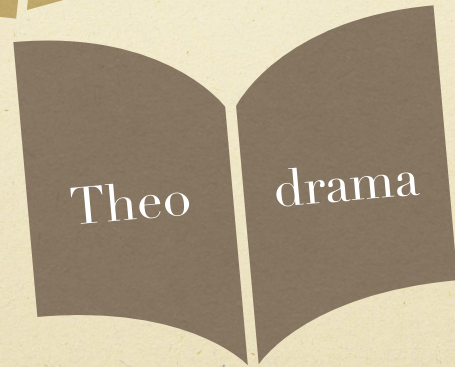


The Whole Bible Story

Christian Storytelling Conference

The Whole Story

By Other Names





The Lord of the Rings

Rings
Created

Fellowship
Established

Good v. Evil

Ring
Destroyed

Peace
Returns



The Chronicles of Narnia

Narnia
Discovered

Evil Reigns

Aslan on
the Move

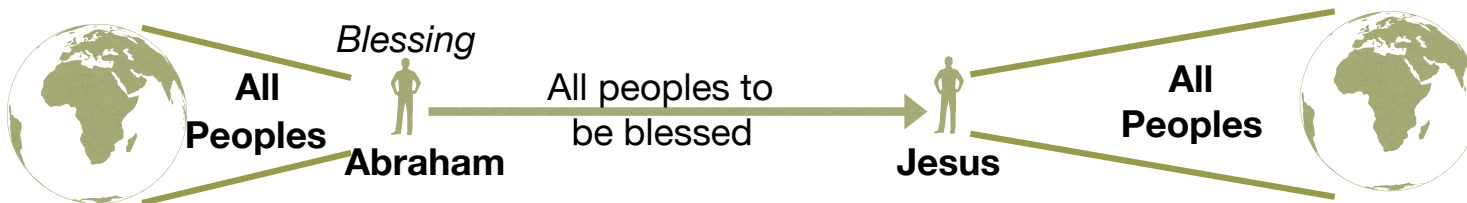
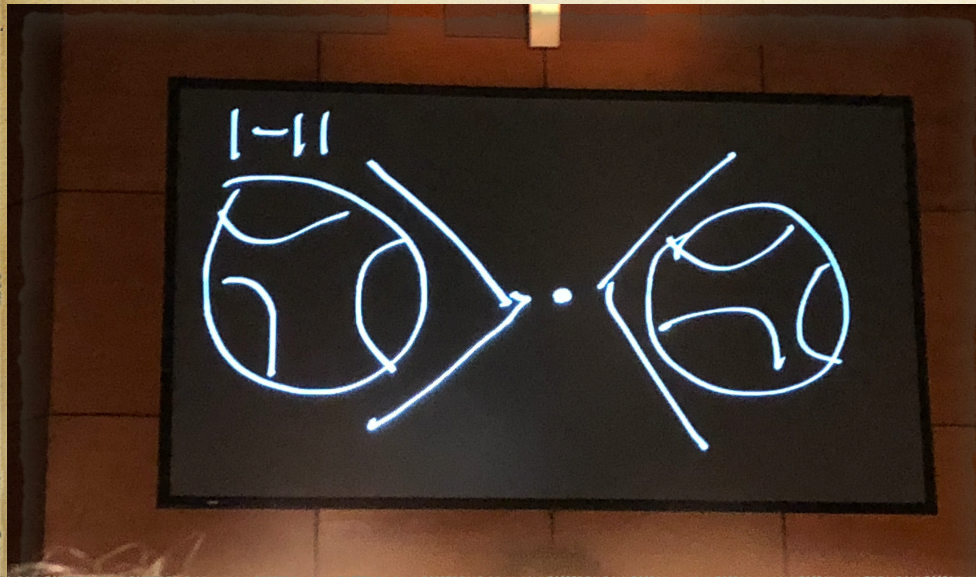
Betrayal,
Sacrifice, and
Resurrection

Springtime!

Motivations for this workshop

2. Pastor Josh Swenson's sermon illustration

1. Scot McKnight's webinar



3. and Jesus...

Jesus had a “Whole Story”



Hints at what Jesus said?

John 5:39

“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me...”

Acts 7 Stephen's Speech:
11 characters, 2 symbols
(tabernacle and temple)

Acts 13:16+
Paul's Speech:
6 groups of people,
8 characters, 3 symbols
(Sabbath, tree, law)

Hebrews 11 Hall of Faith:
19 characters, 10 symbols
(sacrifice, ark, tents, country, city,
stars, sand, staff, blood, walls)

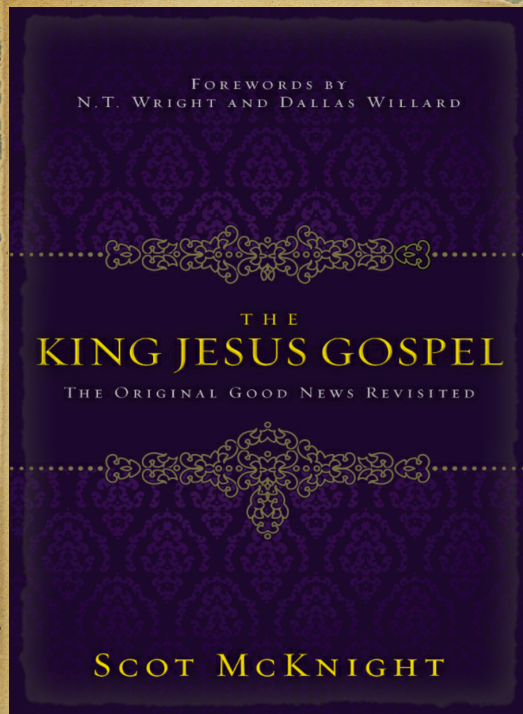
Problem #1: Context

- Can't See the Forest for the Trees
- Coming into the movie late
- Context for individual stories
- Keep the hero in mind (not us)

Problem #2: Reduced Gospel

Creation	Fall		Redemption		Consummation
Creation	Fall	← Israel →	Rescue	← Church →	New Creation
Creation	Fall		Christ		Restoration

- The Whole Story is the Gospel: the good news of Jesus includes the story of Israel
- Following Jesus is not merely “fire insurance” but a commitment to discipleship.



The Gospel

Method of Persuasion

Plan of Salvation

Savior

Story of Jesus

King, Messiah

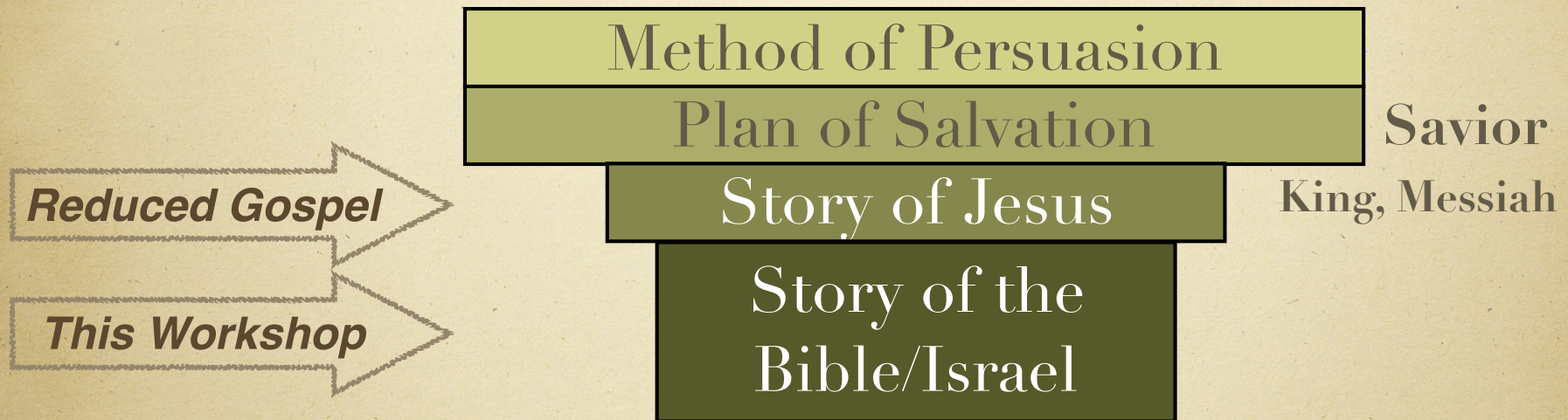
Story of the Bible/Israel

The Gospel

This Workshop

Stories!

The Reduced Gospel



Stories?

What is the Bible?

Self-help
Book

Private
Devotional

Owner's
Manual

Topical
Theology
Dictionary

Personal
love letters

History
Book

Moral Rule
Book

Sacred
Storybook

What's In the Bible?



Propositions
/ Prose /
Discourse

Words spoken or written from one person to another. Often rely on logic—moving from one idea to the next using words like *therefore* and *but*.



Poetry

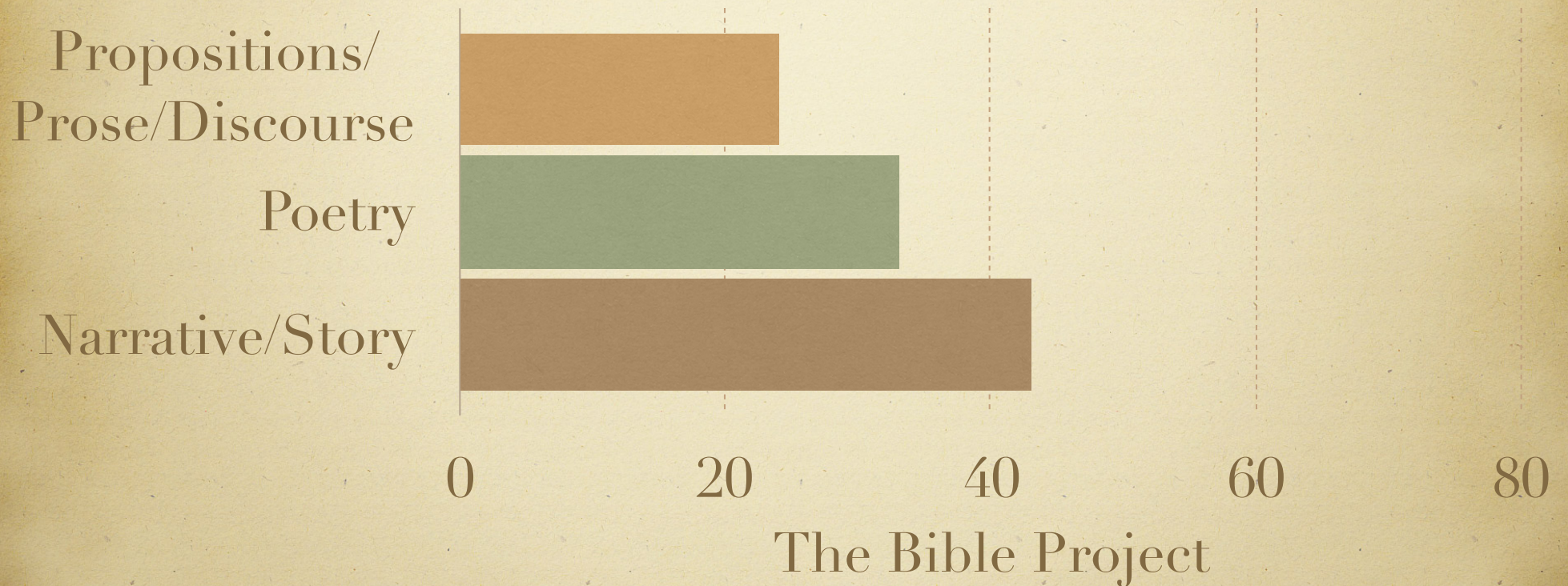
Words that draw a picture or image. Often with rhyming lines (English) or parallel lines (Bible)



Narrative
/ Story

Words that tell a story, Usually include a setting, characters, and plot (conflict, climax, resolution)

How is the Bible Comprised?



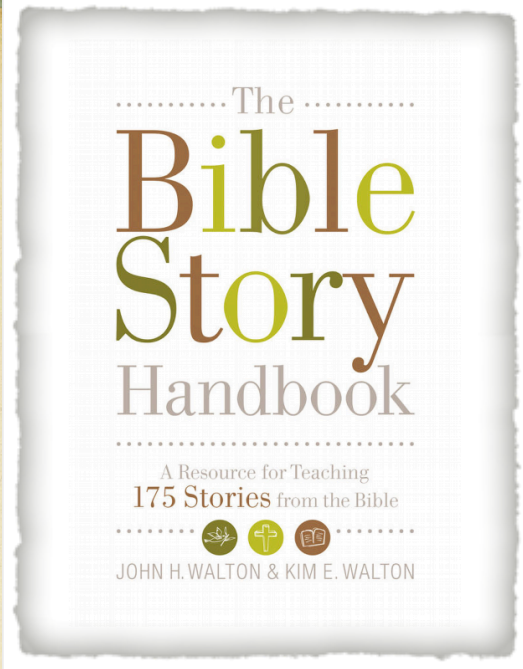
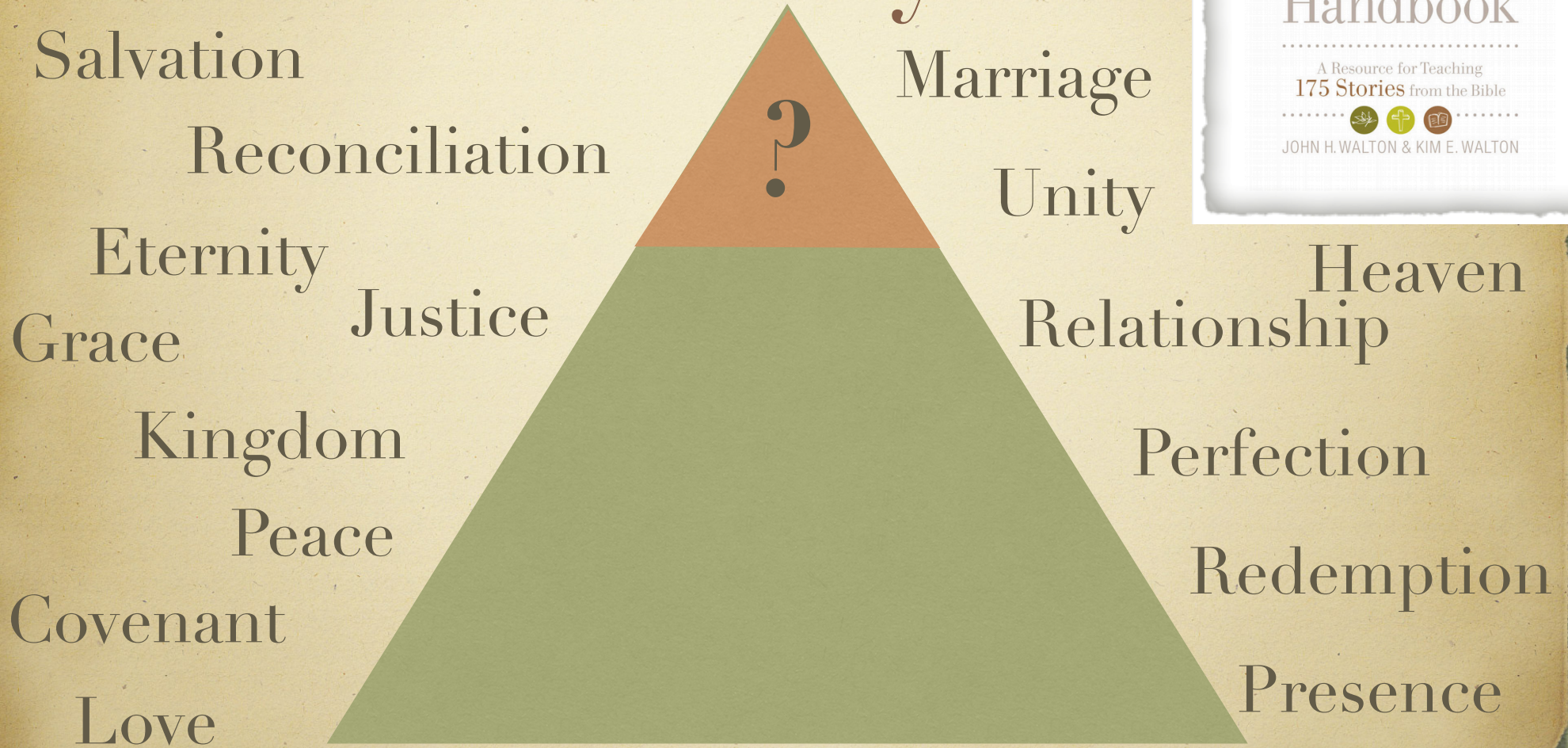
Why Stories?

- Stories are the most universal form of communication
- Everyone loves a good story, Everybody tells stories
- Stories train us to make sense of seemingly random events in life by putting them in sequence so we can see meaning and purpose in it all
- “a story . . . is . . . the best way of talking about the way the world actually is” —N.T. Wright, quoted in The Drama of Scripture

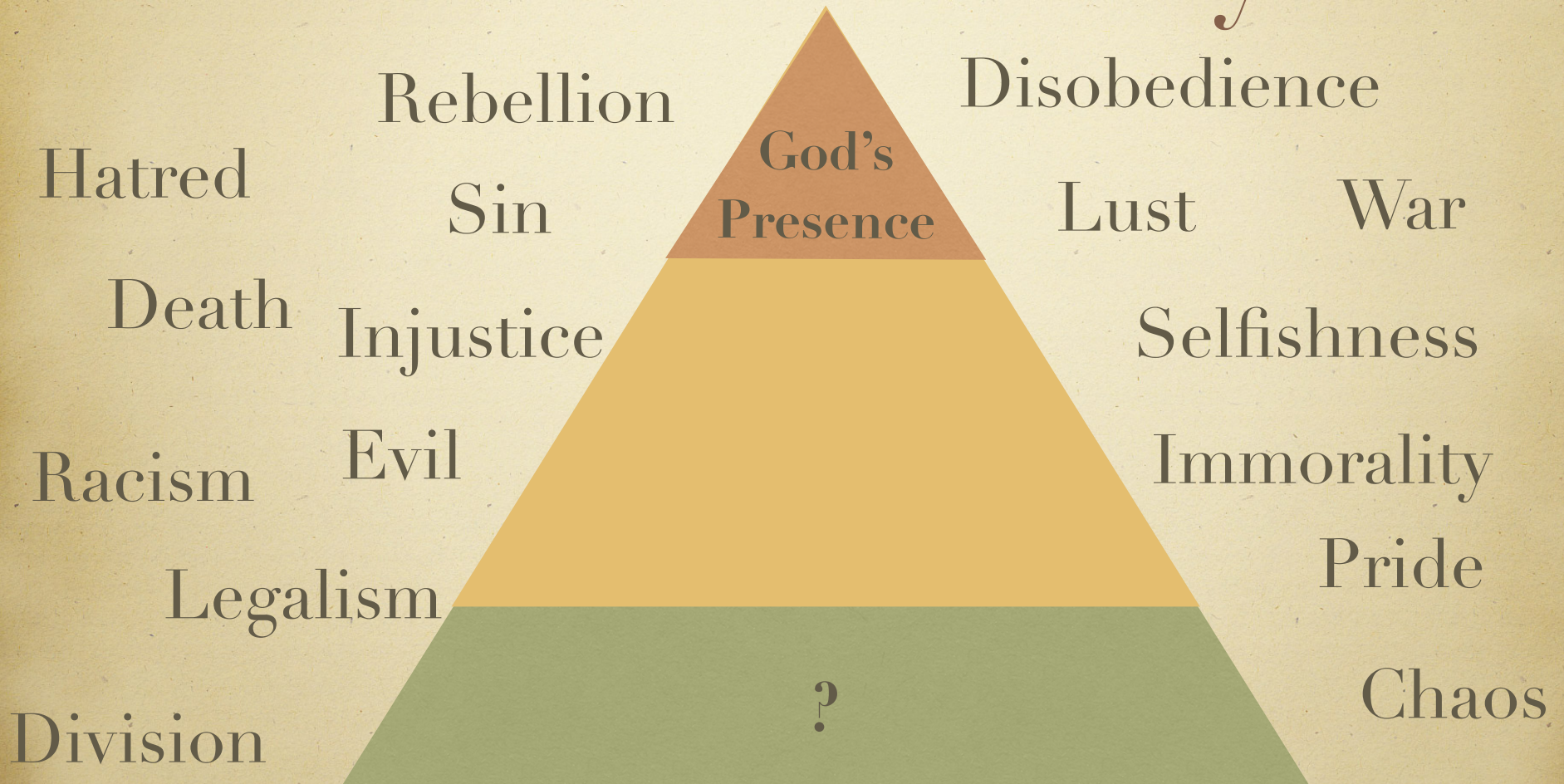
Prologue and Epilogue

Genesis 1-3	Revelation 21-22
“In the beginning God”	“I am the Alpha and Omega”
Earth chaotic	Earth orderly
Rule over my creation	Reign forever
“Be fruitful and multiply”	“People of all nations”
Tree of life in Garden	Tree of life on river banks
Death	No death
Walk with God interrupted	Walk with God resumed
Satan’s initial triumph	Lamb’s ultimate triumph
Ground cursed	No more curse
Banished from the Garden	Welcomed to new City
Withdraws from God’s face	Will see God’s face

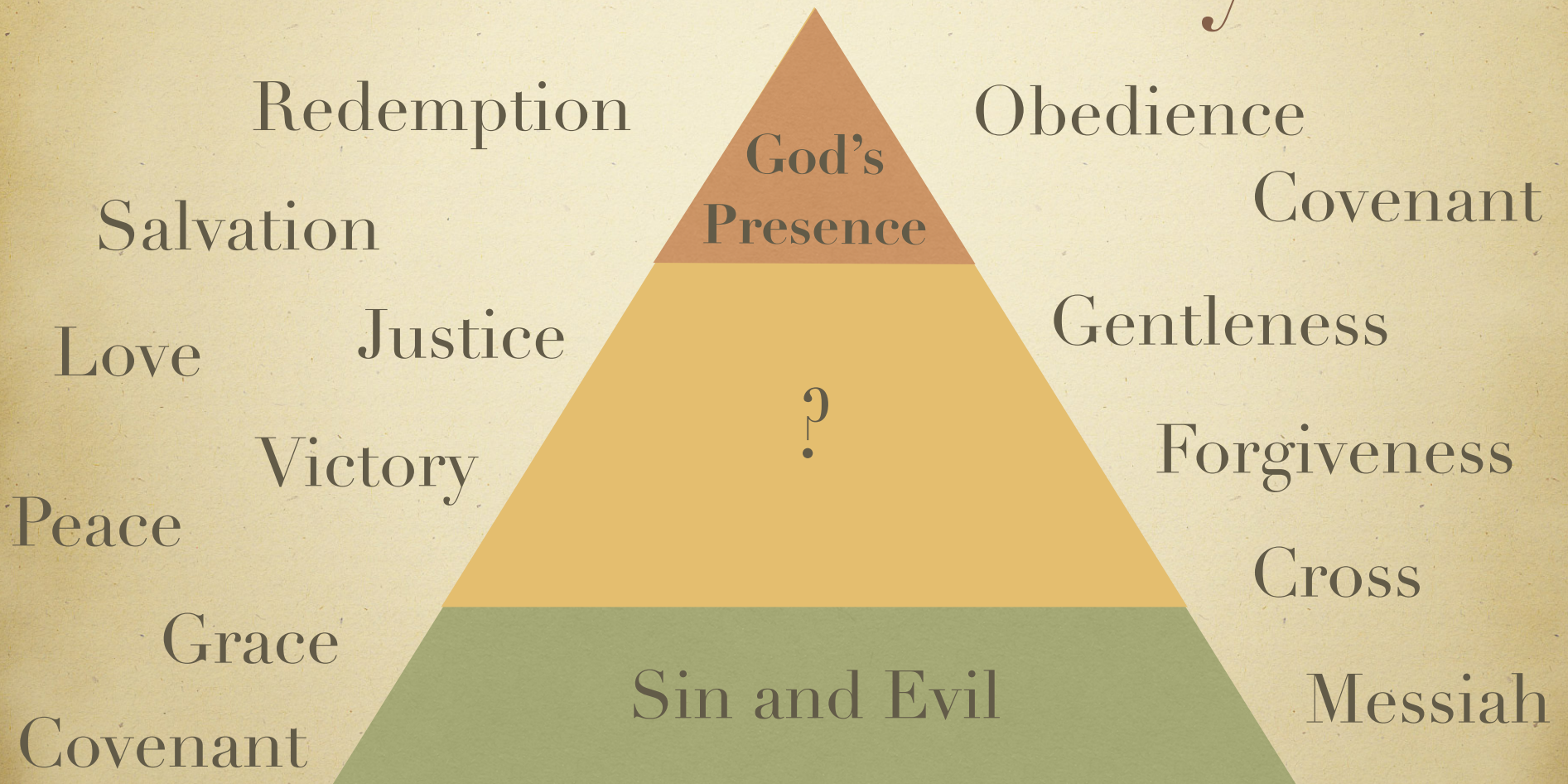
What is the Goal of the Whole Bible Story?



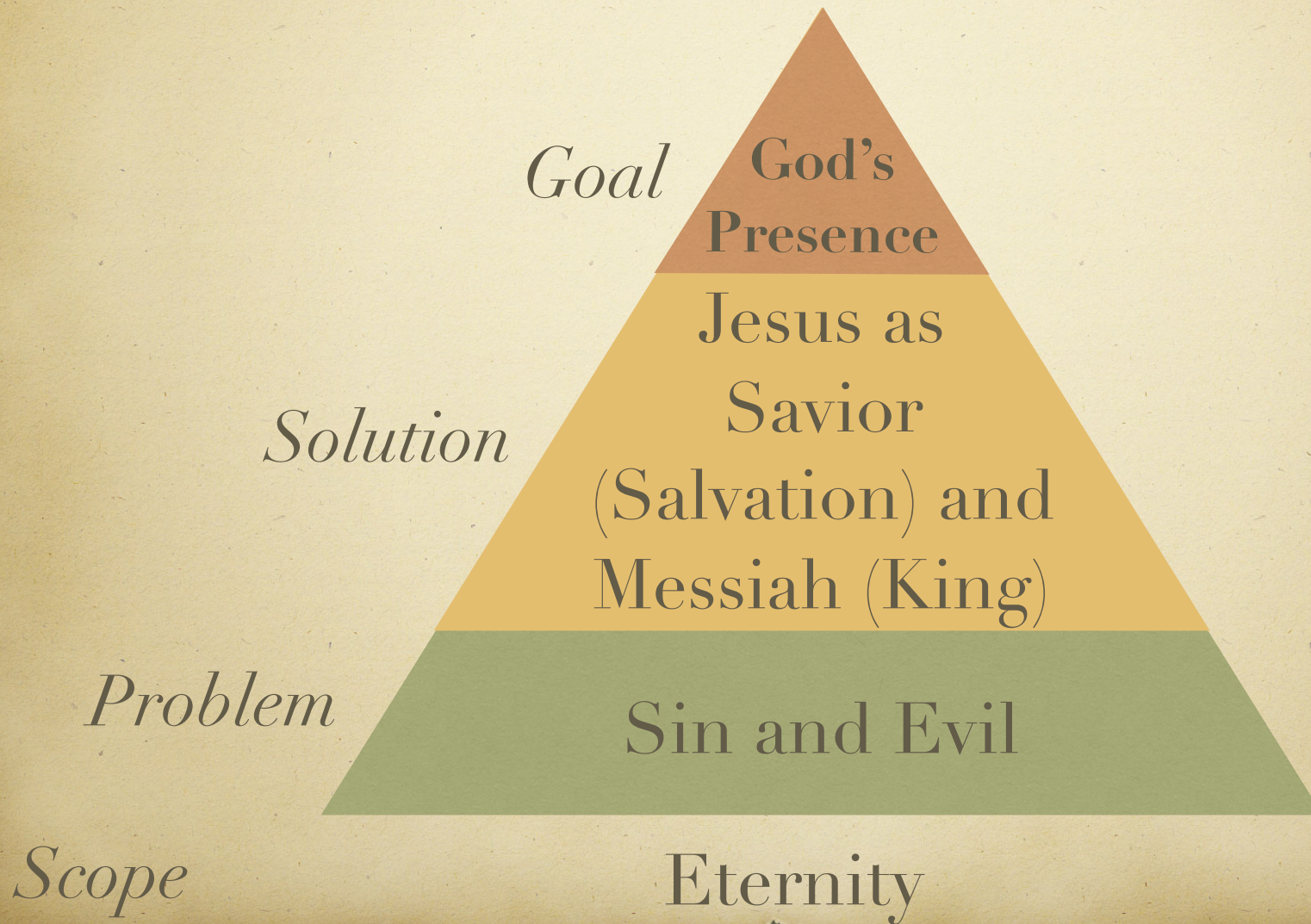
What is the Problem In the Bible Story?



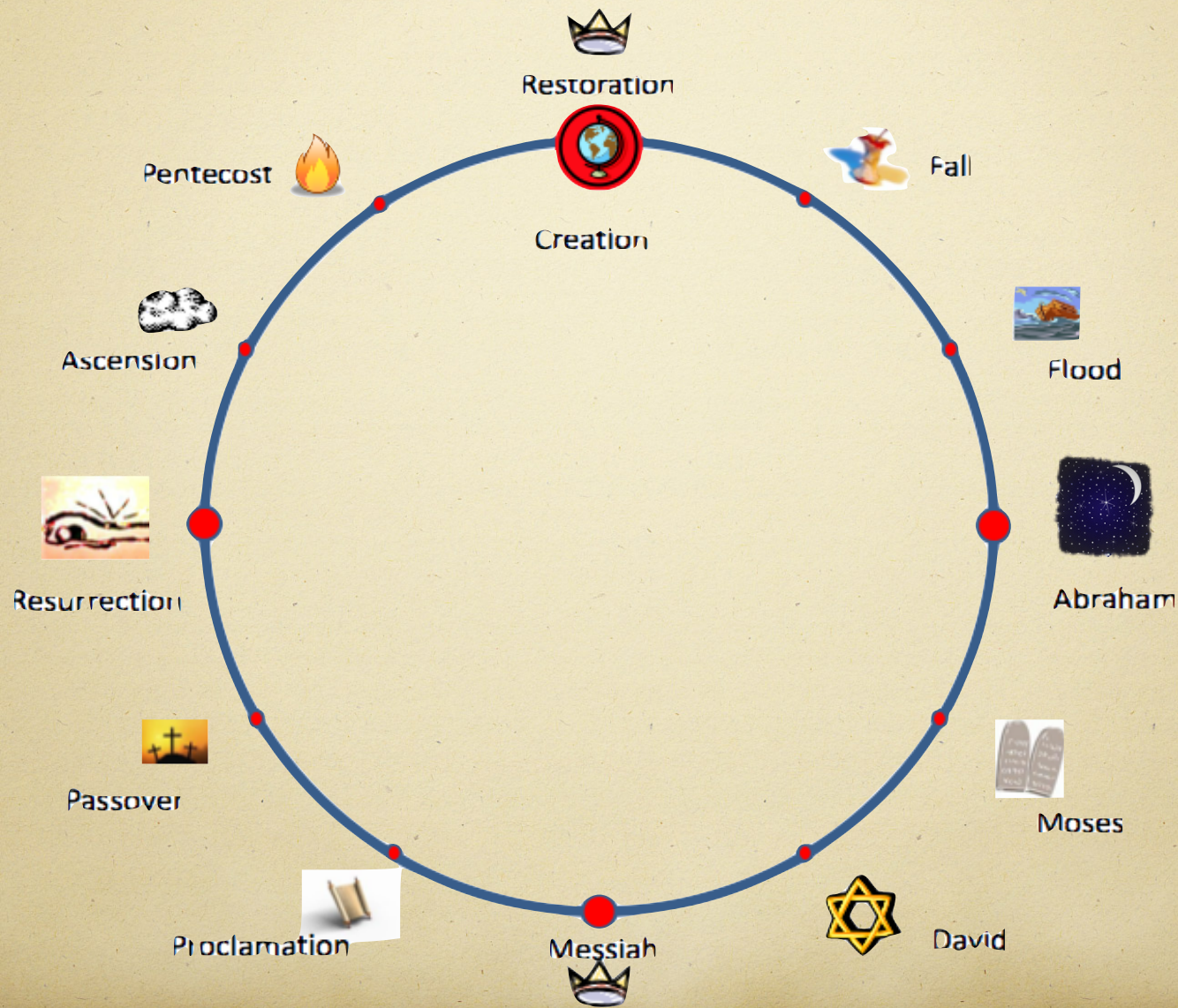
What is the Solution In the Bible Story?



The Whole Bible Outline



Bible in a Circle



Whole Story in Covenants



Eden

New Jerusalem

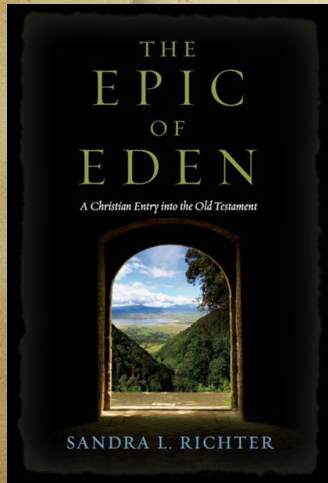
New Covenant (Jesus)

Davidic Covenant

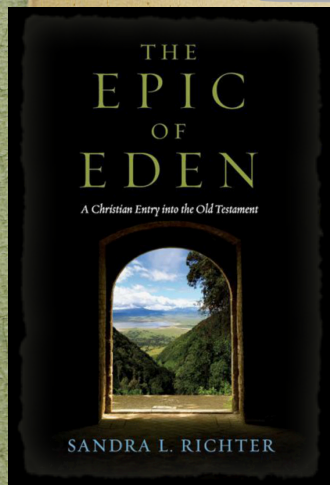
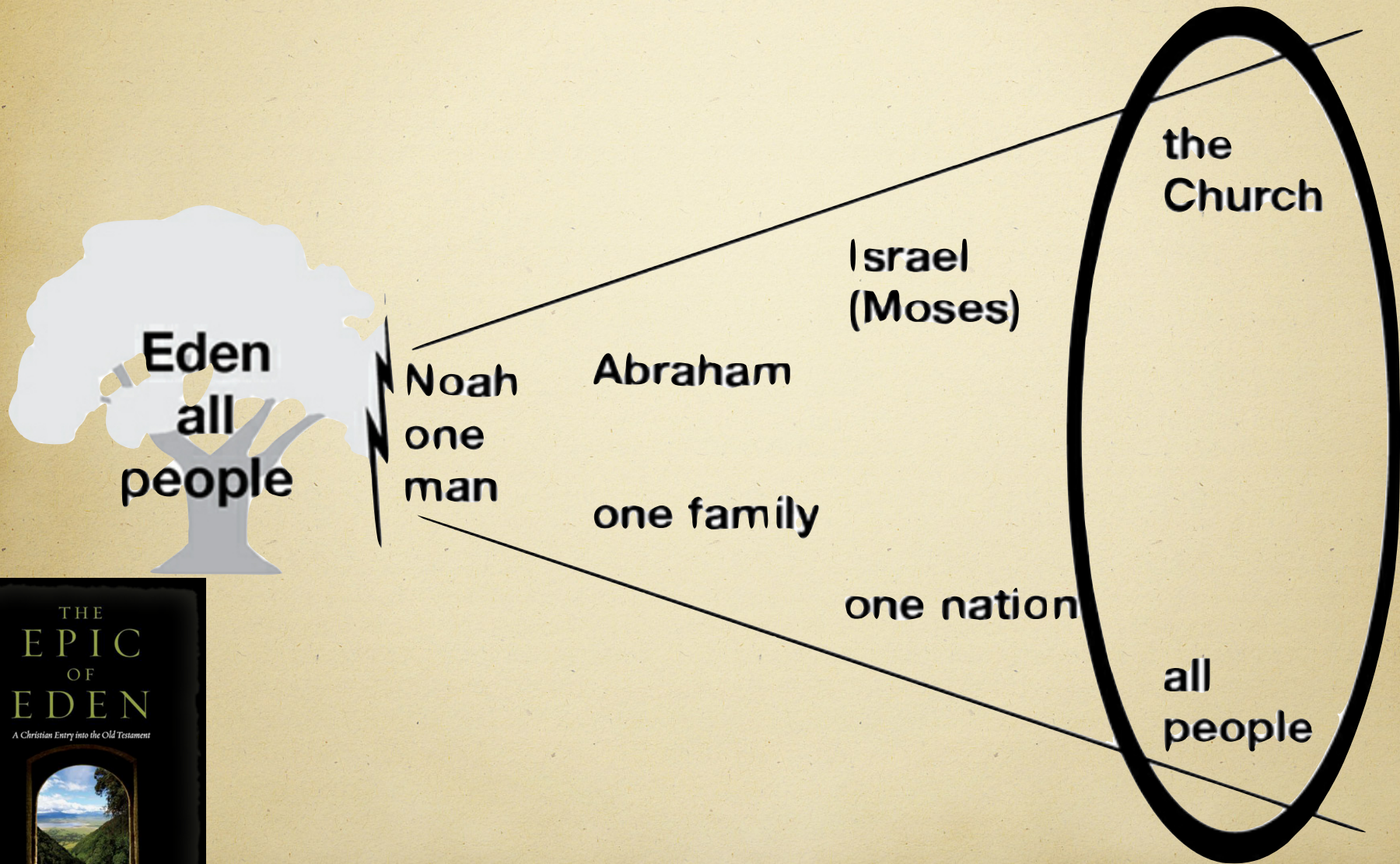
Mosaic Covenant

Abrahamic Covenant

Noahic Covenant



Whole Story Progression



The Bible

The Bible Project

“The Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus”

Testaments

Jesus

Old Testament	New Testament
39 Books	27 Books

Matthew /Chapter 1: Generations

Abraham: (14)	David: (14)	Exile: (14)
---------------	-------------	-------------

Books



Dr. Mark Yarbrough

5	12	5	5	12	4	1	21	1
Pentateuch (Moses)	History	Poetry	Major Prophets	Minor Prophets	Gospels	History	Letters	Prophecy

Story Dr. William H. Marty

The Problem: Creation in Crisis	The Solution: Covenant God	Covenant Promises	Covenant King	Covenant Worship	Covenant Judgment	Covenant Love	The King has Come	All the Kings Men	Living for the King	The King is Coming
Genesis 1-11	Genesis 12:1-3	Exodus 20, Deut. 28	2 Samuel 7	Poetry books	Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel	Ezra, Nehemiah	Gospels	Acts	Letters	Revelation

39 Books of the Old Testament

17 BOOKS OF HISTORY

5 BOOKS OF WISDOM, POETRY AND PRAISE

17 BOOKS OF PROPHECY

5 BOOKS OF LAW

12 BOOKS OF HISTORY

5 BOOKS MAJOR PROPHETS

12 BOOKS MINOR PROPHETS

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Ruth
9. 1 Samuel
10. 2 Samuel
11. 1 Kings
12. 2 Kings
13. 1 Chron.
14. 2 Chron.
15. Ezra
16. Nehemiah
17. Esther

18. Job
19. Psalms
20. Proverbs
21. Ecclesiastes
22. Song of Songs

23. Isaiah
24. Jeremiah
25. Lamentations
26. Ezekiel
27. Daniel

28. Hosea
29. Joel
30. Amos
31. Obadiah
32. Jonah
33. Micah
34. Nahum
35. Habbakuk
36. Zephaniah
37. Haggai
38. Zechariah
39. Malachi

9 / 3 DIVISION BASED ON BABYLONIAN EXILE

Bible Timeline Cards



CREATION
GOD SPEAKS THE UNIVERSE INTO EXISTENCE



ADAM & EVE
GOD CREATES HUMANITY 'IN HIS IMAGE' TO CARE FOR HIS CREATION



FALL
HUMANITY REJECTS GOD & IS EXPELLED FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN



NOAH / FLOOD
GOD FLOODS THE EARTH, YET SAVES & MAKES A COVENANT WITH NOAH & HIS FAMILY



BABEL
GOD CONFUSES THE LANGUAGE OF THE WORLD & SCATTERS HUMANITY



ABRAHAM (ISAAC & JACOB)
GOD PROMISES TO BLESS ABRAHAM & ALL PEOPLE THROUGH HIM



JOSEPH / EGYPT
JOSEPH & HIS BROTHERS MOVE ISRAEL TO EGYPT



MOSES / EXODUS
THROUGH MOSES, GOD SAVES ISRAEL FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT



LAW
GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH ISRAEL TO BE THEIR GOD



TABERNACLE
GOD DWELLS WITH ISRAEL IN THE TENT OF MEETING



WANDERING
ISRAEL WANDERS IN THE DESERT FOR 40 YEARS



PROMISED LAND
JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL INTO THE PROMISED LAND OF CANAAN



JUDGES
GOD RAISES UP JUDGES TO SAVE ISRAEL FROM ITS ENEMIES



SAUL
SAUL BECOMES ISRAEL'S FIRST KING, BUT DISOBEYS GOD & LOSES HIS KINGSHIP



DAVID
GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH DAVID TO ESTABLISH HIS THRONE FOREVER



SOLOMON / TEMPLE
SOLOMON BUILDS A TEMPLE FOR GOD IN JERUSALEM



DIVIDED KINGDOM
THE KINGDOM IS DIVIDED BETWEEN THE NORTHERN & SOUTHERN TRIBES



FALL OF SAMARIA
ASSYRIA DEFEATS ISRAEL (THE NORTHERN KINGDOM)



ASSYRIAN EXILE
ASSYRIA TAKES ISRAEL (NORTH) INTO CAPTIVITY



FALL OF JERUSALEM
BABYLON DEFEATS JUDAH (THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM)



BABYLONIAN EXILE
BABYLON TAKES JUDAH (SOUTH) INTO CAPTIVITY



RETURN FROM EXILE
PERSIA DEFEATS BABYLON & THE EXILES ARE RETURNED



REBUILDING
THE TEMPLE & THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM ARE REBUILT



BIRTH & LIFE OF JESUS
JESUS ENTERS THE WORLD AS A HUMAN TO SAVE HUMANITY



DEATH OF JESUS
JESUS IS CRUCIFIED TO PAY FOR HUMANITY'S REJECTION OF GOD



RESURRECTION OF JESUS
JESUS CONQUERS DEATH TO BRING LIFE TO HUMANITY



ASCENSION OF JESUS
JESUS RETURNS TO HEAVEN TO RULE OVER CREATION



PENTECOST
THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS THE APOSTLES TO BE JESUS' WITNESSES



GOSPEL MISSION
THE GOSPEL BEGINS TO SPREAD FROM JERUSALEM TO 'THE ENDS OF THE EARTH'



APOSTLE PAUL
PAUL IS COMMISSIONED TO TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES



PRESENT DAY
<YOU ARE HERE>



RETURN OF JESUS
JESUS RETURNS TO BRING AN END TO EVIL



FINAL JUDGEMENT
ALL HUMANITY IS JUDGED BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD



NEW CREATION
GOD CREATES A NEW HEAVEN & A NEW EARTH

Whole Bible Story Timelines

Jesus

Primeval History	Abraham and Israel	Holy Spirit, Church, Consummation
A: Theocracy (Adam—Samuel)	B: Monarchy (Saul to Jesus)	A': Christocracy (Jesus)
Creation	Sin	Redemption

3

4	Creation	Fall		Redemption		Consummation
	Creation	Fall		Rescue		New Creation

5	Creation	Exodus	Exile	Jesus	Consummation
---	----------	--------	-------	-------	--------------

6	Creation	Rebellion / Sin	Redemption / Israel	Jesus / Christ	Church	Restoration / New Creation
	God Establishes His Kingdom	Rebellion in the Kingdom	The King Chooses Israel	The Coming of the King	Spreading News of the King	The Return of the King

7	Creation & Fall	Calling a People: Abraham	Rescuing & Separating a People	Maintaining God's Holiness	Save A People: Jesus	Gathering a People: Church	Renewing all Creation: Consummation
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“C” the Whole Story (The Bible in 10 Minutes)



Creation to
Camping



Conquest



Crown



Captivity



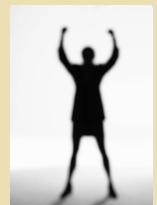
Can't Hear
(Silence)



Christ



Church,
Commission
Community



Completion
&
Commence-
ment



Chuck Broughton

Jesus is the True and Better...

➤ Tim Keller (message),
Dan Stevers (video)



The Whole Story in God's Presence

Old Testament

Eden	Noah	Abraham	Moses	Tabernacle	Temple
Garden	World	Beersheba	Burning Bush, Sinai	Wilderness, Shiloh	Jerusalem

New Testament

Incarnation	Pentecost	Church	New Creation
Jesus, in the Middle East	Jerusalem	Hearts of Believers	Renewed Heaven and Earth



Dr. John Walton

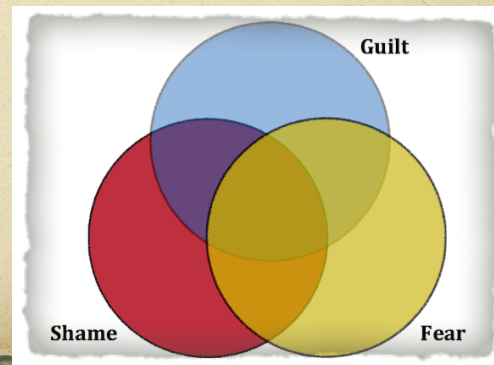
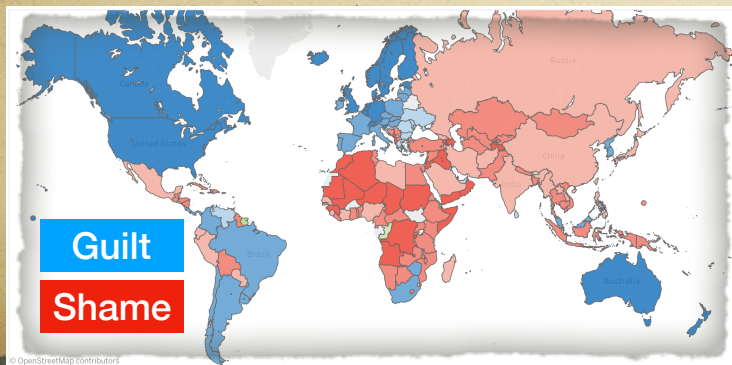
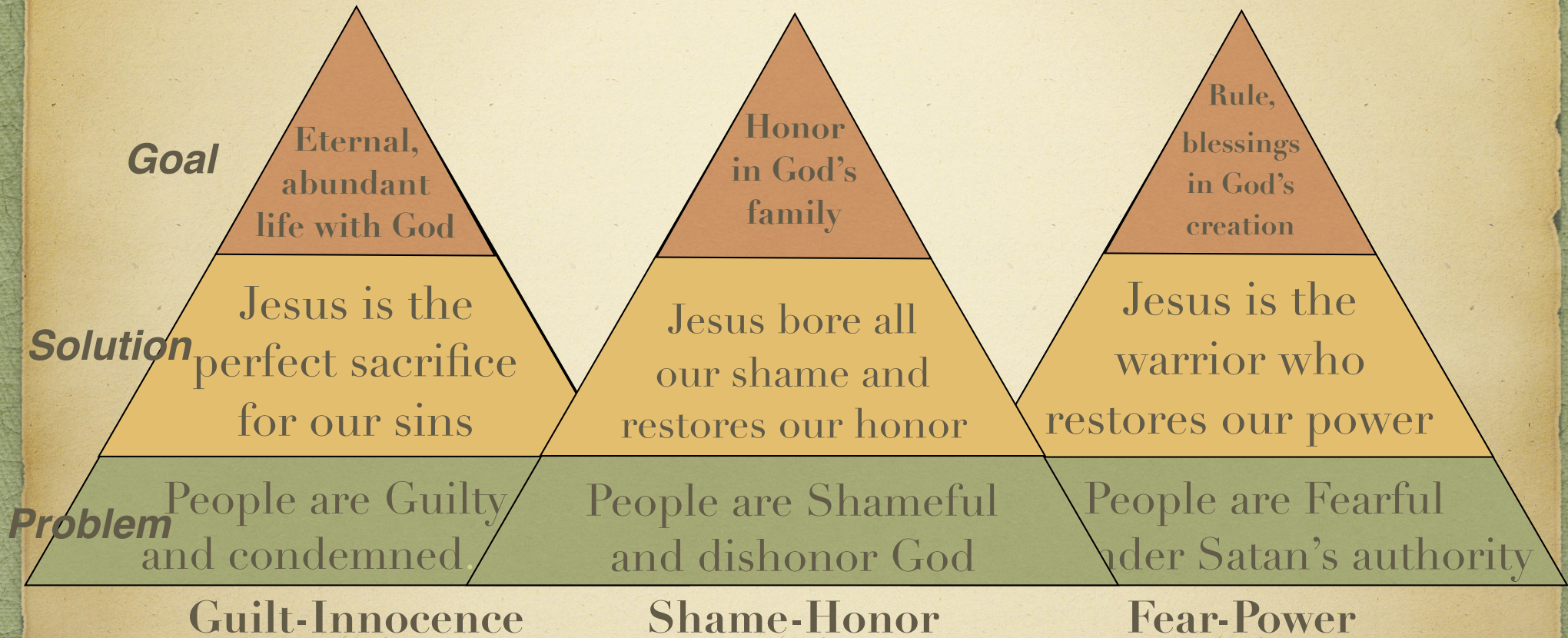


Dr. Tom Steffen

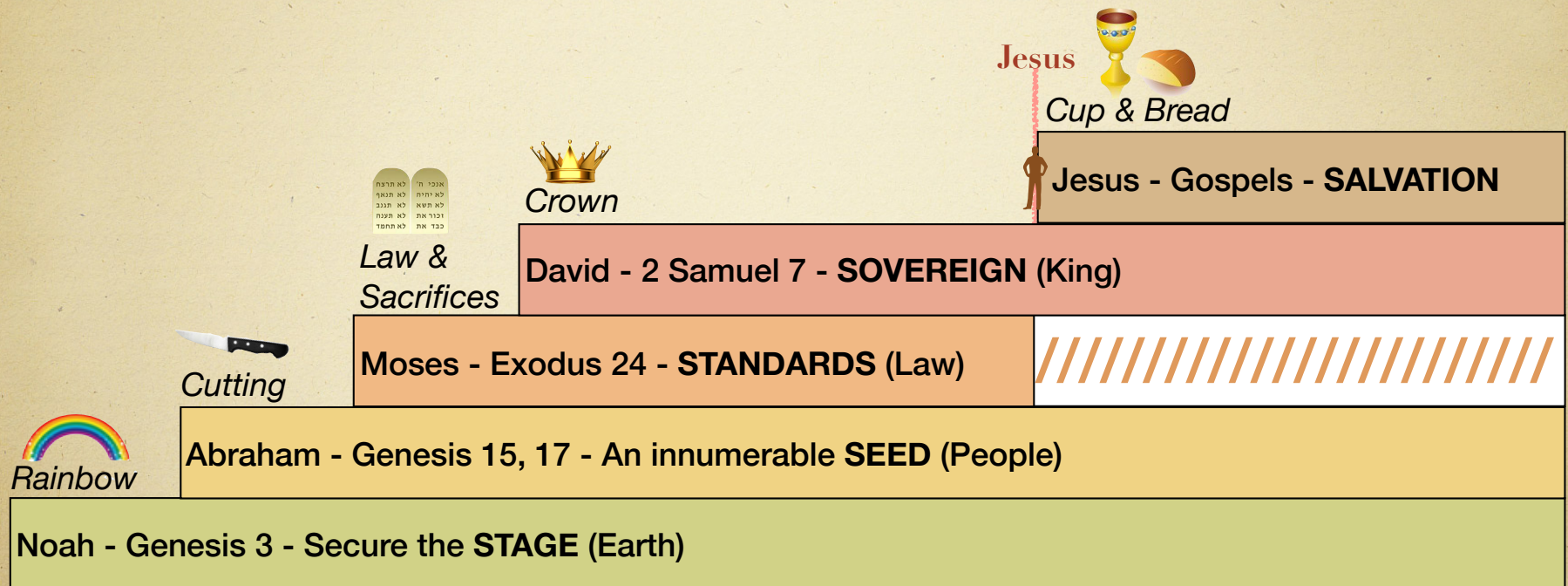
Cultural Worldviews

	Guilt	Shame
Sin	Law-breaking	Dishonor, disloyalty
Jesus	Substitute, sacrifice	Mediator, brother
Sinners	Condemned	Rejected
Cross	Appease God's wrath	Removes our shame, restores God's honor
Atonement Theory	Penal Substitution	Satisfaction
Salvation	Innocence, forgiveness	Honor, face
Key Metaphor	Courtroom, legal	Community, relational
God	Lawgiver, judge	Father, patron

Worldview Outlines



Whole Story in Covenants



“While a contract involves a *relationship* for the sake of obligations, a covenant involves *obligations* for the sake of a relationship. A covenant is a chosen relationship between two parties ordered according to specific promises.”

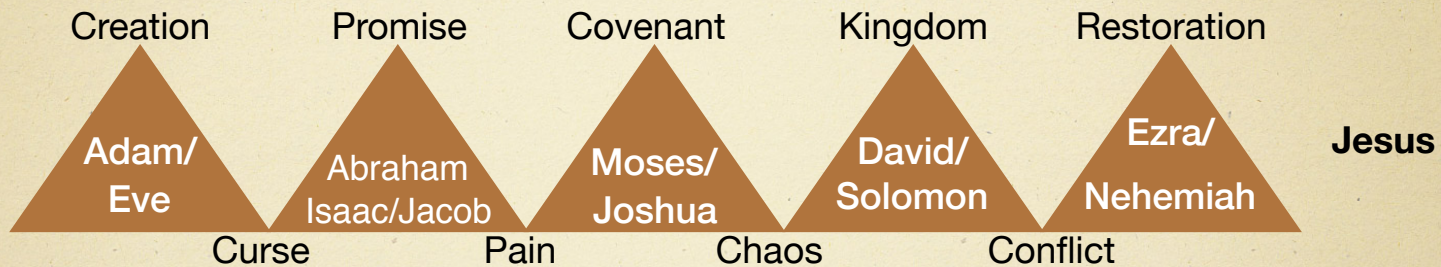
Unlock
the
Bible
in
30 Days



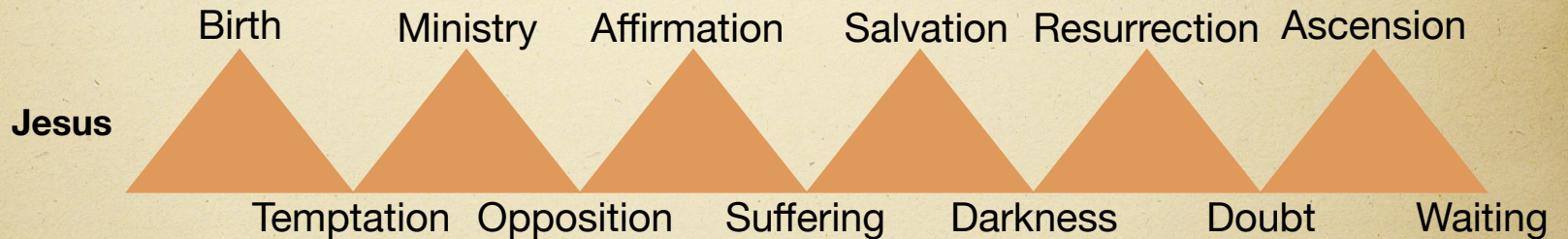
COLIN S. SMITH

Knowing
God
the Father

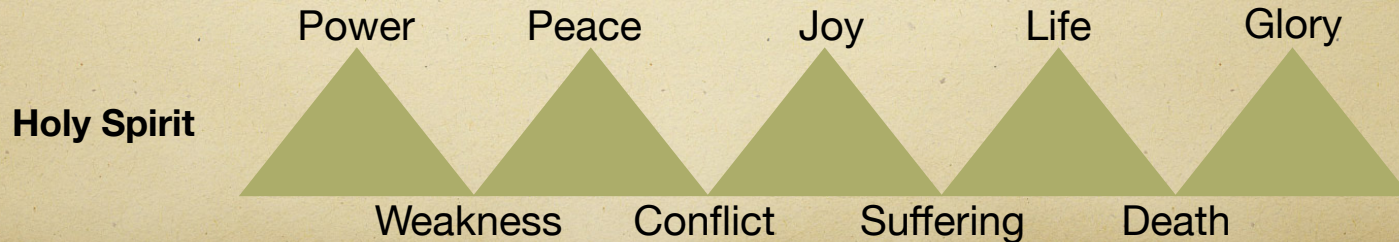
Bible in 30 Days



Trusting
Christ
the Son

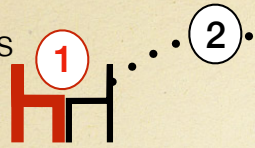


Living in
the Spirit



Whole Story in Chairs

1 **God** created **us** in His image and wanted a face-to-face loving relationship with us



2 **Adam** and **Eve** turned their backs on God

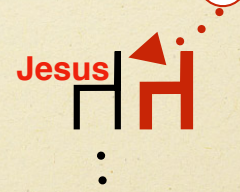


3 **God** repeatedly pursued **us** with his Covenants, Signs, and Presence:

- a) **God** saved **Noah** - Stage, Rainbow
- b) **God** called **Abraham** - Seed, Circumcision
- c) **God** called **Moses** - Standards, Law, Burning bush, Mt. Sinai, Tabernacle
- d) **God** anointed **David** (and **Solomon**) - Sovereign, Crown, Temple
- e) **God** sent **Prophets** with warnings
- f) **God** brought us out of captivity and rebuilt the Temple



5 **God**, as loving Father, sent **Jesus** in perfect human form as a human being.

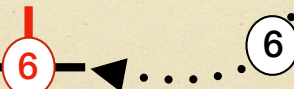


4 **We** repeatedly turned our backs on God after each pursuit from God:

- a) After **Noah** we rebelled - Tower of Babel
- b) After **Abraham** we forgot God - Egypt, slavery
- c) After **Moses** we wandered - Wilderness
- d) After **David** and **Solomon**, we split the kingdom and rejected God
- e) After the **Prophets** we ignored his warnings - captivity
- f) After the return from captivity we still didn't turn to God

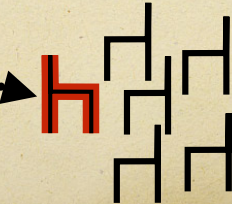


7 **Jesus** rose again and saves **us** - New Covenant-Salvation, relationship through the **Holy Spirit**, Bread and Cup



6 **We** crucified **Jesus** while the **Father** looks on and expresses His love and reconciliation through **Jesus**

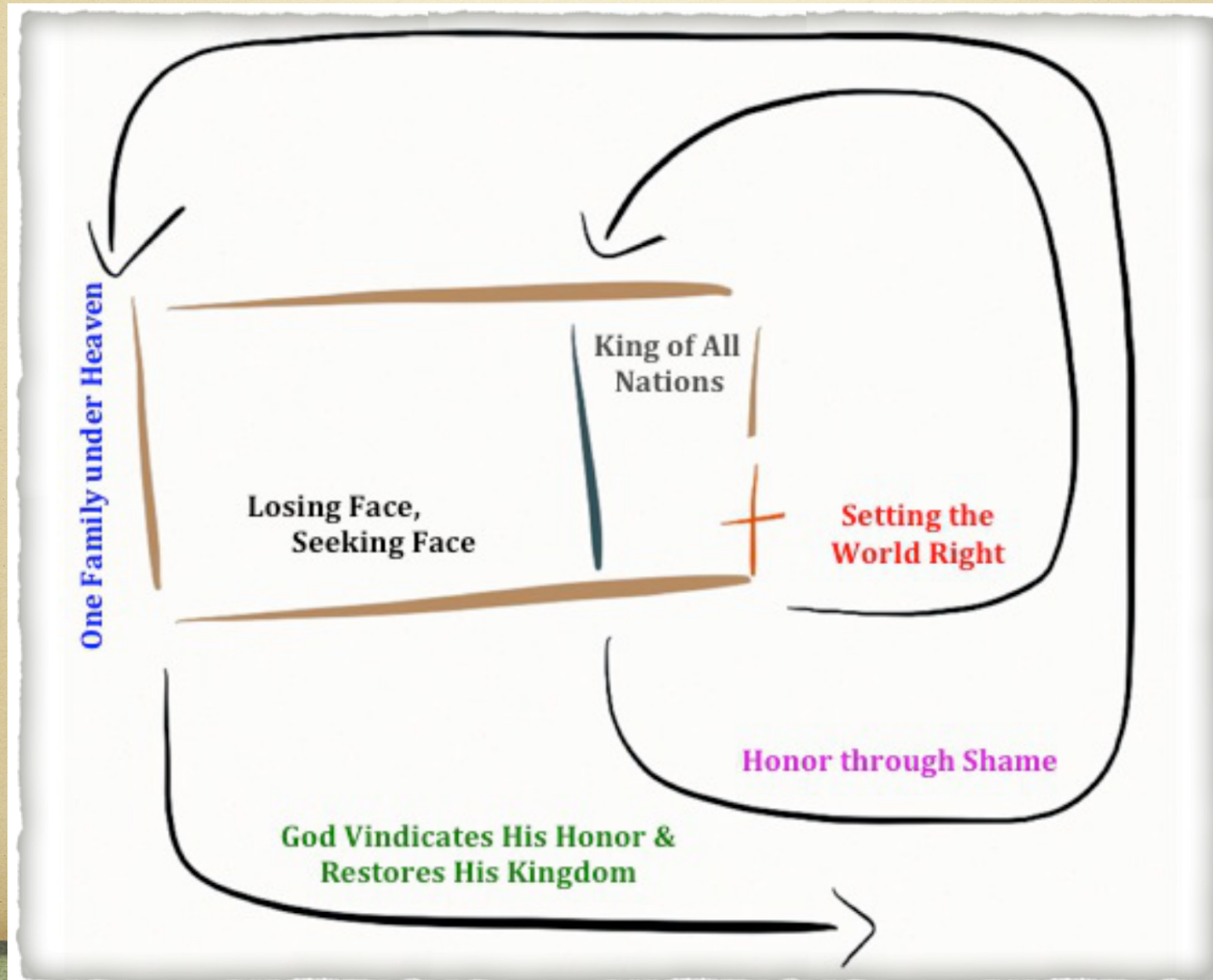
8 The **Holy Spirit** lives in us and directs **us** to share the Good News of his love with others.



Jackson Wu (吴荣)

(pseudonym)

The Whole Bible from a Box



1. One Family under Heaven

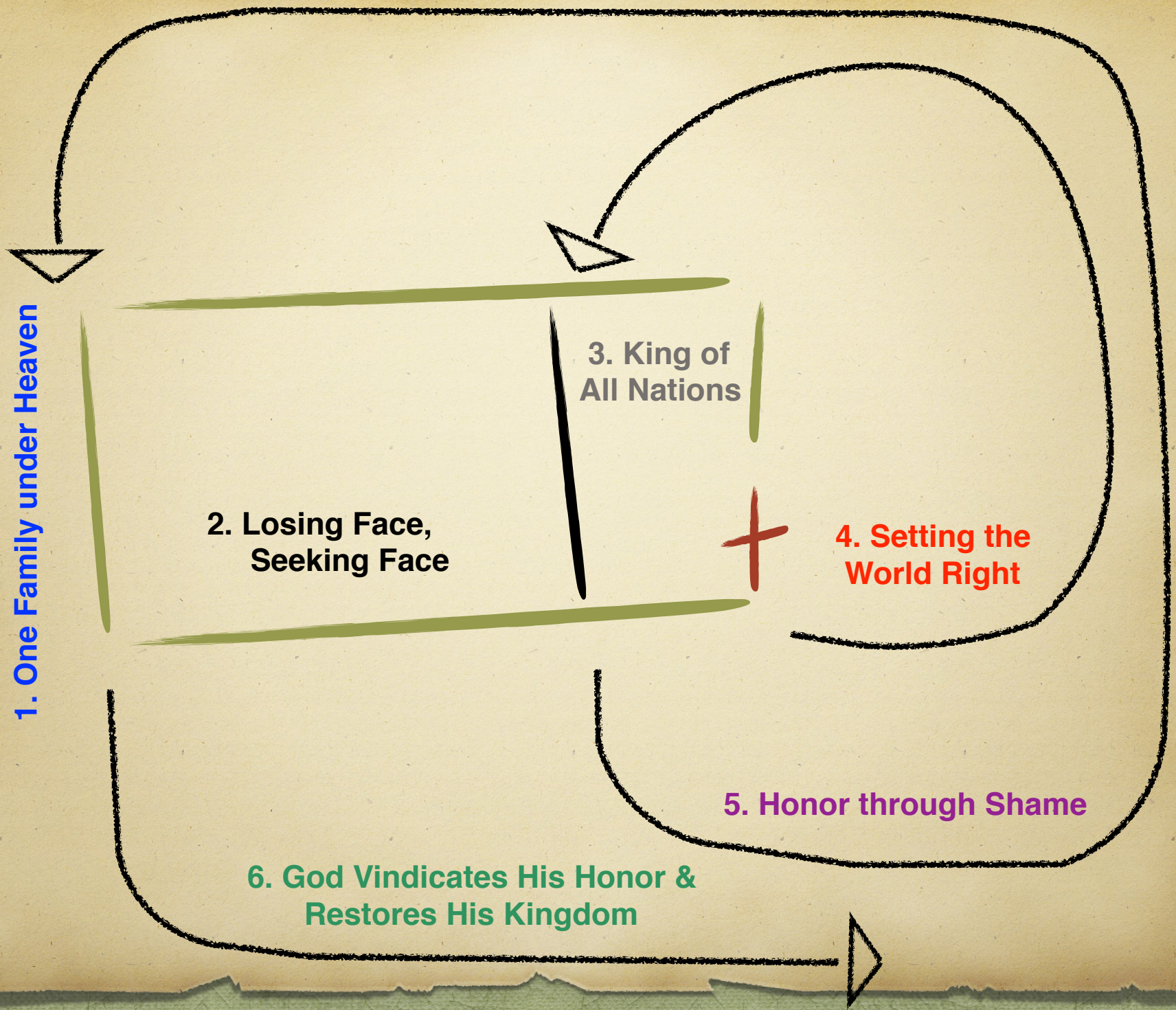
2. Losing Face,
Seeking Face

3. King of
All Nations

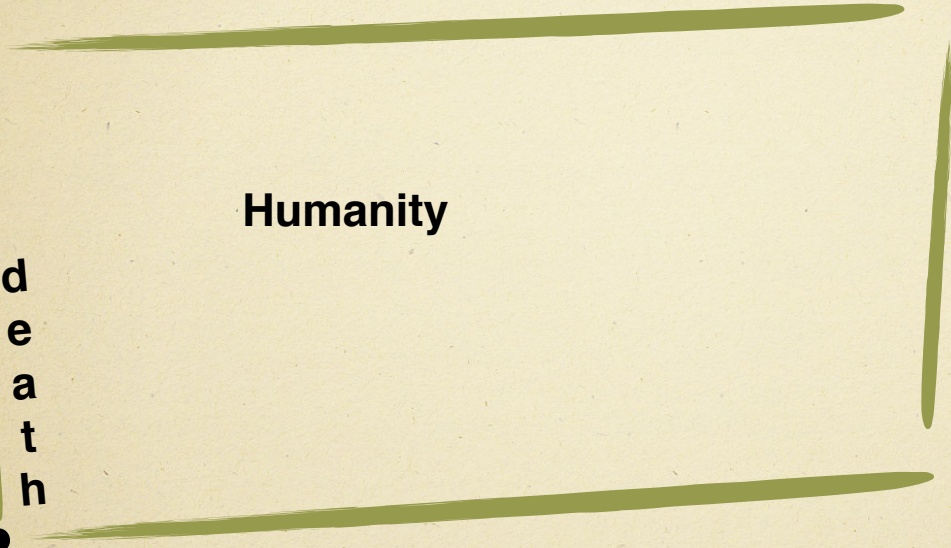
4. Setting the
World Right

5. Honor through Shame

6. God Vindicates His Honor &
Restores His Kingdom



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Humanity

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Adam

Other nations

Israel

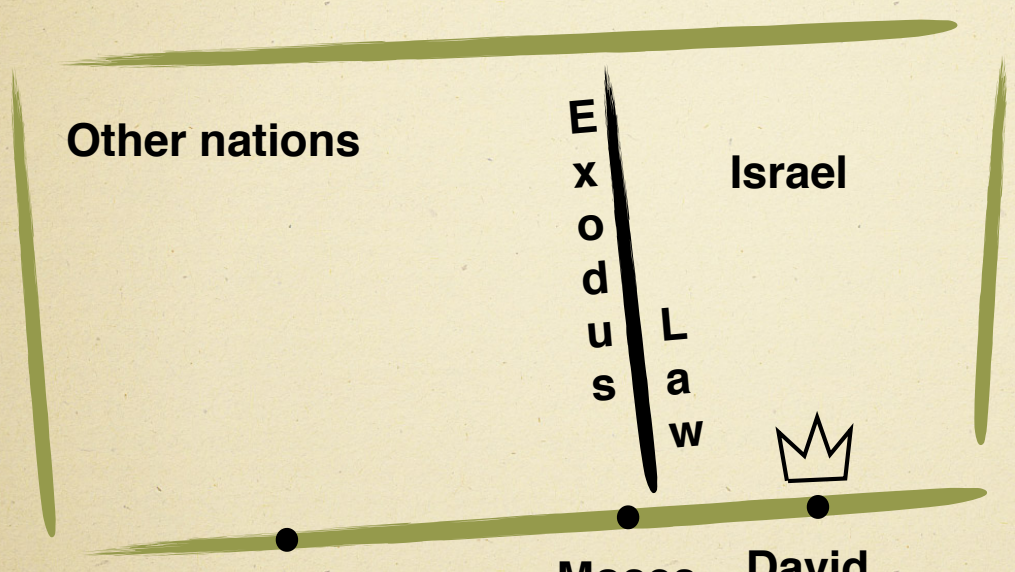
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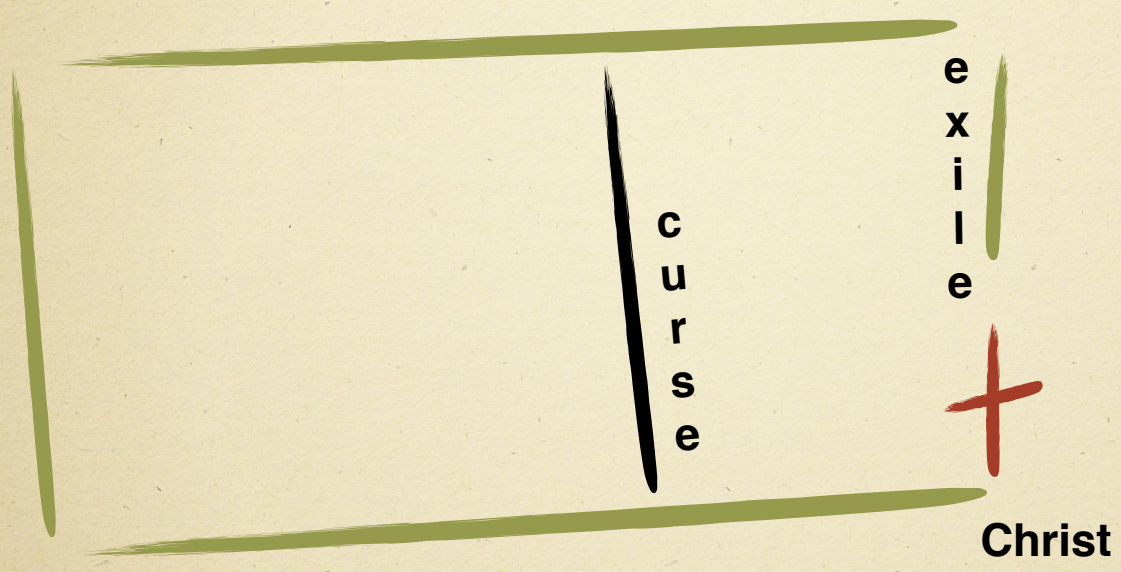


Abraham

Moses

David



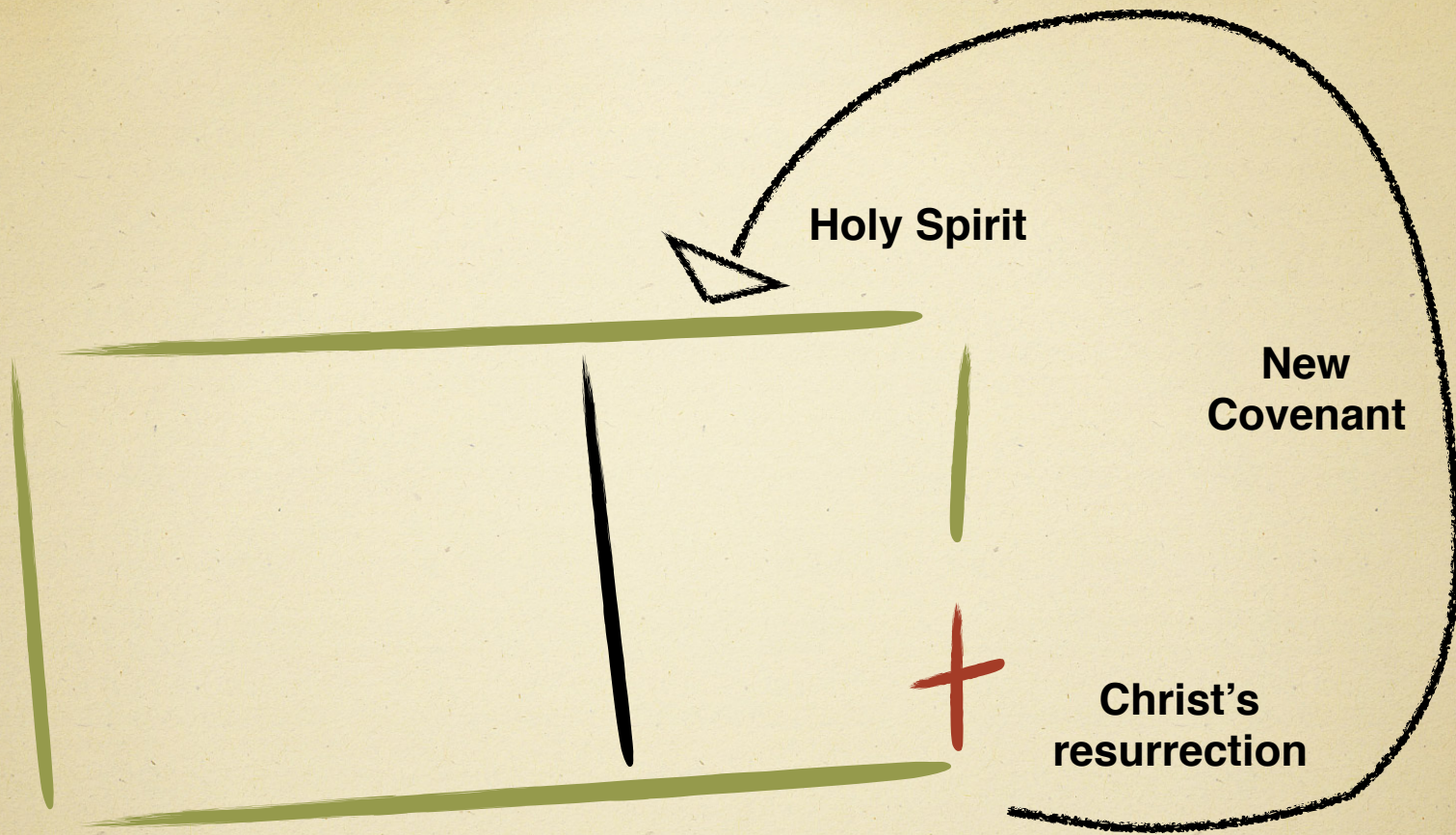


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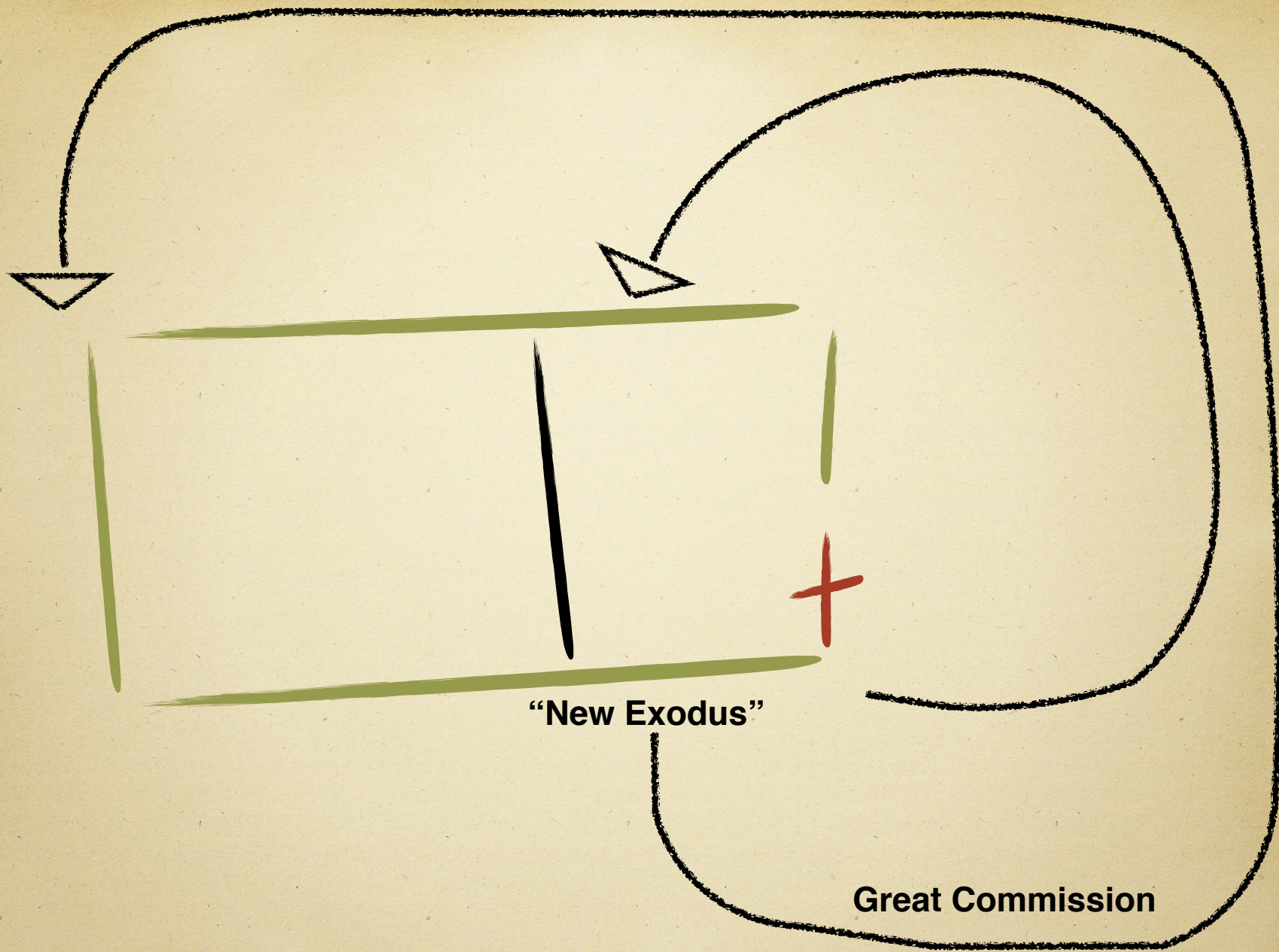
Christ



Holy Spirit

New
Covenant

Christ's
resurrection



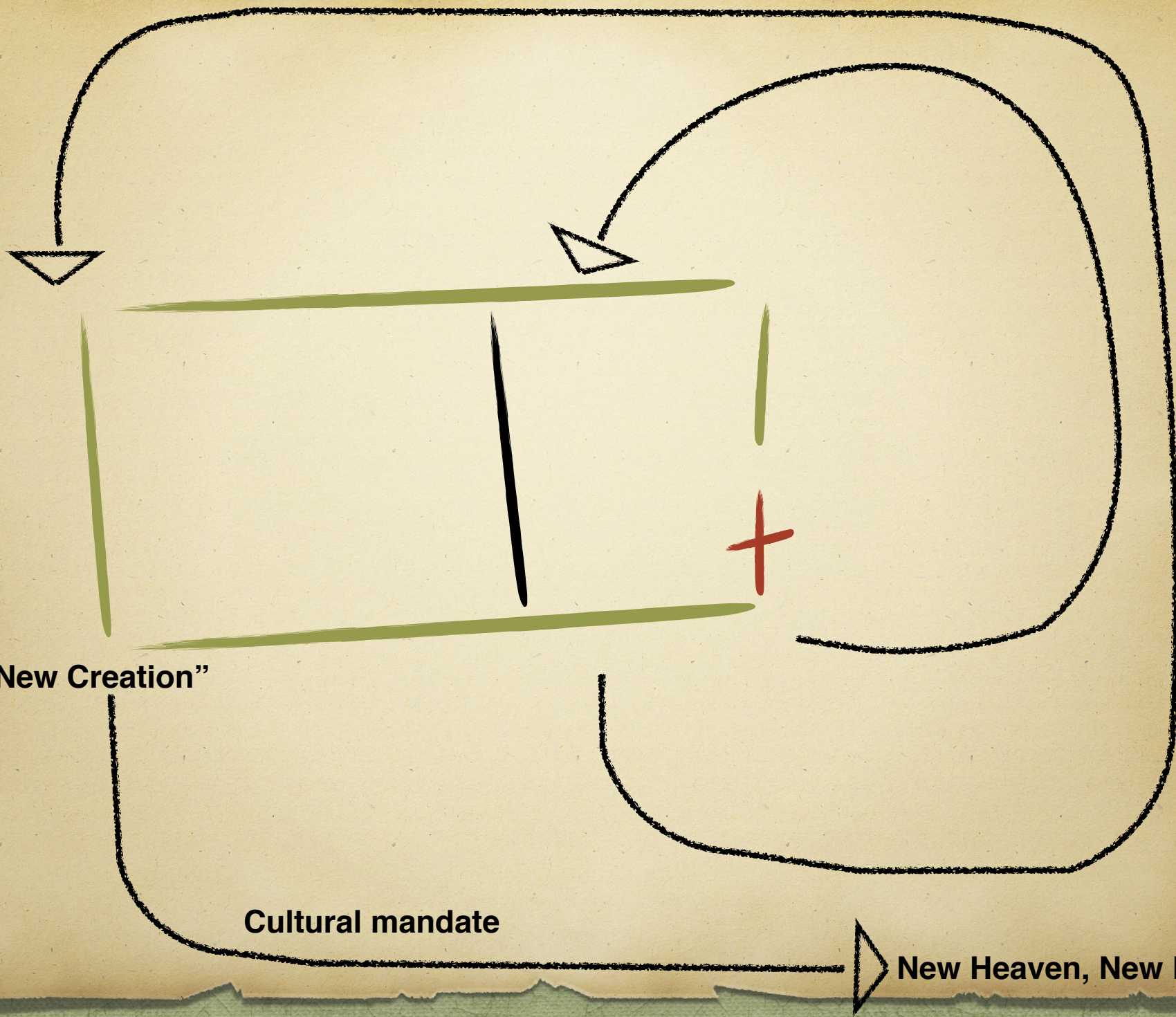
"New Exodus"

Great Commission

“New Creation”

Cultural mandate

New Heaven, New Earth



Whole Bible Story

Summaries in the OT

- Exodus 3:15-17
- Exodus 4:29-31
- Exodus 6:6-9, 15
- Deuteronomy 1:6-3:29
- Deuteronomy 6:10-25
- Deuteronomy 26:5-9
- Deuteronomy 32:7-43
- Joshua 24:2-15
- 1 Samuel 12:6-13
- 1 Chronicles 16:14-22
- Job 38
- Psalm 76, 78, 105, 106:6-12, 136
- Jeremiah 2:1-19
- Nehemiah 9:5-37

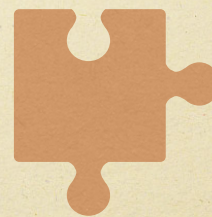
Whole Bible Story Summaries in the NT

- Matthew 1
- Luke 1
- Luke 24:27
- Acts 7
- Acts 13
- Romans 5-8, 9-10
- Hebrews 11

My Take-Aways

- **Context**— The Bible is the ultimate mega-epic— a progression of epic stories (we need a whole story to provide context to all the other stories)
- **Jesus** - He is at the center, the focus and turning point
- **Presence/Oneness**— God's purpose— He wants to be with us!
- **Gospel**— The *story* of Jesus as the culmination of the *story* of Bible/Israel (we need the Bible *stories*!)

What is YOUR Whole Bible Story?



Choosing a Story

TYPE DURATION	Scripture-Based	Story-Based	Needs
Elevator Pitch 90 Seconds	2 Timothy 2:8 or 1 Corinthians 15:3-5	A timeline summary Bible in a Box Bible Progression	Pencil, paper?
Devotional 10 Minutes	Acts 7 (Stephen) or Acts 13:16f (Paul)	Road to Emmaus Jesus is a True & Better Bible in 10 Minutes Gospel in Chairs	2 chairs?
Study Group 30 Minutes	Hebrews 11 (Faith)	Bible in 30 Minutes	~15 people minimum
Class/Workshop 90 Minutes	Workshop	Workshop	Electronic media