

The Servant King



Part 7

Lord of the Sabbath

Mark 2:23 - 3:6

The story of the *King*... who came to *serve*.



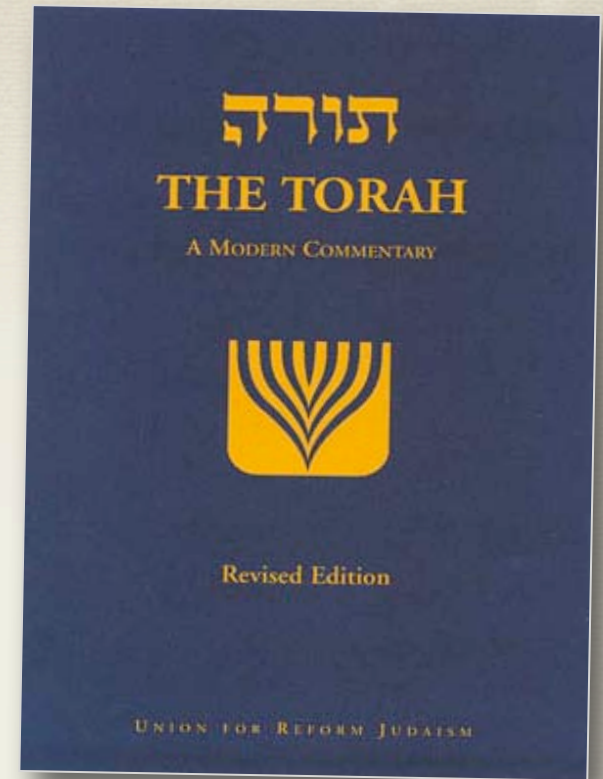
8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.

On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Exodus 20:8 – 11

“Its observance stretches from dusk on Friday to dark on Saturday and is marked by family observance, synagogue attendance, and total rest. Its mood is both serene and joyous (mourning practices cease on this day—as does fasting, except on Yom Kippur); it is the time for *recollecting*

God’s goodness and *acknowledging God’s sovereignty*; it provides for social balm, intellectual expansion, and a shutting out of the day’s cares. It is spiritually and physically restorative, the crown of the week’s labors.”

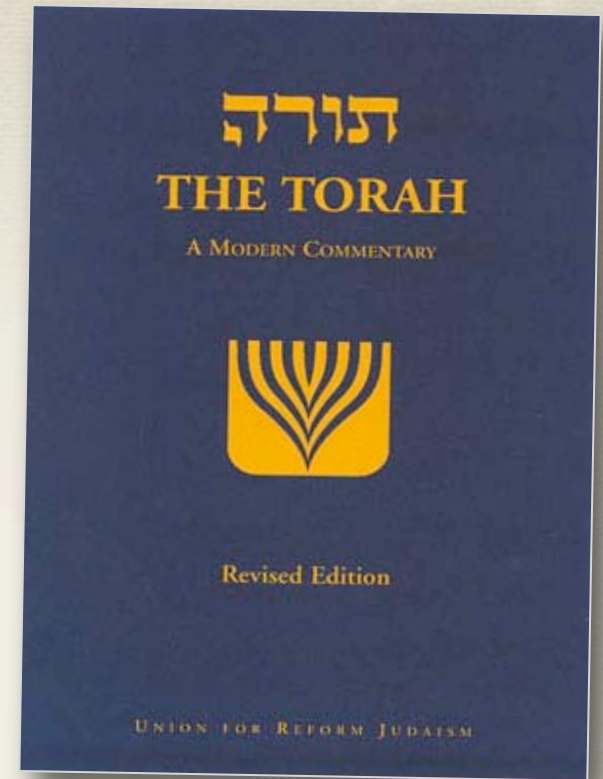


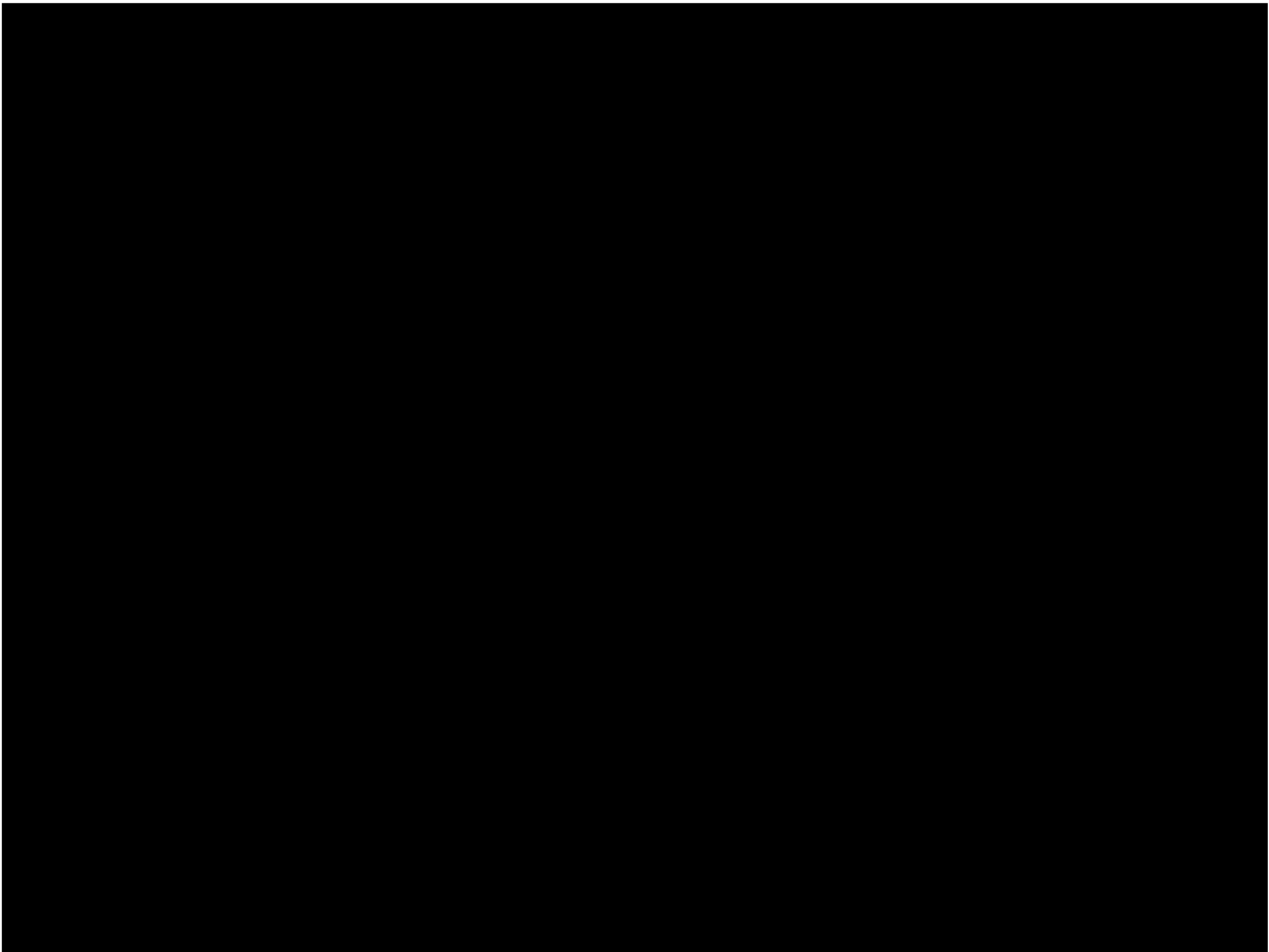
(*The Torah, A Modern Commentary, Revised Edition*,
General Editor, W. Gunther Plaut, p. 493)

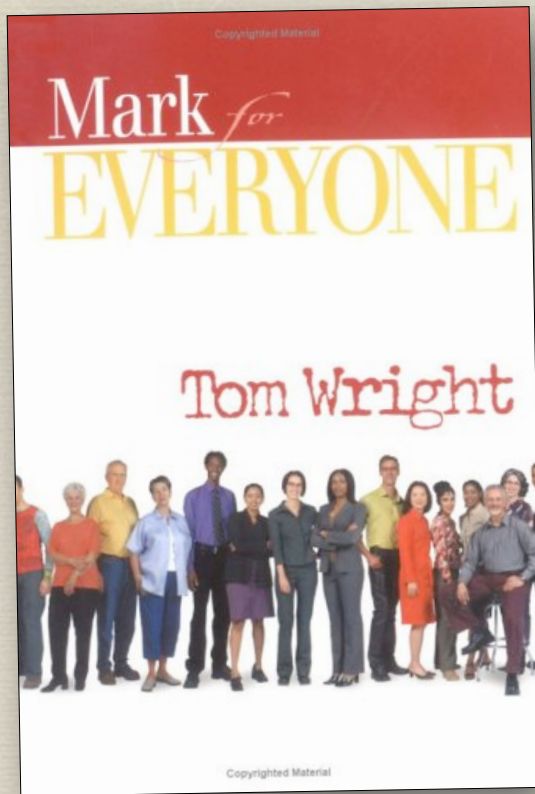
“It [the Sabbath] was celebrated as a Shabbat Ladonai, a Sabbath for the sake of the Master of the Universe. It recurred every seven days, regardless of heavenly cycles, and thereby exalted God’s control over time and nature.

‘Every seventh day,’ writes M. Tsevat, ‘the Israelite is to *renounce dominion over time*, thereby *renounce autonomy* and *recognize God’s dominion over time and thus over [oneself]*. *Keeping the Sabbath is acceptance of the sovereignty of God.*’”

(*The Torah, A Modern Commentary, Revised Edition*,
General Editor, W. Gunther Plaut, p. 493)







“ . . . the whole point of the commandment—celebrating God’s creation and redemption, past, present, and future—had been lost sight of. The rules mattered more than the reality.”

(*Mark for Everyone*, N. T. Wright, p. 30)

“Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?”



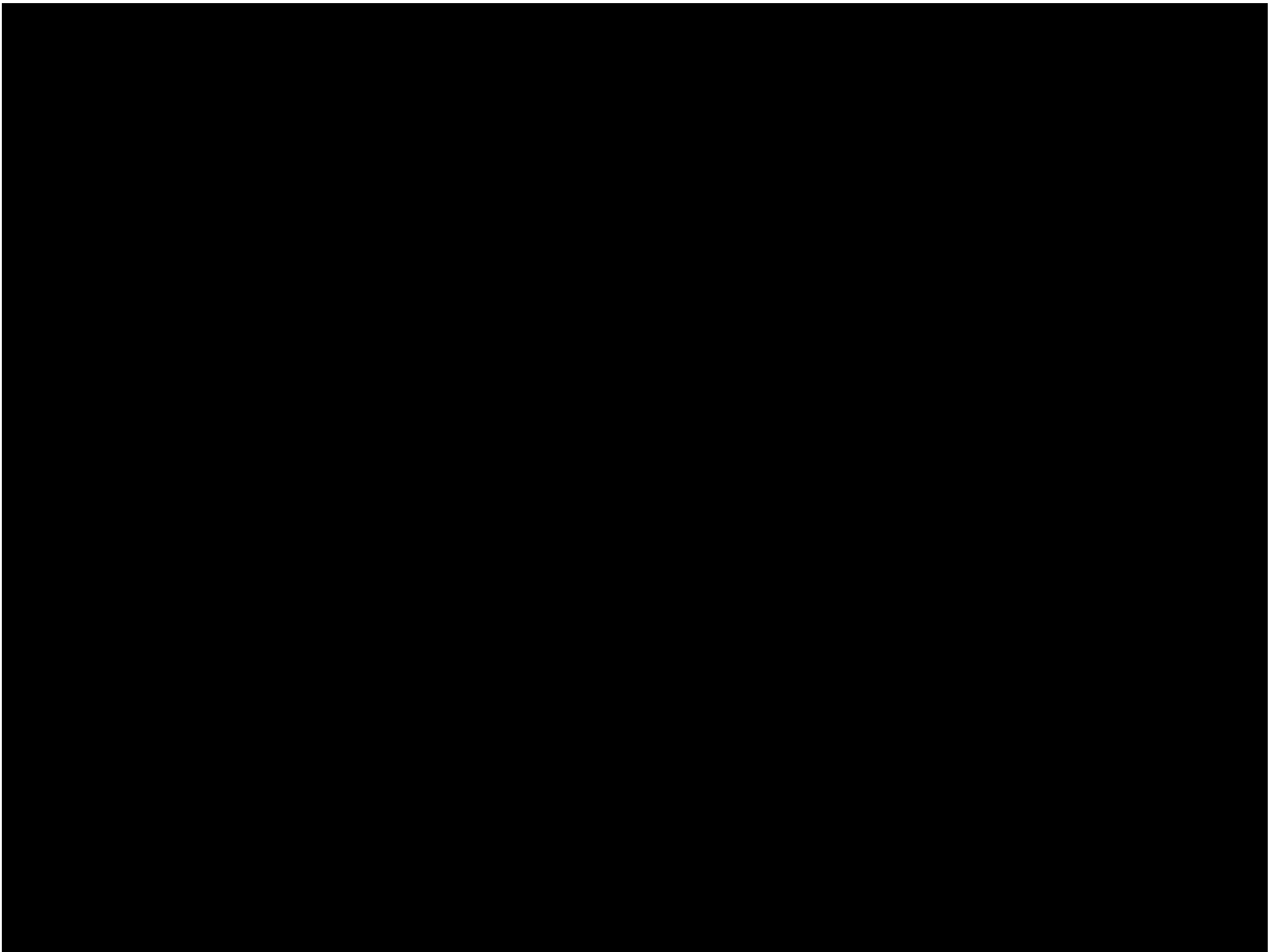
² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Genesis 2:2 & 3



“The
Sabbath was
made for
man, not
man for the
Sabbath.”

Mark 2:27

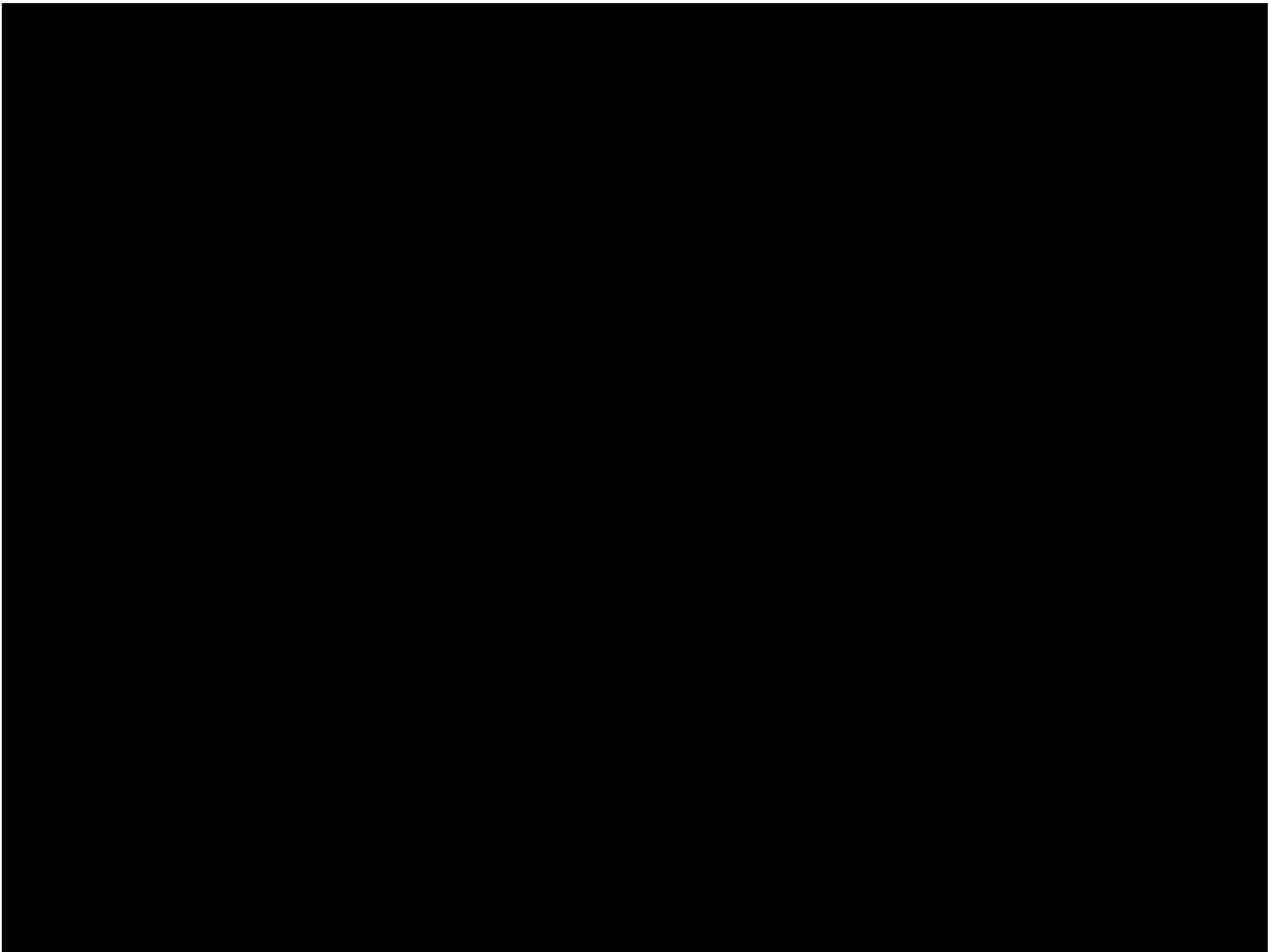


“Most people in the world believe that if there is a God, you relate to him by being good.”



“You study and obey the law of God in order to discover the kind of life you should live in order to please and resemble the one who created and redeemed you . . .”

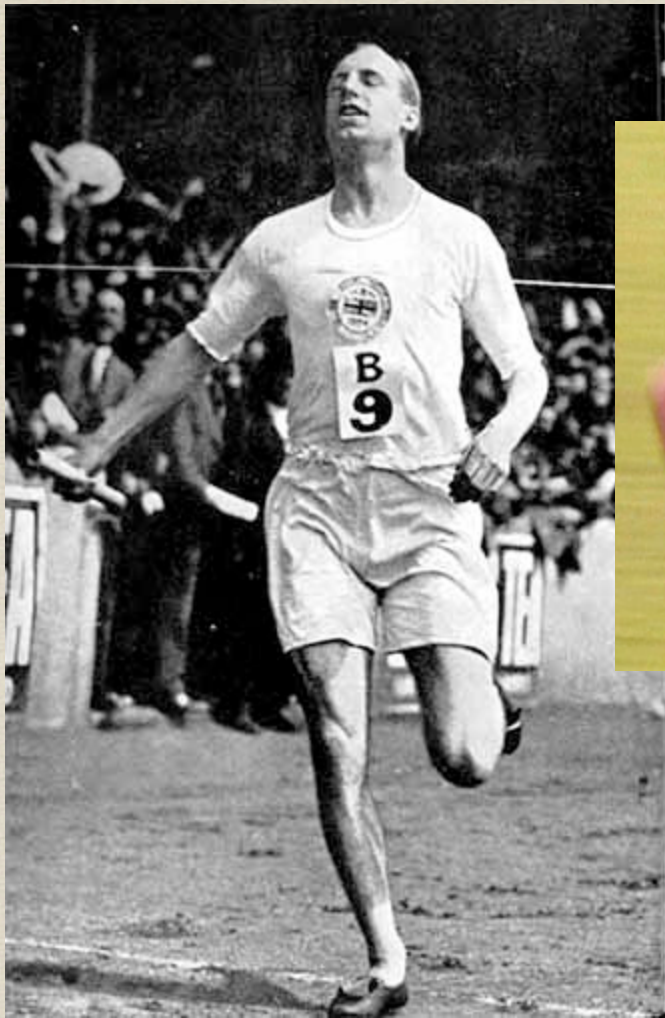
(The King's Cross, Timothy Keller, p. 54 & 55)







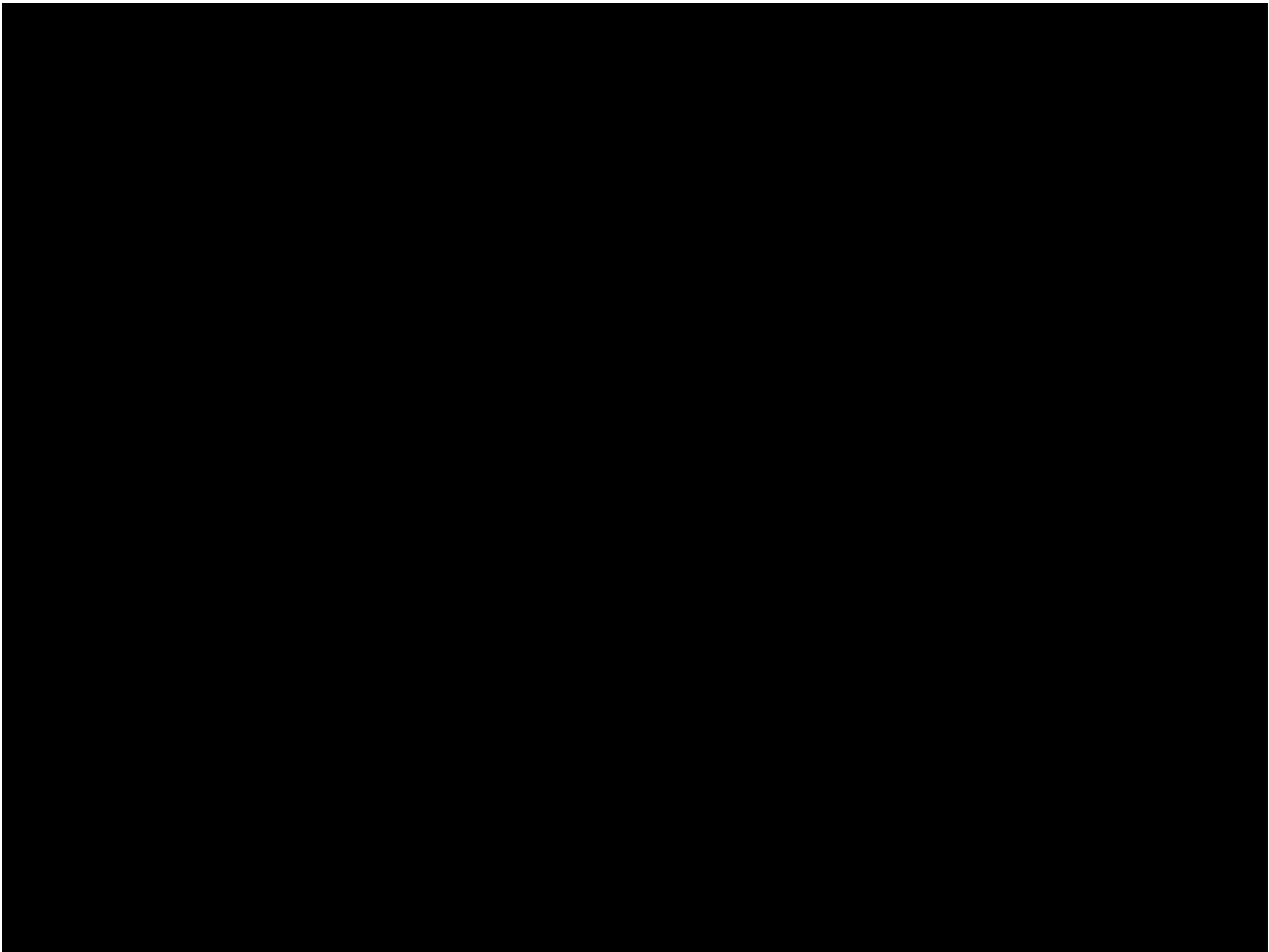
“God made me fast, when I run I
feel his pleasure.”



“I’ll have ten lonely
seconds to *justify my
existence.*”

“So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

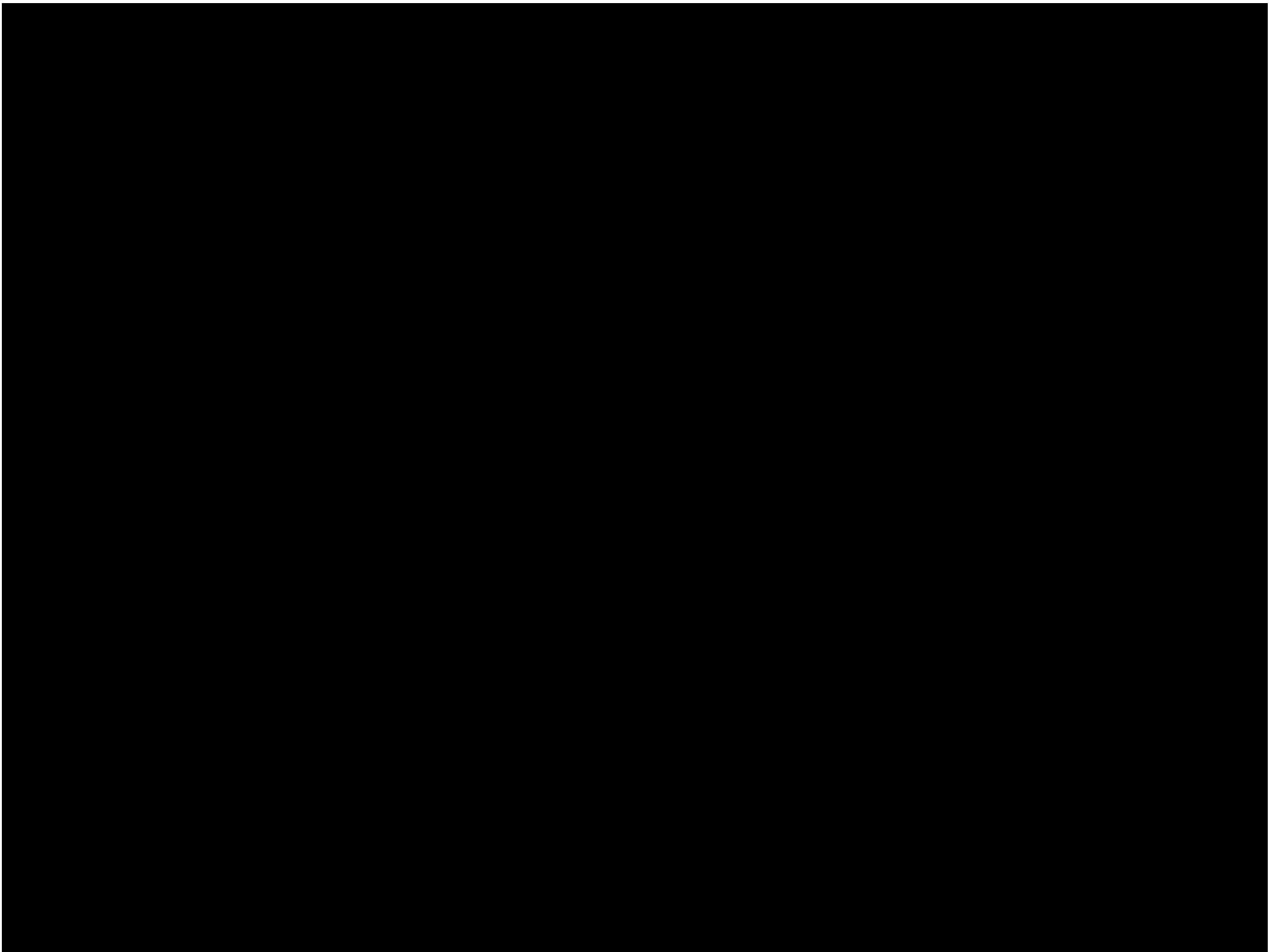


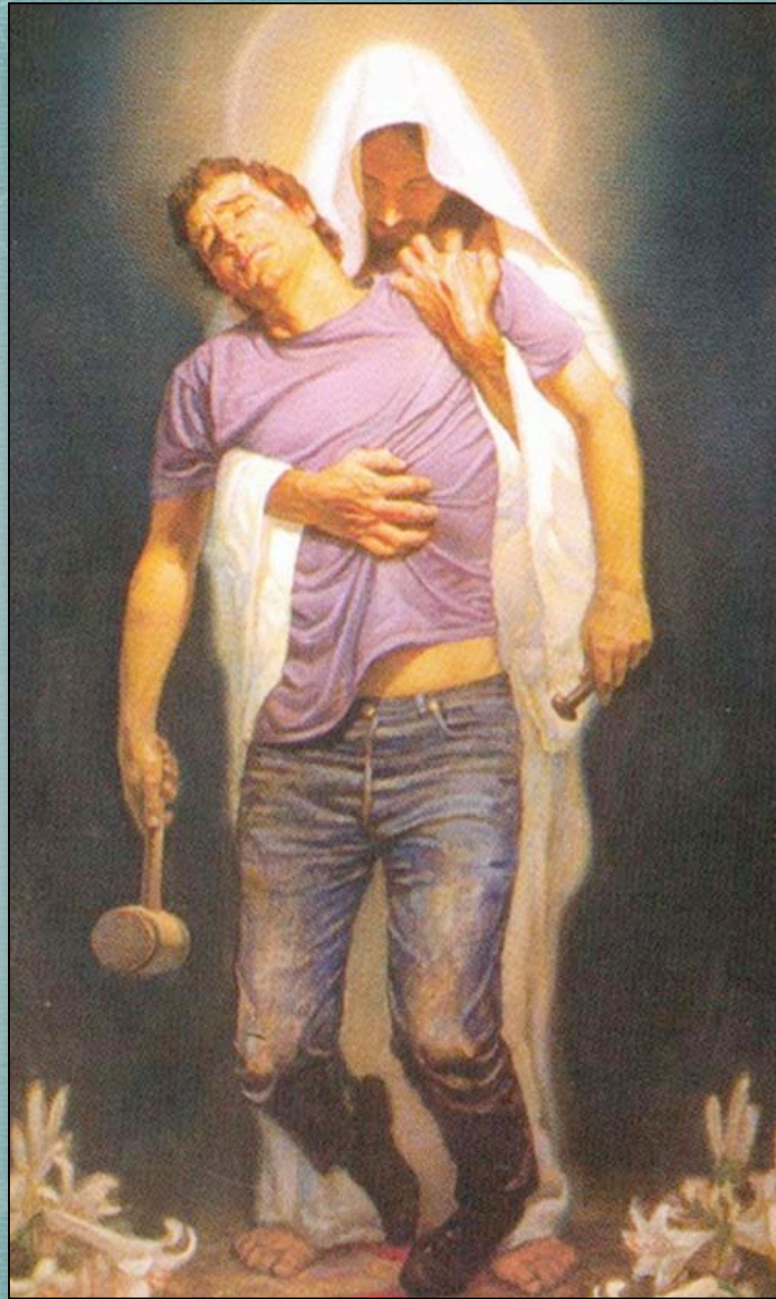


“Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.”

Mark 3:6







²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Matthew 11:28 – 29

Three Questions

1 – Who do you most resemble in this passage?

2 – Is anything blinding you to what God is doing in people's lives?

3 – How can we learn again what it means to live in a rhythm of work and rest?

