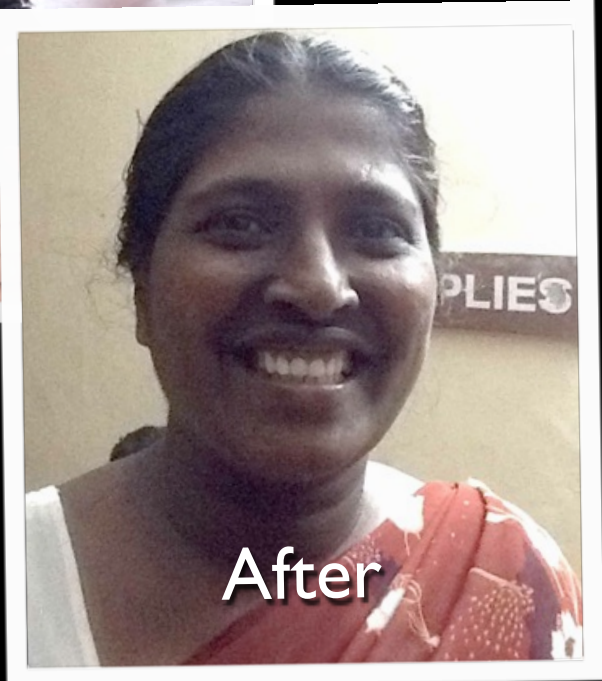
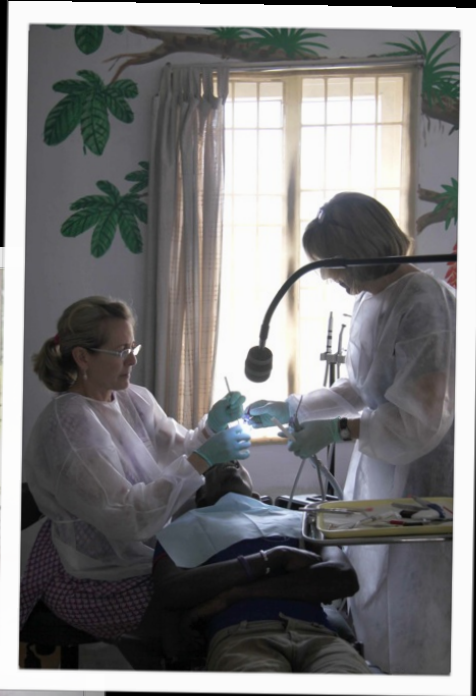




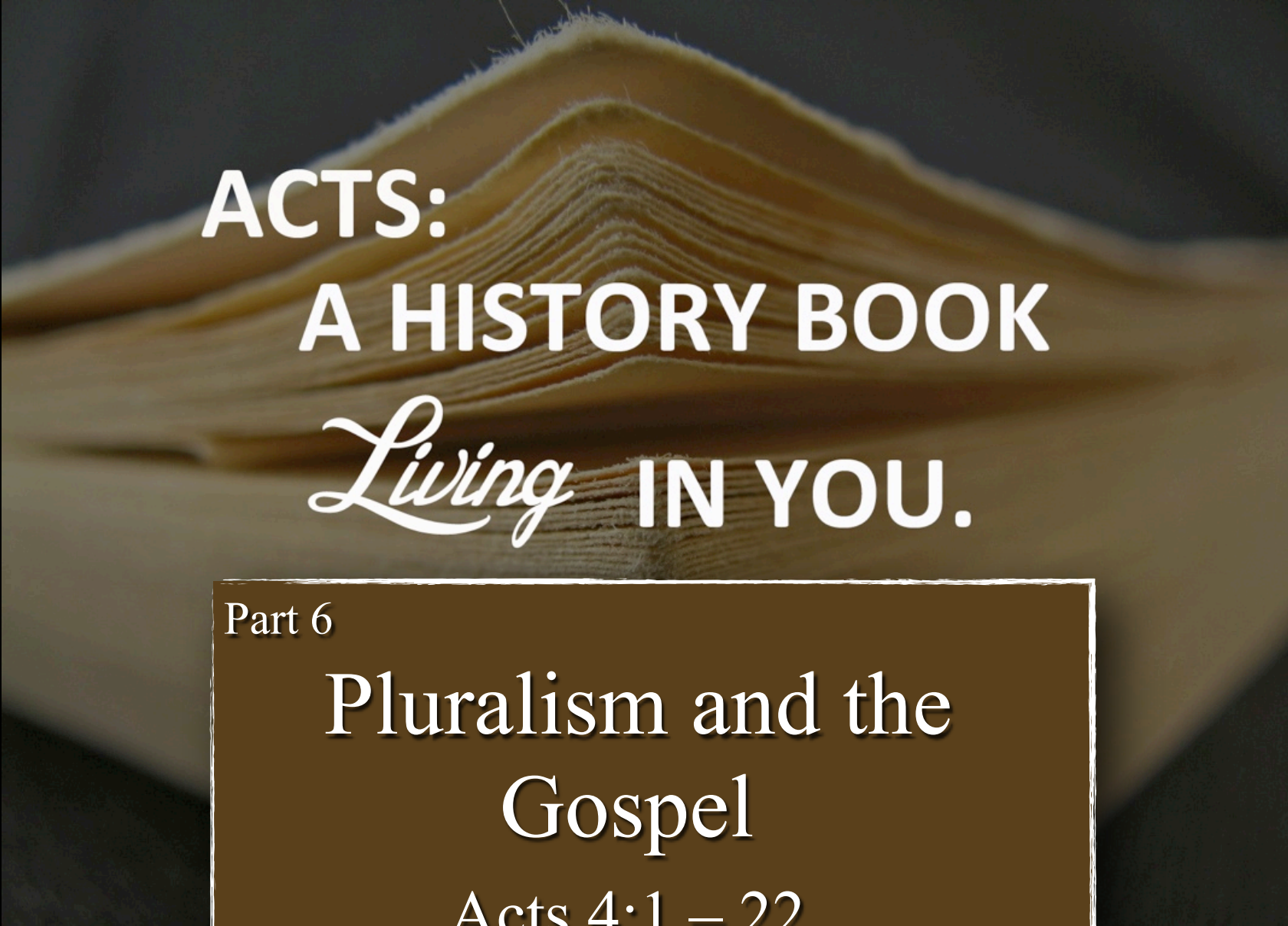
Before



After

Daughter & Dad Dinner





ACTS:
A HISTORY BOOK
Living **IN YOU.**

Part 6

**Pluralism and the
Gospel**

Acts 4:1 – 22

Cultural pluralism = where many cultures coexist within a society and maintain their cultural differences; also called multiculturalism.



Religious pluralism = a philosophy that accepts all religious beliefs as equally valid.

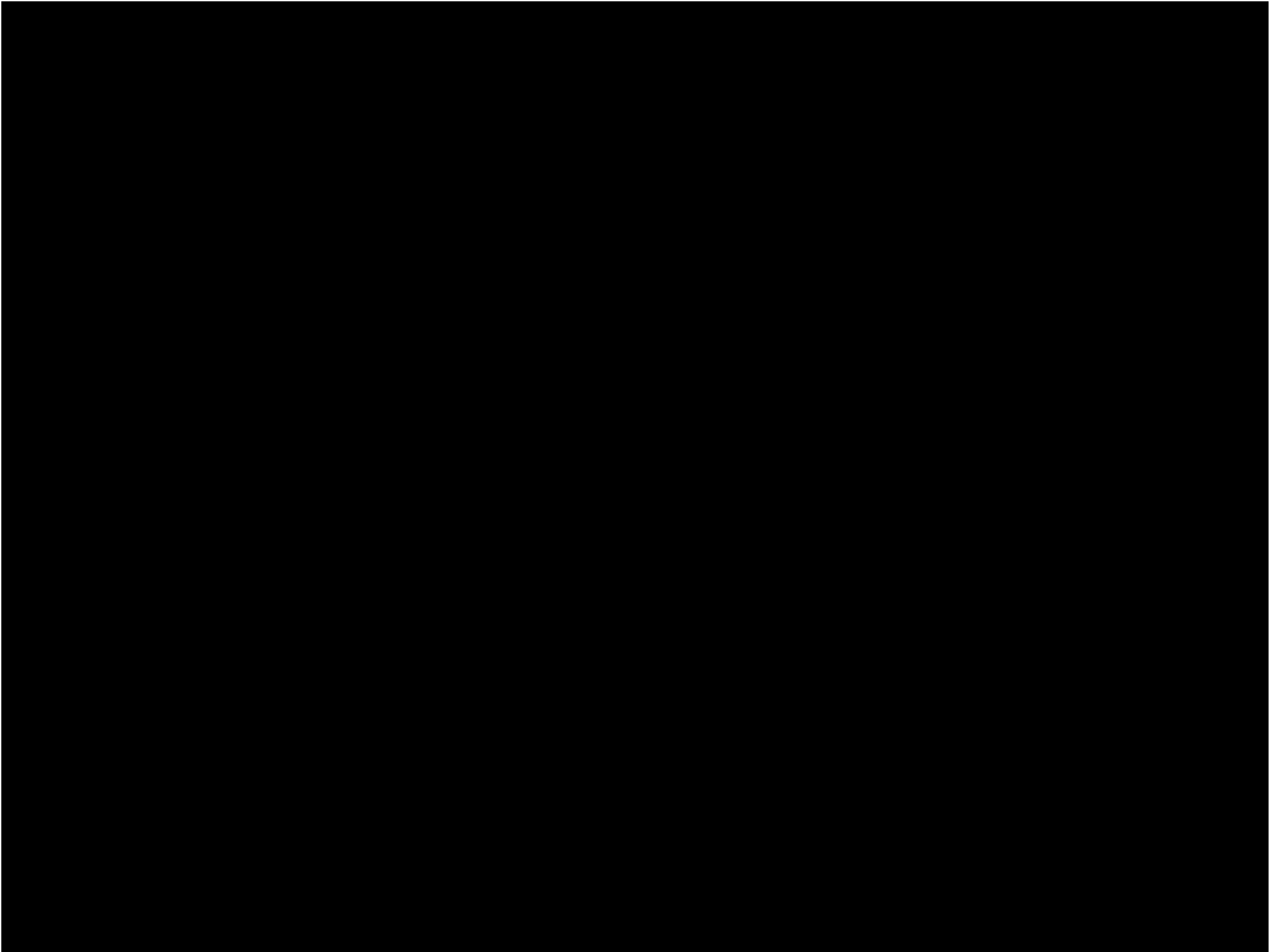


ACTS:
A HISTORY BOOK
Living **IN YOU.**

Part 6

**Pluralism and the
Gospel**

Acts 4:1 – 22



THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR PROVOKES HOSTILITY

It provoked hostility from the
Jewish leaders

For he must remain in heaven until the time for the final restoration of all things, as God promised long ago through his holy prophets. Acts 3:21

BEAUTIFUL GATE

lame man healed

Peter addresses the first crowd

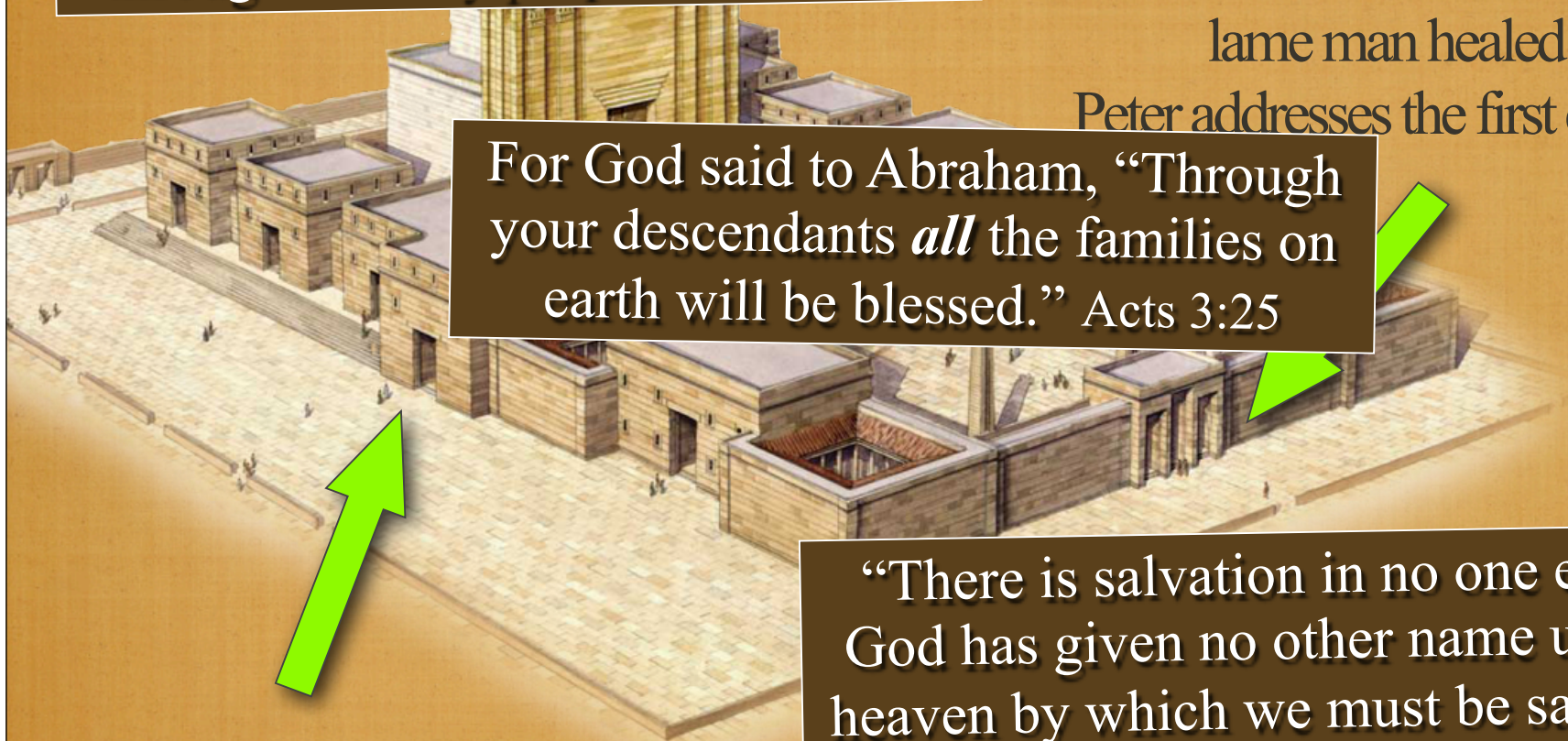
For God said to Abraham, “Through your descendants *all* the families on earth will be blessed.” Acts 3:25

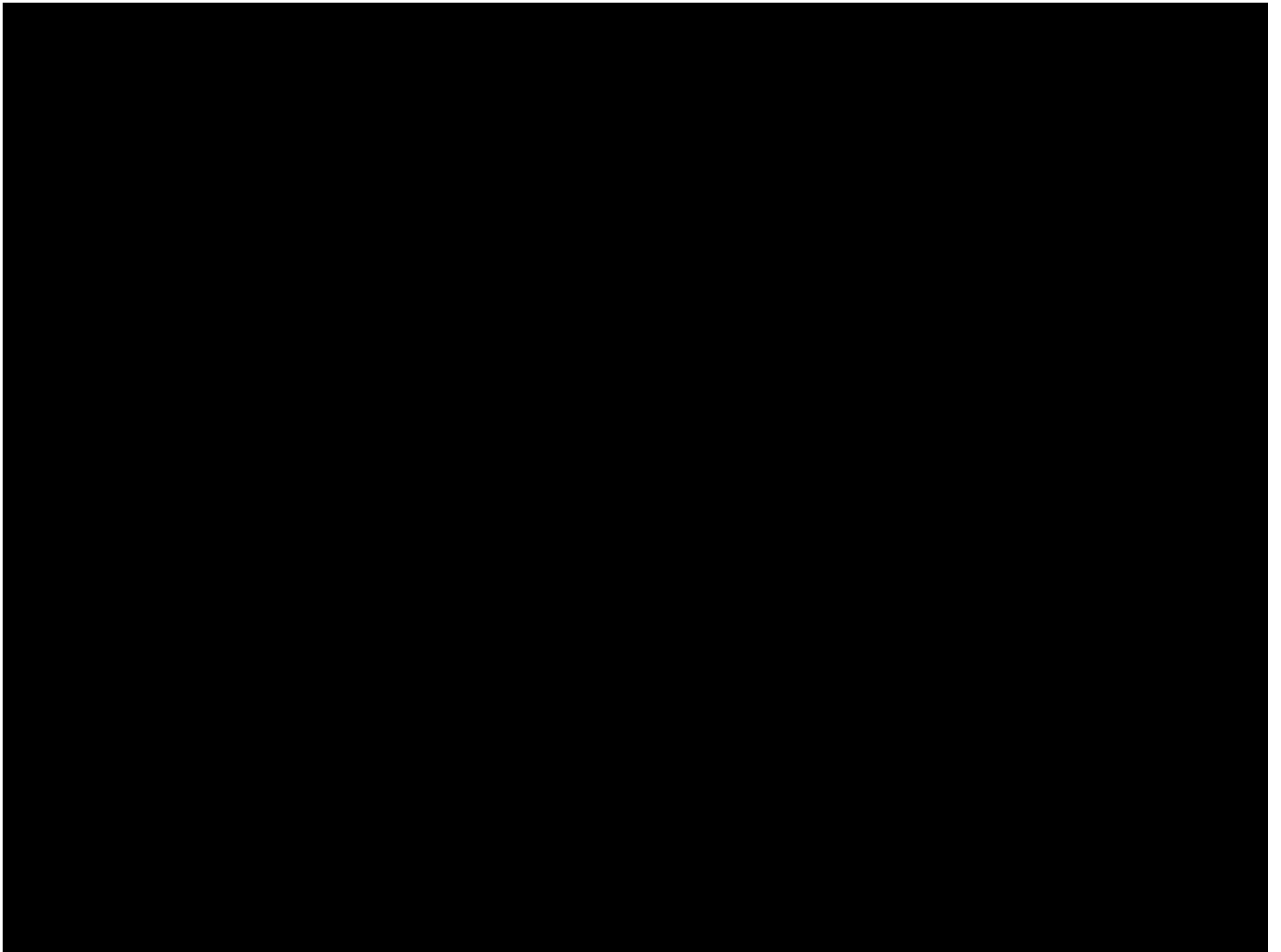
“There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12 (NLT)

SANHEDRIN'S CHAMBER

possibly where Peter & John were questioned

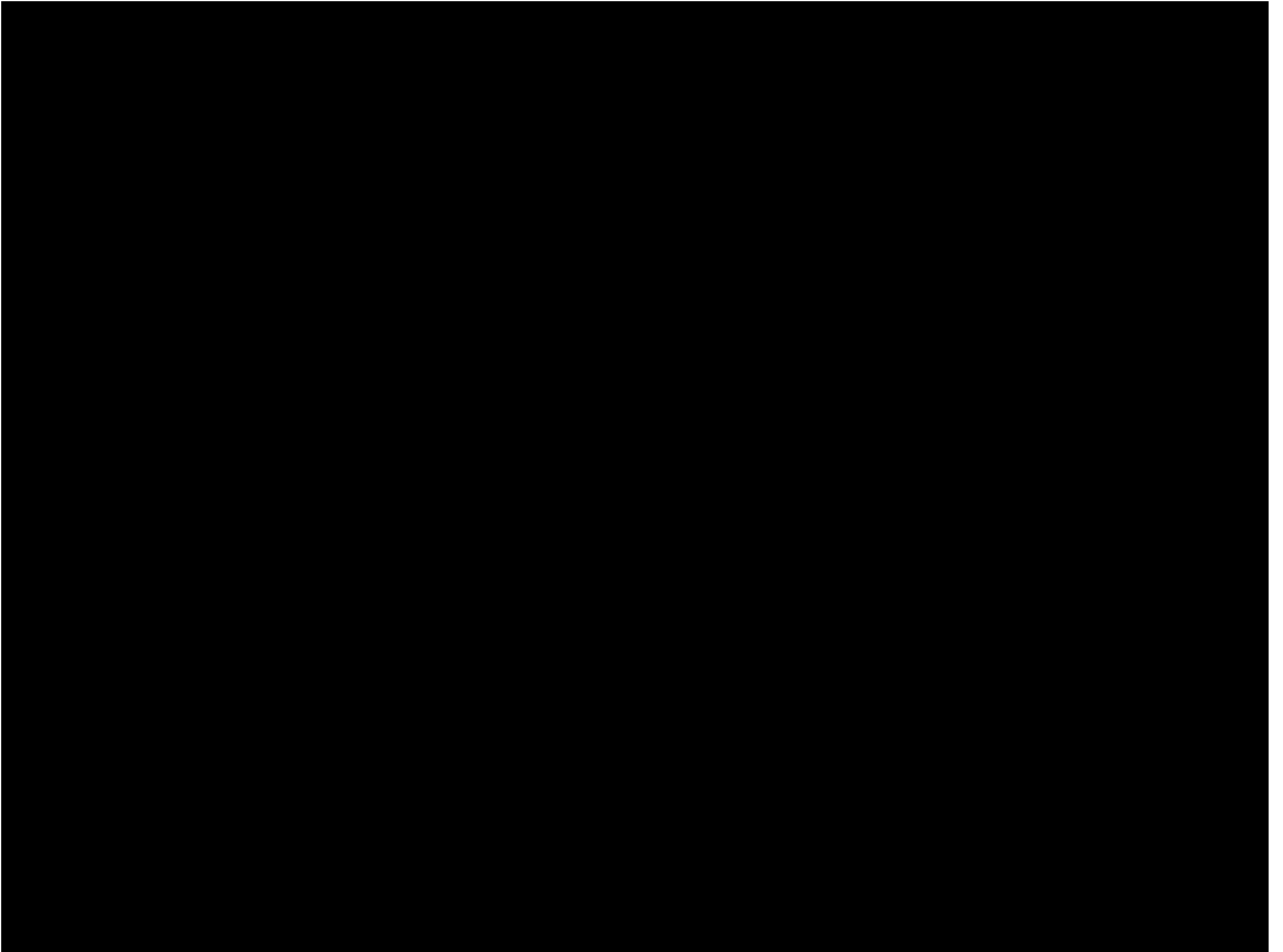




THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR PROVOKES HOSTILITY

It provoked hostility from the
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It provoked hostility from the
surrounding culture



THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR PROVOKES HOSTILITY

It provoked hostility from the
Jewish leaders

It provoked hostility from the
surrounding culture

It provoked hostility from the
Roman government

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

3,000 in *Acts* 2:41

5,000 men in *Acts* 4:4

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR

It's ARROGANT to say that Jesus
is the only way to God.

“Before I was with the Father, I existed with the Father (John 1:1-2; John 8:58)

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me.” (John 14:6)

“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9)

Matthew 26:28

“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR

It's ARROGANT to say that Jesus
is the only way to God.

It's EXCLUSIONARY to say that
Jesus is the only way to God.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR

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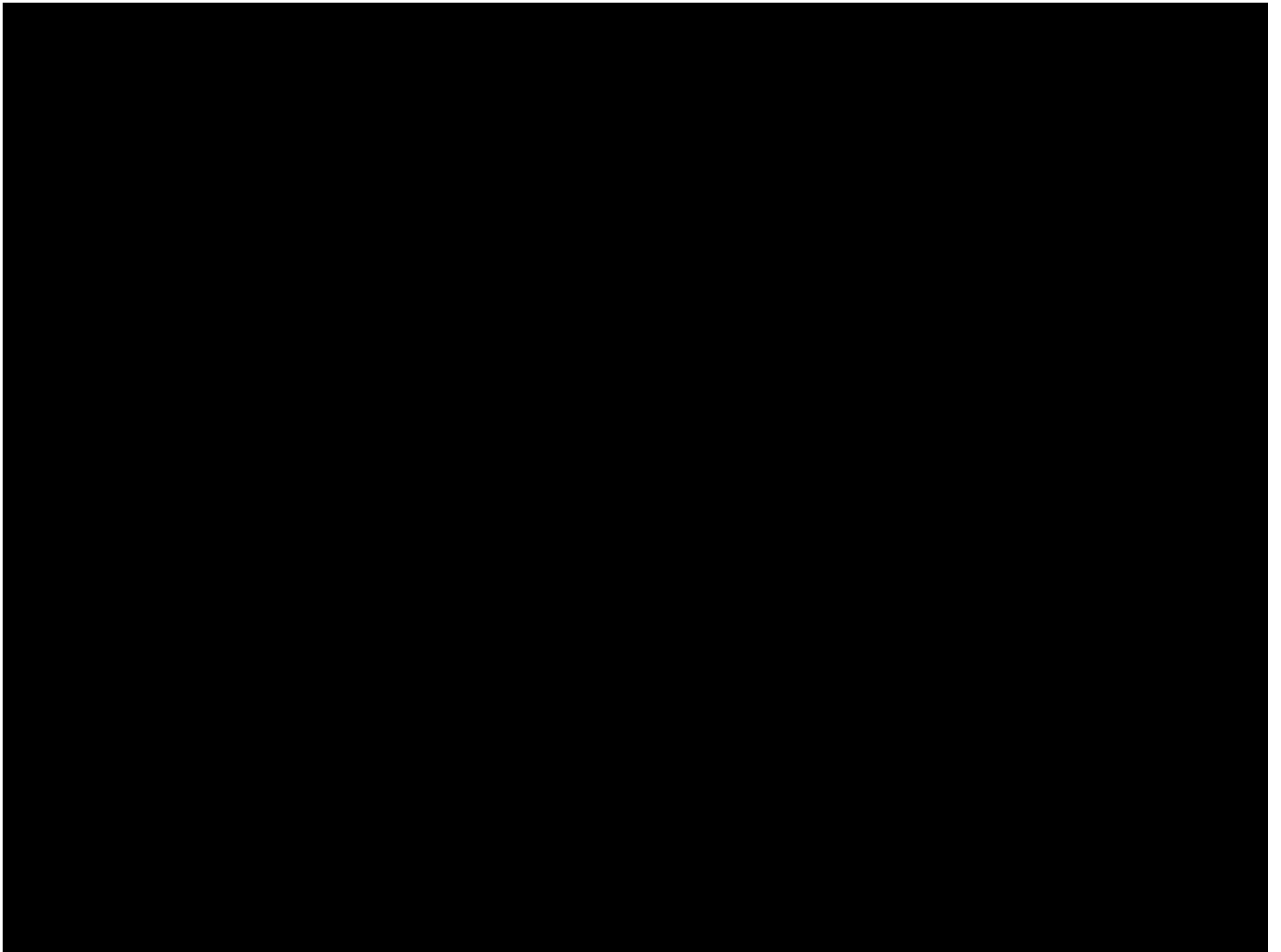


“There a millions of ways to
be a human being and many
paths to what you call ‘God’.
There couldn’t possibly be
just one way.”

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIM THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR

It's EXCLUSIONARY to say that
Jesus is the only way to God.

Pluralism is much more suited to our
contemporary, individualistic,
consumer-orientated, buffet-style
approach to religion that says, "I'll take
some of that; but I don't like that."

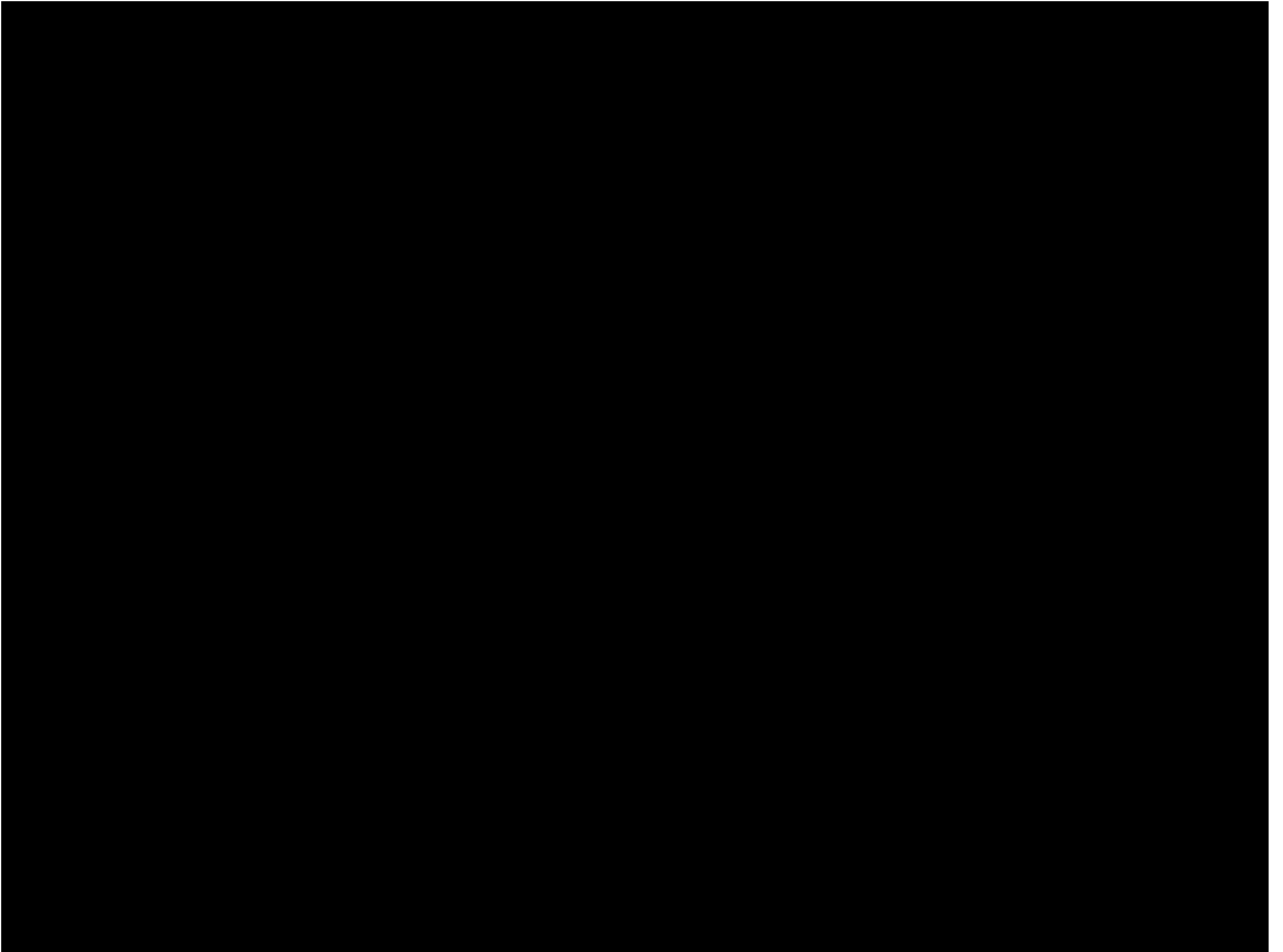


SO HOW CAN WE “MAKE DISCIPLES” OF A PLURALISTIC WORLD?

⁸ Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹ If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰ then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.”

¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

¹³ When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. (Acts 4:8 - 13 NIV)



SO HOW CAN WE “MAKE DISCIPLES” OF A PLURALISTIC WORLD?

“[In Postmodernism] the notion of a single, overarching view of the world — a dominant narrative (or to use the jargon, meta-narrative) — vanishes. There is no single narrative, no privileged standpoint, no system or theory that overlays all others . . . all narratives exist together, side by side, with none dominating. This confluence of narratives is the essence of postmodernism.”

Prospect

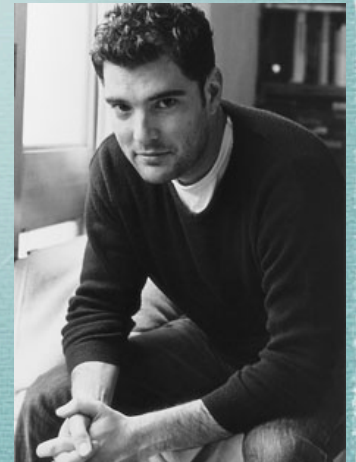
Edward Docx



SO HOW CAN WE “MAKE DISCIPLES” OF A PLURALISTIC WORLD?

“... by removing all criteria, we are left with nothing but the market.”

Prospect
Edward Docx

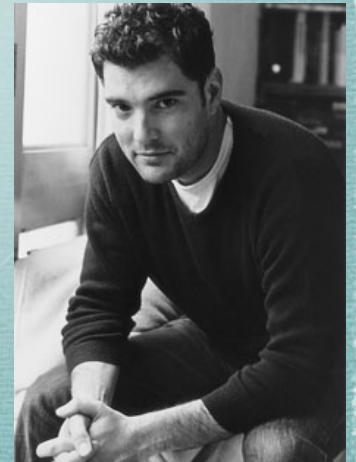


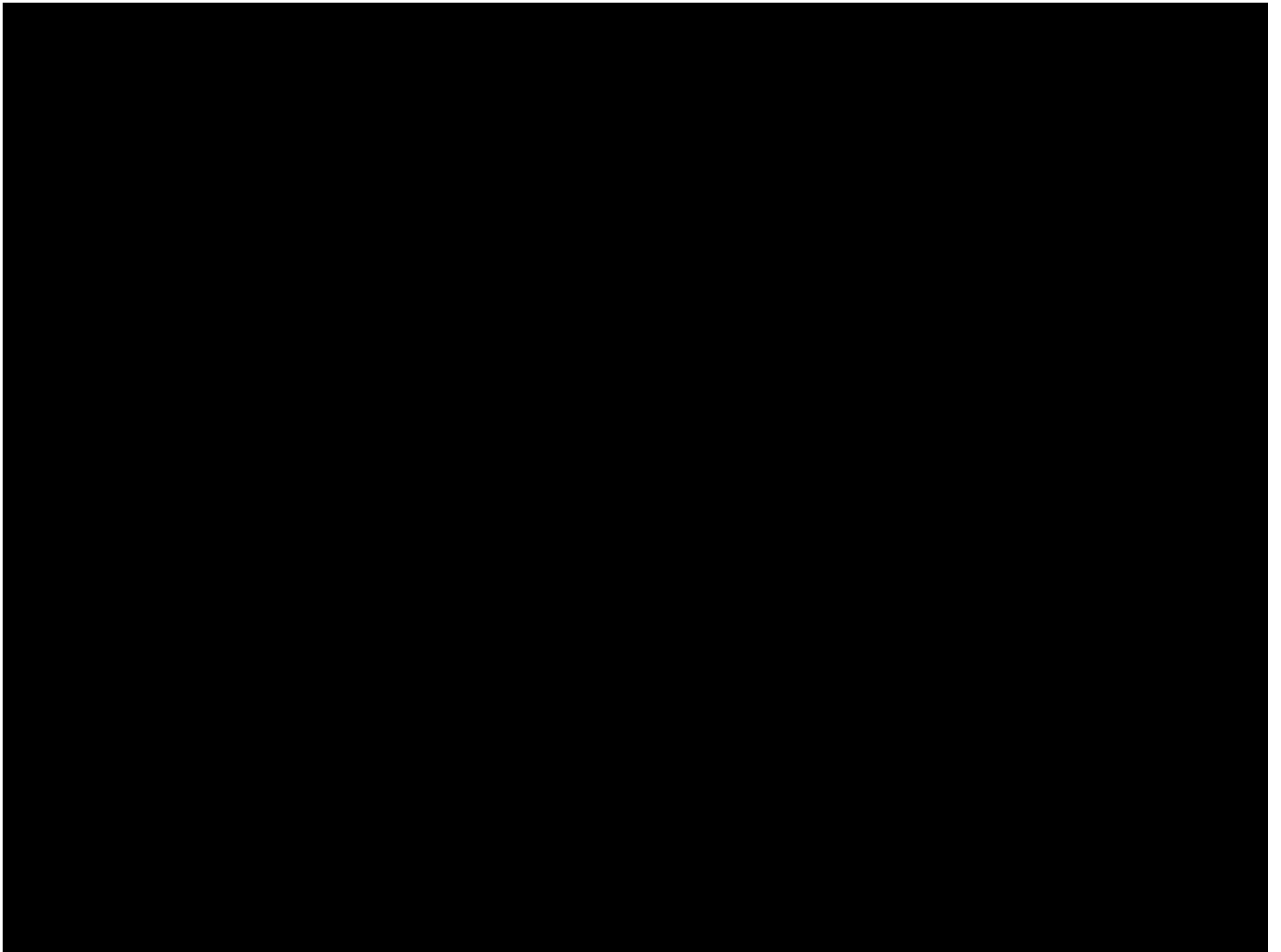
SO HOW CAN WE “MAKE DISCIPLES” OF A PLURALISTIC WORLD?

“If the problem for the postmodernists was that the modernists had been telling them what to do, then the problem for the present generation is the opposite: nobody has been telling us what to do.

If we tune in carefully, we can detect this growing desire for authenticity all around us.”

Prospect
Edward Docx





SO HOW CAN WE “MAKE DISCIPLES” OF A PLURALISTIC WORLD?

Jesus, the stone you builders *rejected*,
has become
the cornerstone.

(Acts 4:11 NIV)

rejection

service

giving up power

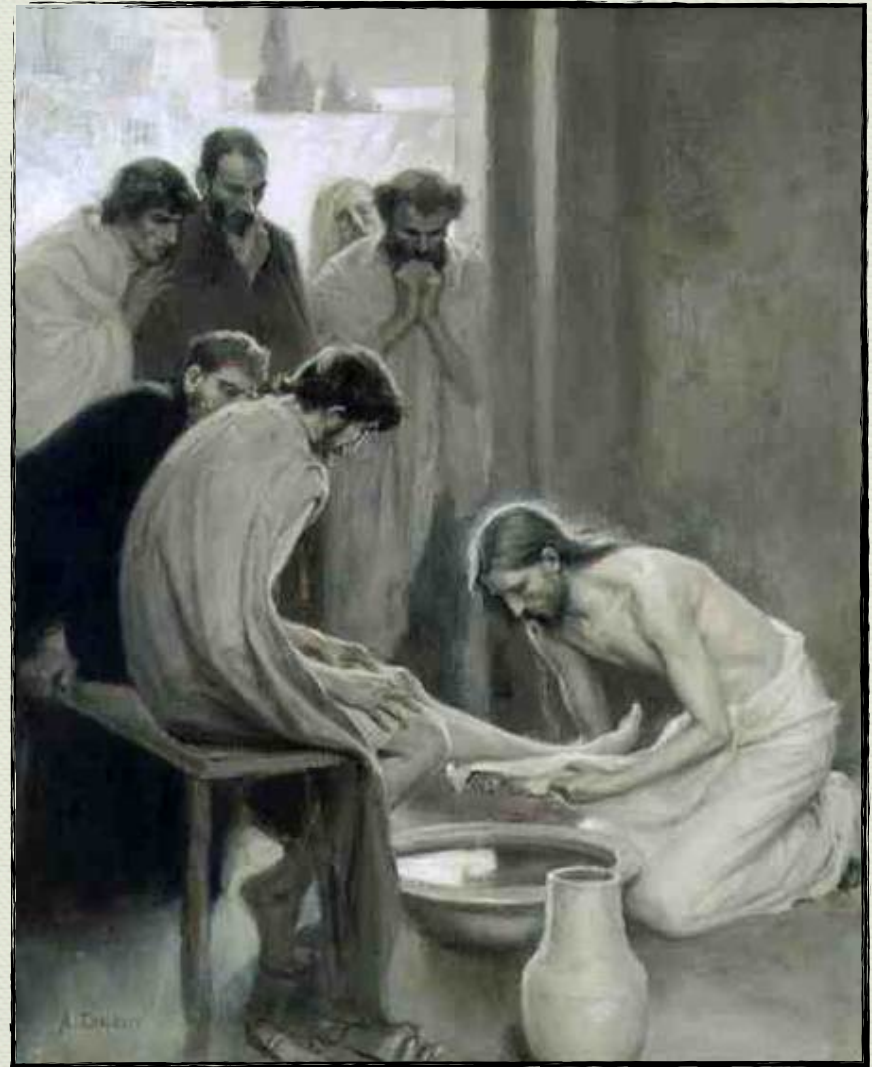
suffering



John 13

shows the full extent of
his love - v.1

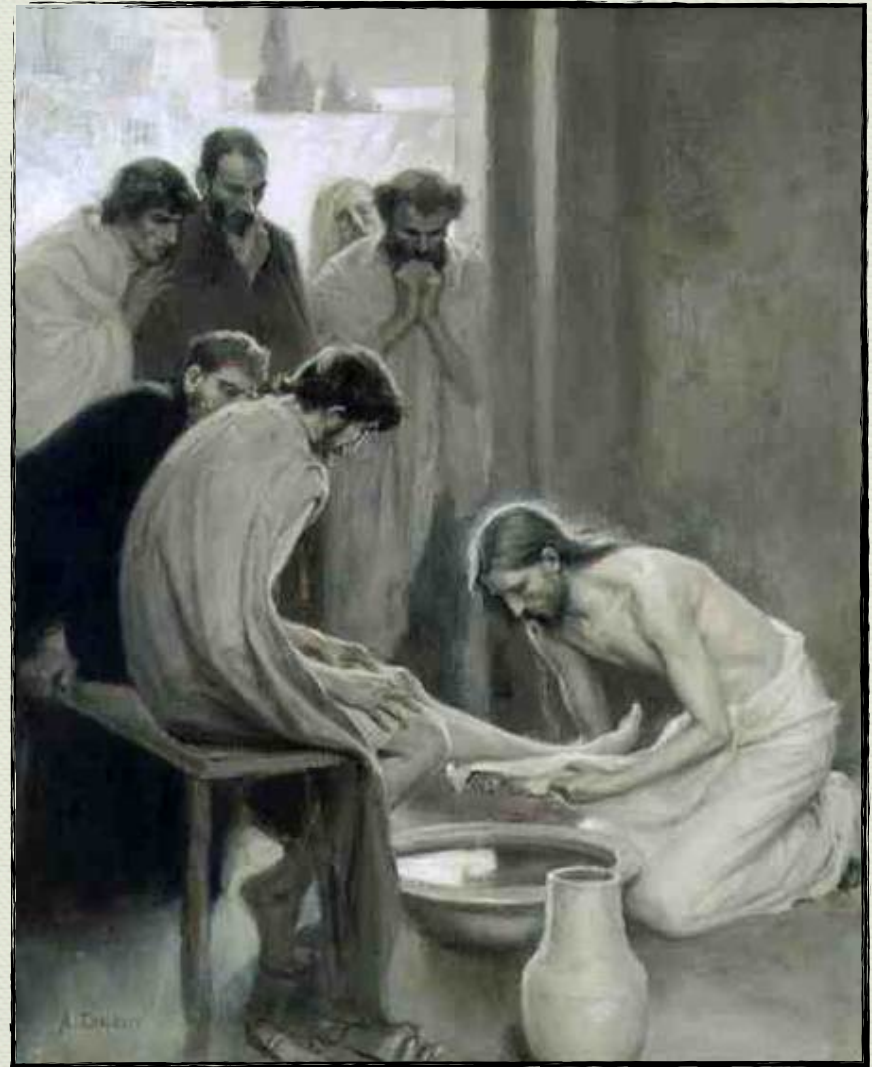
¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord
and Teacher, have washed
your feet, you also should
wash one another's feet. ¹⁵
I have set you an example
that you should do as I
have done for you. (NIV)



John 13

Your love for one another
will prove to the world
that you are my disciples.

(John 13:35 NLT)



Proverbs 3:3 & 4

³ Let love and faithfulness
never leave you; bind
them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of
your heart.

⁴ Then you will win favor
and a good name in the
sight of God and man.

(NIV)

