

“Something Divine Mingled Among Them”: Care For The Parentless And The Poor As Ecclesial Apologetic In The Second Century

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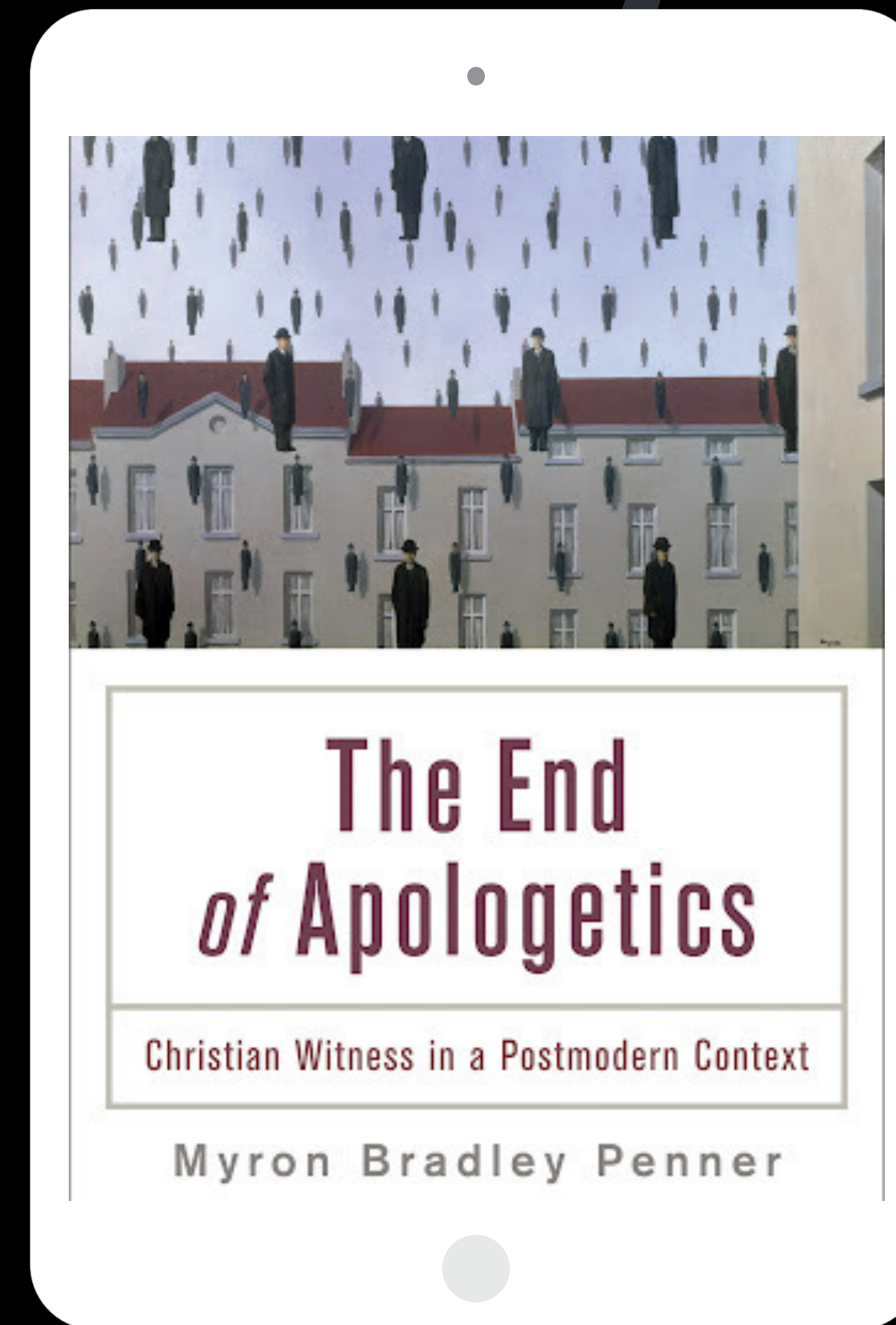
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The End Of Apologetics?

2


“This is the truth I have encountered that has edified me. Take a look at my life, who I am and see if you think that it’s true. And I believe that if you consider your own life and appropriate this truth, you will find it edifying for you too.”

—Myron Bradley Penner



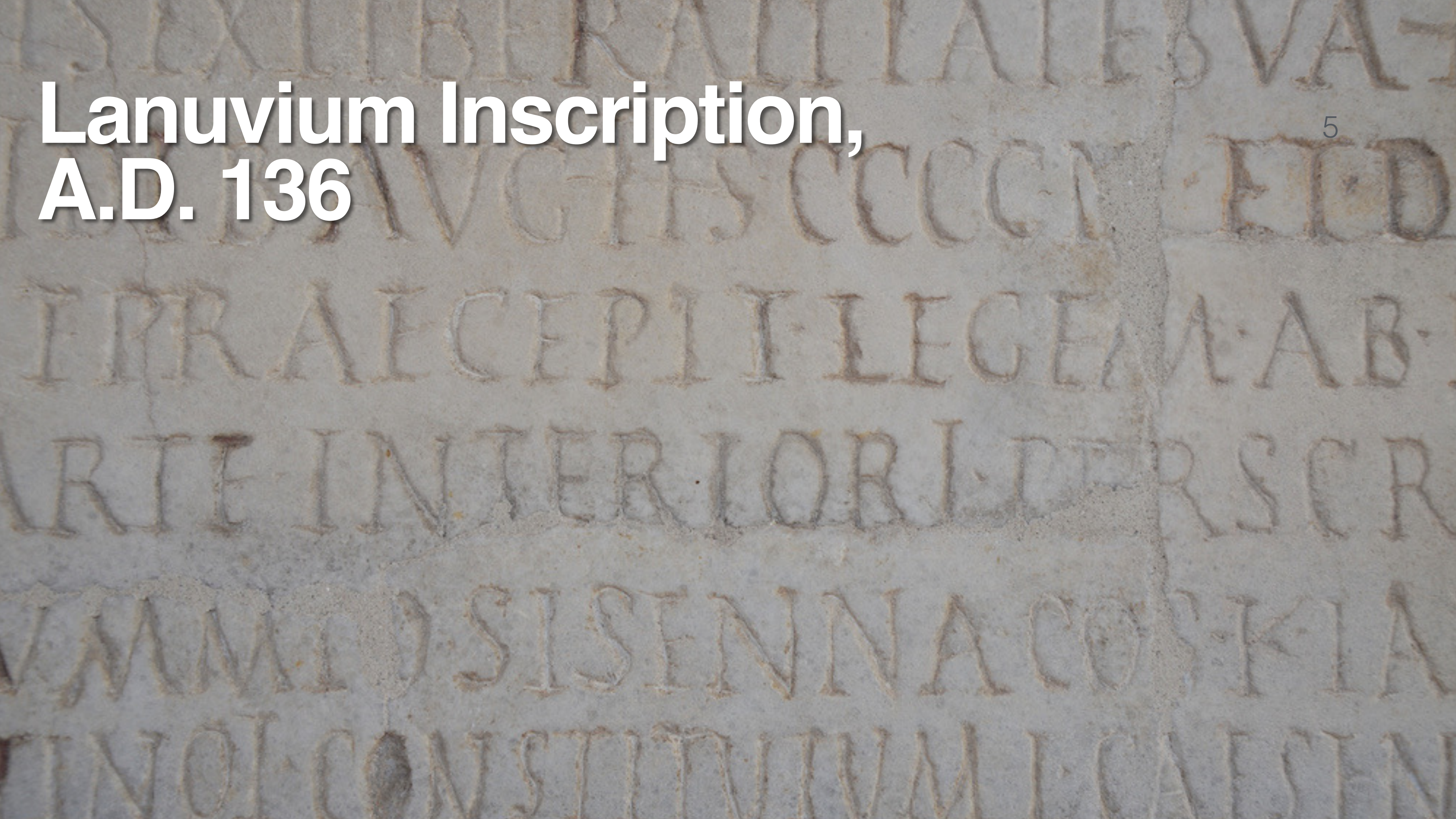


**The Exit Door
You're Looking
For May Be
Behind You**



Care For The Poor As Evidence Of The Presence Of The Divine In The Church In The *Apology* Of Aristides

The countercultural incongruity of the church's care for the poor demonstrates the reality of God's presence among the people of the church.

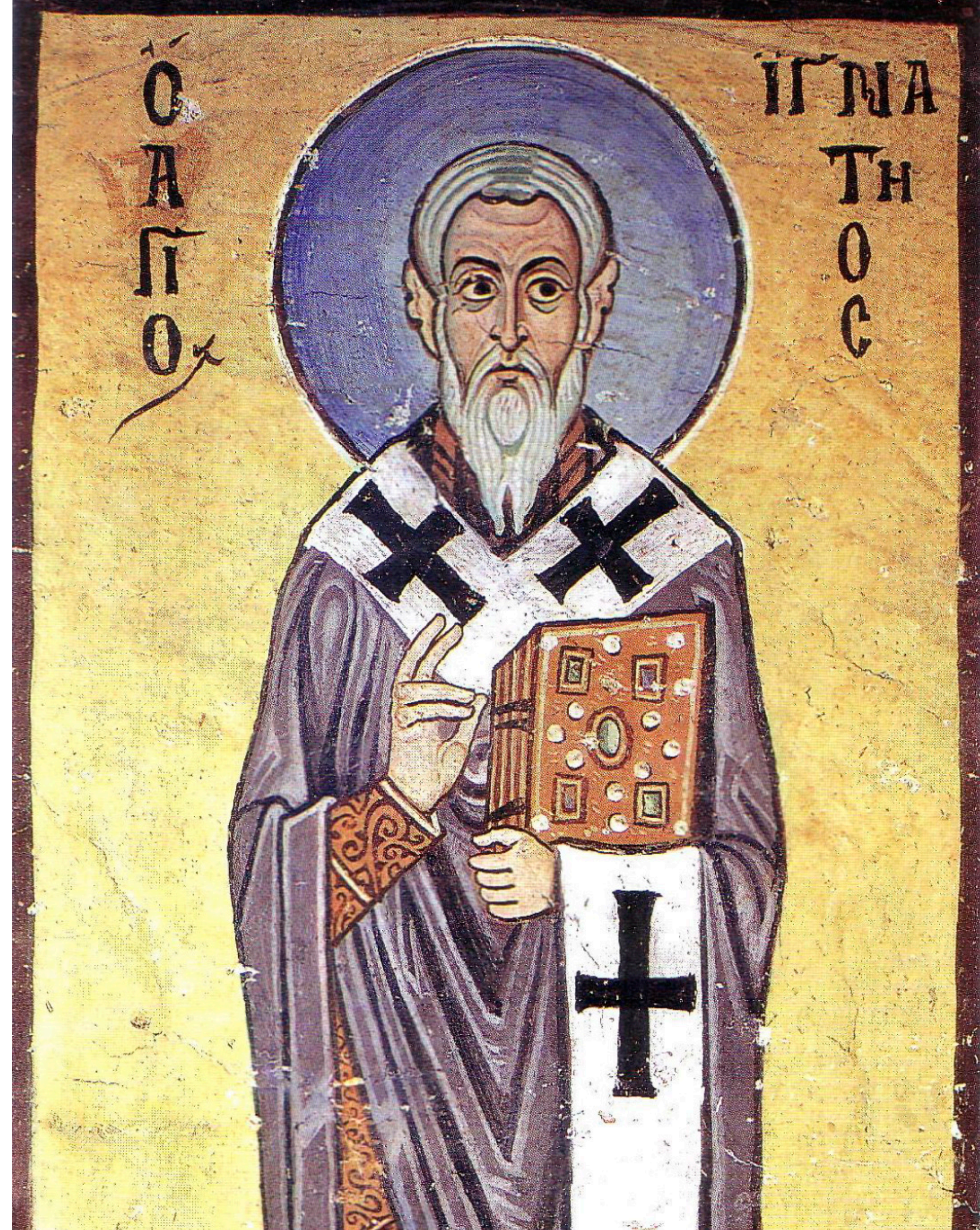


Lanuvium Inscription, A.D. 136

Care For The Widow And The Orphan As Outworking Of Orthodoxy In The Letters Of Ignatius

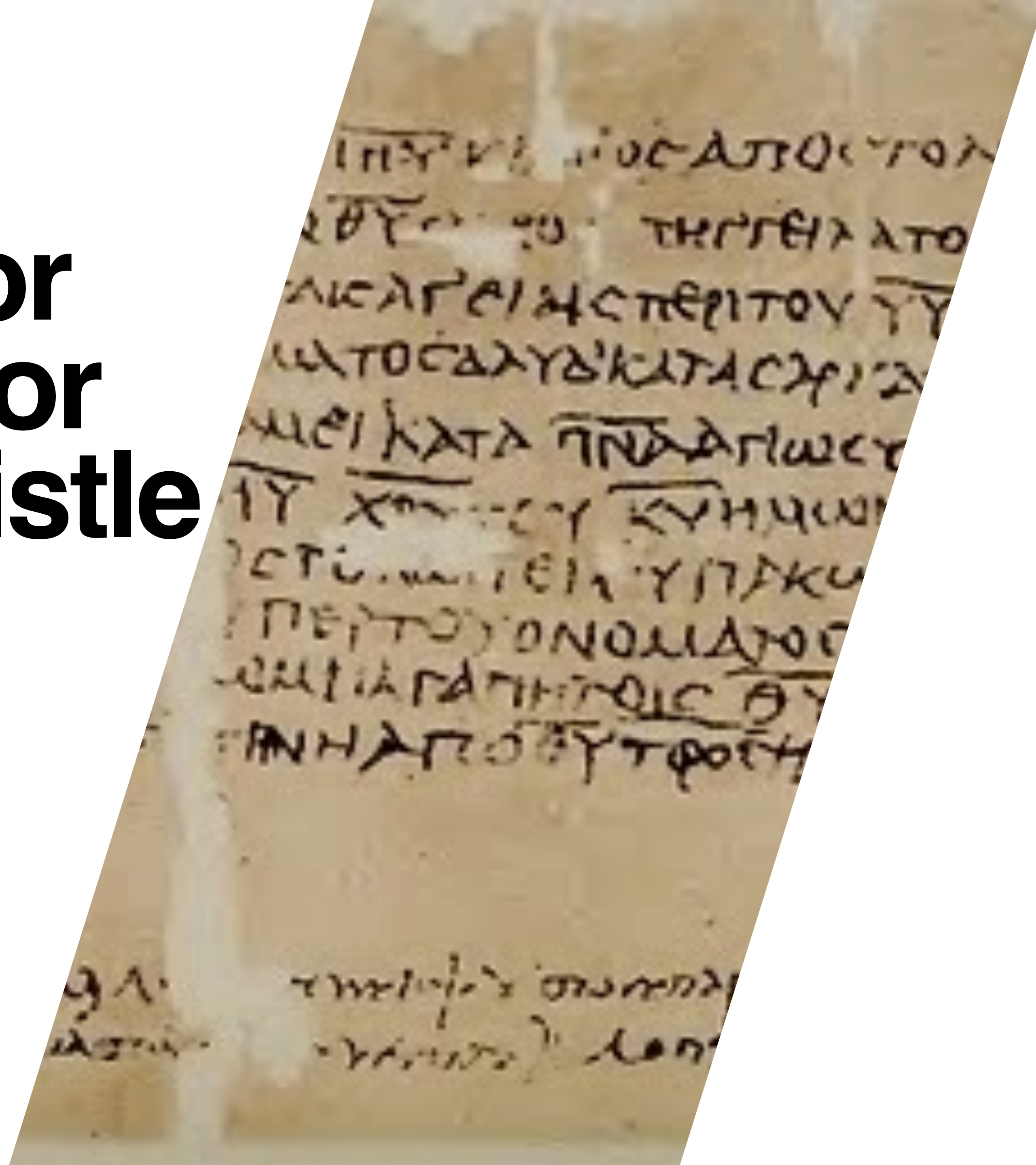
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The church's concern for physical suffering reveals the church's orthodox confidence in the reality of Jesus' physical incarnation and suffering.

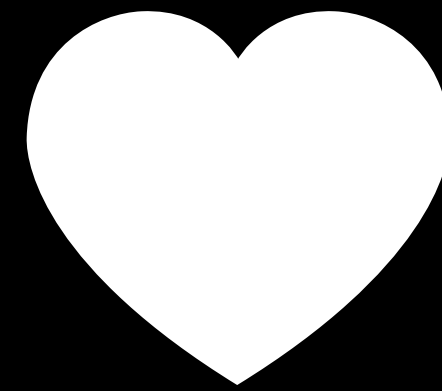


Care For The Poor As Preparation For Martyrdom In Epistle To Diognetus

A life of generosity toward poor is a means by which God trains his people to imitate his self-giving love for humanity, even to the point of following the example of those who give their lives for their faith.

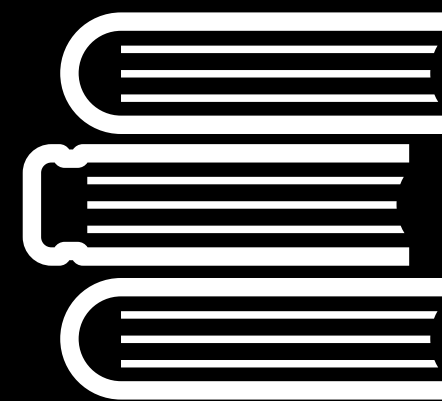


A Better Possibility Than The End Of Apologetics



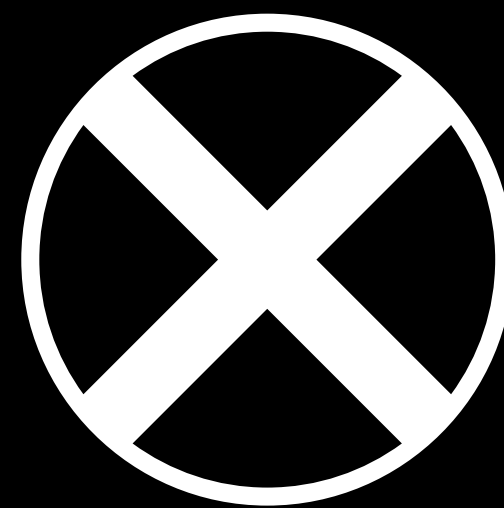
1. Evidential Charity

Works of charity are evidential not merely
attractational



2. Defective Theology And Defective Care

Healthy theology results in care for the broken
and the vulnerable



3. Preparation For Martyrdom

Preparations for martyrdom surround us, and
they are beautiful