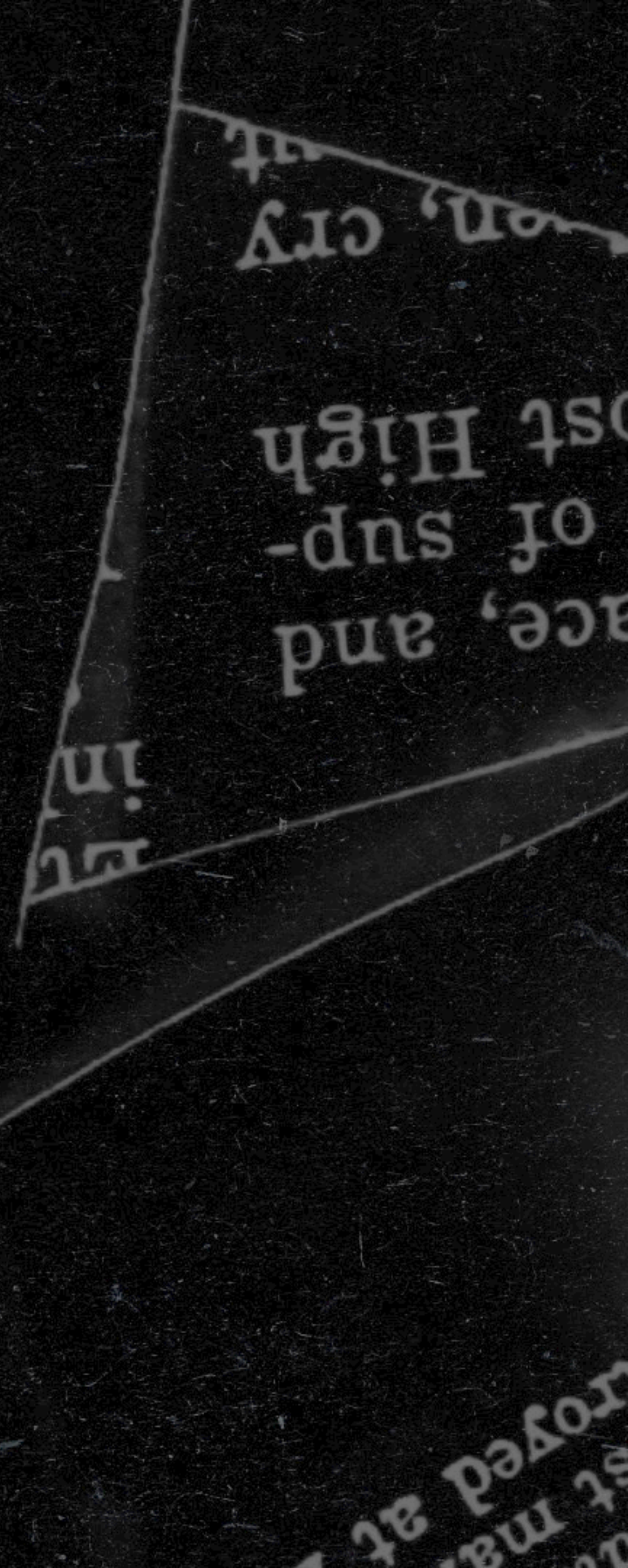
²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

The “Me First” Problem...



The “Me First” Problem...

‡ Truth is what I want it to be.



The “Me First” Problem...

- ‡ Truth is what I want it to be.
- ‡ I’m entitled to special privileges.

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- ‡ I’m entitled to special privileges.
- ‡ Anything I do must ultimately benefit me.

The “Me First” Problem...

- ‡ Truth is what I want it to be.
- ‡ I’m entitled to special privileges.
- ‡ Anything I do must ultimately benefit me.
- ‡ My team is here to make me look good.

The “Me First” Problem...

‡ I rarely give money away.

The “Me First” Problem...

‡ I rarely give money away.

‡ People who disagree with me are my enemies.

The “Me First” Problem...

- ‡ I rarely give money away.
- ‡ People who disagree with me are my enemies.
- ‡ I’ll neglect others to protect myself.

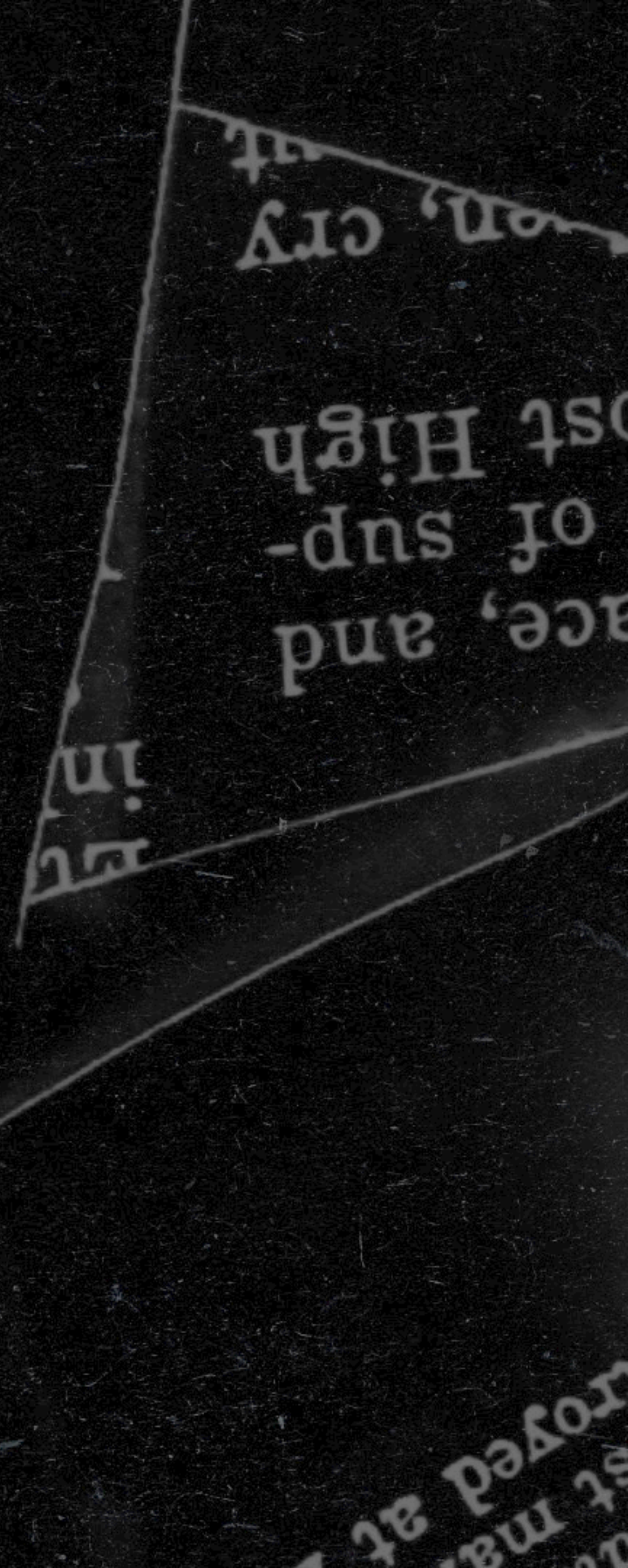
The “Me First” Problem...

- ‡ I rarely give money away.
- ‡ People who disagree with me are my enemies.
- ‡ I’ll neglect others to protect myself.
- ‡ Controlling people is how I get my way.

MATTHEW 20:25,26A

²⁵ Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶ Not so with you.”

Three Kinds of Power...



Three Kinds of Power...

I. Positional power



Three Kinds of Power...

1. Positional power

2. Possessional power

Three Kinds of Power...

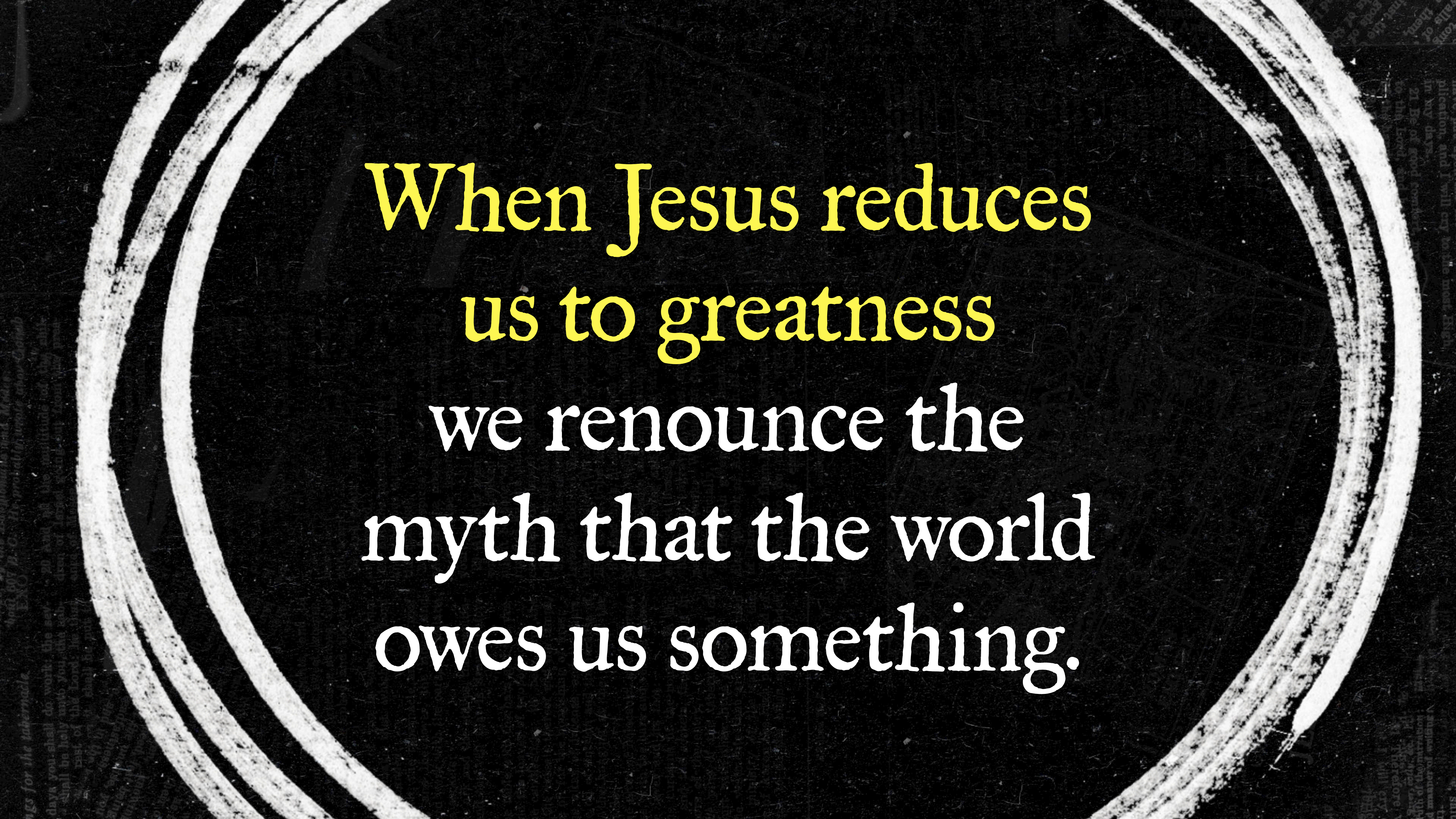
1. Positional power

2. Possessional power

3. Personal power

LUKE 22:27

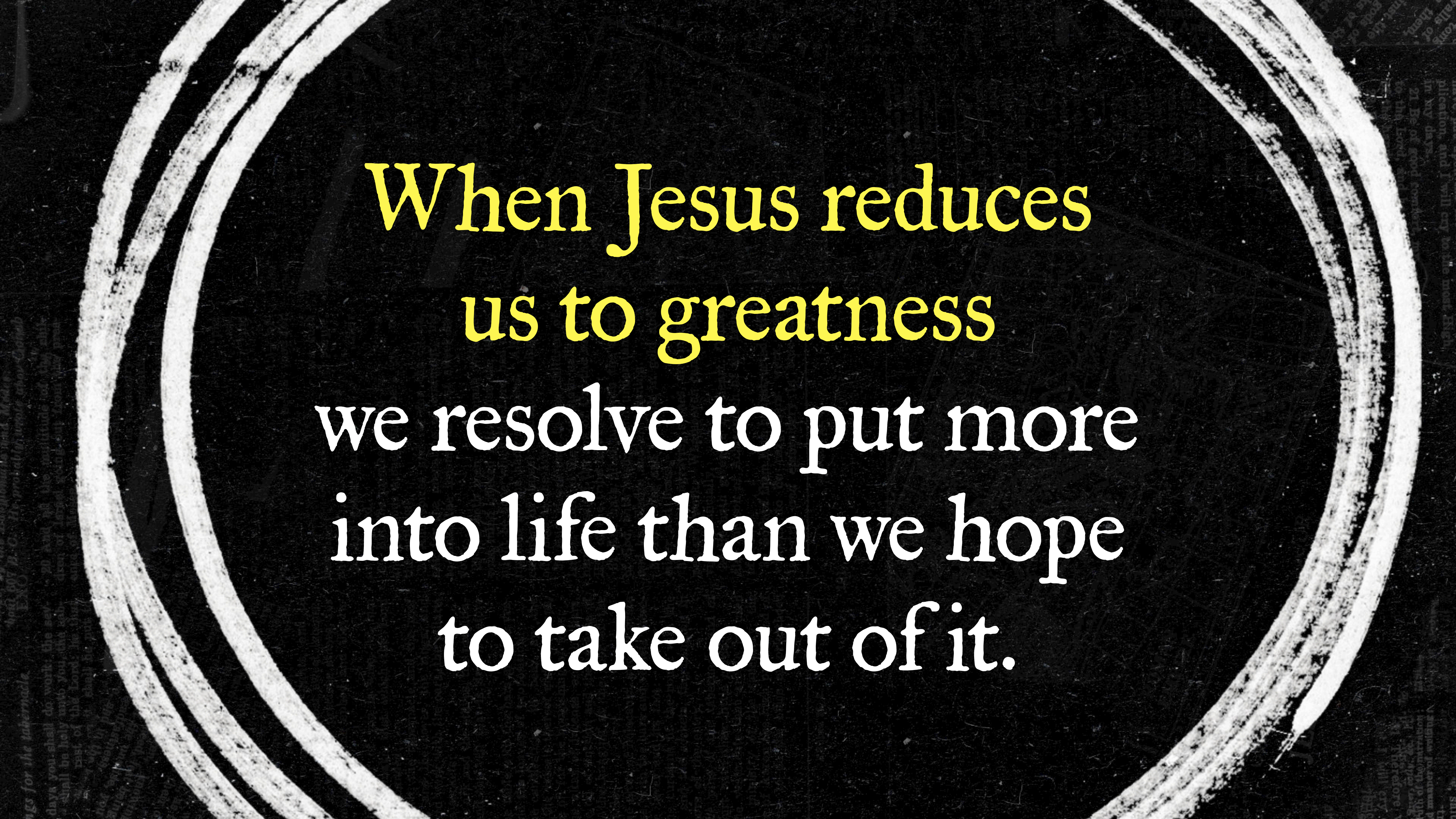
²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.



When Jesus reduces
us to greatness
we renounce the
myth that the world
owes us something.

MATTHEW 20:26,27

²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave.



When Jesus reduces
us to greatness
we resolve to put more
into life than we hope
to take out of it.

MATTHEW 20:28

“ ..just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Because we children of Adam want to be great,
He became small.

Because we will not stoop,
He humbled himself.

Because we want to rule,
He came to serve.

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