

# Natural models of the way of salvation

NMBS 2006

# Way of salvation

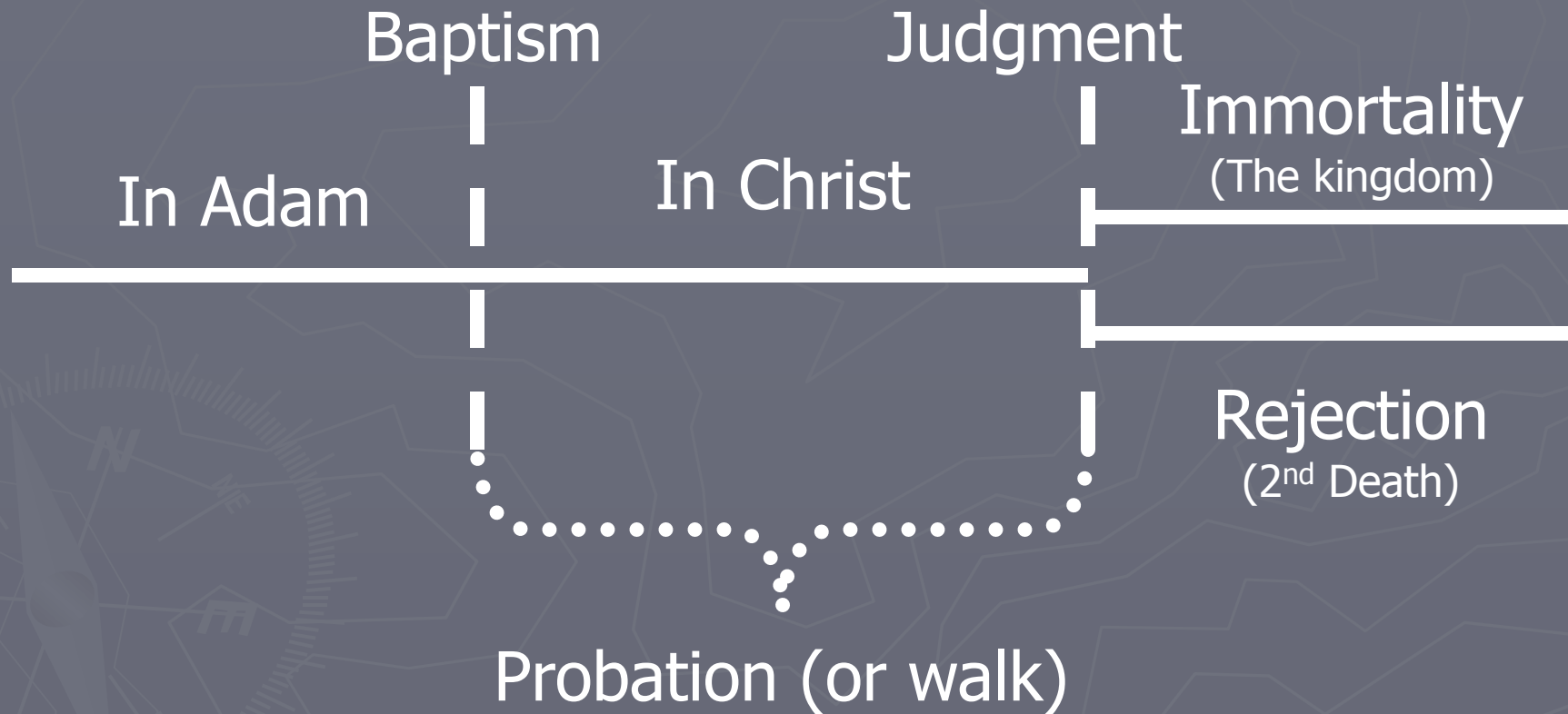
It is generally supposed that we are children of God by natural birth, and that repentance and return to God through Christ are necessitated by our personal sins committed when we become old enough to refuse the evil and choose the good. But we must remember that we are all born in a lost state, according to the Scriptures, having been sold, as it were, to sin and death by our first parents who entailed upon the whole Adamic family the results of sin. They left us with a lost paradise, victims to the dread monster death, hopeless and helpless...

# Way of salvation (cont)

...and baptism, or birth of water, puts us in Christ and thereby in at-one-ment, "heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ." We are now on probation, and upon our walk in this favored, exalted and responsible relation to God and to Christ depends our eternal destiny. Realize this, dear reader, enter the bond of the everlasting covenant, honor it to the end of your probationary career and the coronal wreath will adorn your brow throughout the untold ages of indescribable glory and happiness. God grant that our Judge may say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

- World's Redemption – Thomas Williams (pg 85-86)

# Way of salvation





# Salvation: primary principles

## ► In Adam

- Natural separation from God

## ► Baptism

- Atonement not by man, but provided by God

## ► In Christ

- Heirs & time of probation (proving)

## ► Judgment

- Determination of worthiness, act ends probation

## ► Immortality (the Kingdom) or Rejection

- Perfection, complete reconciliation

# Events and examples

1. The Exodus
2. The tabernacle
3. Marriage
4. Slavery (Roman)

# The Exodus

- ▶ Children of Israel in bondage in Egypt
  - Ex 1:13-14
- ▶ Redeemed by God through a provided mediator
  - Ex 13:3
- ▶ Redemption by sacrifice and water
  - Ex 12:13 and 1 Cor 10:1-2
- ▶ Given a law and expected to serve God
  - Ex 19:8
- ▶ Generation judged unworthy to enter land
  - Numbers 13 & 14
- ▶ Sought rest of the promised land
  - Ex 3:8

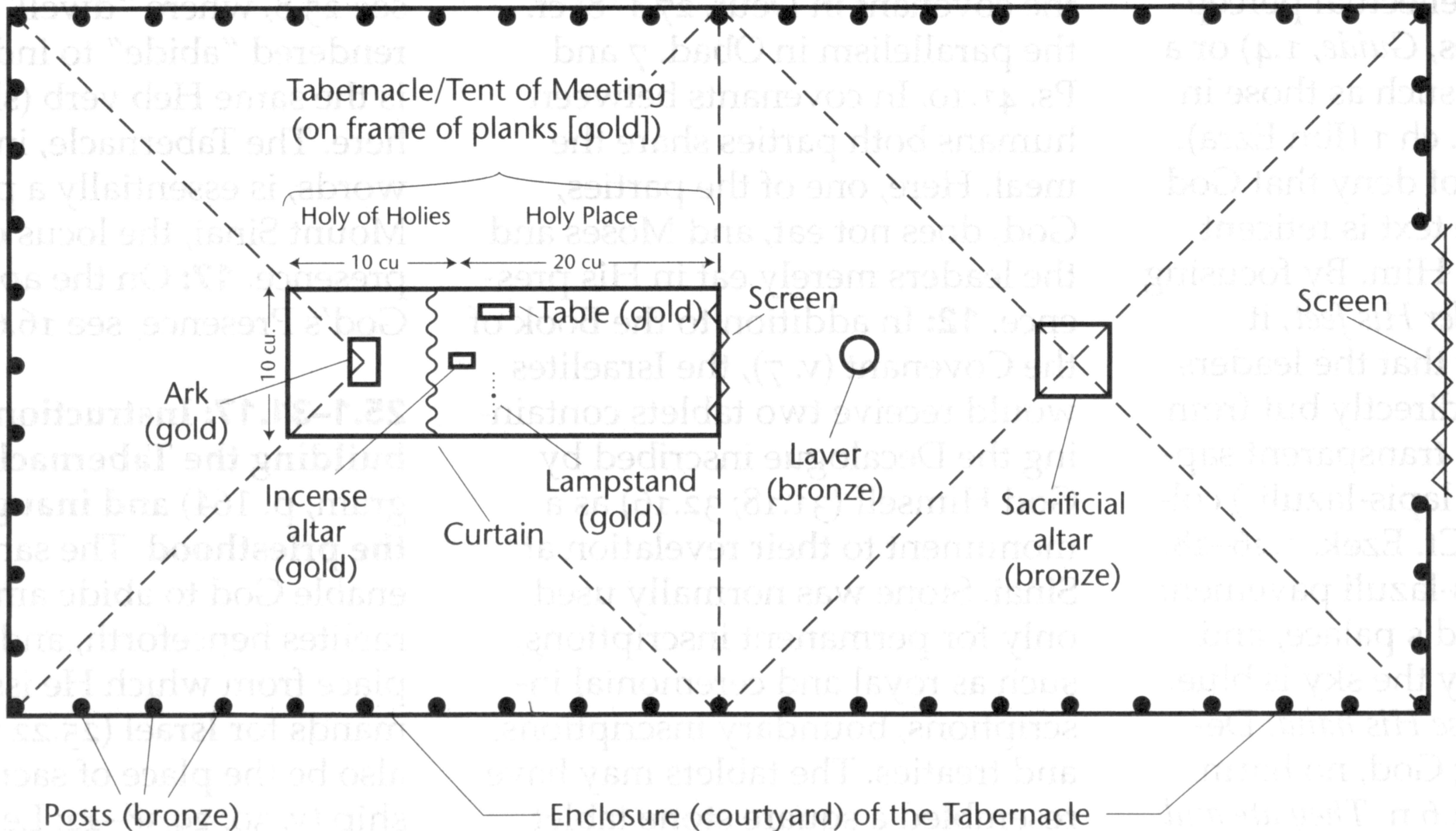
# The Exodus & the way of salvation



# Exodus: points of emphasis

- ▶ God is the redeemer
  - Ex 6:6-7
  - Ps 78:35
- ▶ Probation is a time of trial
  - Ps 95:8 (temptation=trial)
- ▶ Potential of rejection
  - Hebrews 3:17-4:1
- ▶ Goal is the promised land
  - Jer 33:14-17
  - Ex 6:8
- ▶ Unfaithful were rejected
  - Num 32:13

# Tabernacle of the Wilderness

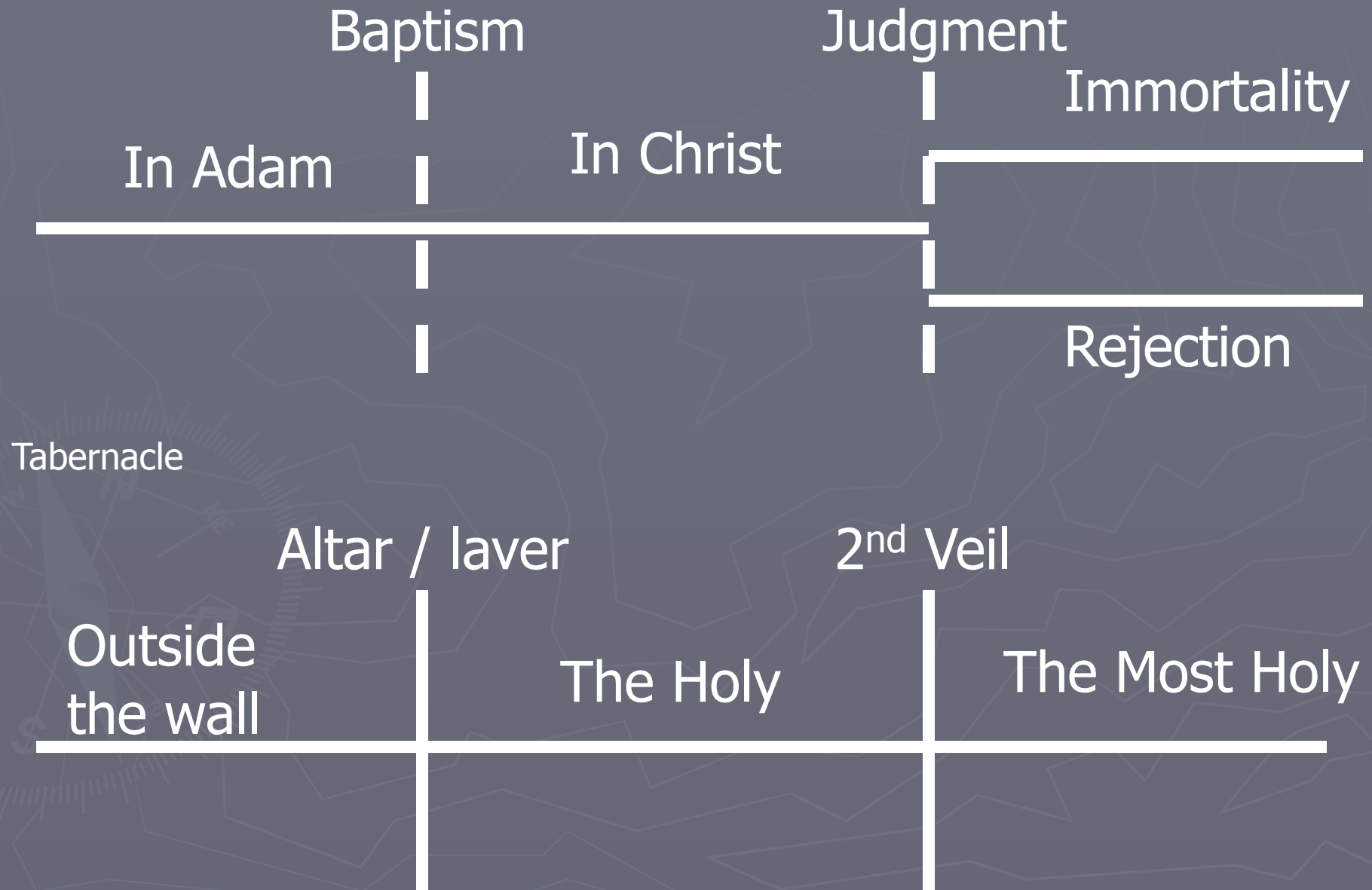




# The Tabernacle

- ▶ Linen wall with one gate
  - Separated tabernacle from world
- ▶ Altar / laver
  - Sacrifice & washing required before entrance into the...
- ▶ Holy place (Tabernacle of the meeting/witness)
  - Ministry place of the priests
- ▶ Veil
  - Separates holy place from the ...
- ▶ Most Holy
  - Ex 25:22

# The Tabernacle & the way of salvation



# The tabernacle: points of emphasis

- ▶ Separation between God and world
  - 1 John 2:15-16
- ▶ One way to God
  - John 14:6
- ▶ Flesh nature separates from God
  - 1 Cor 15:53-54
- ▶ Not in the most holy place yet
  - Rev 21:3

# Marriage

## ► Betrothal

- Wife “purchased” – Gen 34:12; Ex 22:16-17

## ► Betrothal (espousal period) – Judge 14

- Virginty maintained – Lk 1:26-27
- Divorce allowed – Matt 1:18-19; 5:32

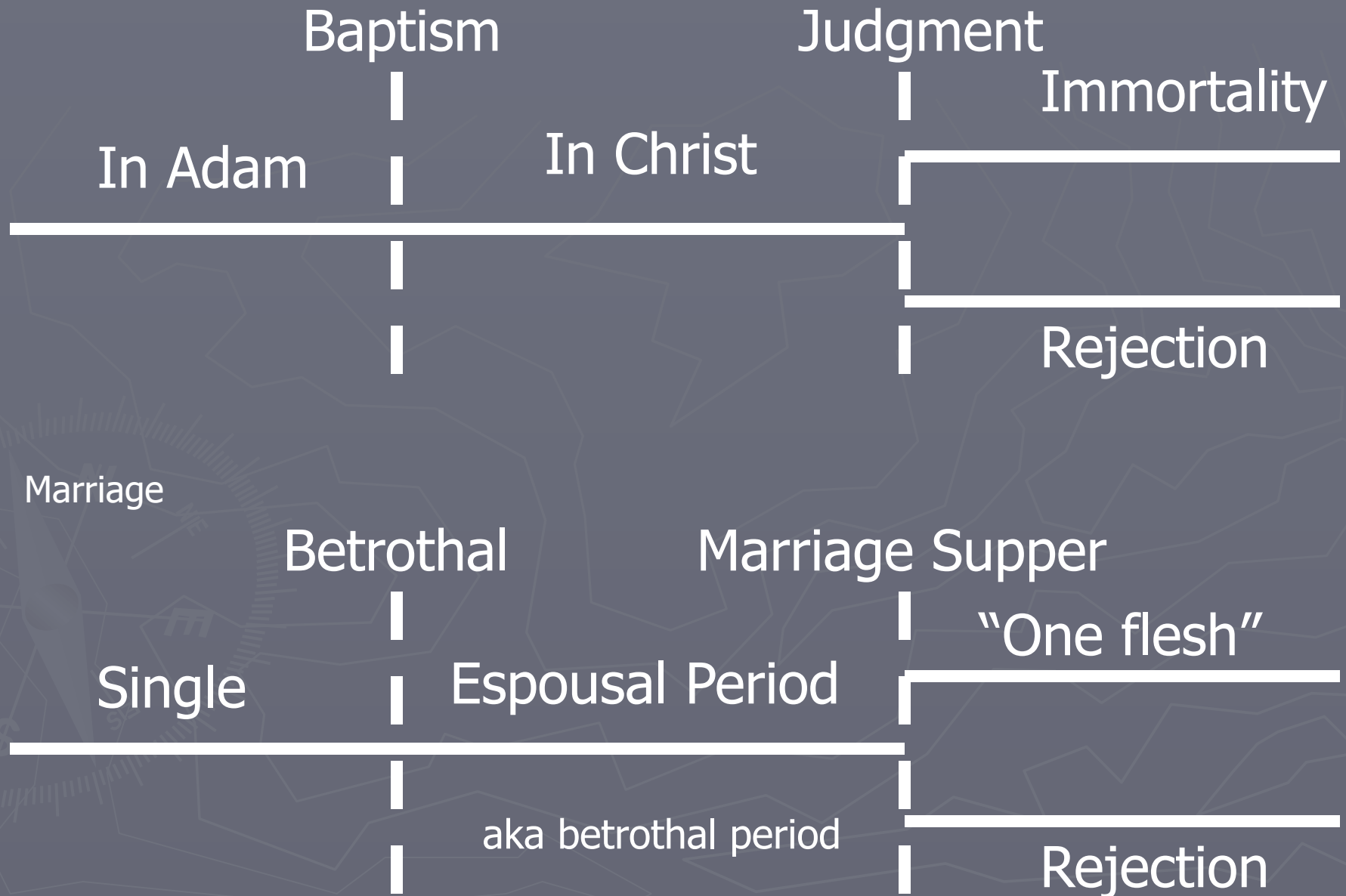
## ► Marriage ceremony (marriage feast)

- Gen 29; Jer 2:32; Is 49:18; Is 61:10; Ps 45:8-15; Matt 25:1-12

## ► Husband and wife

- One flesh – Matt 19:4-6
- Divorce not allowed – Mal 2:16 (RSV); Lk 16:18

# Marriage & the way of salvation



# Marriage: points of emphasis

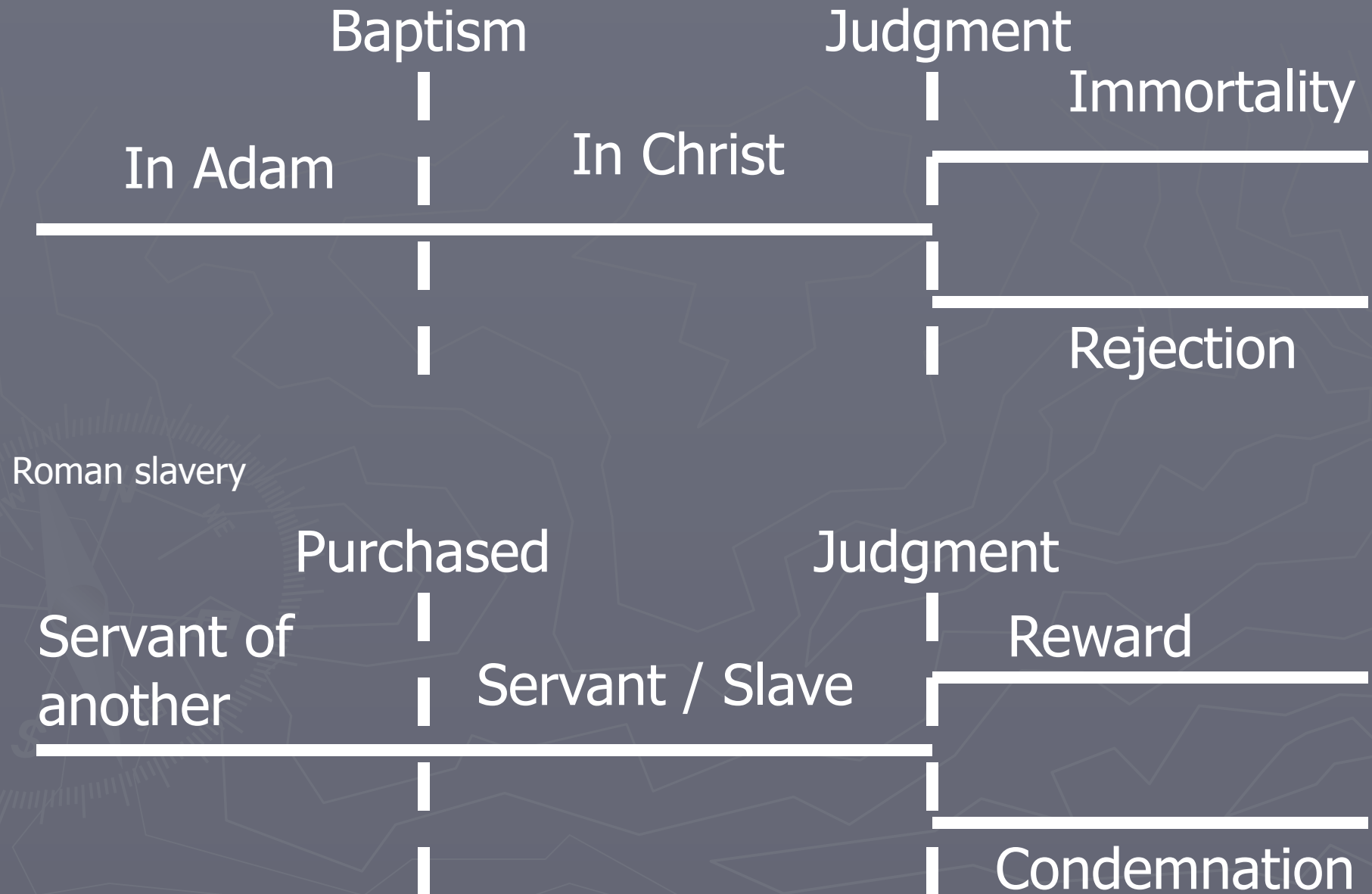
- ▶ Analogy of body of believers as espoused to Christ
  - Eph 5:30-32
- ▶ Fidelity/chastity/expectations
  - 2 Cor 11:2
  - Fornication parallels with spiritual fornication (sin)  
Ez 16:22-26; Ps 106: 33-40: Hosea
- ▶ Perfect everlasting union
  - 1 Thess 14:17



# Slavery (Roman)

- ▶ Owned by another person
- ▶ Purchased by new master
- ▶ Worked for new master
- ▶ Judged by master according to service
- ▶ Reward / Freedom or Condemnation

# Slavery (Roman) & the way of salvation



# Slavery (Roman): points of emphasis

## ▶ Slave to sin (in Adam)

- Rom 6:6 (serve KJV = slave to)

## ▶ Purchased by Christ

- 1 Cor 7:22-23; Acts 20:28 (RSV)
- Phil 1:1; Titus 1:1; Jam 1:1; 2 Pet 1:1; Jude 1

## ▶ Servants do work for their master

- Rom 6:16,22; Eph 6:6; 2 Tim 2:24; Matt 25:14

## ▶ Judged by Christ

- Reward: Col 3:24-25
- Condemnation: Matt 25:30

He invited Sin's servants to become Jehovah's servants upon the principle of purchase; so that, in addressing those who had abandoned the synagogue and temple for the house of Christ, he says to them. "Ye are bought with a price. They were "not their own, being bought bodily and spiritually; "therefore," said he, "glorify God with your body and with your spirit which are God's. When a man's body and spirit become another's property, all property in himself is surrendered to the purchaser. All that he used to call his before he was sold, is transferred to his owner; and, if allowed to retain it, he must use it as the steward of his lord.

Redemption is release for a ransom. All who become God's servants are therefore released from a former lord by purchase. The purchaser is Jehovah; and the price, or ransom, paid, the precious blood of the flesh through which the Anointing Spirit was manifested. It is therefore styled, "the precious blood of Christ:" as it is written in the words of Peter to his brethren, saying, "Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conduct paternally delivered; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without spot and without blemish"

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