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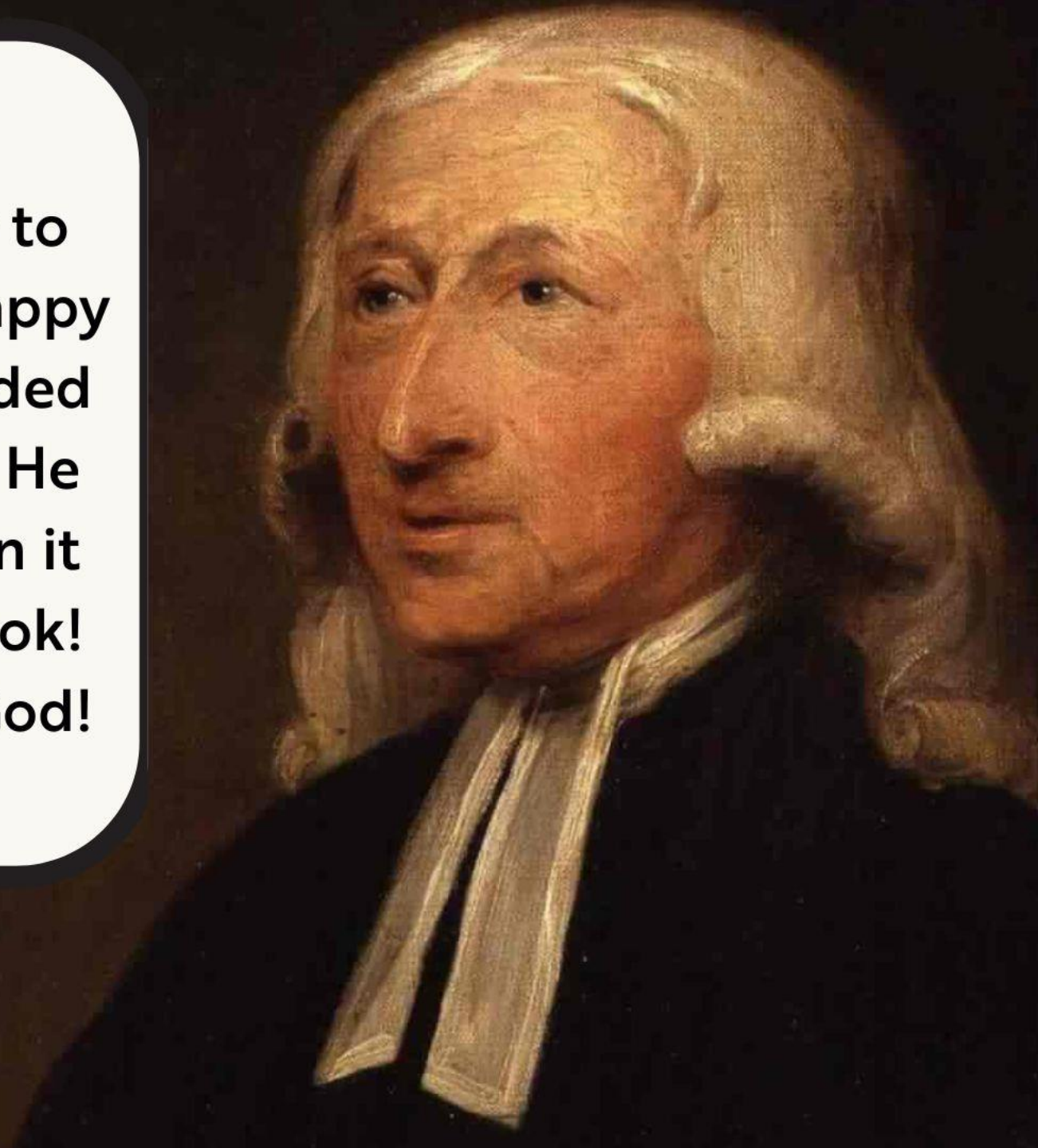
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BATTING AVERAGE

Mendoza Line

I want to know one thing the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price, give me the book of God!



Mark 1:14-20

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Mark 1:14-20

16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

Mark 1:14-20

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

The Time is Fulfilled

**“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;
repent and believe in the gospel.”**



CREATION



FALL



REDEMPTION



RESTORATION

Genesis 3:1-8

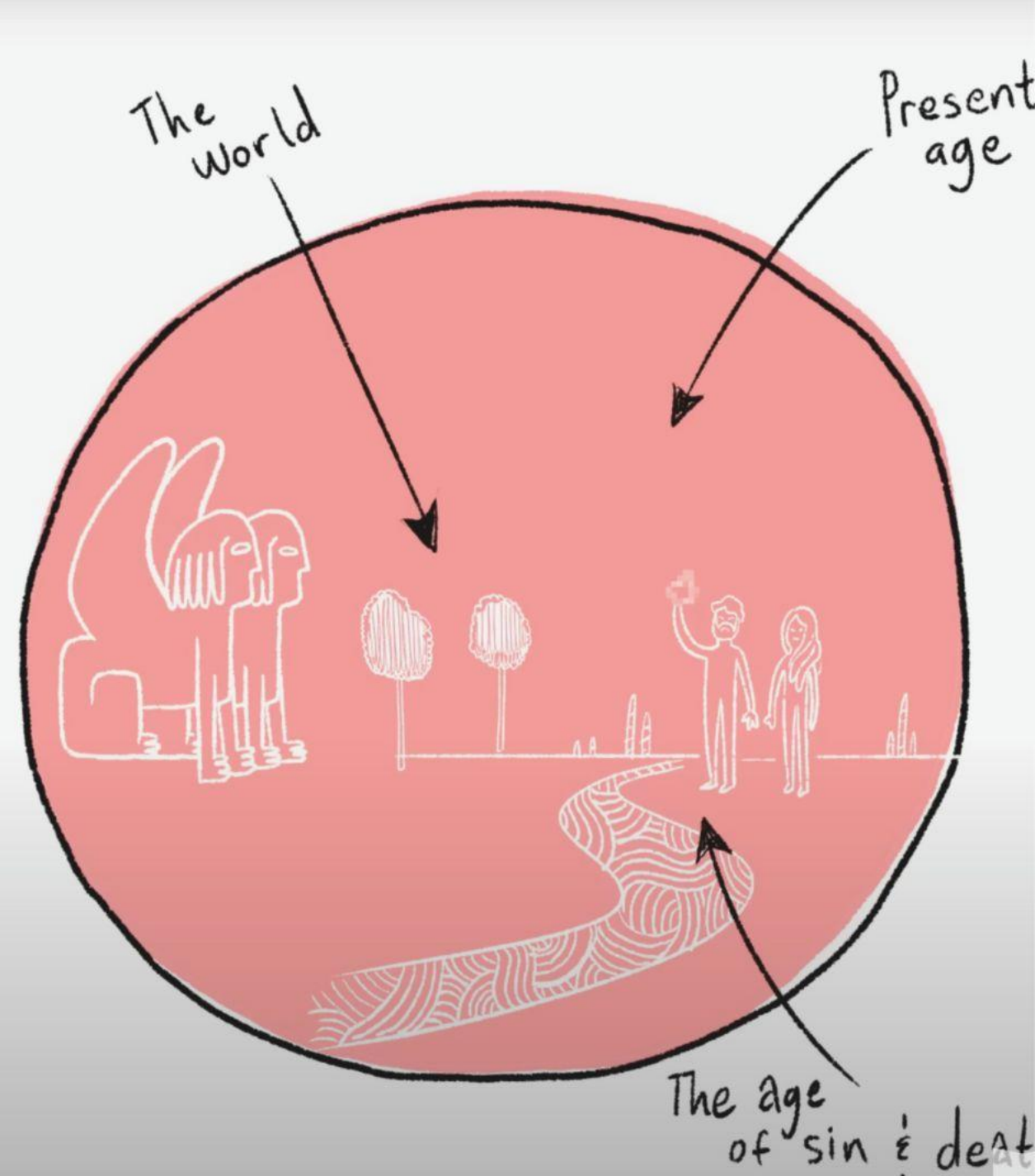
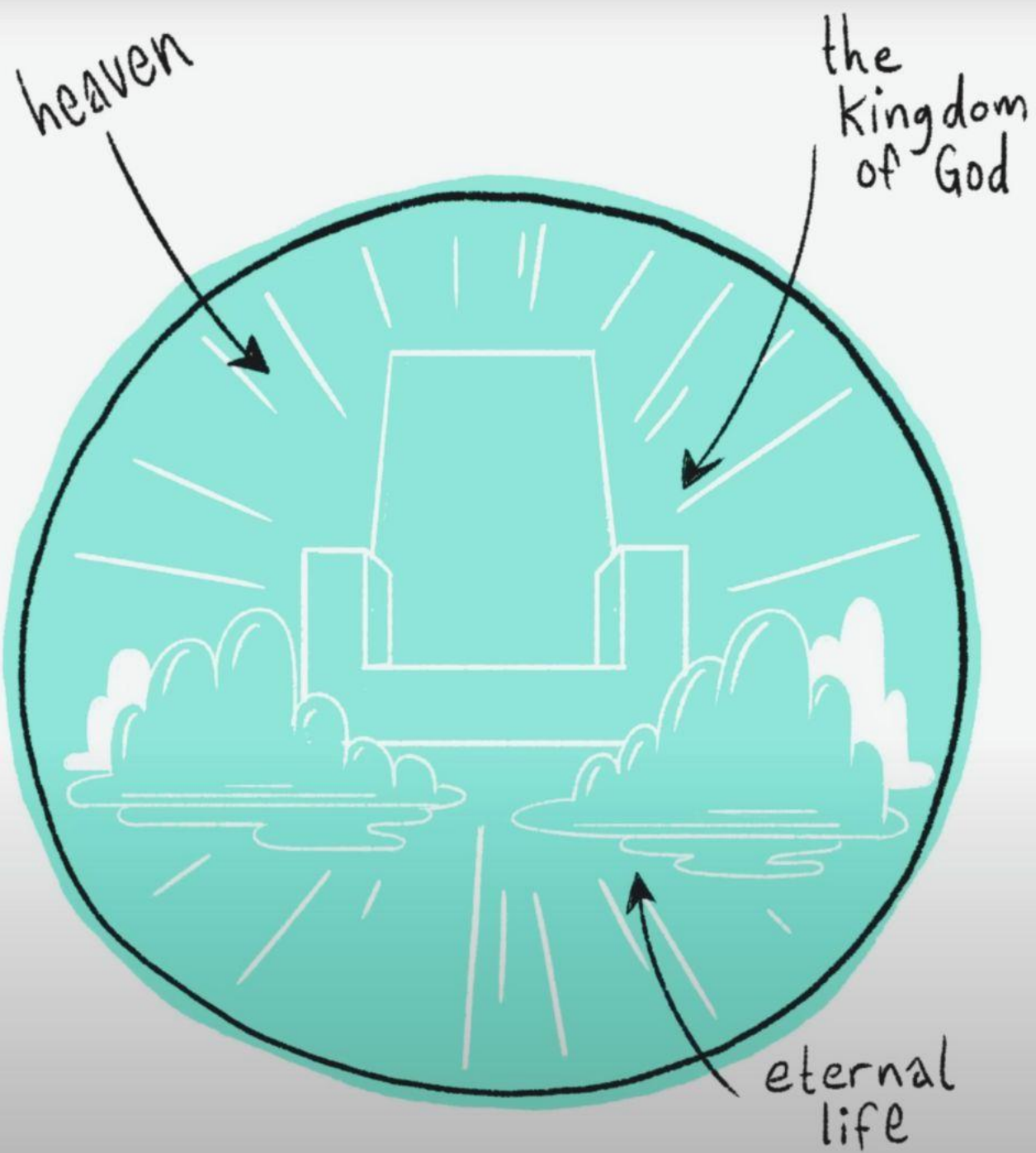
Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

Genesis 3:1-8

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

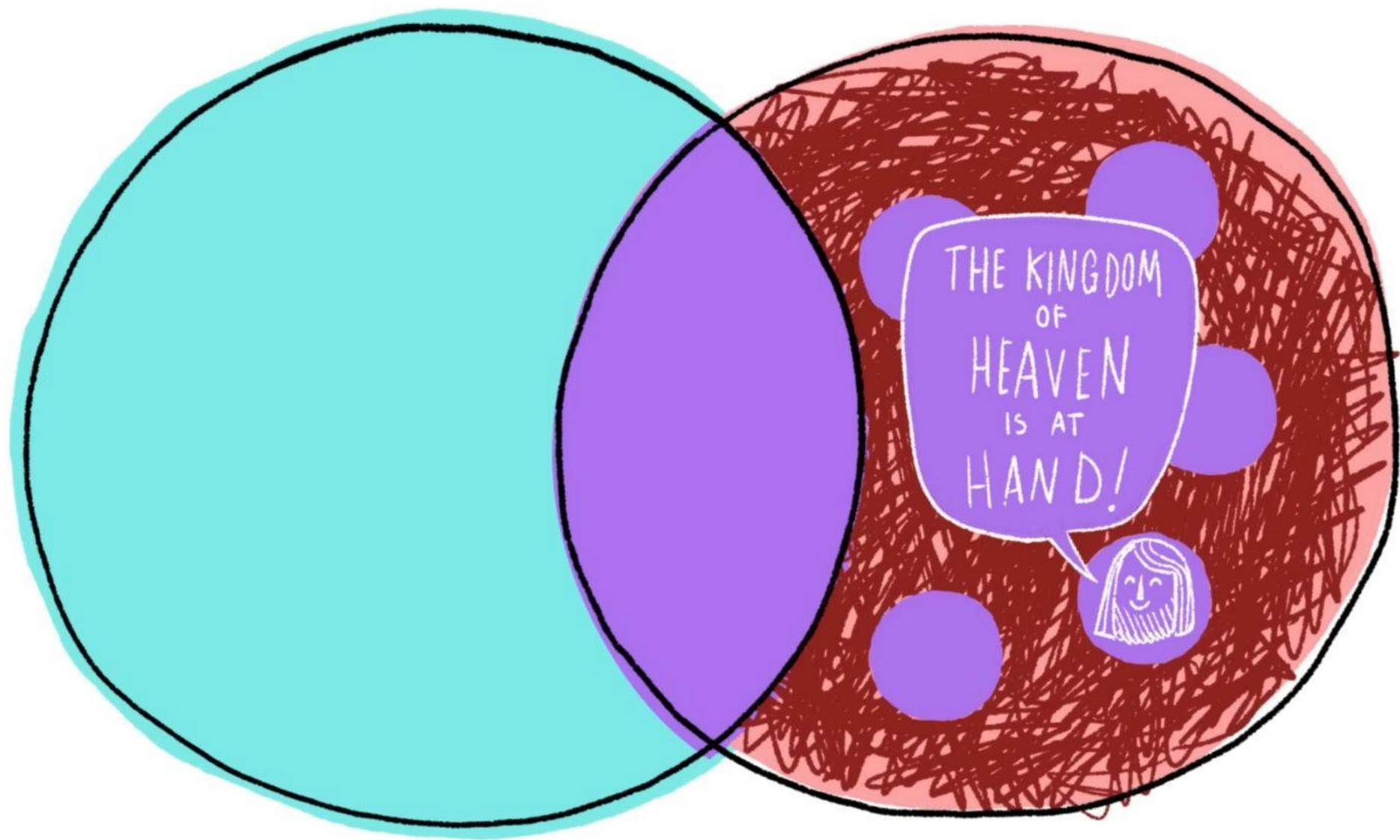


The Time is Fulfilled

**“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;
repent and believe in the gospel.”**

John 1:14-18

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.



Repent and Believe

**“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;
repent and believe in the gospel.”**

People tend to wince when they hear talk of repentance because that cry has so often been used to harangue others. Grim defenders of a godly lifestyle—one that happens to conform to their own—have tended to pronounce others guilty and to heap reproaches on them. This negative attack tends more often than not to repel people from the gospel rather than draw them to it...**In contrast, Jesus' call to repent is not a caustic reprimand but an invitation to switch allegiances.** He offers a summons, welcoming people to respond to God's initiative.

David E. Garland, Mark, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996), 63–64.

Repent and Believe

**“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;
repent and believe in the gospel.”**

Me trying to excel in my career,
maintain a social life, drink enough
water, exercise, text everyone back,
stay sane, survive and be happy

WALT DISNEY MAGIC





Performancism is the assumption, usually unspoken, that there is no distinction between what we do and who we are. Your résumé isn't part of your identity; it is your identity. What makes you lovable, indeed what makes your life worth living, is your performance at X, Y, or Z. Performancism holds that if you are not doing enough, or not doing enough well, then you are not enough. At least, you are less than those who are "killing it."

Excerpt From Mark, R. C. Sproul, Reformation Trust Publishing, Sanford, FL, 2011.



Performancism turns life into a competition to be won (#winning) or a problem to be solved, as opposed to, say, a series of moments to be experienced or an adventure to relish. Performancism invests daily tasks with existential significance and turns even menial activities into measures of enoughness. The language of performancism is the language of scorekeeping, and just like the weight scale or the calendar, it shows no mercy. When supercharged by technology, the result can even be deadly. Indeed, our devotion to the dogmas of performancism lies at the root of much of the skyrocketing anxiety, loneliness, and fatigue that saddle so many hearts and minds today.

David Zahl, “Replacement Religion and the Seculosity of Busyness” 2020.

<https://www.modernreformation.org/resources/essays/replacement-religion-and-the-seculosity-of-busyness>

“Performancisms”

- Careerism** - I am what I do
- Individualism** - I am what I express
- Beautyism** - I am how I look
- Therapyism** - I am what I feel
- Exercisism** - I am what I lift
- Politicism** - I am how I vote
- Dietism** - I am what I eat

Your ratings and the meaning for those corresponding values are as follows:

1 - Strongly agree

2 - Agree

3 - Sometimes agree

4 - Disagree

5 - Strongly disagree

NA - Not Applicable (when you don't have first hand knowledge about the person regarding the question)

Mark the number that corresponds to the description of the employee reviewed from your perspective, for every item.

1	Follows company's rules and regulations and procedures	1	2	3	4	5	NA
2	Aligned to and works in line with the vision, mission and core values of the company	1	2	3	4	5	NA
3	Makes a good impression of the company on the customers, clients and vendors	1	2	3	4	5	NA
4	Shows respect to others and communicates professionally with colleagues	1	2	3	4	5	NA
5	Is customer-centric in communication with others	1	2	3	4	5	NA
6	Communicates precisely and gets what is needed	1	2	3	4	5	NA
7	Has good work ethics	1	2	3	4	5	NA



“Why did Jesus call the people to repent? The moment when the King came was a moment of profound crisis. The English word crisis is a transliteration of the Greek *krisis*, which means “judgment.” When the kingdom broke through and the Messiah appeared, it brought the most profound crisis humanity had ever faced. That crisis was this: those who received Him would receive eternal life; those who did not would pass into God’s judgment. Jesus was saying to the Jews, “Your crisis is right now.” He says the same to everyone in the world today who hears His name. No one can hear the gospel and walk away indifferent. ”

Excerpt From Mark, R. C. Sproul, Reformation Trust Publishing, Sanford, FL, 2011.



Mark 1:14-20

16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, **“Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”** 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.



[These] four fishermen did exactly what Jesus expected people to do when they heard the gospel: repent and believe. When they left their boats and careers, they repented in a profound way, for repentance is not essentially a matter of ceasing to commit a particular sin. The fundamental meaning of repentance is to turn away from what we are doing and embrace what God is doing wholeheartedly. That is exactly what Simon, Andrew, James and John did. When they acknowledged Jesus' authority, they acted with faith. They put their futures and the livelihood of their families in his hands.

-Ronald J. Kernaghan, Mark, The IVP New Testament Commentary Series (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007), 45.



HONDA

McLAUGHLIN-LEVRONE

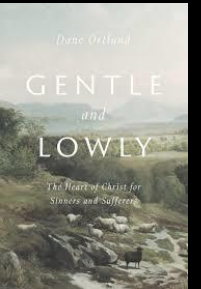
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Running was instilled in me at such a young age. It was the most natural thing about me. But why did it take me so long to realize that I had been running the wrong way? I had gotten so used to keeping pace, but never knew that pace was a full on sprint. Constantly running. From truth, from healing, from forgiveness, and from love. Your love. The greatest love of all.

Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, Instagram Post 11-14-2020

“

Here is the promise of the gospel and the message of the whole Bible: *In Jesus Christ, we are given a friend who will always enjoy rather than refuse our presence.* This is a companion whose embrace of us does not strengthen or weaken depending on how clean or unclean, how attractive or revolting, how faithful or fickle, we presently are. The friendliness of his heart for us subjectively is as fixed and stable as is the declaration of his justification of us objectively.



Dane Ortlund, *Gentle And Lowly*, Crossway, 2020



WE EXIST TO HELP PEOPLE IN THE NORTH SUBURBS

START & STRENGTHEN

A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

Philippians 3:7–9

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith

“

You see, the verdict is in. And now I perform on the basis of the verdict. Because He loves me and He accepts me, I do not have to do things just to build up my résumé. I do not have to do things to make me look good. I can do things for the joy of doing them. I can help people to help people – not so I can feel better about myself, not so I can fill up the emptiness.

Timothy Keller, *The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness*



Handed Over

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."



Gospel Response

Start:

Stop performing for your own glory. Stop running from God. Trust in Jesus today and experience relief from performancism. Repent and believe the good news!

Strengthen:

Believe the good news that you don't have to perform to earn God's love, but you can live the adventure knowing you are secure in Christ.