



PURSUIT 24

Man's Pursuit of Sin

Php 3:12-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. (13) Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

In Review

- What does it mean to Pursue?
- God's Pursuit of Man.

Today





Man's Pursuit of Sin

- Runs Parallel to God's redemptive Pursuit of Man.
- And once again it starts... at the beginning. With a tree...

And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil ([Genesis 2:9](#))

...But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die ([Genesis 2:16–17](#)).

WHY?

The Genesis of evil?

Did God create evil and sin?

What is Sin what is Evil?

One way to think about it...

- Darkness is the absence of light abstractly.
- Quiet is the absence of sound.
- So, to evil and its fruit sin the absence of the Presence of God.

How can a God who is Omnipresent be absent?

By choice and being created in his image he value our choice and respects our choice enough to allow us to choose.

In fact, the Free Will of man seems to be a center piece from the very beginning of time.



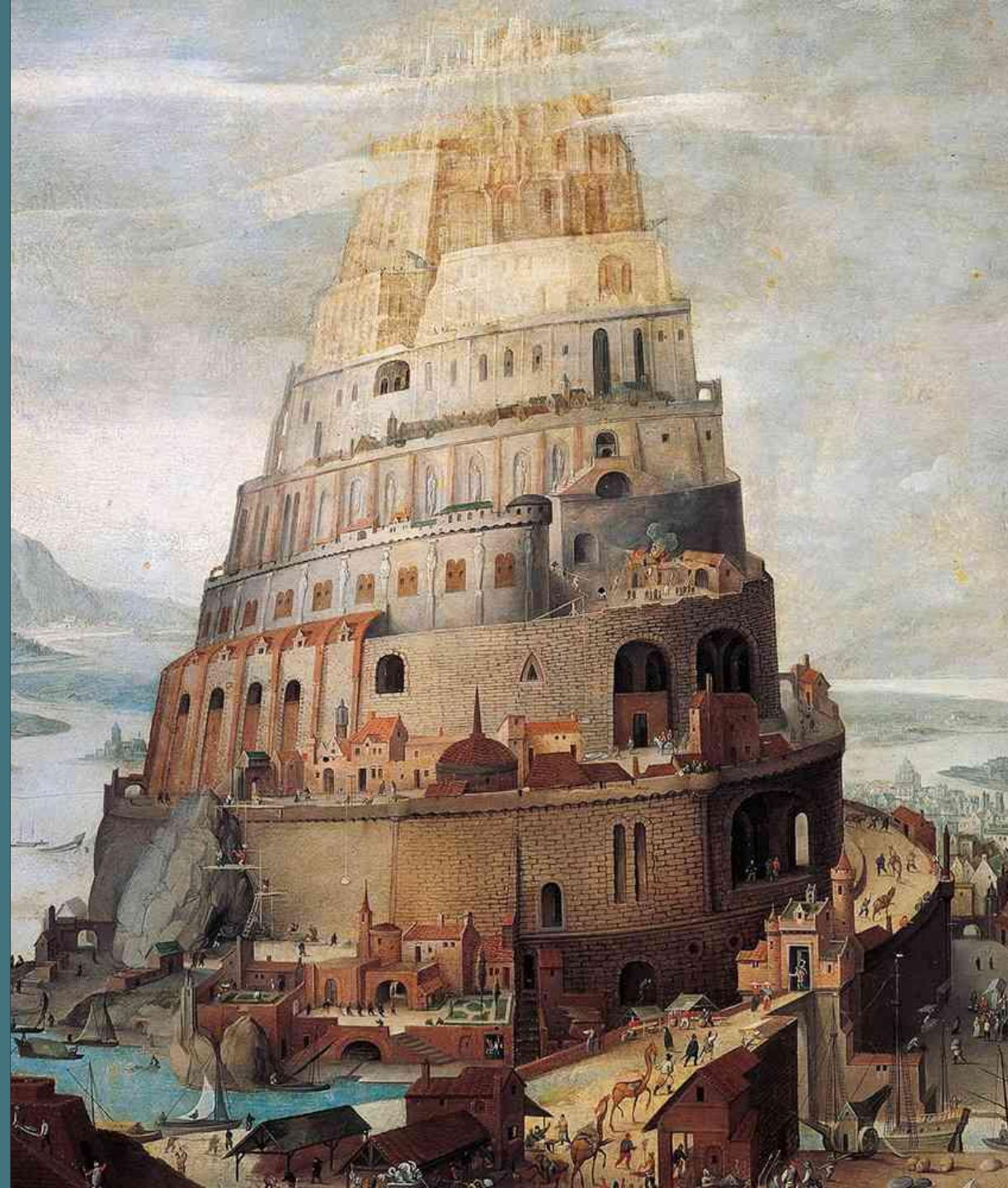
It's a story of free will and independence....



The Tower

Gen 11:3-4 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. (4) And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

- What did God command?
 - Genesis 9:1 Be fruitful and multiply and FILL THE Earth.
 - The concept was a rebellious choice either by direct disobedience or disobedience to not teach God's command.
- Not some great tower to literally reach heaven, but to be their own Gods. To idolize self.
- Man has ever sought to dethrone God and put himself in God's place.





Complaints in the Wilderness

Num 11:1-6 And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. (2) And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched. (3) And he called the name of the place Taberah: because the fire of the LORD burnt among them. (4) And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? (5) We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: (6) But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.

Acceptance of Idols

2Ch 15:8 And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that *was* before the porch of the LORD.

What did Azariah say?

2Ch 15:2-3 And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. (3) Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.



Corruption of the Law



Rejection of the Messiah



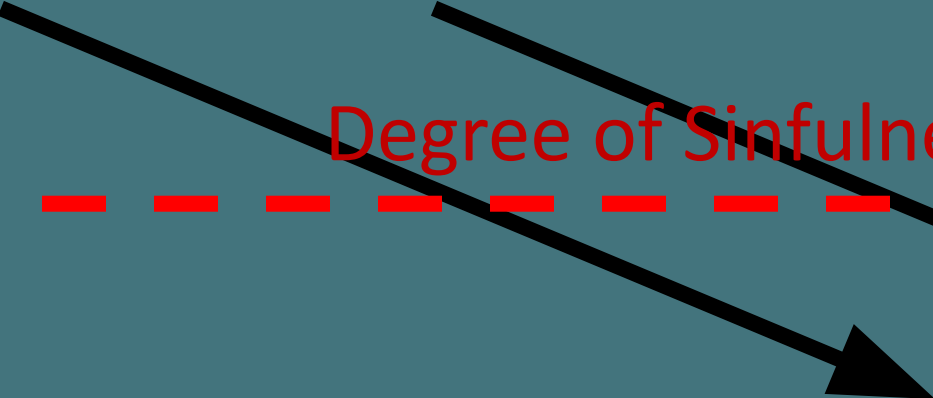
Man's Pursuit of Sin, or sprint away from God is Parallel to God's Pursuit of Man's redemptive story.

God's Children

The World

Always been separate.

Degree of Sinfulness perhaps?

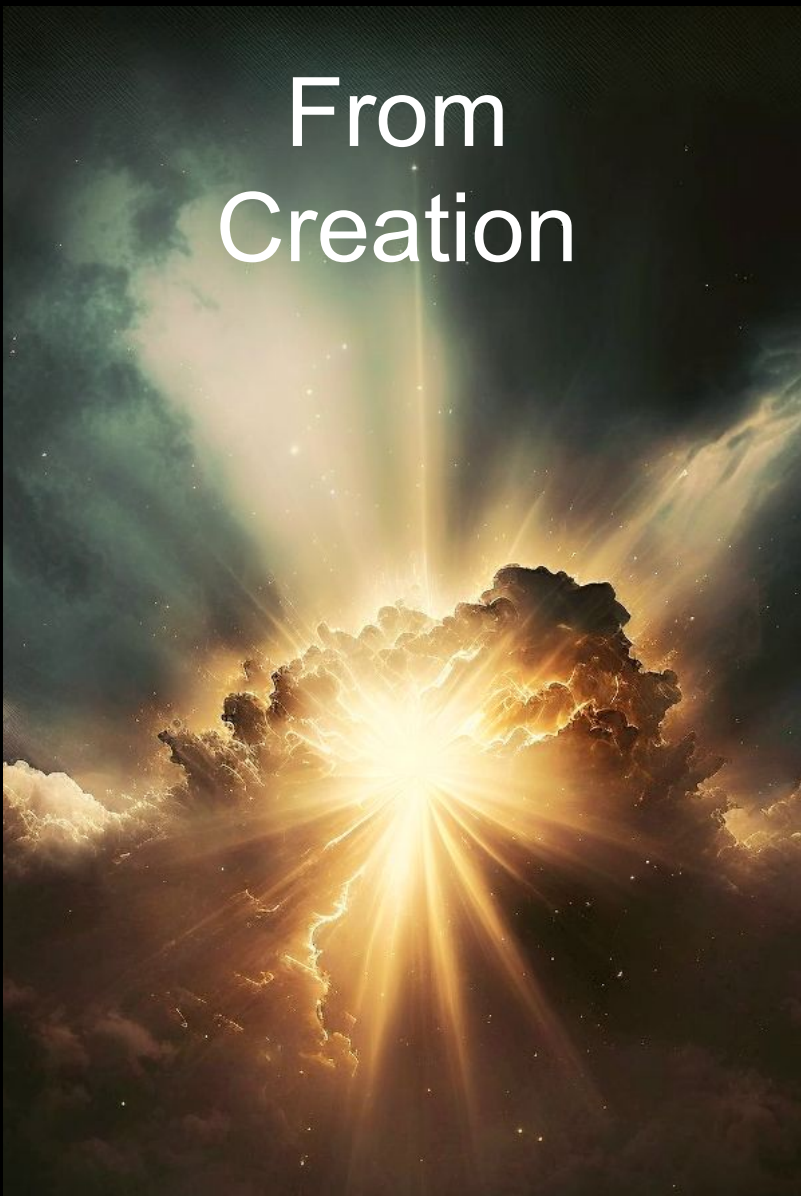


God's Children

The World

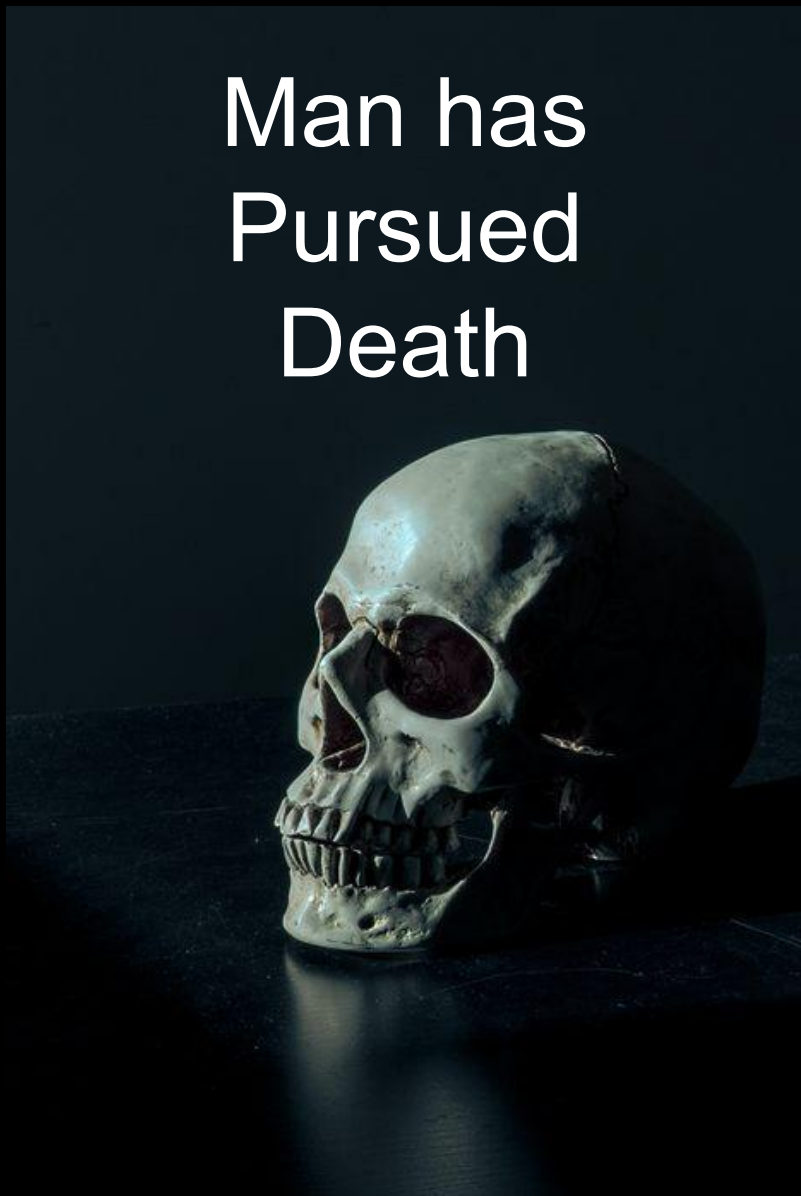
The chase, or pursuit that has led to the corruption of the Church.

From
Creation

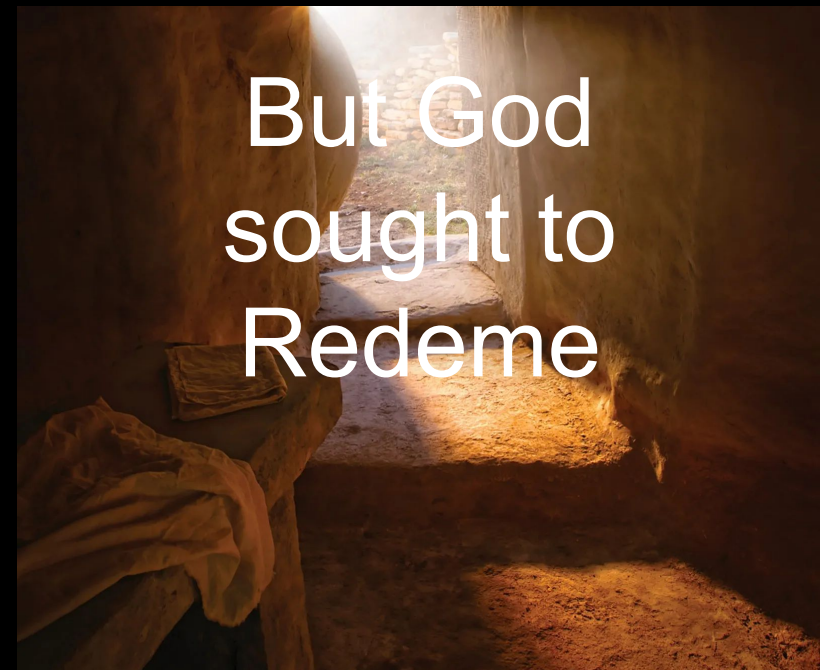


Why is this important?

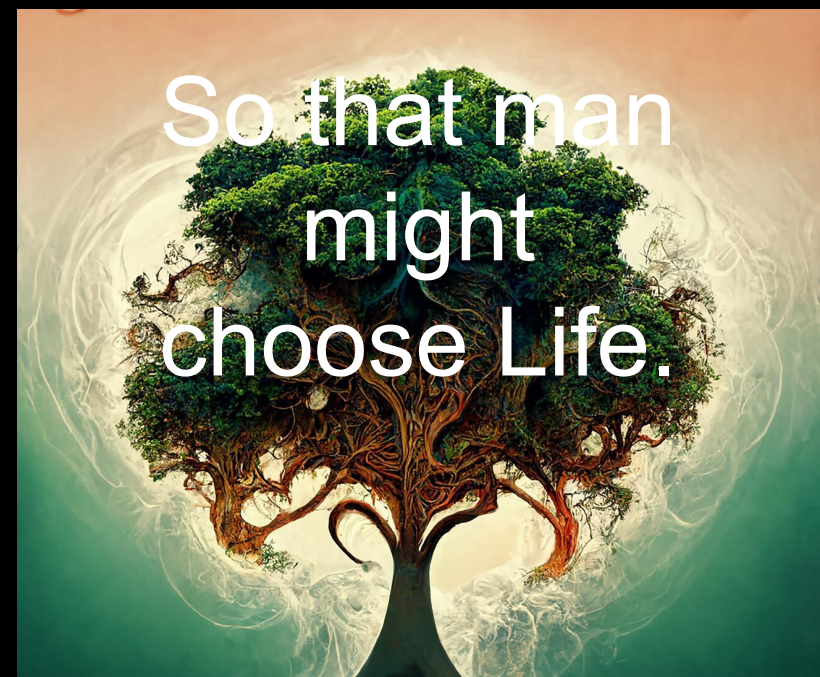
Man has
Pursued
Death



But God
sought to
Redeme



So that man
might
choose Life.







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