

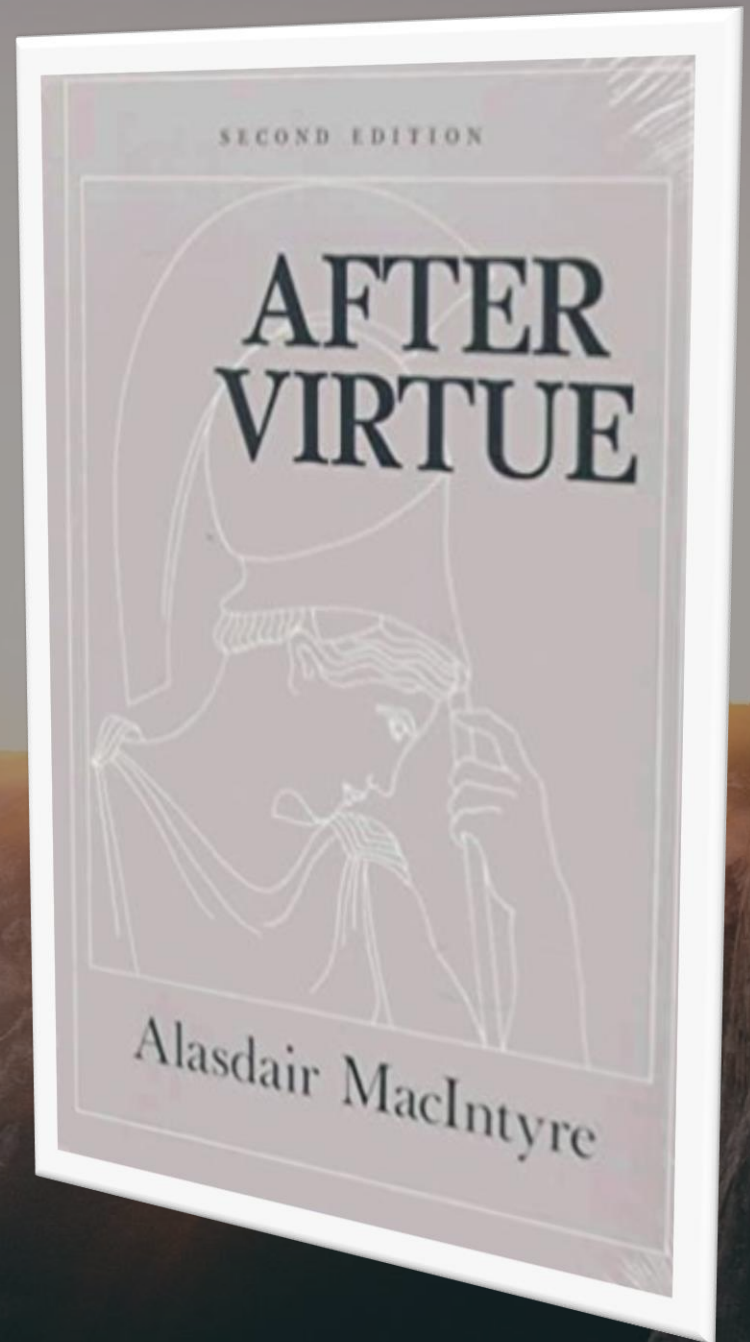
Urbana 2018

**Seriously Dangerous Religion:
What the Old Testament
Really Says and Why It
Matters**

Iain Provan

Saturday December 29, 2018

I can only answer the question “**What am I to do?**” if I can answer the prior question, “**Of what story or stories do I find myself a part?**”



NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

FULL GOSPEL

A Church of All Nations

Sun. Morning 11:00 am
Sun. Evening 7:30 pm

Tues. Bible Study 7:30 pm

Wed. Evening 7:30 pm

Thurs. Evening 7:30 pm



A Deadpool action figure is positioned in the center of the image, standing on a white rectangular base. The figure is dressed in his signature orange and blue suit, holding a silver sword with a gold hilt. The background of the entire image is a vast, rocky, reddish-brown landscape, characteristic of Mars, with a low, rounded hill in the distance under a hazy, orange sky. The text is overlaid on the figure and the background.

**You might as well be
speaking Martian.**

**They don't understand
what you're saying.**

**I Am Not Under The Law
(So There!)**

&

**Do Not Judge Anyone
(Especially Me)**

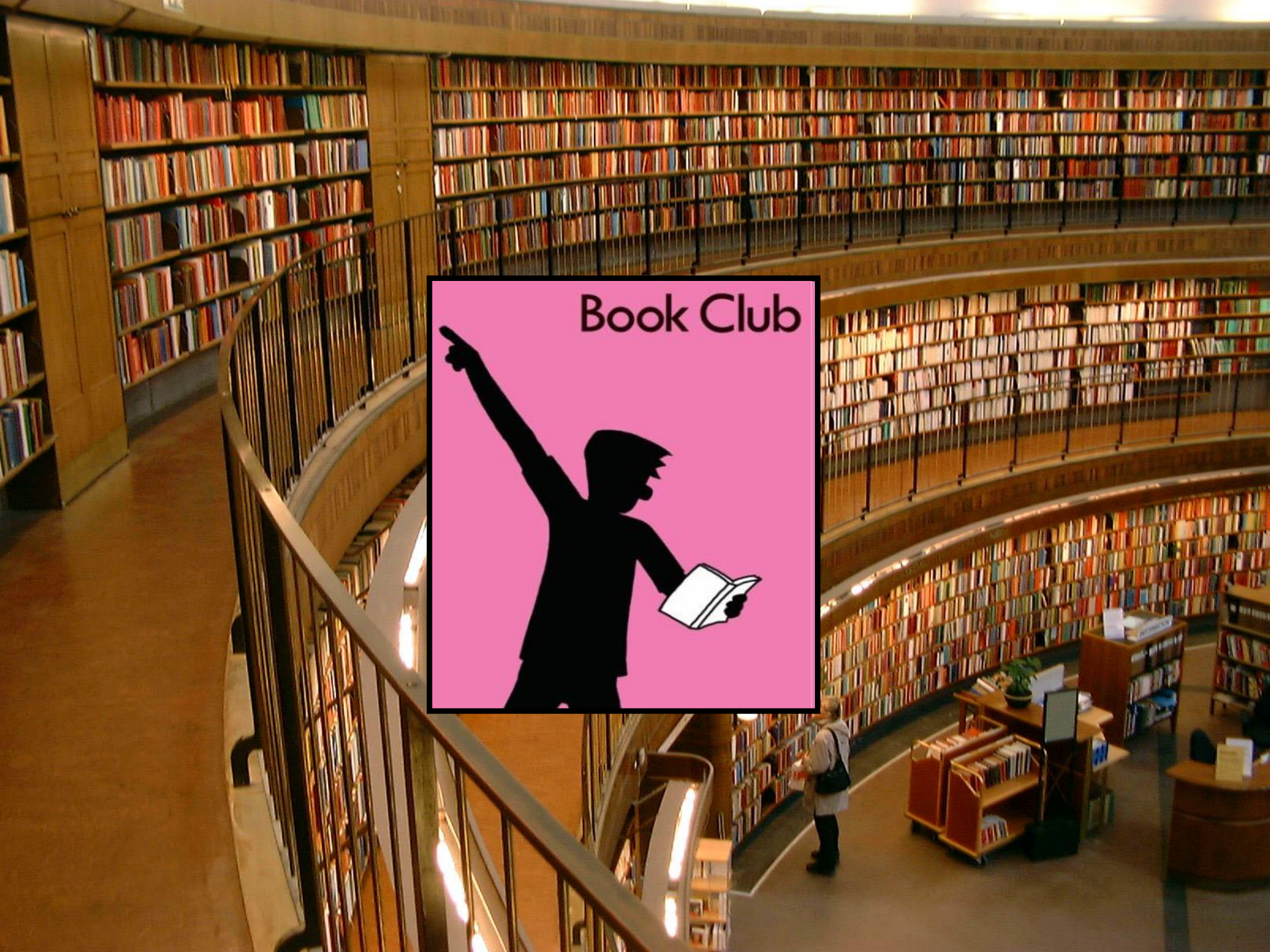


Thomas M. Golz

PAUL AND THE SCRIPTURES

“Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way.”





Book Club



A scenic landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow with lens flare effects. The foreground shows dark, rocky terrain with a few trees on the left. A large, dark triangular shape covers the top-left and bottom-left portions of the image, creating a diagonal split. The text "The Story" is written in a white, serif font on the dark triangular area.

The Story

The Cosmos: Created By A Person

**“... God created
the heavens and the earth.”**

The Cosmos Possesses Order



“The earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

The Cosmos Is Not Divine ...

A vibrant nebula with a bright star in the center, set against a dark cosmic background. The nebula features a mix of blue, green, and red hues, with a prominent bright yellow star in the center. The background is filled with numerous smaller stars and faint nebulae.

“The LORD was not in the wind ... the LORD was not in the earthquake ... the LORD was not in the fire.”



... But It IS Sacred

“Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.”



The Cosmos Is Good

“You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.”



A World-Affirming Perspective



Psalm 8

⁵ You made him a little lower than God and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:

⁷ all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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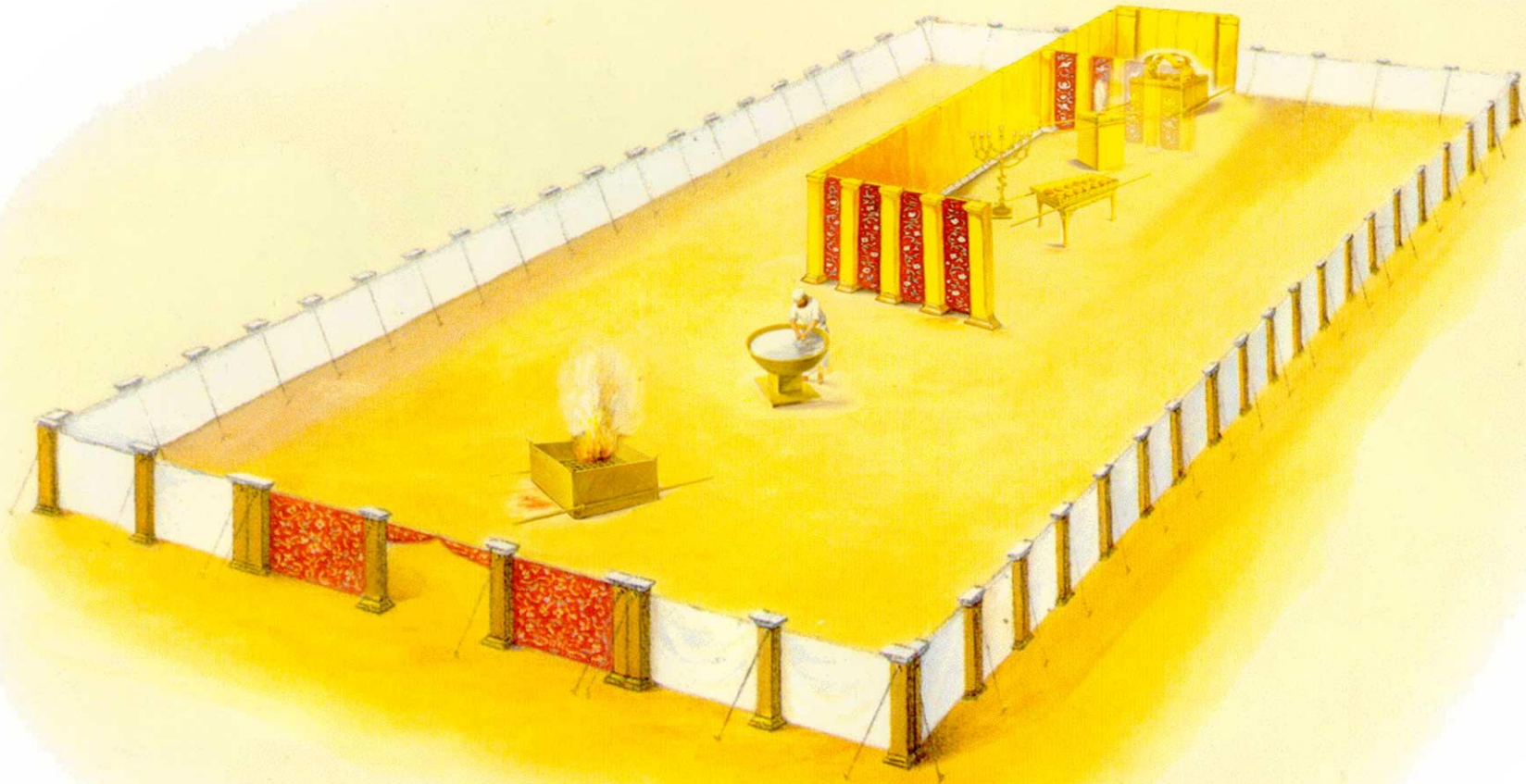


**Fill the earth and
subdue it; and rule
over [it].**



The Tabernacle

In Genesis 2:15 human beings are placed in the garden by God “to serve it (Hb. *‘abad*) and keep/guard it (Hb. *shamar*).”



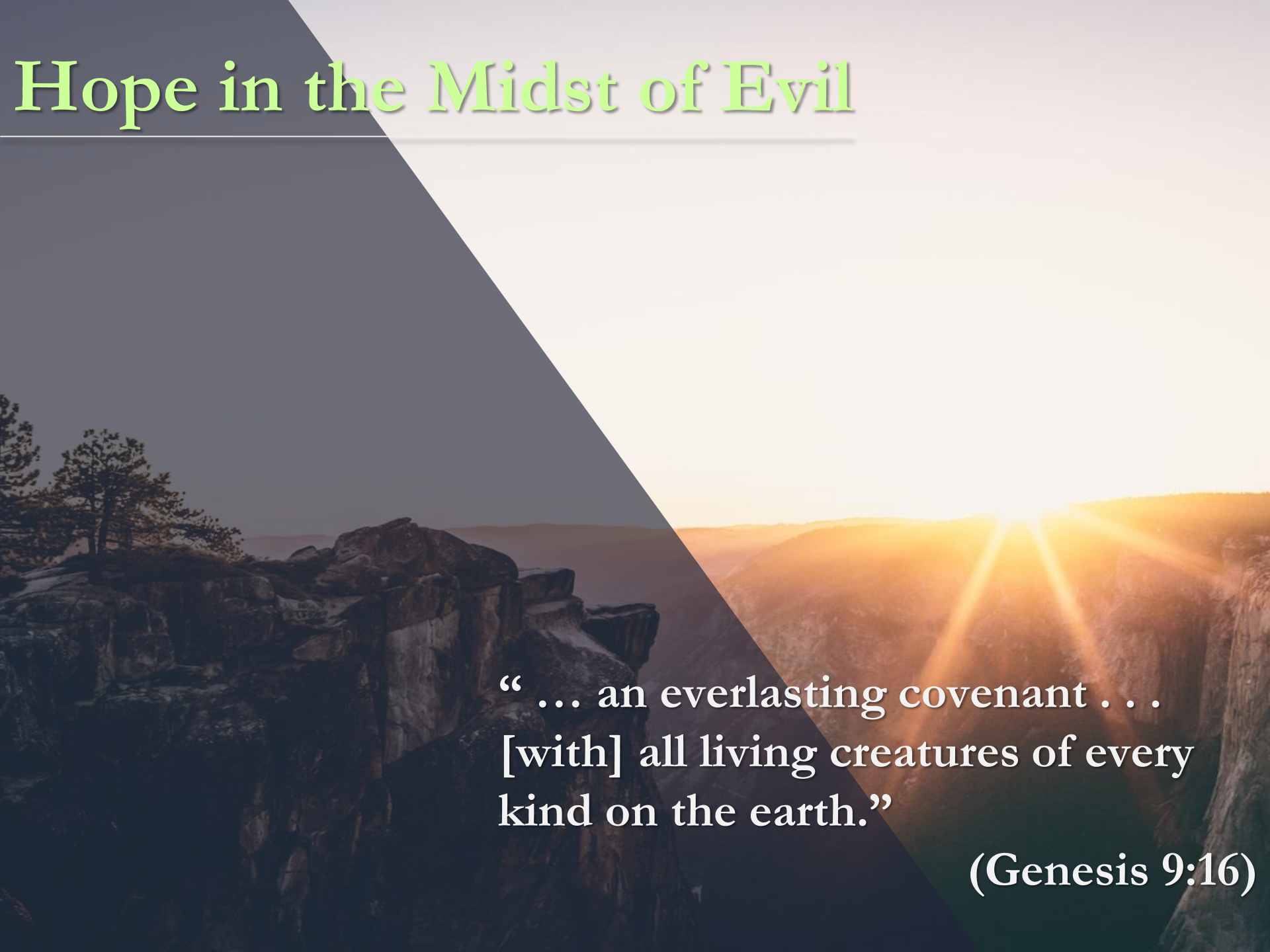
In Numbers 3:7-8 the priests “are to perform (*shamar*) duties ... by doing the work (*‘abad*) of the Tabernacle. They are to take care of (*shamar*) all the furnishings of the Tent of Meeting, fulfilling the obligations of the Israelites by doing the work (*‘abad*) of the Tabernacle.”



Hope in the Beginning



Hope in the Midst of Evil



“... an everlasting covenant . . .
[with] all living creatures of every
kind on the earth.”

(Genesis 9:16)

The Covenant with Abraham

(Genesis 12)

“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you;
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Hope in the Pentateuch



Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. **Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**

(Exodus 19:5-6)

Hope in the Monarchy

When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom ... Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

(2 Samuel 7:12-16)

Hope Remains!!!

Hope in the Prophets

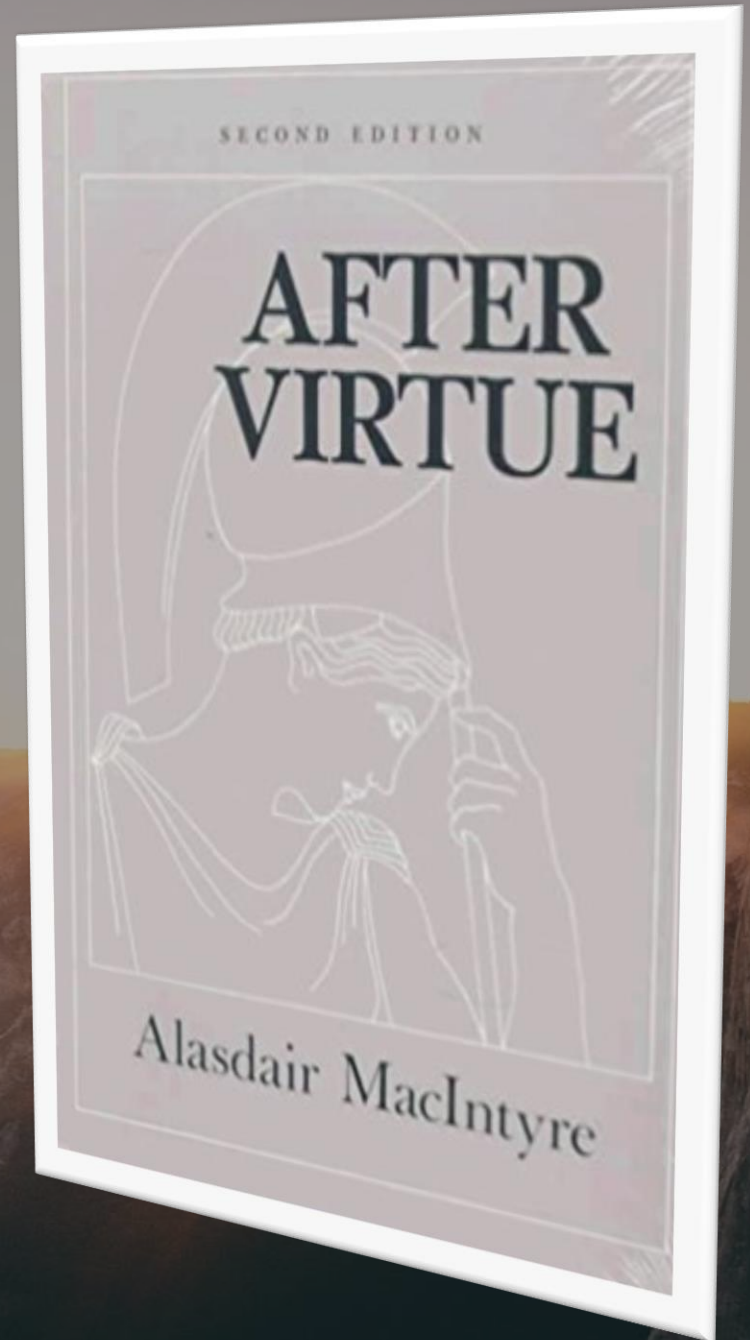
Three Transformations

The Human Person

The Human Community

All of Creation

I can only answer the question “**What am I to do?**” if I can answer the prior question, “**Of what story or stories do I find myself a part?**”



Proclamation

Plan

A landscape photograph showing a dirt road winding through a lush green field. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The word "Plan" is written in a yellow, serif font at the bottom center of the image.



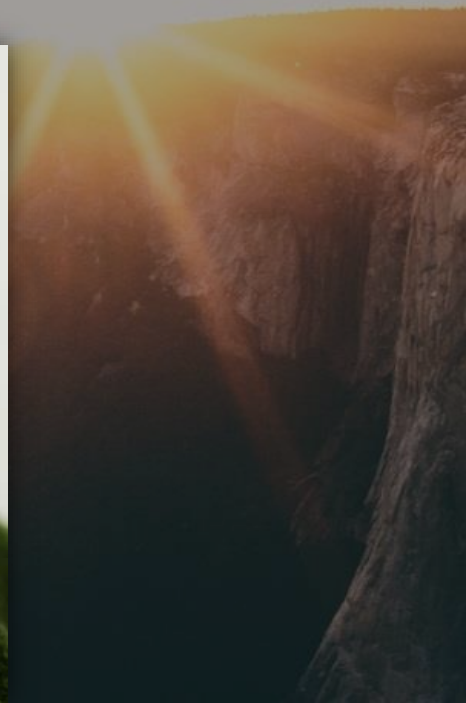
The Great Commission

A landscape photograph showing a dirt road that recedes into the distance, flanked by lush green fields. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

The Creation Mandate



**KEEP
CALM
AND
BE AN
ACTIVIST**



WHAT IS YOUR
MISSION?

Mission

/mi-shun/

def: A task or purpose that needs to be carried out by a group of people or the people who are given the task.

