

GALATIANS

A Letter of Grace



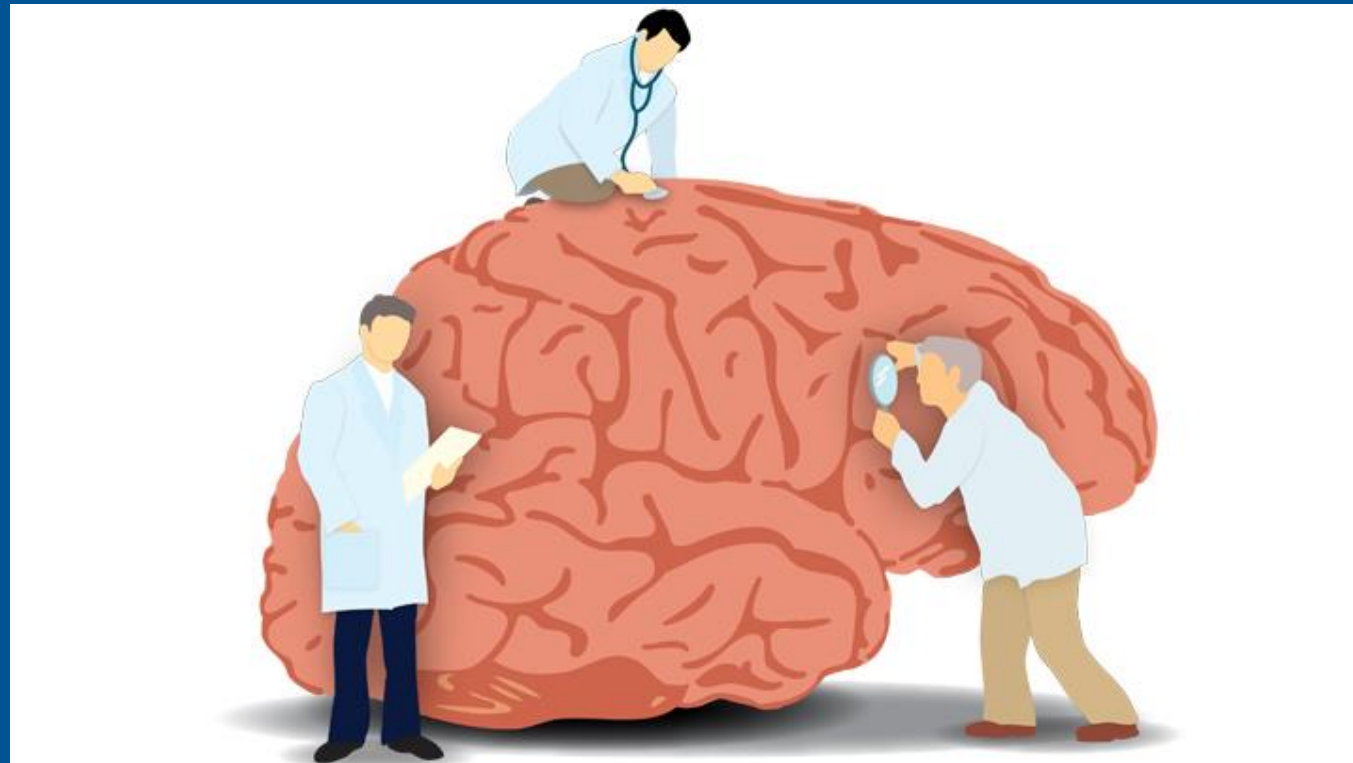
GALATIANS

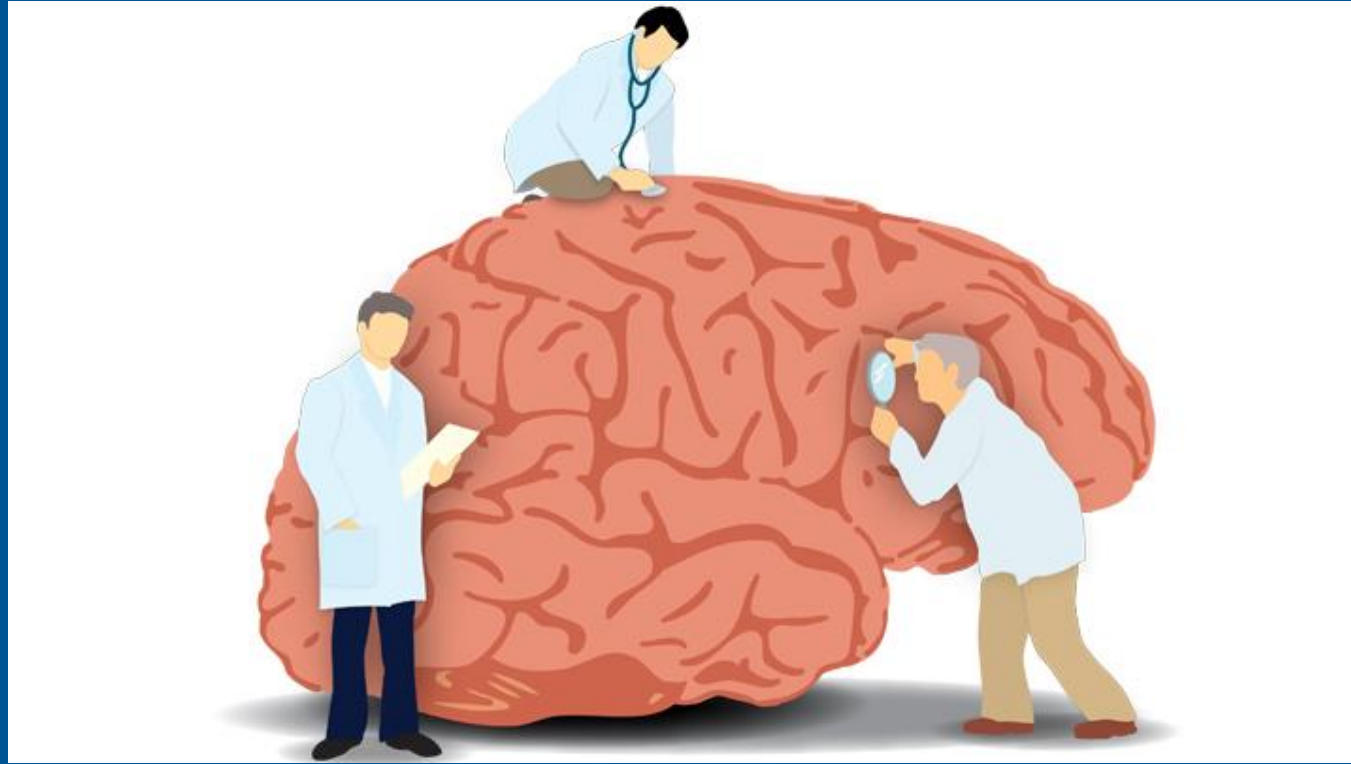
A Letter of Grace



Freedom!!!

(5:7-5:15)





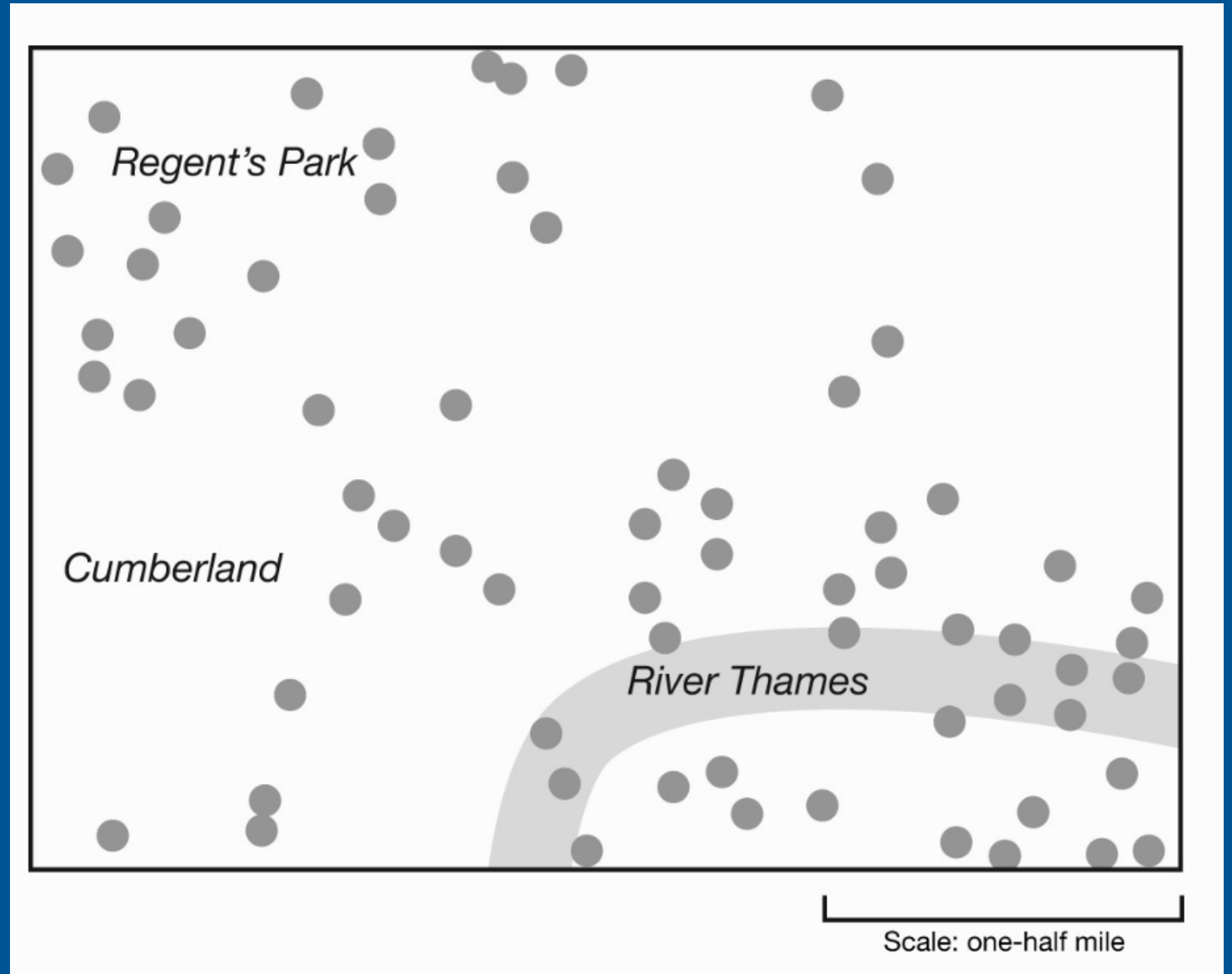
People tend to see patterns, even in randomness
(the “illusion of consistency” aka “apophenia”)

The smart potential behind probability matching
(Gaissmaier '08)

Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

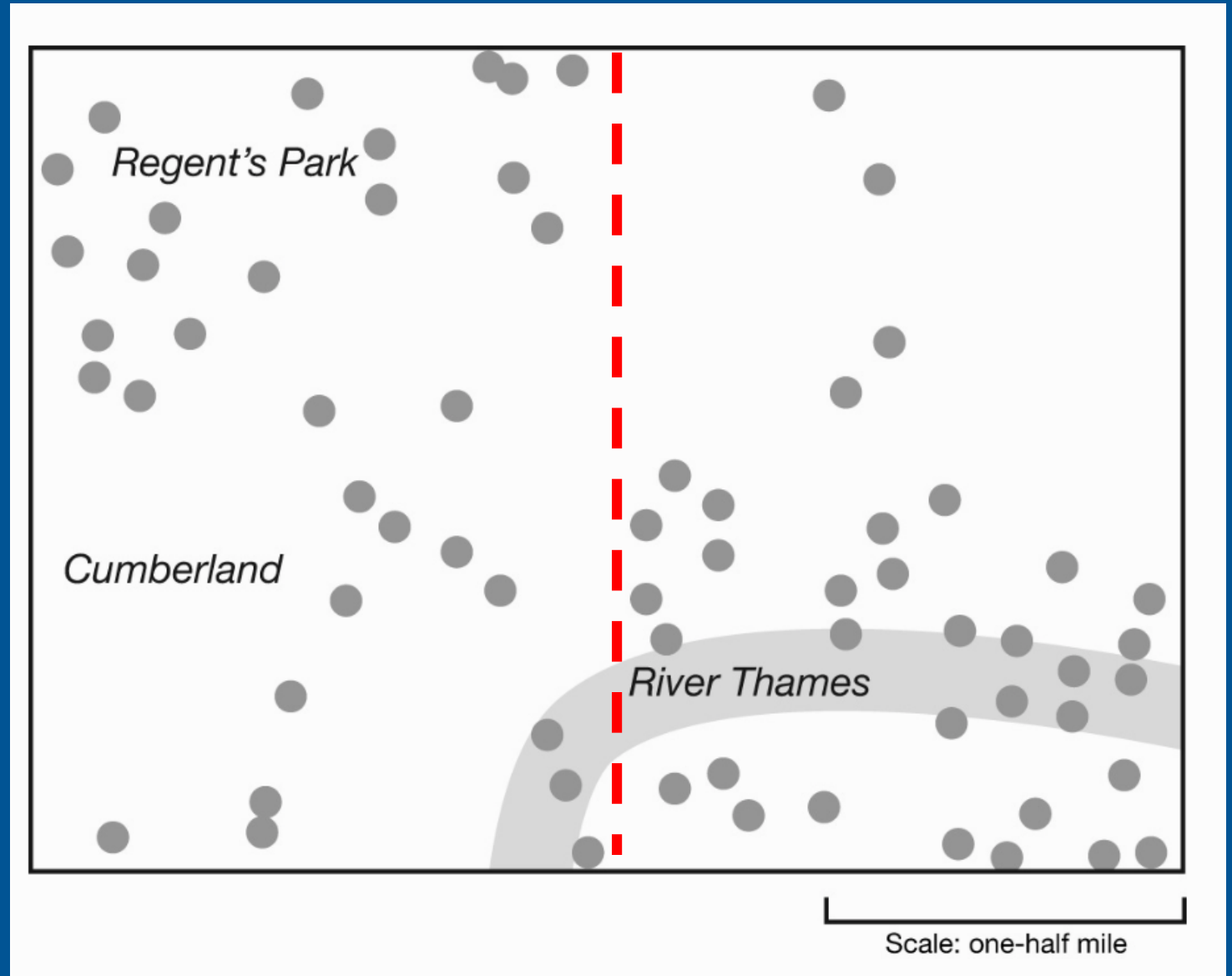
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

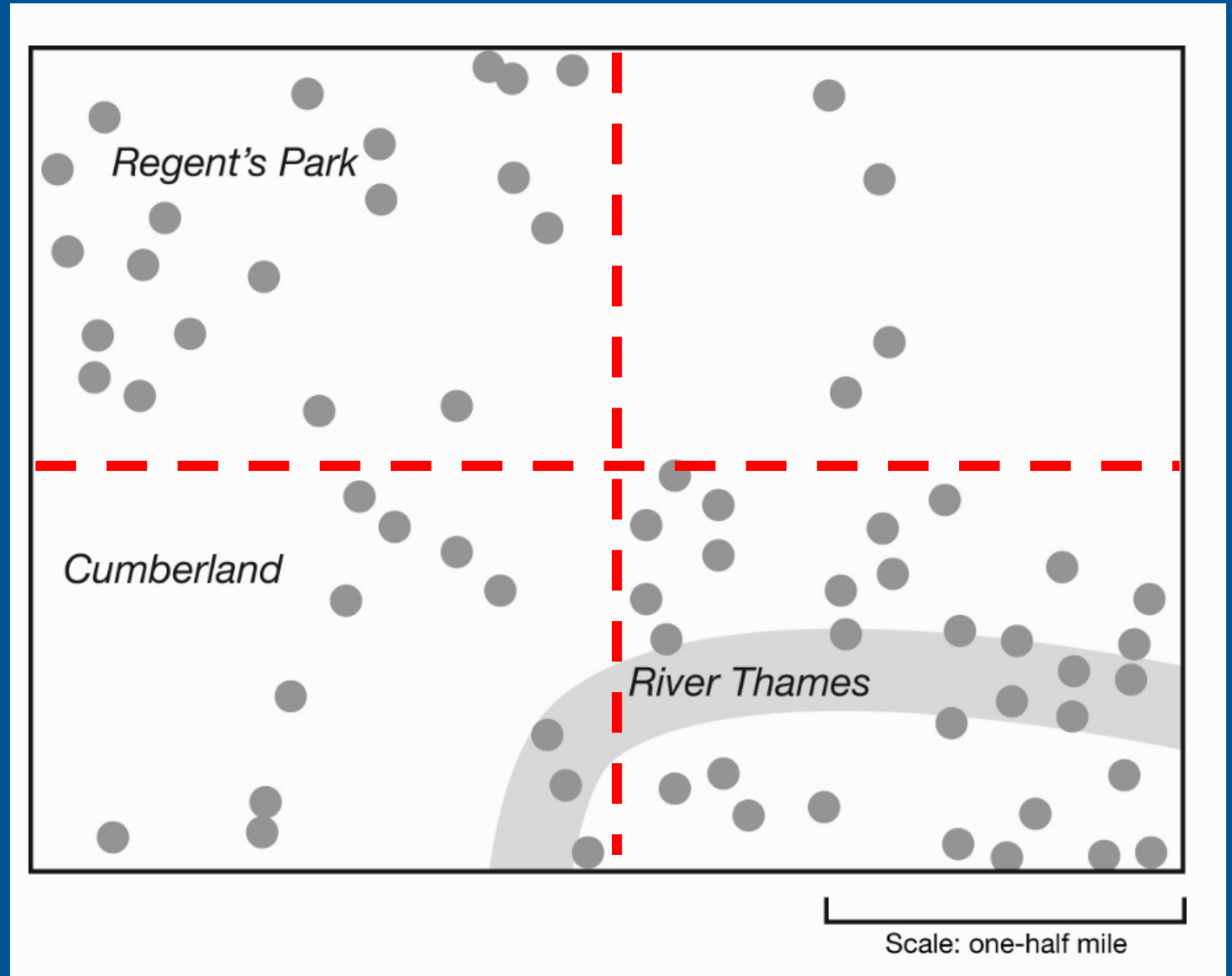
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

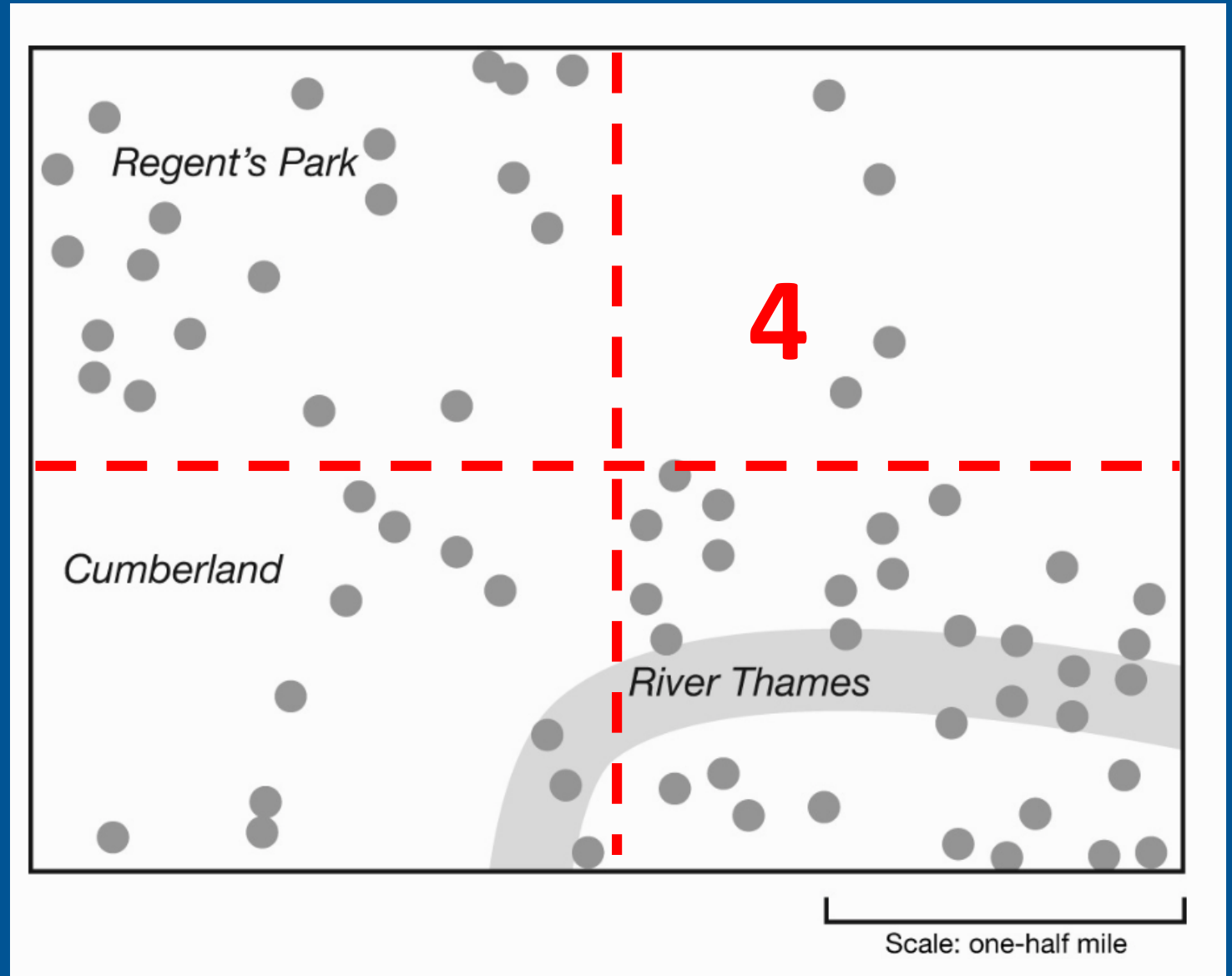
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

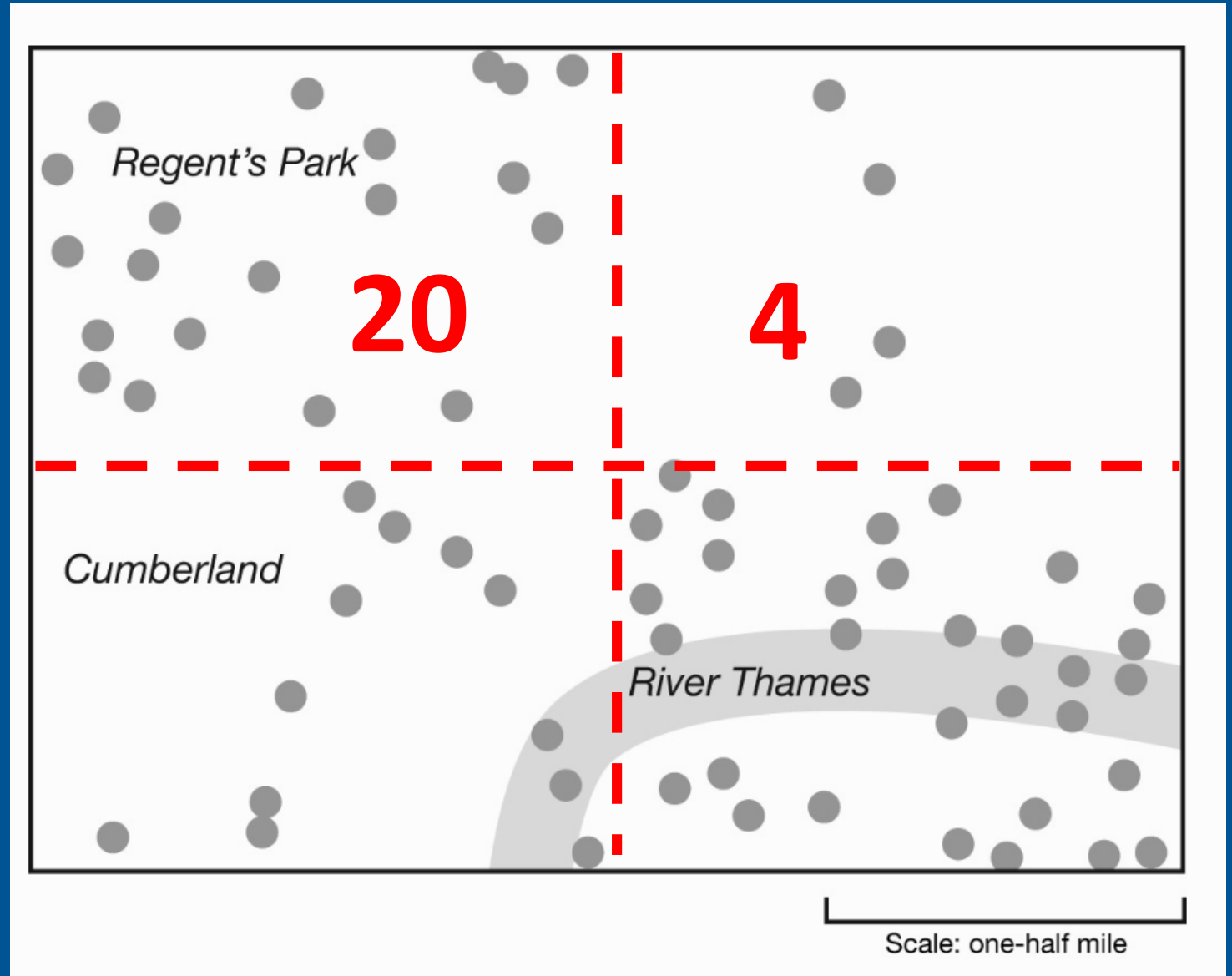
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

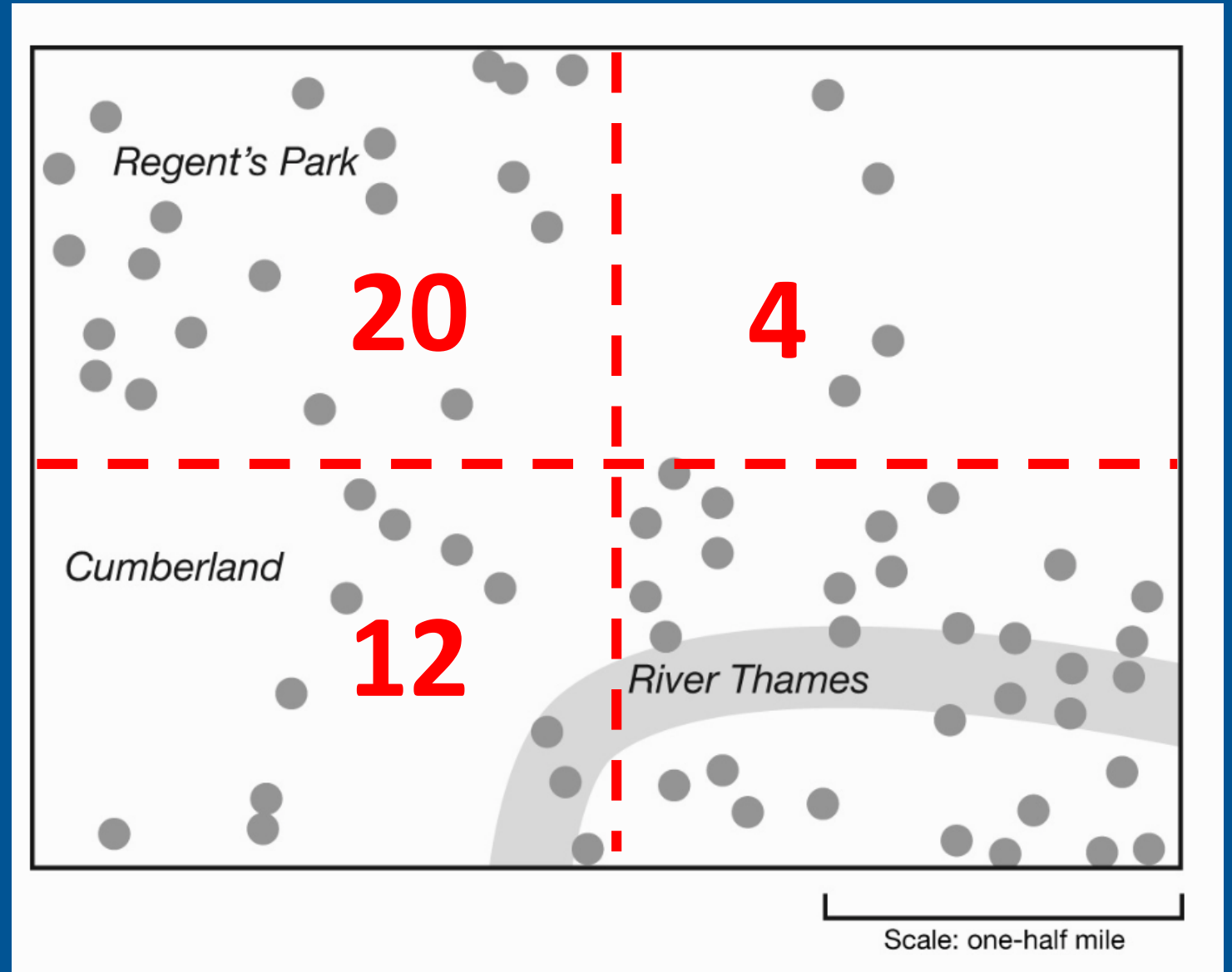
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

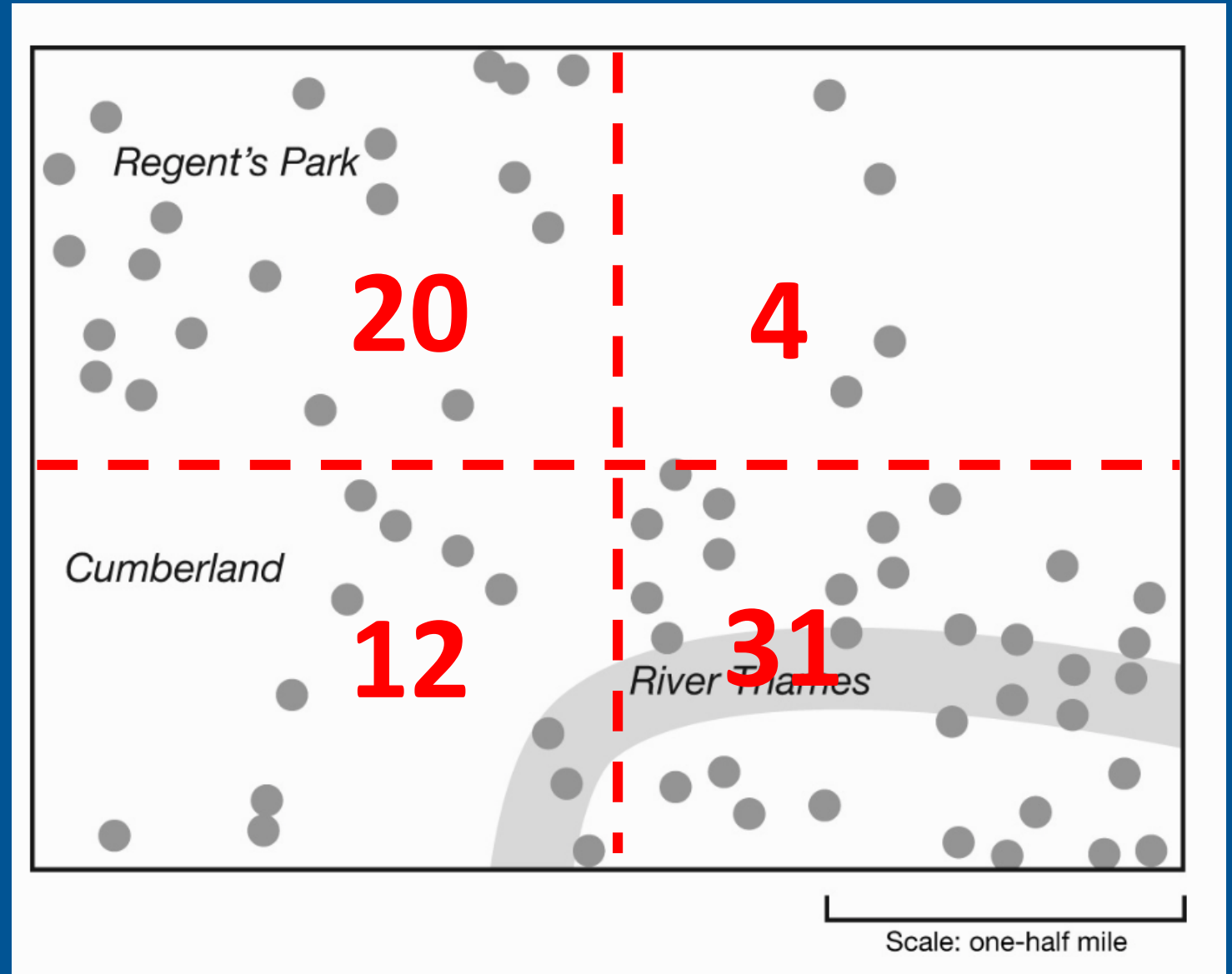
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

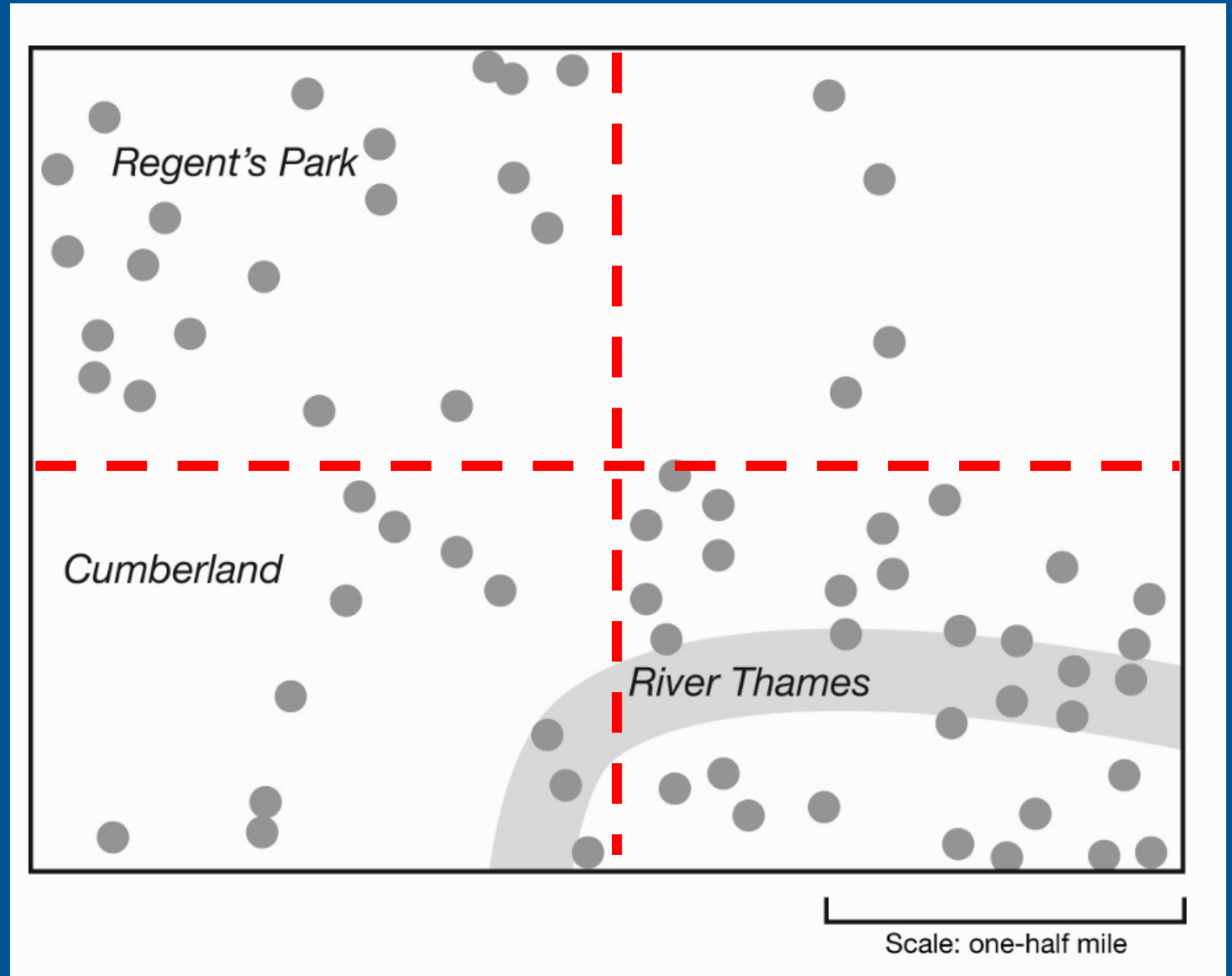
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

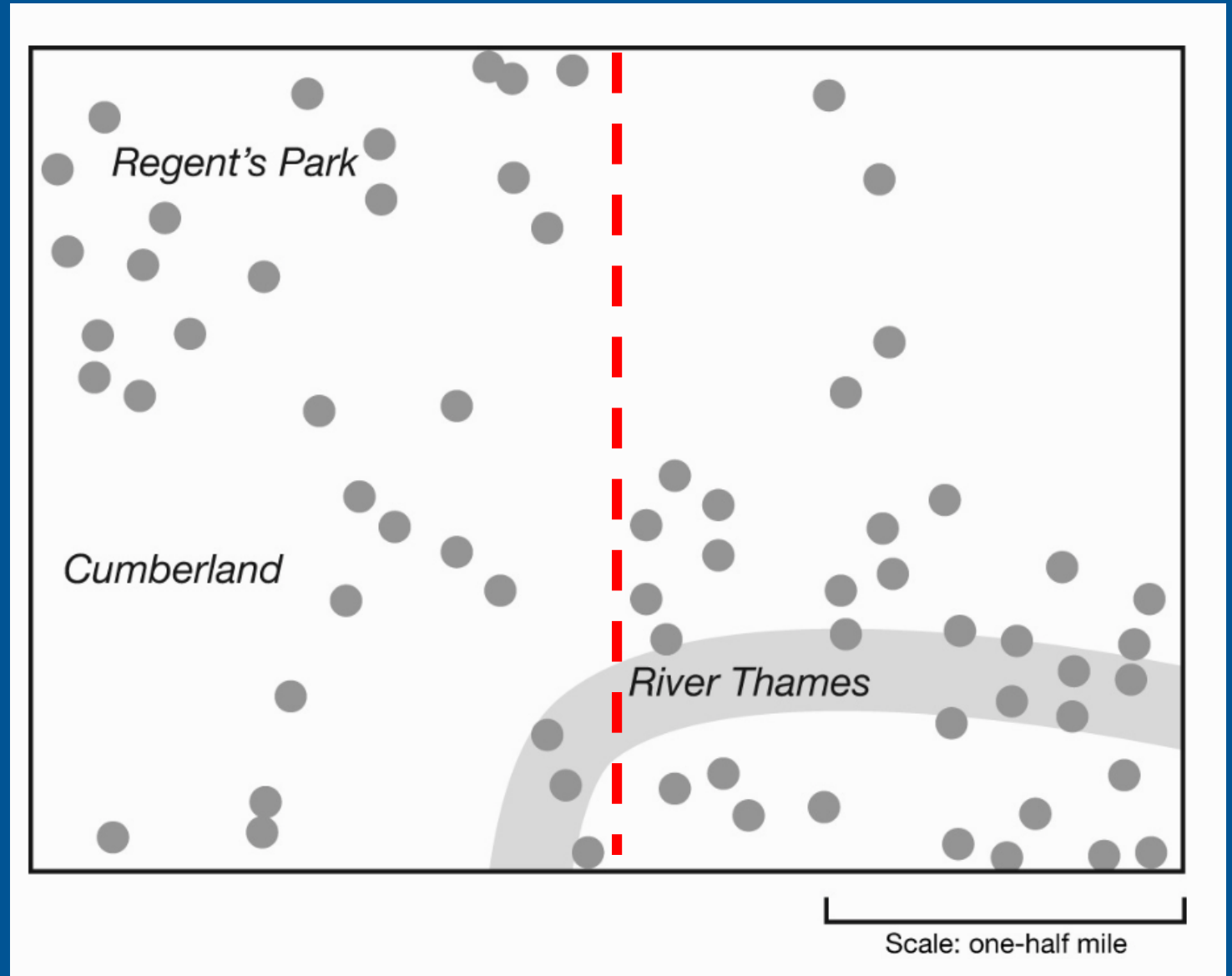
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

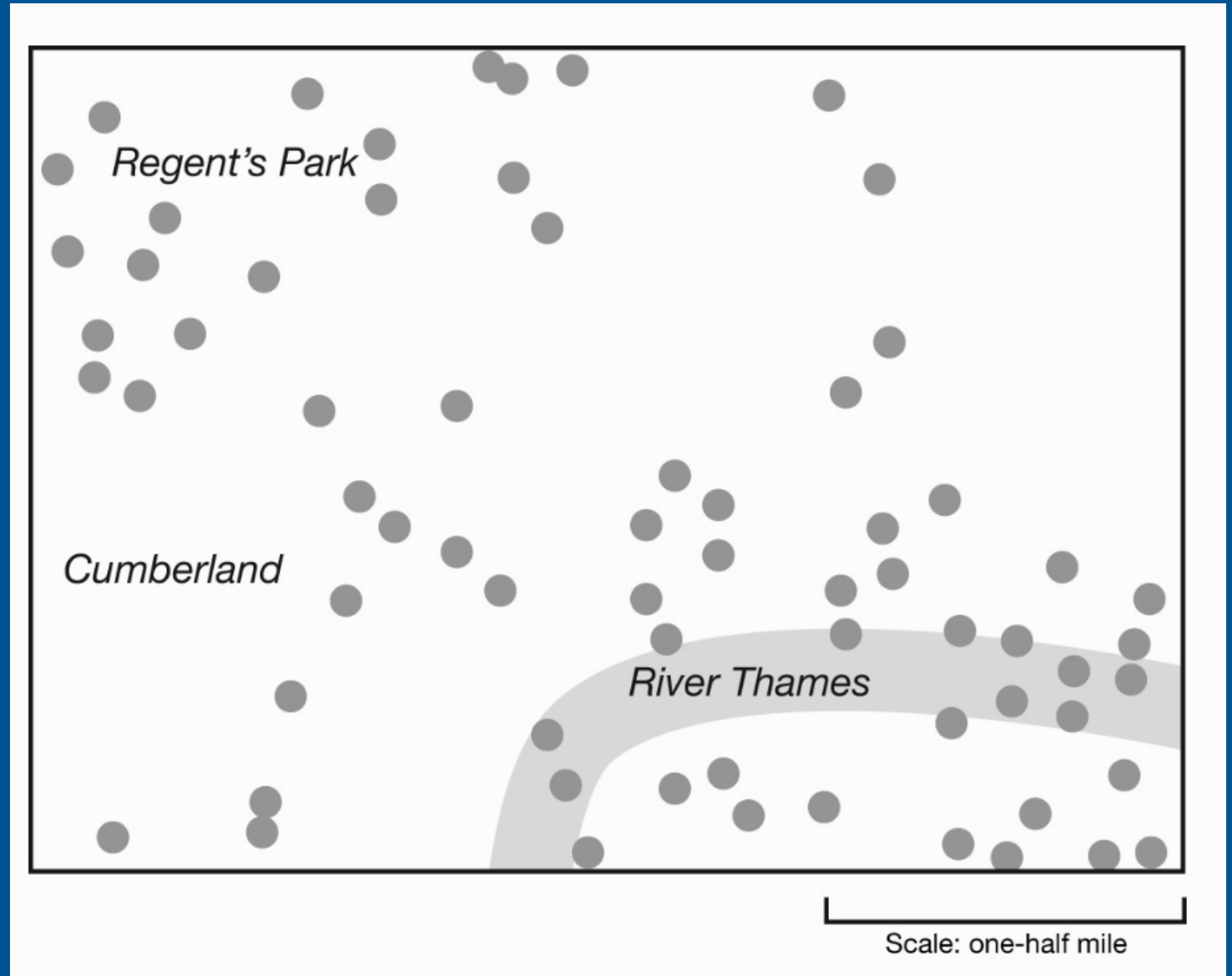
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

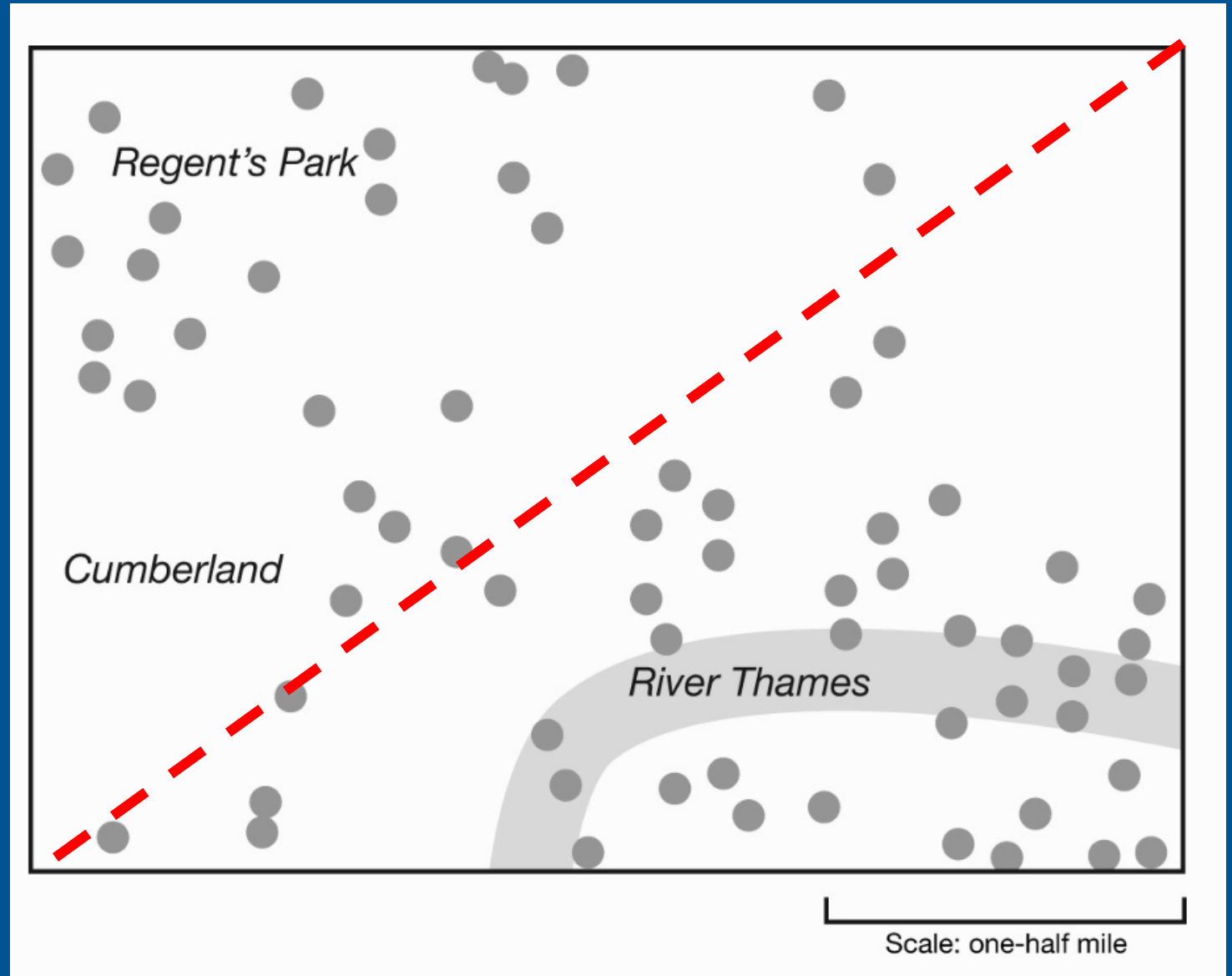
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

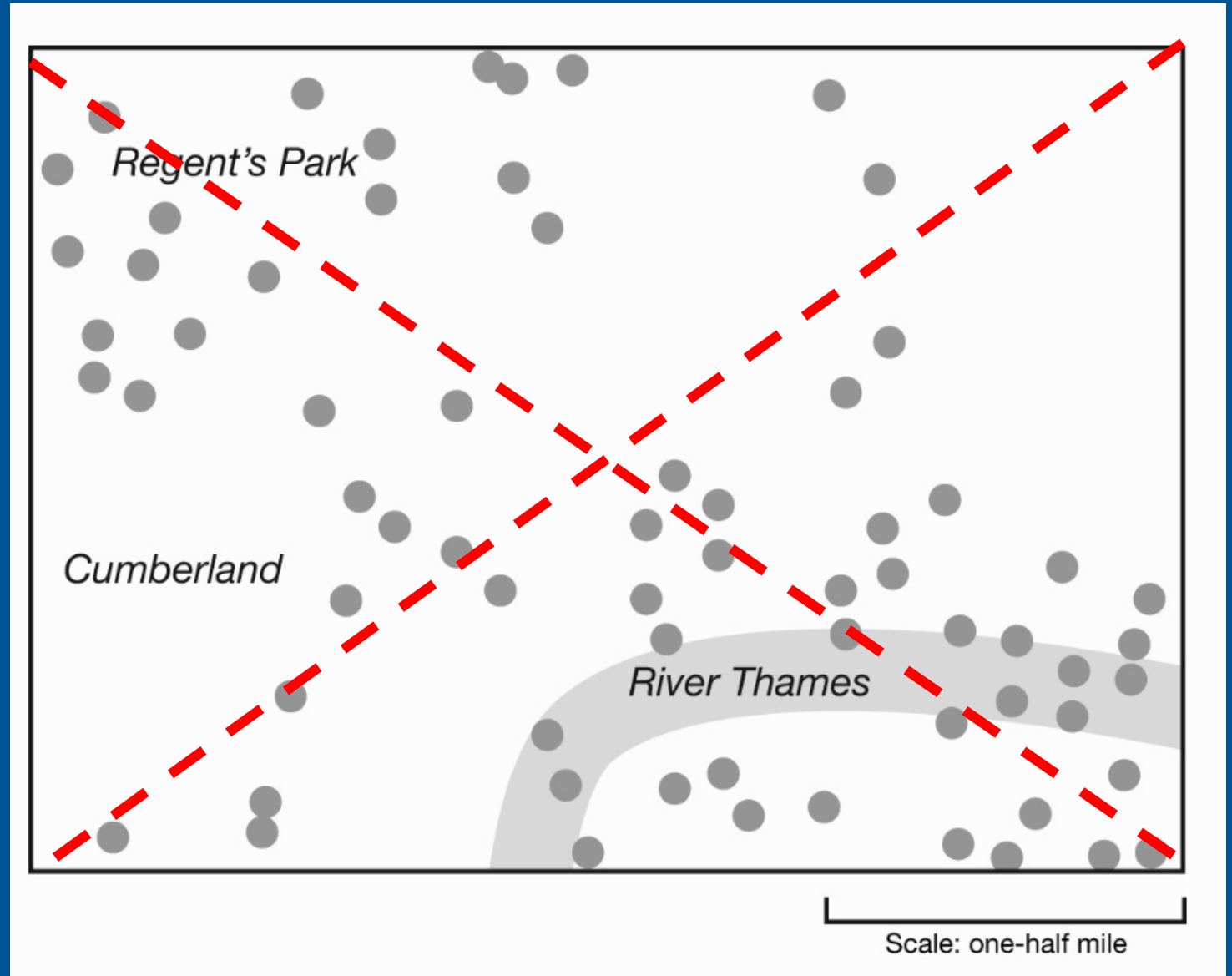
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

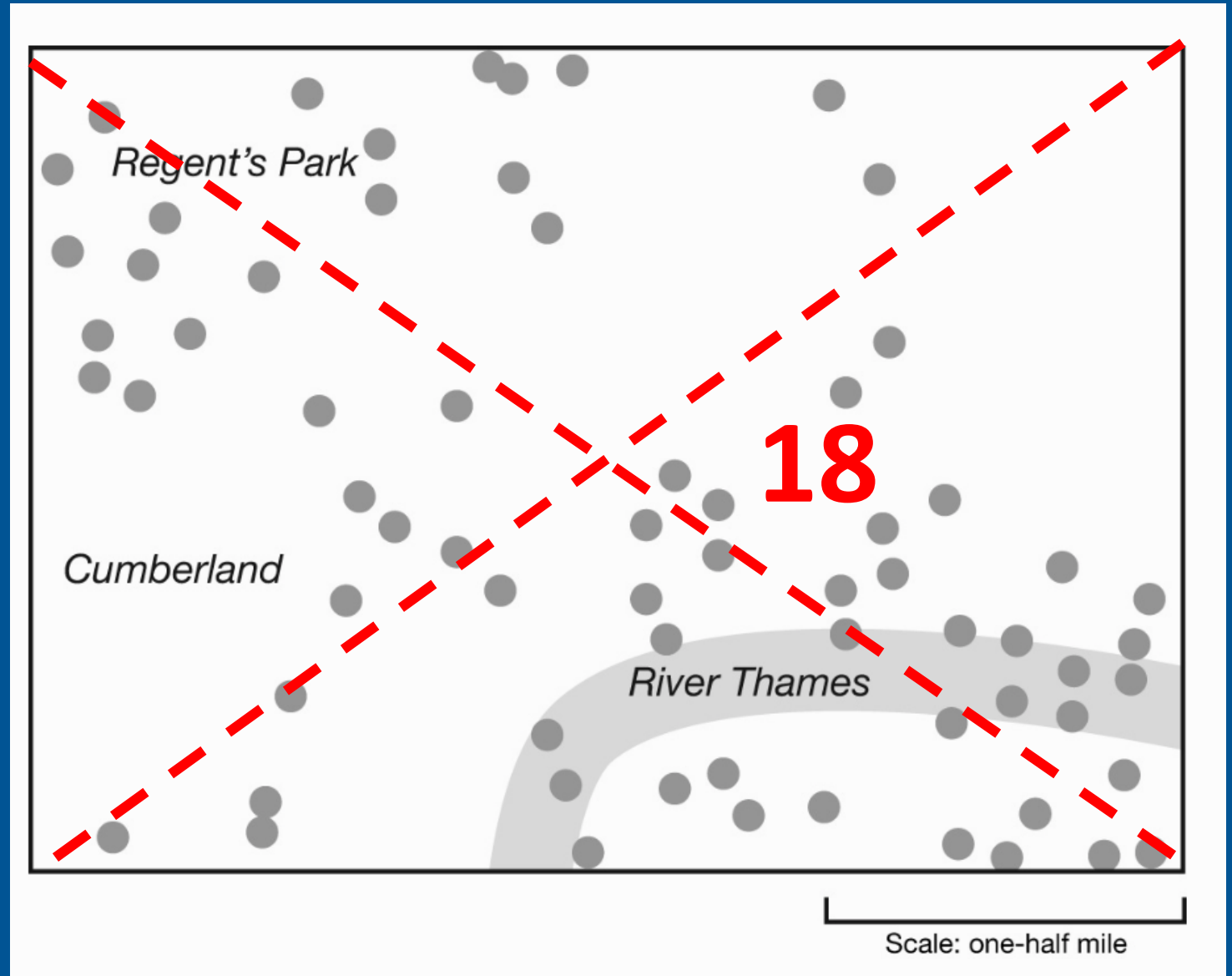
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

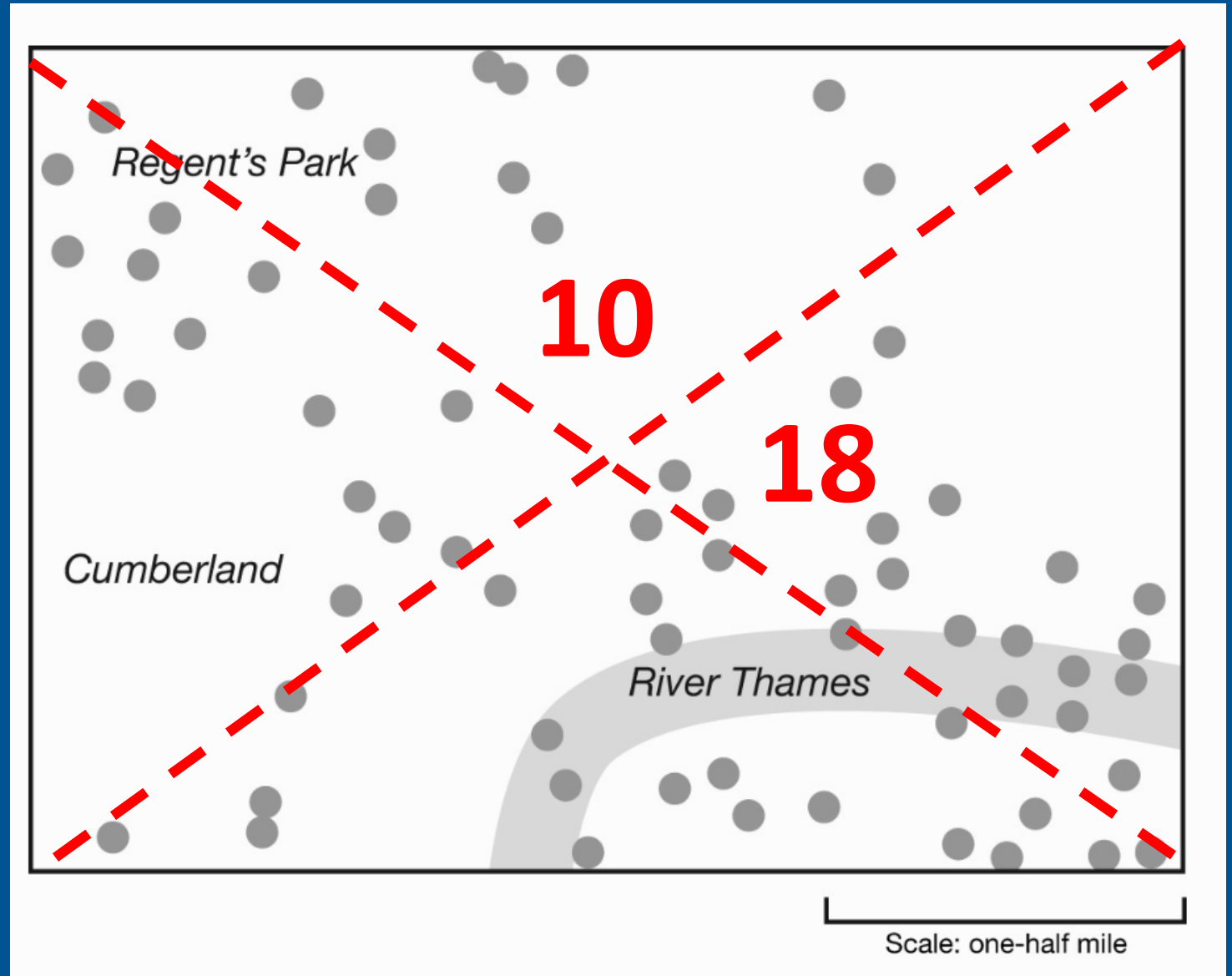
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

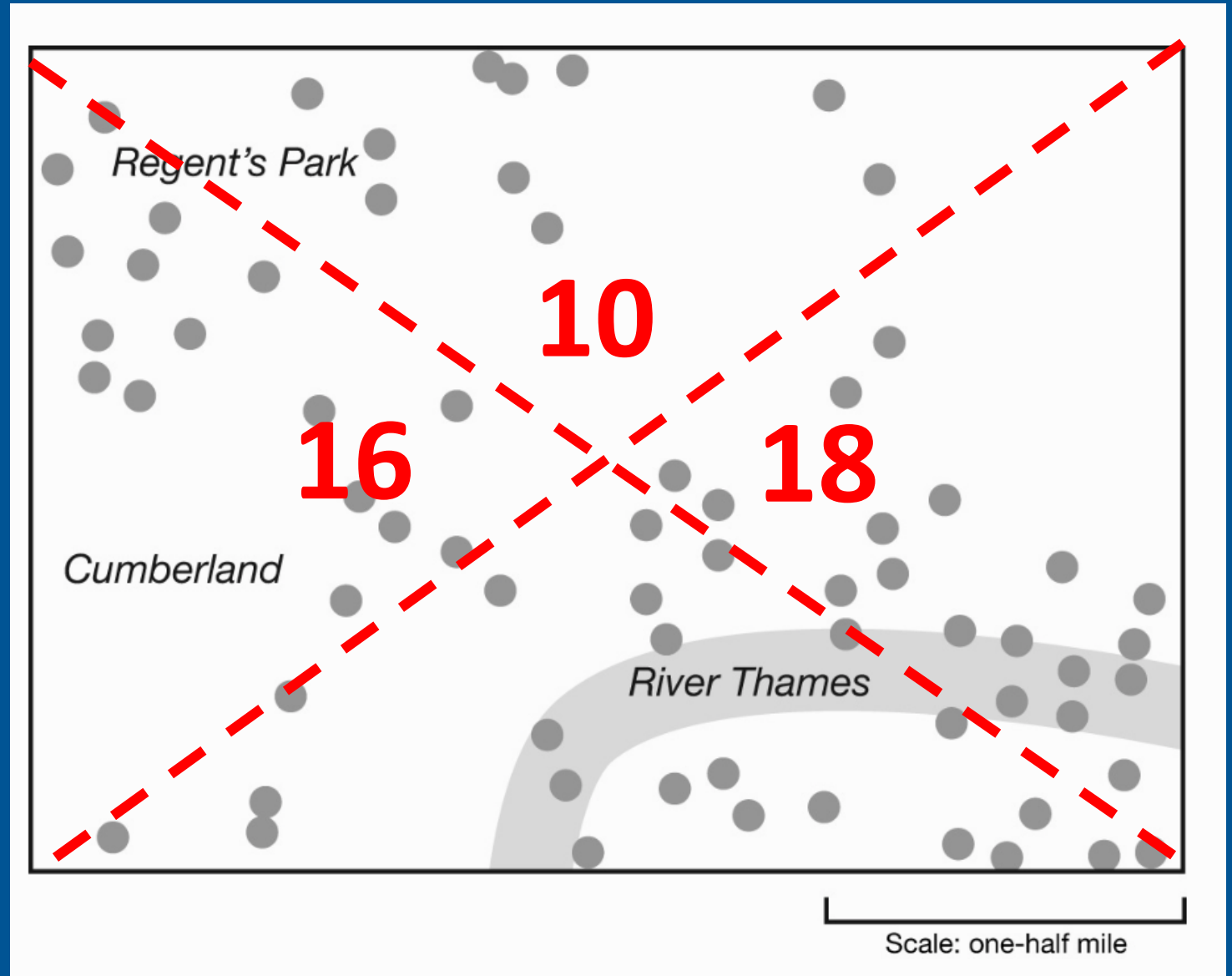
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

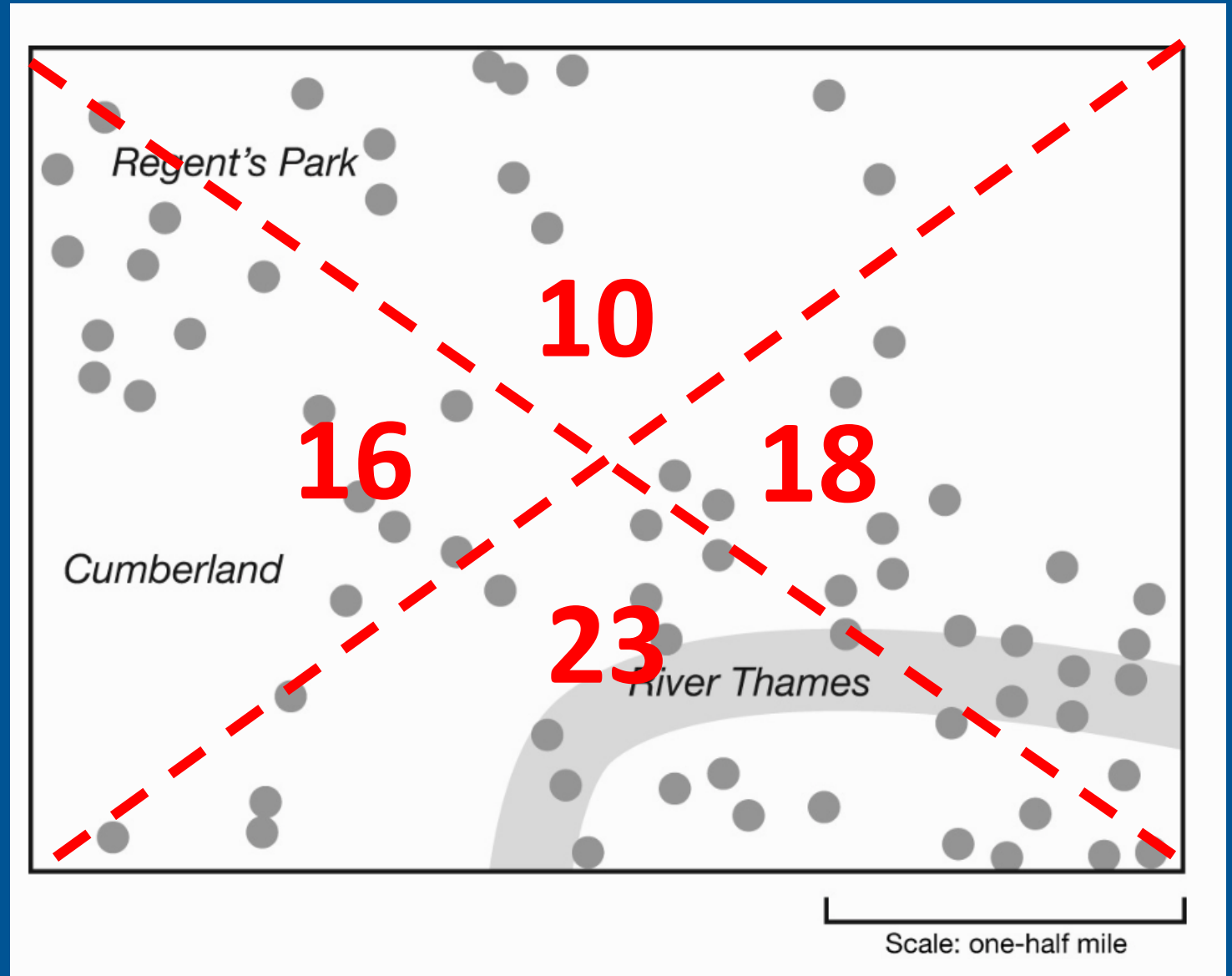
(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)



Seeing patterns in randomness

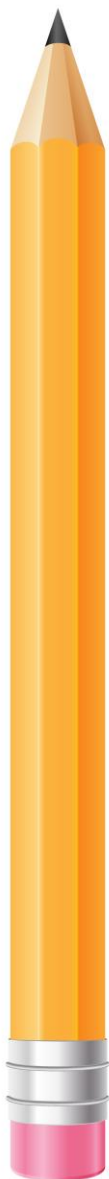
Map of London
Showing V-1
rocket strikes

(Adapted from Gilovich 1991)





Patterns and
word repetition
make things
more learnable





The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)





The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



Freedom to live is freedom to love (5:13-5:15)





The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



Freedom to live is freedom to love (5:13-5:15)



The key community teaching
(5:13-5:15)



The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)

What happened to your run?



Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

Gal. 5:7 You were running
well. Who hindered you from
obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς
ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ
μὴ πείθεσθαι;

Trech-o (τρέχω): run (trek!)

Gal. 5:7 You were running
well. Who hindered you from
obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς
ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ
μὴ πείθεσθαι;

Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

Engkopt-o (ἐγκόπτω): hinder, thwart, cut-off





Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

Engkopt-o (ἐγκόπτω): hinder, thwart, cut-off

Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

peith-o (πείθω): convince, persuade, trust

Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

peith-o (πείθω): convince, persuade, trust

2 Cor. 5:11

The goal is always truth!



Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι;

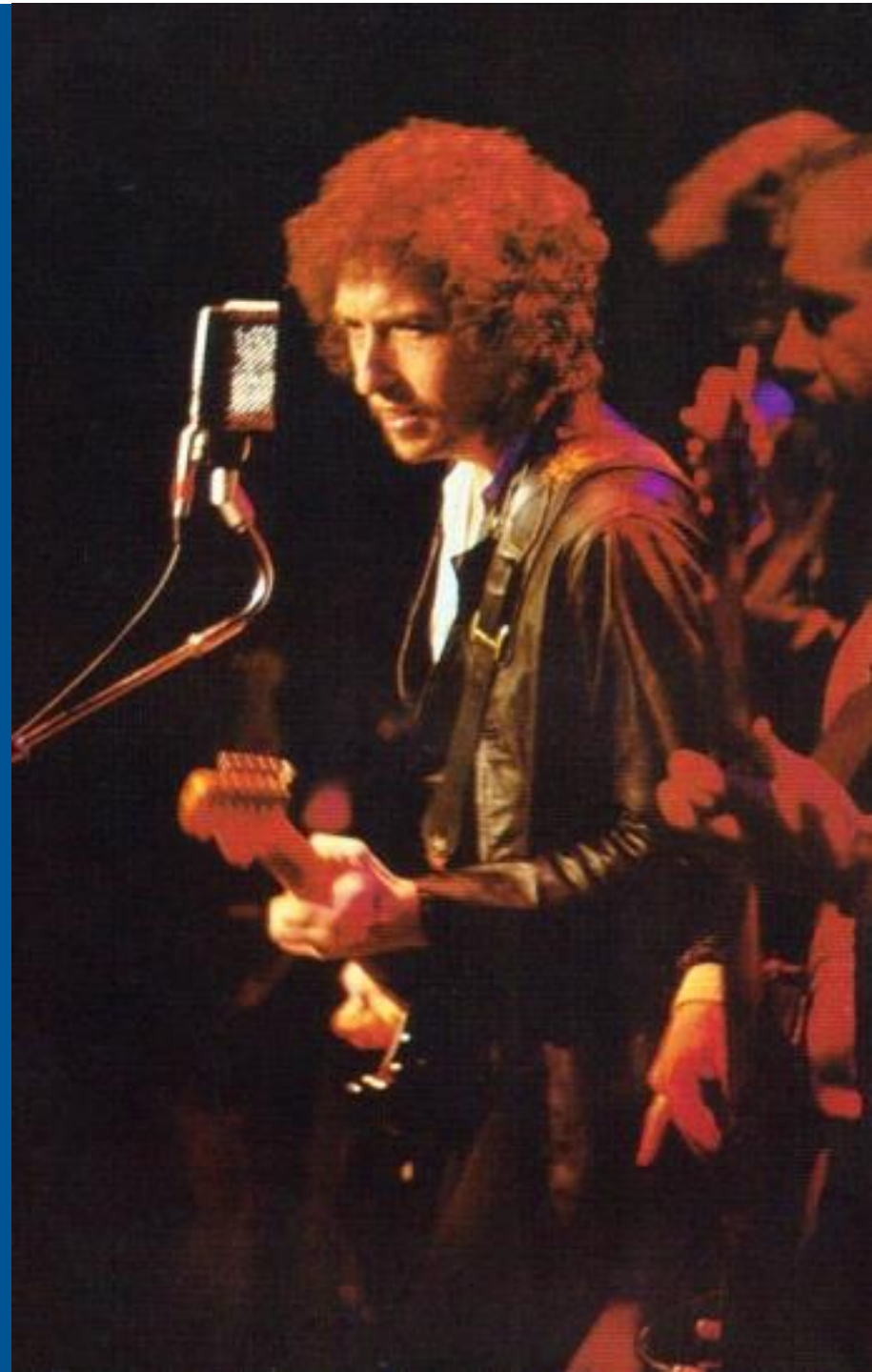
Gal. 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who **calls** you.

Gal. 5:7 Ἐτρέχετε καλῶς· τίς ὑμᾶς ἐνέκοψεν [τῇ] ἀληθείᾳ μὴ πείθεσθαι; 8 ἡ πεισμονὴ οὐκ ἐκ τοῦ **καλοῦντος** ὑμᾶς.



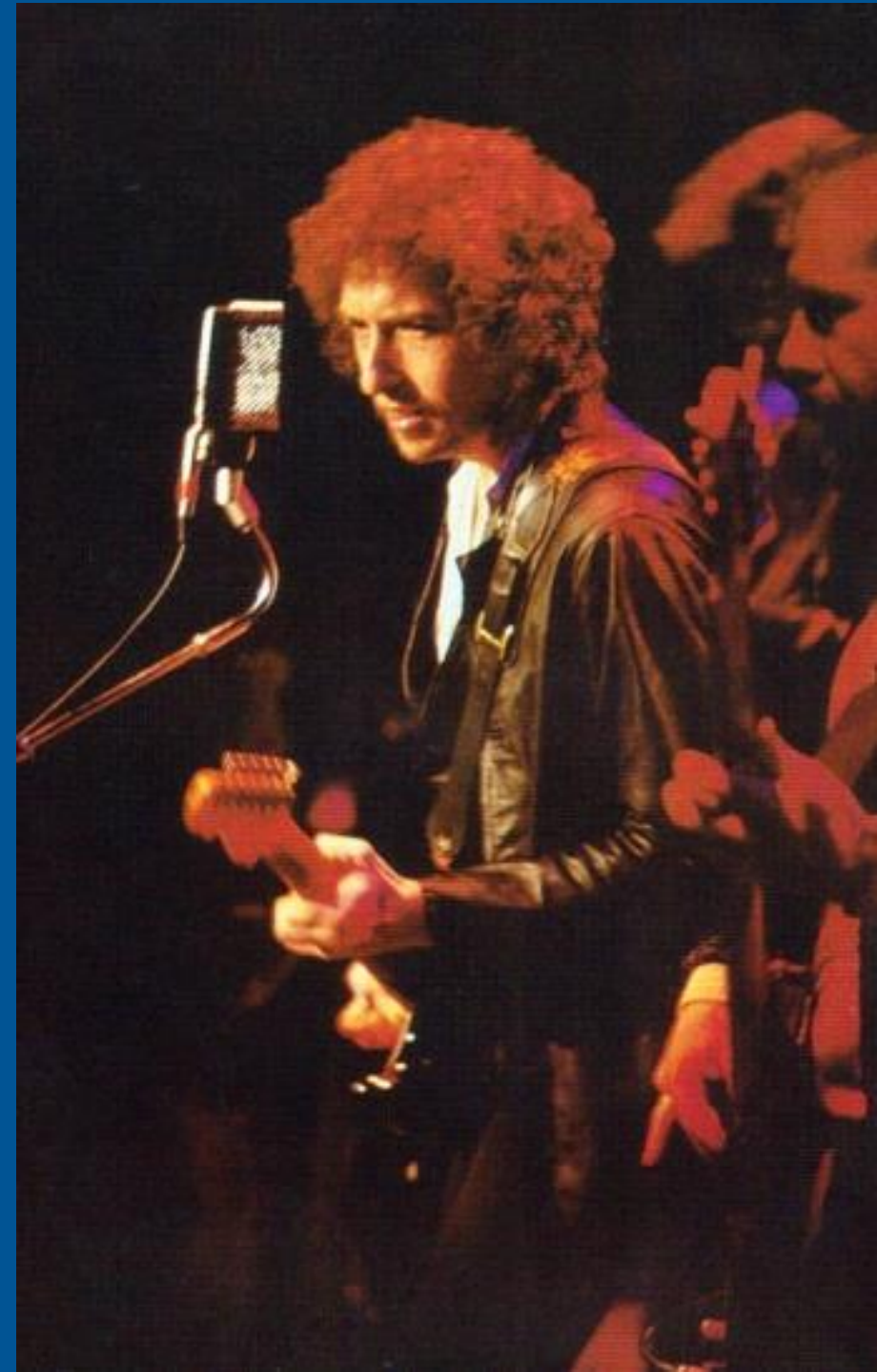
If it isn't God, who is it?

The enemy is subtle...



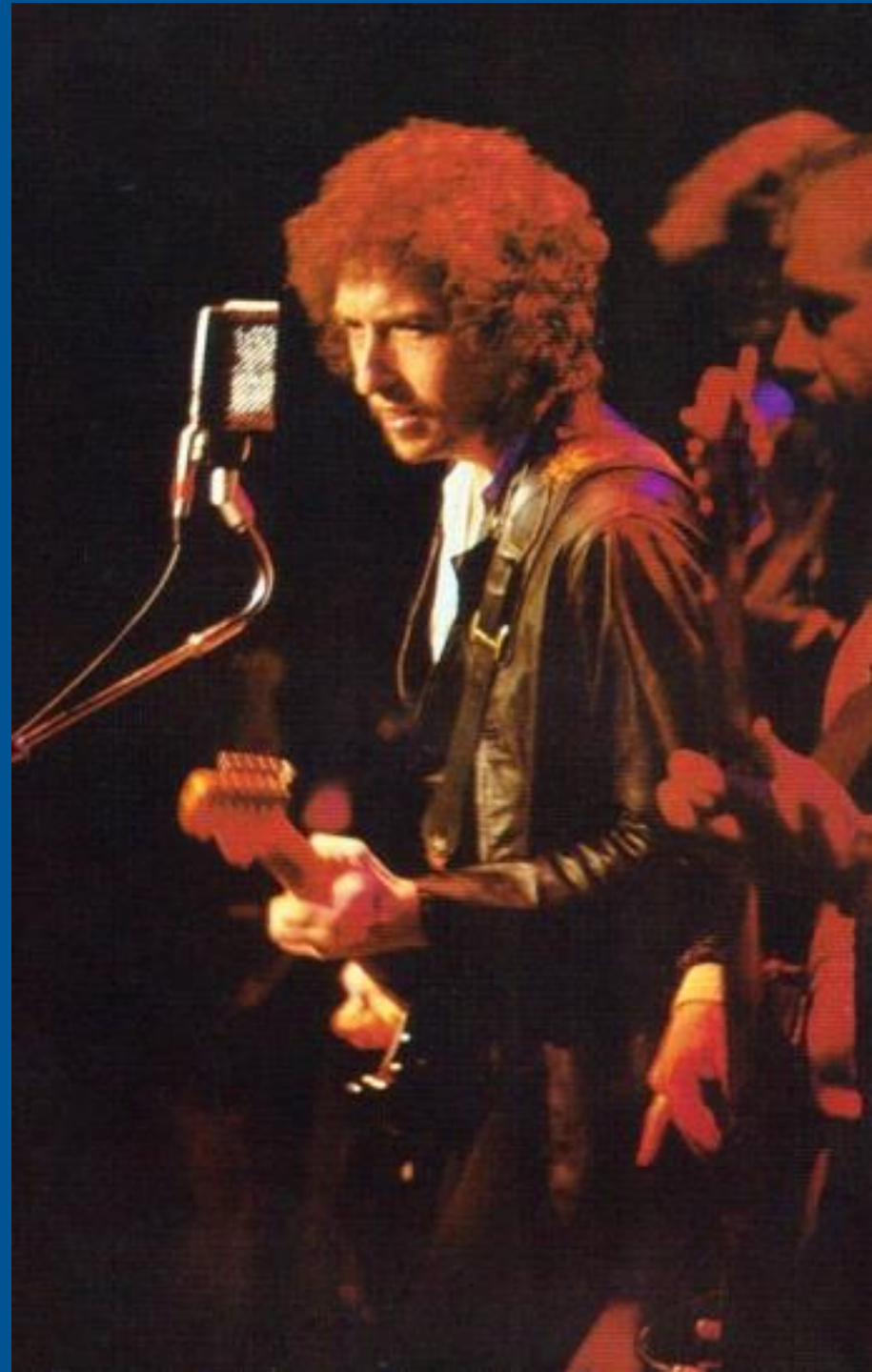


Now there's spiritual warfare...



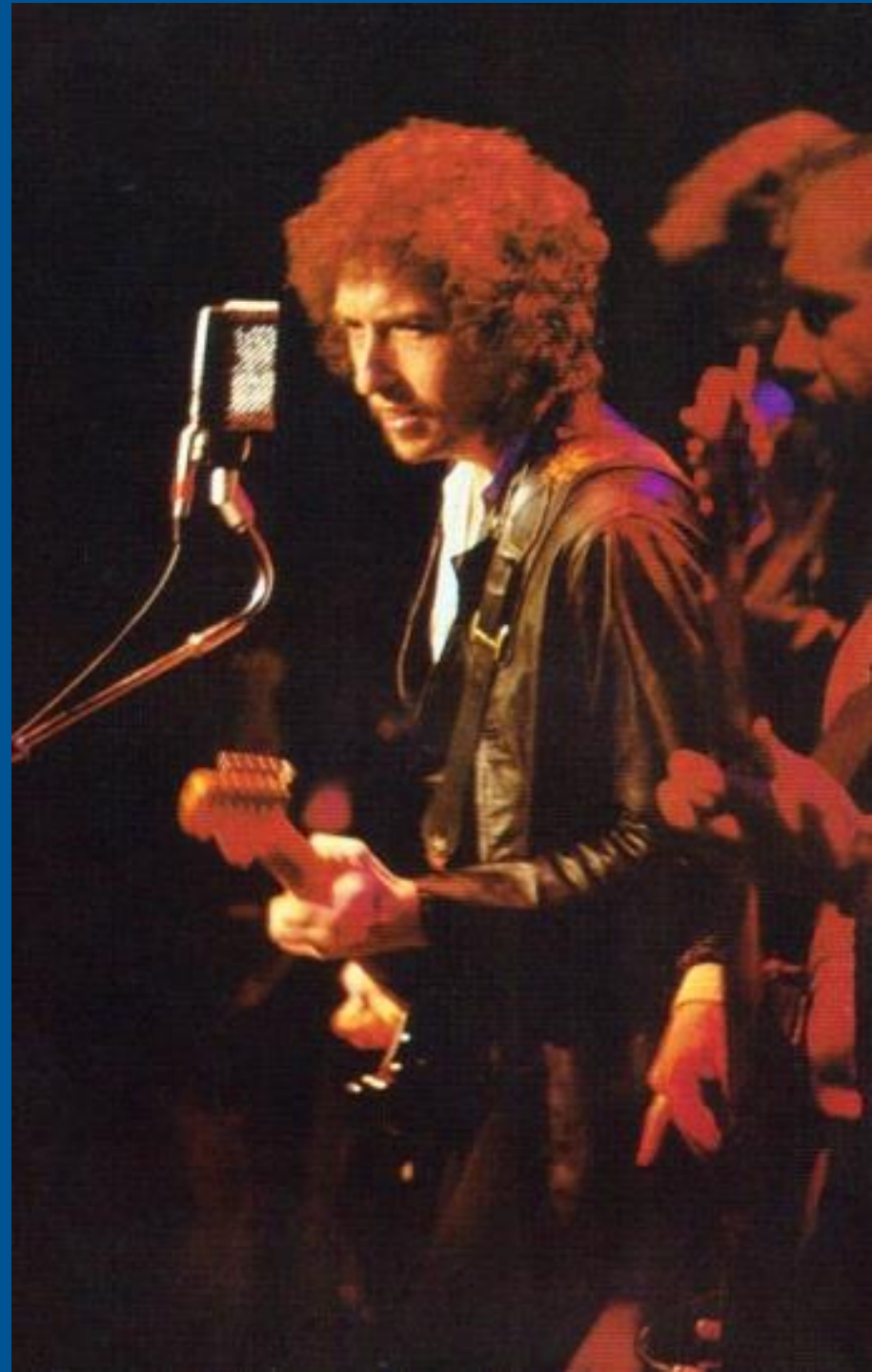


flesh and blood breaking down...



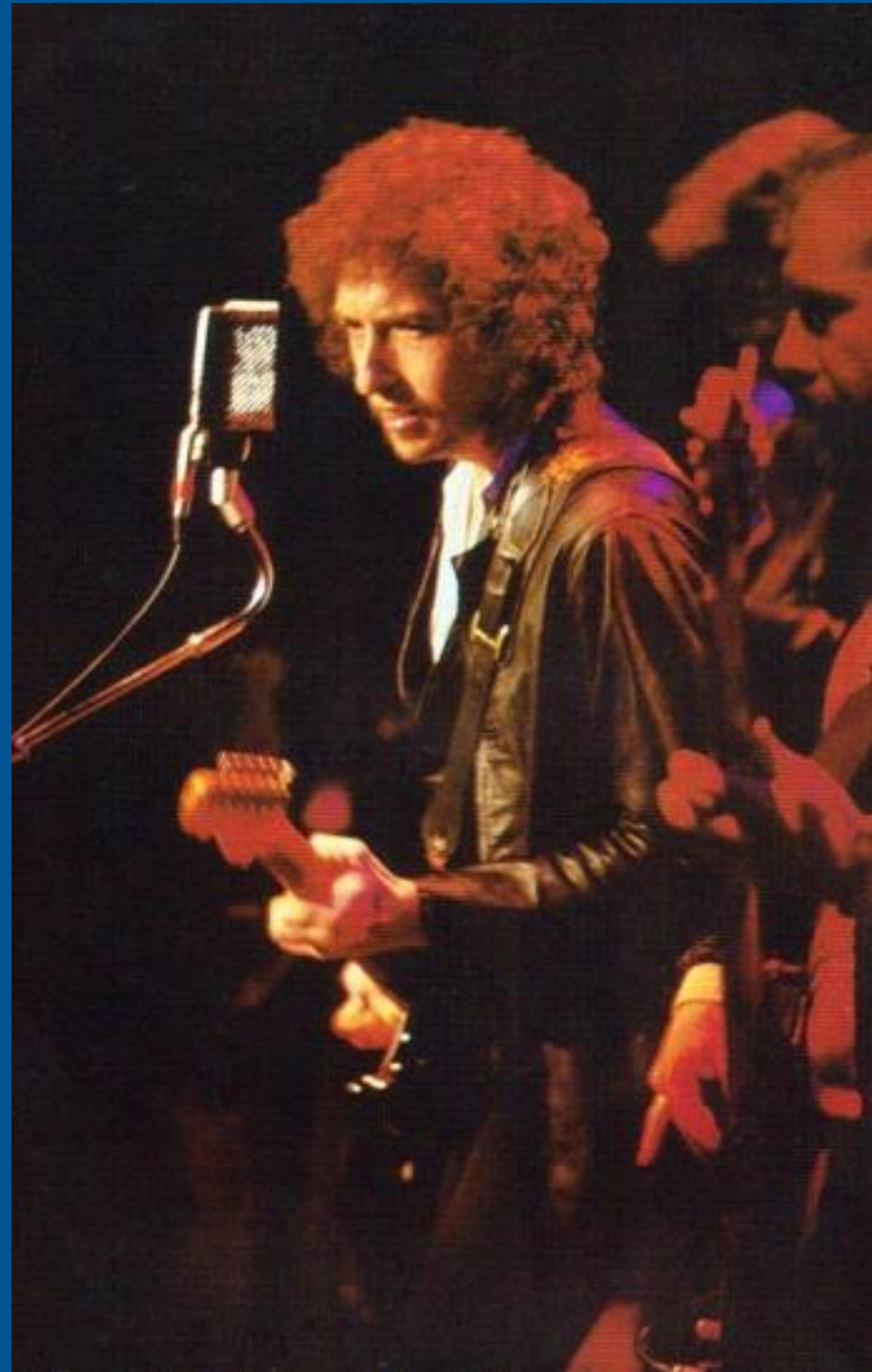


Ya either got faith or ya got unbelief





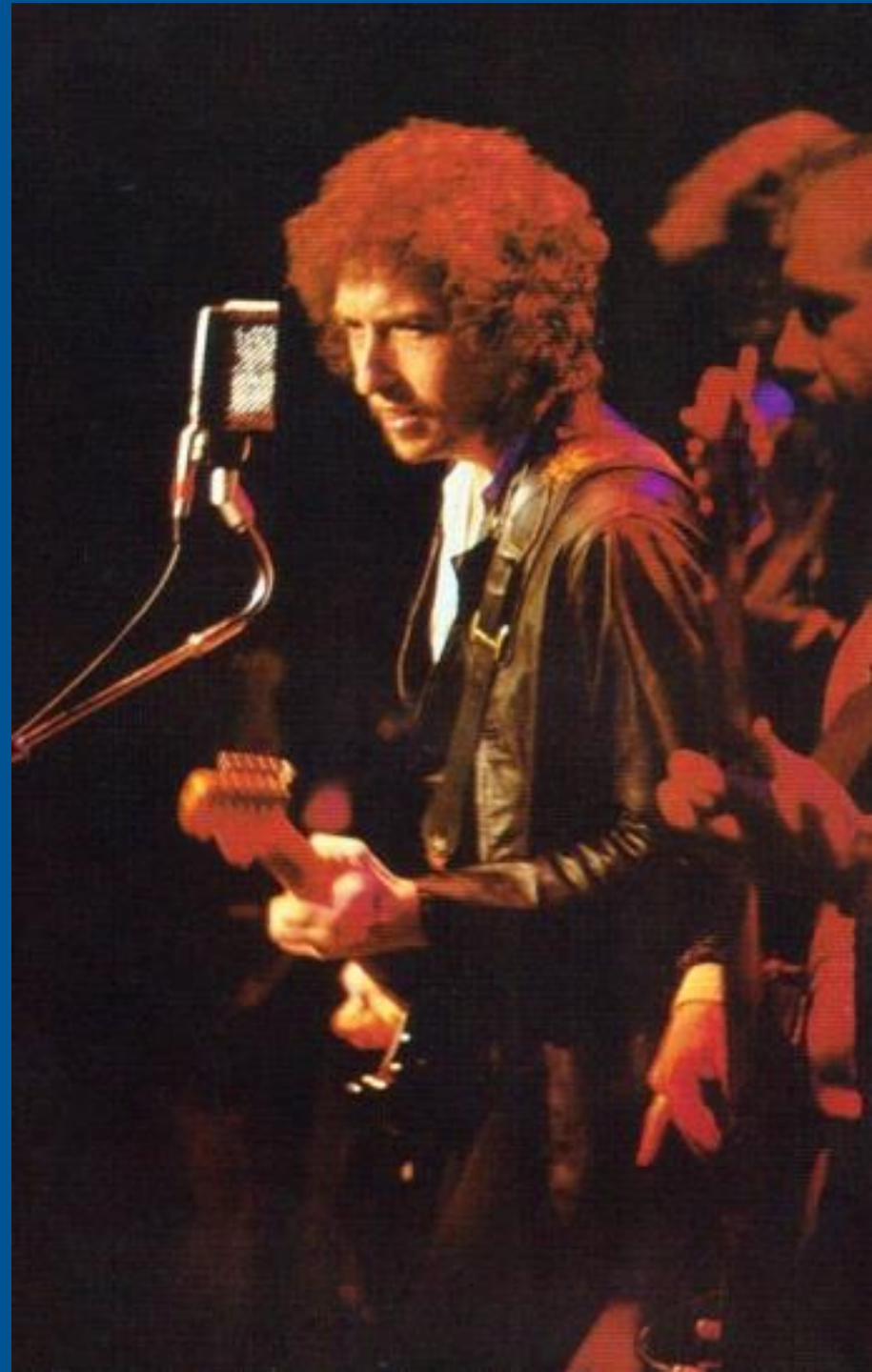
and there ain't nooo neutral ground





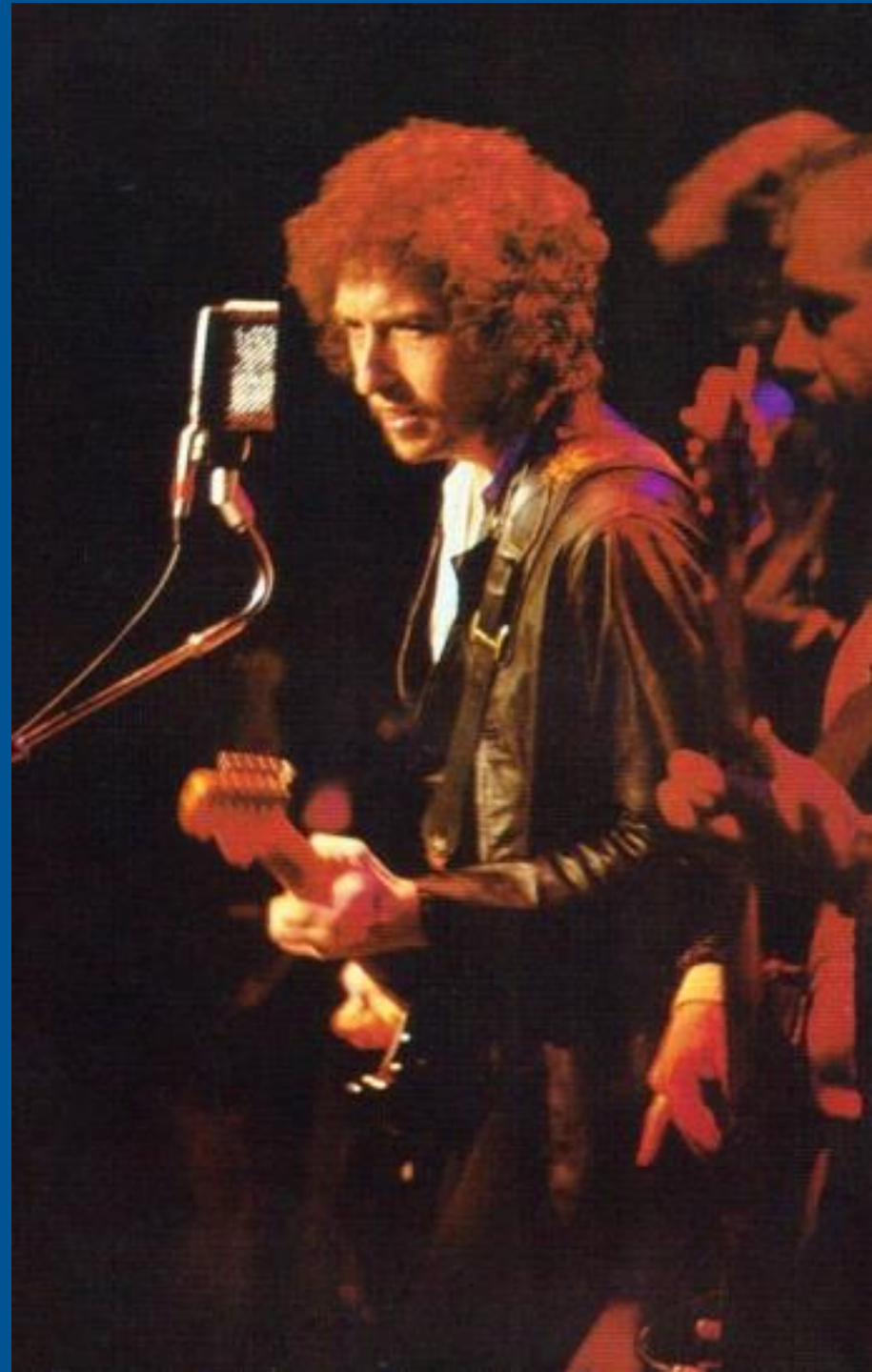
and there isn't a boom, no guitar, and

The enemy is subtle, ground



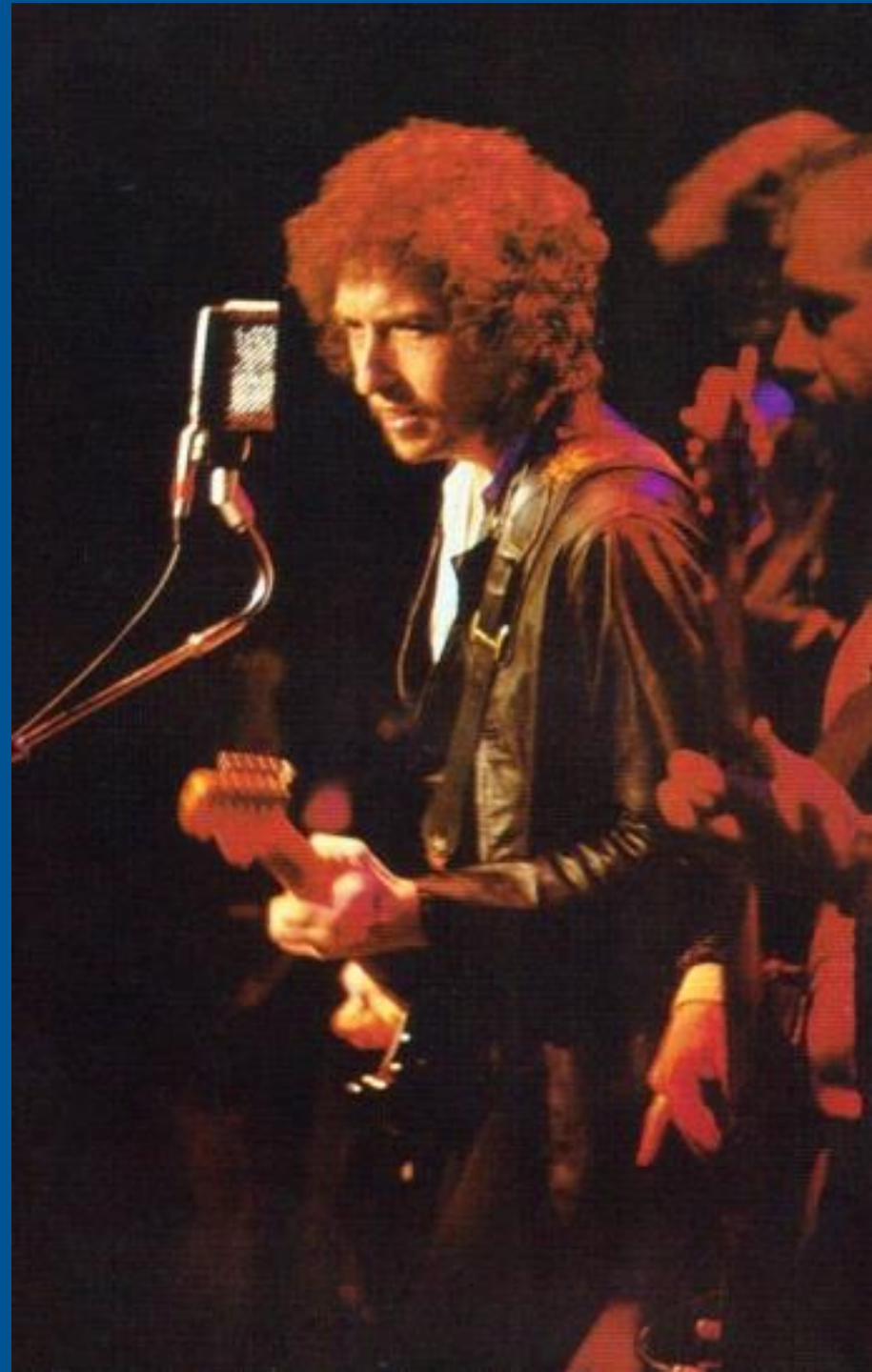


and how be it we are so deceived



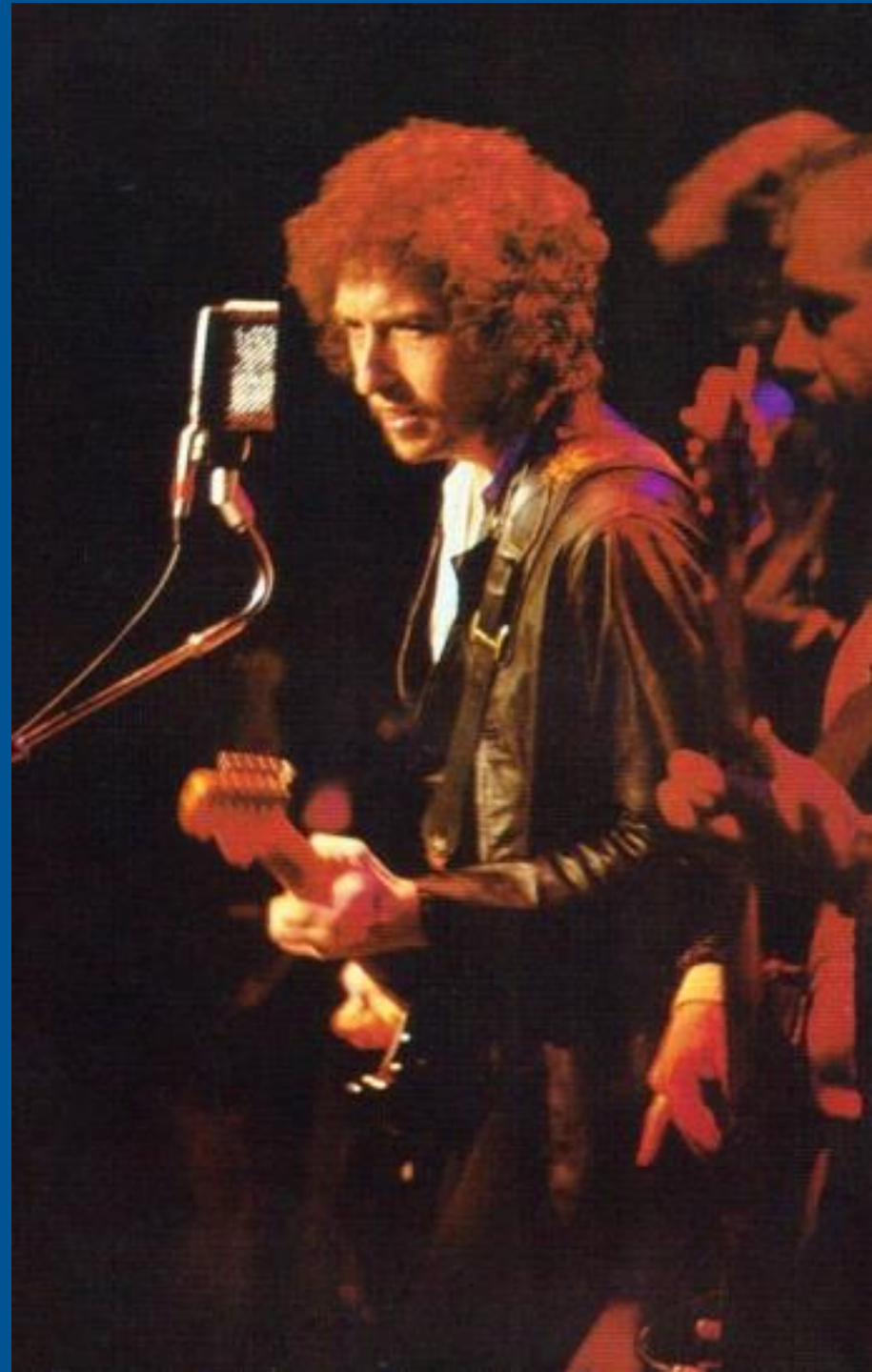


When the truth's in our hearts





and we still don't believe?



If it isn't God, who is it?





If it isn't God, who is it?

The enemy is subtle...

Gal. 5:9 A little leaven leavens
the whole lump.

Gal. 5:9 μικρὰ ζύμη ὅλον τὸ
φύραμα ζυμοῖ.

Gal. 5:9 A little leaven leavens
the whole lump.



Gal. 5:9 μικρὰ ζύμη ὅλον τὸ
φύραμα ζυμοῖ.

Gal. 5:9 A little leaven leavens
the whole lump.



Gal. 5:9 μικρὰ ζύμη ὅλον τὸ
φύραμα ζυμοῖ.





If it isn't God, who is it?

The enemy is subtle...

Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed.

Gal. 5:10 ἐγὼ πέποιθα εἰς ὑμᾶς ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄλλο φρονήσετε· ὁ δὲ ταρασσὼν ὑμᾶς βαστάσει τὸ κρίμα, ὅστις ἐὰν ᾖ. 11 Ἐγὼ δέ, ἀδελφοί, εἰ περιτομὴν ἔτι κηρύσσω, τί ἔτι διώκομαι; ἄρα κατήργηται τὸ σκάνδαλον τοῦ σταυροῦ.

Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed.

Gal. 5:10 ἐγὼ πέποιθα εἰς ὑμᾶς ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄλλο φρονήσετε· ὁ δὲ ταρασσὼν ὑμᾶς βαστάσει τὸ κρίμα, ὅστις ἐὰν ᾖ. 11 Ἐγὼ δέ, ἀδελφοί, εἰ περιτομὴν ἔτι κηρύσσω, τί ἔτι διώκομαι; ἄρα κατήργηται τὸ σκάνδαλον τοῦ σταυροῦ.

Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed.

Gal. 5:10 ἐγὼ πέποιθα εἰς ὑμᾶς ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄλλο φρονήσετε· ὁ δὲ ταρασσὼν ὑμᾶς βαστάσει τὸ κρίμα, ὅστις ἐὰν ᾖ. 11 Ἐγὼ δέ, ἀδελφοί, εἰ περιτομὴν ἔτι κηρύσσω, τί ἔτι διώκομαι; ἄρα κατήργηται τὸ σκάνδαλον τοῦ σταυροῦ.

Acts 16:3

Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the **offense** of the cross has been removed.

Gal. 5:10 ἐγὼ πέποιθα εἰς ὑμᾶς ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄλλο φρονήσετε· ὁ δὲ ταρασσὼν ὑμᾶς βαστάσει τὸ κρίμα, ὅστις ἐὰν ᾖ. 11 Ἐγὼ δέ, ἀδελφοί, εἰ περιτομὴν ἔτι κηρύσσω, τί ἔτι διώκομαι; ἄρα κατήργηται τὸ **σκάνδαλον** τοῦ σταυροῦ.

Gal. 5:10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the **offense** of the cross has been removed.

Gal. 5:10 ἐγὼ πέποιθα εἰς ὑμᾶς ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἄλλο φρονήσετε· ὁ δὲ ταρασσὼν ὑμᾶς βαστάσει τὸ κρίμα, ὅστις ἐὰν ᾖ. 11 Ἐγὼ δέ, ἀδελφοί, εἰ περιτομὴν ἔτι κηρύσσω, τί ἔτι διώκομαι; ἄρα κατήργηται τὸ **σκάνδαλον** τοῦ σταυροῦ.

skandalon (σκάνδαλον): the trigger of a trap

skandalon
(σκάνδαλον)



skandalon
(σκάνδαλον)



1 Cor. 1:23

SELF-HELP

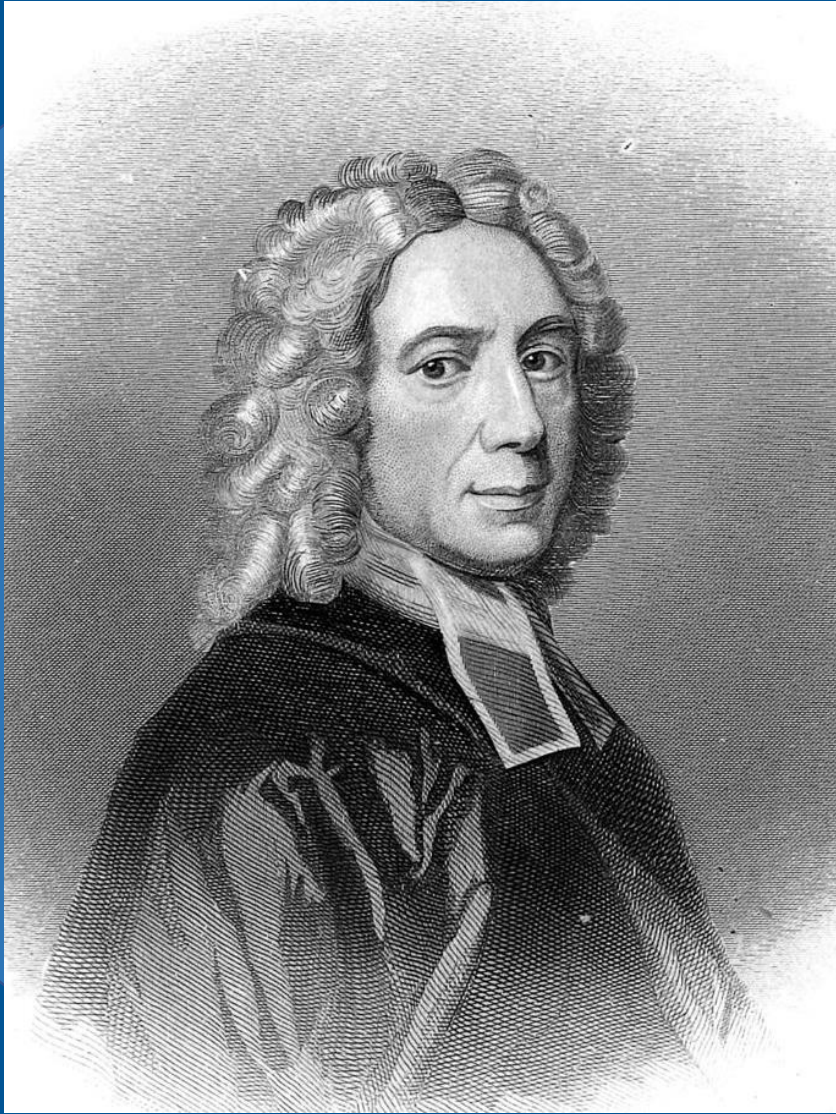




SELF-HELP



Stripping our self-justifying tendencies is the offense of the cross. The offense is to self-pride and self-help.



“When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss and
pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God!”
- Isaac Watts

Gal. 5:12 I wish those who
unsettle you would emasculate
themselves!

Gal. 5:12 Ὅφελον καὶ
ἀποκόψονται οἱ
ἀναστατοῦντες ὑμᾶς.

Gal. 5:12 I wish those who
unsettle you would emasculate
themselves!

Gal. 5:12 Ὅφελον καὶ
ἀποκόψονται οἱ
ἀναστατοῦντες ὑμᾶς.

ENOUGH SAID



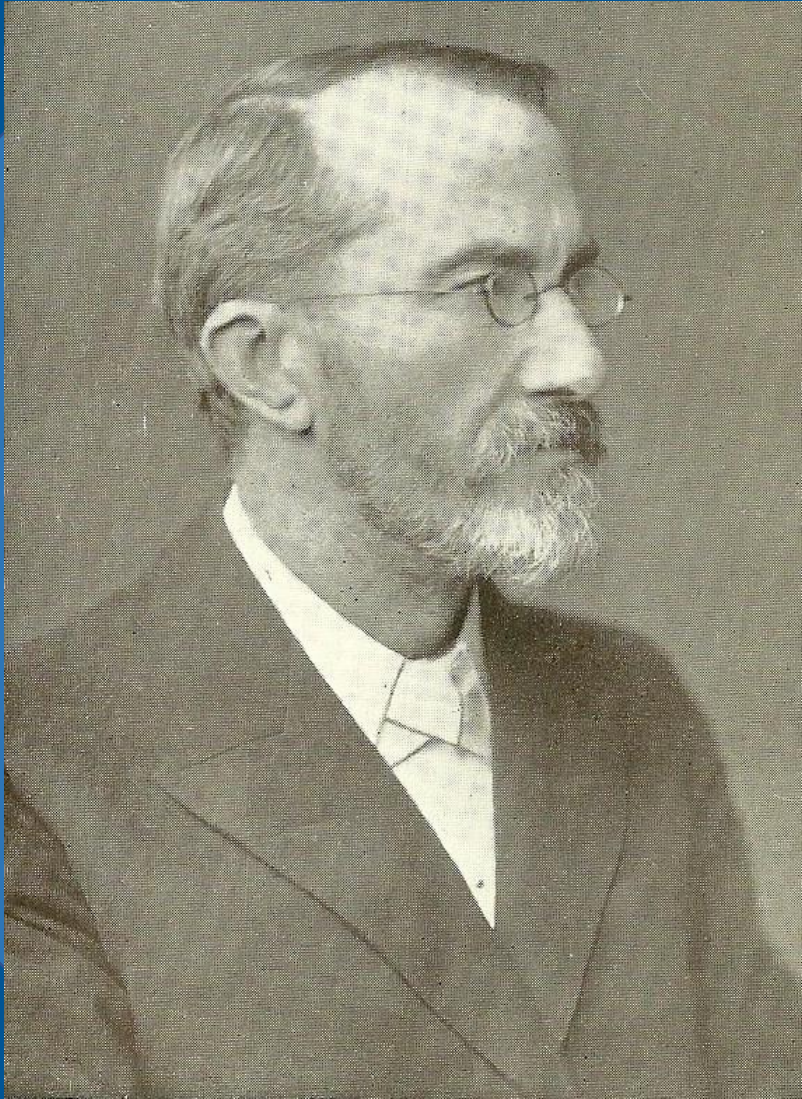
The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



Freedom to live is freedom to love (5:13-5:15)



“The aim of the Epistle to the Galatians is to show that all Christianity is contained in the Cross; the Cross is the generative principle of everything Christian in the life of a man.”

- James Denney

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to **freedom**, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' **ἐλευθερίᾳ** ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For **you were called** to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ **ἐκλήθητε**, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For **you were called** to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ **ἐκλήθητε**, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Kale-o (καλέω): call by name or attribute



You were called to freedom, brothers.
So what are you going to do with your freedom???

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the **flesh**, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ **σαρκί**, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the **flesh**, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ **σαρκί**, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

sarx (σάρξ): flesh



“That self-regarding element in human nature that has been corrupted at the source, with its appetites and propensities, and which if unchecked produces the works of the flesh in verse 19.”
- F. F. Bruce

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς ἀγάπης δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

Gal. 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through **love serve** one another.

Gal. 5:13 Ὑμεῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἐλευθερίᾳ ἐκλήθητε, ἀδελφοί· μόνον μὴ τὴν ἐλευθερίαν εἰς ἀφορμὴν τῇ σαρκί, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῆς **ἀγάπης** δουλεύετε ἀλλήλοις.

agape (ἀγάπη): decisive, practical love

You want to be enslaved?
Be enslaved to practical love for each other!





The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



Freedom to live is freedom to love (5:13-5:15)



The Seduction of self-justification (5:7-5:12)



Freedom to live is freedom to love (5:13-5:15)



The key community teaching
(5:13-5:15)

Gal. 5:14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Gal. 5:14 ὁ γὰρ πᾶς νόμος ἐν ἐνὶ λόγῳ πεπλήρωται, ἐν τῷ· ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. 15 εἰ δὲ ἀλλήλους δάκνετε καὶ κατεσθίετε, βλέπετε μὴ ὑπ' ἀλλήλων ἀναλωθῆτε.

Gal. 5:14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Gal. 5:14 ὁ γὰρ πᾶς νόμος ἐν ἐνὶ λόγῳ πεπλήρωται, ἐν τῷ· ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. 15 εἰ δὲ ἀλλήλους δάκνετε καὶ κατεσθίετε, βλέπετε μὴ ὑπ' ἀλλήλων ἀναλωθῆτε.

Lev 19:18
Compare Mt. 19:16ff

Let's get it right!



Points to Ponder:





Points to Ponder:

Let's grow in love!



Points to Ponder:

Let's grow in love!

Phil. 1:9 "And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment..."

Points to Ponder:

Let's show our love





Points to Ponder:

Let's show our love

1Thess. 1:3 “remembering
before our God and Father
your work of faith and labor of
love and steadfastness of
hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”

Points to Ponder:



Let's source our love

Points to Ponder:



Let's source our love

2Thess. 3:5 "May the Lord
direct your hearts to the
love of God and to the
steadfastness of Christ"

A wide-angle photograph of a large church service. The pews are filled with a diverse crowd of people, seen from behind, looking towards the front. The stage is illuminated with blue light and features a large, dark cross on the wall. A person is visible on the stage, and there are musical instruments and equipment. A large screen on the right side of the stage displays a blue image. The text "Let's go to church!" is overlaid in a white box with blue lettering.

Let's go to church!