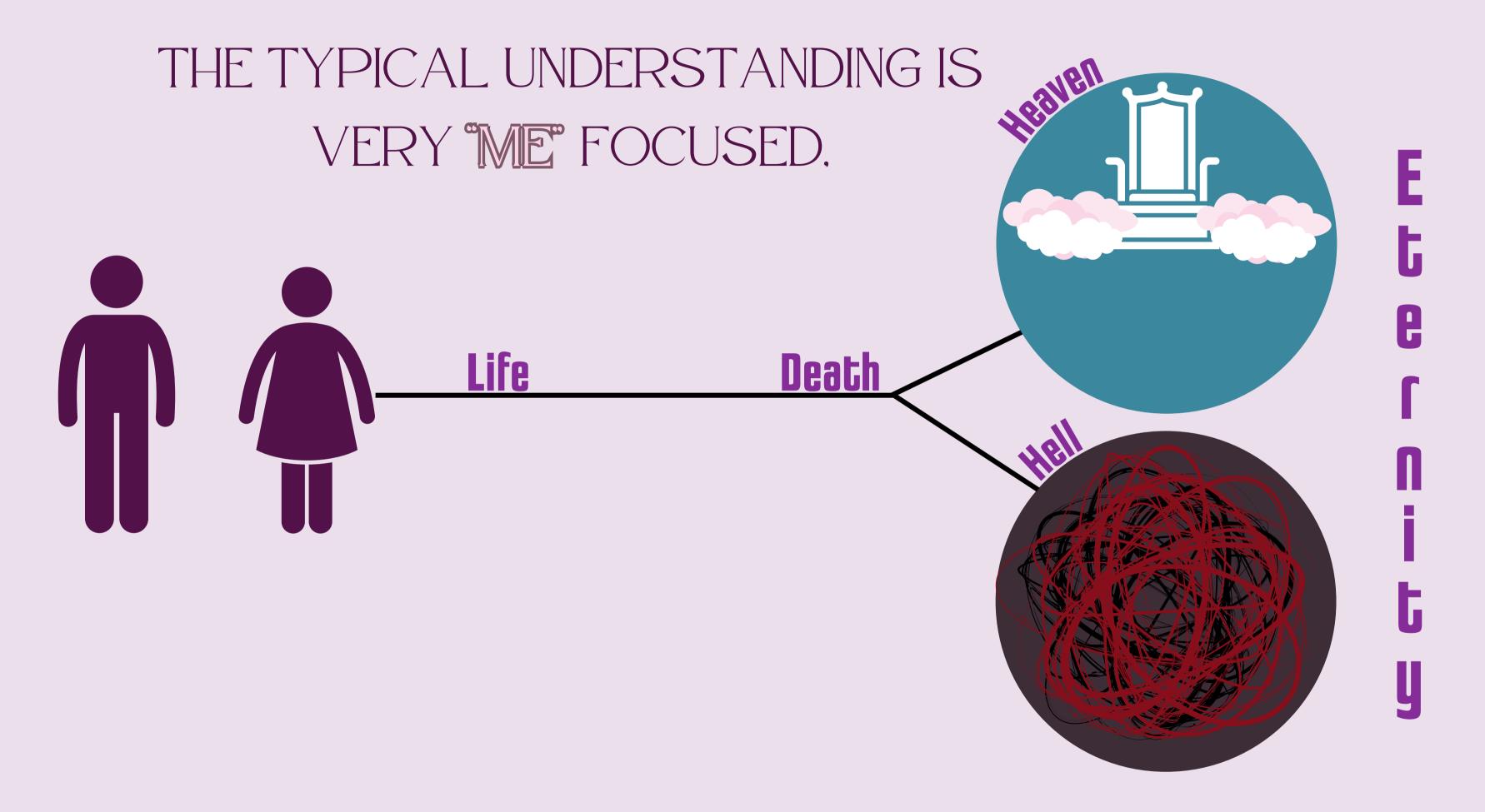


Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come, he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent (a change of mind and heart) and believe the good news!"



THE GOSPEL IS THE STORY OF JESUS BRINGING GOD'S KINGDOM TO ALL AND THE RENEWAL OF ALL THINGS HE IS BRINGING ABOUT.



HEAVEN IS THE DWELLING PLACE OF GOD AND THE HEAVENLY HOSTS (VARIOUS ANGLES. CREATURES AND FLDERS). IT IS A SPACE IN WHICH HIS GOOD RULE IS PERFECTLY FOLLOW/FD



A FEW THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HEAVEN - OT

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

The Hebrew understanding of the heavens included:

- 1. The air
- 2. The celestial realm (above our air)
- 3. Where God dwells (highest heaven)

A FEW THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HEAVEN - NT



- It is called "paradise" (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 12:4; Rev. 2:7).
- "The heavenly Jerusalem" (Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 3:12).
- The "eternal kingdom" (2 Pet. 1:11).
- The "eternal inheritance" (1 Pet. 1:4; Heb. 9:15).
- The "better country" (Heb. 11:14, 16).
- New Jerusalem & New Earth (Rev 21 & 22)

A FEW THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HEAVEN - NT



The Kingdom of God is often used interchangeably with heaven. This is because Jesus came to bring the realm of God to the earth. The Kingdom of God is the realm of God's good and lifegiving rule.

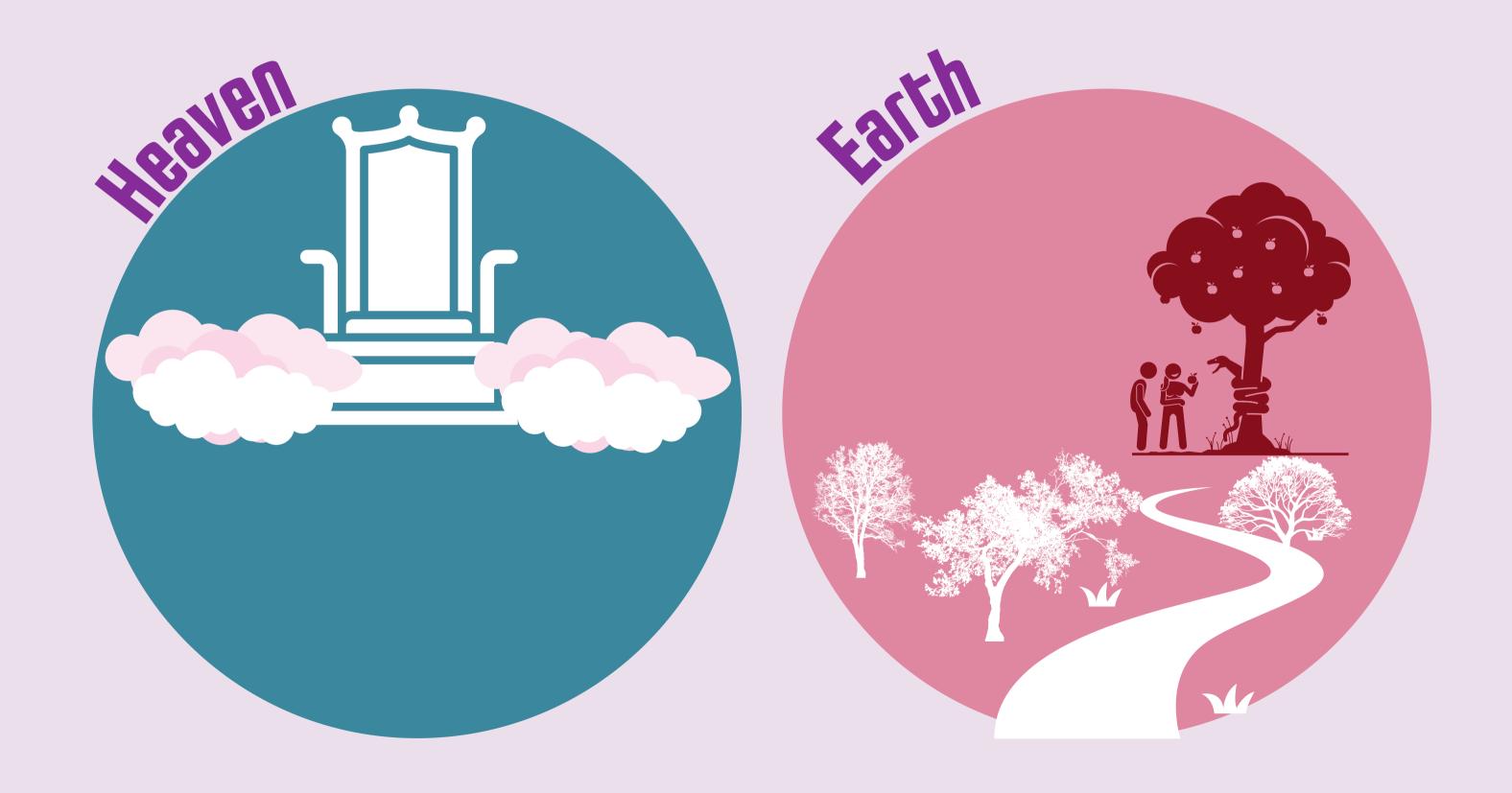
A lot of people think the only real reason Jesus came was to die on the cross. That is not the only reason. Jesus came as the kingdom bringer. His gospel was the availability of the kingdom. His purpose was to manifest the kingdom. His command was to pursue the kingdom: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." His one plan was to extend the kingdom.

-Dallas Willard

OVERLAPING SPACE: THE GARDEN OF EDEN



SEPERATE SPACES: HUMANITY'S FALL



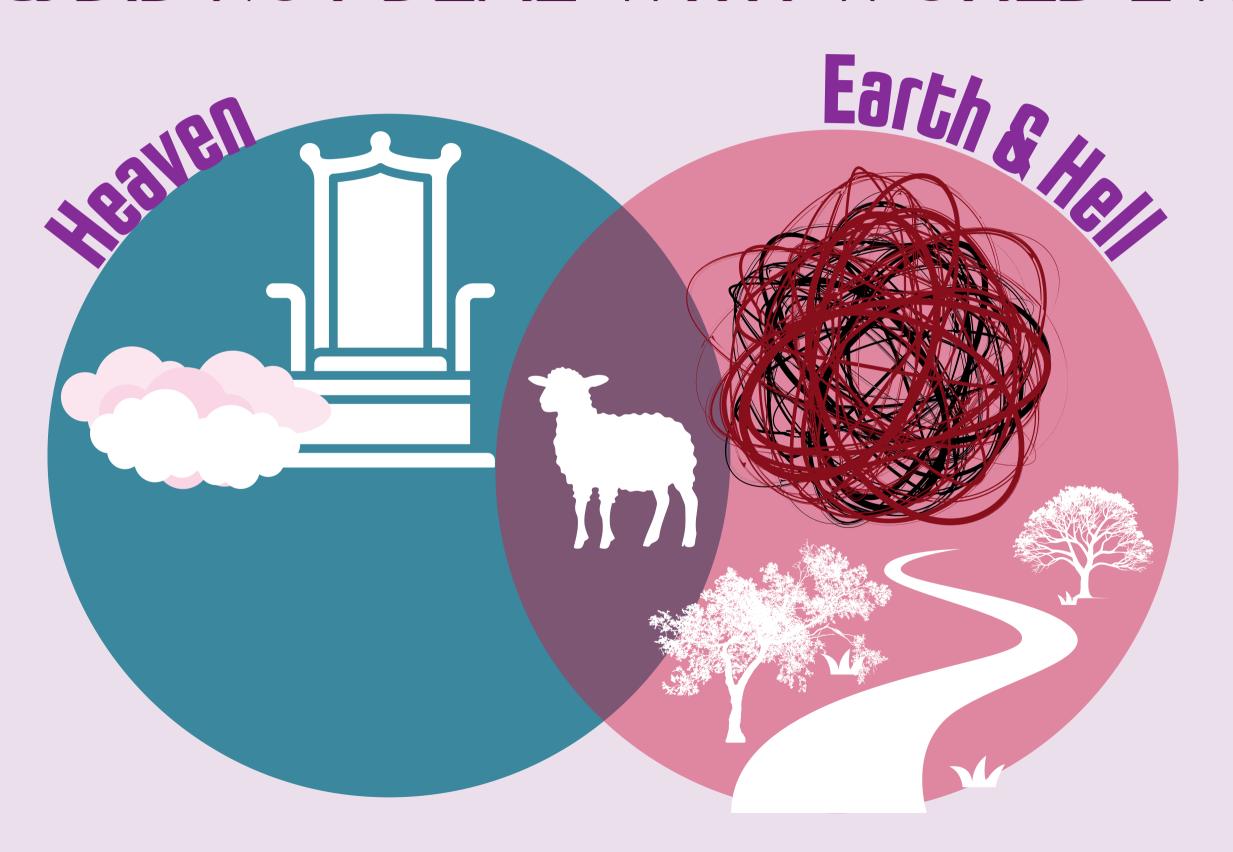
HUMANS CREATE HELL



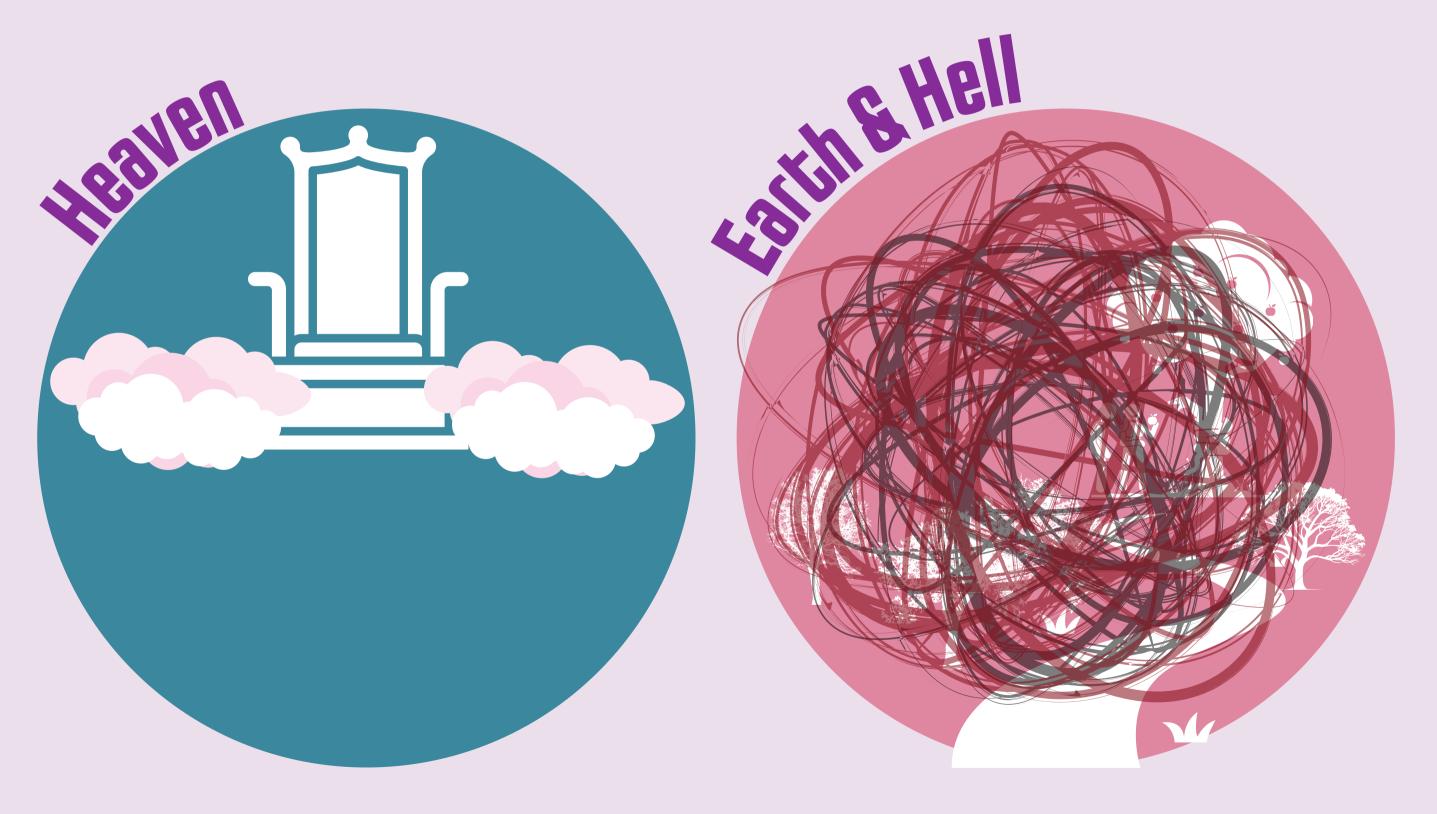
PROVISIONAL OVERLAPING SPACES



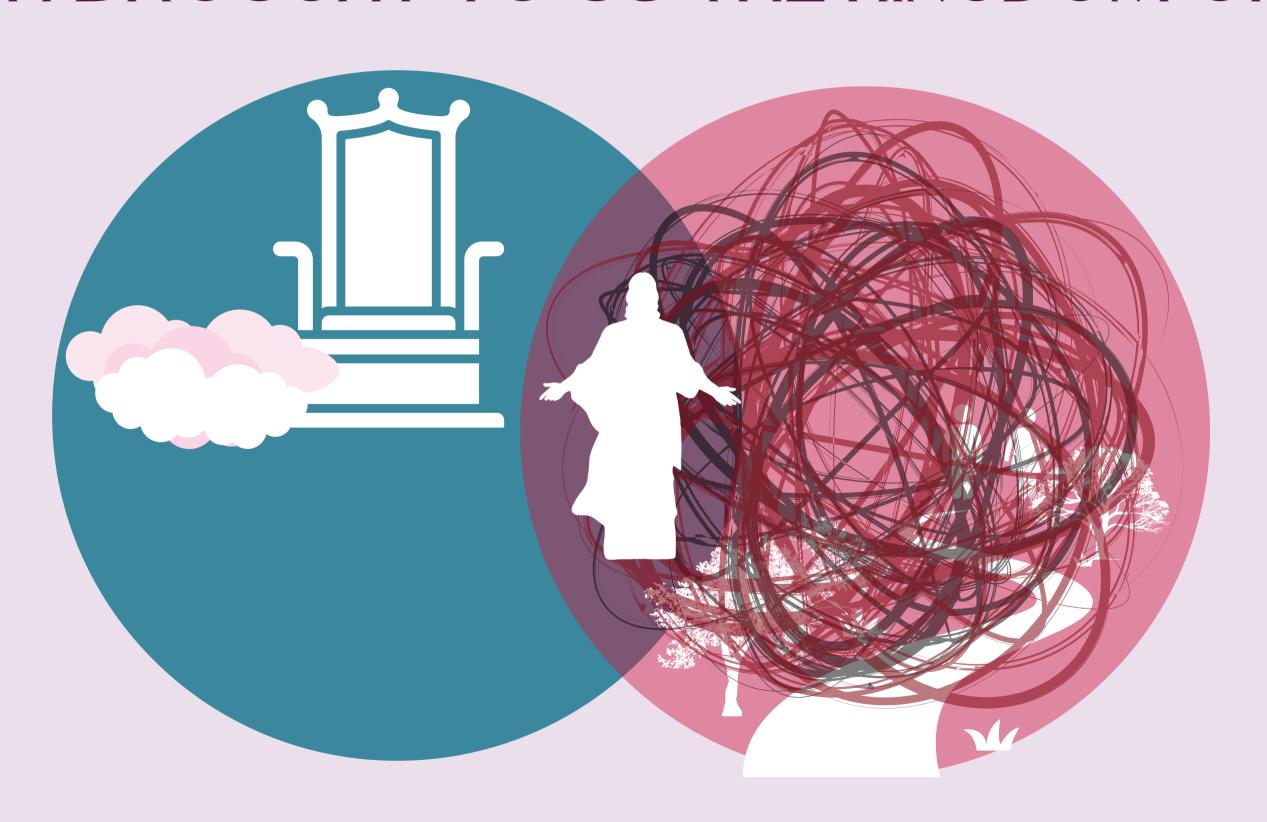
LIMITED BY SPACE & TIME & DID NOT DEAL WITH WORLD EVIL



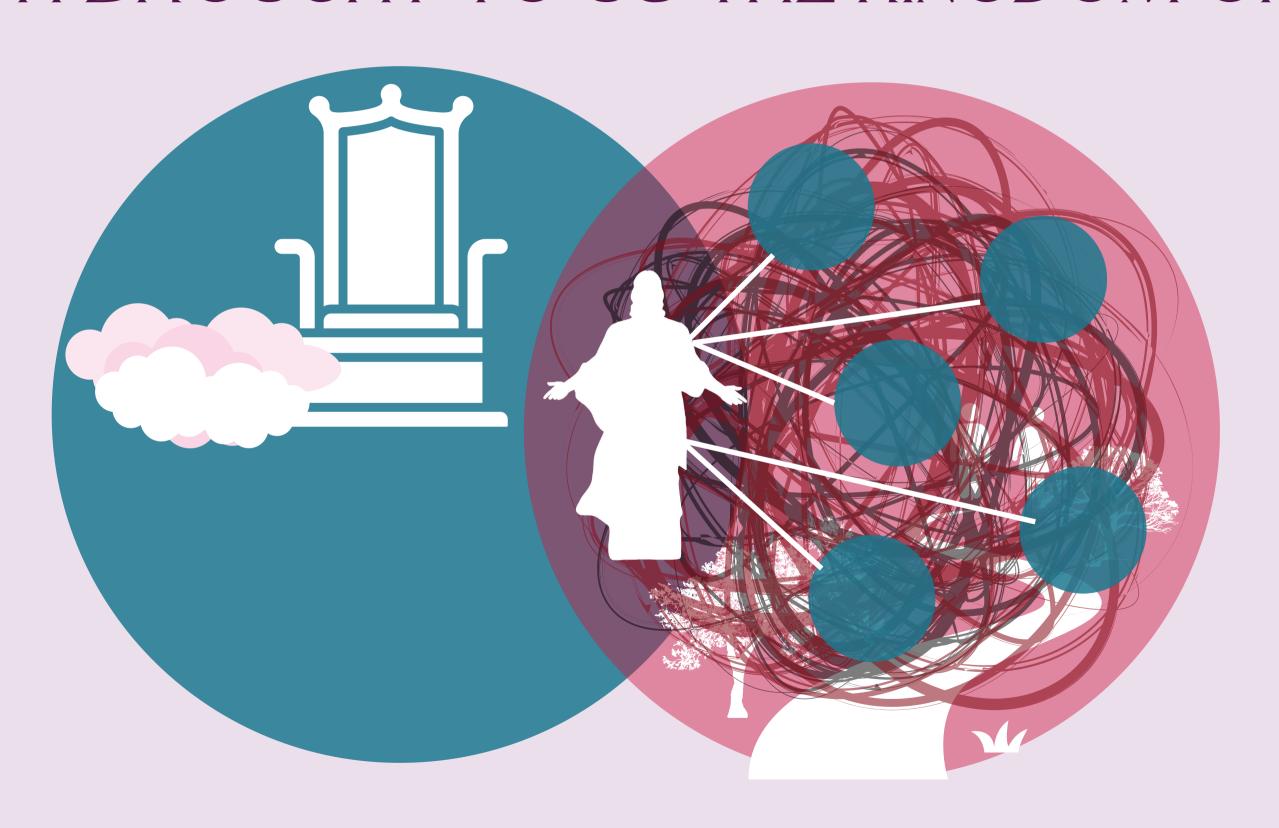
THE EFFECTS OF OUR HELLS ALIGN WITH SATAN'S DESIRES



THE INCARNATION OF GOD ON EARTH BROUGHT TO US THE KINGDOM OF GOD



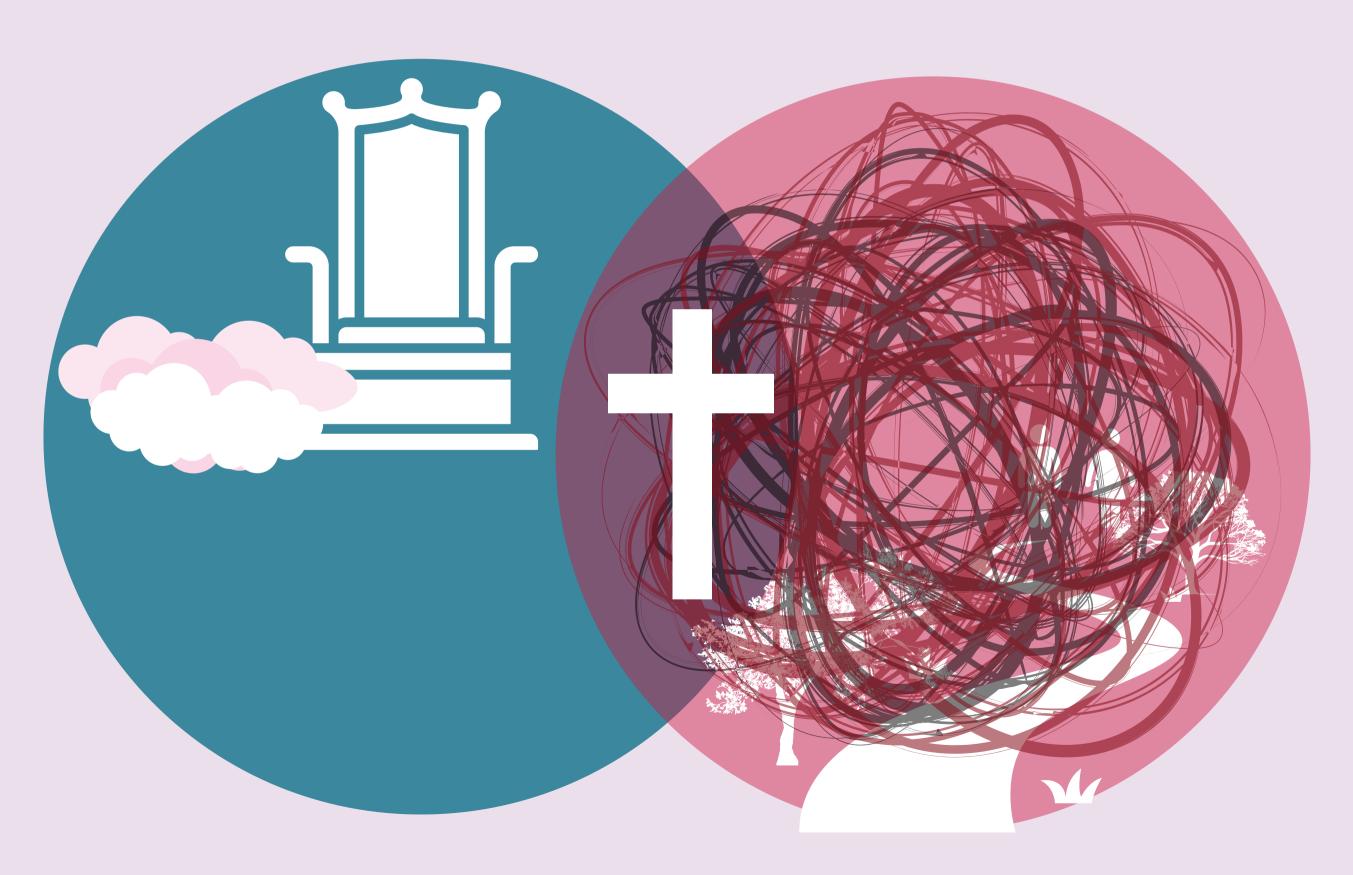
THE INCARNATION OF GOD ON EARTH BROUGHT TO US THE KINGDOM OF GOD



Those who follow Jesus should attract the same people Jesus attracted and frustrate the same people Jesus people Jesus frustrated."

-Shane Clairborne

JESUS' DEATH & RESURECTION IS UNDOING THE PROBLEM OF EVIL



Our individual salvations are not ultimately about us, though, of course, we greatly benefit. Our salvations point to a God is who is healing and renewing all things.

66

When God saves people in this life, by working through his Spirit to bring them to faith and by leading them to follow Jesus in discipleship, prayer, holiness, hope, and love, such people are designed—it isn't too strong a word—to be a sign and foretaste of what God wants to do for the entire cosmos.

-N.T. Wright

REALITIES OF A NEW HEAVEN



66 ____

The goal of God's redemptive plan in Jesus is not the removal of the earth in the sense of being replaced with a kingdom in heaven, but is instead the renewal of all things so the earthly realms will resemble the heavenly pattern.

-Lexham Bible Dictionary

This is the ultimate rejection of all types of Gnosticism, of every worldview that sees the final goal as the separation of the world from God, of the physical from the spiritual, of earth from heaven. It is the final answer to the Lord's Prayer, that God's kingdom will come and his will be done on earth as in heaven. It is what Paul is talking about in Ephesians 1:10, that God's design, and promise, was to sum up all things in Christ, things both in heaven and on earth.

It is the final fulfillment, in richly symbolic imagery, of the promise of Genesis 1, that the creation of male and female would together reflect God's image in the world. And it is the final accomplishment of God's great design, to defeat and abolish death forever which can only mean the rescue of creation from its present plight of decay. Heaven and earth, it seems, are not after all poles apart, needing to be separated forever when all the children of heaven have been rescued from this wicked earth.

Nor are they simply different ways of looking at the same thing, as would be implied by some kinds of pantheism. No, they are different, radically different, but they are made for each other in the same way (Revelation is suggesting) as male and female. And when they finally come together, that will be cause for rejoicing in the same way that a wedding is: a creational sign that God's project is going forward;

...that opposite poles within creation are made for union, not competition; that love and not hate have the last word in the universe; that fruitfulness and not sterility is God's will for creation.

-N.T. Wright

REALITIES OF A NEW HEAVEN



BUT WHAT ABOUT HELL?



Fully given over to what was aimed for:
An existence without God. Experienced as outer darkness and other Biblical imagery.

JESUS IS LOVING THE HELL OUT OF HIS CREATION. AND TO DO THAT. WE'VE GOT TO LET HIM LOVE THE HELL OUT OF US THAT WE MAY THEN LOVE THE HELL OUT OF OTHERS.

HE WAS SO COMMITTED TO THIS HE CAME TO LIVE FOR US, DIE FOR US, AND WAS RAISED FOR US.

