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HOME WHERE WE BELONG

CEC Gathering, Session 3
Cathedral Church of the King

We Are Sacramental

Becoming People of the Presence

1 Peter 2.9-10

Dr. Don L. Davis



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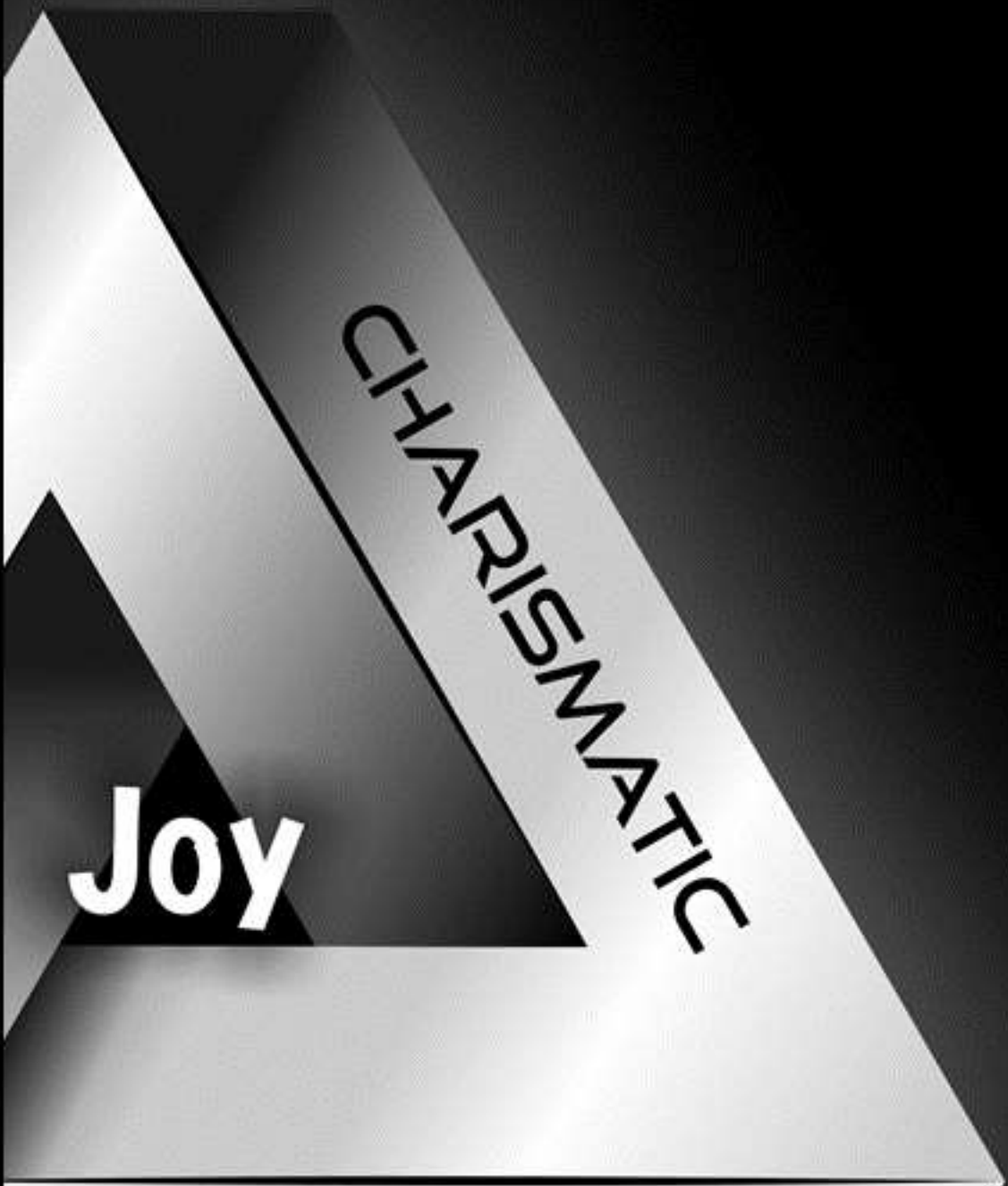


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Let the River flow . . .

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

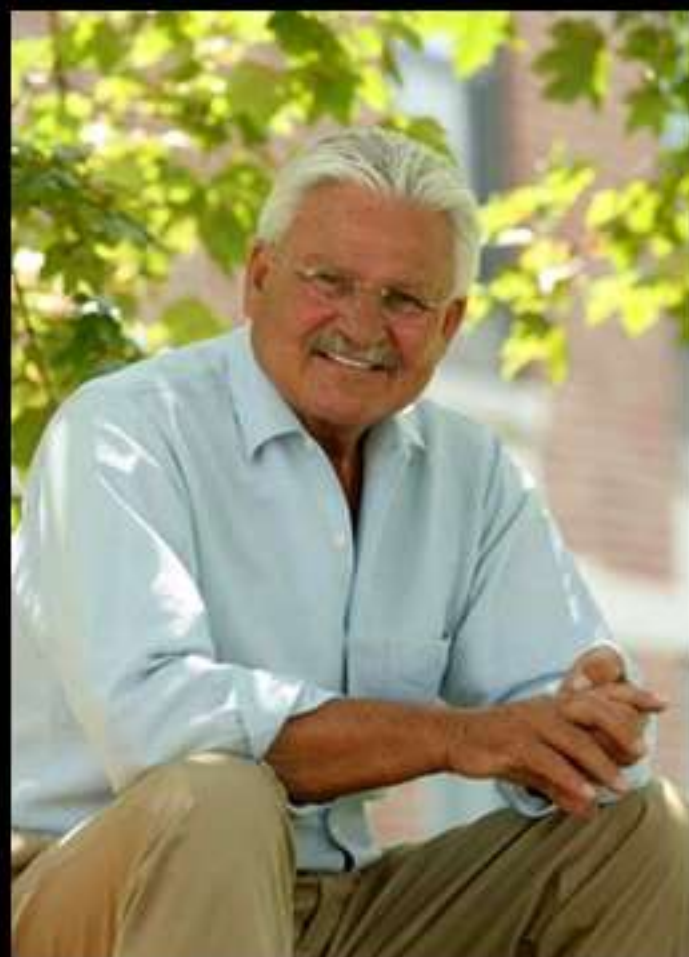


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“Today, as in the ancient era, the Church is confronted by a host of master narratives that contradict and compete with the Gospel. The pressing question is: **who gets to narrate the world?**”

Robert Webber,

Nov. 27, 1933 – April 27, 2007

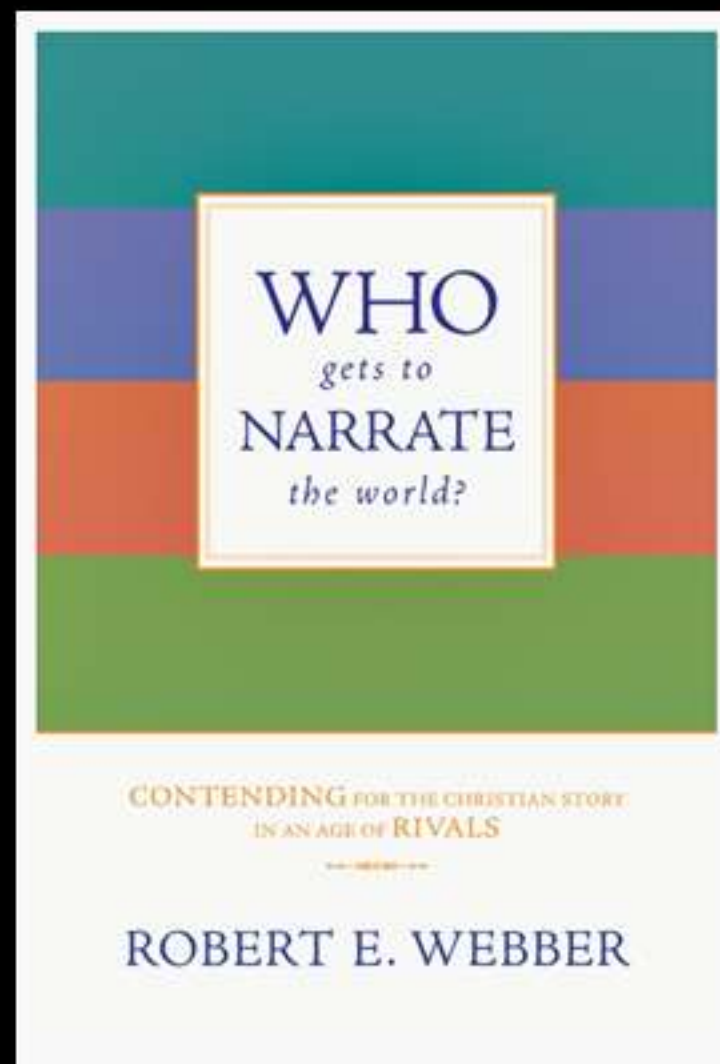


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Sacramental: People of the Presence



“Today, as in the ancient era, the Church is confronted by a host of master narratives that contradict and compete with the Gospel. The pressing question is: **who gets to narrate the world?**”



Home Where We Belong, Session 3
Sacramental: People of the Presence

The Church is an Embassy



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Sacramental: People of the Presence



The Church is an Embassy

Every local church is **an embassy of God**, an outpost of the heavenly kingdom called to embody and represent the vision and values of Christ, both locally and around the world.

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Peter 2.9-10 (ESV)

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Peter 2.9-10 (ESV)

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.





Passport =

“An official document issued by a country’s government that authorizes travel, and authenticates both the bearer’s identity and citizenship”



Embassy =
"The official headquarters of an ambassador, regarded as an **outpost** of a sovereign government **resident in a foreign land.**"



“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,



who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”

- Phil. 3.20-21 (ESV)





ST. CYPRIAN

OF CARTHAGE



**“There is no
salvation,
outside of the
church.”**

**~ Cyprian
of Carthage, c. 250**



**“Can he have
God as his
FATHER, before
he has had the
church for his
MOTHER?”**

~ Cyprian
of Carthage, c. 250



**“If the church
ain’t yo’ MAMA,
then God
ain’t yo’ DADDY!”**

~ Cyprian
of Carthage, c. 250

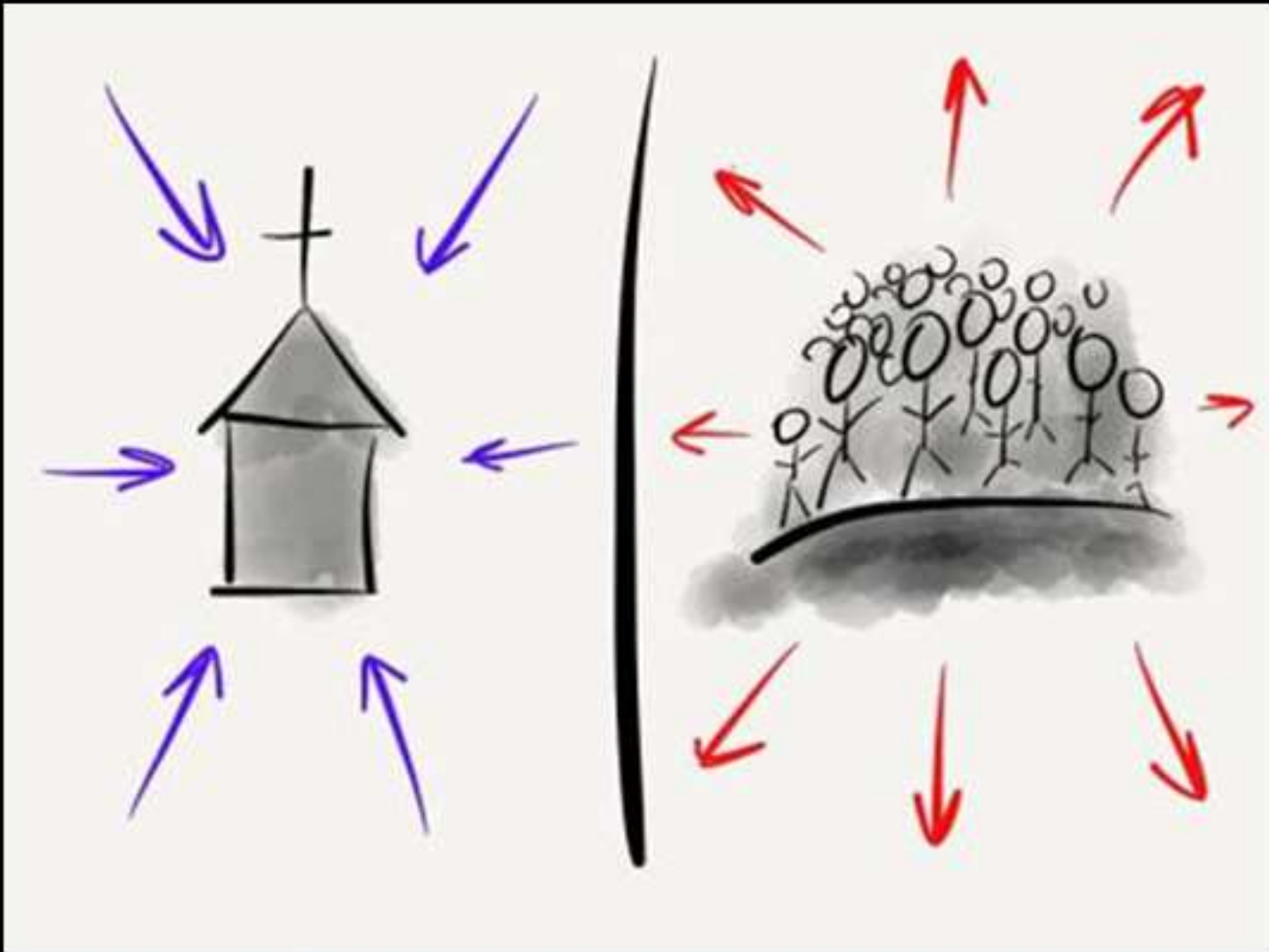




**“The Church is
like Noah’s ark;**



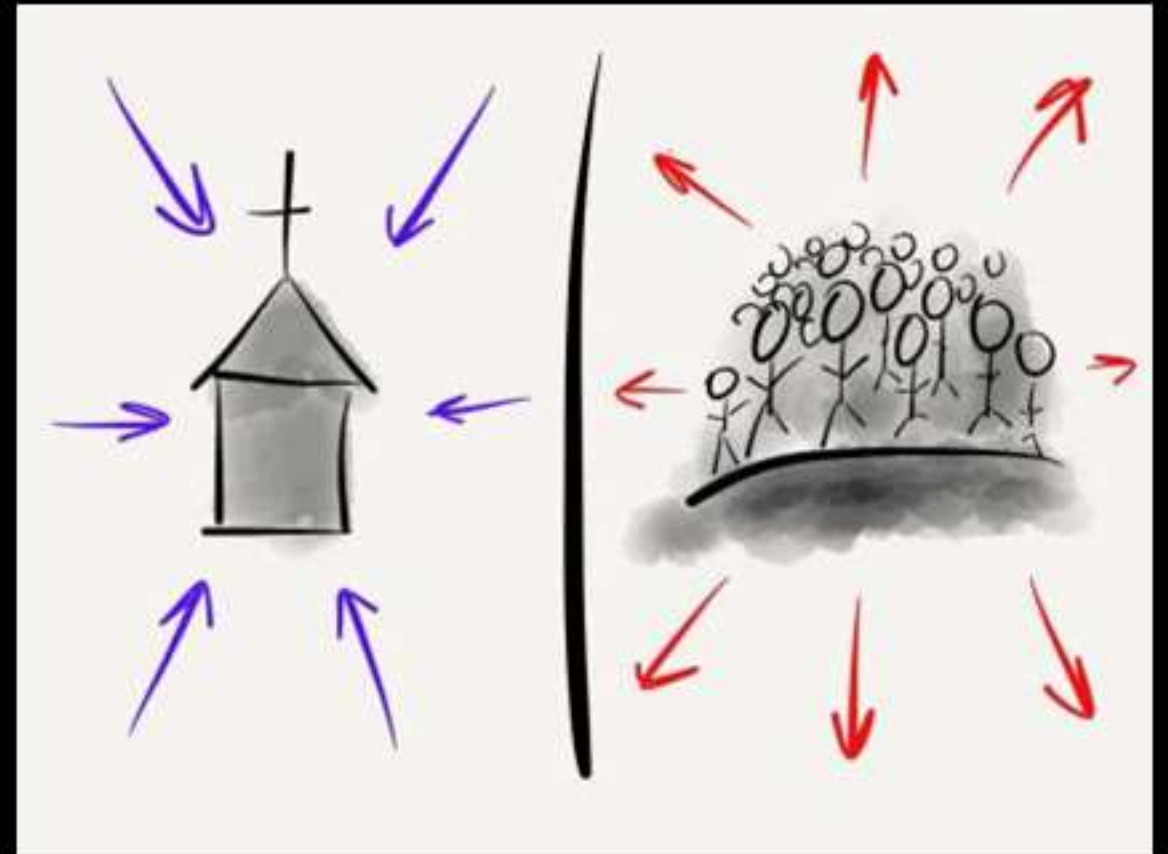
“The Church is like Noah’s ark; if it weren’t for the STORM outside you couldn’t stand the STANK inside!”



Come and See vs Go and Get?



Why the
concept of the
Church in the
world hold the
key to our
identity and
mission?





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TUMI
is a ministry of
WORLD
IMPACT

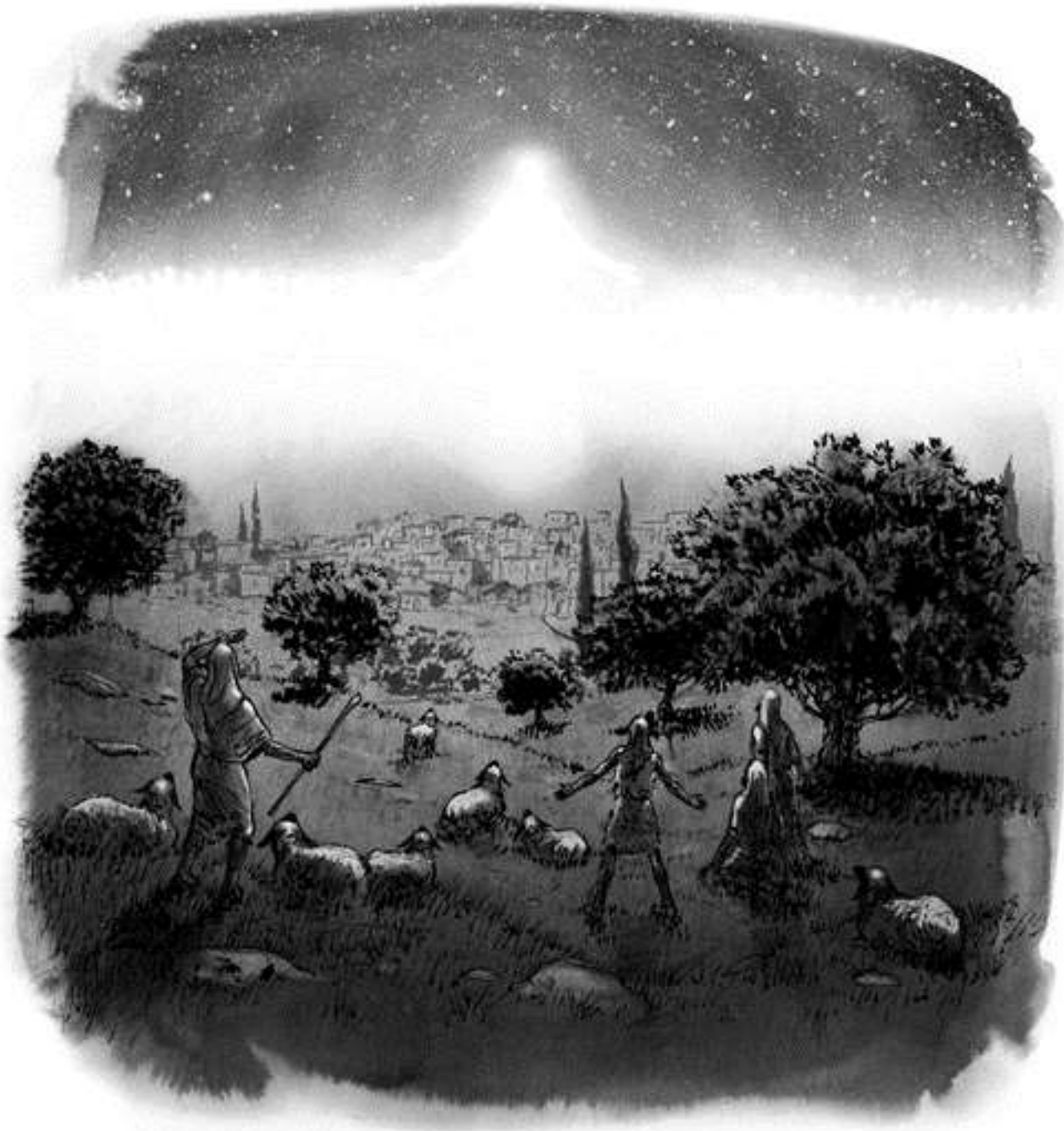


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O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel

The Presence of God Motif

“Everything in the New Testament accords with this Old Testament picture. Ransomed [people] need no longer pause in fear to enter the Holy of Holies. God wills that we should push on into His Presence and live our whole life there. . . .



The Presence of God Motif

... This is to be known to us in conscious experience. It is more than a doctrine to be held, it is a life to be enjoyed every moment of every day.”

-- A. W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God* (Optimized for Kindle),

A.W. Tozer and Christian Book Collection, [Updated 4/14/2010], p. 35.



Once upon a Time



From everlasting to everlasting, our Lord is God

From everlasting, in that matchless mystery of existence before time began, our Father God dwelt in perfect splendor in eternal communion as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Trinity, displaying his perfect attributes in eternal relationship, needing nothing, in boundless holiness, joy, and beauty. According to his sovereign will, our God purposed out of love to create a universe where his splendor would be revealed, and a world where his glory would be displayed and where a people made in his own image would dwell, sharing in fellowship with him and enjoying union with himself in relationship, all for his glory.



Who, as the Sovereign God, created a world that would ultimately rebel against his rule

Who, as the Sovereign God, created a world that would ultimately rebel against his rule. Influenced by lust, greed, and pride, the first human pair rebelled against his will, deceived by the great prince, Satan, whose diabolical plot to supplant God as ruler of all resulted in countless angelic beings rejecting God's divine will in the heavens. Through Adam and Eve's disobedience, they exposed themselves and their heirs to misery and death, and through their rebellion inherited creation into chaos, suffering, and evil. Through sin and rebellion, the union between God and creation was lost, and now all things are subject to the effects of this great fall—alienation, separation, and condemnation become the underlying reality for all things. No angel, human being, or creature can solve this dilemma, and without God's direct intervention, all the universe, the world, and all its creatures would be lost.



Yet, in mercy and loving-kindness, the Lord God promised to send a Savior to redeem his creation

In sovereign covenantal love, God determined to remedy the effects of the universe's rebellion by sending a Champion, his only Son, who would take on the form of the fallen just, embrace and overthrow their separation from God, and suffer in the place of all humankind for its sin and disobedience. So, through his covenant faithfulness, God became directly involved in human history for the sake of their salvation. The Lord God stoops to engage his creation for the sake of restoring it, to put down evil once and for all, and to establish a people out of which his Champion would come to establish his reign in this world once more.



The Cosmic Drama through a Biblical Narration of the World

by Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis



So, he raised up a people from which the Governor would come

And so, through Noah, he saves the world from its own evil, through Abraham, he selects the clan through which the seed would come.

Through Isaac, he continues the promise to Abraham, and through Jacob (Israel) he establishes his nation, identifying the tribe out of which he will come (Judah). Through Moses, he delivers his own from oppression and gives them his covenantal law, and through Joshua, he brings his people into the land of promise. Through judges and leaders he superintends his people, and through David, he covenants to bring a King from his clan who will reign forever. Despite his promise, though, his people fall short of his covenant time after time. Their stubborn and persistent rejection of the Lord finally leads to the nation's judgment, invasion, overthrow, and captivity. Mercifully, he remembers his covenant and allows a remnant to return—for the promise and the story were not done.

Who, as Champion, came down from heaven, in the fullness of time, and won through the Cross

Some four thousand years of silence occurred. Yet, in the fullness of time, God fulfilled his covenant promise by entering into this realm of evil, suffering, and alienation through the incarnation. In the person of Jesus of Nazareth, God came down from heaven and lived among us, displaying the Father's glory, fulfilling the requirements of God's moral law, and demonstrating the power of the Kingdom of God in his words, works, and exorcisms. On the Cross he took on our rebellion, destroyed death, overcame the devil, and rose on the third day to restore creation from the Fall. In making an end of sin, disease, and vice, and to grant never-ending life to all people who embrace his salvation.



And, soon and very soon, he will return to this world and make all things new

Ascended to the Father's right hand, the Lord Jesus Christ has sent the Holy Spirit into the world, forming a new people made up of both Jew and Gentile, the Church Commissioned under his leadership, they testify in word and deed the gospel of reconciliation to the whole creation, and when they have completed their task, he will return in glory and complete his work for creation and all creatures. Then, he will put down sin, evil, death, and the effects of the Curse forever, and restore all creation under its true rule, refreshing all things in a new heaven and new earth, where all beings and all creation will enjoy the shadow of the triumphant God forever, to his glory and honor alone.

And the redeemed shall live happily ever after...



The End



***The CEC communion should say
“Join us,” inviting others to
make it their home where a
new generation of seekers
belong.***



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***You are undeniably evangelical,
charismatic, and sacramental.***



*You are unquestionably
sacramental.*



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Home Where We Belong, Session 3

Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...

- 1. A tabernacle for presence and provision:**
Allow the Almighty's presence to rule in Liturgy, in both Word and Eucharist.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...

- 1. A tabernacle for presence and provision:**
Allow the Almighty's presence to rule in Liturgy, in both Word and Eucharist.
- 2. A center for display and proclamation:**
Tangibly show the Kingdom's rule, and proclaim its coming in this space.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...

- 3. A war college to equip and deploy:** Equip each member as agent and ambassador in their own unique life circle.



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Tangibly show the Kingdom's rule and proclaim its coming in this space.





1/5 21/10/0

The Presence of God in His Story



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The Presence of God in His Story

- The Garden of Eden



JOIN US

The Presence of God in His Story

- The Garden of Eden
- The Ark



The Presence of God in His Story



- The Garden of Eden
- The Ark
- The Covenantal appearances: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

The Presence of God in His Story



- The Garden of Eden
- The Ark
- The Covenantal appearances: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- The Tabernacle in the wilderness

The Presence of God in His Story



- The Garden of Eden
- The Ark
- The Covenantal appearances: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- The Tabernacle in the wilderness
- The Theophanies

The Presence of God in His Story

- The Temple



The Presence of God in His Story



- The Temple
- The Incarnation

The Presence of God in His Story



- The Temple
- The Incarnation
- The Church

The Presence of God in His Story



- The Temple
- The Incarnation
- The Church
- The New Jerusalem

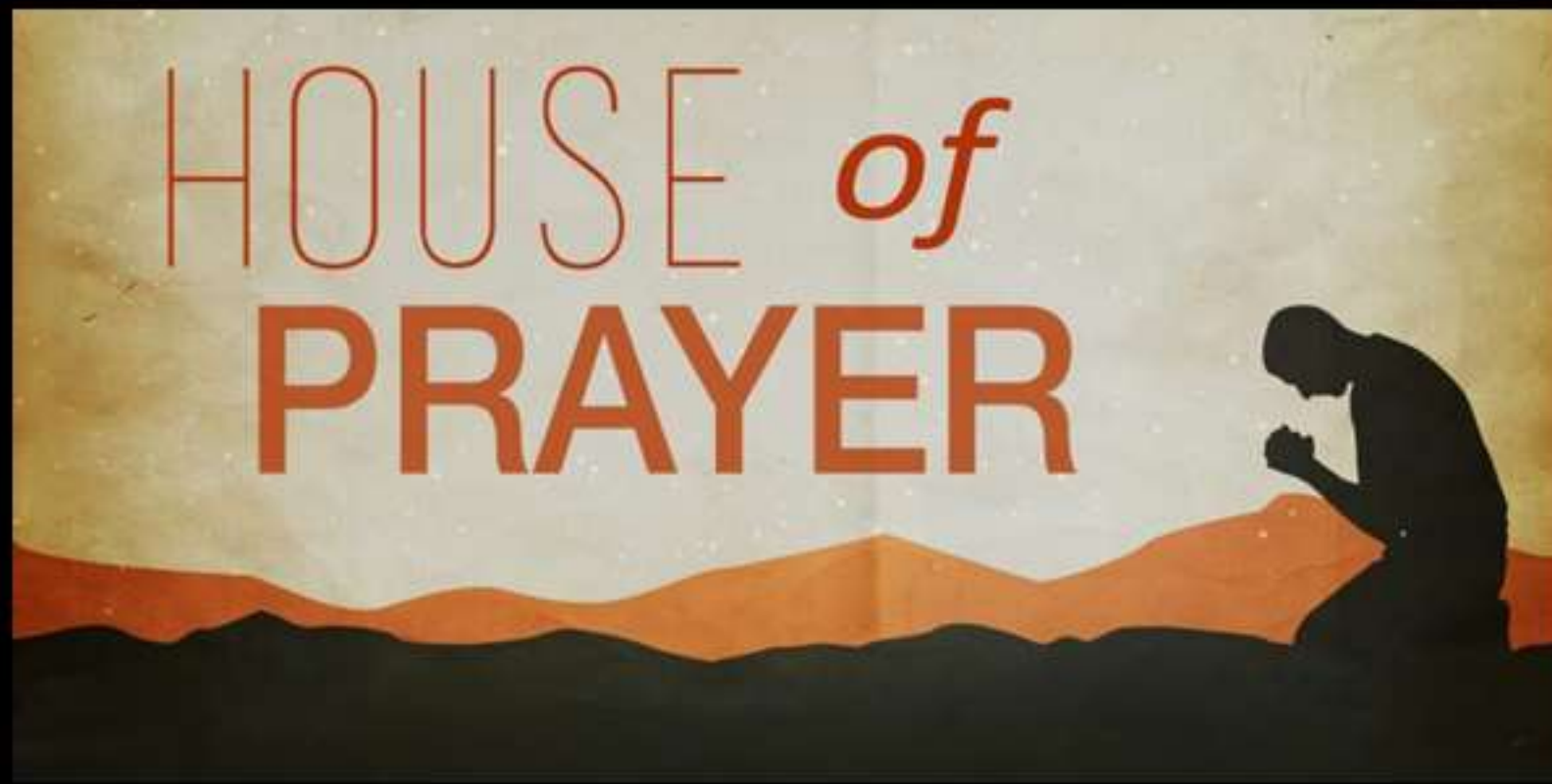
The Presence of God in His Story



- *The Temple*
- The Incarnation
- The Church
- The New Jerusalem

HOUSE *of*
PRAYER





Isaiah 56.7 (ESV) These I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- I. Be God's Tabernacle for Presence and Provision, 1 Kings 8.25-30



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

25 Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father what you have promised him, saying, 'You shall not lack a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.'



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

26 Now therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you have spoken to your servant David my father.



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1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

27 “But will God indeed dwell on the earth?
Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot
contain you; how much less this house that I
have built!



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

28 Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O LORD my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day,



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

²⁹ that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you have said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place.



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1 Kings 8.25-30 (ESV)

³⁰ And listen to the plea of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen in heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.”



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- I. Be God's Tabernacle for Presence and Provision, 1 Kings 8.25-30



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- I. Be God's Tabernacle for Presence and Provision, 1 Kings 8.25-30
 - A. Keep your promise, vv. 25-26



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- I. Be God's Tabernacle for Presence and Provision, 1 Kings 8.25-30
 - A. Keep your promise, vv. 25-26
 - B. Manifest your presence here, v. 27



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- I. Be God's Tabernacle for Presence and Provision, 1 Kings 8.25-30
 - A. Keep your promise, vv. 25-26
 - B. Manifest your presence here, v. 27
 - C. Hear the prayers in this place, vv. 28-30







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2 Chronicles 7.12-14 (ESV)

12 Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.



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2 Chronicles 7.12-14 (ESV)

13 When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people,



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

2 Chronicles 7.12-14 (ESV)

14 if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”





*The Church stewards
the mysteries of God,
celebrating the
presence of Christ
among his people
and in the Eucharist!*

Implications of Being God's Tabernacle



Implications of Being God's Tabernacle

- God has ***adopted believers*** into his body



Implications of Being God's Tabernacle

- God has *adopted believers* into his body
- God has commissioned the Church to steward his mysteries, i.e., *the Eucharist*



Implications of Being God's Tabernacle



- God has *adopted believers* into his body
- God has commissioned the Church to steward his mysteries, i.e., *the Eucharist*
- The *gathered assembly* is the dwelling place of God in the world

Implications of Being God's Tabernacle



- God has *adopted believers* into his body
- God has commissioned the Church to steward his mysteries, i.e., *the Eucharist*
- The gathered assembly is the dwelling place of God in the world
- “Where *the bishop is*, there is *the church*”

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...

1. **A tabernacle for presence and provision:**
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Tangibly show the Kingdom's rule, and proclaim its coming in this space.



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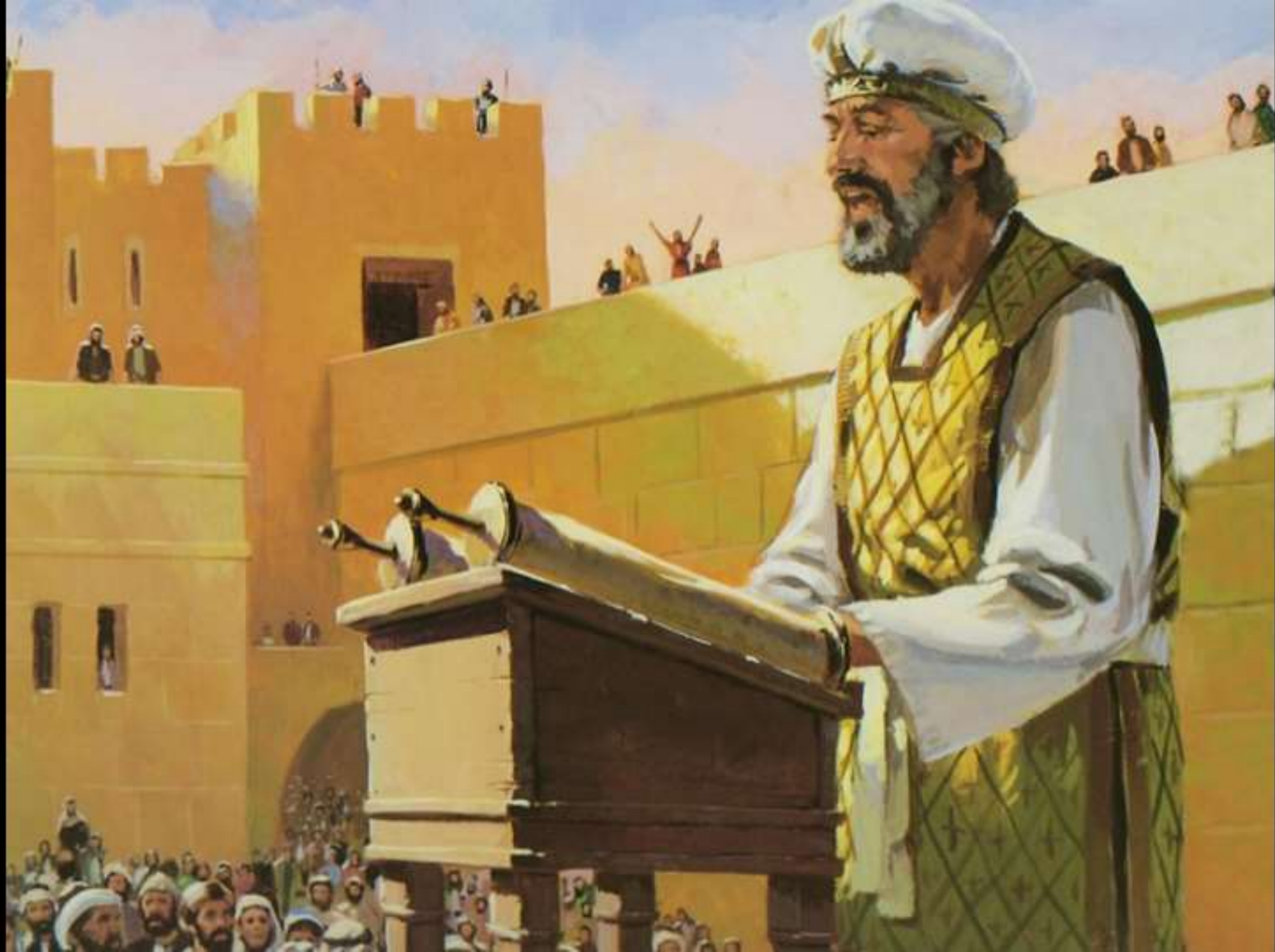
Sacramental: People of the Presence

II. Be God's Center for Kingdom Display and Proclamation, Matt. 5.13-16



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Matthew 5.13-16 (ESV)

¹³ You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Matthew 5.13-16 (ESV)

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.



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Matthew 5.13-16 (ESV)

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



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II. Be God's Center for Kingdom Display and Proclamation, Matt. 5.13-16



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II. Be God's Center for Kingdom Display and Proclamation, Matt. 5.13-16

A. Preserve what is best and good, v. 13



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II. Be God's Center for Kingdom Display and Proclamation, Matt. 5.13-16

A. Preserve what is best and good, v. 13

B. A shining city and burning lamp, vv. 14-15



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- II. Be God's Center for Kingdom Display and Proclamation, Matt. 5.13-16
 - A. Preserve what is best and good, v. 13
 - B. A shining city and burning lamp, vv. 14-15
 - C. Shine in such a way that the Father may be glorified through this place, v. 16

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John 4.21-24 (ESV)

²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

John 4.21-24 (ESV)

²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”







The Church is the locus and the agent of the Kingdom of God, the body of Christ in the world!

Implications Display and Proclamation



Implications Display and Proclamation

- ***Our deeds and good works*** show forth the life of God's kingdom locally



Implications Display and Proclamation



- Our deeds and good works show forth the life of God's kingdom locally
- **We *embody God's Story* and *boldly declare its implications* to contemporary culture**

Implications Display and Proclamation



- Our deeds and good works show forth the life of God's kingdom locally
- We embody God's Story and boldly declare its implications to contemporary culture
- We are ***citizens of the Kingdom, called to represent*** its vision, ethic, and mission.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Each CEC church is a Kingdom-embassy to be a ...

- 3. A war college to equip and deploy:** Equip each member as agent and ambassador in their own unique life circle.





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Sacramental: People of the Presence

III. Be a War College to Equip and Deploy
Agent-Ambassadors for Christ, Phil. 2.14-16



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Philippians 2.14-16 (ESV)

14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing,

15 that you may be blameless and innocent,
children of God without blemish in the midst of
a crooked and twisted generation, among
whom you shine as lights in the world,



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Philippians 2.14-16 (ESV)

¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

III. Be a War College to Equip and Deploy
Agent-Ambassadors for Christ, Phil. 2.14-16



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

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- A. Do all things without grumbling and
disputing, v. 14



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Sacramental: People of the Presence



- III. Be a War College to Equip and Deploy Agent-Ambassadors for Christ, Phil. 2.14-16
- A. Do all things without grumbling and disputing, v. 14
 - B. Infiltrate within the unique life circles of each member, v. 15

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

III. Be a War College to Equip and Deploy
Agent-Ambassadors for Christ, Phil. 2.14-16

A. Do all things without grumbling and
disputing, v. 14

B. Infiltrate within the unique life circles of
each member, v. 15

C. Nurture in the body of Christ an apostolic
heart, v. 16



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Sacramental: People of the Presence



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- Apostle (*apostolos*)



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

- Apostle (*apostolos*)
- Evangelist (*evangelistes*)



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Sacramental: People of the Presence



- Apostle (*apostolos*)
- Evangelist (*evangelistes*)
- Ambassador (*presbeuo*)

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Sacramental: People of the Presence



- Apostle (*apostolos*)
- Evangelist (*evangelistes*)
- Ambassador (*presbeuo*)
- Prophet (*prophetes*)

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Sacramental: People of the Presence



- Apostle (*apostolos*)
- Evangelist (*evangelistes*)
- Ambassador (*presbeuo*)
- Prophet (*prophetes*)
- Pastor (*poimen*)

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Sacramental: People of the Presence



- Apostle (*apostolos*)
- Evangelist (*evangelistes*)
- Ambassador (*presbeuo*)
- Prophet (*prophetes*)
- Pastor (*poimen*)
- Worker (*ergates*)

Representation as biblical model of leadership

“... There is far more instruction about the role of *following* than about the role of *leading*.”

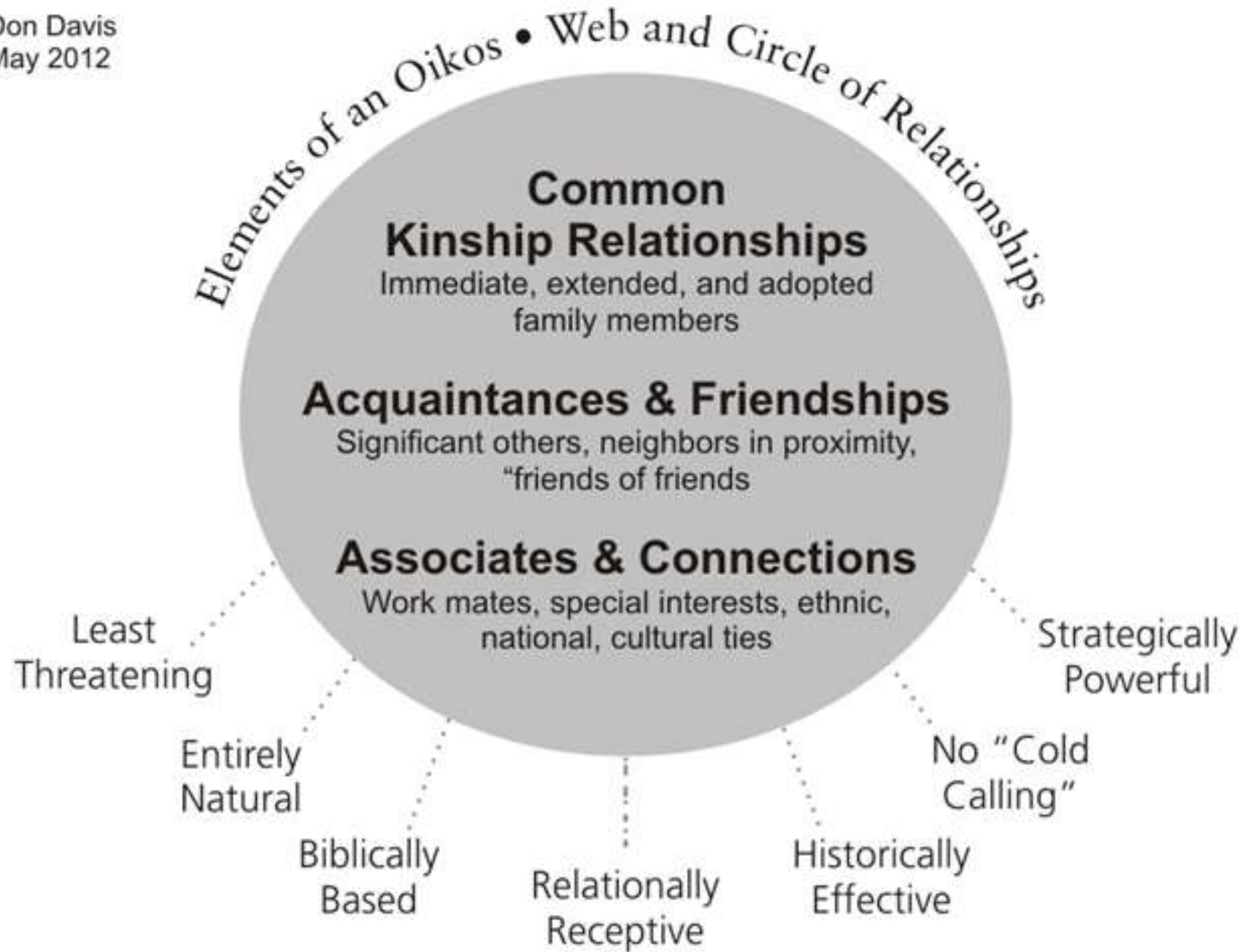
~ David Bennett, *The Metaphors of Ministry*, p. 62



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Don Davis
May 2012



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Acts 16.30-31 (ESV)

³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household (*oikos*).”







1

Immediate Family

- Spouse
- Children
- Parents
- Siblings

s"

ean"

2

Relatives

- Family members
- Kinship relations
- Parents' kin
- Distant relatives

3

Close Friends

- Intimates
- Lifelong connections
- Significant others
- Romance and dating
- Experience bonds

4

Neighbors

● living close-by

● instead

● Experi

4

Neighbors

- Those living close-by
- Those in need
- "Historical" neighbors
- Those deemed such
- Sharing common experience

ups

visits, events
ons

5

Associates

- Proximity folk
- Fellow employees
- Subordinates
- Peers and Leaders
- Memberships, Groups
- Affiliations
- Mutual interests

6

Acquaintances

- Somewhat Familiars
- Contacts through mutual friends, family
- Connections from work
- Those "known" from frequent visits, events
- Introductions

Assoc

● Proxim

7

Person(s) "X"

- Strangers
- Chance contacts
- Unknowns, the "others"
- Those different
- Those viewed as "unclean"
- Those considered dangerous
- Encounters in life

6

Li



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Ephesians 6.10-13 (ESV)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.



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Ephesians 6.10-13 (ESV)

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Ephesians 6.10-13 (ESV)

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.





*The Church embraces
the mission of God,
to proclaim Christ
and his kingdom to
the ends of the earth!*

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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Ephesians 2.20-22 (ESV)

²⁰ Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.



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Sacramental: People of the Presence

Ephesians 2.20-22 (ESV)

22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.



Implications of Being a War College



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Implications of Being a War College



- Equip every follower of Christ to serve ***as a lay minister of the Kingdom***
- Commission every member to serve as Christ's ambassador within their life circle
- Affirm the missional adage: "From every place to every one."

Implications of Being a War College



- Equip every follower of Christ to serve as a lay minister of the Kingdom
- ***Commission every church*** to serve as an outpost of the Kingdom in its locale
- Affirm the missional adage: “From every place to everyone.”

Implications of Being a War College



- Equip every follower of Christ to serve as a lay minister of the Kingdom
- **Commission** every church to serve as an outpost of the Kingdom in its locale
- Affirm the missional adage: ***“From every place to every one.”***

The Conclusion



JOIN US

Make The Joyous Invitation



***The CEC communion should say
“Join us,” inviting others to
make it their home where a
new generation of seekers
belong.***



JOIN US

***You are undeniably evangelical,
charismatic, and sacramental.***



*You are unquestionably
sacramental.*



JOIN US



JOIN US







Let the River flow . . .



JOIN US

Take this away with you . . .



Take this away with you . . .

***Affirm the power of the real
presence of God in the CEC
communion.***



Take this away with you . . .

In the Eucharist, in the gathered assembly, and in the scattered Gospel-equipped membership, and missions.



JOIN US

Take this away with you . . .
***Confess that You are
unquestionably
sacramental.***



Home Where We Belong, Session 3

Sacramental: People of the Presence

Exodus 40.34-38 (ESV)

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

³⁵ And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.



Home Where We Belong, Session 3

Sacramental: People of the Presence

Exodus 40.34-38 (ESV)

³⁶ Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. ³⁷ But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up.



Home Where We Belong, Session 3

Sacramental: People of the Presence

Exodus 40.34-38 (ESV)

38 For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.



From space Shuttle *Atlantis*, flying Servicing Mission 4

Hubble Space Telescope

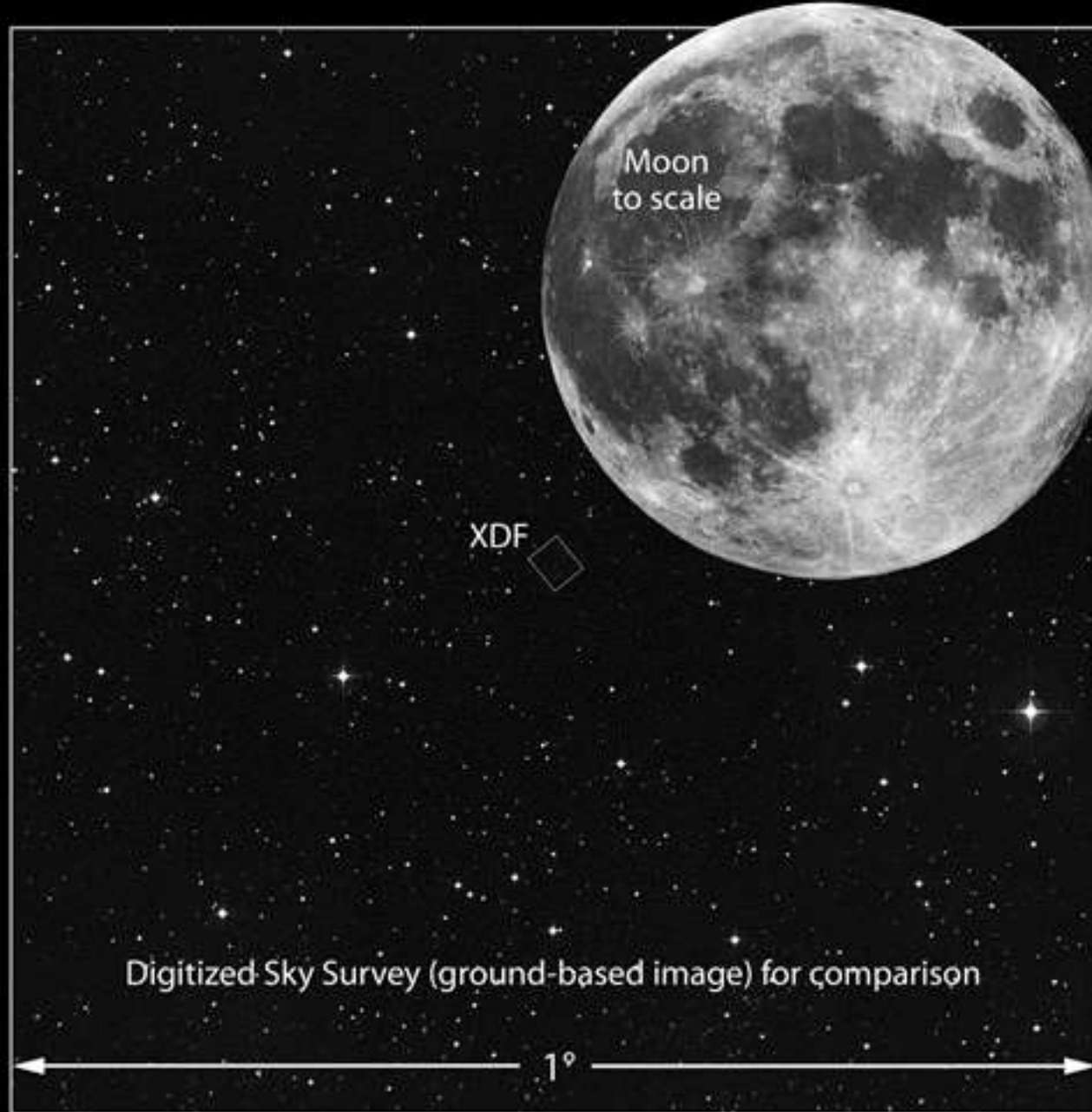




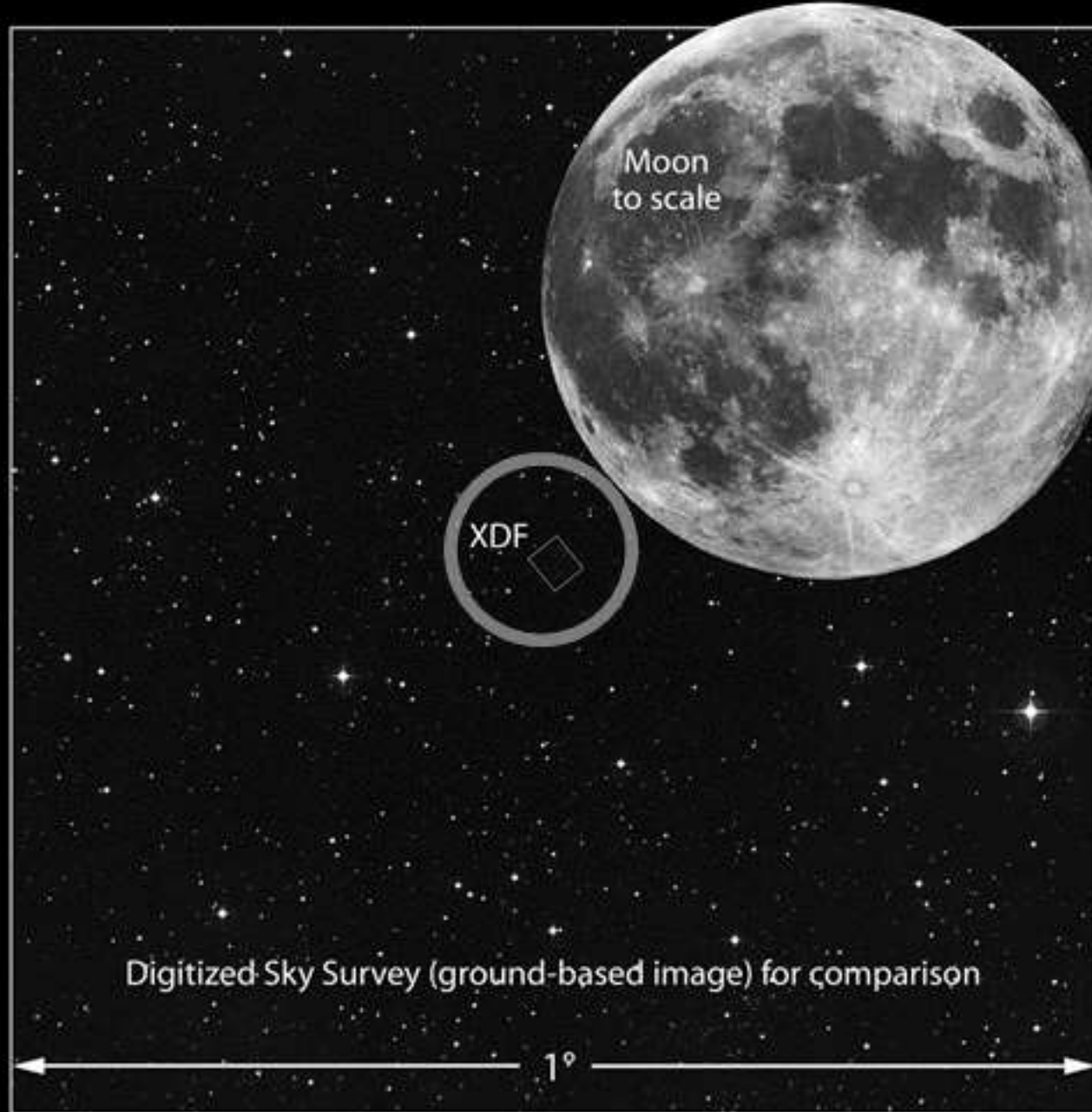
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Size of Hubble eXtreme Deep Field on the Sky

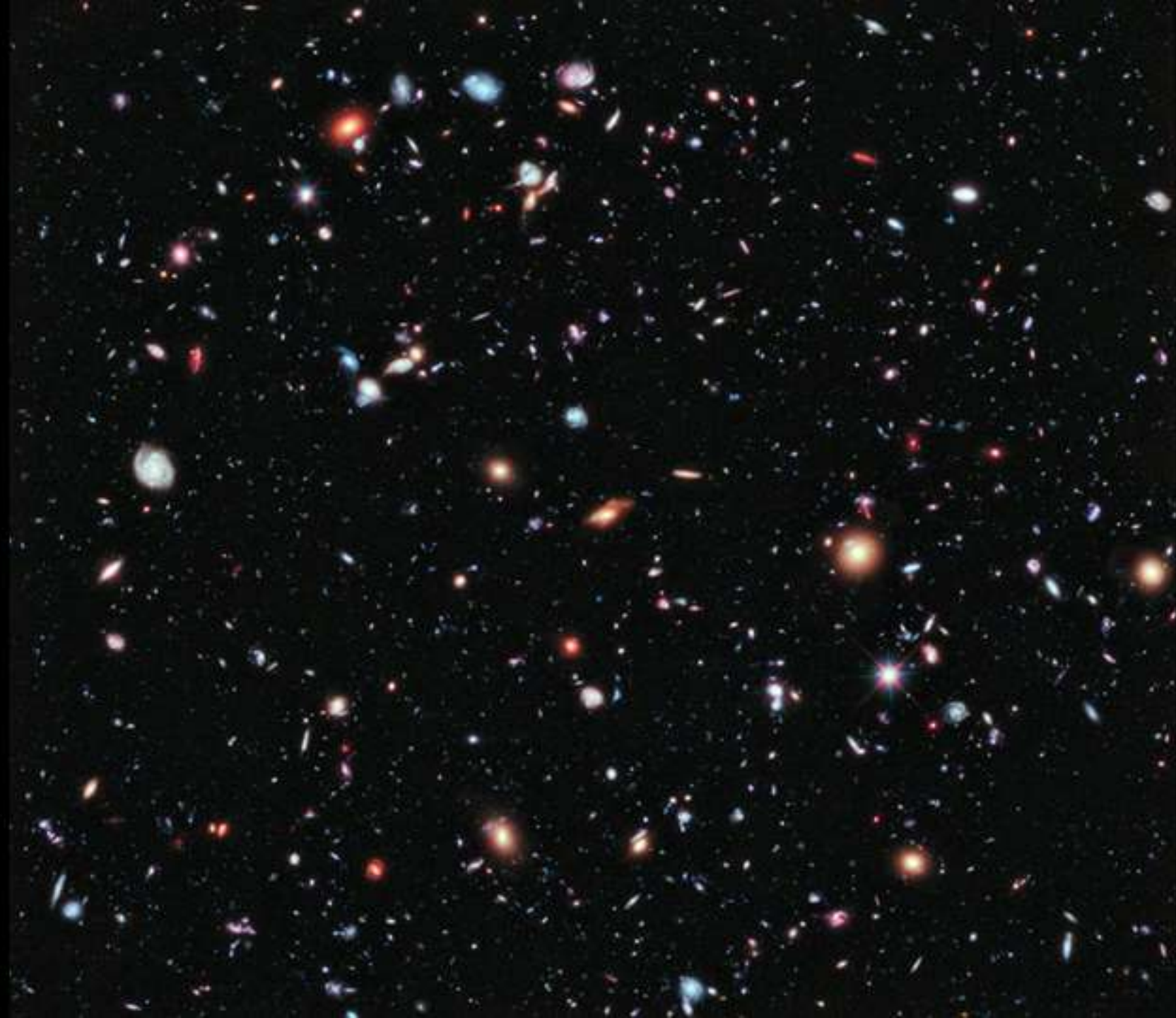


Size of Hubble eXtreme Deep Field on the Sky



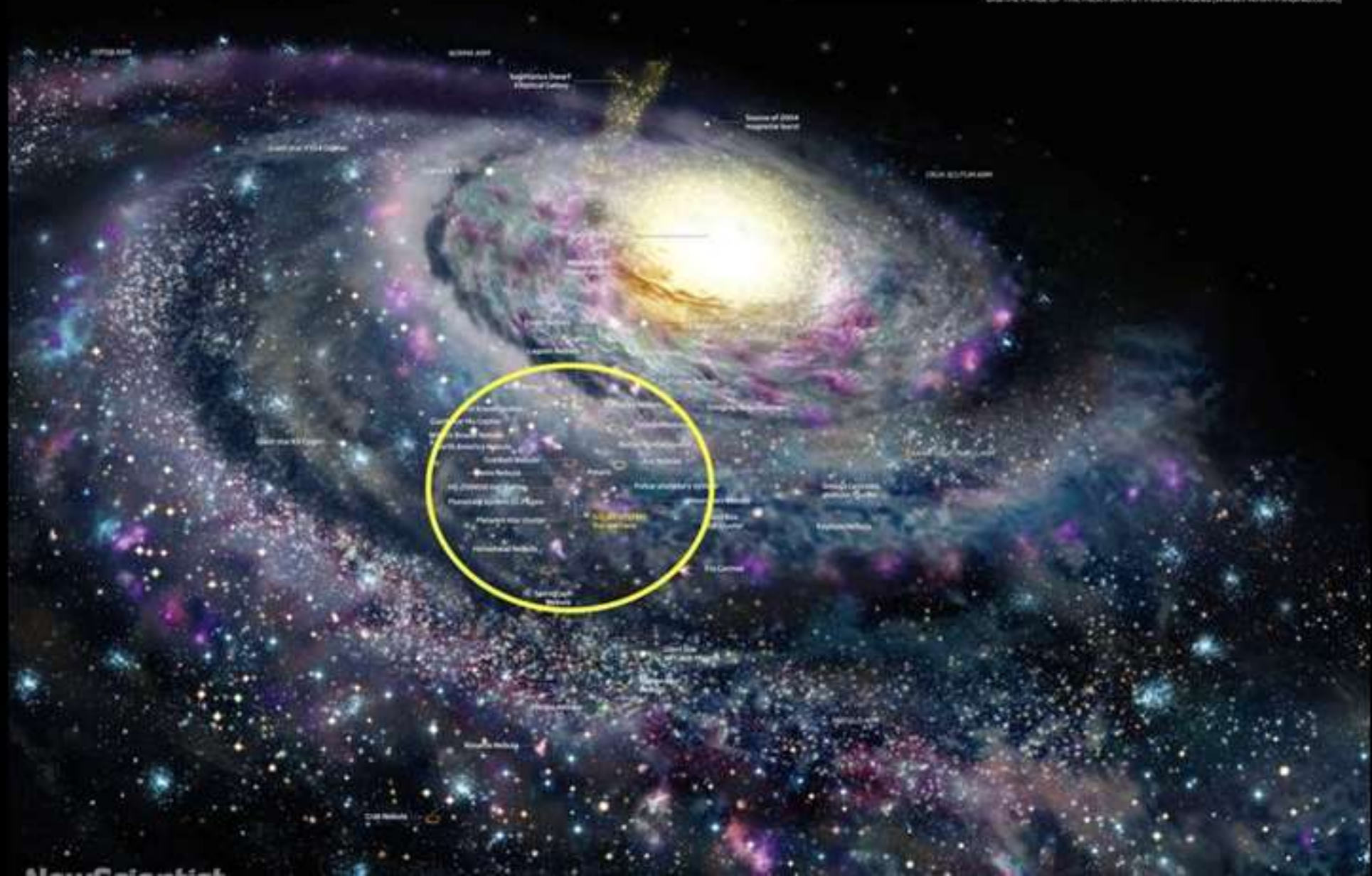


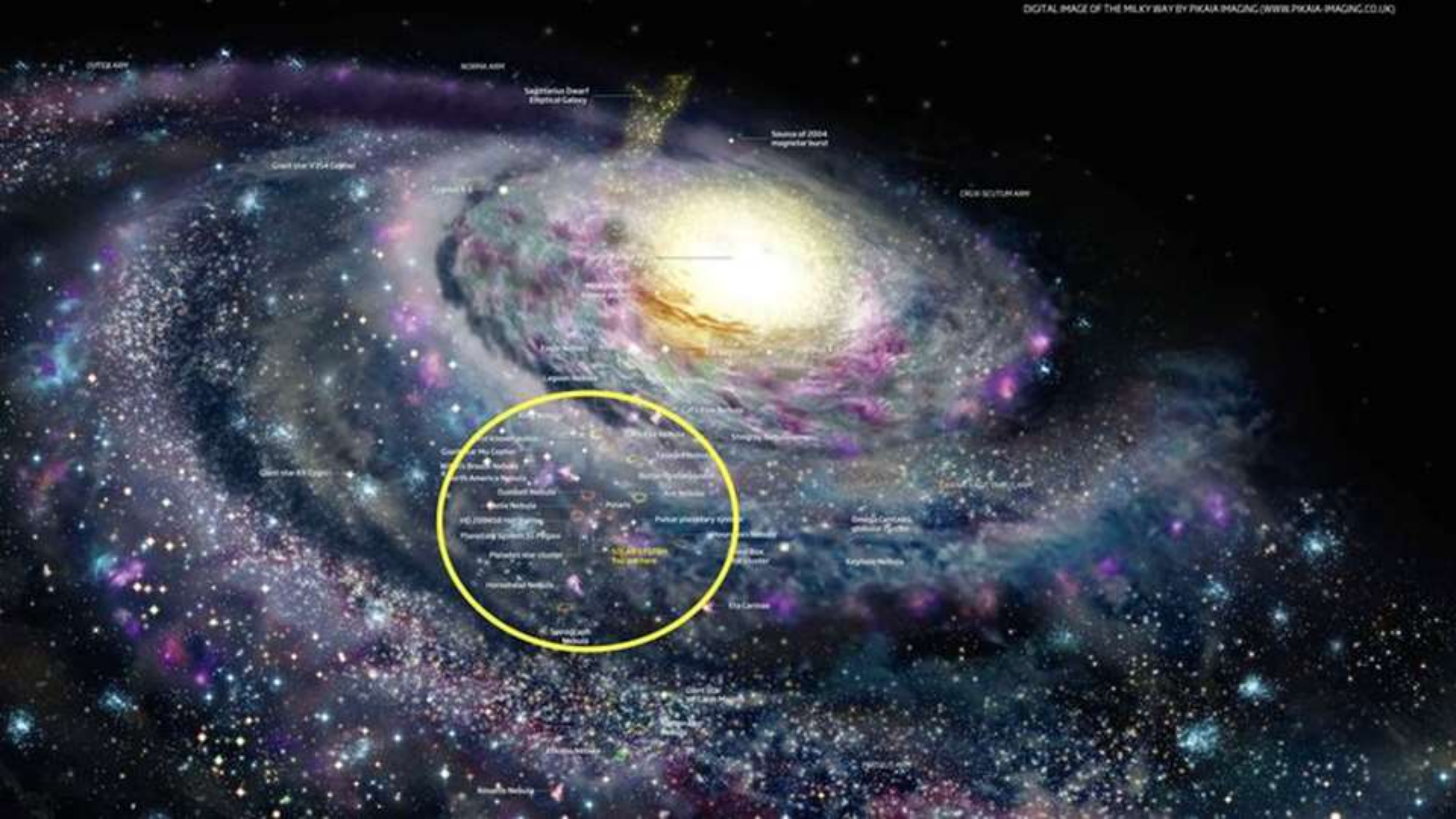
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The Milky Way

DIGITAL IMAGE OF THE MILKY WAY BY PRAJA PANGIC (WWW.PRAJA-IMAGING.CO.UK)











↑
**God came to this “blue dot”
to reveal himself to us.**



**Each CEC congregation is an embassy
representing his Kingdom life to the world.**





**“With man this is impossible,
but with God all things are possible.” Matt. 19.26**





JOIN US