

FBC
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
DURHAM, NC

GAMMA22

GAMMA
SERIES

EPHESIANS

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE, EMPOWERED BY PEACE



STUDY 6 SPIRITUAL DEATH

Ephesians 2:1-3

THE SCHEME OF EPHESIANS

Ephesians 1
What God did

Ephesians 2
How He did it

Ephesians 3
Why He did it

Ephesians 4-6
Our response to
what He did

THE NATURE OF OUR SALVATION

1. What we were vv 1-3

2. What God did for us vv 4-6

3. Why God did it vv 7-10

OUR ORIGINAL STATE

Ephesians 2:1–10 (ESV) 1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind

1. And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked

1. Spiritual condition

2. How were we dead?

→ following the course of this world

→ following the prince of the power of the air
the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

→ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind

3. Consequences

→ and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind

1. WHAT IS SPIRITUAL DEATH

Doctrine of Total Depravity

A close-up shot of a zombie with a grotesque, screaming face, its mouth wide open in a silent scream. The zombie is behind a rusty metal fence, with its hands pressed against the bars. In the background, other zombies are visible, also reaching out towards the camera. The scene is dimly lit, creating a dark and menacing atmosphere.

DEATH AS A METAPHOR

THE WALKING DEAD

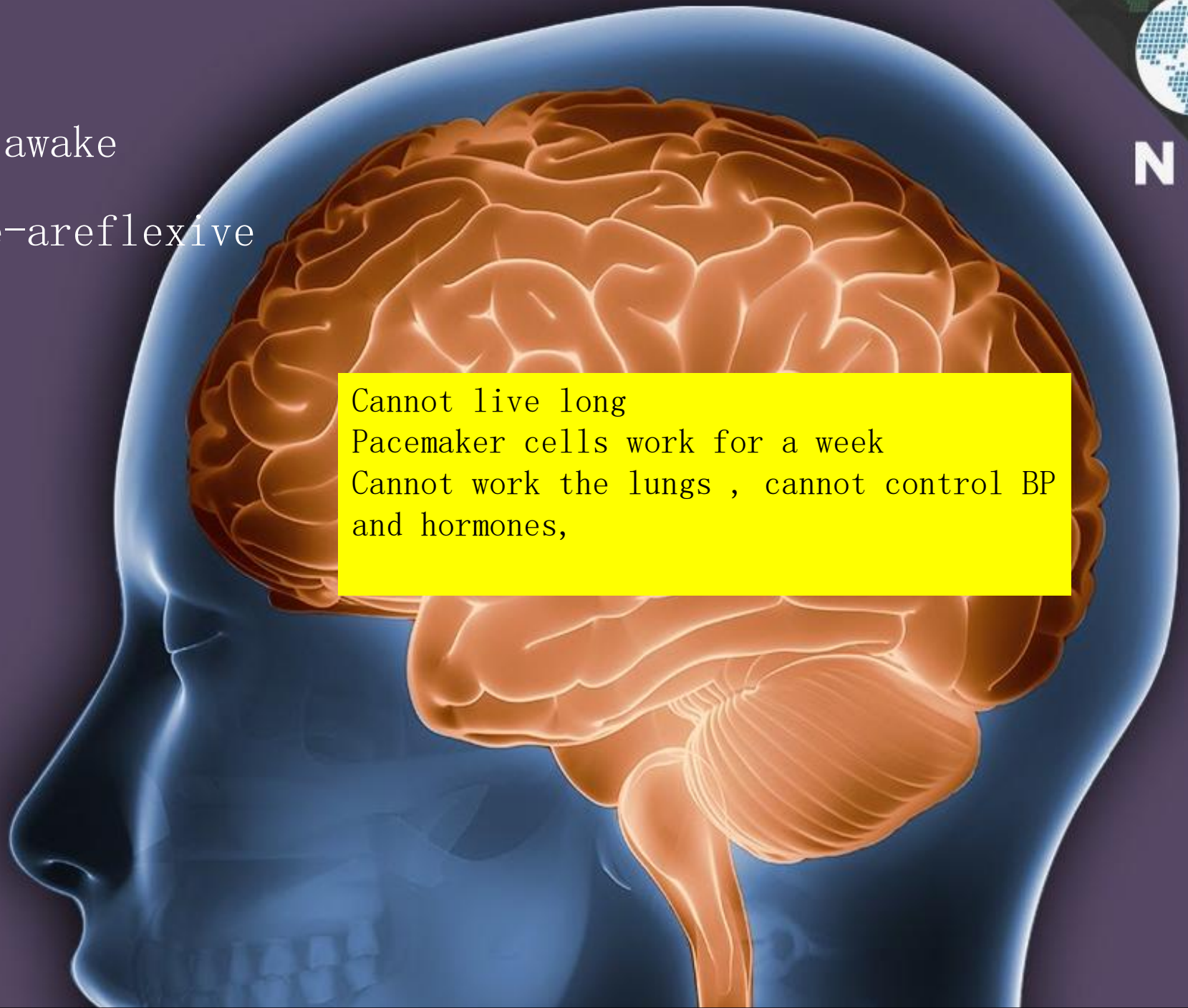
Not aware not awake

Not responsive-areflexive

Not breathing

Cannot live long
Pacemaker cells work for a week
Cannot work the lungs , cannot control BP
and hormones,

BRAIN DEATH



SIMILAR CONCEPT

Brain Death



Physical Death

Spiritual Death



Physical Death

Eternal Death

SPIRITUAL DEATH

1. Non responsive to spiritual values
2. No ability to do so
3. No insight over his own death

ORDERS OF LIFE

Plant life



Animal life



Human life



Spiritual life



REQUIRING DIVINE INTERVENTION



John 3:3 (ESV)
Jesus answered him,
“Truly, truly, I
say to you, unless
one is born again
he cannot see the
kingdom of God.”

1. And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked

1. Spiritual condition

2. How were we dead?

→ following the course of this world

→ following the prince of the power of the air

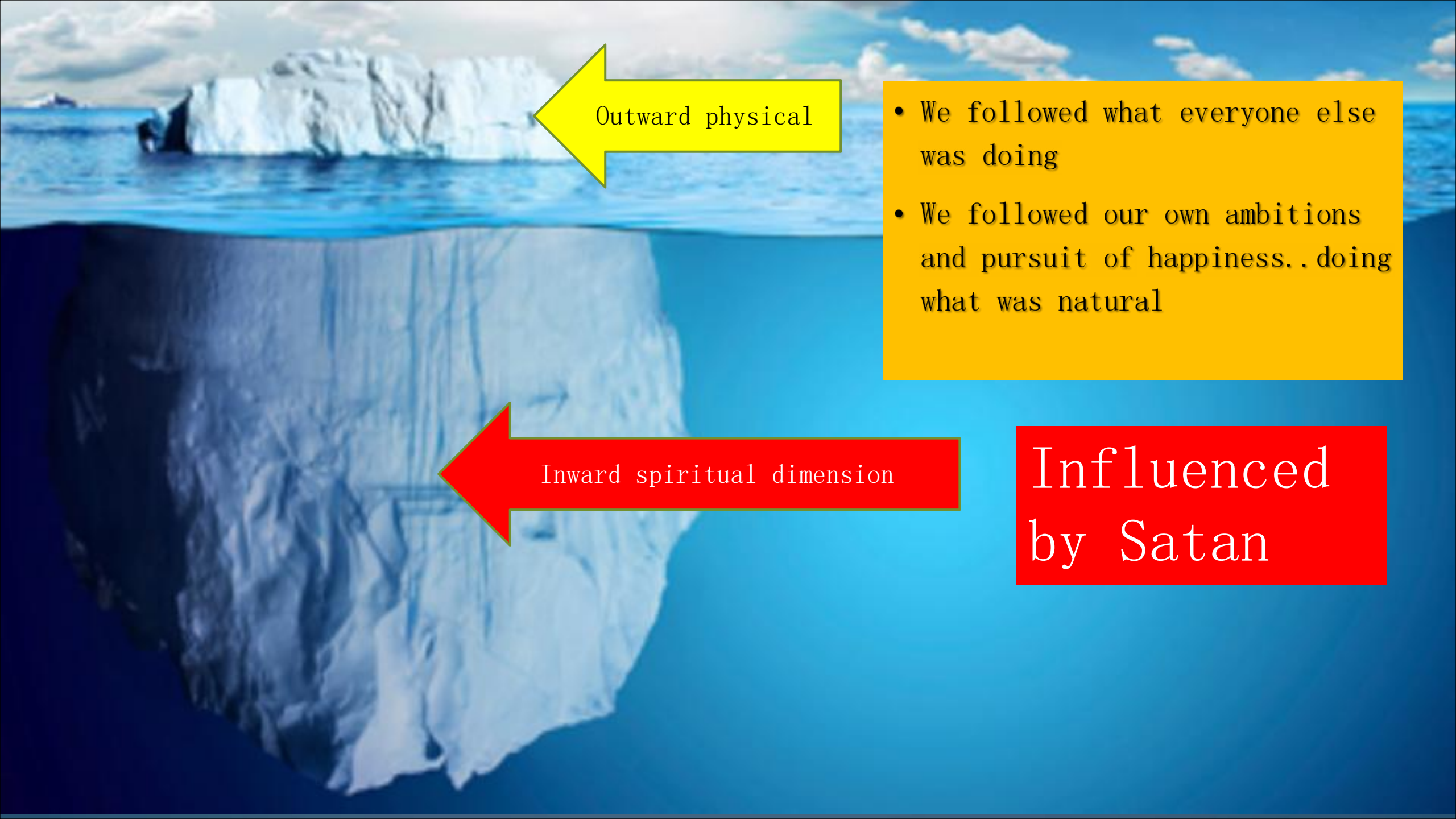
→ the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

→ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind

3. Consequences

→ and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind

HOW ARE WE SPIRITUALLY DEAD



Outward physical

- We followed what everyone else was doing
- We followed our own ambitions and pursuit of happiness..doing what was natural

Inward spiritual dimension

Influenced by Satan

DEMONIC INFLUENCE?



SATAN'S SUBTLENESS



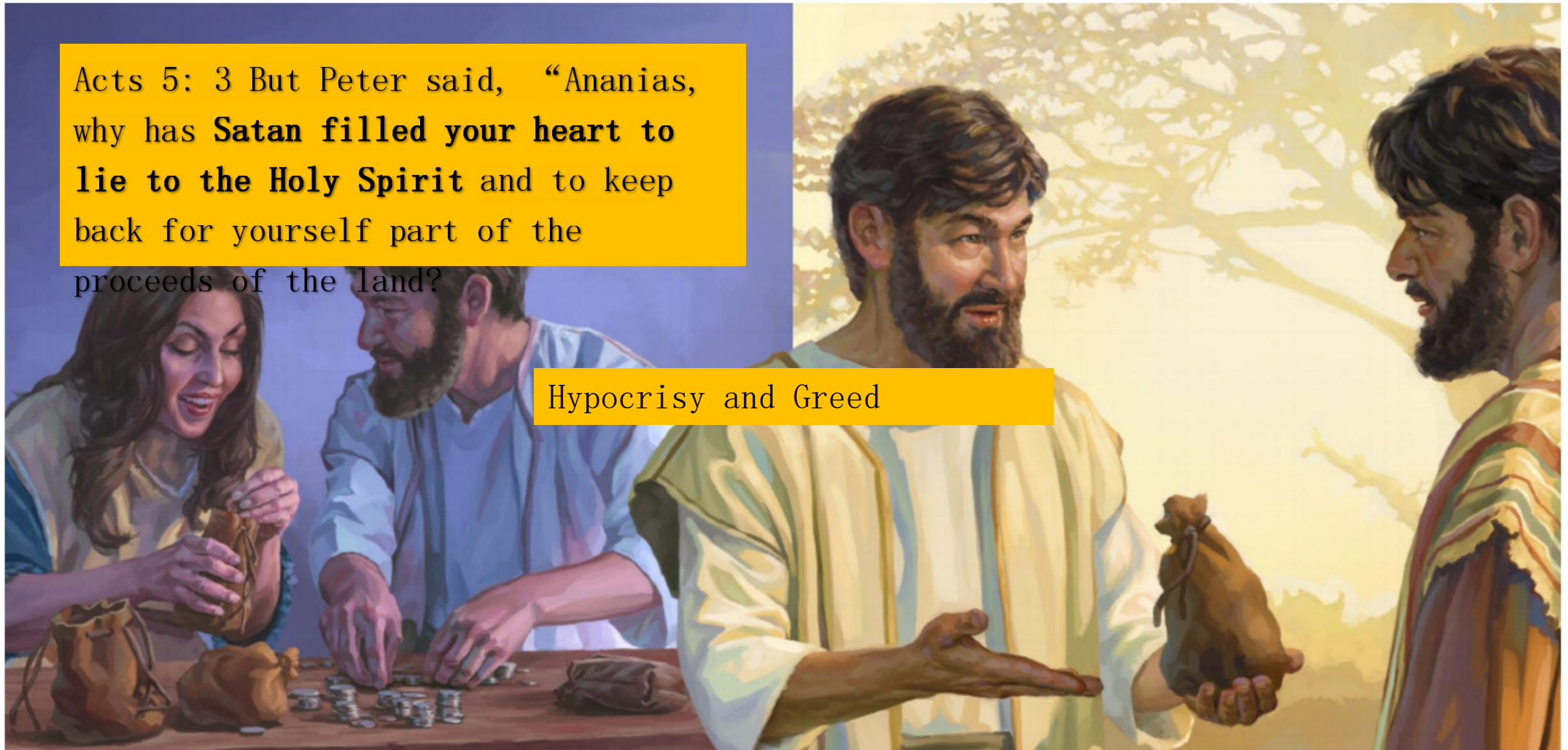
Emotional attachment
Misunderstanding of the
nature of the kingdom

Mark 8:32-33 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, **“Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”**

ANANIAS AND SAPHIRA

Acts 5: 3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has **Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit** and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?”

Hypocrisy and Greed



SATAN IS BEHIND EVERY DESIRE TO DISOBEY

Ephesians 2:1-3 (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

RECOGNIZE OUR OWN EVIL NATURE

Ephesians 2:1–3 (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

FLESH

*Flesh is aspect of your life that wants
to be god*



carrying out the
desires of the body and the
mind

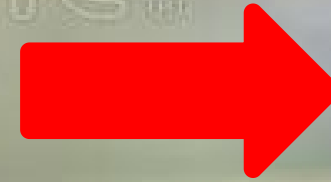
What is natural and desirable



Flesh

Normal desires

- Food
- Comfort
- Sex
- Competent
- Love and affection
- Power
- Glory




Achieve these
on my own
terms without
God



UNILATERAL ACTION

Genesis 3:5 (ESV)

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

A man with long dark hair tied in a bun, a beard, and a black ear plug is leaning over a massive, multi-layered burger. He is wearing a grey t-shirt and has a tattoo on his left forearm. The burger is stacked high with several dark, round patties, melted cheese, and shredded lettuce. The background is a light-colored, textured wall.

Desire for food is good

Live to eat not eat to live



work
career
business
performance
responsibility

life
health
family
friend
happiness

We use these to live apart from
God

Fight over them, obsessed with
them

WHAT IS THE SIN OF RELIGIOUS PEOPLE

They don't do good for the glory of God alone

Self righteousness

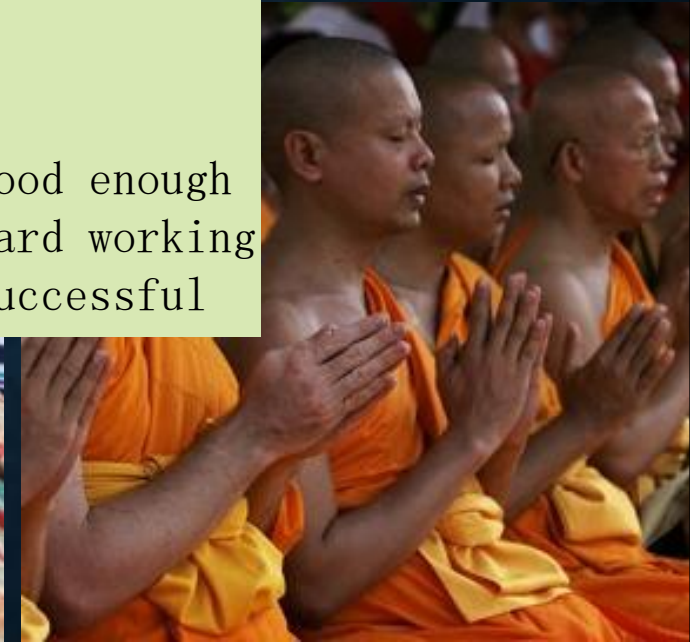
Moral
Hard working
Integrity
Good works
Defensive



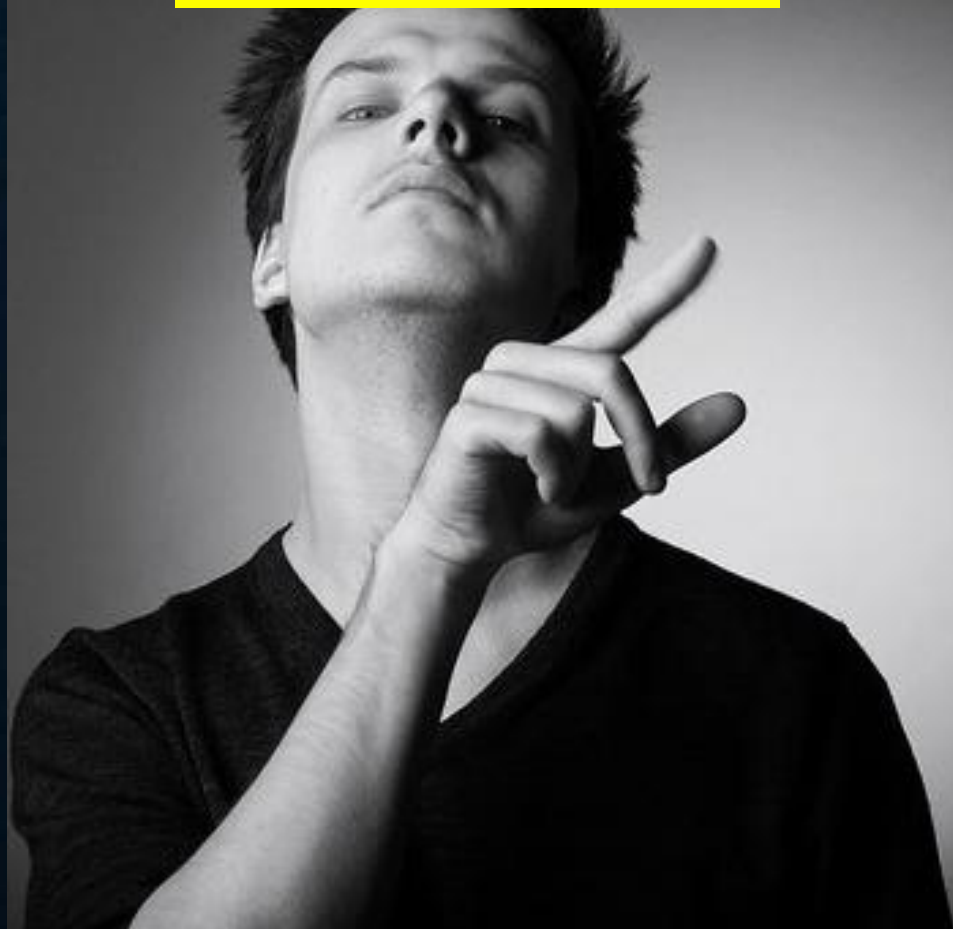
Look down on others

Gossip
Criticise

They are not good enough
They are not hard working
They are not successful



Uses morality for
self esteem and
to save himself



Uses sex to be
independent of
God



WHAT IS THE CONSEQUENCE OF OUR
SPIRITUAL DEATH

1. And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked

1. Spiritual condition

2. How were we dead?

→ following the course of this world

→ following the prince of the power of the air
the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

→ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind

3. Consequences

→ and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind

A portrait of a man with a long, flowing grey beard and a dark, textured cap. He is wearing a dark, fur-lined garment. The background is a fine, grid-like pattern. The text "TOTAL DEPRAVITY" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

TOTAL DEPRAVITY



• Sin corrupts the whole person

- Emotions
- Will
- Intellect

• Extensively evil

- Affects each in different ways



IT DOES NOT MEAN
HUMAN BEINGS ARE AS WICKED AS THEY CAN POSSIBLY BE



- Sin corrupts the whole person
 - Emotions
 - Will
 - Intellect
- Extensively evil
 - Affects each in different ways
- Incapable of truly good acts

WHAT ABOUT RELIGIOUS PEOPLE?



they cannot do these activities to the glory of God

GRACE

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graph TD; GRACE --> COMMON_GRACE[COMMON GRACE]; GRACE --> SPECIAL_GRACE[SPECIAL GRACE]
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COMMON GRACE

God's beneficial power given to
undeserving people

Great gifts of wisdom

Beauty and goodness

On all mankind

regardless of faith

Restraints evil

SPECIAL GRACE

Saving grace in the
work of Jesus Christ

New birth

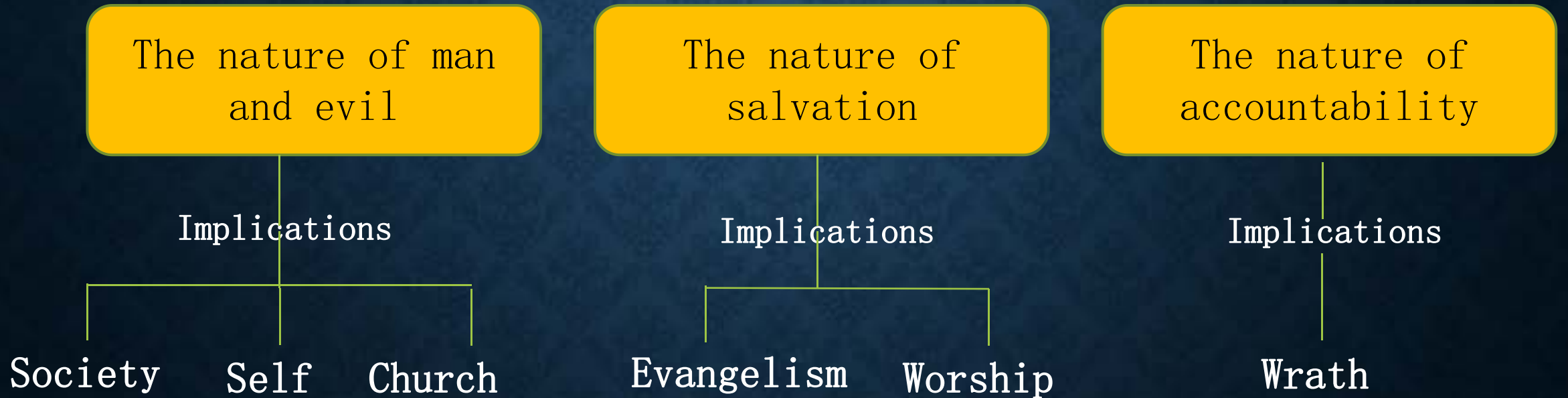
Redemption

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

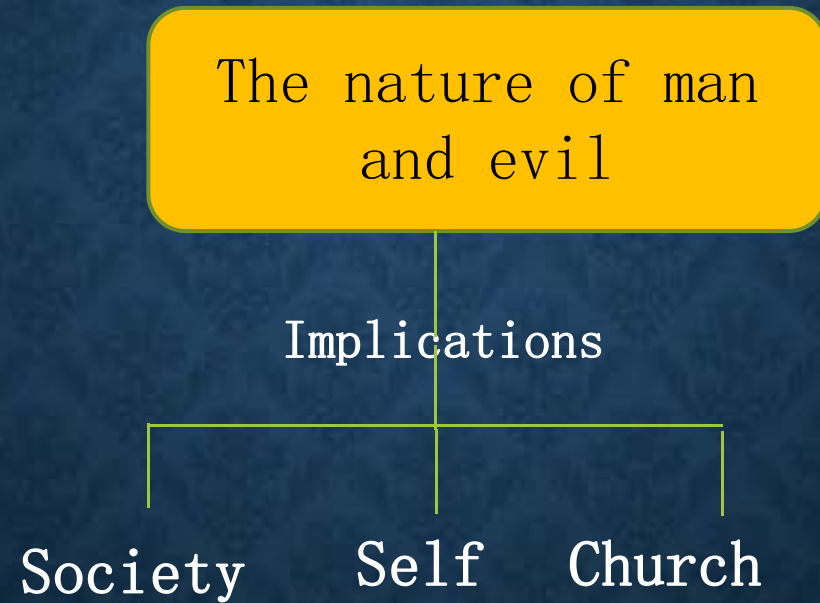


- Sin corrupts the whole person
 - Emotions
 - Will
 - Intellect
- Extensively evil
 - Affects each in different ways
- Incapable of truly good acts
- Unable to turn to God

APPLICATION OF OUR THEOLOGY



APPLICATION OF OUR THEOLOGY



SOCIETY

NATURE OR NURTURE

Bad nature kept in check by society

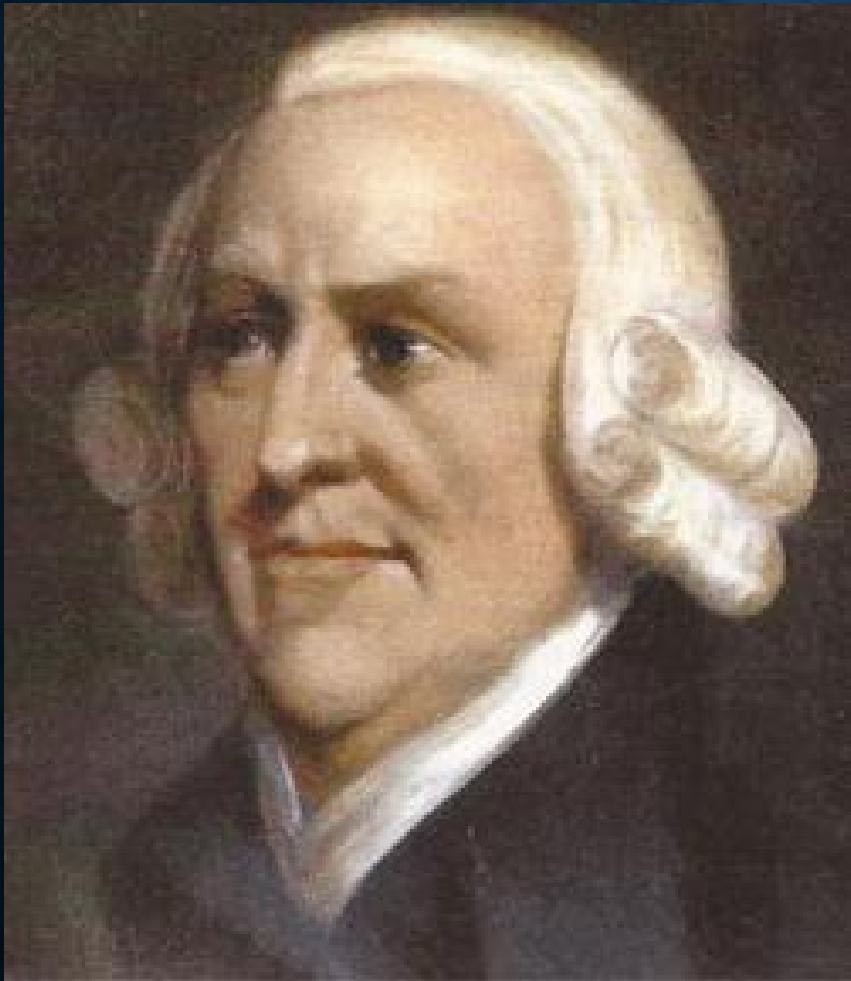


Good nature corrupted by society



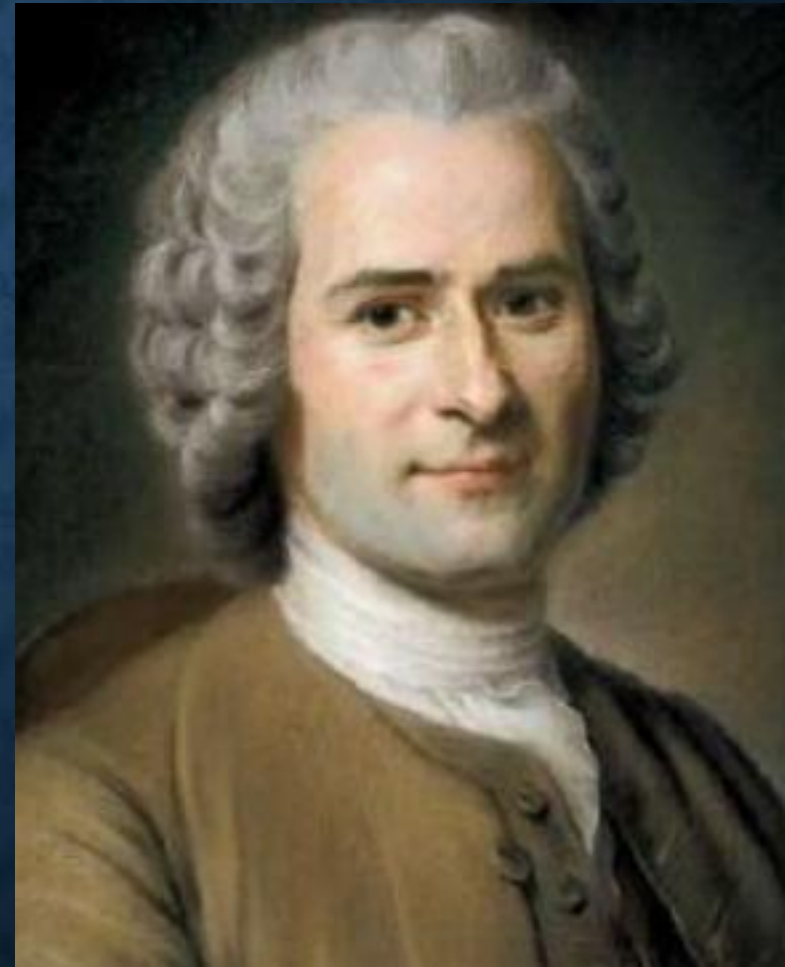
MAN IS FUNDAMENTALLY GOOD

Adam Smith



Society
makes
them bad

Jean Jacques Rousseau





PROFESSING EVANGELICALS IN BARNNA POLL 2001



70%

“man is basically good”



FINLAND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS



FINLAND WILL END ITS EXPERIMENT
WITH UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME AFTER
A TWO-YEAR TRIAL
TIME MAGAZINE 25/4/18

In 2015, Finland's unemployment
rate had hit a 17-year high of 10%,

PASTOR JAILED FOR TRAFFICKING AFRICAN CHILD 'SLAVES' BBC 18 MARCH 2011



- Lucy Adeniji - an evangelical Christian and author of two books on childcare - trafficked two girls and a 21-year-old woman from Nigeria to work as slaves in her east London home. She made them toil for 21 hours a day and tortured them if they displeased her. The youngest girl was 11 years old.



Judge Simon Oliver

SENTENCING HER TO 11-
AND-A-HALF YEARS IN
PRISON LAST MONTH,

"You are an evil woman. I have no doubt you have ruined these two girls' lives. They will suffer from the consequences of the behaviour you meted out to them for the rest of their lives."

HHJ SIMON OLIVER – EXPOSED AS TAKING BRIBES IN COURT



HE TAKES BRIBES IN THE
FORM OF ‘GIFT BOXES’ .

CHANGE THE DEFINITION OF SIN



Bill Hybels

Willow Creek Community Church - South Barrington, Illinois

The Need: Personal Fulfilment - The pursuit of Happiness



Sinner is the victim

Sin is a sickness or addiction

Flawed strategy to gain fulfilment”

ROMANS 1:21-23 (ESV)

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

ROMANS 8:6-8 (ESV)

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

SELF

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE
SPIRITUALLY DEAD?

FAITH IS JUST A ROUTINE AND CONCEPTS ABSTRACTIONS



You treat your faith like a
duty

Abstractions

Heaven—Hell

Grace

Cross

Knowledge of God

Forgiveness

Faith





THERE IS NO PASSION
FOR JESUS



No sense of missions

Use God

Serve God



Crisis reveals true spiritual state

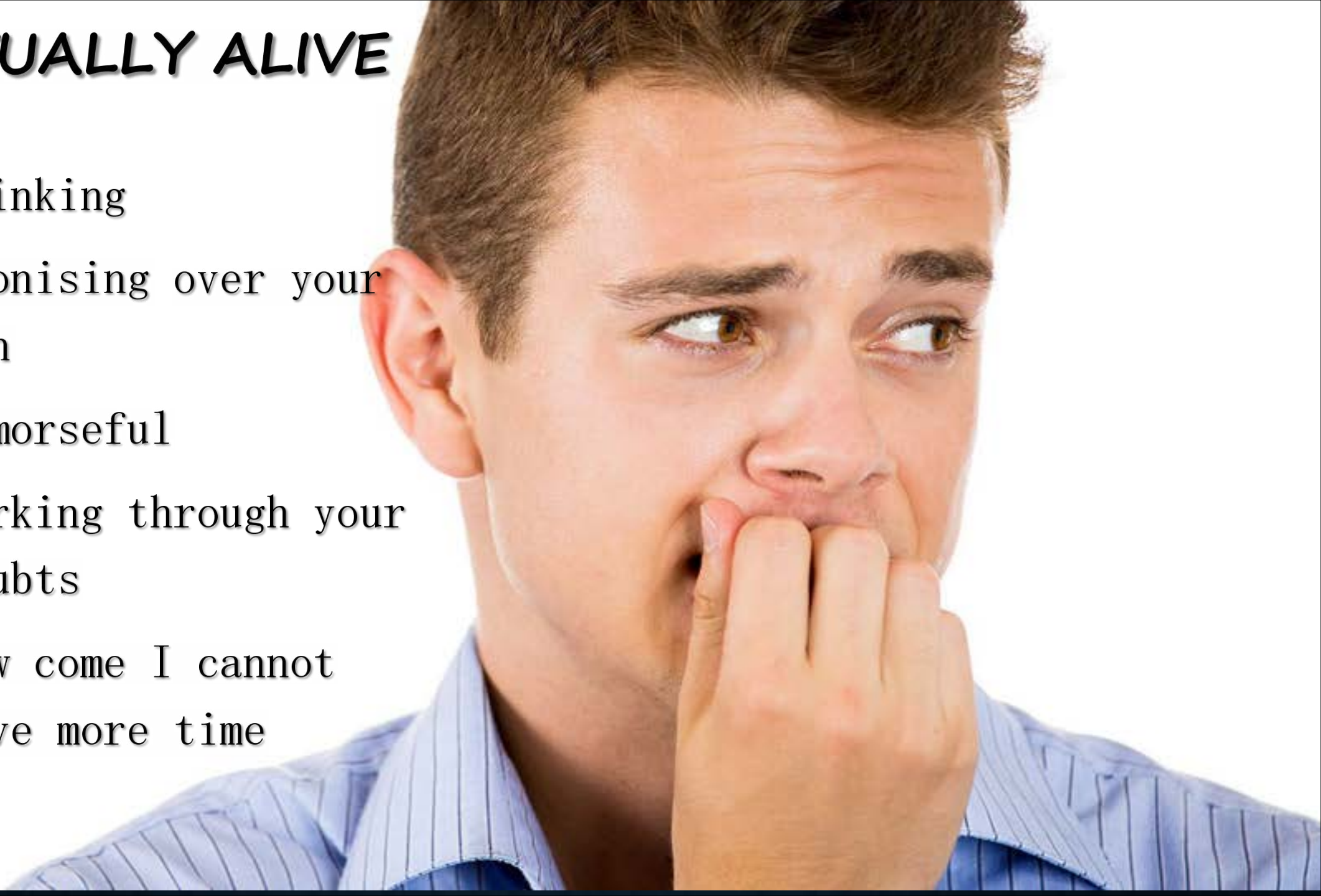


Abstractions become real in
crisis
Heavenly inheritance becomes
real
You hang on
Essence and quality

Abstractions break down
in crisis
Gods love, His
sacrifice on the cross,
reconciliation, peace
with God does not bring
comfort

SPIRITUALLY ALIVE

- Thinking
- Agonising over your sin
- Remorseful
- Working through your doubts
- How come I cannot give more time





CHURCH

You
You
You
Led
To Y
To Y
To Y



Self righteousness

Good works

Charity

Missions trips

Building fund

Prayer meeting

Hides

Sin

Failings

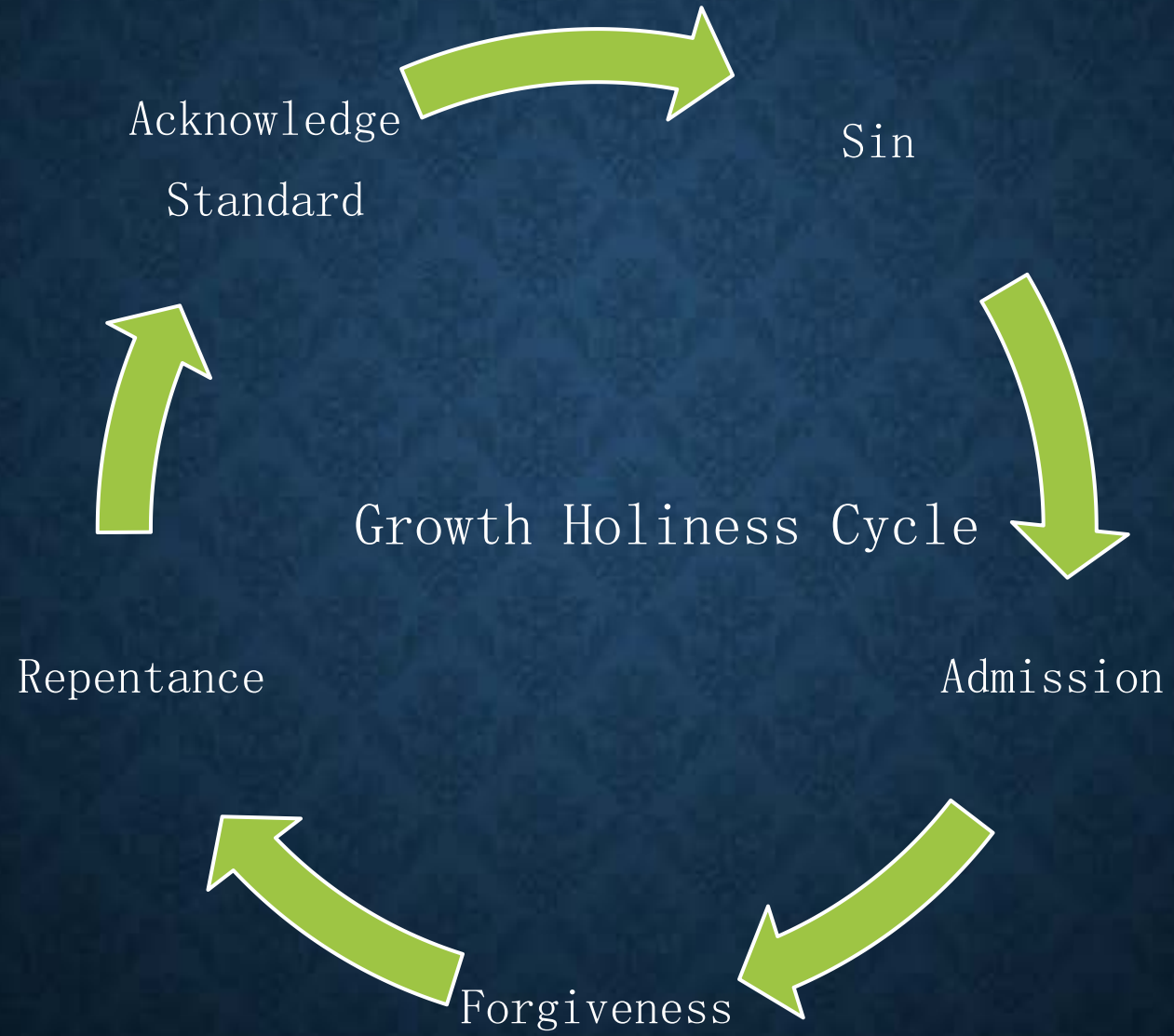
SELF ESTEEM

Repentance

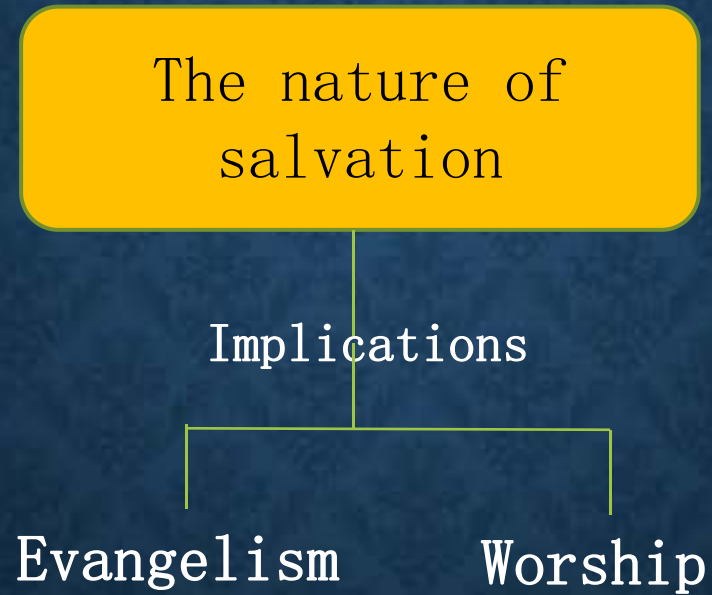
Forgiveness

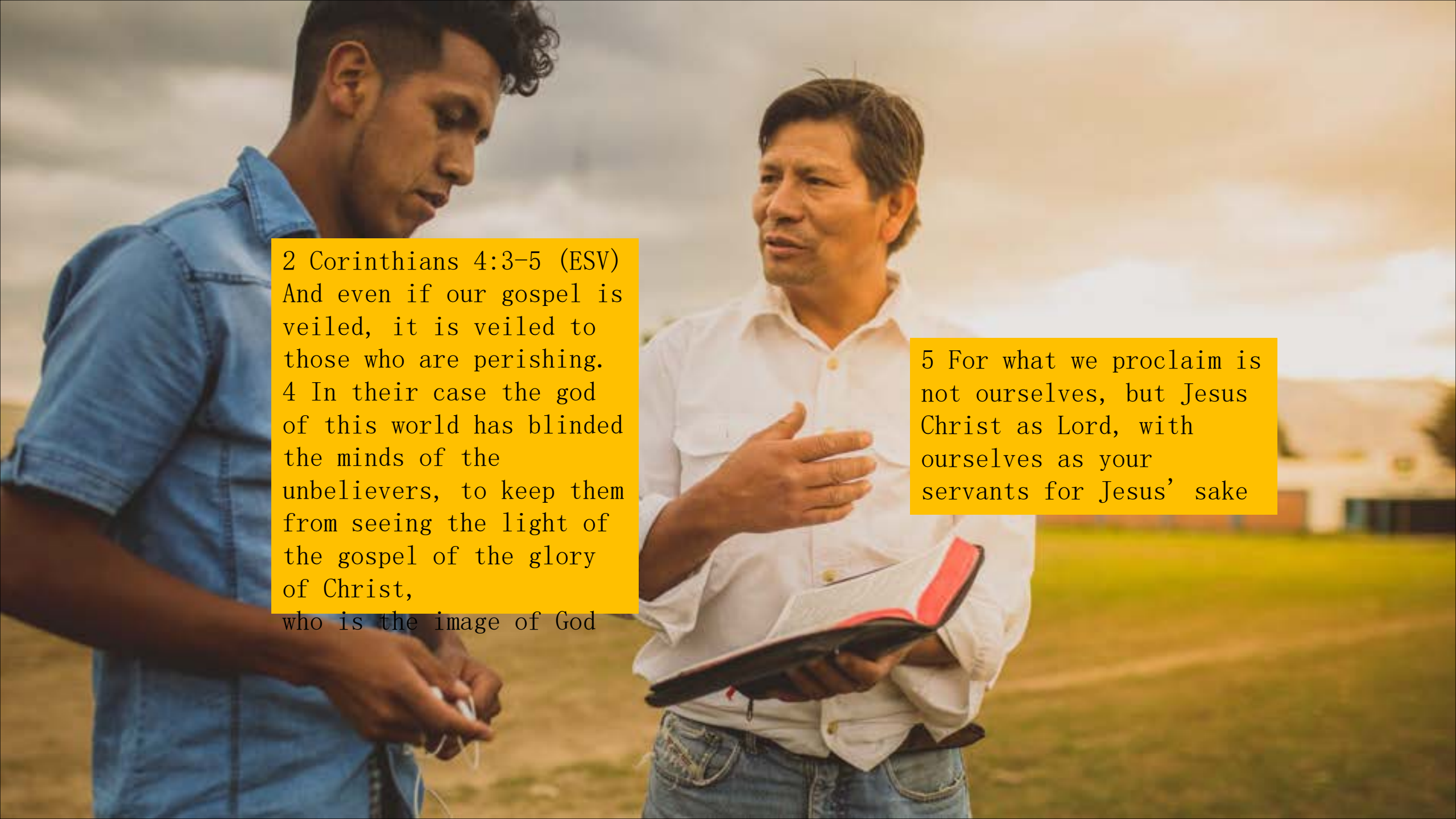
Alcoholics
Anonymous





APPLICATION OF OUR THEOLOGY



A photograph of two men standing in an open field. The man on the left is wearing a blue short-sleeved button-down shirt and is looking down at something in his hands. The man on the right is wearing a white long-sleeved button-down shirt and blue jeans, holding an open Bible and gesturing with his right hand as if speaking. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a cloudy sky and a building in the distance.

2 Corinthians 4:3-5 (ESV)
And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.
4 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 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake

THE NATURE OF OUR SALVATION

Not restored to free will but ...saved

Ephesians 2:4 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—

TRUE WORSHIP



John 4:23–24 (ESV) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”



. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

APPLICATION OF OUR THEOLOGY

The nature of
accountability

Implications

Wrath

2 Corinthians 5:14–15 (ESV) For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.



APPLICATION OF OUR THEOLOGY

