

1 CORINTHIANS:

CALLED OUT TOGETHER



Outline of 1 Corinthians

Chpt 1-4: Divisions over Leadership

Chpt 5: Sexual Immorality

Chpt 6: Conflict Resolution

Chpt 7: Singleness, Marriage,
Divorce, & Remarriage

Chpt 8-10: Food Offered to Idols

Chpt 11: Orderly Worship

Chpt 12-14: Loving Use of Spiritual Gifts

Chpt 15: Resurrection Hope



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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

What are the idols I'm to flee?

Why flee idols?

How can I flee idols?

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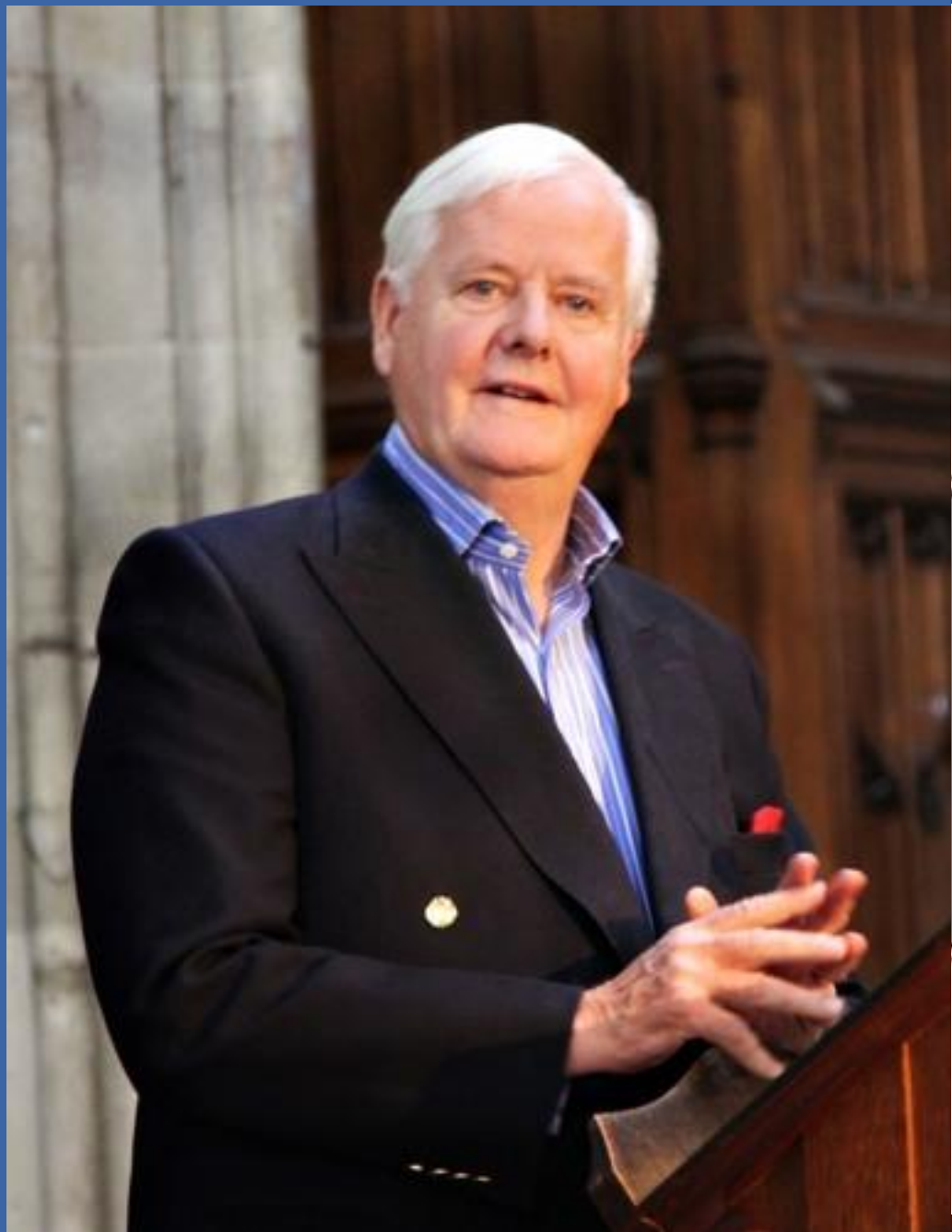
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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

What are the idols I'm to flee?

- *Anything other than God from which I seek security or significance.*
- *Nearby gods and far away god*
*Gods that provide **security** (nearby, at hand)*
*Gods that provide **significance** (far away)*



NO GOD BUT GOD

*Breaking
with the Idols
of Our Age*

OS GUINNESS
& JOHN SEEL
EDITORS

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²³ “Am I a God **at hand**, declares the Lord, and not a God **far away**? ²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill **heaven and earth**? declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 23

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Faraway gods (Significance, Meaning)

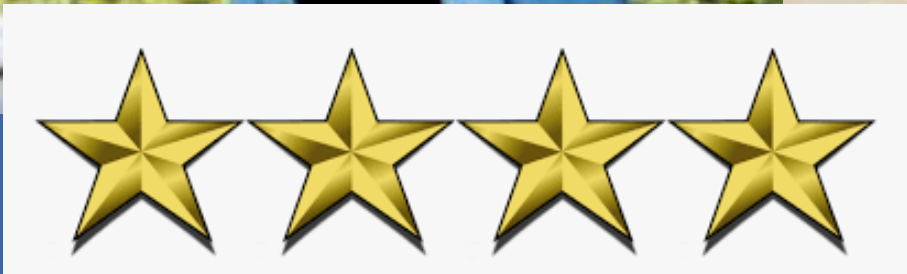
Then

- Creation gods
- Afterlife ruler gods
- State gods

Now

- Chance (origins)
- Rationalism
- Statement car, house
- Kids' achievements
- Work position/rank





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Nearby gods (Security)

Then

- Storm gods
- Battle gods
- Fertility gods
- God of the harvest

Now

- Bank/retirement fund
- Social Security
- College debt relief
- Health



1 Cor 8⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth— as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—
⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, **from** whom are all things and **for** whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, **through** whom are all things and **through** whom we exist.

1 Cor 8⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, **from** whom are all things and **for** whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, **through** whom are all things and **through** whom we exist.

From/for: Significance & Meaning (Heaven, far above)

Through: Security (Earth, nearby)

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Why flee idols?

- They'll fail you, lead to death and broken relationships with God and man (10:1-10)
- You have something better (10:14-18)
- They are the instruments demons use to draw us from God (10:18-22)

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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

Why flee idols? **They'll fail you**

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,³ and all ate the same spiritual food,⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

Why flee idols? **They'll fail you**

⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ **Do not be idolaters** as some of them were

... and were led towards
sexual immorality
putting Christ to the test
grumbling

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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

Why flee idols? **You have something better**

¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

¹⁵ I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ The **cup of blessing** that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The **bread that we break**, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. ¹⁸ Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?

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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

Why flee idols? **They are the instruments demons use**

¹⁹ What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? ²⁰ No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. ²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

²² Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

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How can I flee idols?

- Take an inventory this Lent: *Where am I looking for significance and security?*
- Refocus on the ends of the ages

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1 Cor 10¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, **on whom the end(s) of the ages has come.**

Not who eagerly await the end of the ages (It's almost here. Hang in there a bit longer.)

Not who have come to the end of the ages (It's as good as it's going to get. You have arrived.)

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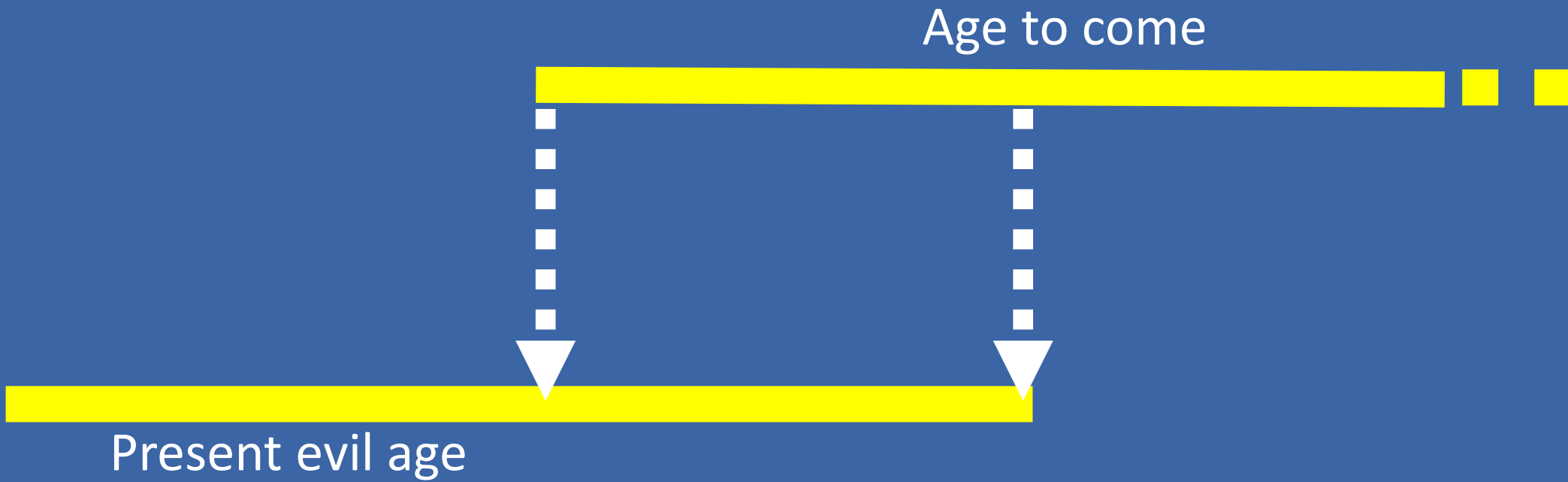
1 Cor 10¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the **end(s)** of the ages has come.

“end” = “telos”

“ends” = “tele”

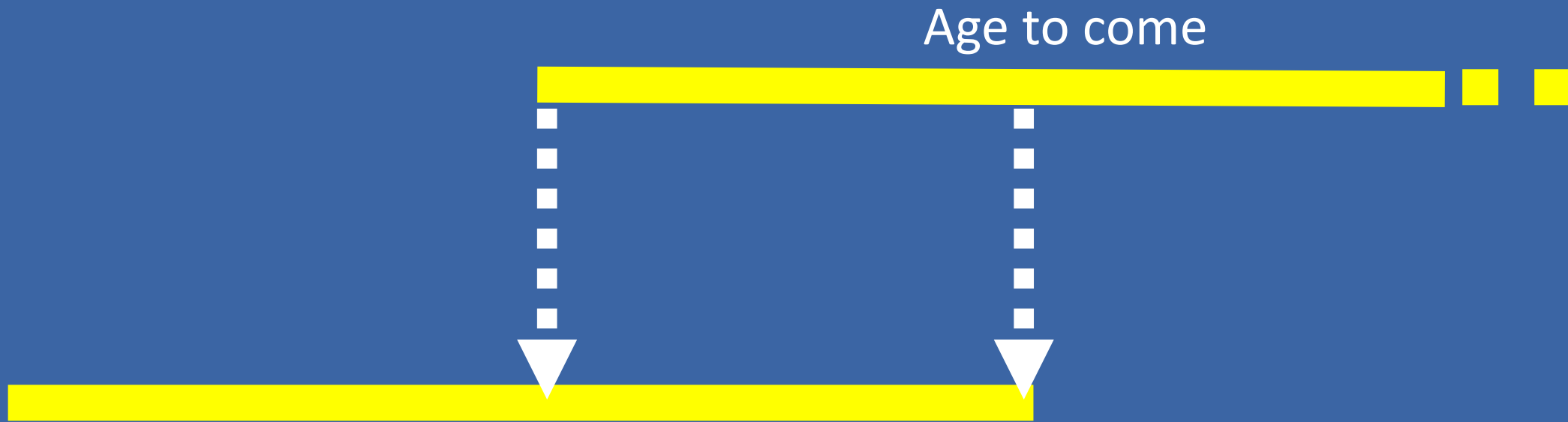
Not “the end of the game” but GOAL, PURPOSE of the game.

Not in terms of time but significance



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Age to come

Present evil age

Fall Redemption

First Coming

Second Coming
New Heaven &
New Earth

1 CORINTHIANS:
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Age to come

*Already/
Not yet*

Present evil age

Fall Redemption

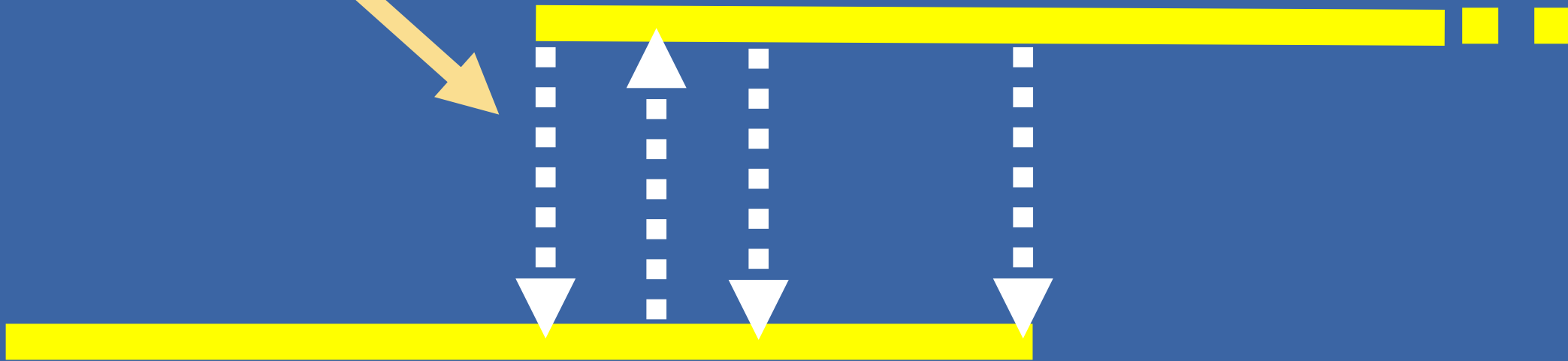
First Coming

Second Coming
New Heaven &
New Earth

1 CORINTHIANS:
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Cross/Resurrection/Ascension/Spirit sent

Age to come



Present evil age

Fall Redemption

1
First Coming

2

3

Second Coming
New Heaven &
New Earth

1 CORINTHIANS:
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Cross/Resurrection/Ascension/Spirit sent

Tele

Age to come



Present evil age



Fall

Redemption

1

2

3

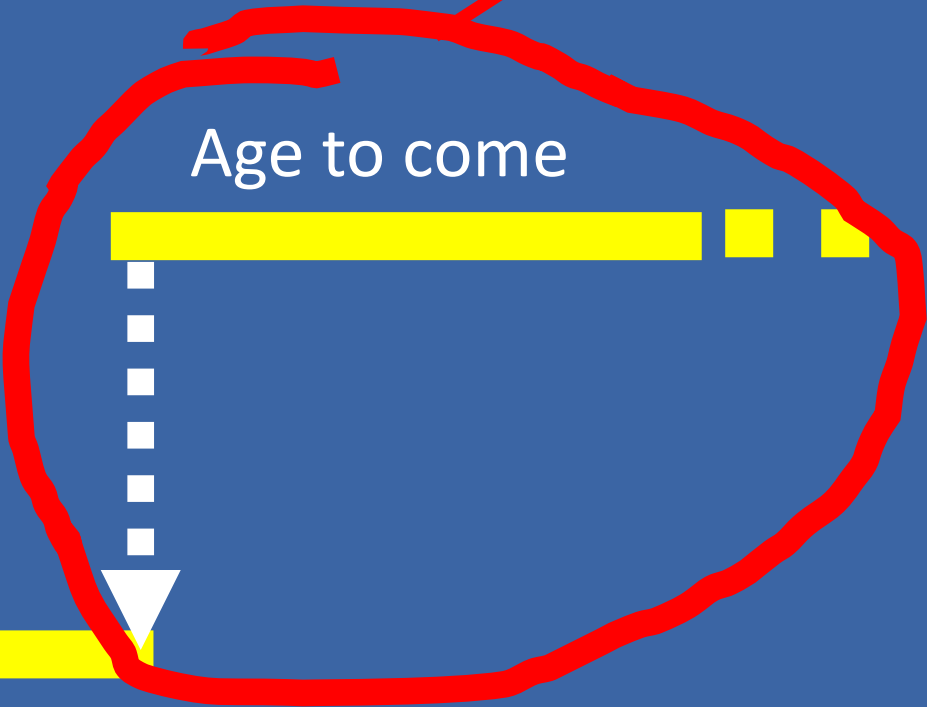
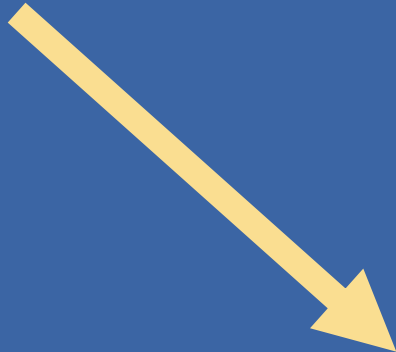
Second Coming

First Coming

New Heaven &

New Earth

1 CORINTHIANS:



Cross/Resurrection/Ascension/Spirit sent

Tele

Age to come

Present evil age

Fall

Redemption

1

2

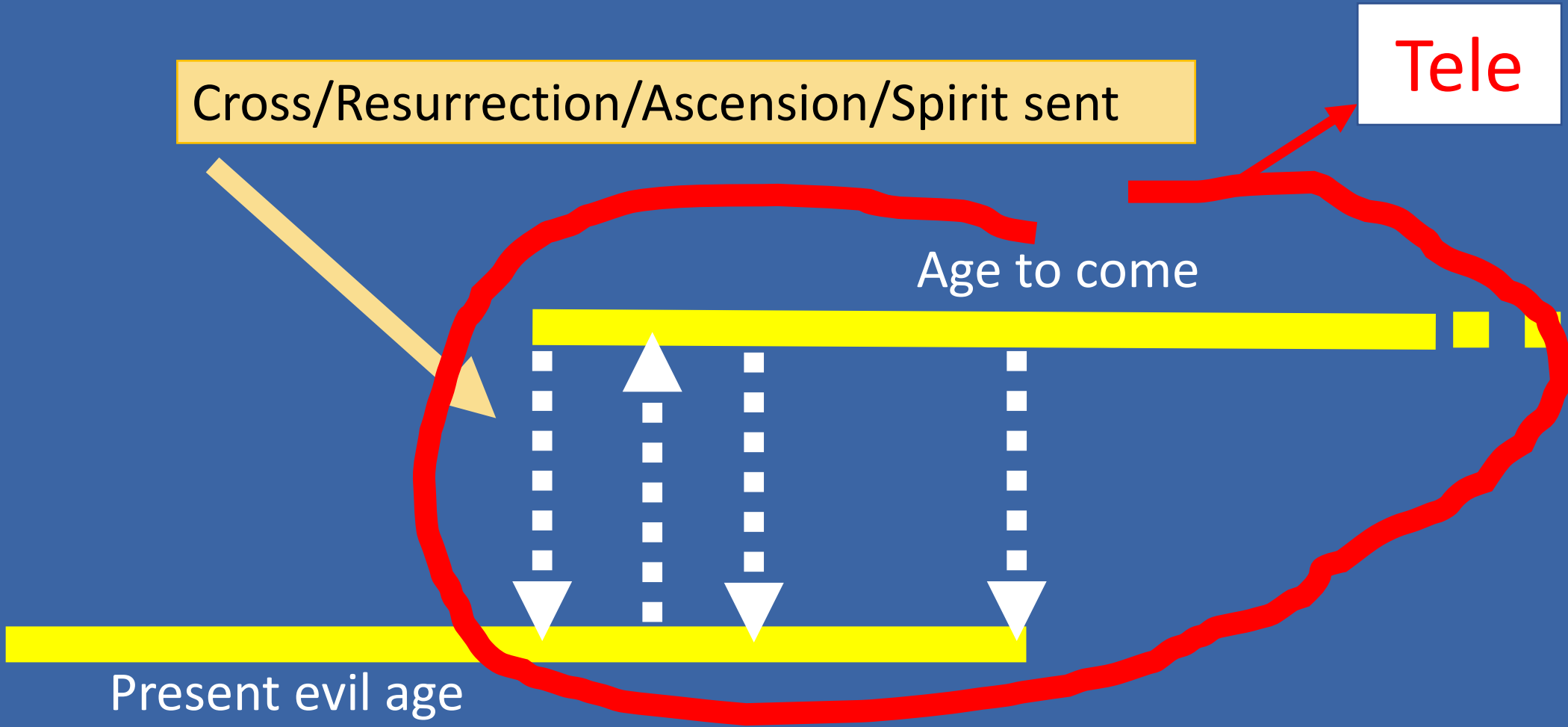
3

Second Coming

First Coming

New Heaven & New Earth

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1 Cor 8⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, **from** whom are all things and **for** whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, **through** whom are all things and **through** whom we exist.

From/for: Significance & Meaning (Heaven, far above)

Through: Security (Earth, nearby)

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1 Corinthians 10:1-22 *Flee Idolatry*

What are the idols I'm to flee?

Faraway (Significance and meaning)

Nearby (Security)

Why flee idols? They fail. You have better. Demonic

How can I flee idols?

Take inventory. Turn from idols and to the Lord.

Focus on the ends

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Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

1 John 5:21

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