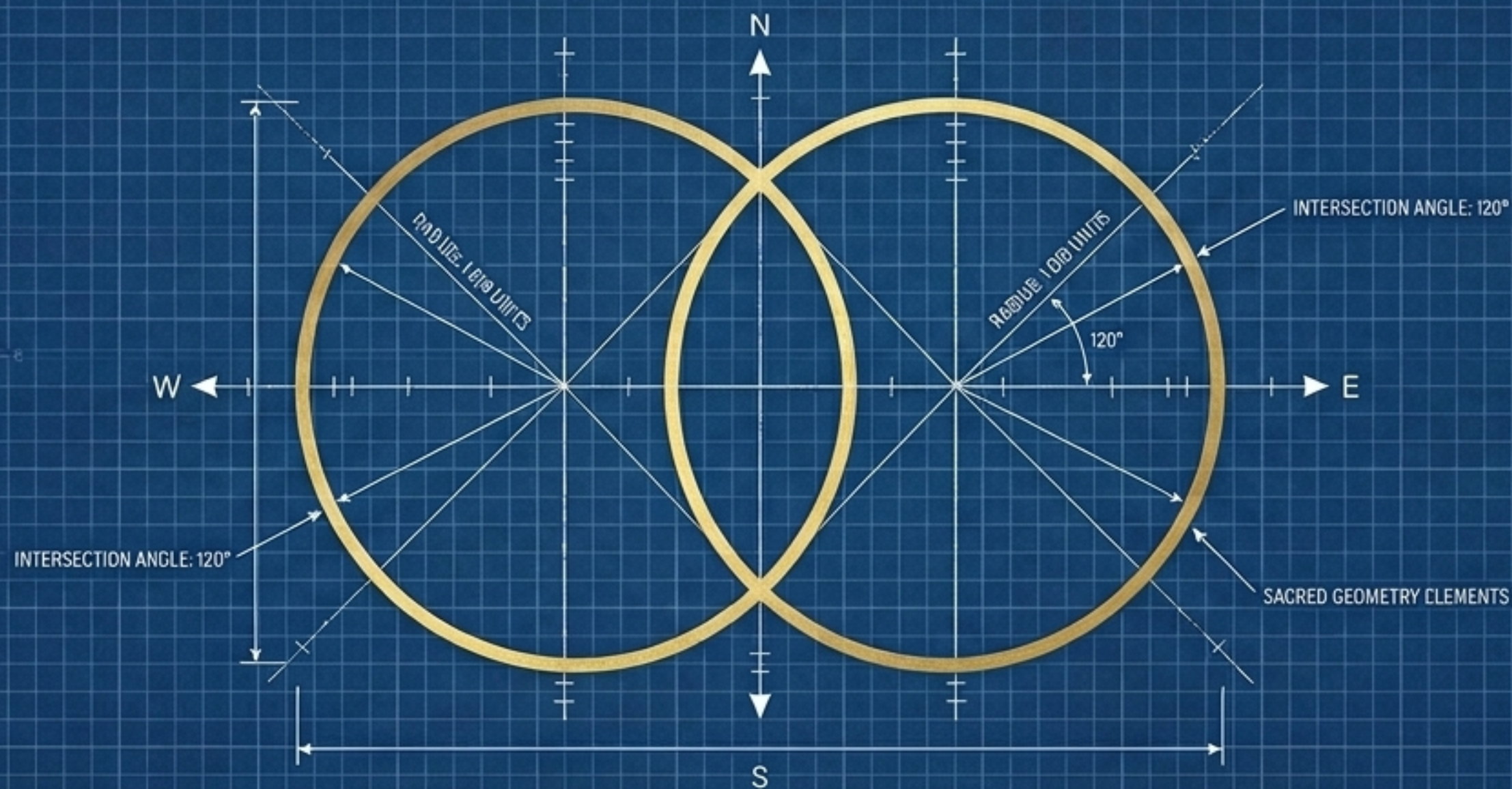


THE MIRROR SERIES: COMMANDMENT VII

# SEX: GOD'S SACRED GIFT

The Architecture of Covenant, Intimacy, and Restoration

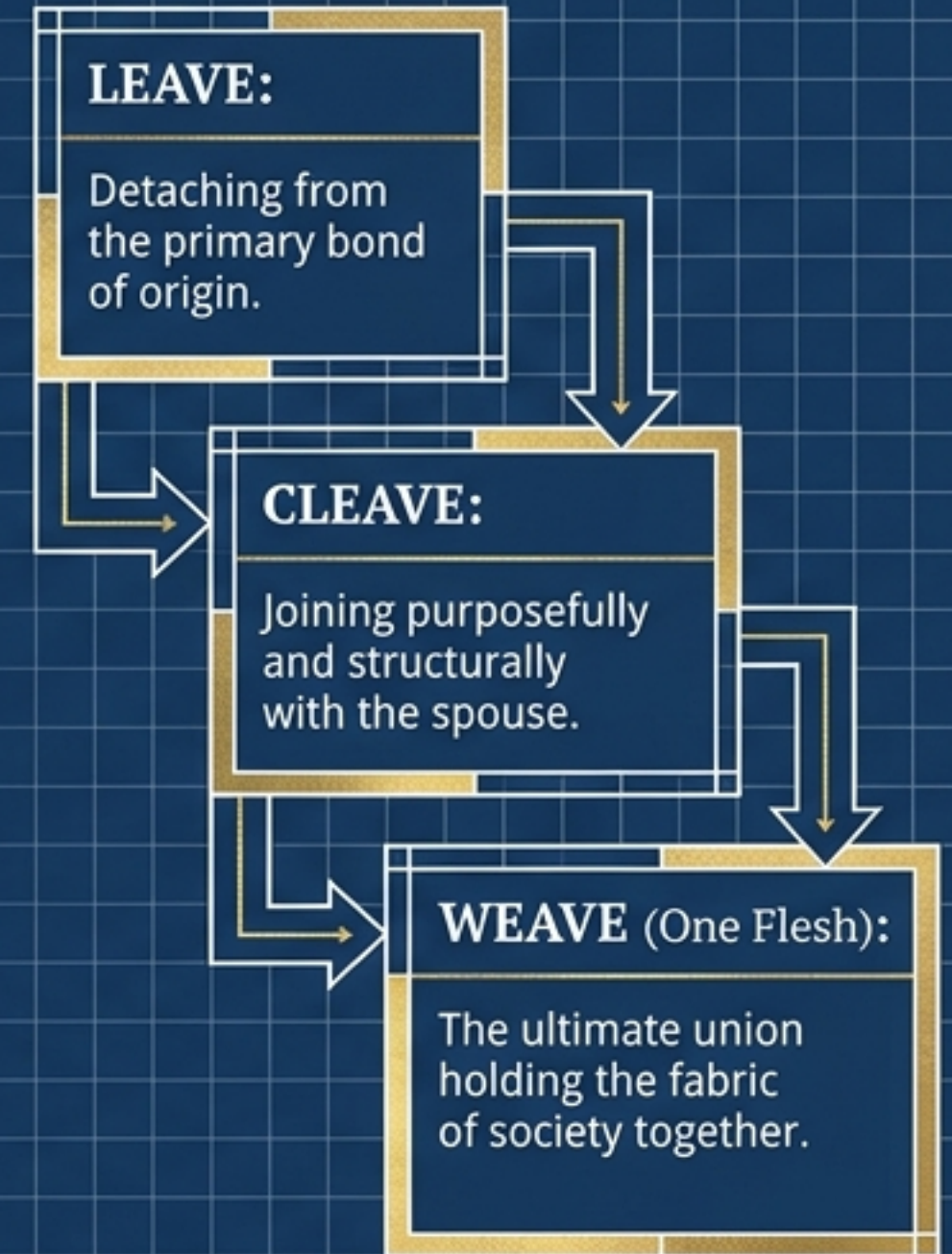
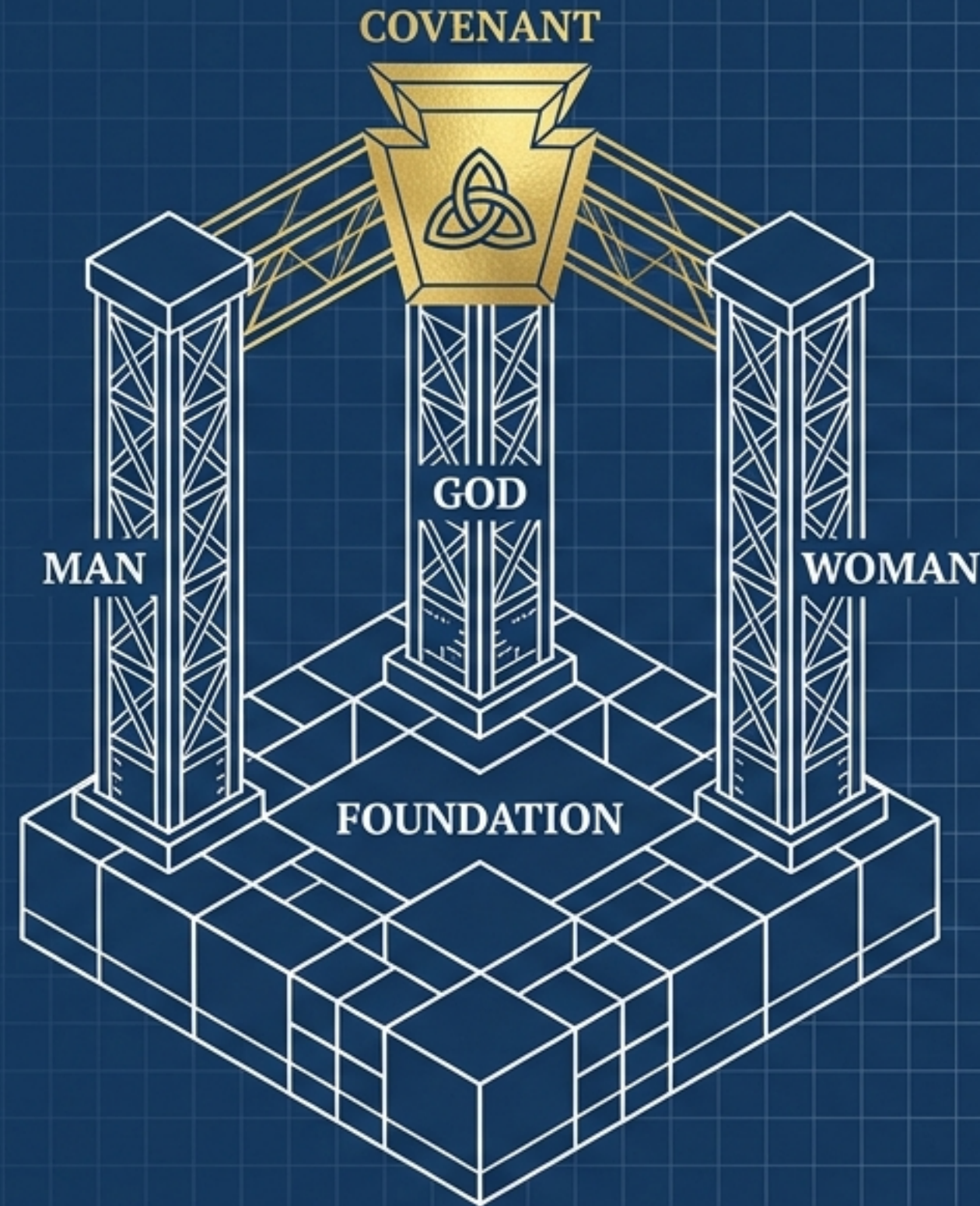


Synthesized from the teachings of Pastor Michelle Clark

SCALE 1:100

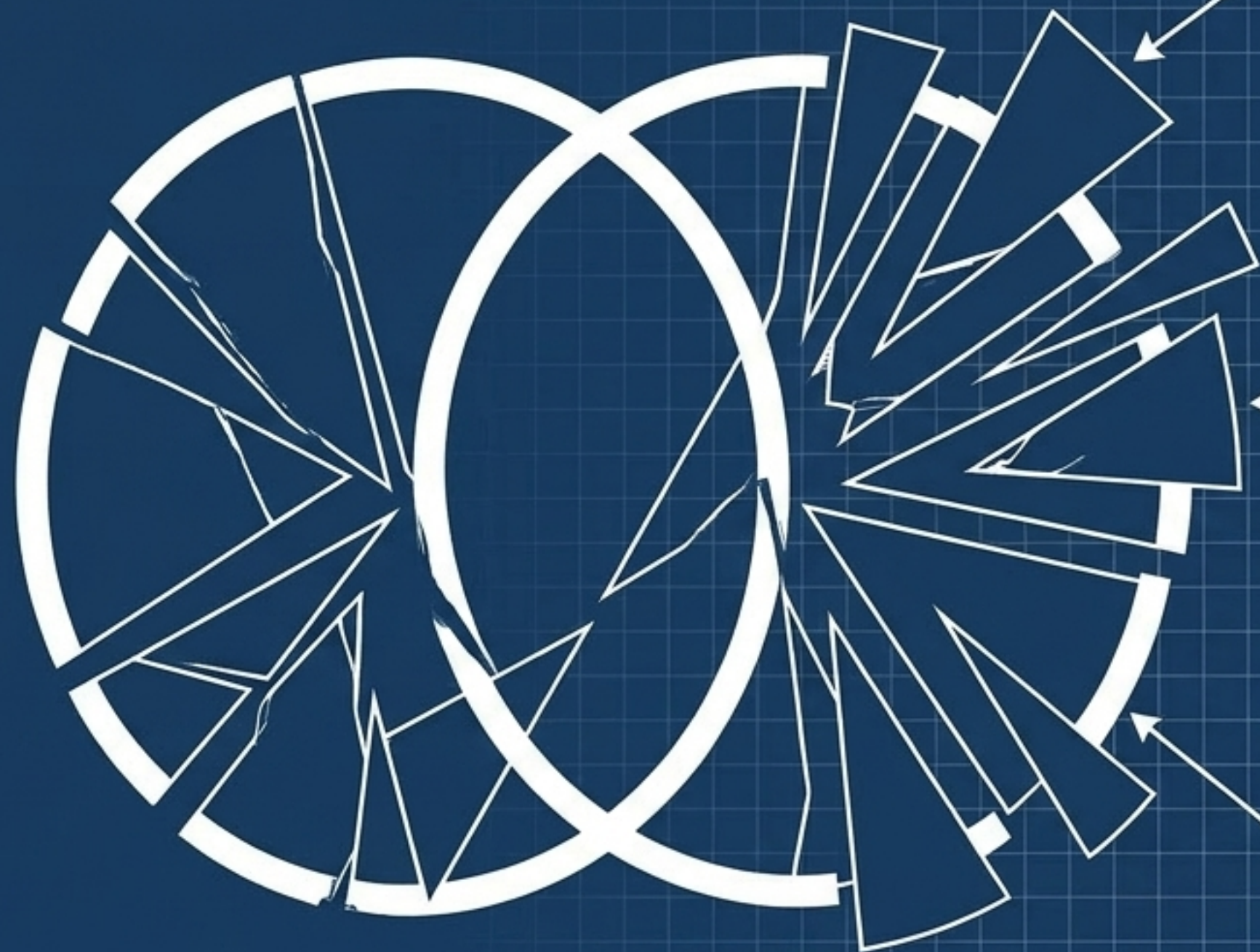
# The Original Blueprint

Marriage is the second highest covenant relationship—surpassed only by the relationship between God and the individual.



Marriage is the second highest covenant relationship—surpassed only by the relationship between God and the individual.

# The De-Sanctification of Marriage



## **TRANSACTIONAL**

Reduced to a secular contract for “papers” or a reaction to a ticking biological clock.

## **FRIVOLOUS**

Treated as a disposable experience (e.g., Vegas chapels and temporary setups).

## **EMOTIONAL**

The “Hollywood Romance” illusion—chasing a fleeting pheromone rush that inevitably fizzles out like a comet.

# Defining the Boundary Lines

## Adultery (Na'af - Hebrew)

**Definition:** Voluntary sex between a married person and someone not their spouse.

**Ancient Context:** Literally meant "scattering the strength of your seed." A direct threat to the Messianic lineage and the foundational building blocks of society.

**Consequence:** Fractures the covenant.

## Fornication (Porneia - Greek)

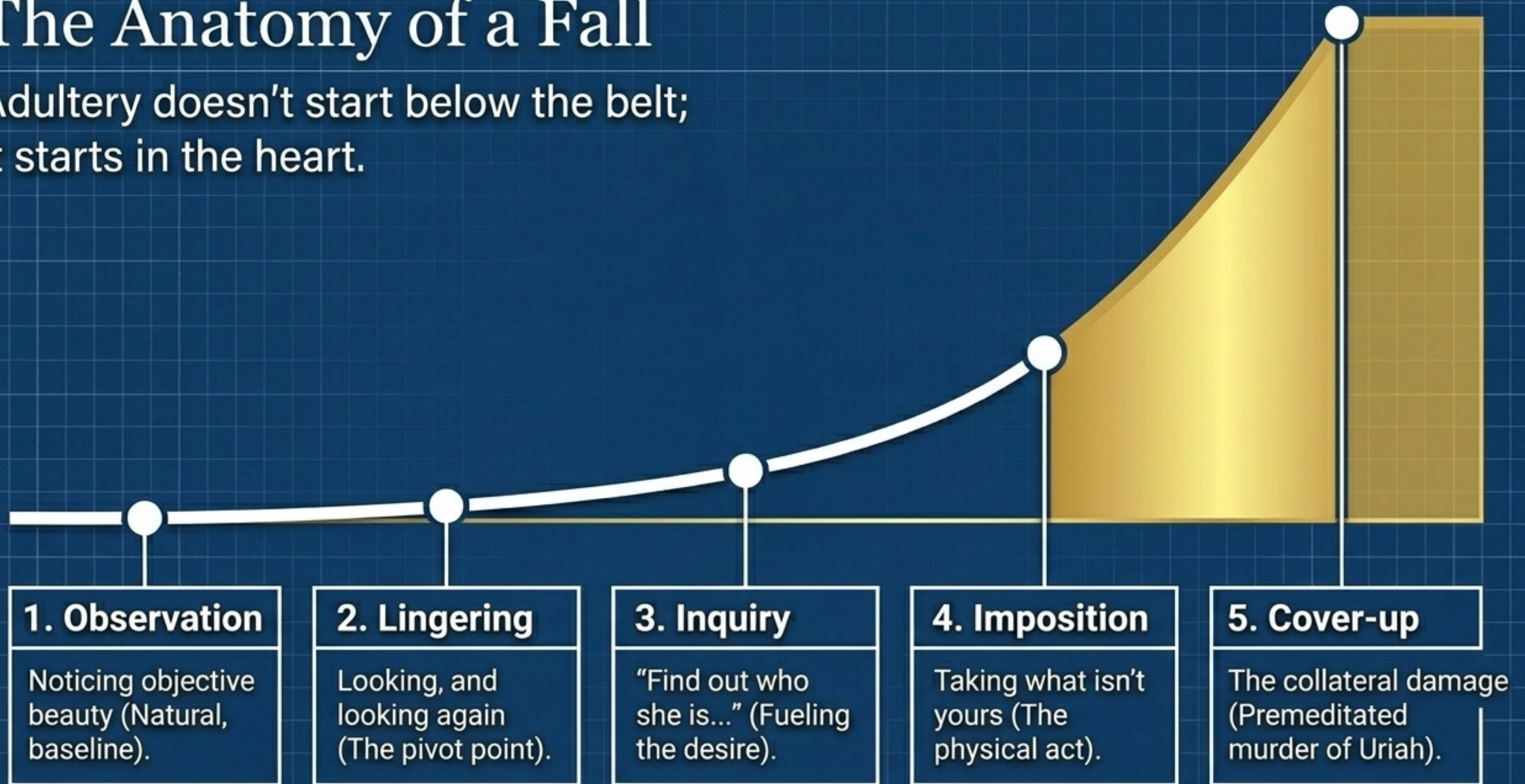
**Definition:** Sexual immorality outside the covenant of marriage.

**Scope:** An umbrella term encompassing premarital sex, pornography, and all unauthorized sexual activity.

**Consequence:** Sins directly against one's own body (The Temple).

# The Anatomy of a Fall

Adultery doesn't start below the belt;  
it starts in the heart.



# The Descending Staircase to Infidelity

## 1. Unintentional Love:

Failing to study how your spouse receives love (ignoring their love language).

## 2. Sexual Starvation:

Withholding intimacy (1 Cor 7: "Do not deprive one another...").

**3. Emotional Outsourcing:** Sharing inner secrets or marital complaints with someone of the opposite sex.

**4. Individualism:** Operating as "me" instead of "we" (e.g., hiding separate finances, unconsulted life decisions).

## 3. Individual Fantasy:

Entertaining mental scenarios and comparisons that fuel discontent with your spouse.

## 5. Little Compromises:

Feeding curiosity through media and pornography until the internal boundaries collapse.

# A Note on Covenant and Safety

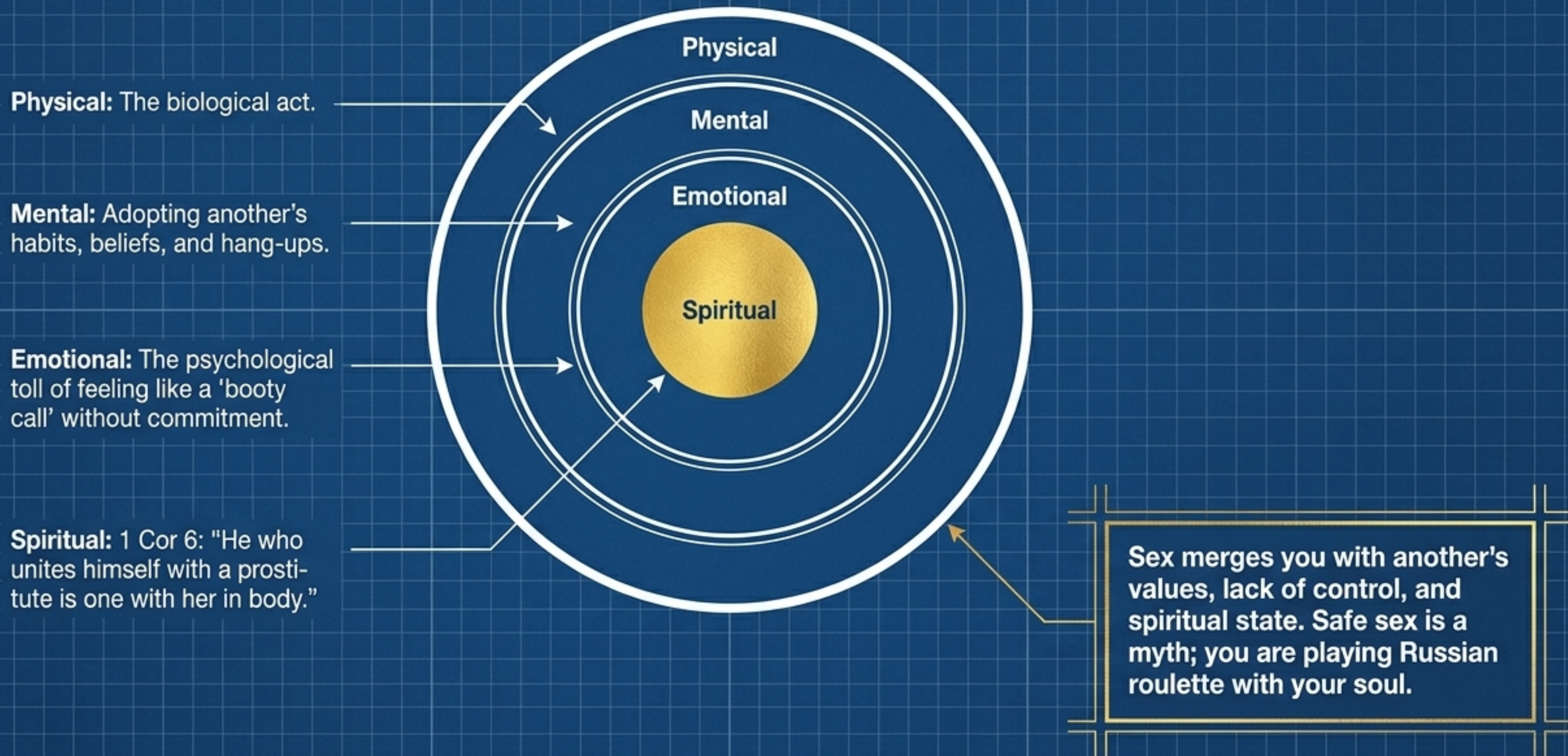
Jesus designed marriage to be permanent, viewing divorce as a tragic tearing of the “one flesh.” However, Scripture and the Church recognize vital safety valves to protect the individual.



**Sexual Immorality:** The breaking of the exclusivity covenant.

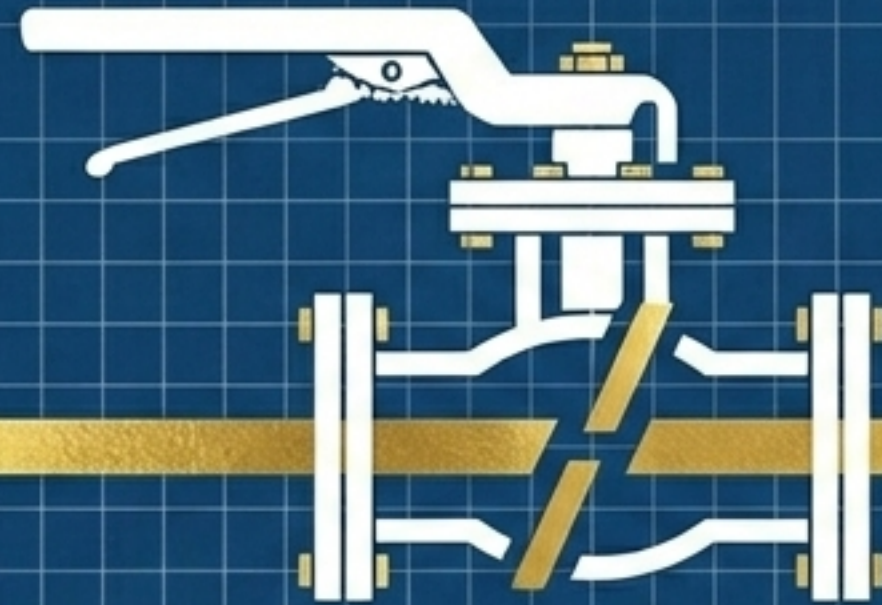
**Physical Safety:** Victims of abuse have an absolute right to safety and protection. The prohibition of divorce is never an excuse to trap someone in life-threatening danger.

# The Myth of "Free Sex"



# The Principle of the Chopping Block

“If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out.” (Matthew 5)



## Don't Negotiate

Flee immediately. Like Joseph leaving his garments behind, do not stay to rationalize the temptation.

## Cut Off Access

Drastic measures are required. Block the number, change your routine, physically remove the media.

## Save the Body

Losing a relationship, an app, or a habit is infinitely more profitable than losing your eternal soul.

# Agape vs. The Hollywood Illusion



## The Hollywood Illusion



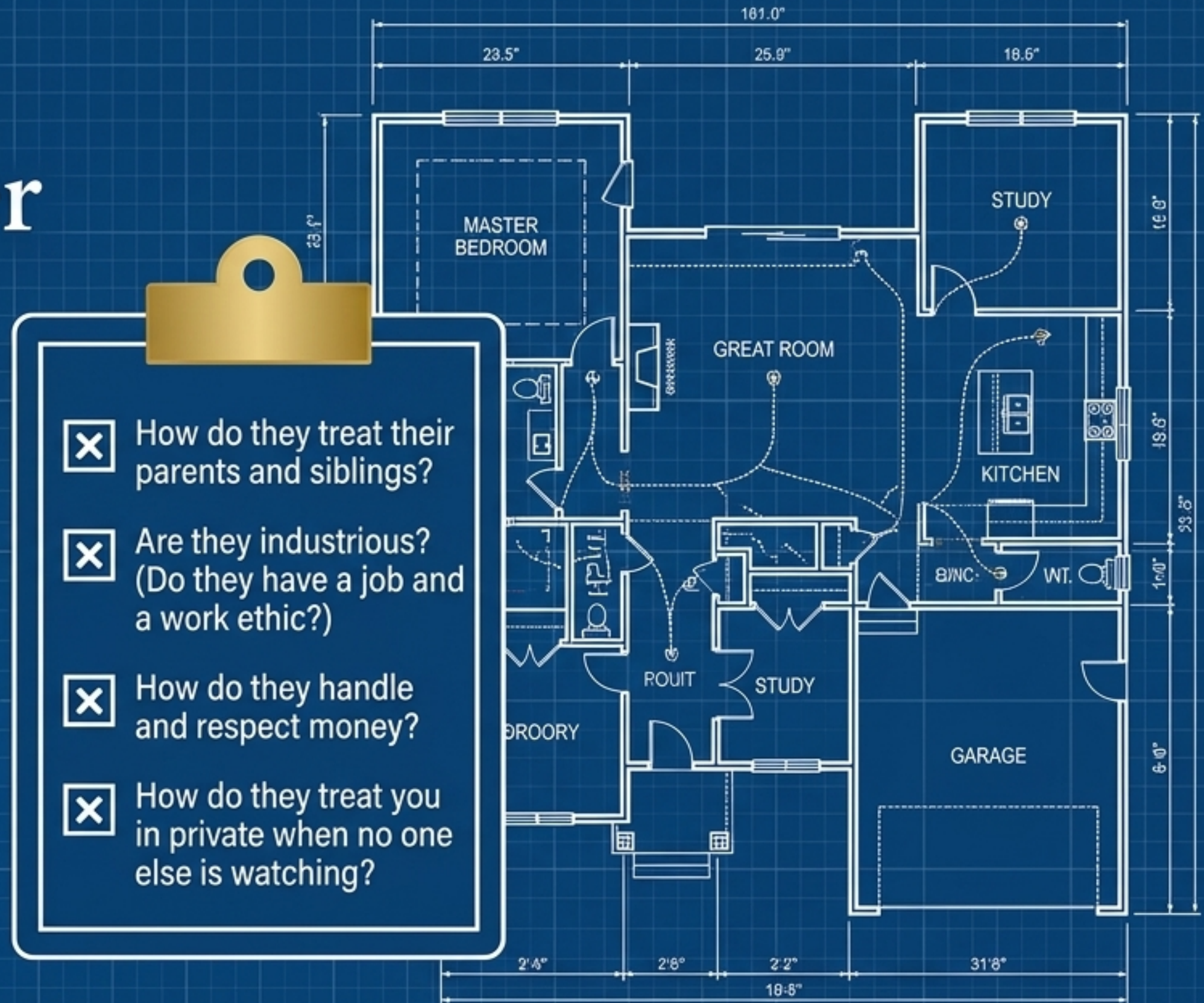
## Agape

	The Hollywood Illusion	Agape
The Origin	A spell you “stumble into”; a trap door.	A conscious, intelligent decision of a sanctified will.
The Core Engine	Run entirely by fleeting emotions and pheromones.	Driven by observant, principled common sense.
The Primary Focus	Physical looks that turn heads in a crowd.	Character that stays up with the baby and pays the bills.
The Stress Test	Flees the moment the “feelings” fade.	The Gethsemane Response—enduring pain for the sake of the beloved.

# The Blueprint for Choosing a Builder

## Counting the Cost (Luke 14)

Do not be unequally yoked. Spiritual disharmony guarantees structural incompatibility. Examine the materials before building.

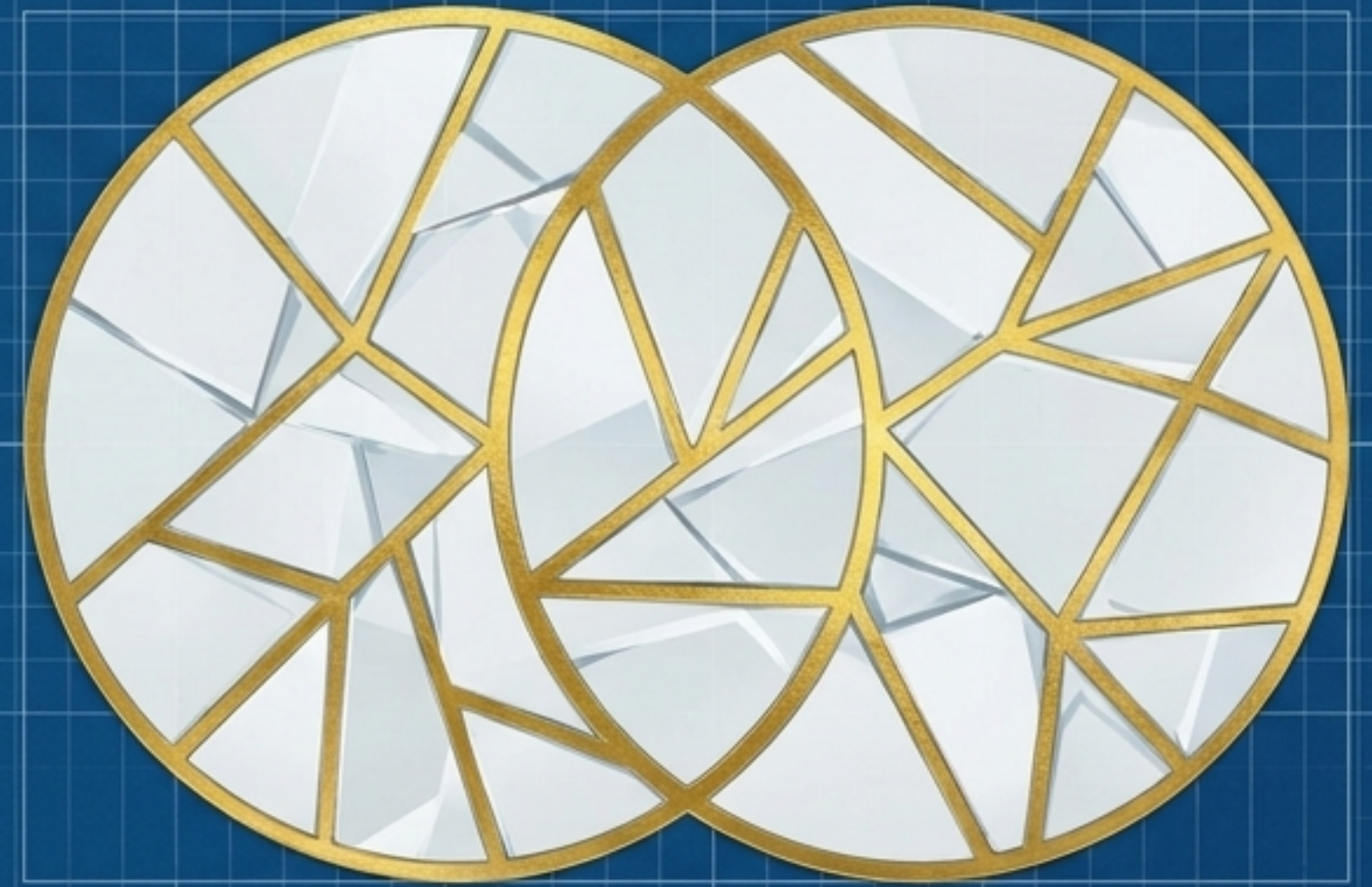


***Good looks spend money, but character makes the payments.***

# The God Who Restores the Years

Life happens. Hearts are broken. Mistakes are made. You may have compromised your Temple through bad choices or the actions of others.

**God restores what the cankerworms and swarming locusts have eaten. He takes your past, repairs the structure of your life, and casts your sins into the sea of forgetfulness. You are not defined by your fractures.**



# Handing Over the Keys

If God lives in the Temple, He decides how the building is used.  
Which decision are you making today?

Title Deed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to be truly committed to Christ.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to be baptized / re-baptized.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I need prayer to break a chain or a soul tie.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I commit to obeying God's design for my life and my body.

Take the next step: reach out to [info@downsviewsda.org](mailto:info@downsviewsda.org) to connect with a pastor.