



Our Calling as Image Bearers

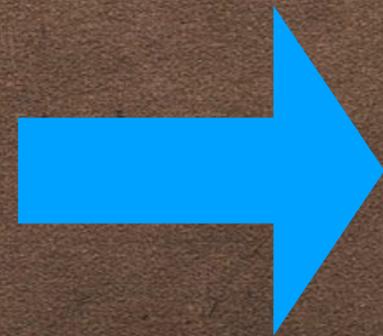
Genesis
1:28

Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have **dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

Genesis
1:26

Let us make man **in our image**,
after our likeness. And let them
have **dominion**...

**Made in
God's
Image**



**Dominion
over
Creation**

Ian Hart

Exercising royal dominion over the earth as God's representative is the **basic purpose for which God created man...**

Man is appointed king over creation, responsible to God the ultimate king, and as such, expected to manage and develop and care for creation, this task to include actual physical work.

Matthew
19:28

Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, **you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones**, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

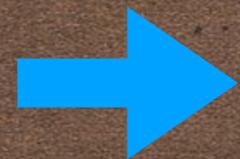
Matthew
25:23

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; **I will set you over much.** Enter into the joy of your master.'

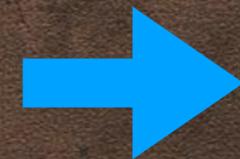
Luke
19:17

And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, **you shall have authority over ten cities.'**

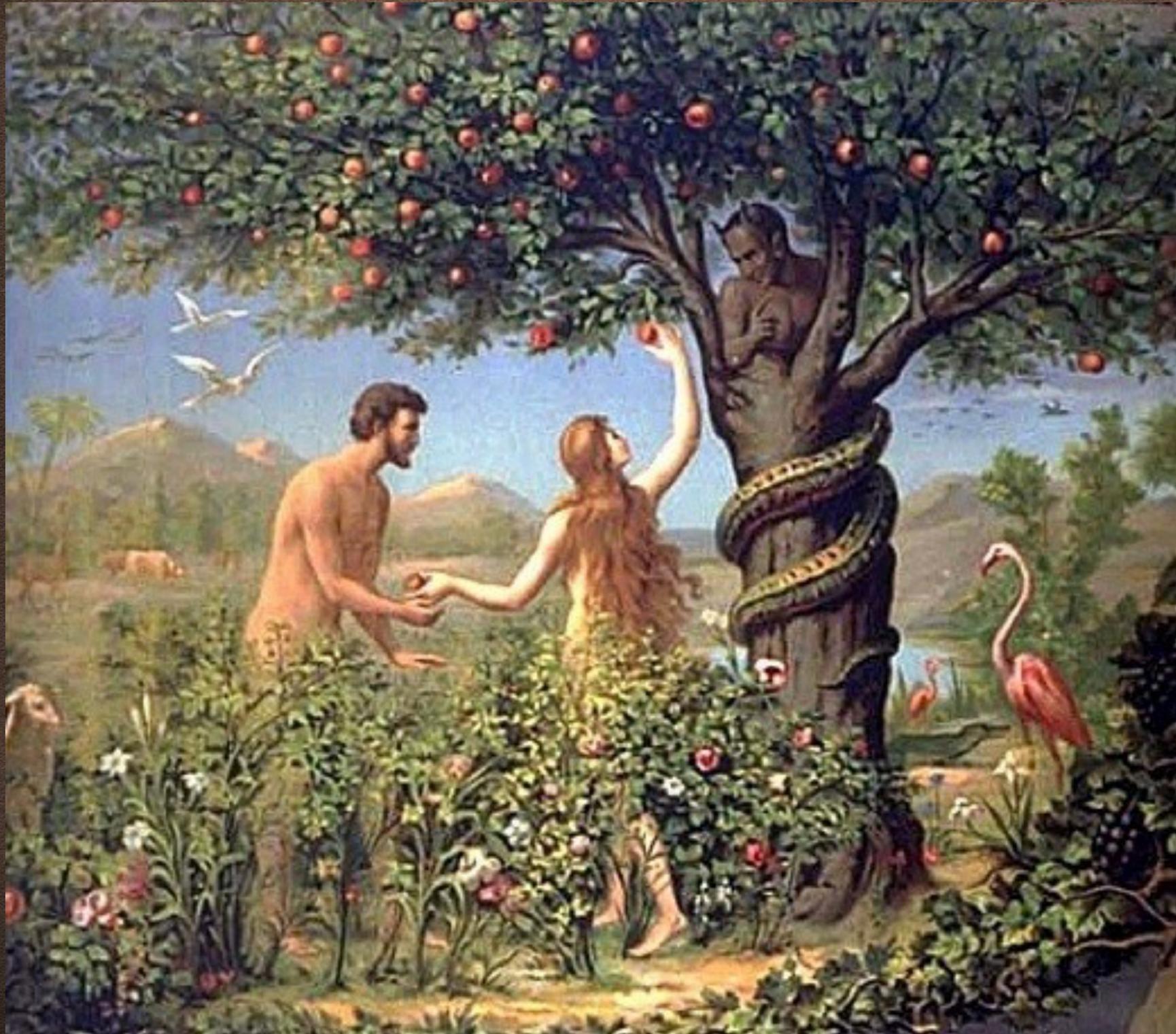
**Vocation
(calling)**



**Steward over
Creation as
God's
representative**



**Image
Bearers
of God**



The Sin of Adam and Eve



N.T. Wright

The diagnosis of the human plight is then not simply that humans have broken God's moral law, offending and insulting the Creator, whose image they bear—though that is true as well. **This lawbreaking is a symptom of a much more serious disease.**



N.T. Wright

Morality is important, but it isn't the whole story. Called to responsibility and authority within and over the creation, **humans have turned their vocation upside down, giving worship and allegiance to forces and powers within creation itself.** The name for this is idolatry. The result is slavery and finally death.

Jeremiah
2:11-14

Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate,
declares the LORD,

Jeremiah 2:11-14

for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Is Israel a slave? Is he a homeborn servant? Why then has he become a prey?

Romans
1:23

We **exchanged** the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.



N.T. Wright

Sin is the human failure of vocation, with all that this entails. When we sin, we abuse our calling, our privileges, and our possibilities.

A Powerful Scattering

Genesis 11:1-9





Hebrews 1:3 - The son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being.

John 14:9 - "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father."



John 21:25

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.



THE LAST DANCE



John 1:4

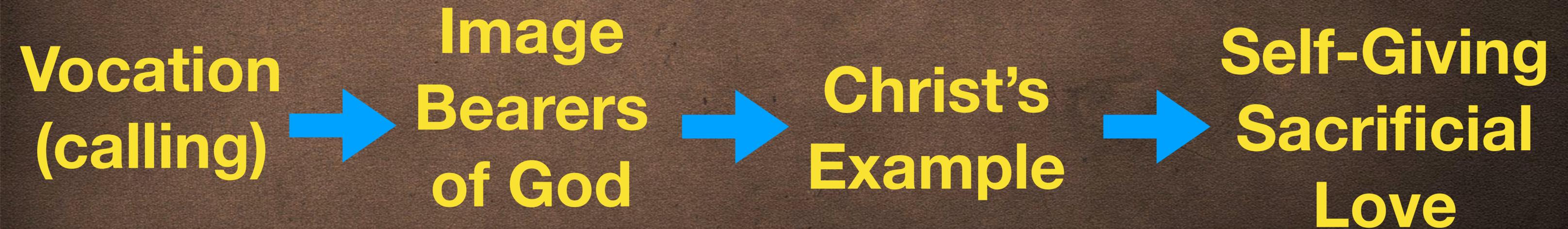
In him was **life** and the life
was the **light of men**.



1 John
4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and **whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.**

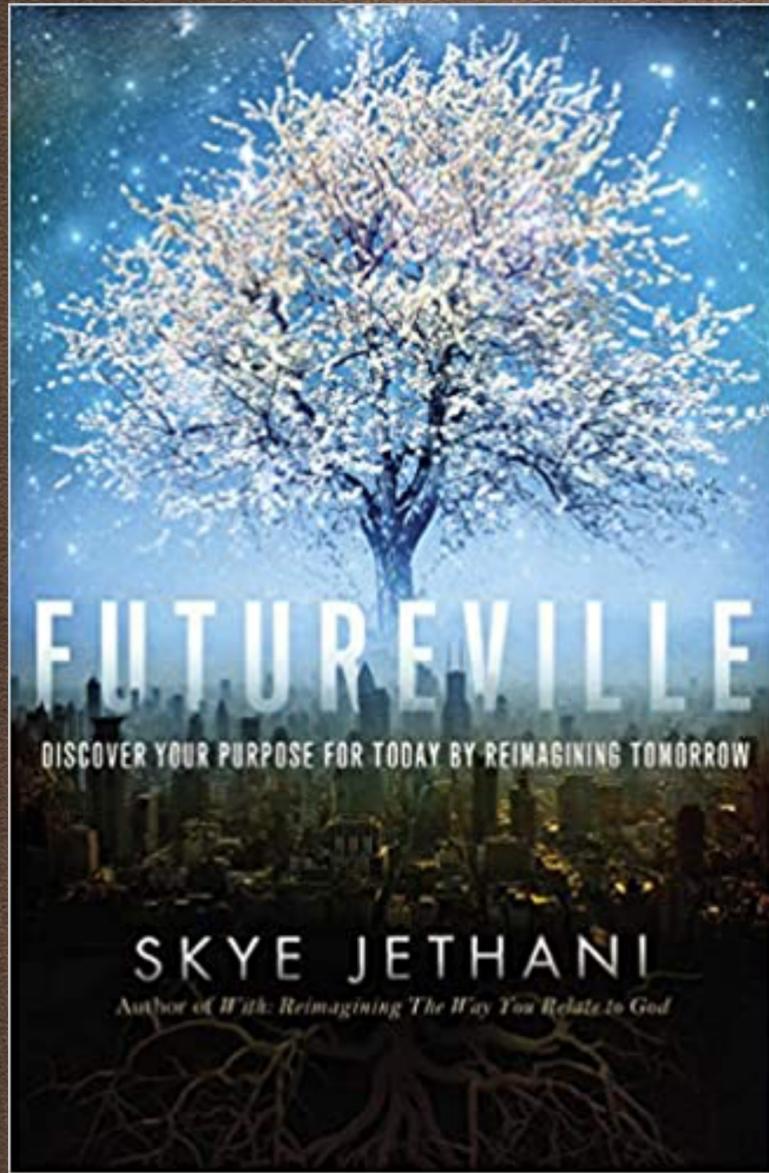
Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love.**





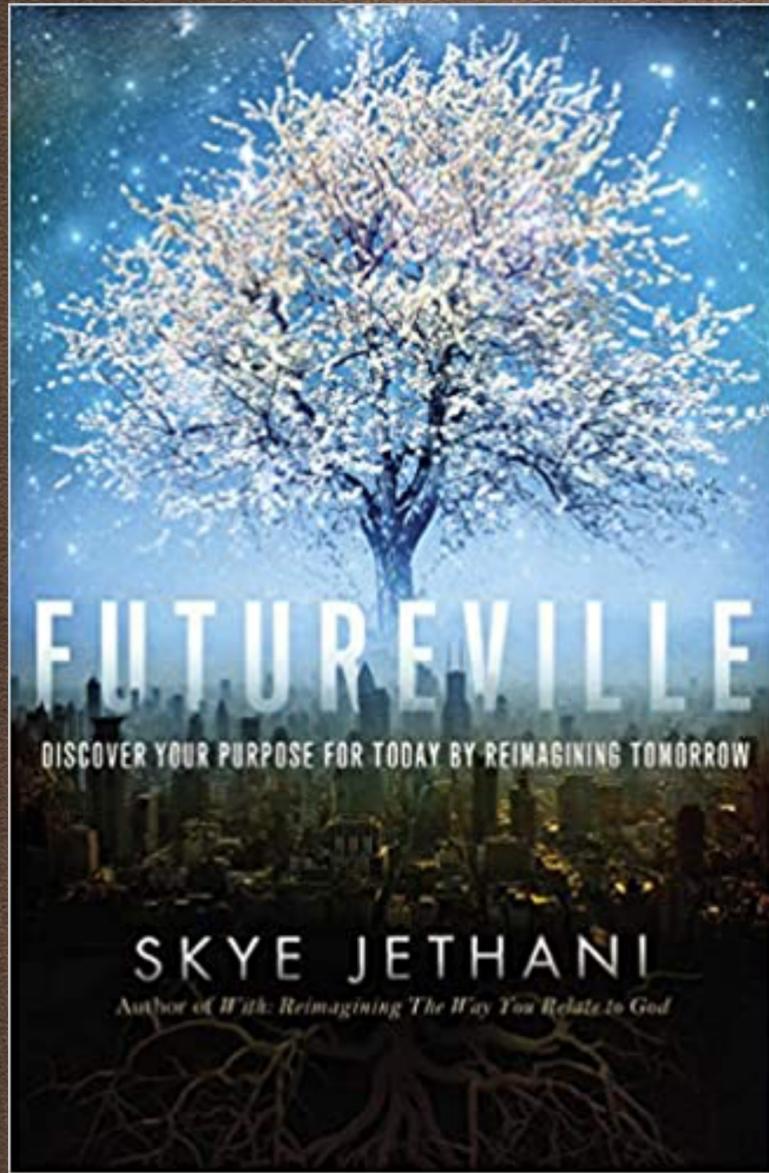
N.T. Wright

A new sort of power will be let loose upon the world, and it will be **the power of self-giving love**. This is the heart of the revolution that was launched on Good Friday....



Skye Jethani

Imagine a Christian community where followers of Christ are not merely focused upon church-based programs, but they are taught how to commune with Christ and glorify him in business, the arts, medicine, education, and every other channel of the culture where he has called them. **Such a church would exist not to advance its own agenda, but to advance the common good.**



Their callings would all be diverse, occurring in different parts of the world and in various channels of culture, but every calling would be held in esteem by the church as coming from Christ and as part of his plan to redeem all things.

Skye Jethani

