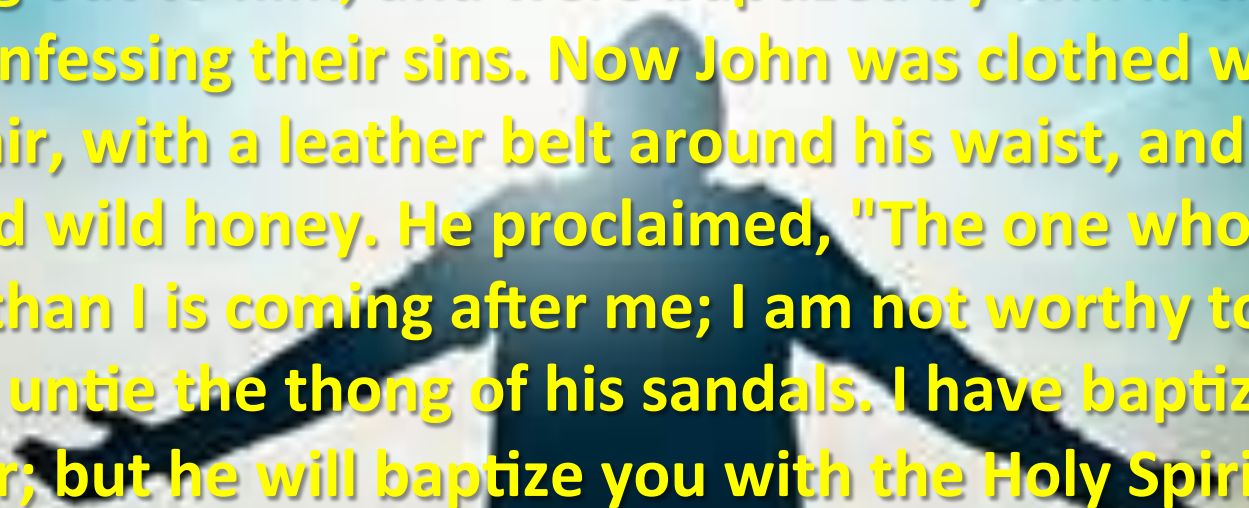


A close-up photograph of two hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, set against a black background. The hands are positioned centrally, with fingers interlaced. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the details of the fingers. Overlaid on the hands is the text "Sermon: The Spiritual Life as Journey" in a bold, orange-yellow font.

Sermon: The Spiritual Life as Journey

Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

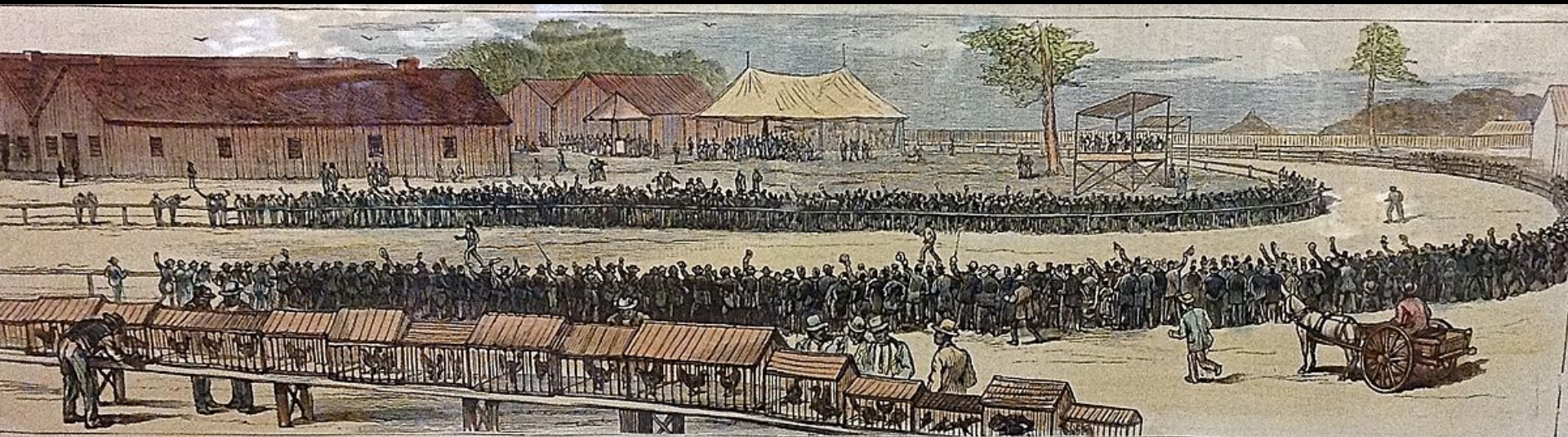








An 1836 illustration of a "Walking Wager", from *Peter Piper's Practical Principles of Plain and Perfect Pronunciation*, by Anonymous, Philadelphia



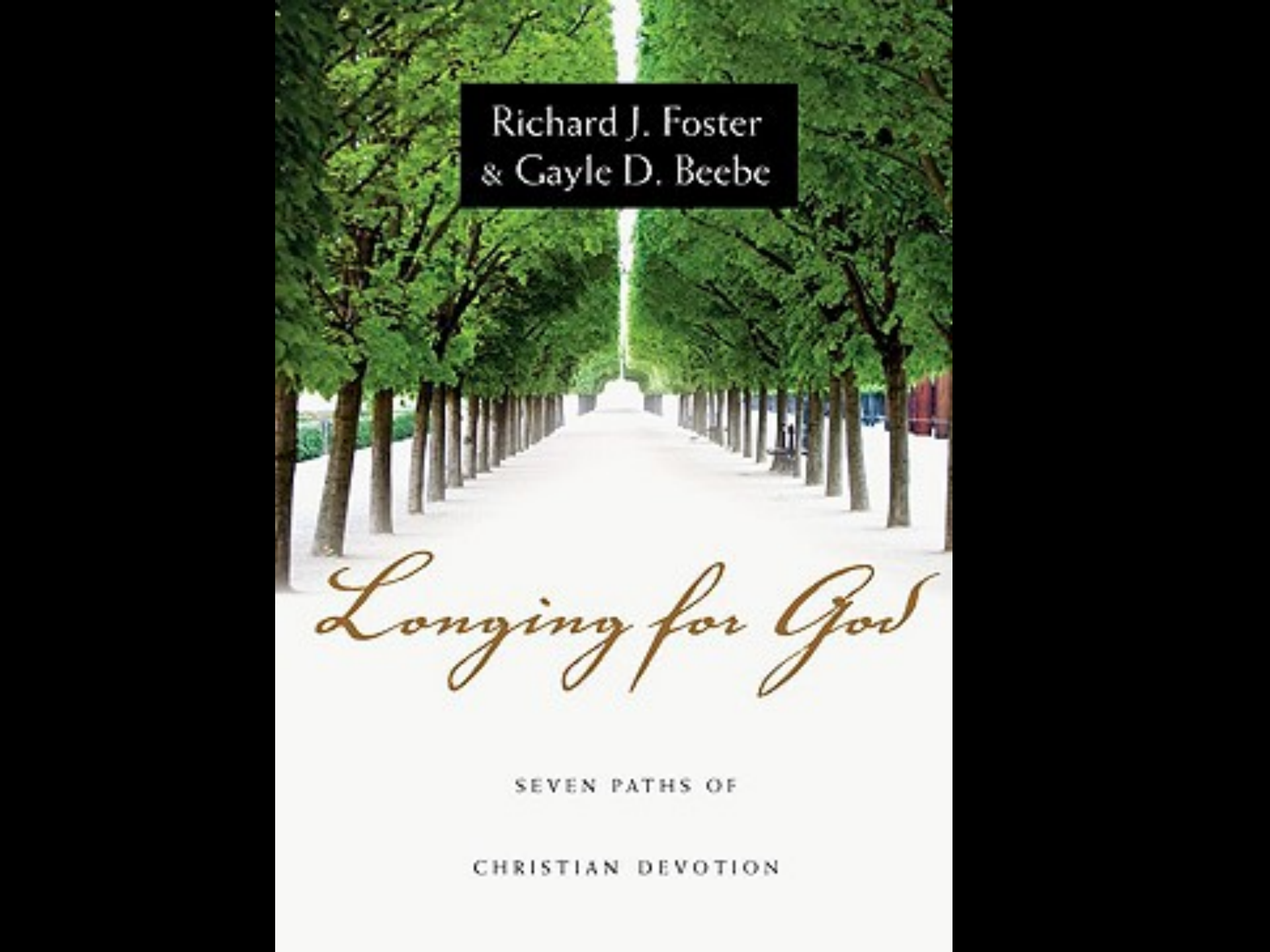
GENERAL VIEW OF THE FAIR-GROUNDS, SHOWING THE WALKING-MATCH BETWEEN NEGRO PEDESTRIANS.









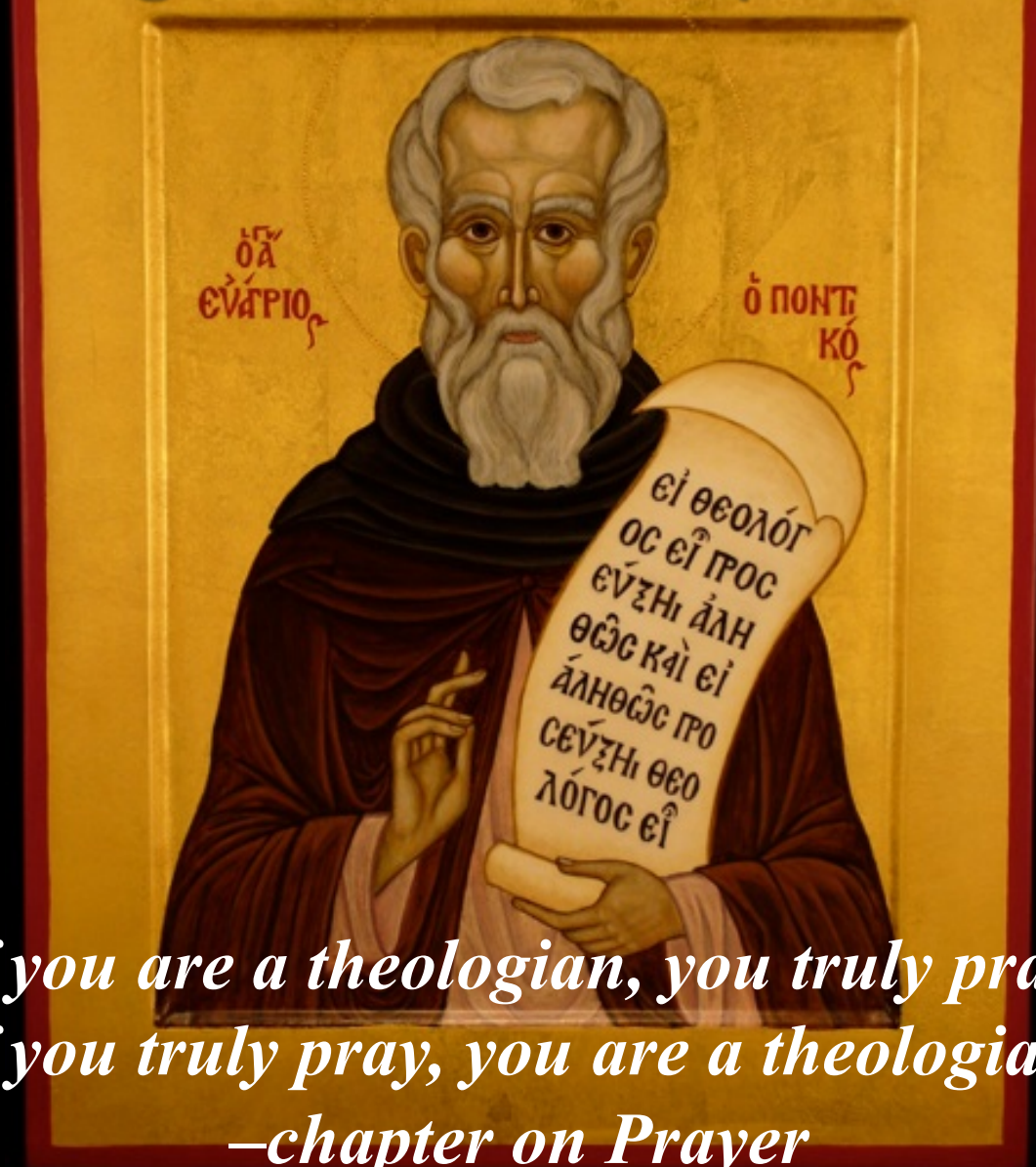


Richard J. Foster
& Gayle D. Beebe

Longing for God

SEVEN PATHS OF
CHRISTIAN DEVOTION

Evagrius of Ponticus (345-399)



*If you are a theologian, you truly pray,
If you truly pray, you are a theologian.
—chapter on Prayer*

Eight *Evil Thoughts*

(gastrimargia) GLUTTONY

(orgē) ANGER, WRATH

(philargyria) GREED, AVARICE

(xenodoxia) ENVY, VAINGLORY

(hyperēphania) HUBRIS, EXTREME PRIDE

(porneia) SEXUAL LUST, IMPURITY

(akēdia) SLOTH, INDIFFERENCE

(lypē) BOASTING MELANCHOLY, MOROSE SADNESS

Eight Godly Virtues

TEMPERANCE (overcomes GLUTTONY)

MILDNESS (overcomes ANGER)

GENEROSITY (overcomes GREED, AVARICE)


HAPPINESS (overcomes ENVY)

HUMILITY (overcomes PRIDE)

CHASTITY(overcomes LUST and IMPURITY)

DILIGENCE (overcomes SLOTH and INDIFFERENCE)

WISDOM (overcomes MELANCHOLY and DEPRESSION)

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's bare feet walking on a path covered in fallen leaves. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic with a dark, textured interior is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text.

The path we walk is charted
by faith, not by what we see
with our eyes.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 | THE VOICE

