

– HOSEA –

The Prophet of a Failed Marriage



Key Word

**565
343**

Loyal

Hosea

Theme

565

**God's Loyalty
to Israel**

Hosea

Key Verse

565

(God about Israel) "I will plant her for myself in the land; I will show my love (*hesed*) to the one called 'Not my loved one.' I will say to those called 'Not my people,' 'You are my people'; and they will say, 'You are my God'" (2:23).

Hosea

Kingdom Statement

343

Despite God's discipline of Israel for rejecting Him, God remains **loyal** to the nation as a motivation for the nation to submit to His rule as a loving Husband.

Hosea



Summary Statement

A personal marriage tragedy illustrates God's faithful reception of His unfaithful people who show lack of knowledge of God, rejection of **loyal love, and faithlessness to His covenant, to motivate them to repentance.**

Hosea

God's loyal love (Heb. *hesed*) is a covenant where He remains true to his promises of restoration (2:19) despite Israel's lack of covenant love (4:1; 6:4, 6; 10:12; 12:6[7]).

Redemption

347c

The redemption of Gomer from the slave market (ch. 3) pictures God's redeeming love of the spiritually adulterous nation of Israel (1:7; 13:14).

Hosea

Messiah

Christ's redeeming work (ch. 3) appears in calling Israel out of Egypt (11:1), which is a type of Jesus returning to Israel with his parents (Matt. 2:15).

Hosea

God's Loyalty to Israel

Unfaithful Gomer

Unfaithful Israel

Faithful Hosea

Faithful LORD

Marriage of Hosea

Message of Hosea

Personal

National

Chapters 1–3

Chapters 4–14

Hosea

Hosea

- 1 **G**omer's marriage and children
- 2 **O**ffenses of Gomer condemned
- 3 **M**essage of second marriage
- 4 **E**rror of Israel's ways
- 5 **R**ebuke of Israel's leaders

- 6 **T**estimony of God's love
- 7 **H**opelessness of Israel's desertion
- 8 **E**xile unavoidable for Israel

- 9 **H**arlotry will be punished
- 10 **A**ssyria will enslave Israel
- 11 **R**ebellion against God's love
- 12 **L**egal case against Israel
- 13 **O**verthrow of Ephraim certain
- 14 **T**ransformation if Israel repents





Be Loyal

*The Message of
the Book of
Hosea*

Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
BibleStudyDownloads.org

Are you loyal?



How does God motivate us to
be **loyal** to him?

2 Ways






I. God
motivates
loyalty by
examples.

Hosea 1–3

**II. God motivates loyalty by
balancing correction and
blessings.**



Hosea 4–14



**"Hear the word of the LORD,
O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought
charges against you,
saying:**

'There is no **faithfulness,
no **kindness** (*hesed*)
no **knowledge** of God
in your land"
(Hosea 4:1 NLT).**



4:4–6:3



6:4–11:11



11:12–13:16

Main Idea

**God is loyal to you,
so be **loyal** to him**

Hosea

**How are you doing at being
loyal to your loyal Lord?**



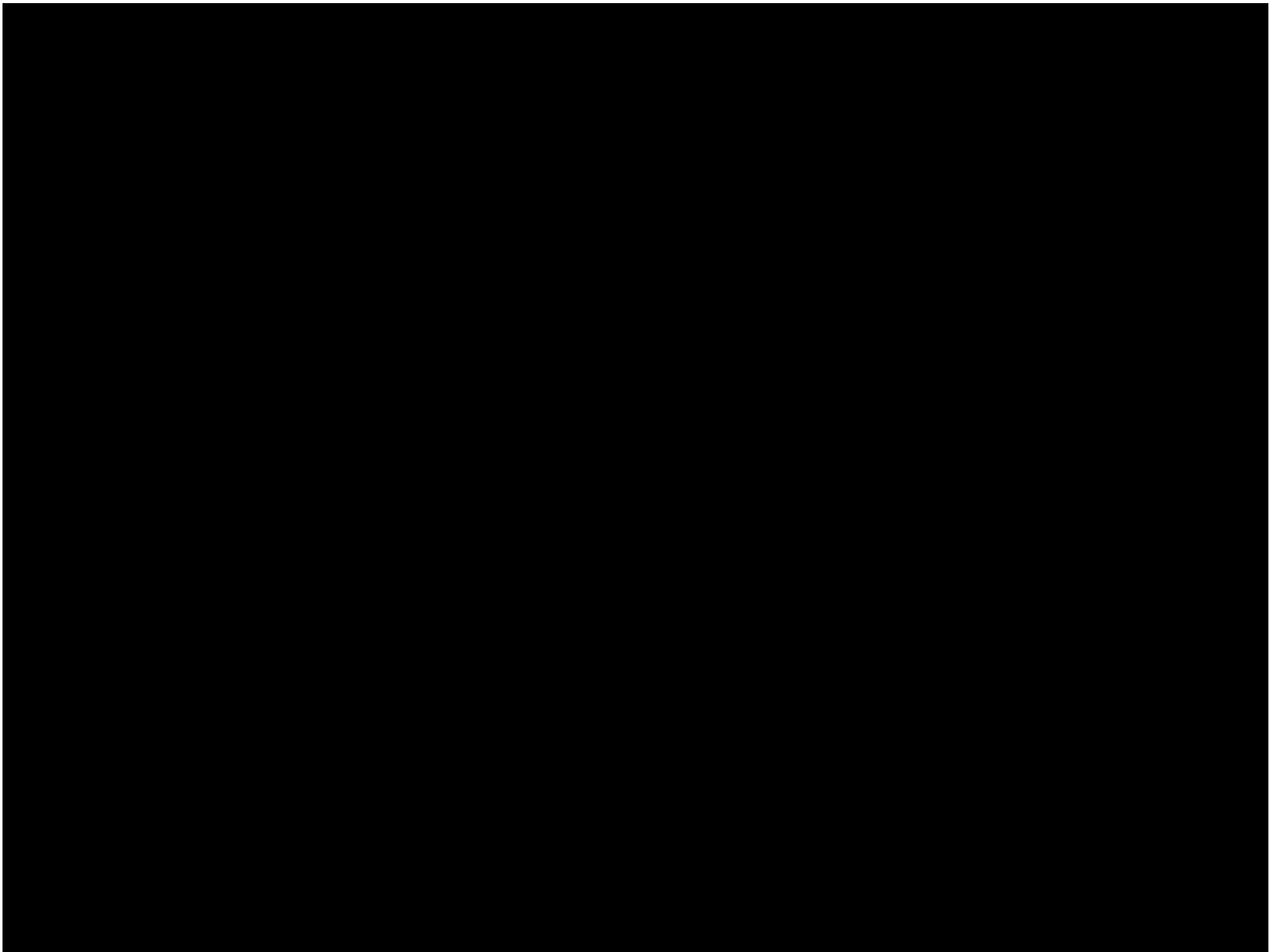


Chart of OT Kings & Prophets 342

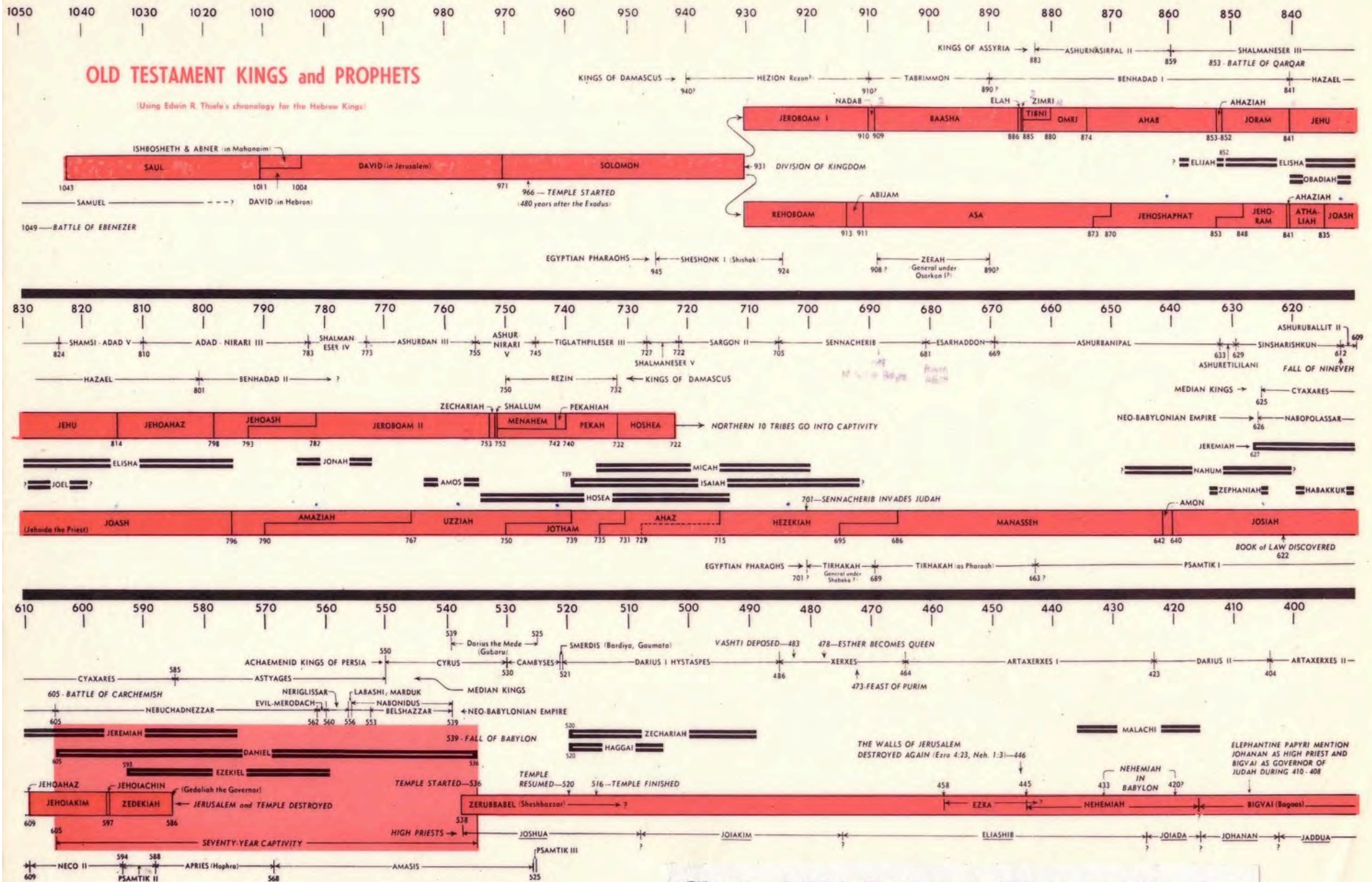


Chart of Old Testament Kings and Prophets

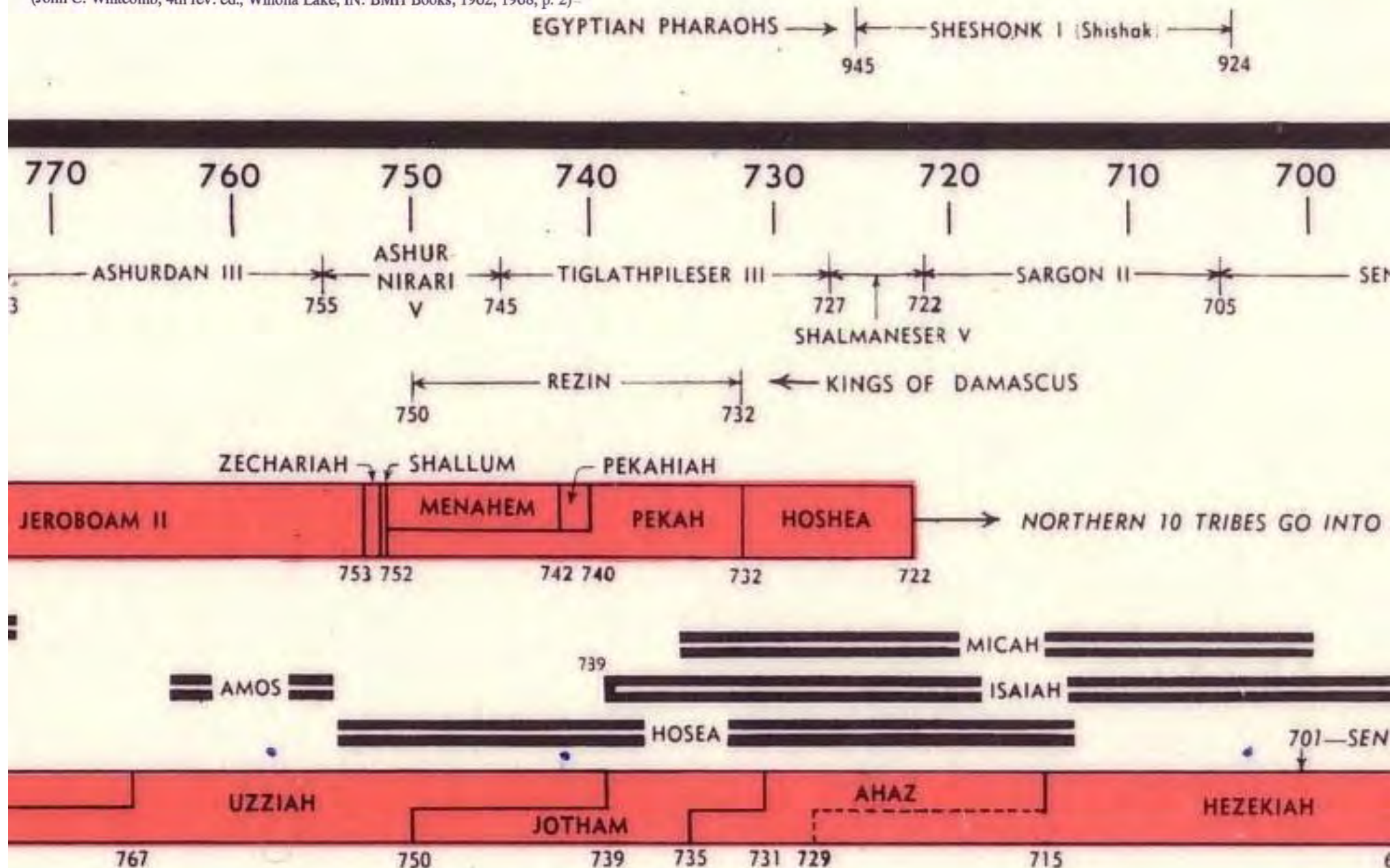
(John C. Whitcomb, 4th rev. ed., Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1962, 1968, p. 2)

Chart of OT Kings & Prophets

232 & 342

Chart of Old Testament Kings and Prophets

(John C. Whitcomb, 4th rev. ed., Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1962, 1968, p. 2)



Did you know...?

- 📖 Hosea was the only writing prophet from Israel sent to Israel
- 📖 Hosea was the only prophet on record married to an adulterous woman
- 📖 His book is the longest of the minor prophets before the Exile

Author

- 📖 The book claims to be written by Hosea himself (1:1)
- 📖 Very little is known of the prophet, including his birthplace, home and occupation
- 📖 He possibly was a baker (see 7:4ff)
- 📖 He was more likely a farmer since he drew much of his imagery from the garden and farm



RESUME OF HOSEA



Name: Hosea (The Lord Saves)

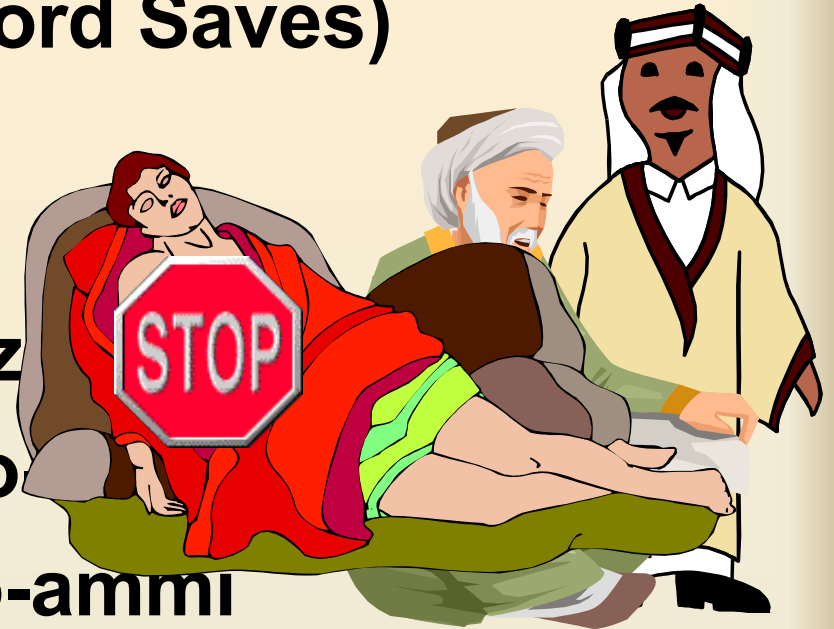
Family: Father - Beeri

Wife - Gomer

1st Child - Jez

2nd Child - Lo

3rd Child - Lo-ammi



Vocation: Prophet to the Northern Kingdom

To Whom the Prophets Ministered



Contrasting Hosea and Amos

590

HOSEA

AMOS

Professional Prophet (1:1)

Nonprofessional Prophet (7:14)

National from Israel (7:5)

Missionary from Judah (1:1)

Concern: Religious Idolatry
(Worship)

Concern: Social Injustice
(Walk)

Israel's Unfaithfulness

Israel's Injustice

God's Faithfulness

God's Justice

God's Grace

God's Righteousness

God's Loyal Love (*Hesed*)

God's Judgment

Sympathetic Tone

Stern Tone

Compassionate (11:1)

Coarse (4:1)

Difficult Structure

Simple Structure

Israel Lacks Knowledge

Israel Lacks Morality

"Know God" (4:1, 6; 6:6)

"Seek God" (5:4, 6)



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Loyalty



Are you loyal?





Are you loyal to God?



How does God motivate us to
be **loyal** to him?



Placing the Prophets

342

Key Dates



Perils of Prosperity

	Jonah	Amos	Hosea
Responsibility Addressed	Evangelistic	Social	Spiritual
Israel's Problem	Myopia	Injustice	Adultery
God's Attribute	Compassion	Justice	Faithfulness
Key Word	Compassion	Injustice	Loyal
Summary	God cares even for cruel Gentiles, so you should too!	God is fair with you, so you should be fair with others!	God is loyal to you, so be loyal to him.
Modern Parallels	Failure in Mission Responsibility	Oppression of Maids & Foreign Workers	Church's God is Modernity (Methods)
Date of Ministry (approx.)	785-758 Beginning of Jeroboam's Reign	767-753 Middle of Jeroboam's Reign	755-710 End of Jeroboam's Reign

The Idolatry of Israel





AMAZING LOVE

THE STORY OF HOSEA



AMAZING LOVE

THE STORY OF HOSEA

How does God motivate us to
be **loyal** to him?

2 Ways



Key Word

**565
343**

Loyal

Hosea



I. God
motivates
loyalty by
examples.

Hosea 1–3

Hosea showed amazing loyalty in his failed marriage (Hosea 1–3).



Hosea 1

When Hosea Wrote (1:1)

*Kings
of
Israel*

Jeroboam

Pekah

Hoshea

*Kings
of
Judah*

Uzziah

Jotham

Ahaz

Hezekiah

Hosea's 45-Year Ministry
(755-710 BC)

Hosea 1:2 NLT

"When the LORD first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, 'Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods.'"



Gomer took off for other lovers...



What about Gomer's children?



St-Takla.org



Gomer's Children

	Hosea 1:2-5	Hosea 1:6-7	Hosea 1:8
Name	Jezreel	Lo-Ruhamah	Lo-Ammi
Sex	Boy	Girl	Boy
Translation	"He [God] scatters"	"No compassion"	"Not My people"

What about Gomer's children?





FUTURE SIGNIFICANCE OF HOSEA

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



22

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Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule

Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3

land

Land Covenant

Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises:
•Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12)
•Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration
•Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)

ISRAEL
(National Focus)

CHURCH

The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)

Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70–AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7)

MESSIANIC Millennial

Full restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28)
Jerusalem world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)

KINGDOM Eternal

New Jerusalem (Rev. 21–22)

seed

Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises:
•Sons ("house" never wiped out)
•Kingdom (political dynasty)
•Throne (right to rule by descendants)
•Temple (son to build it)

Christ is Head over His Church, which is a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 2 Cor. 6:16)

Christ reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)

Christ hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)

blessing

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises:
•Forgiveness
•Indwelling Spirit
•New heart, nature, mind
•Reunification of Israel and Judah
•No need for evangelism

Mosaic Law replaced with first three elements of the New Covenant (Luke 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6)

All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

All things made new! (Rev. 21:5)

Mosaic Covenant

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

Law abolished, fulfilled, and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

10th Edition
10 Nov 2020

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

Despite God's discipline, God tells Hosea that He will eventually restore the nation in the following ways:

- **Numerical growth (1:10a)**
- **Spiritual restoration (1:10b)**
- **National unification (1:11a)**
- **Civic centralization (1:11b)**
- **Territorial occupation (1:11c)**
- **Divine blessing (2:1)**



These promises have not been fulfilled yet. Texts like these show God makes these types of promises about a literal future kingdom where Israel will occupy the land in peace and experience God's blessings. If you don't believe in a millennium, you have to ignore these passages or say that they have already been fulfilled in history or are going to be fulfilled in the church.

"Harlot"

Hosea



Hose - eh - ah

Walk Through The Bible ©1989

Timeline

Hosea 755-710 BC

United Kingdom

1050-930

Divided Kingdom

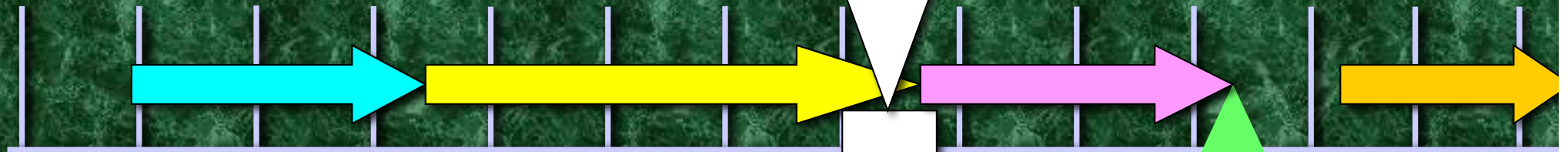
930-722

Solitary Kingdom

722-586

Post-Exile

536-425



1	1	1											
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0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5
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Exile 586-536

Life During Hosea's Time

566

- 💣 Hosea ministered to the Northern Kingdom for a quarter of a century before the Assyrian invasion and deportation.
- 💣 Israel had reached its zenith politically and militarily. As a result, she mostly had commercial interests.
- 💣 Economic progress made many people wealthy, but they desired more and more luxury items.
- 💣 The world power Assyria was rising to greatness (9:5,6) while Hosea ministered during the reigns Jeroboam II and Uzziah to Hezekiah (715-687 BC).
- 💣 However, with the death of Jeroboam II (782-753 BC), the Northern Kingdom suffered political turmoil and the entire country was thrown into an unstable condition.
- 💣 Eventually the country was invaded by Tiglath-Pileser.

Critical Arguments: Marry a Harlot?

God commanded Hosea to take an adulterous wife (1:2) but this poses many problems (see Deut. 22:20-22). What does this mean?

There are three major views:

1. He married a woman who later become a harlot
2. He married a woman who was already a harlot
3. This is all allegorical (i.e., no actual adultery) so immorality is a symbol for idolatry

Critical Arguments: Marry a Harlot?

Literal View Support

- It reads like history.
- The names Gomer and Diblaim have no symbolism.
- "Harlot" is the best illustration of the Children of Israel.
- Hosea's love is like God's love for His people.

Allegorical View Problems

- It does not resolve the issue. The same moral problem remains of marrying a harlot (but is marrying a harlot a moral problem?).
- The children had symbolic names (possible literally).
- Some ask if such a marriage was conceivable. Would it destroy the effectiveness of Hosea's message? (No, as Hosea's own life was NOT tainted.)

Hosea 2

Hosea 2:1 NLT

**"In that day you
will call your
brothers Ammi—
'My people.' And
you will call your
sisters
Ruhamah—'The
ones I love.'"**





Hosea 2:2-3 NLT

**"But now bring charges against Israel
—your mother—**

**for she is no longer my wife,
and I am no longer her husband.**

**Tell her to remove the prostitute's makeup
from her face
and the clothing that exposes her
breasts.**

**³ Otherwise, I will strip her as naked
as she was on the day she was born.
I will leave her to die of thirst,
as in a dry and barren wilderness."**

Divorce Decree

A close-up photograph of a wooden gavel resting on a document. The document is titled "Divorce Decree" in a large, black, gothic-style font. The gavel is made of polished wood and has a brass band around its handle. The background is a dark wooden surface.

Did Hosea Divorce Gomer?



Arguments For & Against Hosea Divorcing Gomer

Hosea 2:5 NLT

"Their mother is a shameless prostitute and became pregnant in a shameful way. She said, 'I'll run after other lovers and sell myself to them for food and water, for clothing of wool and linen, and for olive oil and drinks.'"

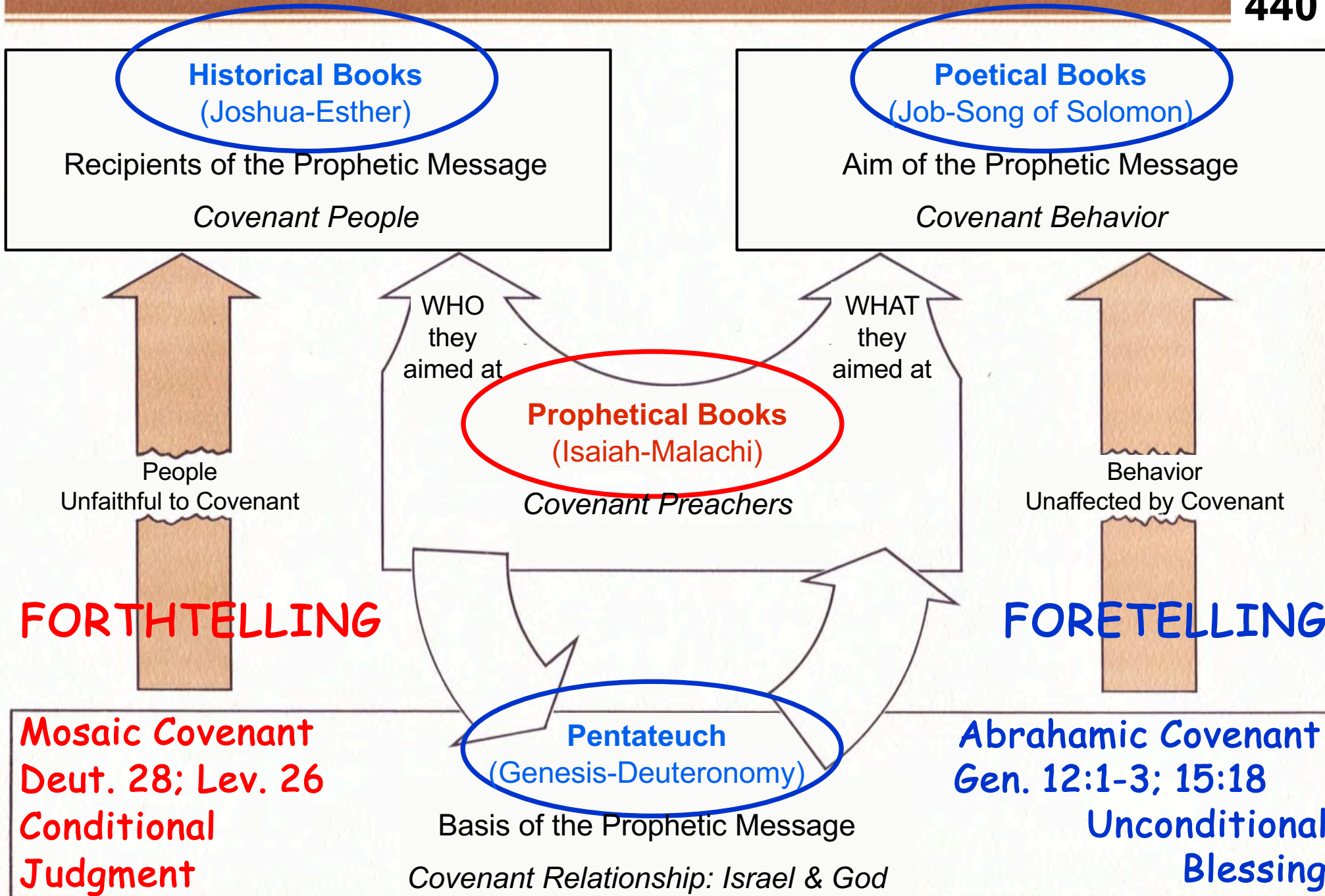


**"But then I will win her back
once again. I will lead her
into the desert and speak
tenderly to her there."**

Hosea 2:14

Purpose of the Prophetic Books

50b
440



7

Abrahamic Covenant

Gen. 12:1-3



LAND

SEED

BLESSING

• LITERAL

• ETERNAL

• UNCONDITIONAL

ABRAHAM
The CALL
L - S - B

Handbook pg. 19-24

Prophetic Curses



Why?

Deut. 28

Exile

Deut. 28 Blessings & Curses

154

220

**Your towns and your fields
will be blessed (3)**

**Your children and your crops
will be blessed (4)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be blessed (5)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be blessed (6)**

**Your enemies will attack you from
one direction, but they will scatter
from you in seven! (7)**

**You will lend to many nations, but
you will never need to borrow
from them (12)**

**Your towns and your fields
will be cursed (16)**

**Your children and your crops
will be cursed (17)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be cursed (18)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be cursed (19)**

**You will attack your enemies from
one direction, but you will scatter
from them in seven! (25)**

**They will lend to money to you,
but you will not lend to them
(44)**



**"When that day comes," says the LORD,
"you will call me 'my husband' instead of 'my master.'
17 O Israel, I will wipe the many names of Baal from your lips, and you will never mention them again" (NLT).**

Hosea 2:16-17

Hosea 3

Restoration



Hosea 3:1 NLT



"Then the LORD said to me, 'Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the LORD still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them.'"

Hosea 3:2-3 NLT



**"So I bought her back for fifteen pieces of silver and five bushels of barley and a measure of wine.
³Then I said to her, 'You must live in my house for many days and stop your prostitution. During this time, you will not have sexual relations with anyone, not even with me.'"**

GOMER THE HARLOT
(Hos. 3:2)

ISRAEL THE HARLOT
(cp. Jer. 3:1-5)

**15 Shekels of
Silver**



**+ A Homer & a Half
of Barley**



= 1 Unfaithful Gomer

Hosea 3:2

The Redemption Price

Harlot Imagery in Hosea & Jeremiah

GOMER THE HARLOT (Hos. 2)

- Not Recognizing Hosea as the Source of Love
- Dryness (2:3)
- Pride
- Expecting Hosea to Love Her
- Lust - Blaming Gomer



ISRAEL THE HARLOT (cp. Jer. 3:1-5)

- Not Recognizing God as the Source of Life (Jer. 2:27)
- Dryness (Jer. 3:3)
- Pride (Jer. 3:3)
- Expecting God To Bless Them
- Anger - Blaming God

"This shows that Israel will go a long time without a king or prince, and without sacrifices, sacred pillars, priests, or even idols! ⁵But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the LORD their God and to David's descendant, their king. In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the LORD and of his goodness."

Hosea 3:4-5 NLT



The Meaning of *Hesed* חֶסֶד

- KJV: "lovingkindness," "mercy," "goodness"
- Nelson Glueck (1927): "covenant loyalty"

忠
誠

Key Word for Hosea: Loyal

Key Verse for Hosea:

**"At that time I will plant a crop of Israelites
and raise them for myself.**

I will show **love**

to those I called 'Not loved.'

And to those I called 'Not my people,'

I will say, 'Now you are my people.'

And they will reply, 'You are our God!' " (2:23 NLT)



**Others model God's type
of loyalty for us.**





I. God
motivates
loyalty by
examples.

Hosea 1–3

Hosea: God's Loyalty to Israel

Unfaithful Gomer

Unfaithful Israel

Faithful Hosea

Faithful LORD

Marriage of Hosea

Message of Hosea

Personal

National

Chapters 1–3

Chapters 4–14

**II. God motivates loyalty by
balancing correction and
blessings.**




Hosea 4–14




**He punished Israel as he
promised in his covenant with
Moses (Hosea 4–13).**

Hosea 4



**"Hear the word of the LORD,
O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought
charges against you,
saying:**

'There is no **faithfulness,
no **kindness** (*hesed*)
no **knowledge** of God
in your land"
(Hosea 4:1 NLT).**




4:4–6:3



6:4–11:11



11:12–13:16



"Hear the word of the LORD,
O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought
charges against you,
saying:

'There is no **faithfulness**,
no **kindness** (*hesed*),
no **knowledge** of God
in your land"
(Hosea 4:1 NLT).



4:4–6:3

Parallels with the Ten Commandments

HOSEA 4:2

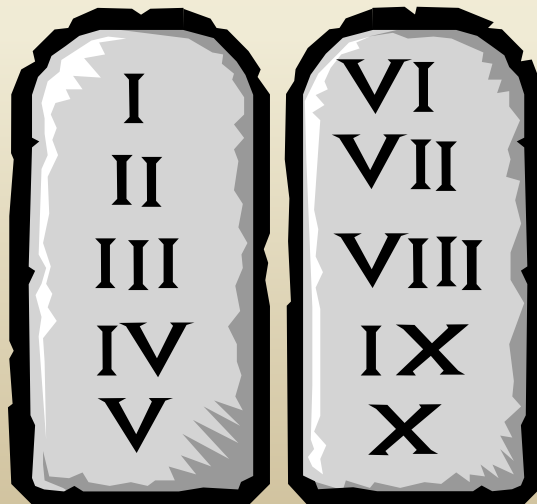
**Ten Commandments
(Exodus 20)**

Lying → **Commandment 9 (20:16)**

Murder → **Commandment 6 (20:13)**

Stealing → **Commandment 8 (20:15)**

Adultery → **Commandment 7 (20:14)**



Hosea 5

PSYCHOLOGICAL DOWNSPIRAL (5:4-15)

"Their pride will not permit them to return to the LORD" (5:4)

"When they seek the LORD, they will not find him" (5:6)

God said that He will go back to His place "until they admit their guilt" (5:15a)

Hosea 6

Israel went after other lovers instead of knowing her true husband, the LORD



**"Come, let us return to the LORD. He has
torn us to pieces but he will heal us"
(Hosea 6:1 NLT).**



Eschatological Significance - Hosea 6:1-3

- One of the several promises of restoration
- God will never completely and finally destroy his people
- A remnant will remain, rescued from exile
- Passage not limited to OT—Restoration finds partial fulfillment in NT
- In essence, it is an invitation to (re)acceptance by God of a people (note that the language here is plural and corporate, not singular and individual)




Eschatological Significance - Hosea 6:1-3



It touches on:

- a) Doctrine of sin, as forgiveness is part of the promise of restoration**
- b) Doctrine of the future of Israel, as God's faithfulness to his people as a corporate entity is promised here**
- c) Doctrine of God (main emphasis) - His healing (v. 1), His restoration (v. 2), and His faithfulness (v. 3)**



**"Hear the word of the LORD,
O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought
charges against you,
saying:**

'There is no **faithfulness,
no **kindness** (*hesed*),
no **knowledge** of God
in your land"
(Hosea 4:1 NLT).**



4:4–6:3



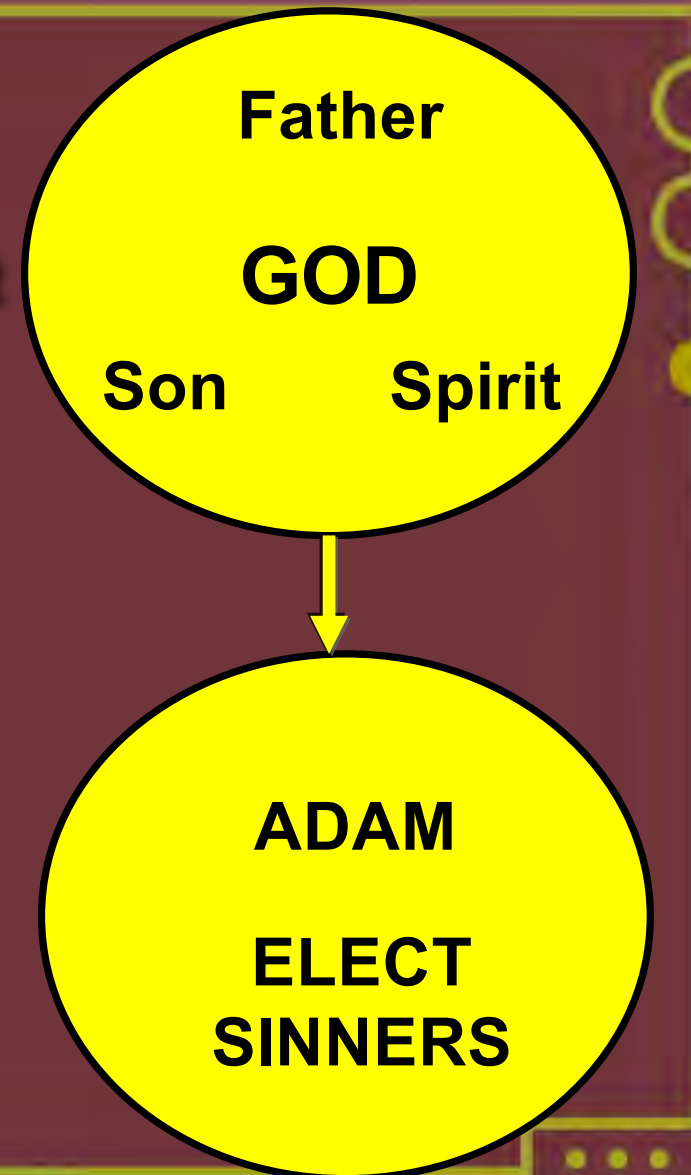
6:4–11:11

Theological Covenants

Covenant of **Redemption**
between Father, Son, & Spirit

Covenant of **Works**
between God & Adam

Covenant of **Grace**
between God & elect sinners



Hosea 6:7 Translations

• Adam

"But **like Adam, you broke my covenant** and betrayed my trust" (NLT).

"But like Adam, they have transgressed the covenant. **There** they have dealt treacherously against Me" (NAU).

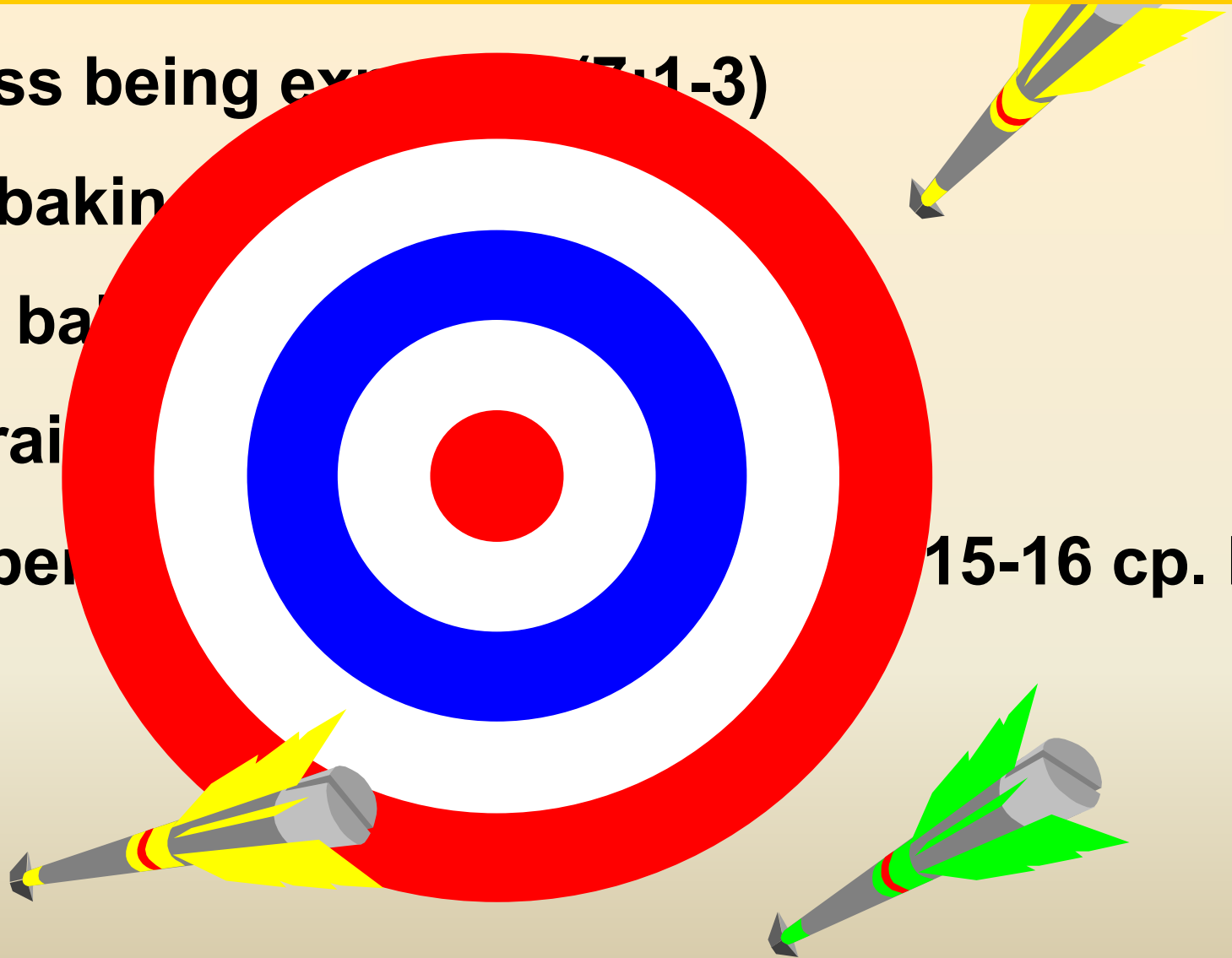
"But they **like men** have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me" (KJV).

"But **at Adam**, they have transgressed the covenant. There they have dealt treacherously against Me" (RSV).

Hosea 7

MISSING THE TARGET!

- Badness being experienced (7:1-3)
- Bread baking
- Before baptism
- Bird-brain
- Bows bent (78:57)



15-16 cp. Ps

So how do Christians miss the target today?



**Believers today commit spiritual adultery
by compromising with atheists**

A Seminar to Strengthen Your Faith and the Faith of Others



ENGAGING THE ATHEISTS

Facilitated by Dr. Rick Griffith

Saturday, May 16th, 2015

8:30 a.m. at International Church

20 Dowsett Avenue

Honolulu, HI 96817

Over 2 Million People In The USA Claim To Be Atheists

2% – 8% of The World's Population Claim To Be Atheists

They Teach That Jesus Was A Myth

They Do Not Believe In Intelligent Design

They Are Becoming More Vocal With Their Beliefs

**How To Respond To
Our Atheist Friends
Who Believe Jesus
Is Merely A Myth**

Dr. Rick Griffith • Singapore Bible College • www.biblestudydownloads.com



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Millions of Americans
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without religion.

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"God free, happy, and
inspired by wonder."

Will Scharff, Sacramento.
Technology Analyst . . . Atheist

SAC.FFRF.ORG

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION

believe in humanity,
not god."

Brooke Byrd, Sacramento.
Volunteer . . . Atheist

C.FFRF.ORG

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION





Humbug.







Dear Christians,

I share my toys.
Why won't you share the season?

Happy holidays for all!



Dear Santa,

All I want for Christmas is to

skip church!

I'm too old for fairy tales.

Atheist Christmas Card



DEAR CHILDREN
One day you will learn about Santa
Claus. On that day remember everything
the adults told you about Jesus.



What to do?

1

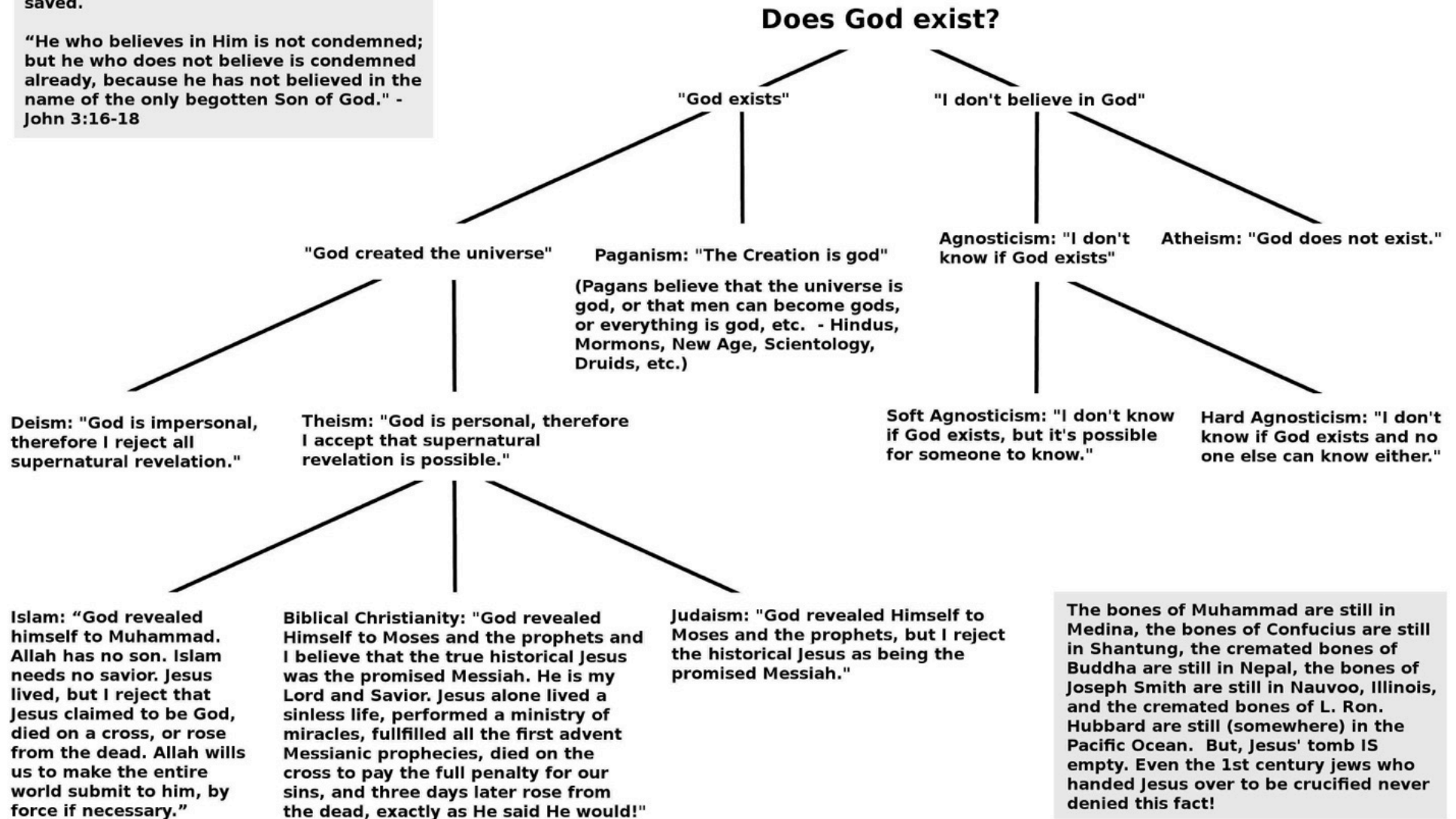


Kirkpatrick Worldview Chart

1

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." - John 3:16-18



The bones of Muhammad are still in Medina, the bones of Confucius are still in Shantung, the cremated bones of Buddha are still in Nepal, the bones of Joseph Smith are still in Nauvoo, Illinois, and the cremated bones of L. Ron. Hubbard are still (somewhere) in the Pacific Ocean. But, Jesus' tomb IS empty. Even the 1st century jews who handed Jesus over to be crucified never denied this fact!

Ten Possible Worldviews

2



Adapted from:

- *Peter Kreeft*
- *Norman Geisler*
- *William D. Watkins*



Worldviews:
How does God relate to the world?



Agnosticism:

We cannot be sure if a God is involved in our world (Confucius, Kant, Dewey, Bertrand Russell, Carl Sagan)



Atheism:

**No God exists or is involved in our world
(Dawkins, philosophical Buddhism)**



Polytheism:

Many gods relate to the worlds (Ancient Near East, Greek & Roman mythology, Mormons)



Panentheism:

**A finite impersonal god is *in* the world
(animism, Native American religion)**

god

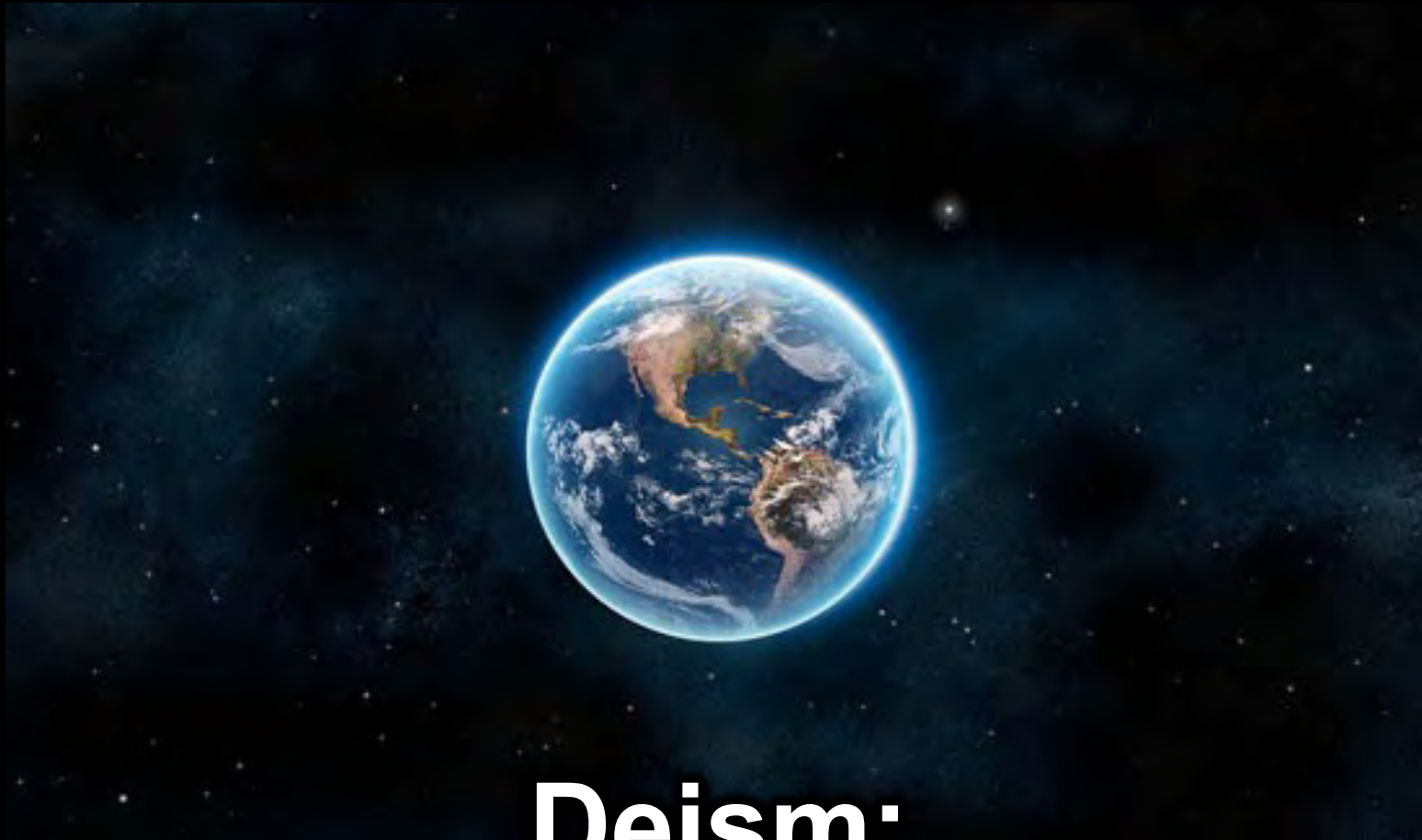


Finite Godism:
A finite personal god interacts with the world
(Kushner)



Pantheism:

**An infinite impersonal god is the world itself
(Hinduism, Star Wars)**



Deism:

God created the world but left it alone so no miracles occur (Jefferson, Franklin)



Christian Theism:
The Triune God loves our world and works miracles (Biblical view)

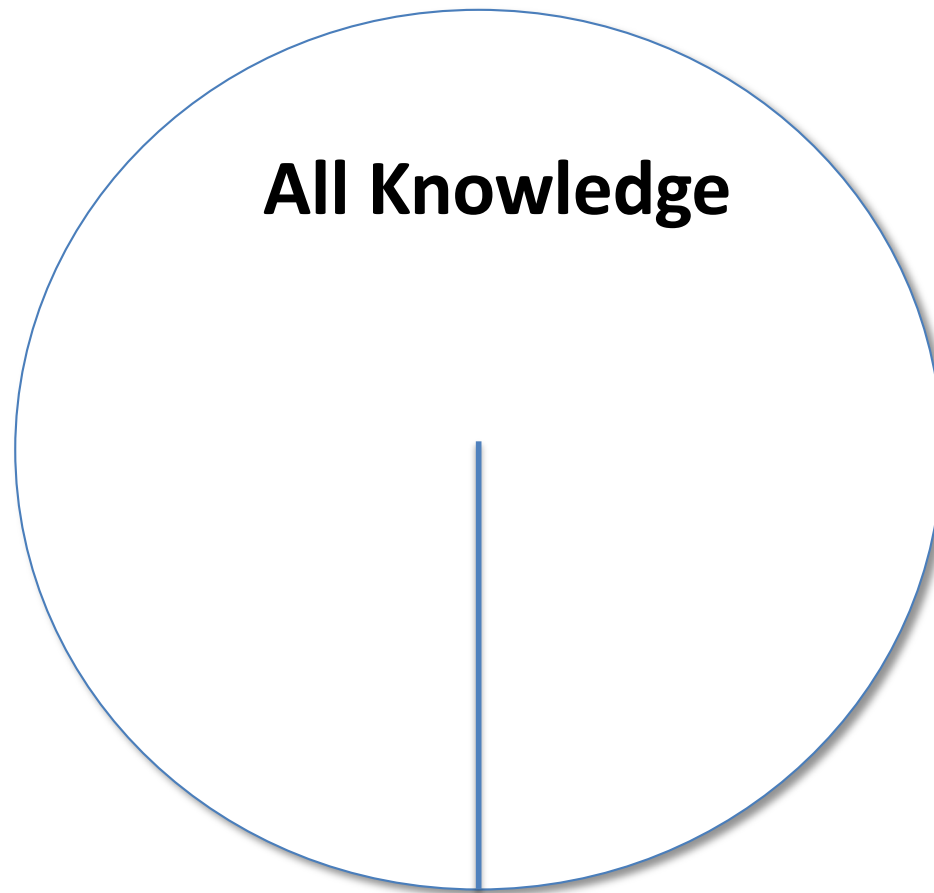
God



Unipersonal Theism:

The Unitarian God relates to our world and works miracles (Islam, Jehovah Witnesses)

The Quick Guide for Dealing with Atheists



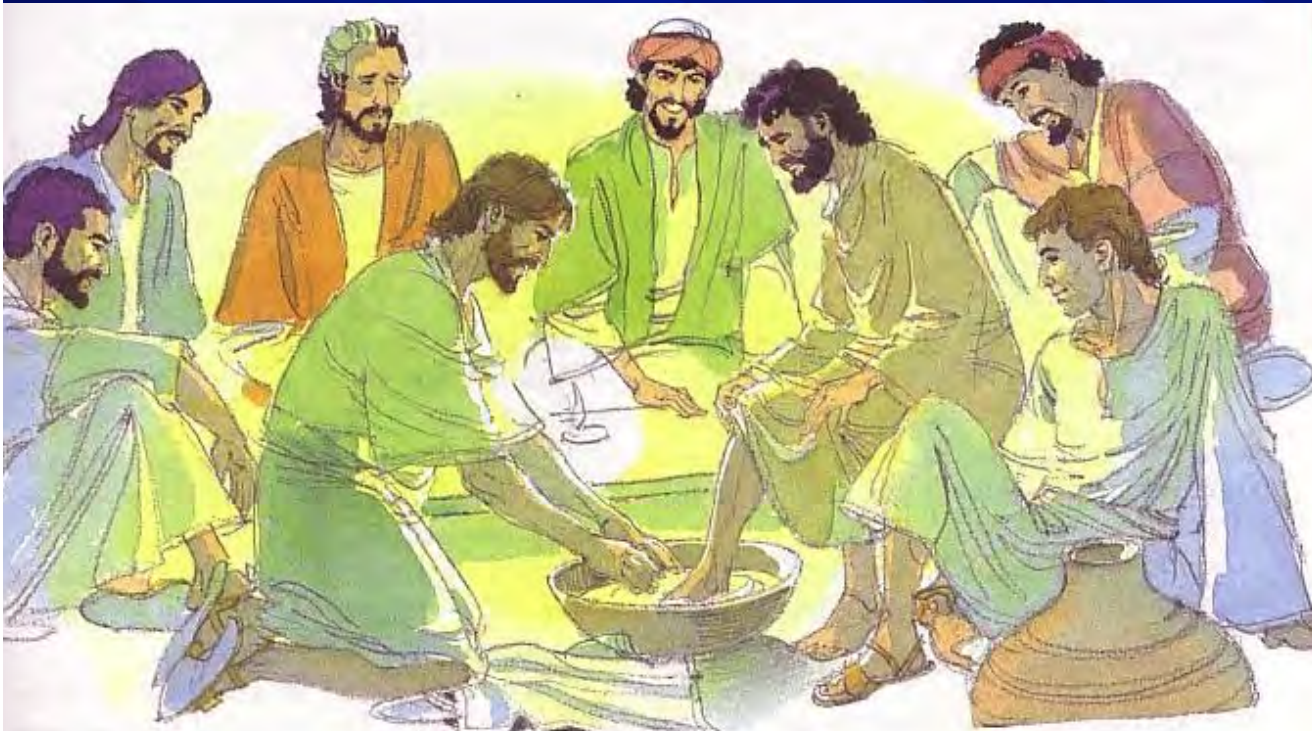
Jesus has always been God

**"In the beginning
was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God"**

(John 1:1)

God became man in Jesus

- "So the Word became human and lived here on earth among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father" (John 1:14 NLT)



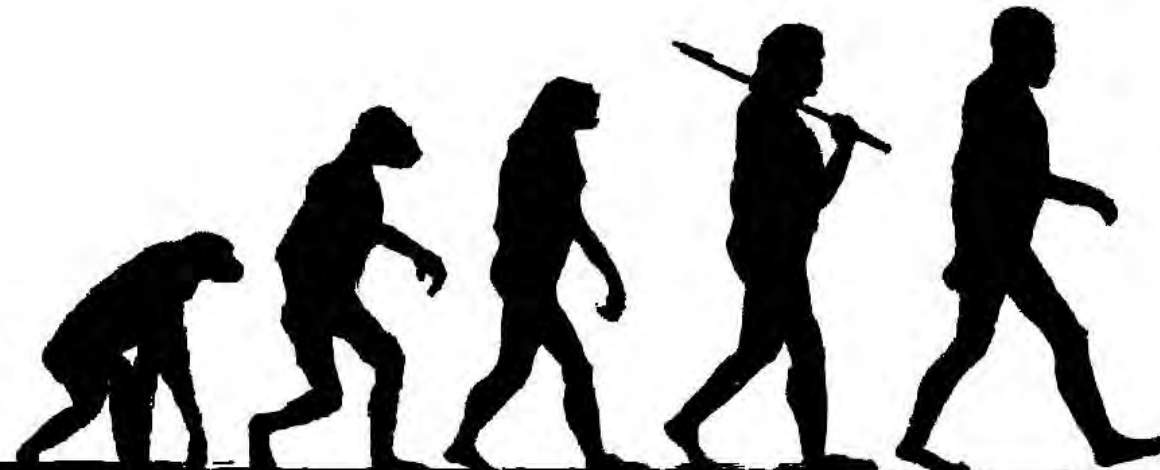


Answer the Critics

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

1 Peter 3:15

THE WORD OF GOD



**Atheism is a
faith system**



Foreword by David Limbaugh ³

I Don't Have Enough
FAITH
to Be an
ATHEIST



Norman L. Geisler
Frank Turek

**Atheism is a
faith system**

A hand holding a paintbrush is shown painting the Earth, which is depicted as a globe with green landmasses and blue oceans. The background is a deep blue space filled with numerous stars. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the brush tip touching the edge of the Earth. The overall image conveys a sense of divine creation or design.

Creation: The Argument from Design



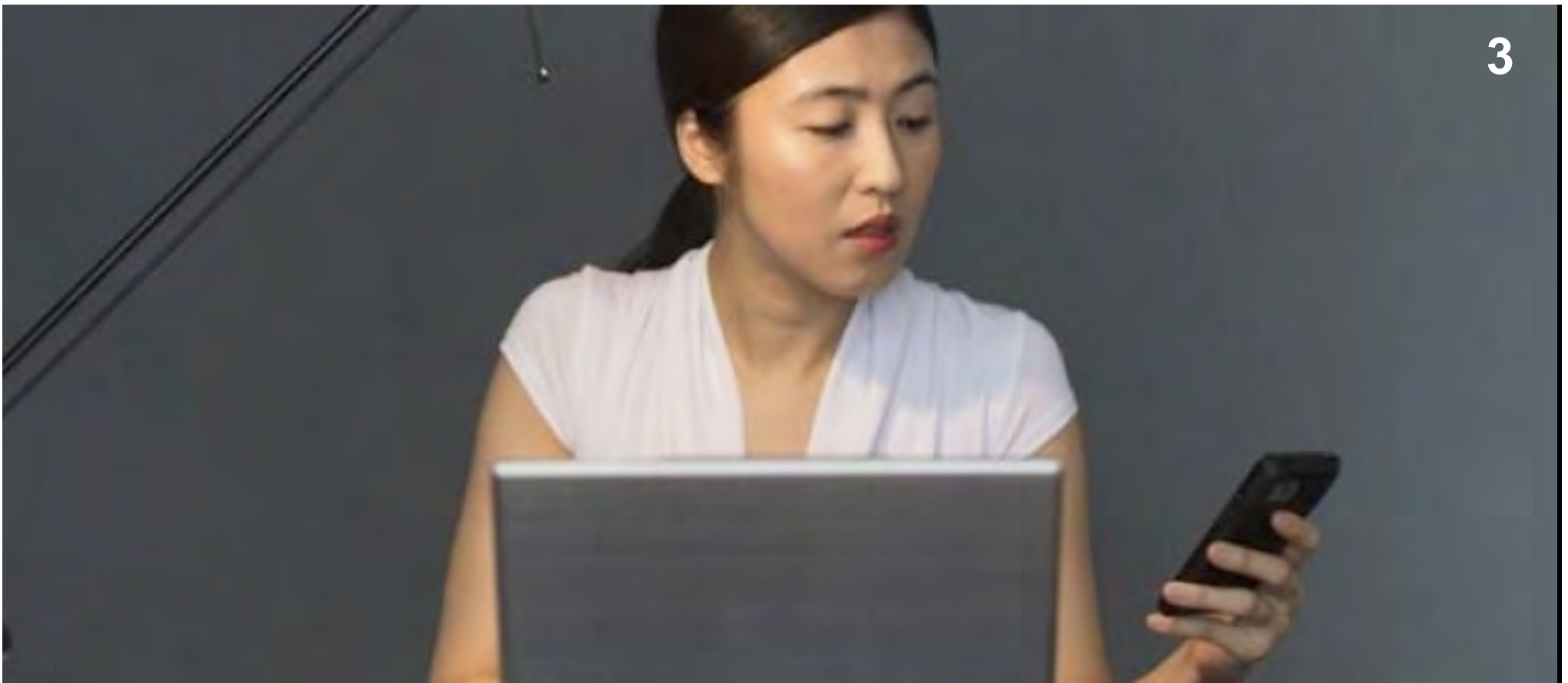
ATHEISM

**In the beginning there was nothing...
and then it exploded.**



ATHEISM

The religious belief in a spontaneous, causeless, sourceless, purposeless, meaningless existence.



**Are our computers and smart
phones designed?**



Is this building designed?

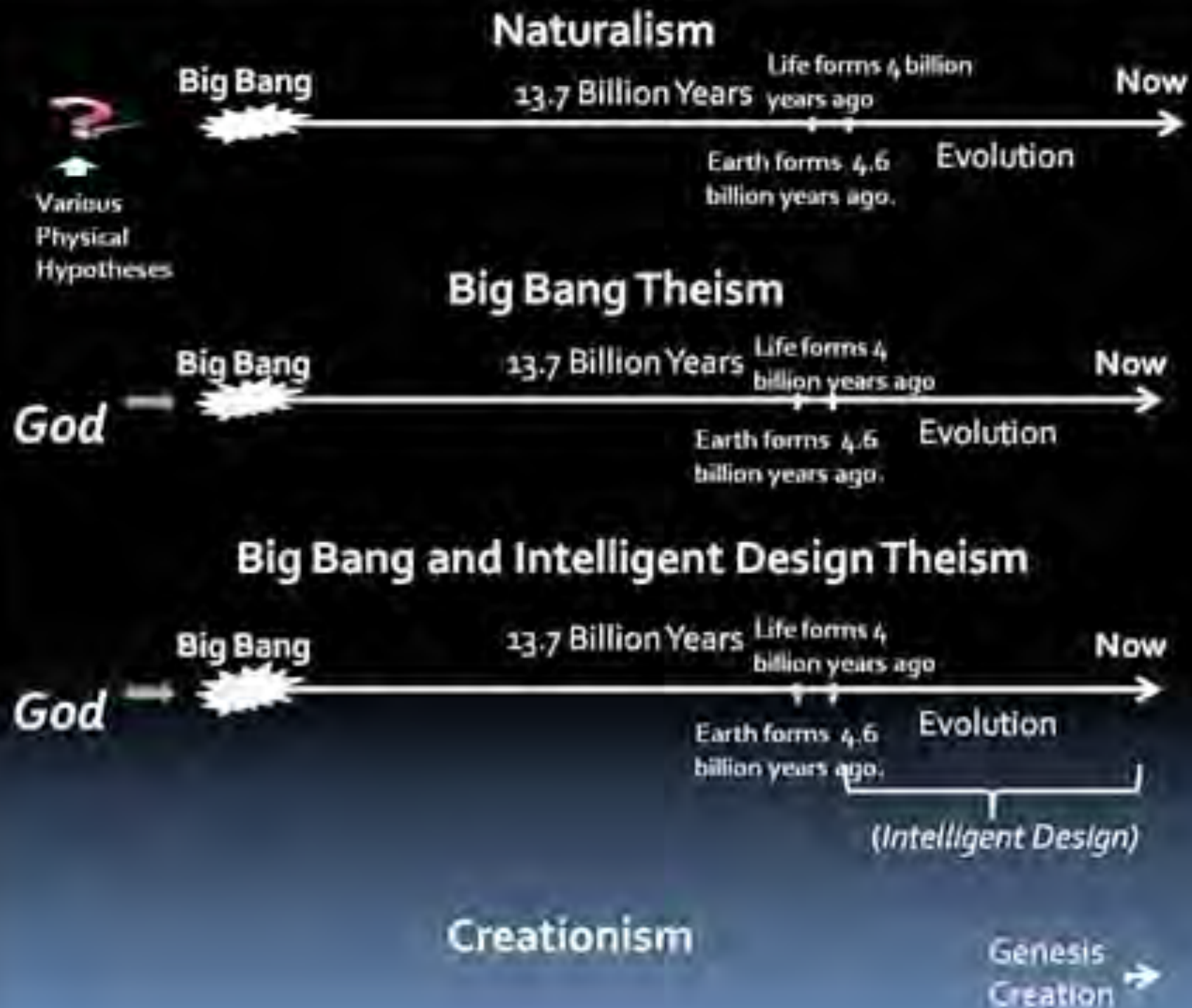


Is this baby designed?



Did this turtle get here by itself?

If not, what is your explanation?





FACT

**We must deal with facts
instead of speculation**



**"Can we, just for a moment, Your Honor,
ignore the facts?"**

No genealogies?



LUCY

Nearly all experts agree Lucy was just a 3 foot tall chimpanzee.



HEIDELBERG MAN

Built from a jawbone that was conceded by many to be quite human.



NEBRASKA MAN

Scientifically built up from one tooth, later found to be the tooth of an extinct pig.



PILTDOWN MAN

The jawbone turned out to belong to a modern ape.



PEKING MAN

Supposedly 500,000 years old, but all evidence has disappeared.



NEANDERTHAL MAN

At the Int'l Congress of Zoology (1958) Dr. A.J.E. Cave said his examination showed that this famous skeleton found in France over 50 years ago is that of an old man who suffered from arthritis.



NEWGUINEA MAN

Dates way back to 1970. This species has been found in the region just north of Australia.



CROMAGNON MAN

One of the earliest and best established fossils is at least equal in physique and brain capacity to modern man... so what's the difference?



MODERN MAN

This genius thinks we came from a monkey.

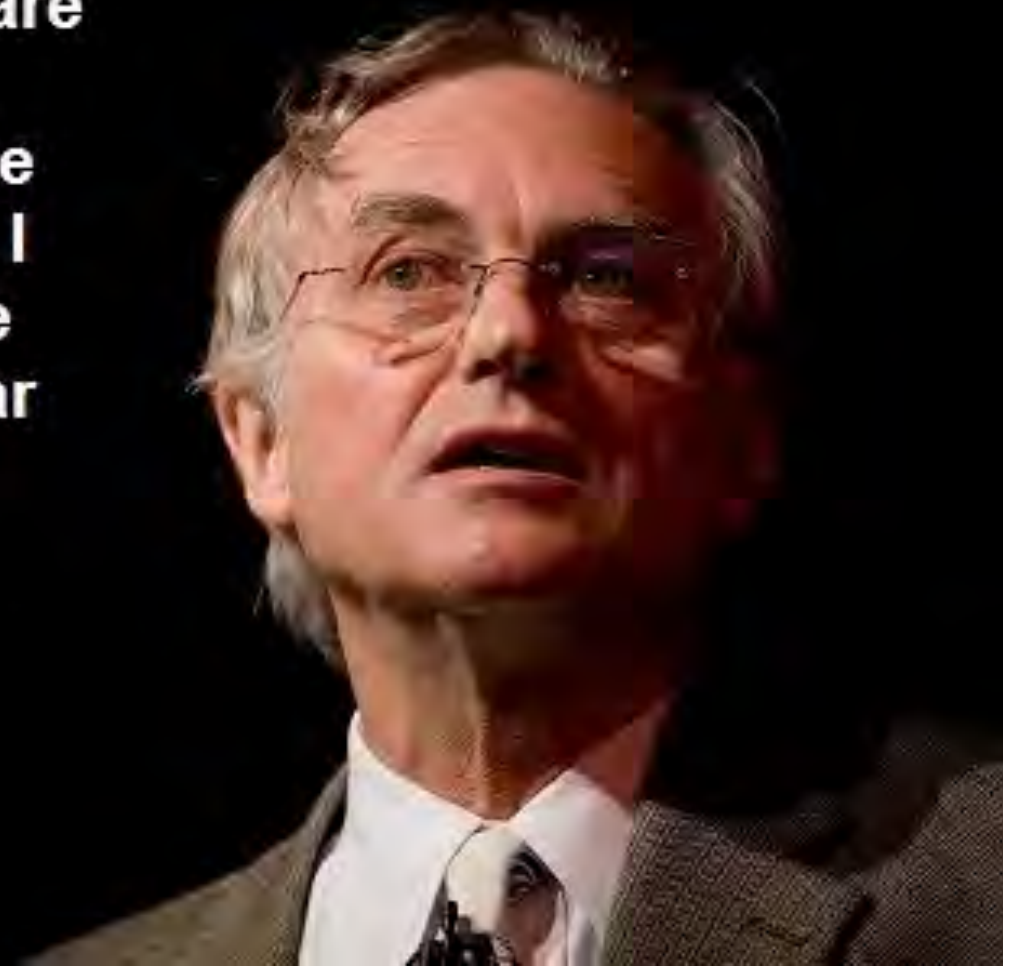
*"Professing themselves to be wise they became fools."
(Romans 1:22)*



**The Moral Argument: Why
do atheists believe in
morality?**

“There are no Christians, as far as I know, blowing up buildings. I am not aware of any Christian suicide bombers. I am not aware of any major Christian denomination that believes the penalty for apostasy is death. I have mixed feelings about the decline of Christianity, in so far as Christianity might be a bulwark against something worse.”

-- Richard Dawkins



Richard Dawkins

Another Moral Argument for God

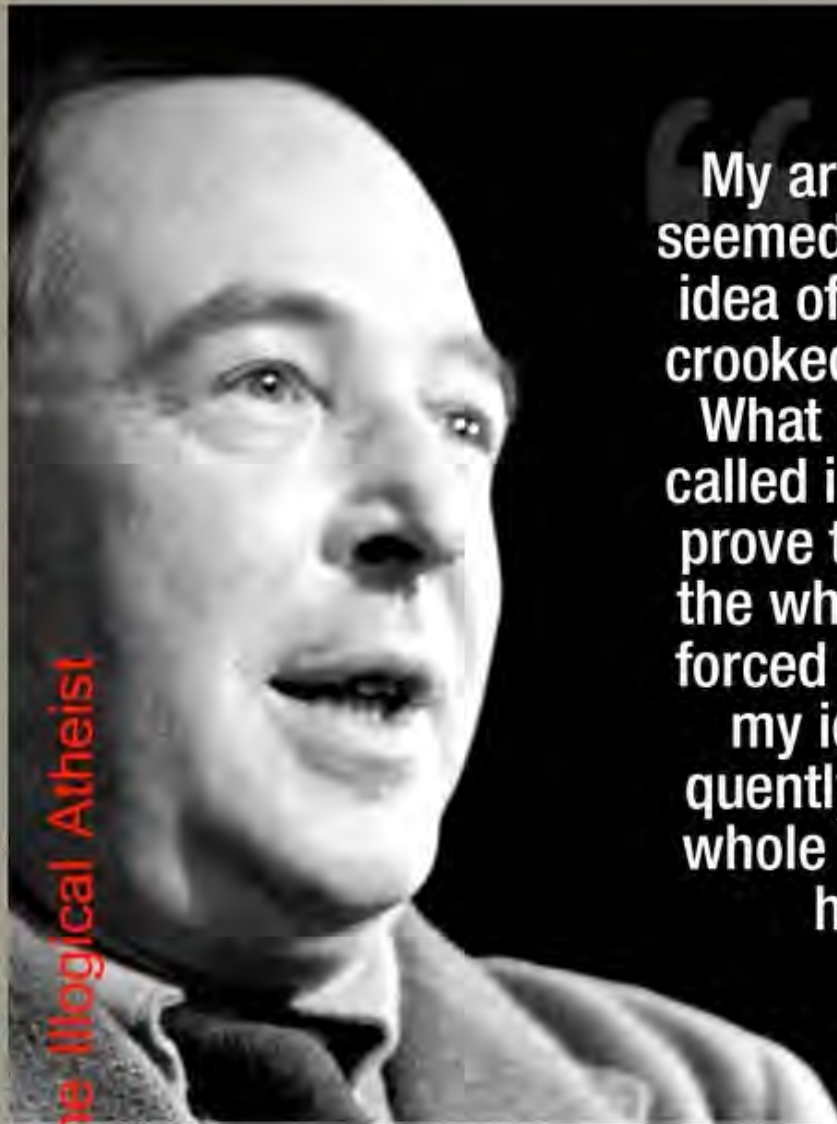
6



- If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.
- Objective moral values and duties exist.
- Therefore, God exists.

**"The fool says in his heart,
'There is no God'"**
(Psalm 14:1)

Why is this true?



The Illogical Atheist



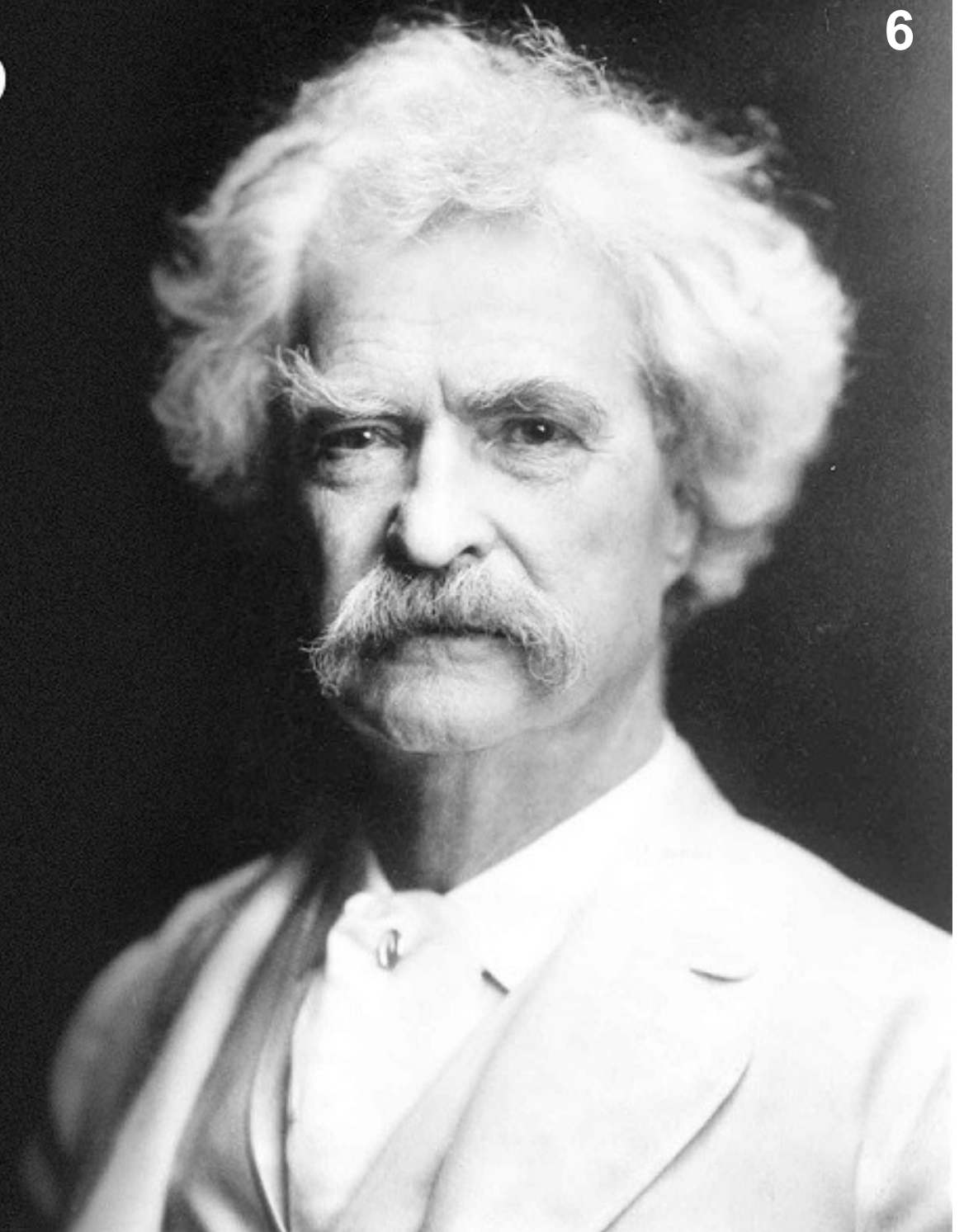
“My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. Just how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust? ... Thus in the very act of trying to prove that God did not exist—in other words, that the whole of reality was senseless—I found I was forced to assume that one part of reality—namely my idea of justice—was full of sense. Consequently atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning.”

C. S. LEWIS

Mere Christianity, 1952. pp 45-46

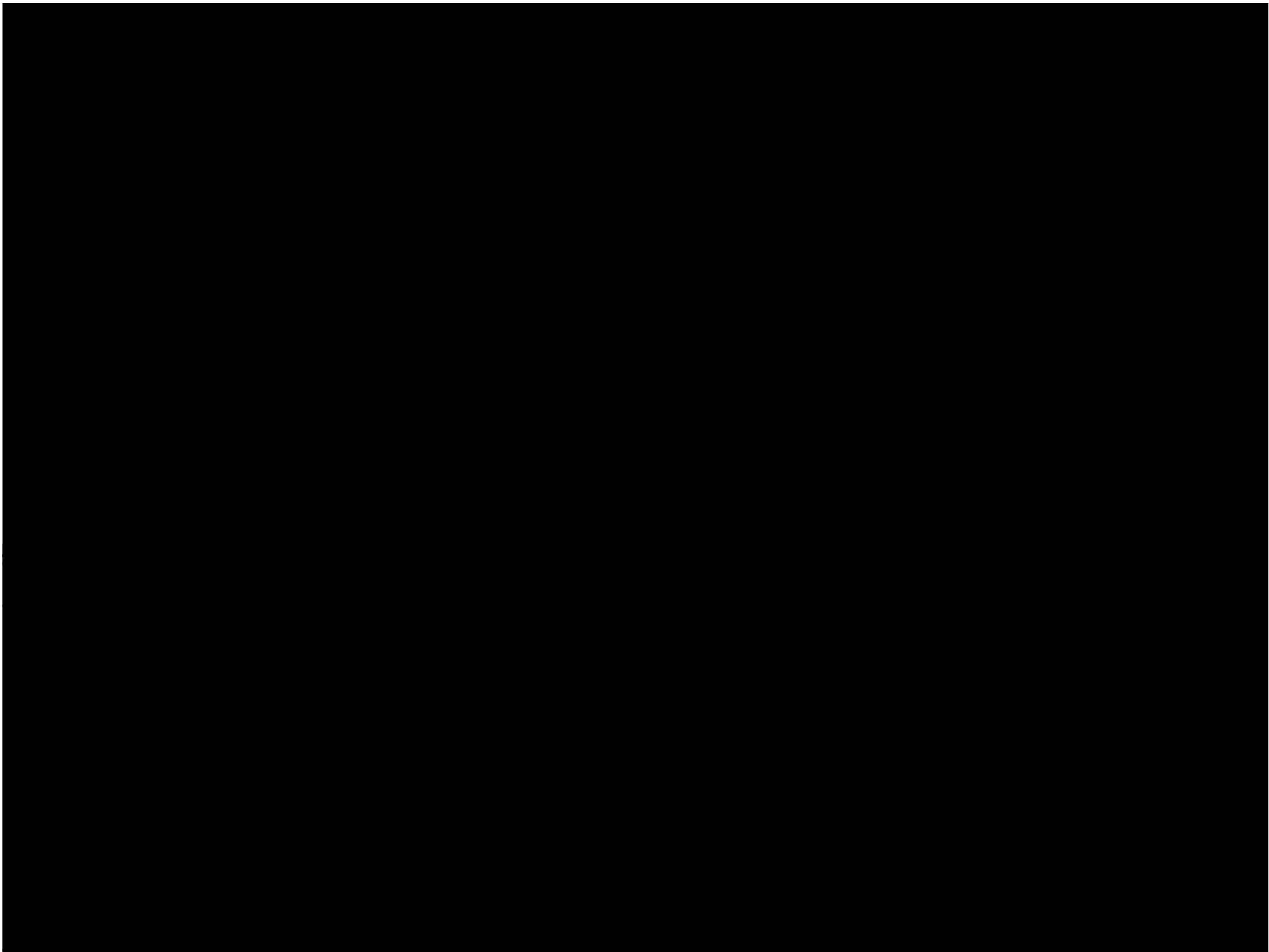
“IT'S EASIER TO
FOOL PEOPLE
THAN TO
CONVINCE
THEM THAT
THEY HAVE
BEEN FOOLED.”

~MARK TWAIN





Ben Stein Interview of Richard Dawkins



The Reliability of the Bible: Attacks Against Scripture



*Since the early church false teaching
has tried to undermine our faith*



- The Bible is continually attacked
- However, discoveries continue to verify its accuracy

Is the Bible reliable?

7

**Brown accuses
via the mouth of
"historian" Leigh
Teabing...**

**"The Bible is a product of man,
my dear. Not of God... [It] has
evolved through countless
translations, additions, and
revisions. History has never had
a definitive version of the book."**

**We trust ourselves
instead of God.**

7

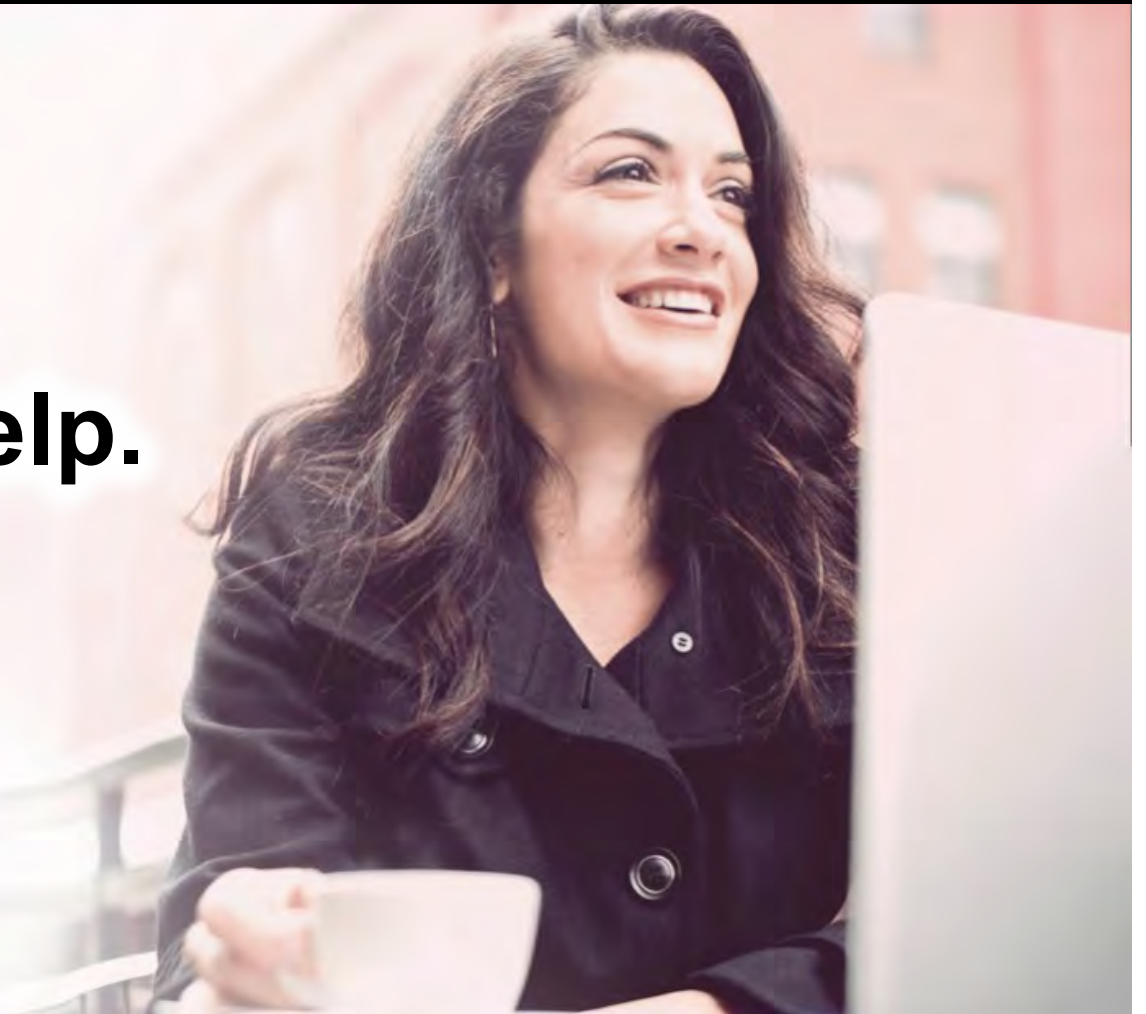
Jenn 13:1

**Praying won't help.
Doing will.**



Without God. We're all good.

cficanada.ca



**We trust ourselves
instead of God.**

7

Deave 27:1

**Lead with your heart.
Not with your Bible.**

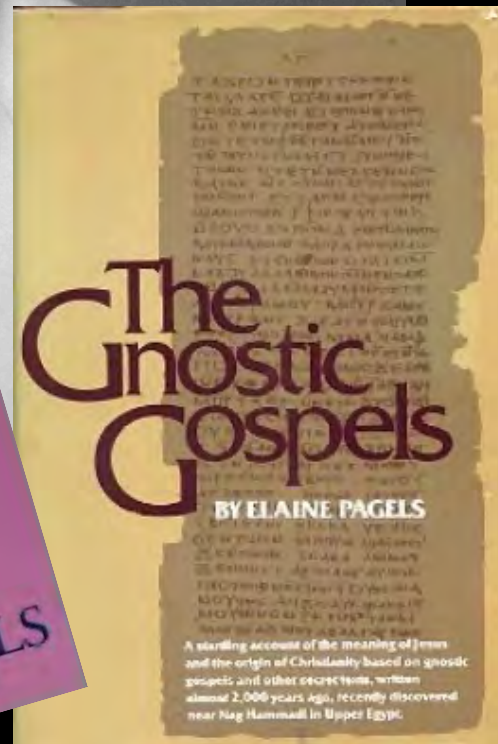
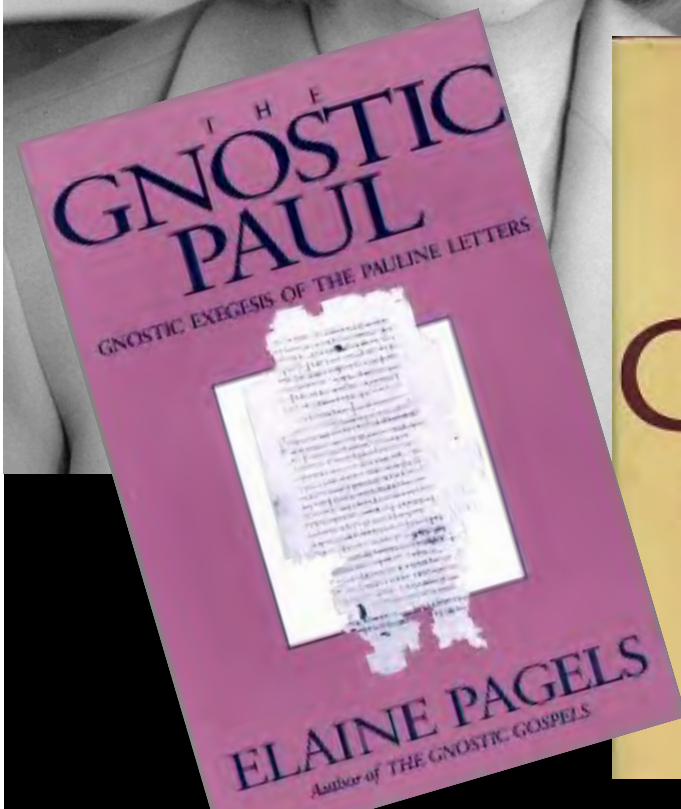


Without God. We're all good.
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Some liberal ⁷ scholars redefine Christianity

Elaine Pagels teaches at Princeton that first century Christianity was also Gnostic!



Smearing History ⁷

Dan Brown
"Gospel"

Supposed
80
Gospels!

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Selected
for their
"Male
Bias"

Gospel
Truth

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

**18 Heretical
Gospels
Written**

1st Cent.

**AD 325
Council of Nicaea**

Acceptance of the Four Gospels Before Nicaea

Clearing History ⁷

X= Citation
or allusion

O= Named
as authentic

Individuals
Pseudo-Barnabas (70-130)
Clement of Rome (95-97)
Polycarp (110-150)
Hermas (115-140)
Didache (120-150)
Papias (130-140)
Irenaeus (130-202)

Matthew	X	X	X	X	X	O
Mark	X		X	X		O
Luke	X		X		X	O
John				X		O

Gospel of
Thomas
AD 50-140

Gospel of
Judas
AD 170?

1st
Cent.

AD 325
Council of Nicaea

Irenaeus (AD 180)

7



"They declare that Judas the traitor was thoroughly acquainted with these things, and that he alone, knowing the truth as no others did, accomplished the mystery of the betrayal; by him all things, both earthly and heavenly, were thus thrown into confusion. They produce a fictitious history of this kind, which they style the *Gospel of Judas*."

Against Heresies 1.31.1

Irenaeus (AD 180)



"It is not possible that the Gospels can be either more or fewer in number than they are. For, since there are four **zones** of the world... and four principal **winds**... it is fitting that [the Church] should have four **pillars**...." (then he lists Matthew, Mark, Luke & John)

Against Heresies 3.11.8

Irenaeus (AD 180)



Against Heresies 3.1

"**Matthew** also issued a written Gospel among the Hebrews in their own dialect, while Peter and Paul were preaching at Rome, and laying the foundations of the Church. After their departure, **Mark**, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter. **Luke** also, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him. Afterwards, **John**, the disciple of the Lord, who also had leaned upon His breast, did himself publish a Gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia."

Acceptance of the Four Gospels Before Nicaea

Clearing History ⁷

X= Citation
or allusion

O= Named
as authentic

Individuals **Canons** **Translations**

Pseudo-Barnabas (70-130)
Clement of Rome (95-97)
Polycarp (110-150)
Hermas (115-140)
Didache (120-150)
Papias (130-140)
Irenaeus (130-202)
Justin Martyr (150-155)
Origen (185-254)
Cyril of Jerusalem (315-386)
Marcion (140)
Muratorian (170)
Barococcio (206)
Apostolic (300)
Tatian Diatesseron (170)
Old Latin (150-170)
Old Syriac (200)

Matthew	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Mark	X		X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Luke	X		X		X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
John				X		O	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Gospel of
Thomas
AD 50-140

Gospel of
Judas
AD 170?

1st
Cent.

AD 325

Council of Nicaea

For Further Details see...

The NT Canon in the First Four Centuries

H. Wayne House, *Chronological & Background Charts to the NT*

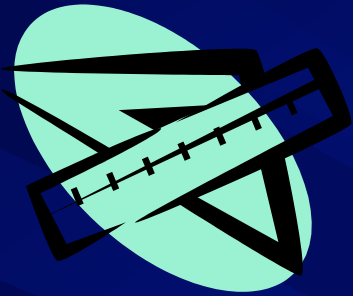
	BOOK	INDIVIDUALS															CANONS					TRANSLATIONS			COUNCILS						
		PSUEDO-BARNABAS (c. 70-130)	CLEMENT OF ROME (c. 95-97)	IGNATIUS (c. 110)	POLYCARP (c. 110-130)	HERMAS (c. 110-50)	DIDACHE (c. 115-40)	PAPIAS (c. 120-50)	IRENAEUS (c. 130-40)	DIODORUS (c. 130-202)	JUSTIN MARTYR (c. 150)	TERTULLIAN (c. 150-55)	ORIGEN (c. 185-254)	CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA (c. 150-215)	EUSEBIUS (c. 325-40)	JEROME (c. 340-420)	AUGUSTINE (c. 400)	MARCION (c. 140)	MURATORIAN (c. 170)	BAROCCOCCIO (c. 170)	APOSTOLIC (c. 206)	CHELLENHAM (c. 300)	ATHANASIUS (367)	TATIAN DIATHESSARON (c. 170)	OLD LATIN (c. 150-170)	OLD SYRIAC (c. 200)	NICEA (c. 325-40)	HIPPO (393)	CARTHAGE (397)	CARTHAGE (419)	
Matt.		X	X		X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O			O	O	O				O	O	O	O	O	O	
Mark		X			X	X		O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Luke		X			X		X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
John			X		X			X	O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Acts					X	X		O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O				O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Rom.			X		X		X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
1 Cor.			O		X	X	X	O	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
2 Cor.					X	X		O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Gal.					X			O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Eph.		X	X	X	X			O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Phil.				X	X	X		O			O	X	X	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Col.				X	X			O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
1 Thess.				X	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
2 Thess.				X	X			O	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
1 Tim.			X		X	X	X	X			O	X	X	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
2 Tim.		X				X		X			X	X	O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Titus		X	X					X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Philemon				X										O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	
Heb.		X	X		X		X	X		O	X	?	O	O	O	O				O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	
James		X			X								O	?	O	O				O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	
1 Peter		X			X	X		O	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O				O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	
2 Peter		X	X										?	O	?	O				O	O	?	O				O	O	O	O	
1 John					X	X		O		O	X		O	O	O	O				O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	
2 John					X			X					?	O	?	O				O	O	O	?	O				O	O	O	
3 John													?	O	?	O				O	O	O	?	O				O	O	O	
Jude							X			O	X		?	O	?	O				O	O	O	?	O				O	O	O	
Rev.					X	X	O	O	X	O	X	O		O	O	O				O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	

X = Citation allusion

O = Named authentic

? = Named disputed

X = Citation or allusion
O = Named as authentic
? = Named as disputed



NT Canonicity Requirements

What did it take for early documents to be considered Scripture?

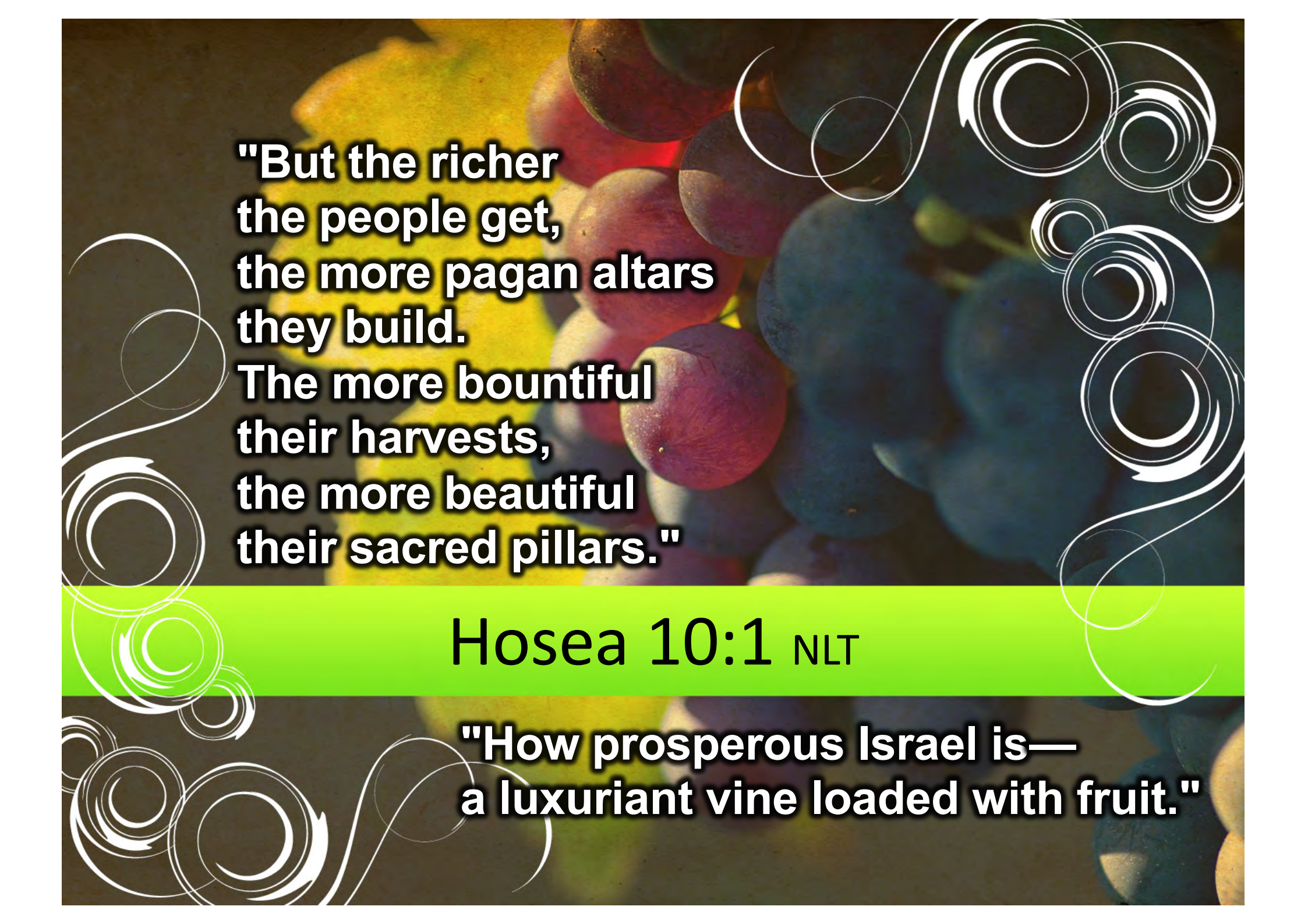
- **Written by Apostle (or under an Apostle)**
- **Widely Accepted (used by churches)**
- **Theologically Sound (no false doctrine)**

None of these applied to the books Dan Brown says were the "real Scripture," such as the *Gospel of Philip* & *Gospel of Thomas*

Hosea 8

Hosea 9

Hosea 10



**"But the richer
the people get,
the more pagan altars
they build.
The more bountiful
their harvests,
the more beautiful
their sacred pillars."**

Hosea 10:1 NLT

**"How prosperous Israel is—
a luxuriant vine loaded with fruit."**

Hosea 11

Case Study:

Hosea 11:1 in Matthew 2:15

- Who does "son" refer to in each passage?
- What difference does this make?
- What is Matthew's message for us?
- Is it faithful to the OT context and message?




Case Study:

Hosea 11:1 in Matthew 2:15


- Hosea called Israel God's "son," but Israel was a **disobedient** son.
- Matthew calls Jesus God's Son, but He is an **obedient** Son. Unlike Israel, Jesus was perfect in every instance where Israel failed.





**"Hear the word of the LORD,
O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought
charges against you,
saying:**

'There is no **faithfulness,
no **kindness** (*hesed*)
no **knowledge** of God
in your land"
(Hosea 4:1 NLT).**



4:4–6:3



6:4–11:11



11:12–13:16

Hosea 12

Hosea 13



**"The people of
Samaria
must bear the
consequences of
their guilt
because they
rebelled against
their God"
(Hosea 13:16 NLT).**

Hosea 14

HOSEA

FROM BROKEN TO BRAND NEW



**God balances discipline with
blessings today too!**

**FROM
BROKEN**





**TO
BRAND
NEW**

HOSEA

FROM BROKEN TO BRAND NEW



**God balances discipline with
blessings today too!**

How does God motivate us to
be **loyal** to him?



Main Idea

**God is loyal to you,
so be **loyal** to him**

Hosea

Simply put...

**565
343**

Be Loyal

Hosea

How does God motivate us to
be **loyal** to him?

2 Ways





I. God
motivates
loyalty by
examples.

Hosea 1–3

**II. God motivates loyalty by
balancing correction and
blessings.**



Hosea 4–14

**How are you doing at being
loyal to your loyal Lord?**



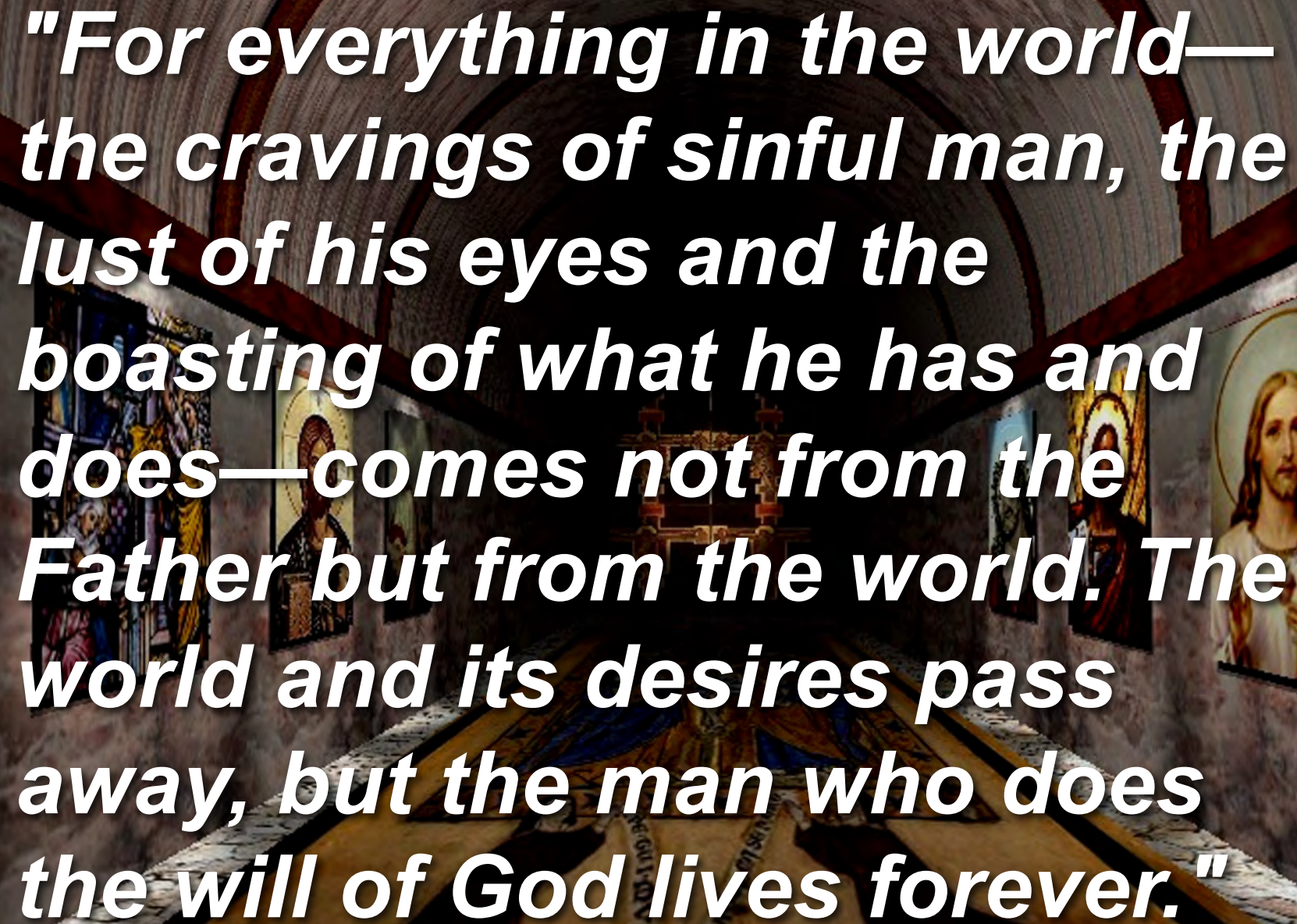
***"Yet I hold this against you:
You have forsaken
your first love."***



Revelation 2:4 (NIV)

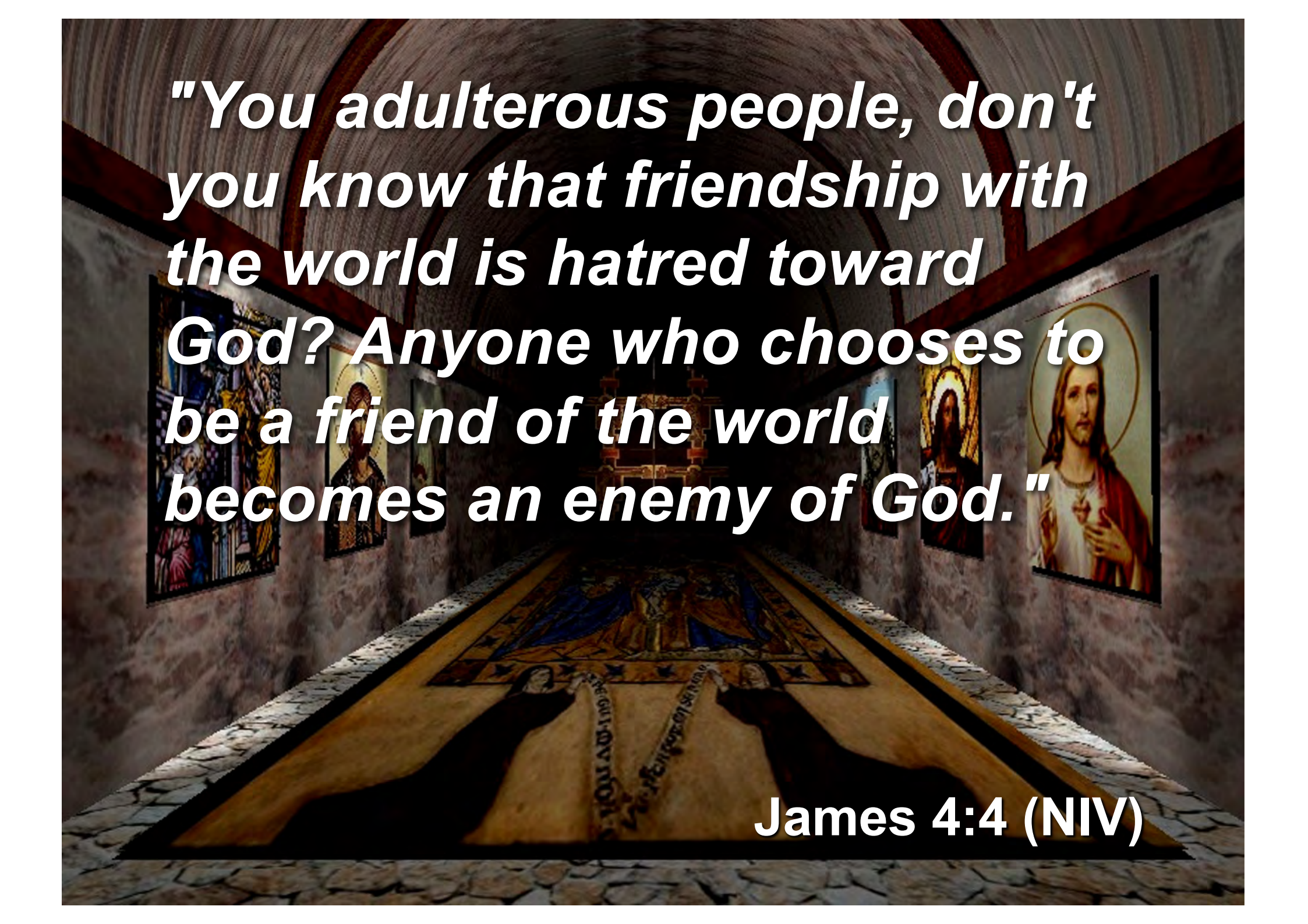
"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

1 John 2:15 (NIV)

A perspective view of a long, arched hallway in a church. The walls are covered with religious paintings, including a large one of Jesus Christ on the right. The floor is made of stone tiles, and a large cross is visible in the distance. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.

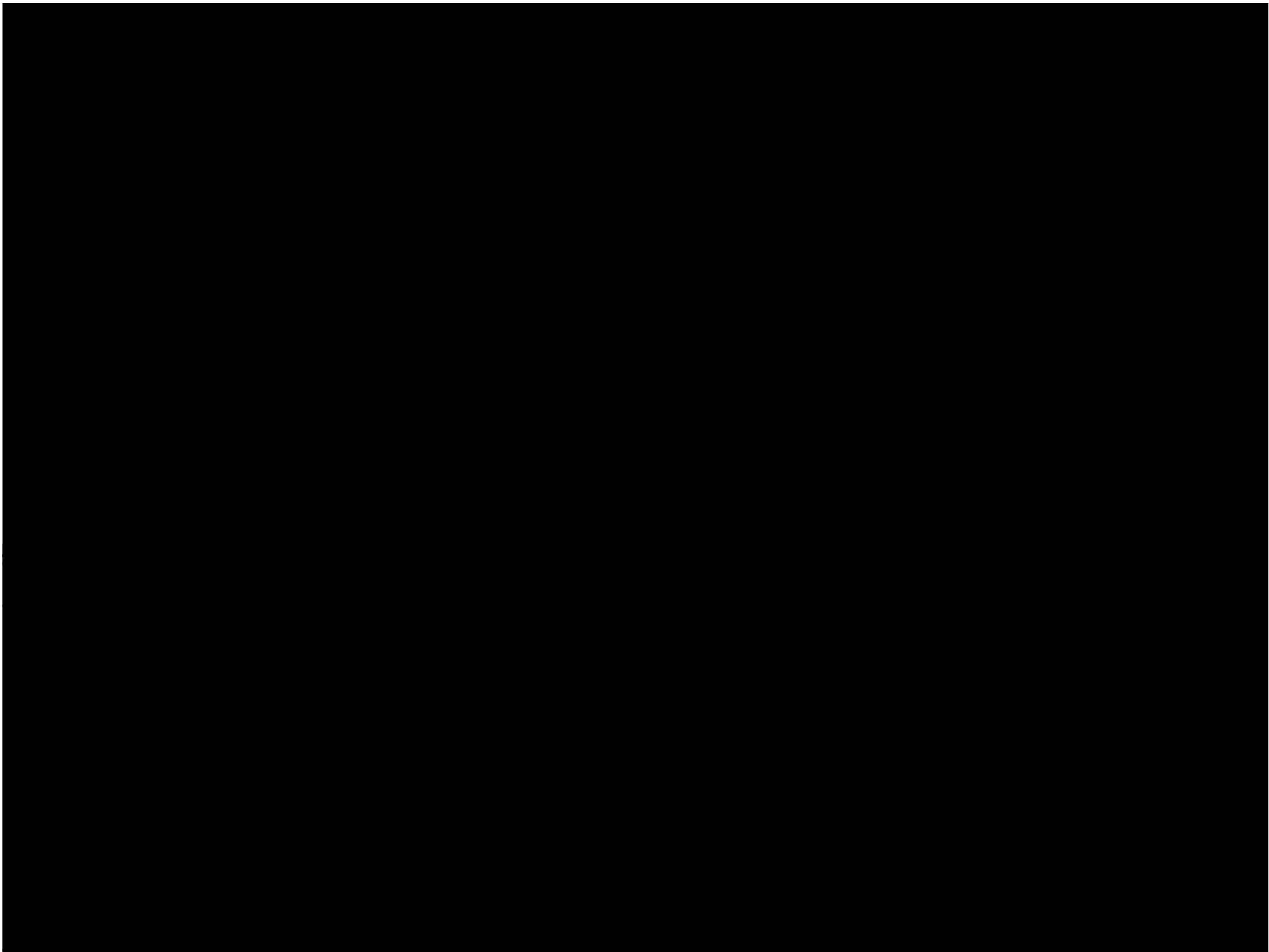
***"For everything in the world—
the cravings of sinful man, the
lust of his eyes and the
boasting of what he has and
does—comes not from the
Father but from the world. The
world and its desires pass
away, but the man who does
the will of God lives forever."***

1 John 2:16-17 (NIV)

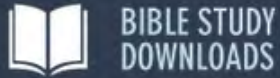
A perspective view of a long, arched hallway with a vaulted ceiling. The walls are covered in religious art, including large tapestries and framed paintings of saints and Jesus. The floor is paved with stone tiles, and a large, colorful tapestry depicting a religious scene is visible in the distance. The lighting is warm and focused on the central path.

"You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God."

James 4:4 (NIV)



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A large background image for the main banner showing a pair of hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. A semi-transparent dark grey box with white text is overlaid on the lower left of the image.

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OT Preaching link at BibleStudyDownloads.org

Deut. 28: Blessings & Curses

**Your towns and your fields
will be blessed (3)**

**Your children and your crops
will be blessed (4)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be blessed (5)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be blessed (6)**

**Your enemies will attack you from
one direction, but they will scatter
from you in seven! (7)**

**You will lend to many nations, but
you will never need to borrow
from them (12)**

**Your towns and your fields
will be cursed (16)**

**Your children and your crops
will be cursed (18)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be cursed (17)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be cursed (19)**

**You will attack your enemies from
one direction, but you will scatter
from them in seven! (25)**

**They will lend to money to you,
but you will not lend to them
(44)**

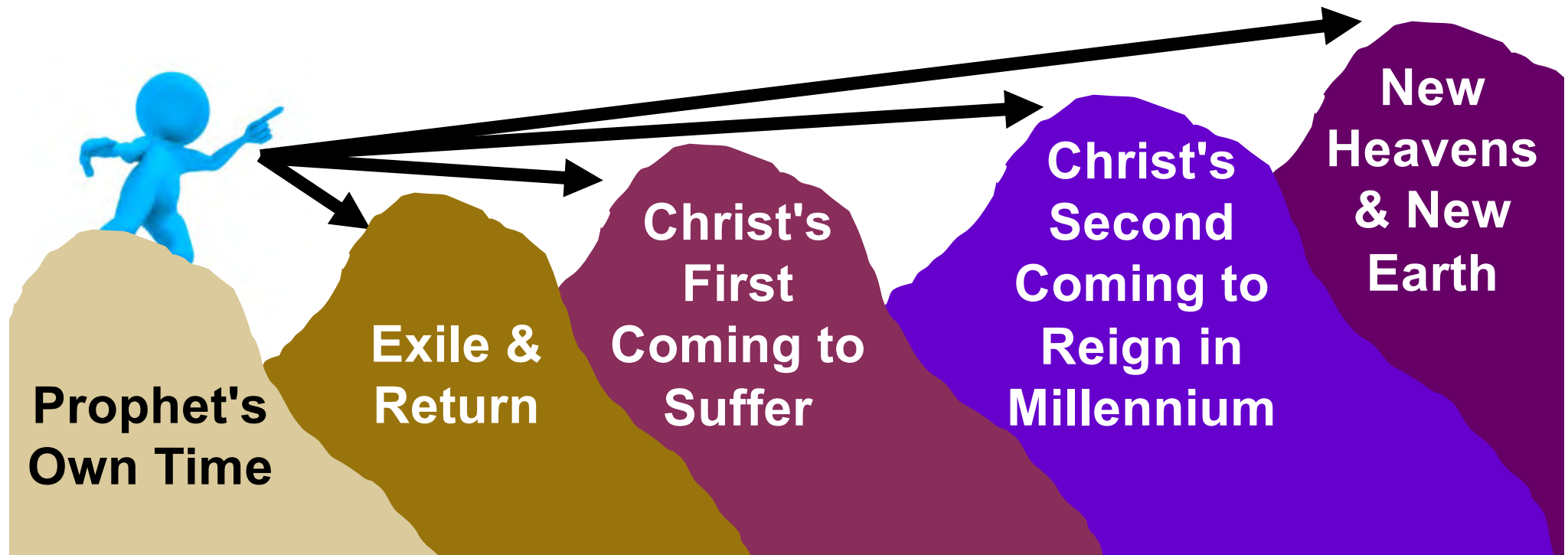
Prophetic Curses



Why?

Deut. 28

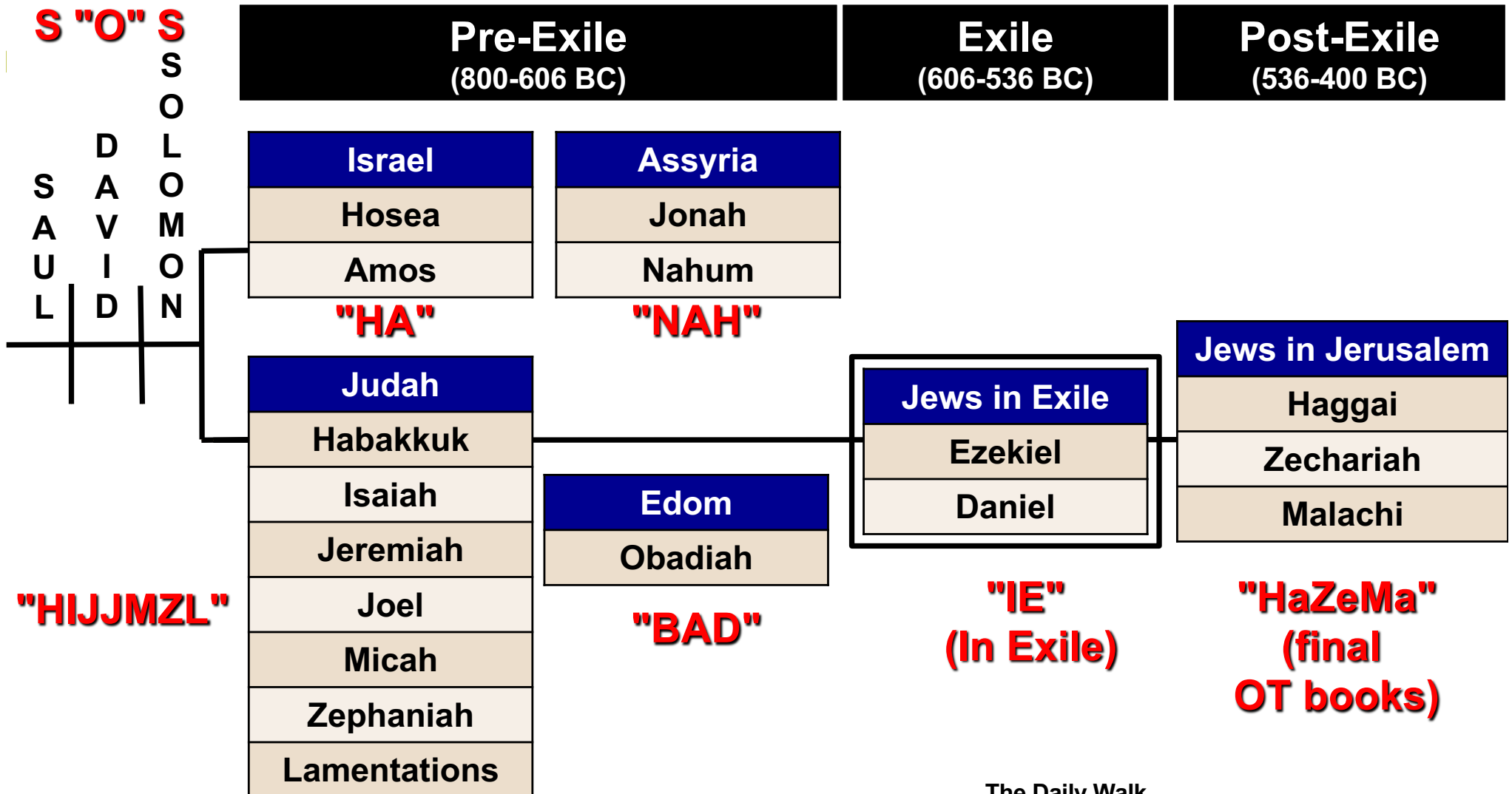
Exile



Time Periods of the Prophets

Adapted significantly from Salem Kirban, *Charts on Revelation* (1979), 49

Placing the Prophetic Books





The Day of the LORD

638-639

Judgment +

Blessing

Tribulation

Millennium

Rev. 6–19

Rev. 20

7 years

1000 years

Our Vision



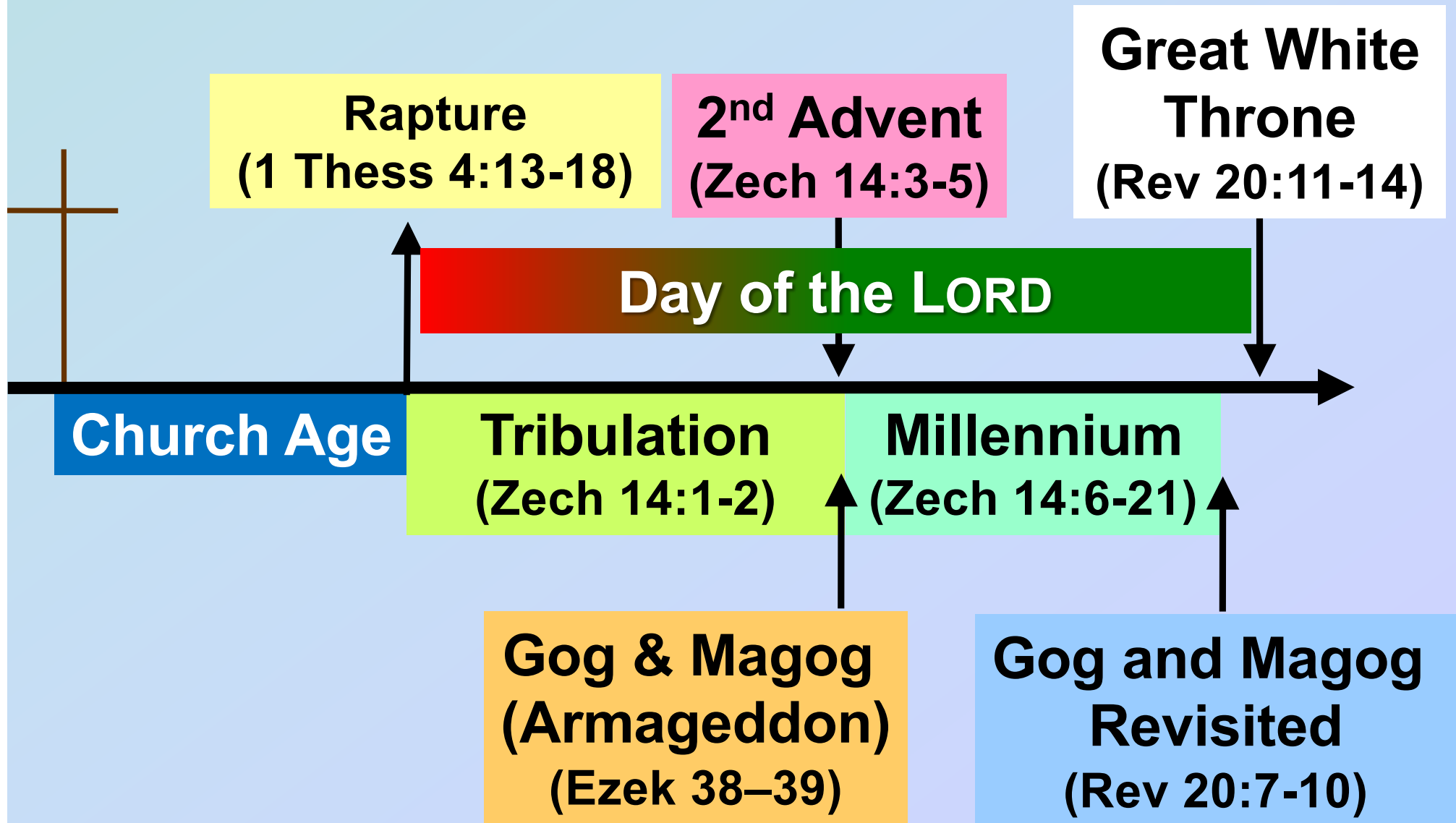
Love the Nations

Love the Church

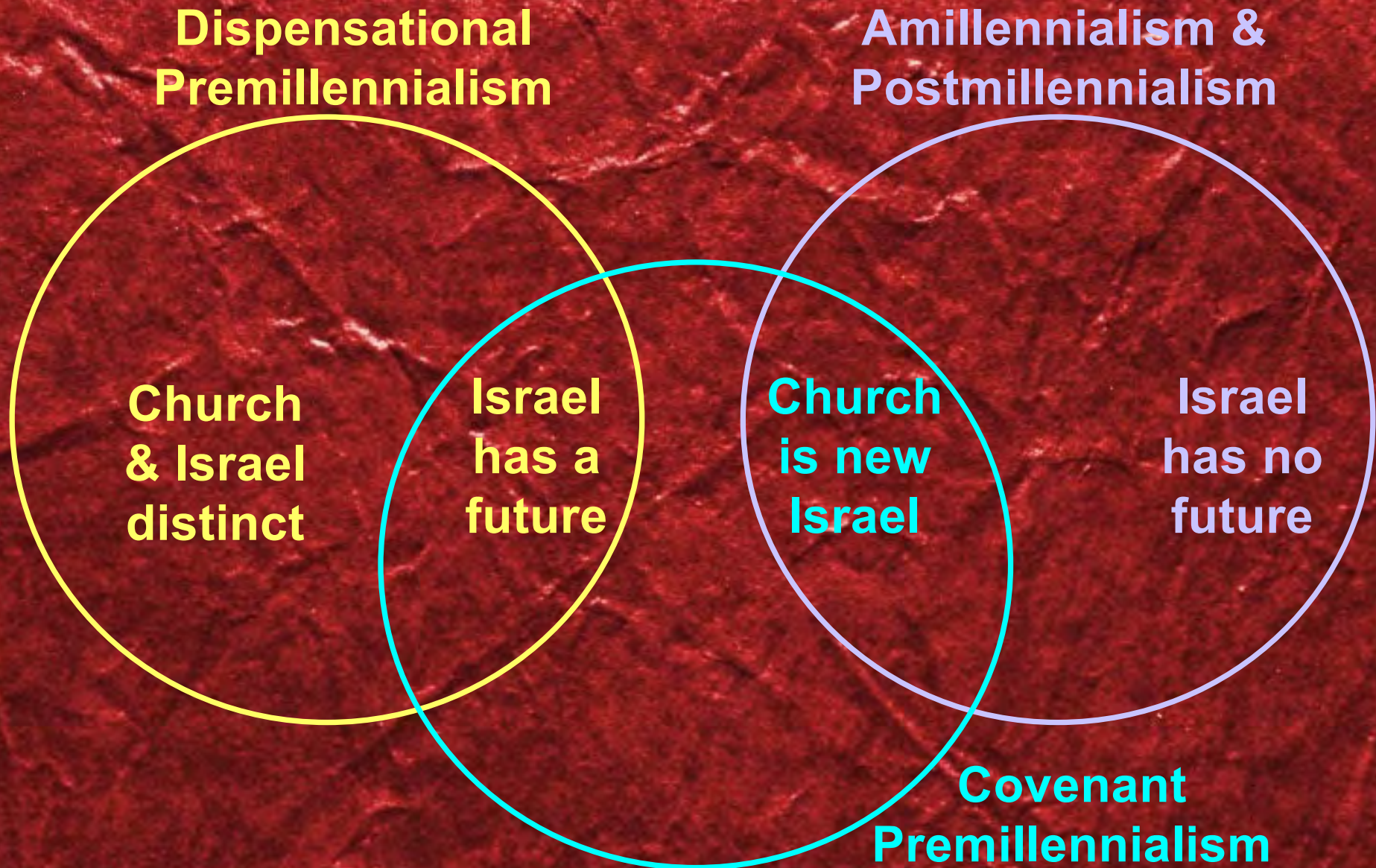
**Love
God**

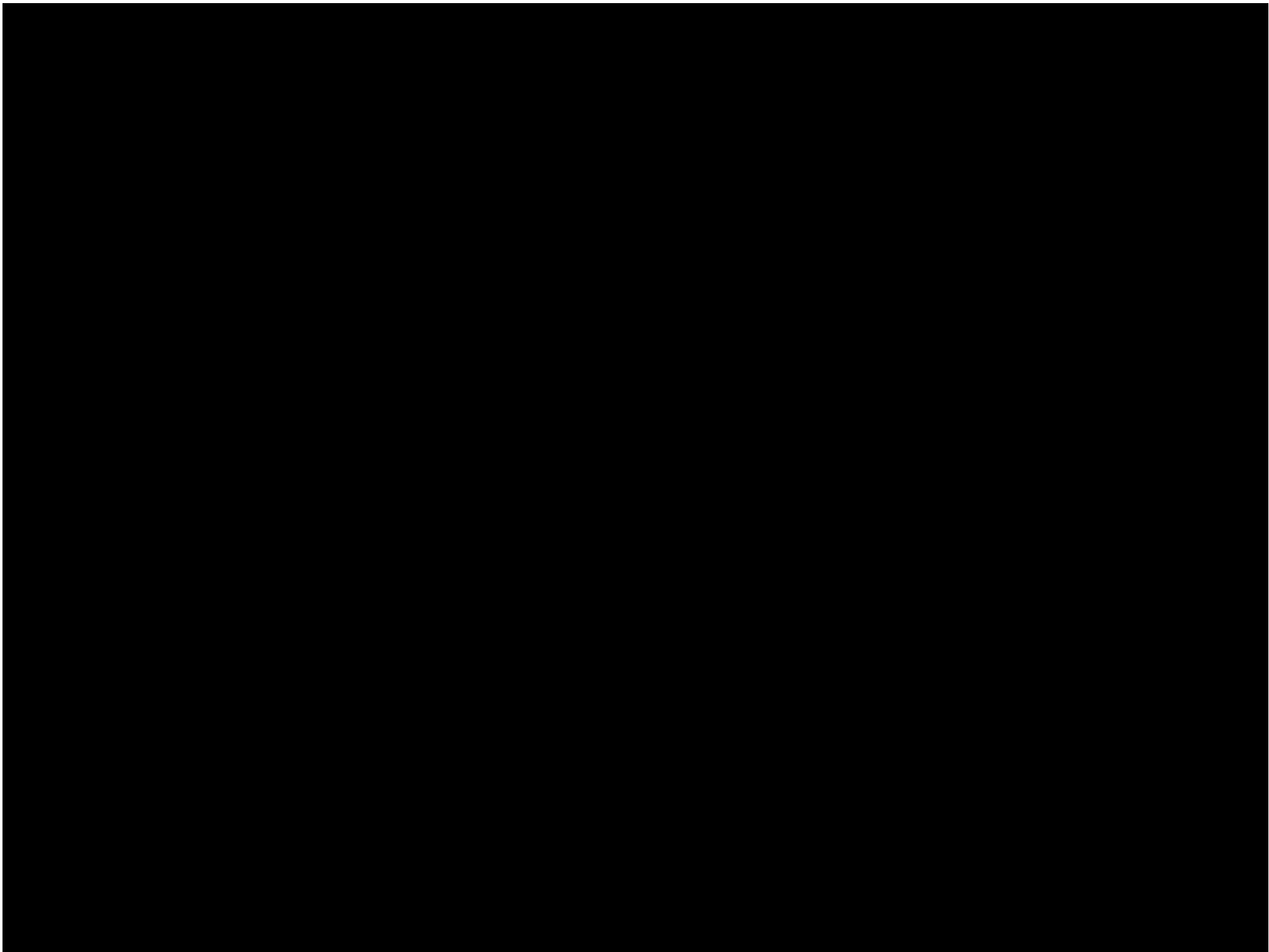
A Dispensational Timeline

OT Survey
page 437



Is there a future for ethnic believing Israel?






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A large background image for the main banner showing a pair of hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. A semi-transparent dark grey box with white text is overlaid on the lower left of the image.

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