




“Why are young people rejecting Christianity & embracing hedonism & anarchy?”

2025Sep14 Dan Fisher - Young People  
Rejecting Christianity

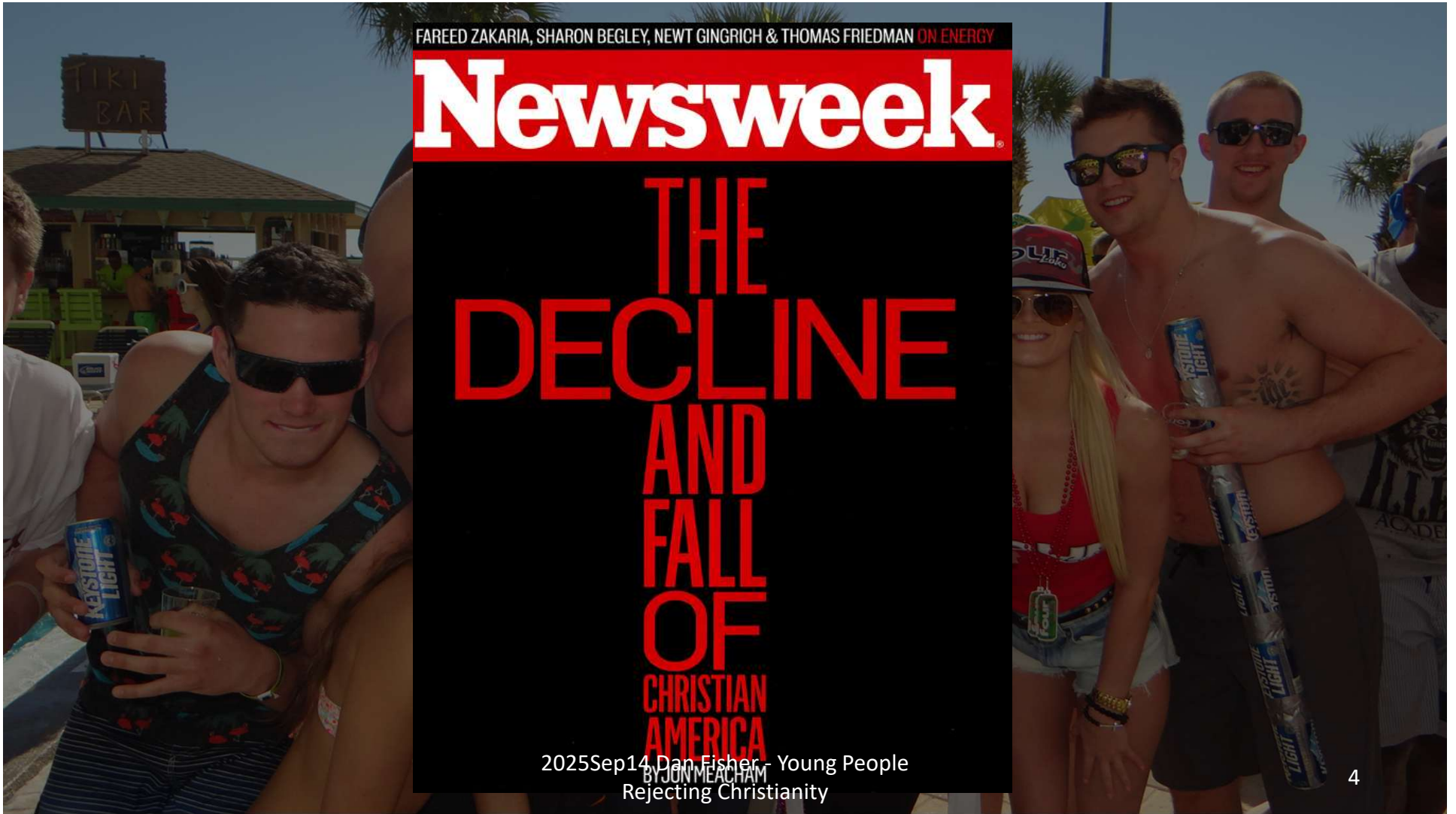
A group of young people, mostly teenagers and young adults, are gathered outdoors at what appears to be a beach party or festival. They are dressed in casual summer attire, including tank tops, shorts, and swimwear. Several individuals are wearing "Four Loko" hats and holding cans of Four Loko. One person in the foreground is holding a tray with a drink. The background shows palm trees and a building with a sign that says "TIKI BAR". The overall atmosphere is festive and social.

69-94% of youths have abandoned the faith of their parents by the time they have graduated high school

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By JON MEACHAM

IT WAS A SMALL DETAIL, A POINT OF COMPARISON BURIED IN THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH ON THE 17th page of a 24-page summary of the 2009 American Religious Identification Survey. But as R. Albert Mohler Jr.—president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, one of the largest on earth—read over the document after its release in March, he was struck by a single sentence. For a believer like Mohler—a starchy, unflinchingly conservative Christian, steeped in the theology of his particular province of the faith, devoted to producing ministers who will preach the inerrancy of the Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the only means to eternal life—the central news of the survey was troubling enough: the number of Americans who claim no religious affiliation has nearly doubled since 1990, rising from 8 to 15 percent. Then came the point he could not get out of his mind: while the unaffiliated have historically been concentrated in the Pacific Northwest, the report said, “this pattern has now changed, and the Northeast emerged in 2008 as the new stronghold of the religiously unidentified.” As Mohler saw it, the historic foundation of America’s religious culture was cracking.

“That really hit me hard,” he told me last week. “The Northwest was never as religious, never as congregationalized, as the Northeast, which was the foundation, the home base, of American religion. To lose New England struck me as momentous.” Turning the report over in his mind, Mohler posted a despairing online column on the eve of Holy Week lamenting the decline—and, by implication, the imminent fall—of an America shaped and suffused by Christianity. “A remarkable culture-shift has taken place around us,” Mohler wrote. “The most basic contours of American culture have been radically altered. The so-called Judeo-Christian consensus of the last millennium has given way to a post-modern, post-Christian, post-Western cultural crisis which threatens the very heart of our culture.” When Mohler and I spoke in the days after he wrote this, he had grown even gloomier. “Clearly, there is a new narrative, a post-Christian narrative, that is animating large portions of this society,” he said from his office on campus in Louisville, Ky.

There it was, an old term with new urgency: *post-Christian*. This is not to say that the Christian God is dead, but that he is less of a force in American politics and culture than at any other time in recent memory. To the surprise of liberals who fear the advent of an evangelical theocracy and to the dismay of religious conservatives who long to see their faith more fully expressed in public life, Christians are now making up a declining percentage of the American population.

According to the American Religious Identification Survey that got Mohler’s attention, the percentage of self-identified Christians

## RELIGION

# The End of Christian America

*The percentage of self-identified Christians has fallen 10 points in the past two decades. How that statistic explains who we are now—and what, as a nation, we are about to become.*

has fallen 10 percentage points since 1990, from 86 to 76 percent. The Jewish population is 1.2 percent; the Muslim, 0.6 percent. A separate Pew Forum poll echoed the ARIS finding, reporting that the percentage of people who say they are unaffiliated with any particular faith has doubled in recent years, to 16 percent; in terms of voting, this group grew from 5 percent in 1988 to 12 percent in 2008—roughly the same percentage of the electorate as African-Americans. (Seventy-five percent of unaffiliated voters chose Barack Obama, a Christian.) Meanwhile, the number of people willing to describe themselves as atheist or agnostic has increased about fourfold from 1990 to 2009, from 1 million to about 3.6 million. (That is about double the number of, say, Episcopalians in the United States.)

While we remain a nation decisively shaped by religious faith, our politics and our culture are, in the main, less influenced by movements and arguments of an explicitly Christian character than they were even five years ago. I think this is a good thing—good for our political culture, which, as the American Founders saw, is complex and charged enough without attempting to compel or coerce religious belief

or observance. It is good for Christianity, too, in that many Christians are rediscovering the virtues of a separation of church and state that protects what Roger Williams, who founded Rhode Island as a haven for religious dissenters, called “the garden of the church” from “the wilderness of the world.” As crucial as religion has been and is to the life of the nation, America’s unifying force has never been a specific faith, but a commitment to freedom—no least freedom of conscience. At our best, we are a people of faith, not of dogma.

“... the percentage of self-identified Christians has fallen 10 percentage points since 1990, from 86 to 76 percent.”

Jon Meacham, “The End of Christian America,” *Newsweek*, April 13, 2009, page 34.

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Losing Christianity

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tating Christianity

Gallup reported recently:

“U.S. church membership has fallen to 48% since 1999 – a 20-percentage-point decline.”

The SBC's numbers have dropped from 16.4 million just a few years ago to 14.8 million in 2018 – the lowest number in 32 yrs.

The other Mainline denominations' have fallen by 50% in the past 50 years.

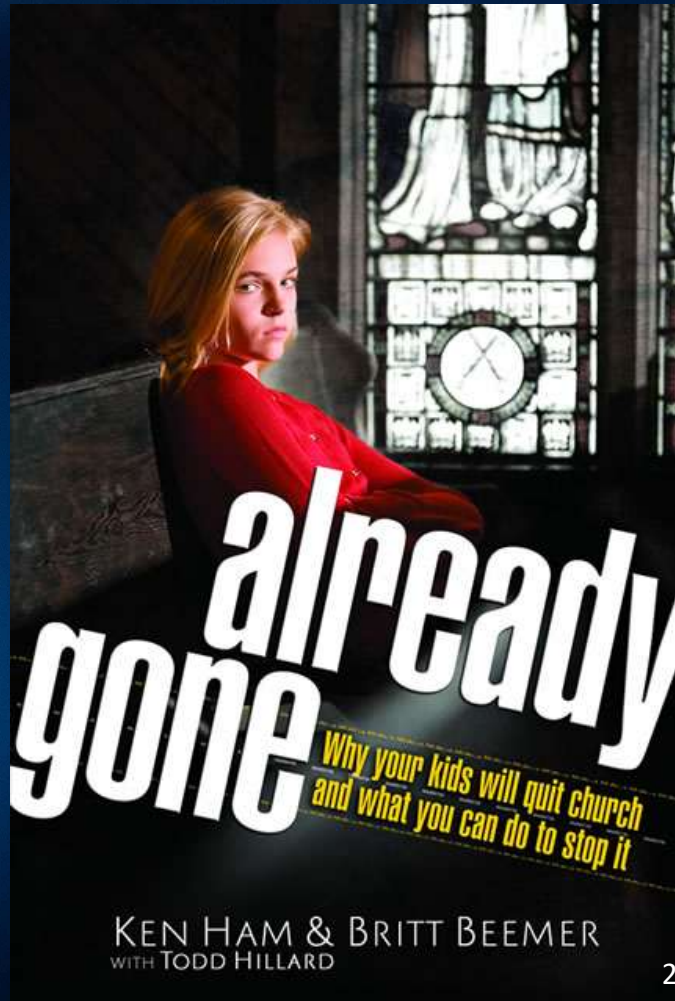
## **America - largest number of:**

- **Churches/Seminaries**
- **Christian Colleges**
- **Christian Bookshops/Resources**
- **Christian Radio/TV**

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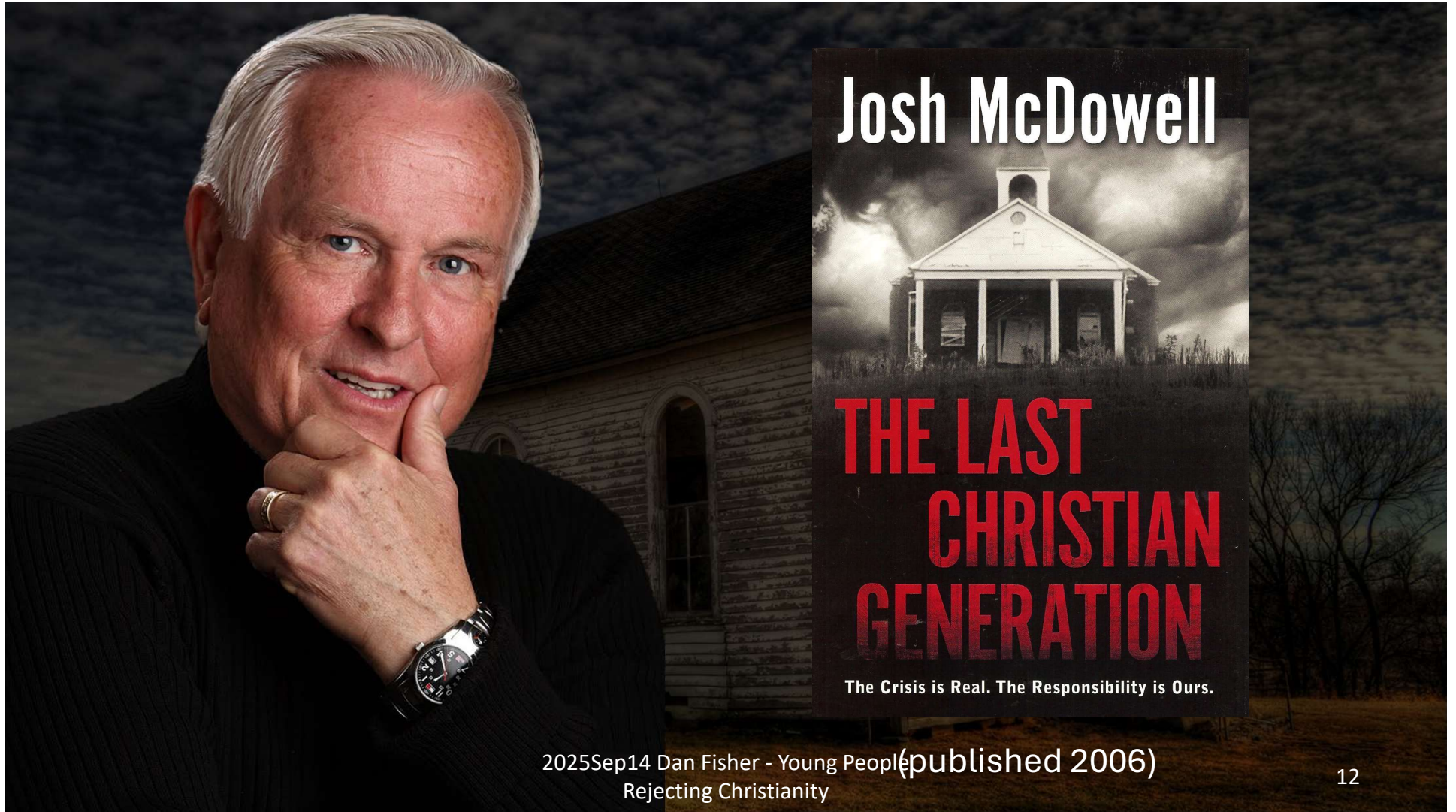
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And yet, we are becoming **LESS**  
Christian every year



“We are one generation away from the evaporation of church as we know it. Slowly but certainly the church of the future is headed toward the morgue and will continue to do so unless we come to better understand what is happening and implement a clear, biblical plan to circumvent it.”

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Josh McDowell

**THE LAST  
CHRISTIAN  
GENERATION**

The Crisis is Real. The Responsibility is Ours.

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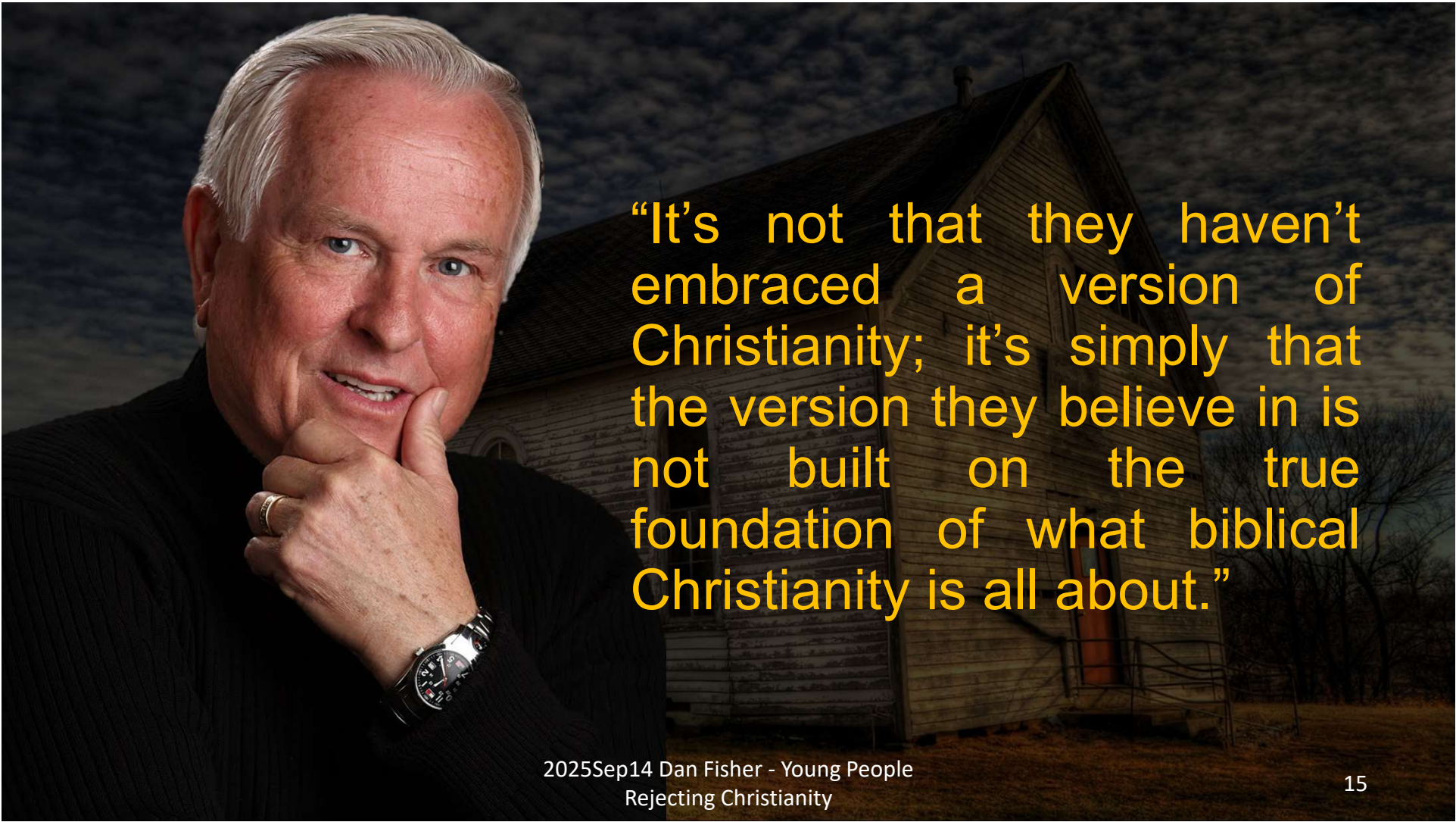


## Among those who grew up in Christian homes:

- 63% do not believe Jesus is the Son of God
- 51% do not believe Jesus rose from the dead
- 70% believe there is no absolute moral truth
- 58% believe all faiths teach equally valid truths
- 65% believe or suspect that there is no way to tell which religion is true
- 68% believe that a good person who rejects the fundamental teachings of Christianity can still be saved and go to heaven



Today, only 33% say church will play a significant role in their lives after they leave home – down from 55%-66% a few years ago.



“It’s not that they haven’t embraced a version of Christianity; it’s simply that the version they believe in is not built on the true foundation of what biblical Christianity is all about.”

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“Only 6% of born again believers have a biblical worldview. ... 98% of professed born-again young people believe in Christ but they do not reflect Christ-like attitudes or actions. ... our research found that most Americans have little idea how to integrate core biblical principles to form a unified and meaningful response to the challenges and opportunities of life.” George Barna

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# When are our kids jettisoning “the faith”?

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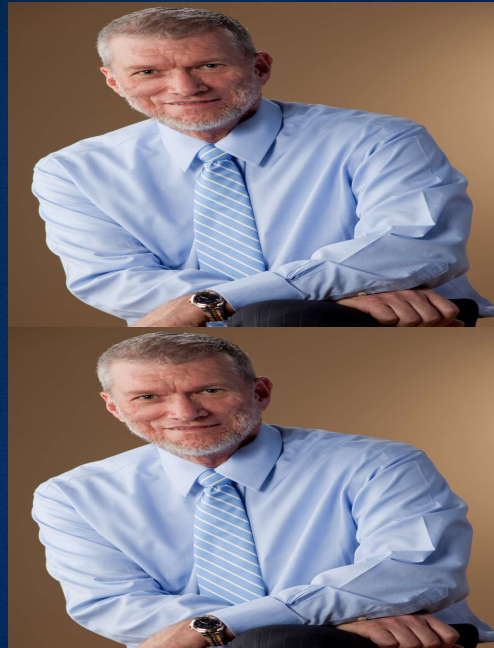
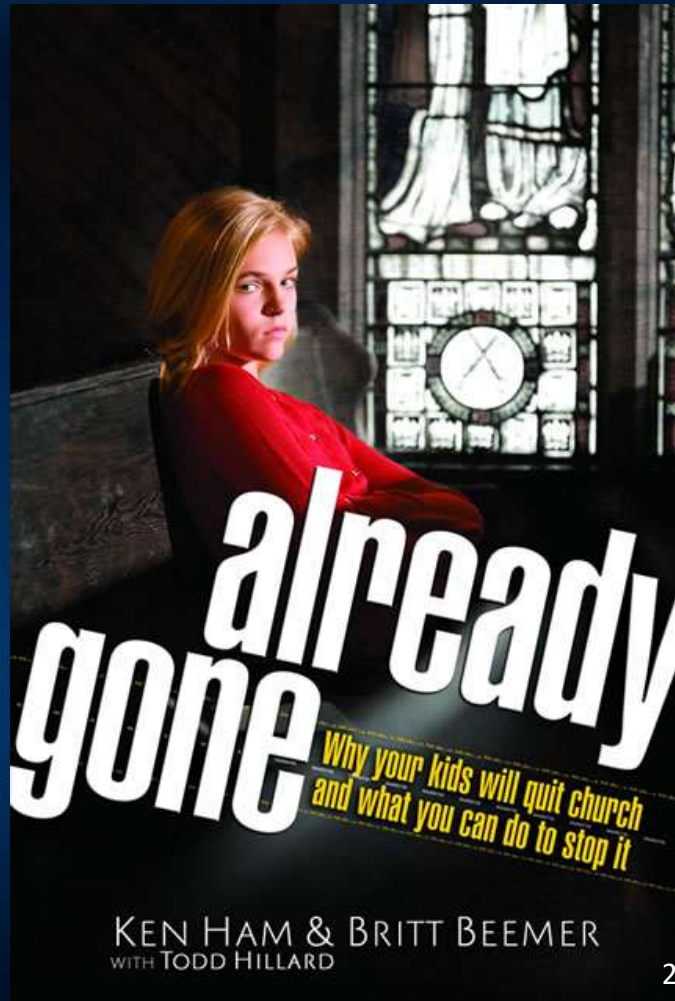


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The majority of young people who question the Bible  
begin to do so when they are in grades 7-12

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**Of all the 20 to 29-year-old evangelicals who attended church regularly but no longer do so:**



95% of them  
attended church  
regularly during  
their elementary and  
middle school years



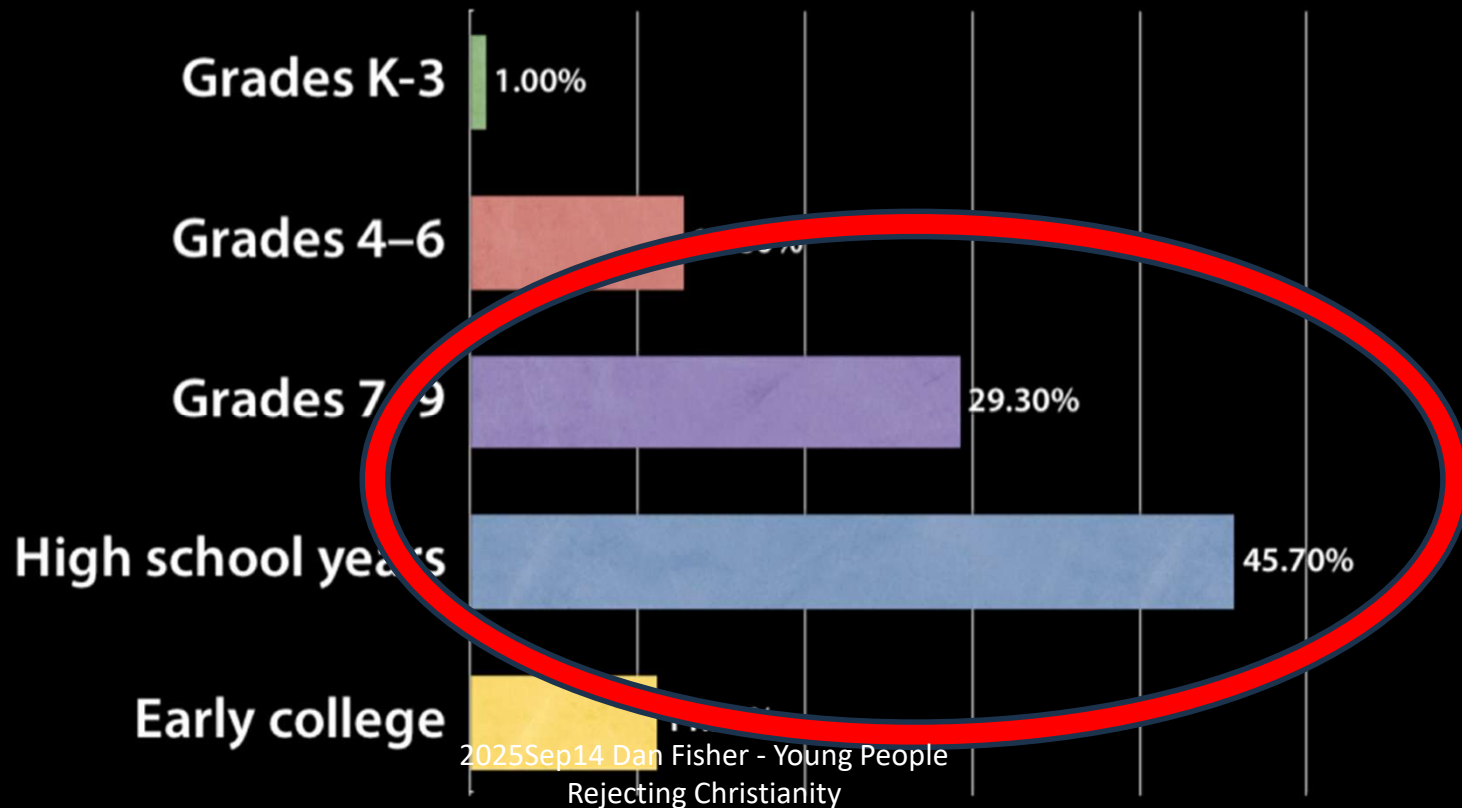
55% attended church  
regularly during high  
school



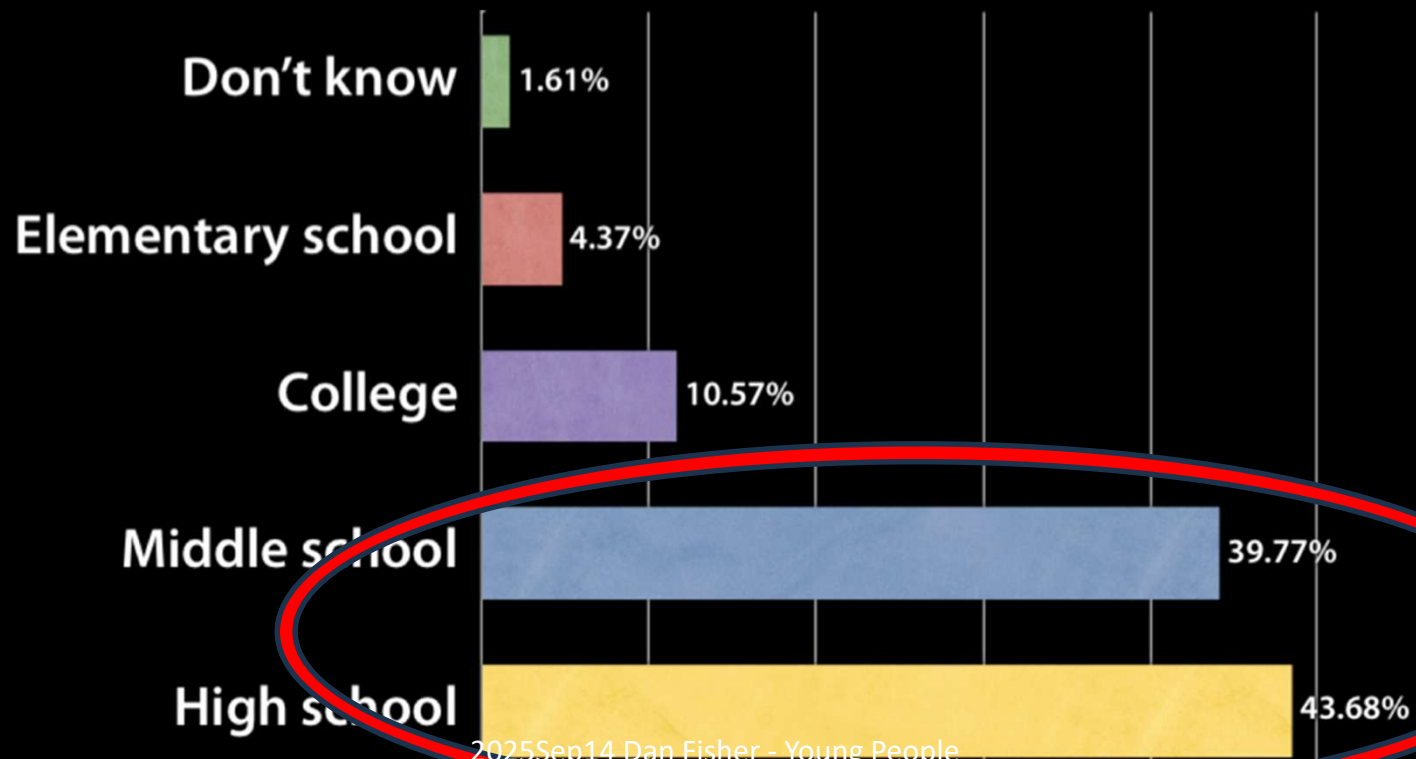
11% were still going to  
church during college

Source: *Already Gone*, Ken Ham & Britt Beemer

# At what age did you begin to really question contents in the Bible?

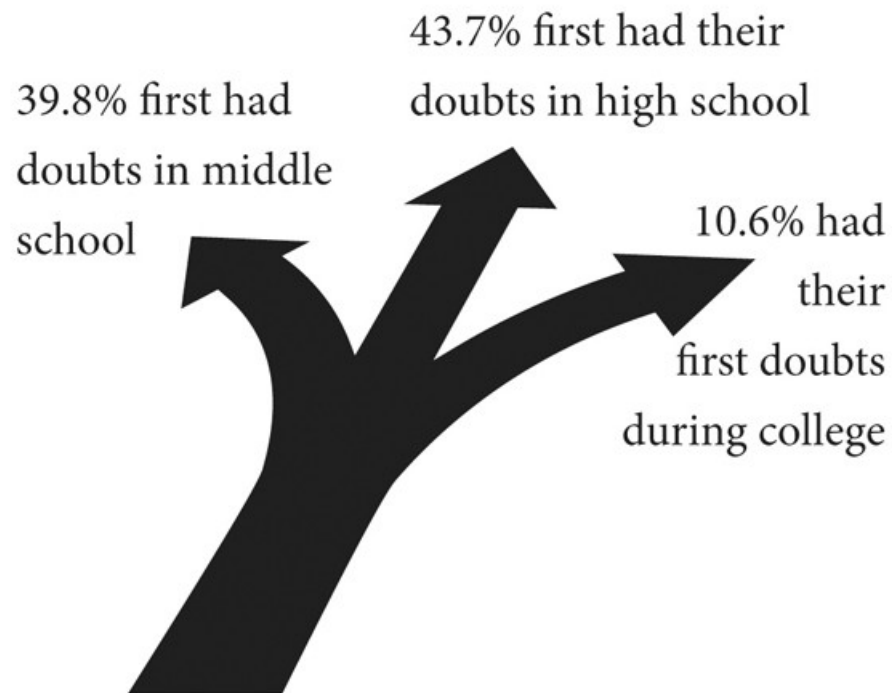


# If you don't believe, when did you first have doubts?



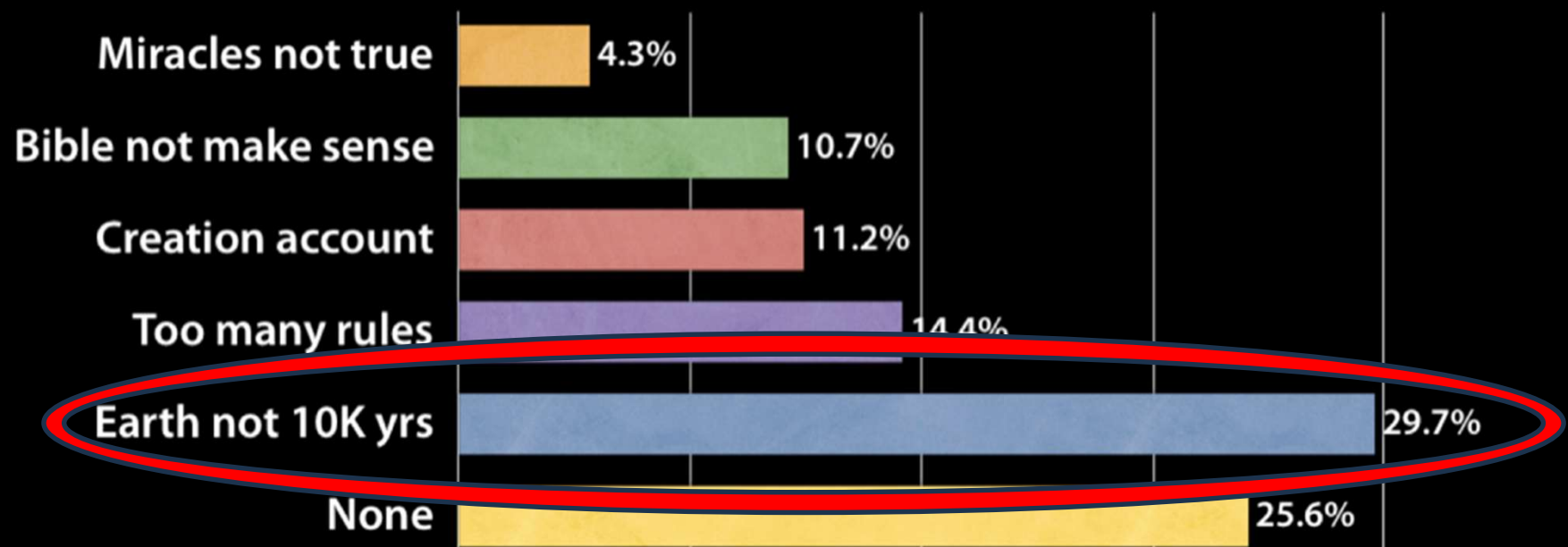
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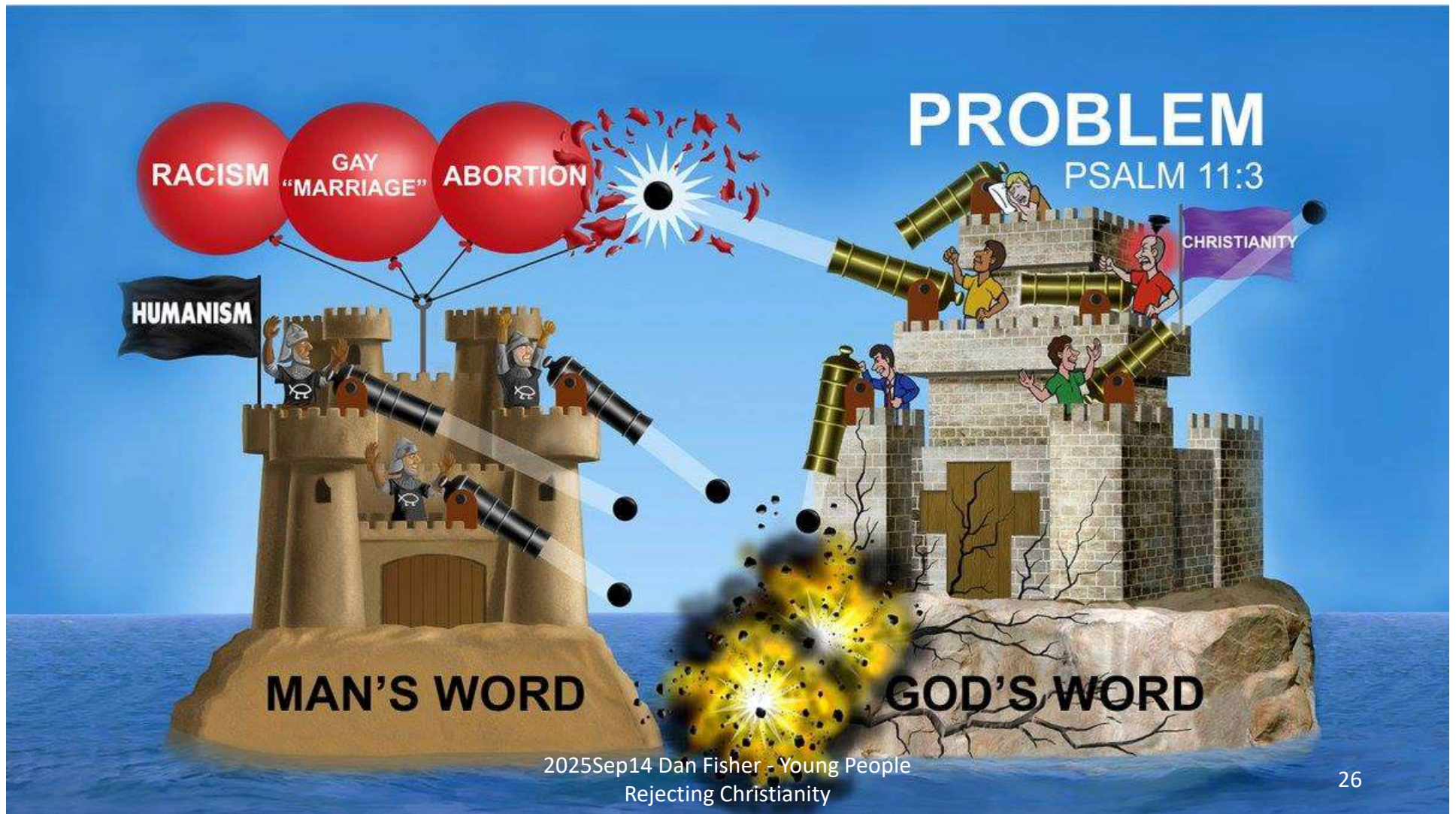
**Those who no longer believe that all of the accounts and stories in the Bible are true:**



Source: *Already Gone*, Ken Ham & Britt

Of those who often attended Sunday School,  
which of these makes you question the  
Bible the most?





- 
- We have not fortified our own foundation
  - We have attacked sinful practices rather than the foundation of the enemy

**HOMOSEXUAL  
BEHAVIOR**

**FAMILY  
BREAK-UP**

**EUTHANASIA**

## **THE SOLUTION** **ISAIAH 58:12**



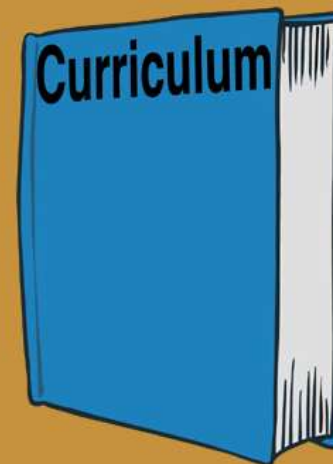
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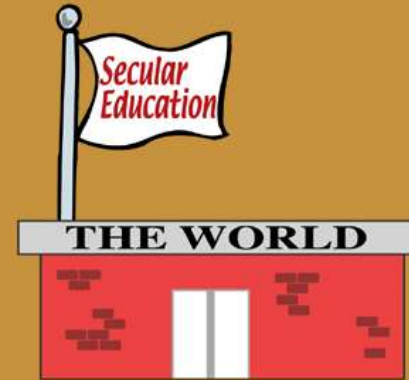
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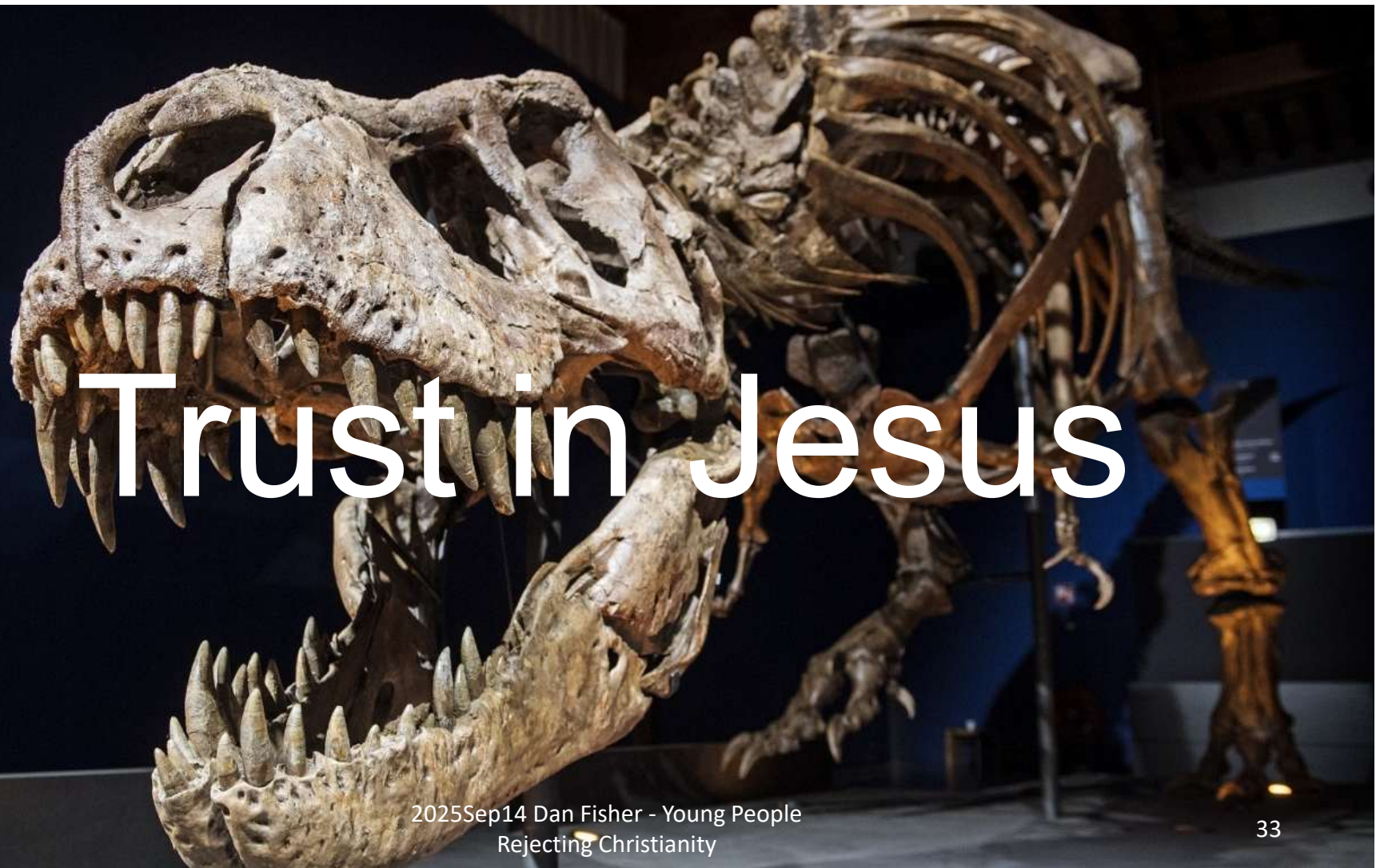
# BIBLE STORIES



# REAL HISTORY

Biology Anthropology  
Geology Astronomy

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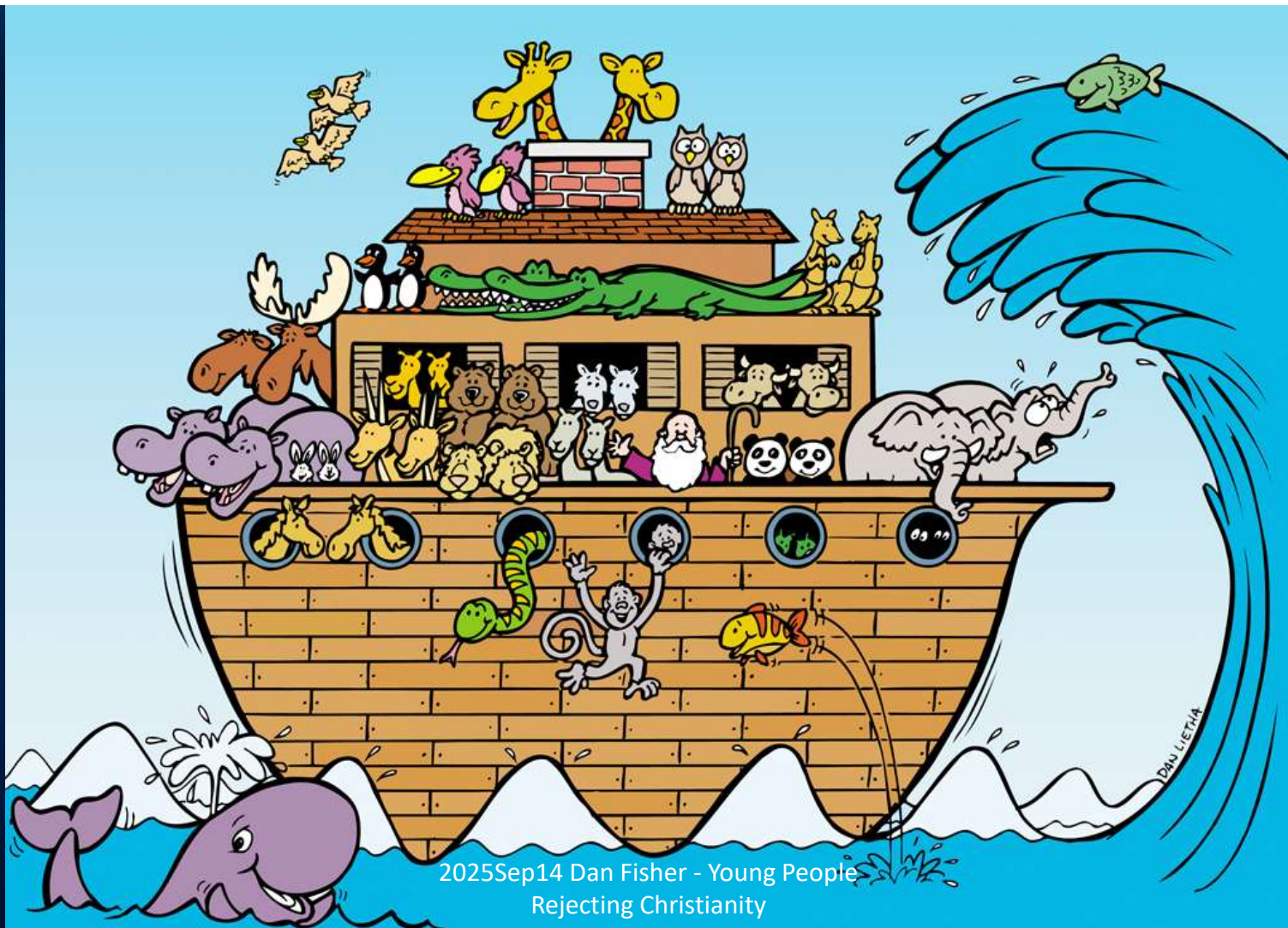
# Trust in Jesus

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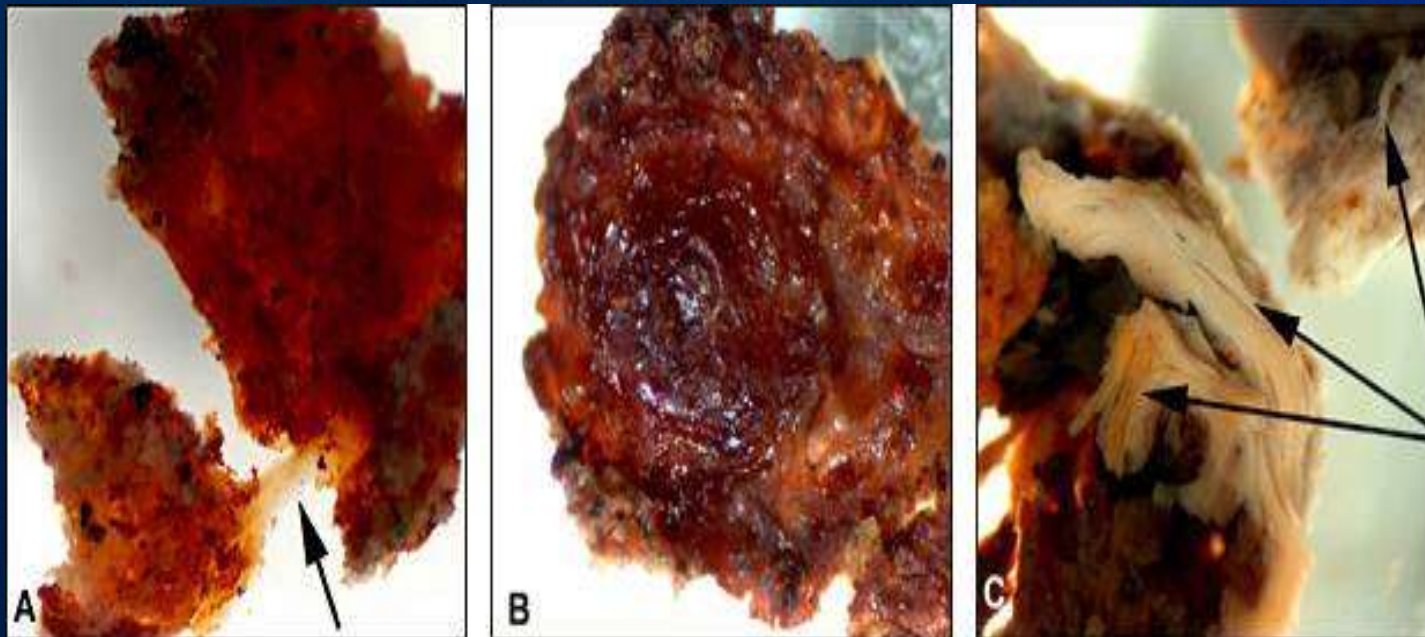
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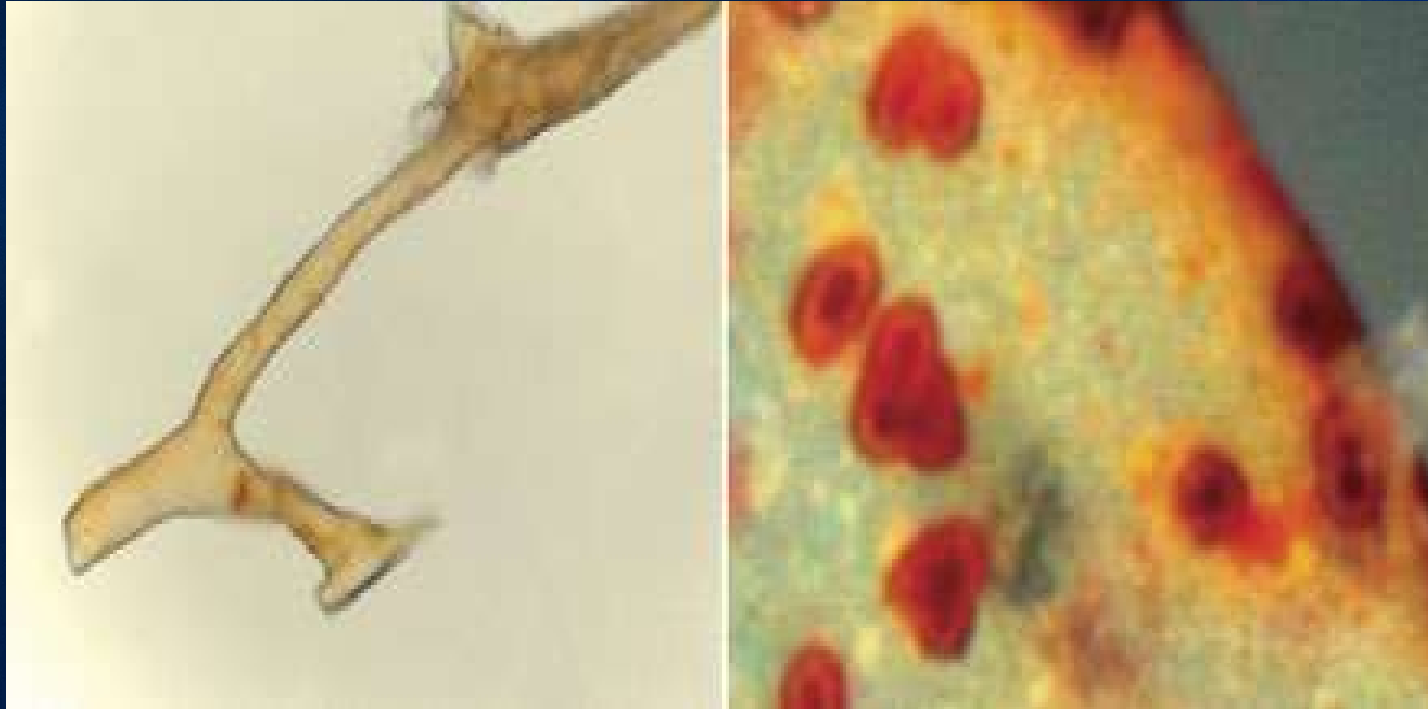
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## Un-fossilized dinosaur tissue found in Alaska in 1990



Elastic material still present      fibrous bone material

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red blood cells still present

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## Incan stone carving

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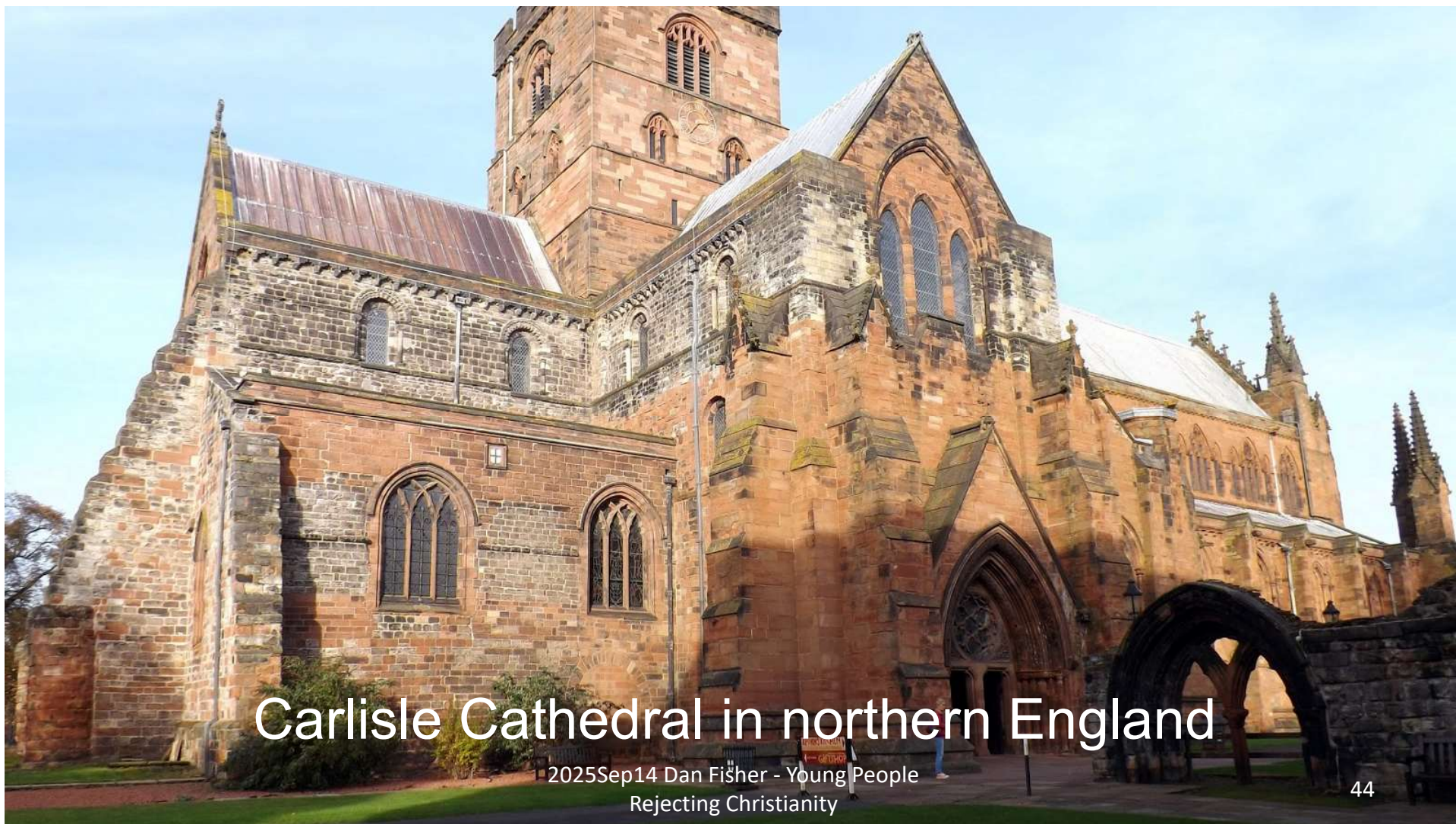
## Incan stone carving

**Native American petroglyph under the Kachina Bridge  
at Natural Bridges National Monument, Utah, USA.**



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# Carlisle Cathedral in northern England

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**Bishop Richard Bell 1410 – 1496**

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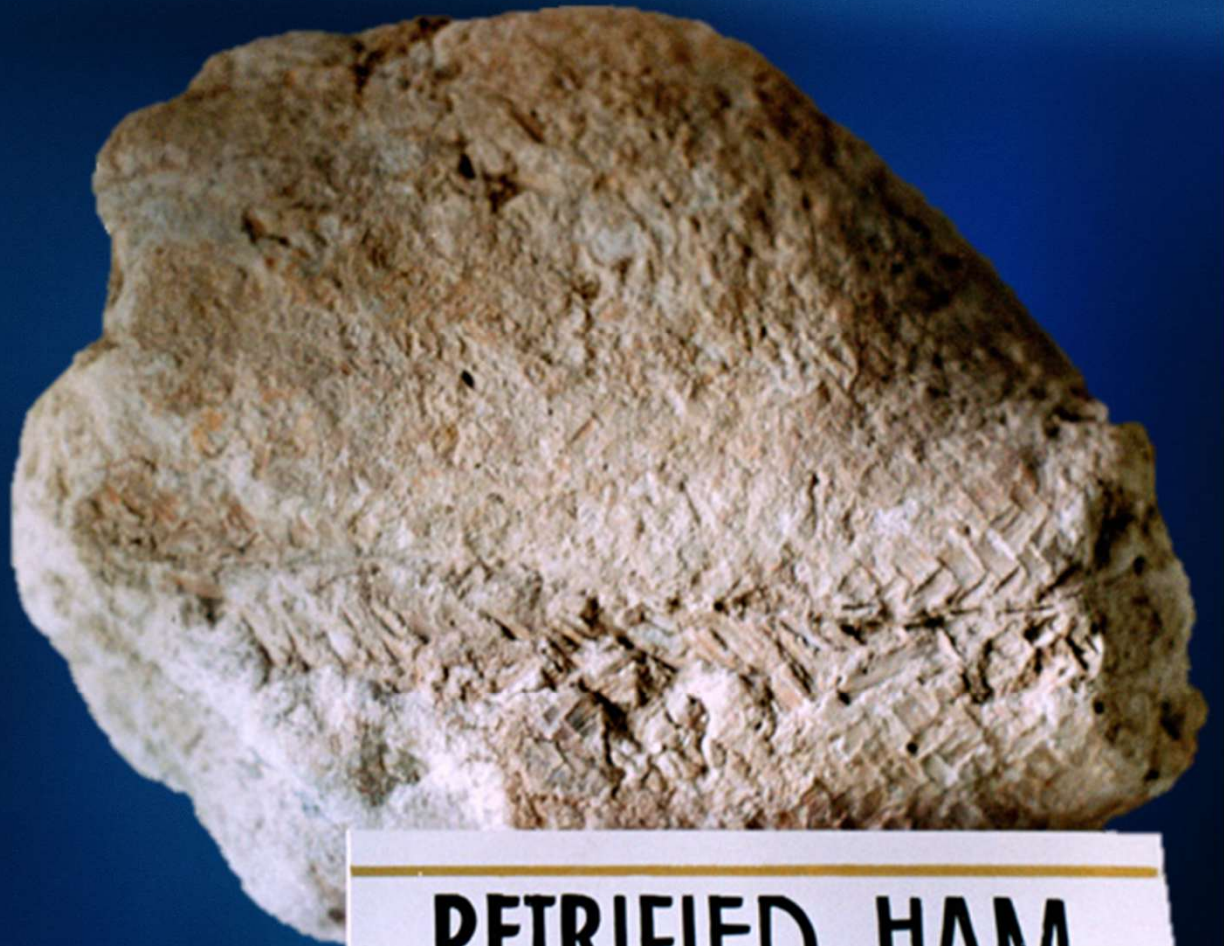
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# Fossilized hat found in a Tasmanian mine that was fossilized in 50 yrs

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Discovered in a village in New Zealand that had been covered by volcanic ash. The ham was petrified in only a few years.



**PETRIFIED HAM**

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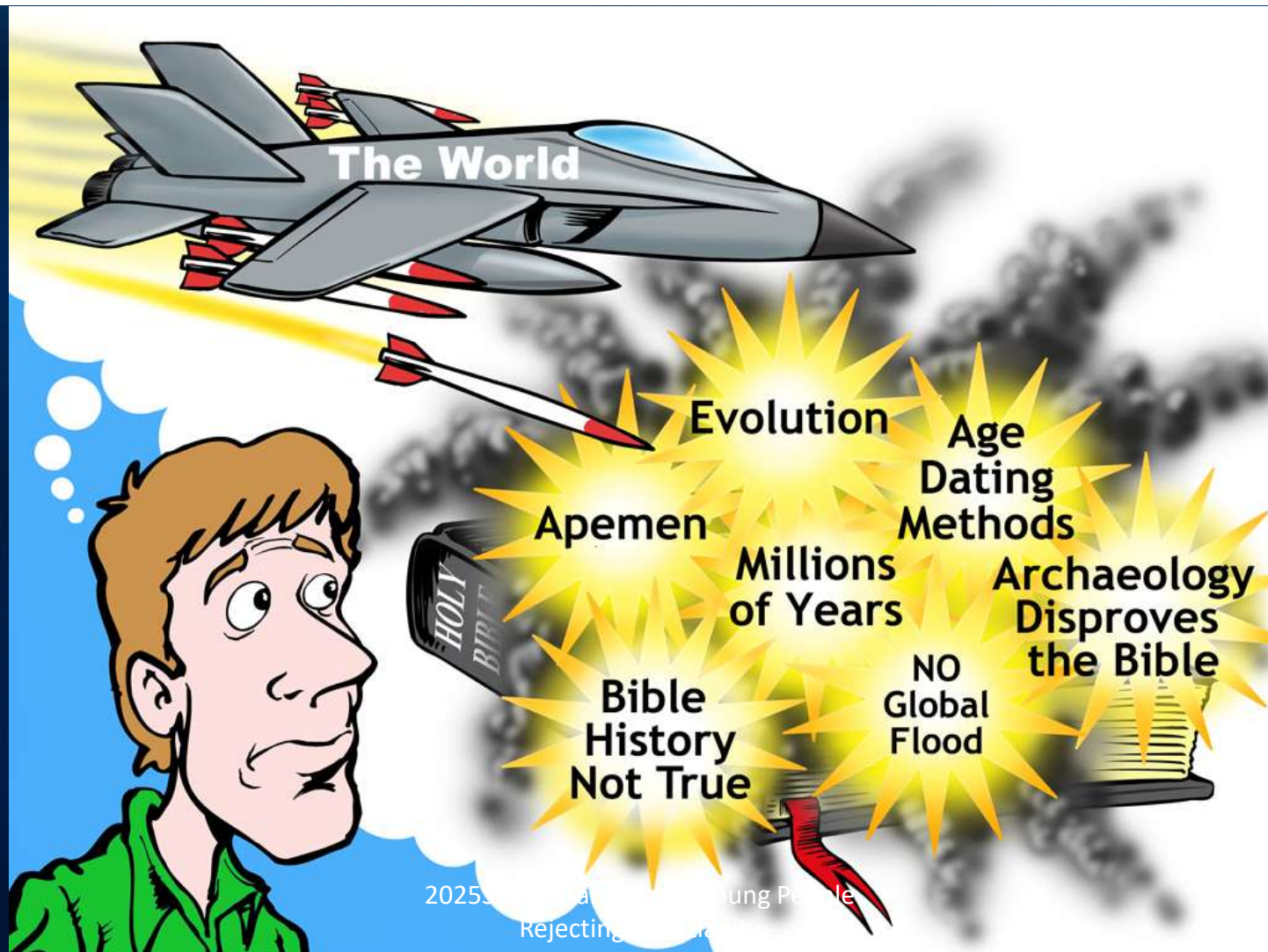


Stalactites at level 5 in the 55 yr.  
old lead-zinc mine at Mt Isa, NW  
Queensland, Australia.

THE BIBLE  
CAN'T BE TRUSTED  
IN THIS  
SCIENTIFIC AGE.



2025  
Rejecting

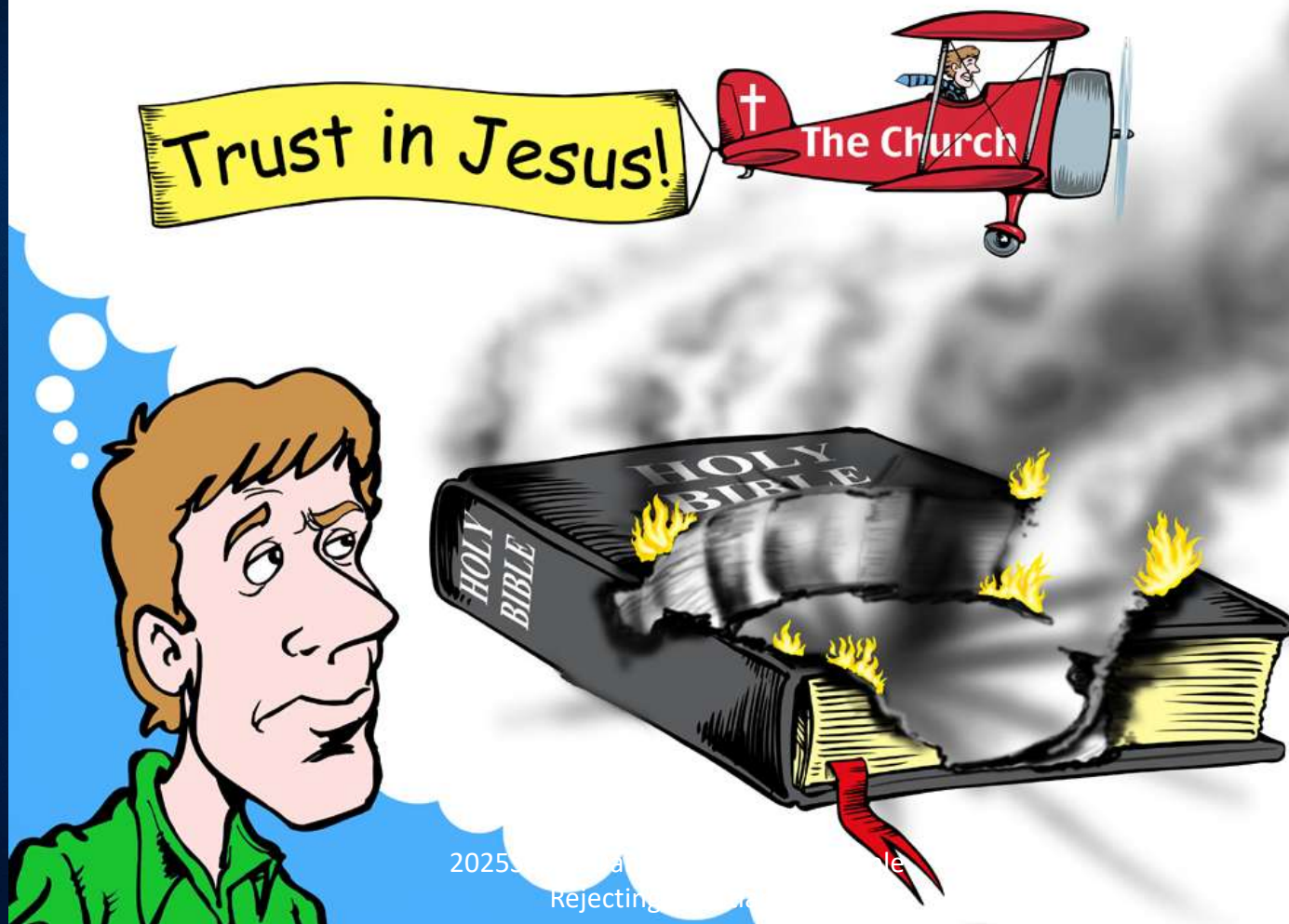


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I'D LIKE TO  
SEE WHAT THE  
CHURCH CAN DO  
ABOUT THIS!



2025  
Rejecting



2025  
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“Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge <sup>21</sup> by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith.” 1 Tim 6:20-21

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 1 Pet 3:15