

# fish don't know they're wet

why (and how) culture matters



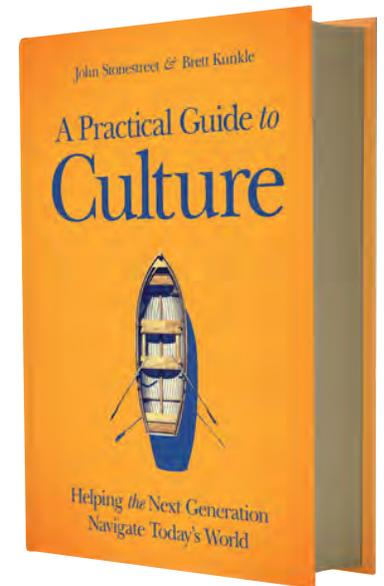
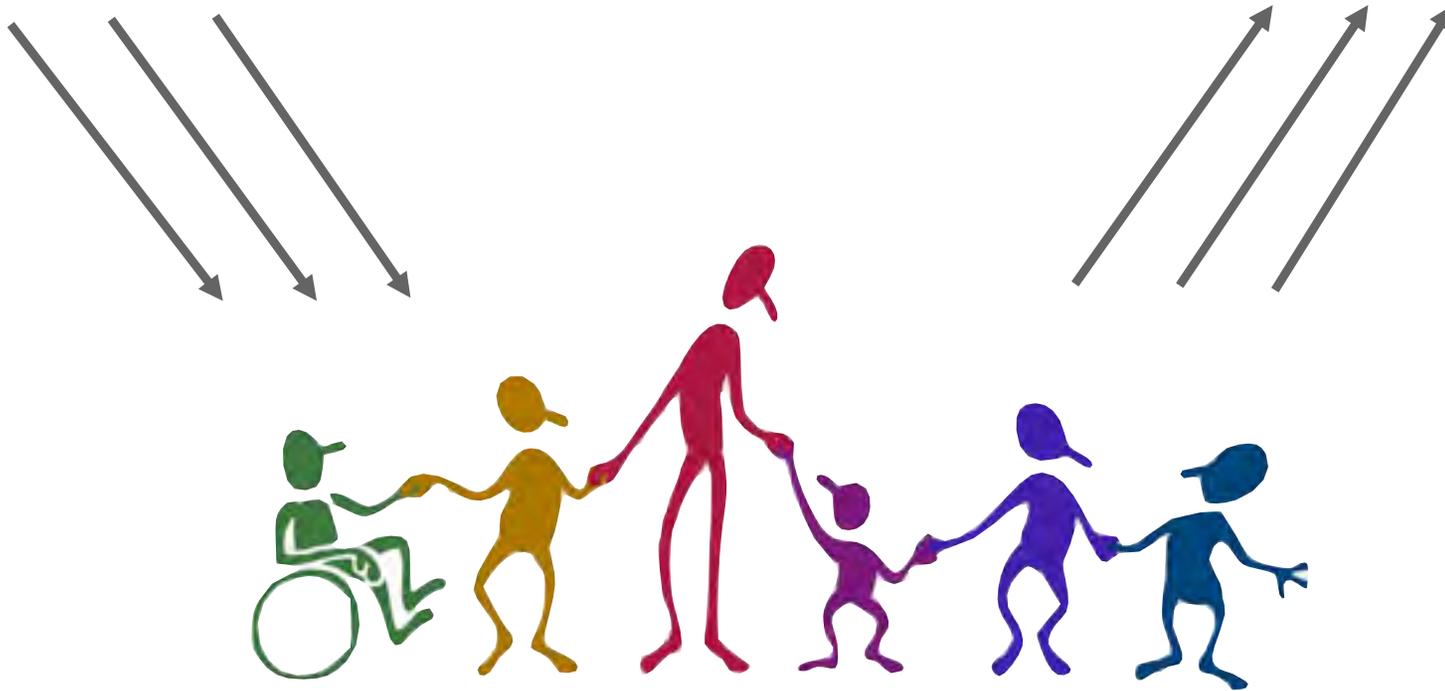
from *A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO CULTURE*

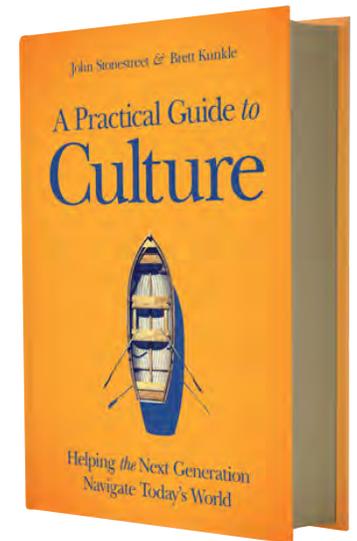
John Stonestreet

A Crash Course in Worldview and Culture

[www.breakpoint.org](http://www.breakpoint.org)

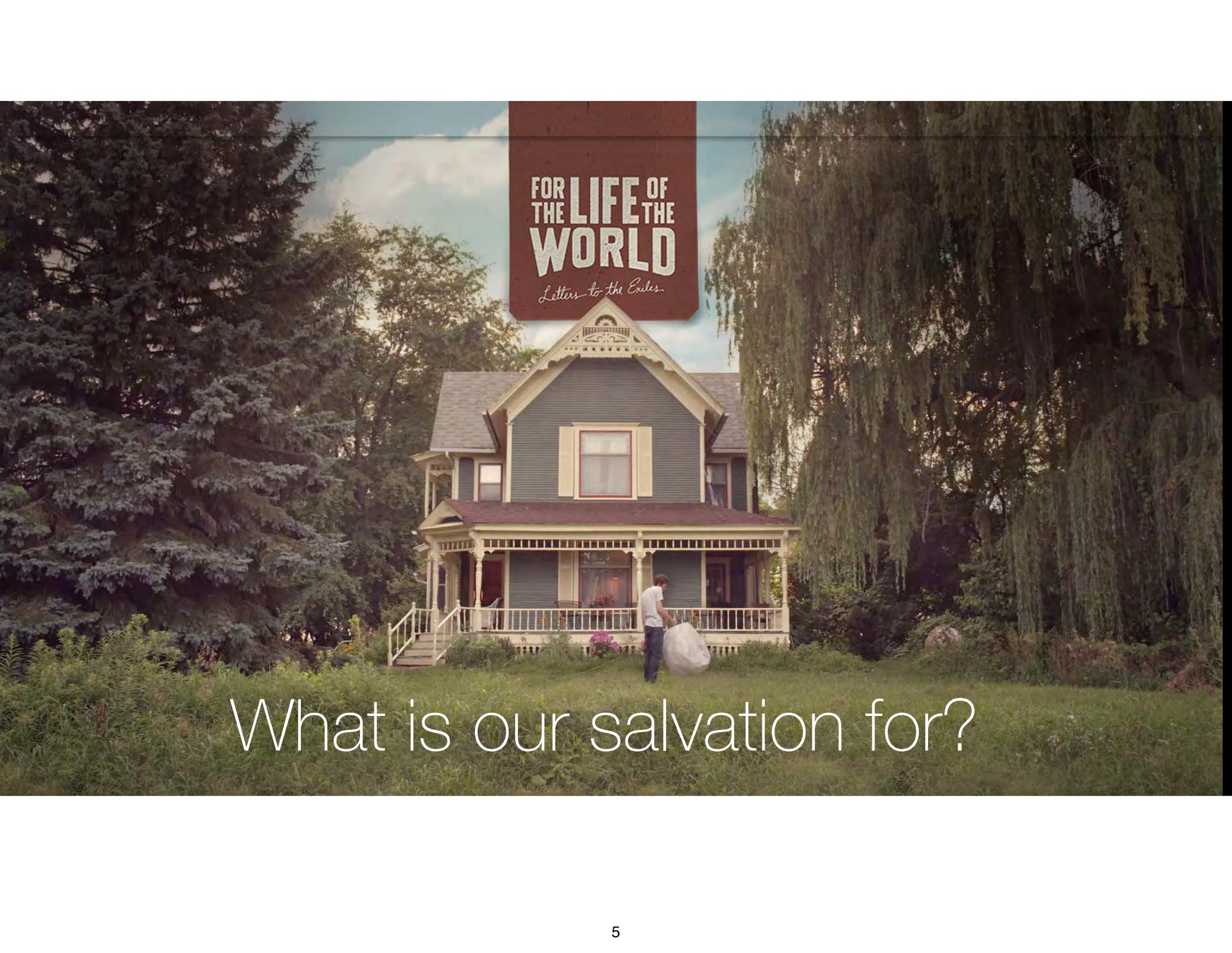
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WHERE DO WE DRAW

THE LINE?

A vintage-style house with a porch, surrounded by trees, with a sign above it that reads "FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD" and "Letters to the Endless".

FOR THE LIFE OF THE  
WORLD

*Letters to the Endless*

What is our salvation for?



“We are Christian, and we are German; therefore we are responsible for Germany!”

The White Rose Society



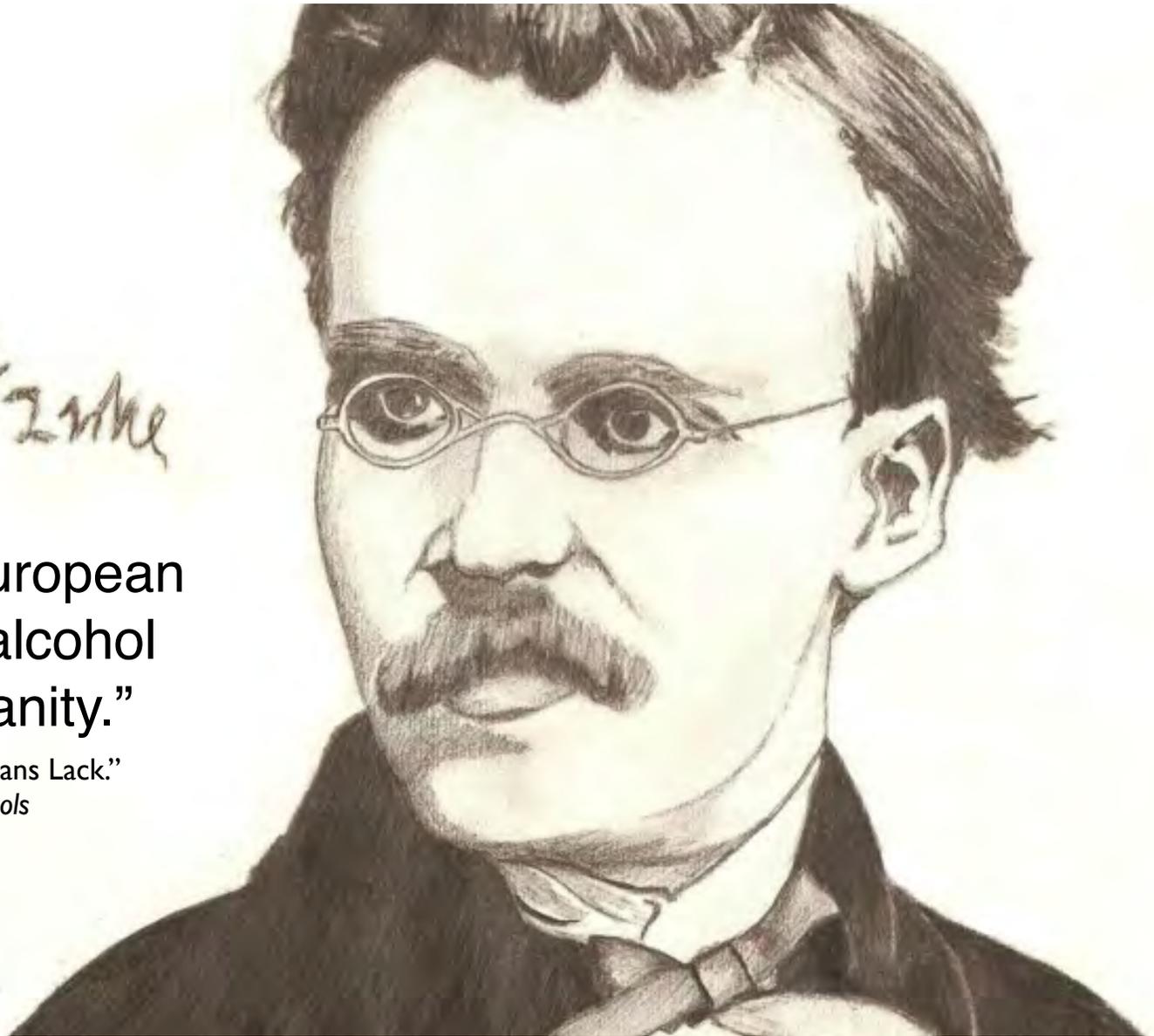
we are not saved for...

ESCAPE

Nietzsche

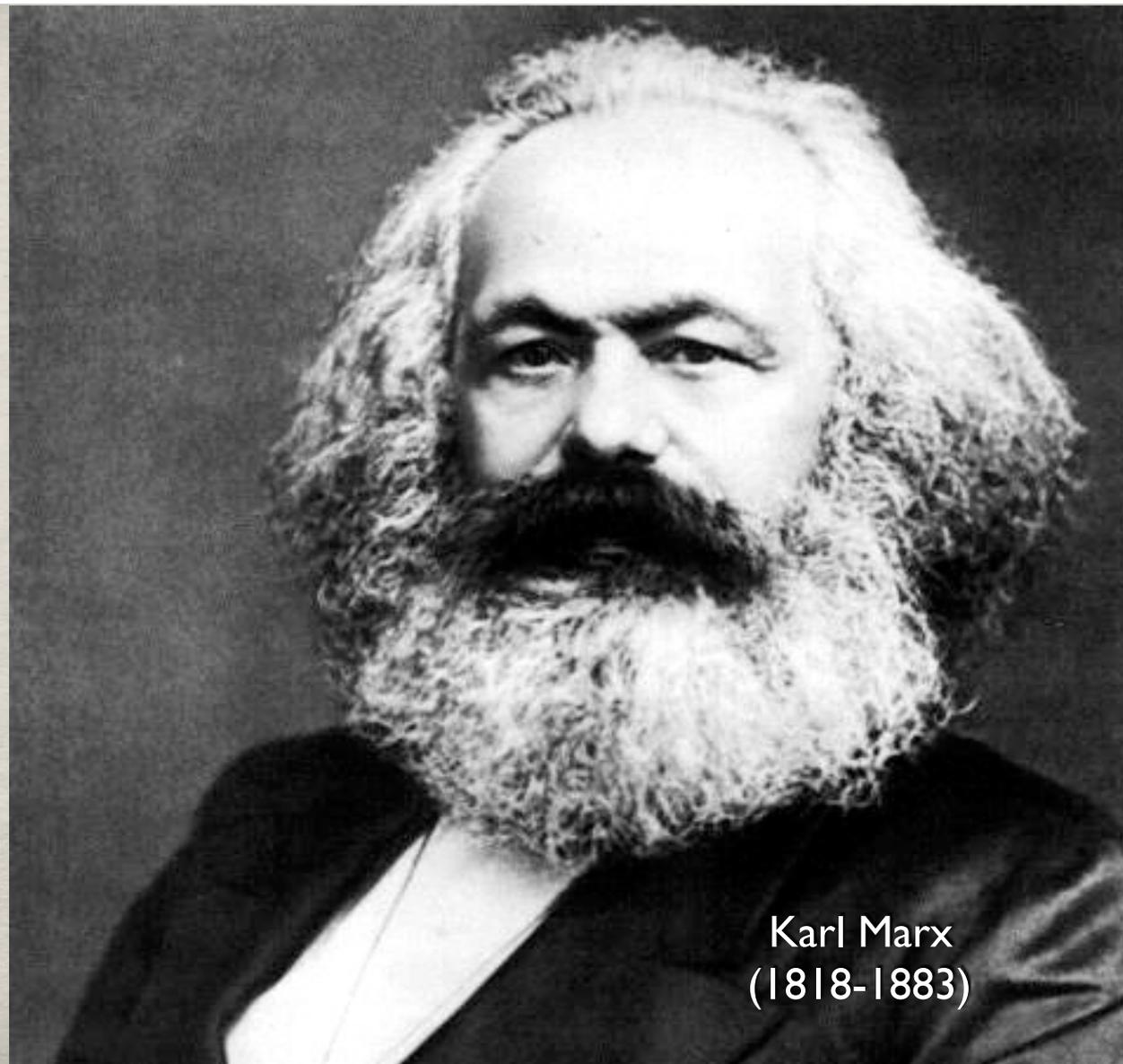
“Two great European  
narcotics – alcohol  
and Christianity.”

from “What the Germans Lack.”  
*Twilight of the Idols*



“Religion is the  
opiate of the  
people.”

*from Contribution to Critique of  
Hegel's Philosophy of Right*



Karl Marx  
(1818-1883)

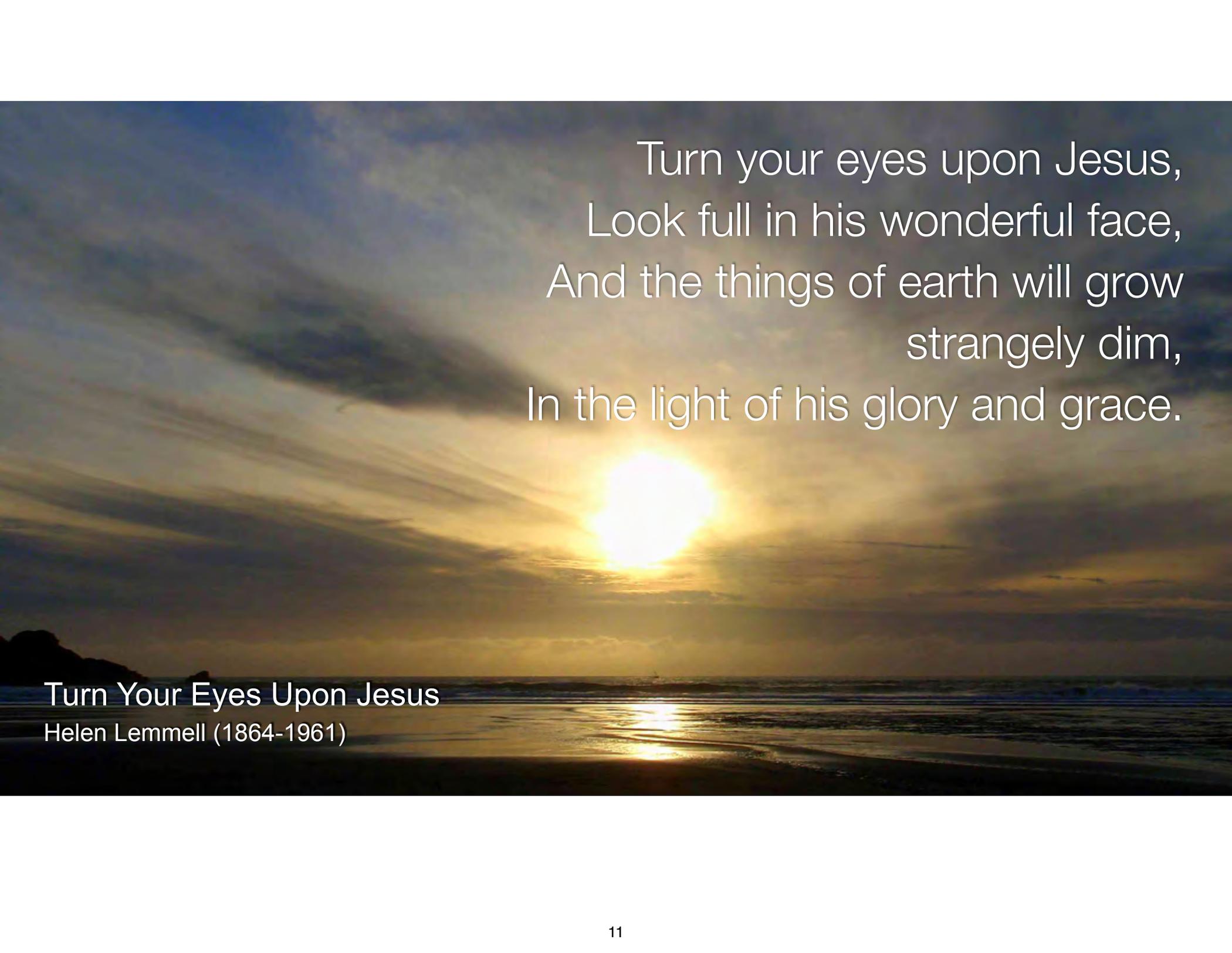
What does it matter if one is free or slave in this vale of tears? The essential thing is to get to heaven, and resignation is one more means towards that.

...True Christians are made to be slaves, they know it, and they are not concerned by that: this short life is too unimportant in their eyes.

from *The Social Contract*, 4.8

Jean-Jacques Rousseau  
(1712-1778)

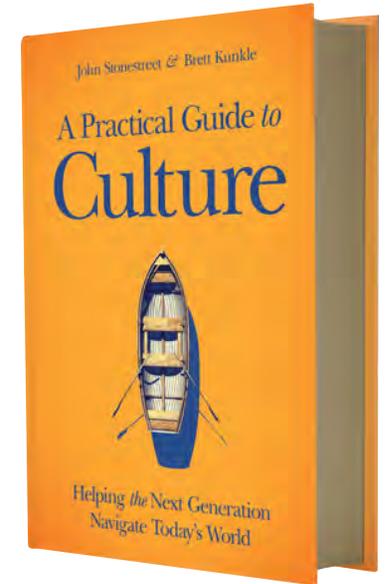
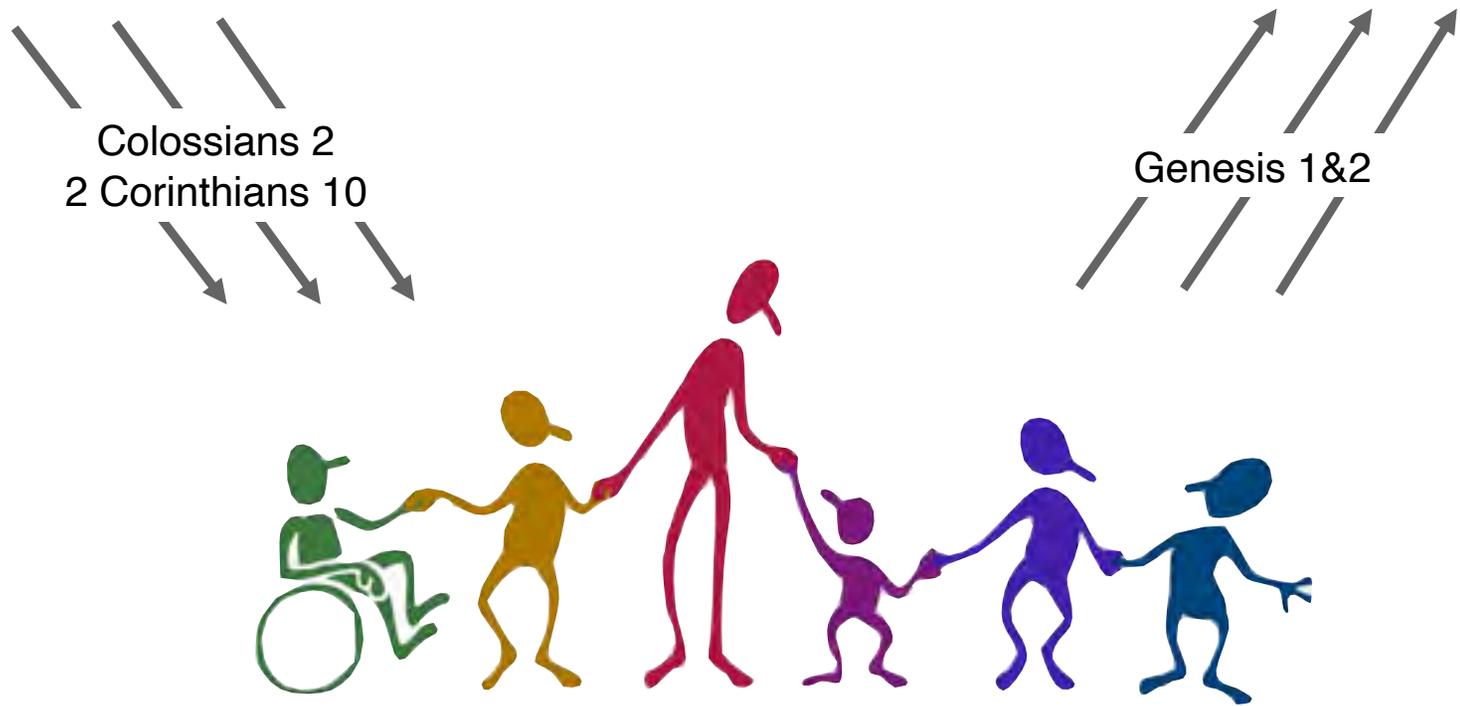


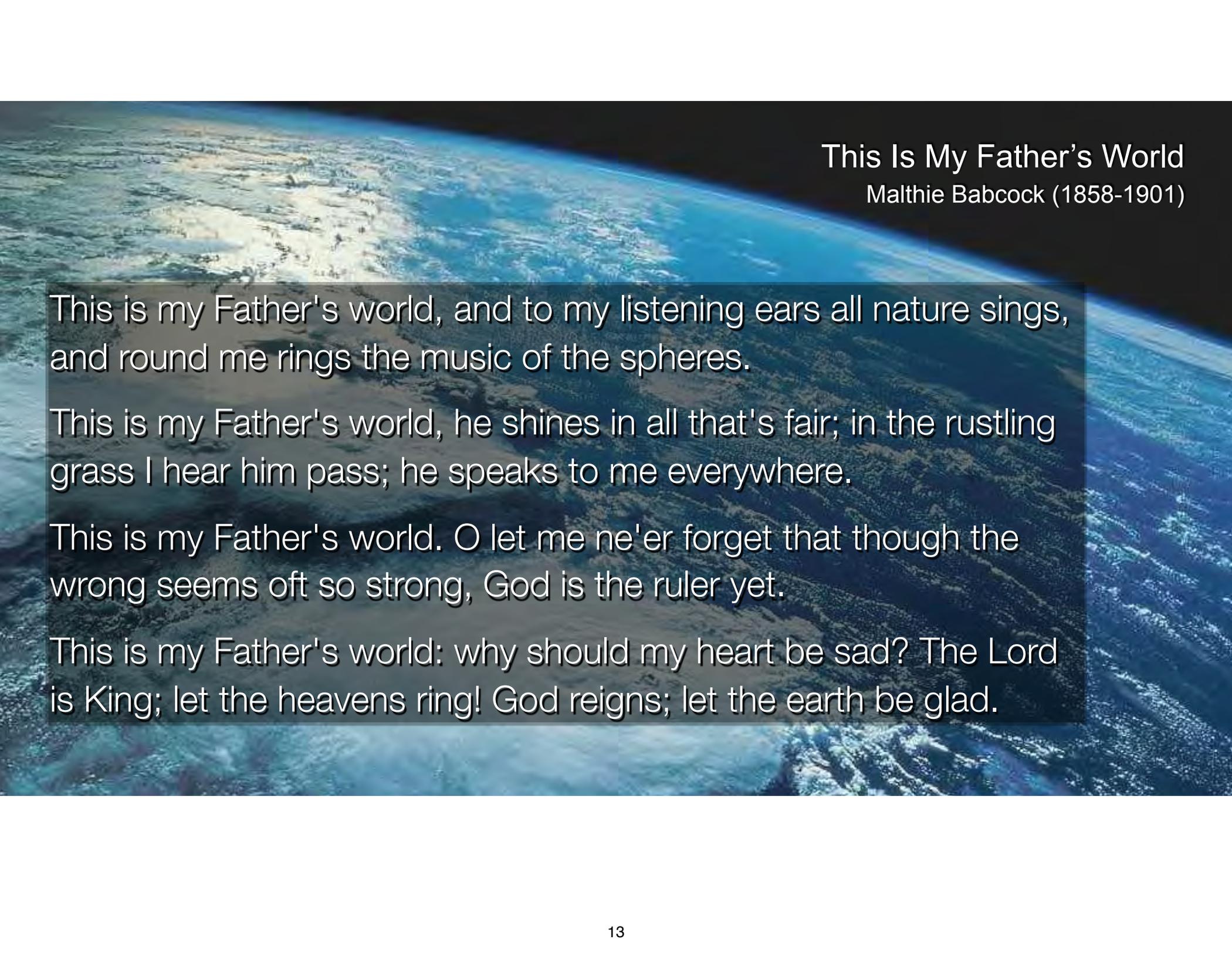


Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in his wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow  
strangely dim,  
In the light of his glory and grace.

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus  
Helen Lemmell (1864-1961)

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## This Is My Father's World

Malthie Babcock (1858-1901)

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings,  
and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world, he shines in all that's fair; in the rustling  
grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.

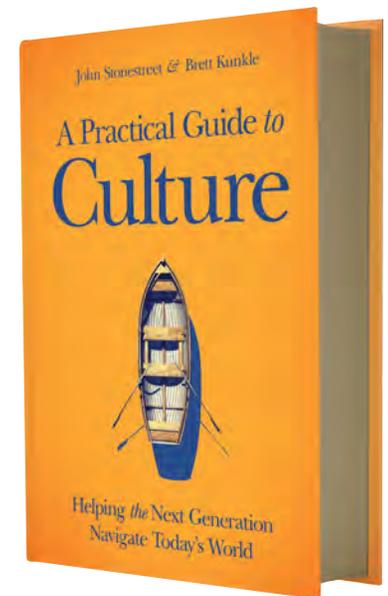
This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget that though the  
wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad? The Lord  
is King; let the heavens ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad.

we are not saved for...  
*compromise*

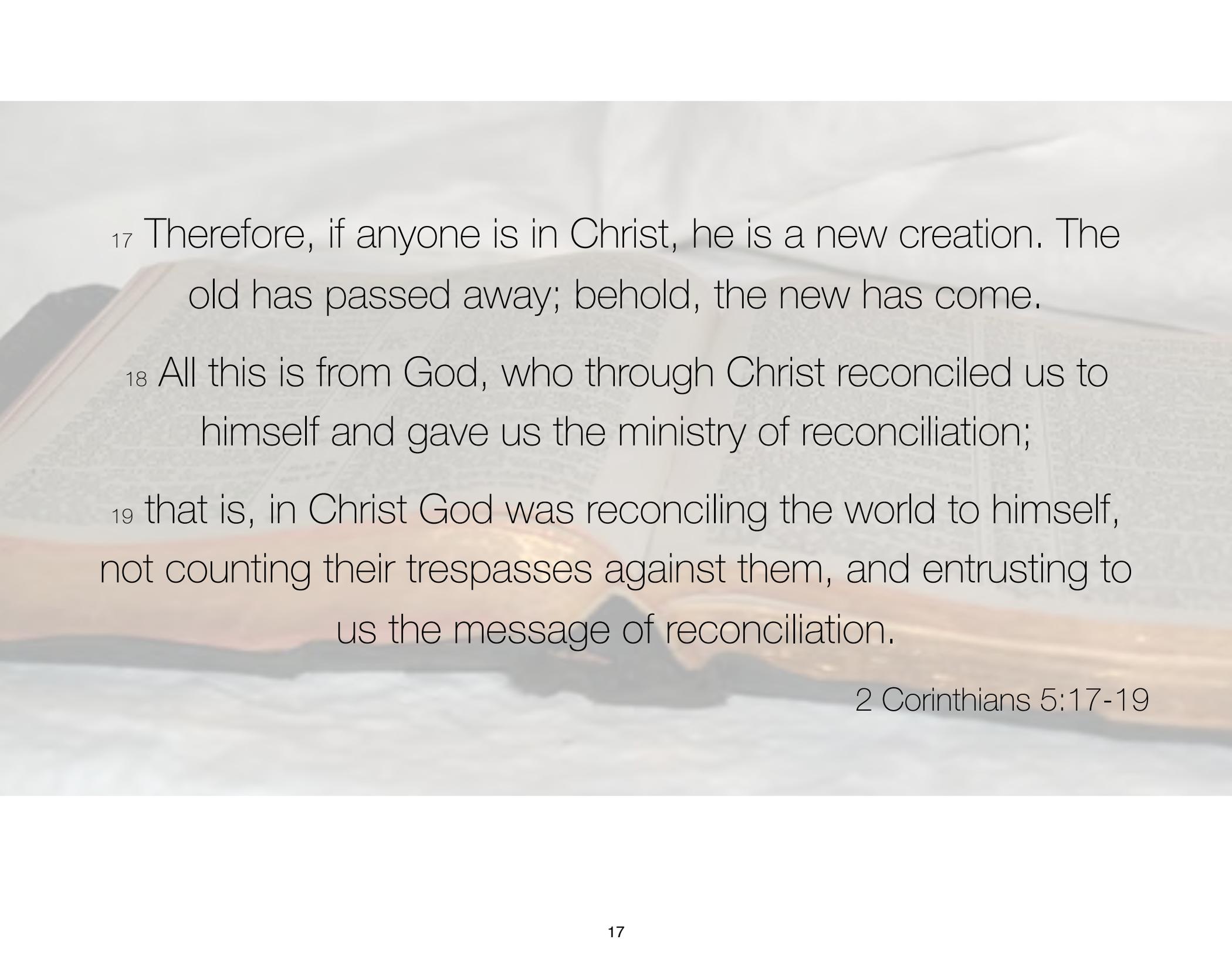


the story  
VS  
the moment



we are saved for...  
hopeful engagement





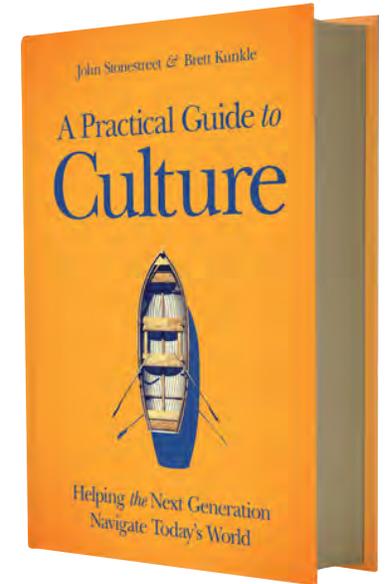
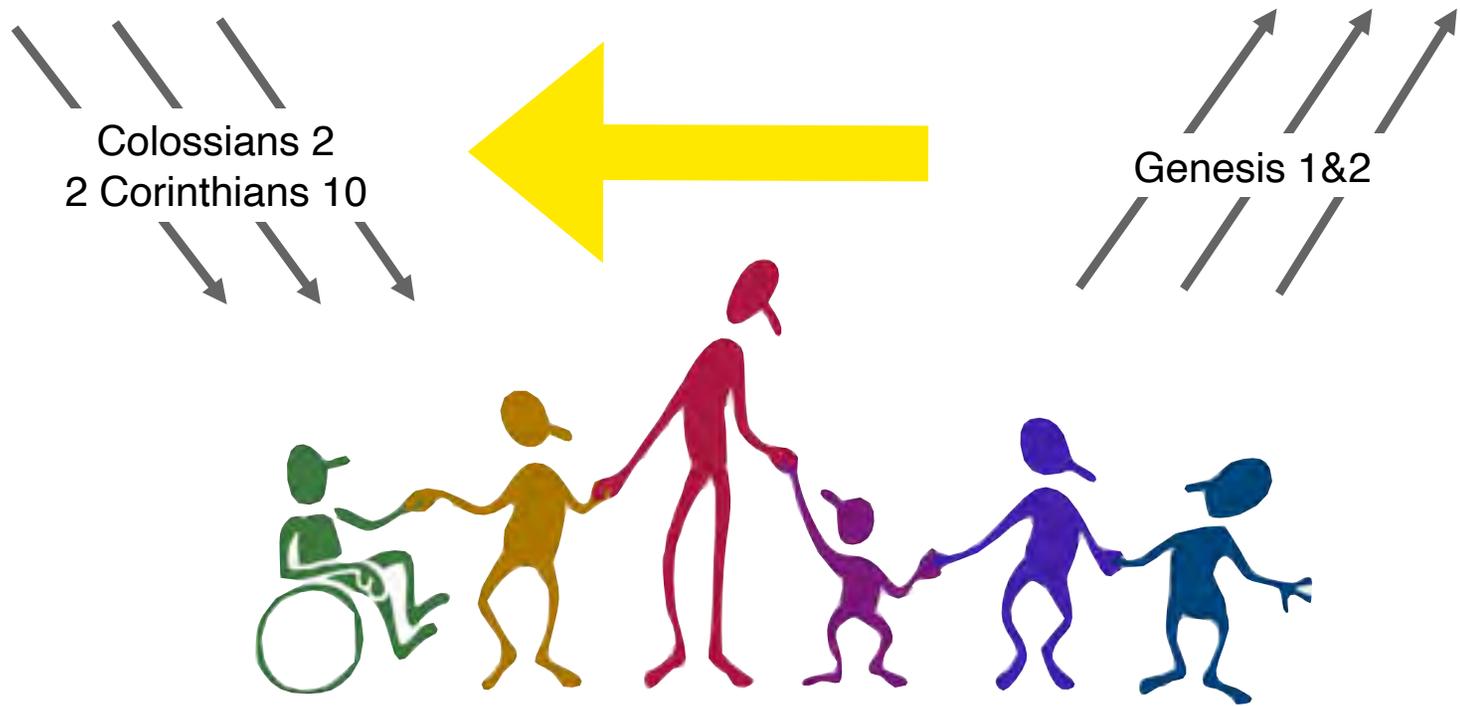
<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

<sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

<sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

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# How is Culture Forming Me?

*What are my loves?*

*What are my longings?*

*What are my loyalties?*

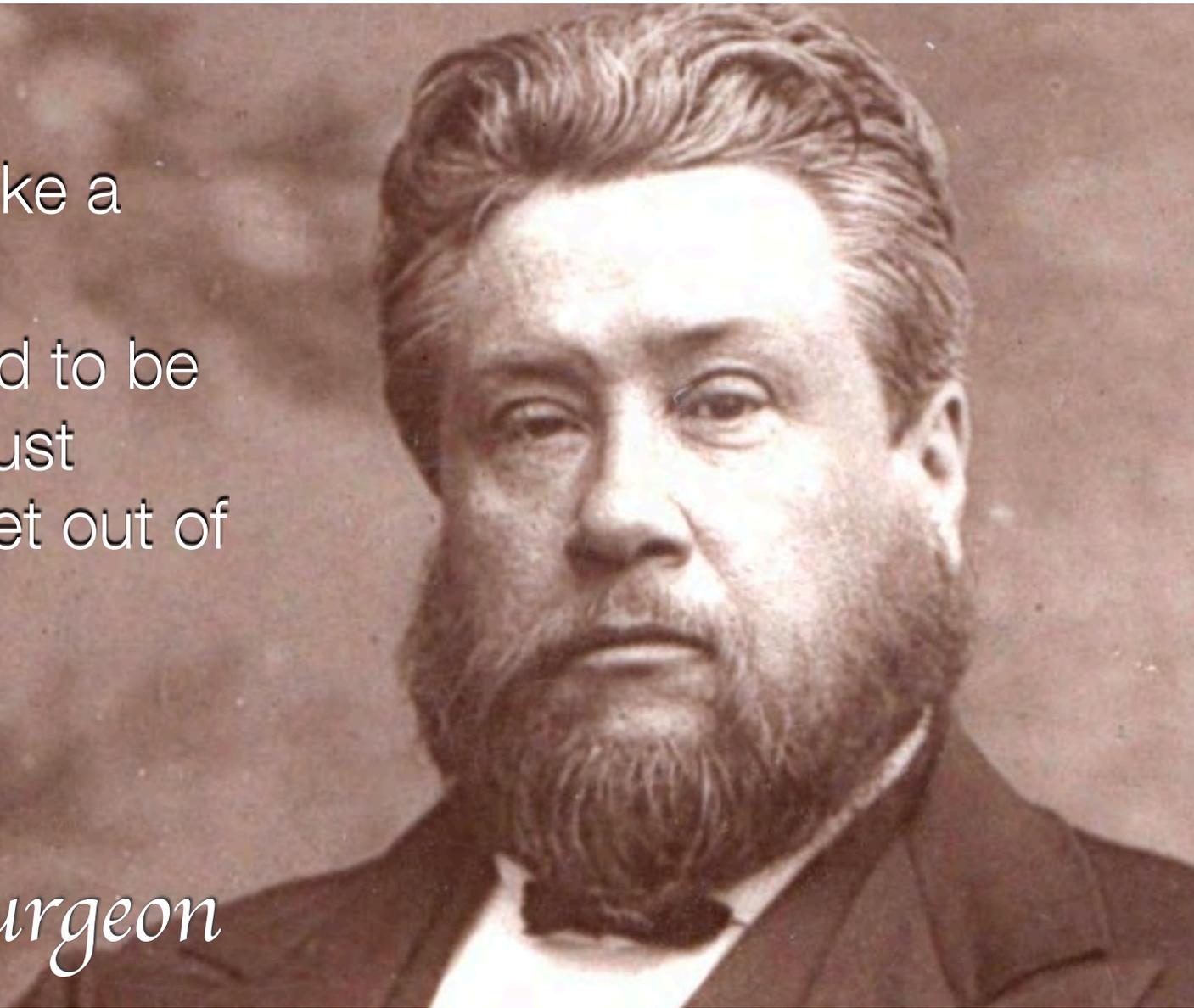
*What are my labors?*

*What are my liturgies?*

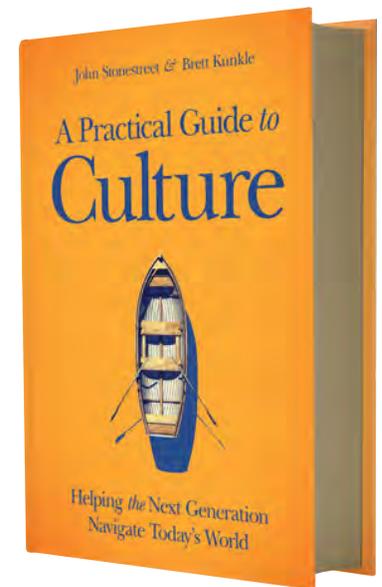
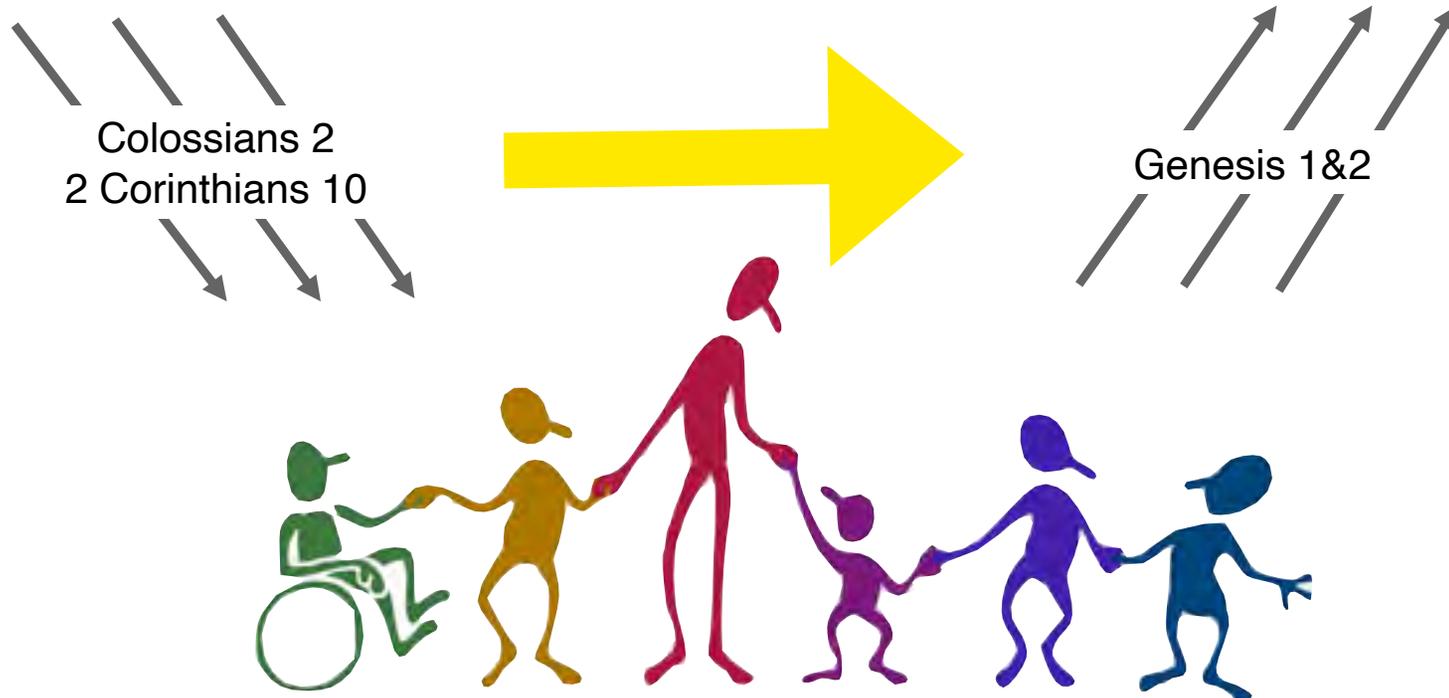
The Gospel is like a  
caged lion.

It does not need to be  
defended, it just  
needs to be let out of  
its cage.

*Charles Spurgeon*



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# How Can We Form Culture?

*What is good that we can protect, celebrate, and promote?*

*What is missing that we can contribute?*

*What is evil that must stop?*

*What is broken that we can restore?*

