

Contemplative looking

Michelangelo



Catechism

Christian Belief

Christian Living

Church

Creation

Education

God

Heart

Islam

Jesus

Life's Healing Journey

Liturgy

Mission

New Testament

Old Testament

Pope Francis

Prayer

Priesthood

Religious Life

RCIA/Cursillo.

www.mbfallon.com

A u d i o C D ' s H o m i l i e s A r t i c l e s

Welcome to my site

Index of Topics

Click on "Heart" (left menu)

Pope Benedict Rome June 2007

‘Pastoral Care of the Intelligence’

‘By educating in the faith,
a very important task is entrusted to Catholic schools. Indeed,
they must carry out their mission
on the basis of an educational project
which places the Gospel at the centre
and keeps it as a decisive reference point
for the person’s formation
and for the entire cultural programme.’

Pope Benedict UK 17th September 2010

As you move higher up the school, you have to make choices regarding the subjects you study, you begin to specialize with a view to what you are going to do later on in life. That is right and proper. But always remember that every subject you study is part of a bigger picture.

Never allow yourselves to become narrow. The world needs good scientists, but a scientific outlook becomes dangerously narrow if it ignores the religious or ethical dimension of life, just as religion becomes narrow if it rejects the legitimate contribution of science to our understanding of the world.

We need good historians and philosophers and economists, but if the account they give of human life within their particular field is too narrowly focused, they can lead us seriously astray.

- Radical importance of scientific method
- Judgments based on tested evidence
- Liberated from submission to untested authoritarian abstractions
- trust teaching that is the fruit of experience

Experience is not limited
to what can be tested by scientific method









Apollo &
Daphne

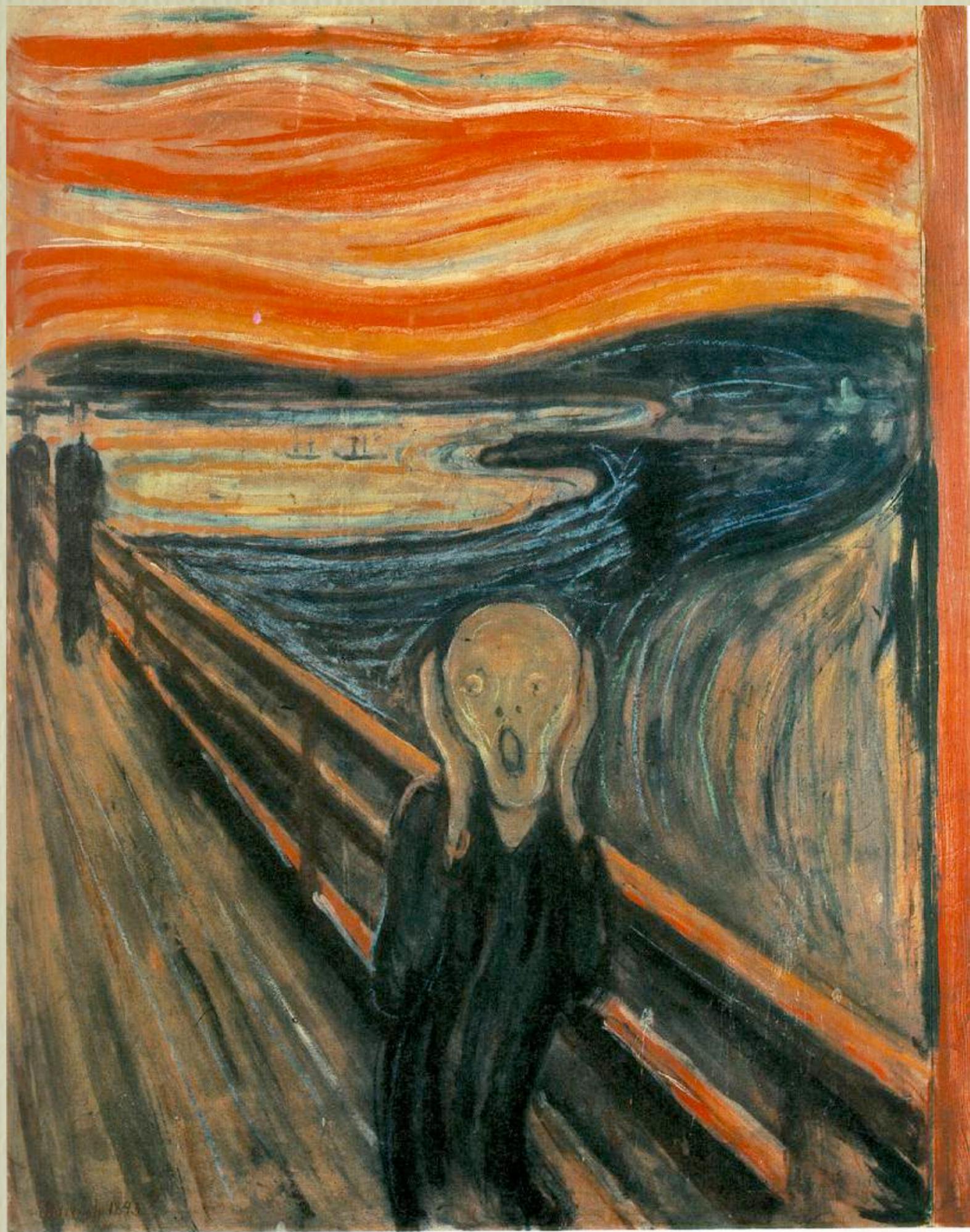
Bernini



Edvard Munch

The Cry

1893



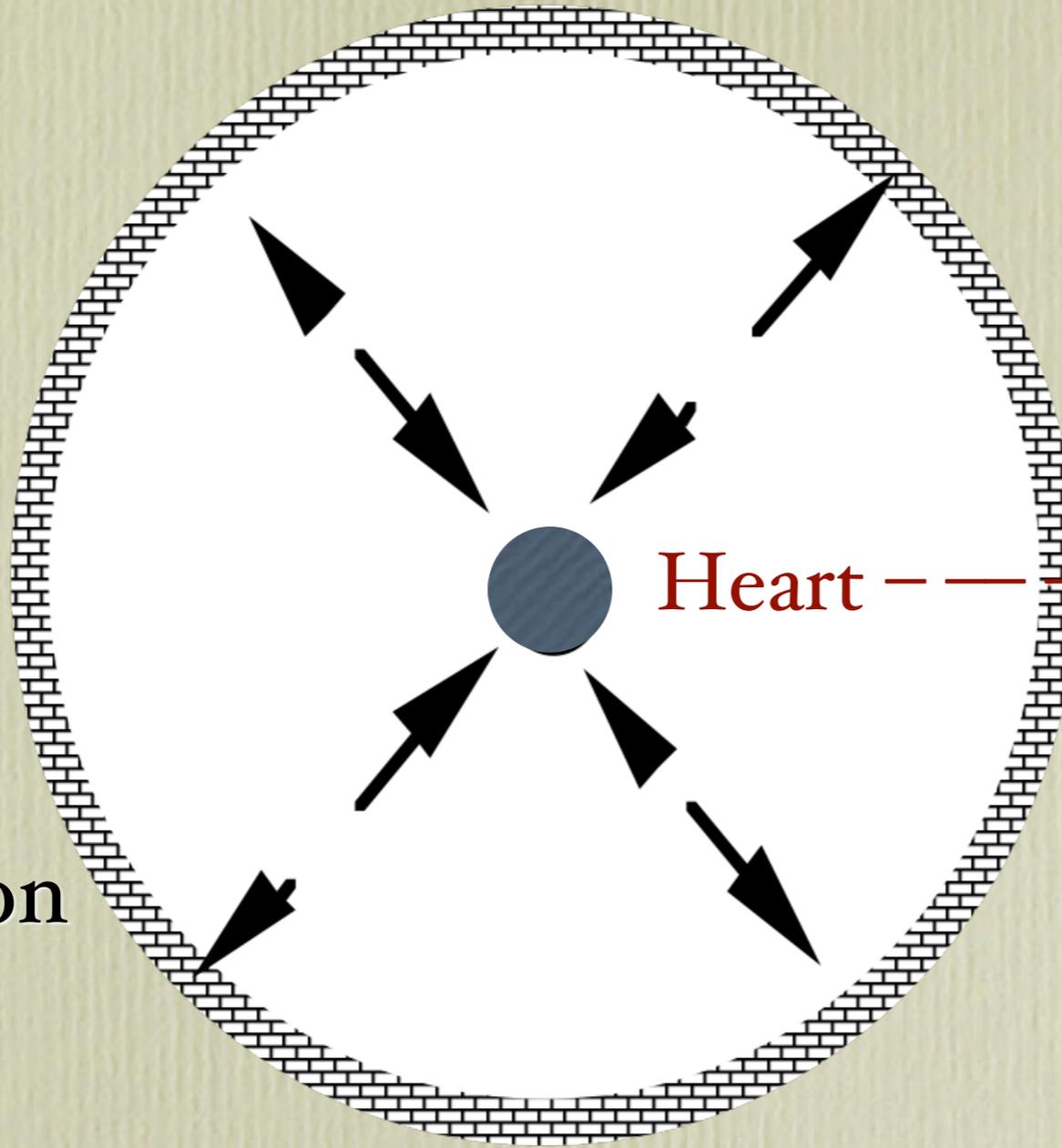
Busy

Iso gashii

Religious

Experience

忙
 ↓
 Heart
 ↘
 Destruction

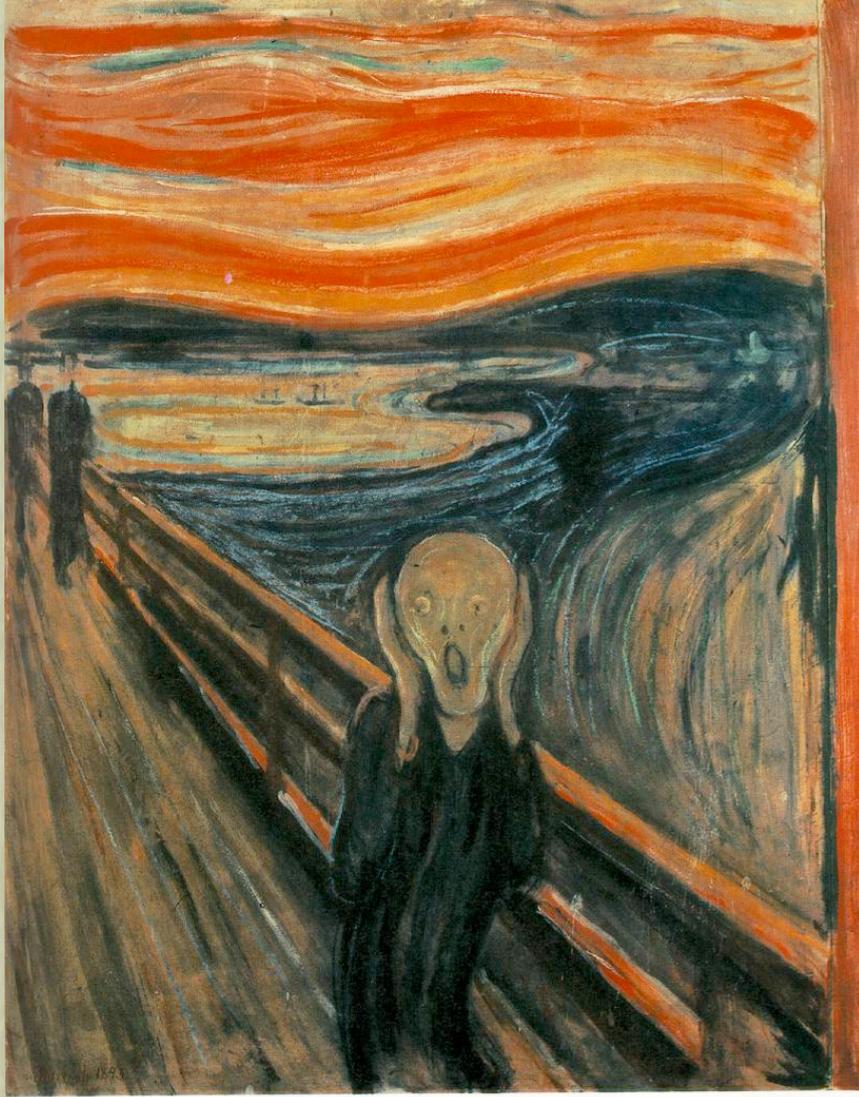


Re + ligare

To bind back

God

Sanskrit **Ghu** ('called' 'calling') + **To** ('The one')



God

Centre – Heart

Religious
Experience is

Experience of
Communion with 'God'

God 'The Heart and the Beyond of Everything' (Teilhard de Chardin)



Holy

God's **WORD** (self-gift) is experienced

- in nature
- in people & events
- in words spoken & written
- in works of art

They reveal something of the truth, beauty & goodness of the transcendent & mysterious God

God's **WORD** (self-gift) is experienced

- the Vedas & Upanishads
- the sayings of K'ung-fu-tzu (Confucius)
- the sayings of Gautama the Buddha
- the oracles of the Hebrew Scriptures
- the New Testament
- the Moslem Qur'an
- the mystics, poets, artists of all cultures

Gerard Manley Hopkins : God's Grandeur (1877)

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;

It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil

Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?

Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;

And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;

And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil

Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went

Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs –

Because the Holy Ghost over the bent

World broods with warm breast and ah! bright wings.

Danger

Projecting a 'God' limited by our human experiences

Creating a 'God' in our own image

This spawns

atheism: the rejection of a limited God

agnosticism: failure to explore the implications of our experience

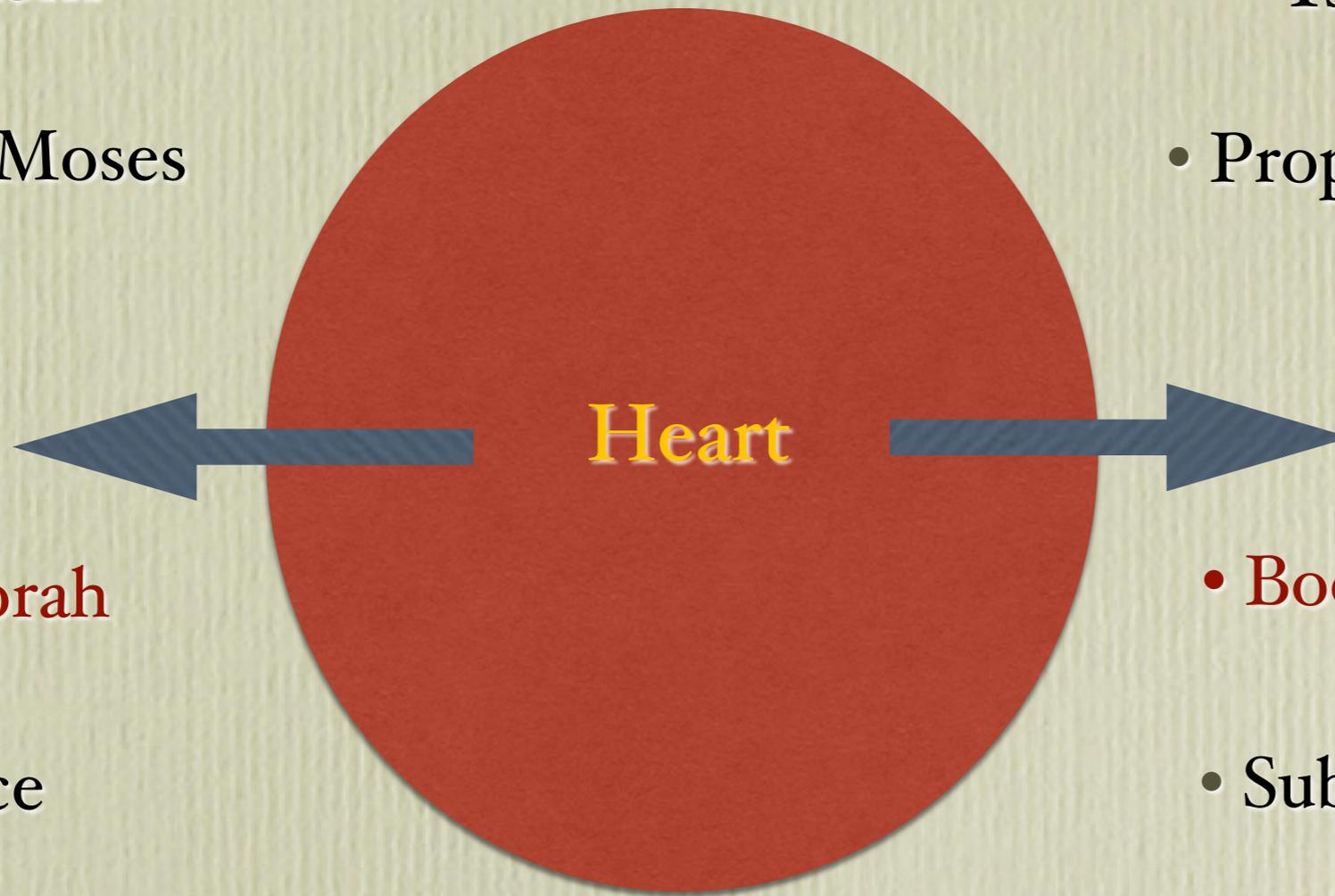
Dangers in Institutionalised Religion

Judaism

- Prophet - Moses
- Book - Torah
- Obedience

Islam

- Prophet - Muhammad
- Book - Qur'an
- Submission



Fundamentalist 'Christianity'

- Book - New Testament
- Obedience
- Book - Catechism
- Submission

Buddhism points us to the heart

Spirit



Enlightenment

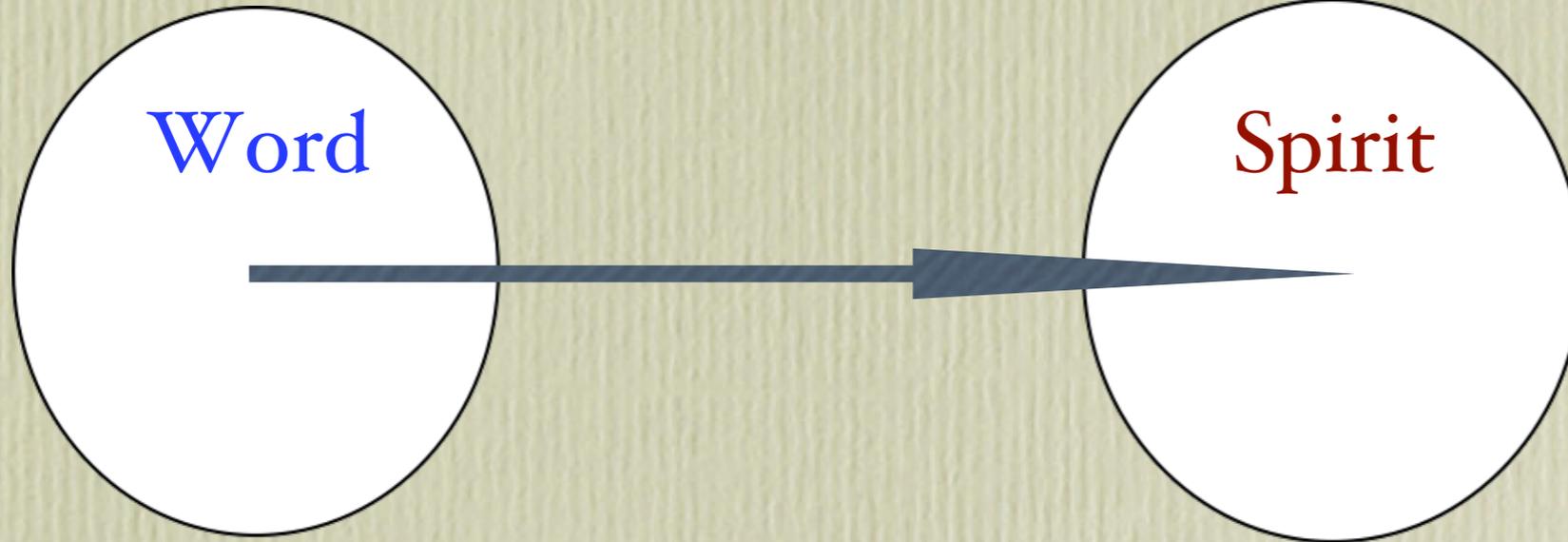
Transcendent ('holy') God



Revelation

Numinous

Mystical



Heart

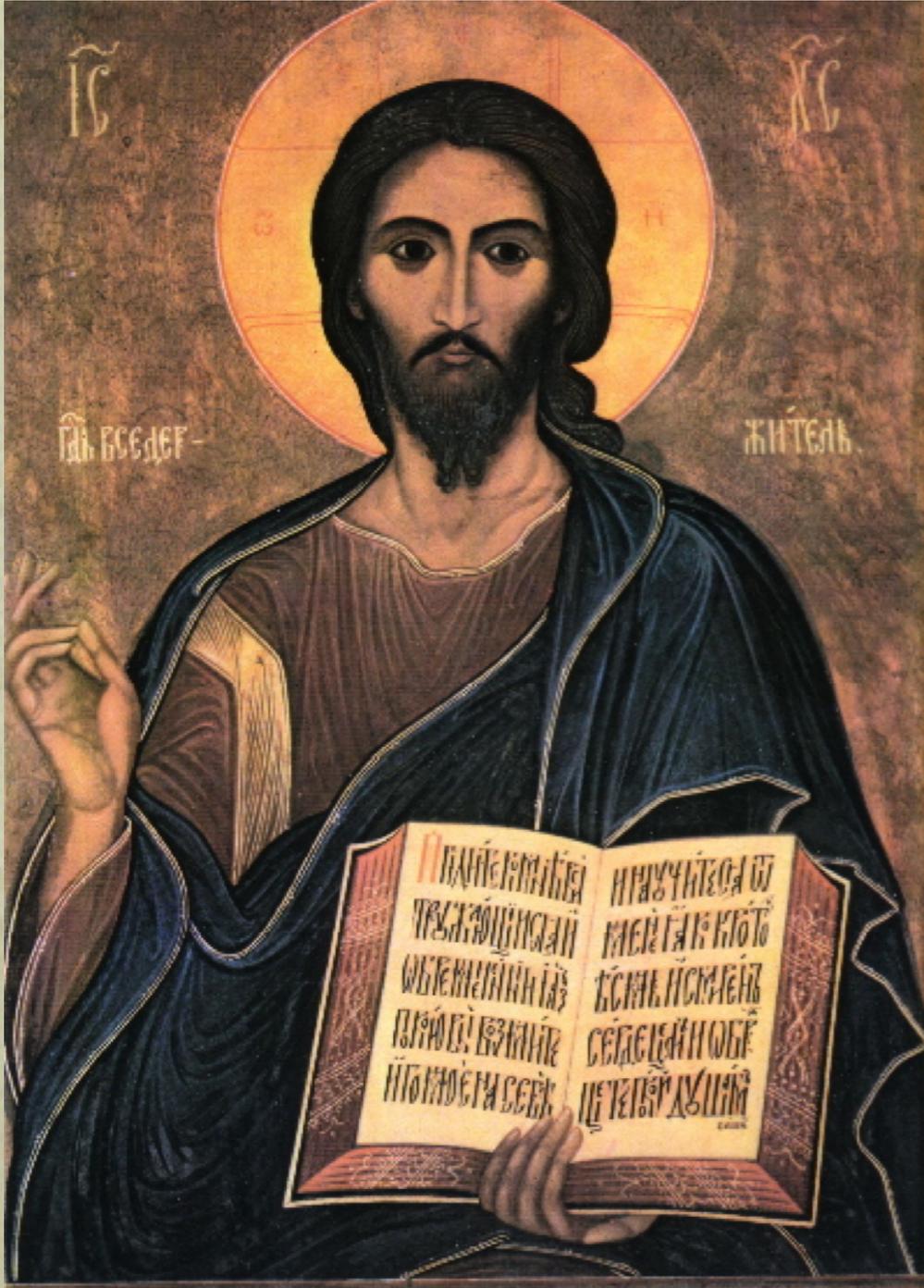
speaks to

Heart



Matthew 11:28-29

1 John 1:1-3

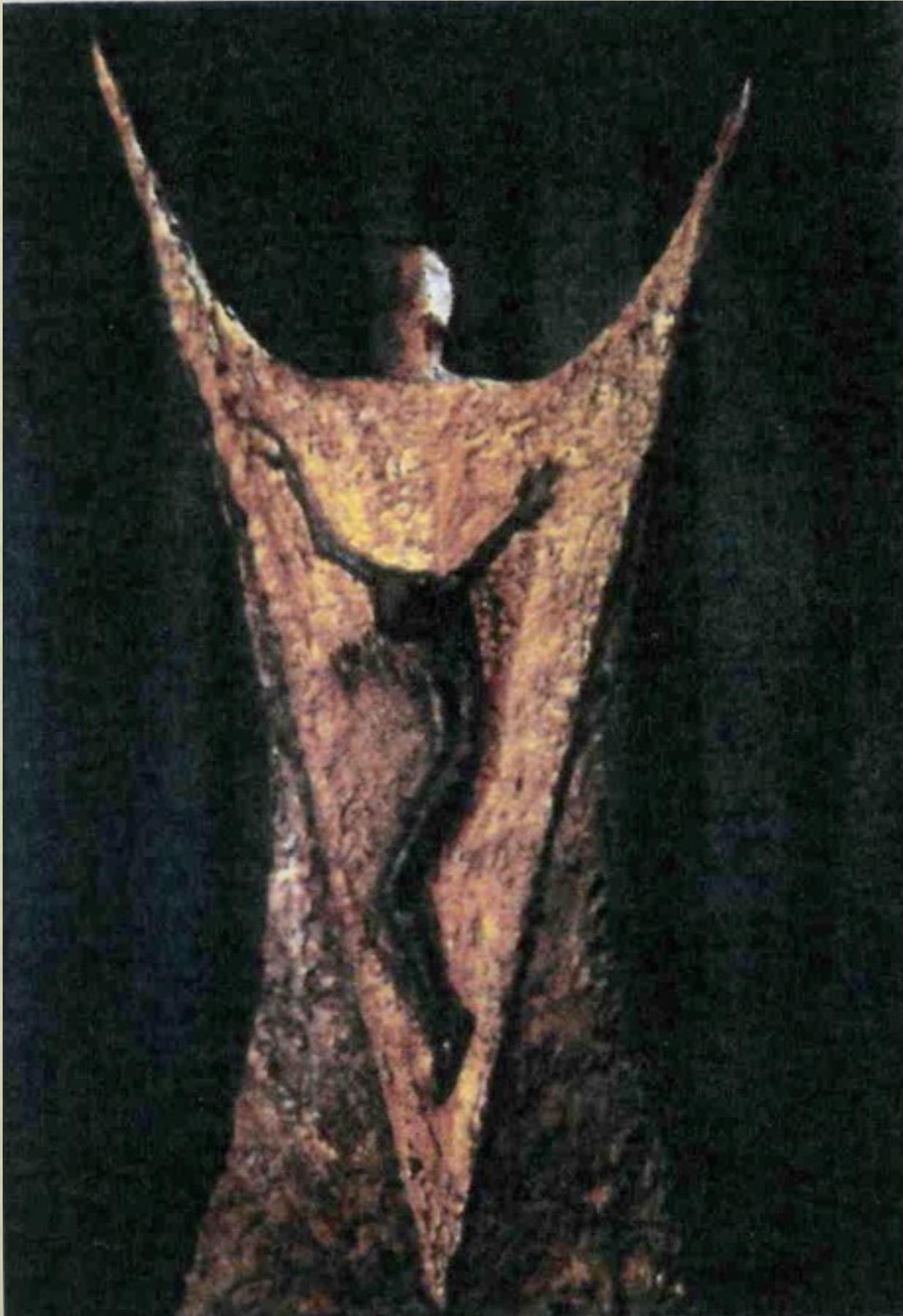


We declare to you what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with
our hands, concerning the word of life —
this life was revealed, and we have seen it
and testify to it, and declare to you the
eternal life that was with the Father and
was revealed to us. We declare to you
what we have seen and heard so that you
may have communion with us;
and truly our communion is with the
Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.



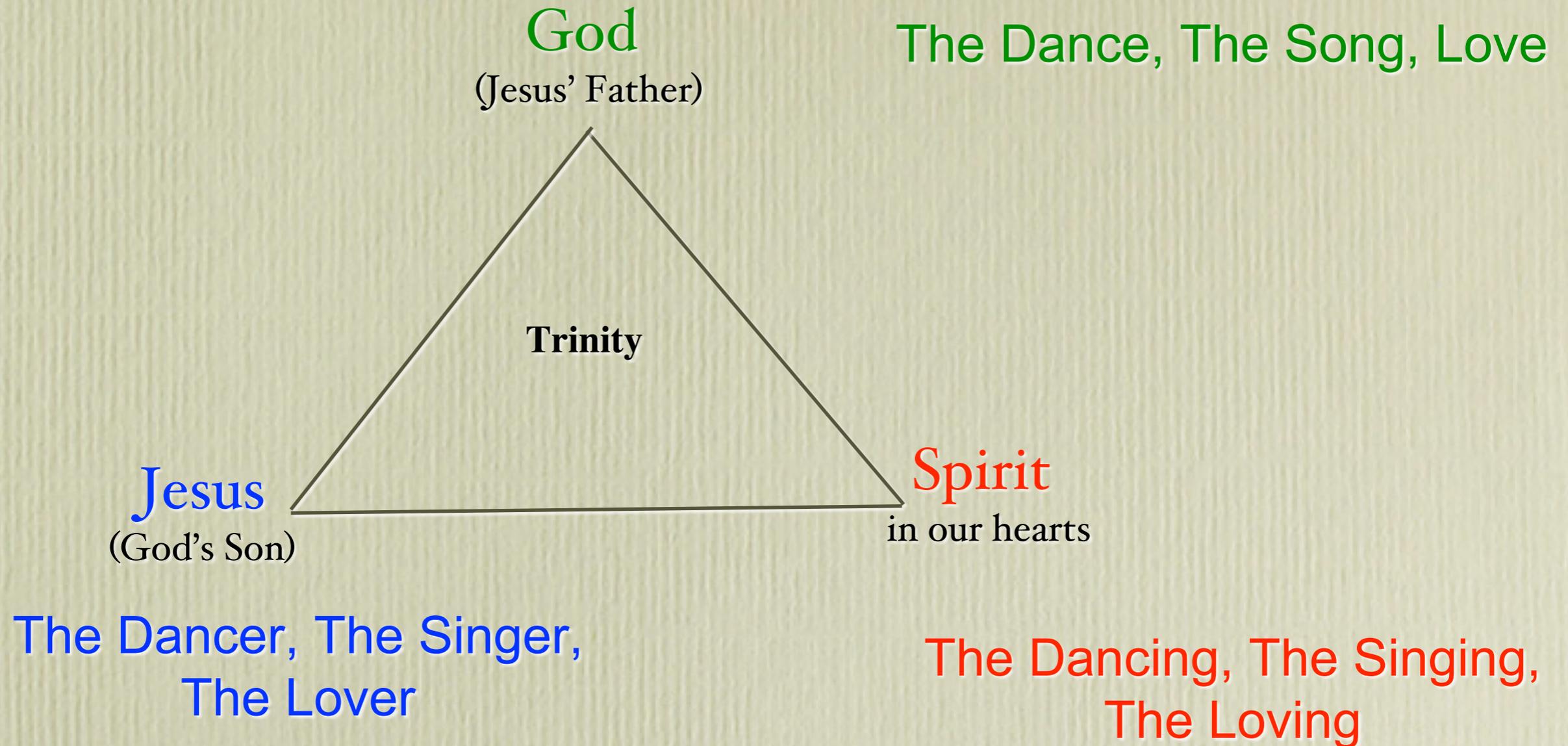
Romans 5:5

‘God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.’



- ‘I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already’ (Luke 12:49).
- ‘I am in the Father and you are in me and I in you’ (John 14:20).
- ‘I pray that they will be one as we are one, with me in them and you in me’ (John 17:21).





‘The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith.’

(Catechism n. 234)

Jesus is looking to his Father

The Father is looking towards the Spirit



The Spirit is looking at the Eucharistic gifts on the table.

The one looking at the icon is invited to join them at the table.



Teilhard de Chardin SJ (1881-1955)

‘The evolution of chastity’ 1934

‘Some day,
after harnessing space,
the winds,
the tides
and gravitation,

We shall harness for God
the energies of Love.

And then,
for the second time in the history of the world,
we shall have discovered fire.’

‘You have made us for yourself, O God,
and our hearts are restless till they rest in you’ (Augustine Confessions I.1).

Roman Catechism, Council of Trent, 1545-1563, Preface 10.

‘The whole concern of doctrine and its teaching
must be directed to the love that never ends.

Whether something is proposed for belief,
for hope or for action,
the love of our Lord must always be made accessible,
so that anyone can see
that all the works of perfect Christian virtue
spring from love
and have no other objective
than to arrive at love.’



Jules Chevalier

‘From the Heart of Jesus
pierced on Calvary, I see a
new world coming forth –
a great and life-giving
world, inspired by love and
mercy: a world which the
Church must perpetuate
on the whole earth.’

(Sacred Heart 1900)

‘Jesus went up on the mountain,
and called to him those he desired;
and they came to him.
And he appointed twelve,
to be with him,
and to be sent out’(Mark 3:13-14)

‘Looking on him who was pierced,
we see the new Heart
that God has given us,
an inexhaustible source of life ...

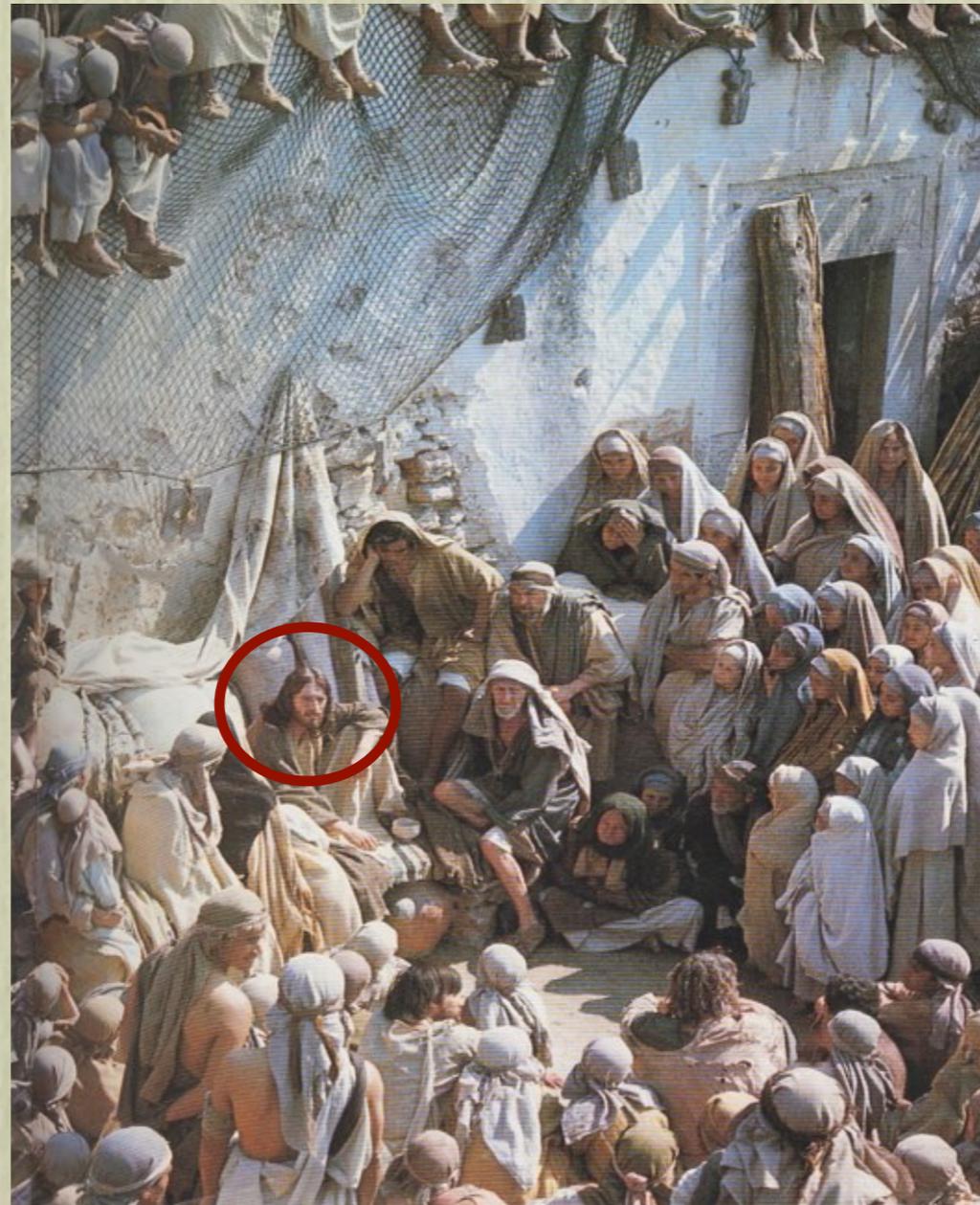
We want to proclaim his love
to the world’(MSC Constitutions 9-10)



Your Heart Today

Bukas Palad ('with open hands') Music Ministry
Quezon City, Philippines.
used with permission.

Where there is fear, I can allay.
Where there is pain, I can heal.
Where there are wounds, I can bind,
and hunger I can fill.



Lord, grant me courage.
Lord, grant me strength.
Grant me compassion,
that I may be your heart today.



Where there is hate, I can confront.
Where there are yokes, I can release.
Where there are captives, I can free.
and anger, I can appease.



Lord, grant me courage.
Lord, grant me strength.
Grant me compassion,
that I may be your heart today.



When comes the day I dread,
to see a broken world,
protect me from my self grown cold,
that your people I may behold.



Where there is fear, I can allay.
Where there is pain, I can heal.
Where there are wounds, I can bind,
and hunger I can fill.



Lord, grant me courage.
Lord, grant me strength.
Grant me compassion,
that I may be your heart today.

