

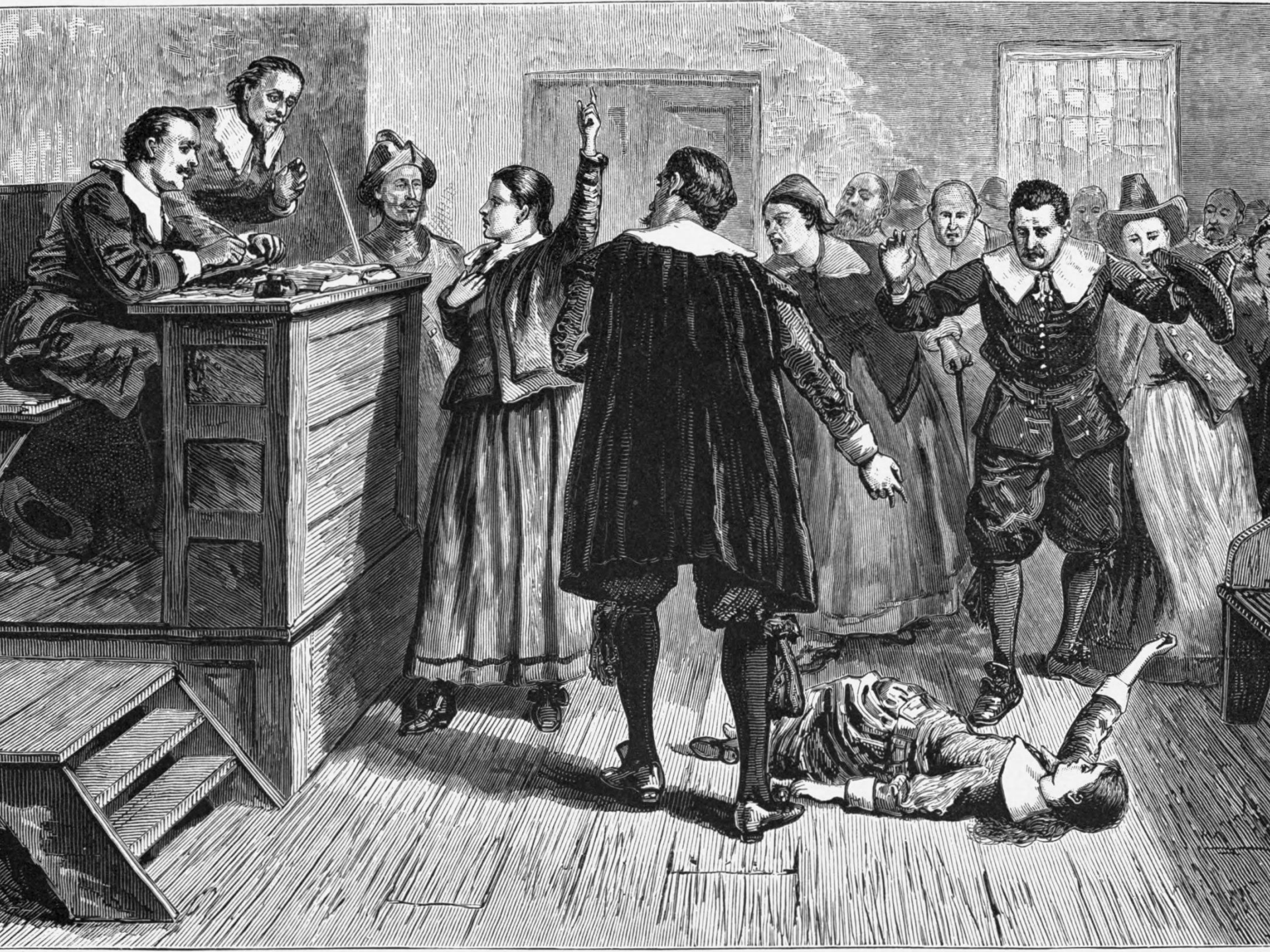
JESUS' COMPASSION:

A Revolutionary Apologetic

I can't believe in the Bible because of all the
**TERRIBLE ACTS COMMITTED
IN THE NAME OF CHRIST.**

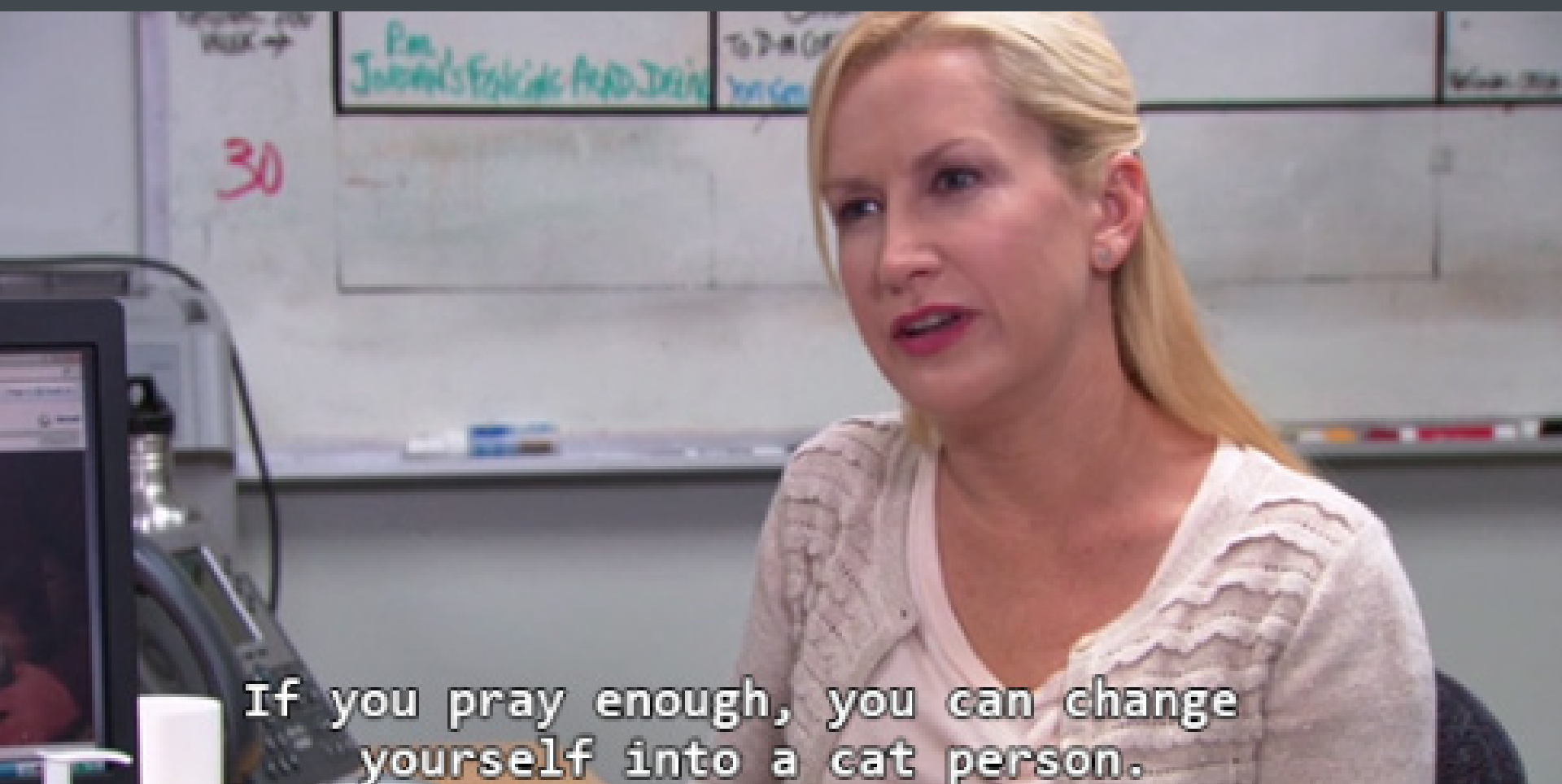












If you pray enough, you can change yourself into a cat person.

COMPASSION:

an empathetic care for someone else's needs
which leads to sacrificial action

DIVINE DEMONSTRATIONS OF CHRIST'S COMPASSION

1. Teachings on Compassion
2. Life of Compassion
3. Mark of Compassion

JESUS' TEACHINGS ON COMPASSION

TEACHINGS ON COMPASSION

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²⁶ And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?”

²⁷ And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”

TEACHINGS ON COMPASSION

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DEUTERONOMY 6:5
LEVITICUS 19:18

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TEACHINGS ON COMPASSION

²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”

²⁹ But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

³⁰ Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. ³¹ And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

³⁴and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

³⁶ Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?"

³⁷ And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him."

Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

1. The hero of the story is a Samaritan man

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

1. The hero of the story is a Samaritan man
 - Jesus breaks down cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers

²⁷ At this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why do You speak with her?”

²⁸ So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and *said to the men, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; this is not the Christ, is it?”

³⁰ They went out of the city, and were coming to Him.

JOHN 4:27-30

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

¹³ Then some children were brought to Him so that He might lay His hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” ¹⁵ After laying His hands on them, He departed from there.

MATTHEW 19:13-15

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

1. The hero of the story is a Samaritan man
 - Jesus breaks down cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers
2. The religious elite fail to love and demonstrate compassion

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 - Jesus breaks down cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers
2. The religious elite fail to love and demonstrate compassion
 - It's as if Jesus knew, religious people often don't get things right!
 - More than not doing the wrong things...

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

⁸Jesus *said to him, “Get up, pick up your pallet and walk.” ⁹Immediately the man became well, and picked up his pallet and began to walk. Now it was the Sabbath on that day. ¹⁰So the Jews were saying to the man who was cured, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not permissible for you to carry your pallet.”

JOHN 5:8-10

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

1. The hero of the story is a Samaritan man
 - Jesus breaks down cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers
2. The religious elite fail to love and demonstrate compassion

“But if you had known what this means, “I desire compassion and not a sacrifice,” you would not have condemned the innocent.”

MATTHEW 12:7

SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

3. Compassion leads to action

LUKE 10

³⁰ Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. ³¹ And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,

LUKE 10:30-37

LUKE 10

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SURPRISING ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION

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3. Compassion leads to action
 - Compassion is more than a feeling
 - Compassion involves bravery, strength, risk and sacrifice
4. Neighbor: anyone in need
 - Not just who is convenient

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ ³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?...
⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

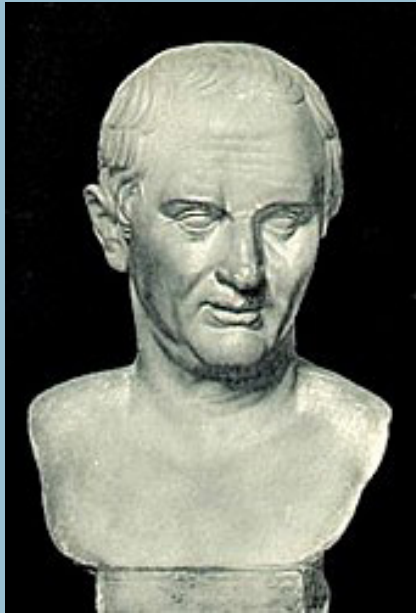
COUNTER-CULTURAL COMPASSION

COUNTER-CULTURAL COMPASSION

⁴² Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

MARK 10:42-45

COUNTER-CULTURAL COMPASSION



“The Rabble:”

“The existence of inferiors is an advantage to superiors since they will be able to point out those over whom they are superior.”

— *Tacitus, historian and Roman Senator*



COUNTER-CULTURAL COMPASSION

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:28

JESUS' LIFE OF COMPASSION

JESUS' LIFE OF COMPASSION

- “How do I inherit eternal life?”

JESUS' LIFE OF COMPASSION

“How do I inherit eternal life?”

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the
glory of God,

ROMANS 3:23

JESUS' LIFE OF COMPASSION

An empathetic care for someone else's needs...

¹⁷ Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

HEBREWS 2:17

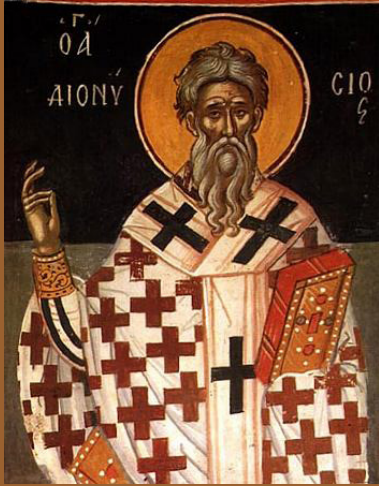
JESUS' LIFE OF COMPASSION

...that leads to sacrificial action

⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5:7-8

JESUS' MARK OF COMPASSION



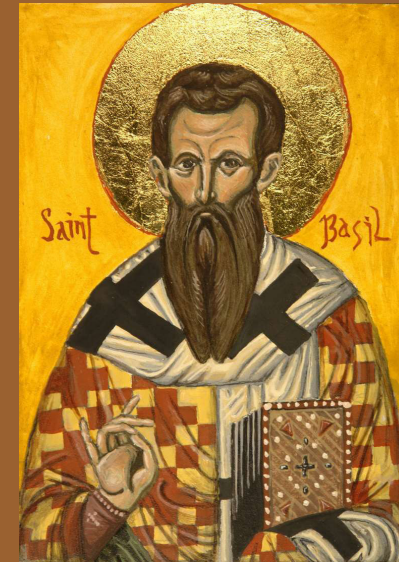
“Heedless of the danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need, and ministering them in Christ. And with them departed this life serenely happy, for they were infected by others with the disease, drawing on themselves the sickness of their neighbors, and cheerfully accepting their pains.”

DIONYSIUS, BISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA



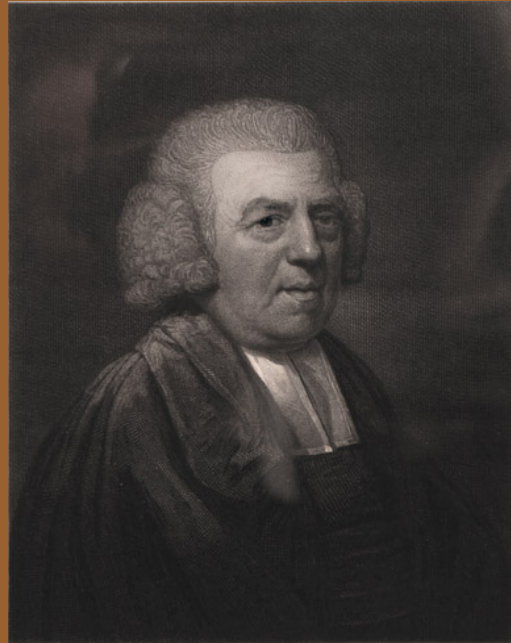
“I think that when the poor happened to be neglected and overlooked by the priests the impious Galileans observed this and devoted themselves to benevolence...the impious Galileans support not only their poor but ours as well, everyone can see that our people lack aid from us.”

EMPEROR JULIAN THE APOSTATE



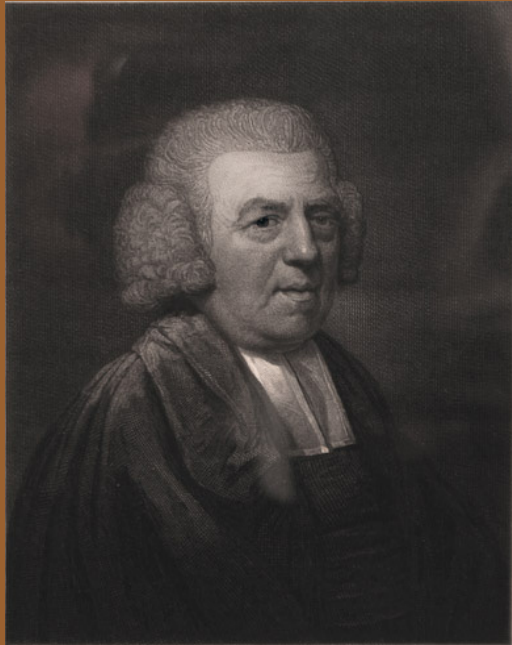
SAINT BASIL AND GREGORY OF NYSSA

~370 AD



JOHN NEWTON

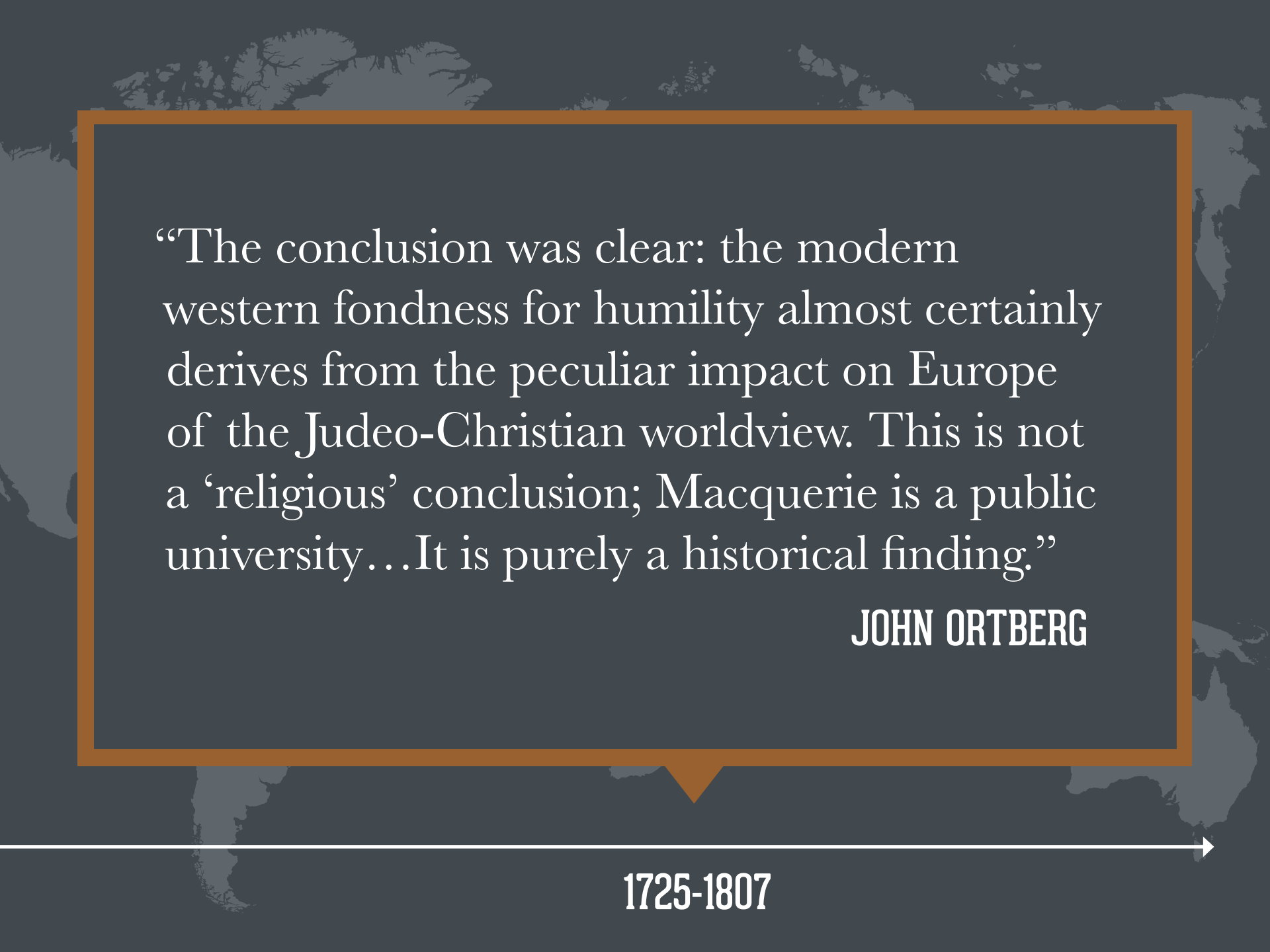
1725-1807



Amazing grace,
how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost,
but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

JOHN NEWTON

1725-1807



“The conclusion was clear: the modern western fondness for humility almost certainly derives from the peculiar impact on Europe of the Judeo-Christian worldview. This is not a ‘religious’ conclusion; Macquerie is a public university...It is purely a historical finding.”

JOHN ORTBERG

1725-1807



WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

1759-1833

A horizontal timeline with three brown callout boxes containing text. The background is a dark grey world map. A white arrow at the bottom points to the right.

1787

Newton writes
*Thoughts Upon the
African Slave Trade*
— “a business at
which my heart
now shudders.”

1807

Slave trade
abolished
in Britain

1833

Slavery
Abolition
Act



“True Christians consider themselves not as satisfying some rigorous creditor, but as discharging a debt of gratitude.”

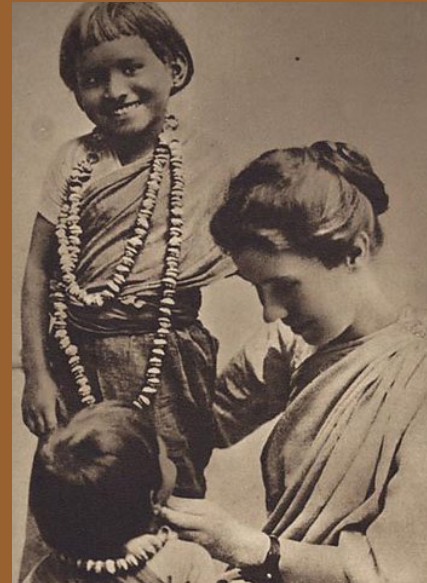
WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

1759-1833



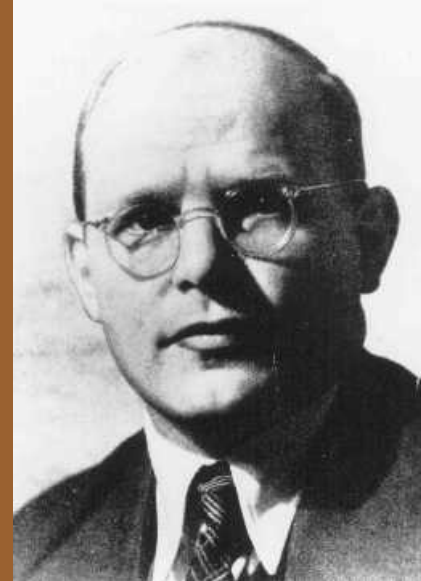
FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

1820-1910



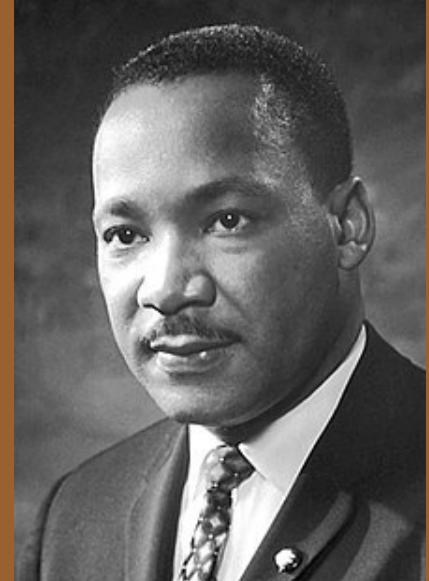
AMY CARMICHAEL

1867-1951



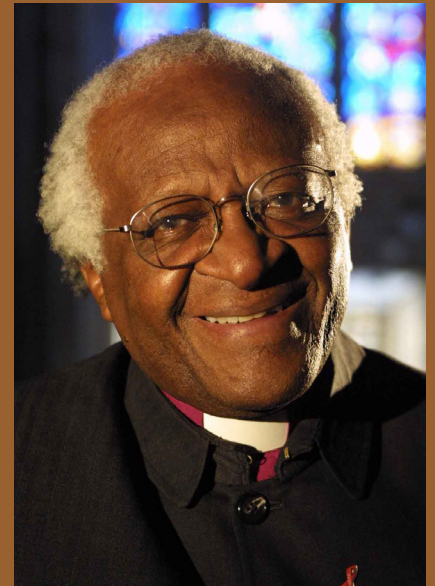
DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

1906-1945



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

1929-1986



DESMOND TUTU

1931



COMPASSION TODAY

COMPASSION TODAY

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. ²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you...’”

MATTHEW 7:21-23

COMPASSION TODAY

- Too many Christians over the centuries have settled for defining neighbor in a superficial way

COMPASSION TODAY

“The answer is not to abandon the Christian faith, because that would leave us with neither the standards nor the resources to make correction. Instead we should move to a fuller and deeper grasp of what Christianity is. The Bible itself has taught us to expect the abuses of religion and it has also told us what to do about them.”

TIMOTHY KELLER, THE REASON FOR GOD

COMPASSION TODAY

- Too many Christians over the centuries have settled for defining neighbor in a superficial way
- Allow Christ's compassion to transform you

WHO IS YOUR NEIGHBOR?