

# Biology of the Bible



What in the World

An X-ray image of two hands, palms facing each other, with the bones clearly visible against a dark background. The hands are positioned symmetrically, with fingers spread slightly.

# Recap

## The Rise of the Scoffer

For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have **secretly slipped in among you**. They are **ungodly people**, who **pervert the grace of our God** into a **license for immorality** and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord **vs 4**

Not everyone here is here for the right intentions

# Recap

The word translated "scoffer" in English can mean "one who mocks, ridicules, or scorns the belief of another." In Hebrew, the word translated "scoffer" or " mocker" can also mean "ambassador." So a scoffer is one who not only disagrees with an idea, but they also considers themselves an ambassador for the opposing idea. They cannot rest until they has demonstrated the foolishness of any idea not their own.

# Recap

**Be merciful to those who doubt**; save others by snatching them from the fire; to others **show mercy, mixed with fear**—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh. **vs 22-23**

To him who is able **to keep you from stumbling** and to present you before his glorious presence **without fault and with great joy**— to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **before all ages**, now and forevermore! Amen. **vs 24-25**

# Entropy of the Church

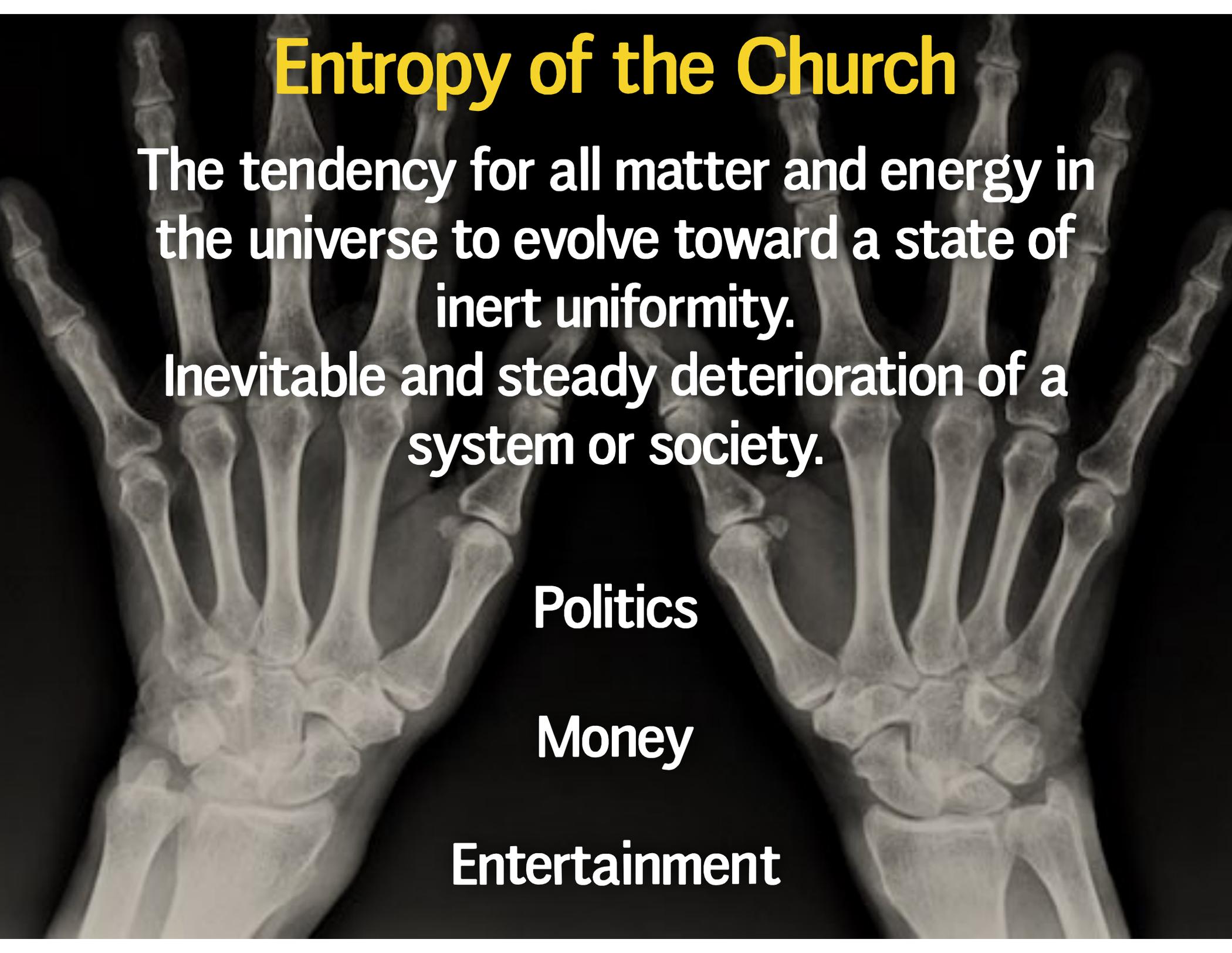
The tendency for all matter and energy in the universe to evolve toward a state of inert uniformity.

Inevitable and steady deterioration of a system or society.

Politics

Money

Entertainment

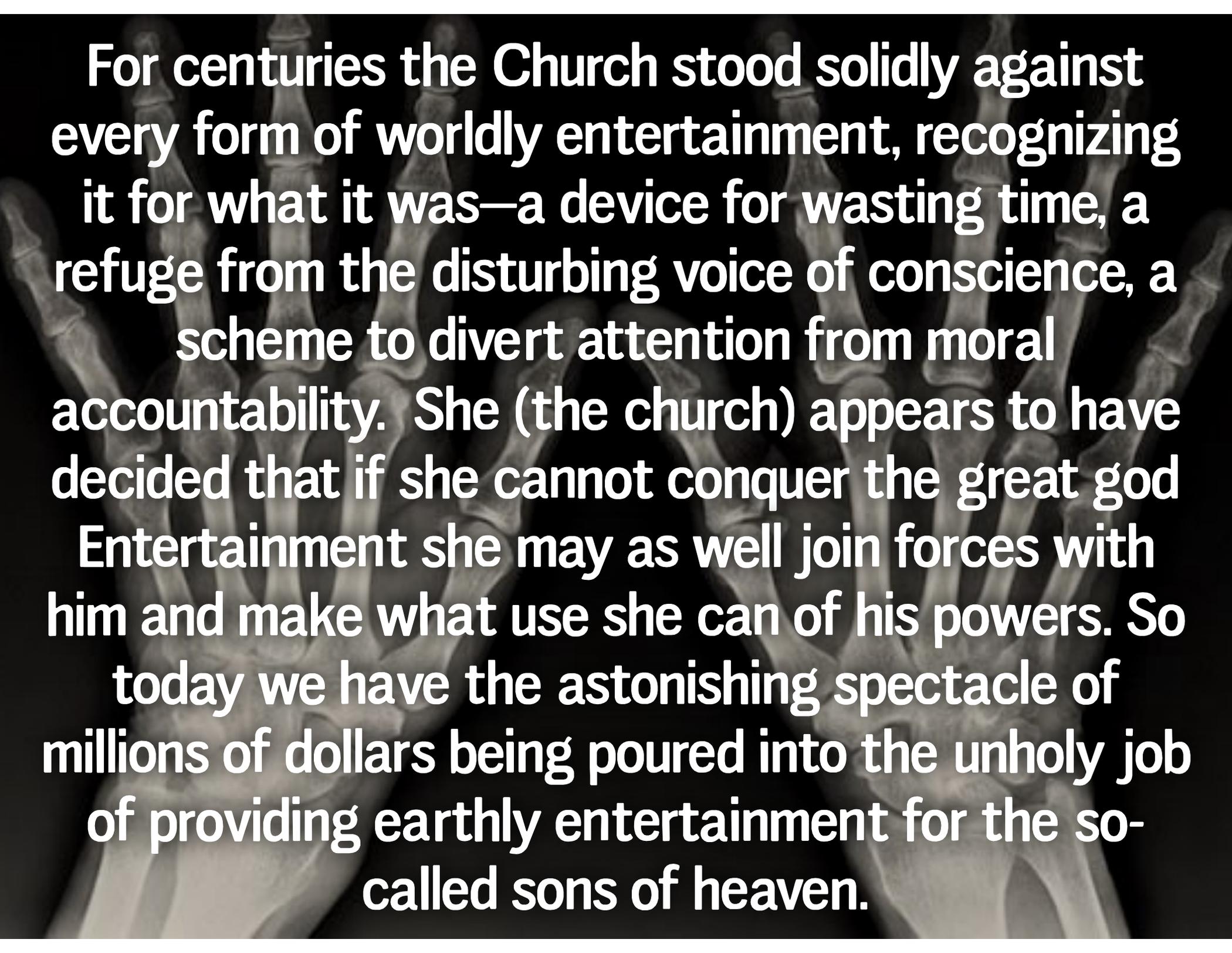


# Sugar Addiction

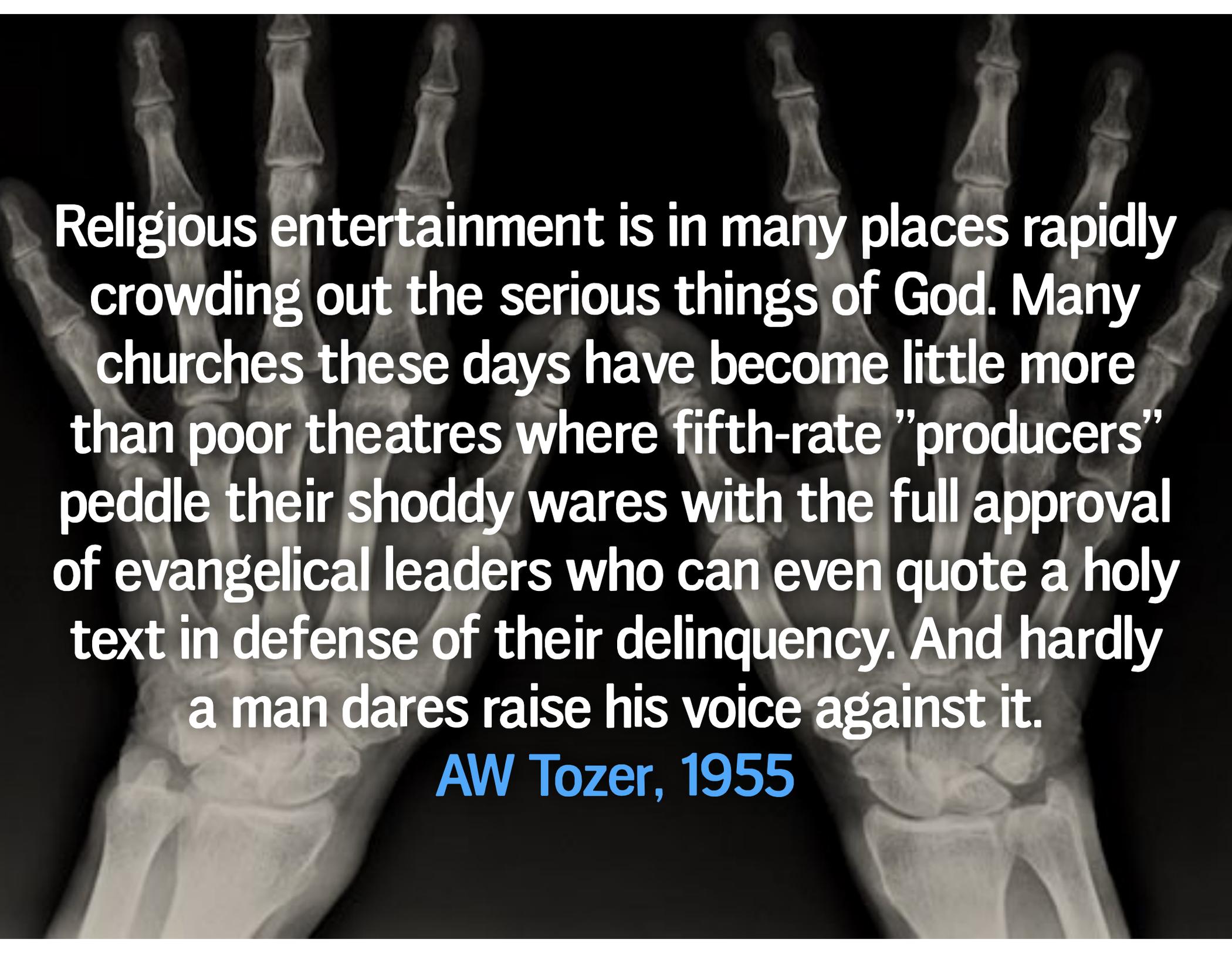
"Excess sugar consumption has been proven to contribute directly to weight gain. It has also been shown to repeatedly elevate dopamine levels which control the brain's **reward and pleasure centres** in a way that is similar to many drugs of abuse including tobacco, cocaine and morphine."

**Neuroscientist Professor Selena Bartlett**

"After long-term consumption, this leads to the opposite, a reduction in dopamine levels. This leads to higher consumption of sugar **to get the same level of reward.**"

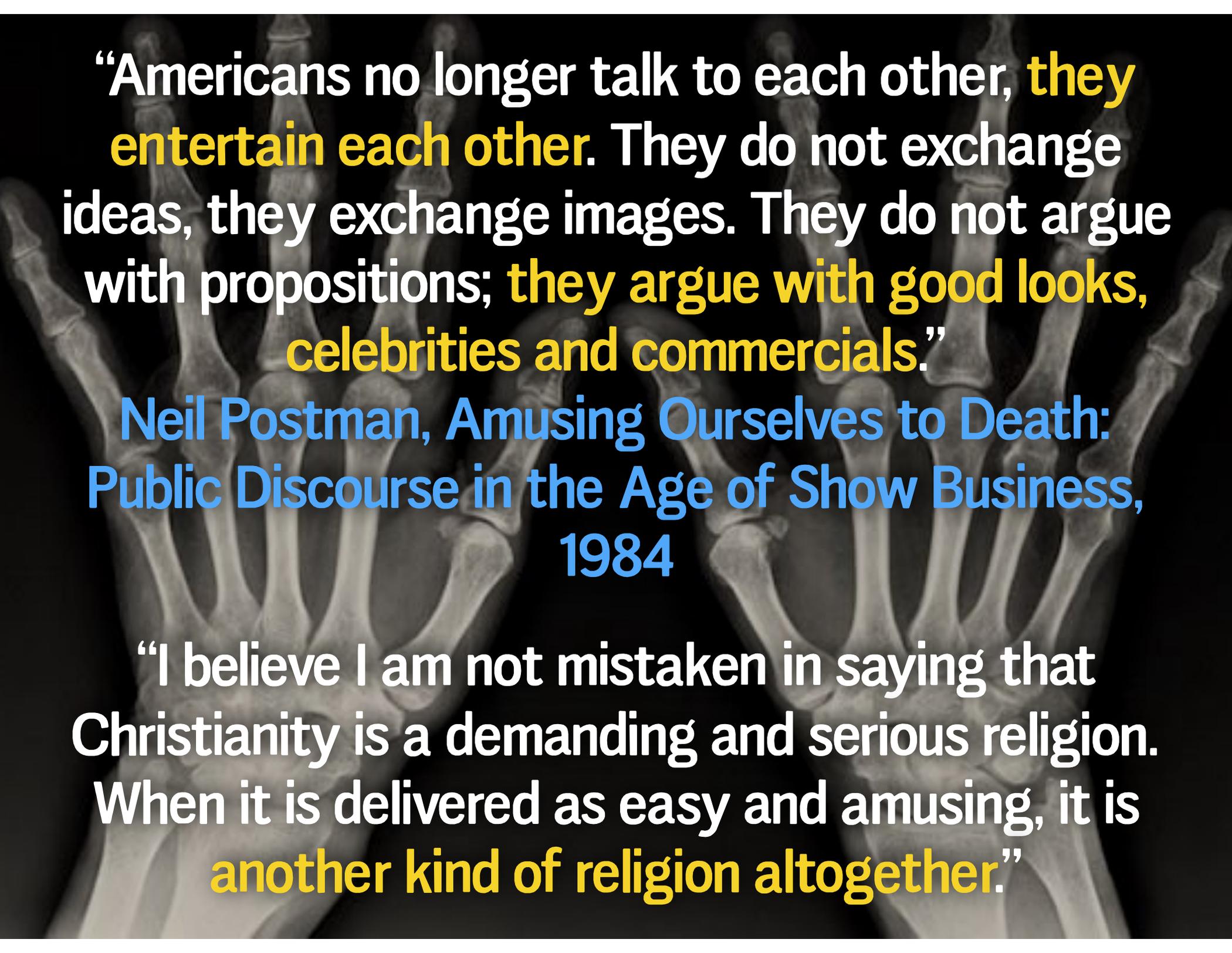


For centuries the Church stood solidly against every form of worldly entertainment, recognizing it for what it was—a device for wasting time, a refuge from the disturbing voice of conscience, a scheme to divert attention from moral accountability. She (the church) appears to have decided that if she cannot conquer the great god Entertainment she may as well join forces with him and make what use she can of his powers. So today we have the astonishing spectacle of millions of dollars being poured into the unholy job of providing earthly entertainment for the so-called sons of heaven.

An X-ray image of two hands, palms facing each other, with fingers spread. The bones are clearly visible against a dark background. The text is overlaid on the image.

Religious entertainment is in many places rapidly crowding out the serious things of God. Many churches these days have become little more than poor theatres where fifth-rate "producers" peddle their shoddy wares with the full approval of evangelical leaders who can even quote a holy text in defense of their delinquency. And hardly a man dares raise his voice against it.

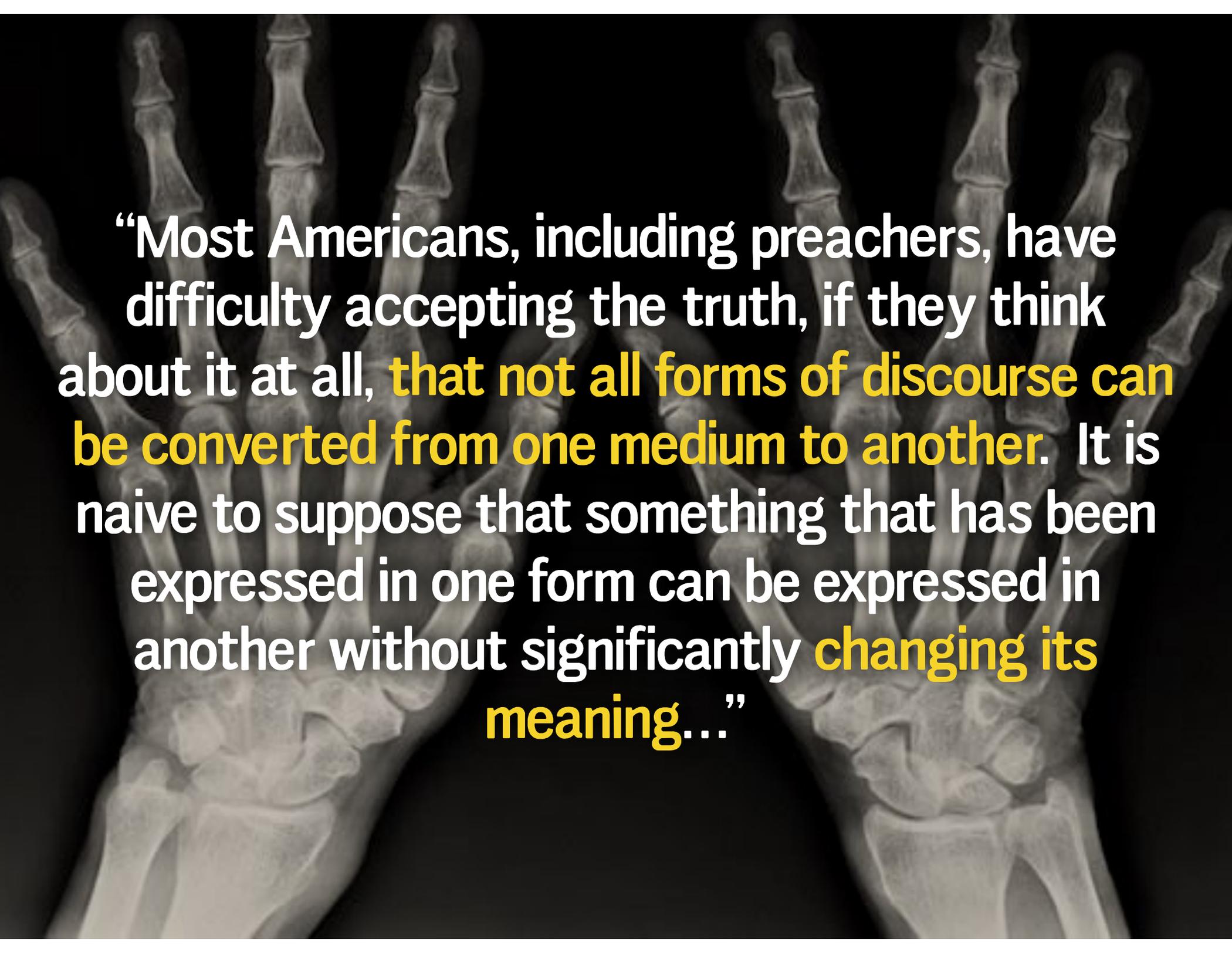
**AW Tozer, 1955**



“Americans no longer talk to each other, **they entertain each other.** They do not exchange ideas, they exchange images. They do not argue with propositions; **they argue with good looks, celebrities and commercials.**”

Neil Postman, *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*, 1984

“I believe I am not mistaken in saying that Christianity is a demanding and serious religion. When it is delivered as easy and amusing, it is **another kind of religion altogether.**”

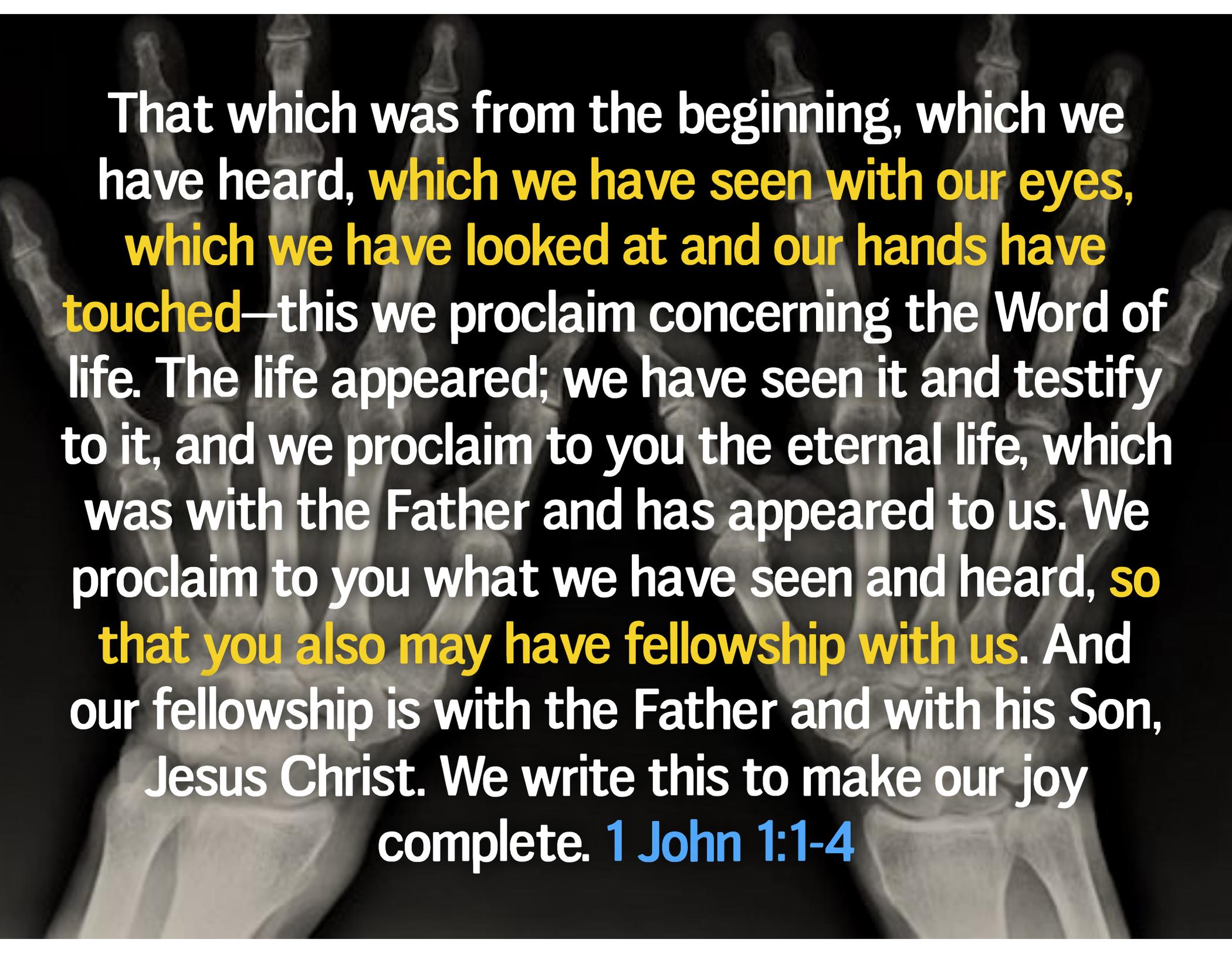
An X-ray image of two hands, palms facing each other, with the bones clearly visible against a dark background. The text is overlaid on the image.

“Most Americans, including preachers, have difficulty accepting the truth, if they think about it at all, **that not all forms of discourse can be converted from one medium to another.** It is naive to suppose that something that has been expressed in one form can be expressed in another without significantly **changing its meaning...**”

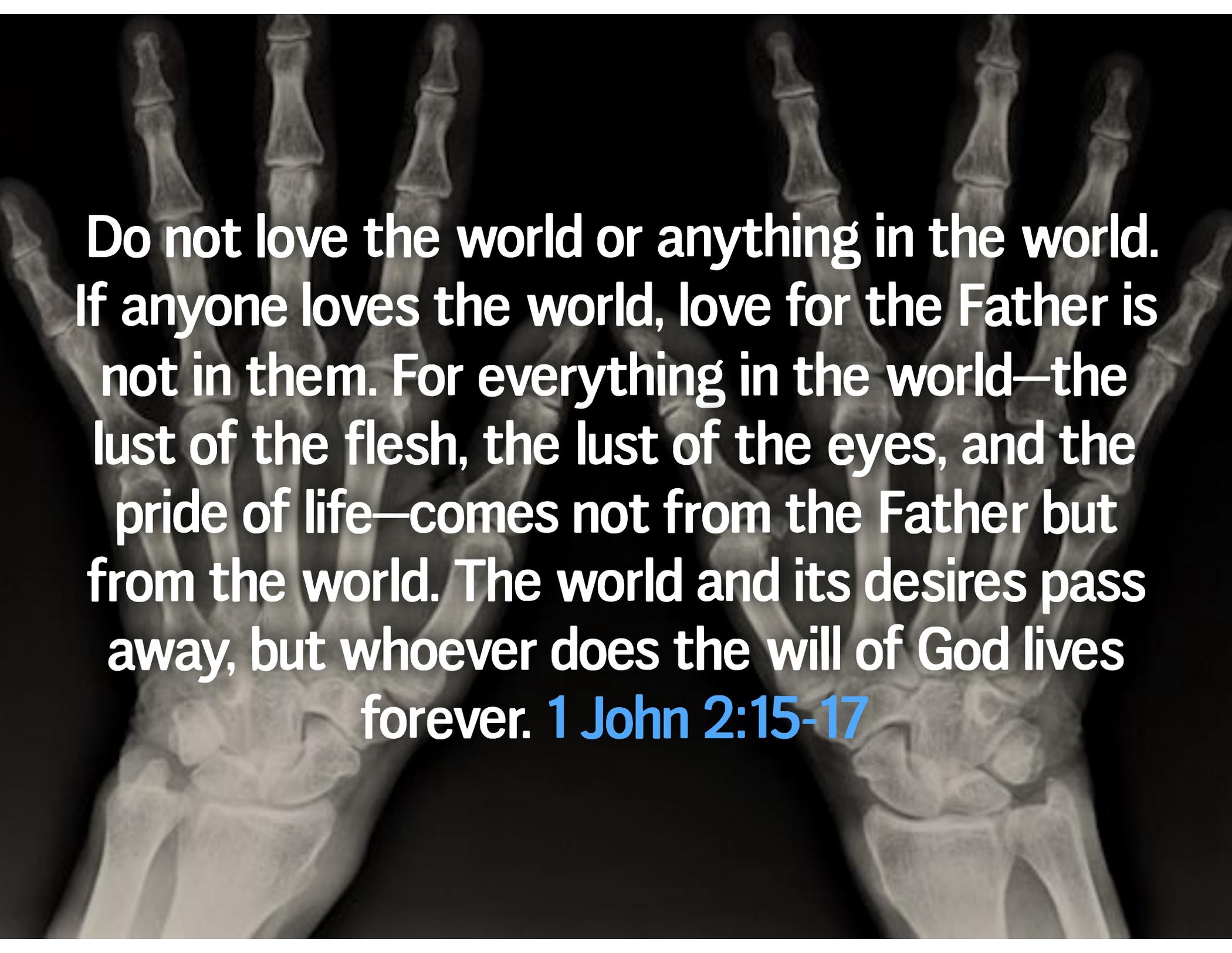


# Missing Generation

This letter was written late in the 1st century (probably between 70–90 ad), so it's been about 50 years since Jesus of Nazareth walked the earth. The first generation of believers, those who actually encountered Jesus, have just about died off. John was one of the last living apostles. So **he's writing to Christians who never personally encountered Jesus of Nazareth** but heard about him from someone who did



That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, **which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched**—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, **so that you also may have fellowship with us**. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. **1 John 1:1-4**

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Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. **1 John 2:15-17**

# 1 John 2:15

Do not **love the world** or anything in the world.  
If anyone loves the world, **love for the Father**  
is not in them. **vs 15**

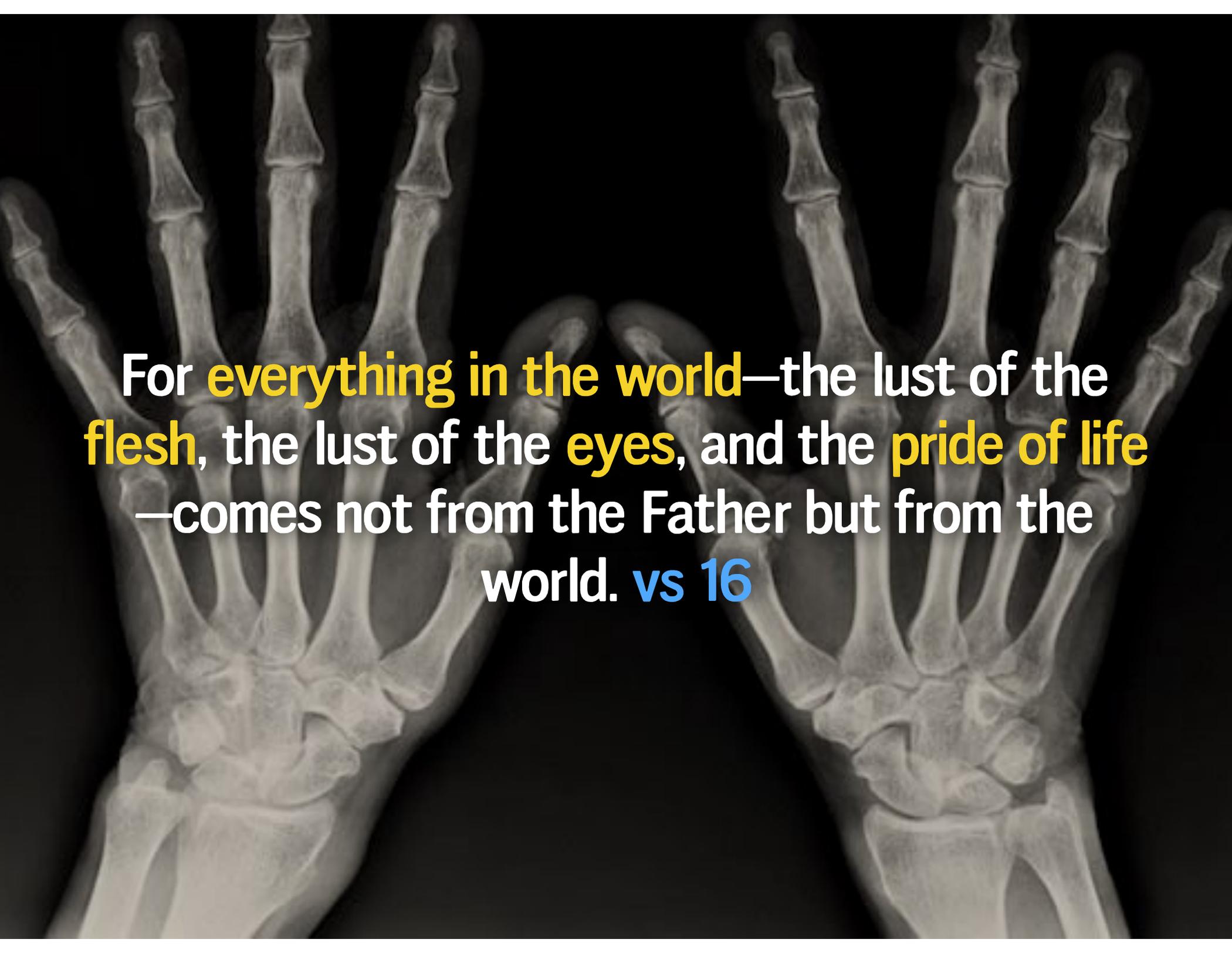
World



God

“If anyone comes to me and does not **hate** father  
and mother, wife and children, brothers and  
sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person  
cannot be my disciple. **Luke 14:26**

hate=love less



For **everything in the world**—the lust of the **flesh**, the lust of the **eyes**, and the **pride of life**—comes not from the Father but from the world. **vs 16**

# In the World

“in the world” isn’t a place but a mindset

If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. **John 15:18**

If you **belonged** to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you **out of the world**. That is why the world hates you. **vs 19**

My prayer is **not that you take them out of the world** but that you protect them from the evil one. **John 17:15**

Throughout the bible there is a call for separation of values but not of love

# Lust of the Flesh

not lust for flesh-desires of the flesh

desire, craving, longing, desire for what is forbidden

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from **sinful desires**, which **wage war** against your soul. **1 Peter 2:11**

but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own **evil desire** and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. **James 1:14-15**

# Lust of the Eyes

Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see, but know that for all these things **God will bring you into judgment.** **Ecclesiastes 11:9**

All things are wearisome, more than one can say. **The eye never has enough of seeing,** **1:8**

There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, **yet his eyes were not content with his wealth.** **4:8**

the lust of the eye may be referred to as the worship of visible things and **exchanged** the glory of the immortal God for **images** **Romans 1:23**

The eyes are never satisfied. There is no compartment that is filled.

# Pride of Life

As it is, you **boast** in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. **James 4:16**

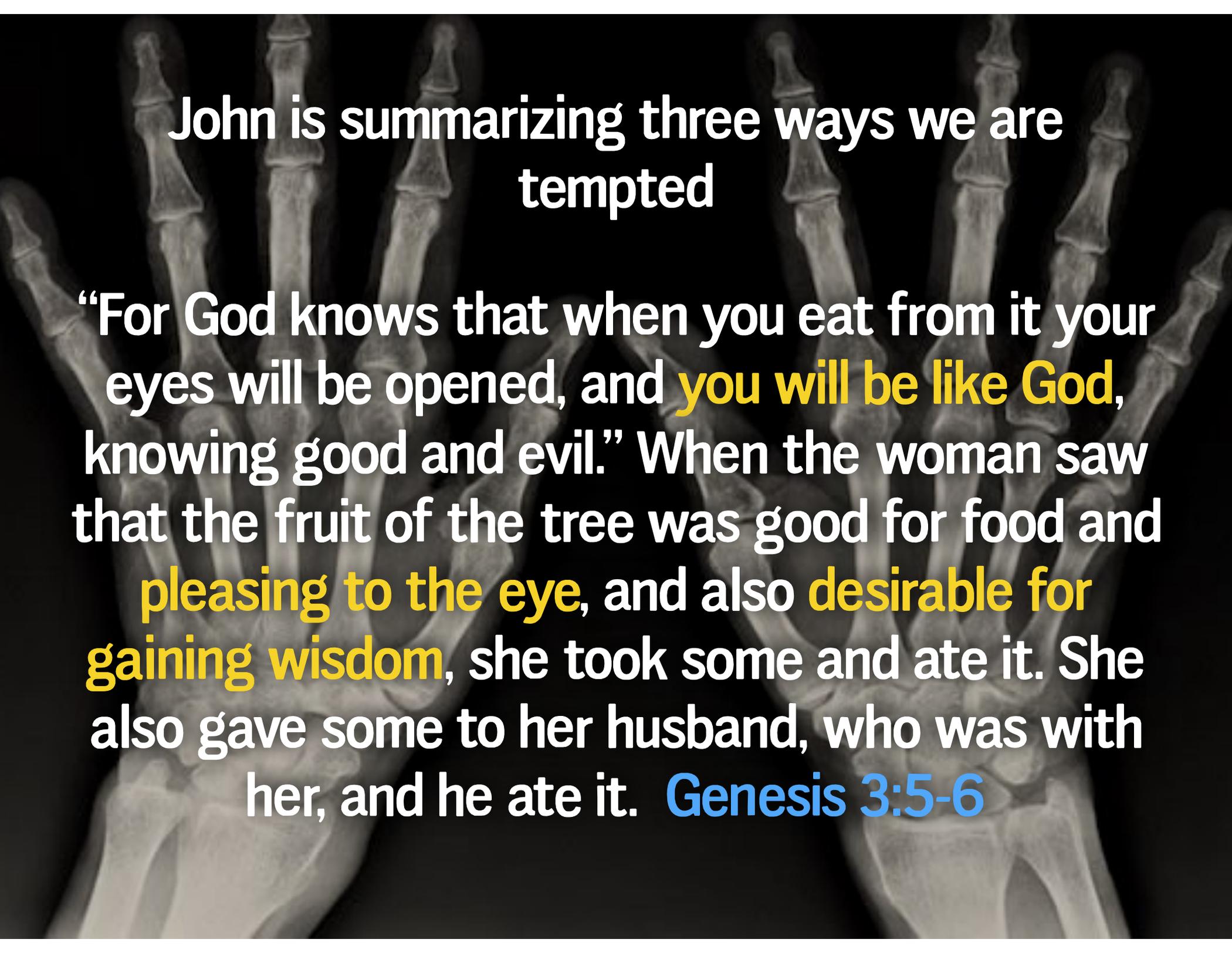
empty assurance

The pride of life is the only temptation that must be lived out in community

It is the value one places on the totality of who and what they are

You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. **Revelation 3:17**

Pride leads to independence

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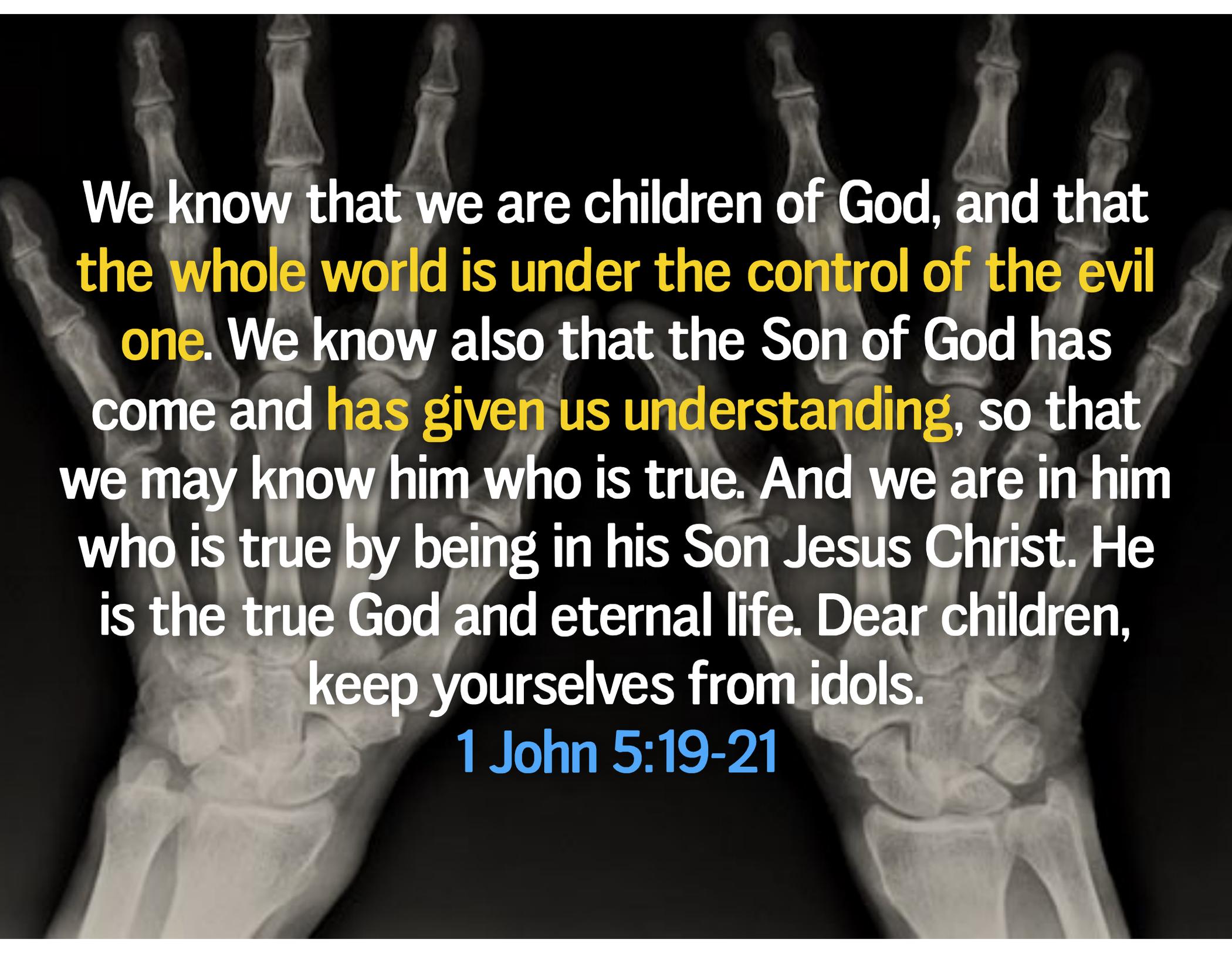
John is summarizing three ways we are tempted

“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and **pleasing to the eye**, and also **desirable for gaining wisdom**, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **Genesis 3:5-6**

# Perspective Shift

The **world and its desires pass away**, but whoever does the will of **God lives forever.** vs 17



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We know that we are children of God, and that **the whole world is under the control of the evil one**. We know also that the Son of God has come and **has given us understanding**, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

**1 John 5:19-21**