

Theology
THURSDAY



SALVATION...

...is not what you think.



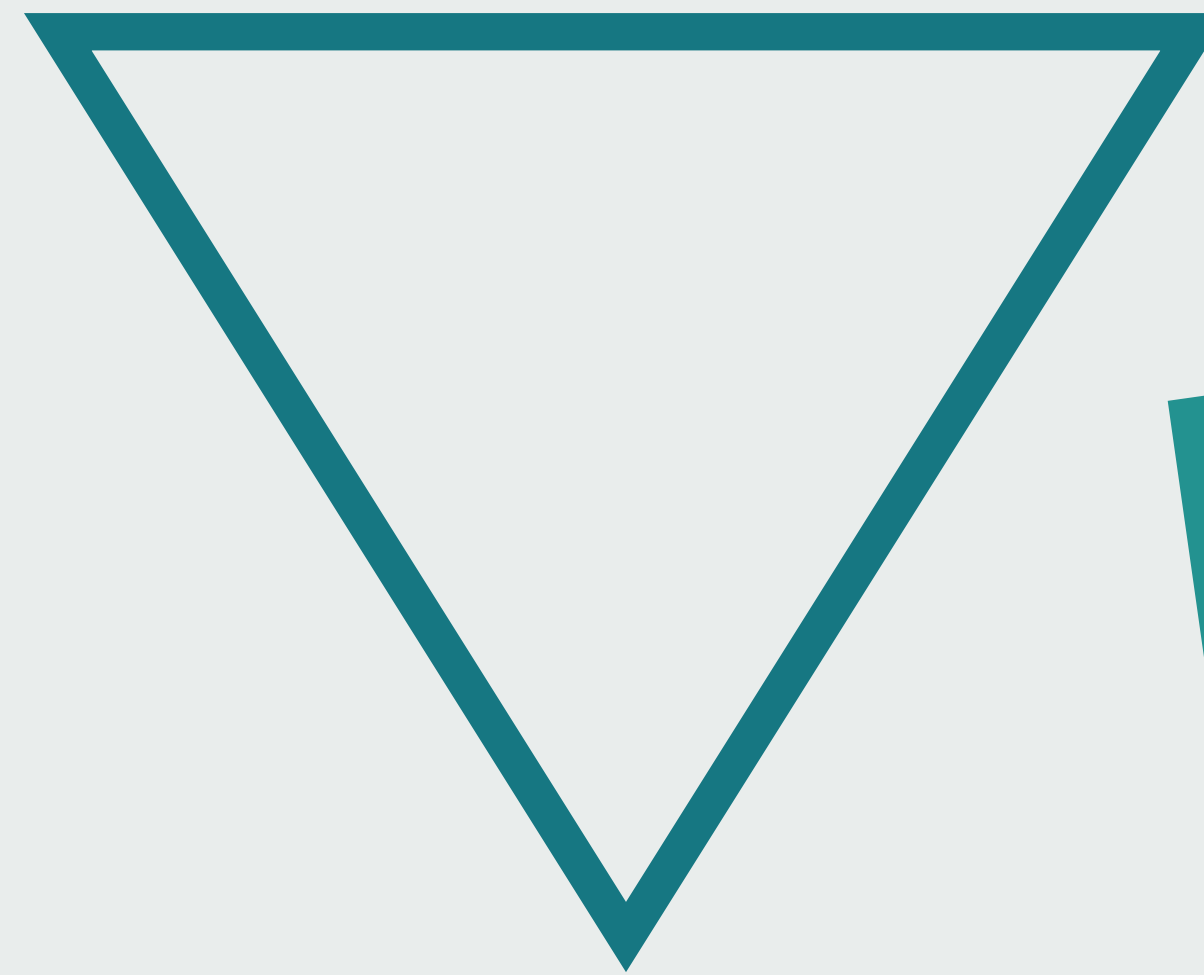
GENERAL CAUSES FOR EVIL IN THIS WORLD

Actions of humans

“flesh” | sin in me

Absence of God

“world” | sin in the world



REVIEW

Activity of Adversary (Enemy)

“devil”

EVIL...

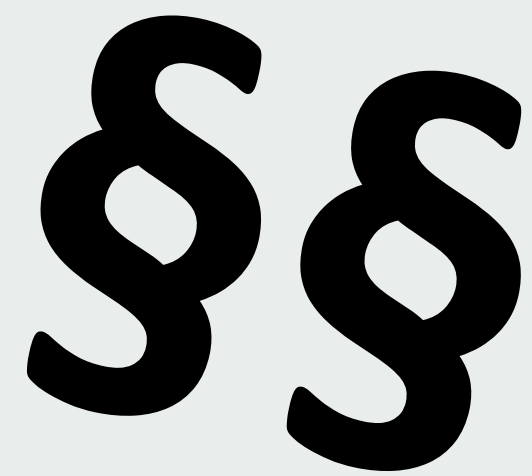
REVIEW

- ... in the Bible's Worldview includes a number of non-human, supernatural entities in conflict with God's kingdom (evil is more what you think);
- ... is personified (and not just abstract), so some of the things happening in our (personal) world might be more complex;
- ... and its presence makes more sense of our experience of the world (reckon that there is a Spiritual War).



SIN as...

LEGAL ISSUE



- doing wrong (= crime)
- missing mark (= perfection)
- breaking the Law
- leading to condemnation
- deserving of death

SIN as...

REVIEW

DOMINEERING ENTITY

- doing wrong (= habit)
- missing the mark (= freedom)
- entanglement
- enslaving power
- bondage



SIN...

REVIEW

- ... in the Bible is more than just a legal transgression that separates you from God and more than failing to meet God's standard (sin is more);
- ... in the Bible is often understood as an enslaving entity, as a bondage, from which Jesus has come to set us free;
- ... can to be dealt with by confession, forgiveness, applying truth, and praying into our bondages.



DISCUSS/BRAINSTORM:

Since “evil is more” and “sin is more,”
what kind of solution (or: salvation)
should we expect?

What kind of salvation do we need?



Salvation is not
what you think...
(It's more...)





PASSOVER (PESACH)

Exodus 12:1–26, 13:1–16

1 Corinthians 5:7

Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our **Passover** also has been sacrificed.



John 3:14–15

(Numbers 21:9)

**Just as Moses lifted up the
serpent in the wilderness,
so must the Son of Man
be lifted up, so that
everyone who believes in
him may have eternal life.**



- **New Covenant** – Gen 12:1-3; 17:1-22; Ex 6:4-8, 34:27; 2 Sam 7:8-16, 23:5; Jer 31:31-34; Eze 36:25-28; Mk 14:24; Mt 26:28; Lk 22:20, 1 Cor 11:25; 2 Cor 3:5-6, 14-16; Gal 3:28-29; Heb 9:15-10:22
- **Kingdom** – Mt 25:34; Mk 10:25-26; John 3:3, 5; 1 Cor 15:50; Jas 2:5; kingdom parables
- **Eternal life** – Mt 19:29, Mk 10:17; John 3:16; Tit 1:2; 1 Jn 2:25
- **Recapitulation** – Eph 1:10
- **Sacrifice** – Mt 16:24, 1 Cor 5:7; Gal 1:4; Eph 5:2; Heb 10:12
- **Forgiveness of debt** – Mt 6:12; 18:32; Col 2:14
- **Forgiveness of sins** – Mt 9:2,5, 26:28; Col 1:14; Acts 2:38 etc.
- ***Christus Victor*** – 1 Cor 15:57; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8
- **Representation / mediation** – 1 Tim 2:5, Heb 8:6, 9:15, 12:24
- **Rescue/deliverance** – Mt 1:21, 6:13; 2 Cor 1:10; Gal 1:4; Col 1:13; 1 Th 1:10; 2 Tim 4:18; Heb 2:16
- **Regeneration / New Creation** – Mt 19:28; Acts 3:21; Rev 21:1-5 || 2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15; Tit 3:5, 2 Pet 3:7-13
- **Born Again** – John 3:3, 7; 1 Pet 1:3, 23; 1 Jn 3:9, 5:1, 4, 18;
- **Adoption** – Rom 8:15, 23, 9:4; Gal 4:5; Eph 1:5
- **Redemption** – Lk 1:68, 21:28, Rom 3:24; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14; Heb 9:12, 15
- **Reconciliation** – Rom 5:10; 2 Cor 5:18-20; Col 1:20
- **Ransom** – Mt 20:28, Mk 10:45, 1 Tim 2:6
- **Guilt offering** – Isa 53:6, 10; Rom 8:3; Heb 5:1, 7:27, 9:7, 9:28
- **Healing** – Mk 2:17; Mt 11:4-5; 1 Pet 2:24 (Isa 53:5); Heb 12:12; Jas 5:16; Rev 22:2
- **Repentance** – Lk 5:32, 24:47; Acts 5:31, 17:30; 2 Pet 3:9
- **Slavery/Lordship/Freedom** – Rom 6:20, 22; 7:6, 24; 1 Cor 7:23; Gal 3:28, 4:7; Eph 6:6; Col 3:11
- **Discipleship** – Mt 16:24, 28:19; Mk 10:21
- **Going to Hell/Heaven** – Mt 5:29, 10:28; no “going to heaven” in Bible (cf. 1 Pet 3:22)
- **Propitiation** – Rom 1:18, 3:25; 5:9-10, 8:7; Col 1:21
- **Justification** – Rom 1:16-17, 3:28, 4:25, 5:1-5
- **Being saved** – Mt 1:21; Jn 3:17; Acts 2:21, 40; 1 Tim 1:15, 2:3-4
- **Pilgrimage** – Heb 11:13

New Testament Salvation Analogies



Christus Victor

The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

1 John 3:8

Salvation as Healing



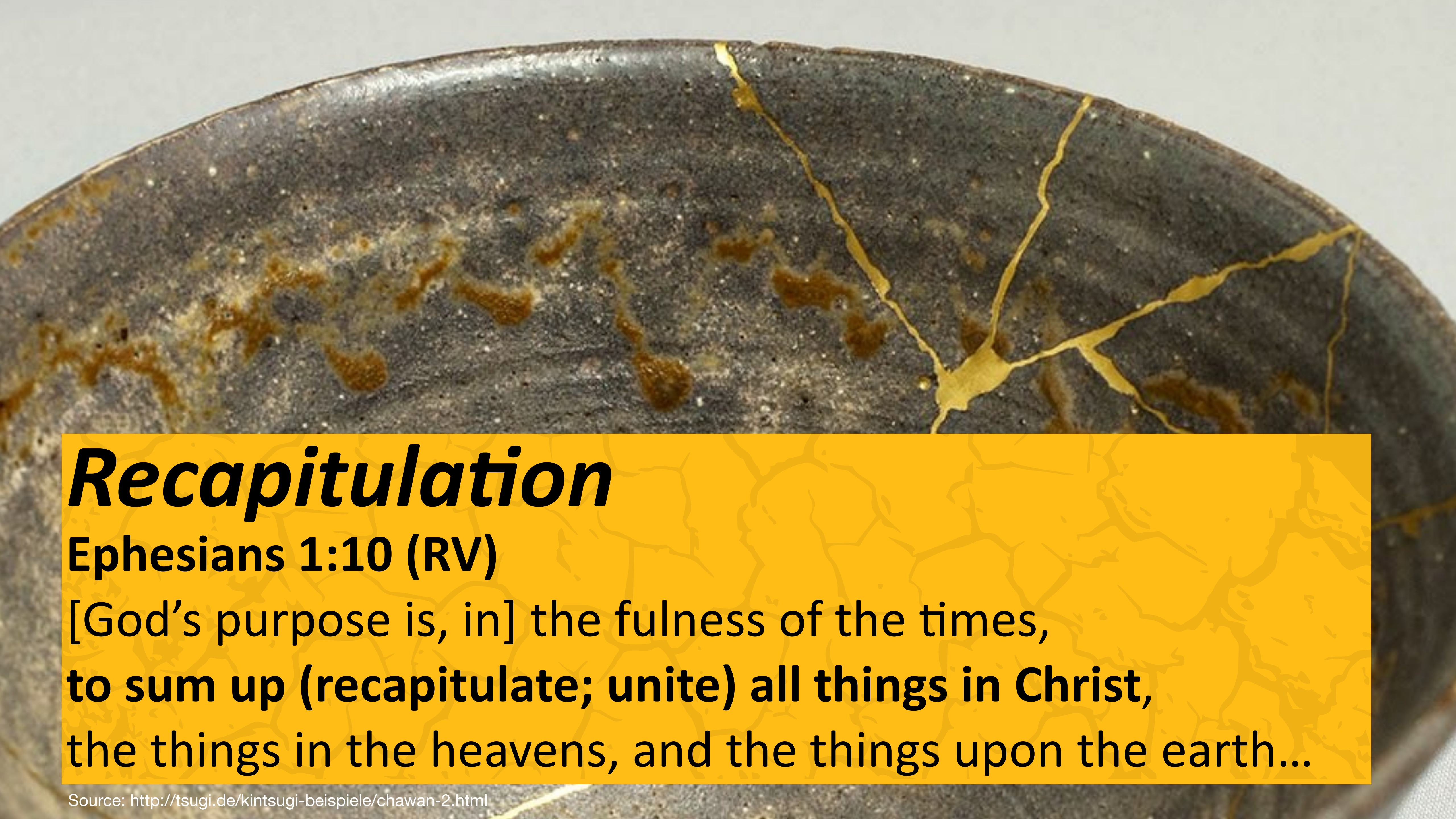
Isaiah 53:4–5 (also Matthew 8:16–17, 1 Peter 2:24)

Surely our griefs [literally: sickness] He Himself bore, and our sorrows [or: pain] He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being [*shalom*] fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed.

Cosmic Salvation

Romans 8:20–22 (NET)

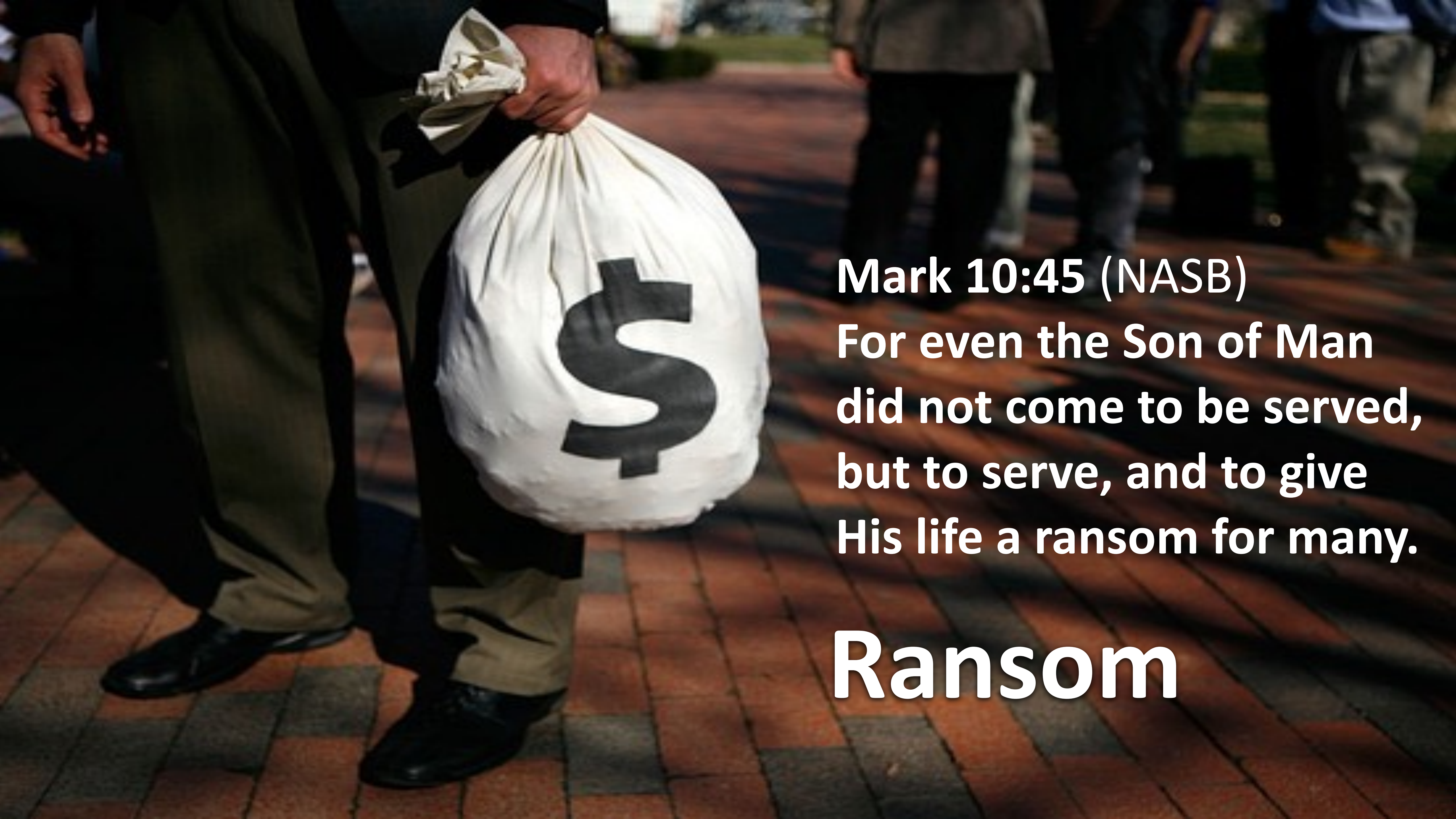
For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly but because of God who subjected it—in hope **that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage** of decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now.



Recapitulation

Ephesians 1:10 (RV)

[God's purpose is, in] the fulness of the times,
to sum up (recapitulate; unite) all things in Christ,
the things in the heavens, and the things upon the earth...



Mark 10:45 (NASB)
For even the Son of Man
did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give
His life a ransom for many.

Ransom

“Men were held captive under the devil and served the demons, but they were redeemed from captivity. For they could sell themselves. The Redeemer came, and gave the price; He poured forth his blood and bought the whole world. Do you ask what He bought? See what He gave, and find what He bought. The blood of Christ is the price. How much is it worth? What but the whole world? What but all nations?”

Augustine of Hippo,
Enarration on Psalm 95, no. 5

Ransom

Penal Substitution Theory

Anselm of
Canterbury
1033–1109

Thomas Aquinas
1225-1274

Martin Luther
1483 – 1546

John Calvin
1509–1564





What kind of salvation is offered / talked about in the verses on the handout?

Make a list & discuss. What might this mean?



A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO
UNION WITH CHRIST



WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

DIFFERENT TERMS, ONE CONCEPT

**“in Christ” & “Christ in you”
being united with Christ**

“becoming more like Christ”

“Victorious Christian Life”

“Indwelling Christ”

“Deeper Life”

***theosis* (Greek)**

***deificatio* (Latin)**

SALVATION =
participating
***in* the life of God**
***through* Christ**
***by* the power of the Spirit**



WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

DIFFERENT TERMS, ONE CONCEPT

1. Christ as **METHOD** of Salvation: with & in Christ
2. Christ as **MODEL** of Salvation: God in Christ
3. Christ as **MEANS** of Salvation: Christ in you

WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

CHRIST AS METHOD OF SALVATION: WITH & IN CHRIST

**Salvation is achieved by Jesus Christ
uniting himself to humanity in order to save humanity
(not just substitution but participation)**

2 Timothy 2:11

For if we died **with** Him,
we shall also live **with** Him...

Romans 6:4–8

Therefore we have been buried **with Him** through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become **united with Him** in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified **with Him**, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died **with Christ**, we believe that we shall also live **with Him**...



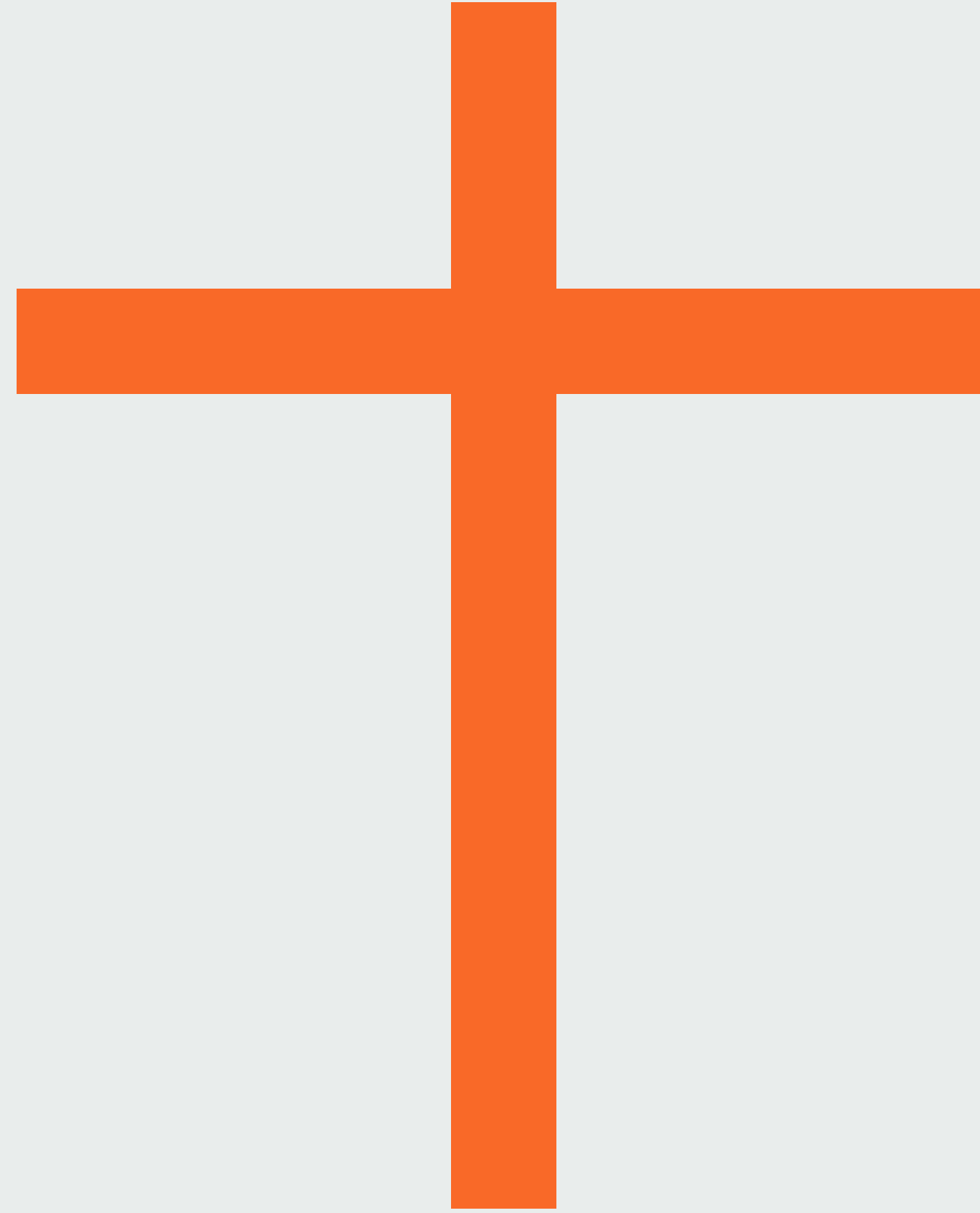
Who is on the cross?



Who is dead?



Who is made alive?



Galatians 2:20a

I have been **crucified with Christ**,
and it is no longer I who live,
but Christ lives in me....

Romans 6:8–11

Now if we have **died with Christ**, we believe that we shall also **live with Him**, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin, once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

**Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin,
but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

Colossians 2:12, 20, 3:3

I having been buried **with Him** in **baptism**, in which you were also raised up **with Him** through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. (...) If you have died **with Christ** to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees (...) For you have died and your life is hidden **with Christ in God**.



WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

CHRIST AS METHOD OF SALVATION: WITH & IN CHRIST

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WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

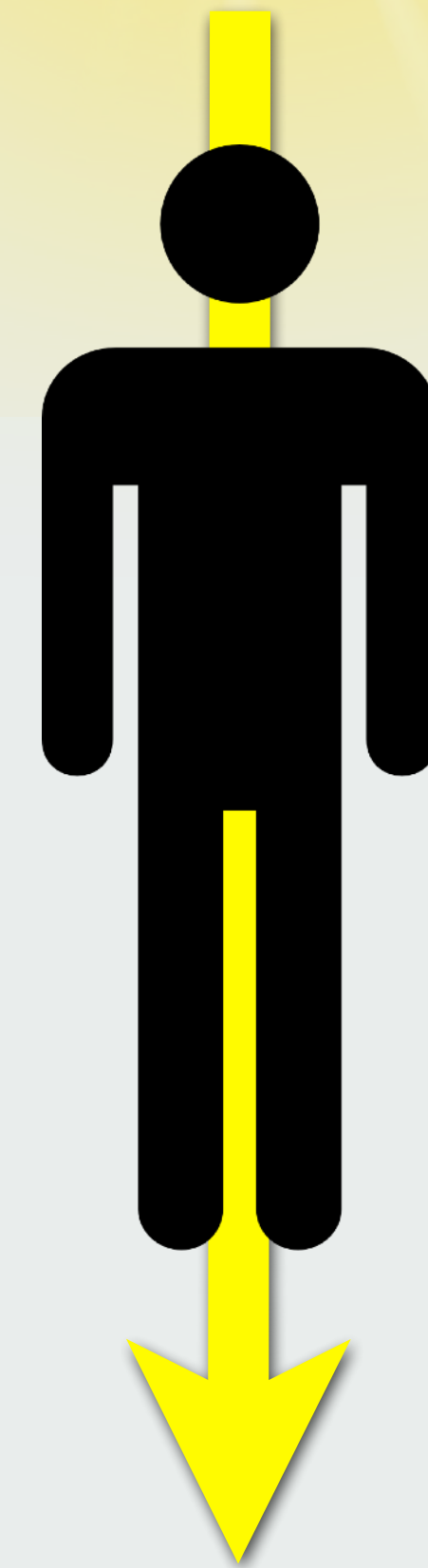
CHRIST AS MODEL OF SALVATION: GOD IN CHRIST

**Salvation life is modelled by Jesus as *human*:
in full dependence on the Father by the Spirit active in Him
(Jesus does not *use* his own divine power)**

Acts 2:22

“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a **man** clearly attested to you by **God** with powerful deeds, wonders, and miraculous signs that **God performed** among you **through him**, just as you yourselves know...”

God

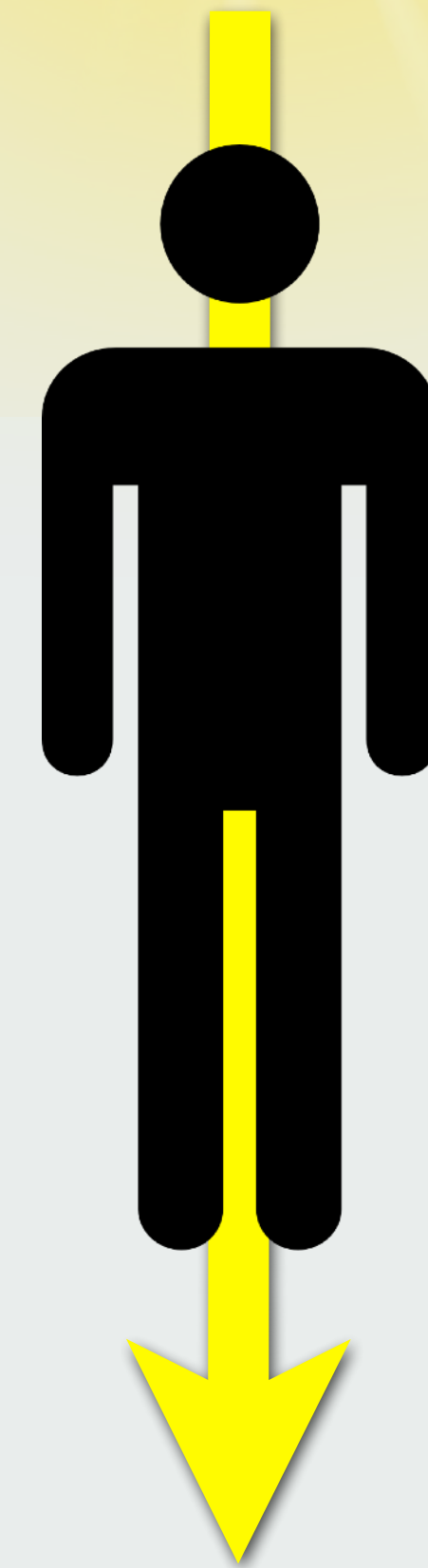


Son

John 14:8–11

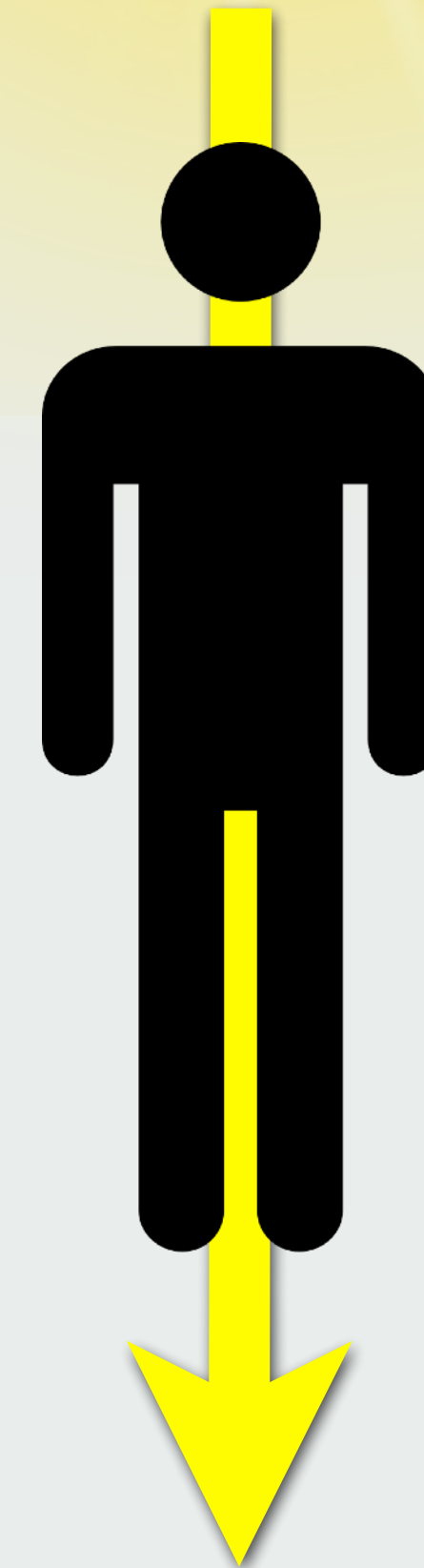
Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be content.” Jesus replied, “Have I been with you for so long, and you have not known me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and **the Father is in me**? The words that I say to you, I do not speak on my own initiative, but **the Father abiding in me performs his works**. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the **Father is in me**, but if you do not believe me, believe because of the works themselves.

Father



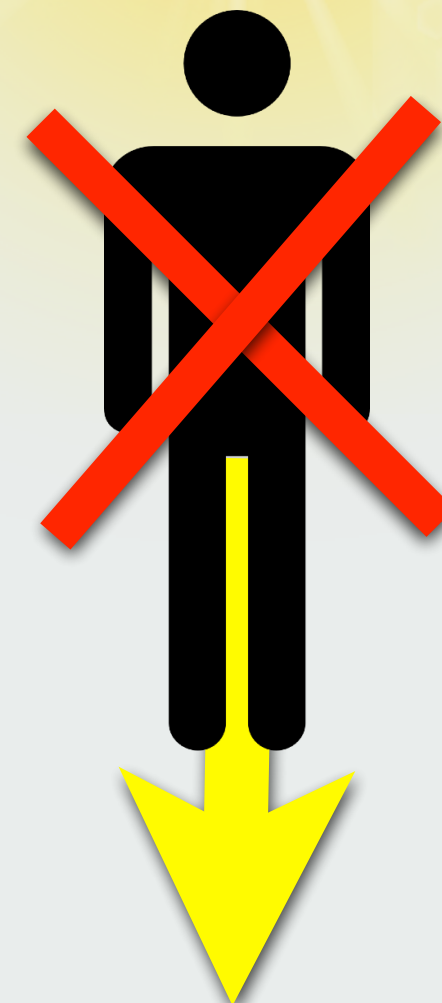
Son

Father



Son

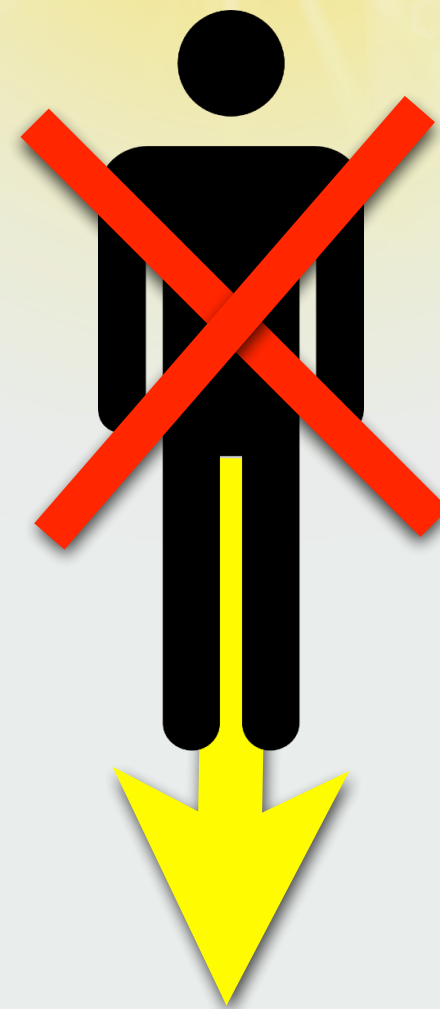
Son



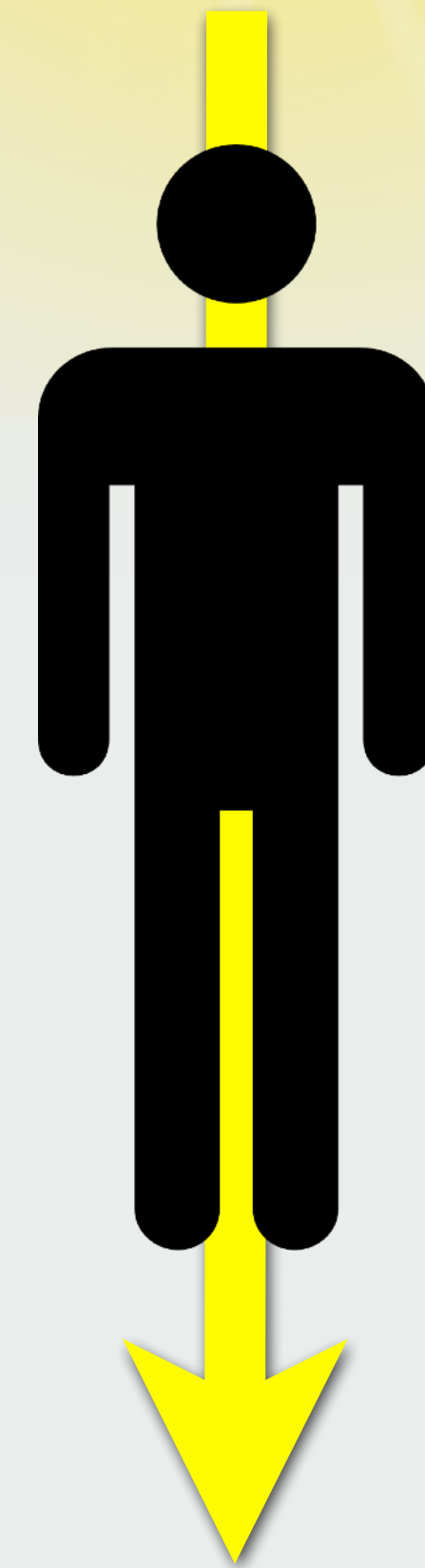
Jesus shows us
what a true
human should do:
living in full
dependence on
God

Father

Son



Father



Son

WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

CHRIST AS MODEL OF SALVATION: GOD IN CHRIST

**Salvation life is modelled by Jesus as human:
in full dependence on the Father by the Spirit active in Him
(Jesus does not *use* his own divine power)**

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WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

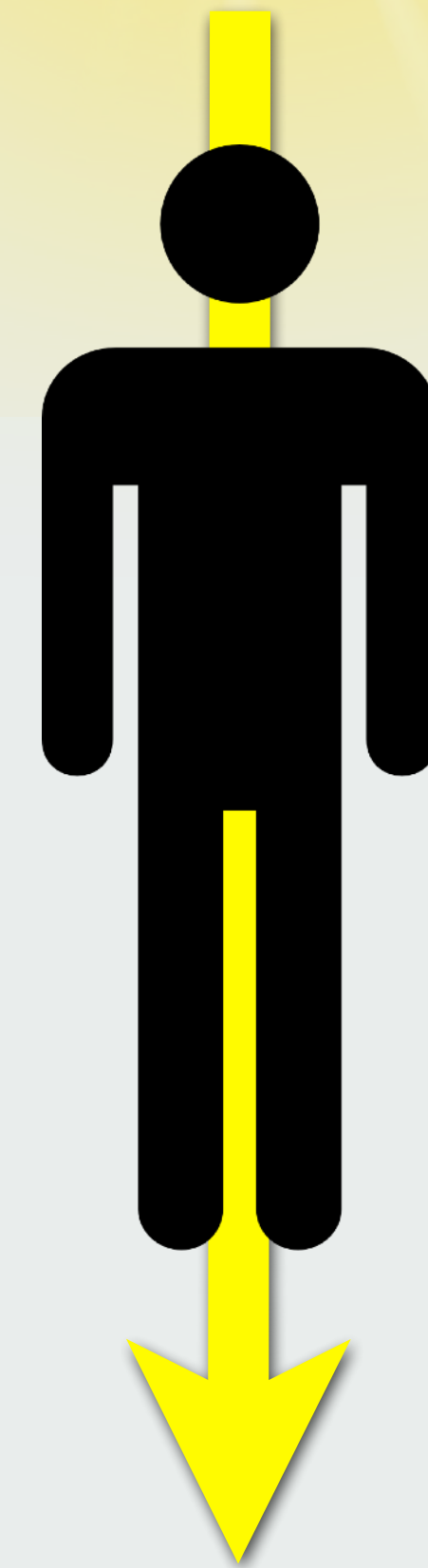
CHRIST AS MEANS OF SALVATION: CHRIST IN YOU

**Salvation life is experienced by us in following Jesus' model:
in full dependence on Christ by the Spirit active in us
(we do not have our own, independent divine power)**

John 14:8–11

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be content.” Jesus replied, “Have I been with you for so long, and you have not known me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and **the Father is in me**? The words that I say to you, I do not speak on my own initiative, but **the Father abiding in me performs his works**. Believe me that I am in the Father, and **the Father is in me**, but if you do not believe me, believe because of the works themselves.

Father



Me

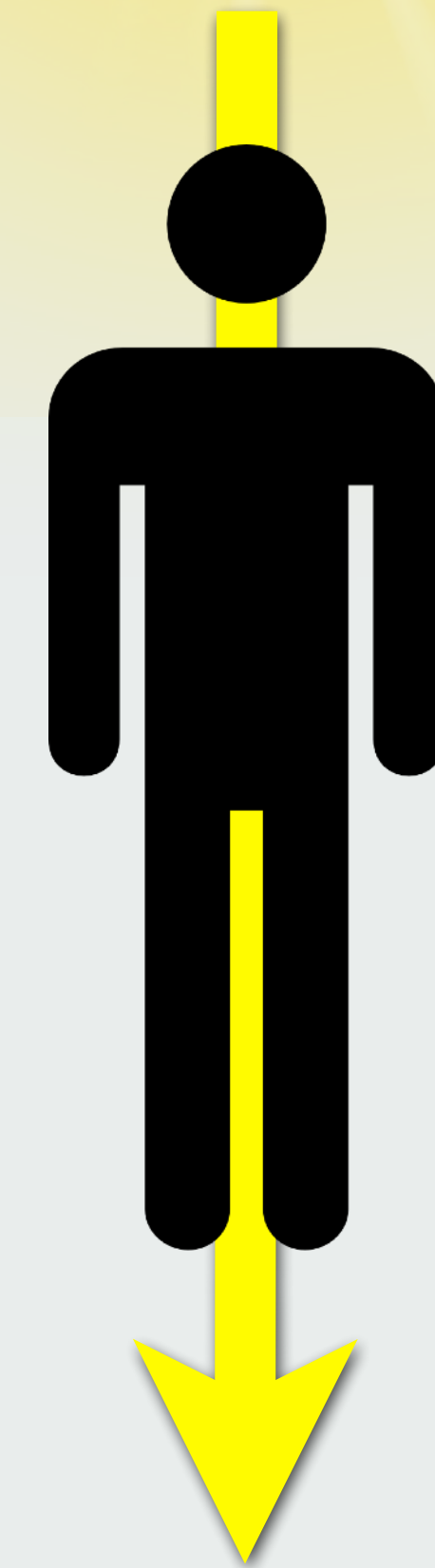
John 15:4–5

Abide in Me, and I in **you.**

As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself,
unless it abides in the vine, so neither
can you, unless you abide in Me.

I am the vine, you are the branches;
he who abides in Me, and I in him,
he bears much fruit;
for **apart from Me**
you can do nothing.

Christ



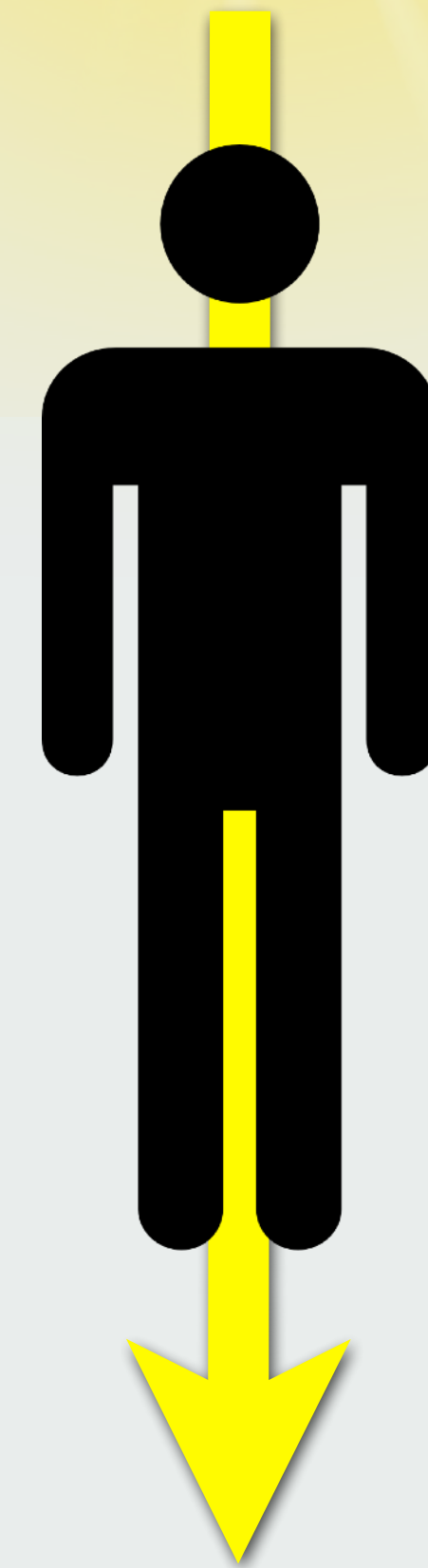
You



Philippians 2:12–13

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is **God** who is at work in **you**, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

God



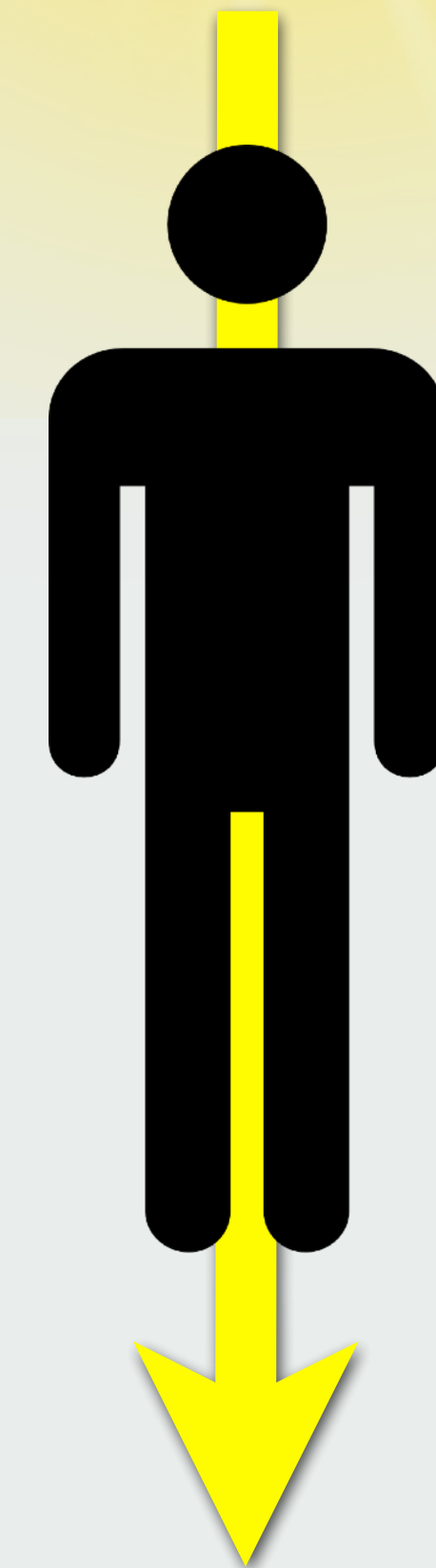
You



Christ

Galatians 2:20

I have been **crucified with Christ**,
and it is no longer I who live,
but **Christ lives in me**.
So the life I now live in the flesh,
I live because of the faithfulness of
the Son of God, who loved me and
gave himself for me.



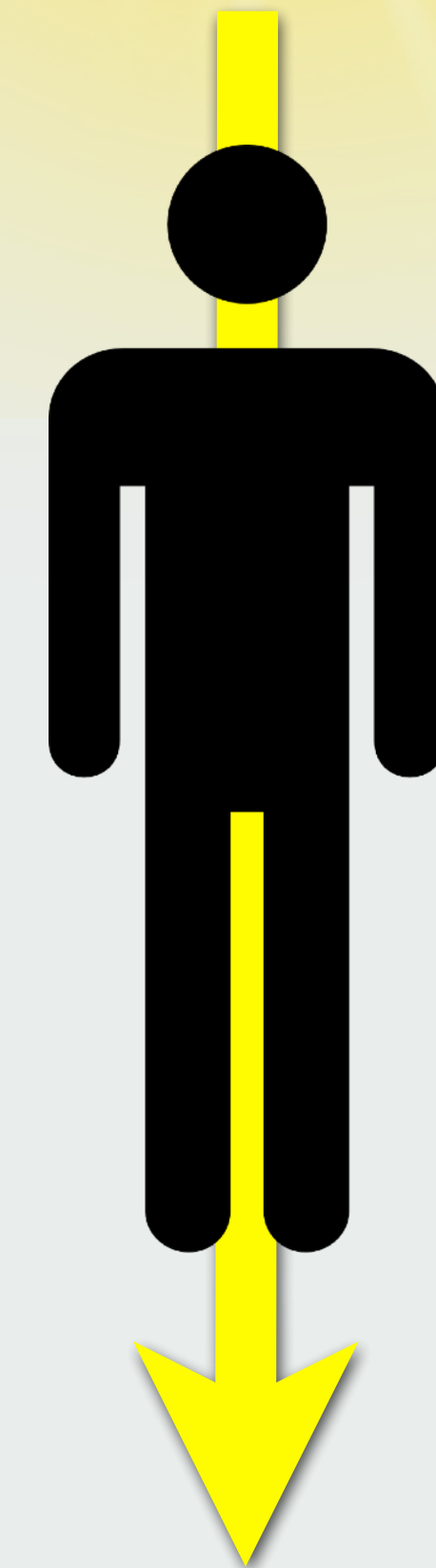
Me



Colossians 1:27–29

God wanted to make known to them the glorious riches of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory. We proclaim him by instructing and teaching all people with all wisdom so that we may present every person mature in Christ. Toward this goal I also labor, struggling according to **his power that powerfully works in me**.

Christ



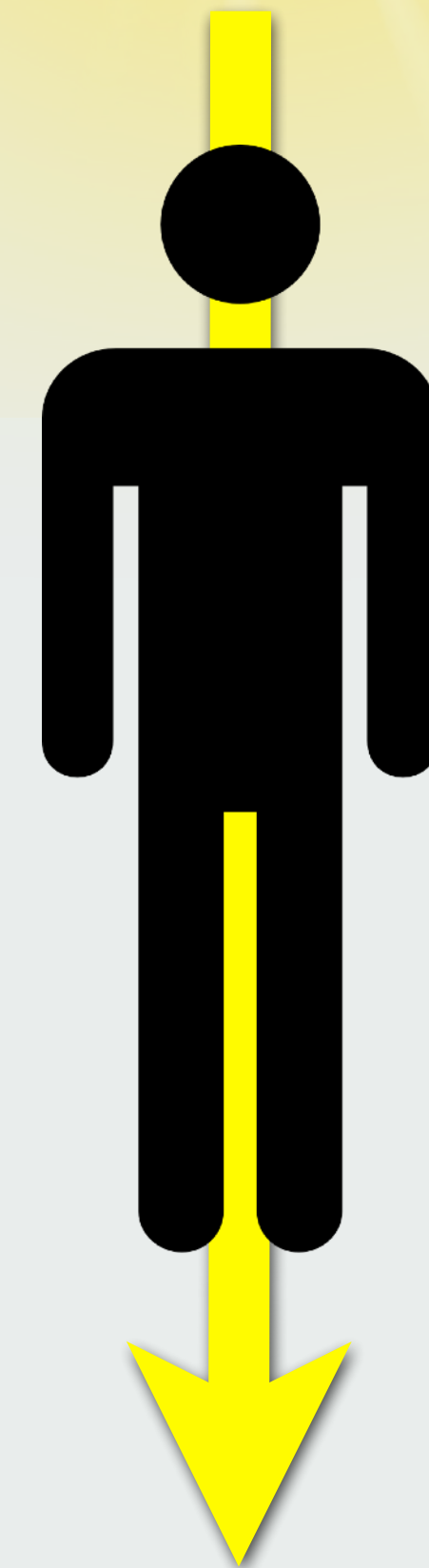
Me



“Godliness is not the consequence of your capacity to imitate God, but the consequence of His capacity to reproduce Himself in you; not self-righteousness, but Christ-righteousness; the righteousness which is by faith.”

Major W. Ian Thomas
Founder of Torchbeares

Christ



Us



WHAT IS UNION WITH CHRIST?

DIFFERENT TERMS, ONE CONCEPT

1. Christ as **METHOD** of Salvation: with & in Christ
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How might this
expanded view of
salvation make a
difference in day to
day life?



LATE
SHOW
stephen
colbert

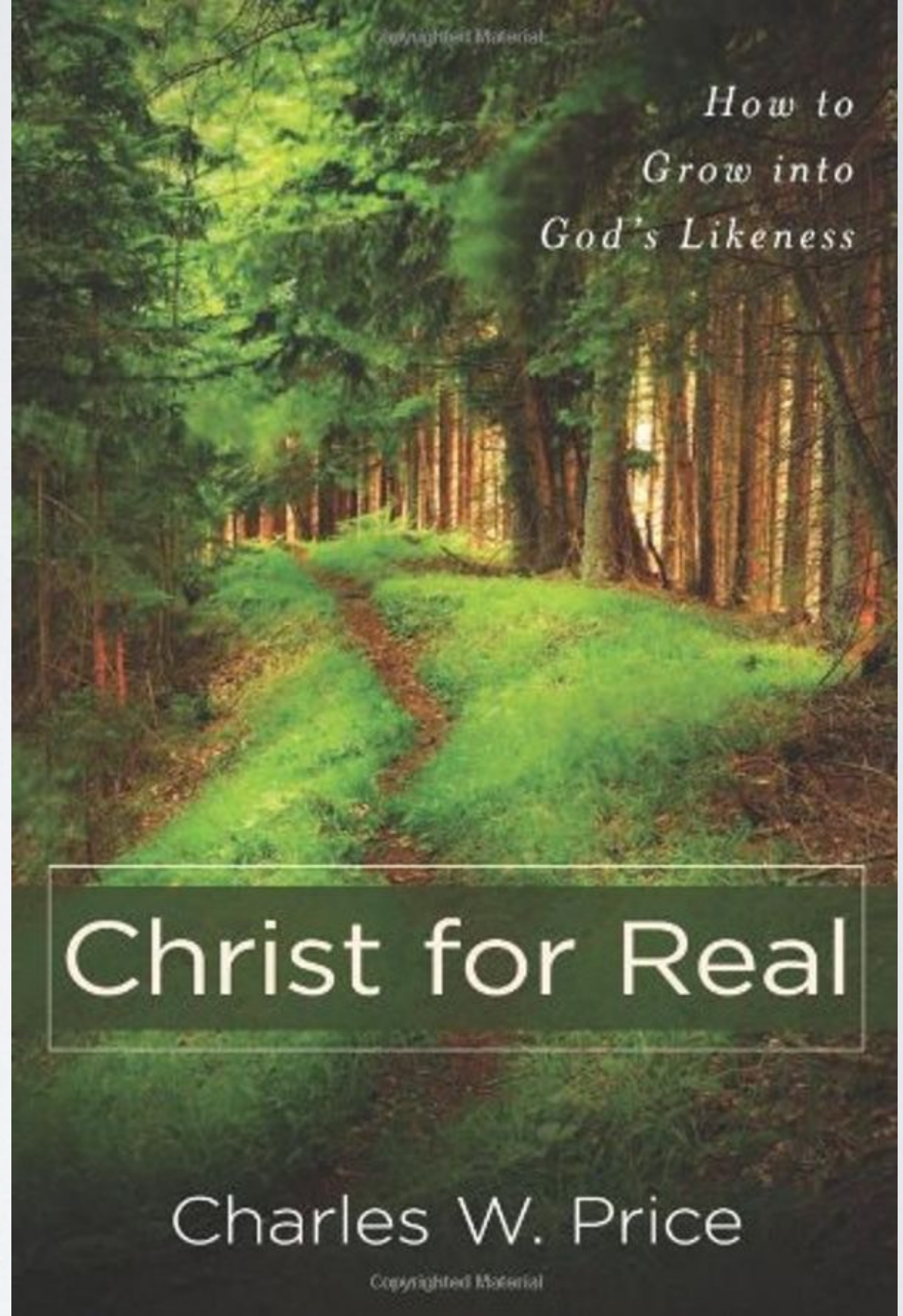
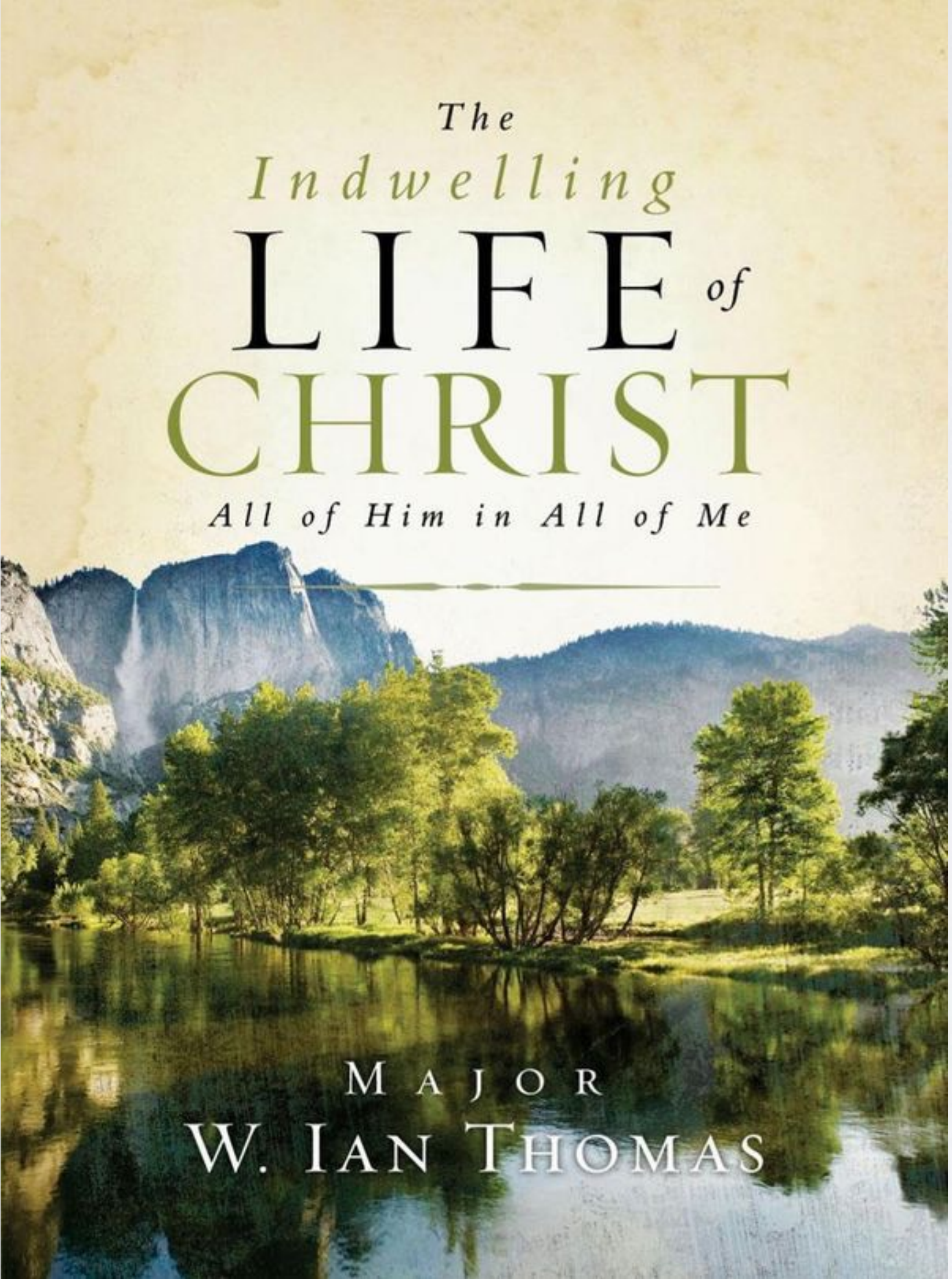
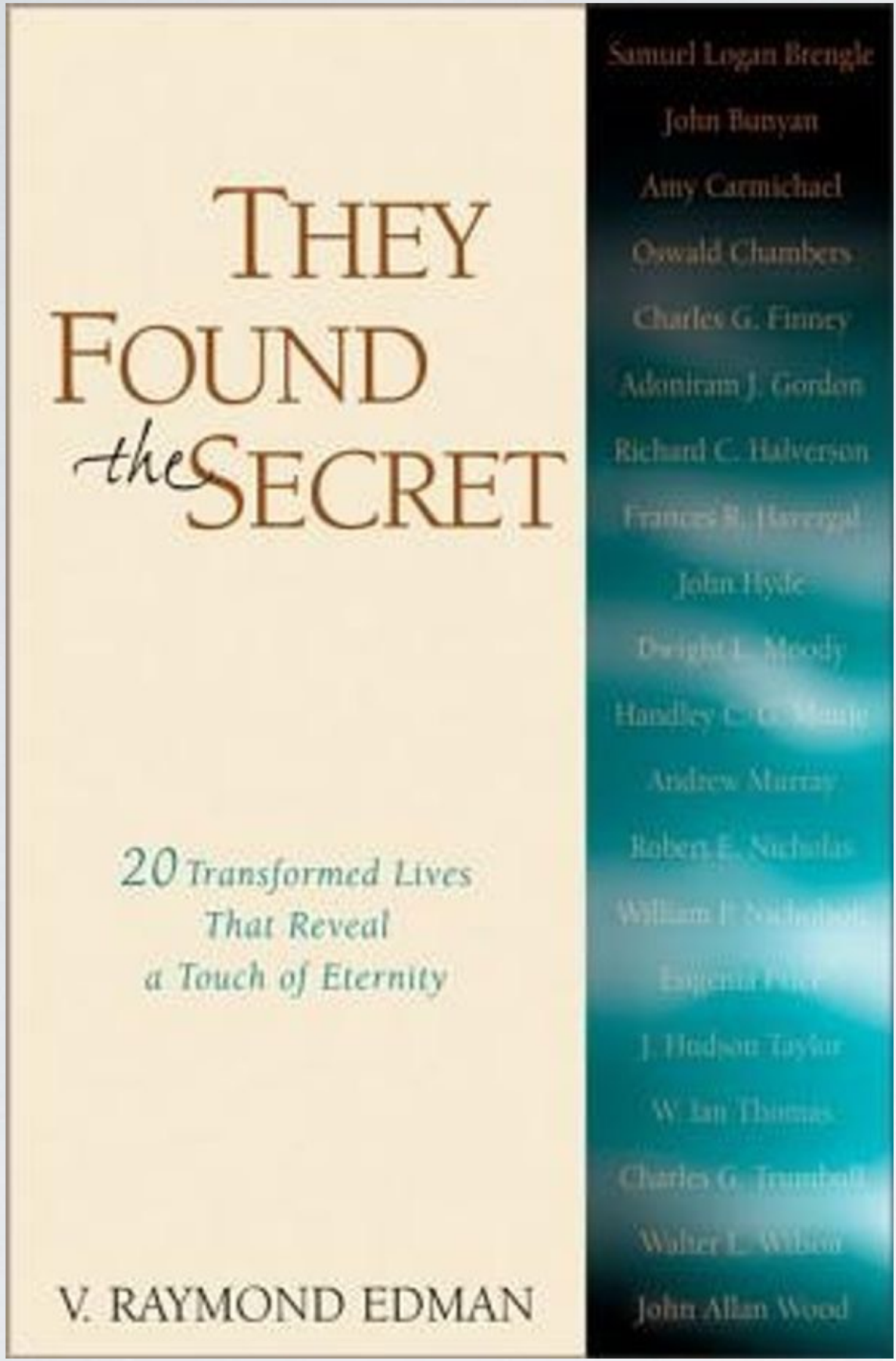


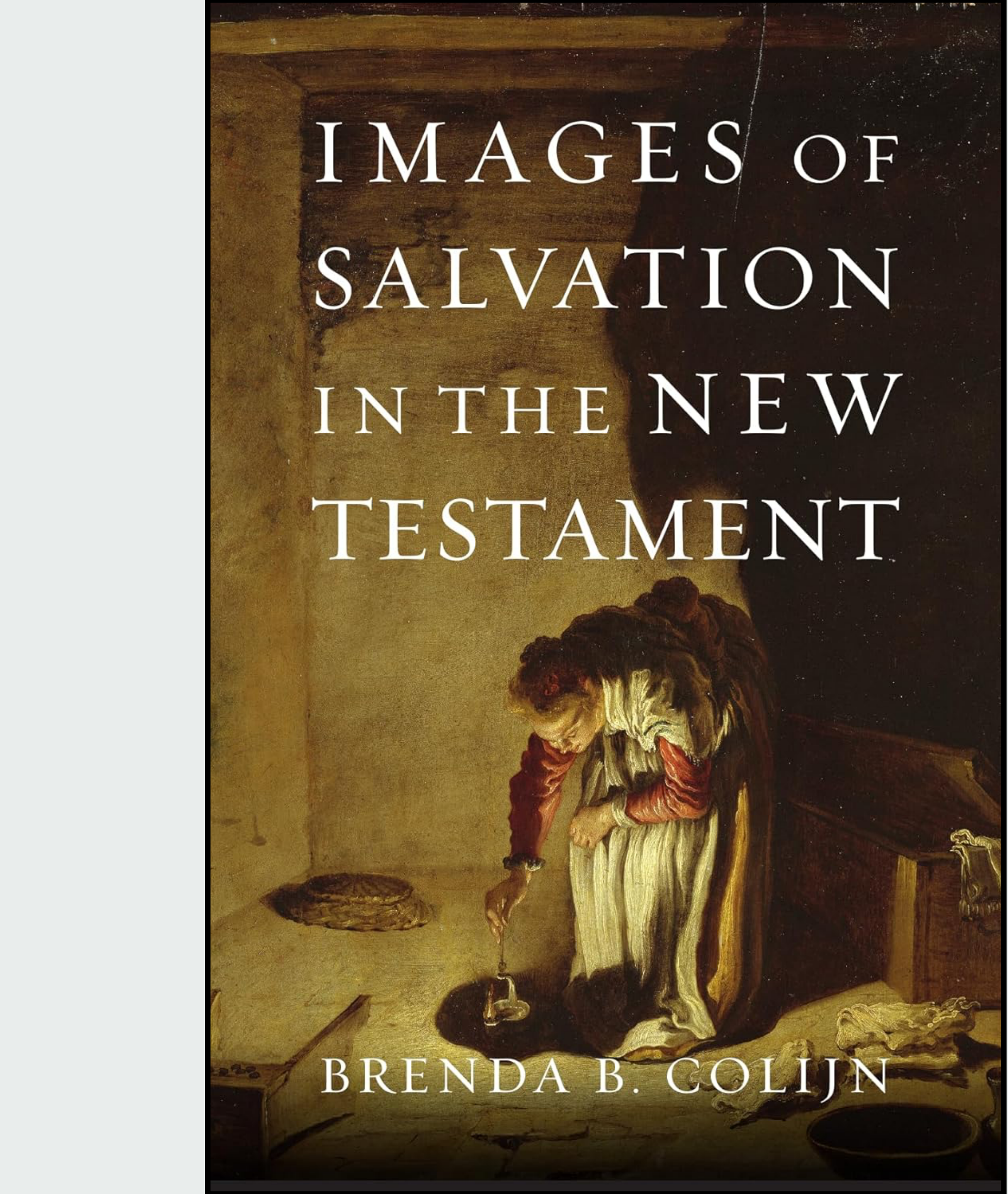
Anderson Cooper:

“(...) you can’t have happiness without having loss and suffering.”

Steven Colbert:

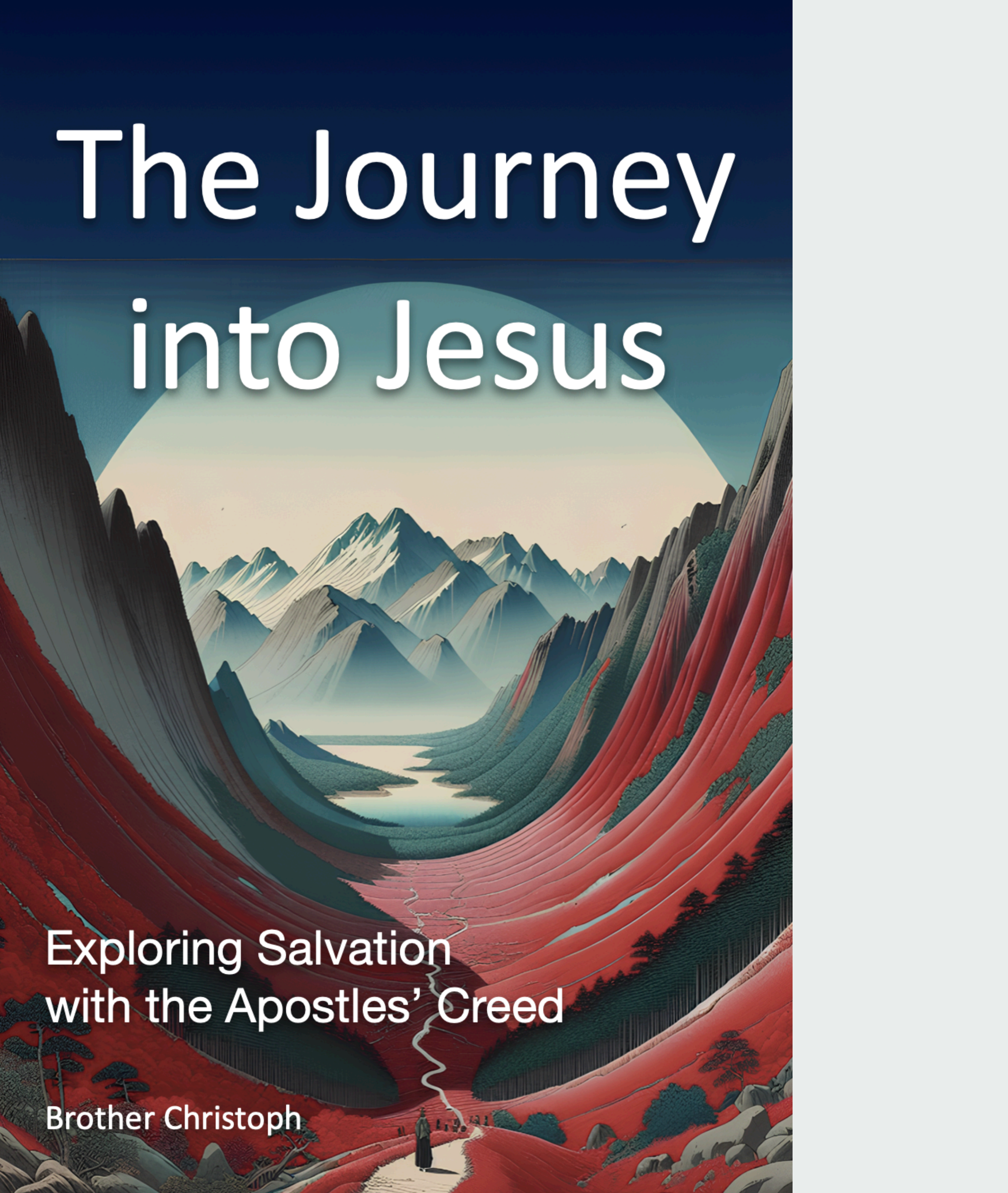
“And in my tradition that is the great gift of the sacrifice of Christ — is that *God does it too*, that you are really not alone: *God does it too*.”





IMAGES OF SALVATION IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

BRENDA B. COLIJN



The Journey into Jesus

Exploring Salvation
with the Apostles' Creed

Brother Christoph

CHURCH...

...is not what you think.

Next Week, 12 June 2025
19:00 @ Worldview

