

“For sheer grandeur and majesty,  
probably no book in the Hebrew Bible  
can be compared with Isaiah.”

Longman and Dillard

**Judgment** with some mercy (1-35)

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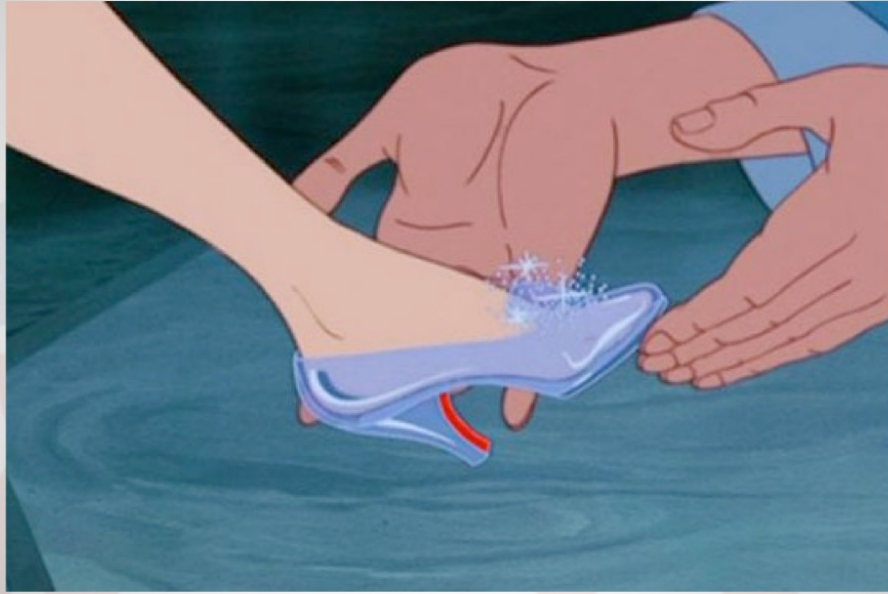
**Exile** (36-39)

**Judgment** with some mercy (1-35)

**Exile** (36-39)

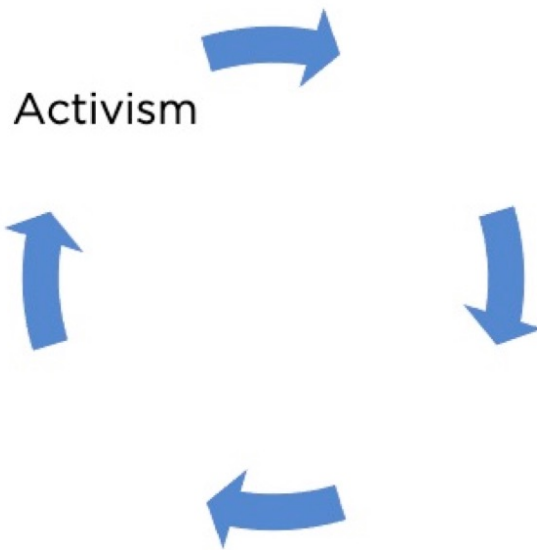
**Mercy** with some judgment (40-66)



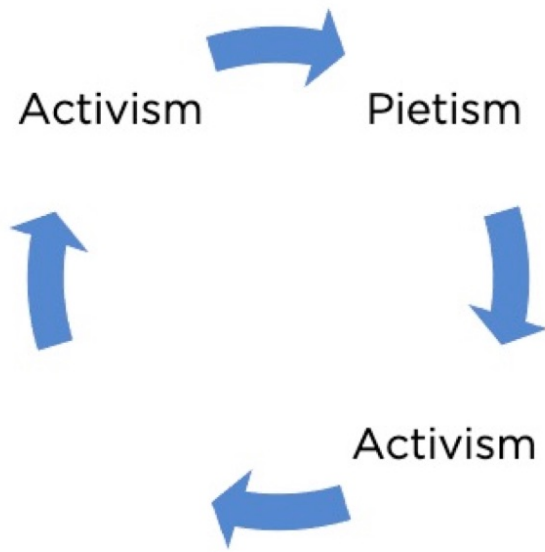
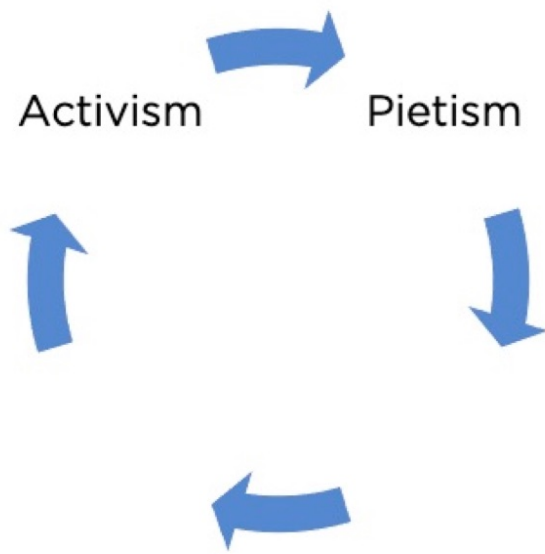


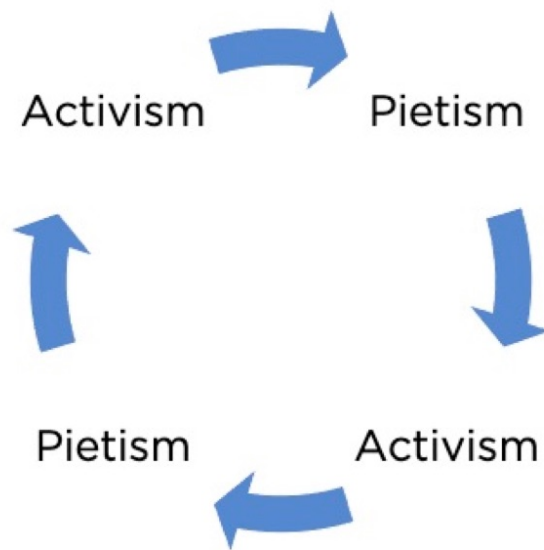
“Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4:21

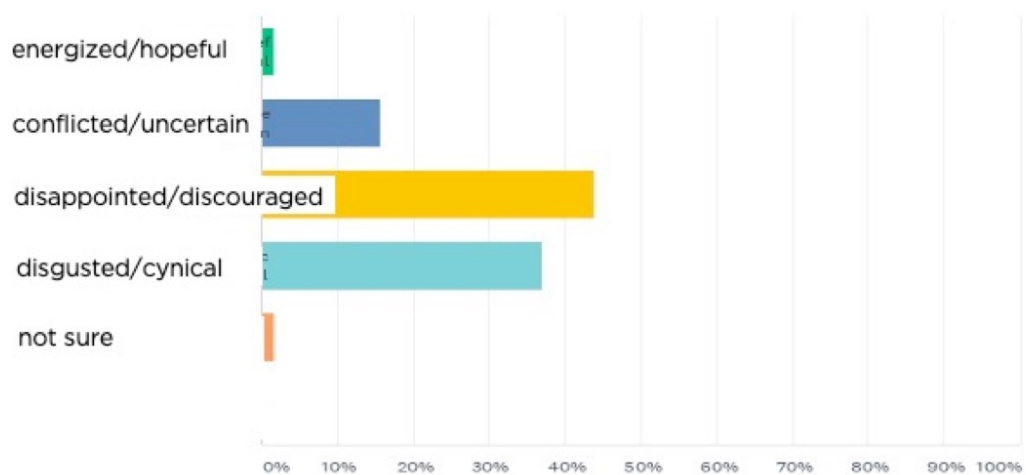




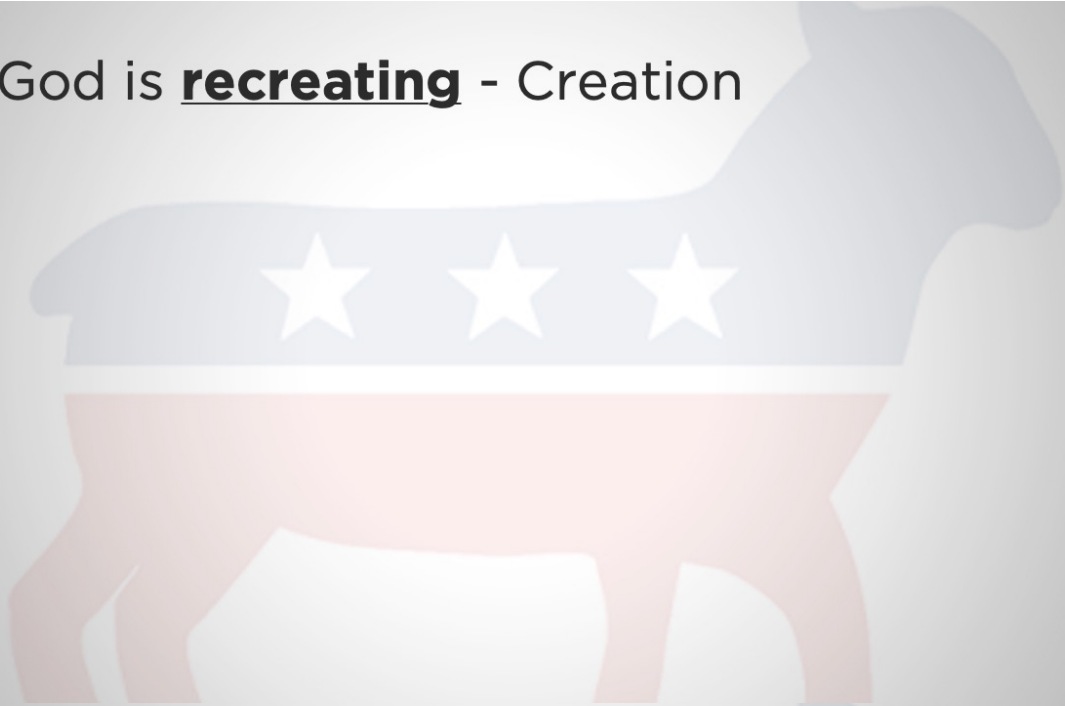




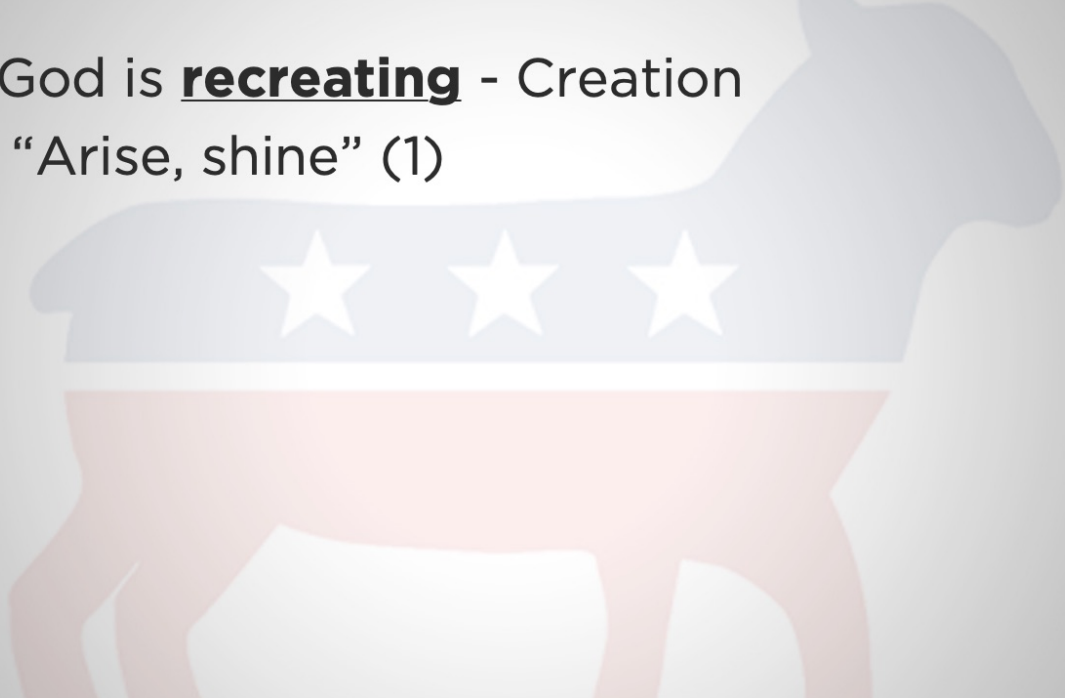
**Q6: When I think about politics and politicians, I feel**



1. God is **recreating** - Creation



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“Arise, shine” (1)

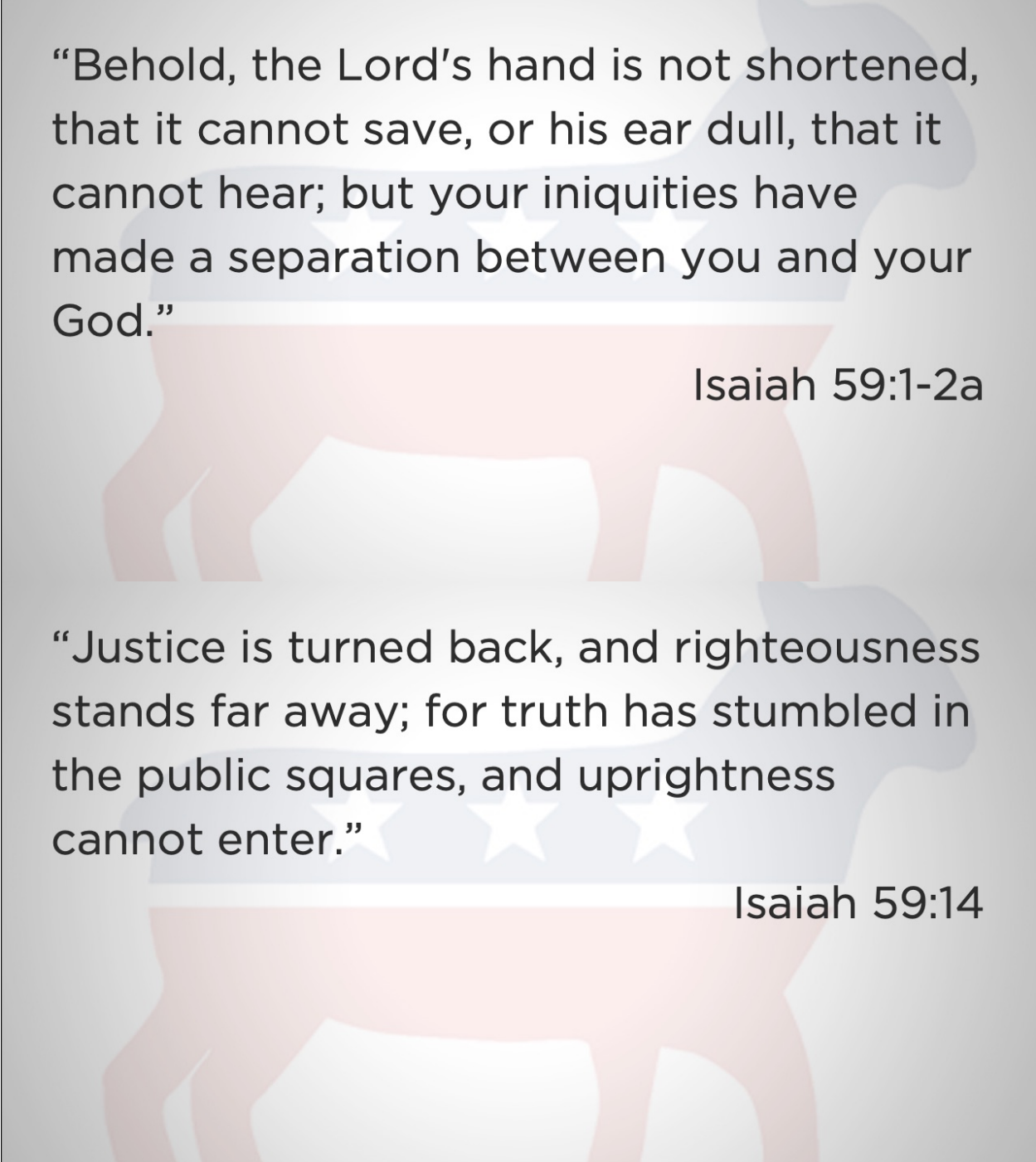




2. God is **revealing** - Fall

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“For behold, darkness shall cover the earth” (2)

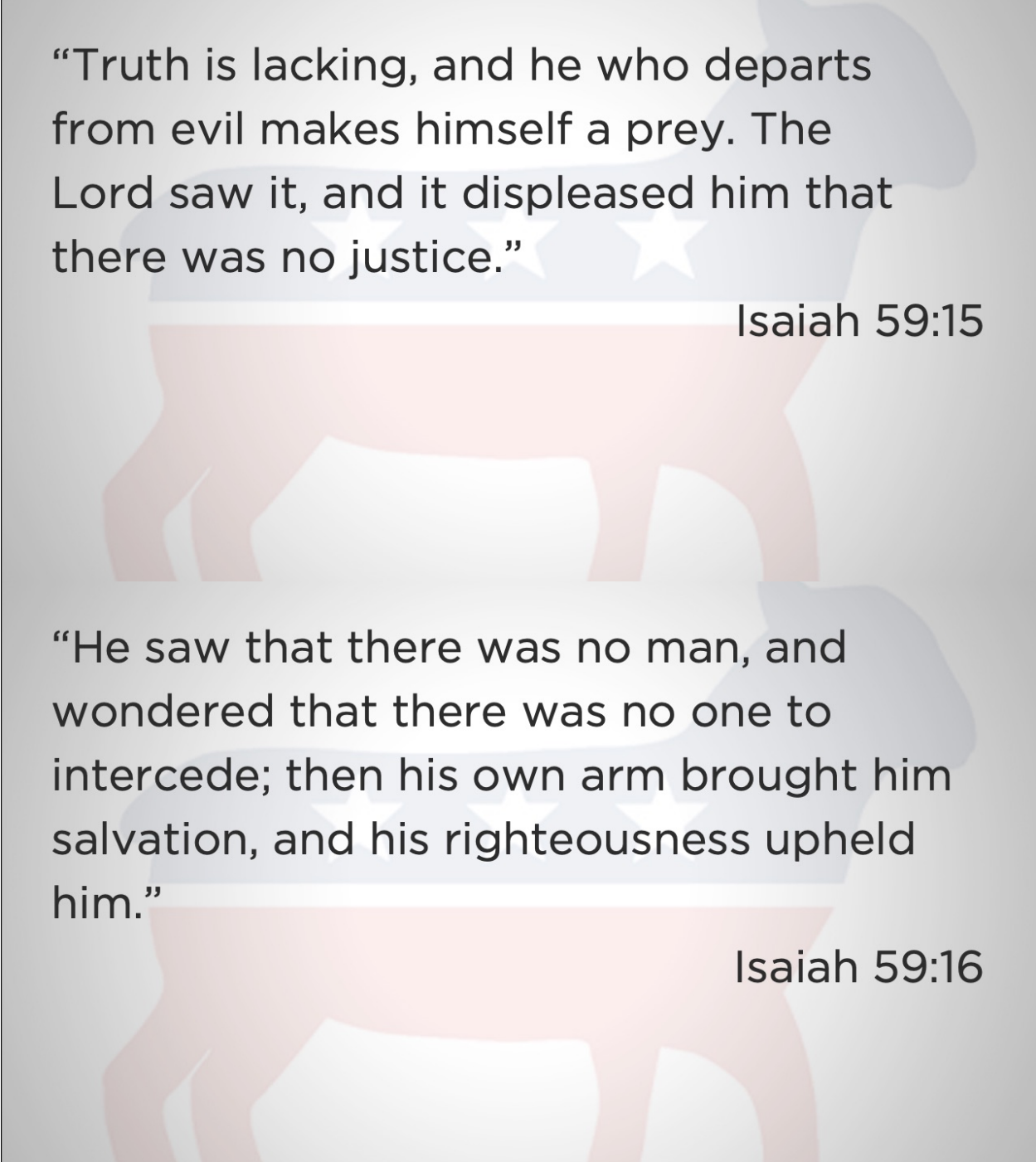


“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened,  
that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it  
cannot hear; but your iniquities have  
made a separation between you and your  
God.”

Isaiah 59:1-2a

“Justice is turned back, and righteousness  
stands far away; for truth has stumbled in  
the public squares, and uprightness  
cannot enter.”

Isaiah 59:14



“Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.”

Isaiah 59:15

“He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him.”

Isaiah 59:16

“And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the Lord.”

Isaiah 59:20

3. God is **redeeming** - Redemption

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“And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your  
rising.” (3)

“In you all the families of the earth shall  
be blessed.”

Genesis 12:3

Three Images



Three Images

a. the **ships of Tarshish** (8-9)





### Three Images

#### a. the **ships of Tarshish** (8-9)

“... against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft. And the haughtiness of man shall be humbled, and the lofty pride of men shall be brought low.”

Isaiah 2:16-17

### Three Images

#### a. the **ships of Tarshish** (8-9)

“Wail, O ships of Tarshish, for your stronghold is laid waste.”

Isaiah 23:14

## Three Images

- a. the **ships of Tarshish** (8-9)
- b. the **milk of nations** (15-16)

Whereas you have been ...

**forsaken, hated, abandoned**

Whereas you have been ...

**forsaken, hated, abandoned**

I will make you ...

**majestic forever**

Whereas you have been ...

**forsaken, hated, abandoned**

I will make you ...

**majestic forever**

**a source of rejoicing**

Whereas you have been ...

**forsaken, hated, abandoned**

I will make you ...

**majestic forever**

**a source of rejoicing**

**find nourishment in unlikely places**

“You shall suck the milk of nations;  
you shall nurse at the breast of kings;  
and you shall know that I, the Lord, am  
your Savior and your Redeemer, the  
Mighty One of Jacob.”

Isaiah 60:16

### Three Images

- a. the ships of Tarshish (8-9)
- b. the milk of nations (15-16)
- c. the overseers and taskmasters (17)

### Three Images

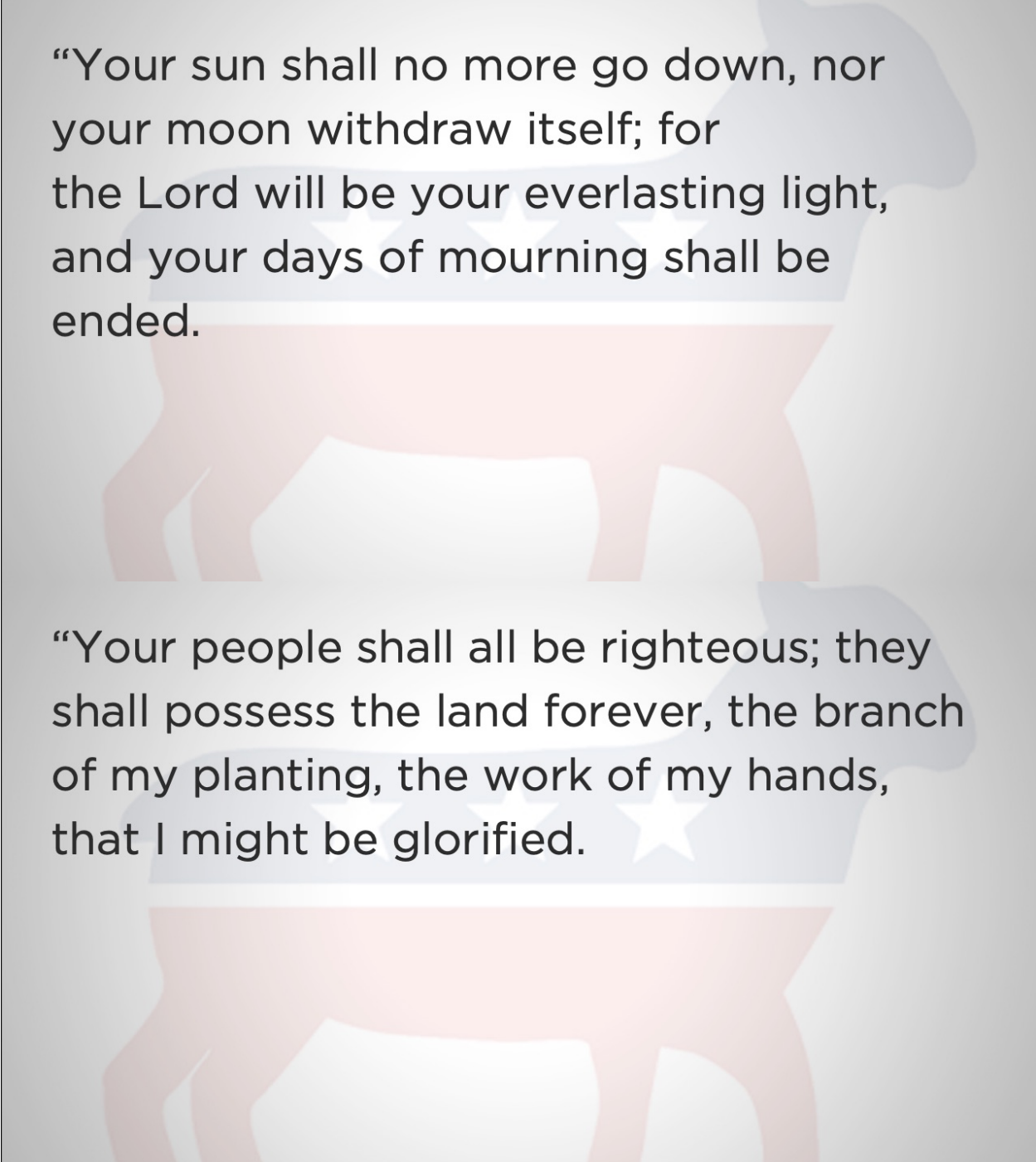
- a. the ships of Tarshish (8-9)
- b. the milk of nations (15-16)
- c. the overseers and taskmasters (17)

“I will make your overseers peace and  
your taskmasters righteousness.”

4. God is **restoring** - Restoration

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“Your days of mourning shall be ended” (20)





“Your sun shall no more go down, nor  
your moon withdraw itself; for  
the Lord will be your everlasting light,  
and your days of mourning shall be  
ended.

“Your people shall all be righteous; they  
shall possess the land forever, the branch  
of my planting, the work of my hands,  
that I might be glorified.

“The least one shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the Lord; in its time I will hasten it.”

Isaiah 60:20-22

Therefore, politics are ...

- **beautiful**

Therefore, politics are ...

- **beautiful**

“Whose likeness and inscription is this?”

Therefore, politics are ...

- **beautiful**

“Jesus said to them, ‘Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s. And they marveled at him.’”

Mark 12:17

Therefore, politics are ...

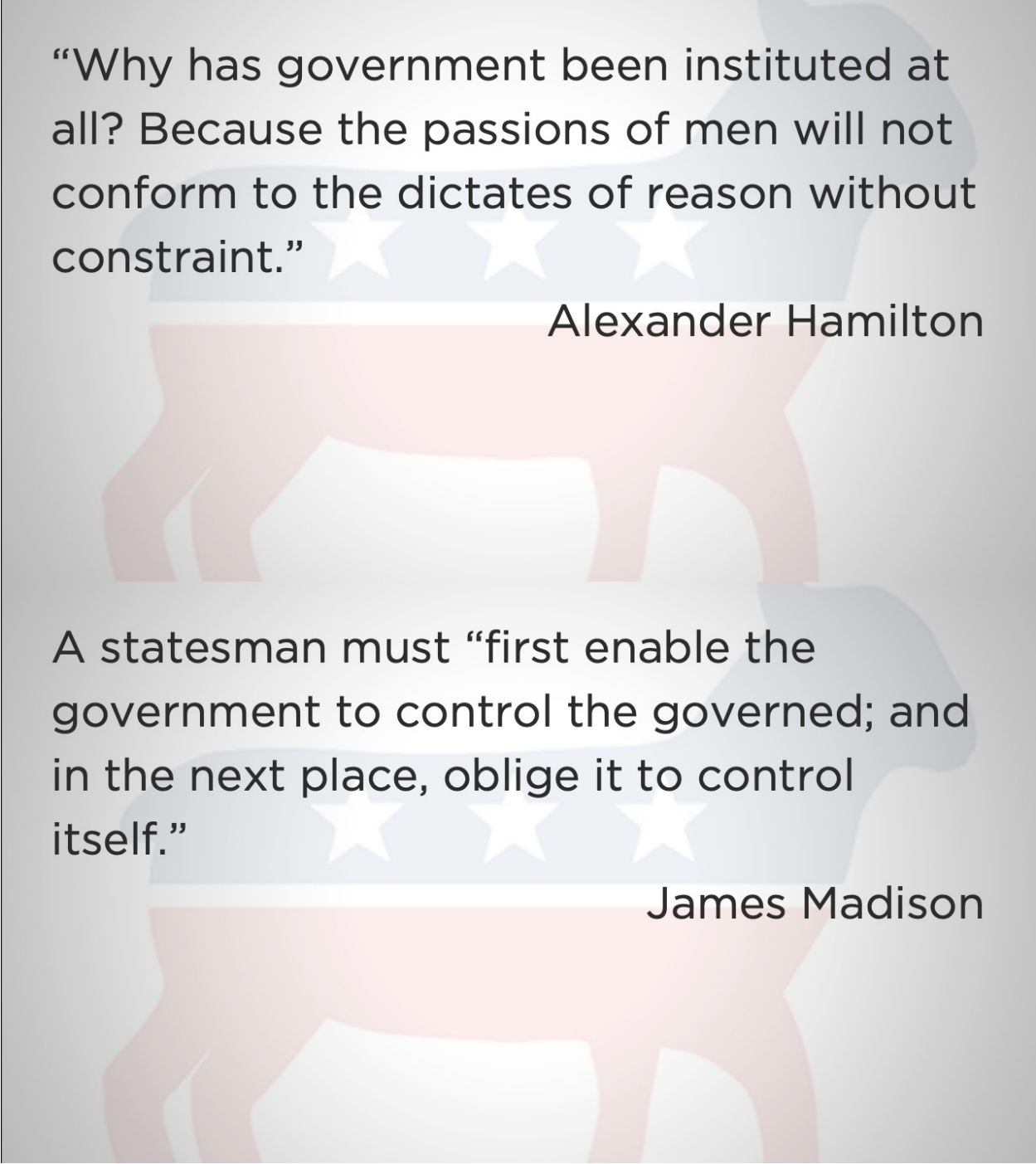
- beautiful
- terrible

Therefore, politics are ...

- beautiful
- terrible

“Truth has stumbled in the public squares”

Isaiah 59:14

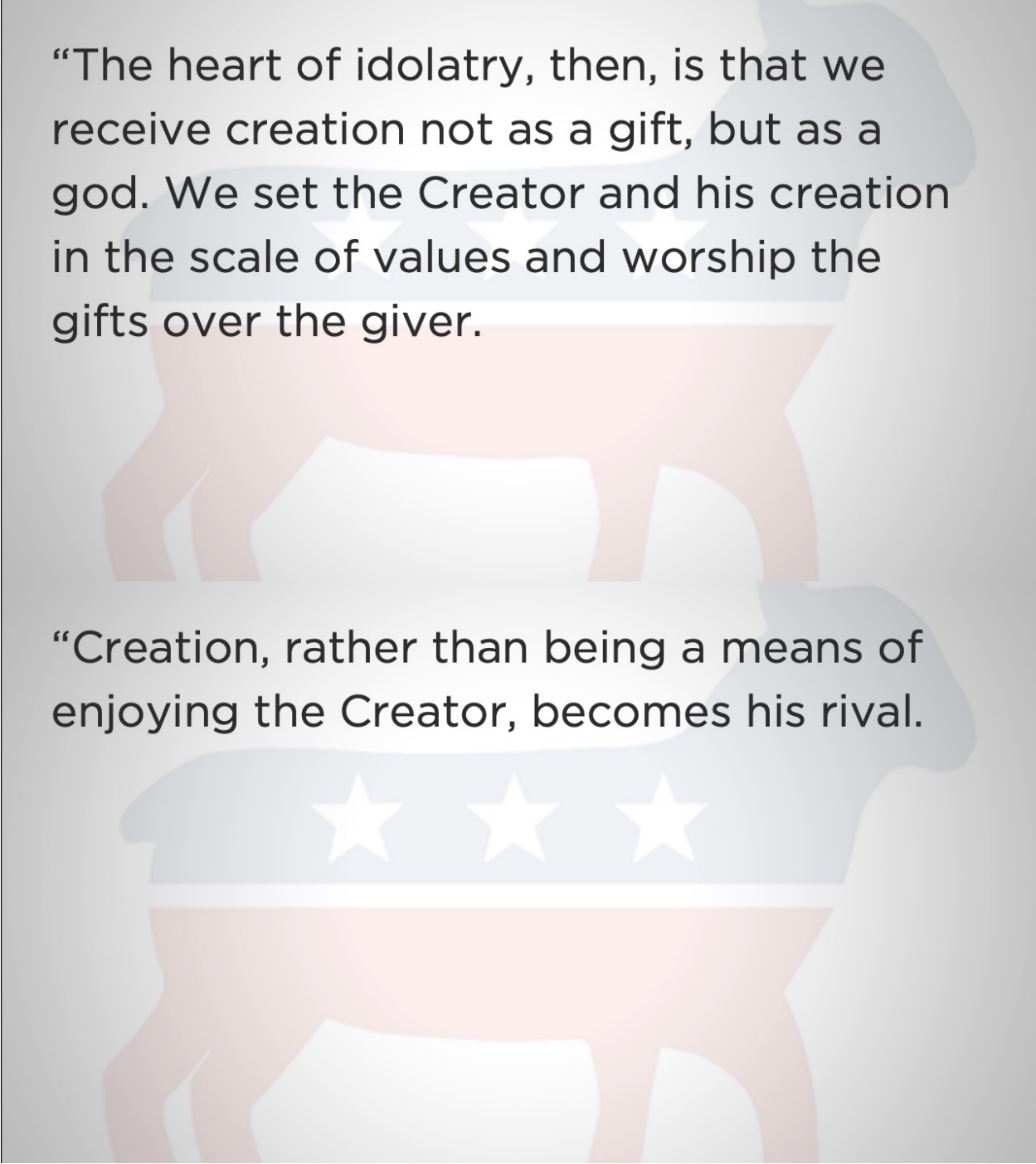


“Why has government been instituted at all? Because the passions of men will not conform to the dictates of reason without constraint.”

Alexander Hamilton

A statesman must “first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place, oblige it to control itself.”

James Madison



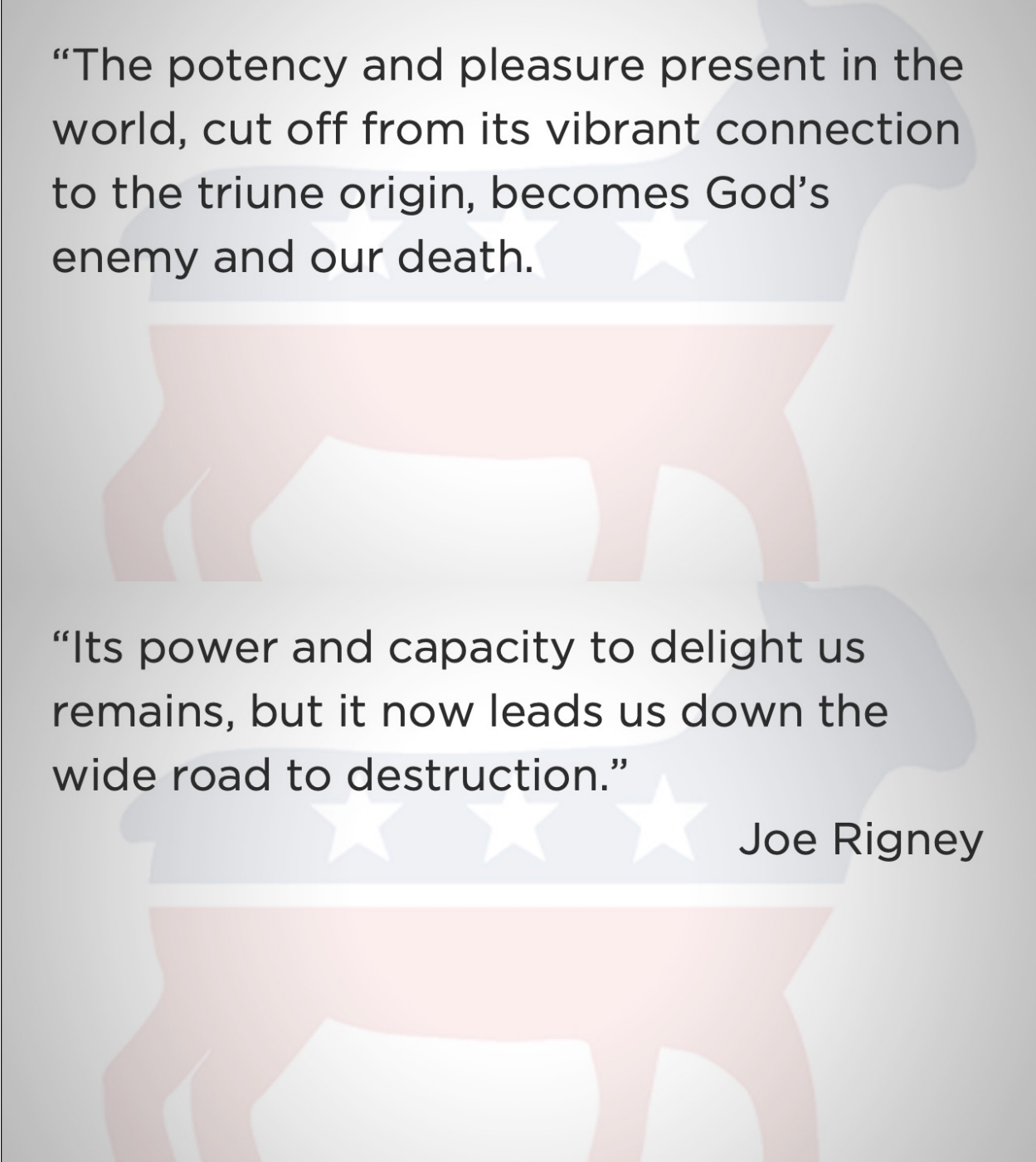
“The heart of idolatry, then, is that we receive creation not as a gift, but as a god. We set the Creator and his creation in the scale of values and worship the gifts over the giver.

“Creation, rather than being a means of enjoying the Creator, becomes his rival.



“We become fixated and entranced on God’s good gifts, seeking in them something that we will never be able to find.


“Sex, food, approval, wealth, family, friends, job, nature, government – all these become God’s rivals.



“The potency and pleasure present in the world, cut off from its vibrant connection to the triune origin, becomes God’s enemy and our death.”

“Its power and capacity to delight us remains, but it now leads us down the wide road to destruction.”

Joe Rigney



“Political participation has a unique ability to inspire idolatry in people precisely because it so often involves promises of protection and provision, requires sacrifices, legitimizes authority, and inspires submission and worship.”

Kaitlyn Sheiess

Therefore, politics are ...

- beautiful
- terrible
- changeable

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

Colossians 1:19-20

Therefore, politics are ...

- **beautiful**
- **terrible**
- **changeable**
- **hopeful**









“It is particularly noticeable that such a ‘responsible reappraisal’ always begins the moment serious difficulties appear.

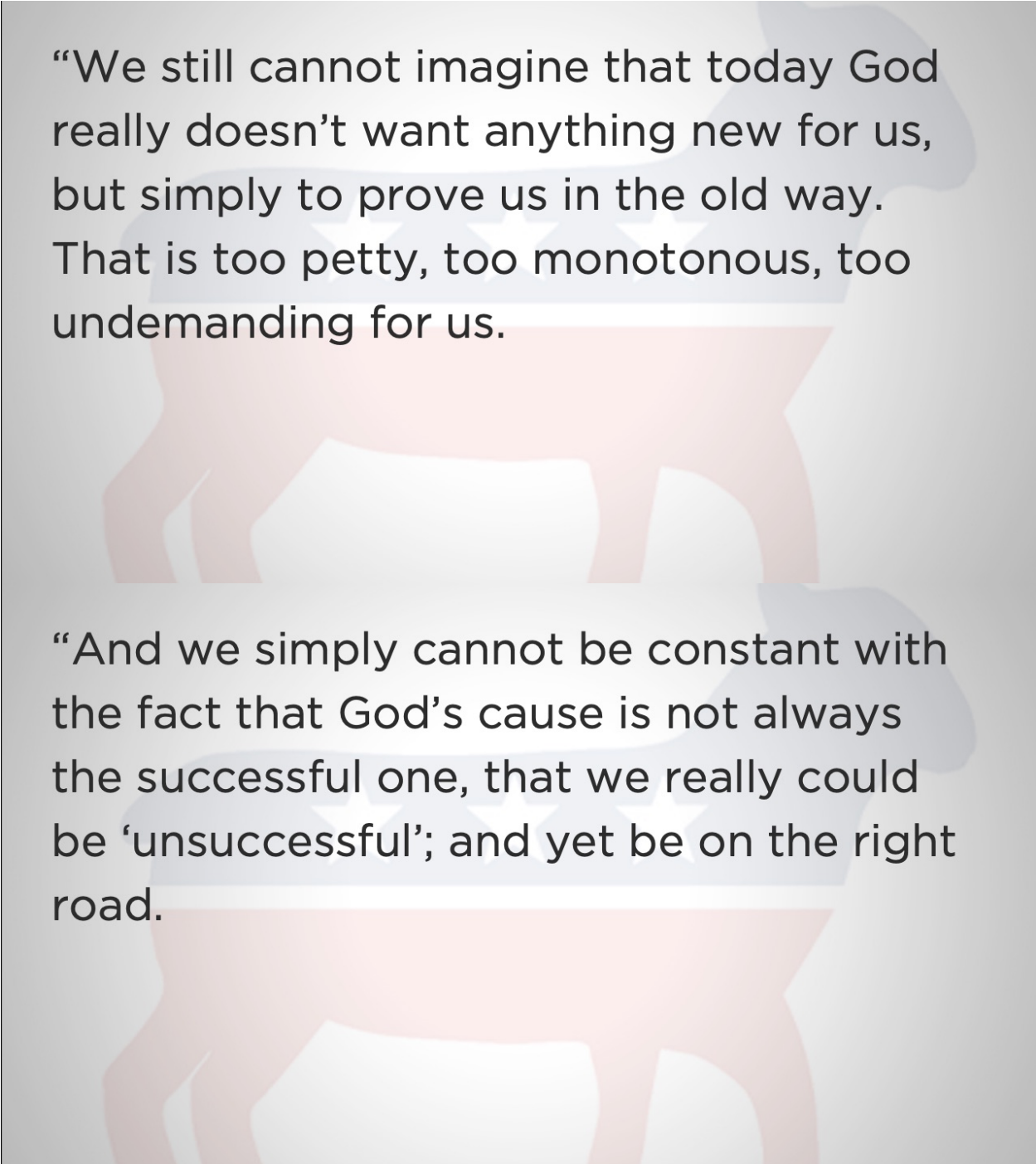
“We then speak as though we no longer had ‘a proper joy and certainty’ about this way, or, still worse, as though God and his Word were no longer as clearly present with us as they used to be.

“In all this, we are ultimately trying to get round what the New Testament calls, ‘patience’ and ‘testing.’

“Paul, at any rate, did not begin to reflect whether his way was the right one when opposition and suffering threatened, nor did Luther.

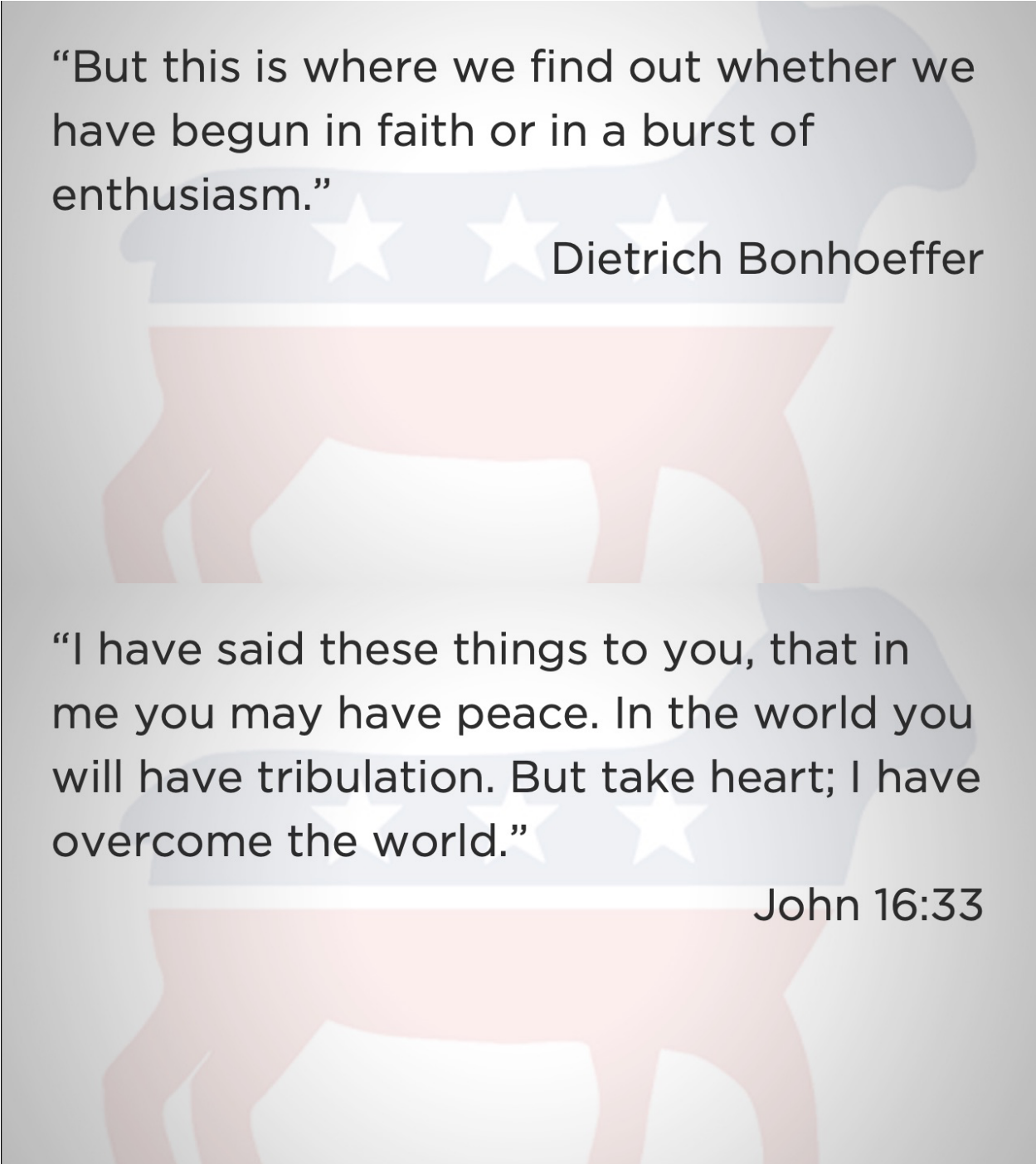
“They were both quite certain and glad that they should remain disciples and followers of their Lord.

“Dear brethren, our real trouble is not doubt about the way upon which we have set out, but our failure to be patient ....



“We still cannot imagine that today God really doesn’t want anything new for us, but simply to prove us in the old way. That is too petty, too monotonous, too undemanding for us.

“And we simply cannot be constant with the fact that God’s cause is not always the successful one, that we really could be ‘unsuccessful’; and yet be on the right road.



“But this is where we find out whether we have begun in faith or in a burst of enthusiasm.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

John 16:33