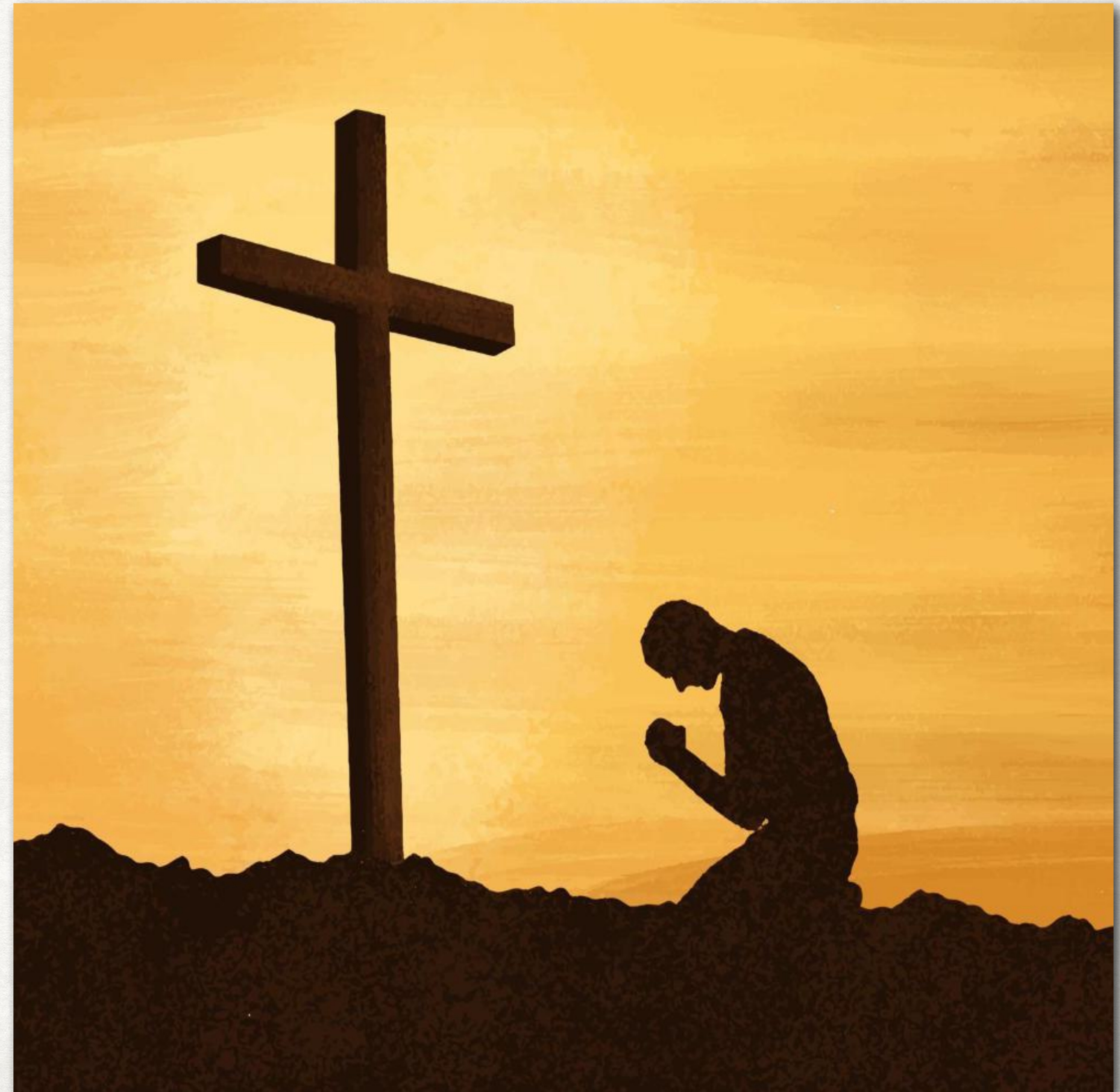


RELINQUISHING ACCOUNTS



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- **What is Renunciation?**
- **What to Renounce**
- **Renunciation in the Inner World**
- **Beelzebub's Opinion**
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WHAT IS RENUNCIATION

- Here is the etymology:
 - late 14c., *renouncen*, "give up (something, especially to another), resign, surrender," from Old French *renoncier* "give up, cede" (12c., Modern French *renoncer*) and directly from Latin *renuntiare* "bring back word; proclaim; protest against, renounce," from re- "against" (see re-) + *nuntiare* "to report, announce," from *nuntius* "messenger".
 - The sense of "abandon, discontinue" (a habit, practice, etc.) is from late 15c..
 - That of "disclaim relationship with or allegiance to" a person is by c. 1500.
 - That of "to abandon or give up" a belief, opinion, etc. by open recantation, declare against" is from 1530s.
- In other words it is about repentance, metanoia, changing your mind.



WHAT TO RENOUNCE?

- You can only renounce those things to which you are attached.
 - The smoker is attached to the cigarette. So, the cigarette smokes him.
 - The lady is attached to the hat, so the hat wears her.
- The Question is: what do you cling to?
 - In the outer world?
 - In the inner world?
- You cling to the accounts you keep, all of them ...
- If that were not so, you would liquidate them at once.



WHAT TO RENOUNCE IN THE INNER WORLD?

- What you can renounce is *lies*.
- You can renounce the lies to which you attach yourself.
 - *I have individuality.*
 - *I have conscience.*
 - *I can do.*
 - *I can remember myself.*
- All the attitudes that belong to the second state are a lie of a kind.
- You can slowly let go of these attitudes.



IN THE OPINION OF BEELZEBUB

- **In the Opinion of Beelzebub, Man's Understanding of Justice Is for Him in the Objective Sense an Accursed Mirage.**
- *"It is only now, my dear future substitute, after all that I have related to you and all that you have in a general way taken in during this time concerning the three-brained beings breeding on the planet Earth, that I find it opportune to tell you about that terrestrial 'question' to which I promised to devote myself at the very end of all my tales.*
- *"Namely, about that maleficent idea widespread among all of them, which, you remember—when I spoke about the chief 'kink' in their psyche, that is about their diverse and peculiar 'Havatvernonis' or, as they themselves call them, 'religions'—I said was made by them the basis of all these religions of theirs, and which maleficent idea was called 'Good and Evil.'*



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Do Good and Evil Actually Exist?



GOOD AND EVIL

- Good and evil do not exist in the outer world; they exist only in the inner world of men.
- The universe is a balance, where beings ascend or descend according to their actions and their goals.
- Someone who, for example, genuinely wishes for and pursues fame, or wealth, or power, is - to some degree - descending. And yet, they are pursuing goals that most of the world happily accepts as legitimate - even positive.
- Someone, who genuinely wishes for spiritual progress may be unimportant in the eyes of most men. But to some degree they are ascending.
- Good and evil are subjective. For the aspiring billionaire what increases his wealth is good, what diminishes it is evil.
- For the person in the Work, what raises consciousness is good and what prevents it is evil.
- **Good and evil are subjective and relative to aim.**



“If you help others, you will be helped, perhaps tomorrow, perhaps in one hundred years, but you will be helped. Nature must pay off the debt. It is a mathematical law and all life is mathematics.”

- Gurdjieff



KEEPING ACCOUNTS

- If good and bad exist only in the subjective inner world of man, keeping accounts makes no sense at all for someone in the Work - because ...
- There is a balance also in your inner world.
 - keeping accounts **is** identification.
 - the accounts you keep are undigested impressions that could have created moments of presence.
 - to keep accounts is to refuse to suffer.



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"And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called an house of prayer for all nations: but ye have made it a den of thieves."

Matthew 21:12-13



“Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you.”

- Matthew 7:1-2



RESENTMENT OPENS ACCOUNTS

- We tend to create accounts because of an encounter with a denying force that annoys us.
- Nevertheless, everything that happens must, by law, involve a denying or resisting force of some kind.
- So our resentment is *selective*, (and entirely subjective)
- Even worse, our tendency is not to resent the act, but to resent a person (or people) associated with the act.
- We may even build up a portfolio of accounts against a specific individual or group.
- When this happens, we step into the empire of blame.



THE EMPIRE OF BLAME

- Blame is always a buffer that prevents us from experiencing reality.
- Most of the people we encounter are machines. They do not have intention - they have behaviour that can be predictable.
- You do not blame a food mixer for mixing food or a lawnmower for mowing a lawn. It's what they do.
- If the person you blame is not being mechanical then the correct response is curiosity.
- And if you do not blame, then you do not have any reason to keep accounts.



ACTIVE REASONING

Consider when someone's behavior or words shock you:

- There are two possibilities.
 - The other person's behavior was provoked by a fault in you. So the intelligent response is to be grateful to the other person for drawing attention to that. You may even wish to thank them.
 - The other possibility is that the other's behavior was inappropriate. So the intelligent response is to feel compassion for them.
- In neither case is there any debt created by their behavior. This is called active reasoning.
- The difficulty is that in order to do this you need to be present and also to be able to put yourself in the shoes of the other.
- This practice stops you opening new accounts.



THE TAR BABY PROBLEM

- Accounts are like the Tar Baby that Brer Fox used to trap Brer Rabbit. Once created we tend to stick to these accounts, and they become stickier with time. They crystallize.
- The only way I'm aware of that can undo this is to properly digest the events on which these accounts are based.
- Event(s) occurred and you were unable to digest them, so they now remain in you as obstacles to consciousness that spark negative emotions and negative imagination.
- You cannot be conscious while cherishing or poring over your much prized account balances.



PERSONAL ARCHAEOLOGY

- In *Meetings With Remarkable Men* the leader of the “Seekers after Truth,” is Professor Skridlov - an archaeologist.
- In your inner world the leader of your Work ‘I’s needs to be an archaeologist.
- My teacher’s injunction to me and all her pupils was **“Find out what you are, and become it.”**
- To find out what you are, you must examine your buried past. You must discover what you were in your personal ancient history.
- You can do this by talking directly to your associations. Ask them “where did you come from?”
- They will show you.
- This is a process which can help to undermine the accounts you keep.



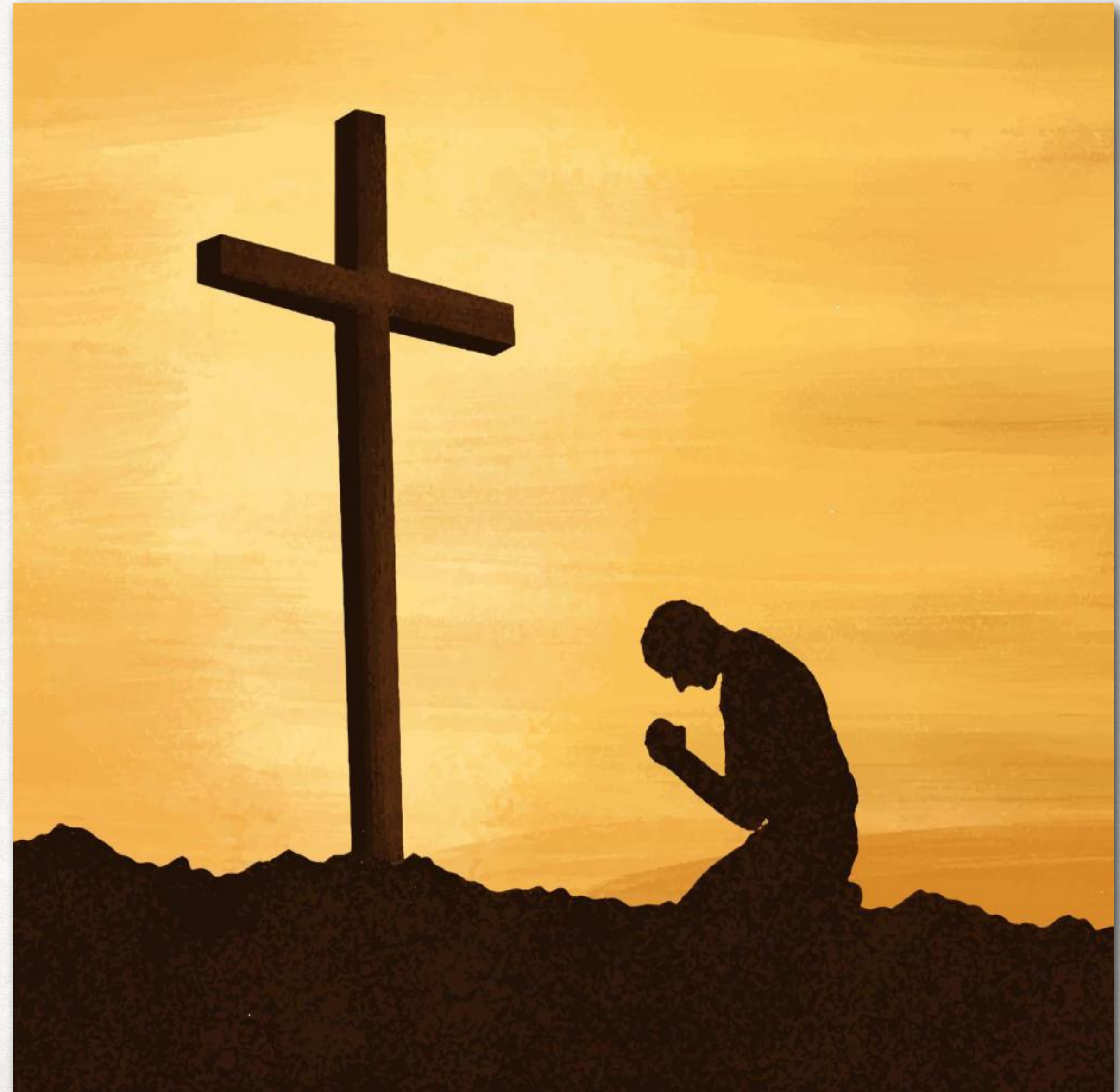
From
the
Golden
Tablet

To him who, purified, would break this vicious round
And breathe once more the air of heaven—greetings!
There in the courts of Hades wilt thou find
Leftward a beckoning cypress, tall and bright,
From out whose root doth flow the water of Oblivion.
Approach it not: guard thou thy thirst awhile.
For on the other hand—and further—wells
From a bottomless pool the limpid stream of Memory,
Cool, full of refreshment. To its guardians cry thus:
“I am the child of earth and starry sky:
Know that I too am heavenly—but parched!
I perish: give then and quickly that clear draught
Of ice-cold Memory!” And from that fountainhead divine
Straightway they'll give thee drink; quaffing the which
Thou with the other heroes eternally shalt rule.



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Questions?

