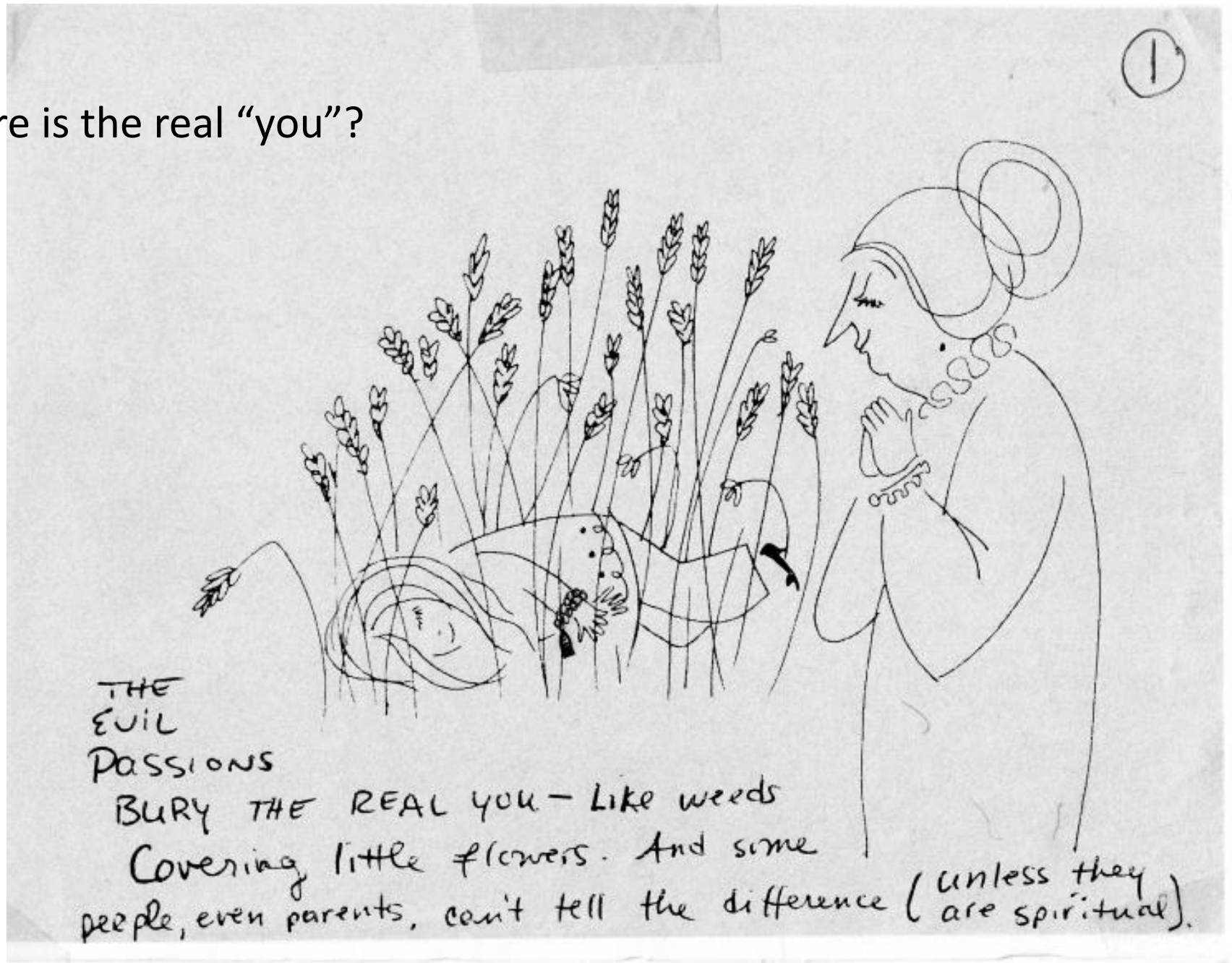


# WHO IS GOD? WHO AM I? WHO ARE YOU?

- Orthodox Book on the Passions of Pride, Vanity, and Evil Self-Love
- Using spiritual insights from the Church Fathers
- By Dee Pennock

Where is the real "you"?



# Kings or Slaves – what are we?

- Jesus did NOT serve the Devil, or Sin, or the Passions.
- Neither should we.

What are the “Passions”?

40  
of you

All the passions disturb us like this and keep us from being  
—or seeing—our natural selves.

The Passions are ordinary natural feelings that get out of control, irrational, and excessive.

unreasonable  
Irrational  
use of natural  
energies  
THE PASSION OF HATRED

ALL THE PASSIONS  
KEEP US FROM  
BEING OUR REAL  
SELVES.

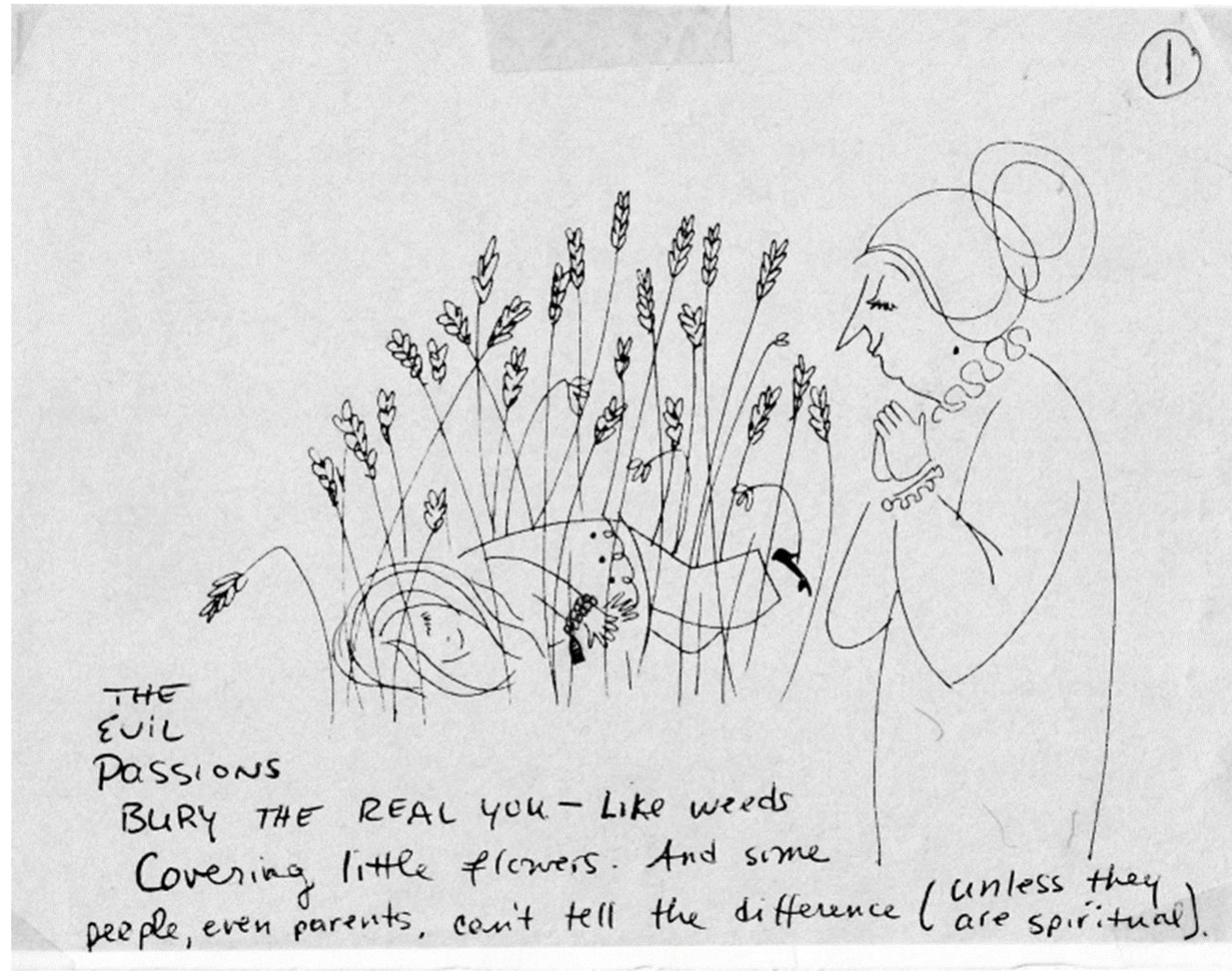


(2)

# Luke 4:1-13 – The Devil tried to tempt Jesus, trying to stir up Three Big Passions

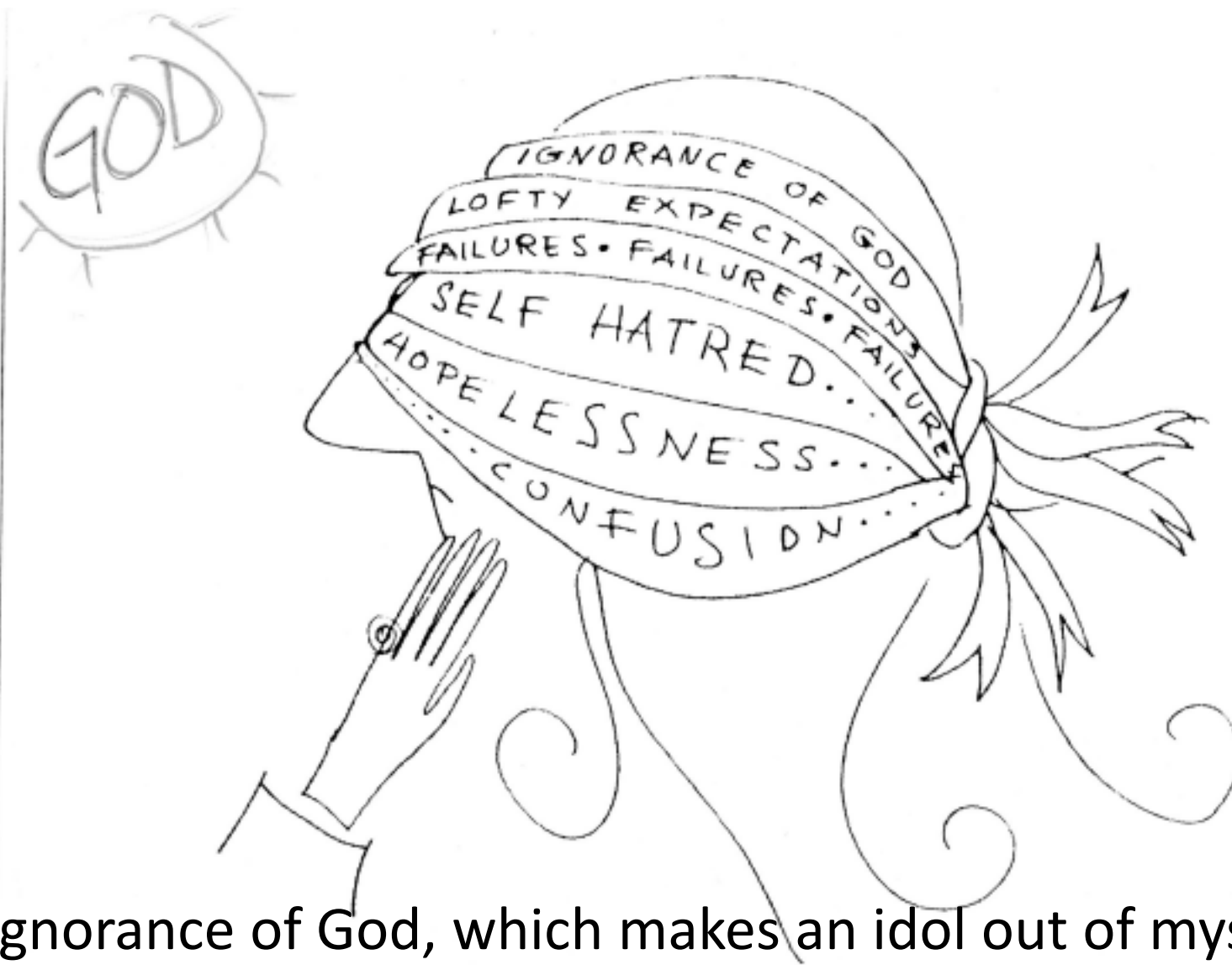
- 1<sup>st</sup> Temptation – Make bread from a stone – **Lust of flesh**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Temptation – Jump off a high tower – **Vain Glory**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Temptation – Worship the Devil – **Spiritual Pride**

God can pull out the weeds of the passions from your heart which are hiding the REAL you.



# SYMPTOMS OF PRIDE



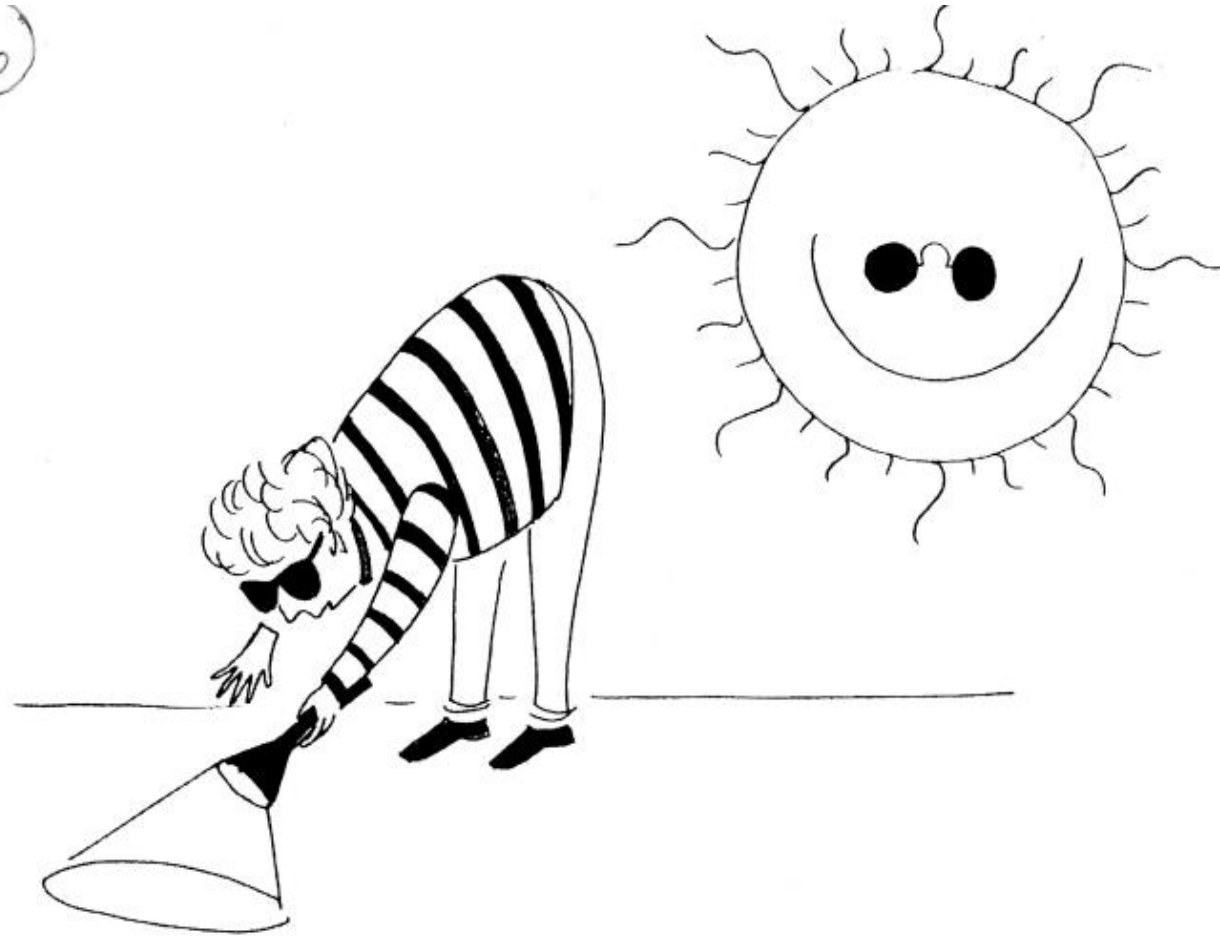


- Pride is ignorance of God, which makes an idol out of myself, with unrealistic lofty expectations. But since I am not Divine, I will hit reality and result in failures, self-hatred, hopelessness, and confusion.



- Everybody plays God.
- Pride keeps us immature, in the “diapers” of pride.
- We think we are much more important and more capable, yet we lack the ability to say “No” when we need to.

6



- Pride is being spiritually blind.
- Being ignorant that there is a God.
- Forgetting that He is near.
- Thinking that you are your own “god”—your own source of power and illumination.



Screen Test...  
Queen of The  
WORLD →



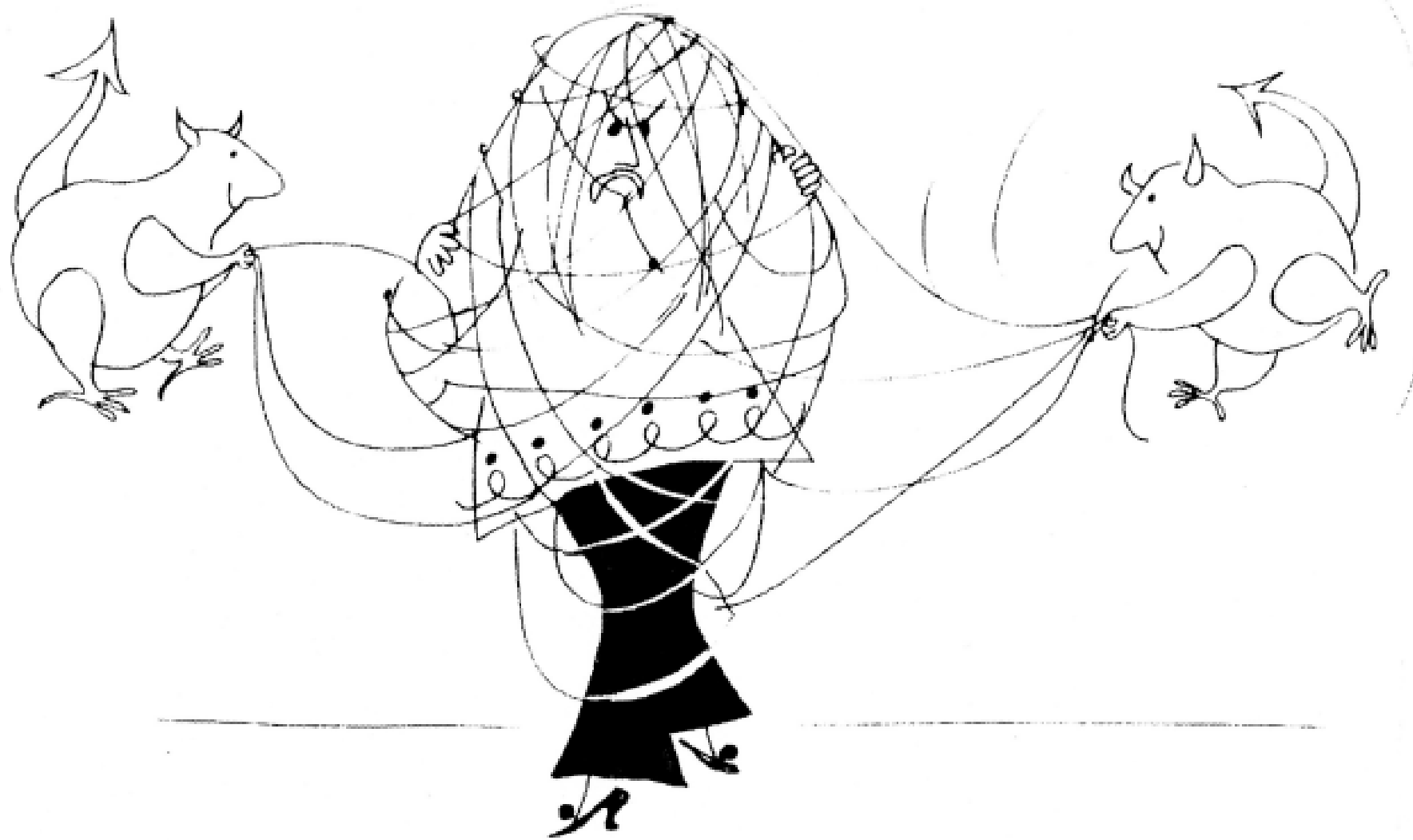
- Pride tempts us to have unrealistic lofty expectations without God in the picture.
- This sets you up for a big fall, when you hit reality.

- Pride brings us BIG disappointments when we fail (because we were thinking too highly and unrealistically of ourselves).
- Then pride causes us to think TOO unrealistically LOW of ourselves when we hit the rocks of reality.
- Lies, lies, lies...all from the Devil.





- Pride blinds us to reality.
- We might suffer loss of confidence (“I’m a loser.”)
- We might fake our confidence (the “know-it-all”)
- We might just follow the crowd (peer-pressure)
- We might fall into despair, or worse (suicide)



- Caught in the net of Pride, we easily become the SLAVE of other people's opinions (this is another passion – Vain Glory)
- They will lead us into wrong directions, wrong activities, etc.

- The Church is the Hospital.
- Jesus is the Divine Physician.
- The Priest is the Physician's Assistant.
- Confession brings us to deliverance.
- The Holy Spirit is the Antidote for the Passion of Pride.







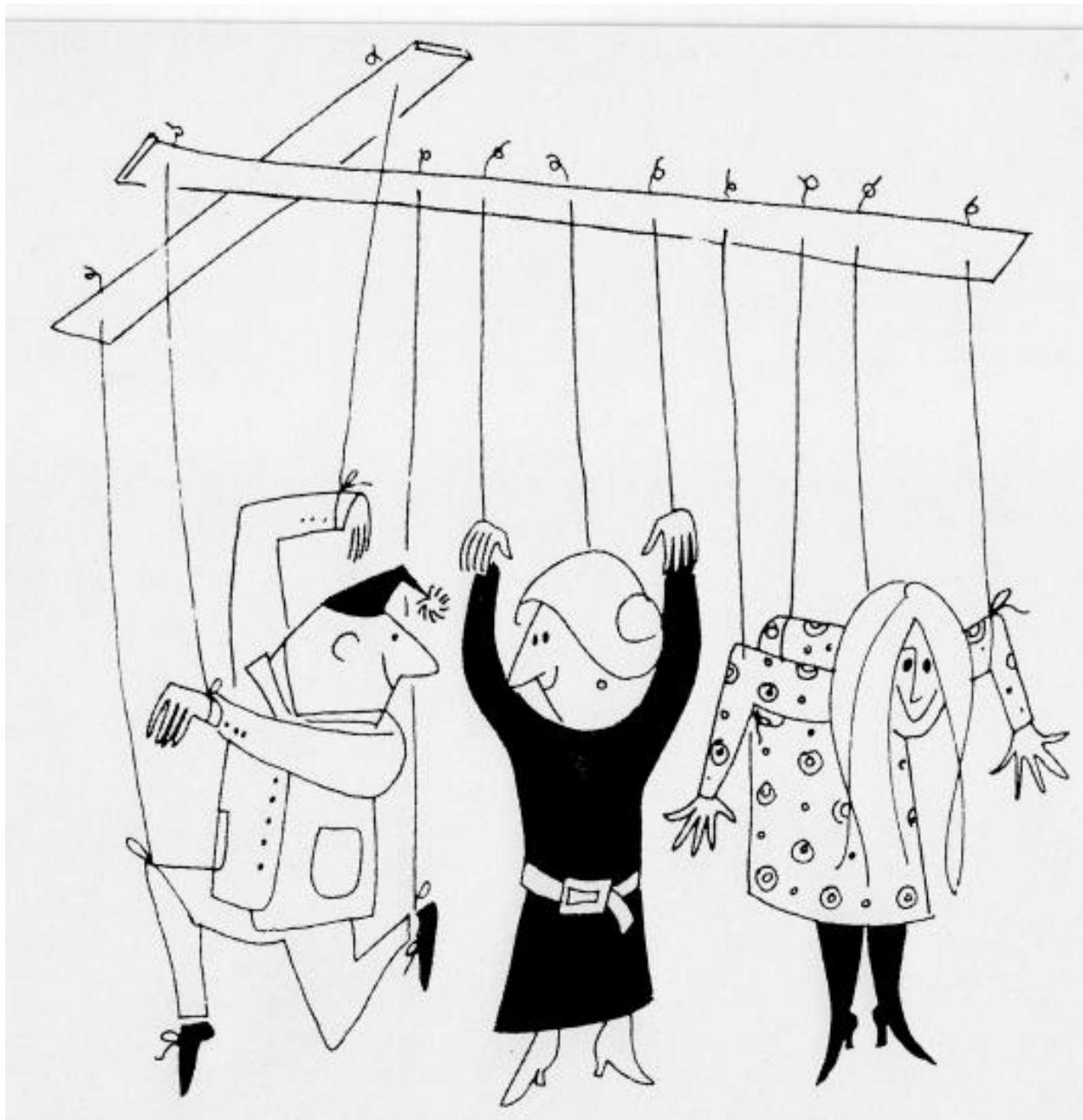
- Confess the symptoms of Pride.
- Pray to be healed by God from Pride.
- **He will show you the REAL you.**
- What a **relief** it is to know the Truth:
- you are not a god—Jesus IS—
- and He is there to help you become healthy.

# SYMPTOMS OF VANITY

- The SHOW OFF Passion

- VAIN GLORY is the irresistible urge to show off and look glorious.
- It makes you a SLAVE of the opinion of men.
- Vanity makes you try to act out the stupid lofty unreal ideas that pride put into your head.





- The Man-Pleaser.
- The Vain-glorious person becomes the **puppet** of others, allowing them to pull their strings. A real fake. A slave.
- The Vain-glorious person CAN'T say "No" to man, but easily says "No" to God.

- The Man-pleaser is easily the Slave of TV, Social Media, actors, and influencers.
- They become IDOLS whom you obey.





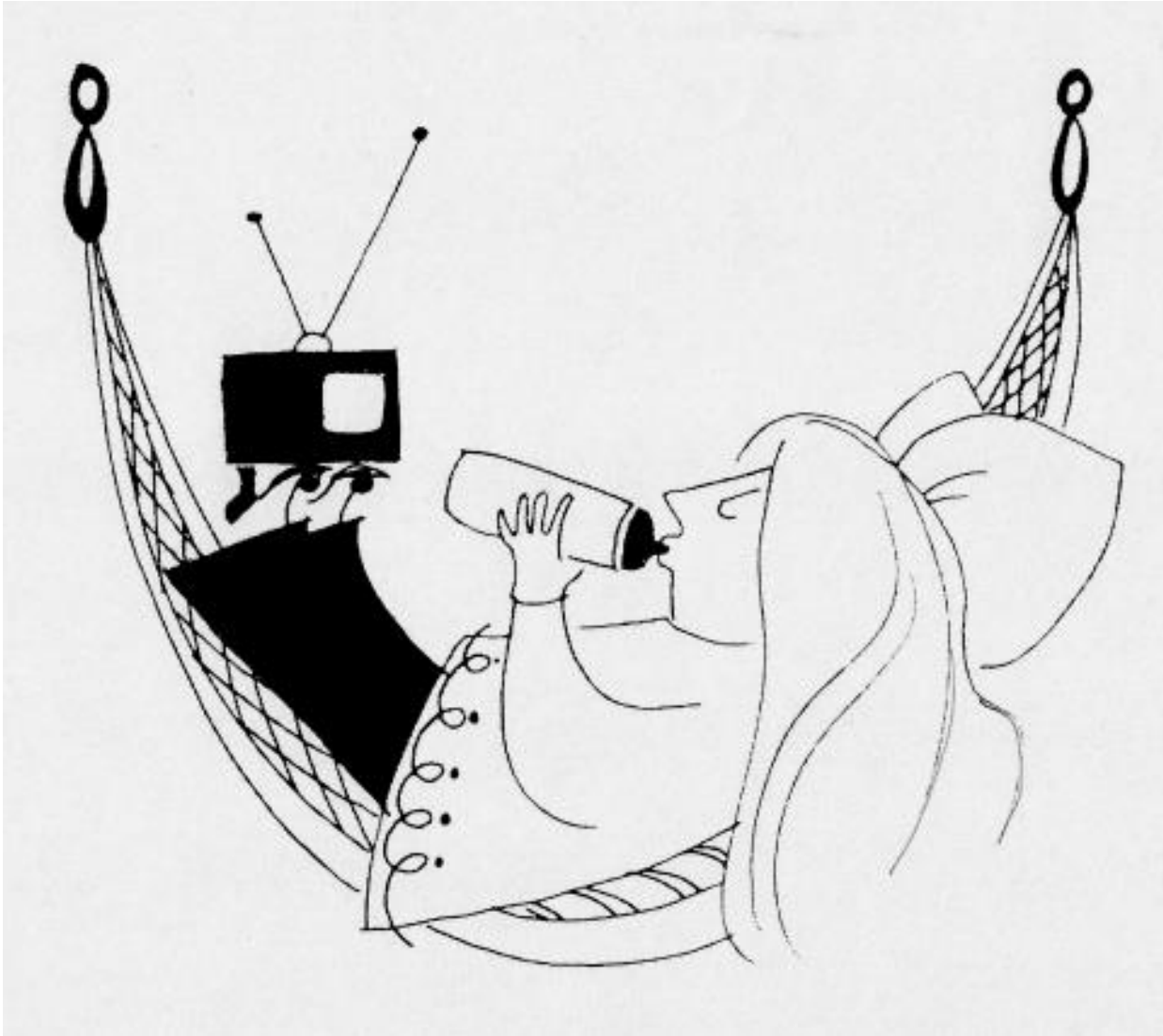
- Vanity is even the cause of phobias – extreme irrational fears that have NO basis in reality.

- As with Pride, and all the Passions, the Healing comes through the Church.
- Confess and pray to be healed of **Vanity**.
- You will become more relaxed, more honest, less fearful, more able to love others.
- You will not care anymore if someone disapproves of you.
- You will only want God's approval.



**SYMPTOMS  
OF  
EVIL SELF-LOVE**  
(lust of the flesh)





- **Evil Self-Love** makes you the SLAVE of your fleshly desires.
- Being totally irrationally attached to the love of one's body.
- If it feels good, do it—no matter how irresponsible.
- Do whatever turns you "On" for pleasure—no matter if it kills your body, mind, and soul in the long run.

- Our Passions can truly RUIN us.
- They can KILL us.
- They can send us to HELL.
- But JESUS can SAVE us, if we turn to Him.





- Proper love of Self, leads one away from the Passions.
- Help Jesus take care of your soul, by becoming a true spiritual “friend” to your inner self...your inner man.

- Confession is showing the wounds caused by your Passions.
- Holy Communion is the Medicine for all the Passions. It brings the healing Grace of the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus is the Doctor.
- The Priest is the Physician's Assistant



The End.

- Be sure to READ the entire “WHO” book, by Dee Pennock, as it has many other wonderful insights from the Church Fathers on the topic of the Passions.