

**LOVE: THE
GOAL OF
TRUE
CHRISTIAN
INSTRUCTION**



Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, ⁶from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

1

Timothy

1:5-7



1 TIMOTHY

1:5-7

*Now the purpose of
the commandment is
love from a pure
heart, from a good
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and from sincere
faith,*



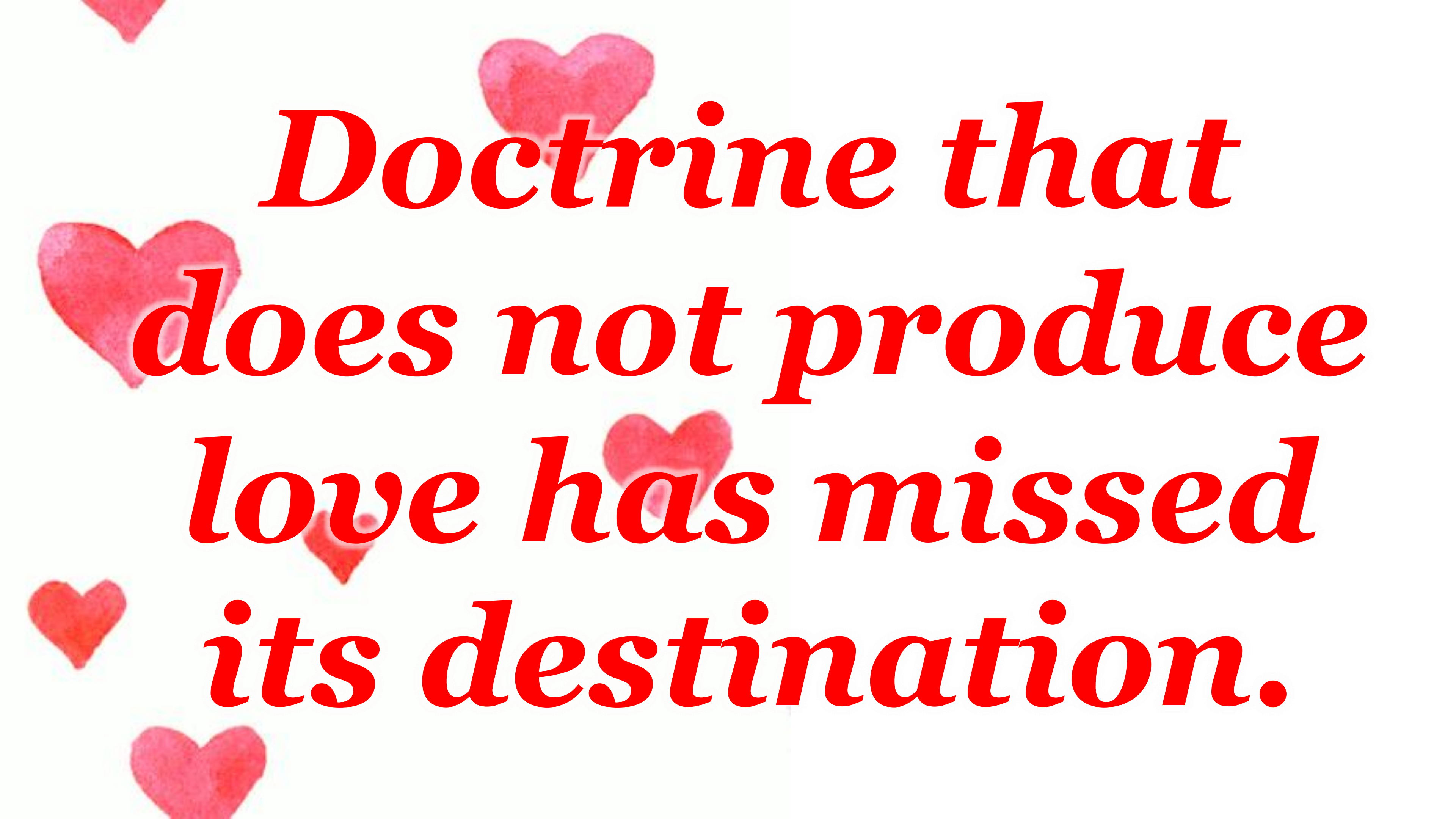
The Heart of Theology

The entire purpose (***telos***, goal, destination) of the commandment he has been discussing is love.

Not doctrinal mastery.
Not ecclesiastical order.
Not spiritual experience.

Love.



The image features several soft, pink, watercolor-style hearts scattered across the white background. Some hearts are partially visible at the edges, while others are more centrally located, creating a gentle, romantic atmosphere.

*Doctrine that
does not produce
love has missed
its destination.*

I. THE TELOS: LOVE

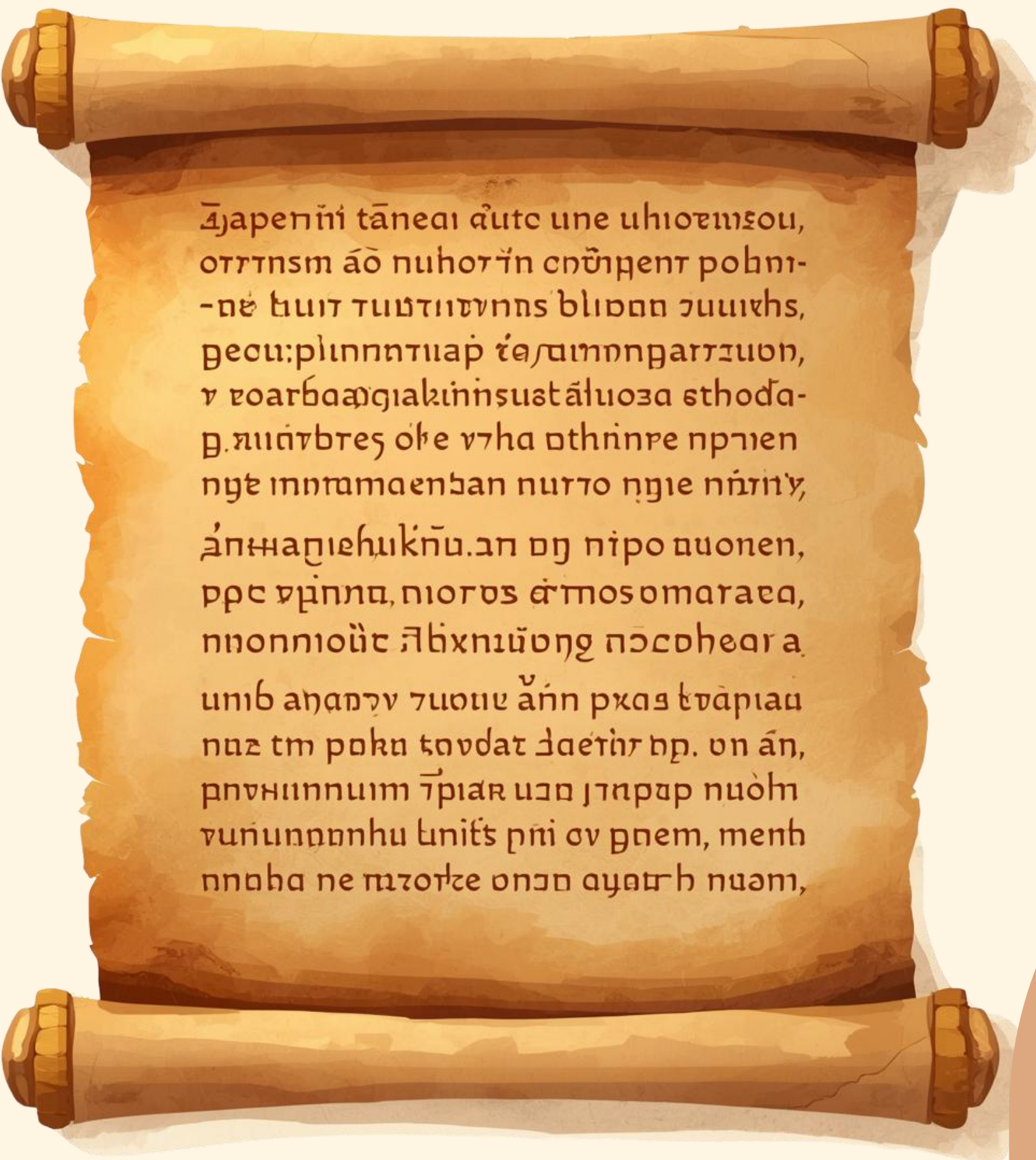
The Greek word
telos (τέλος)
means "goal,"
"end," or "purpose."



ROMANS 10:4

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.





THE GREEK WORD: TELOS (ΤΕΛΟΣ)

Paul says Christ is the
telos of the law.

Aristotle

The telos of medicine is health.
The telos of education is wisdom.
The telos of Christian instruction
is 'agape' love.

B. Agape — The Love that the Gospel Produces

Paul uses the word *agape*, not the other Greek words for love.

Eros is romantic or passionate love.

Philia is friendship or affectionate love.

Storge is family affection.

ROMANS 5:8

God demonstrates
His own love
toward us, in that
while we were still
sinners, Christ died
for us.



MATTHEW 5:46-47



For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

GALATIANS 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.



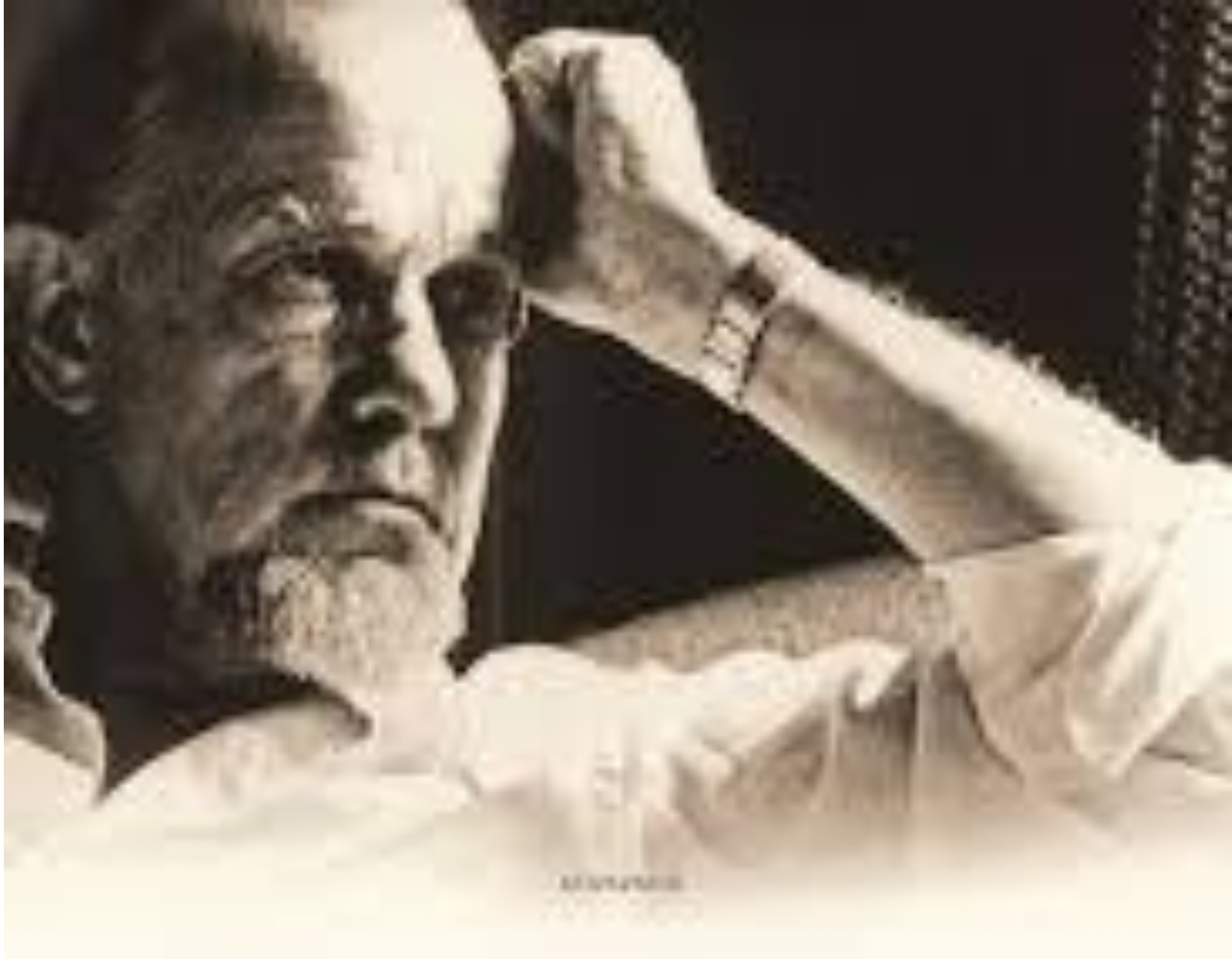
C. Love and Truth — The False Contradiction



**THE MAIN POINT:
LOVE IS THE GOAL**

This is a counterfeit love that is a form of cowardice. Paul would call it the opposite of love.





Francis Schaeffer

We must speak the truth, but we must speak it in love. And we must demonstrate the love, or the truth will not be heard.

- *Truth without love is brutality.*
- *Love without truth is sentimentality.*
- *The Gospel requires both.*

THE THREE ROOTS OF GENUINE LOVE

1
**Pure
Heart**

2
**GOOD
CONSCIENCE**

3
**Sincere
Faith**

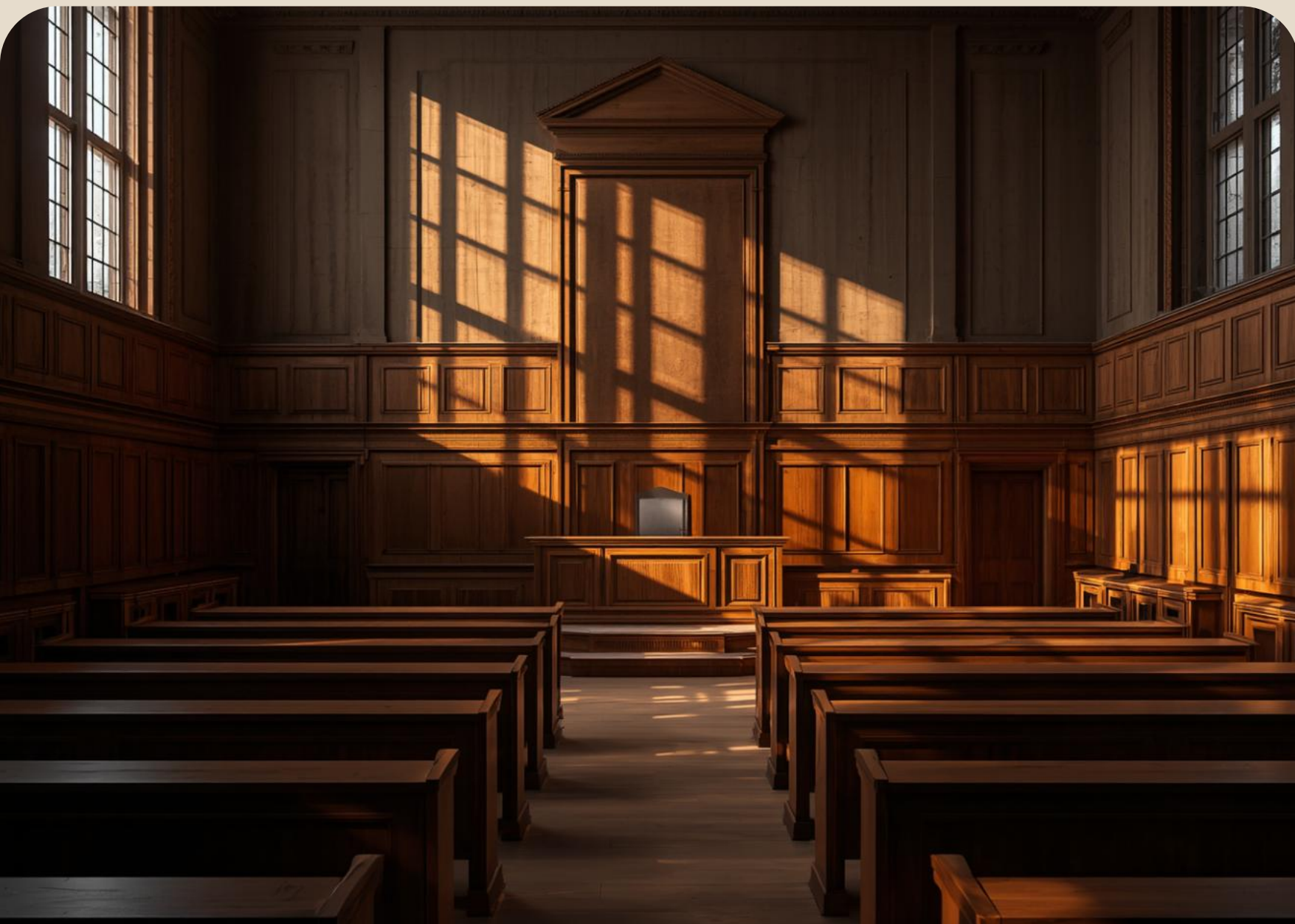
MATTHEW 5:18

*Blessed are the pure
in heart, For they
shall see God.*



1 TIMOTHY 6:5

Useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.



PSALM 51:10

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."



The Gospel

uniquely

produces

pure hearts



TITUS 1:15



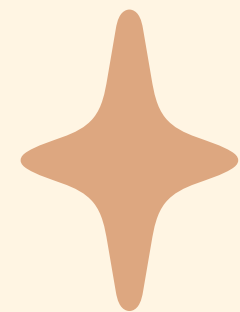
"Their mind and
conscience is
defiled."

THE THREE ROOTS OF GENUINE LOVE

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ROOT 1:

Pure

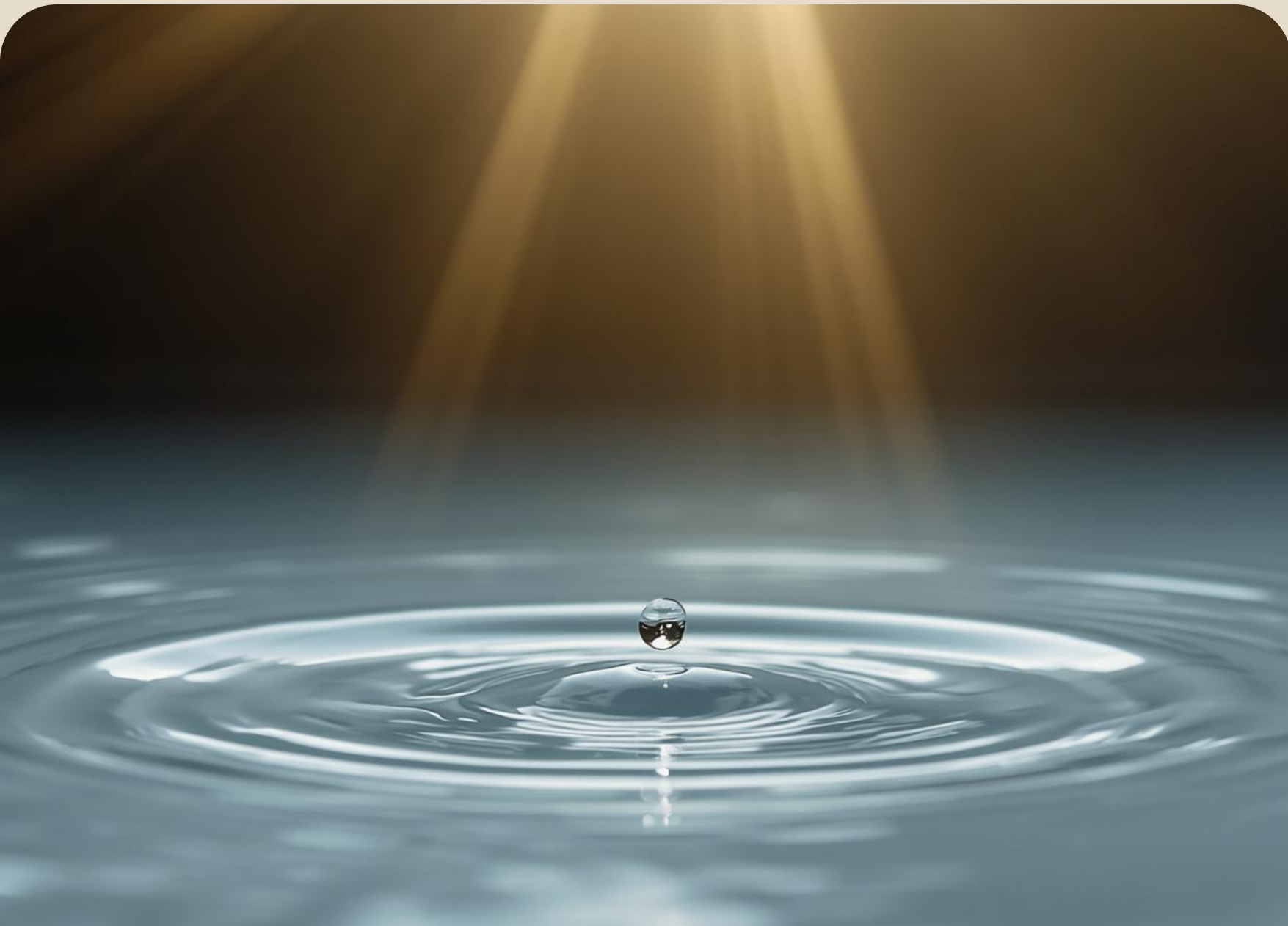
Heart



The word conscience
(*syneidesis*) appears 30
times in the New
Testament and 10 times
in the Pastoral Epistles

HEBREWS 9:14

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?



1 TIMOTHY 4:2

Speaking lies in
hypocrisy, having
their own
conscience seared
with a hot iron.



2 CORINTHIANS

1:12

For our boasting is this:
the testimony of our
conscience that we
conducted ourselves in the
world in simplicity and
godly sincerity, not with
fleshly wisdom but by the
grace of God, and more
abundantly toward you.





ROOT 2: GOOD CONSCIENCE

THE THREE ROOTS OF GENUINE LOVE

1

**A pure
faith that
trusts
and relies
on God
alone.**

2

**A good
conscience,
clear and
responsive
to God's
truth.**

3

**A sincere
heart,
genuine
and
without
hypocrisy.**



ROOT 3:

SINCERE

Faith

The third root is sincere
faith (Greek:
anupokritos pistis,
literally unhypocritical
faith, faith without a mask)



SINCERE
'ΑΝΥΠ'ΟΚΡΙΤΟΣ

(Greek
nomodidaskalos
a term carrying all
the prestige of the
rabbinic office in
Jewish culture)

2 TIMOTHY 1:5

The genuine faith that is in you, the faith passed down from Lois to Eunice to Timothy.

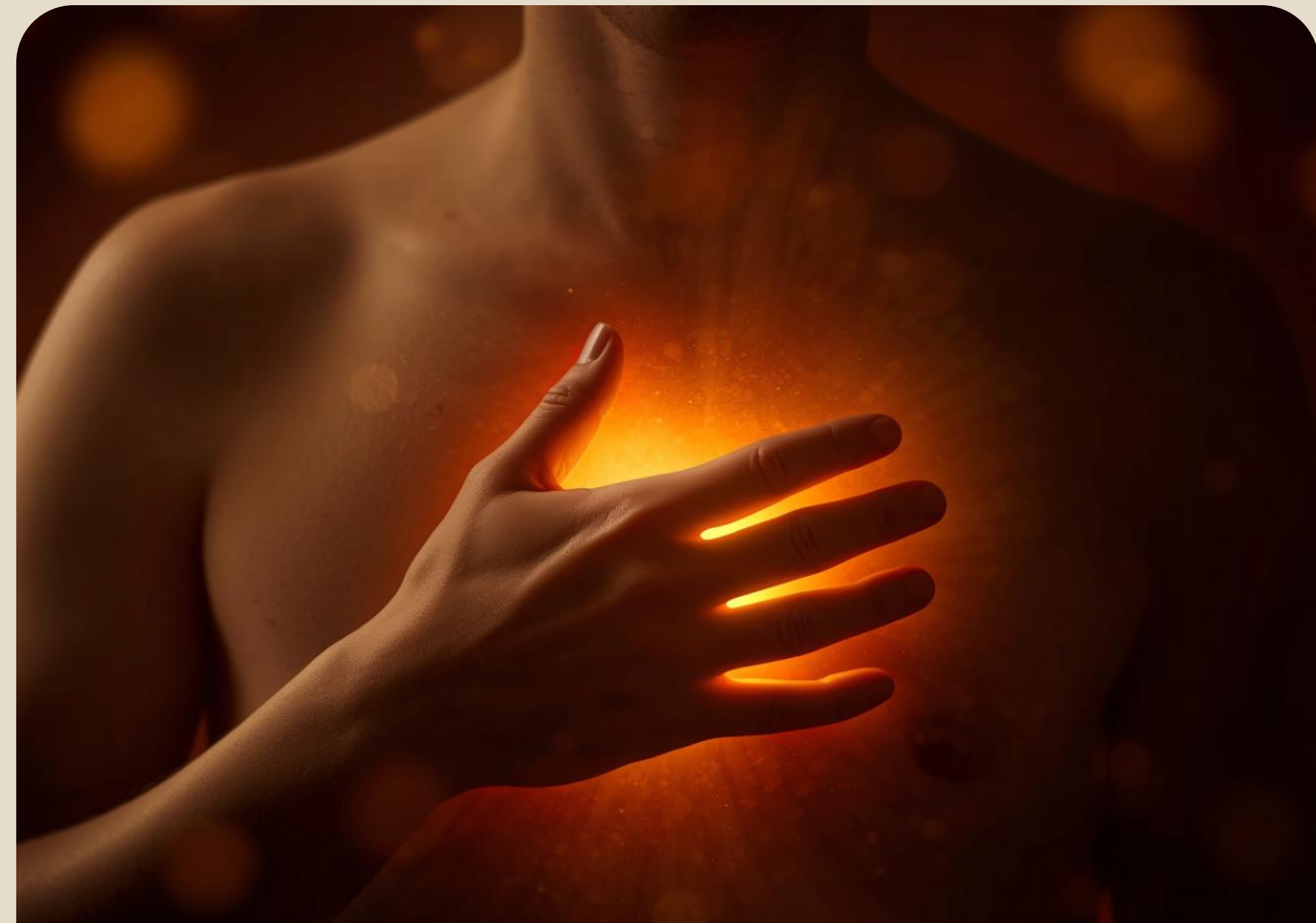




III. THE CONSCIENCE IN THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

ROMANS 2:14-15

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them.



ROMANS 8:16



The Spirit
Himself bears
witness with our
spirit that we are
children of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:4



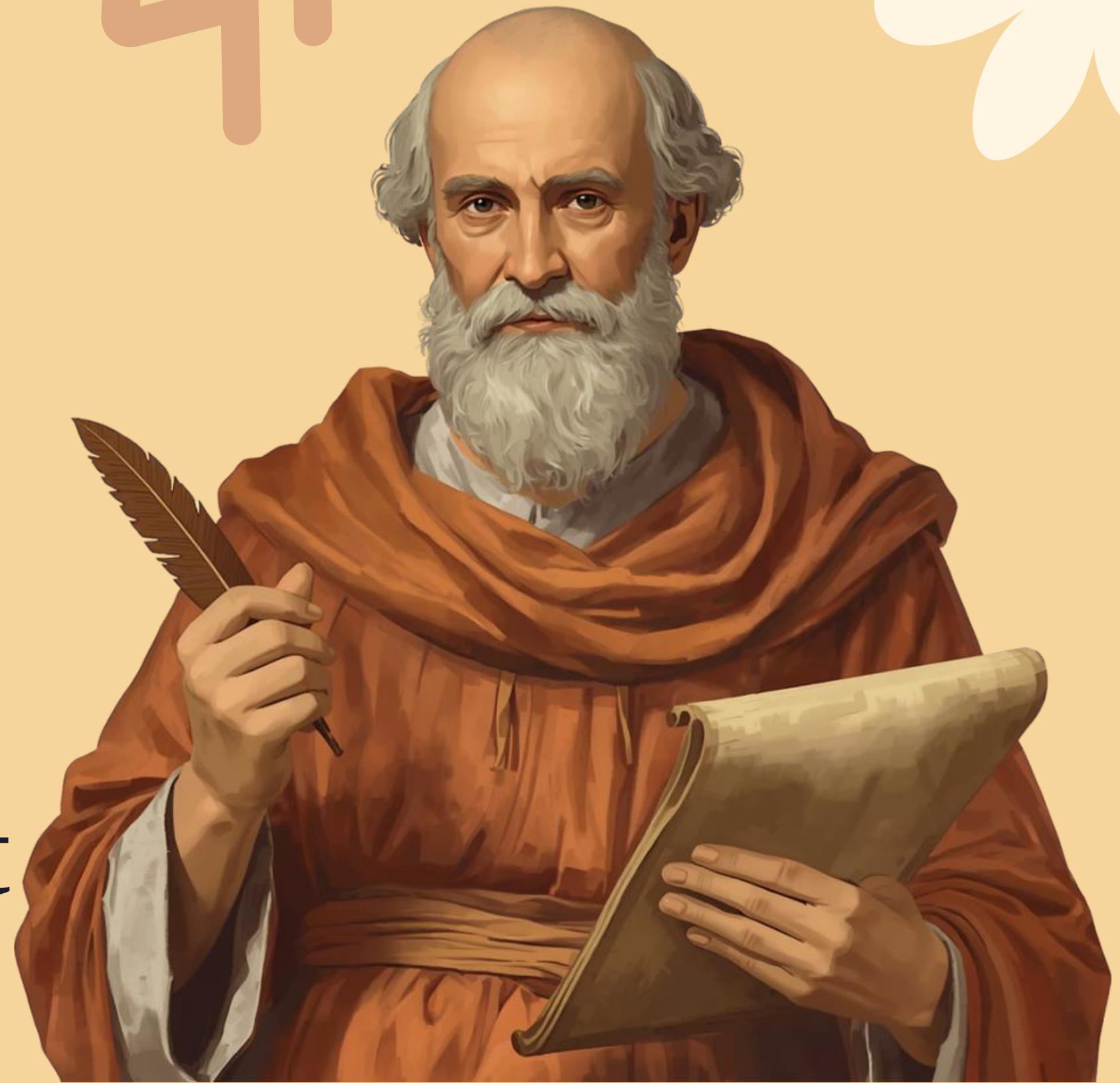
"I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me."



B. The Weak and Strong Conscience in Romans 14–15

PAUL ON CONSCIENCE

The practical principle
Paul establishes is
important: stronger
believers are not to use
their freedom in a way that
wounds the weaker
conscience.



ROMANS 14:15

Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died.





IV. THE FAILURE: FROM FAITH TO IDLE TALK



1 TIMOTHY 1:6

from which some,
having strayed, have
turned aside to idle
talk,

**A. The Word
Straying**



1 TIMOTHY 1:7



desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

**B. Idle talk and the
desire to be Teachers**

JAMES 3:1-2

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.





V. Love in the Context of Ephesus.

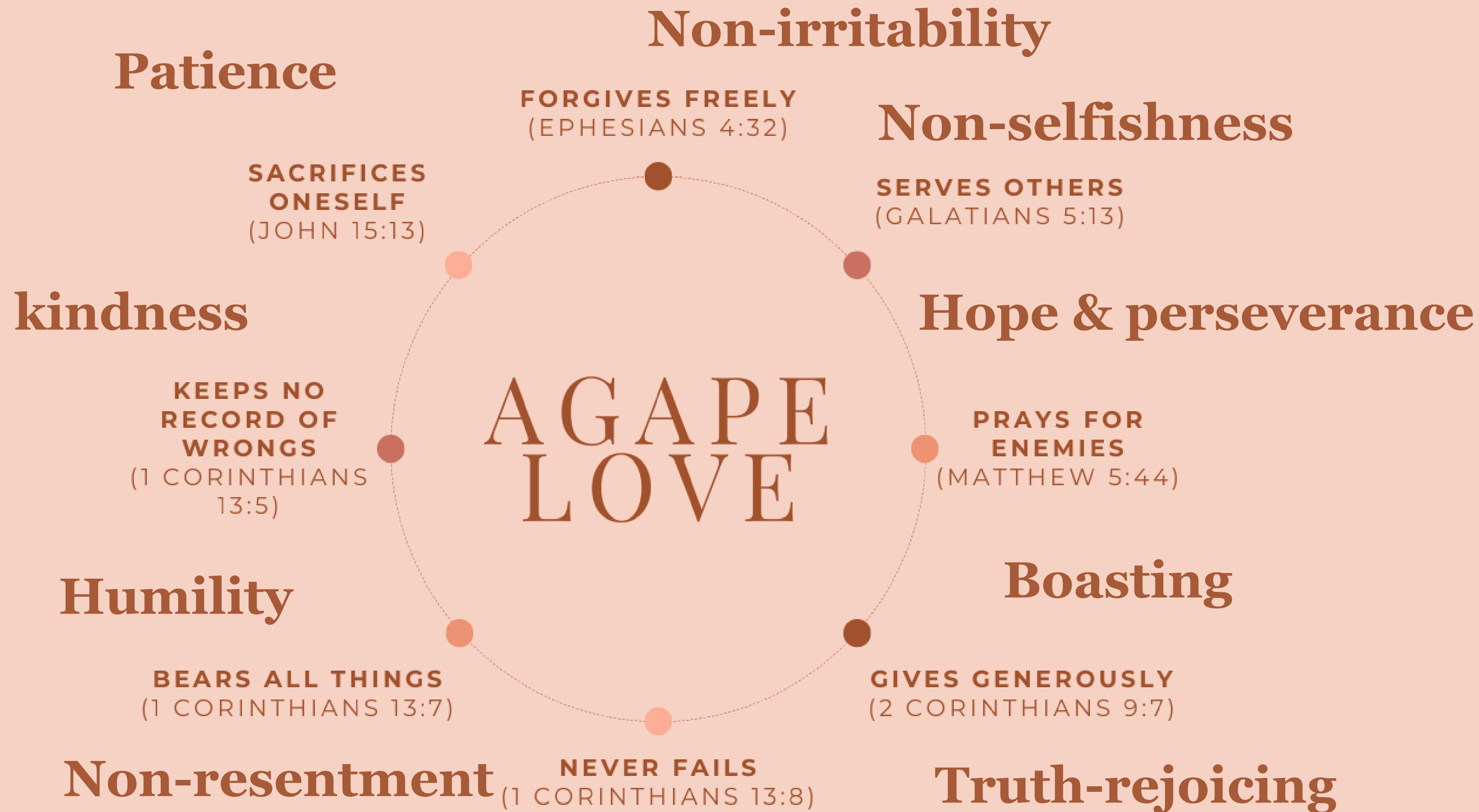
A. The Social Fabric of Ephesian Religion



**Religion was a
business
arrangement.
You gave the
goddess your
devotion and she
gave you
prosperity.**

1 Corinthians 13 as the Exposition of 1 Timothy 1:5







VI. Love and the Ethical Tradition of the New Testament.

MATTHEW

22:37-40

*"You shall love the Lord
your God with all your
heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind...
You shall love your
neighbour as yourself."*

**On these two
commandments hang all
the Law and the Prophets.**



ROMANS 13:8-10

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law... Love does no harm to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.





FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5.22-23

GALATIANS

5:22-23



But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- ✓ **Joy is love exulting.**
- ✓ **Peace is love resting.**
- ✓ **Longsuffering is love enduring.**
- ✓ **Kindness is love relating.**
- ✓ **Goodness is love giving.**
- ✓ **Faithfulness is love persevering.**
- ✓ **Gentleness is love yielding.**
- ✓ **Self-control is love governing.**

GALATIANS 5:25



*If we live in
the Spirit, let
us also walk
in the Spirit.*

TITUS 3:5



Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

EPHESIANS 1:13



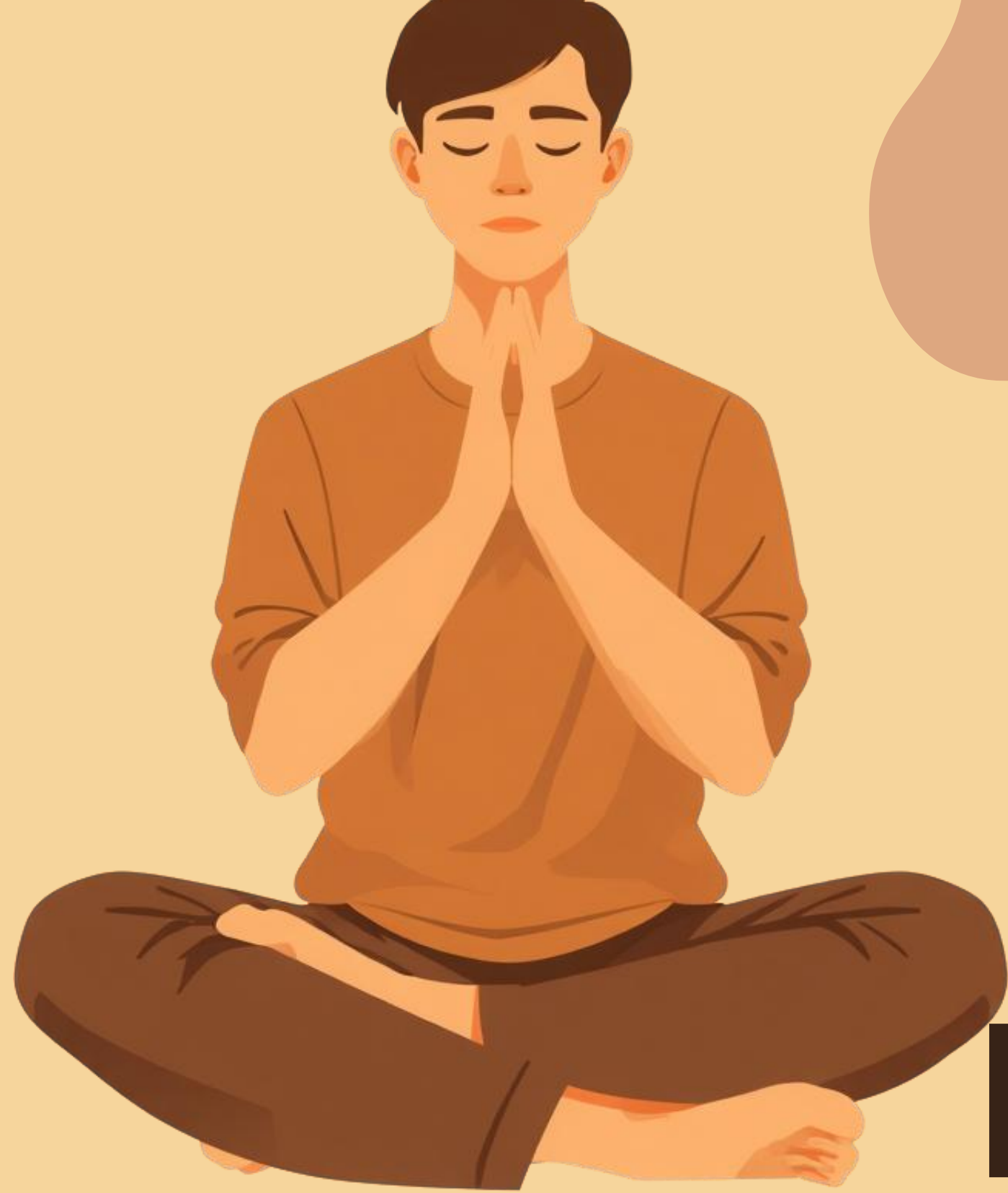
In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

JOHN 15:4-5



I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.



C. John's Witness to Love as the Defining Mark



1 JOHN 4:7-8



Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

JESUS' COMMAND TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER



JOHN 13:35



*By this all will
know that you are
My disciples, if you
have love for one
another.*



Whoever, then, thinks that he understands the Holy Scriptures, or any part of them, but puts such an interpretation upon them as does not tend to build up this twofold love of God and our neighbour, does not yet understand them as he ought.

VII. Historical Theology: Augustine on Love



Love

The purpose of all Scripture
The purpose of all doctrine
The purpose of all preaching

"Love and do what you will.

If you hold your peace, hold your peace by love;

if you cry out, cry out by love;

if you correct, correct by love;

if you spare, spare by love.

Let love's root be within you, and from that root nothing but good can spring." —

Augustine of Hippo, Homilies on 1 John





*Jackie Pullinger was a young **British** woman fresh out of music college when, in **1966**, she felt God calling her to **Hong Kong** with no organisation behind her, no salary, and no plan beyond the belief that He was sending her.*

**JACKIE
PULLINGER**

JACKIE PULLINGER ON LOVE AND TEACHING

Her ministry in Hong Kong's Walled City became a living testimony: genuine love, rooted in faith and a pure heart, is the most powerful form of Christian instruction.



JACKIE PULLINGER'S LIFE OF LOVE AND INSTRUCTION



*“the fruit of the Holy Spirit doing what nothing else could.” Several of the very men she nursed through withdrawal became pastors and leaders of the ministry she started, **St. Stephen’s Society**, which still works among addicts around the world today.*



***Christ has cleansed, and a
faith that is real.
That is the love that changes
the world.
That is the love to which all
true teaching points.***



This week, examine your motives for serving in the church. **Is it love for God and for others, or is it the desire for recognition, reputation, or belonging?** Bring your honest answer to God in prayer.

LOVE AS GOAL & ROOT



THE CALL TO LOVE

Conscience check: Is there an area of your life where you have been silencing the voice of conscience? The good news is that **1 John 1:9 promises that confession leads to cleansing. Do not wait. Return today.**