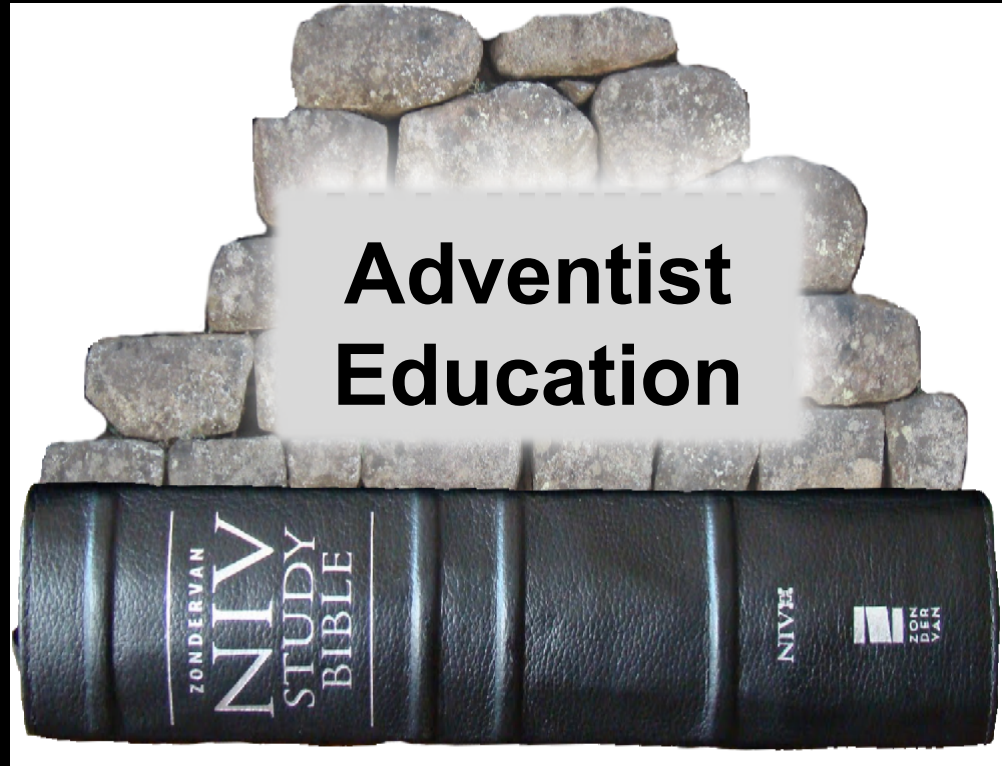


The Biblical Foundation for Adventist Education

By E. Edward Zinke
Illustrations by David Zinke
and Carol Raney
Motivation by Doug Zinke
and by Seven Grandchildren



Doctrine and Personal Relationship with God

By E. Edward Zinke



What is Christianity?

- Simeon Stylites – meditation
- Keep the law
- Go to church
- Pay tithe and offerings
- Know the doctrine
- All things we can do for salvation

Christ's Description of Eternal Life

- “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” Jn 17:3



God's Love Letter

- From cover to cover, the Bible is God's **love** letter, not only in the NT but also in the OT
- “Since you were precious in My sight, You have been honored, And I have **loved** you” Is 43:4



- “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting **love**; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”
Jer 31:3
- “I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of **love**.” Hos 11:4
- “I will heal their backsliding, I will **love** them freely.” Hos 14:4

I will betroth you to Me forever;
Yes, I will **betroth** you to Me
In righteousness and justice,
In lovingkindness and mercy;
I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness,
And you shall **know** the LORD”

Hos 2:19, 20



- “But God demonstrates His own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Rom 5:8
- “Behold what manner of **love** the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him” 1 Jn 3:1
- “God is **love**.” 1 Jn 4:8

- God loves us each individually.
- Christ would have died for you, for me.
- It is not that God loves the world generically.
- He loves each one personally.





Sin disrupts our relationship with God

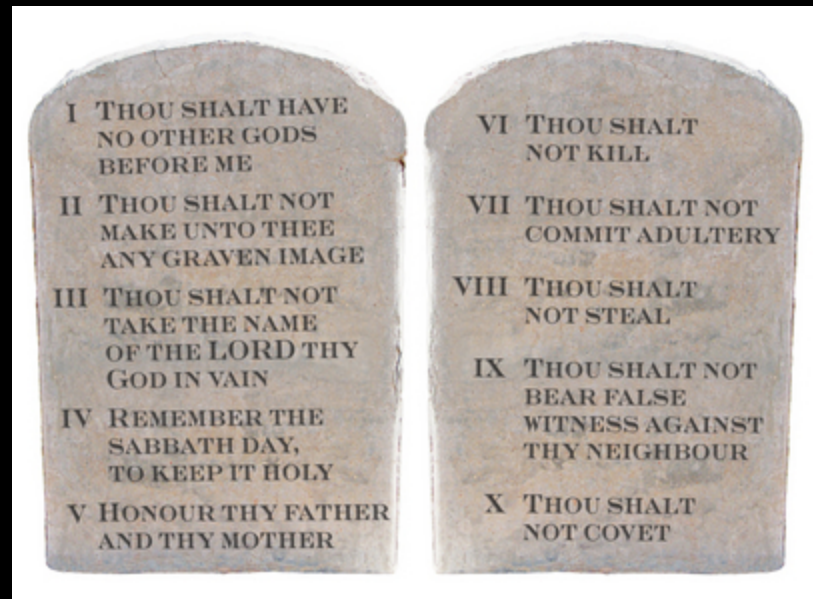
SIN



The transgression
of the law

Sin disrupts our relationship with God

The law is a description of the character of God



God's Character'

Sin disrupts our relationship with God

When we break the law, we go against God's character and break our relationship with Him



God's Character'

God wants to restore our relationship with Him

- “God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself.” 1 Cor 5:19



Why Doctrine?

- If Christianity is the restoration of a relationship, why doctrine?
- Key elements of intimate relationships:
 - Knowledge of **other person**
 - Knowledge of **self**
 - Understanding of the **proper relationship** between us

Doctrine...

- Tells us about **God**
- Helps us understand **ourselves**
- Describes our **proper relationship**
with God

Knowledge Matters

- “Then she **forgot** me.” Hos 2:13
- “And this is eternal life, that they may **know** You, the **only true** God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” Jn 17:3
- “I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, and you shall **know the LORD.**” Hos 2:20

- “There is **no truth** or mercy or **knowledge** of God in the land. . . . My people are destroyed for **lack of knowledge.**” Hos 4:2, 4:6

- “Let us **peruse knowledge** of the Lord.”
Hos 6:3

And we **know** that the Son of God has come and has given us an **understanding**, that we may **know Him who is true**; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the **true God** and eternal life. ¶ Little children, keep yourselves from **idols**. Amen. **1John 5:21, 22**



Doctrines Influence Relationship by:

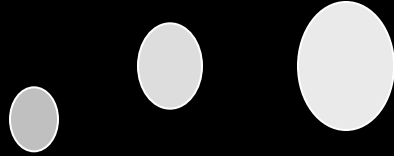
- Their influence on character
- The results of rejecting key element of the personality of another person

Illustrations

- The Sabbath
- Creation

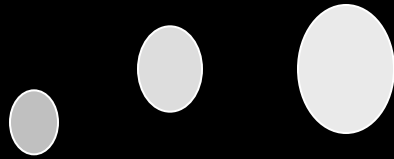
Does it matter what we think of
God?

I think my spouse is
a...



Does it matter what we think of
God?

I think my spouse is
a...



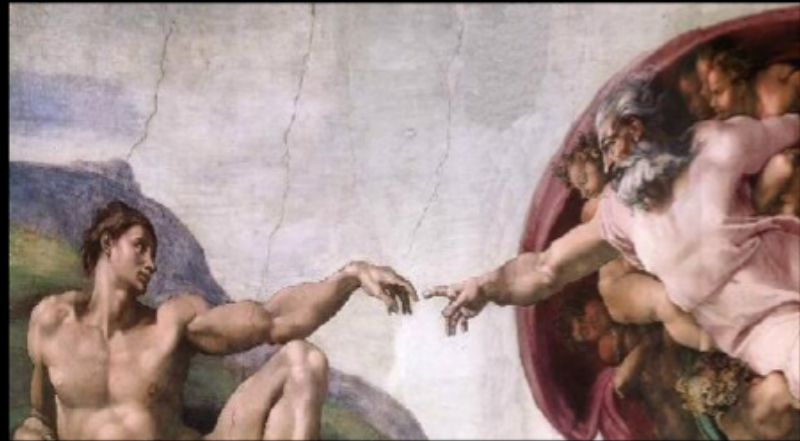
Does it matter what we think of
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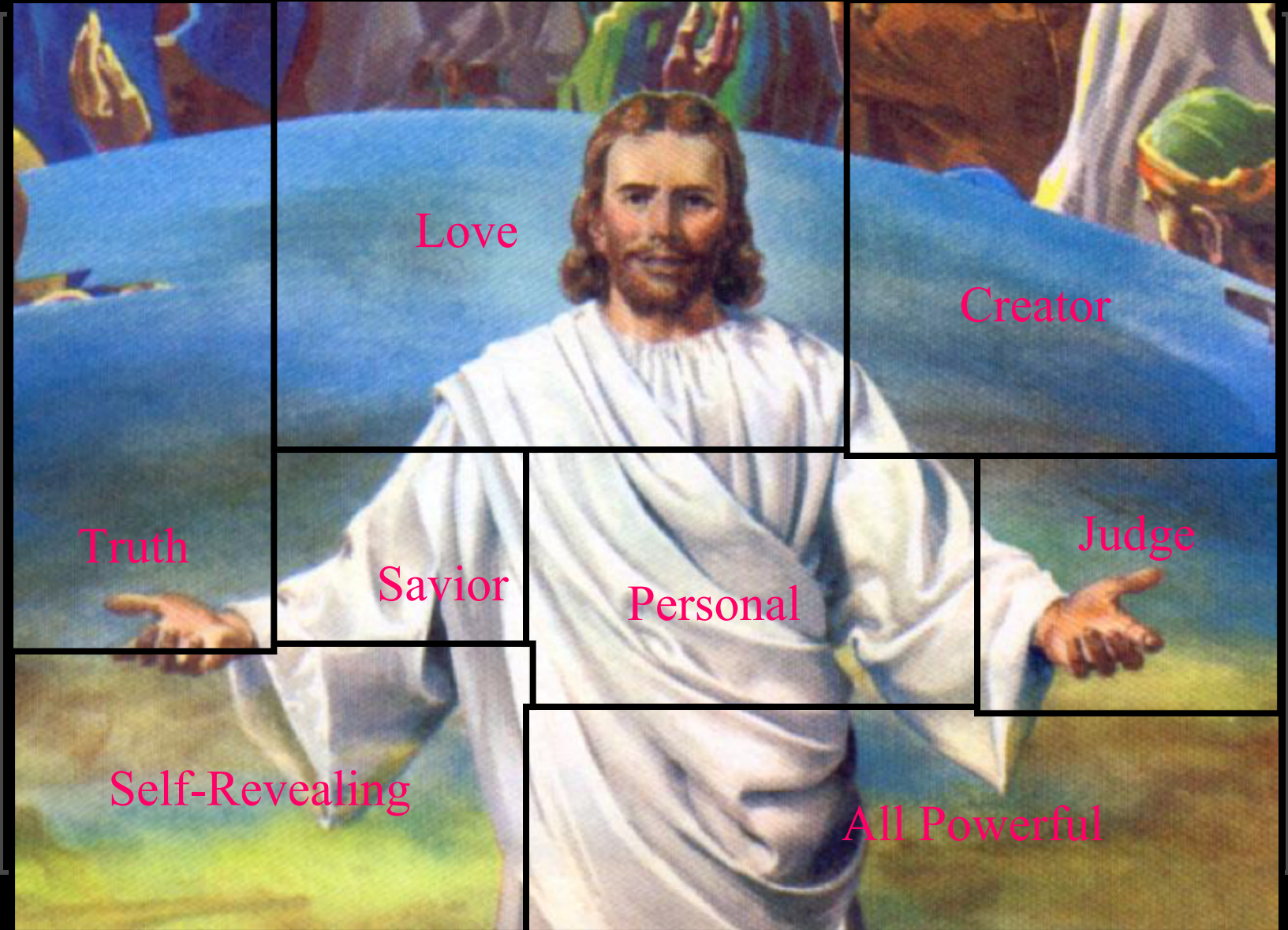
Which God
represents
the God of
the Bible?





Who Do We Worship?

- The active, revealing God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?
- The God of the Red Sea
- The gods of Ahab, Ishtar, and Jezebel who do not respond, speak, or act?
- The god of the Reed Sea who could not open the Red Sea?



Love

Creator

Truth

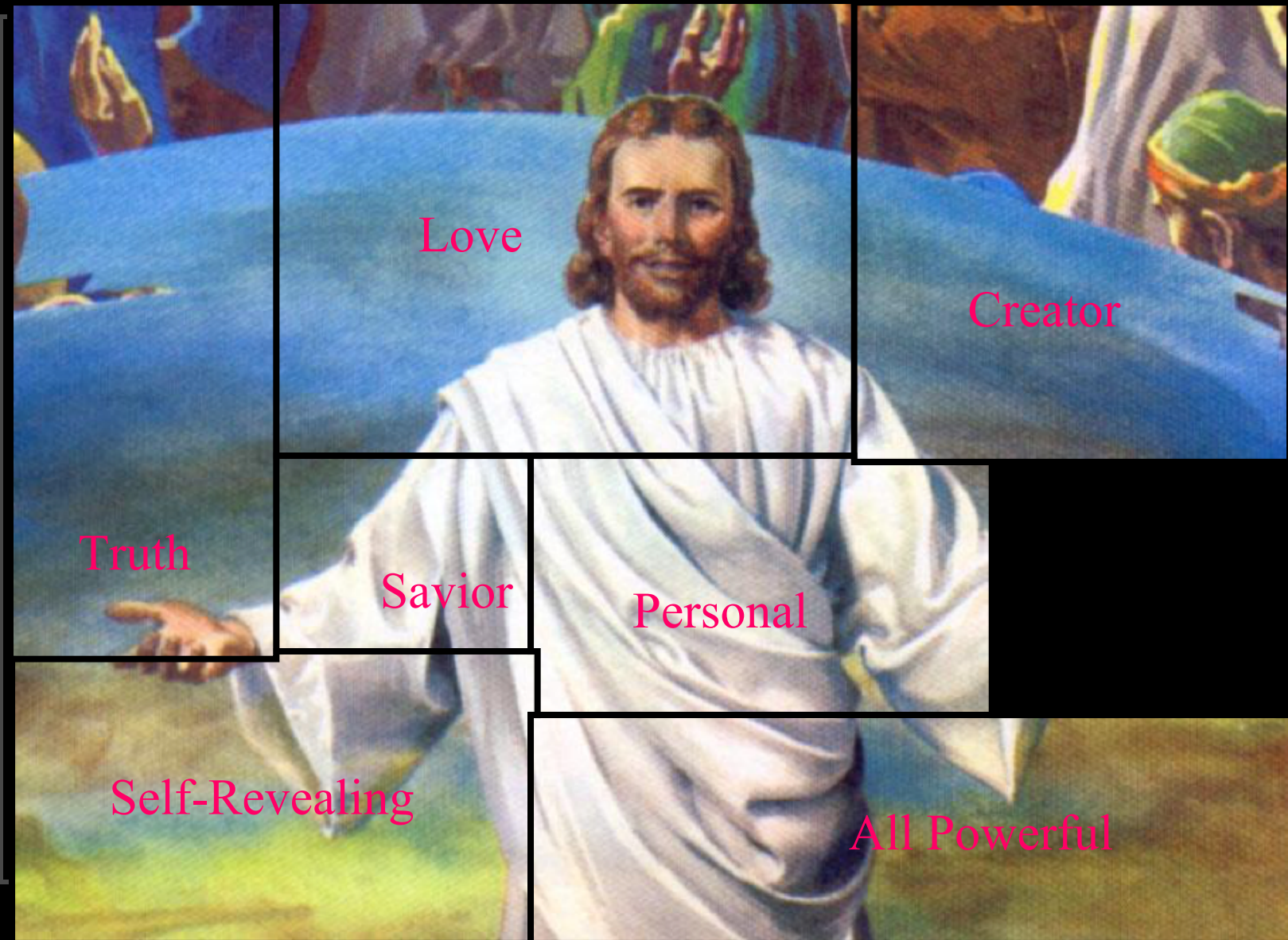
Savior

Personal

Judge

Self-Revealing

All Powerful



Love

Creator

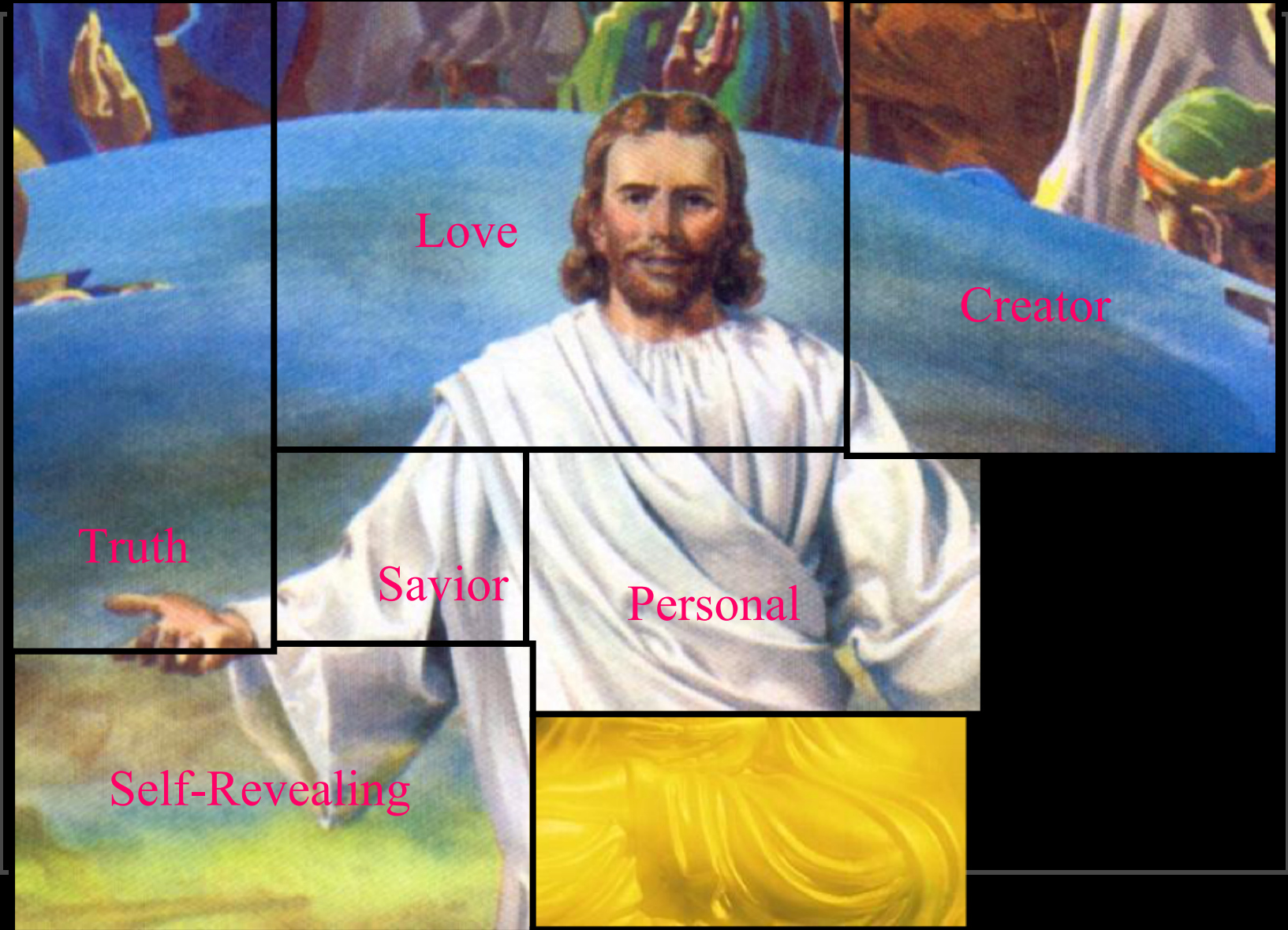
Truth

Savior

Personal

Self-Revealing

All Powerful



Love

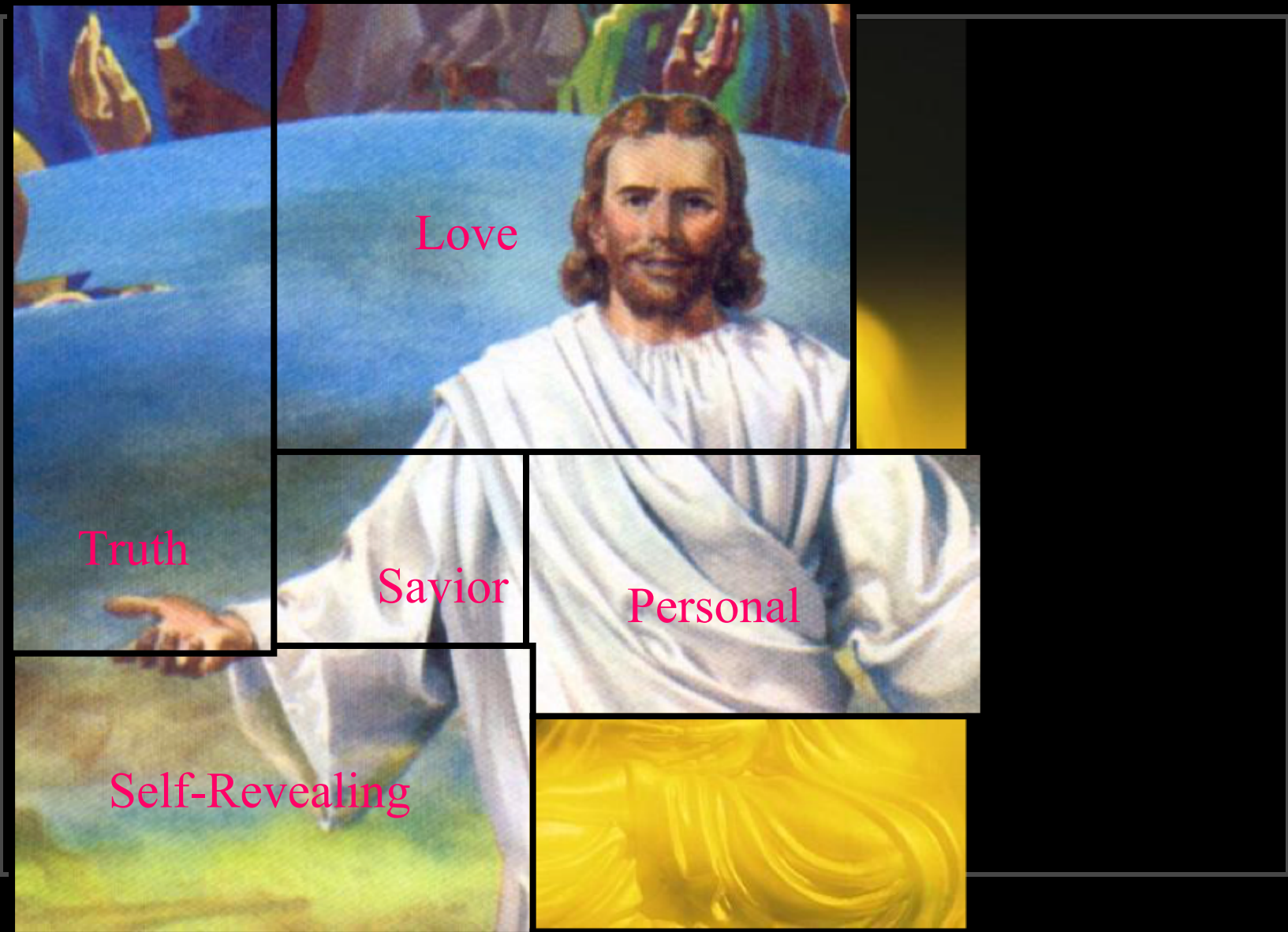
Creator

Truth

Savior

Personal

Self-Revealing



Love

Truth

Savior

Personal

Self-Revealing



Love



Savior

Personal



Self-Revealing





Love



Savior

Personal





Love



Personal







***We
Have a
Big
God!***





God Provides an Umbrella Large Enough to Cover Every Group of People

Jew, Gentile

Slave, Free

Rich, Poor

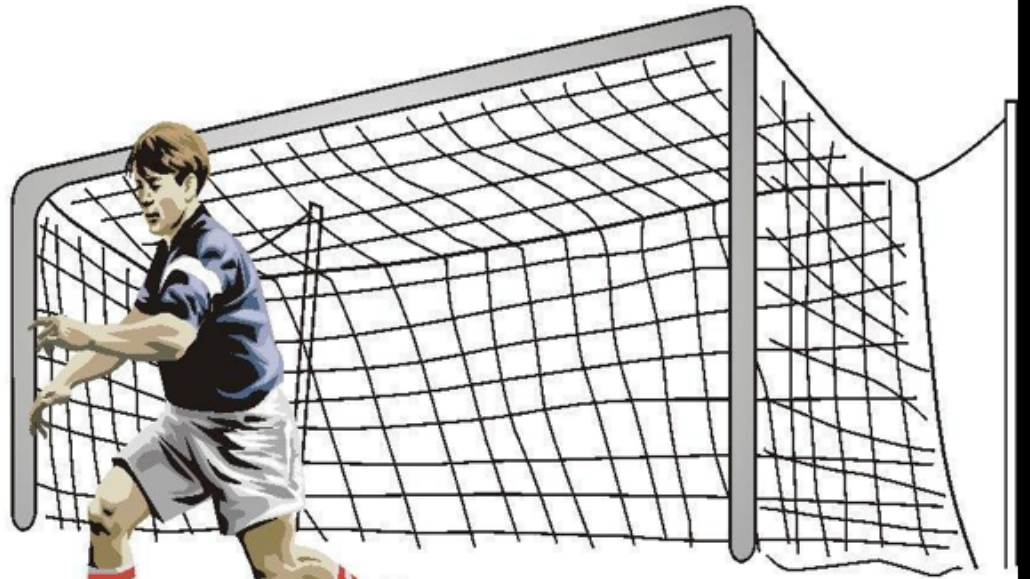
Educated, Uneducated

Male, Female



***Some are asking
for an umbrella
large enough to
cover all of the
gods***





Let's compromise between the two...







