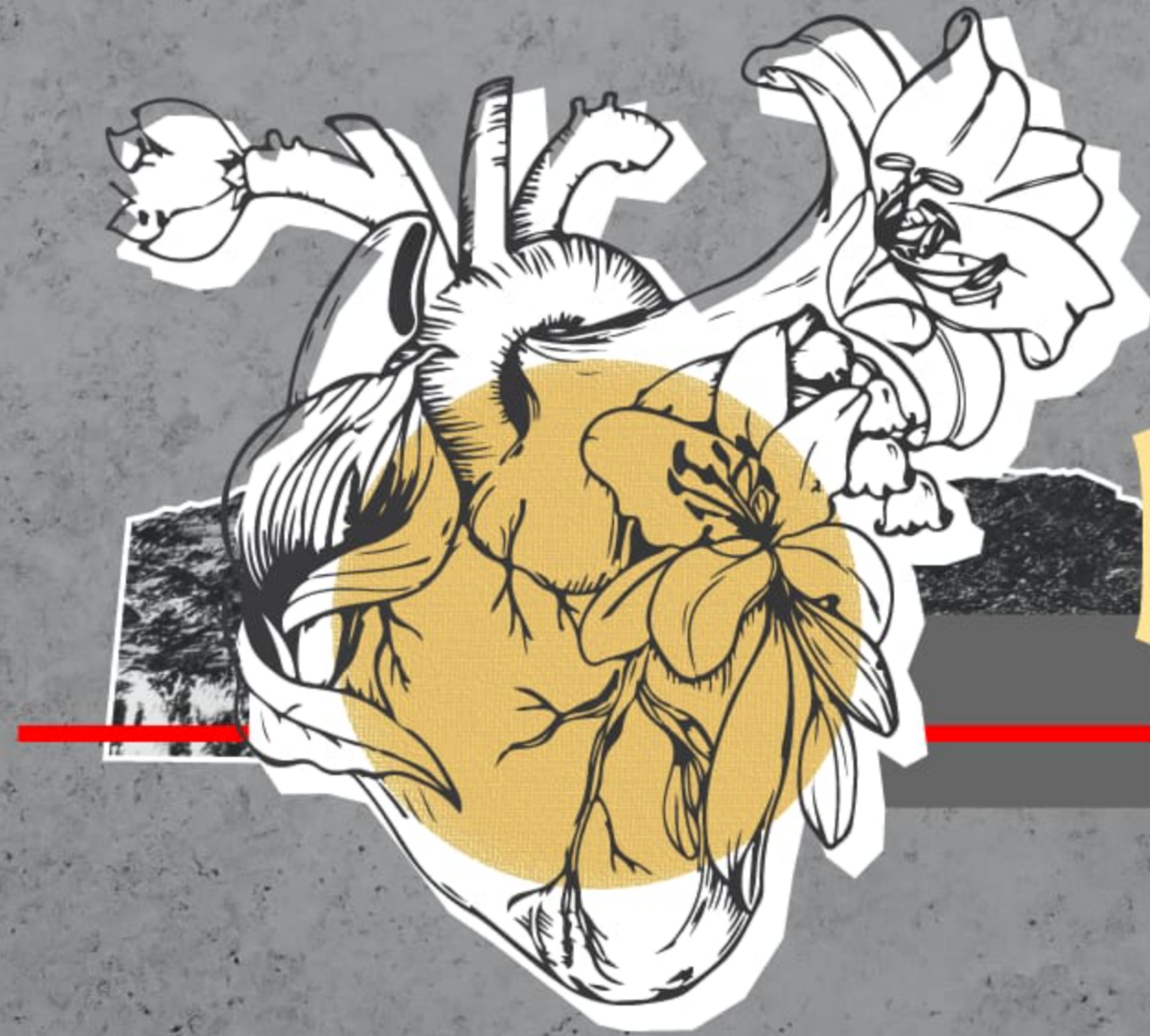


A background graphic on the left side of the image featuring a topographic map with white contour lines on a light gray background. A large, textured gold circle is positioned behind the word 'scripture'.

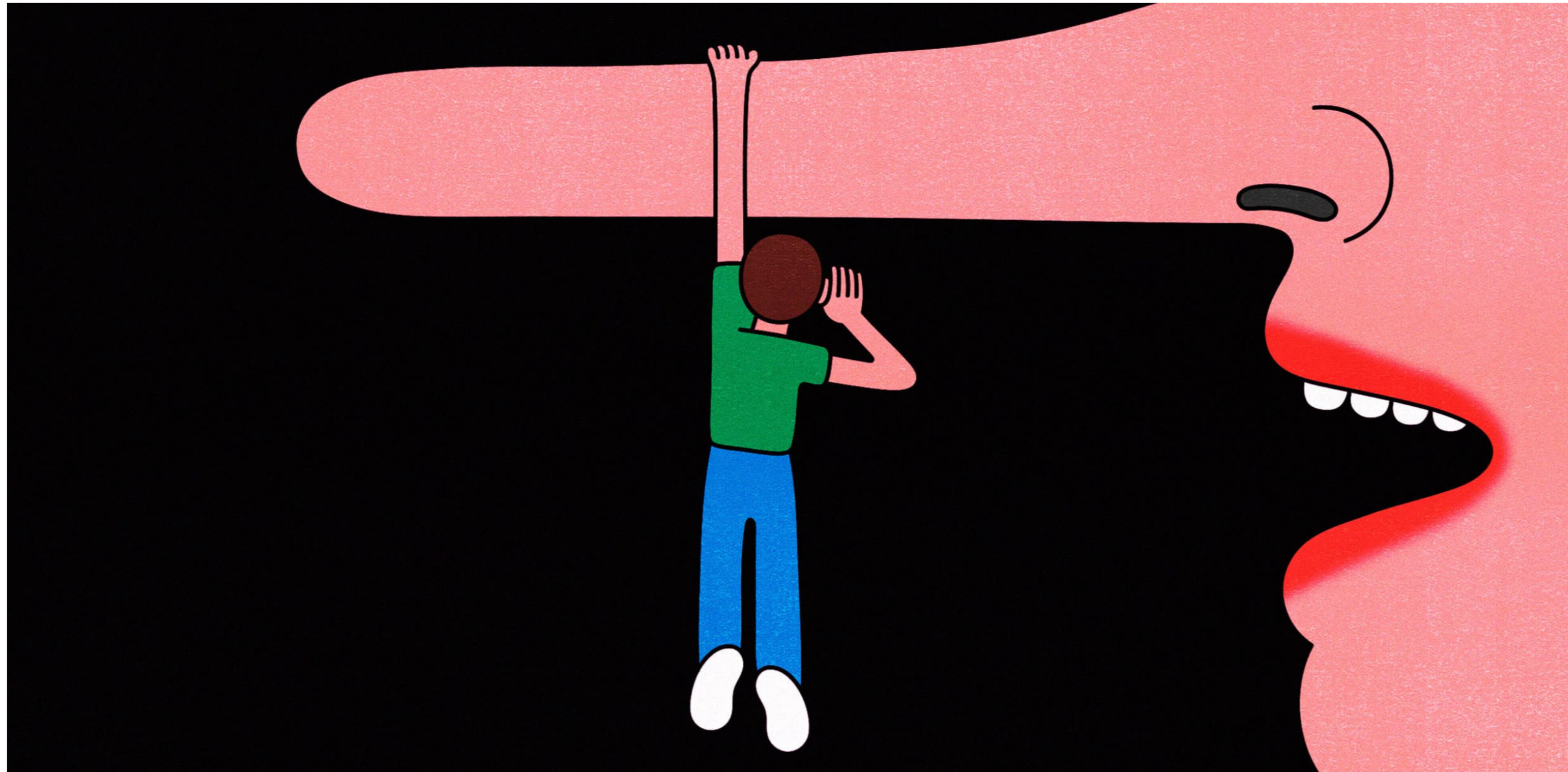
scripture

EZEKIEL 13

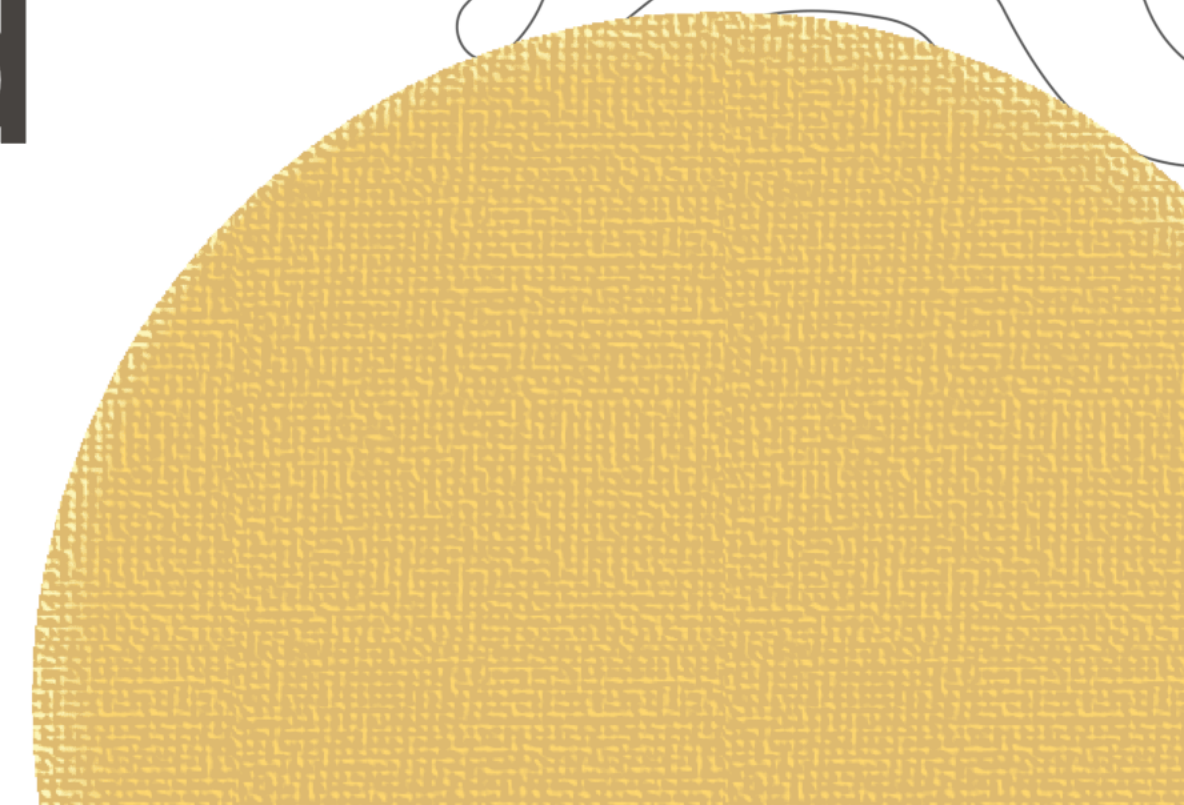
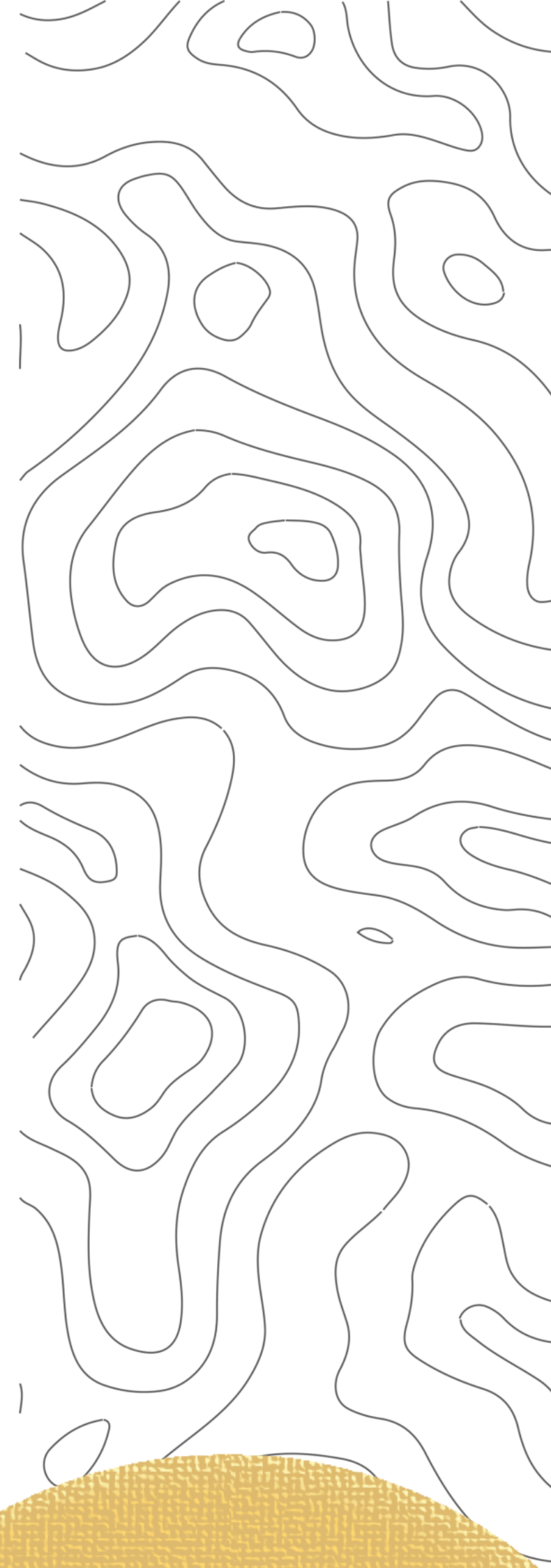


ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY
IN THE GLORY OF GOD



Other people are annoyed
you listen to liars.

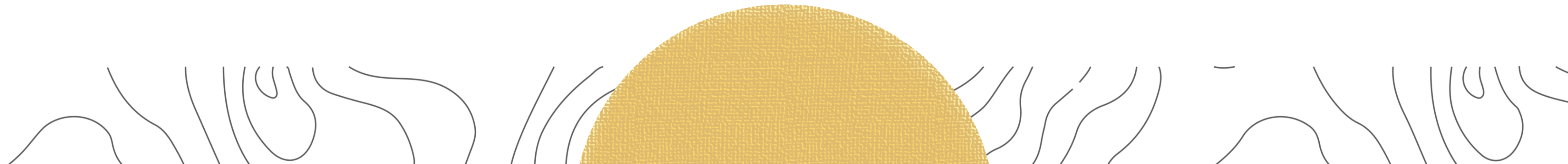


God's **truth, justice and glory** make him the enemy of false prophets.

(and we should follow him in this.)

4 Key Questions:

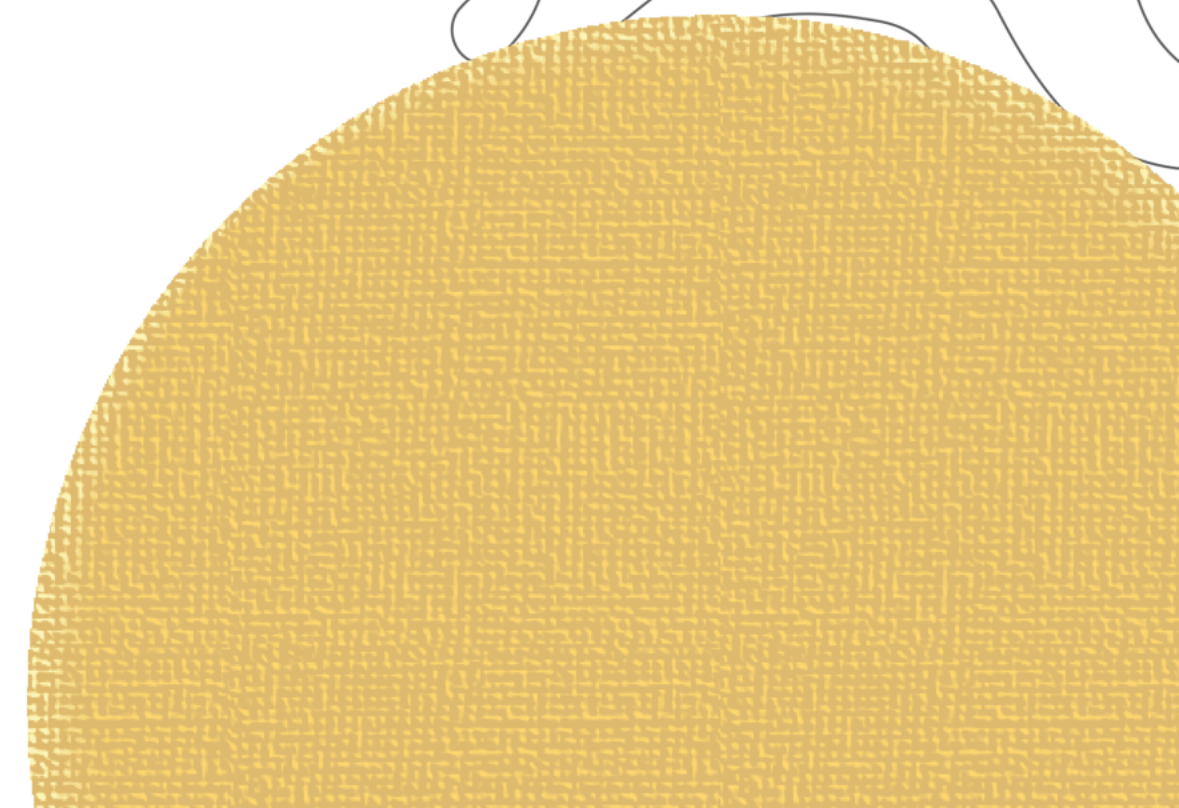
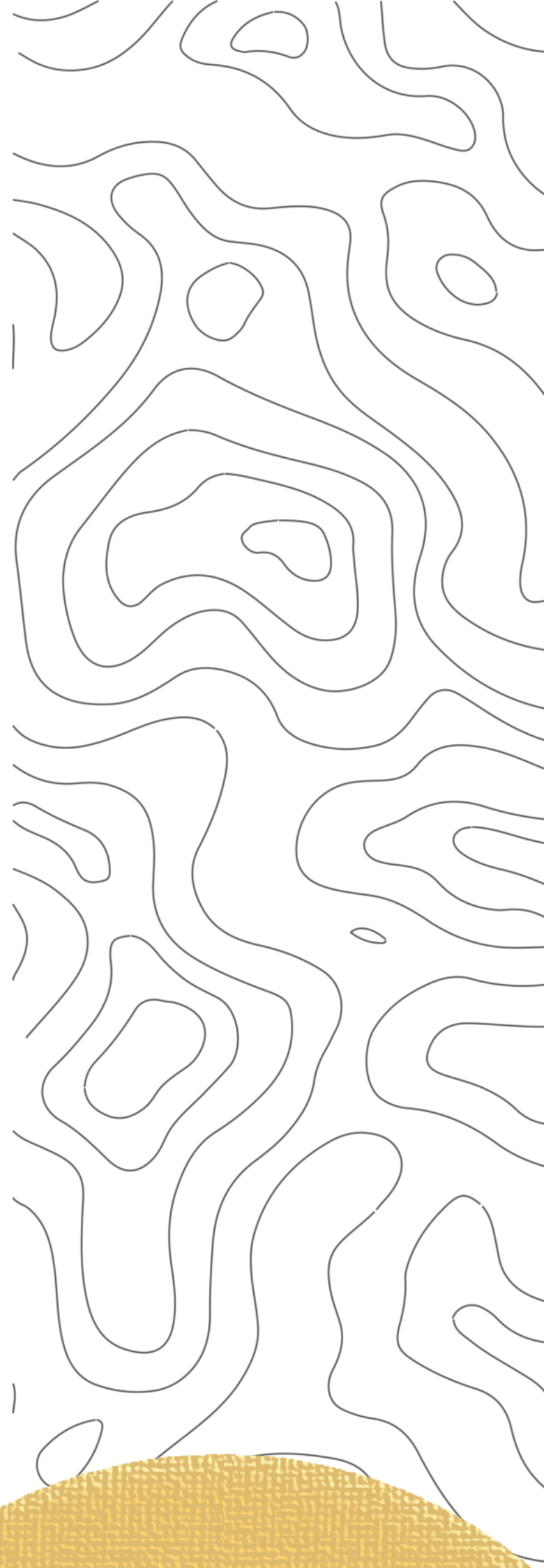
- What does God say about false prophets?
- What are some present examples?
- How do we discern and escape false prophecy?
- What is the heart of the matter?



1. We'll **usually** have
an abundance of false
prophets.

Prophet

A person God sends to speak against corruption; who speaks His truth in order to foster courage in righteousness and repentance in wickedness; to restore people to worshipping God for his glory and fostering godliness and justice among people.



False Prophet (the Reverse)

A person God has not sent, who opportunistically furthers corruption by telling lies that increase injustice, undermine faith and righteousness, emboldens flesh and worldliness, and obscuring further the beauty of God's glory.



An Abundance

**Scripture tells us repeatedly that
False Teachers and Prophets will
be abundant and influential at
almost all time and in all places.**



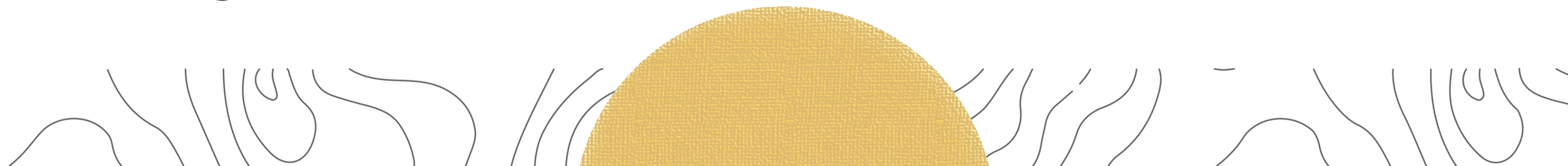
An Abundance

God's use of this evil:

- to reveal insincerety
- to test indecision
- to strengthen the faithful

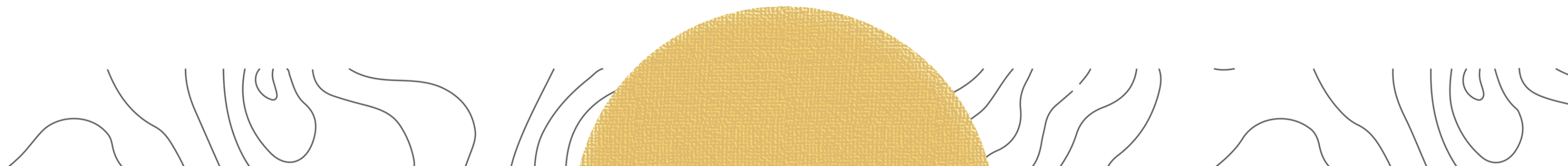
Matthew 24:24–27

For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. See, I have told you ahead of time. "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.



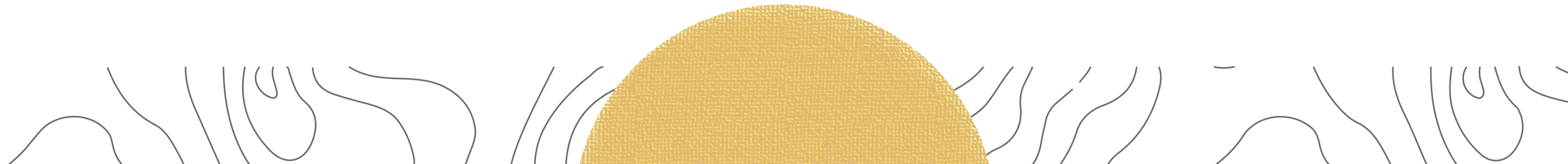
Matthew 7:15

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.



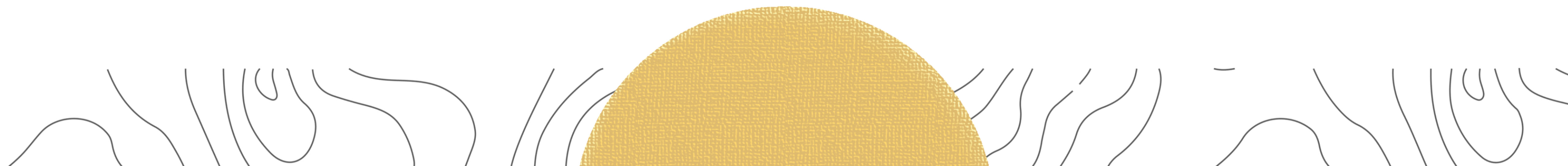
Matthew 16:6–12

"Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ...Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.



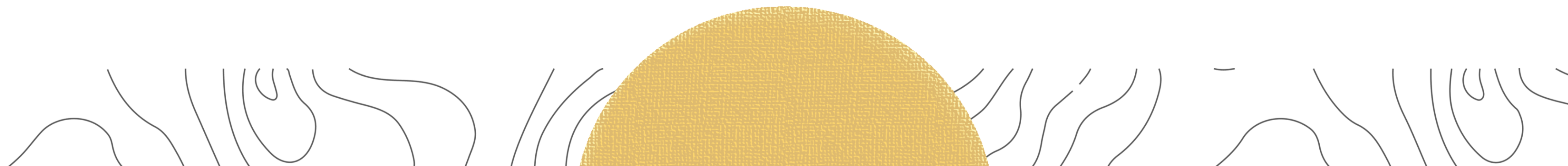
2 Corinthians 11:12–15

And what I do I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do. For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ...



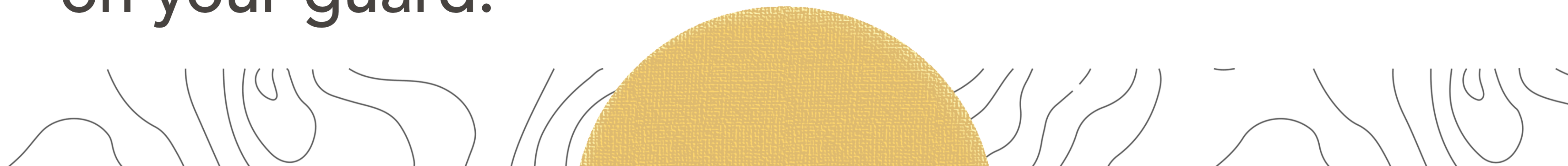
2 Corinthians 11:12–15

...And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.



Acts 20:28–31

Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!



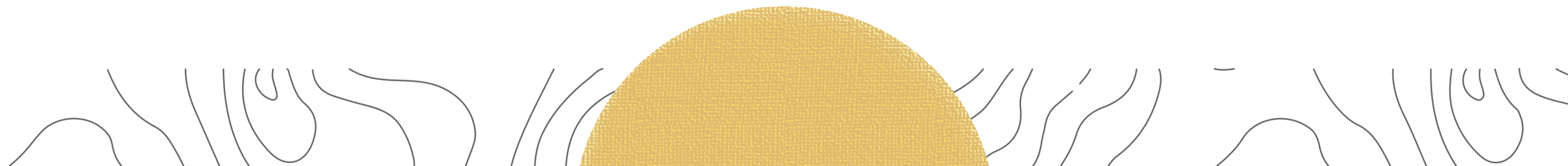
2 Timothy 4:1–7

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions...



2 Timothy 4:1-7

...and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.



1. We'll usually have an abundance of false prophets.

2. False teachers are cynical or self-deceived opportunists

Opportunist- someone that does not fulfil a responsibility for others, but captures it as an opportunity for their own interests.

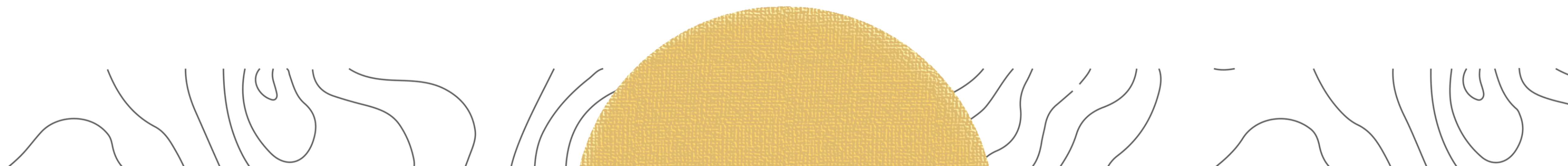


"Just put a coat of paint on it!"

False Prophets

are usually

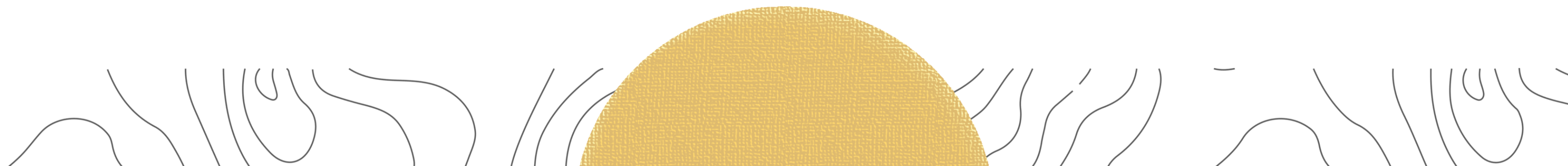
"Convinced liars"



3. God is against False Prophets

Why?

- They lie in his name and obscure his glory
- They lie in his name and deciece people
- They lie in his name and undermine faith and repentance
- They lie in his name and exacerbate injustice



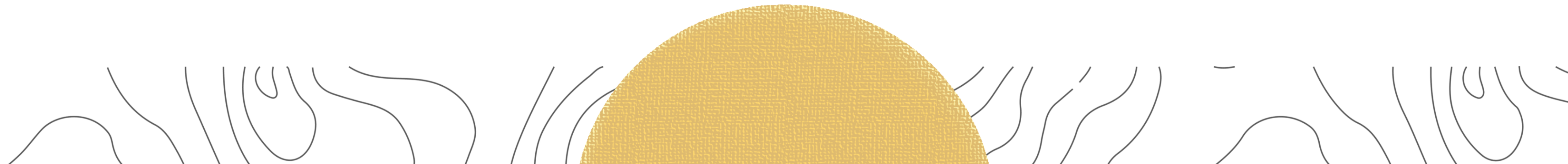
Some Examples:

2 Generic
2 Specific

2 Generic:

1. Self Glorification and cynical
opportunism

2. Self-assured and sincerely wrong



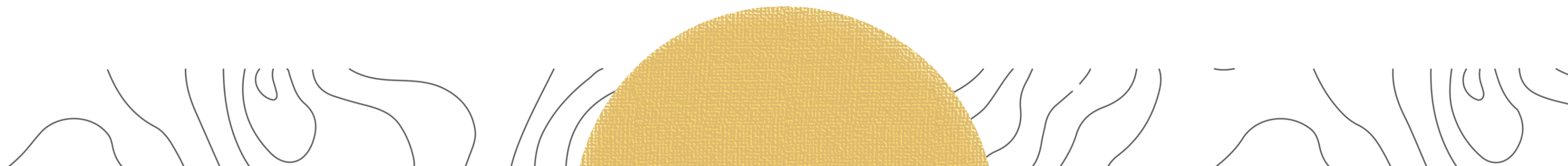
2 Specific

(Protective vs. destructive enculturation)

1. Dominionist Christianity

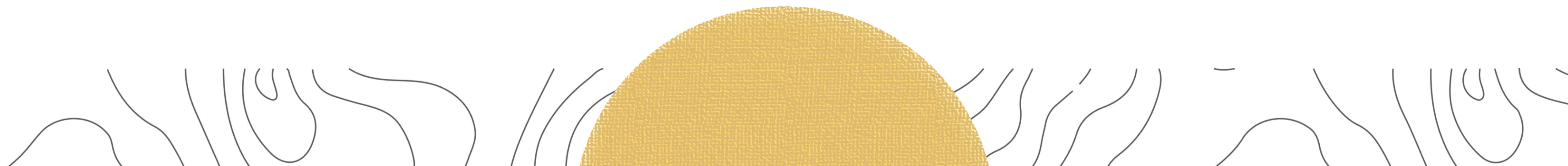
2. Progressive Christianity

(both of these are tribalisms of identity politics)



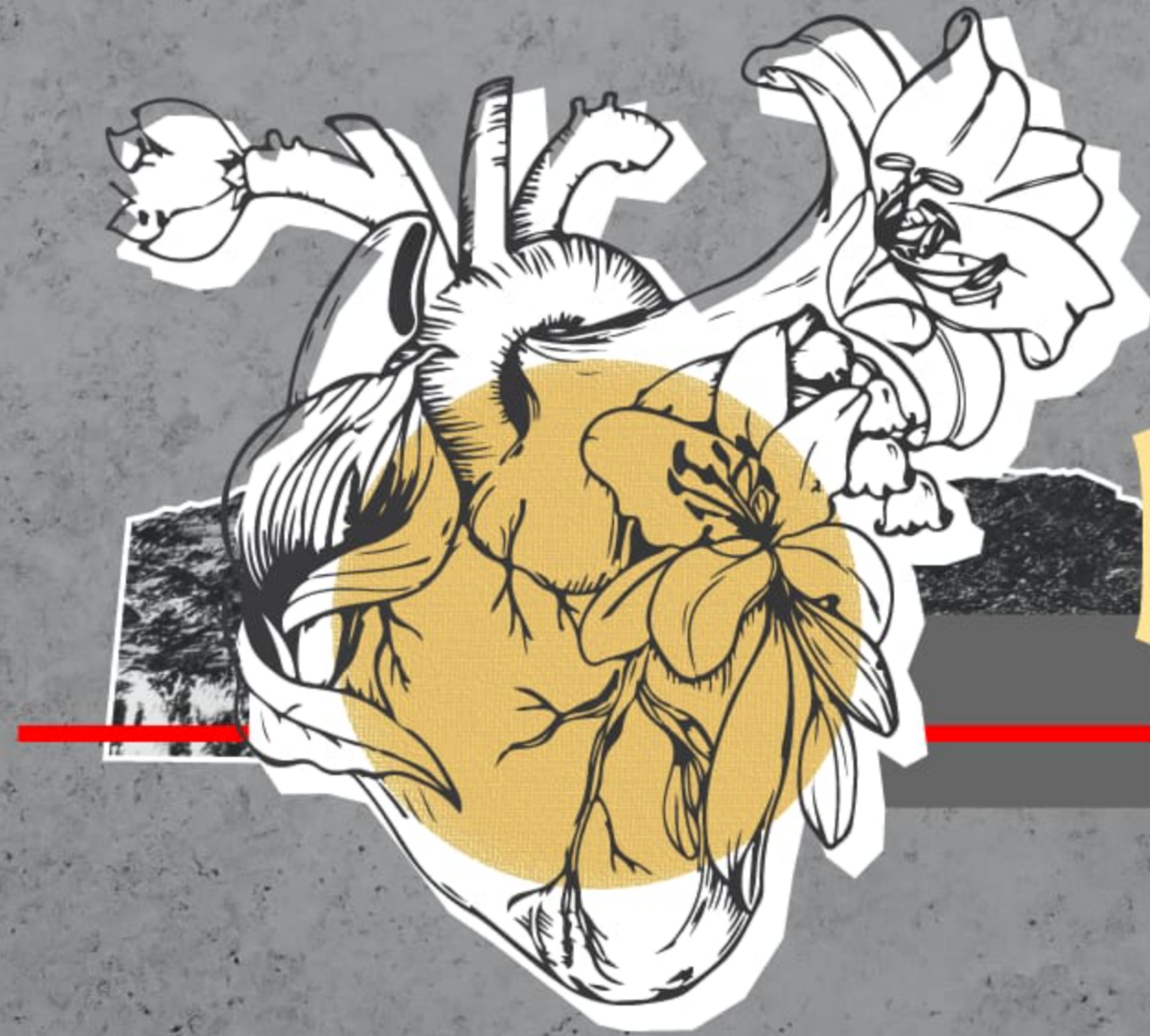
Escaping false prophecy
in ourselves and from others

1. Breaks with God's revelation
2. inconsistency reveals dishonesty
3. Forbidden means to achieve promised ends
4. Real reveals the counterfeit— 2 peter 1:5



The heart of the matter:

"Let me have the glory without
fighting for the good."



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FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY
IN THE GLORY OF GOD