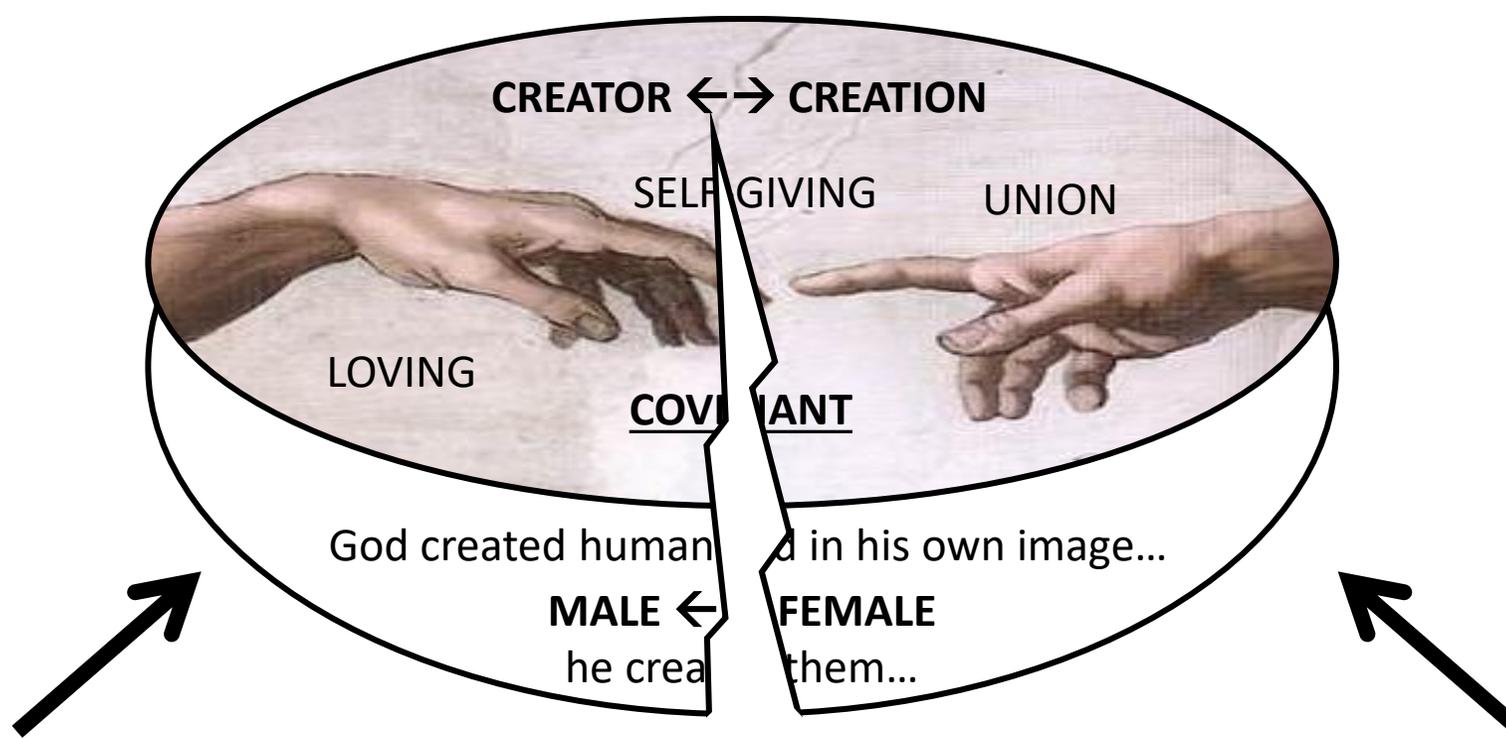


# Roaming through ROMANS

Devotions and Studies for  
Lent 2021





The *righteousness* of God is being revealed  
in the gospel. (1:17)

The *righteous* shall live by faith

The *wrath* of God is being revealed  
(1:18)

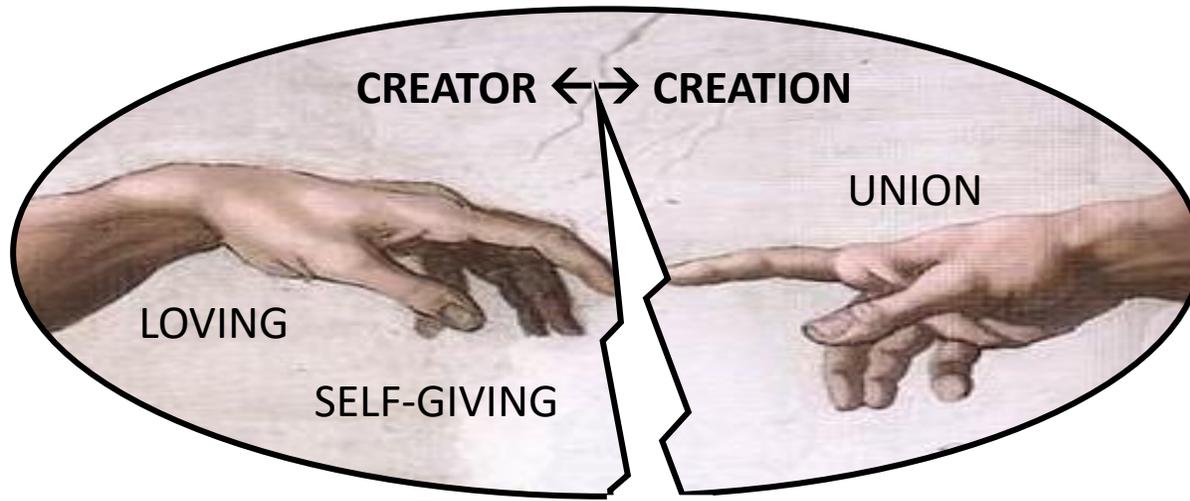
Against those who “suppress the truth by  
the means of their *injustice*.”

Degradation of Creator ← → Creation union  
(1:21-23)

Degradation of Male ← → Female image  
(1:24-27))

Degradation of “rightness” in general  
(1:28-32)

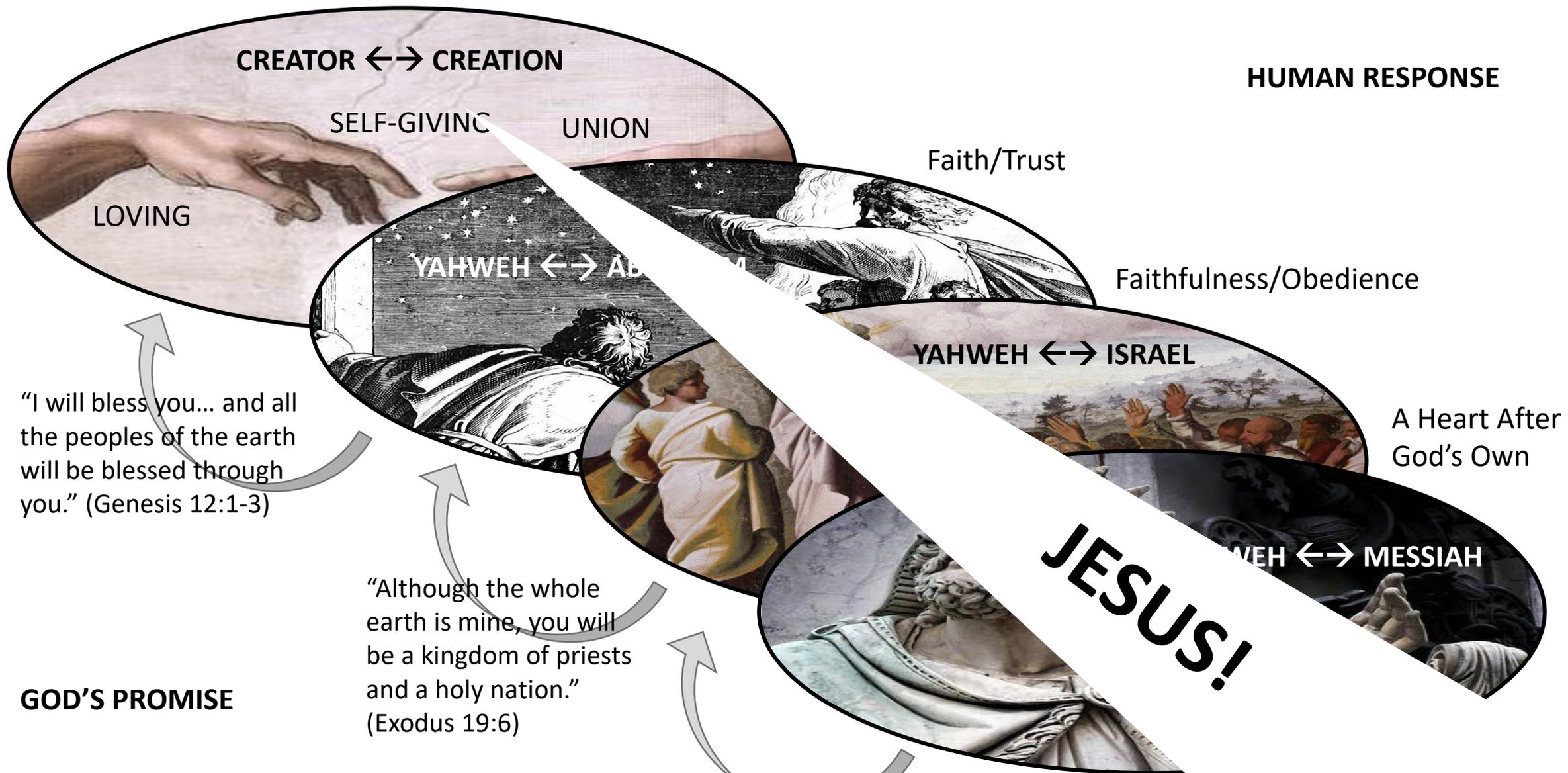
## RECAP: UNION AND FRACTURE



Those who are apart  
from the Law.

Those who are under  
the Law.

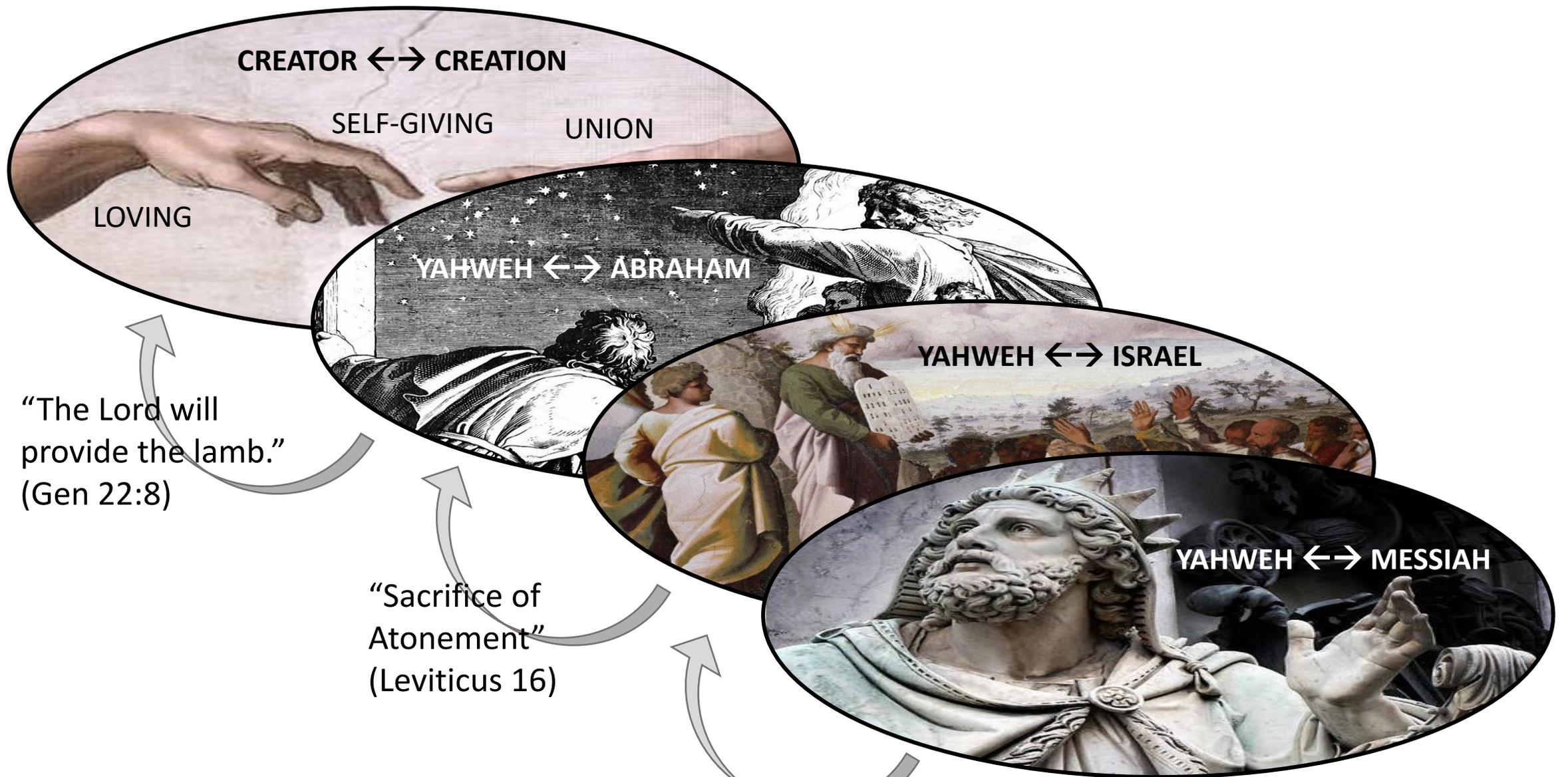
**RECAP: OUR PART, BOTH JEW & GENTILE**



**RECAP: A**  
**COVENANT-MAKING GOD**



RECAP: ROMANS 3:25-26



**RECAP: THE COST OF COVENANT**

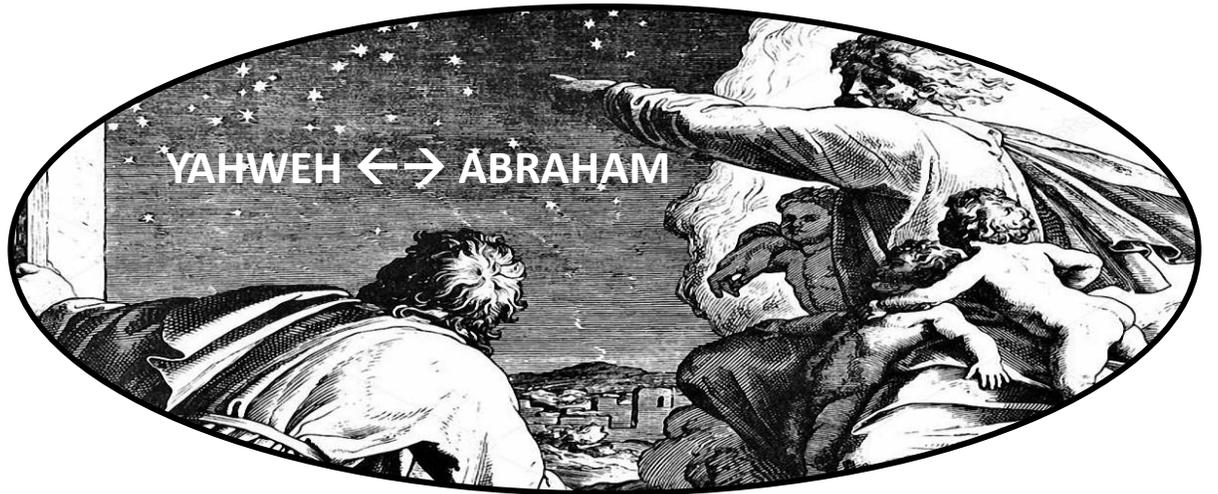
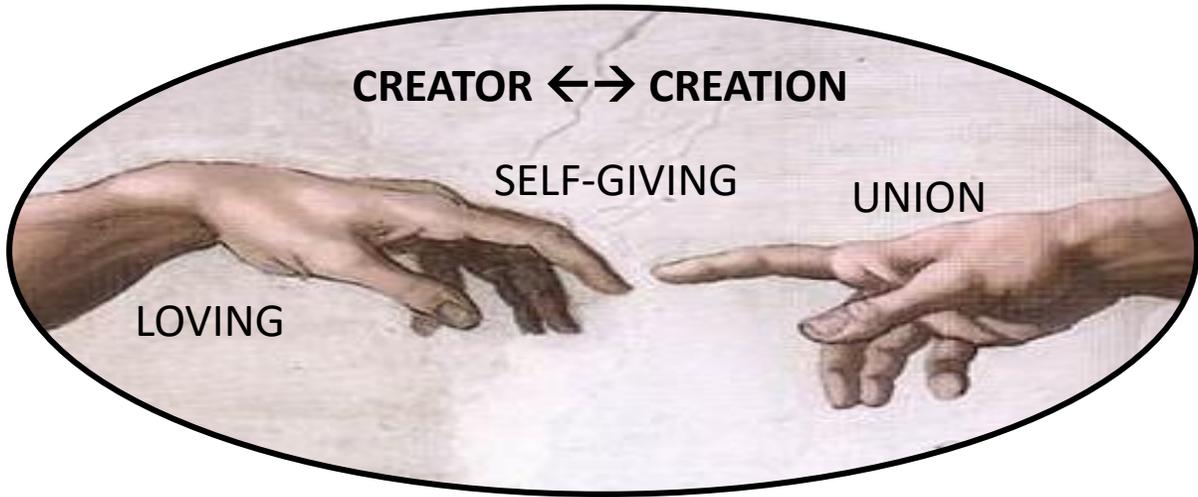
This story is our story.

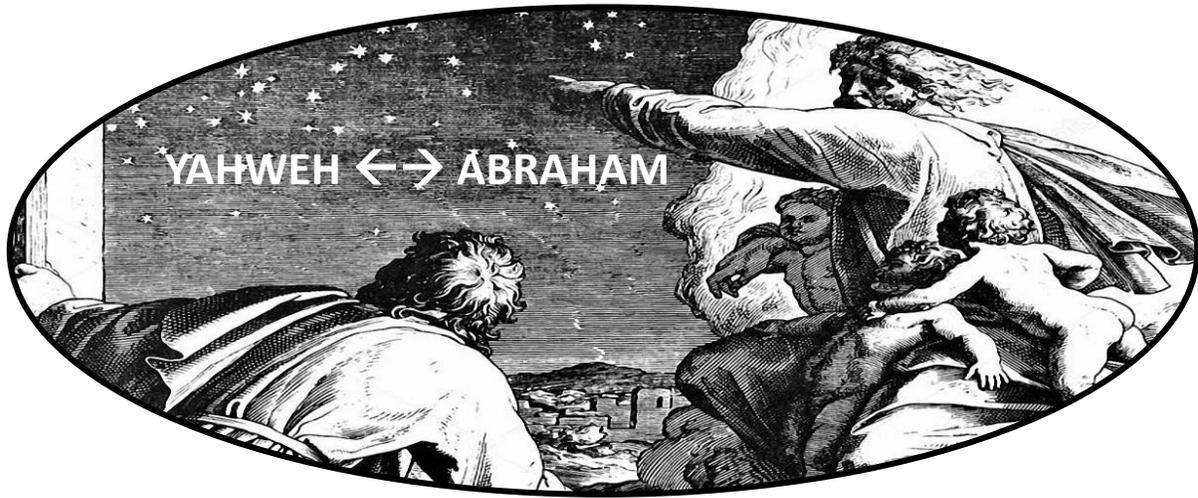
Throughout it all, God is faithful, self-giving, promise-making, promise-keeping. We see this, perfectly, in Jesus. Through Jesus he enables a renewal of trust, a restoration of what is just and relationally right between God's people, God's world, and God himself.

*How has this story affected you?*

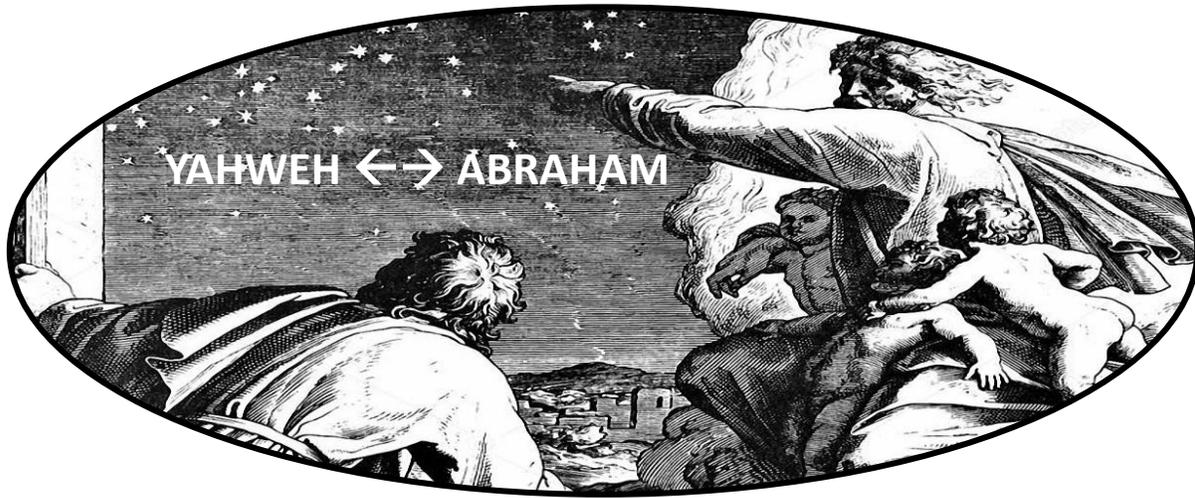
*How does this story shape your desires, plans, hopes, dreams?*

*In what ways does this story define the life of our church?*





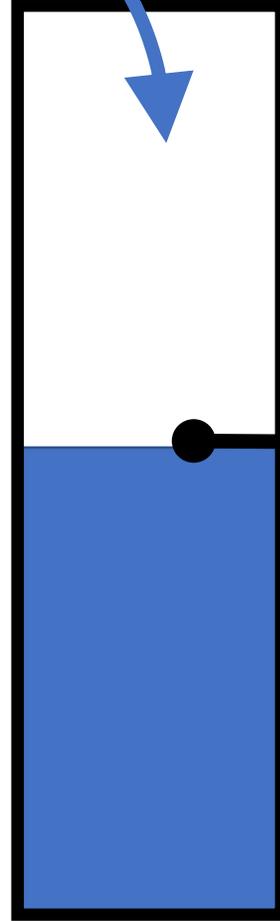
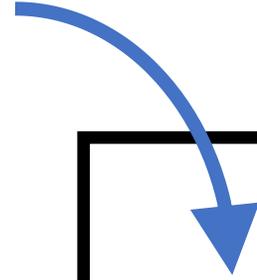
FAITH > WORKS



4:3 – “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”



**Works**



**Capacity & Strength**



**Blessing/  
Reward**



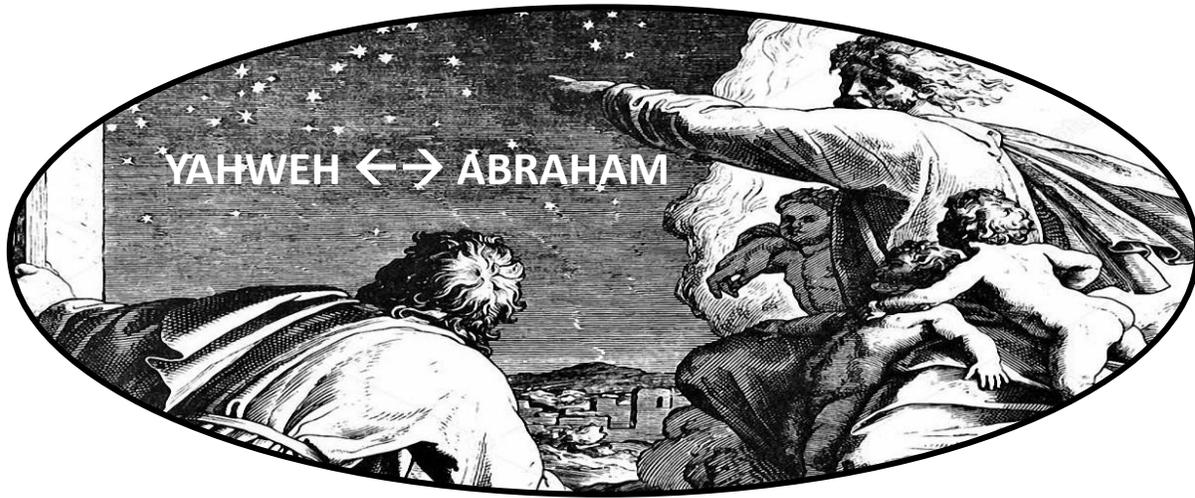


**GRACE**

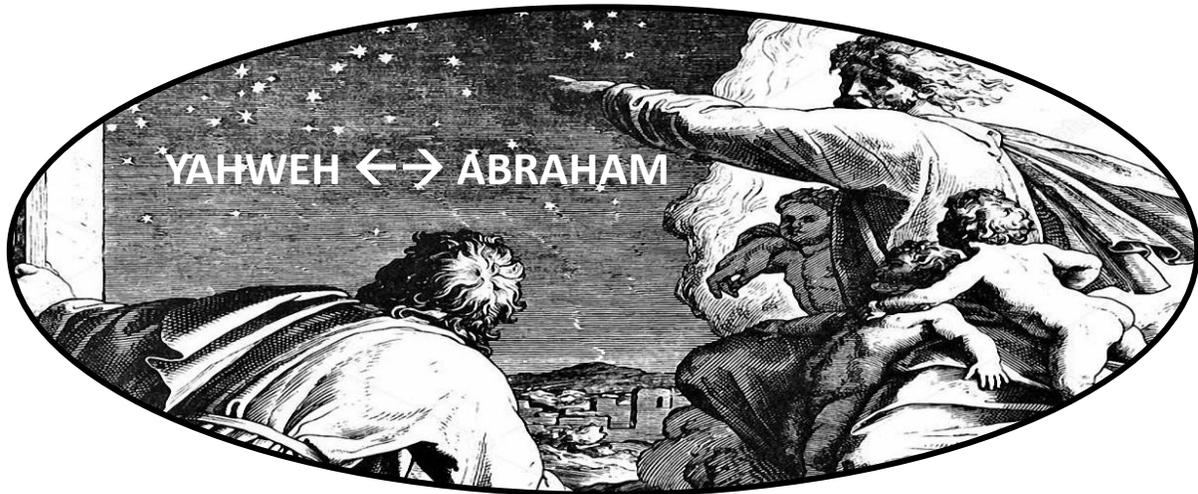


**Blessing**

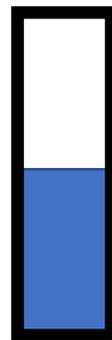


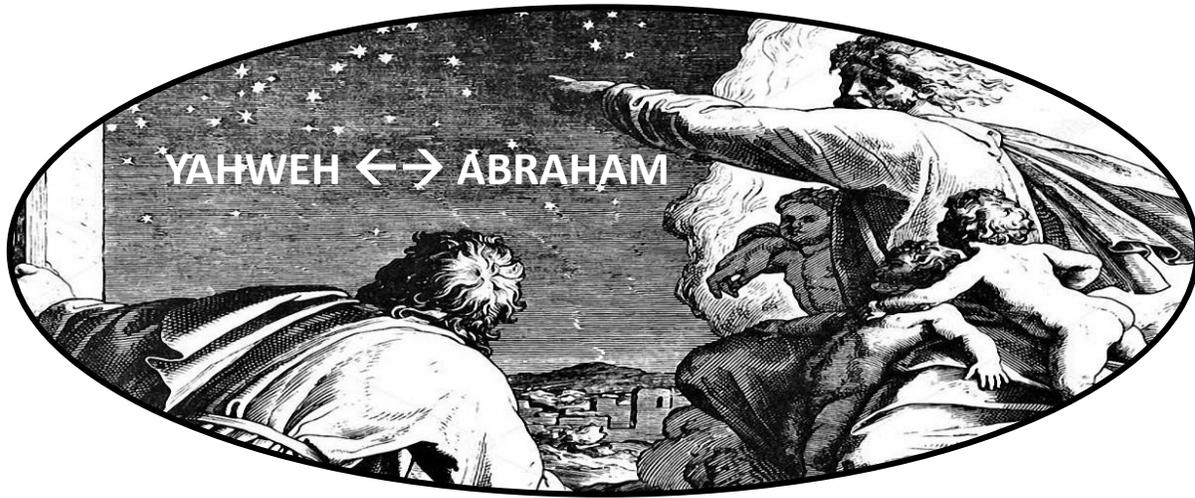


FAITH > CIRCUMCISION



FAITH > LAW





**WEAKNESS > STRENGTH**



**4:3 – “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”**

**4:24 – “...also for us to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.”**



Death → Life

Barren → Father of the Nations

Weakness → Blessing

The Cost of Covenant → Resurrection Glory

Suffering → Hope

## DISCUSSION TIME #1

Read again Romans 4:18-25. This speaks of Abraham's weakness, and God's grace. It's the essence of the gospel, because our righteousness that will bless the whole world cannot be limited to our own strength; it's a gift from God.

### QUESTION 1:

Share some thoughts about your experience of God in your own weakness, perhaps even in a time of suffering.

What did faith and trust look like in that moment?

What did hope look like in that moment?

What did you learn about the character of God?

### QUESTION 2:

A lot of our culture rewards performance and the using of our strength for activism. Faith is not the opposite of this, but how might this culture undermine faith, trust, and drawing close to God? What might it look like in our own lives, and also in our church?

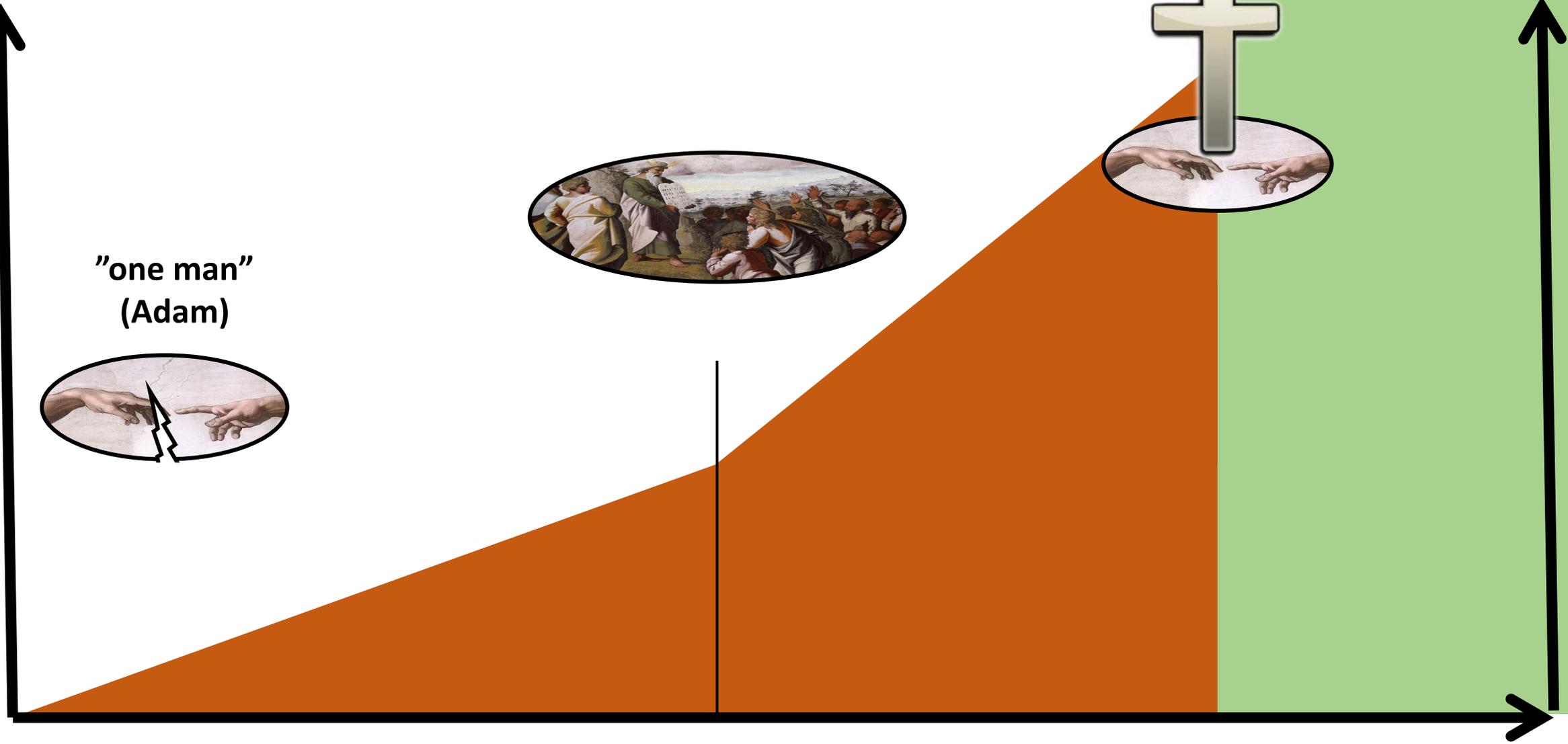
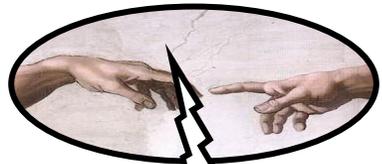
How might we learn to trust God more?

If you have time, read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

**"SIN" AND "DEATH"**

**"GIFT", "BLESSING"  
"RIGHTEOUSNESS"**

**"one man"  
(Adam)**



**TIME**

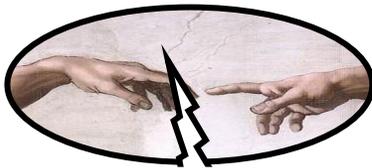
# THE “FIRST” ADAM

WHAT REIGNS?

SIN AND DEATH

CONDEMNATION

THE MANY ARE “SINNERS”



# THE “SECOND” ADAM

WHAT REIGNS?

GRACE AND ETERNAL LIFE NOW

JUSTIFICATION

THE MANY ARE “RIGHTEOUS”



## DISCUSSION TIME #2

Reflect on the sense of Christ as a “second Adam” – the founder of new humanity which is restored, founded, shaped by a union with God through faith. Clearly, this is essential to the gospel that Paul is talking about.

Peter proclaims it also, you might want to read 1 Peter 2:9-10 and reflect on those words as well.

### QUESTIONS:

If someone asked you “Why do you go to church? Or why are you a Christian?”, in what way would this picture of God’s people help you answer?

“Church” is meant to be an expression of Christian community. Paul is presenting a deeper understanding of a Christ-centred people, a new creation present in this world. How well does our church reflect this gospel truth?