

# LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR MIND: A STUDY IN LOGICAL THINKING



## PART FIVE POSTMODERNISM AND OTHER ERRORS



**TRUTH ON THE  
WEB MINISTRIES**

**[WWW.TOTW.ORG](http://WWW.TOTW.ORG)**

EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE  
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



# John 18:38

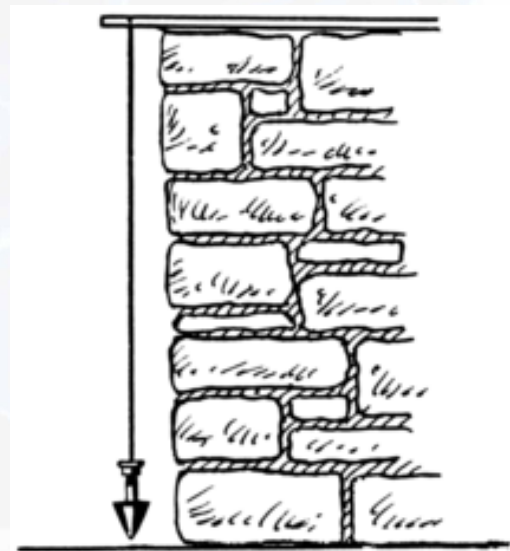
Pilate saith unto him *[Jesus]*, **What is truth?**

And when he had said this, **he went out** again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.

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## Genesis 22:15–17

And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, **By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD**, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: **That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;**





## Hebrews 6:13 (GNB)

When God made his promise to Abraham, **he made a vow to do what he had promised**. Since there was no one greater than himself, **he used his own name when he made his vow**.



## Hebrews 6:14

Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee [the promise]

1. **Surely** *[the oath]*
2. **blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee** *[the promise]*



# LOGIC

## IMMUTABLE, adjective

invariable; unalterable; not capable or usceptible of change.

Some synonyms of immutable:

abiding

sacrosanct

fixed

stable

enduring

changeless

invariable

steadfast

immovable

ageless

permanent

unalterable

inflexible

constant

perpetual

unmodifiable





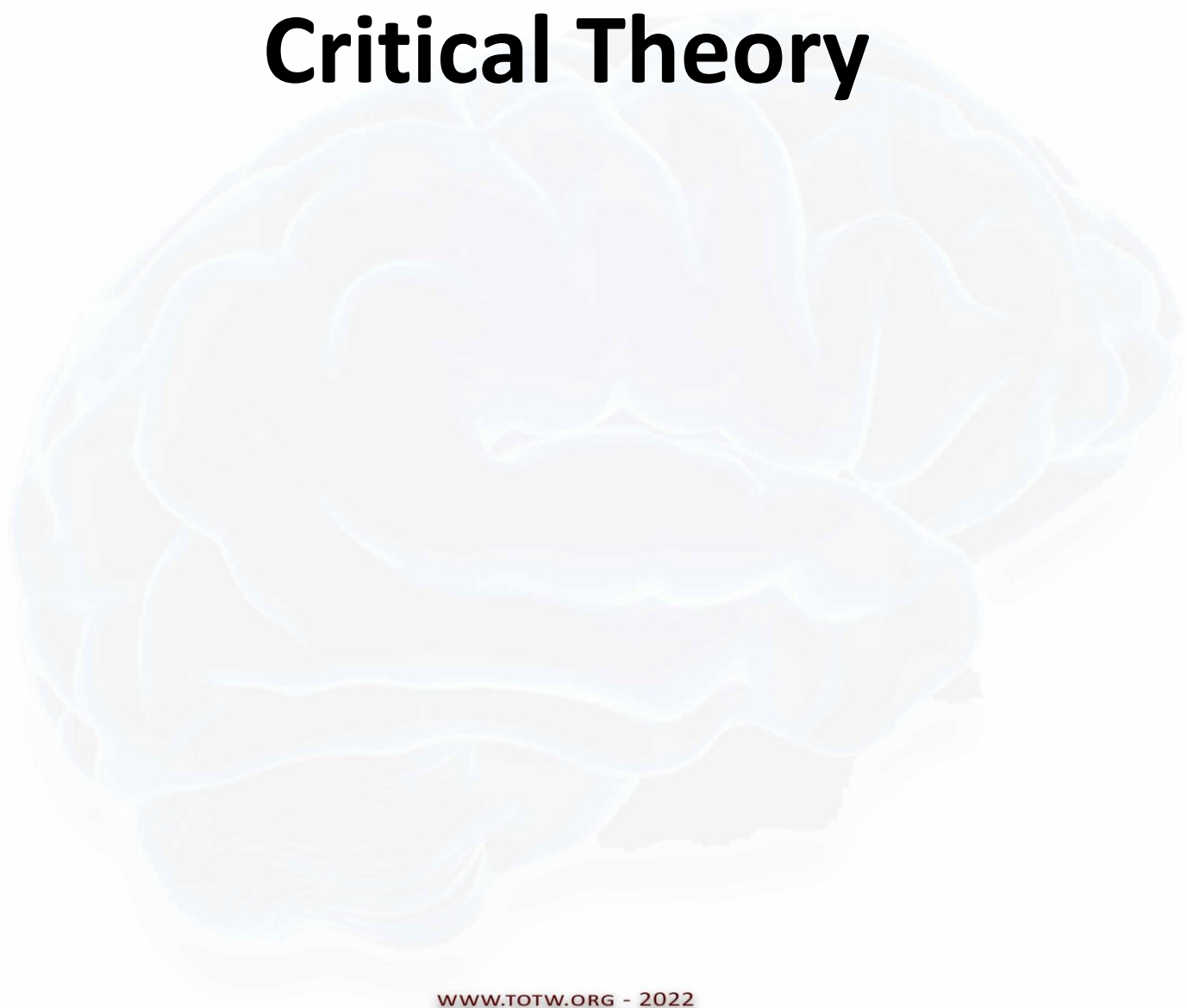
## Hebrews 6:16-18 (KJV)

For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of **promise** the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an **oath**: That by two immutable things, **in which it was impossible for God to lie**, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:





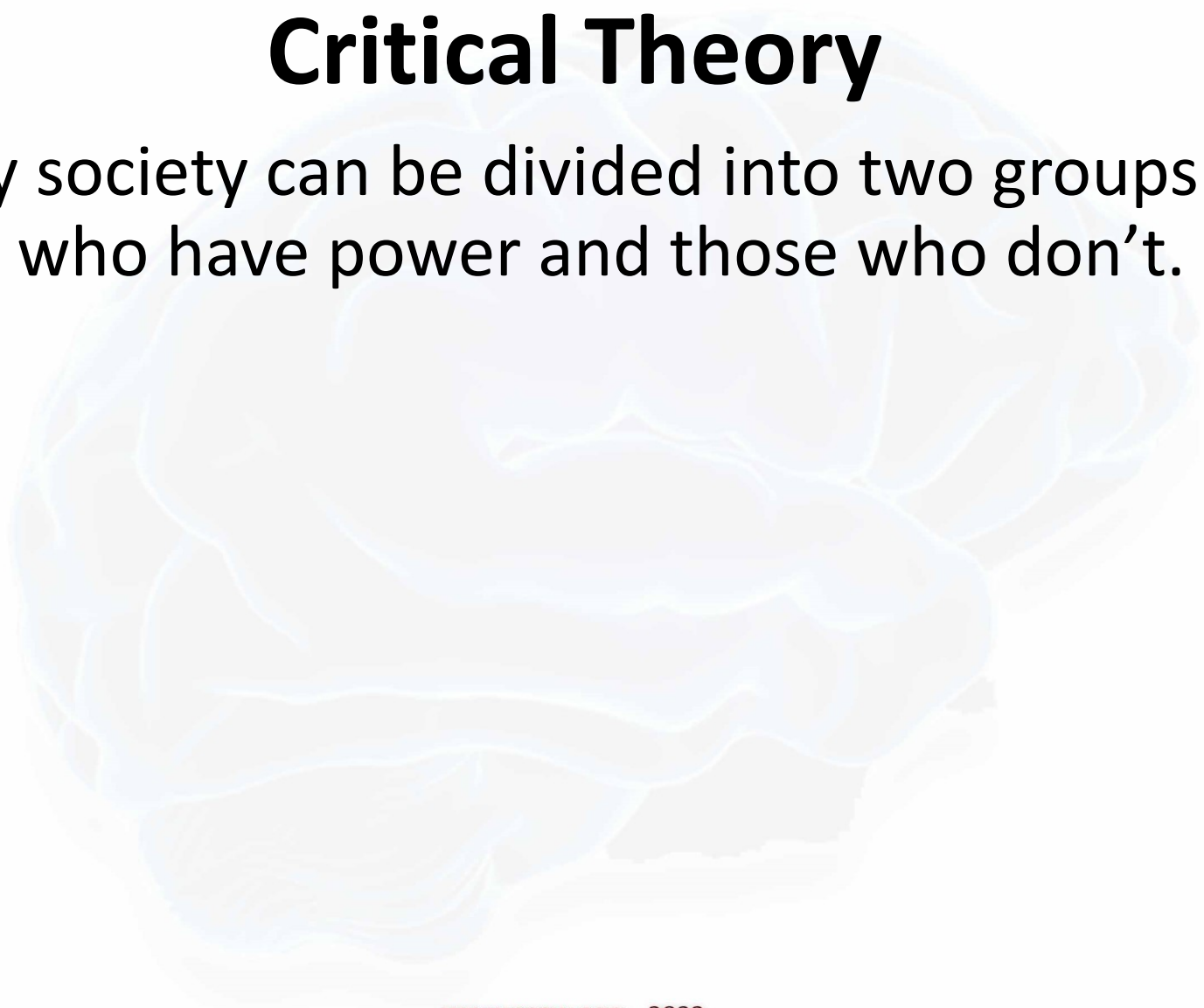
# Critical Theory





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For example, Marxism divided them by those who own (the Bourgeois) and those that do not own (the Proletariat).





## **Bourgeois** *noun*

1: a member of the middle class.

2: a person whose political, economic, and social opinions are believed to be determined mainly by concern for property values and conventional respectability.

3: a shopkeeper or merchant.





## **Proletariat** *noun*

1: the class of wage earners, especially those who earn their living by manual labor or who are dependent for support on daily or casual employment; the working class.

2: (in Marxist theory) the class of workers, especially industrial wage earners, who do not possess capital or property and must sell their labor to survive.





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**Today: Race, Gender, Religion, Immigration status, income, gender identity, etc.**







# Critical Theory

Critical theory bases the 'worth' of a person on what group(s) they belong to. The more groups, the higher value an individual has. Not everyone has the same value as a human being.

'Us vs Them'

The more 'oppressed' someone is, the less moral responsibility they have.





Critical theory (of whatever variety) has one goal: Revolution!

The oppressed must revolt against the oppressors by whatever means available.

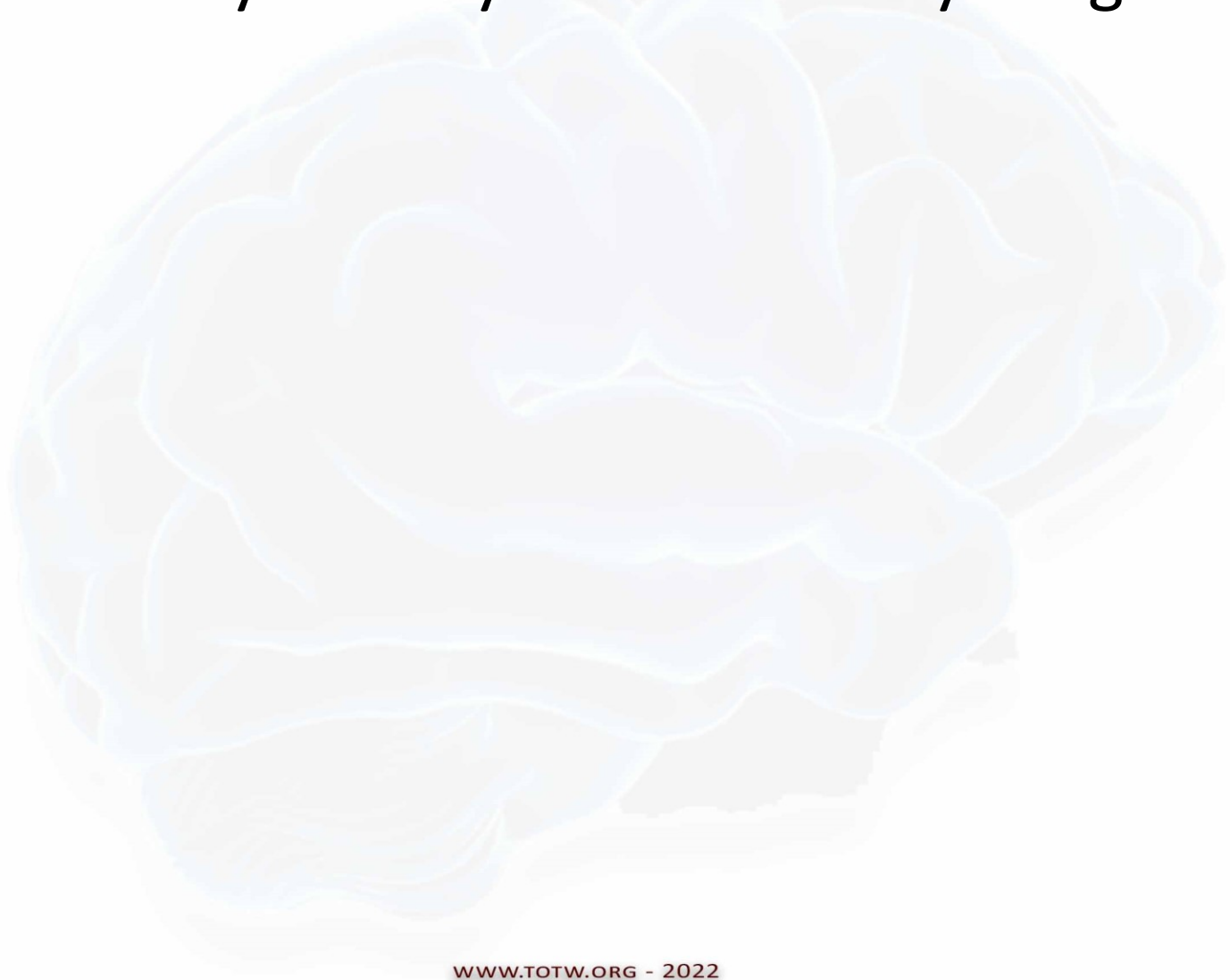
Since the 'oppressors' are of less value, they can be dealt with as the oppressed see fit.

Riots, looting, property destruction, imprisonment and mass murder are all valid means by which the oppressed can **'express their rage'**.





Critical theory bases your worth on your group(s)





Critical theory bases your worth on your group(s)  
Whereas, God bases the value of each human being in the fact that we are all made in the His image. We are all created equal before God – equally valuable, equally guilty of sin – equally deserving of punishment and equally able to find grace and mercy from God in Jesus.





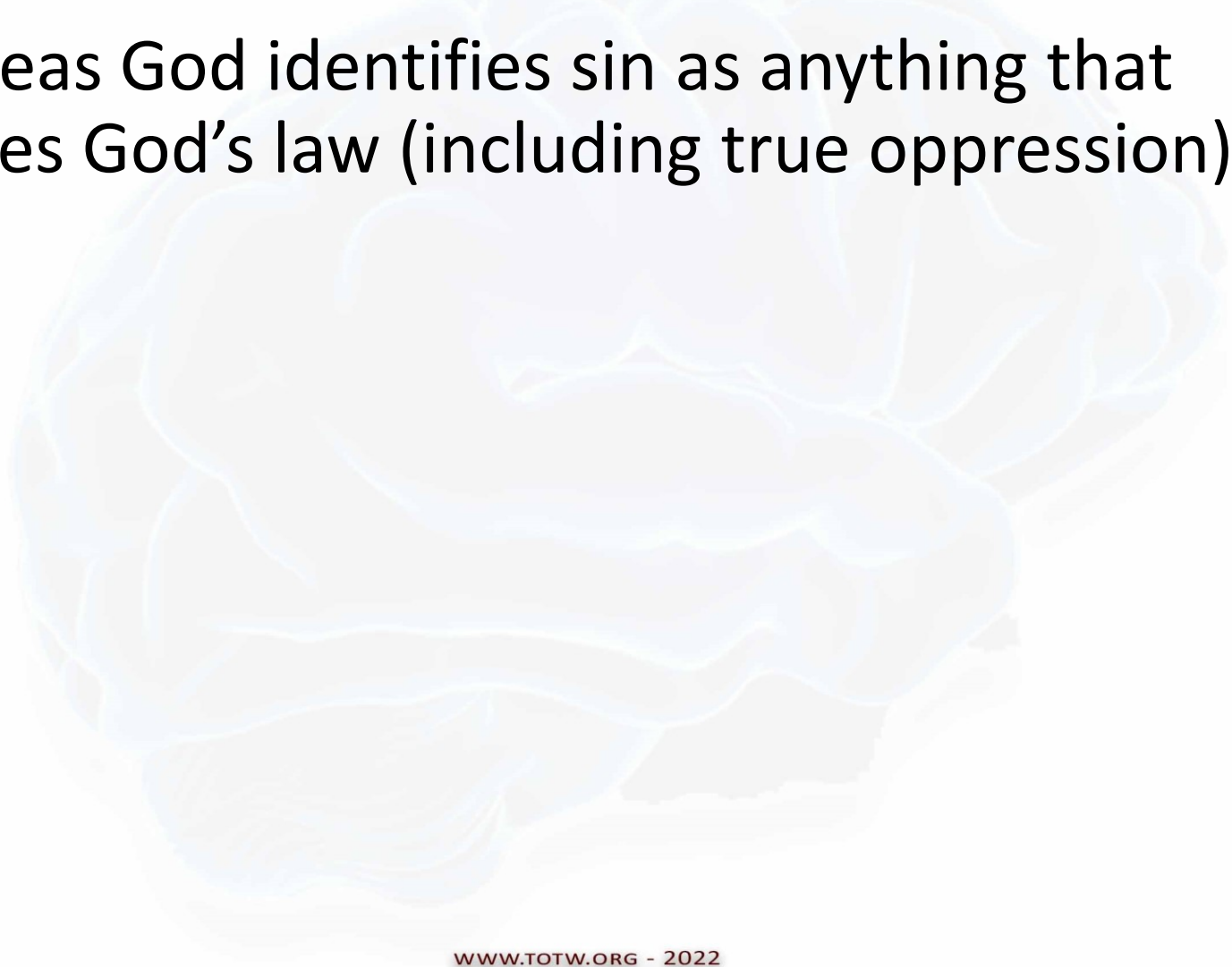


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Critical theory identifies Biblical ideals such as discipleship, correction, leadership and reproof as 'sinful' assertions of oppressive power. It would excuse a multitude of sins for the oppressed (they would be 'justified' since they are oppressed).

Whereas God says we are all guilty before God, regardless of our group.







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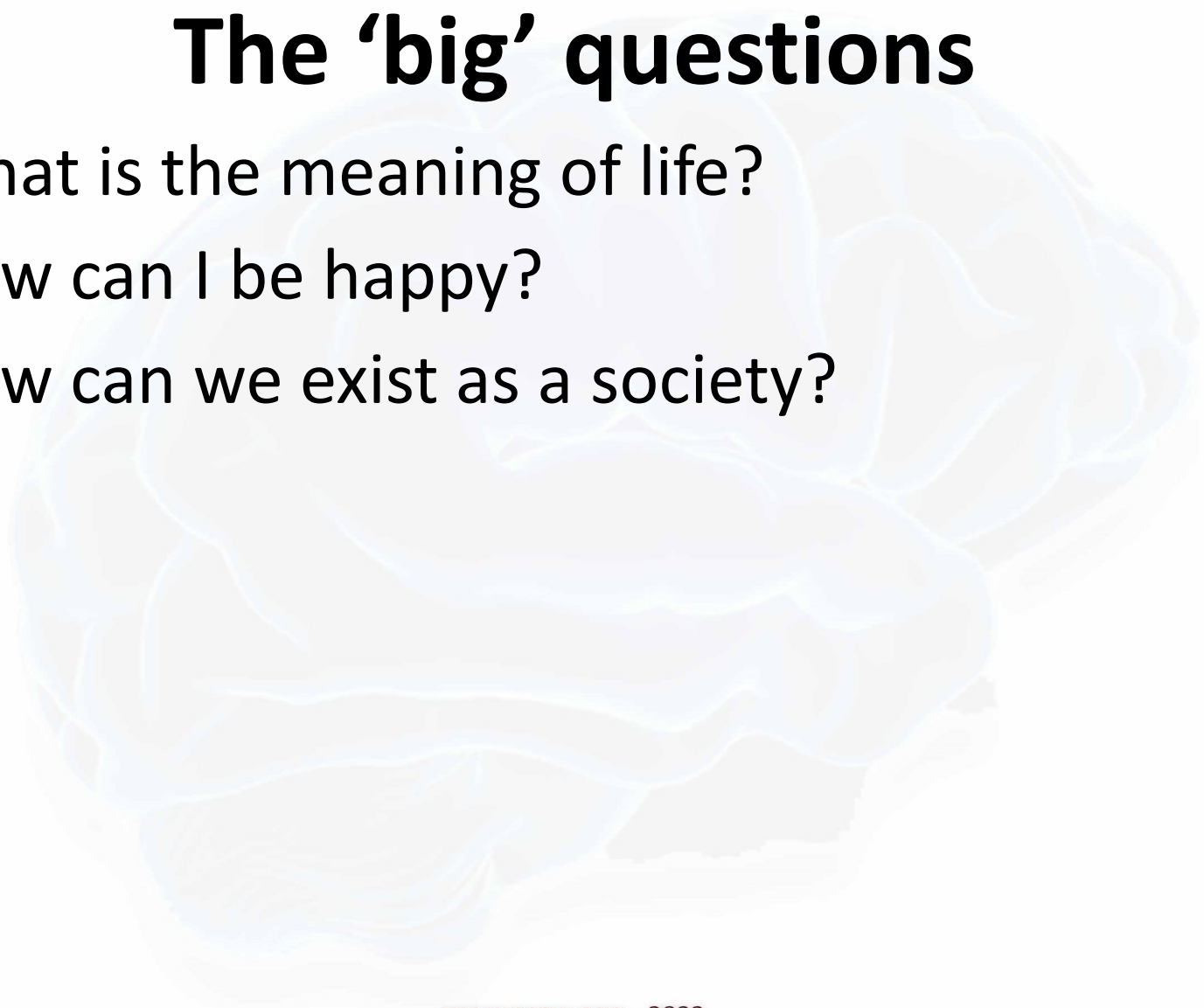
Whereas God teaches that since all are guilty before Him, all must repent and seek forgiveness in Jesus the Christ.





# The 'big' questions

- What is the meaning of life?
- How can I be happy?
- How can we exist as a society?



## **Idealist** *noun* ide·al·ist

1: one guided by ideals, especially one that places ideals before practical considerations

## **Utopia** *noun* uto·pia

1: a place of ideal perfection especially in laws, government, and social conditions

2: an impractical scheme for social improvement

## **Utopian** *adjective* uto·pi·an

2: proposing or advocating impractically ideal social and political schemes, ***utopian idealists***

*m-w.com*







In European history the period from 1680—1799 is frequently designated the “Age of Enlightenment” or the “Age of Reason.”

This was in direct opposition to what they considered the failure of the dark ages – the “Age of Faith.”

Partisans of “enlightenment” advocated the free use of “reason” as the guiding authority for discerning truth and understanding humankind and the world. They often rejected the teachings of Christianity.





Many sharply criticized traditional Christian beliefs such as man's need for Divine Salvation, the reality of miracles, the fulfillment of biblical prophecy and the divinity of Christ. They questioned Scripture's infallibility and endorsed biblical criticism. In general, they trumpeted the motif that orthodox Christianity promoted not light but darkness, not truth but superstition and not peace and civility but fanaticism.

They claimed that the advance of 'Reason' would promote an "enlightened" day of happiness, toleration and progress.





The Age of Enlightenment, while hostile to Christianity, still, in broad strokes, held on to the idea of Deism – there was a God, but He was impersonal. However, mankind was still governed by His inalienable moral Laws (and rights).

It didn't come out the way they hoped...  
A short while later came “Modernism”





**Modernism**, still focused on reason, science and the force of the people, but it rejected God entirely as a superstitious vagary of primitive culture (because God was dead).

It's hope also rested in an educated, modern, society, as had the enlightenments, searching for the hope of a utopian socialist future – but now without God entirely.

It held on to many of the aspects from the Age of Reason.








“We must question the story logic of having an all-knowing all-powerful God, who creates faulty humans, and then blames them for his own mistakes.”

“I have always been reasonably leery of religion because there are so many edicts in religion, ‘thou shalt not,’ or ‘thou shalt.’ I wanted my world of the future to be clear of that.”





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*Gene Roddenberry, creator of ‘Star Trek’*



Key proponents / framers of the ‘Modern’ era were men such as Charles Darwin, Fredrich Nietzsche, Karl Marx and Sigmund Freud (to name a few).

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# Postmodernism

The rejection of the very idea of objectivity and universal truisms in favor of subjective experience and flexible realities. This is a broad movement in social sciences, art and architecture that is still emerging such that it is notoriously difficult to define.

The ages of “Reason” and “Modernism” failed because they both focused on external factors such as God, society, science, objective physical and moral truth as the basis for individual purpose and happiness.

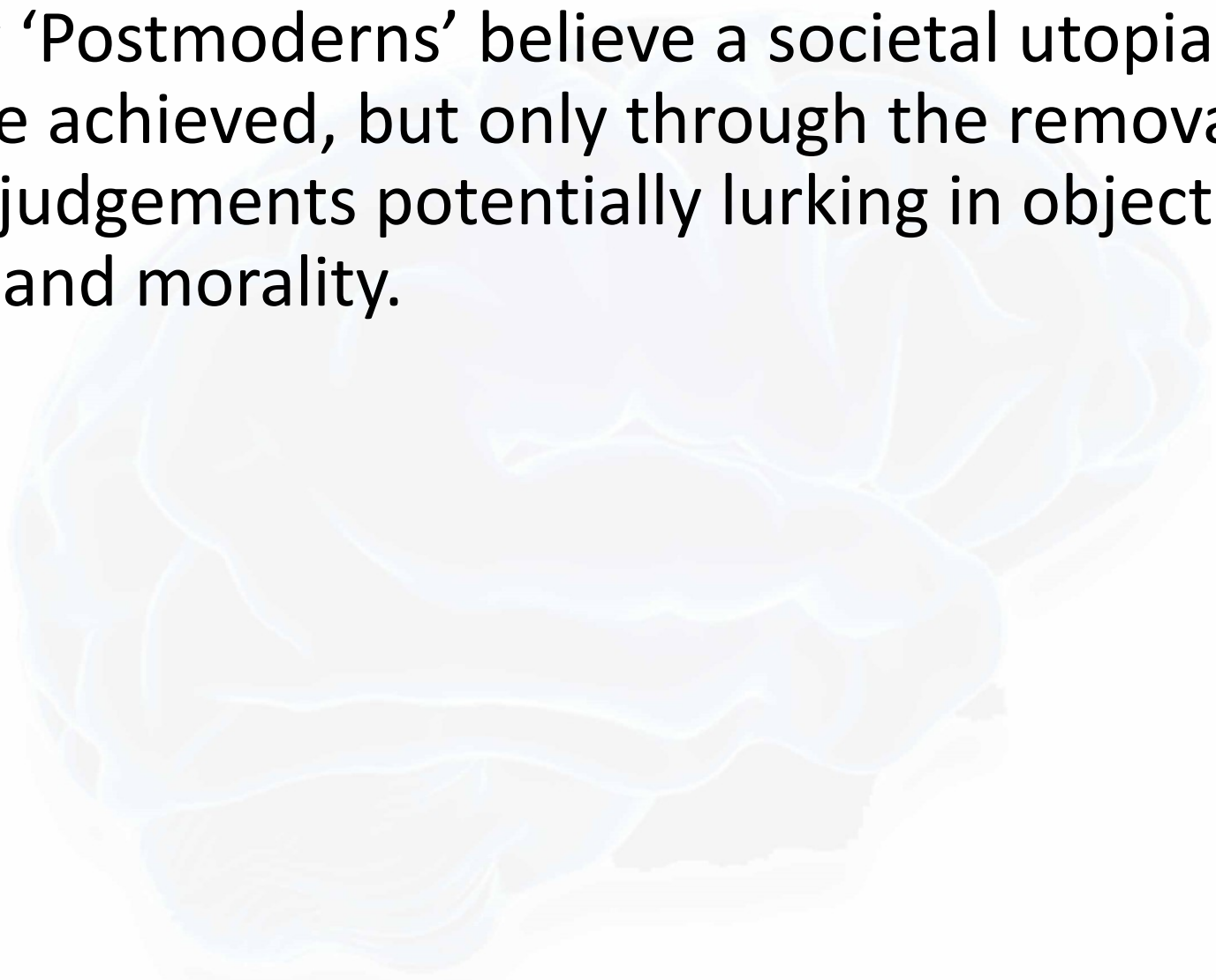








Many 'Postmoderns' believe a societal utopia can be achieved, but only through the removal of all judgements potentially lurking in objective truth and morality.







# Postmodernism

Two main concepts to be covered

- Tolerance - you can't judge 'my truth'.
- Truth is relative (subjective), defined entirely by each individual and applies only to that individual.



## **TOLERANCE**, noun

[Latin tolerantia, from tolero, to bear.]

The power or capacity of enduring; or the act of enduring.

You keep saying that word, I don't think it means what you think it does...



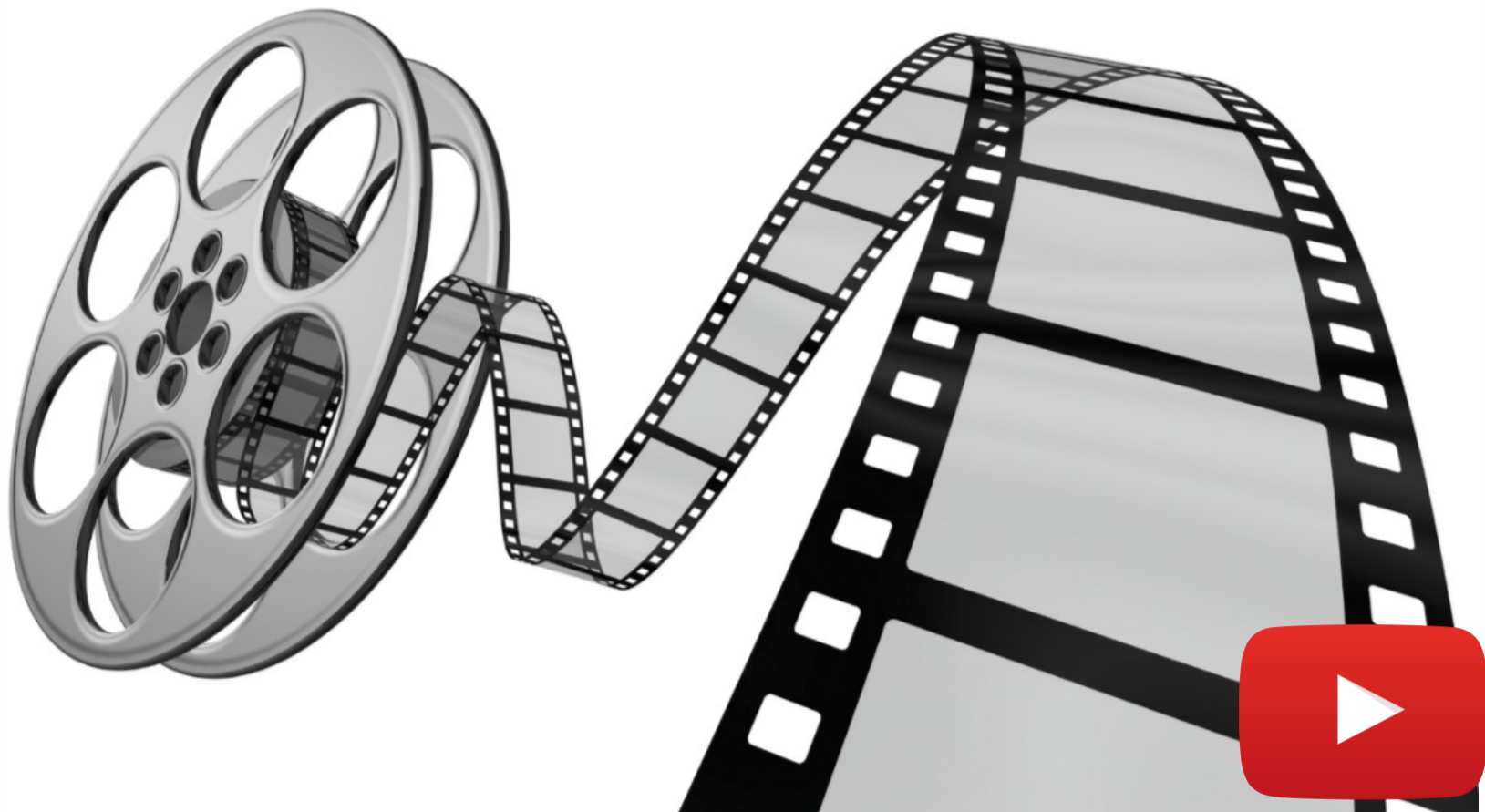




Tolerance, by definition, means there will be differences in belief.

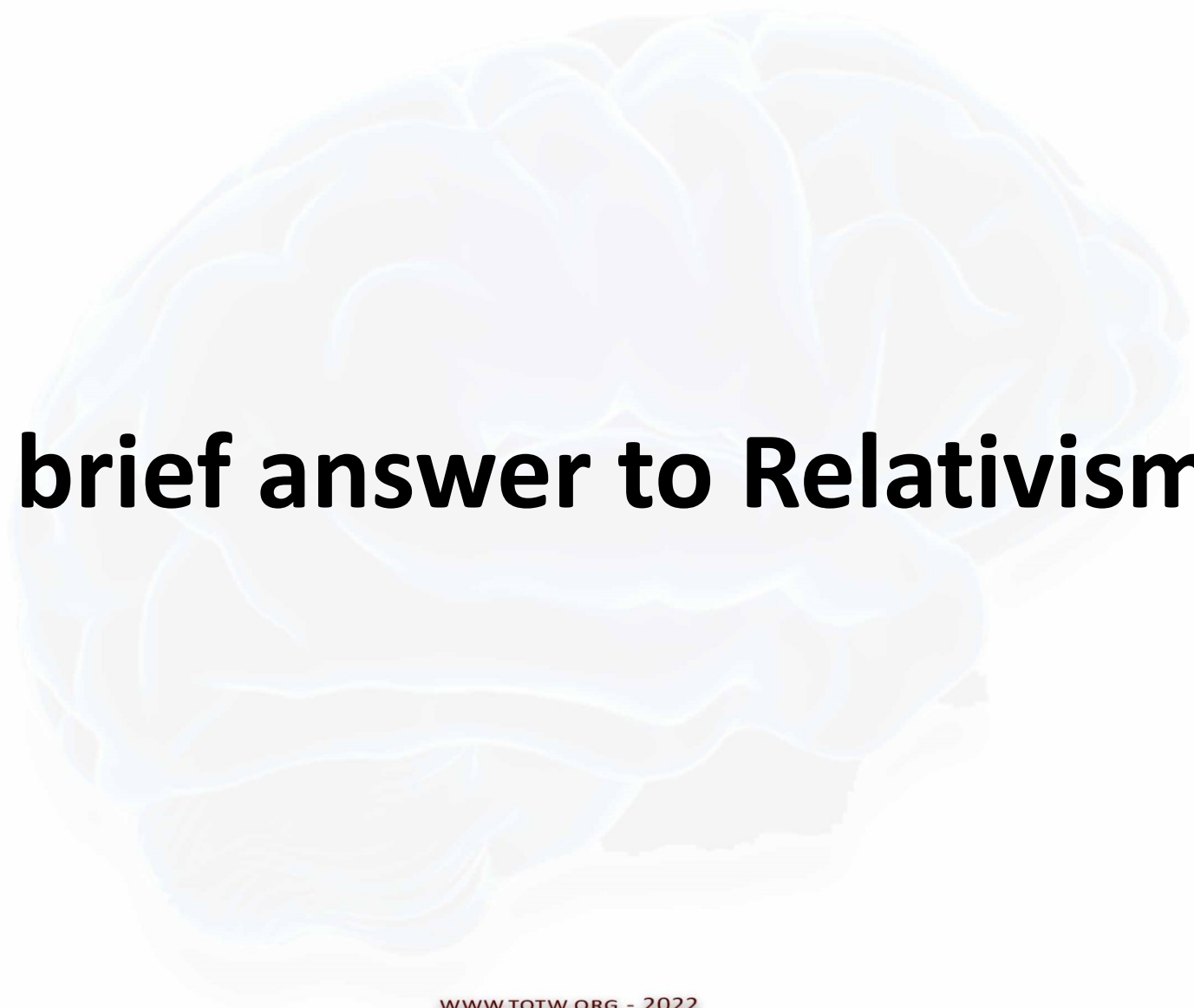
But that isn't what is generally meant when the word is used in a postmodern sense. In this case, tolerance means 'you are required to approve acknowledge the validity of everyone's truth, regardless of it's actual, objective truth'.







# **A brief answer to Relativism**





## Truth Is Logical

Logic presupposes that truth is real, and that “first principles” are truths that cannot be denied, because they are self-evident. Logic applied to reality is a key example of a first principle. All logic can be reduced to a single axiom: the law of noncontradiction. This law says that no two opposite statements can both be true at the same time in the same sense. Logic must apply to reality. And because of that, we can use logic to test truth claims about reality.







## Truth Is Objective

Objective truths are true no matter what we believe about them. They do not change because of our whims of thought. They are mind-independent and depend on the object itself.





## Truth Is Not Relative

Objective truth is not swayed by our personal views or even the collective view of society. So those who argue that all truth is subjective are espousing a form of relativism.

Relativism creeps into our vocabulary in statements like, “Well, that’s true for you, but not for me.”





The first failure of relativism is that it is self-defeating.

If someone says 'Everything is relative' then they have made an absolute statement.

'Everything I say is a lie.'

The second is that relativism leads to absurd logical outcomes.

If everything is relative, then a person could not complain if someone else steals their property.



## Reasons why people are 'religious'

- To provide a meaning for life
- To provide a common moral standard
- To provide a sense of belonging
- To provide a sense of safety
- To explain evil
- It makes me feel good / gives me peace
- I want to raise my children in a 'good' environment
- It's how I was raised







# Why should every human be a Christian?

**Acts 17:24a, 26-27**

God that made the world and all things therein,  
... and hath made of one blood all nations of  
men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and  
hath determined the times before appointed,  
and the bounds of their habitation; **That they  
should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel  
after him, and find him, though he be not far  
from every one of us:**





# Why should every human be a Christian?

## Acts 17:30-31

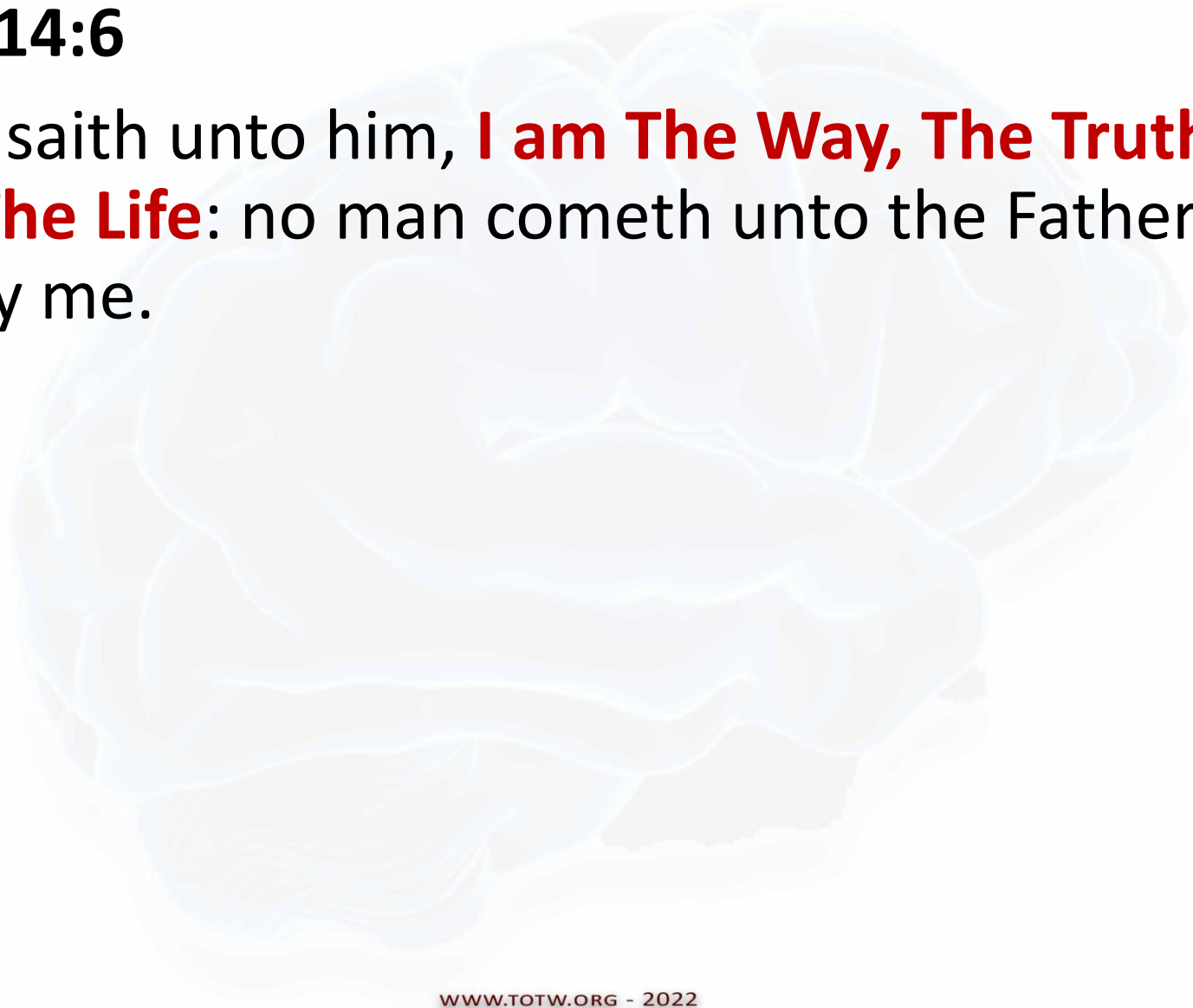
And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, **in the which he will judge the world in righteousness** by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.





## John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, **I am The Way, The Truth, and The Life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.





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## John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light**, because their deeds were evil.



## 2 Timothy 2:24-26

And the servant of the Lord must **not strive**; but **be gentle** unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them **repentance to the acknowledging of the truth**; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.





## Proverbs 27:6-7

**Faithful are the wounds of a friend;** but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.





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## Proverbs 28:23

**He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour** than he that flattereth with the tongue.

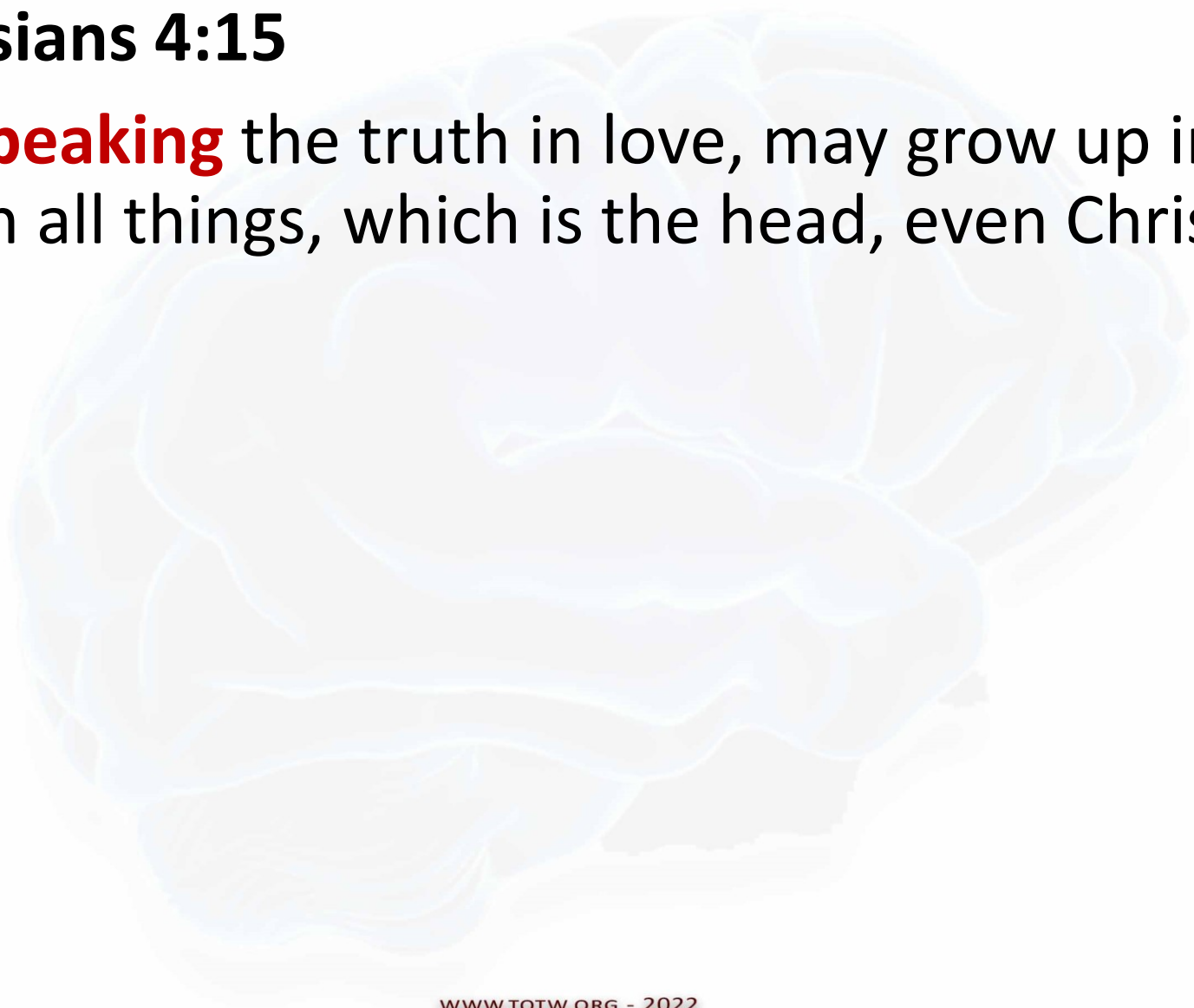






## Ephesians 4:15

But **speaking** the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:



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## 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

Now I **rejoice**, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for **ye were made sorry after a godly manner**, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.



## Philippians 1:12-14

But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto **the furtherance of the gospel**; So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; And many of the brethren in the Lord, **waxing confident by my bonds**, are **much more bold** to speak the word **without fear**.





## Jude 1:22-23 (NLT)

And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, **but do so with great caution**, hating the sins that contaminate their lives.





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## Ephesians 6:19-20

And *[pray]* for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may **open my mouth boldly**, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may **speak boldly, as I ought to speak**.





## 2 Timothy 4:2-4

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; **reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine**. For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And **they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables**.



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