

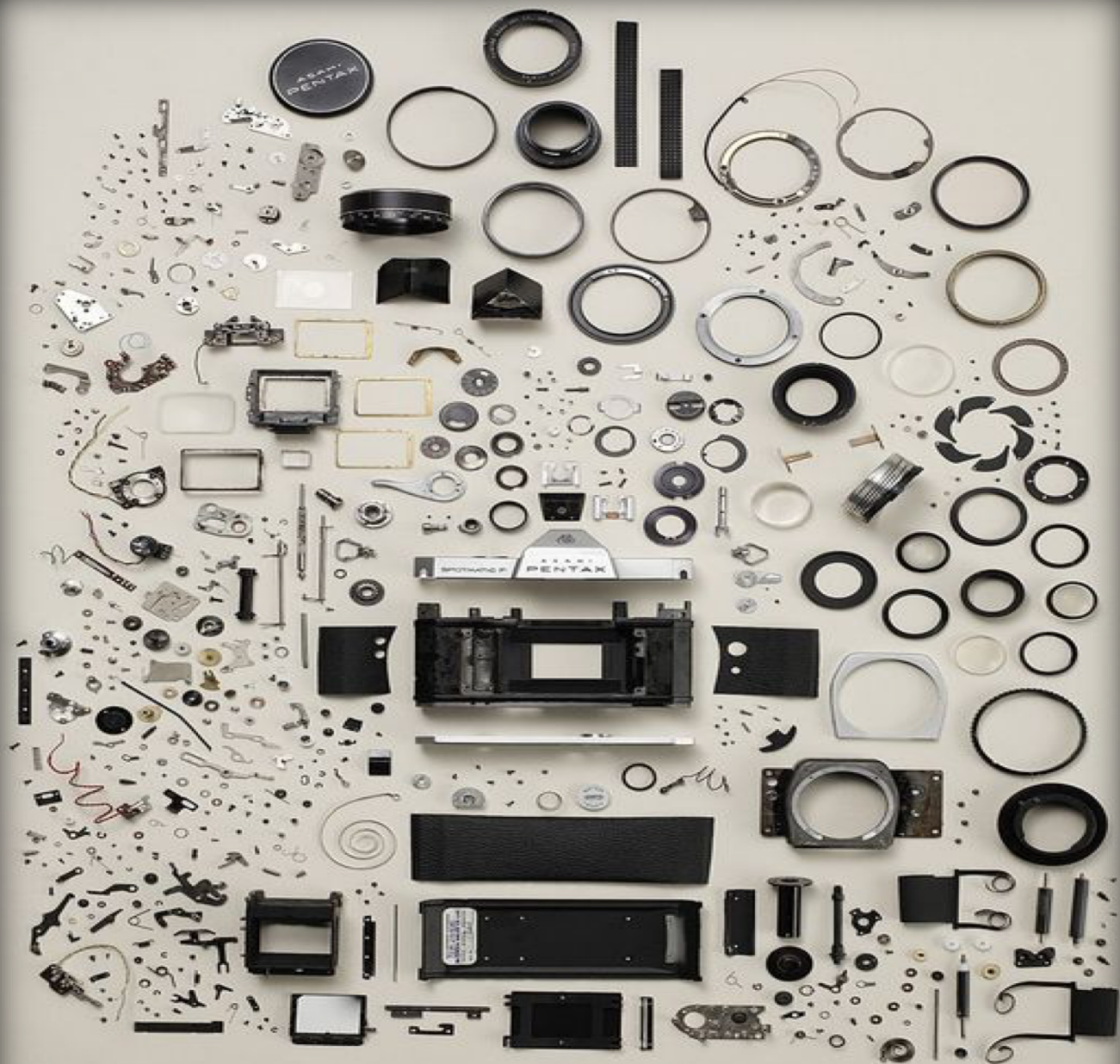


Snapshots from Luke



















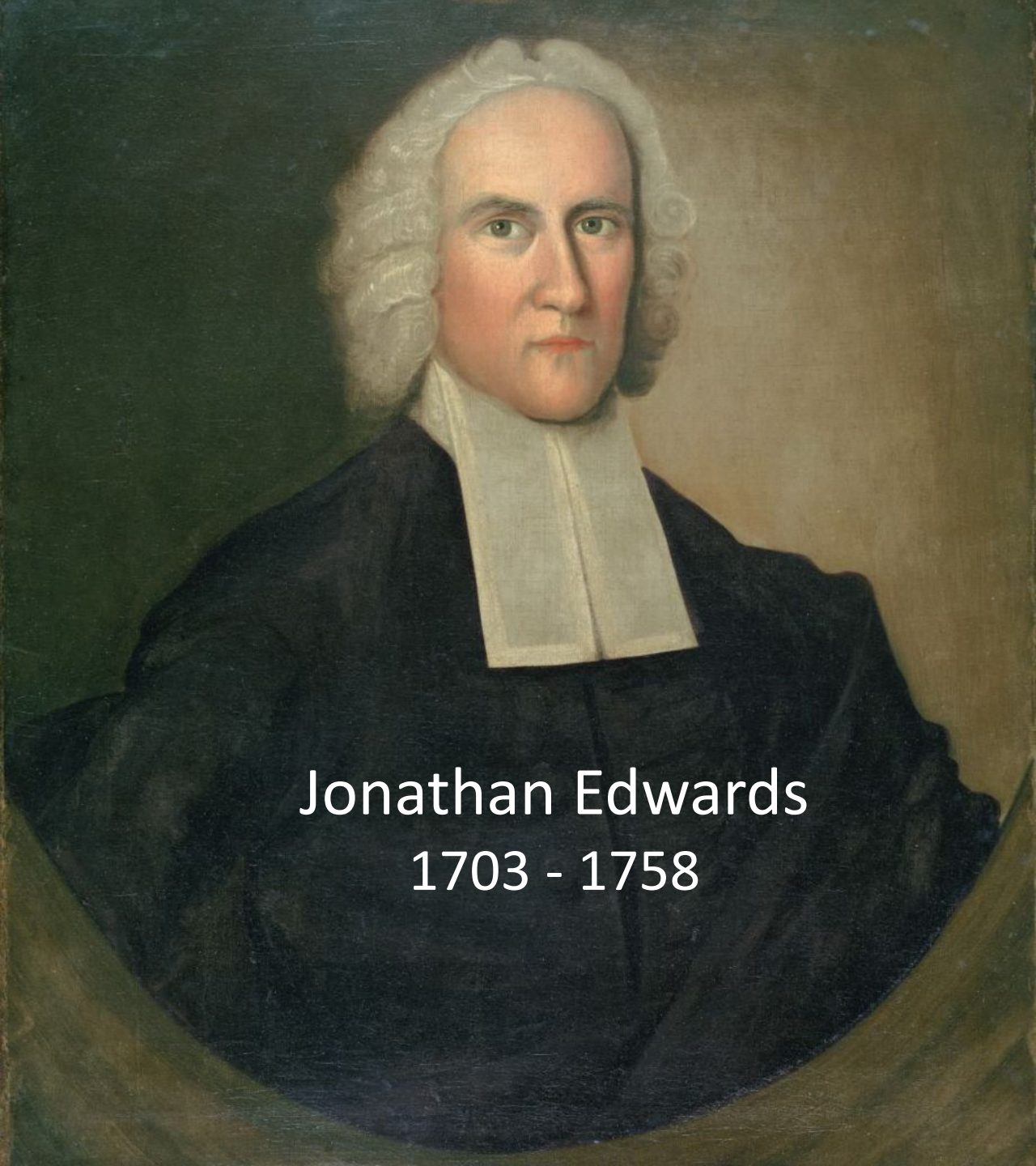








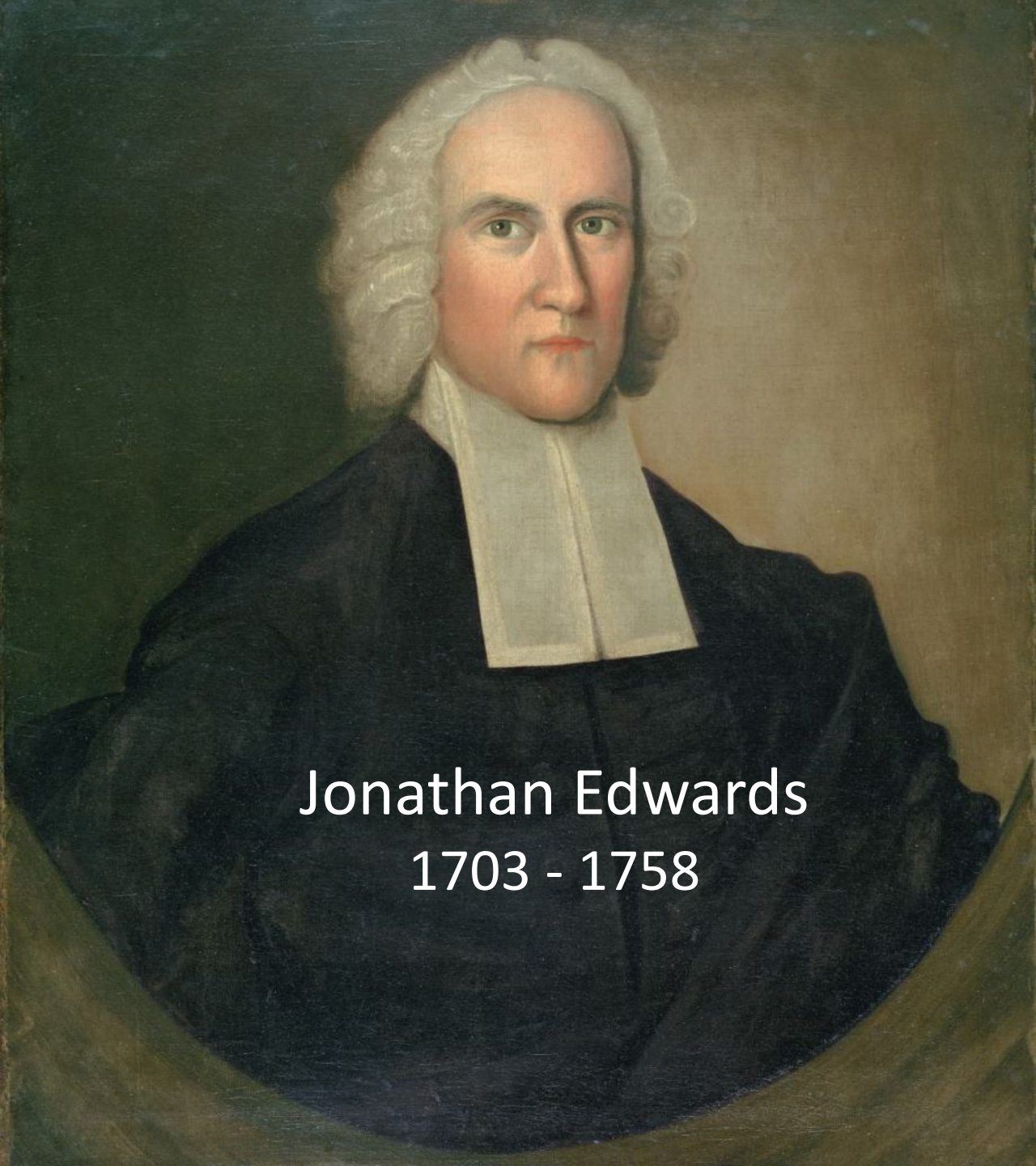




Jonathan Edwards  
1703 - 1758

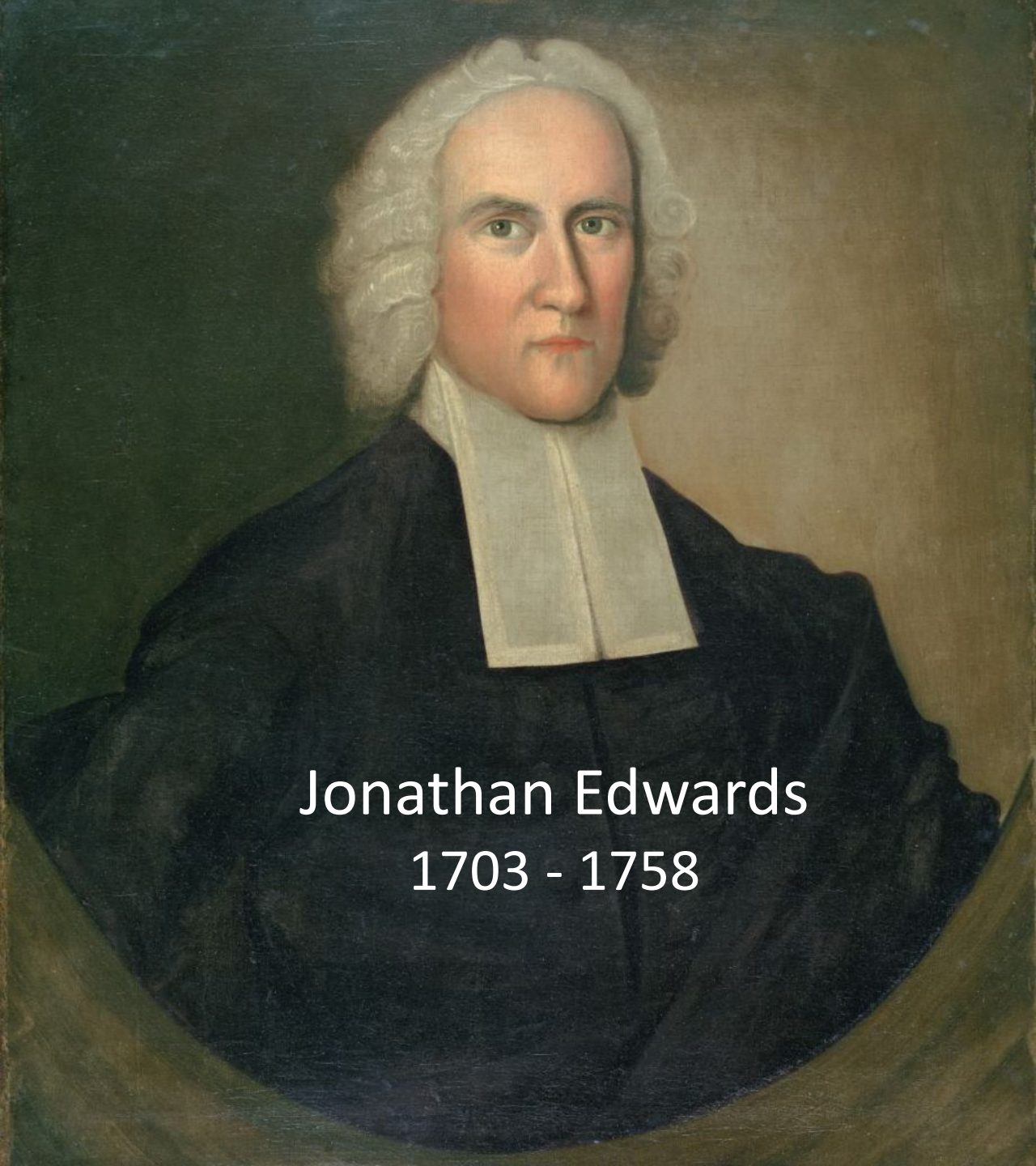
The God that holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider or some loathsome insect over the fire, abhors you, and is dreadfully provoked. His wrath towards you burns like fire; he looks upon you as worthy of nothing else but to be cast into the fire. He is of purer eyes than to bear you in his sight; you are ten thousand times as abominable in his eyes as the most hateful, venomous serpent is in ours.





Jonathan Edwards  
1703 - 1758

You have offended him infinitely more than ever a stubborn rebel did his prince, and yet it is nothing but his hand that holds you from falling into the fire every moment. It is to be ascribed to nothing else that you did not go to hell the last night; that you were suffered to awake again in this world, after you closed your eyes to sleep. And there is no other reason to be given why you have not dropped into hell since you arose in the morning, but that God's hand has held you up.



Jonathan Edwards  
1703 - 1758

There is no other reason to be given why you have not gone to hell since you have sat here in the house of God provoking his pure eye by your sinful, wicked manner of attending his solemn worship. Yea, there is nothing else that is to be given as a reason why you do not this very moment drop down into hell.

From Jonathan Edwards, *The Works of President Edwards*, vol. 6 (1817; New York: Burt Franklin, 1968), pp. 458, 461–62.



## God's Sovereignty - "Predestination"

For you are a people holy to  
the LORD your God. The LORD your  
God has chosen you to be a people  
for his treasured possession, out of  
all the peoples who are on the face  
of the earth.

- Deuteronomy 7:6

## God's Sovereignty - "Predestination"

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

- Romans 8:29-30



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- Romans 8:29-30

## God's Sovereignty - "Predestination"

What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

- Romans 9:14-16



## God's Sovereignty - "Predestination"

No one can come to me unless the  
Father who sent me draws him. And  
I will raise him up on the last day.

- John 6:44



Why does God  
allow pain and  
suffering?



He cares but just isn't powerful enough  
to do anything about it.

He cares but just isn't powerful enough  
to do anything about it.

*or*

He's powerful but just doesn't care  
enough to do anything about it.

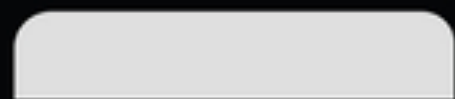


W. MARK LANIER

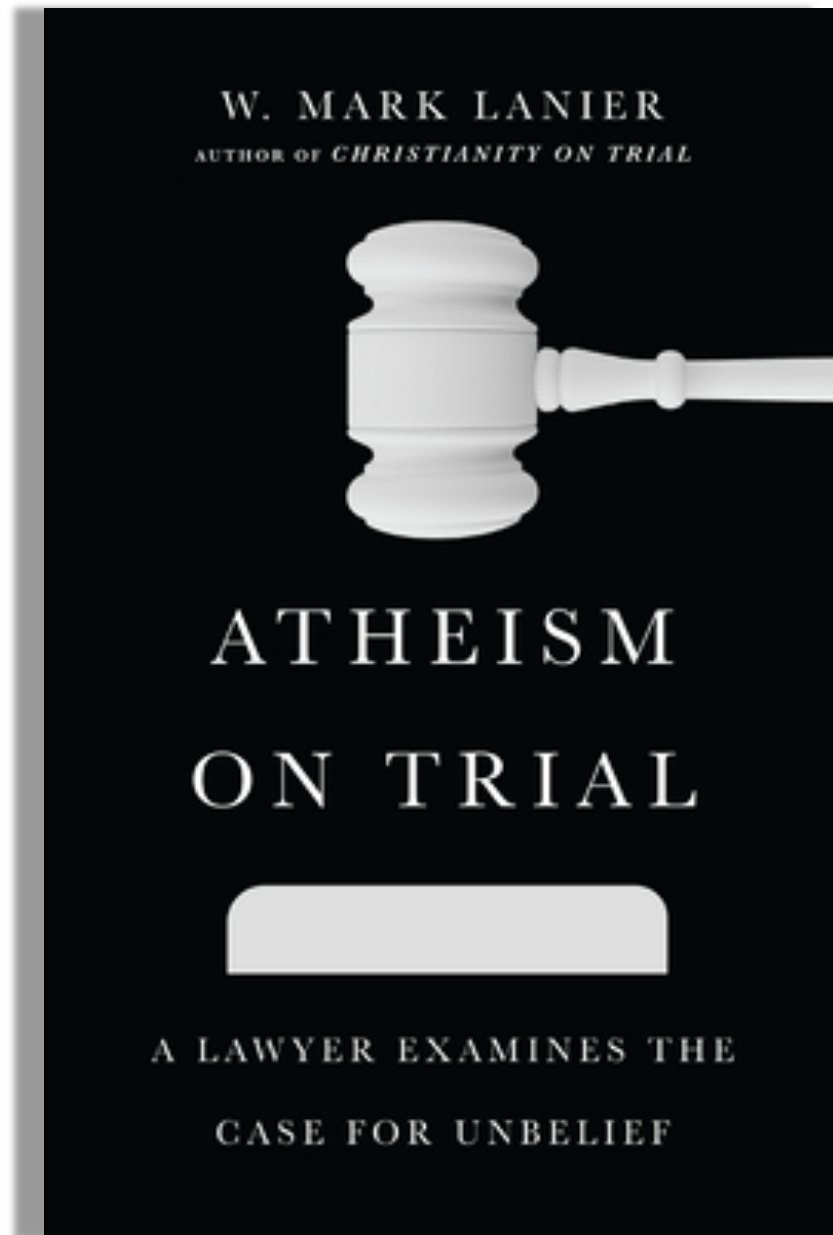
AUTHOR OF *CHRISTIANITY ON TRIAL*



# ATHEISM ON TRIAL



A LAWYER EXAMINES THE  
CASE FOR UNBELIEF







Luke 6:32-36

*“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.*

*- Luke 6:32-34*

*But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.*

Luke 6:35-36



*But love your enemies, and do good, and lend,  
**expecting nothing in return**, and your reward  
will be great, and you will be sons of the Most  
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merciful.*

Luke 6:35-36

mēden

μηδέν

*“nothing”*

apelpizontes

ἀπελπίζοντες

*“expecting in return”*


mēden

μηδέν  
*“nothing”*

apelpizontes

ἀπελπίζοντες  
*“expecting in return”*

ἀπελπίζω = *“despair (of)”*  
apelpizo





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Luke 6:35-36

*And David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always.”*

- 2 Samuel 9:7



# Luke 15

- The lost sheep
- The lost coin
- The lost son (The Loving Father)





Luke 18:18-27

*And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’” <sup>21</sup> And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.” <sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”*

*- Luke 18:18-22*

*<sup>23</sup> But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. <sup>24</sup> Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>26</sup> Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”*

*- Luke 18:23-27*

*God will not give you more than  
you can handle!*



*God will not give you more than  
you can handle!*

**WRONG**

*No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*

- 1 Corinthians 10:13

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- 1 Corinthians 10:13

*But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you,  
for my power is made perfect in  
weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more  
gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of  
Christ may rest upon me.*

- 2 Corinthians 12:9



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*God is not just the God of the  
gaps!*

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

1 John 15:5

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1 John 15:5



*I can do all things through him who  
strengthens me.*

- Philippians 4:13

Luke 22:32



*“but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”*

- Luke 22:32

*Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.*

- Hebrews 7:25



*But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.*

Luke 6:35-36

