



Fake News

Angry God

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image shows the central figure, God, reclining on the right, pointing his right hand towards the Virgin Mary on the left. The word 'Recap' is written in blue text at the top. The question 'What use is the "church" today?' is written in white text across the middle of the image.

Recap

What use is the "church" today?

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image shows the central figure, God, reclining on the right, pointing his right hand towards the left. He has a long, flowing white beard and is wearing a red robe. To his left, the Virgin Mary is shown in a reclining position, looking up at God. The background is a light, textured surface, possibly the original wall or a reproduction. The overall color palette is dominated by earthy tones like reds, browns, and greys, with the white of the beard and Mary's head covering.

Recap

**Western Christianity may be
the best case for atheism**

Recap



Church
as a lego



Church
as a gym



Church as a
grocery store

Recap

know that you are my disciples, if you **love one another** John 13

Be **devoted to one another** in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Romans 12

bearing with one another in love Ephesians 4

do not slander one another James 4

Therefore let us **stop passing judgment** on one another Romans 14

Bear with each other and **forgive one another** Colossians 3

Accept one another Romans 15

And let us consider how we may **spur one another** on toward love and good deeds Hebrews 10

encourage one another 2 Corinthians 13

serve one another humbly in love Galatians 5

speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Ephesians 5

Offer **hospitality to one another** without grumbling 1 Peter 4

Toxoplasmosis

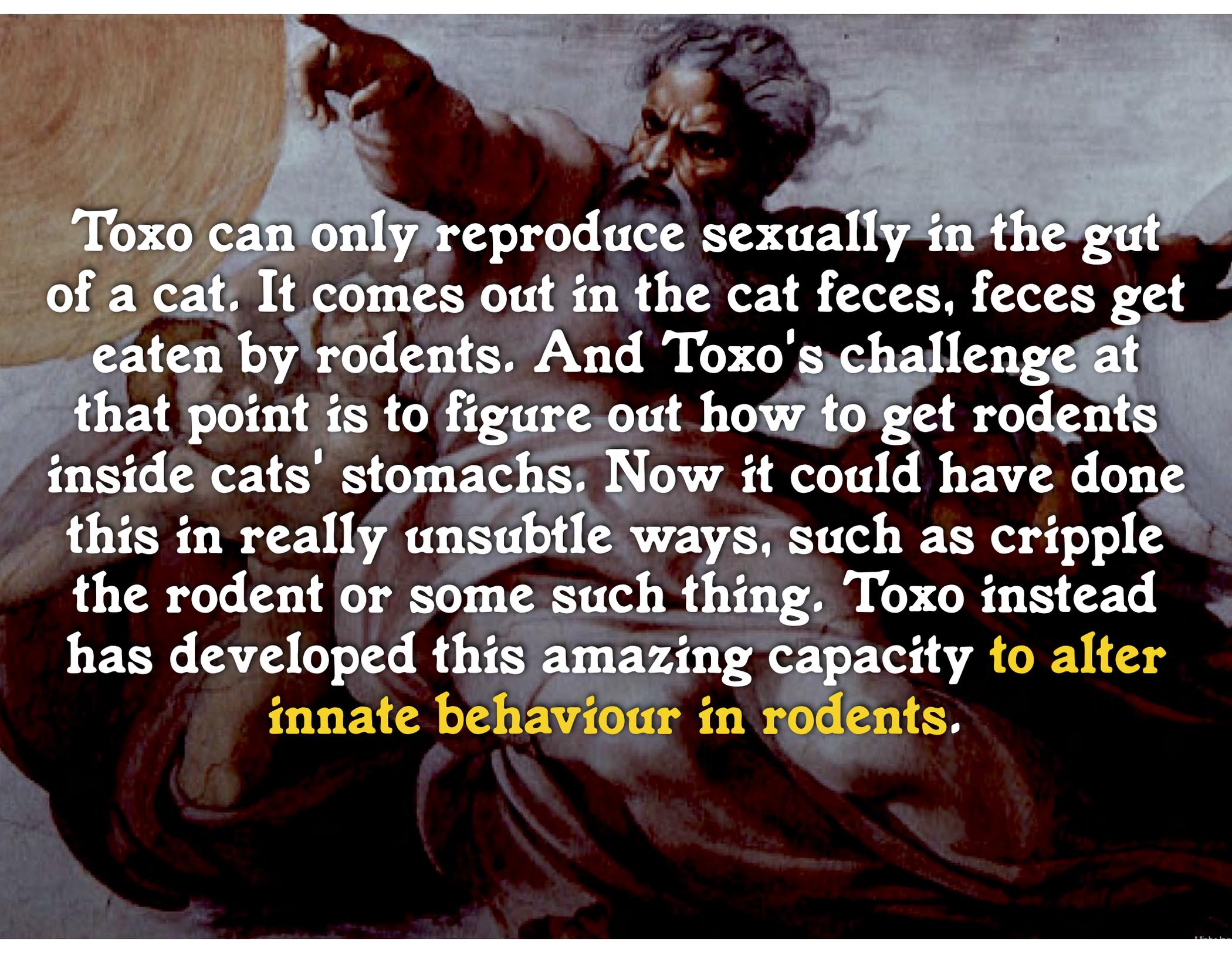
**B.A. in biological anthropology
summa cum laude from
Harvard University**

**Ph.D. in neuroendocrinology
Rockefeller University**

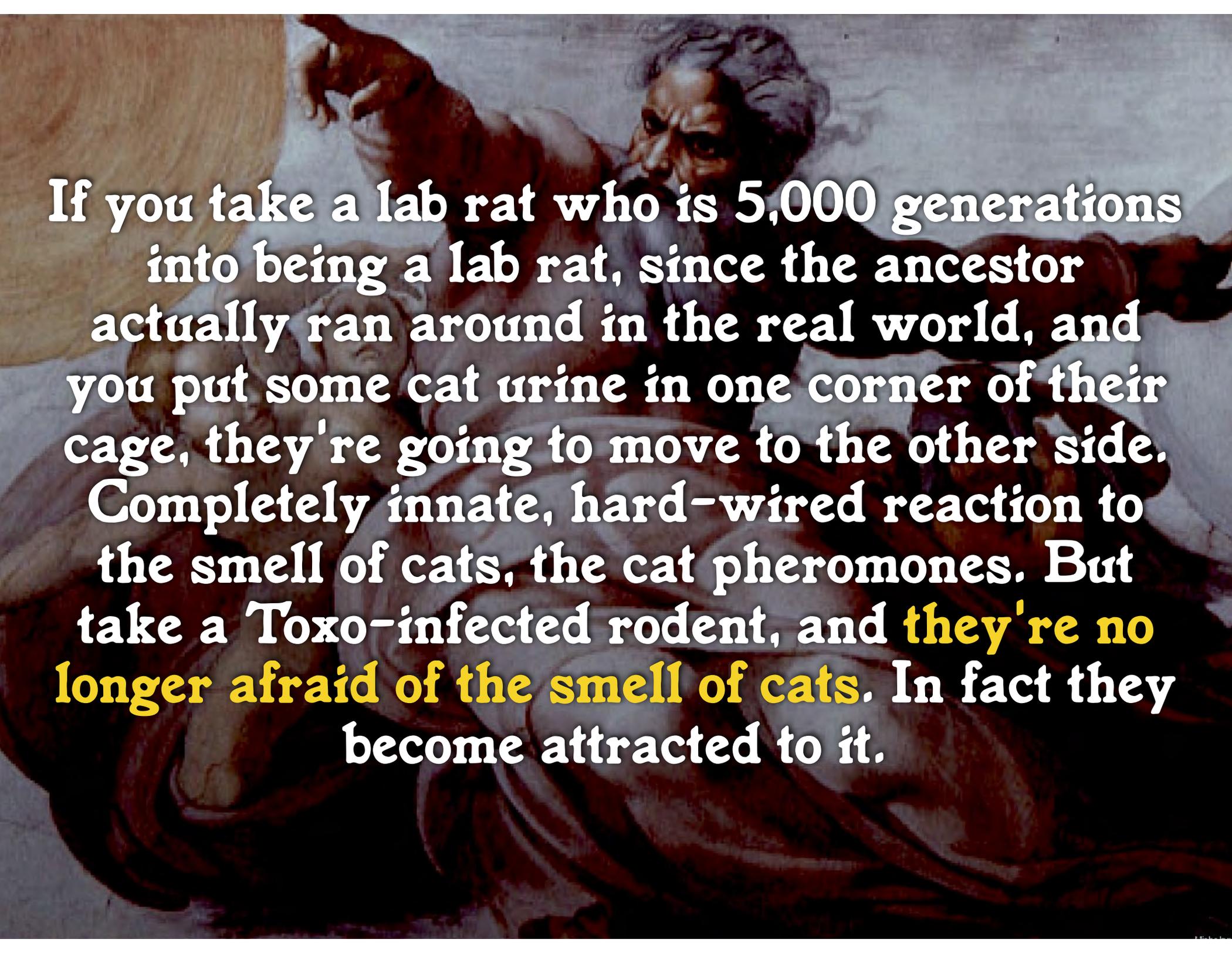
**Professor at Stanford University,
holding joint appointments in
several departments, including
Biological Sciences, Neurology &
Neurological Sciences, and
Neurosurgery**



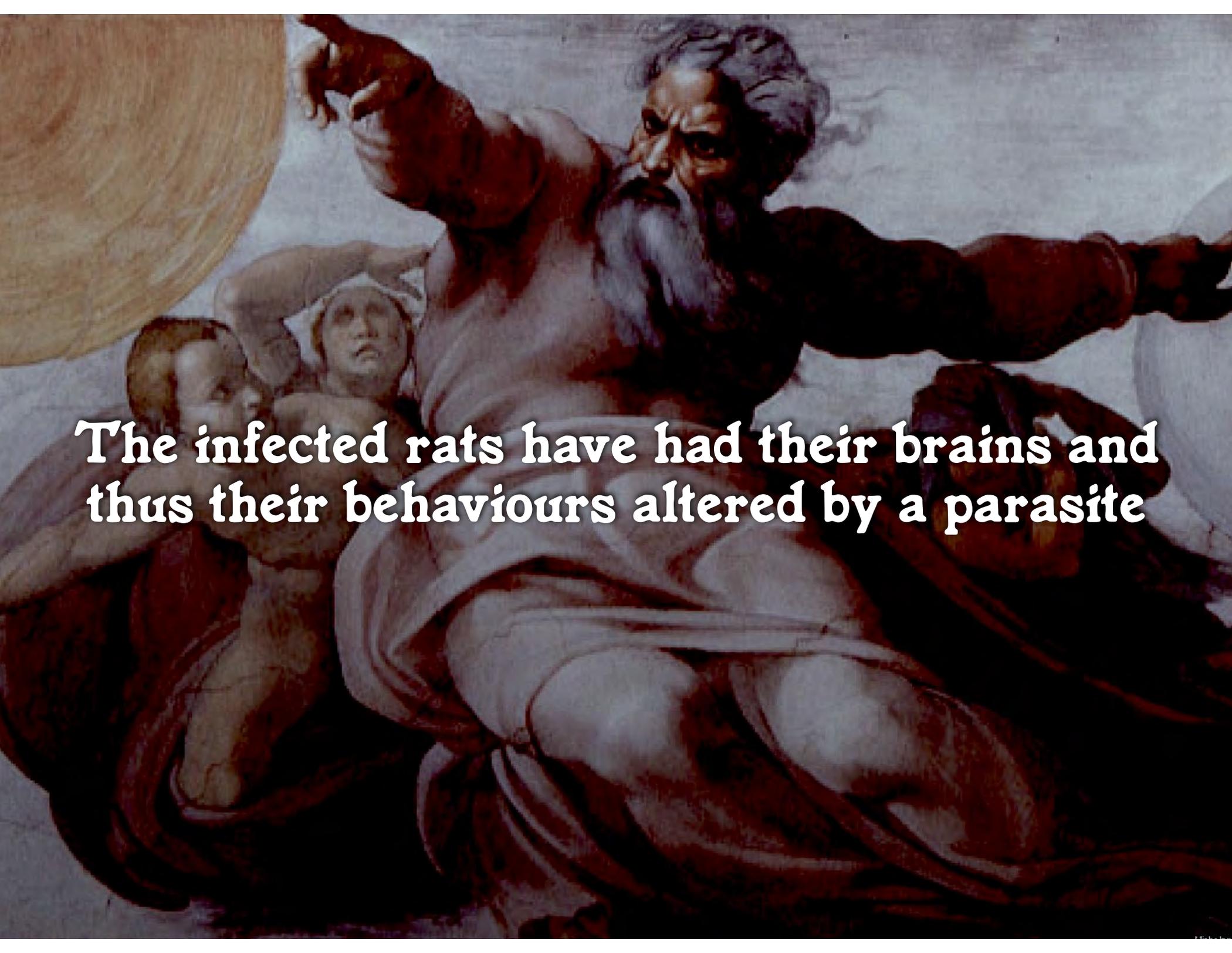
**Dr Robert
Sapolsky**

A classical painting of a man with a beard, likely a philosopher or scientist, pointing upwards with his right hand. The background is a soft, light blue and white. The text is overlaid on the painting, with the last part in yellow.

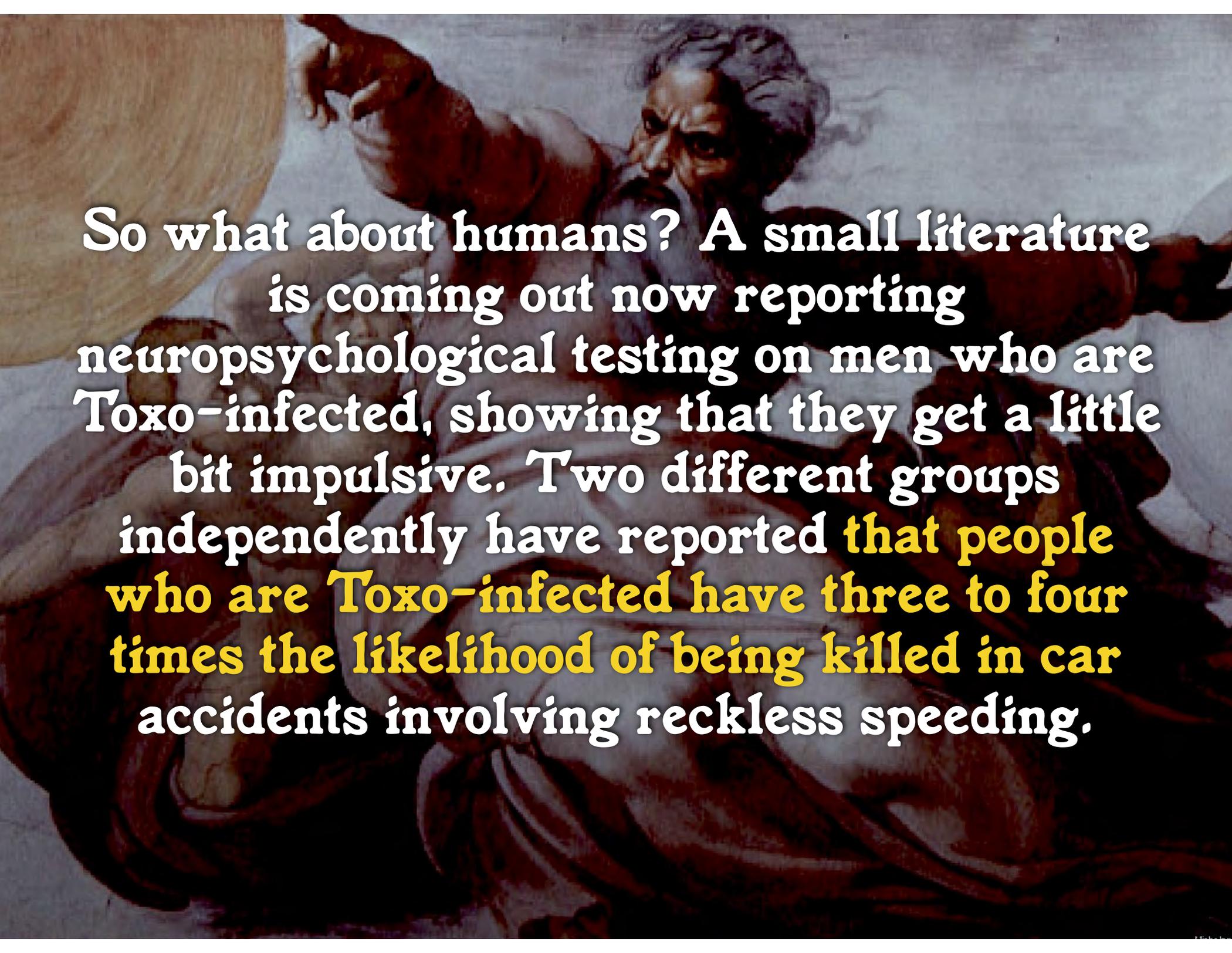
Toxo can only reproduce sexually in the gut of a cat. It comes out in the cat feces, feces get eaten by rodents. And Toxo's challenge at that point is to figure out how to get rodents inside cats' stomachs. Now it could have done this in really unsubtle ways, such as cripple the rodent or some such thing. Toxo instead has developed this amazing capacity **to alter innate behaviour in rodents.**



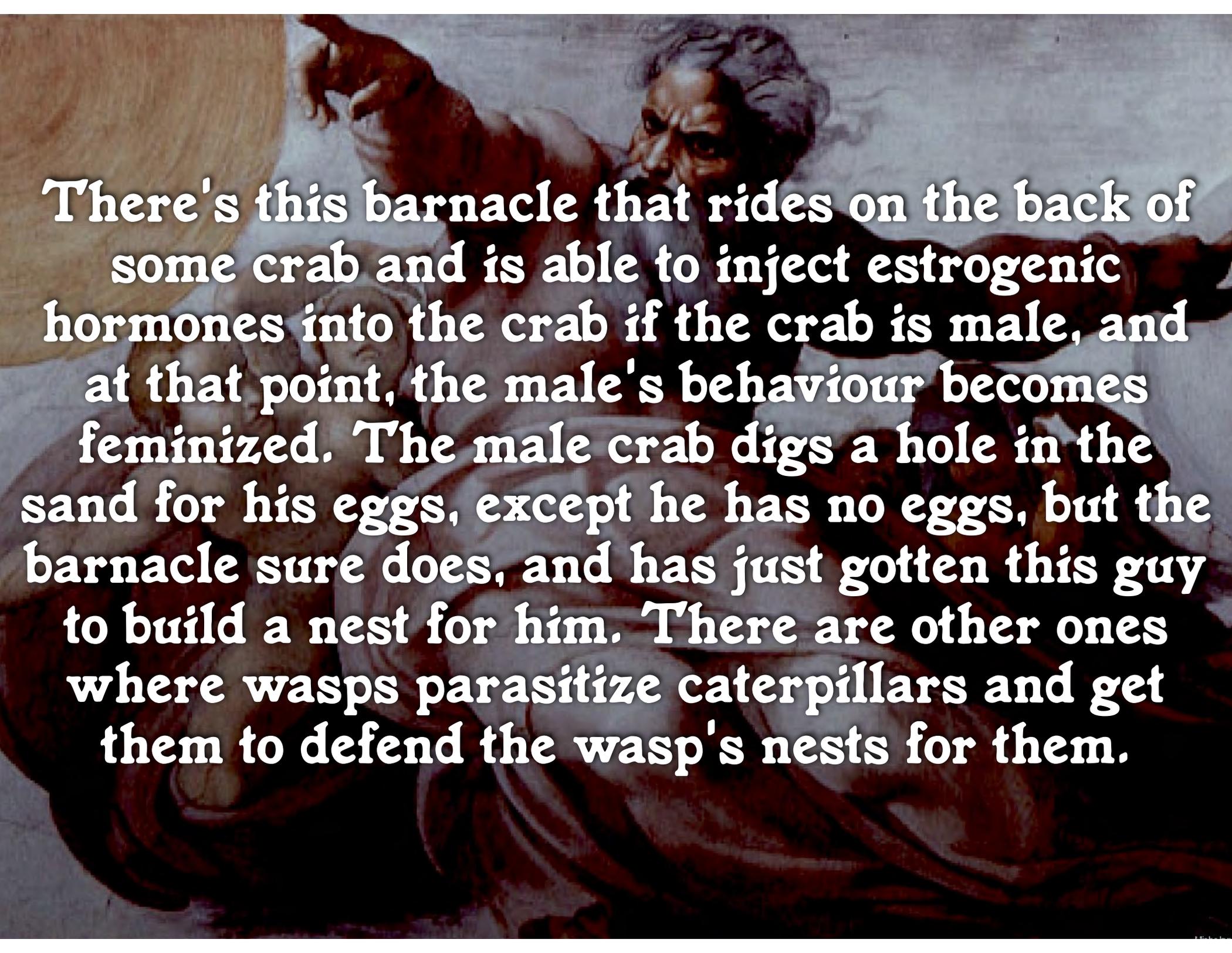
If you take a lab rat who is 5,000 generations into being a lab rat, since the ancestor actually ran around in the real world, and you put some cat urine in one corner of their cage, they're going to move to the other side. Completely innate, hard-wired reaction to the smell of cats, the cat pheromones. But take a Toxo-infected rodent, and **they're no longer afraid of the smell of cats**. In fact they become attracted to it.

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image shows the reclining Adam on the left, with his right arm extended towards the center, and the bearded God on the right, leaning forward with his right arm reaching towards Adam's hand. The background is a soft, hazy blue and white. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

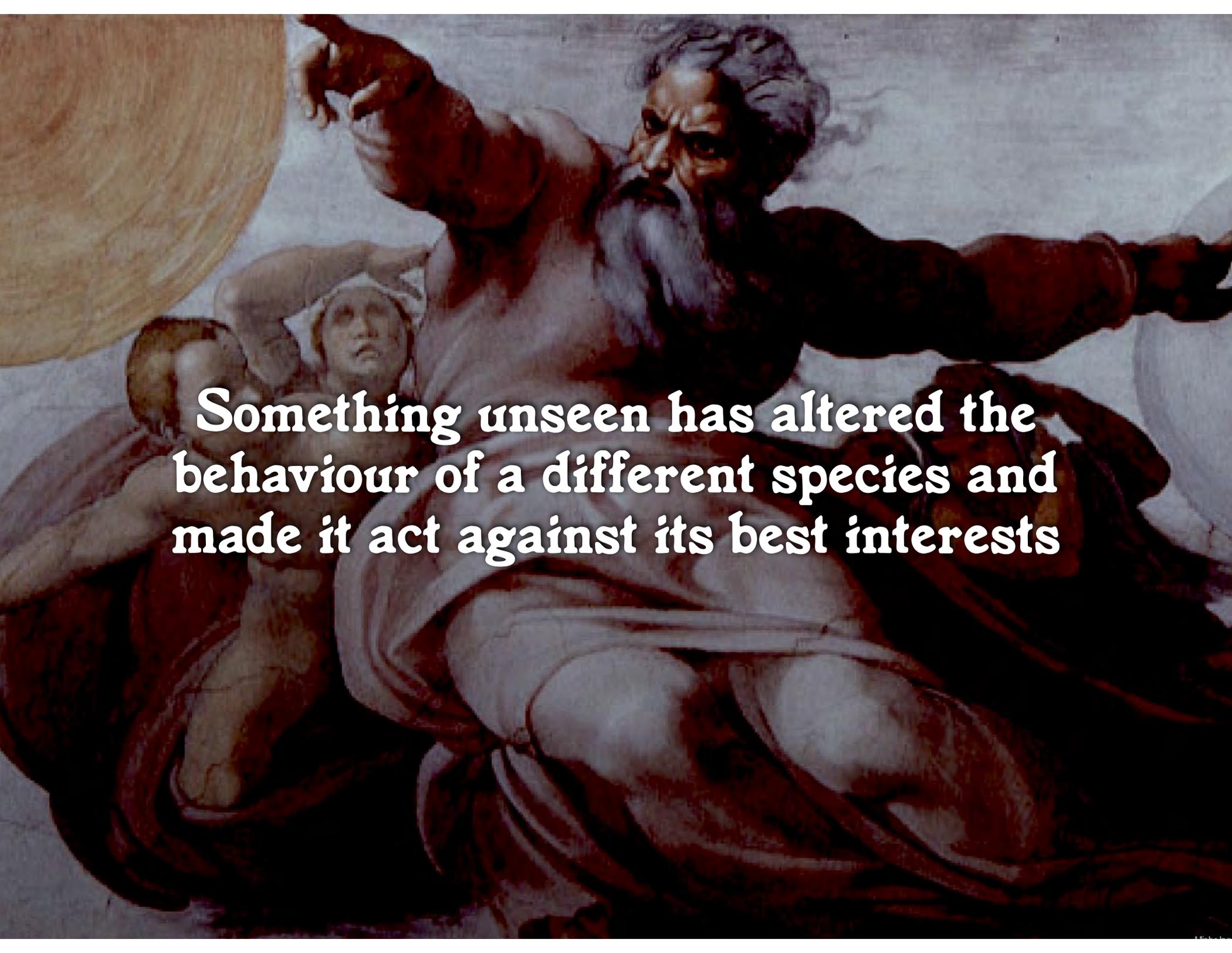
The infected rats have had their brains and thus their behaviours altered by a parasite



So what about humans? A small literature is coming out now reporting neuropsychological testing on men who are Toxo-infected, showing that they get a little bit impulsive. Two different groups independently have reported **that people who are Toxo-infected have three to four times the likelihood of being killed in car accidents involving reckless speeding.**



There's this barnacle that rides on the back of some crab and is able to inject estrogenic hormones into the crab if the crab is male, and at that point, the male's behaviour becomes feminized. The male crab digs a hole in the sand for his eggs, except he has no eggs, but the barnacle sure does, and has just gotten this guy to build a nest for him. There are other ones where wasps parasitize caterpillars and get them to defend the wasp's nests for them.

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image shows the central figure, Adam, lying on a reclining position, reaching out towards the right. He has a long, flowing white beard and is wearing a red tunic. His right arm is extended, with his index finger pointing towards the right. To his left, the face of God is visible, looking towards Adam. The background is a light, textured surface. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

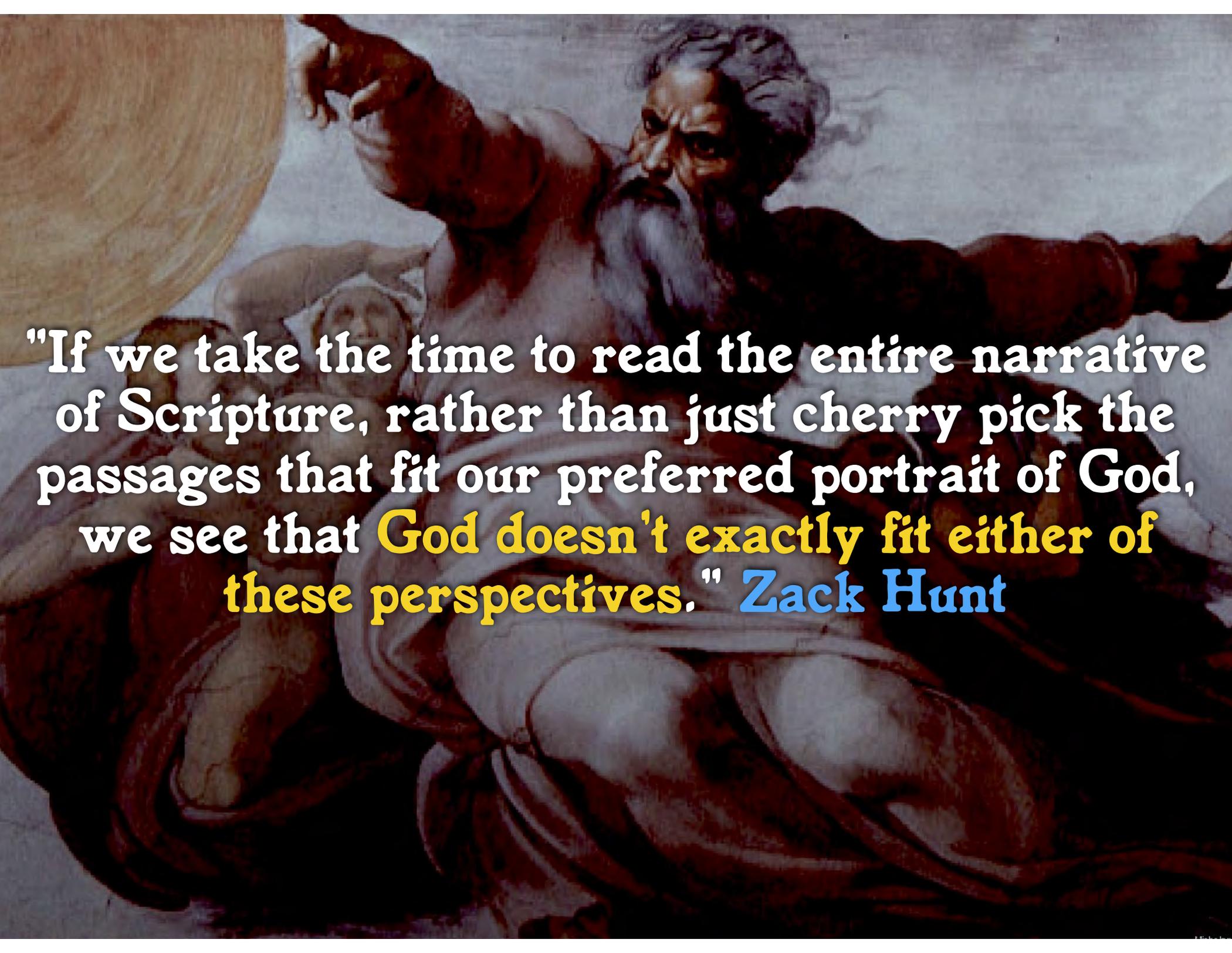
**Something unseen has altered the
behaviour of a different species and
made it act against its best interests**



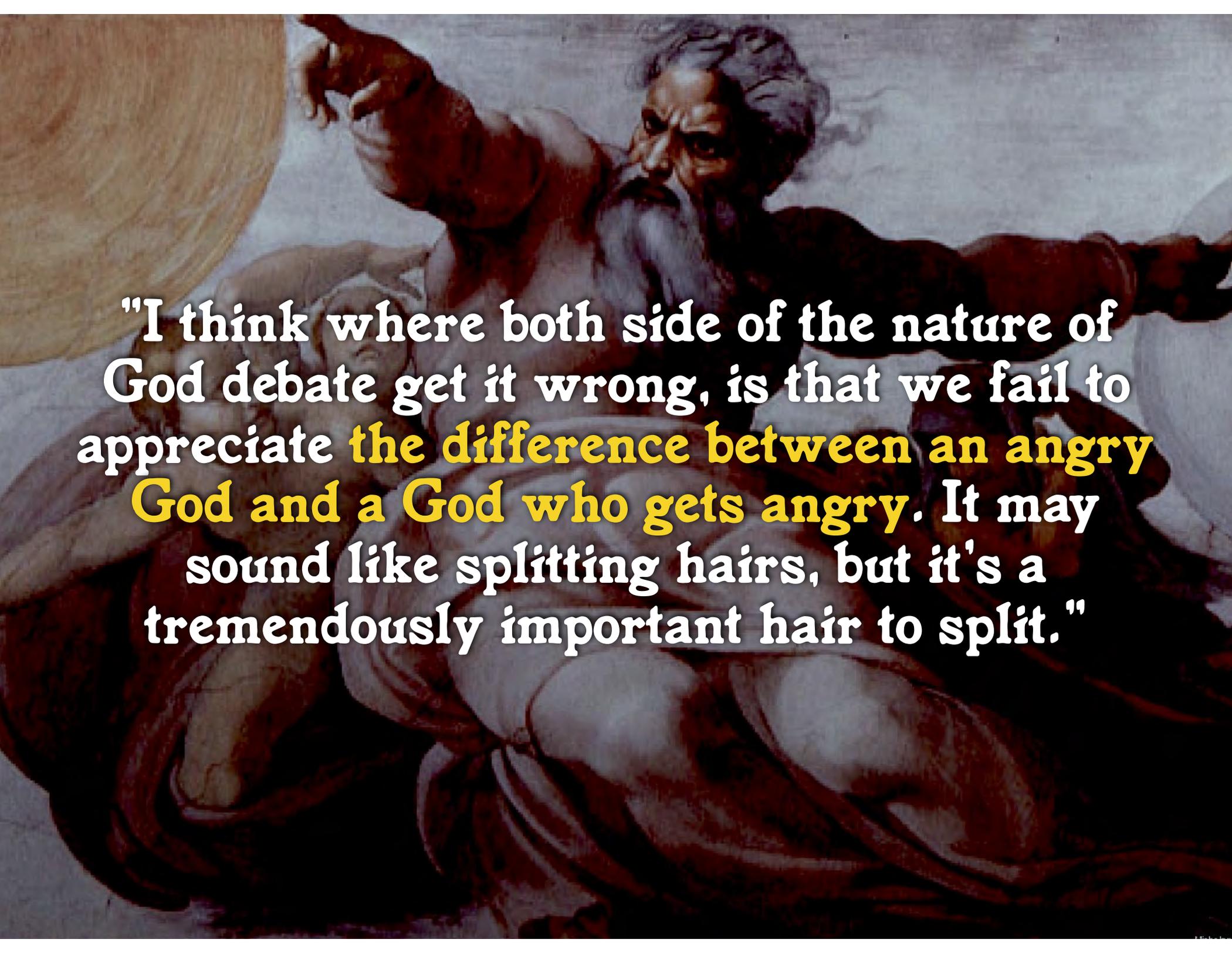
**God is
loving**

**Truth is
in between**

**God is
Angry**



"If we take the time to read the entire narrative of Scripture, rather than just cherry pick the passages that fit our preferred portrait of God, we see that **God doesn't exactly fit either of these perspectives." Zack Hunt**



"I think where both side of the nature of God debate get it wrong, is that we fail to appreciate **the difference between an angry God and a God who gets angry**. It may sound like splitting hairs, but it's a tremendously important hair to split."

Premise 1: God is Just

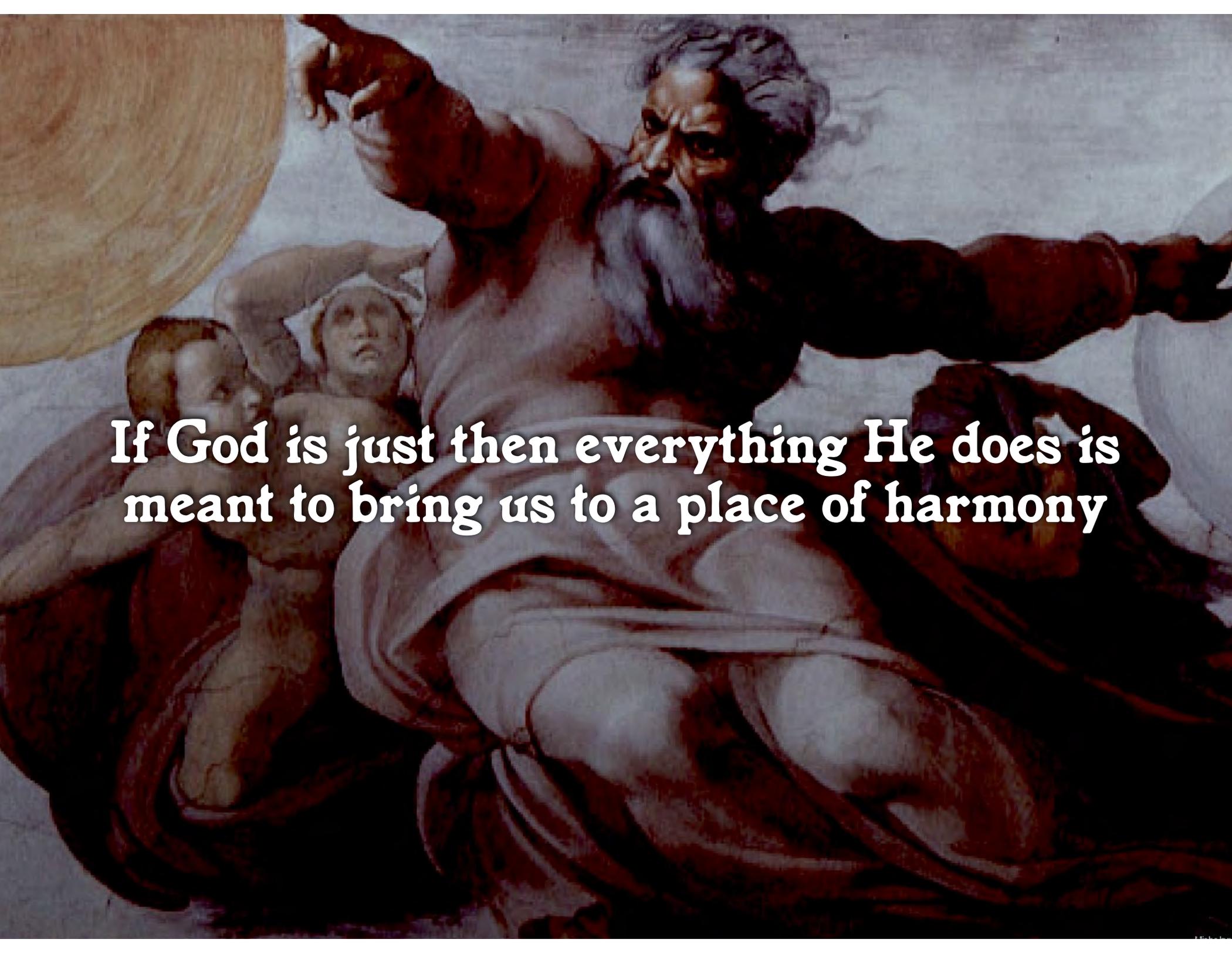
"Evil men do not understand justice, but those who seek **the LORD understand it fully.**" **Proverbs 28:5**

"Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. **For the LORD is a God of justice.** Blessed are all who wait for him!" **Isaiah 30:18**

"Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: Instruction will go out from me; **my justice will become a light to the nations.**" **Isaiah 51:4**

"**Cursed is the man who withholds justice** from the alien, the fatherless or the widow." Then all the people shall say, "Amen!" **Deuteronomy 27:19**

"This is what the LORD Almighty says: '**Administer true justice;** show mercy and compassion to one another.'" **Zechariah 7:9**

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image shows God the Father, an elderly man with a long white beard, reclining on the right. He is pointing his right index finger towards Adam. To his left, the Virgin Mary is shown in profile, looking towards God. The background is a soft, hazy blue and white, suggesting a celestial or divine realm. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the musculature of God and the contours of the figures.

If God is just then everything He does is meant to bring us to a place of harmony

Premise 2: Humanity is Not

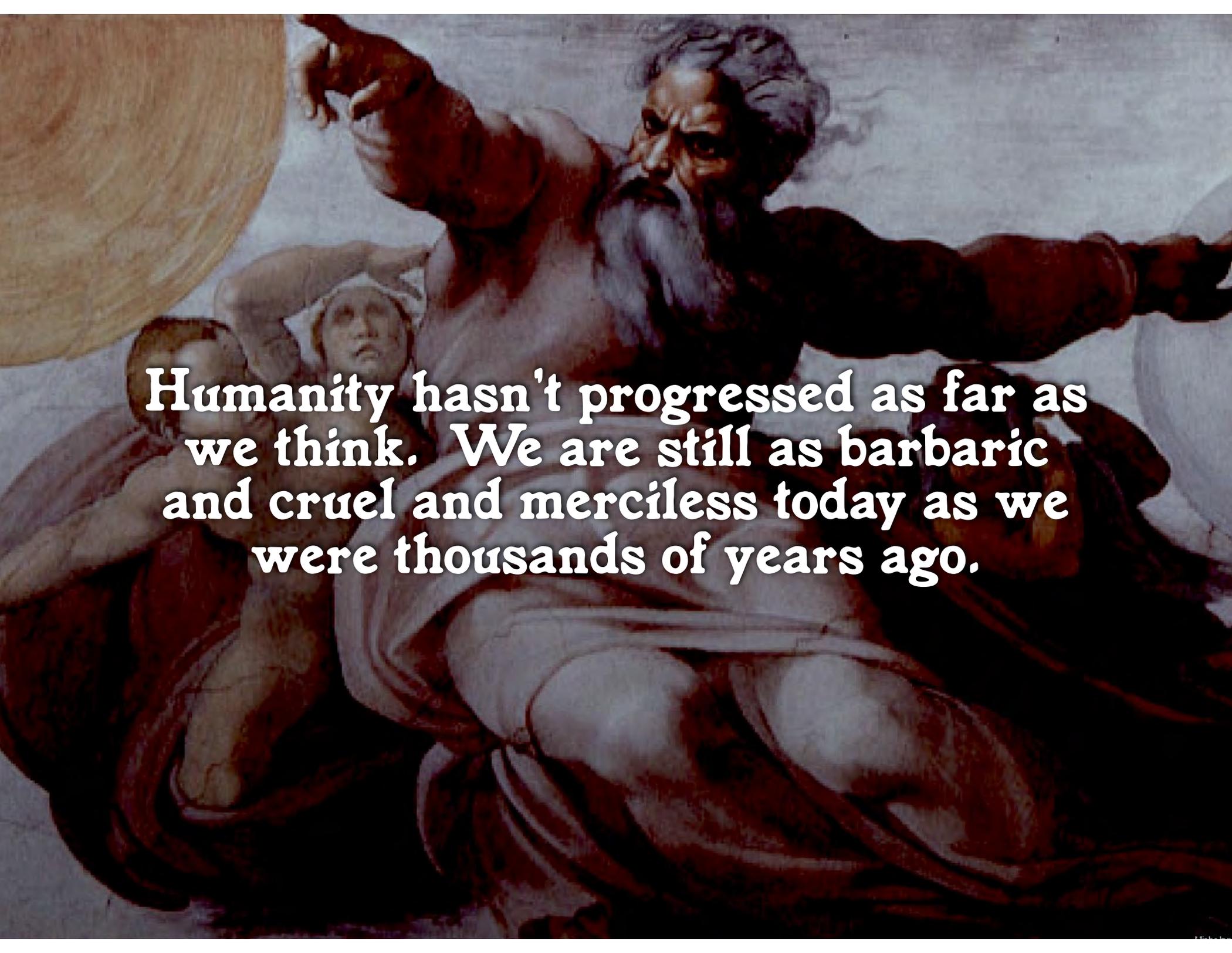
"There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." **Romans 3:10b-12**

For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

Galatians 5:17

For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person. **Mark 7:21-23**

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? **Jeremiah 17:9**

A detail from Michelangelo's famous fresco 'The Creation of Adam' in the Sistine Chapel. The image focuses on God the Father, depicted as an elderly man with a long white beard and hair, wearing a red robe. He is shown from the chest up, pointing his right index finger towards Adam. His left arm is extended to the right. The background is a soft, light blue and white wash, suggesting a celestial or divine realm. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of his face and the texture of his beard and robe.

Humanity hasn't progressed as far as we think. We are still as barbaric and cruel and merciless today as we were thousands of years ago.

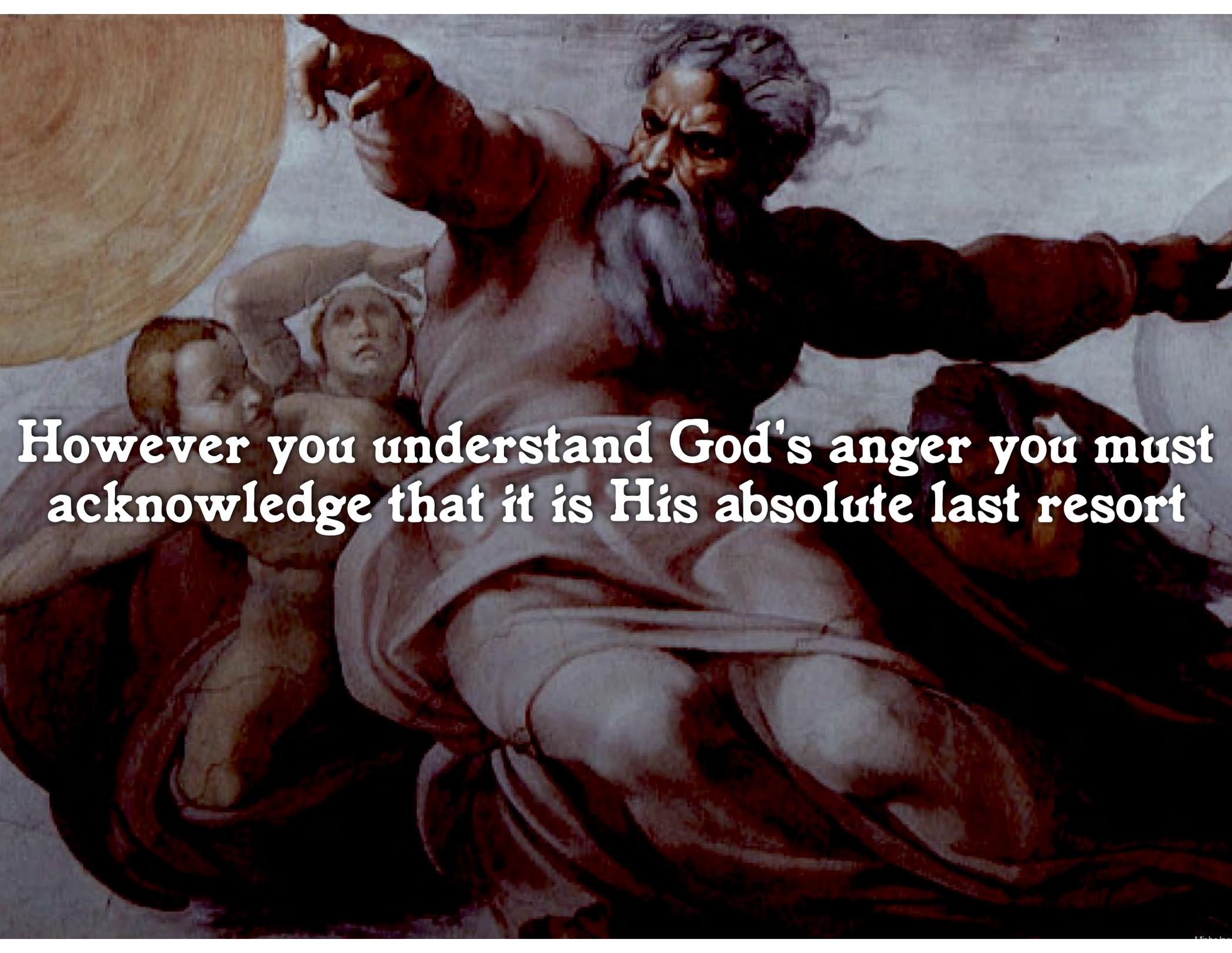
Premise 3: God is Slow to Anger

The Lord is gracious and compassionate, **slow to anger** and rich in love. **Psalm 145:8**

"The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and **forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.**" **Exodus 34:6**

But in your **great mercy** you did not put an end to them or abandon them, **for you are a gracious and merciful God.** **Nehemiah 9:31**

He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. **I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.** **Jonah 4:2**



However you understand God's anger you must acknowledge that it is His absolute last resort

Premise 4: Wrath is Responsive

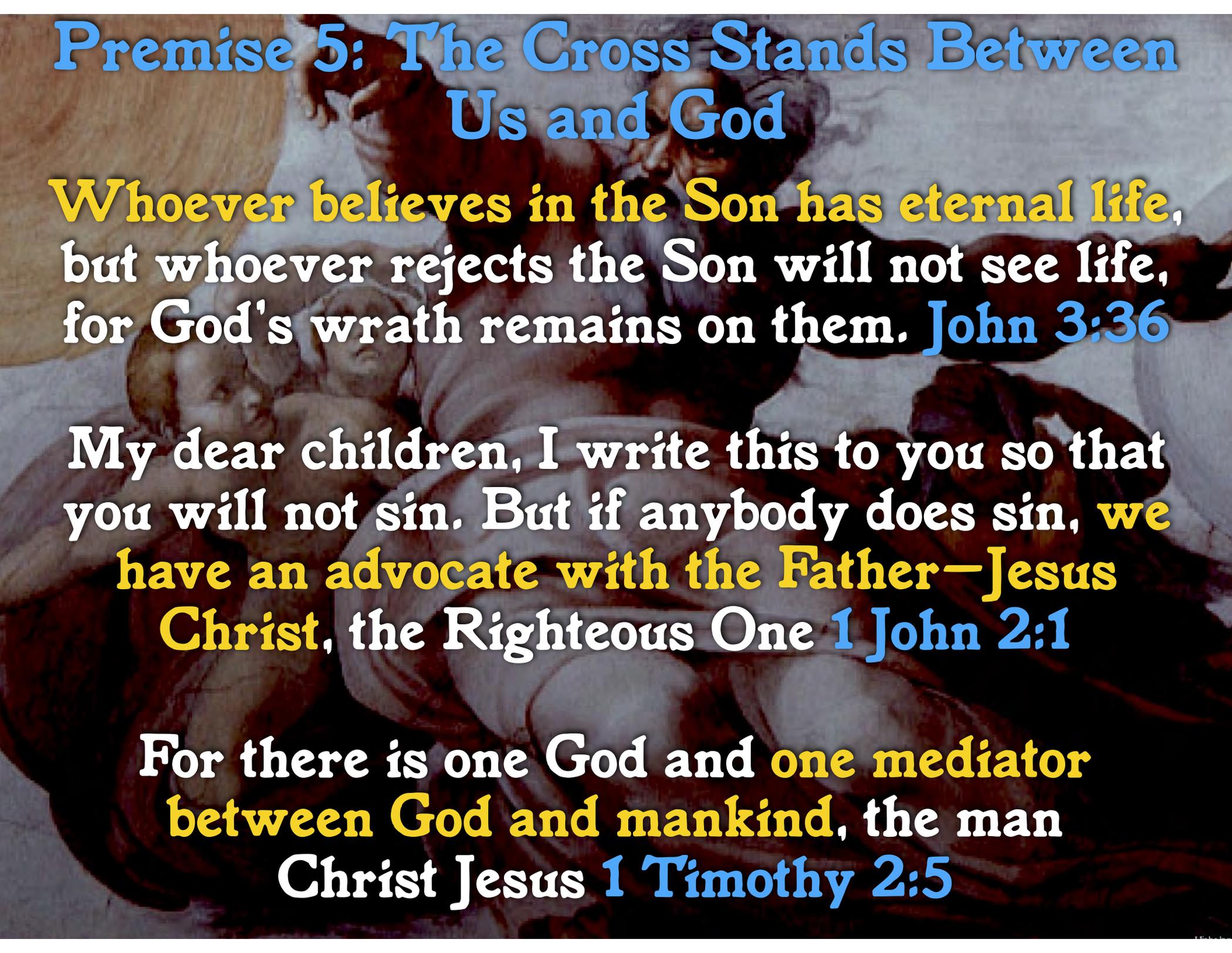
"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven **against all the godlessness and wickedness OF PEOPLE**, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them." **Romans 1:18-19**

Premise 4: Wrath is Responsive

"The wrath of God...is his steady, unrelenting, unremitting, uncompromising antagonism to evil in all its forms and manifestations."

John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*

When we displace God's anger towards sin, what are we asking God to do? **What are we asking Him to overlook?** Are we forgetting that sin is the cause of every form of brokenness on this planet, and **that in every sin, there is a victim that cries out for justice.**



Premise 5: The Cross Stands Between Us and God

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them. **John 3:36**

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, **we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One** **1 John 2:1**

For there is one God and **one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus** **1 Timothy 2:5**

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Premise 1: God is Just

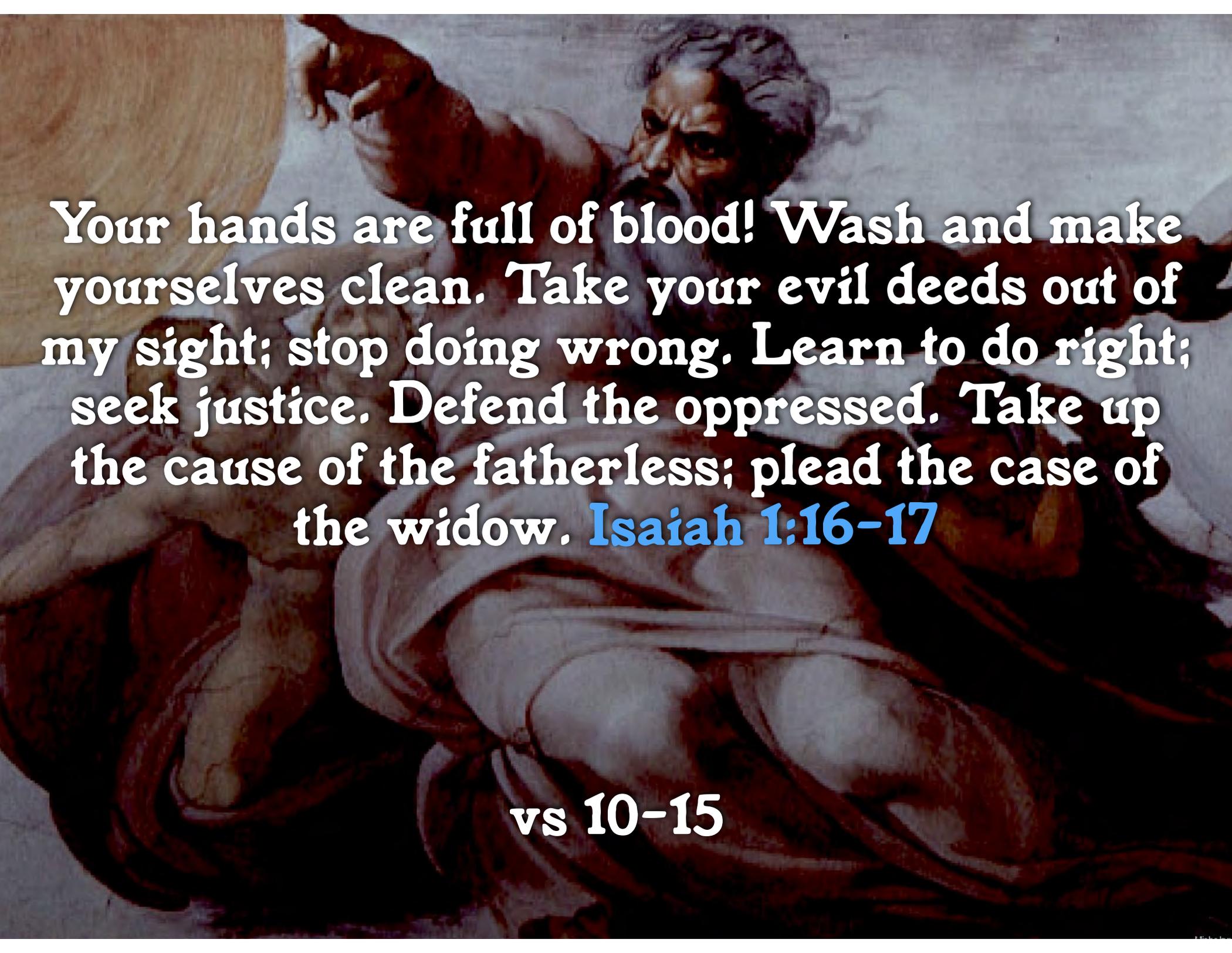
Premise 2: Humanity is Not

Premise 3: God is Slow to Anger

Premise 4: Wrath is Responsive

**Premise 5: The Cross Stands
Between Us and God**





Your hands are full of blood! Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. [Isaiah 1:16-17](#)

vs 10-15