

# EPHESIANS

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE, EMPOWERED BY PEACE

## STUDY 7 THE GOSPEL OF GRACE THROUGH FAITH

Ephesians 2:4-10





# THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

1. What we were vv 1-3

2. What God did for us vv 4-6

3. Why God did it vv 7-10



# THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

- Ephesians 2:4–10 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

What God did

- 7 so that in the coming age he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Why He did it

- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one can boast. 10 We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

How did we receive it and what do we do with it

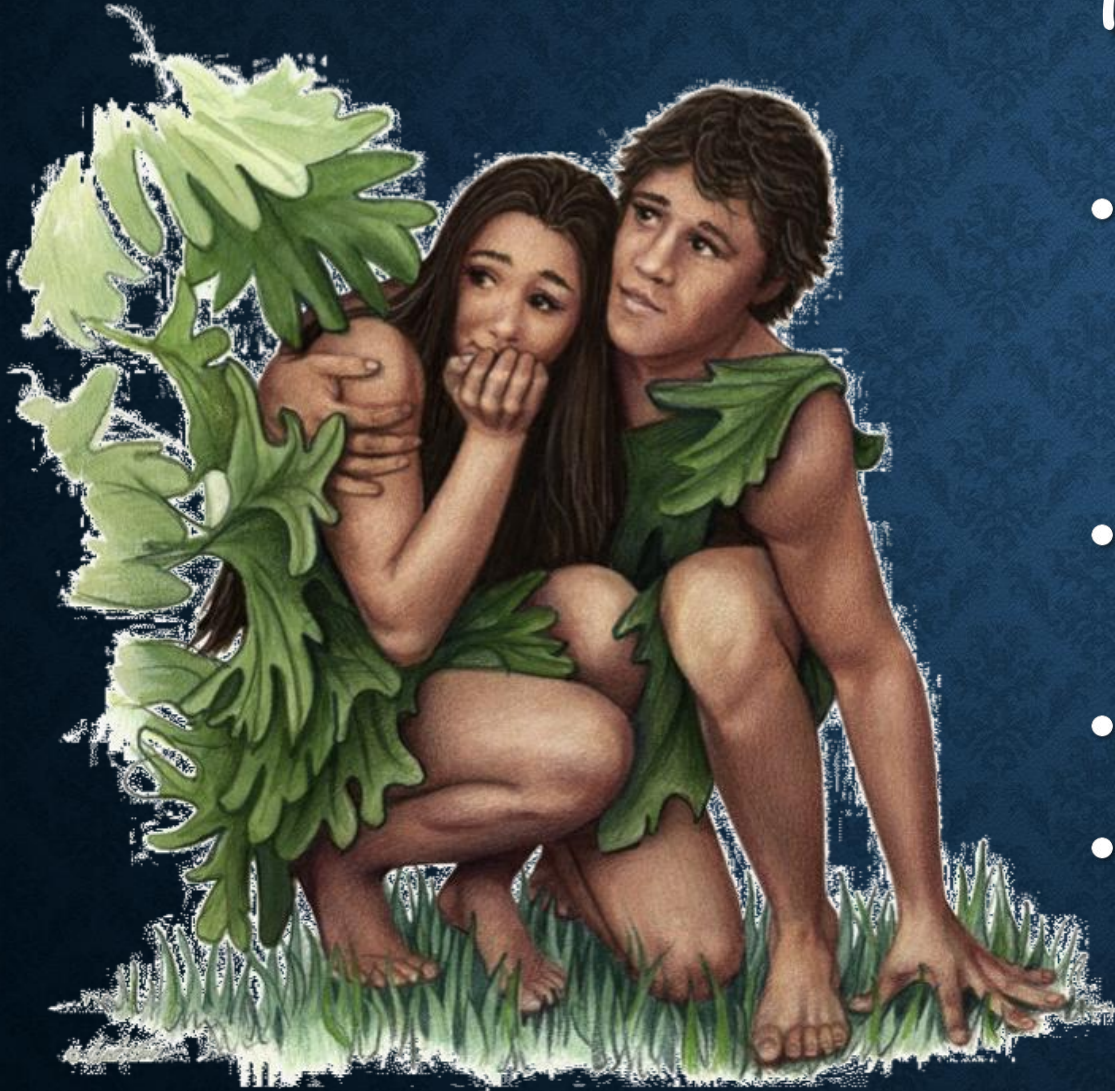


## WHAT GOD DID

Ephesians 2:4–10 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,



# TOTAL DEPRAVITY



- Sin corrupts the whole person
  - Emotions
  - Will
  - Intellect
- Extensively evil
  - Affects each in different ways
- Incapable of truly good acts
- Unable to turn to God



# PELAGIUS

British Monk in 5<sup>th</sup> century



Sin of Adam was not  
transmitted  
We were born neutral  
We have free will to  
do right

Augustine of Hippo







## Pelagianism

Salvation by  
man alone  
Not dead  
view



## SemiPelagianism

Salvation by God  
and man together  
Mostly dead view



## Augustinianism

Salvation by  
God alone  
Completely  
dead view



Pelagian view



Semi Pelagian view



Augustinian view



COMPARING THE  
THREE VIEW OF  
TOTAL DEPRAVITY





# ARMINIANS-METHODISTS



All humans spiritually  
dead



Prevenient grace



Respond in faith



Reject



## BEFORE

V 1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins



Ephesians 2:2-3 following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind,

3b. and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.



## AFTER

5b. made us alive together with Christ



6a. and raised us up with hi

6b. seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,



DIFFERENT

AUTHORS  
PERSPECTIVES

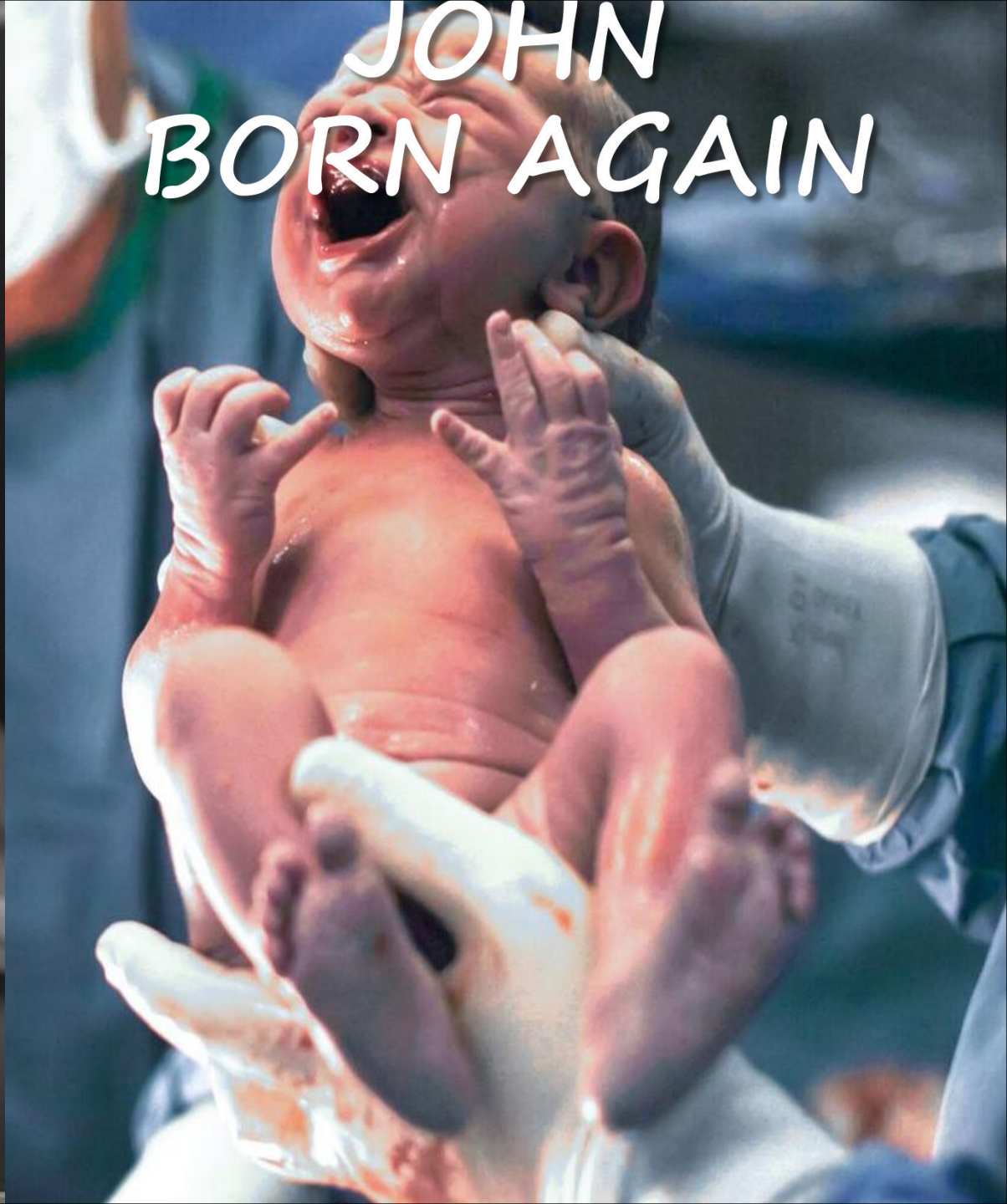




# PAUL DEATH-LIFE



# JOHN BORN AGAIN

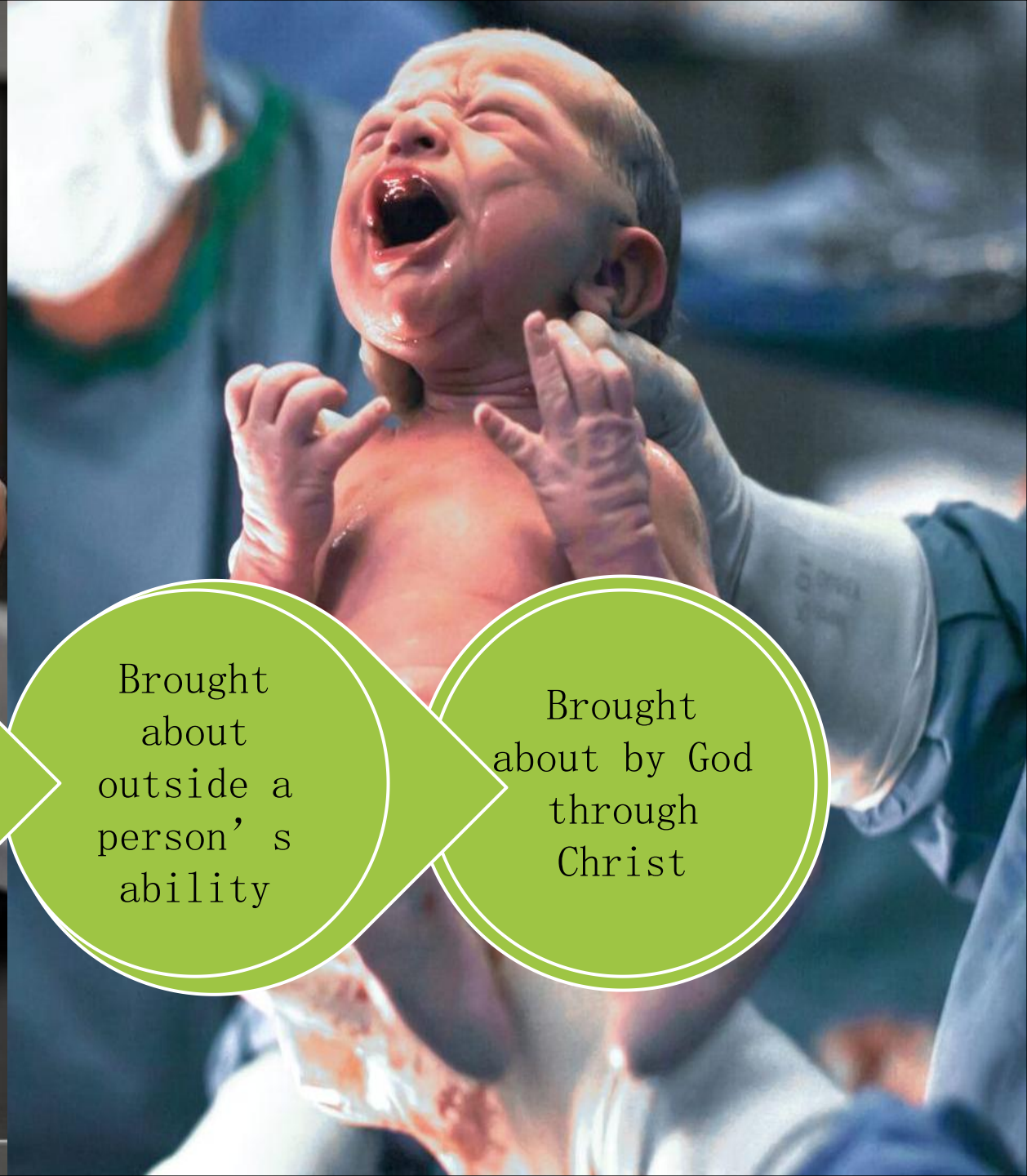






Persons  
total  
helplessness

Radical  
Change



Brought  
about  
outside a  
person's  
ability

Brought  
about by God  
through  
Christ



✓ Compared to previous verse  
God is sole subject, no one else

The enormity of the love

Ephesians 2:4-10 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy,  
because of the great love with which he loved us,  
even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive  
together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—  
and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the  
heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Spiritually alive now responsive to God and tied up to what Christ did

No contribution of man  
-undeserved like the mercy

Passive voice - ALL GOD'S DOING. Perfect tense means completed action with ongoing results like pebble and wave



## JOHN 5:24 IMMEDIATE ETERNAL LIFE

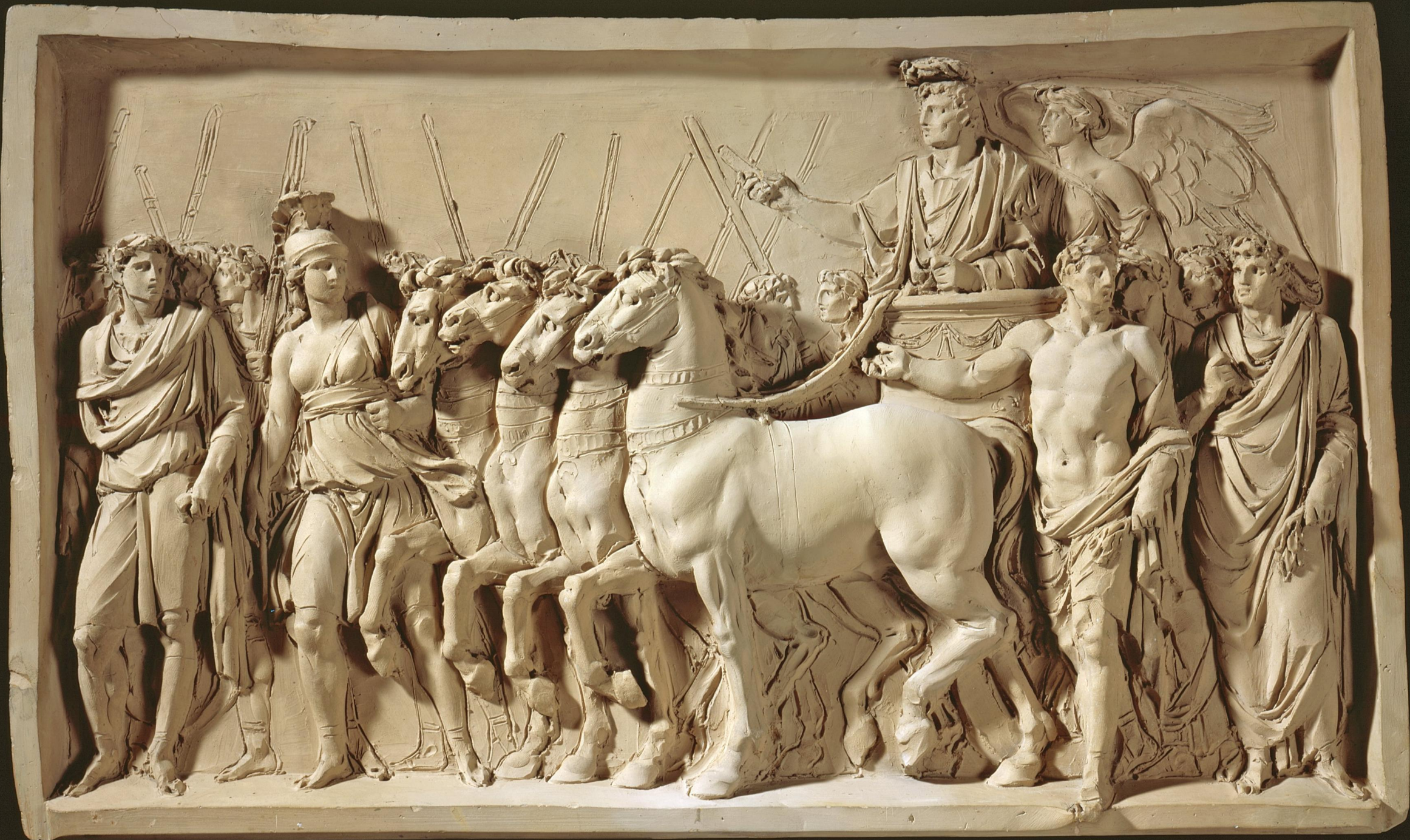
Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.



Ephesians 2:4-10 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you <sup>Legal position</sup> and raised us <sup>Heavenly status and heavenly power to overcome the devil and the power of sin</sup> up with him

and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,







# NELSON MANDELA





2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV) For our sake he made him  
to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we  
might become the righteousness of God.



# WHAT GOD DID FOR US

- Ephesians 2:4–10 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
  - 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them..



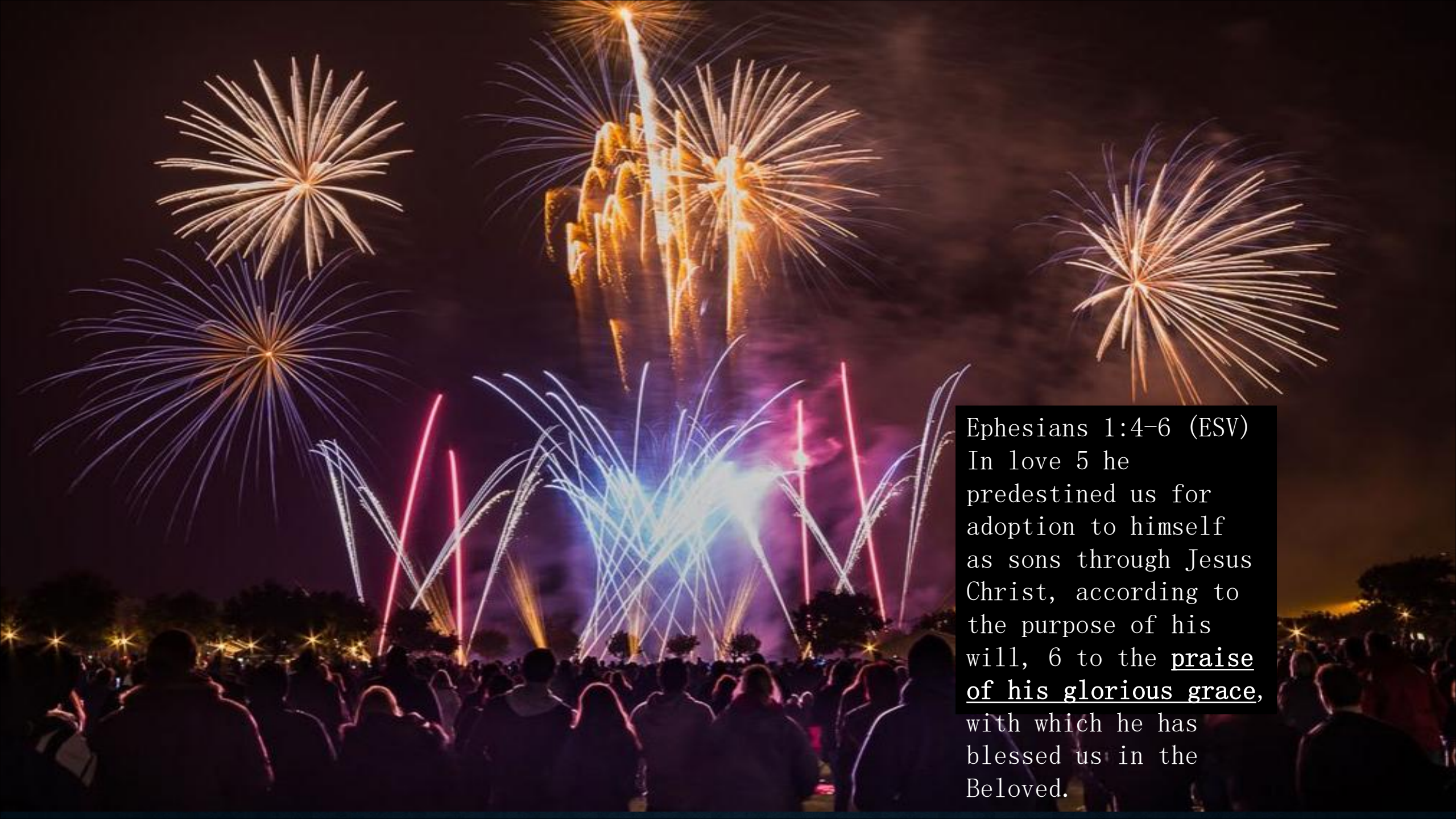
# THE PURPOSE OF HIS GRACE

The future starting from Paul's time forward

Ephesians 2:7 (ESV) so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ J

Display for future generations or heavenly audience , angels





Ephesians 1:4-6 (ESV)  
In love 5 he  
predestined us for  
adoption to himself  
as sons through Jesus  
Christ, according to  
the purpose of his  
will, 6 to the praise  
of his glorious grace,  
with which he has  
blessed us in the  
Beloved.



# WHAT GOD DID FOR US

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## EPHESIANS 2:8-9 (ESV)

For by grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.



# THE MEANING OF GRACE

## His Work

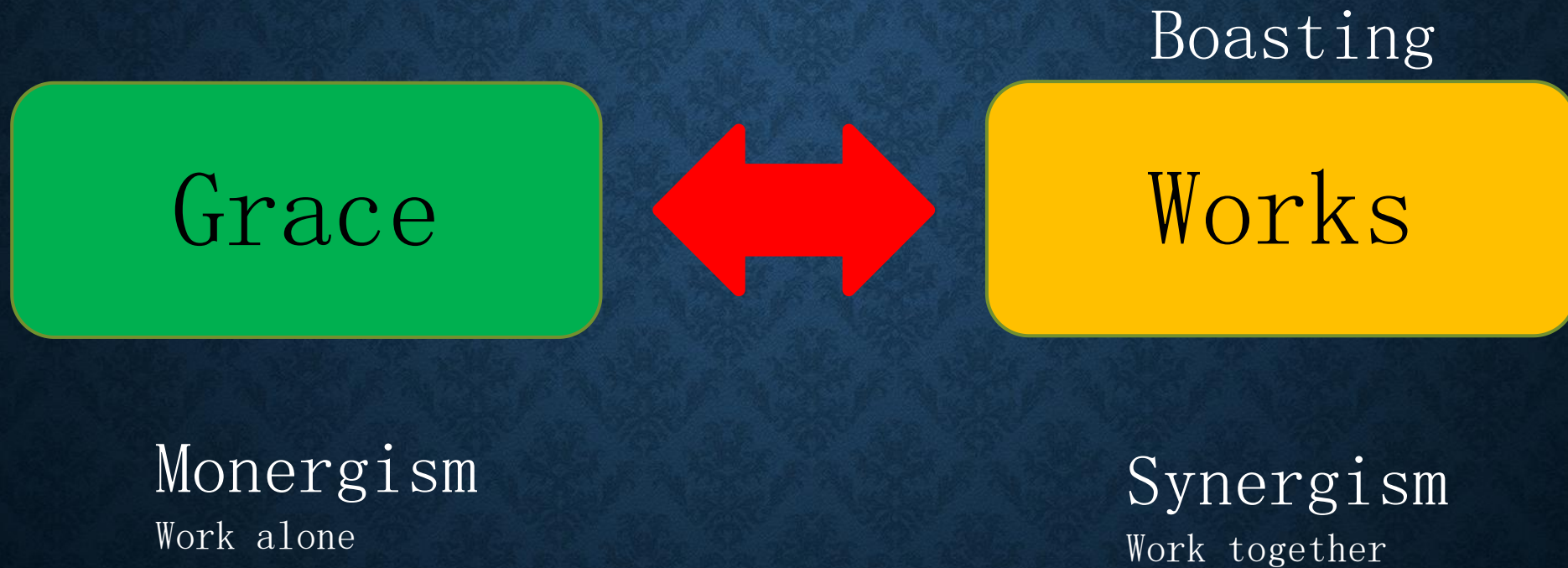
- For by grace
- it is the gift of God,

## Not ours

- not your own doing
- not a result of works, so that no one may boast



# 1. HOW ARE WE SAVED?









# BOASTING IS THE ANTITHESIS TO GRACE

Jeremiah 9:23–24 (ESV) 23 Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord. ”



BOASTING HAS LETHAL CONSEQUENCES





**WHAT YOU  
RELY ON**





# STEPS OF THE PHILEDELPHIA ART MUSEUM





# ROCKY



*I can't do it. ... do is go the distance. Nobody's ever gone the distance with Creed, and if I can go that distance, you see, and that bell rings and I'm still standin', I'm gonna know for the first time in my life, see, that I weren't just another bum from the*



- Grace is counterintuitive
- Grace offered is threatening—diminishes us
- Grace received is transforming







## GRACE BRINGS CONTENTMENT

*Everything is a  
gift and I got  
more than I  
deserve*



# WORK BRINGS ANGER AND FRUSTRATION AS WE LIVE IN A BROKEN WORLD WE CANNOT CONTROL



- Life is unfair
- Looking for something to boast about
- I want what she has and I deserve
- Always working
- Things go wrong ...anger at God or at life...cynical
- Life has never treated you well. I deserve so much more



# Identity markers



Thin

Competence

Bravery

Generosity

Honesty

**DISDAIN VS  
ACCEPTANCE**



SAVED BY  
GRACE  
MEANS YOU  
CAN FORGIVE

FORGIVE

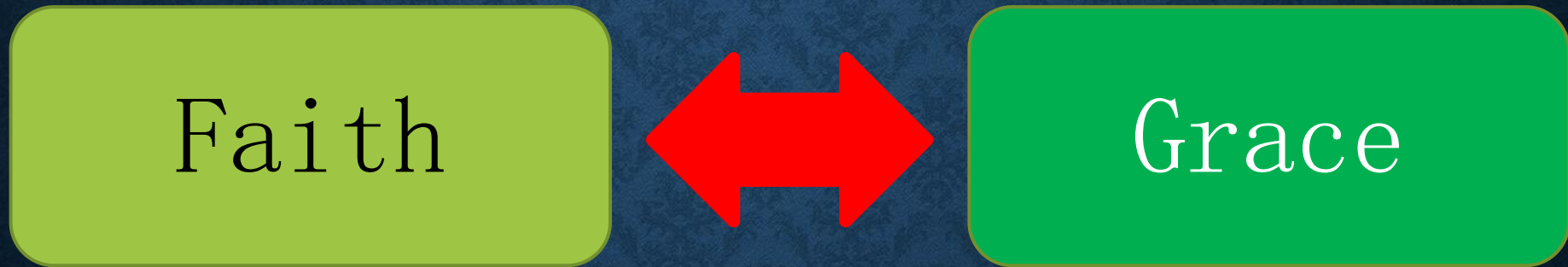


## 2. WHICH COMES FIRST?





## 2. WHICH COMES FIRST?



Cause of grace is faith

God gives power and love  
and gracious energy



# FOLLOW PROPER SEQUENCE



Ephesians 2:8–10 (ESV) For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.





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A man in a white t-shirt and dark shorts is riding a skateboard on a paved street. He is leaning forward and holding the handle of a car door with his right hand. A red circle highlights the handle. The background shows a residential street with houses and trees under a clear blue sky.

Your grip on the handle?

WHAT'S MOVING  
YOU AT SPEED?

The car?



My faith how strongly it holds on





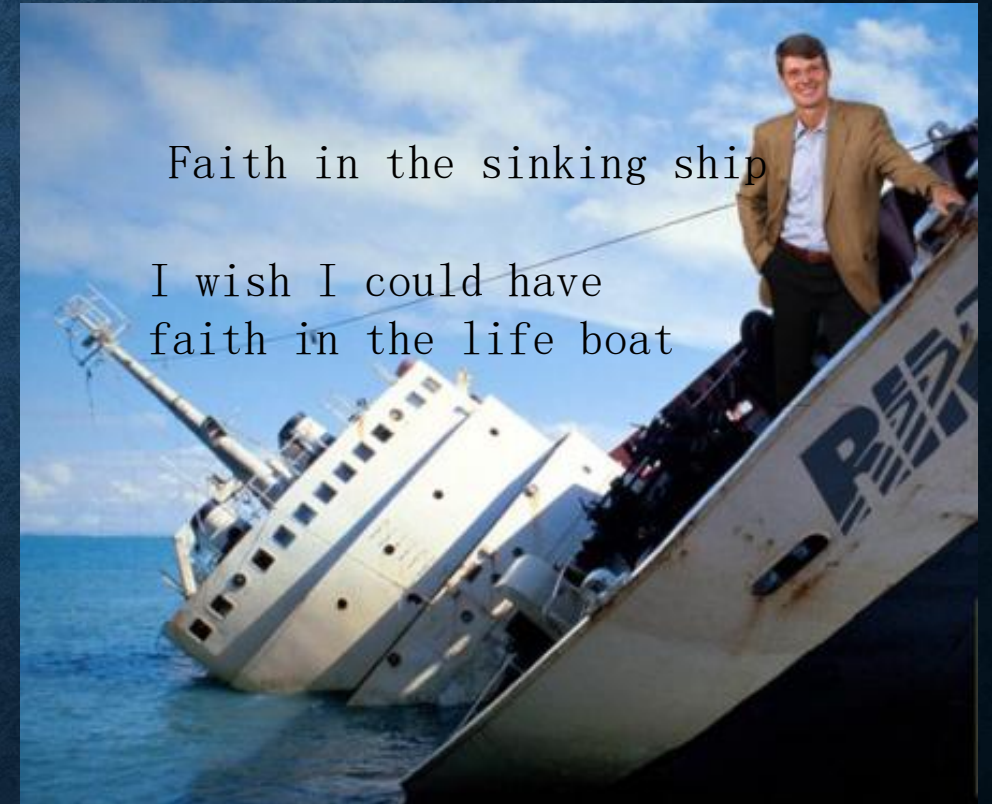
## ACTS 16:14 (ESV)

One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

The Lord opened her heart then she could believe



# UNBELIEF IS NOT ABSENT OF FAITH IT IS PRESENCE OF SOME OTHER KIND OF FAITH









# PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE BECAUSE THEY DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE

Matthew 11:16–17 (ESV) But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, 17  
“ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’



Despite fact  
he  
desperately  
wants to go

Primordial  
instinct for  
control



Want to go to  
the circus?

Want to go to  
stay at home

Want to go  
eat ice cream



### 3. IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FAITH AND FEELINGS ?

Faith

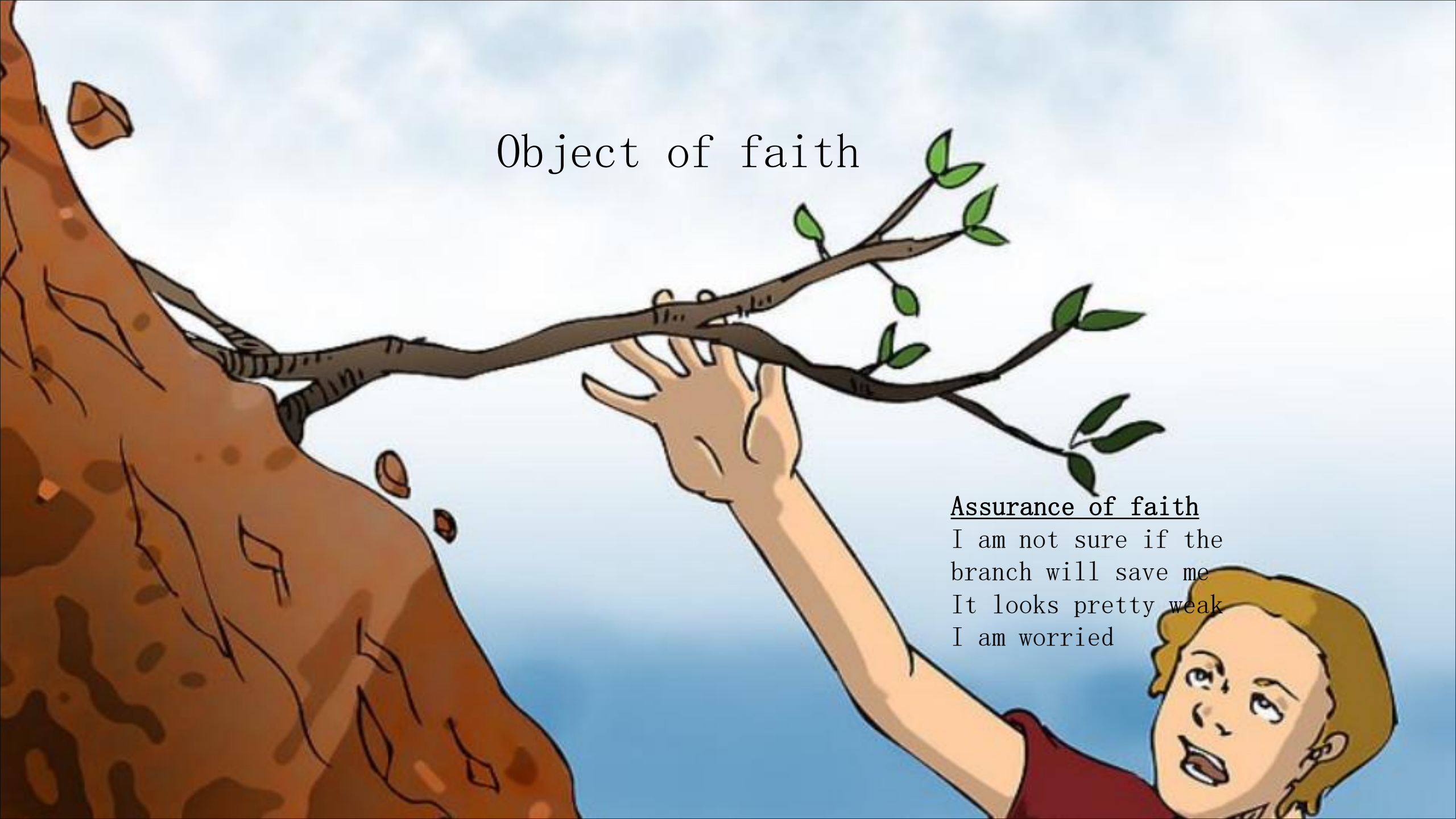
Feelings of Faith  
assurance



Love

Feelings of  
love





Object of faith

Assurance of faith

I am not sure if the  
branch will save me  
It looks pretty weak  
I am worried



A man with dark hair and a beard is sitting on a light-colored floor against a dark grey wall. He is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans. His hands are pressed against his forehead, and his head is bowed, conveying a sense of despair or deep thought. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows.

# *I HAVE SINNED*

Spend next 3 days in depression

Cannot pray

Stay away from church



# WHY IS HE IS FEELING GUILTY?

## Godly guilt and remorse

Micah 7:8–10 (ESV) Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me. 9 I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication. 10 Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, “Where is the Lord your God?”



# WHAT IS HE HANGING ON TO?

## Grace of God in

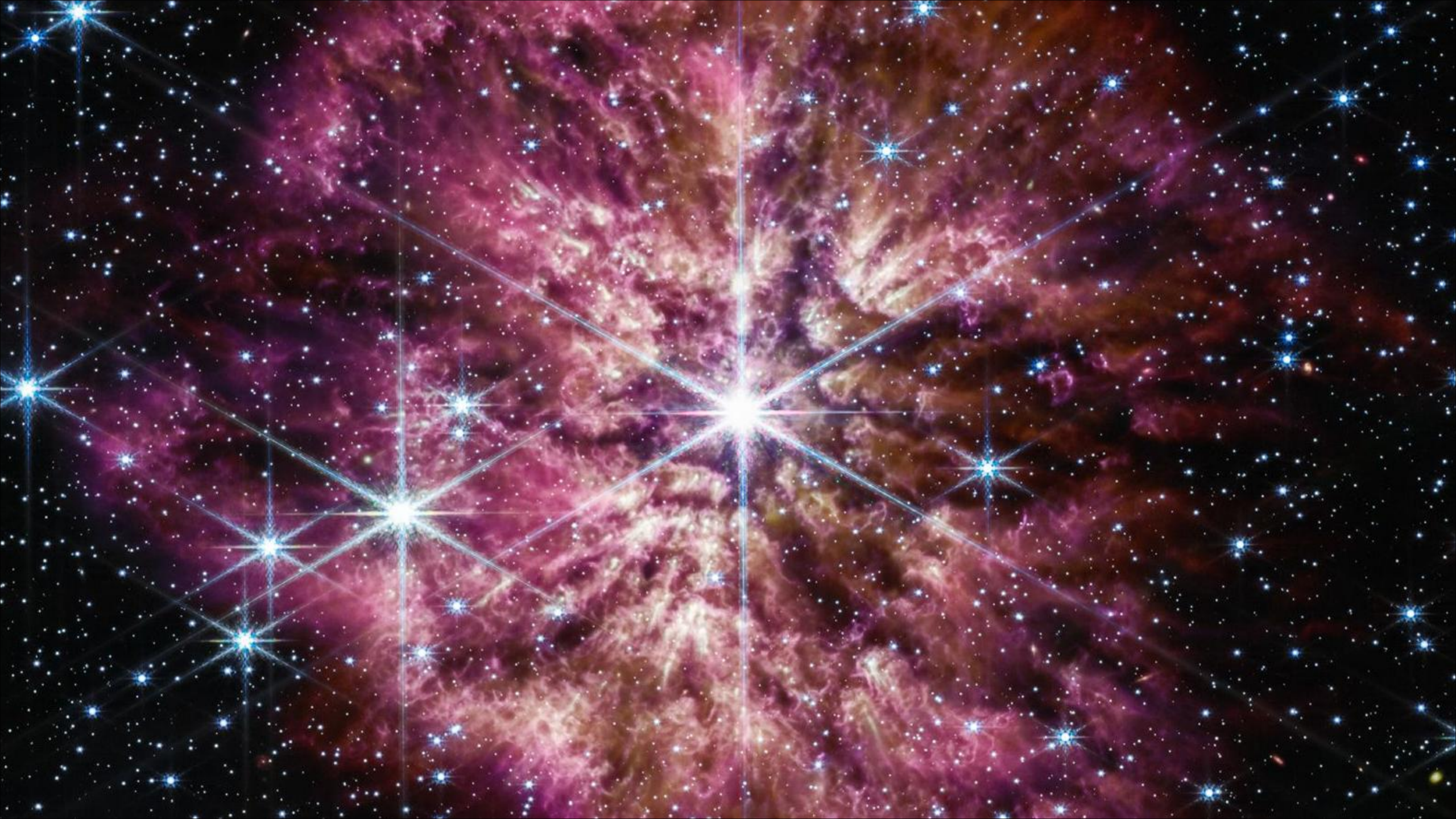
Micah 7:8-10 (ESV) <sup>justification</sup> Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me. 9 I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication. 10 Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, “Where is the Lord your God?”



## FAITH LEADS TO WORKS

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.







# WHICH IS BIBLICAL VIEW POINT?

Who we are determines what we do



What we do determines who we are



CEO

Doctor

Professor

Contractor



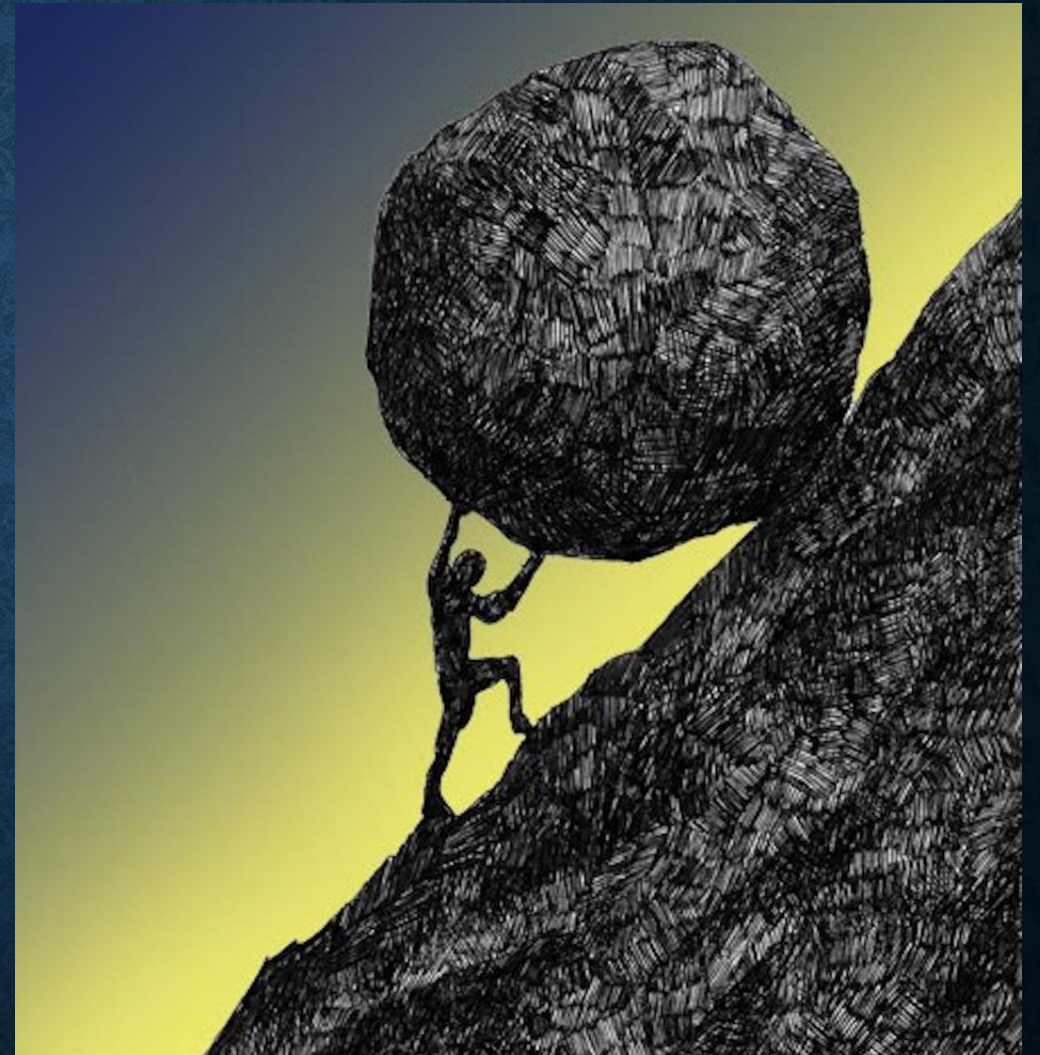


# ALBERT CAMUS



Must imagine  
Sisyphus happy  
Give meaning to our  
own existence by  
what we do

# MYTH OF SISYPHUS





The reason it is not our work is because we are created in Christ, it was His work on the cross that produced us. The cross was entirely His doing

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.

Gods workmanship should result in good works  
Good - morally and beneficially



# GOOD WORKS OR GOOD CONDUCT?

Ephesians 1: 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him



Philippians 2:12–13 (ESV) Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.



*God has prepared before hand the good works for  
believers that He will perform in and through  
them as they walk by faith in His power*

*Harold Hoener*

Both good works and salvation brought about by God's grace in us through faith