



James 3–5

James 3

Ways Faith is Seen

267

Faith is Revealed through Works Because Faith...

Rejoices in Trials	Obeys the Word	Avoids Favoritism	Produces Works	Speaks Wisely	Produces Humility	Ultimately Triumphs
1:1-18	1:19-27	2:1-13	2:14-26	3	4:1-5:6	5:7-20
Salutation Trials Temptations	Listening Anger Obedience Speech Compassion Purity	Discrimination Materialism Egalitarianism	Meeting Needs Validation	Influence Untamable Be Wise	Conflict Judging Presumption	Suffering Prayer Confrontation

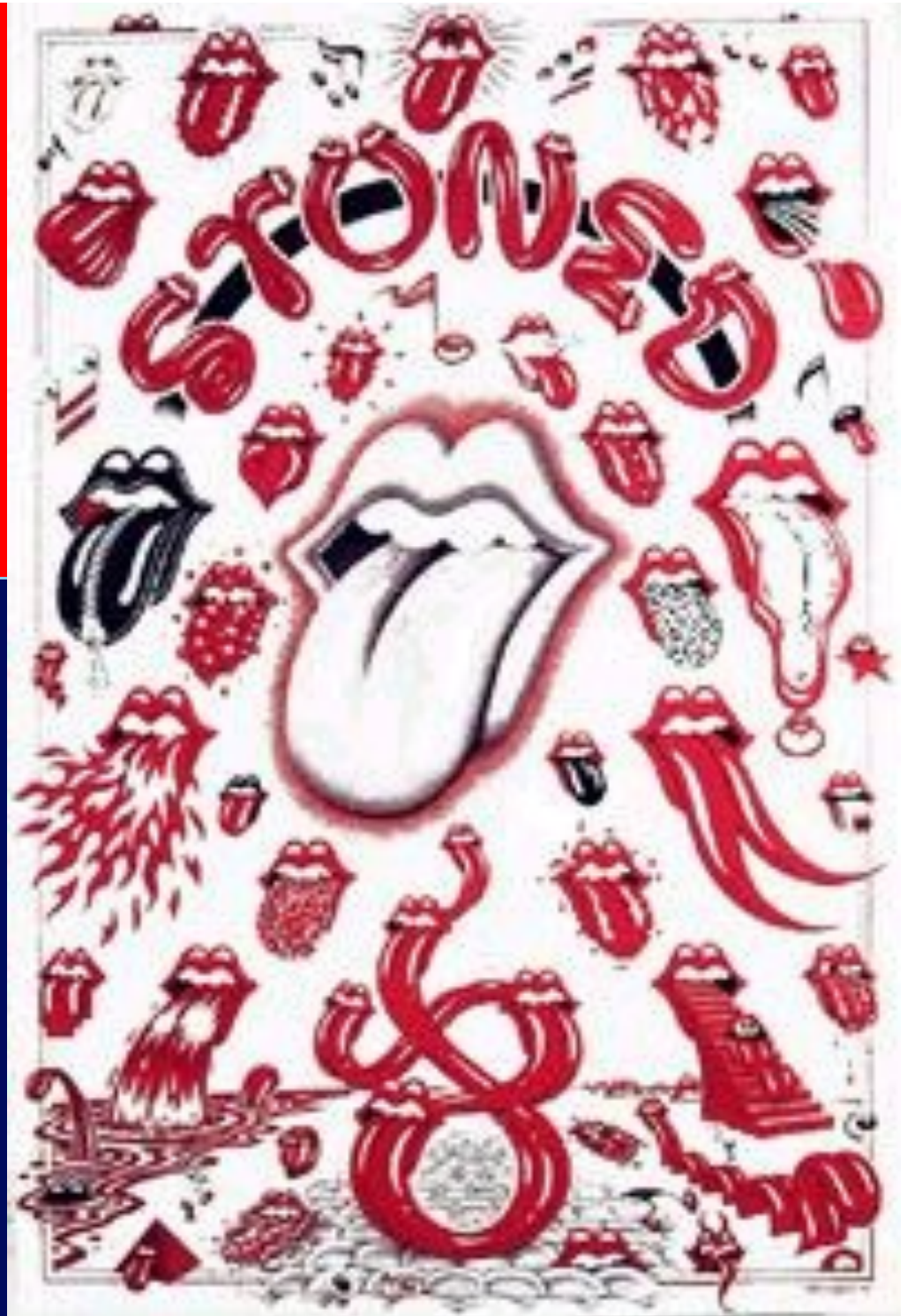
Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James

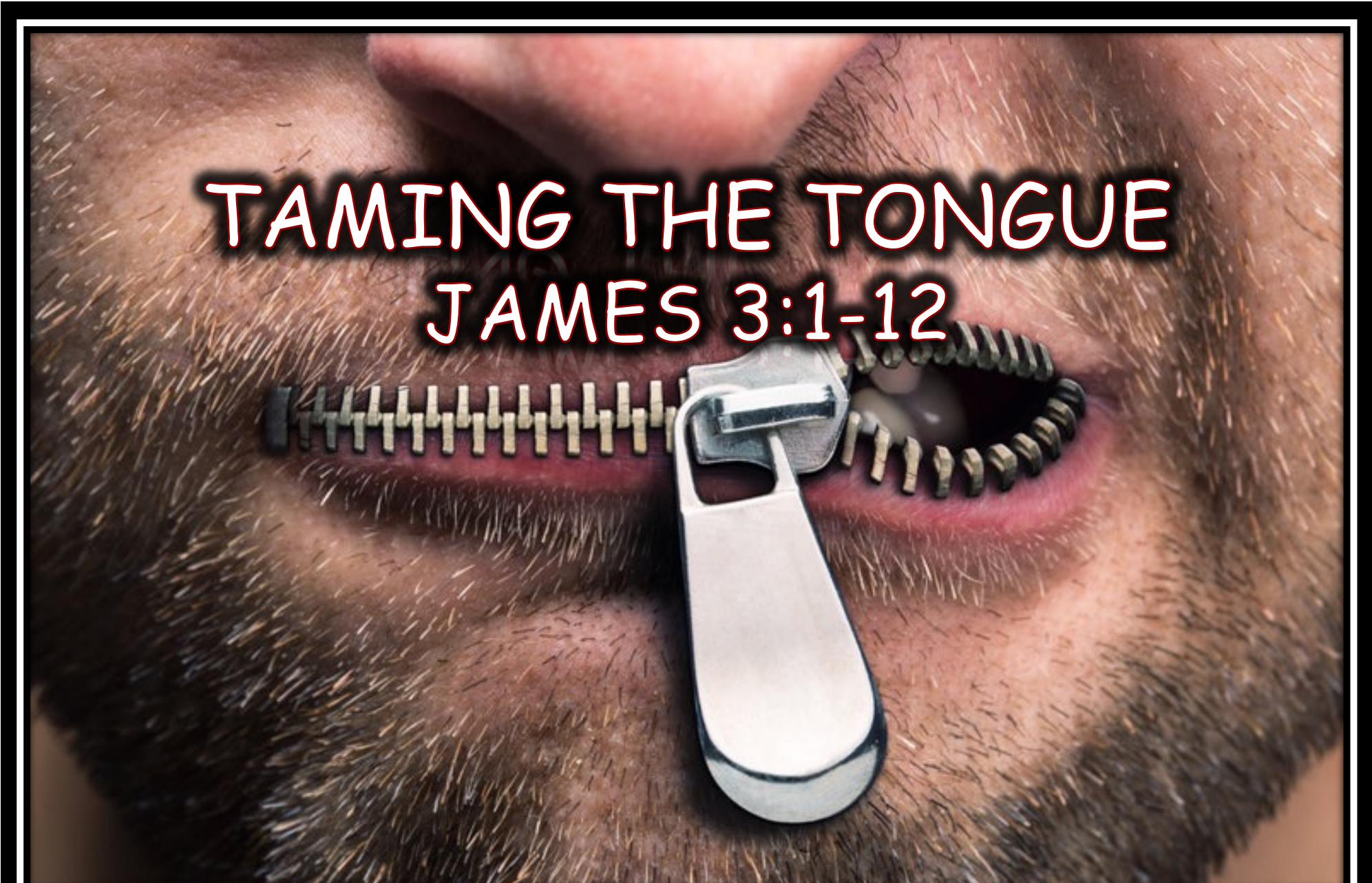
Controlling the Tongue (3:1-18)

How to have
victory over
one of our
toughest
enemies



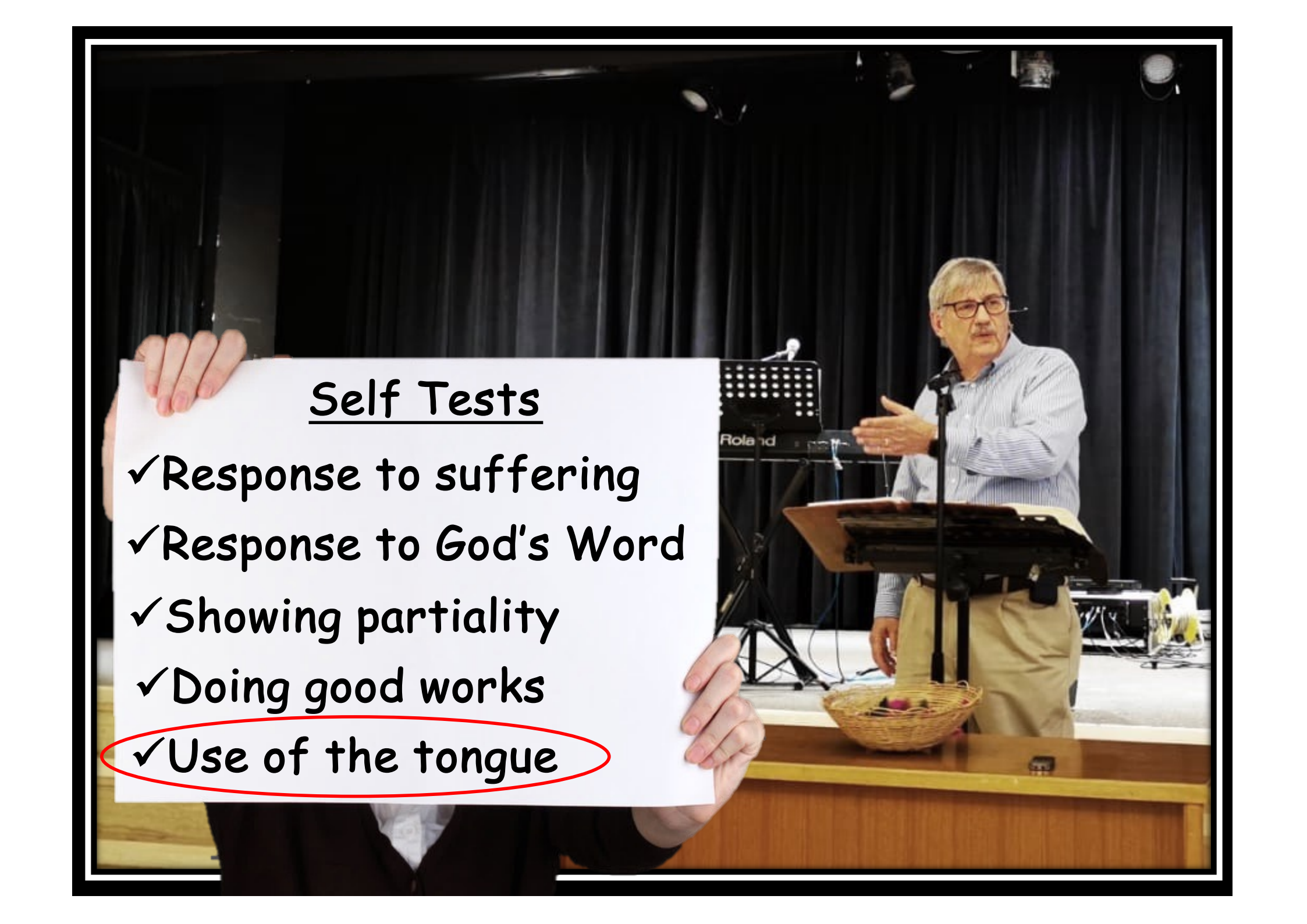
***Faith speaks wisely
because faith...***

3:1-6 Recognizes the influence of the tongue



TAMING THE TONGUE
JAMES 3:1-12

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Self Tests

- ✓ Response to suffering
- ✓ Response to God's Word
- ✓ Showing partiality
- ✓ Doing good works
- ✓ Use of the tongue

**“Death and life are in the power of the tongue”
Proverbs 18:21**

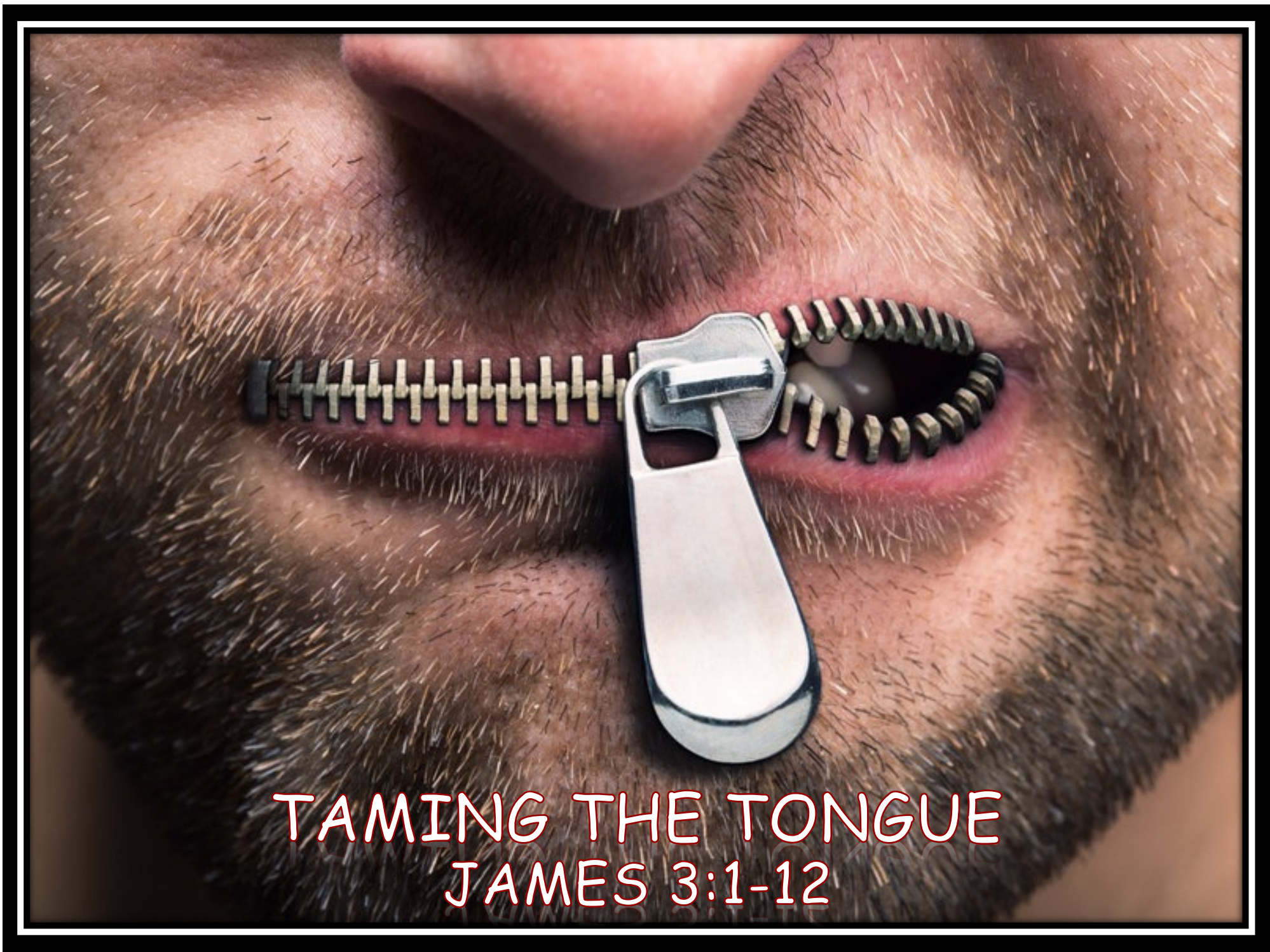


JAMES' CONCERN FOR THE TONGUE

James

- ☑ 1:19,26
- ☑ 2:12
- ☑ 3:5,6,8-9
- ☑ 4:11
- ☑ 5:12





TAMING THE TONGUE
JAMES 3:1-12

A WARNING FOR TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH (Eph. 4:11)



TEACHERS

WATCH
YOUR STEP

A WARNING FOR TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH (Eph. 4:11)

✓ Many aspired to teach

◆ Matt. 23:2,6-7





העתק - המקור נמצא במוזיאון ישראל
REPLICA - THE ORIGINAL IS IN THE ISRAEL MUSEUM

A WARNING FOR TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH (Eph. 4:11)

✓ Many aspired to teach

◆ Matt. 23:2,6-7

◆ Heb. 5:12

◆ 1 Tim. 1:7

✓ Teachers are more accountable

◆ Ezek. 33:7-9

◆ Acts 20:26-27

◆ Heb. 13:17

◆ 2 Pet. 2:1-3



A WARNING FOR ALL BELIEVERS
We all stumble (sin) in many ways



SINS OF THE TONGUE

- ✓ Slander/gossip: Destroys character
- ✓ Criticism: Destroys confidence/relationship
- ✓ Sarcasm: Destroys communication
- ✓ Complaining: Destroys unity
- ✓ Excessive (unbridled) talk
- ✓ Negative tone of voice
- ✓ Withholding what should be said

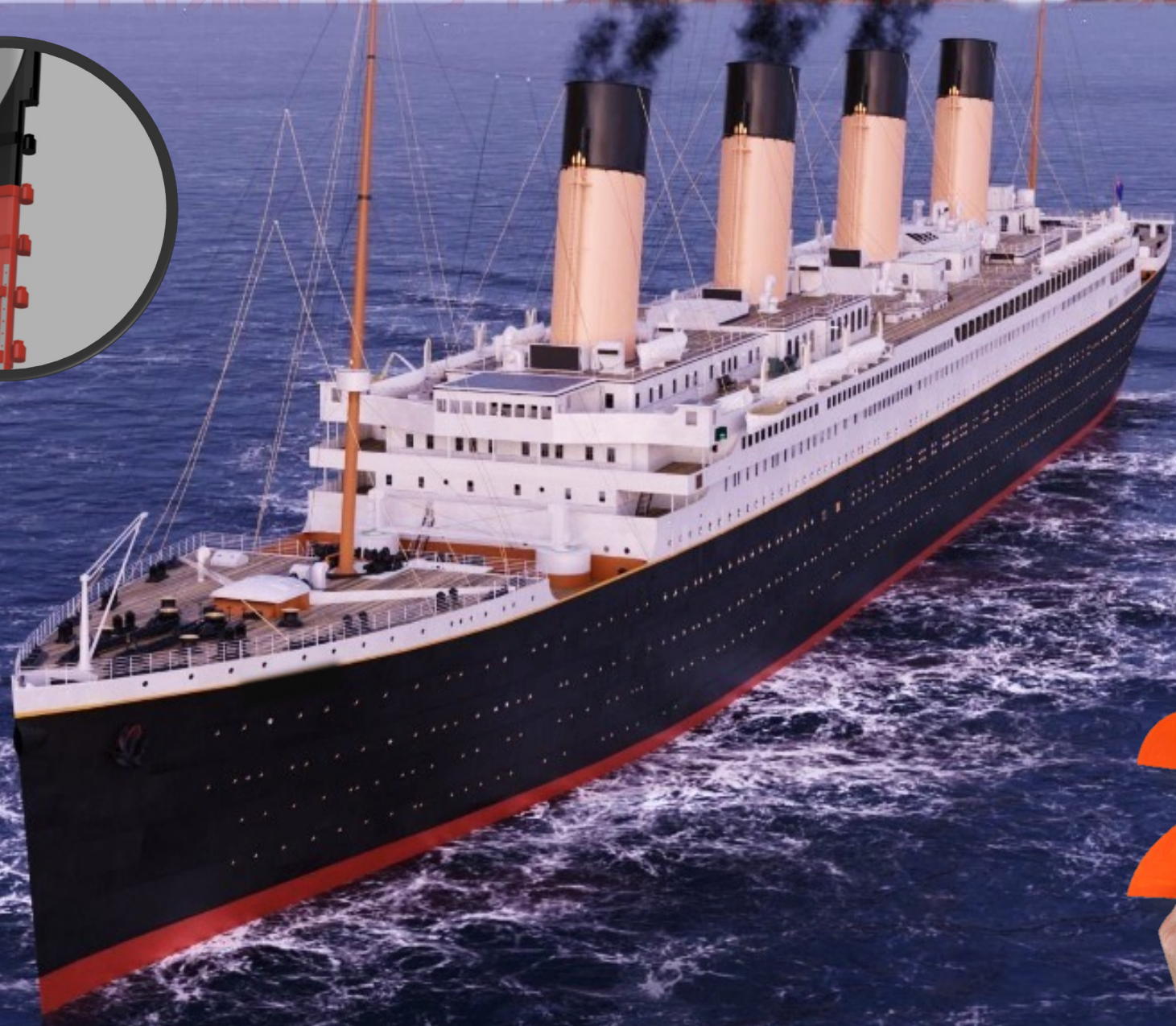
**Spiritual maturity is evidenced
by tongue control
(Prov. 10:19; Gal. 5:22-23)**



THE TONGUE'S INFLUENCE (3:3-4)

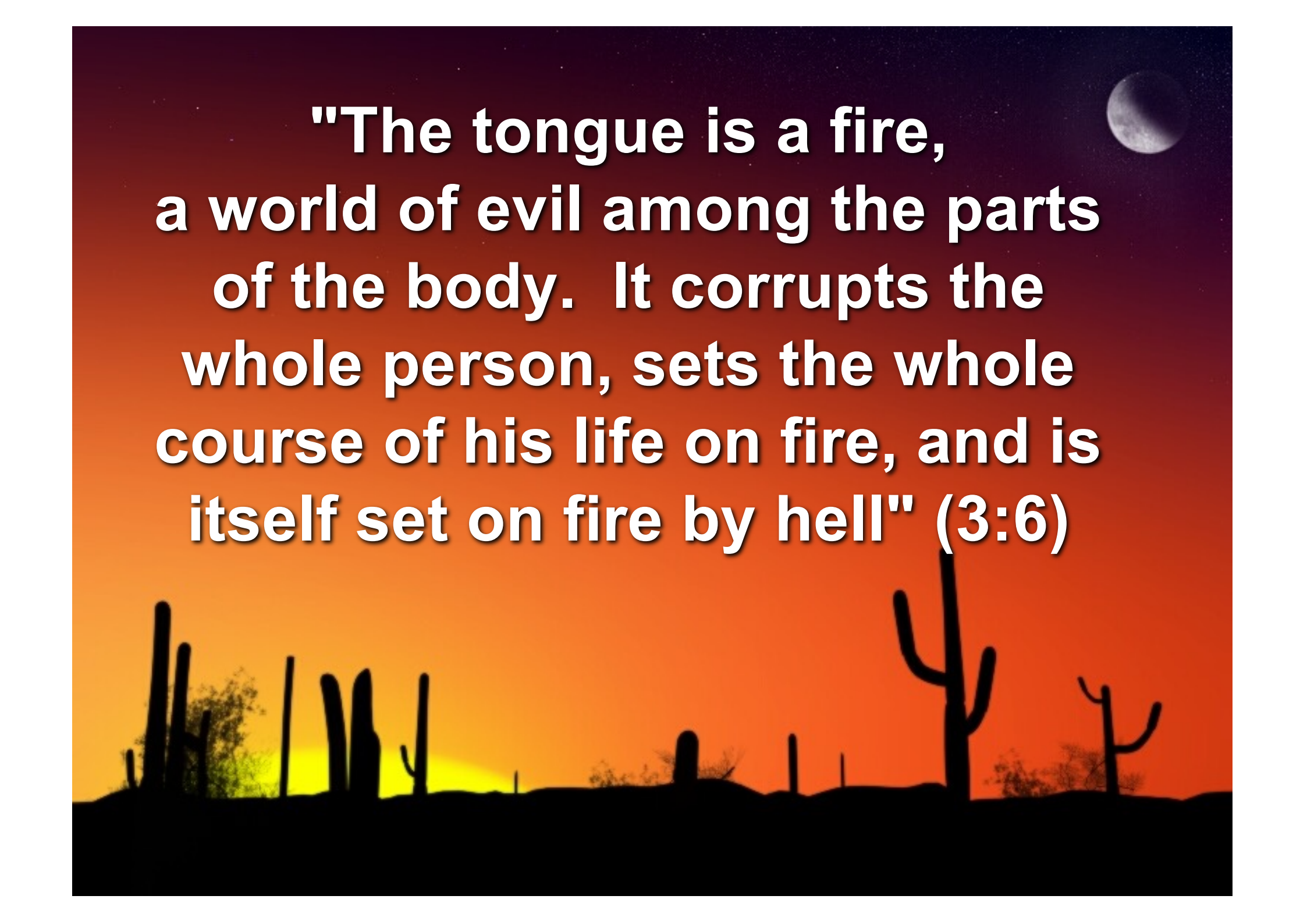


THE TONGUE'S INFLUENCE (3:3-4)



2





**"The tongue is a fire,
a world of evil among the parts
of the body. It corrupts the
whole person, sets the whole
course of his life on fire, and is
itself set on fire by hell" (3:6)**

***Faith speaks wisely
because faith...***

- 3:1-6** Recognizes the influence of the tongue
- 3:7-8** Recognizes the tongue as untamable

THE TONGUE DESTROYS (3:5-8)

- ✓ It's small but dangerous
- ✓ It's a world of iniquity
- ✓ It can set our whole life on fire (every area can be "torched")



3

SOURCE OF THE TONGUE'S DESTRUCTION



Valley of Gehenna



I don't know why they picked her to sing the special number. You obviously have a better voice.

Why didn't they call on you to pray? I think you should do it.

SOURCE OF THE TONGUE'S DESTRUCTION



Valley of Gehenna



**THE TONGUE IS
HUMANLY UNTAMABLE (3:7-8)**



**It's full
of deadly poison**



***Faith speaks wisely
because faith...***

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 3:1-6 | Recognizes the influence of the tongue |
| 3:7-8 | Recognizes the tongue as untamable |
| 3:9-12 | Uses the tongue for good, not evil |



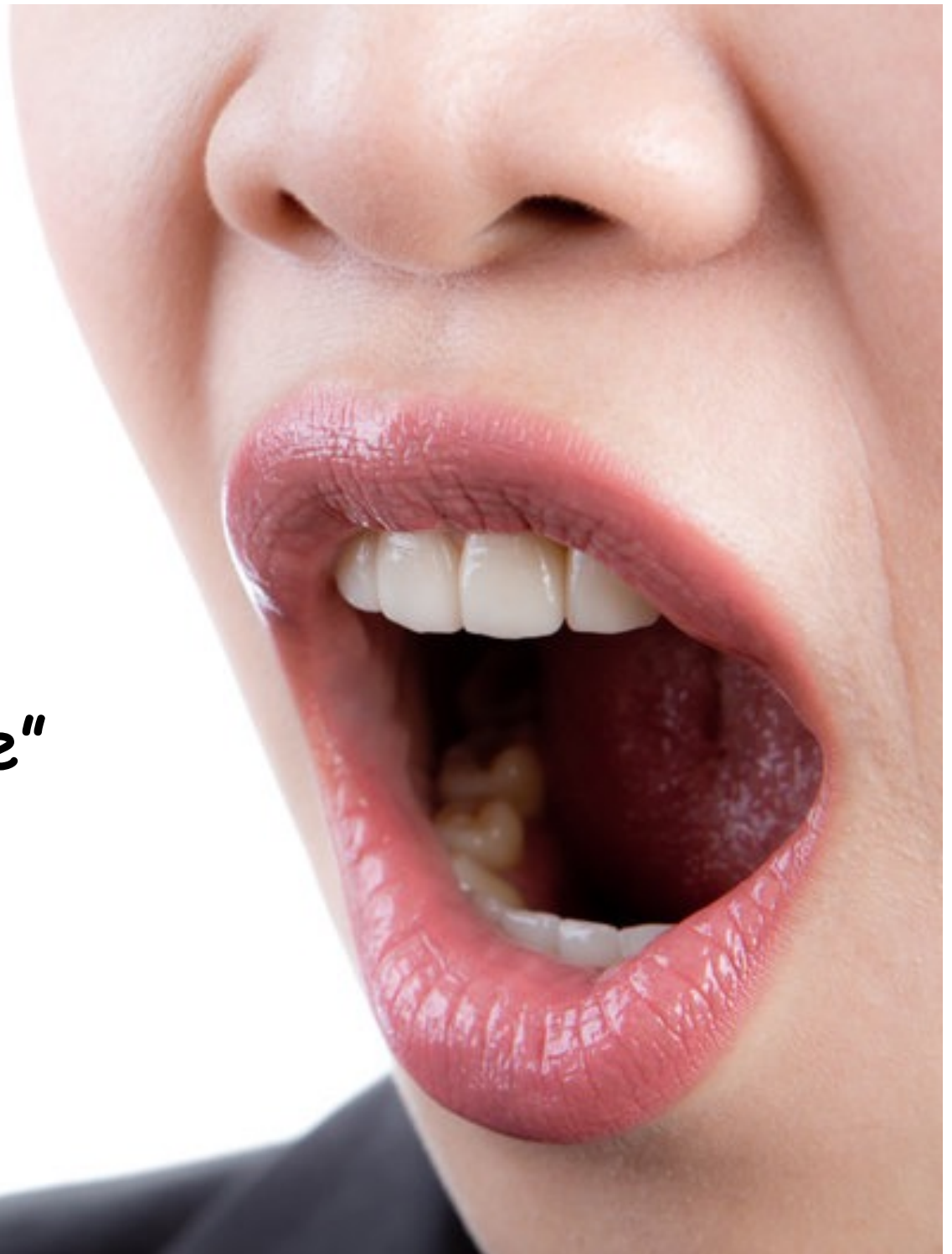
THE TONGUE'S INCONSISTENCY

PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

1) Realize your words
shape destinies

"The tongue...
sets on fire
the course of life"
(3:6)

Proverbs
18:20-21



DEATH WORDS



LIFE
WORDS

DEATH
WORDS



DEATH
WORDS



LIFE
WORDS

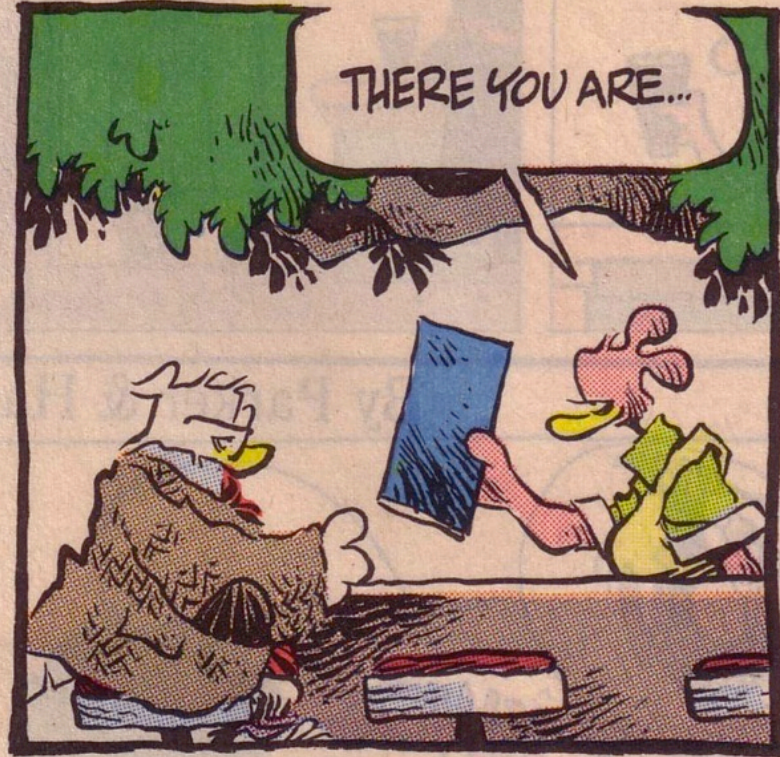
DEATH
WORDS



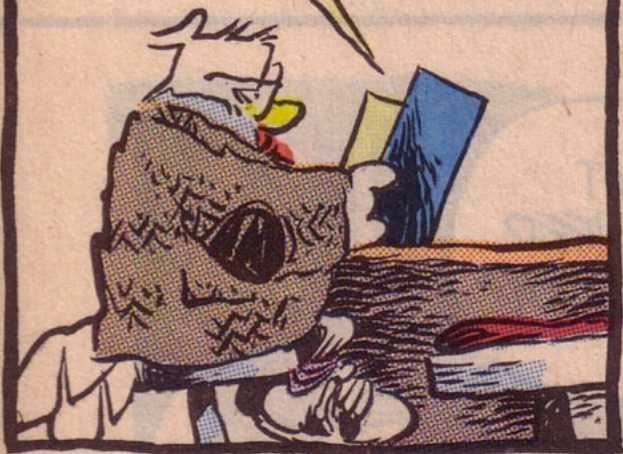
DEATH WORDS



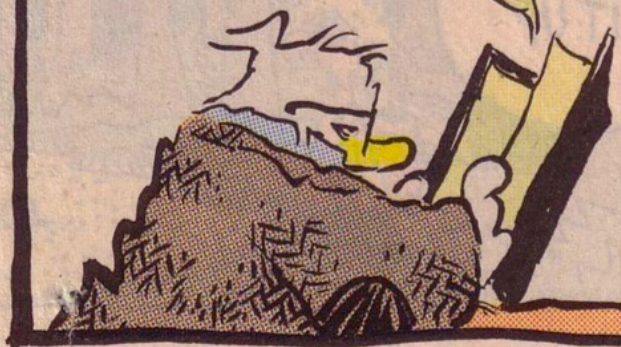
SHOE



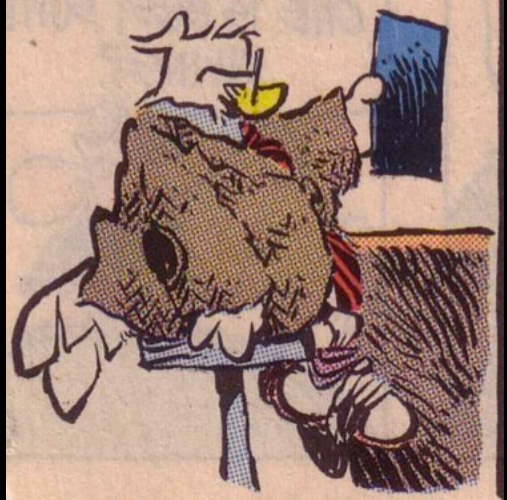
• Is the fresh scrod,
you know, fresh?



- That music is still too loud.
- There's a draft on my neck.



ROZ, WE GOT
A PROBLEM...



LIFE
WORDS

DEATH
WORDS





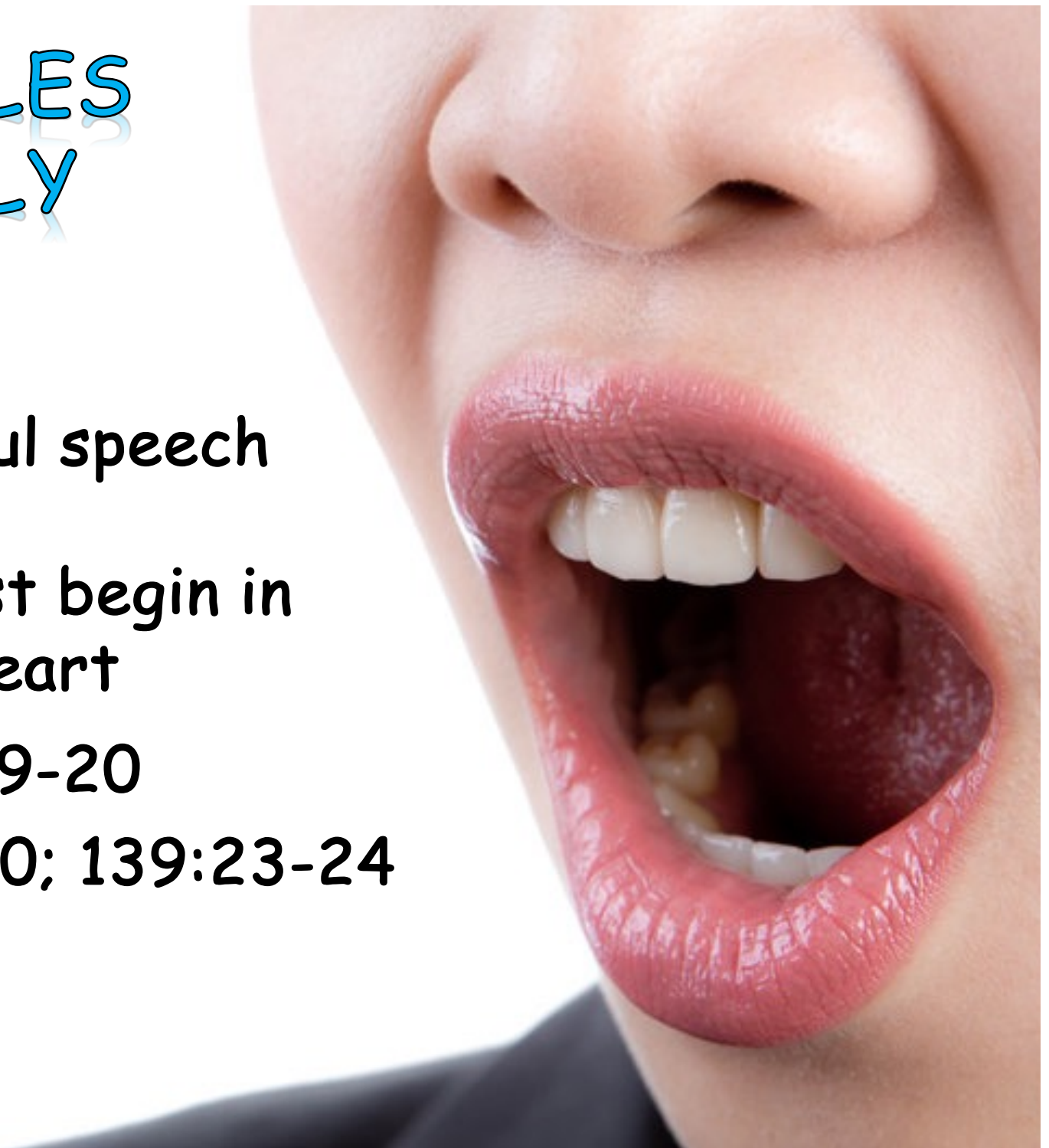
PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

2) Examine and confess sinful speech

Change must begin in
the heart

✓ Matt. 15:19-20

✓ Psalm 51:10; 139:23-24



PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

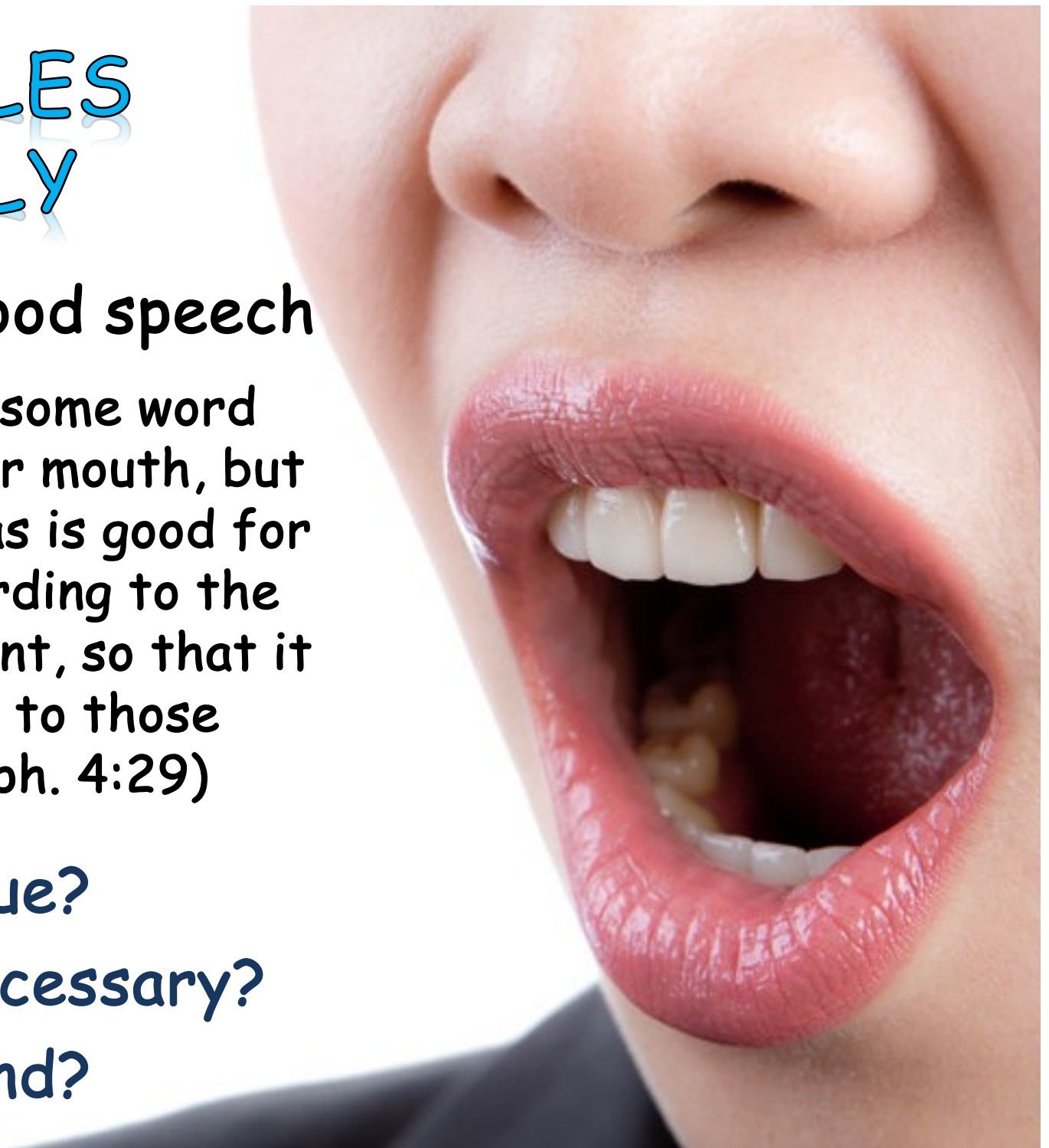
3) Commit to good speech

"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear" (Eph. 4:29)

Ask: ✓ Is it true?

✓ Is it necessary?

✓ Is it kind?





True bulletin announcements...

- Don't let worry kill you—let the church help.
- Thursday night Potluck Supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- **Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.**
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- **The ladies of our church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.**



True bulletin announcements...

- **The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Allen Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.**
- This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
- **The bean supper will be held Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.**
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

What does this say?

- MR PIGS
- MR NOT PIGS!
- OSAR
- CM PENS?
- LIB
- MR PIGS!
- Them are pigs
- Them are not pigs!
- Oh, yes they are!
- See them pens?
- Well I'll be!
- Them *are* pigs!

■ *Watch your words!*

Faith speaks wisely because faith...

- 3:1-6** Recognizes the influence of the tongue
- 3:7-8** Recognizes the tongue as untamable
- 3:9-12** Uses the tongue for good, not evil
- 3:13-18** Produces wisdom for proper speech

*Where does wisdom come from?
How does James define wisdom?*

There are two kinds of wisdom...

<i>The Two Wisdoms</i>	3:15-16	3:17-18
Origin	not from above earthly unspiritual devilish	from above
Characteristics	envy selfish ambition	pure peace loving considerate submissive merciful & good fruit impartial sincere
Results	disorder every evil practice	harvest of righteousness



WISDOM
FROM BELOW

WISDOM
FROM ABOVE

TAKE A LOOK
IN THE MIRROR!

James 3:13-18

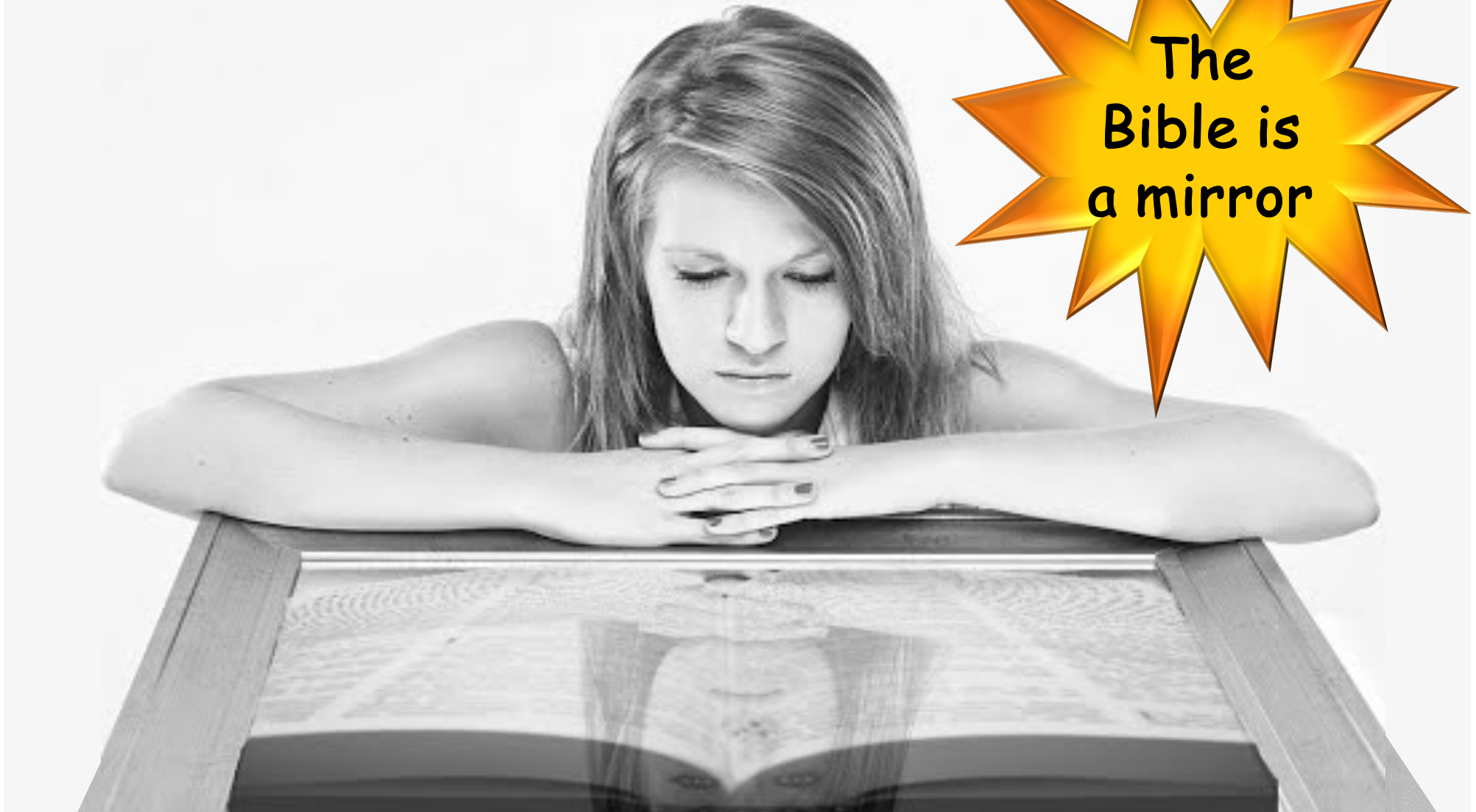
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**"If anyone is a hearer of the word
and not a doer, he is like a man who looks
at his natural face in a mirror . . ."**

James 1:23-24

**The
Bible is
a mirror**





WISDOM
FROM BELOW

WISDOM
FROM ABOVE

TAKE A LOOK
IN THE MIRROR!

James 3:13-18

WISDOM FROM BELOW

James 3:14-16



THE WORLD'S WISDOM

Bitter Jealousy

✓ Root = zeal; passion

Good

Bad

Promotes personal opinions
and agenda;
harsh toward anyone else;
excludes others



THE WORLD'S WISDOM

Selfish Ambition

**Divisive;
factious;
fights for personal gain;
undercuts others**



THE WORLD'S WISDOM

Arrogance

**Boastful;
gloats over rivals;
is always right;
demeans and uses others**



THE WORLD'S WISDOM

Lies

Deceitfully covers the
true motives;
twists the truth to
suit his/her own purposes

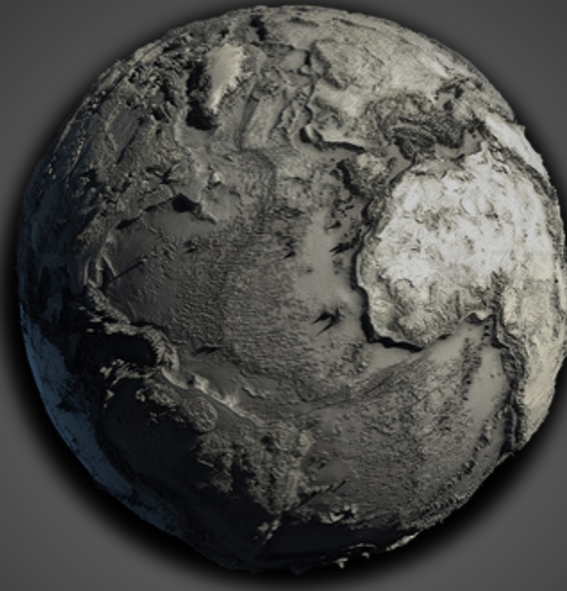


THE SOURCE OF FAKE WISDOM

James 3:15



The flesh



The world



The devil

The 3 Enemies of All Believers

WISDOM
FROM ABOVE

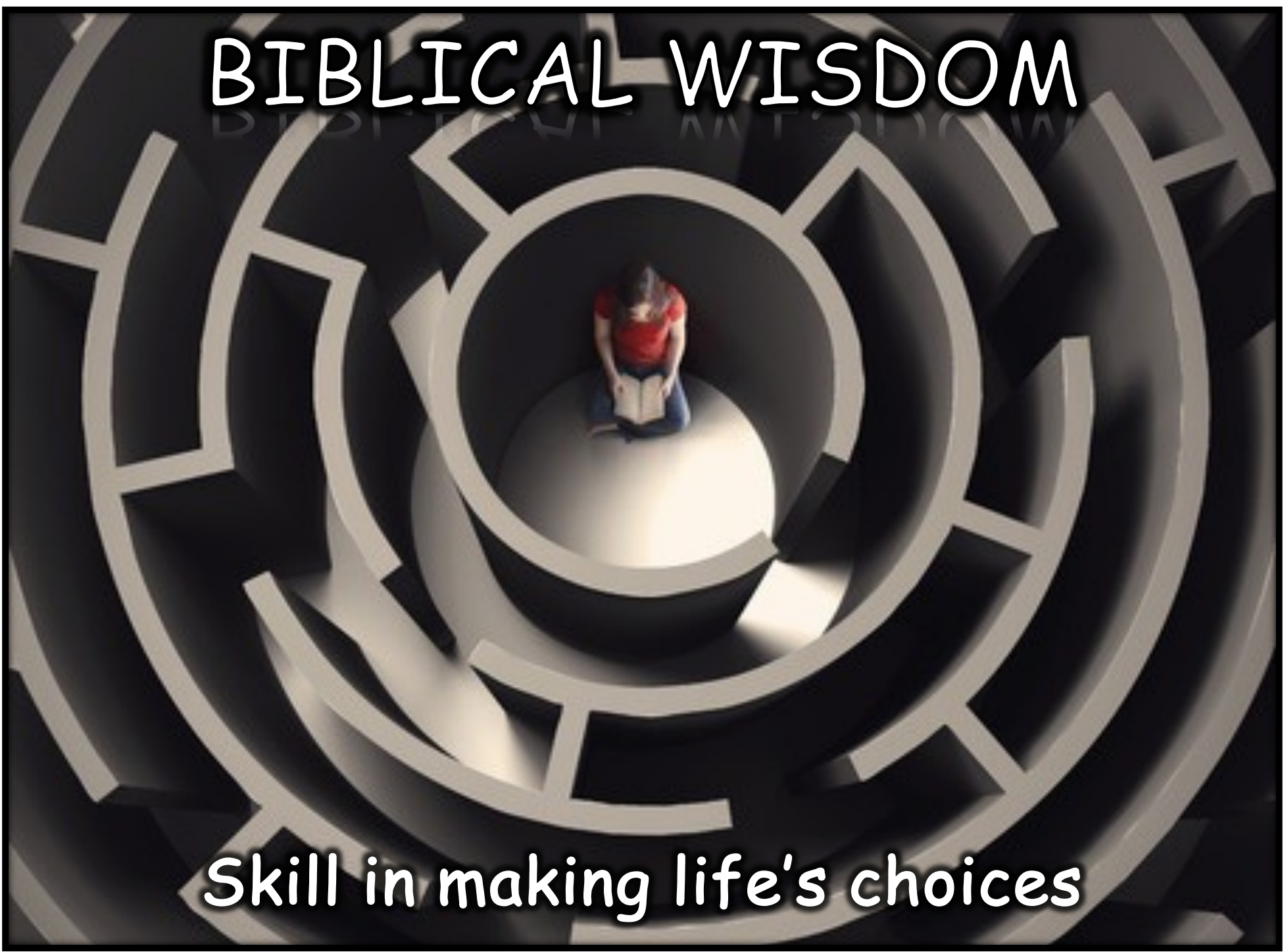


WISDOM FROM ABOVE

James 3:17
(cf. James 1:17)



BIBLICAL WISDOM

A 3D rendering of a maze with a person kneeling in prayer at the center. The maze is composed of thick, grey, rectangular walls that form a complex, circular pattern. The person is wearing a red shirt and blue pants, and is kneeling on a white, circular platform in the center of the maze. The lighting is dramatic, with a bright light source from the right casting long shadows and highlighting the person and the central platform. The overall scene is set against a dark, almost black background.

Skill in making life's choices



PURE

Clean; undefiled;
uncompromising;
free of vices;
unstained (1:27)

WISDOM FROM ABOVE



PEACEABLE

Promotes peace;
harmonious
relationships with
God and men;
not divisive

WISDOM FROM ABOVE



GENTLE

Considerate;
forbearing;
courteous;
willing to defer rights

WISDOM FROM ABOVE

REASONABLE

Easy to get along with;
open to reason;
accommodating;
willing to yield



WISDOM FROM ABOVE

FULL OF MERCY

An abundant measure of compassion towards those who are hurting or needy; helps in practical ways



WISDOM FROM ABOVE

FULL OF GOOD FRUIT

Bears rich harvest
of all types of
spiritual fruit
(Galatians 5:22-23)



WISDOM FROM ABOVE

UNWAVERING

Wholehearted; consistent;
straightforward;
faithful;
not partial



WISDOM FROM ABOVE

WITHOUT HYPOCRISY

Without pretense;
nothing to hide;
genuine; sincere



WISDOM FROM ABOVE



PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

"Mirror, mirror on the wall . . ."

Proverbs 4:7



PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

Appropriate God's wisdom!

God's wisdom is the ability to live out God's truth in life's daily choices and challenges

- ☑ James 1:5 → **Ask for it**
- ☑ Prov. 1:2-6 → **Receive instruction**
- ☑ Prov. 9:10; 15:33 → **Fear God**
- ☑ Prov. 2:4-5 → **Study the Bible**
- ☑ Prov. 2:7-9 → **Live a righteous life**
- ☑ Prov. 13:20 → **Walk with the wise**
- ☑ Prov. 29:15 → **Accept discipline**

Ways Faith is Seen

267

Faith is Revealed through Works Because Faith...

Rejoices in Trials	Obeys the Word	Avoids Favoritism	Produces Works	Speaks Wisely	Produces Humility	Ultimately Triumphs
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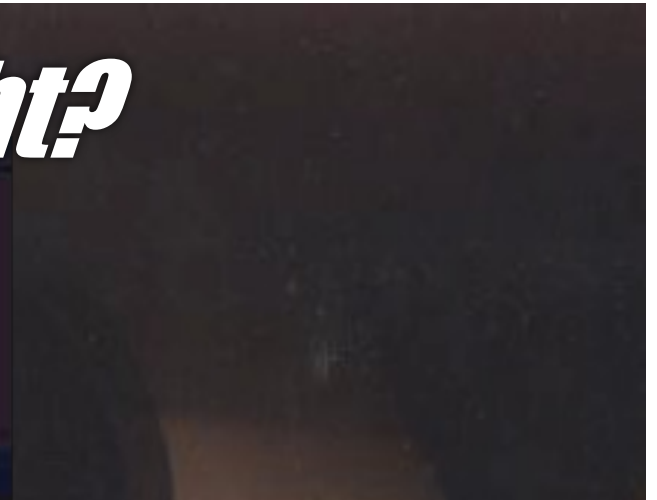
Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James

James 4

Why Do We Fight?



CONFLICT

“AND I SAY IF WE WERE TRULY SAVED, WE WOULDN'T HAVE ARGUMENTS!”

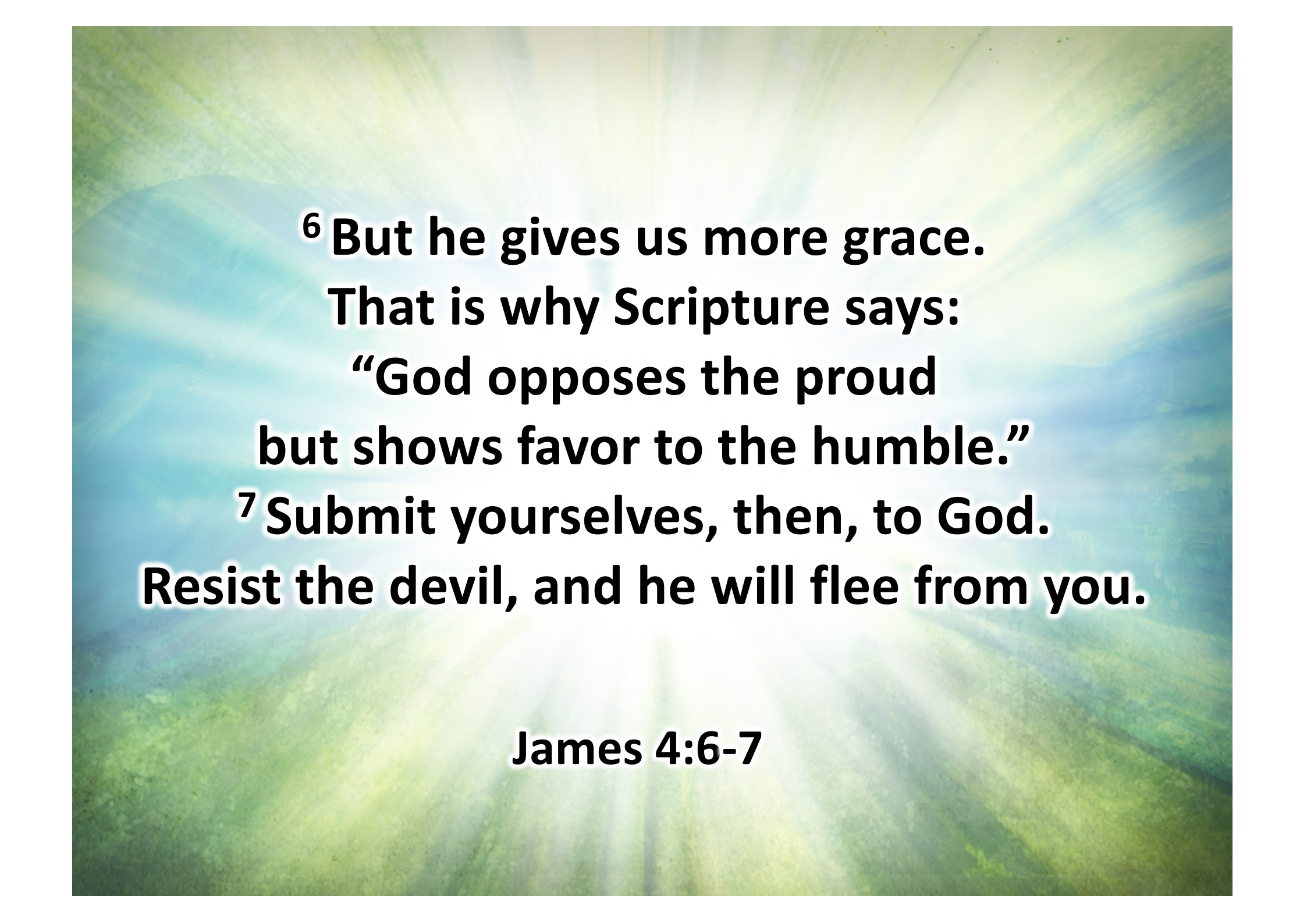
“WE WOULDN'T HAVE THEM IF YOU WERE THE KIND OF MAN GOD TELLS YOU TO BE!”



*Do real
Christians
fight?*

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

James 4:4-5



**⁶ But he gives us more grace.
That is why Scripture says:
“God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble.”
⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

James 4:6-7

Do You Agree?

- 1. The root cause of all sin is pride**
- 2. If two persons are truly humble, they will not exert their will without listening**
- 3. Judging is an opinion that lacks basic facts while discerning has most facts**
- 4. One cannot discern properly without humility**

Discernment v. *Judgment*

Commanded

Prohibited

Asks questions

Accepts hearsay

Self-evaluation

Others-evaluation

Humble

Proud

Protects

Discredits



4:1-12 ***Summary***

- **Don't follow evil desires (1-10)**
- **Don't judge (11-12)**



*Planning
at the*

C

o

ommunities

Happen in the
Heartland

October 13-15, 2004
Indianapolis, Indiana

Planning and Faith

**How not to
play God
(James
4:13-17)**

HOW TO PLAY GOD

- WITH OTHERS (4:1 1-12)
 - SLANDER THEM (1 1)
 - JUDGE THEM (1 2)

- WITH OURSELVES (4:1 3-17)

Rules to Play God (4:13)

- 1. Choose your own time and schedule**
- 2. Select your own location (the place you like)**
- 3. Limit your stay to please yourself**
- 4. Arrange your activities to please yourself**
- 5. Predict your outcome and boast about it**

The True God's Evaluation

- 1.** You don't know what will happen tomorrow (14a)
- 2.** You don't know if you'll have a long life (14b)
- 3.** You have no right to ignore God's will (15-17)

An aerial photograph of a large campus, likely a university or government complex. The campus features several large, multi-story buildings, extensive parking lots filled with cars, and well-maintained green spaces. A prominent road or highway curves through the center of the campus. The surrounding area includes more greenery and some residential or commercial buildings in the distance. The sky is clear and blue.

**What plan do you need
to submit to God?**

James 5

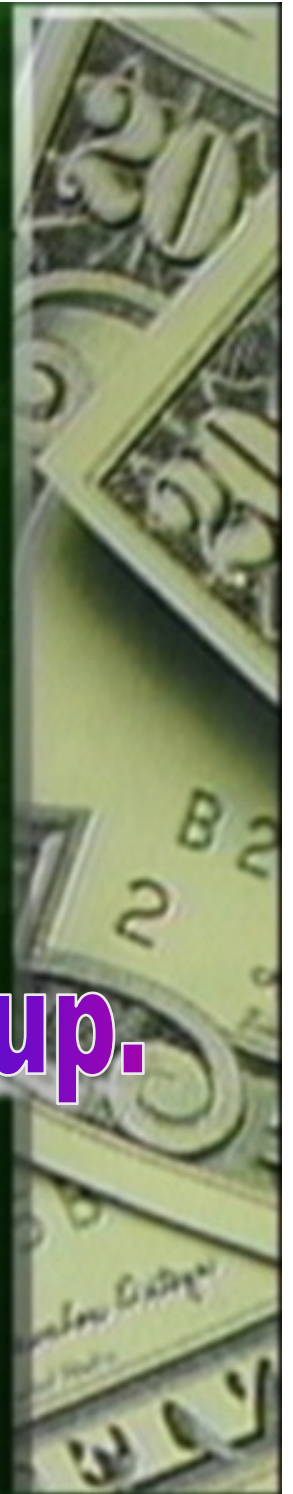
A red paper shopping bag with white handles is shown against a green background. The bag is the central focus, with its top edge and handles visible. The text is centered on the front of the bag.

**Warnings to the
Wealthy
(James 5:1-6)**

Four types of people...

1. Spiritually poor & materially poor
2. Spiritually rich & materially rich
3. Spiritually rich & materially poor
4. Spiritually poor & materially rich

James addresses this last group.

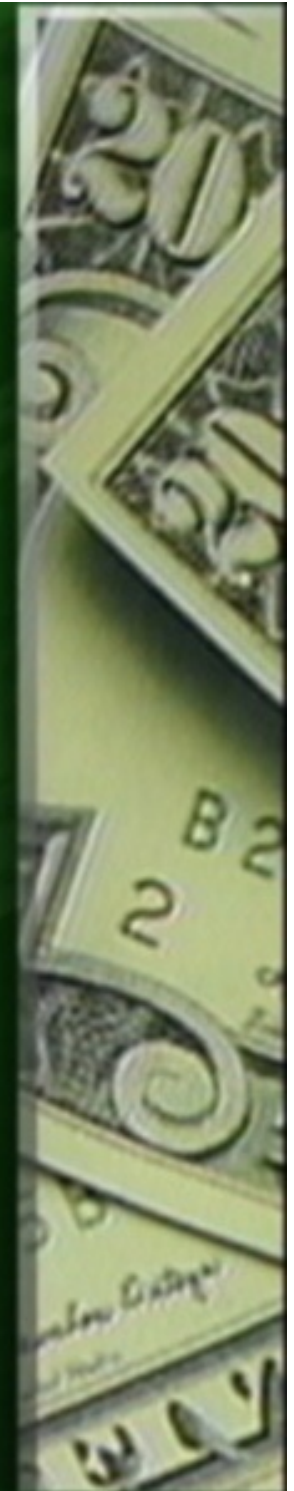


The Rich and Poor in James

	<i>Rich</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<i>1:9-11</i>		
<i>2:1-7</i>		
<i>5:1-6</i>		

The Love of Money

Troubles of Riches	Sins of the Rich



To Bring Home

- 1. Are you among the rich or the poor of the world? How do you know this?**
- 2. What luxuries or conveniences could you share with others? Think of things you tend to waste or not put to greater use.**
- 3. What should you do with the hard-hitting words of James?**



***Are you missionary
material?***

**A story from Leslie Flynn,
*19 Gifts of the Spirit, 26-27***

Ways Faith is Seen

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Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James

Patience



How patient are you?

- **I get frustrated when using a slow computer**
- **When God doesn't answer my prayers, I give up praying that request**
- **At the grocery I still use the express lane when I have more than 6 items**
- **I stand as close as I can to be first in doors on lifts, MRT trains, buses, etc.**

Patience



How patient are you?

- **I expect an answer to my emails within 24 hours**
- **When calling someone, I hang up the phone after three rings**
- **I get angry when someone on the road cuts me off (when driving, in a taxi, or walking)**
- **I get annoyed when forced to take self-evaluation tests (like this one)**



The 7 deadly

sins

of

S'poreans

▶ NEWS: PAGES 3-4

▶ *The Sunday Times*, 3 April 2005

Which sin do you think tops the list?

- **Anger**
- **Envy**
- **Gluttony**
- **Greed**
- **Lust**
- **Pride**
- **Sloth**

SINGAPOREANS' 7 DEADLY SINS — Anger tops the list

Of all the sins, lust is the one that S'poreans commit least often, an SPH survey finds

by Jeremy Au Yong

SINGAPOREANS are angry and greedy, and when it comes to lust, well, it's just too much effort.

A recent survey on the seven deadly sins by the research arm of Singapore Press Holdings found that Singaporeans are inclined to be hot-tempered, to covet and view other people as greedy,

and to lust for money and envy among the top seven sins.

About half those polled didn't even consider laziness and greed as sins.

Instead, Singaporeans suggested cruelty, adultery, dishonesty and bigotry should replace them, with cruelty considered the surest way to eternal damnation.

Dr Ko Soo Meng, consultant psychiatrist at Raffles Hospital, speculated that current affairs may have shaped our attitudes.

He said: "With stories like the Tampines murder-suicide and the poison-

ing of the sin. "Singaporeans think of themselves as susceptible to sins that hurt themselves more than others, like laziness and gluttony as opposed to cruelty and adultery.

"Laziness and gluttony are individual sins, not directed at others, whereas cruelty and adultery are relational sins, which entail a victim or victims," he said.

As for all the anger out there, experts said it could be the result of anything from a competitive environment to simply not being held enough as a



ANGER: It's dangerous if unresolved

LOSING your temper can often be an embarrassing experience. Lose it in public and you'll get curious stares. Have an outburst at home and it'll set the neighbours talking.

most. If it is a problem, then help is at hand.

A check with three hospitals — National University Hospital (NUH), Raffles Hospital and Mount Elizabeth Hospital — found that

loose on barged in ing out of

"I'm a at that n thinking.

Which sin do you think tops the list?

- **Anger**

- **Envy**

- **Gluttony**

- **Greed**

- **Lust**

- **Pride**

- **Sloth**

- **Anger (88%)**

- **Sloth (69%)**

- **Envy (60%)**

- **Gluttony**

- **Greed**

- **Pride**

- **Lust**

- **Adultery**

- **Cruelty**

- **Dishonesty**

James 5:11a

Lord

"As you know,
we consider
blessed those
who have
persevered..."

grant me patience
to endure my
blessings...





Daphne

Pastor Kap and Family



November 05
12
17
19
25-26

Lecture on Feminist Theol
Lecture on Bob Dyer
Lecture on Ministerial Role - S. Orchard
Lecture on Bible Trans - KJ
Gospel by St. Thomas Aquinas
Inter-Faith Symposium

Sept. 1
10
15
20
25

Friendship in
Friendship in T

Ecc @ Mail 4u 2008

2008
MSC Theol Dept Paper Review
July (Mon), 12 noon - 1:00
Sept (Sat), 12 noon - 1:00
Nov (Fri), 12 noon - 1:00
Oct (Sun) Curriculum

Message for
Rev KZD
- Pastor Chan
will visit
in June 2008







How Can We Be Patient?

- Look to the Lord's return (5:7)
- Quit complaining to others (5:9)
- Stop making rash promises (5:12)
- Imitate examples of perseverance (5:7, 10, 11)



Tumee



A Key Mongolian Leader who needs
housing from June to July



"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1



Divine Healing Today

*What should we do when
we need physical healing?*

AOG Official Doctrine

"Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. **Deliverance from sickness** is provided for in the atonement, and **is the privilege of all believers** (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17; James 5:14-16)"

(The Assemblies of God
Constitution in its Statement of
Fundamental Truths, section 12,
emphasis mine)



Divine
Healing

An Integral Part
of the Gospel

Sharing with Concern in James 5

Share in Possessions (1-6)

Share in Patience (7-12)

Share in Prayer (13-20)



Pray, Pray, Pray

"Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is anyone sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him..."
(James 5:13-14)

Five questions on James 5:14-15...

- ✦ **What kind of sickness?**
- ✦ **What kind of anointing?**
- ✦ **What's the prayer of faith?**
- ✦ **Does this procedure always heal?**
- ✦ **How does forgiveness come?**

What Kind of Sickness?

Asthenei

Weak Faith

- General word for "to be weak"
- Used this way in many passages (e.g., Acts 20:35 "we must help the weak")
- James 5:15 better translated "make the weary person well" (cf. Heb. 12:3)

Physical Illness

- Contrasts with "in trouble" (5:13) by narrowing to physical issues
- Need for elders
- Use of oil
- "restore" and "raise up" are physical

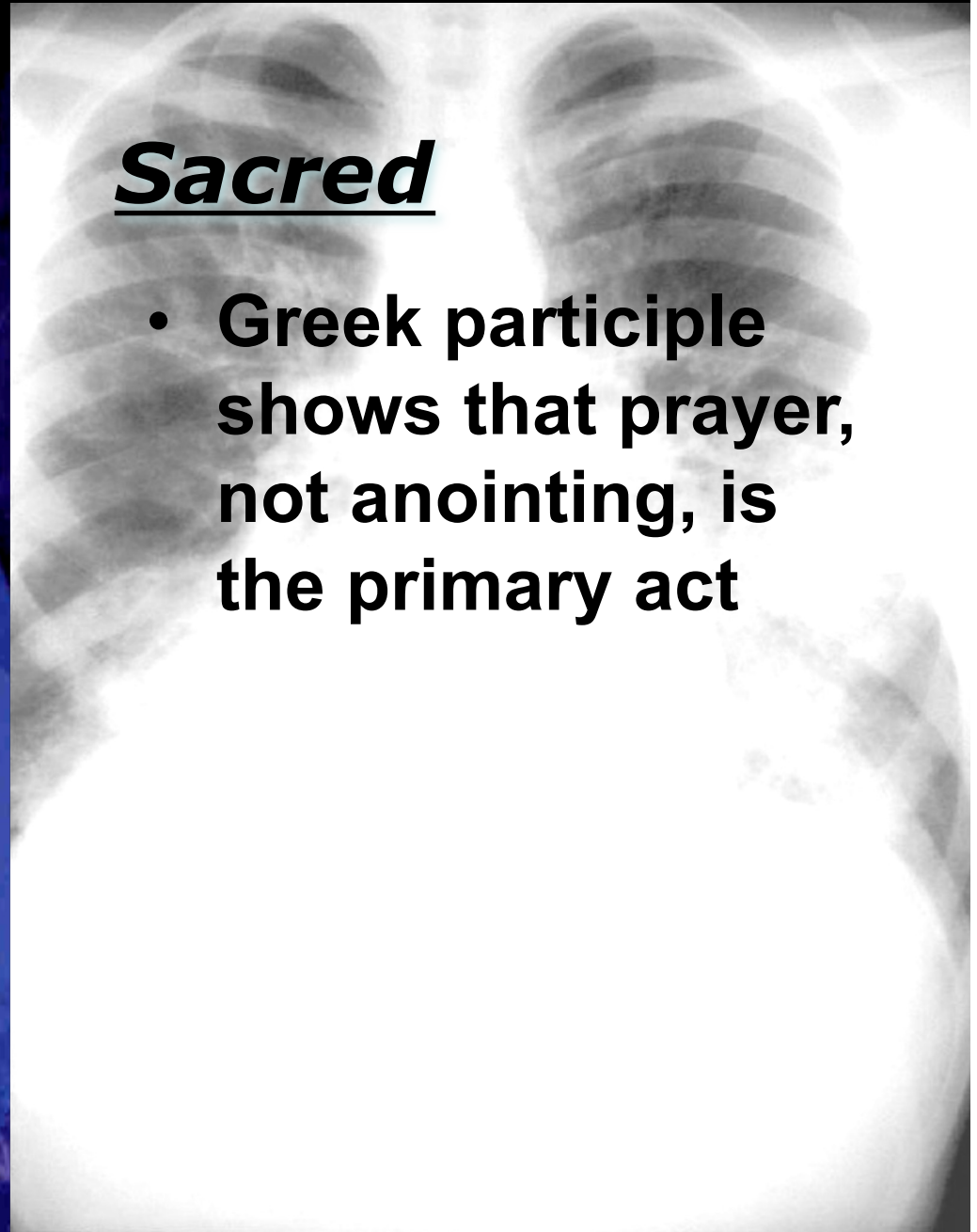
What Kind of Anointing?

Mundane

- General word for "to rub with oil"
- Contrasts with a word *not* used, which is *chrío* ("ceremonially anoint")

Sacred

- Greek participle shows that prayer, not anointing, is the primary act



Does the Prayer Work?

"the prayer will restore... and the Lord will raise him up"

Yes

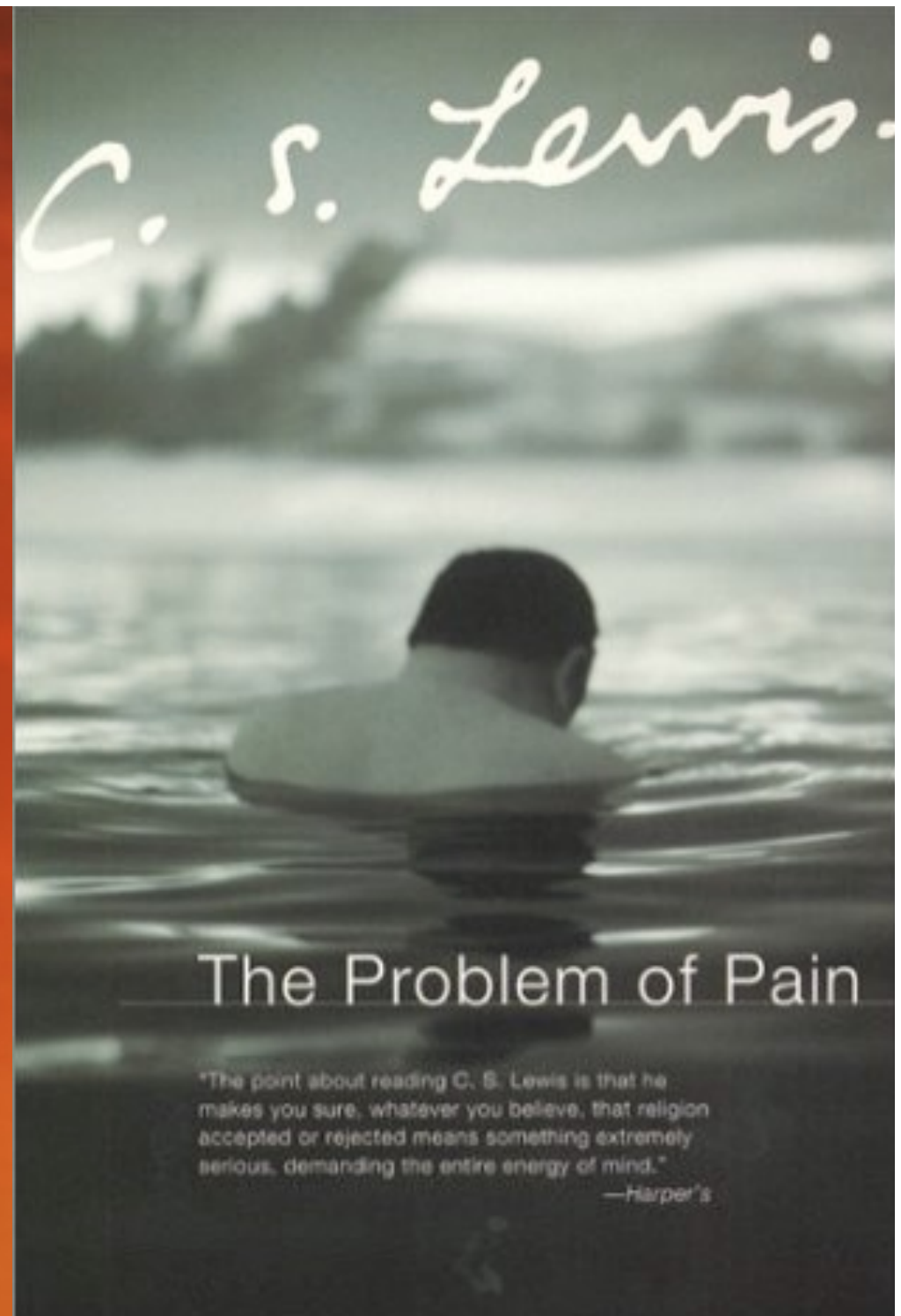
- Prayer that God will heal emotional wounds is always successful

No

- God does not always heal physically when we pray

The Problem of Pain

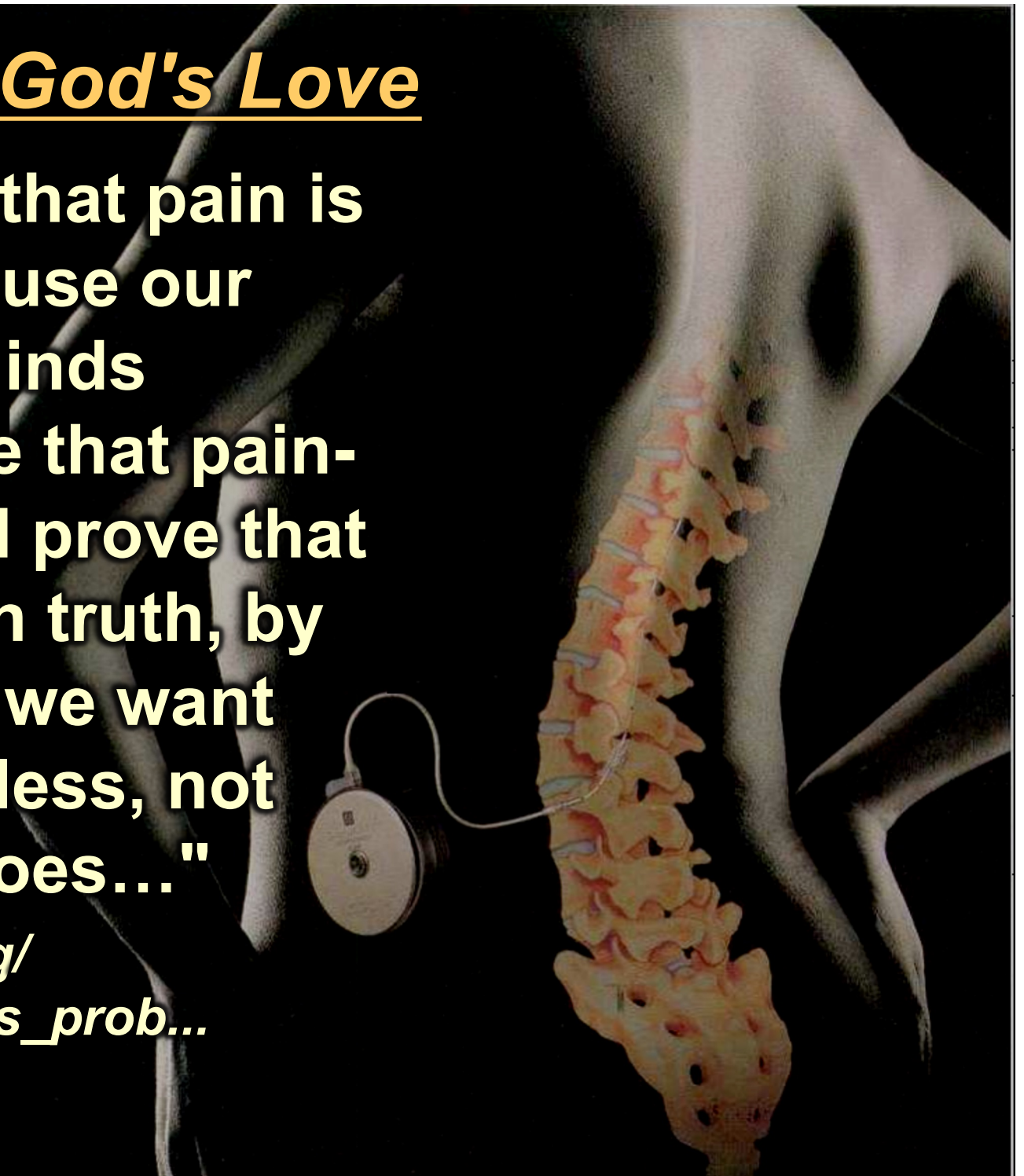
- If God is good and all-powerful, why does he allow his creatures to suffer pain?



Pain Reveals God's Love

"Lewis asserts that pain is a problem because our finite, human minds selfishly believe that pain-free lives would prove that God loves us. In truth, by asking for this, we want God to love us less, not more than he does..."

*[www.apologetics.org/
public_html/products_prob...](http://www.apologetics.org/public_html/products_prob...)*



Olives Tortured by 5 Kinds of Chiles

DAVE'S
OLIVES IN PAIN
GOURMET

(142 G)



THE HOTTEST HAND

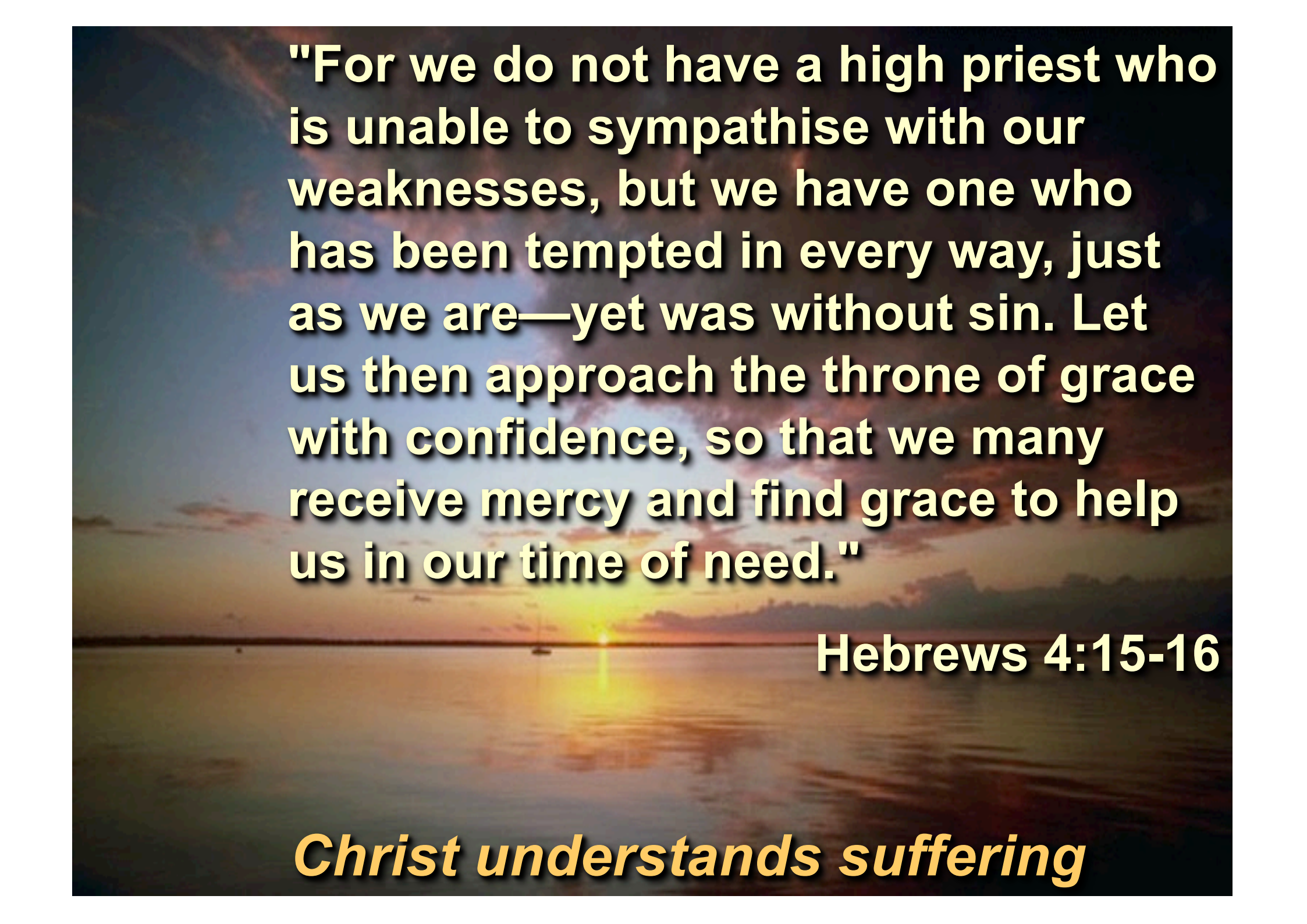
BLAIR'S
SUDDEN DEATH
sauce™



Keep Alive!
fl. oz. (150 ml)

PAIN
95%

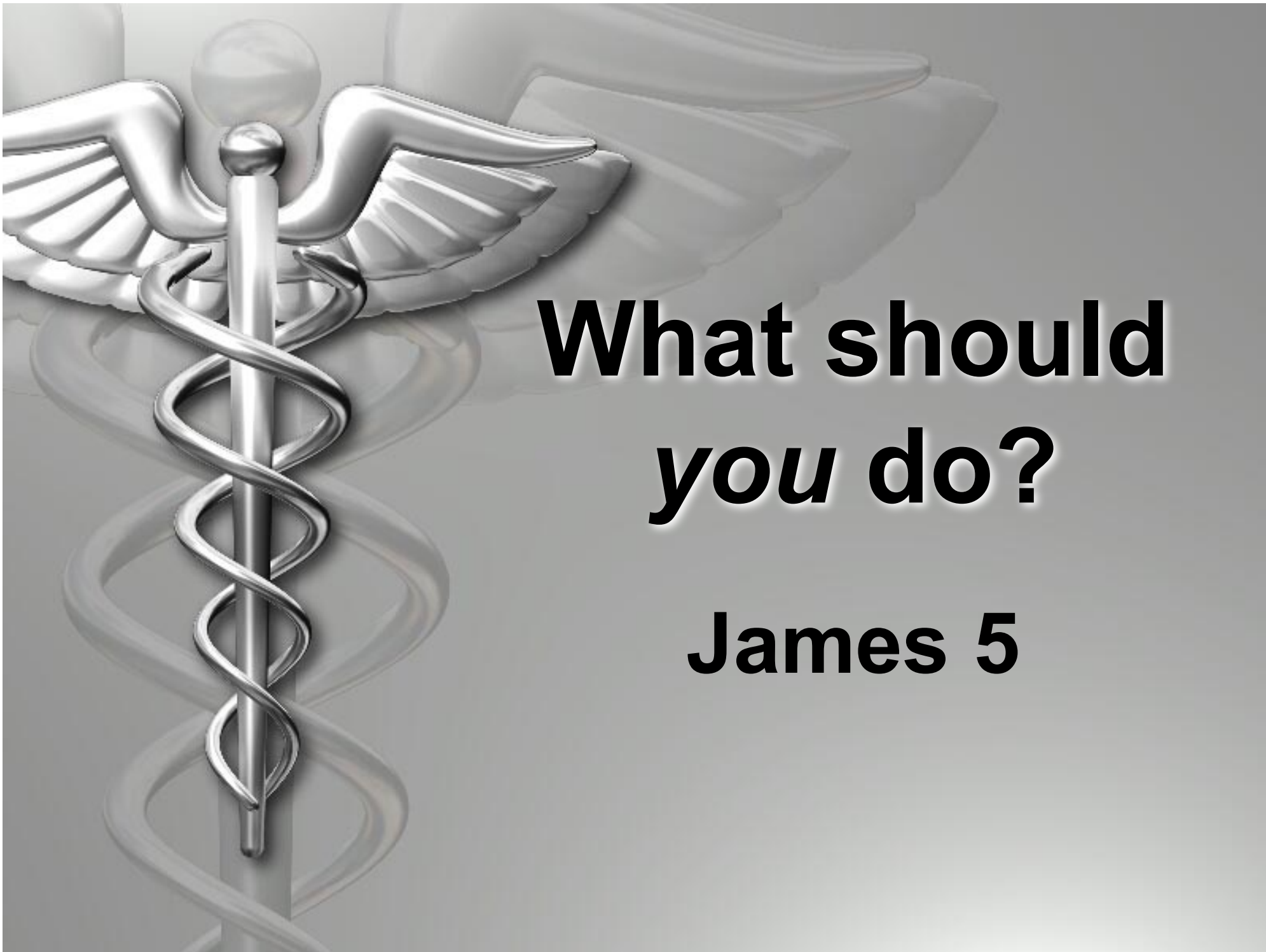
FL. OZ. (200ML) HOT SAUCE

A sunset over a body of water with a small boat on the horizon. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and water. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The water is dark with a reflection of the sun.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:15-16

Christ understands suffering



**What should
you do?**

James 5



What's the road to healing?



***Our son Stephen suffered from
Anklosing Spondylitis (ages 7-11)***

*God healed him
through the
James 5 process*



April 2005

Ways Faith is Seen

267

Faith is Revealed through Works Because Faith...

Rejoices in Trials	Obeys the Word	Avoids Favoritism	Produces Works	Speaks Wisely	Produces Humility	Ultimately Triumphs
1:1-18	1:19-27	2:1-13	2:14-26	3	4:1-5:6	5:7-20
Salutation Trials Temptations	Listening Anger Obedience Speech Compassion Purity	Discrimination Materialism Egalitarianism	Meeting Needs Validation	Influence Untamable Be Wise	Conflict Judging Presumption	Suffering Prayer Confrontation

Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James



**Babychen & Susan
Benita & Benjamin
(Thanks for helping their
damaged church in India)**

Another day...



Another location...

**Badamdorj
Mongol**

Библи...Үндсэндээ

**Budmaa & Enkhe
(SBC graduate now EE
Director for Mongolia)**





Tumee

Ways Faith is Seen

267

Faith is Revealed through Works Because Faith...

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Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James

- 1. What examples of self-centeredness do you see in society today?*
- 2. How do you think concern for self rather than others shows itself in the church?*



Individualism

JAMES 5:19-20

¹⁹My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, ²⁰remember this:

Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

Who are the wanderers?



πλανάω lead astray,
mislead, deceive; pass.
stray away, go astray; be
mistaken; be deceived or
misled; wander about

This refers to Christians who reject the will of God by straying from the truth by their behavior in an active, not passive sense

The Wanderer is a Christian:

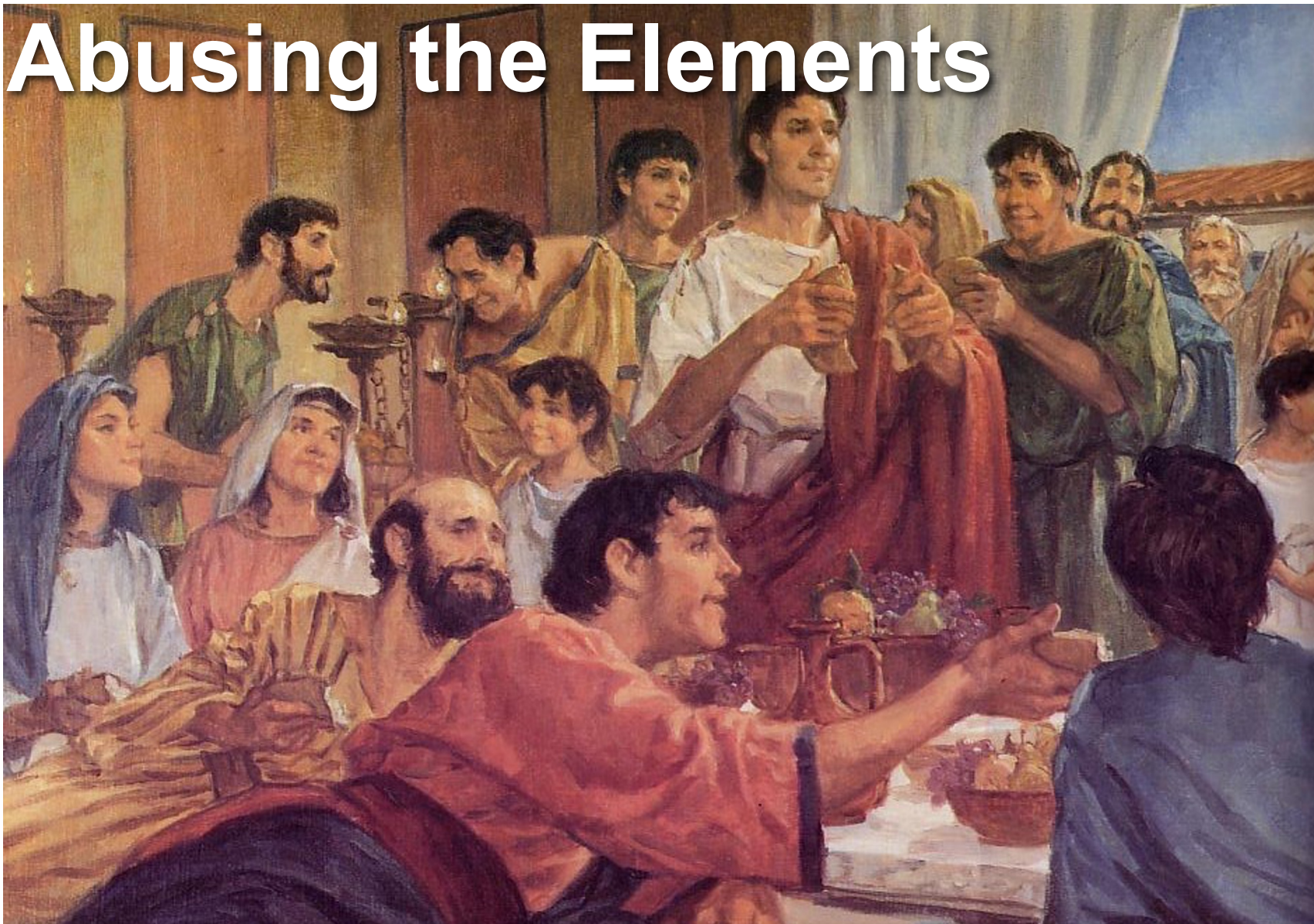
- **"My *brothers*, if *one of you*..."**
- **One cannot "wander from the truth" if he has not first experienced it.**



Divine Spankings

- **"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.' Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons" (Hebrews 12:5-8).**

Abusing the Elements



NIV 1 Corinthians 11:30 [Gluttony at the Lord's Supper]
"is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep."

Some Sins Lead to Death

"If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that"
(1 John 5:16 NIV).



Making this Text Real to Me

- Whom do I need to help restore?**
- How will I do it?**

What are the **7**
characteristics of
faith?

**IF YOU
BELIEVE**

THEN

SHOW IT

Main Idea of James

Ways Faith is Seen

267

Faith is Revealed through Works Because Faith...

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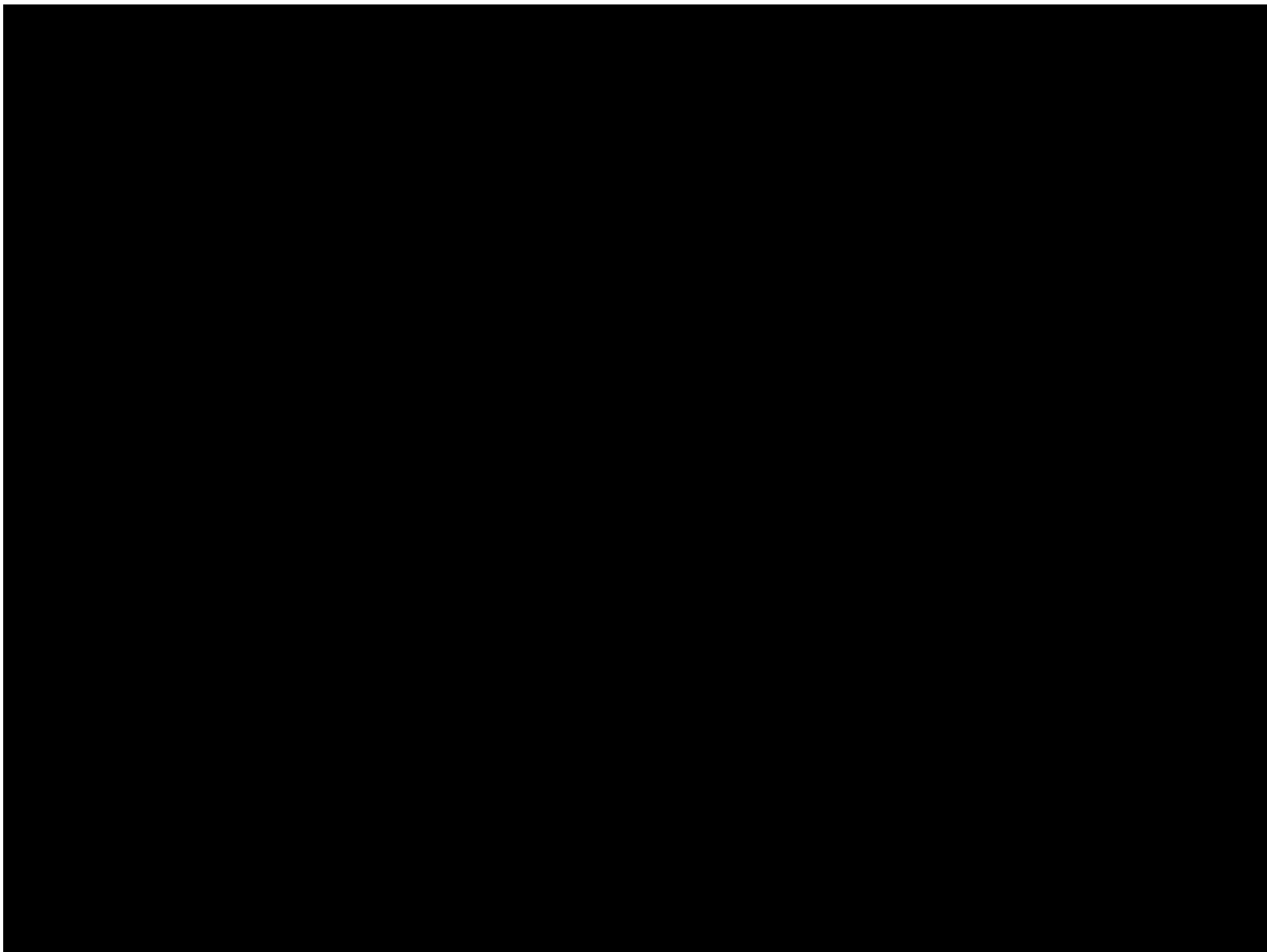
Jerusalem

AD 44-47

James

Verse	Imperatives	Personal Application	274a
1:13, 16	Do not be deceived	When tempted, I must not deceive myself and say that God is tempting me.	
1:21	Get rid of moral filth	I must not let the moral filth of anger make me say careless words but let God's Word be firmly planted in me.	
1:22	Do not merely listen	I must do what the Word says and not merely listen.	
2:1,5	Do not show favoritism	I must treat everyone with equity regardless of wealth, race or authority in my work and ministry.	
2:12	Speak and act as those going to be judged	I must speak and act with mercy knowing that God will judge.	
2:18	Show me your faith	I must show my faith in good deeds, such as to help the poor and needy.	
3:10	Praise and cursing from the same mouth; this should not be	I must be conscious of the words I speak and thereby control my tongue.	
4:7	Submit yourselves to God	I must submit to God whenever the world tempts me and the devil will flee.	

Verse	Imperatives	Personal Application	274a
4:8	Draw near to God	I must draw near to God in my daily devotions that he might draw close to me.	
4:10	Humble yourselves	When I am in any position of authority, I must not be arrogant but humble myself before God.	
4:11	Do not slander	I must no slander and speak against anyone but endeavor to preserve the unity of saints.	
4:15	Do not boast	Any plans that I make must be committed to God in prayer.	
5:7	Be patient	I must be patient when suffering and look forward to the blessed hope of Christ return.	
5:9	Do not grumble	If I am unhappy over something, I will not grumble and spread discord amongst others.	
5:12	Do not swear	I must make sound decisions and responsible choices without the need to swear.	
5:16	Confess your sins	Whenever I fall into sin, I must admit my sins and seek prayers that I may be restored.	



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What is the command about asking God for wisdom?



**When we ask we must believe
and not doubt (1:6)**

Faith and doubts



How can you stop doubt?

How would you define doubt?

- Believe.
- Doubt is defined as disbelief.

What is the result of doubt?

What word picture works for you?

- He is like the wave of the sea, blown and tossed like the wind.
- A doubter is a double-minded man with a divided heart who is unstable in all he does.
- He will not receive anything from the Lord even when he asks.

Is this saying a Christian should never have doubts about God?

*What is the crown of life offered in James 1:12?
What are the conditions which must be met in
order to receive the crown of life?*

- **It is the prize at the end of the race (2 Tim. 4:8), especially as the reward of faithful endurance (Rev. 2:10).**
- **The conditions are:**
 - **love for God**
 - **perseverance under trials**
 - **enduring the tests of faith**

Can you think of any situation where the reward at the end is worth the struggle? Does that help you persevere in trials?

Temptations and sin



*What is the source of temptation?
Describe the path from temptation to sin.
At which places can people get off the path?*

- It is from man's own evil desire (1:14-15).

Lust

Temptation

Sin

Death

The place where one can get off the path is anywhere before desire is conceived at sinful action (i.e., at temptation or earlier)

*How serious is sin?
What is the end result of sin?*

- Sin leads to death.
- The end result is death (1:15).

*What are some of the things God gets blamed for?
When people around you blame God for bad stuff,
how do you respond?*

*God is not the author of evil or temptation.
But according to verses 16-18, what is He like?*

- He is the Father who is the giver of good gifts (1:17a)
- He is faithful (1:17b)
- He has brought us new birth through his word so that we would inherit a new life (1:18).

How would you summarise the picture of the Christian as seen in James 1:1-18?

- **Instead of blaming God when facing trials, the Christian is called by God to respond joyfully in faith to trials and suffering by patient endurance and prayer of faith.**

Bookends to James



Introduction (1:2-11)

Faith responds to trials by:

- Patient endurance (1:2-4)
- Prayer of faith (1:5-8)
- Humility in all the contrasting circumstances of life (1:9-11)

Conclusion (5:7-20)

Faith responds to trials by:


- Patient endurance (5:7-12)
- Prayer of faith (5:13-18)
- Care for believers in all the contrasting circumstances of life (5:19-20)

Practical Christian Living



True faith has three main ingredients:

1. An understanding or knowledge of the basic truth of Jesus and His saving work
2. An approval and acceptance of this basic truth
3. An application of the knowledge of this truth in personal and sincere trust



This personal trust is "the crowning element of faith, ...Faith is not merely a matter of the intellect, nor of the intellect and emotions combined; it is also a matter of the will, determining the direction of the soul"

(Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*)

Faith in Action

The Christian Conduct

James 1: Faith obeys the Word



- Spiritual Hearing, Careful Speech and Patience under Provocation
- Forsaking all Evil and the meek reception of saving truth
- Careful hearing of the Word
- Searching for the Truth and practicing it
- True Religion and A Controlled Tongue
- Generosity and Purity

James 2: Faith Removes Discrimination

- Despise Favouritism by Honouring the Rich and despising the poor
- Do not Have Partial Obedience to the Law
- Lack of Mercy is Specifically to the Wealthy: Hoarding wealth and exploiting the poor

James 3: Faith Controls the Tongue

- The untamed tongue is destructive in its influence
- Praises and curses proceed from the same mouth

James 4: Faith produces wisdom

- Wisdom from knowledge
- Envy, Selfish ambition and satanic wisdom
- Wisdom from above

James 4: Faith Produces Humility and Affability amongst believers

- Unrest and unholy passions
- Unanswered Prayer and Worldliness
- Pride, stubbornness, impurity, double-mindedness and impatience
- Slander and unfair judgment

F: Faith produces dependence on God

- Presumption in planning future business
- Neglect of Known Duty

G. Faith through Prayer

- In times of trouble and sickness
- Confession of faults and Intercession

H. Faith produces accountability for fellow believers in Christ

- Bringing back the wanderer

I. The Triumph of Faith

- Patient and steadfast, not grumbling against one another
- Follow the example of the prophets and Job in patient endurance
- Self-control against evils of the tongue (swearing / oaths)
- Fruits of conduct
 - - Valuable Crop: The blessings that accompany the Lord's coming
 - - The Lord's compassion and mercy

Chiasm:

Patience and Perseverance in Trials and Temptations (1)

Rich showing favoritism (2:1-13)

Faith in God demonstrated through works (2:14-26)

Misuse of tongue (3:1-12)

Worldly Wisdom versus Godly Wisdom (3:13-18)

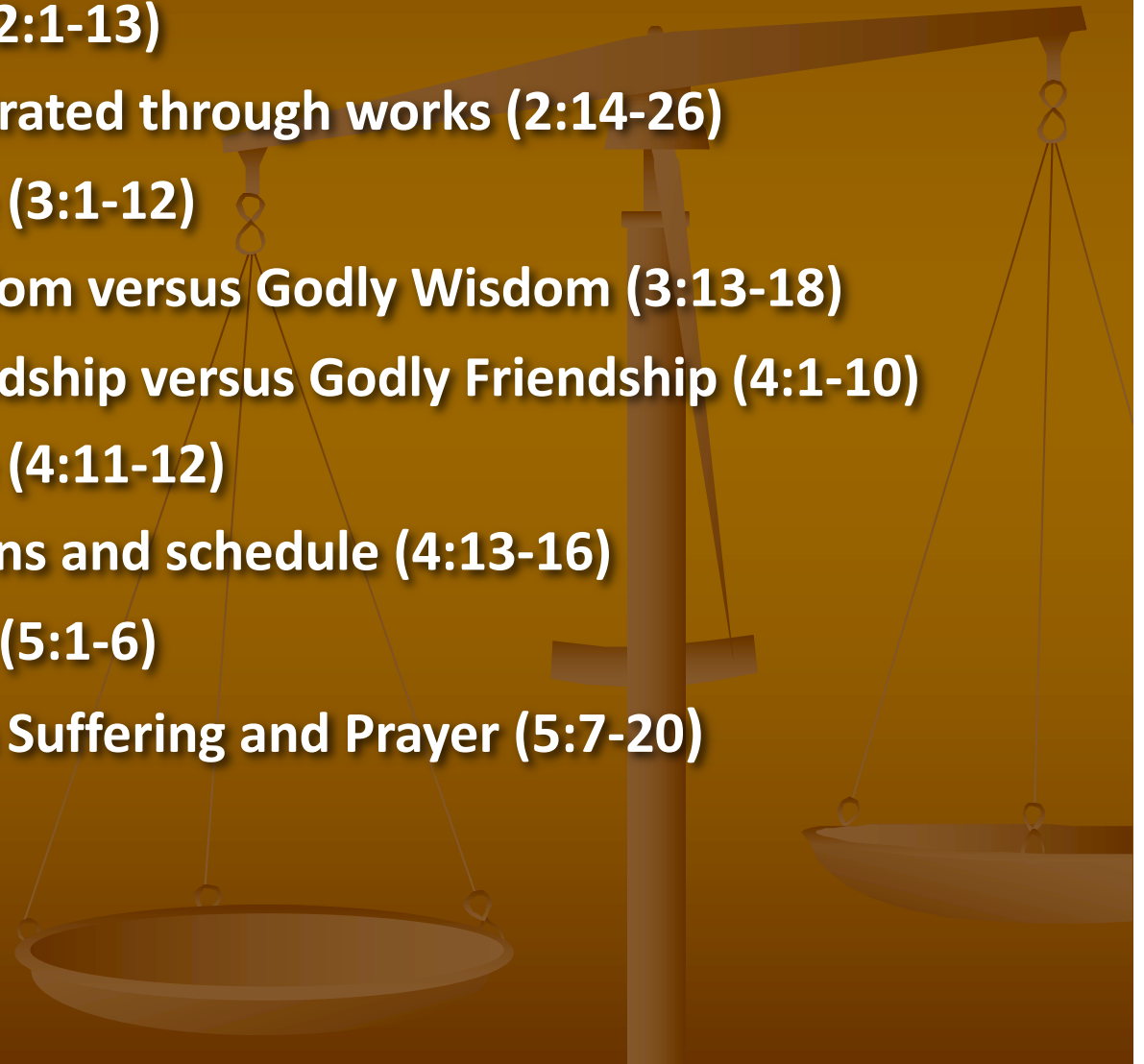
Worldly Friendship versus Godly Friendship (4:1-10)

Misuse of tongue (4:11-12)

Faith in ones own plans and schedule (4:13-16)

Rich oppressing the poor (5:1-6)

Patience and Perseverance in Suffering and Prayer (5:7-20)



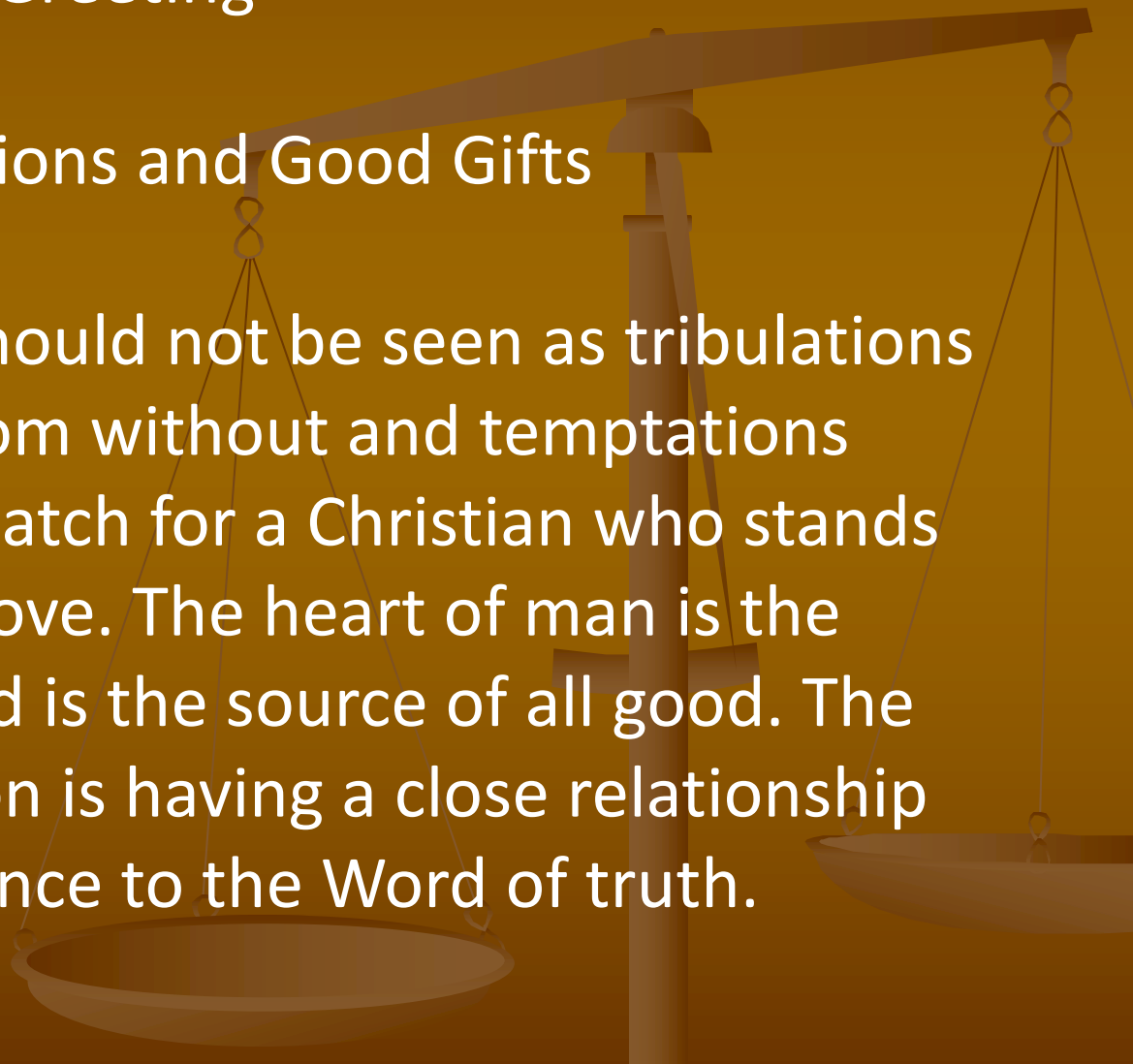
1:1-18 **Called to Joy**

1:1 James's Greeting

1:2-12 Trials

1:13-18 Temptations and Good Gifts

Responses to trials should not be seen as tribulations but testings. Trials from without and temptations from within are no match for a Christian who stands in truth from God above. The heart of man is the source of sin, but God is the source of all good. The solution to temptation is having a close relationship with God and obedience to the Word of truth.



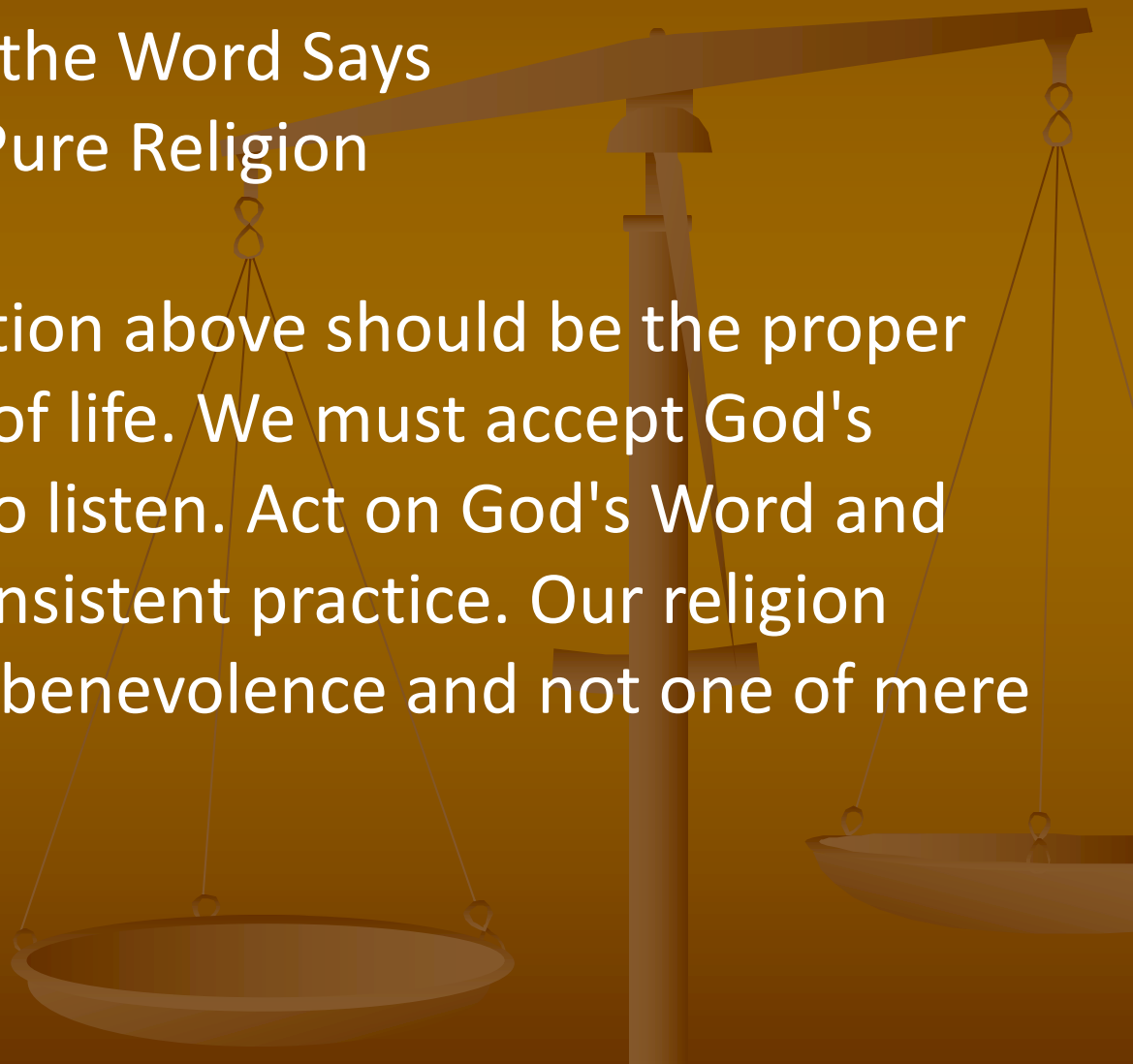
1:19-27 The Righteous Life That God Desires

1:19-21 Be Quick to Listen

1:22-25 Do What the Word Says

1:26-27 Practice Pure Religion

The threefold admonition above should be the proper response to the trials of life. We must accept God's Word by being quick to listen. Act on God's Word and abide by it through consistent practice. Our religion must be one of active benevolence and not one of mere words.

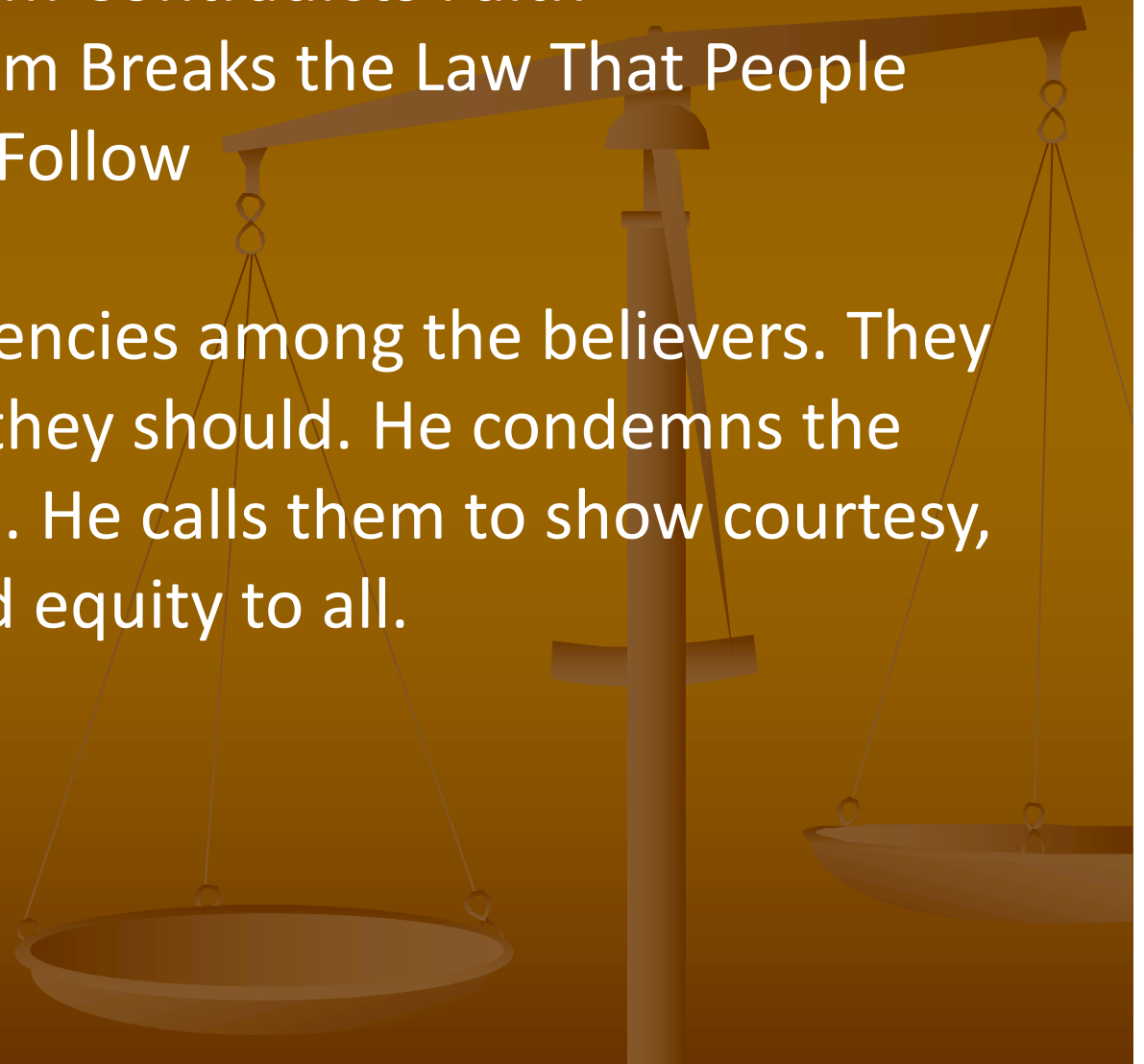


2:1-13 The Integrity of Faith

2:1-7 Favoritism Contradicts Faith

2:8-13 Favoritism Breaks the Law That People
of Faith Follow

There were inconsistencies among the believers. They have failed to act as they should. He condemns the attitude of favoritism. He calls them to show courtesy, love, compassion and equity to all.



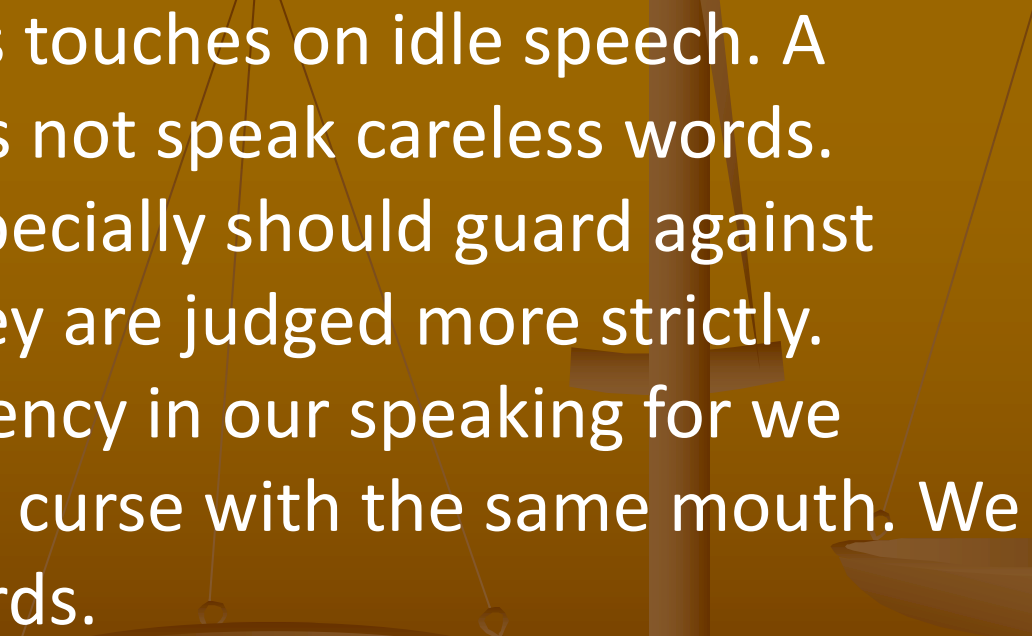
3:1-12 **Controlling What We Say**

3:1-2 The General Theme: Humility

3:2-5 The Focused Theme: Decisive Influence
of the Tongue

3:5-12 The Specific Dangers of the Tongue

From idle faith, James touches on idle speech. A mature Christian does not speak careless words. Christian teachers especially should guard against careless words for they are judged more strictly. There is to be consistency in our speaking for we should not praise and curse with the same mouth. We are to speak right words.



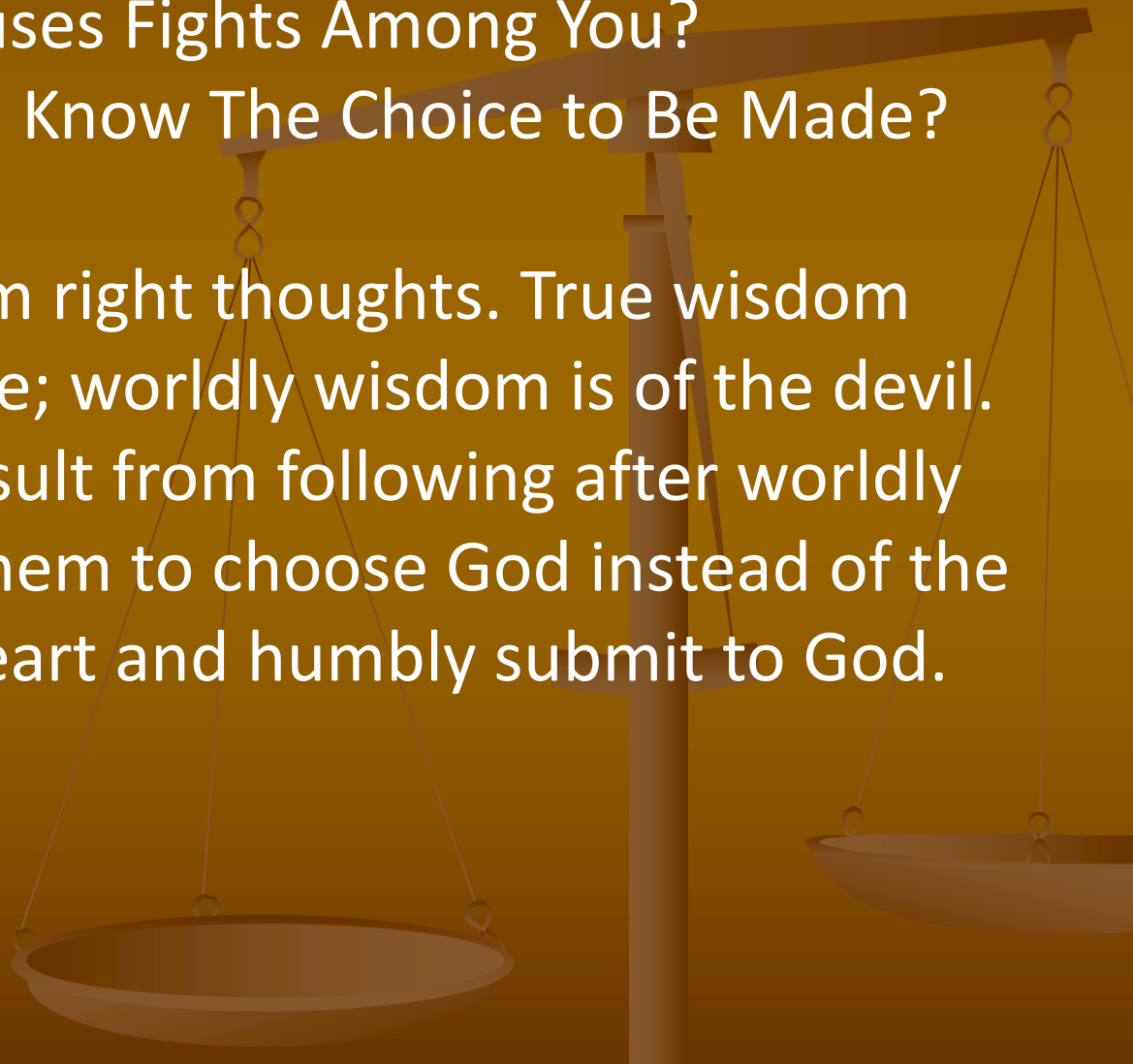
3:13-4:12 Spirituality from God

3:13-18 Who Is Wise Among You?

4:1-3 What Causes Fights Among You?

4:4-12 Don't You Know The Choice to Be Made?

Right words come from right thoughts. True wisdom comes from God above; worldly wisdom is of the devil. Fights and quarrels result from following after worldly wisdom. James calls them to choose God instead of the world; to purify the heart and humbly submit to God.



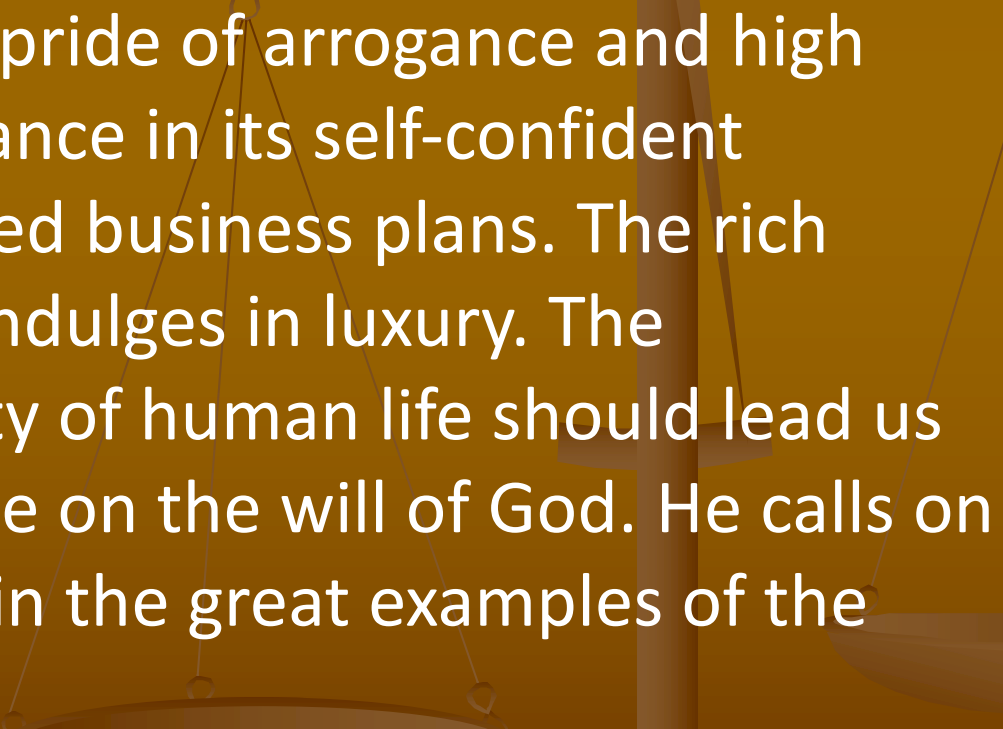
4:13-5:11 Patience Until the Lord's Coming

4:13-17 Don't Be Arrogant

5:1-6 Don't Be Materialistic

5:7-11 Instead, Be Patient

James pinpoints their pride of arrogance and high class mentality. Arrogance in its self-confident schedules, self-centered business plans. The rich exploit the poor and indulges in luxury. The uncertainty and brevity of human life should lead us to humble dependence on the will of God. He calls on them to persevere as in the great examples of the prophets and of Job.



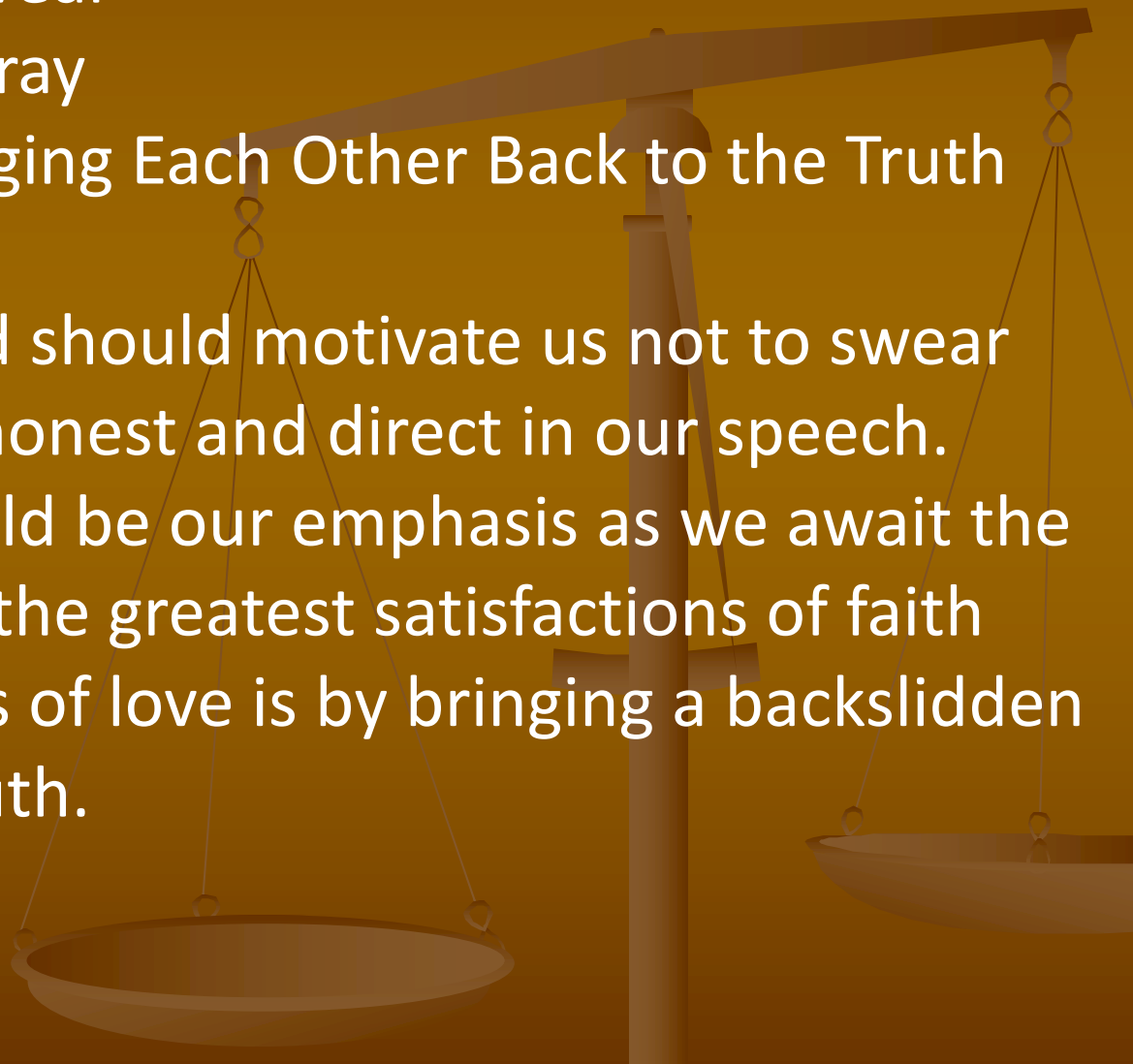
5:12-20 The Encompassing Instructions

5:12 Do Not Swear

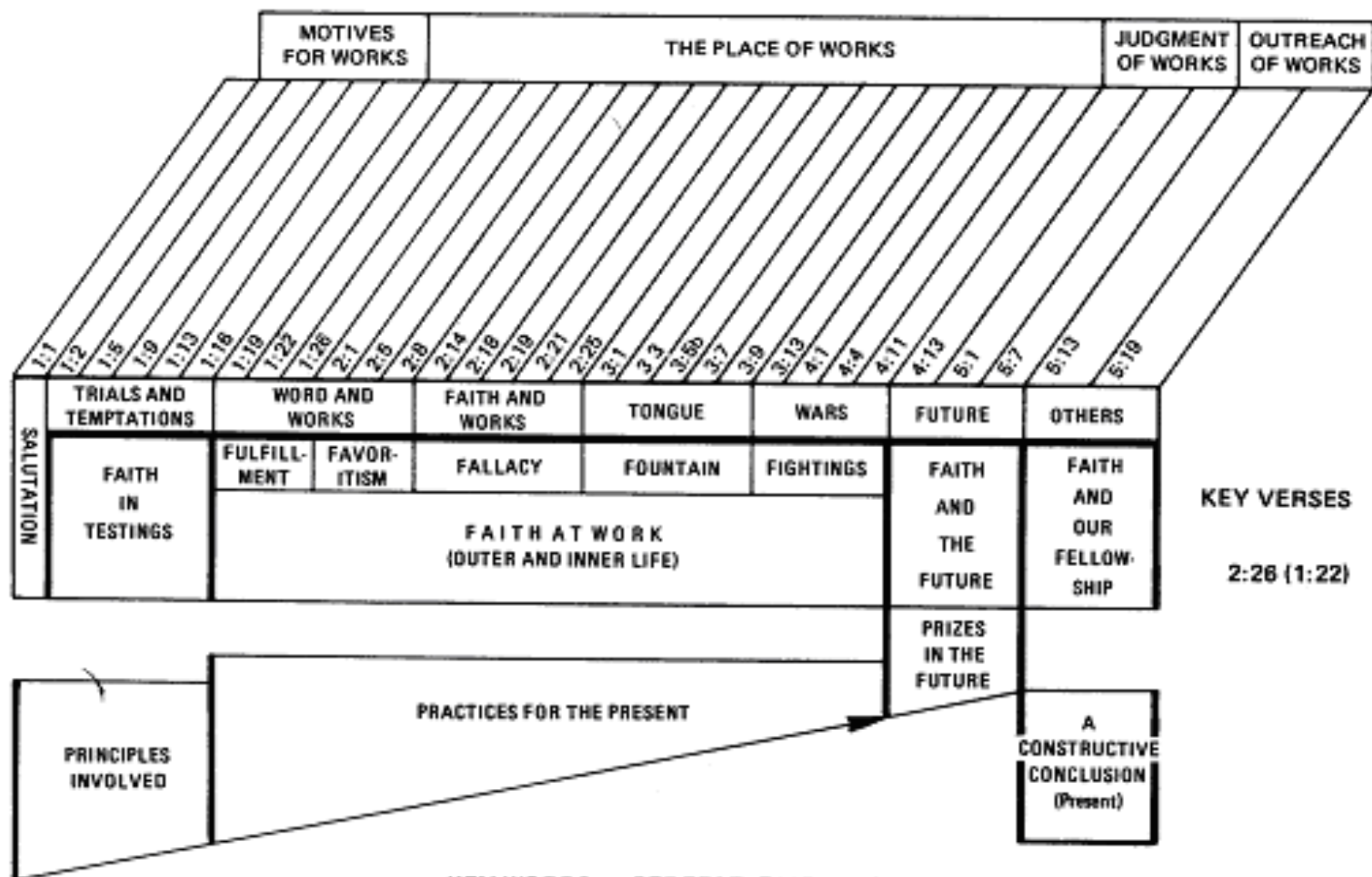
5:13-18 Instead, Pray

5:19-20 Keep Bringing Each Other Back to the Truth

The coming of the Lord should motivate us not to swear impatiently but to be honest and direct in our speech. Praise and prayer should be our emphasis as we await the Lord's coming. One of the greatest satisfactions of faith demonstrated in works of love is by bringing a backslidden brother back to the truth.



FAITH FOR LIVING



KEY WORDS: PERFECT, FAITH, WORKS, DO, JUDGE, SAY, BLESSED, FRUITS

End of the original class
presentation

Apparent Similarity Between James and 1 Peter

Both James and 1 Peter contain identical OT references (Isa 40:6-8; Prov. 10:12), trials exhortations (James 1:2; 4:6-7, 10; 1 Pet 1:6; 5:5-6), and resisting the devil (Jam 4:7; I Pet 5:8-9). There are three possible explanations given by Kristemaker.

1. Both derived from common original source.
2. One of them wrote first and the other copied.
3. James and Peter share a common heritage of culture and they share similar views.

*The most likely is that James is the earlier epistle since it is shorter and writes to Jewish audience whereas Peter writes to Gentile Christians.

EPISTLE OF JAMES



Presented by:

ANDY WEI LEW (MAM)

MALCOM GOH (MDivBS)

RAYMOND ANG (B.TH / MA)

YOO JI EUN (BCM)

Class Presentation for Dr. Rick Griffith, Singapore Bible College

A serene landscape of a lake at dawn. The water is calm, reflecting the soft light of the rising sun. A layer of mist hangs over the water, creating a dreamy atmosphere. In the foreground, a wooden canoe is partially submerged near the shore. The sky is a pale, clear blue, and the distant shoreline is lined with trees. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

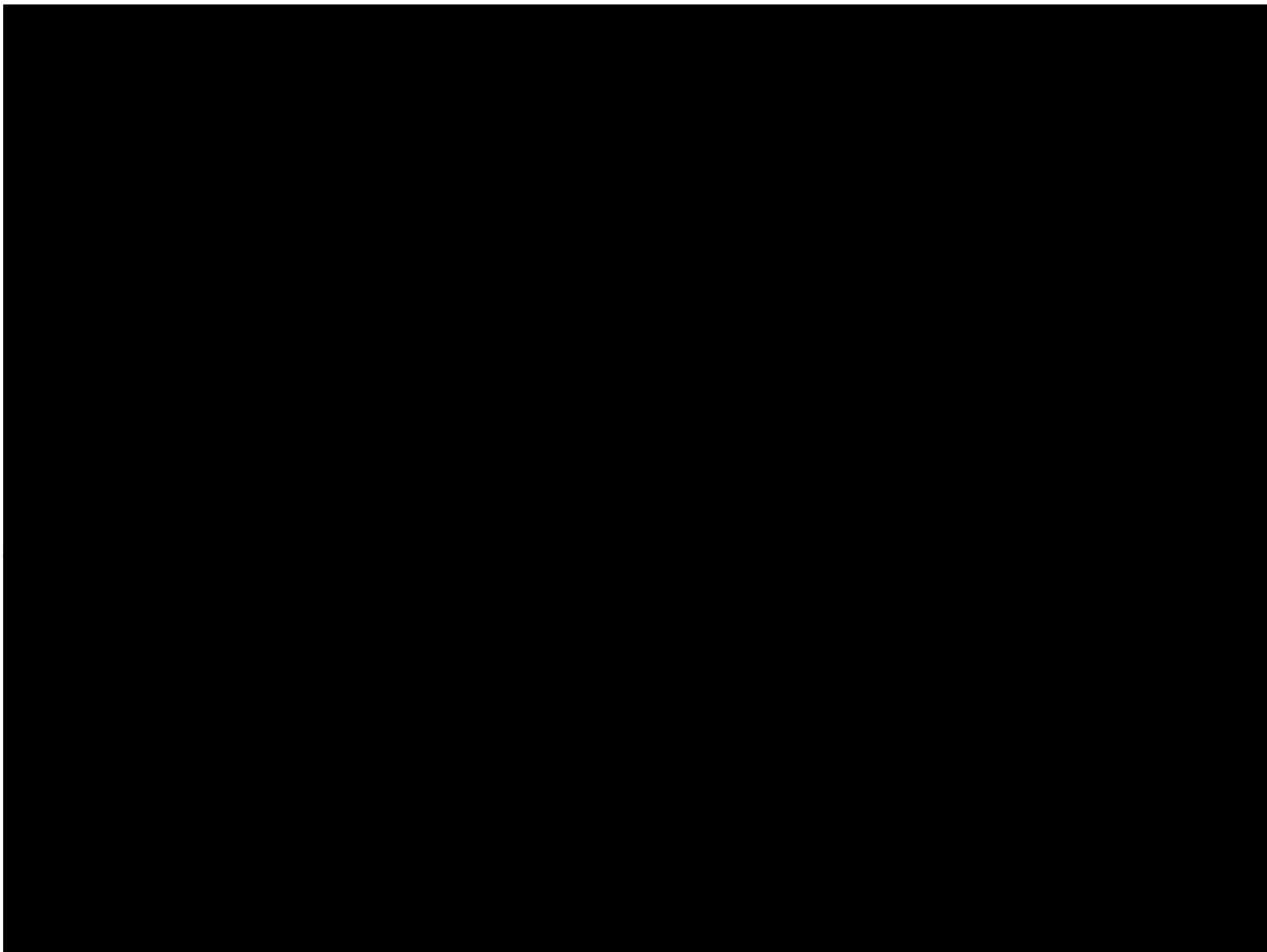
The Epistle of James

Presentation

Biblical Theology

Wong Wan Sian & Joyce Yeo

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