

Next Week Sermon

**Exodus Series: Lessons
from the 10 Plagues Part
1: The Hardening of the
Heart**

Exodus 5-10:29

PREACHER

Arnold Lim

23 July, 2023

**Exodus Series: Lessons
from the 10 Plagues Part
2: YHWH vs the Gods of
Egypt**

Exodus 5-10:29

PREACHER

Arnold Lim

30 July, 2023

**Tentative
Topic**

PREACHER

Patrick Morley



Are we saved by
faith or by works?

James 2:14-26

WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF

faith vs. works?

THE BOOK OF JAMES

- 1) Knowing God in Adversity (James 1:1-12)a
- 2) Understanding the nature of Temptation James 1:12- 18
- 3) Knowing the Heart of God: Why He Chooses the Poor – Part 1 (James 2:1-5)
- 4) Knowing the Heart of God: Why He Chooses the Poor – Part 2 (James 2:5-17)
- 5) Are we saved by faith or by Works. James 2:14-26
- 6) Speech and Spirituality James 3: 1-12
- 7) The nature of true wisdom James 3:13-4:10
- 8) Slandering, Arrogance and Anxiety James 4:11-17
- 9) Perils of Materialism James 5:1-6
- 10) Patience James 5:7-12
- 11) Praying for the sick James: 5 :13-20

FAITH OR WORKS

A. Faith without works is dead

B. Faith is never just intellectual or
emotional

C. Faith authenticated by works



FAITH AND DECEPTION

- James 1:16–17 (ESV) Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- James 1:22 (ESV) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.
- James 1:26 (ESV) If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.



JAMES 2:1-2 (ESV) MY BROTHERS, SHOW NO PARTIALITY AS YOU HOLD THE FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LORD OF GLORY. 2 FOR IF A MAN WEARING A GOLD RING AND FINE CLOTHING COMES INTO YOUR ASSEMBLY, AND A POOR MAN IN SHABBY CLOTHING ALSO COMES IN,



GOSSIP AND SLANDER

James 4:11 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law



WORLDLY WISDOM

James 3:16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

DIVIDED ON SOCIOLOGICAL LINES



James 5 :4b. cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.

6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.



Oppressed believers

Come now, you rich, weep and howl

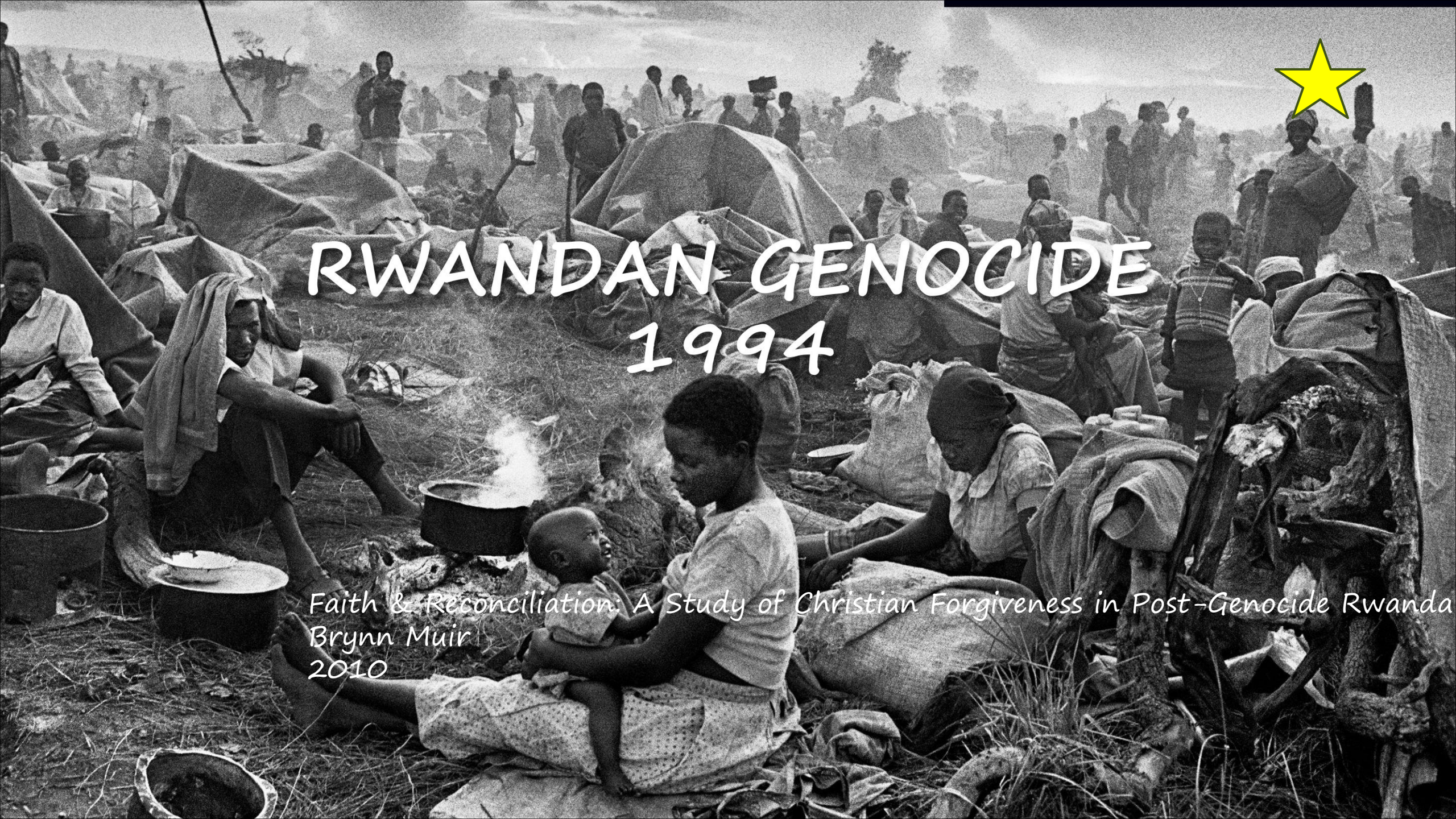
Rich land owners who are believers





RWANDAN GENOCIDE 1994

Faith & Reconciliation: A Study of Christian Forgiveness in Post-Genocide Rwanda
Brynn Muir
2010





THE MAIN ISSUE

James 2:14–17 (ESV) What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

PROBLEM WITH KJV

- James 2:14 *What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? (New King James Version)*

↑ Missing article

- James 2:14 (ESV) What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?



- 1) Soli Deo
- 2) Sola Scriptura
- 3) Solus Christus
- 4) Sola Gratia
- 5) Sola Fide—Faith alone



Christians -Salvation by works...52%. 2020 survey

30% evangelical pastors
- works based salvation 2022

survey



Faith and Good Works



**RIGHTEOUSNESS IS
INCREASED BY GOOD
WORKS**

ROMAN CATHOLIC CANON 24

If anyone says that the justice (righteousness) received is not preserved and also not increased before God through good works but that those works are merely the fruits and signs of justification obtained, but not the cause



**JUSTIFICATION DOES
NOT REMOVE ALL
GUILT..**

ROMAN CATHOLIC CANON 30

If anyone says that after the reception of the grace of justification the guilt is so remitted and the debt of eternal punishment so blotted out to every repentant sinner, that no debt of temporal punishment remains to be discharged either in this world[131] or in purgatory before the gates of heaven can be opened,[132] let him be anathema.

FREE GRACE THEOLOGY

5 Ways It Magnifies the Gospel

*Charles Bing
Joseph Dillow
Jeremy Edmondson*

*Roger Fankhauser
Grant Hawley, Editor*

WORLD CUP EVANGELISM P.24 | IHOP'S STUDENT 'AWAKENING' P.30

CHARISMA

JUNE 2010 LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

MESSIAH & THE MAASAI P.18

A Parent's Guide to 'Twilight' P.44

3 WAYS TO FIX YOUR MARRIAGE (BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE) P.40

Exclusive Israel Section

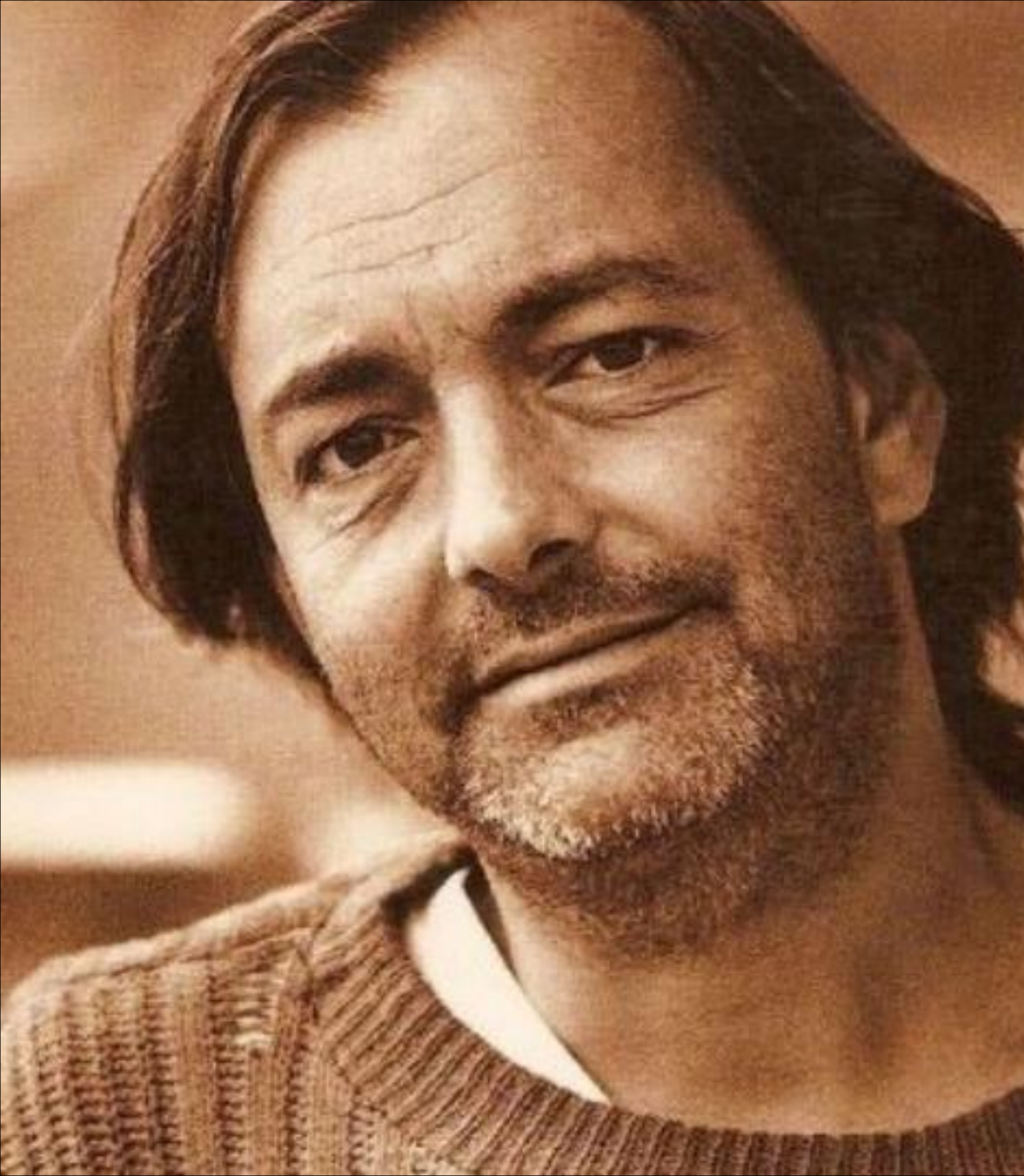
PRINCE OF GRACE

HOW JOSEPH PRINCE IS GOING GLOBAL WITH A GOSPEL OF UNMERITED FAVOR P.34

CALLING ALL RADICALS P.48

Click Here to Read **HOLY LAND** Magazine





RICH MULLINS ★

You guys are all into the born again thing which is great. We do need to be born again since Jesus said that to a guy called Nicodemus. But if you tell me I have to be born again to enter the Kingdom of God , I have to tell you that you have to sell everything you have to give it to the poor because Jesus said that to one guy too...but I guess that is why God invented highlighters so we can high light the parts we like and ignore the rest



PAUL VS. JAMES



WHAT WE'VE BEEN MISSING IN THE
FAITH AND WORKS DEBATE

AN 8-DAY STUDY

APPARENT CONTRADICTION

James 2:24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Romans 3:28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

BOTH REFERENCE ABRAHAM

James 2:21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

Romans 4:3-5 (ESV) Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. 5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

DIFFERENT



AUTHORS
PERSPECTIVES
ISSUES IN CHURCH



USE OF WORDS SEMANTICS

Univocal

One meaning all the time

“tasty” breakfast
and “tasty” desert

Equivocal

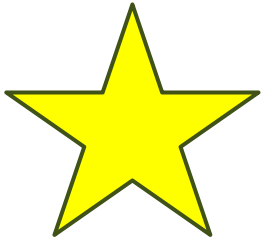
Two or more meanings

Bark - tree of dog

Analogical

Partly the same and partly different

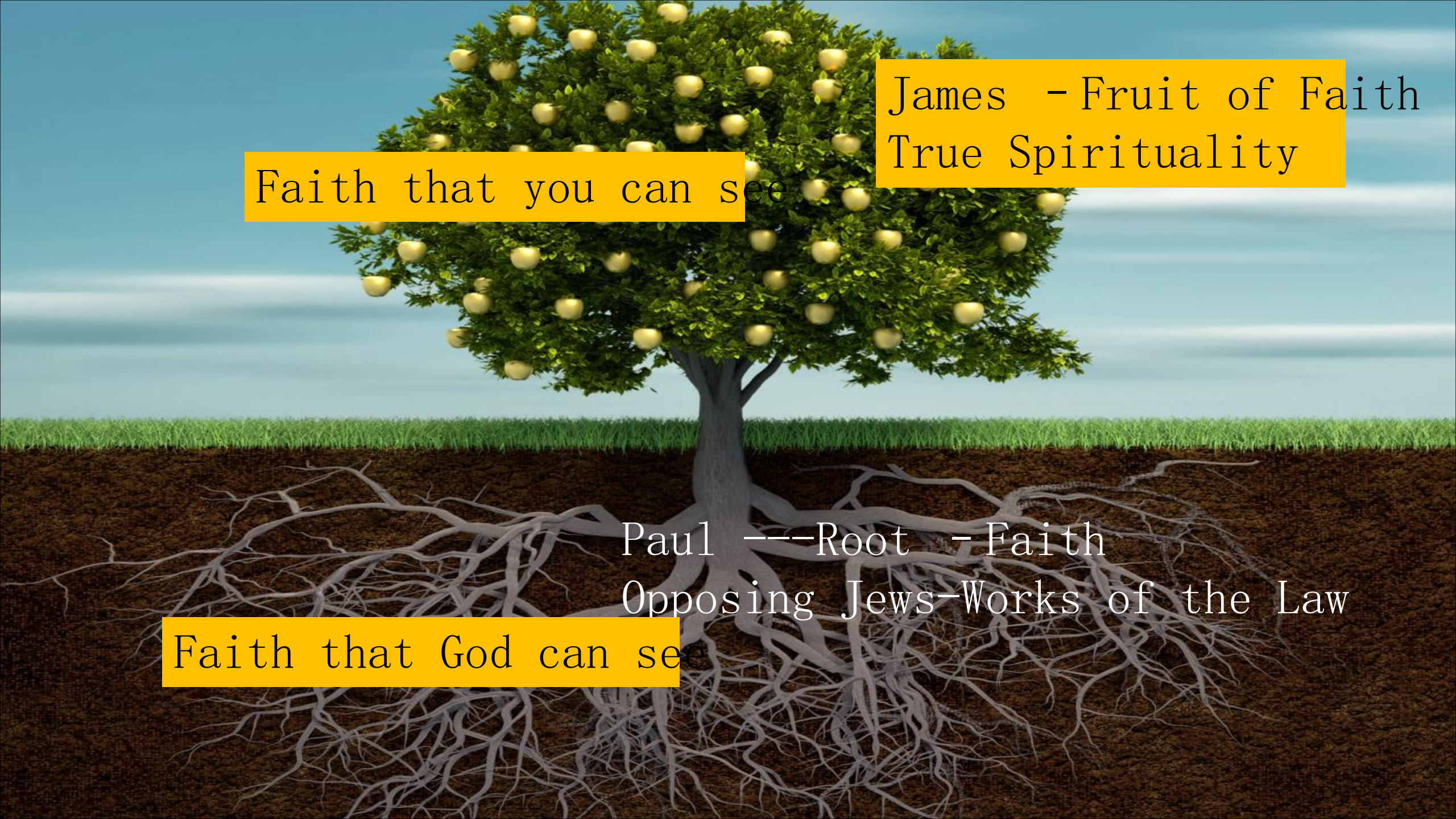
God is good,
Grapes are good



DO YOU LOVE MONEY?



Love or money



James - Fruit of Faith
True Spirituality

Faith that you can see

Paul --- Root - Faith
Opposing Jews - Works of the Law

Faith that God can see

NUT



Equivocal

ANALOGICAL USE

GOD IS ANGRY

MAN IS ANGRY



EQUIVOCAL USES OF THREE MAIN WORDS

justify, faith, and works

JUSTIFY



Paul

Divine perspective

Made right in the eyes of God

James

Proven right in the eyes of
man

*Demonstrating
Vindicating a claim*

JUSTIFY



Paul

Made right in the eyes of God

Romans 4:2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

James

Proven right in the eyes of man

~~James, 2:18 (NIV) Let us alone a claim~~
James, 2:18 (NIV) Let us alone a claim
person have justified by have works.”
Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.



USE OF WORD JUSTIFY

Matthew 11:19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

Proven right

GOD

JUSTIFICATION

Paul
man's relationship with God



James
man's relationship with the world



FAITH



Paul

Genuine saving faith in God

Romans 4:5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

James

Professing faith in the eyes of man

James 2:14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

DISCUSSING AUTHENTIC FAITH

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.



Authentic faith will hold fast to the Word

GOD

FAITH

Paul
Saving Faith
man's relationship with God



James
Professing faith -man's relationship with the world



WORKS



Paul

Works of the Law—towards God

Romans 3:20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

James

Works (Evidence) of Faith...towards man

James 2:20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

GOD

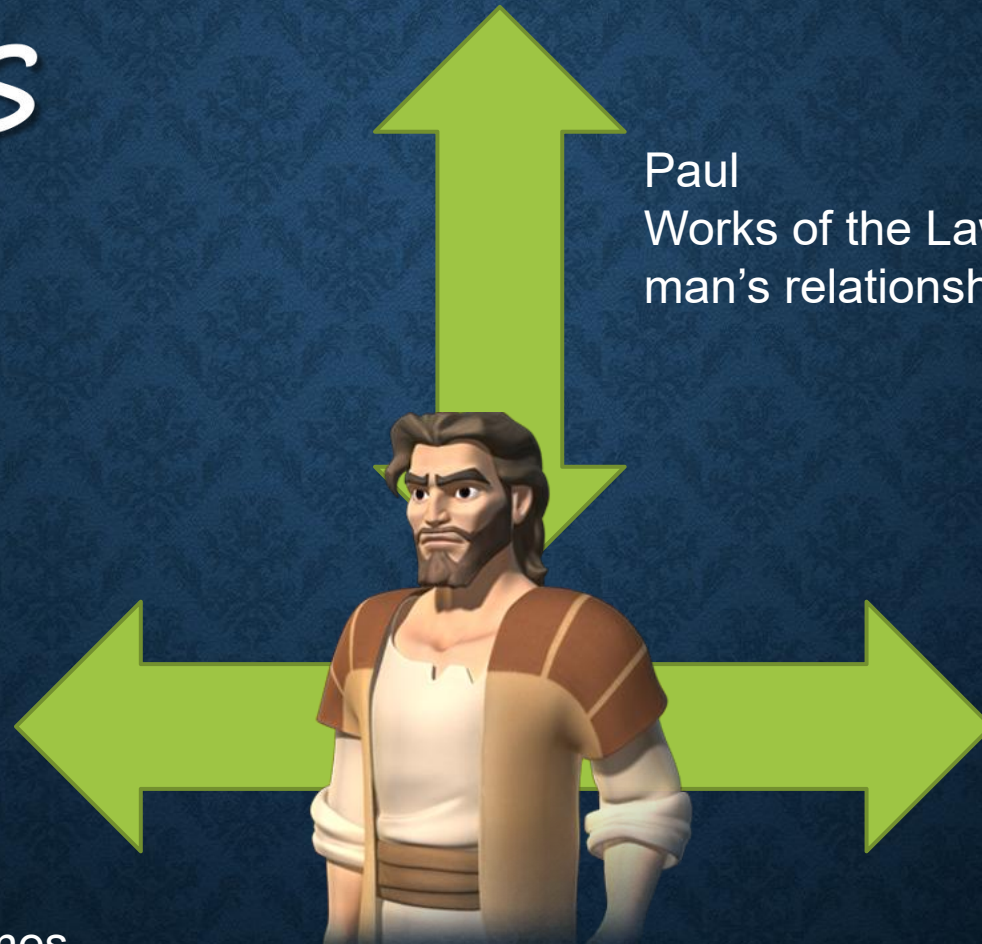
WORKS

Paul
Works of the Law to gain salvation
man's relationship with God

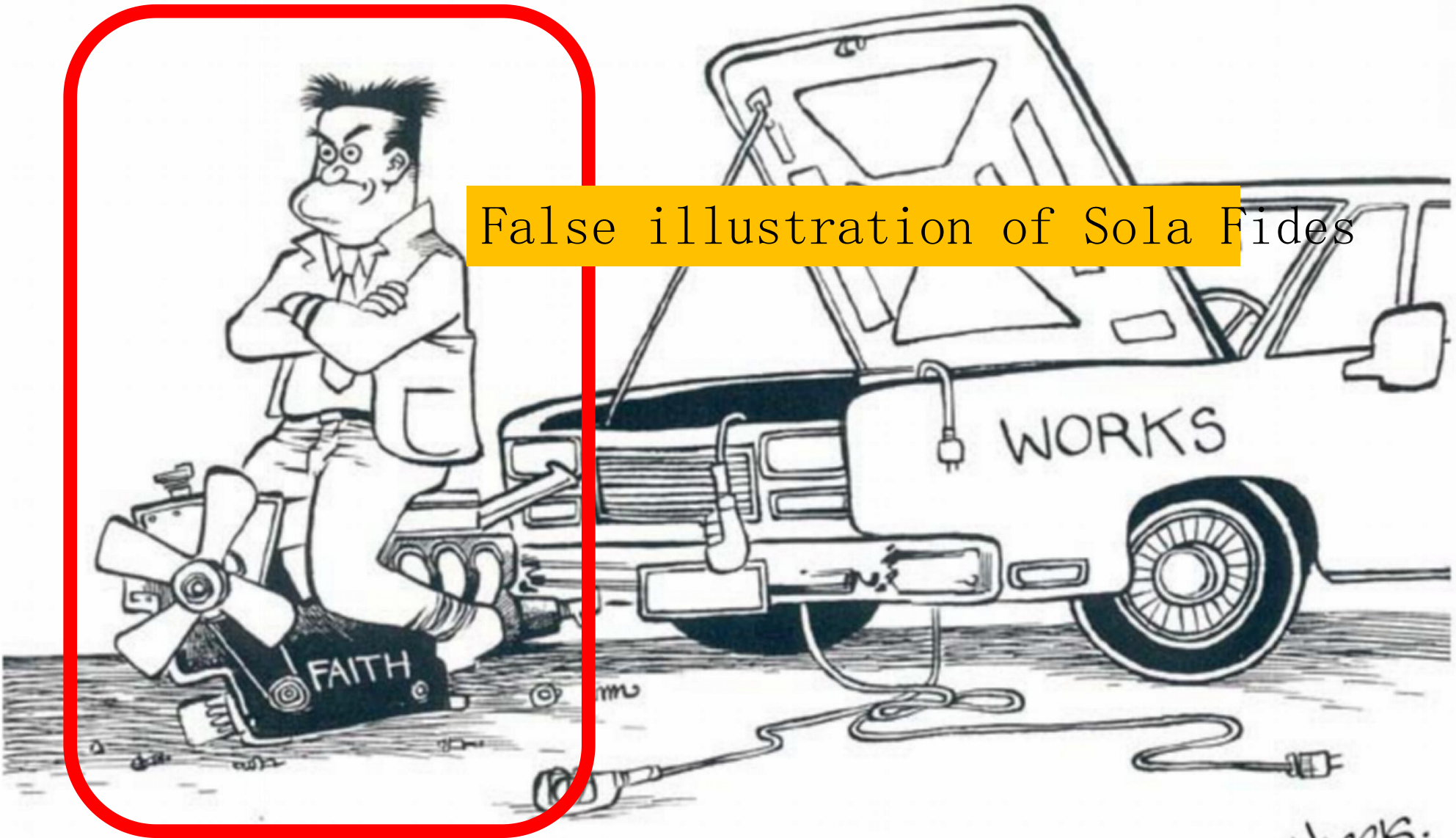


James

Works that provide evidence of true faith-man's relationship with the world



False illustration of Sola Fides



SOLA FIDES

HARRIS.

SAVED BY FAITH AND NOT WORKS

Ephesians 2:8-10 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.

WORKS ARE EVIDENCE OF AUTHENTIC FAITH

James 2:14–15 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food

It is the professed faith ..is it genuine? Or fake?

Paul

Romans 3:28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Justified :-Pronounced righteous in the sight of God

Shows how unbeliever becomes a Christian

Emphasis: Root of salvation

Stresses inward disposition

Demonstrates God's part with human participation

James

James 2:24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Use justified to mean proved righteous in the sight of others

Shows how believer lives as a Christian

Emphasis: Fruit of salvation

Stresses outward action

Demonstrates human part with God's help



James 2:15-17 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

JAMES SAYS

Does not exist - or
functionally dead
Cannot save you

Faith evidenced
by Works

Faith without
Works

THE PLACE OF WORKS

Authenticity of
the faith

The nature and
characteristic of
genuine faith

Supplement to
the faith

Insufficiency of
faith

FAITH IS INVISIBLE LIKE
THE CALORIES



YOU CANNOT SEE CALORIES BUT SEE THEIR EFFECTS





SAME ARGUMENT

James 1:22–23 (ESV) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.

FAITH THAT WORKS





James 2:18 But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

PROFESSED FAITH

PROFESSED FAITH
AUTHENTICATED BY WORKS



FAKE FAITH



FAITH OR WORKS

A. Faith without works is dead

B. Faith is never just intellectual or
emotional

C. Faith authenticated by works

FAKE FAITH IS MERELY INTELLECTUAL

Faith

Effects

James 2:14-17 If you believe that you are one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! 20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?



FALLEN ANGELS



They are more aware of God's power and beauty than mere mortals who are arrogant in their ignorance

EMOTIONAL RESPONSE

GOD AT ARMS LENGTH--SHUDDERING



The Reformation

Saving Faith

1. Knowledge
2. Assent
3. Trust



EXPERIMENTAL

BOEING

737 MAX



TRUST



ACTION TAKEN BASED ON WHAT WE BELIEVE WE ARE

Radically exalted



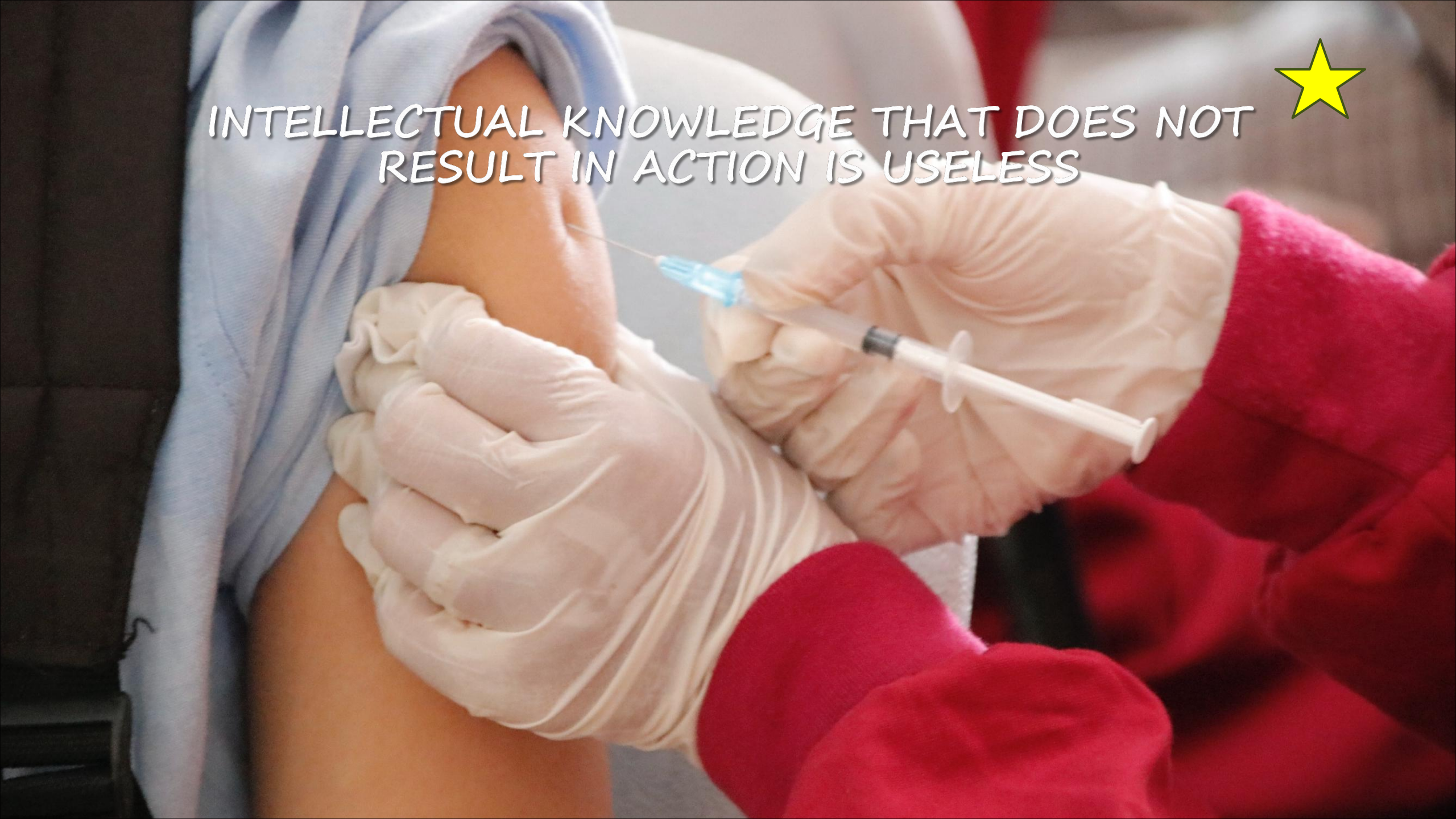
What Jesus did for us



FAITH IS
INSTRUMENTAL
CAUSE



INTELLECTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT DOES NOT
RESULT IN ACTION IS USELESS



James 1:27 (ESV) Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Shuddering -Guilt Response -





Our Great Company

1865

Response - shuddering to guilt

DATE Dec. 25, 2011

64-51234
100

PAY
TO THE
ORDER OF

The Salvation Army

\$ 15,500.00

Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred

DOLLAR



SHUDDERING-EMOTION



MIRROR ANALOGY GOD ON MY TERMS



Shuddering



Look at perfect law



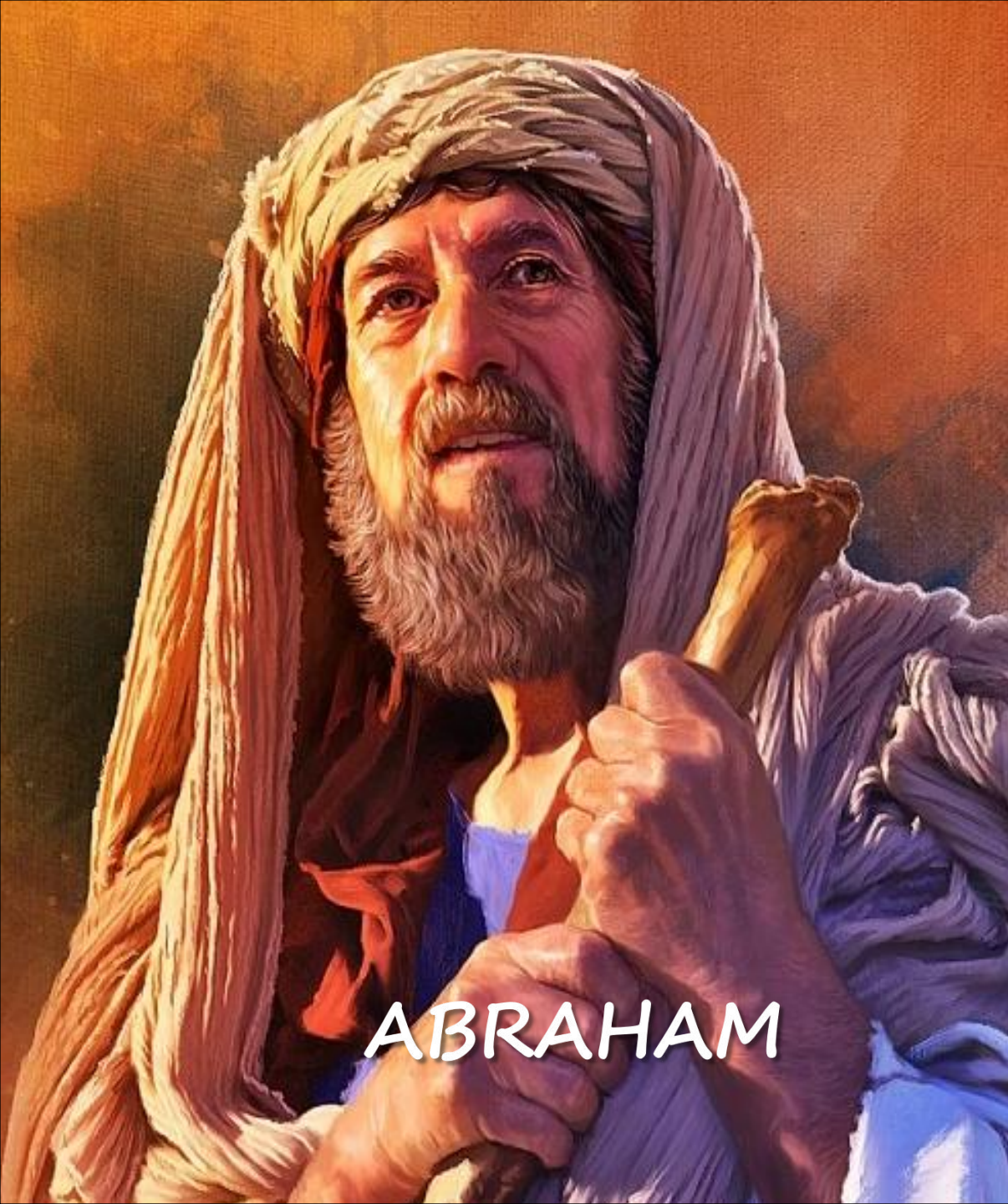
Perseveres
Doer who acts

FAITH OR WORKS

A. Faith without works is dead

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ABRAHAM



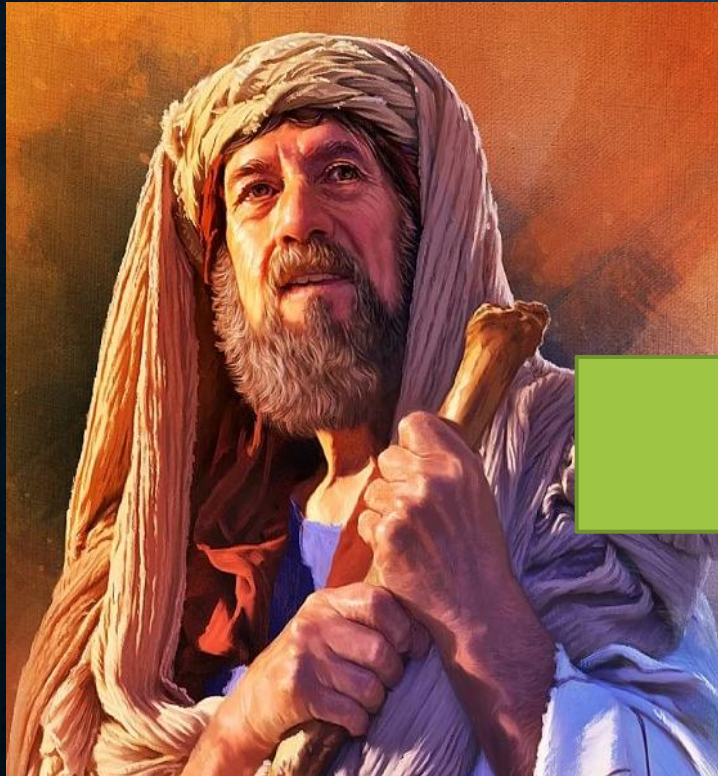
RAHAB



James 2:21–23 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” —and he was called a friend of God.

Genesis 15:6 “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” —

Already justified in eyes of God



> 30 years

Genesis 22:12 He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”

Faith Vindicated -Authenticated





FRIEND OF GOD

- True faith wants friendship with God
- False faith - shuddering-fear-awesome power
- True faith has love
- He saw the grace and love of God--

PETER'S REACTION TO JESUS

Depart from me for I am a sinful man



SHUDDERING DUTY

Holy and
Just God
Abraham owed
debt of sin

Willing to g
o

I can do this
I can do this



LOVE

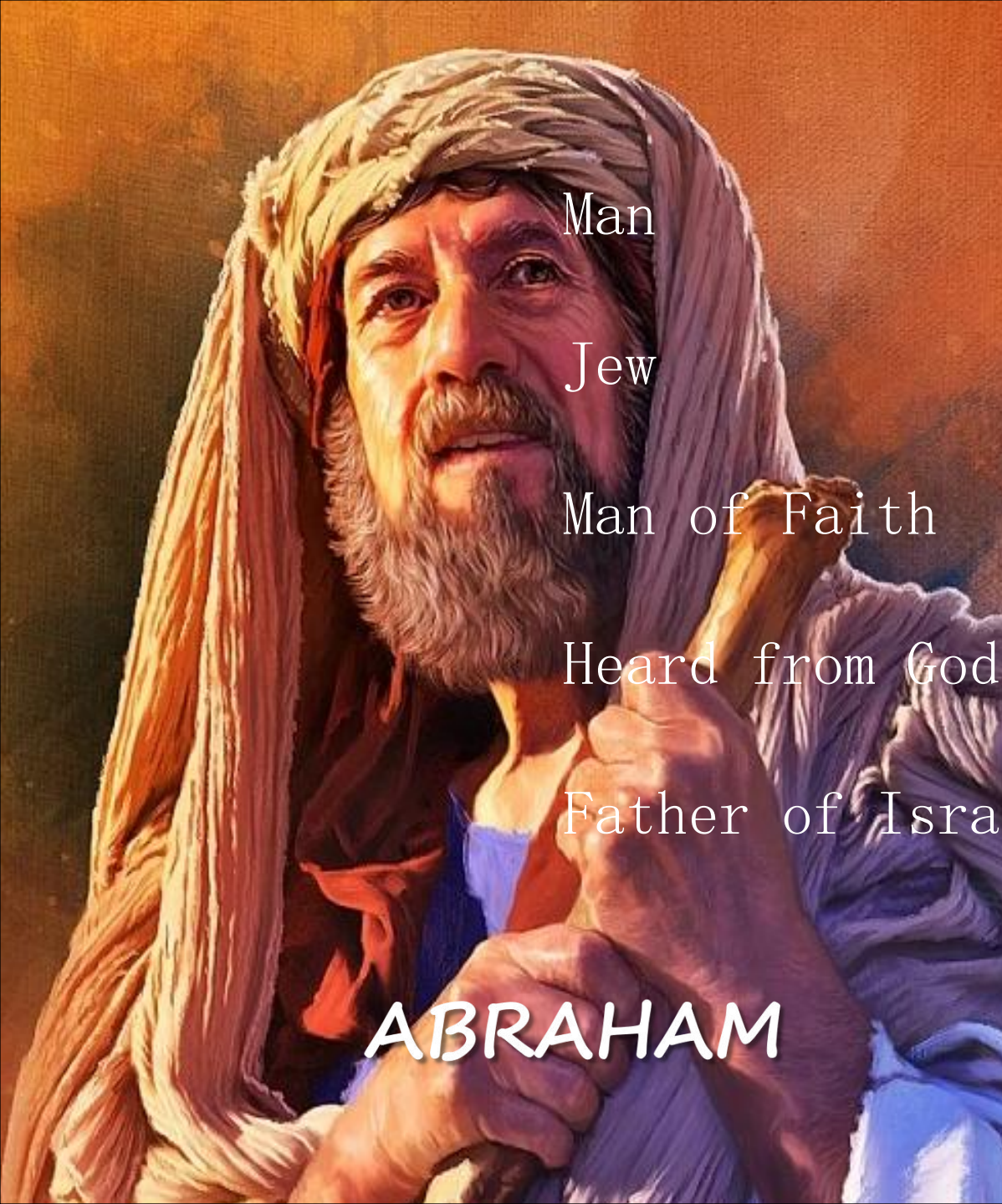
Merciful ,
gracious
and loving

Able to go
He can do this
He will provide
I don' t kno
w how



RAHAB

James 2:24-26 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.



Man

Jew

Man of Faith

Heard from God

Father of Israel

ABRAHAM



Woman

Caananite

Prostitute

Hear about God

RAHAB



Faith is authenticated by works

HEBREWS

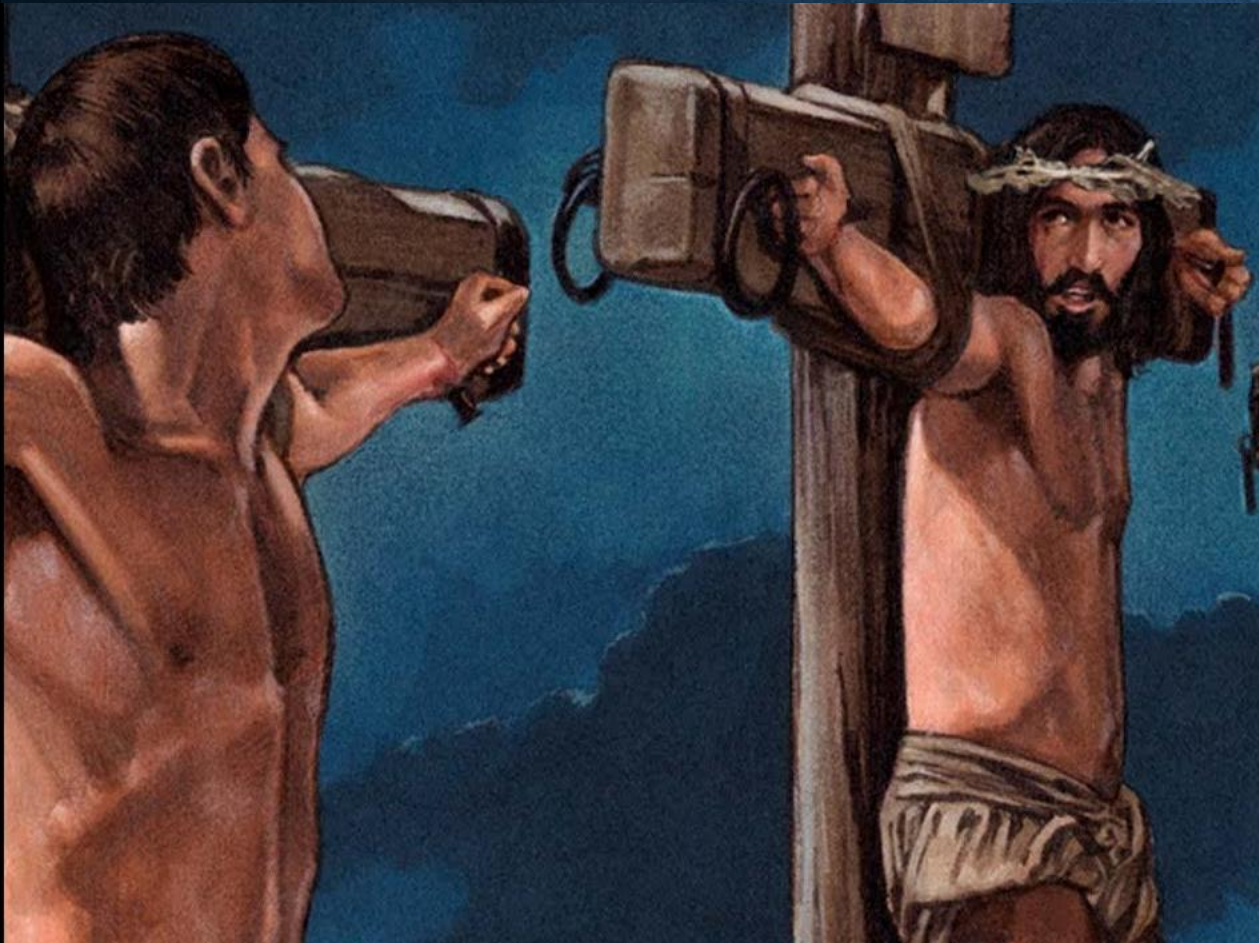


Hebrews 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,

Not status or social standing or merit

Hebrews 11:31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

WHAT WORK DID HE DO?



Luke 23:41-42 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” 42 And he said,

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” 43

(ESV) And he said to him,

“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”



Luke 7:48-50 (ESV) And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

49 Then those who were at table with him

began to say among

themselves, “Who is

this, who even

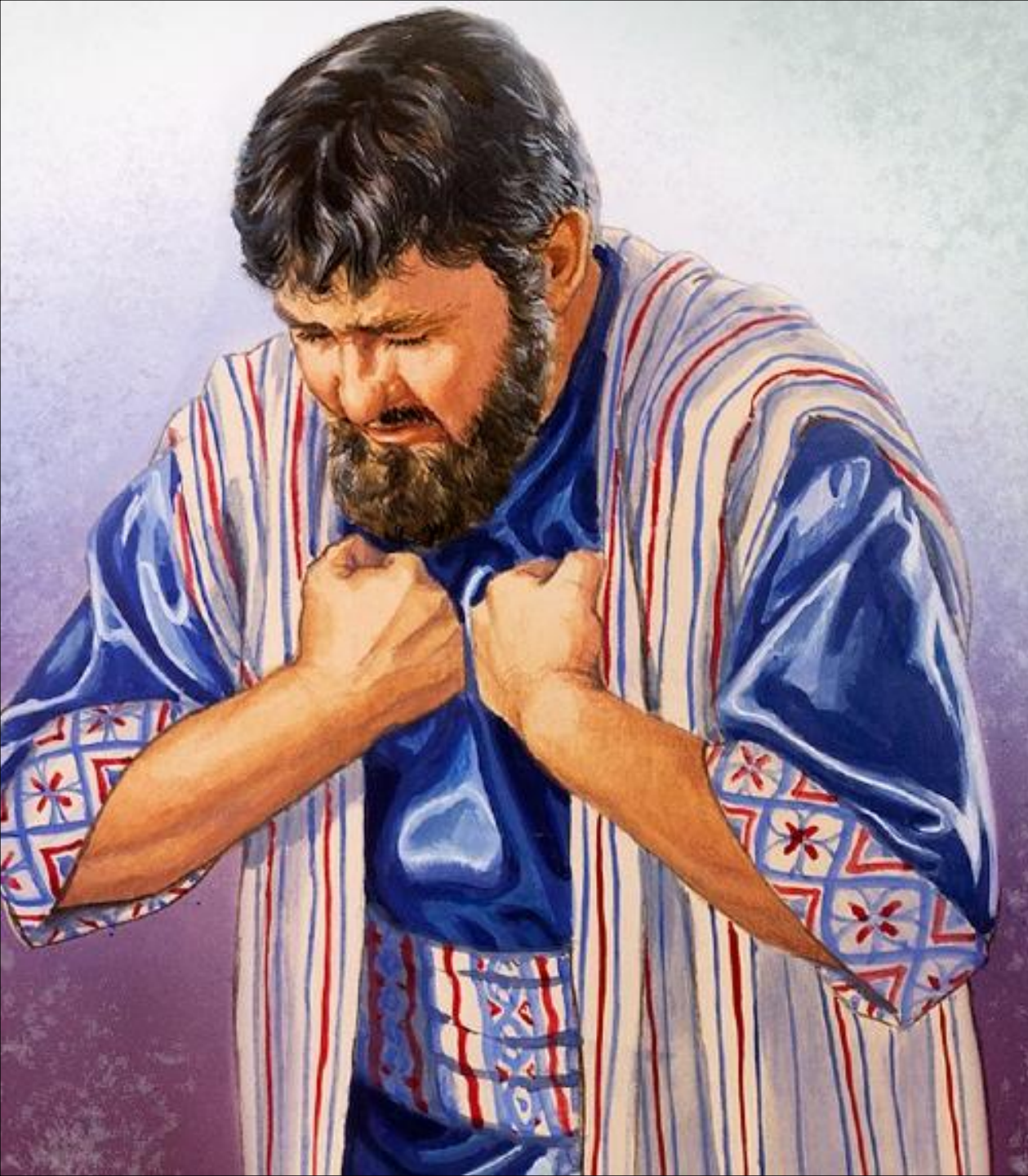
forgives sins?” 50

And he said to the

woman, “Your faith

has saved you; go in

”



TAX COLLECTOR

Luke 18:14 (ESV) I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

MATTHEW 5:3-6

BLESSED..



**RECOGNITION OF
WHAT THEY LACK
NOT WHAT THEY HAD**

• Poor in spirit,

• Mourn,
Grace, like water, always
flows down to the lowest

• Meek,
level.

• Hunger and thirst for
righteousness,

LIVING FAITH OR NO FAITH



Faith is authenticated by works

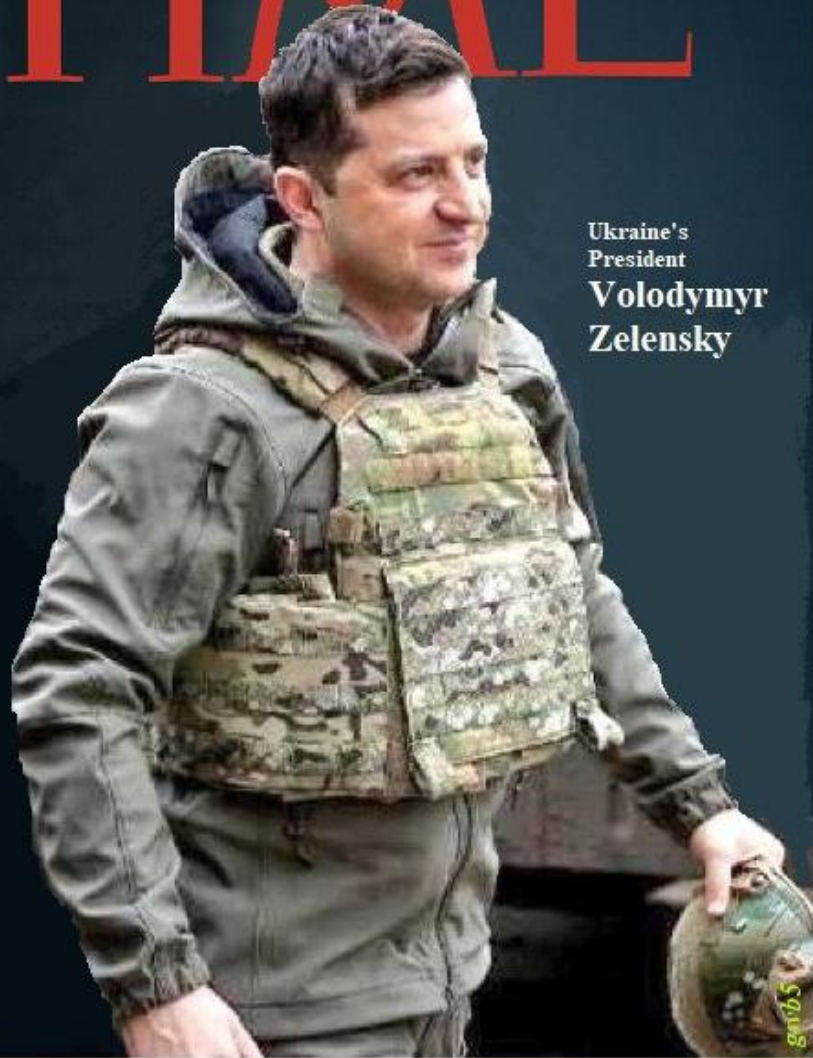


James 2:26 For as
the body apart from
the spirit is dead,
so also faith apart
from works is dead.



Ashraf Ghani

Person of the Year TIME



Ukraine's
President
Volodymyr
Zelensky

*The fight is here: I
need ammunition, not a
ride*

*This might be the last
time you see me alive*



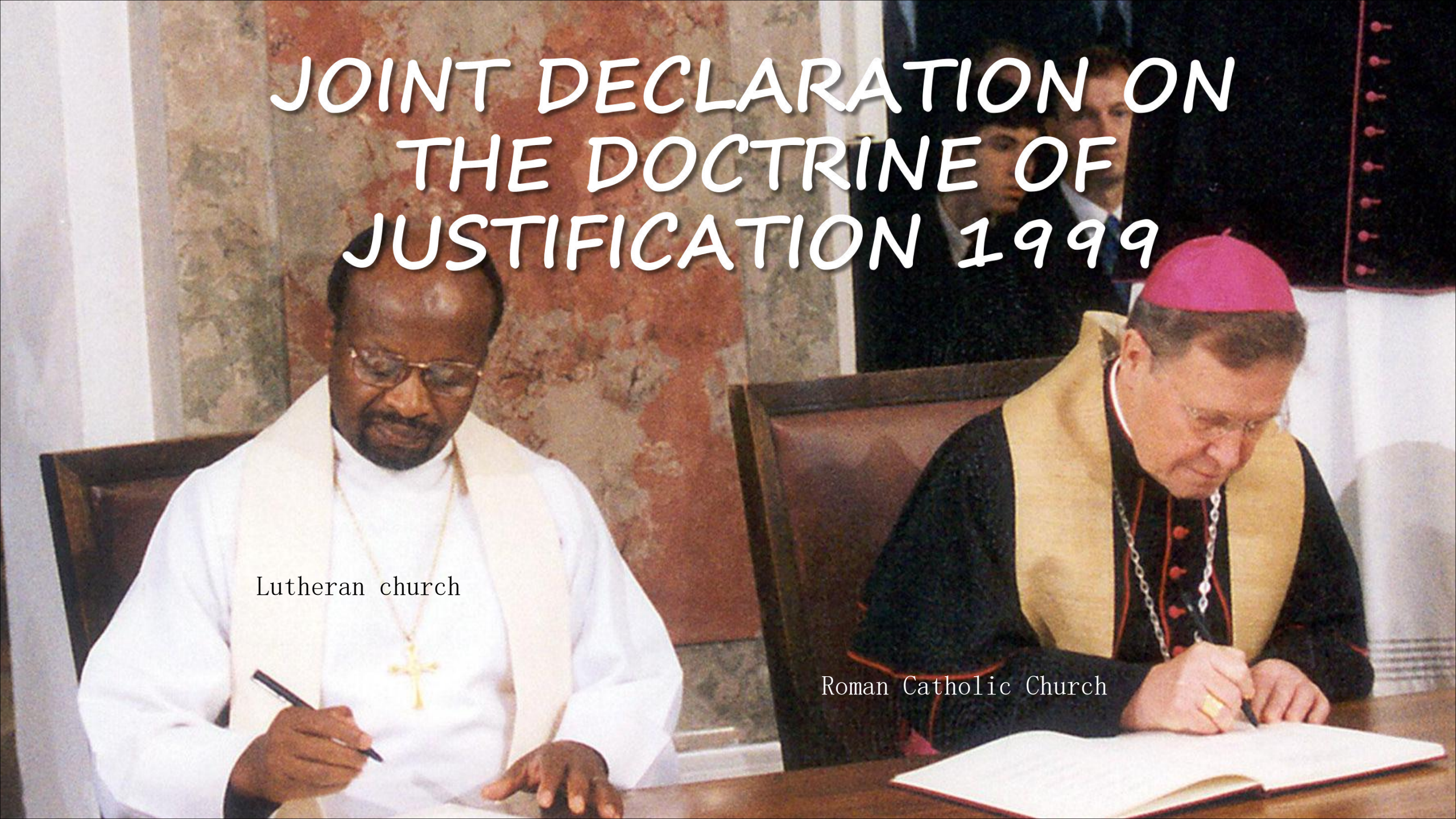
MUTINY IN RUSSIA

Coward

JOINT DECLARATION ON THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION 1999

Lutheran church

Roman Catholic Church





LUTHERAN POSITION

We confess together that good works—a Christian life lived in faith, hope and love—follow justification and are its fruits. When the justified live in Christ and act in the grace they receive, they bring forth, in biblical terms, good fruit

CATHOLIC POSITION



37. When Catholics affirm the “meritorious” character of good works, they wish to say that, according to the biblical witness, a reward in heaven is promised to these works. Their intention is to emphasize the responsibility of persons for their actions, not to contest the character of those works as gifts, or far less to deny that justification always remains the unmerited gift of grace.

FAITH OR WORKS

A. Faith without works is dead

B. Faith is never just intellectual or
emotional

C. Faith authenticated by works

THE CHALLENGE OF TRUE FAITH

TRUE FAITH IS EVIDENCED BY WORKS



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.

WORKS (PERFORMANCE)

Fallen view

- Powered by self
- Ego and image
- Desire to please people
- Promote self
- Driven by fear

Redeemed view

- Powered by Spirit
- Grace
- Desire to please God
- Serve others
- Driven by faith



Giving money

Guilt
Pressure
Image

Work of
Service

Merit
Feel good I am
doing
something

Affliction

Punish self
Deserve salvation

Comparison

better than most
Leadership position

Bible Reading

Knowledge
Please God

Rituals

Confession.
Confirmation.
Communion.
Baptism.
Prayers.
Beads.
Candles
Attend Church



I had a three-month period of no work, which was unusual. So I had all this time to spend with God, to pray and read the Bible. I couldn't stop reading the Bible. Every time I'd listen to a sermon or read the Bible I'd end up in tears: "Oh my gosh, this is true! I can't believe I know God and know the

CHANGE OF REFLECTION

A Gay Man's Incredible Story of Redemption

BECKET COOK

Foreword by Francis Chan

ND YOU THINK THAT IS FAIR?"

And the boy
replied: "Well, God
has all eternity to
make it up to
me."

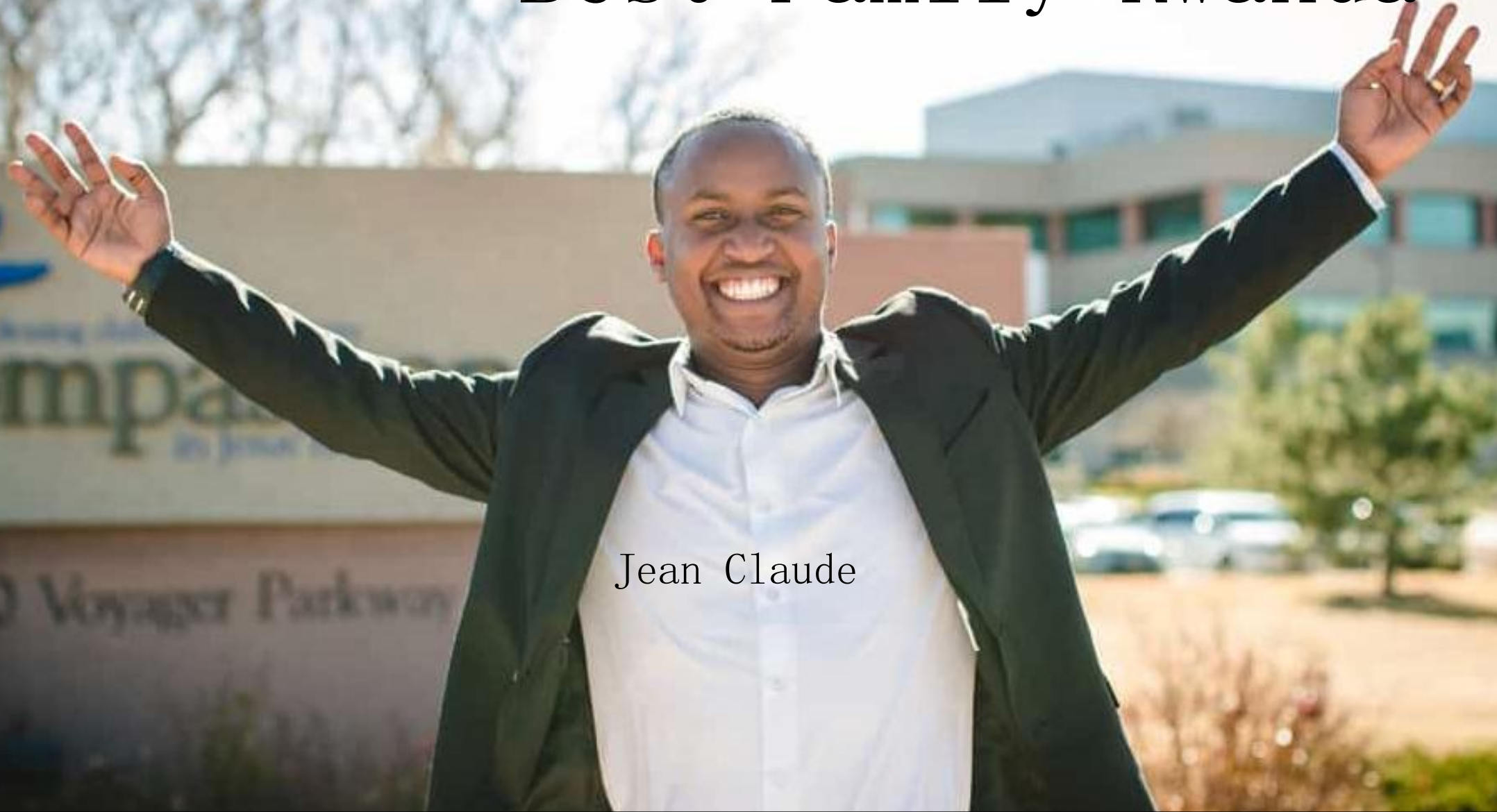
ACTION TAKEN BASED ON WHAT WE BELIEVE WE ARE

Radically exalted



What Jesus did for us

Best Family Rwanda



Jean Claude



CHALLENGE

2 Corinthians 13:5-6 (ESV) Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!