



# The Mind—God's Design And What Went Wrong

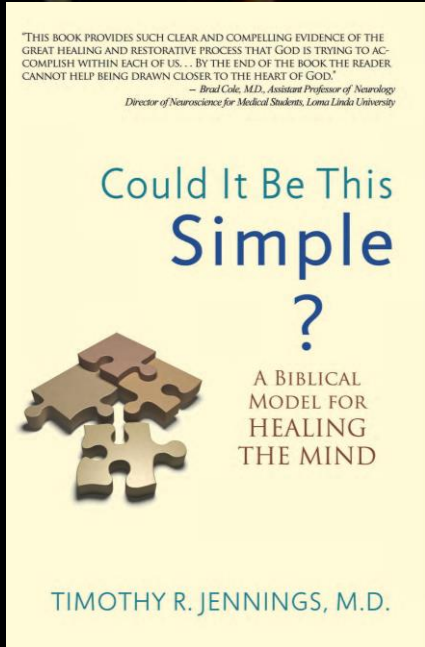
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Past-President Southern Psychiatric Association

*Author: Could It Be This Simple? A Biblical Model for Healing the Mind*  
*The God Shaped Brain: How Changing Your View of God Transforms Your Life*  
*The Journal of the Watcher*  
*The Remedy New Testament Expanded Paraphrase*  
*The God-Shaped Heart: How Correctly Understanding God's Love Transforms Us*  
*The Aging Brain: Proven Steps to Prevent Dementia and Sharpen Your Mind*

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# Resource



- English
- Spanish
- German
- Portuguese
- Croatian
- Serbian
- Bulgarian
- Polish
- Afrikaans



**Mind**

Spiritual Nature



**Mind**

Spiritual Nature

Reason

Killer









**God said,**

Come let us *Reason* together,  
Though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson,  
they shall be like wool.

Isaiah 1:18



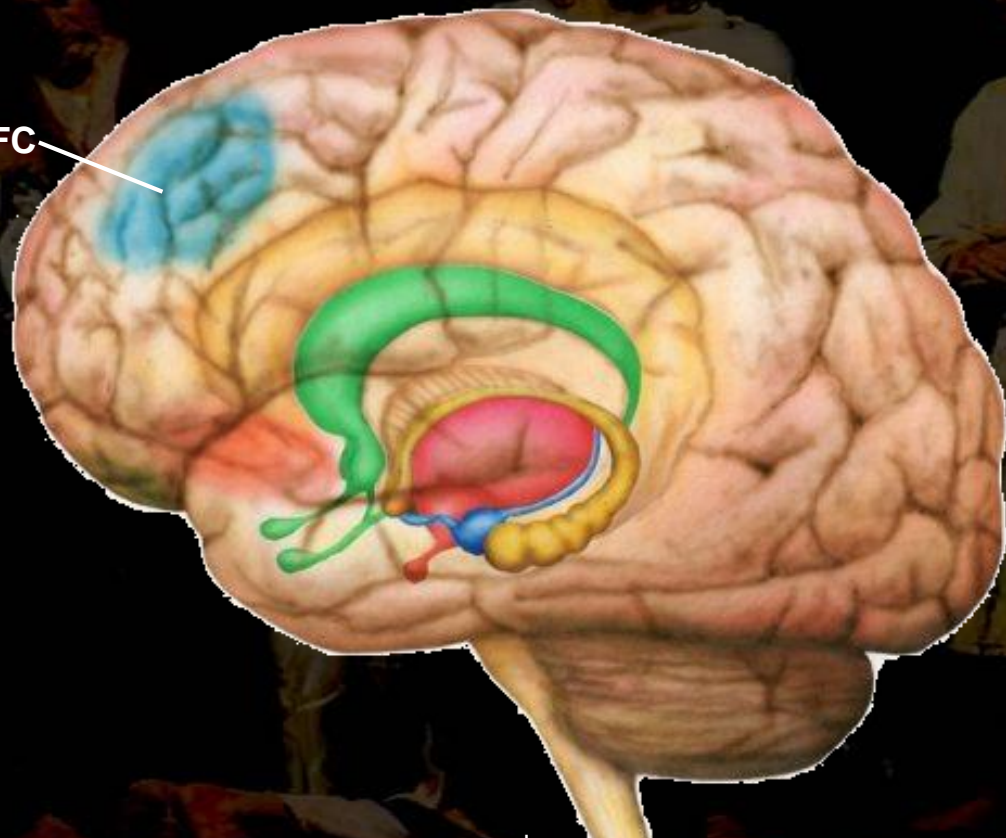


**Paul said,**

**Each one should be fully convinced in his  
own mind.**

Romans 14:5

DLPFC





**Mind**

Spiritual Nature

Reason



**Mind**

Spiritual Nature

Reason

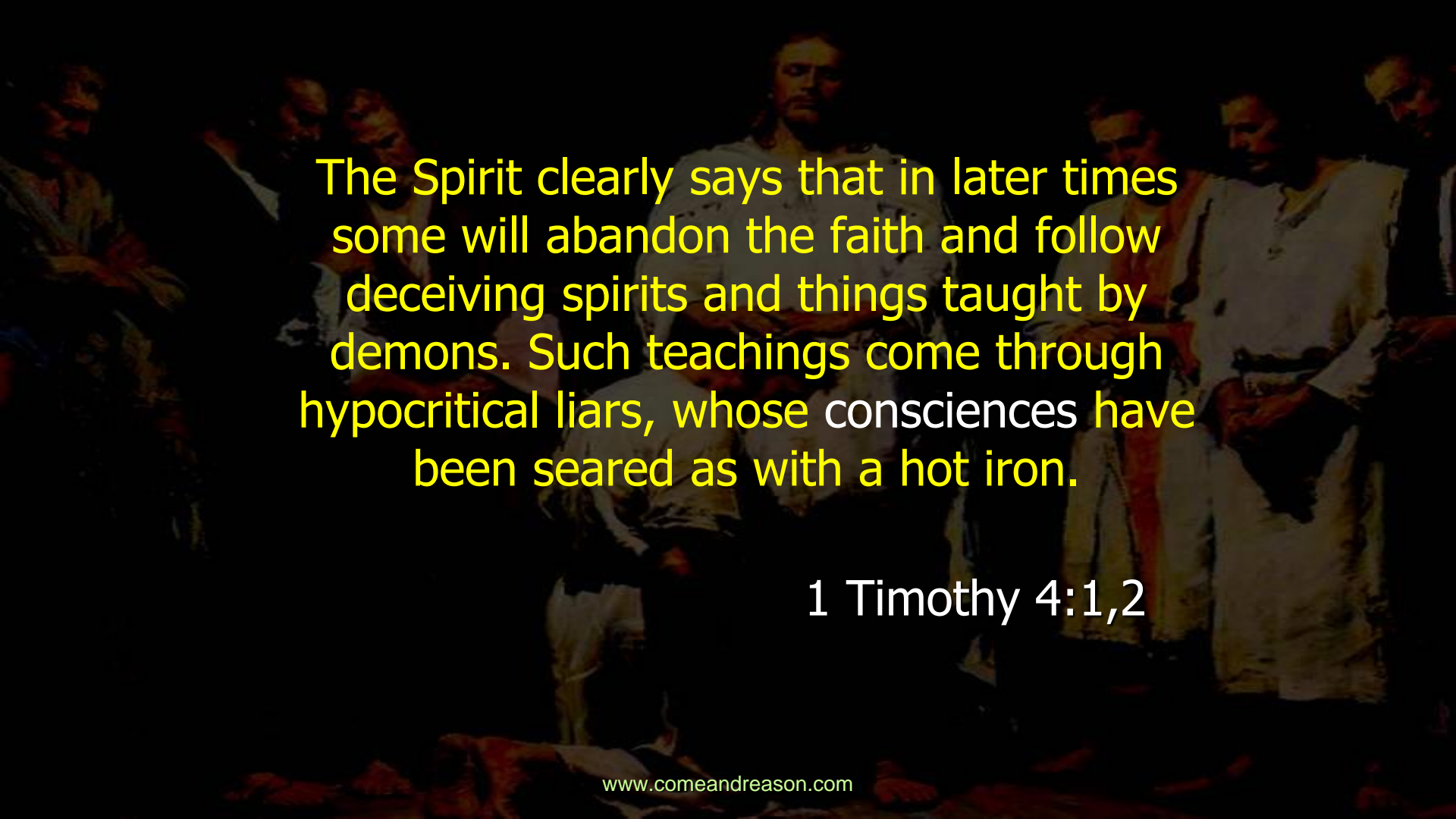
Conscience



**Jesus said,**

The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

**Matthew 6:22,23**



The Spirit clearly says that in later times  
some will abandon the faith and follow  
deceiving spirits and things taught by  
demons. Such teachings come through  
hypocritical liars, whose consciences have  
been seared as with a hot iron.

1 Timothy 4:1,2

# Examples

- Elijah and the still small voice
- How many have had the experience of talking with God and “hearing” His voice, but not through your ears?
- Holy Spirit conviction –



What Happens If

Reason but no Conscience?





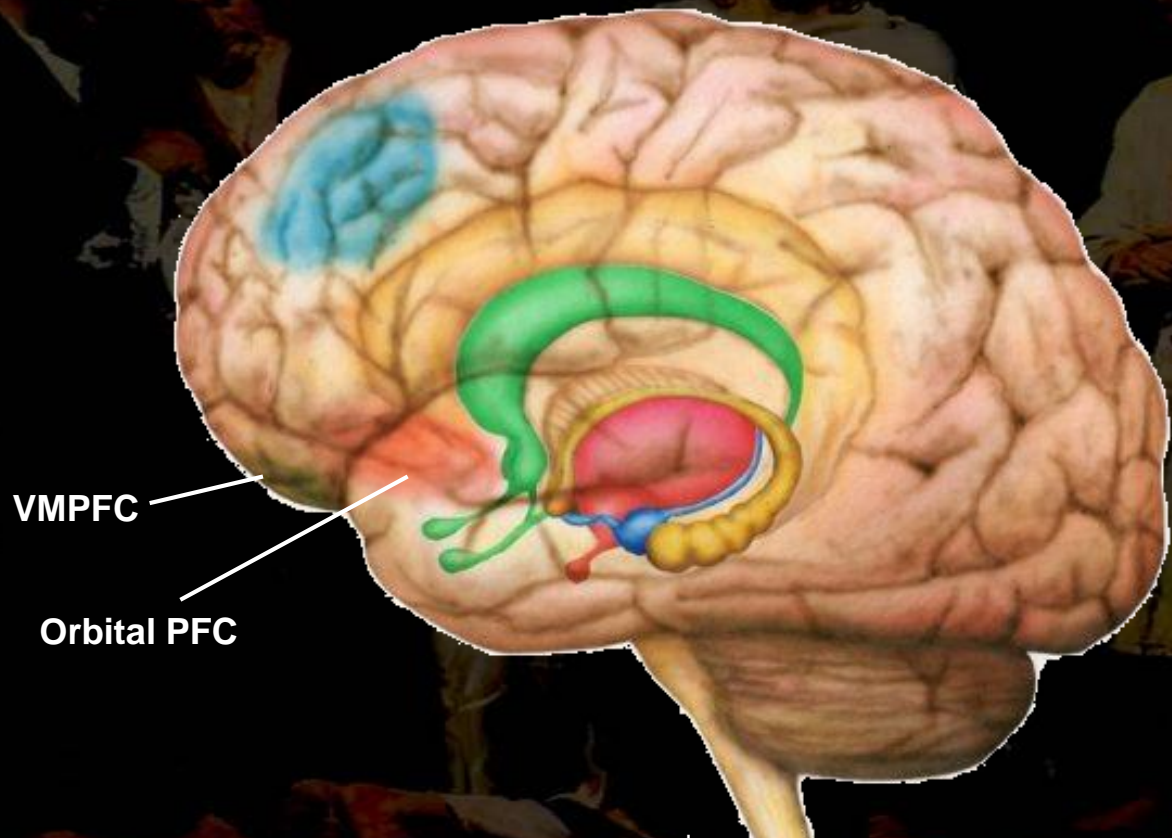
What Happens If

Conscience but no Reason?



# Case Vignette

## The Tragedy of Carlos



VMPFC

Orbital PFC

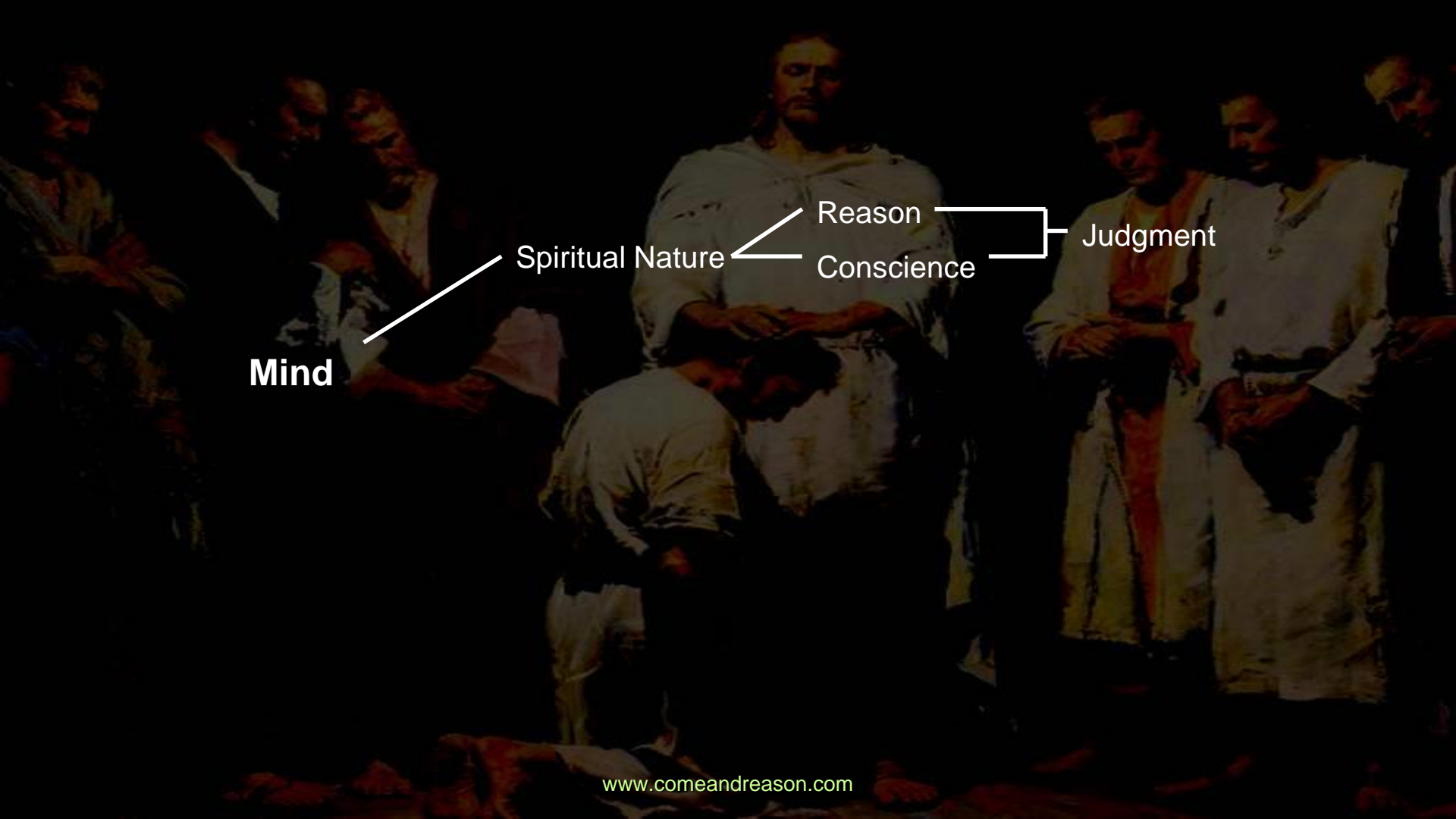


**Mind**

Spiritual Nature

Reason

Conscience



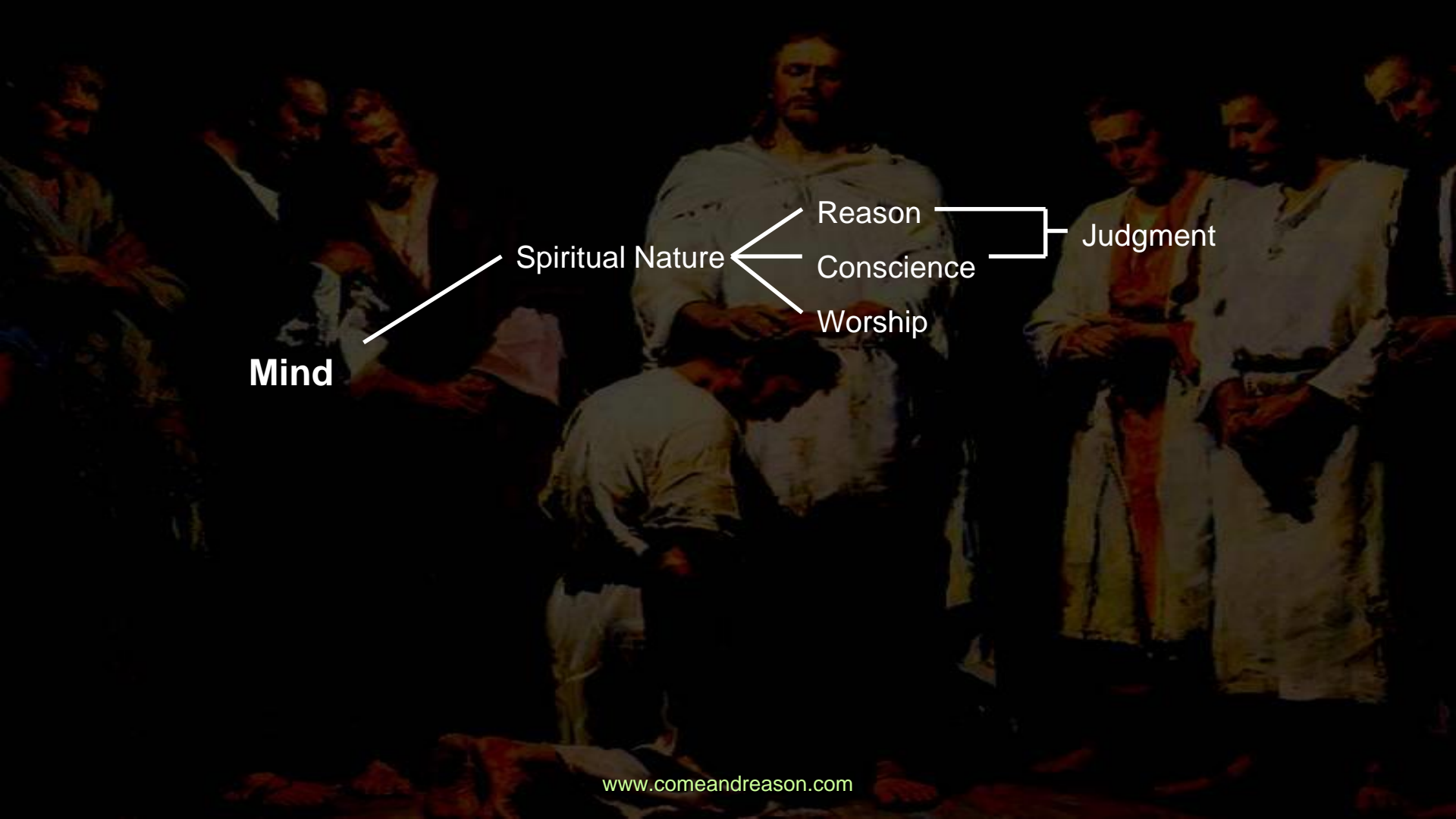
**Mind**

Spiritual Nature

Reason

Conscience

Judgment



**Mind**

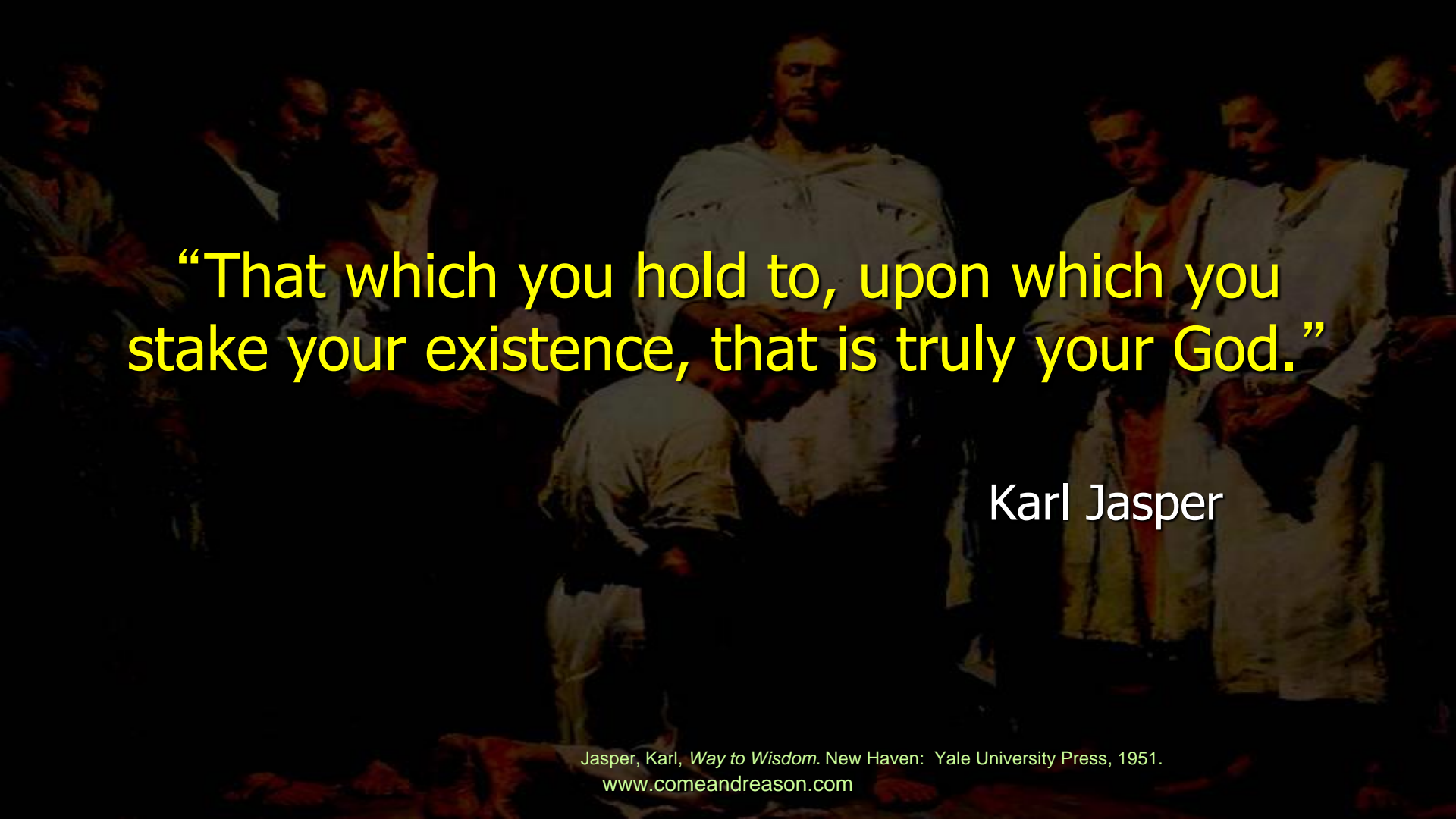
Spiritual Nature

Reason

Conscience

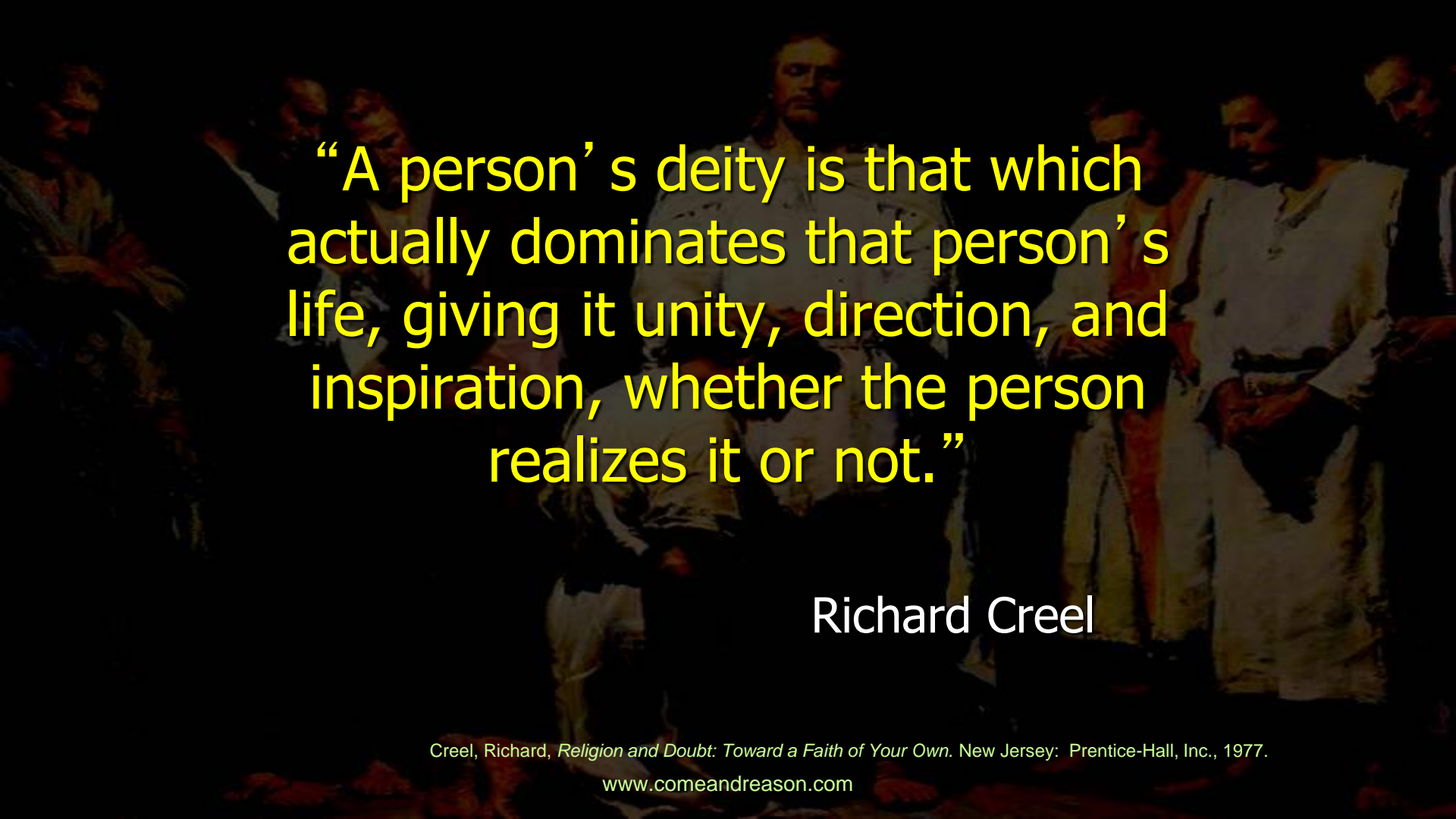
Worship

Judgment



“That which you hold to, upon which you stake your existence, that is truly your God.”

Karl Jasper



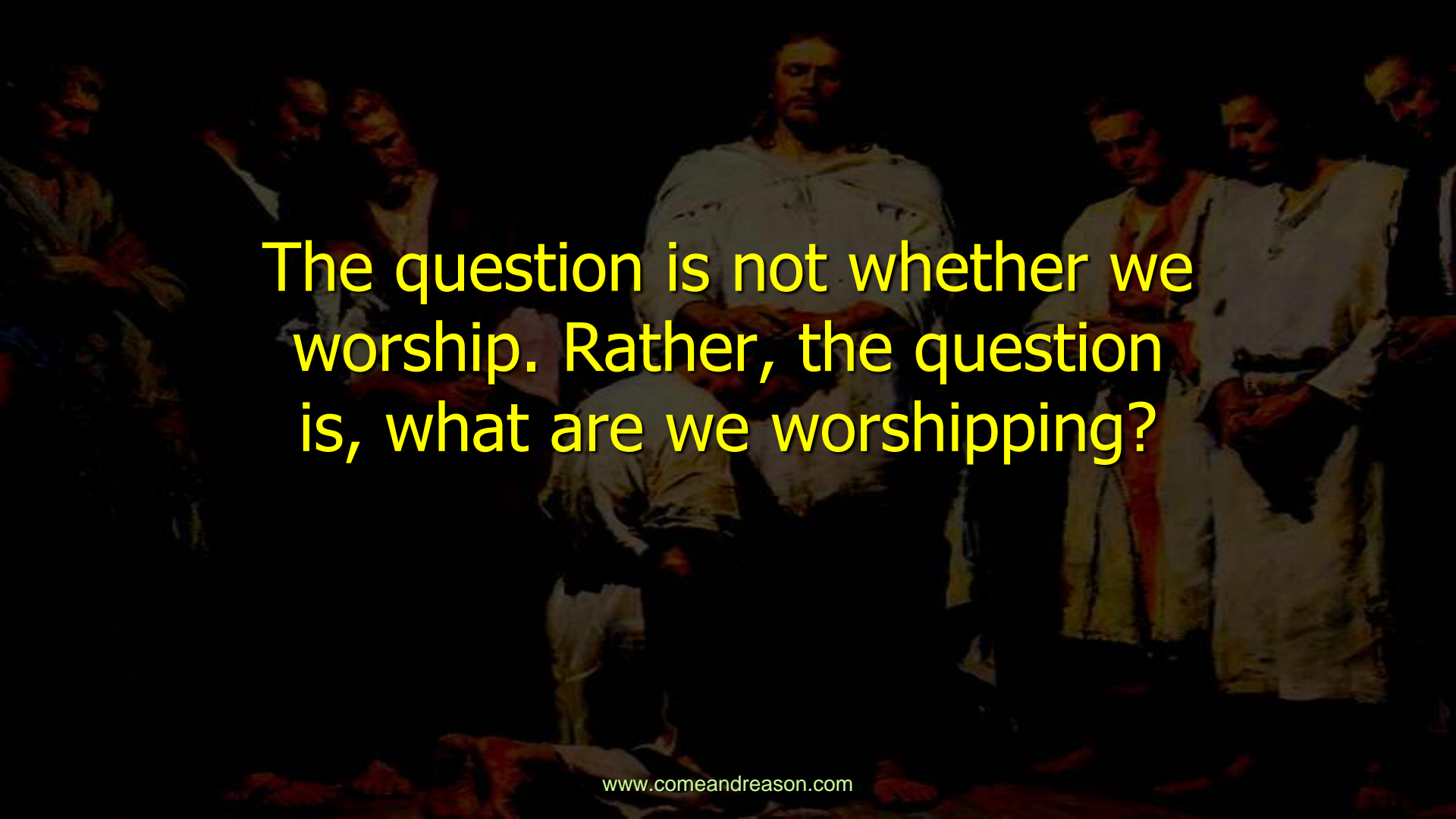
“A person’s deity is that which actually dominates that person’s life, giving it unity, direction, and inspiration, whether the person realizes it or not.”

Richard Creel

Creel, Richard, *Religion and Doubt: Toward a Faith of Your Own*. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1977.

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The question is not whether we  
worship. Rather, the question  
is, what are we worshipping?



# Why Does God Say

Thou shall have no other gods before  
me?

Exodus 20:3



# The Law of Worship

Also Known as Modeling

By Beholding We Become Changed



# FROG IDOL

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# It is Through Healthy Worship That

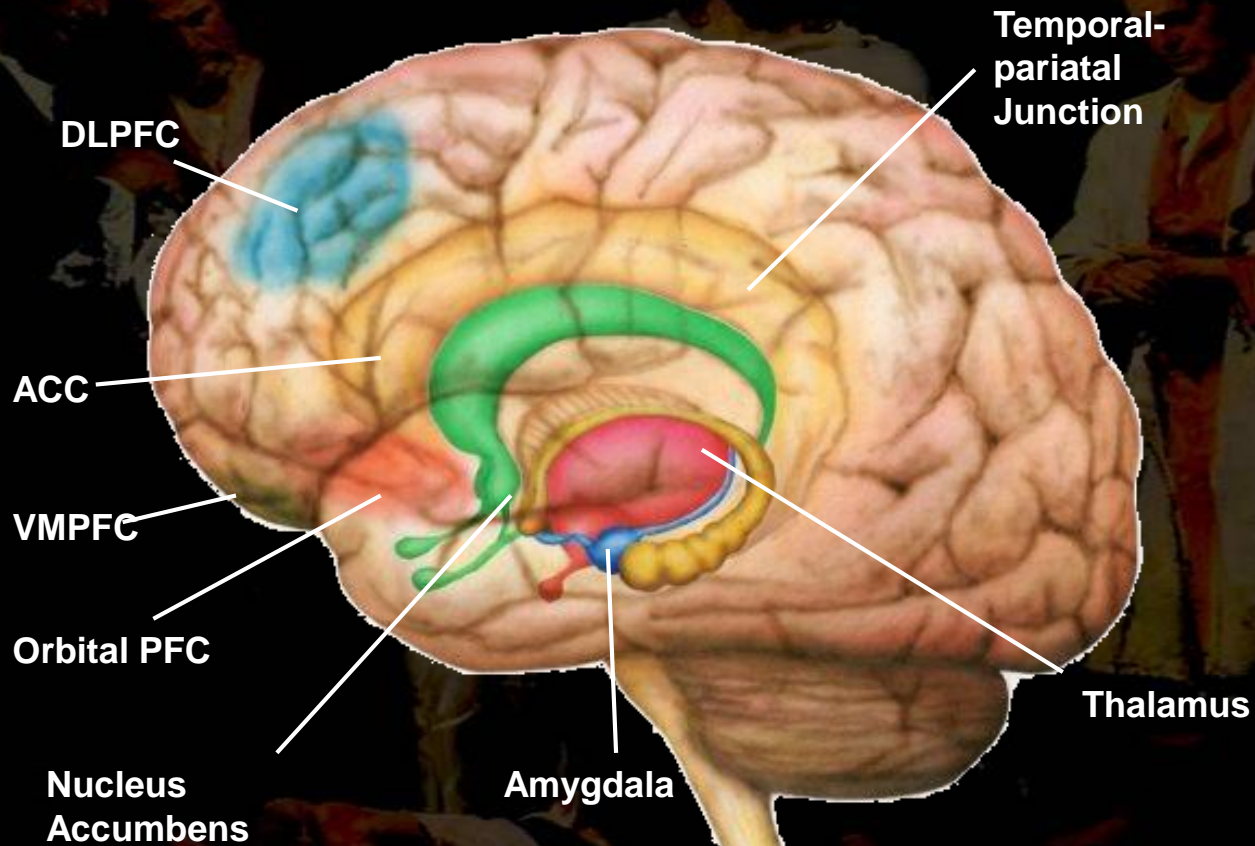
- Reason is ennobled
- Conscience is cleansed

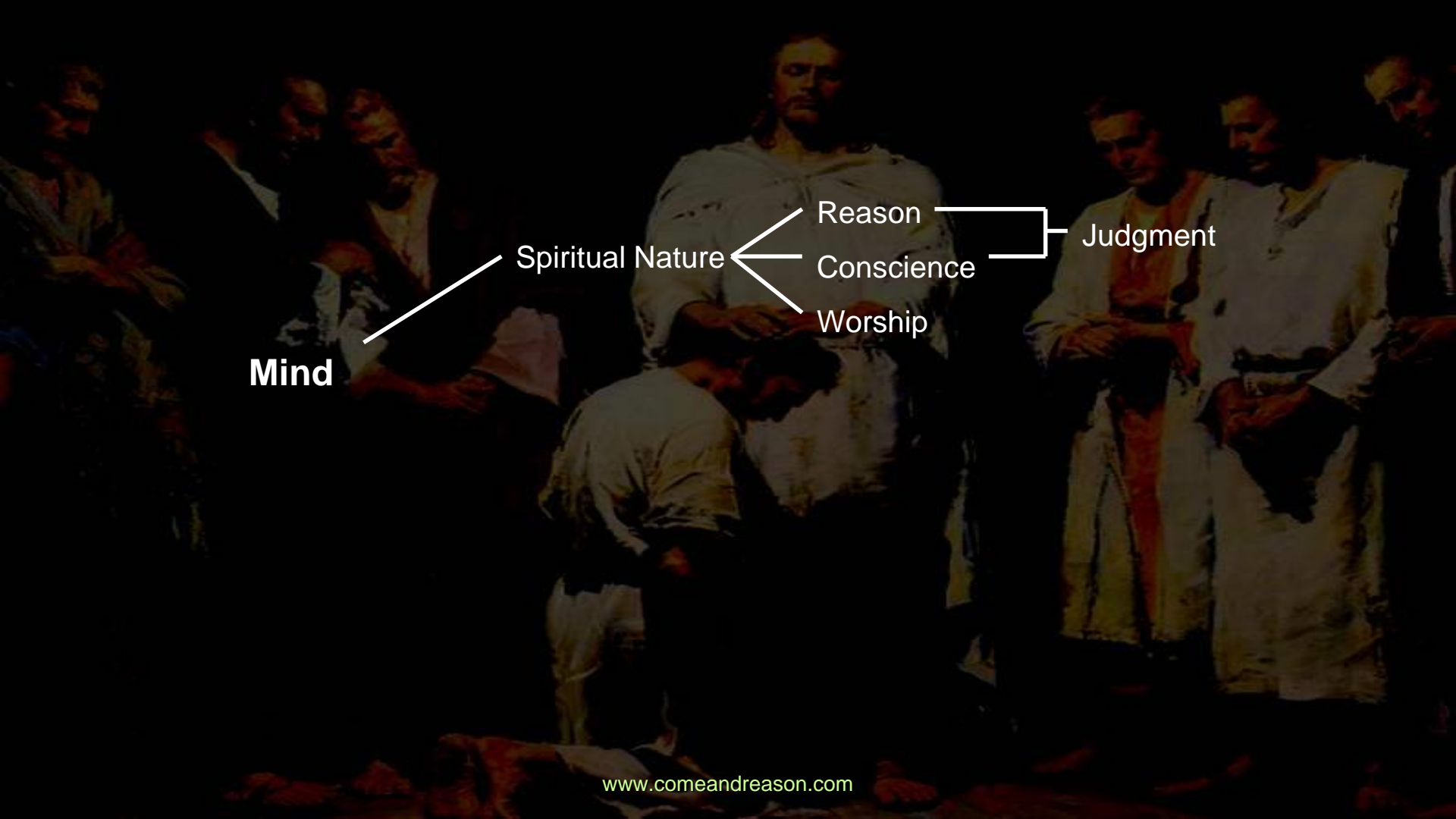


# Unhealthy Worship

A group of men in white robes, some kneeling and some standing, in a dark setting, possibly a church or a historical scene. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the figures against a dark background.

- Damages the Reason
- Sears the conscience
- Warps the character
- Not all worship is equally healthy





**Mind**

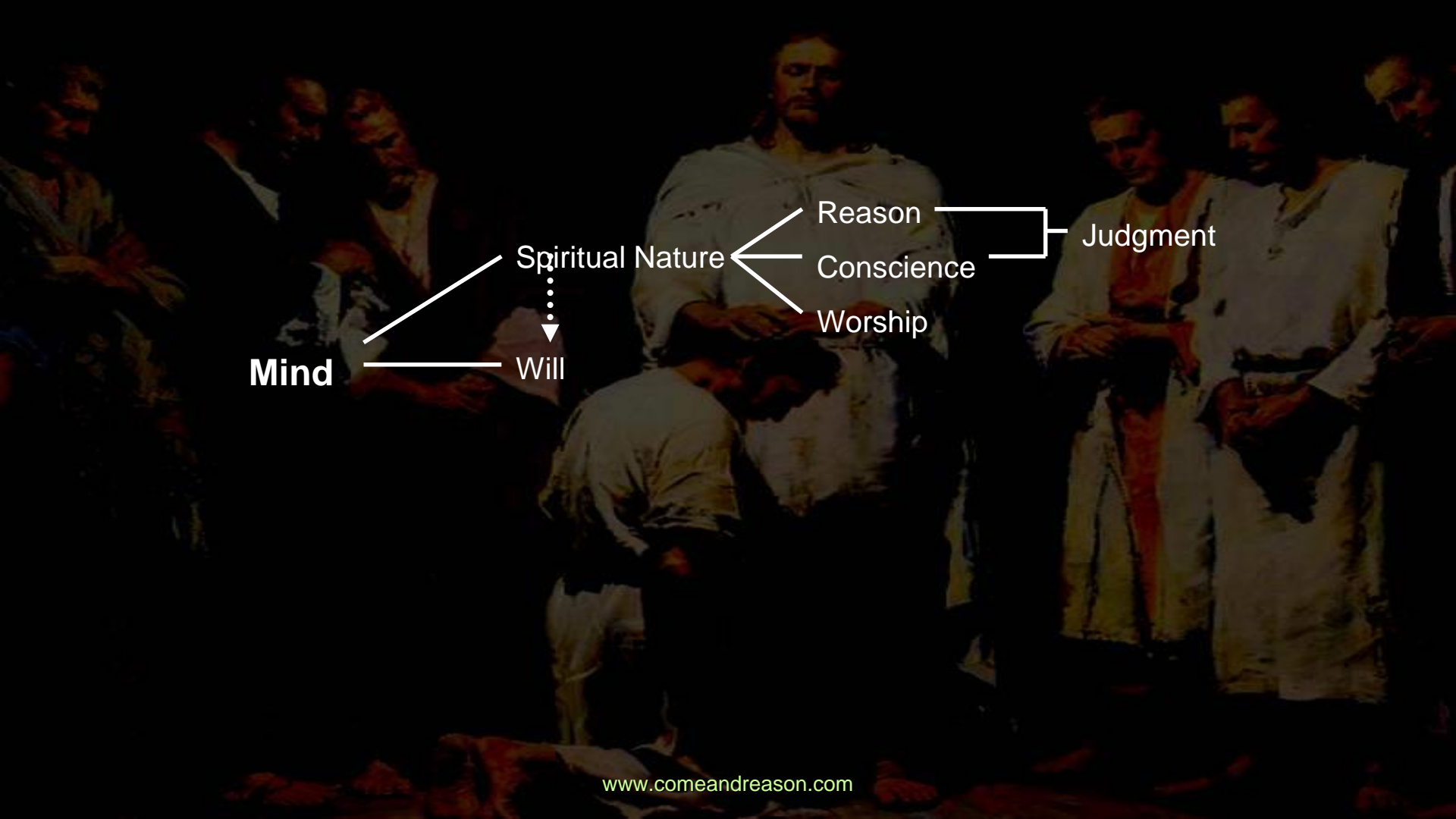
Spiritual Nature

Reason

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Worship

Judgment





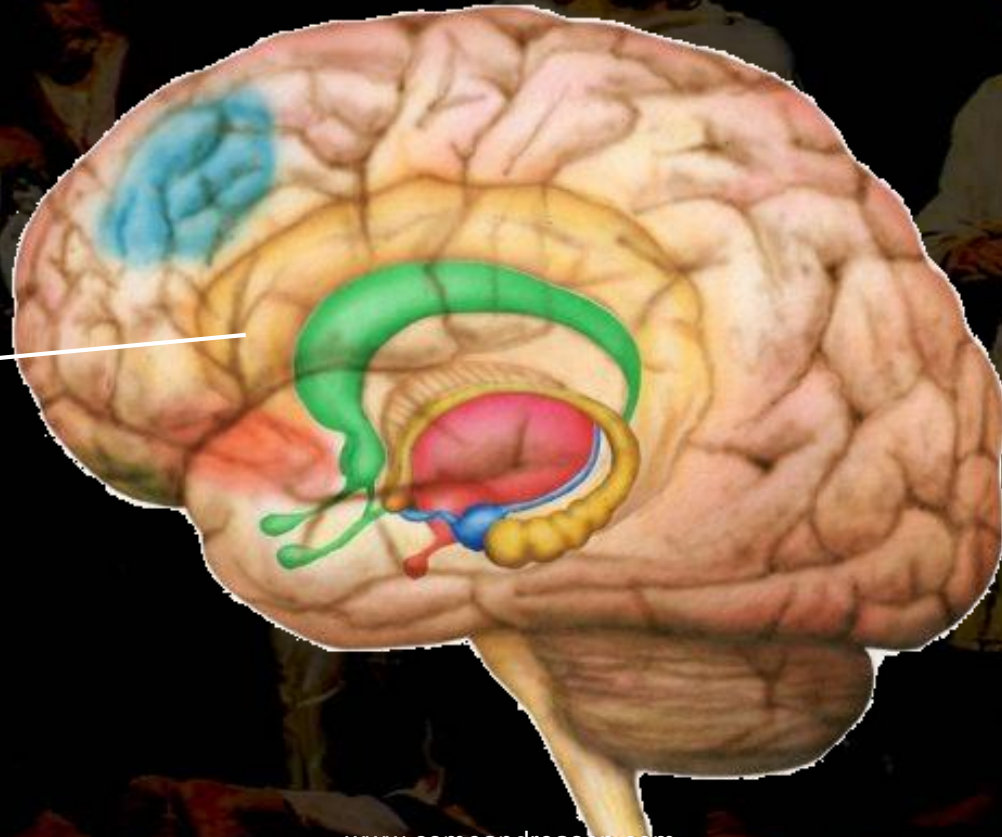
# Will

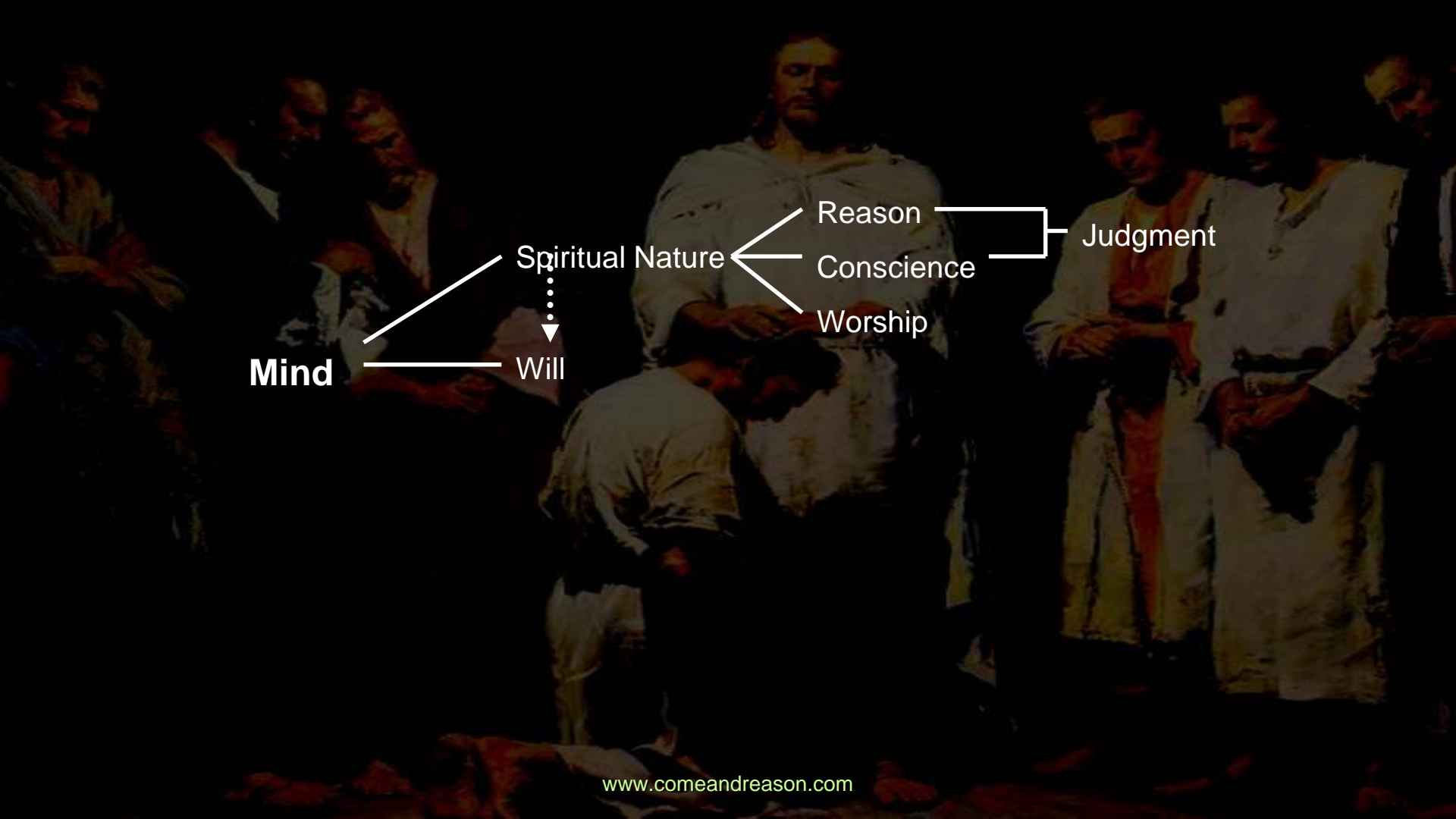
- The executor of the mind
- The CEO of the mind
- The faculty that chooses



# Consider a Smoker

ACC











# Imagination

- The ability to fantasize
- Creative thinking
- Guided imagery
- Day dream





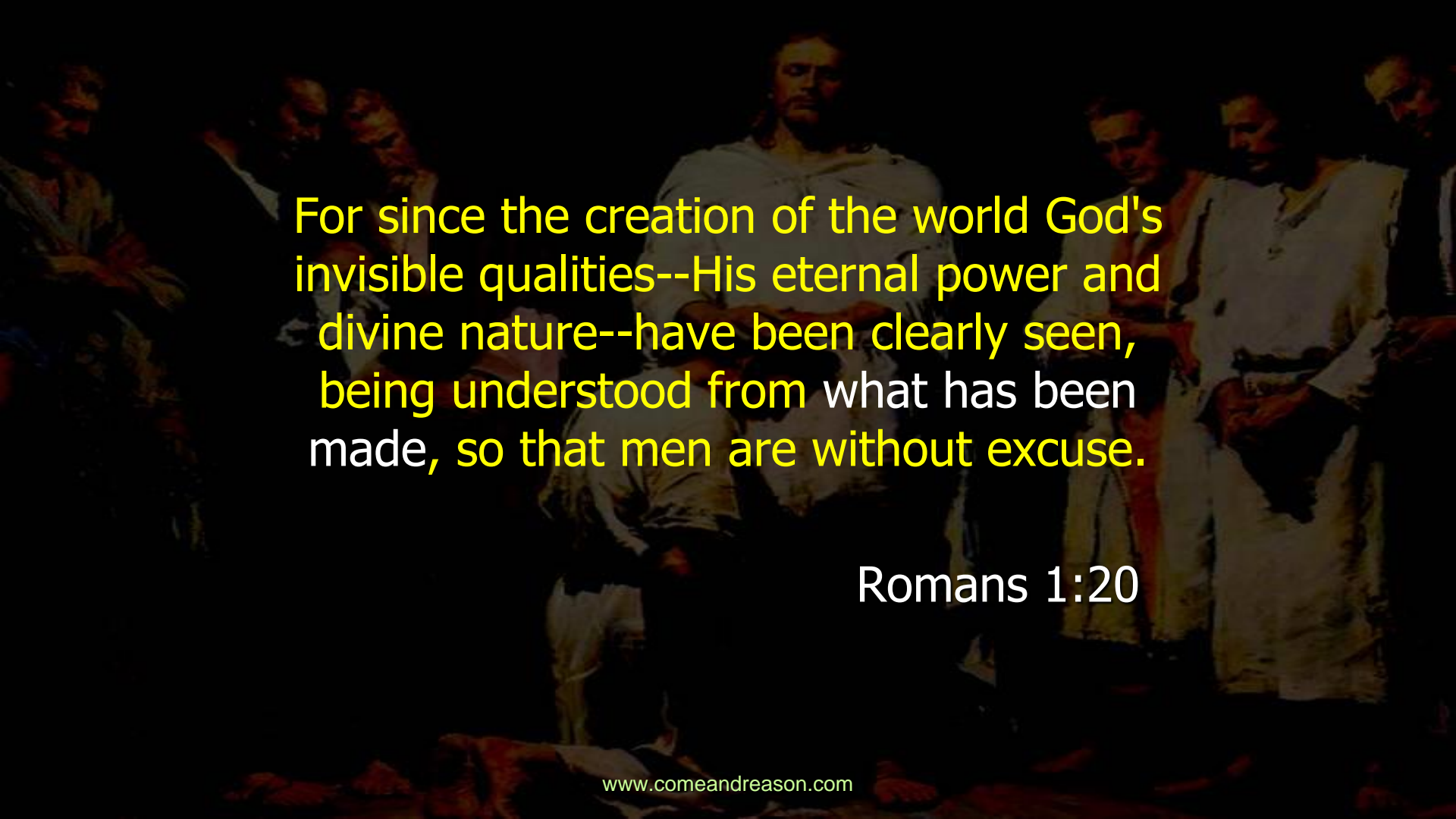


# Drive for Relationships

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2:18





For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Romans 1:20




# Affections

- Also known as:
  - Feelings of Attachment
  - Heart strings







Above all else, guard your heart,  
for it is the wellspring of life.

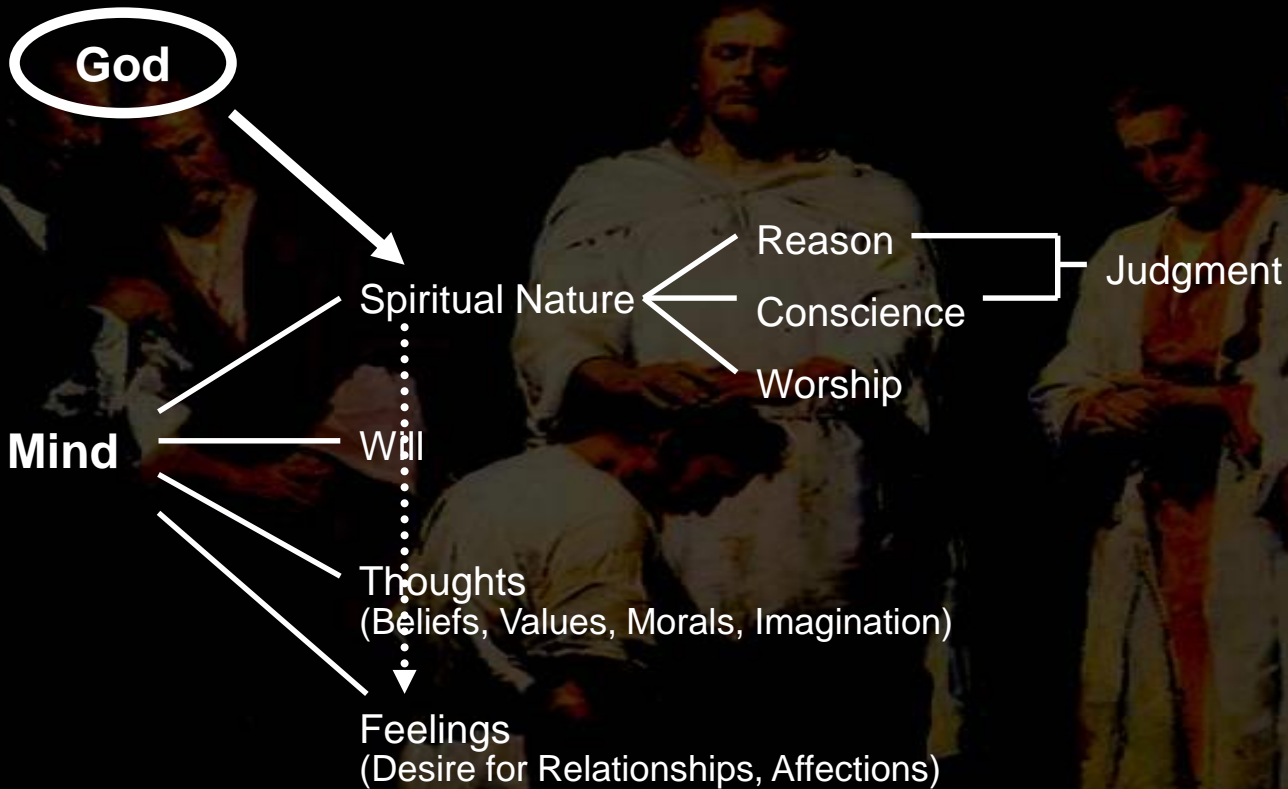
Proverbs 4:23



Circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by  
the Spirit, not by the written code.

Romans 2:29





A religious painting depicting a scene with Jesus Christ in the center, surrounded by other figures in a dark, dramatic setting. The text is overlaid on the image.

What Went Wrong?

What Happened When Adam  
Sinned?

# Falling Dominoes of Destruction

- Lies believed – broken love and trust
- Broken love and trust – fear & selfishness (survival of the fittest)
- Fear & selfishness – destructive acts (sins)
- Destructive acts (sins) – damage to mind, character and body, a terminal condition

God



Spiritual Nature

Reason

Conscience

Worship

Judgment

Mind

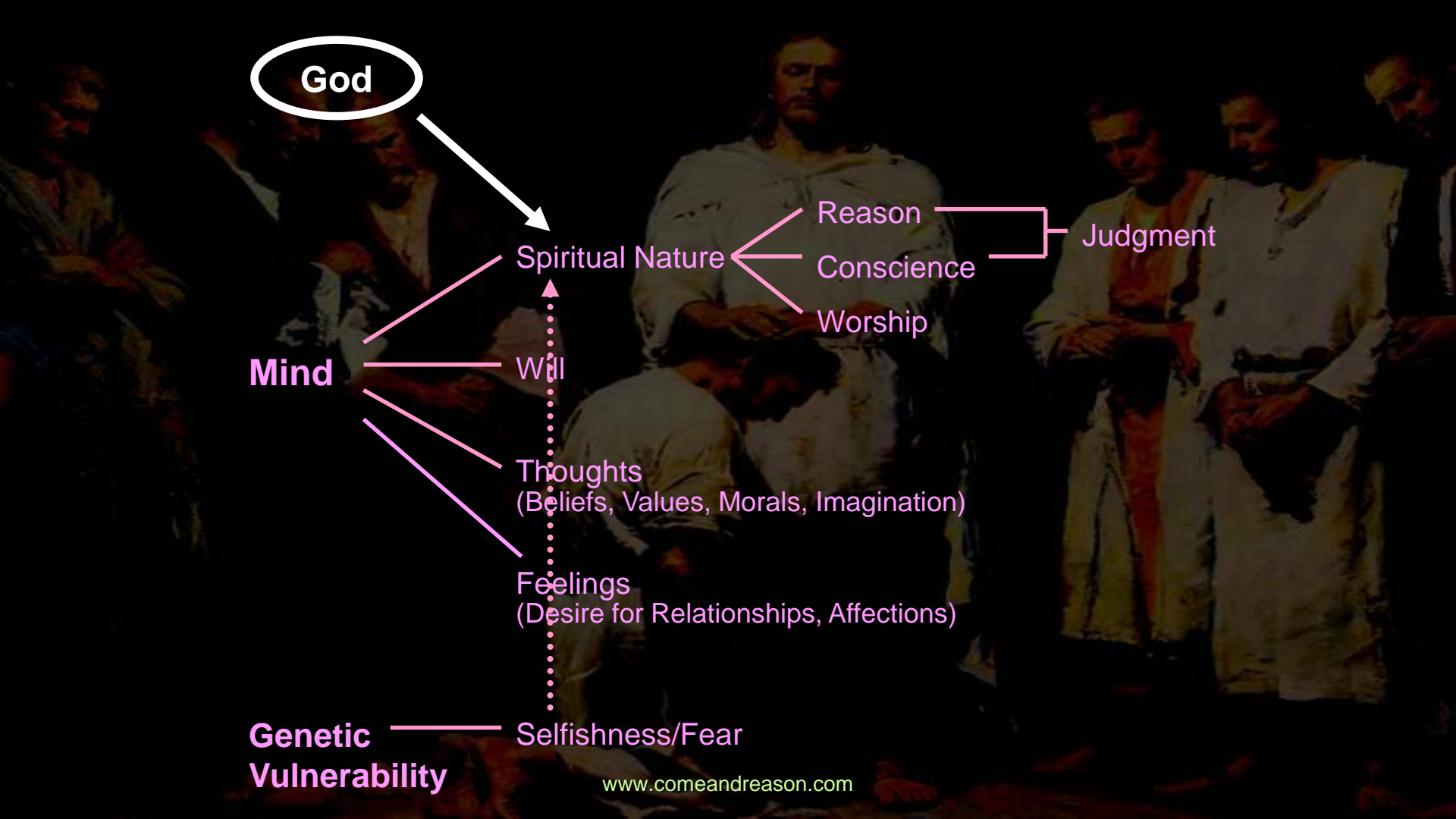
Will

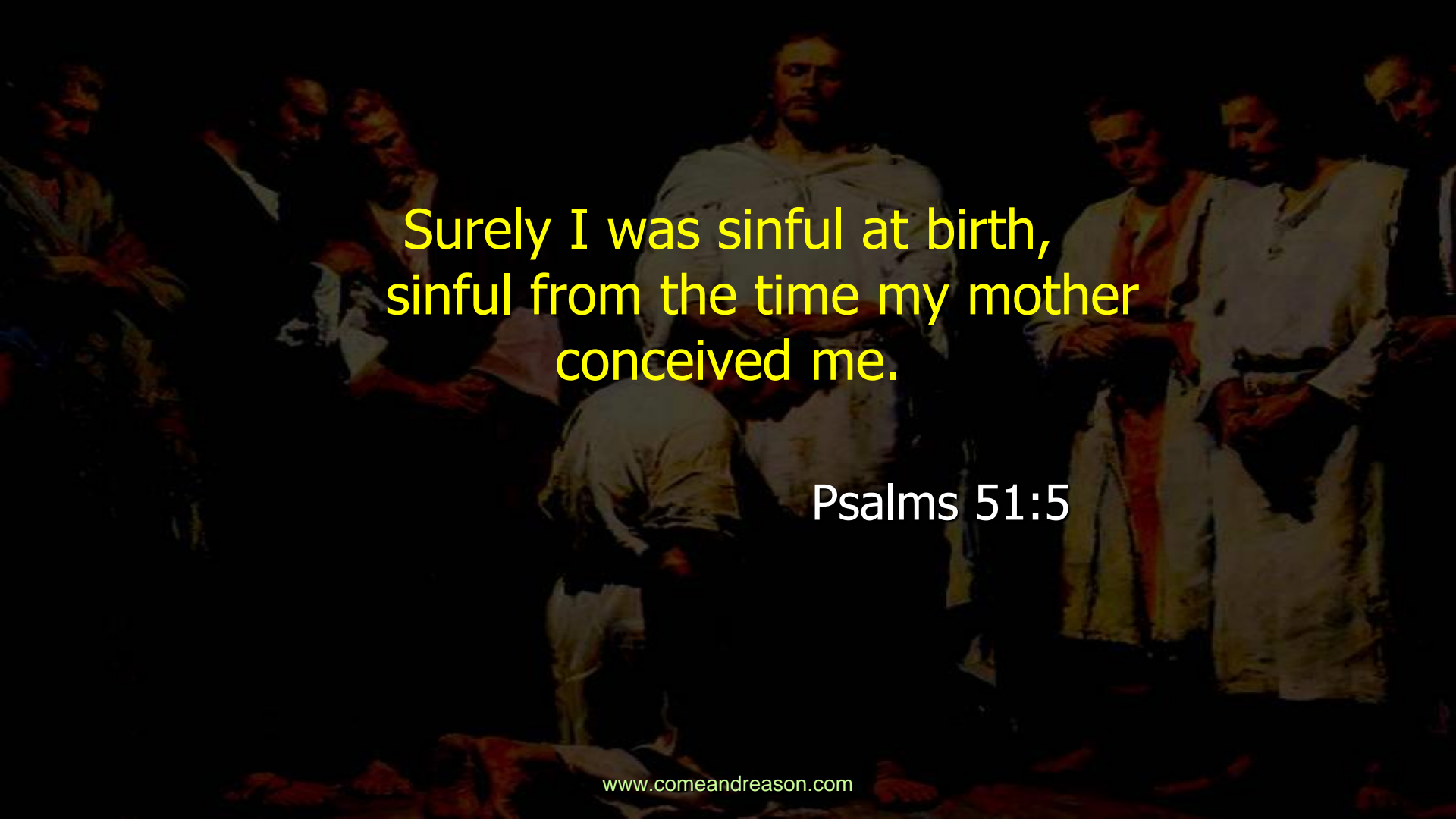
Thoughts  
(Beliefs, Values, Morals, Imagination)

Feelings  
(Desire for Relationships, Affections)

Genetic  
Vulnerability

Selfishness/Fear

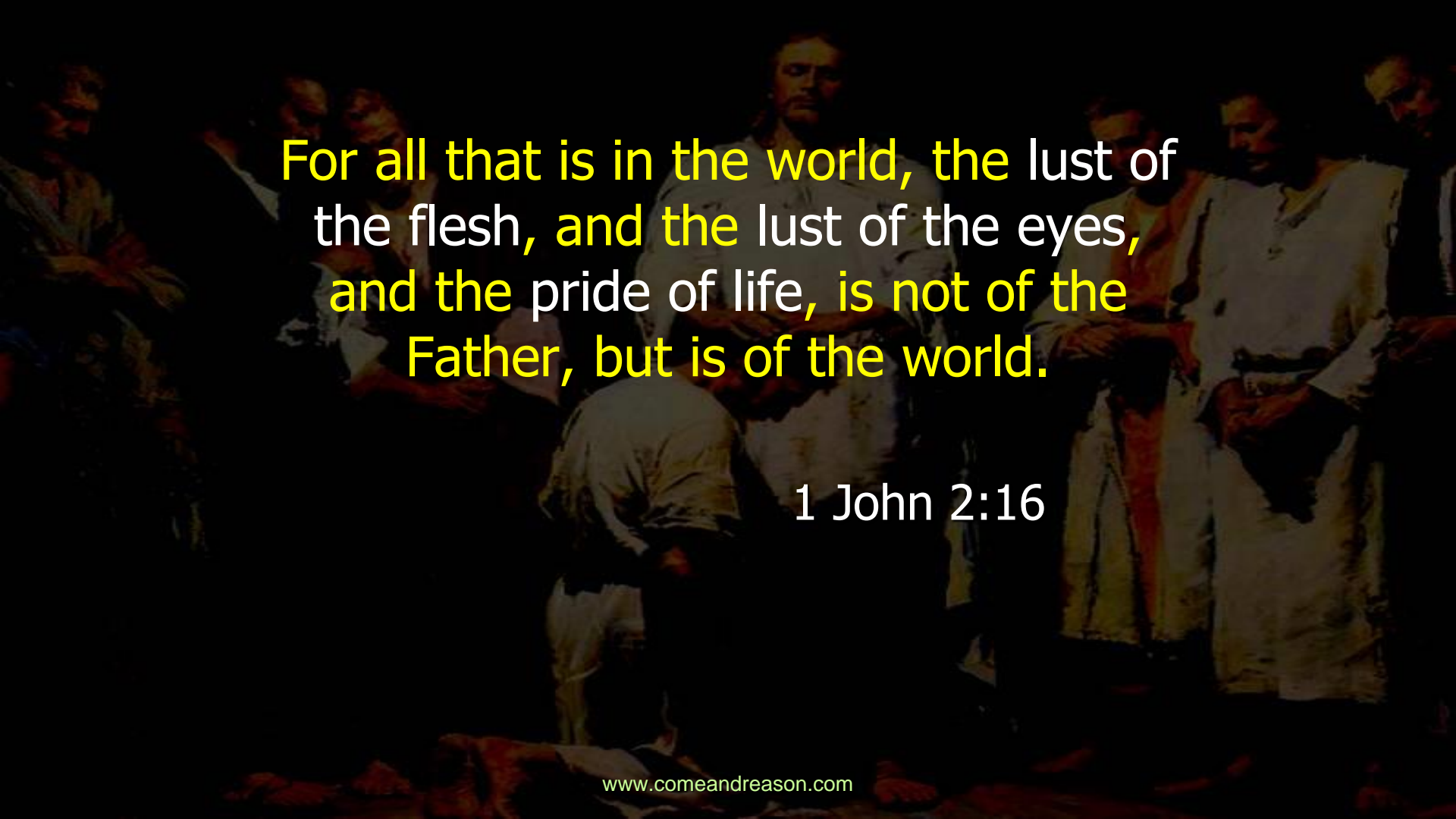




Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother  
conceived me.

Psalms 51:5





For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1 John 2:16

**God**

**Mind**

**Genetic  
Vulnerability**

Spiritual Nature

Will

Thoughts  
(Beliefs, Values, Morals, Imagination)

Feelings  
(Desire for Relationships, Affections)

Selfishness/Fear

Reason

Conscience

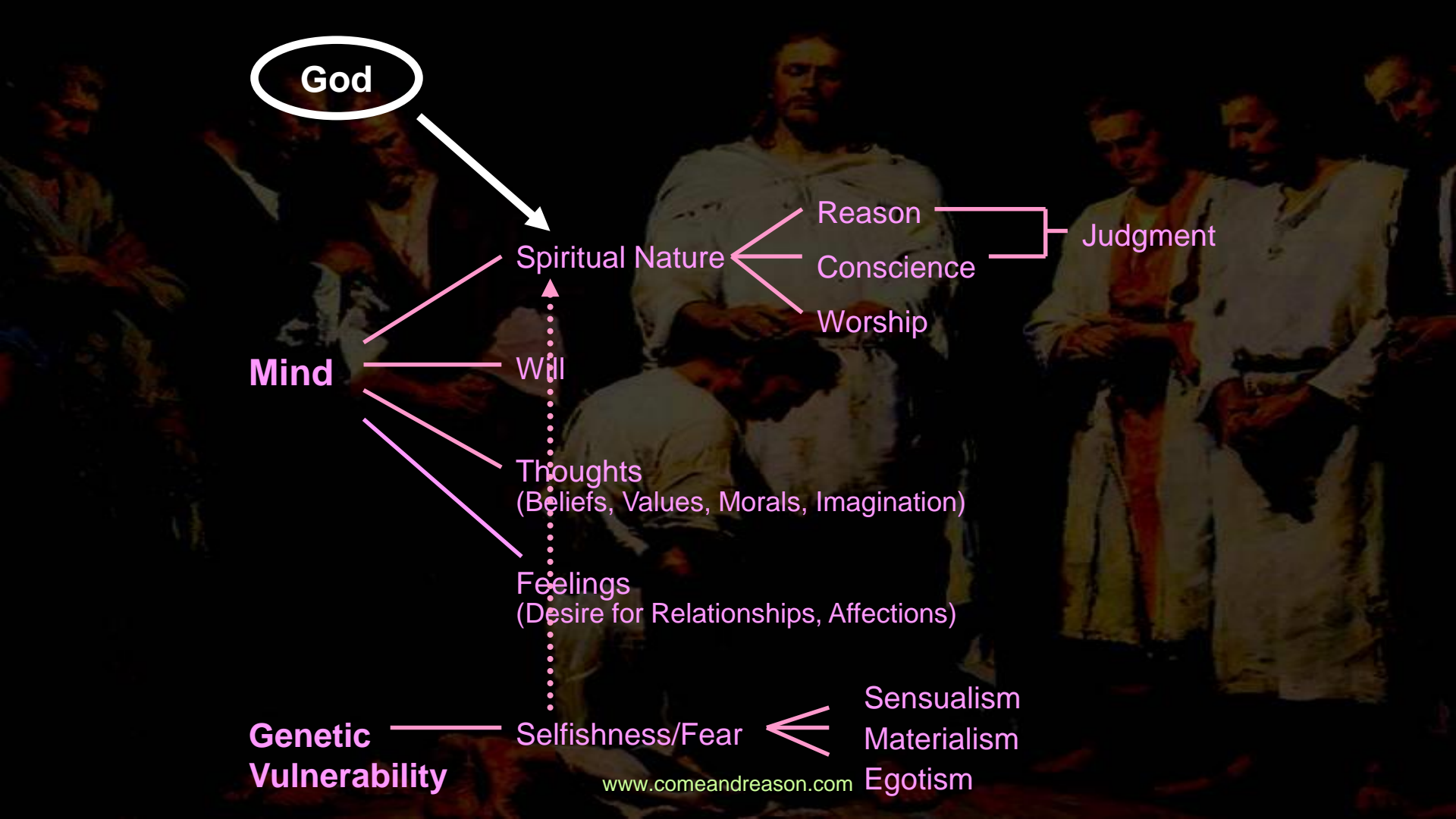
Worship

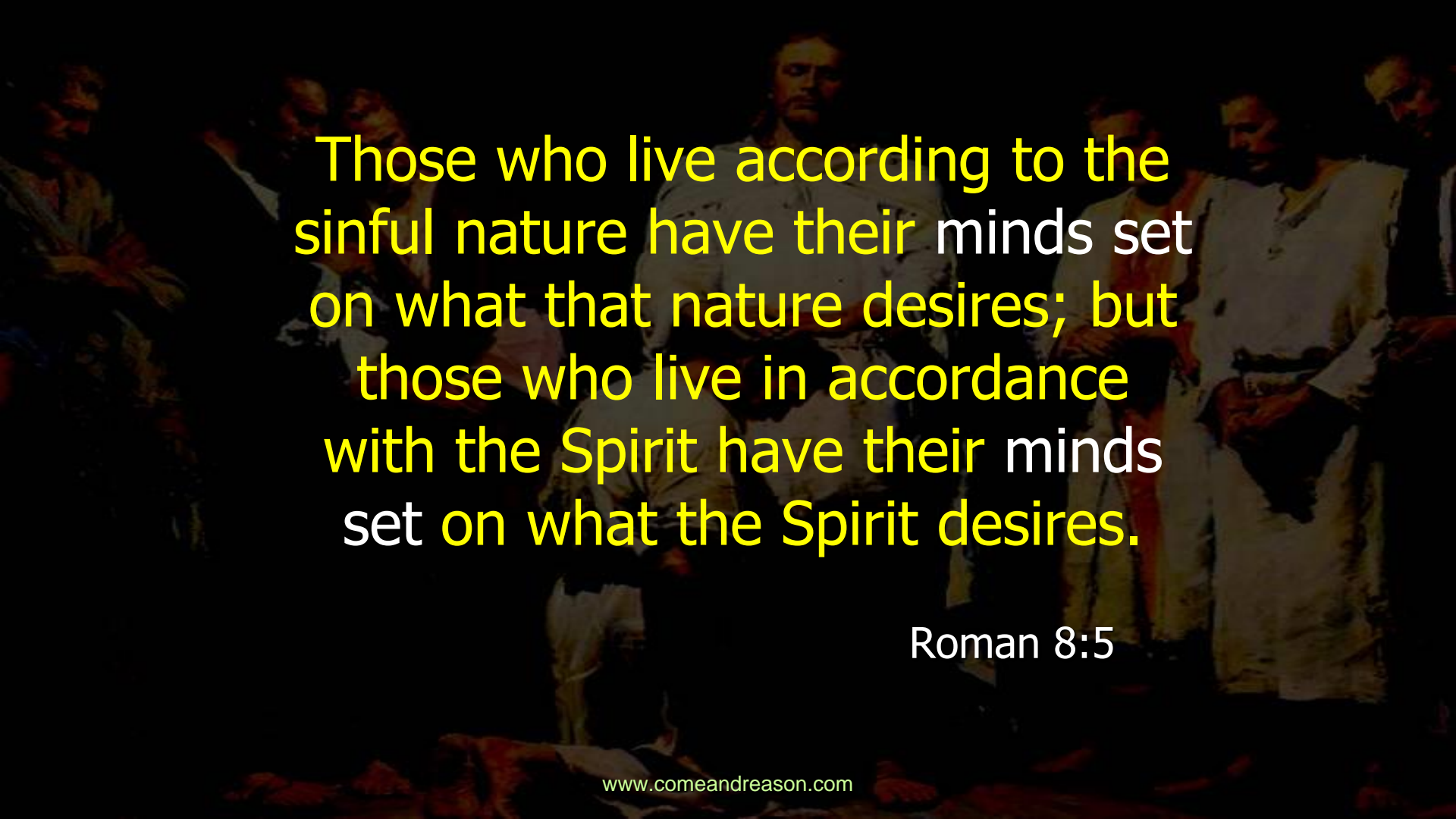
Judgment

Sensualism

Materialism

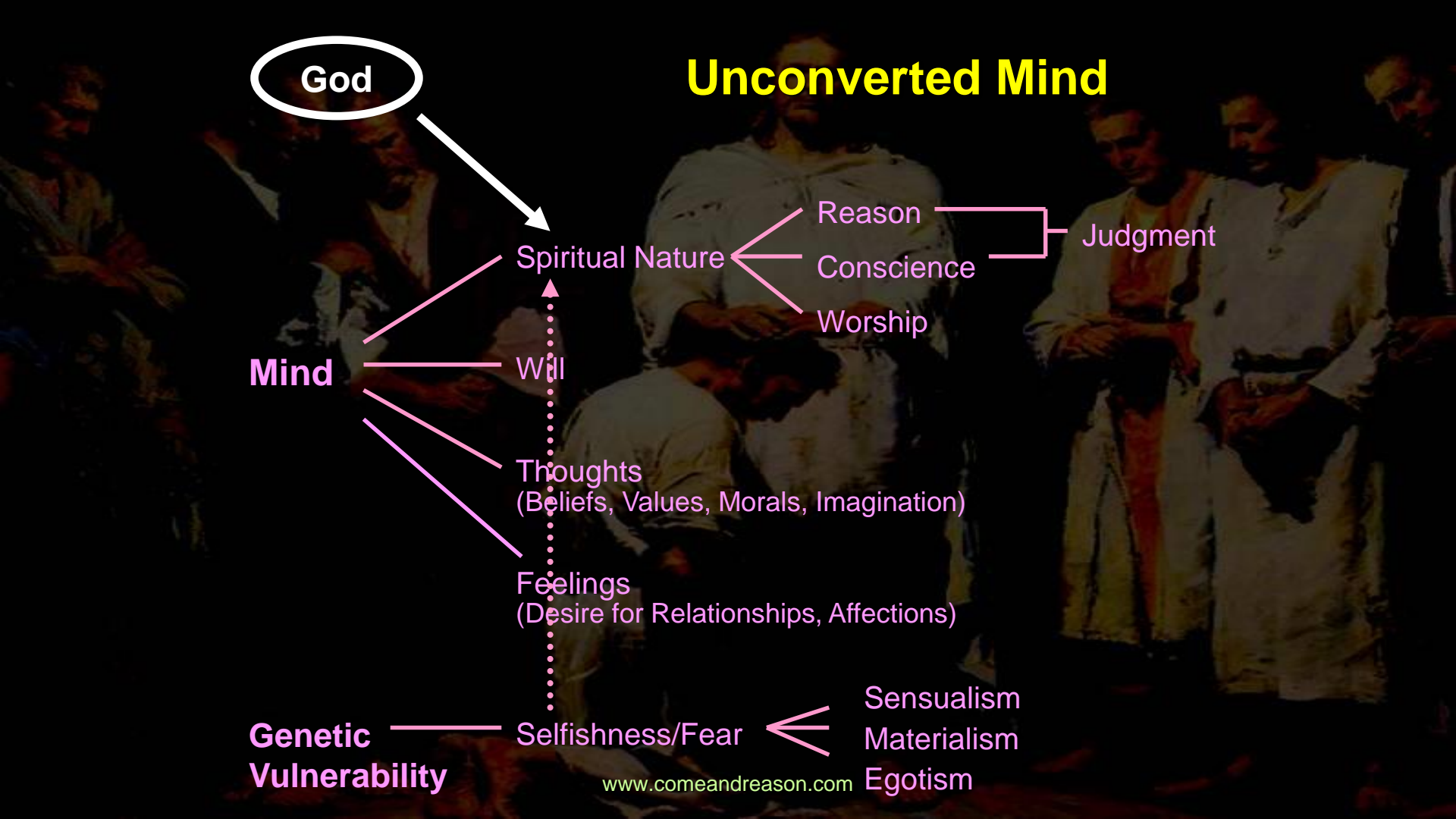
Egotism



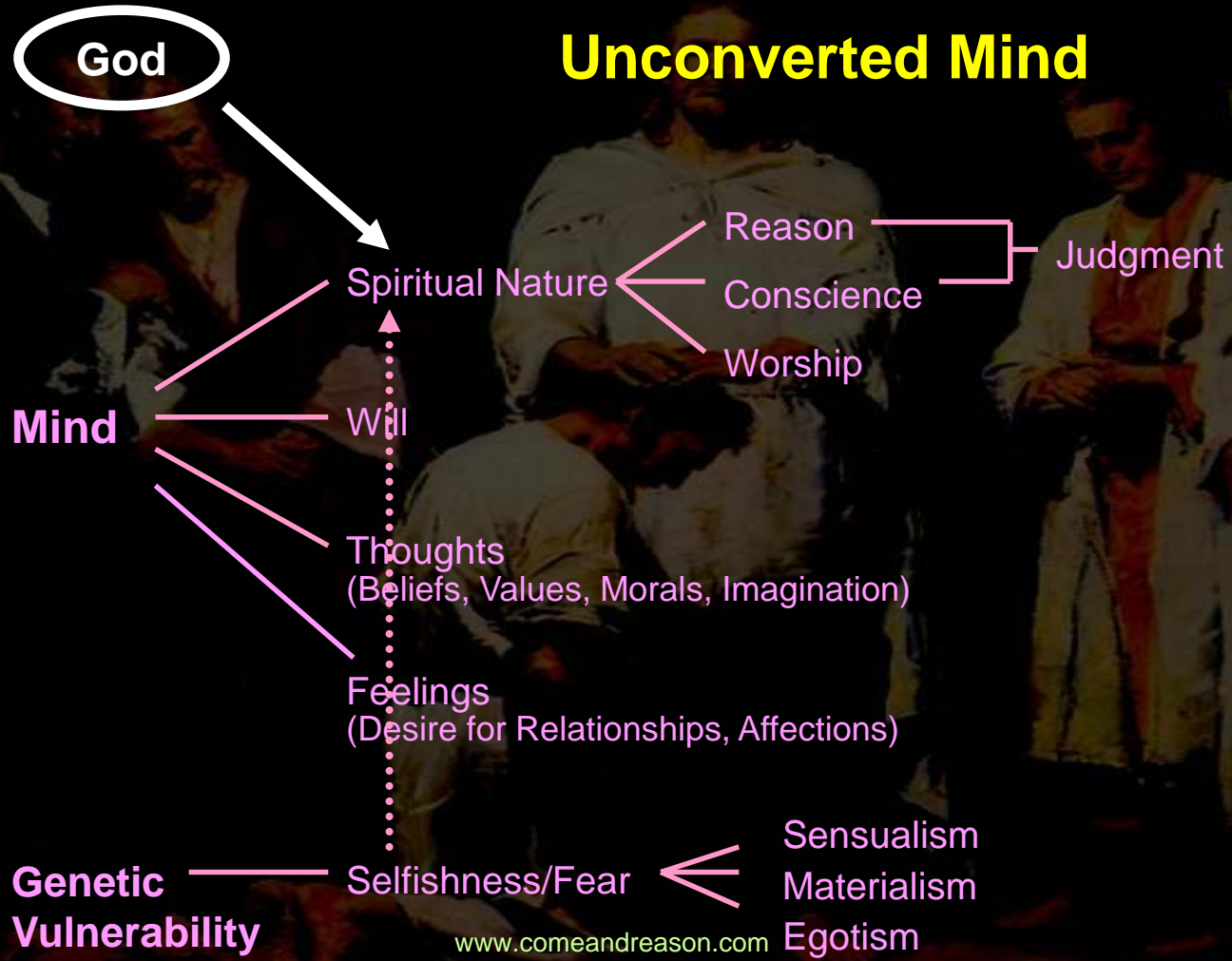


Those who live according to the  
sinful nature have their minds set  
on what that nature desires; but  
those who live in accordance  
with the Spirit have their minds  
set on what the Spirit desires.

Roman 8:5



# Unconverted Mind



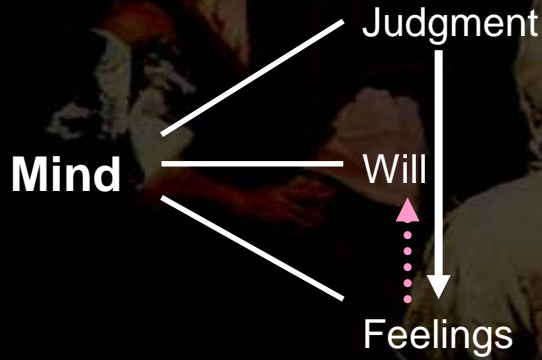
God

# Converted Mind



# Simplified Overview

When dealing with problems with feelings



# Problems With Feelings



- A New Mother
- A Cheerleader
- A Pastor's Wife

A group of men in traditional robes, possibly a religious scene, with a central figure being attended to. The scene is dimly lit, with a focus on the central figure who is being held or supported by others. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere is somber and focused.

# Self-Esteem, Self-Worth, Self-Confidence

- Does the organizational balance of our mind make a difference?



# Problems with Imagination



- PET Scans and imagination
- Matthew 5
- As a man thinks in his heart so is he. Proverbs 23:7

# Problems with Beliefs



Satan is father of lies

- As he gets us to believe lies he has power over us
- God will kill you if you don't accept him



# Problems with Beliefs

Satan is father of lies

- As he gets us to believe lies he has power over us
  - God will kill you if you don't accept him
  - God will torture you in hell
  - God requires appeasement
  - Lies believed break the circle of love and trust

## Understanding This Commentators Write

God could have destroyed Satan and all his sympathizers as easily as one can pick up a pebble and cast it to the earth. But by so doing he would have given a precedent for the exercise of force. **All the compelling power is found only under Satan's government.** The Lord's principles are **not** of this order. He would **not** work on this line... **This principle is wholly of Satan's creation.**

E.G. White Review & Herald,  
September 7, 1897

# Christian Principles

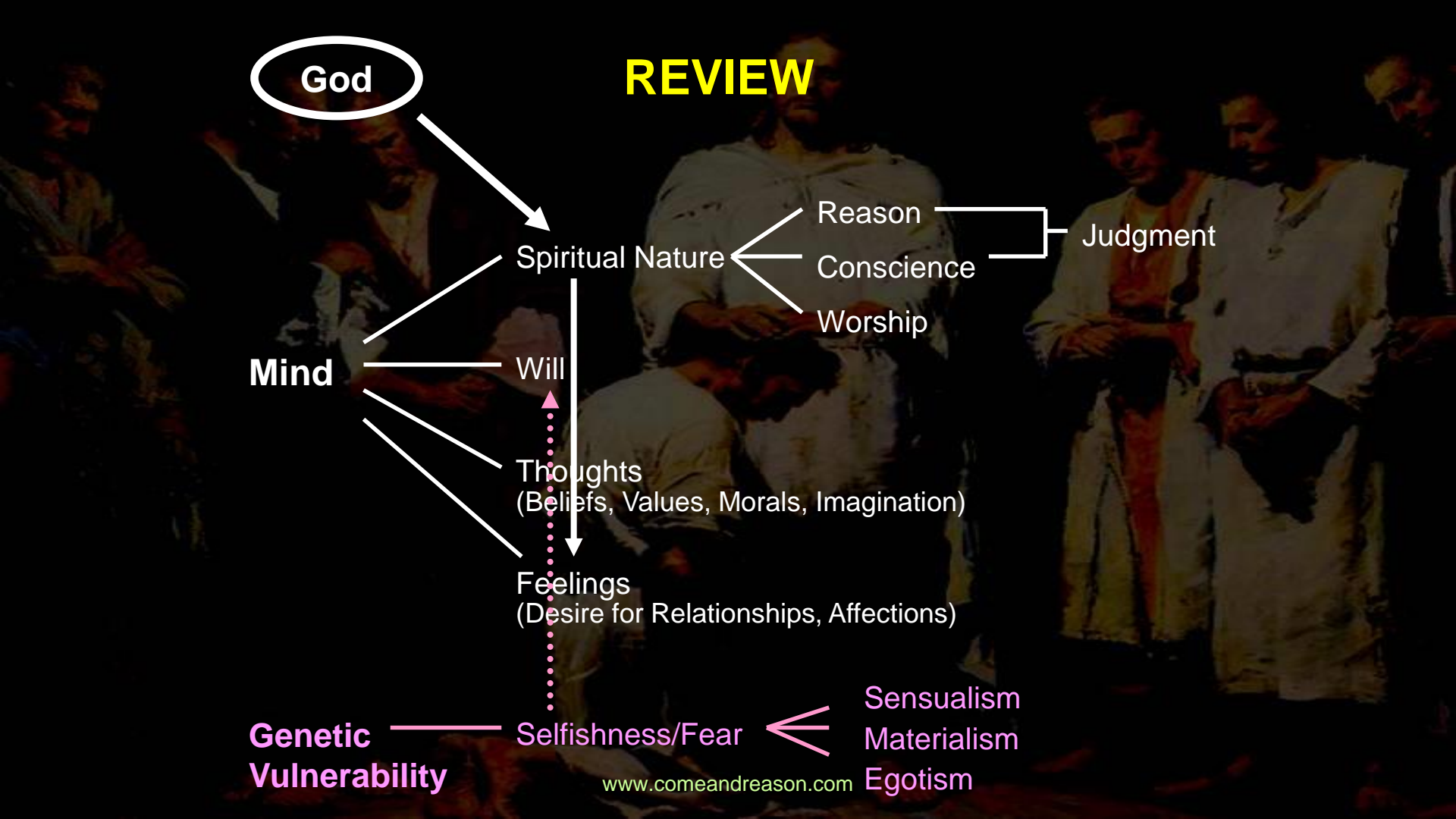


- Truth sets one free – Truth heals

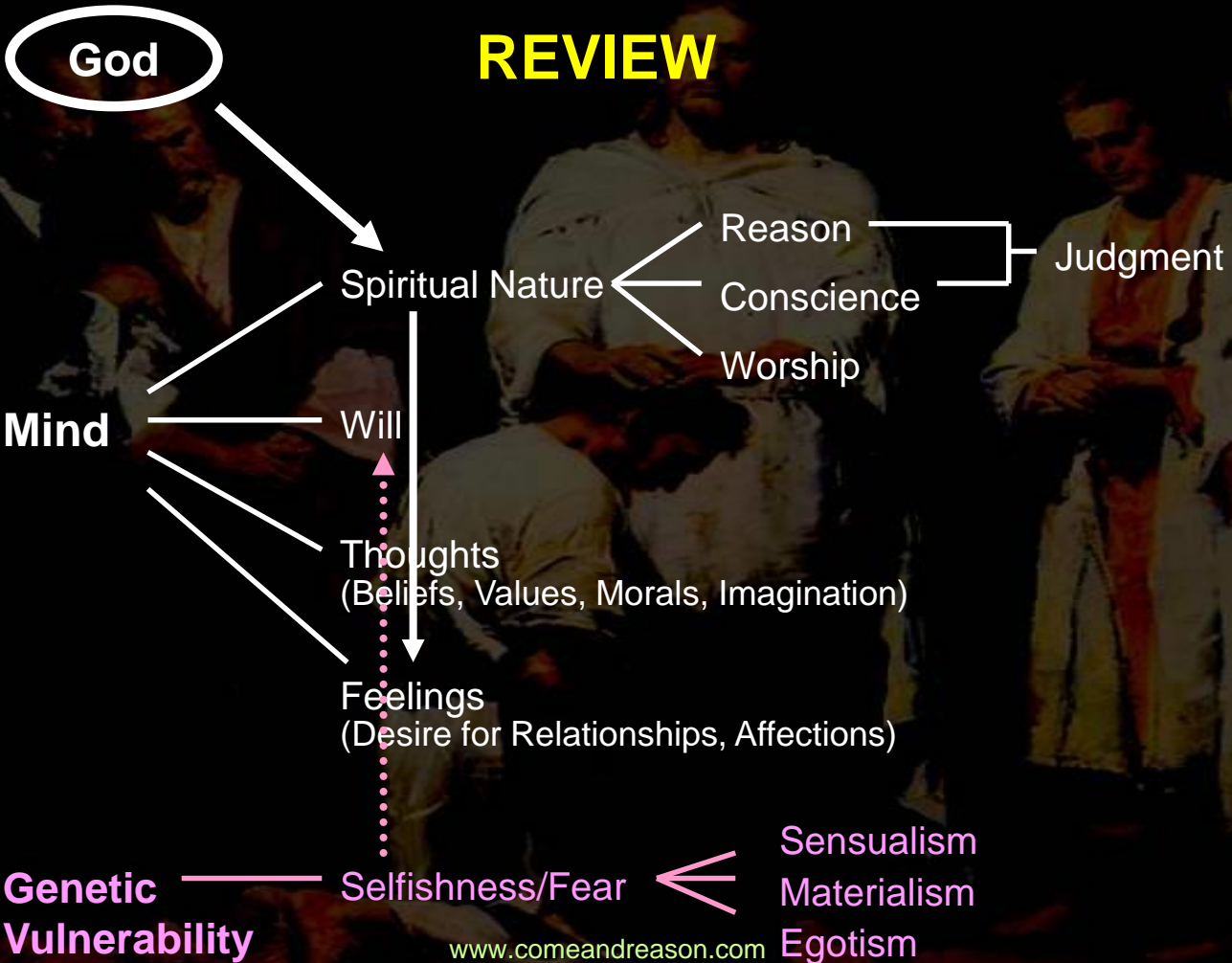
John 8:32

- Feelings lead into temptation

James 1:13-15



# REVIEW



# 7 Changes To Balance the Mind

1. Think for yourself
  - Isaiah 1:18-20, John 15:15, Romans 14:5, Hebrews 5:14
2. Establish trust in God based on evidence
  - John 6:29, Matthew 11:2-5, Luke 24:13-27
3. Form beliefs based on evidence, truth & facts
  - John 8:32
4. Evaluate feelings in light of evidence
  - James 1:13,14
5. Control the imagination (eliminate punitive God concept)
  - Jeremiah 11:18
6. Establish healthy religious practices (meditate on loving God concept)
  - Exodus 20:3-7, 2 Cor 3:18, Isa 1:10-20
7. Choose to do what is right, healthy, loving and reasonable because it is right healthy and reasonable
  - Joshua 24:15



# Questions?

