Connecting the Dots

Biblical Theology for Biblical Exegesis—Part 1

Defining Our Terms

- *Exegesis–*

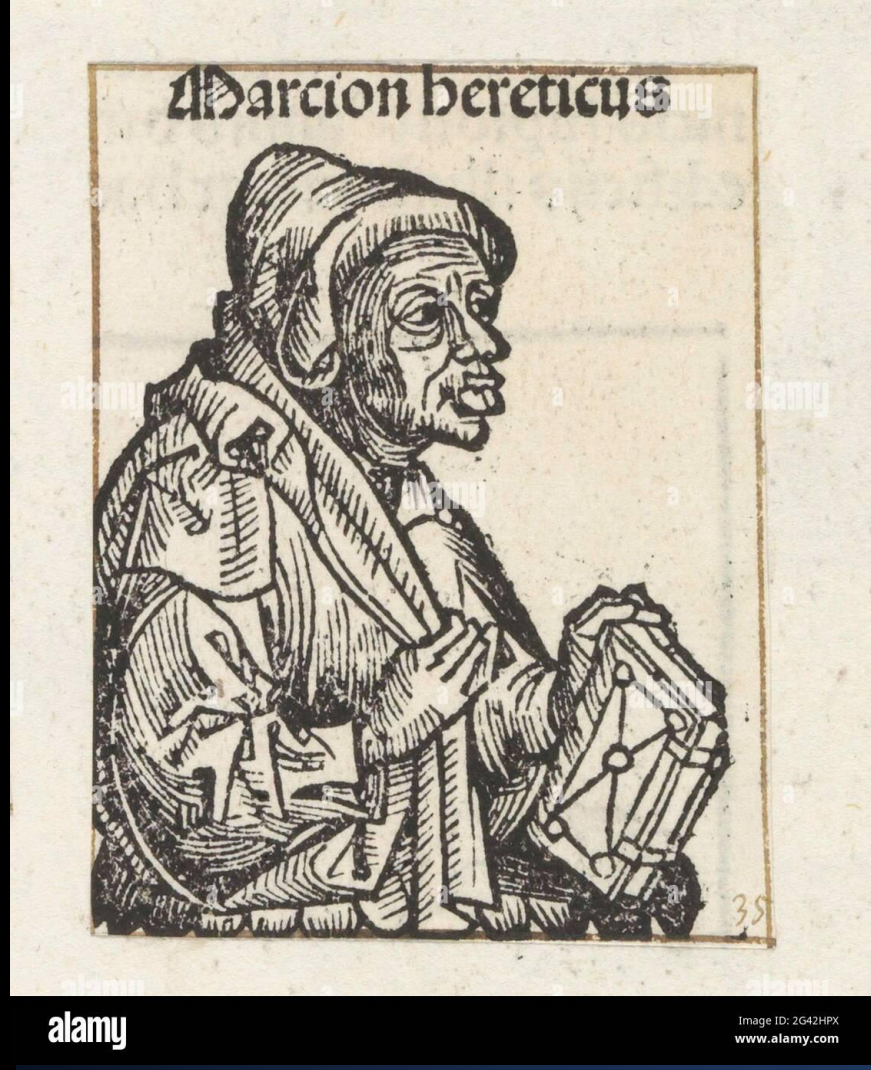
- *Theology–*

  - Descriptive
  - Systematic/Dogmatic

- *Biblical Theology–*

Defining an “Old” Problem

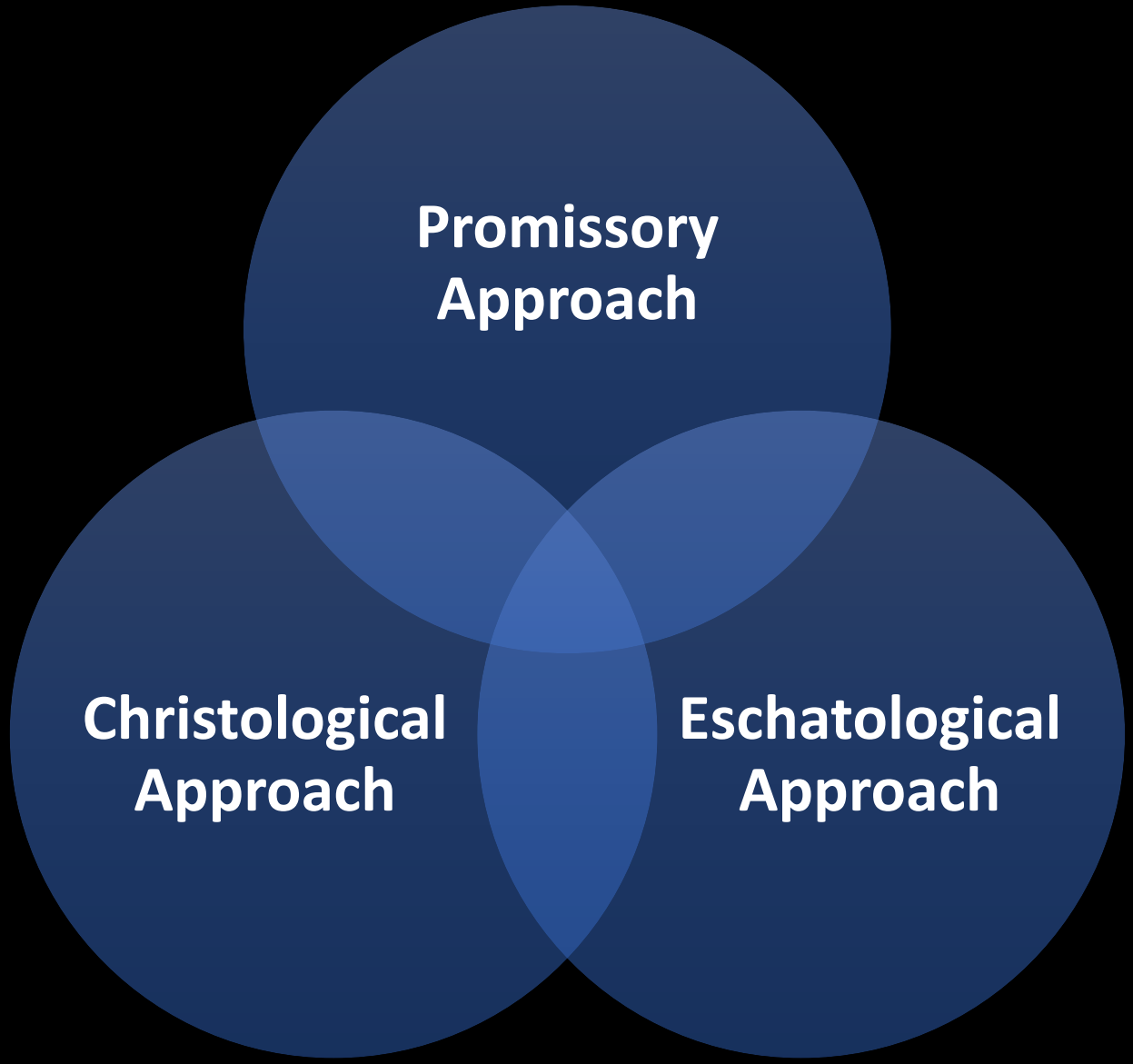
- 1st Century Exegetical Battles–
  - E.g., Jesus vs. Pharisees
  - E.g., Galatians 3
- Marcionite Tendencies–
- Modern Day Relevance?



Defining Our Aims

- (1) **Identify** how the biblical writers connected the two testaments.
- (2) **Assess** how that connection impacts our biblical interpretation.
- (3) **Imagine** how we should respond to/apply biblical theology in our everyday lives.

Approaches to Biblical Theology



Promissory Approach to Biblical Theology

- *A Starting Point–*

- "For as many as are the promises of God, they are yes in Him" (2 Cor 1:20a)

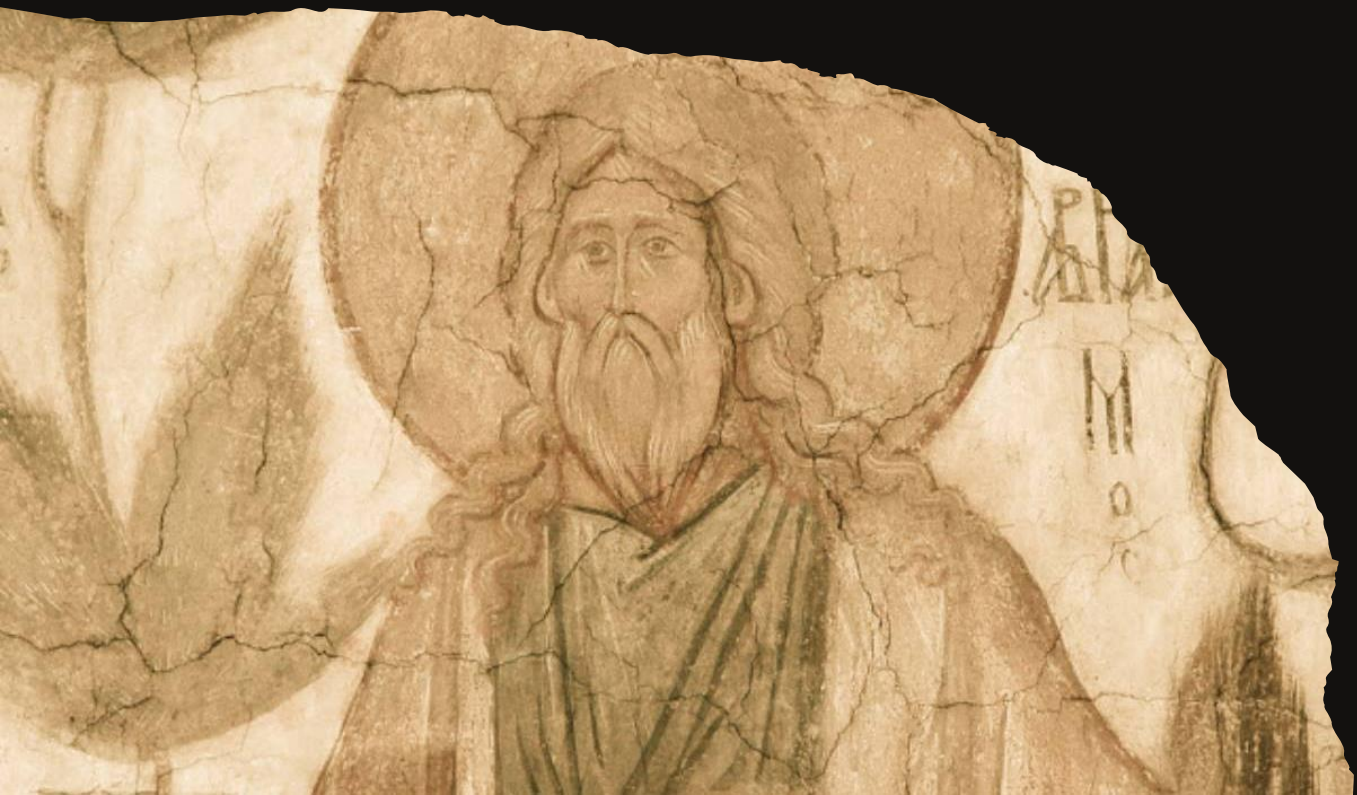
- *What promises does the Apostle Paul have in mind?

Edenic Promise–

- *“And I will set enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He shall strike you on the head, but you strike him on the heel.”* (Gen 3:15)

- *“Now is the time of judgment of this world, now the ruler of this world will be cast out; and if I should be lifted up I will draw all people to myself.”* (John 12:31–32)

Abrahamic Promise–



- *"Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed"* (Gen 12:1–13).

- *"And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise"* (Gal 3:29).

Davidic Promise

- *"When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son."* (2 Sam 7:12–14a)

- *"Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel"* (2 Tim 2:8).

- *See also Gen 17:16; Matt 1:1

New Covenant Promise

- *"'Behold, the days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'When I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,' declares the Lord. 'But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,' declares the Lord, 'I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know,' declares the Lord. 'For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.'"* (Jer 31:31–34).

New Covenant Promise

- *"In speaking of a <u>new covenant</u>, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away."* (Heb 8:13).

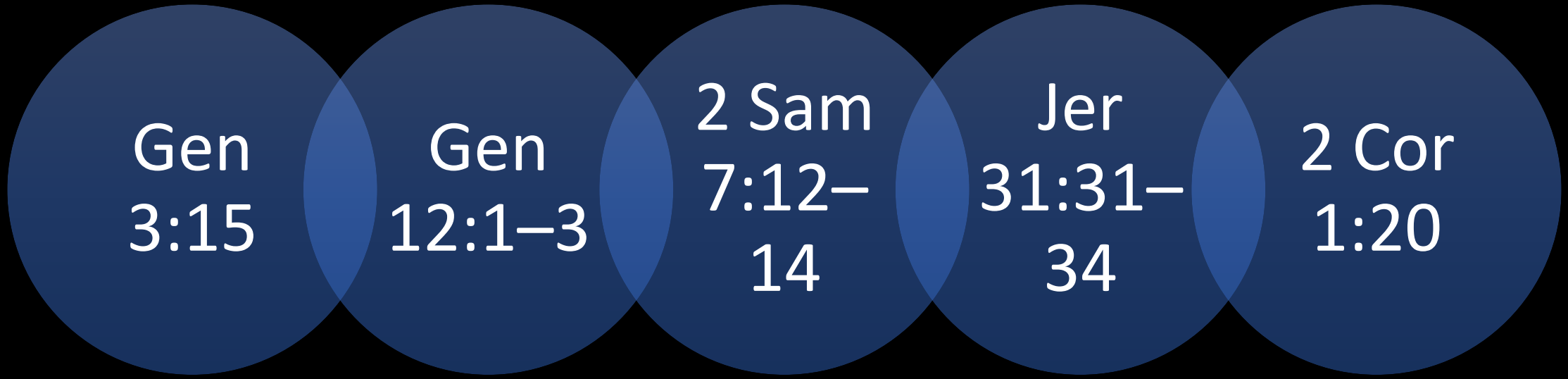
What “Connects” the Promises?

- Not What as Much as “Who”
- “For as many as are the promises of God, they are yes in Him” (2 Cor 1:20a)
- Christological Approach (Part 2–Next Week)

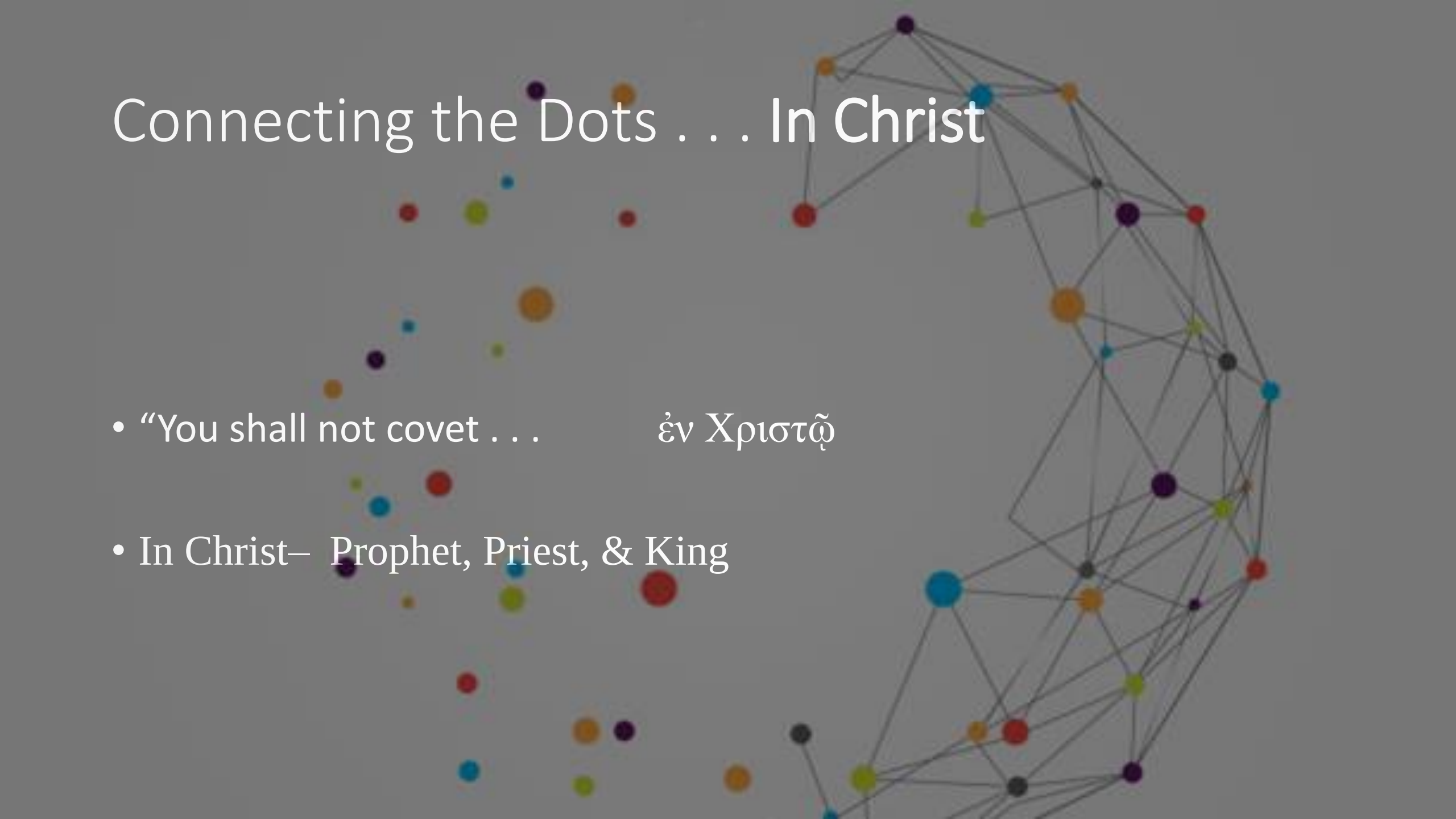
Interpretive Test Case

- “You shall not covet . . .” (Exod 20:17).

“You shall not covet . . .”



Connecting the Dots . . . In Christ



- “You shall not covet . . . ἐν Χριστῷ
- In Christ– Prophet, Priest, & King