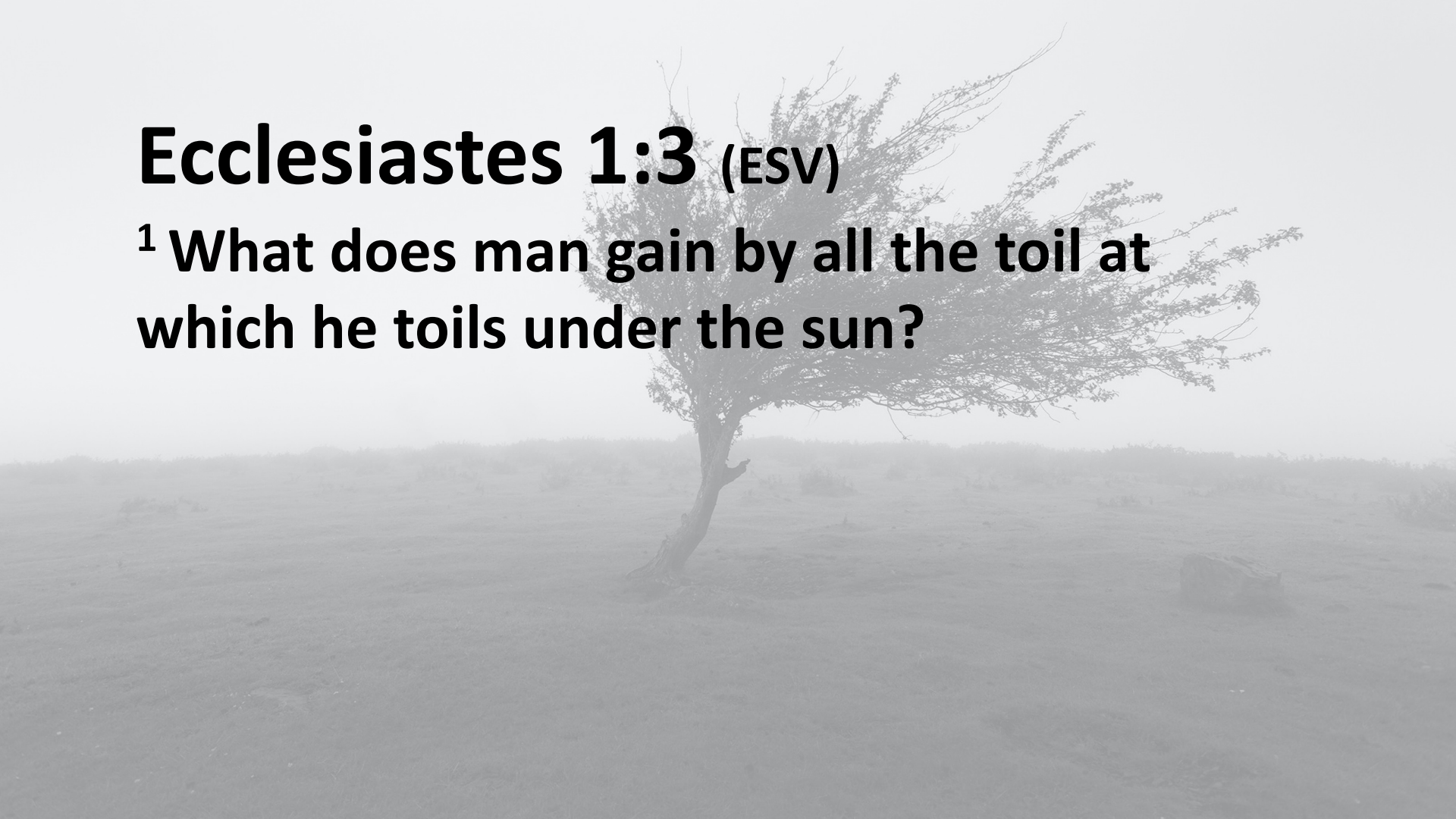




ECCLESIASTES

Ecclesiastes 1:3 (ESV)

¹ What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?



Ecclesiastes 3:16-17 (ESV)

¹⁶ Moreover, I saw under the sun that in the place of justice, even there was wickedness, and in the place of righteousness, even there was wickedness.

¹⁷ I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for there is a

Ecclesiastes 3:16-17 (ESV)

time for every matter and for every work.



Ecclesiastes 3:18-21 (ESV)

¹⁸ I said in my heart with regard to the children of man that God is testing them that they may see that they themselves are but beasts. ¹⁹ For what happens to the children of man and what happens to the beasts is the same; as one dies, so dies the

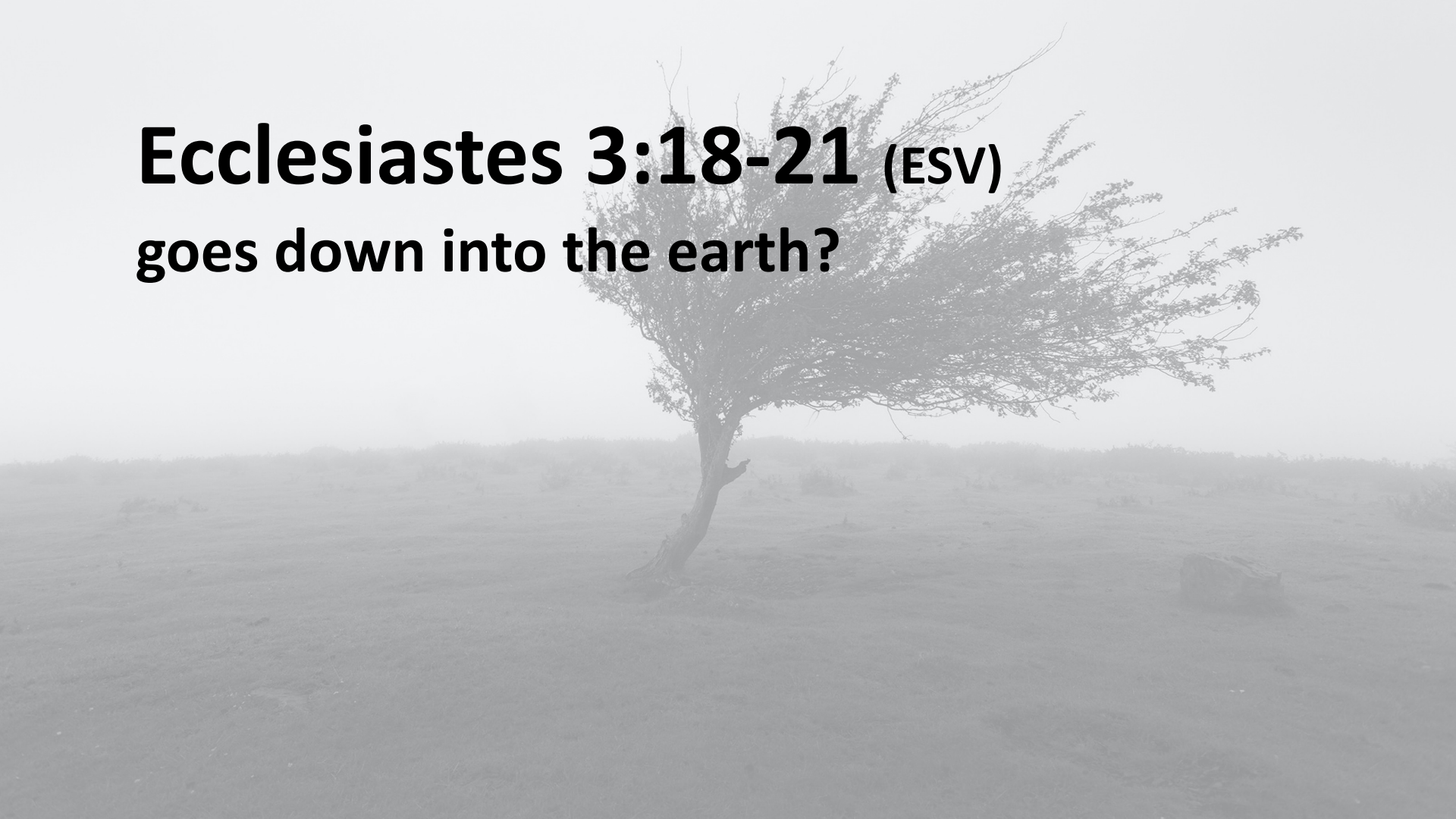
Ecclesiastes 3:18-21 (ESV)

other. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts, for all is vanity. ²⁰ All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return.

²¹ Who knows whether the spirit of man goes upward and the spirit of the beast

Ecclesiastes 3:18-21 (ESV)

goes down into the earth?



A faded, grayscale background image of a tree in a field. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The ground is a flat, open field, and the sky is a uniform light gray. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

Ecclesiastes 3:22 (ESV)

So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him?

Ecclesiastes 4:1-6 (ESV)

¹ Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. ² And I thought

Ecclesiastes 4:1-6 (ESV)

the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive.

³ But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun. ⁴ Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from

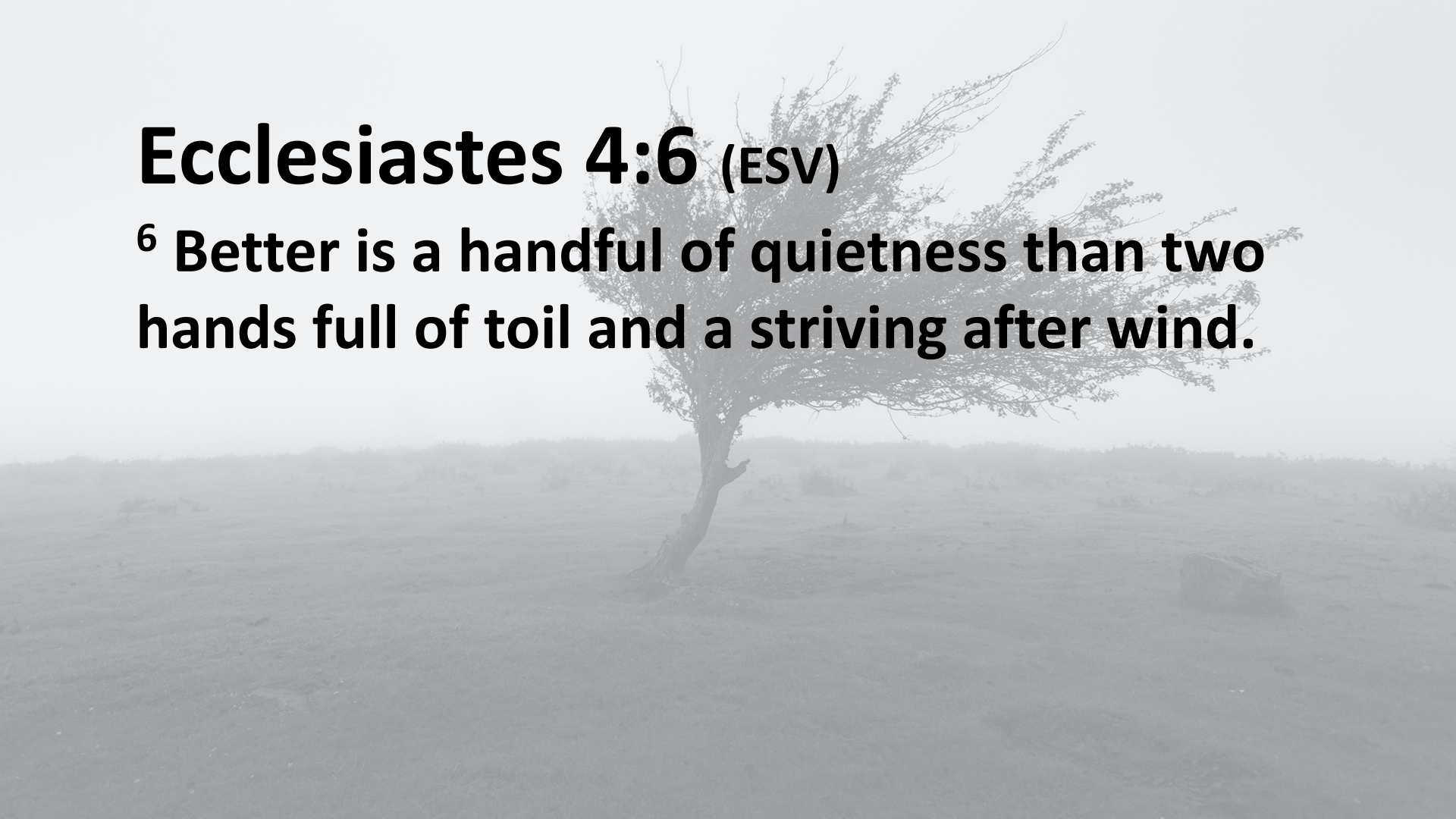
Ecclesiastes 4:1-6 (ESV)

a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind. ⁵ The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh.

⁶ Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.

Ecclesiastes 4:6 (ESV)

⁶ Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind.



A faint, grayscale background image of a tree in a field. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The field is a flat, open area, and the sky is a uniform light gray. The overall tone is soft and contemplative.

**“Any friend can share your sorrows
and failures, but it takes a true friend
to share your joys and successes.”**

-David Gibson

A lone, gnarled tree stands in a misty, desolate landscape. The tree's branches are sparse and reach out to the right. The ground is flat and covered in a light layer of mist or fog, creating a sense of isolation and quietude. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

**In contexts of injustice, oppression, and
envy, let us enjoy our work with quietness.**

If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him or email him.



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