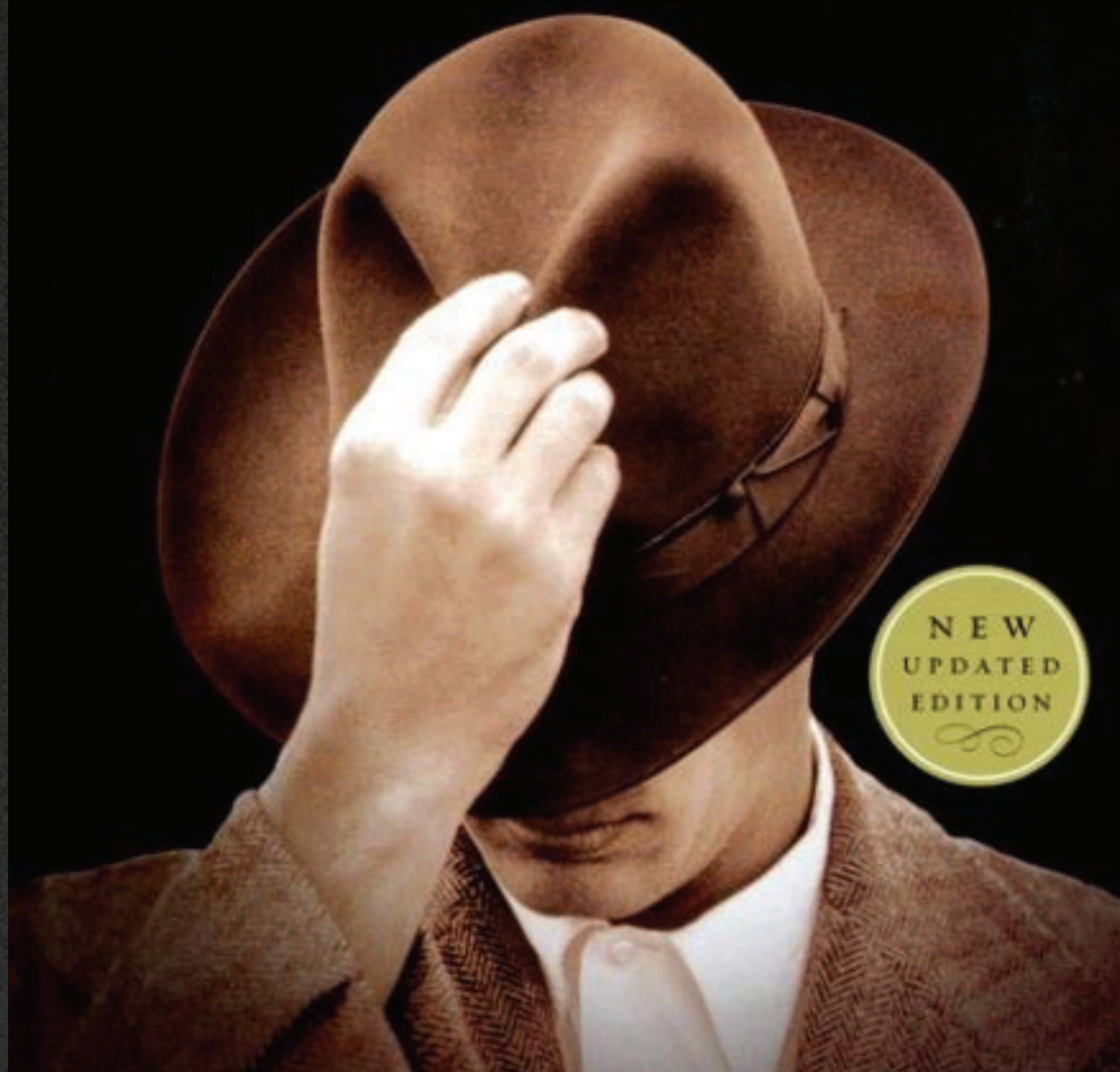


# Paul's Loving Charge to the Church

Week 7: The Enemy's Target on the Church: False Teaching  
1 Timothy 4:1-5

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp - Reston Bible Church - Sunday, June 2nd, 2024

JOSHUA HARRIS



NEW  
UPDATED  
EDITION

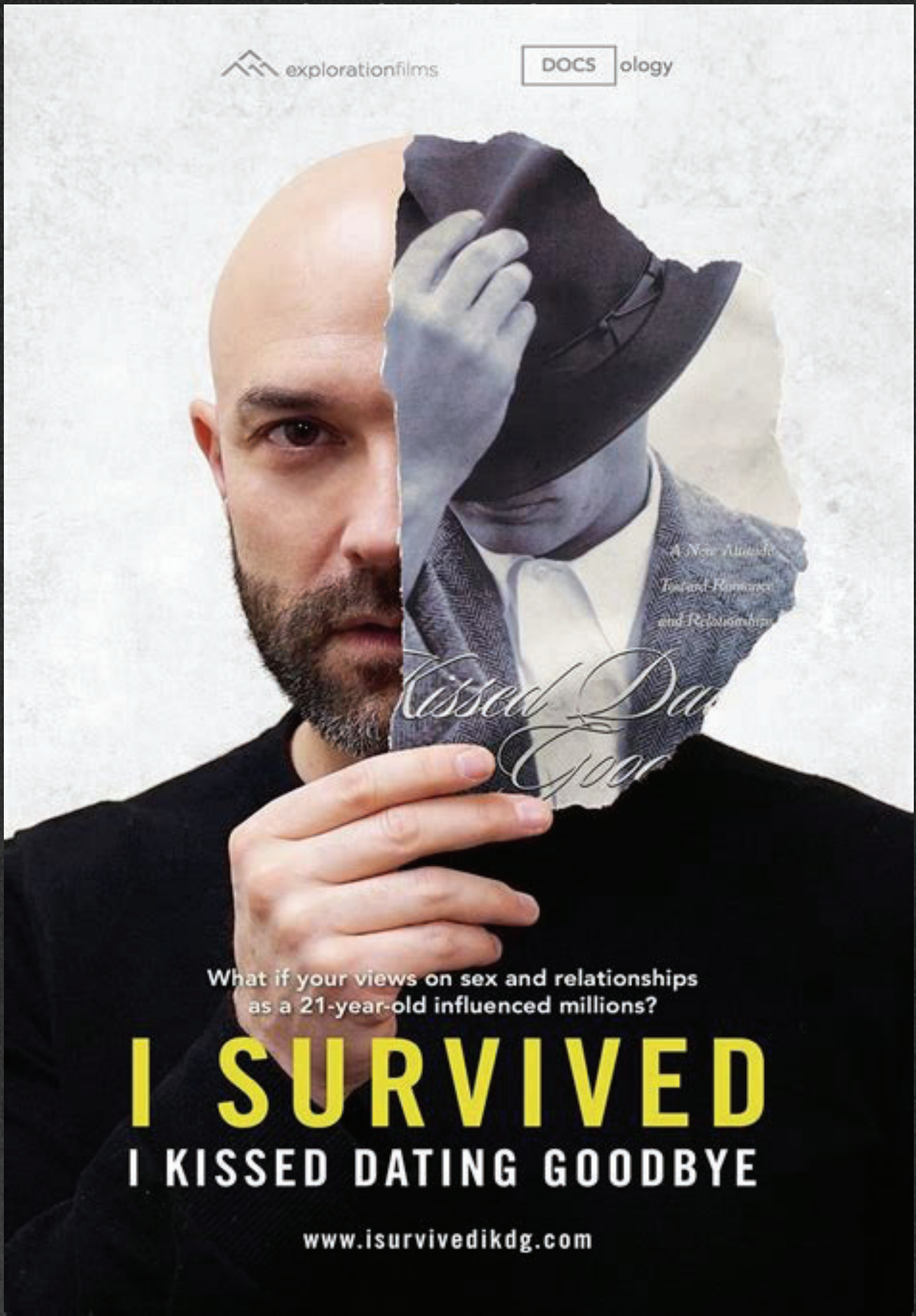
*I Kissed Dating*  
**GOODBYE**

A NEW ATTITUDE  
TOWARD ROMANCE *and* RELATIONSHIPS



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A New Approach  
To Love, Romance  
and Relationships

*Kissed Dating  
Goodbye*

What if your views on sex and relationships  
as a 21-year-old influenced millions?

# I SURVIVED

## I KISSED DATING GOODBYE

[www.isurvivedikdg.com](http://www.isurvivedikdg.com)

Chapter 4 is addressed to “local leadership, because **the local church** is the main arena in which **the unremitting struggle between truth and error** is fought out. So local leaders need help both in detecting error and in commending truth.”

*John Stott*



Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **looking to Jesus**, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is **seated at the right hand** of the throne of God.

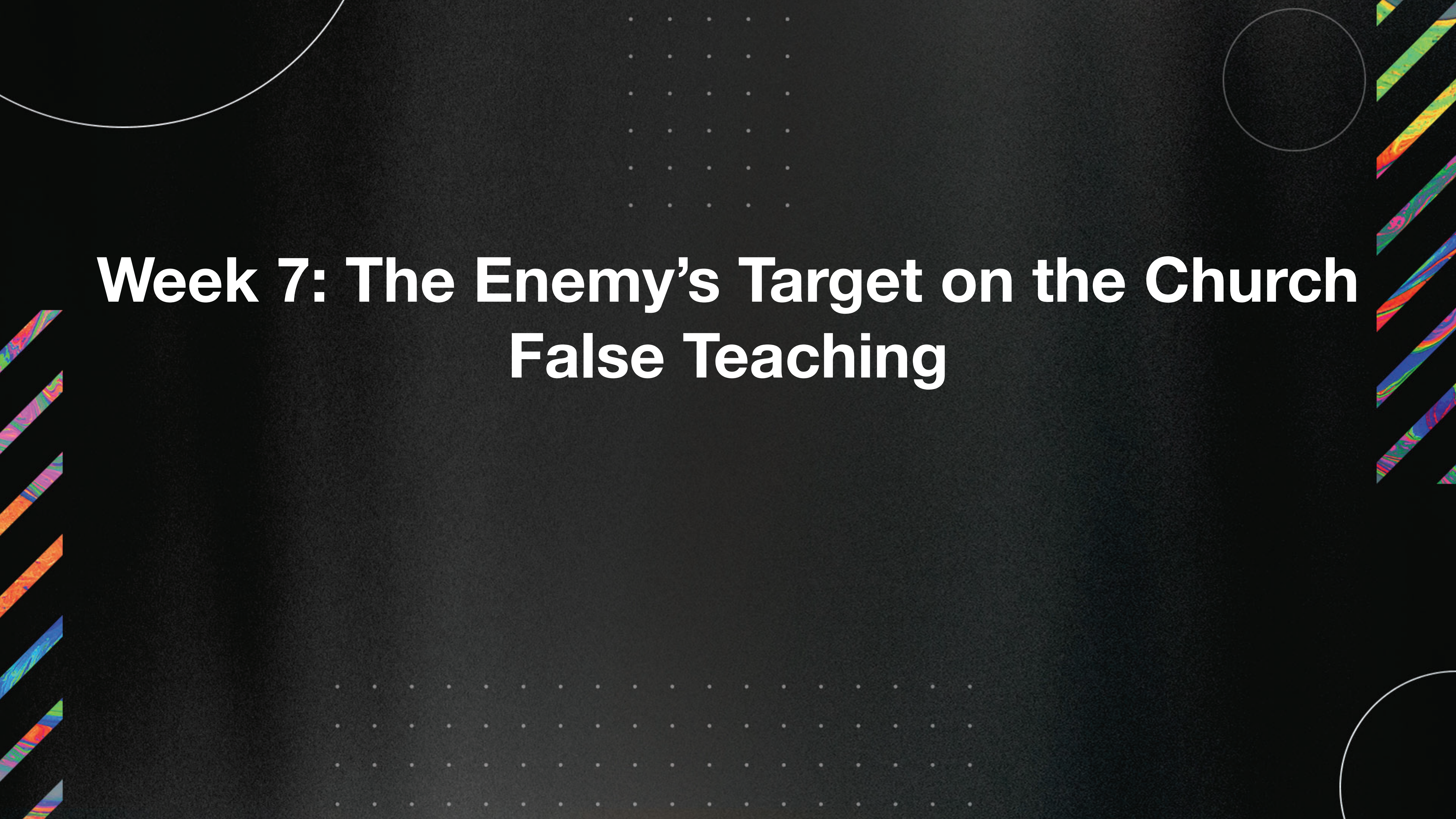
*Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV*

# Paul's Loving Charge to the Church



The **aim of our charge is love** that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

*1 Timothy 1:5 ESV*



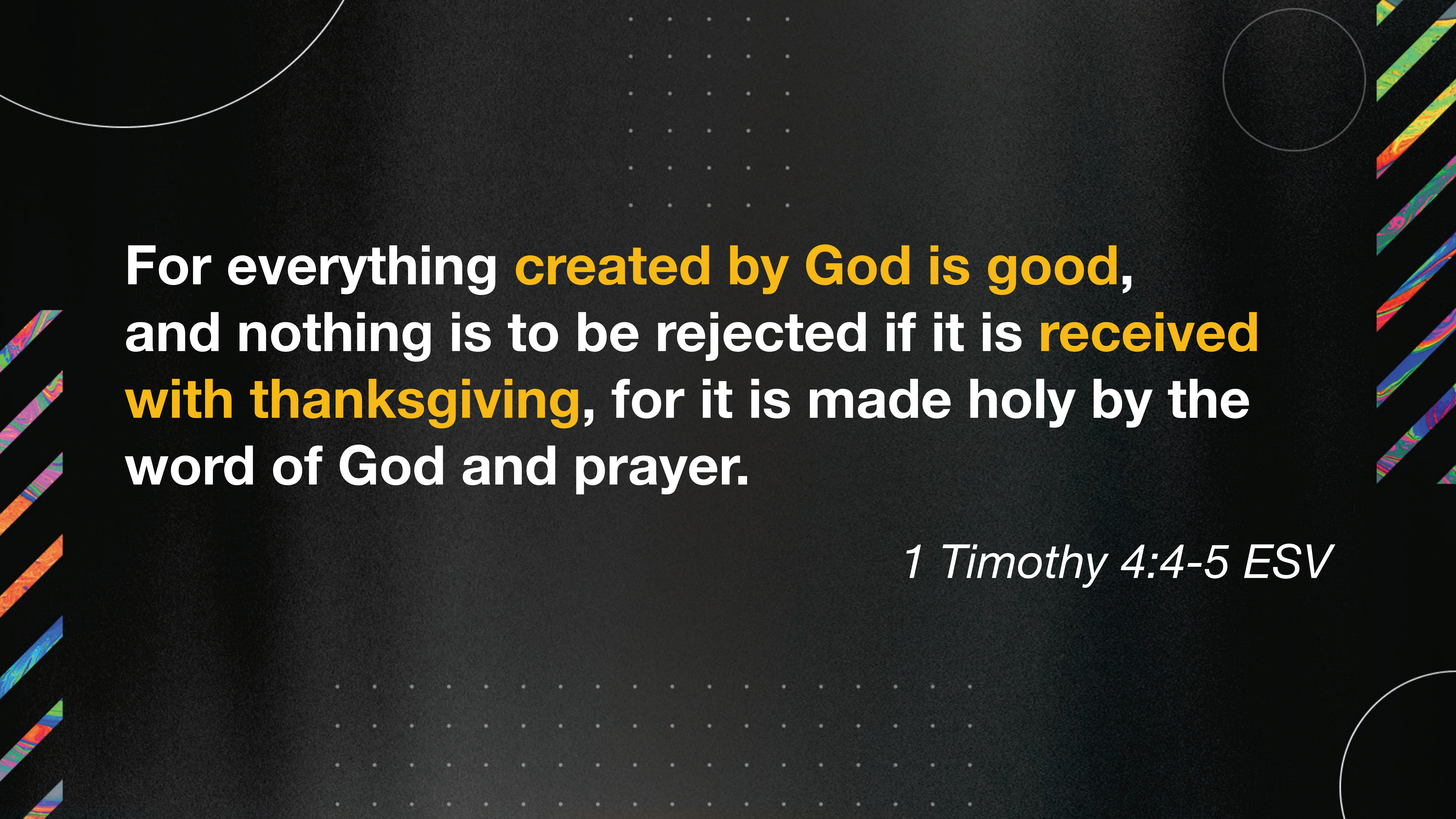
**Week 7: The Enemy's Target on the Church**  
**False Teaching**

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will **depart from the faith** by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared...

*1 Timothy 4:1-2 ESV*

...**who forbid** marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

*1 Timothy 4:3 ESV*



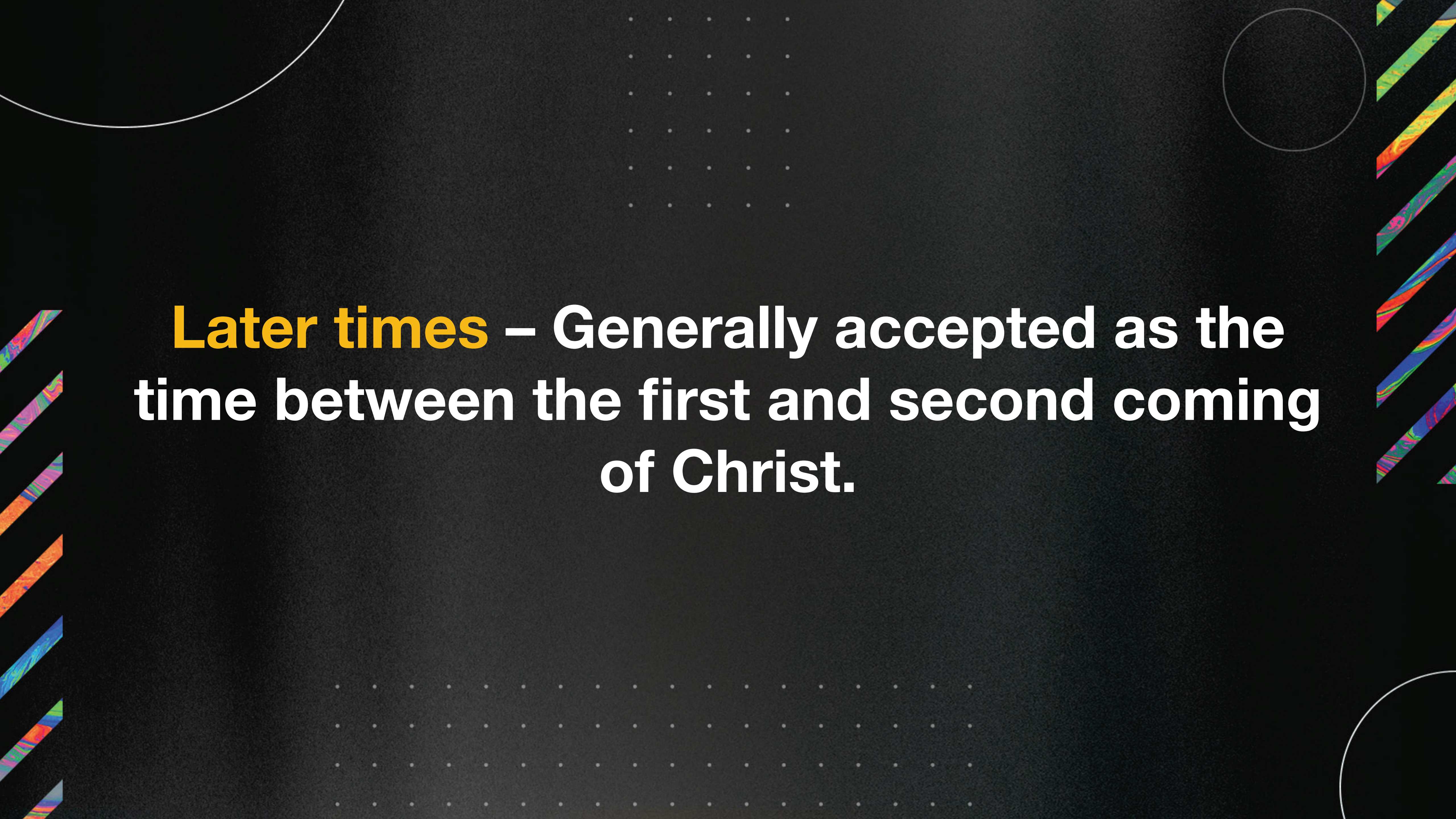
For everything **created by God is good**,  
and nothing is to be rejected if it is **received**  
**with thanksgiving**, for it is made holy by the  
word of God and prayer.

*1 Timothy 4:4-5 ESV*

# 1. Our Enemy at Work

**Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared...**

*1 Timothy 4:1-2 ESV*



**Later times** – Generally accepted as the time between the first and second coming of Christ.

And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you **astray**. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many **astray**.”

*Matthew 24:4-5 ESV*



I know that after my departure **fierce wolves** **will come in** among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, **to draw away the disciples** after them.

*Acts 20:29-30 ESV*

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith...

*1 Timothy 4:1 ESV*

**Depart:** Apostacy – moving away from an original position.

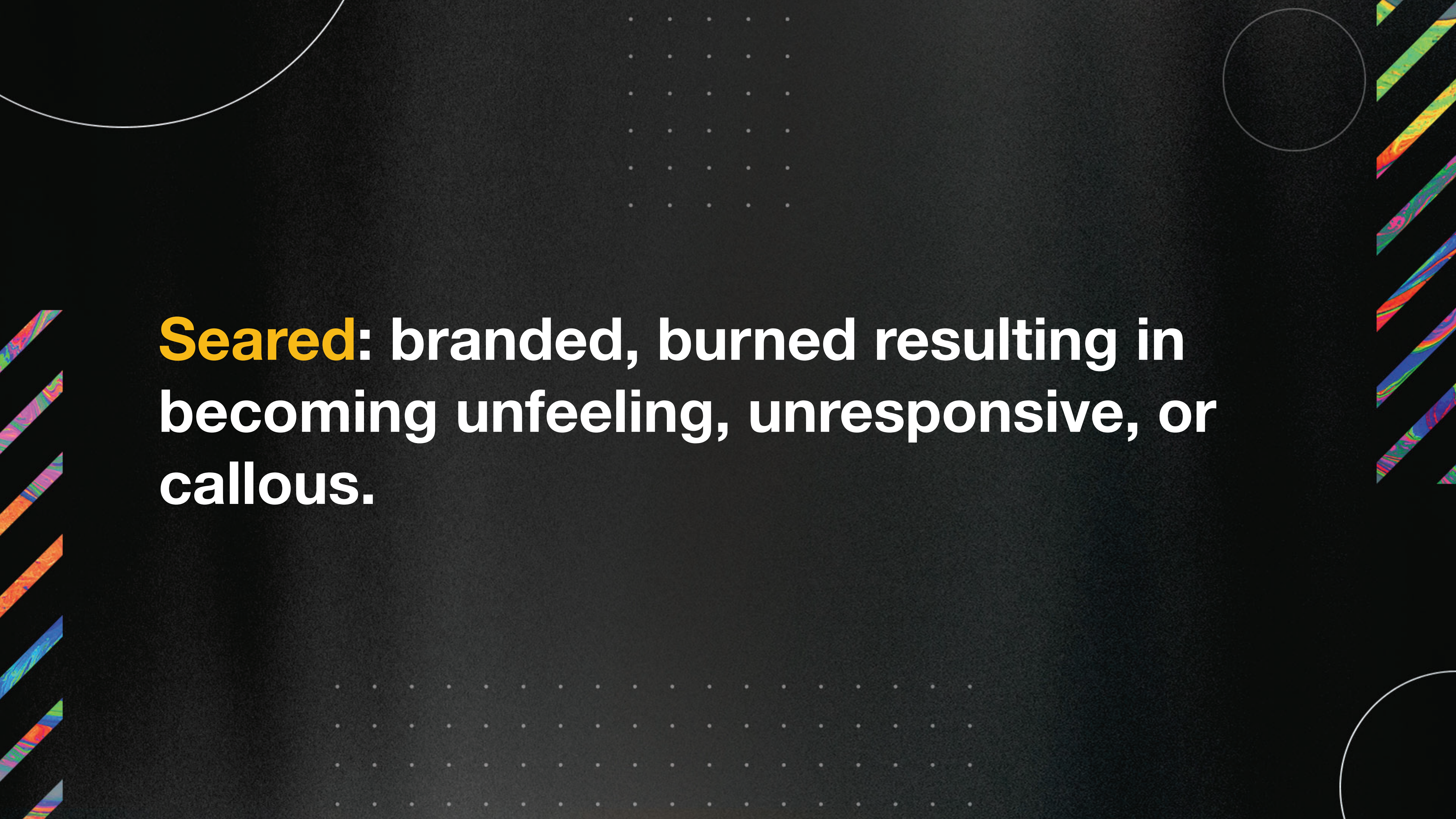


**Deceitful spirits:** by definition deceit is deliberate.

...insincerity of liars whose consciences  
are seared...

*1 Timothy 4:2 ESV*

**Liars** – speakers of falsehood



**Seared:** branded, burned resulting in becoming unfeeling, unresponsive, or callous.

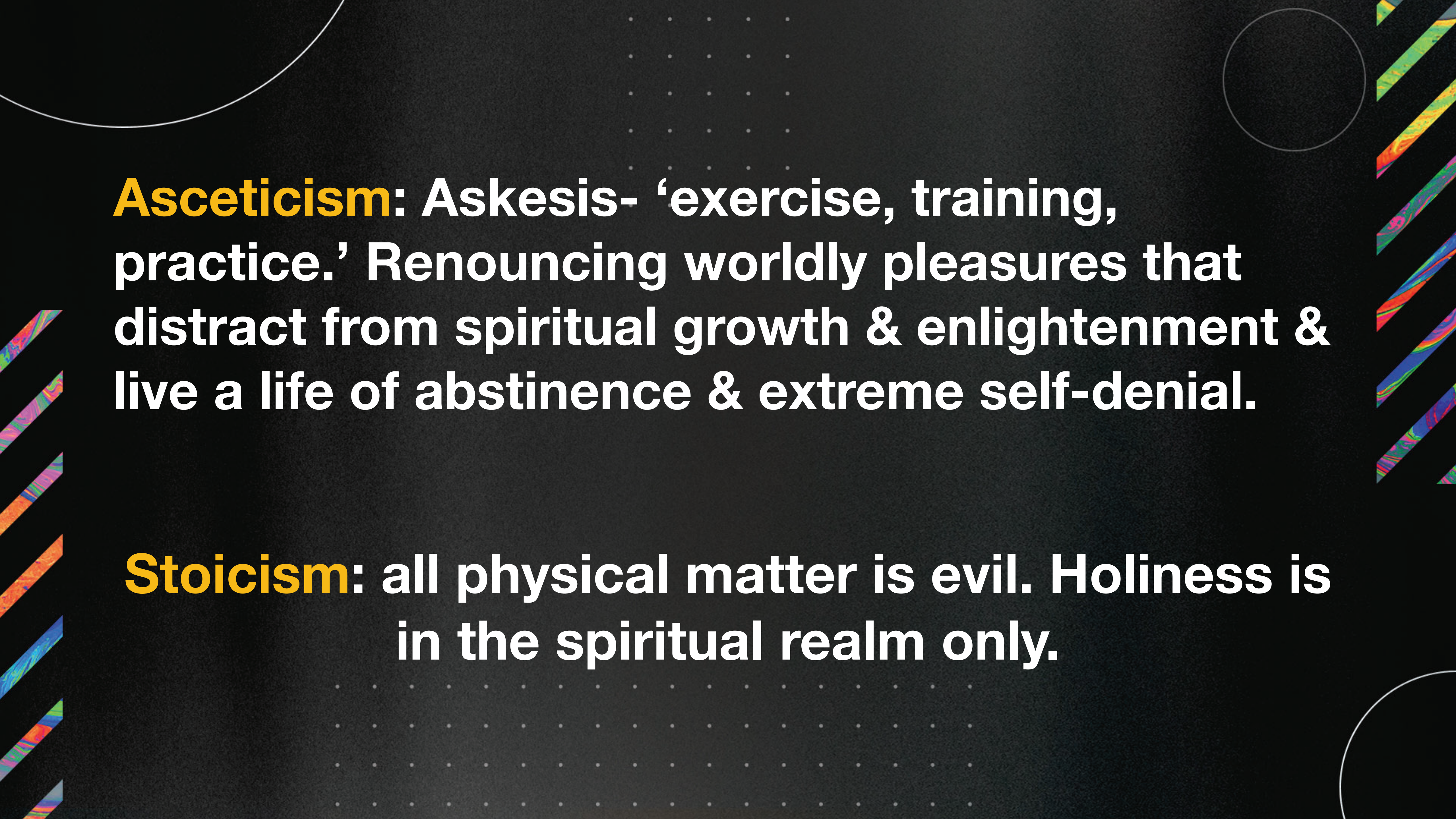
**It is one of the arrogant failures of modernity and even postmodernity to think that all teaching and ideas are only human, and thus ignore even the possibility that ideas may be given by deceitful spirits and teaching of demons. Even New Age spiritualists, who acknowledge the existence of the spiritual realm, have a tendency to assume that all teaching from spiritual sources is good and true and profitable.**

*Philip Jensen*

## 2. Distortions we Embrace

**...who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.**

*1 Timothy 4:3 ESV*



**Asceticism:** Askesis- ‘exercise, training, practice.’ Renouncing worldly pleasures that distract from spiritual growth & enlightenment & live a life of abstinence & extreme self-denial.

**Stoicism:** all physical matter is evil. Holiness is in the spiritual realm only.



### 3. God's Gifts

For everything **created by God is good**, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.

*1 Timothy 4:4-5 ESV*

# 1. Be a Student of the Word

**Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.**

*Acts 17:11 ESV*

**Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world...Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.**

*1 John 4:1, 4 ESV*

**One of my greatest regrets is that I have not studied enough. I wish I had studied more and preached less. People have pressured me into speaking to groups when I should have been studying and preparing. Donald Barnhouse said that if he knew the Lord was coming in three years, he would spend two of them studying and one preaching. I'm trying to make it up.**

*Billy Graham*

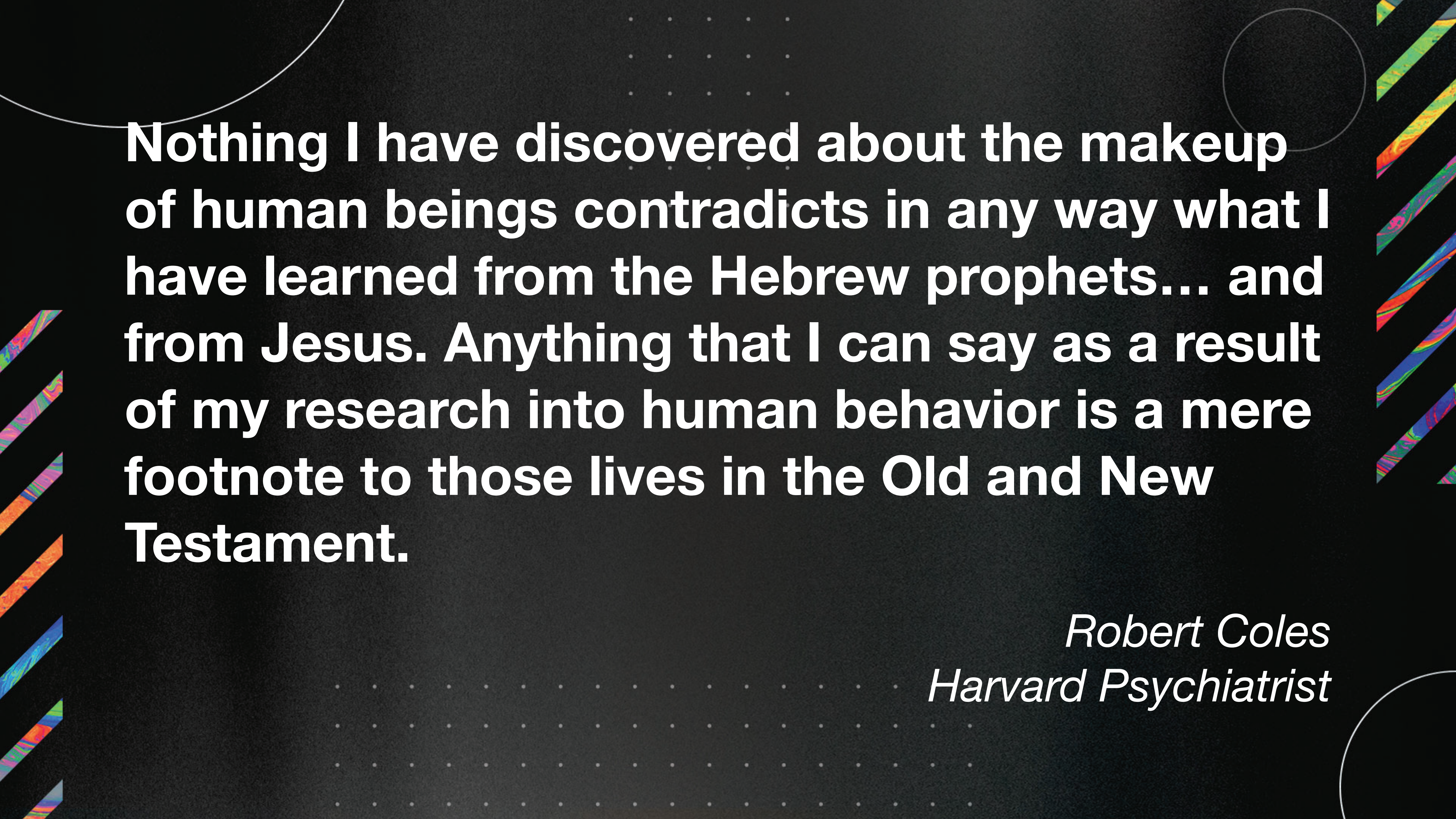




## 2. Embrace the Flawed Community of Christ

And let us run with perseverance the race  
marked out for us, **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the  
pioneer and perfecter of faith.

*Hebrews 12:1-2 NIV*



**Nothing I have discovered about the makeup of human beings contradicts in any way what I have learned from the Hebrew prophets... and from Jesus. Anything that I can say as a result of my research into human behavior is a mere footnote to those lives in the Old and New Testament.**

*Robert Coles  
Harvard Psychiatrist*





### **3. Live in Disciplined Freedom**

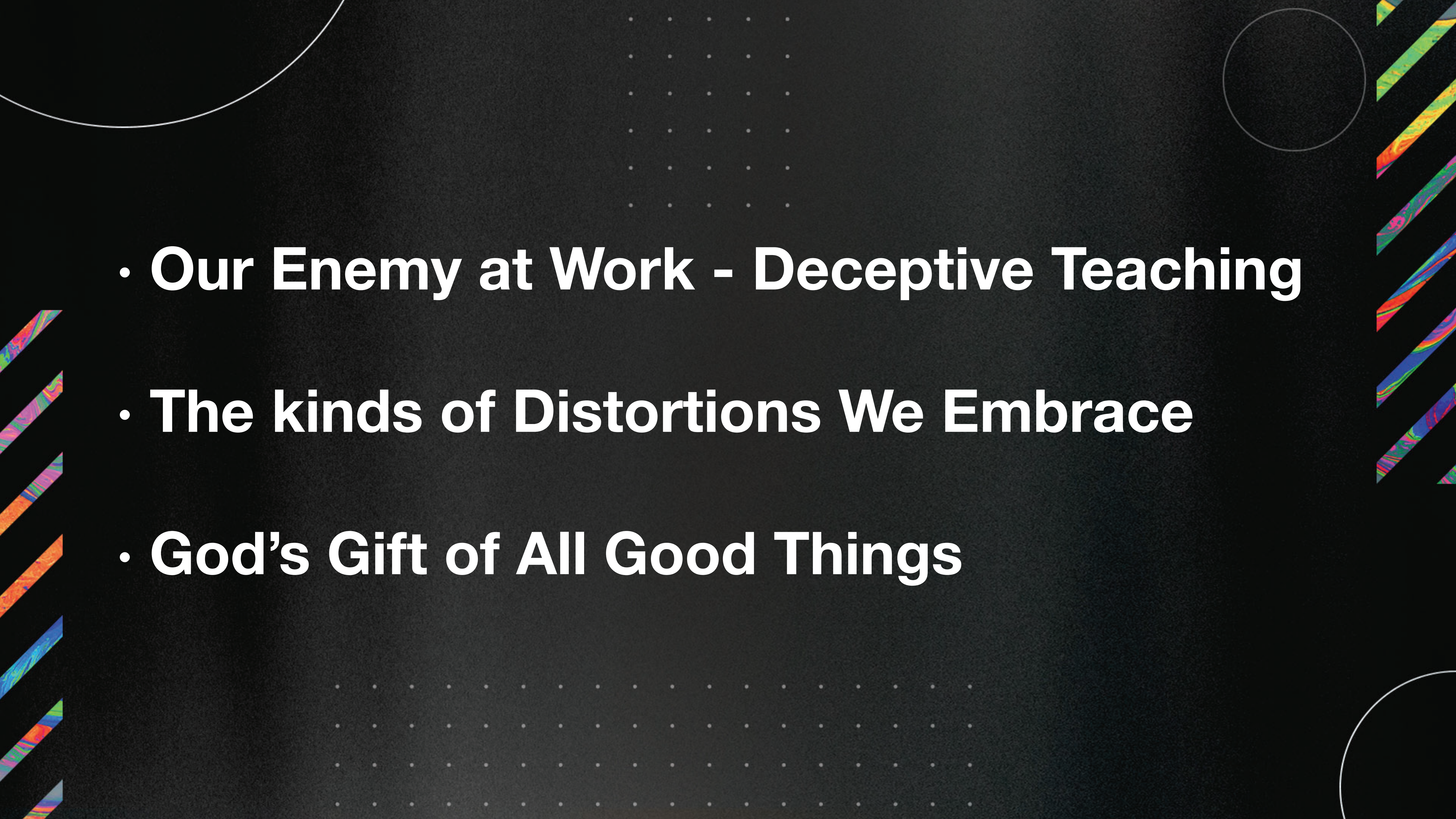
**For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.**

*Galatians 5:1 ESV*



**For you were called to freedom, brothers.  
Only do not use your freedom as an  
opportunity for the flesh...**

*Galatians 5:13 ESV*

- 
- **Our Enemy at Work - Deceptive Teaching**
  - **The kinds of Distortions We Embrace**
  - **God's Gift of All Good Things**



**1. Be a Student of the Word**

**2. Embrace the Flawed Community of Christ**

**3. Live in Disciplined Freedom**