

THE PATH OF SIN

THE SOURCE, COURSE & RECOURSE OF TEMPTATION

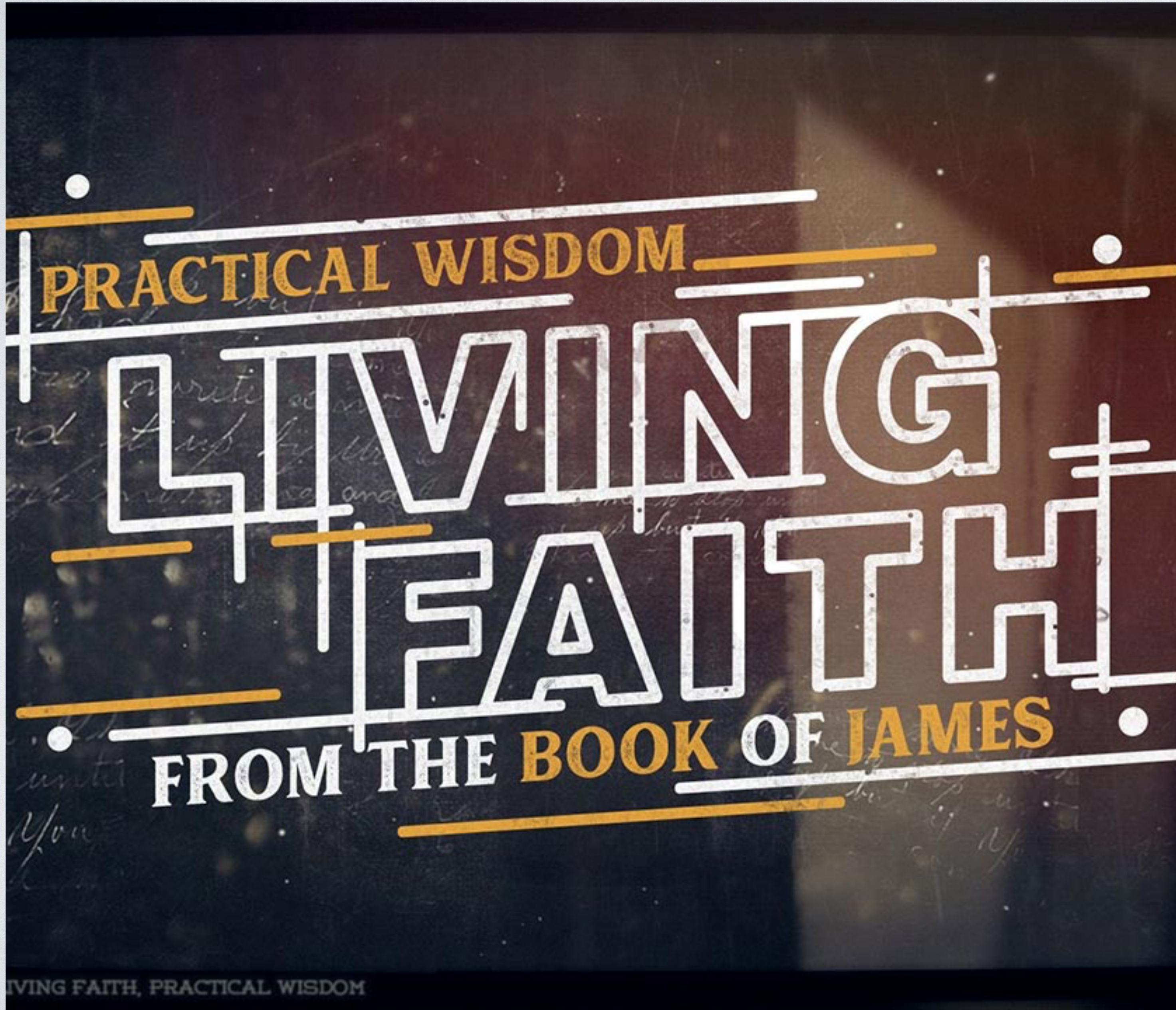
FAITH

WORKS

THE BOOK OF JAMES

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. (James 1:13 - NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: LIVING FAITH / PRACTICAL WISDOM



Epistle of Common Sense

- The value and necessity of faith in every aspect of the Christian's life - especially in view of the challenges and trials of this life!

A hand holding a red apple against a dark red background with a snake coiled in the upper left.

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**THE SOURCE, COURSE &
RECOURSE OF TEMPTATION**

WHY? / HOW? / WHAT?

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Transgression of God's Law – 1 John 3:4

All Unrighteousness – 1 John 5:17

Omitting Known Duty – James 4:17

Missing the mark – Rom 3:23

If Not Of Faith – Rom 14:23

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James 1:13–20 (NKJV)

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James 1:13–20 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. ¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

THE PATH OF SIN: THE SOURCE, COURSE & RECOURSE OF TEMPTATION

SOURCE: NOT OF GOD

James 1:13 (NKJV)
¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

CAN'T blame God for our temptations (cf. Gen 3:12)

- God is Holy (Lev 19:2; 1 Pet 1:16)
- No darkness in God at all (1 John 1:5)
- God cannot fellowship evil (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1)
- God is the source of all that is good (James 1:17)

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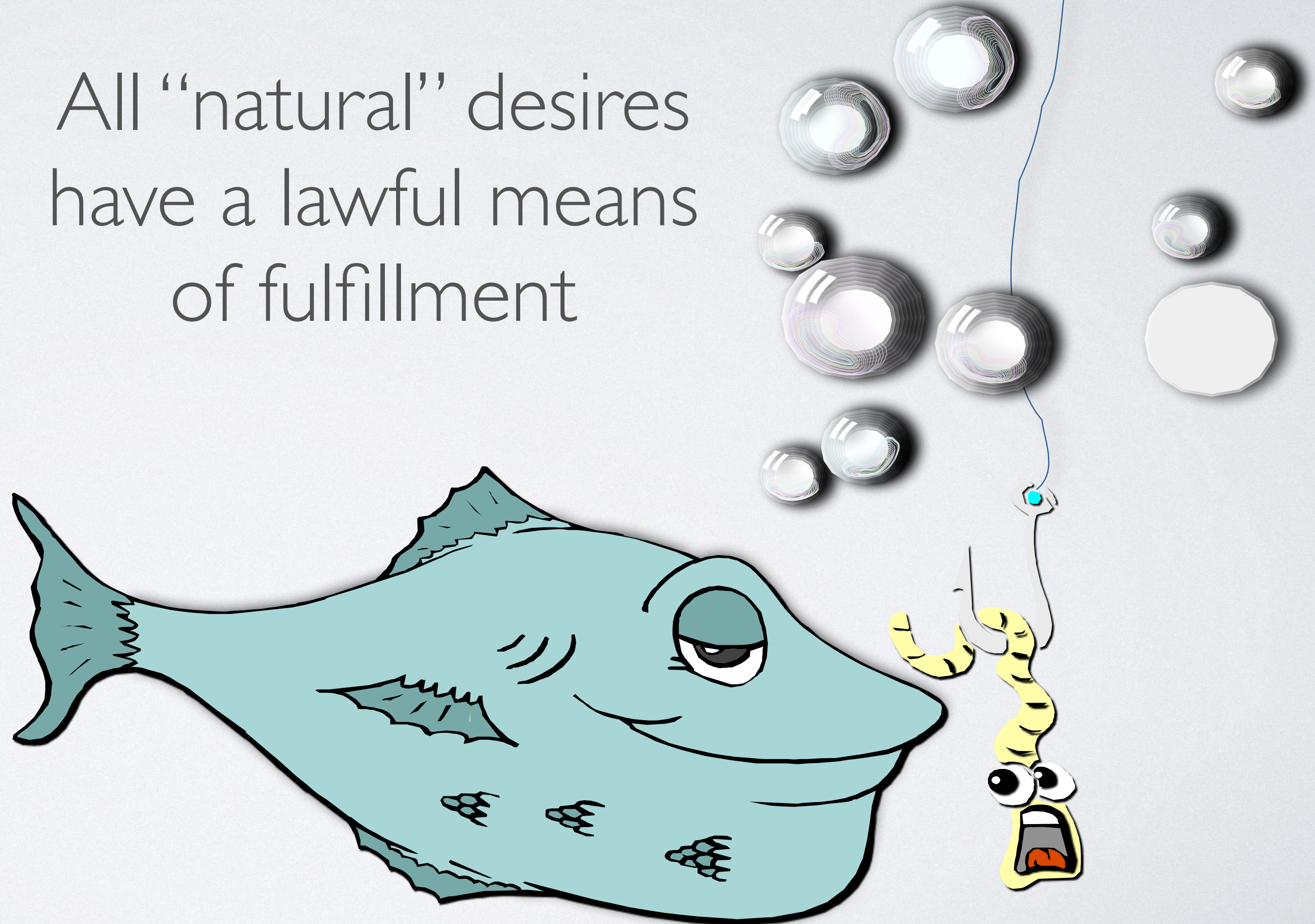
- God does test us (Job 1:18-22; Psalm 26:2)
- God does give those who reject Him over to do the evil they desire (Rom. 1:21,24,26,28; 2 Thes. 2:10-12)
- God does punish wickedness (Isaiah 45:7)
- But He does not decree, tempt or entice us to do evil (Gen 3:1-12; Acts 5:3)

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THE UNIVERSAL PATH OF SIN

James 1:14–15 (NKJV)
¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

All “natural” desires have a lawful means of fulfillment

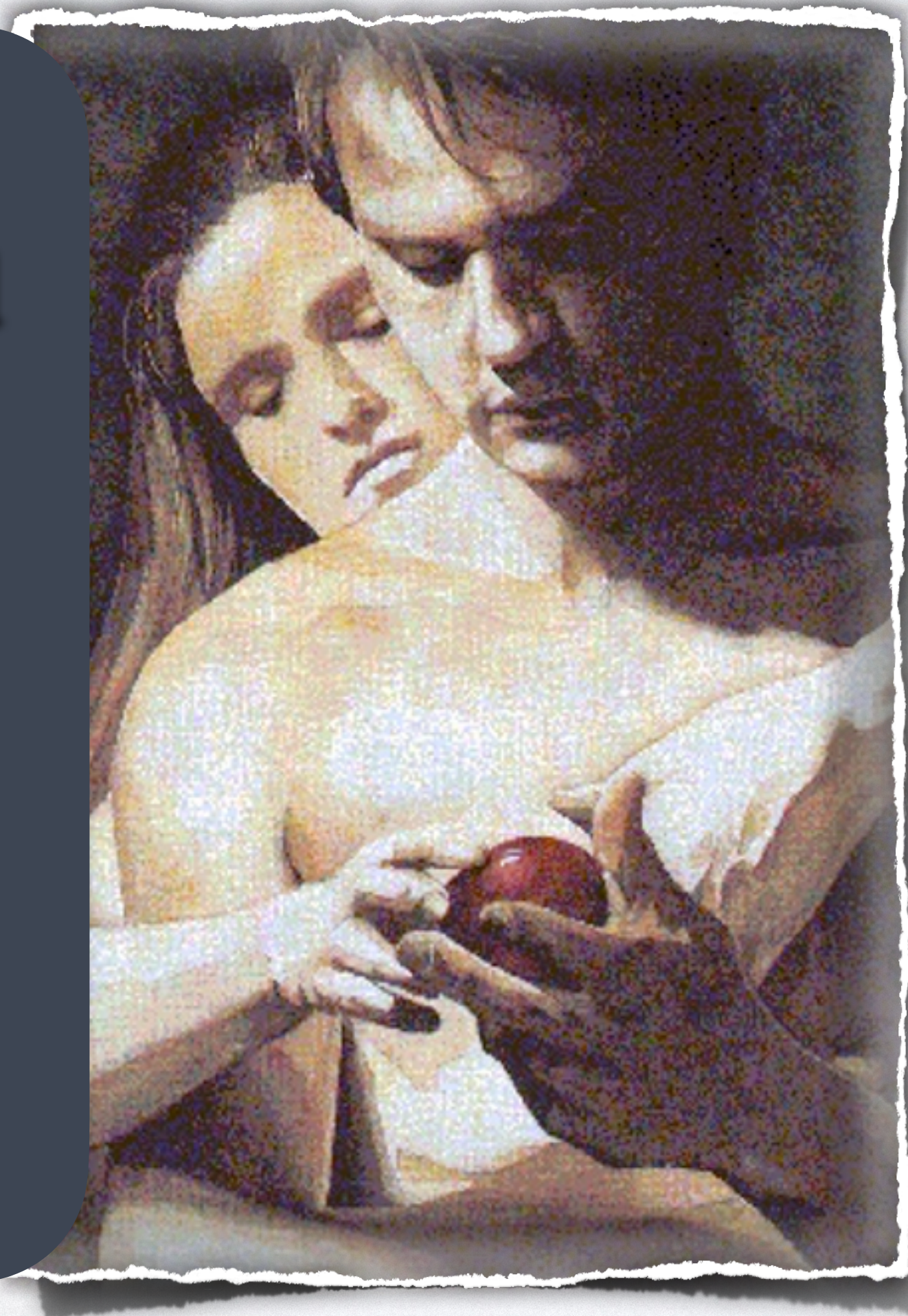


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Genesis 3:6 (NKJV)

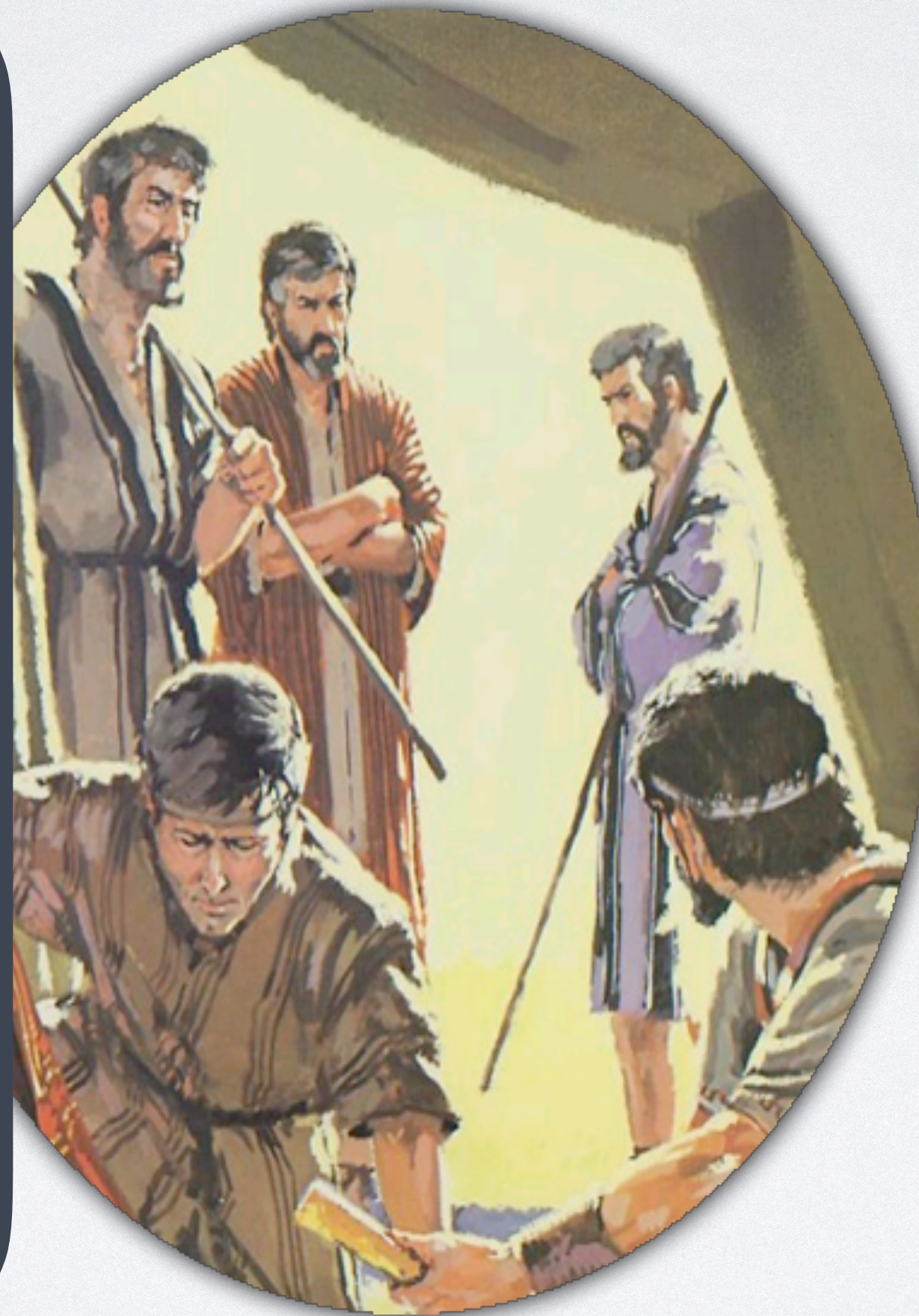
⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

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Joshua 7:21 (NKJV)

"When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it."

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2 Samuel 11:2 (NKJV)

² ... And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman *was* very beautiful to behold. ³ So David sent and inquired about the woman. ... ⁴ Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her ...

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- ▶ Idle Mind (2 Sam 11:1)
- ▶ Occasion (2 Sam 11:2)
- ▶ Contemplation (2 Sam 11:2,3)
- ▶ Action (2 Sam 11:4)
- ▶ Cover Up (2 Sam 11:5-25)
- ▶ Guilt (2 Sam 12:14; Ps 51)
- ▶ Consequences (2 Sam 12:10,11)

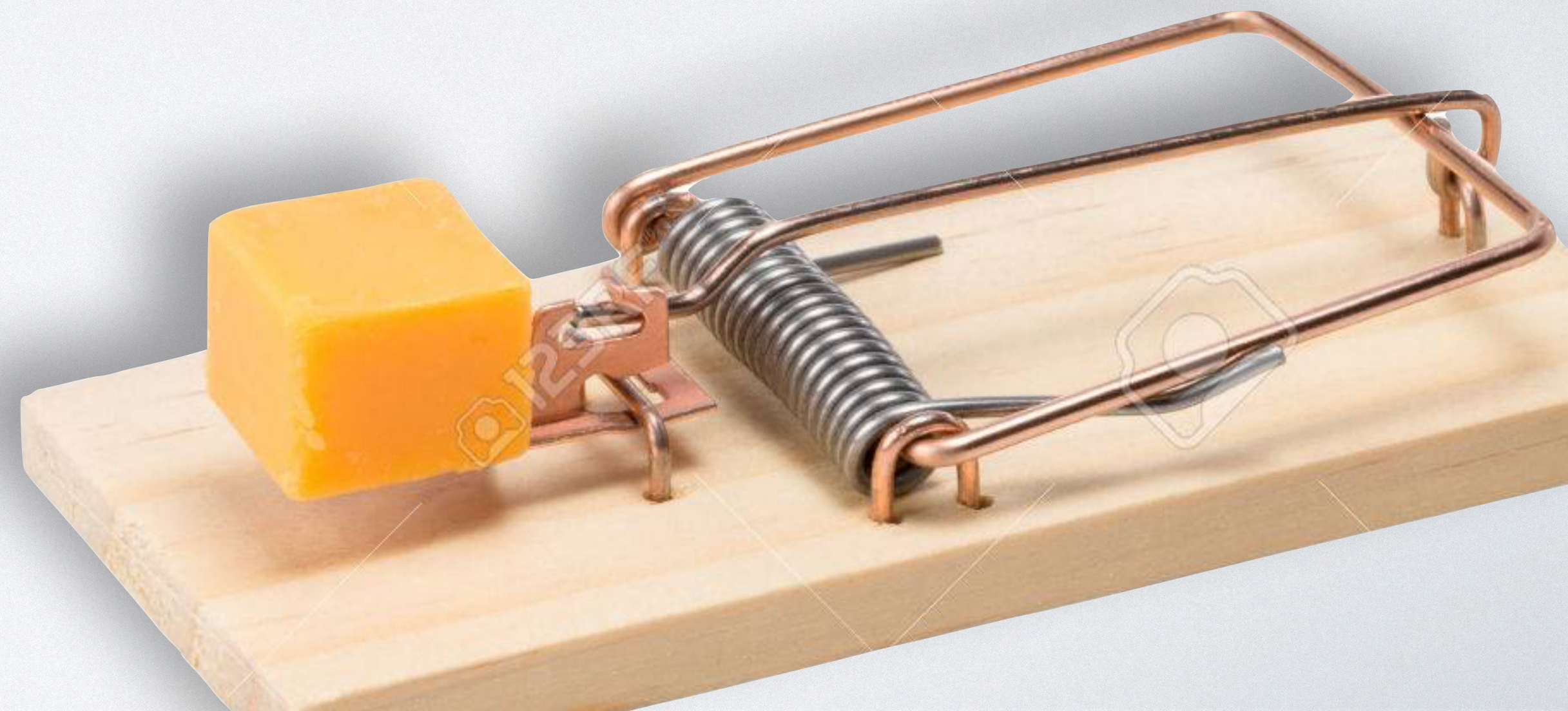
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THE CONTEMPLATION

THE OCCASION



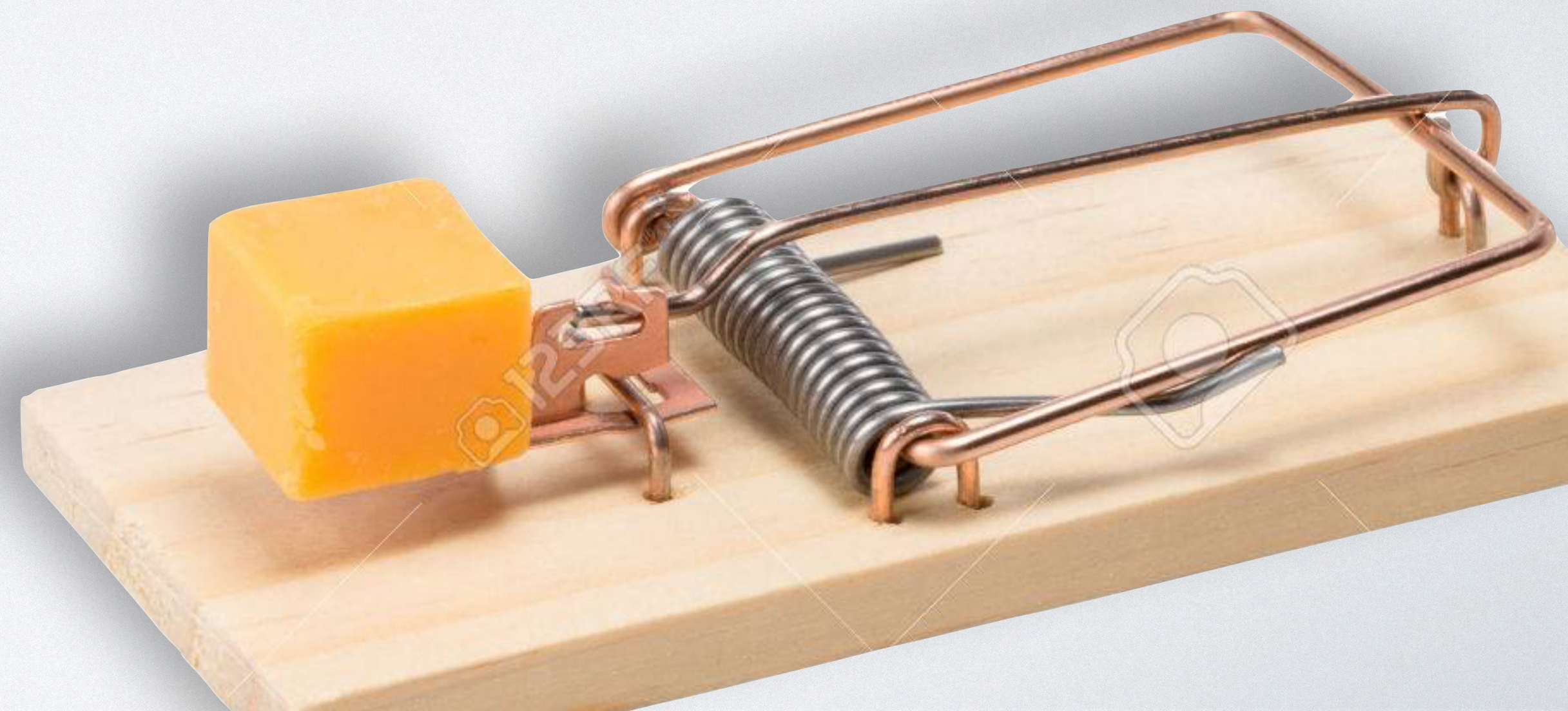
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THE UNIVERSAL PATH OF SIN



THE DECISION
(The Will Yields)

THE OCCASION



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THE UNIVERSAL PATH OF SIN

THE OCCASION

THE CONTEMPLATION

THE DECISION
(The Will Yields)

**THE
CONSEQUENCES**



THE PATH OF SIN: THE SOURCE, COURSE & RECOURSE OF TEMPTATION

THE UNIVERSAL PATH OF SIN

James 1:14–15 (NKJV)

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- ▶ One of 3 Avenues – Flesh; Eyes; Pride of Life (Gen. 3:6; Mat 4:3-11; 1 John 2:16)
- ▶ It is NOT a sin to be tempted (Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:15)
- ▶ Temptation CAN be resisted (Mat 4:3-11; 26:36-46; 1 Cor 10:13; James 4:7)
- ▶ To Surrender to temptation is to sin (Jas 1:15) (desire ...gives birth to sin)

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- ▶ One can commit a sin without physically acting it out!! (Mat 5:28; Ex 20:17)
- ▶ A passing evil thought in and of itself is not a sin – (for without thought there can be no temptation) – James 1:15;
- ▶ Sin comes about when desire is enticed and will yields (Jas 1:13-16; Mk 7:21,22; Mic 2:1)

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

James 1:14–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

- ▶ Physical death, guilt, shame, hardship, separation from God, (Gen 3:16-24; Pro 13:15; 1 Cor 15:22; Is 59:1,2; Rom 5:12)
- ▶ Hurts God's cause & people, causes others harm (Joshua 7; Numbers 32:23)
- ▶ The impenitent will experience eternal Separation from God (i.e. the 2nd death) (Rom 6:23; James 1:15; Rev 21:8)

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

James 1:16
(NKJV)
16 Do not be
deceived, my
beloved
brethren.

Hebrews 3:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called “*Today*,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

(Is. 44:20; Ro. 7:11; Ep. 4:22; Ga. 6:7; Col. 2:4, 8)

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

James 1:16
(NKJV)
16 Do not be
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- ▶ Those practicing sin will NOT enter the kingdom of heaven (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal 5:19-21)
- ▶ Actions can develop into habits – Habits develop into character – Character determines destiny! (Gal 6:7-9; Heb. 6:6; 2 Pet. 2:22,23)

THE PATH OF SIN: THE SOURCE, COURSE & RECOURSE OF TEMPTATION

WHY HAVE ALL SINNED?

James 1:14–15 (NKJV)

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► NOT BECAUSE:

- It was Predestined
- Inherited Depravity
- Born w/ Sinful nature
- Lack of ability
- Unable to Bear
- Cannot Understand
- Sin When Not Tempted

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- ▶ No fear of the consequences of sin (Prov 1:7; 16:6; Jer 2:18; Rom 3:18)
- ▶ Sin “APPEARS TO BE” easier / It appears to be a short-cut (Mat 7:13,14)
- ▶ Because of habit (2 Pet 2:14)
- ▶ Because of the momentary pleasure which sin brings (Heb 11:25; Jas 5:5)
- ▶ Because of its deceptiveness (Heb 3:13)

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- ▶ Not watchful (Mat. 26:41, Gal. 6:1).
- ▶ Lack self-control (1 Cor. 9:27).
- ▶ Fit in with crowd, (Prov. 1:10; 1 Cor. 15:33; 1 Tim. 5:22).
- ▶ Fail to control our thoughts (Prov. 22:3; 15:26, 23:7, Phil 4:8).
- ▶ Do not resist the devil (Jas. 4:7).

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- ▶ Do not grow spiritually (2 Pet. 1:5-11)
- ▶ Do not avoid / but rather flirt with temptation (2 Cor. 15:33; 1 Thes. 5:22)
- ▶ Do not have the Word hidden in our heart (Ps. 119:11; 1 John 3:9).
- ▶ WE LACK FAITH IN GOD & IN HIS WORD - JUST LIKE EVE! (Gen 3:1-6)

THE RECOURSE FOR SIN

James 1:17 (NKJV)
17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

- ▶ GOD'S WORD (1:18)
- ▶ GOD'S SON (John 3:16)
- ▶ GOD'S FORGIVENESS (Col. 2:12,13)
- ▶ GOD'S BLESSINGS (Eph 1:3-13)
- ▶ GOD'S PROMISES (Titus 1:2)

THE RECOURSE FOR SIN

WE CAN SAY NO TO SIN

James 4:7 (NKJV)

⁷ Therefore submit to
God. Resist the devil and
he will flee from you.



THE RECOURSE FOR SIN

WE CAN SAY NO TO SIN

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV)

¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.



THE RECOURSE FOR SIN

WE CAN SAY NO TO SIN



- ▶ God provides the motivation (2 Cor. 5:15)
- ▶ God provides the weapons: (Eph. 6:10-17)
- ▶ God provides the tools (2 Pet. 1:5-10)
- ▶ God provides the remedy for our failures and assurance of forgiveness when we obey His Son (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9,10)

CONCLUSION



- ▶ A person becomes a sinner when he of his own free will violates God's law — **THUS THE GUILT IS OUR OWN!** (1 John 3:4)
- ▶ I can't blame God or anyone else for my sin — I can't even blame the devil!!!! (Gen. 3:4,13,16; 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:14)

CONCLUSION

GOD HAS PROVIDED THE REMEDY FOR SIN!

- ▶ Yes, we have all sinned because we have all yielded to temptation (Rom. 3:23)
- ▶ Therefore, we all need a Savior to deliver us (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8,9)
- ▶ Salvation is provided by God's grace, and received through our faith (Eph. 2:8,9; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Col. 2:12,13; Gal. 3:26,27)

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FAITH

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THE BOOK OF JAMES

Preached June 18

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Genesis 3:1–8 (NKJV)

¹ Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?” ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Genesis 3:1–8 (NKJV)

⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.