



**Ancient Wisdom
for Modern Times**

Rising Above Money

James 5:1-6

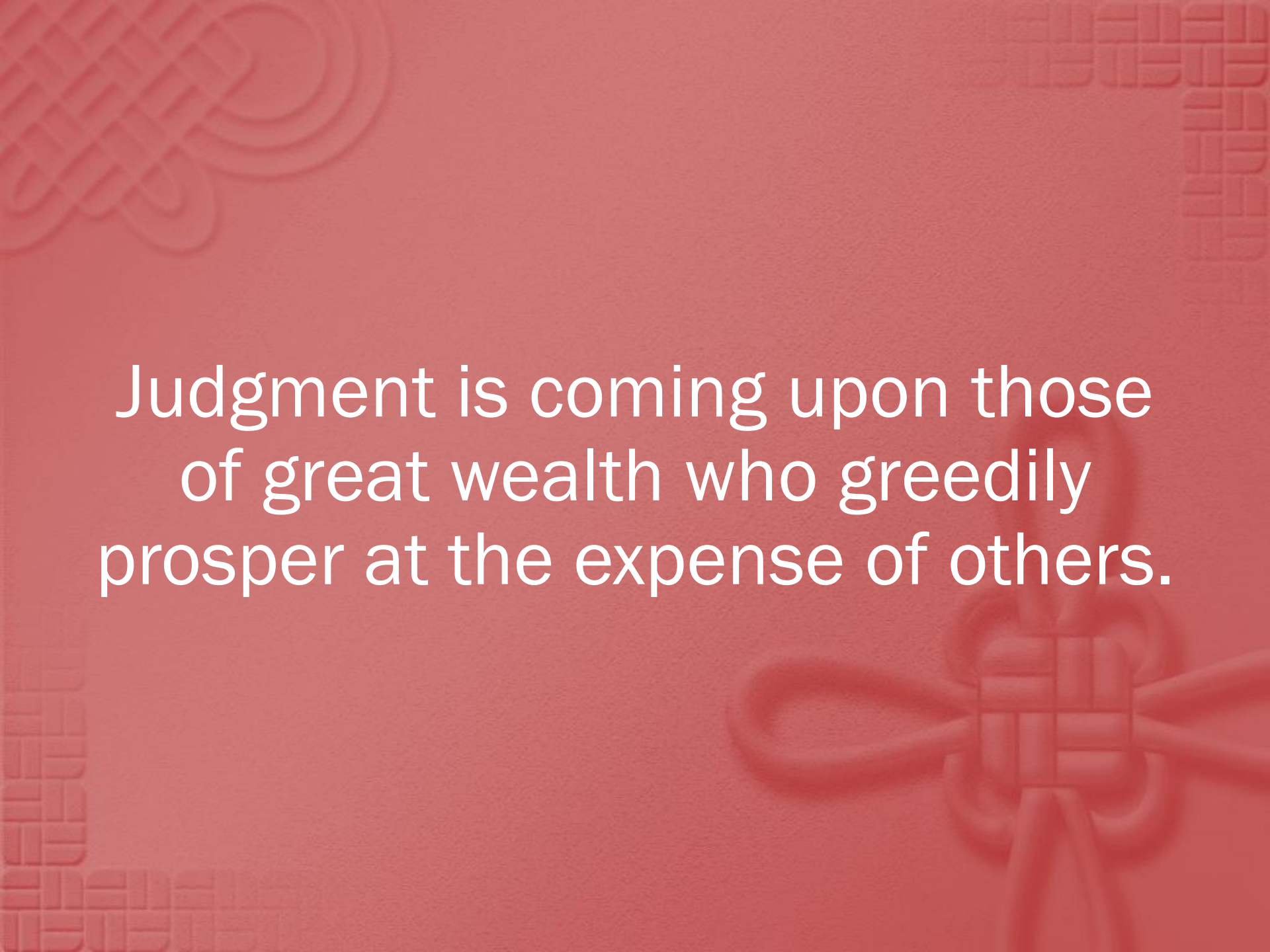
James 5:1-3 (NLT)

¹ Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. ² Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. ³ Your gold and silver have become worthless. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the day of judgment.

James 5:4-6 (NLT)

⁴ For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

⁵ You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and killed innocent people, who do not resist you.

The background is a solid red color with faint, embossed decorative patterns. In the top-left corner, there is a circular knot-like pattern. In the top-right corner, there is a rectangular grid-like pattern. In the bottom-left corner, there is another rectangular grid-like pattern. In the bottom-right corner, there is a large, prominent knot-like pattern.

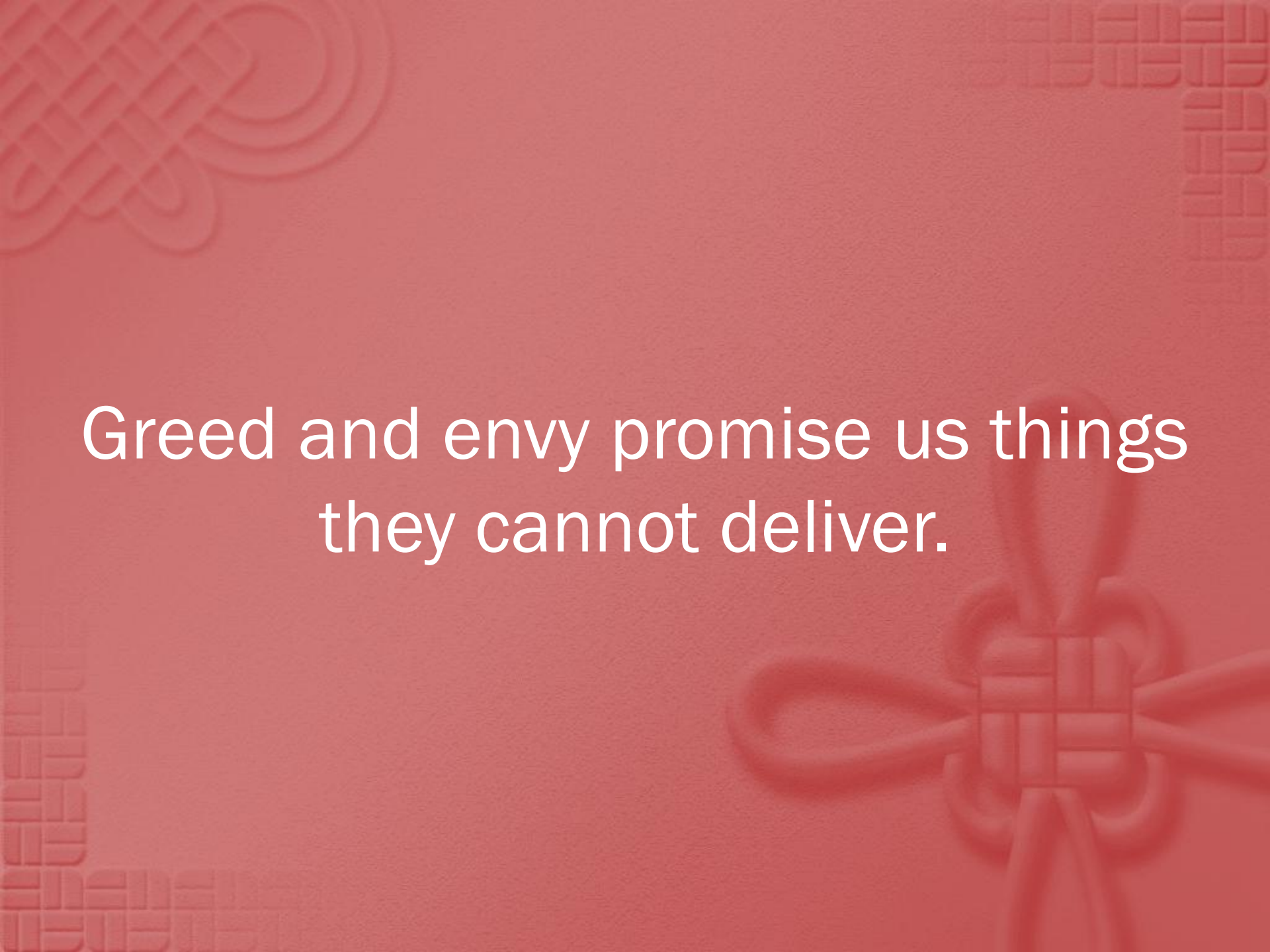
Judgment is coming upon those
of great wealth who greedily
prosper at the expense of others.

Do not defraud your neighbor or rob him. Do not hold back the wages of a hired man overnight.

Leviticus 19:13

“You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of the sojourners who are in your land within your towns. ¹⁵ You shall give him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets (for he is poor and counts on it), lest he cry against you to the Lord, and you be guilty of sin.

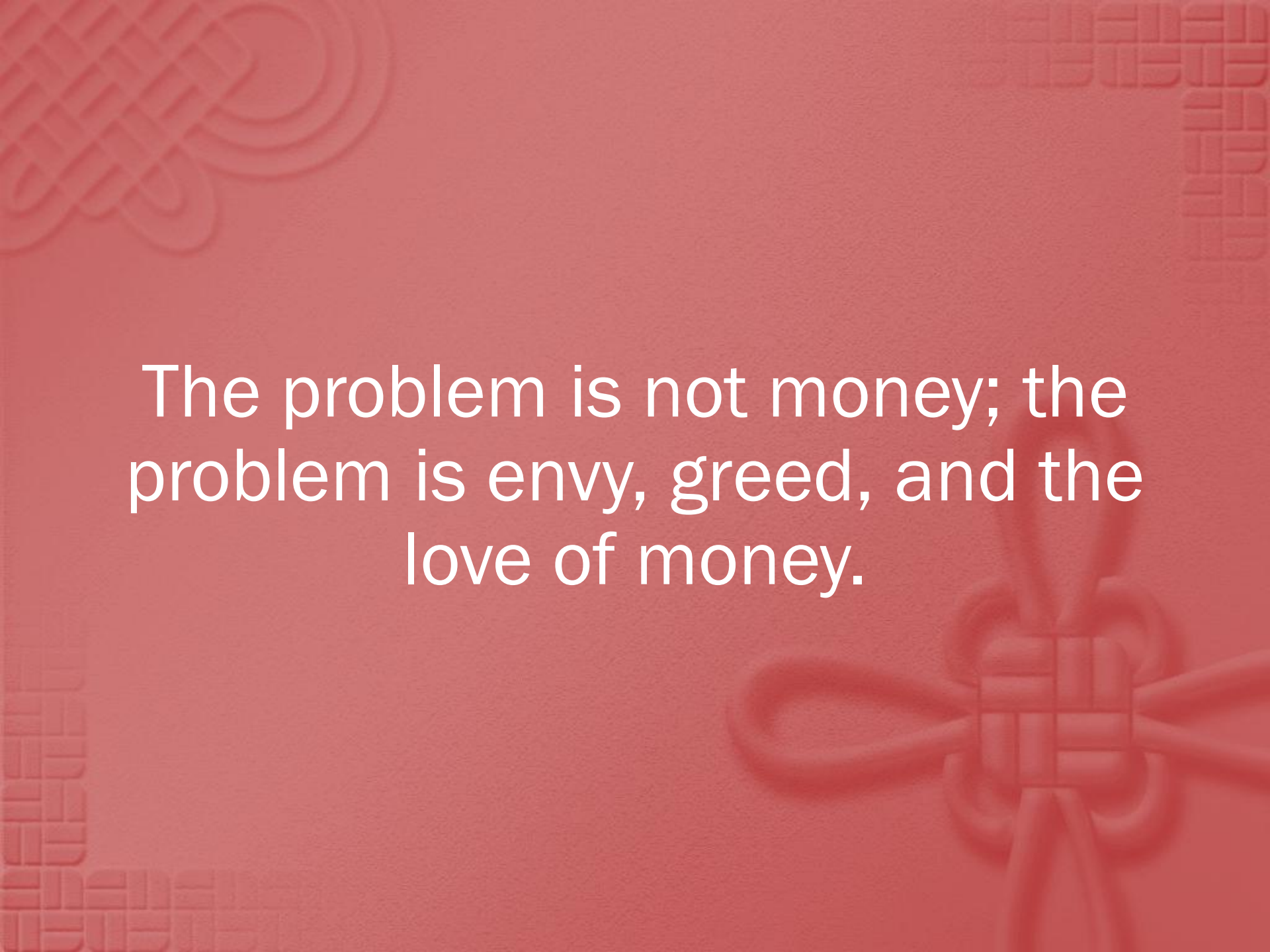
Deuteronomy 24:14-15 (ESV)

The background is a solid red color with embossed knot patterns in the corners. The top-left corner features a circular knot pattern, the top-right corner has a rectangular grid-like knot pattern, and the bottom-right corner has a large, detailed knot pattern. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

Greed and envy promise us things
they cannot deliver.

James 5:2-3a (NLT)

² Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. ^{3a} Your gold and silver have become worthless.

The background is a solid red color with faint, embossed knot patterns in the corners. The top-left corner features a circular knot design, while the bottom-right corner shows a more complex, multi-loop knot. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

The problem is not money; the
problem is envy, greed, and the
love of money.

Luke 12:13-21 (NLT)

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.” ’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

Luke 12:22-31 (NLT)

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.