

Interlocked Series

Lesson #32.2

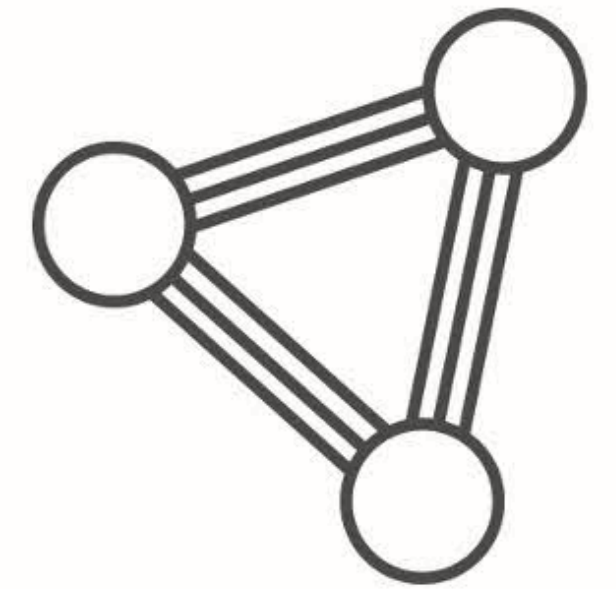
March 25, 2025

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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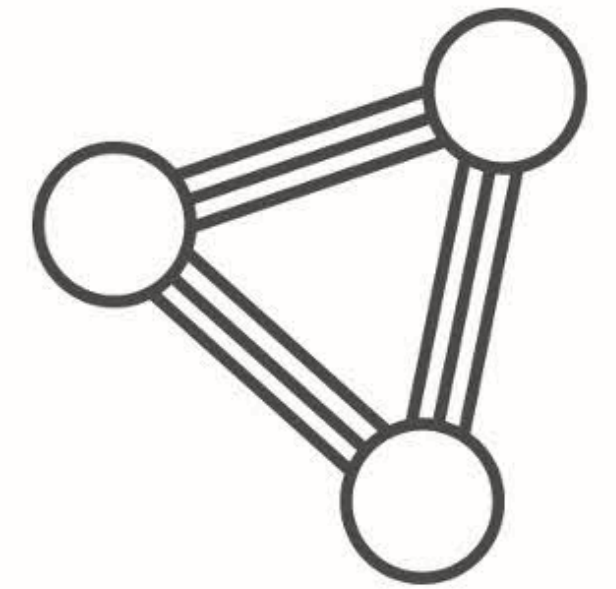
INTERLOCKED



Lesson 32A: Who Do You Say That I AM?

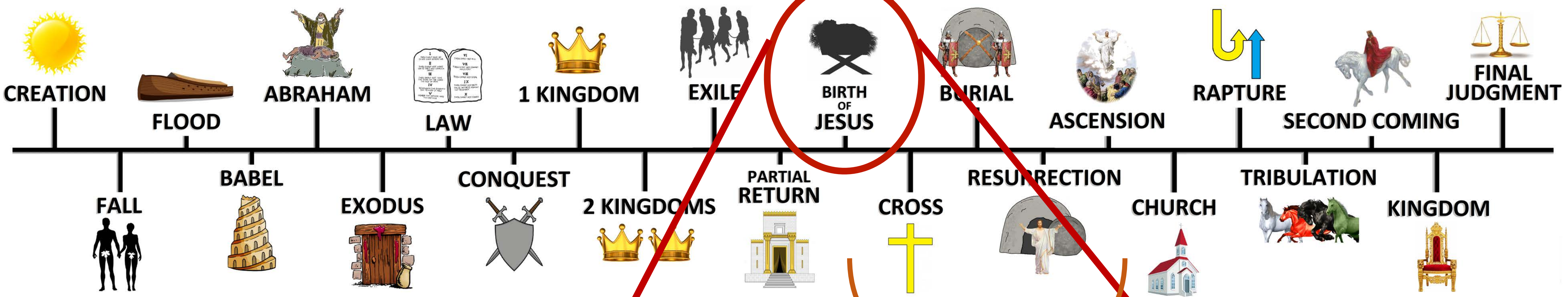
- **Previously ...**
 - ✓ **What was happening in the world?**
 - ✓ **What was happening with the Jews?**
 - ✓ ***Yahweh* sent a prophet to announce the arrival of the Messiah.**
 - ✓ **Jesus came to the Jews first! Rejected!**
 - ✓ **Why did they reject Him?**

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Lesson 32B: Who Do You Say That I AM?

- Previously ...
 - ✓ Jesus was the “wrong” type of Messiah;
 - ✓ They refused to believe that the Messiah is *Yahweh*;
 - ✓ Some Jews believed;
 - ✓ His disciples, others;
 - ✓ Some Gentiles believed, too;
 - ✓ What is our reaction to Jesus’ claims?



Torah
Pentateuch

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Joshua
Judges
Ruth

1-2 Samuel
1-2 Kings
1-2 Chronicles

Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Who do you say that I am?

Birth of Christ

Life of Christ

Death of Christ

Who did Christ die for?

The First Resurrection

4. Jesus was the “wrong” type of Messiah.

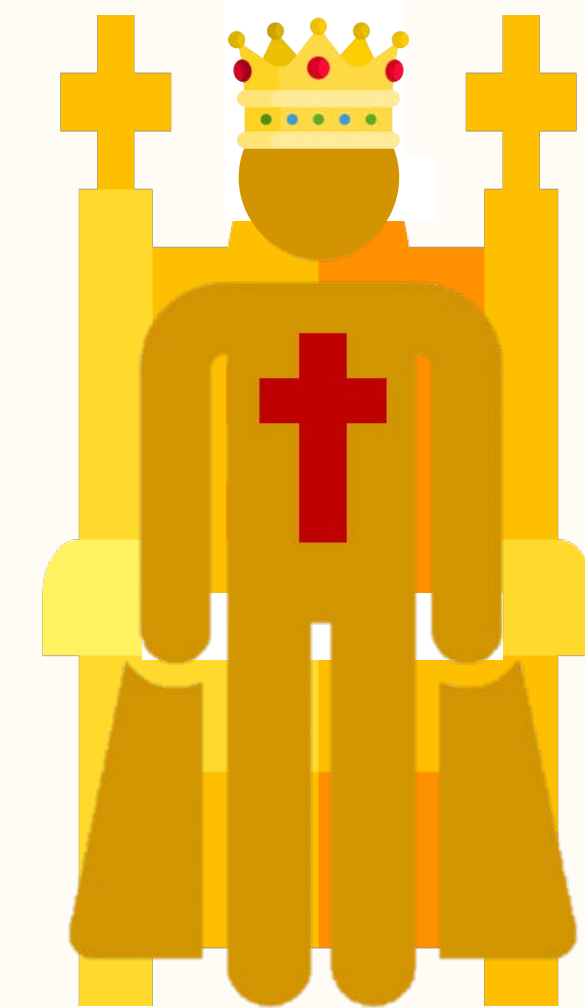
The Jews were expecting the Son of David to ...



Overthrow the
Romans



Free the Jews



Become the
political ruler



Man-
made
“laws”

**Pharisees
focused on**

The Pharisees’ religious authority comes from “our age-old tradition” (verse 2).

**Jesus
focused on**



God’s laws

Jesus rejects the authority of their traditions. True authority comes from God’s Word alone (verse 3).

Matt. 21:8, “And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Matt. 21:9, “Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!” Hosanna in the highest!’

Matt. 21:10, “And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, ‘Who is this?’

Matt. 21:11, “So the multitudes said, ‘This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.’ ”

5. They refused to believe that the Messiah is *Yahweh*.

Isa. 9:6, “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”



Name

- **Mighty God**
- **Everlasting Father**
- **Immanuel**

**Isa. 7:14, “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall
call His name Immanuel.”**

John 8:56, “ ‘Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.’

John 8:57, “Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?’

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’

John 8:59, “Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

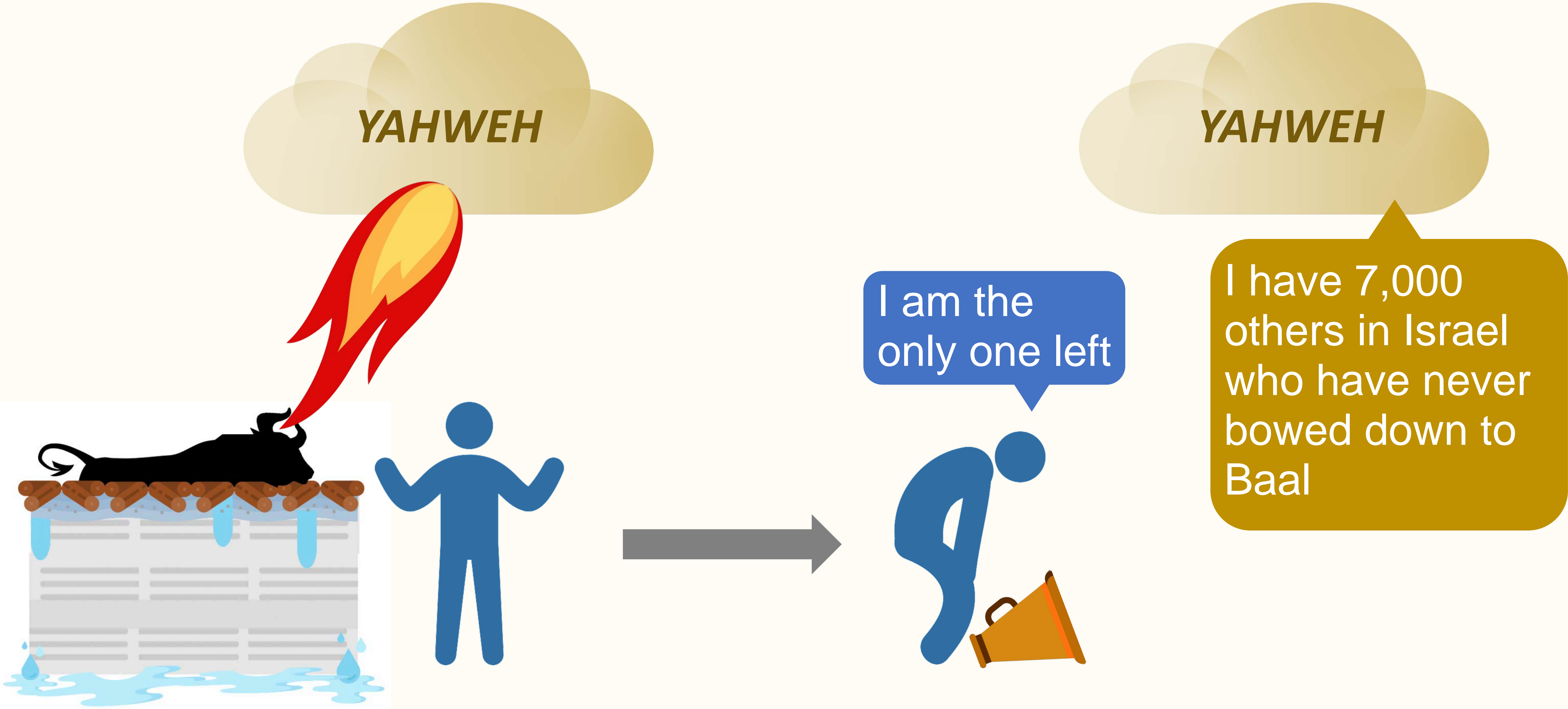


God's People in the Old Testament

Israel and Judah
turned against *Yahweh*:
Became paganized—unbelievers

Few
believers
(remnant)

Some Jews Believed



Jesus' disciples believed after He forced them to think about who He was.

God's People in the New Testament

**Most Jews
rejected Jesus**

**Few Jewish
believers**

Mark 8:16, “And they reasoned among themselves, saying, ‘It is because we have no bread.’”

Mark 8:17, “But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, ‘Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened?”

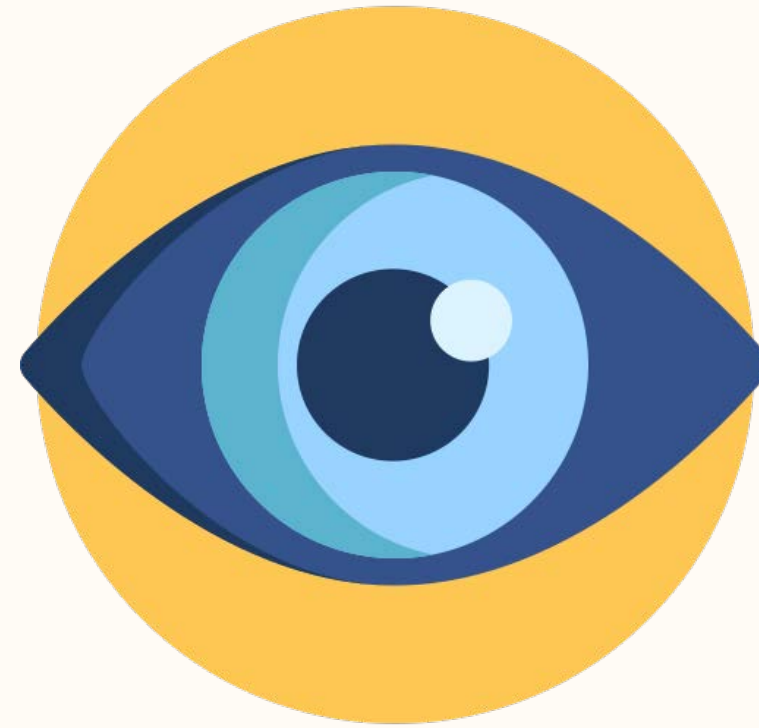
Mark 8:18, “ ‘Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember?”

Mark 8:19, “ ‘When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up?’ They said to Him, ‘Twelve.’”

Mark 8:20, “ ‘Also, when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?’ And they said, ‘Seven.’”

Mark 8:21, “So He said to them, ‘How is it you do not understand?’ ”

**Think ...
... don't you understand?**



Can't you see?



Can't you hear?

Mark 8:22, “Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him.

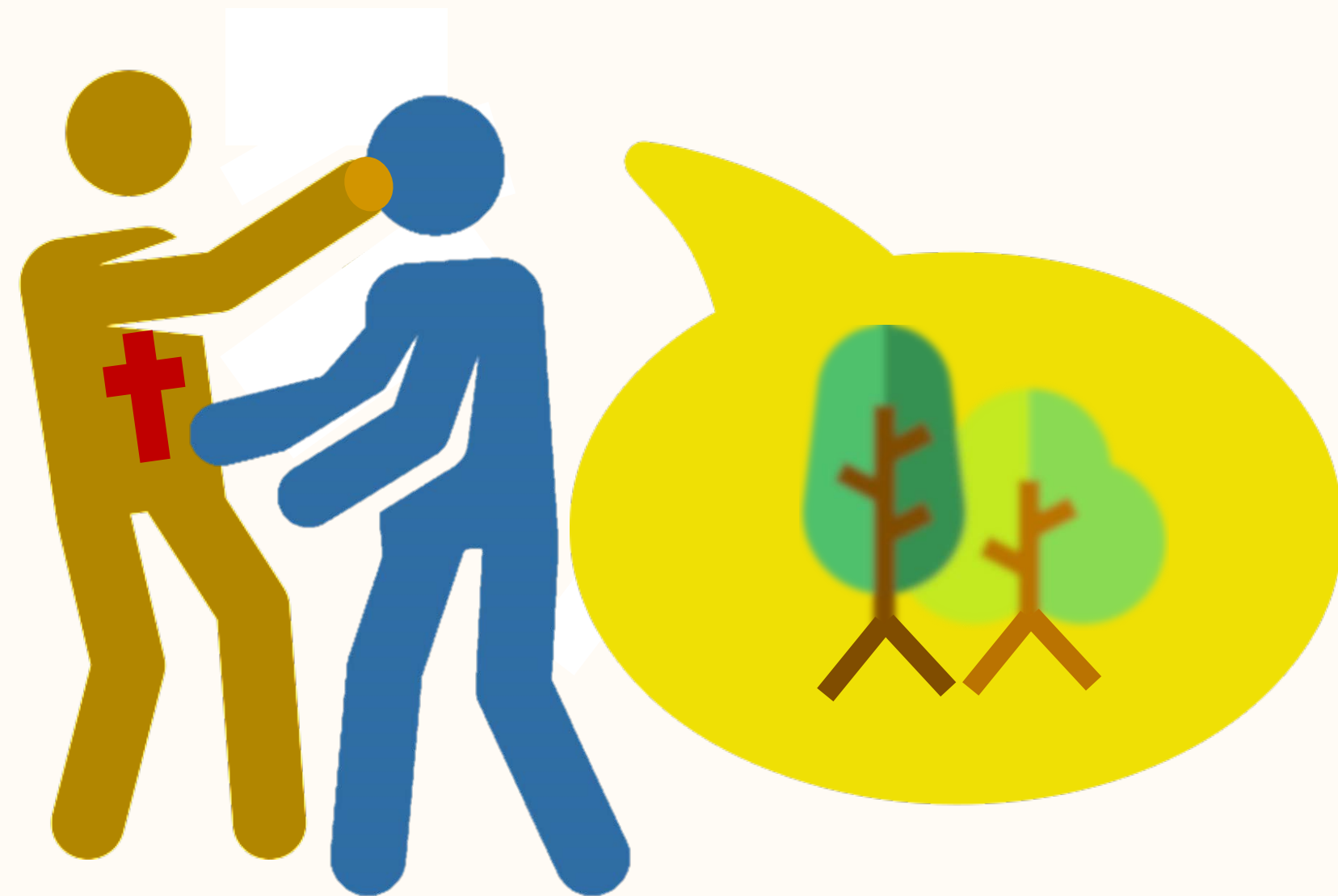
Mark 8:23, “So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

Mark 8:24, “And he looked up and said, ‘I see men like trees, walking.’

Mark 8:25, “Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly.”

Why Did Jesus do This Two-Step Miracle?

Part one of healing: See **partially**



Part two of healing: See **clearly**



Mark 8:27, “Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, ‘Who do men say that I am?’”

Mark 8:28, “So they answered, ‘John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.’”

Mark 8:29, “He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered and said to Him, ‘You are the Christ.’”

Other Jews also believed

1. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.

John 12:17, “Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness.

John 12:18, “For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

John 12:19, “The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, ‘You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!’ ”



2. When Peter the apostle preached his first public sermon.

Acts 2:38, “Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:39, “ ‘For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’

Acts 2:40, “And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, ‘Be saved from this perverse generation.’

Acts 2:41, “Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.”

3. When Peter and John appeared before the Sanhedrin.

Acts 4:1, “Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them,

Acts 4:2, “being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

Acts 4:3, “And they laid hands on them, and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.

Acts 4:4, “However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.”

When the apostles performed miracles and preached about Jesus.

Acts 5:12, “And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch.

Acts 5:13, “Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.

Acts 5:14, “And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,”

Even Jesus' own brothers who did not believe in Him before, now believed.

John 7:2, “Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand.

John 7:3, “His brothers therefore said to Him, ‘Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.

John 7:4, “ ‘For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.’

John 7:5, “For even His brothers did not believe in Him.”

Acts 1:14, “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

Some Gentiles Believed, Too

God's People in the New Testament

**Most Jews
rejected Jesus**

**Few Jewish
believers**

**Gentile
believers**

Matt. 15:21, “Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon.

Matt. 15:22, “And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.’

Matt. 15:23, “But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she cries out after us.’ ”

Matt. 15:24, “But He answered and said, ‘I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’”

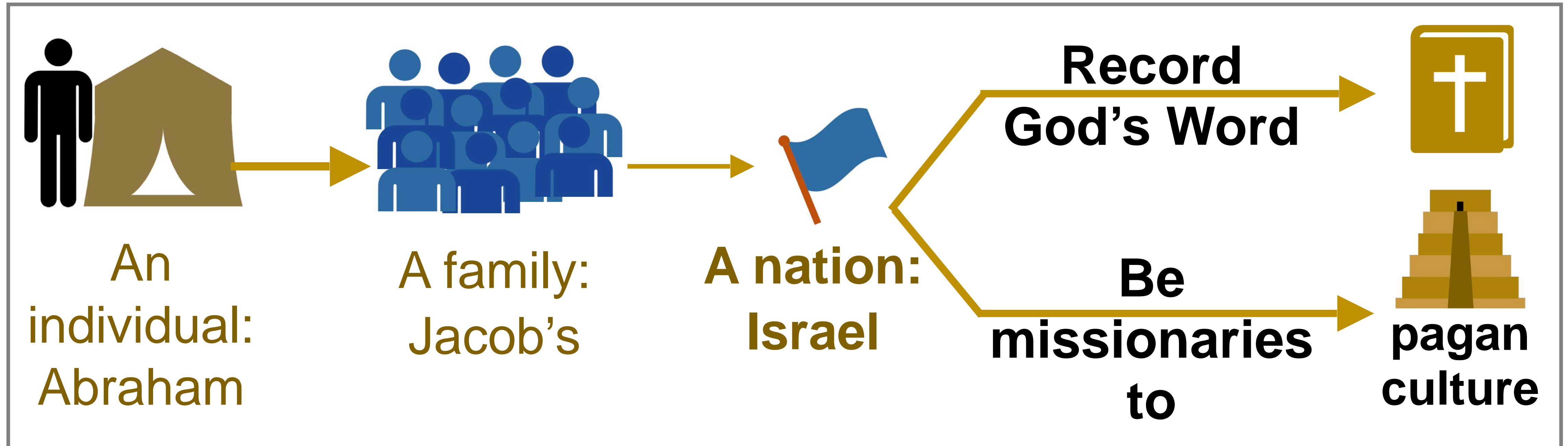
Matt. 15:25, “Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, ‘Lord, help me!’”

Matt. 15:26, “But He answered and said, ‘It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.’”

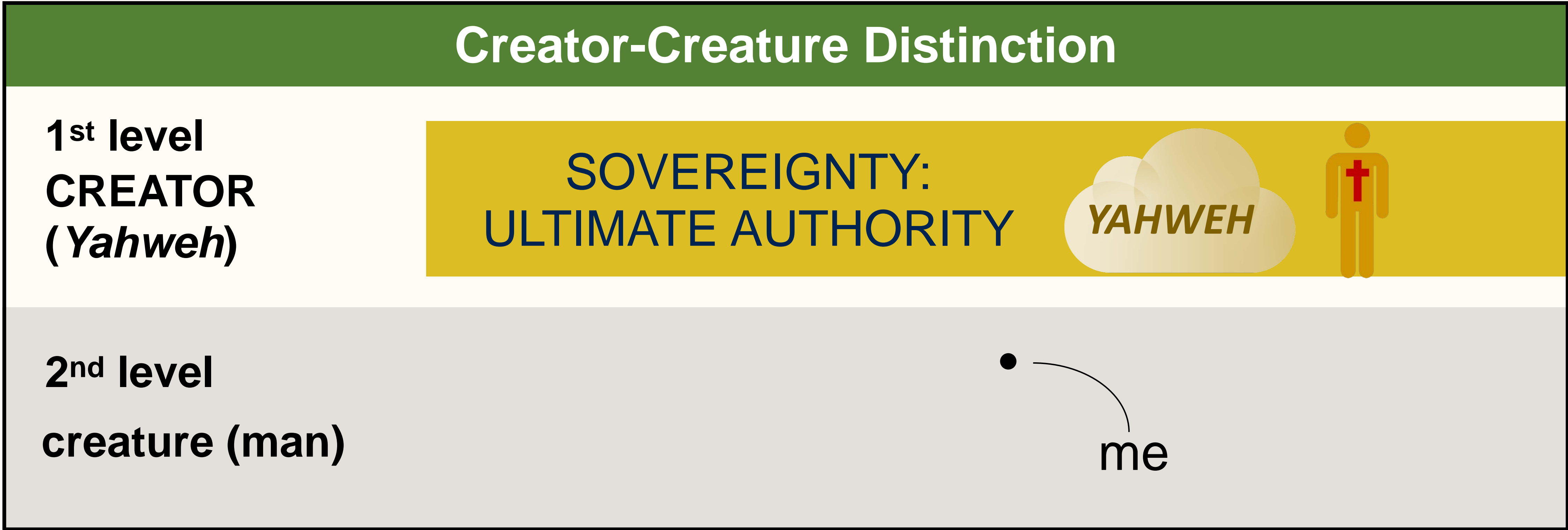
Matt. 15:27, “And she said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.’”

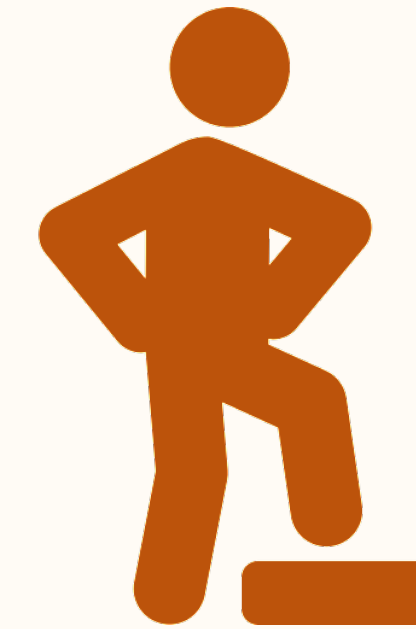
Matt. 15:28, “Then Jesus answered and said to her, ‘O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed from that very hour.”

Election of a nation for a specific mission and purpose



What is Our Reaction to Jesus?





WHO AM I?

I am a creature who is responsible to my Creator.

WHO AM I?

I am my own person, not accountable to anyone. I am alone in this sea of chaos.

WHAT IS TRUTH? HOW DO I KNOW?

I look to my Creator, a person, for the truth. He is the source of all truth.

WHAT IS TRUTH? HOW DO I KNOW?

Truth is whatever I make it. I generate my own law.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?

God defines what I do. God gives the rules. He gives my life meaning.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?

I generate my own ethics. I do what is right in my own eyes.

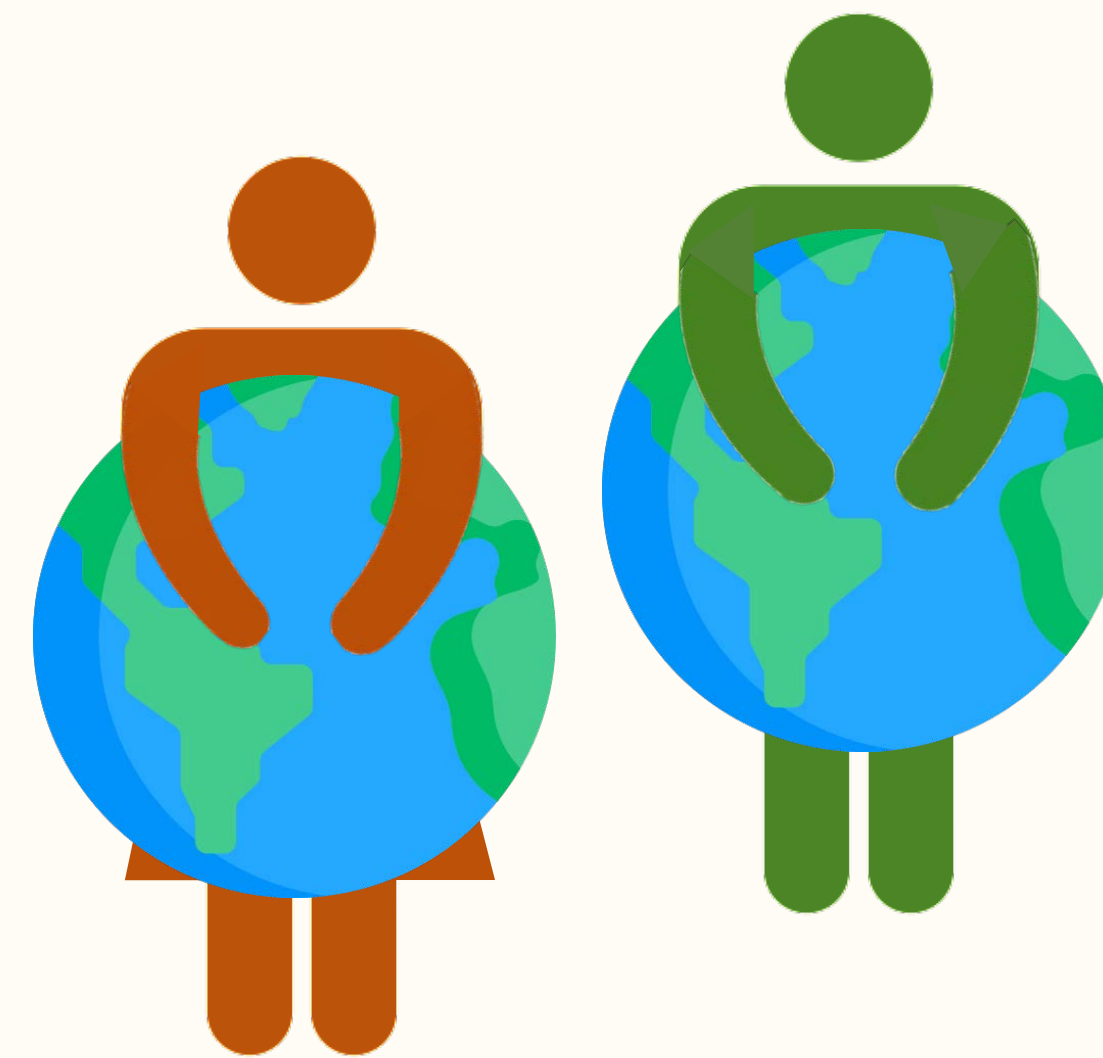
Do we believe in Jesus but reject Him in other ways like ...



Getting busy with life
and ignoring Him



Ignoring the Holy
Spirit's prompting



Living by the
world's standards



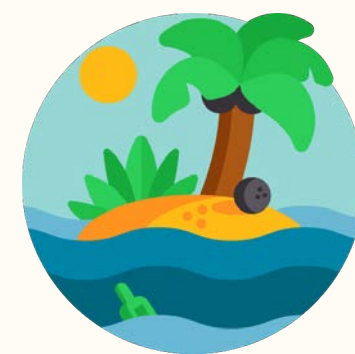
Editing God's Word
to suit ourselves

Is it true that people do not have any natural knowledge of God and are therefore ignorant about Him?

Rom. 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Rom. 1:19, “because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

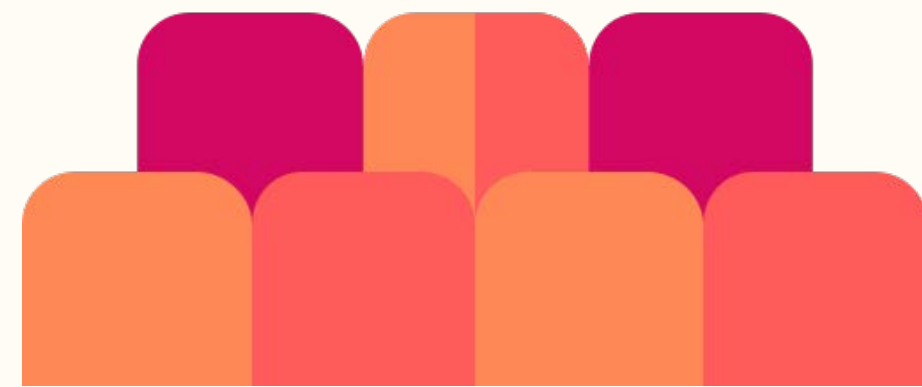
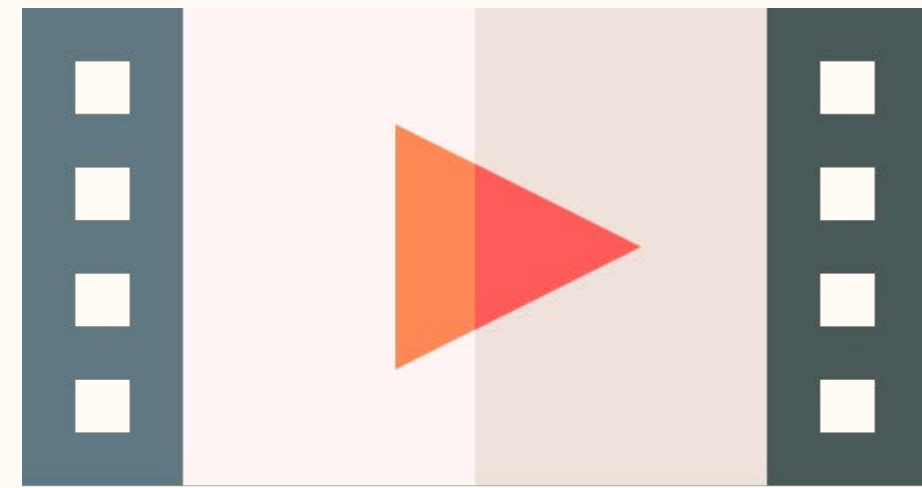
Rom. 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,”



Through His work of creation, God made it obvious to mankind that He exists.

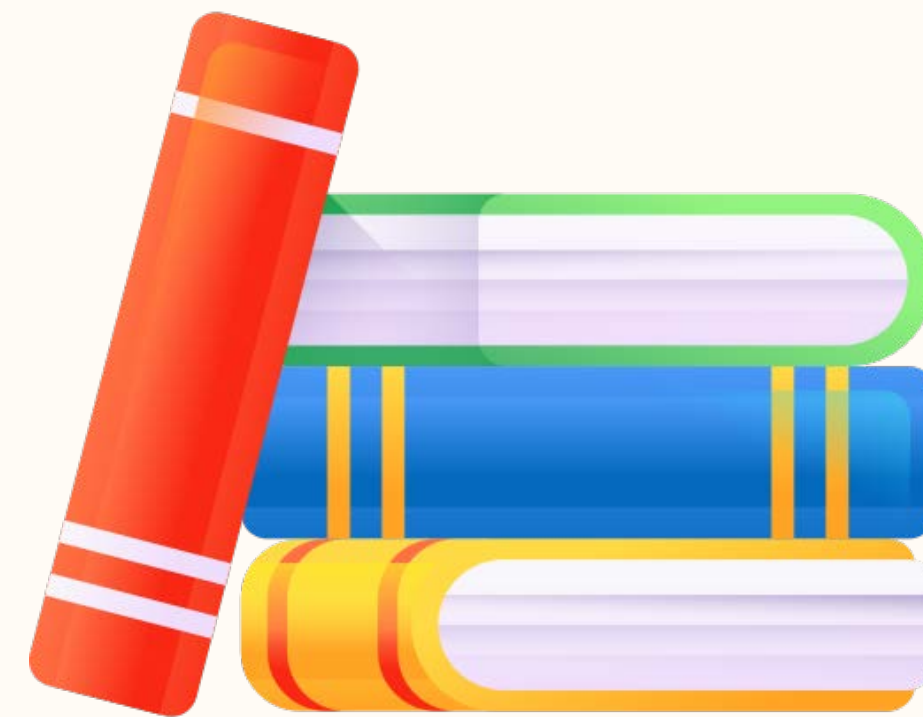
How mankind suppresses truth

Movies



I believe there must be a producer, director, actors, etc.

Novels



I believe there must be a writer, editor, proofreader, illustrator, etc.

World



I don't believe anyone created this.

Rom. 1:21, “because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Rom. 1:22, “Professing to be wise, they became fools,

Rom. 1:23, “and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.”

Acts 14:15, “and saying, ‘Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them,

Acts 14:16, “who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways.

Acts 14:17, “Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.”

Acts 17:24, “God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.

Acts 17:25, “Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

Acts 17:26, “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

Acts 17:27, “so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;”

Acts 17:28, “for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’”

Acts 17:29, “Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising.”

Acts 17:30, “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

Acts 17:31, “because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

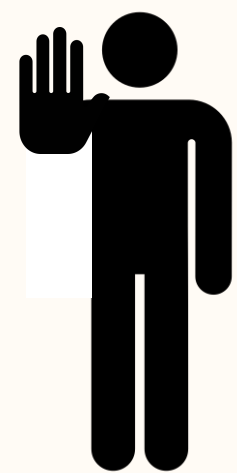
Isa. 45:15, “Truly You are God, who hide Yourself, O God of Israel, the Savior!”

How Wicked Mankind Suppresses God’s History and Truth

RIDICULE history and truth and those who believe in them



SUPPRESS truth by ignoring God and preventing publication and sharing



Make it **DISAPPEAR** from human memory: “It never happened”



DISTORT history and truth by mixing in falsehoods



Pre-reading for next lesson:
Matthew 1:1–2:12; Luke 1–3;
John 1:1–18