

COMMON ERRORS IN BIBLE INTERPRETATION

Ignoring Application



Noah Builds the Ark

Genesis 6

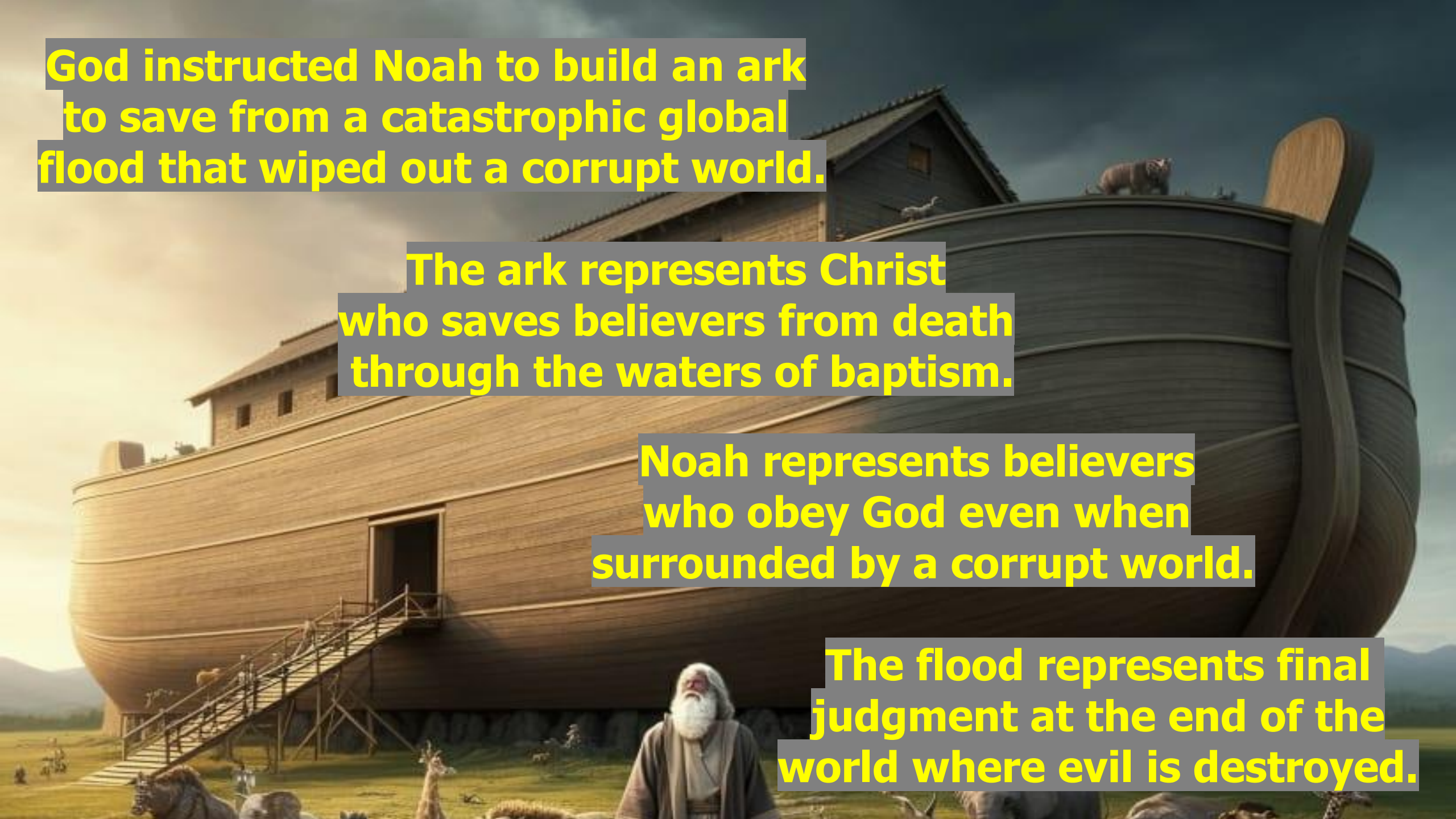


God instructed Noah to build an ark to save from a catastrophic global flood that wiped out a corrupt world.

The ark represents Christ who saves believers from death through the waters of baptism.

Noah represents believers who obey God even when surrounded by a corrupt world.

The flood represents final judgment at the end of the world where evil is destroyed.





Moses Parts the Red Sea

Exodus 14



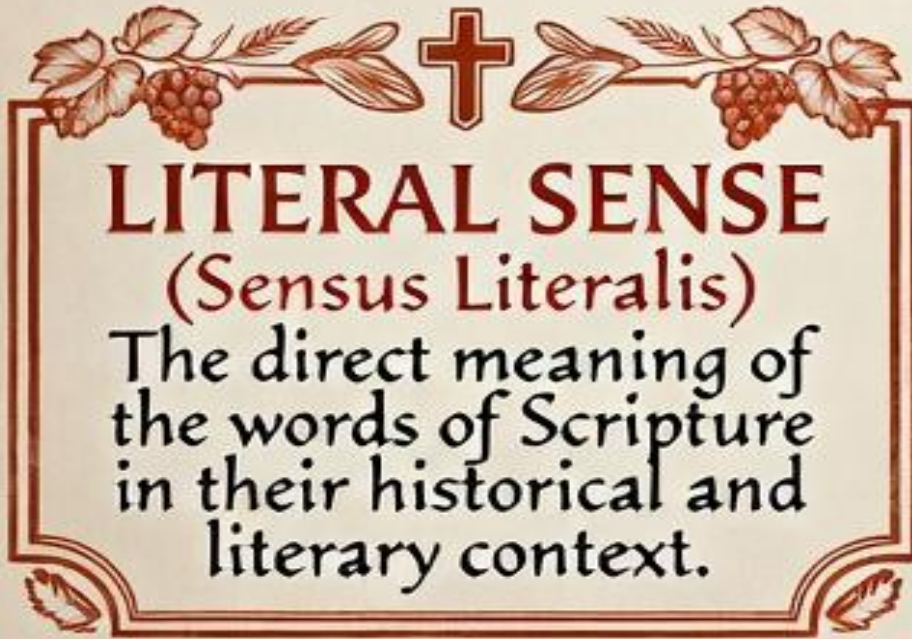


The Crossing of the Red Sea is the historical event of Israel's escape from slavery in Egypt.

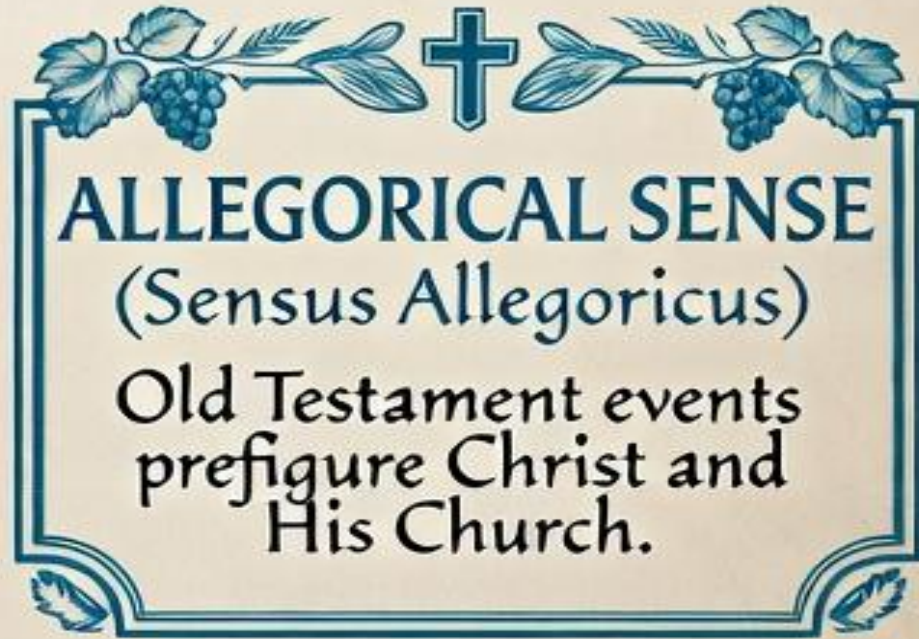
The Crossing of the Red Sea is prefigurement of baptism and Christ victory over sin and death.

The Trials of Israel serve as warnings against sin and as lessons to trust God.

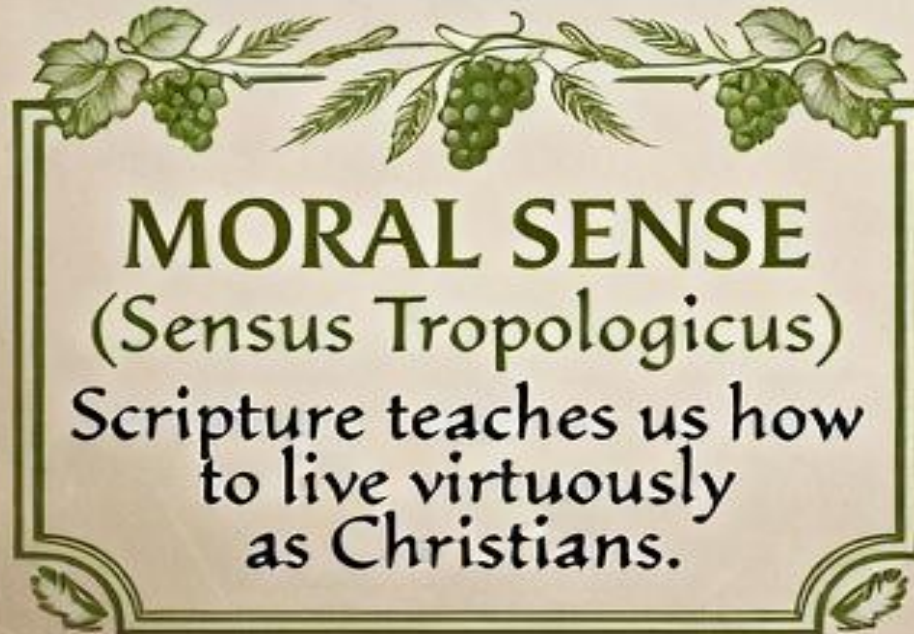
The Promised Land serves as symbol of our eternal dwelling in heaven.



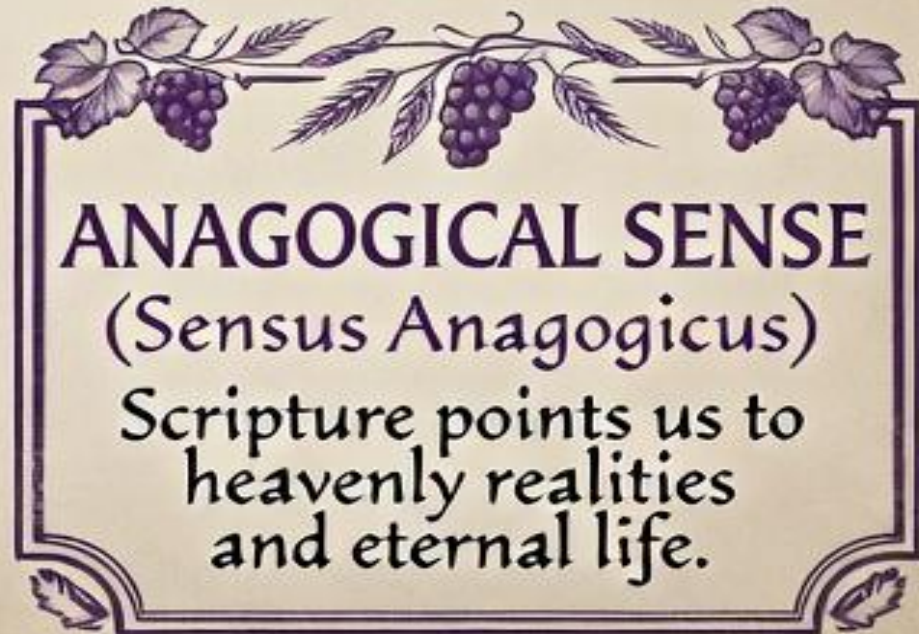
LITERAL SENSE
(Sensus Literalis)
The direct meaning of
the words of Scripture
in their historical and
literary context.



ALLEGORICAL SENSE
(Sensus Allegoricus)
Old Testament events
prefigure Christ and
His Church.

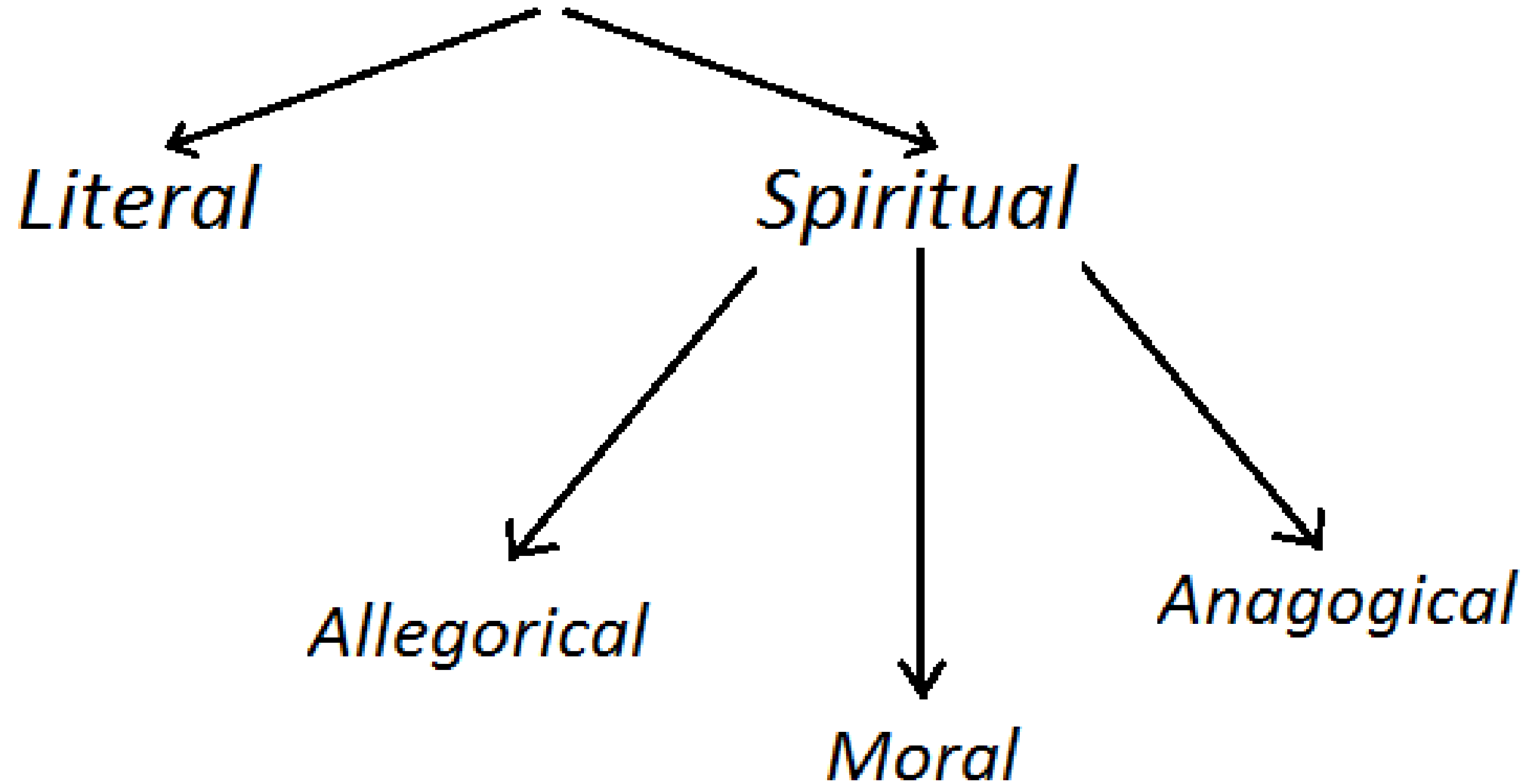


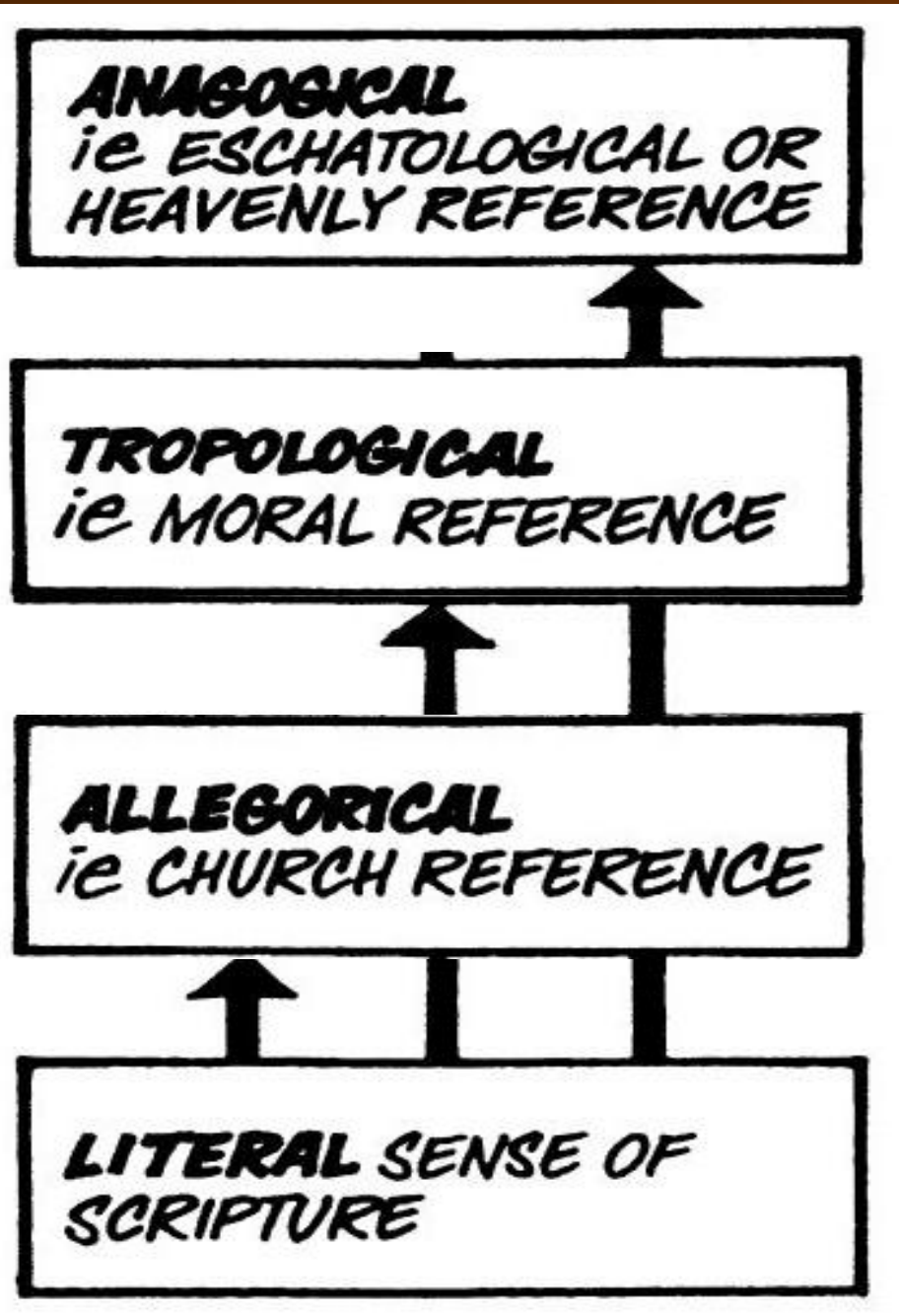
MORAL SENSE
(Sensus Tropologicus)
Scripture teaches us how
to live virtuously
as Christians.



ANAGOGICAL SENSE
(Sensus Anagogicus)
Scripture points us to
heavenly realities
and eternal life.

Senses





*the **anagogical** where
you are going.*

*the **tropological** what
you must do;*

*the **allegorical** what
you must believe;*

*The **literal** teaches
what happened;*

SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

I. Literal: What does it say in and of itself?

Ex) Temple of Jerusalem

II. Spiritual: What is the deeper meaning?

A. Allegorical: How does it connect to Jesus?

Ex) Jesus is the Temple

B. Moral: What does it tell us about how to live?

Ex) Since we are Temples of the Holy Spirit, we should avoid sin.

C. Anagogical: how does it connect to the eternal grand scheme of things?

Ex) One day we will fully enter the heavenly Jerusalem.



Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10





**According to
St. Augustine**

**The donkey is
Christ's incarnation.**

**The Good Samaritan is
Jesus Christ.**

**The Two Denarii
are the Two
Greatest Commands.**

**The oil/wine
represents
communion.**

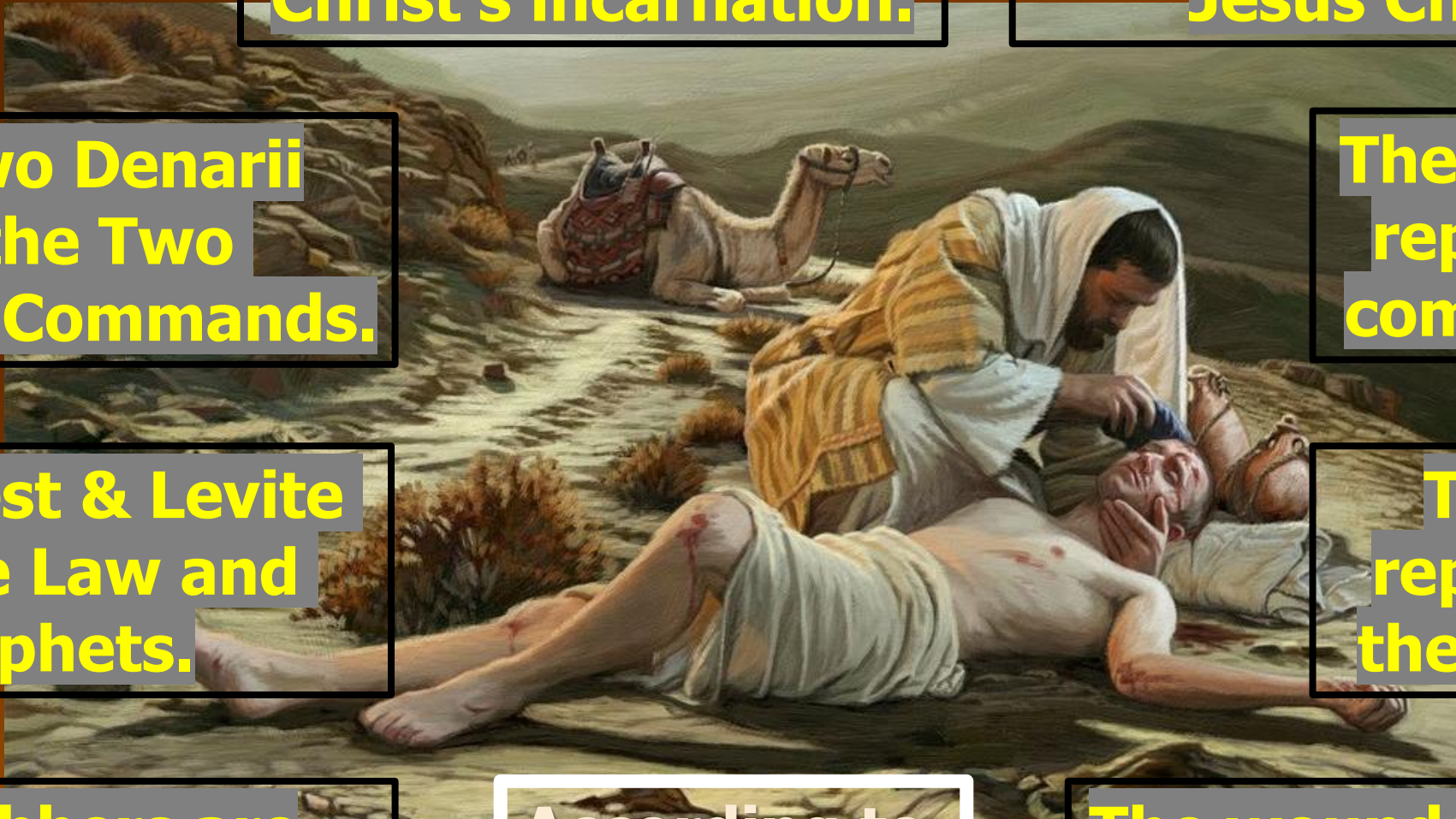
**The Priest & Levite
are the Law and
Prophets.**

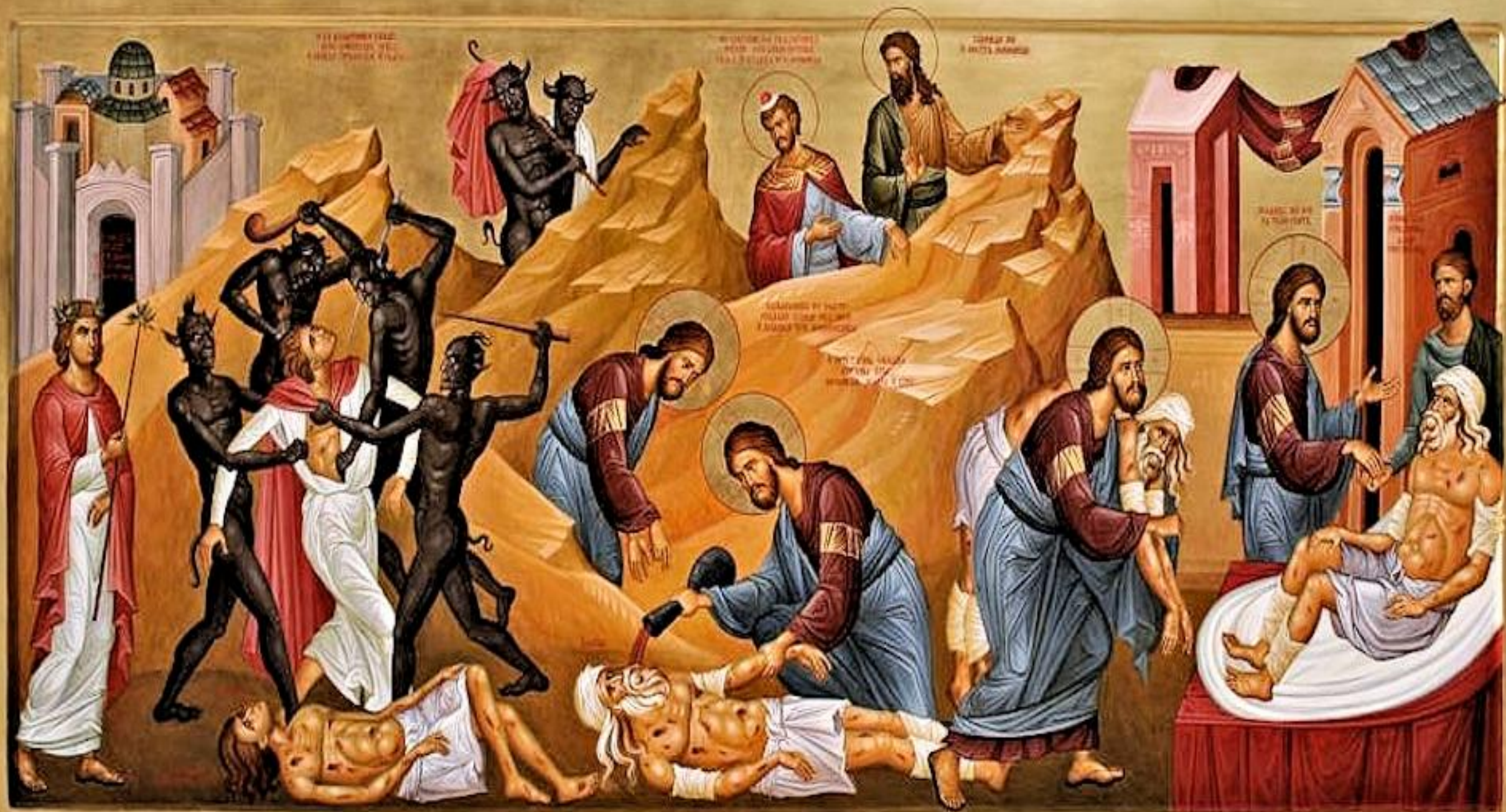
**The inn
represents
the Church.**

**The robbers are
Satan and his devils.**

**According to
St. Augustine**

**The wounded man is
Adam/Fallen Man.**







*You shall understand, therefore, that the Scripture hath but one sense, which is the **literal** sense.*

*And that **literal** sense is the root and ground of all, and the anchor that never fail, whereunto if you cleave, you can never err or go out of the way. And if you leave the **literal** sense, you can not but go out of the way.*

William Tyndale

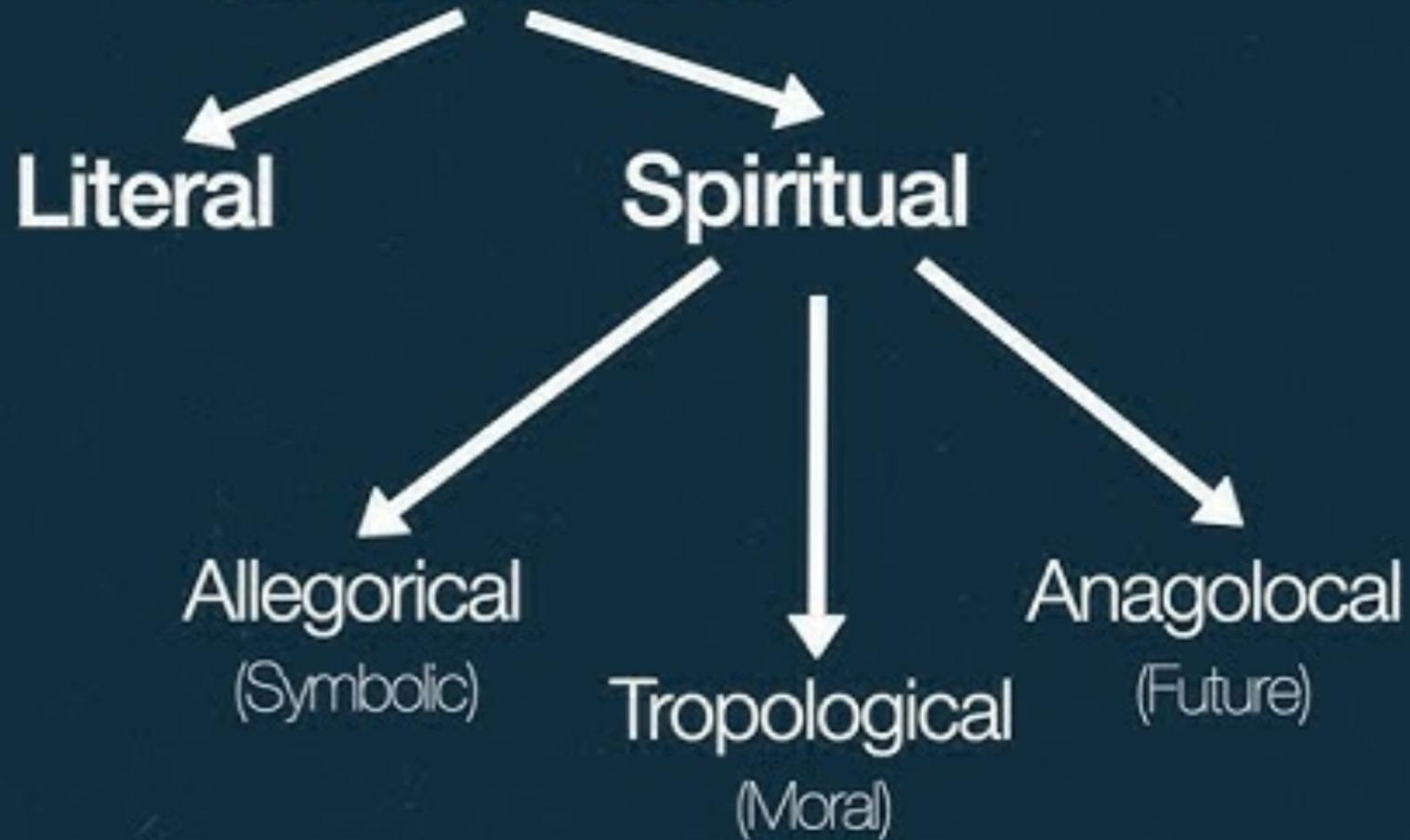
When I was a monk, I was a master in the use of allegories. I allegorized everything.

Now I have shaken off all these follies, and my best art is to deliver the Scripture in the simple sense; therein is life, strength, and doctrine; all other methods are nothing but foolishness.

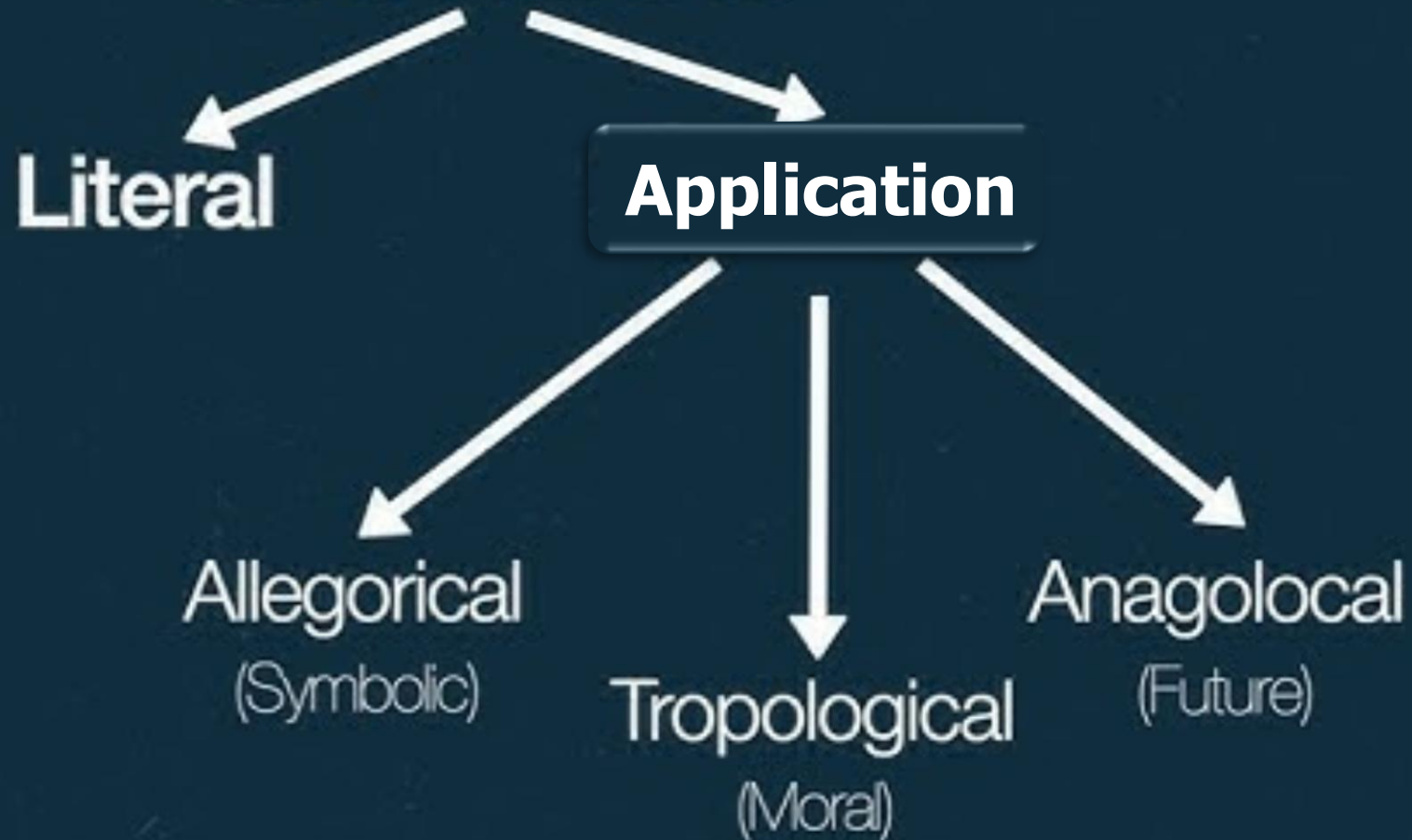
Martin Luther



Senses



Senses



COMMON ERRORS IN BIBLE INTERPRETATION

- (#1) *IGNORING THE GENRE***
- (#2) *IGNORING LINGUISTICS***
- (#3) *IGNORING TRANSLATIONS***
- (#4) *IGNORING CONTEXT***
- (#5) *IGNORING FIGURES OF SPEECH***
- (#6) *IGNORING HISTORY***
- (#7) *IGNORING CULTURE***
- (#8) *IGNORING THEOLOGY***
- (#9) *IGNORING APPLICATION***