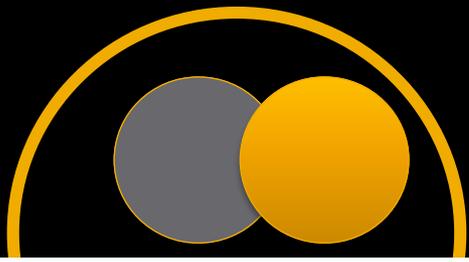
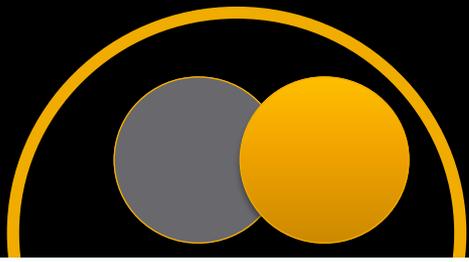


- "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap" ([Gal. 6:7](#)). NIV
- Today we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus
  - Proves Jesus' victory over
  - Sin,
  - death
  - the devil



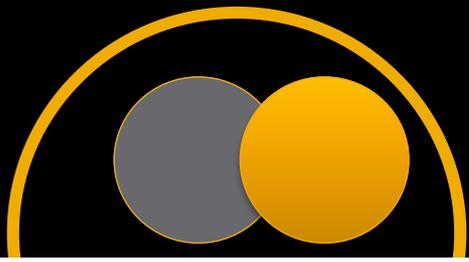
# 1. We are all sinners

- The very reason for Easter is that we are sinners
- We are incapable of cleaning up our own lives
- We need washed
- Wrongs must be paid for in the grand scheme of things;
- Someone must pay



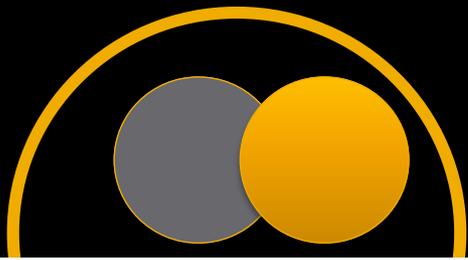
## 2. Sin has consequences

- Consequences happen when people sin
- Adam and Eve sinned: As a result...
- Gen 3: 16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ NIV



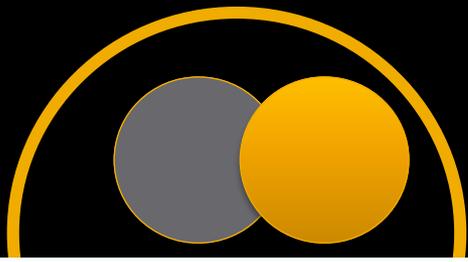
## 2. Sin has consequences

- **Gen 3:** “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life.<sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.” NIV



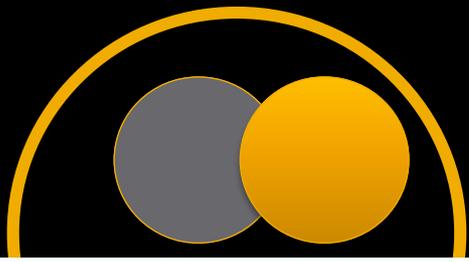
## 2. Sin has consequences

- Consequences happened
- Unclear whether God cursed them or not
- Consequences for all sin happen
  - For Example:
  - Kingdom of God teaches that sex outside marriage is a sin.
  - When a person becomes pregnant outside of wedlock, they may receive forgiveness, but the pregnancy remains: (The child is loved by God anyway.)
- You and I cannot remove or fully control the reach of those consequences



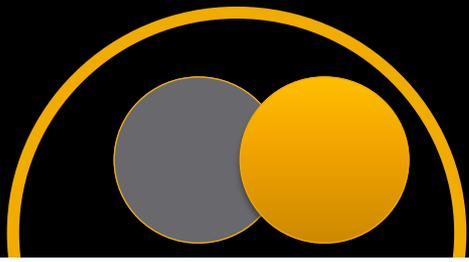
## 3. Consequences grow

- Adam and Eve disobeyed God
- Ground was hard and pain in childbirth
- Next sin involves murder
- Gen 4:2 Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. 3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. 4 And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.



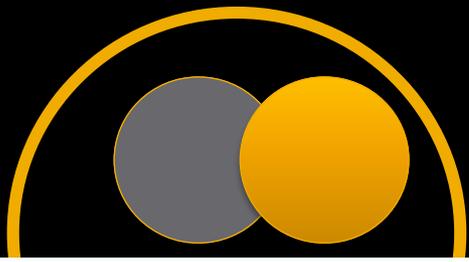
## 3. Consequences grow

- .6 Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?  
7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”<sup>8</sup> Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.



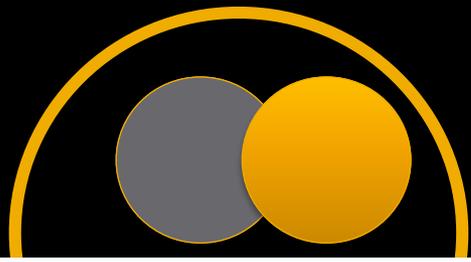
## 4. Consequences remain

- David and Bathsheba
- Person of power, killed husband, had sex,
- Woman becomes pregnant, loses the baby
- David cries out for forgiveness
- **Ps 51:10** Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.<sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.<sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.



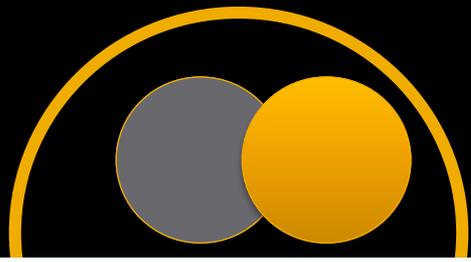
## 4. Consequences remain

- 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.



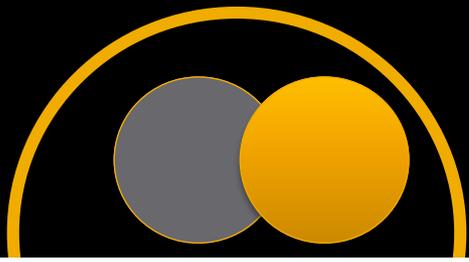
## 4. Consequences remain

- Today, we are dealing with the consequences of sin
- Founding fathers, did many things
- Used their power
  - To write constitution
  - To bring about bill of rights
  - Did not free the slaves they owned
  - They knew it was wrong
- The intensity of their sin grew over time
- If they asked forgiveness, consequences remain



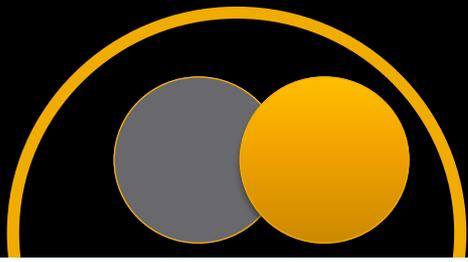
## 4. Sin makes a mess

- Sin must be stopped
- Sin needs forgiveness, not defending



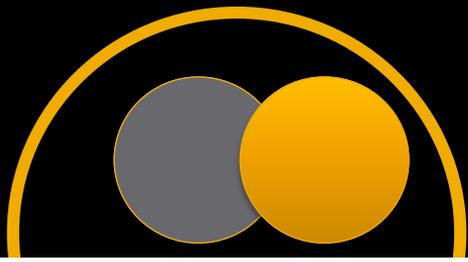
# What if?

- They knew it was wrong
- Quotes
- What if they had:
  - Freed the slaves
  - Stopped the slave trade
  - Adopted a belief that all were actually men



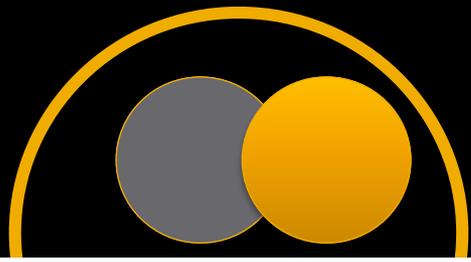
# What if?

- They knew it was wrong
- What if they had abolished slavery in the documents?
  - The south?
    - Poorer whites
    - Wages would have been paid
  - The war between the north and south?
    - Limbs never lost
    - Lives saved?



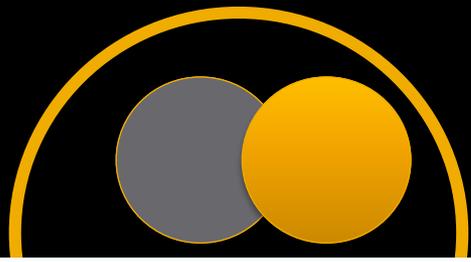
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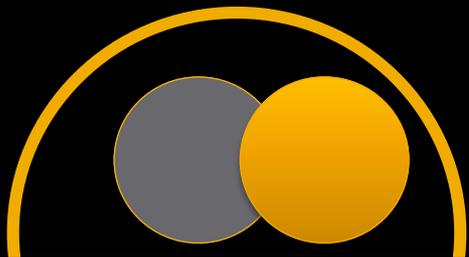
## 5. Forgiveness is real

- Logo of the empty tomb
- Easter! The Resurrection
- Forgiveness seems too easy
- It seems nobody pays
- The mass murderer, receives Jesus before execution;
- Heaven? Really?



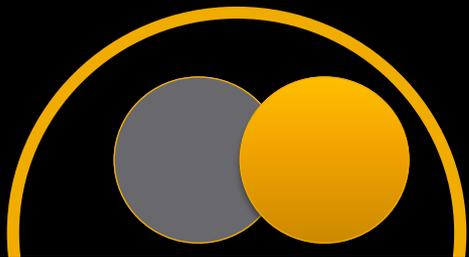
## 5. Forgiveness is real

- Forgiveness seems too cheap
- The mass murderer, receives Jesus before execution;
- Heaven? Really?
- A Misunderstanding of the cross and the resurrection
- Jesus carried the weight of the sin of the whole world



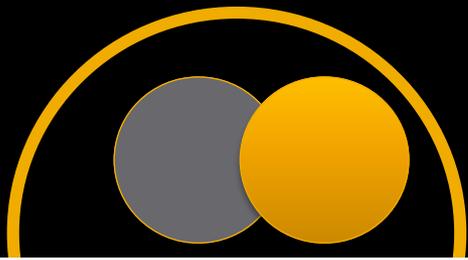
# 5. Forgiveness is real

- 2 Cor 5:21 **God made him who had no sin to be sin for us,**
- **Is 53: 4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.**
- 1 Cor 15; The message



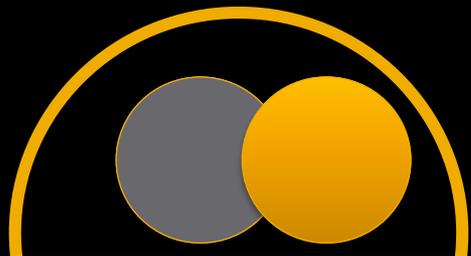
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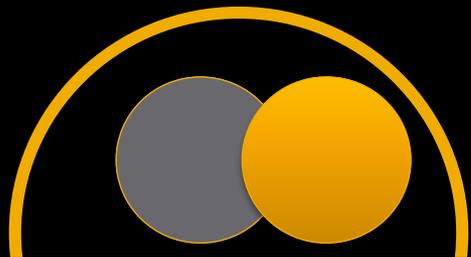
## 5. Forgiveness is real

- Forgiveness is real
- We still need to deal with the consequences
- As John Piper puts it, “But the aim of God-sent consequences of forgiven sin is not to settle accounts demanded by retributive justice. The aim of the God-sent consequences of forgiven sin is (1) to demonstrate the exceeding evil of sin, (2) to show that God does not take sin lightly even when he lays aside his punishment, (3) to humble and sanctify the forgiven sinner.”



# So What?

- We cannot seek personal forgiveness for the sin of our founding fathers.
- They needed to do so while alive
- We can acknowledge and confess the sin we have let grow
- The consequences of their sin has grown over time.
- We can and should take steps to stop the spread of the consequences of any sin
- The resurrection proved Christ's dominion over sin, death and the devil



# So what?

- Our sin bears consequences
- The resurrection offers us expensive grace
  - The death of a savior
  - The payment by a scapegoat for our sin

