

# **A HELPFUL METAPHOR AND MINDSET FOR CHRISTIANS LIVING IN MODERN AMERICA**

**Study # 5 “Temptation for an Exile . . . Acculturate”**



**What is my attitude toward the world/dominant culture?**







SUCCESS



**Each of us has been taught to have  
and dream some version of the  
“American dream.”**



**An exile's heart toward his world . . .**

**“the heart of the matter is the matter of the heart”**

**(Paul David Tripp)**



**consume**

**critique**

**confront**

**condemn**

**challenge**

**change**

**combination**



**St. Augustine**  
***The City of God***

**James Boice**

***Two Cities, Two Loves: Christian  
Responsibility in a Crumbling Culture***



**2 kings, 2 kingdoms, 2 cities, 2 families . . . and  
they are at war with each other**



**Lamech's "sword song" Gen. 4**

# Instruments . . .



**played to the glory of God or self**





**Noah, build an ark, get family and get inside  
and be safe from the world that will be  
judged and destroyed.**





**sponges in a mud puddle . . .**



**what do you have to do to get muddy?**





**It is not hard for a cognitive minority to fit in**





**We can no longer be misty-eyed about living in a world that is toxic/dangerous to our faith and just holding hands and singing kum-ba-yah.**



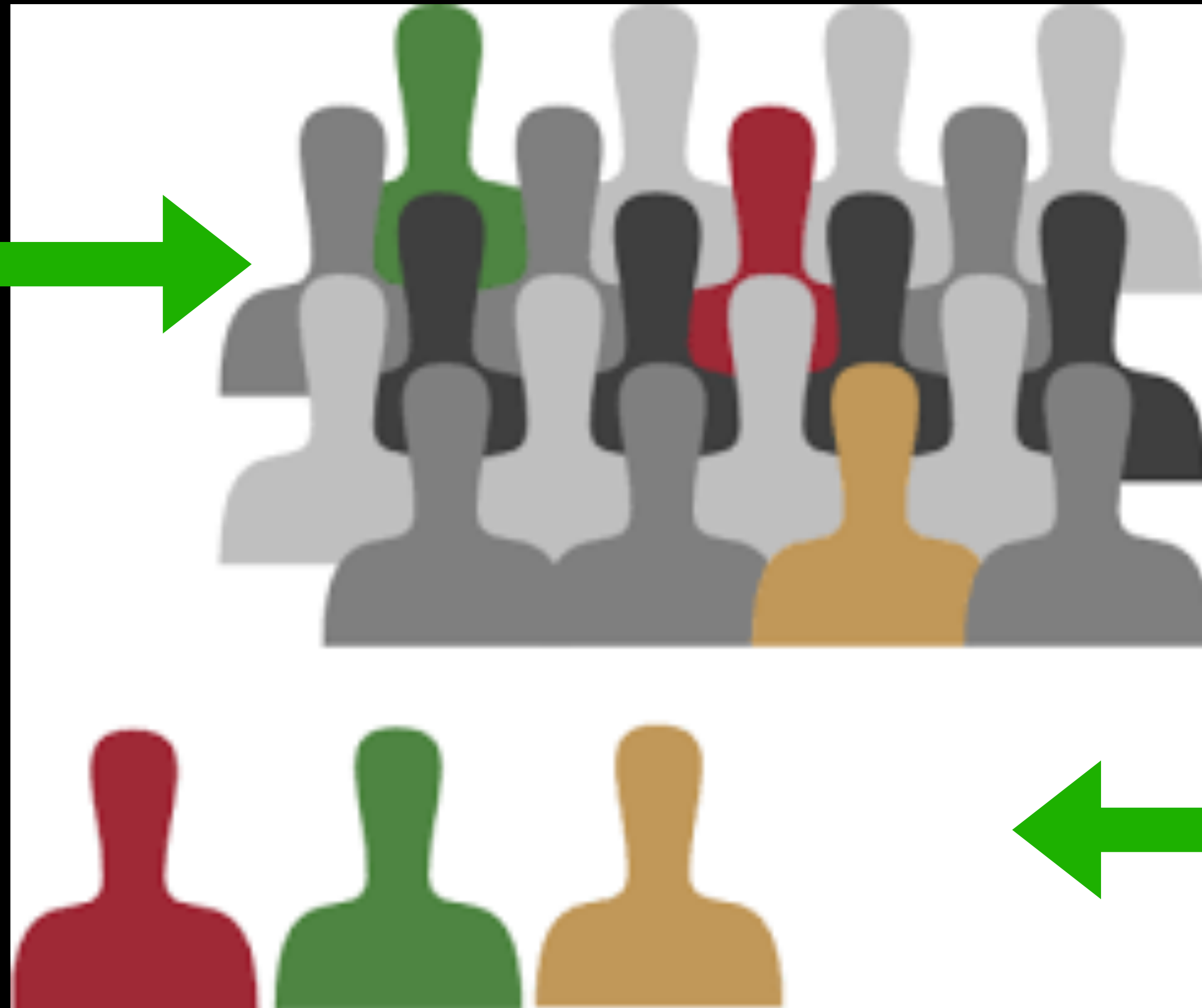


**Brothers and sisters we haven't met yet are dying  
because they believe the same things  
we say we believe.**

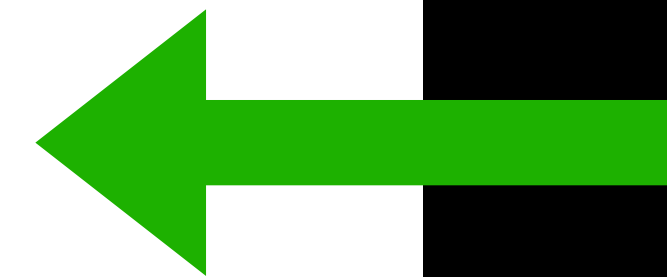


# Here and Now

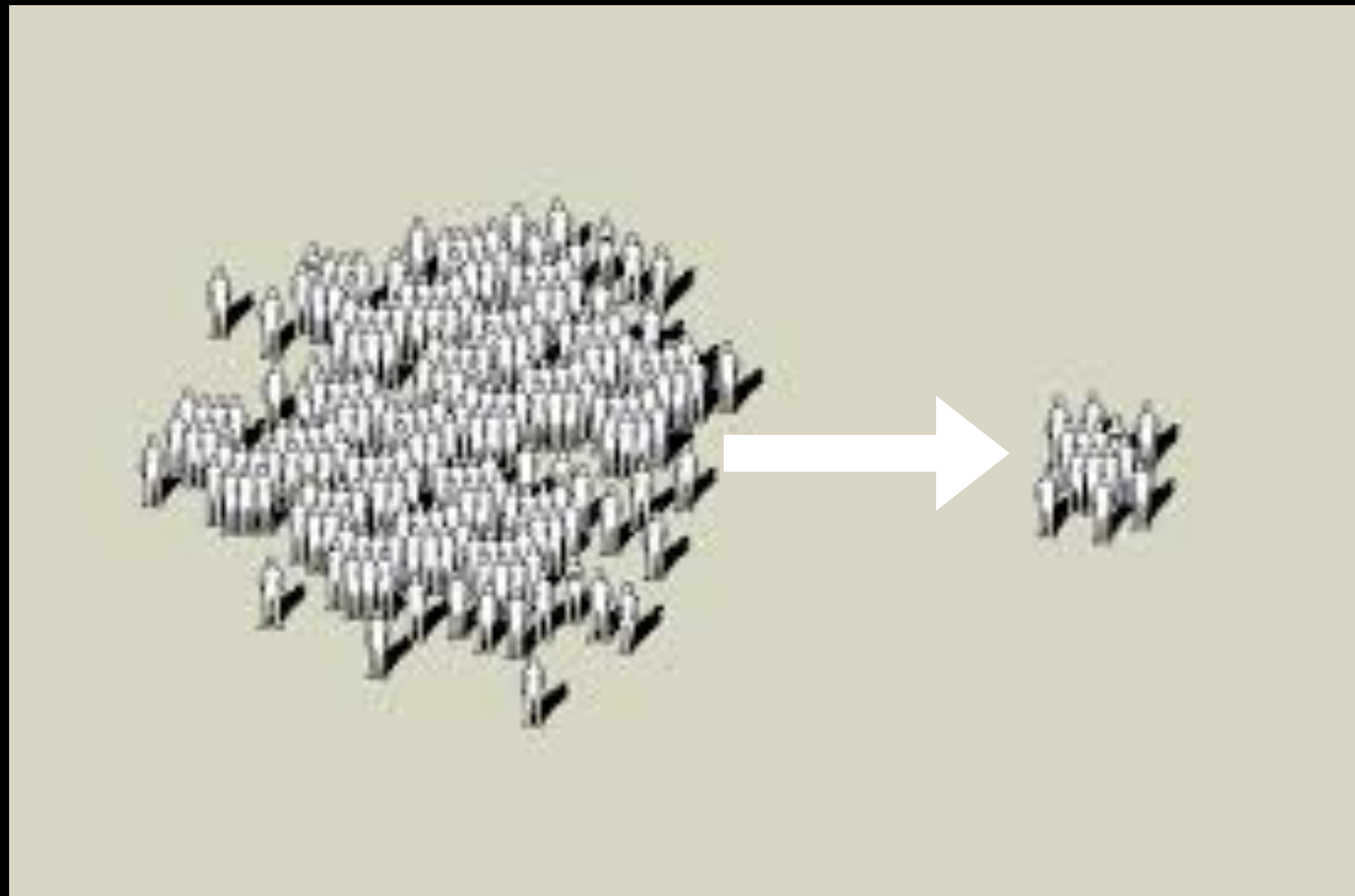
**happiness,  
security,  
comfort,  
prosperity**



**proving,  
testing  
training,  
concerned with  
holiness,  
and loving  
unbelievers in  
word  
and deed**







**come out, don't be like them  
(2 Ki. 17:14-16, Ezek. 11:12)**



# Psalm 137

**May you get what  
you deserve !**







## **Jeremiah 29**

**May they get what they  
don't deserve . . .  
seek their welfare,  
pray on their  
behalf**



# **HOMework**

**How do you understand these passages ?**

**What is your present attitude toward the pagan  
“Babylonians” in your world ?**