

Bird's Eye View of the Bible



Christian
Worldview



4G Mentoring: Growing, Guiding, and
Guarding the Global Bride of Christ

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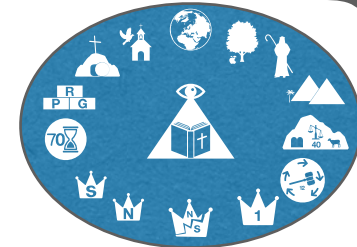
Foreword

This document has been designed for use with small groups using cell-phones, tablets, computers, TV connections, or projectors. This document is not designed as a printed book (though it may be printed) or large group presentation but rather an electronic discussion guide for small or medium sized multi-language groups. The graphics on each page are designed to ease cross-cultural communication issues when using a translator or with group members using a second language. We hope that this document helps facilitate discussions about the Gospel of Jesus Christ in both formal and informal discussion groups in homes, churches, and coffee shops around the world. The copyright on this document allows you to freely distribute and even modify the content to meet your needs.

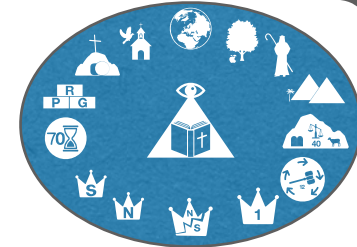
Table of Contents (Quick Access Menu)



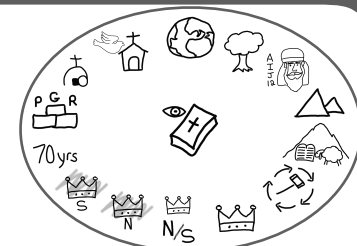
Lesson: Bird's Eye View
Of the Bible



**Bird's Eye View of the Bible
(Pictures Only)**



Learning Tool:
Draw the Symbols

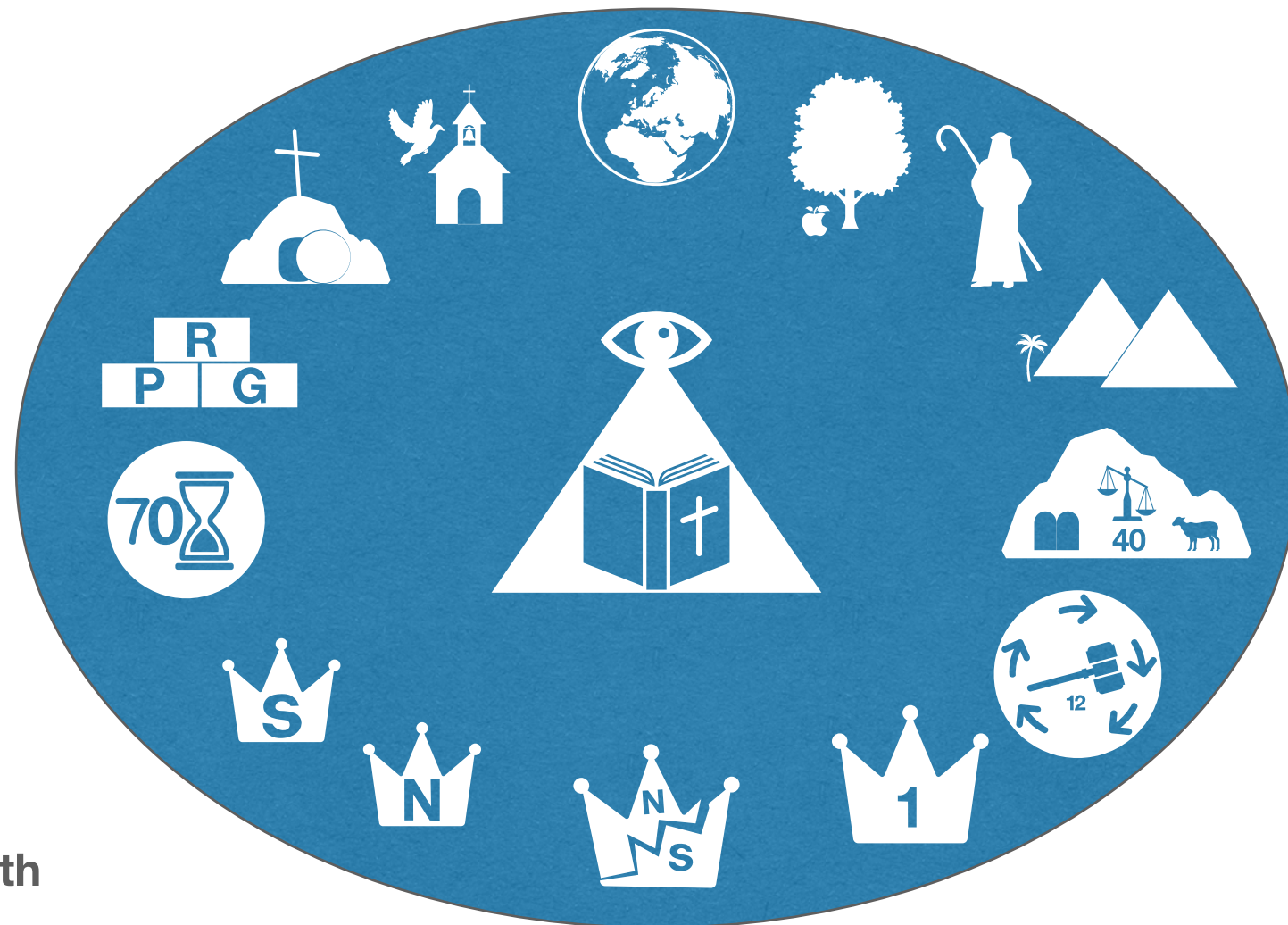




Lesson:

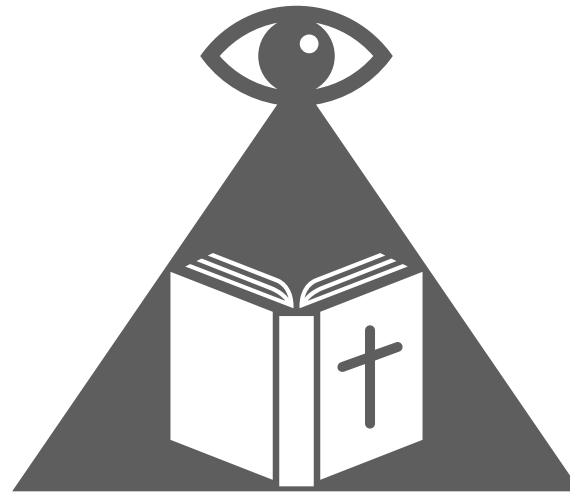
Bird's Eye View of the Bible

- Creation
- Fall
- Patriarchs
- Slavery
- Exodus
- Judges
- United Kingdom
- Divided Kingdom
- Fall of N. Kingdom
- Fall of S. Kingdom
- Exile
- Rebuilding
- Jesus
- The Church
- New Heaven and Earth



Key Idea: The Bible is one story that points to Jesus as God's plan of salvation for mankind.

Intro



If we are standing on a street corner we can see many things around us. We can see cars, houses, buildings, street lamps, and many other things that are right around us. But if we are a bird flying high above a city we see much more. We see a more complete picture of our surroundings. The Bible is one story with many parts. When we study the Bible it is good to have a picture of the entire Bible so that we understand how each part of the Bible fits into the overall picture. Think of this Bird's Eye View of the Bible as a filing cabinet that allows you to place individual books of the Bible into the right place in the overall story of what God has done through the history of salvation.

Creation

Genesis 1-3



In the beginning God created a perfect world and He created Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, and placed them in this perfect world.

The Fall

Genesis 1-3



Although God gave them everything that they needed mankind chose to rebel against God and take the one thing he had withheld from them, the forbidden fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. This disobedience brought the curse of sin and death into the world.

The Patriarchs

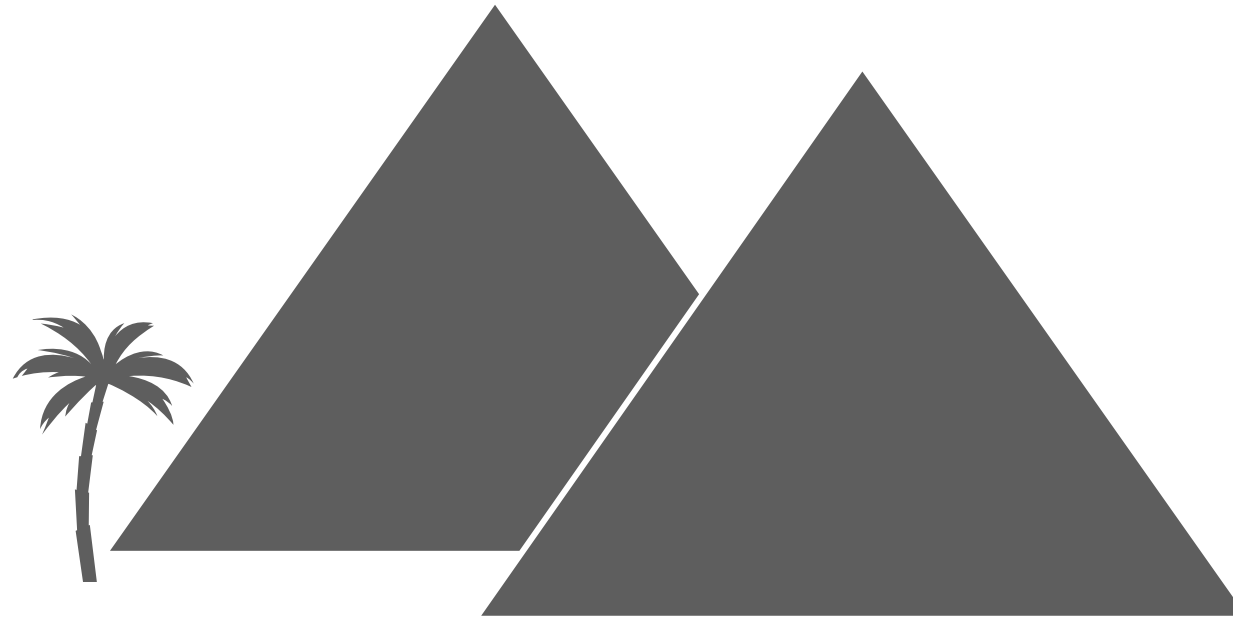
Genesis 11-50



Although mankind had sinned God still loved them. In time God called a man named Abraham, one of Adam's descendants, and told him to leave his home and his family and go to the place God would show him. God promised to make Abraham's descendants into a great nation and to give them the land of Canaan forever. God also promised to bless Abraham and to bless the entire world through Abraham's descendants. God gave this same promise to Abraham's son Isaac, and to Isaac's son Jacob, and then to Jacob's 12 sons. This time was known as the time of the patriarchs.

Slavery in Egypt

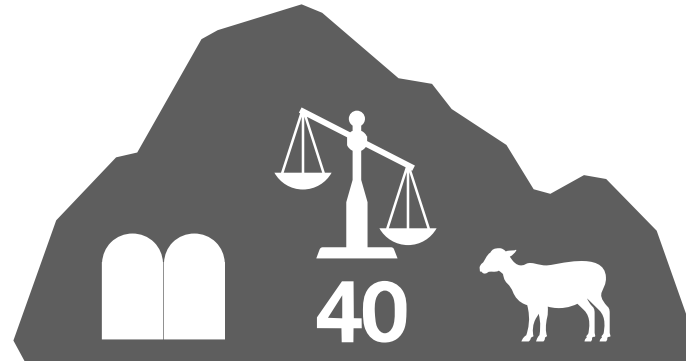
Genesis 46-50



Jacob and his 12 sons moved down to Egypt during a time of famine and their descendants, the children of Israel, became slaves in Egypt for over 400 years. God had told Abraham many years before that his descendants would become slaves in a foreign land for 400 years but that He would bring them back to the land of Canaan when the time was right.

The Exodus and Wandering in the Desert

**Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers,
Deuteronomy
c. 1450 BC (or 1250 BC)**

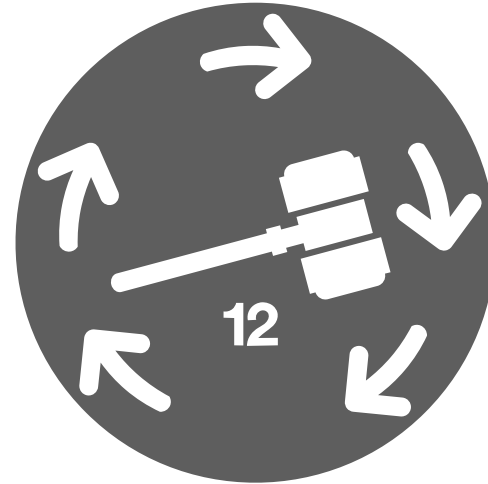


God heard the cries of the children of Israel in slavery and sent Moses to lead them out of Egypt. As the Israelites left Egypt God brought them into the desert and gave them the Law. The Law was God's standard of righteousness for mankind. The Law was not meant to save mankind but to show them that they could not meet God's standard and were in need of a savior. Through the Law God said that when a person broke one of His laws that they must sacrifice an innocent animal in their place; the innocent must die for the guilty.

The Israelites were very disobedient during their time in the desert and so God did not allow that generation to enter Canaan, the Promised Land. Instead they wandered in the desert for 40 years until that generation had died.

The Judges

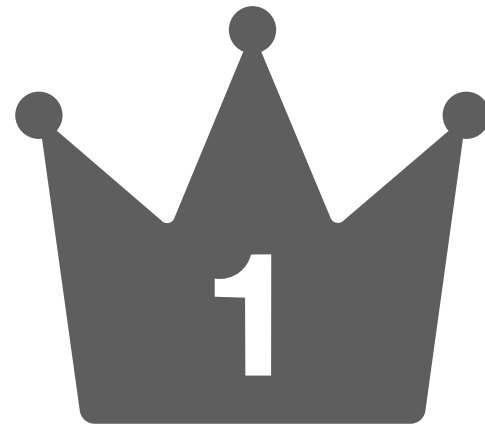
Joshua, Judges
c. 1410-1009



After that generation died off God allowed Joshua, Moses' apprentice, to lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land. This land was a good and green land flowing with milk and honey. But the people were not faithful to God. They would worship idols and then God would send foreign invaders to oppress them because of their sin. When the people would cry out to God He would send them a hero or "judge" to lead them to victory over their enemies. This judge would lead them to obey God for a time but as soon as the judge died the people would again return to idols and God would again punish them. This cycle of disobedience and deliverance lasted 400 years and was called the time of the Judges.

The United Kingdom

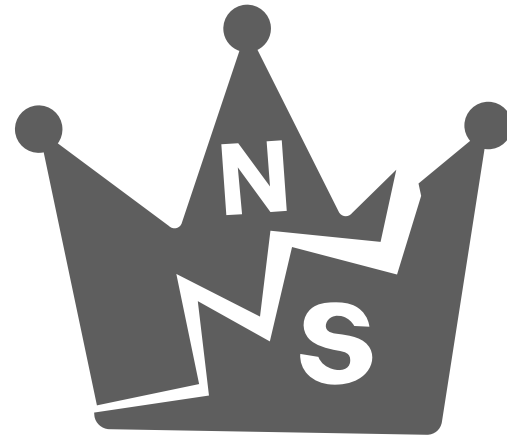
**1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-12, 1
Chronicles, 2 Chronicles 1-9
c. 1009-931 BC**



During the time of the Judges the Israelites were not united as one nation and were often defeated by their enemies because of this disunity. Finally the people asked God for a king to unite them. God sent them King Saul as their first king but Saul was disobedient and the kingdom was not truly united under his leadership. God then raised up a man named David who was a man after God's own heart. David was able to unite the kingdom, lead the people to faithfully follow God, and to protect them from their enemies. God promised that one of King David's descendants would one day be the Messiah who would save the world from their sins and rule over an eternal kingdom. The time of the rule of David and his son Solomon was known as the time of the United Kingdom.

The Divided Kingdom

**1 Kings 13-22, 2 Kings,
2 Chronicles 10-36
c. 931- 722 BC**



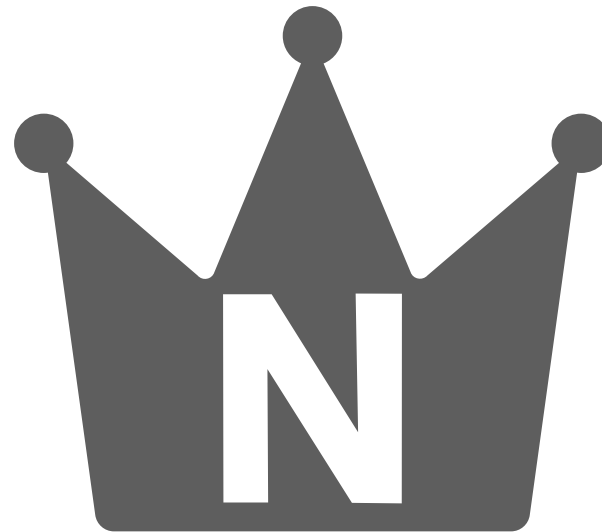
King Solomon, David's son, married many foreign wives and began to worship their gods. Because of his unfaithfulness God split the kingdom of Israel in the time of Solomon's son. The Southern Kingdom of Judah stayed under the leadership of kings that were descended from David but the Northern Kingdom of Israel came under the leadership of violent men who took the throne by force. These kings in the Northern Kingdom led the people to worship other gods. Many of these kings took the throne by killing the previous king and then they themselves would be killed and replaced by a new king. This time period was known as the Divided Kingdom.



During the time of the Divided Kingdom God sent many prophets to both Judah and the Northern Kingdom of Israel to tell them to turn from their disobedience or face punishment. God said that He would send other nations to punish the Israelites if they did not turn back to God but the people would not listen to the prophets. Some of the prophets were beaten or even killed. During this time the prophets also began to speak of the Messiah or Savior and to give many signs of who the Messiah would be and what he would do. They said that he would be a descendant of David, born in Bethlehem, and would be both a king and a suffering servant. They said that this Messiah would come to take away the sins of the world.

Fall of the Northern Kingdom (of Israel)

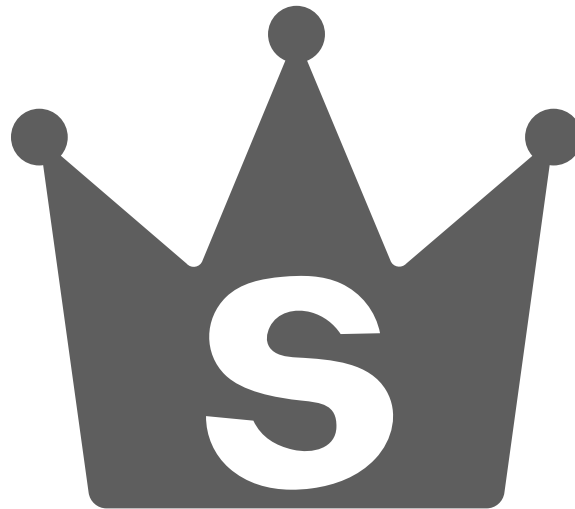
**2 Kings 17
722 BC**



The Northern Kingdom of Israel was particularly disobedient to God. After many warnings from the prophets God eventually sent the kingdom of Assyria to conquer the Northern Kingdom. The Assyrian's removed the people of Israel from the land and resettled them in other lands. Most of the 10 tribes that made up the Northern Kingdom of Israel never returned and were basically lost to history.

Fall of the Southern Kingdom (of Judah)

2 Kings 24-25, 2 Chronicles 36
587 BC



The Southern Kingdom of Judah survived for another 150 years but then became so disobedient that God sent the Babylonians to conquer them as well. The Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and deported the Israelites to Babylon. But God promised that he would one day bring these exiles back to the land of Judah.

The Exile

Daniel
605-538 BC



The people of Judah spent 70 years in exile in the land of Babylon. While in Babylon the people realized their disobedience and began to cry out to God for deliverance. After 70 years God sent the Persian king Cyrus to conquer the Babylonians.

The Return and Rebuilding

Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel
538-63 BC



Ezra & Nehemiah
538-423 BC



King Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to their land. Over the next 100 years 3 groups of exiles returned to the land of Judah under the leadership of Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah. These leaders led the people to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple and to restart the sacrificial system.

Daniel 7-11
332-167 BC



Then Alexander the Great conquered most of the known world at that time and spread Greek culture and language all throughout the ancient world. For the first time there was a common language that could be spoken in most corners of the known world.

But in time one of the Greek kings named Antiochus Epiphanes tried to force the Jews to worship the Greek gods. One of the Jewish priests named Mattathias Maccabee lead a revolt after Antiochus sacrificed a pig on the Temple alter. This became known as the Maccabean Revolt. This revolt lead to some autonomy for the Jewish people for a time under the Hasmonean Kings who were descendants of Mattathias Maccabee.

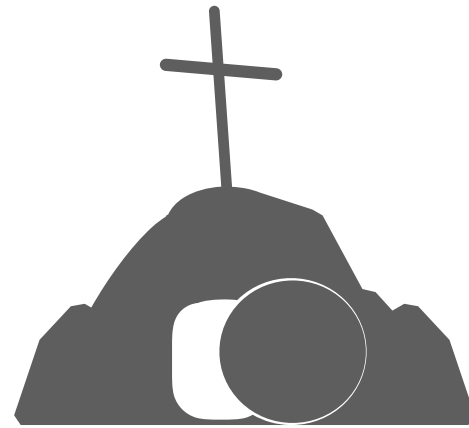
Daniel 2:31-45
63 BC



Then the Romans conquered the areas formerly ruled by the Greeks including Judah. Although the Jewish people resented Roman rule, the Romans built good roads and made it safe to travel throughout the ancient world. For the first time in history there were good, safe roads to travel and a common Greek language spoken throughout the ancient world. The stage was now set for the Messiah to come as the savior of the world.

Jesus

**Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
30 AD**



When the time was right God sent Jesus, His only Son, as the Messiah and Savior of the world. Jesus came and lived a perfect life under the Law and then willingly died as a sacrifice for the sins of mankind. God raised Him from the dead on the 3rd day, breaking the power of the curse of sin and death. He appeared to over 500 people alive and taught his disciples for 40 days from the Old Testament scriptures why the Messiah had to come and die for the sins of the world. After 40 days God took Jesus back into heaven. But before Jesus left he said that he would go and prepare a place for his followers and that he would one day come back to gather his followers and to punish those who rejected his free sacrifice for their sins.

The Church

**Mathew 28:18-20, Acts
30 AD**



Before He was taken into Heaven Jesus also instructed his disciples to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey all things that He had taught them. He promised that the Holy Spirit would be given to them to help them fulfill this task.

After the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples on the Day of Pentecost the disciples spread out around the world to share the light of Jesus Christ to a darkened world. The disciples were able to use the Greek language and good Roman roads to spread the Gospel to many parts of the ancient world.

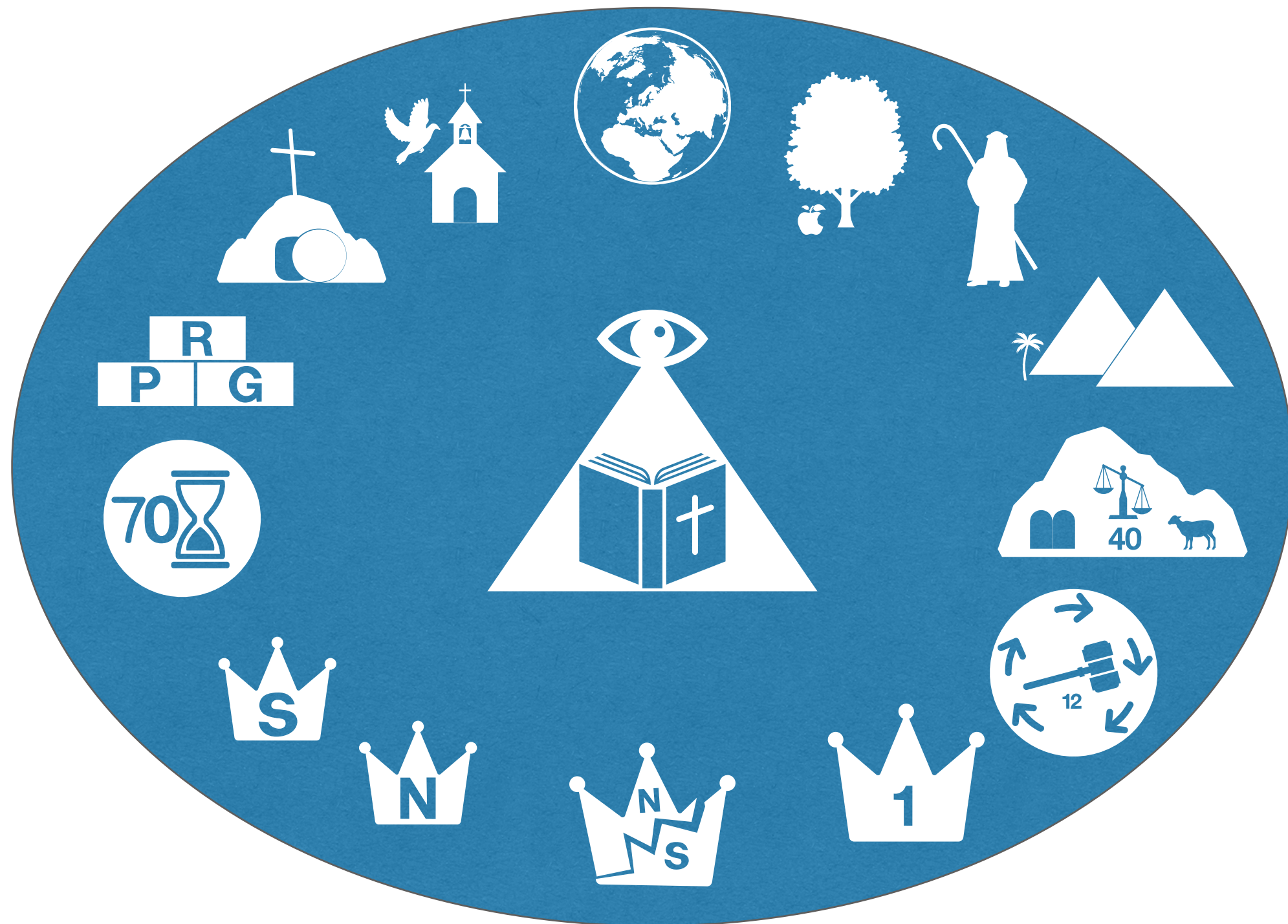
The New Heaven and Earth

**Revelation
96 AD until Now**



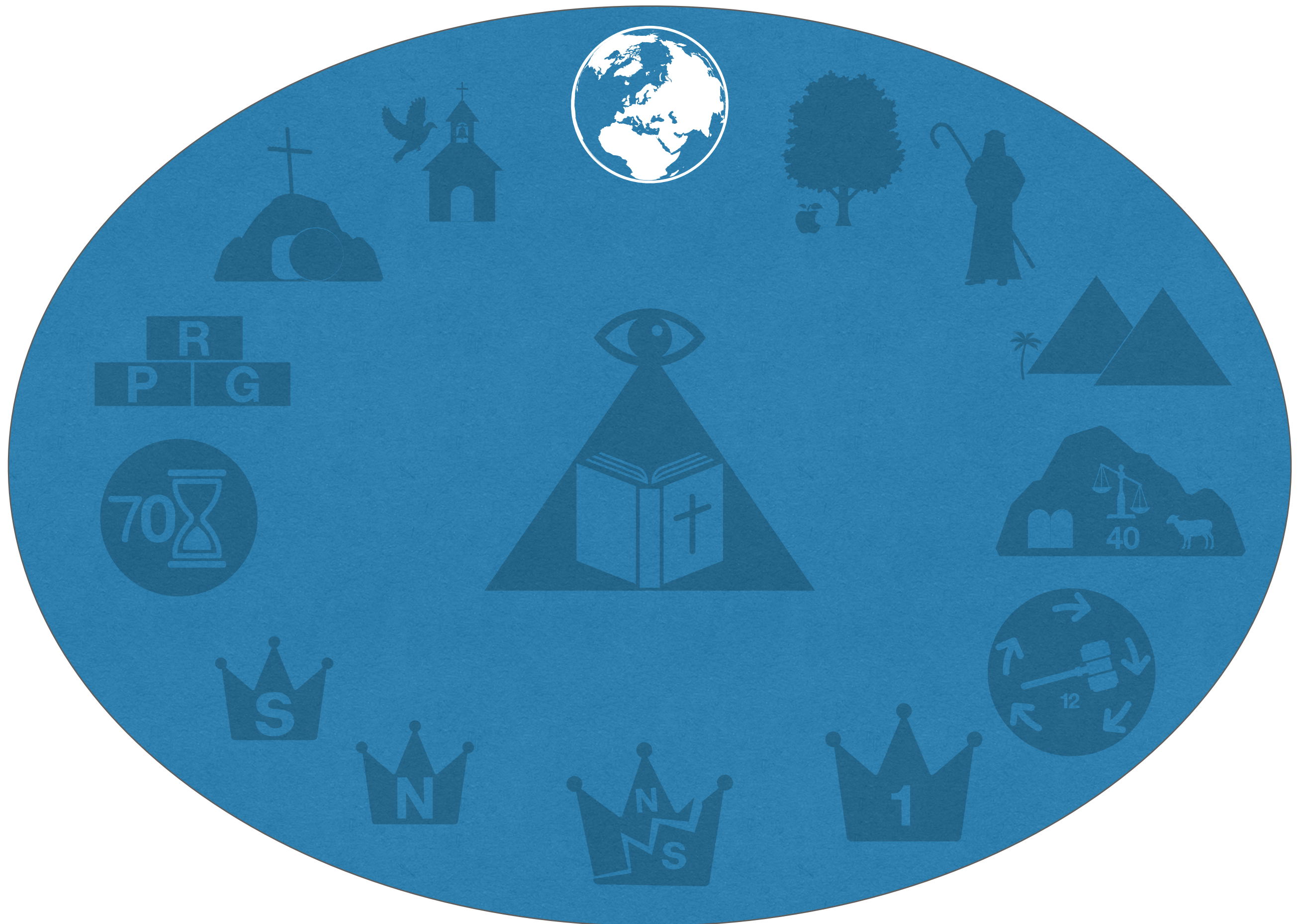
Now we as the Church, the Bride of Christ, continue to share the good news around the world and await the return of Jesus. Jesus promises that when He returns He will make a New Heaven and a New Earth where there is no longer the curse of sin and death. In this New Heaven and Earth there will be people from every tribe, every tongue, every nation worshiping around the throne of God.

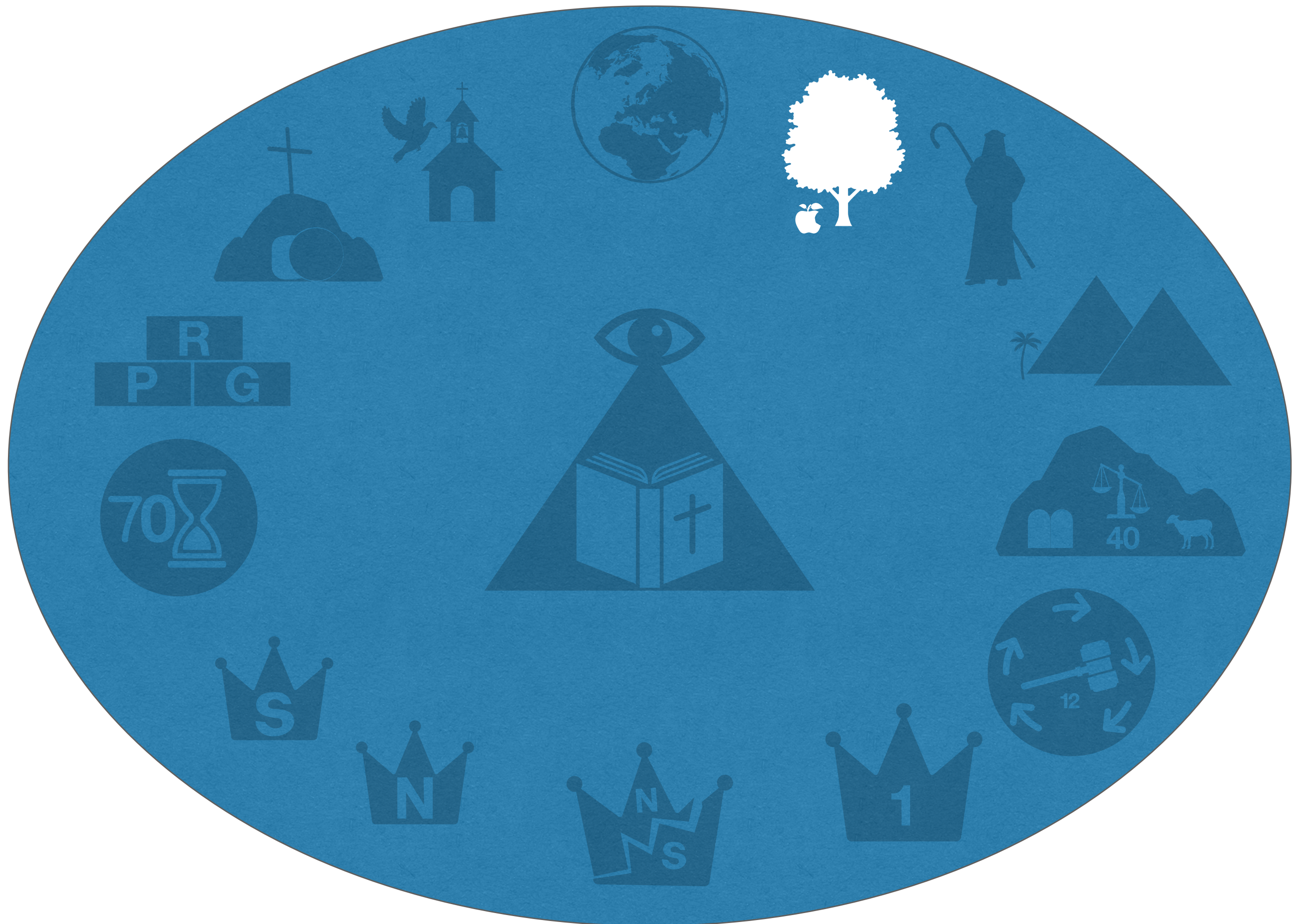
Bird's Eye View of the Bible (Pictures Only)

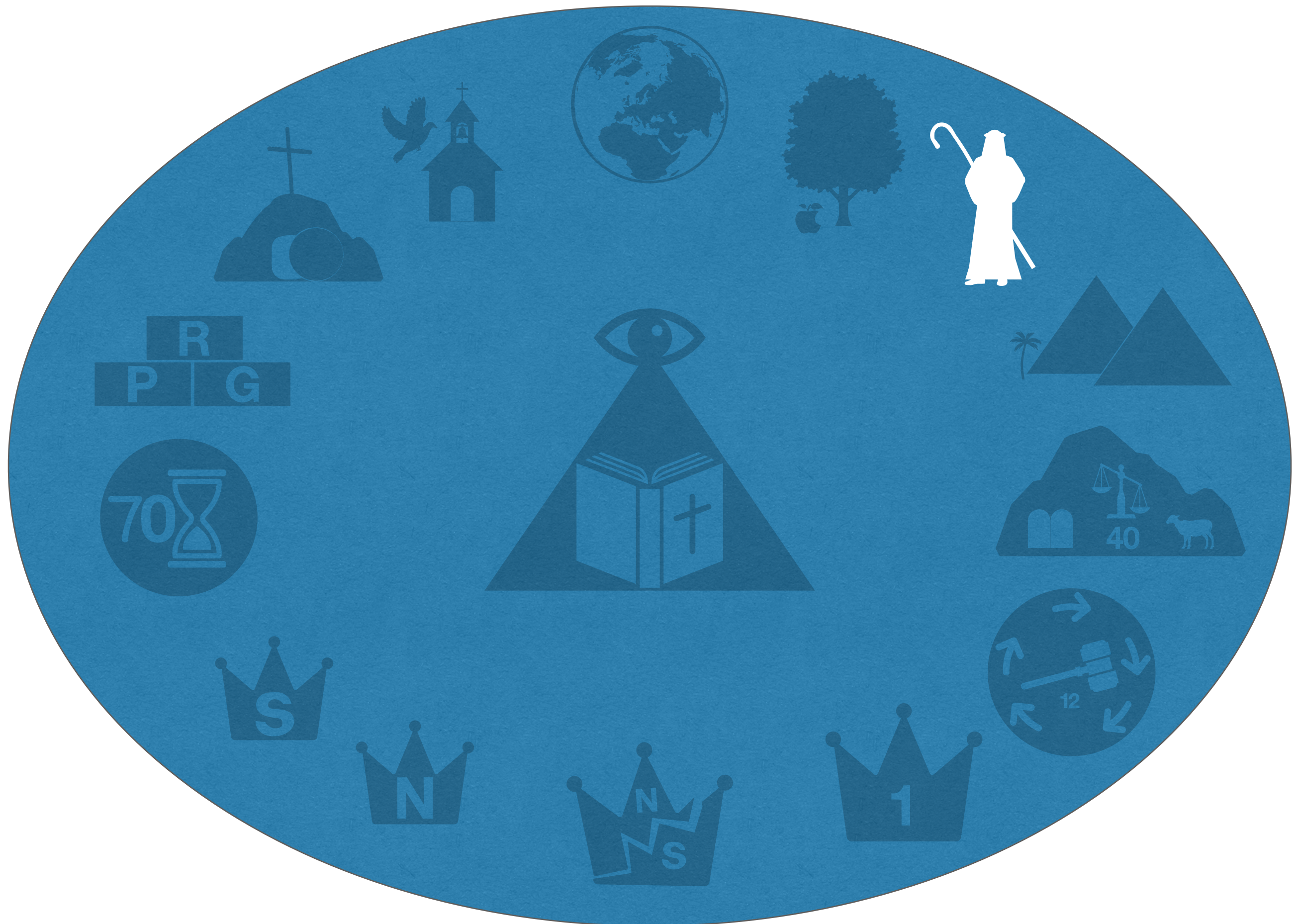


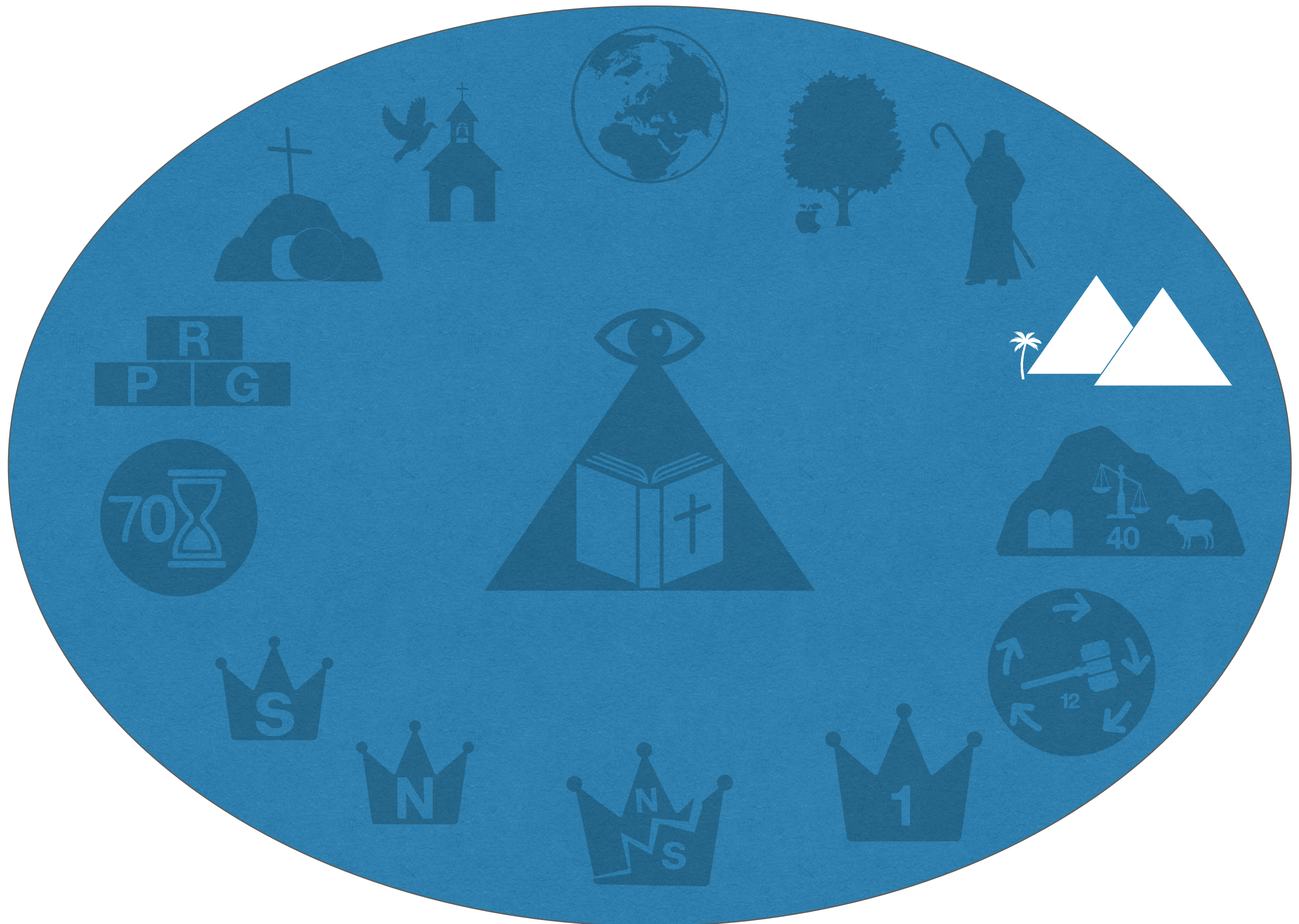
Retell the story in your own words.

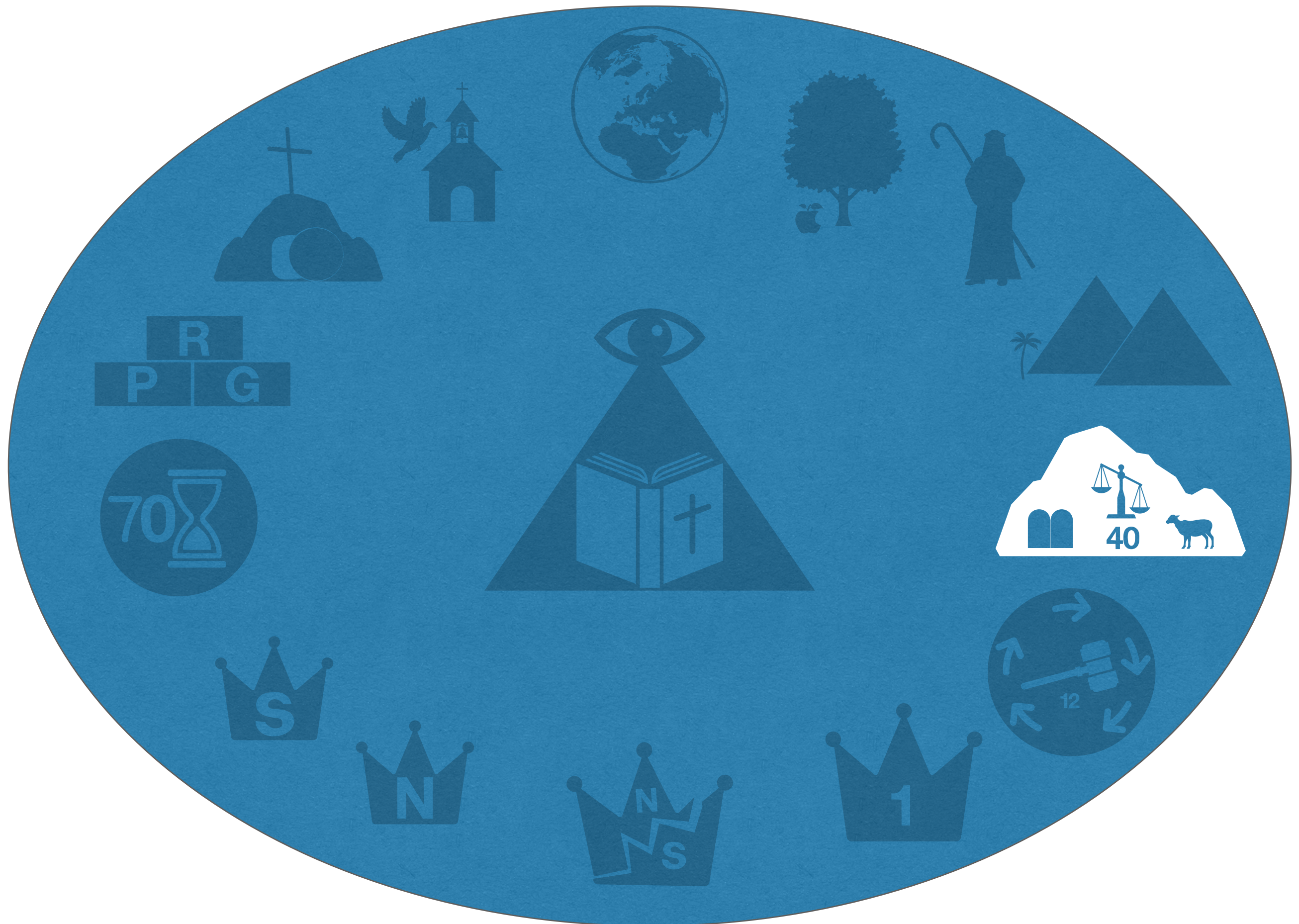


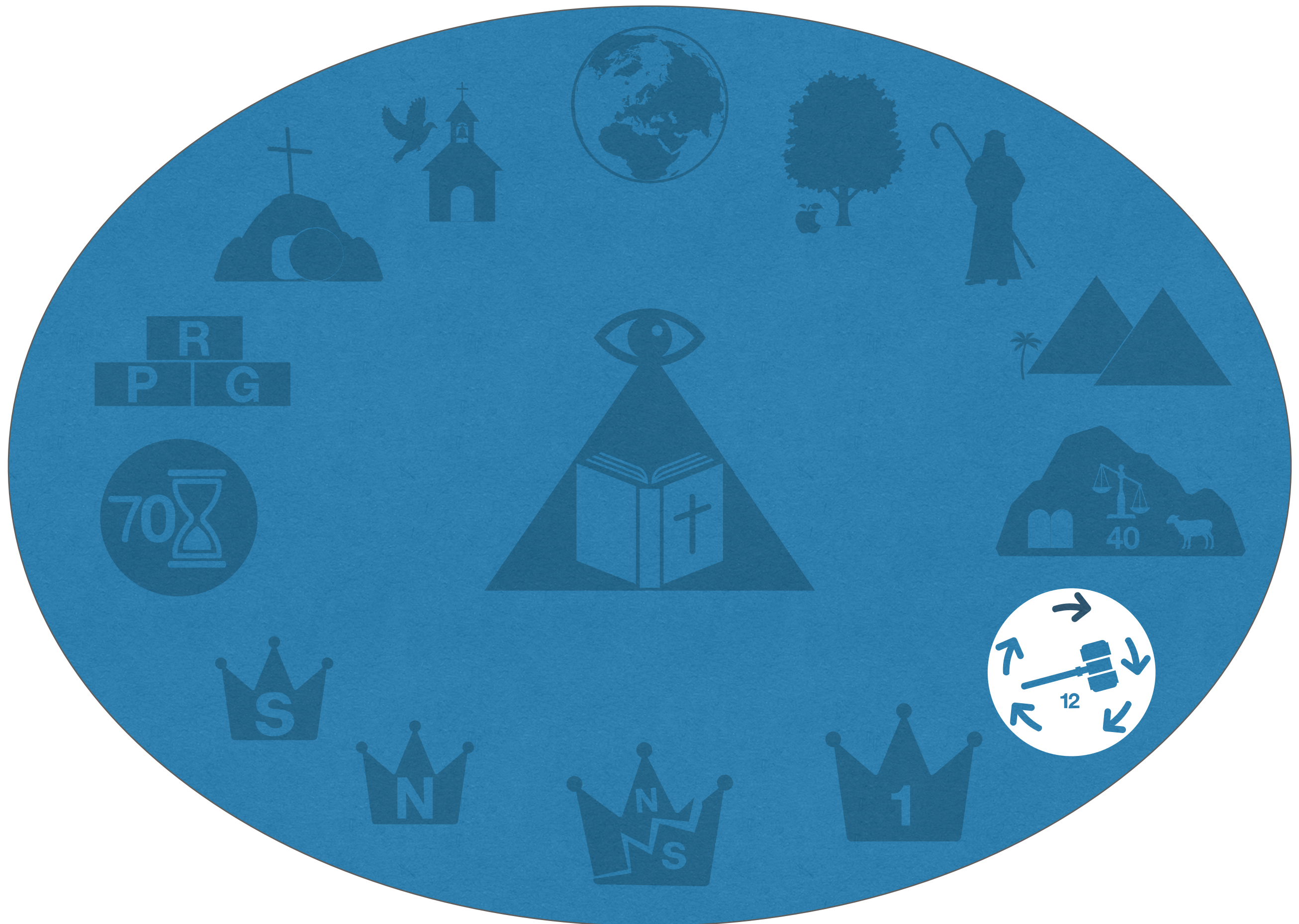


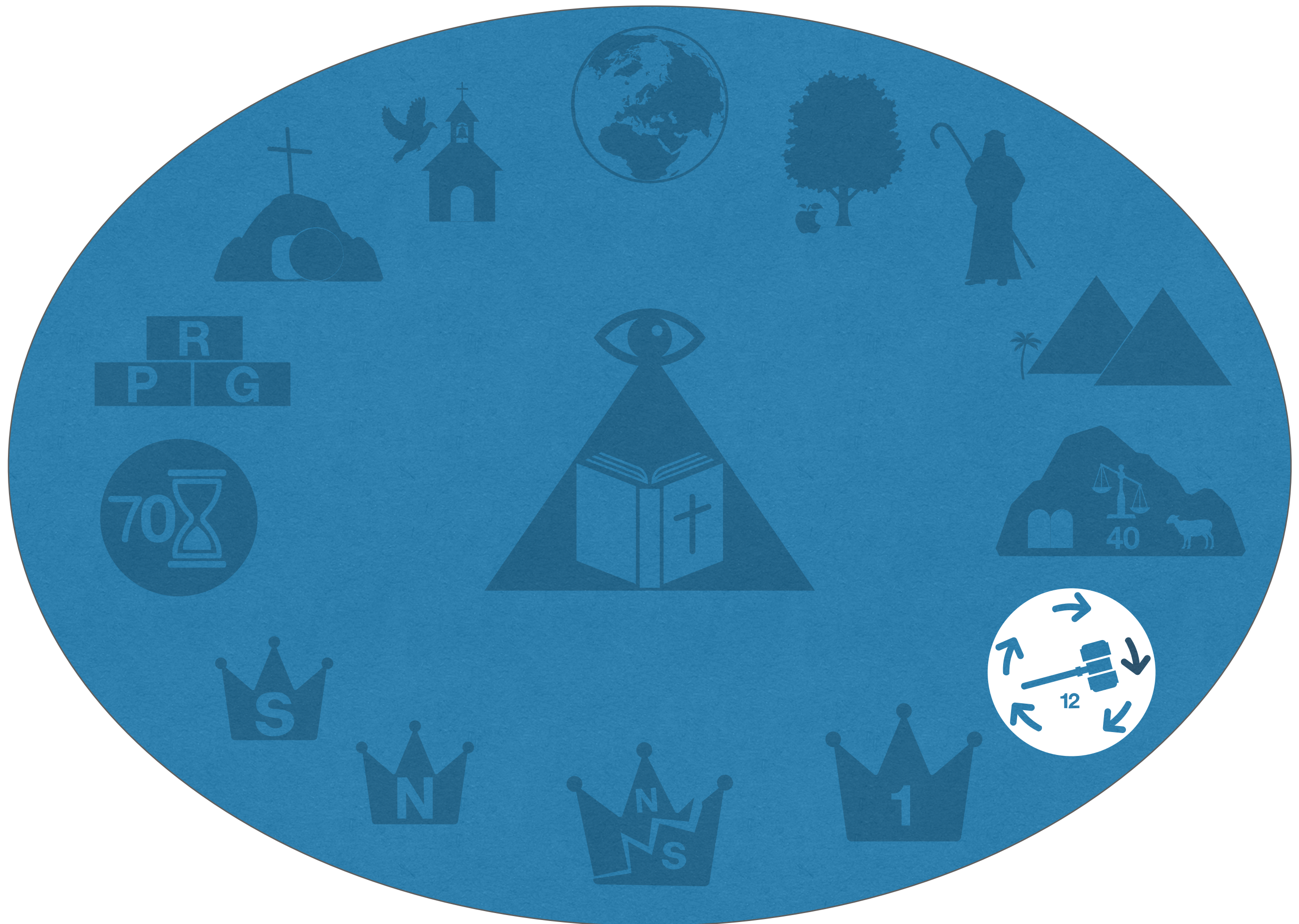


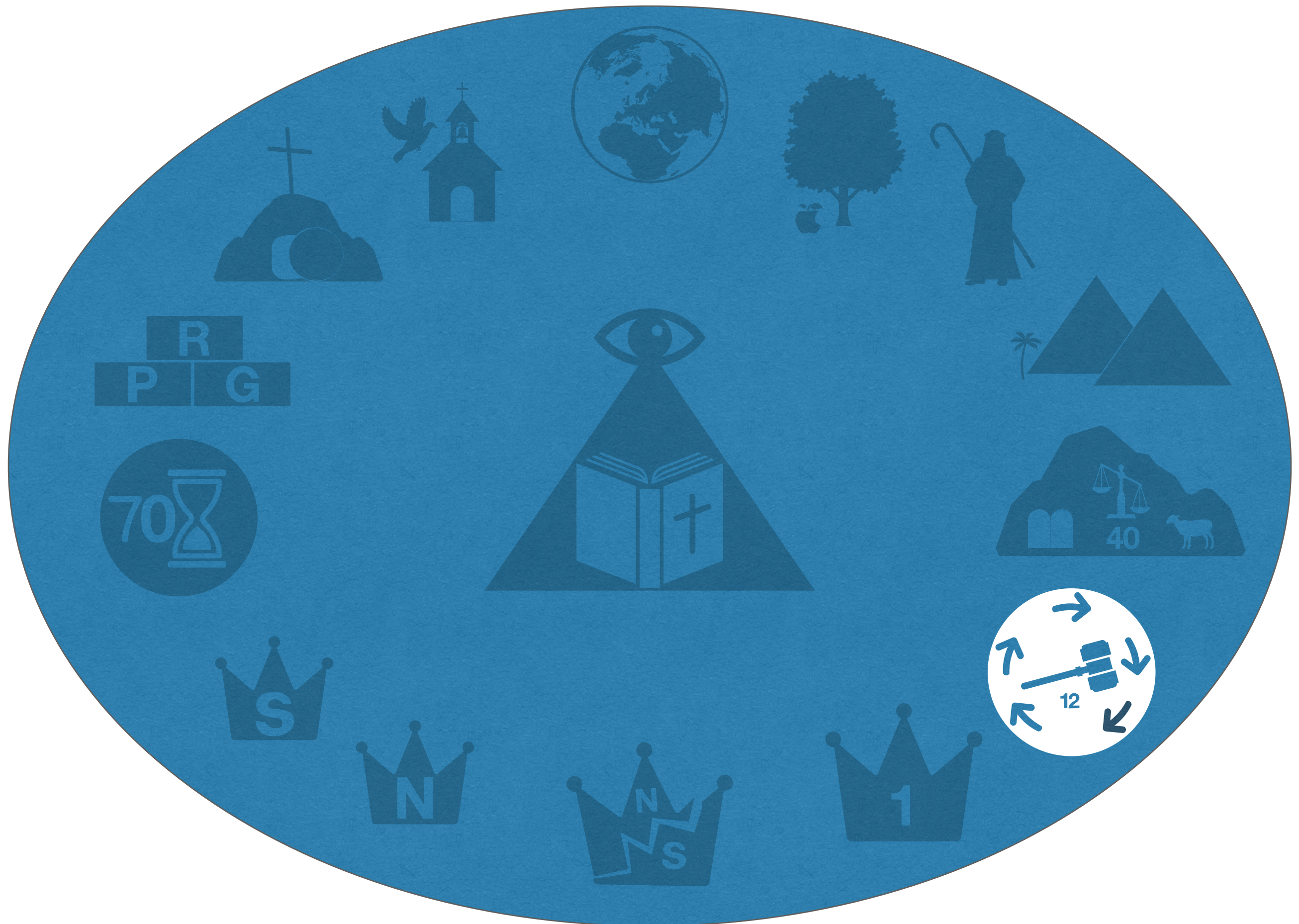


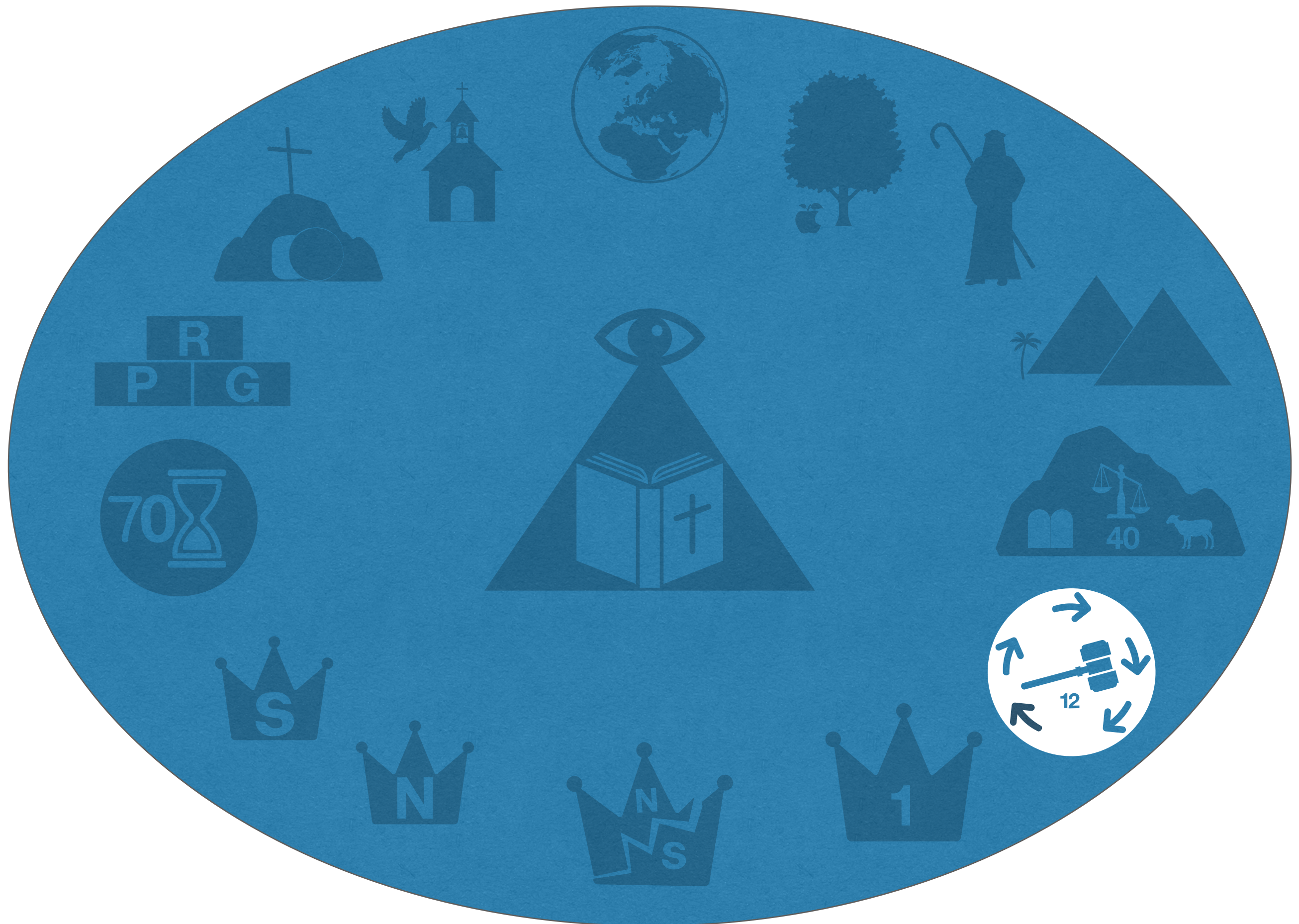


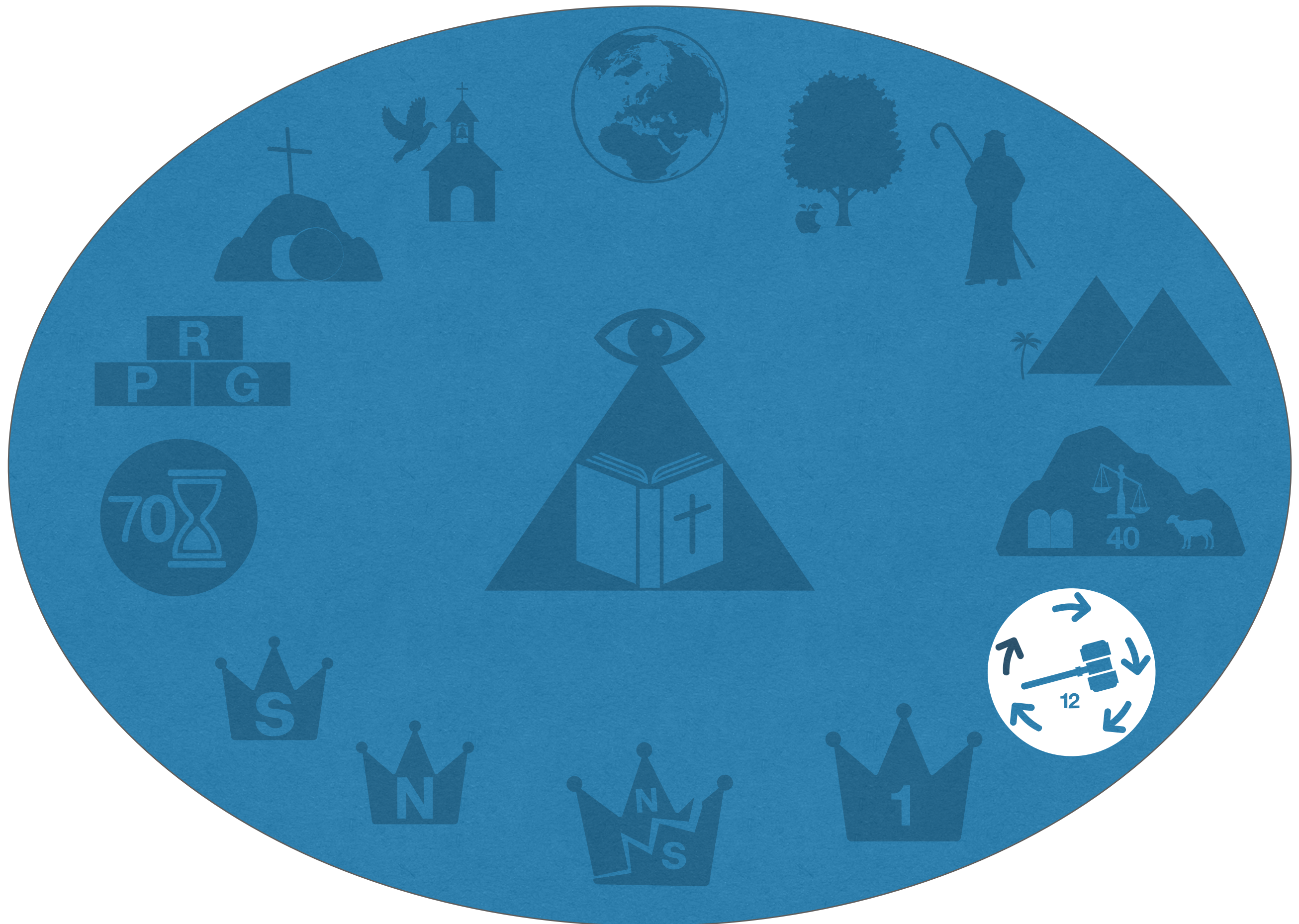


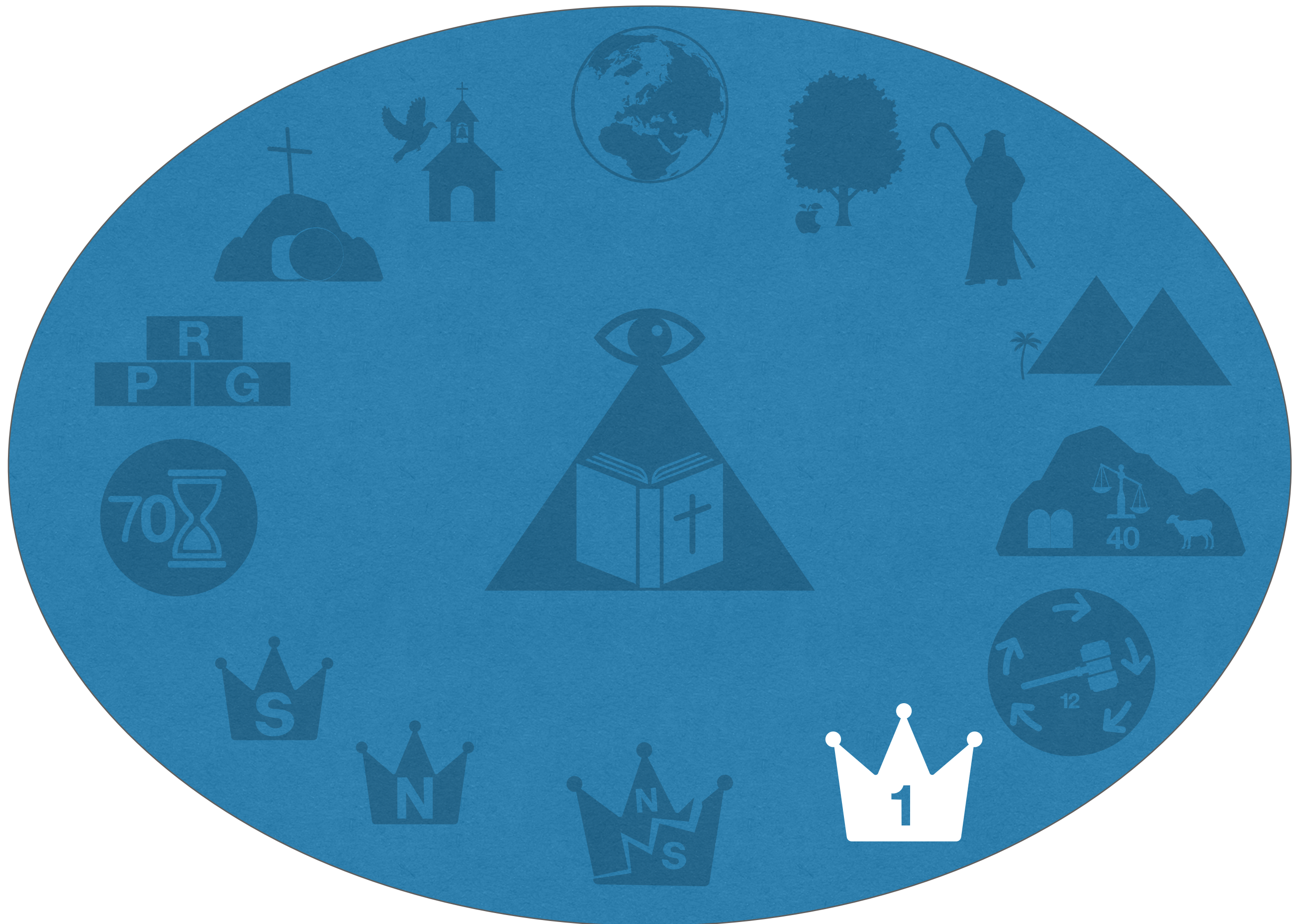


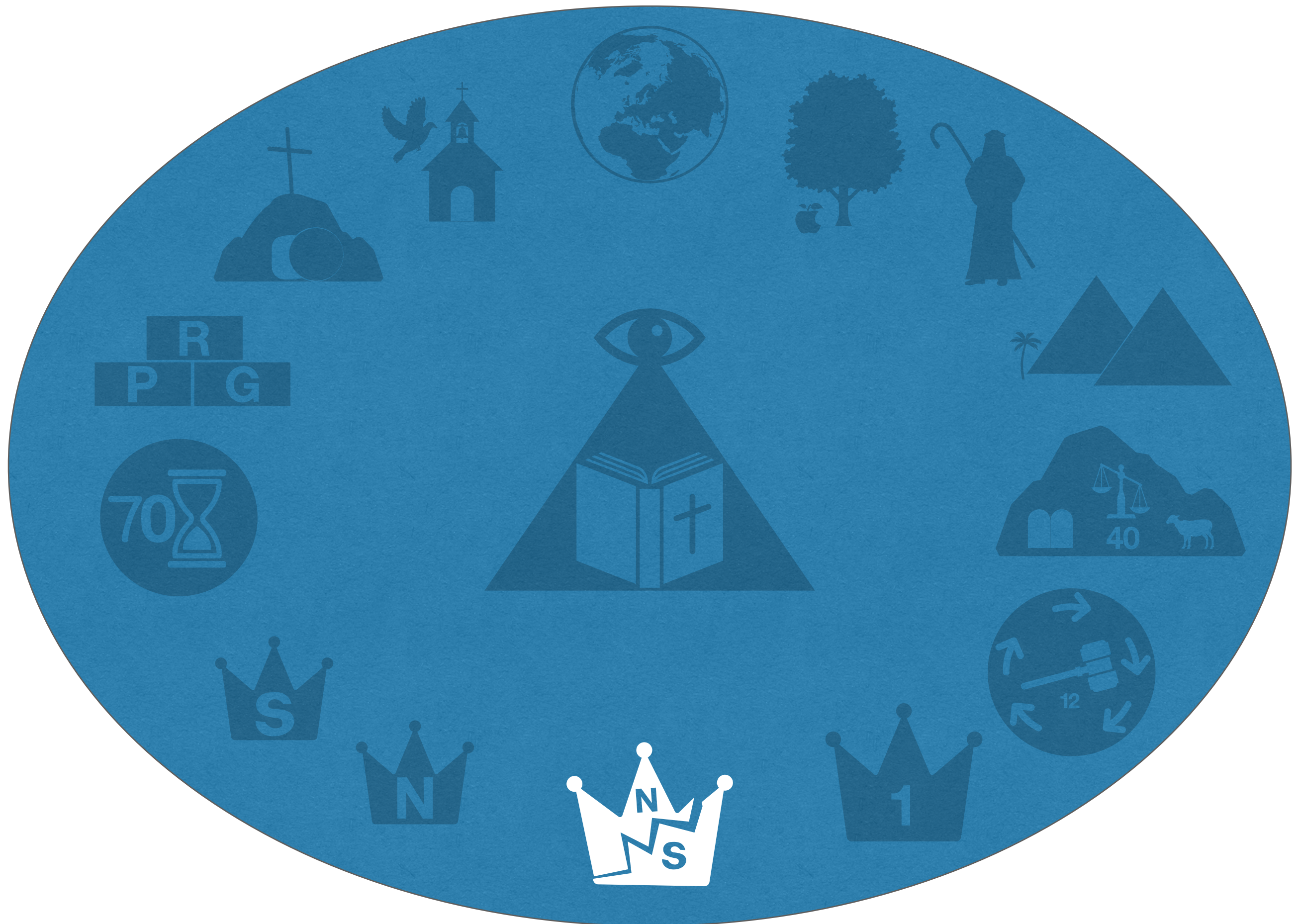


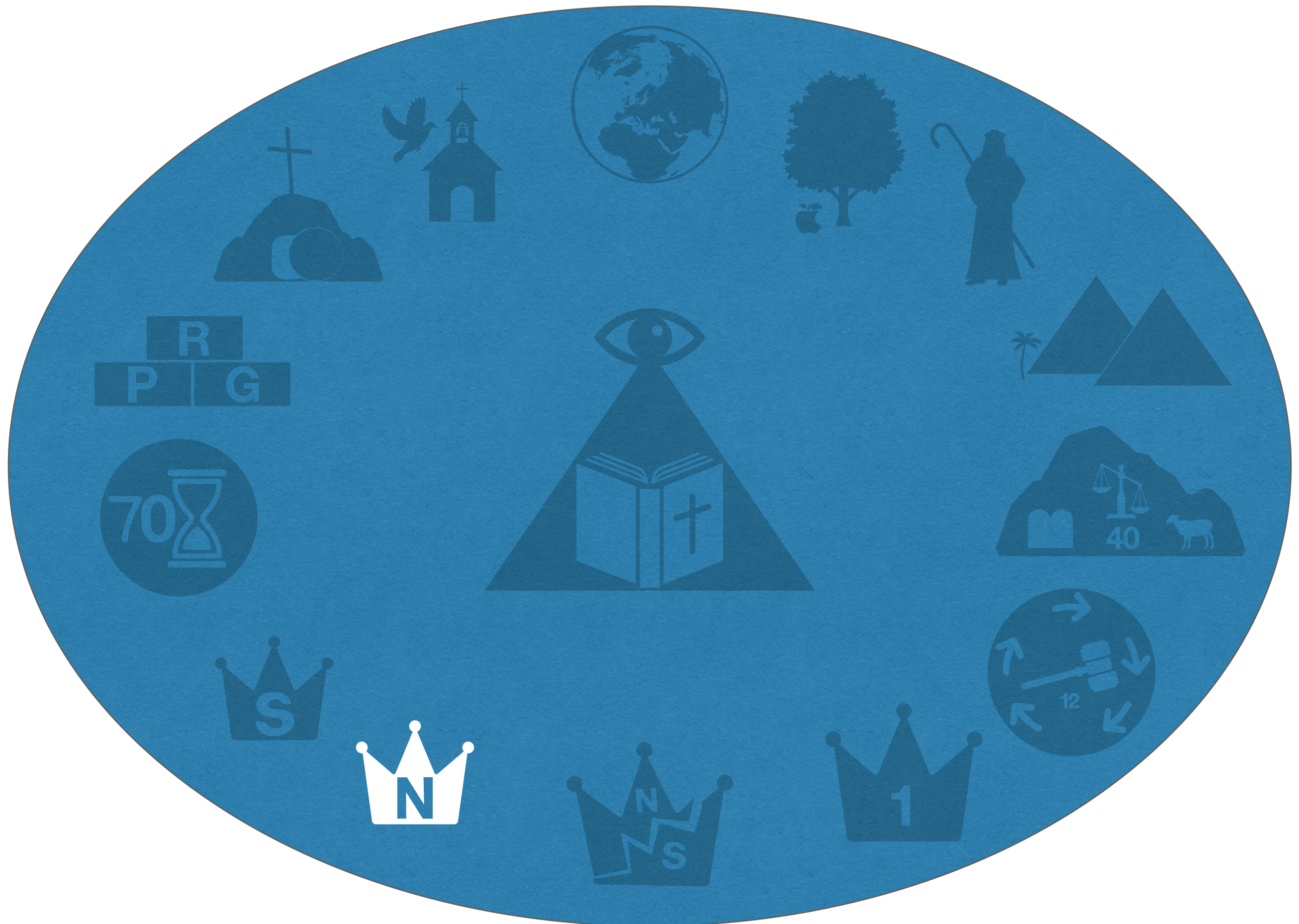


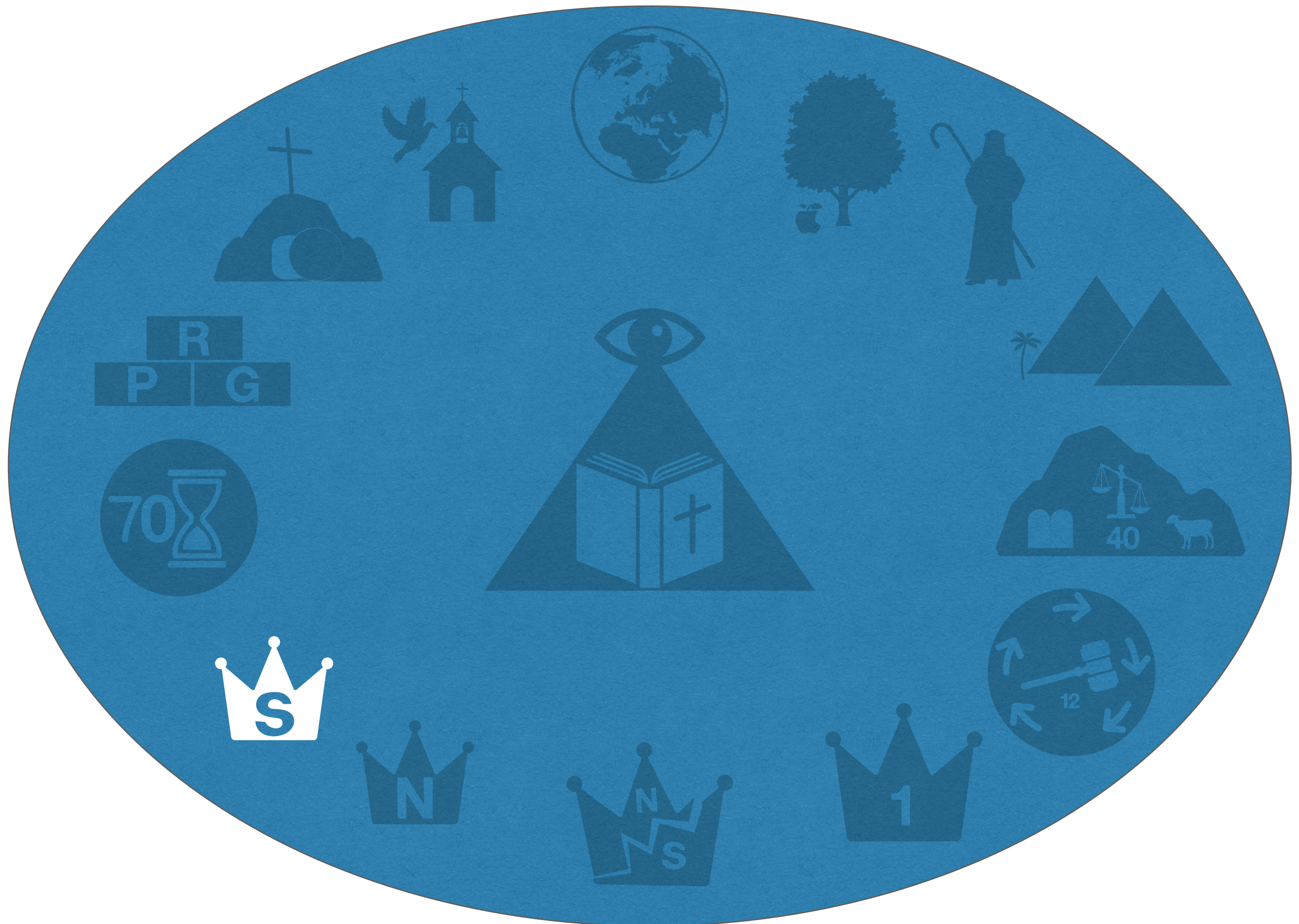


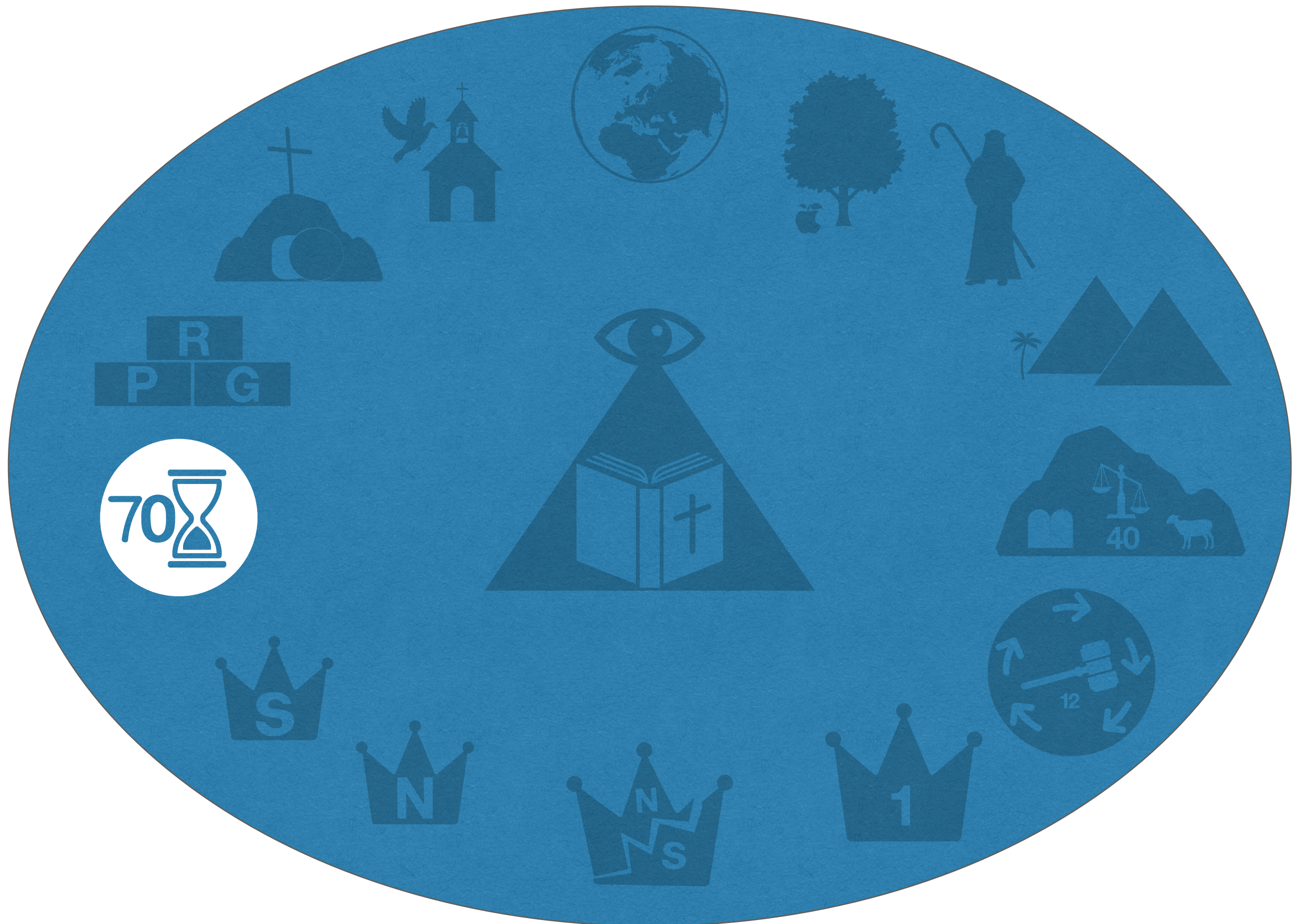


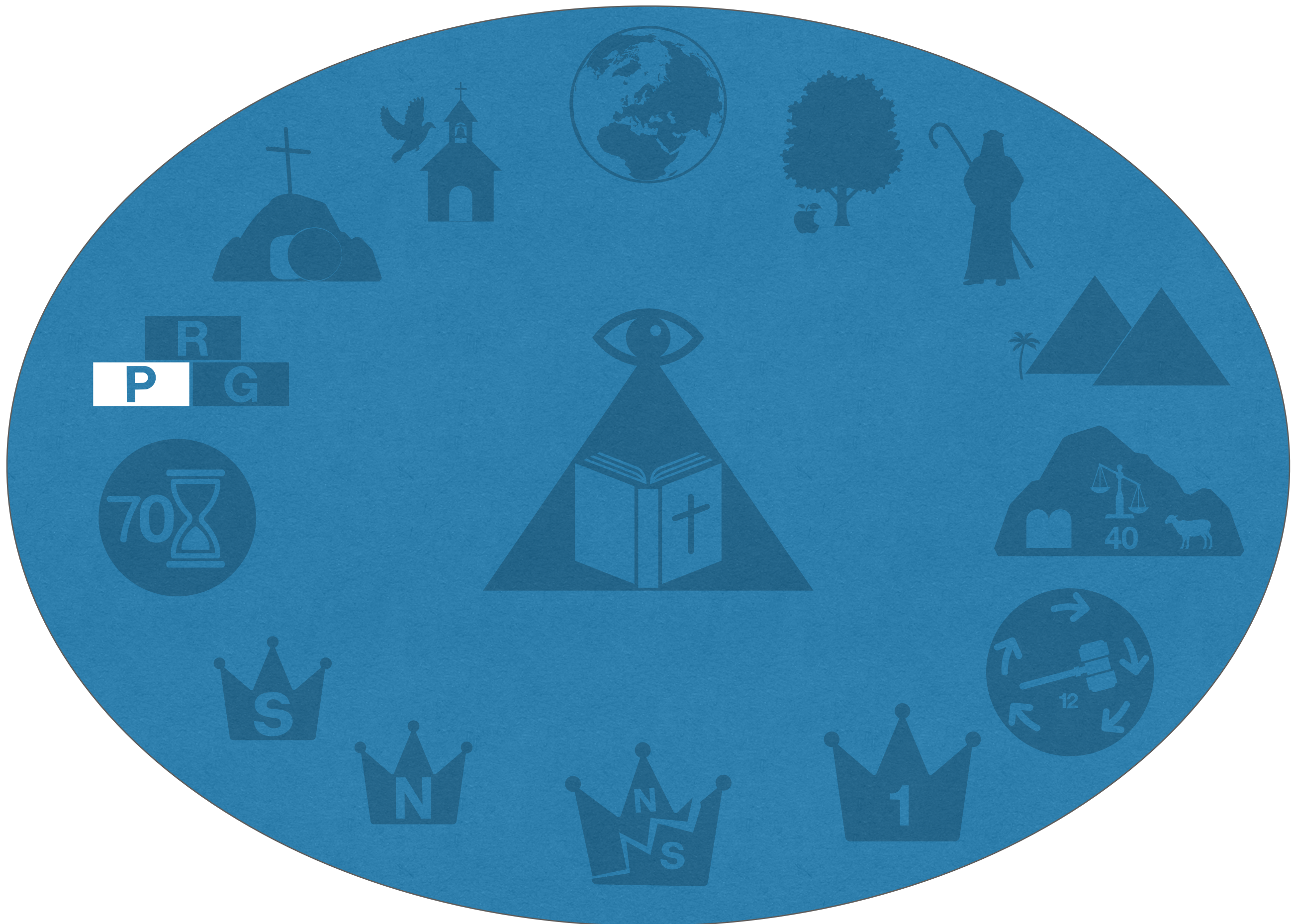


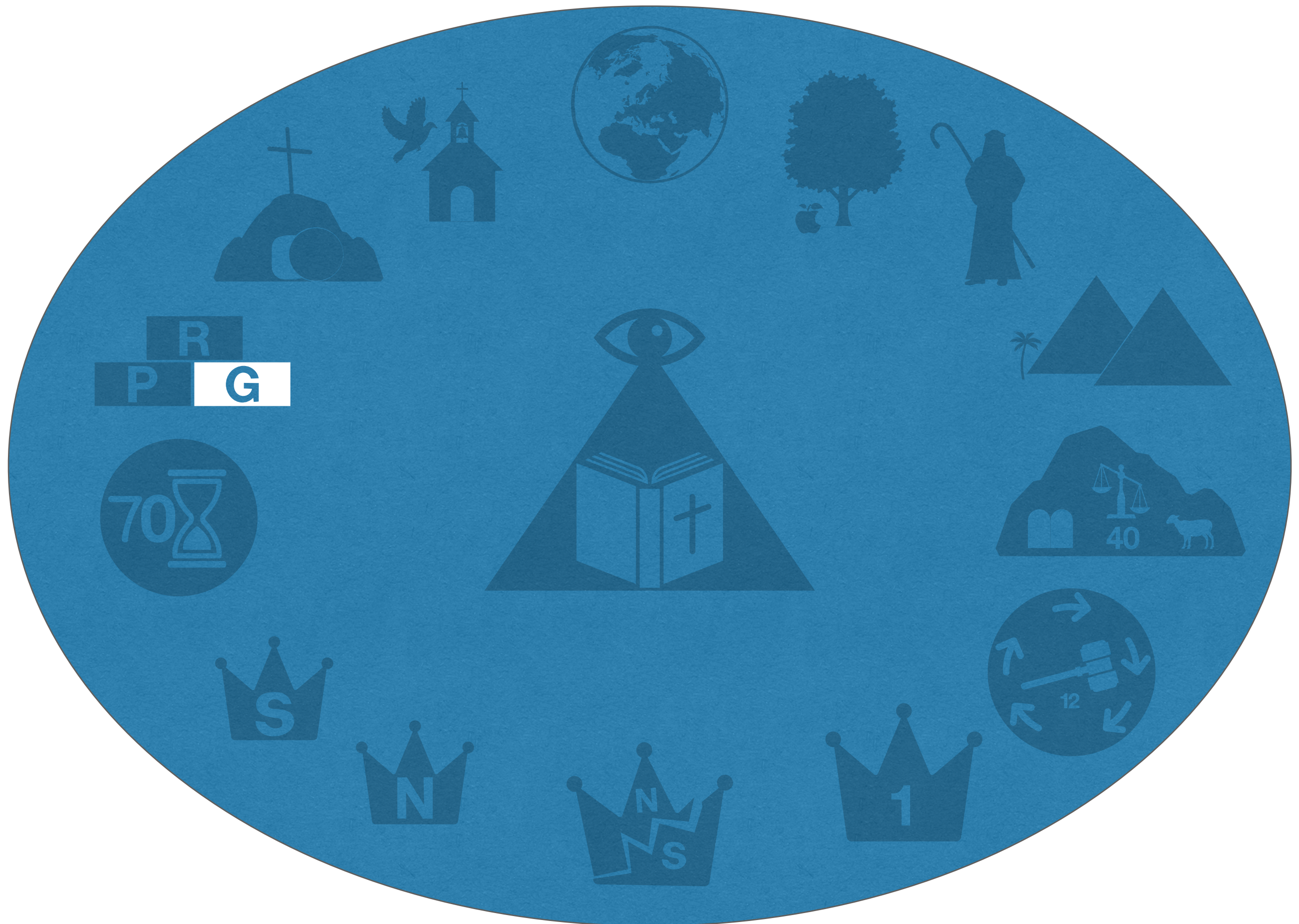


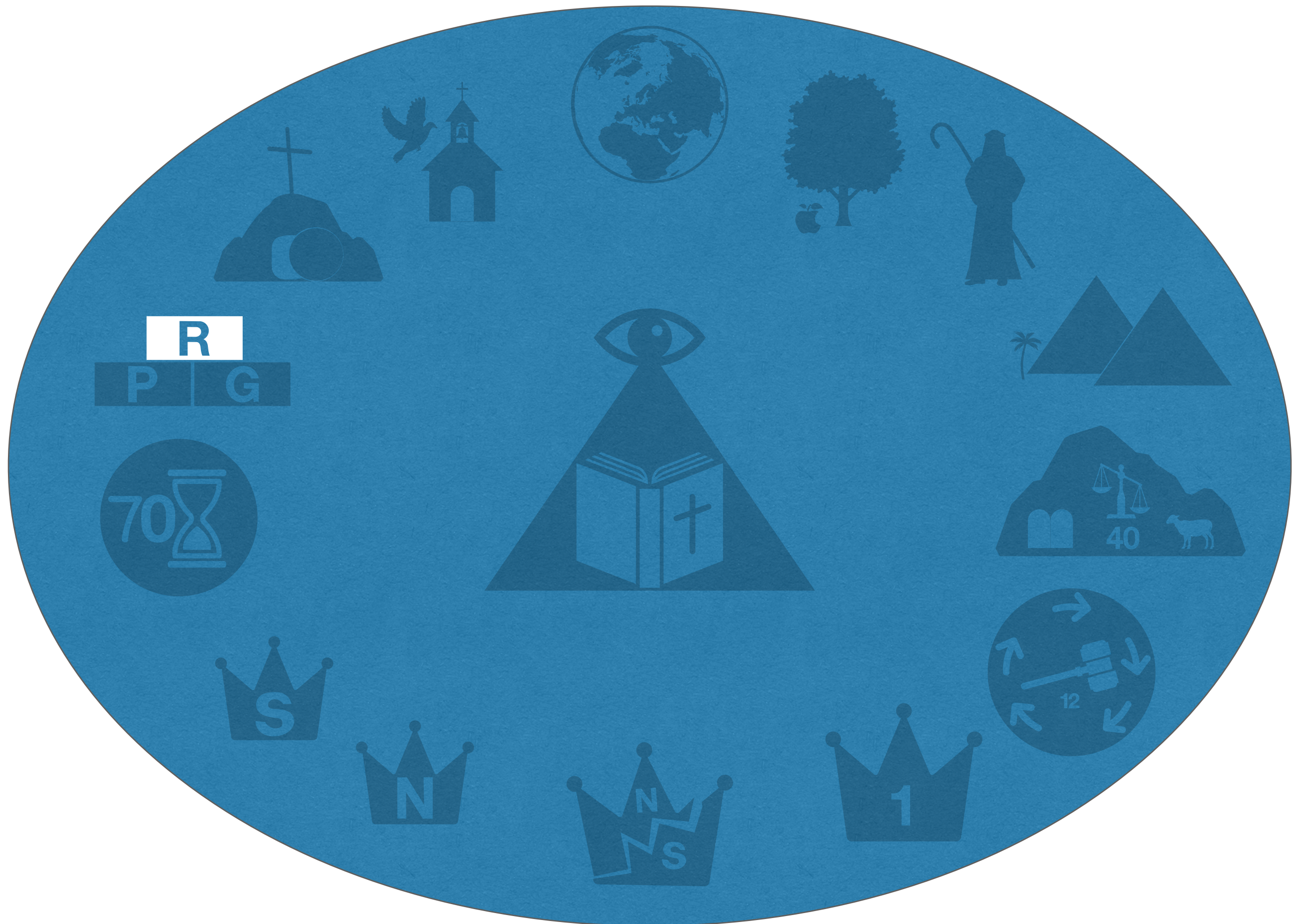


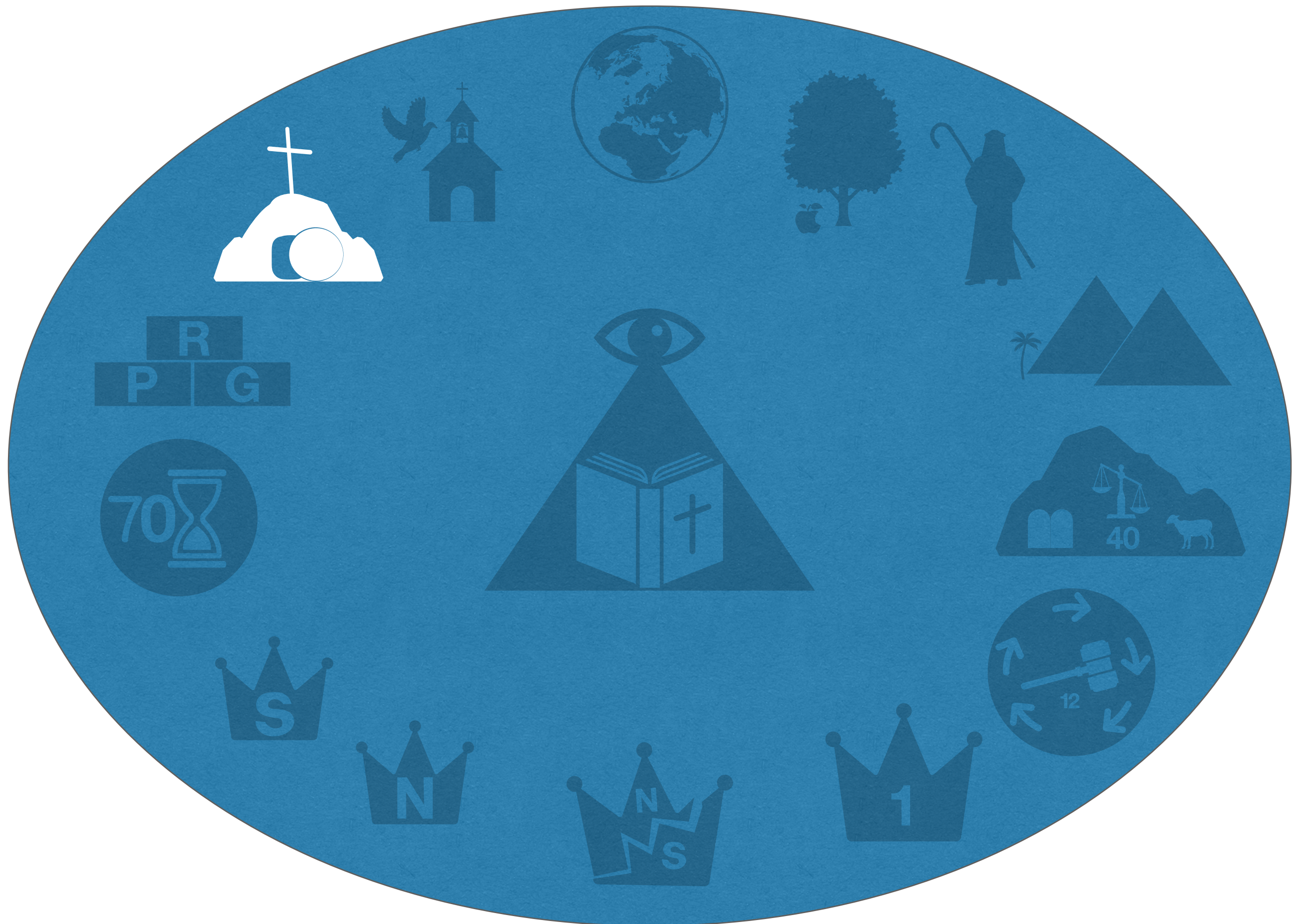


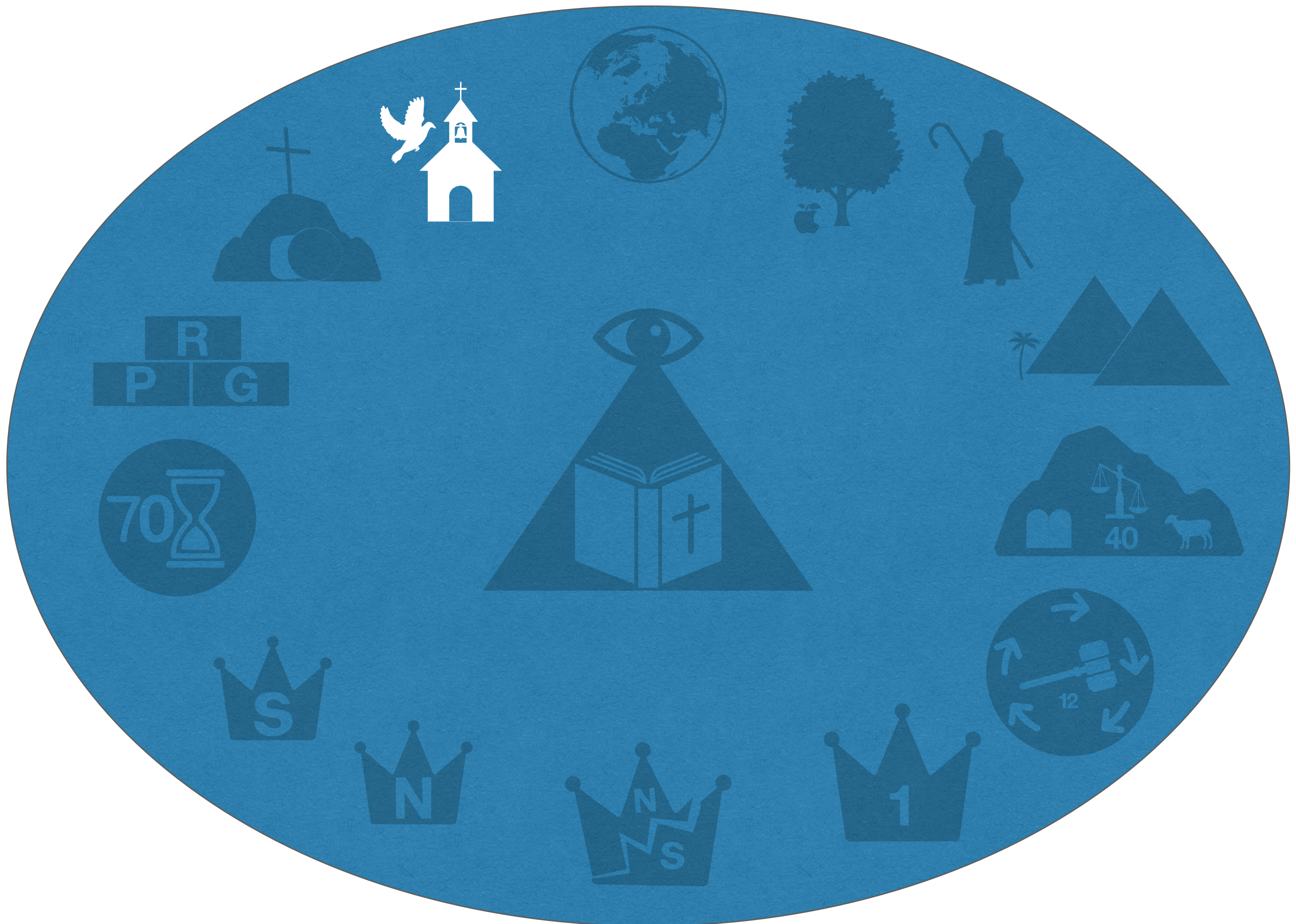


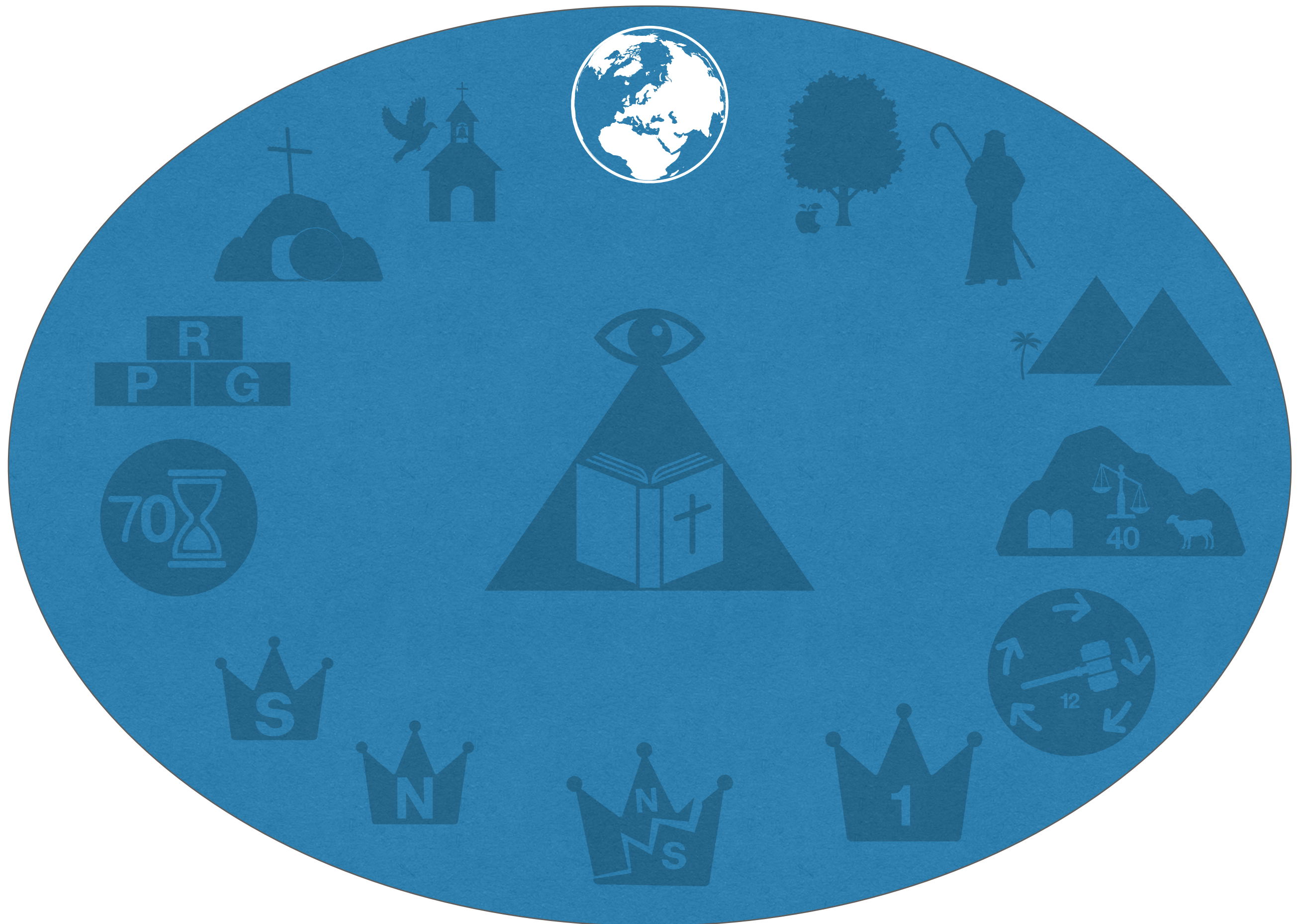


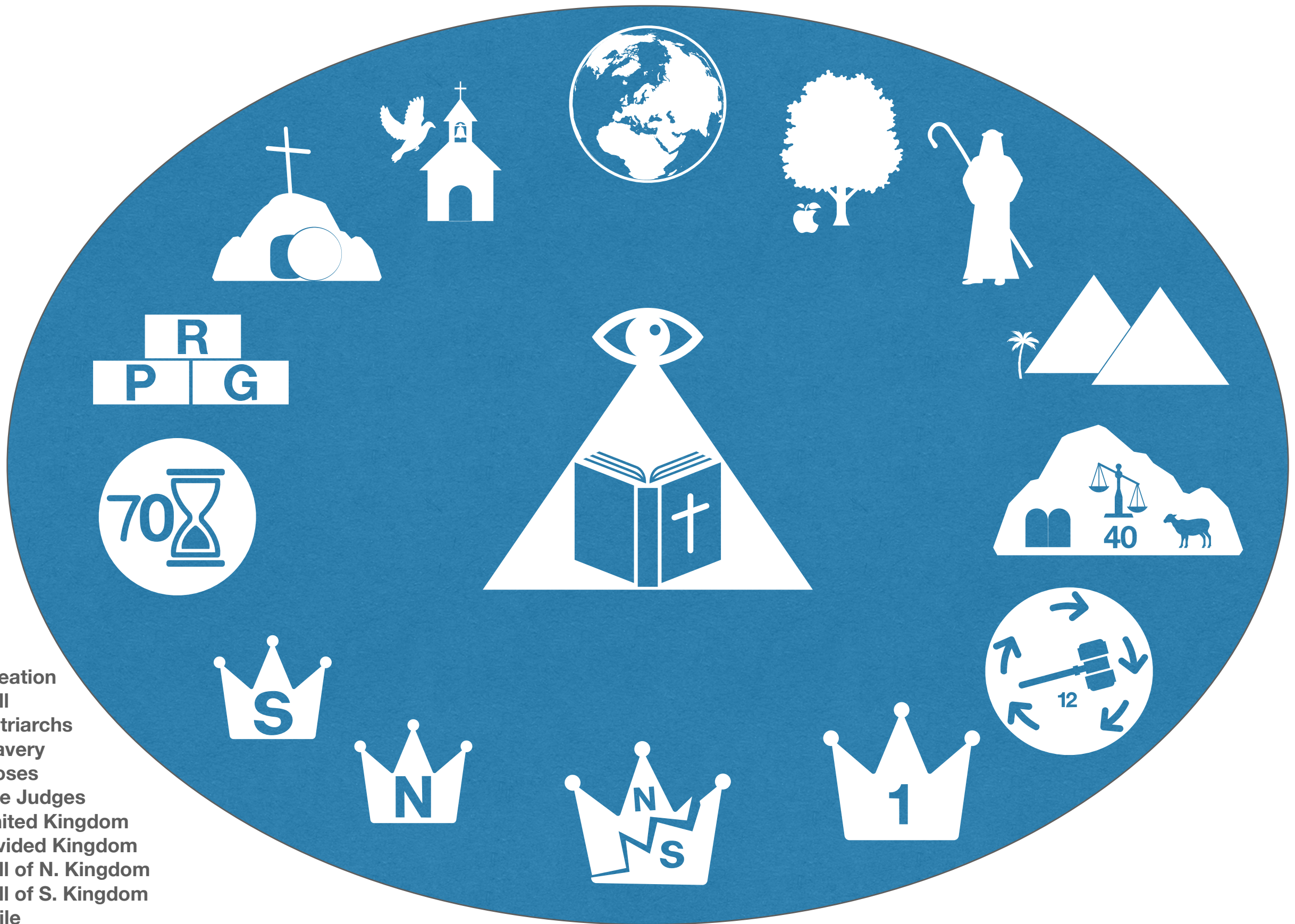












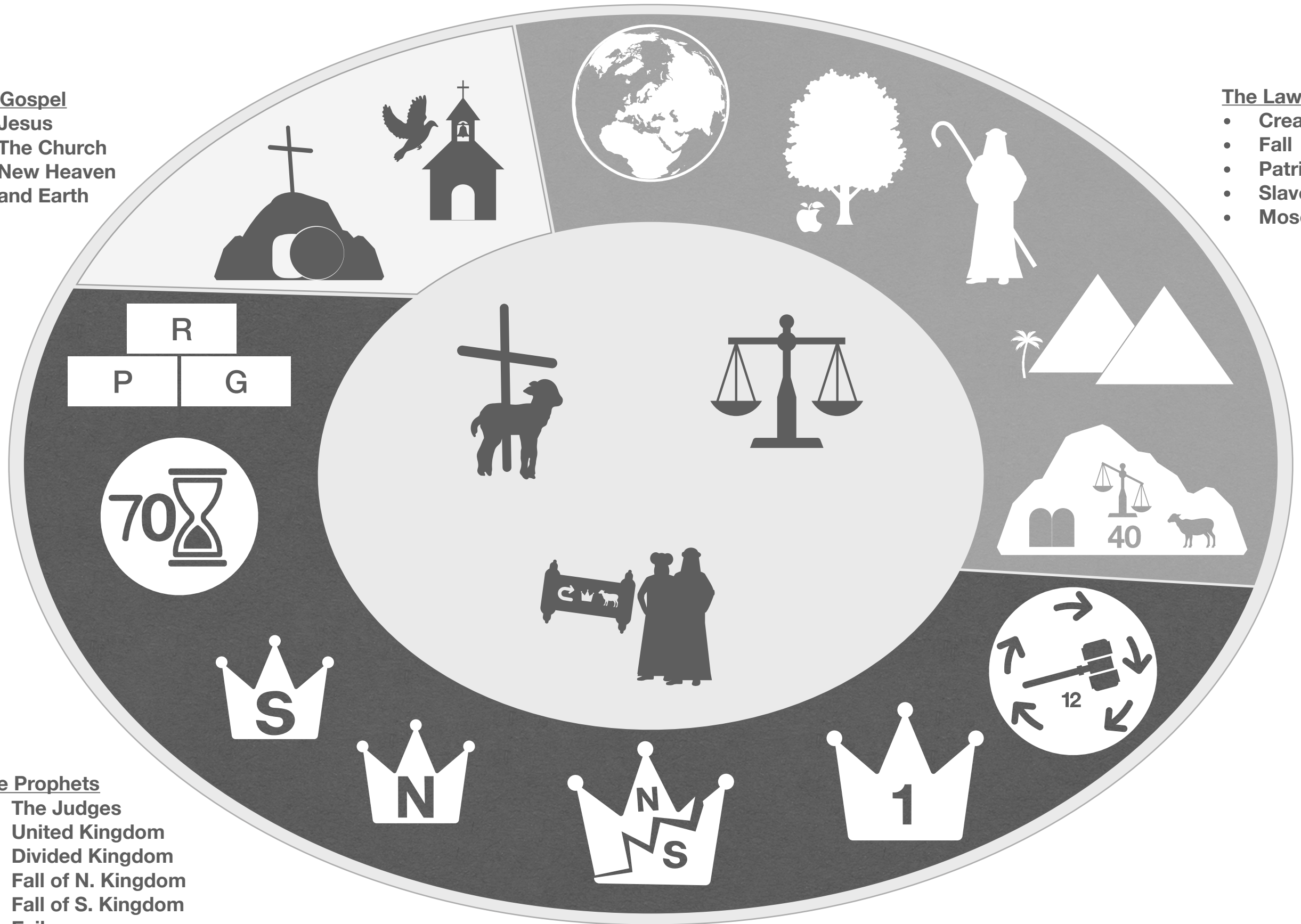
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The Gospel

- Jesus
- The Church
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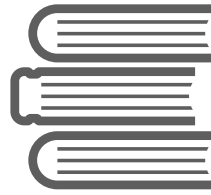
The Law

- Creation
- Fall
- Patriarchs
- Slavery
- Moses



The Prophets

- The Judges
- United Kingdom
- Divided Kingdom
- Fall of N. Kingdom
- Fall of S. Kingdom
- Exile
- Rebuilding



The Law

Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy



The Prophets

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

1 Samuel

2 Samuel

1 Kings

2 Kings

1 Chronicles

2 Chronicles

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

Job

Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song of Solomon

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

The Gospel

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Acts (of the
Apostles)

Romans

1 Corinthians

2 Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

1 Thessalonians

2 Thessalonians

1 Timothy

2 Timothy

Titus

Philemon

Hebrews

James

1 Peter

2 Peter

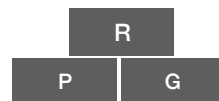
1 John

2 John

3 John

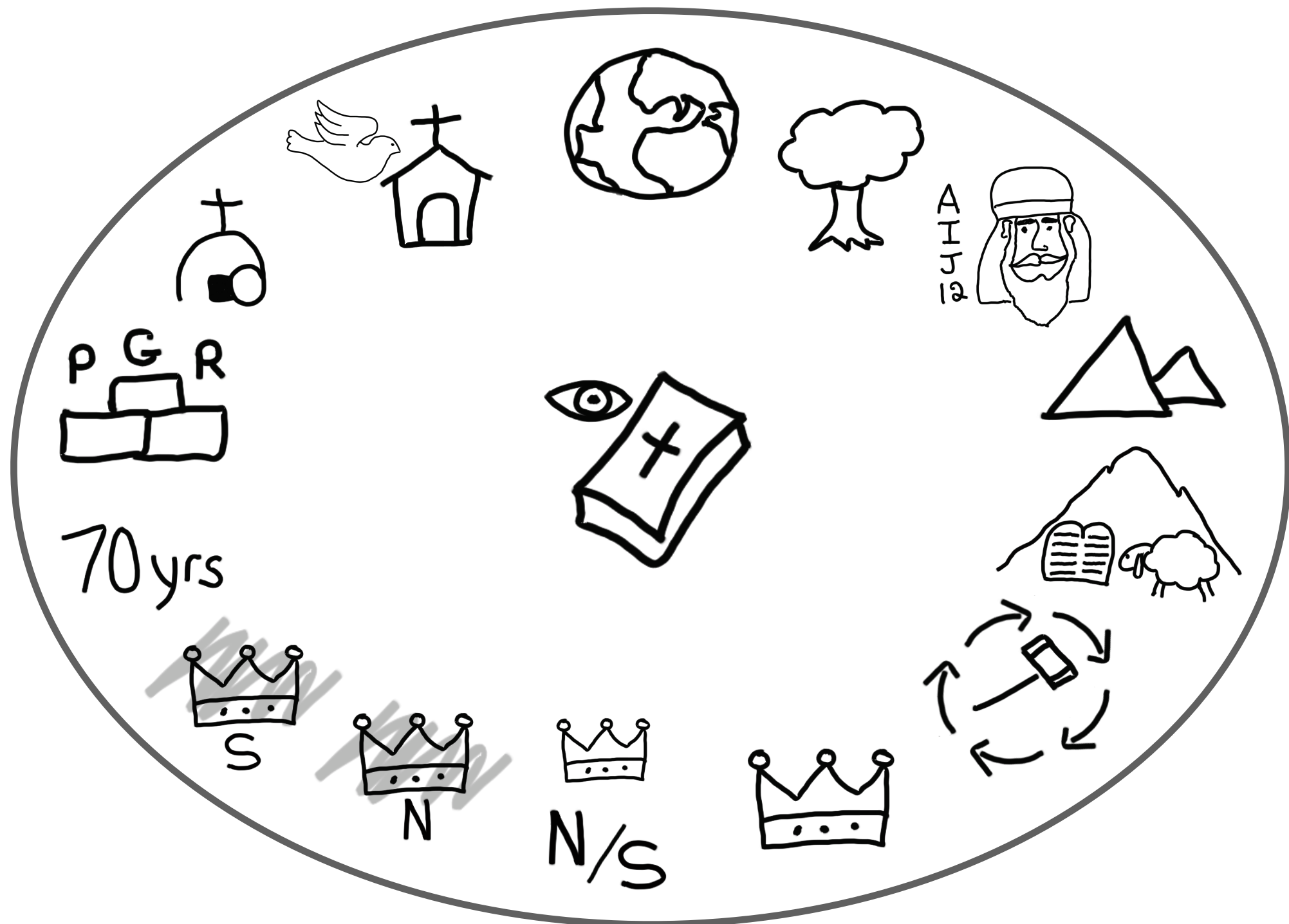
Jude

Revelation



⊗ Learning Tool: Draw the Symbols

Draw the symbols and retell the story in your own words with a partner.



Suggested Lesson Order

Seeker's Class (7 lessons total)

- 01 - Creation to Christ (C2C) (1 lesson)
- 02 - The Six Sacrifice Stories (6 lessons)

Believer's Group (25 lessons total)

- 03 - Initial Discipleship - Milk (5 lessons)
- 04 - Basic Discipleship - Meat (20 lessons)

Christian Worldview (2 lessons)

- 05 - Bird's Eye View of the Bible (1 lesson)
- 06 - Bird's Eye View of Church History (1 lesson)

Book Studies (4-5 years) - no material but uses 3/3rds format

- James (character development)
- Titus (group development)
- Luke (or one of the other four Gospels (understanding the Gospel))
- Acts (understanding the early church and group multiplication)
- Genesis (theological foundations)
- Exodus (theological foundations)
- Joshua (theological foundations)
- Judges (theological foundations)

