

FBC
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
DURHAM, NC

GAMMA22

GAMMA
SERIES

EPHESIANS

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE, EMPOWERED BY PEACE

STUDY 14

NEW LIFE AND NEW INTEGRITY

Ephesians 4: 17-25

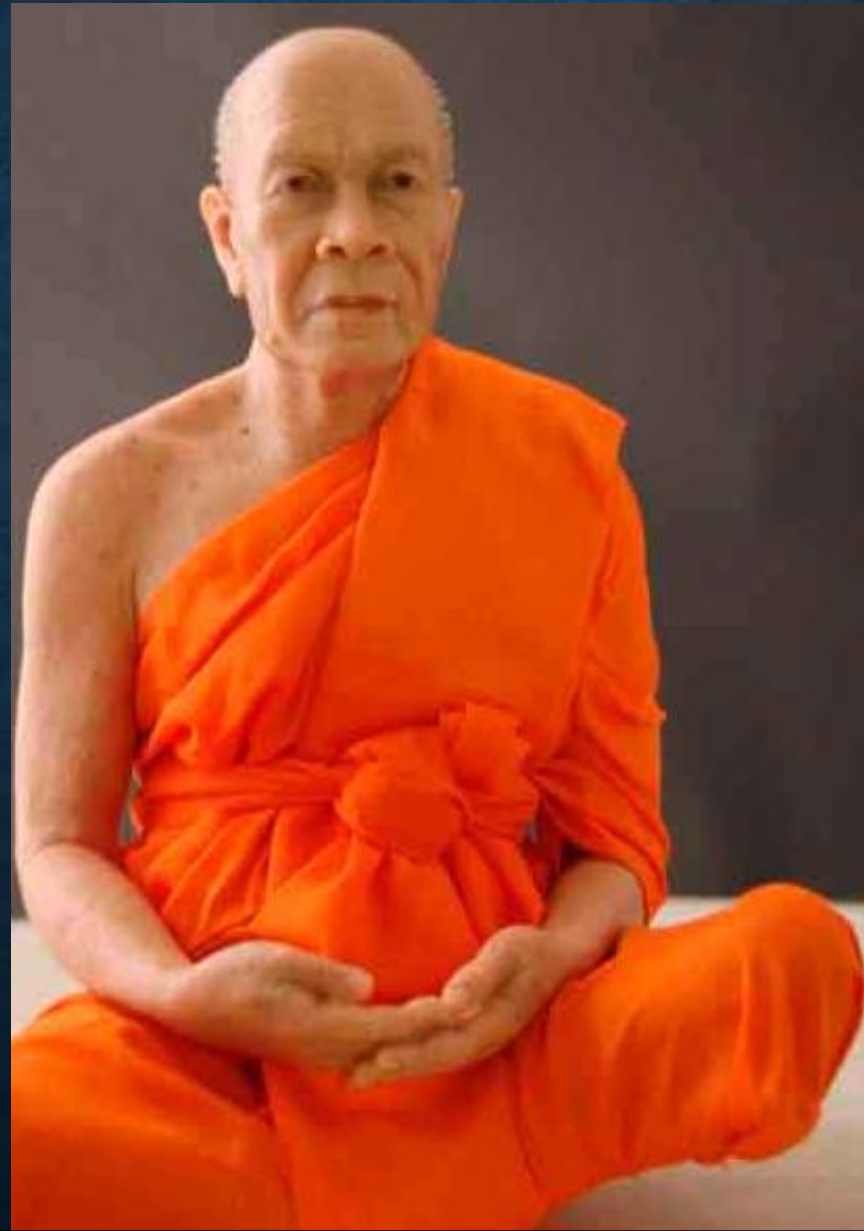


Spiritual Transformation in the Church

EPHESIANS 4

1. Maintaining the Unity of the Spirit v1-6
2. Utilizing Diversity to build up Unity v 7-16
3. New Life and New Integrity v 17-25
4. Overcoming Anger and Bitterness v 25-32

INTRODUCTION...MORAL EXCELLENCE



Will I have to
give up sleeping
with my
girlfriend

Will I have to
stop lying on my
sales pitch

Will I have to
resolve my
differences with
my enemies

Will I have to
give up my law
suit

Ephesians 4:17–25 (ESV) 17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their

harsh and angry feelings, because they are filled with impurity, the realities

20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

METAPHOR



REASON FOR NEW MORALITY

22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness

Toraja in South Sulawesi



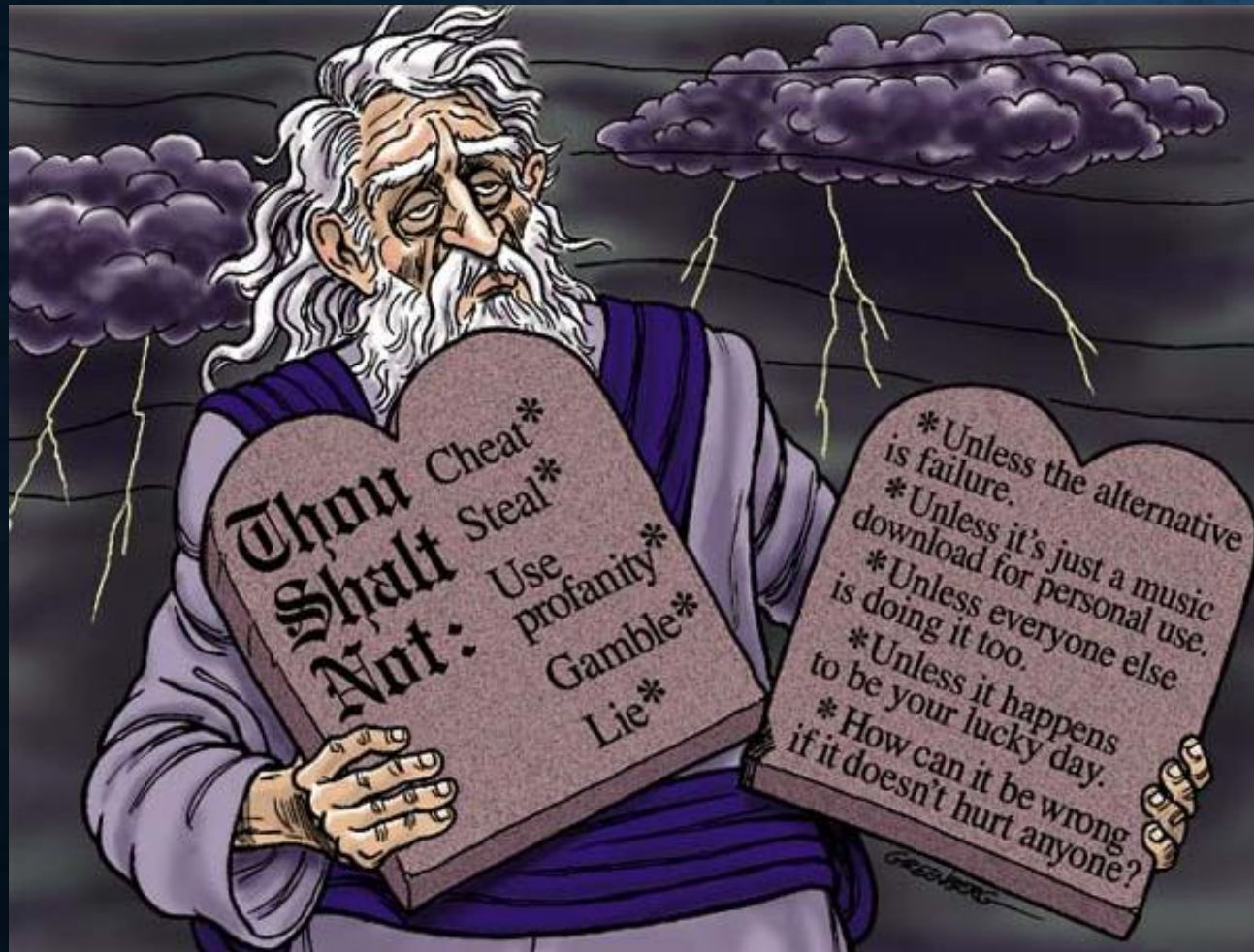


USELESS



OLD SELF BELONGS TO SPIRITUALLY DEAD

Ephesians 4:17-19 (ESV) 17 Now this I say and
testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as
the **Dysfunctional minds** of their minds. 18
They are darkened ^{minds} in their understanding, alienated
from the life of **The reason for their disordered** that
is in them, due to their hardness of **heart.** 19 They
have become callous and have given themselves up to
sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of
impurity.



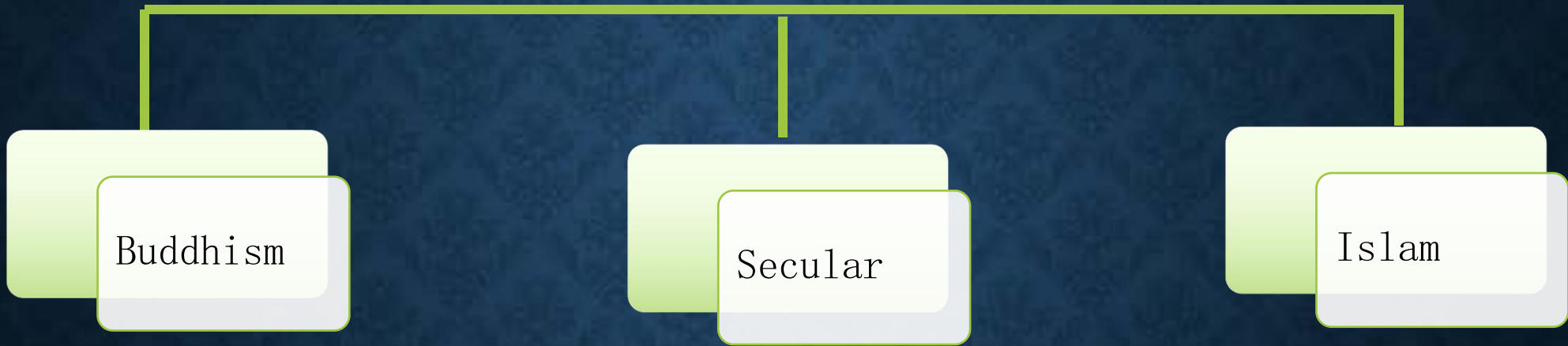
**ONE OF THE GREATEST
TRAGEDIES IN
MANKIND'S
ENTIRE HISTORY
MAY BE THAT
MORALITY WAS
HIJACKED BY
RELIGION.**

Arthur C. Clarke
AtheistRepublic.com



Morality

Doing



- Karma ---good works
- Rituals
- Meditation..non attachment
- Benefit all sentient beings

- Personal morality
- Out of fear of punishment
- Has benefits to self
- Pride of being a good person

- Obedience..duty
- Good works to please God
- Works have merit salvation

SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION

new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness



IDENTITY

Old Identity

Centered on his treasure
Honesty because it works
Lie if it does not work
Low self esteem
Family or personal back ground
Emotional trauma
Failure...affects his identity

New Identity

Start all over again
New center in Christ
All debts forgiven
Loved by GOD
Nothing will get at your identity
No condemnation in Jesus

CONTRAST

Ephesians 4:19–21 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!—
21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus

NEW SPIRITUAL REALITY

Ephesians 2:4–6 (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,

NEW IDENTITY= NEW MORALITY

Ephesians 4: 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness

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.

MOTIVES

Old Motives

Fear of punishment
Fear of loss of face
Fear of failure
Best strategy for
success
Pride of personal
values

New Motives

Gratitude for what
Jesus has done
No feeling of
condescension to
others

MOTIVES

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

If we love God we will love who He is ...TRUTH
Falsehood is a denial of who He is and who you are

MOTIVE FOR TRUTH

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Reason for the
truth

OUR OBLIGATION TO BUILD UP

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

LEPROSY



THINKING

What is the basis of your values ...how do you know what is right or wrong
Get it from the world or the Word of God

Old Thinking

World
Popular culture
Morality being nice
Nice like a snowflake
intricate but cold
Good for cultured successful
people

New Thinking

From the word of God
Growth after taking truth in
you
Truth is living thing and
changes you from inside
Humbler , wiser deeper
Warmth
Speaks to failure too

ST AUGUSTINE

- His old mistress ...but Augustine
- “It is I , I know but It is not I “
- Uses new identity to transform his thinking



NEW INTEGRITY

INTEGRITY CORNER STONE OF NEW LIFE

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

TRACING THE ROOT OF FALSEHOOD

Ephesians 4:22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,

Lies is symptoms of falsehood

THINKING

Satan

Actively controls us through falsehood

Genesis 3:4-5 (ESV) But the serpent said to the woman,

“You will not surely die. 5

For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

THINKING

Heart

We generate our own lies

Jeremiah 17:9–10 (ESV) The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick ;who can understand it?10 “I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”



The Lie

God if you loved
me you would get
it for me

Deceitful desire

Pride , Luxury
comfort at expense of
others




The Lie

God If you loved me you
wouldn' t let me suffer like
this

Deceitful desire

Desire to enjoy my life
without reference to God



The Lie
Worldliness
- God will go
easy on me

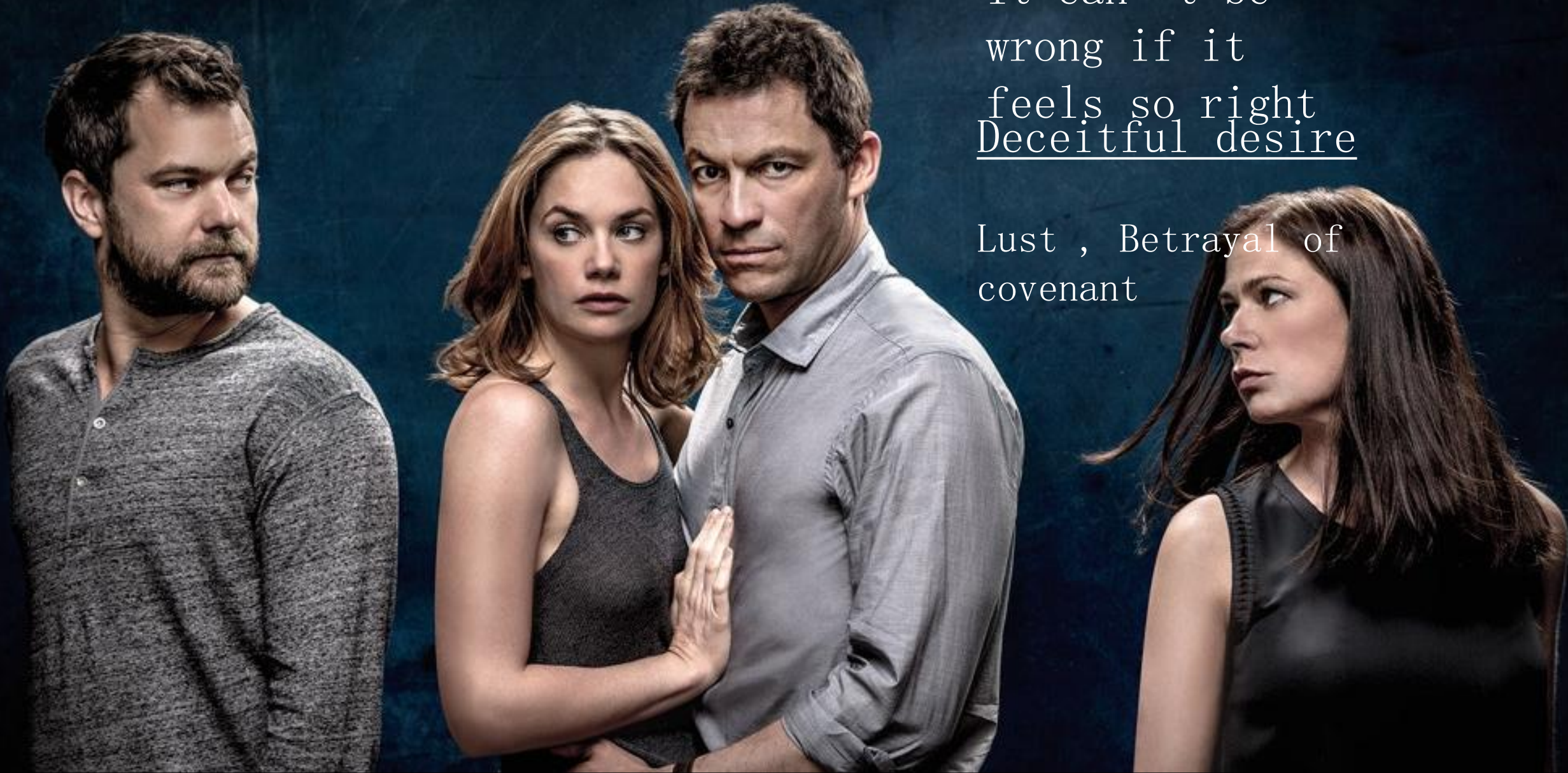
Deceitful desire
Please myself
Live for myself

THE AFFAIR

The Lie

It can't be
wrong if it
feels so right
Deceitful desire

Lust , Betrayal of
covenant

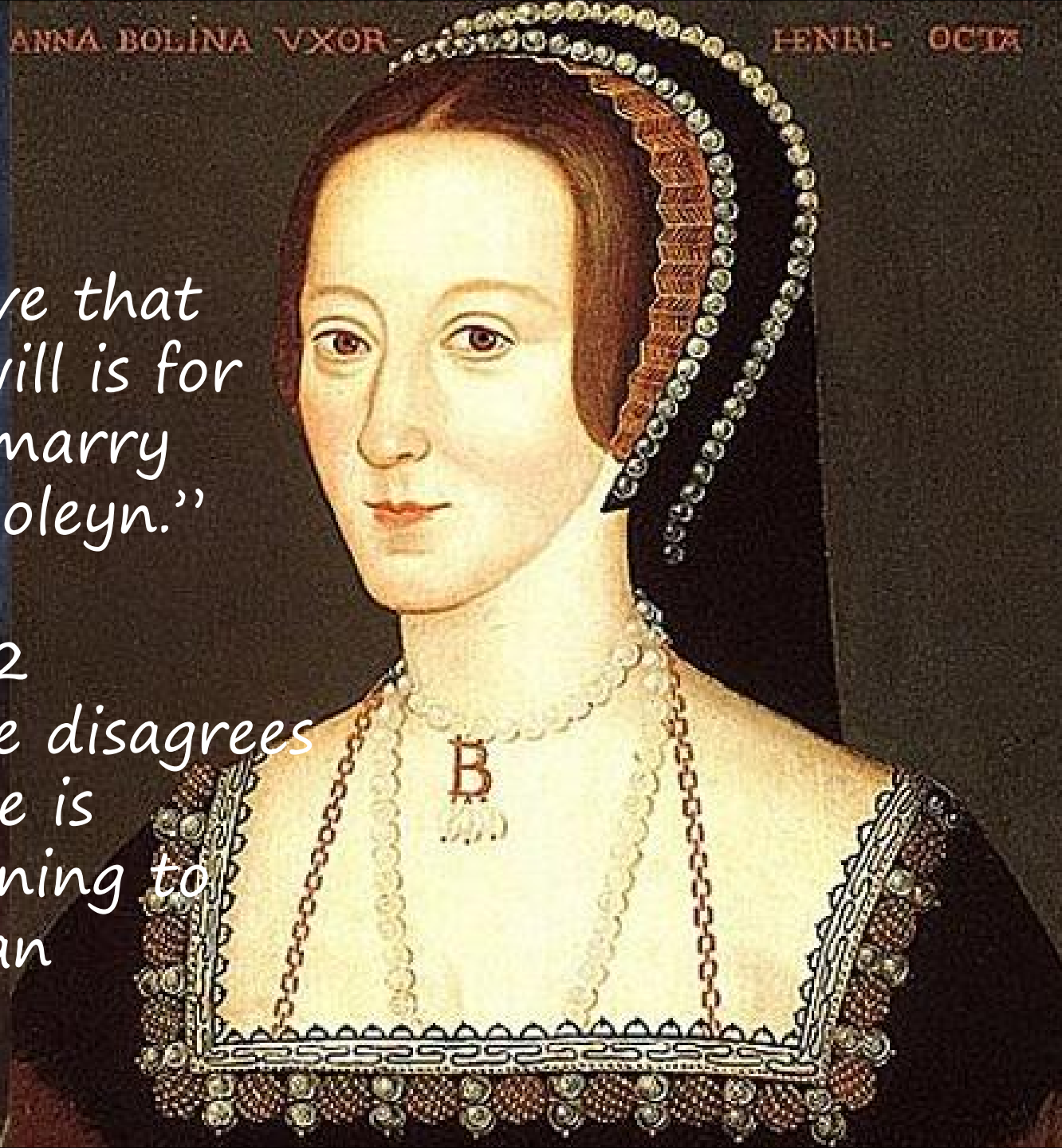




OUR LIES HAVE CONSEQUENCES

Bitterness - I cannot see
my own debts to God

Anxiety - God does not
know what He is doing



ANNA BOLINA VXOR

HENRI OCTA

Lie 1
"I believe that
God's will is for
me to marry
Anne Boleyn."

Lie 2
Pope disagrees
so he is
listening to
Satan

President Trump Made 1,950 Untrue Claims in 2017. That's Making His Job Harder

By Ryan Teague Beckwith January 2, 2018



Of PolitiFact's 483 fact checks on Trump so far, 69% were rated "mostly false," "false" or "pants on fire,"

Quinipiac polls showed 62% voters think he is not honest ---cannot sell his policies

Ephesians 4:19–21 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. 20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus

A silhouette of a person standing on a cross, set against a bright, golden sunset sky. The person is positioned on the left side of the cross, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong backlighting effect. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

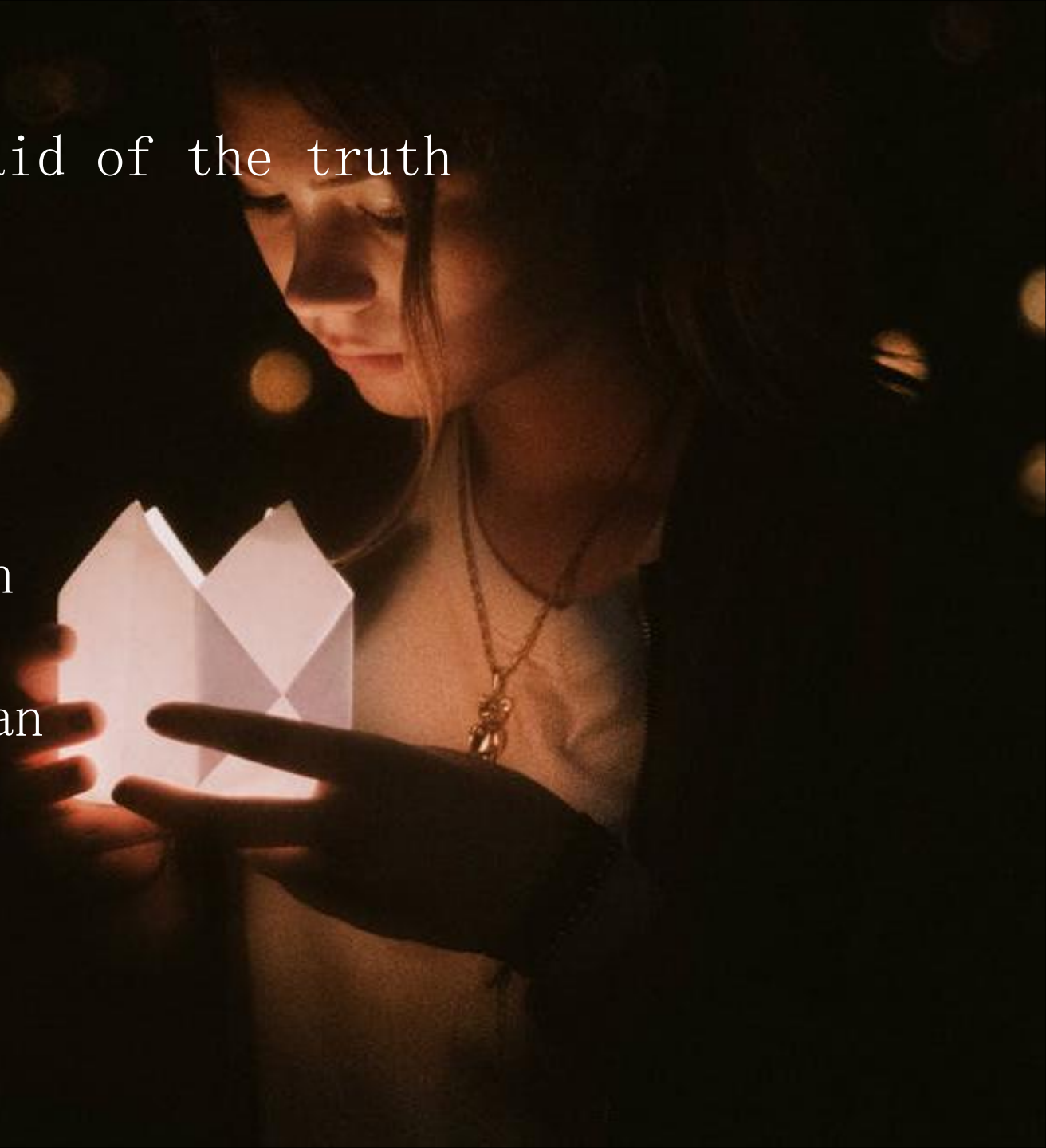
TRANSFORMED
BY TRUTH

GOD IS TRUTH

- Cross shows the absolute truth of God
- Totally consistent no lapses
- Totally righteous
- No compromise
- His character drives us

I don't have to be afraid of the truth
He has dealt with that

I am far more evil than
what I thought
I am far more loved than
I can imagine



PUTTING OFF FALSEHOOD



- Robert : I did not see him rob the bank
- John : I saw him loitering around
- Betty ----silence



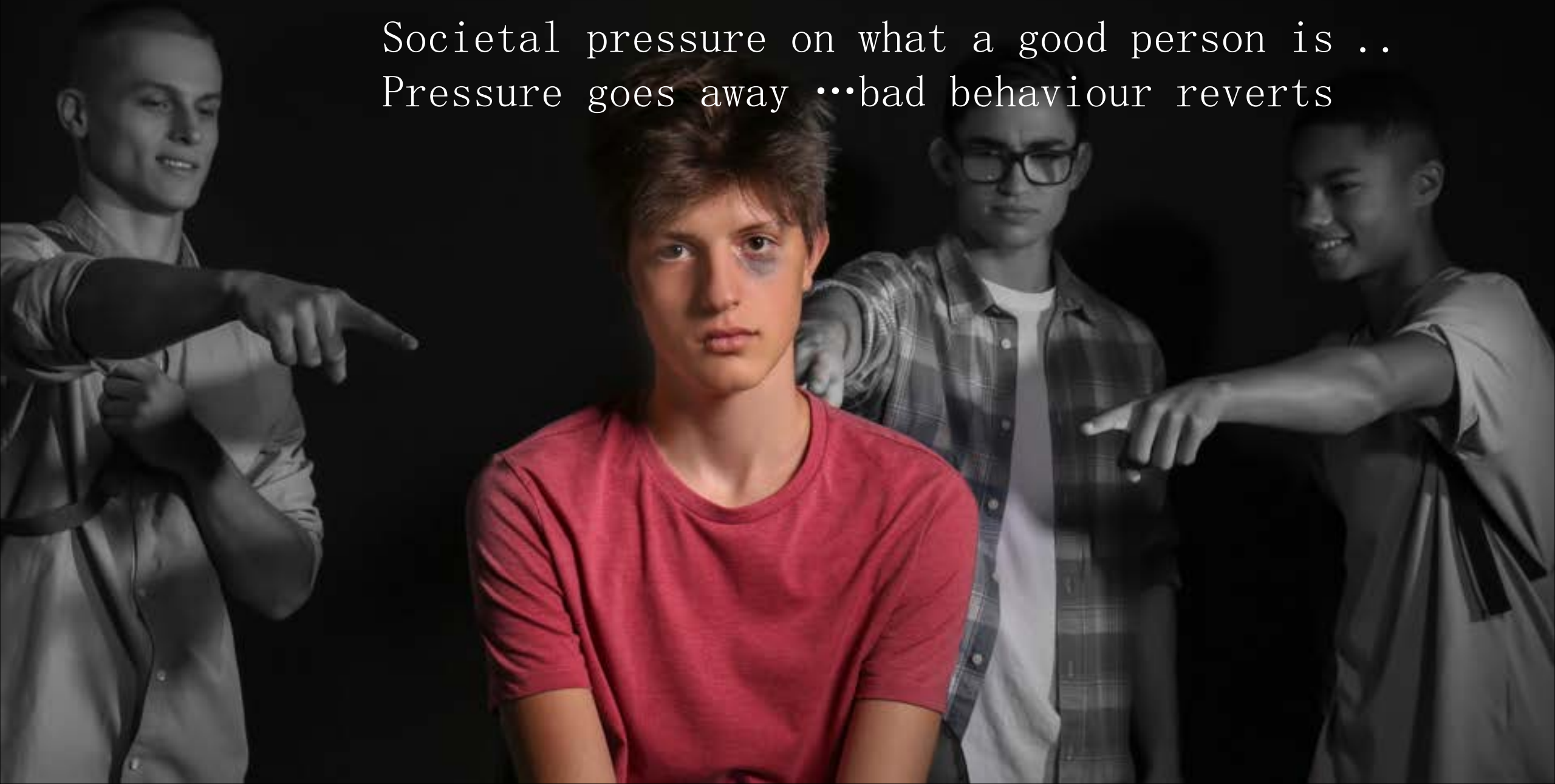
Love truth at all levels

Unbiased

Transparency

No exaggeration

Societal pressure on what a good person is ..
Pressure goes away ..bad behaviour reverts



BEFORE



AFTER



Ephesians 4:23 and to be renewed in
the spirit of your minds,



Present - continuous
passive tense-



DIRECTION-HOLINESS

Continuous process – do all the time.
The direction, roots or theme of your
thinking, journey
Transformation of your thinking using
scripture



be renewed

Passive- -to have your
imagination captured
God makes you new not your
action
You cannot do it

PRAY FOR TRANSFORMATION
EPHESIANS 3: 14-21

1. Please increase my desire and trust
for you to live through me
2. Please overwhelm us with the riches
and the beauty of your love
3. Please make me like you

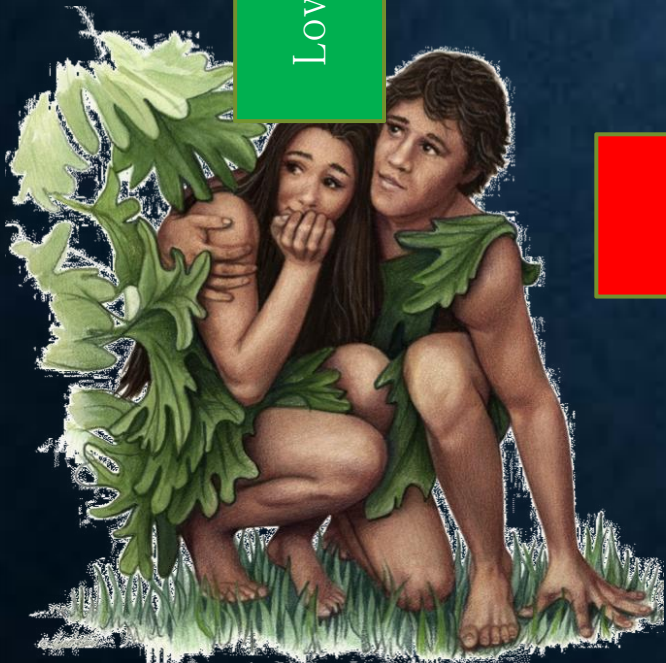
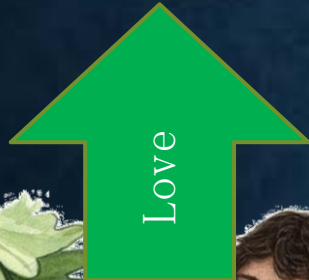
WHAT CAN I DO PRACTICALLY?

SATURATE YOUR HEART AND MIND WITH THE TRUTH

- Be honest with God
- Be honest with yourself
- Be honest with others

GOSPEL REPENTANCE—LOOK AT SIN THE WAY GOD LOOKS AT IT

God

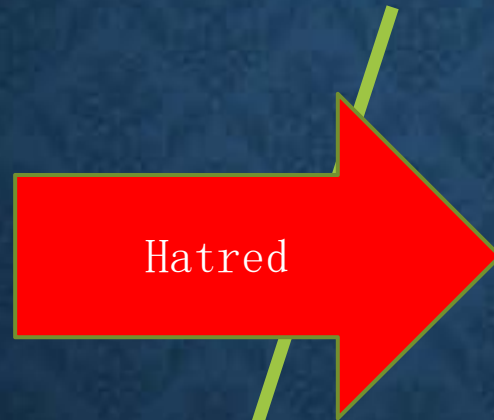


Sin

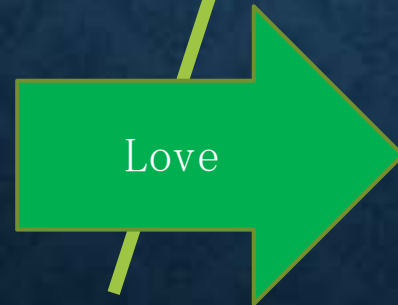


GOSPEL REPENTANCE

God

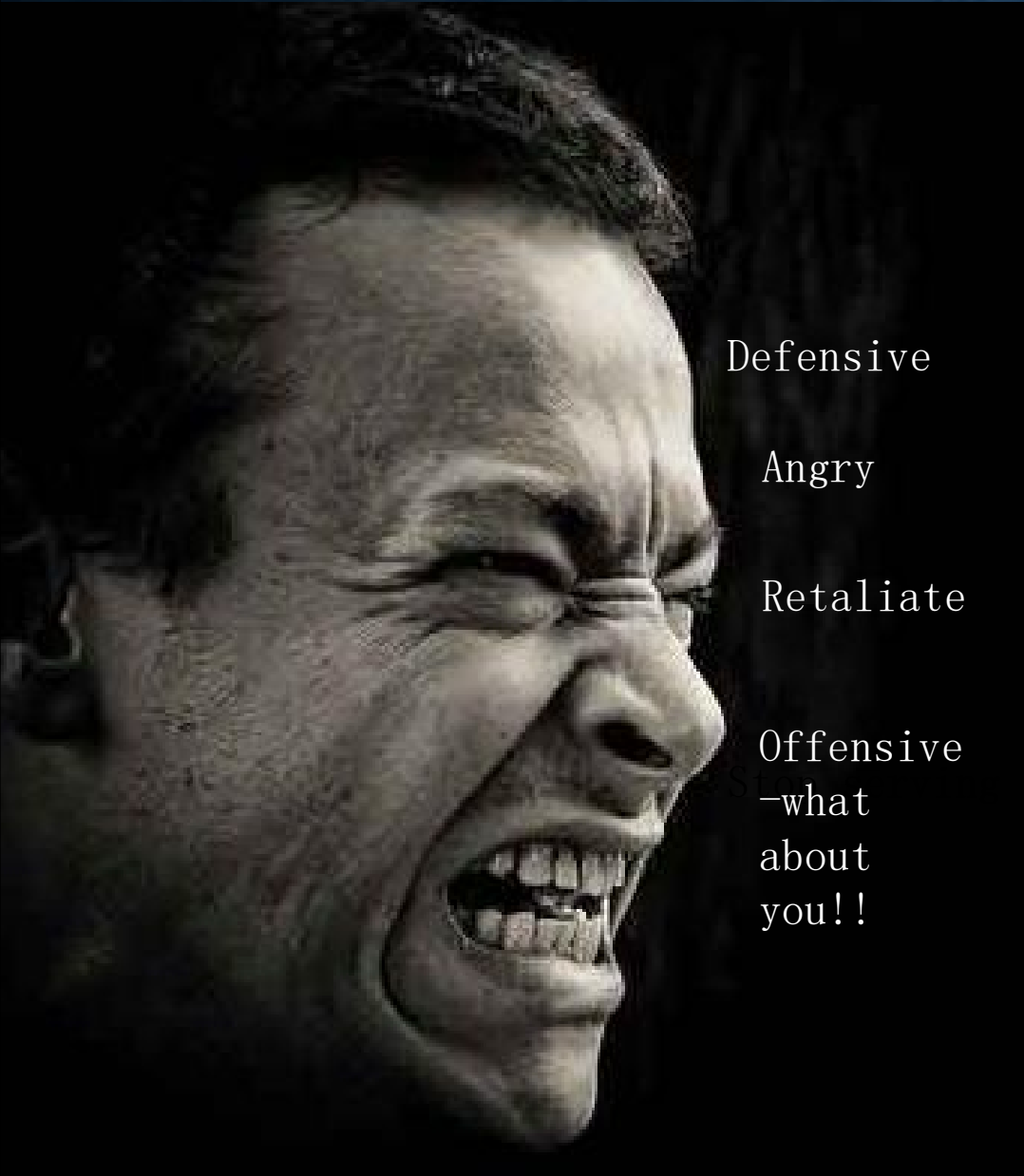


Falsehood



Truth

IMMATURE RESPONSE



Defensive

Angry

Retaliate

Offensive
-what
about
you!!



Stops attending church

Loss confidence

Defensive

Withdrawn



GODLY RESPONSE

- Careful evaluation to discern truth
- Apologize
- Use critique to grow
- Invite prayer and help

HONEST WITH OTHERS-IN LOVE



IF YOU LOVE SOMEONE, THEN YOU TALK ABOUT THE

HARD STUFF

HONESTY IS THE MEANS TO AN END


- To reflect God who is the truth
- We just don't tell the truth we aim to get it into the person



RAHAB MISLED AUTHORITIES

James 2:25 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?

Wicked and Murderous have forfeited their right to the truth



Wicked and Murderous have
forfeited their right to
the truth

integrity

sincerity

reliability

Trust

commitment



KEEPING PROMISES

We cannot predict what future will bring but we can control our responses to it
That's what makes us human



SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION

new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness

