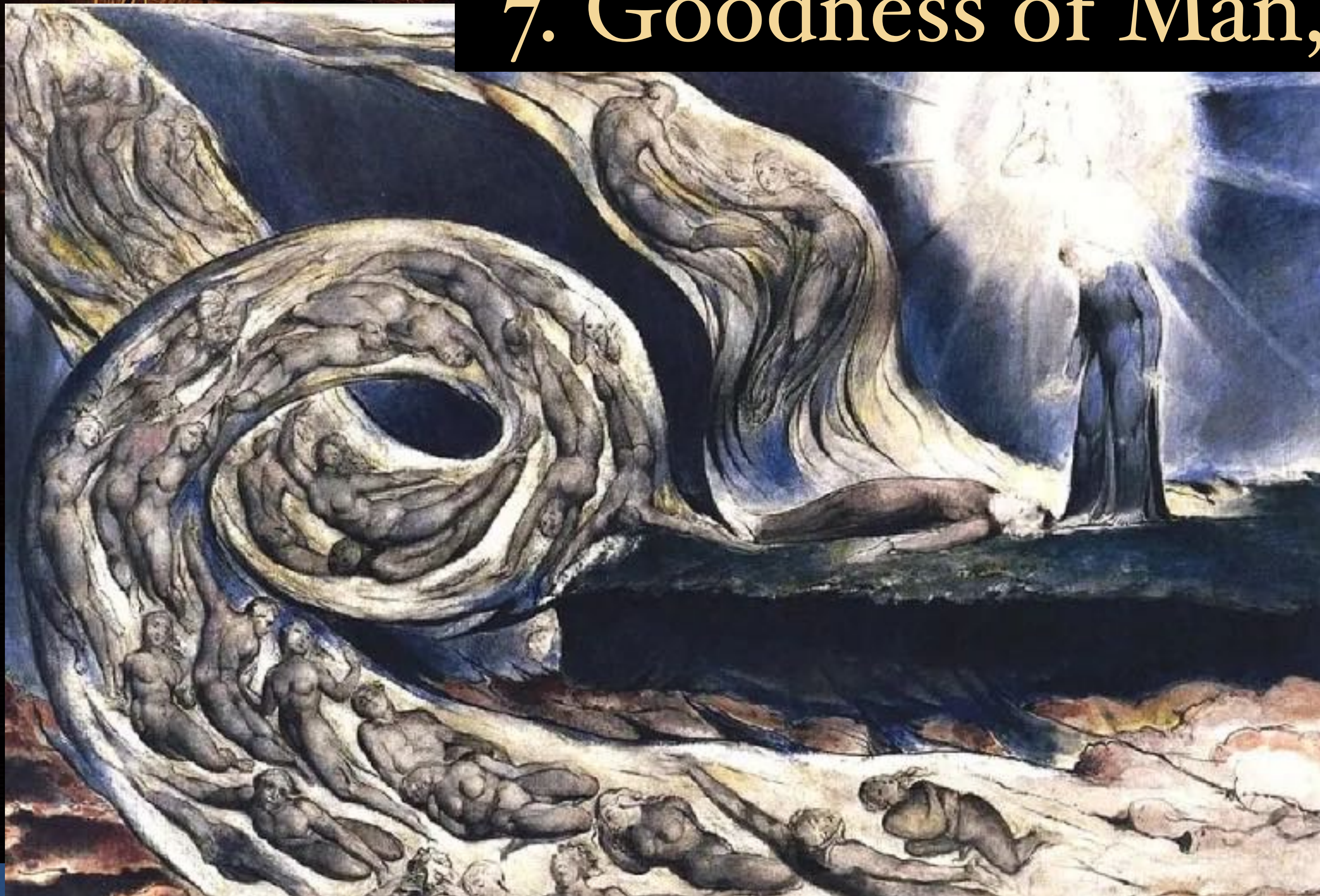


Neighborly Apologetics

7. Goodness of Man, Judgment and Hell



Neighborly Apologetics

The Royal Law
Love your neighbor

God has entrusted the primary work
of the Kingdom to the common
Christian family

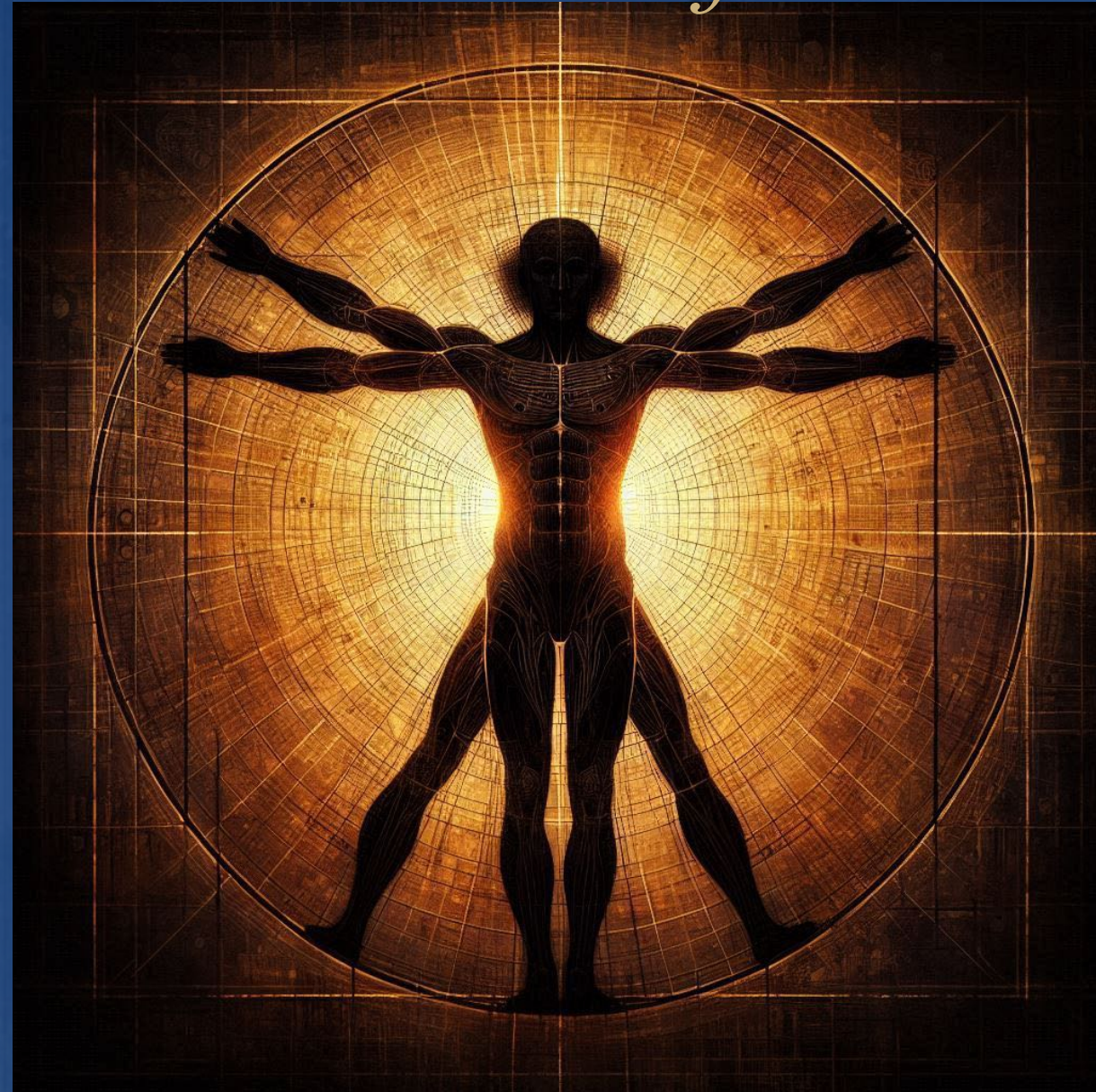
with a priestly role in our neighborhoods

Neighborly Apologetic Categories:

today →

- 1. Evil and Suffering*
- 2. Absolute Truth and Relativism*
- 3. “Only One Way” and Religious Pluralism*
- 4. Faith and Reason*
- 5. Free Will and Sovereignty*
- 6. God’s Existence and Troubling Nature*
- 7. Goodness of Man, Judgment and Hell*
- 8. Hypocrisy and Christian Crimes of the Past*
- 9. The Claims of Jesus and the Resurrection*
- 10. Miracles*
- 11. Science and Evolution*
- 12. The Veracity of the Bible and “Contradictions”*
- Plus: Burning Issues of our Day*

Goodness of Man



Judgment



Hell



*what we are not going to do ...
this isn't about solving our differences of opinion ...
it's about helping Mrs. Smith*

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?



the teaching of the world

“As far as I know we just
don't have any intrinsic
instincts for evil.”



Abraham Maslow

“I do not find that... evil is
inherent in human nature.”



Carl Rogers

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

Special Revelation

General Revelation



tour 2

Man



his **essence**

his **moral state**

his **need**

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

Special Revelation

And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good?
No one is good except God alone.”

Mark 10:18

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

Special Revelation

...both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; as it is written:

“There is no righteous person, not even one;

There is no one who understands,

There is no one who seeks out God;

They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt [depraved];

There is no one who does good,

There is not even one.”

Romans 3:9-18

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

Special Revelation

The heart is deceitful above all things,
And desperately wicked [*incurably sick*];

Jeremiah 17:9

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

Special Revelation

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

Galatians 5:16-17

*Goodness of Man
is he basically good?*

General Revelation



natural evil

moral evil



1. Evil and Suffering

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

General Revelation

we live in a fallen world
what does man tend to do when there is:
no restraint?
no boundaries?
no law?
no law enforcement?
no consequences?



South Africa

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

contemplating the nature of God



he is holy
we are not

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

so what about Mrs. Smith?

what is “goodness”?

*what does Mrs. Smith mean when she says she believes
that man is basically “good”?*

*does she mean that if there were no law, no police,
no consequences...*

everyone would act “good”?

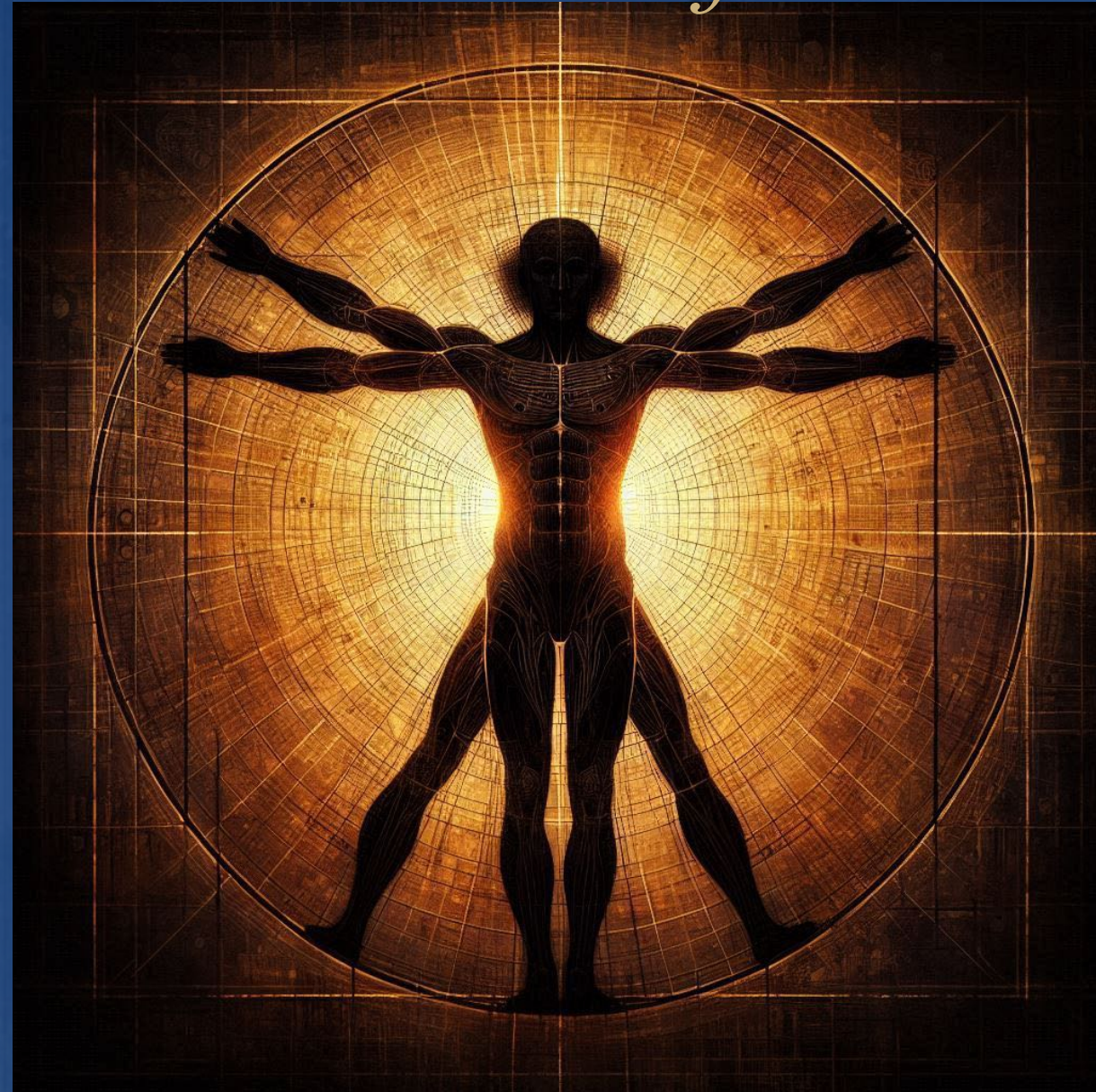
Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

so what about Mrs. Smith?

if she thinks man is basically good...
then she thinks she is basically good...
and therefore in no need of a Savior

this is why we fervently and diligently take Mrs.Smith's
name before the throne of God

Goodness of Man



Judgment



Hell



Judgment
does God judge man?

present judgment

Adam and Eve (Genesis 3)

the Flood (Genesis 6-8)

Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19)

plagues on Egypt (Exodus 7-12)

Korah's household (Numbers 16)

Saul (1 Samuel)

Ahab (1 Kings)

Jezebel (1 & 2 Kings)

David (2 Samuel)

Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5)

destruction of Jerusalem (2 Kings 25, Matthew 24:2)

Jesus: talked of judgment often (burn branches that do not bear fruit, etc.)

Judgment
does God judge man?

present judgment -and- future judgment

For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

2 Peter 3:5-7

Judgment
does God judge man?

future judgment

For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. *Matthew 16:27*

But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. *Matthew 11:22*

Judgment
does God judge man?

future judgment

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:27-28

Judgment
does God judge man?

future judgment

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

2 Corinthians 5:10

Judgment
does God judge man?

future judgment

And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

Revelation 20:12

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

contemplating the nature of God



Judgment
does God judge man?

so what about Mrs. Smith?

how about using a nonvolatile word, like “accountability”

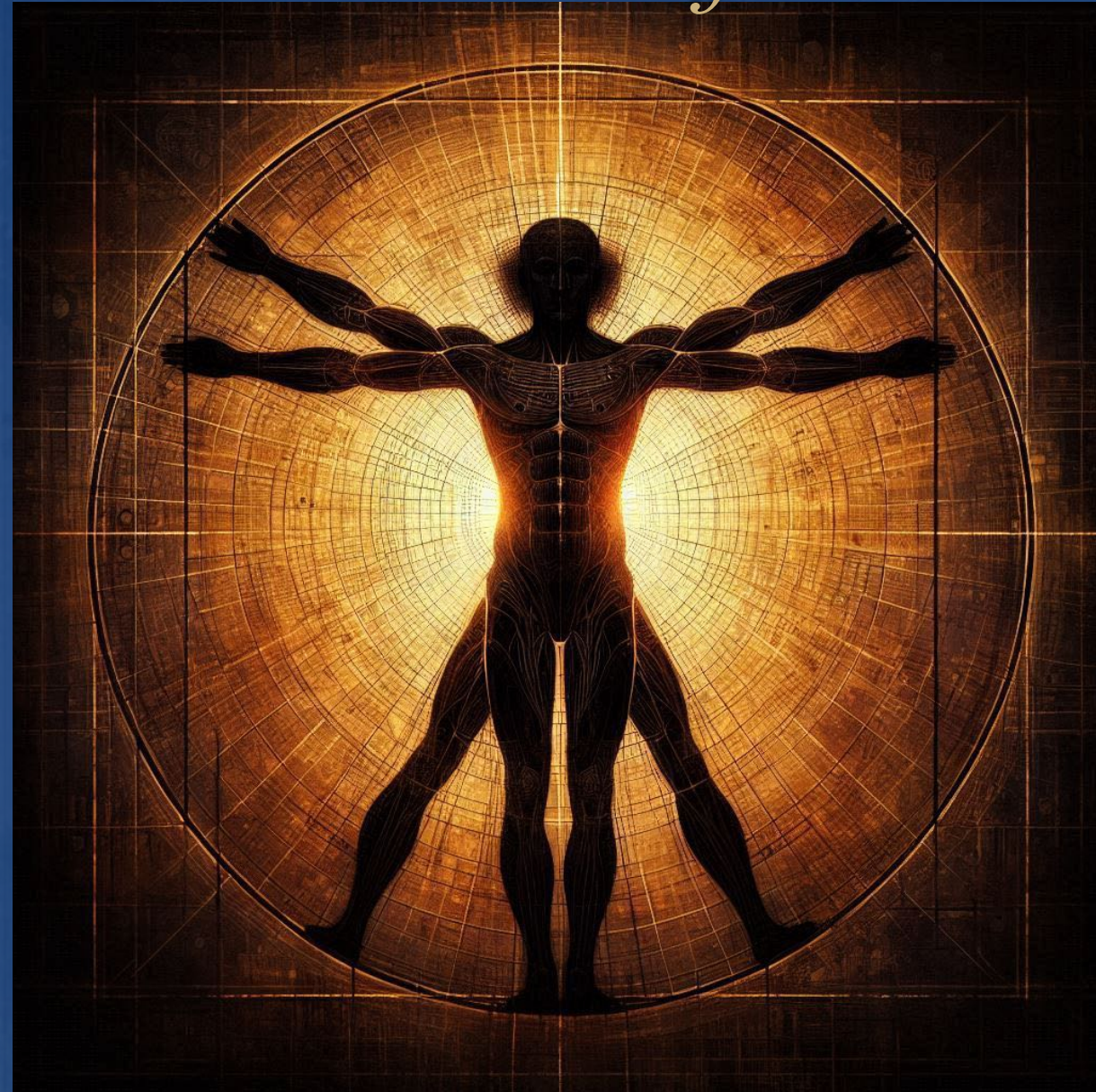
What do you think about accountability for a rapist or murderer?

Do you think there are things that people should be held accountable for ?

Would it be right to let people do horrible things and not be held accountable for those things?

this is why we fervently and diligently take Mrs.Smith's
name before the throne of God

Goodness of Man



Judgment



Hell



Hell

Sheol (Hebrew)

the grave or unseen state

Hades (Greek)

the abode of the dead

Hell

Jesus

spoke more of Hell than Heaven

But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be answerable to the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be answerable to the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

Matthew 5:22

Hell

Jesus

spoke more of Hell than Heaven

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.
Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 10:28

You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being
sentenced to hell?

Matthew 23:33

Hell

Jesus

spoke more of Hell than Heaven

“If Jesus Christ is Lord, then I have to believe exactly what he taught. If we start from that premise, then we can't simply excise the hard parts out of it. We've got to take him at his word. The most loving person who has ever lived spoke so straightforwardly about the awfulness of hell.”



Alistair Begg

Hell

Jesus

spoke more of Hell than Heaven

And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 'where their worm **does not die** and the **fire is not quenched.**'

Mark 9:47-48

eternal punishment?

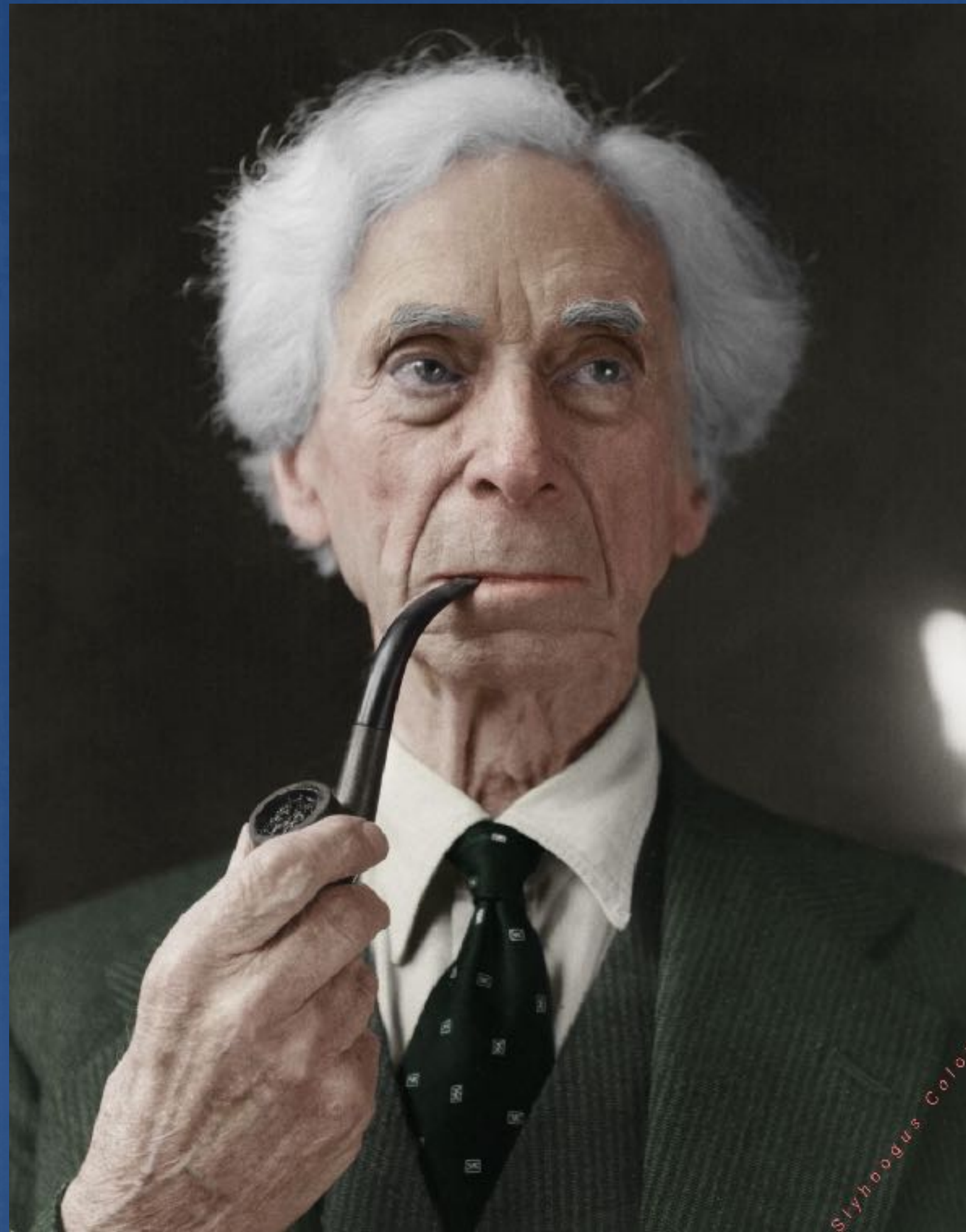
Hell

eternal punishment?

this is most likely the greatest issue you will be faced with here

people may be fine with “accountability” or even the word “judgment”
but “forever”...?

Hell
eternal punishment?

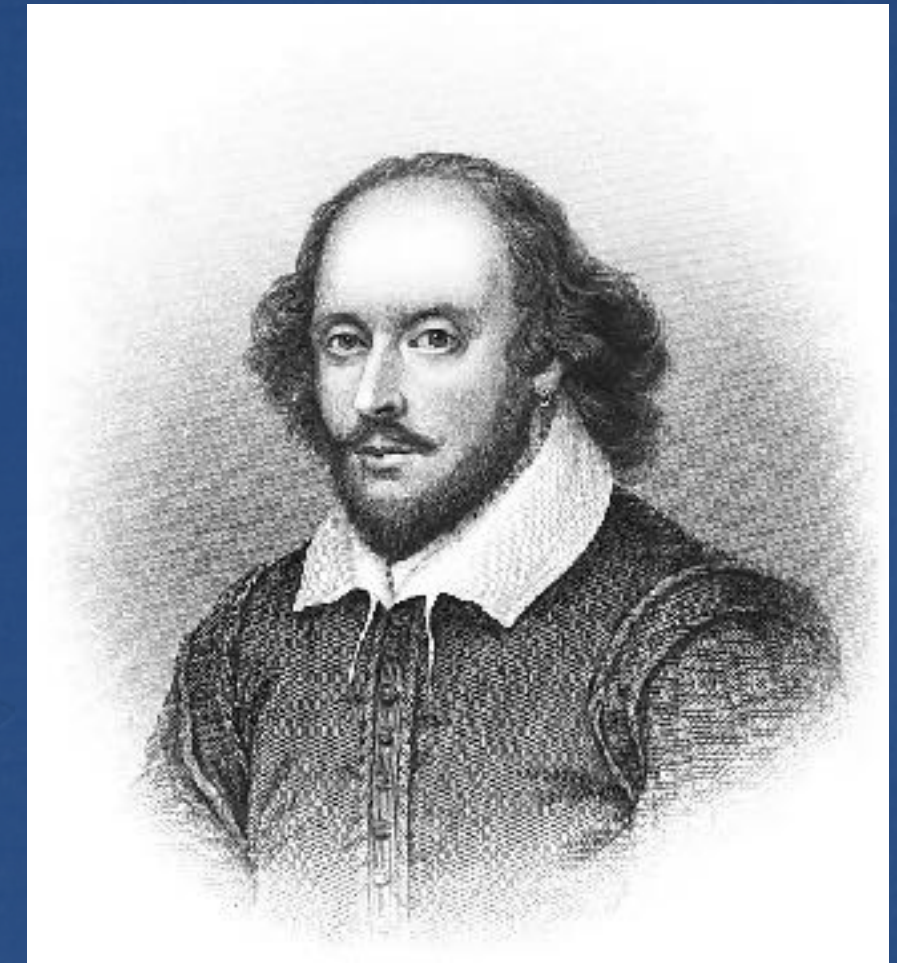


“Anyone who threatens people with eternal punishment, as Jesus did, is inhumane.”

Bertrand Russell

Hell
eternal punishment?

“Hell is empty and all the devils are here.”



William Shakespeare

Hell
eternal punishment?

Jesus

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the **eternal fire** prepared for the devil and his angels.

Matthew 25:41

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with **unquenchable fire.**"

Matthew 3:12

Hell *eternal punishment?*

descriptions

worm does not die (Mark 9:47)

fire is not quenched (Mark 9:48)

eternal fire (Matthew 25:41)

torment & fire (Luke 16:23-24 16)

destruction of wicked tormented day and night forever and ever (Revelation 20:10)

smoke...of torment rises forever and ever (Revelation 14:11)

everlasting destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:2)

burning sulfur (Revelation 14:10)

lake of burning sulfur (Revelation 20:10)

Hell
eternal punishment?

these things are hard to contemplate

it is why there are a great number of differing views
even within evangelical thinking

Hell
eternal punishment?

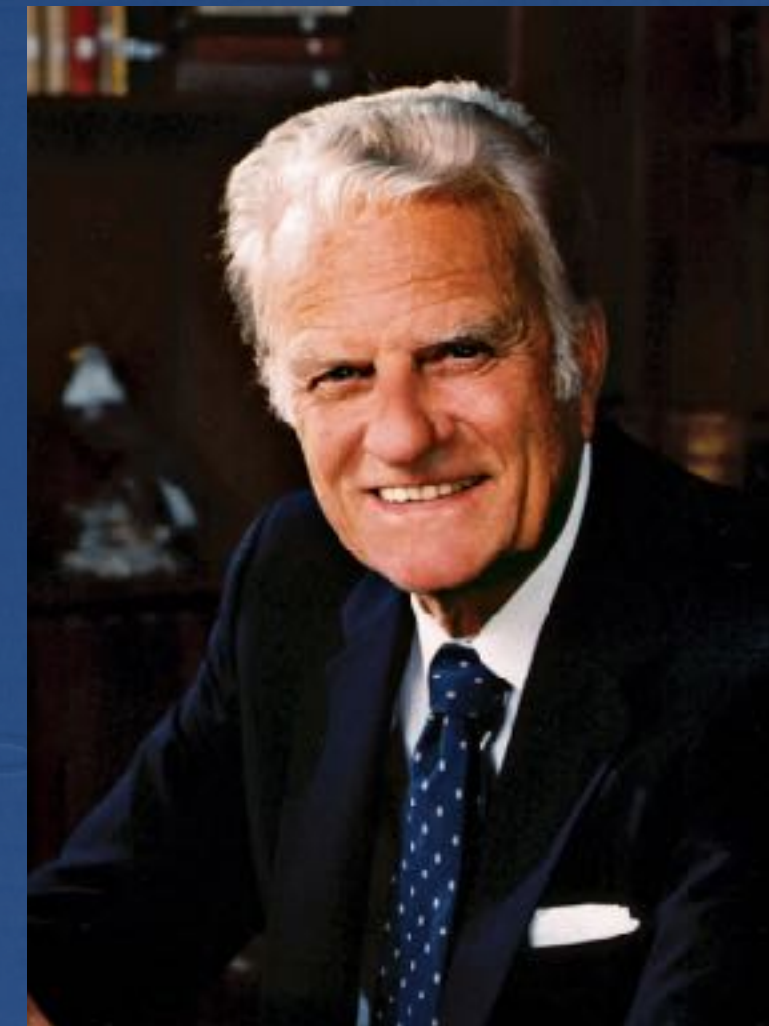
There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, in the end, "Thy will be done."



C.S. Lewis, Screwtape Letters

Hell *eternal punishment?*

I think that hell essentially is separation from God forever. And that is the worst hell that I can think of. But I think people have a hard time believing God is going to allow people to burn in literal fire forever. I think the fire that is mentioned in the Bible is a burning thirst for God that can never be quenched.



Billy Graham

Goodness of Man
is he basically good?

contemplating the nature of God



Hell
eternal punishment?

so what about Mrs. Smith?

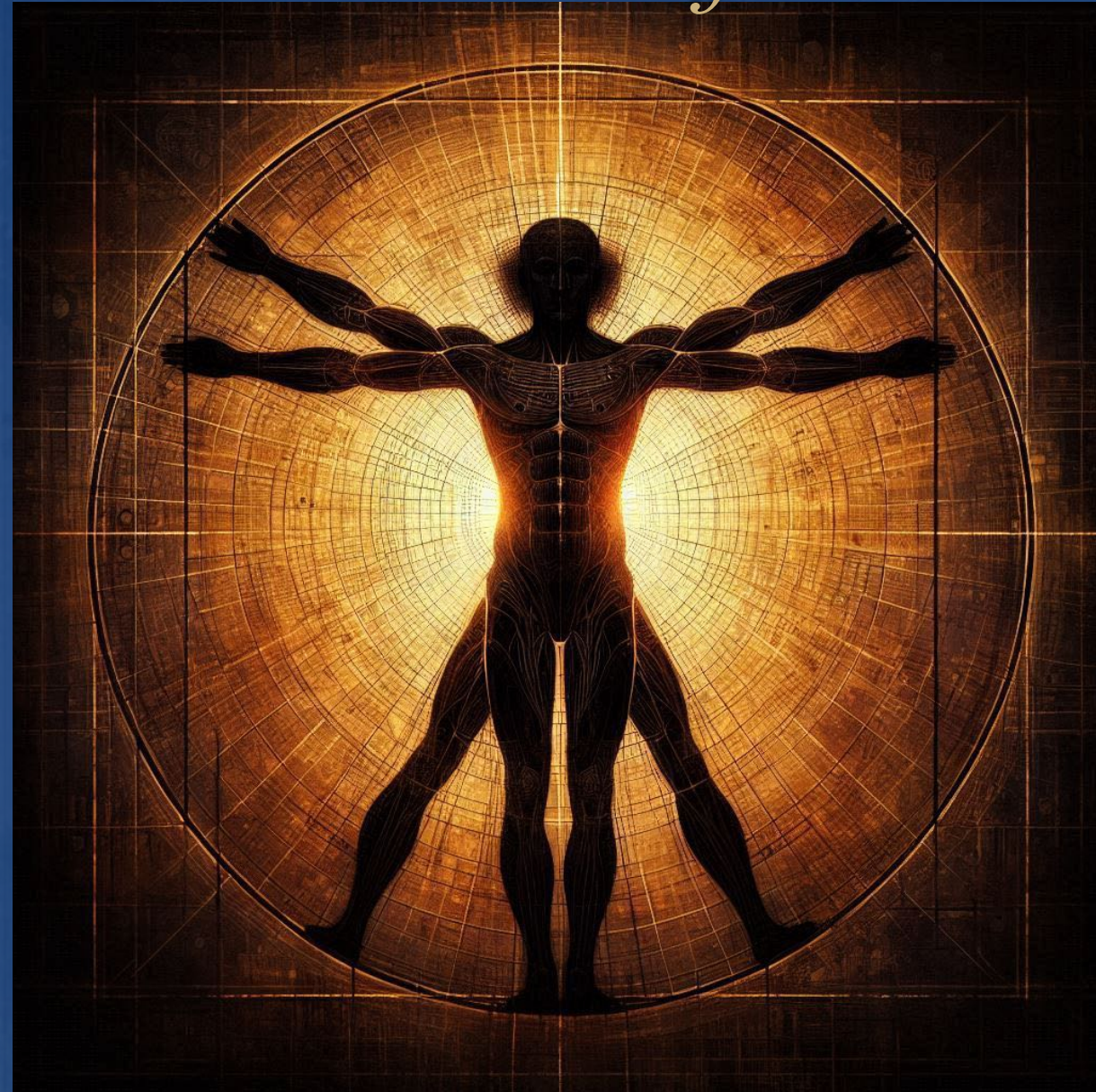
how do we “season our speech” here?

I think it best to focus on the “separation” from God and His love
and the peace and joy that will be for those found in Christ

*We don't know everything about this future state, but I'm so very thankful
that Jesus has saved me from that and I will be united with Him forever.*

this is why we fervently and diligently take Mrs.Smith's
name before the throne of God

Goodness of Man



Judgment



Hell



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next



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Plus: Burning Issues of our Day

50 Days Contemplating the Resurrection

from Resurrection Day to Pentecost

adding 10 days to the original 40



If Jesus Rose From the Dead...

Apologetics, Implications and Contemplations
of the Resurrection of Jesus

for Individuals, Couples, and Small Groups



adding discussion questions