

# GALATIANS

The Gospel & True Freedom

Study 13 The Nature of True Freedom

Gal 5:7-15






# STRUCTURE

1. The True Gospel (Gal 1-2)
2. The Inclusive Gospel (Gal 3-4)
3. The Liberating Gospel (Gal 5-6)

Galatians 5:7-10 (ESV) 7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.






Galatians 3:2-3 (ESV) Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Faith – Spirit  
empowered



Works and human  
effort



Galatians 5:1 (ESV) For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Freedom in Christ

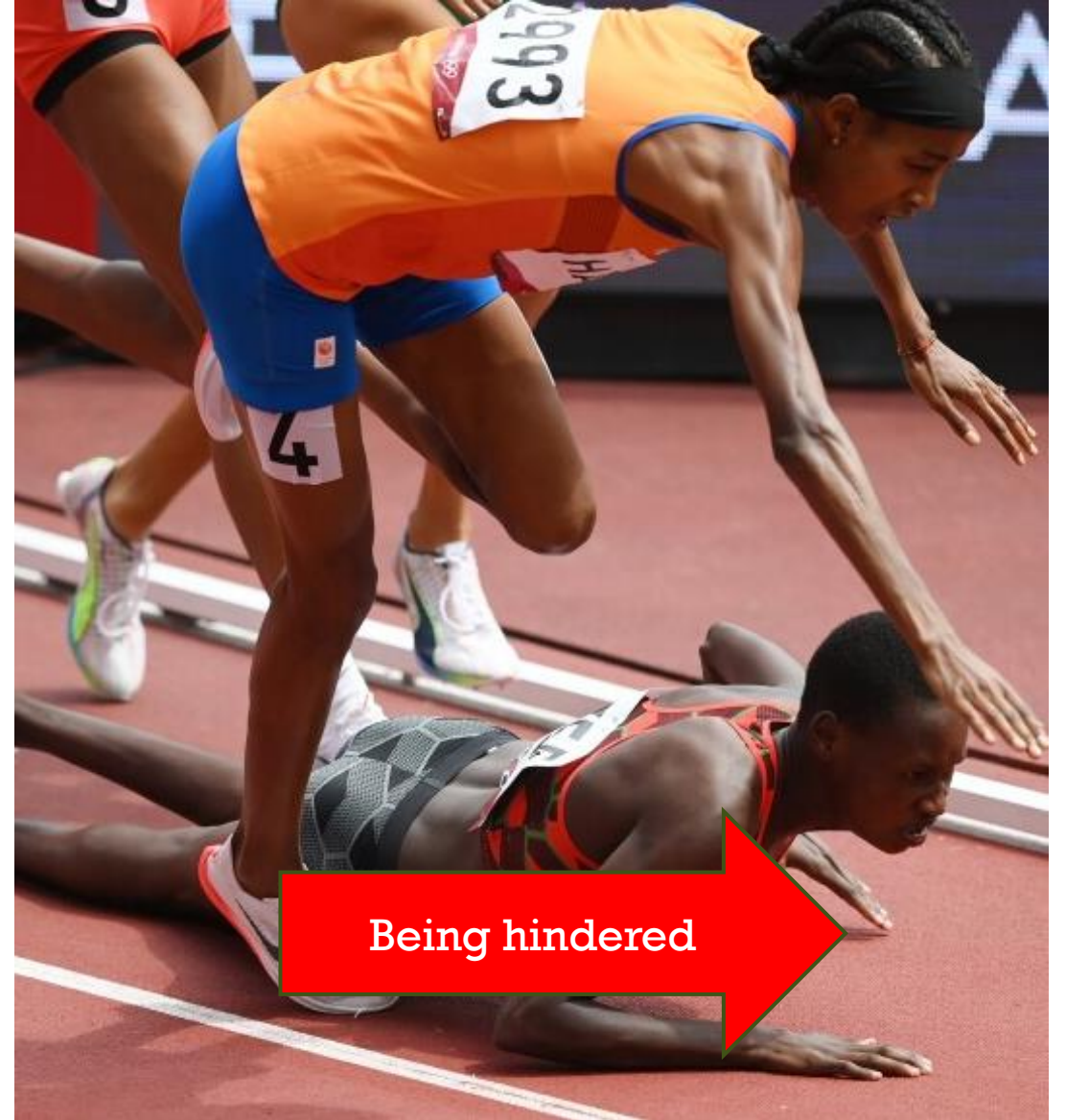


Slavery -law





Running well



Being hindered

## DELIBERATE SABOTAGE

Galatians 5:7-9 (ESV) You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little

**leaven leavens the whole lump.**



**. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump**



**Metaphor for Small number exert  
great evil influence**

## **RATIONAL FOR EXCOMMUNICATION**

1 Corinthians 5:5-7 (ESV) you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a

little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Cleanse out

the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened





Galatians 5:10 (ESV) I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.

Galatians 5:11-12 (ESV) 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!



Acts 13 Antioch in  
Pisidia...Gentiles  
respond, Jews persecute

Acts 14 Iconium: Jews  
tried to stone Paul but  
he escaped

Acts 14 Lystra: Jews  
stoned Paul and left for  
dead

**Jewish Persecution**





Galatians 5:13-15 (ESV) For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.





Galatians 5:1 (ESV) For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

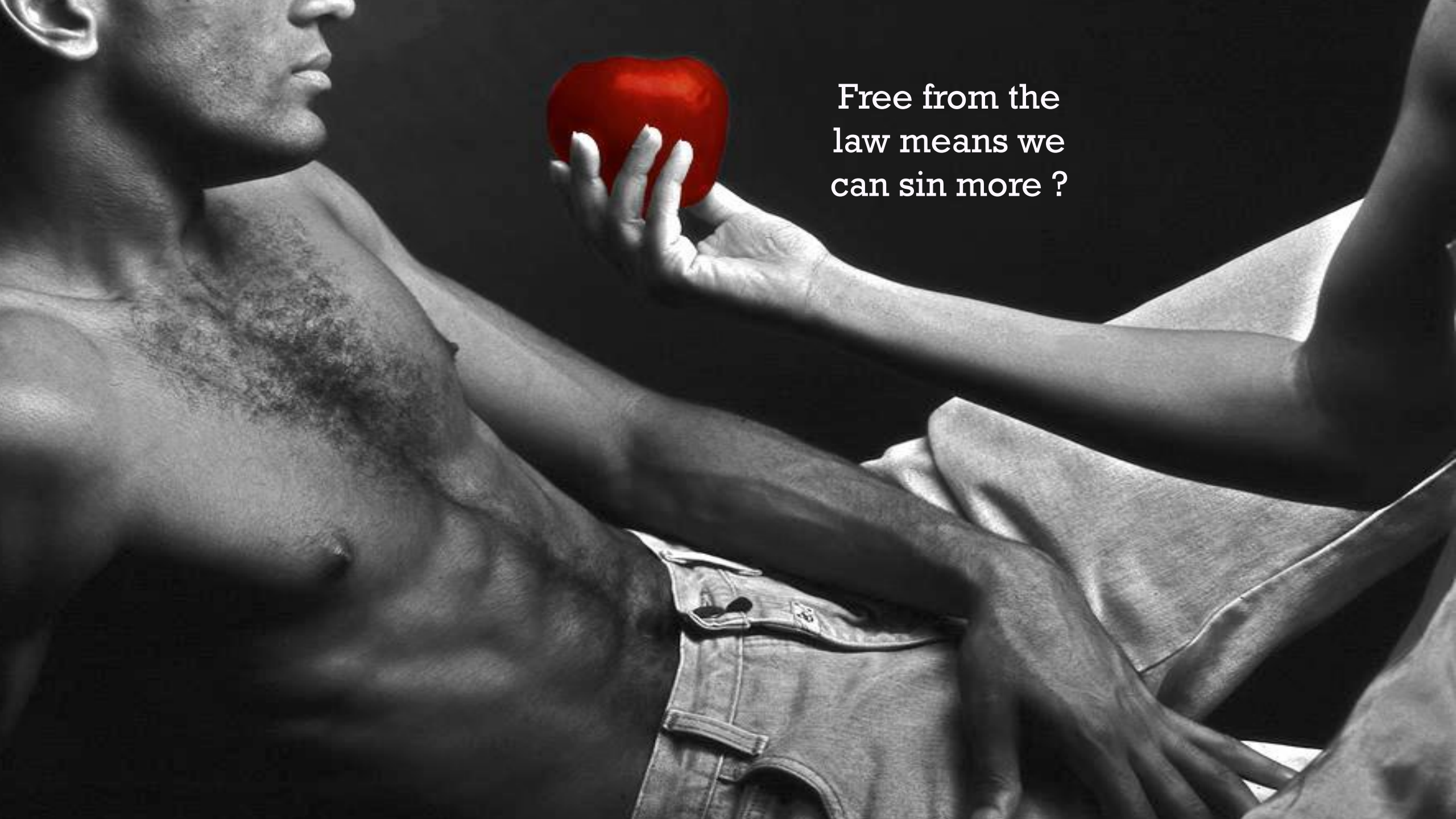


A group of four young people are walking along a dirt path in a lush green field. On the left, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey t-shirt and a long orange skirt, is dancing with her right arm raised. Next to her, a man with long dark hair and a colorful patterned headscarf is playing an acoustic guitar. He is wearing a white shirt and blue jeans. To his right, another man with short brown hair, wearing a blue and red patterned shirt, is playing a tambourine. On the far right, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a purple patterned dress, is also dancing. A large red rectangular box with white text is overlaid across the middle of the image.

# THE OPPOSITE EXTREME

Galatians 5:13 (ESV) For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.





Free from the  
law means we  
can sin more ?







Man

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graph TD; Man --> Idols; Man --> God;
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Idols

God

Freedom = Independence—do what we want

FREEDOM

## THERE IS NO MIDDLE GROUND

Romans 1:21-23 (ESV) 21 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.



Himage credit: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media/video/2011-10-0038-jesus-forgives-sins-and-heals-a-man-stricken-with-palsy?lang=eng>

**IF ONLY I CAN HAVE THE FREEDOM OF  
INDEPENDENT MOBILITY**





# **WALKING ISN'T THE ANSWER**

Depression 24.2%

Anxiety 36.3%

Stress 20.6%

Prevalence and Associated Factors of the Severity of Depression, Anxiety and Stress Among Low-Income Community-Dwelling Adults in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Halyna Lugova<sup>1</sup> · Jo Ann Andoy-Galvan<sup>2</sup> · Sapna S. Patil<sup>2</sup>  
et al Community Mental Health Journal (2021) 57:1489–1498



# ABIGAIL DISNEY DOES MONEY BUY FREEDOM?

Special entrance and a special exit, private airplane and a private bar. You don't want to "have anything but the atmosphere with the dynamics of addiction" people who are like "Everywhere you look, there's somebody who has more than you do, and that's not acceptable. They felt that the more money they had, the more they had to lose."

**IS THAT FREEDOM?**

Image Credit : - Phillip Faraone/Getty

Images for Refinery29

[https://www.businessinsider.com/abiga](https://www.businessinsider.com/abigail-disney-patriotic-millionaires-billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-wealth-tax-2022-4)

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billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-

wealth-tax-2022-4





## DAVID FOSTER WILLIAMS

- *Worship your own body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly, and when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally plant you*





## DAVID FOSTER WILLIAMS

*Worship power — you  
will feel weak and  
afraid, and you will  
need ever more power  
over others to keep the  
fear at bay.*





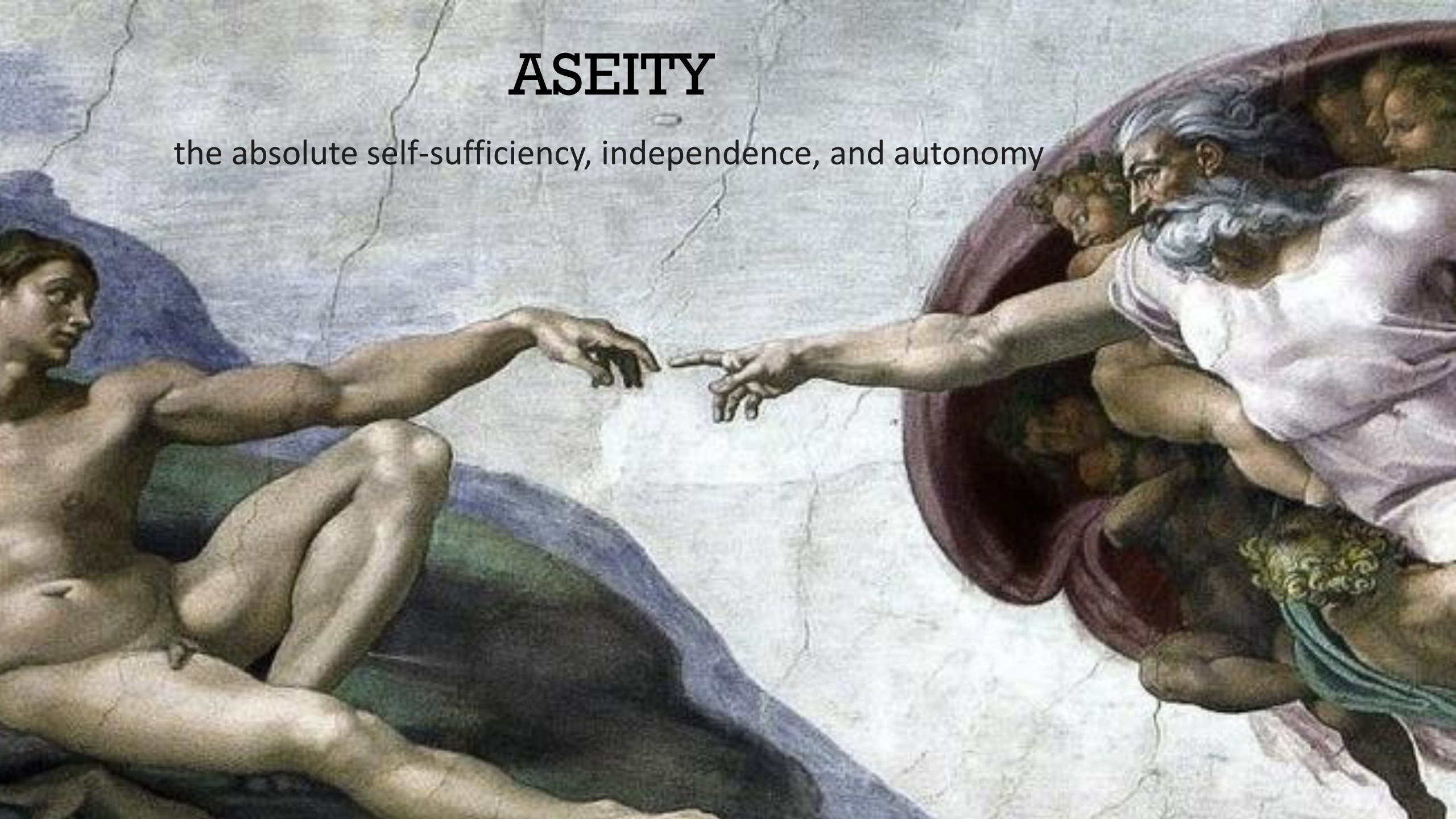
## DAVID FOSTER WILLIAMS

*Worship your intellect,  
being seen as smart —  
you will end up feeling  
stupid, a fraud, always  
on the verge of being  
found out*



# ASEITY

the absolute self-sufficiency, independence, and autonomy





**Man** Created being

**Idols**

True Freedom serve

**God**

**FREEDOM**

**Freedom?**





Galatians 5:13-15 (ESV) For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

# FLESH-SARK

Sensual nature of man

The soft material that  
covers the bones

One who is or  
becomes a  
physical being

Human ancestry

Outward side of life



Physical body

sin-desiring aspect of  
our whole being





Flesh -Sark  
sin-desiring aspect of  
our whole being

**OPPOSITION**



Holy Spirit  
God-desiring aspect of  
our renewed being

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# Exodus 20:2-7

## Ten Commandments

**I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery (v2)**

- 1) You shall have no other **Love GOD**
- 2) You shall not make for yourself an idol..
- 3) **You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain...**
- 4) **Remember the Sabbath day...**
- 5) Honor your father and mother **Love Man**
- 6) You shall not murder.
- 7) You shall not commit adultery.
- 8) You shall not steal.
- 9) You shall not bear false witness...
- 10) You shall not covet....





# Christian and the law

## Free from the law

Not obligated to obey in order  
to be saved

## Not Free from the law

Doubly Obligated to love God and man  
His creation and sacrifice  
Law is expression of God's nature and heart


**Commits sin**

**Sin damns us  
Totally devastated**

**Sin will not damn us**

**Why did I do this ?**

**Need for approval  
Sense of worth  
Sense of being loved**

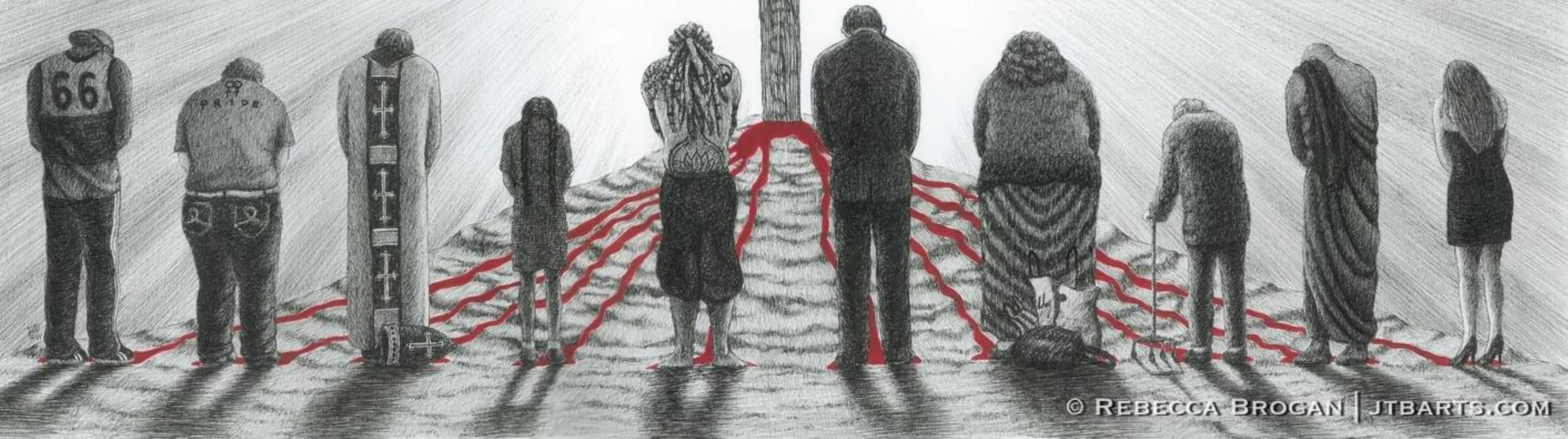
*temptation by*  *hygiene*





You are so sinful that it  
took the Son of God to  
die for you

You are so precious that the  
Son of God died for you





# THE NATURE OF FREEDOM

Isaiah 42:6-7 (ESV) I will give you as a covenant for the people a light for the nations,  
7 to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.



# WHICH ONE IS ASSURED?



Variable element!!

Christ + Works



Solid unchanging historical fact

- Christ alone

**CURRENT POSITION**

Simul Justus et Pecator





# THE PLAN

Legally right  
Ethically sinner



Legally right  
Ethically right



sanctification

## THE APPLICATION

Galatians 5:6 (ESV) 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



A person in a brown robe is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach. In the distance, a figure in a white robe is walking towards the horizon. The sky is filled with clouds and a bright sun is setting or rising, creating a warm, golden glow. The person in the brown robe is leaving footprints in the sand.

**TRUE FREEDOM**

**FREEDOM TO RESPOND  
TO WHOM WE BELIEVE**