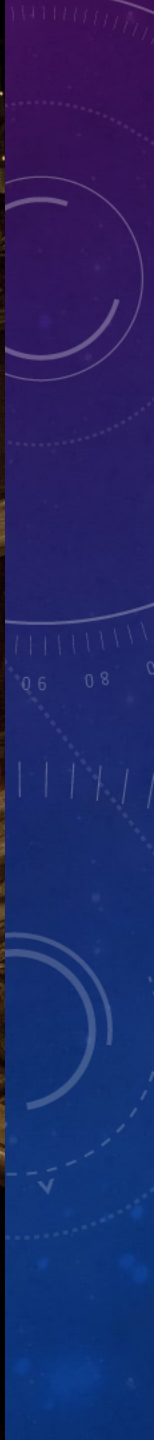
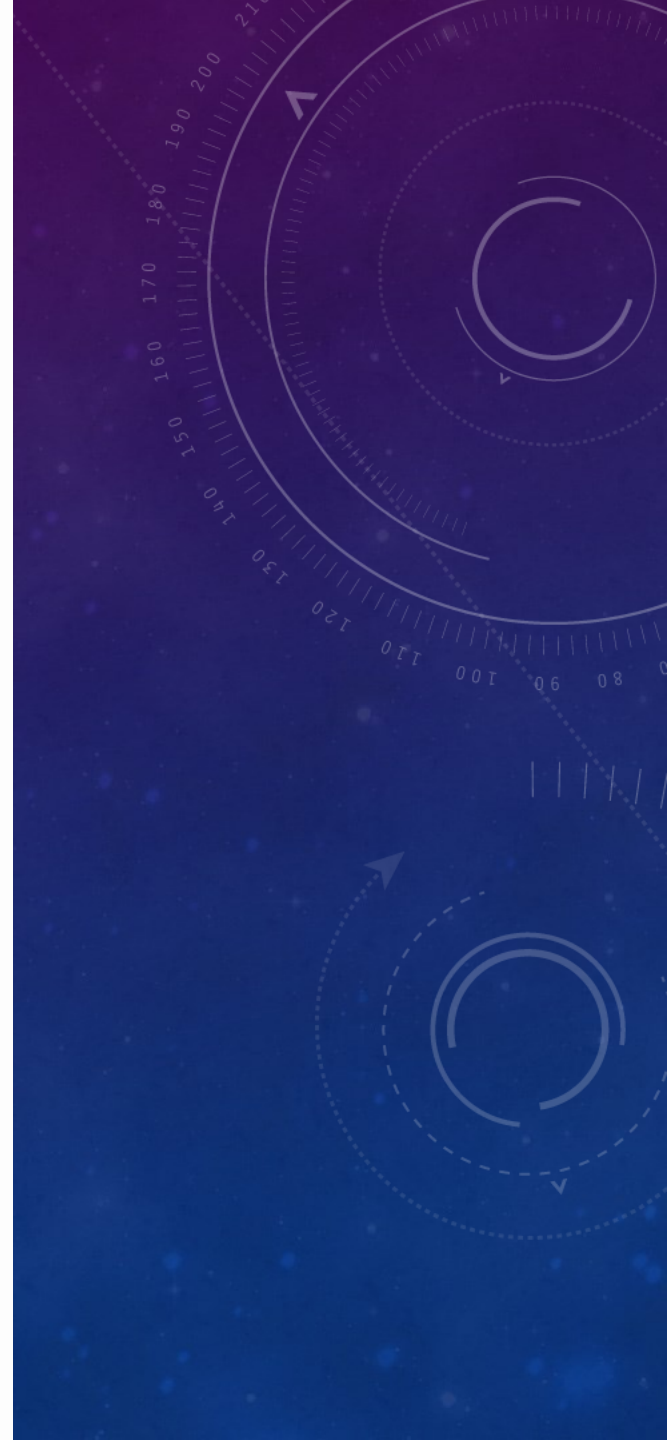


TELLING THE STORY OF
WHAT GOD IS DOING:
**THE OLDER COVENANTS
& PLOT TWISTS**
(PART 4 OF 5)

WALT DISNEY'S
Cinderella







THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

Again the word of the Lord came to me:
“Son of man, make known to Jerusalem her abominations, and say, Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem . . . on the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you...

THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“... nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in swaddling cloths. No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you out of compassion for you, but you were cast out on the open field, for you were abhorred, on the day that you were born...



THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“And when I passed by you and saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ ...”

THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZE. 16)

“I made you flourish like a plant of the field. And you grew up and became tall and arrived at full adornment. Your breasts were formed, and your hair had grown; yet you were naked and bare.



THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; **I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you,** declares the Lord God, and **you became mine.**



THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“Then I bathed you with **water** and washed off your **blood** from you and anointed you with **oil**. I clothed you also with embroidered cloth and shod you with fine leather. I wrapped you in fine linen and covered you with silk.

THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“And I adorned you with ornaments and put bracelets on your wrists and a chain on your neck. And I put a ring on your nose and earrings in your ears and a beautiful crown on your head. Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen and silk and embroidered cloth.

THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“You grew exceedingly beautiful and advanced to royalty. And your renown went forth among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through the splendor that I had bestowed on you, declares the Lord God.



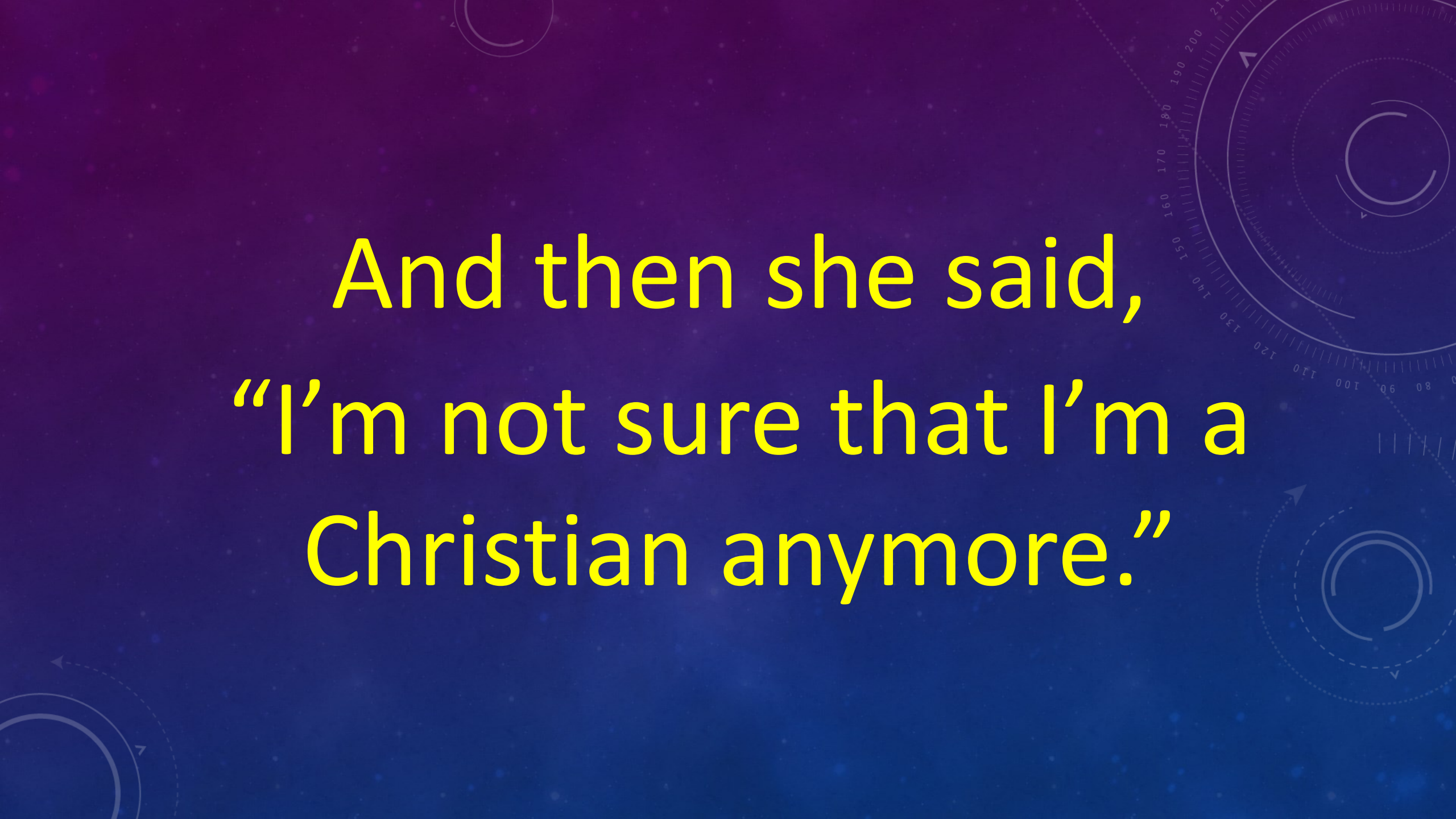
But....

THE STORY OF JERUSALEM (EZK. 16)

“For thus says the Lord God: I will deal with you as you have done, you who have **despised the oath in breaking the covenant**, yet I will **remember my covenant** with you in the days of your youth, and **I will establish for you an everlasting covenant**. Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed ... **I will establish my covenant with you ... when I atone for you** for all that you have done, declares the Lord God.”

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white stars. Overlaid on this are several technical diagrams in a lighter blue color. These include circular gauges with numerical scales (e.g., 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows, as well as various circular and semi-circular lines, some solid and some dashed, suggesting a complex system or process.

God's covenants govern all of
God's relationships with people
groups and all creation



And then she said,
“I’m not sure that I’m a
Christian anymore.”

If God is all-powerful, he can defeat evil.

If God is all-good, he wants to defeat evil.

But evil has not been defeated.

Therefore, there is no all-powerful and/or all-good God.

If God is all-powerful, he can defeat evil.

If God is all-good, he wants to defeat evil.

But evil has not been defeated...

YET

Therefore,

God will surely defeat evil in the future!

The background is a gradient from dark purple to blue, featuring a starry space pattern. On the right side, there are several technical diagrams, including a large circular gauge with numerical markings (100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and a smaller circular diagram below it. There are also some faint circular patterns on the left side.

Therefore,
“Wait upon the Lord”



Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew
their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40

He [God] will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all
faces. . . It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him,
that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Isaiah 25



Is God really good???

(He's not finished yet.)

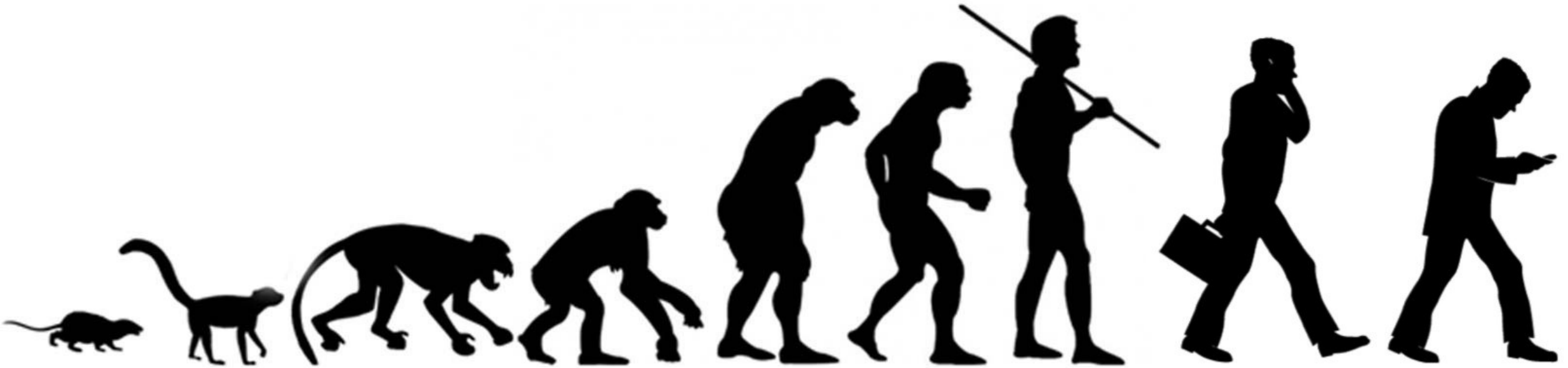


"No! No more harps! I can't take it anymore."

COMPETING NARRATIVES



EVOLUTIONARY PROGRESS!





But the clock is ticking down...

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of small white dots. On the right side, there is a large, semi-transparent technical diagram of a clock face. The clock face has concentric circles, tick marks, and numbers from 80 to 210. There are also several smaller, faint circular diagrams scattered across the background, some with arrows indicating rotation.

“That man is the product of causes which had no prevision of the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs are but the outcomes of **accidental** collocations of atoms; that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave; that all the labors of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspiration, all the noonday brightness of human genius, are **destined to extinction** in the vast death of the solar system...

“... and that the whole temple of man’s achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins—all these things, if not quite beyond dispute, are yet so nearly certain that no philosophy which rejects them can hope to stand. Only within the scaffolding of these truths, only in the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul’s habitation henceforth be safely built.”

- Bertrand Russell

The background is a dark blue gradient with a starry space pattern. Overlaid on this are several technical diagrams, including circular gauges with numerical scales (e.g., 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows, and circular flow diagrams with arrows indicating direction. The text is centered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

We have a much better story!

A rich story with plot twists!

"wild
ingrafted
branches"

"natural branches"

New Covenant!!!
(Jer.32-32, Ezk.36, etc.)

Mosaic Covenant
(Ex. 19-20) &
Palestinian Covenant
(Deut. 27-30)

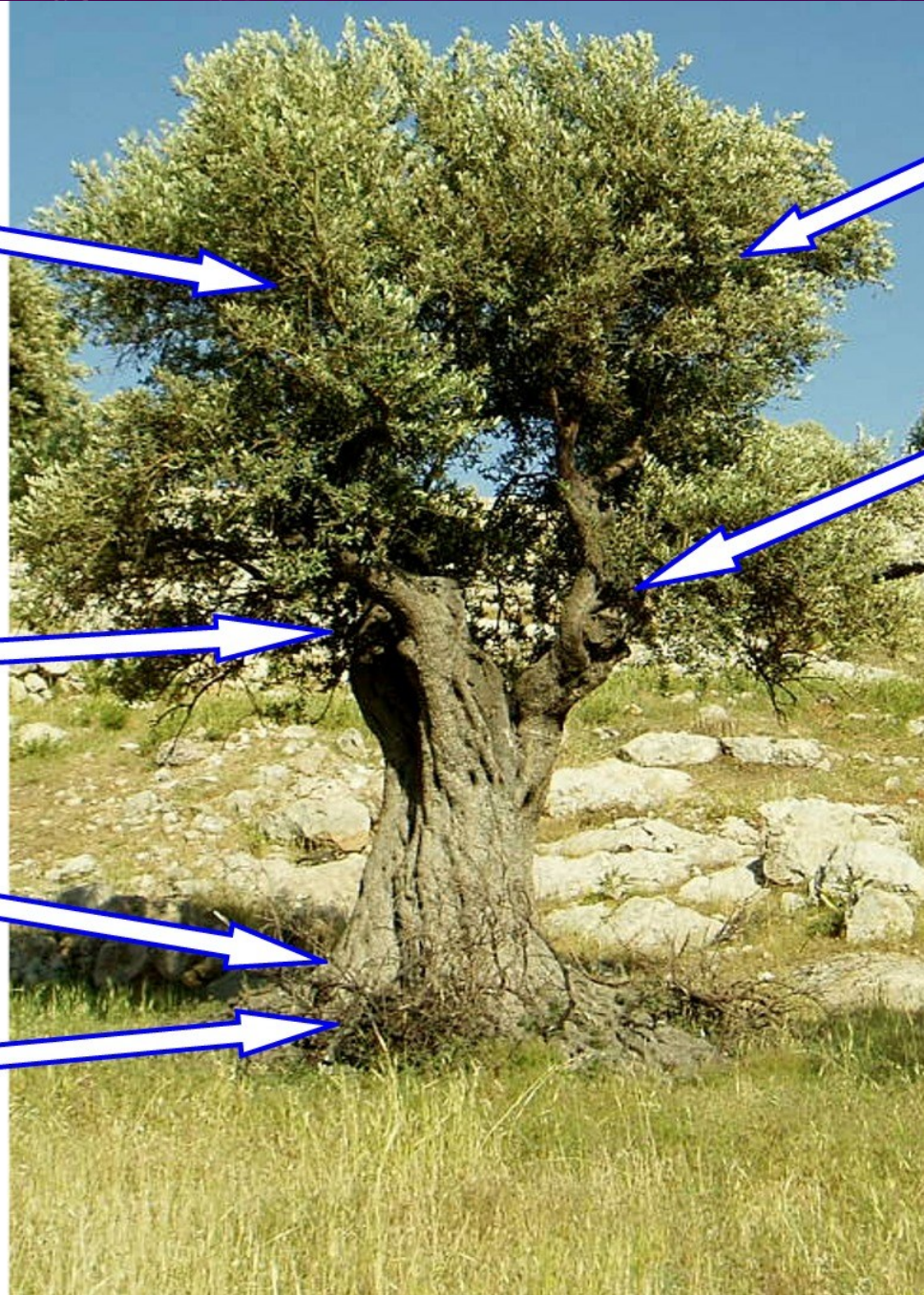
Davidic Covenant
(2 Sam. 7:4-17)

Abrahamic
Covenant
(Gen. 15)

Covenant with Noah
(Gen. 6-9)

Covenant with Creation
(Gen. 1-3)

God's
Grace/Generosity,
Mercy, & Love



“Wait upon the Lord”

For what?

And why?

History = His Story

WERE ADAM AND EVE THE FIRST COMMUNISTS?

- They had no house!
- They had no clothes!
- They only had one apple to share!
- And they still thought they are in Paradise!



EDENIC COVENANT???

(GENESIS 2-3)

- You may eat from any tree except one
- If you eat that fruit, Death begins
- A bi-lateral covenant?
- Or just a rule and a warning?
- Or a test/experiment Adam failed?



ADAM AND EVE WERE

- Modern “homo sapiens sapiens”
- Innocent, uncorrupted
- Genetically perfect (unlike us)
- “In the image of God” (manager)
- Perfect environmental conditions
- Partially deceived
- Representatives

HMMMM...

Why do we have to die?

Why are we no longer in the garden?

What was the forbidden fruit that you stole?

POST-EDENIC COVENANT? (GENESIS 3-4)

- God promised a future savior (3:15)
- God gave us consequences
- God guarded the tree of life
- God made garments of **skin** for them
- **Blood** sacrifice system began
- **Vegetable** sacrifices not acceptable
- Plot twists!

MAJOR PLOT TWISTS IN NOAH'S DAY (GENESIS 6-9)

- **Long lifespans**
- No laws? Anarchy?
- **Multiplication**
- Rampant wickedness, violence, corruption. “Every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (6:6)
- **Human experiment failed. Except for Noah. “I will establish my covenant with you.” (6:18)**
- All humans and animals wiped out!

"wild
ingrafted
branches"

"natural branches"

New Covenant!!!
(Jer.32-32, Ezk.36, etc.)

Mosaic Covenant
(Ex. 19-20) &
Palestinian Covenant
(Deut. 27-30)

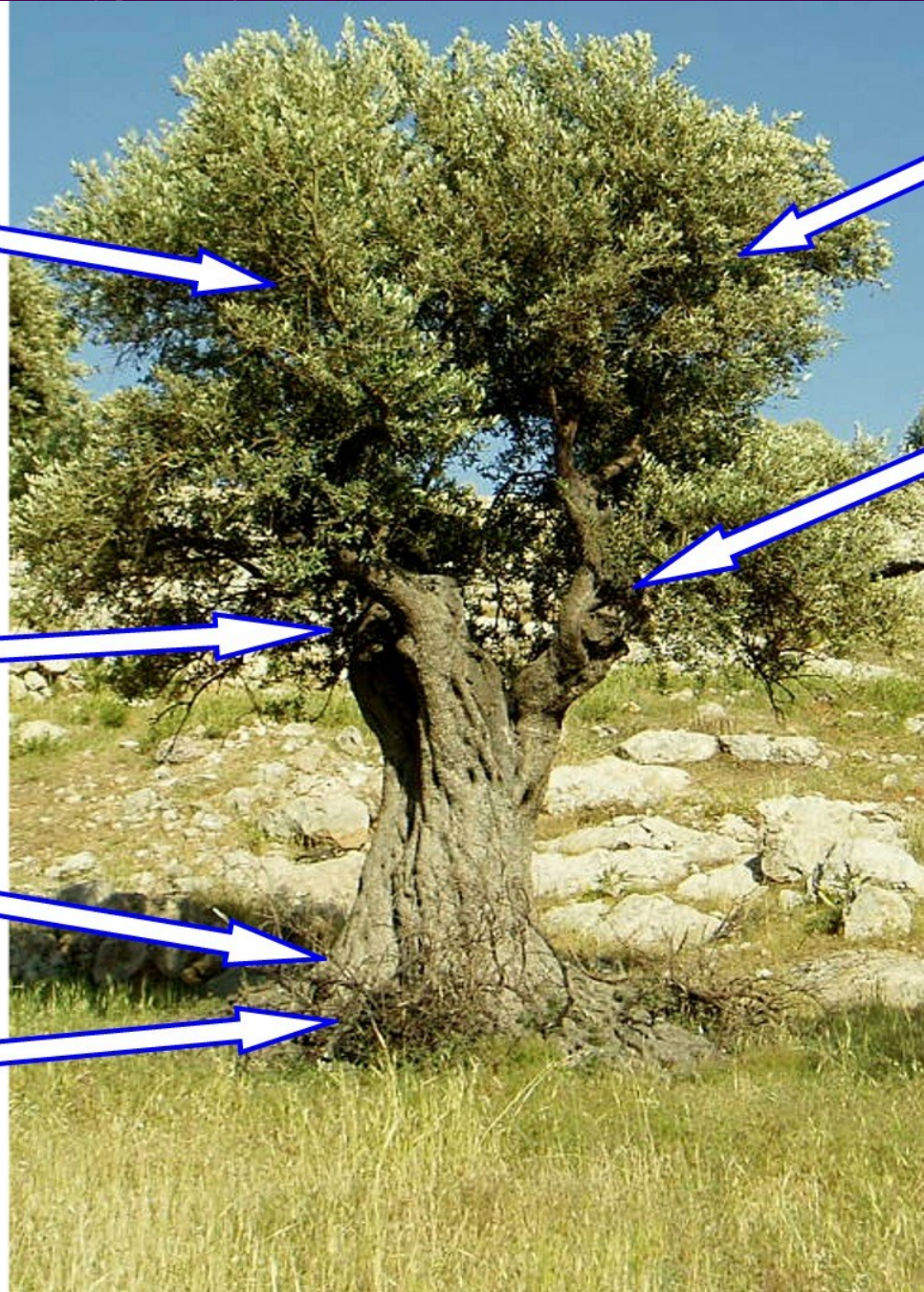
Davidic Covenant
(2 Sam. 7:4-17)

Abrahamic
Covenant
(Gen. 15)

Covenant with Noah
(Gen. 6-9)

Covenant with Creation
(Gen. 1-3)

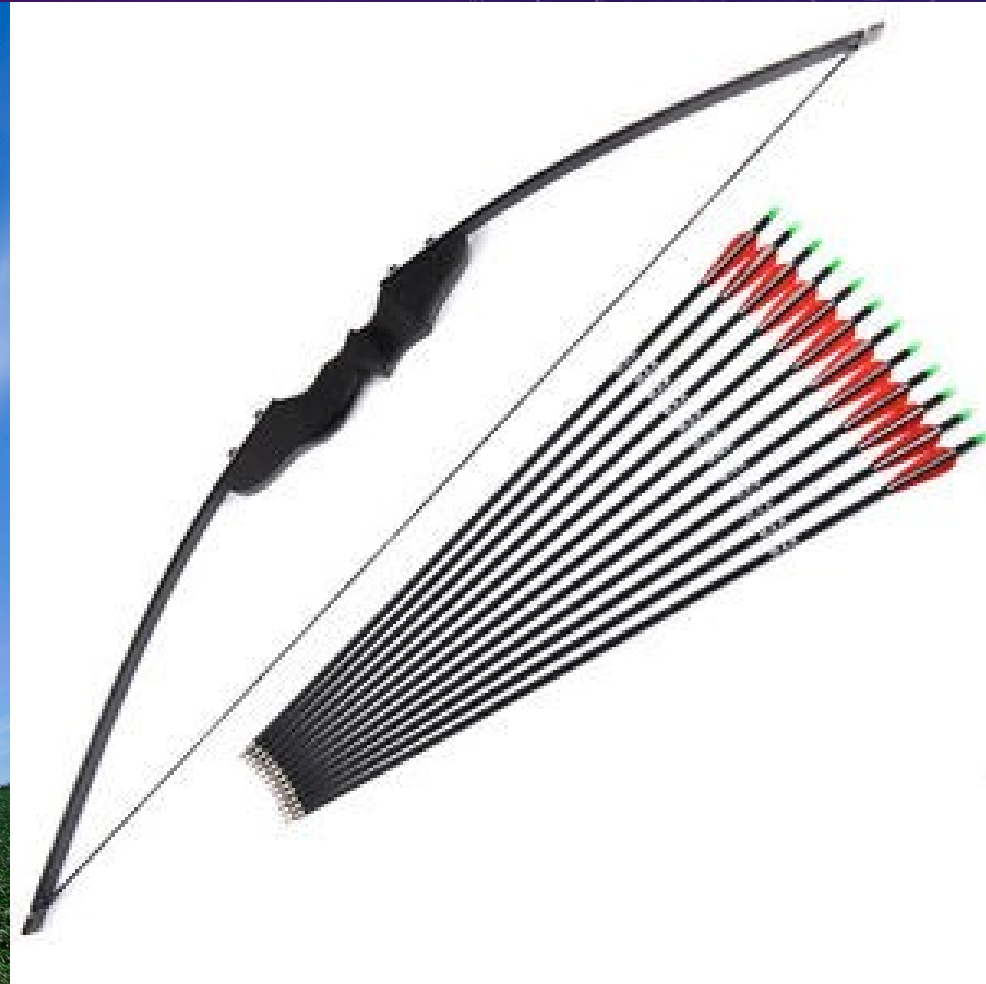
God's
Grace/Generosity,
Mercy, & Love



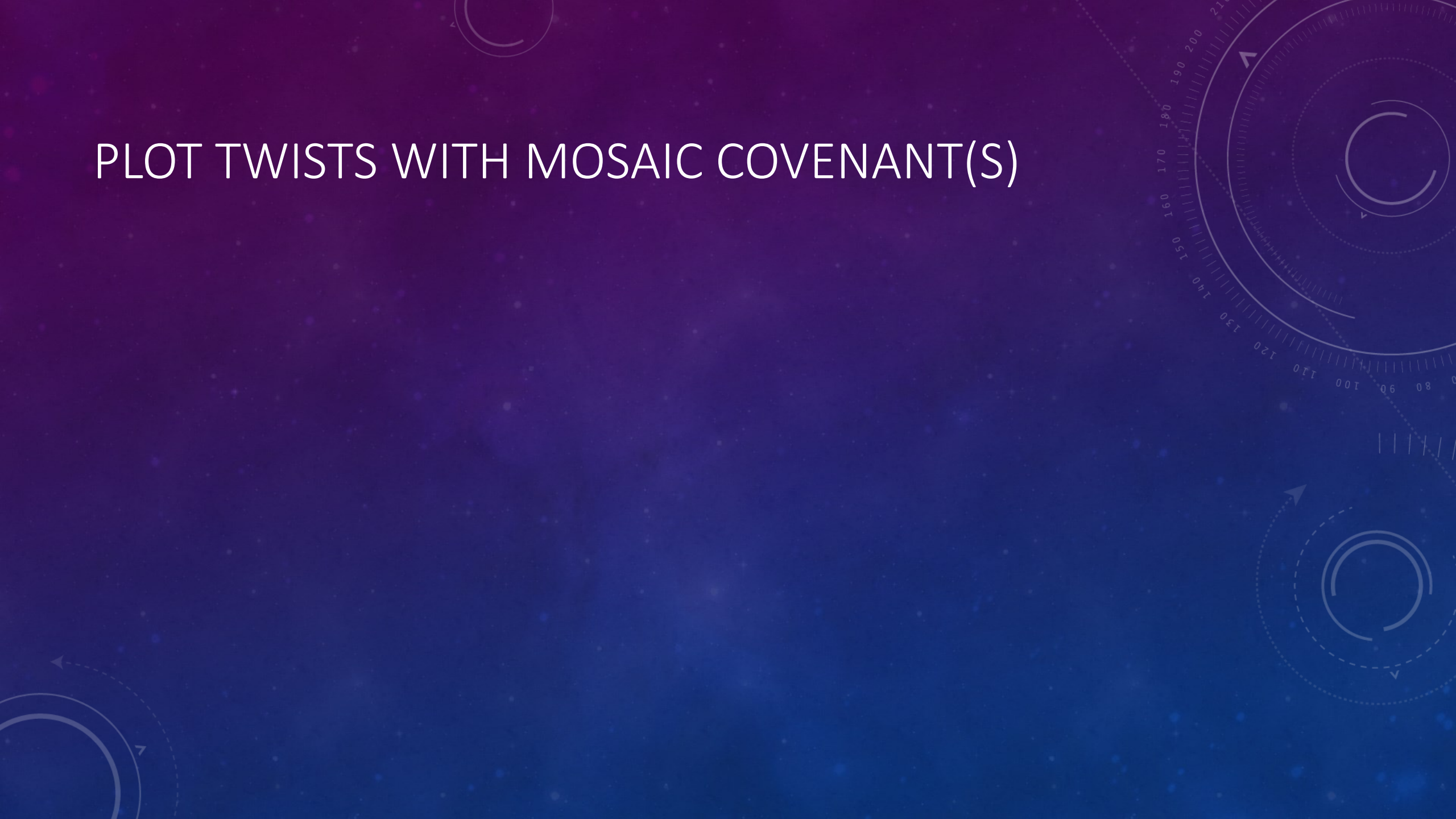
MAJOR PLOT TWISTS IN NOAH'S DAY (GENESIS 6-9)

- **Blood sacrifices** (8:20)
- Do: Be fruitful and multiply!
- Do: Take dominion over the animals. Okay to eat animals now.
- Don't: eat the **life-blood** of animals (9:4)
- Do: put murderers to death
- Shem blessed
- **Noahic Covenant:**
 - God promised to never destroy life on earth like that again (8:22; 9:11-17)
 - Sign – hang War Bow in clouds
 - Stability - seed-and-harvest seasons would continue (8:22)

“WAR BOW”



PLOT TWISTS WITH MOSAIC COVENANT(S)



"wild
ingrafted
branches"

"natural branches"

New Covenant!!!
(Jer.32-32, Ezk.36, etc.)

Mosaic Covenant
(Ex. 19-20) &
Palestinian Covenant
(Deut. 27-30)

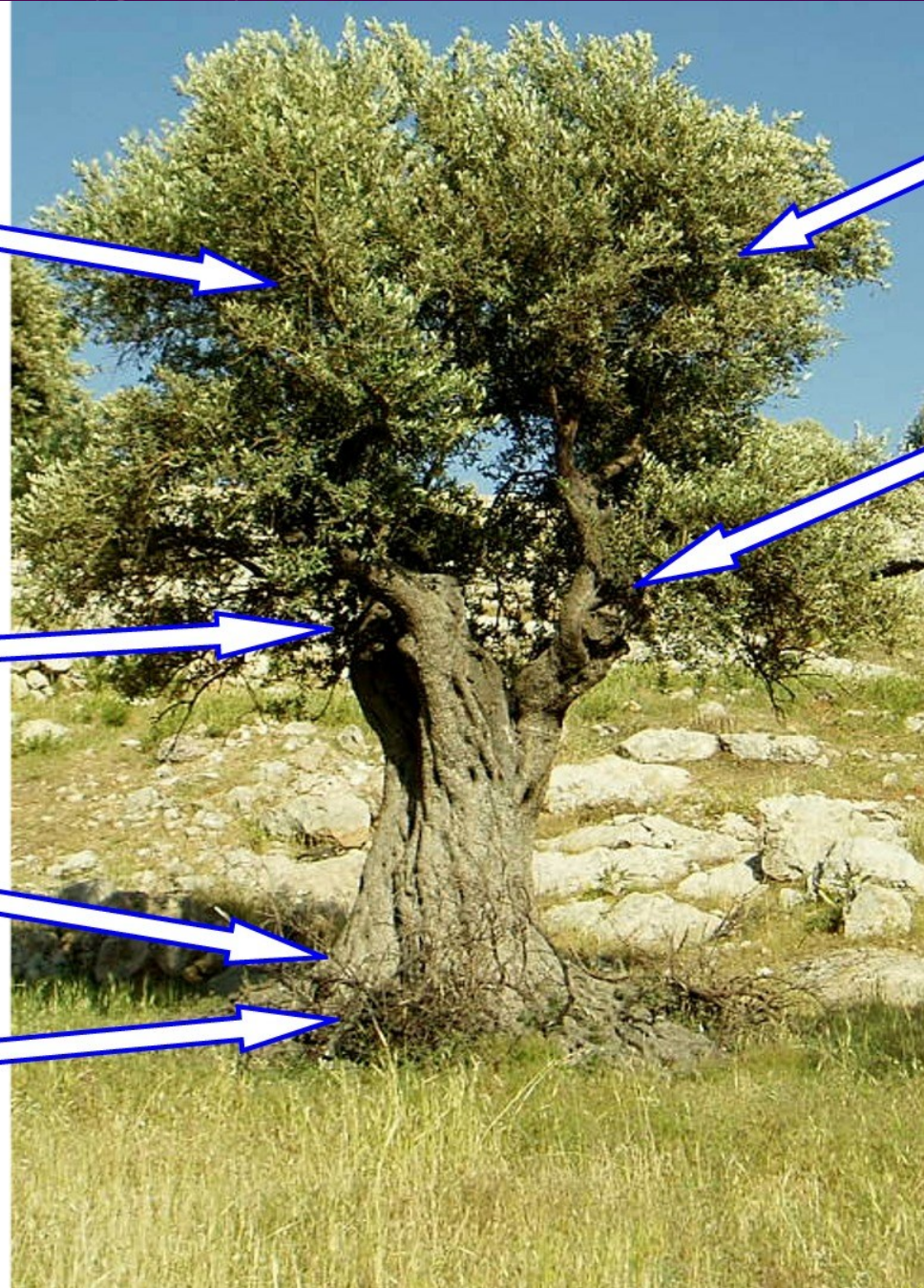
Davidic Covenant
(2 Sam. 7:4-17)

Abrahamic
Covenant
(Gen. 15)

Covenant with Noah
(Gen. 6-9)

Covenant with Creation
(Gen. 1-3)

God's
Grace/Generosity,
Mercy, & Love



PLOT TWISTS WITH MOSAIC COVENANT(S)

- Treasured possession among all peoples
- Kingdom of priests and a holy nation
- Keeping covenant would require obedience (Ex. 19:6)
- Gave Israel the choice (Ex. 19:7). They voluntarily agreed (Ex. 19:8; 24:3,7).
- Marriage imagery (Deut. 29)
- Fiery manifestation

PLOT TWISTS WITH MOSAIC COVENANT(S)

- 613 laws > Ten commandments. > Two commandments
- Ethical bar was raised way higher
- Sacrifices of oxen and blood of covenant thrown upon the people (Ex. 24:8)
- Complex system of blood sacrifices (Leviticus)
- Be different (holy) from and separate from the 7 nations of Canaan

PLOT TWISTS WITH MOSAIC COVENANT(S)

- Branch out of Abrahamic covenant
- Bilateral / Conditional – Blessings and Curses in the land (Deut. 11, 28)
 - Rain vs. Drought
 - Milk and Honey vs. Famine and Pestilence
 - Security from enemies versus Sword, Servitude, Exile, Scattering
- Seems to predict their failure and restoration (Deut. 28-30)

PLOT TWISTS WITH MOSAIC COVENANT(S)

Laws for “strangers who sojourn” (Lev. 17 – 18)(Or 16 – 22)

- No murder & kill the murderer
- No idolatry
- No eating blood of animals
- No sexual immorality (incest, adultery, menstrual, homosexuality, bestiality)

Noahic Covenant Laws

- Three Do's
- One Don't

Mosaic Laws

- ~ 613 laws for Israelites
- ~5-10 laws for Gentile Sojourners

Acts 15 Council Ruling

- Faith alone
- Four "burdens"

EVOLUTIONARY STORYTELLING

- We do live in a world full of change
- We may want to believe that everything is getting better
- But after 100 years since the Scopes Trial and 150 years since Darwin...
 - Fruit fly experiments – flies are still flies
 - E. coli bacteria experiments – e.coli is still e.coli
 - Cells are complex like cities!
 - Massive amounts of meaningful information in the DNA codes
 - Micro = Macro? On one hand, leave room for micro! On other, leave no room for macro!
 - The probability of building our very modest functional protein to be 1 in 10^{164} . (And life requires hundreds of proteins.)
 - www.dissentfromdarwin.com and www.evolutionnews.org
- = Don't tell the story of spiritual or material evolution

MARXIST EQUALITY PROGRESSIVISM

- Marx's prophecies about Germany failed
- Marxism has never worked anywhere in 100 years
- The weak do not need to revolt against the strong
- The have-nots do not need to revolt against the haves
- Rebels do not need to destroy all established sources of authority or truth
- Two wrongs don't make one right
- Don't propagate the Marxist/Neo-Marxist story

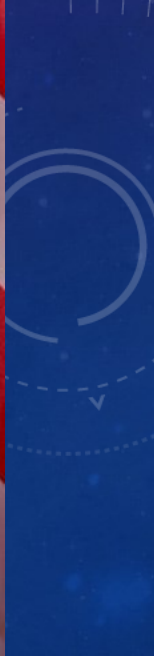


President Trump
Please Liberate Hong Kong
保衛香港憲法
Defend Our Constitution
#Hong Kong Autonomy Action

**TRUMP
LIBERATE
HONG KONG**

President Trump,
please liberate Hong Kong!

**PRESIDENT TRUMP
PLEASE LIBERATE
HONG KONG**





RUSSIA INVADES HUNGARY 1956



Godless existentialism is pictured as the philosophy of our age: the modern poet is not offered the fine edifice of Thomism, as Dante was; he is confronted, we are told, by a bleak doctrine that proclaims that man is not at home in the world but thrown into it, that he has no divine father and is abandoned to a life of care, anxiety, and failure that will end in death, with nothing after that. Poor modern man! In fact, a disillusionment that used to be the prerogative of the few has become common property; and what exhilarated Socrates and Shakespeare, who were in a sense sufficient to themselves, is found depressing by men who lack the power to find meaning in themselves. – Walter Kauffman