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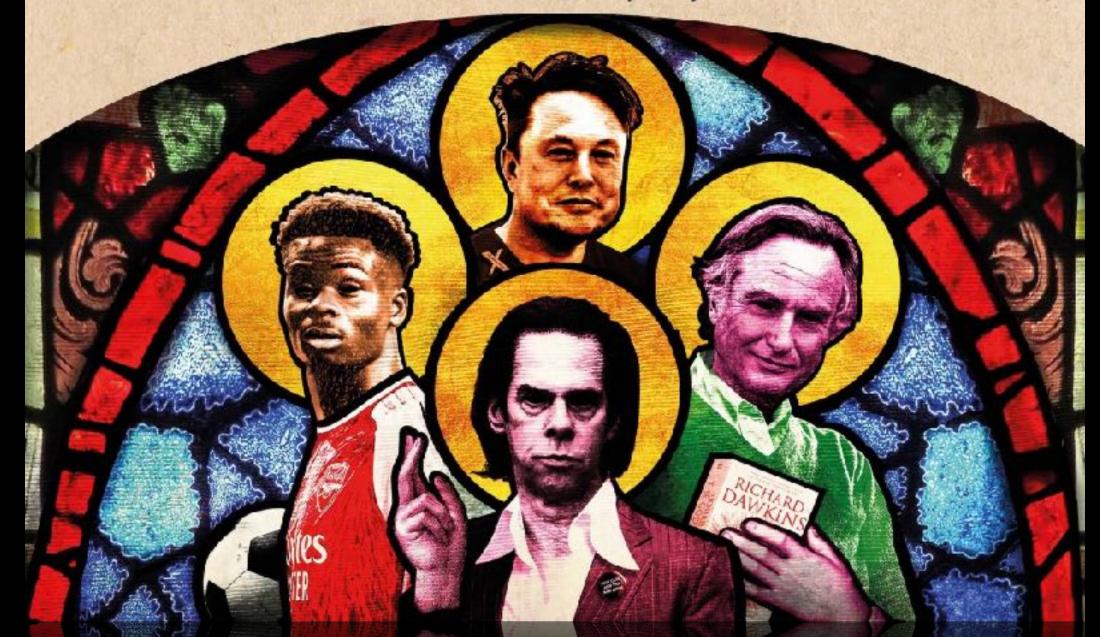
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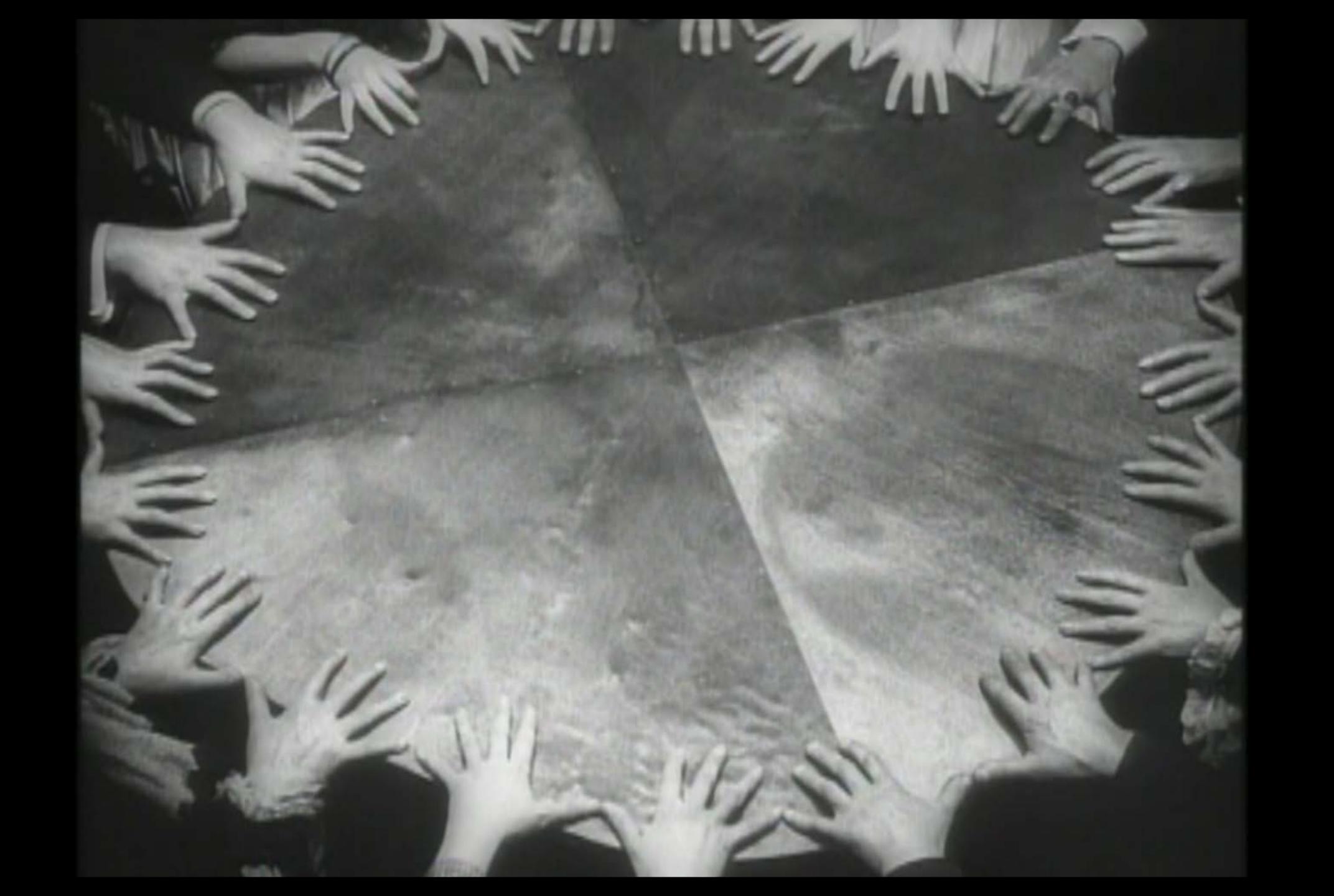
#### THE SMAIN

New Times New Thinking | 23-29 August 2024 | newstatesman.com

## The Christian Comeback

The rise of cultural Christianity. By Madeleine Davies



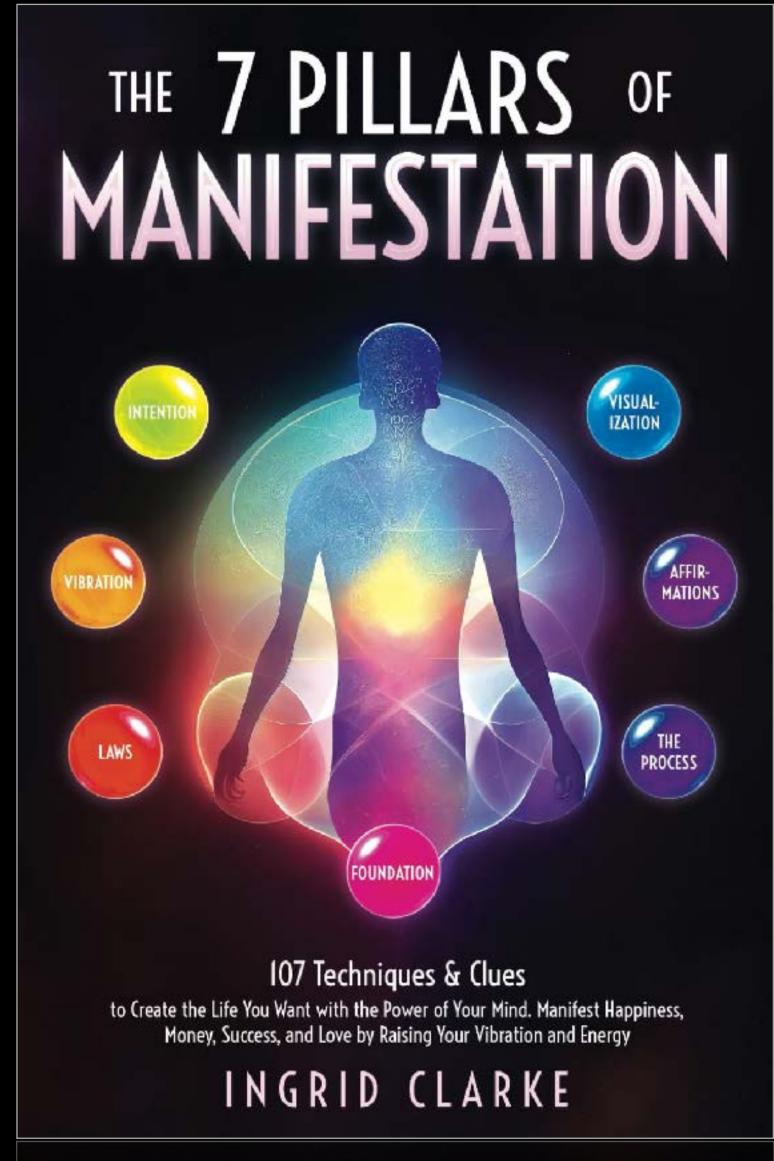


SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

#### KIRSTY GALLAGHER

## THE GODDESS PATH

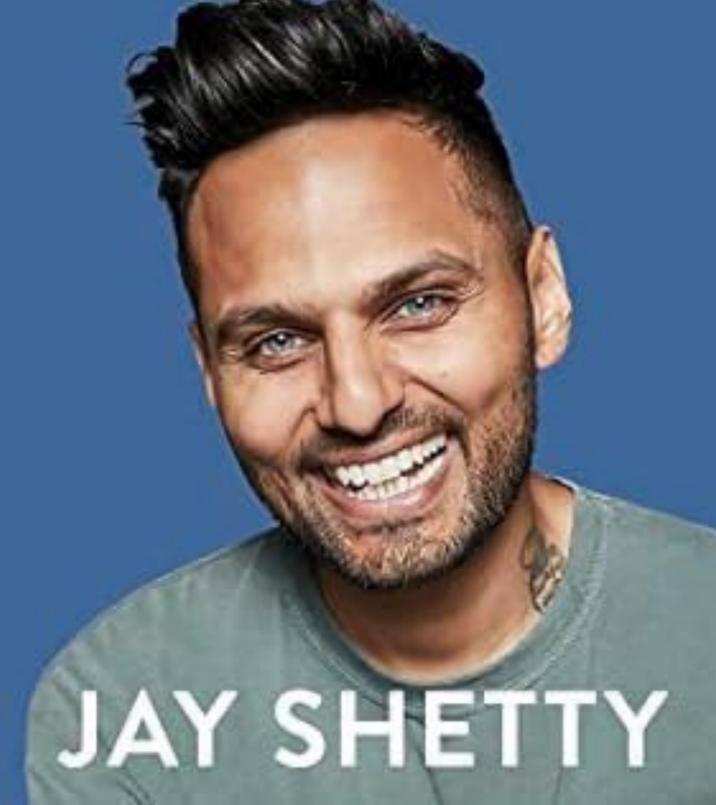
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and Powerful Self



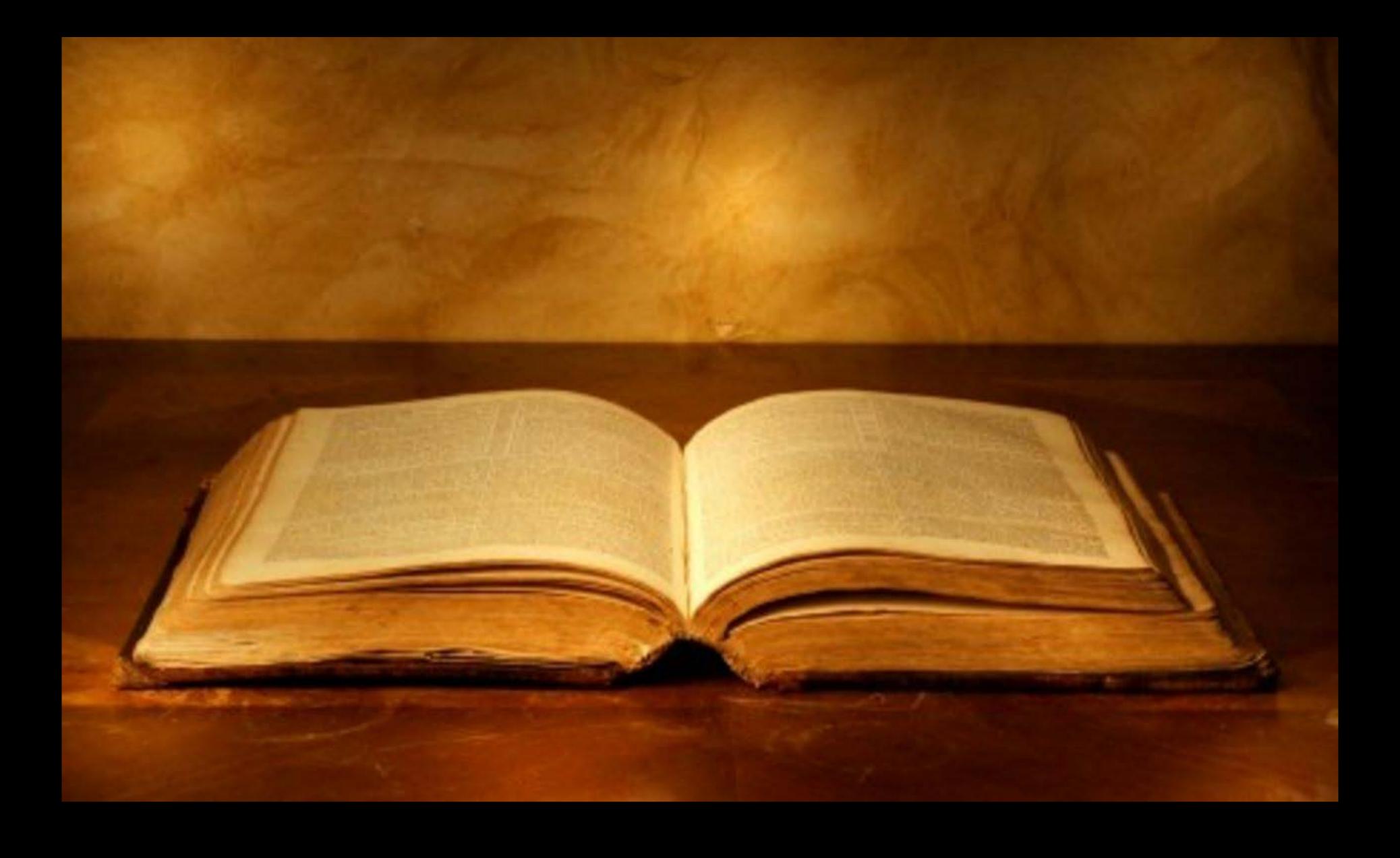
INGRID CLARKE

Money, Success, and Love by Kaising Your Yibration and Energy

# THINK LIKE A MONK TRAIN YOUR MIND for PEACE and PURPOSE EVERY DAY







Luke 24:13-32

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

"What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be

sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening;

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

#### Three Lessons from Jesus

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- 1. Take the time to come alongside people
- 2. Ask good questions and listen
- 3. Start with what people are already wondering about and connect that to the gospel story

# "Have you ever wondered?"



#### Why does the environment matter?

## Four Steps ...

Find out what your friend is passionate about

Take an interest in it

Use a "wondering question" to show how it doesn't fit in a godless world

Show how Christianity makes best sense of it



Examples of "Wondering" Questions

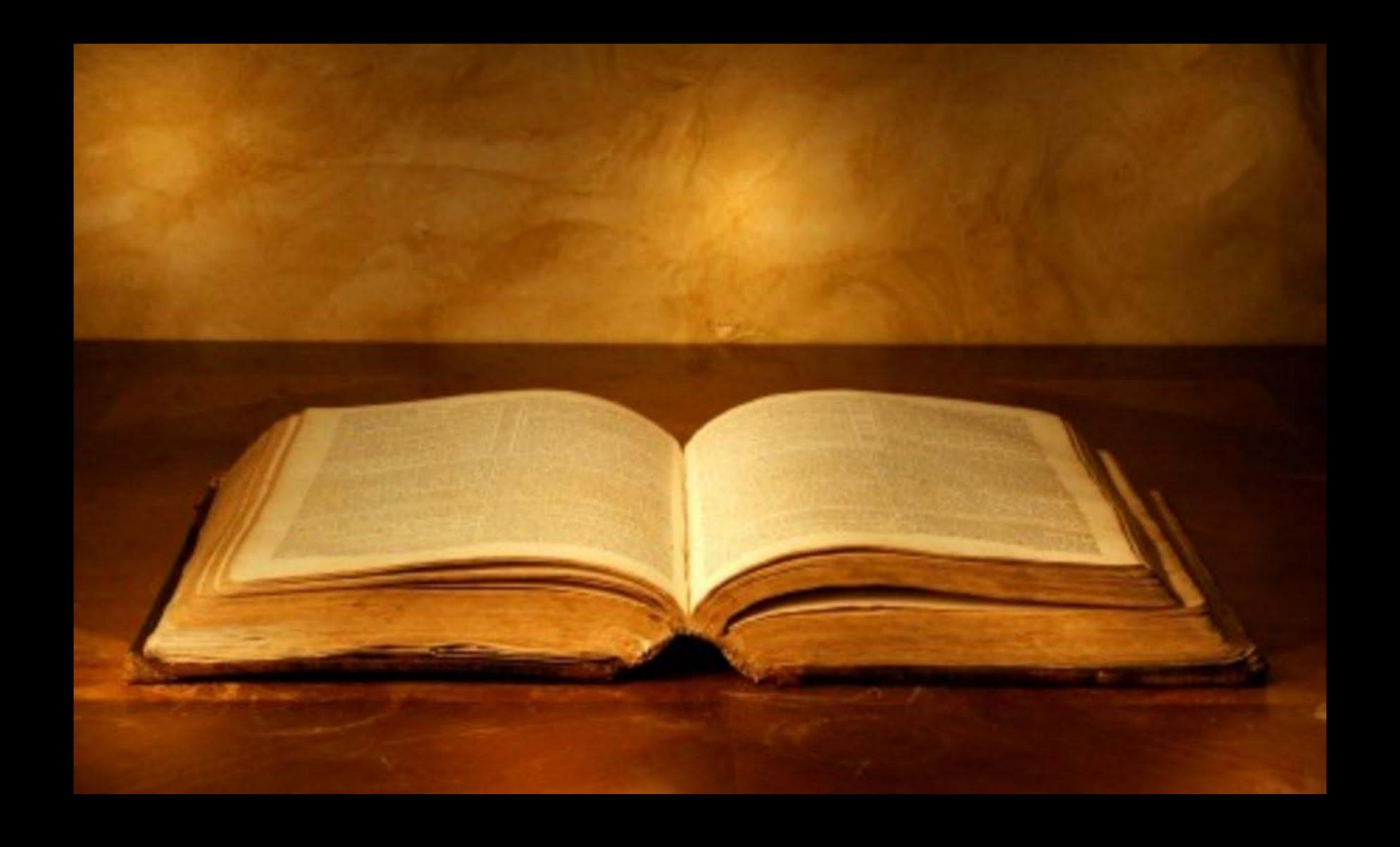
### Justice and Human Rights



www.time.co.

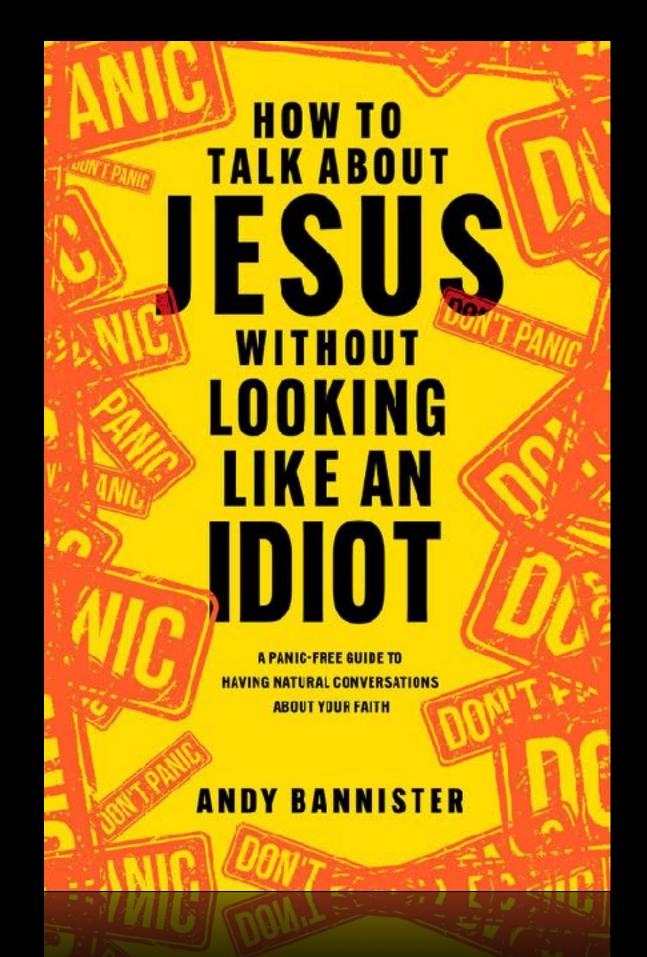


If you believe in God, it is much easier to understand human rights—God created us with value and dignity—than if you don't and you think we are just a cosmic accident.



Acts 17:16-34

"People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship and this is what I am going to proclaim to you."



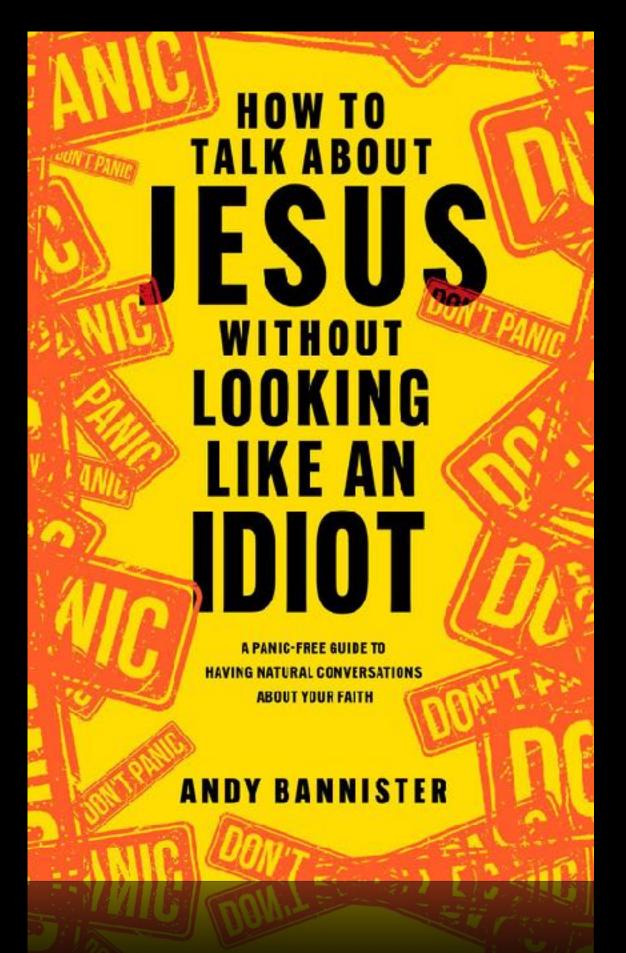


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#### Discussion

Imagine you meet somebody who describes themselves as "spiritual but not religious". How might you use a wondering question or two to open up a conversation?





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