

The CHRIST Community

What on earth is the church, and why are we here?



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*Part 1: The Church of
Jesus Christ (Matthew
16:13-20; 18:15-20)*



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- Israel was an assembly of people in covenant with God and supernaturally rescued by him from bondage.
- Israel was an assembly of people set free to know God personally and to worship him passionately.

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The Greek OT translates *qahal* as *ekklesia*, which means a group, assembly, community, or congregation.

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Jesus uses the word “church” (*ekklesia*) two times, and his usage helps us better understand who we are.

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- The church universal is one church.
- The church universal is owned by Jesus.
- The church universal is being built by Jesus.

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- The church universal is entered by a genuine profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.
- The church universal is established by a revelation of God's grace to believers.
- The church universal is authoritatively engaged in heaven's "good news" work on earth.

Consider the word CHURCH as used by Jesus Christ.

- The church universal is ultimately victorious over the powers of death and hell.



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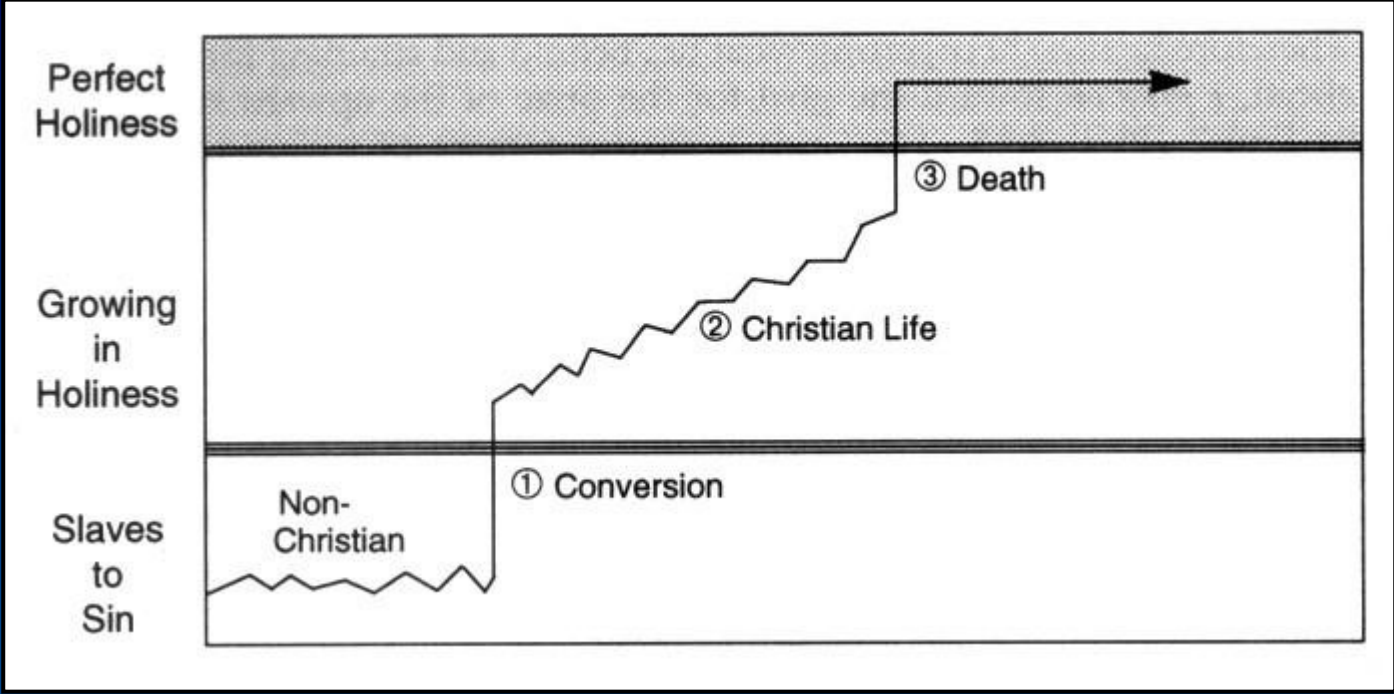
The Church Local (Matthew 18:15-20)

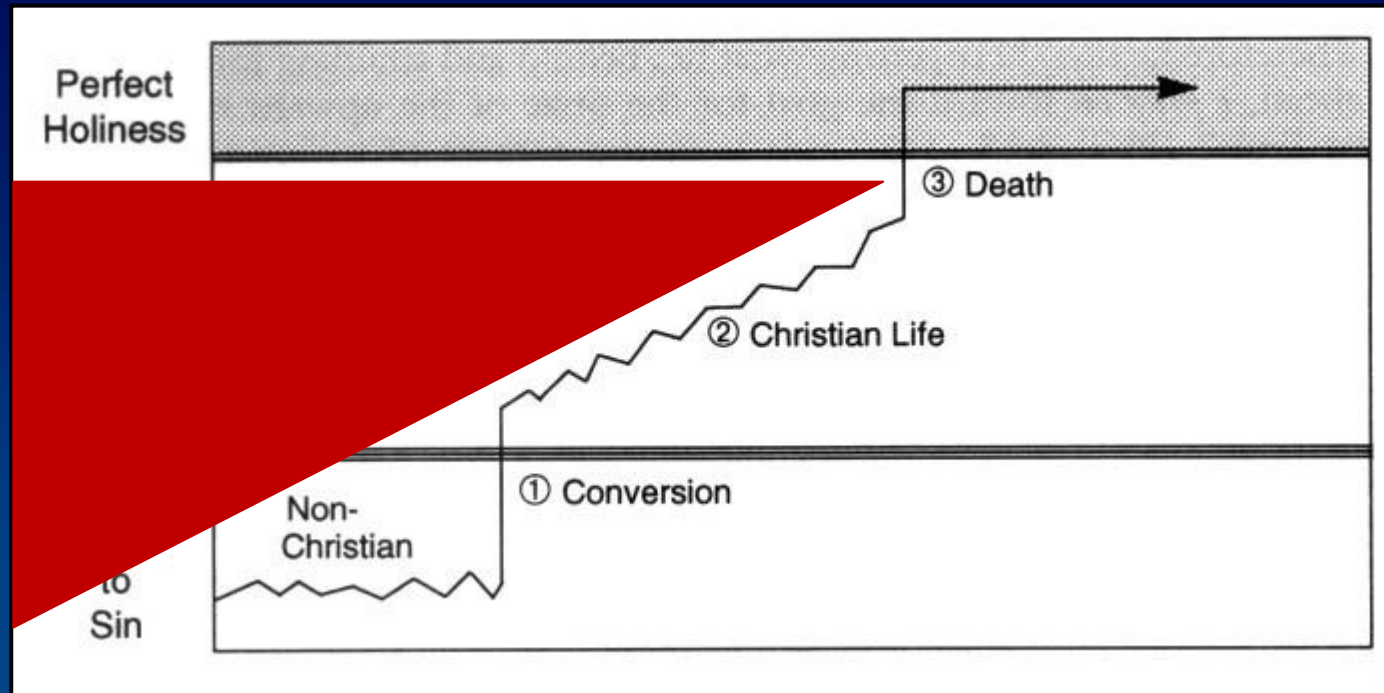
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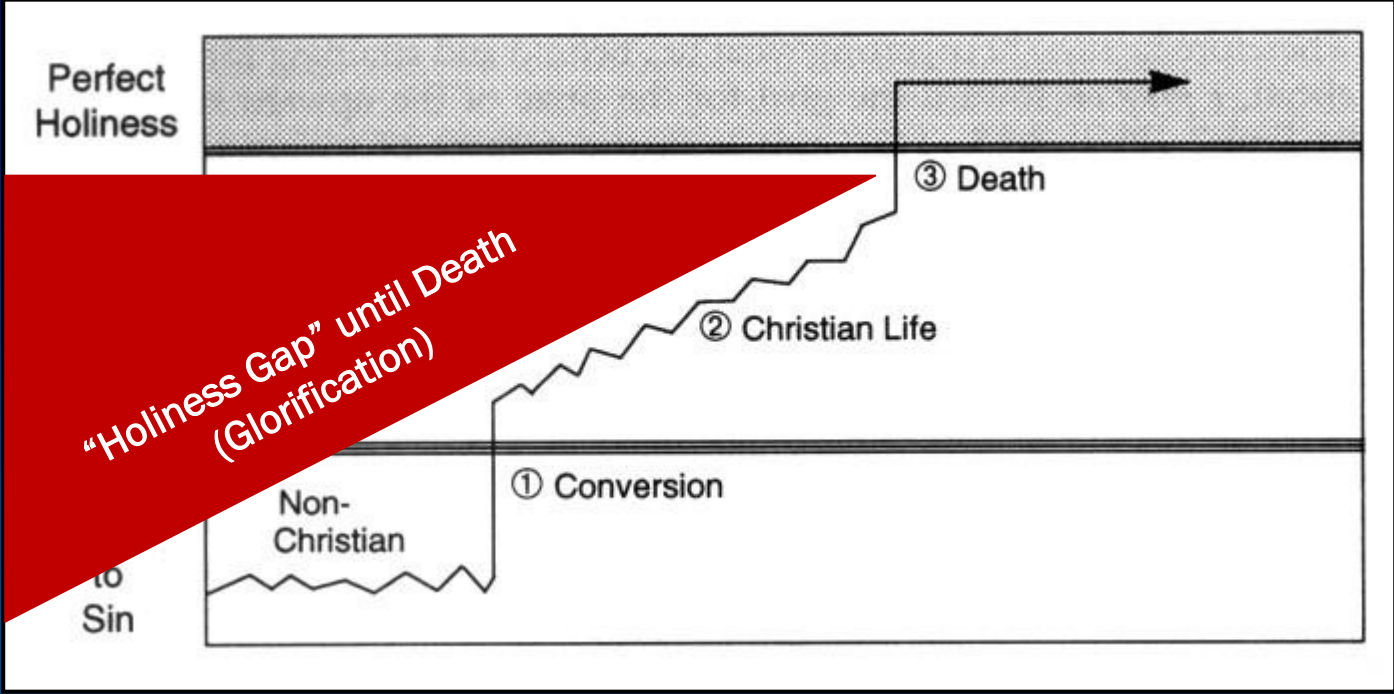
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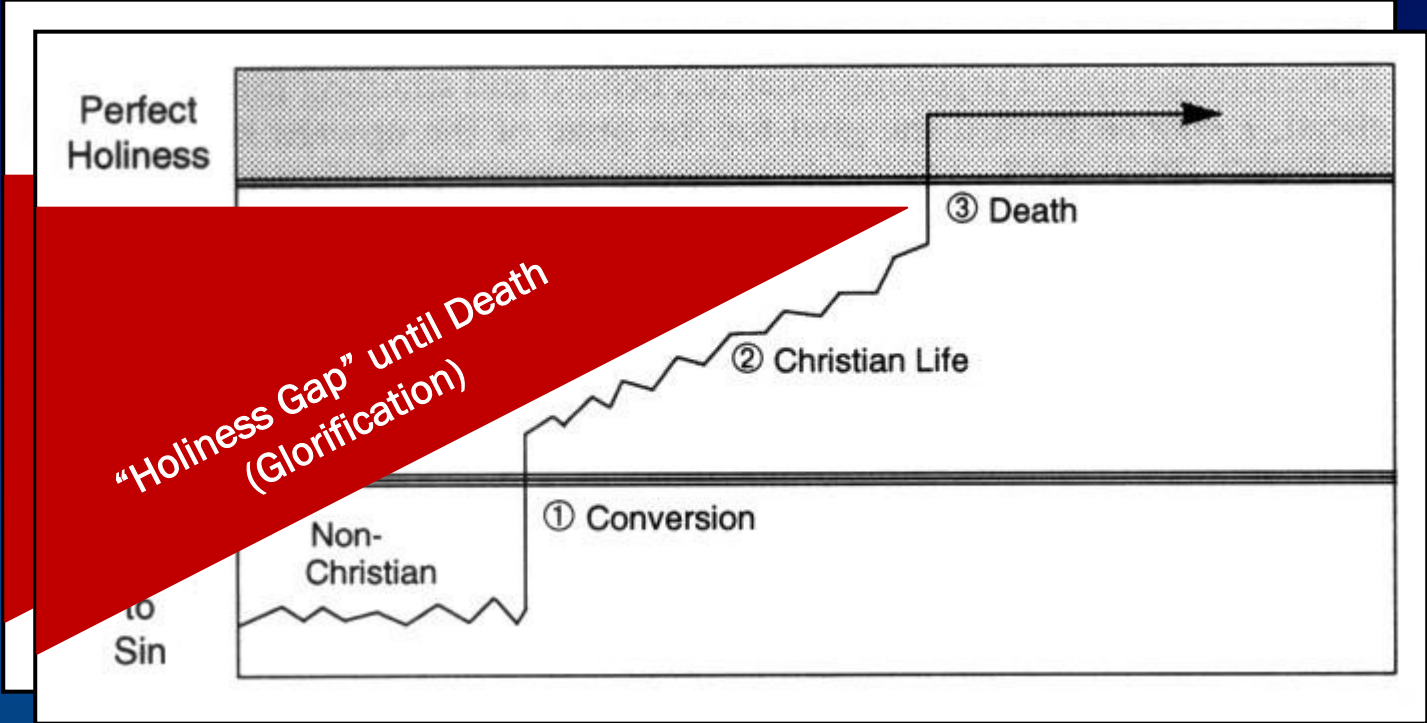
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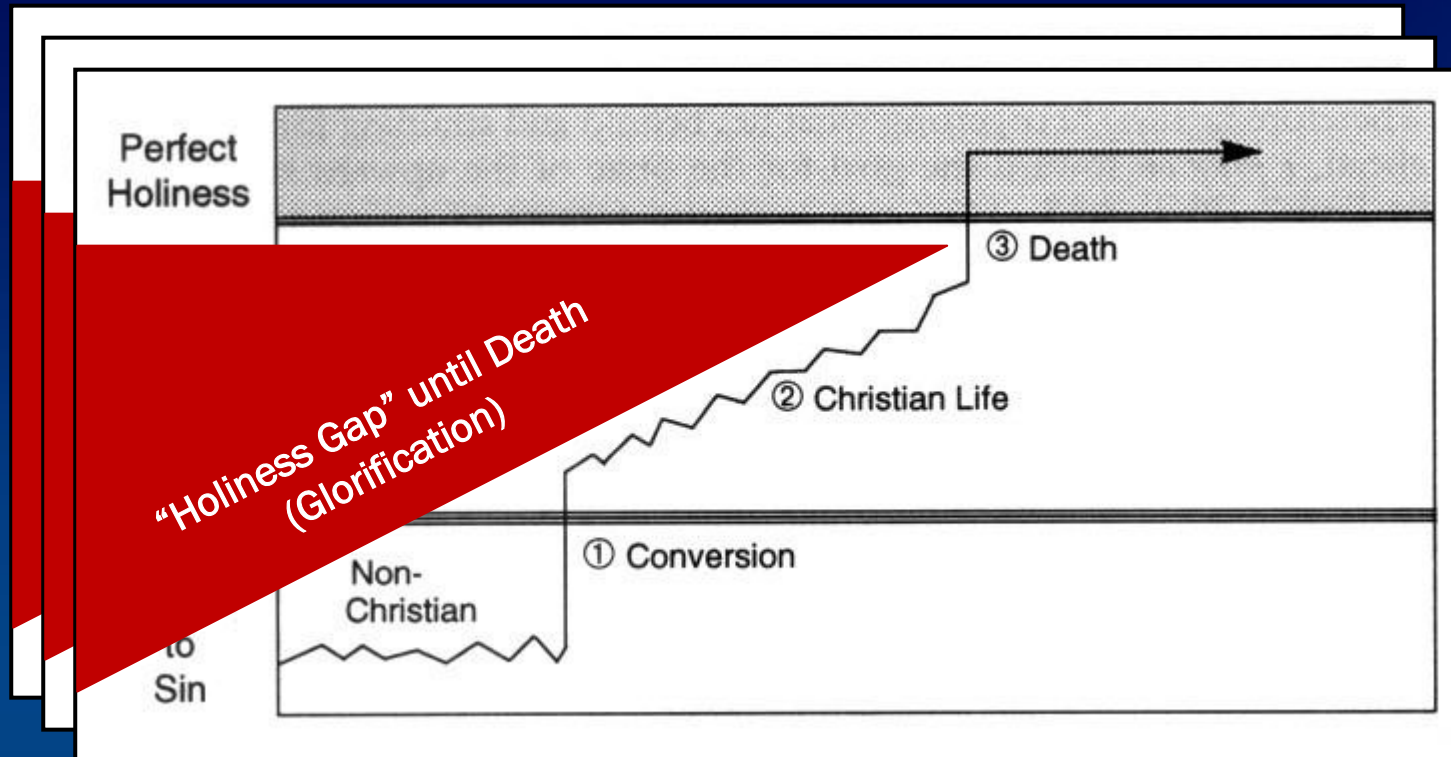
The church local is a community of professing believers at a certain time and in a certain place.

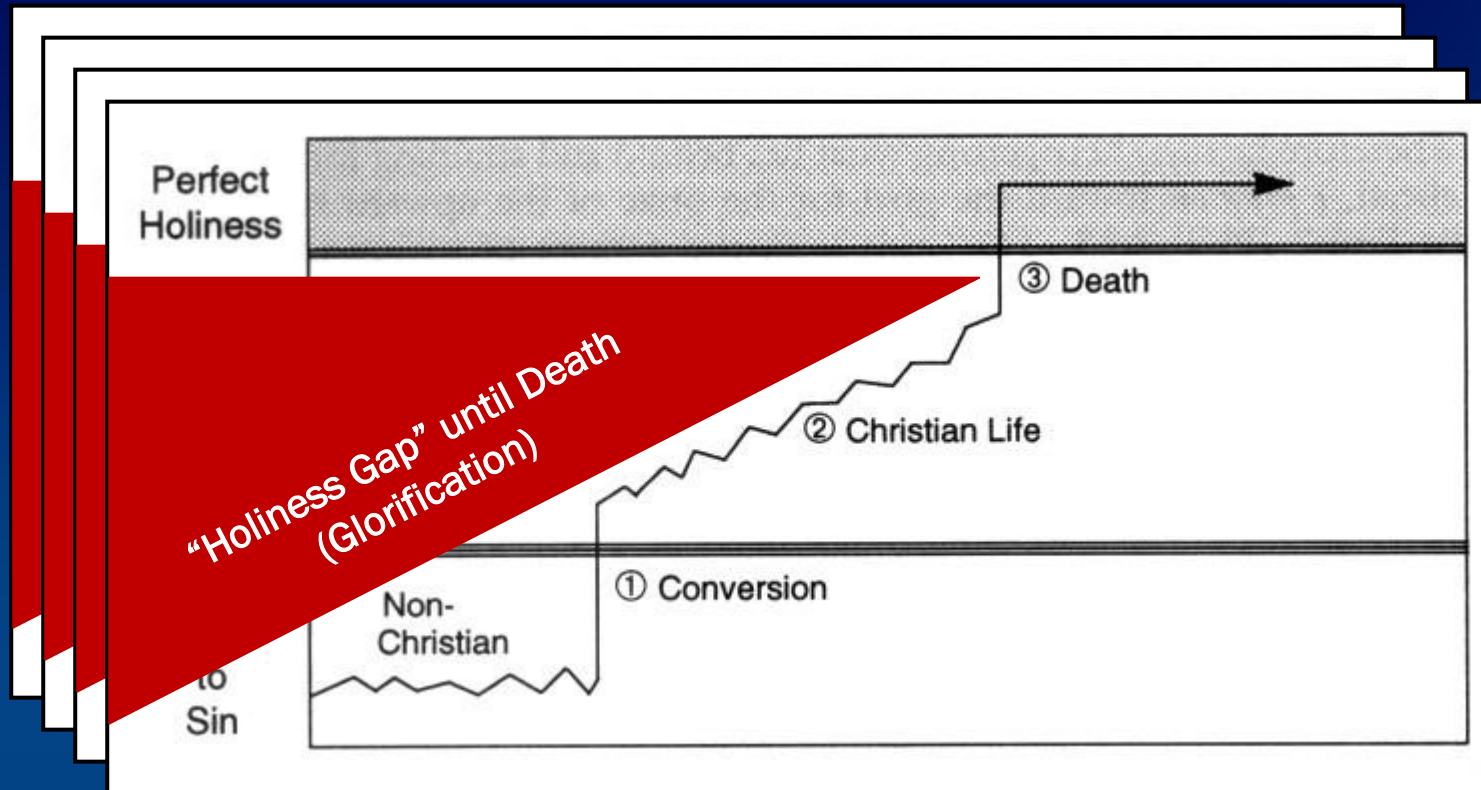


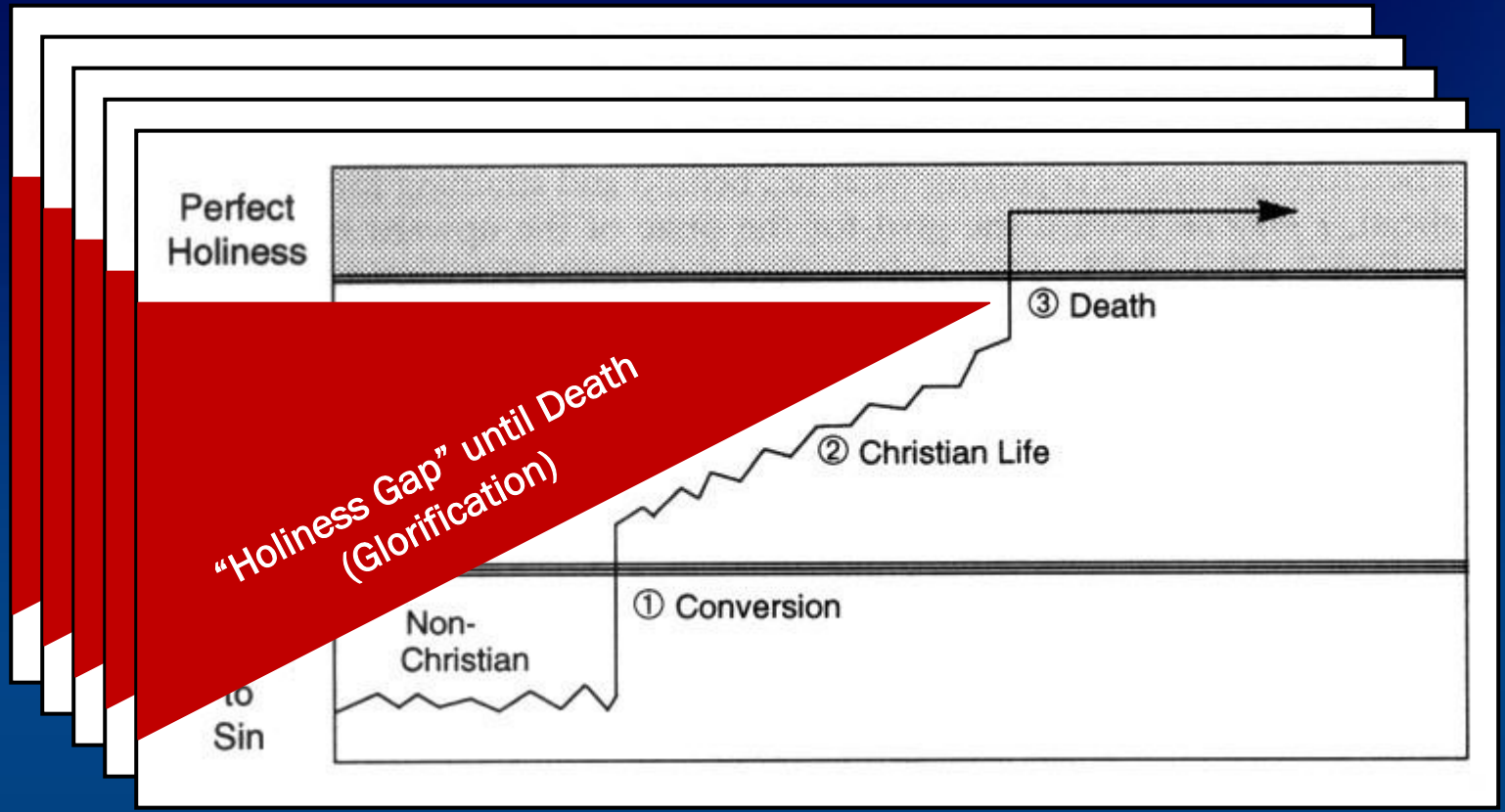


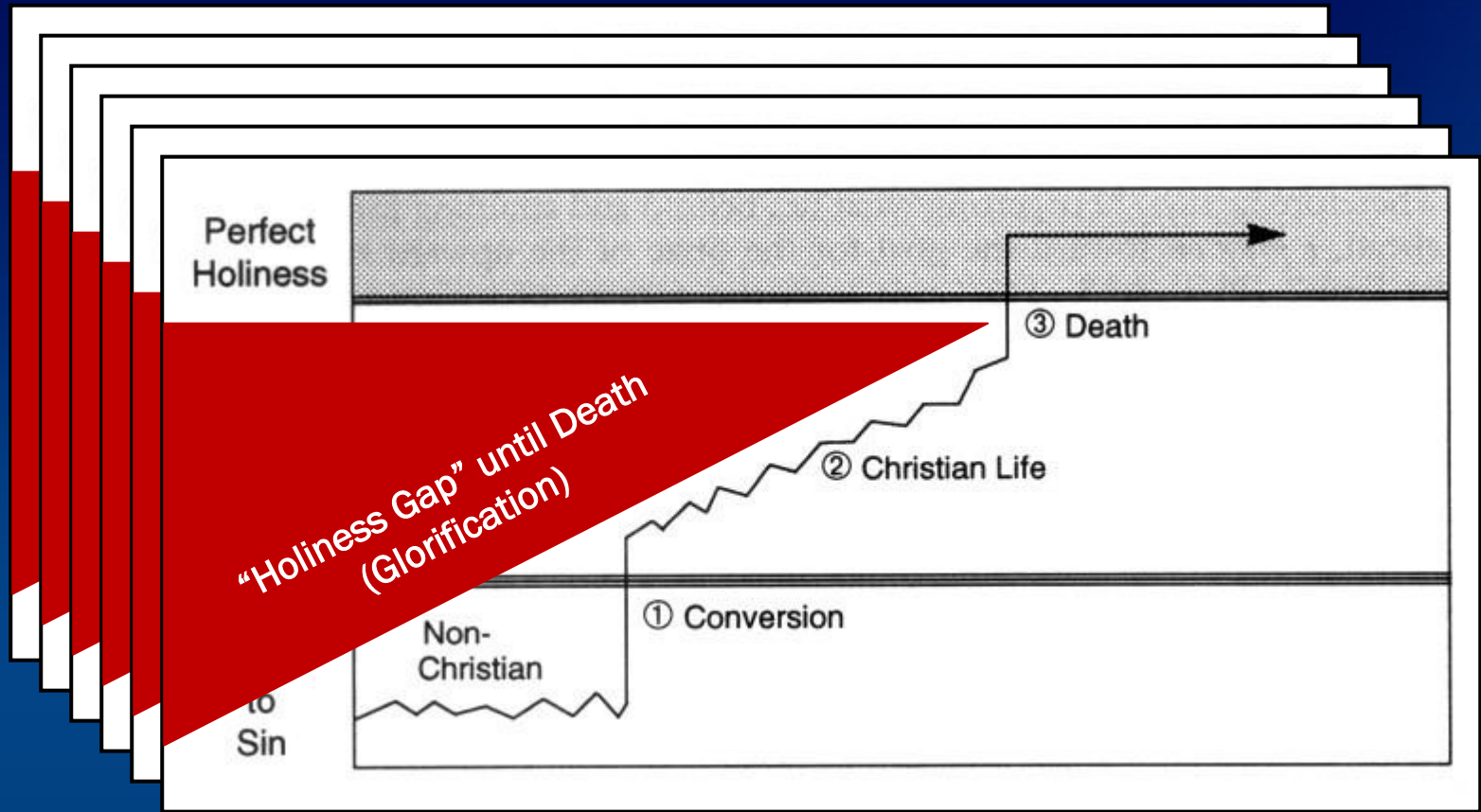


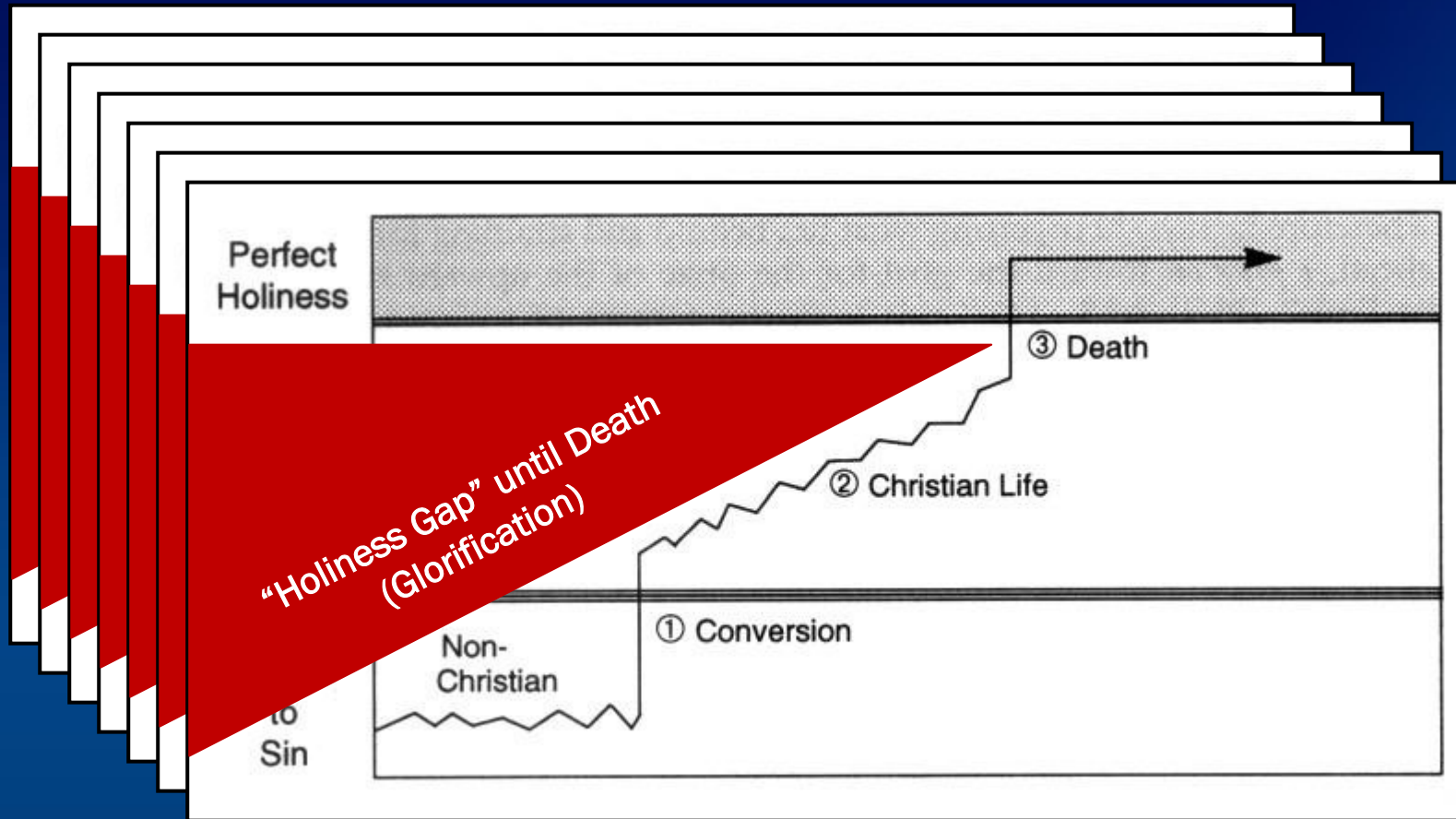


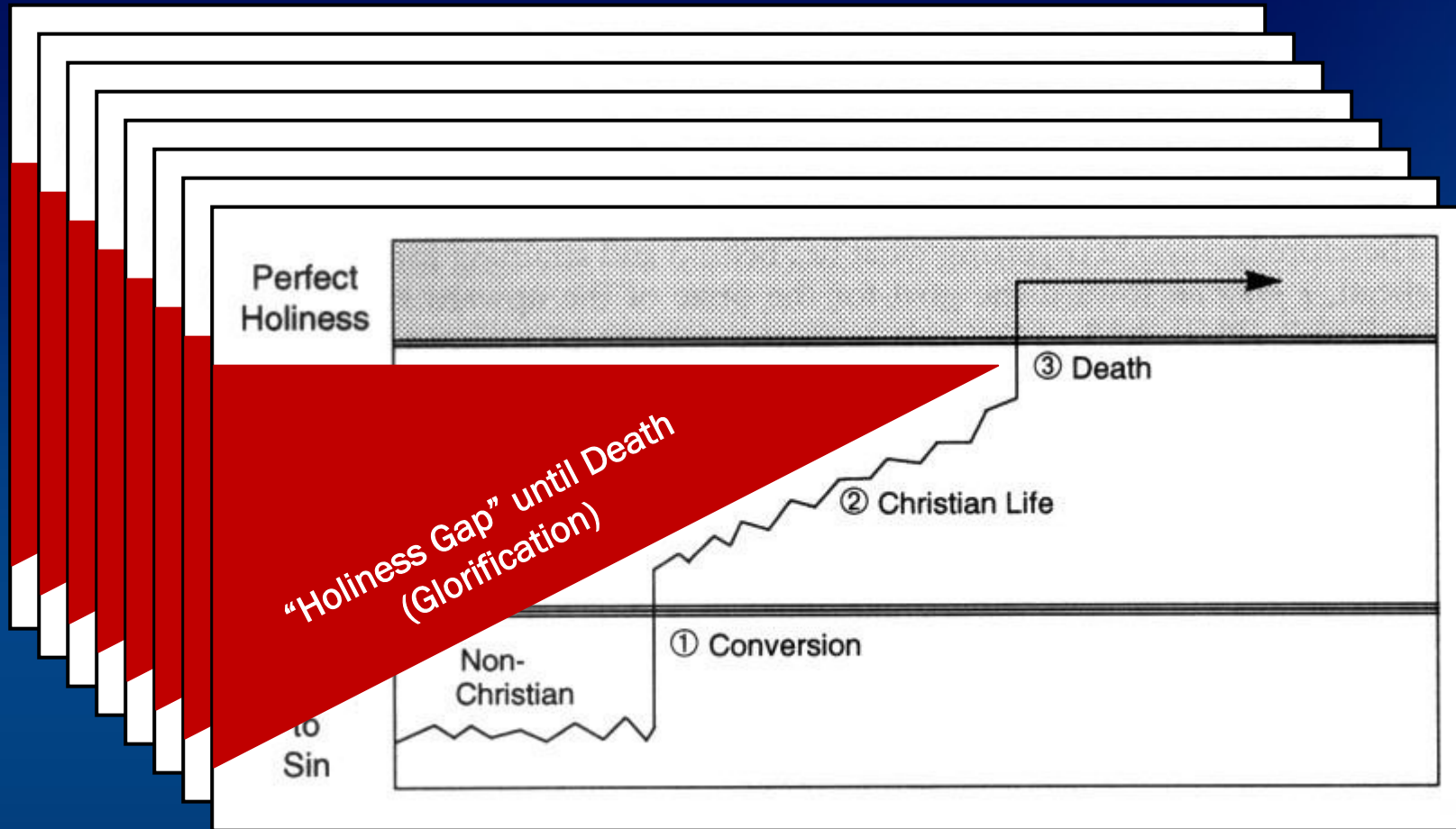


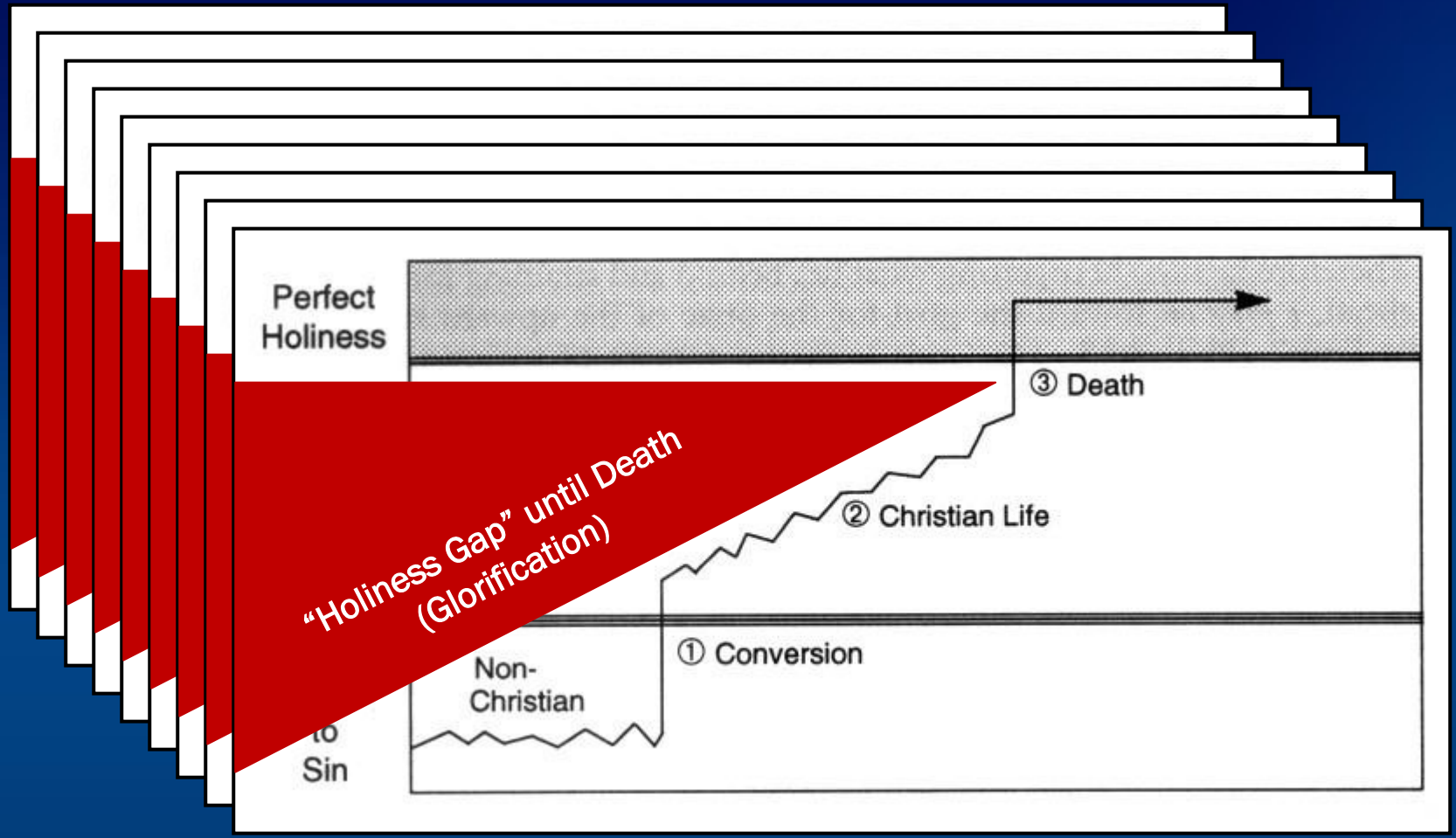


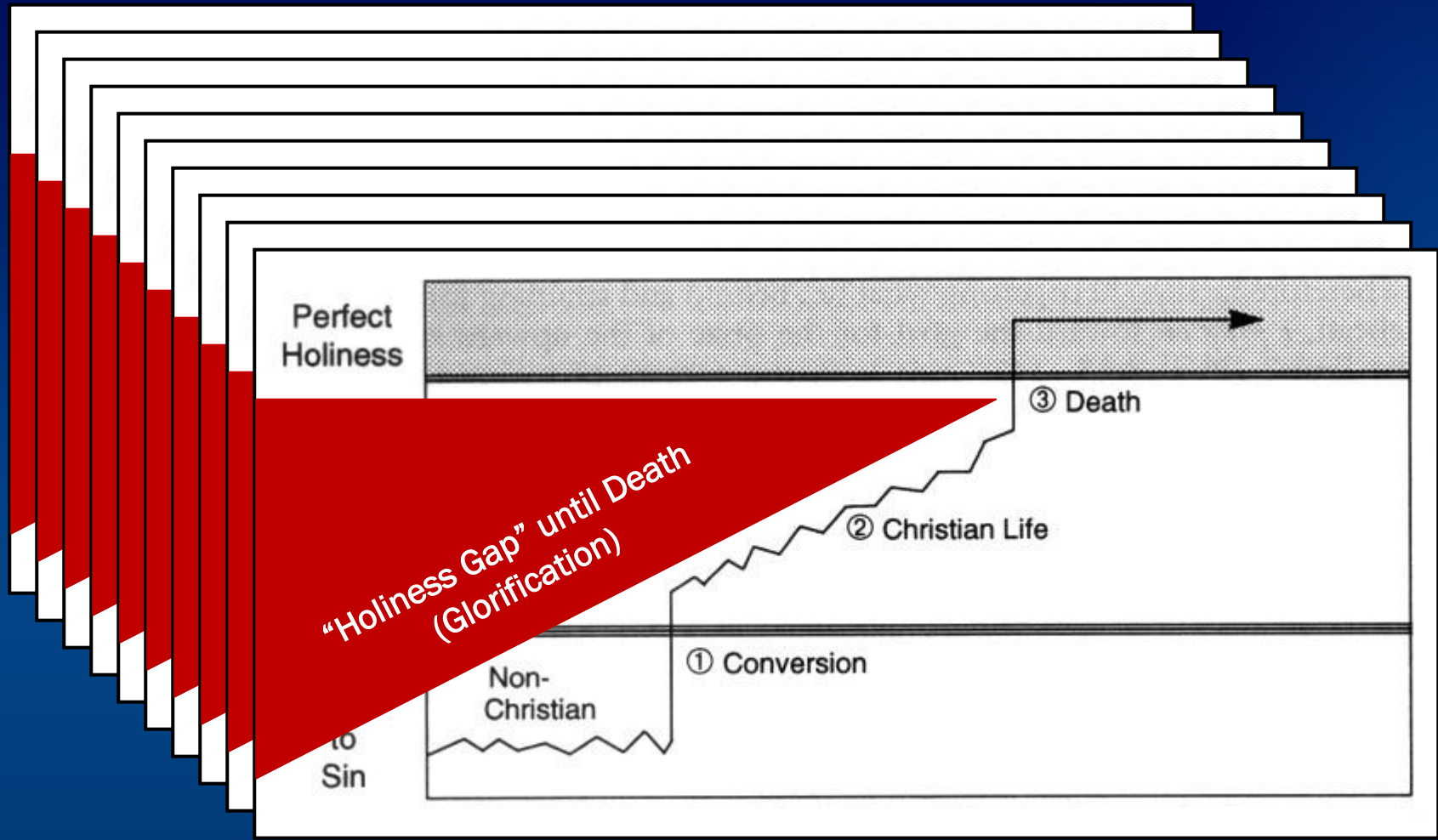


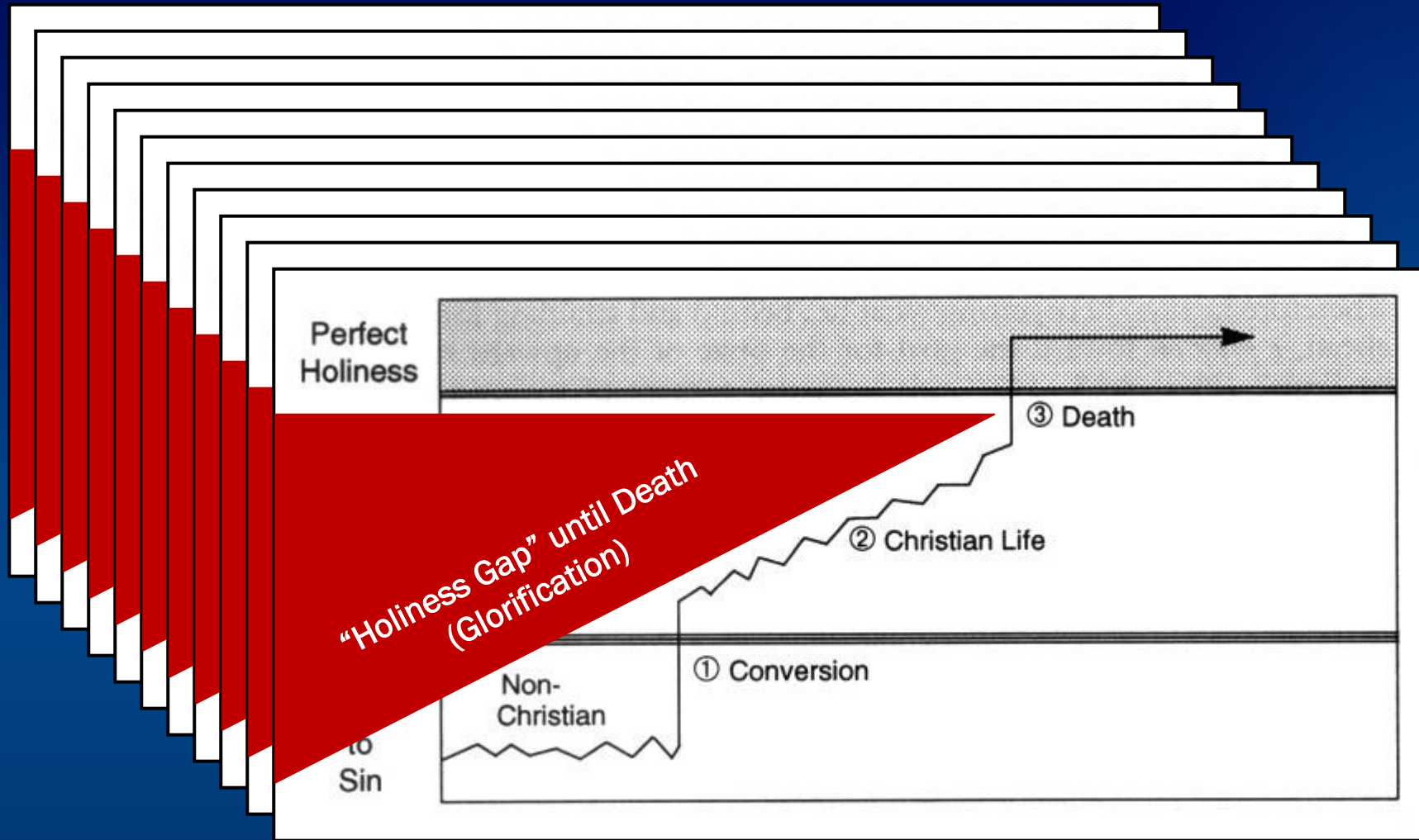


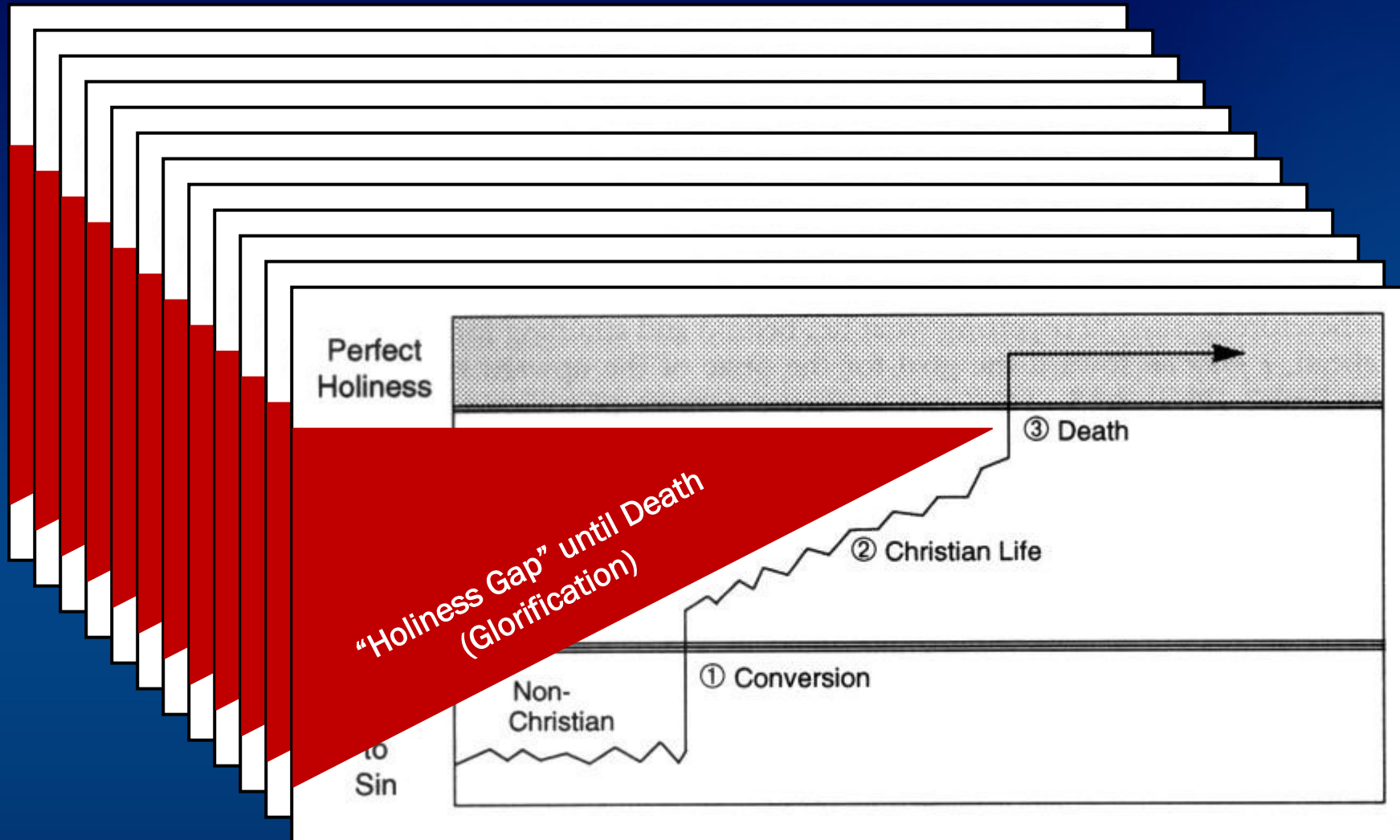


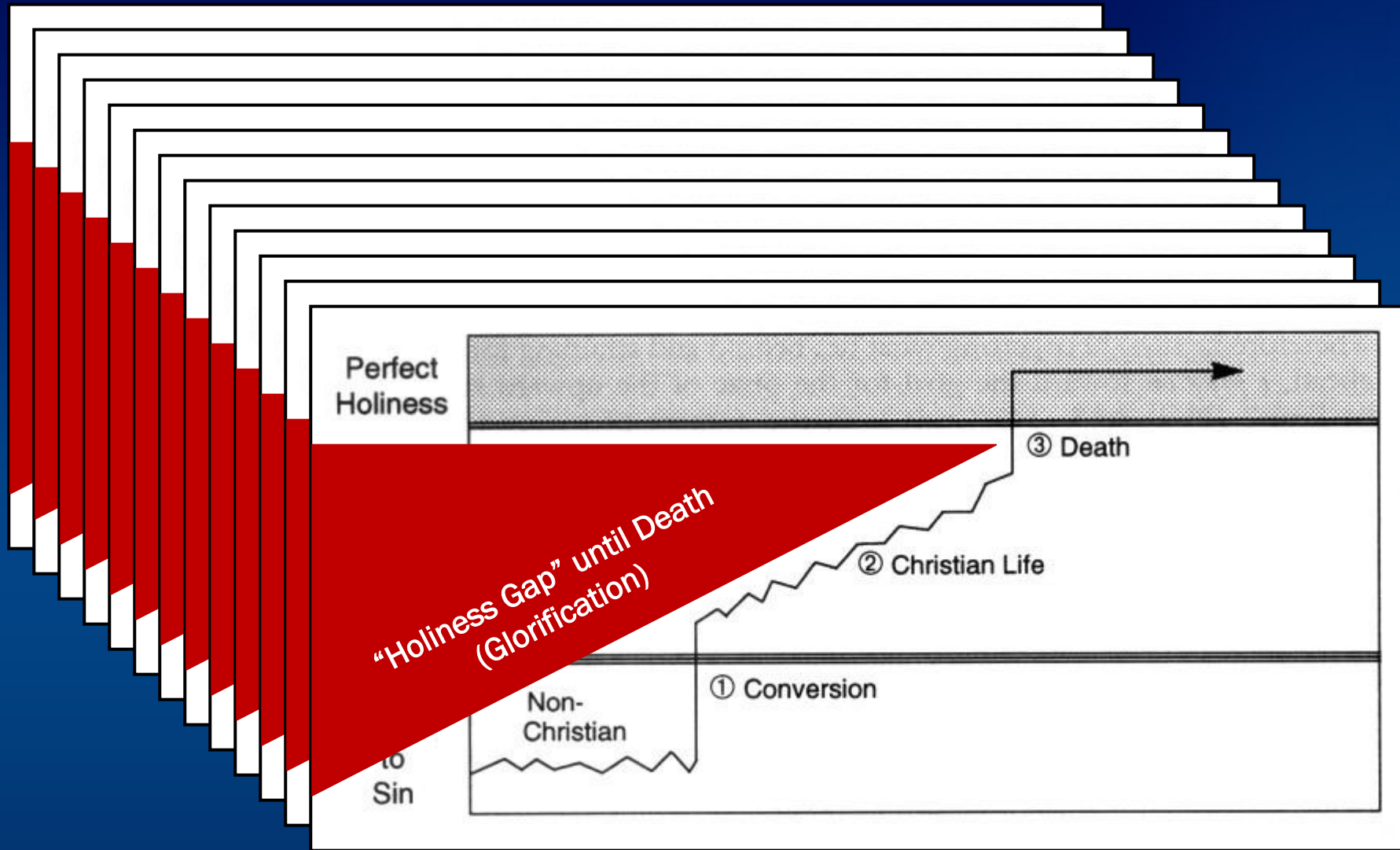












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- The church local involves a group of specific believers who will sometimes struggle to get along.
- The church local will have processes in place to promote the health and holiness of the group.

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- The church local is authoritatively engaged in heaven's "good news" work in their own town.

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- The church local is authoritatively engaged in heaven's "good news" work in their own town.
- The church local experiences the presence of Christ by the Holy Spirit through word and sacrament.

***The church of Jesus Christ is
a community of believers rescued from
sin and released for service.***

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