



**Making Sense of  
a Confusing  
World  
(Acts 20:28-32)**



2020



**There are a lot of Things Happening in 2020**

# Supreme Court Ruling on LGBT Job Protection





# Masks or No Masks?





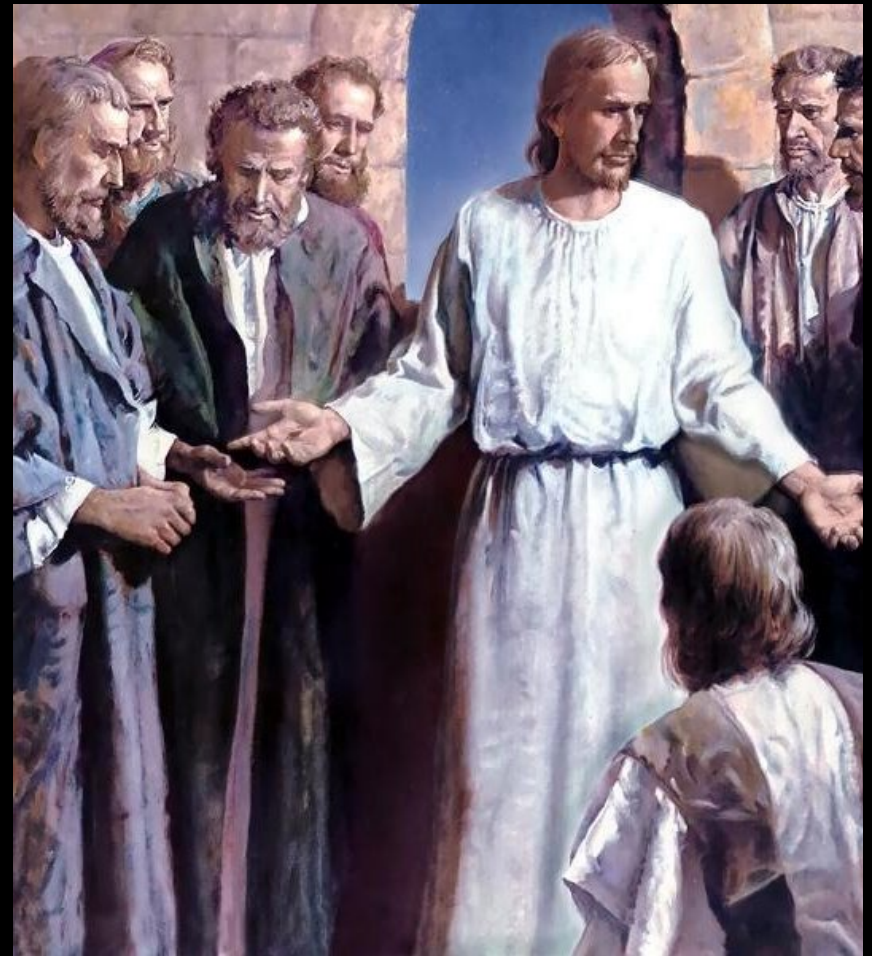
# Protests





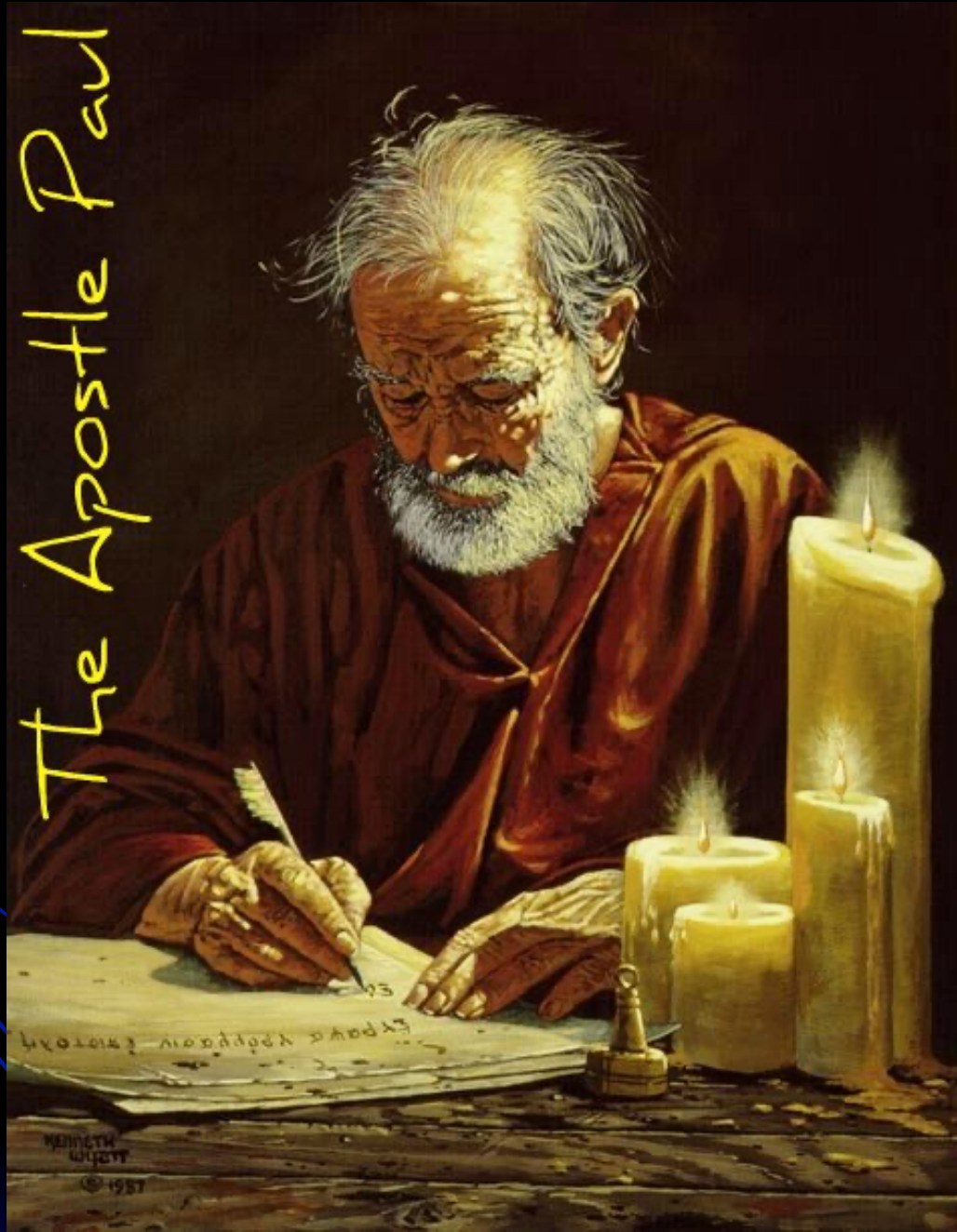
# Appearance of False Prophets

- <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup> For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. ...
- <sup>11</sup> and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. <sup>12</sup> Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, <sup>13</sup> but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.





The Apostle Paul



# Savage Wolves will Come in

- 28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.
- 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.
- 32 “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.



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# God and His Word

# THY WORD

Psalm 119:105

Words and Music by MICHAEL W. SMITH  
and AMY GRANT

Firmly  
F

2 1 C F B $\flat$  C

Thy  
*mf* Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my

2 4 1 5 1 5

Detailed description: This system of music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The treble clef staff contains the melody with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The bass clef staff contains a simple accompaniment with notes F3, C4, F3, C4, G2, F2, C3, F2. Fingerings are indicated as 2 for the first G and 1 for the first A. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, C, F, B-flat, C.

F C F

path. Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet and a

1 2

Detailed description: This system continues the melody from the first system. The treble clef staff notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The bass clef staff notes are F3, C4, F3, C4, G2, F2, C3, F2. Fingerings are indicated as 1 for the first G and 2 for the first A. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, C, F.

B $\flat$  C F C G $\flat$

2

light un - to my path. { When I feel a - fraid,  
I will not for - get Your

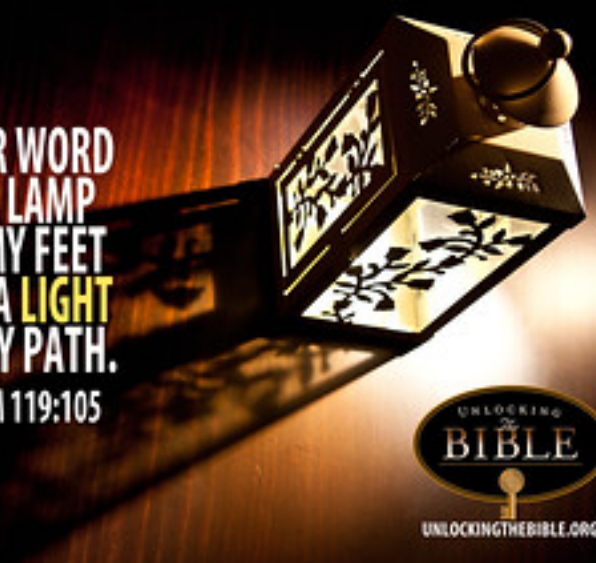
1 2 4 1 5

Detailed description: This system concludes the piece. The treble clef staff notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The bass clef staff notes are F3, C4, F3, C4, G2, F2, C3, F2. Fingerings are indicated as 1 for the first G, 2 for the first A, and 4 for the first B. Chords are indicated above the staff: B-flat, C, F, C, G-flat. A dynamic marking of 2 is shown above the final C chord.

# Light Post




YOUR WORD  
IS A LAMP  
TO MY FEET  
AND A **LIGHT**  
TO MY PATH.  
PSALM 119:105





# The Word of God

- Instructions Applied to All
    - Inductive Bible Study
  - Individual Guidance
    - Morning Devotion
- 

# Watching out for Five Wolves



- **Against God and His Word of Grace**
- **Snatching Us Away**

# Watching out for Five Wolves



- **Secular Humanism**
- **Ends Justifying Means**
- **Denying Inerrancy of Bible**
- **Taking Scripture out of Context**
- **Close-Mindedness**

# Secular Humanism



- Secular humanism is a philosophy or life stance that embraces human reason, secular ethics, and philosophical naturalism while specifically rejecting religious dogma, supernaturalism, and superstition as the basis of morality and decision making.



# Elephant and the Blind

- Relativism

vs.

- Revelation



# Elephant and the Blind

- Limitation
- Sinful Nature



# Abortion Right

IS A  
WOMAN'S  
*RIGHT!*





# The Word of His Grace

- “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, **And before you were born I consecrated you;** I have appointed you a prophet to the nations. (Jeremiah 1:5)



# The Word of His Grace



- “If men struggle with each other and strike a woman with child so that she gives birth prematurely, yet there is no injury, he shall surely be fined as the woman’s husband may demand of him, and he shall pay as the judges decide. But if there is any further injury, then you shall appoint **as a penalty life for life**, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, (Exodus 21:22-25)

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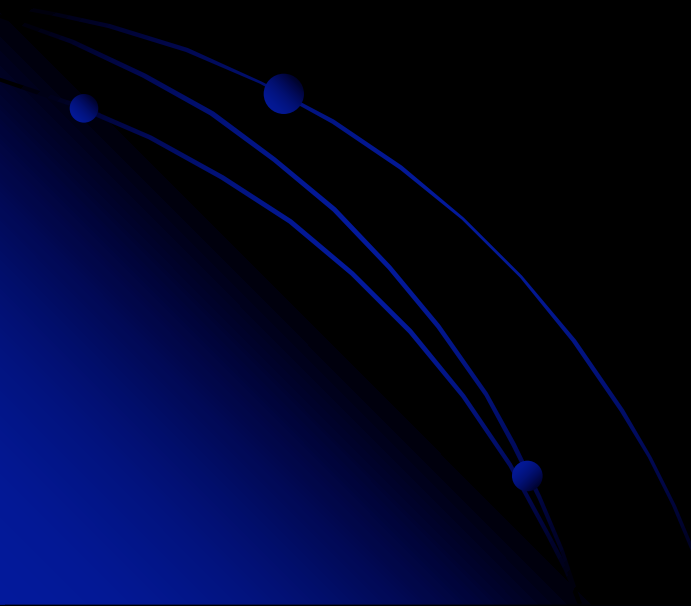
# Two Schools of Ethics

- Teleology


- Deontology



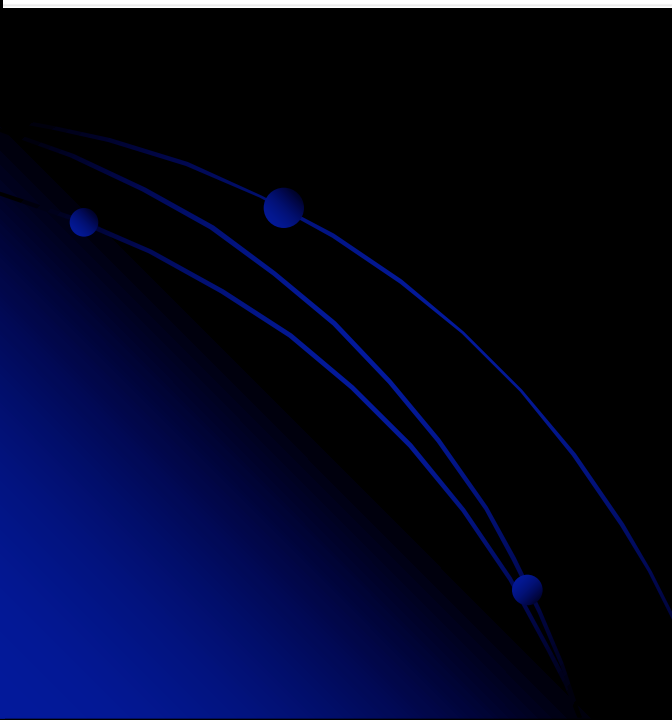
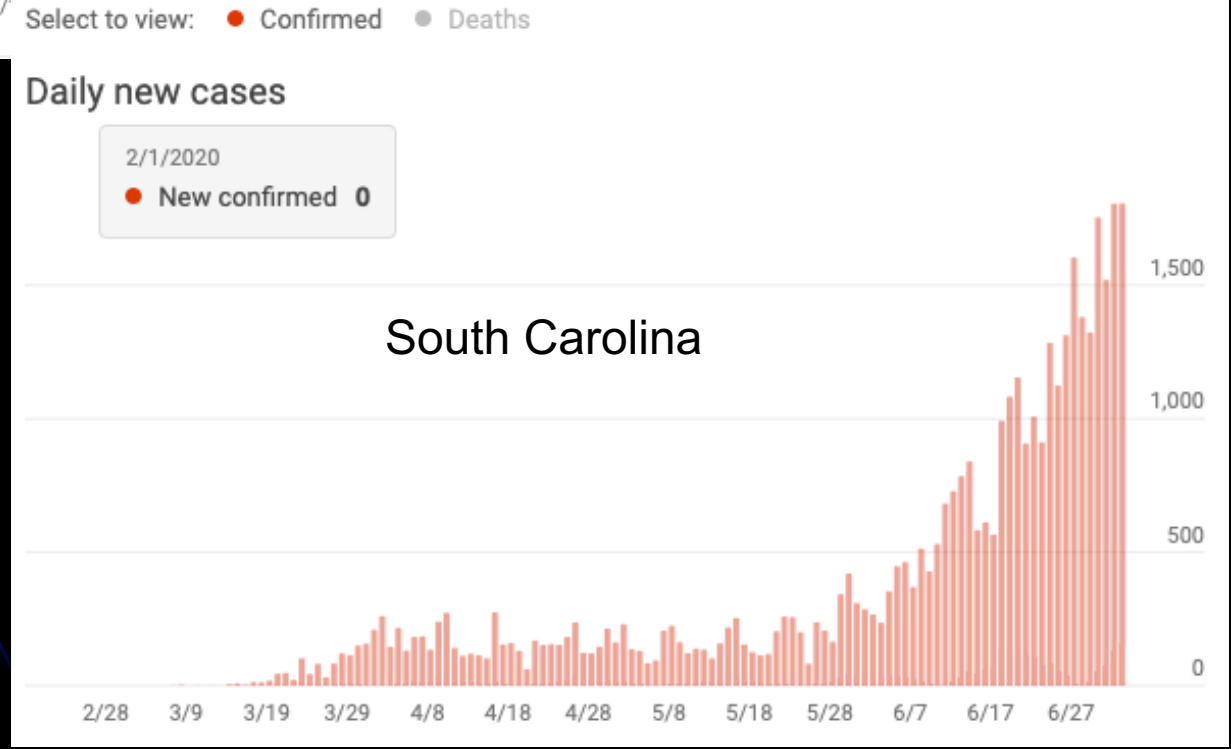
**A good result is worth a bad way  
of achieving those results**



**“All you need to say is  
simply ‘Yes’ or  
‘No’; anything beyond this  
comes from the evil one.”  
(Matthew 5:37)**



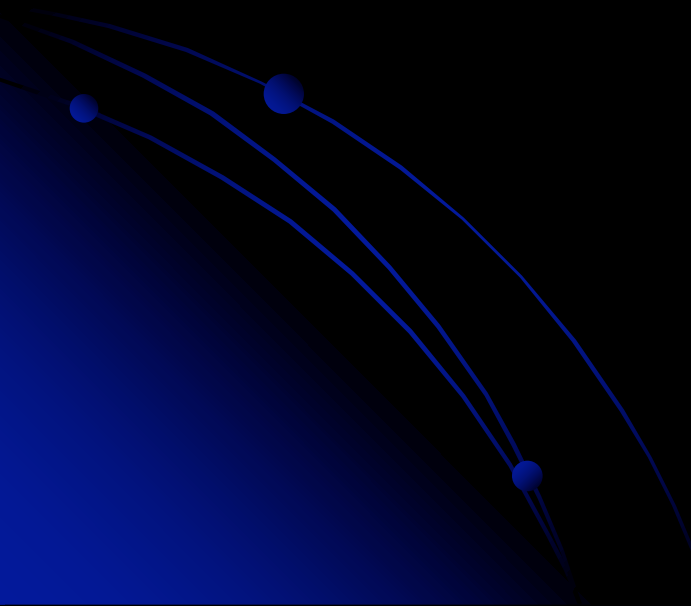




# Masks or No Masks



# **Presentation of News Based on Facts, Not to Suit Political Ends**



# Watching out for Five Wolves



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# Bible Has Errors?

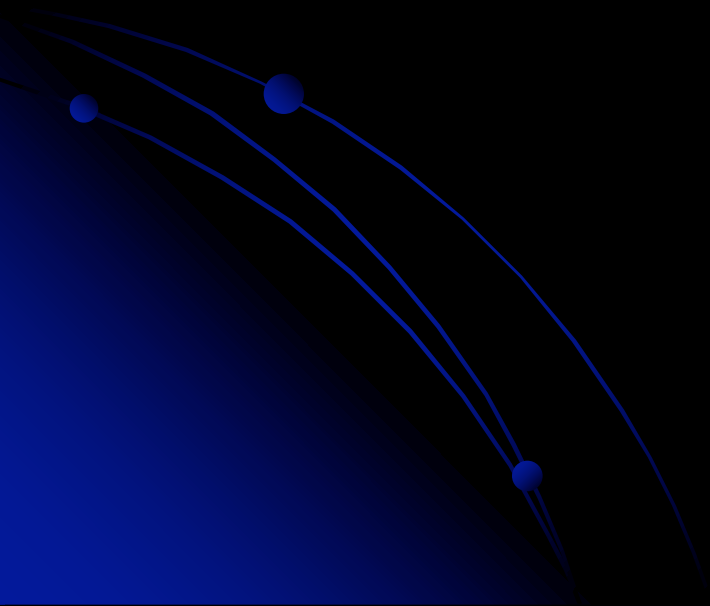
- When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations—the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, seven nations larger and stronger than you—<sup>2</sup> and when the LORD your God has delivered them over to you and you have defeated them, then **you must destroy them totally**. (Deuteronomy 7:1)



# God Protecting His Word

- <sup>18</sup> I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: **If anyone adds anything to them**, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. <sup>19</sup> **And if anyone takes words away** from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll. (Revelation 22:18-19)

# Selective Acceptance



# Watching out for Five Wolves

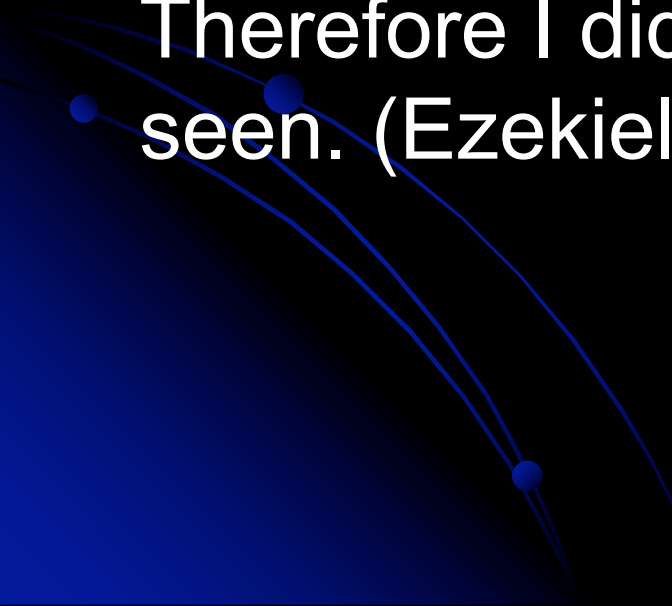


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# Supreme Court Ruling on LGBT Job Protection



# Taking Scripture out of Context

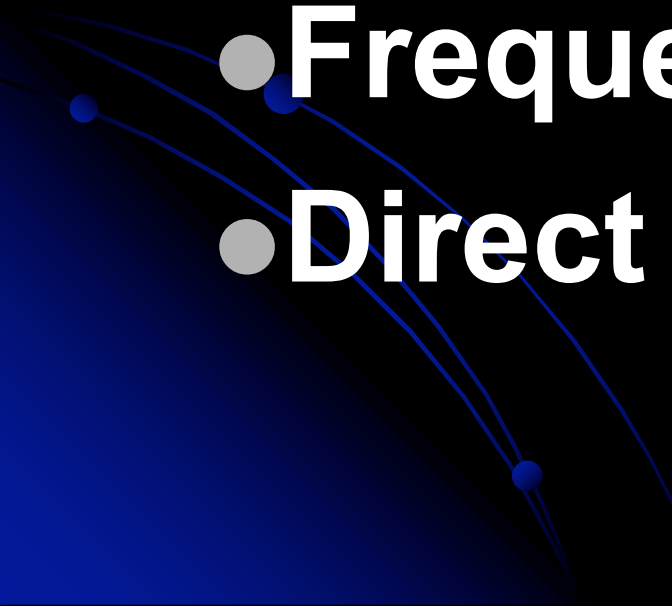
- 49 “Now this was the sin of your sister **Sodom**: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy. 50 They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen. (Ezekiel 16:49-50)
- 



# Taking Scripture out of Context

- 22 “Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.”  
(Leviticus 18:22)



- **Inductive Bible Study**
  - **Systematic Theology**
  - **Principles of Hermeneutics**
    - **Frequency**
    - **Direct > Indirect**
- 

# Watching out for Five Wolves




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- **Close-Mindedness**

# Spiritual Blindness

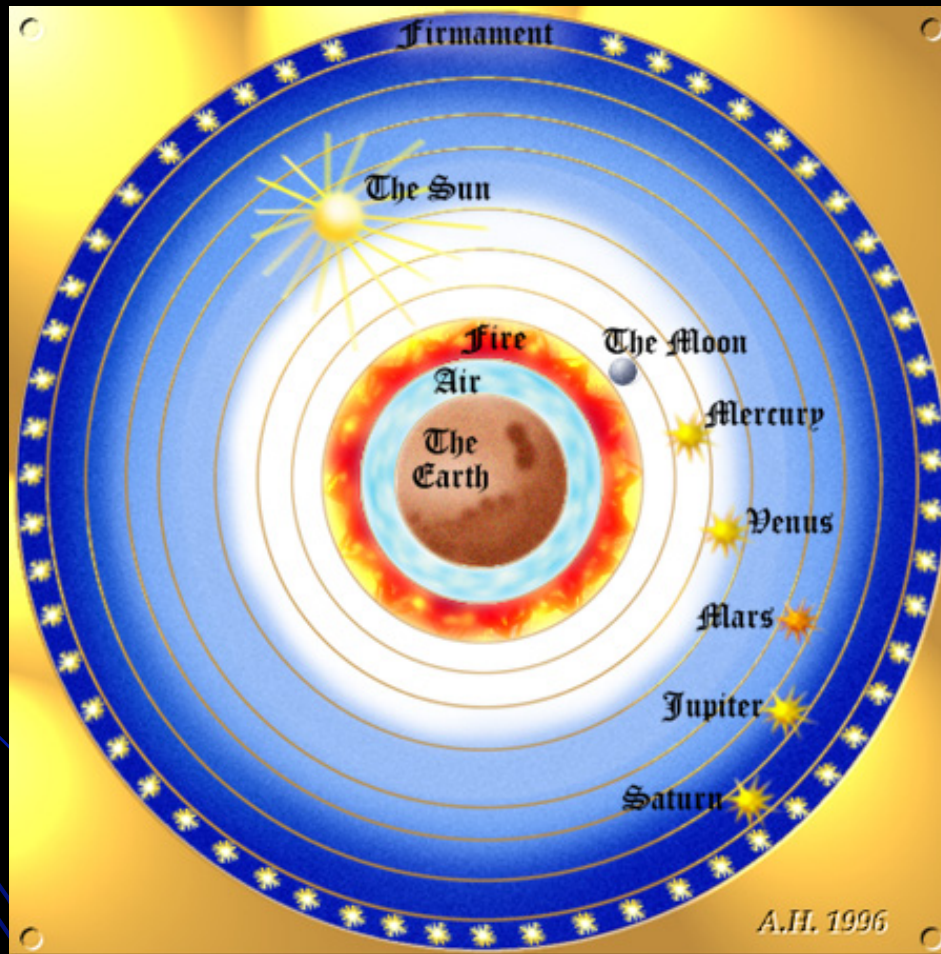


- <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, **for he does not keep the Sabbath.**”
- But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided. (John 9:16)

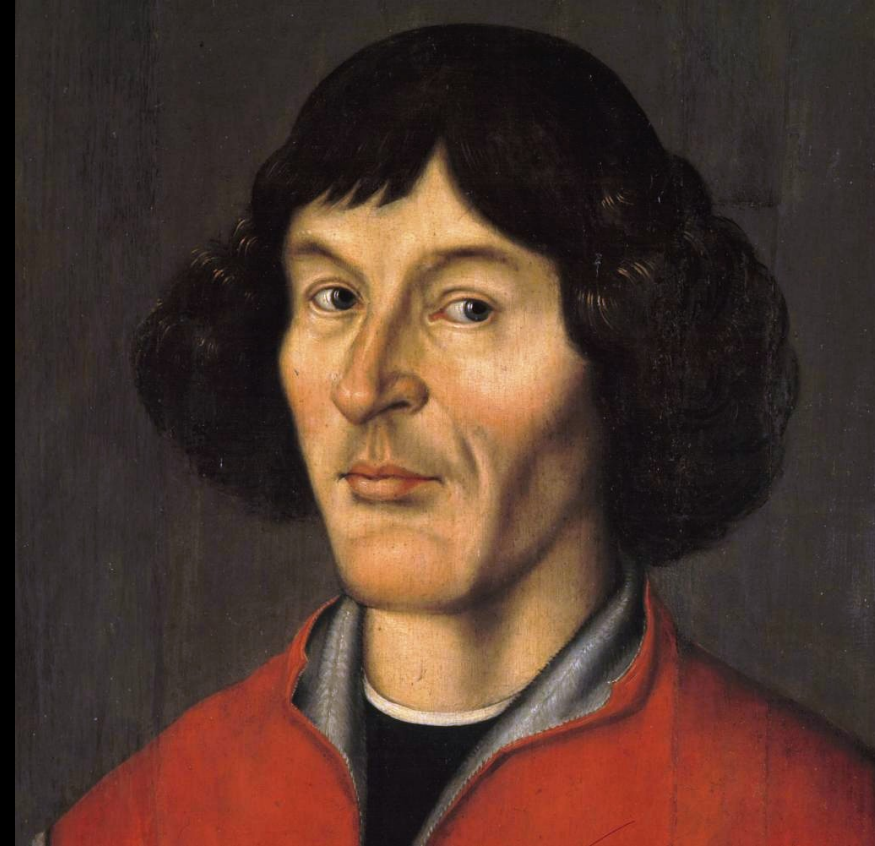
- **Holding on to  
Traditional Practice**
  - **Refusing to Listen and  
Change**
- 



# Geocentrism



# Copernicus Heliocentrism (1543)






# Reformation

## Martin Luther's 95 Theses (1517)

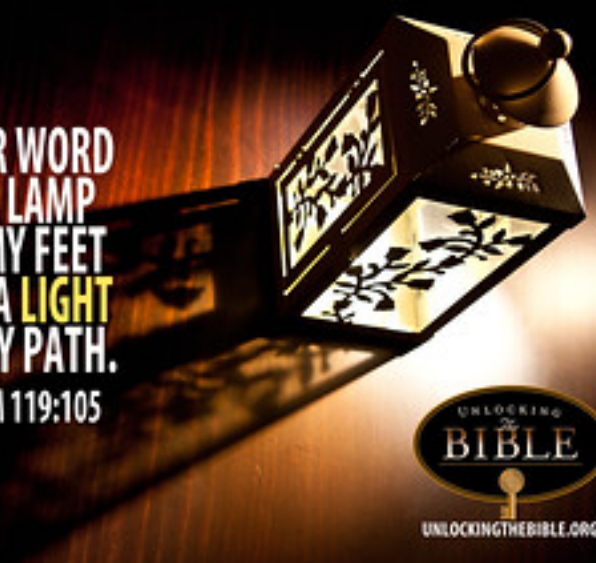


- **Open-Minded, Humble**
  - **Willing to Listen, Reflect**
  - **Checking the Scripture**
  - **Praying to God**
- 

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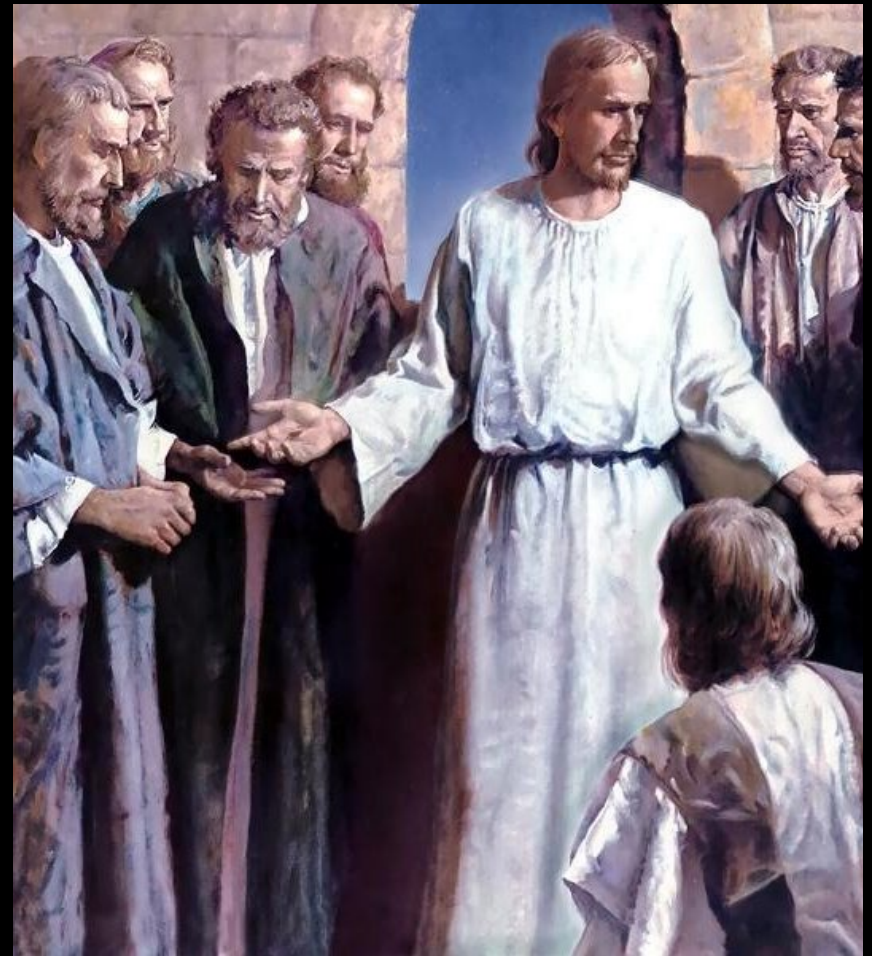
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