

RENEWED

# COMMITMENT



R o m a n s 1 2 : 1 - 8

# **A commitment to the Lord (vs. 1-2)**



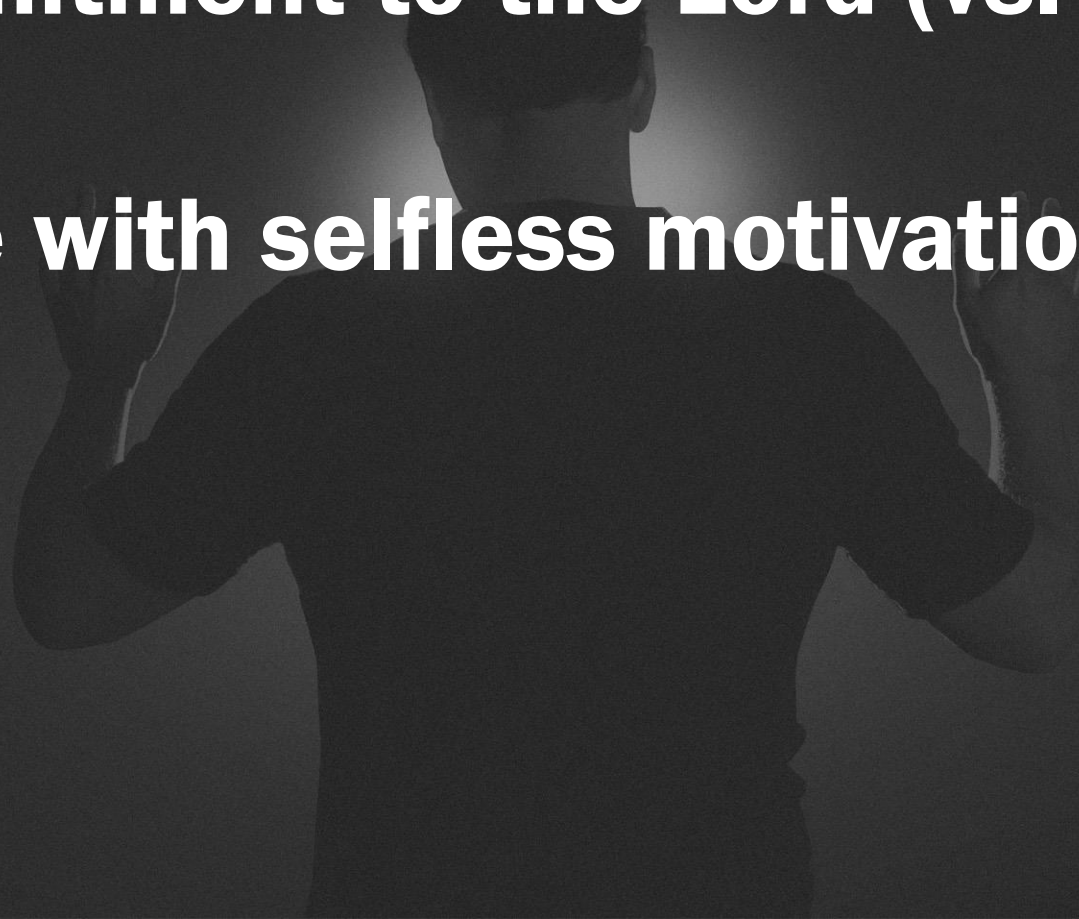
Christianity, in twentieth-century America, has transformed into a *non-cognitive commitment*. As a result, the binding authority of the Christian moral tradition has been lost. Many of our friends and neighbors continue to profess faith in God, but that profession is ultimately devoid of any moral authority or cognitive content. From the outside looking in, America did not appear to be secularizing at the same rate as the European continent. In reality, however, professions of faith in God had *little real theological or spiritual meaning*.

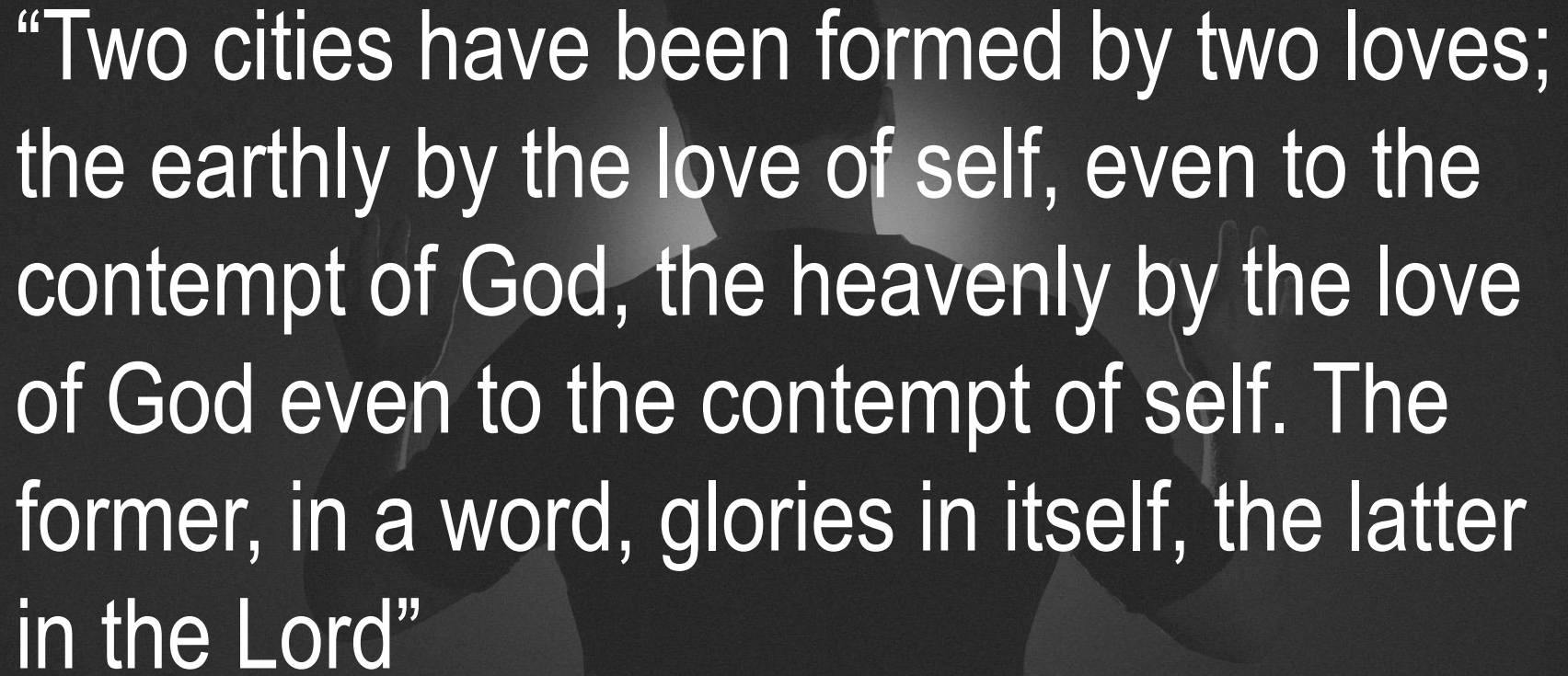


Berger predicted that as these religious adherents met cultural opposition, they would quickly give way to the secular agenda—which is exactly what happened. Just ten years ago most polls reflected the fact that a majority of Americans opposed same-sex marriage. Yet in our day the very same people polled one decade ago rendered an opposite moral judgement on the same issue. Just as Berger explained, when the cultural tide turned against our society's *empty religious commitments*, people were happy to jettison their moral judgment on homosexuality to retain their social capital.

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**Service with selfless motivation (v. 3)**





“Two cities have been formed by two loves; the earthly by the love of self, even to the contempt of God, the heavenly by the love of God even to the contempt of self. The former, in a word, glories in itself, the latter in the Lord”

Augustine, *The City of God*



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**Service with selfless motivation (v. 3)**

**We are all to do our part (vs. 4-5)**

**Uniqueness of giftedness (vs. 6a)**