

Ephesians Series

Lesson #246

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Spheres of Authority/Leadership

Ephesians 5:21



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Eph. 5:18, “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled by means of the Spirit,”**

πληρόω plēroō
2 plur pres
pass impera
to fill; fulfill

*ἐν πνεύματι, en
pneumati,*
dative, means,
“by means of
the Spirit”

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you along with all wisdom, **with the results that you are teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” [RD]**

Results:

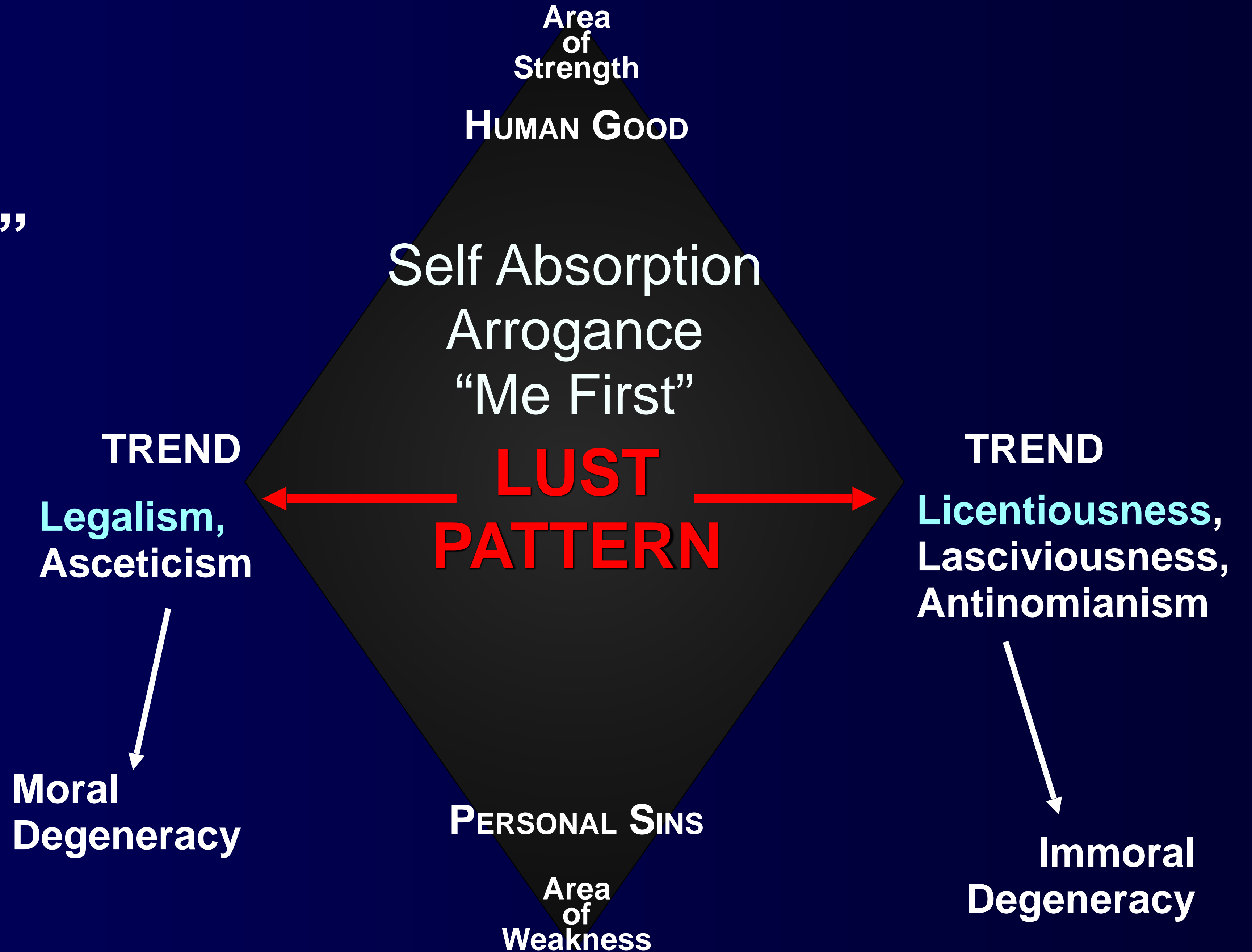
Eph. 5:19, “with the result that you are speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

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THE SIN NATURE “the flesh”



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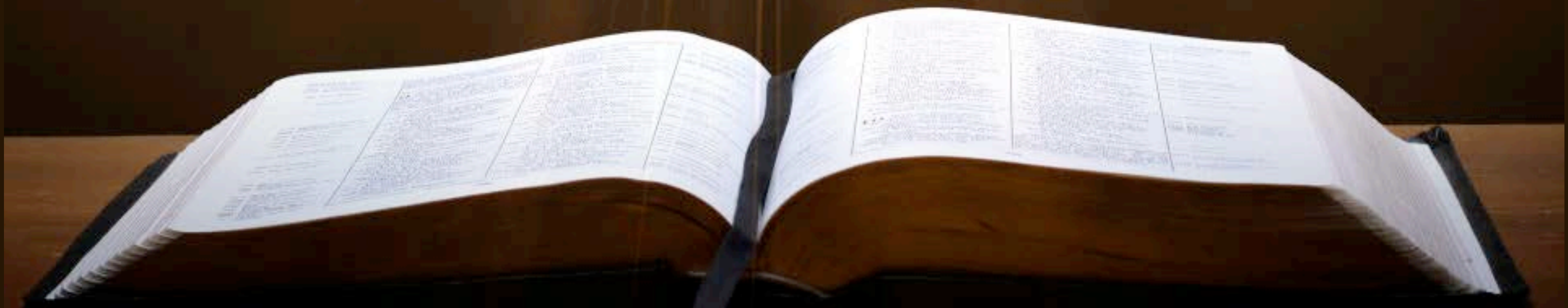
1. Submission

2. One another

3. What does “fear of God” have to do with it?

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

Fear of the Lord



1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Prov. 1:7, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Prov. 1:27, “When your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Prov. 1:28, “Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

Prov. 1:29, “Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,”

Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”

Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”

Eph. 6:1, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

Eph. 6:4, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

Eph. 6:5, “Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;”

2. The fear of the Lord leads to obeying the Lord.

3. Obeying the Lord involves shunning evil.

Job 1:1, “There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.”

Job 1:8, “Then the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?’ ”

Job 2:3, “Then the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?’ ”

4. Fearing God describes a deep respect and awe of who God is and what He can do.

Acts 9:31, “Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.”

5. Fearing God is related to humility.

Prov. 22:4, “By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches and honor and life.”

Similar verses in the Old Testament.

Php. 2:5, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

Php. 2:6, “who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

Php. 2:7, “but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

Php. 2:8, “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Php. 2:9, “Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

Php. 2:10, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

Php. 2:11, “and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

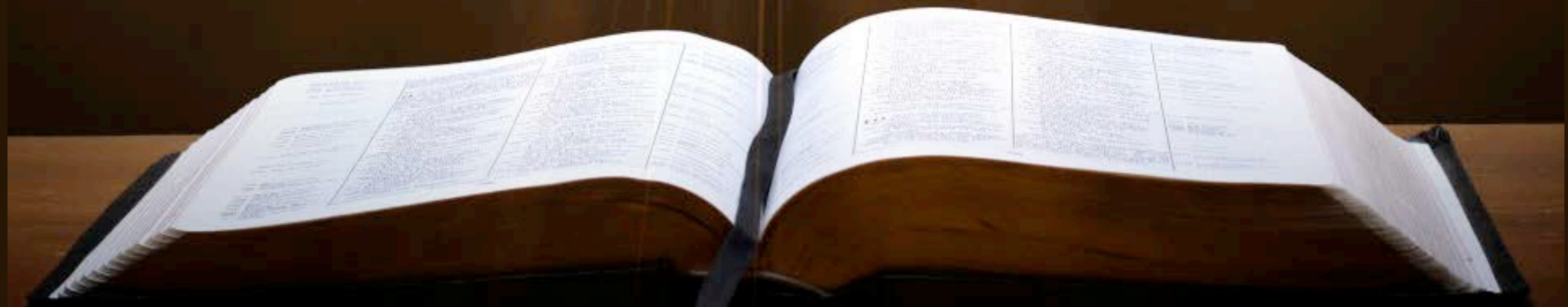
6. Fear of the Lord means that someone in authority will not abuse that authority.

Lev. 25:17, “Therefore you shall not oppress one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.”

Lev. 25:43, “You shall not rule over him with rigor, but you shall fear your God.”

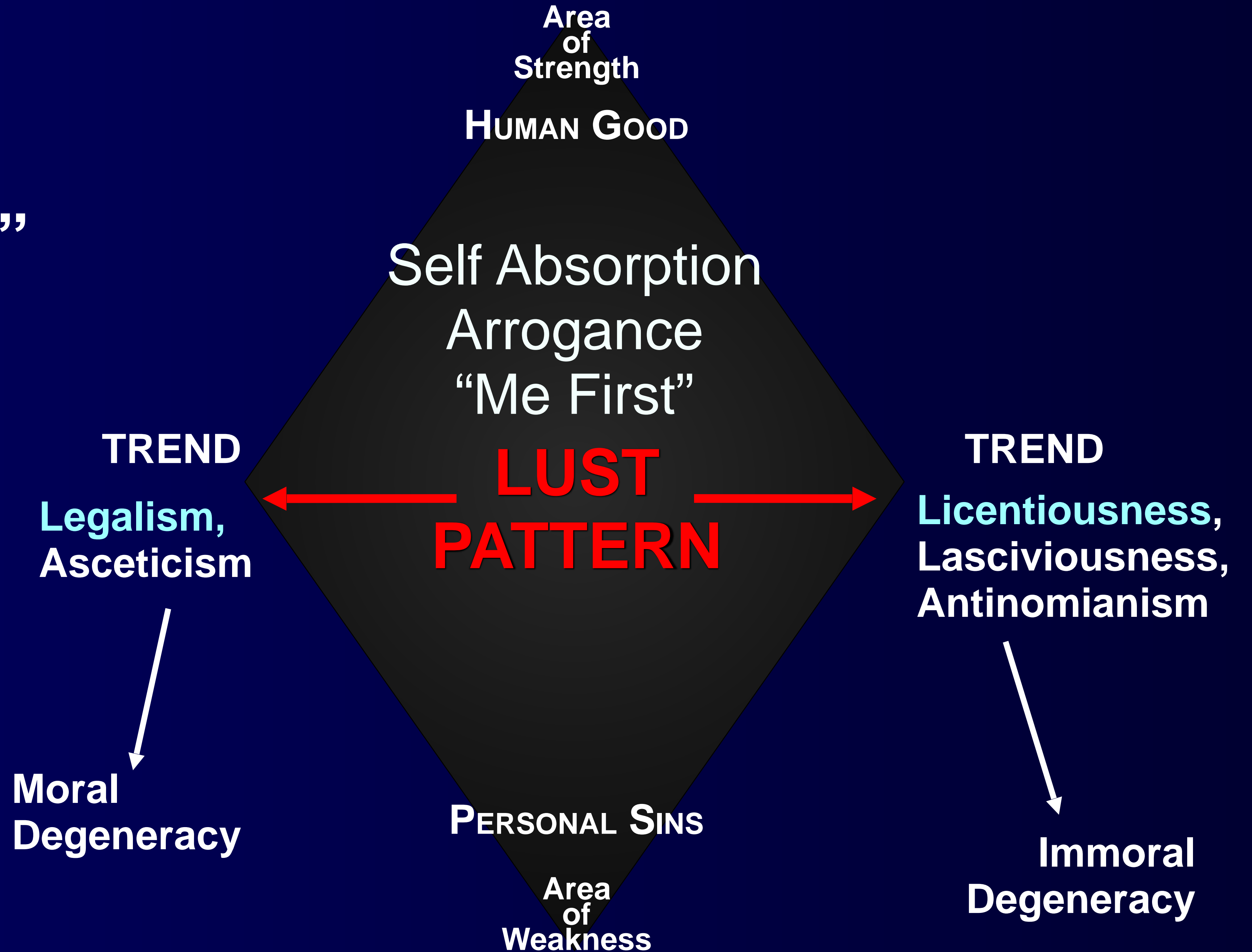
**What the Bible Teaches
About**

Spheres of Authority



The problem:

THE SIN NATURE “the flesh”



The problem: Sin nature lust for approval, recognition, power, authority.

Matt. 20:20, “Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.

Matt. 20:21, “And He said to her, ‘What do you wish?’ She said to Him, ‘Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom.’ ” [NKJV]

Jesus' Answer

Matt. 20:22, “But Jesus answered and said, ‘You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ They said to Him, ‘We are able.’”

Matt. 20:23, “So He said to them, ‘You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.’ ” [NKJV]

Matt. 20:24, “And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.

Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.’ ” [NKJV]

**κατεξουσιάζω *katexousiazō*
3 plur pres act indic
to rule over in the sense
of misusing authority, or
to tyrannize**

**κατακυριεύω *katakyrieuō*,
rule over, subjugate,
conquer, be master of,
lord it over**

Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

**Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”
[NKJV]**

Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

δοῦλος *doulos* slave; servant

Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”
[NKJV]

διακονέω *diakoneō*, serve, support

Php. 2:7, “Instead He emptied Himself by taking on the form of a slave (servant), by taking on the likeness of men. (And when He had come as a man, human in His external form [true humanity]),” [RD]

Conclusion:

- 1. God institutes spheres of authority within the creation.**
- 2. Because of sin, legitimate authorities frequently misuse and abuse that authority, they exercise their authority in an illegitimate manner.**
- 3. Does this mean that those who are under those authorities have the right to disobey those authorities?**