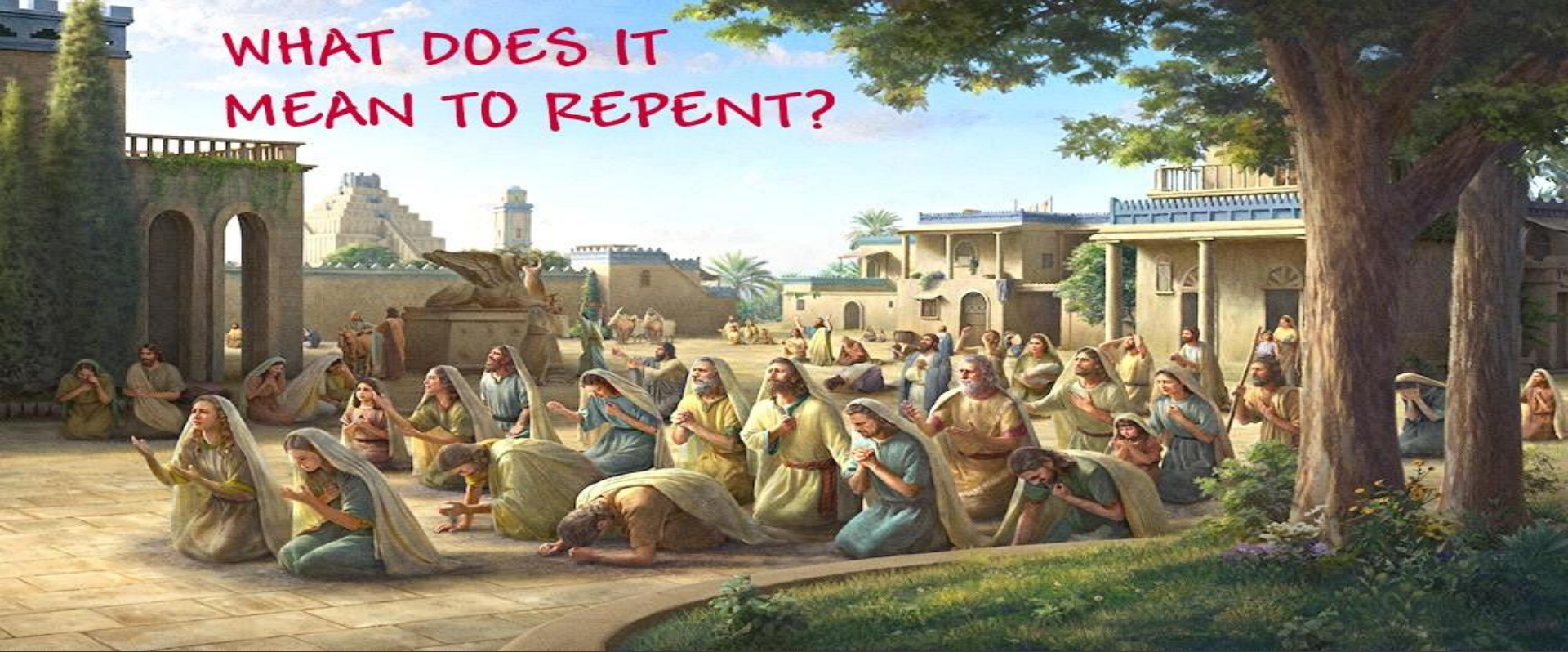



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO REPENT?



- The king of Nineveh showed unprecedented humility before God
- In the Christian sense, repentance is 90% emotion and conscience, 10% behavior
- In the biblical sense, repentance is 90% behavior and 10% emotion and conscience



THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

- ***Elohim*** used as a broad term for a special category of divine beings
- Yehoveh was the particular ***elohim*** of Jonah
- The Ninevites did NOT convert
- What God demanded was a change in BEHAVIOR within that 40-day period

WALKING WITH GOD

A co-operative venture



- King of Nineveh says words as we read in Joel 2:13
- Jonah fears God is going to accept their repentance
- Justice vs. Mercy
- There is a cause and effect between God and our response to His laws and commands
- God's goal for mankind: 2Peter 3:9 1Timothy 2:4



THE GOD PARADOX

- God extends justice, love and mercy to all humans
- Yet, Israel is a set-apart group to bring knowledge of God, and His Messiah, into the world
- “...by their deeds”
- Chapter 4: Jonah’s second rebellion
- The God Paradox best summed up in:
 - 1) Numbers 23:19
 - 2) Exodus 33:19
 - 3) Romans 9:13 - 18

The Judge as God



- Romans 9:19 – 20
- God is NOT human!
- Unless God judges every trial, then our only alternative is human judges
- What shall be the law code that is used to judge?
- The only divine, universal law code is The Law of Moses
- However, humans still make mistakes

JONAH BELIEVES GOD IS WRONG

- Yeshua will not judge us as we judge or as society judges
- God trusts only Himself to hand out eternal justice
- Jonah criticizes God for showing mercy to Nineveh
- Chapter 4 occurs during the 40-days of waiting to see what God does
- Jonah wants to commit passive suicide



RE-DEFINING GOD



- Jonah wanted the God of his own imaginings
- When we ask God “why?” we are questioning His judgment, if not also His attributes
- God says to Jonah: ***“What right do you have to be angry?”***
- God questions Jonah’s justification for his rage
- God did NOT punish Jonah...the ONLY rebellious Prophet

FROM HAPPY TO DISASTER!

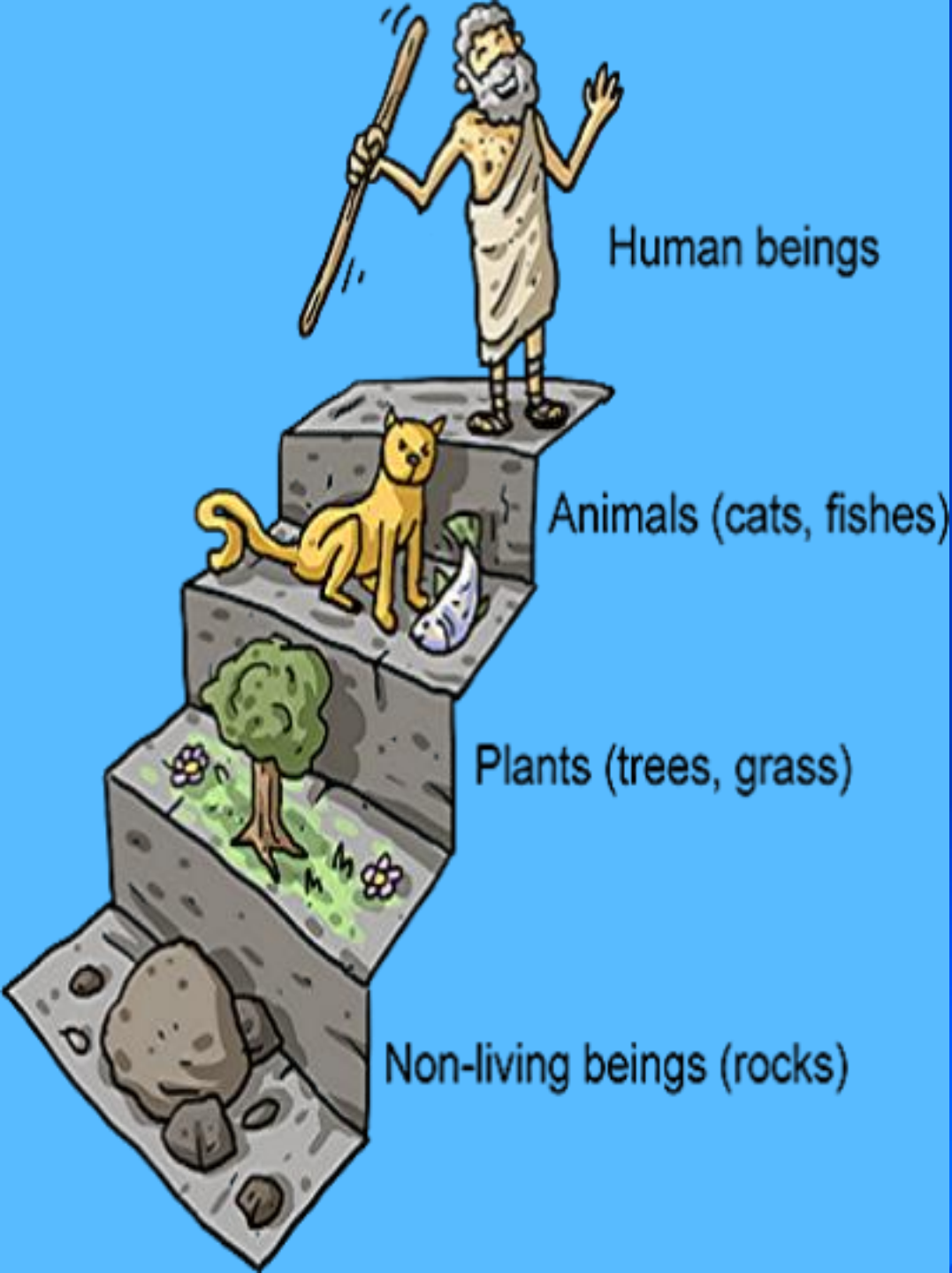
- The shelter is in Hebrew *succah*
- Jonah convinced that God was not going to harm Nineveh
- The shelter was probably of stone, not wood
- Lord, God = *Yehoveh, elohim*
- A plant springs up, but in one day is dead!



A TEACHING MOMENT

- East wind blows
- Jonah is on the east side of the city, so he gets the brunt of the wind
- God again asks Jonah about his anger, and Jonah says he wants to die
- Should I strike down 120,000 humans, but NOT strike down a plant?





- Jeremiah 45:3 – 5
- Nineveh is a great, ancient city
- God has plans for Nineveh (to attack and exile Israel for their rebellion)
- The 2 faces of God's mercy and compassion
 - 1) forgives sins
 - 2) shows compassion to animals and humans, they are living creatures!