

PH



Pleasant Hill

CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

A photograph of the stone slab rolled away from the tomb entrance, revealing a dark interior. The stone is large and circular, resting on a rough, uneven surface. The background is a textured, light-colored stone wall.

Why I Believe In the Resurrection

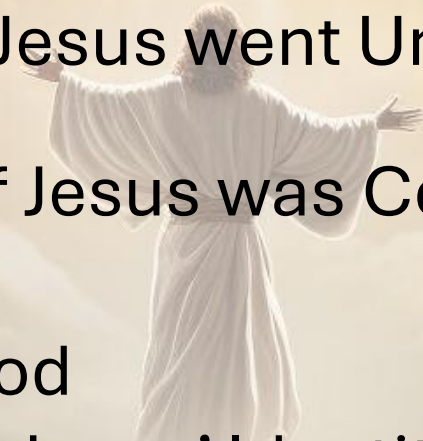
Reason #1: The Historicity of Jesus

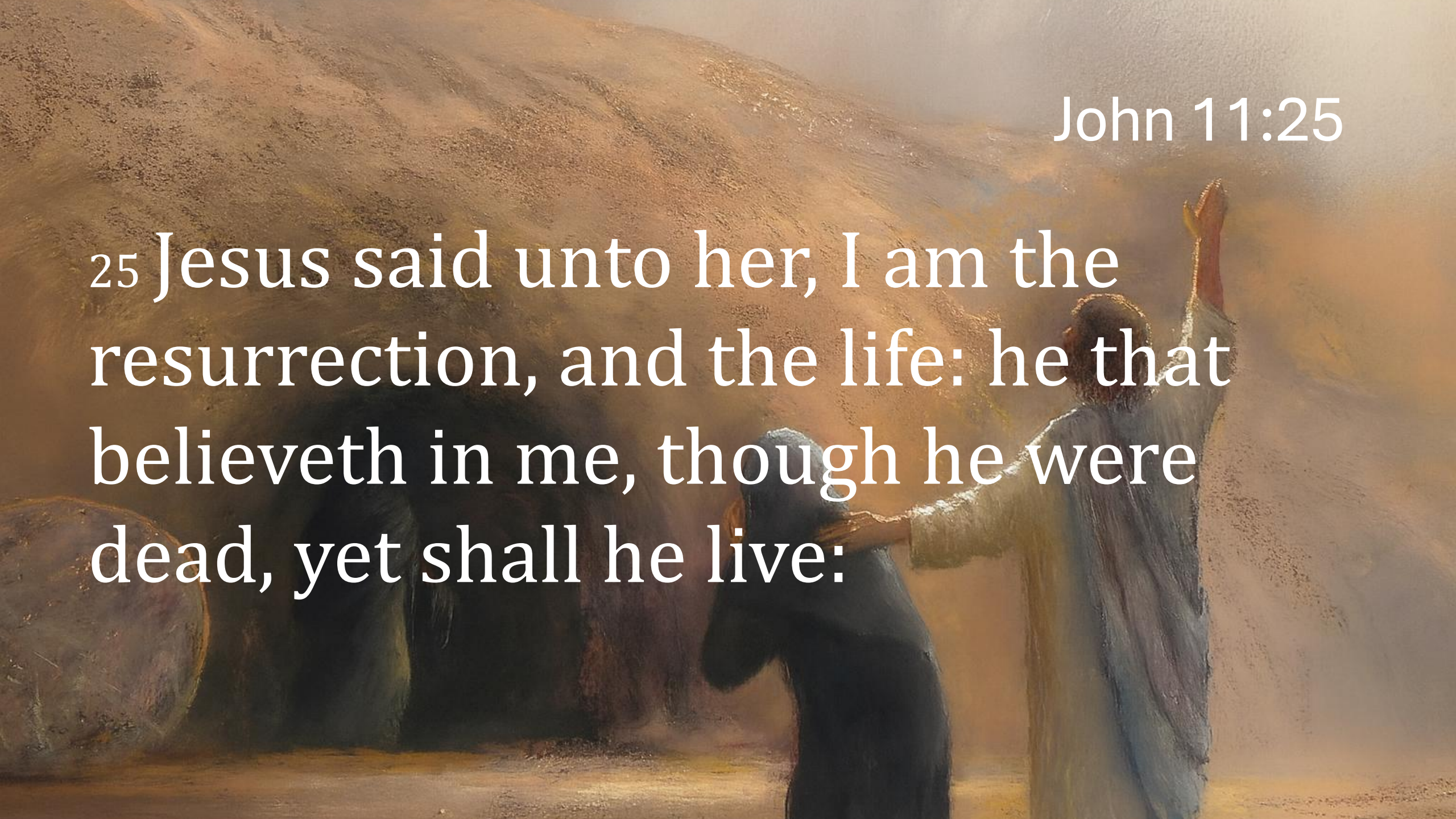
Reason #2: The Character of Jesus is Unquestioned

Reason # 3: The Works of Jesus went Unchallenged

Reason #4: The Identity of Jesus was Confirmed

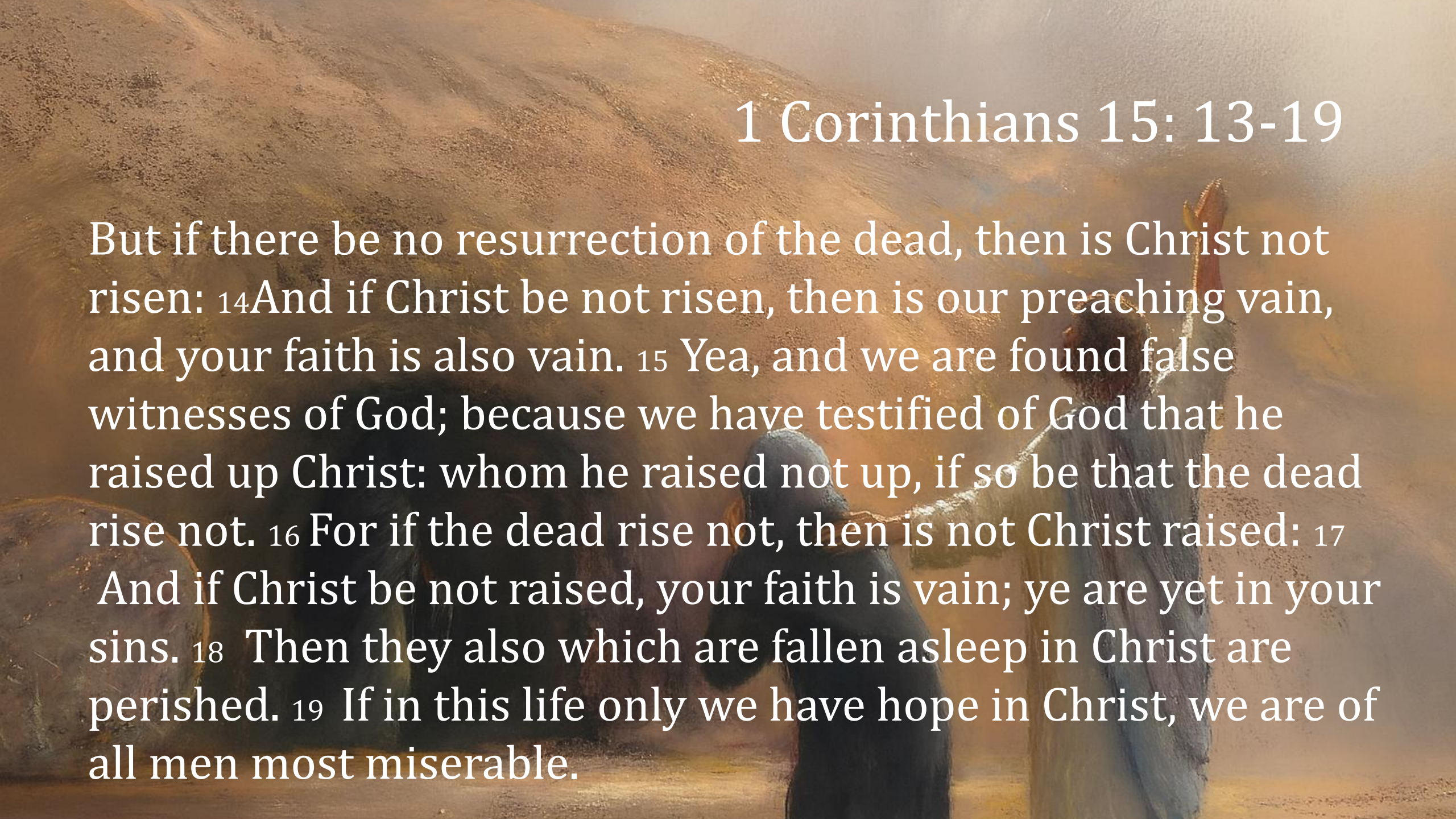
- Jesus Claimed to be God
- God the Father Affirms Jesus' Identity
- Jesus' Disciples Claimed that He is God





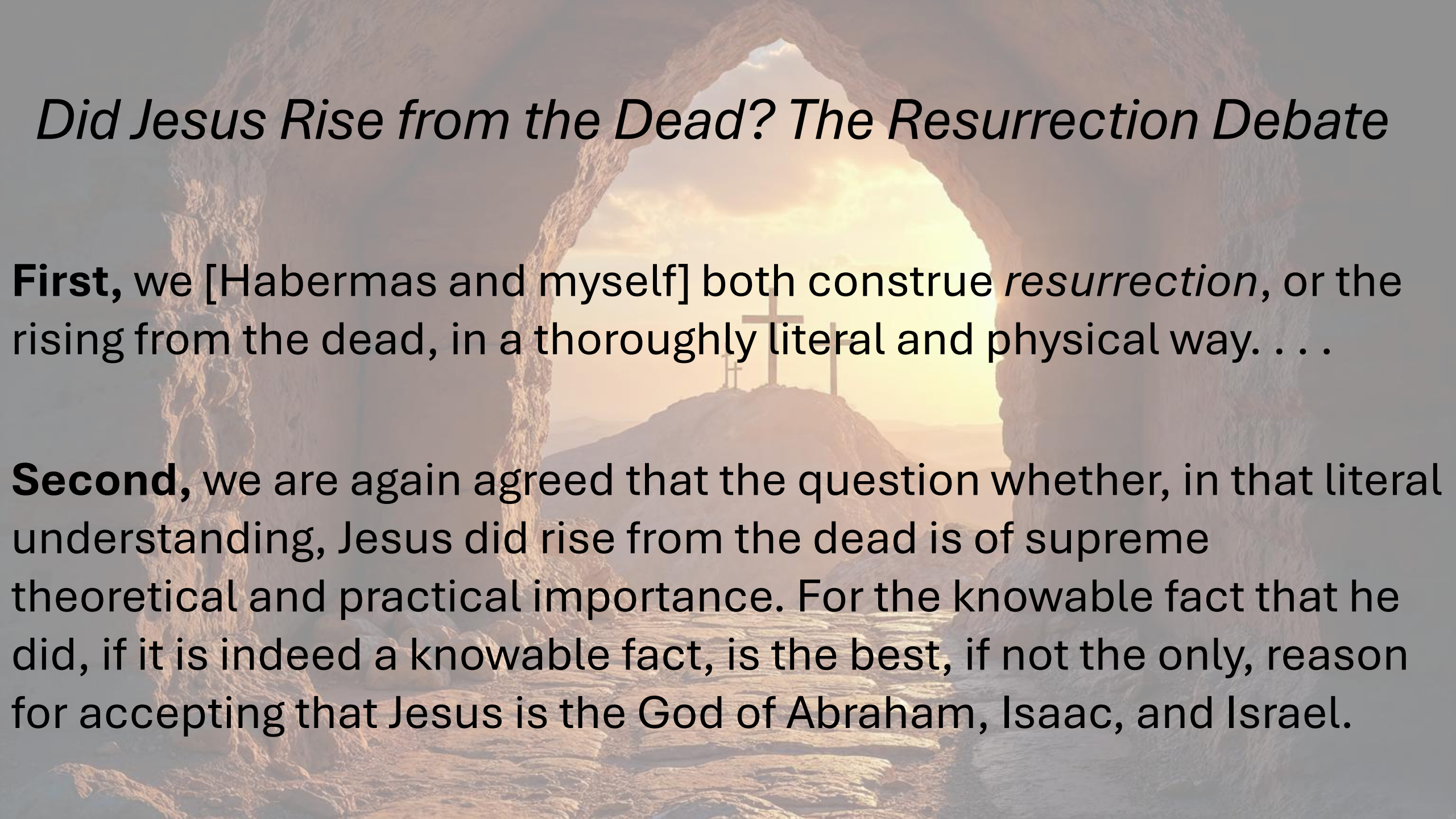
John 11:25

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

The background of the slide is a painting. It depicts a person from behind, wearing a dark, hooded robe, standing in a dimly lit space. They are looking towards a large, textured, brownish-gold surface that resembles a tomb entrance or a massive wall. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the right, creating a bright glow and casting long shadows. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

1 Corinthians 15: 13-19

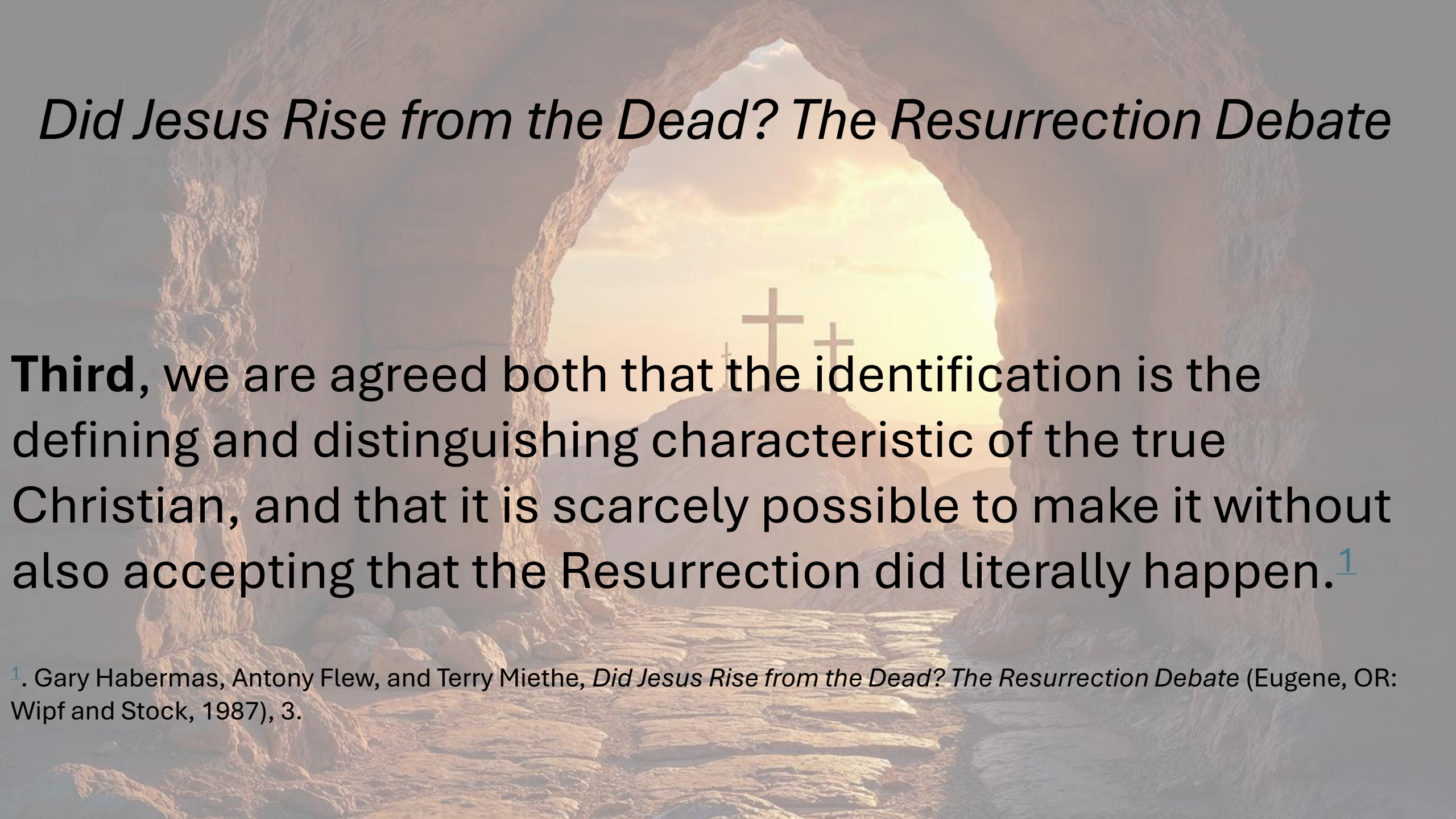
But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: ¹⁴And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. ¹⁵Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. ¹⁶For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: ¹⁷And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. ¹⁸Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

The background image shows a cave entrance with a rough, rocky archway. Through the archway, a bright, hazy landscape is visible, featuring a large cross on a hill in the distance. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Did Jesus Rise from the Dead? The Resurrection Debate

First, we [Habermas and myself] both construe *resurrection*, or the rising from the dead, in a thoroughly literal and physical way. . . .

Second, we are again agreed that the question whether, in that literal understanding, Jesus did rise from the dead is of supreme theoretical and practical importance. For the knowable fact that he did, if it is indeed a knowable fact, is the best, if not the only, reason for accepting that Jesus is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone archway, likely the entrance to the tomb. The arch is made of rough-hewn stones and leads to a bright, hazy landscape. In the distance, several crosses are visible on the horizon, silhouetted against the bright light. The overall tone is warm and hopeful, with a strong sense of light breaking through darkness.

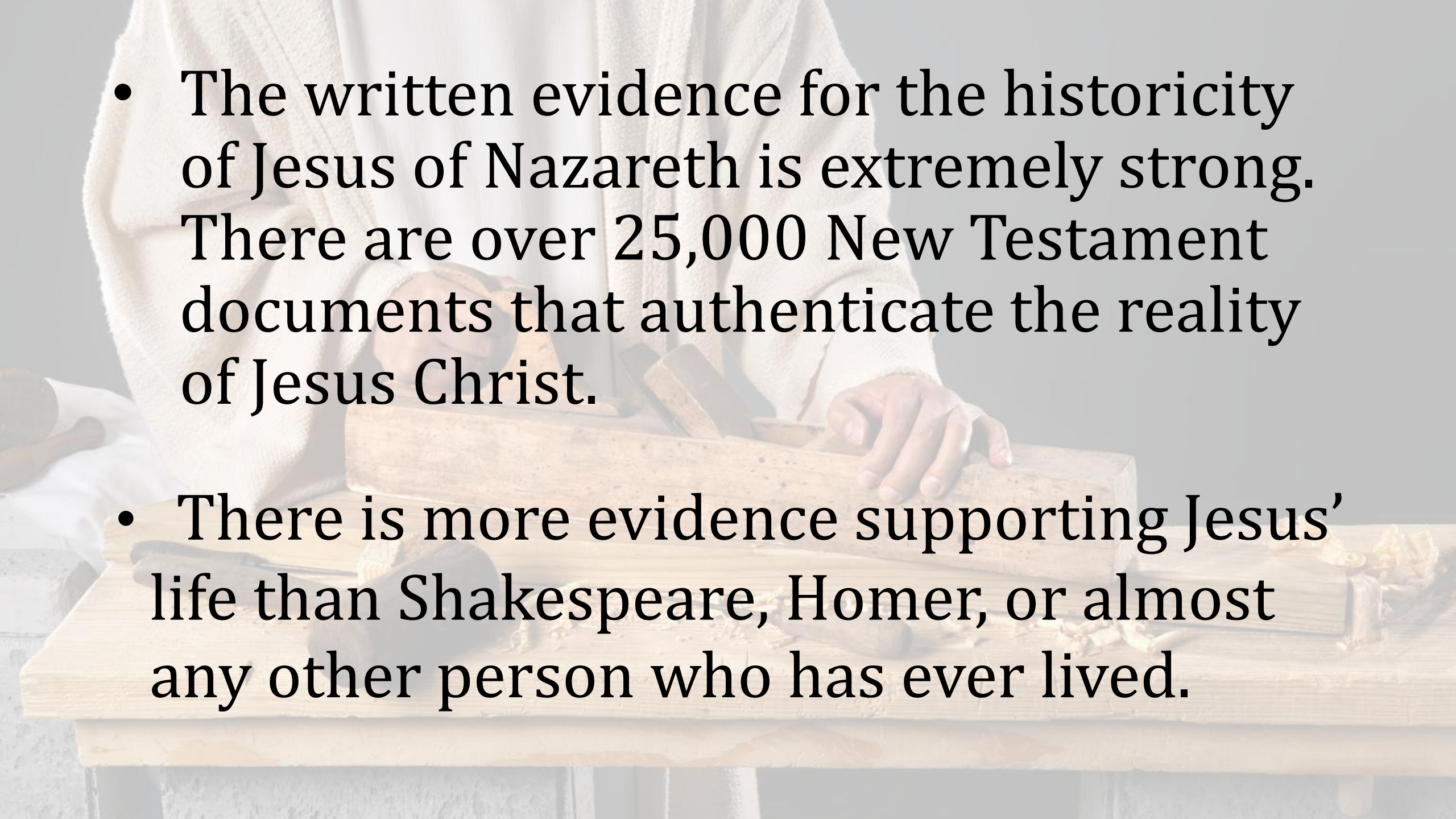
Did Jesus Rise from the Dead? The Resurrection Debate

Third, we are agreed both that the identification is the defining and distinguishing characteristic of the true Christian, and that it is scarcely possible to make it without also accepting that the Resurrection did literally happen.¹

¹. Gary Habermas, Antony Flew, and Terry Miethe, *Did Jesus Rise from the Dead? The Resurrection Debate* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1987), 3.

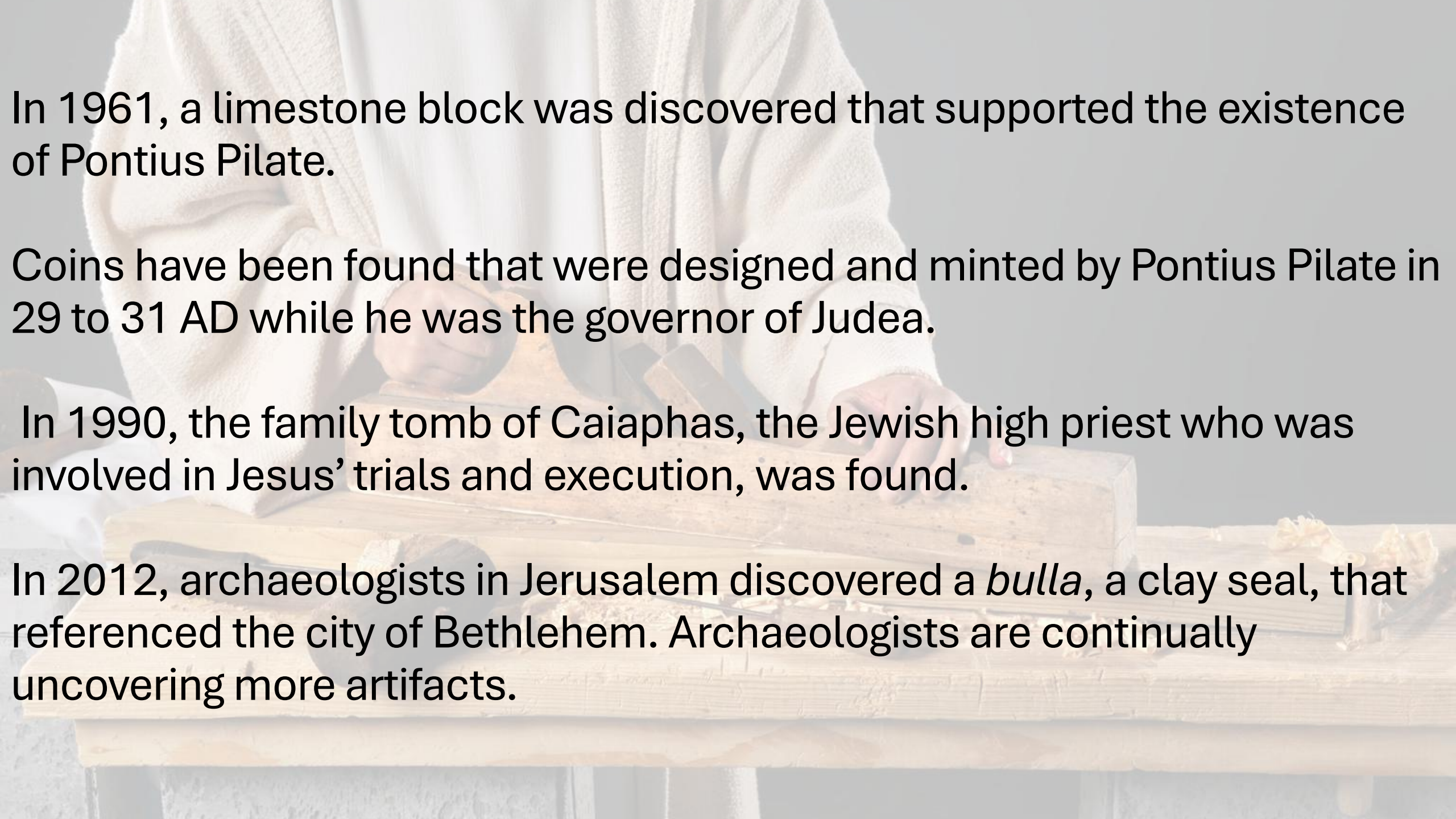
Reason #1: The Historicity of Jesus of Nazareth



- 
- The written evidence for the historicity of Jesus of Nazareth is extremely strong. There are over 25,000 New Testament documents that authenticate the reality of Jesus Christ.
 - There is more evidence supporting Jesus' life than Shakespeare, Homer, or almost any other person who has ever lived.

Non-Christian, extrabiblical sources also support the authenticity of the life of Jesus

- Pliny- a Roman Historian and Governor
- Tacitus- a Roman Historian living during Jesus' time.
- Josephus- Jewish historian who lived shortly after Jesus
- Expert historians, Christian or not, agree that Jesus was a man who lived and died in first-century Palestine.

A person wearing a white robe is shown from the chest down, working on a large, light-colored wooden block. They are using a hammer and a chisel to shape the wood. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

In 1961, a limestone block was discovered that supported the existence of Pontius Pilate.

Coins have been found that were designed and minted by Pontius Pilate in 29 to 31 AD while he was the governor of Judea.

In 1990, the family tomb of Caiaphas, the Jewish high priest who was involved in Jesus' trials and execution, was found.

In 2012, archaeologists in Jerusalem discovered a *bulla*, a clay seal, that referenced the city of Bethlehem. Archaeologists are continually uncovering more artifacts.

Reason # 2

The Character of Jesus is Unquestioned

John 8:46

Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

Reason # 2

The Character of Jesus is Unquestioned

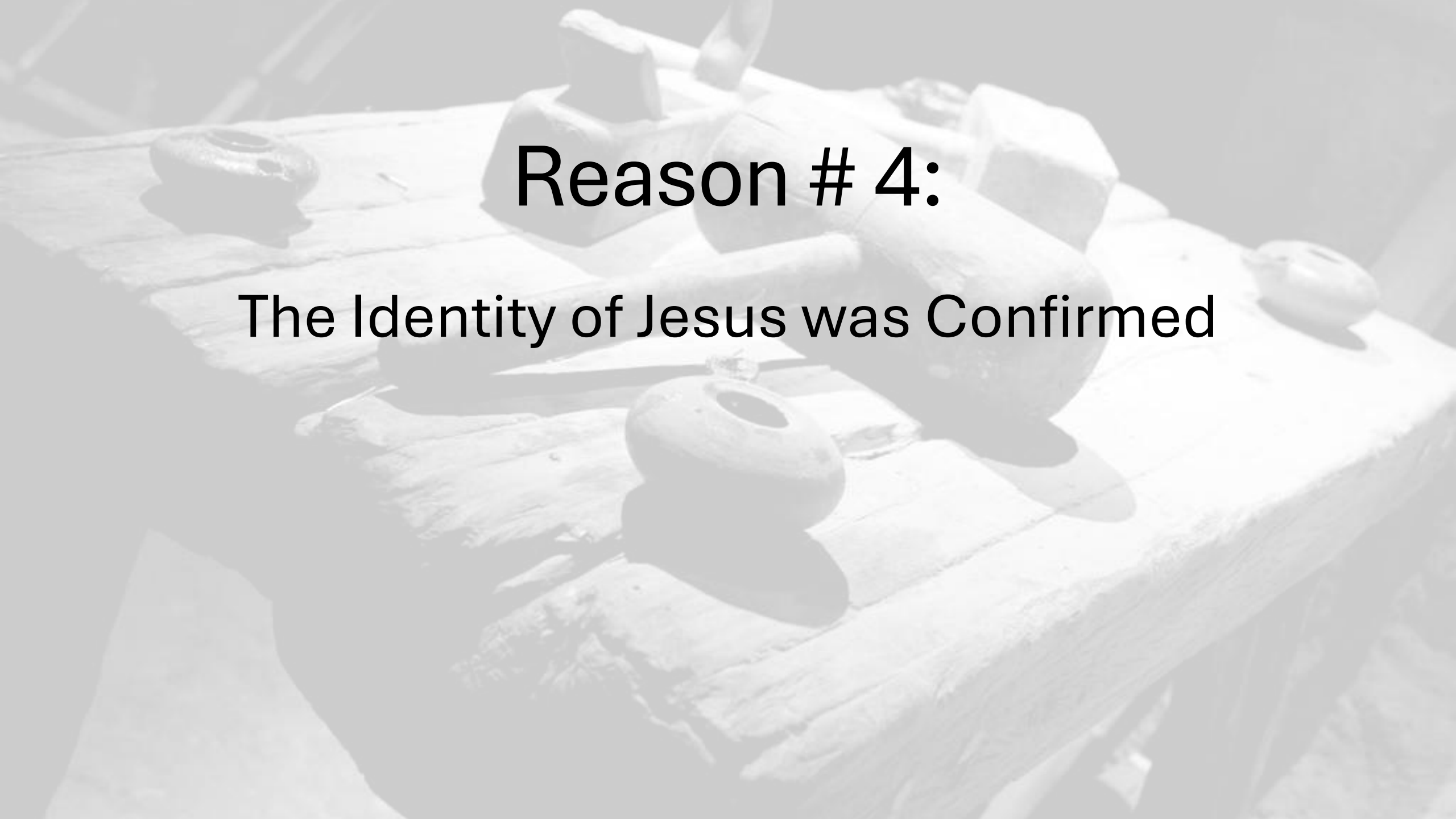
We mark time with BC and AD, based on the birth and death of the one person who changed the world and said, “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost” Luke 19:10

We know He was an actual, historical person who lived, and we know that He was good, kind, loving, and holy.

Reason # 3

The Works of Jesus went Unchallenged

- Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana.
- Healed the blind, the lepers, and the sick.
- He raised people from the dead.
- Fed five thousand people with 5 loaves and 2 fish.
- Performed many other miracles.



Reason # 4:

The Identity of Jesus was Confirmed

Jesus Claimed to Be God

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth,
and the life: no man cometh unto the Father,
but by me.

John 14:6

Jesus Claimed to Be God

⁶¹ But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?

⁶² And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Mark 14:61-62

Jesus Claimed to Be God

⁶³ Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, What need we any further witnesses?

⁶⁴ Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death.

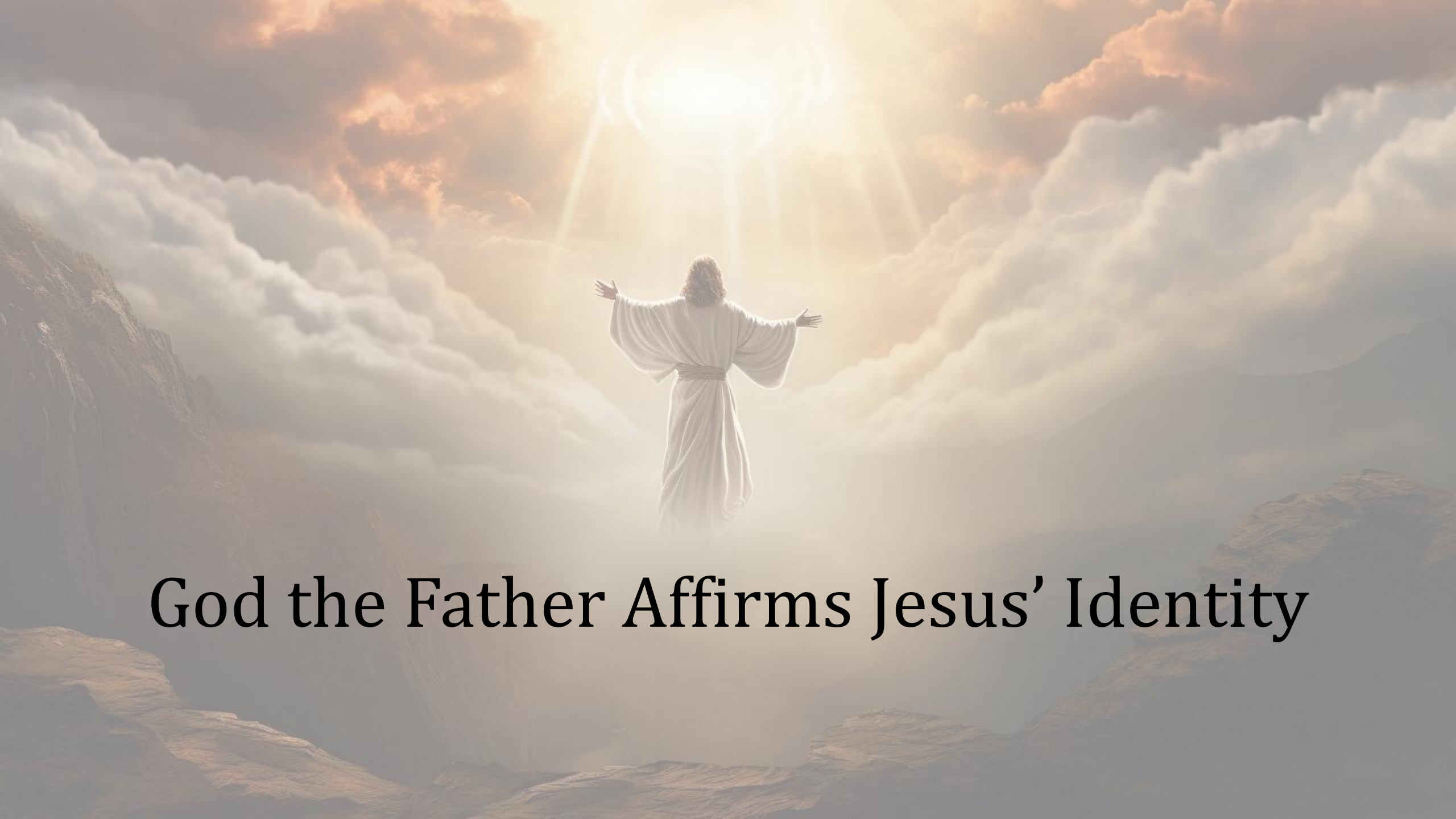
Mark 14:63-64

Jesus Claimed to Be God

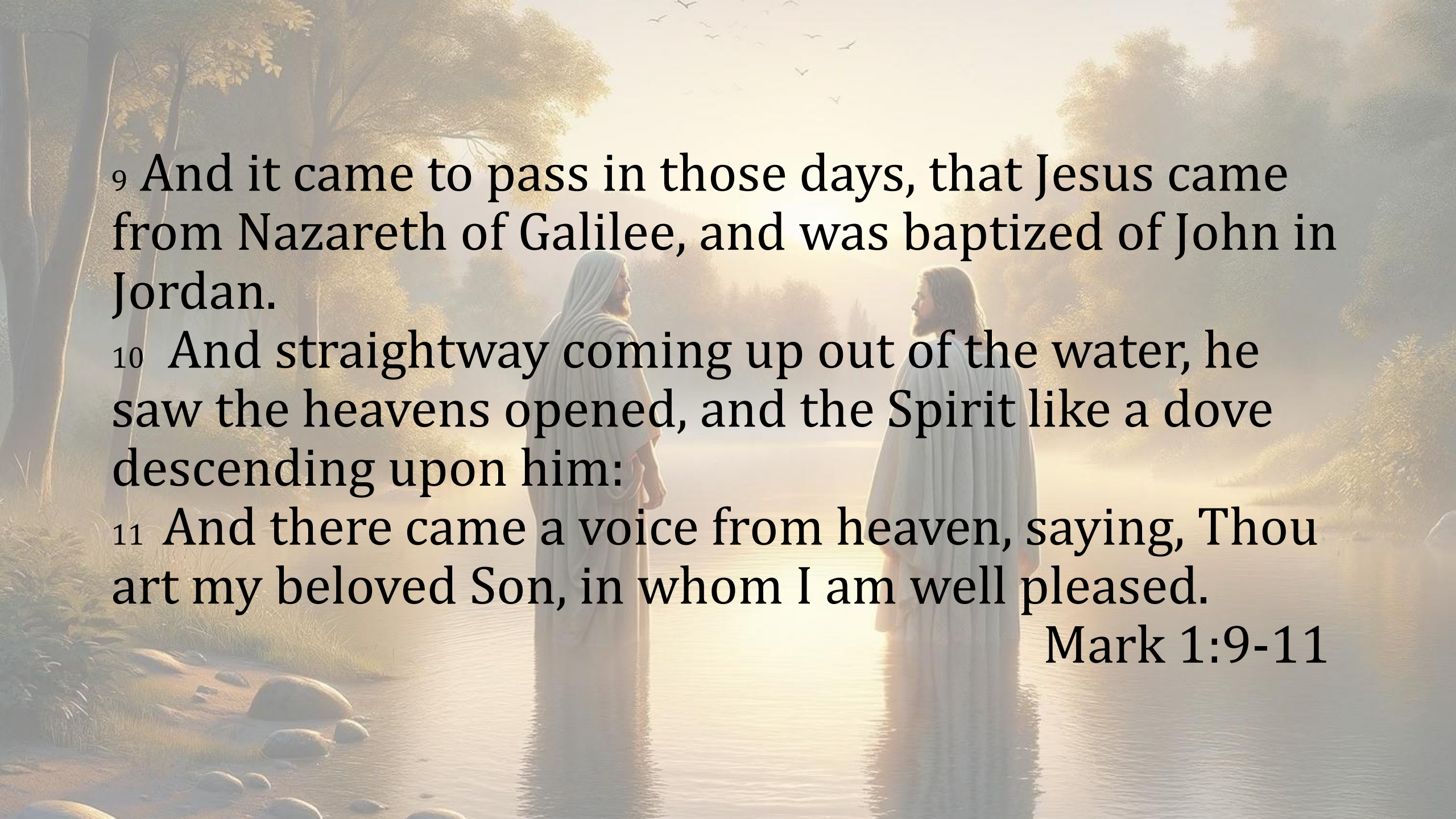
¹³ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 7:13-14



God the Father Affirms Jesus' Identity



9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Mark 1:9-11

2 And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.

3 And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.

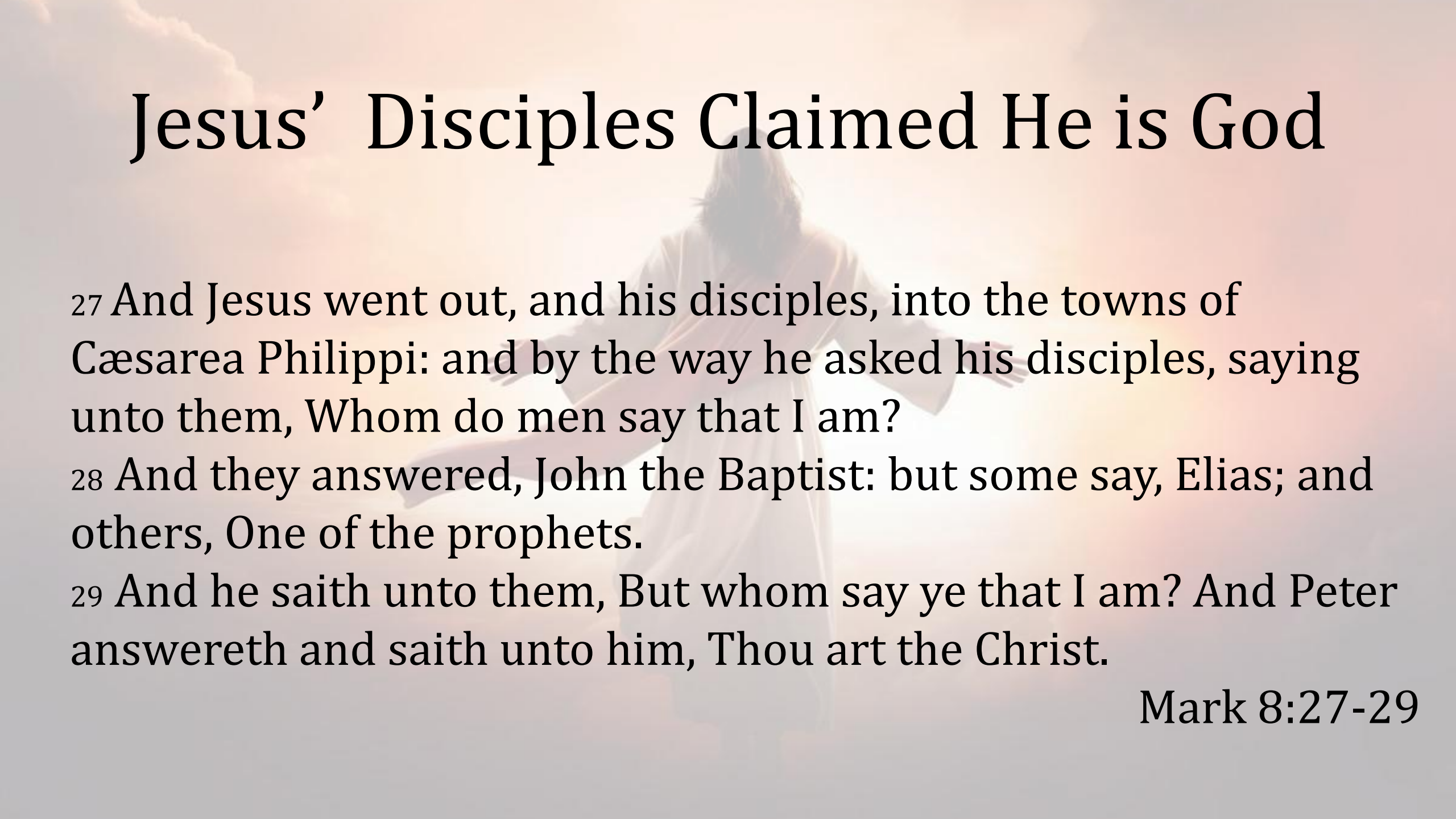
4 And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.

5 And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

6 For he wist (knew) not what to say; for they were sore afraid.

7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

Jesus' Disciples Claimed He is God

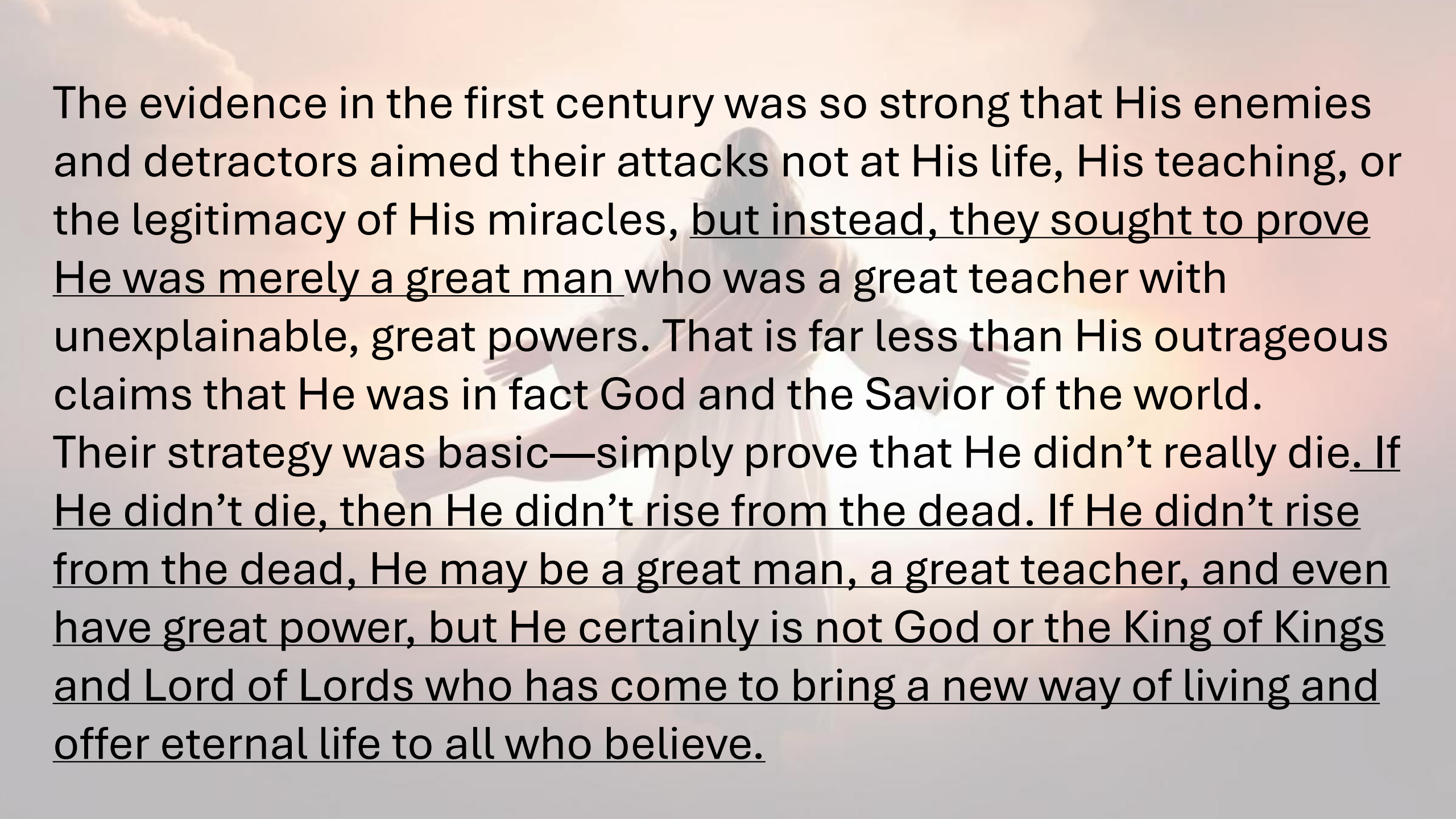


27 And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Cæsarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28 And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

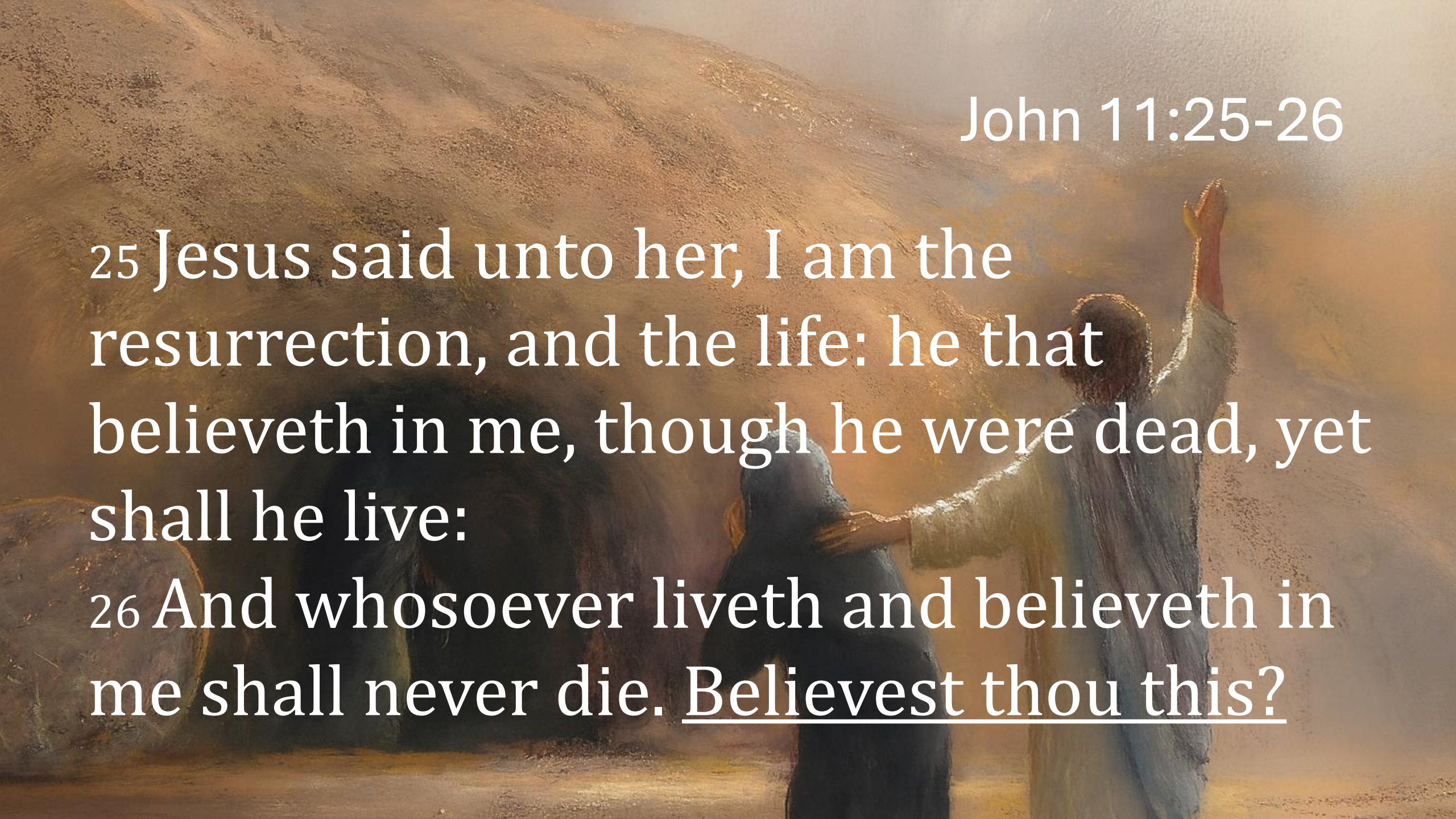
29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

Mark 8:27-29



The evidence in the first century was so strong that His enemies and detractors aimed their attacks not at His life, His teaching, or the legitimacy of His miracles, but instead, they sought to prove He was merely a great man who was a great teacher with unexplainable, great powers. That is far less than His outrageous claims that He was in fact God and the Savior of the world.

Their strategy was basic—simply prove that He didn't really die. If He didn't die, then He didn't rise from the dead. If He didn't rise from the dead, He may be a great man, a great teacher, and even have great power, but He certainly is not God or the King of Kings and Lord of Lords who has come to bring a new way of living and offer eternal life to all who believe.



John 11:25-26

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?
ABOUT THE BIBLE?
ABOUT THE RESURRECTION?

