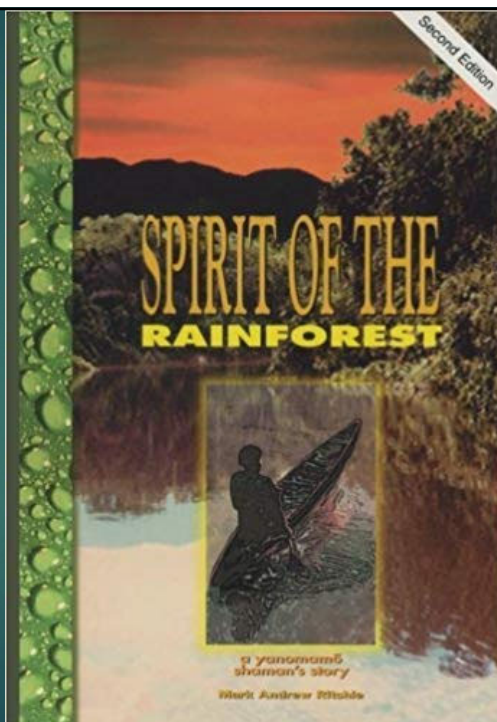


Week Two: Demons



12

Fellow Pastor's Experience

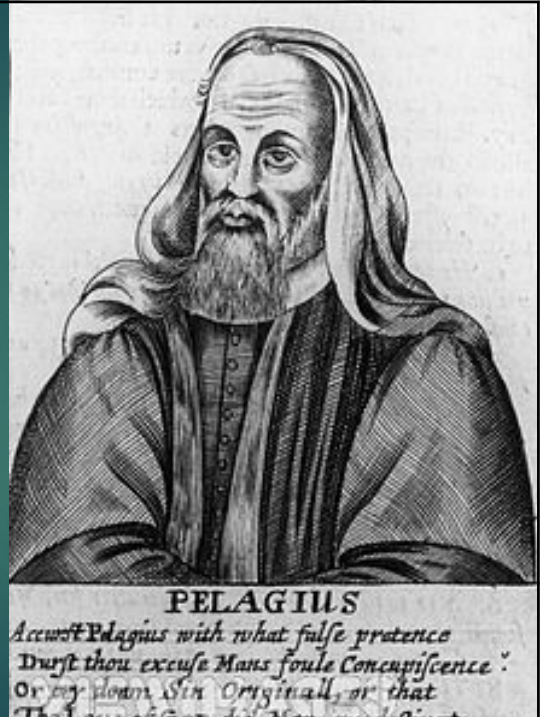
- ▶ I have had fellow pastor friends teach on the topic and many people express their skepticism of the demonic realm.
- ▶ What does this reveal? That we assume everyone is born good.
- ▶ I think soft universalism is popular in most church going people.



13

Pelagius and Sin

- ▶ What is sin? Breaking God's law. Believing we are the center of the universe.
- ▶ What is sin's consequences? Alienation from God.
- ▶ Sin has cosmic consequences.
- ▶ Sin is portrayed as a person (Romans 5-8).



14

Seminary Experience

- ▶ The class I took on angelology at Dallas Theological Seminary was my least favorite class in seminary.
- ▶ We talked about UFOs and all sorts of crazy stuff.
- ▶ Let's let Scripture govern our imagination and how we interpret the world.



15

What's A Demon?

- ▶ Non-corporal being. They do not have bodies.
- ▶ They have super human abilities.
- ▶ They have the ability to possess non-Christians and “demonize” Christians.



16

How Do Demons Appear?

- ▶ Galatians 1:6-10 ESV “⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.
- ▶ ¹⁰For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant^[a] of Christ.



17

Church Fathers

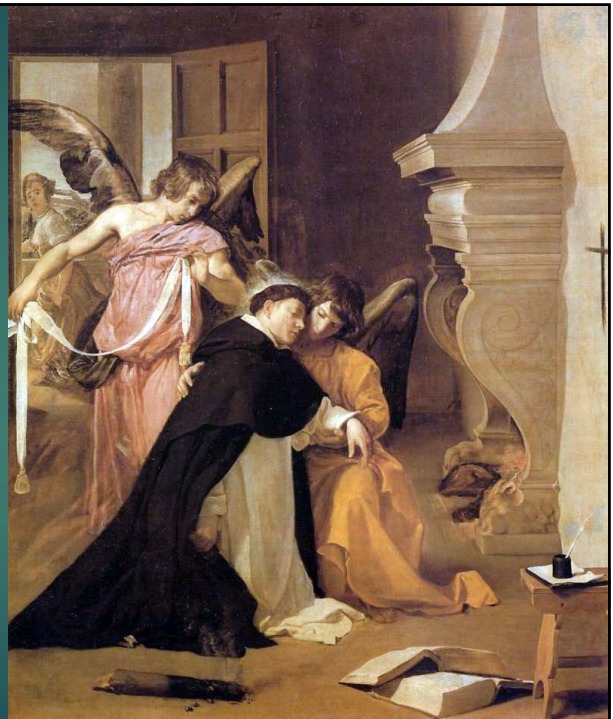
- ▶ John Chrysostom preached series about the demonic realm.
- ▶ Athanasius mentions Satan and the demonic realm in his famous work *On The Incarnation*.
- ▶ Irenaeus mentions Simon the Magician being linked to the occult and the demonic realm.



18

Thomas Aquinas

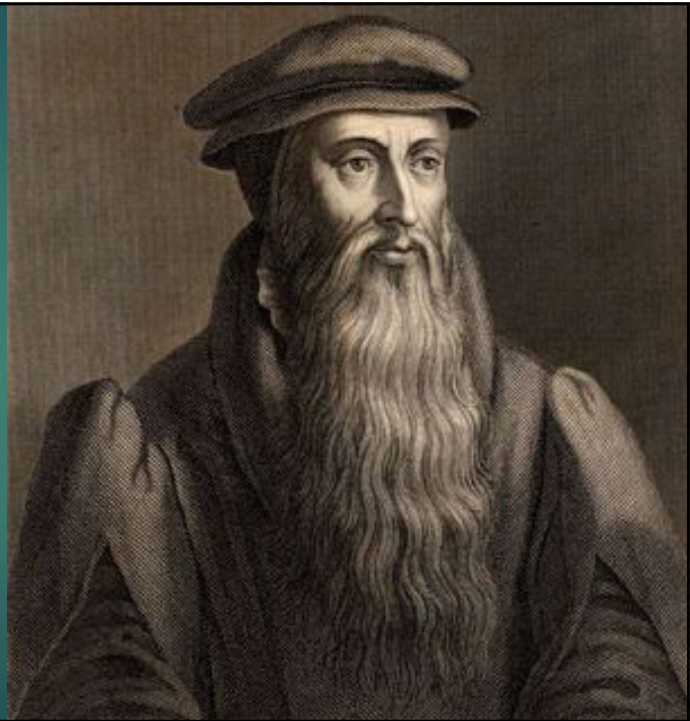
- ▶ Thomas and the other scholastic theologians were famous for debating angels and demons.
- ▶ Aquinas is perhaps the greatest philosophical theologian of the West. If he believed in the reality of this realm, perhaps we shouldn't negate its importance!



19

John Knox

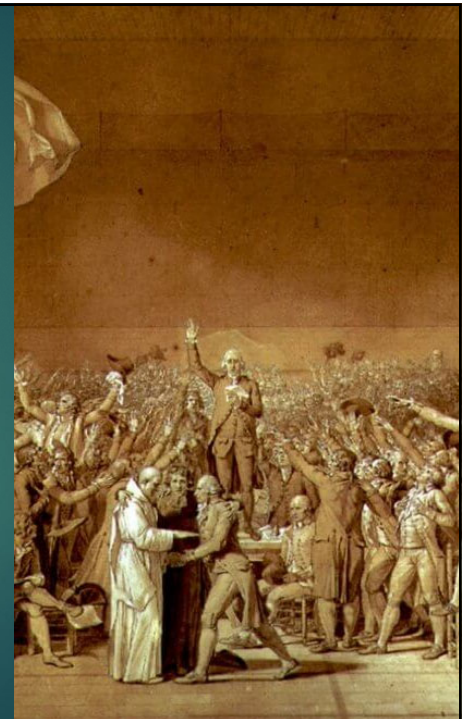
- ▶ John Knox is an interesting figure because he takes Reformed theology and recasts and reimagines it in an apocalyptic spirituality.
- ▶ His favorite word to describe the Christian life is the word battle.
- ▶ Knox, I believe, helps us see blind spots in our own spirituality.



20

What Happened?

- ▶ The Enlightenment. I cannot overstate how important this intellectual event was.
- ▶ We are children of The Enlightenment.
- ▶ Scripture's words create a new world.



21

Global Church

- ▶ How does the global church compare to the American church?
- ▶ Will the rise in remixed religion make this apart of the religious experience of Christians going forward? I think so!
- ▶ We always need be on guard against blind spots in our readings of Scripture.

