

Interlocked Series

Lesson #23.2

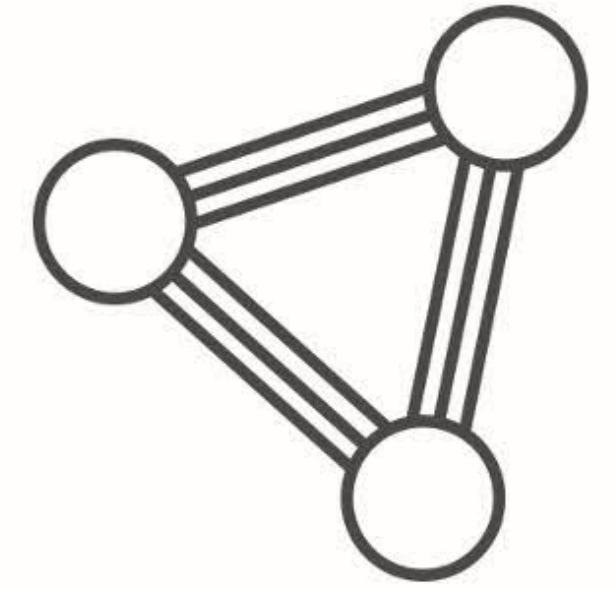
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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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INTERLOCKED

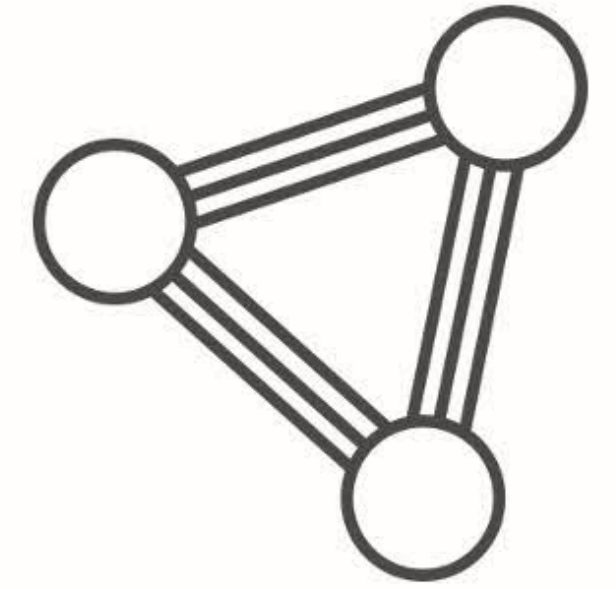


Lesson 23: King Solomon

Lesson 23 A: King Solomon

- Asked God for Wisdom: What is Wisdom?**
- Solomon's Legacy**
- Solomon Built and Dedicated the Temple**

INTERLOCKED



Lesson 23: King Solomon

Lesson 23 B: King Solomon

- **Solomon Turned from the Lord**
- **What Happened after Solomon Turned from God?**
- **Sanctification Lessons from the Life of Solomon**
- **Remaining Loyal to God in a Mixed Culture**

Kingdom of God

Based on GRACE
God would save man

Election



God chose Abraham



God saved Israel

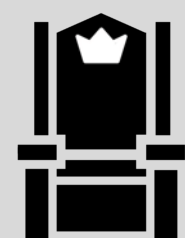


God built Israel:

- Law
- National anthem
- Temple worship
- Feasts & festivals



Conquest and Settlement
in the Promised Land



Kings in Israel:

- **Unified kingdom**

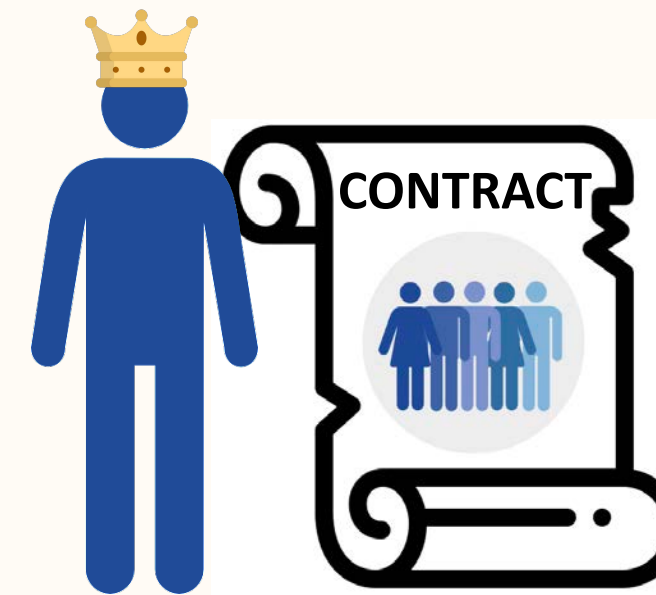
Grey shows paganization

Kings of the Unified Kingdom



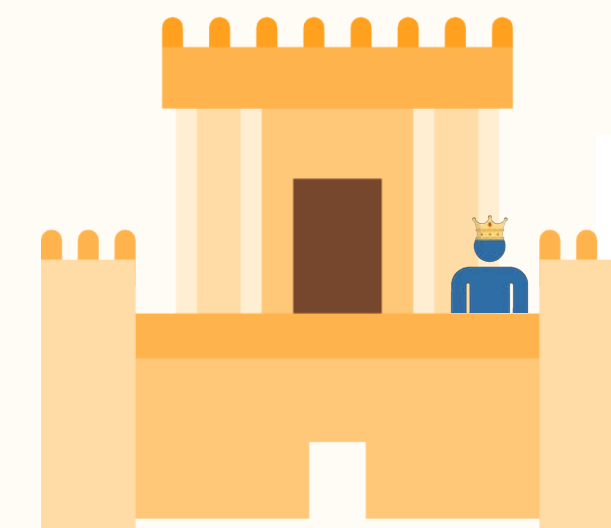
Saul

1095–1055 BC



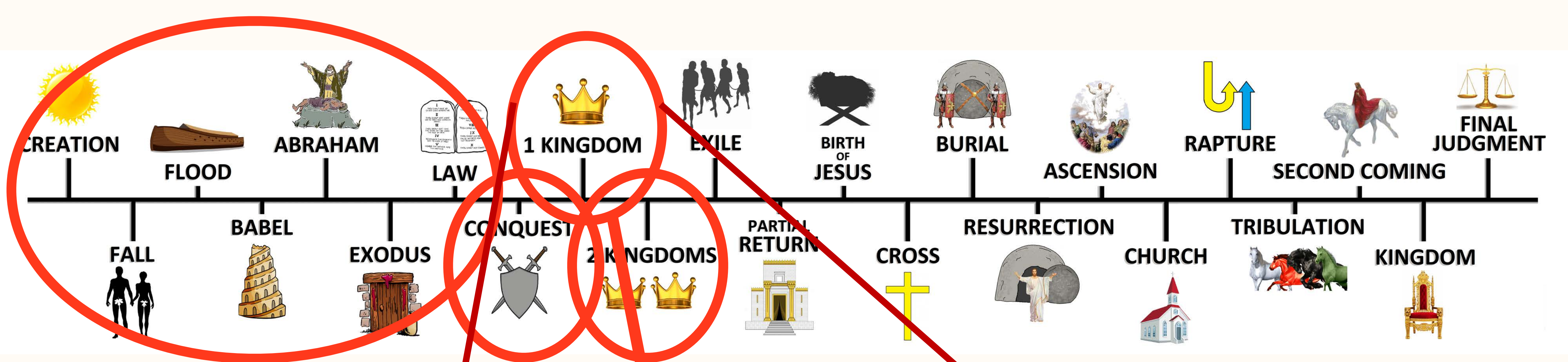
David

1055–1015 BC



Solomon

1015–975 BC



Torah
Pentateuch

Joshua
Judges
Ruth

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

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

Kings
FOR
Israel

King
David

King
Solomon

Kingdom
Divided

Decline of
the Kingdom

D. Solomon Turned Away From God (1 Kings 11)



CONDITIONAL DYNASTY

IF

Solomon obeys

THEN

Solomon's dynasty will be established forever

IF

Solomon rebels

THEN

Israel will be scattered in discipline



God's Instructions for Israel's Kings

Deut. 17:16, “But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall not return that way again.’ ”

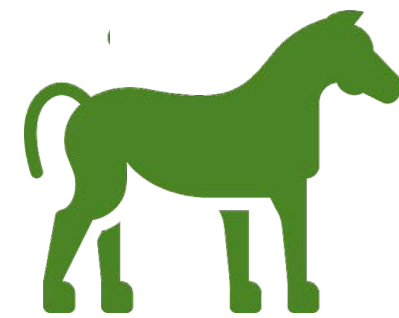
What King Solomon Did



Built-up 1,400 chariots



Gathered 12,000 horsemen



Imported horses from Egypt

1 Kings 10:26–29

God's Instructions for Israel's Kings

Deut. 17:17, “... lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.”

What King Solomon Did



Taxed the people very heavily



Hoarded so much silver that silver was as common as stone in Jerusalem

1 Kings 10:27, 12:4

God's Instructions for Israel's Kings

Deuteronomy 17:17a,
“Neither shall he multiply
wives for himself, lest his
heart turn away;”

What King Solomon Did



Had 700 wives



And 300 concubines

1 Kings 11:3

1 Kings 11:1, “But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites—”

1 Kings 11:3, “And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.

1 Kings 11:4, “For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.”

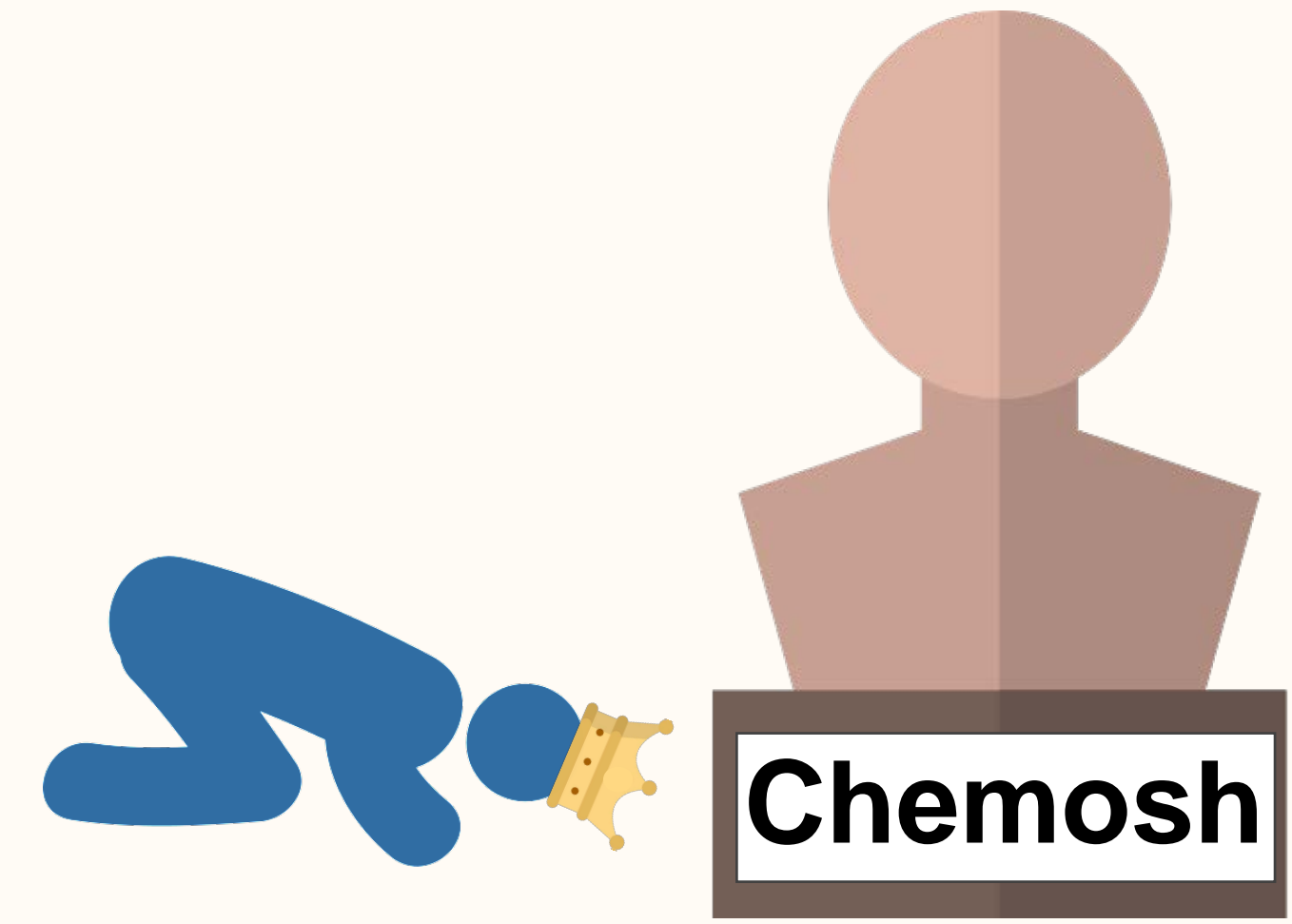
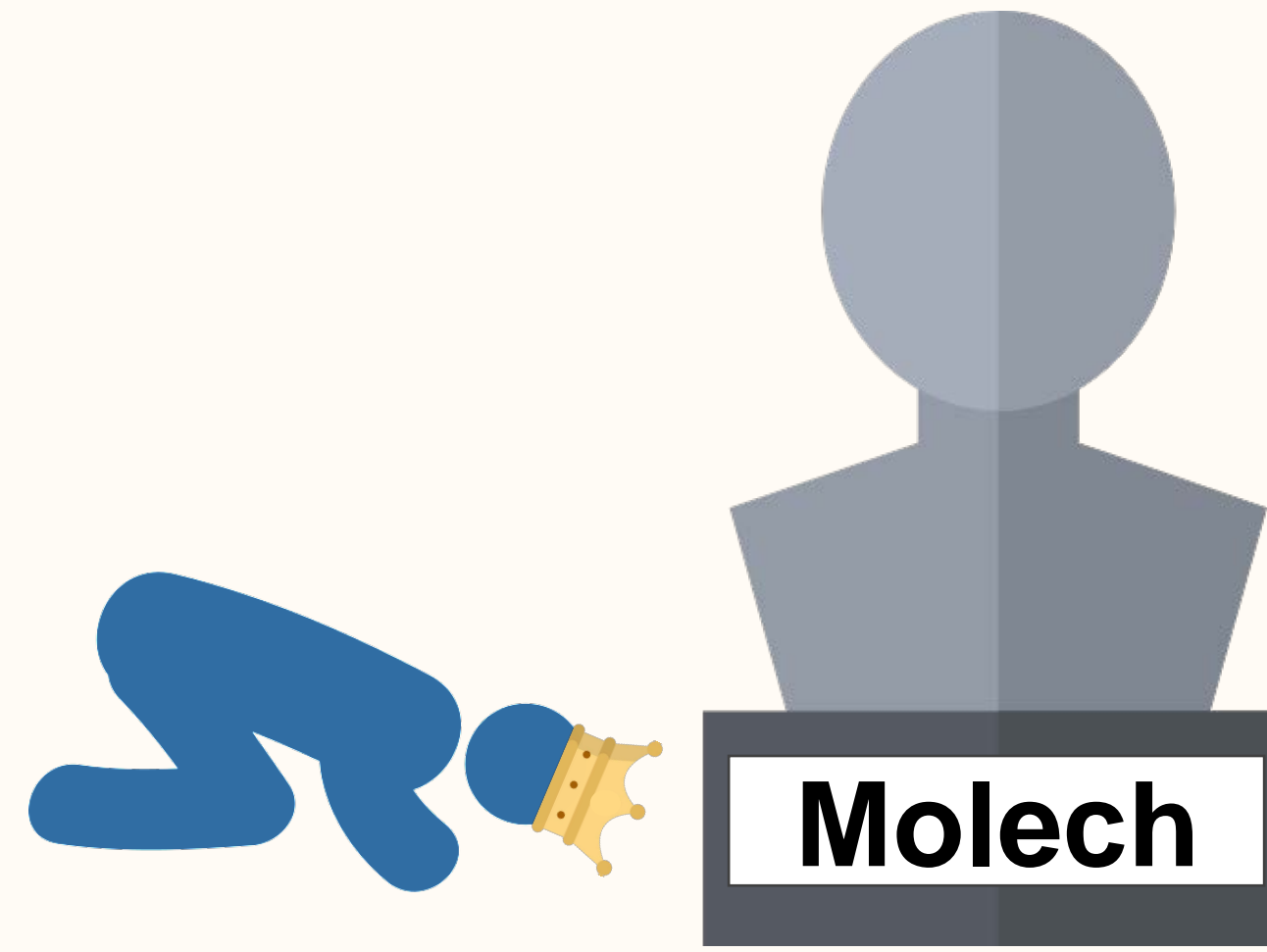
1 Kings 11:5, “For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

1 Kings 11:6, “Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow the LORD, as did his father David.

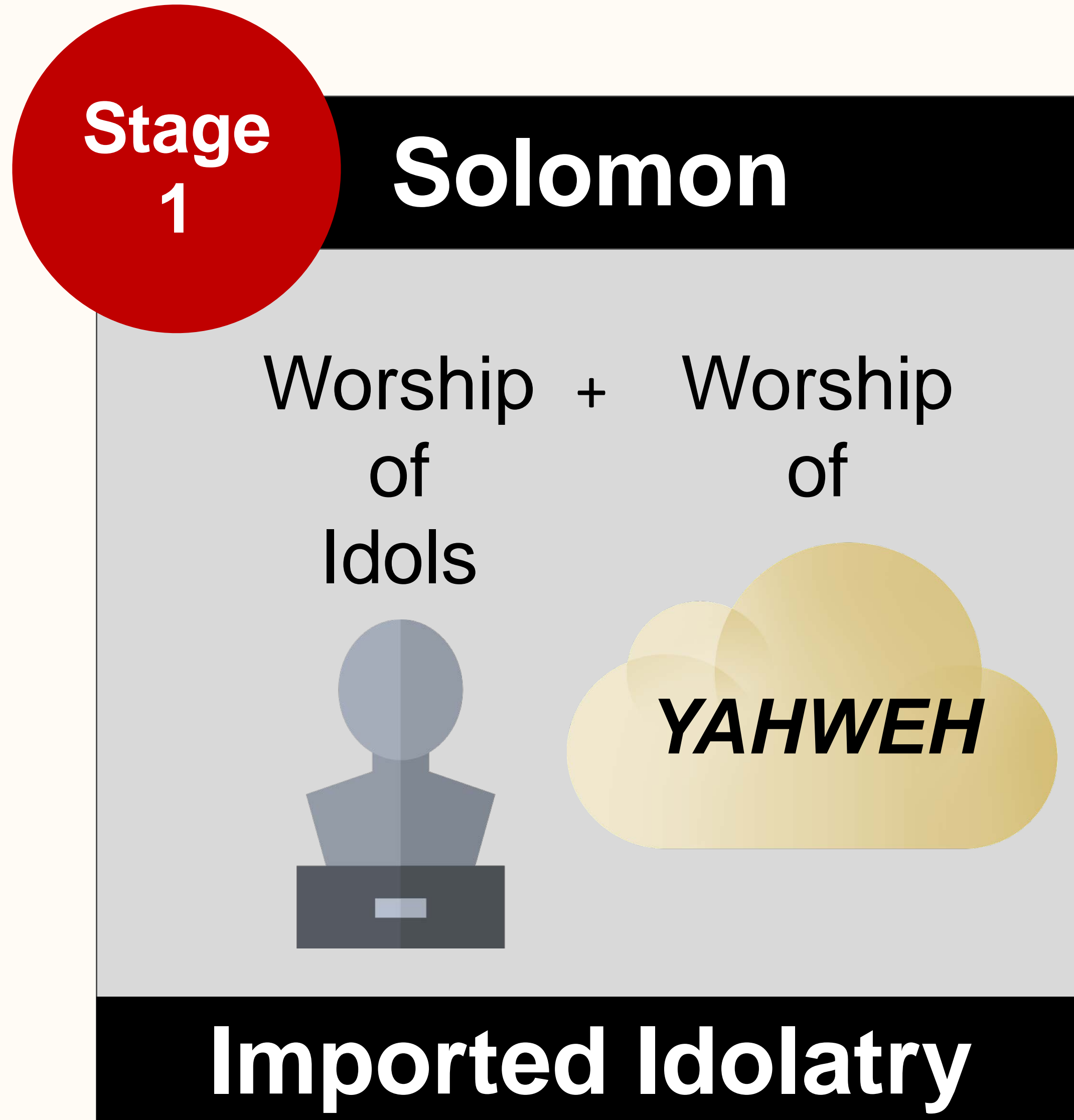
1 Kings 11:7, “Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon.

1 Kings 11:8, “And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.”

Solomon worshipped the gods of his many wives



How Israel Became Paganized





YAHWEH



Friend of God



Enemy of God

In any marriage, there needs to be unity of purpose:

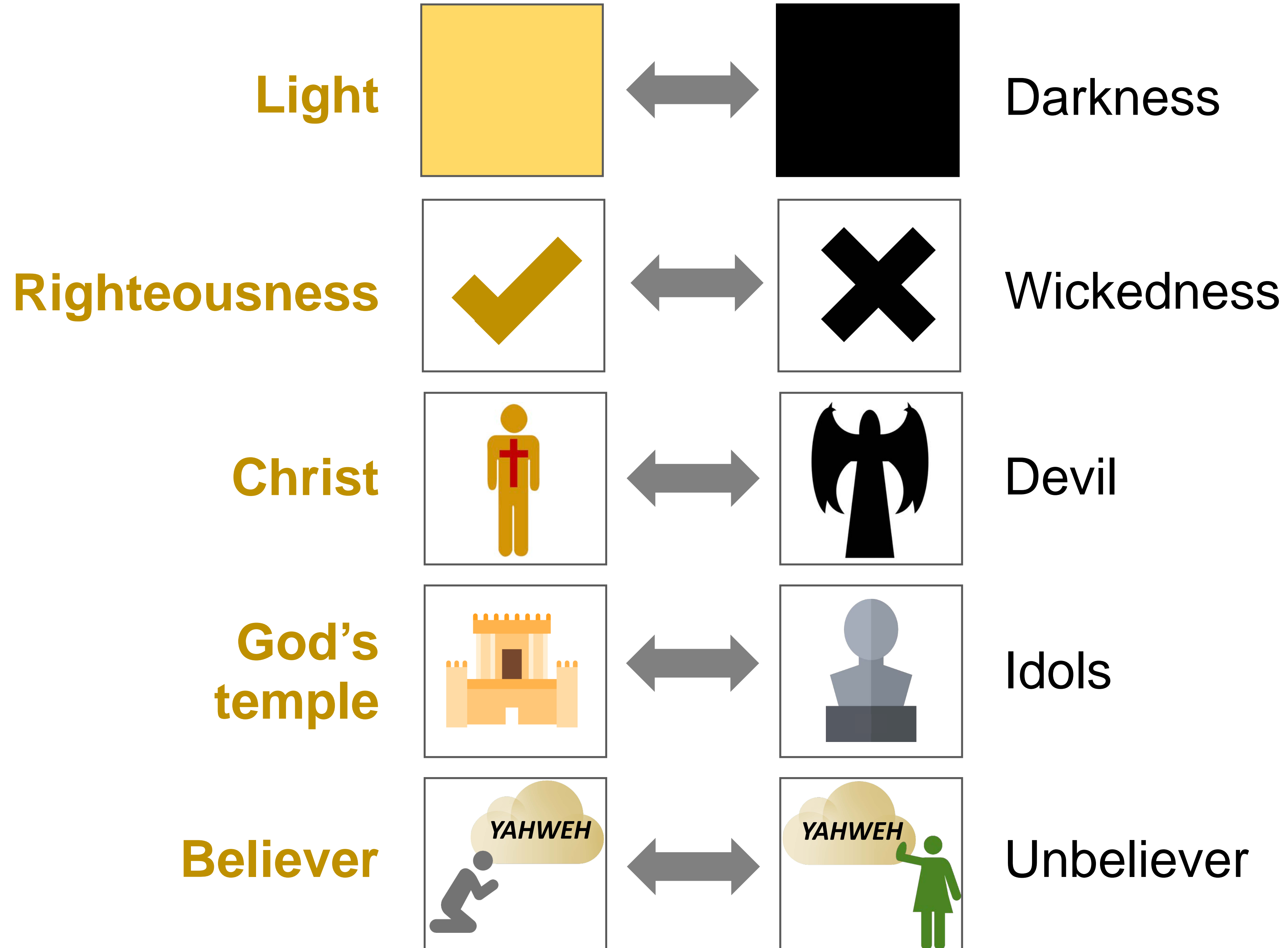
- **Why are they getting married?**
- **What is their shared vision of life?**
- **What are their common beliefs?**
- **What are their shared principles?**

2 Cor. 6:14, “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?”

2 Cor. 6:15, “And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?”

2 Cor. 6:16, “And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ ”

God is asking: do these go together?



1 Cor. 7:12, “But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her.

1 Cor. 7:13, “And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him.

1 Cor. 7:14, “For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy.

1 Cor. 7:15, “But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.

1 Cor. 7:16, “For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?”

What happened after Solomon turned away from God



EGYPT

EDOM

SYRIA (ARAM)

PHOENICIA

ARAM

AMMON

MOAB

EDOM

Mediterranean Sea

Euphrates River

Red Sea

Sinai

Sidon

Tyre

Dan

Joppa

Ashdod

Gaza

Jerusalem

Beersheba



CONDITIONAL DYNASTY

IF

Solomon obeys

THEN

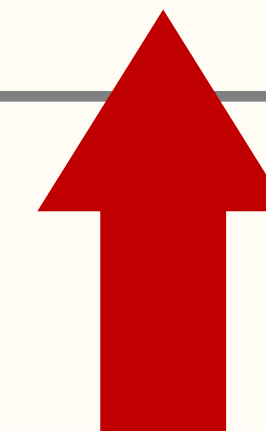
Solomon's dynasty will
be established forever

IF

Solomon rebels

THEN

Israel will be scattered
in discipline



THIS HAPPENED

1 Kings 11:9, “So the LORD became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice,

1 Kings 11:10, “and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded.

1 Kings 11:11, “Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, ‘Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant.

1 Kings 11:12, “ ‘Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son.

1 Kings 11:13, “ ‘However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of My servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen.’ ”

Sanctification Lessons from the Life of Solomon

- 1. God-given wisdom must be used with God's continued counsel.**

Creator-creature Distinction

1st level

CREATOR
(*Yahweh*)

INFINITE WISDOM

2nd level

creature (man)



finite: limited
amount of wisdom

Eccl. 3:11, “He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.”

Deut. 17:18, “Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites.

Deut. 17:19, “And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,

Deut. 17:20, “that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.”

Creator-creature Distinction

1st level
CREATOR
(*Yahweh*)

**YAHWEH'S
WISDOM**

2nd level
creature (man)



mankind's wisdom

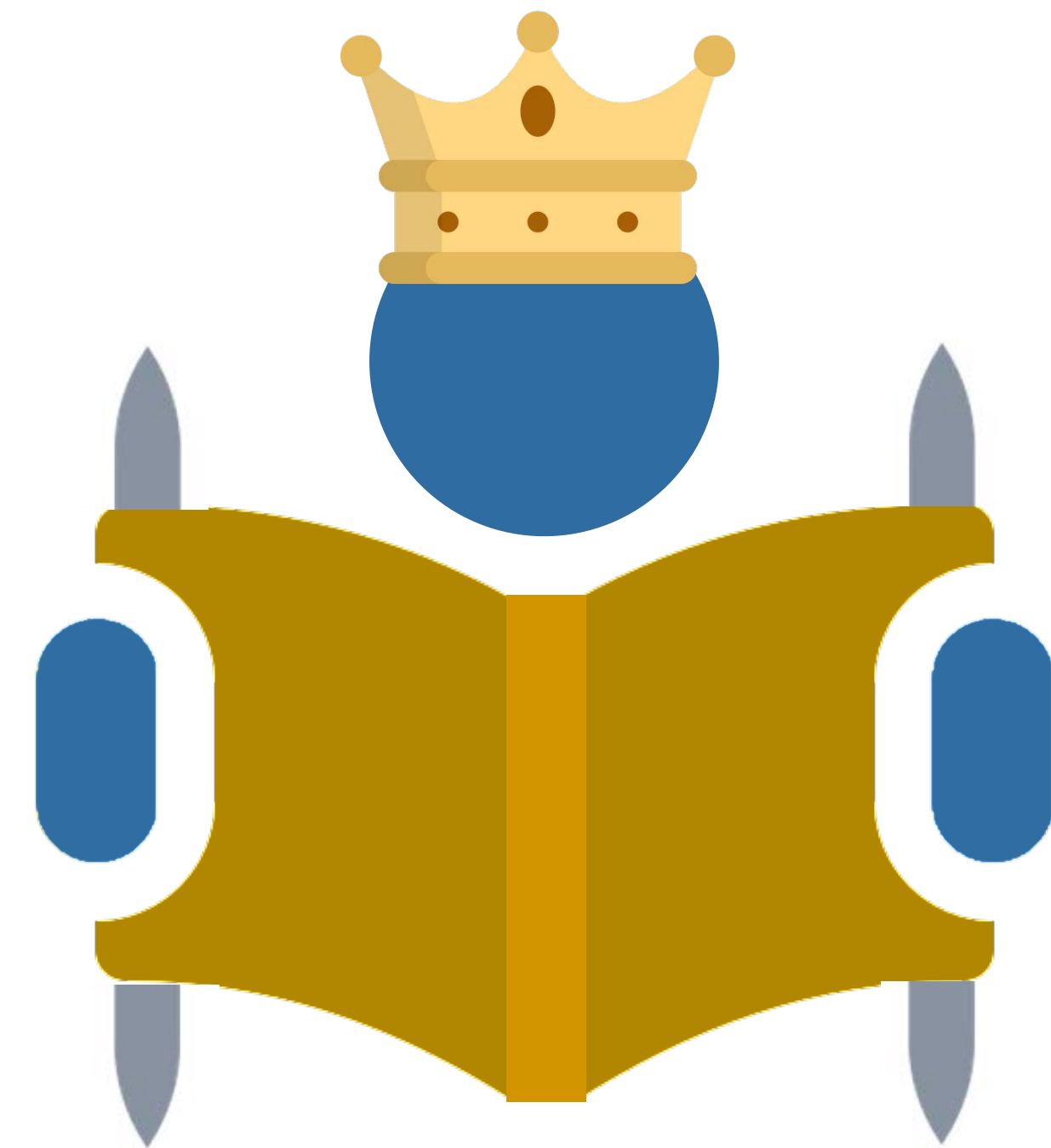
**This is what Solomon
should have done**

ISRAEL'S KING MUST ...

The Book of the Law



... copy the book



... read it daily

This is how Solomon behaved instead

Creator-creature Distinction

1st level
CREATOR
(Yahweh)

YAHWEH'S
WISDOM

=



mankind's
wisdom

2nd level
creature (man)

finite: limited
amount of wisdom

2. To live a good life, the most important thing is to fear God.

Eccl. 2:8, “I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delights of the sons of men, and musical instruments of all kinds.

Eccl. 2:9, “So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me.

Eccl. 2:10, “Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, for my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.

Eccl. 2:11, “Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done and on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun.”

Solomon's list of meaningless pursuits



wealth



entertainment



womanising



wisdom



work



pleasure

Eccl. 2:13, “Then I saw that wisdom excels folly as light excels darkness.

Eccl. 2:14, “The wise man’s eyes are in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. Yet I myself perceived that the same event happens to them all.”

Solomon's conclusion



Fear God



Obey His commands



God will judge how we live

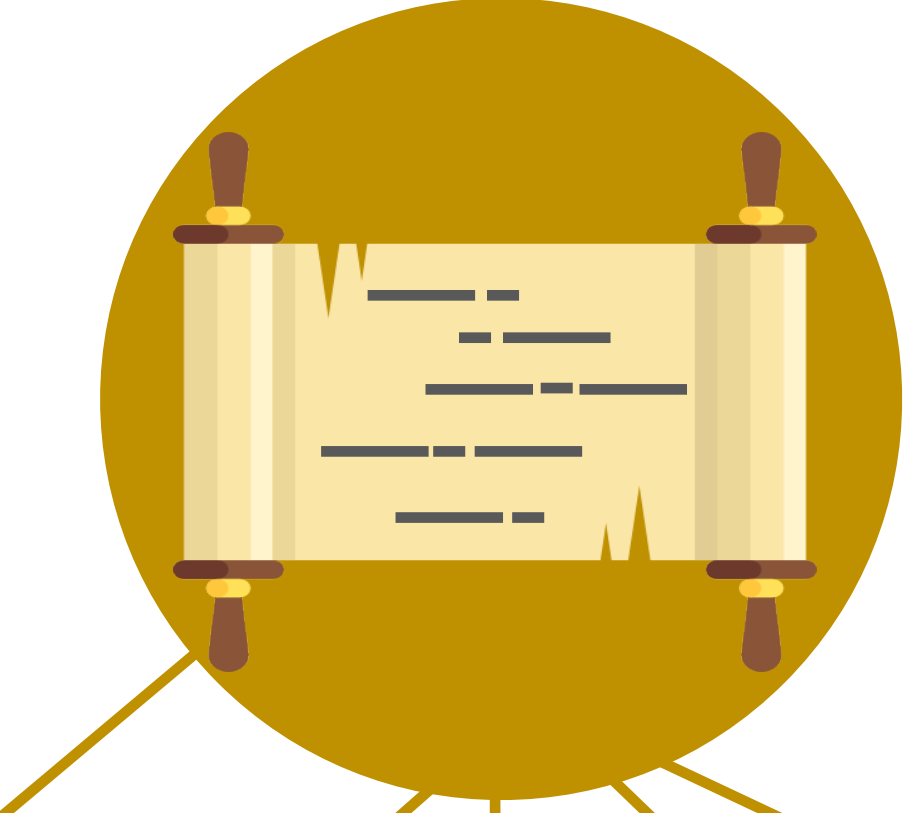
Should Christians avoid being involved in “cultural” or “unchristian” things like secular art, music, dance, etc.?

- How much should a believer be involved in the culture of the world?**
- What should a believer do with the talents and gifts that God has given when it comes to expressing them within the culture they live in?**

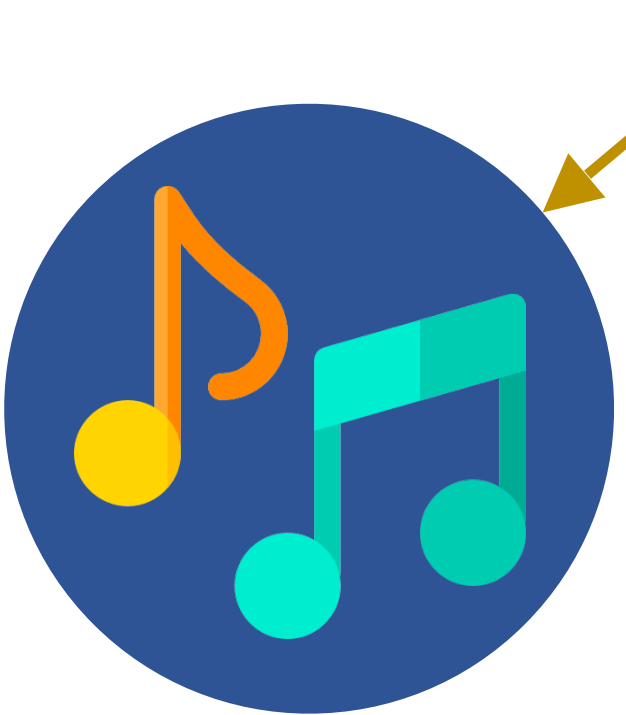
- **How much should a believer be involved in the culture of the world?**
- **What should a believer do with the talents and gifts that God has given when it comes to expressing them within the culture they live in?**

Culture is not neutral. It has a source.

YAHWEH



**God's Word and Biblical Wisdom
is the Source of Israel's Culture**



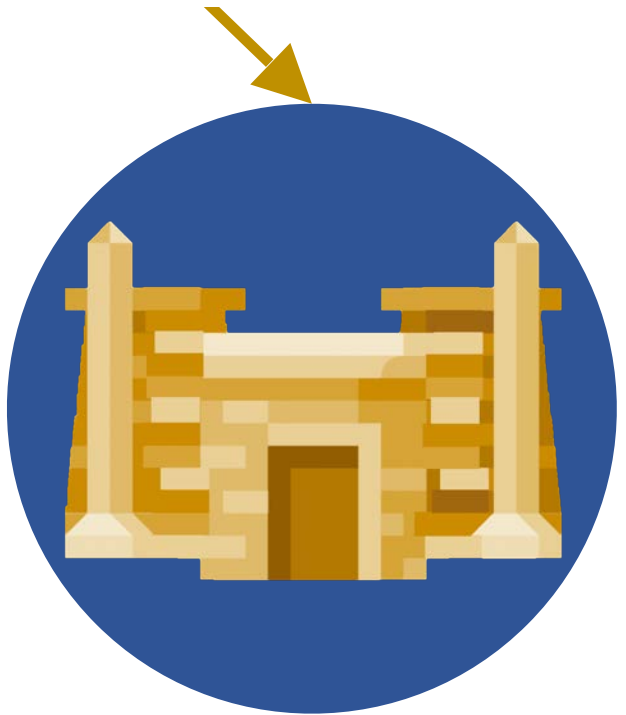
Music



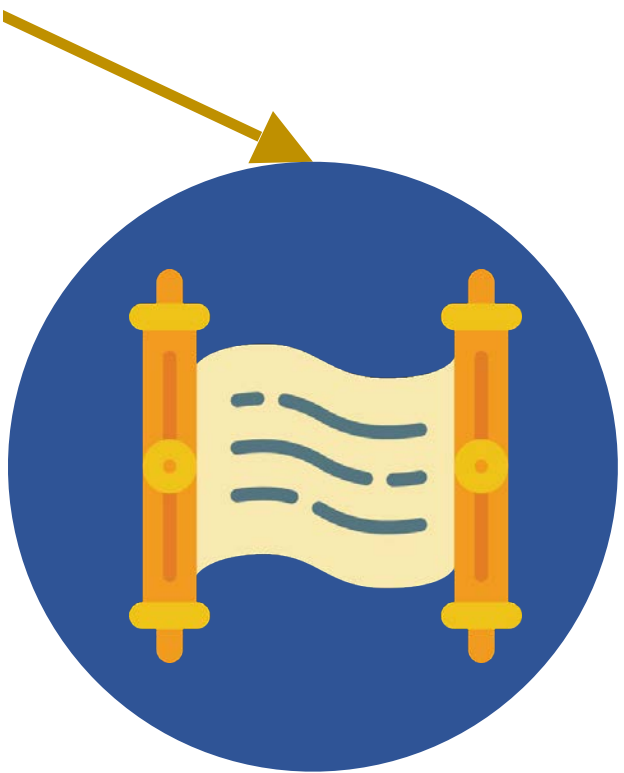
Poetry



Art

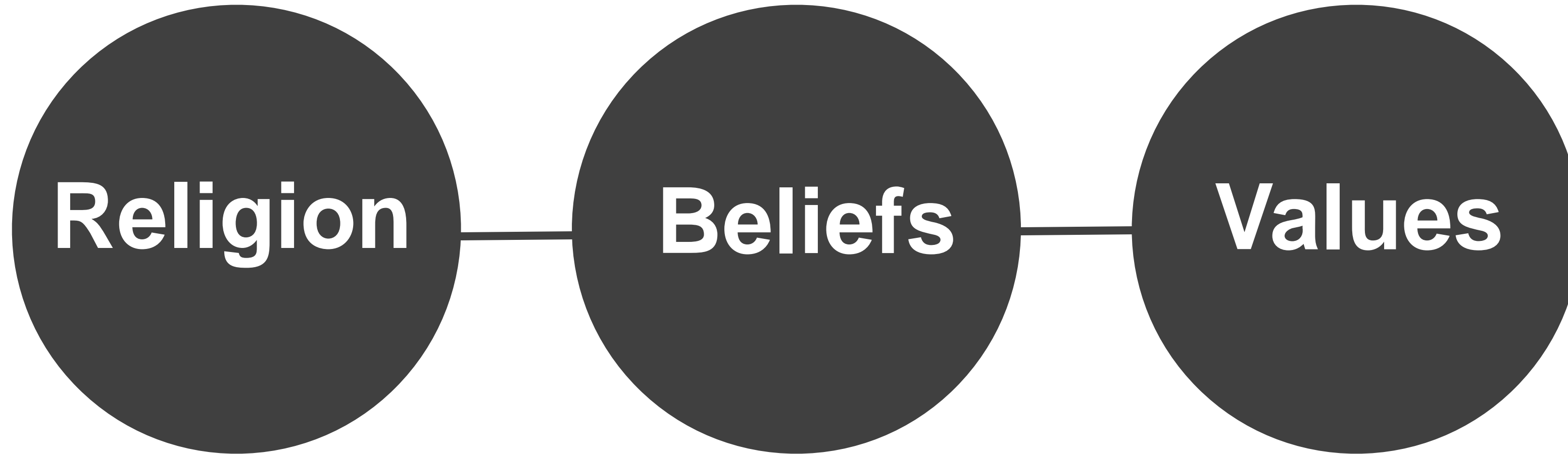


Architecture

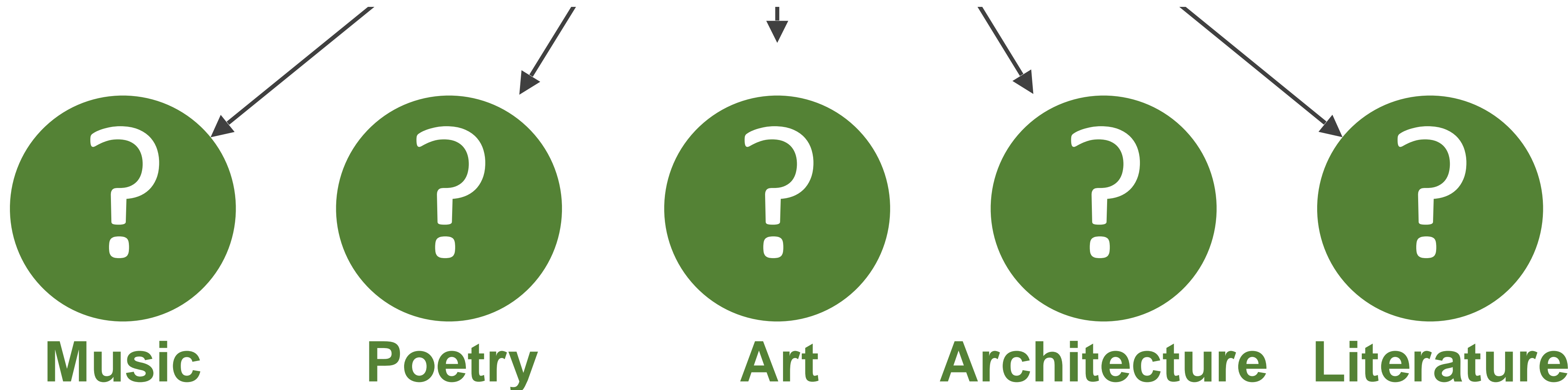


Literature

Pagan Nations



... are the foundation for their culture

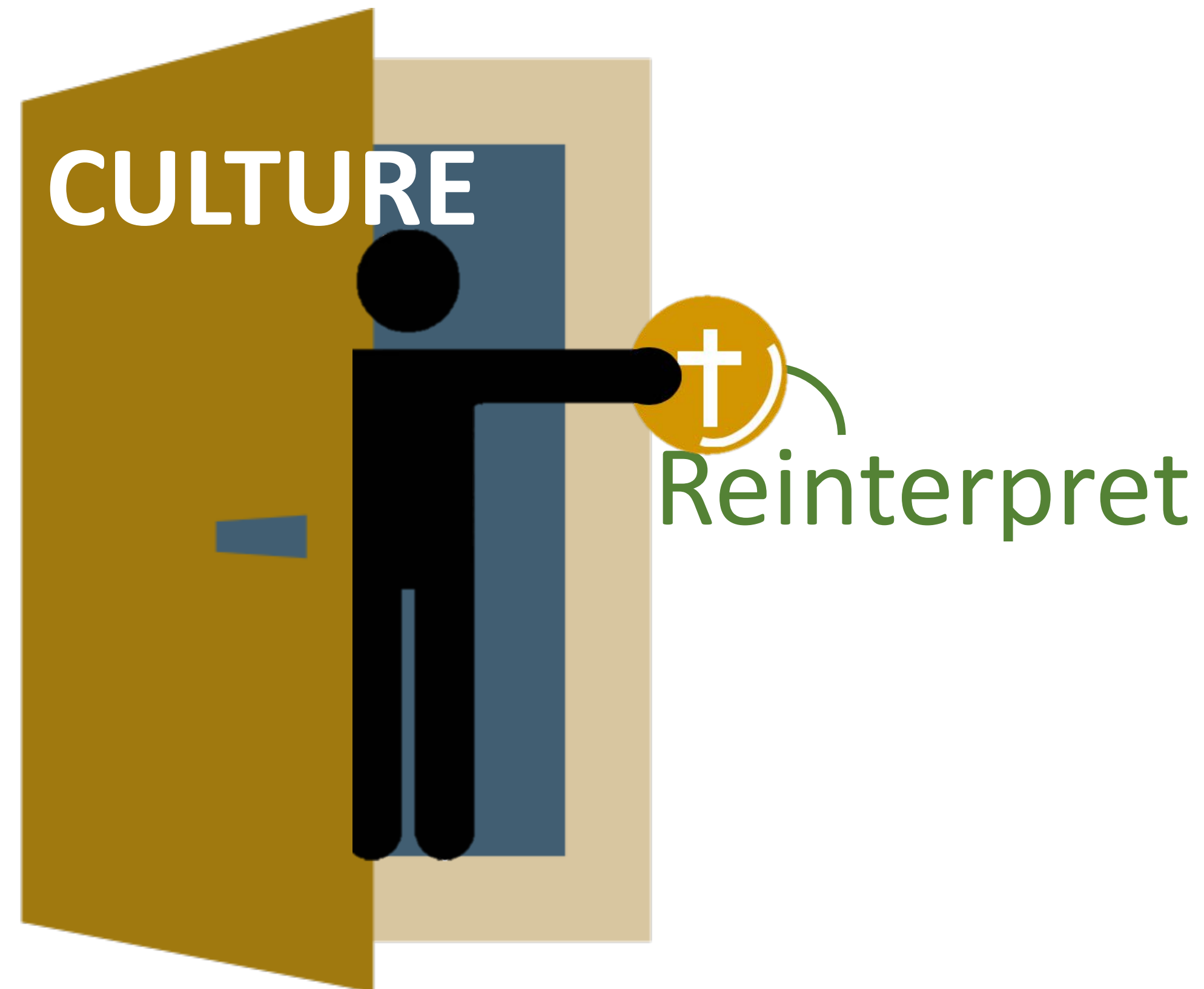


Three general responses believers have about the prevailing culture of their nation:

1. **Follow:** They will submit to the cultural expectations and norms of where they live and make sure they fit in. “Go along to get along.”



2. Force-fit: Whenever they face tension between the prevailing culture and the Bible, they attempt to reinterpret the Bible to ease the tension or the clash. This helps them be “obedient” to the Bible while embracing the culture they live in. This was the solution of Protestant Liberalism.



3. Separate: They will separate from all present culture because they believe that something is wrong with it.

Examples:

- a. The Amish, a people group who live by the culture of a previous era and reject the current culture.
- b. Monasticism, monks in monasteries.
- c. When people withdraw from the culture because they believe that is the best way to remain holy in a sinful world. They don't engage or participate in any form of general community life. Their involvement is largely limited to Christian activities.




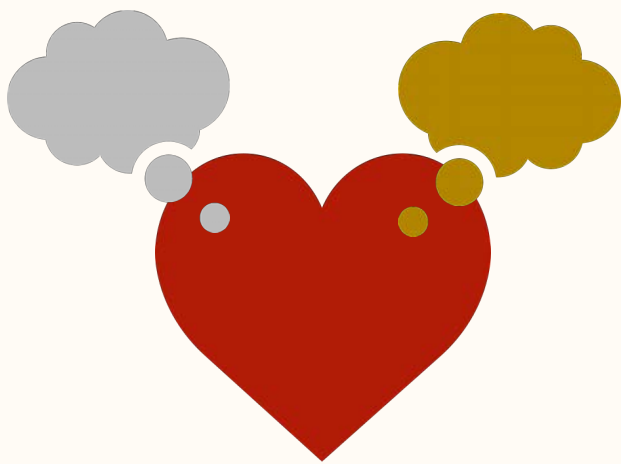

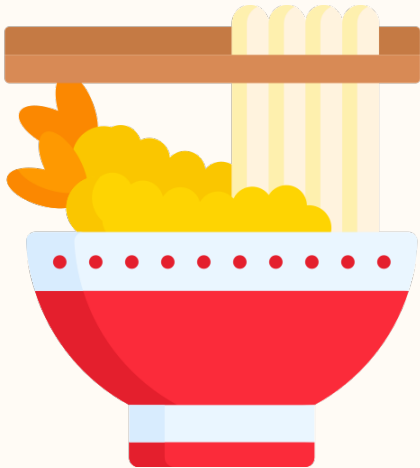



Israel was called to be a counterculture among the nations.

- They were not supposed to follow the culture of the pagan nations.**
- They were not supposed to force-fit or reinterpret God's laws and mesh them with the pagan culture.**
- But neither were they supposed to kill culture by hiding their God-given abilities and skills to farm, ranch, build, create music, produce art, dance, garden, cook, decorate, craft, engage in sports, perform on stage, sing, etc.**

Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Gen. 2:19, “Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.”

Deut. 6:5, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with everything you are and have.” [RD]

Heart		Soul				
						
mind	will	work	eat	hobbies	passions	choices

Our Attitudes Towards Using and Enjoying the Cultural Work of Unbelievers

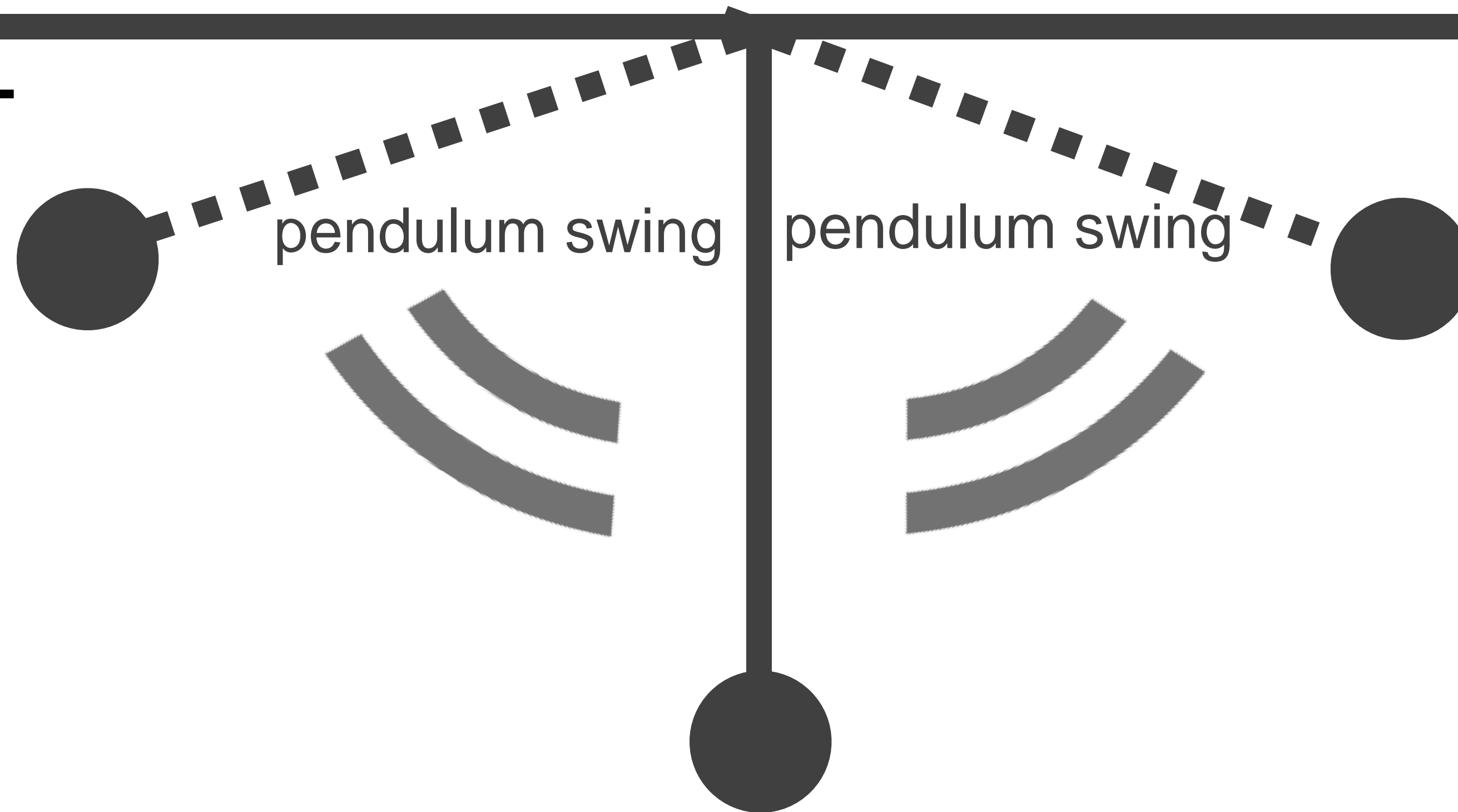
WE SHOULD NOT

follow everything without God-guided filters



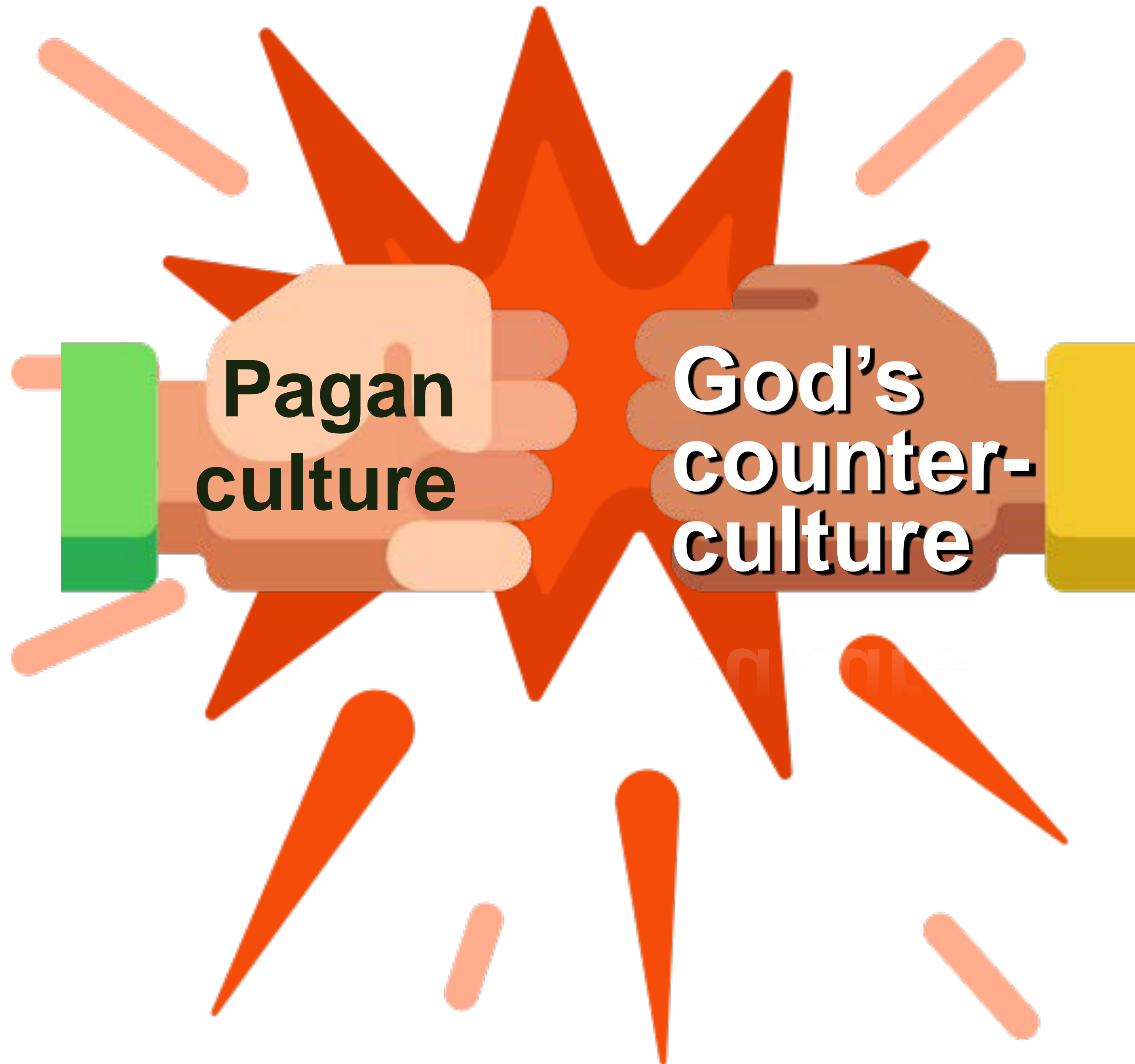
WE SHOULD NOT

treat all creativity by unbelievers as forbidden



WE SHOULD:

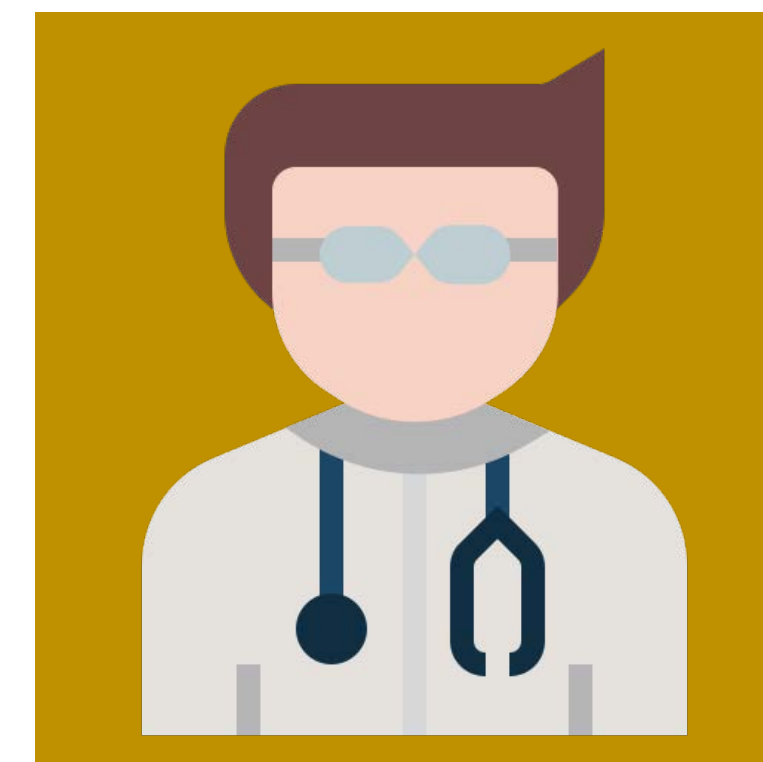
- Rely on God's biblical wisdom
- Filter the cultural work through Scripture
- Pray for wisdom and discernment



Teachers



Lawyers



Doctors

Three things to think about:

- 1. We must choose to be loyal to our personal relationship with God above all else.**
- 2. We should recognize that most of our relationships with unbelievers will be at a limited depth.**
- 3. We need to intentionally engage and invest time in the unbelievers who are willing to have a deeper relationship with us.**