

EPHESIANS

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE, EMPOWERED BY PEACE

STUDY 13 DIVERSITY TOWARDS UNITY

Ephesians 4:8-16



THE STRUCTURE

Glory and Grace of God

The Peace of God in the church

Theological

Practical

Ephesians 1

Ephesians 2

Ephesians 3

Ephesians 4

Ephesians 5

Ephesians 6

Who God is and what He has
done for us in Christ

How we should live because
of what He has done for us

Living and working out spiritual
transformation in the church

EPHESIANS 4

1. Maintaining the Unity of the Spirit v1-6
2. Utilizing Diversity to build up Unity v 7-16
3. New Life and New Integrity v 17-25
4. Overcoming Anger and Bitterness v 25-32

DIVERSITY TOWARDS UNITY

Expression of unity

-Diversity

-Direction

DIVERSITY : GIFTS FROM JESUS

Ephesians 4:7-10 (ESV) But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." 9 (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? 10 He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

A large formation of North Korean women in military-style uniforms marching in a parade. They are wearing dark green jackets with red and yellow insignia, dark blue shorts, and black shoes. They are marching in a highly synchronized manner, with their legs raised in a uniform fashion. The background is filled with a dense crowd of people, many of whom are also in uniform. The text "UNITY IS NOT UNIFORMITY" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

UNITY IS NOT UNIFORMITY

HOW DOES UNITY IN DIVERSITY WORK?

Unity

Ephesians 2:15–16 (ESV) that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

Diversity

- Ephesians 4: 11 And **he gave** the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

Unity

- 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the **measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**

PRINCIPLE VITAL IN SHOWING INTERVENTION OF GOD

UNITY

Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel, Bible Faith, Baptism,
Communion

DIVERSITY

Ephesians 4:7-11

Spiritual Gifting, Focus, Administration,
Personalities, Ministries, Manner of
worship, Life groups, Geography,
Societal interaction

UNITY

Ephesians 4:12-16

Goal—Holiness—
Witness

*WE DISCOVER OUR INDIVIDUALITY WHEN
WE BECOME ONE*

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV) For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God
prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

QUEEN ESTHER

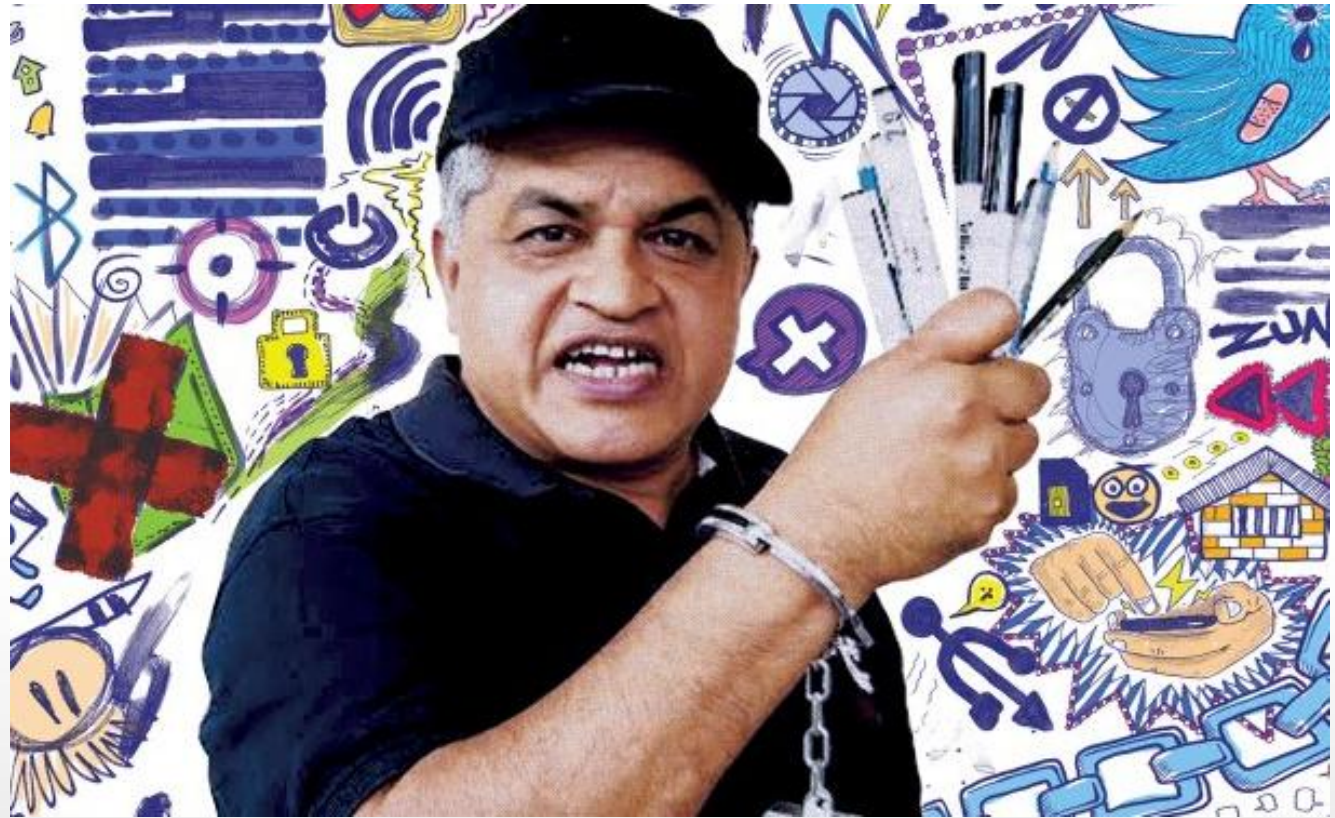


Esther 4:14 (ESV) For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

TOTALITARIAN REGIMES



FACING JAIL





Newly sworn-in International Trade and Industry Minister Darell Leiking

THE QUOTATION: AN ALLUSION

Ephesians 4:8 (ESV) Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”

Psalms 68:18 (ESV) You ascended on high leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.

Paul has modified the quotation to suit his own theological aims in the letter
Gifts not taken from his defeated foes



INCARNATION AND ASCENSION

Ephesians 4:7-10 (ESV) But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." 9 (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? 10 He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. What are spiritual gifts
2. Implications
3. How to use them

DIVERSITY FOR UNITY

Ephesians 4:11-13 (ESV) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Spiritual gifts are differing abilities given
the the HS to each believers to meet needs in
such a way that it creates a community of
people that is growing into the fullness of
the character of Jesus Christ

Tim Keller

SPIRITUAL GIFTS : ABILITY TO MEET NEEDS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

- Ability to communicate truth
- Ability to bear burdens
- Ability to give directions

LEVITES SET ASIDE AS GIFT TO ISRAEL TO HELP THEM SERVE AND WORSHIP GOD

- (Num 8:14-15) Thus you shall separate the Levites from among the people of Israel, and the Levites shall be mine. 15 And after that the Levites shall go in to serve at the tent of meeting, when you have cleansed them and offered them as a wave offering
- Num 18:) 6 And behold, I have taken your brothers the Levites from among the people of Israel. They are a gift to you, given to the Lord, to do the service of the tent of meeting.

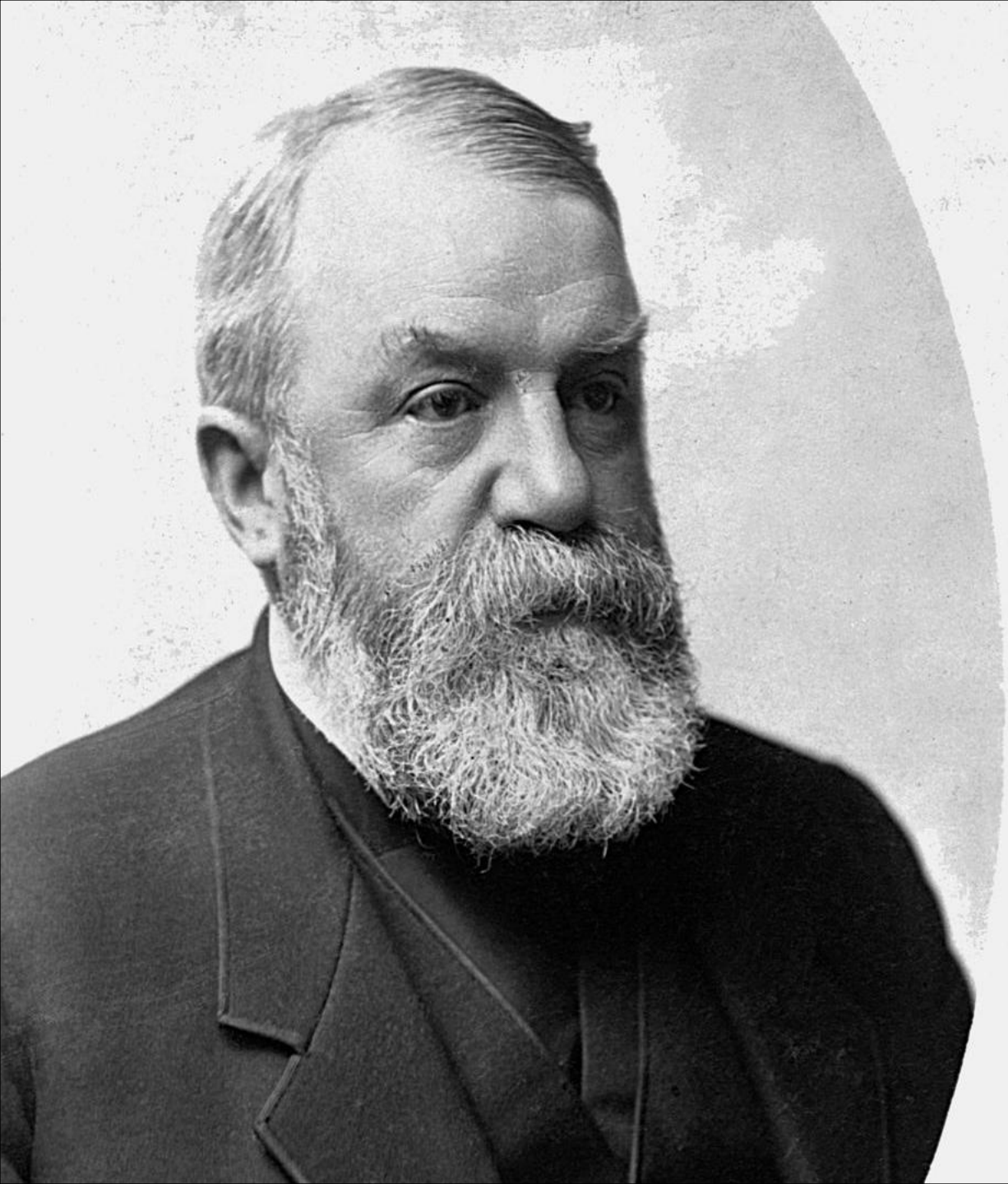
EVERYONE HAS A GIFT

Ephesians 4:7–10 (ESV) But **grace** was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

- No passive unemployed
- Each has unique place
- Ephesians 2:10 (ESV) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.





DL MOODY

*I am only one but I am
one. I cannot do
everything but I can do
something. And that
which I can do by God's
grace, I will do*



RICK WARREN

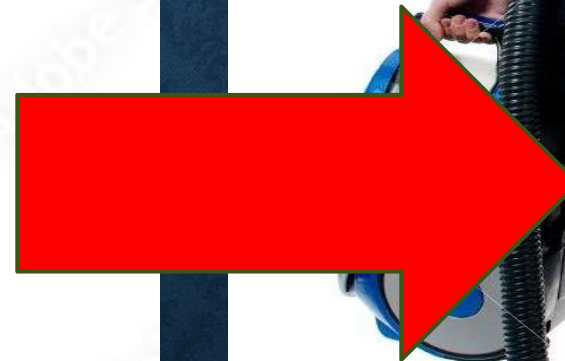
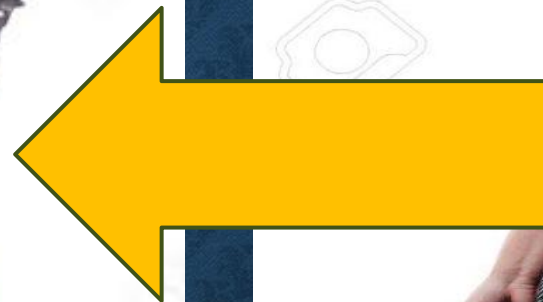
*God gave me a gift
not for me but for
you and God gave
you a gift not for
you but for me .*

*If you don' t use
your gift you are
depriving me; if I
don' t use my gift
I am robbing you*

He lives
in a high
rise
apartment



She lives
on a farm



COMMUNITY

WHY DO I HAVE TO DO IT WITH A CHURCH?



- The removal of hostility caused by sin and creation one new man
 - expresses the glory of Christ in His work •••clearest evidence to the world
- Sin is about alienation and its reversal must be demonstrated in reconciliation in all communities
- Proof of our transformation•••able to love and work together

A close-up photograph of two men, Mahathir Mohamad on the left and Anwar Ibrahim on the right. Mahathir is an older man with grey hair and glasses, looking slightly downwards. Anwar is a younger man with dark hair, glasses, and a goatee, looking towards Mahathir. A red text box is overlaid on the top of the image.

**MAHATHIR SUES ANWAR FOR
RM150M OVER WEALTH CLAIM**

MKINI 5/5/2023

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GIFT AND AN OFFICE



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GIFT AND AN OFFICE

- Everyone given at least one gift
- Discovered
- No Marital status mentioned
- Any maturity
- Not gender specific
- Not everyone with a gift will have an office
- Offices ..Apostles, Elders, Deacons or deaconesses
- Selected or elected
- Marital status mentioned
- Cannot be novices
- Gender specific - male elders
- Every person with an office will have gifts

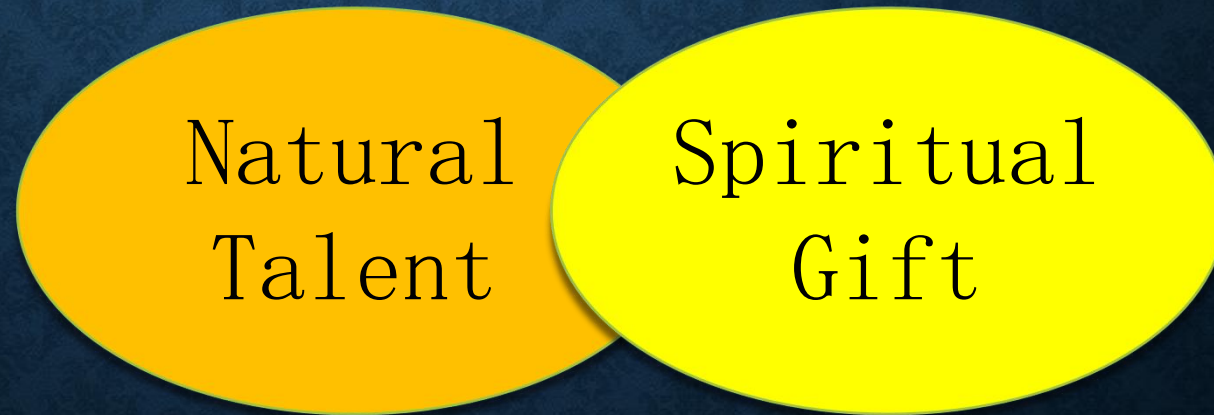
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TALENT AND SPIRITUAL GIFT

Talent

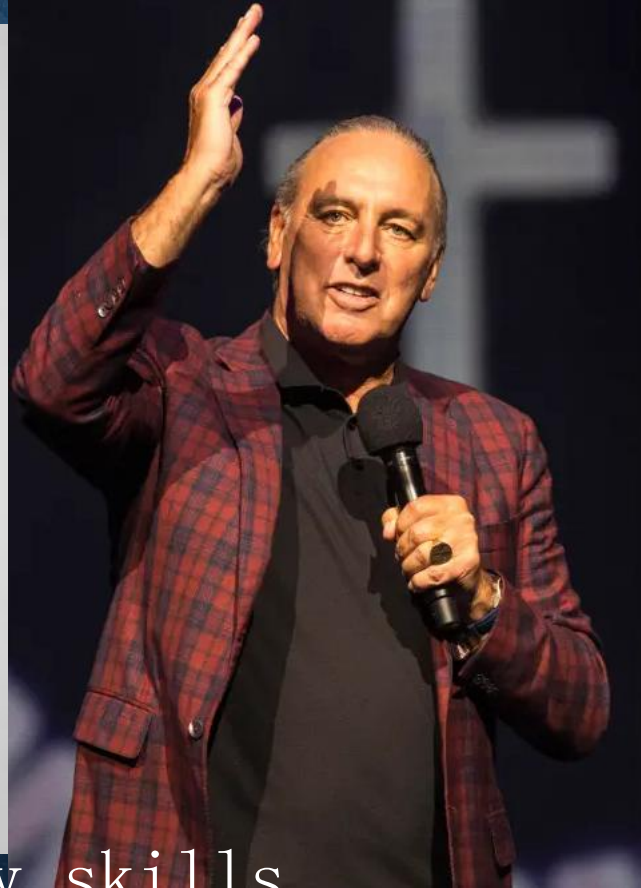
- Inherited or developed

Gift

- Given by Spirit as rebirth



DANGER OF MIXING UP THE TWO



- Gifted oratory skills
- Affected many people
- No character...illicit affair

NON BELIEVERS HAVE APPARENT GIFTS

Matthew 7:22–23 (ESV) On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophecy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE VARIED

1 Cor 12:8-10	Ephesians 4	1 Cor 12:28	Romans 12:6-8	1 Peter 4:11	1 Cor 7:7
Utterance wisdom	Apostle	Apostle	Leader	Speak	Marriage
Utterance knowledge	Prophet	Prophet	Prophecy	Service	Celibacy
Faith	Evangelist	Teacher	Teaching		
Gifts of Healing	Pastor-Teacher	Miracles	Exhortation		
Miracles		Healing	Giving		
Prophecy		Helping	Mercy		
Discernment					
Tongues		Administration	Service		
Interpretation		Tongues			

APOSTLESHIP

The Twelve

Acts 1:21-22

Been with
Jesus
Witnesses
resurrection

Paul

1 Cor 15:8-9

1 Corinthians 15:8-9 (ESV) Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God

Gift of
apostleship

Barnabas, James the Lord's brother, Apollos, Silvanus, Titus, Epaproditus, Andronicus, Junias

Sent ones by Christ to plant new churches in different territories

APOSTOLOI-SENT ONES

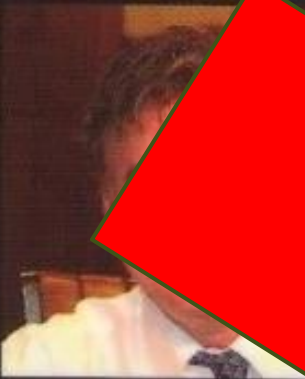
2 Corinthians 8:23 (ESV) As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker for your benefit. And as for our brothers, they are messengers (apostoloi) of the churches, the glory of Christ.

NEW APOSTOLIC REFORMATION

BILL JOHNSON



LANCE WALLNAU



CHUCK PIERCE



HEIDI BAKER



C. PETER WAGNER



JAMES W. GOLL



JOHN A.



CINDY JACOBS



LOU E.

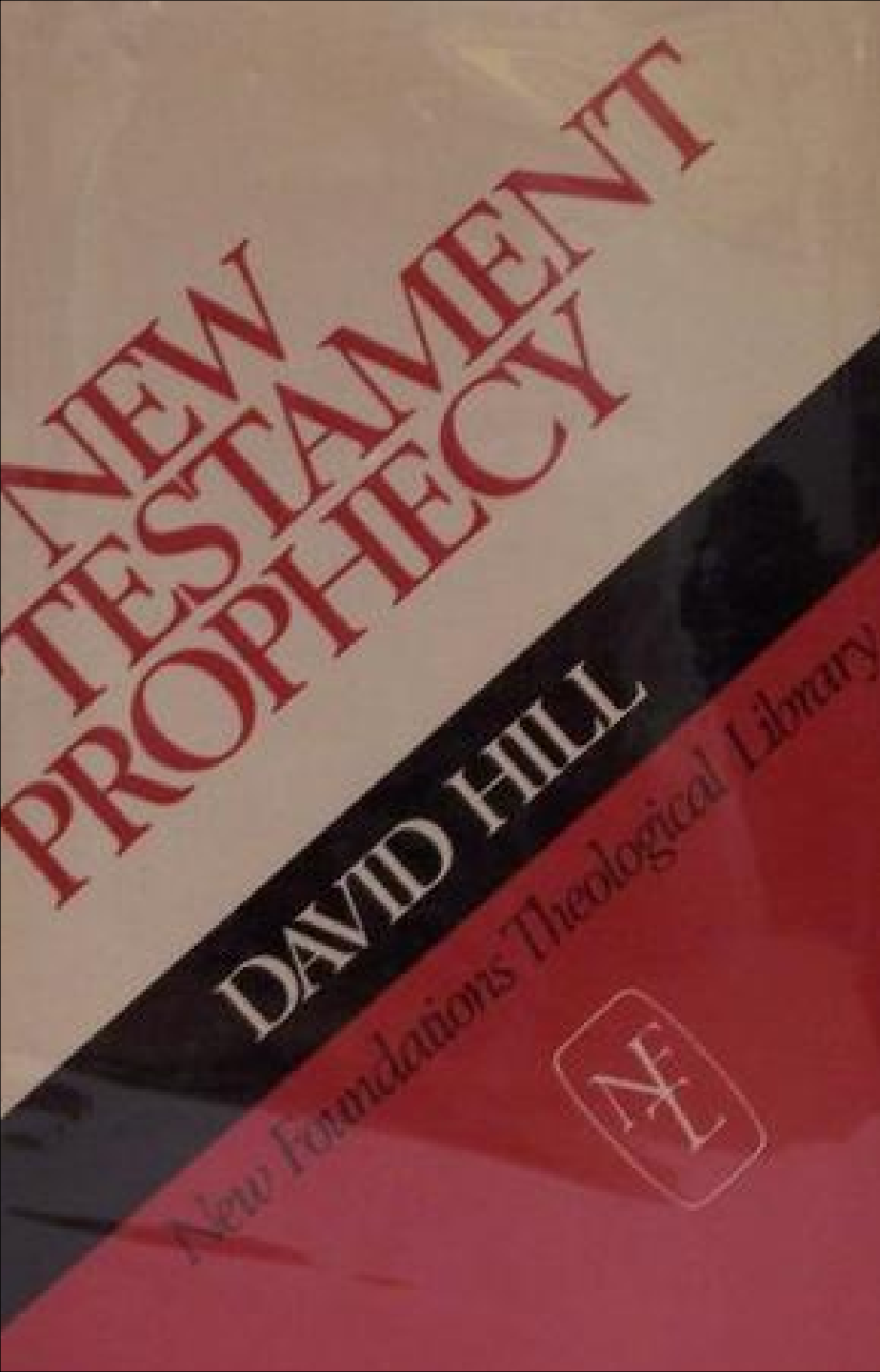


JIM GARLOW



PROPHETS: SUSTAINED UTTERANCE-CONTROL AND REFLECTION

- 1 Cor 14: 3 On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation
- . 29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. 30 If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged



- *prophet is a Spirit-endowed person “whose preaching contains admonition and comfort, the call for repentance and promise” and who also counsels, as a pastor, and “blames and praises.*

1 Thessalonians 5:19–21 (ESV) Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not despise prophecies, 21 but test everything; hold fast what is good.

EVANGELISTS

2 Timothy 4:5 (ESV) As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Acts 21:8 (ESV) On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

Philip preached gospel from Azotus to Caesarea Acts 8:26-40)

Share the gospel whilst apostles would establish churches and prophets would bring revelation

DIVERSITY FOR UNITY

Ephesians 4:11-13
In Greek they are the same person
the apostles,
the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and
teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of
ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13
until we all attain to the unity of the faith and
of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature
manhood, to the measure of the stature of the
fullness of Christ,

Definitions

All pastors are teachers but not all teachers are pastor

Poimen

Shepherd

Classical Greek – Captain Leader, chief

NT Greek – Shepherd, Leader , Jesus as shepherd

Modern translation –pastor

Has teaching function but also leadership

Administration in ministries

Didaskalos

Teacher – instruction in factual, skills and moral areas

Not all teachers have pastoral gift

1 Cor 12:28 And God has appointed in the church
first apostles, second prophets, third teachers,
then miracles, then gifts of healing

1 Corinthians 12:29 (ESV) Are all apostles? Are
all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work
miracles?

FUNCTION OF GIFTS-EQUIP THE SAINTS BUILD UP HIS BODY

There is no privatized spirituality it is always expressed in community

Ephesians 4:11-13 (ESV) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ



EUSEBIUS BISHOP OF CAESAREA



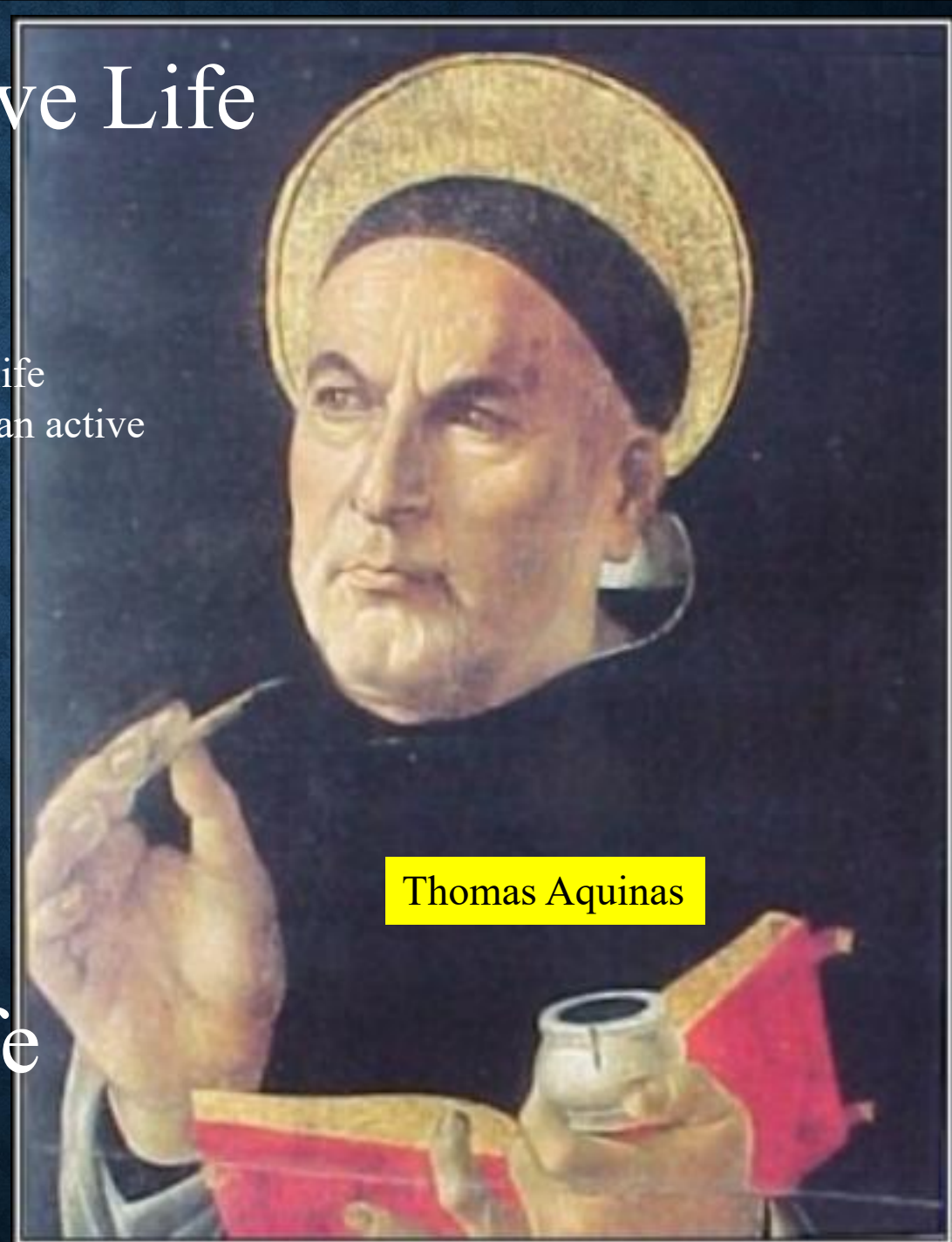
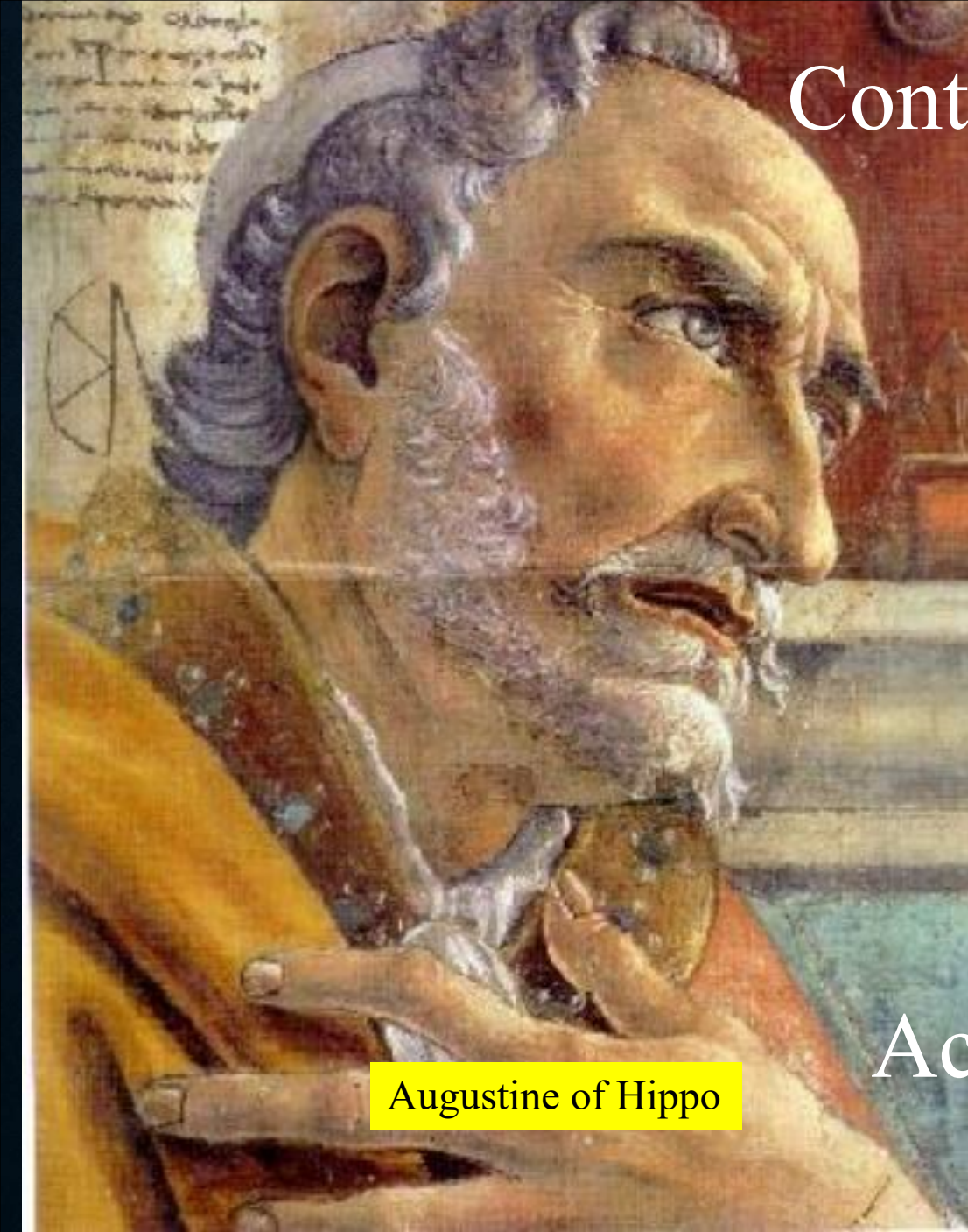
Contemplative Life

Contemplative life
simply better than active
life

Augustine of Hippo

Active Life

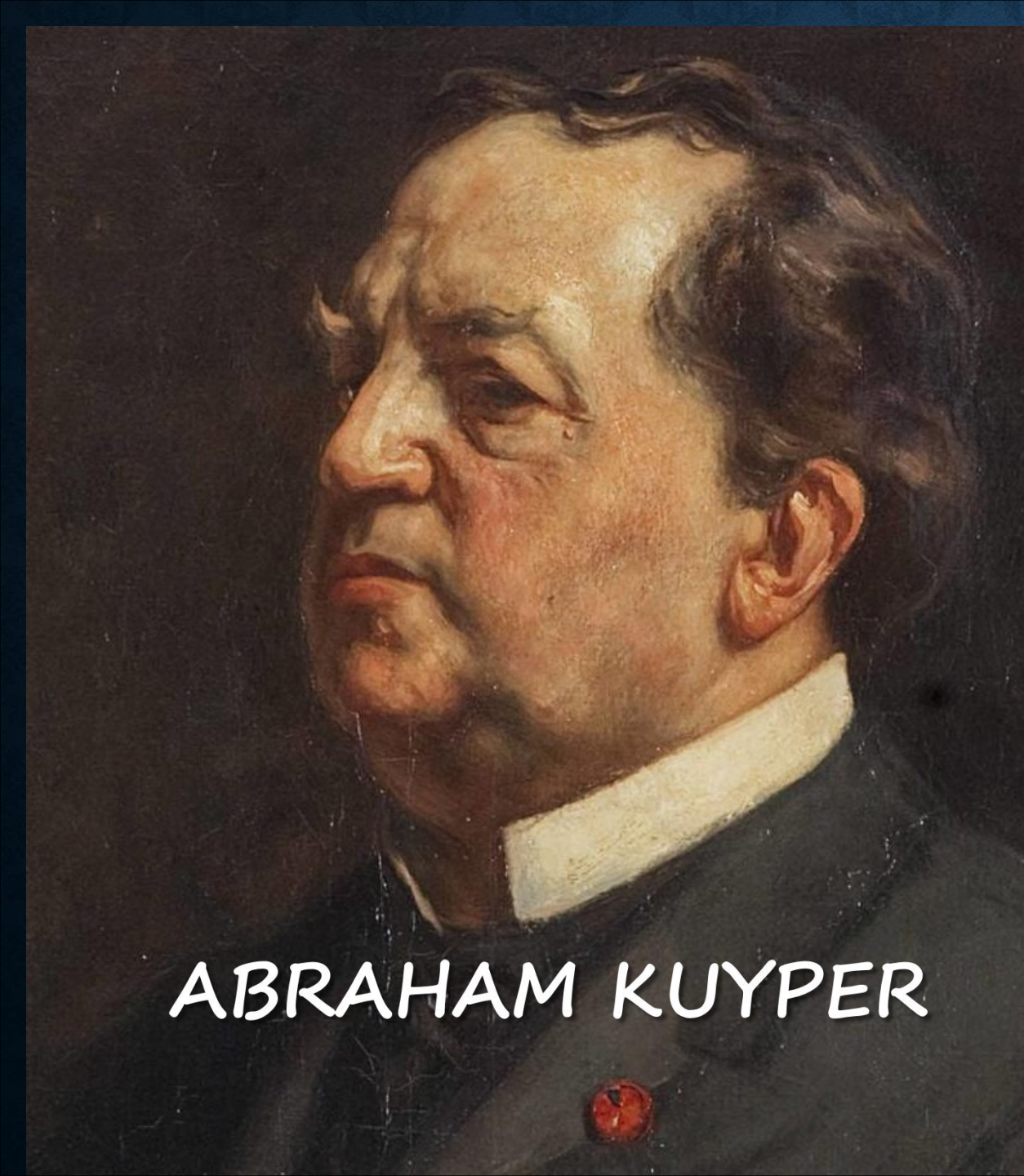
Thomas Aquinas





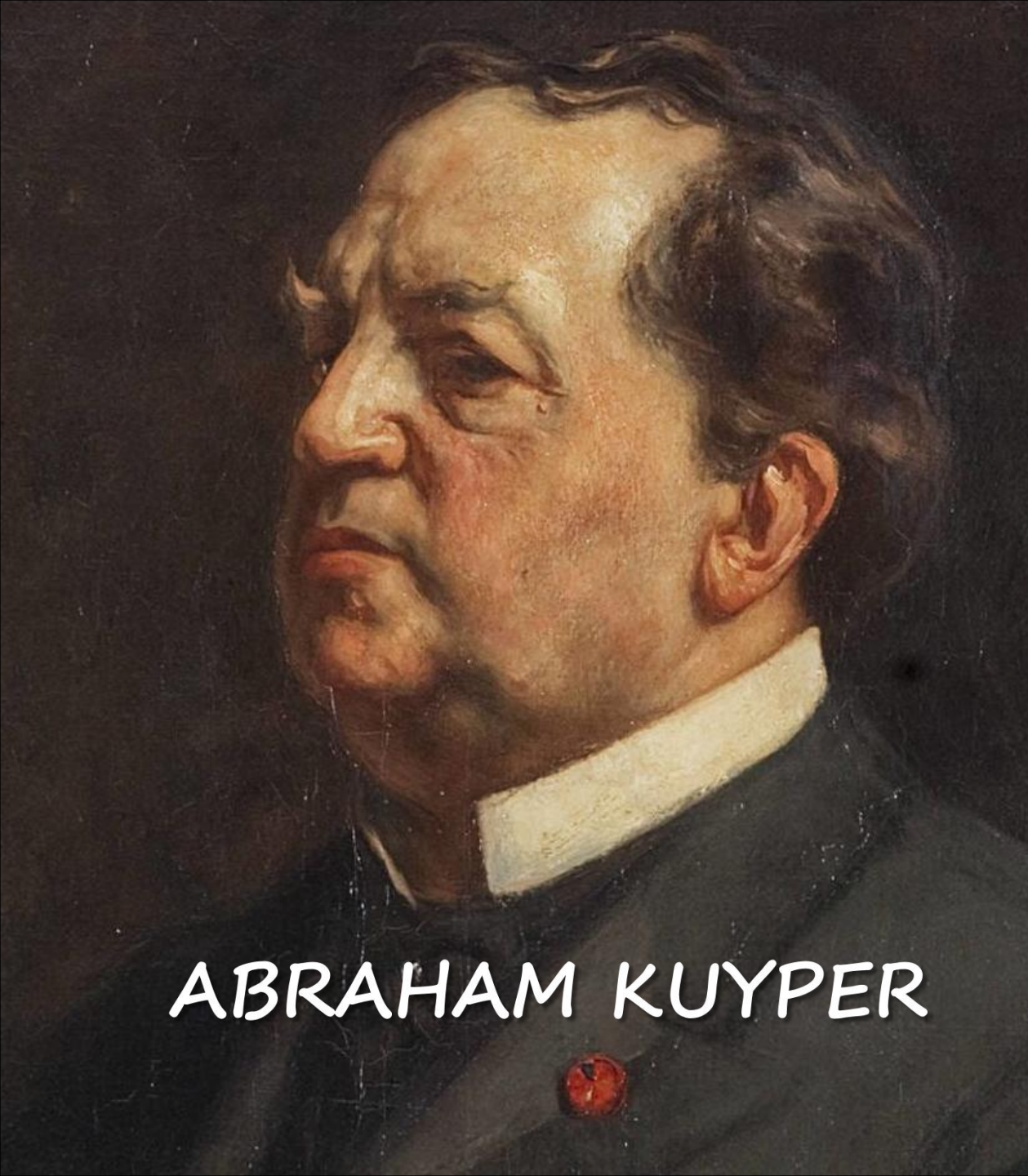
MARTIN LUTHER

The works of monks and priest however holy and arduous they be, do not differ one whit in the sight of God from the works of the rustic labourer in the field or the woman going about her household tasks, but that all works are measured before God by faith alone



ABRAHAM KUYPER

- Prime Minister of Netherlands 1901–05
- *Founder of the Anti-Revolutionary Party was founded on April 3, 1879*
- Theologian and founder of Reformed Church of Netherlands
- *Founder of the Free University of Amsterdam*
- Pastor
- Chief Editor *founder of De Standaard*



ABRAHAM KUYPER

*For me, one desire
rules my life*

*One urge drives soul
and will. . . .*

*It is to re-establish
God's holy ordinances
In Church and home,
in state and school,*

SIN=ALIENATION
GIFTS TO RESTORE ALIENATION IN EVERY SECTOR



WHAT CHRIST DID REVERSING ALIENATION

Ephesians 2:15–16 (ESV) he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

John 20:20–21 (ESV) Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

SIN=ALIENATION

GIFTS TO RESTORE ALIENATION IN EVERY SECTOR

- Evangelism ...heal and deal with spiritual alienation from God
- Counselling gift . . . social psychological alienation
- Rebuild house - physical alienation



THE GOAL OF GIFTS—UNITY OF CHURCH

Knowledge

Same page

Ephesians 4:13–14 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Action

Working together

Ephesians 4:15–16 (ESV) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



PAULINE EPISTLES SPECIFICALLY COUNTERING FALSE DOCTRINE

Knowledge

- Galatians:
- Colossians:
- 1 Timothy:
- 2 Timothy:
- Titus
- 2 Corinthians
- Remaining 7 also touches on doctrinal matters

FUNCTIONING OF THE CHURCH

Action

Ephesians 4:15–16 (ESV) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly,

makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



VOLUNTEERS OR DISCIPLINES



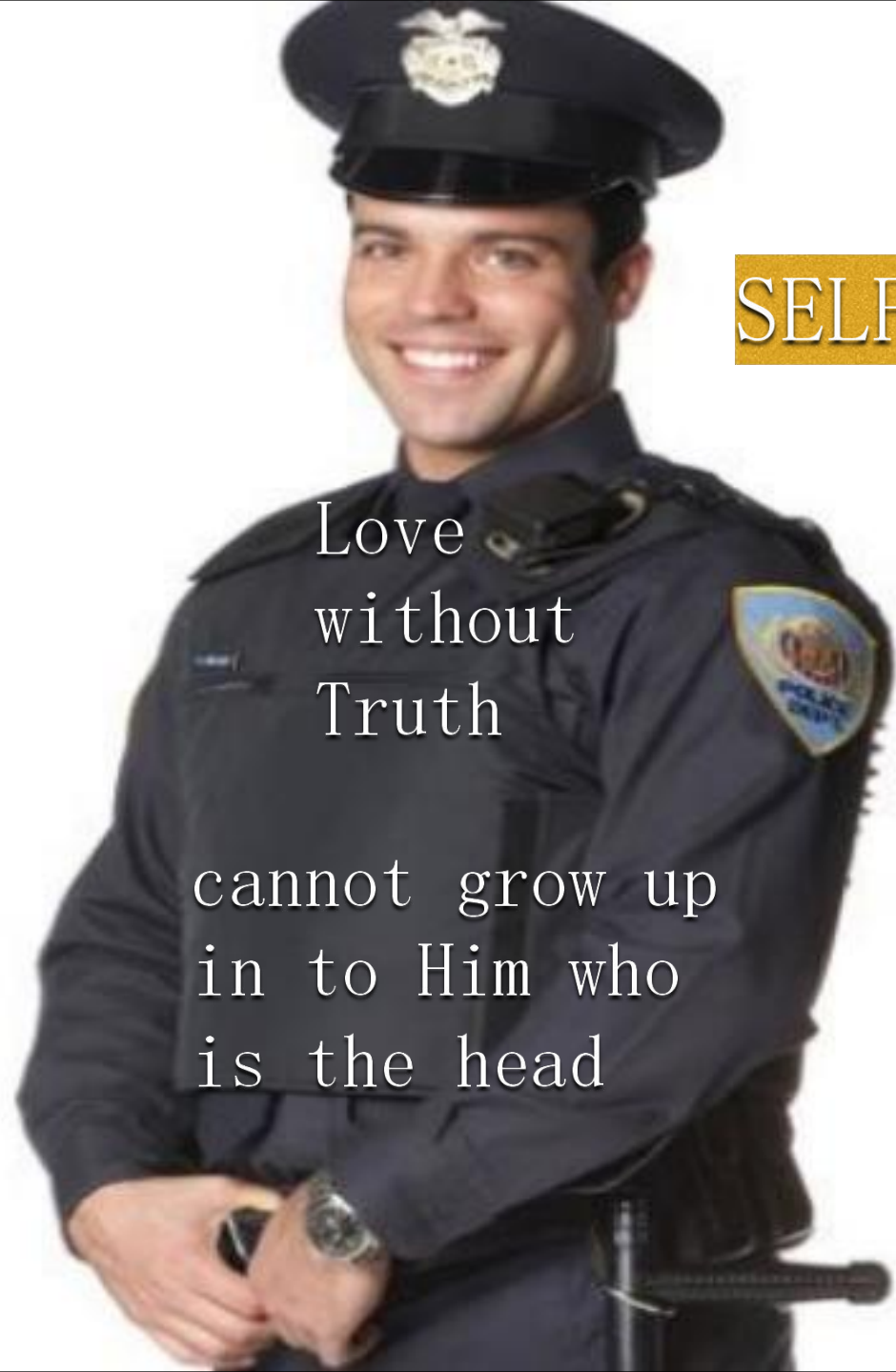
2 Timothy 2:3-4 (ESV) Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him

EVERY GIFT HAS ITS PLACE

1 Cor 12:8-10	Ephesians 4	1 Cor 12:28	Romans 12:6-8	1 Peter 4:11	1 Cor 7:7
Utterance wisdom	Apostle	Apostle	Leader	Speak	Marriage
Utterance	Prophet	Prophet	Prophecy	Service	Celibacy
Spiritual maturity—fullness of Christ					
Gifts of Healing	Pastor	Miracles	Exhortation		
Miracles	Teacher	Healing	Giving		
Prophecy		Helping	Mercy		
Discernment					
Tongues		Administration	Service		
Interpretation		Tongues			

HOW WE ARE TO EXERCISE OUR GIFTS

Ephesians 4:15-16 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



Love
without
Truth

cannot grow up
in to Him who
is the head

SELFISH



Truth
without
love

drive away

CROSS

Truth- so sinful that
nothing less than Son of
God

Love- such worth that
God is willing to die

Unless you see the truth you
cannot see the love



■ Ephesians 4:12-16 (ESV) to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Work in progress



Spirit led growing and fitting

Stones are cut to fit - pruning
God does the cutting

Its painful and inconvenient





There is perfect love and oneness



Our Triune God
Unimaginably Significant



Life of the Trinity is reflected in
community

WHAT ABOUT YOUR GIFTS?

- A. Affinity : Do you have a burden Interest or desire to do a certain kind of ministry
- B. Ability Do have what it takes to meet the need. Do you feel like you need to get some training. Do you have the spiritual stability or ability to do it as this time
- C. Opportunity Are there others willing to work with you?
- D. Reflect and research..recheck the need , your support , your ability to pay the cost