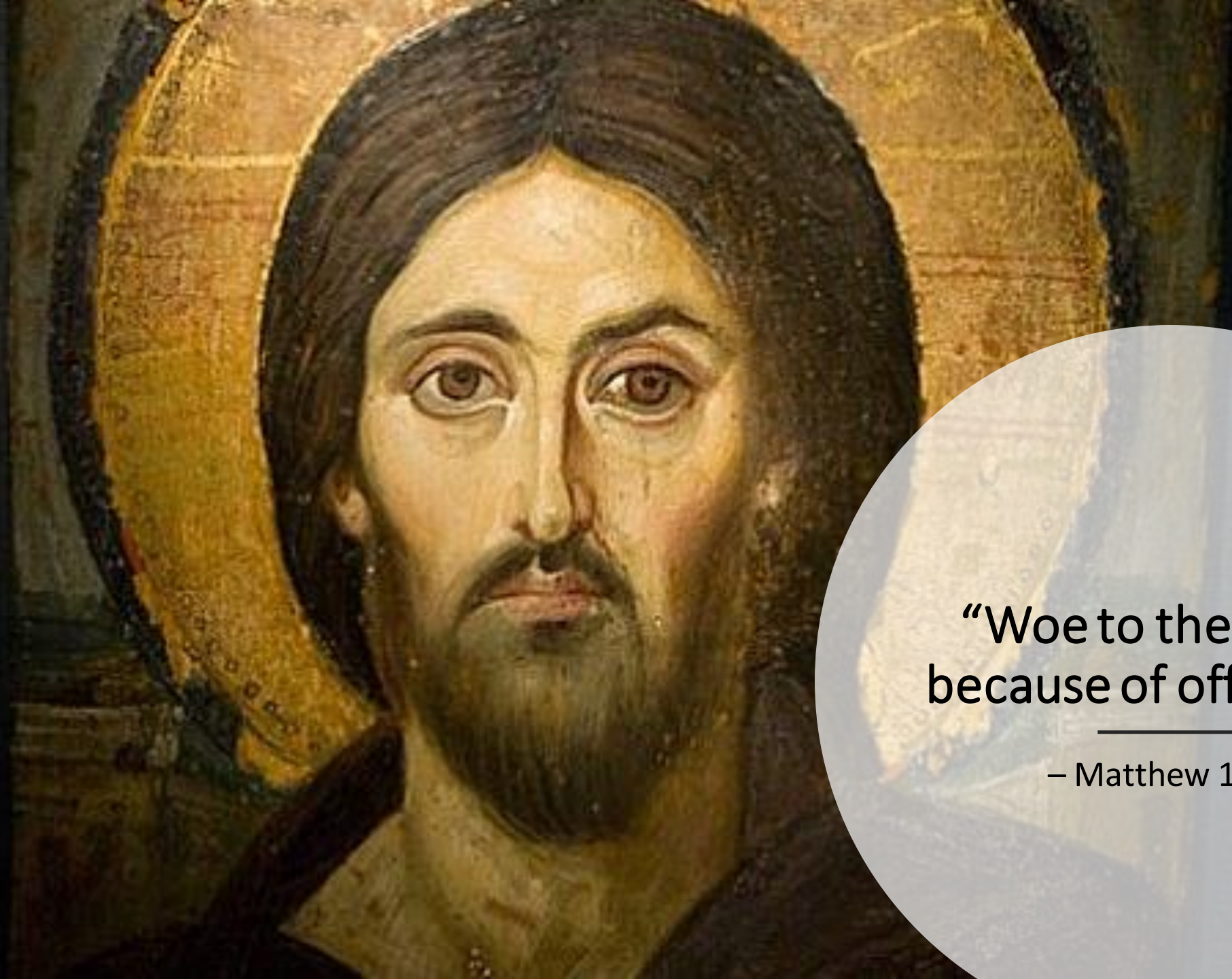




“Woe to the world
because of offenses!”

– Matthew 18:7



Offenses



Two Types of Offenses

- Internal

- “If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you.” (Matt. 18:8)
- “Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.” (Jam. 1:13-14)

- External

- “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin...” (Matt. 18:6)

External Offenses

The image features a solid dark gray background. A white, irregular, torn-paper-like border runs along the bottom edge, starting from the left and extending towards the right, with a jagged, uneven top edge. The text "External Offenses" is centered in the upper half of the image.

1. Offense of False Teaching

- “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.” (Gal. 1:6-7)
- “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.” (Gal. 1:6-9)





1. Offense of False Teaching

- False teachers are deceptive and cause people to stray from the true gospel
- What would be the result of adopting a false gospel?
- Arius



1. Offense of False Teaching

- Consider the many different denominations



2. Offense of Behavior

- Especially when there is a discrepancy between one's words and actions
 - “You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? You who say, “Do not commit adultery,” do you commit adultery?” (Rom. 2:21-22)
- EX: Pharisees
 - “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do.” (Matt. 23:2-3)



2. Offense of Behavior

- “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” (Rom. 12:2)
- “You are the light of the world...Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matt. 5:14, 16)



3. Offense of Speech

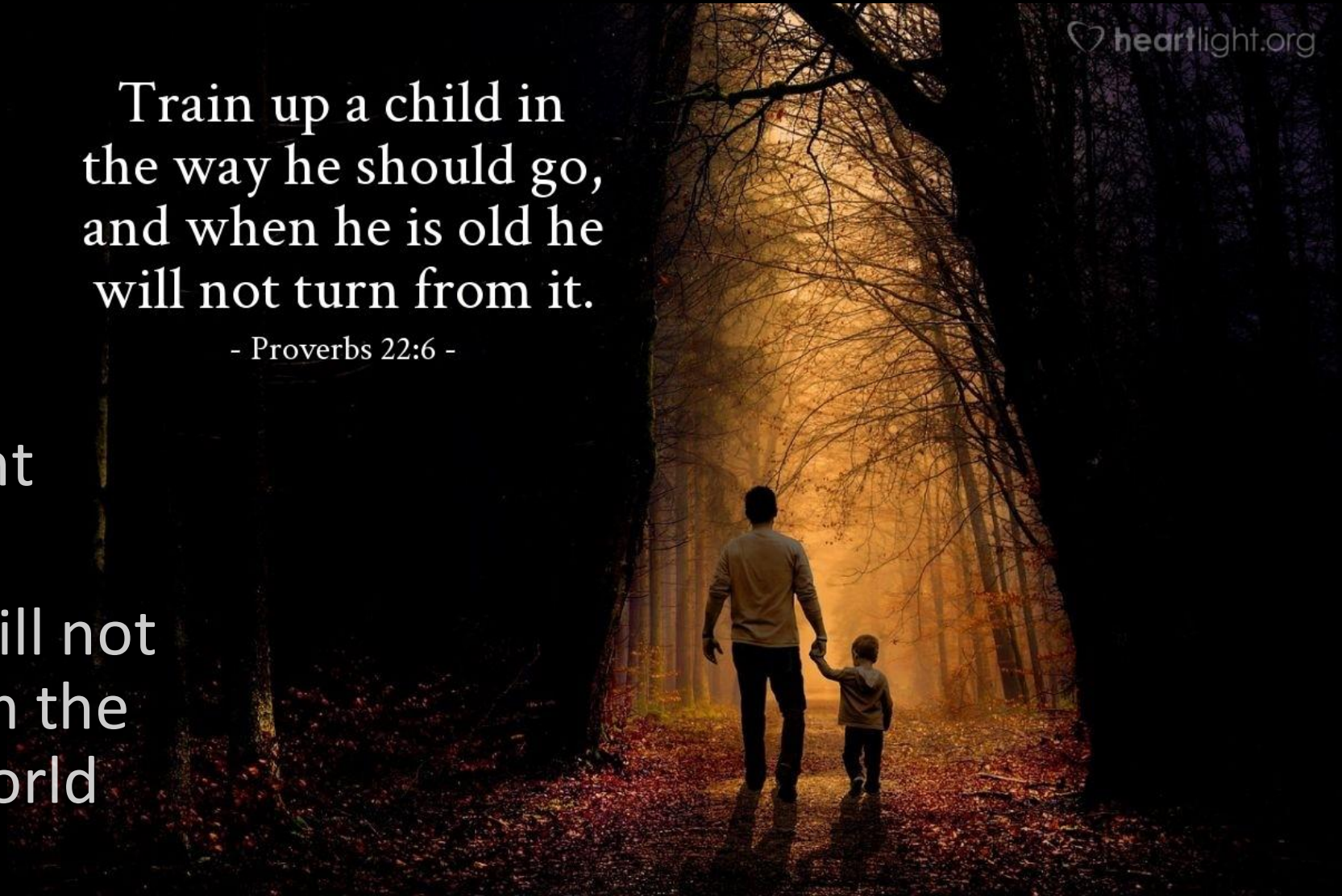
- “If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.” (Jam. 3:2)
- Consider the ways we offend others by our words
- “O Lord, set a watch on my mouth and a strong door for my lips.” (Ps. 140:3 LXX)

4. Offense of Appearance

- How do we present ourselves?
- Practicing these will not distinguish us from the practices of the world

Train up a child in
the way he should go,
and when he is old he
will not turn from it.

- Proverbs 22:6 -



5. Offense of Leaders

- “My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.”
(Jam. 3:1)





6. Offense of the Media

- The overwhelming majority of the media produced promotes the ungodly.
- It is promoted by deception
- **We are not just consumers of the media, but we are producers of the media now.**

Internal Offenses

- These are the offenses we commit against ourselves
- Primarily those of the senses
- How does the Lord instruct us to deal with them?
 - EX: Gangrene

