

FBC  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
TULSA, OKLA

GAMMA21

GAMMA  
SERIES

BOOK  
OF

# JAMES

A FAITH THAT WORKS

## Study 4

The Christian and the Word Part 1

James 1:18-22

# **A FAITH THAT WORKS IN THE REAL WORLD**

**The Christian and the Word  
Part 1**

**James 1:18-22**



James 1:18-25 (ESV) Of his own will he brought us forth by the **word** of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted **word**, which is able to save your souls.

22 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. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the **perfect law**, the **law of liberty**, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

# **THE CHRISTIAN AND THE WORD**

**A. The New Birth by the Word**

**B. Implanting and Receiving the Word**

**C. Living out God's Word**

James 1:16-27 (ESV) 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. 18 He willed that we should be brought forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

## The New Birth by the Word

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

## Implanting and Receiving the Word

22 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; he looks at himself and at once forgets what he was like. 24 But the one who looks into the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. 26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27 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.

## Living out God's Word

# THE CHRISTIAN AND THE WORD

A. The New Birth by the Word

B. Implanting and Receiving the Word

C. Living out God's Word

## LAST WEEK

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 IN TRIALS

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 CHARACTER OF GOD AND HIS GIFTS

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 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.

# POINTS BEYOND 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.



Telos-achieves it's  
purpose

## THE GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT-WORD

James 1:16-18 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, **Apokueoo-----give birth to, breed** 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.

# WORD AS SEED OF THE WOMB IN THE NEW BIRTH

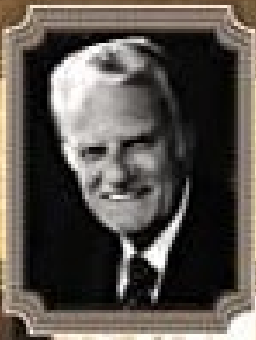


**His Sovereign Gift**

This is the new nature given in the new birth, filled with new life, bound for new destinations of holiness

# BILLY GRAHAM

*Library Collection Series*



## HOW *to* BE BORN AGAIN

John 3:5-7 (ESV) Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must **be born again.**’

## WHY WOULD GOD TEMPT US WHEN HE HAS GIVEN US A NEW NATURE BY THE WORD

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 first-fruits of his creatures.

# THE IMAGERY

Indicates the  
final harvest





# GOD'S ULTIMATE INTENTION

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

Indicates the final harvest

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

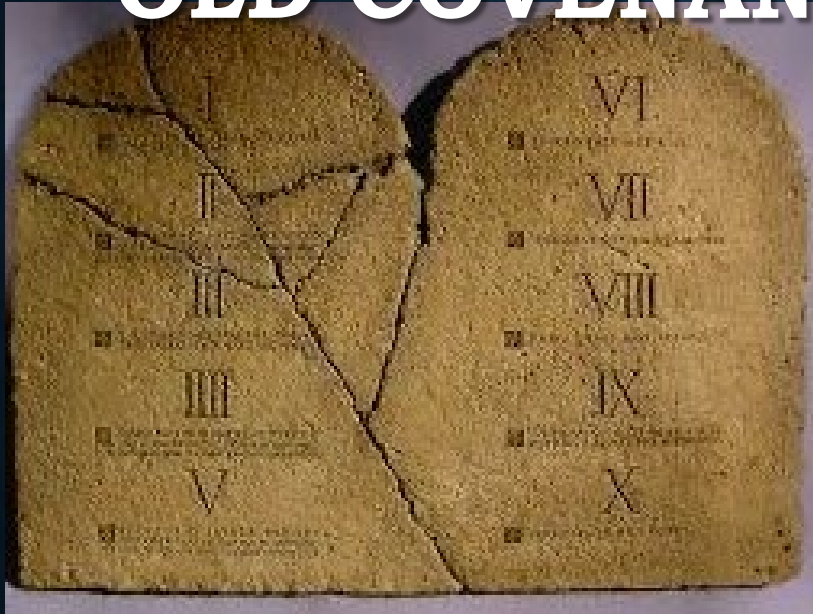
## CORROBORATION WITH NT

1 Peter 1:22-23 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

# **ONLY THE NEW DIVINE NATURE CAN OVERCOME SINFUL DESIRE**

2 Peter 1:4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

# OLD COVENANT



New  
birth

# NEW COVENANT



Ezekiel 36:26-27 (ESV) And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

# THE CHRISTIAN AND THE WORD

A. The New Birth by the Word

B. Implanting and Receiving the Word

C. Living out God's Word

**BECOMING WHOLISTIC CHRISTIANS BY  
RIGHTLY RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW BIRTH

James 1:19-21 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

# **LEGALISM?**



**quick to hear,  
slow to speak,  
slow to anger;**

**Therefore put  
away all  
filthiness and  
rampant  
wickedness**



# COMMON WISDOM



Proverbs 15:1 (ESV) A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
Ecclesiastes 5:2 (ESV) Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few.

Ecclesiastes 7:9

Proverbs 17:27-28

## Born again-saved

James 1:18 Of his own will he  
brought us forth by the word of truth,



## Not yet saved

James 1:21 receive with  
meekness the implanted  
word, which is able to **save**  
**your souls.**

# **DO THIS IN ORDER TO BE SAVED?**



**quick to hear,  
slow to speak,  
slow to anger;**

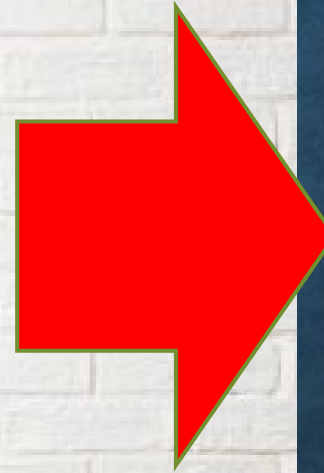
**Therefore put  
away all  
filthiness and  
rampant  
wickedness**

# ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE WORD IN YOUR LIFE



**quick to hear, slow to  
speak, slow to anger;**

**Therefore put away all  
filthiness and rampant  
wickedness**



James 1:19-20 **Therefore**  
put away all filthiness and  
rampant wickedness **and**  
**receive with meekness**  
**the implanted word,**  
which is able to save your  
souls.

# WORD AS SEED OF THE WOMB IN THE NEW BIRTH



# WORD AS SEED IN THE SOIL GROWING TO FULL SALVATION



This is the new nature given in the new birth, filled with new life, bound for new destinations of holiness

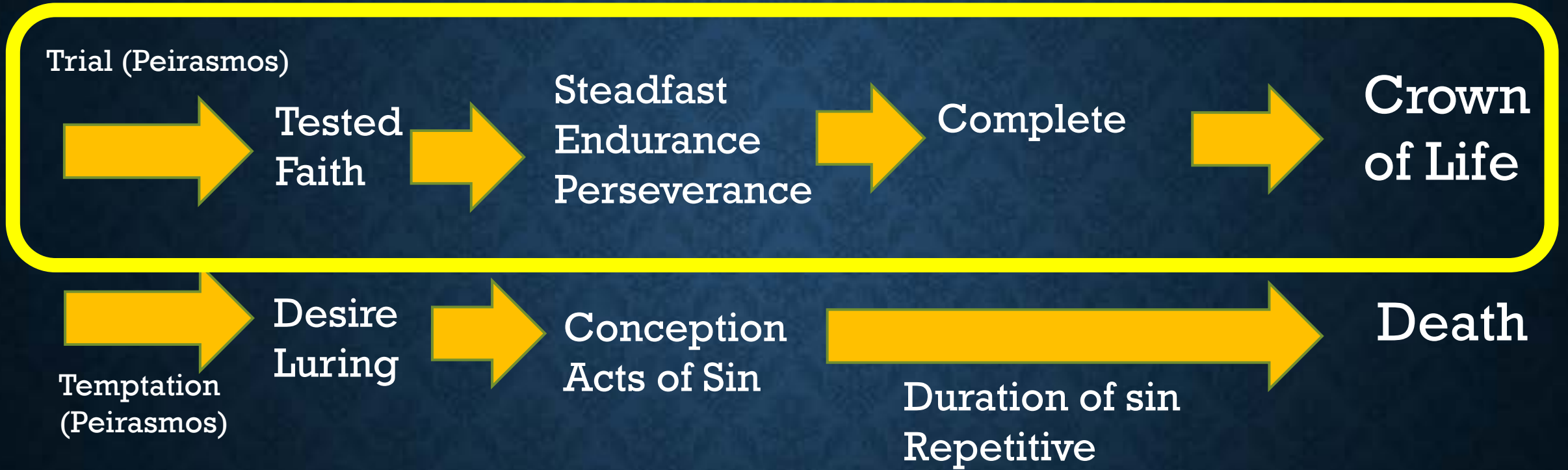
# IMPLANTED AGENT OF NEW BIRTH

# AGENT OF DAILY GROWTH OF THE NEW LIFE



This is the new nature given in the new birth, filled with new life, bound for new destinations of holiness

# TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES



## PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13:23 (ESV) As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”





Old Nature

Sinful desires  
Disordered loves

New Nature

Born again  
Spirit filled



Luke 24:32 They said to each other, “Did not  
our hearts burn within us while he talked to us  
on the road, while he opened to us the  
Scriptures

# JONATHAN EDWARDS



- Wrote 3-4 books to diff between real born again experience from suprious ones
- In every one, Christians have a new appreciation to the Scripture..
- Power of God which comes in truth. When you get into the presence of truth.. There is a deep response to it.
- Thirst response not just interesting

# THE POWER OF THE WORD IN LIFE DEPENDS ON HOW YOU RECEIVE IT

James 1:19-21 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

# **MEEKNESS**

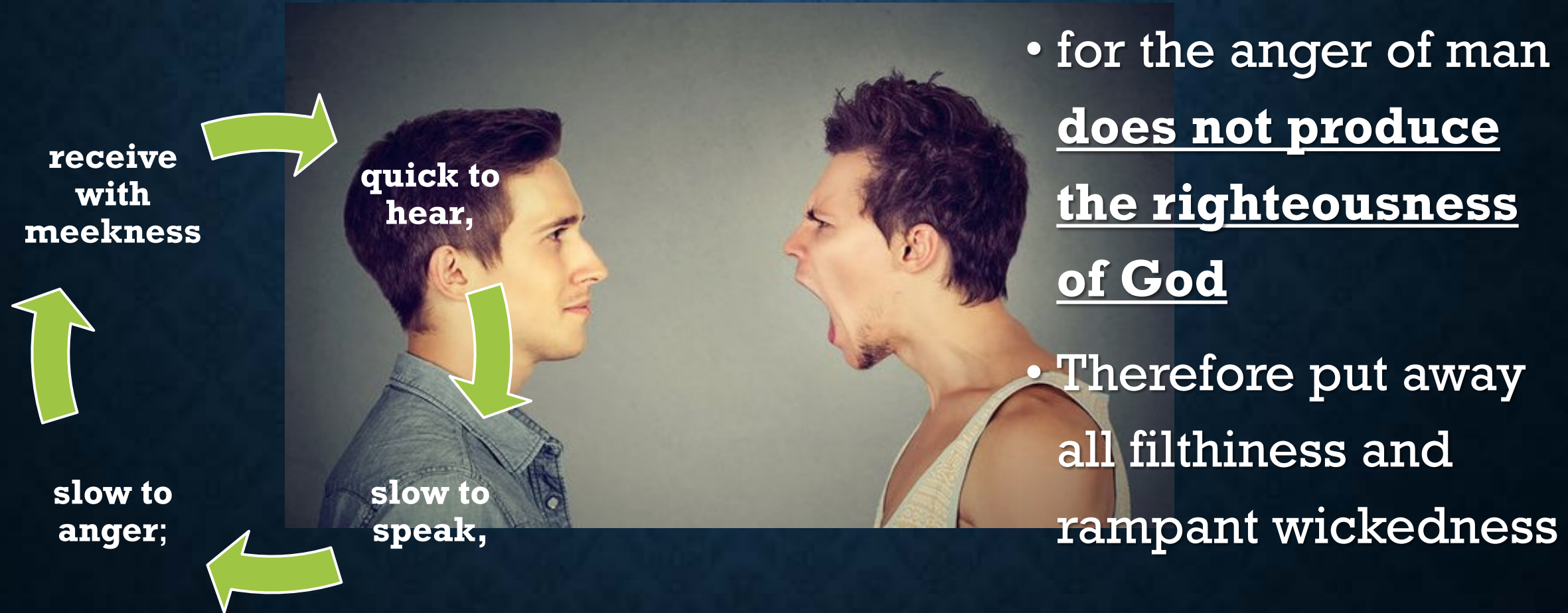
**who have come to the end of  
their resources and wait  
humbly, trustingly upon God**



# RECEPTIVITY TO THE WORD

## Receptive

## Non Receptive





**Angry people have  
stopped listening**



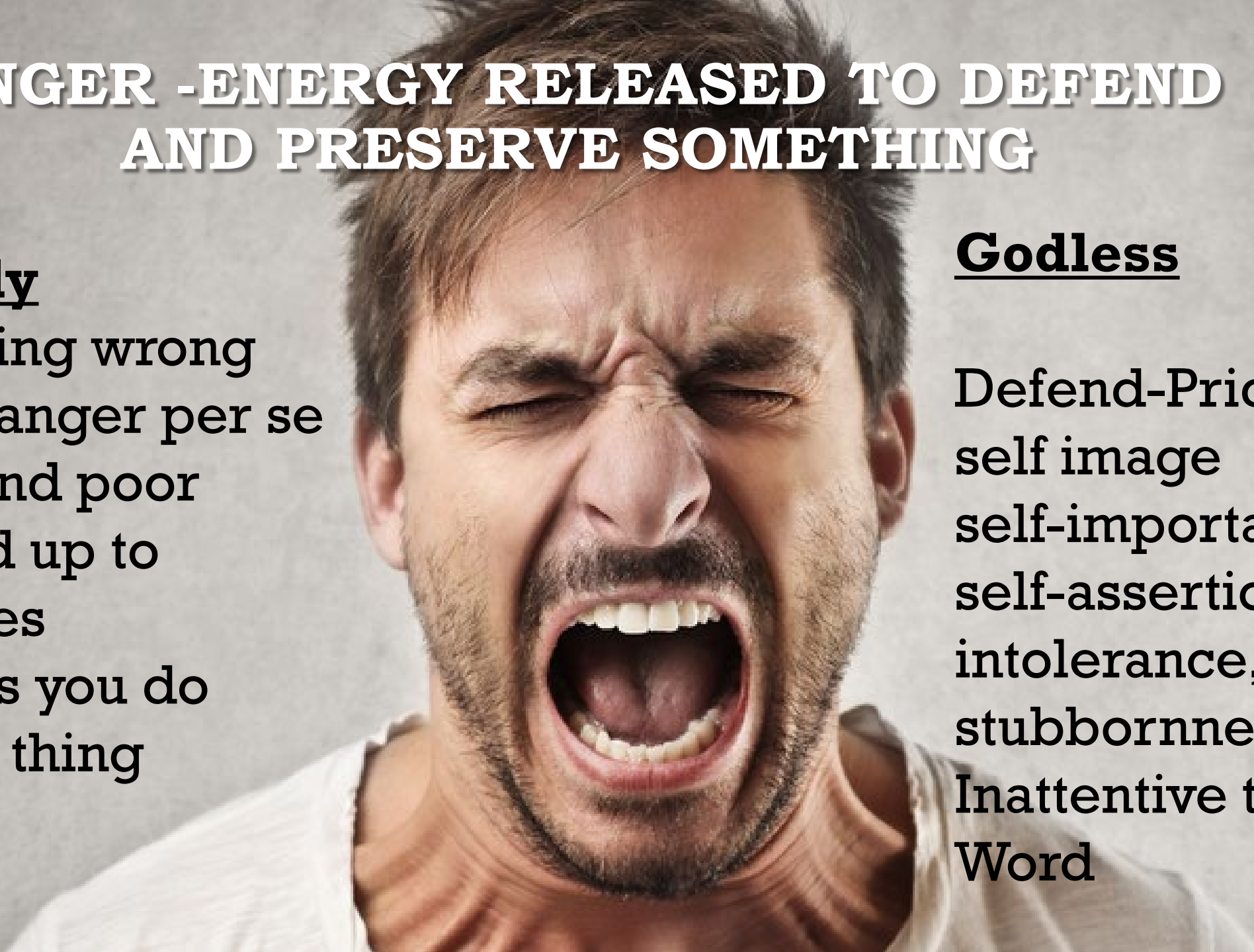
# ANGER -ENERGY RELEASED TO DEFEND AND PRESERVE SOMETHING

## Godly

Nothing wrong  
with anger per se  
Defend poor  
Stand up to  
bullies  
Helps you do  
right thing

## Godless

Defend-Pride-  
self image  
self-importance,  
self-assertion,  
intolerance,  
stubbornness  
Inattentive to  
Word





## **CHARACTERISTIC OF ANGER**

- Flares up quickly
- Leads to regret
- Cannot admit wrong totally  
invested in self image
- Cannot admit moral failure



**DEFENDING SELF IMAGE**



Self worth  
Loved  
Admired  
Feel good about  
yourself



# GOSPEL OF GRACE

Nothing to defend

Total Moral  
failure

Debt paid by  
Jesus

Totally loved  
by God



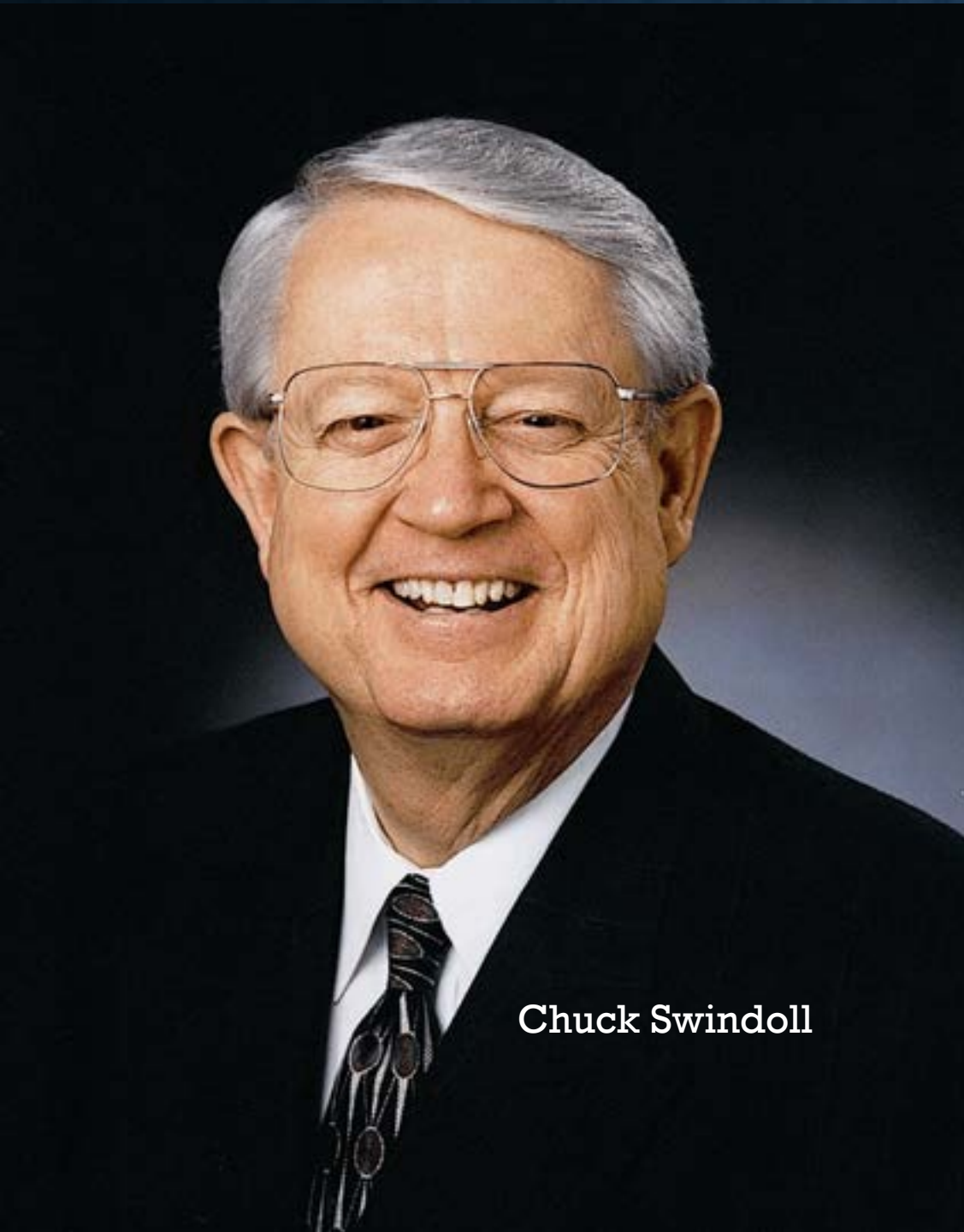
## RECEIVED WORD WITH MEEKNESS

Nothing to defend

Philippians 3:7-8 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.



**NO NEED DEFENDING**



Chuck Swindoll

## GOSPEL OF GRACE CAUSES GROWTH

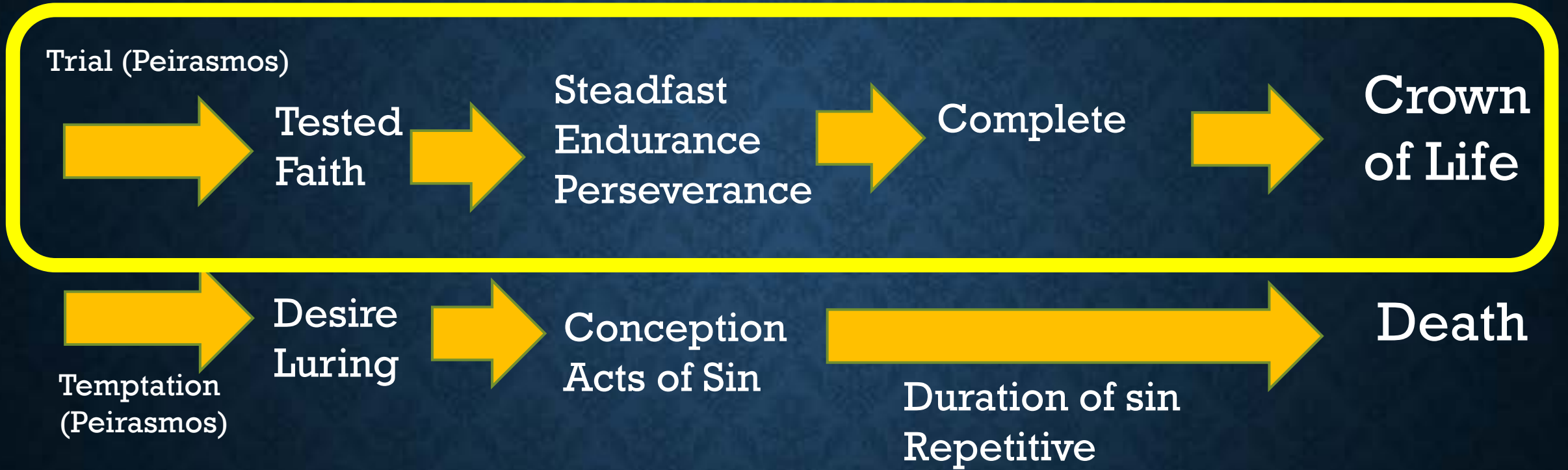
*Anger rejects rebuke;  
peace accepts it.*

*Anger dismisses  
correction; peace  
embraces it*



James 1:21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

# TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES



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