

GOD'S CURSES ON SINFUL CRIMINALS

GENESIS 3:14-19



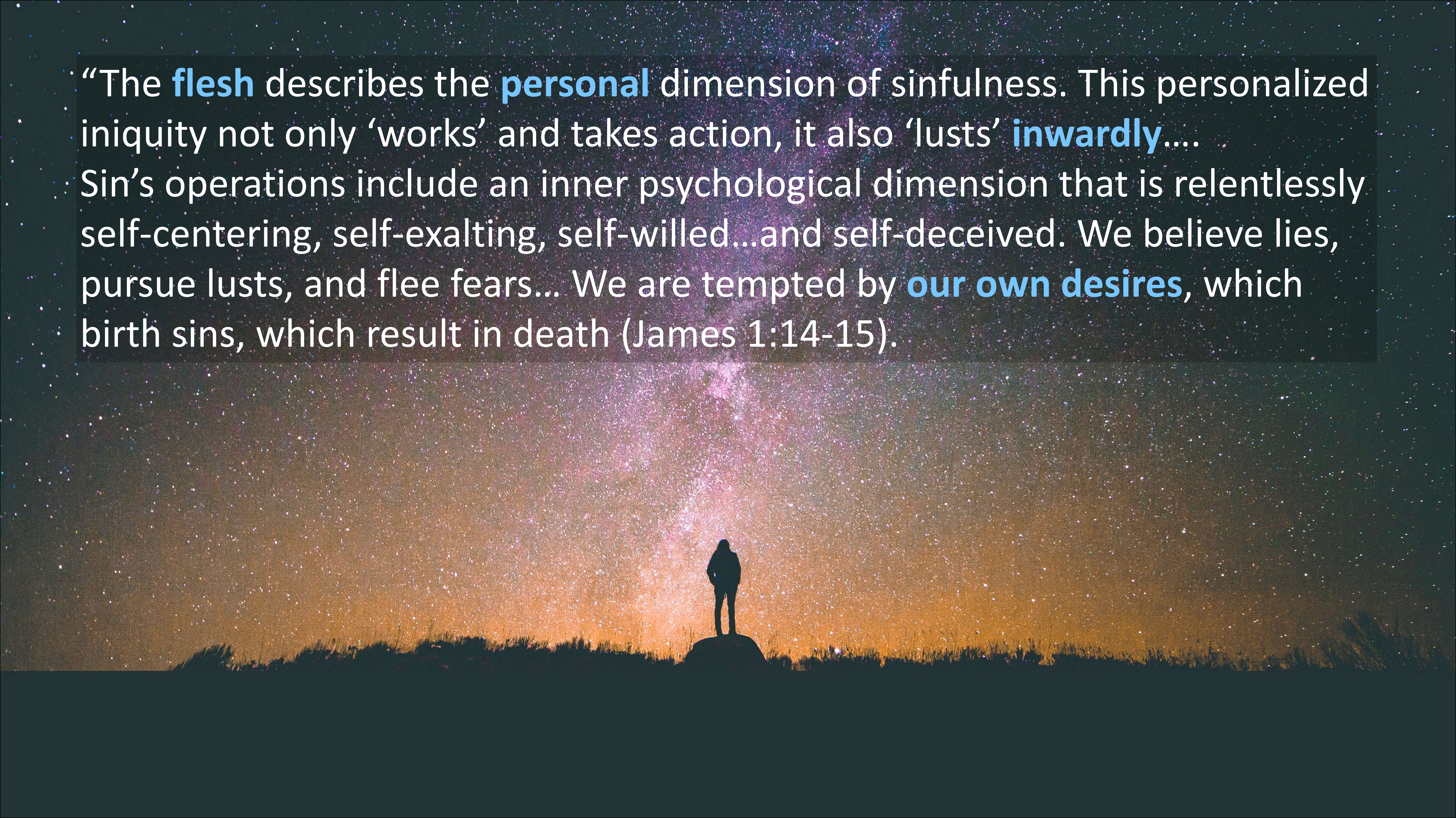
GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

“The widest thing in the universe is not space; it is the potential capacity of the human heart. Being made in the image of God, it is capable of almost unlimited extension in all directions. And one of the world’s worst tragedies is that we allow our hearts to shrink until there is room in them for little besides ourselves.”

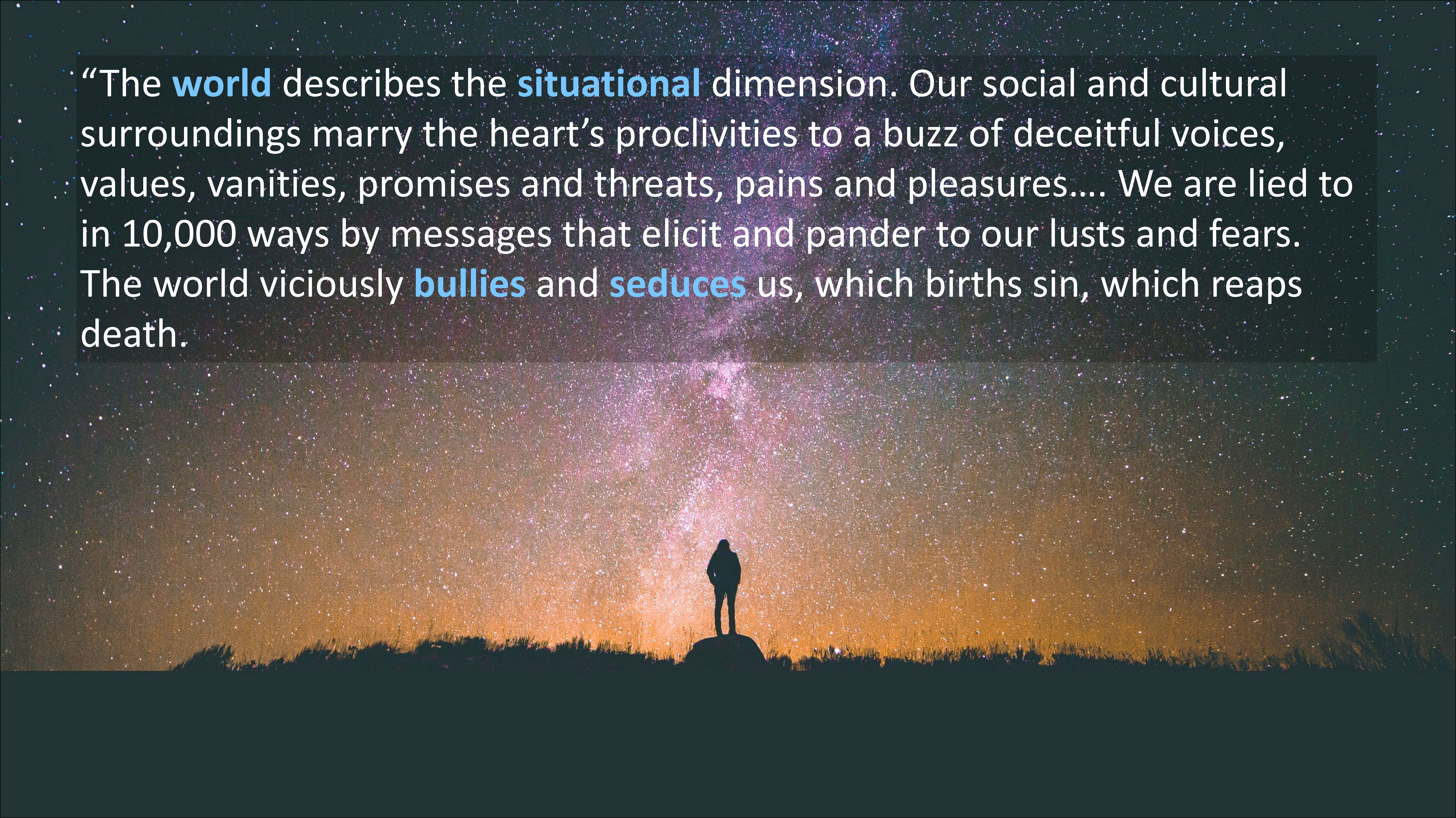
A. W. Tozer



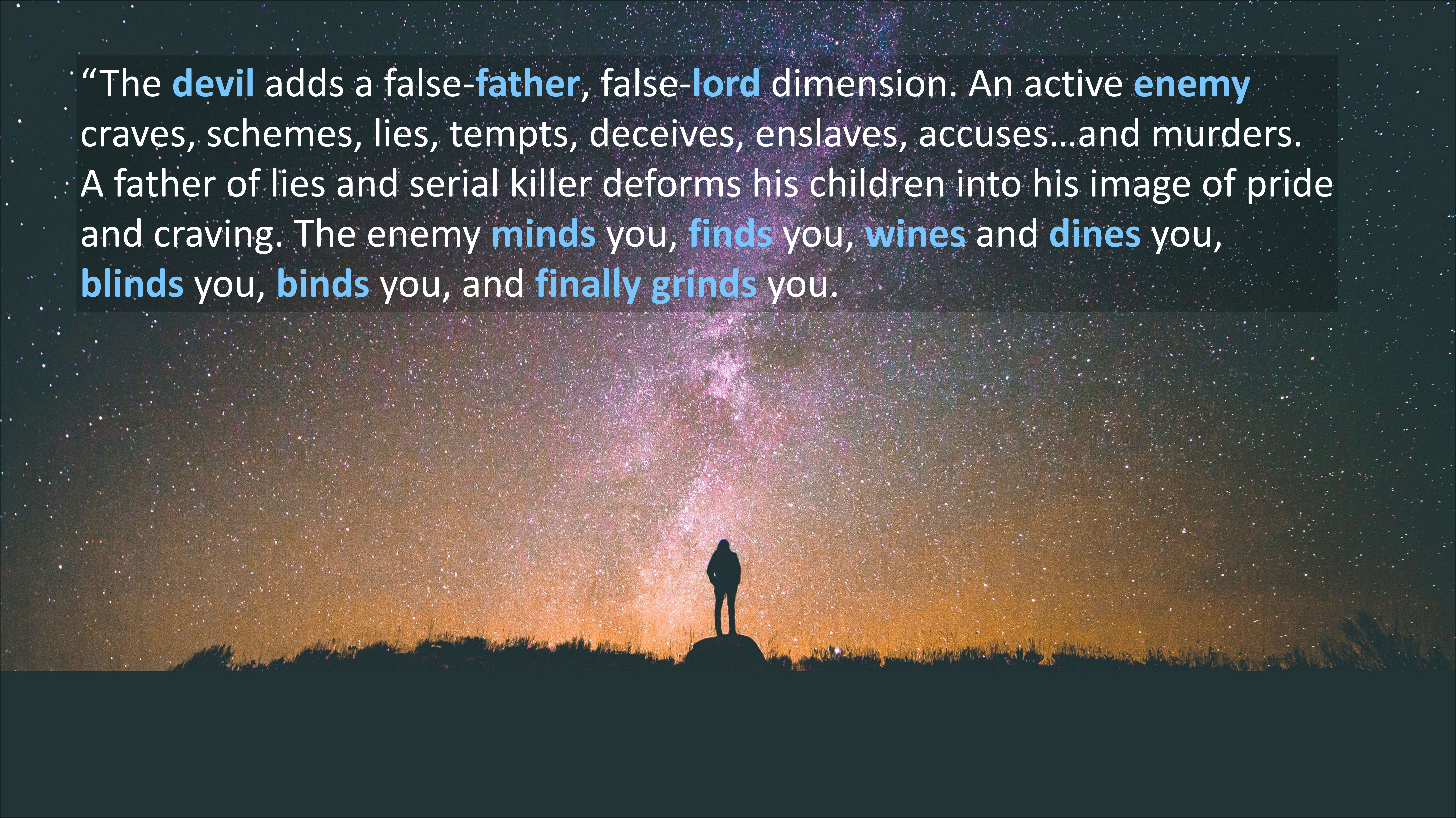
“The **flesh** describes the **personal** dimension of sinfulness. This personalized iniquity not only ‘works’ and takes action, it also ‘lusts’ **inwardly**.... Sin’s operations include an inner psychological dimension that is relentlessly self-centering, self-exalting, self-willed...and self-deceived. We believe lies, pursue lusts, and flee fears... We are tempted by **our own desires**, which birth sins, which result in death (James 1:14-15).



“The **world** describes the **situational** dimension. Our social and cultural surroundings marry the heart’s proclivities to a buzz of deceitful voices, values, vanities, promises and threats, pains and pleasures.... We are lied to in 10,000 ways by messages that elicit and pander to our lusts and fears. The world viciously **bullies** and **seduces** us, which births sin, which reaps death.



“The **devil** adds a false-**father**, false-**lord** dimension. An active **enemy** craves, schemes, lies, tempts, deceives, enslaves, accuses...and murders. A father of lies and serial killer deforms his children into his image of pride and craving. The enemy **minds** you, **finds** you, **wines** and **dines** you, **blinds** you, **binds** you, and **finally grinds** you.



“This animating trio of **flesh, world, and devil** expresses the Godward ‘vertical dimension’ of sin. Closing our ears to the true God, we heed the false gods. These **God-substitutes** conspire to **hijack the heart** for darkness. So, sin is **more than behavior**.”

David Powlison



- I. Sin's **Constitution** (Gen. 3:1-5; Its nature)
- II. Sin's **Consummation** (Gen. 3:6; Coming to completion/fulfillment)
- III. Sin's **Consequences** (Gen. 3:7-12; Ruinous impact on humanity)
- IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

“Sin is a disposition of human beings that leads to a failure to conform to the moral law of God. Notice that sin is a **disposition**. Human beings have a nature that is **oriented away from God**. Sin does not just describe the bad things human beings do or fail to do. More fundamentally, it describes **who we are** as wicked people.” *(Heath Lambert)*

IV. Sin's Curses (Gen 3:13-20; God's just judgment on criminality)

What are these curses?

Curse (*arur*) = to invoke a decree of divine doom upon. They are divine **penalties** imposed on **criminals**. God sees unbelievers as wicked people, as lawbreakers, and this helps us understand what these curses are.

“The events of Genesis 3 portray a **divinely imposed sanction** on the disobedient couple.... The three pronouncements against the snake, the woman and the man are presented as **penalties** levied against **guilty parties**.” (*Paul Thorsell*)

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

III. Sins **Consequences**:

- Corruption/Depravity
- Separation
- Condemnation
- Guilt/Shame
- Death

IV. Sin's Curses (Gen 3:13-20; God's just judgment on criminality)

The Serpent's Penalty

Satan's Penalty

Eve's Penalty

*"Your **desire** will be for your husband, and he will **rule** over you."*

*"Desire" and "rule" **function together** in communicating the **negative, sinful** attitudes and **actions** between husbands and wives.*

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

Six vital truths in God's design for **marriage and for **gender roles** within marriage:**

1. God made Adam the **central** character.
2. God created Adam **first**.
3. God formed the woman **out** of the man.
4. God created the woman **for** the man.
5. God gave the man the right to **name** the woman.
6. God created the man and woman **equal** in nature.

(Alexander Strauch)

That establishes **God's baseline** for gender differences, roles, and equality. Adam's authority over Eve was **designed by God** and put into marriage **before** the fall.

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

The Serpent's Penalty

Satan's Penalty

Eve's Penalty

What was a beautifully designed relationship of loving protection and mutual, **complementary companionship** within the bounds of their roles now became a battle between **competitors**.

“Desire” and *“rule”* in verse 16 are the same words used in Genesis 4:7. God tells Cain that sin's desire is to seek to control him, manipulate him, prompt him to evil, but he must rule, dominate, get mastery over it. It is a harsh, bitter, messy idea of battle against a foe.

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

The Serpent's Penalty

Satan's Penalty

Eve's Penalty

Wives, your desire will be to control, manipulate, subvert, and throw off your husband's God-given authority over you.

Husbands, you will rule over, dominate, seek to master, and harshly apply your authority over her. You will lord it over her.

IV. Sin's Curses (Gen 3:13-20; God's just judgment on criminality)

The Serpent's Penalty

Satan's Penalty

Eve's Penalty

“The curse on Eve was that woman's desire would henceforth be to usurp man's headship, yet he would resist that desire and subdue it through brutish means.... Women have a sinful inclination to usurp man's authority and men have a sinful inclination to put women under their feet.” *(John MacArthur)*

IV. Sin's **Curses** (Gen 3:13-20; God's just **judgment** on criminality)

The Serpent's Penalty

Satan's Penalty

Eve's Penalty

Adam's Penalty

Genesis 3:18: The **human enterprises** of living and **making a living** will be filled with **constant toil** all the days of your life. Thorns, thistles, and weeds were not present before the fall, but now the earth itself will **fight against you.**

God's grace is
greater than our sin.



A person stands on a dark, silhouetted hill under a vast night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching from the horizon where the person stands, up towards the top of the frame. The stars are numerous and bright, creating a sense of depth and wonder. The overall color palette is dark, with the warm glow of the galaxy's core contrasting against the deep blues and blacks of the night sky.

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