







ACT  
*justly*  
LOVE  
*mercy*  
WALK  
*humbly*  
MICAHAH 6:8

## **Matthew 5:7**

“Blessed are the merciful for the  
will be shown mercy.”



ACT  
*justly*  
LOVE  
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MICAHAH 6:8

What does the mercy you generously share have to do with your witness for God?

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MICAHAH 6:8

“You are the light of the world...don’t keep God’s presence in your life private. Let your light shine—take your faith, hope and love public—When others experience God through you they will open their hearts to Him and not be able to contain their joy.”

*(Paraphrase Matthew 5:14-16)*



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MICAHAH 6:8

So, how to we “love mercy,”  
and share it with the  
watching and waiting world?

ACT  
*justly*  
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MICAHAH 6:8

“Mercy is forbearance to inflict harm under circumstances of provocation, when one has the power to inflict it; compassionate treatment of an offender or adversary; clemency.”

- Daniel Webster



ACT  
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MICAHAH 6:8

“Heaven have mercy on us all—  
Presbyterians and Pagans alike—for  
we are all somehow dreadfully  
cracked about the head, and sadly  
need mending.”

- Herman Melville





## **Hebrews 9:1-2**

Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place.

## **Hebrews 9:3-4**

Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.

## **Hebrews 9:5**

Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.





## **Hebrews 9:9-10**

**This is an illustration for the present time,** indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

## **Hebrews 9:11**

But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation.



## **Hebrews 9:12**

He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

## **Hebrews 9:23-24**

It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

**Recap:**

**The tabernacle pointed to Jesus**

**Jesus is now the atoning sacrifice**



## 1 John 2:1-2

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the **atoning sacrifice** for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.



## **Exodus 25:10-11**

“Have them make an ark of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. Overlay it with pure gold, both inside and out, and make a gold molding around it.



## **Exodus 25:17-19**

“Make an atonement cover [Mercy Seat] of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. And make two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends.

## **Exodus 25:20**

The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover.

## **Exodus 25:21-22**

Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the tablets of the covenant law that I will give you. There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the covenant law, I **will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.**



## **Leviticus 16:13**

He is to put the incense on the fire before the Lord, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the tablets of the covenant law, so that he will not die.



**Update... in case you missed it:  
If you meet God on human terms, only  
one of you walks away, and it isn't you.**

## **Leviticus 16:16**

In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the tent of meeting, **which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness.**

**Update... in case you missed it:  
God is prepared for your sin and will get  
into “it” with you and help you shovel it.**



## **Numbers 7:89**

When Moses entered the tent of meeting to speak with the Lord, he heard the voice speaking to him from between the two cherubim above the atonement cover on the ark of the covenant law. **In this way** the Lord spoke to him.









Mercy Seat

The Law







“Frasier”





John Mahoney  
1940 - 2018



RVA  
Coffee Stain



God has a favorite chair



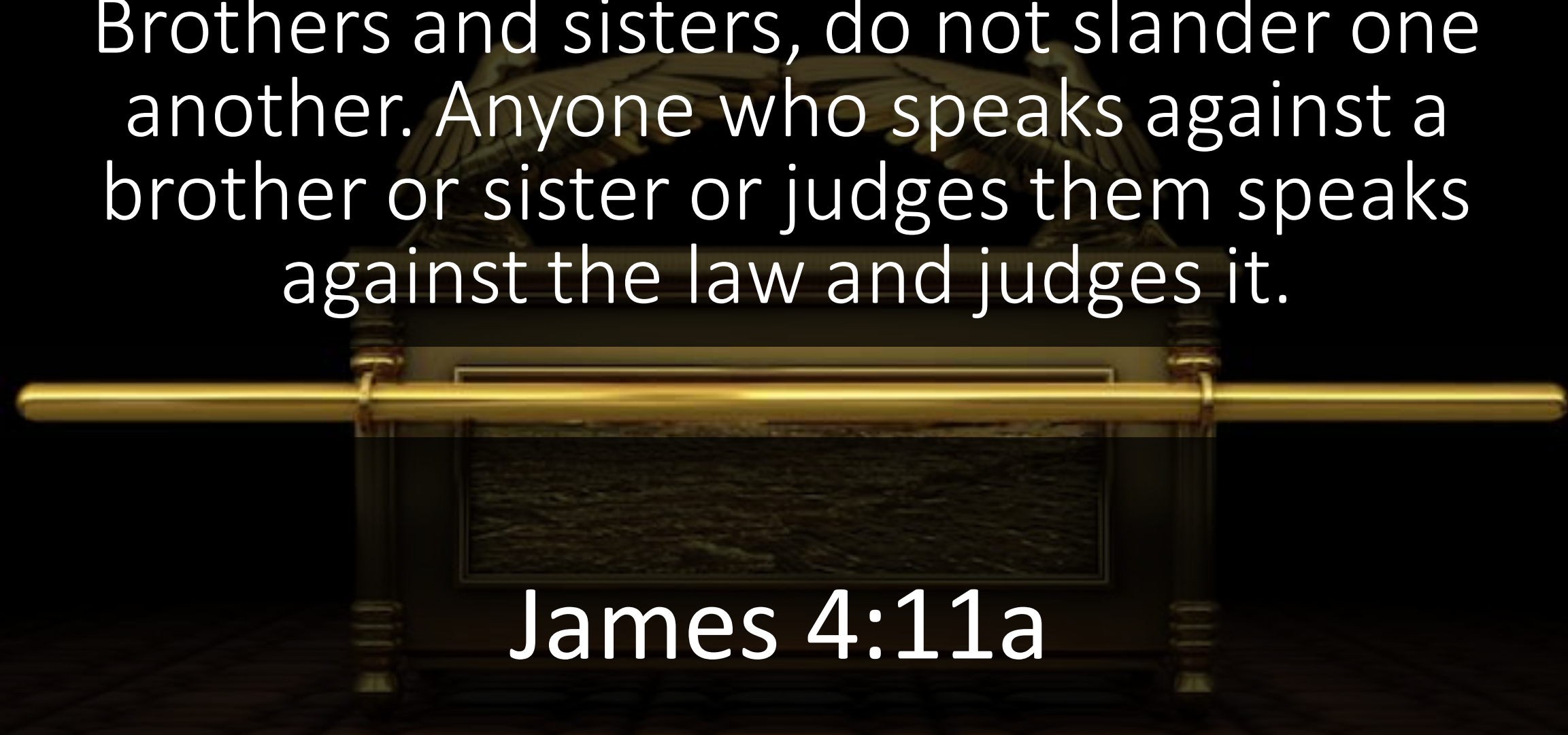


The image shows the Mercy Seat, a golden lid of the Ark of the Covenant, resting on a dark wooden base. Two golden eagles with spread wings are positioned on top of the lid. A horizontal golden rod is placed across the front of the base. The background is dark and textured.

God has a favorite chair

It's called the Mercy Seat





Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it.

James 4:11a

A golden altar with a large golden rod across its front and an eagle sculpture on top.

When you judge the law, you are not keeping  
it, but sitting in judgment on it.

James 4:11b



Mercy Seat

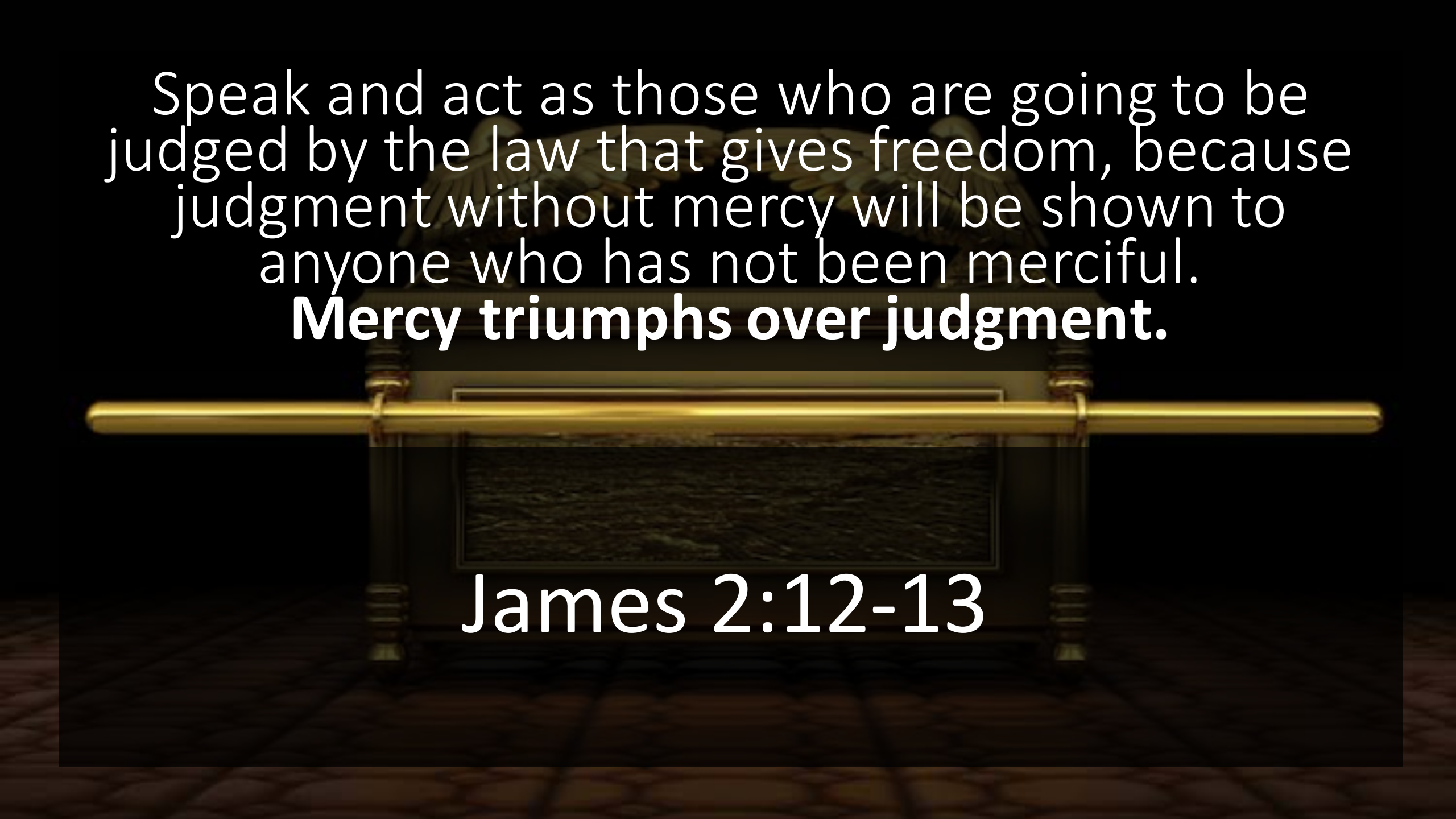
The Law





There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the  
one who is able to save and destroy. But  
you—**who are you to judge your neighbor?**

James 4:12



Speak and act as those who are going to be  
judged by the law that gives freedom, because  
judgment without mercy will be shown to  
anyone who has not been merciful.

**Mercy triumphs over judgment.**

James 2:12-13







DON MCLAUGHLIN

# LOVEFIRST

ENDING HATE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Love First  
Ending Hate Before  
It's Too Late

## The Apostles' Creed

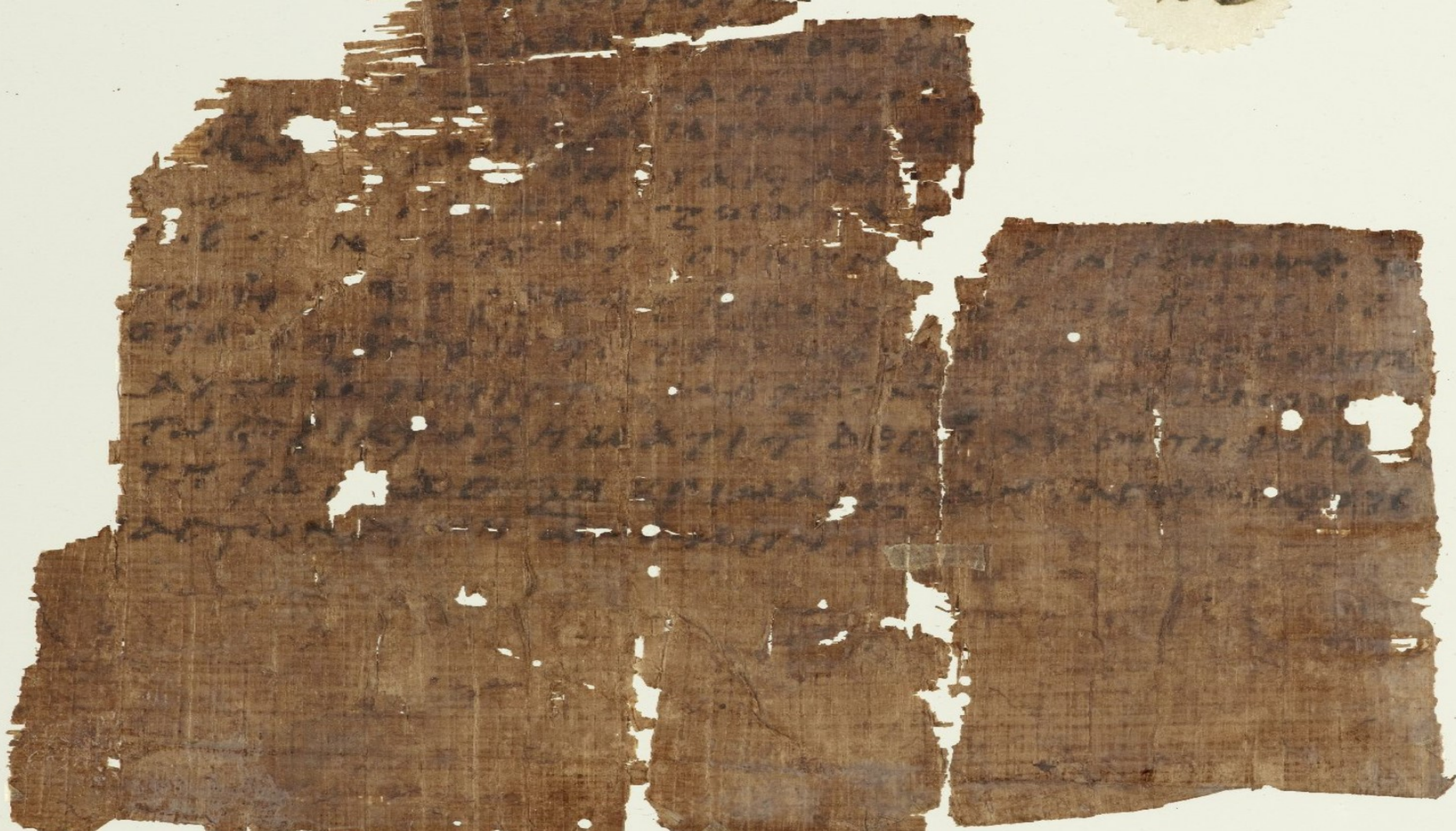
I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\* Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."

\*\* universal

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our  
Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic [universal] Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.









# The Missing Assumption

## The Apostles' Creed

- I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;
- And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
  - I believe in God who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
  - I believe in Jesus who was crucified, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father
  - I believe in the Spirit Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.
  - I believe in the church the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,
  - I believe in forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.
  - I believe in life everlasting







# THE THIRTY

# YEARS' WAR

1618-1648





*Israel ex. Cum Privi. Reg.*

*A la fin ces Voleurs infames et perdus ,  
Comme fruits malheureux a cet arbre pendus*

*Monstrent bien que le crime (horrible et noire engeance)  
Est luy mesme instrument de honte et de vengeance ,*

*Et que cest le Destin des hommes vicieux  
Desprouver tost ou tard la iustice des Cieux . 1)*















# Thirty Years War

- 8,000,000 deaths – combatants and civilians
- Inconclusive outcome/No decisive victory
- Peace of Westphalia is not a commitment to “love thy neighbor or enemy” but a recognition that this much killing is costly
- **All combatant entities quoted the same core Christian creed**





# **The Love First Creed**

- **I believe God is love**
- **I believe God so loved the world he gave his Son**
- **I believe God loves me: Powerless, Ungodly, Sinner, Enemy**
- **I believe that the first and greatest command is to love God with all that I am.**
- **I believe I am to love my neighbor as myself.**
- **I believe I must love my enemies.**
- **I believe if I claim to love God but do not love others, I am a liar and the truth is not in me.**
- **I believe that when I see my brothers and sisters in need, I must help them with my material possessions, or the love of God is not in me.**

