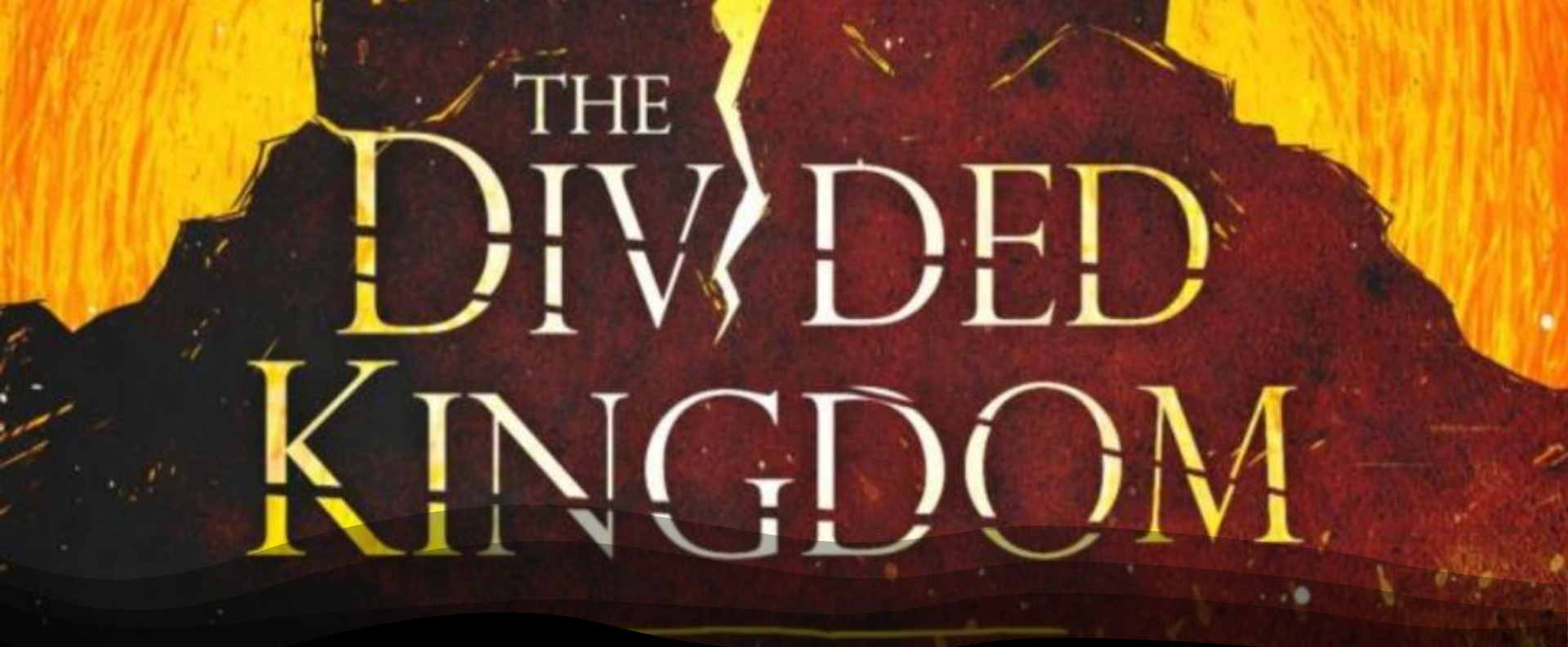




THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation..." – Matthew 12:25

Healing our Inner Division

3rd Sunday of Paona



The Divider

- “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?” (Matthew 12:25–26)

The Divided Mind

- There is a struggle for the mind on man
- EX: The crowd after feeding the 5000
- “You seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.” (John 6:26)
- “Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” (Colossians 3:2)
- “Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.**” (2 Corinthians 10:5)



The Divided Heart

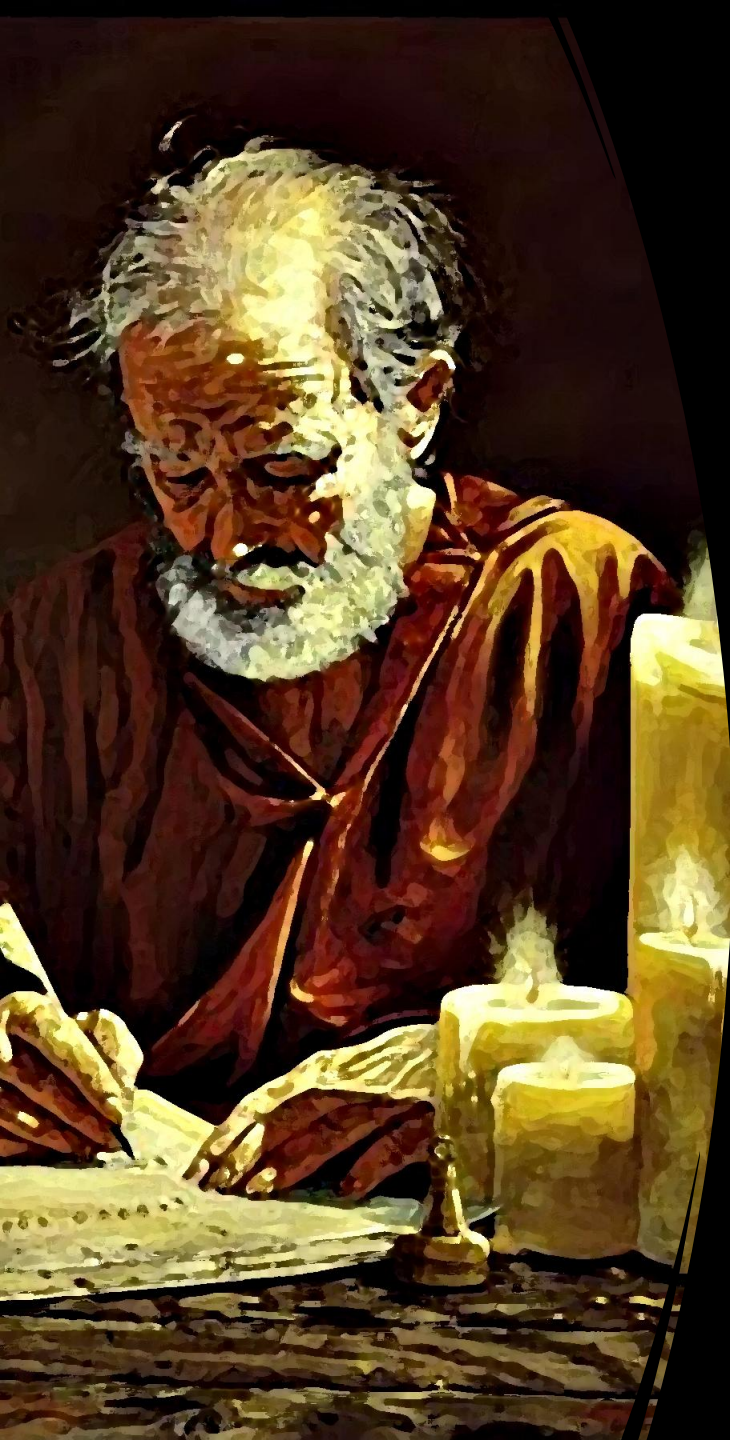
- The Love of God
- "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' (Matt. 22:37-39)
- The Love of the World
- "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world — **the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life** — is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." (1 John 2:15-17)



The Divided Heart

- EX: Zaccheus
- “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matthew 6:24)





The Divided Will

- “For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”
(Galatians 5:17)
- Consider St. Paul



The Divided Will

- “For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.” (Romans 7:15)
- EX: St. Mary

The Danger of a Divided Self

- “These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.” (Matthew 15:8)
- Examples:
 - Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5)
 - Pharisees
 - Social media
- Dangers:
 - Hypocrisy
 - Self-deception
 - Double life