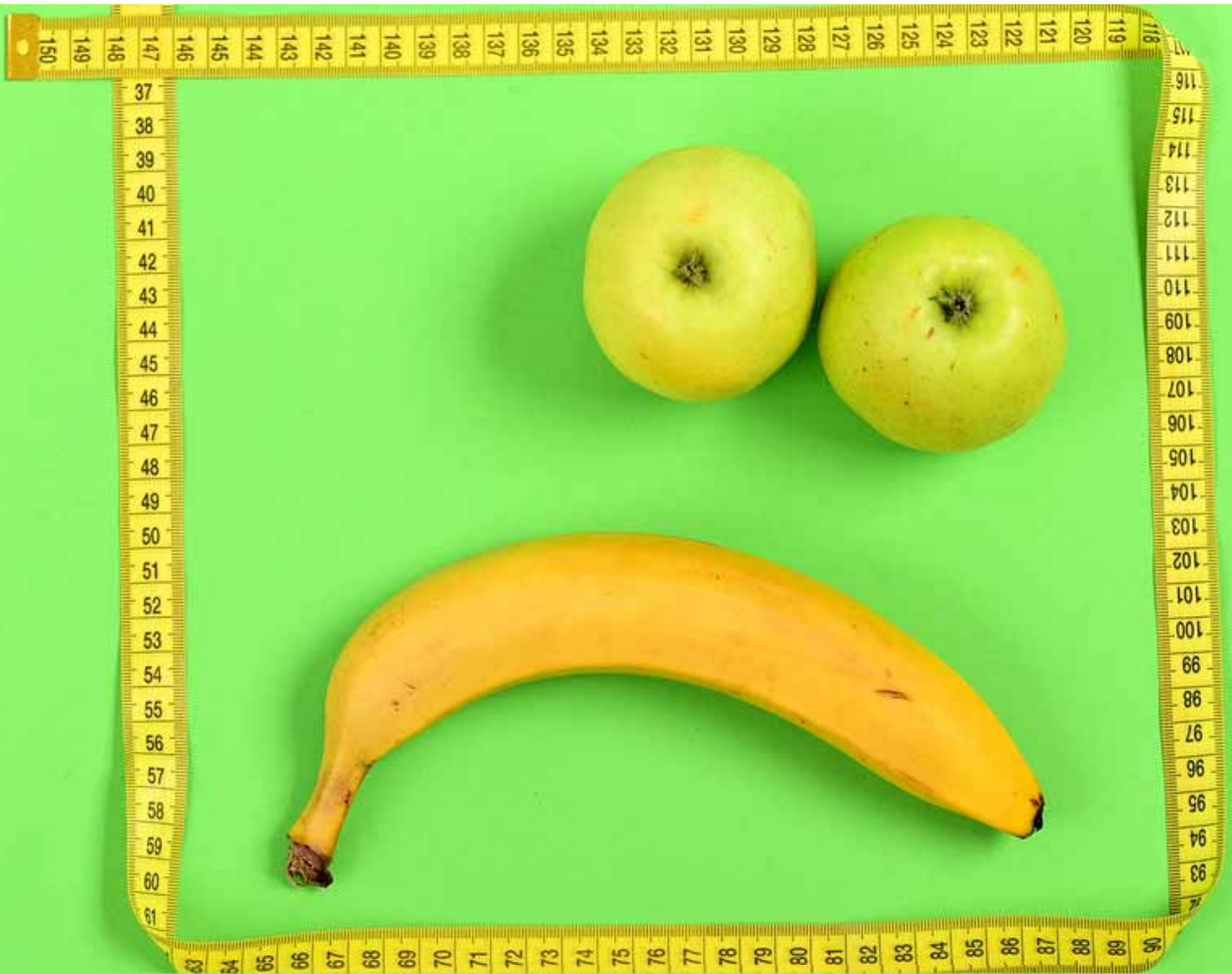


Paul's Letter of Joy

***Exalting Christ In
Our Bodies, part 2***

Philippians 1:22 - 26



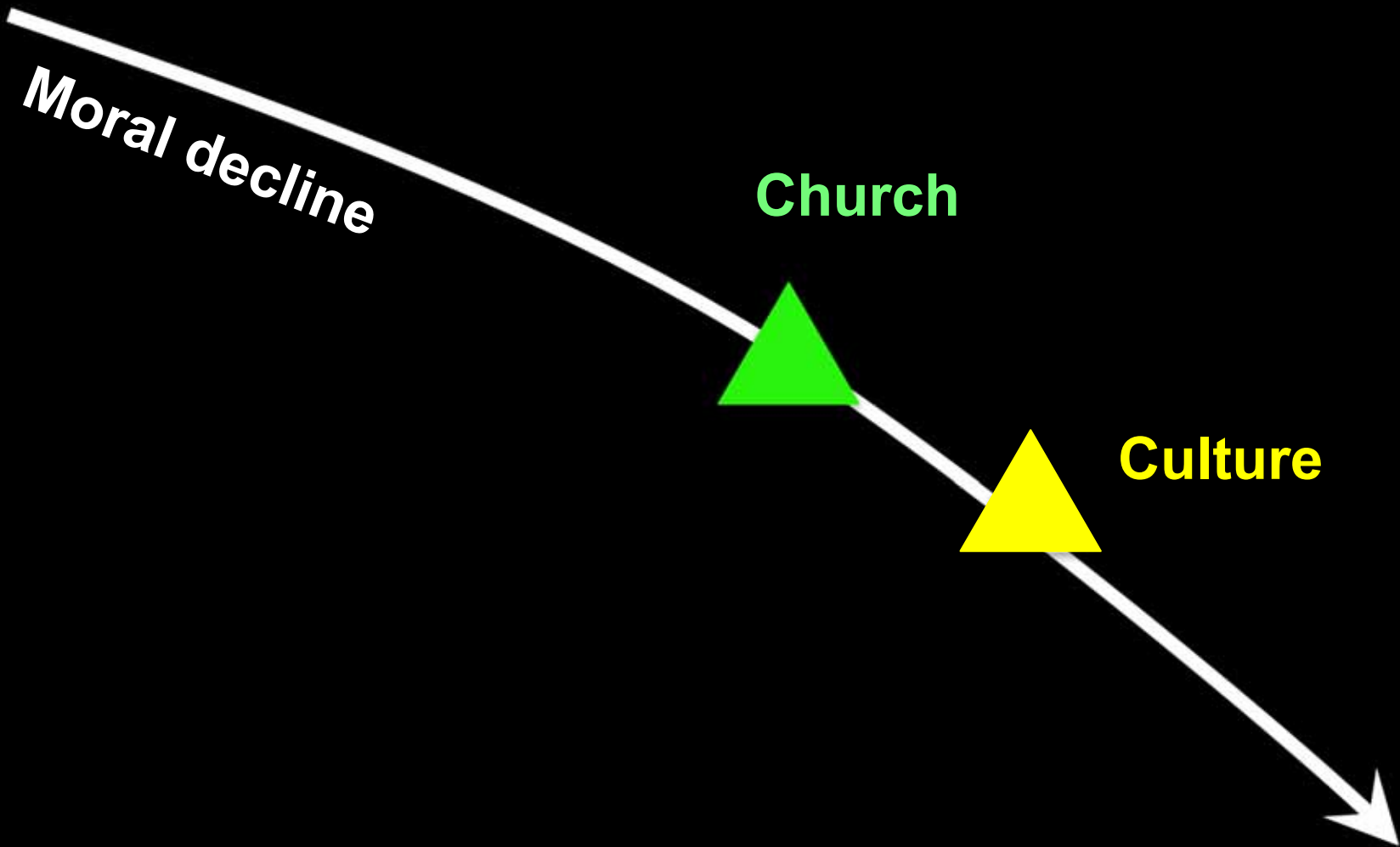
Amazed & Disappointed

Moral decline

Church

Culture

Church Follows Moral Decline of Culture



Should You Feel Shame for Missing Church?

2017

8 Mar



She says,

If we could read people's minds on Sunday mornings, we'd see all kinds of interesting thoughts...

- ***I'm tired.***
- ***This is my only day to sleep in.***
- ***People at church are hypocrites.***
- ***They won't even notice I'm not there.***
- ***The ceiling would cave in if I walked through those doors.***
- ***I know I should go, but I don't feel like it.***

She says,

Sound familiar? I've been there. This article is for you, whether you attend regularly but feel guilty when you need to miss a week, or whether you do not go to church at all. I do go to church on Sunday mornings (but, I'll admit, not to every service our church offers). I love it and I honestly don't know what I'd do without it—but I'll be the first person to say that you should not feel shame for missing it.

She says,

“Because shame has no place in a relationship with God. We live under grace, which means that Jesus came to pay the price for all of our failings, all of our sins, all of our mistakes.”

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:23 - 25

She missed the principles:

- ***Rebuke of not going to church (Hebrews 10:23-25).***
- ***Command to use our spiritual gifts to minister to one another (Romans 12:3-8).***
- ***Hebrews were praised for ministering to others and rebuked for being lazy (Hebrews 6:10-12)***

But we should feel shame in certain situations:

- ***1 Peter 3:16***
- ***2 Timothy 2:15***
- ***Philippians 3:18-19***

We live in the Age of Grace . . .

. . . But Not In . . .

. . . an Age of License.

AS IT WAS IN
THE DAYS OF NOAH,
SO IT SHALL BE
ALSO
AT THE COMING OF THE
SON OF MAN;



Jesus warns us . . .

- ***Matthew 5:16***
- ***Matthew 10:37 – 39***
- ***Luke 14:34-35***

Paul refers to “shame” . . .

- ***Romans 1:16 - positive***
- ***1 Corinthians 15:34 - negative***

Paul – “Not Be Put To Shame”

Philippians 1:20

He contrasts . . .

***Shame
to
Exalting Christ***

Paul Shares His Heart

Philippians 1:21

“For to me live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

The literal Greek is,

“For me to live Christ, and to die gain.

***What
Fills Your
Cup?***



Now Paul Expands On Verse 21

Philippians 1:22

Paul has two choices:

1. Live in the flesh fruitful labor

***2. When he thinks about dying . . . he is
not sure!***

To Be With Christ Is His Dream!

Philippians 1:23

Paul is struggling with the choice:

1. Desire to be with Christ . . .

. . . greater than better!

Greek text is . . . polus mallon kreisson

But Staying Is Best For Them

Philippians 1:24

Paul is struggling with the choice:

1. Desire to be with Christ . . .

2. Yet, to remain is best for them . . .

Why He Will Remain, So That . . .

Philippians 1:25 - 26

- 1. They can grow in the faith and have joy.***
- 2. Be confident in Christ, as they see his example.***

***Paul wants to exalt
Christ – in himself
and in them.***