

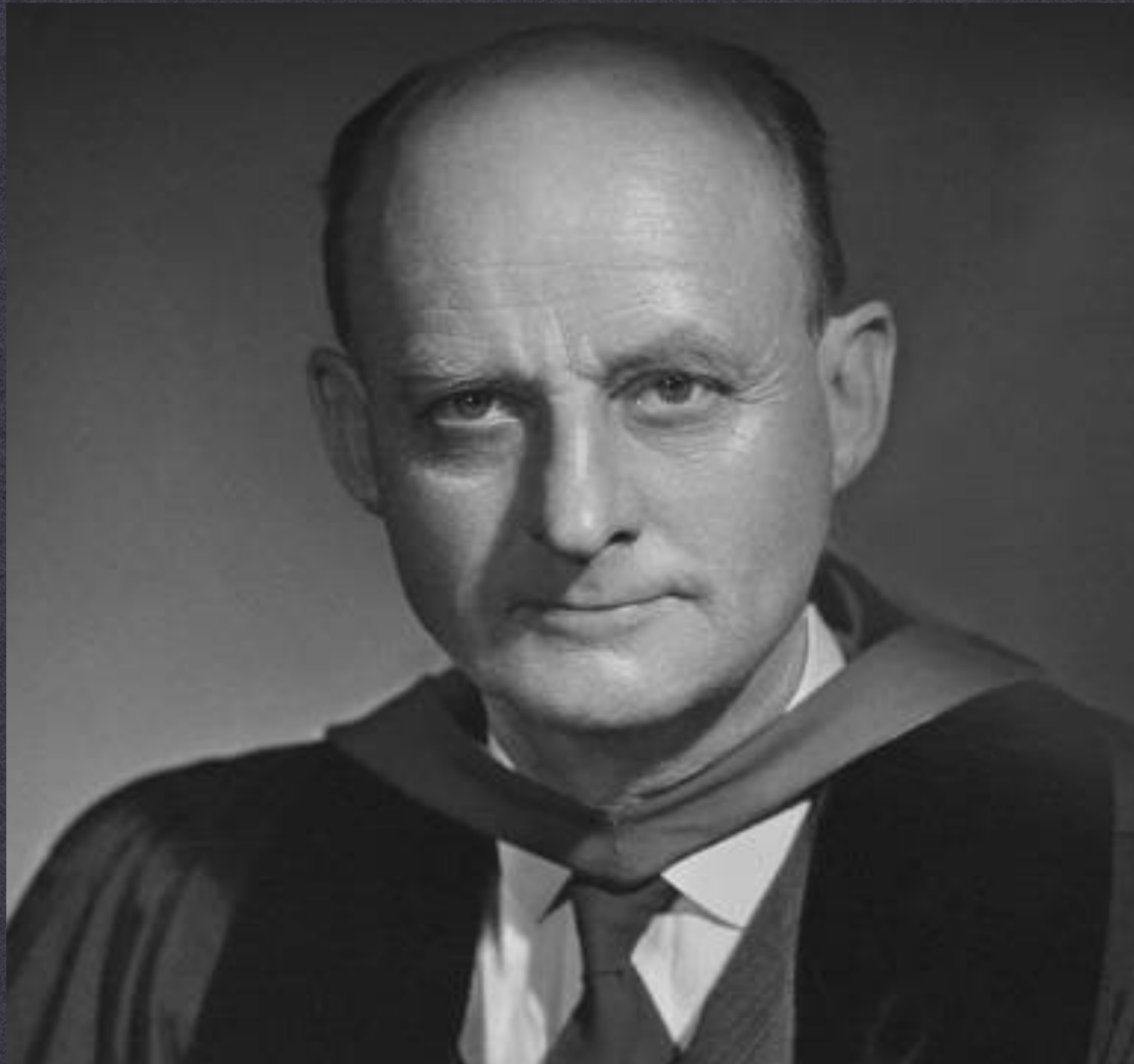


#UNRESTRAINED

HOMework:

ANY VERSES

ACTS 23–28



REINHOLD NIEBUHR, BONHOEFFER



#UNRESTRAINED

UNRESTRAINED TESTIMONY



- Met w/Yaakov and elders
- Testimony of the Holy Spirit moving in Pagan Cities
- Testimony of “Muriades” Tens of Thousands of Jewish Followers of Messiah

UNRESTRAINED OBEDIENCE



- Zealots for keeping Torah
- Torah- is a mirror
- It's not about the "works" its about the heart (Ezek 36:24-27)
- They think Paul wants to chunk years of traditional following
- Sounds Heretical a new Gospel
- Holding to Jerusalem council



Echad: A complex unity

UNRESTRAINED PLAN



- Put rumors to rest
- Show the Masses you follow Torah in your Jewishness
- DEEP SEATED tradition HARD TO UNTANGLE for all of us
- Unity is NOT uniformity but UNIFORMITY brings us comfort
- Take some men to the temple who took a vow showing you keep tradition

(UN)RESTRAINED PLAN FAIL

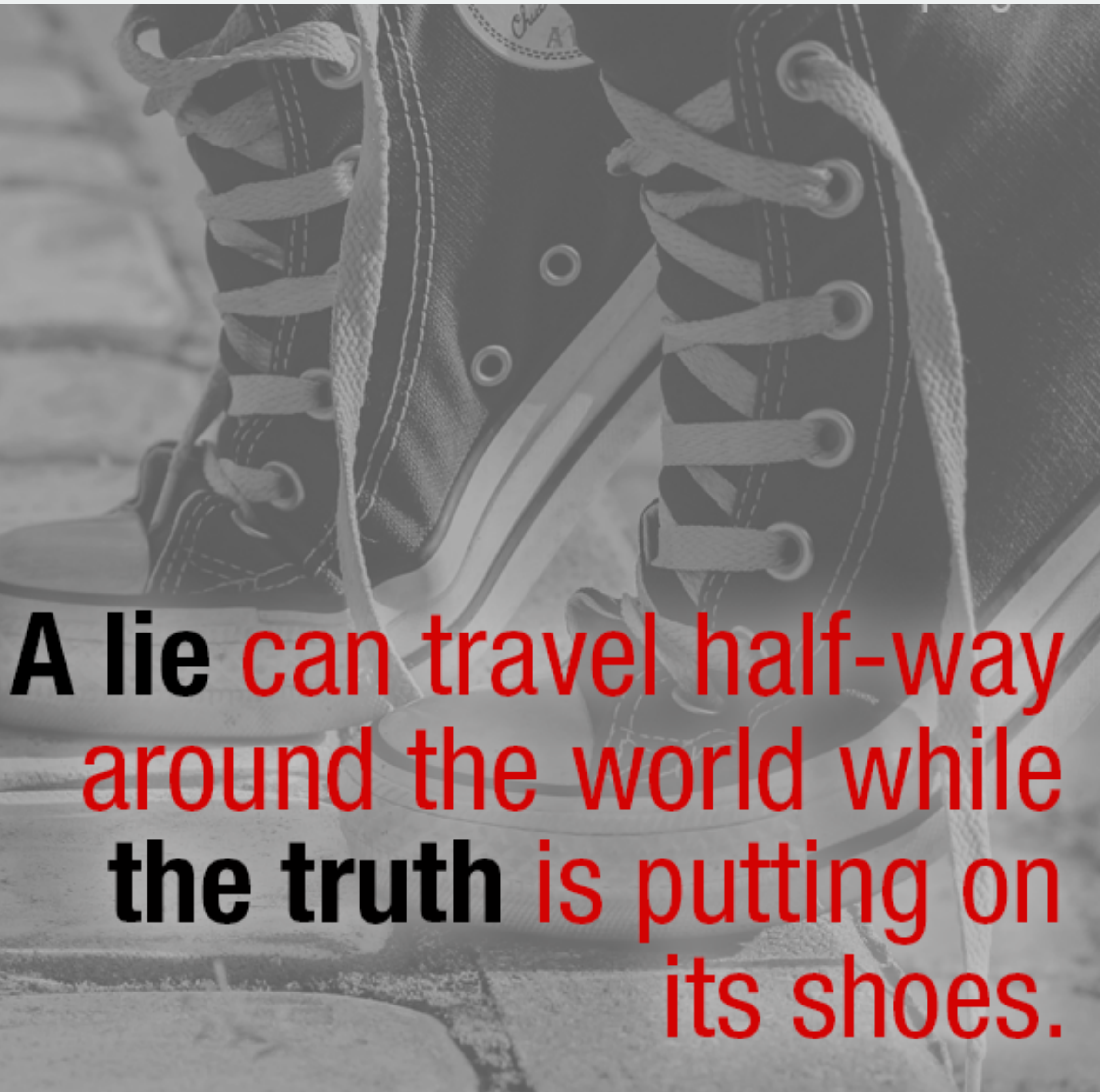


- Started Well. Almost ended well... until it didn't
- Foreigners would have stuck out
- Saul spotted chilling with a non Jew from Ephesus, A PAGAN
- Saul is UNCLEAN because the Pagan is assumed unclean

UNRESTRAINED ACCUSATION

- *THIS MAN TEACHES EVERYONE....*
- *TO BE AGAINST the PEOPLE (Moses)*
- *TO BE AGAINST the TEMPLE*
- *TO BE AGAINST Torah*





A lie can travel half-way
around the world while
the truth is putting on
its shoes.

RESTRAINED BY CHAINS

- *The Same accusations Stephen had*
- *The city of Peace always has tension*
- *It will always be harder for the
FOUND to humble*
- *Aristochus sees there is not difference
between people... all people are people*
- *God so loves the WORLD... to the
Jew first then to the Greek*

WE TEND TO NOT SEEK THE TRUTH...

WE SEEK COMFORT

**WE DO NOT LIKE OUR RIGHT TO
RELIGIOUS TRADITION CHALLENGED
(IT WAS NOT BEING TRAMPLED ON OR
DESECRATED)**

**MOB MENTALITY ESCALATES TO
DESIRE TO MURDER BECAUSE OF
THEIR LOVE FOR GOD AND HIS LAW**

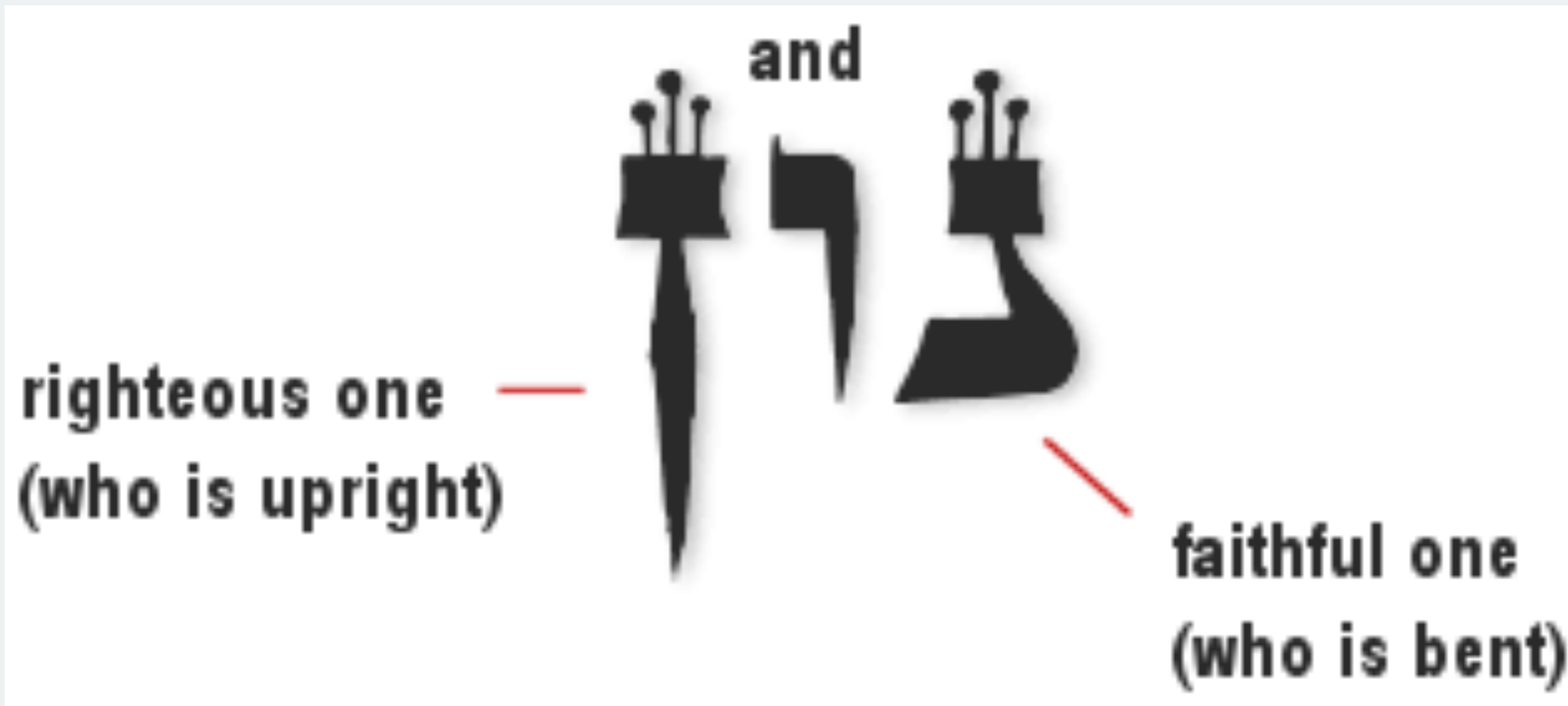


RESTRAINED BY CHAINS



- Two chains just like Agav said
- The crowds cannot articulate why Saul is a threat
- Saul taken downtown to the station for booking
- Crowds chant KILL HIM
- Pagans... less blood thirsty than church people!?!

(UN)RESTRAINED HUMILITY



- Paul Asks in humility to speak
- Humility gains ears, arrogance turns them off
- Humility is the only thing that can unseat pride.



RESTRAINED IN CHAINS

- *Paul is interrogated*
- *Are you the Egyptian Terrorist?*
- *Terrorists would use Sacarri knives in the crowd*
- *Rome's most wanted list*

OPULENT CITY...

MARK ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA MEET

BIG BUSINESS TRADE CENTER

POMPEY RULED HERE

**THEY WERE FAITHFUL TO OCTAVIAN SO
THE CITY IS A TAX-FREE CITY**

A HIGHLY ESTEEMED ROMAN CITY





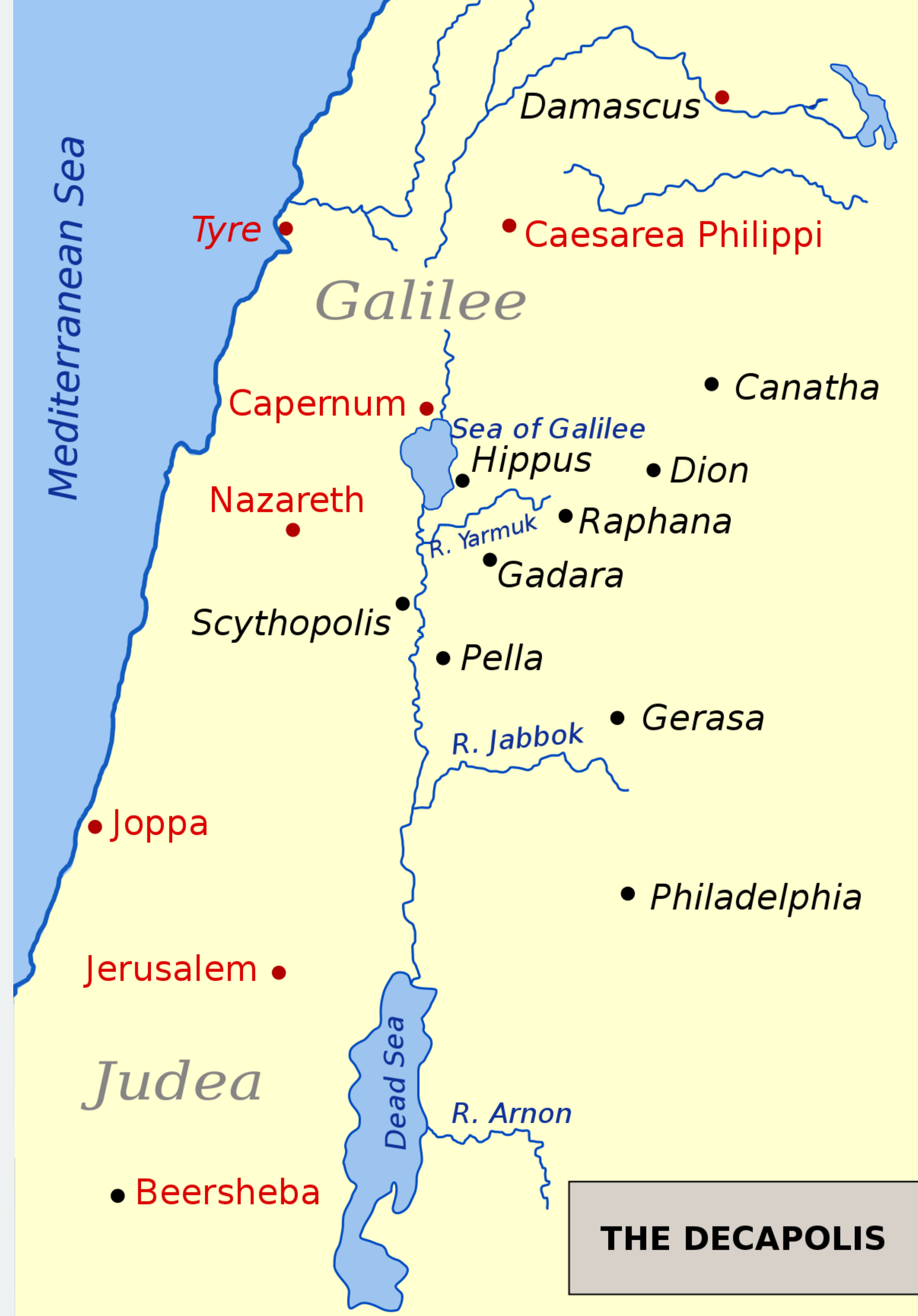
UNRESTRAINED PERSONAL STORY

- *Paul speaks in Hebrew*
- *Brothers and Fathers...*
- *I am a JEW - some assumed they knew Paul.. but now they would have 1st hand knowledge*
- *CREDIBLE- brought up in Jerusalem taught by Gamaliel*



SAUL RESTRAINS THE WAY

- wretch=wrecker
- Saul is Wrecking/ He is ALL IN
- Duty to Combat The Name Yeshua (26:9)
- Weed out the FALSE at ALL COST



- Saul Scatters the followers with his rage and now to Regather and humiliate
- Damascus- 135 miles, Saul will drag them back at the front of the parade
- Permission granted from Caiphus and Sanhedrin



UNRESTRAINED PERSONAL STORY

- *A bright LIGHT stopped me*
- *Shining on all only speaking to me*
- *God tells us our story... this is how Saul needed to see Yeshua*

YESHUA HUMBLES SAUL SUDDENLY



- Abraham, Abraham
- Jacob, Jacob
- Moses, Moses
- Samuel, Samuel
- Saul, Saul
- Why are you Persecuting ME?



GOAD

YESHUA HUMBLES SAUL SUDDENLY

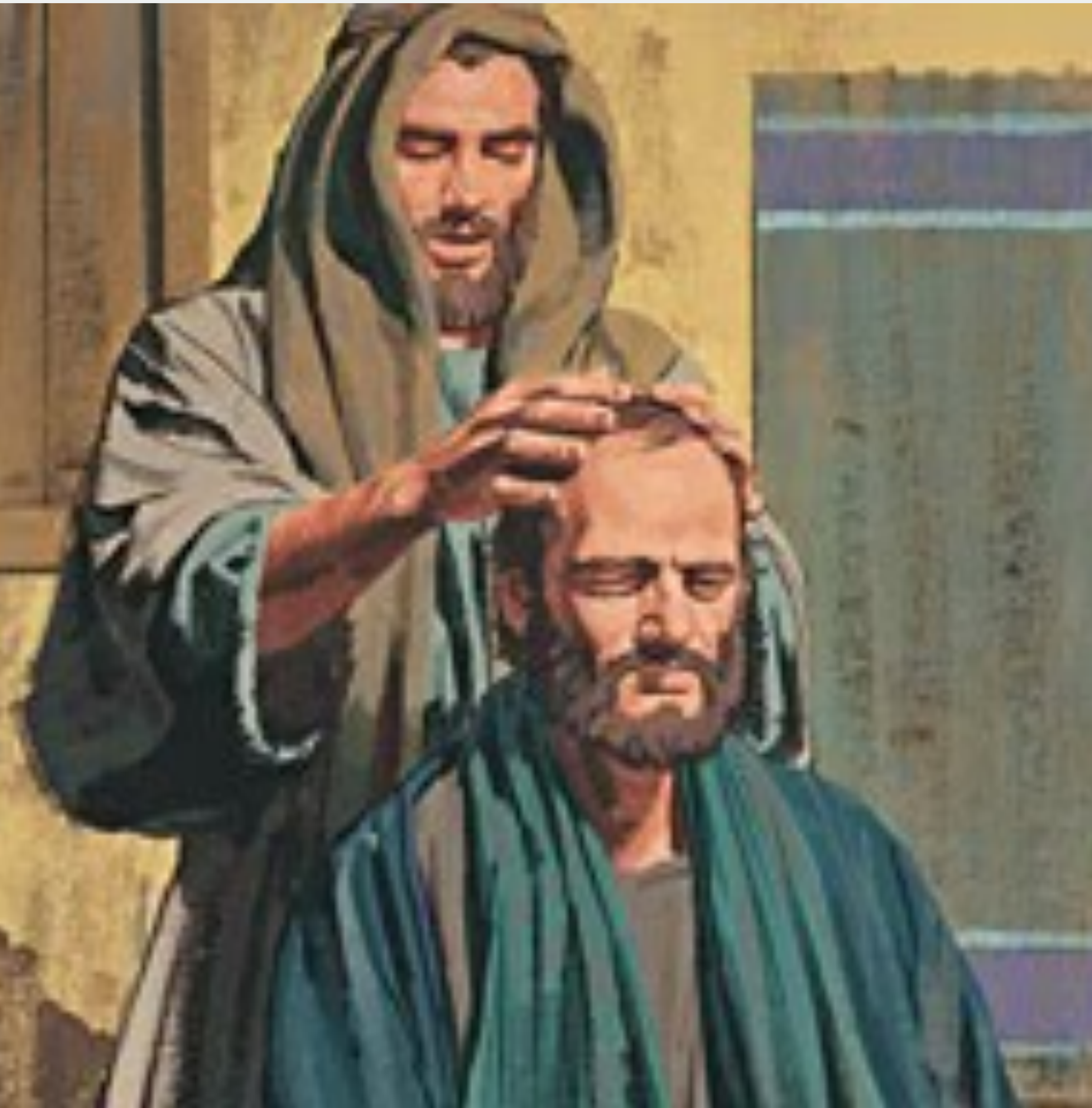


- Who are you?
- Yud Hey Vav Hey (YHWH)
- I AM
- SAUL WAS FOR GOD
- Think of the Humility needed here... after all he did... his ENTIRE belief system...
- He of ALL people MISSED Messiah?
- Stephens message... we all would have killed the prophets... but we don't think WE actually would have

YESHUA HUMBLER SAUL SUDDENLY



- Saul is a man with VERY high status
- Saul has a LOT to lose here.. he gains Messiah... but loses everything he was working towards...
- I was a HERO though.. not a wretch?
- Saul's perfection fell short, he thought he was LOVING the Name but he found he was doing the opposite.
- GUT WRENCHING to hear you are persecuting YHWH
- Each soul... a temple of the Presence of God (I Cor 3)



YESHUA HEALS SAUL

- Continue to Damascus
- Physically 3 days in the dark
- Spiritually - 20/20 vision
- Ananias An OBSERVANT
JEWISH TORAH FOLLOWER
- Called to be a witness (Acts 1:8)



MIKVEH

- Common Jewish practice when returning to God, following a new Rabbinical Teaching
- Representing the corpse Saul was and now NEW LIFE in Messiah
- HE needed cleansing.. HIM, Saul! Mr Perfect
- Preached then to desert then back and to Jerusalem temple
- Called to be a witness to Gentiles... and that is where he lost them.....

UNRESTRAINED MOB



- Common Jewish practice when one does not agree with the Message
- Saul is now forever **UNCLEAN** because of his connection with Pagans
- Saul plead anyway... Jesus came to seek the lost and lose the found
- The Roman commander is taken back and must take action to bring shalom

**SAUL MENTIONS AGAIN HIS HERITAGE
FROM TARSUS AND FREEDOM**

**ROMAN COMMANDER BOUGHT HIS
FREEDOM**

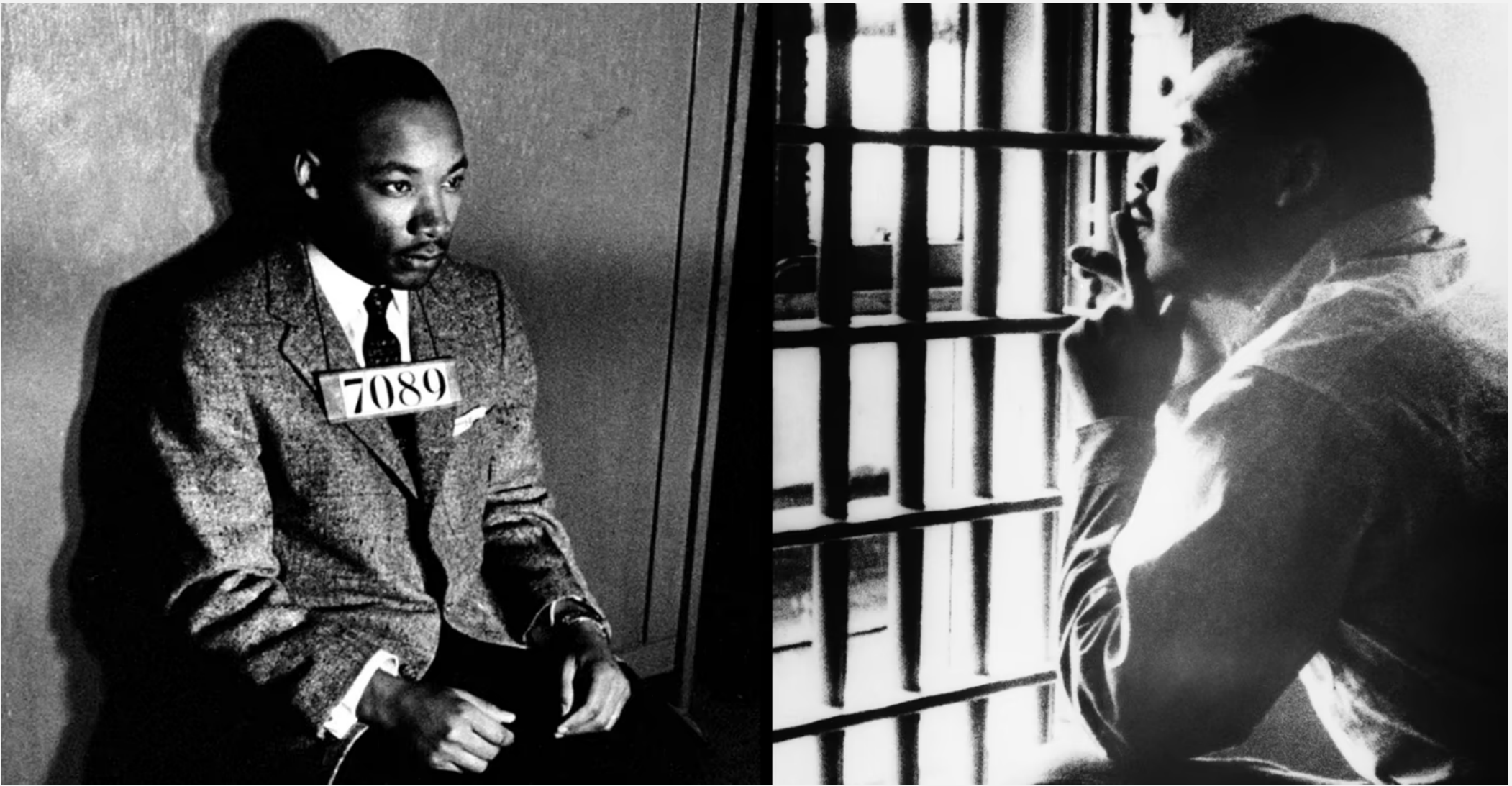
SAUL BORN INTO IT

**SAUL WOULD STAY IN PRISON UNTIL
MORE ANSWERS COULD BE FOUND**

**THE ROMAN COMMANDER DID NOT WANT
TO LOSE ALL HE WORKED SO HARD TO
OBTAIN**



SHALLOW UNDERSTANDING
FROM PEOPLE OF GOODWILL IS
MORE FRUSTRATING THAN
ABSOLUTE MISUNDERSTANDING.
LUKEWARM ACCEPTANCE IS
MUCH MORE BEWILDERING
THAN OUTRIGHT REJECTION.





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