

THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR CHURCH REVITALIZATION

**Taught by Dr. Gordon Penfold for Doctor of Ministry Students
Uploaded by Dr. Rick Griffith • Singapore Bible College
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WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

“Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”

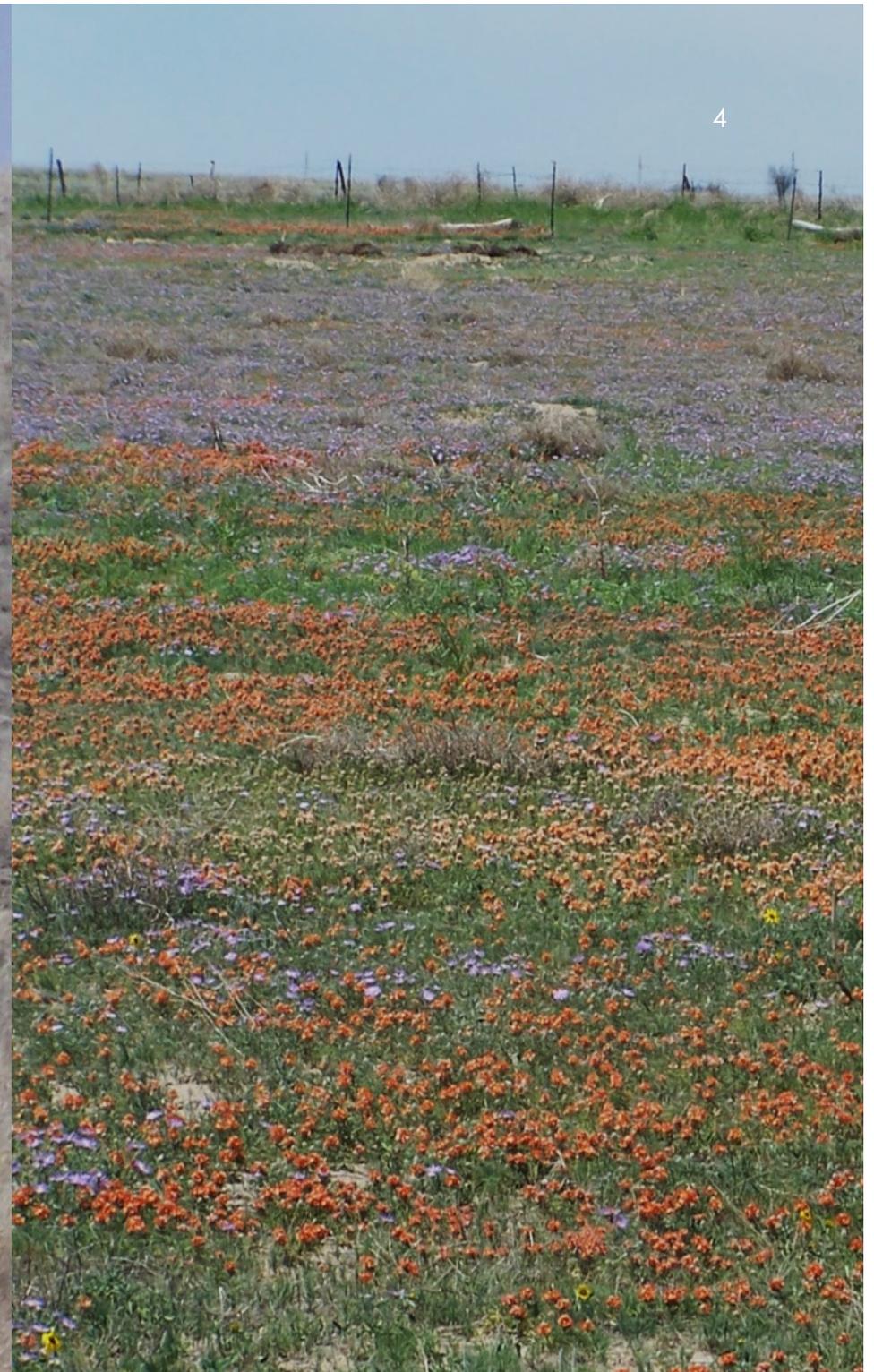
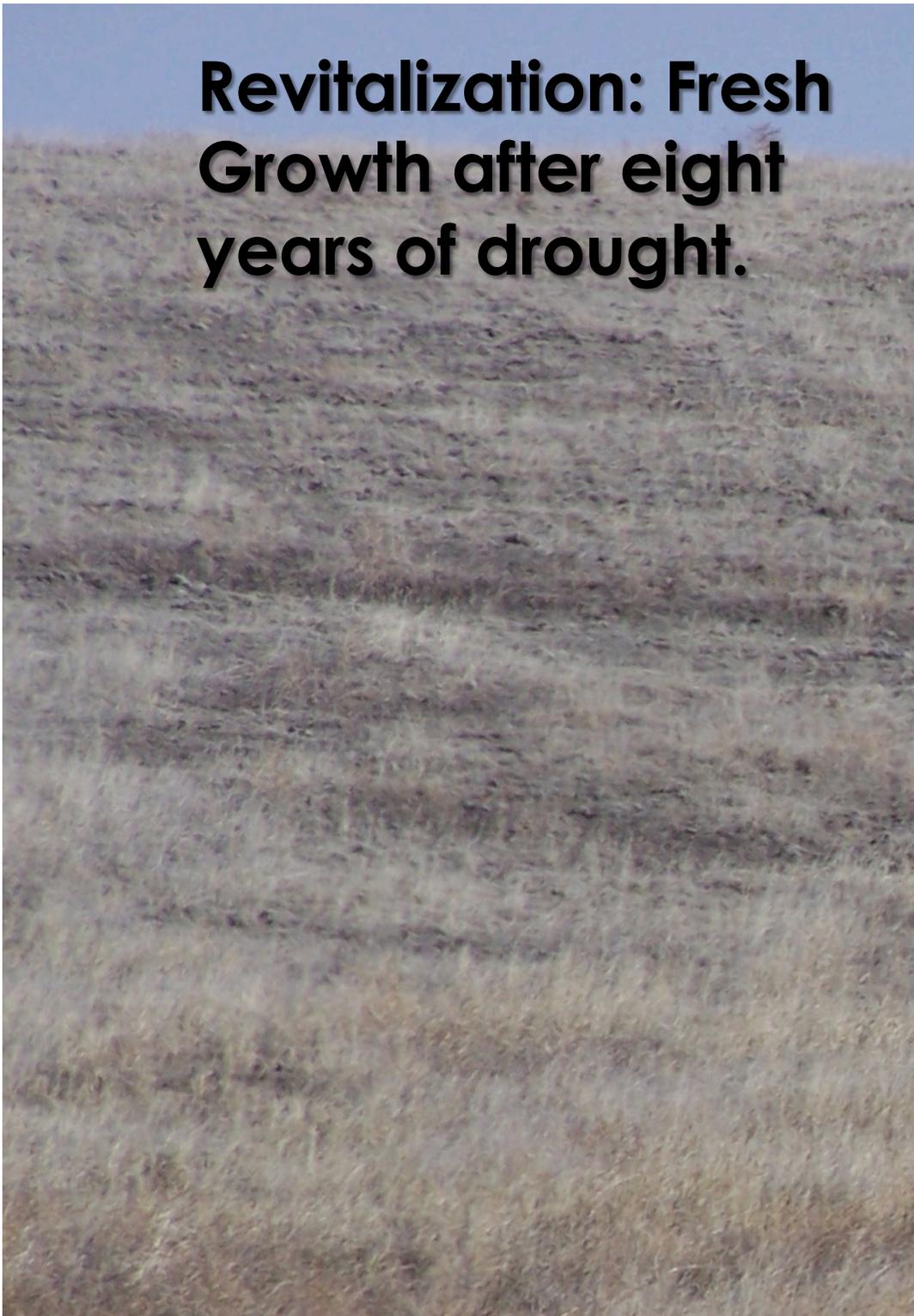
“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,” said the Cat.

“I don’t much care where—,” said Alice.

“Then it doesn’t matter which way you go,” said the Cat.



**Revitalization: Fresh
Growth after eight
years of drought.**



NEW LIFE IN THE DESERT!



INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

KEY PASSAGES

A photograph of a baptism taking place in a body of water at sunset. A man in a white shirt is pouring water over the head of a woman who is partially submerged. A young child stands in the water to the right, watching. The water is dark blue with golden reflections from the setting sun. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

A NEW CREATION

THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN
CHRIST, HE IS A NEW
CREATION; OLD THINGS HAVE
PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL
THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

DAILY TRANSFORMATION

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I BESEECH YOU THEREFORE, BRETHREN,
BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, THAT YOU
PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING
SACRIFICE, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE TO
GOD, WHICH IS YOUR REASONABLE
SERVICE.

AND DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS
WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE
RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, THAT YOU
MAY PROVE WHAT IS THAT GOOD AND
ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT WILL OF
GOD.

—ROMANS 12:1-2

RESTORATION OF CREATION

ROMANS 8:18-23

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THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH REV 21



Where do we begin when we discuss church revitalization?

❖ LET US BEGIN WITH THE GREATEST REVITALIZATION SPECIALIST IN THE UNIVERSE—OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!



Key Concepts

- ❖ CORE BELIEFS
 - ❖ CORE VALUES/CORE BEHAVIORS
 - ❖ MISSION
 - ❖ VISION
 - ❖ ALIGNMENT
- 

Key Concepts

❖ WHAT ARE CORE BELIEFS?

- Core beliefs are those beliefs that significantly impact who you are
- Core beliefs “define” who you are.
 - If someone read your core beliefs and knew nothing else about you, they would know who you are at your very center.
 - If one of your Core Beliefs were not true, was changed or removed you would cease to be who you are.

Key Concepts

❖ WHAT ARE CORE BELIEFS?

- Core beliefs are the biblical foundation for all you do.
 - You do what you do because you believe these things are true.
 - Core beliefs impact, in some way or another, virtually everything you do.
- 

Key Concepts

❖ WHAT ARE CORE VALUES/BEHAVIORS?

- Ministry principles by which you live
- The things for which you will spend your lives
- The values/behaviors for which you are prepared to die
- One Core Value/Behavior per Core Belief
- Core Values are what we will **DO** in light of what we believe.

Key Concepts

❖ WHAT IS MISSION?

2. a : a ministry commissioned by a religious organization **to propagate its faith or carry on humanitarian work**

3. a: a body of persons sent to perform a service or carry on an activity: such as : **a group sent to a foreign country to conduct diplomatic or political negotiations***

* [HTTPS://WWW.MERRIAM-WEBSTER.COM](https://www.merriam-webster.com)

Key Concepts

❖ WHAT IS MISSION?

- Your God-given task
- Biblically based
- Unchanging
- Why we exist



WHAT IS VISION?

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A vision is a “clear and challenging picture of the future of a ministry as you believe that it can and must be.”—Aubrey Malphurs

“Moving a church in a direction by passion—
that’s vision.”

Bob Humphrey

VISION

Vision is a word picture of what it will look like when you accomplish your mission

Key Concepts

❖ ALIGNMENT

- The process of bringing our actions in alignment with our Core Beliefs, Values, Mission and Vision
 - The process of either changing ministries to align or removing ourselves from that ministry(?).
 - We will use light to illumine the process.
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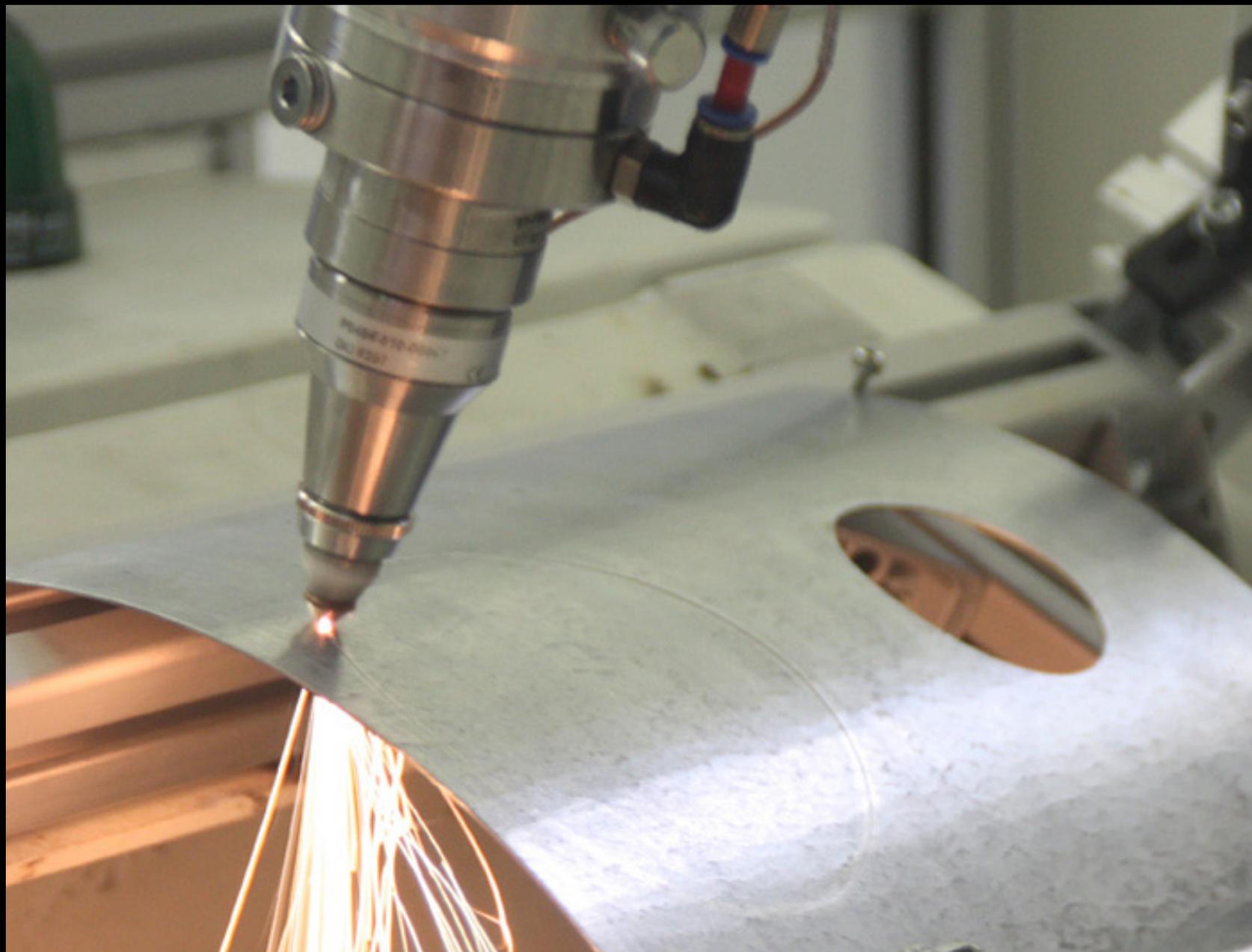
DIFFUSED
LIGHT—
PROVIDES
GENERAL
LIGHTING



DIRECT LIGHT—ILLUMINES A SPECIFIC AREA



LASER LIGHT



LASER LIGHT

- ❖ A DEVICE THAT PRODUCES
A NARROW AND POWERFUL
BEAM OF LIGHT (MERRIAM-
WEBSTER)
- ❖ ORGANIZED
- ❖ MONOCHROMATIC

THE
PROBLEM
WITH TOO
MANY
CHURCHES
AND
MINISTRIES IS
DIFFUSION,
NOT A
LASER
FOCUS

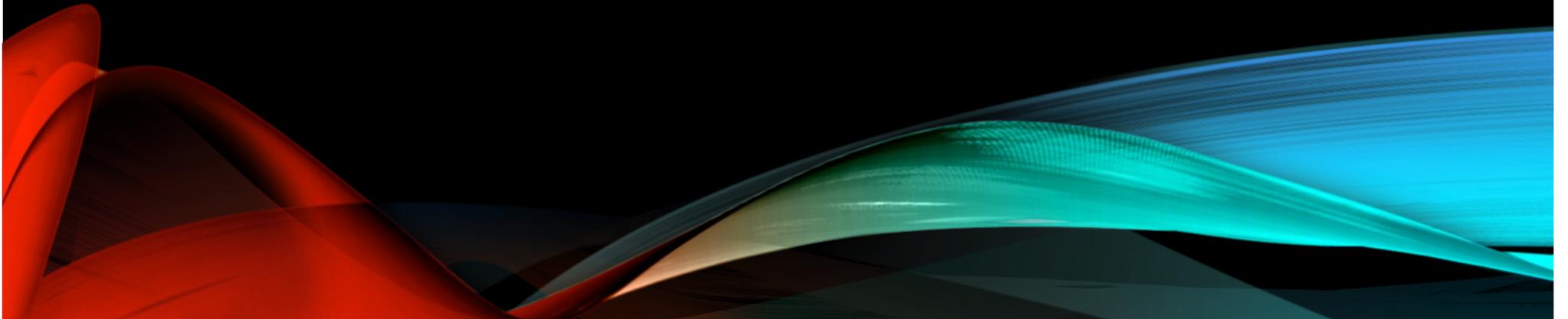


Core Beliefs and Core Values

CHRIST'S LIFE WAS CHARACTERIZED
BY HIS COMMITMENT TO HIS CORE
BELIEFS LIVED OUT AS CORE VALUES.



WHAT ARE SOME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST'S CORE BELIEFS?



Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT
GOD? WHAT IS HIS CORE BELIEF?



Core Beliefs & Core Values

GOD IS AND GOD SPEAKS.

CORE VALUE: JESUS, THE GOD-MAN,

ENTERED THE WORLD AND SPOKE

THE WORD OF GOD WITH

AUTHORITY. (JOHN 1:14; MATT 4:1-

10; 7:29)

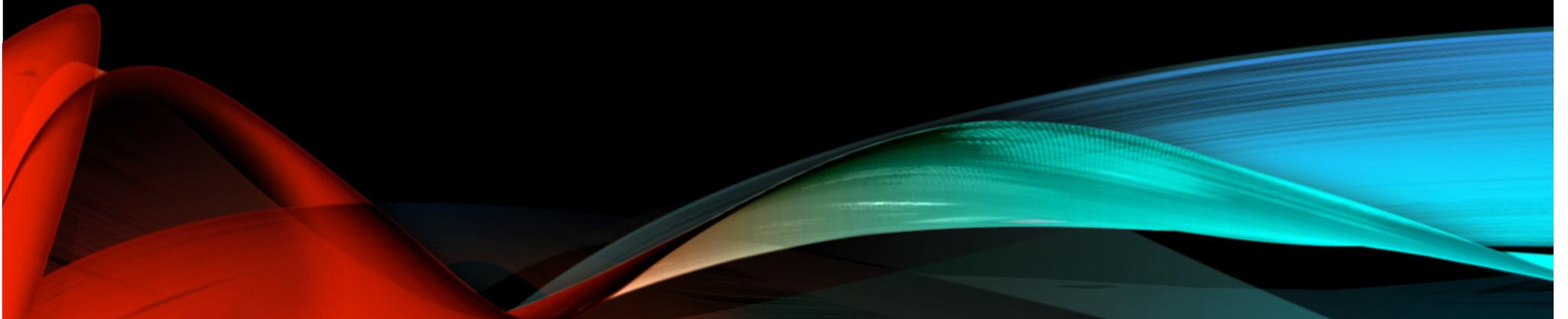
Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT
THE SCRIPTURES?



Core Belief

THE BIBLE IS THE REVEALED AND
INERRANT WORD OF GOD.



CORE VALUE: THEREFORE, CHRIST
FURTHER REVEALED AND AFFIRMED THE
TRUSTWORTHINESS OF SCRIPTURE (MATT
5:18) AND APPLIED THE SCRIPTURE IN ALL
AREAS OF HIS LIFE INCLUDING TIMES OF
TEMPTATION, TESTING AND LIFE THREATS
(MATT 4:1-10; MATT 26:39; JOHN 5:47)



Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT
THE TRINITY?



Core Beliefs

THE TRINITY IS REAL AND CHRIST,
HIMSELF, IS THE SECOND PERSON OF
THE TRINITY!



CORE VALUE:

THEREFORE, JESUS AS THE SECOND
PERSON OF THE TRINITY (MATT 28:18-
20) SERVED UNDER THE AUTHORITY
OF THE FATHER (JOHN 10:30-38) IN
THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT (LUKE 4:14)



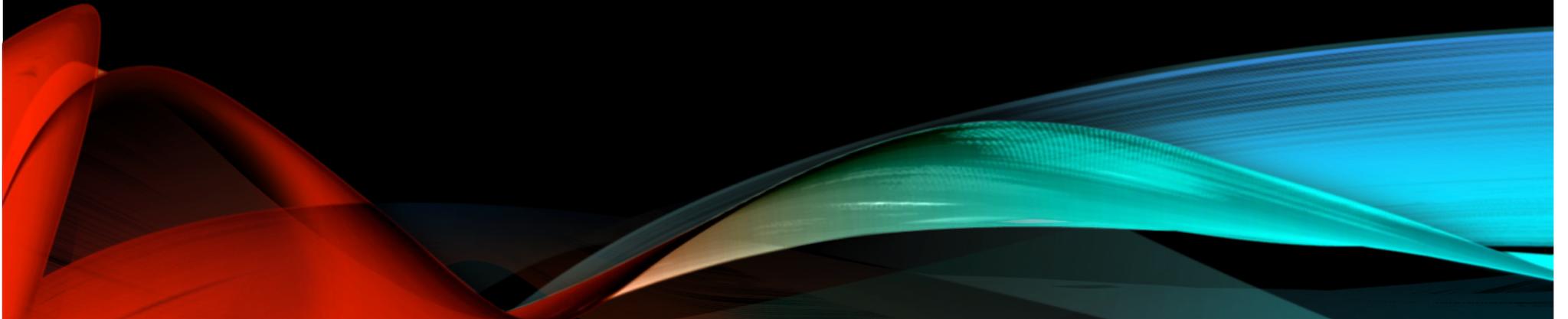
Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT
WORSHIP?



Core Belief

THE TRINITY ALONE IS WORTHY OF
WORSHIP!



CORE VALUE: THEREFORE, JESUS DEMANDED THAT ONLY GOD BE WORSHIPED AND HE ACCEPTED WORSHIP (MATT 4:9-10; MATT 8:2; JOHN 4:23-24; JOHN 20:27-28).



Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE
CONCERNING THE NEED OF
HUMANITY?



Core Belief

SINNERS, SEPARATED FROM GOD,
NEED A MEDIATOR AND A BRIDGE
TO GOD.



CORE VALUE:

THEREFORE, JESUS IS THE MEDIATOR
AND THE ONLY BRIDGE BETWEEN A
HOLY GOD AND SINFUL HUMANITY
(1 TIM 2:5; JOHN 14:6; JOHN 10:9)



The Bridge



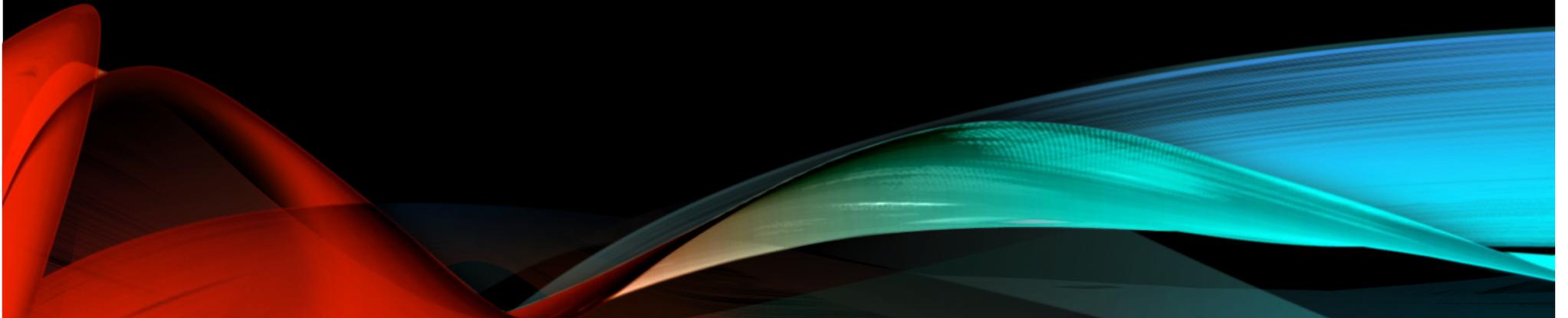
Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT HIS
ROLE AS THE SECOND PERSON OF
THE TRINITY?



Core Belief

CHRIST IS THE GODHEAD'S FULL,
BODILY EXPRESSION OF THE TRINITY
TO HUMANKIND (JOHN 10:30, JOHN
14:9; HEBREWS 1:3).



CORE VALUE:

THEREFORE, HE PERFECTLY

DEMONSTRATED GOD'S FULL

CHARACTER TO FALLEN HUMANITY

(JOHN 1:18; LUKE 19:10; MARK 10:45;

JOHN 3:16-17; GAL 1:4).



CORE VALUE:
WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR OUR SINS,
THAT HE MIGHT DELIVER US FROM
THIS PRESENT EVIL AGE,
ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF OUR
GOD AND FATHER.

GALATIANS 1:4



Core Belief

WHAT DID CHRIST BELIEVE ABOUT
THE HEART OF GOD TOWARD LOST
HUMANITY?



Core Belief

THE GODHEAD LONGS TO
CONNECT WITH HIS ERRANT
CREATURES.



CORE VALUE:

THEREFORE, CHRIST LIVED OUT THE
FULLNESS OF THE HEART OF GOD
TOWARD HIS CREATION (MATT 4:13-
17; MATT 9:10-13; LUKE 4:16-21;
JOHN 1:14, 17; JOHN 3:16; JOHN
19:30; 2 PETER 2:1).

Key Concepts

- ❖ CORE BELIEFS
- ❖ CORE VALUES/CORE BEHAVIORS
- ❖ MISSION



Christ's Mission:

- ❖ TO REPRESENT THE TRIUNE GOD TO HUMANITY
- ❖ TO PERFECTLY OBEY THE FATHER
- ❖ TO PROVIDE A SINLESS, SUBSTITUTIONARY SACRIFICE FOR THE SIN OF HUMANITY.

Christ's Mission:

- ❖ TO EQUIP THE APOSTLES AND DISCIPLES TO CARRY OUT AN EVERY EXPANDING MINISTRY TO THE WORLD THROUGH BUILDING HIS CHURCH.

Christ's Mission:

- ❖ TO FINISH HIS WORK ON EARTH
AND RETURN TO HEAVEN
AWAITING THE TIME FOR HIS
SECOND ADVENT.



Key Concepts

- ❖ CORE BELIEFS
- ❖ CORE VALUES/CORE BEHAVIORS
- ❖ MISSION
- ❖ VISION



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Christ's Vision: His vision was, in accordance with His covenants and promises, to bring an innumerable company of believers to glory from every nation, tribe, people and language (Heb 2:10; Rev 7:9) through His finished work, resulting in the thunderous ovations of praise, honor and glory due the Triune God from all creation for all eternity.



Key Concepts

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 - ❖ VISION
 - ❖ ALIGNMENT
- 

MINISTRY ALIGNMENT

But He needed to go through
Samaria.

John 4:4

MINISTRY ALIGNMENT

Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51

MINISTRY ALIGNMENT

"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished (•τελειώσας) (*complete, finish, accomplish*) the work which You have given Me to do.

John 17:4 + many other passages



BIBLICAL
FOUNDATIONS FOR
TURNAROUND
(TRANSFORMATIONAL)
VISION

Q1. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE
TEACH ABOUT
TURNAROUND PASTOR
MINISTRY?

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Q2. What does the Bible
teach about
transformational leadership?

A photograph of a path winding through a forest of trees with vibrant yellow autumn foliage. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text is overlaid in white, centered on the path.

Examples of some
transformational,
vision driven
leaders found in
Scripture.



What vision drove them
to accomplish great
things for God?

MOSES' VISION

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His vision was to take a nation of Hebrews and to move them from the slavery of Egypt to the freedom of the Promised Land.

Consider Deuteronomy 8:7-9

HEZEKIAH'S VISION

His vision consisted of two parts. The scars of his past drove him powerfully and emotionally

- 1) to separate the nation from the reprehensible deeds of his father and
- 2) to return Israel to spiritual fruitfulness through restored worship and consecration to the Lord God of Israel

HEZEKIAH'S VISION

2 Kings 16:1-4

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Cp. With 2 Chron 29:3-11

ELIJAH'S VISION

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The prophet's vision for transformation is plainly seen when he confronted the Prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. His vision:

To destroy Baal worship and restore nation to the worship of YHWH, the God of Israel.

PAUL'S VISION

To glorify God by reaching a growing number of unreached people groups with the Gospel through 1) preaching the Gospel, 2) planting churches, and 3) developing an ever expanding leadership base who would in turn would 1) preach the Gospel, 2) plant churches and 3) develop an ever expanding leadership base!

PASTORS AND REVITALIZATION IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Seven Churches of the
Revelation

THREE STEPS TOWARD REVITALIZATION

- Recognition
- Response
- Refresh

OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING THE SEVEN CHURCHES

- The messengers are the pastors of the churches (2nd singular pronouns)
- Leaders needed renewing
- This would lead to renewal in the churches.
- The lessons applied to the leader are then passed on to “all who have ears to hear.”

Church	Commendation	The Criticism	Exhortation
Ephesus	Good works, patience, discernment	Left their first love	Remember, repent, return
Smyrna			
Pergamum			
Thyatira			
Sardis			
Philadelphia			
Laodicea			

Church	Commendation	The Criticism	Exhortation
Ephesus	Good works, patience, discernment	Left their first love	Remember, repent, return
Smyrna	Works, tribulation, poverty (yet true riches)	None	Fear not. I will give you the crown of life.
Pergamum			
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Pergamum	Dwell in Satan's domain. Hold fast my name.	Doctrine of Baalam and of Nicolaitans	Repent or the Lord will fight against you!
Thyatira			
Sardis			
Philadelphia			
Laodicea			

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Thyatira	Works of love, service, faith and patience	Allowed Jezebel to commit sexual immorality	To the faithful: Hold fast what you have
Sardis			
Philadelphia			
Laodicea			

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Sardis	Church as a whole failed. Faithful are commended	Lifeless profession.	Remember what you have heard in the beginning.
Philadelphia			
Laodicea			

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Philadelphia	Using opportunities Little strength	None	Five promises, no exhortations
Laodicea			

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Laodicea	None	Gross indifference, self-deception	Find in Christ true riches, purity, and sight

What about the
following leaders:

Solomon?

Jeroboam I?

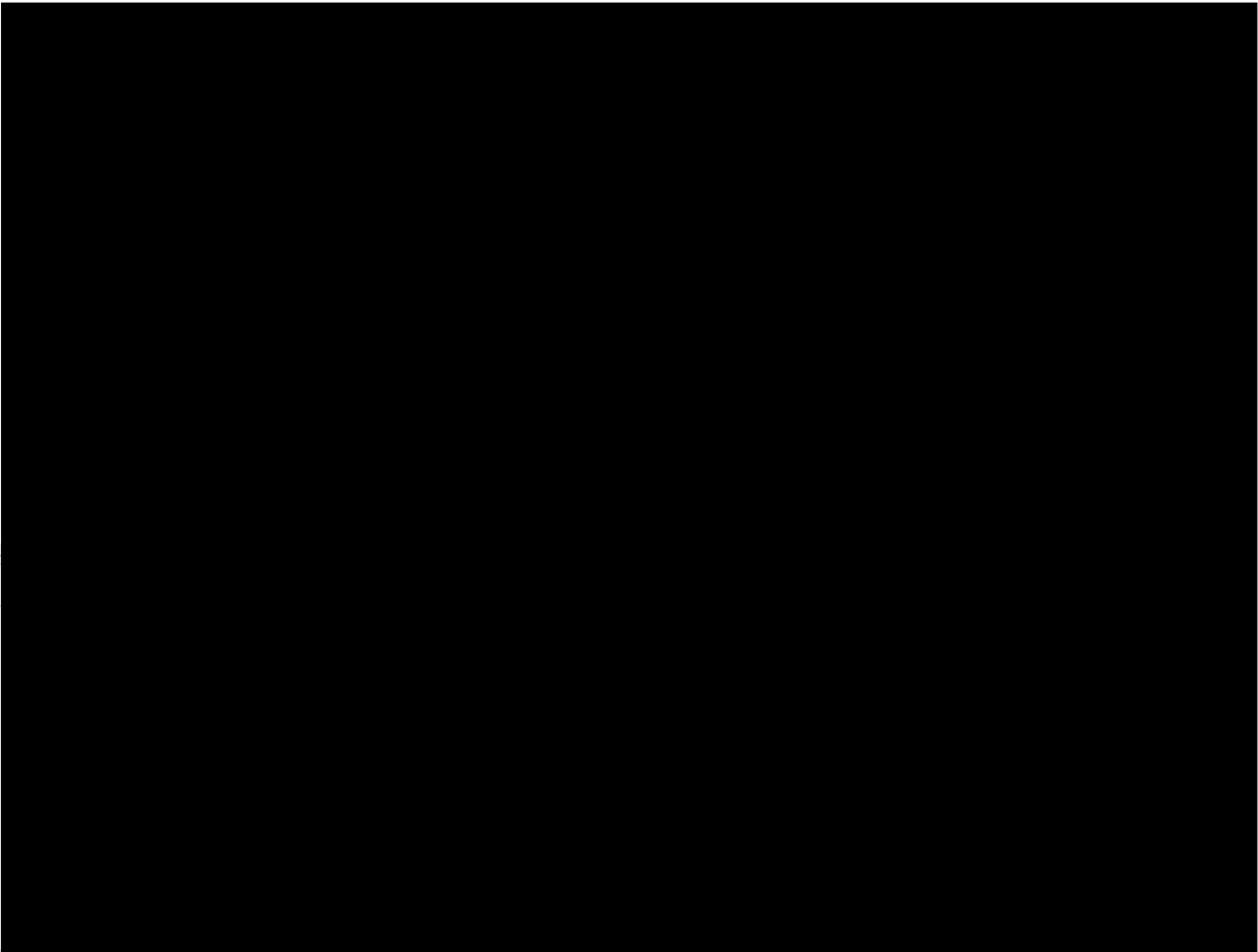
Their lives did not align
with their mission, vision
and values!?

Key Concepts

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- 

Summary:

Significant transformational leaders align themselves with their core beliefs, core values/behaviors, mission, and vision.



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