

FBC  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
FURMAN AKA

GAMMA21

BOOK OF  
**JAMES**  
A FAITH THAT WORKS

Study 6

True Spirituality: A Picture of the Doers of  
the Word

James 1:26-2:4

GAMMA  
SERIES



# TRUE SPIRITUALITY

A. We need to understand what true spirituality is and not be self deceived

B. The sin of Discrimination is due to our misunderstanding of the true nature of glory

C. We need to be transformed by His glory and this will transform how we treat others

# SPIRITUALITY

Hapax Legomenon

James 1:26-27 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.

A man is sitting on the grass at sunset, holding a book and reaching his hand towards the sky. The background is a dramatic sky with clouds, and the lighting is warm and golden. The title 'Deception REALITY' is overlaid on the image, with 'Deception' in a red box and 'REALITY' in white text.

# Deception REALITY

- Preacher of the Word
- Attends prayer meeting
- At every church function




# Attempted Coup in Germany



20,000 people with bizarre conspiracy theories.

20% German Population deceived

A goldfish is swimming in clear blue water. It is wearing a black shark fin hat on its head. The background is a solid red color above the water line.

**86 percent of internet users  
admit being duped by fake  
news: survey(1)**

**3 in 4 Americans  
overestimate their ability  
to spot false headlines --  
and the worse they are at  
it, the more likely they are  
to share fake news(2)**



# DECEPTION

James 1:16-17 (ESV) Do not **be deceived**, my beloved brothers. 17 **Deceived about God's character** gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights

James 1: **Deceived self in only hearing and not acting** 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.

James **Deceived self in outward religiousity with no change in character nor compassion** not bridle his tongue but **deceives his heart**,



**TRUE FAITH**

**What status is conferred**





# Talent confused with character

## TRUE FAITH

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 (ESV) If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.





## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

1 Corinthians 13:3 (ESV) If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.





# **DANGER OF SELF DECEPTION**

**What I do = What I am**

**SURVIVAL INSTINCT  
THE ART OF DECEPTION**







## THE NEED FOR SELF DECEPTION

*“an unconscious  
psychological defense  
mechanism that protects  
against painful or  
intolerable feelings “*

The self is like a cracked mask that is in constant need of being pieced together. But behind the mask, there is nobody at home.

# STRUGGLE FOR COHERENCE

Feel inadequate

Messed up  
**What you feel**

Tell yourself its  
not your fault  
its your brother's  
fault  
**What you know**



Our mind longs to have a coherent narrative about ourselves





# **STRENGTHENING SPIRITUALITY**

## **Action**

Go to prayer  
meeting

Attend fellowship  
group

Street feeding

Mission Trip

Increase Tithe

A man with glasses, wearing a black suit jacket over a purple shirt and black trousers, stands on the left side of the frame. He is gesturing with his right hand towards the text on the right. The background is a solid dark blue color.

## **SELF DECEPTION SELF DEFENCE MECHANISM**

- Repression or Denial
- Reaction formation
- Projection
- Splitting
- Idealisation





## **Reaction formation**

Superficial adoption of emotions and impulses that are diametrically opposed to one's own

**SEX SCANDAL—PREDATOR OF TEEN**

**MARK FOLEY**

**CHAIRMAN OF MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S  
CAUCUS**

**Projection**

**Trump's false or  
misleading claims  
total 30,573 over 4  
years**

**FAKE NEWS**



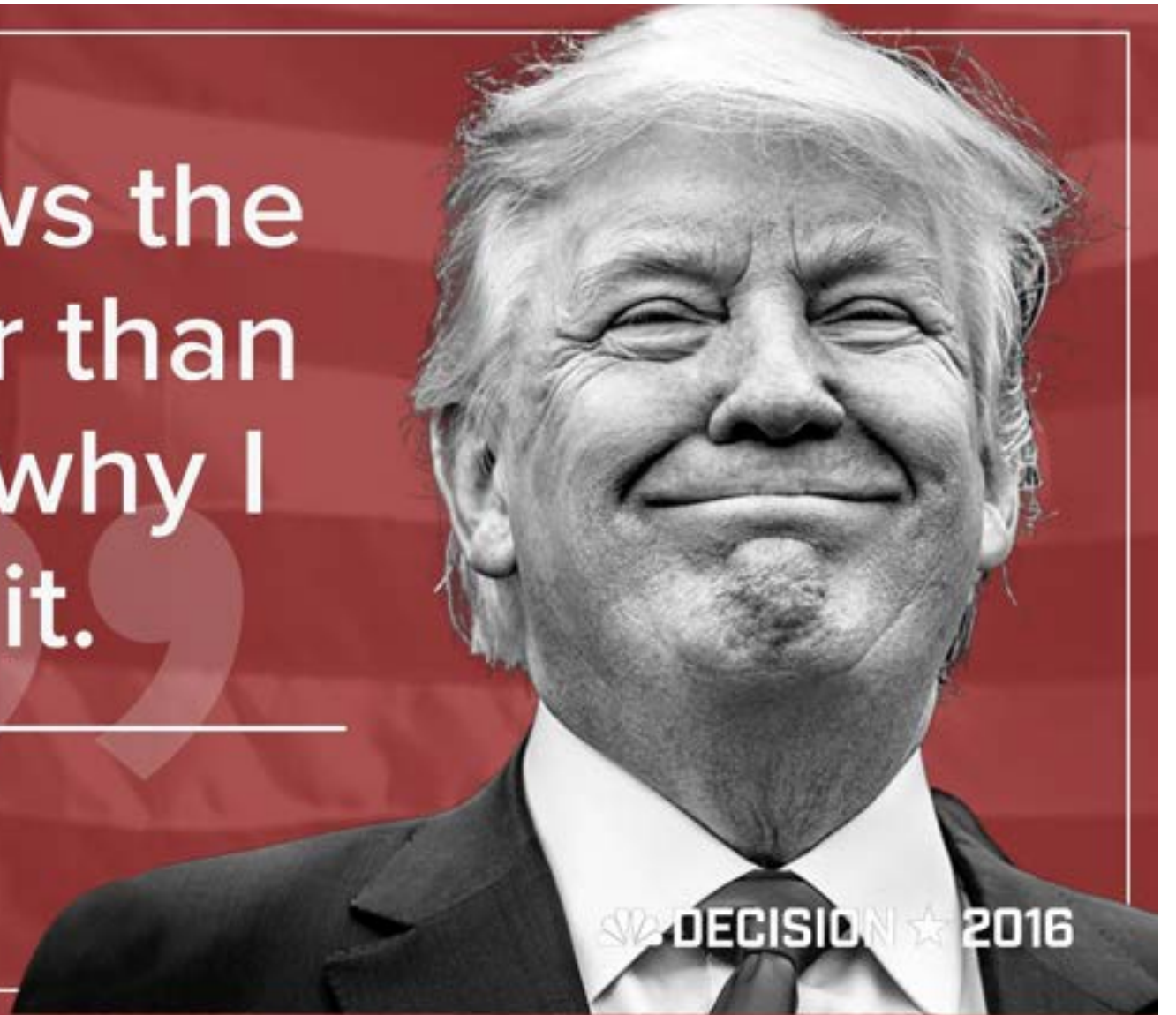


Nobody knows the  
system better than  
me, which is why I  
alone can fix it.



Donald Trump  
July 21, 2016

#Decision2016



 DECISION  2016





# THE NEW DIMENSION OF MARKETING

## MICROTARGETTING

We live in a bubble and we  
choose our own news to  
reinforce our own  
belief/deceptions  
Feel good



# WHAT IS TRUE SPIRITUALITY?

Being flow into doing





## WHAT REALLY MATTERS

James 1:25 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.

# NEW LIST OF RULES



## Speech control

James 1:26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

## Social action

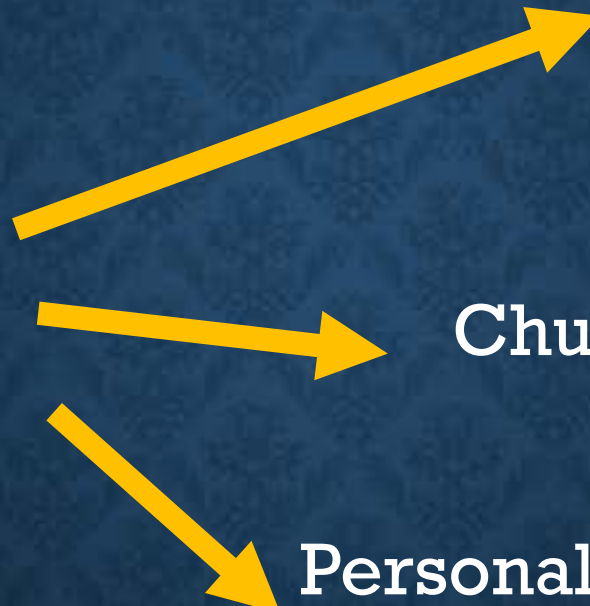
James 1:7 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction

## Personal holiness

James 1:7b and to keep oneself unstained from the world.



# SELF DECEPTION



Oratory skills



Church action




Personal Success



## BEING COMES BEFORE DOING

James 1:25 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.





# TRUE SPIRITUALITY



## Speech control

Mark 7:20-23 (ESV) And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. 21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

## Social action

James 1:7 Religion that is pure and undefiled before **God the Father** is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction

## Personal holiness

1 John 2:15-16 (ESV) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

Matthew 22:37-40 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”



Being



A Child of God  
Saved by grace



Love

GOD

keep oneself unstained from the world-Holiness

God the Father



visit orphans and widows in their affliction

# ANOTHER RELIGION IN OUR COUNTRY'S DESCRIPTION OF A SPIRITUAL PERSON

## Transactional

- Whoever feeds someone who is hungry will have his sins forgiven, and whoever helps someone to travel will have his sins forgiven.
- “Feeding the hungry, giving food to the needy, and helping people with their needs are all good deeds that can earn us a place in Paradise.





**FRUIT EVIDENCE OF LIFE  
BUT DOES NOT GIVE LIFE**

# DOING THE WORD-TRUE SPIRITUALITY

Look into perfect Law



Who you are



What  
you  
do

Controlled  
edifying speech

Practical help to poor

Personal holiness

James 1:25 (ESV) 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.



# TRUE SPIRITUALITY

A. We need to understand what true spirituality is and not be self deceived

B. The sin of Discrimination is due to our misunderstanding of the true nature of glory

C. We need to be transformed by His glory and this will transform how we treat others

**B. THE SIN OF DISCRIMINATION IS DUE TO  
OUR MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE TRUE  
NATURE OF GLORY**

James 2:1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold  
the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

# USHERS







## HOW THEY DID TREATED PEOPLE

James 2:3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,”



**RICH**

**POOR**



**THE BASIS OF TREATMENT**



**IS IT ABOUT EQUALITY?**



# HONOR

Proverbs 24:21 (ESV) My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise,

1 Peter 2:16-17 (ESV) Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

# HONOR---DECORUM IN THE CULTURE

1 Timothy 5:1-2 (ESV) **Do not rebuke an older man**  
but encourage him as you **would a father**, younger  
men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger  
women as sisters, in all purity.







acknowledge inherent dignity



# FRENCH REVOLUTION

1793-94



# CULTURAL REVOLUTION

1966-1976



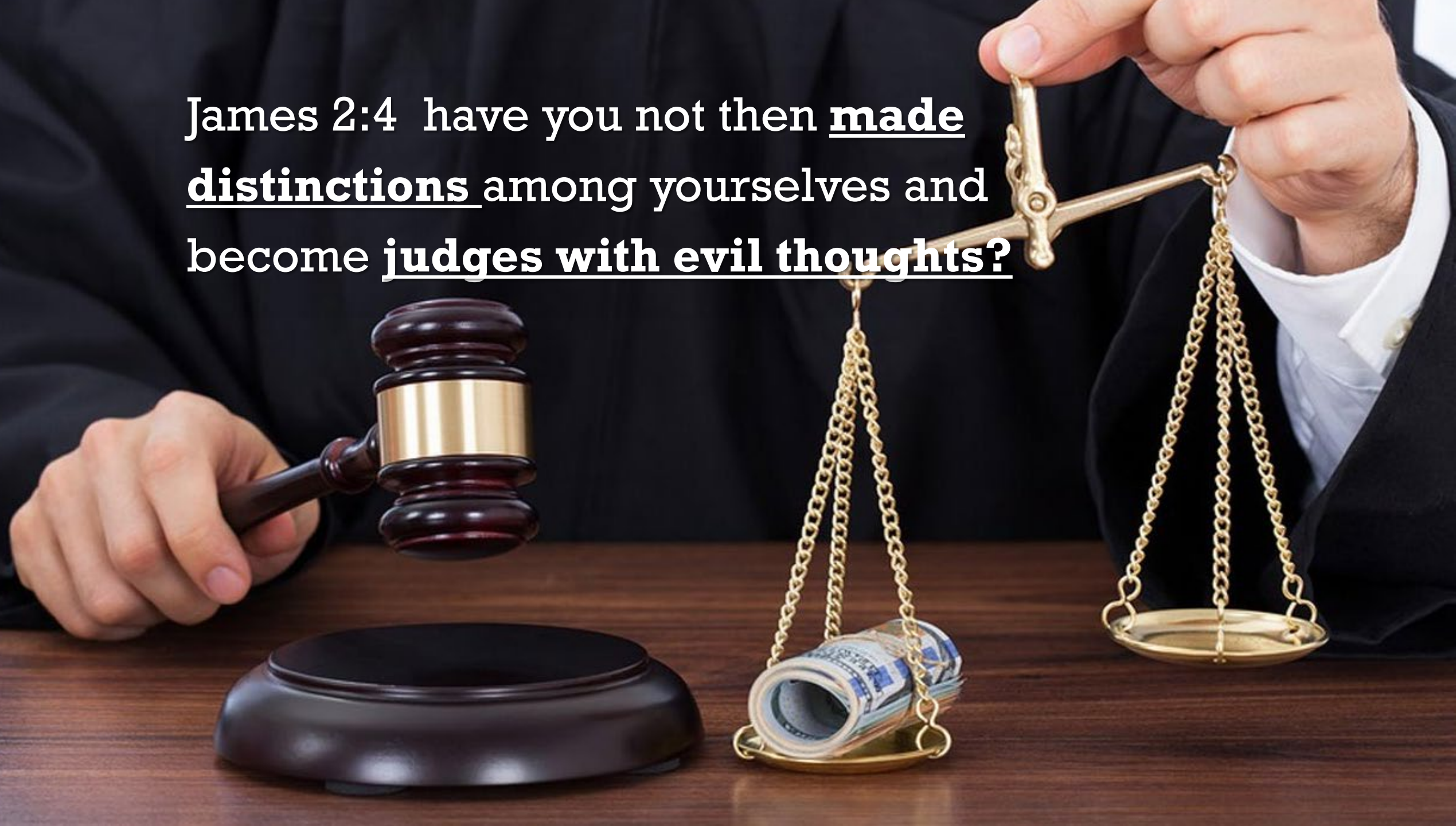


# WAS IT ABOUT EQUALITY?

James 2:1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

James 2:4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:4 have you not then made  
distinctions among yourselves and  
become judges with evil thoughts?



## HOW THEY DID TREATED PEOPLE

James 2:3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,”



## OT BACKGROUND OF JUDGES

Leviticus 19:15 (ESV) You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.



**WHY DO WE  
DO THAT?**



The sin of partiality is the sin of judging by accidentals and externals

# **INCONSISTENCY-DOING COMES FROM BEING**

James 2:1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.



# BEHAVIOUR (DOING)

show no partiality

# BEING

Faith

Jesus the  
Lord of  
Glory



**Kavod**

Weight  
Worth  
Value,

results in  
praise.




**Exodus 24:17 (ESV) Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.**



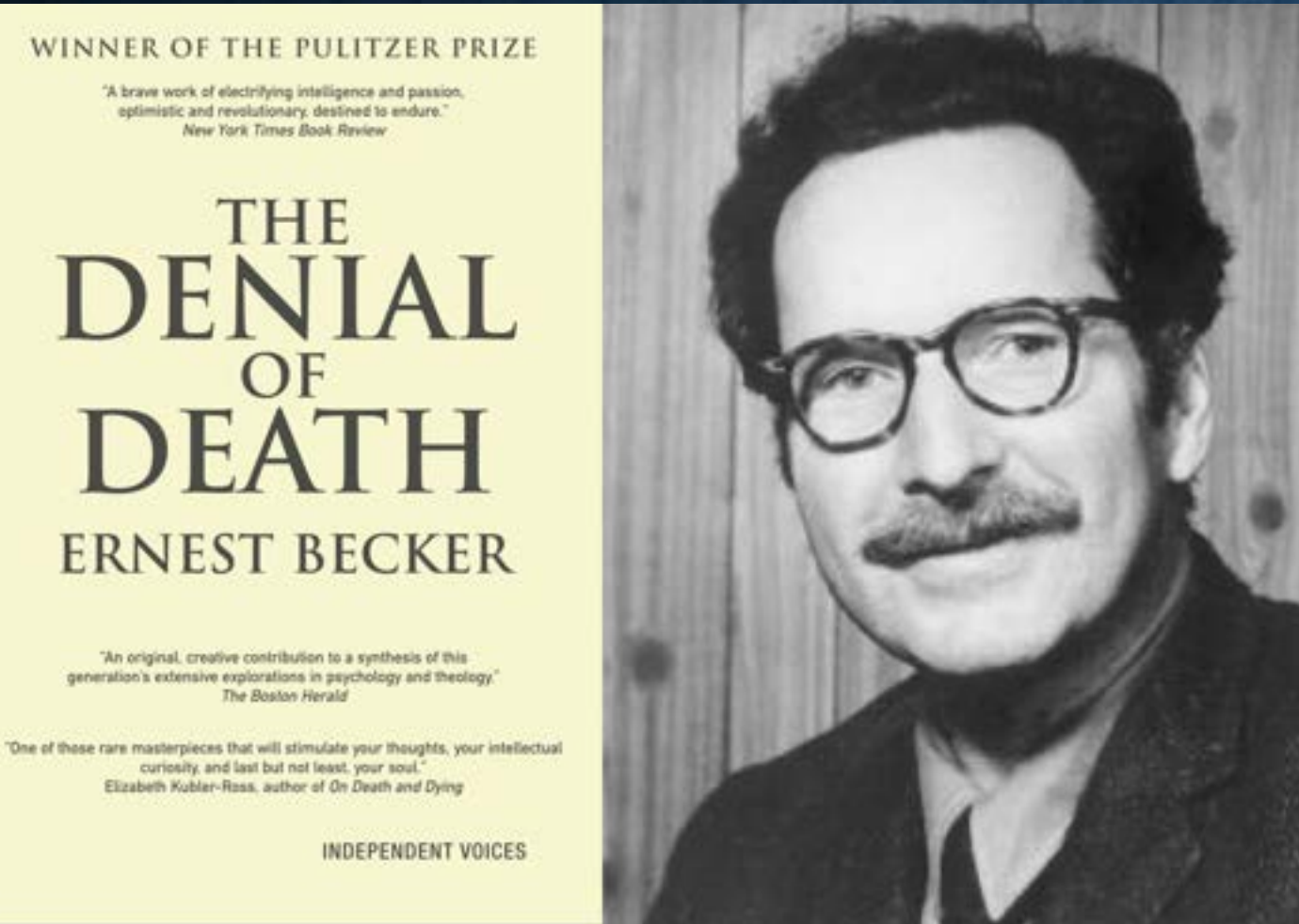


Exodus 19:21 And the LORD said to Moses, “Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to the LORD to look and many of them perish. 22 Also let the priests who come near to the LORD consecrate themselves, lest the LORD break out against them.

A dramatic painting of Moses, an elderly man with a long white beard, kneeling on a rocky surface. He is wearing a blue robe with a yellow sash. His hands are raised in prayer, and his face is turned upwards towards a bright, glowing light source. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a cave or a rocky landscape. The overall mood is one of awe and devotion.

Exodus 33:18-19 (ESV) Moses said,  
“Please show me your glory.”

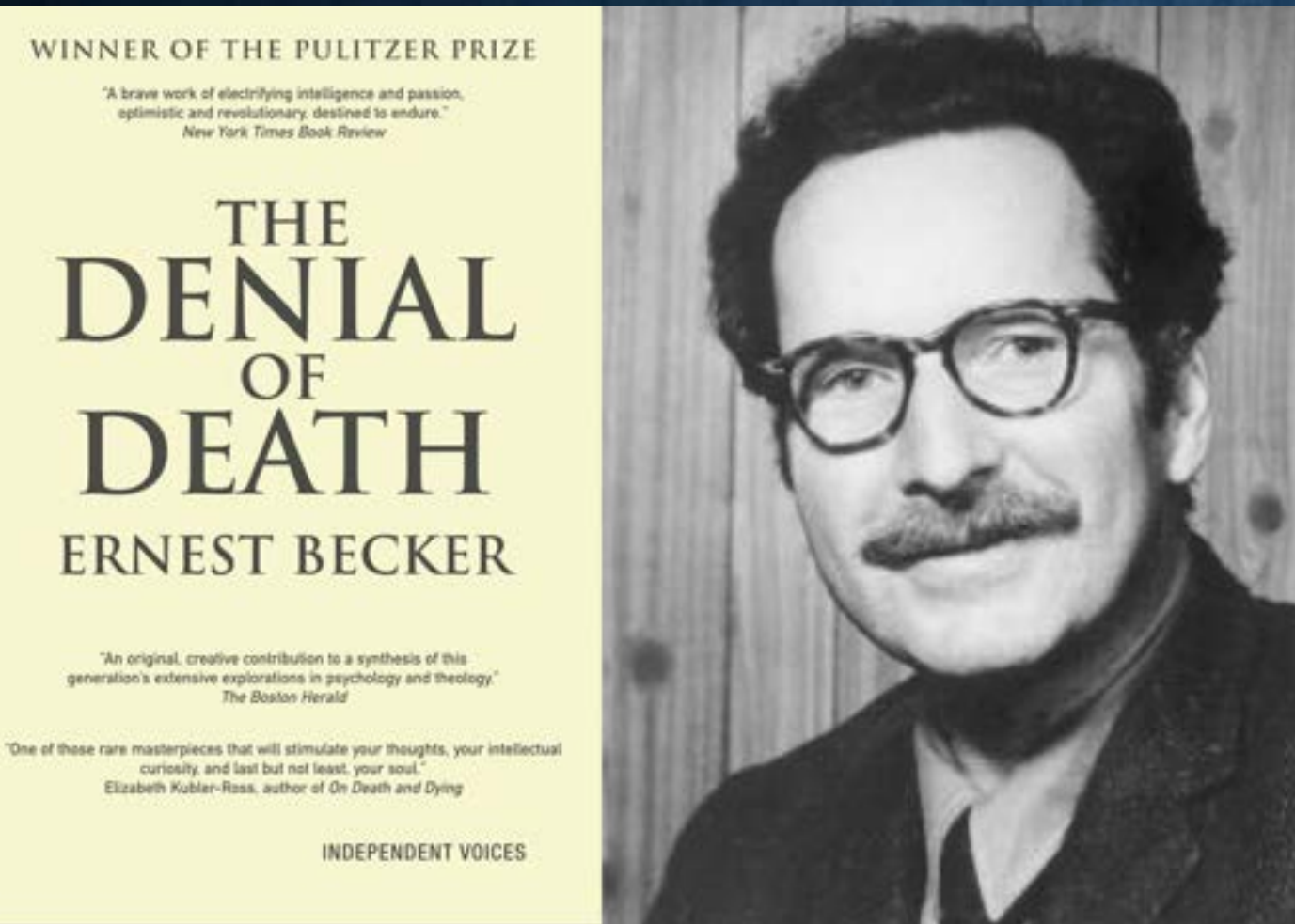
# WE CANNOT STAND OUR FRAILTY



*Man is literally split in two: he has an awareness of his own splendid uniqueness in that he sticks out of nature with a towering majesty, and yet he goes back into the ground a few feet in order to blindly and dumbly rot and disappear forever. It is a terrifying dilemma to be in and to have to live with.*



# THE SOLUTION



*“The real world is simply too terrible to admit. it tells man that he is a small trembling animal who will someday decay and die. Culture changes all of this, makes man seem important, vital to the universe. immortal in some ways”*

**HUNGER FOR GLORY**





# HUNGER FOR GLORY







No desire to be  
meaningful just to  
eat

Instincts

## DILEMMA

*“The irony of man's condition is that the deepest need is to be free of the anxiety of death and annihilation; but it is life itself which awakens it, and so we must shrink from being fully alive.”*

*Ernest Becker*





Ecclesiastes 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

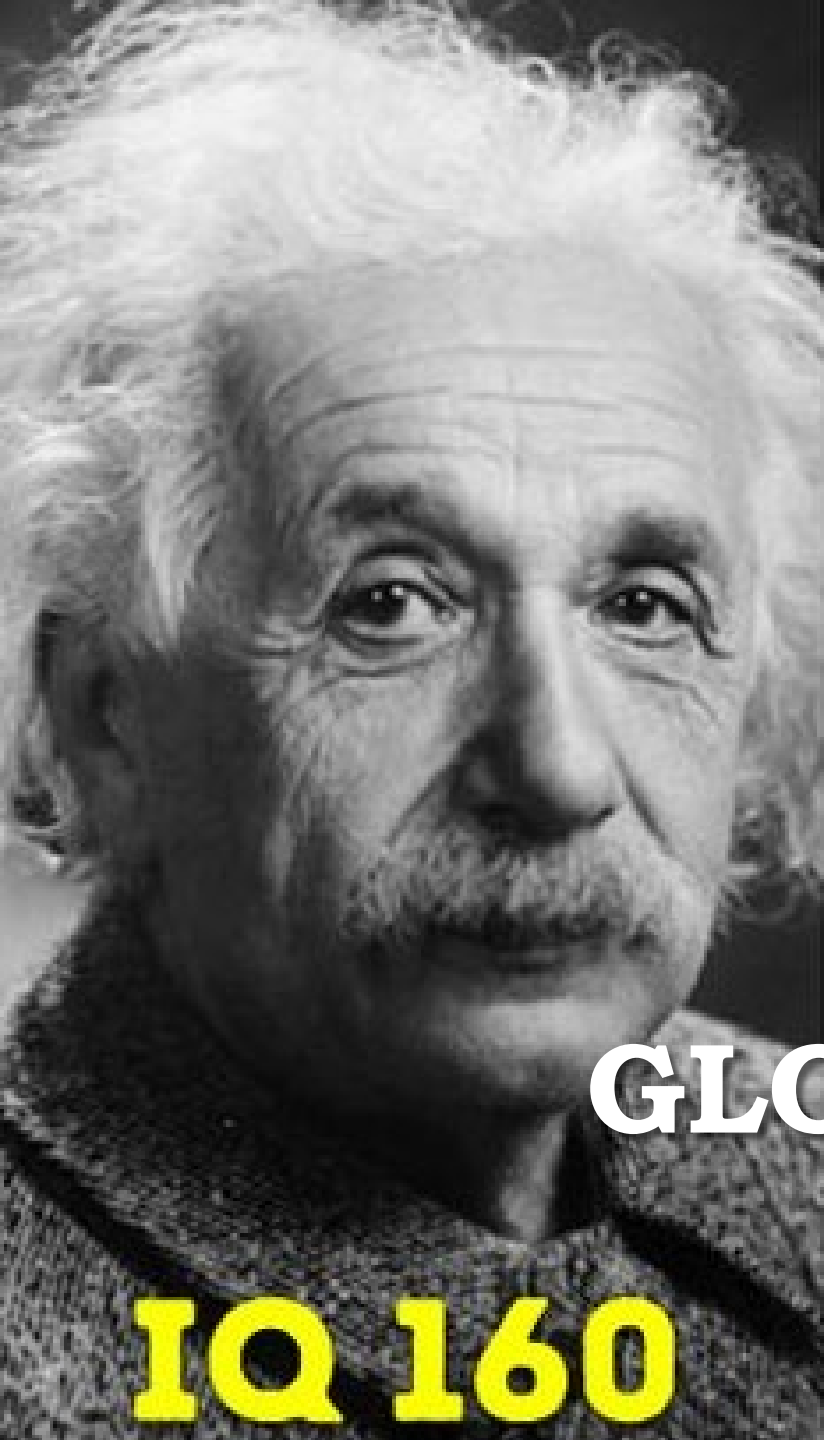




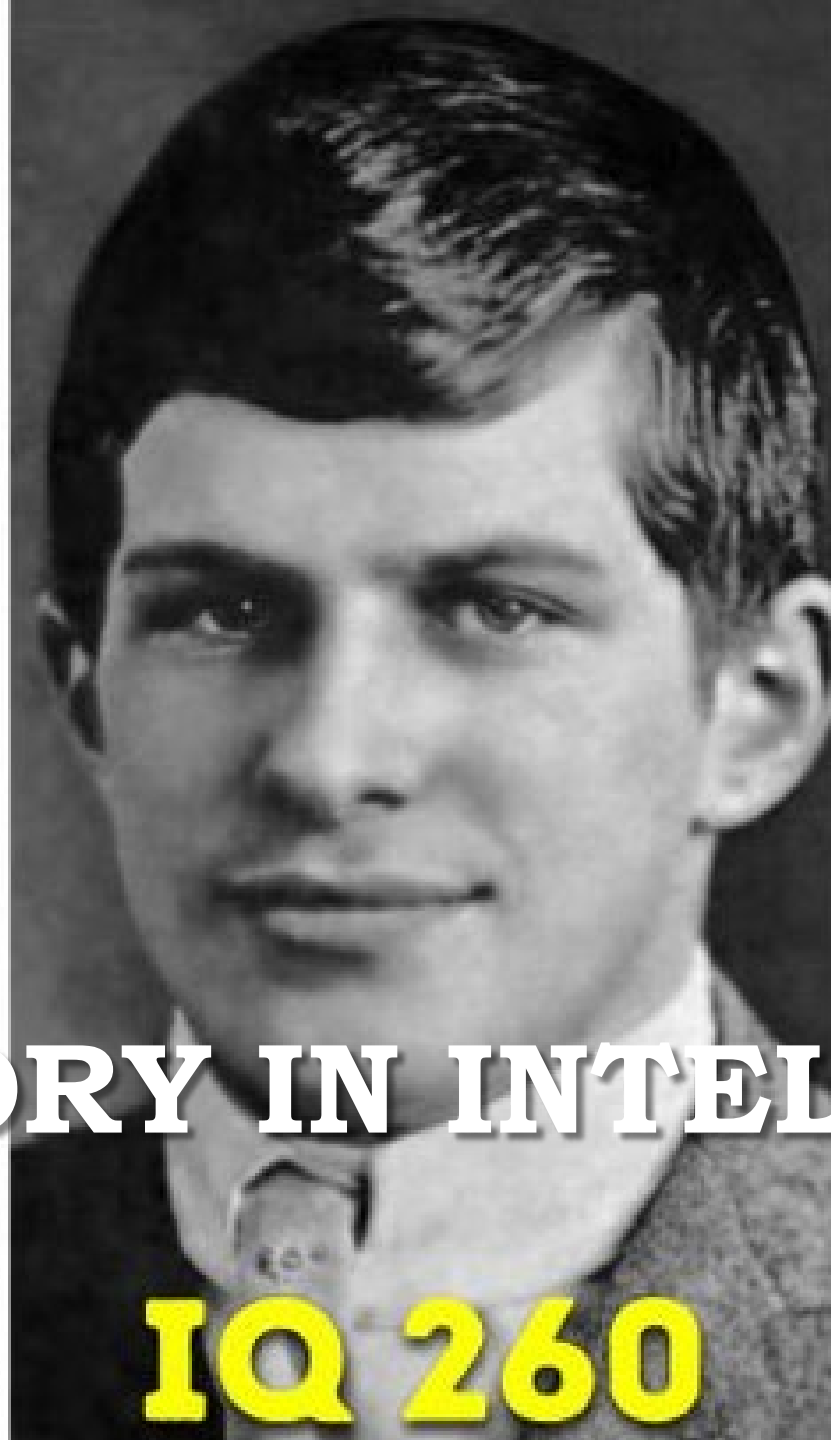


Genesis 1:31 (ESV) And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was **very good**. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

I approve you! I delight in you! I am thrilled by you! I'm so glad that you are here and that you are mine!"



**IQ 160**



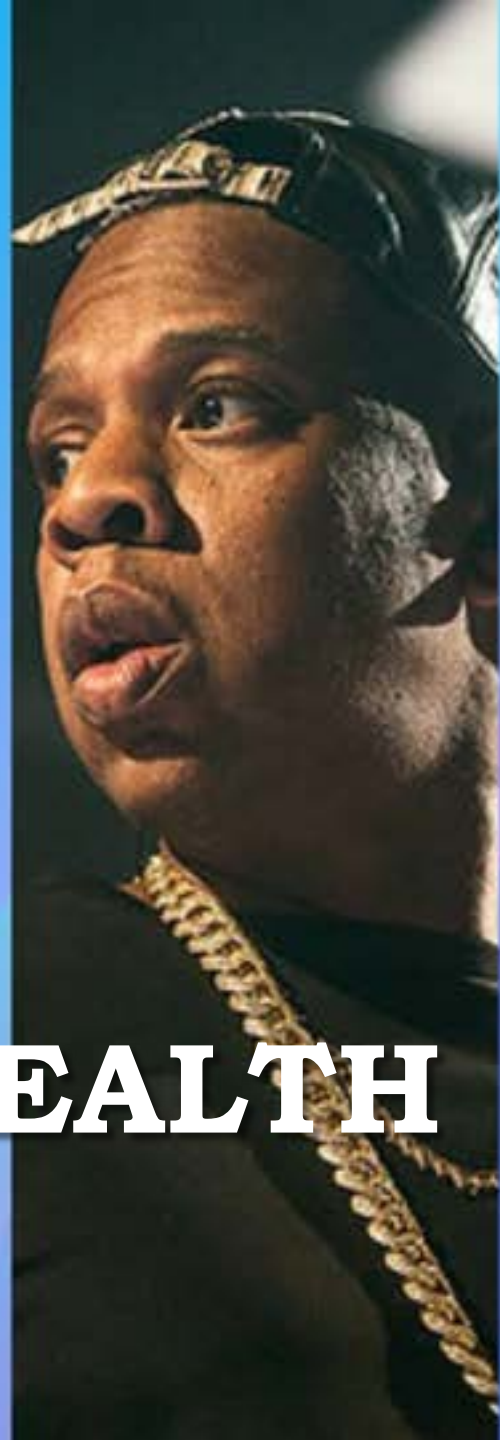
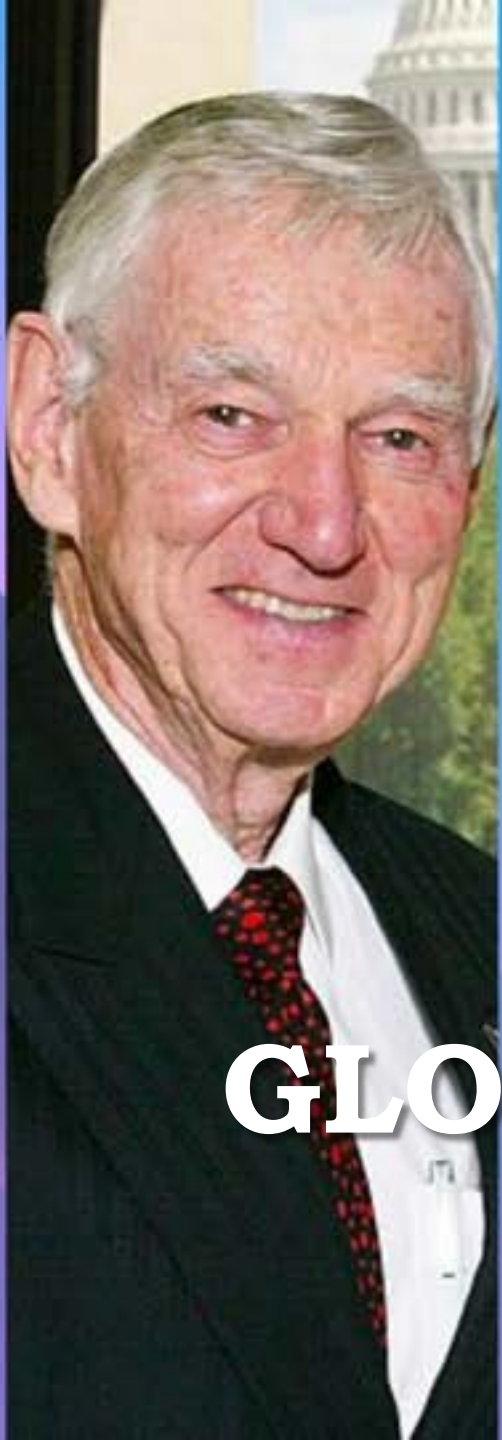
**IQ 260**



**IQ 190**

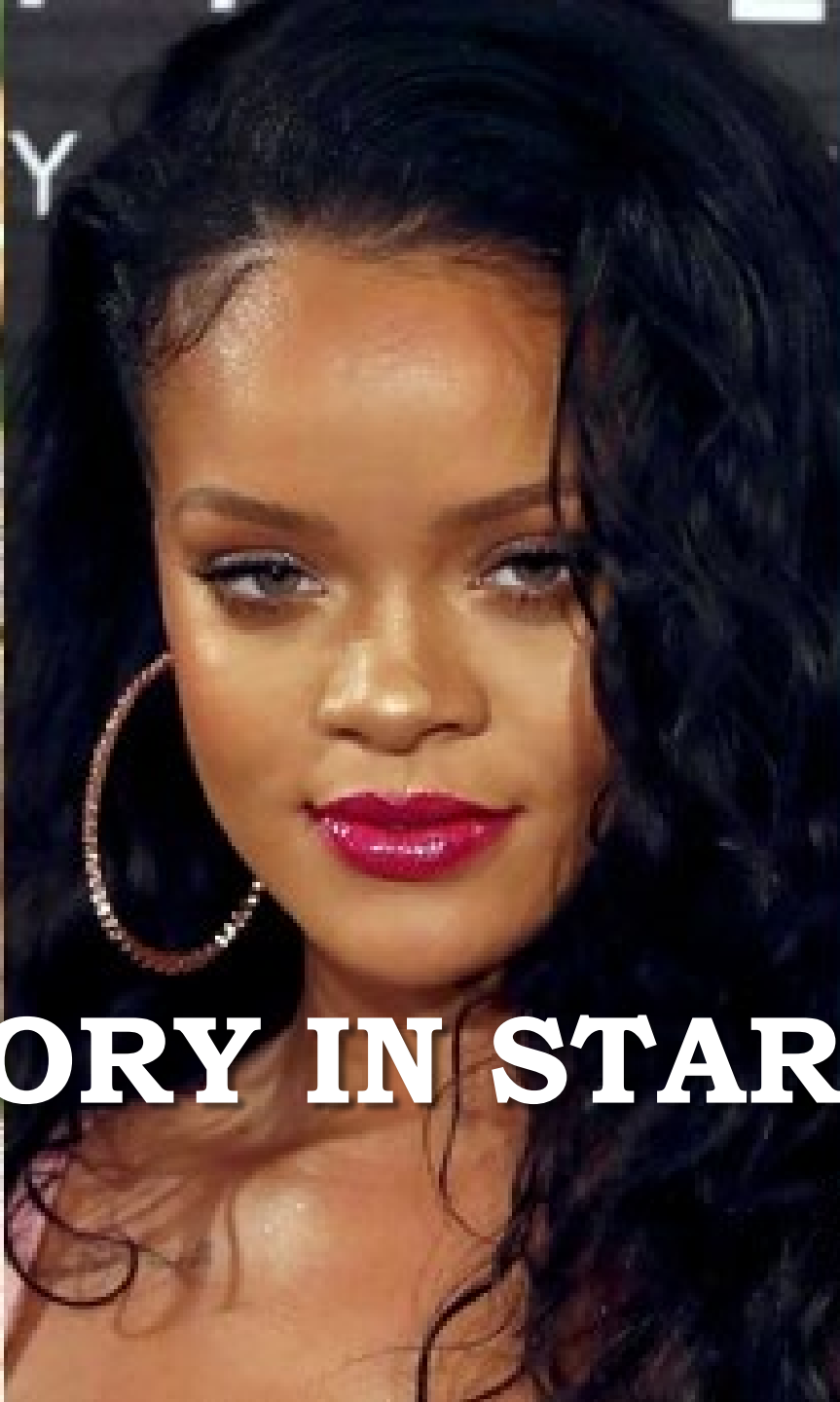
**GLORY IN INTELLECT**






**GLORY IN WEALTH**





**GLORY IN STARDOM**

A photograph of Elon Musk giving a thumbs up. He is wearing a black leather jacket over a black t-shirt with a red and white graphic. In the background, a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket is launching, with a large plume of white smoke and fire. To the right, a white building with the SpaceX logo and an American flag is visible.

“We don’t want to be one of those single planet species, we want to be a multi-planet species,”

**GLORY IN ADVENTURE**



# BORROWED GLORY





**EVEN CELEBRITIES NEED GLORY**

# GLORY IN DANGER







**A 97 YEAR OLD CONTEST?**



# USHERS



# DECEIVED... BECOME JUDGES WITH EVIL THOUGHTS

**obsequious**



Rich person may bring  
Personal benefit

They are better than  
the poor

The poor may ask for a  
loan



ML marketing  
Mutual funds  
Insurance  
Life group

# NETWORKING

A BUSINESS AND PERSONAL STRATEGY





**Netflix documentary- Telling their story while at the same time condemning the press for intrusion into their lives. While at the same time using the press to make USD 100 million..to gain fame and fortune**



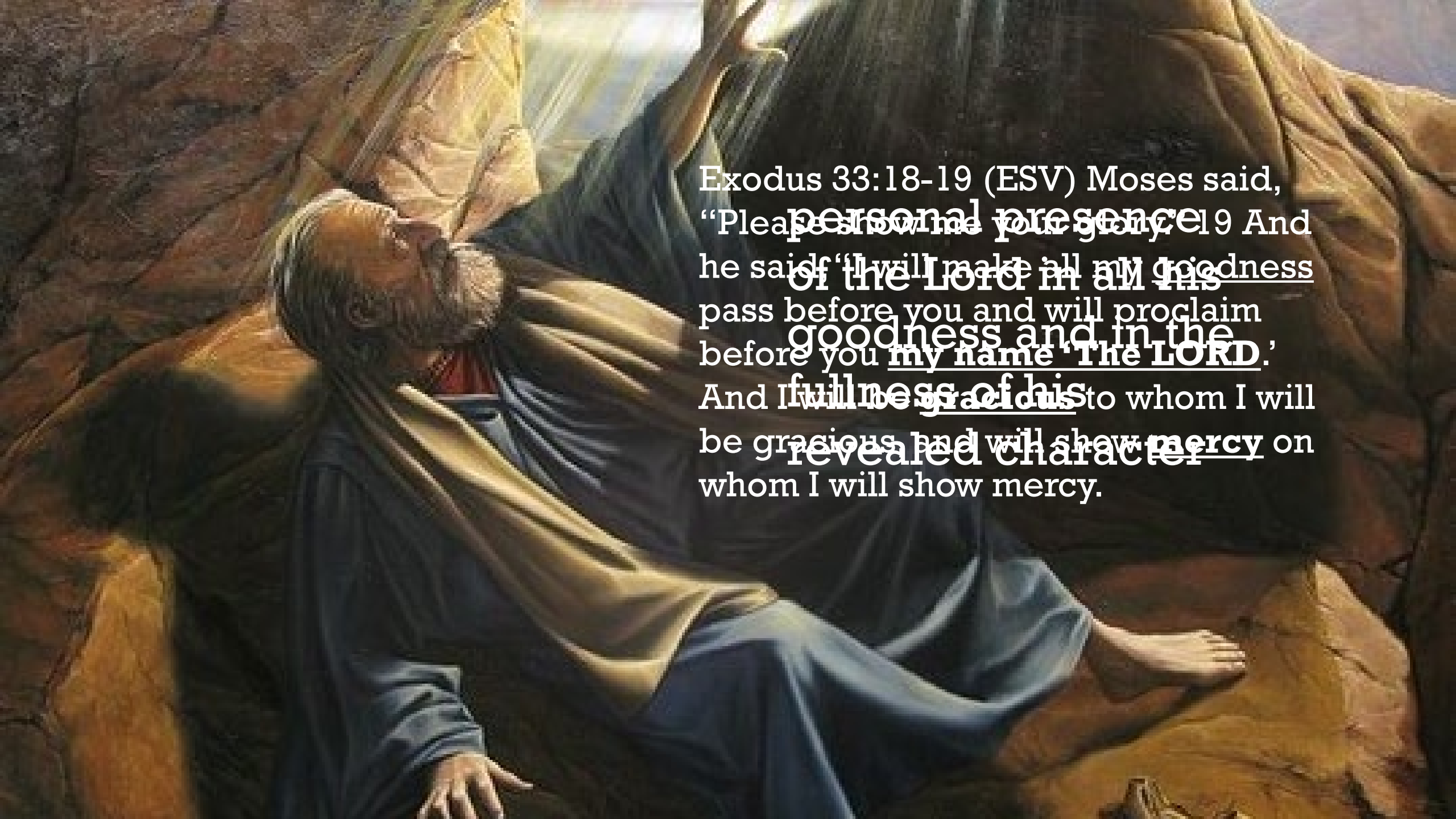
## THE WORLDS GLORY IS A TWO EDGED SWORD

*Harry and Meghan's  
fatal flaw — both the  
couple's and the film's  
— is in thinking they  
can control how  
others see them.  
None of us can*

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- C. We need to be transformed by His glory and this will transform how we treat others





Exodus 33:18-19 (ESV) Moses said,  
“Please show me your glory.”  
19 And he said, “I will make all my goodness  
pass before you and will proclaim  
before you my name ‘The LORD.’  
And I will be gracious to whom I will  
be gracious, and will show mercy on  
whom I will show mercy.”

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.



Lord Jesus Christ, the  
Lord of glory.



## OUR NEW OUTLOOK ON WHAT GLORY IS

Philippians 2:5-11 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.





ANWAR IZRAHIM



# THE WORLD TRIES TO MAKE ITS OWN GLORY



2 Corinthians 4:4-5 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5





**WHAT IS GLORY**

**WHICH METRIC IN WHICH TO JUDGE**

# DISCRIMINATION REVEALS DOUBLE STANDARDS

Wealth

Race

Strength

Beauty

Pedigree

Wisdom

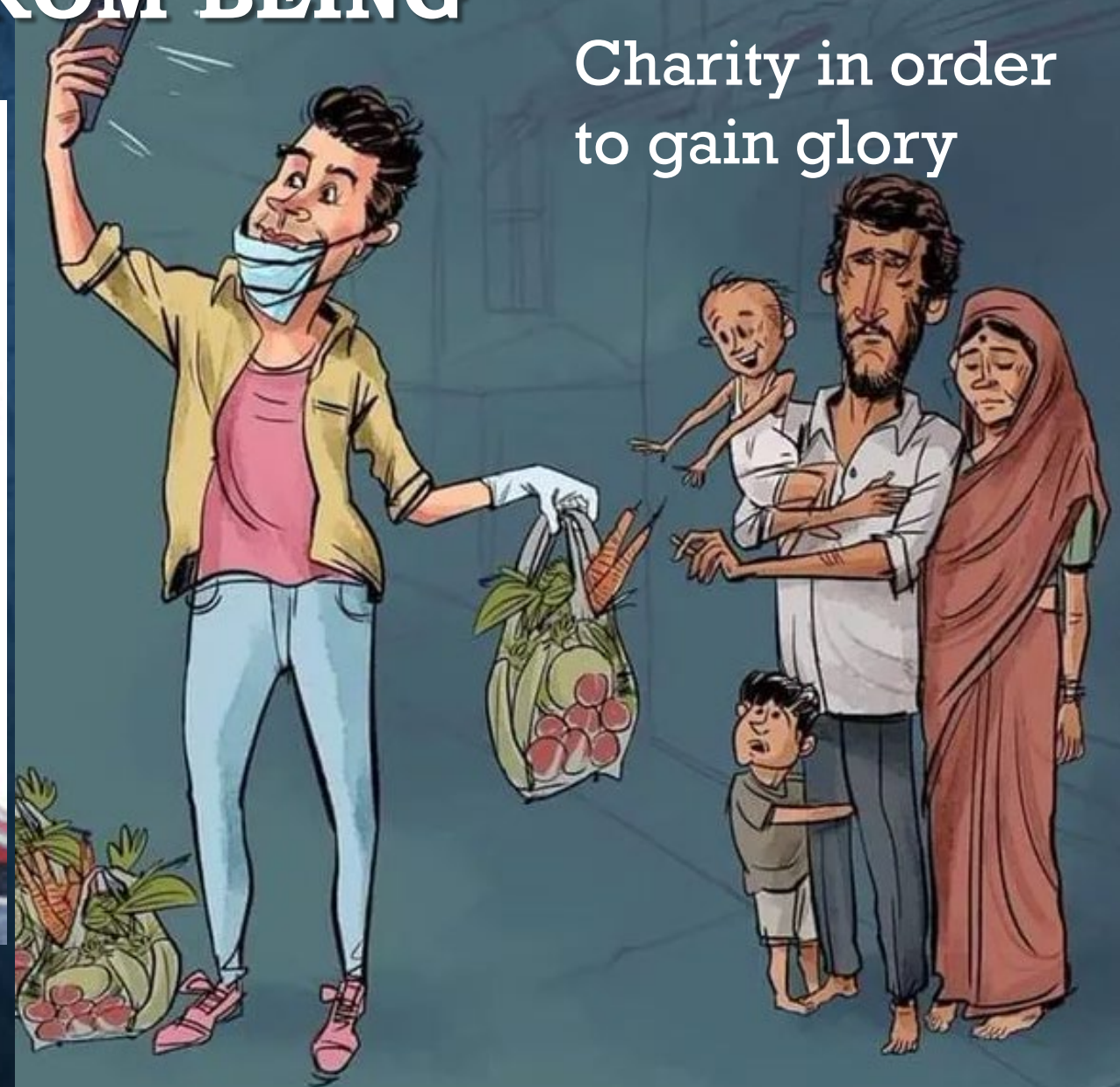
Education

# DOING COMES FROM BEING

Charity because  
it is Christ's  
glory




Charity in order  
to gain glory







A young boy with dark hair and blue eyes is looking up at an adult's hand holding a whole orange. The background is slightly blurred, showing other children. The text is overlaid on the image.

Philippians 2:7b **but emptied himself,**  
by taking the **form**  
**of a servant**

**REPRODUCING THE LIFE AND GLORY OF CHRIST**

# MIRROR ANALOGY

See image of self but forget

We have the perfect picture of ourselves  
Perfect image of reality  
Frees us to be our true selves  
Glory of Christ in our lives and not fake glory





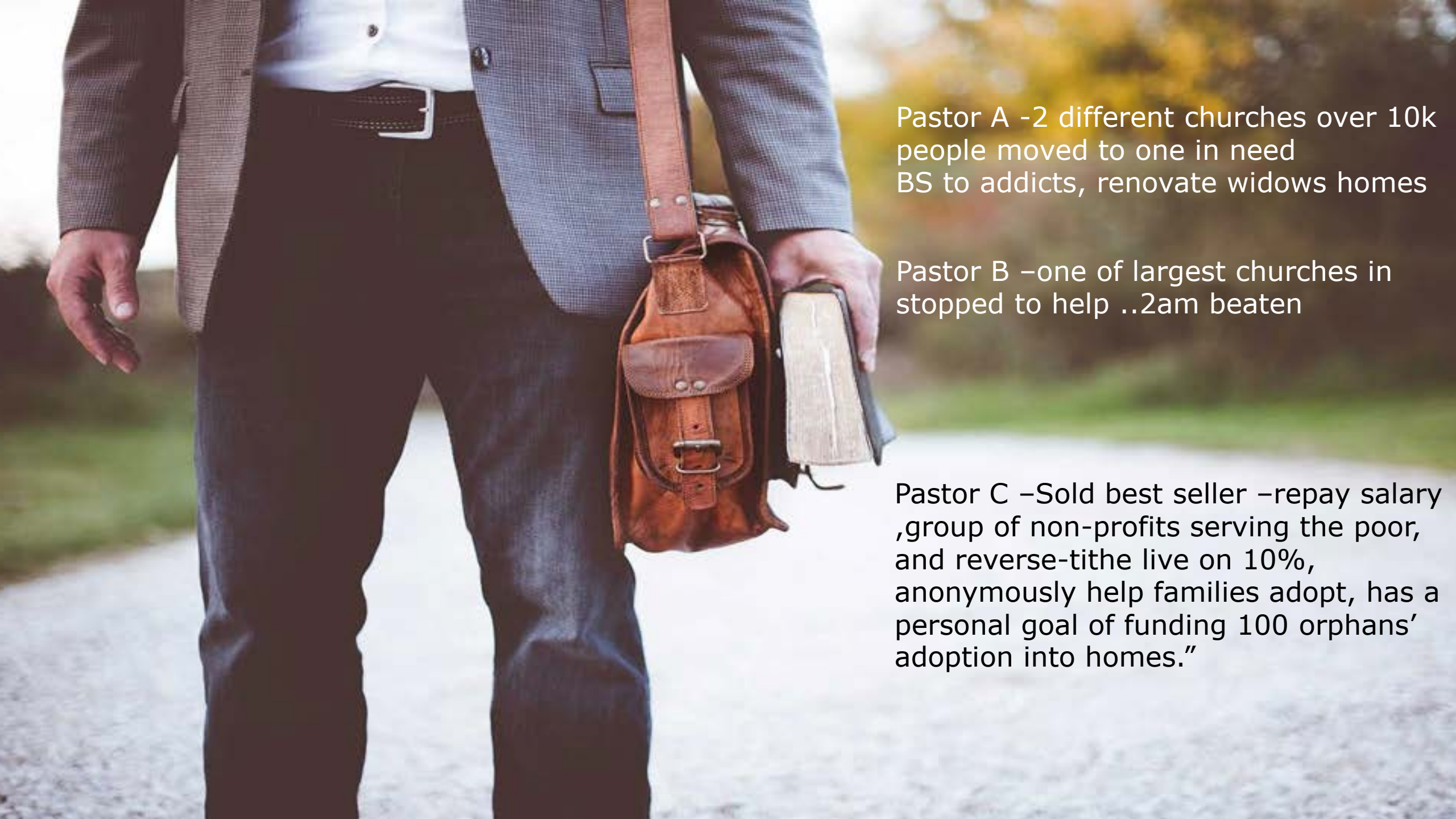
# MEGACHURCH PASTORS WITH SCANDALS



**'Megachurch Pastors Exposed':  
Twitter Thread Highlights Work of  
Pastors With No Scandals**

By Dale Chamberlain - July 15, 2022





Pastor A -2 different churches over 10k people moved to one in need  
BS to addicts, renovate widows homes

Pastor B -one of largest churches in  
stopped to help ..2am beaten

Pastor C -Sold best seller -repay salary  
,group of non-profits serving the poor,  
and reverse-tithe live on 10%,  
anonymously help families adopt, has a  
personal goal of funding 100 orphans'  
adoption into homes."



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