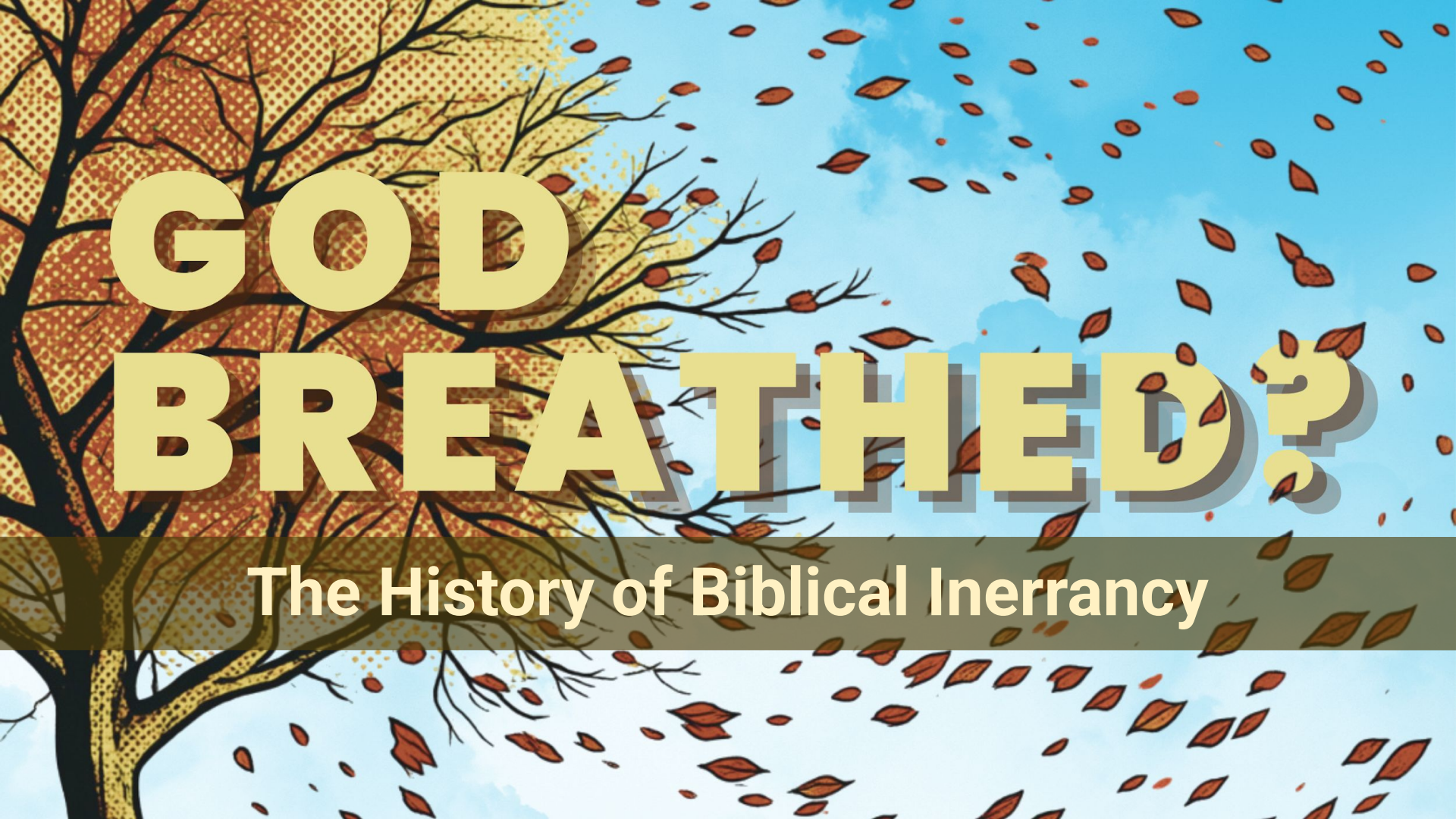


An illustration of a tree with bare branches on the left, set against a background of falling brown and orange leaves against a light blue sky. The text is overlaid on this scene.

GOD BREATHE?

READING THE BIBLE AFRESH

An illustration of a tree with bare branches and some yellow leaves, set against a blue sky with many falling brown and orange leaves. The scene is autumnal and serene.

GOD BREATHED?

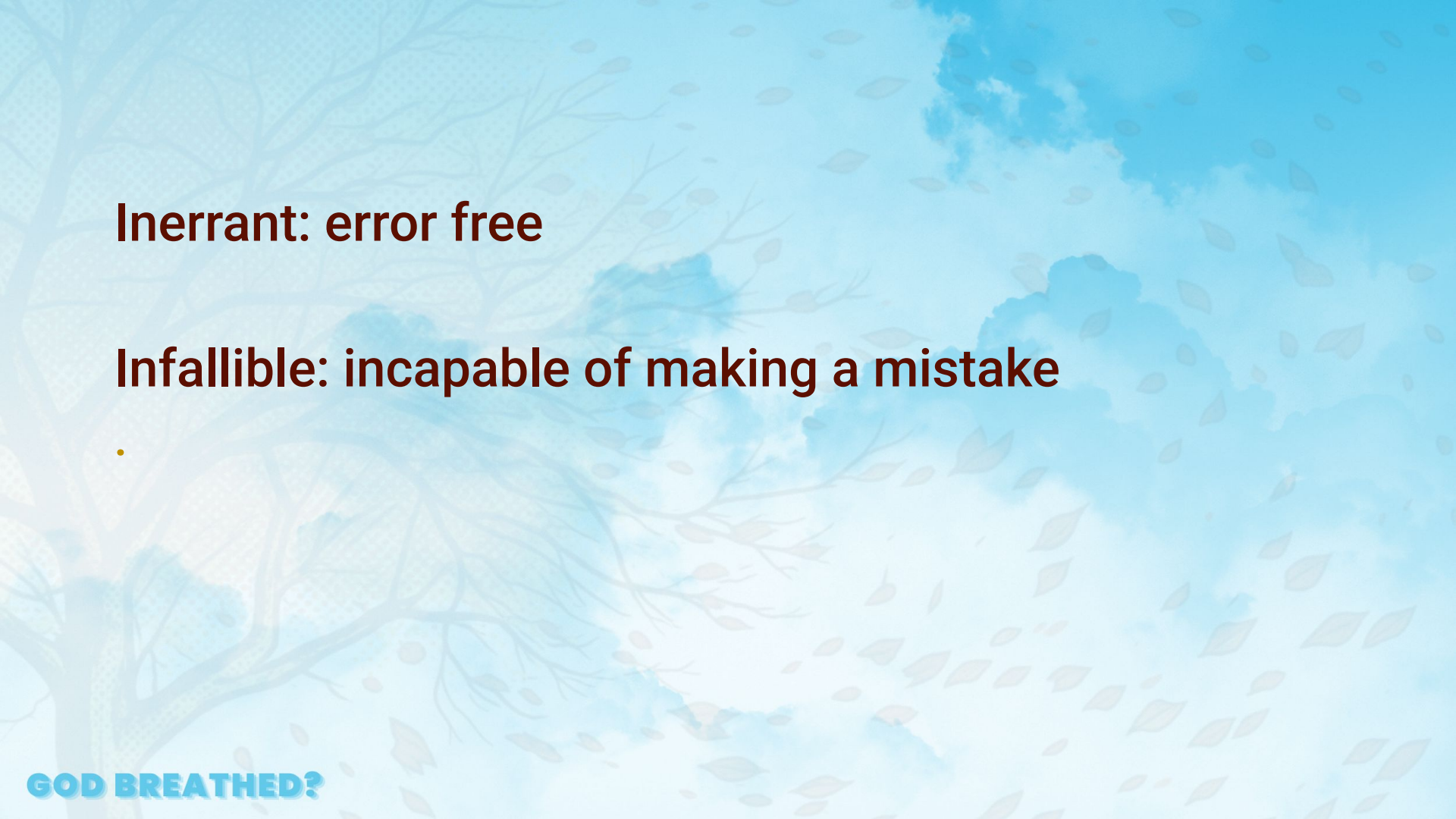
The History of Biblical Inerrancy

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are without error or misstatement in their moral and spiritual teaching and in their record of historical facts.

Biola University Statement of Faith



GOD BREATHED?



Inerrant: error free

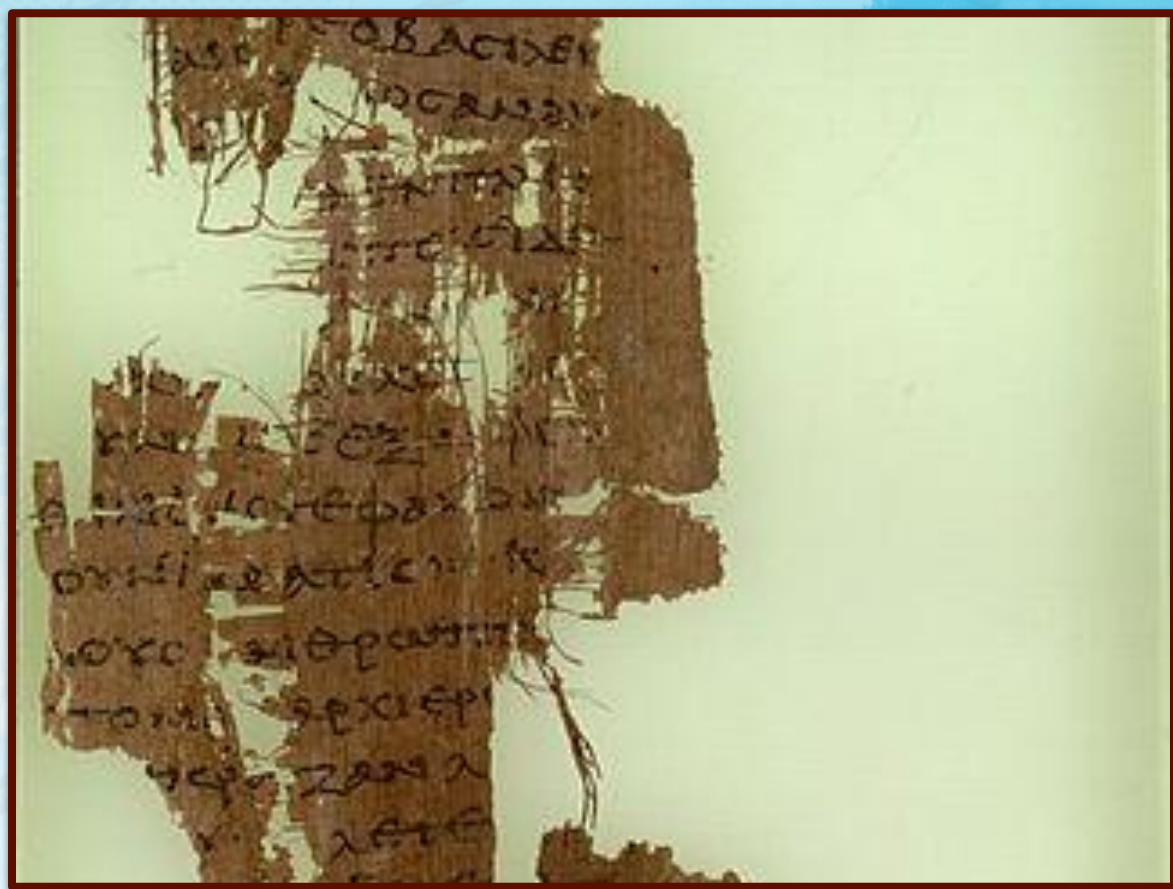
Infallible: incapable of making a mistake

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ΙΕΙΣΑΒ
ΕΠΤΟΘΕΝ
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GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3: 16, 17

Apostles Creed -earliest known creed, known in the early church

Nicene Creed-created in the mid 300s CE

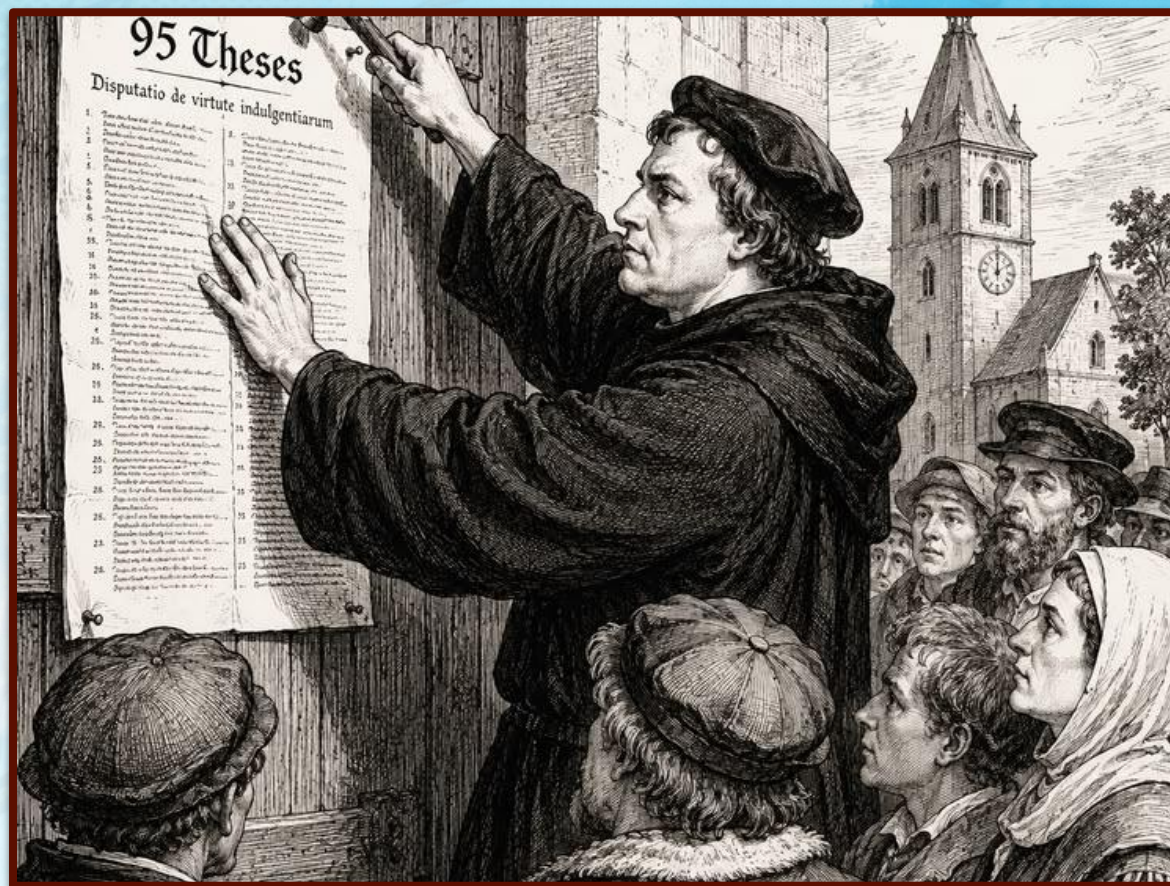
New Testament canonized by 393. (All 27 books of the NT were known earlier.)

Chalcedonian Creed- 481 CE

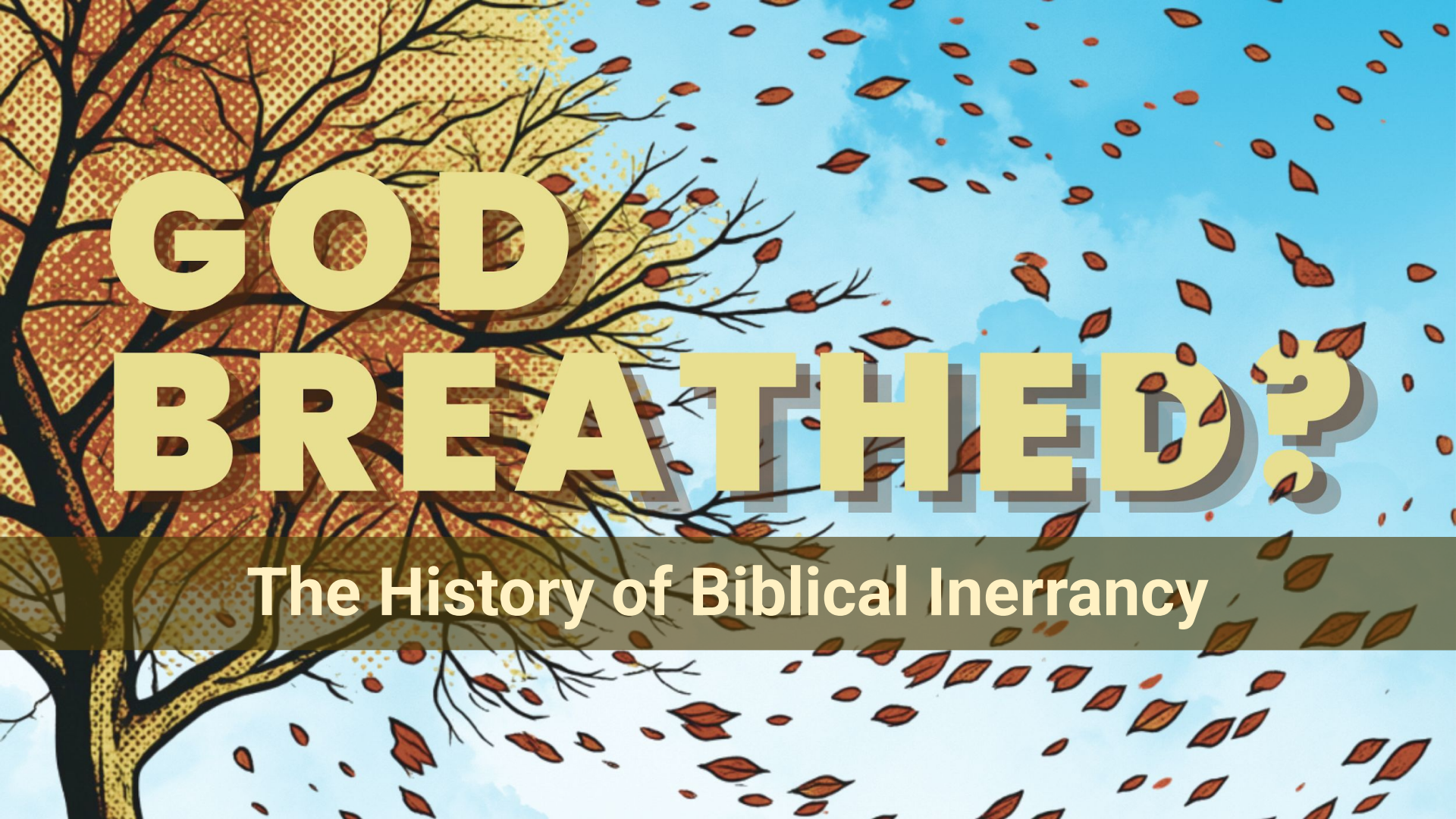
Athanasian Creed-in the 500s CE

Lots of creeds and confessions written in the next 1000 years, till we come to.....

- **First time that an inspired Bible becomes part of church doctrine is in 1566 in the Second Helvetic Confession. This confession is closer in time to us than to the early church.**



GOD BREATHED?

The background of the slide features a stylized illustration of a tree with dark, intricate branches on the left side. The foliage is represented by a dense pattern of small orange and yellow dots. Numerous brown and orange leaves are shown in mid-air, falling from the tree against a light blue sky with soft, white clouds. The overall aesthetic is that of a modern, artistic poster.

GOD BREATHED?

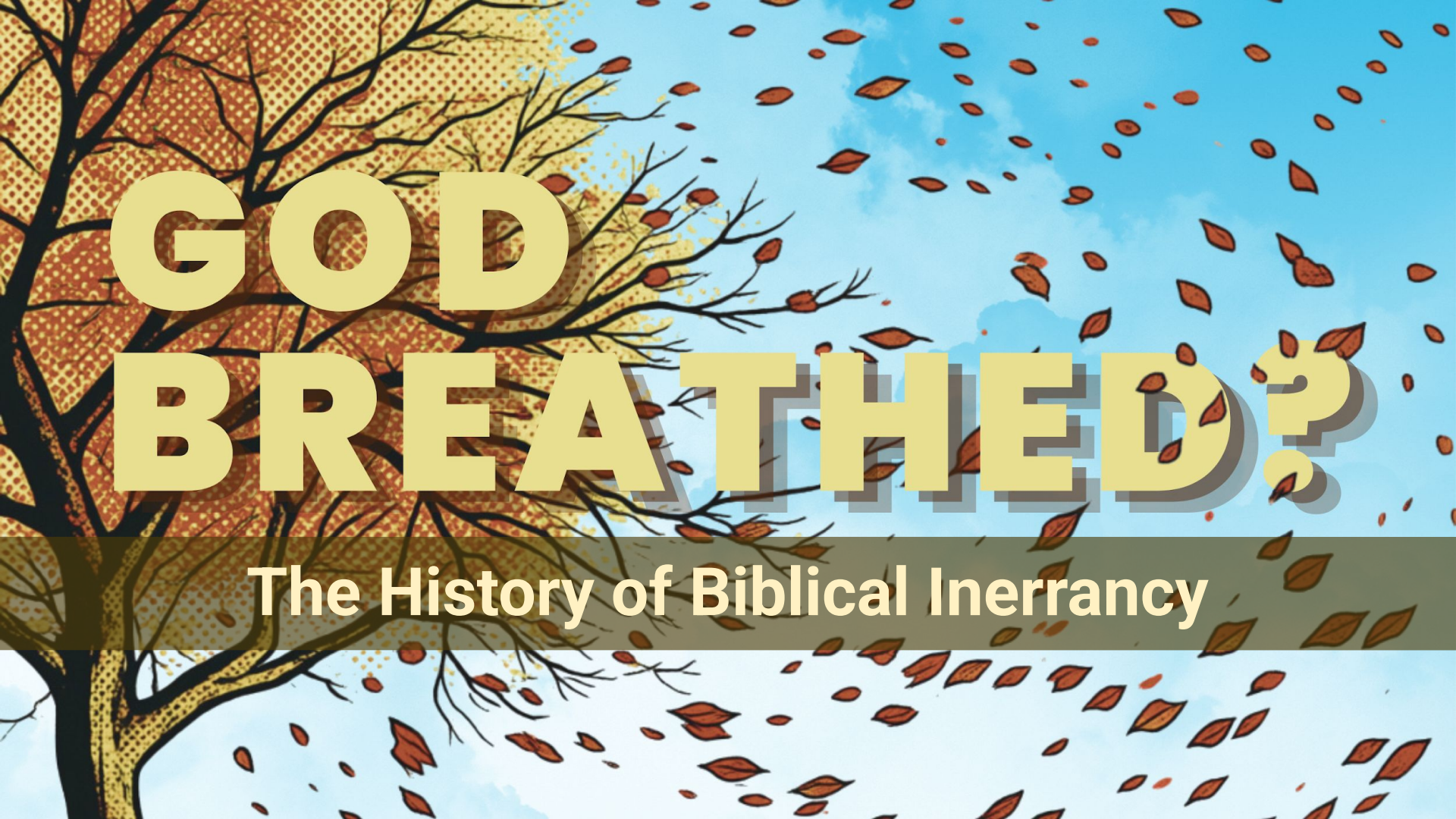
The History of Biblical Inerrancy

1. God's absolute sovereignty over all things, including salvation;
2. Scripture alone is the final authority for faith and practice;
3. Humanity is spiritually dead in sin apart from divine intervention;
4. and salvation is accomplished entirely by God's grace through Christ's work, received by faith alone.

1. God's absolute sovereignty over all things, including salvation; [Calvin and other reformers were pushing back against papal authority as well as the authority of kings and queens who were meddling in religious affairs.]
2. Scripture alone is the final authority for faith and practice; [Not the Catholic pope, not Church of England archbishops, not papal bulls]

3. Humanity is spiritually dead in sin apart from divine intervention; [No person or institution, only God has this divine power to make us alive in Christ]

4. and salvation is accomplished entirely by God's grace through Christ's work, received by faith alone. [The church, offerings, big donations, good works, last rites, and so on, cannot save you. Grace comes through Christ alone.]

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GOD BREATHED?

The History of Biblical Inerrancy



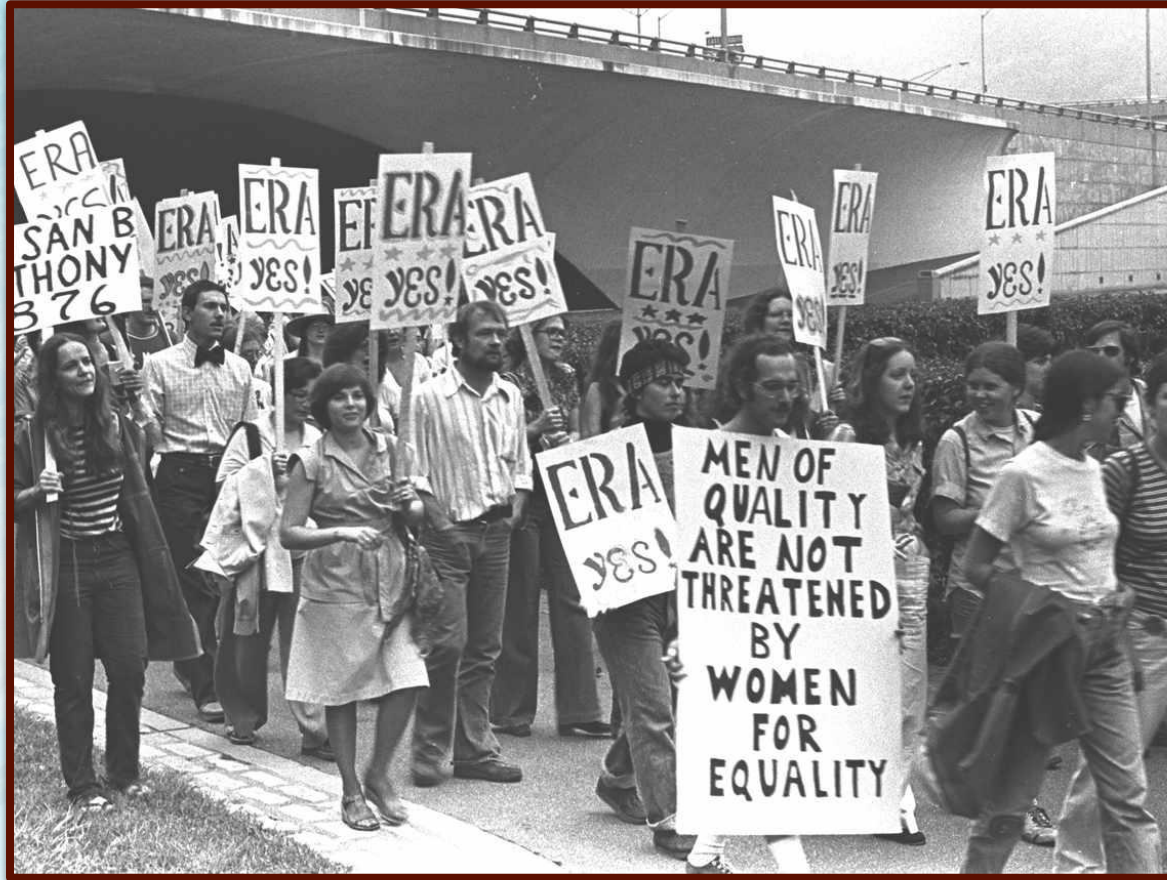
GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?



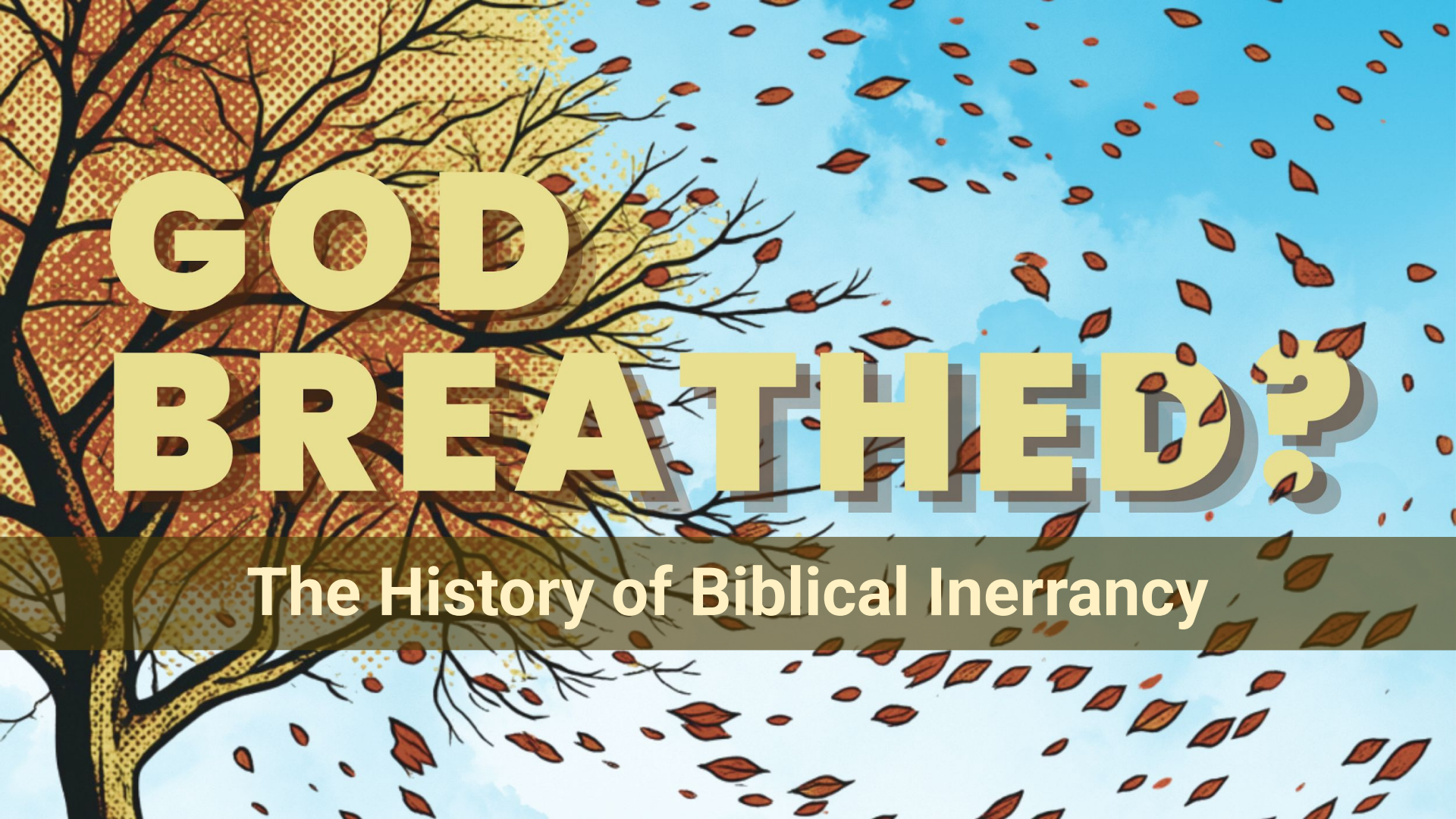
GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?



GOD BREATHED?

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GOD BREATHED?

The History of Biblical Inerrancy

THE CHICAGO STATEMENT ON
BIBLICAL INERRANCY

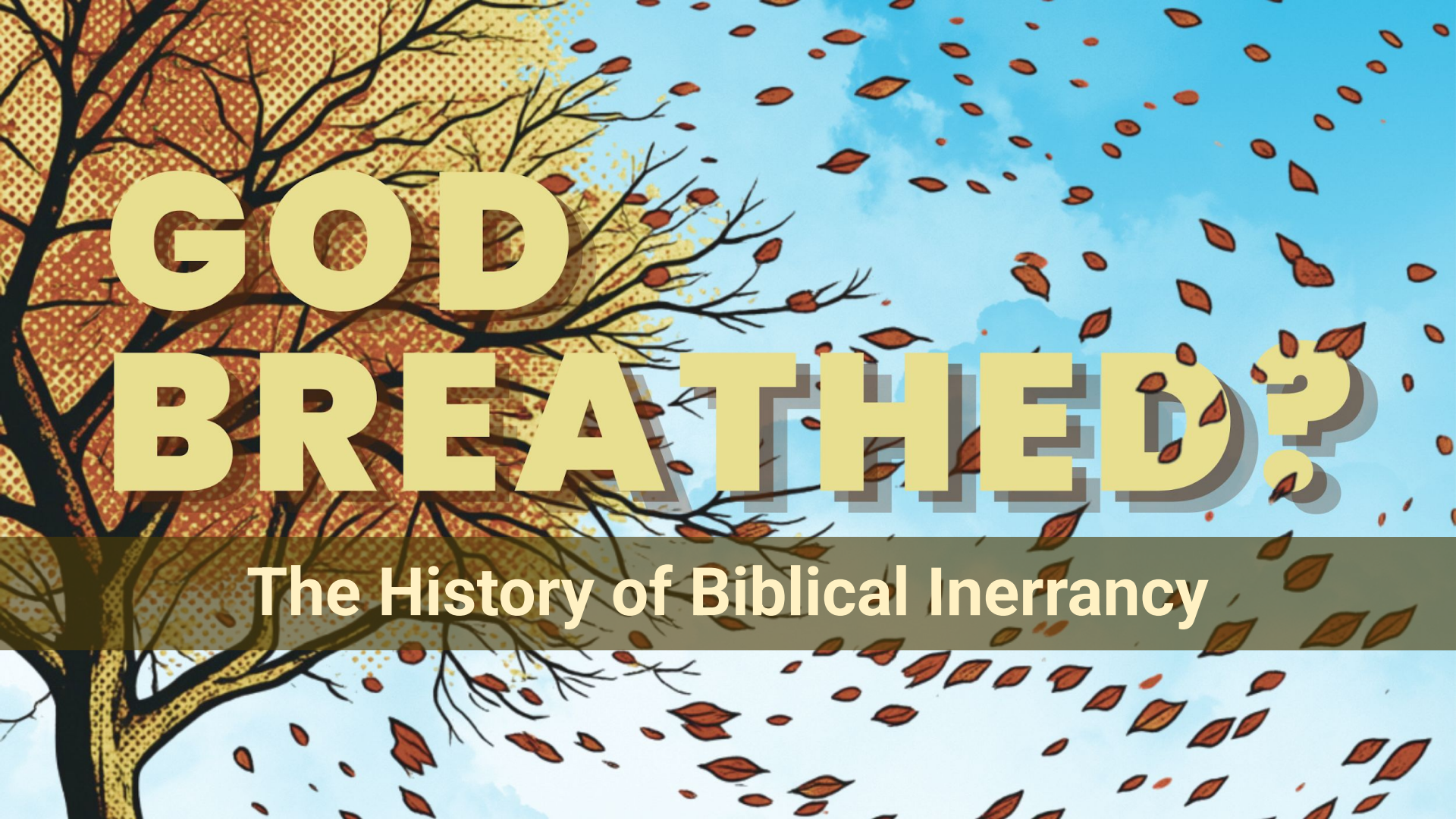
1. God, who is Himself Truth and speaks truth only, has inspired Holy Scripture in order thereby to reveal Himself to lost mankind through Jesus Christ as Creator and Lord, Redeemer and Judge. Holy Scripture is God's witness to Himself.

2. Holy Scripture, being God's own Word, written by men prepared and superintended by His Spirit, is of infallible divine authority in all matters upon which it touches: it is to be believed, as God's instruction, in all that it affirms; obeyed, as God's command, in all that it requires; embraced, as God's pledge, in all that it promises.

3. The Holy Spirit, Scripture's divine Author, both authenticates it to us by His inward witness and opens our minds to understand its meaning.

4. Being wholly and verbally God-given, Scripture is without error or fault in all its teaching, no less in what it states about God's acts in creation, about the events of world history, and about its own literary origins under God, than in its witness to God's saving grace in individual lives.

5. The authority of Scripture is inescapably impaired if this total divine inerrancy is in any way limited or disregarded, or made relative to a view of truth contrary to the Bible's own; and such lapses bring serious loss to both the individual and the Church.

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GOD BREATHED?

The History of Biblical Inerrancy

She writes:

The Chicago summit was apolitical, according to its organizers. Yet that does not mean that inerrancy has not affected American politics—nor that the attendees themselves did not engage deeply with partisan politics. In 1978, evangelical Christianity's political influence was on the rise, and many of the statement's signatories held direct lines to powerful politicians.

This statement...would spark a revolution within thousands of American churches and parachurch organizations, a revolution that included a purge within the existing institutional structures of evangelicalism. (by that she means)Its influence continues to this day. The Evangelical Theological Society—which staffs every evangelical seminary and theological undergraduate program, along with many conservative churches—still requires its members to assent to the Chicago Statement.

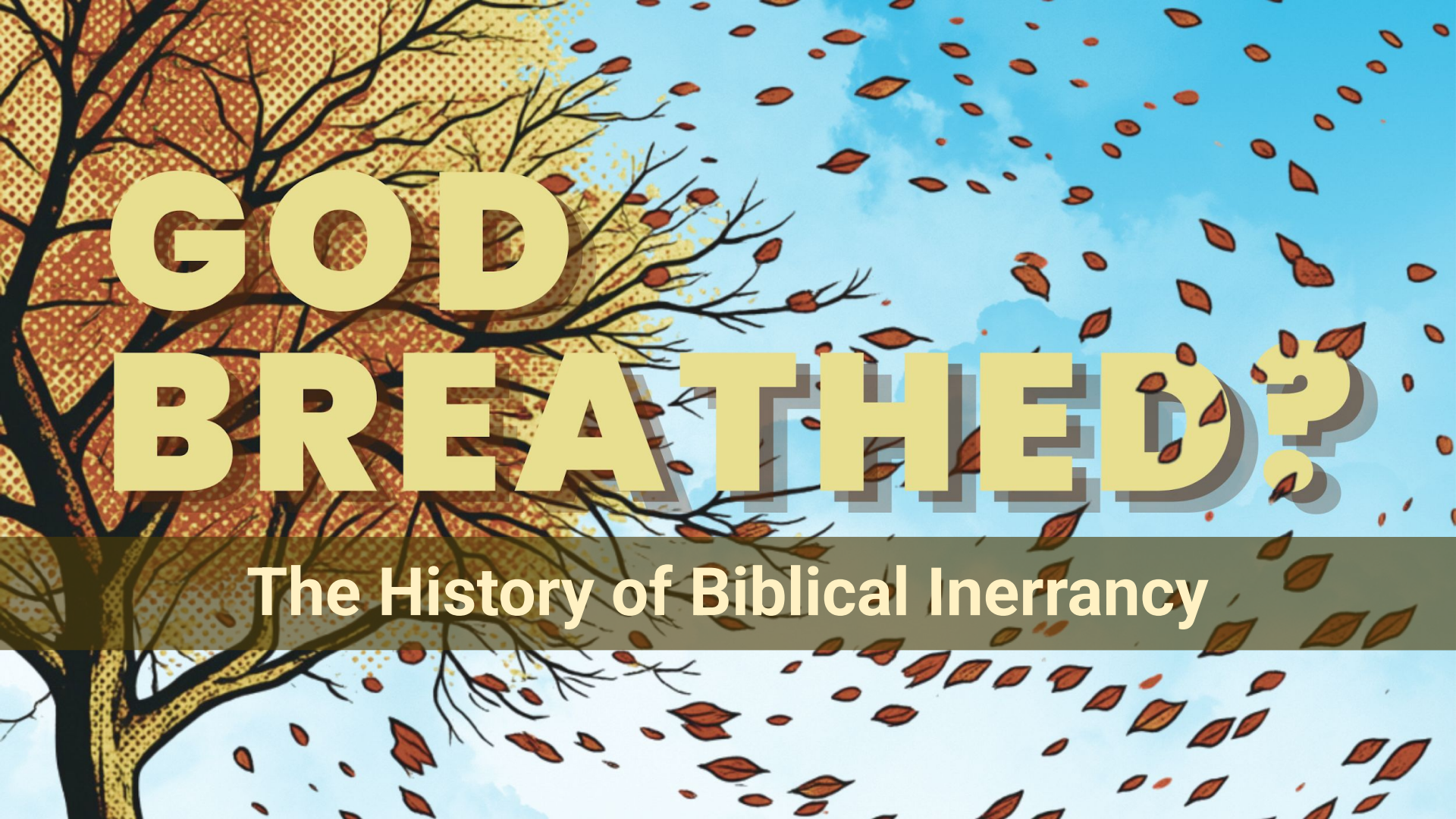
These leaders—with their intimate access to institutional authority, donors, and volunteers—were determined to sway evangelicalism toward biblical inerrancy.

The Chicago Statement had a broader impact as well. Its signatories fed the emerging New Right, which would elect Ronald Reagan in 1980. They established a religious parallel to the constitutional originalism that would come to dominate the Supreme Court.

And they primed evangelicals for the utilitarian groupthink required for Christian nationalism to thrive. In the end, the importance of this weekend in 1978 would exceed any of its organizers' loftiest expectations.

The drafters of the Chicago Statement rejected the changing tide of culture. They would not concede, accommodate, or make peace; theirs was no time for moderation.

It's no wonder that so many of these same leaders joined the reactionary New Right movement that emerged to defend traditional institutions and conservative values in the late 1970s and 1980s—including, in some cases, seeking a return to segregated schools, decreasing support for government social programs, and renewing an emphasis on “law and order” as a panacea to violent protests.

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