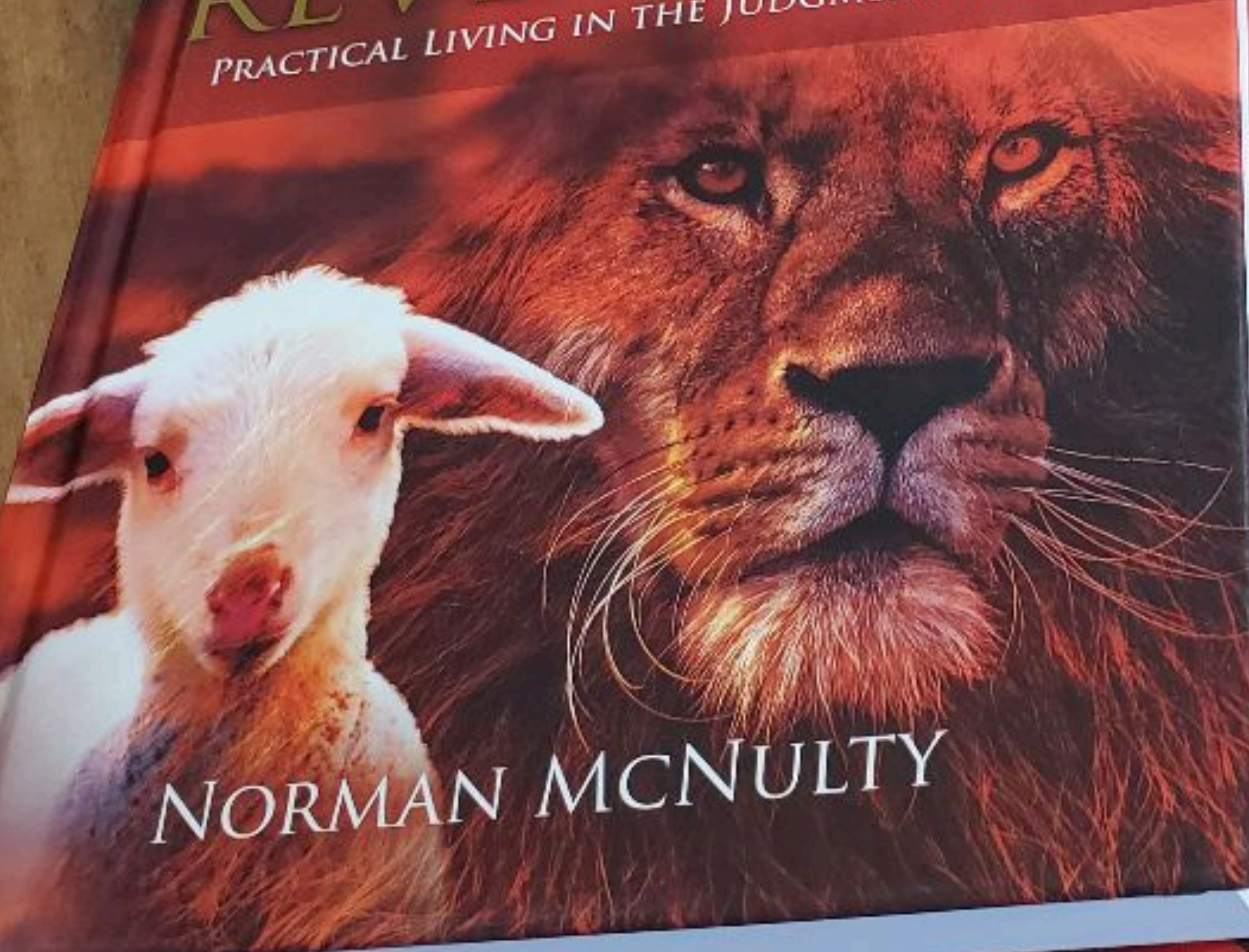


Secularism's Role in End-Time Prophecy

Norman McNulty, M.D.

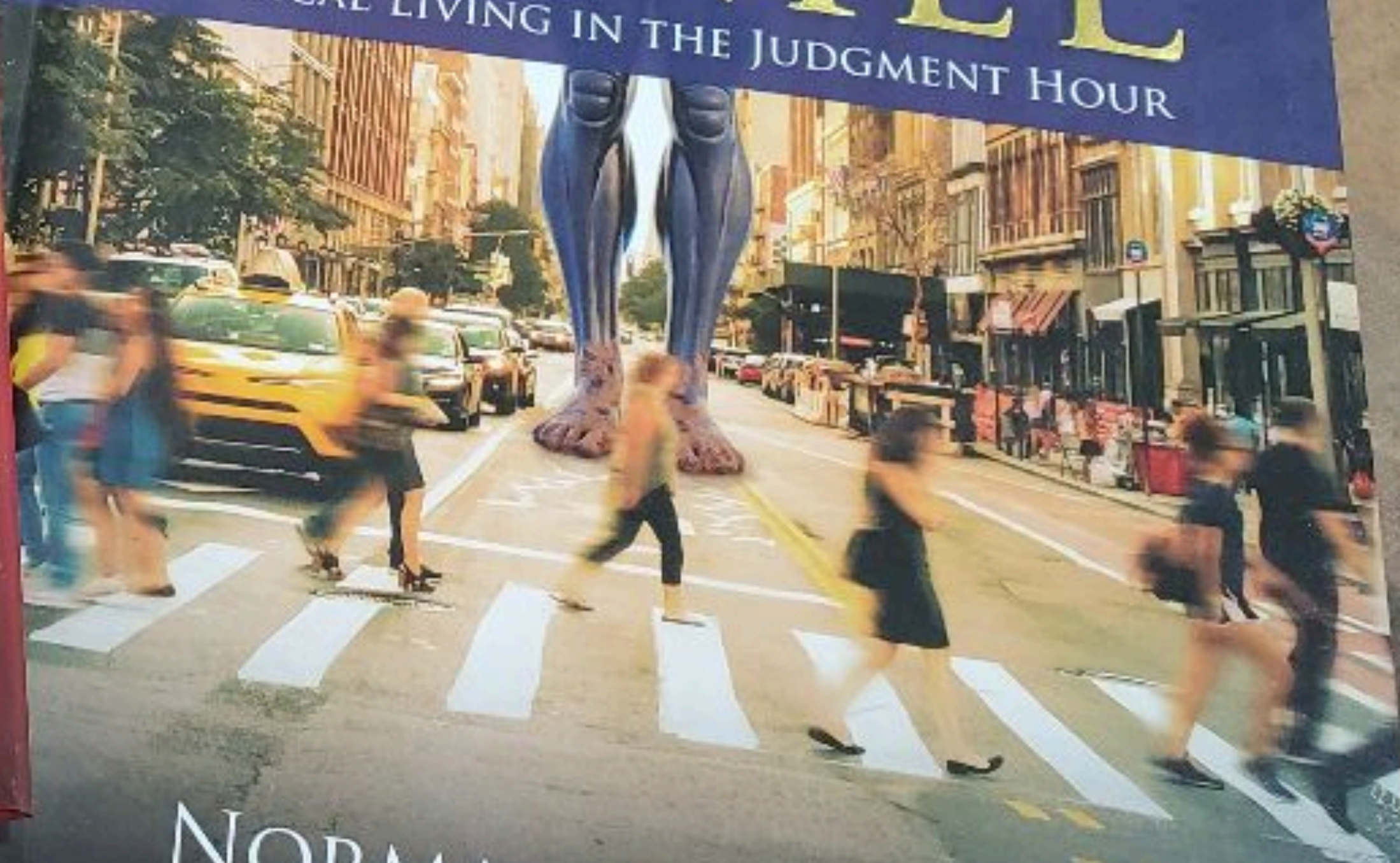
June 18, 2024

COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF
REVELATION
PRACTICAL LIVING IN THE JUDGMENT HOUR

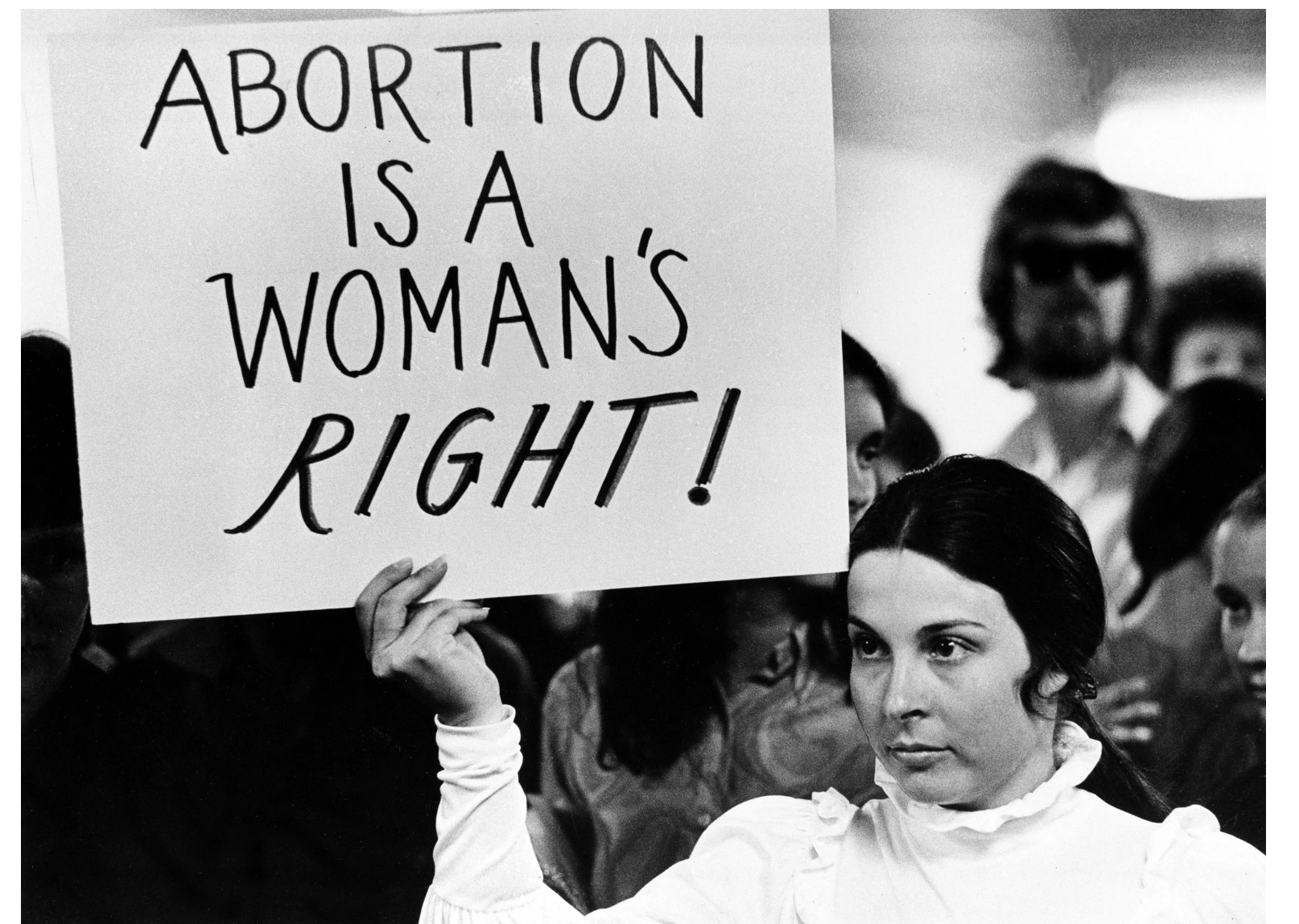


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COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF
DANIEL
PRACTICAL LIVING IN THE JUDGMENT HOUR



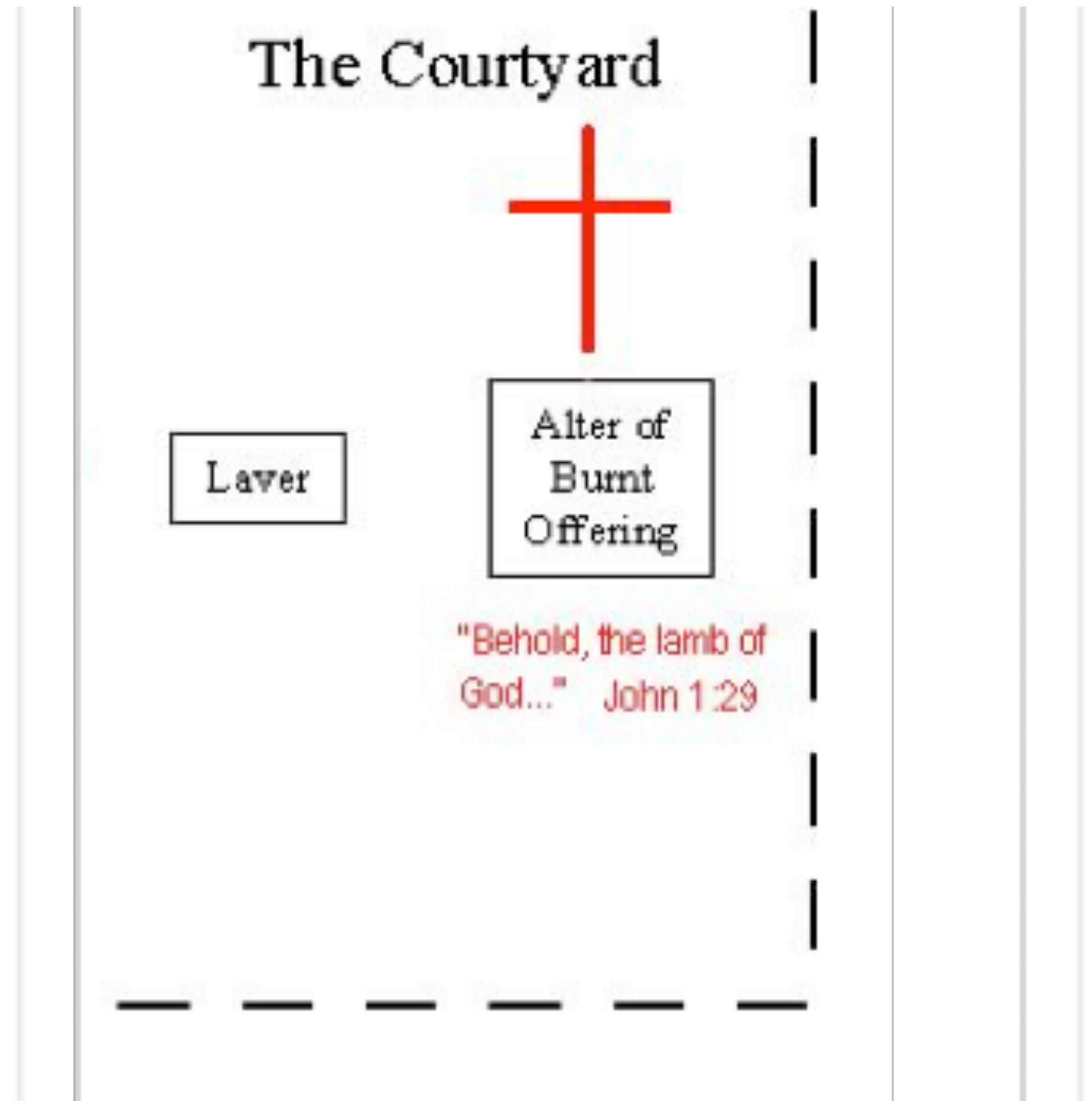
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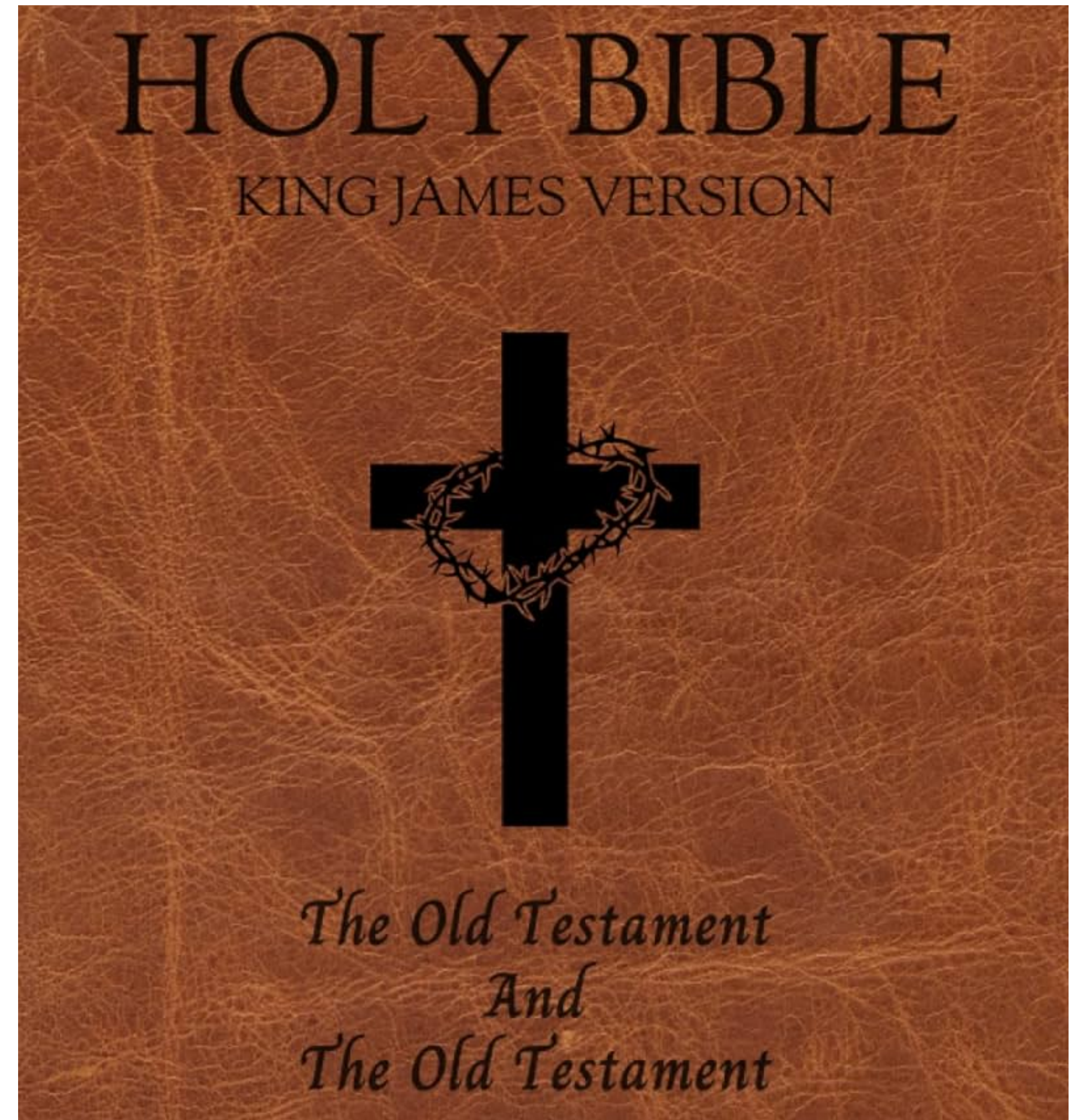
The Courtyard

- Revelation 11:1, 2
- God's true worshipers are in the temple
- Measure not the courtyard
- Times of the Gentiles (see also Luke 21:24)
- Holy City is Jerusalem and represents God's people who are persecuted for 1260 years
- Gentiles = papacy



The Two Witnesses

- **Revelation 11:3**
- **A witness gives testimony, or testifies**
- **John 5:39 - Search the Scriptures ... these are they which testify of Me**
- **Two witnesses are the Old and New Testament of Scripture**
- **Clothed in Sackcloth for 1260 years**
- **Scripture suppressed for 1260 years by the papacy in favor of the traditions of the church**



Olive Trees and Candlesticks

- **Revelation 11:4**
- **Zechariah 4:1-6: This is the word of the Lord**
- **Olive tree produces oil**
- **Candlesticks need oil to produce light**
- **The Word guides us to the Spirit of Truth, but the Holy Spirit also guides us to the Truth of the Word**



Fire From Heaven

Water to Blood

- **Revelation 11:5, 6**
- **Fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies (see 2 Kings 1:9-16 and story of Elijah and King Ahaziah)**
- **Power to shut heaven that it rain not in the days of their prophecy (1 Kings 18 - Elijah and King Ahab)**
- **Power over waters to turn them to blood and smite the earth with plagues (Moses)**



Beast From The Abyss

- **Revelation 11:7**
- **“When they shall have finished their testimony”**
- **What would you expect to happen when Scripture is suppressed for 1260 years?**
- **Beast from the abyss ascends**
- **Satanic power that arises near the end of the 1260 years**
- **Makes war with Scripture**



The French Revolution

Sodom and Egypt - Rev. 11:8

- **Licentiousness of Sodom**
- **Story of Lot, his daughters, and the men struck with blindness by the angels**
- **Origin of the term sodomy**
- **Atheism of Egypt**
- **“Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go.” Exodus 5:2. GC 269**



Origin of The French Revolution

- **What led to the anarchy of the French Revolution?**
- **France was the eldest daughter of the papacy**
- **Clovis of the Franks used his army to establish the dominance of the papacy in western Europe in 508 AD (arms shall stand on his part - Daniel 11:31)**



Religious and Political Abuse in France

- **Leading voice in support of the papacy during the 1260 years (eldest daughter of the papacy)**
- **The Scripture (the two witnesses) was clothed in sackcloth for 1260 years (Rev. 11:2, 3)**
- **Protestants such as the Huguenots were driven out**
- **St. Bartholomew's massacre (1572)**



Religious and Political Abuse in France

- **Three political classes in society**
- **1. The clergy (First Estate)**
- **2. The nobility (Second Estate)**
- **3. The bourgeoisie (Third Estate)**
- **The King had sovereignty over all classes**
- **The Third Estate had the majority of people but a minority vote in parliament**



Oppressed and Oppressors

- **The first and second estate lived luxuriously and lived off the labor of the third estate**
- **The clergy (papacy) and the nobility oppressed the working class**
- **This unfair system of oppression created a powder keg that exploded in revolution**



At the opening of the Revolution, by a concession of the king, the people were granted a representation exceeding that of the nobles and the clergy combined. Thus the balance of power was in their hands; but they were not prepared to use it with wisdom and moderation. Eager to redress the wrongs they had suffered, they determined to undertake the reconstruction of society. An outraged populace, whose minds were filled with bitter and long-treasured memories of wrong, resolved to revolutionize the state of misery that had grown unbearable and to avenge themselves upon those whom they regarded as the authors of their sufferings. The oppressed wrought out the lesson they had learned under tyranny and became the oppressors of those who had oppressed them.

— GC 282.1

Unhappy France reaped in blood the harvest she had sown. Terrible were the results of her submission to the controlling power of Rome. Where France, under the influence of Romanism, had set up the first stake at the opening of the Reformation, there the Revolution set up its first guillotine. On the very spot where the first martyrs to the Protestant faith were burned in the sixteenth century, the first victims were guillotined in the eighteenth. In repelling the gospel, which would have brought her healing, France had opened the door to infidelity and ruin. When the restraints of God's law were cast aside, it was found that the laws of man were inadequate to hold in check the powerful tides of human passion; and the nation swept on to revolt and anarchy.

— GC 282.2

Political Aspect of the French Revolution

- **Storming of the Bastille, July 14, 1789**
- **King Louis XVI executed January 21, 1793**
- **Around 50,000 died in the reign of terror**
- **Maximilien Robespierre, one of the lead instigators of the Revolution, was executed July 28, 1794**



Religious Aspect of the French Revolution

- Revelation 11:7
- And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.
- Beast = kingdom
- Bottomless pit is from *abussos* which represents the arsenal of Satan



End-Time Atheism

Power of Satan

- **Beast = Kingdom**
- **Beast is from the Abyss**
- **Satanic Power**
- **Makes war against the Bible**
- **Spiritually Sodom and Egypt**
- **Licentiousness and Atheism**
- **Revolutionary France was the beginning of this end-time movement**



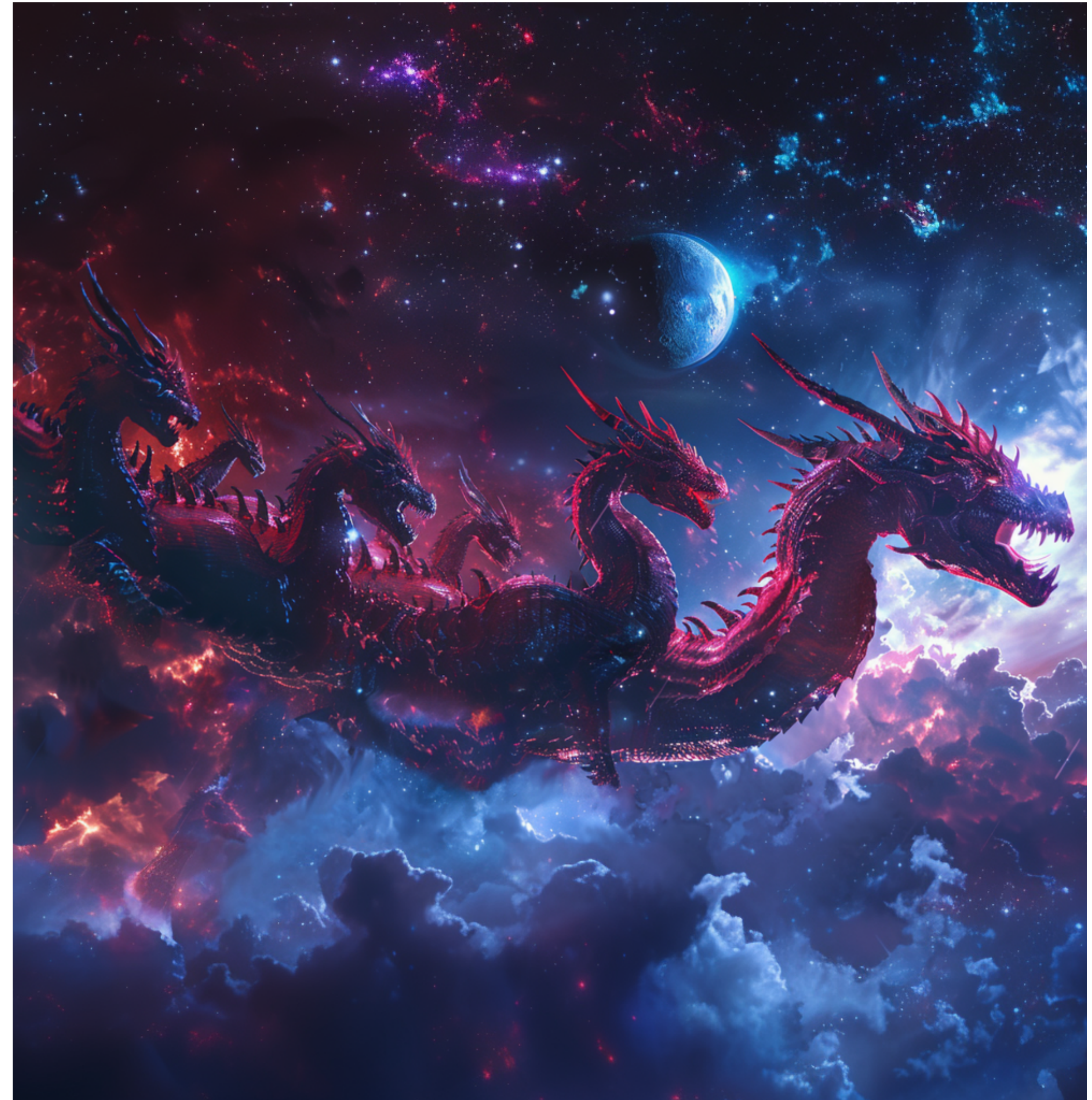
From the Papacy To Atheism

- **The Scripture was clothed in sackcloth for 1260 years**
- **The masses viewed the teachings of the church as the teachings of the Scripture and of God**
- **France declared open war against God and Scripture in the Revolution**
- **France's view of God had been skewed by the papacy**



Satan Has a New Kingdom

- **The dragon, Satan, gave his power, seat, and authority to the papacy (Rev. 13:2)**
- **At the end of the 1260 years, he raises a new satanic power that he controls**
- **Both are antagonistic to Scripture and persecute God's people**



When error in one garb has been detected, Satan only masks it in a different disguise, and multitudes receive it as eagerly as at the first. When the people found Romanism to be a deception, and he could not through this agency lead them to transgression of God's law, he urged them to regard all religion as a cheat, and the Bible as a fable; and, casting aside the divine statutes, they gave themselves up to unbridled iniquity.

— GC 285.1

French Revolution

Three-and-a-half Years

Revelation 11:9-11

And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.



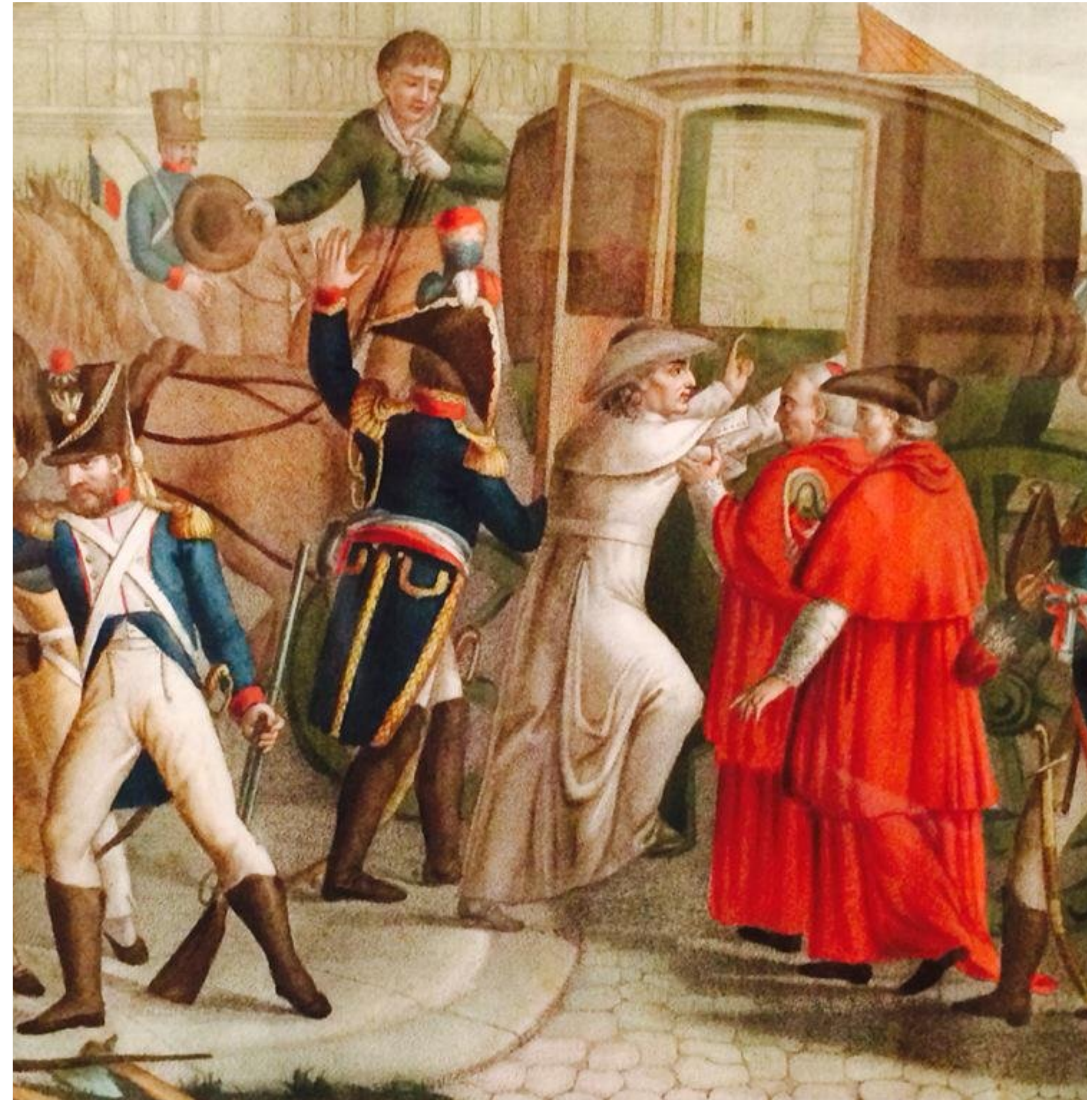
Atheistic Aspect of the French Revolution

- **On November 10, 1793, “the commission of the Convention dressed up an ass in sacerdotal habit, loaded it with symbols of Christianity, and tied the Old and new Testament to its tail. It was then led in mock procession. ... The crowd piled books of devotion into heaps and burned them to ashes amid blasphemous shouts. ... A prostitute was enthroned as ‘Goddess of reason.’”**
- **On November 23, 1793, “The Convention ... decreed the abolition of all religion,” which included the abolition of the Scriptures.**
- **On June 15, 1797, just over three-and-a-half years later (3 years, 6 months and 20 odd days), the National Assembly voted that religion be restored and toleration given to the Scriptures, thus fulfilling in remarkable detail the specifications of this prophecy.**
- **Austin Cooke, *An Enduring Vision*, p. 346**

The Deadly Wound

Delivered by France

- **Less than a year after the French Revolution ended, Napoleon's general Berthier took Pope Pius VI captive on February 20, 1798**
- **The deadly wound was inflicted on the papacy as it lost control over the state power**
- **Thus came to an end the 1260 years of papal supremacy from 538 - 1798 AD.**



The Revolution Lives On

- Karl Marx wrote the *Communist Manifesto* from Paris, France, published in 1848
- Atheism is a foundational principle to his teachings
- He teaches that class distinction leads to oppression
- In the cultural variation, modern Marxism teaches that religious and ethnic privilege can also lead to oppression



The Revolution Lives On

- **The Communist Manifesto gave rise to the Russian Revolution of 1917**
- **Vladimir Lenin was the revolutionary of his time**
- **Communism works to destroy class distinction and place everyone on equal footing (with the exception of the party leaders)**



Spiritualism asserts that men are unfallen demigods; that “each mind will judge itself;” that “true knowledge places men above all law;” that “all sins committed are innocent;” for “whatever is, is right,” and “God doth not condemn.” The basest of human beings it represents as in heaven, and highly exalted there. Thus it declares to all men, “It matters not what you do; live as you please, heaven is your home.” Multitudes are thus led to believe that desire is the highest law, that license is liberty, and that man is accountable only to himself. — Education 227, 228

At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human. The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution—all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.

— Education 228.2

Principles Behind the Revolution

- **The French Revolution was the natural outgrowth of 1260 years of papal supremacy**
- **Why did God allow the papacy to rule for one thousand, two hundred, and sixty years?**
- **This is 3 and 1/2 prophetic years**
- **Christ had His ministry for 3 and 1/2 literal years**
- **At the end of 3 and 1/2 years, Christ died on the cross (deadly wound) and then He had a resurrection**
- **Papacy receives power from Satan, reigns for 3 and 1/2 prophetic years (538 - 1798) and then receives deadly wound. Resurrection is future (NSL)**

Principles Behind the Revolution

- At the end of the 3 and 1/2 prophetic years (1260 years from 538 - 1798) of papal supremacy, there are 3 and 1/2 literal years of the French Revolution**
- Total anarchy; hostile separation of church and state; atheism - Scriptures abolished; leaders of the revolution turn on each other**
- Satan was in total control of the papacy for 1260 years. He was in total control of the French Revolution**
- It took 1260 years of papal control for the fruits of Anti-Christ to be fully seen**
- The French Revolution is a demonstration of what heaven would have become if Satan had usurped the authority of God**

Modern Secularism

- LGBTQ
- DEI
- Cultural Marxism; Oppressed vs. Oppressors
- Hostility toward Christianity (difference between French and American Revolution)
- Rejection of absolute truth
- Abortion
- Your truth vs. my truth vs. The Truth



Modern Secularism

- This is an unclean spirit like a frog out of the mouth of the dragon
- As God's people, we should have nothing to do with the principles of modern secularism
- The Democratic Party, and its philosophy, is not an extension of the third angel's message
- This cultural rot is leading many of our young people to leave God



**Secular philosophy
Destroys concept of truth**

Secularism and Spiritualism

- Secularism is a form of spiritualism that is satanic at its root**
- It paves the way for secularists/atheists to believe the supernatural manifestations of spiritualism in the last days when fire comes down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men (Rev. 13:13, 14)**
- The satanic supernatural manifestations that occur in the last days will be readily accepted by those who have never lived by faith in God's word and who place human experience and philosophy above a plain "Thus saith the Lord"**
- While the Sunday law will come from the religious right, progressive secularism is also preparing people to receive the mark of the beast due to its rejection of the plain teachings of God's Word**

Jesus is the Truth

- **John 14:6 - I am the way, the truth, and the life.**
- **Now is not the time to be joining forces with secular ideology**
- **Truth is not relative**
- **Every truth in Scripture is connected to Jesus, Who is the Truth**
- **Seventh-day Adventists should not be activists for any political ideology, including secular, progressive philosophy**
- **Secular philosophy is antithetical to truth and to Christ**
- **As Seventh-day Adventists, we are to follow Christ and His truth for the last days**

Adventism vs. the French Revolution

- **The rise of the Second Advent Movement is described in Revelation 10**
- **The French Revolution is seen in Revelation 11:1-14**
- **The conclusion of the sixth trumpet is seen at the end of Revelation 9, but also through Revelation 11:1-14**
- **The seventh trumpet sounds in Revelation 11:15-19**
- **The first four trumpets are a judgment on the Western Roman Empire**
- **The 5th and 6th trumpets are judgments on the Eastern Roman Empire**
- **The 7th trumpet is a judgment on the Papal Roman Empire and ultimately culminates in the seven last plagues**

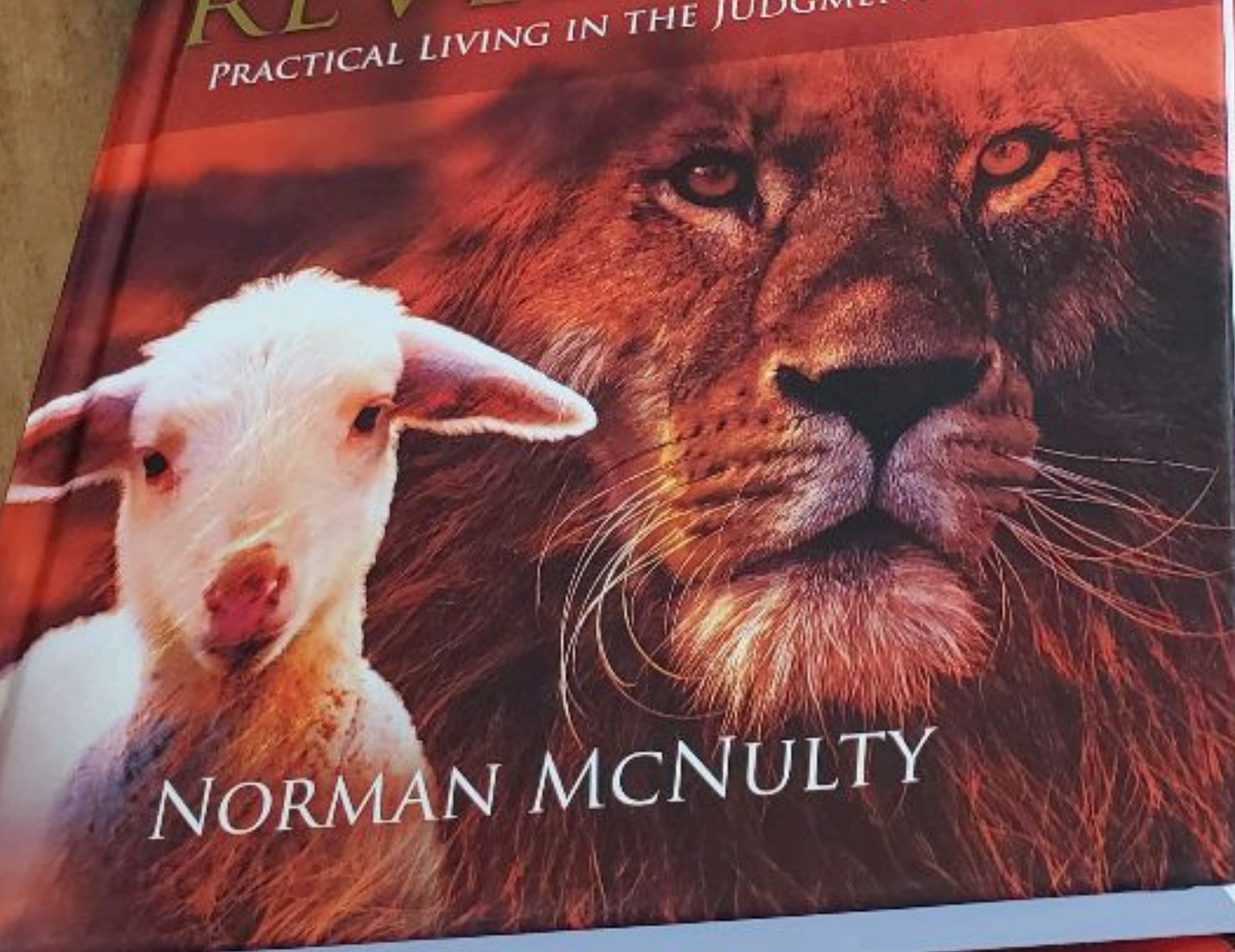
Adventism vs. the French Revolution

- **The French Revolution occurs at the end of the 1260 years**
- **The principles of anti-Christ are fully seen**
- **God is vindicated to begin the judgment in heaven**
- **Rev. 11:15 - the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever**
- **Why is the Second Advent Movement seen between the sounding of the sixth and seventh trumpets?**
- **When the mystery of God is finished, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Col. 1:27), God will be vindicated to finish the judgment, cleanse the sanctuary and come back as king of kings and Lord of Lords!**

In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention. — 9T 19.1

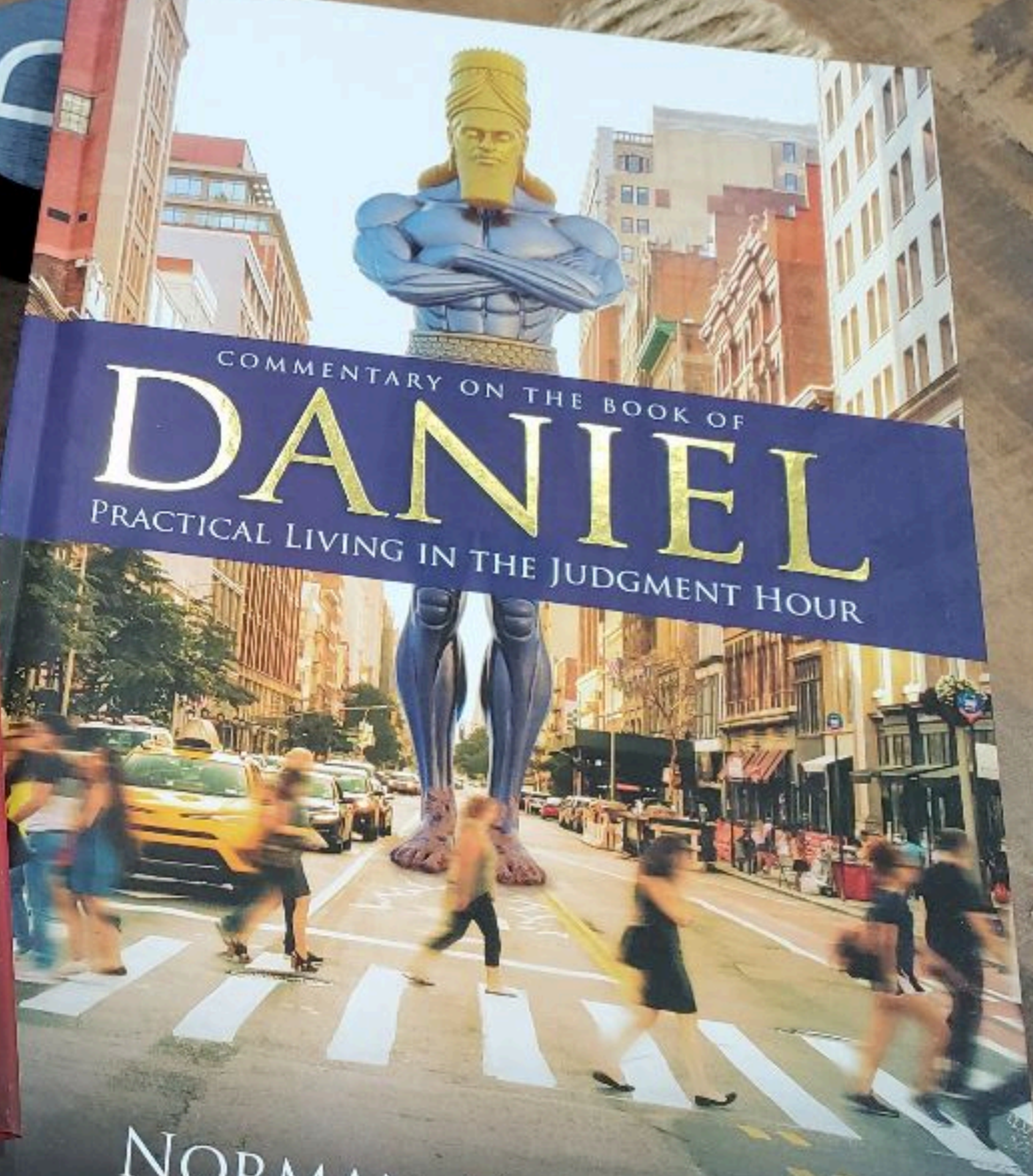
The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God's people are to be true to the trust committed to them. — 9T 19.2

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