

# Just the Greatest

## Part 1

Dr. John Tolson

Why are we empty?

According to the Bible, true  
happiness is never  
something that should be  
sought directly.

It is always the result of  
seeking something else.

# Mark 8:27-30

- The context
- The text
  - “Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them ‘Who do people say I am?’ They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ ‘But what about you?’ he asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’

How you answer that  
question is critical!

1. Your answer will determine your relationship with God.

- John 14:6 → “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”



You cannot bypass  
Jesus to get to God

# 1. Your answer will determine your relationship with God.

- John 14:6 → “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”
- 1 Timothy 2:5 → “For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.”



2. Your answer determines whether you have forgiveness for your guilt and shame.

# The problem

**Sinful  
Man**



**Holy God**

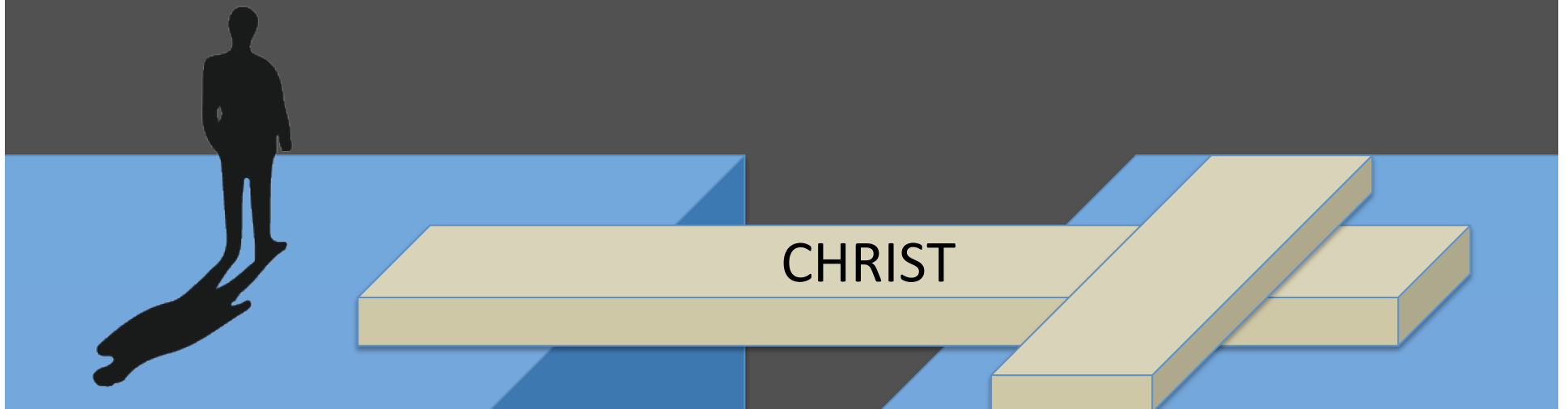
“I am the LORD your God;  
consecrate yourselves and be holy,  
because I am holy.”

Leviticus 11:44

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Romans 3:23

# The solution



“In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”

Hebrews 9:22

“Salvation is found in no one else,  
for there is no other name under  
heaven given to mankind by which  
we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12

3. Your answer determines your capacity for daily life.

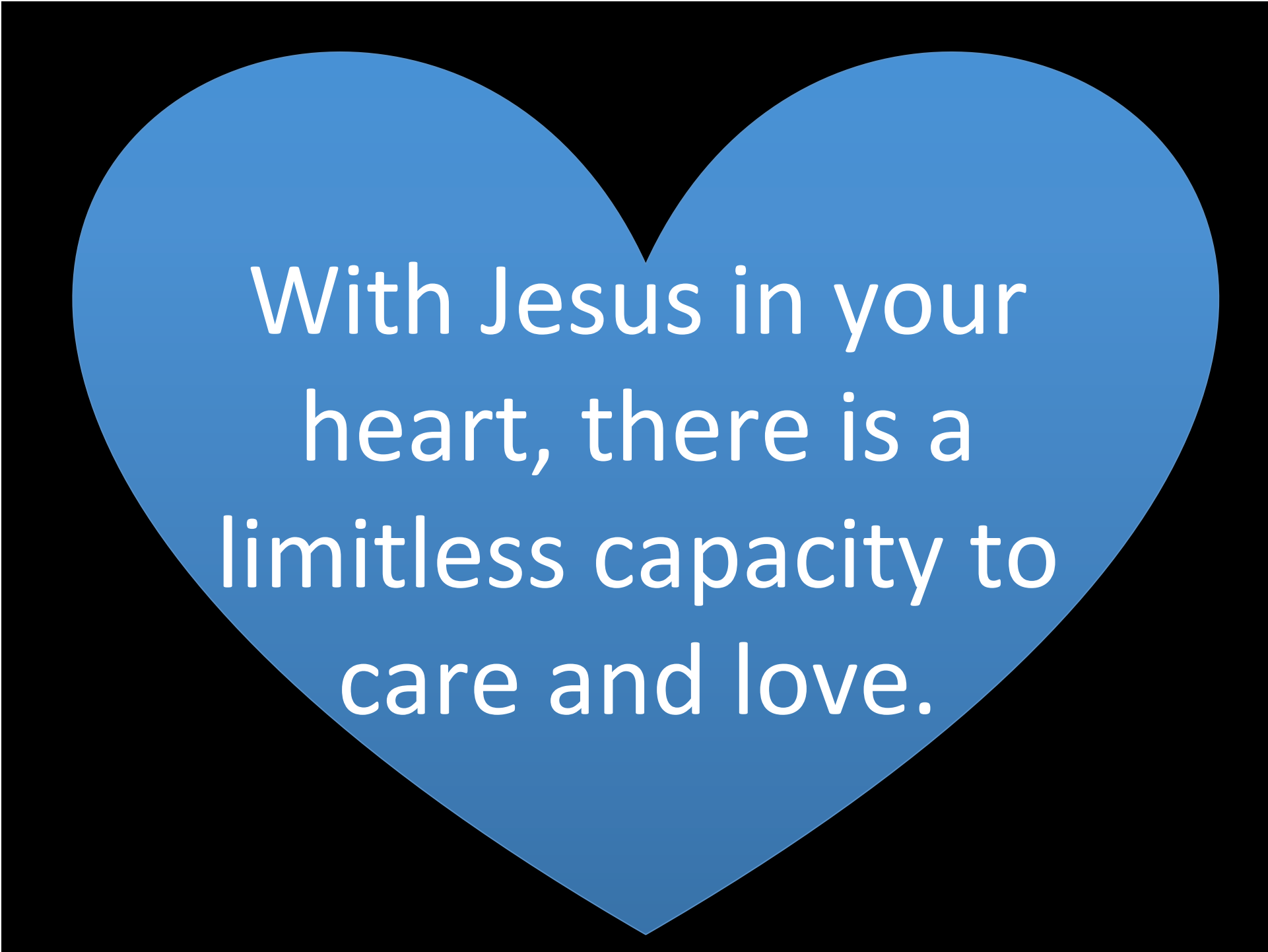
4. Your answer determines what kind of person you are becoming and how you live.



The Christian life is  
not difficult.

It's impossible!

5. Your answer determines your capacity to really care about and love others.



With Jesus in your  
heart, there is a  
limitless capacity to  
care and love.

6. Your answer determines your courage to die.

7. Your answer determines your willingness to believe the Bible and do what it says.

8. Your answer determines where you will spend eternity.

Whoever has the Son has life;  
whoever does not have the Son of  
God does not have life.

1 John 5:12

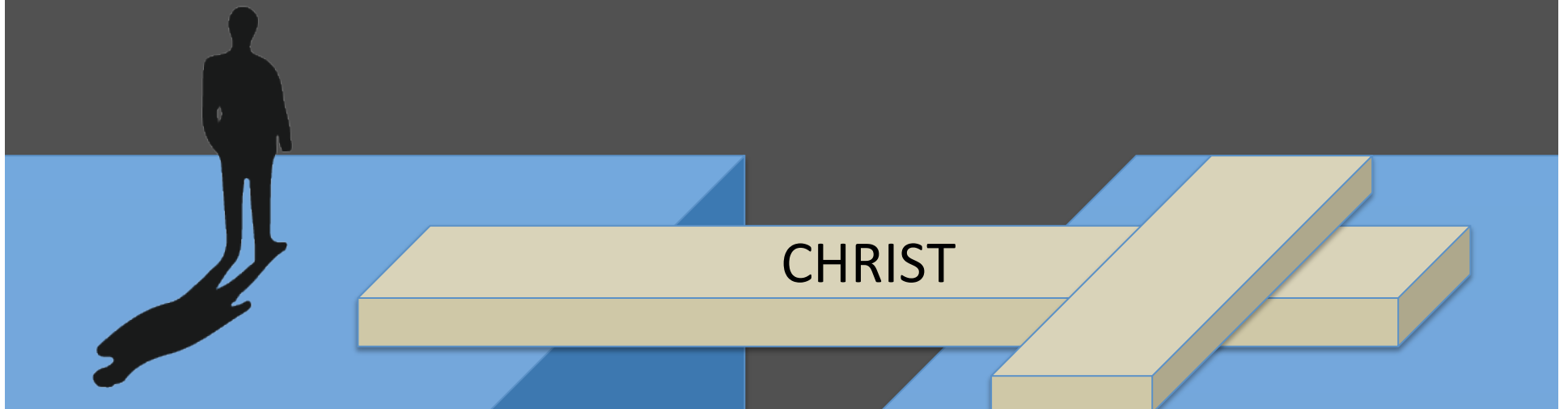
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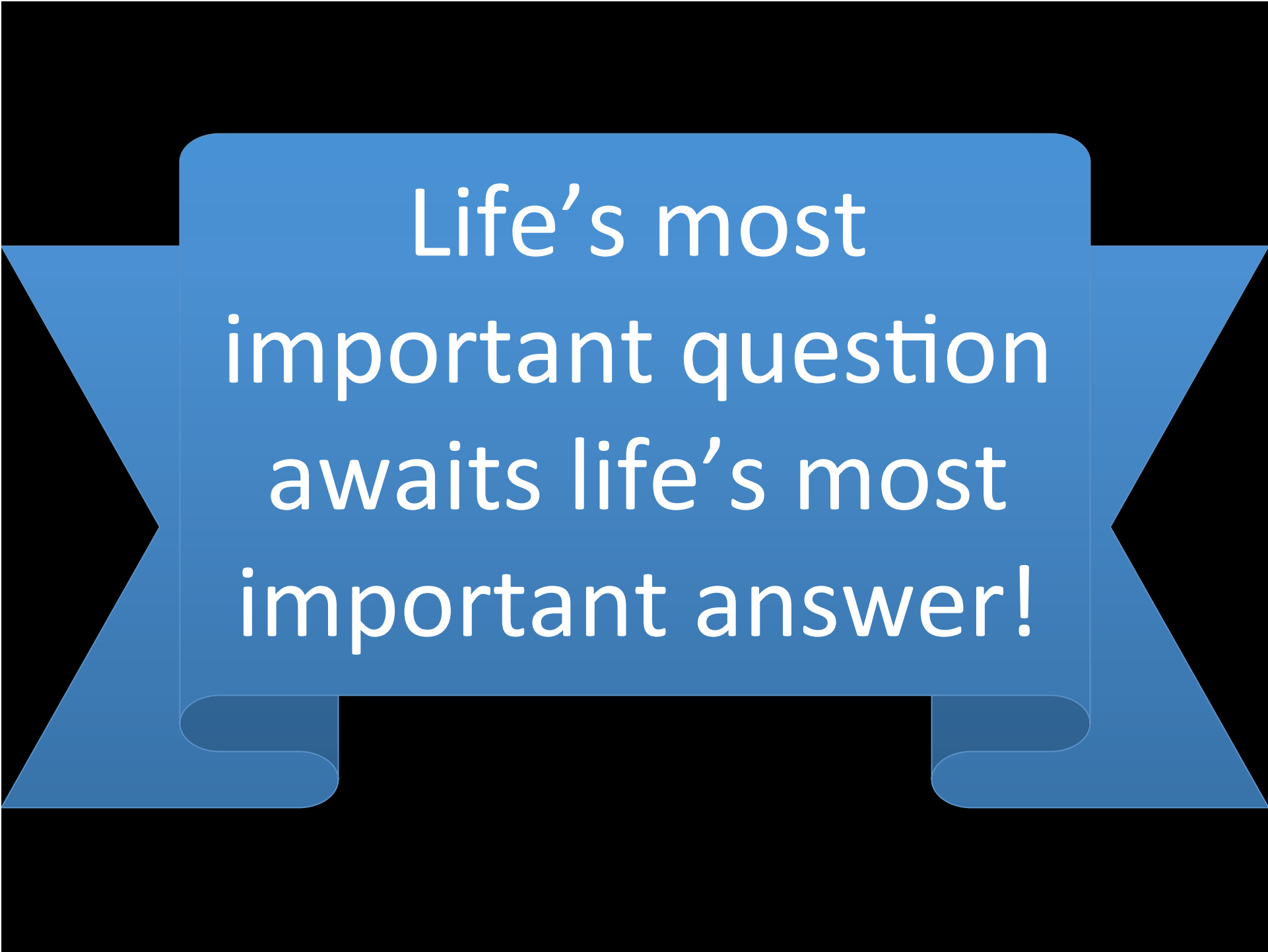
**Sinful  
Man**



**Holy God**

# The solution



A blue banner with a scroll-like appearance is centered on a black background. The banner has a white border and a slight shadow, giving it a three-dimensional effect. The text is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font. The banner is flanked by two large, blue, arrow-like shapes pointing towards each other, which also have a scroll-like appearance at their ends.

Life's most  
important question  
awaits life's most  
important answer!



When people no longer believe in God, they don't believe in nothing; they believe in anything!