

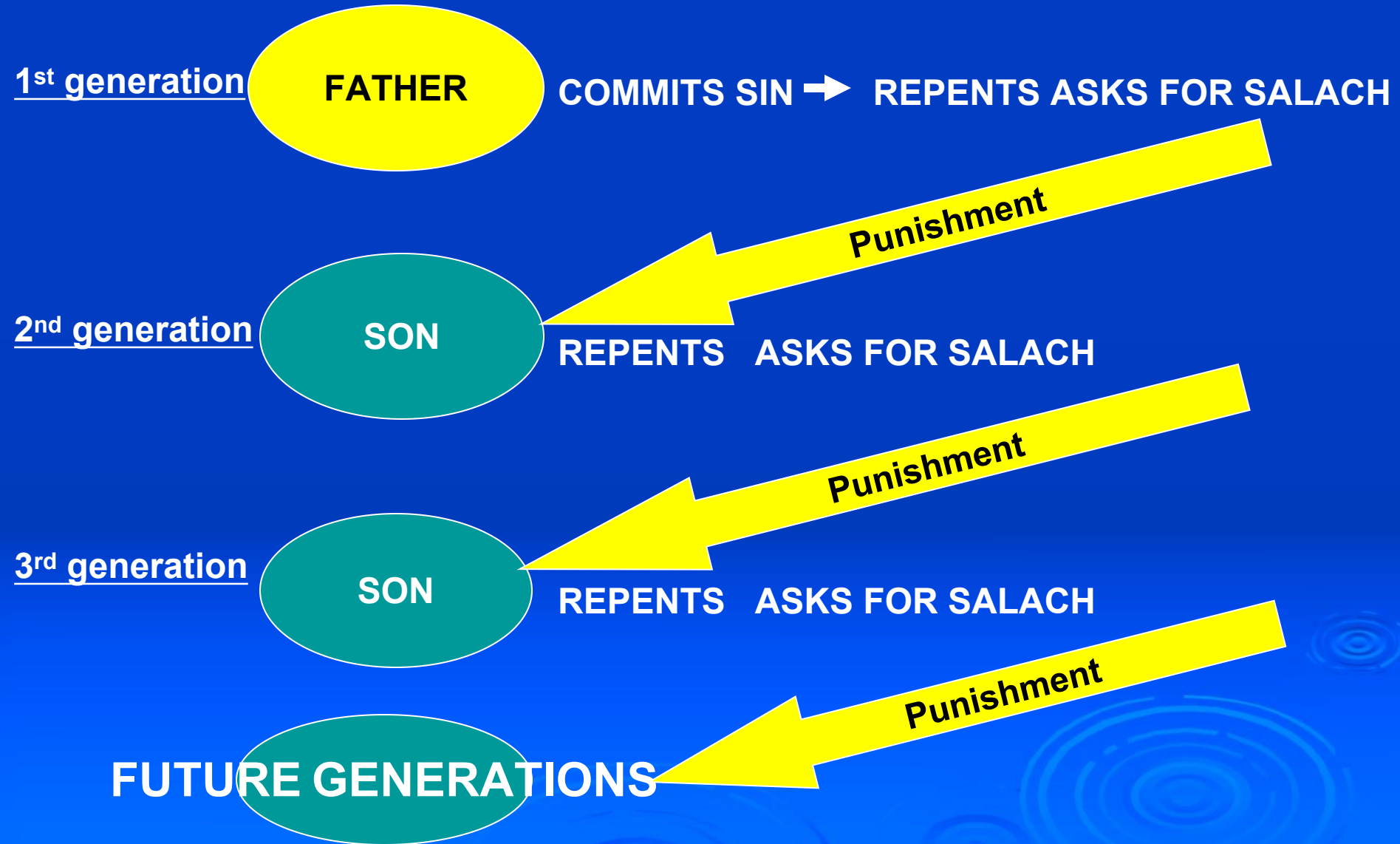
- Amos explains Chapter 3:13 in terms of a legal argument
- The Father obligates Himself to the terms of the covenant, just as He expects Israel to do
- If a wild animal kills a sheep, a shepherd is not held responsible
- Exodus 22:9 – 12
- God is switching roles from shepherd to lion

THE HORNS OF THE ALTAR



- The focus changes from social injustices to faults in Israel's worship practices
- Altars served two functions:
 - 1) a place of ritual sacrifice
 - 2) a place of asylum
- Exodus 21:12 – 14 1Kings 1:49 – 51
- No altar means no expiation of sins, no asylum

VERTICAL RETRIBUTION





- Cows of Bashan = rich society women of Israel
- Disrespectful to their husbands, drive poor people deeper into poverty
- Amos is talking about women (wives) placing unreasonable demands on husbands for material pleasures & to control things reserved for husbands

SAY GOOD-BYE TO PRIVILEGE

➤ Shalom M. Paul verse 2:

*“...transported in
baskets...in
fishermen’s pots...”*

➤ Vs. 3 the walls of Samaria
will be breached like the
walls of Jericho

➤ Joshua 6:5

➤ Abrupt and polar opposite
change of circumstance
for the elite class of
women in Samaria



ILLEGITIMATE WORSHIP



- Vs. 4 Sarcastic invitation to continue to come to Bethel and Gilgal to worship
- Simply going to worship at Bethel, Gilgal (or Dan) was wrong in God's eyes
- Were Prophets and Priests enemies?
- Bible shows not too much antagonism between Prophets and Priests
- Priests stressed rituals
- Prophets stressed right heart-attitude
- Both were right

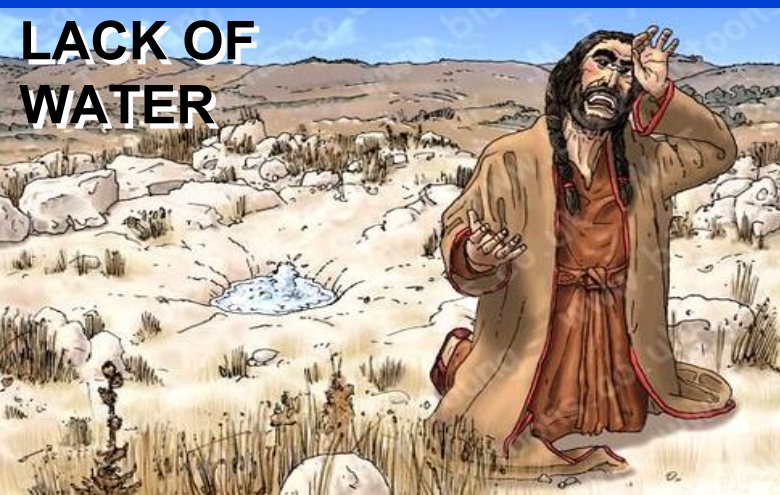
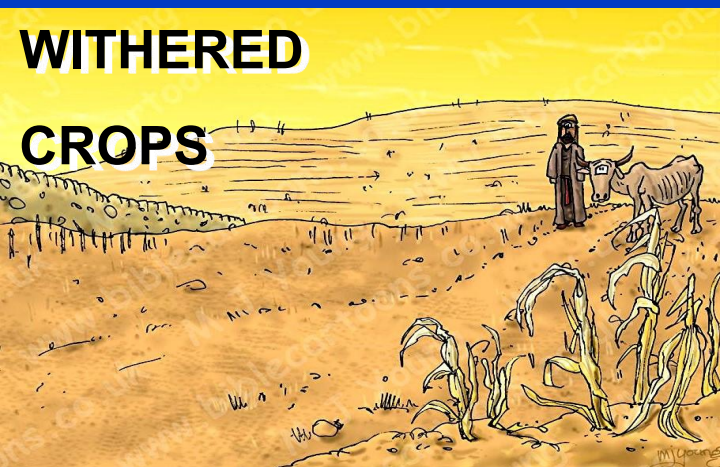
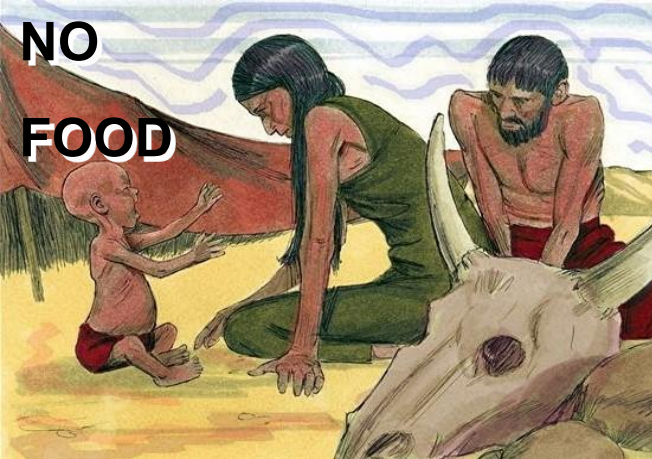
LEGITIMATE

VS. ILLEGITIMATE




- Amos was NOT against the concept of Temple and Priesthood
- There were 2 Priesthoods, only 1 that was legitimate
- Both Priesthoods claimed to worship Yehoveh
- God mocks Ephraim/Israel to continue with manmade rituals that they feel so good about
- Amos: no amount of ritual replaces ethical thought and behavior
- Illegitimate ritual makes the attempt even more sinful

PAST PUNISHMENTS



- The goal was repentance
- Israel worshipped like the pagans, and expected blessings in return for their efforts (Prosperity Doctrine)
- “Teeth clean of food” = no food
- 5 times ***“Yet you did not return to Me”***
- God also inflicted frustration because the rain pattern made no sense
- 2/3 numerical staircase parallelism = few, several, random but not “all” like 7/8

MORE PENALTIES FOR THEIR SIN

- 
- ***Sirocco, Chamsin*** = hot, dry, intense winds
 - Deuteronomy 28:22
 - ***Gazam*** = Locusts
 - A memory of plagues in Egypt is linked to war
 - Vs. 12 God says He is going to revisit these plagues of the past on Ephraim/Israel in the near future
 - The time to repent has passed; now, only judgment

YEHOVEH, GOD OF THE HEAVENLY ARMIES

- Amos 4:13 is called by some Bible scholars a doxology
- All versions of Amos ever found include this verse
- God is in control of everything
- He is able to, has, and will destroy the unfaithful
- He has given us His “thoughts” in Natural Law, and the Law of Moses
- We are without excuse

