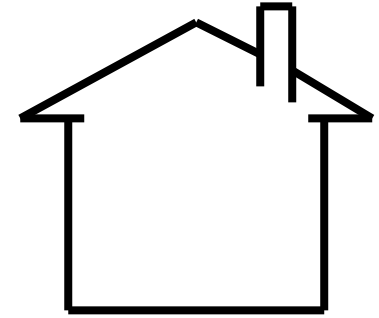


# THE CHRISTIAN HOME



1<sup>st</sup> Session

## Agenda:

- Introduction
- The Origin of the Family
- The Purpose of the Family
- The Home in relation to God's Wisdom
- God's role in the Family



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**□ Introduction:**

**The home is under assault. Even a casual look statistically will show just how horrific the evidence of problems:**

- **Since 1963, violent crime has increased over 500 %.**
- **Illegitimate births have increased 400 %.**
- **Divorces have increased 400 %.**
- **Teenage suicide has increased 200 %.**
- **S.A.T. scores have fallen 80+ points.**
- **Homosexual marriage legislation is on the march.**
- **More than 1,370,000 abortions annually in the US.**
- **33.2% all children born in America no family.**
- **68.5% all black children born in America no family.**
- **Unmarried couple households:**
  - **300,000 households in 1960 - 5 million in 2,000 & growing**
  - **The marriage rate per 1000 people is down to 8% from 15%**
  - **The divorce rate is more than ½ of those**



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□ Introduction continued:

**The home in what we consider as traditional values is under pressure and severe attack in all the following areas:**

- Breakdown of the traditional family
- Liberal churches & other religions – decline of Christianity
- Evolution taught as a fact – breakdown of life's sanctity
- Television, movies, games and entertainment
- Public School system, colleges, and universities
- Major leftist organizations that are growing in popularity
- Marxist / socialist philosophy, and secular humanism
- Materialism – striving for possessions as foremost importance
- Focus on Sex – lifestyles of promiscuity – sexual revolution
- Abortion on demand – child behavioral problems
- Woman's liberation and self-fulfillment
- Political correctness, environmental issues replacing values
- The Bible replaced with psychology and humanistic philosophy



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□ The Origin of the Family

**God Himself purposely and wisely formed the family**

- All families derive their name from God the Father (Eph 3:14)
  - God as creator and designer is the Father of all – He precedes all the families, clans, tribes, homes, and nations of the earth.
  - Each and every family on earth sustains an evident relation on earth to God and every other family on earth in history and sovereign determination (Acts 17:26).
  - Families are not relegated to Judeo-Christian societies only – literally all societies in history have had families built around the universal relationship between a man and a woman in some form of mutual responsibility.
  - Never has the promiscuity of random mating been a characteristic of human society, in any society, including those practicing polygamy.
- The family was designed by God to accomplish God's purposes.
  - The family is purposeful, showing God's wisdom – even the Savior came via the family channel (Mat 1).
  - The family provides necessary structure (Col 3:18-21; Eph 5:22-29).
  - The family serves as an agent for functionality, control, and instruction.



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□ The Origin of the Family continued...

**The family is one of three institutions decreed by God for man.**

- The family was decreed and formed by God before the fall (Gen 2:18-25).
  - Man required the completion of a woman (Gen 2:18-20).
  - Woman was formed from man (Gen 2:23).
  - One man & one woman form an inseparable union (Gen 2:24).
  - The union in marriage becomes unique & autonomous from all other relationships (Gen 2:24).
  - The union of marriage is righteous before God (Gen 2:25).
- The decrees as a result of the fall (Gen 3:17-19).
  - Life will become harsh, burdensome, difficult – this was aimed predominately at the man as the provider (Gen 3:17-18).
  - All people will grow old and die (Gen 3:19).
  - People will be besieged by Satan & evil – this has ultimate fulfillment in Christ, but immediate in all (Gen 3:15).
  - Women will have great pain & difficulty in childbirth (Gen 3:16).
  - Women will be subjected by position or role under the authority and control of a man (Gen 3:16).

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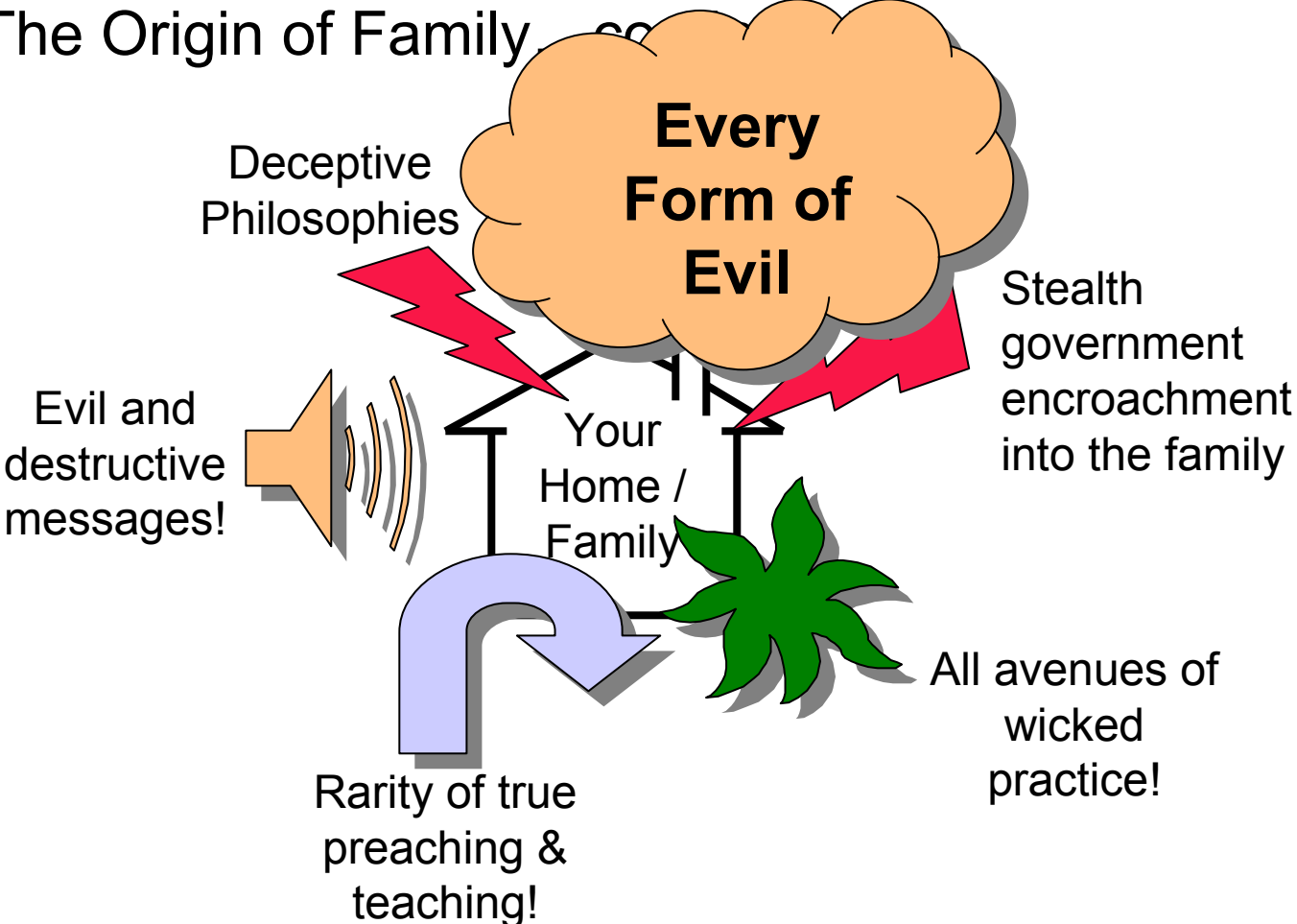
### ❑ The Origin of the Family continued...

- The Role of the family in relation to the fall and sin
  - Each person is ruined in Sin – we sin because we are sinners (Eph 2:1-3)
  - Sin begins in a person the minute they are born (Ps 51:5)
  - Our world is under the curse – we are not on neutral ground that is fair or balanced (Gen 3:17-18)
  - Our world, country, cities, neighborhoods, places of education, and churches are all under the effects of the fall (Rom 3:9)
  - No amount of education, philosophy, psychology, science, government, or affluence will lift us from the dilemma of the effects of sin (John 3:1-7)
  - Our homes are places where sinners live
  - The Christian is the only person who can understand why we are and act the way we do, and flee under God's grace is the only hope and cure – John 8:36

**God created the family as one of the primary institutions to curb the effects of sin!**

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## □ The Origin of Family

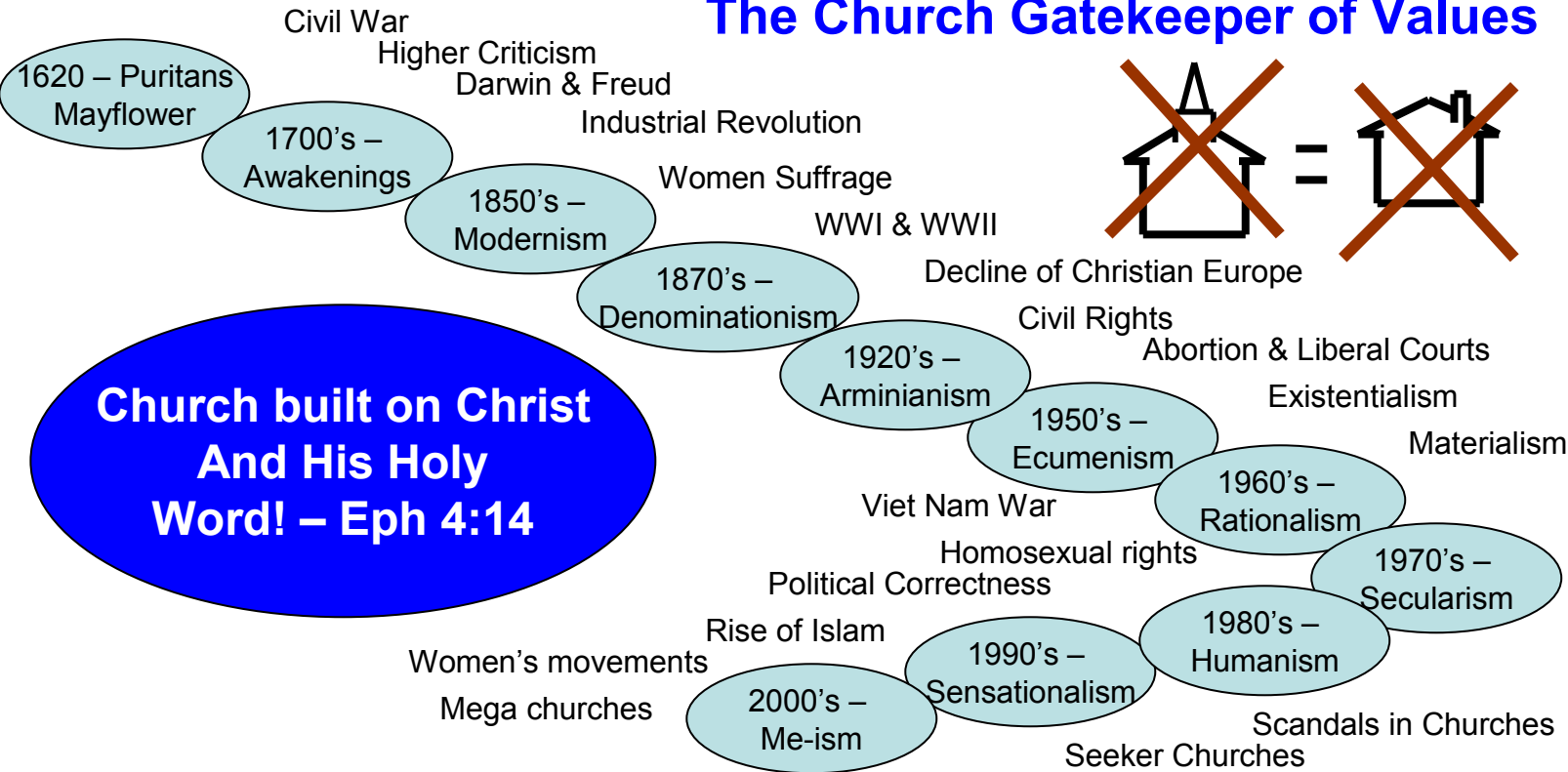


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## □ The Origin of the Family...continued:

The history of the family home in America is a history attached in direct proportion to the philosophical movement of the church.

### The Church Gatekeeper of Values







## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Purpose of the Family

**There is no doubt that although the family was founded before the fall, that it is intended to continue as God decreed, it was in sovereignty ordained as a key essential to combat the effects of the fall.**

- **The family has three primary purposes:**
  - **The propagation of the human race (Gen 1:28; 9:1). The propagation of the human races shows the omniscience of God in His pre-plan for the family. Without continued propagation the human race would become extinct. Just as God foreordained the elect before the foundation of the world (1 Pet 1:20; Eph 1:4), He also ordained the vessels whereby those elect would be born, and their circumstances.**
  - **To teach and lead the family to know, fear, and glorify God (Duet 6:1-25; Prov 1:8; Eph 6:1-4). This aspect of parenting must work in direct action to counter the curse (Rom 1:18-3:21), Satan who is the prince of this world (Eph 2:2), and man's natural condition in sin which is truth suppression (Rom 1:18).**
  - **To serve as an oasis to promote truth, righteousness, and insolate from the effects of the fall (Prov 24:3-4). As mankind will naturally shun the**



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Purpose of the Family continued...

things of God (John 3:19), it is imperative that parents raise their children a manner to counter their natural propensity.

- **Other general purposes of the family:**

- The home as an oasis should be a sanctuary from the rigors of the sinful world. A place of peace, harmony, justice, and righteousness.
- The husband and father is the home ruler (1 Tim 3:4-5), sets the standards, and also leads by example (1 Cor 11:3; Eph 5:23).
- The husband and father must conduct his life and relationships with commitment to God, and to his wife, and family as pleases the Lord (John 13:15; Phil 3:17; 2 Thess 3:9; Tit 2:7) .
- The responsibility extends to the wife and mother as the principal homemaker, and delegated leader of the children (Prov 1:8; 31:26; Tit 2:5 ). The mother will normally spend more time with the children, and has a special God given gift to exercise in caring for them (1 Thess 2:7).
- It is through the parents that children have an opportunity to be instructed in God and ultimately led to know God. Parents are given delegated authority by God to govern and to guide the children. Parents do not own their children. The relationship is temporary, not eternal. It is a great stewardship (Ps 127:3).



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Purpose of the Family continued...

- The home is the one place a man can rule and exercise dominate control over the environment. God holds man accountable for that environment (1 Tim 3:4-5).
- Also as an oasis, the Christian home is a special place where the grace, goodness, glory, and greatness of God should be found. The Christian home must not be merely a place to hang out, watch TV, sleep, and find something to eat. The Christian home must be modeled after the Scriptures (Deut 6; Prov 31; Eph 6).
- In the home where God is not central, not obeyed, and not taught by Word and example, the ramifications are unequivocally and inconceivably bad (Judges 2:10-11; Ex 34:7).
- The parents responsibility is not just to establish Godly principles and maintain righteous standards (although this is part of the development of the oasis), but to trust the Lord, and seek Him diligently, depending on Him to establish and keep the home (Ps 127:1; John 15:5).
- Parents cannot save their children. God must do the saving. Their responsibility is to establish the atmosphere in grace, guard the territory and maintain the place where God can be called upon to exercise Himself to bless, to benefit, to be gracious, and merciful (Gen 18:19).



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### ❑ The Purpose of the Family continued...

- The husband and father of the home as leader, and the wife and mother as designated leader must constantly be cognizant that Satan is seeking to destroy their home. He will use any device, any method, any means to destroy it (1 Pet 5:8; Eph 6:12).

### ❑ The Home in relation to God's Wisdom

- **Prov 24:3 – “By wisdom a house is built”**
  - **“Wisdom” in Hebrew means:**
    1. farsightedness – a capacity for judgment (ie. Discernment between right and wrong)
    2. skillful (ie. as in any art)
    3. possession and use of knowledge
    4. “...the adaptation of what we know to what we do.” Girdlestone, Synonyms of the Old Testament, Eerdmans, p.74
  - **“House” – in Hebrew is a word picture for:**
    1. family – Ps 68:6
    2. home – Ps 68:12
    3. household – Proverbs 31:15, 21, 27



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- The Home in relation to God's Wisdom continued...
  - **“built” in Hebrew means: build, make, construct, or obtain children – same word in other passages:**
    1. “fashioned” – Gen 2:22
    2. “fortified” – 1 Kings 15:17
    3. “obtain children” – Gen 16:2
  - Prov 24:3 – “and by understanding it is established”
    - **“understanding” in Hebrew means:**
      1. Ability to learn from experience
      2. Ability to respond quickly and successfully to new situations
      3. Ability to use reason in solving problems
    - **“established” – in Hebrew – same word used in other passages:**
      1. “firm” – Ps 40:2
      2. “prepare” – Ez 28:13
      3. “directed” – Proverbs 16:9, Jer 10:23
      4. “ordered” – Ps 119:133
      5. “right” – Ps 51:10
      6. “fixed” – Ps 112:7
      7. “stable” – 1 Chron 16:30



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□ The Home in relation to God's Wisdom continued...

- Prov 24:4 – “and by knowledge the rooms are filled”
  - “**knowledge**” in Hebrew means:
    1. Judgment which is independent of outside pressures
    2. Ability to discern between options
    3. Ability to choose words and actions carefully
  - “**filled**” – in Hebrew word means consecrated, confirmed, accomplished:
    1. “completed” – Gen 29:21
    2. “required” – Gen 50:3
    3. “passed” – Ex 7:25
    4. “gratified” – Ex 15:9
- “with all precious and pleasant riches”
  - “**precious**” in Hebrew means honored, magnificent, rare
  - “**pleasant**” in Hebrew means pleasurable
  - “**riches**” in Hebrew means enough substance, wealth, abundance, sufficiency



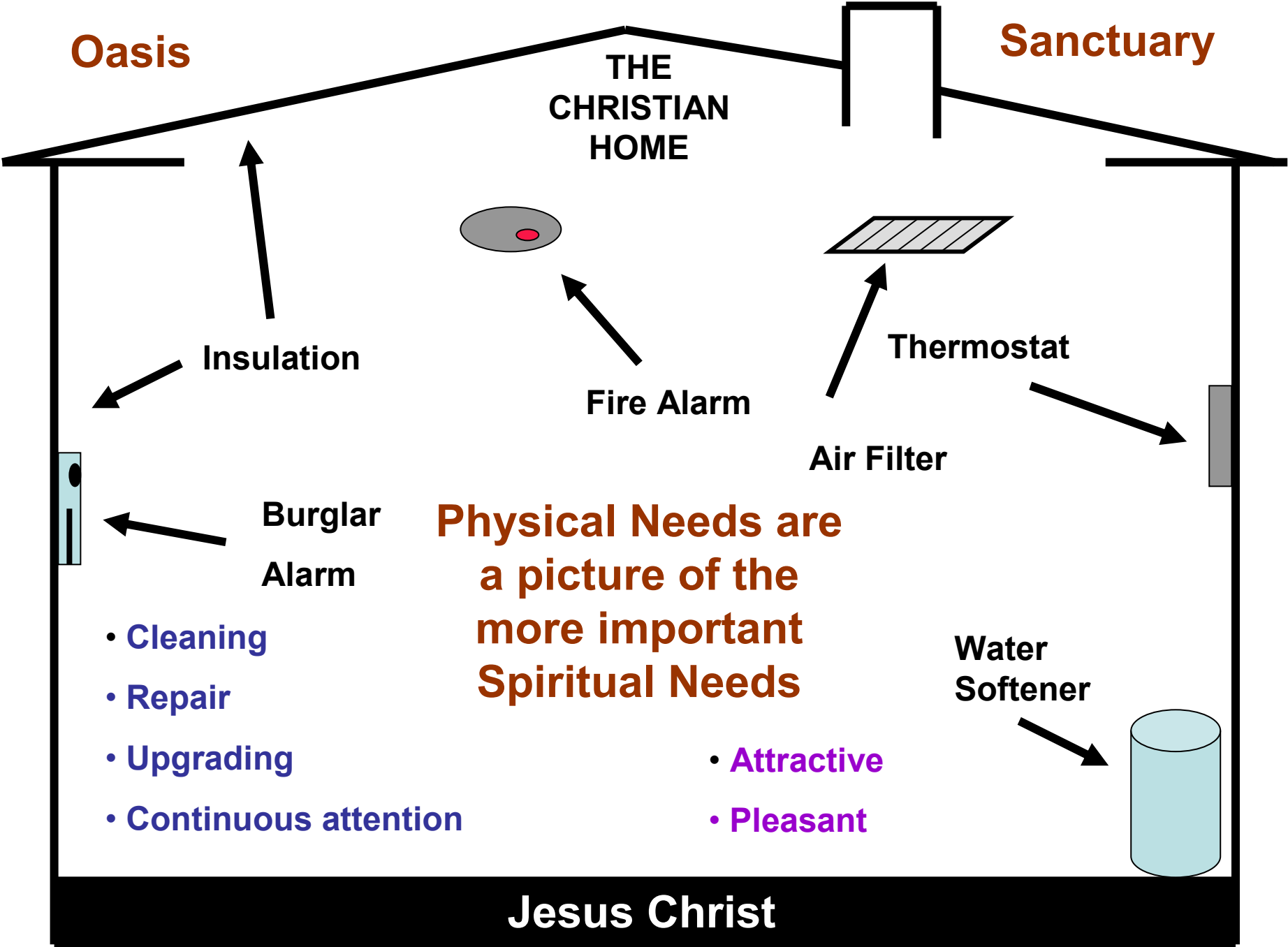
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- The Home in relation to God's Wisdom continued...

*Putting it together....*

**By God's wisdom (biblical skillful farsightedness and discernment) a Christian home is fashioned. And by using God's reasoning it is equipped, and stable in the midst of a fallen world.**

**And by Godly discernment, it is consecrated with a rare abundance of the most precious wonderful substance of God's joy (His presence and special blessing) that is beyond inestimable value.**



Oasis

Sanctuary

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Insulation

Fire Alarm

Thermostat

Air Filter

Burglar Alarm

Physical Needs are a picture of the more important Spiritual Needs

Water Softener

- Cleaning
- Repair
- Upgrading
- Continuous attention

- Attractive
- Pleasant

Jesus Christ





## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### ☐ God's role in the Family

- The home is the one place a man can rule and exercise dominate control over the environment. God holds man accountable for that environment (1 Tim 3:4-5).
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Questions or  
Comments!