

Chapter 3

Eschatology and Human History

Human history



- We dwell in ignorance of history, uncertain about its origin, the direction in which it is heading, and its final destination (p. 79).

Human history

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graph LR; A[Human history] --> B[Last Days ?]; B --> C[Eschatology]
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The diagram consists of a large blue arrow pointing right, containing the text 'Human history' in a bold, italicized white font. To the right of the arrow's tip is the text 'Last Days ?' in a bold blue font. A thin blue arrow points vertically down from 'Last Days ?' to a pink oval containing the word 'Eschatology' in a bold purple font.

Last Days ?

Eschatology

- Hence, we are ignorant about the Last Days of the human history.

Human history

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graph TD; A[Human history] --> B[Last Days?]; B --> C[Eschatology]; D[Purpose of Creation  
Meaning of human fall  
Goal of restoration] --> C;
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Last Days ?

- **Purpose of Creation**
- **Meaning of human fall**
- **Goal of restoration**

Eschatology

- To address this issue, we should first understand such fundamental matters as the purpose of God's creation, the meaning of the human Fall, and the goal of the providence of restoration.

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Section 1

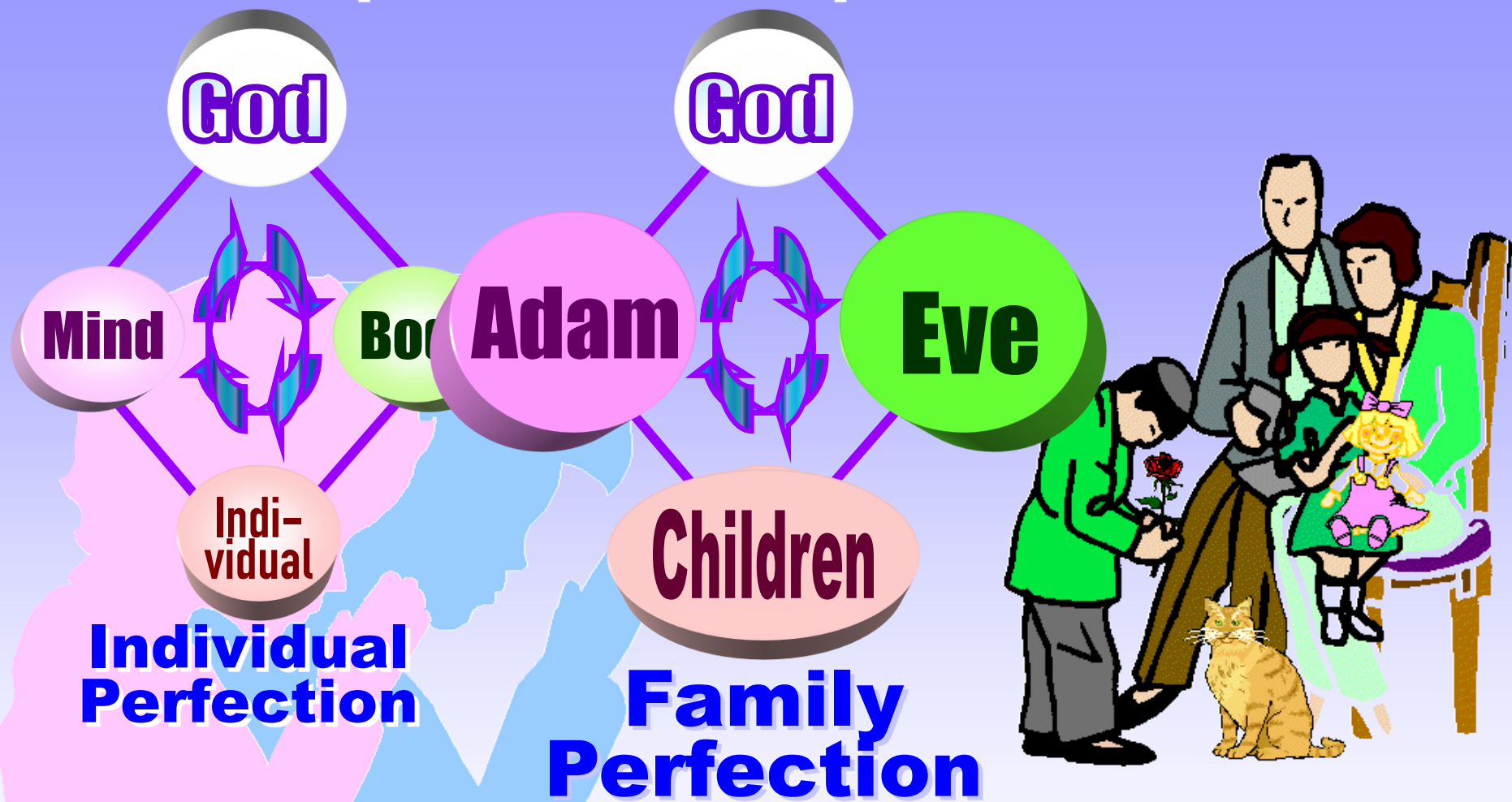
**The Completion of God's
Purpose of Creation and
the Human Fall**

1.1 The Completion of God's Purpose of Creation



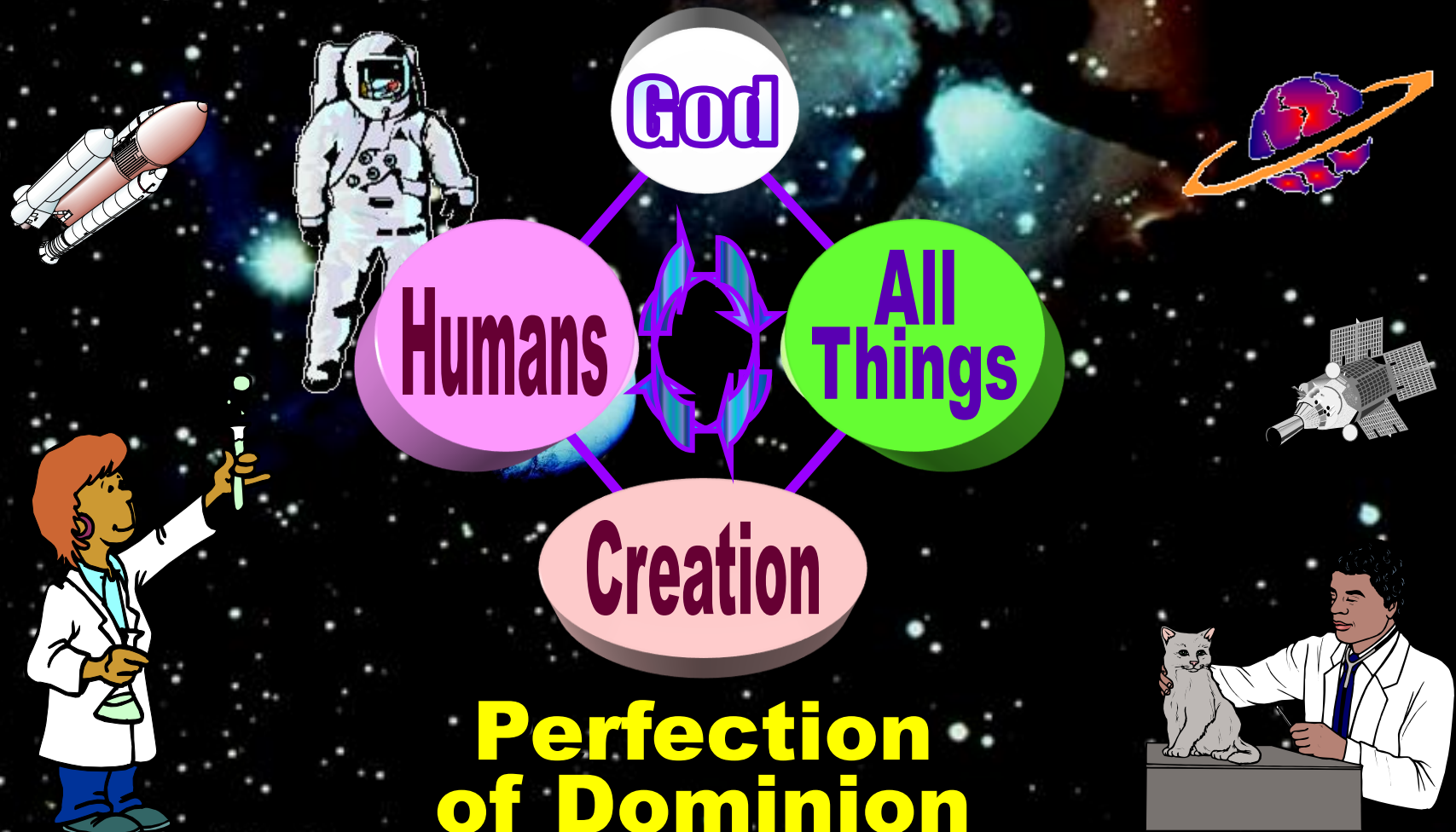
- A **person** who has emotional sensitivity to the Heart of God, intuition and reason to comprehend His Will, and the requisite abilities to practice it has perfected his individual character (p. 80).

1.1 The Completion of God's Purpose of Creation



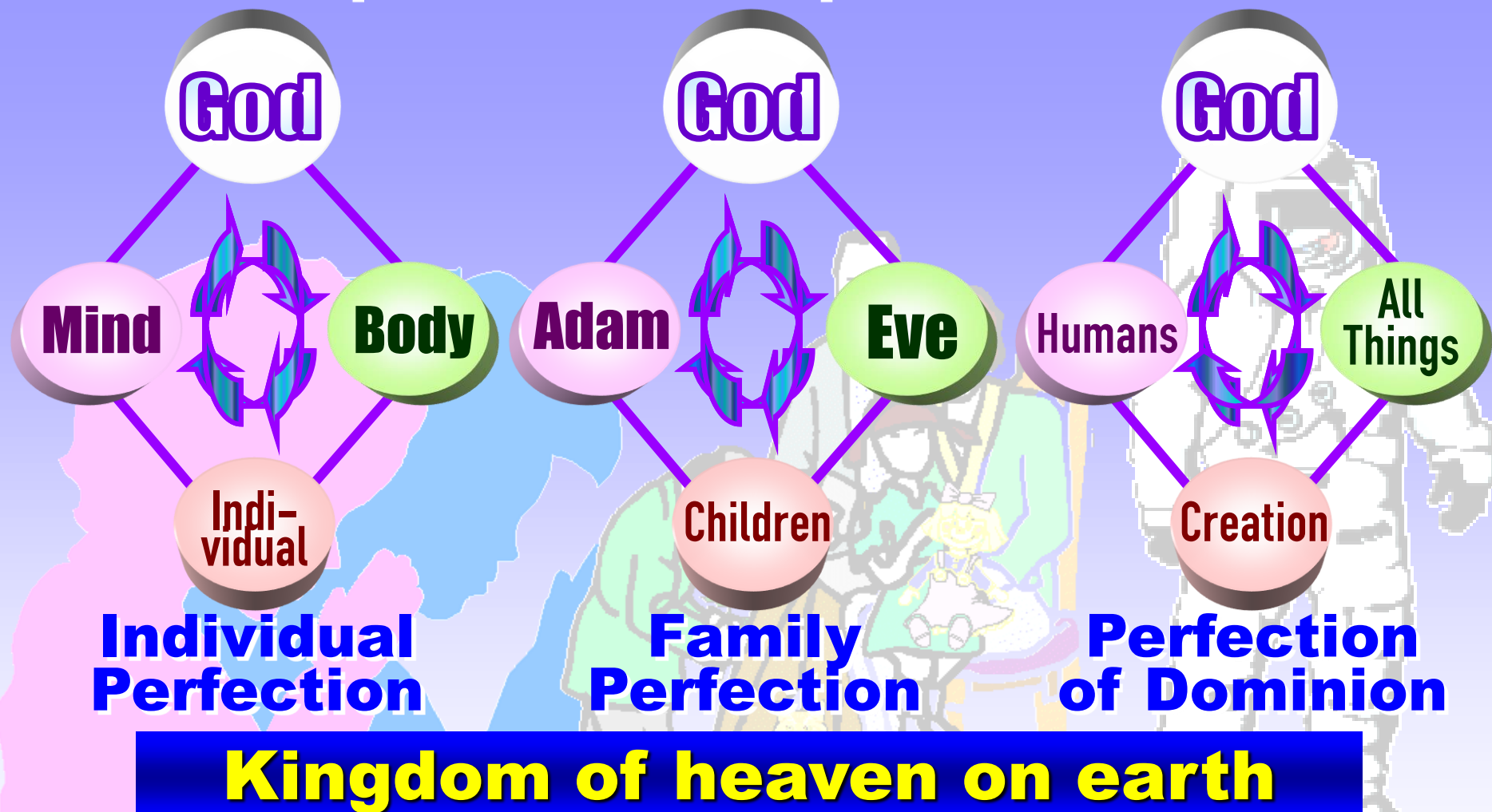
- Had Adam and Eve reached perfection, they would have borne good children and founded a sinless family and society in complete concordance with God's blessings. They would have founded one great family with the same parents (p. 81).

1.1 The Completion of God's Purpose of Creation



- People of perfected character should advance **science** and create an extremely pleasant social and living environment.

1.1 The Completion of God's Purpose of Creation



- Kingdom of Heaven on earth is where such an ideal is realized. God's purpose of creation is to build the Kingdom of Heaven first on earth.

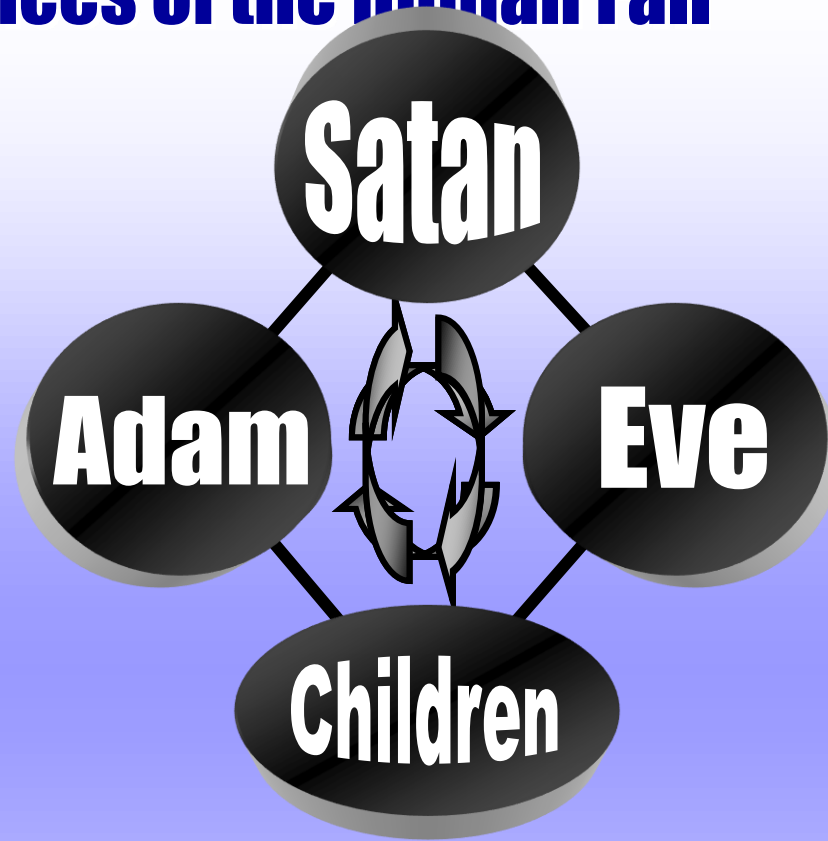
1.2 Consequences of the Human Fall



Evil Nature

- Due to the Fall, **human** beings united with Satan and became his **dwelling** places, acquiring an evil nature (p. 82).

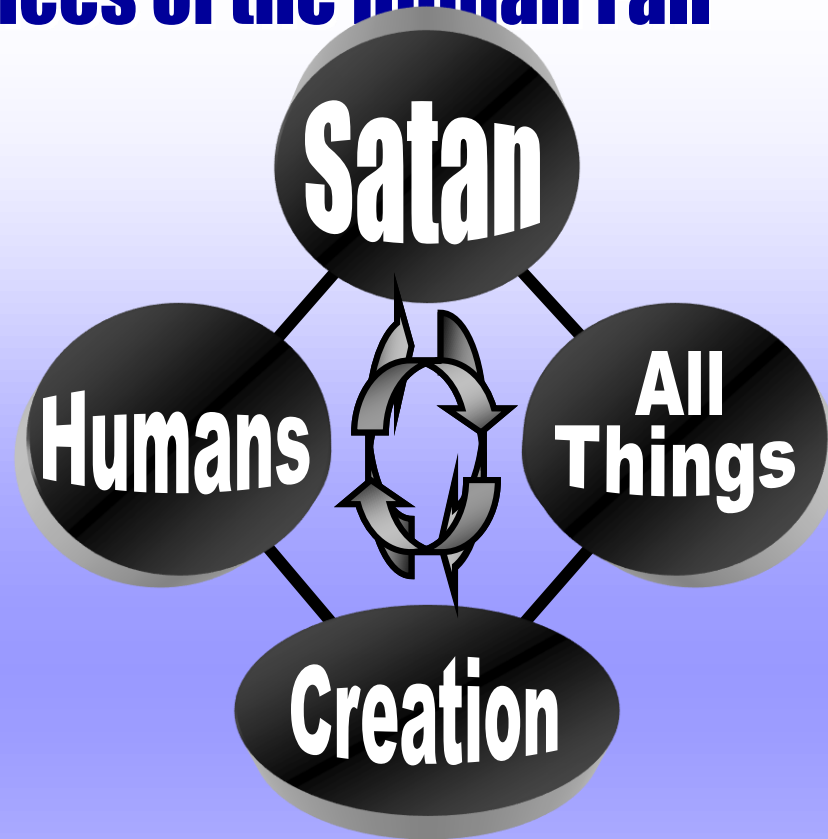
1.2 Consequences of the Human Fall



Evil family

- **People** with evil nature have propagated evil through their **children**, constituting evil families, evil societies and an evil world.

1.2 Consequences of the Human Fall

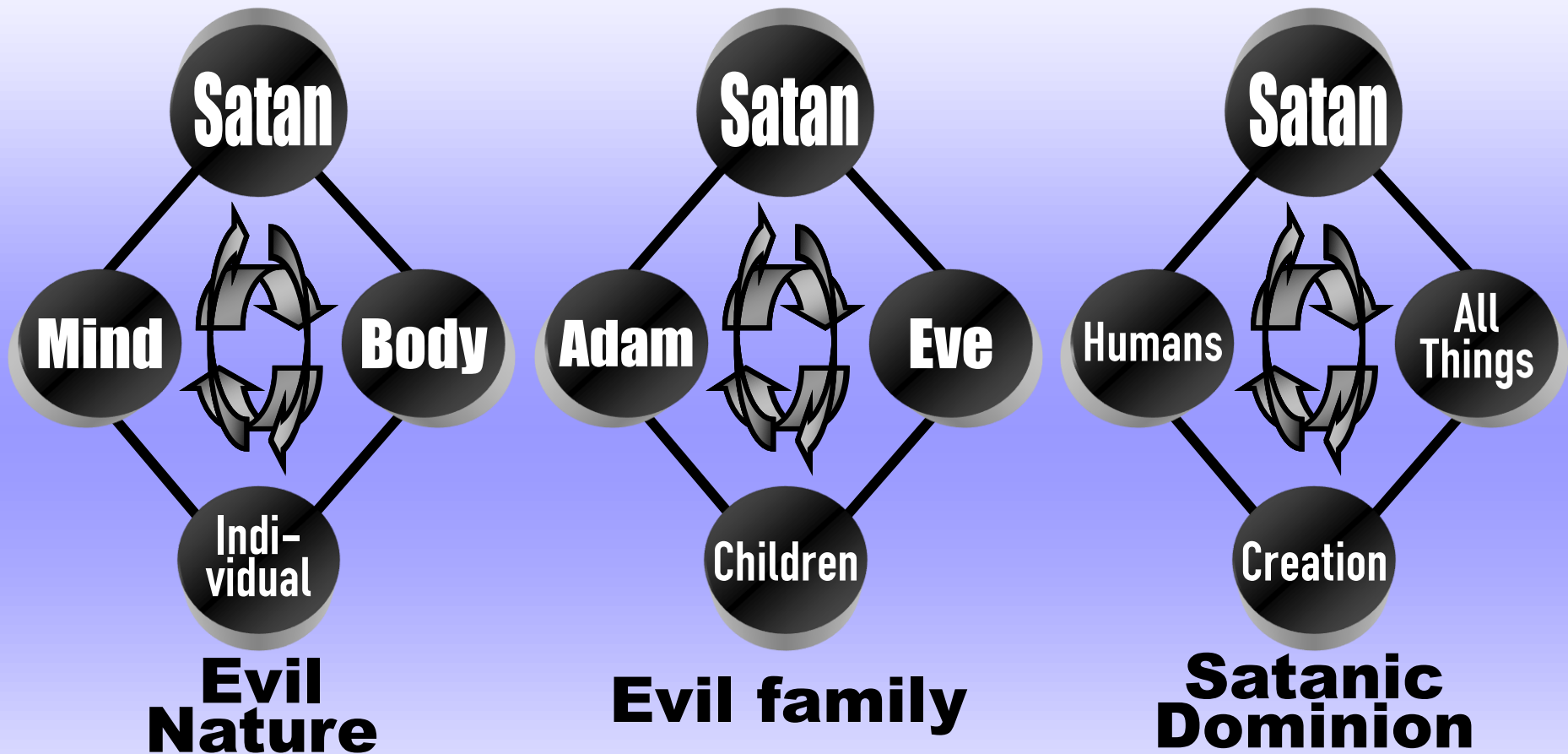


Satanic Dominion

Hell on earth

- This is the hell on earth in which we have been living. We have established the **sovereignty** of Satan.

1.2 Consequences of the Human Fall



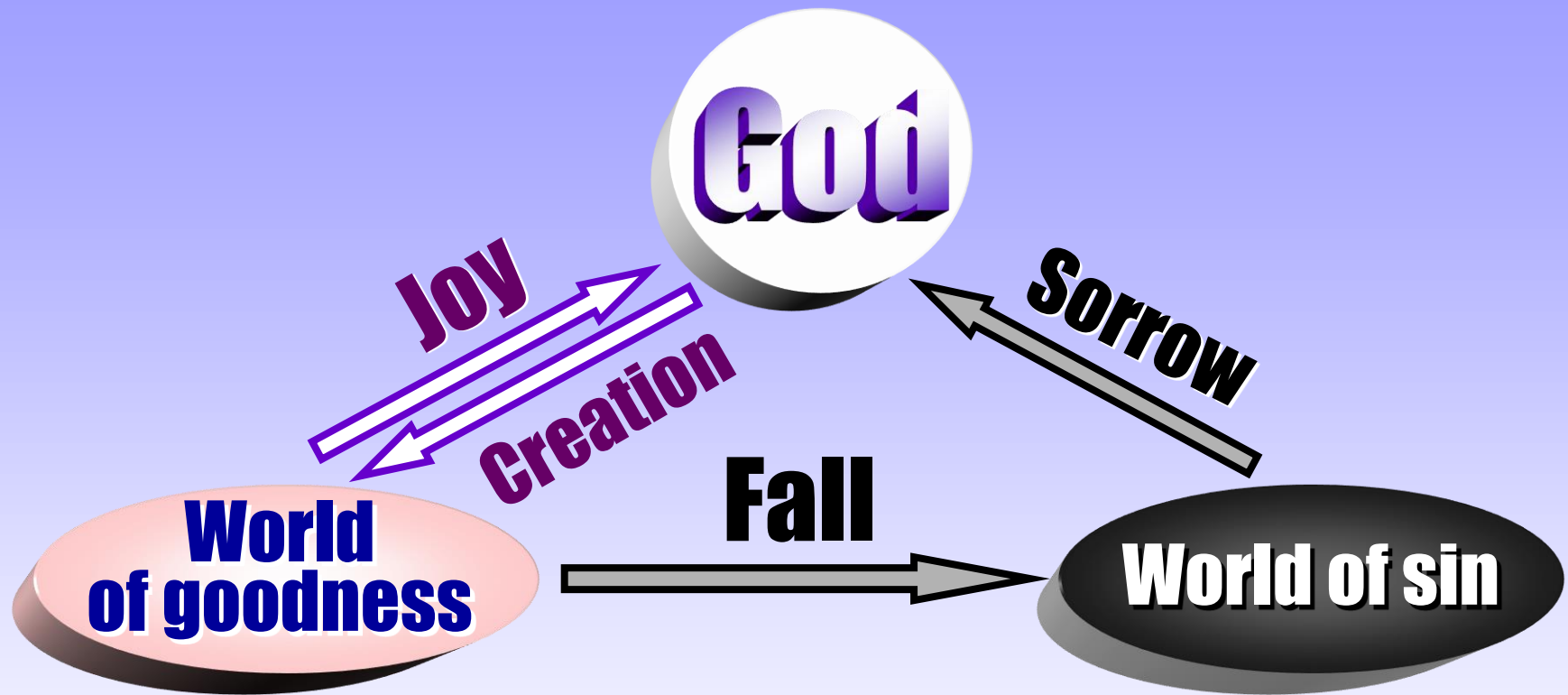
Hell on earth



Section 2

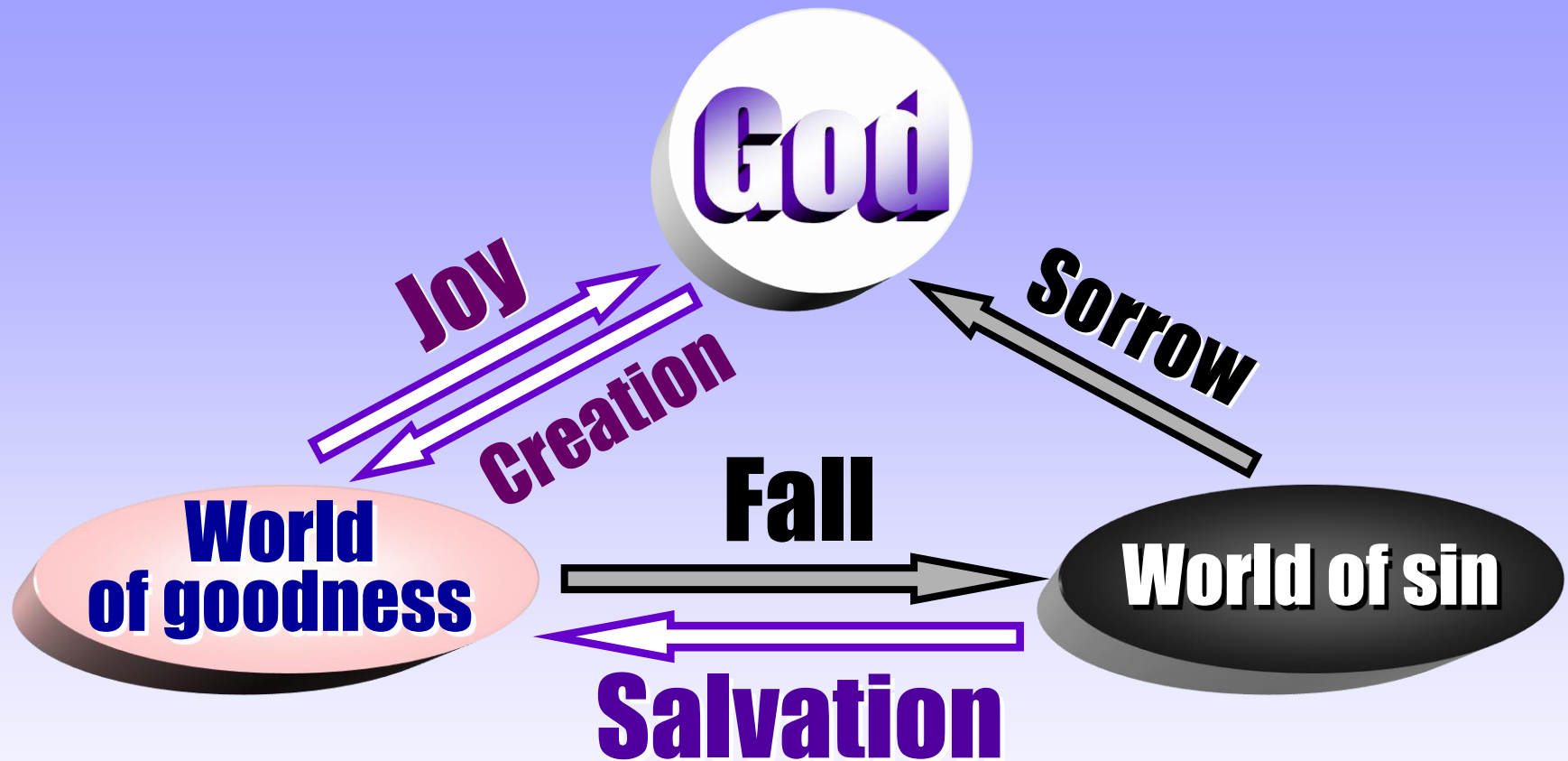
God's Work of Salvation

2.1 God's Work of Salvation is the Providence of Restoration



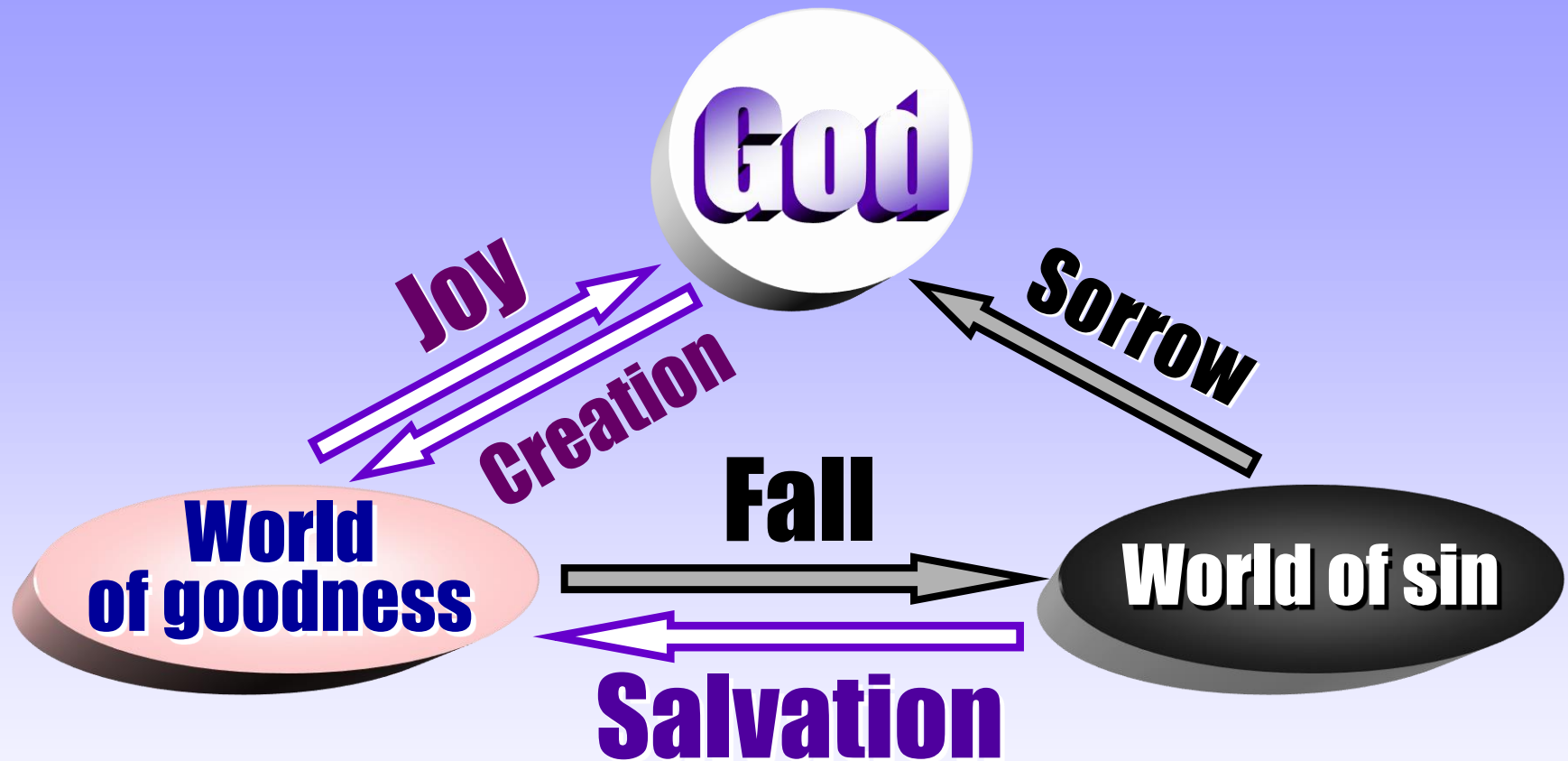
- God intended to create a world of goodness and experience from it the utmost **joy**; yet due to the human **Fall**, the world came to be filled with sin and sorrow.

2.1 God's Work of Salvation is the Providence of Restoration



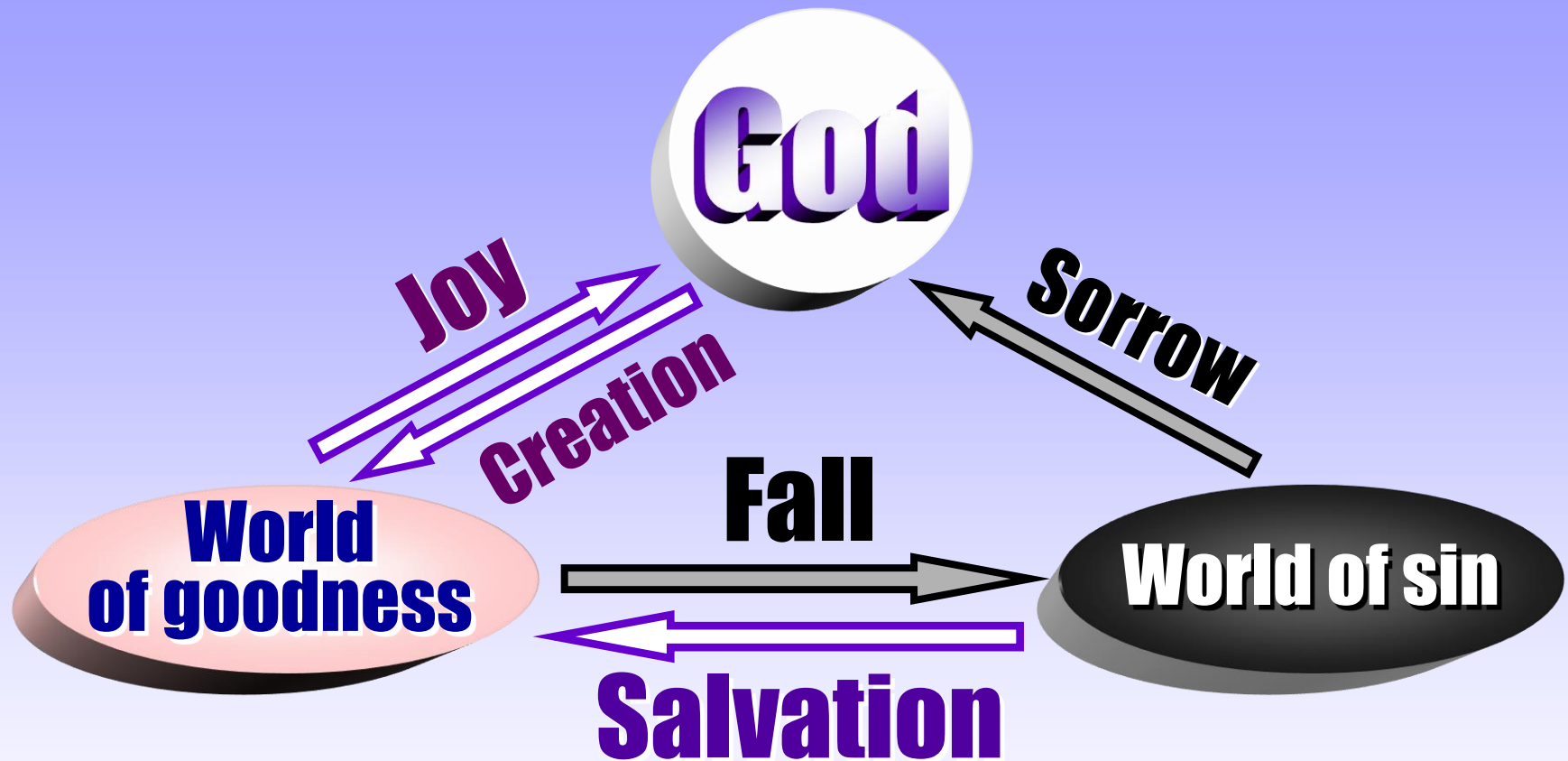
- If this sinful world were to continue forever in its present state, then God would be an impotent and ineffectual God who failed in His creation. Therefore, God will save this sinful world, by all means.

2.1 God's Work of Salvation is the Providence of Restoration



- To save a person suffering under the yoke of sin means to restore him to his original, sinless state (p. 82).

2.1 God's Work of Salvation is the Providence of Restoration



- God's work of salvation is the providence of restoration.

2.2 The Goal of the Providence of Restoration

Purpose of creation



Establishment of heavenly kingdom

- The goal of the providence of restoration is the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven, which is God's good object partner and the fulfillment of His purpose of creation.

2.3 Human History is the History of the Providence of Restoration

Human History

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History of providence of restoration

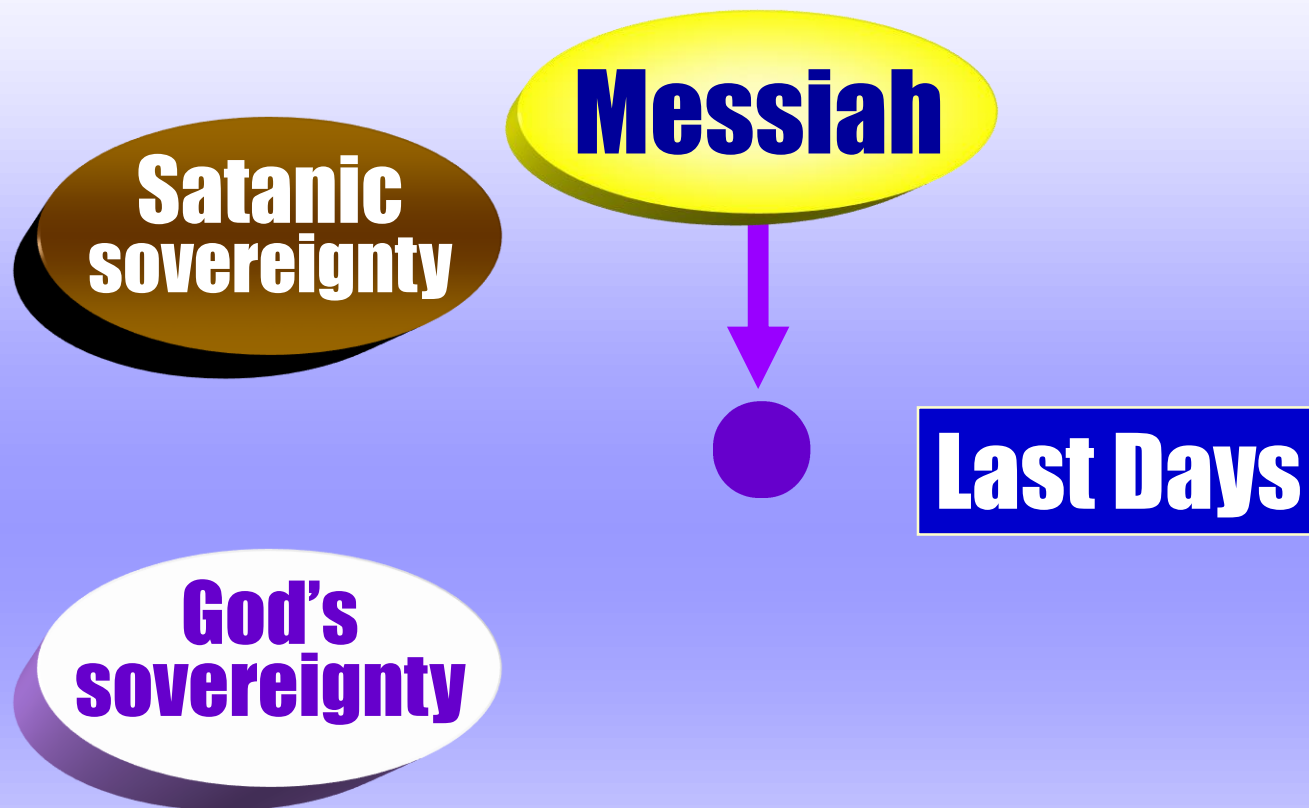
- Human history can be seen as the history of the providence through which God has been trying to save fallen people and work through them to restore the original, good world (p.84).

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Section 3

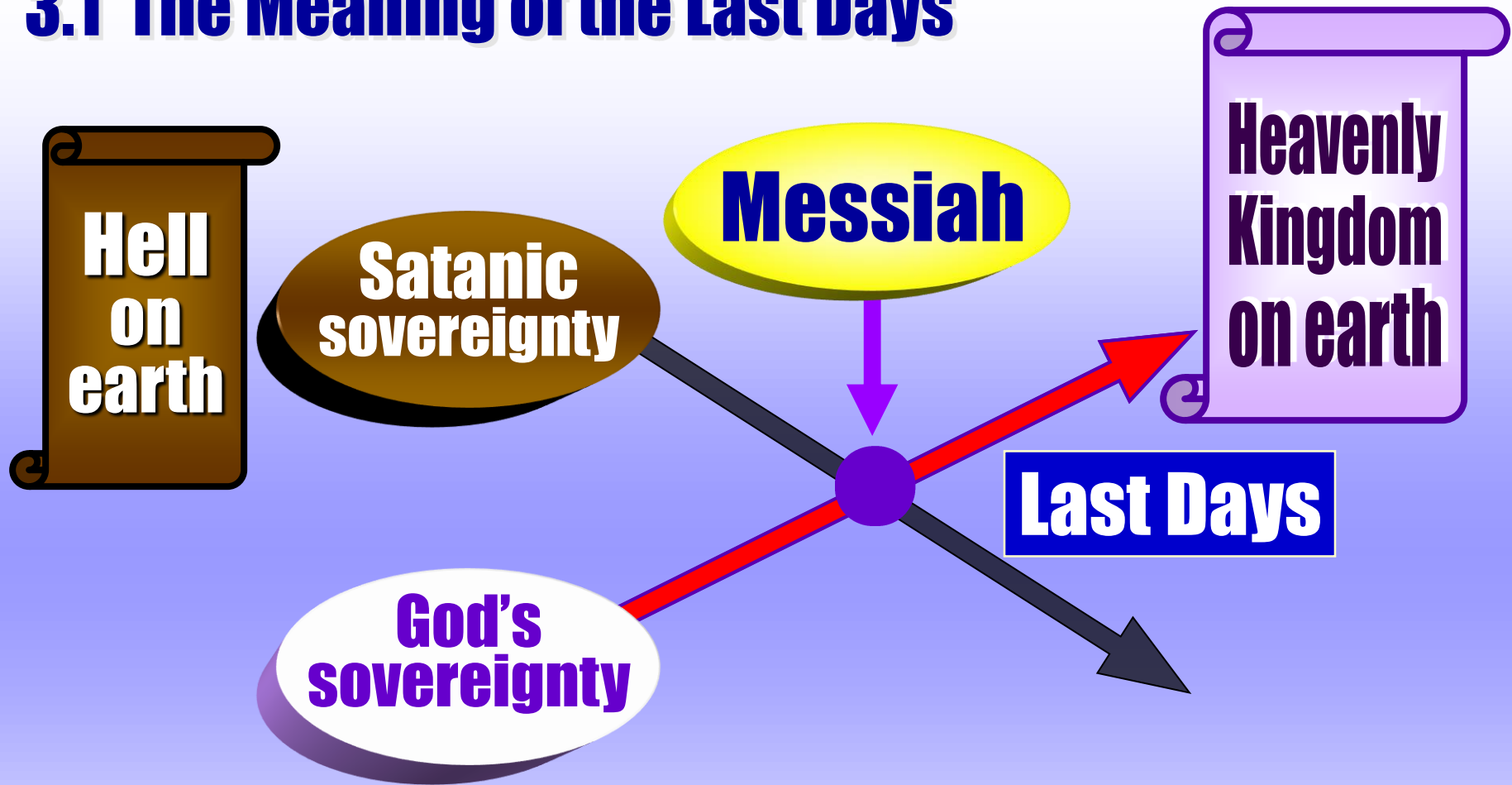
The Last Days

3.1 The Meaning of the Last Days



- The Last Days is this time, when with the advent of the Messiah as the turning point, the evil world under satanic sovereignty is transformed into the ideal world under God's sovereignty (p. 89).

3.1 The Meaning of the Last Days



- Hell on earth will be transformed into the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.



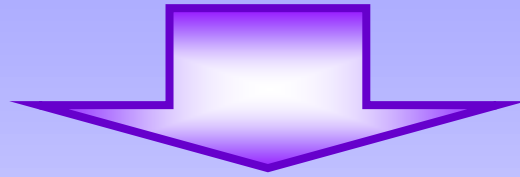
Section 4

The Last Days and the Present Days

T o d a y = L a s t D a y s

- We can deduce that today is in fact the Last Days by examining the various circumstances of the present age.

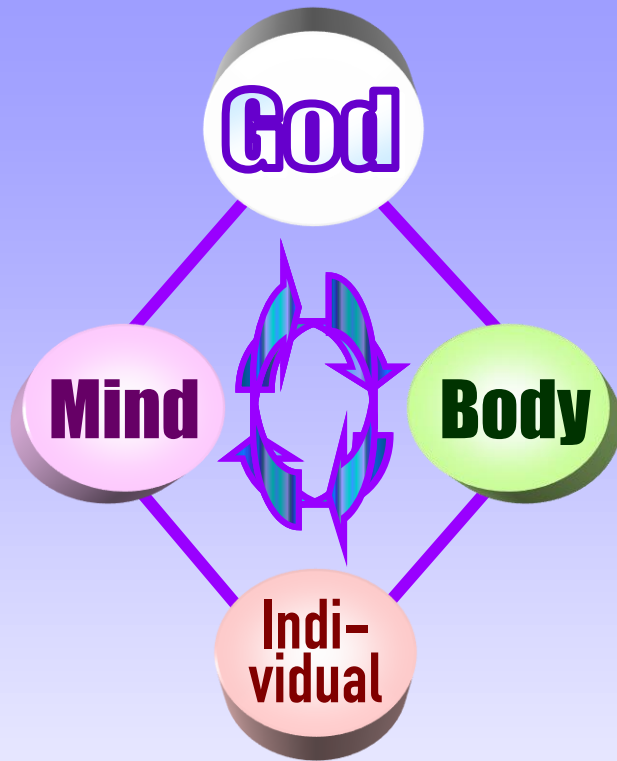
Restoration of three great blessings



T o d a y = L a s t D a y s

We can recognize in these circumstances the restoration of the three great blessings, which God has purposed in His providence of restoration (p. 96).

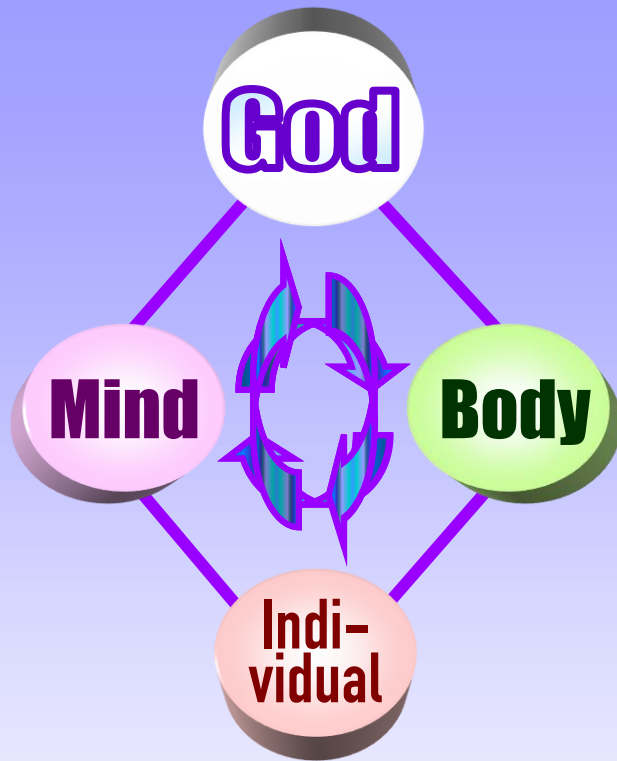
4.1 Signs of the Restoration of the First Blessing



Individual Perfection

- The first blessing is perfection of individual character.

4.1 Signs of the Restoration of the First Blessing



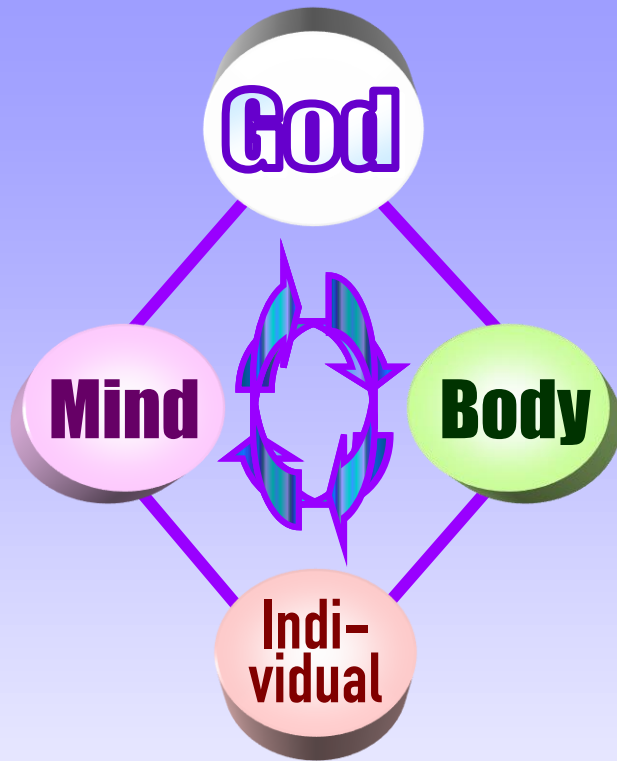
① Restoration of spirituality

Individual Perfection

We see signs of the restoration of the first blessing in that:

- ① Spirituality of fallen people is being restored.

4.1 Signs of the Restoration of the First Blessing

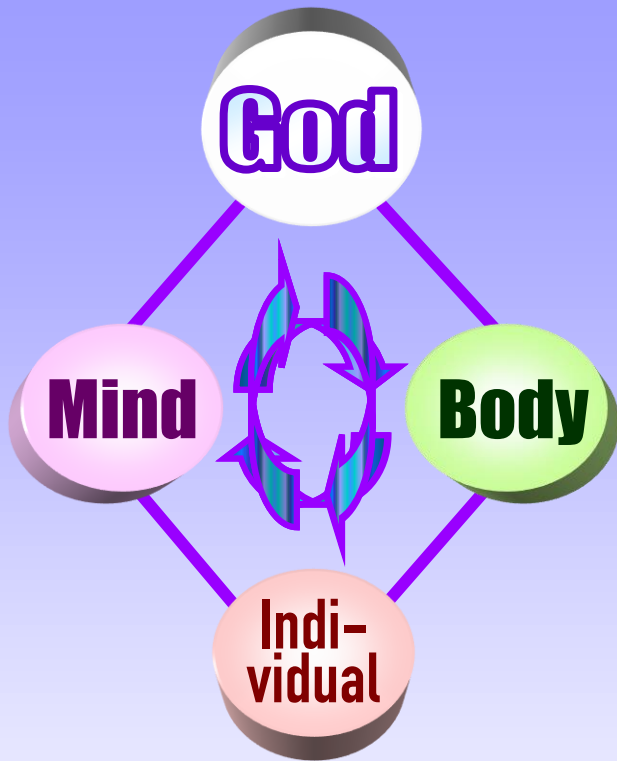


- ① **Restoration of spirituality**
- ② **Freedom of original mind**

Individual Perfection

- ② History moves toward the recovery of the freedom of the original mind (p. 97).

4.1 Signs of the Restoration of the First Blessing

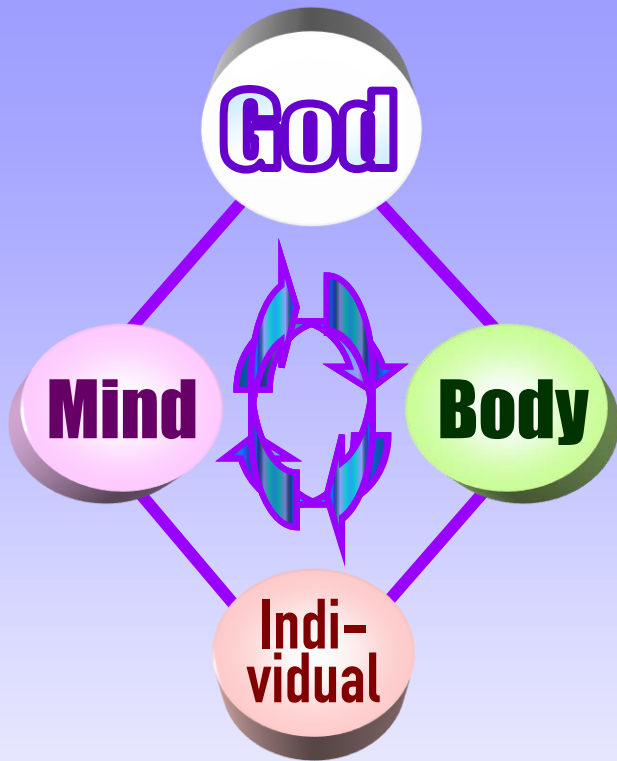


- ① Restoration of spirituality
- ② Freedom of original mind
- ③ True human value
- ④ Original love

Individual Perfection

- ③ True human value is being restored.
- ④ Original, true love in fallen people is being restored.

4.1 Signs of the Restoration of the First Blessing

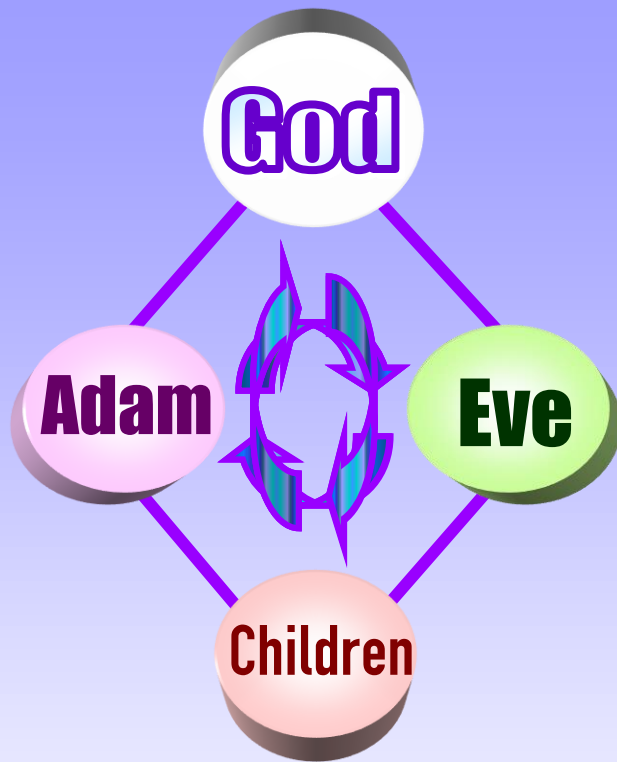


- ① **Restoration of spirituality**
- ② **Freedom of original mind**
- ③ **True human value**
- ④ **Original love**

Individual Perfection

- From this we can see that the present time is the eve of the Last Days, when we can reach perfection of individual character (p. 98).

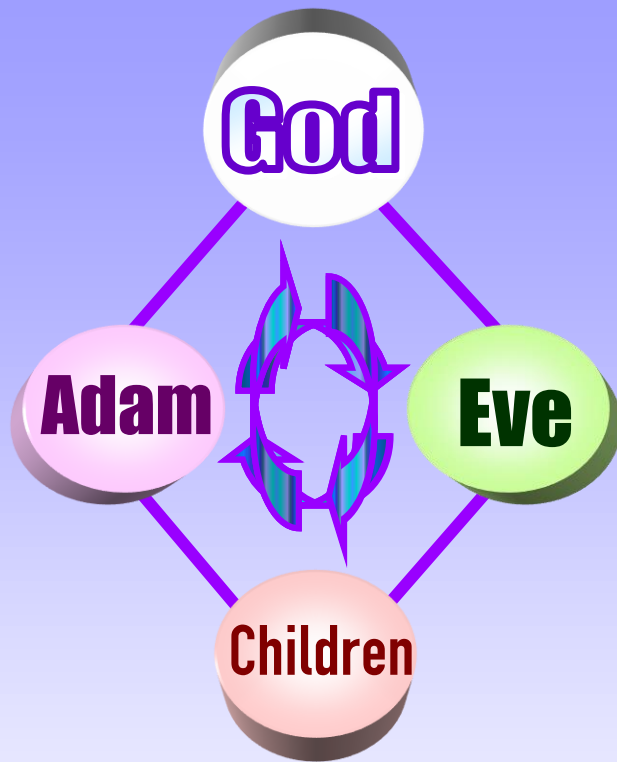
4.2 Signs of the Restoration of the Second Blessing



Family Perfection

- God's second blessing is forming a family, society and world where goodness reigns.

4.2 Signs of the Restoration of the Second Blessing

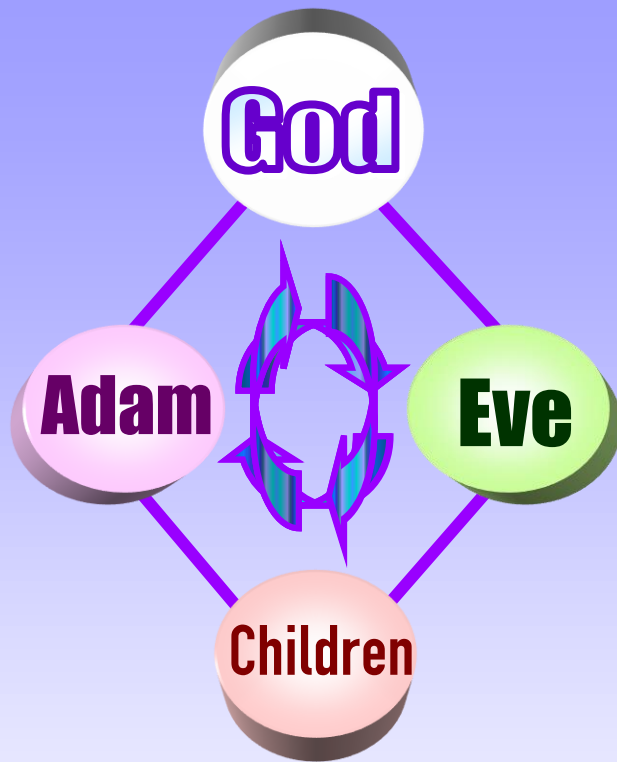


Family Perfection

① **Brothers
and sisters
in Jesus Christ**

- ① In the present age, all races and peoples are increasingly coming to stand side by side as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, thereby restoring the second blessing of God.

4.2 Signs of the Restoration of the Second Blessing

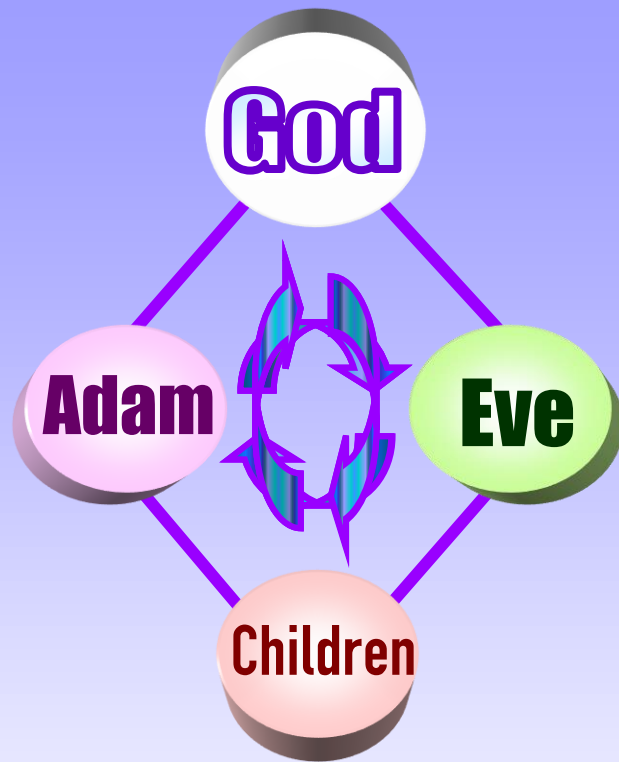


Family Perfection

- ① **Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ**
- ② **Confrontation between democratic and communist worlds**

- ② At present, our world is divided into two: the democratic world, which seeks to create societies on God's side, and the communist world, which has been establishing regimes on Satan's side.

4.2 Signs of the Restoration of the Second Blessing

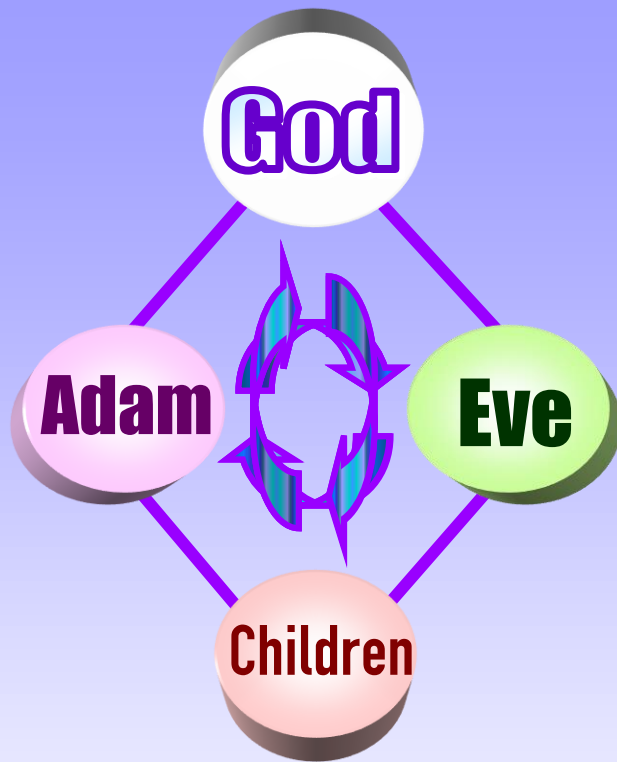


Family Perfection

- ① **Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ**
- ② **Confrontation between democratic and communist worlds**

These opposing forces are at the point of intersection
(p. 100).

4.2 Signs of the Restoration of the Second Blessing

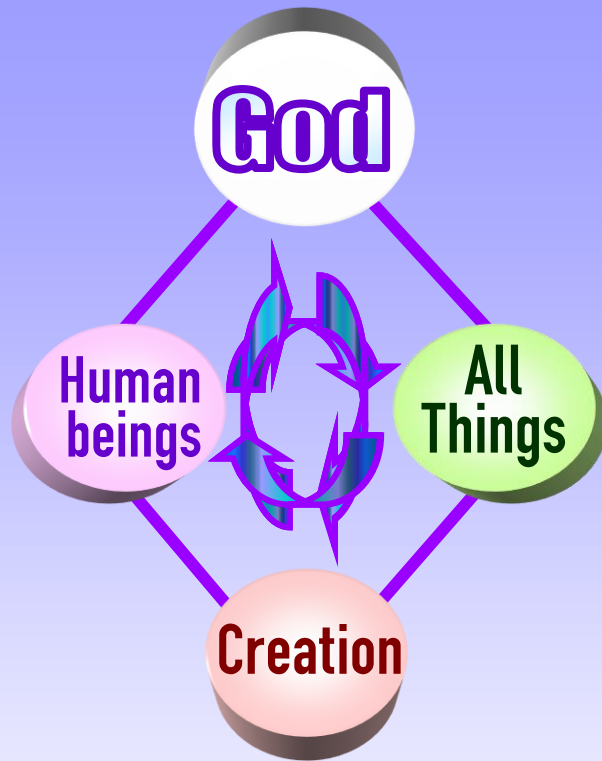


Family Perfection

- ① **Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ**
- ② **Confrontation between democratic and communist worlds**

- Hence, the present age is the Last Days because the second blessing is being restored.

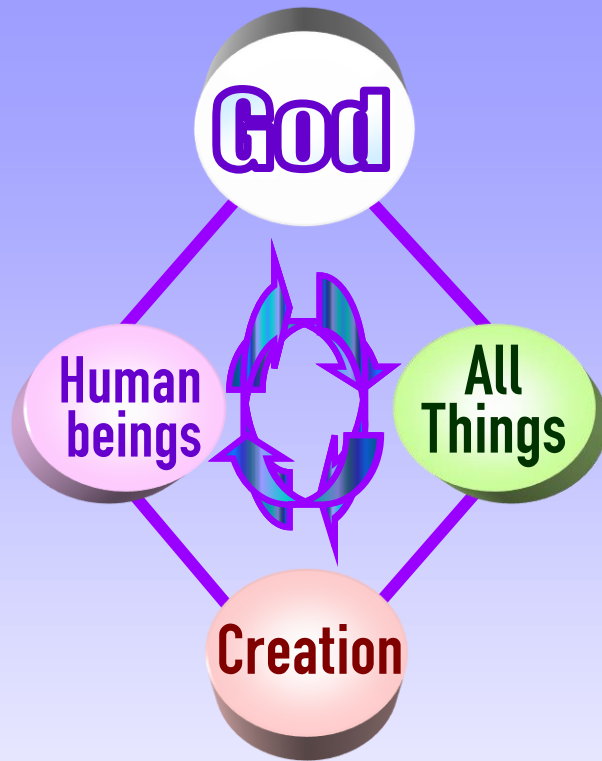
4.3 Signs of the Restoration of the Third Blessing



Perfection of Dominion

- The third blessing means gaining dominion over the natural world (p. 101).

4.3 Signs of the Restoration of the Third Blessing

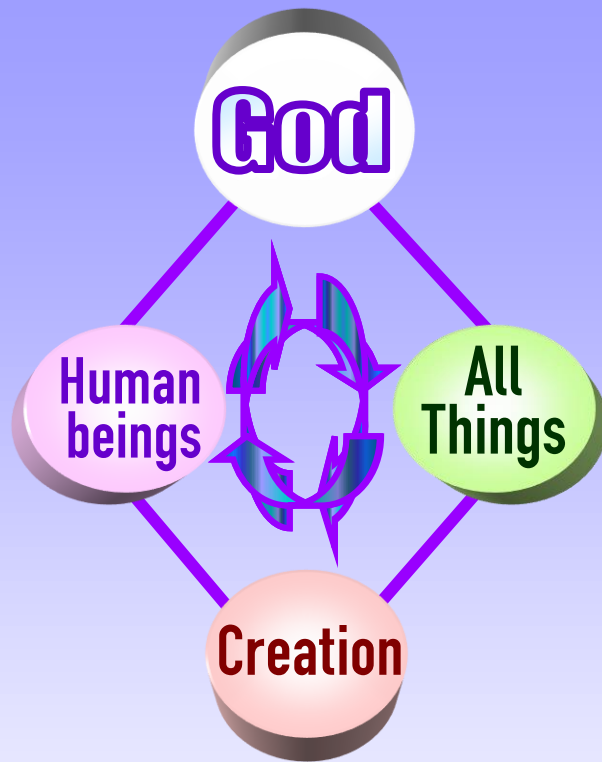


① Elevation of spirituality towards God

Perfection of Dominion

- ① God's providence of restoration through religion, philosophy, ethics and so forth, has gradually elevated the spirituality of fallen people toward God.

4.3 Signs of the Restoration of the Third Blessing

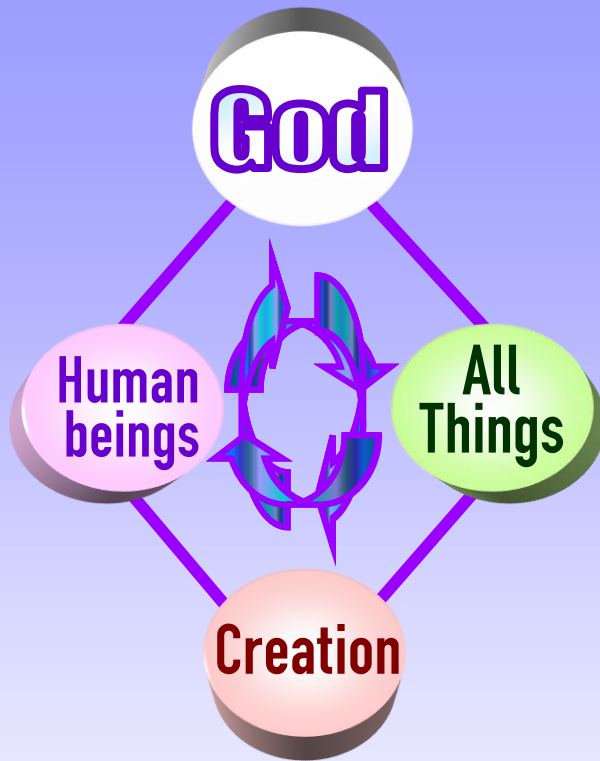


① Elevation of spirituality towards God

Perfection of Dominion

In the modern world, there is evidence that people are regaining the worthiness to govern the creation through heart (p. 102).

4.3 Signs of the Restoration of the Third Blessing



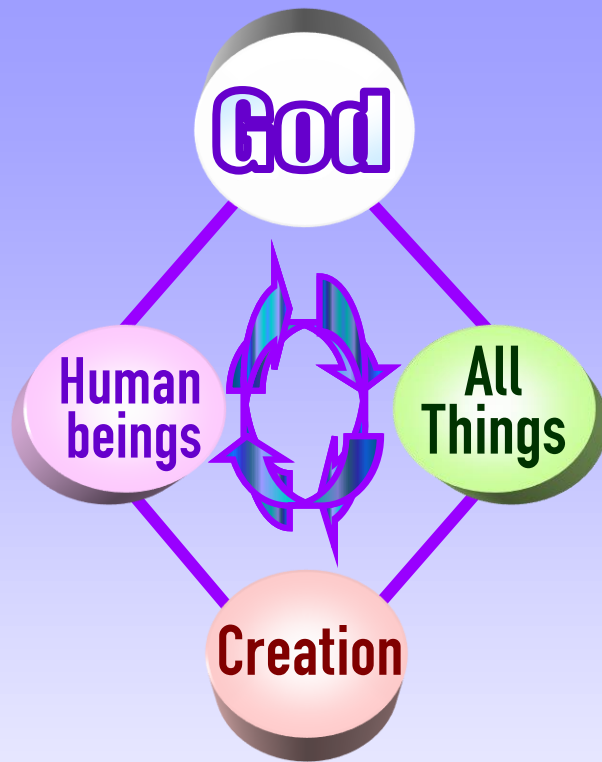
① **Elevation of spirituality towards God**

② **Pleasant living environment**

Perfection of Dominion

- ② Modern people have built an extremely comfortable and pleasant living environment through the economic progress that has accompanied scientific development.

4.3 Signs of the Restoration of the Third Blessing



① **Elevation of spirituality towards God**

② **Pleasant living environment**

Perfection of Dominion

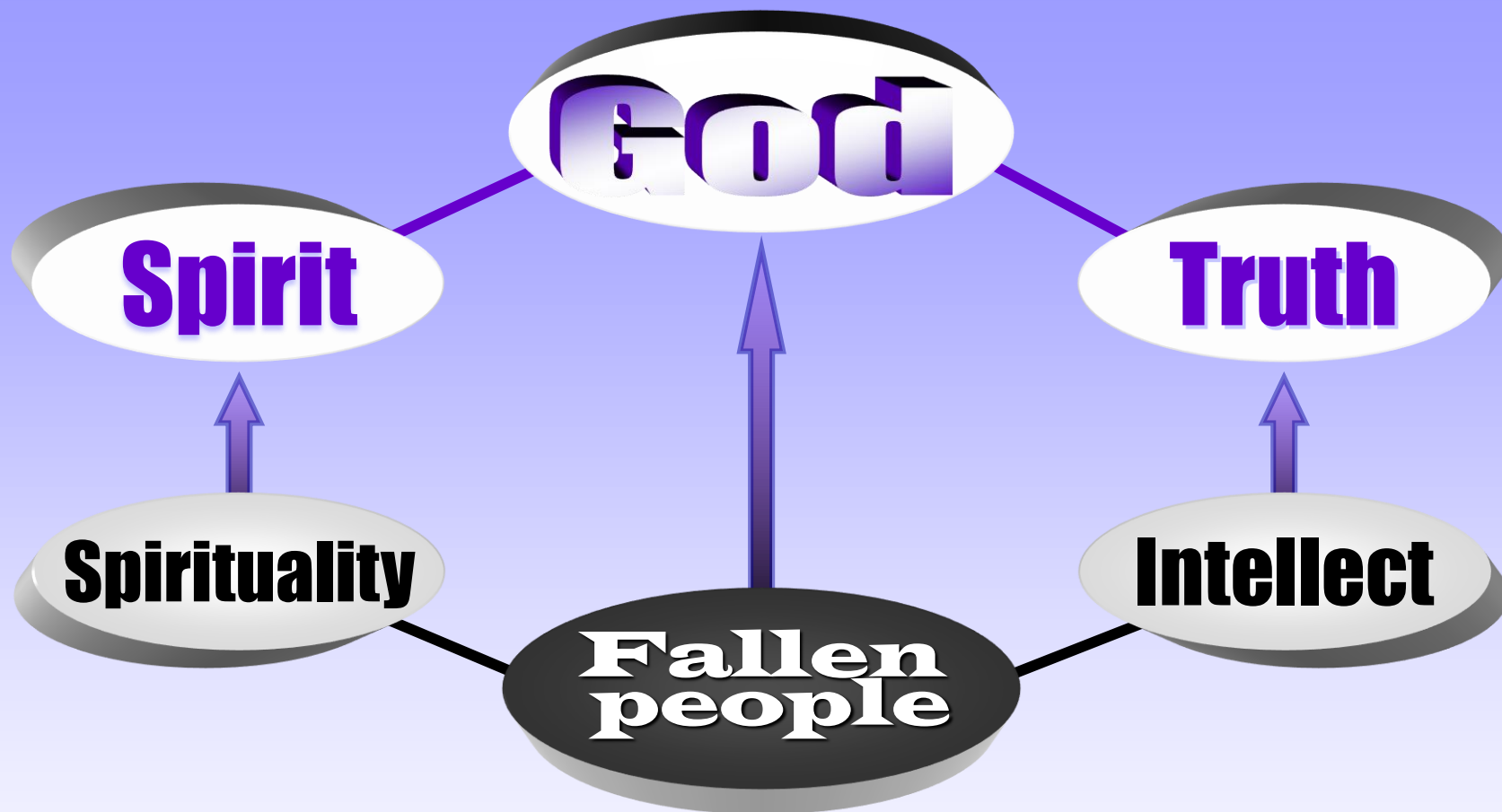
- Observing signs of re-establishment of God's third blessing, we are assured that the present era is the Last Days.



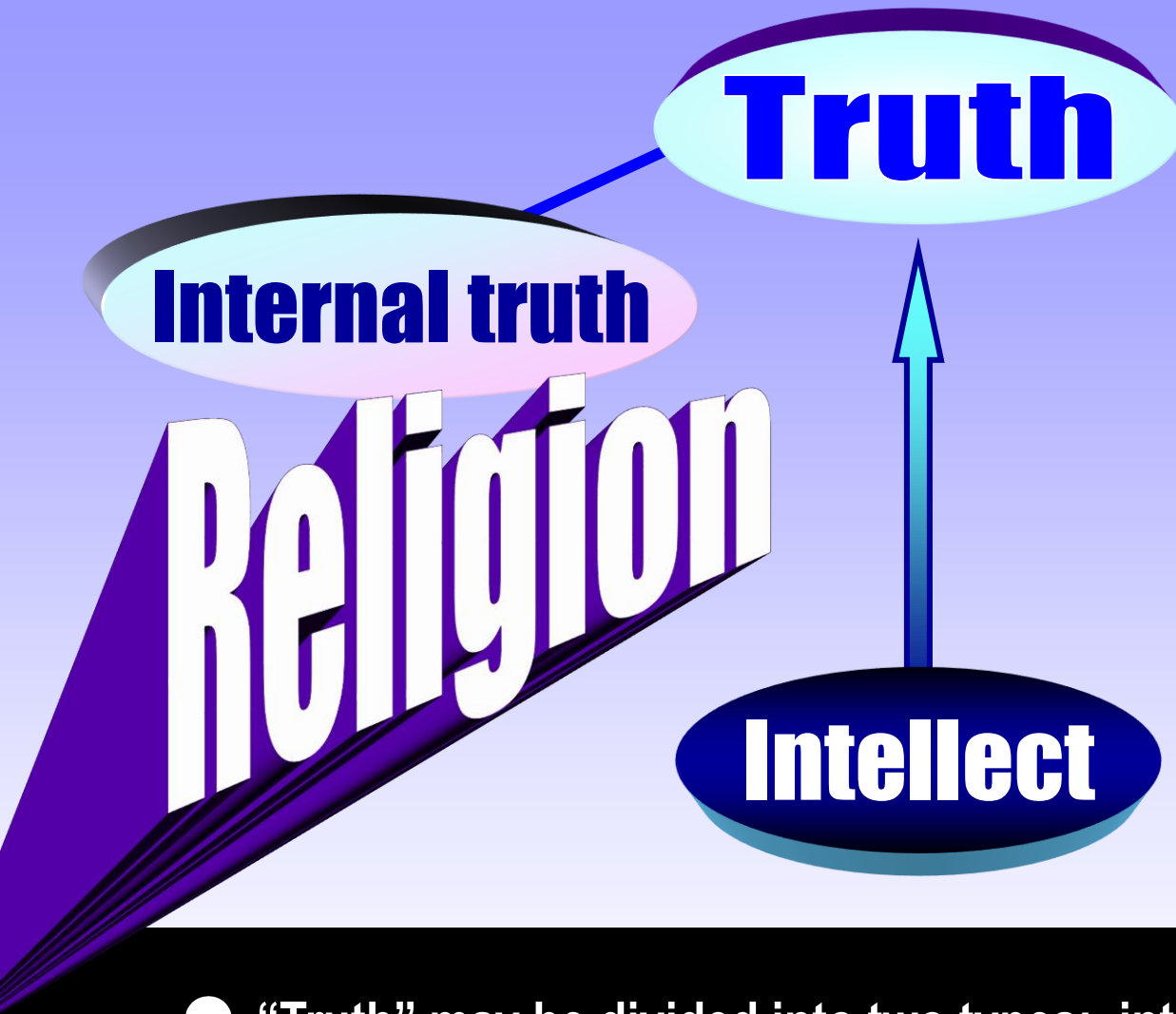
Section 5

**The Last Days,
the New Truth
and Our Attitude**

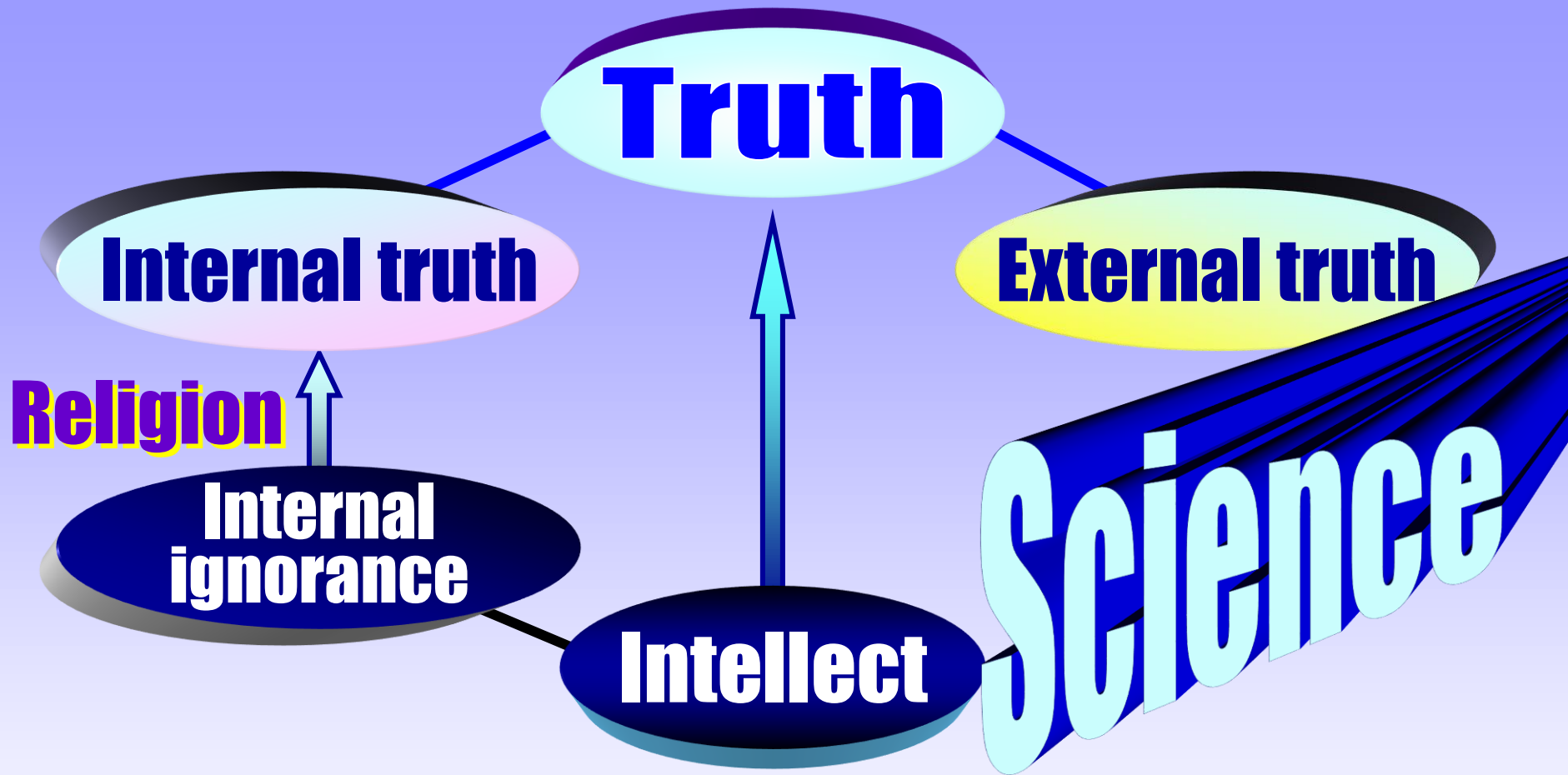
5.1 The Last Days and the New Truth



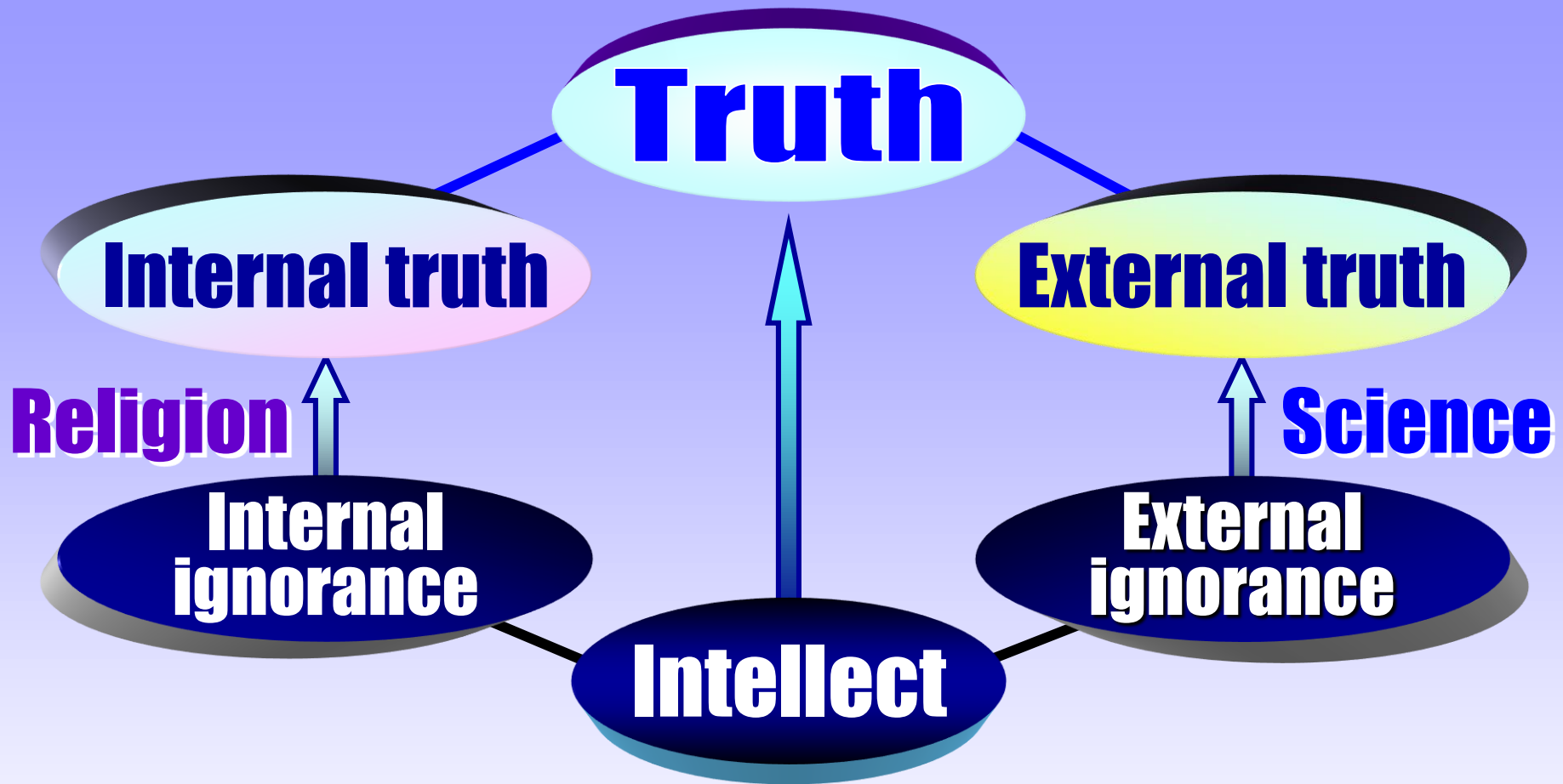
- Fallen people have been overcoming their internal ignorance by enlightening their spirituality and intellect with “spirit and truth” through religion (p. 103).



- “Truth” may be divided into two types: internal truth as taught by religion, which helps people overcome internal ignorance, and external truth as obtained through science, which helps people overcome external ignorance.



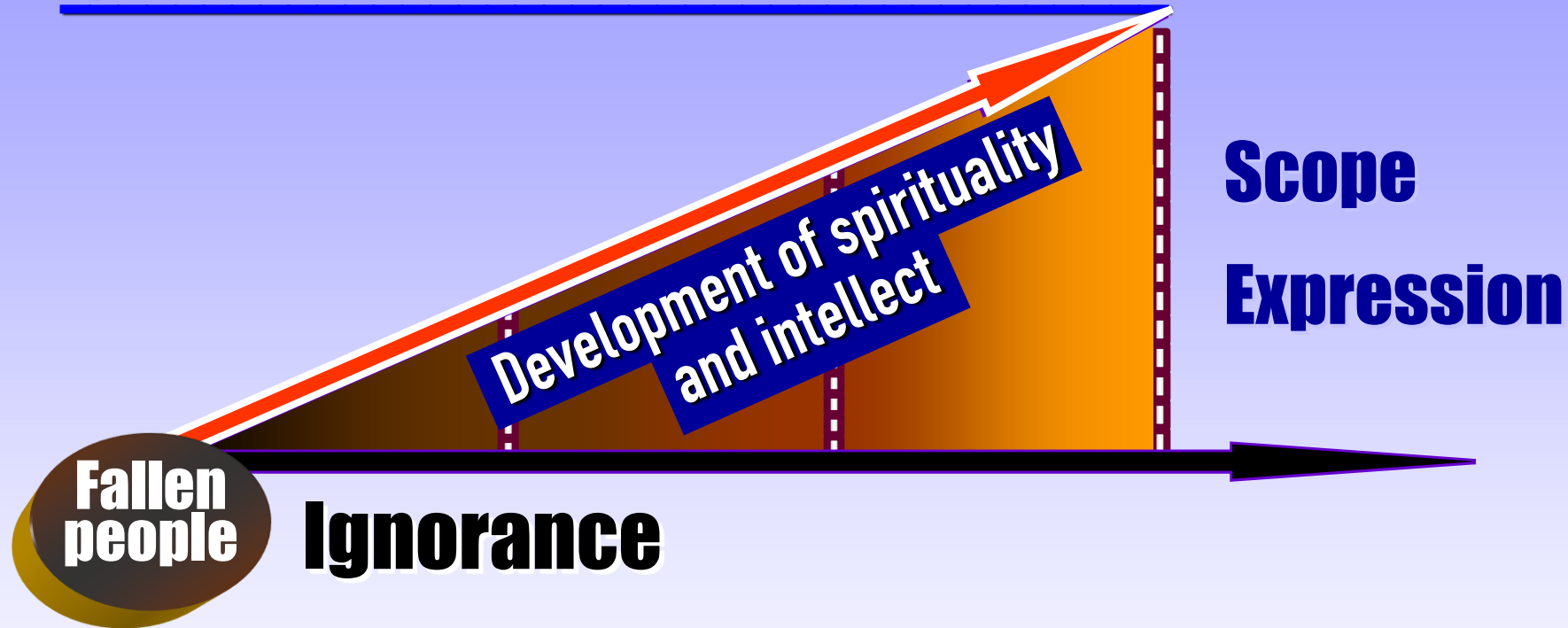
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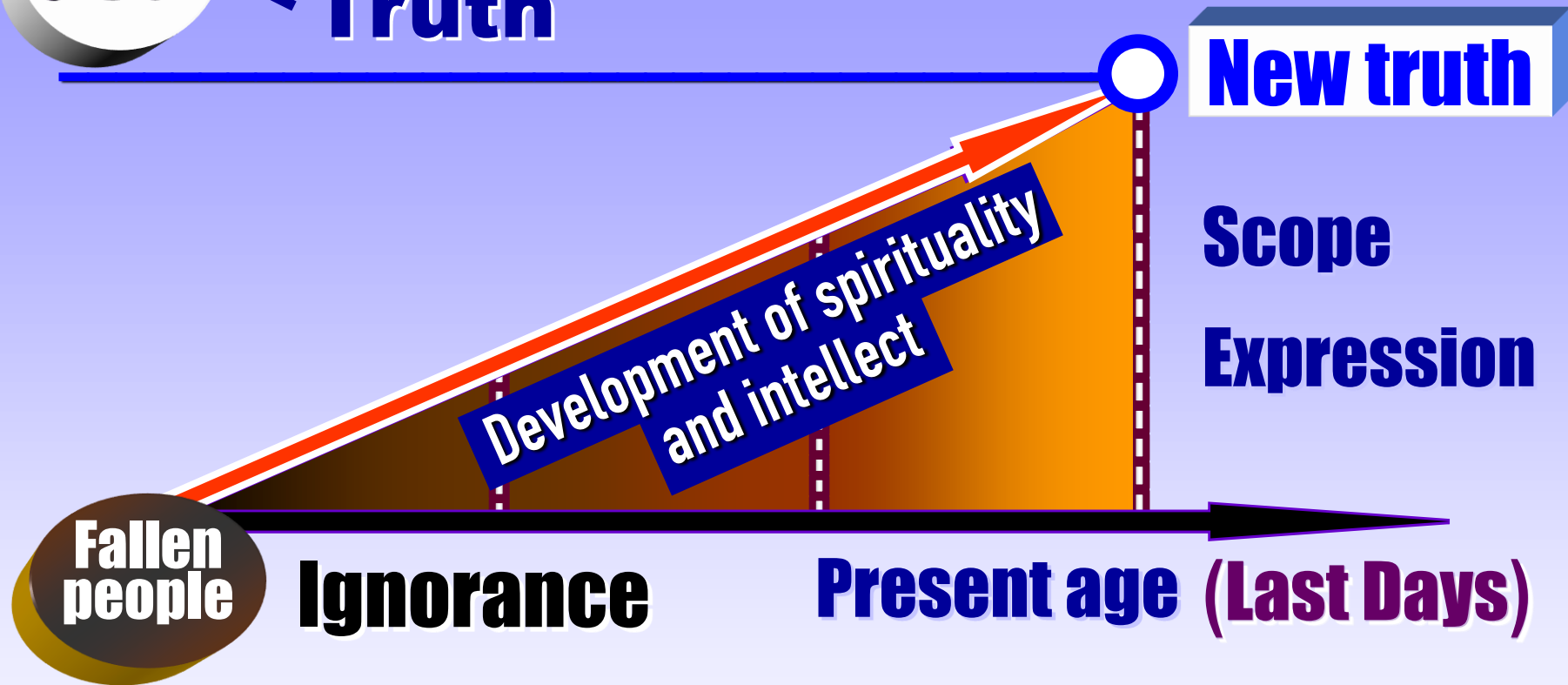
**Spirit
Truth**



- Spirit and truth are unique, eternal and unchanging. However, the degree and scope of their teaching and the means of their **expression** will vary from one age to another as they restore humankind from a state of utter ignorance (p.104).



**Spirit
Truth**



- For modern, intellectual people to be enlightened in the truth, there must appear another textbook of higher and richer content, with a more specific method of expression. We call this the new truth.

5.2 Our Attitude in the Last Days



Internal: anxiety, fear, and confusion

External: strife and battles

- Those who live in **this period** suffer internally from anxiety, fear and confusion due to the absence of a guiding ideology or philosophy. They suffer externally from strife and battles fought with fearsome weapons (p. 106).

5.2 Our Attitude in the Last Days



Internal: anxiety, fear, and confusion

External: strife and battles

- The new age sprouts and grows amidst the final phases of the old age and comes into conflict with that age (p. 107).

5.2 Our Attitude in the Last Days

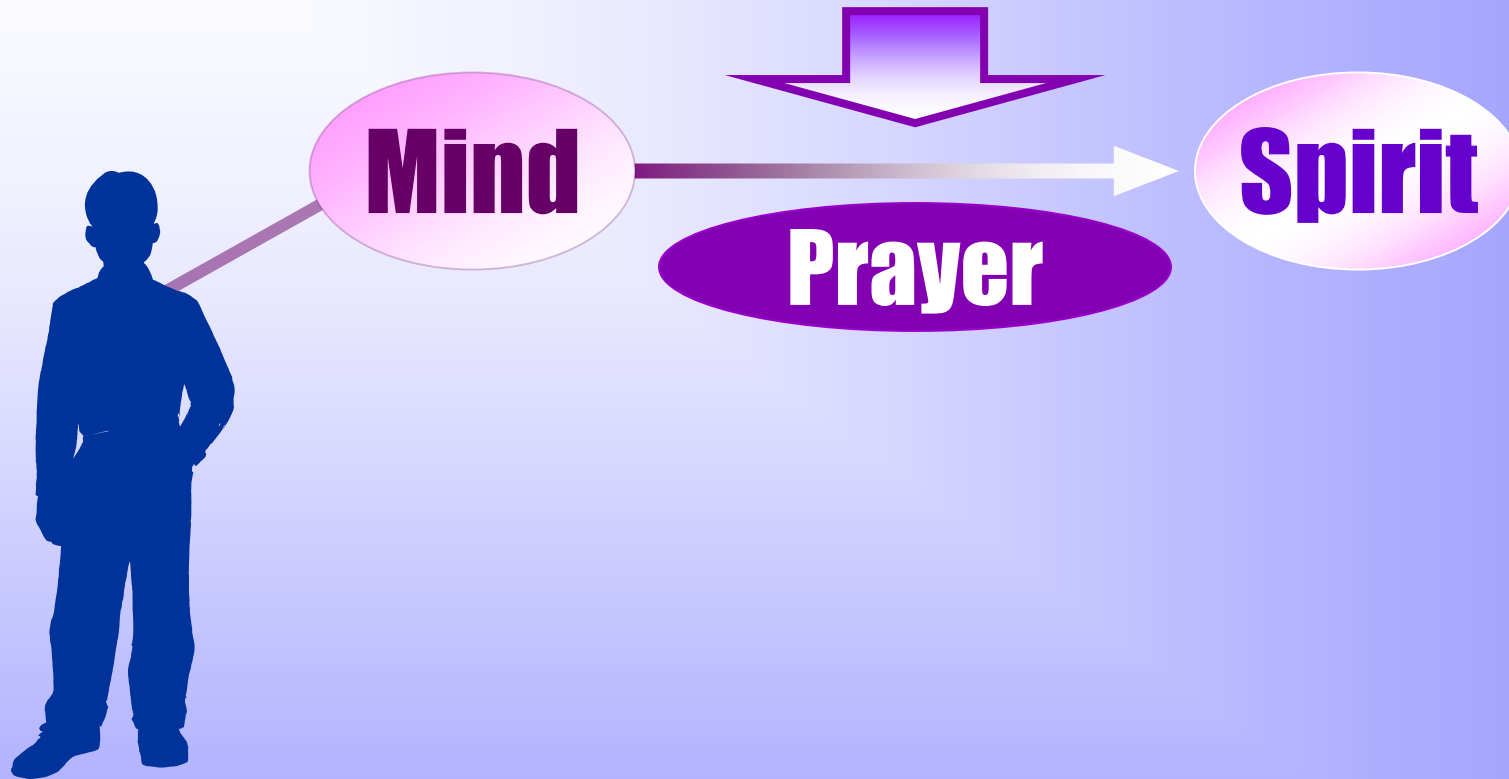


Internal: anxiety, fear, and confusion

External: strife and battles

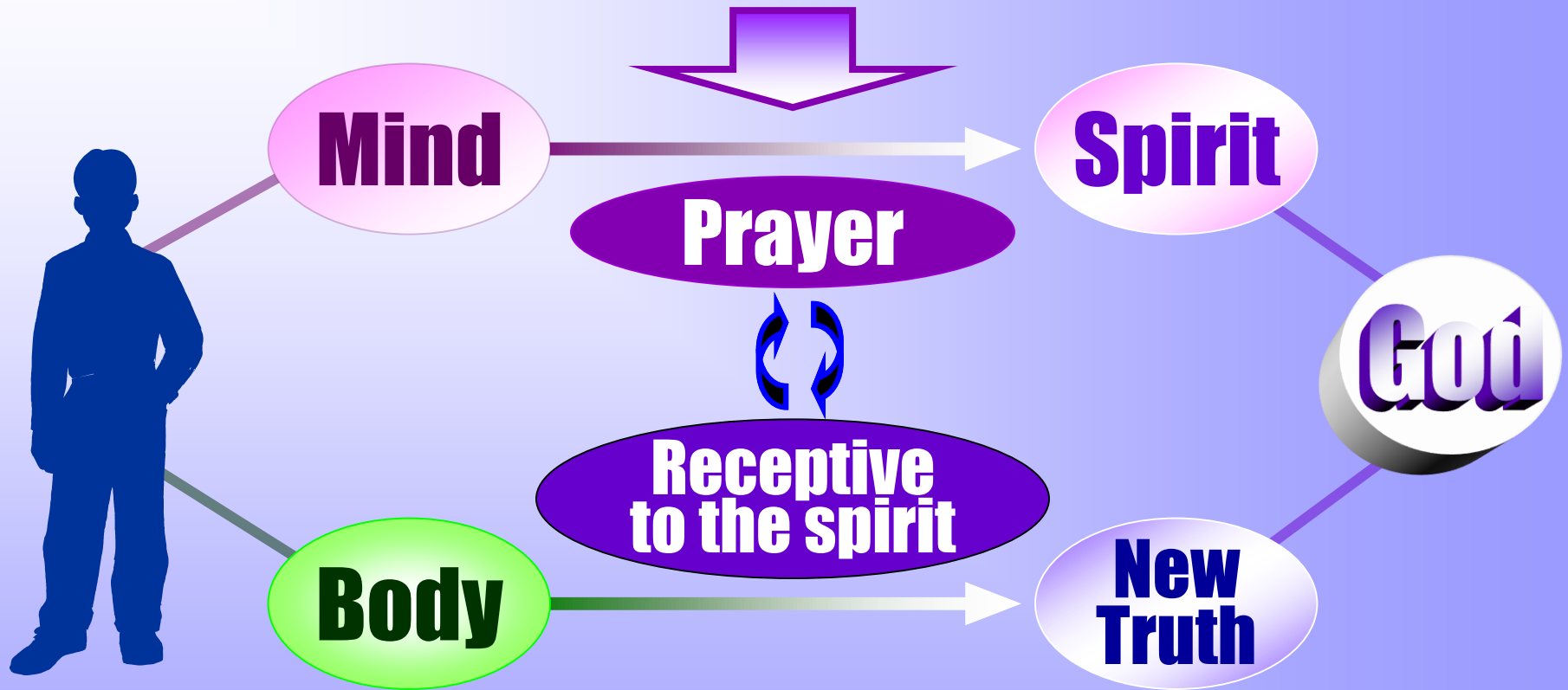
- Jesus came in such a way as to bewilder the faithful adherents of the Mosaic Law. He was ostracized by the Jewish people and eventually crucified.

People in the Last Days



- We are living in the Last Days. We should cultivate a humble heart (mind) and make the utmost effort to receive inspiration of spirit through prayer (p. 108).

People in the Last Days



- We should not be strongly attached to conventional concepts, but rather should direct ourselves (body) to be receptive to the spirit, in order that we may find the new truth which can guide us to the providence of the new age.

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