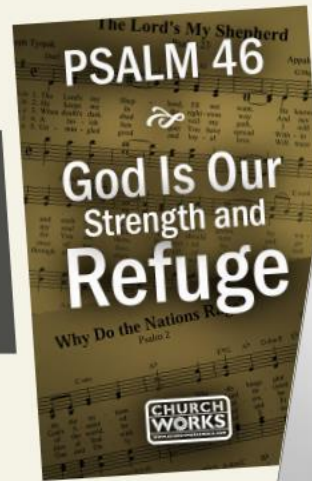


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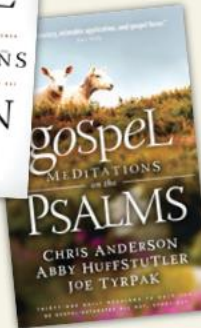
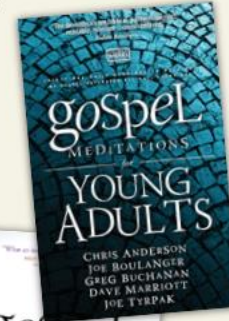
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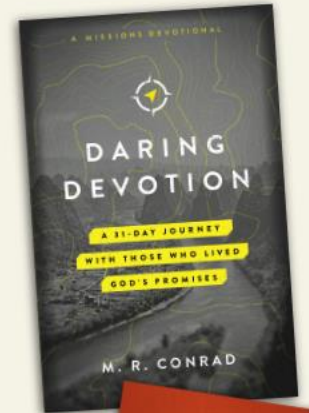


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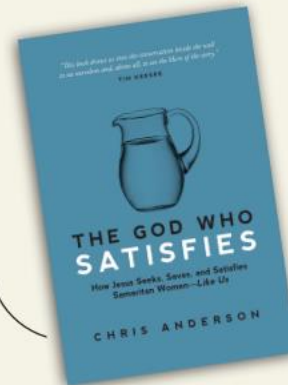
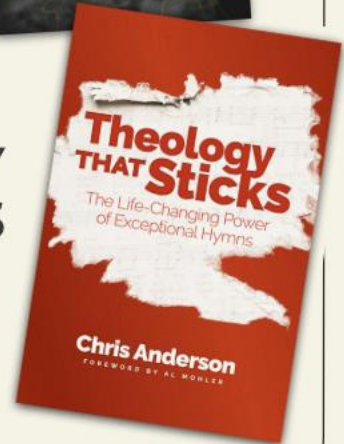
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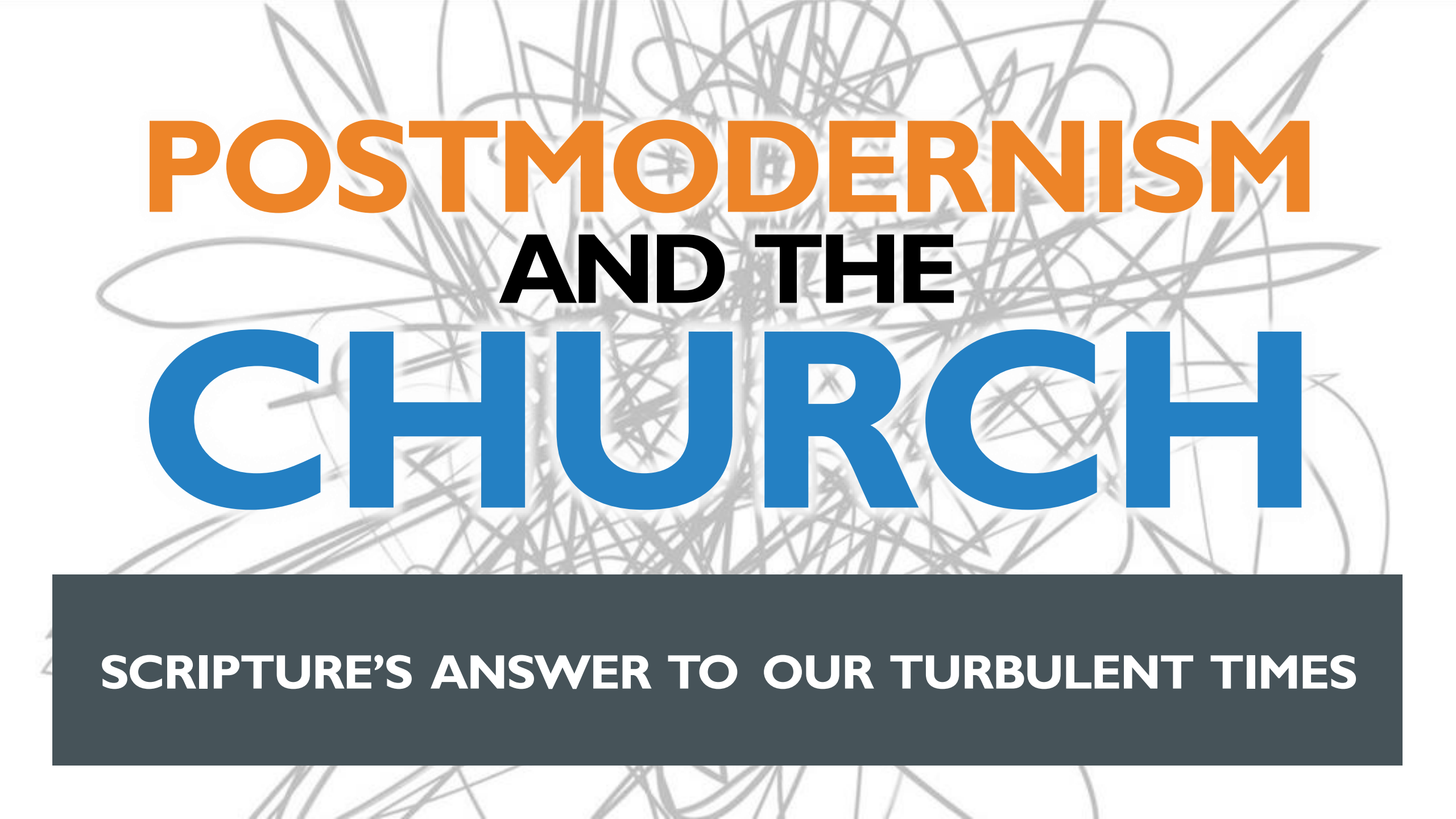
DARING DEVOTION SERIES



THEOLOGY THAT STICKS



THE GOD WHO SATISFIES

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POSTMODERNISM **AND THE** **CHURCH**

SCRIPTURE'S ANSWER TO OUR TURBULENT TIMES

CARL TRUEEMAN

“Every age has had its darkness and its dangers. The task of the Christian is not to whine about the moment in which he or she lives but to understand its problems and respond appropriately to them.”

WHERE WE ARE

Understanding Postmodernism



MY FAVORITE RESOURCES

D.A. Carson	<i>The Gagging of God</i>	600 pages; scholarly, difficult
Carl Trueman	<i>Strange New World</i>	Brilliant simplification of <i>The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self</i>
John Piper & Justin Taylor (ed.)	<i>The Supremacy of God in a Postmodern World</i>	Conference sessions: Wells, Baucham, Carson, Keller, etc.

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Voddie Baucham	<i>Fault Lines</i>	Especially focused on social justice and evangelical wokeness

JOHN MACARTHUR

“Postmodernism in general is marked by a tendency to dismiss the possibility of any sure and settled knowledge of the truth.”

“On almost every level of society, we are witnessing a profoundly radical paradigm shift—a wholesale overhaul in the way people think about truth itself.”

“Even some Christians nowadays argue along these lines: ‘If truth is personal, it cannot be propositional.’”

“Everyone is entitled to his own truth.” (PM)

“Uncertainty is the new truth.” (PM)

DAVID WELLS

“The world of truths that philosophy used to explicate has collapsed... The only reason to do philosophy is as personal therapy; if it helps you to think in this sort of way, then you should do so.”

“To be ‘post-modern’ is often to be Eastern in one’s spirituality.”
He refers to PM religions as “a resurgent paganism.”

“Many [postmoderns] are actually believers in the sacred, which they are pursuing in themselves. They are not seeking the God of the Christian religion, who is transcendent.... Rather, it is the god within, the god who is found within the self.”

CARL TRUEEMAN

“[I]n the work of the New Left one finds philosophical justification for what are now intuitive commonplaces of our culture: to be free is to be sexually liberated; to be happy is to be affirmed in that liberation.”

“While earlier generations might have seen damage to body or property as the most serious categories of crime, a highly psychologized era will accord increasing importance to words as means of oppression. And this represents a serious challenge to one of the foundations of liberal democracy: freedom of speech. Once harm and oppression are regarded as being primarily psychological categories, freedom of speech then becomes part of the problem, not the solution, because words become potential weapons.”

HOW WE GOT HERE

**300 Years of
Western Thought**



300 Years of Western Thought

THEISM					
MODERNISM					
POSTMODERNISM					

300 Years of Western Thought

THEISM	Truth is revealed.				
MODERNISM	Truth is discovered.				
POSTMODERNISM	Truth is nonexistent.				

300 Years of Western Thought

THEISM	Truth is revealed.	“I believe.”			
MODERNISM	Truth is discovered.	“I think.”			
POSTMODERNISM	Truth is nonexistent.	“I feel.”			




300 Years of Western Thought

THEISM	Truth is revealed.	“I believe.”	God is assumed.		
MODERNISM	Truth is discovered.	“I think.”	God is dead.		
POSTMODERNISM	Truth is nonexistent.	“I feel.”	Truth is dead. Sin is dead. “God” is back.		

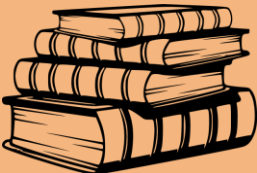
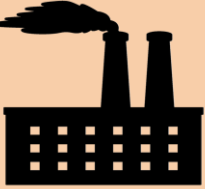

300 Years of Western Thought

THEISM	Truth is revealed.	“I believe.”	God is assumed.	Soul	
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POSTMODERNISM KEYS

1. Pluralism. Evangelism is a dirty word. America's change: "Everyone has rights" is now "Everyone is right."
2. Tolerance. To believe the Bible, and to preach it, will open you to charges of bigotry.
3. Deification of the individual.

WHERE WE MUST GO

Scripture's Answer to Turbulent Times



2 TIMOTHY 3:14 – 4:5

- It is doctrinal, but it was given as a real-life, practical answer to the “perilous” last days in which deceivers are getting worse and worse (3:1, 13; 4:3-4).
- It contrasts the ever-worsening world with the true Christian: “*But as for you...*”
- It gives an ancient answer to contemporary problems.

***“The world is a mess. It’s getting worse.
But you continue in what you’ve learned.”***

2 TIMOTHY 3:14 – 4:5

- **Only Scripture** can bring people to salvation (v. 15).
- **Only Scripture** is God-breathed (v. 16).
- **Only Scripture** is profitable and life-changing (v. 16).
- **Only Scripture** brings Christians to maturity (v. 17).
- **Only Scripture** equips Christians for service (v. 17).

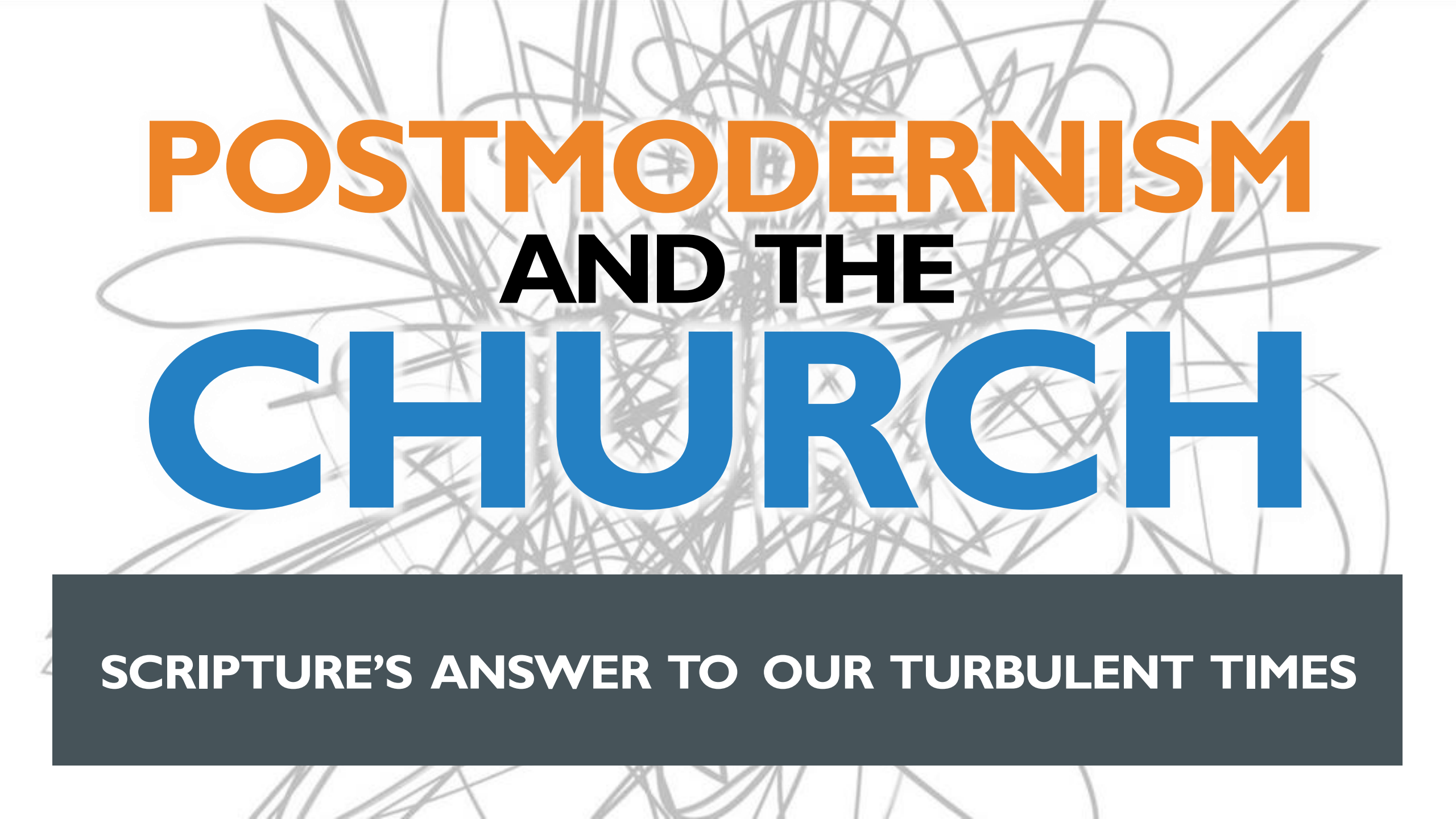
So “preach the Word” (4:1-5)!

So “continue in what you have learned” (3:14)!

TRUTH

CONCLUSIONS

1. Cultivate a Luther-like commitment to Sola Scriptura.
2. Cultivate a Luther-like courage. "Here I stand."
3. Cultivate something Luther often missed: A genuine, generous love for people with whom you have deep disagreements.

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