

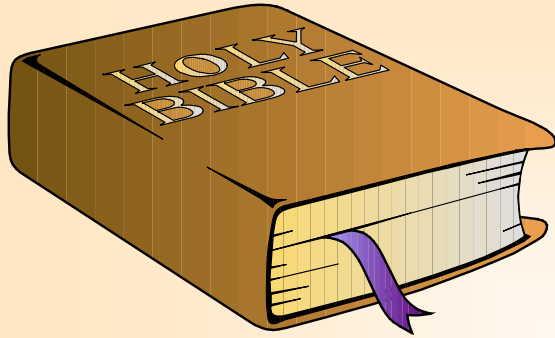
Chapter 5



Resurrection

chapter 5

Resurrection



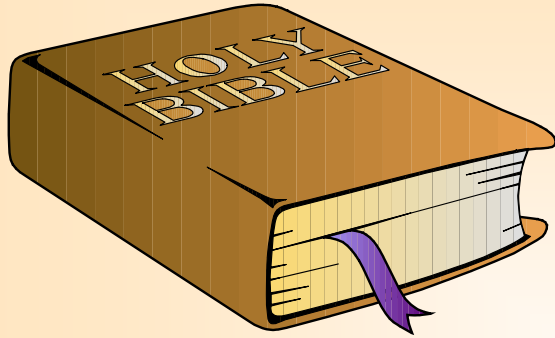
**The saints will come back
to life in the flesh**

(1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 27:52)

**“...And the dead in Christ
will rise first;**

1 Thess. 4:16

- If we are to believe literally the prophecies of Scripture, we should expect that when Jesus comes again, the deceased saints will come back to life in the flesh.



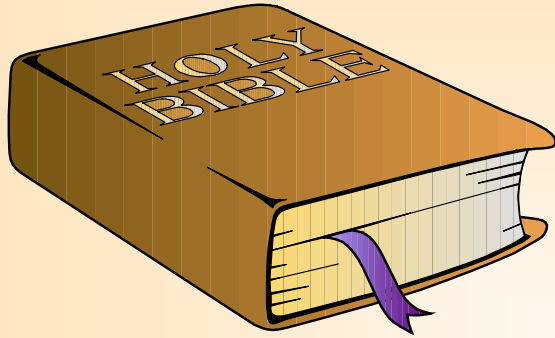
**The saints will come back
to life in the flesh**

(1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 27:52)

**the tombs also were opened,
and many bodies of the saints
who had fallen asleep were
raised,**

Matt. 27:52

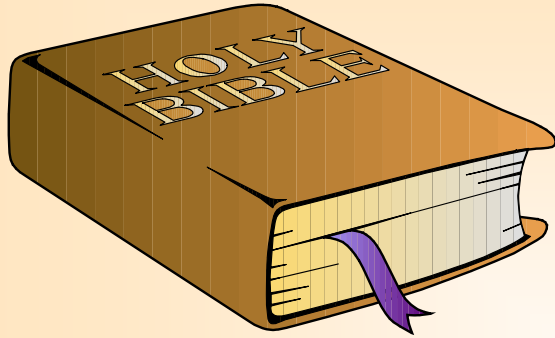
- If we are to believe literally the prophecies of Scripture, we should expect that when Jesus comes again, the deceased saints will come back to life in the flesh.



**The saints will come back
to life in the flesh**

(1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 27:52)

Their bodies, buried in the earth and completely decomposed, will be reconstituted to their original state (p. 133).



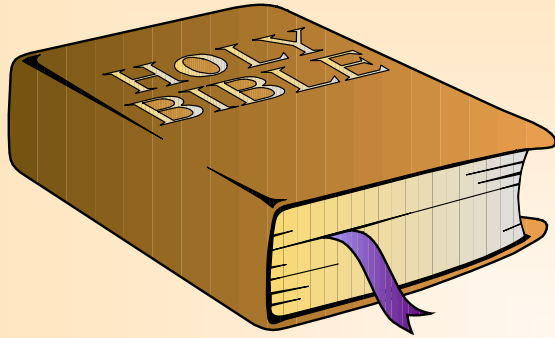
**The saints will come back
to life in the flesh**

(1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 27:52)



**Modern knowledge:
no rational sense**

- Given the **modern** state of our knowledge, these prophecies do not make rational sense. This brings great confusion to the Christian faith.



**The saints will come back
to life in the flesh**

(1 Thess. 4:16, Matt. 27:52)



**Modern knowledge:
no rational sense**



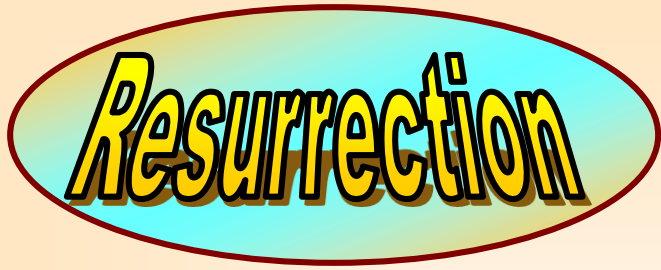
**True meaning
of resurrection**

- Therefore, it is important that we elucidate the **true** meaning of resurrection.



Section 1

Resurrection



To come back to life

- Resurrection means to come back to life. To come back to life implies that we have been dead.

Resurrection



To come back to life



**Biblical concepts
of life and death**

**Meaning
of resurrection**

- To fathom the meaning of resurrection, we must clarify the biblical concepts of life and death.

1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah

Leave the **dead** to bury their own **dead**

(**Luke 9:60**)

- Jesus said, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead.” (Luke 9:60).

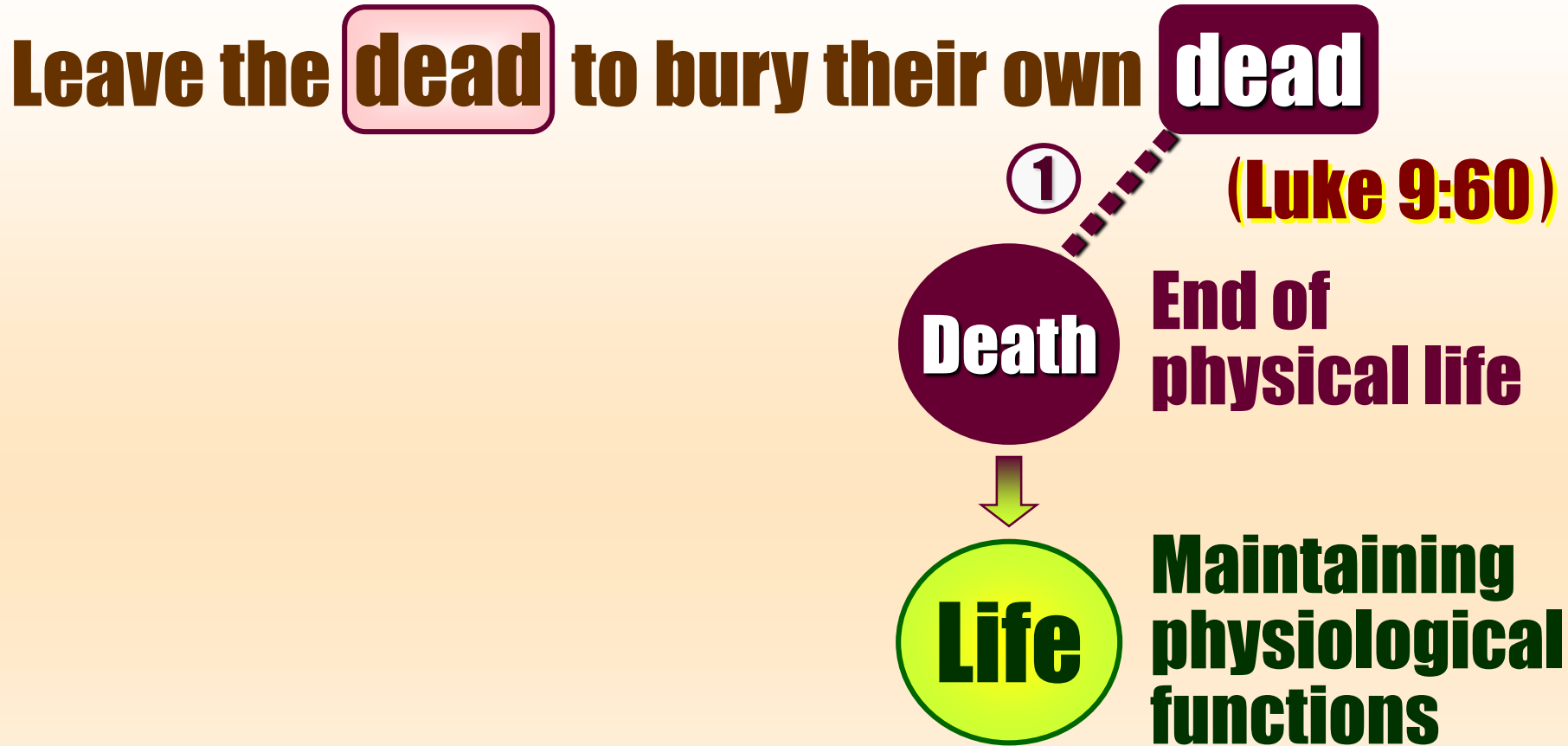
1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah

Leave the **dead** to bury their own **dead**

(**Luke 9:60**)

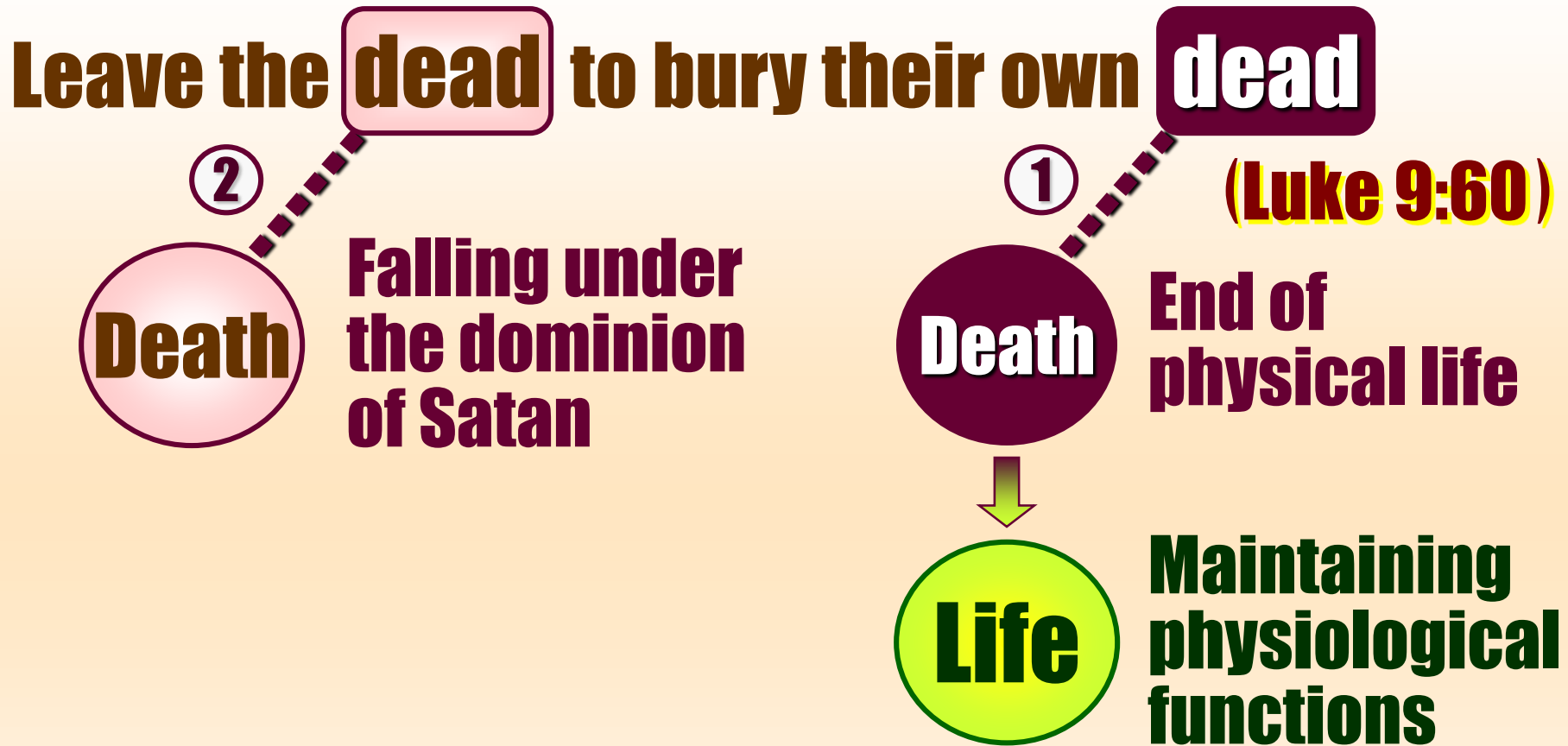
- From these words of Jesus, it is clear that the Bible contains two different concepts of life and death.

1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah



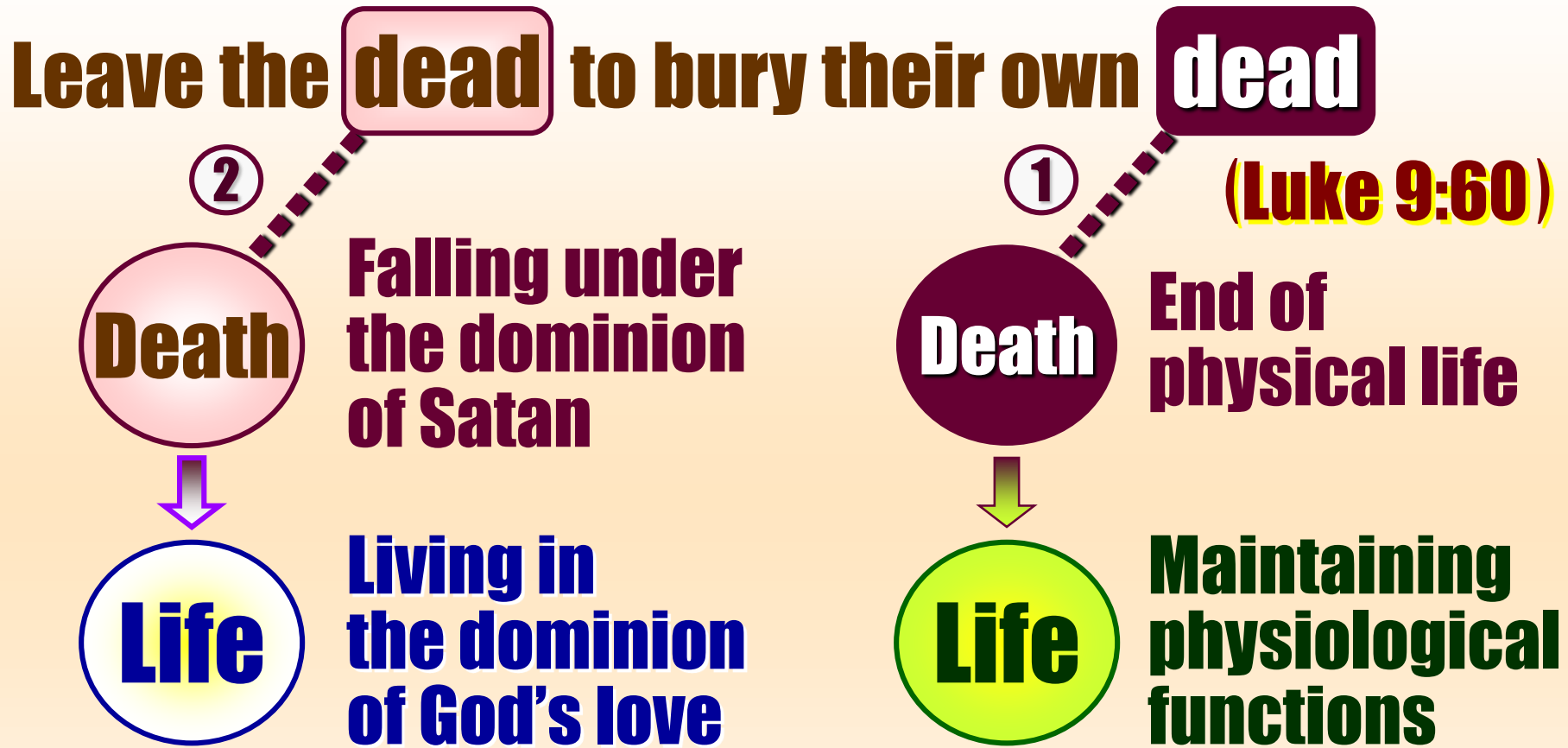
- ① First, “**death**” means the end of physical life, as was the case of the disciple’s deceased father who was to be buried. “Life” in that sense means the state in which the physical self maintains its physiological functions (p. 134).

1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah



- ② The second concept of life and death concerns those living people who had gathered to bury the deceased man; this **death** refers to leaving the bosom of God's love and falling under the dominion of Satan.

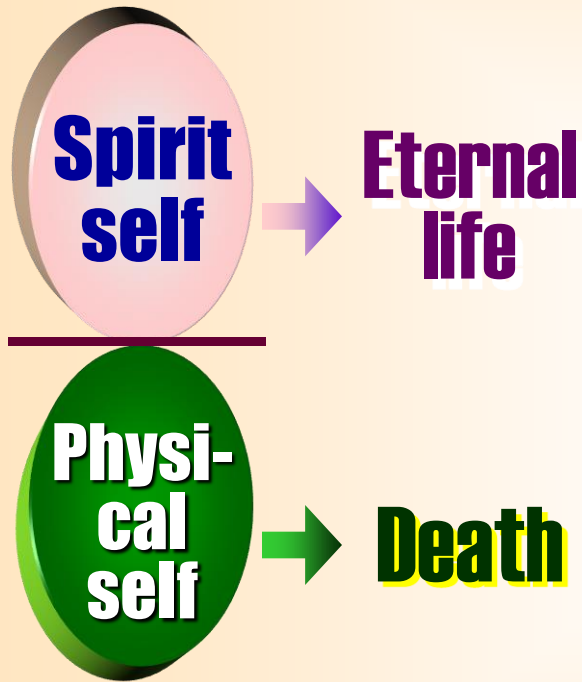
1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah



The corresponding concept of **life** refers to the state of living in accordance with God's Will, within the realm of dominion of God's infinite love.

1.2 The Death Caused by the Human Fall

Before the fall



- God created human beings to grow old and return to dust; physical death was allotted to human beings regardless of whether or not they fell. Only the **spirit** self enters the spirit world and lives there **eternally** (p. 135).

1.2 The Death Caused by the Human Fall

Before the fall

After the fall

“....for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Gen. 2:17

- Hence, the death caused by the Fall does not mean the end of physical life, but rather the descent into the evil dominion of Satan through eating the fruit (p. 136).

1.3 The Meaning of Resurrection

Life

**God's direct
dominion**

Fall



Death

**Satan's
dominion**

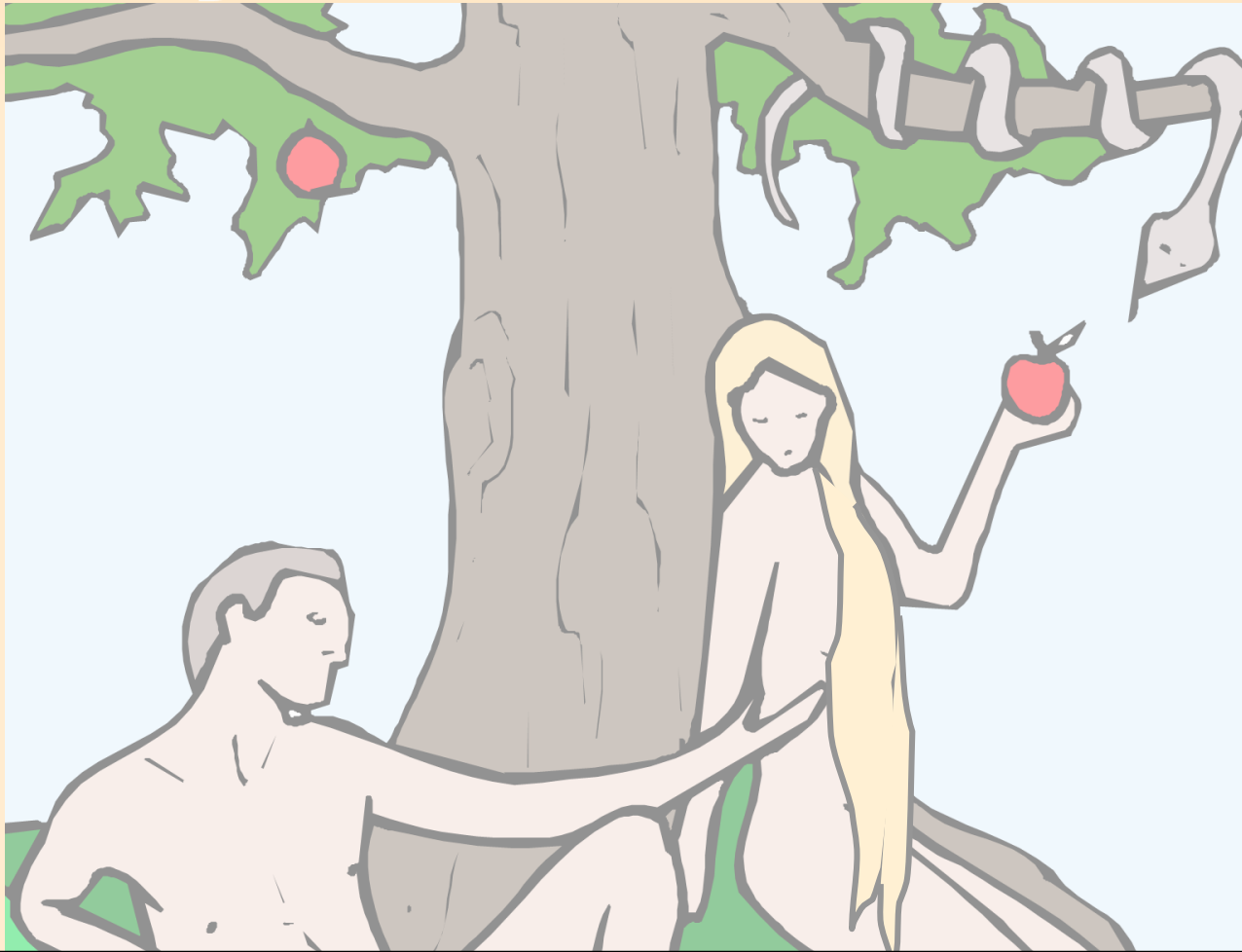


Resurrection

Process of restoration

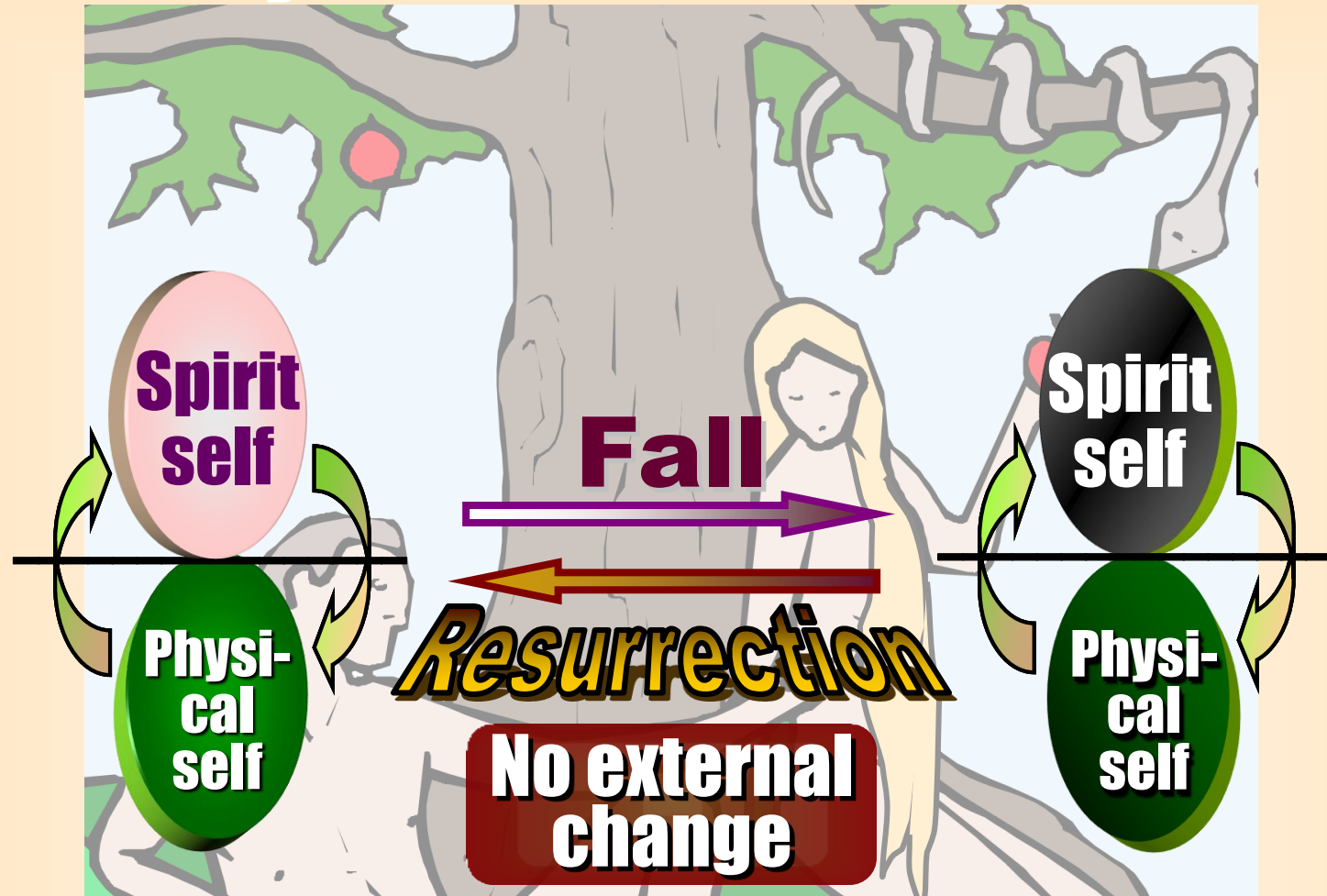
- Resurrection may be defined as the process of being restored from the **death** caused by the Fall to life, from the realm of Satan's dominion to the realm of God's direct dominion, through the providence of restoration.

1.4 What Changes Does Resurrection Cause in Human Beings?



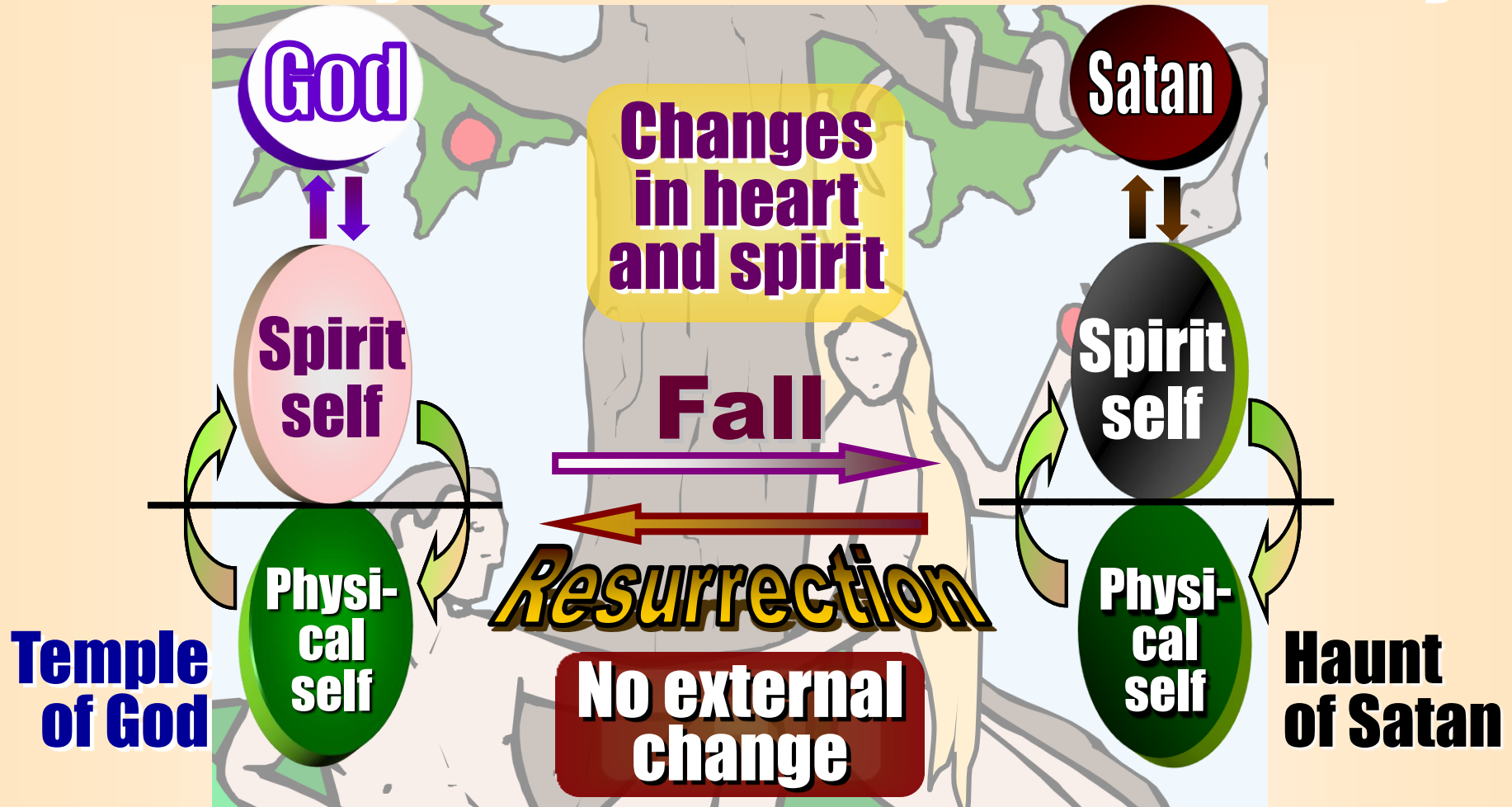
- Adam and Eve died when they ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Nevertheless, no significant external change took place in them (p. 137).

1.4 What Changes Does Resurrection Cause in Human Beings?



- Likewise, no significant external changes should be expected to take place in fallen people when they are resurrected to the state prior to the Fall.

1.4 What Changes Does Resurrection Cause in Human Beings?



- The changes a person experiences when he is resurrected and enters the governance of God take place in his heart and spirit. These internal changes also purify his body, transforming it from a haunt of Satan into a temple of God.



Section 2

The Providence of Resurrection

2.1 How Does God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection?

Providence of Resurrection = *Providence of Restoration* = *Providence of Re-creation*

Original human being

Resurrection

Fallen human being

- The providence of resurrection is the providence of restoration, and thus the providence of re-creation. Thus, the providence of resurrection is carried out in accordance with the Principle of Creation (p. 138):

2.1 How Does God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection?

Providence of Resurrection = *Providence of Restoration* = *Providence of Re-creation*

Original human being

① Merit of the age

Resurrection

Fallen human being

①

First, the merit of the age has increased in proportion to the foundation of heart laid by the prophets, sages and righteous people who came before us, and the subsequent generations benefit from the merit of the age.

2.1 How Does God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection?

Providence of Resurrection = *Providence of Restoration* = *Providence of Re-creation*

Original human being

Resurrection

Fallen human being

- ① **Merit of the age**
- ② **Believe and practice the Word**

- ② Second, God's responsibility is to give us His Word and guidance, and our responsibility is to believe and practice it.

2.1 How Does God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection?

Providence of Resurrection = *Providence of Restoration* = *Providence of Re-creation*

Original human being

Resurrection

Fallen human being

- ① Merit of the age
- ② Believe and practice the Word
- ③ Earthly Life

- ③ Third, the resurrection of a spirit can be achieved only through earthly life, in the physical self.

2.1 How Does God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection?

Providence of Resurrection = *Providence of Restoration* = *Providence of Re-creation*

Original human being

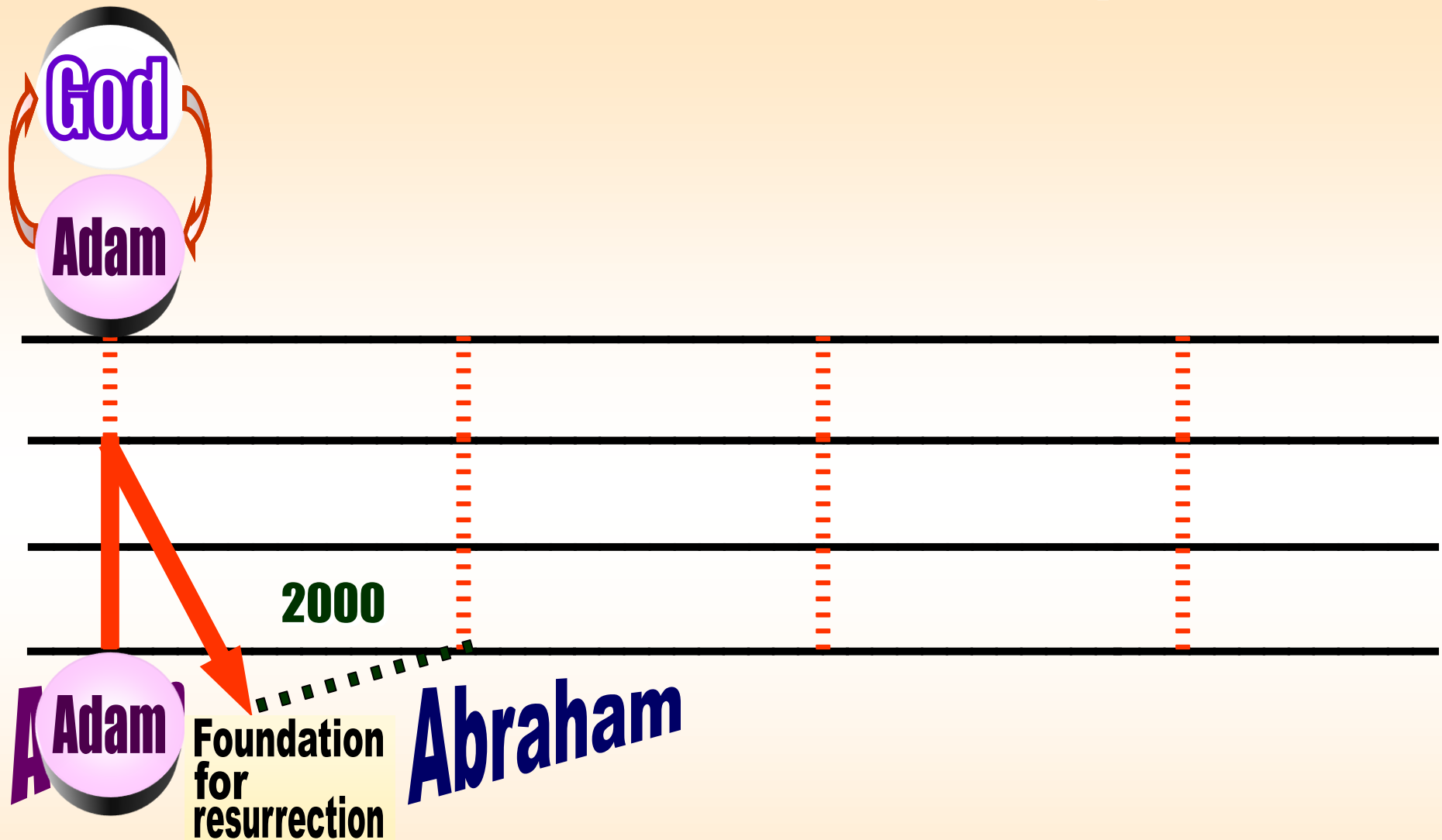
Resurrection

Fallen human being

- ① Merit of the age
- ② Believe and practice the Word
- ③ Earthly Life
- ④ Three ordered stages

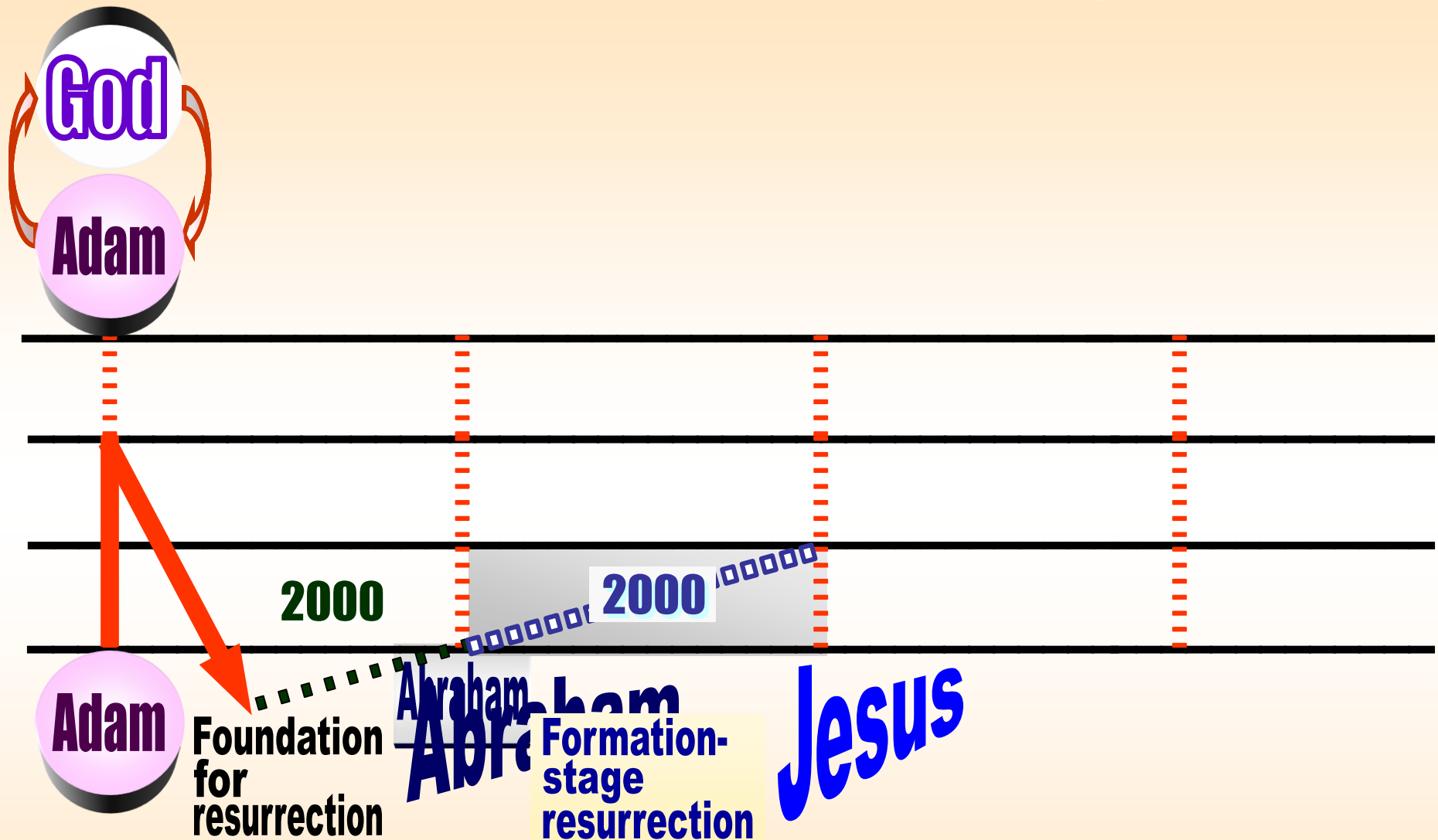
- ④ Fourth, the providence of resurrection is to be completed through three ordered stages.

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



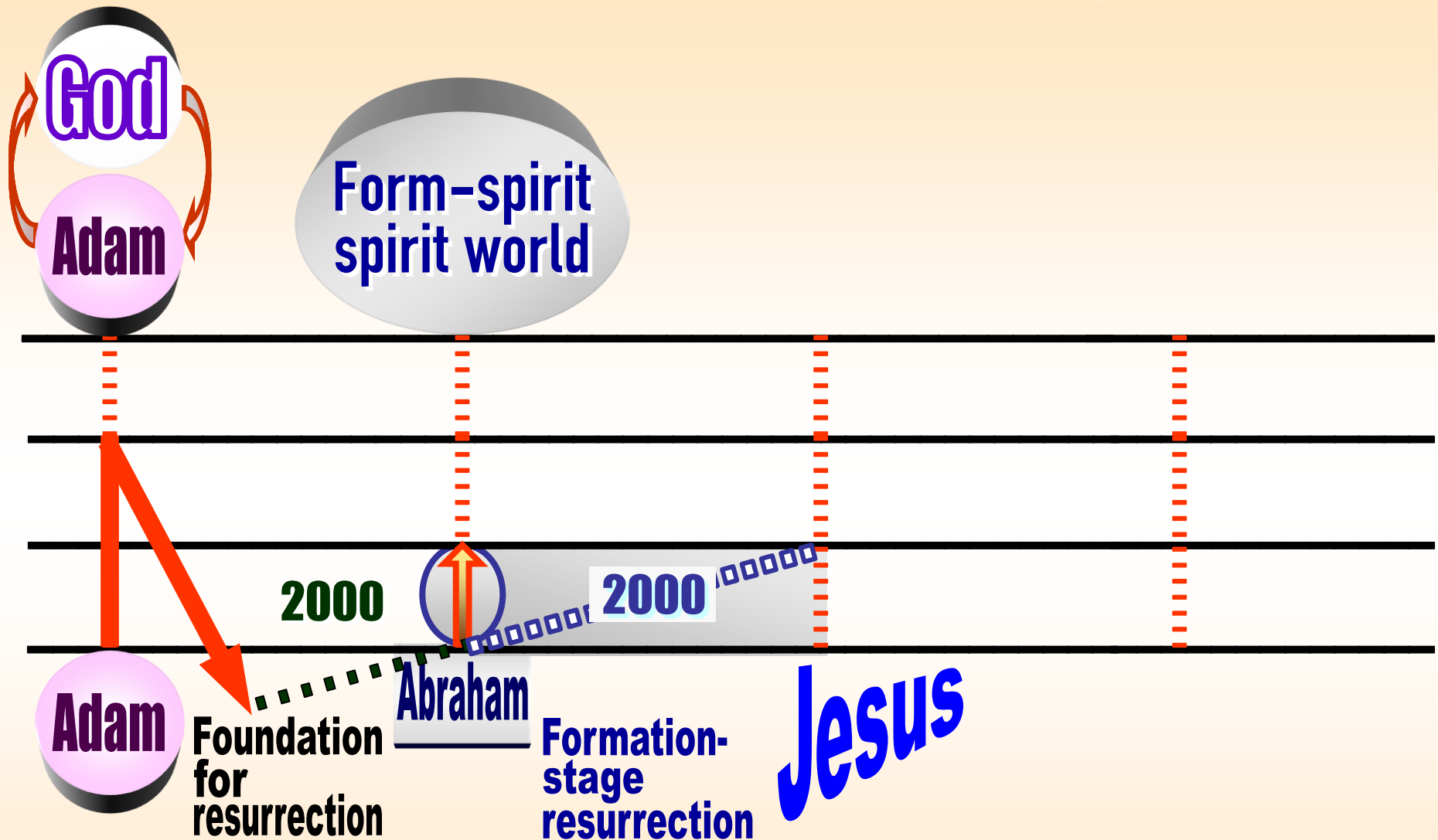
- The two thousand years from Adam to Abraham may be called the age of the providence to lay the foundation for resurrection (p. 139).

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



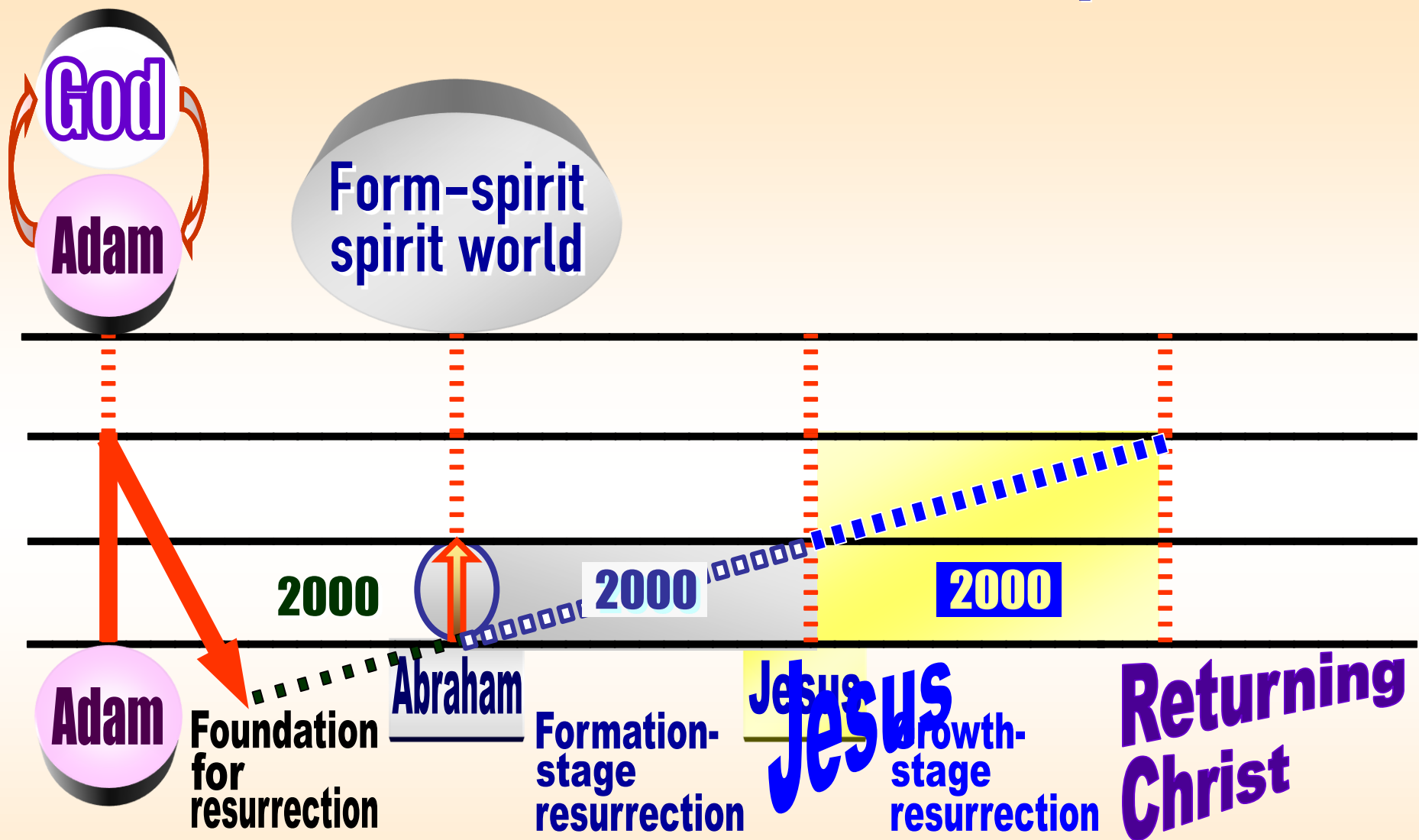
- The two thousand years from Abraham to Jesus may be called the age of the providence of formation-stage resurrection (age of justification by works).

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



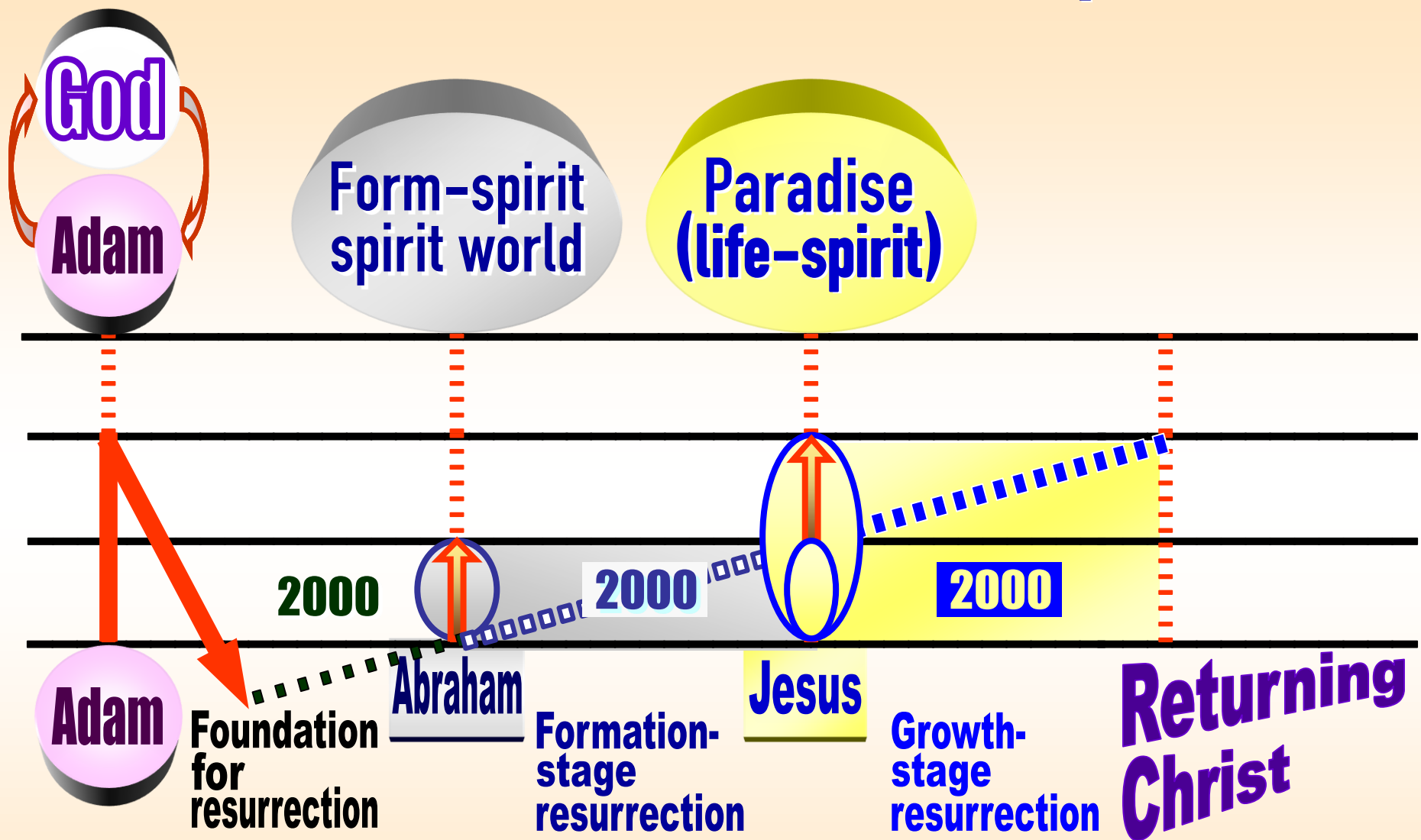
Upon their death, the believers of **this era** entered and abided in the form-spirit level of the spirit world.

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



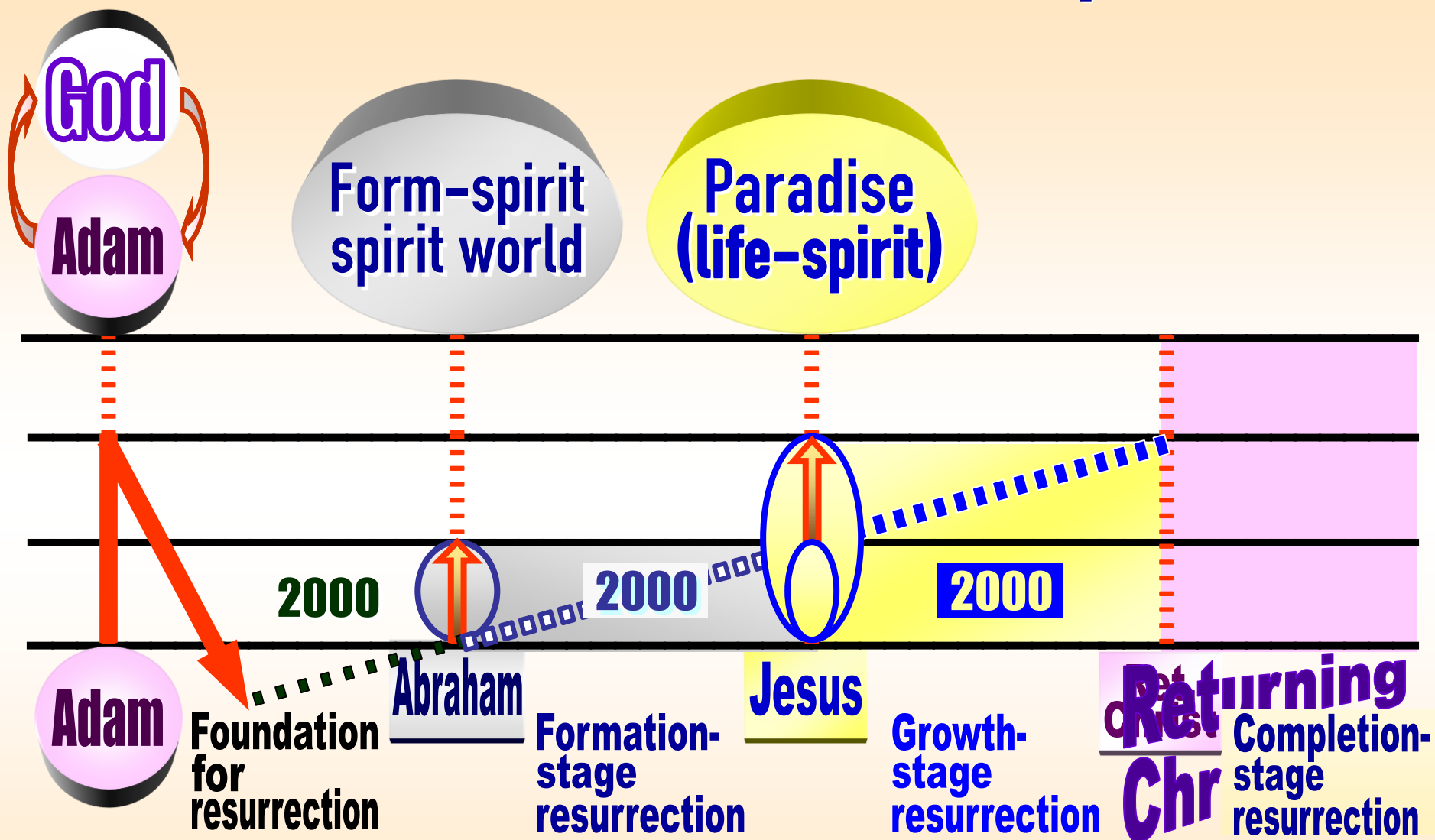
- The two thousand years from Jesus to the returning Christ may be called the age of the providence of growth-stage resurrection (age of justification by faith).

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



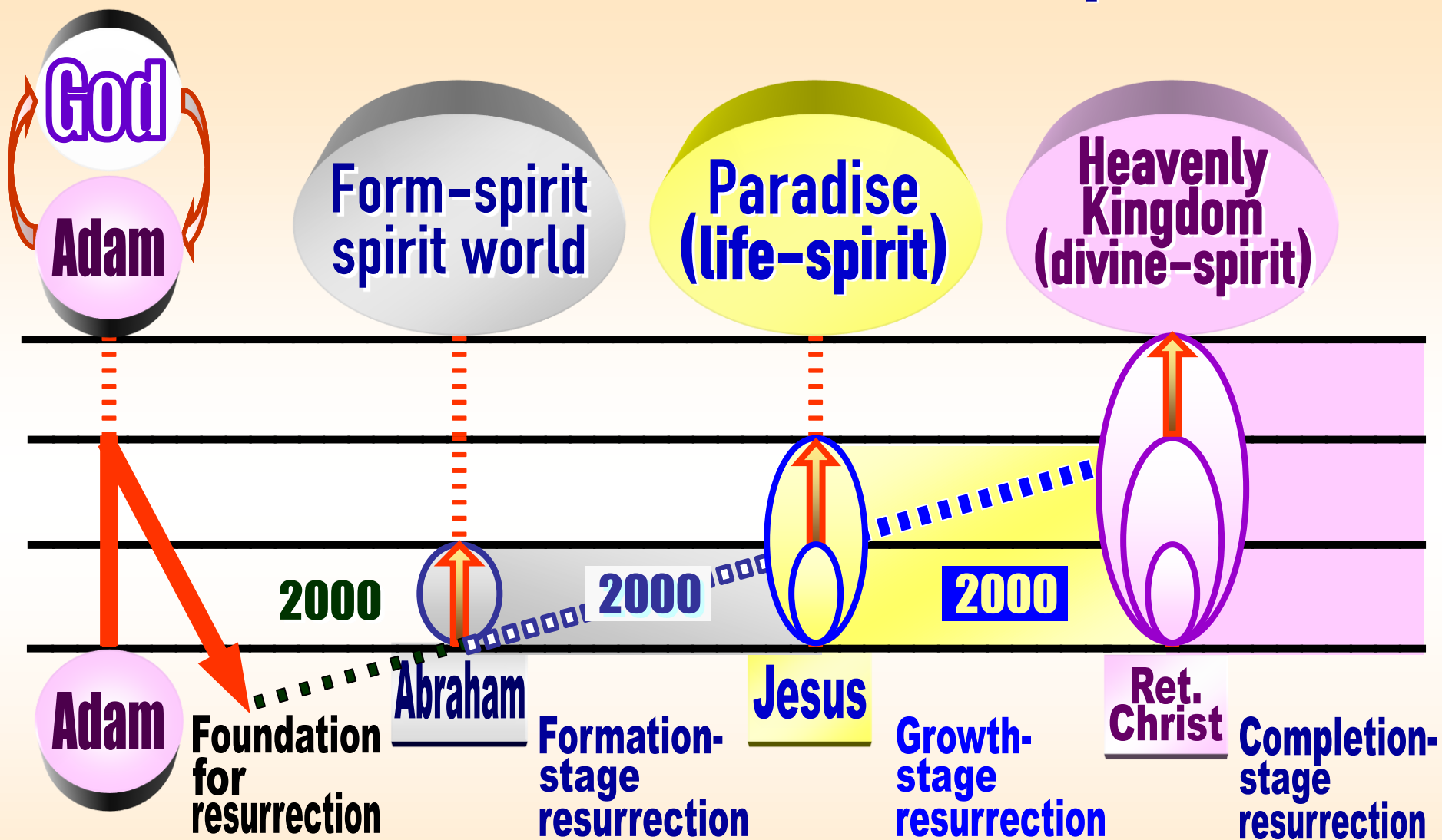
Upon their death, the believers of **this era** enter and abide in Paradise, the life-spirit level of the spirit world.

2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



- The era when people are to complete the providence of resurrection through the returning Christ is called the age of the providence of completion-stage resurrection (age of justification by attendance).

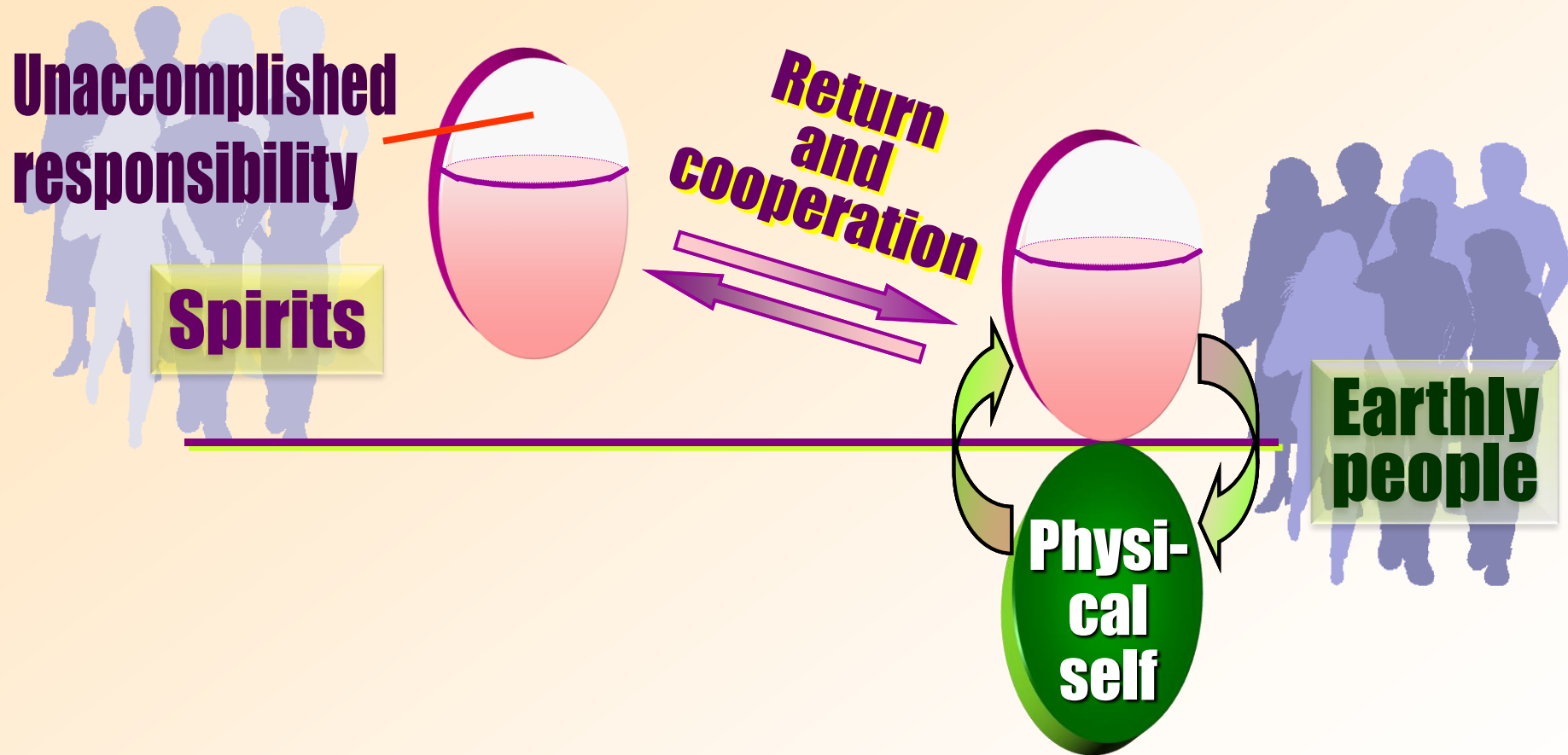
2.2 The Providence of Resurrection for People on Earth



Upon their death, the believers of **this era** will enter and abide in the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven, which is the divine-spirit level of the spirit world (p. 140).

2.3 The Providence of Resurrection for Spirits

2.3.1 Purpose and Way of Returning Resurrection



- The spirits of people who died before they could reach perfection during their earthly life can be resurrected only by returning to earth and completing their unaccomplished responsibility through cooperation with earthly people (p. 144).

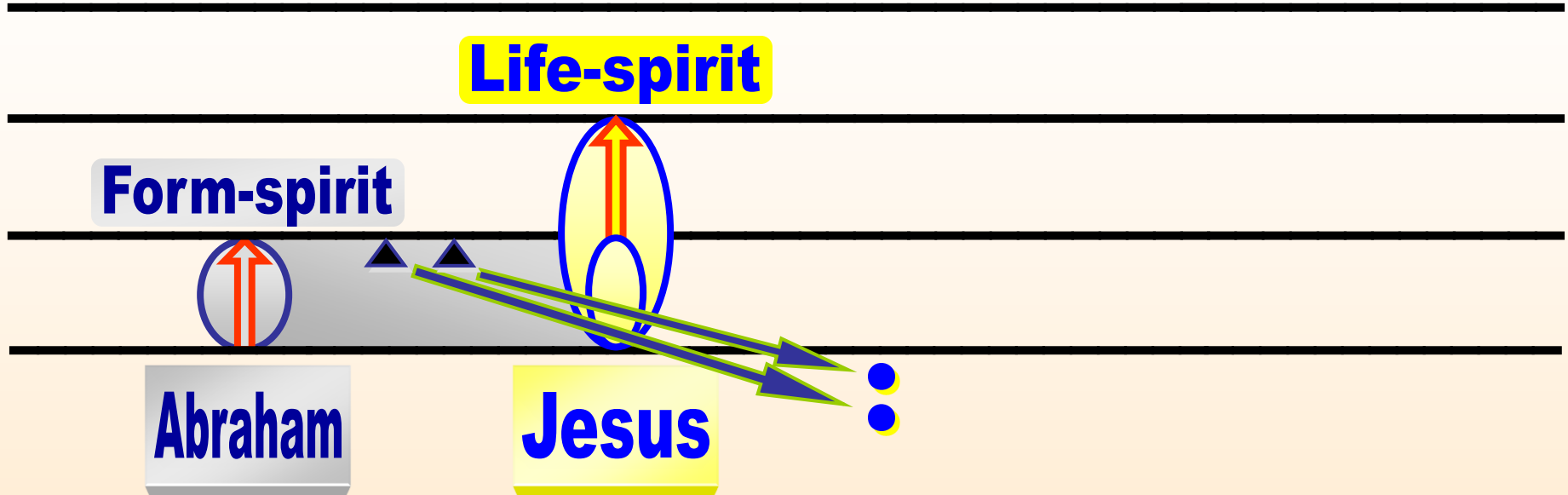
2.3 The Providence of Resurrection for Spirits

2.3.1 Purpose and Way of Returning Resurrection



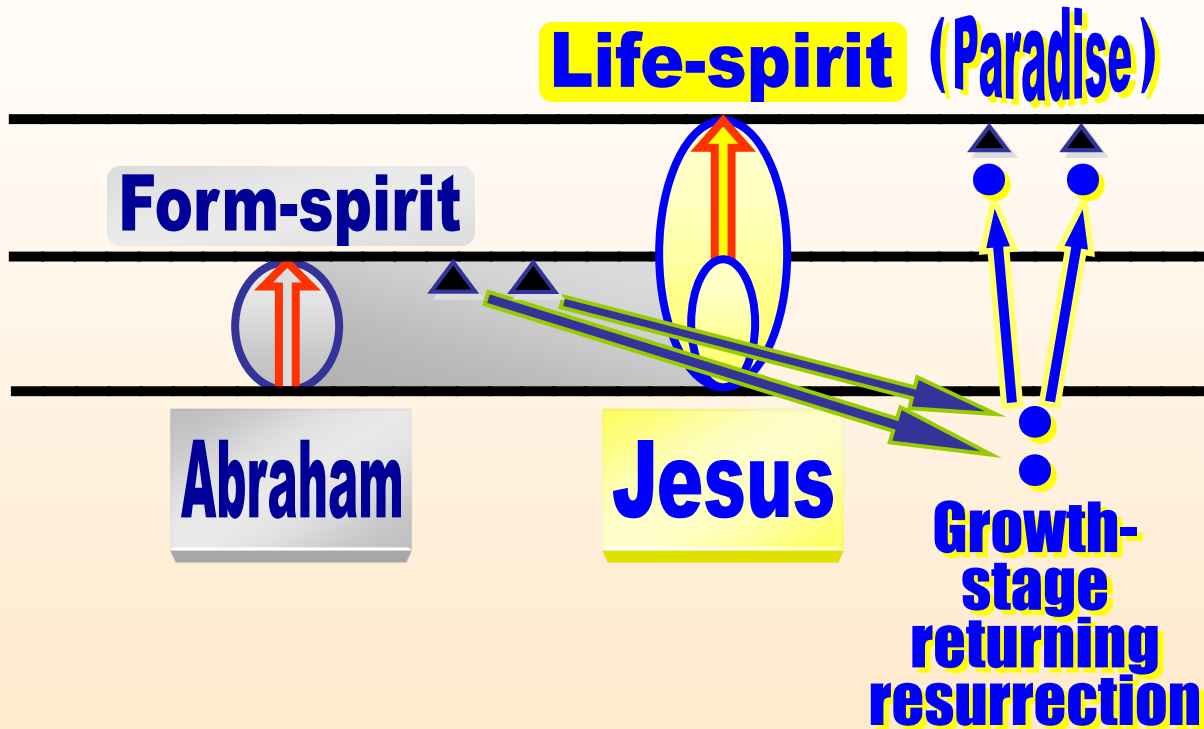
- We call this process returning resurrection (p. 145).

2.3.2 The Returning Resurrection of the Spirits of Israelites and Christians



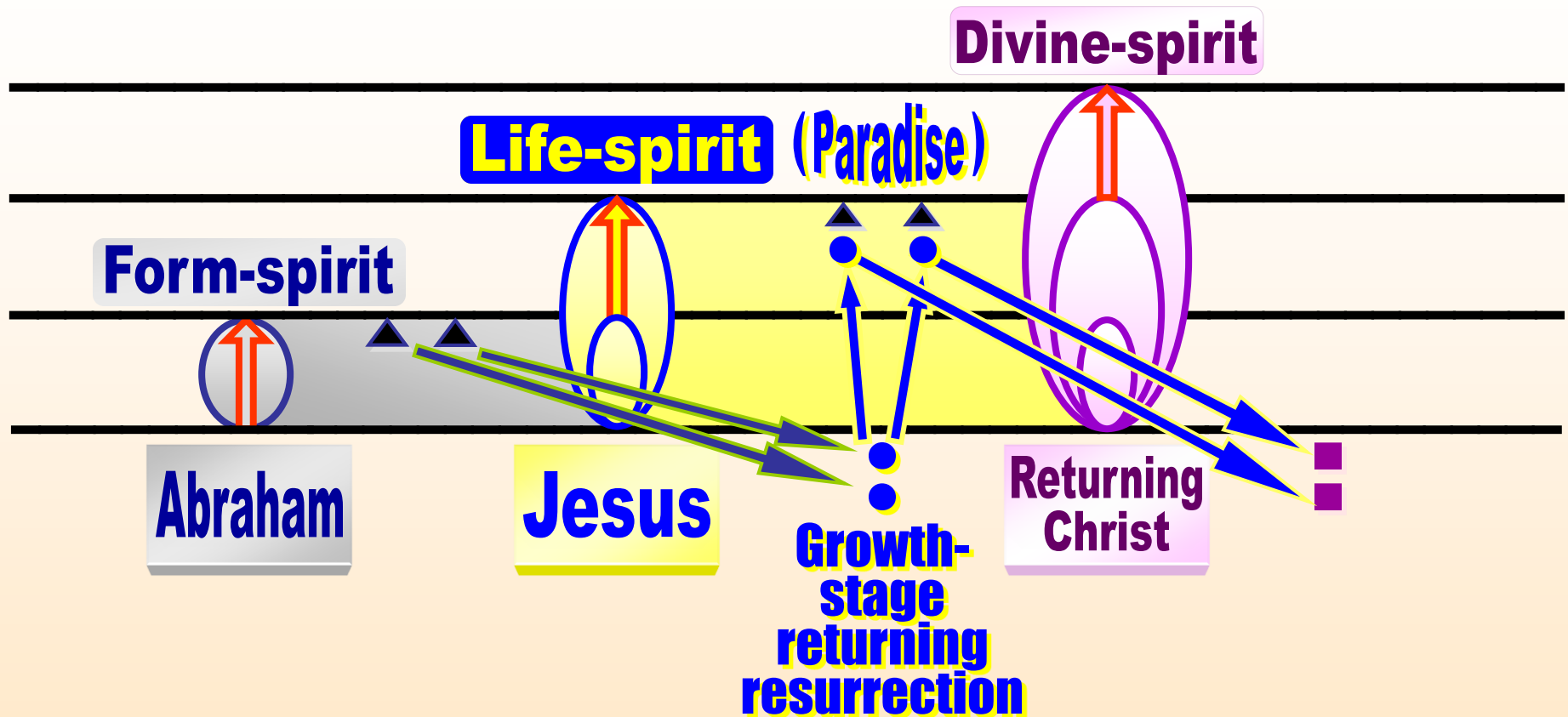
- After the advent of Jesus, the form spirits of the Old Testament age (▲) all returned to earth and assisted faithful people on earth (●) to attain the level of life spirit.

2.3.2 The Returning Resurrection of the Spirits of Israelites and Christians



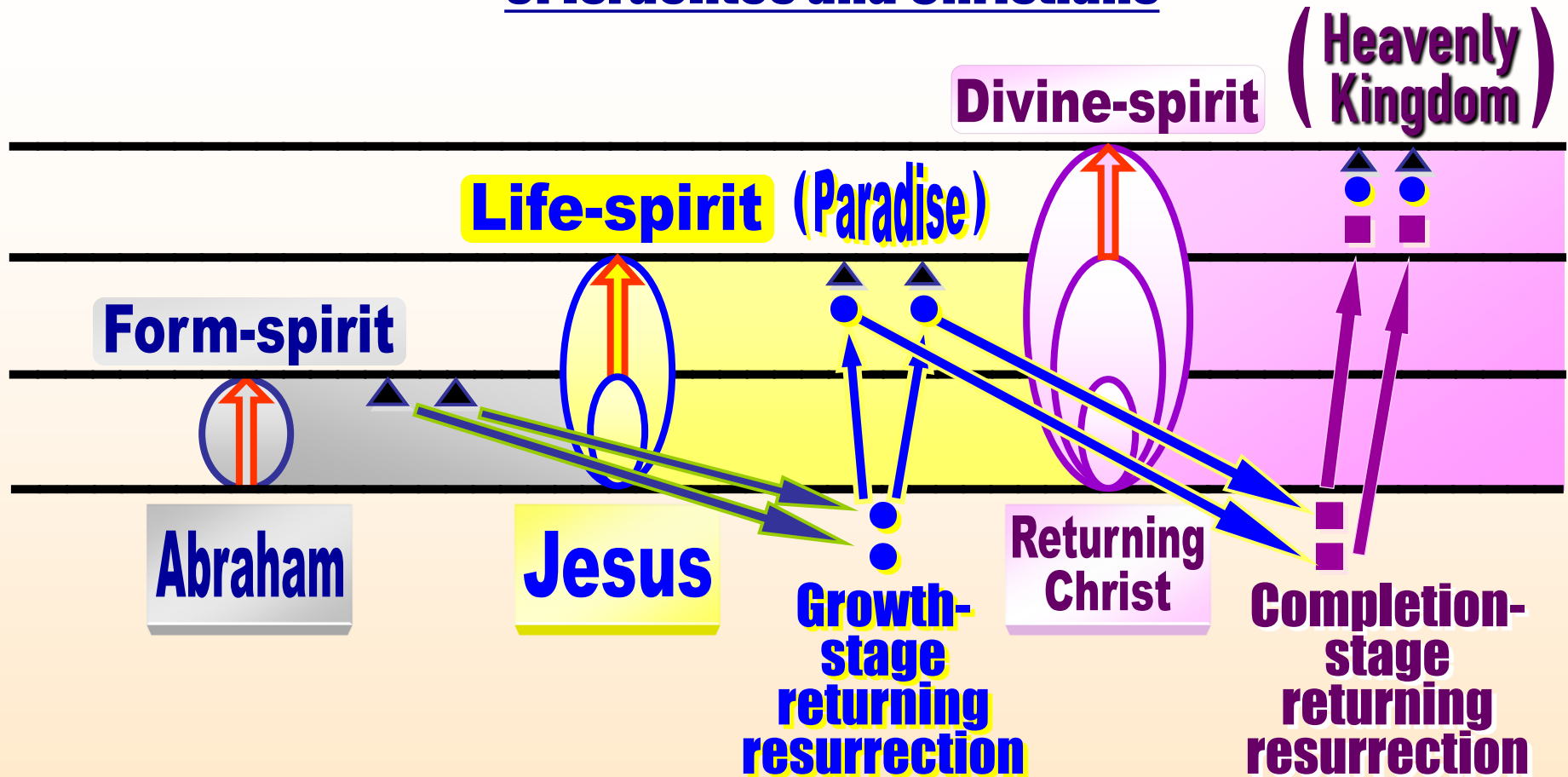
By this, they too received the same benefit: they entered Paradise together. We call this growth-stage-returning resurrection.

2.3.2 The Returning Resurrection of the Spirits of Israelites and Christians



- After the Second Advent, the life spirits of the New Testament Age (●) will all return to the earth to help faithful people on earth (■) to attain the level of divine spirit.

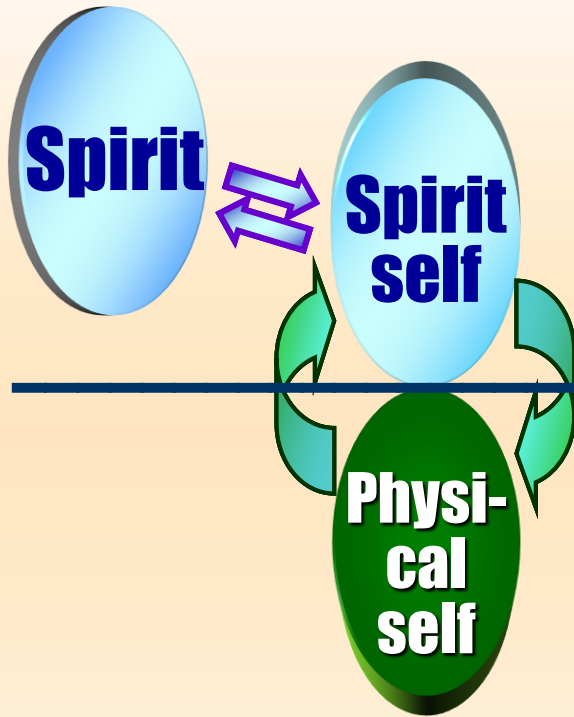
2.3.2 The Returning Resurrection of the Spirits of Israelites and Christians



By this, they too will receive the same benefit and enter the heavenly kingdom together. We call this completion-stage-returning resurrection (p. 146).

2.3.3 The Returning Resurrection of Spirits Who Abide Outside of Paradise

Spirits of other religions

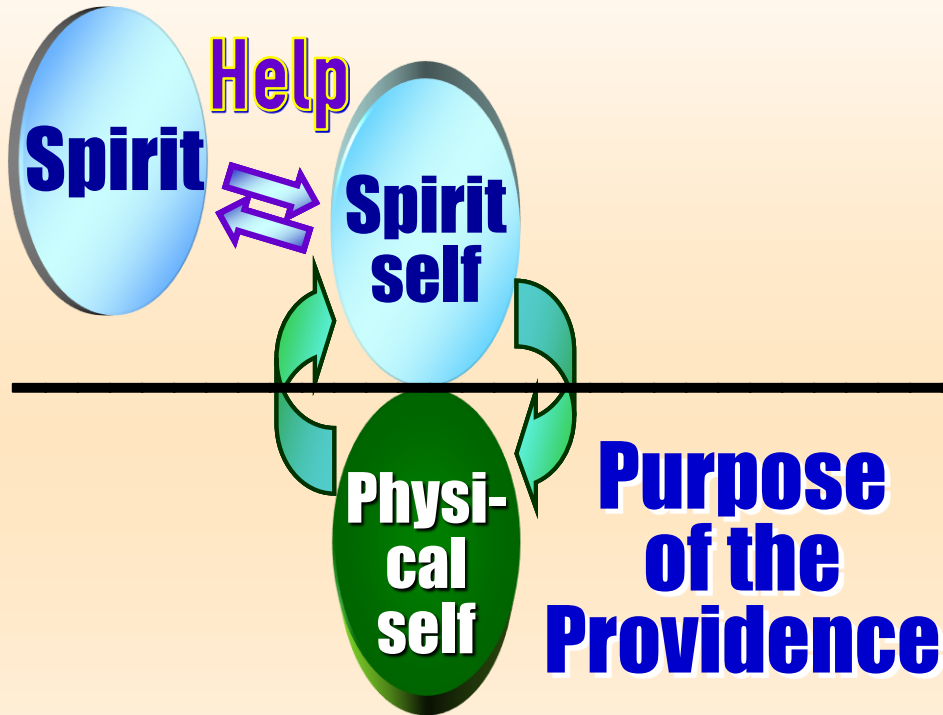


People of the same religion

- A spirit who believed in religions other than Christianity during his lifetime **seeks a counterpart** among the earthly people of the same religion as he believed during his earthly life. He descends to the person of his choice and guides him.

2.3.3 The Returning Resurrection of Spirits Who Abide Outside of Paradise

Spirits of other religions

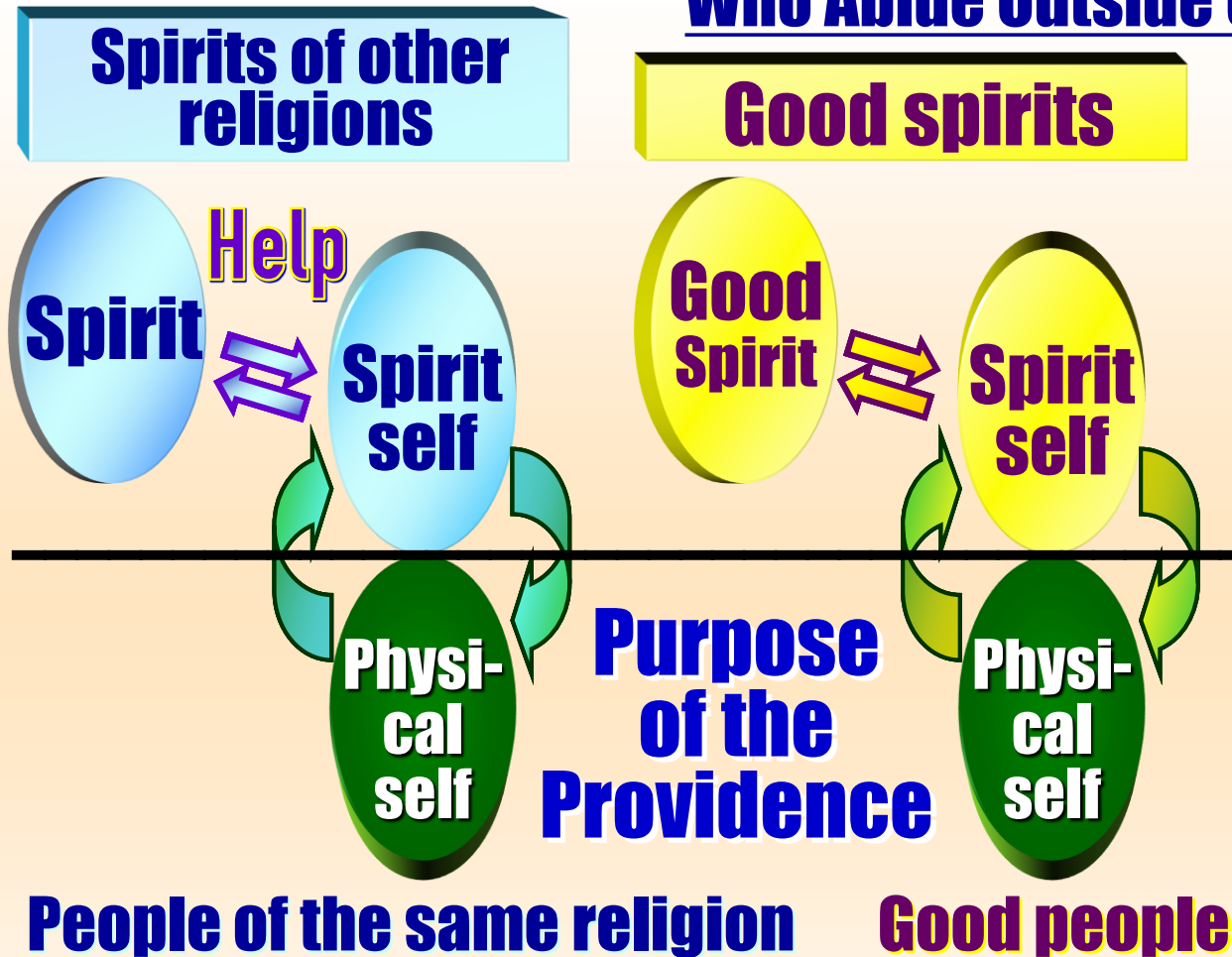


People of the same religion

When he helps that person fulfill the purpose of the providence of restoration, they both receive the same benefit (p. 147).

2.3.3 The Returning Resurrection of Spirits

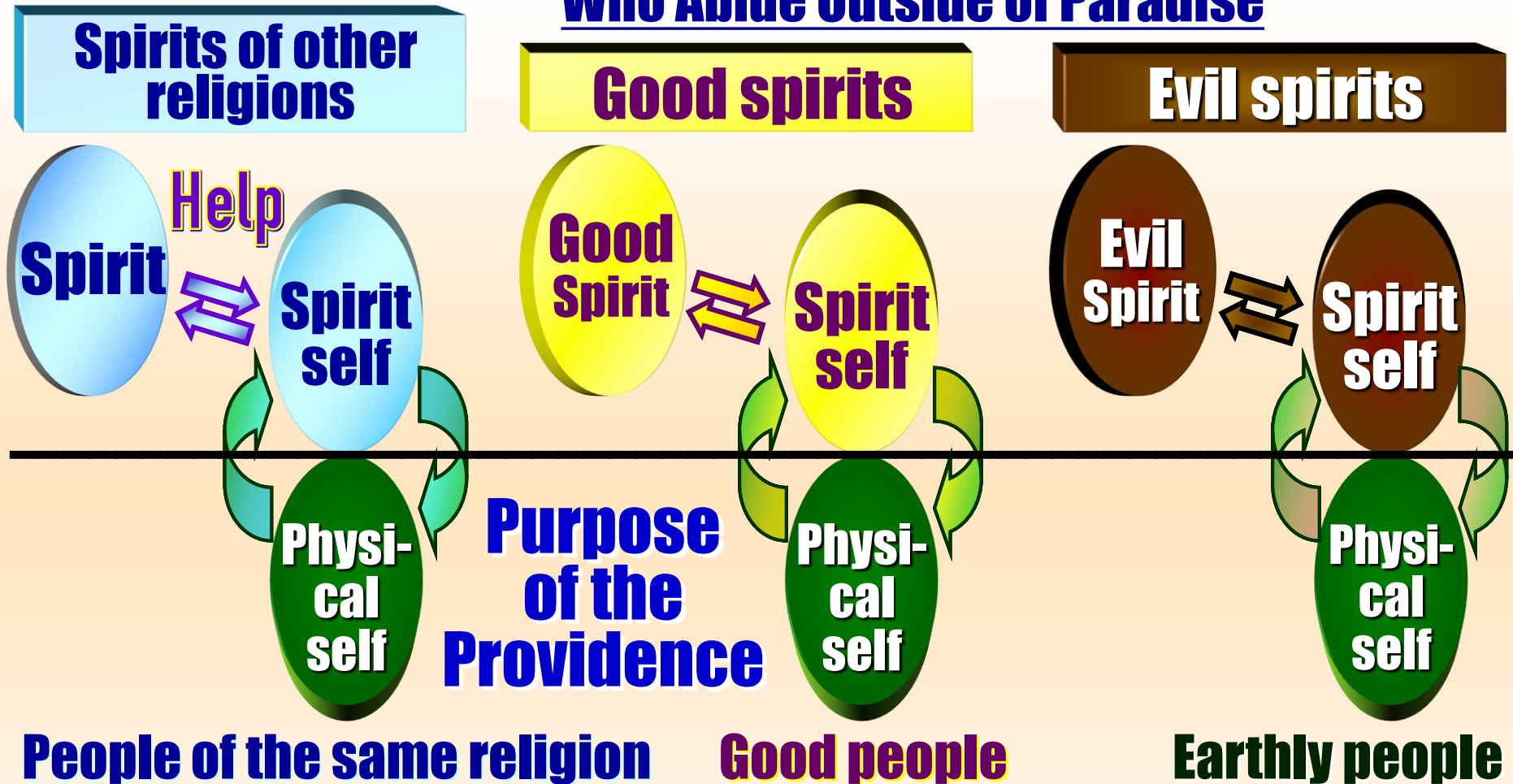
Who Abide Outside of Paradise



- Good spirits who lived a conscientious life descend to good people on earth and cooperate with them. In the process, the spirits receive the same benefits as the people they have helped.

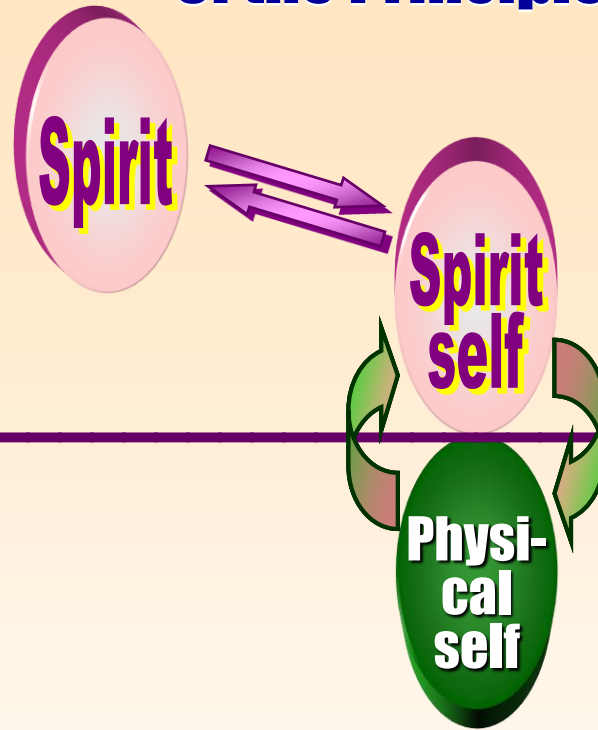
2.3.3 The Returning Resurrection of Spirits

Who Abide Outside of Paradise



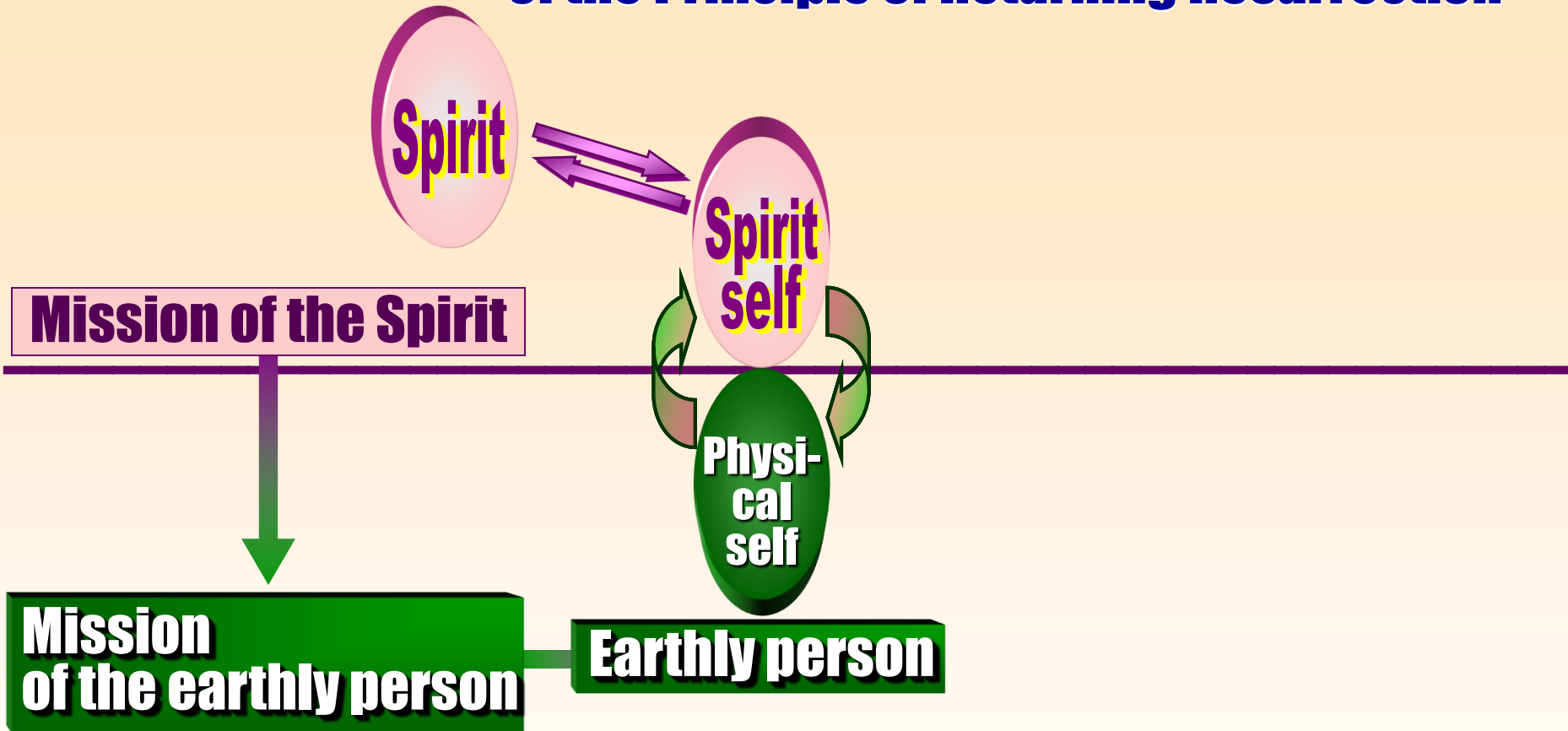
- In order for evil spirits to receive the benefit of returning resurrection, their works must have the effect of punishing earthly people to help them make conditions to indemnify their failures, which have frustrated God's past efforts to cleanse them of their sins (p. 148).

2.4 The Theory of Reincarnation Examined in Light of the Principle of Returning Resurrection



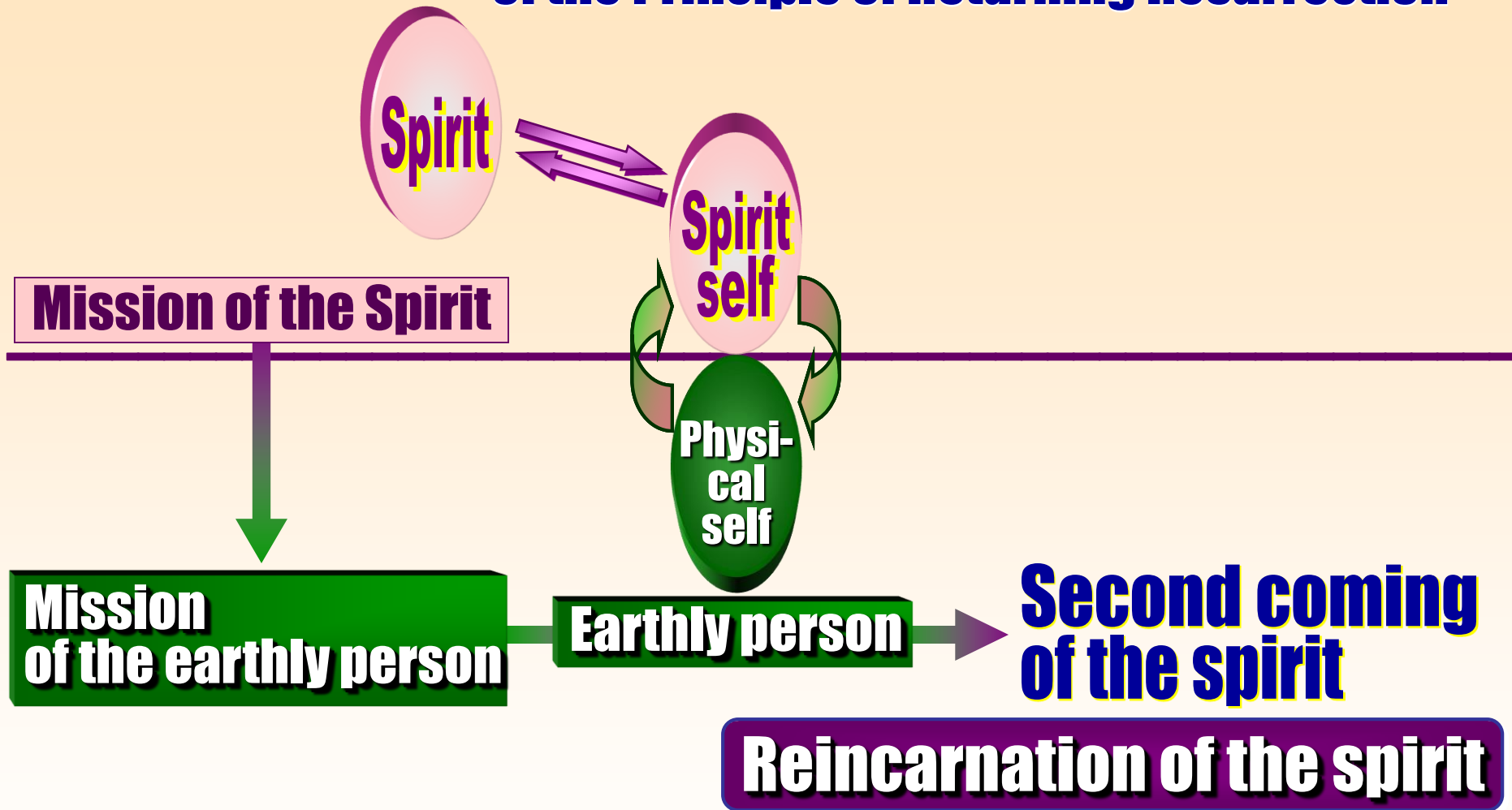
- Spirits who could not complete their missions during their earthly life must return to people on earth who share the same type of mission as they had during their lifetime (p. 149).

2.4 The Theory of Reincarnation Examined in Light of the Principle of Returning Resurrection



- When a spirit assists an **earthly** person to fulfill God's Will, the person will fulfill not only his own mission, but also the mission of the spirit who has helped him.

2.4 The Theory of Reincarnation Examined in Light of the Principle of Returning Resurrection



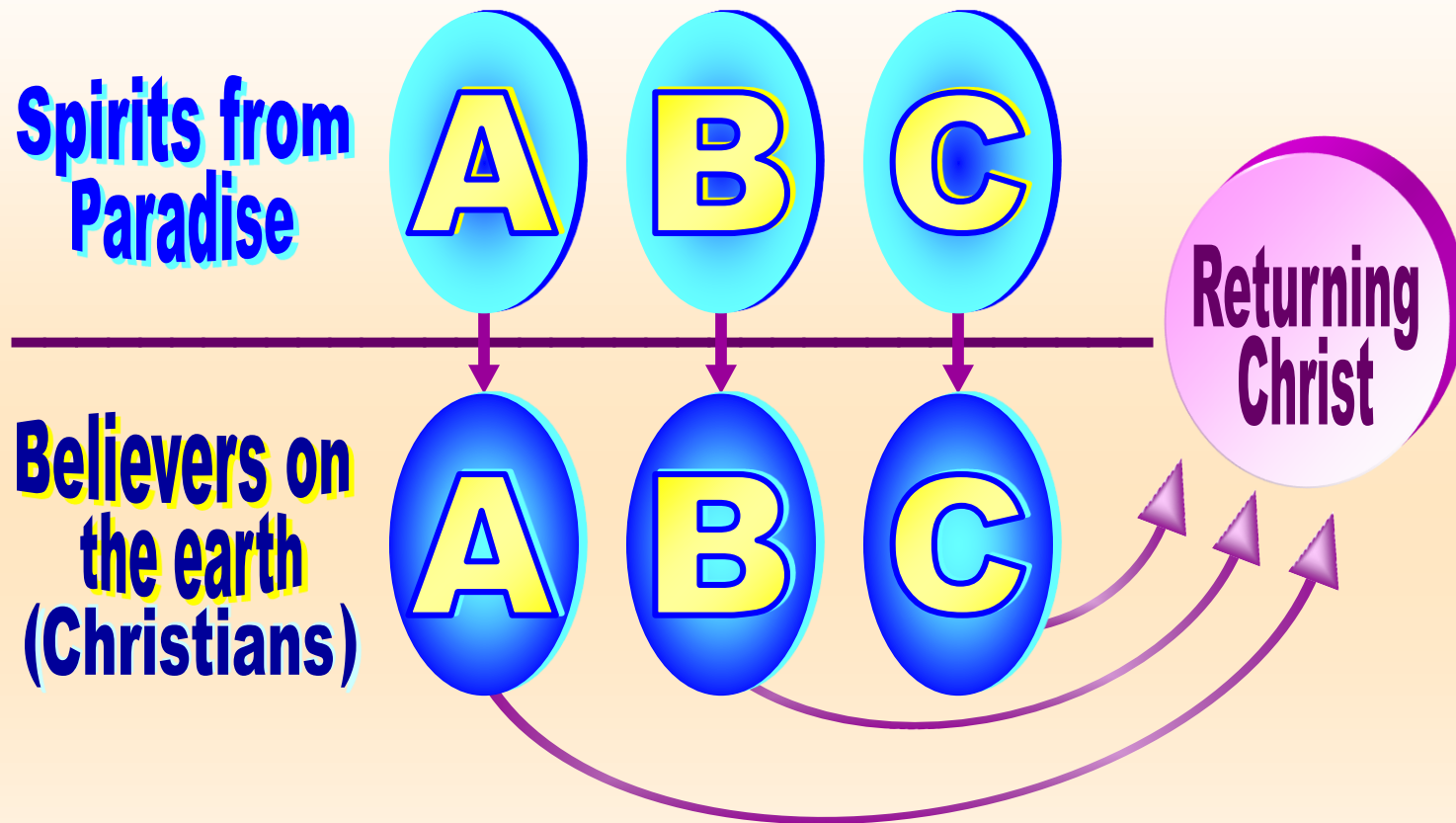
- Hence this earthly person may sometimes be called by the spirit's name (second coming of the spirit) and appear to be the reincarnation of that spirit.



Section 3

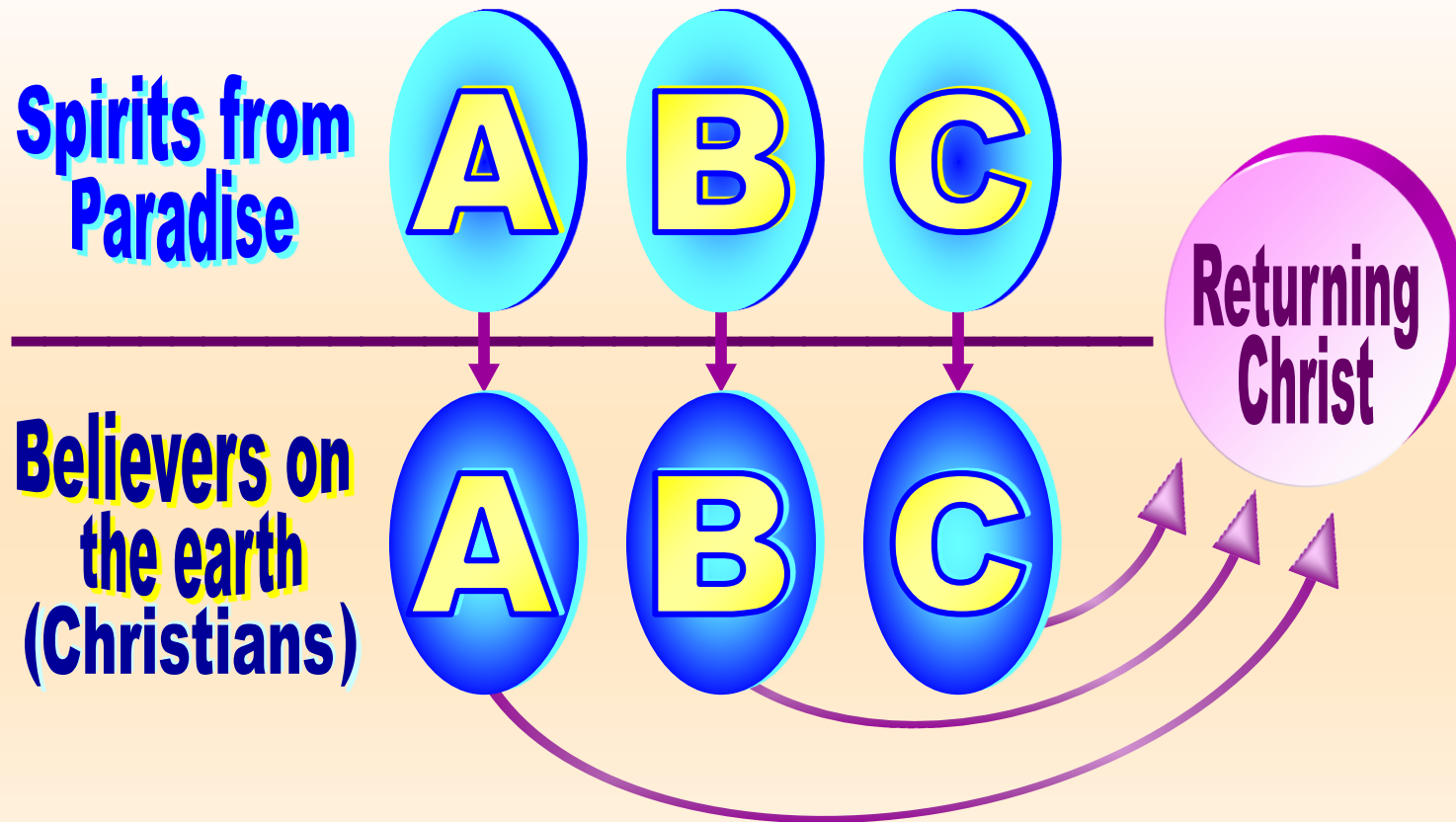
*The Unification
of Religions through
Returning Resurrection*

3.1 The Unification of Christianity through Returning Resurrection



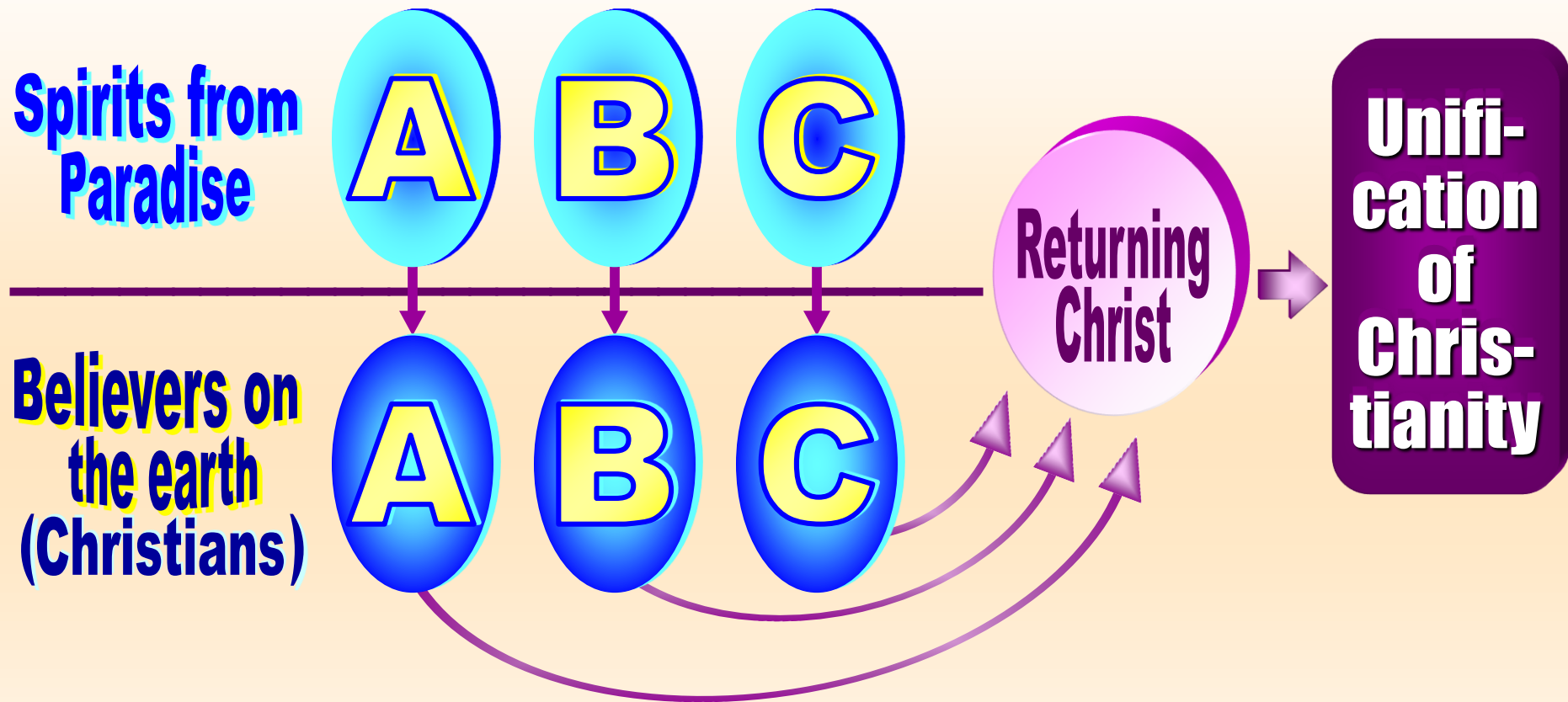
- At the time of the Second Advent, all the spirits in Paradise will descend from Paradise and assist the believers on the earth, and each believer will be guided by them to go before Christ at the Second Advent and devote their lives for the sake of God's Will (p.150).

3.1 The Unification of Christianity through Returning Resurrection



- (The letters A, B, and C refer to Christian denominations)

3.1 The Unification of Christianity through Returning Resurrection



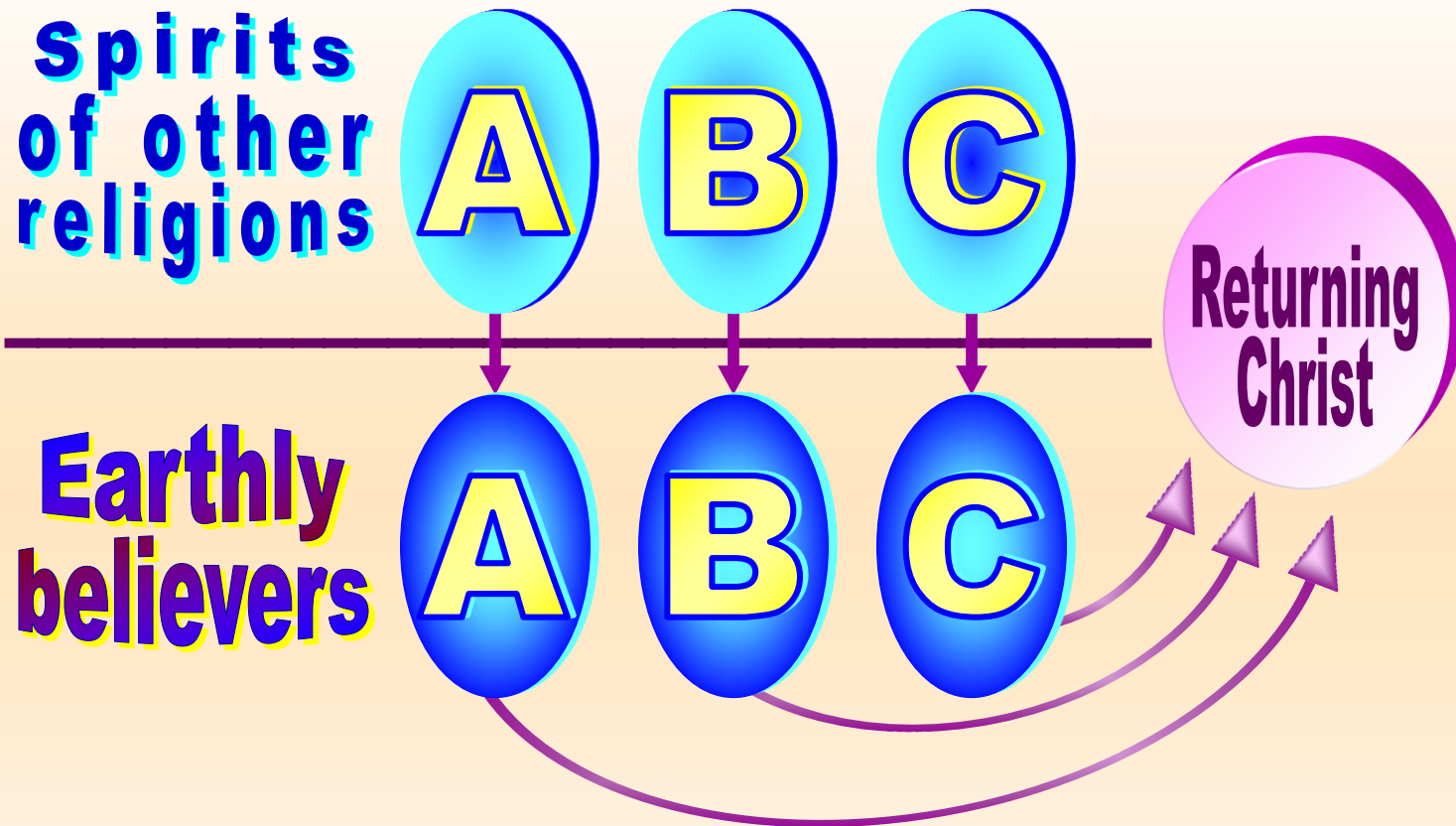
- For this reason, Christianity is destined to be united.

3.2 The Unification of All Other Religions through Returning Resurrection



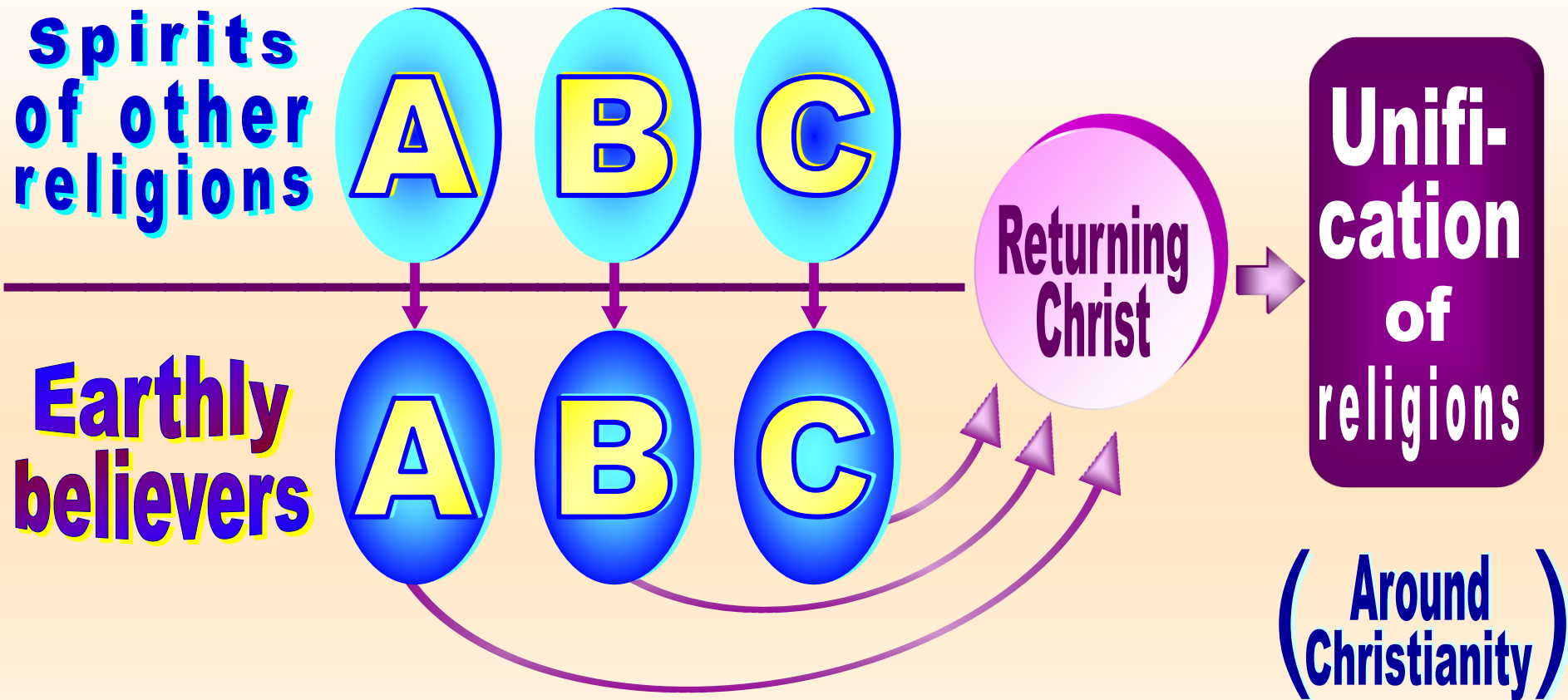
- Christ at the Second Advent is the central figure whose advent is expected in other religions as well.

3.2 The Unification of All Other Religions through Returning Resurrection



- Consequently, all spirits who believed in religions other than Christianity during their lifetime must guide the earthly believers of their respective religions to Christ at the Second Advent and assist them to believe in him and attend him in his work to fulfill God's Will, even though the timing will vary depending upon their spiritual position.

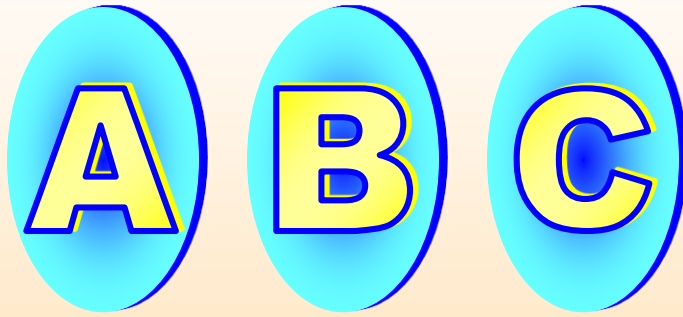
3.2 The Unification of All Other Religions through Returning Resurrection



- All religions will eventually be united around Christianity (p. 151).

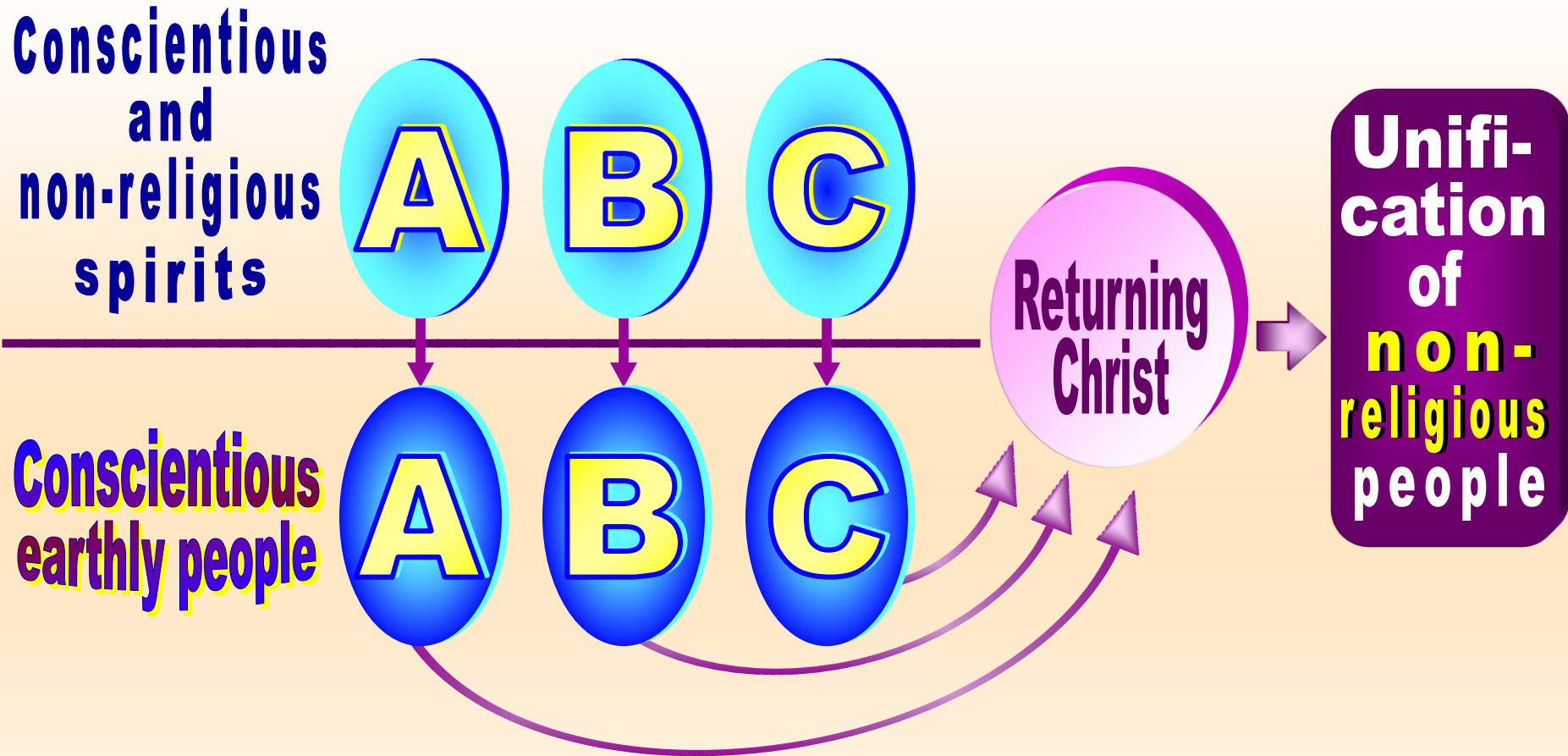
3.3 The Unification of Non-Religious People through Returning Resurrection

Conscientious
and
non-religious
spirits



- Spirits who, in their lifetime, led a conscientious life but did not believe in any religion will also return to earth at the granted time to receive the benefit of returning resurrection.

3.3 The Unification of Non-Religious People through Returning Resurrection



- They will guide conscientious earthly people to seek out Christ at the Second Advent, attend him, and assist him in fulfilling God's Will.

**For more information visit
our website**

<http://www.unificationstudy.com>