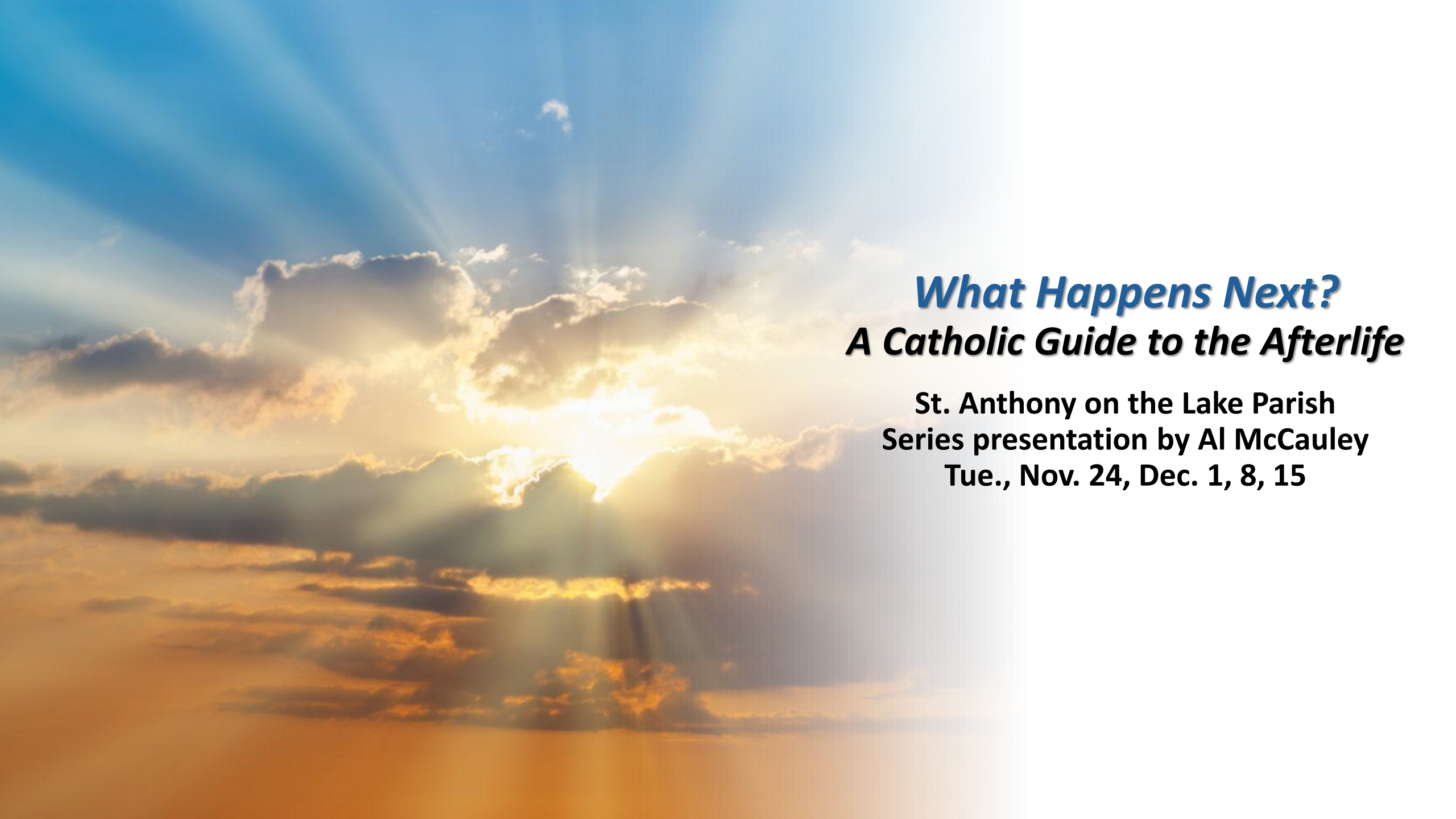


What Happens Next?

A Catholic Guide to the Afterlife

St. Anthony on the Lake Parish
Series presentation by Al McCauley
Tue., Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 8, 15



The Four Last Things

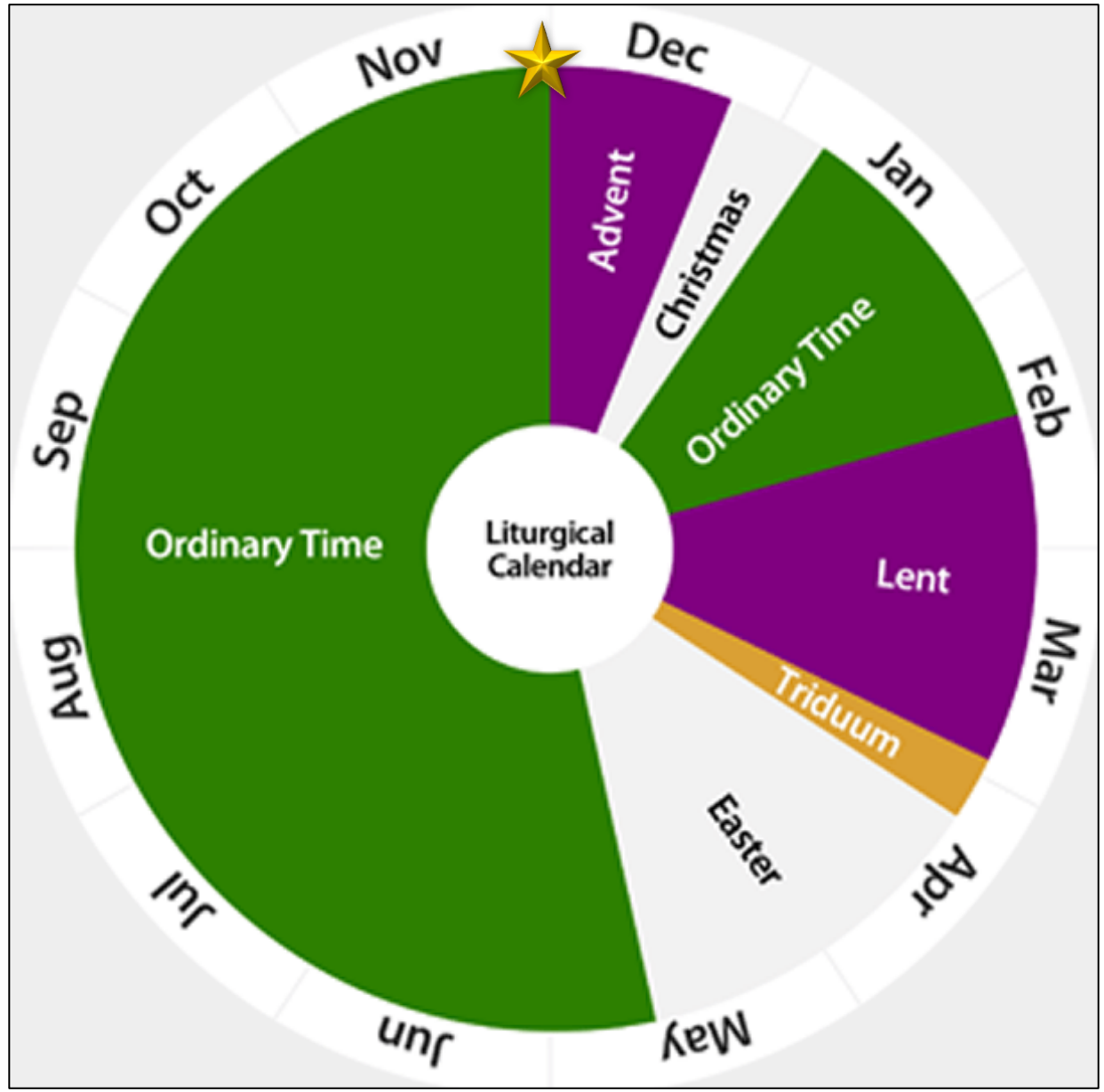
Death, Judgement, Heaven, Hell

Tue., Nov. 24 – DEATH & JUDGEMENT*
Tue., Dec. 1 – PURGATORY & SAINTS
Tue., Dec. 8 – HELL & HUMAN FREEDOM
Tue., Dec. 15 – HEAVEN & NEW CREATION



Eschatology

The study of last things


Nov
Dec
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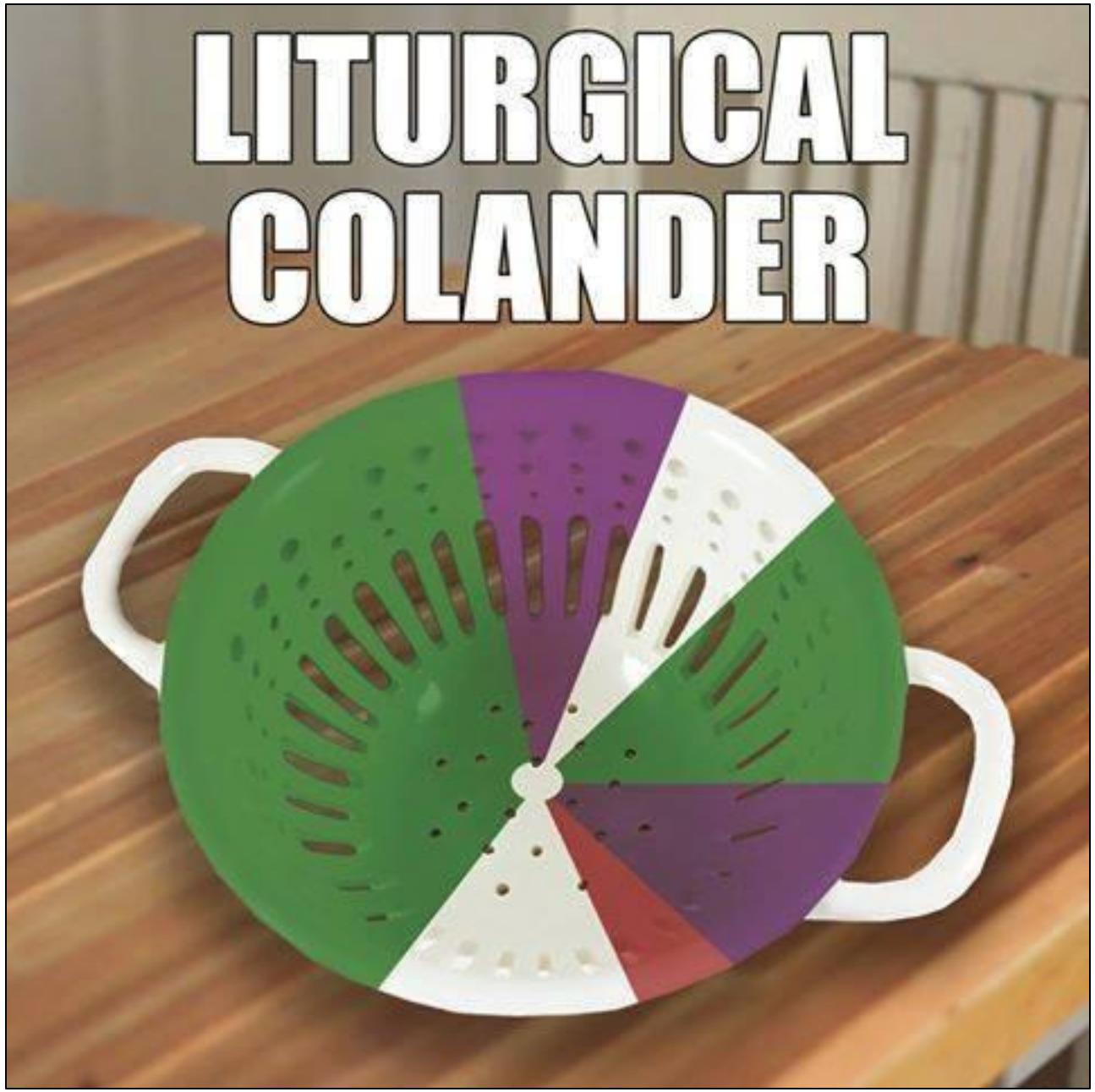
Advent
Christmas
Ordinary Time
Lent
Triduum
Easter
Ordinary Time
Liturgical Calendar


LITURGICAL
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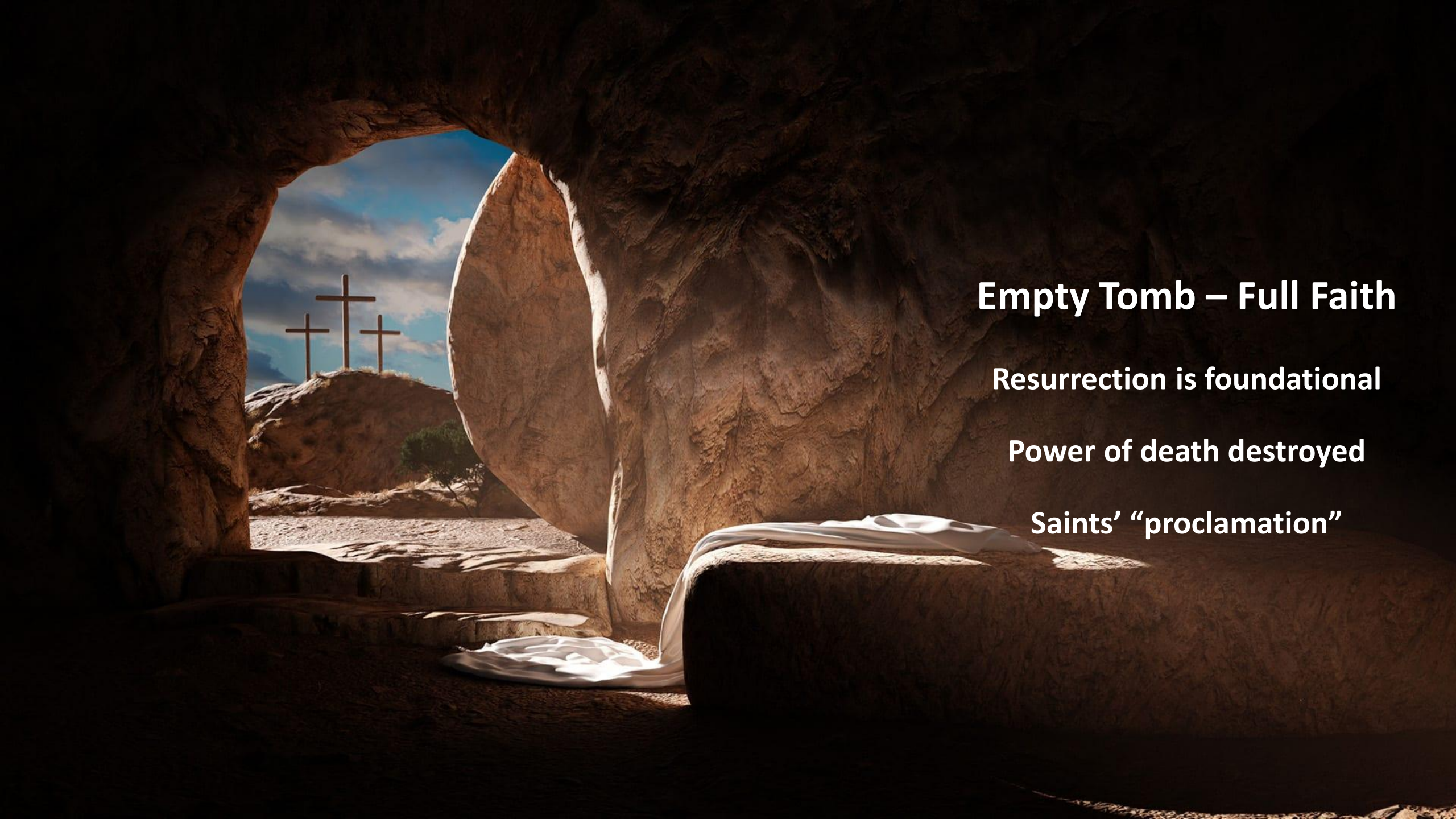
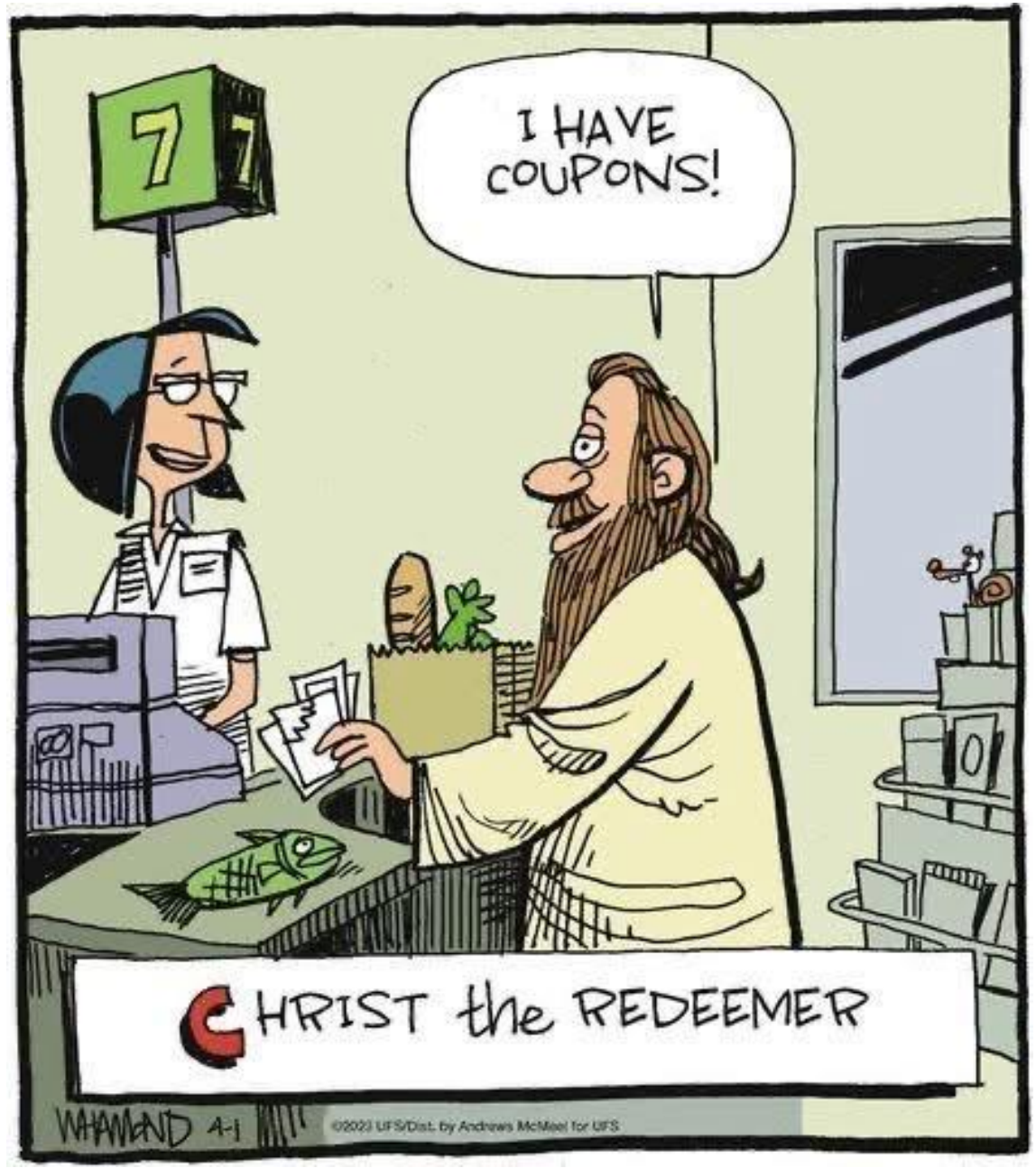

Empty Tomb – Full Faith
Resurrection is foundational
Power of death destroyed
Saints' "proclamation"


7
I HAVE COUPONS!
CHRIST the REDEEMER
WAHAMOND 4-1
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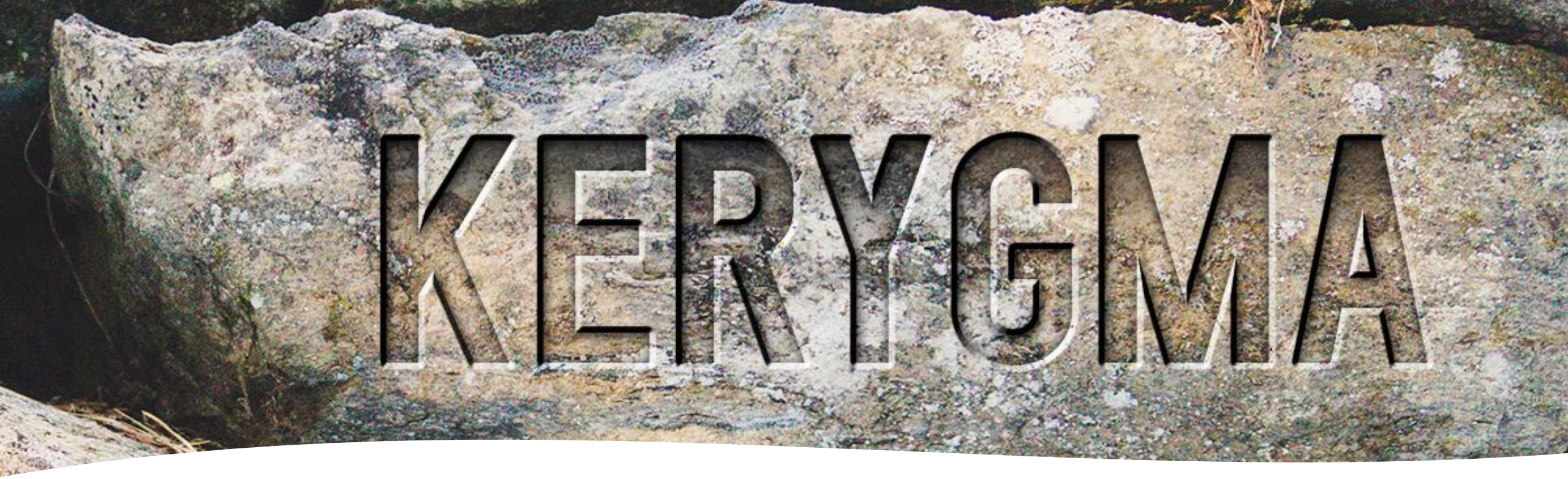


God Creates

Sin Enters

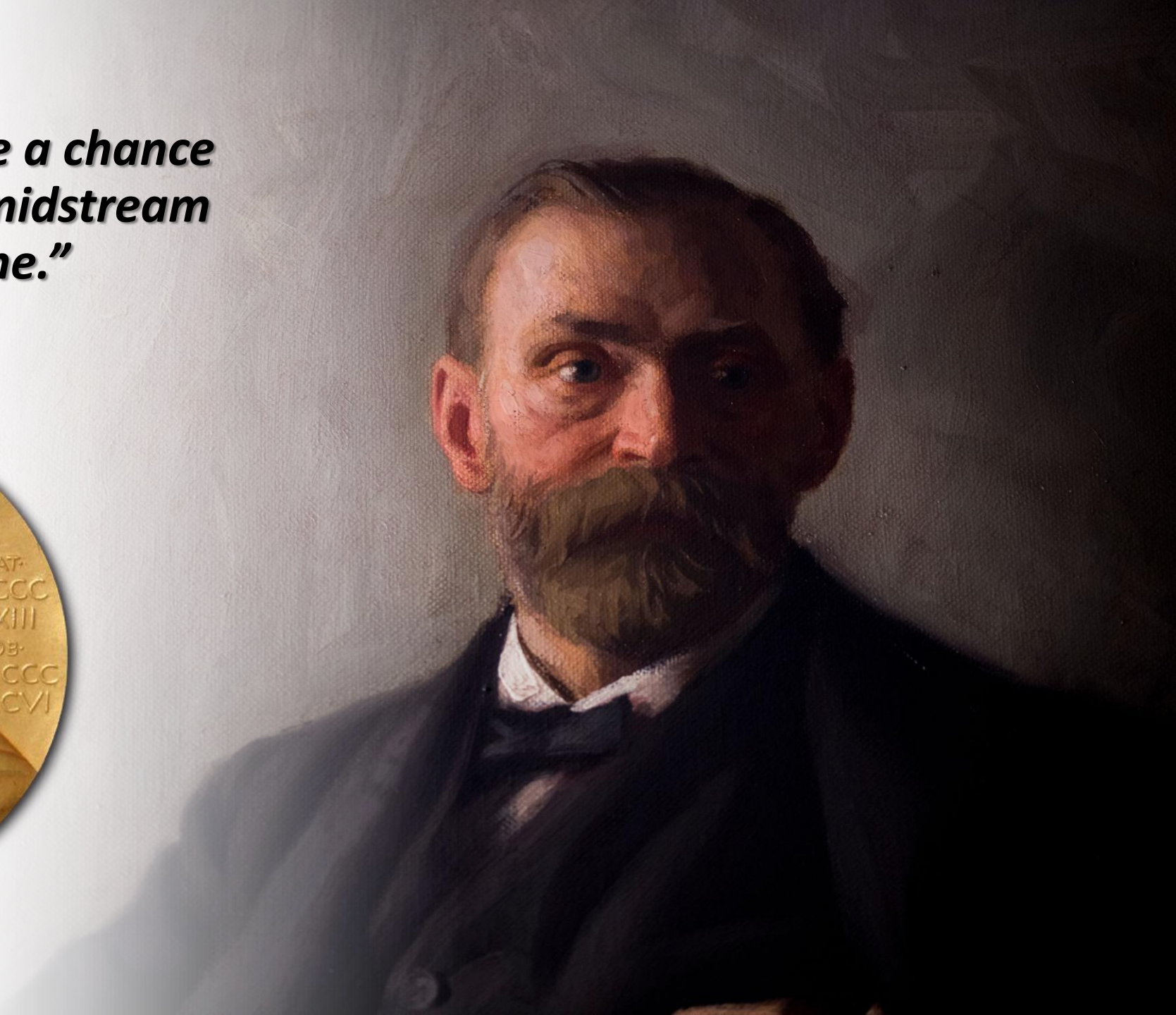
Jesus Saves

We Respond

“Every man ought to have a chance to correct his epitaph in midstream and write a new one.”

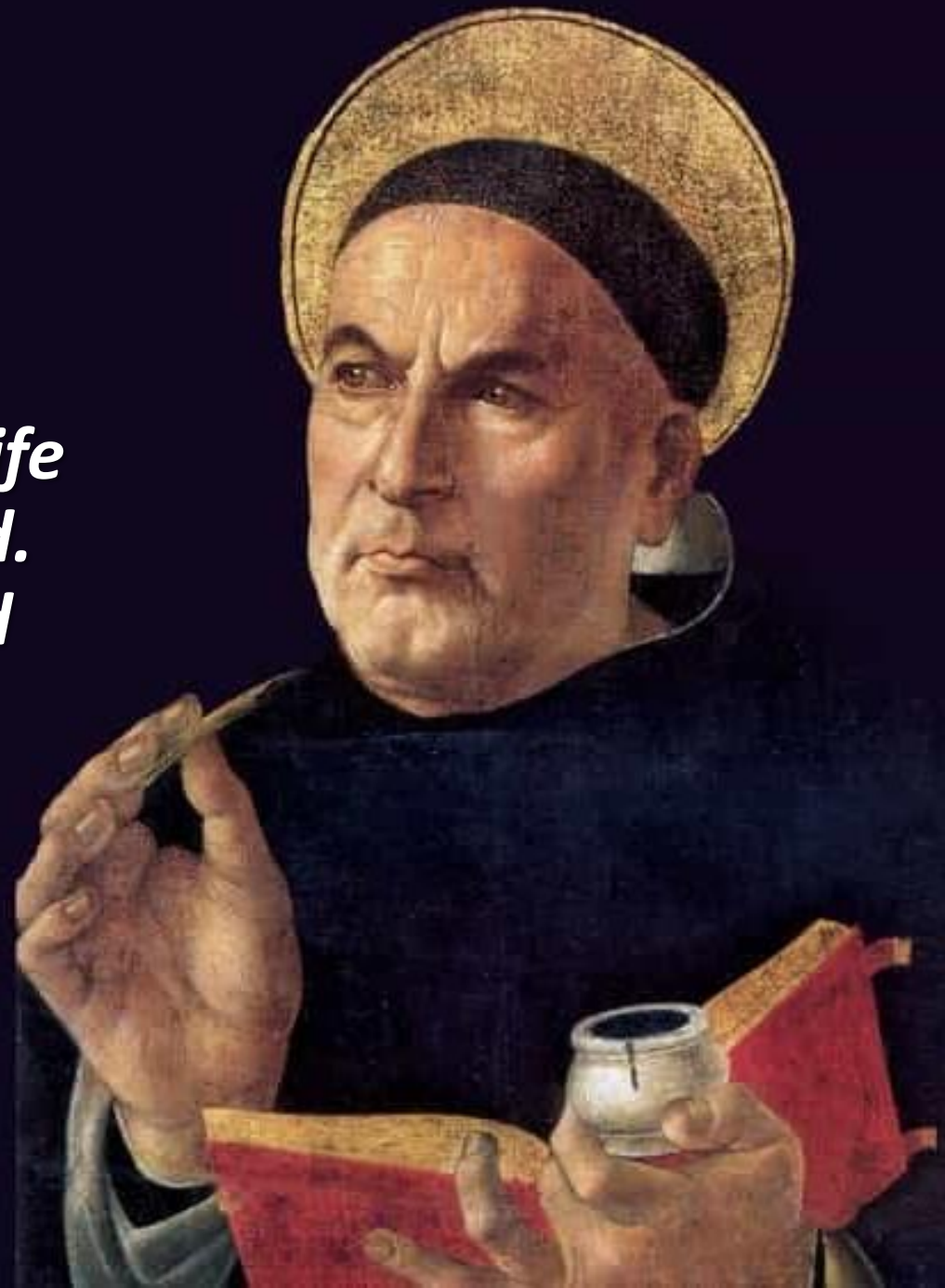
-- Alfred Nobel





“The first point about eternal life is that man is united with God. For God himself is the reward and end of all our labors.”

-- St. Thomas Aquinas





Death

Result of sin

Temporary state

Separation of the soul from the body



Soul & Body Separation

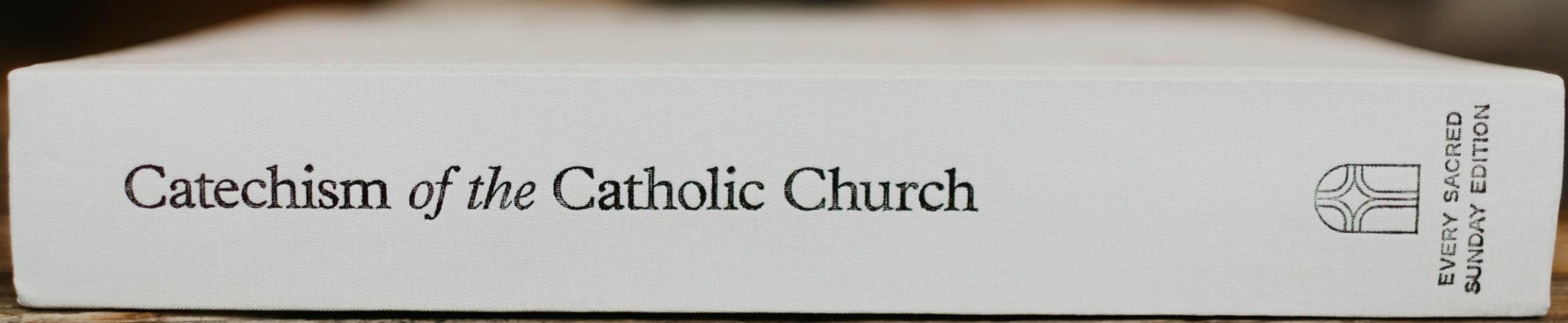
Immediate Departure

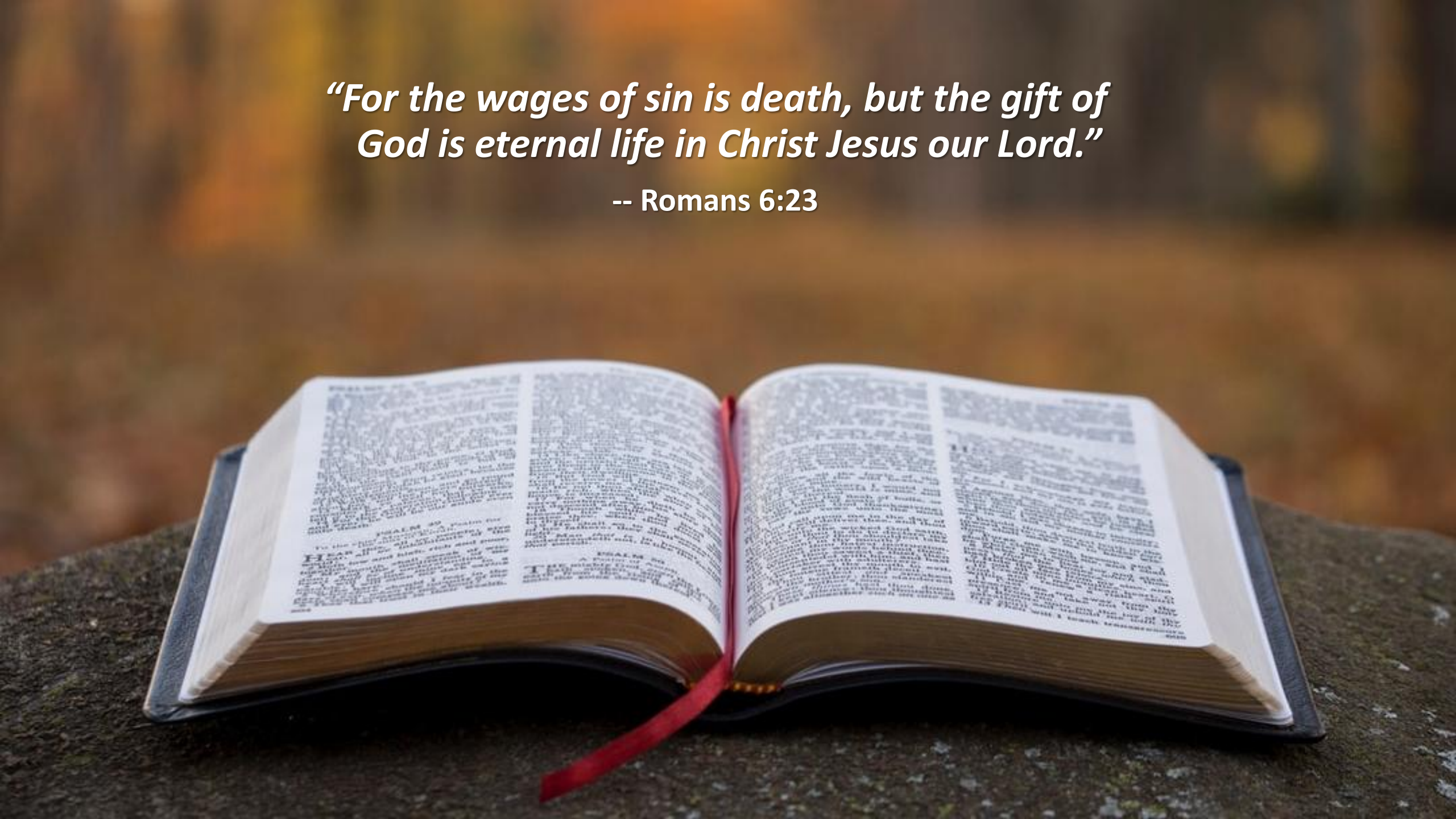
Full Consciousness of the Soul

No earthly wandering

"Death was contrary to the plans of God the Creator and entered the world as a consequence of sin."

-- CCC #1008




“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
-- Romans 6:23



CONSIDER:

How does our modern culture typically treat the subject of death?

How does a Catholic perspective offer hope?









MARK REINSTEIN/CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES


294945
Jim Brown



Unwittingly, Irwin has a brush with Death.


GOOD NEWS, HONEY... IT LOOKS LIKE I WON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE COMMUTE TO WORK TODAY...
WILEY '03
The ETERNAL OPTIMIST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Are you on your way to a Halloween party, too?
Um...actually, neither of us are.
7-21-17


What do you mean this is our last session?
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Dead as a doornail

Kick the bucket

Dead in the water

Dig one's own grave

At death's door

Wouldn't be caught dead

Worried to death

Pushing up daisies

Six feet under

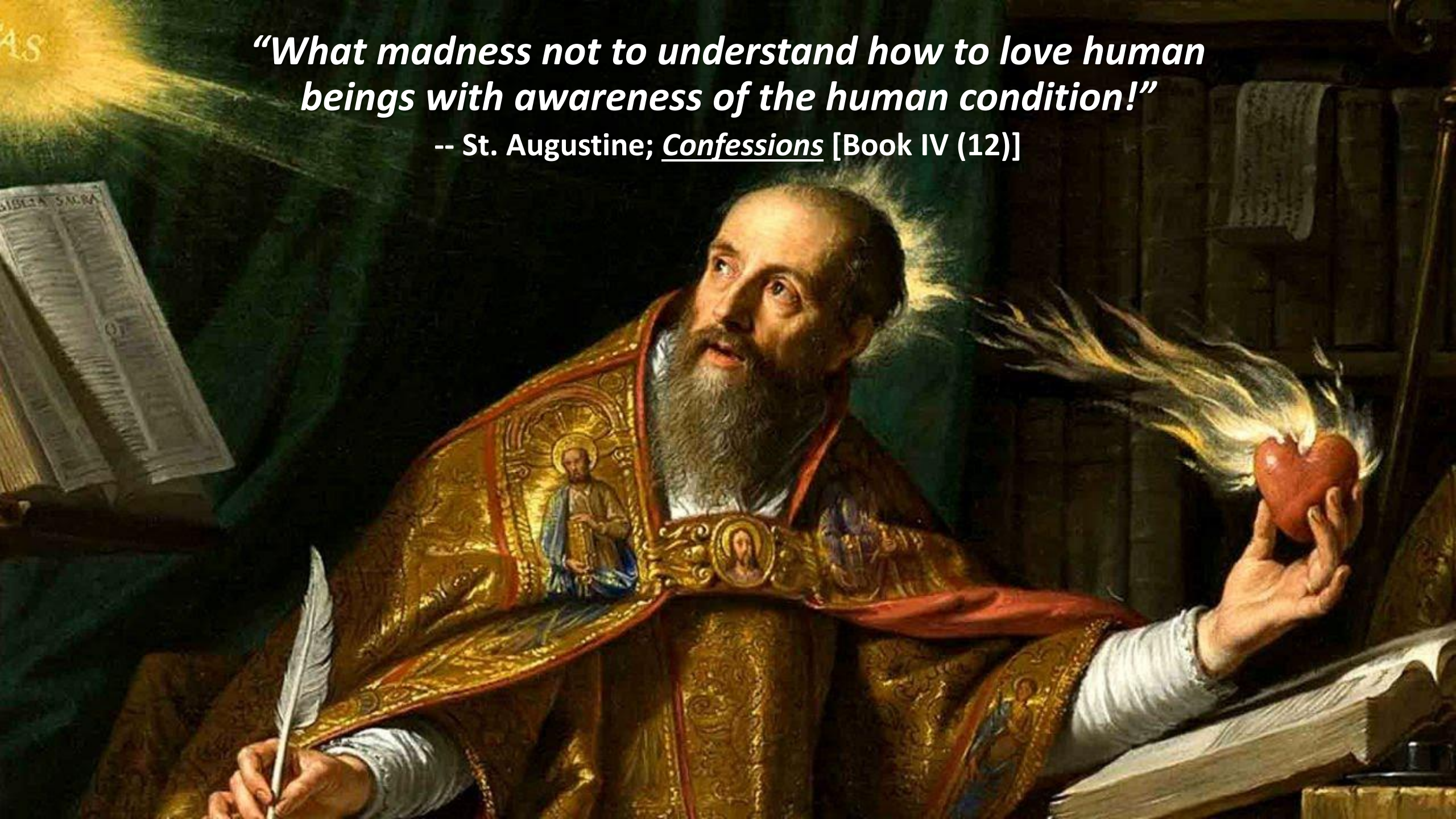
Bought the farm

Over my dead body

Sleep with the fishes

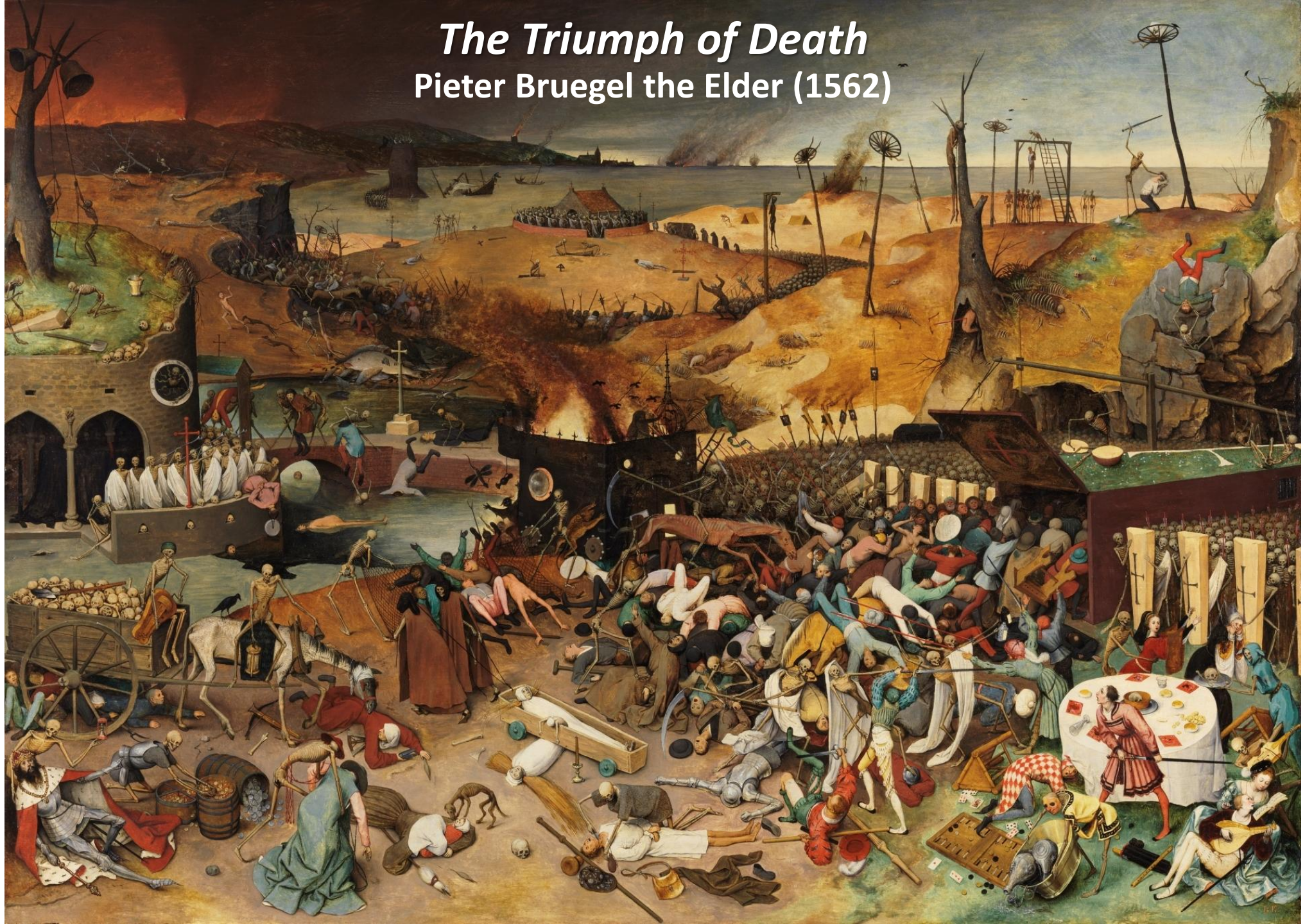
Your number is up

Whistling past the graveyard


“What madness not to understand how to love human beings with awareness of the human condition!”
-- St. Augustine; Confessions [Book IV (12)]

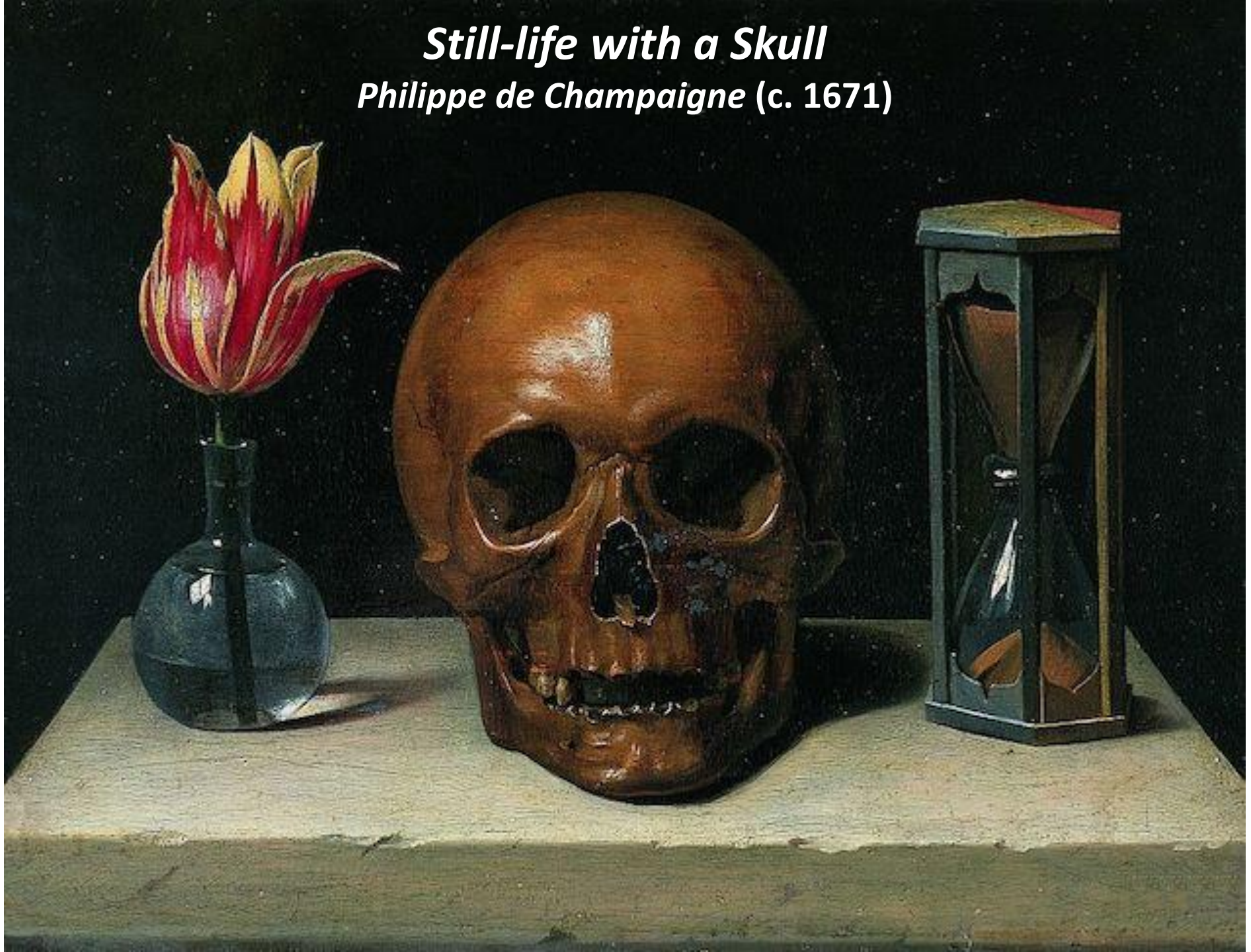
The Triumph of Death

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1562)



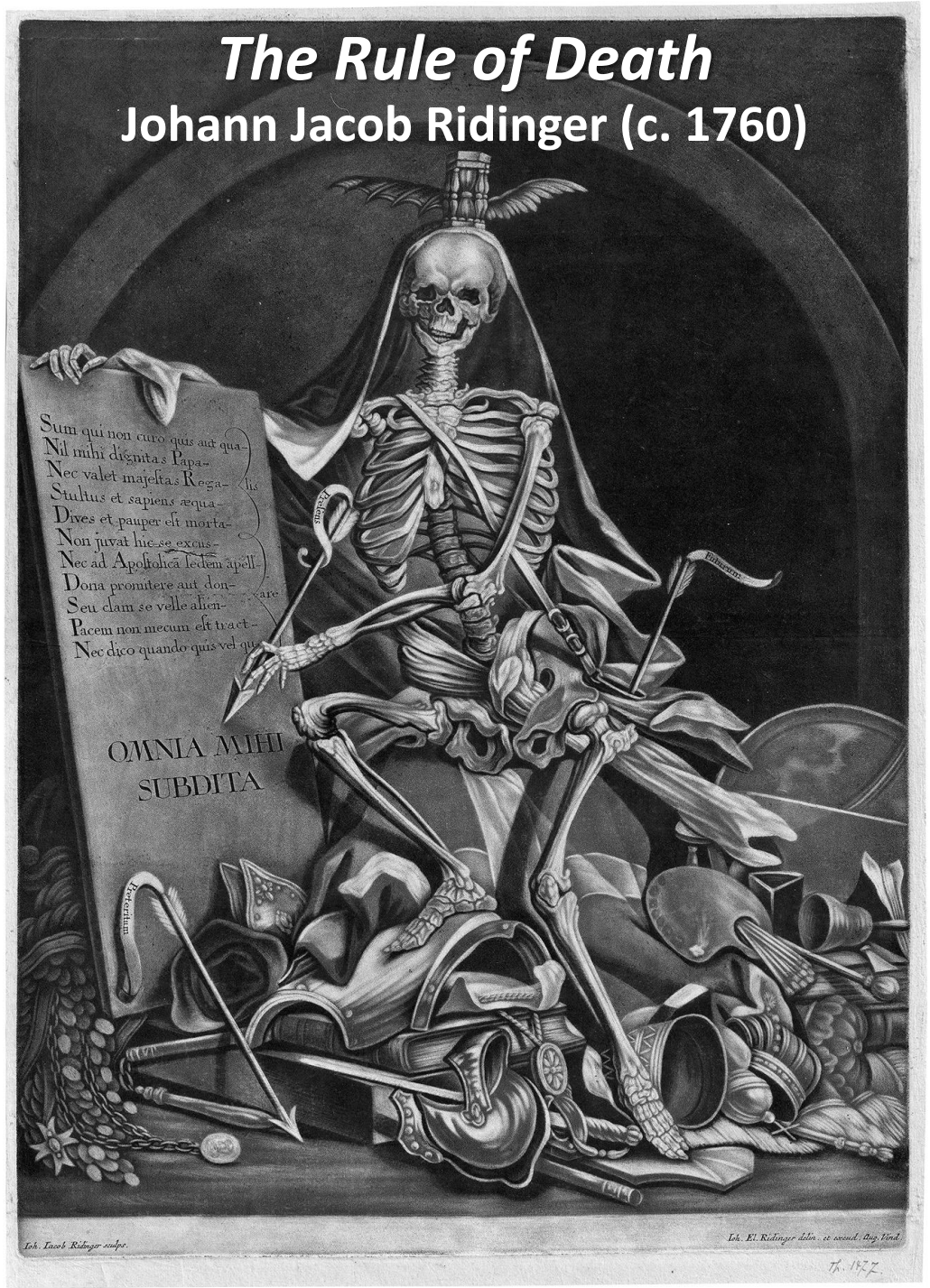





Still-life with a Skull
Philippe de Champaigne (c. 1671)

The Rule of Death

Johann Jacob Ridinger (c. 1760)



“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

-- Genesis 3:19



“My religious belief teaches me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the time for my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to always be ready, no matter when it may overtake me.”

-- Gen. Stonewall Jackson



“Life is to live in such a way that we are not afraid to die.”

-- St. Teresa of Avila





Particular Judgement

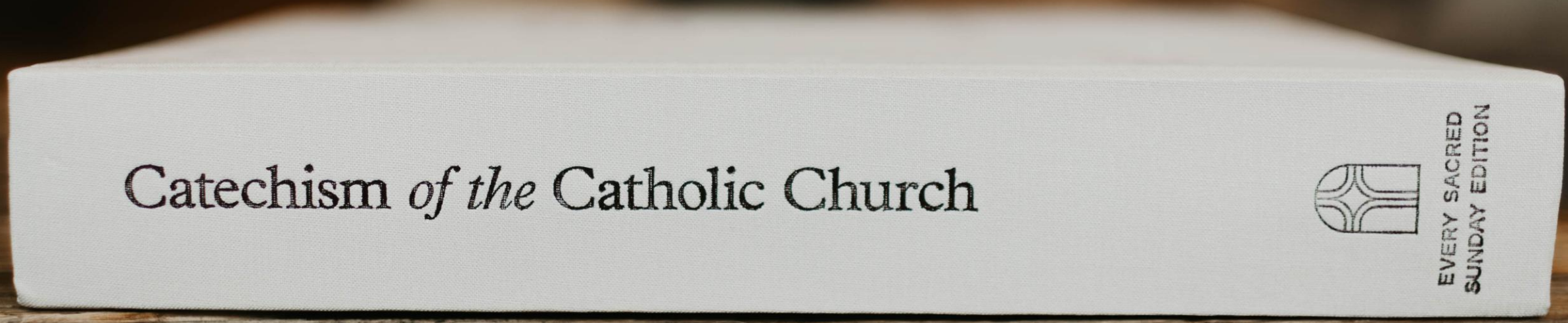
All knowledge known

Soul sees itself as God does

Soul's immediate destination

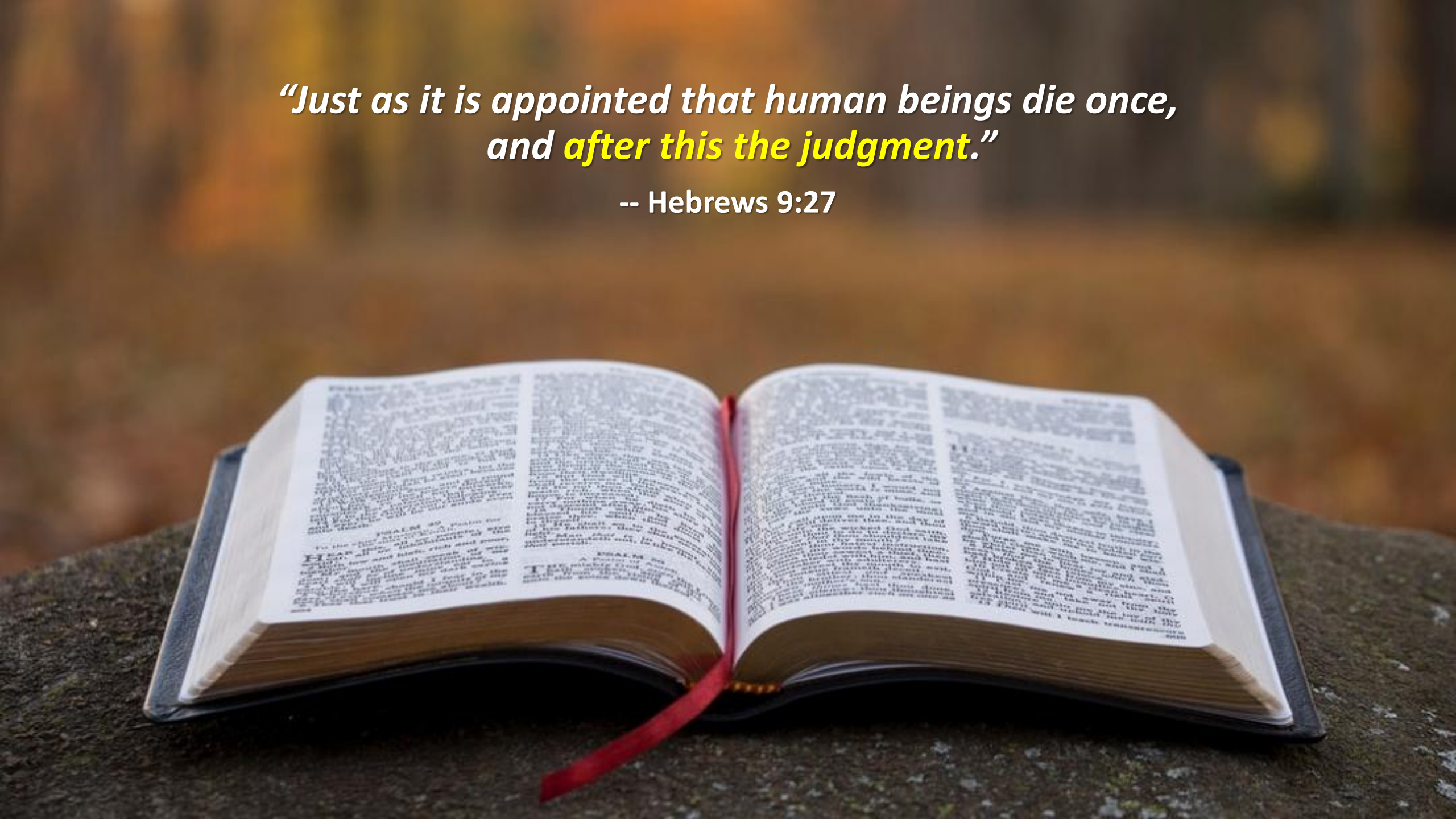
*"Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul **at the very moment of his death**, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven – through a purification or immediately – or immediate and everlasting damnation."*

-- CCC #1022



"Just as it is appointed that human beings die once, and after this the judgment."

-- Hebrews 9:27



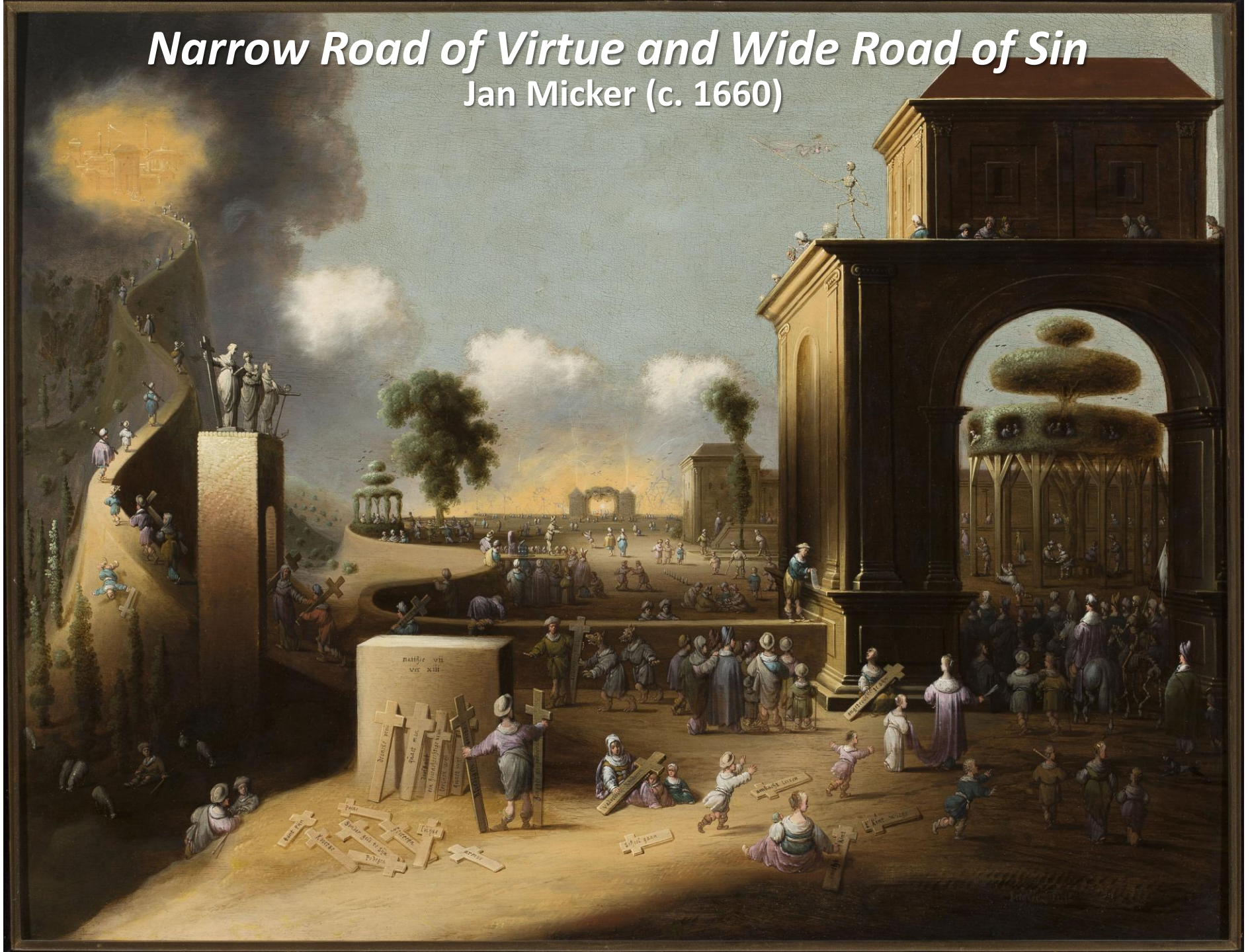





BOB'S MARKET
ICE

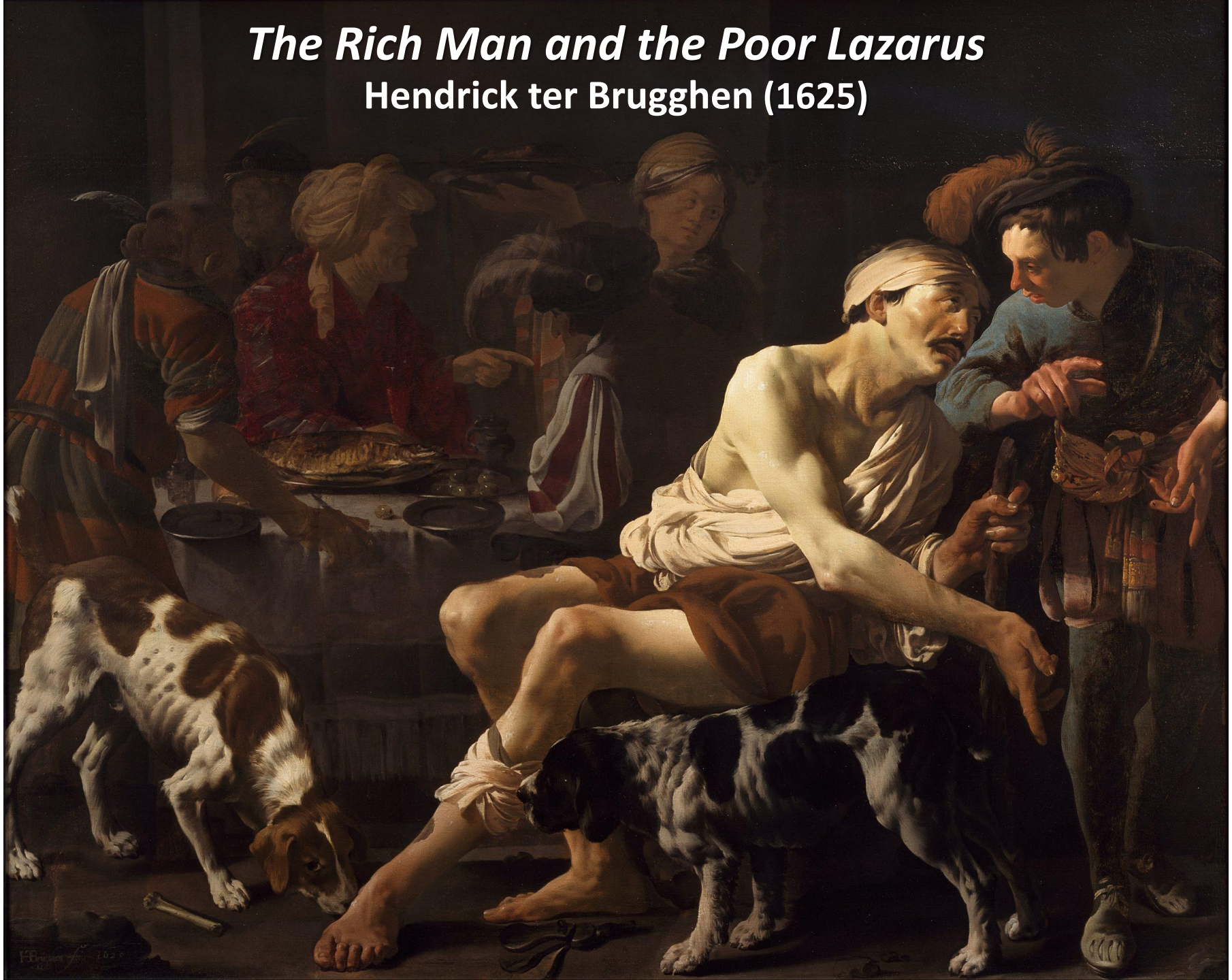
Narrow Road of Virtue and Wide Road of Sin

Jan Micker (c. 1660)



The Rich Man and the Poor Lazarus

Hendrick ter Brugghen (1625)





"At the evening of life,
we shall be judged on our love."

-- St. John of the Cross



CONSIDER:

How can the Church's teaching on our particular judgement help us to live better now?



Core Takeaways

Death is a transition, not an end

We have only one earthly life

Immediate accountability



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