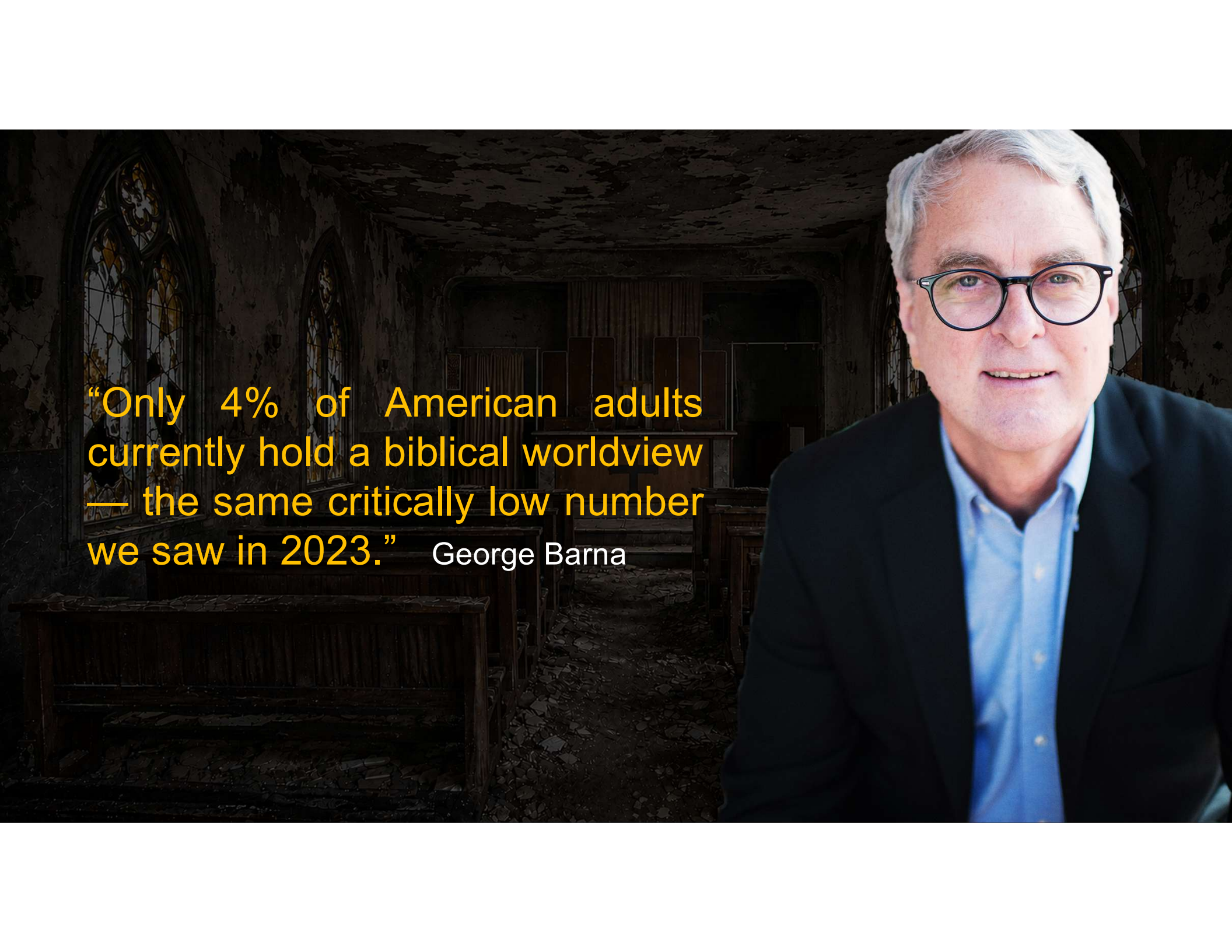


A dark, abandoned church interior. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through several tall, narrow stained glass windows. The walls are peeling and damaged, and the floor is covered in rubble. Rows of dark wooden pews are arranged in the nave, leading towards a dark altar area in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of decay and desolation.

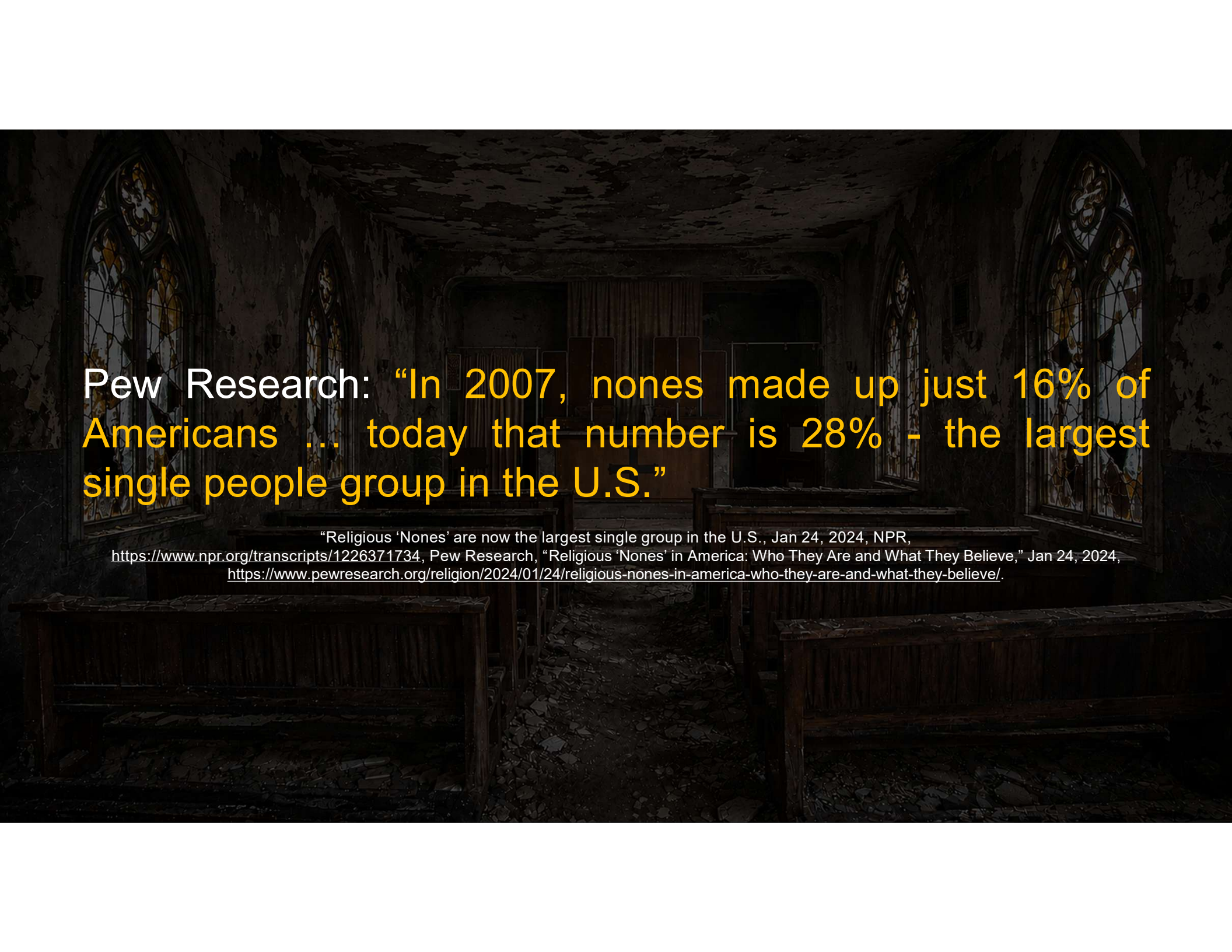
Going, going ... gone?
Part 1: The crisis

A dark, abandoned church interior. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through several tall, narrow stained glass windows. The walls are peeling and the floor is covered in debris. Rows of wooden pews are arranged in the nave, leading towards a dark altar area in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of decay and neglect.

“going, going, gone” – an opportunity, item, or moment that is rapidly running out and will soon be completely unavailable or lost forever

A composite image featuring George Barna on the right side, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue button-down shirt, and black-rimmed glasses. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a dark, dilapidated church interior with rows of wooden pews, some broken and covered in debris. There are arched stained-glass windows on the left side, and the walls and ceiling appear to be in poor condition, with peeling paint and exposed structures. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on Barna's face and the pews, and deep shadows in the background.

“Only 4% of American adults currently hold a biblical worldview — the same critically low number we saw in 2023.” George Barna

A dark, abandoned church interior with stained glass windows and wooden pews. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through the stained glass windows, creating a somber and desolate atmosphere. The pews are arranged in rows, and the floor is covered in debris and rubble, suggesting a state of neglect or decay.

Pew Research: “In 2007, nones made up just 16% of Americans ... today that number is 28% - the largest single people group in the U.S.”


“Religious ‘Nones’ are now the largest single group in the U.S., Jan 24, 2024, NPR, <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1226371734>, Pew Research, “Religious ‘Nones’ in America: Who They Are and What They Believe,” Jan 24, 2024, <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2024/01/24/religious-nones-in-america-who-they-are-and-what-they-believe/>.



“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” **Lk 18:8**

“We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.” **1 Cor 15:51-52**

“For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.” **1 Thess 4:15-17**



Between 1700 and 1740, an estimated 75-80 percent of the population attended churches, which were being built at a headlong pace. Toward mid-century the country experienced its first major religious revival.

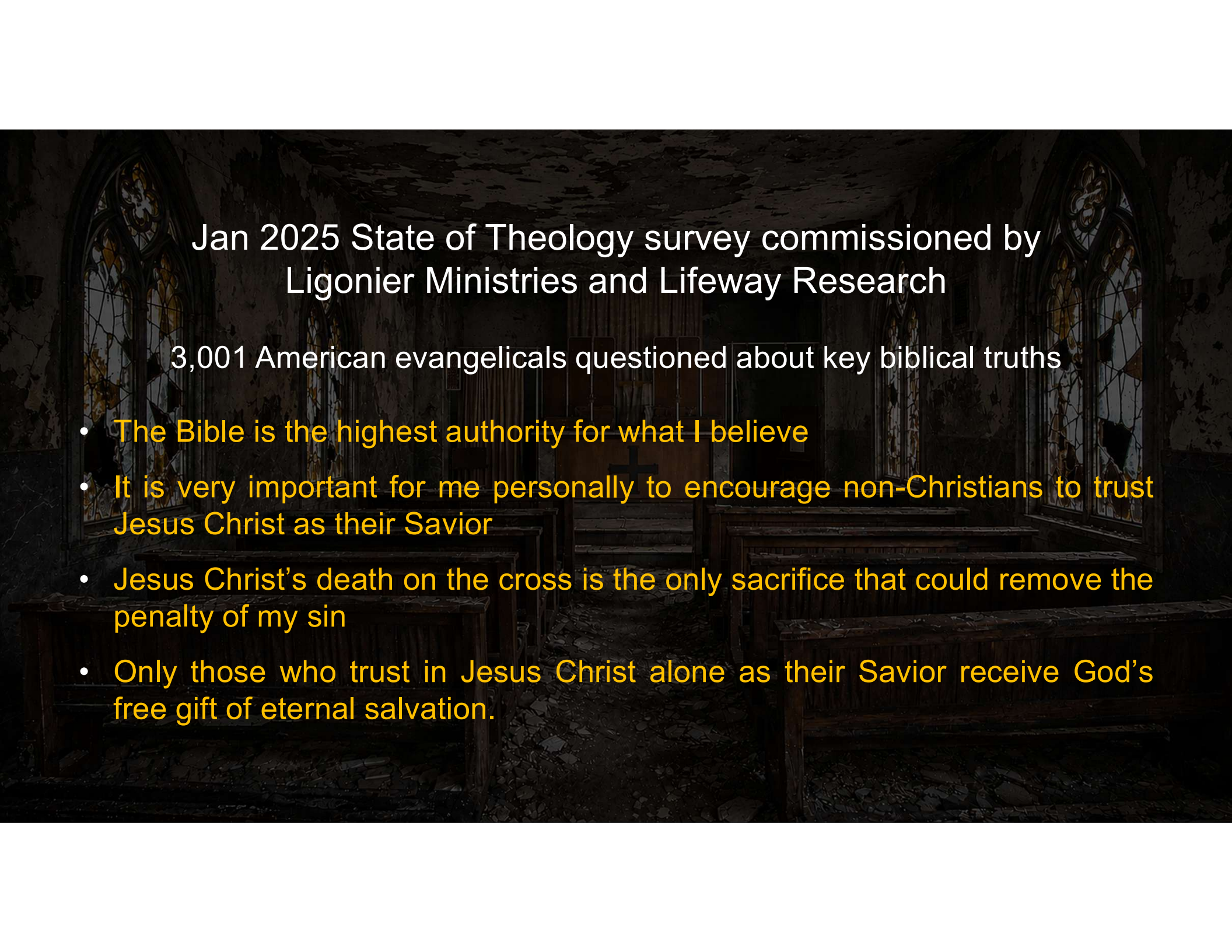
The Library of Congress, www.loc.gov/exhibits/religion/rel02

Americans' Views on Origin and Development of Humans, by Subgroup

	God created man in present form	Man developed, with God guiding	Man developed, but God had no part
	%	%	%
Church attendance			
Weekly	68	26	3
Monthly	47	44	6
Seldom/Never	27	33	36
Religion			
Protestant	56	33	6
Catholic	34	46	18
None	14	22	59
Education			
No college degree	48	30	16
College degree	23	40	33

GALLUP, JUNE 3-16, 2019
Answers in Genesis

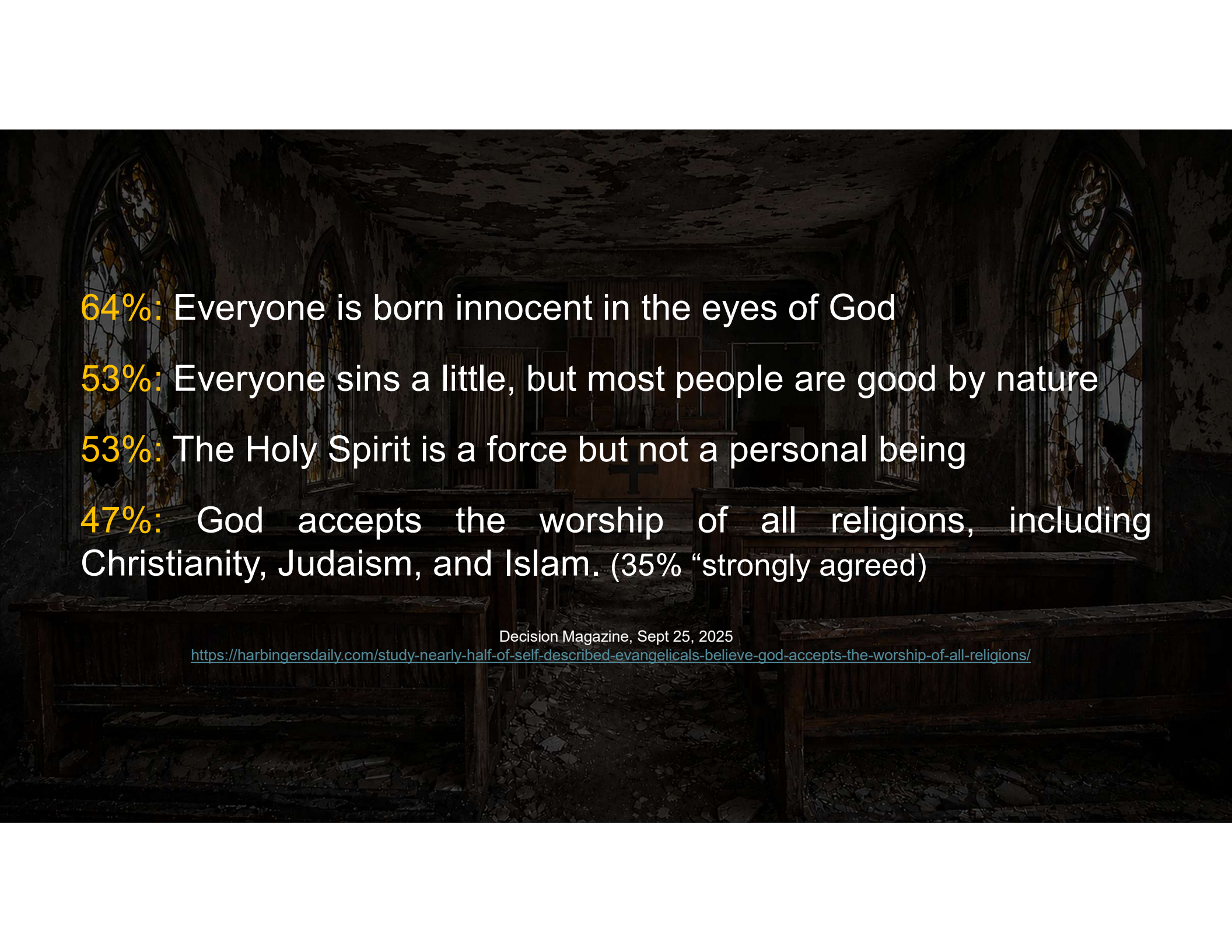




Jan 2025 State of Theology survey commissioned by
Ligonier Ministries and Lifeway Research

3,001 American evangelicals questioned about key biblical truths

- The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe
- It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior
- Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin
- Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation.



64%: Everyone is born innocent in the eyes of God

53%: Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature

53%: The Holy Spirit is a force but not a personal being

47%: God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. (35% “strongly agreed)

Decision Magazine, Sept 25, 2025

<https://harbingersdaily.com/study-nearly-half-of-self-described-evangelicals-believe-god-accepts-the-worship-of-all-religions/>

A man with short, graying hair, wearing black-rimmed glasses, a light blue button-down shirt, and a dark suit jacket, is positioned in the foreground on the right side of the frame. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a dark, abandoned church interior. The walls are heavily damaged, with peeling paint and exposed brick. There are several tall, narrow Gothic-style windows with stained glass. In the center, there is an altar area with a wooden structure and a curtain. Rows of dark wooden pews are visible, some of which are partially obscured by debris on the floor. The overall atmosphere is somber and historical.

2025 Cultural Research Center
AZ Christian University study

A dark, abandoned church interior. The walls are peeling and stained, and the floor is covered in rubble. Stained glass windows with intricate designs are visible on the left and right sides. In the center, there is an altar with a simple wooden cross on the wall behind it. The overall atmosphere is somber and desolate.

14% of self-described Christians have a core theology of sin that is biblically accurate

- sin is real
- every person commits sins
- the survey respondent is a sinner
- no human being is good at heart



Sin

84% agree that sin exists

72% define sin as disobedience to God

52% believe everyone on Earth has sinned

33% believe that while everyone else is guilty of sin, they are not

52% of those who believe sin exists believe there are no absolute sins

41% of Gen Z (18 to 22 yrs) believe that everyone sins
(57% of Baby Boomers, 53% of Gen X, 49% of Millennials)

A dark, abandoned church interior with stained glass windows and wooden pews. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through the windows, creating a somber and desolate atmosphere. The walls are peeling, and the floor is covered in debris.

47% of those 50 or younger were substantially less likely to say they are sinners than people over 50 (56%).

66% of self-professed Christians believe everyone sins

26% who believe they will go to Heaven because they have confessed their sins and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior refused to categorize themselves as sinners

90% of adults with a biblical worldview accept the “sinner” label

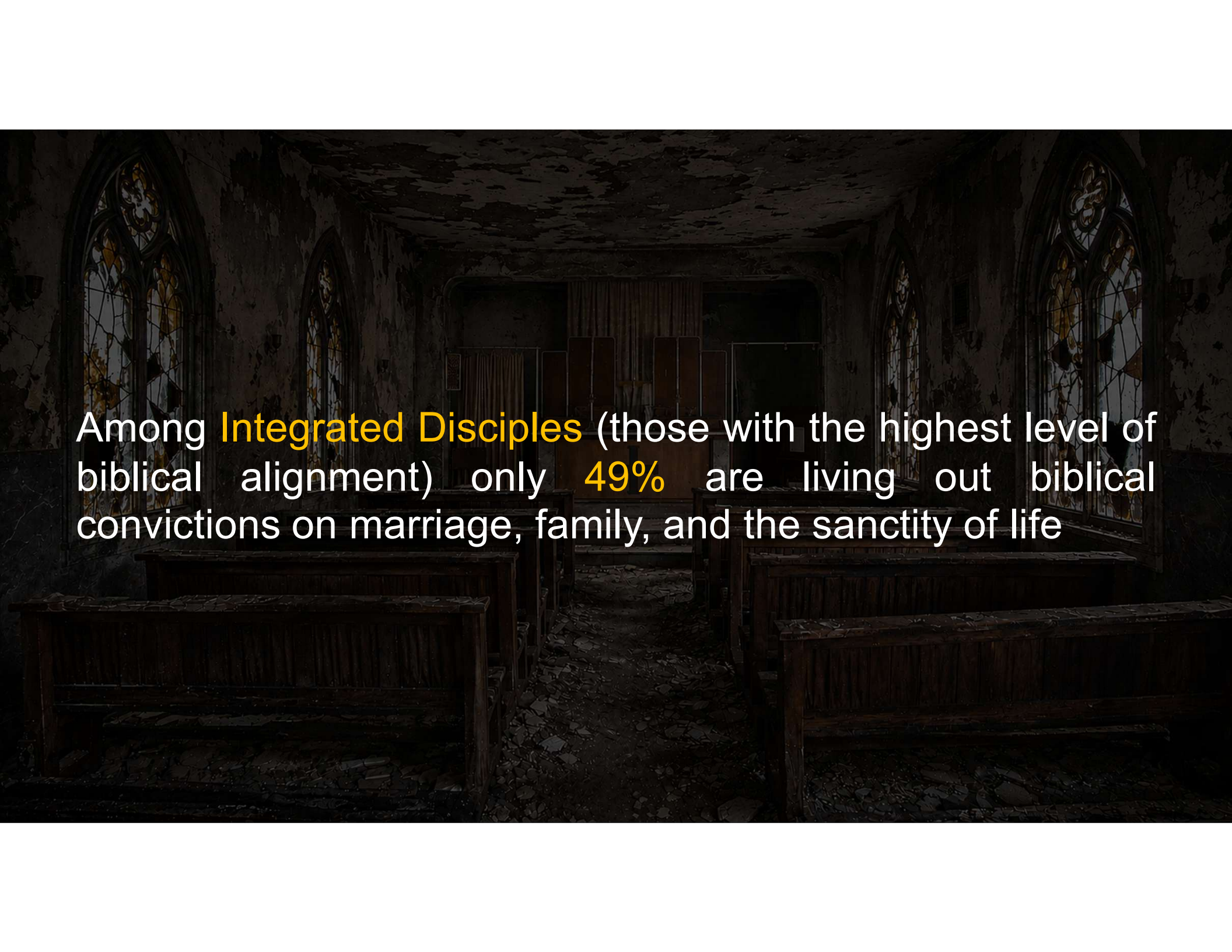
A dark, abandoned church interior with stained glass windows and wooden pews. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through the stained glass windows, creating a somber and desolate atmosphere. The pews are arranged in rows, and the floor is covered in debris and rubble, suggesting a state of ruin or neglect.

The Goodness of Humanity

66% of adults in America describe themselves as Christians

70% believe sin is a reality but believe people are “basically good at heart” and should not be characterized as sinners

70% of theologically-identified born-again adults believe people are basically good at heart

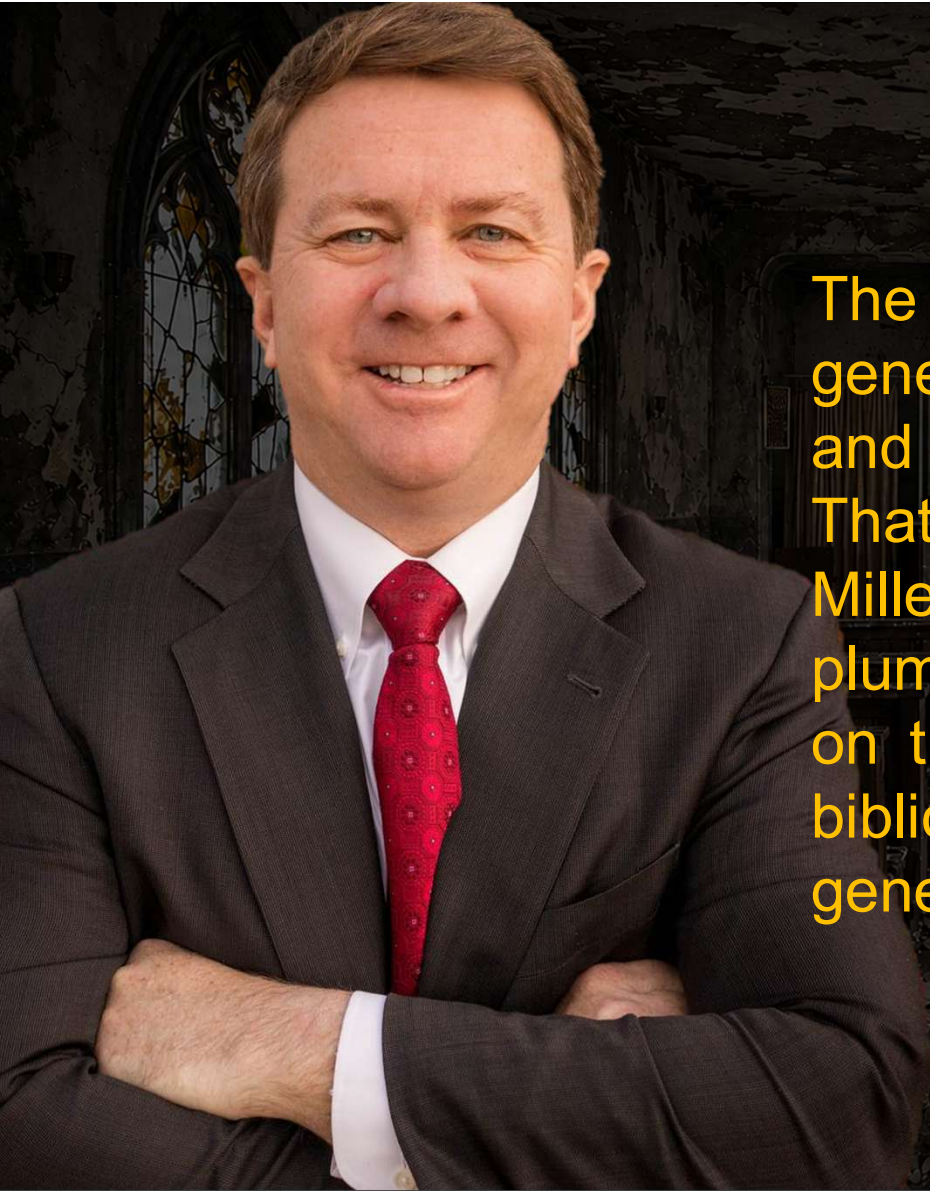
A dark, abandoned church interior with stained glass windows and wooden pews. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through the stained glass windows, creating a somber and desolate atmosphere. The walls are peeling, and the floor is covered in debris, suggesting a long period of neglect.

Among **Integrated Disciples** (those with the highest level of biblical alignment) only **49%** are living out biblical convictions on marriage, family, and the sanctity of life



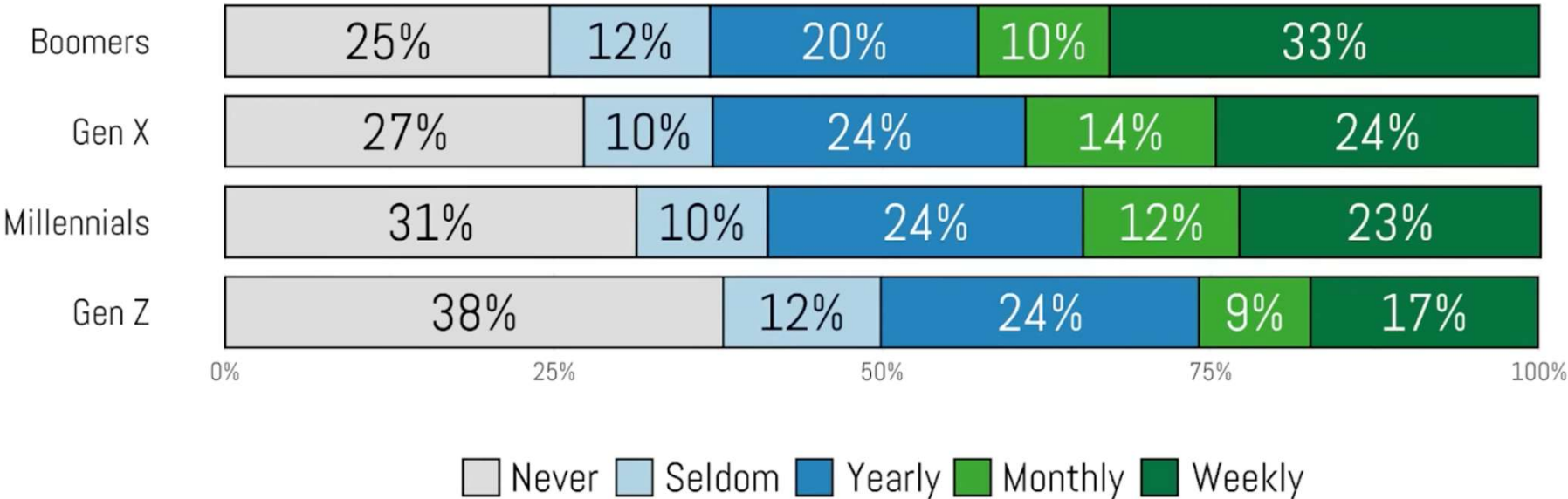
AZ Christian University President Len Munsil:

“The percentage of Americans who are thinking and living biblically as they go through life has declined precipitously over time. Just in the 1990s the number was 12%. Then in recent years, it dropped to 6% and then to 4% in 2023.”



The percentage drops with each generation. About 7% of Baby Boomers and Gen X'ers hold a biblical worldview. That number falls to just 2% for Millennials, and for Gen Z (ages 18–22), it plummets to a staggering 1%. ... We are on the verge of a total disappearance of biblical worldview values in the entire generation of Gen Z.

Religious Attendance by Generations



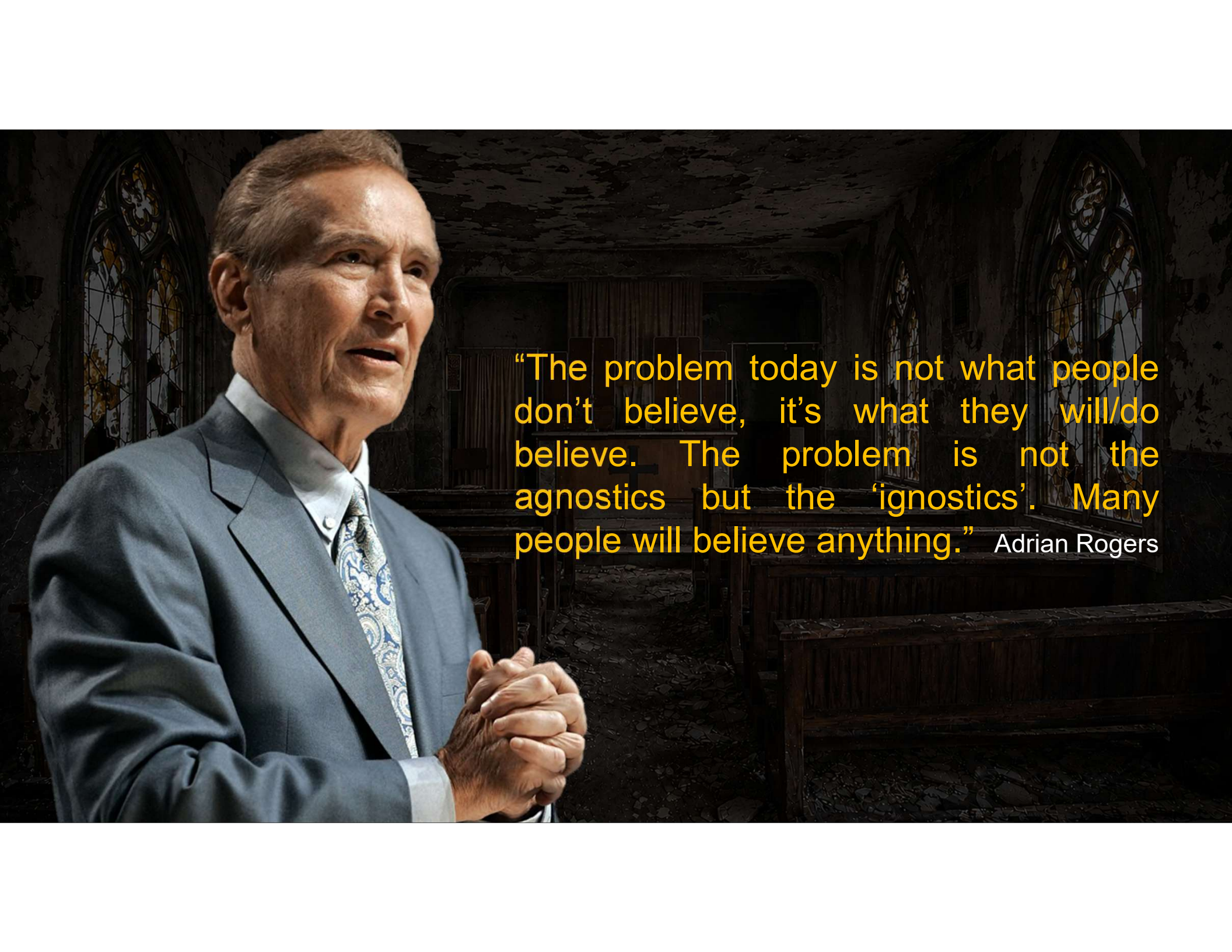
@ryanburge
Data: General Social Survey, 2024





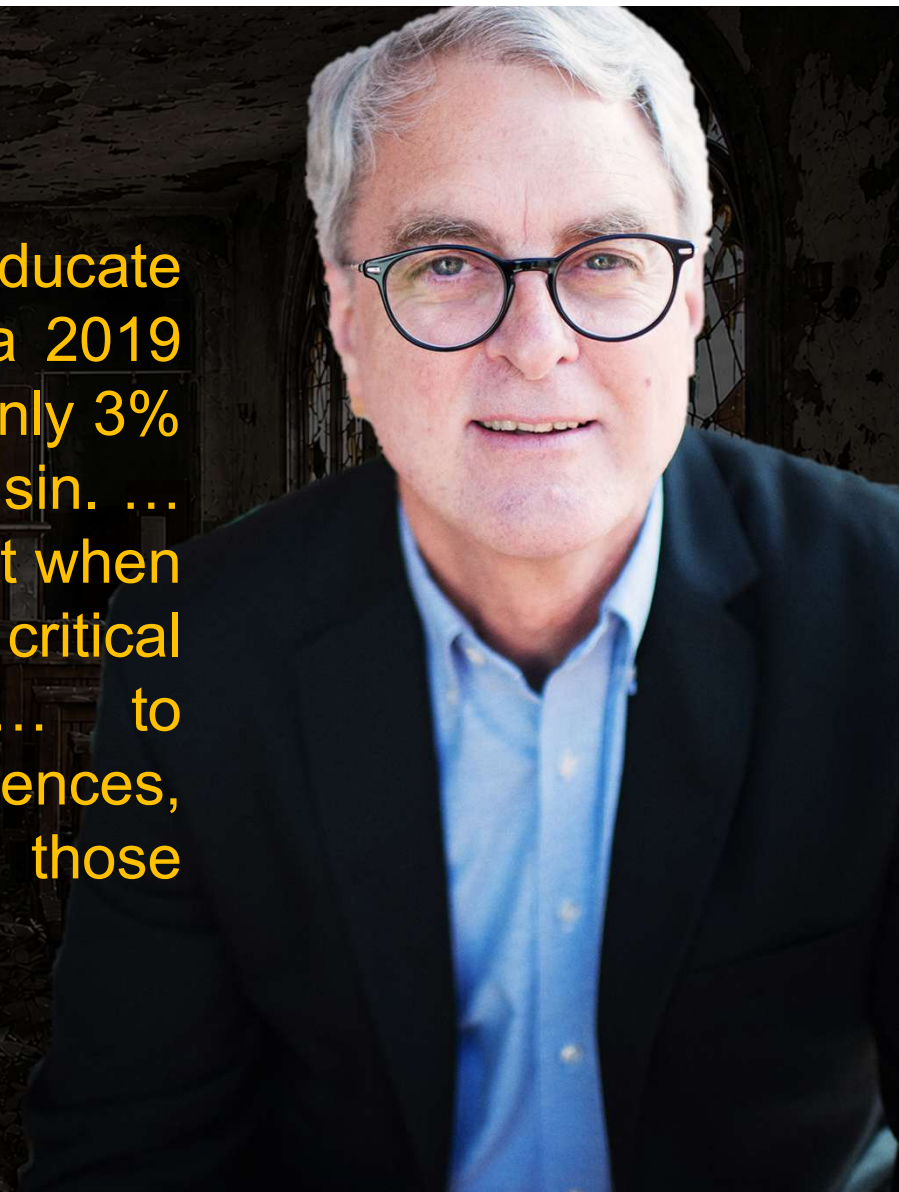
“It’s fairly simple – people are shaped far more by the culture they consume than by a weekly sermon. [I]f you’re taking in ... dozens of hours every week of bad messaging from social media, from the music you listen to, from the television shows or the movies you watch ... it’s going to be very difficult to offset that by getting a 30-minute message every Sunday.”

<https://harbingersdaily.com/succumbing-to-a-secular-culture-a-staggering-1-of-gen-z-americans-hold-a-truly-biblical-worldview-report-finds/>

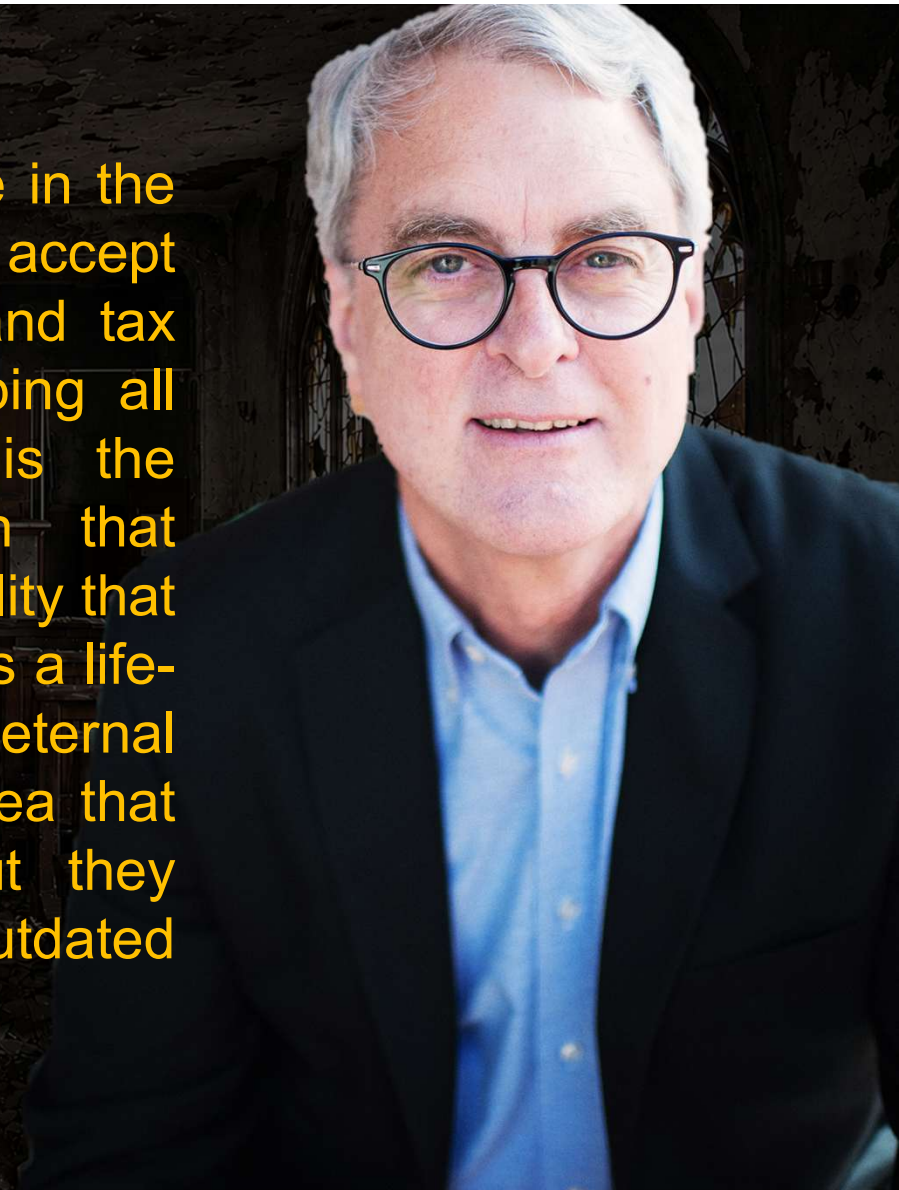
A photograph of Adrian Rogers, a prominent Southern Baptist pastor, standing in a dark, gothic-style church. He is wearing a blue suit, a white shirt, and a patterned tie. His hands are clasped in front of him, and he is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. The church interior features high, arched stained-glass windows and wooden pews. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting Rogers against the dark background of the church.

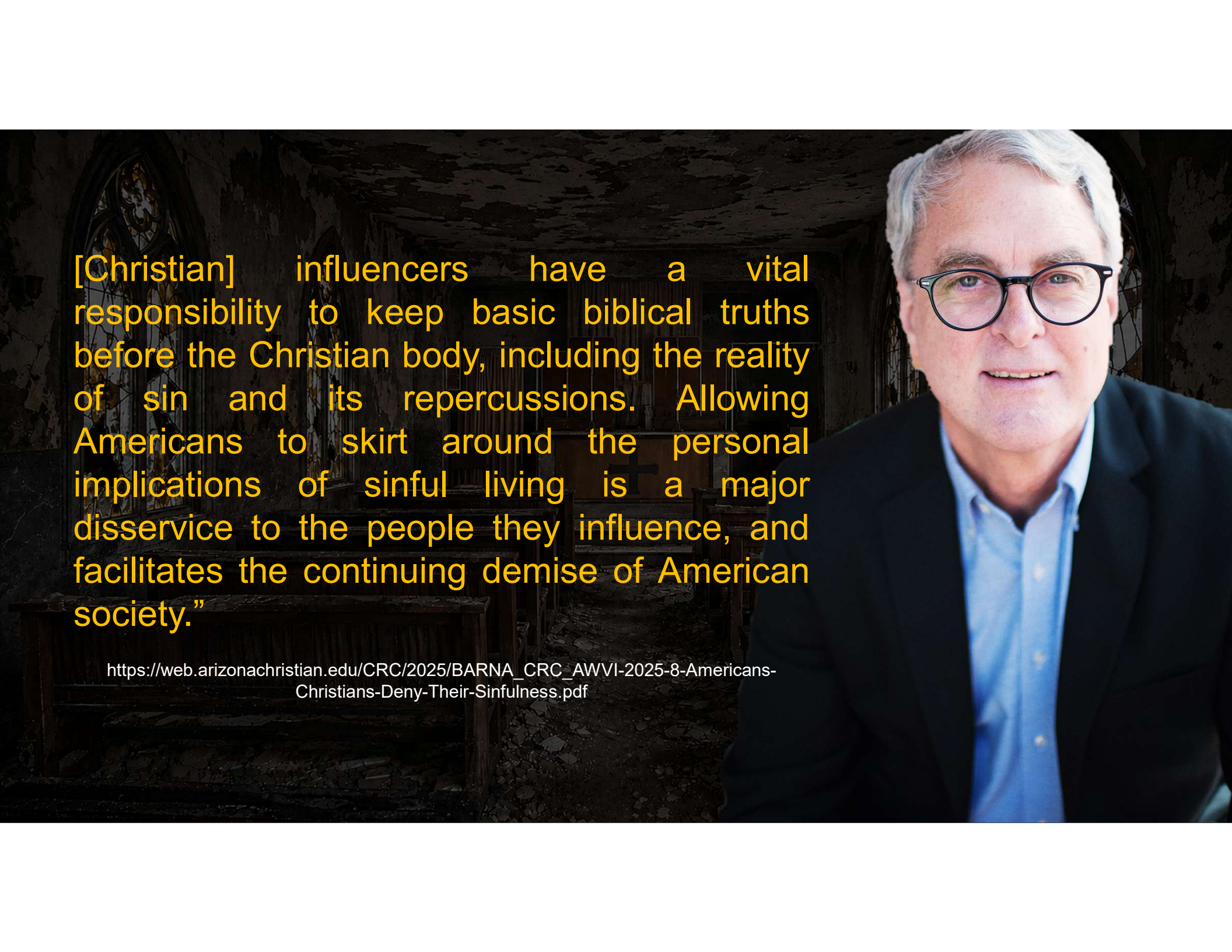
“The problem today is not what people don’t believe, it’s what they will/do believe. The problem is not the agnostics but the ‘ignostics’. Many people will believe anything.” Adrian Rogers

“The job of the local church is to educate God’s people about God’s ways, yet a 2019 Pew Research Study determined that only 3% of all sermons preached even mention sin. ... [Tragically] students will remain ignorant when their teachers fail to inform them of critical information and consequences. ... to suppress the reality of sin, its consequences, and its solutions from the people those churches serve is a travesty.



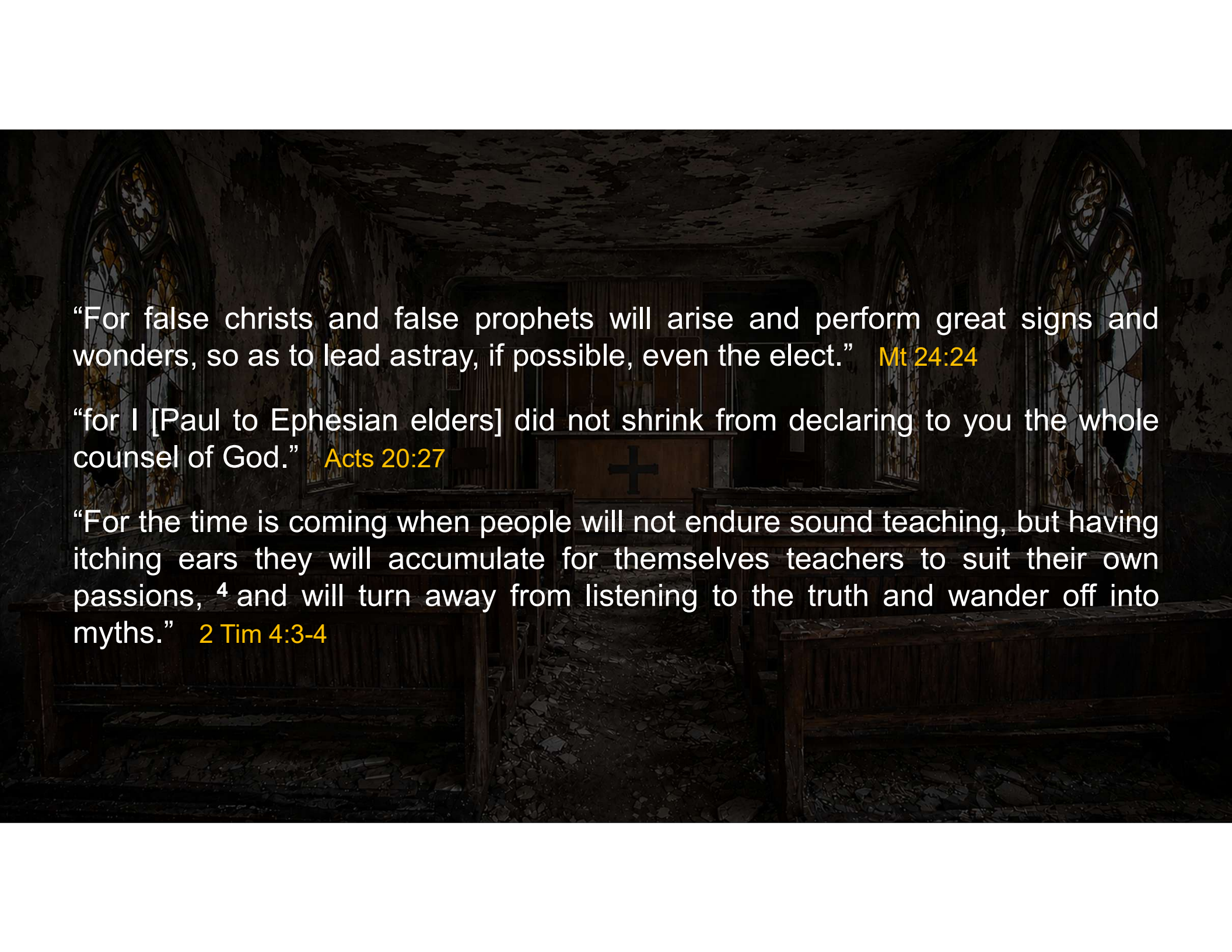
... it is not surprising to see a steady rise in the numbers of self-identified Christians who accept abortion, homosexuality, lying, divorce, and tax cheating as moral behaviors. ... Describing all people as 'basically good at heart' is the culturally-comfortable dismissal of sin that millions of people use to ignore the possibility that their love affair with disobedience to God is a life-threatening spiritual disease with eternal consequences. ... Taking refuge in the idea that other people have a sin problem, but they personally do not, or that sin is an outdated concept, are harmful strategies."



A man with short, graying hair and black-rimmed glasses is shown from the chest up. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt under a dark suit jacket. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a dark, dimly lit interior of a church, showing rows of wooden pews and a stained glass window in the distance. The overall atmosphere is somber and reflective.

[Christian] influencers have a vital responsibility to keep basic biblical truths before the Christian body, including the reality of sin and its repercussions. Allowing Americans to skirt around the personal implications of sinful living is a major disservice to the people they influence, and facilitates the continuing demise of American society.”

https://web.arizonachristian.edu/CRC/2025/BARNA_CRC_AWVI-2025-8-Americans-Christians-Deny-Their-Sinfulness.pdf

A dark, abandoned church interior. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through several tall, narrow stained glass windows. The walls are dark and appear aged or possibly damaged. In the center, a wooden altar is visible, featuring a simple black cross. Rows of wooden pews are arranged on either side of a central aisle, which is covered in a layer of dark, possibly broken stone or debris. The overall atmosphere is one of desolation and neglect.

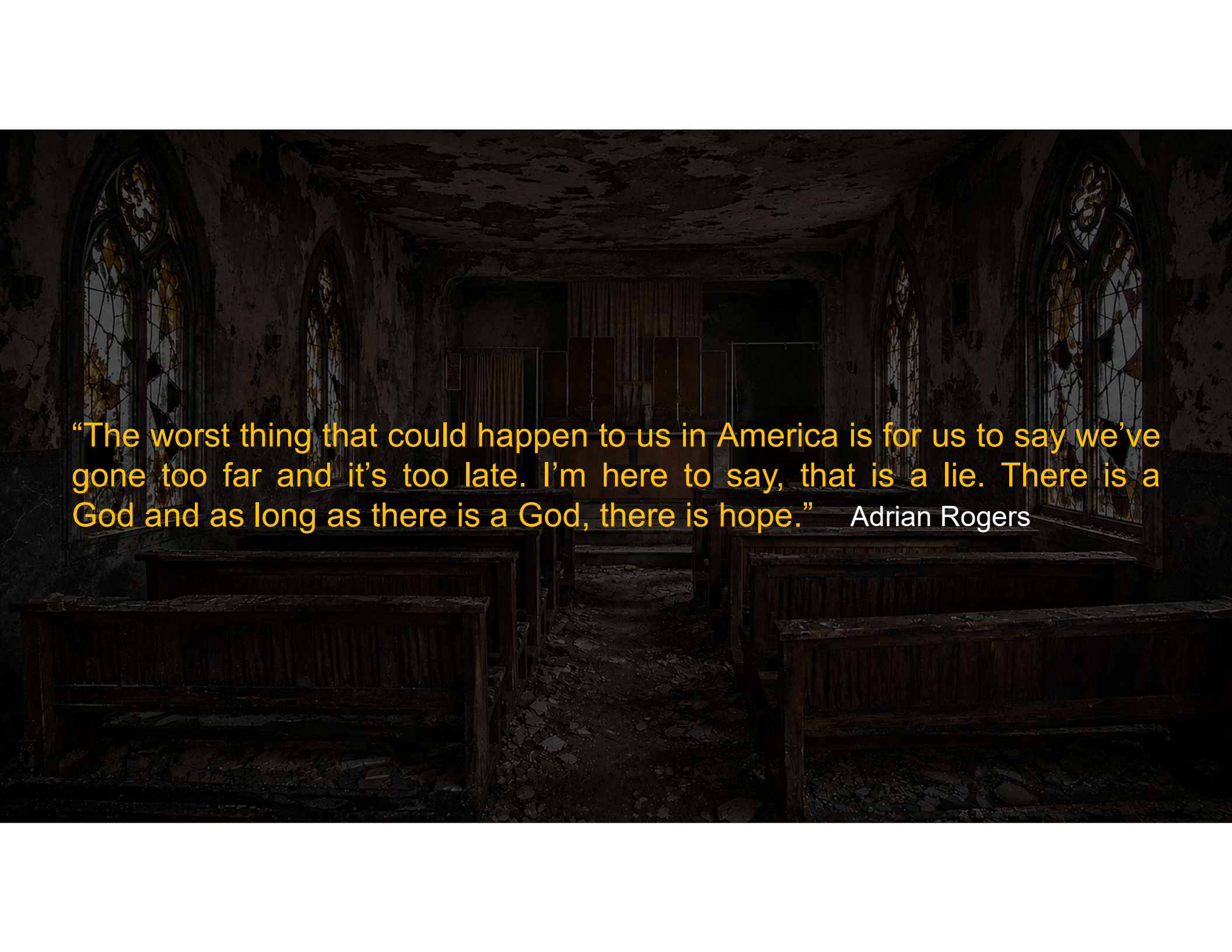
“For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.” **Mt 24:24**

“for I [Paul to Ephesian elders] did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.” **Acts 20:27**

“For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.” **2 Tim 4:3-4**

A dark, abandoned church interior. The room is filled with rows of wooden pews, some of which are covered in debris. The walls are peeling and stained, and the ceiling is dark and textured. Several large, arched stained glass windows are visible, some with intricate designs. In the background, there is a raised platform or altar area with a curtain. The overall atmosphere is one of neglect and decay.

“But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.” 2 Tim 4:5

A dark, abandoned church interior. The scene is dimly lit, with light filtering through several tall, narrow stained glass windows. The walls are peeling and the floor is covered in debris. Rows of wooden pews are arranged in the nave, leading towards a dark altar area in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of desolation and decay.

“The worst thing that could happen to us in America is for us to say we’ve gone too far and it’s too late. I’m here to say, that is a lie. There is a God and as long as there is a God, there is hope.” Adrian Rogers