

FBC
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PUNAMA, JAMAICA

GAMMA21

BOOK OF
JAMES
A FAITH THAT WORKS

Study 3

Understanding the nature of temptation

James 1:13-18

GAMMA
SERIES

TEMPTATION

WORD REPEATED 5 TIMES

James 1:13-15 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

A FAITH THAT WORKS IN THE REAL WORLD

James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



**Trials and
Tribulations**

THE NATURE OF TEMPTATION

- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is inconsistent with God nature and ultimate intention

EVERY TRIAL IS A TEMPTATION

External

Trials

James 1:2-4

Peirasmos

James 1:13-15

Temptations

Internal

VARIOUS TRIALS

Lowly- poor




Riches



Everything in between

- Application of Wisdom
- Each is exhorted to see his lot in the light of spiritual reality.

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Who
An Amazing Way to
M^oed
Deal With Change
My
Celebrating 20 years of the International Classic
In Your Work and In Your Life
Cheese?
DR SPENCER JOHNSON

KEY TAKE AWAY

- Change Happens
- Anticipate Change
- Monitor Change
- Change
- Enjoy the change
- Be Ready To Change Quickly
And Enjoy It Again

**EVERY CHANGE IS A
TEST/TEMPTATION**





FALLING TO TEMPTATION

- Clever, Talented ..did it all on my own hard work..Arrogant
- Deserve to enjoy..hedonistic
- Life style change
- Need to keep more money to make more money



OVERCOMING TEMPTATION

- Blessed, privilege, grateful
- Why me, I don't Deserve this..humbles you
- Give more to church..recognise source of wealth..
- Simple life style

MALCOLM TURNBULL EX-AUSSIE PRIME MINISTER



- 'You know, there are
♦ Goldman Sachs.
taxi drivers in this city that
CEO: 'We're doing
work much longer hours
well. We're making
than anyone does here. And
we work hard.' And
they don't earn very much at
all.' So the truth is; we don't
really deserve our good
fortune.

FALLING TO TEMPTATION



- Sad, God let me down..don't pray at all
- I don't Deserve this...boss against me...plan revenge
- Need to do what ever it takes to get money abandon morals

OVERCOMING TEMPTATION



- Sad, God allowed this to happen...joy as what He will ultimately achieve
- I will look at how I can improve and pray hard to work with God
- Work harder and trust more

Response 1 Drives-closer to God

Response 2 :Further



James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life,

Trial (Peirasoms)



Tested
Faith



Steadfast
Endurance
Perseverance



Complete



Crown
of Life

TEMPTATION

- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is inconsistent with God nature and ultimate intention

TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

Trial (Peirasmos)



Tested
Faith



Steadfast
Endurance
Perseverance



Complete



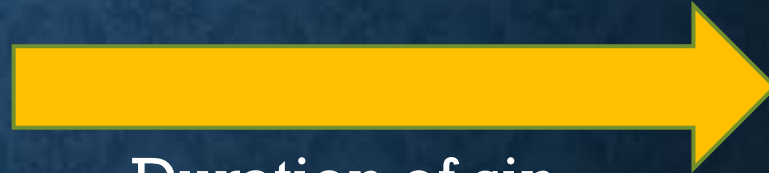
Crown
of Life



Desire
Luring



Conception
Acts of Sin



Duration of sin
Repetitive

Death

Temptation
(Peirasmos)

James 1:14-15 (ESV) But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

An illustration with a warm orange and yellow background. On the left, a figure in a dark robe with a white sash and a long black cape stands on a dark, jagged rock formation, looking towards the right. In the center, a muscular, horned devil with large, dark wings is crouching on the same rock formation, gesturing with his right hand towards the text on the right. In the background, a silhouette of a city with domes and buildings is visible under a bright, hazy sky.

WHAT ABOUT JESUS?

James 1:13 (ESV) Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God **cannot be tempted** with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

POWER OF TEMPTATION

World



Satan



Desire



TEMPTATION OF JESUS-EXTERNAL

World



Satan

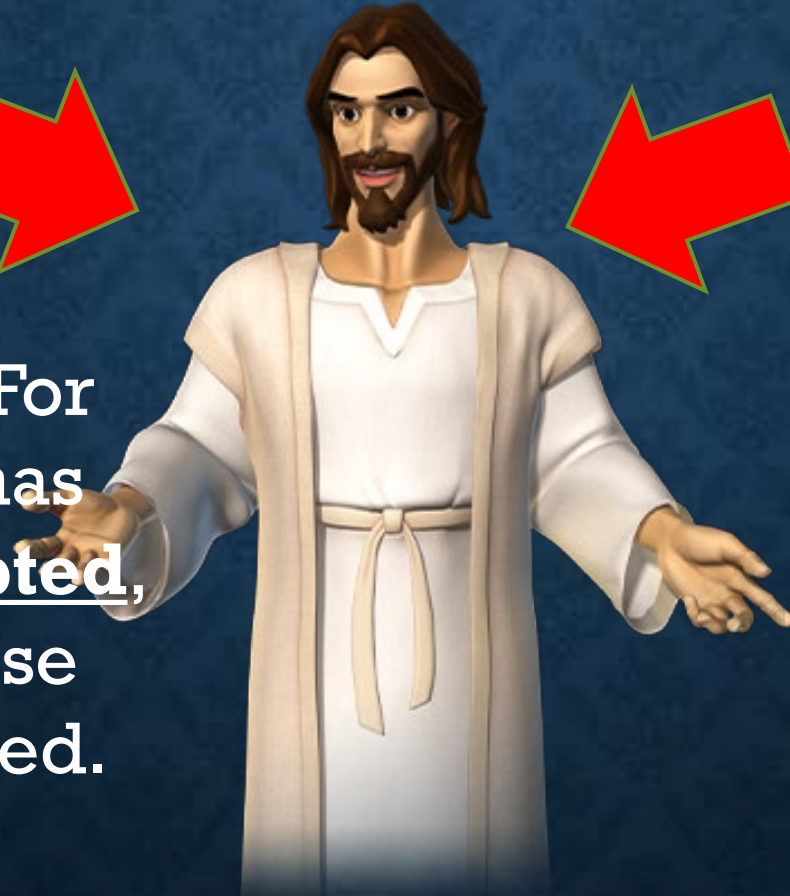


THERE IS STILL THE STRUGGLE OF THE HUMAN NATURE

World

Suffering

Hebrews 2:18 (ESV) For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.



Satan

Temptation

Hebrews 4:15 (ESV) For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

THE UTILITY OF TEMPTATION

World



Satan



Hebrews 5:8 (ESV)
Although he was a son,
he learned obedience
through what he
suffered.



WHY CAN'T I BE JOYFUL IN TRIALS?

Joy is experience of the good thing you desire

THE ANATOMY OF DESIRE

James 1:14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

Epithumias

38 times NT

Strong Liking

X 3 positive

Over desire

Lust

Covet

WHAT IS CAUSE OF THE TEMPTATION?

Cause-desire to escape

Occasion

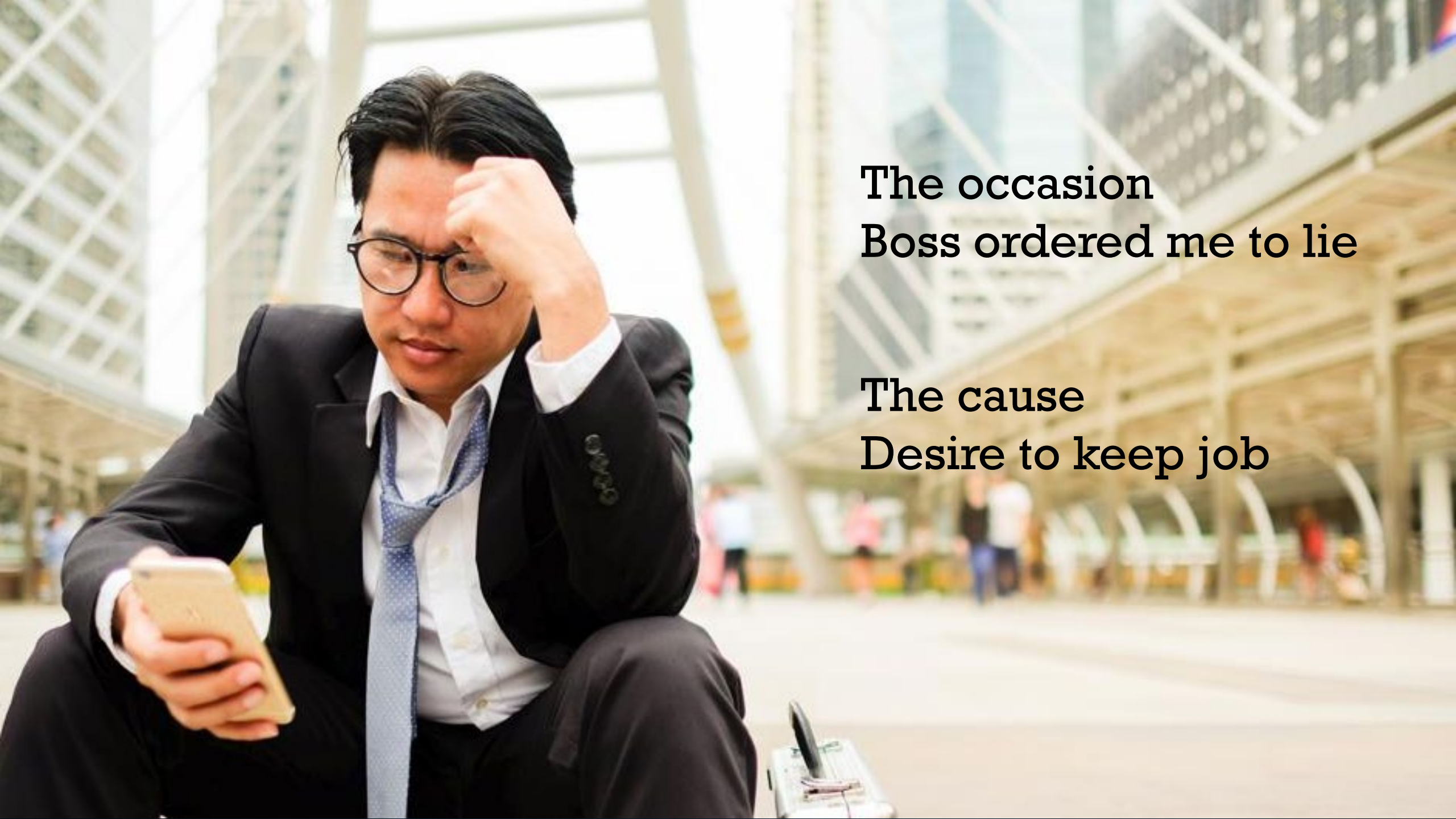
Blame Police?





JONATHAN EDWARDS

“You will only do
what you most desire
to do.”



The occasion
Boss ordered me to lie

The cause
Desire to keep job

FORCED BY BOSS



Loss of dignity

ENTICED BY DESIRE

Isaiah 10:5-7 Ah, Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury!

6 Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

7 But he does not so intend, and his heart does not so think; but it is in his heart to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few

DESIRE

Good

Sin

Object – wife

Sexual

Object – other woman = Lust

Normal amount
Healthy

Food

Excessive-
unhealthy, unloving,
addictive..obesity

Recognition it
comes from God

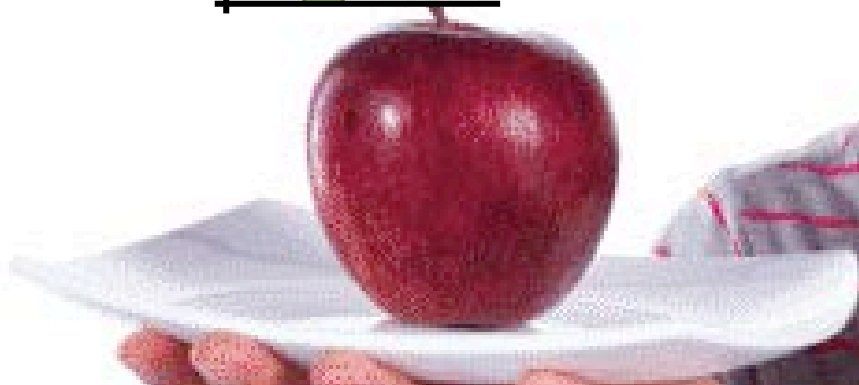
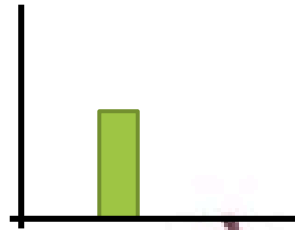
Glory

Pride , arrogance

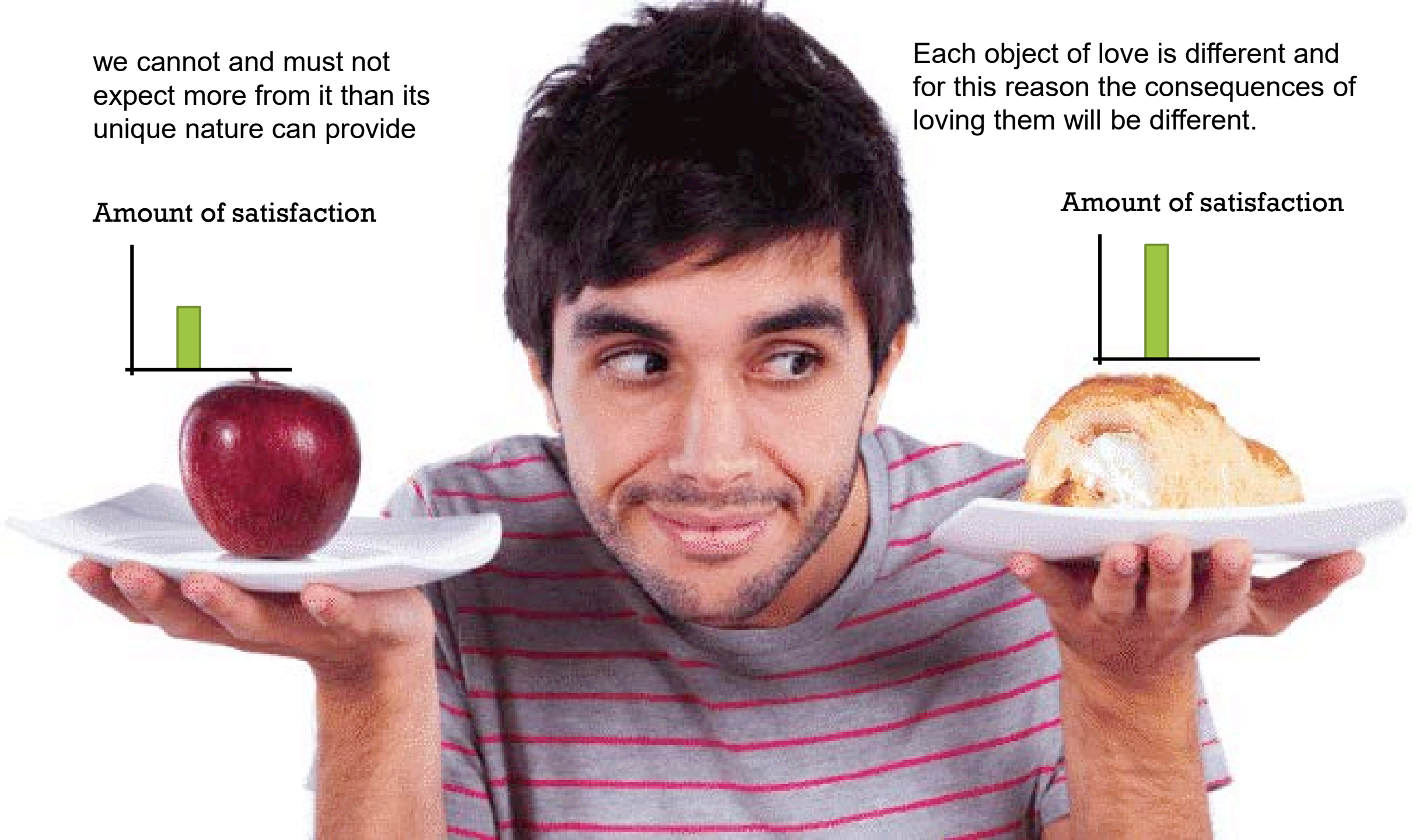
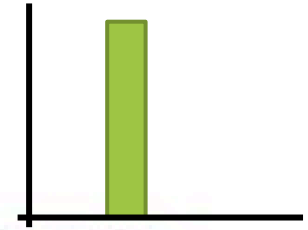
we cannot and must not expect more from it than its unique nature can provide

Each object of love is different and for this reason the consequences of loving them will be different.

Amount of satisfaction



Amount of satisfaction



Godliness rightly ordered love

LOVE

Love small things
small amount

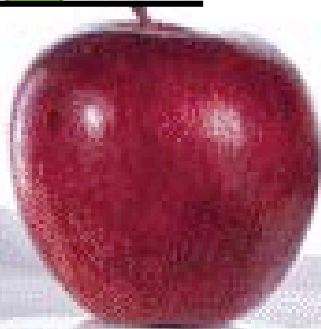
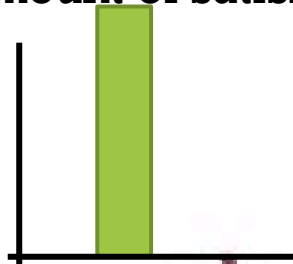
Love big things
big amount

SIN

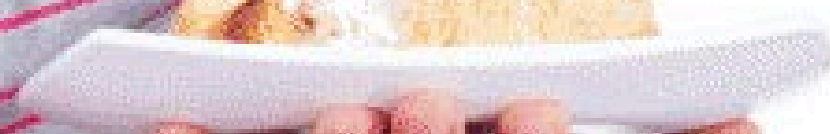
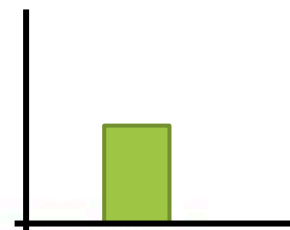
Love big things
small amount

Love small things
big amount

Amount of satisfaction



Amount of satisfaction



ROLE OF MONEY



Love or money

MONEY CAN DO GOOD

Desire small things small amount



Desire small things large amount



PRIORITIES OF LOVE



God

Family

Job

Friends

Hobbies

What a person loves, and how he or she loves it, will determine the course and character of life, as well as the condition of society

DISORDERED LOVE

Hobbies

Job

Family

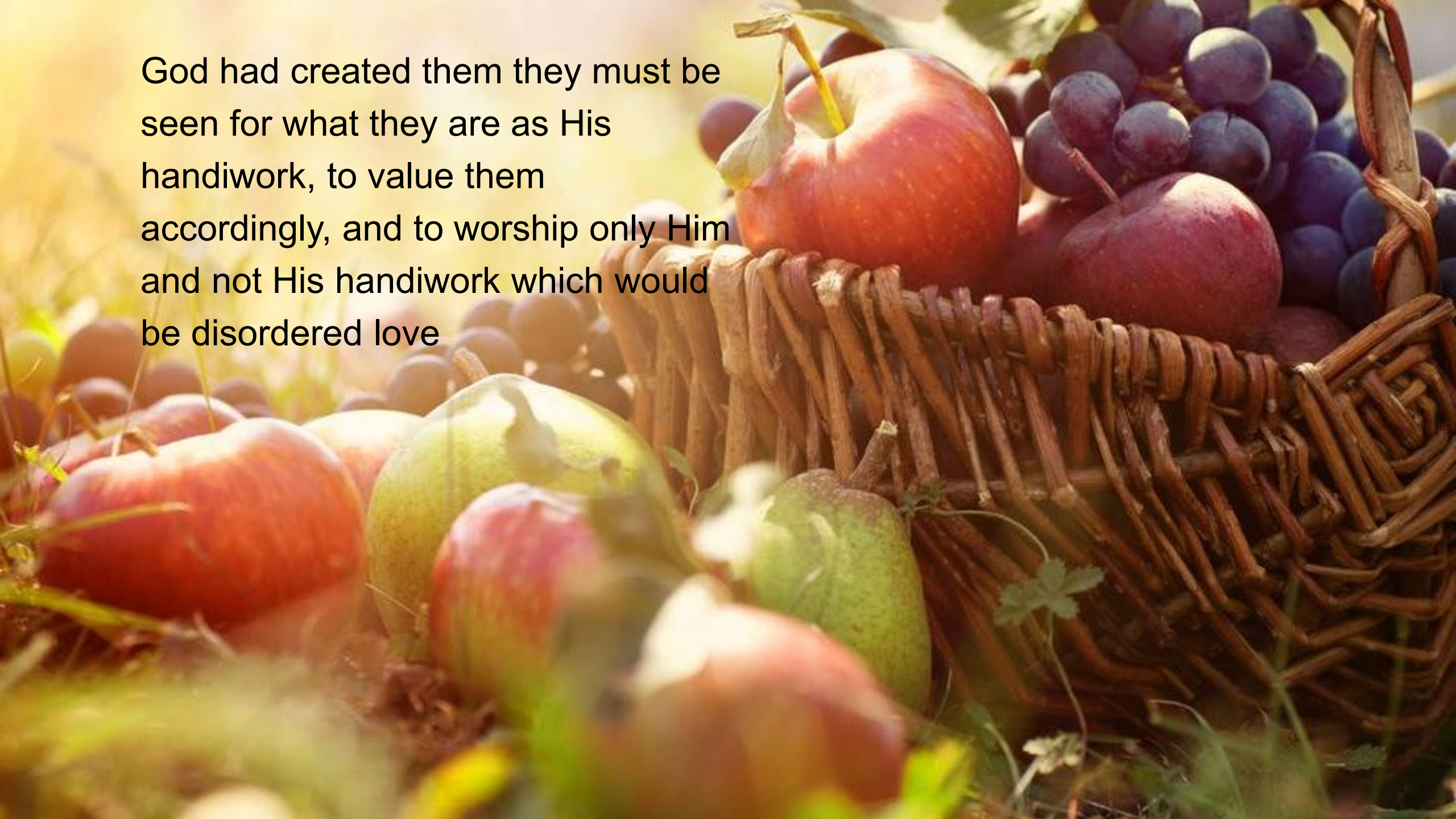
Friends

God

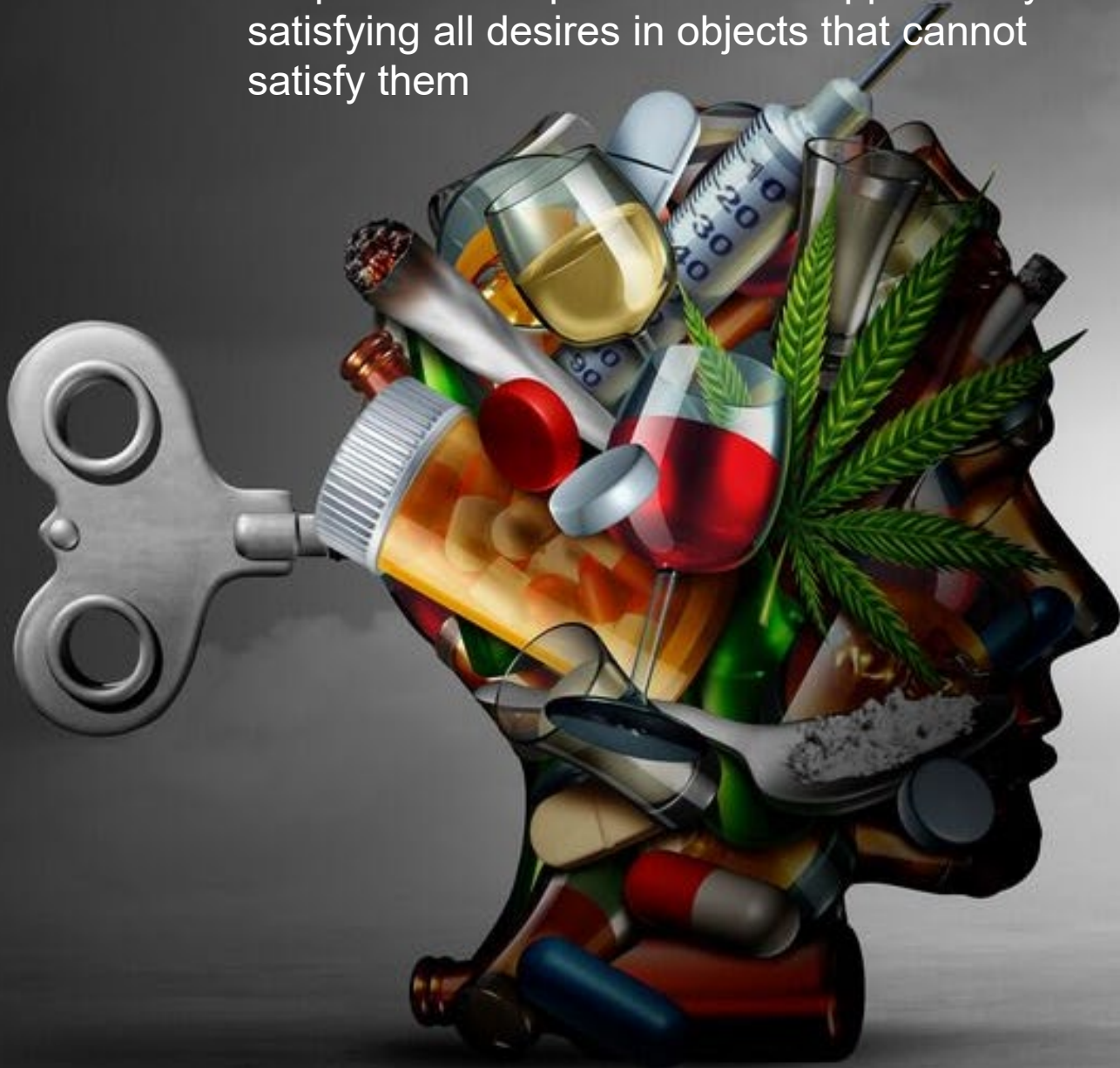


Love is disordered when it seeks final happiness in temporal and finite objects,

God had created them they must be seen for what they are as His handiwork, to value them accordingly, and to worship only Him and not His handiwork which would be disordered love



desperate attempt to achieve happiness by
satisfying all desires in objects that cannot
satisfy them



Disordered Loves

Addiction

Idolatry

SUBTLE

What the heart desires

The mind justifies

The Will chooses



Sex, Pleasure

Money Power

Legacy

New love replaces old love

UTILITY OF TRIALS

Joy is experience of the good thing you desire



James 1:2-4 **Count it all joy**, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the **testing of your faith produces steadfastness**. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**

Sanctification is rightly ordered love

Love God most of all because He loved us
most of all in Christ

TEMPTATION

- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is inconsistent with God's nature and ultimate intention

THE TRUTH

James 1:16-18 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. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

THE DECEPTION.

James 1:13 (ESV) Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

God causes me to fall to temptation
God allows bad things
God is not good

THE TRUTH

1. UNCHANGING CHARACTER OF GOD IN CREATION

James 1:16-18 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. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

THE SAME GOD OF CREATION



Genesis 1:17-18 (ESV) And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw **that it was good.**

GIFTS REFLECT CHARACTER



THE TRUTH

2. OUR OWN NATURE AND PURPOSE IN SALVATION

James 1:16-18 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. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

THE IMAGERY



Indicates the
final harvest



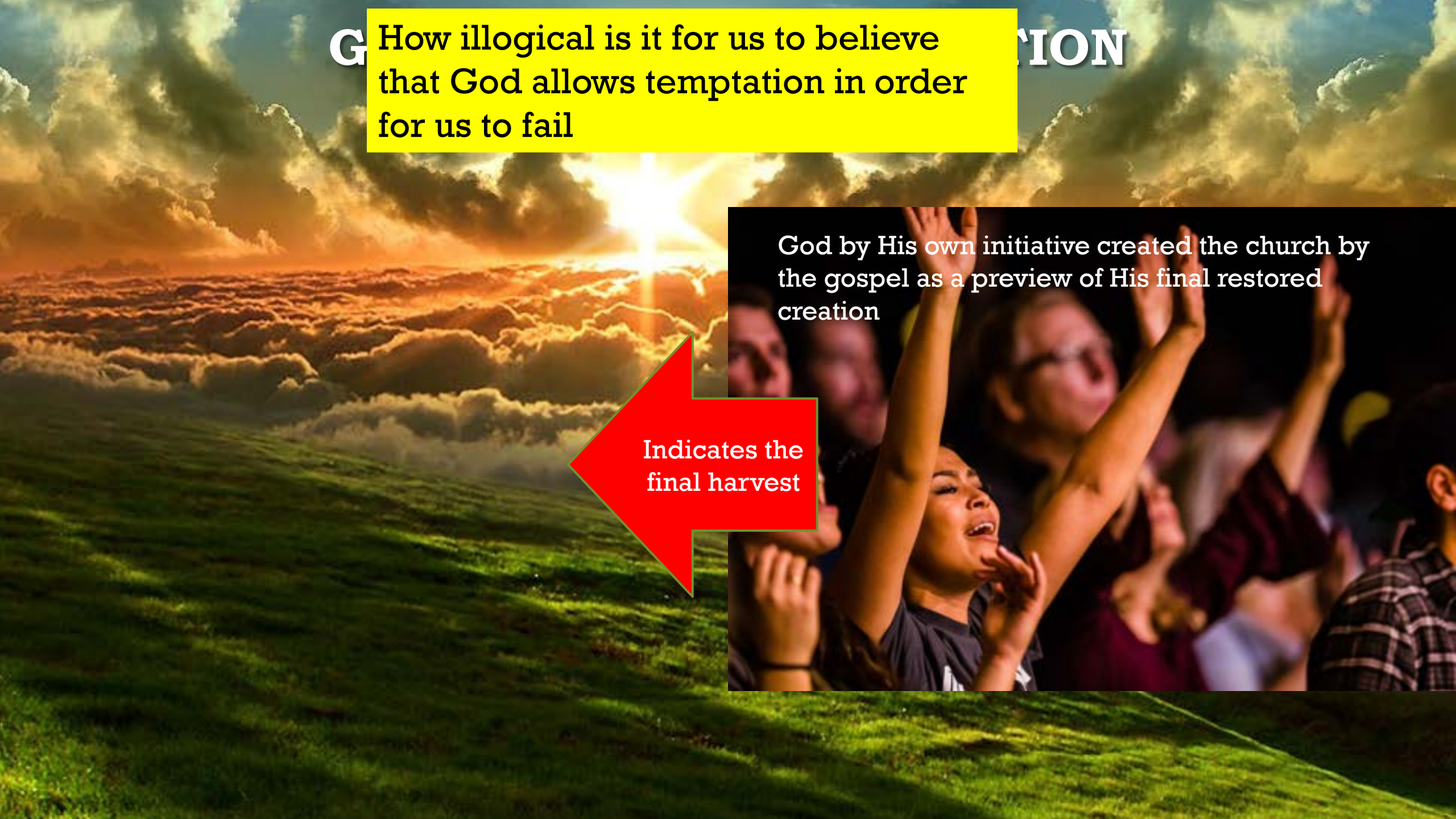
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How illogical is it for us to believe that God allows temptation in order for us to fail

ION

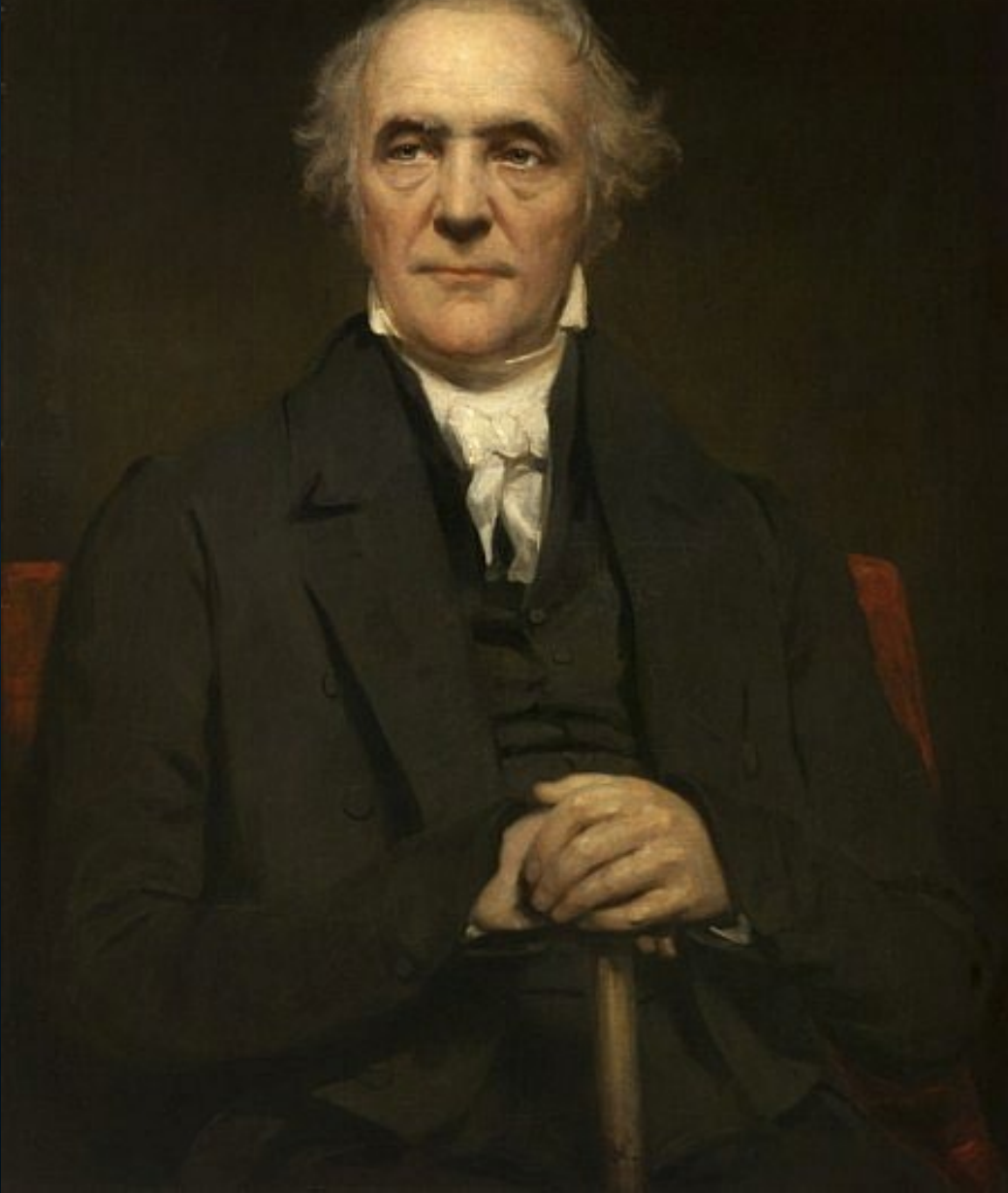
God by His own initiative created the church by the gospel as a preview of His final restored creation

Indicates the final harvest



The God who is redeeming creation is a gracious God. Such a gracious God is not one who is trying to lead people to fall, but one who would use his giving to preserve them in the test.

THOMAS CHALMERS



“We know of no other way to keep the love of the world out than to keep in our hearts the love of the father”