



ROMANS

THE ART OF
THE (BAD) DEAL



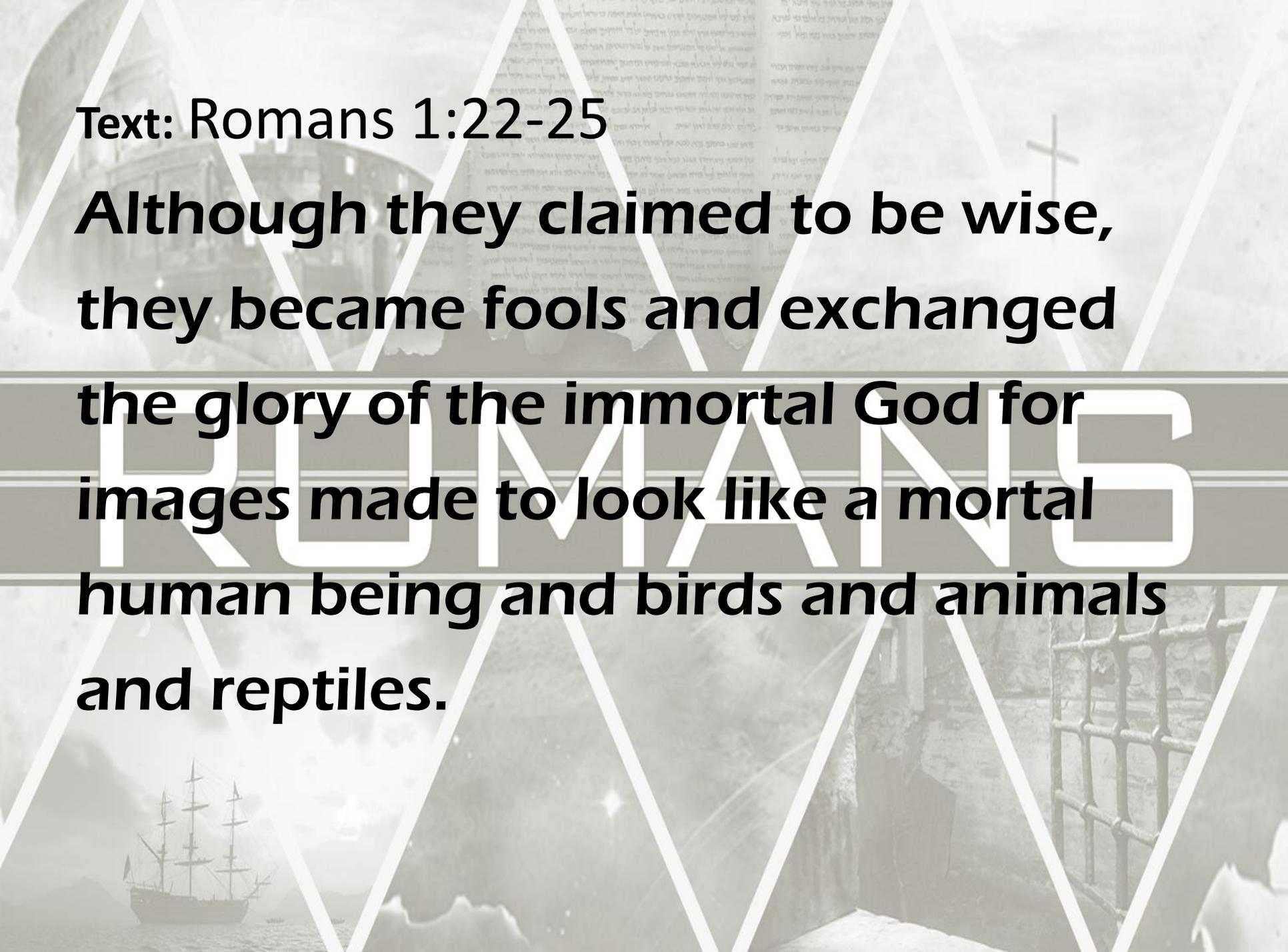
Introduction:

Some deals are good for the dealer, others are bad. Consider the sale by Native Americans of Manhattan to Dutch settlers, or the sale of Babe Ruth by the Red Sox to the Yankees!

Text: Romans 1:22-25

**Although they claimed to be wise,
they became fools and exchanged
the glory of the immortal God for
images made to look like a mortal
human being and birds and animals
and reptiles.**

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Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

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**They exchanged the truth about God
for a lie, and worshiped and served
created things rather than the
Creator — who is forever praised.**

Amen.

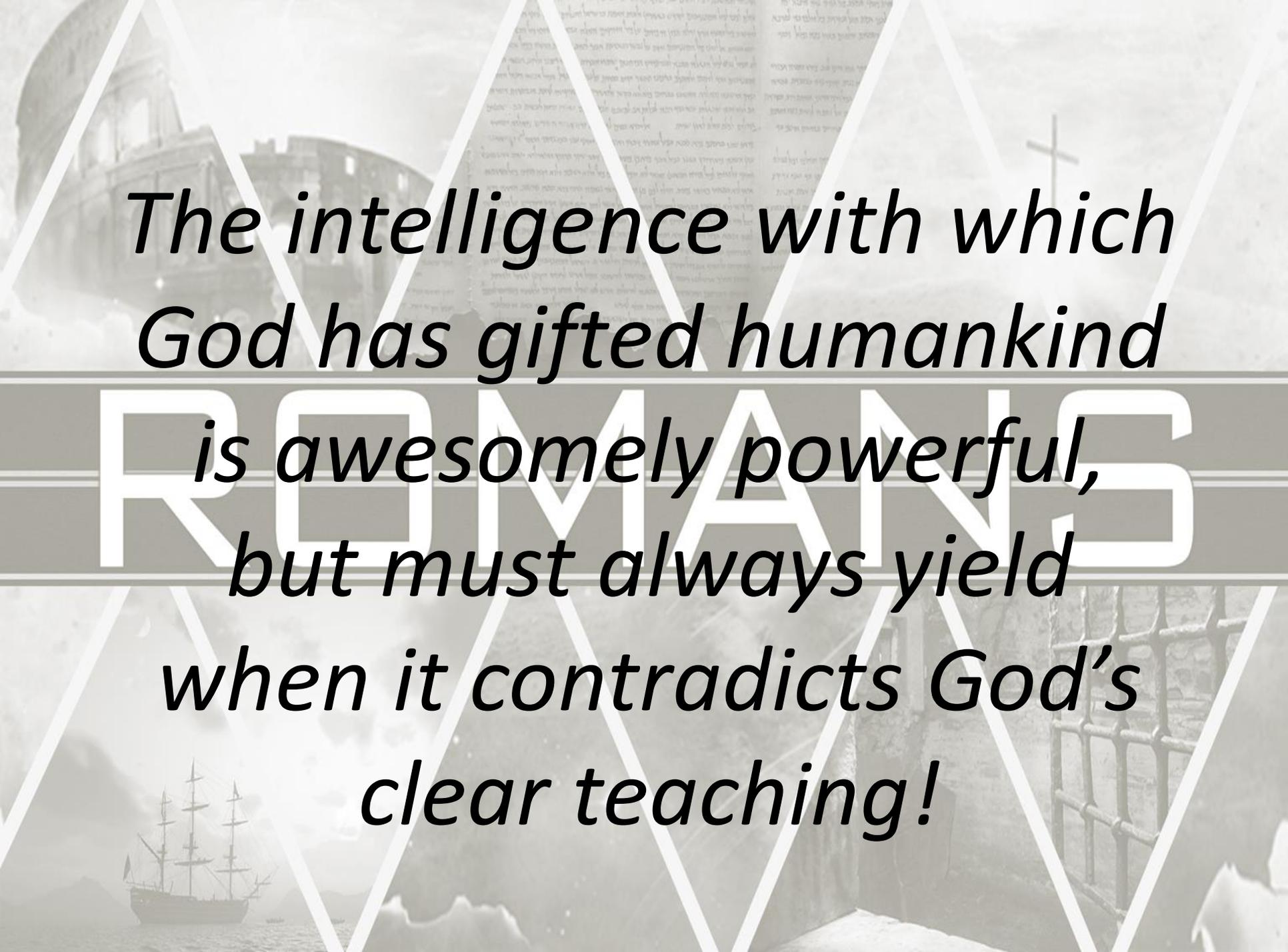
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Romans 1:22-25

Mankind was created with a **DUAL** nature.
Our **HIGHER** nature reflects the
GLORY and **IMMORTALITY** of
our Creator, while our **LOWER** nature is
that of an **ANIMAL** who is subject to
DECAY and **MORTALITY.**



When we exalt human **REASON** above
divine **REVELATION**, we exchange
our **HIGHER** nature for our
LOWER nature.

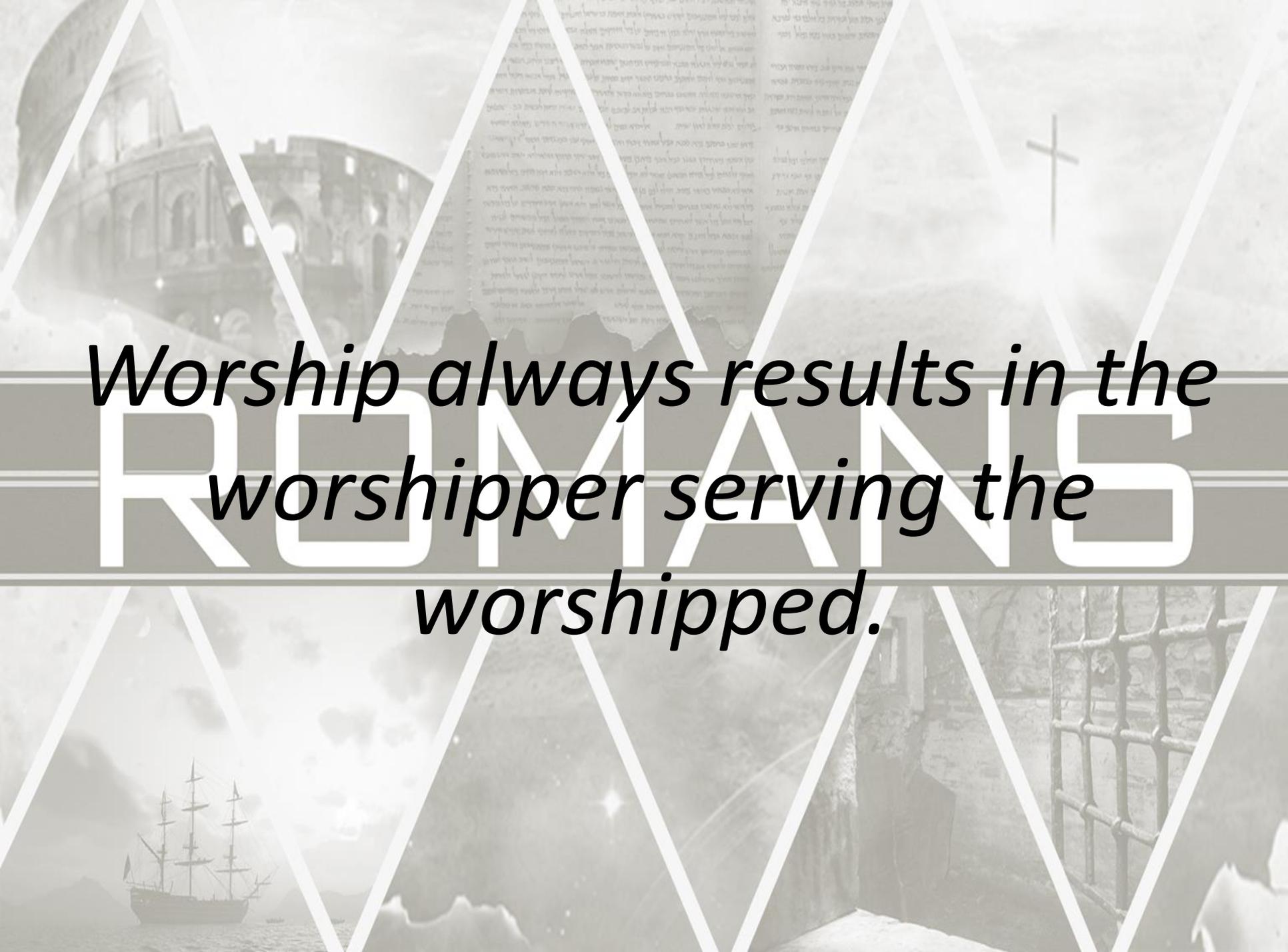
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The background features a collage of various scenes including a dome of a building, a cross on a hill, a ship on the water, and a person behind bars. Overlaid on this are large, white, semi-transparent letters spelling 'ROMANS' in a grid pattern. The text is centered and reads:

*The intelligence with which
God has gifted humankind
is awesomely powerful,
but must always yield
when it contradicts God's
clear teaching!*

The instinct to worship is powerfully imprinted
in our **DNA** — God created us to be
WORSHIPPERS! The question is
never **WHETHER** we will worship, but
WHO or **WHAT** will be worshipped?

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The background is a collage of four images: the Colosseum in Rome, a cross on a hill, a three-masted sailing ship on the sea, and a person behind prison bars. A large, semi-transparent watermark of the word 'ROMANS' is centered across the image. The text is in a bold, italicized, black serif font.

*Worship always results in the
worshipper serving the
worshipped.*

In the absence of worshipping the
CREATOR, human nature is to worship
CREATED things.

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This is the root cause of:

IDOLATRY — the worship of an idol or a physical object as a representation of a god.

IMMORALITY — the violation of moral laws, norms or standards.

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This is the root cause of:

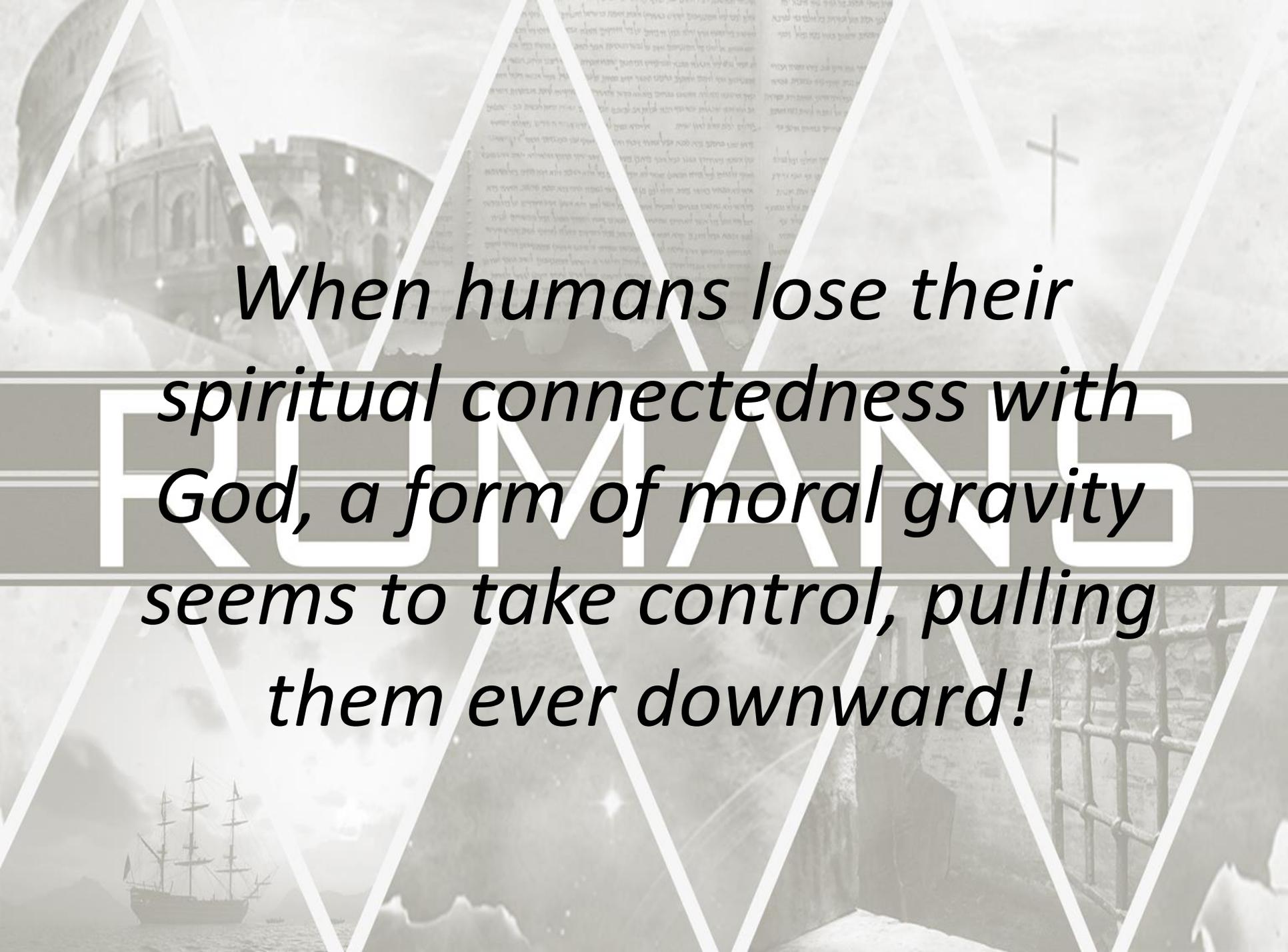
MATERIALISM — a belief that matter is the fundamental substance in nature, and that all phenomena, including mental phenomena and consciousness, are results of material interactions.

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This is the root cause of:

HUMANISM — a non-theistic world-view centered on human agency and looking to science rather than revelation from a supernatural source to understand the world.

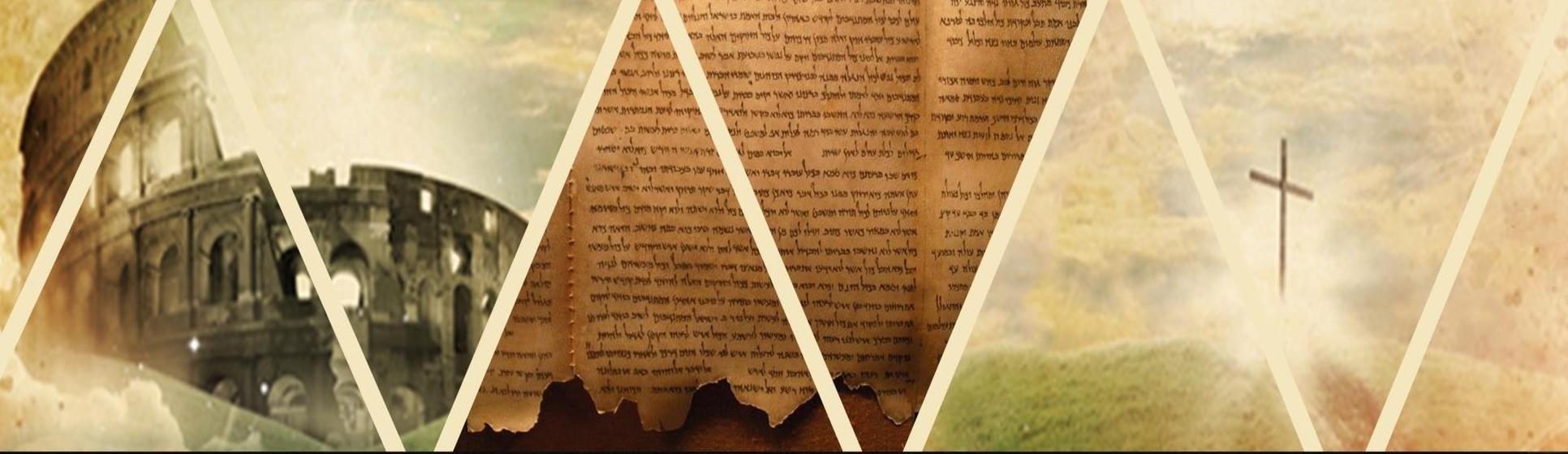
ROMANIS



*When humans lose their
spiritual connectedness with
God, a form of moral gravity
seems to take control, pulling
them ever downward!*

Conclusion:

The question of who or what you are worshipping is answered by who or what you are serving. If a neutral observer watched you going about your daily life, who or what would this person be likely to say you are serving?



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