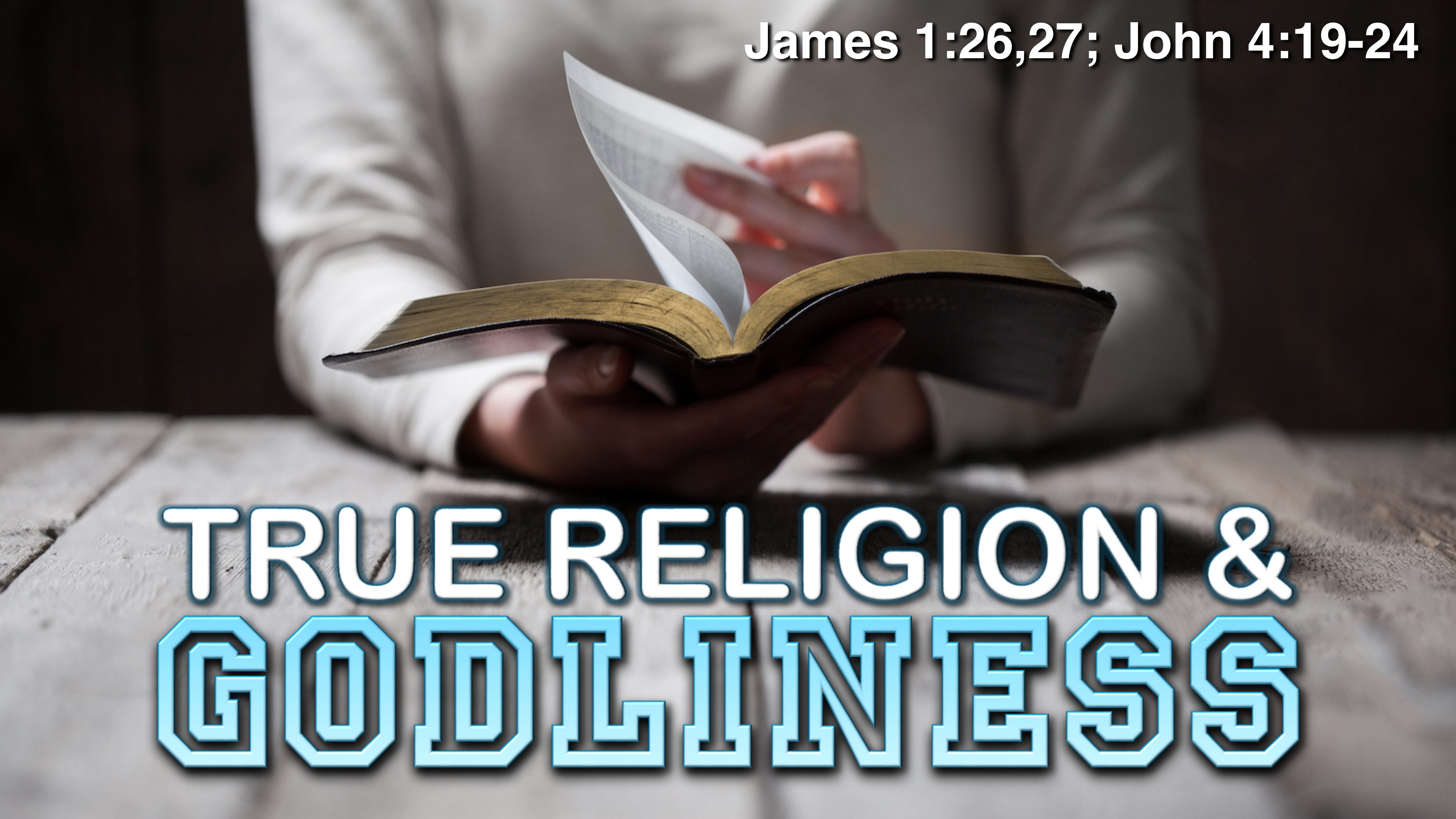


James 1:26,27; John 4:19-24



TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

WHAT IS GODLINESS?

Titus 2:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

- ▶ Not merely “doing good.”
- ▶ Not merely “doing what is right.”
- ▶ Not exactly “Godlikeness”
- ▶ Opposite of Ungodliness.
- ▶ **An Attitude directed towards pleasing God, resulting in a way of life.**

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

WHAT IS GODLINESS?



- ▶ Thayer: "Reverence. Respect; in the Bible everywhere piety towards God."
- ▶ W.E. Vine: "That piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well pleasing to Him."

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

WHAT IS GODLINESS?

GOD



RELIGION



FAMILY



PROFESSION



LEISURE

⁷ But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. — 1 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV)

ESSENTIALS TO LIVING A GODLY LIFE

2 Peter 1:1–11

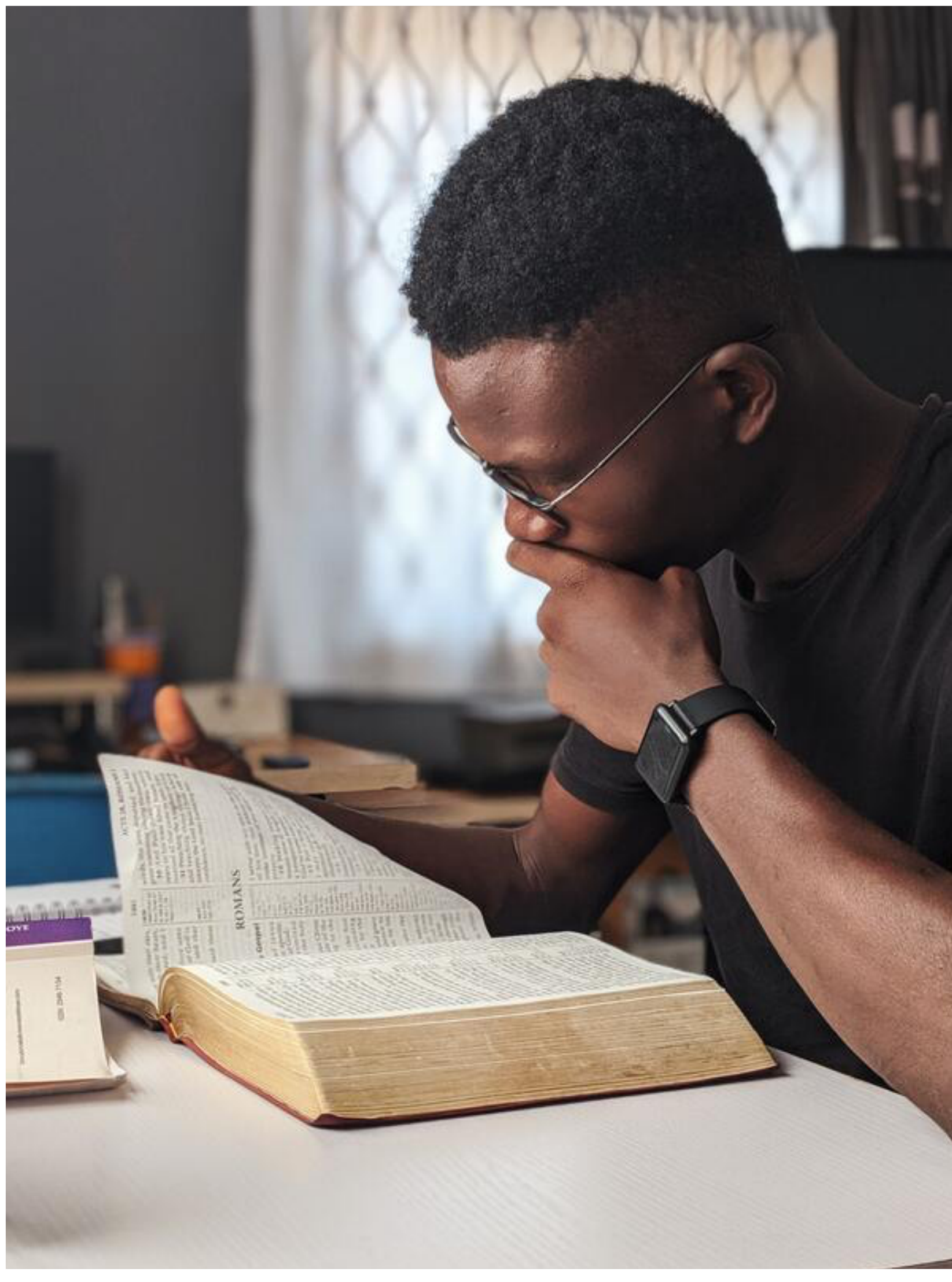
KNOWLEDGE

FAITH

HOPE

LOVE

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS



James 1:26–27 (NKJV)

²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

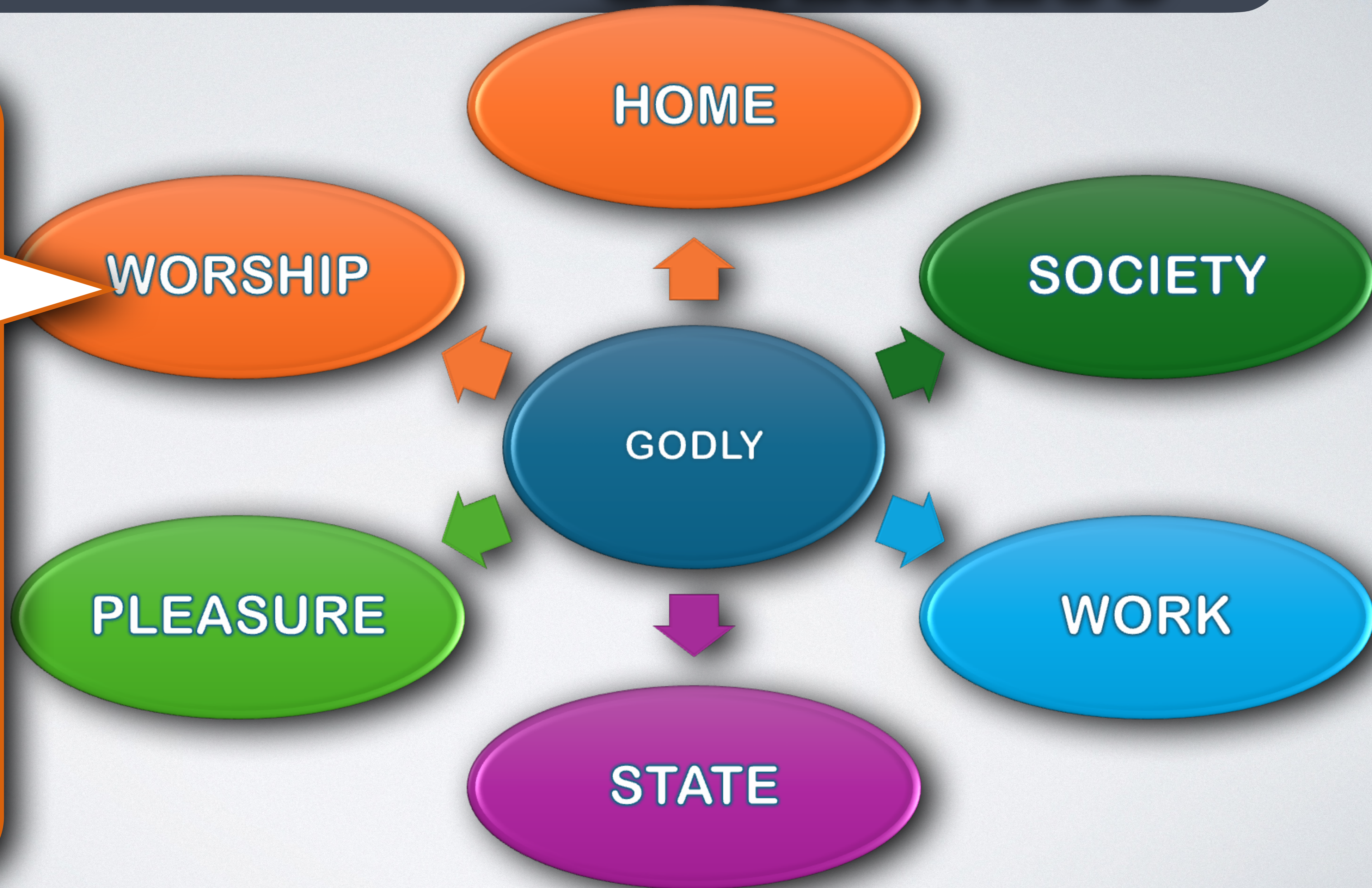
TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

John 4:19–24 (NKJV)

¹⁹ The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “**Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.**”

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

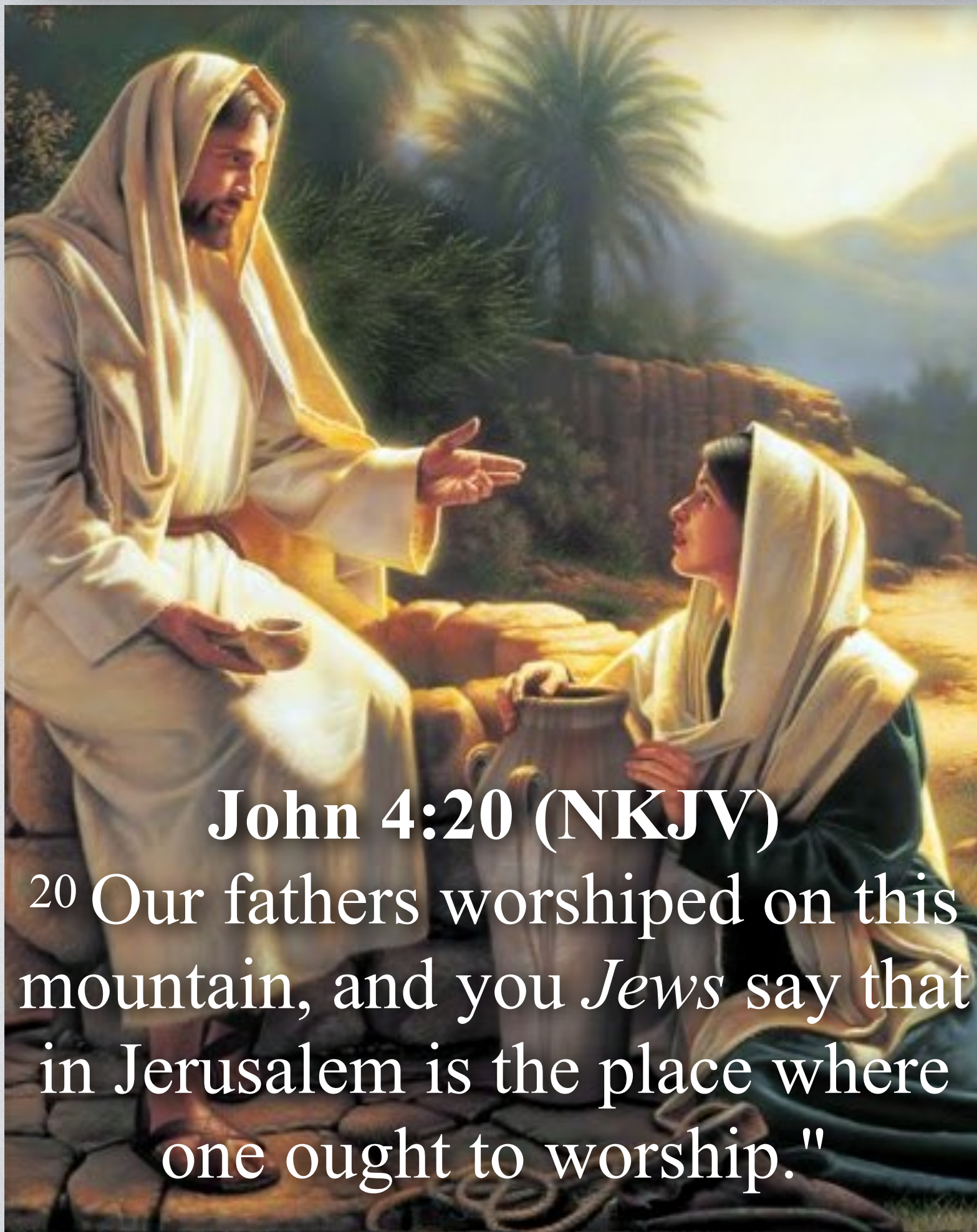
24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."



- ▶ The Samaritans & Jews disagreed over where God should be worshipped (4:20)
- ▶ The Samaritans were wrong & the Jews were right (4:22; 2 Kings 17:26-33; Deut 12:5-11; 2 Chron 6:6)

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."



- ▶ People continue to disagree over the where, when & how one ought to worship God.
- Day of worship (Saturday / Sunday)
- The Lord's supper? (When? ...)
- The collection? (How? ...)
- Music? (Instrumental / Acapella)

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



- ▶ We cannot worship God without knowing God & His will (4:22; Acts 17:23-30; Rom 10:1-3)
- Worship is about honoring God, (not ourselves) (Mal 1:6-14; 3:8-10)
- Sincerity is essential, but NOT enough (Acts 23:1; Acts 26:9).
- Worship must be offered from our hearts and according to His Law.

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



- ▶ There would soon be a change in how men worship the Father. (4:21; 14:6; Eph 2:18; 3:14).
- Jesus inaugurated this change after His death & resurrection (Acts 2; 6:14; 1 Tim 2:8)
- The OT types & shadows were replaced by the “spiritual realities” to which they pointed.

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

OT carnal ordinances (Heb 9:1-10)	NT worship = spiritual (John 4:23,24)
A physical structure	Temple spiritual, Christians (Eph 2:19-22)
A temporal day of rest	Rest in Christ(Heb. 4:4-16)
Special priesthood, clothing	Christians are priests, Holiness (1Pe 2:5,9)
Lamp stands, burning incense	Prayers sweet incense (Rev 5:8)
Instruments of music	Melody made in heart (Ep 5:19)
Feast days	Lord's Supper (1Co 10:16-17)
Animal and meal sacrifices	Spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:5)

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

24 ... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”



John 4:21 (NKJV)

²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

True worship is revealed worship;

(We Must know the Who, the when, the how
and the why of worship)

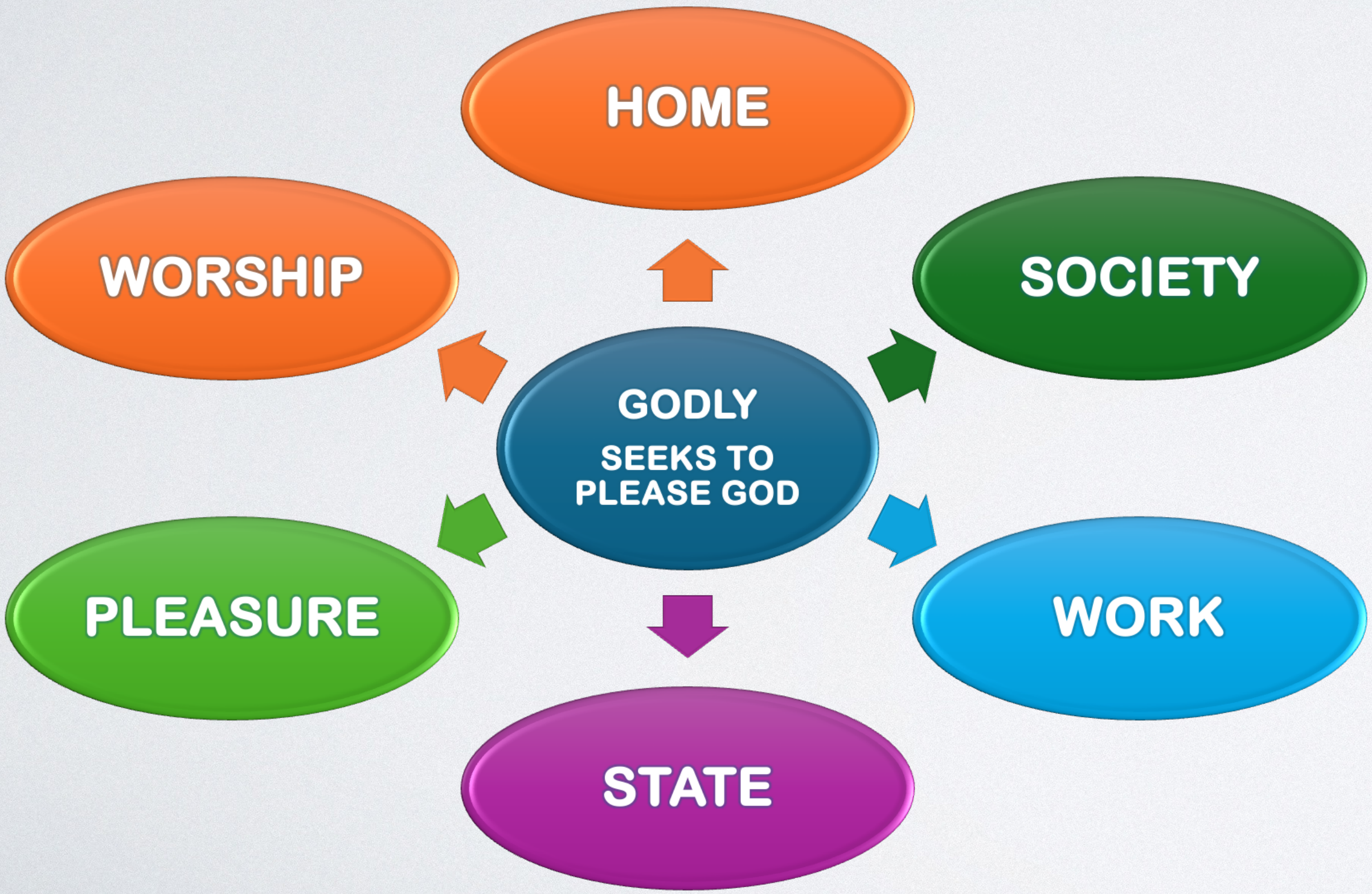
John 4:22

Acts 17:23-30

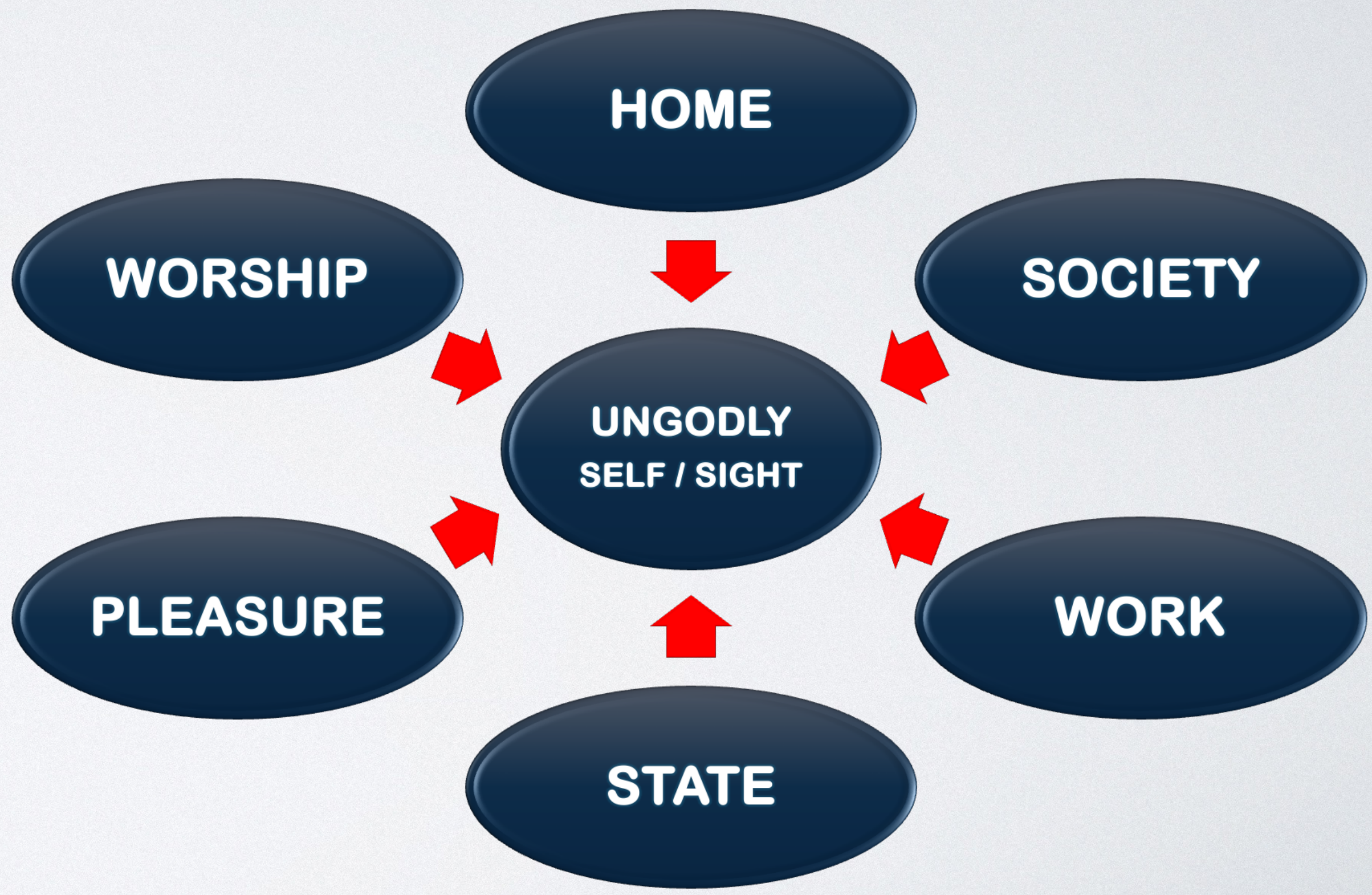
Rom. 10:1-3, 17

GODLY RELIGION VS. UNGODLY RELIGION

GODLY RELIGION



UNGODLY RELIGION



GODLY RELIGION VS. UNGODLY RELIGION

GODLY RELIGION

Scriptural

2 Tim. 3:16 - 4:4; 2:15; Acts 17:11

Requires holy, righteous living

Titus 2:11-12; Rom 6; 2 Cor
6:14-7:2; 1 Pet 1:13-19

**Teaches the need to submit to
the authority of the LORD**

Luke 6:46; Heb 5:8,9; 2 John 9

UNGODLY RELIGION

Doctrines of Men

Matthew 15:7-9

Immoral Conduct

2Tim.3:1-5; Jude 4

Another Jesus

2 Cor. 11:2-4

Men's Philosophy

Colossians 2:8

GODLY RELIGION VS. UNGODLY RELIGION

GODLY RELIGION

Scriptural

2 Tim. 3:16 - 4:4; 2:15; Acts 17:11

Requires holy, righteous living

Titus 2:11-12; Rom 6; 2 Cor
6:14-7:2; 1 Pet 1:13-19

**Teaches the need to submit to
the authority of the LORD**

Luke 6:46; Heb 5:8,9; 2 John 9

UNGODLY RELIGION

Seeking to please men

John 12:43

“godliness” = “gain”

1 Tim 6:5; 2 Pet 2:3,15; Jude 11

Easy / Do nothing /

Eph. 2:8,9 / Mat 7:13,14

Some love preeminence

3 John 9, Jude 16

GODLY RELIGION VS. UNGODLY RELIGION

GODLY RELIGION

Scriptural

2 Tim. 3:16 - 4:4; 2:15; Acts 17:11

Requires holy, righteous living

Titus 2:11-12; Rom 6; 2 Cor
6:14-7:2; 1 Pet 1:13-19

**Teaches the need to submit to
the authority of the LORD**

Luke 6:46; Heb 5:8,9; 2 John 9

UNGODLY RELIGION

Carnal people / love the world

1 Cor 3:1-4; 1 John 2:15-17

People do not love the truth

2 The 2:10-12; 2 Tim 4:3,4

People to not seek the truth

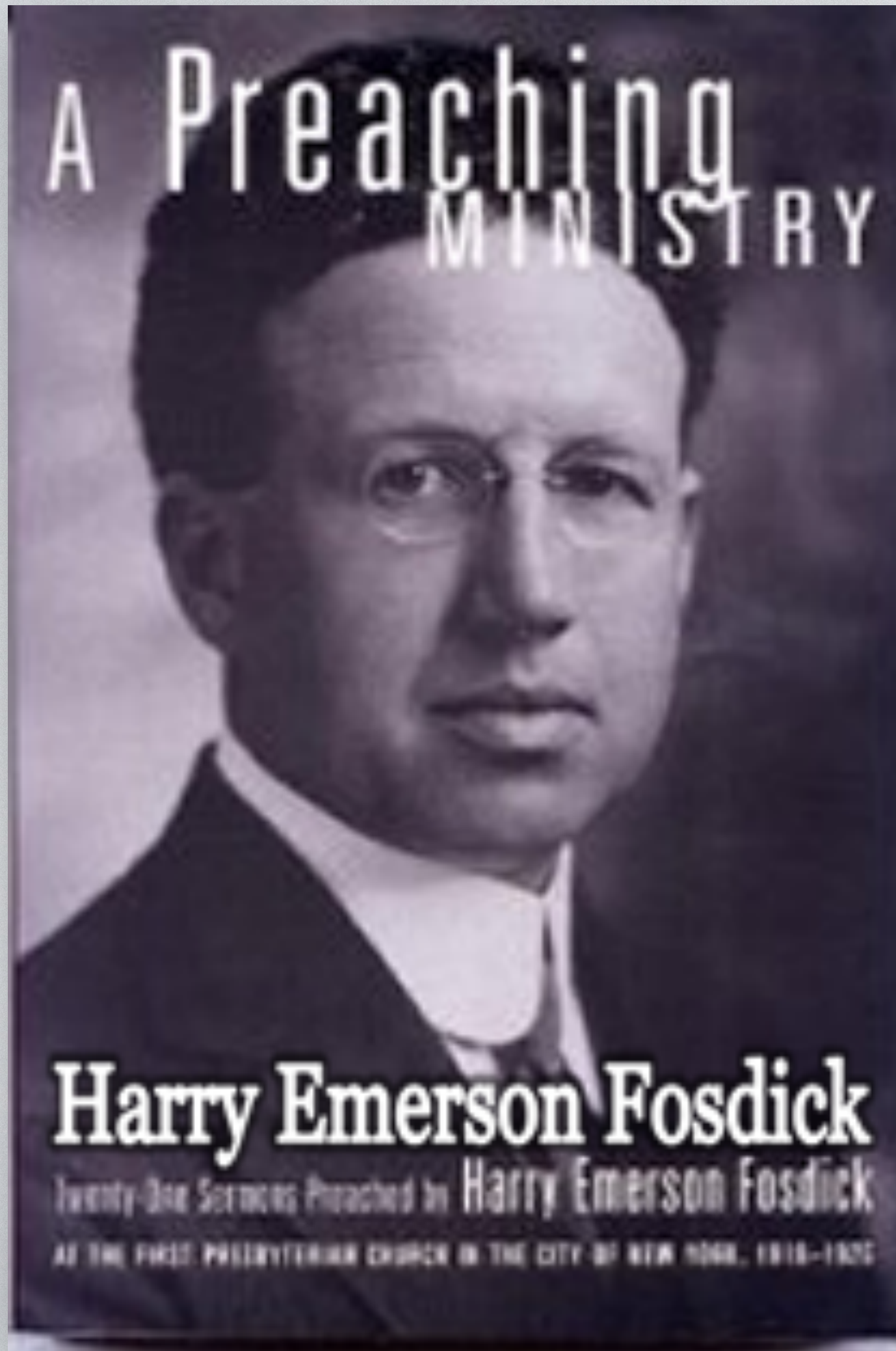
Acts 17:11,12

People do not put the Lord 1st

Mat 6:33 / Mark 12:29-31

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

Utilizing The Wrong Methods



“Could any procedure be more surely predestined to dullness and futility? Who seriously supposes that, as a matter of fact, one in a hundred of the congregation cares, to start with, what Moses, Isaiah, Paul, or John meant in those special verses, or came to church deeply concerned about it? Nobody who talks to the public so assumes that the vital interest of the people are located in the meaning of words spoken two thousand years ago.”

(“What Is The Matter With Preaching?” Harpers Magazine, July 1928, pg 135)

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

Utilizing The Wrong Methods

“It is crucial for the leader to decide what style of worship the church will embrace. Worship style is not simply musical style. The entire worship experience must be evaluated through the eyes of your target. When you confidently determine who your target is—who you’re trying to reach—it makes crafting a worship experience for that person a lot easier. Through some trial and error you will learn what works and what does not work for your target group.”

A portrait of Ron Sylvia, a middle-aged man with light brown hair, smiling and wearing a blue button-down shirt. The portrait is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the main text area.

Ron Sylvia is the founding pastor of Church @ The Springs in Ocala, Fla.

(Ron Sylvia “Determining Your Worship Style” pg 135)

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

Utilizing The Wrong Methods



- ▶ **Pragmatism** – i.e. - whatever works is good – (*entertainment, recreation, etc*)
- ▶ **A market driven ministry** – Find out what people want and give it to them – (*do not offer what they do not want*)
- ▶ **Do not preach or teach about doctrine, sin, hell, etc.,** (*doctrine isn't important anyway*), and do whatever will make Christianity popular.

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

Utilizing The Wrong Methods



- ▶ Reinforces a “Man Centered” and a “Self Serving” view of worship [**Idolatry**] (Rom 1:25)
- ▶ Cannot adequately convey deeper truths necessary for growth! (1 Tim 4:12-16)
- ▶ Diminishes sense of awe and reverence that **MUST** be present when approaching GOD – (Heb 12:28)
- ▶ Reflects and promotes a lack of confidence in the power of the gospel!! (Romans 1:16)

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

Utilizing The Wrong Methods

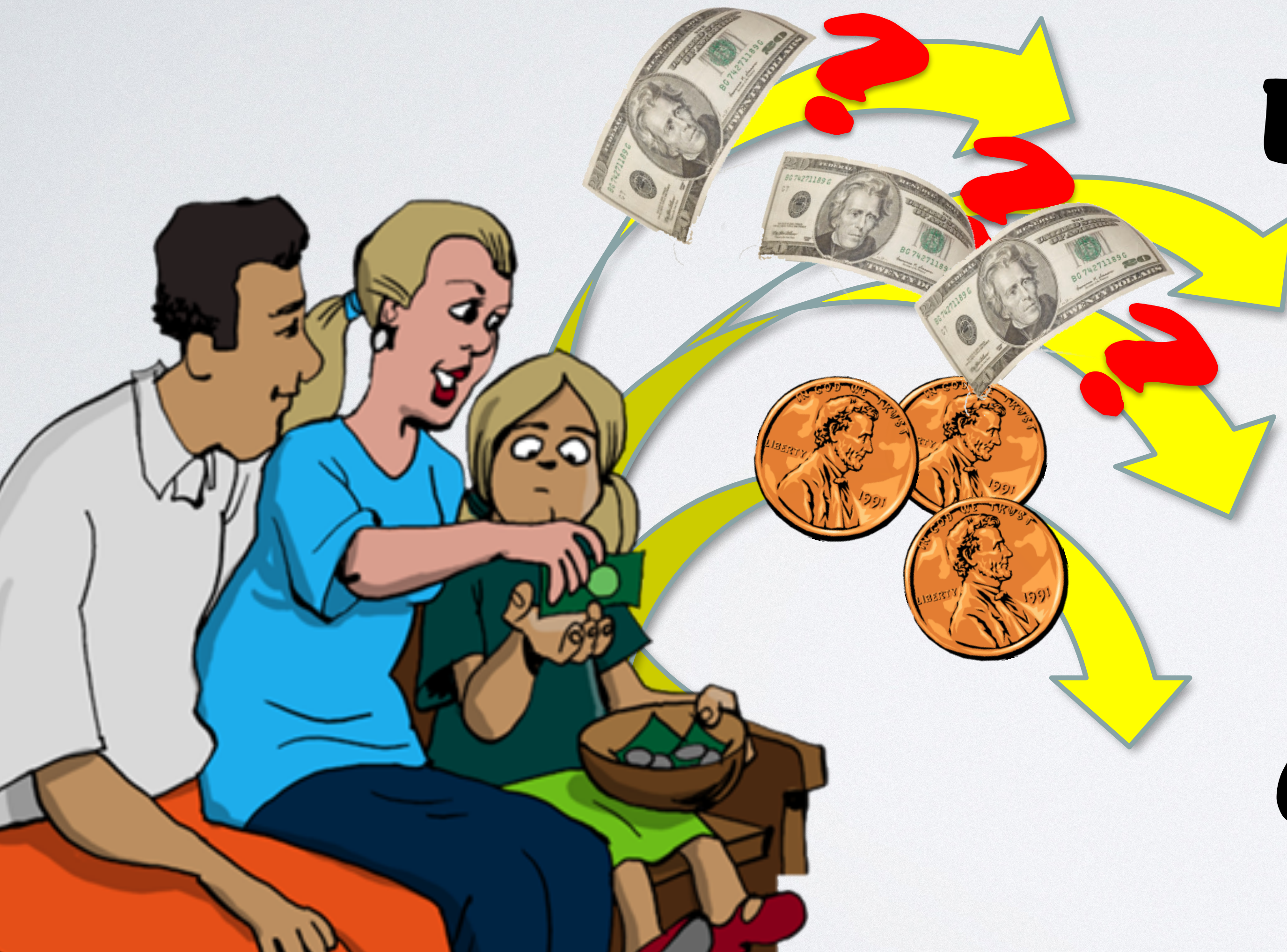


“The social gospel is about causes, not Christ; agendas, not Alpha and Omega; politics, not the Prince of Peace; more of this world and less of the next one. It’s a subtle, but effective, means of distracting evangelicals from their paramount calling, which is about conversion, not political convictions” —

Cal Thomas - “The Evangelical Third Coming” — published in mid-March 2005

Give Me That “Show Time” Religion

THE SOCIAL GOSPEL



Entertainment

Recreation

Social Ills

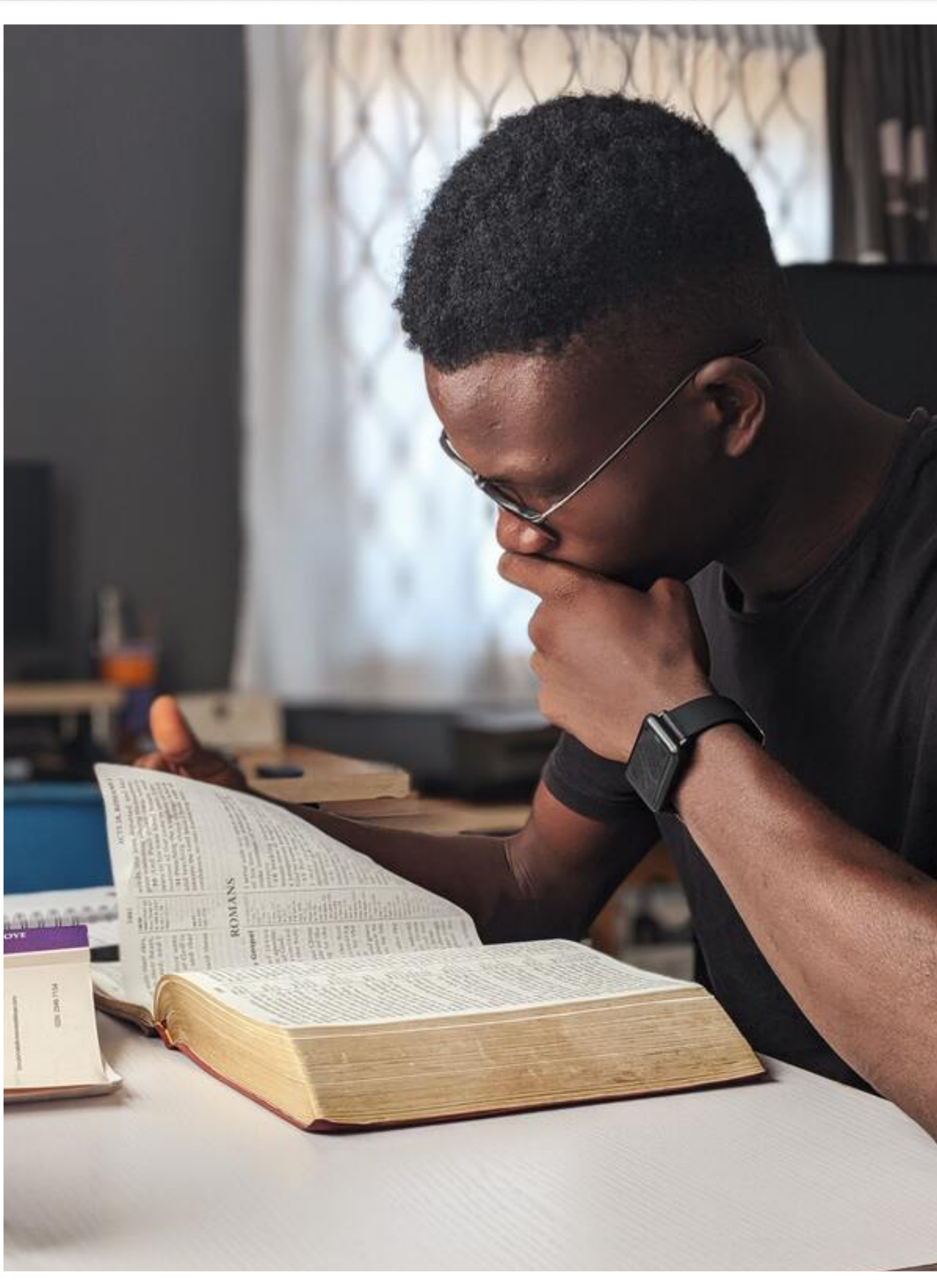
God's work

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

Religious	UNgodly	GODLY
Goals?	Numbers	Eph 4:12-16
Doctrine?	Pleasing Men	2 John 9
Worship?	“Feel Good”	Heb 12:28
Activities?	Secular	Col. 3:17

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

ARE YOU SEEKING TO PLEASE GOD?

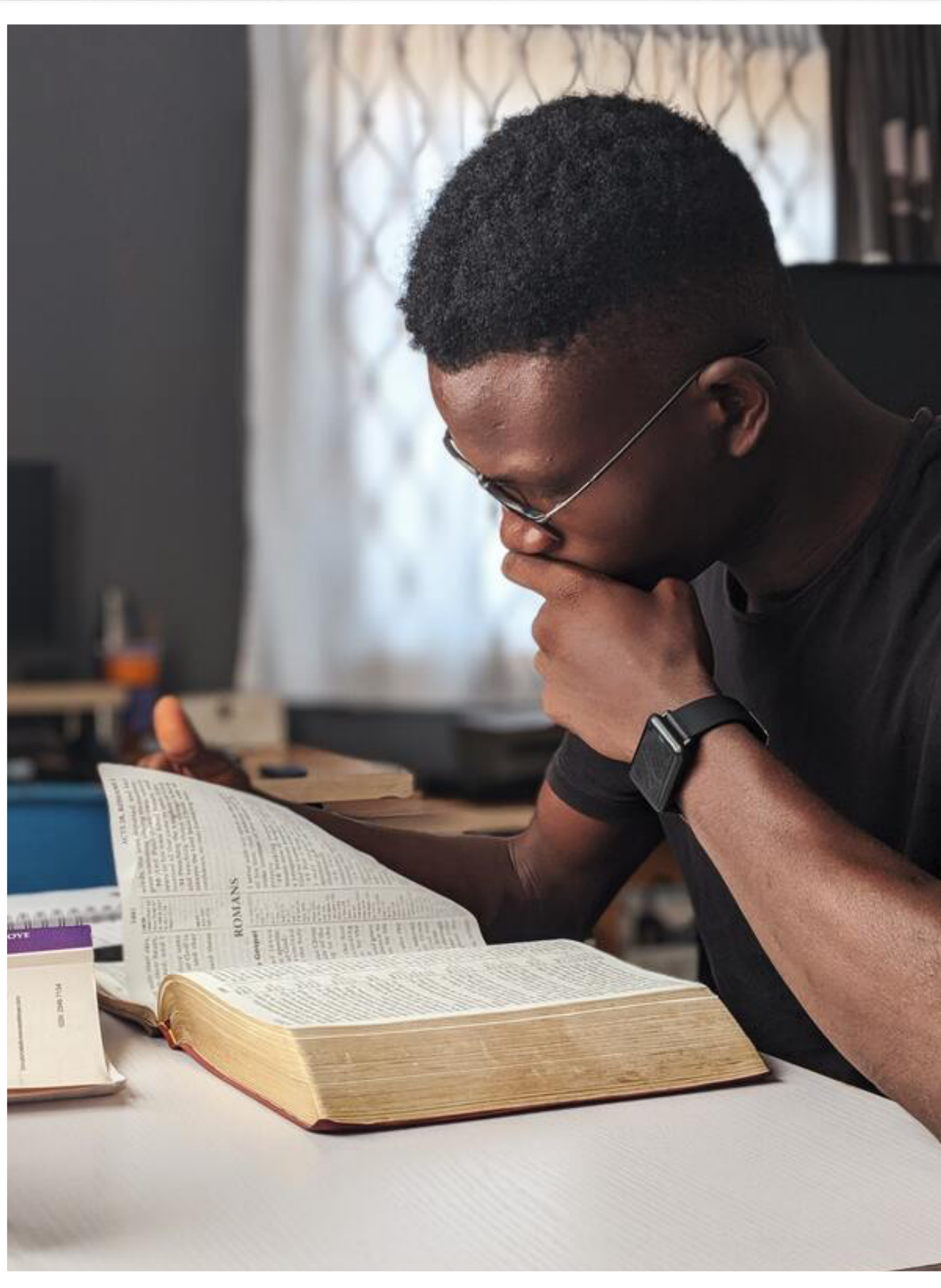


James 1:26–27 (NKJV)

²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

ARE YOU SEEKING TO PLEASE GOD?



► **Obey the Lord Jesus — Mat. 17:5; Heb. 1:1,2**

☒ **Hear Him — Romans 10:17**

☒ **Believe in Him — John 8:24**

☒ **Confess Him — Romans 10:9,10**

☒ **Turn from self and sin to humbly submit to Him (Repent) — Acts 17:30**

☒ **Be baptized in the name of Jesus — Mat. 28:19; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-6**

☒ **Abide in His word — John 8:31,32; 2 Jn. 9**

James 1:26,27; John 4:19-24

TRUE RELIGION & GODLINESS

Hebrews 12:28–29 (NKJV)

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. ²⁹ For our God *is* a consuming fire.

James 1:26,27; John 4:19-24

TRUE RELIGION & GOODLINES

Charts by Don McClain

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Sunday A.M. Assembly: 10:00

Sunday P.M. Assembly: 4:00

Wed. P.M. Bible Study: 7:00



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Hebrews 12:25–29 (NKJV)

²⁵ See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, ²⁶ whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “*Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.*” ²⁷ Now this, “*Yet once more,*” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. ²⁹ For our God *is* a consuming fire.