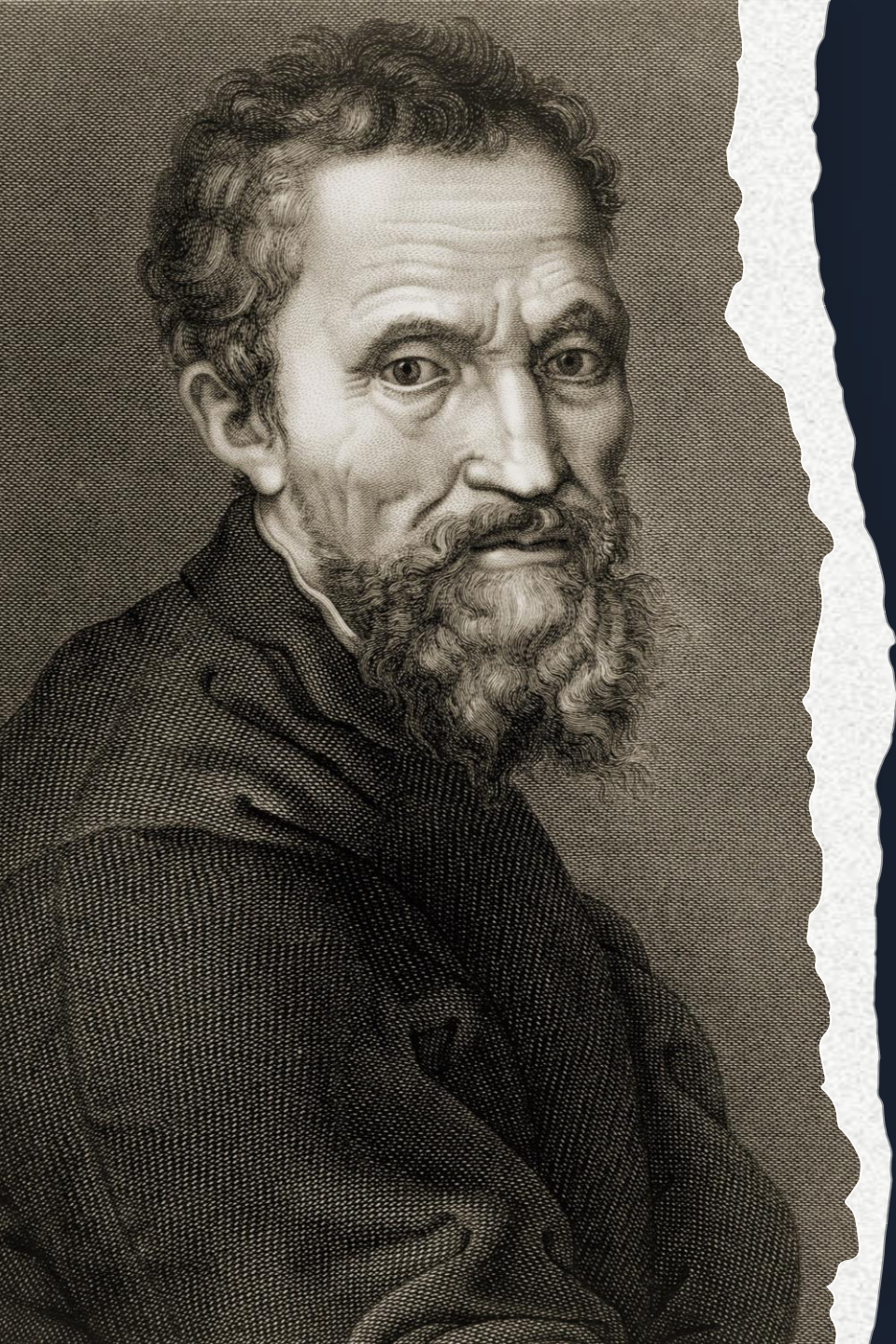


Romans

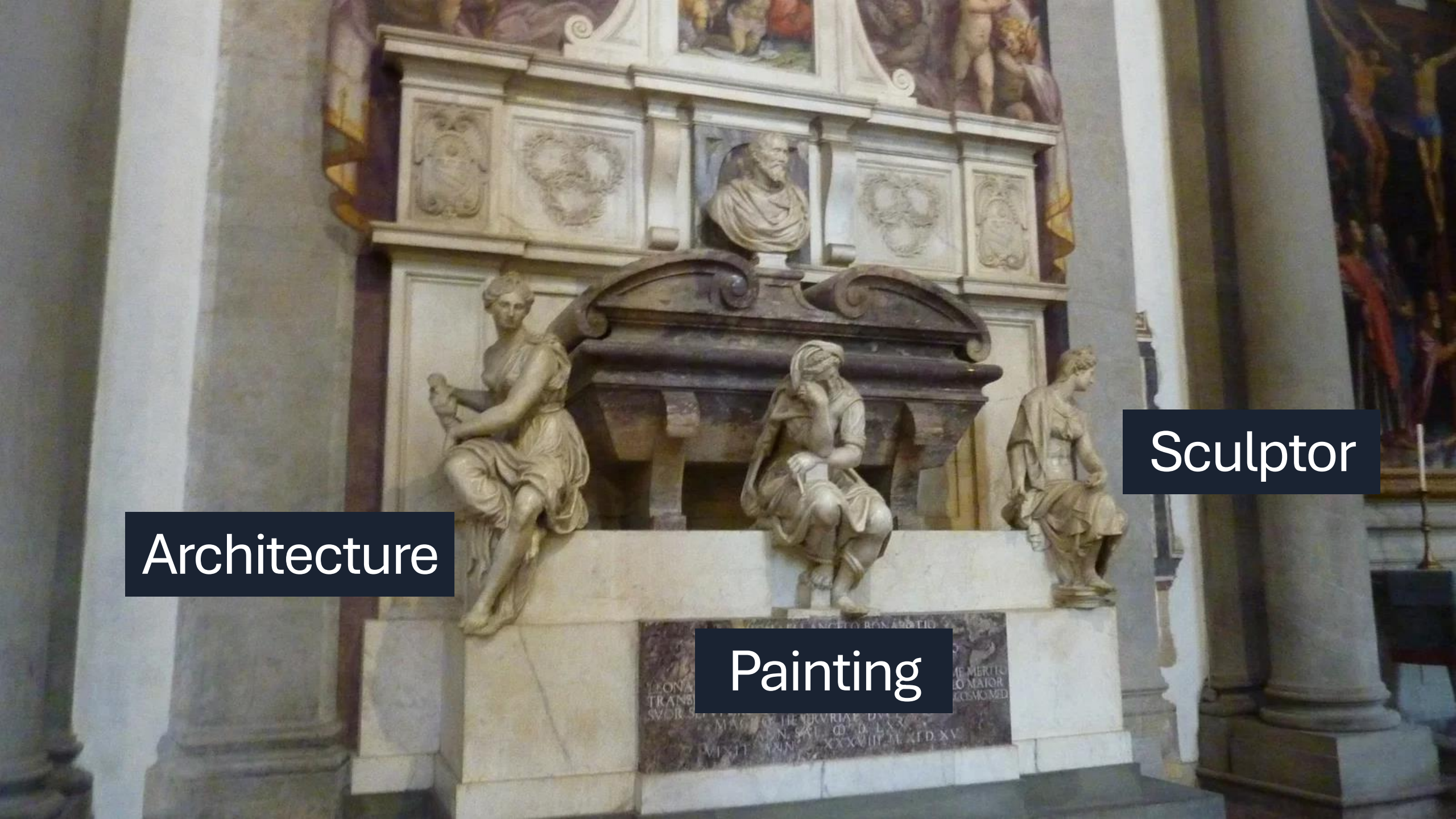


1501
problem





M. Buonarroti



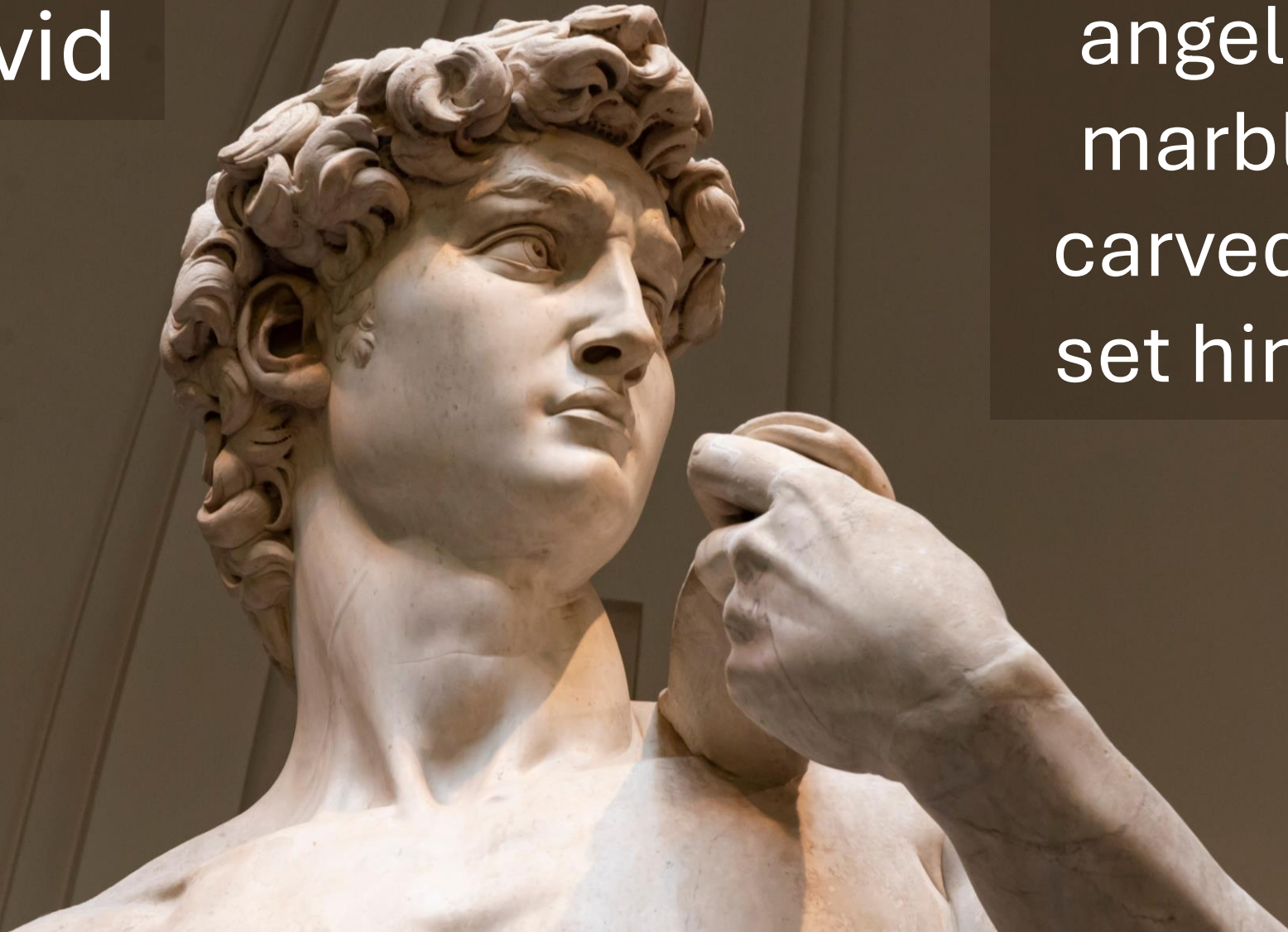
Architecture

Sculptor

Painting

1504
David

“I saw the
angel in the
marble and
carved until I
set him free”



Before the first strike of the
chisel, Michelangelo had
already seen the finished work.
The David already existed —
in his mind, in his vision,
in his intention.



Hold that thought!



For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers...





**Rom.
8:29-30**

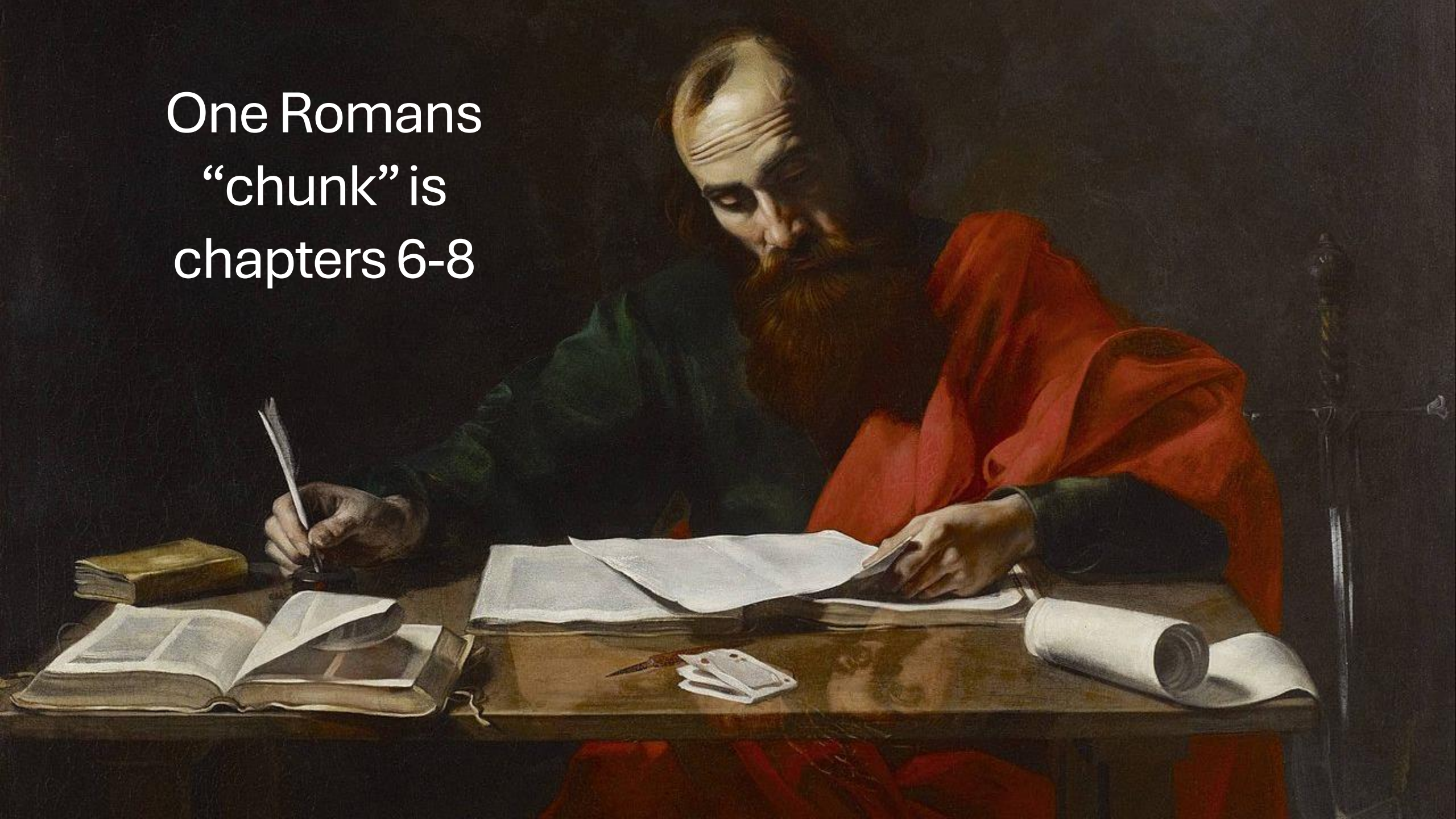
There's a context!



Rom.
8:29-30

There's a context!

One Romans
“chunk” is
chapters 6-8





Rom. 6:1-2

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! ...


Rom. 6:1-2

Τί οὖν ἐροῦμεν;
ἐπιμένωμεν τῇ
ἁμαρτία, ἵνα ἡ χάρις
πλεονάσῃ;
μὴ γένοιτο....

The reasons...

- No! We died to sin (Rom. 6:1-14) 
- No! We changed masters (Rom. 6:15-23)
- No! We died to the law (Rom. 7:1-6) 
- No! the Spirit transcends the law (Rom. 7:7-25)
- No! We live according to the Spirit (Rom. 8:1-11)
- No! We are adopted children (Rom. 8:12-17)

The reasons...

- No! We died to the law (Rom. 7:1-6) 
- No! the Spirit transcends the law (Rom. 7:7-25)
- No! We live according to the Spirit (Rom. 8:1-11)
- No! We are adopted children (Rom. 8:12-17)
- No! We are part of a creation groaning for glory (Rom. 8:18-25)
- No! The Spirit intercedes for God's good (8:26-28)

Rom. 6:1-2

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! ...

I've given you 8 reasons,
let me add the ninth!

Rom. 6:1-2

Τί οὖν ἐροῦμεν;
ἐπιμένωμεν τῇ
ἁμαρτία, ἵνα ἡ χάρις
πλεονάσῃ;
μὴ γένοιτο....

God has predestined you
for something better!

Rom. 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Rom. 8:28

Οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν θεὸν πάντα συνεργεῖ εἰς ἀγαθόν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν.

Rom. 8:29

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Rom. 8:29

ὅτι οὓς προέγνω, καὶ προώρισεν συμμόρφους τῆς εἰκόνοσ τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖσ ἀδελφοῖσ·

Rom. 8:30

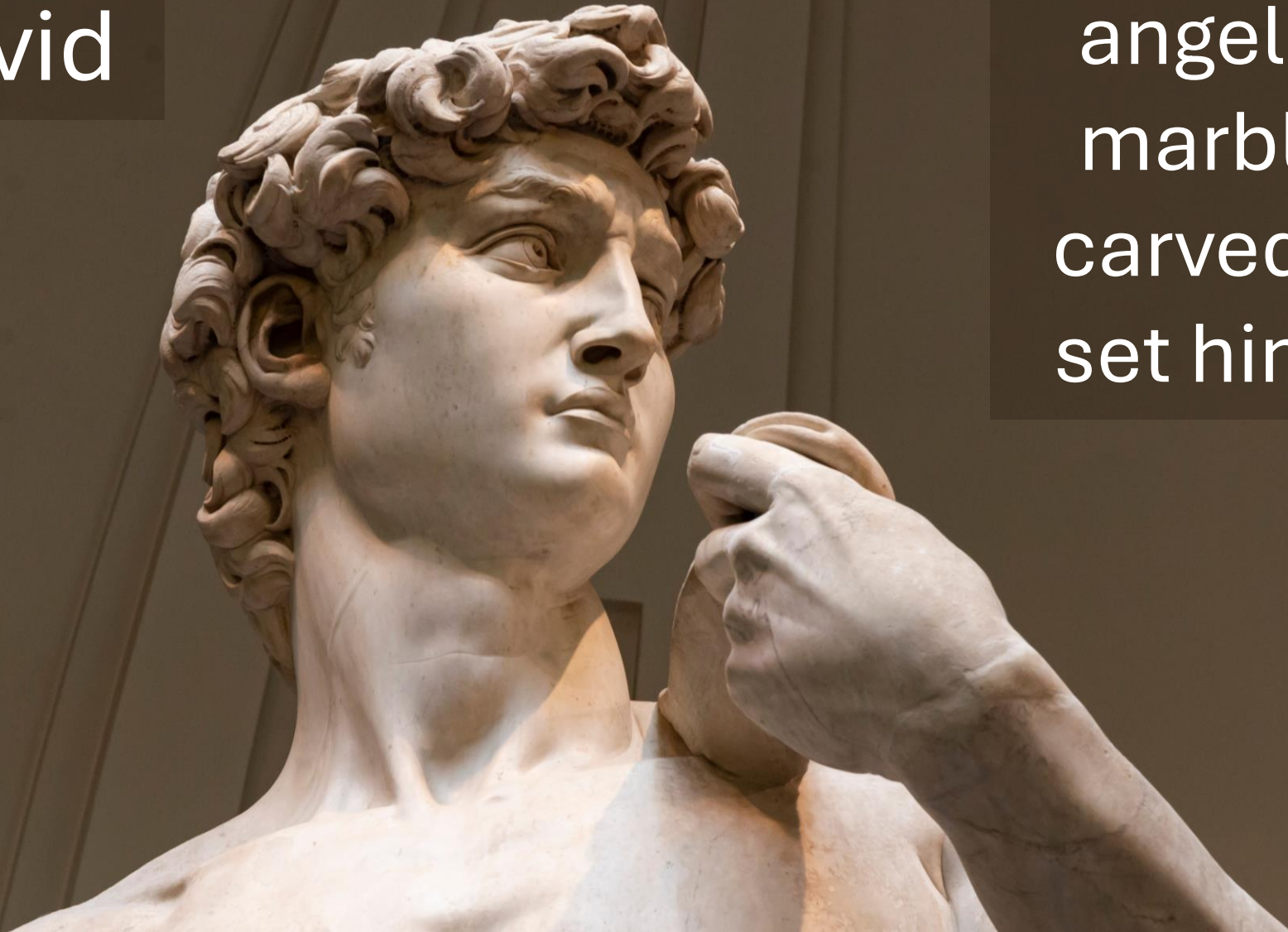
And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Rom. 8:30

οὓς δὲ προώρισεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐκάλεσεν·
καὶ οὓς ἐκάλεσεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐδικαίωσεν·
οὓς δὲ ἐδικαίωσεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐδόξασεν.

1504
David

“I saw the
angel in the
marble and
carved until I
set him free”



God is the master sculptor
of every believer's life.
Before the first chisel strike,
He saw the finished work.





I won't settle the
debate today!





Let's be careful with
what these verses
DON'T say!



God's Eternal
Plan —
Foreknown and
Predestined



God's Unbreakable
Chain — Called,
Justified, Glorified

God's
Conforming Work
— The Image of
His Son

Rom. 8:29

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

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Rom. 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Rom. 8:26

Ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ τὸ
πνεῦμα
συναντιλαμβάνεται τῇ
ἀσθενείᾳ ἡμῶν· τὸ γὰρ τί
προσευξώμεθα καθὸ δεῖ
οὐκ οἶδαμεν, ἀλλ' αὐτὸ
τὸ πνεῦμα
ὑπερεντυγχάνει
στεναγμοῖς ἀλαλήτοις·

Rom. 8:27

And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Rom. 8:27

ὁ δὲ ἐραυνῶν τὰς
καρδίας οἶδεν τί τὸ
φρόνημα τοῦ πνεύματος,
ὅτι κατὰ θεὸν ἐντυγχάνει
ὑπὲρ ἁγίων.

Rom. 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Rom. 8:28

Οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν θεὸν πάντα συνεργεῖ εἰς ἀγαθόν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν.

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For those whom he **foreknew** he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

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“foreknew”

πρό γινώσκω

“foreknew”

πρό + γινώσκω

“before”


“to know”

In an intimate
(yada~~ω~~αγγυτι)

“foresight”

“forelove”

Gn 4:1
Am 3:2
Jer 1:5



God's
relationship with
you began
before time!

YOU MATTER!

Rom. 8:29

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αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν
πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·

“predestined”

πρό ὀρίζω

“predestined”

πρό

ὀρίζω

“before”

“to mark out”

“to set a
boundary”

“to mark out
beforehand”

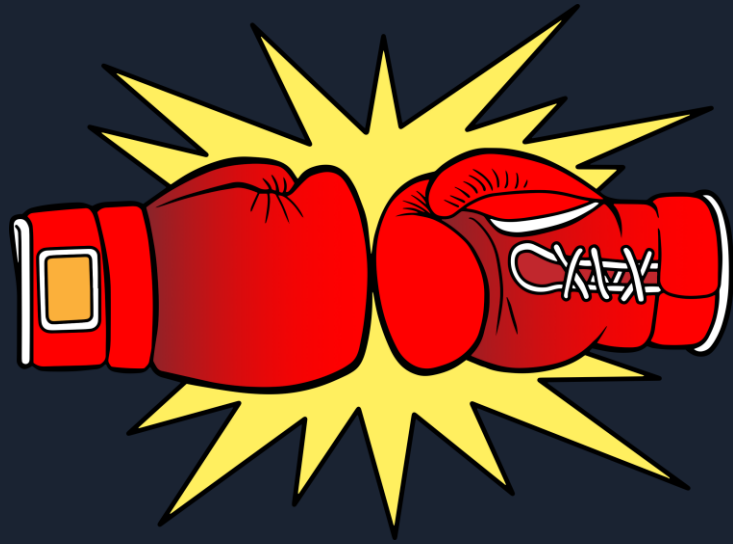
“to determine
in advance”

Rom. 8:29

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of his Son, in order that
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αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν
πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·



Paul's knockout punch to
Romans 6:1 ("Should we sin
so grace may abound?")

God predestined
you to be in the
image of his Son!





**N.T.
WRIGHT**

Paul's primary focus is
not on individual
selection in the abstract,
but on God's covenant
purpose for His people

God's Eternal
Plan —
Foreknown and
Predestined



God's Unbreakable
Chain — Called,
Justified, Glorified

God's
Conforming Work
— The Image of
His Son

God's Eternal
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God's
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ἀδελφοῖς·

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αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν
πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·

“conformed”

σύν μορφή

“conformed”

σύν

“with”

μορφή

“form”

“essential nature”

Phil 2:6-7

“what gives it
its identity”

We are being shaped
to share His essential
nature — not just to
imitate His behavior
externally, but to be
inwardly transformed
into His likeness



Rom. 8:29

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πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·

“image”

εἰκὼν

Gn 1:26

Col 1:15

2 Cor 3:18

In Greco-Roman usage, an εἰκὼν was a representation that genuinely shared the essence of what it represented — not a mere copy but a true expression

God's plan isn't to make you a better version of yourself; it's to make you like Jesus!

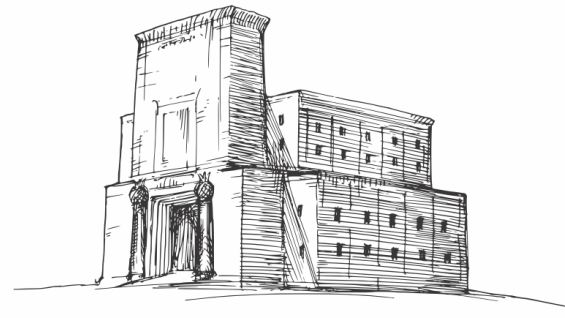


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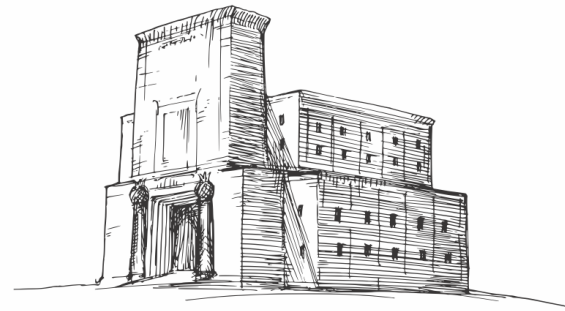
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πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·



In ancient Greco-Roman and Hebrew cultures “firstborn” was more than birth order. It signified:

- 1) Preeminence (1st in rank)
- 2) Inheritance rights
- 3) Headship (leader of family)



- 1) Preeminence (1st in rank)
- 2) Inheritance rights
- 3) Headship (leader of family)



This is Christ!
We don't take his
position; we take
his likeness!

Rom. 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Doesn't this
make sense?

Rom. 8:28

Οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν θεὸν πάντα συνεργεῖ εἰς ἀγαθόν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὓσιν.

God's Eternal
Plan —
Foreknown and
Predestined

God's Unbreakable
Chain — Called,
Justified, Glorified



God's
Confirming Work
— The Image of
His Son

God's Eternal
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πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς
ἀδελφοῖς·

Rom. 8:30

And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Rom. 8:30

οὓς δὲ προώρισεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐκάλεσεν·
καὶ οὓς ἐκάλεσεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐδικαίωσεν·
οὓς δὲ ἐδικαίωσεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐδόξασεν.

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καὶ οὓς ἐκάλεσεν,
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οὓς δὲ ἐδικαίωσεν,
τούτους καὶ ἐδόξασεν.

Check out
Isa. 45:22-25

It's the same
people in the
whole chain. No
one drops out!



Predestined



Called/summoned



Justified



Glorified



Predestined



Called/summoned



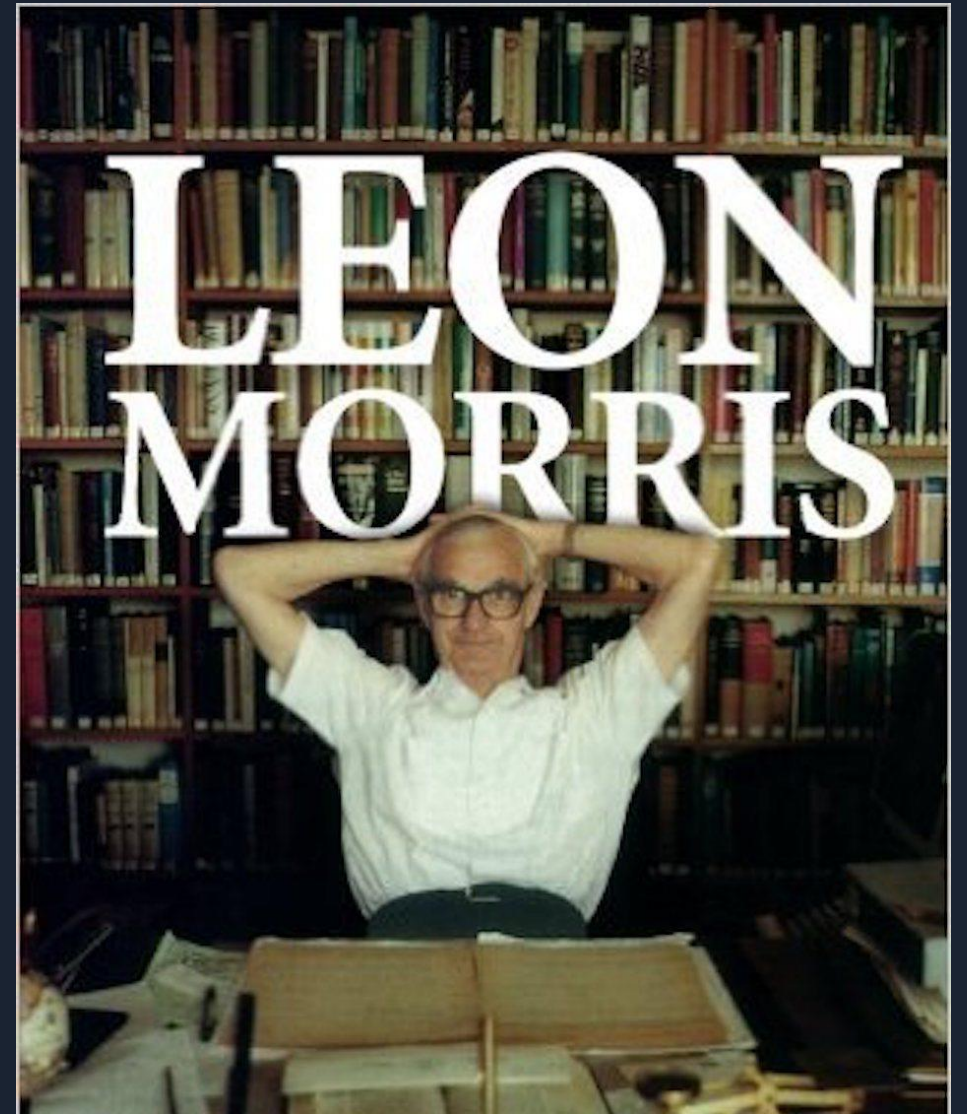
Justified



Glorified

All of these are
completed
actions! They
are done!
Fait accompli!

Paul "transports himself in thought to the time when the work of glorification will be complete and looks back on it as accomplished."





Predestined



Called/summoned



Justified



Glorified

All of these are
completed
actions! They
are done!
Fait accompli!

It's the same
people in the
whole chain. No
one drops out!



Predestined



Called/summoned



Justified



Glorified



Let's be careful with
what these verses
DON'T say!





I go to Heaven...
He goes to Hell!



“God made porpoises
to swim in the sea...”

That says nothing
about tuna or whales



Points for
Home

Sin was never your
destination-
Christlikeness is

“For those whom he foreknew
he also predestined to be
conformed to the image of his
Son” (Rom. 8:29)



Points for
Home

God's plan for you is
bigger than comfort!

“...predestined to be
conformed to the image
of his Son” (Rom. 8:29)



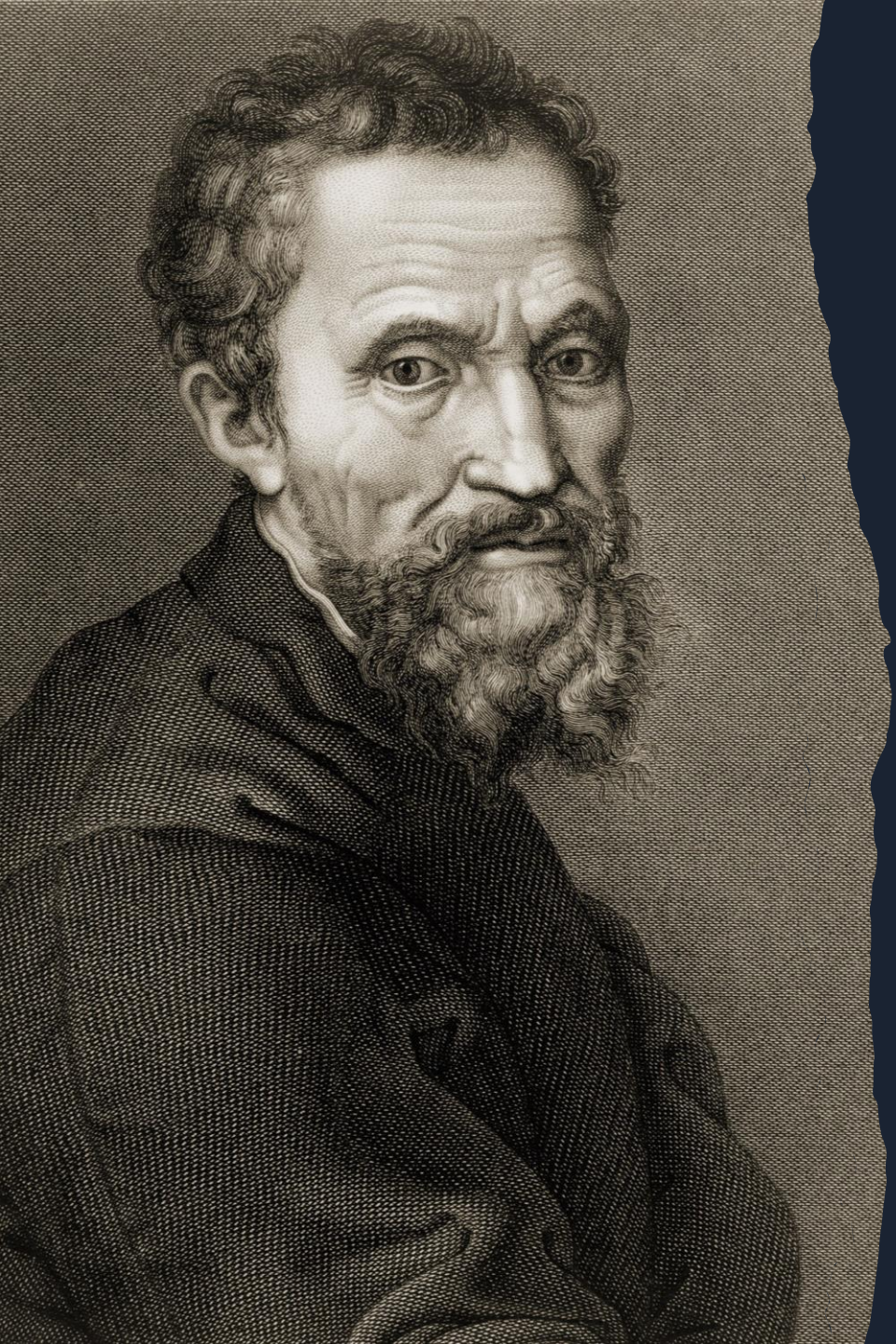
Points for
Home

Your future is so
certain God speaks
of it as past tense!

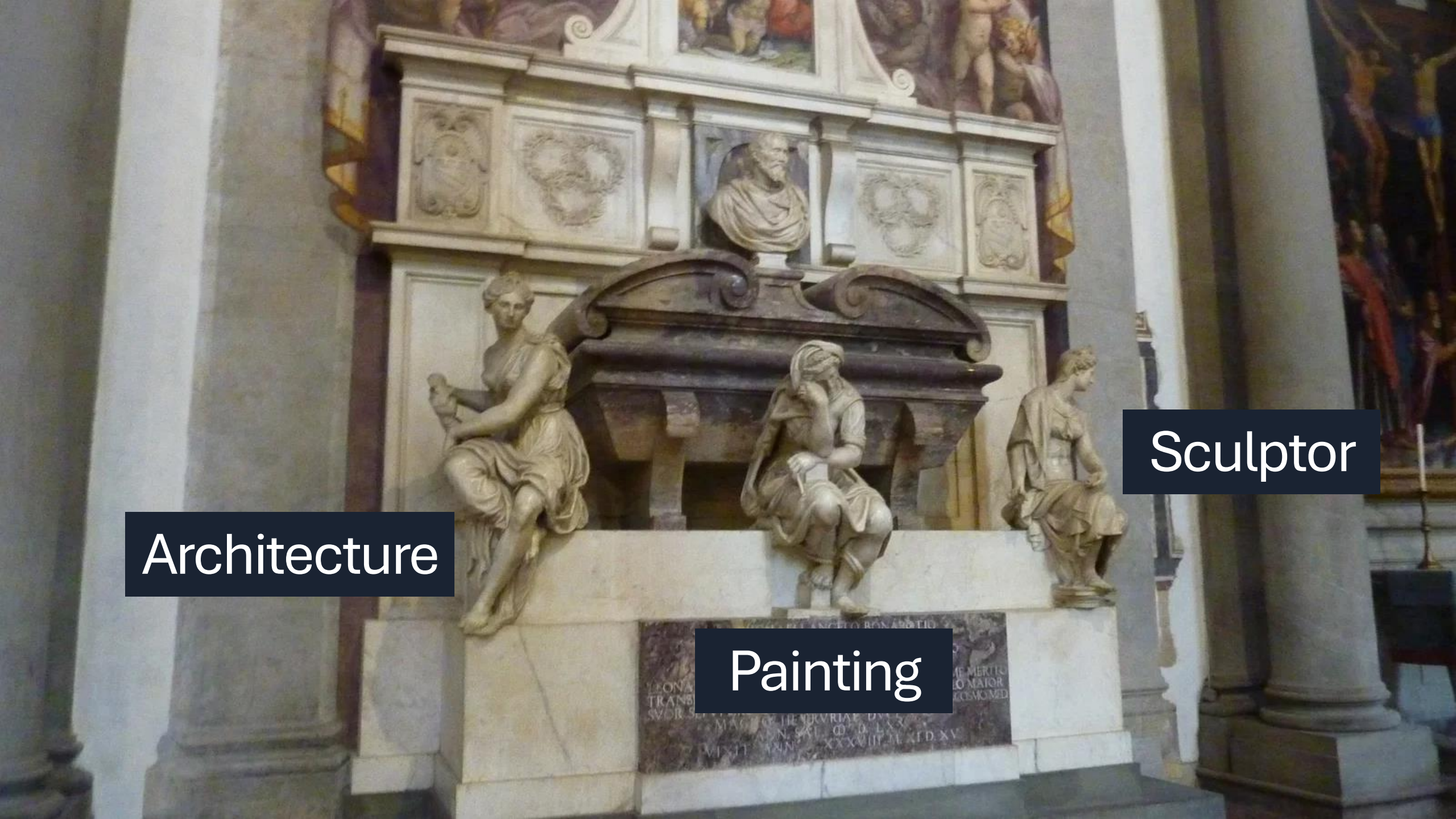
“...and those whom
he justified he also
glorified” (Rom. 8:30)

1501
problem





M. Buonarroti



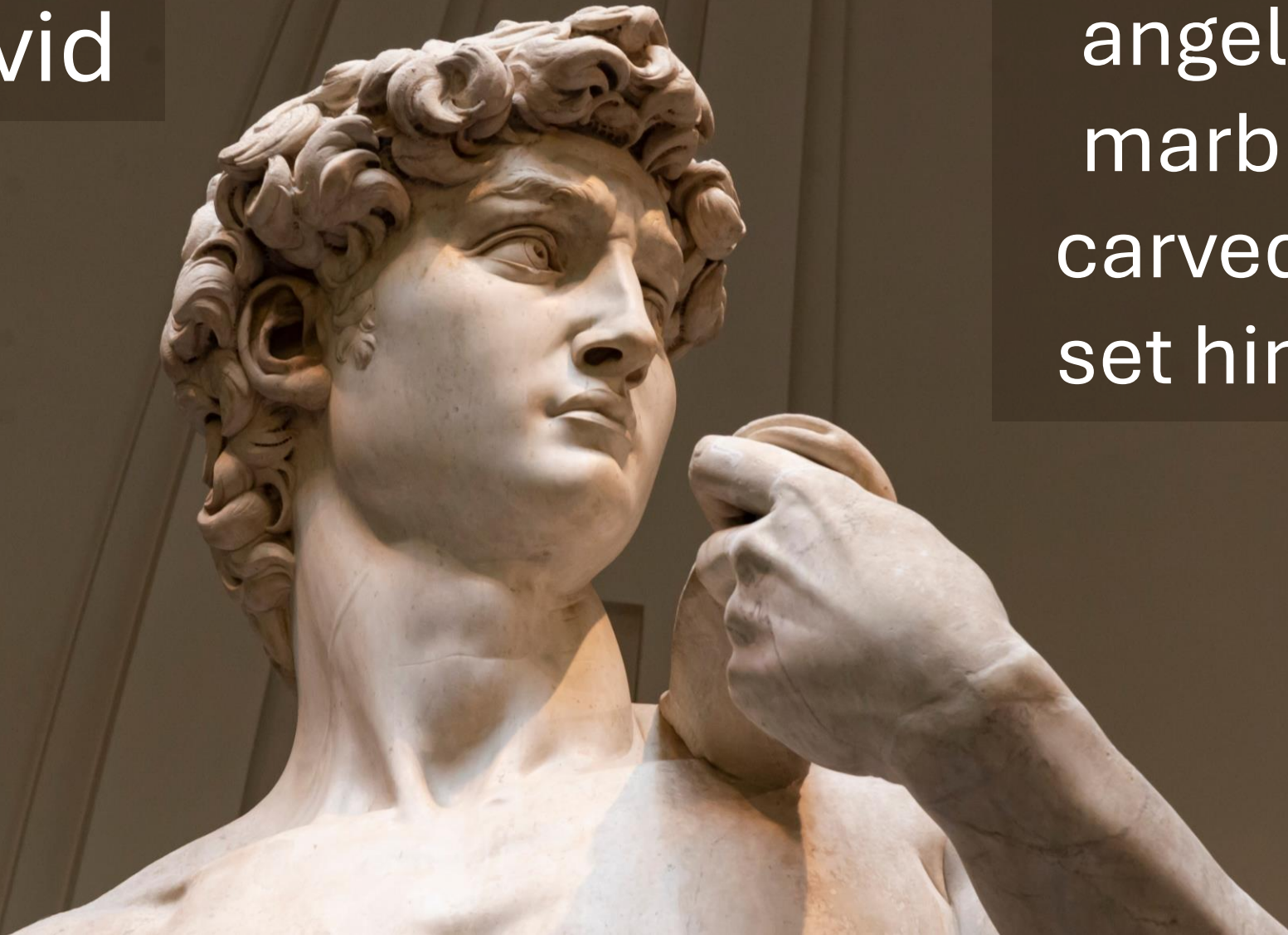
Architecture

Painting

Sculptor

1504
David

“I saw the
angel in the
marble and
carved until I
set him free”



Lunch topic:

Predestination and
personal choice?
Discuss it!

