# HOW TO BE THE CHURCH DURING A PANDEMIC



Prepare for the Harvest

Death & Resurrection

40 Days With Disciples

Ascends To Heaven Church Is Born

50 Days

Passover

Pentecost

1. Pentecost marked an era of unbelievable yet unstoppable power in the Church.

2.

3.

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- 2. The Holy Spirit Came upon them in houses, on Pentecost and throughout the NT.

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- 1. Pentecost marked an era of unbelievable yet unstoppable power in the Church.
- 2. The Holy Spirit came upon them in houses, on Pentecost and throughout the NT.
- 3. Pentecost was a feast celebrating the harvest.

## Suffering creates the conditions for spiritual harvest by:

Opening our hearts to God

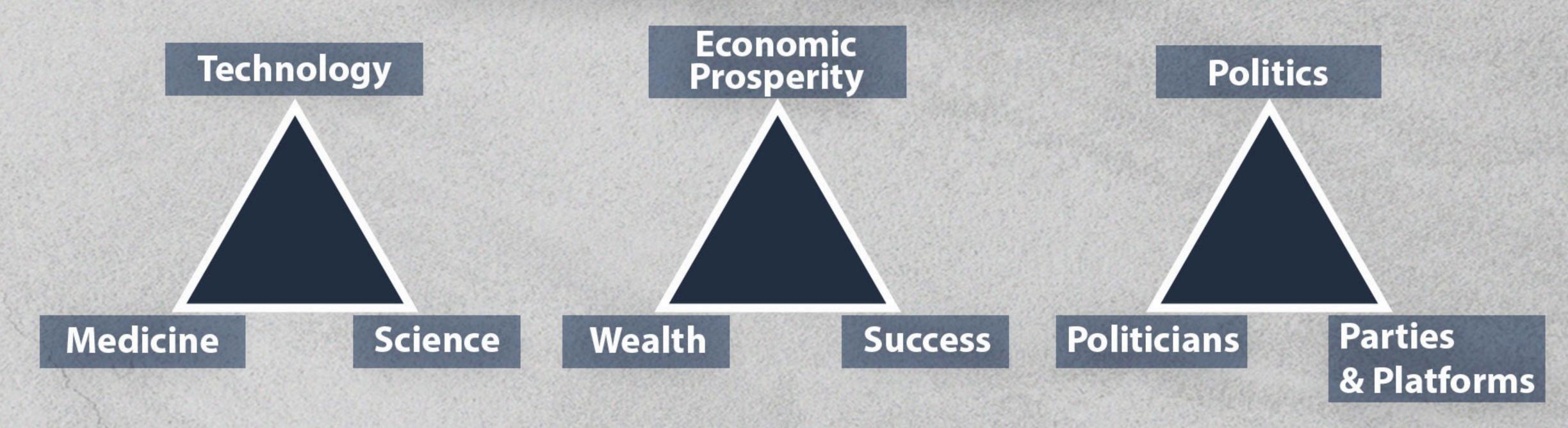
Exposing our secular saviors as fradulent

#### The Sovereign Self (Control)

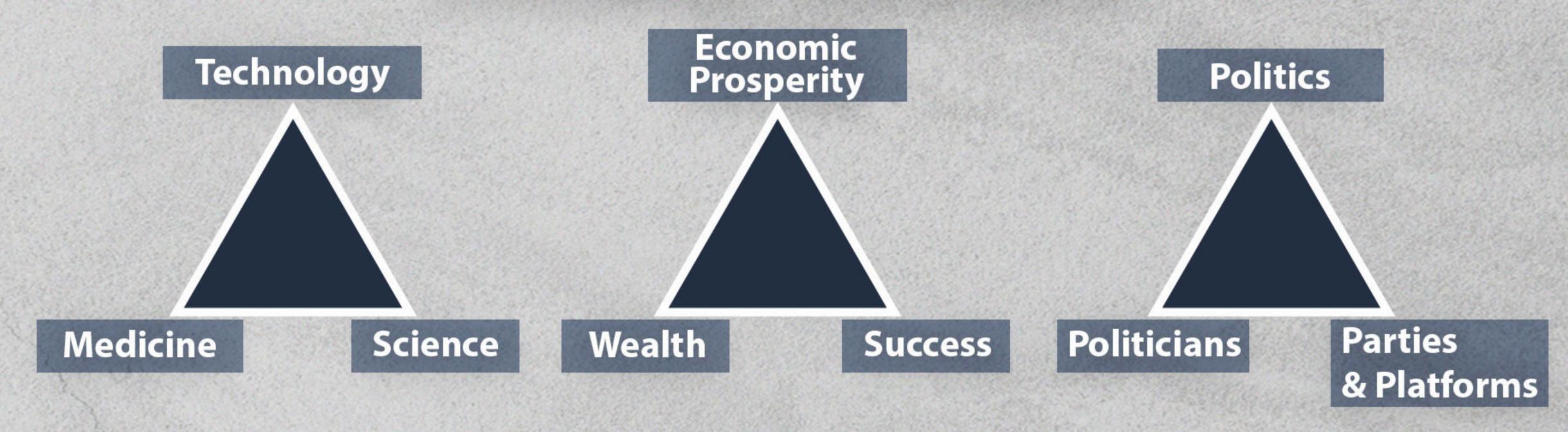
The "Good Life" is when I am in complete control of what I do with my life.

"It takes a radical experience of losing all control to realize just how little control we have."

### Secular Saviors



### Secular Saviors

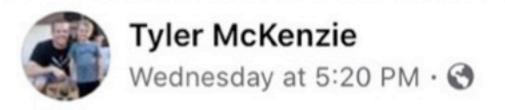


## Suffering creates the conditions for spiritual harvest by:

Weeding out false gods

Tilling the soil of our hearts

### Preparing the Harvest 1. Lead with love



Black people deserve better.

Justice means giving others what they deserve. "Kingdom justice" means giving others what Jesus believes they deserve. What does Jesus believe people deserve?

- "The Samaritan" deserves more dignity than we usually give.
- The man from "Nazareth!? What good can come from there!?" deserves more opportunity than we usually give.
- "The other" deserves more trust than we usually give.
- The invisible deserve more attention than we usually give.
- The oppressed deserve more help than we usually give.
- The marginalized deserve more respect than we usually give.
- The enemy deserves more grace than we usually give.
- The Gentile deserves more love than we usually give.
- And everyone deserves more of us than we usually give.

This is Kingdom justice.

More dignity.

More opportunity.

More trust.

More attention.

More help.

More respect.

More grace.

More love.

More of us.

This is our hope.

This is our way.

This our cross.

This was his cross.

This is our Jesus.

Black people deserve better. I must do better.

#GeorgeFloyd

#### Dr. MLK's 6 Principles of Nonviolence

- 1. Nonviolence is only for courageous people.
- 2. Nonviolence chooses love over hate.
- 3. Nonviolence holds that suffering will educate and transform.
- 4. Nonviolence believes that the universe is on the side of justice.
- 5. Nonviolence is aggressive towards problems not people.
- 6. Nonviolence seeks to turn enemies into friends.

#### Preparing the Harvest

- 1. Lead with love
- 2. Revive hospitality

#### 1 Peter 4:9-10

Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

#### Preparing the Harvest

- 1. Lead with love
- 2. Revive hospitality
- 3. Remember your identity

#### 1 Peter 2:4-5,9

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but He was chosen by God for great honor. And you are living stones that God is building into His spiritual temple. What's more, you are His holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God....But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light.

#### Open your heart to Jesus.

"God whispers to us in our pleasures, but shouts in our pains. It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

- C.S. Lewis

"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing."

- C.S. Lewis

# Open your heart to Jesus Text jesusiswhy to 31996