



We have no Spectators Here



**14 For this reason it says, “Awake,  
sleeper, And arise from the dead,  
And Christ will shine on you.”**

**Ephesians 5:14–17**



**15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,**



16 *making the most of*  
*["redeeming"] your time*, because  
the days are evil.

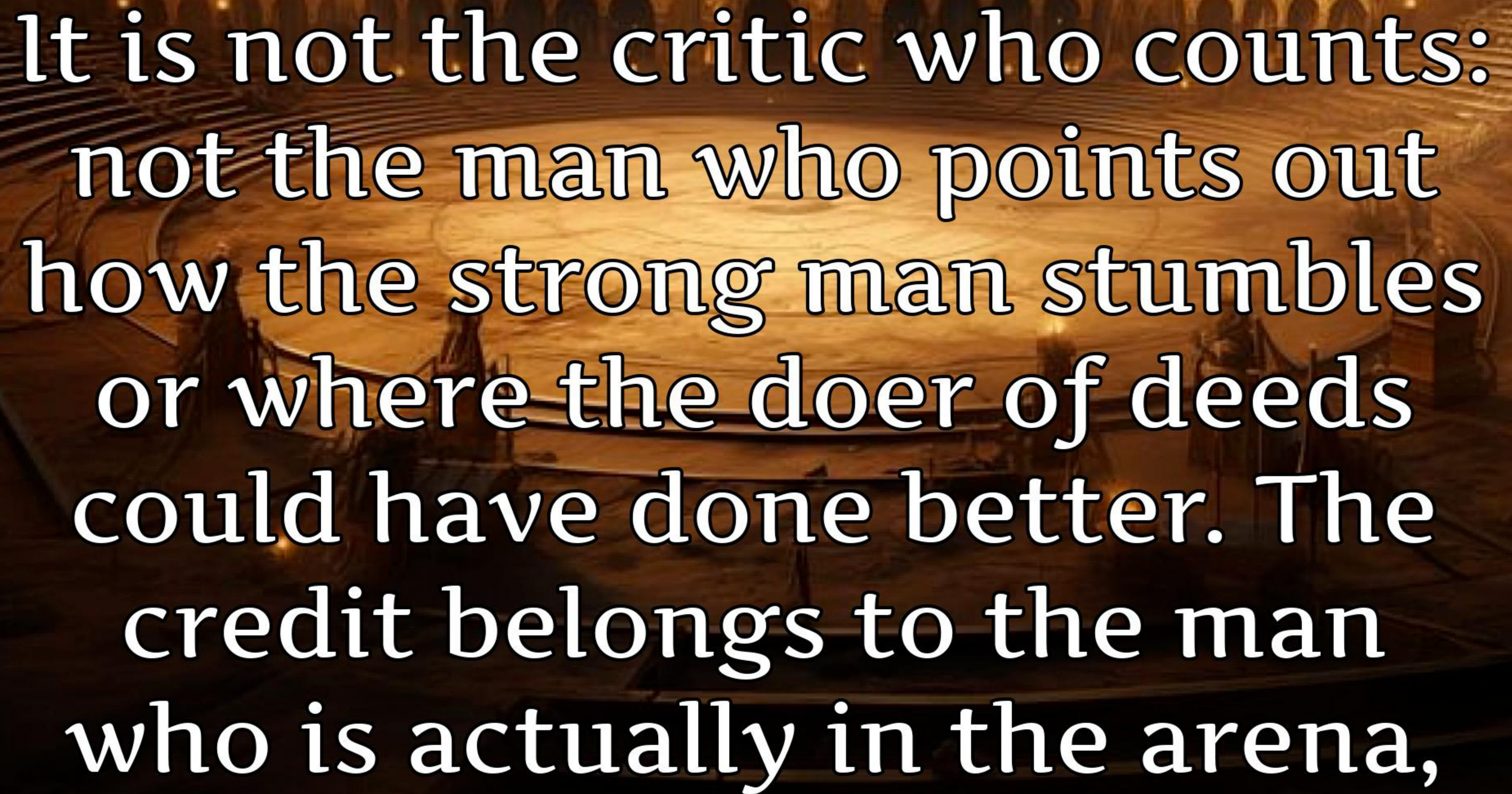


17 So then do not be foolish, but  
*understand what the will of the*  
*Lord is.*



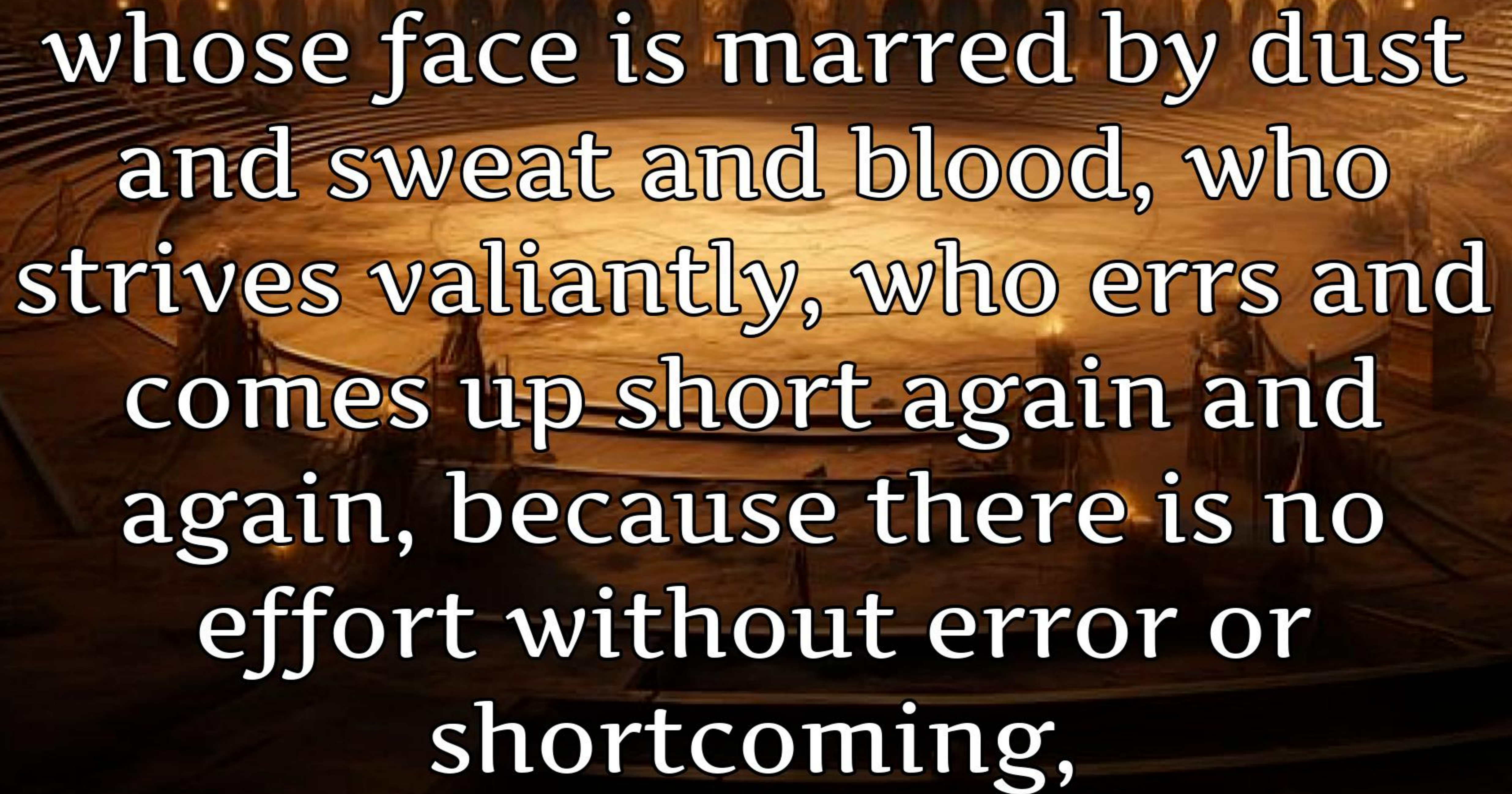
The future belongs  
to those who will  
seek First the  
Kingdom...





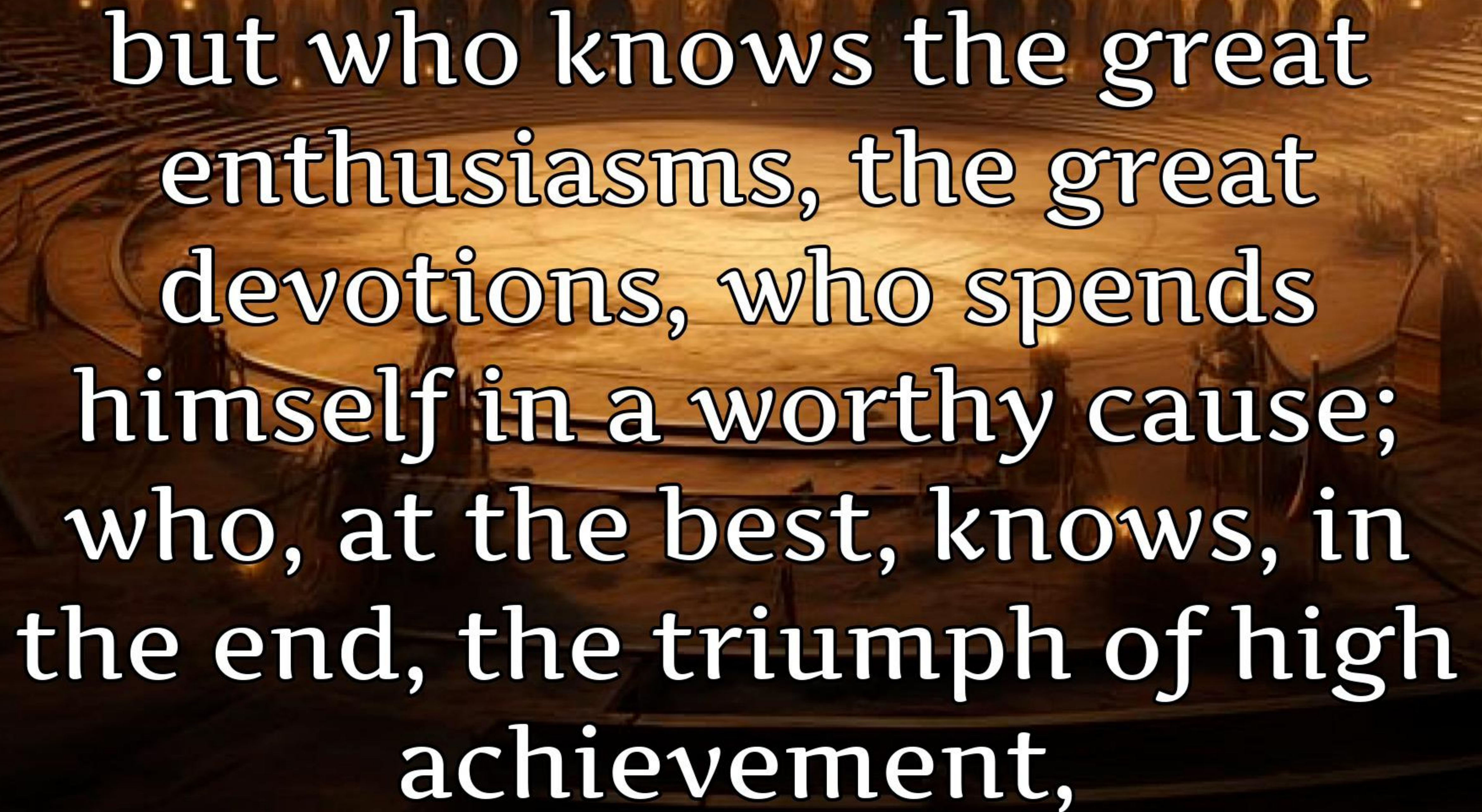
It is not the critic who counts:  
not the man who points out  
how the strong man stumbles  
or where the doer of deeds  
could have done better. The  
credit belongs to the man  
who is actually in the arena,





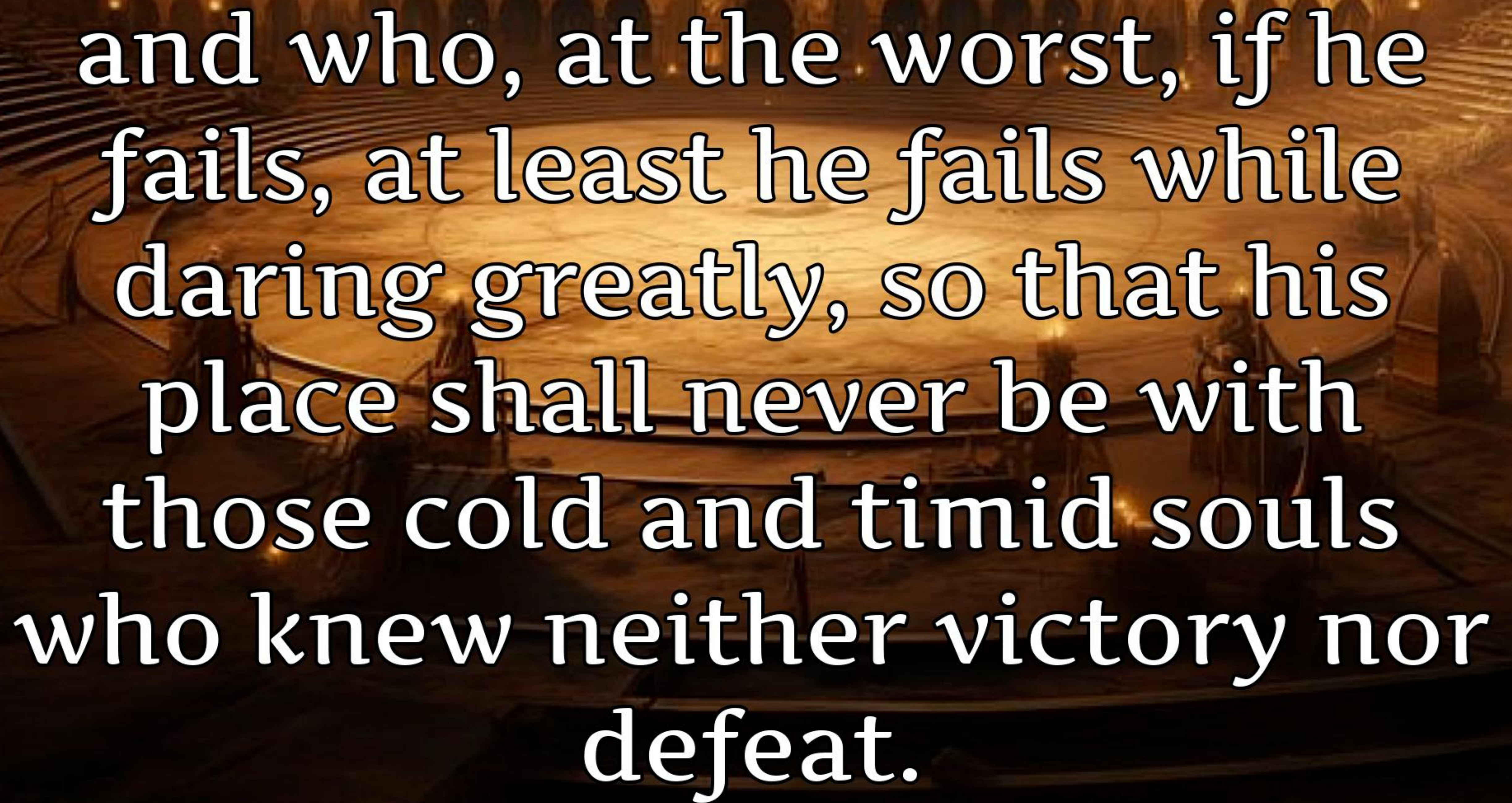
whose face is marred by dust  
and sweat and blood, who  
strives valiantly, who errs and  
comes up short again and  
again, because there is no  
effort without error or  
shortcoming,





but who knows the great  
enthusiasms, the great  
devotions, who spends  
himself in a worthy cause;  
who, at the best, knows, in  
the end, the triumph of high  
achievement,





and who, at the worst, if he  
fails, at least he fails while  
daring greatly, so that his  
place shall never be with  
those cold and timid souls  
who knew neither victory nor  
defeat.



Stepping in to the arena  
means repenting of sitting  
on the sidelines criticizing,  
and putting your shoulder  
into something meaningful.



"Meaningful" does not  
mean "History making,"  
but rather impact on the  
lives of others.



10 For we are His workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus for good  
works, which God prepared  
beforehand so that we would walk  
in them.

Ephesians 2:10



What would you do  
with your life if you  
knew you could not fail  
at it?



Fear of failure is  
overcome by trusting  
the voice of the One  
who called us over the  
voice of the critic.



The enemy's favorite  
ploy is to keep us away  
from the fight in the  
first place by turning  
our faith into fear.







11 “Truly I say to you, among those  
born of women there has not arisen  
*anyone greater than John the Baptist!*  
*Yet the one who is least in the*  
*kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

Matthew 11:11–12



12 “From the days of John the Baptist  
until now *the kingdom of heaven*  
*suffers violence*, and *violent men take*  
*it by force*.



Wherever Jesus becomes  
manifest in new territory,  
there is always a storm  
of some sort.



Name someone who  
advanced the Kingdom of  
Heaven in the earth  
without opposition.



If you are facing  
opposition while pursuing  
the will of God,

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

You are on the right track.



Resolve never to be a  
harsh critic of those  
who have stepped out  
to accomplish something  
great for the Kingdom.



Determine that the voice  
of the critic (especially the  
one within) will never be  
louder than the Voice of  
the One who called you.



Consider how you might encourage others in their own arena, and only determine only to offer criticism designed to encourage them.



Seek His Face about what  
arena belongs to you, and  
step into it boldly and  
without apology.