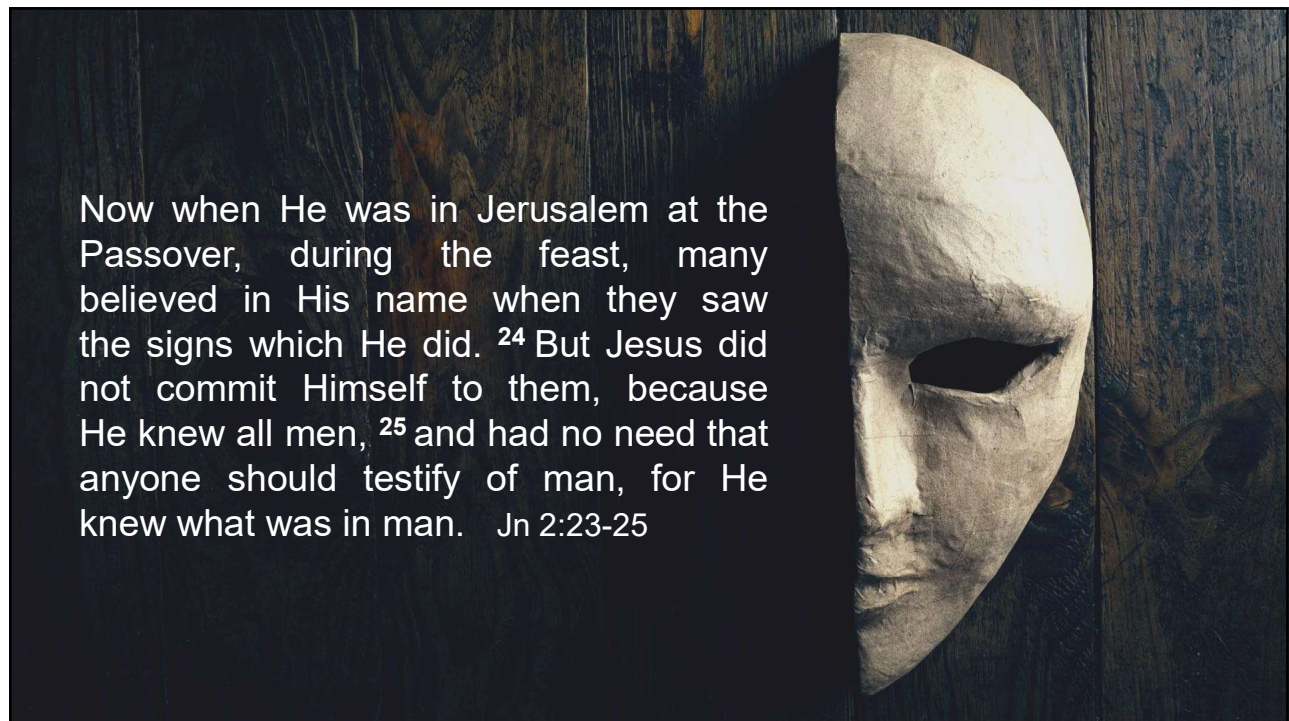




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2

**Acts 8:9-13,18-24** But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, <sup>10</sup> to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." <sup>11</sup> And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.



3

But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. <sup>13</sup> Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. ... <sup>18</sup> And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup> saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."



4



<sup>20</sup> But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! <sup>21</sup> You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. <sup>22</sup> Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. <sup>23</sup> For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity." <sup>24</sup> Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me."



5

## 1. The Satanic force of false religion



6



**9-11** But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, <sup>10</sup> to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." <sup>11</sup> And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.



7



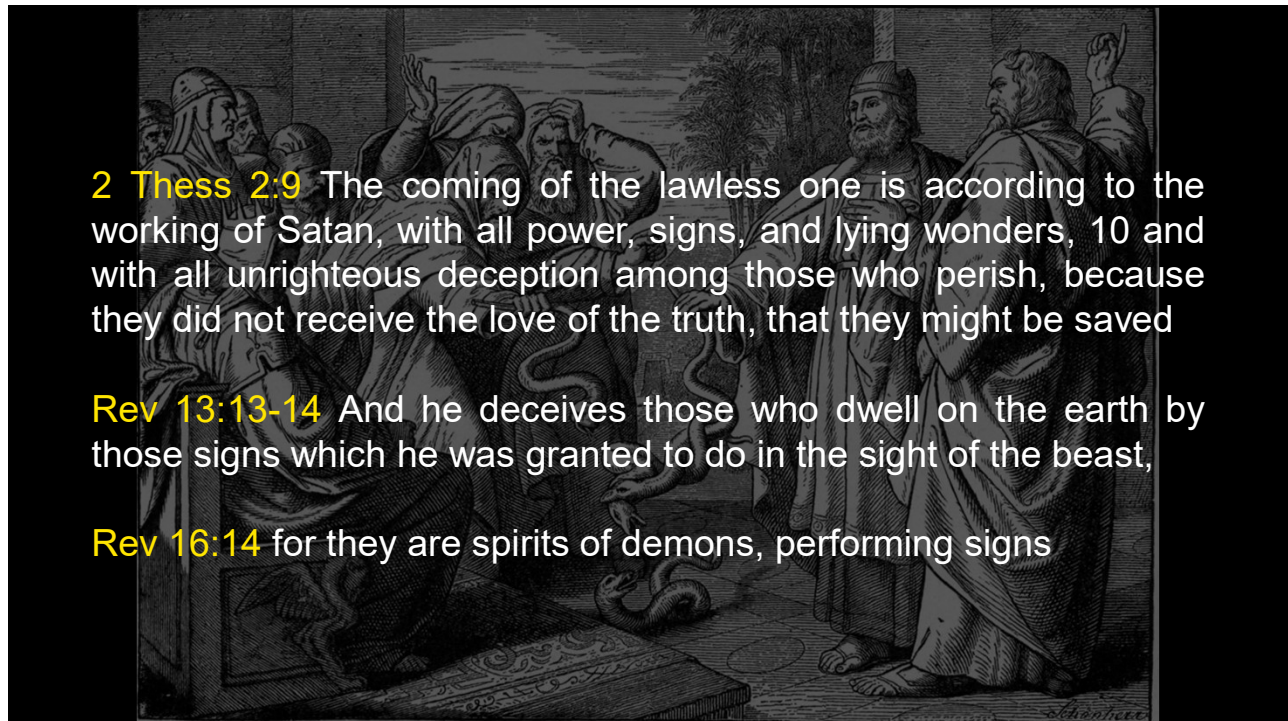
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2 Tim 3:8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses,  
Ex 8:19 they said “this is the finger of God”

9



2 Thess 2:9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved

Rev 13:13-14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast,

Rev 16:14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs

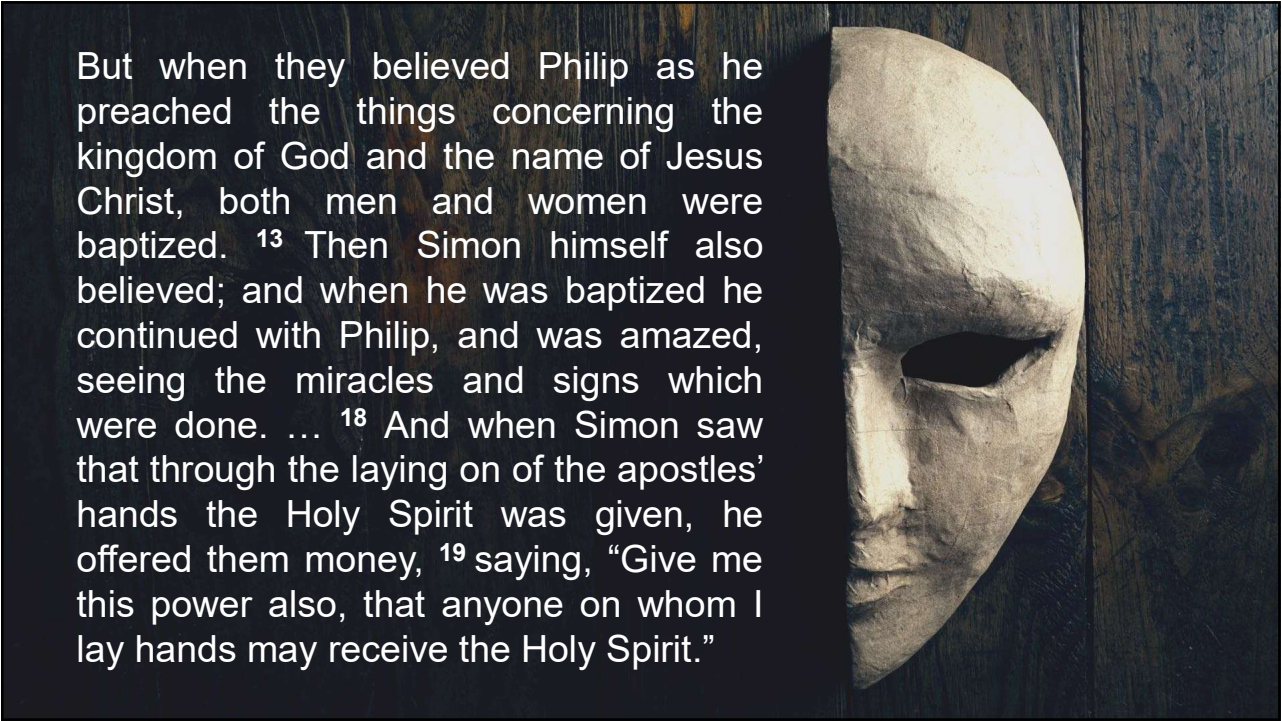
10






## 2. The superficial faith of false religion

11




But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. <sup>13</sup> Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. ... <sup>18</sup> And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup> saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

12



<sup>20</sup> But Peter said to him, “Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! <sup>21</sup> You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. <sup>22</sup> Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.

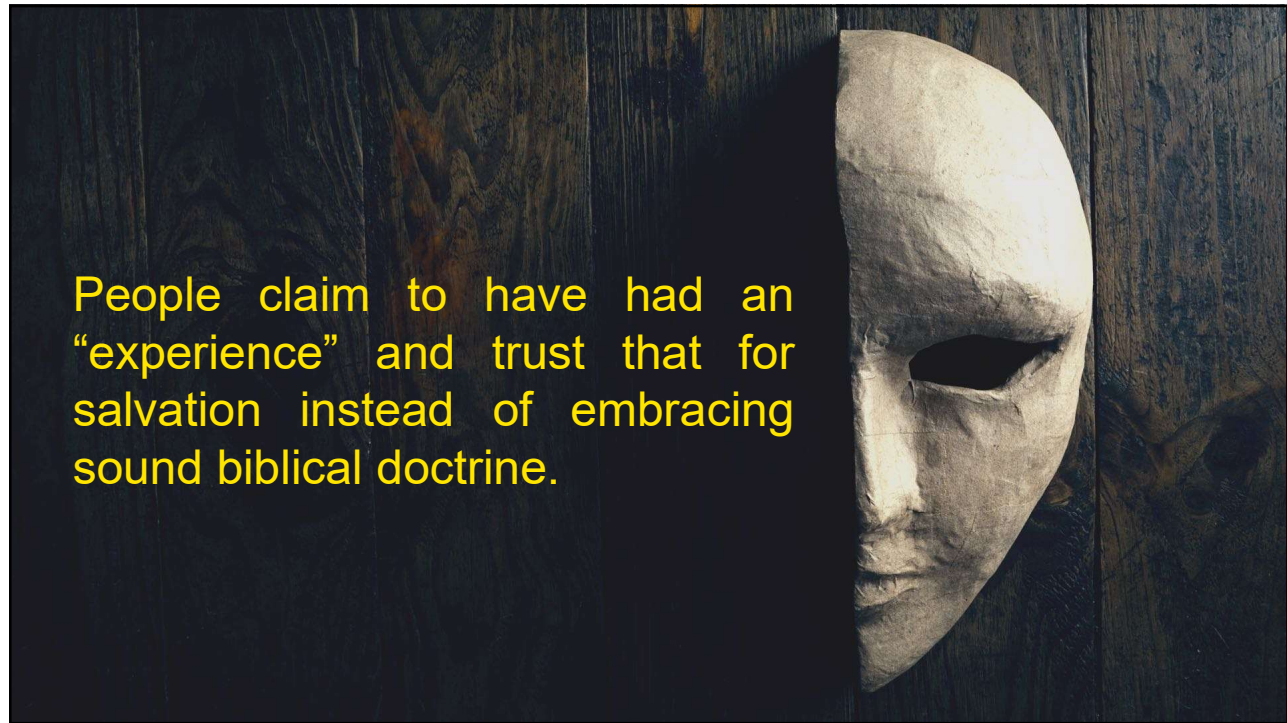
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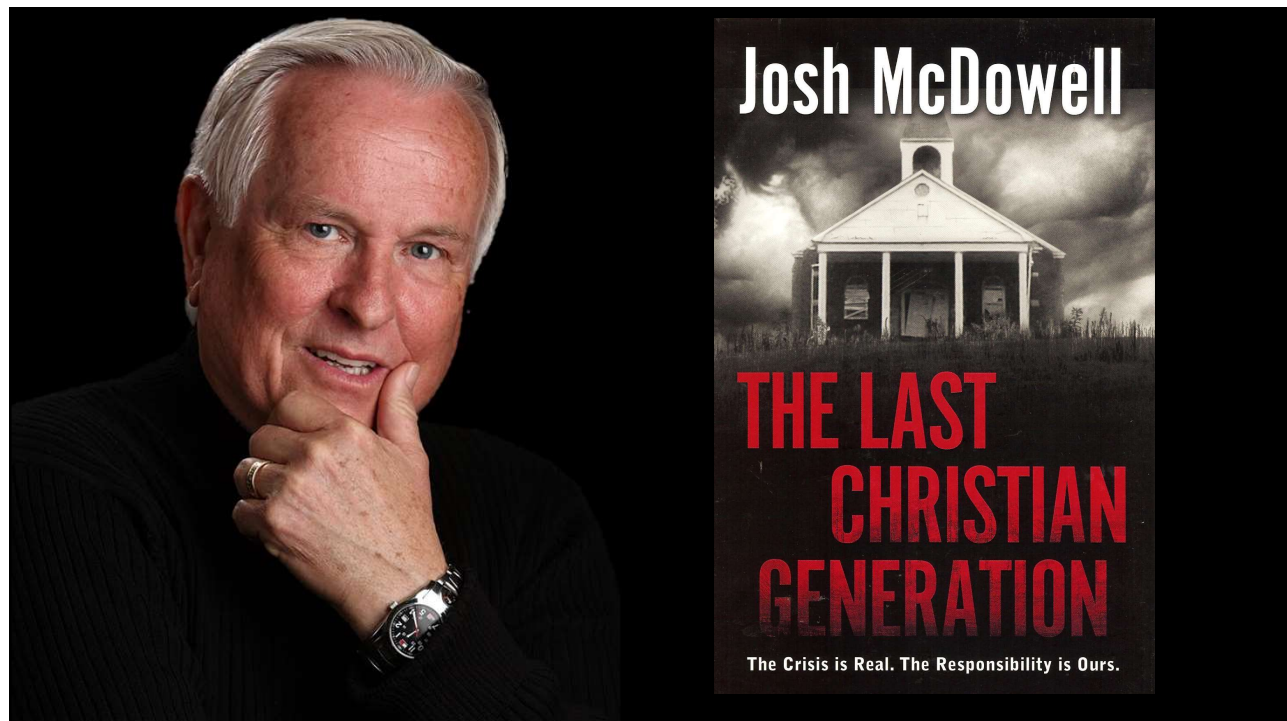
You believe that there is one God.  
You do well. Even the demons  
believe – and tremble! J<sup>s</sup> 2:19

14





15



16



63% do not believe Jesus is the Son of the one true God

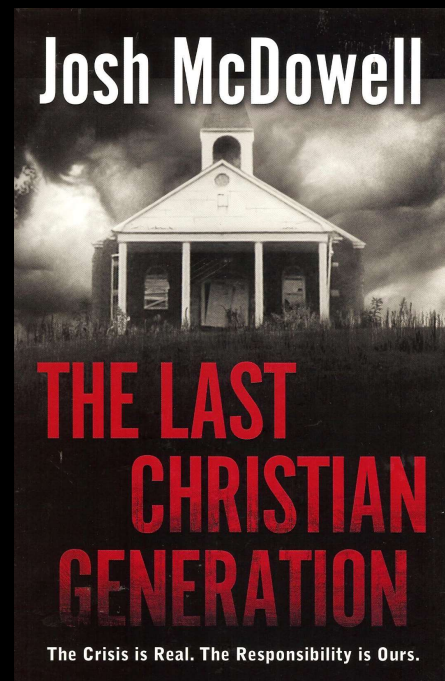
51% do not believe Jesus rose from the dead

65% do not believe Satan is a real entity

68% do not believe the Holy Spirit is a real entity

64% believe Christ came to the earth simply to teach bad people how to live better

70% believe there is no absolute moral truth



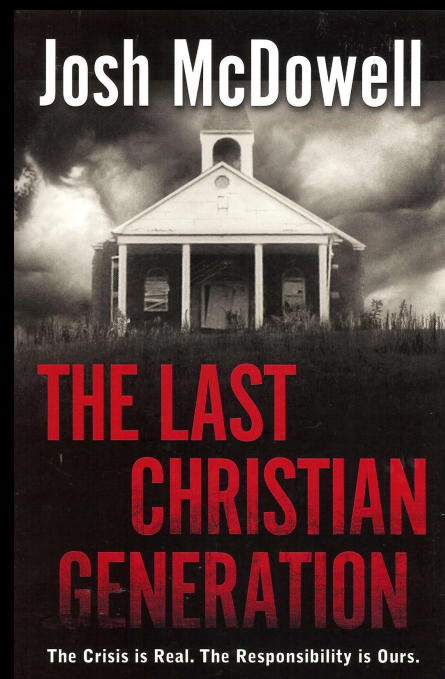
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58% believe all faiths teach equally valid truths

65% believe or suspect that there is no way to tell which religion is true

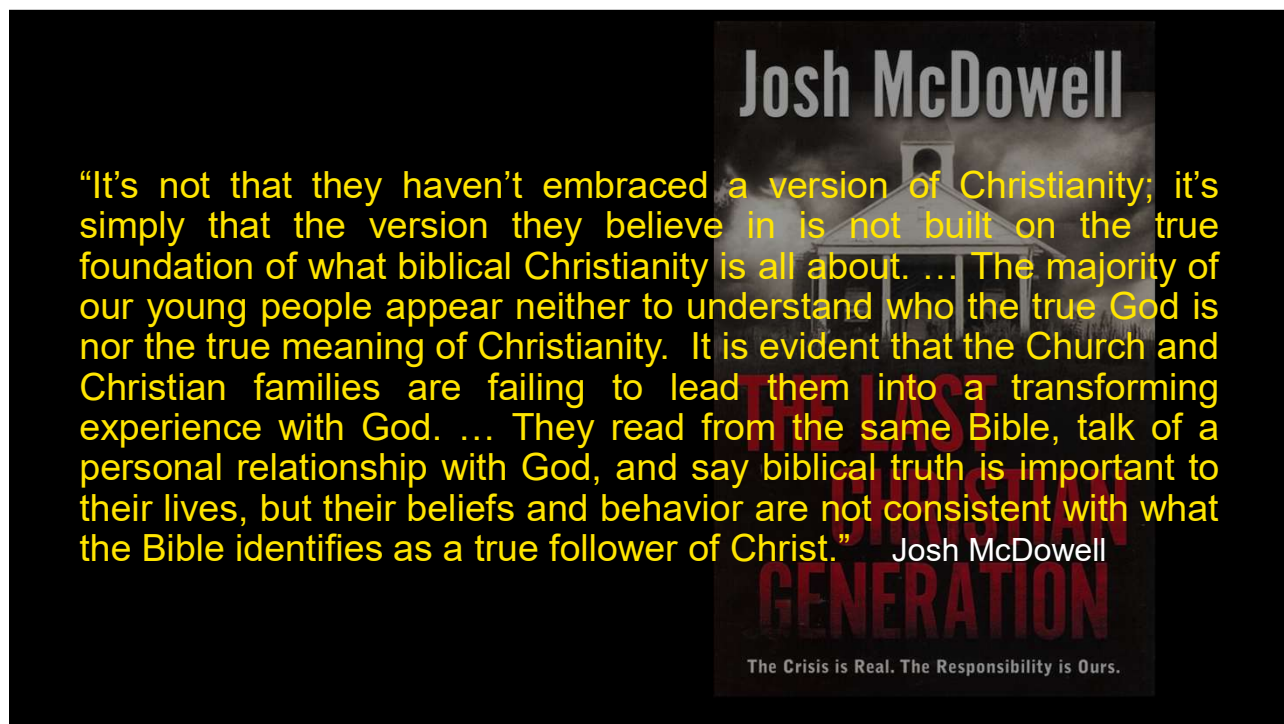
68% believe that a good person who doesn't accept the fundamental teachings of Christianity can still attain salvation and go to heaven

1/3 polled said they believe in astrology and reincarnation

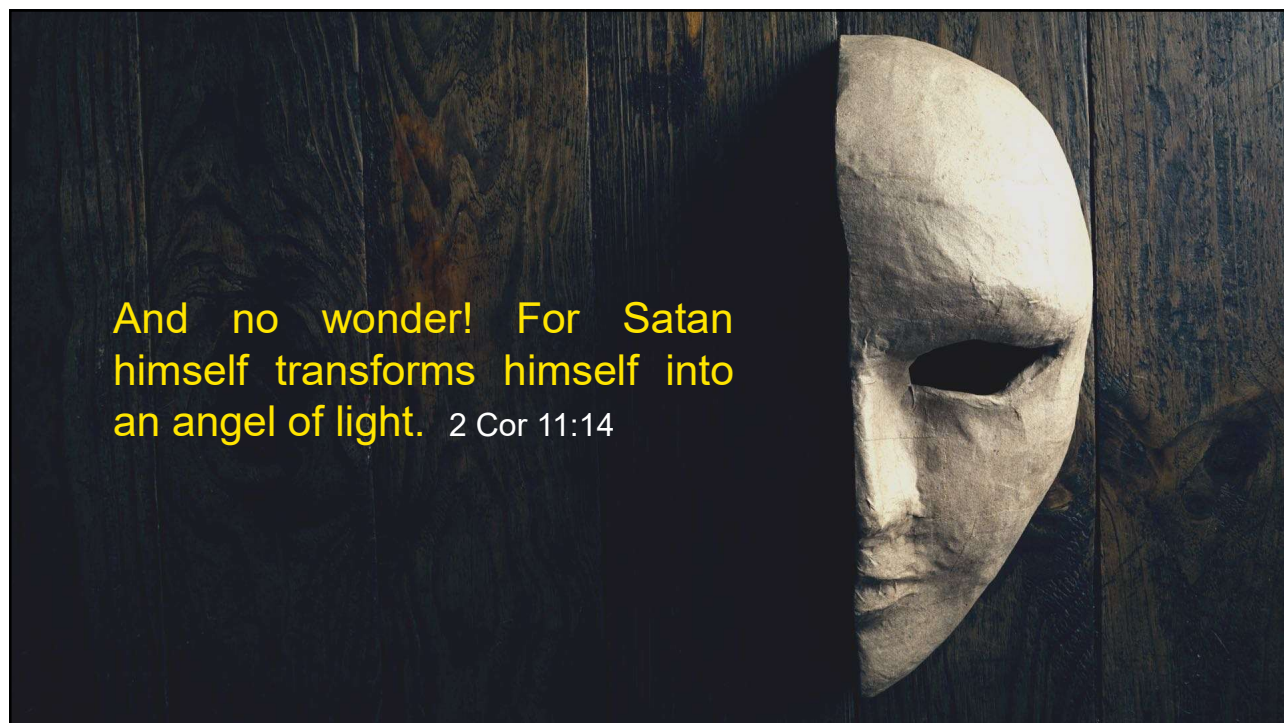


18





19



20



### 3. The selfish focus of false religion

21

... astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, <sup>10</sup> to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." <sup>11</sup> And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.

Acts 8:9-11

22

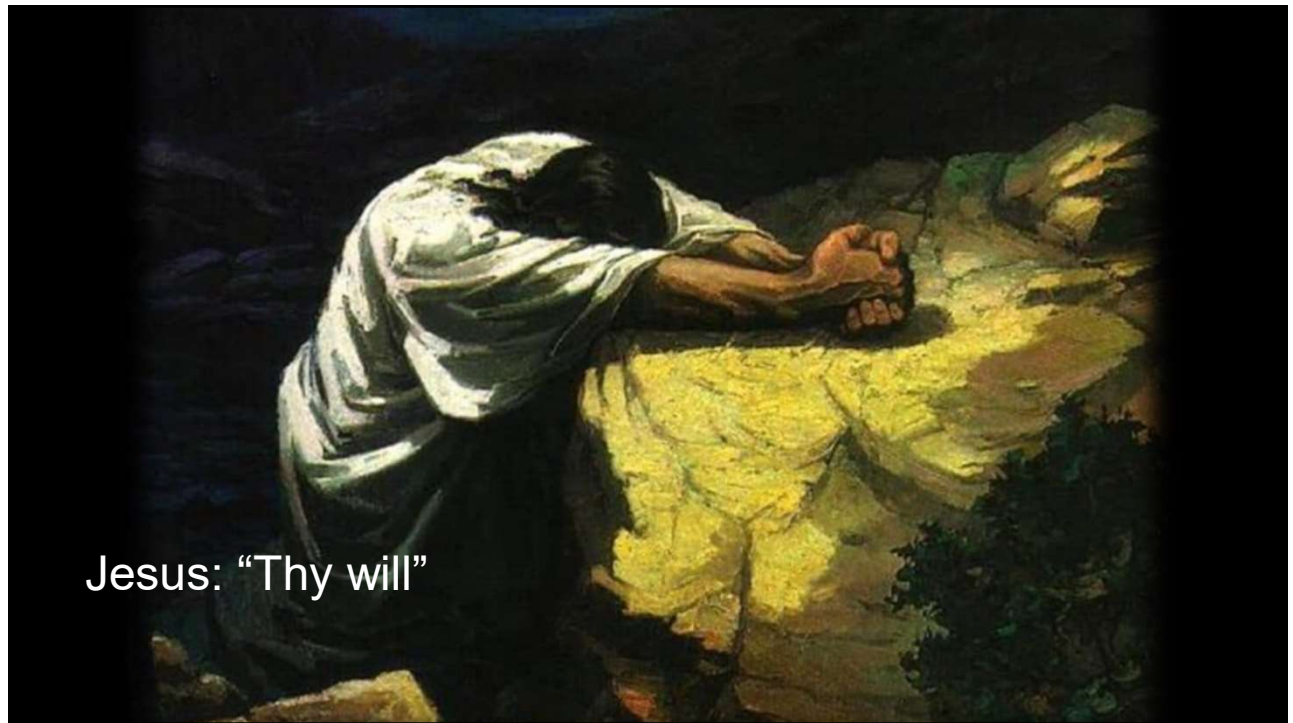


Satan's sin was self-centered pride  
Is 14:13-14 – Satan: "I will" 5x

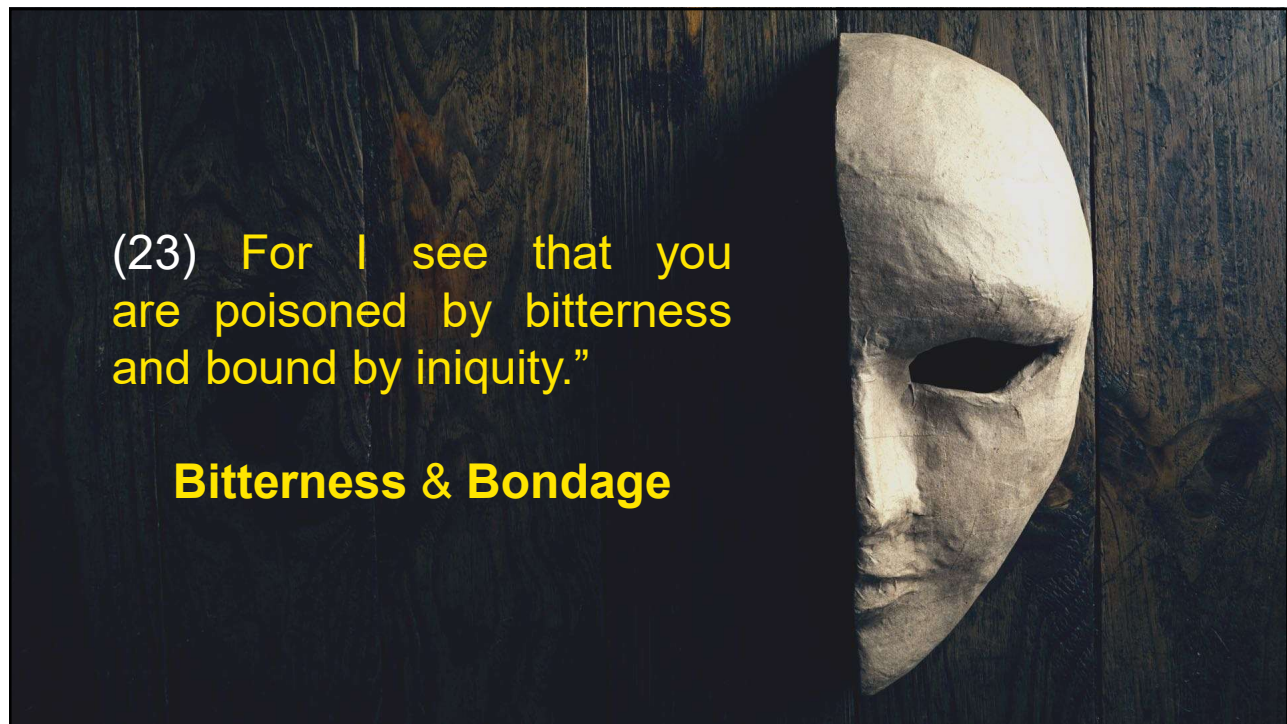


23

Jesus: "Thy will"



24

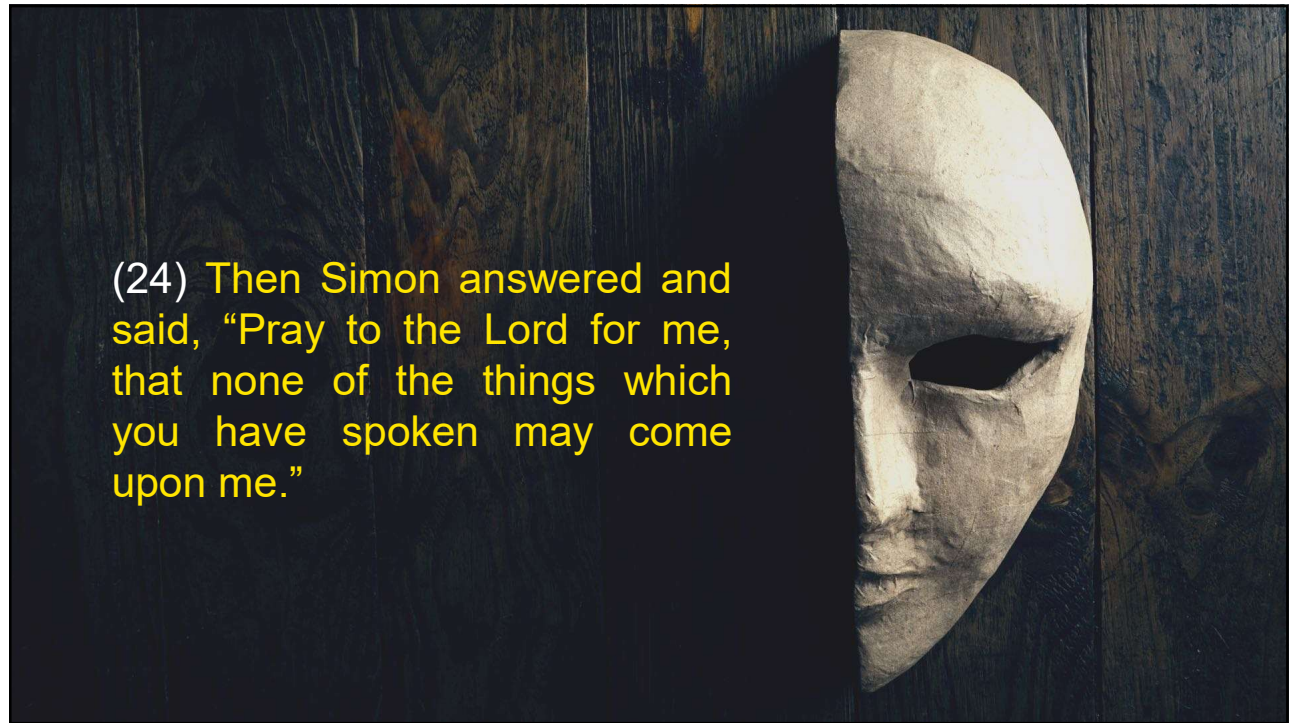


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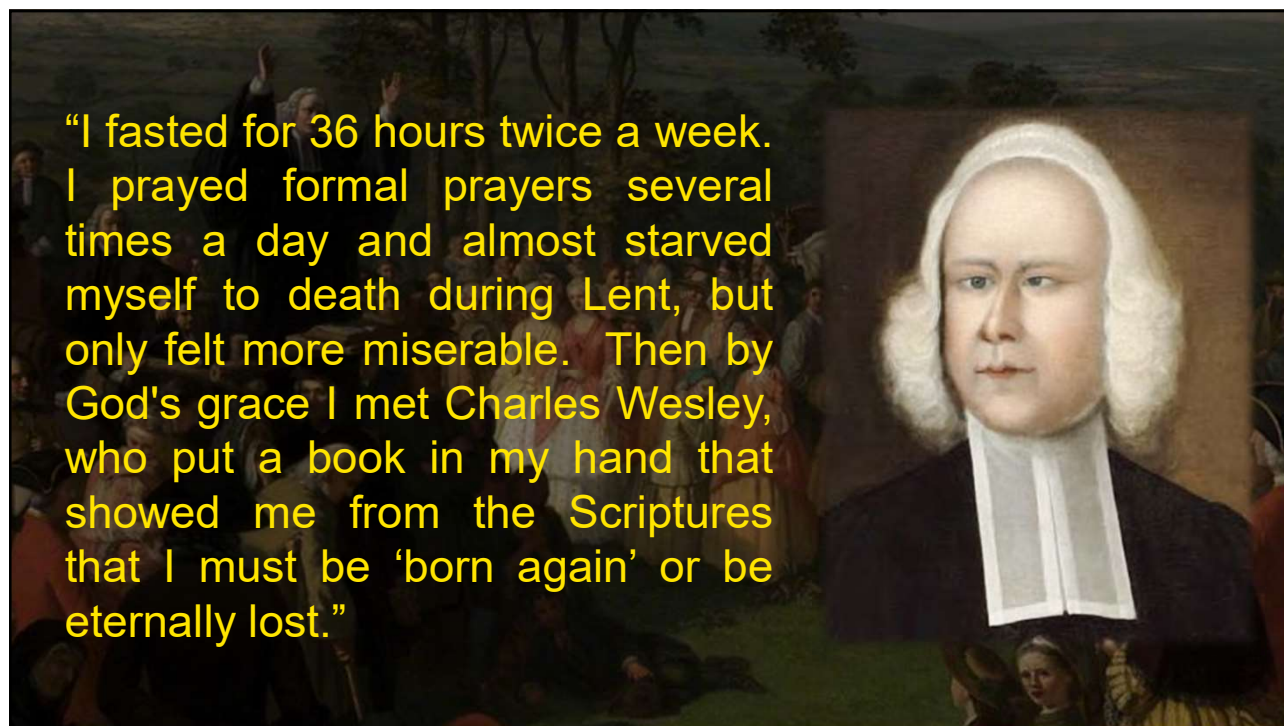




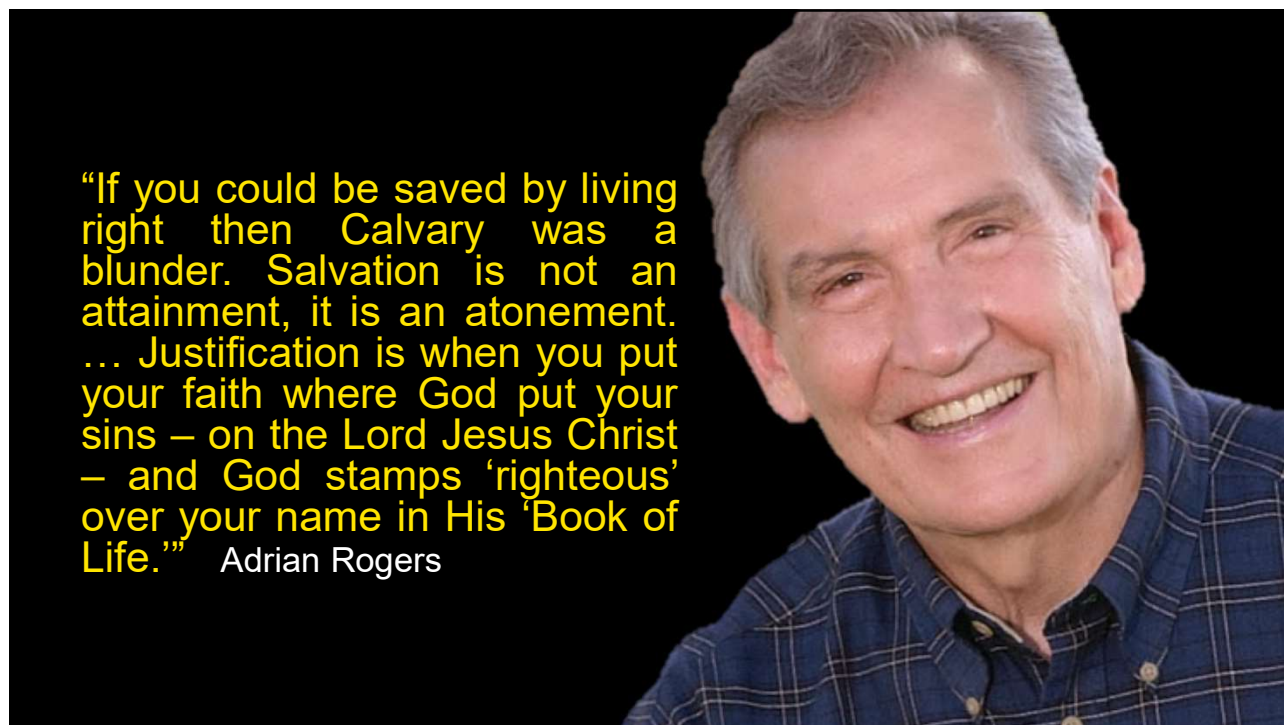
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28



29



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