

A person stands on the peak of a dark, jagged rock formation, their arms outstretched horizontally towards the horizon. The person is wearing a light-colored hoodie and dark pants. The background is a vast, hazy landscape under a warm, orange-hued sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is one of triumph, freedom, and spiritual elevation.

# FROM SLAVES TO SONS

*GALATIANS 4:1-7*

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=862498922580146&set=a.458935602936482>



# STRUCTURE

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



# STRUCTURE

1. The Slavery of the Law v 1-3
2. The Price of Sonship 4-5
3. The Blessing of Sonship 6-7





Galatians 4: 1 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.



**GUARDIANSHIP**

**SLAVERY**



**EXTERNAL CONTROL**

**BOTH NOT FREE  
JUST LIKE THE  
MOSAIC LAW**



## REVISION



Galatians 3:23-26 (ESV) 23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.



# PURPOSE OF THE LAW LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRIST



Galatians 3:23-26 (ESV) 23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.



# ROLE OF THE LAW IN TWO METAPHORS

Prison



Guardian



Temporary and looks forward



## The Lie

## God

## The Truth

We can be clean

Food laws

Show we are  
unclean

Possible to keep  
them to make  
ourselves  
acceptable to God

Circumcision

Impossible to  
make ourselves  
acceptable on  
own own

Point to Ourselves

Ceremonial

Point to Jesus who  
will fulfil them

1. Old Mosaic Law
2. Present world order
3. Demonic powers

in the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.



# ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF THE WORLD.

Present world order

Demonic forces

## 4 ELEMENTS

EARTH



WATER



AIR



FIRE



Image credit <https://www.tekedia.com/the-four-elements-and-astrological-readings/>



Image credit <https://spiritualwickedness.com/Principalities.html>



Galatians 4:8-11 (ESV) 8 Formerly, when you did not know God,

you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods.

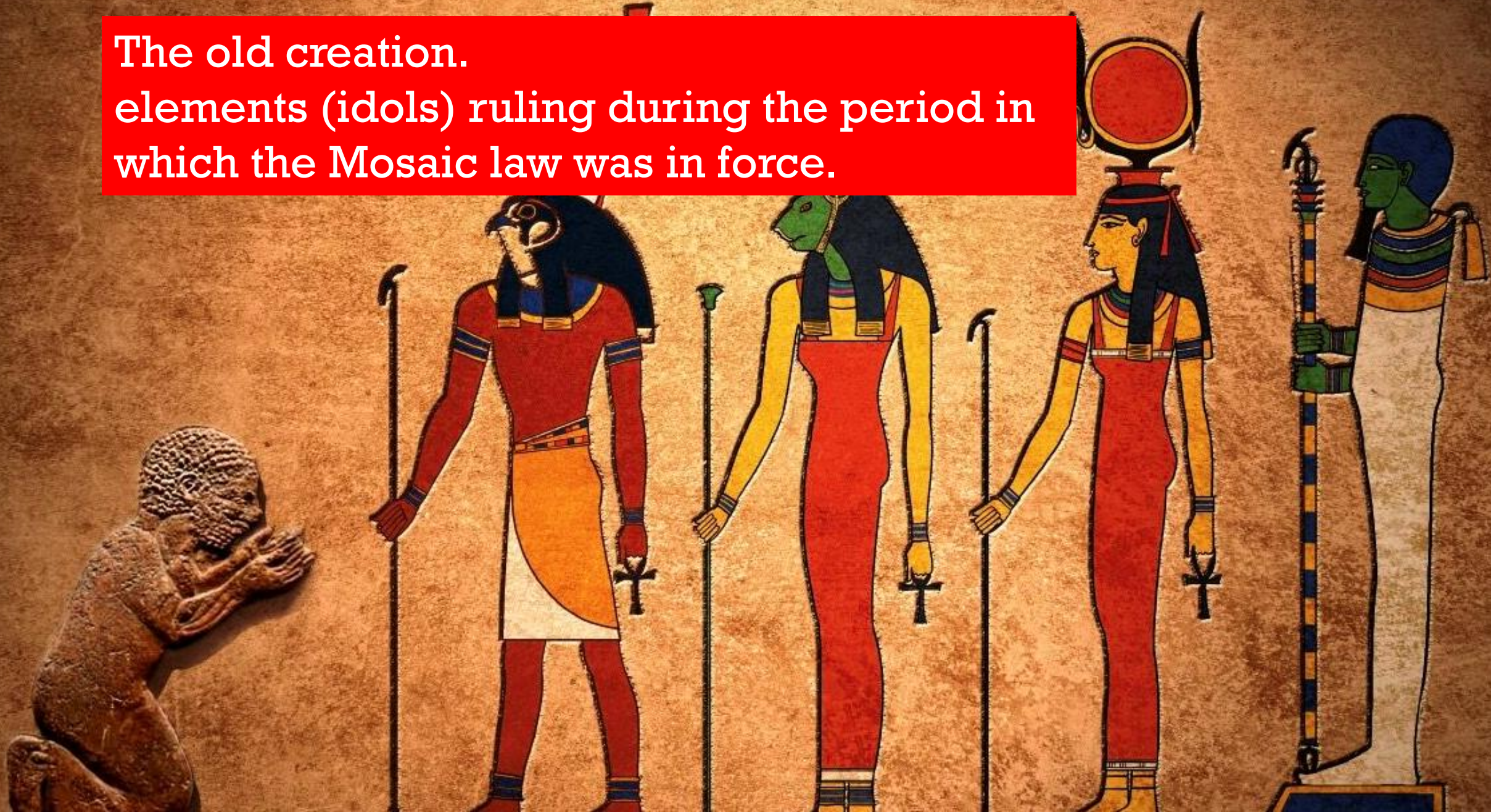
9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

10 You observe days and months and seasons and years!

11 I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.



The old creation.  
elements (idols) ruling during the period in  
which the Mosaic law was in force.





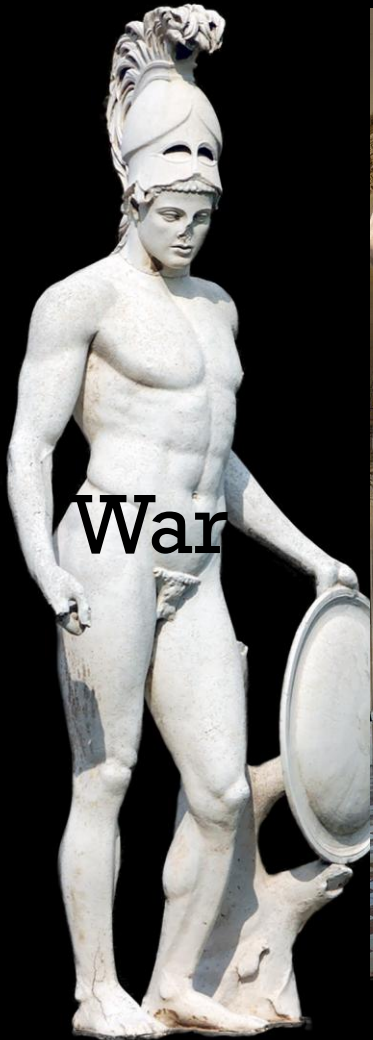
Areas

Artemis

Bacchus

Nike

Poseidon



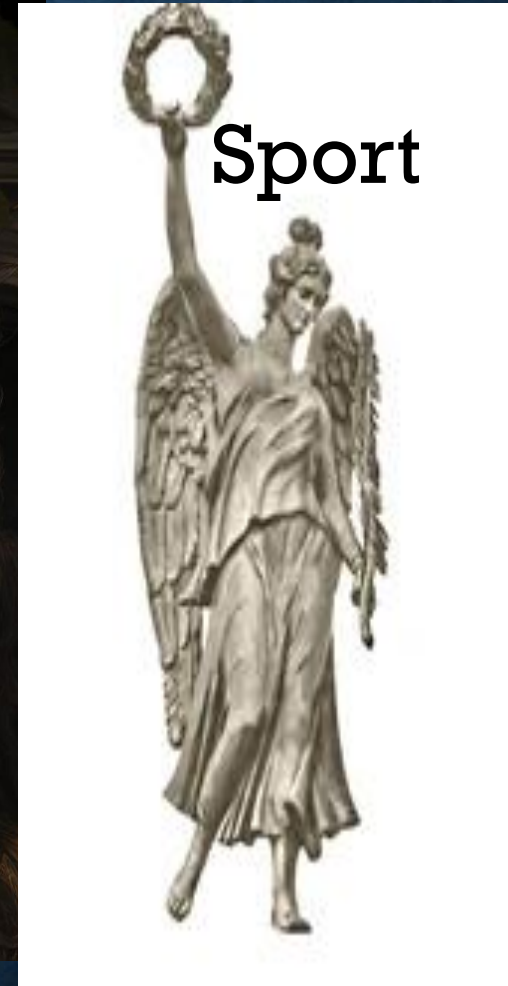
War



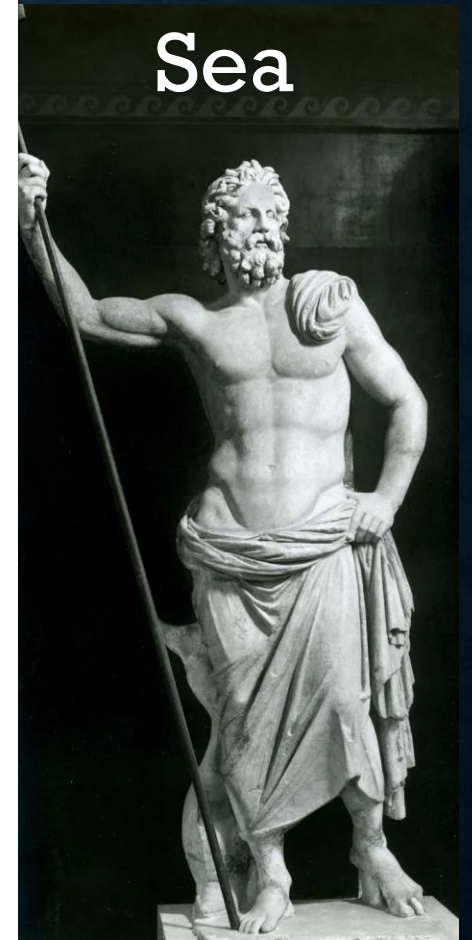
Hunt



Wine



Sport



Sea

Image credits : - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ares#/media/File:Ares\\_Canope\\_Villa\\_Adriana\\_b.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ares#/media/File:Ares_Canope_Villa_Adriana_b.jpg)  
<https://www.worldhistory.org/image/10157/artemis-goddess-of-the-hunt/>  
[https://oldworldgods.com/romans/bacchus-god-of-wine/#google\\_vignette](https://oldworldgods.com/romans/bacchus-god-of-wine/#google_vignette)  
<https://sirioti.com/blogs/greek-symbols-meaning/poseidons-trident-the-symbol-of-the-sea-gods-power-and-authority>



# JEW -MOSAIC LAW

"the elements of the world," regulations about food, drink, and all kinds of material things and outward actions.

# GENTILE WORSHIP

cheap earthly elements of sacrifices, temples, ceremonies,

A photograph of several Jewish men in traditional attire, including black hats and white prayer shawls (tallitot), with one man in the foreground shouting or singing with his mouth open. A large red rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the word "SLAVERY" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

# SLAVERY





- **Days** Sabbath days, fasting days , Passover feasts
- **Months** Tisri, ..Sabbath month first day was treated like a Sabbath; Nisan, first month Jewish church year and was distinguished by the Passover.
- **Seasons** Seasons of prayer and fasting prescribed by the law.
- **Years** Sabbatical year



• **Days**                      Sundays, Gamma Days

• **Months**                      Lent.

• **Seasons**                      Christmas , Easter, Seasons of fasting

• **Years**



# JEW -MOSAIC LAW

"the elements of the world," regulations about food, drink, and all kinds of material things and outward actions.

# GENTILE WORSHIP

cheap earthly elements of sacrifices, temples, ceremonies,



**SLAVERY**

<https://hellenicfaith.com/do-ut-des/>



Religion	Isaiah 38:2-3 (ESV) 2 Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, 3 and said, “Please, O LORD, remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly.
Master	
Servant	
Duty	
Transactional	
Wages	
Conditional	
Obligations	



# STRUCTURE

1. The Slavery of the Law v 1-3
2. The Price of Sonship 4-5
3. The Blessing of Sonship 6-7



## THERE IS A TIME LINE

Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV) But when the fullness of time  
had come,

God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.



# OLD COVENANT

If you do...

If you listen (Ex 23:22)

If you look (Deu 4:29)

If you bring (Lev 2:4)

If you follow (Lev 26:3)

If you pay attention (Deu 7:12)

If you make (Deu 23:21)

If you obey (Deu 28:2)

If you disobey (Deu 28:15)



In the  
fullness of  
time

Jeremiah 31:31 (ESV) 31  
“Behold, the days are  
coming, declares the LORD,  
when I will make a new  
covenant

Jeremiah 31:33 (ESV) For  
this is the covenant that I  
will make with the house of  
Israel after those days,  
declares the LORD: I will put  
my law within them, and I  
will write it on their hearts.  
And I will be their God, and  
they shall be my people.



A close-up photograph of a person's lower legs and feet. They are wearing colorful, horizontally striped leggings in shades of pink, blue, and green. The leggings and the person's skin are heavily smeared with dark brown mud. They are wearing worn, dark-colored sneakers with multiple straps. The person is standing on a light-colored wooden plank. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green grass and a wooden fence.

**DIRT IS AN OBJECT  
LESSON FOR SIN**





## NEW COVENANT TIME

Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV) But when the fullness of time  
had come,

God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under  
the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as sons.





## **DID AWAY WITH FOOD LAWS**

Mark 7:18-19 (ESV) 18 And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, 19 since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.)





Zechariah 3:1 (ESV) Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.







Zechariah 3:3 (ESV) 3 Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, “Remove the filthy garments from him.” And to him he said, “Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.”

Zechariah 3:8-9 (ESV) 8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my **servant the Branch**. 9 For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the **iniquity of this land in a single day**.



# OLD COVENANT

If you do...

If you listen (Ex 23:22)

If you look (Deu 4:29)

If you bring (Lev 2:4)

If you follow (Lev 26:3)

If you pay attention (Deu 7:12)

If you make (Deu 23:21)

If you obey (Deu 28:2)

If you disobey (Deu 28:15)

In the  
fullness of  
time

# NEW COVENANT

Accomplished  
by Jesus

You are forgiven! (Col 2:13)

You are healed! (1 Pe 2:24)

You are blessed! (Eph 1:3)

You are righteous! (2 Co 5:21)

You are holy! (Heb 10:10)

You are mighty! (Eph 1:19)

You are accepted! (Rm 15:7)

You are loved! (Rm 8:39)



## GOD'S CHILDREN -ADOPTED

Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV) But when the fullness of time  
had come,

God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under  
the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law,

so that we might receive adoption as sons.





## HOW WE ARE ADOPTED

Spirit confirms, authenticates, and ratifies their sonship.

Galatians 4:6-7 (ESV) 6 And because you are sons,  
God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave,  
but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

# JUDAISERS

## CHILD OR SLAVE



Bondage

Obey out of fear

Regression spiritual immaturity

Not final revelation

Deprived of inheritance

# GOSPEL

## ADOPTED SON OF GOD



Freedom

Obey out of love

Progress in fulfilment of covenant

Final revelation

Realising inheritance

Going  
Backwards



# STRUCTURE

1. The Price of Sonship 1-3
2. The Slavery of the Law 4-5
3. The Blessing of Sonship 6-7



**MATT CAPPS**



Master	Father
Servant	Family
Duty	Delight
Transactional	Relational
Wages	Inheritance
Conditional	Unconditional
Obligations	Privilege



# 1. PURPOSE

Galatians 4:6-7 (ESV) 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.





# EXISTENTIAL MEANINGLESSNESS

1. Lack of Coherence
2. Lack of Purpose
3. Lack of Significance



**COHERENCE**

**RICK  
WARREN**

RICK WARREN

*The*  
PURPOSE  
DRIVEN<sup>®</sup>  
*Life*



WHAT ON EARTH AM  
I HERE FOR?



A medium shot of Piers Morgan, a man with light brown hair, a goatee, and glasses, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt. He is sitting outdoors on a black metal fence, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred city street with trees, buildings, and pedestrians.

Piers Morgan on CNN

**Has this shaken your faith in any way then?**

My kids have never doubted  
that **"NO, I HAVE NEVER DOUBTED, BUT I  
DOUBTED HIS WISDOM."**  
doubted my wisdom



# PURPOSE

Original Investigation | Public Health

## Association Between Life Purpose and Mortality Among US Adults Older Than 50 Years

Aliya Alimujiang, MPH; Ashley Wiensch, MPH; Jonathan Boss, MS; Nancy L. Fleischer, PhD, MPH; Alison M. Mondul, PhD, MPH; Karen McLean, MD, PhD; Bhramar Mukherjee, PhD; Celeste Leigh Pearce, PhD, MPH

### Abstract

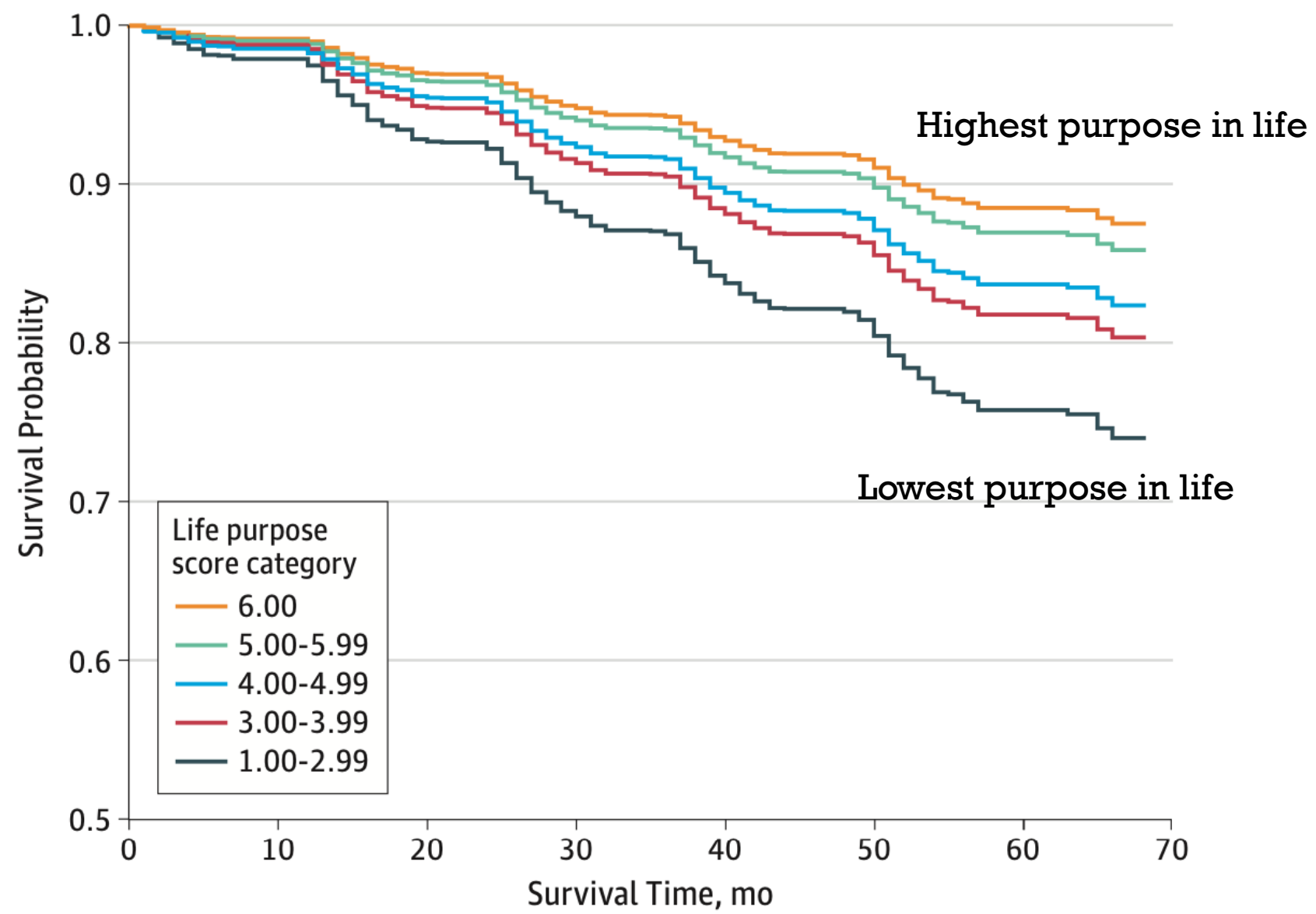
**IMPORTANCE** A growing body of literature suggests that having a strong sense of purpose in life leads to improvements in both physical and mental health and enhances overall quality of life. There are interventions available to influence life purpose; thus, understanding the association of life purpose with mortality is critical.

### Key Points

**Question** Does an association exist between life purpose and all-cause or cause-specific mortality among people older than 50 years participating in the IIS Health and Retirement Study?



Figure. Survival Curves Illustrating the Association Between Life Purpose and Mortality





## SONSHIP =PURPOSE

Ephesians 1:5-6 (ESV) 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.





## SIGNIFICANCE



Ecclesiastes 2:11 (ESV)  
Then I considered all that  
my hands had done and  
the toil I had expended in  
doing it, and behold, all  
was vanity and a striving  
after wind, and there was  
nothing to be gained  
under the sun.



1. Coherence
2. Purpose
3. Significance

















**NICK VUJICIC**

NICK VUJICIC



## 2. IDENTITY



# IDENTITY AND ACTION

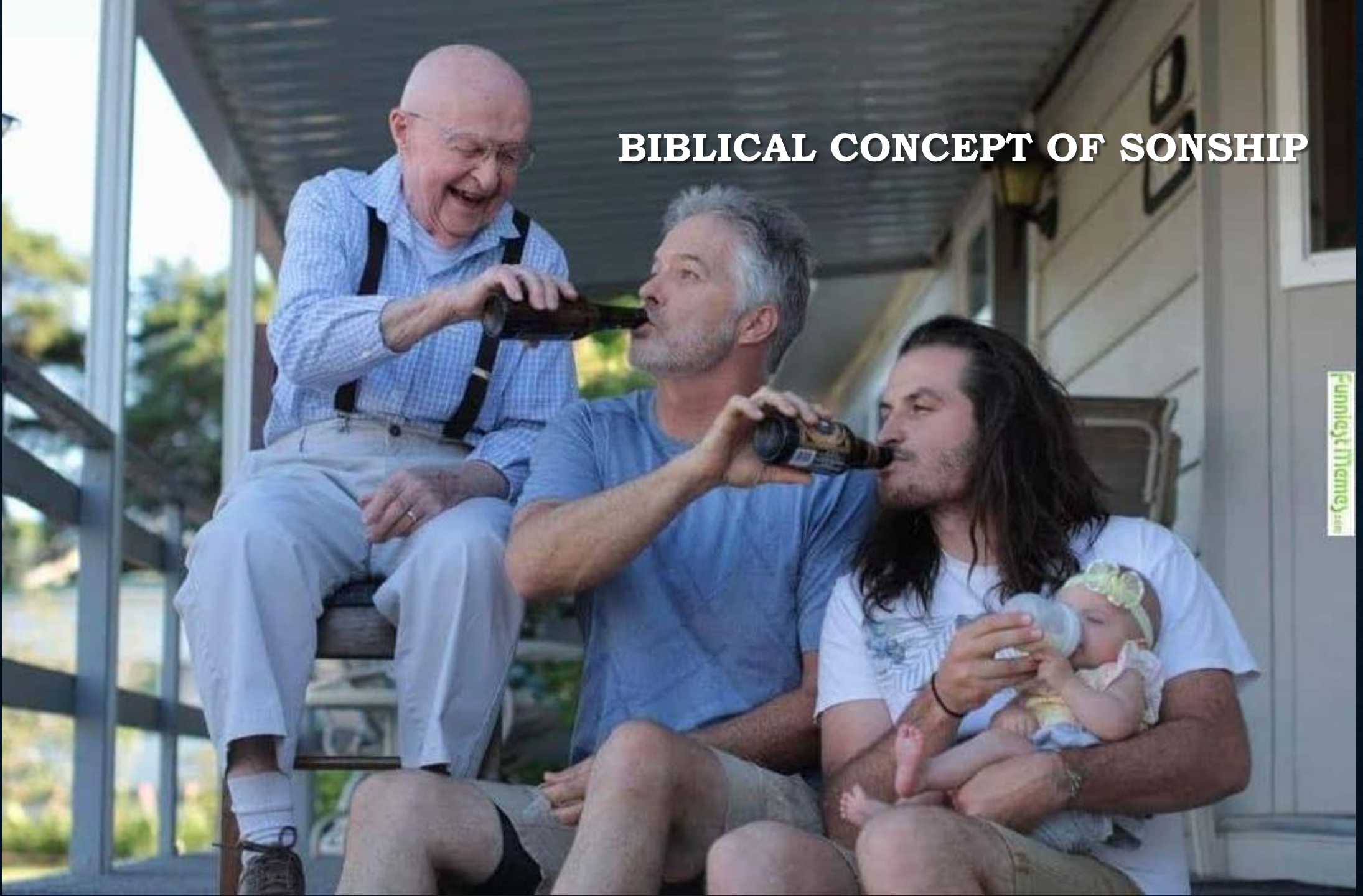
GENES DETERMINE  
BEHAVIOUR

Galatians 4:6-7 (ESV) 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION



# BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF SONSHIP





# IT IS ABOUT BEHAVIOUR NOT GENES

Galatians 3:29 (ESV) 29

And if you are Christ's,  
then you are Abraham's  
offspring, heirs according  
to promise.

Galatians 4:6 (ESV) 6

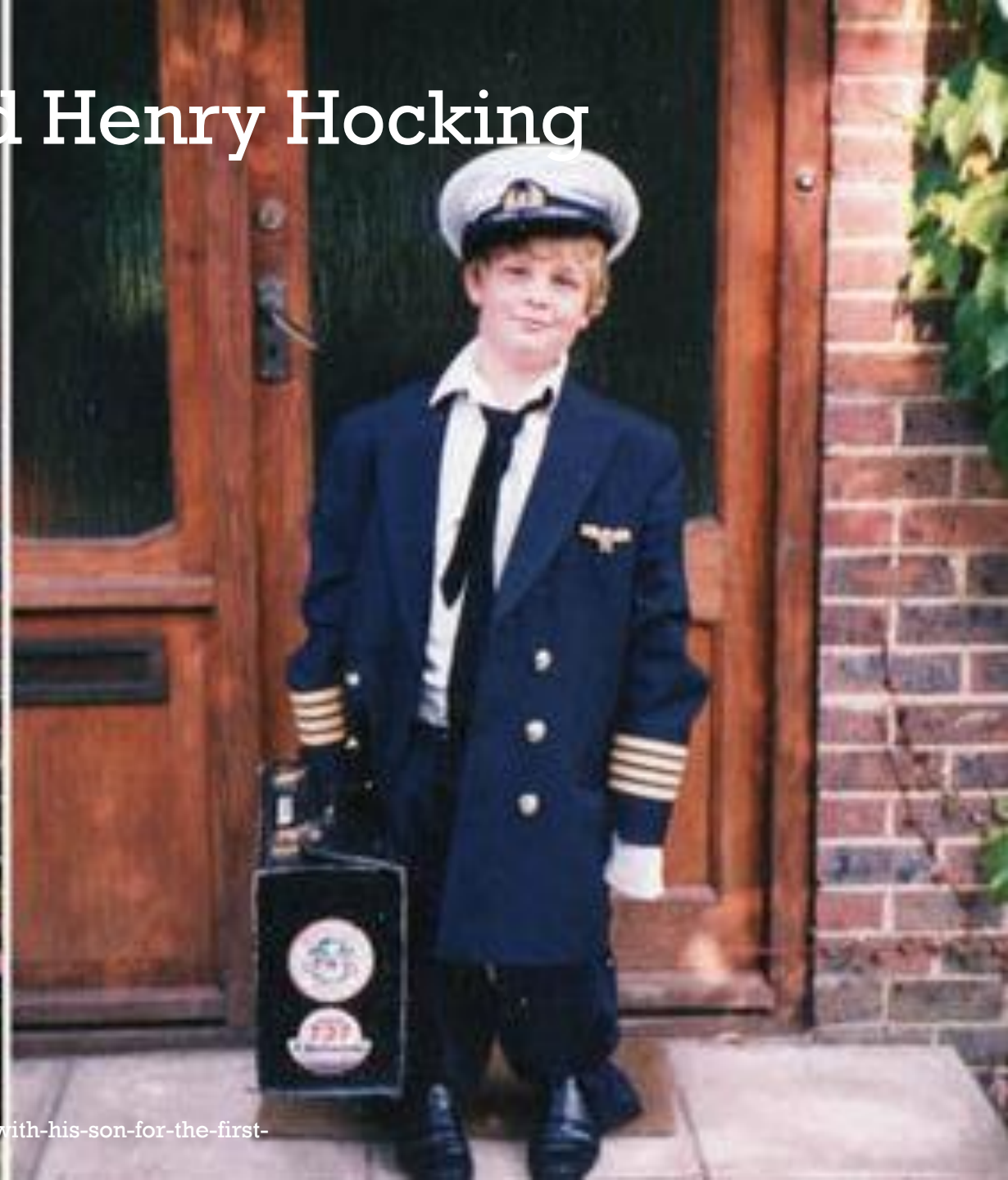
And because you are  
sons, God has sent the  
Spirit of his Son into our  
hearts, crying, "Abba!  
Father!"



# Richard and Henry Hocking



<https://www.express.co.uk/travel/articles/662029/father-co-pilots-flight-with-his-son-for-the-first-time-to-honour-retirement>





A photograph of two pilots in a cockpit. The pilot on the left is older, with white hair and a beard, wearing a white pilot's shirt and a striped tie. The pilot on the right is younger, with short blonde hair, also in a white pilot's shirt and a striped tie. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The cockpit background shows various instruments and screens.

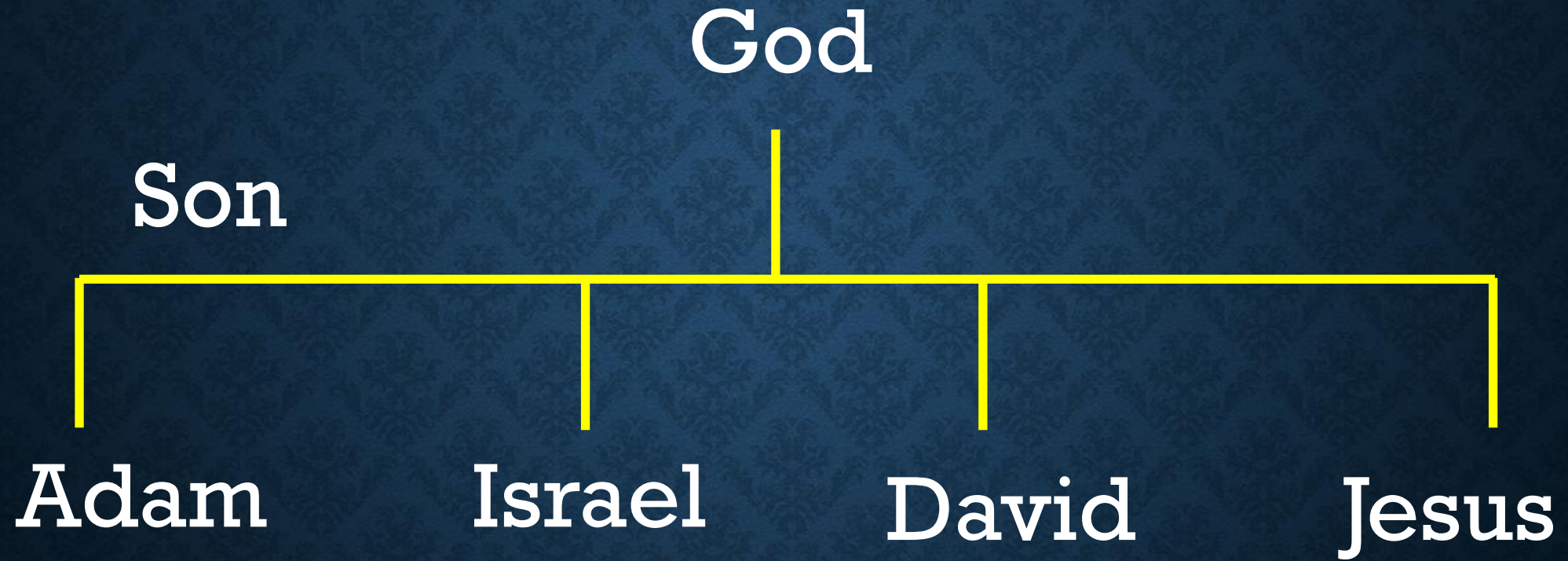
London Gatwick to Cancun, Mexico.

# **GOSPEL HOLINESS DRIVING AMBITION**

<https://www.express.co.uk/travel/articles/662029/father-co-pilots-flight-with-his-son-for-the-first-time-to-honour-retirement>



# SONSHIP AS VOCATION



Ex 4:22-23

your father defines your work




Matthew 13:55 (ESV) 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary?

Matthew 5:9 (ESV) 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.



**Matthew 5:46-48 Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,**

Love   
Your Enemy



**The Impossible command?**



# RENEWED DESIRE TO BE LIKE OUR FATHER



Matthew 5:46-48 Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.  
For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and  
sends rain on the just and on the unjust.



<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Literal Translation</b>	<b>KJV</b>	<b>NIV</b>
Neh 12:28	Sons of the singers	Sons of the singers	Muscians
Ps. 89:22	Son of malice	Son of wickedness	The wicked
Job 5:7	Sons of a flame	Sparks	Sparks
2 Sam 17:10	Sons of might	A mighty man	A fighter
Mark 3:17	Sons of Thunder	Sons of Thunder	Sons of Thunder
Dan 25:2	Sons of the beating	Worthy to be beaten	Deserves to be beaten

# RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOVE CHARACTERISTIC OF SONSHIP



1 John 3:10 ESV By this it is evident who are

the **children of God** and


who are the **children of the devil**: whoever does not  
practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who  
does not love his brother





## FINAL SONSHIP

Revelation 21:7 (ESV) 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

A red arrow points from the red box around "my son." in the text above to the text below.

He will be so much like me that there is no longer any possibility of sin or death or corruption or decay or rebellion

# SONSHIP

Adopted

Righteousness of Jesus



Personal Ethical righteousness



bringing holiness  
to completion





## CORNER STONE OF NEW COVENANT

2 Corinthians 6:16 - 17 (ESV) “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,

2 Corinthians 6:18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” 1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.







Believers authority  
Word of faith



**DEALING  
WITH  
DEFICIT**

**WRONG BENCH  
MARK**



- Desire
- Direction and Ambition
- Grief
- Hope
- Awe







MARK WAHLBERG ROSE BYRNE

# instant family



# ANDERS FAMILY



2 Corinthians 6:18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.





2 Corinthians 6:16 “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.





### 3.ACCESS AND INITMACY

Galatians 4:6-7 (ESV) 6 And because you are sons,  
God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave,  
but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.







Mark 5:5-7

What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of  
the Most High God?



Matthew 14:30 "Lord, save me."





Prayer is not  
mechanical or  
formal

Great spontaneity and  
reality warmth, passion,  
and freedom.



**Bound by Formalism**

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt, is smiling and looking back over his shoulder. He is holding the hands of two adults. The adult on the left is wearing a beige jacket and light blue jeans. The adult on the right is wearing a pink sweater. They are standing on a green lawn with trees in the background.

**SENSE OF GOD'S PRESENCE**



# THE BLESSINGS OF SONSHIP ACCESS



6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Sonship is expressed by their acclamation that God is their Father.  
Aramaic term Jesus himself uses for the Father



Intimacy  
confidence of love and  
assurance of welcome  
overwhelming boldness  
and certainty of God's  
love.

**ABBA**





Hebrews 12:28-29 (ESV) let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.





## 4. INHERITANCE

6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.





## ADOPTION

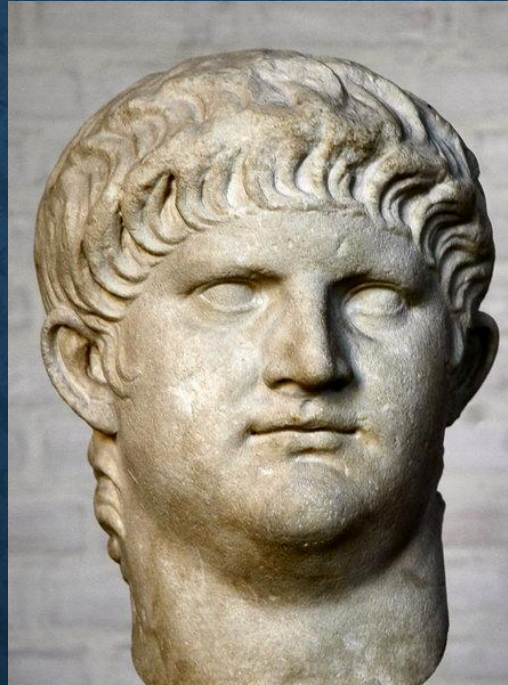
- For inheritance and position,  
Lack of male heir
- Daughters almost never adopted
- 8% of magistrates and members  
of senate
- Mainly adult adoptees rarely  
child



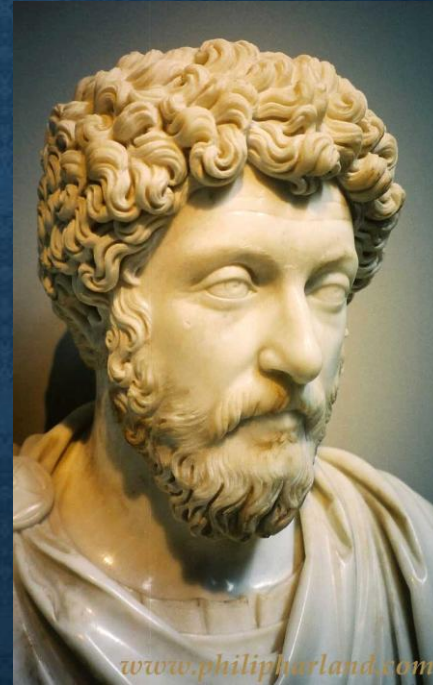
# ADOPTED EMPERORS



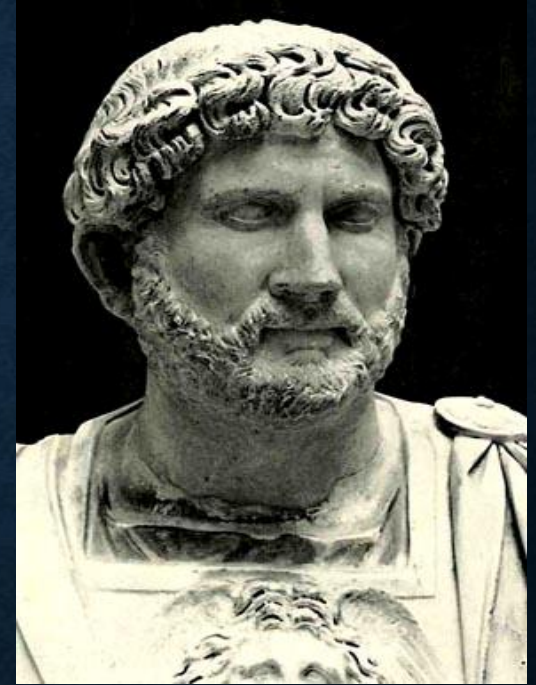
Trajan



Nero



Marcus Aurelius



Hadrian





# SALVATION ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN



1. Loose all rights to old family
2. Heir to new family's estate
3. Past life all wiped out at vindictio
4. Absolute child to new father
5. Cannot disown..can disown natural child



# **THE CHALLENGE OF SONSHIP**

Our response to sonship





## J I PACKER



*“find out how much he makes of the thought of being God’s child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all.”*



# PRODIGAL SON-CONTEXT ISRAEL







**KEY TO BREAK THROUGH IS TO  
FIND HIM BEAUTIFUL**



## SANCTIFYING POWER OF HOPE

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV) 2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure














## **IDENTITY DETERMINED BY ADOPTION**

“I was born in China, and I was adopted when I was really young. That’s just as far as my Chinese heritage goes,” the gold medalist said. “I’m Canadian. I’ve always grown up Canadian. So that’s just a very small part of my journey to where I am today. And it’s kind of irrelevant when it comes to swimming and how far my swimming has come.”



Romans 8:16-17 (ESV) 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.



A close-up portrait of Akmal Yahya, a Malaysian politician. He is wearing a black songkok and a white traditional Malay shirt (kris) with a red sash. He has a slight beard and is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. The background is blurred, showing some lights.

**AKMAL: I'M STILL MALAY  
FIRST, UNLIKE POWER  
HUNGRY MUHYIDDIN**



Galatians 3:28-29 (ESV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.



# **BENEDICTION**



**Romans 8:38-39** - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord