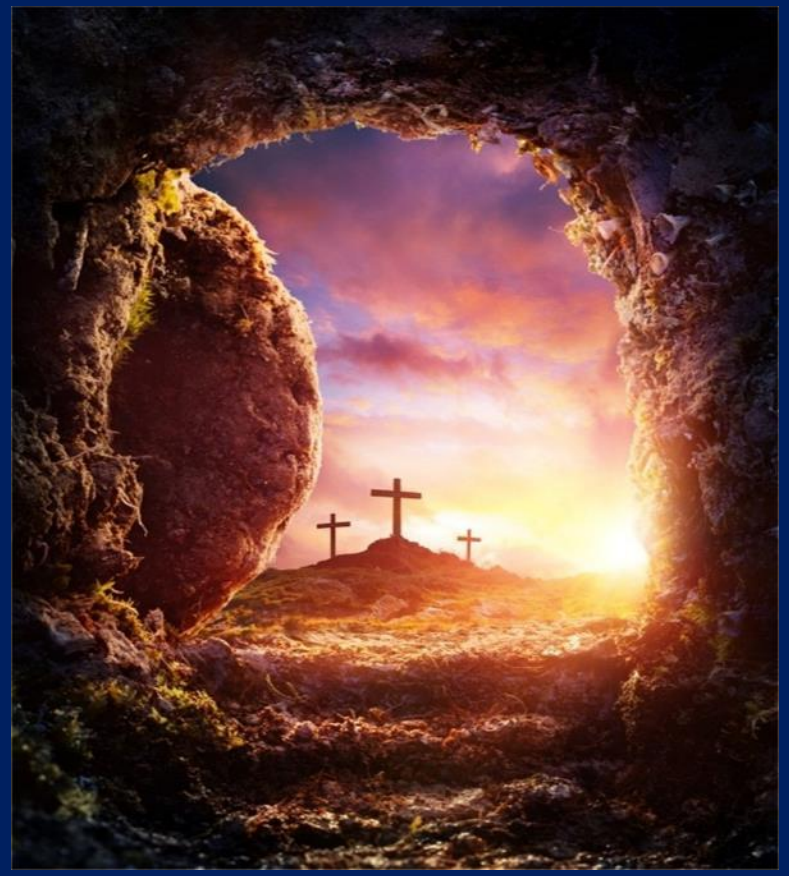
Jesus: One of a Kind



Dr. Andy Woods



Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

John 1:14

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the **only begotten** [***monogenēs***] from the Father, full of grace and truth."





The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. **A man of verifiable history**
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

Christopher Hitchens

(AD 1949–2011)



"Jesus of Nazareth is not a figure in history…There is no reason at all to believe that the so-called Jesus of Nazareth ever existed."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBxvLmRsKiw

What Happened to Christ's Disciples?

Disciple	Place	Martyrdom
James the Son of Alpheus	Jerusalem	Clubbed to death
Simon the Zealot	Jerusalem	Martyred
James the Son of Zebedee	Judea (Acts 12:2)	Executed
Thaddeus	Mesopotamia	Beaten to death
Peter	Babylon, Rome	Crucified upside down
Matthew	Parthia (Tehran)	Beheaded

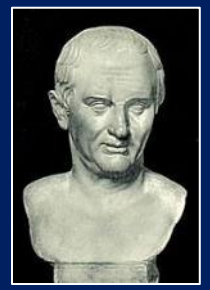
What Happened to Christ's Disciples?

Disciple	Place	Martyrdom
John	Asia Minor, Patmos, Ephesus	Fried in boiling oil
Philip	E. Turkey	Tortured & crucified
Thomas	India	Speared
Bartholomew	India	Flayed & crucified
Andrew	Ukraine, Russia, Greece	Hanged

Manuscript Evidence for Ancient Writings

Author	Written	Earliest Fragment/copy	Time Span in Years	Number of Manuscripts
Caesar	100 to 44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,000	10
Plato	427 to 347 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,200	7
Thucydides	460 to 400 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,300	8
Tacitus	A.D. 100	A.D. 1100	1,000	20
Suetonius	A.D. 75 to 160	A.D.950	800	8
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	400 B.C.	500	643
New Testament	A.D. 40 to 100	A.D. 125	25 to 50	24,000

Information in this chart can be found in various sources. This chart was adapted from: *Christian Apologetics*, by Norman Geisler, 1976, p. 307; and *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, by Josh McDowell, 1979, pp. 42,43.

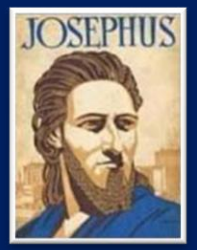


Cornelius Tacitus

(AD 55–120)

Annals XV, 44

"Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called **Christians** by the populace. **Christus**, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular."



Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived **Jesus**, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was **the Christ**. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a **cross**, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the **Christians**, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."

Secular Historians Mentioning Christ	
Secular Historian	**Date**
Tacitus	AD 55–120
Lucian	AD Second Century
Suetonius	AD 69–122
Pliny the Younger	AD 112
Thallus	AD 52
Mar Bar Serapion	AD 70
Josephus	AD 78

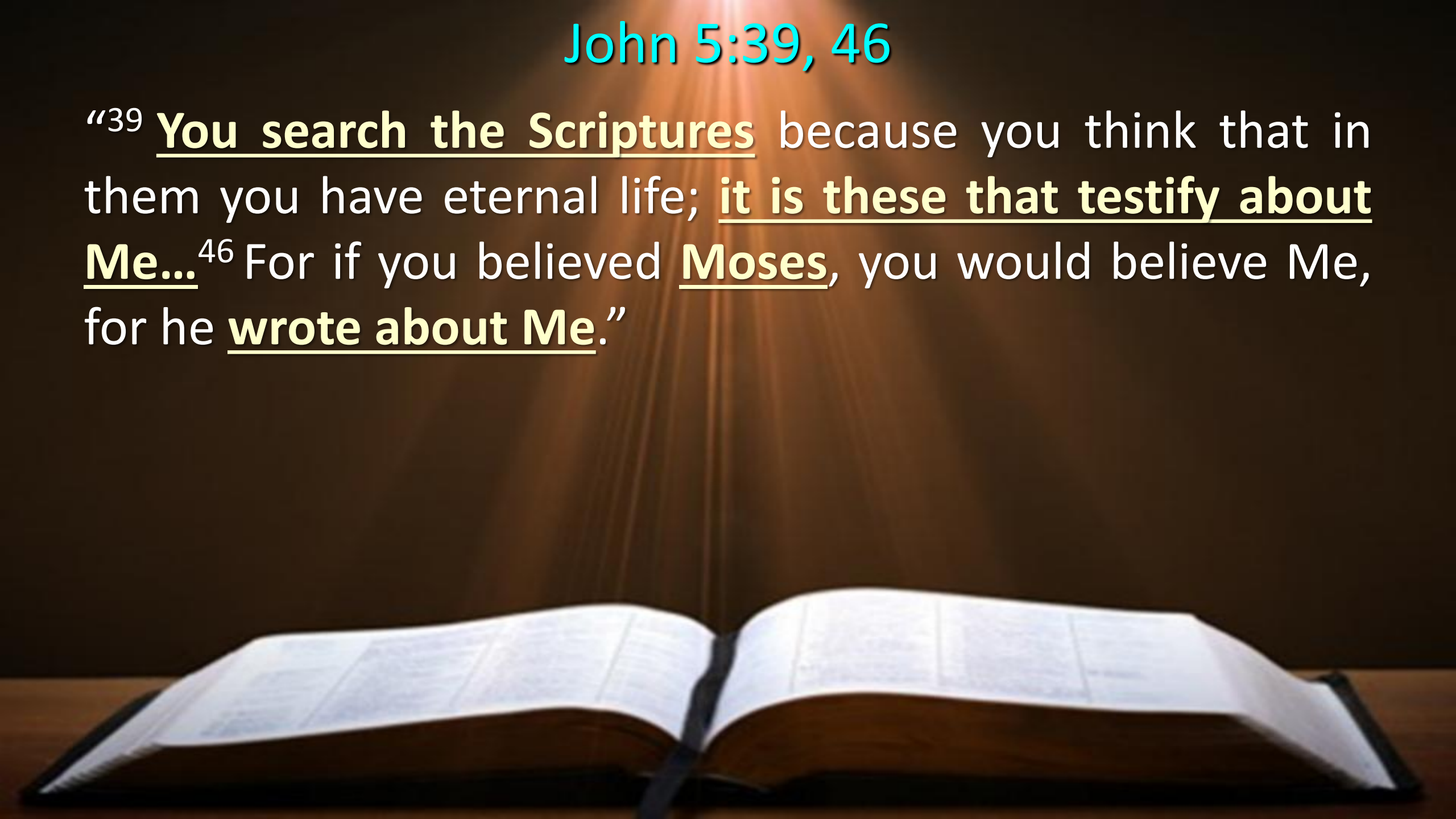


The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. **A man of fulfilled prophecy**
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

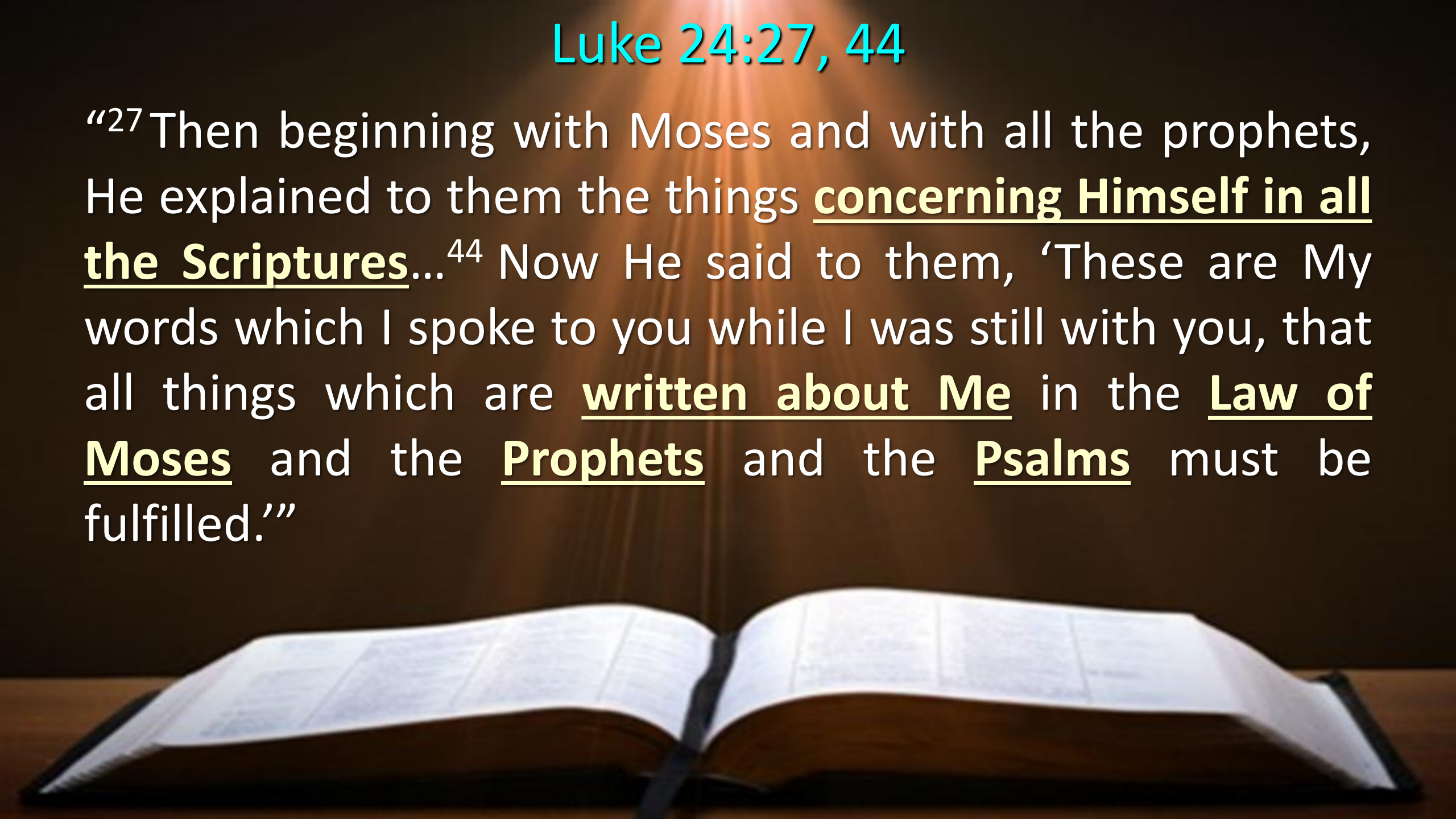
John 5:39, 46

“[39] **You search the Scriptures** because you think that in them you have eternal life; **it is these that testify about Me…**[46] For if you believed **Moses**, you would believe Me, for he **wrote about Me**.”



Luke 24:27, 44

“[27] Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things **concerning Himself in all the Scriptures**…[44] Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are **written about Me** in the **Law of Moses** and the **Prophets** and the **Psalms** must be fulfilled.’”



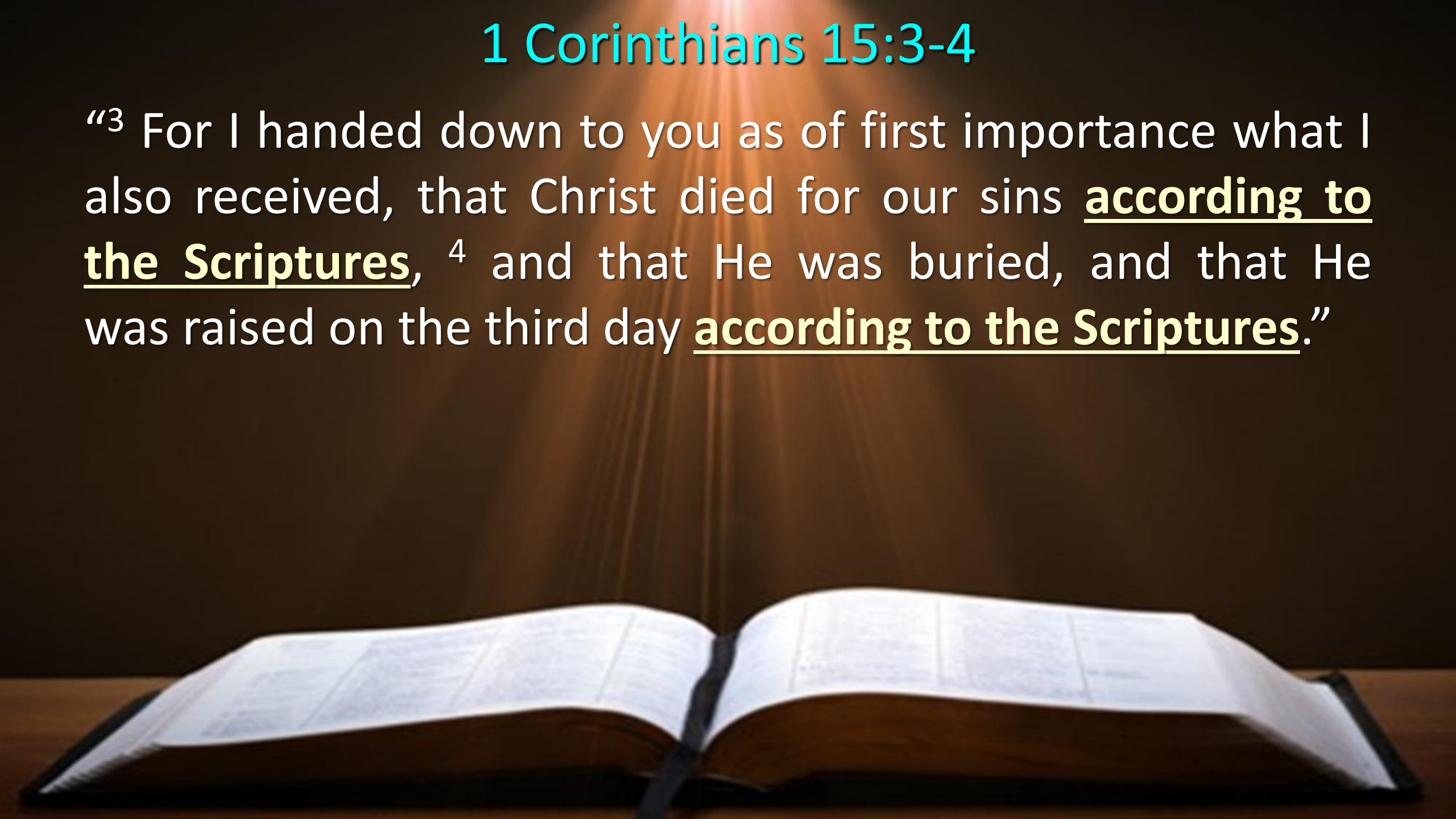
Acts 17:1-3

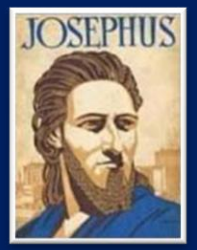
“[1] Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a **synagogue of the Jews**. [2] And according to **Paul’s custom**, he visited them, and for three Sabbaths **reasoned with them from the Scriptures**, [3] explaining and giving evidence that the **Christ had to** suffer and rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ.”



1 Corinthians 15:3-4

“3 For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins **according to the Scriptures**, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day **according to the Scriptures**.”





Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived **Jesus**, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was **the Christ**. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for **the prophets of God had foretold these things** and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."

OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Manner of Birth	Isaiah 7:14	700 years
Place of Birth	Micah 5:2	700 years
Nationality	Numbers 24:17	1400 years
Tribe	Genesis 49:10	1800 years
Time of and Response to His Messiahship	Dan. 9:25-26	600 years

OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Crucified Between Thieves	Isaiah 53:9	700 years
Pierced	Isaiah 53:5	700 years
No Broken Bones	Psalm 22:17	1000 years
Gamble for His Clothing	Psalm 22:18	1000 years
Buried in Rich Man's Tomb	Isaiah 53:9	700 years

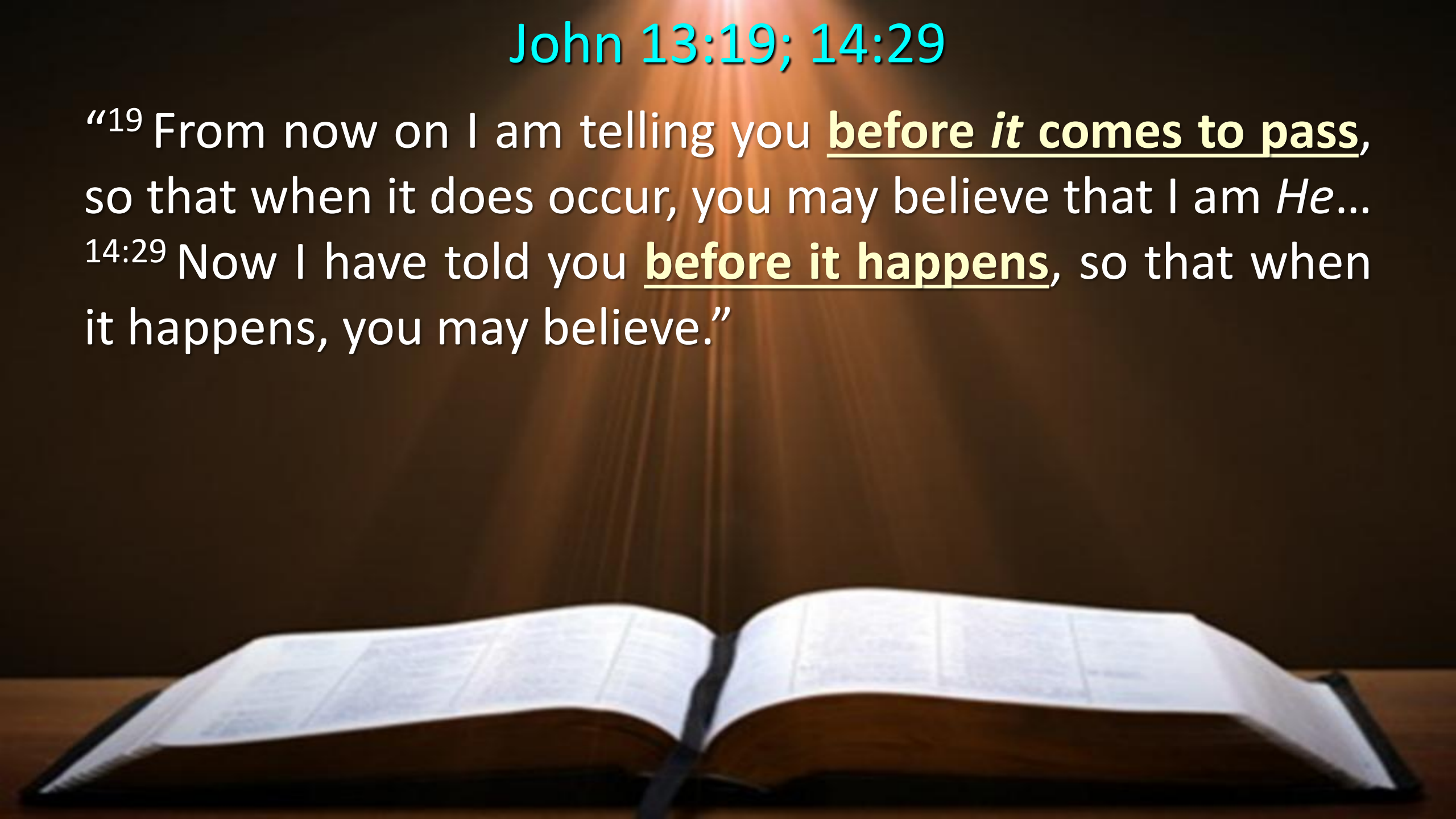


The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. **A man of predictive prophecy**
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

John 13:19; 14:29

“19 From now on I am telling you **before *it* comes to pass**, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*… 14:29 Now I have told you **before it happens**, so that when it happens, you may believe.”



Christ's Short-Term Predictions

Prophecy	Scripture
Betrayal by a Friend	John 13:21
Three-fold Denial by Peter	Matthew 26:34, 75
Manner of His Own Death	Matthew 20:18-19
Manner of Disciples' Deaths	John 21:18-22
AD 70 Events	Luke 19:41-44

Tertullian

Prescription Against Heretics, 36



"…where the Apostle John was first plunged, unhurt, into boiling oil, and thence remitted to his island-exile!"

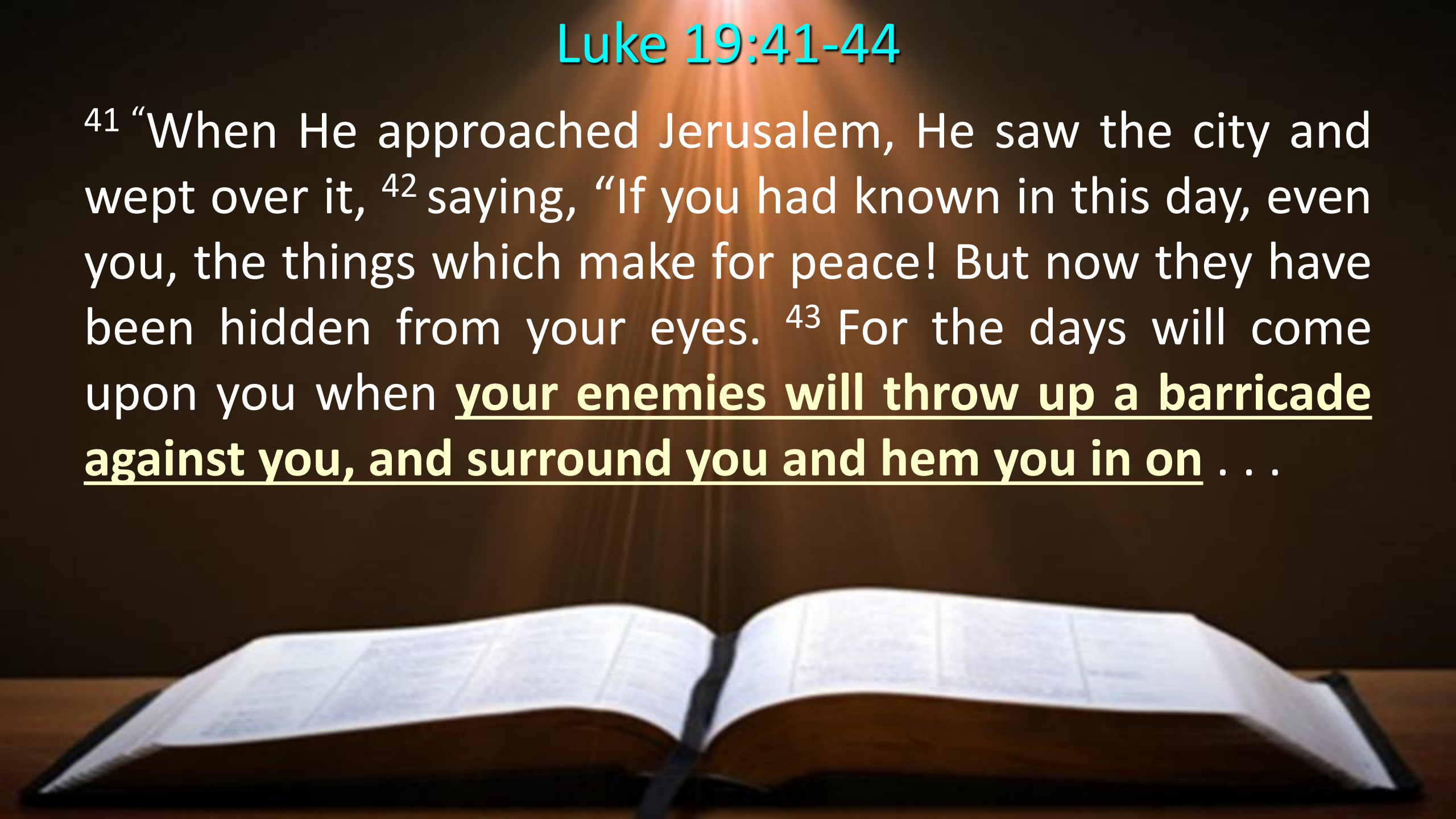

The 7 Churches in Revelation
Rev. 1: 11
BLACK SEA
BITHYNIA
MYSIA
AEGEAN SEA
ASIA
Pergamum
Thyatira
Smyrna
Sardis
Philadelphia
PHRYGIA
Ephesus
Laodicea
Patmos
CARIA
LYCIA
By: Gabriel Morris

Christ's Short-Term Predictions

Prophecy	Scripture
Betrayal by a Friend	John 13:21
Three-fold Denial by Peter	Matthew 26:34, 75
Manner of His Own Death	Matthew 20:18-19
Manner of Disciples' Deaths	John 21:18-22
AD 70 Events	Luke 19:41-44

Luke 19:41-44

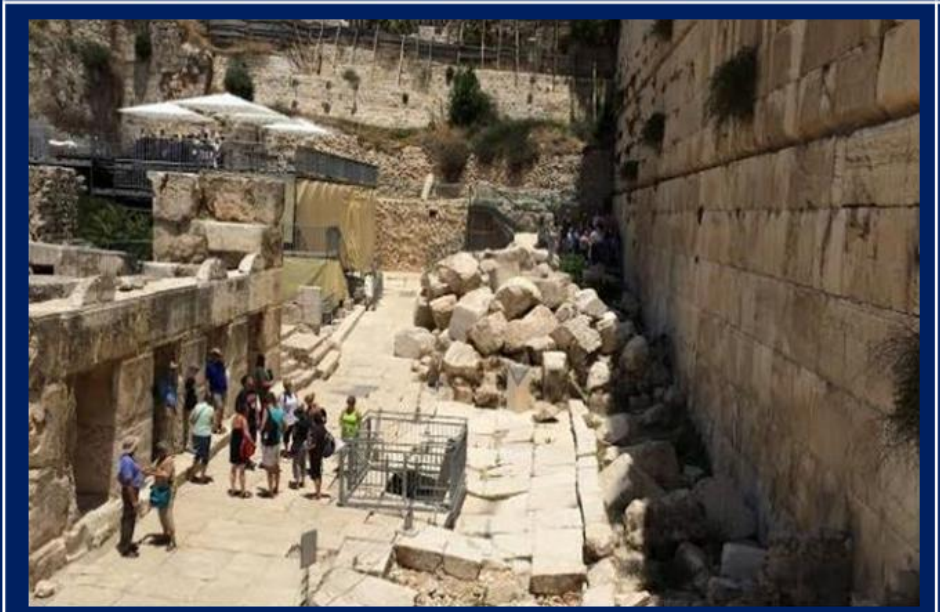
41 “When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and
wept over it, 42 saying, “If you had known in this day, even
you, the things which make for peace! But now they have
been hidden from your eyes. 43 For the days will come
upon you when **your enemies will throw up a barricade
against you, and surround you and hem you in on** . . .



Luke 19:41-44

. . . **every side**, [44] and they will level you to the ground and **your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another**, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”









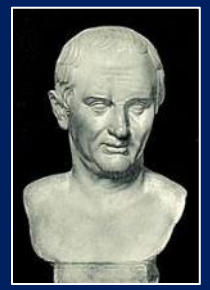


MATT 24 / REV 6 PARALLELS		
Prediction	**Birth pangs** (Matt 24)	**Seal judgments** (Rev 6)
False Christ	24:5	6:2
War	24:6	6:3-4
Famine	24:7	6:5-6
Death	24:6-7	6:7-8
Martyrs	24:9-13	6:9-11
Earthquakes	24:7	6:12-17
Evangelism	24:14	7:1-9



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. **A man of unimpeachable morality**
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

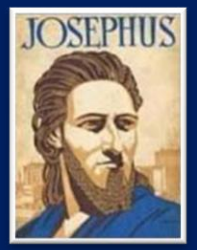


Cornelius Tacitus

(AD 55–120)

Annals XV, 44

"Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, **Pontius Pilatus**, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in **Judea**, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular."



Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was the Christ. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, **Pilate** had condemned him to a **cross**, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."

"(Po)ntius Pilatus, the prefect of Judaea, (erected) a (building dedicated) to (the emperor) Tiberius".







The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. **A man of profound teaching**
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

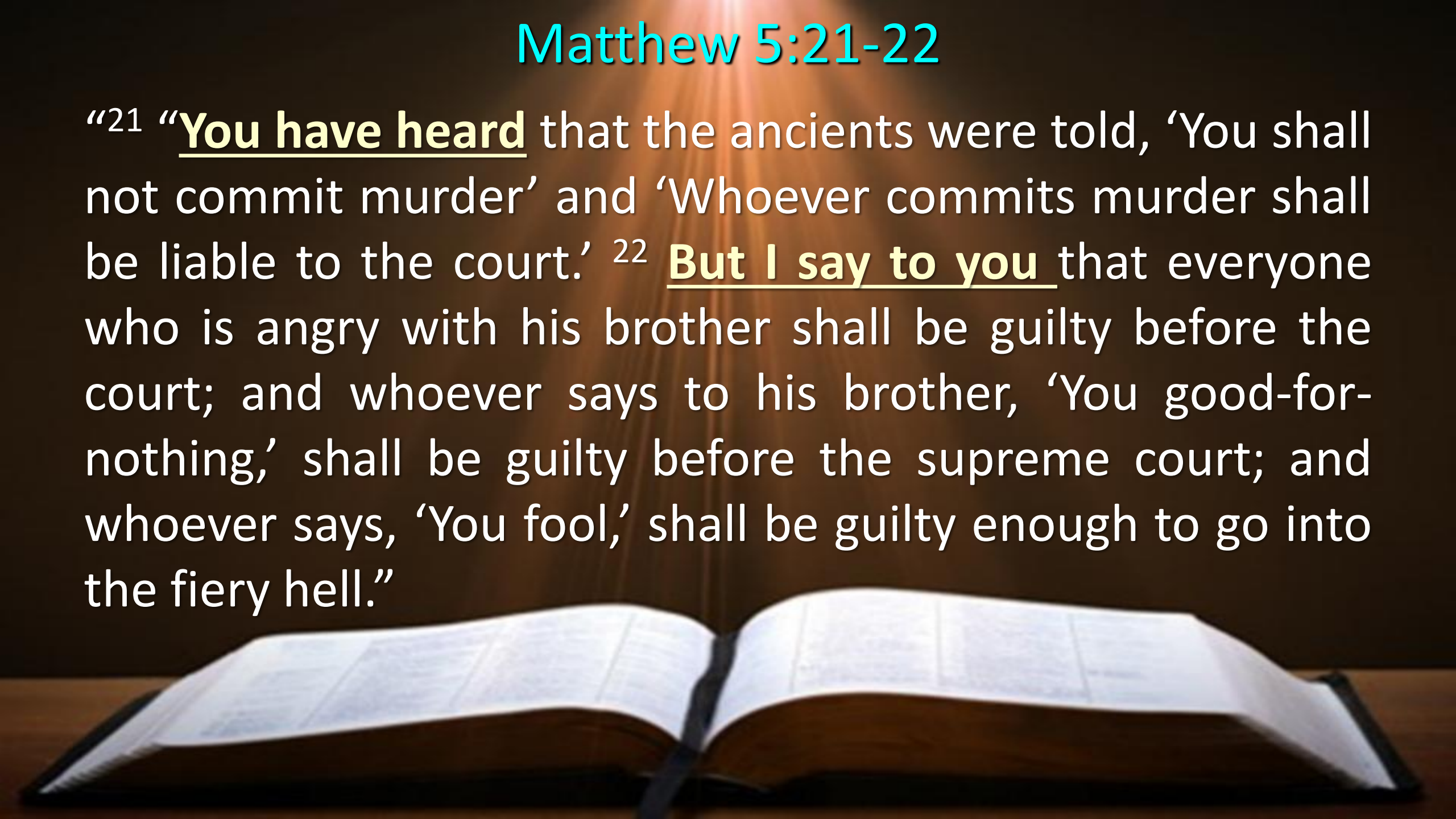
The Incomparable Christ

Anonymous

“He never wrote a book, and yet all the libraries of the country could not hold the books that have been written about Him. He never wrote a song, and yet He has furnished the theme for more songs than all the song writers combined. He never founded a college, but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students. He never marshaled an army, nor drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun; and yet no leader ever had more volunteers who have, under His orders, made more rebels stack arms and surrender without a shot fired. He never practiced psychiatry, and yet He healed more broken hearts than all the doctors far and near.”

Matthew 5:21-22

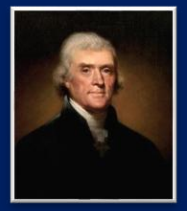
“21 “**You have heard** that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ 22 **But I say to you** that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.”



Matthew 5:27-28

“[27] **You have heard that it was said**, ‘You shall not commit adultery’; [28] **but I say to you** that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

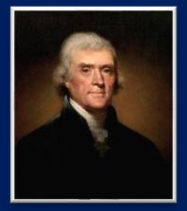




Thomas Jefferson

"My views ... are the result of a life of inquiry and reflection, and very different from the anti-Christian system imputed to me by those who know nothing of my opinions. To the corruptions of Christianity, I am, indeed, opposed; but not to the genuine precepts of Jesus Himself. I am a Christian in the only sense in which He wished any one to be; sincerely attached to his doctrines in preference to all others...His system of morals...if filled up in the style and spirit of the rich fragments He left us, would be the most perfect and sublime that has ever been taught by man...His moral doctrines...were more pure and . . .

On April 21, 1803, Jefferson wrote to Dr. Benjamin Rush, also a signer of the Declaration



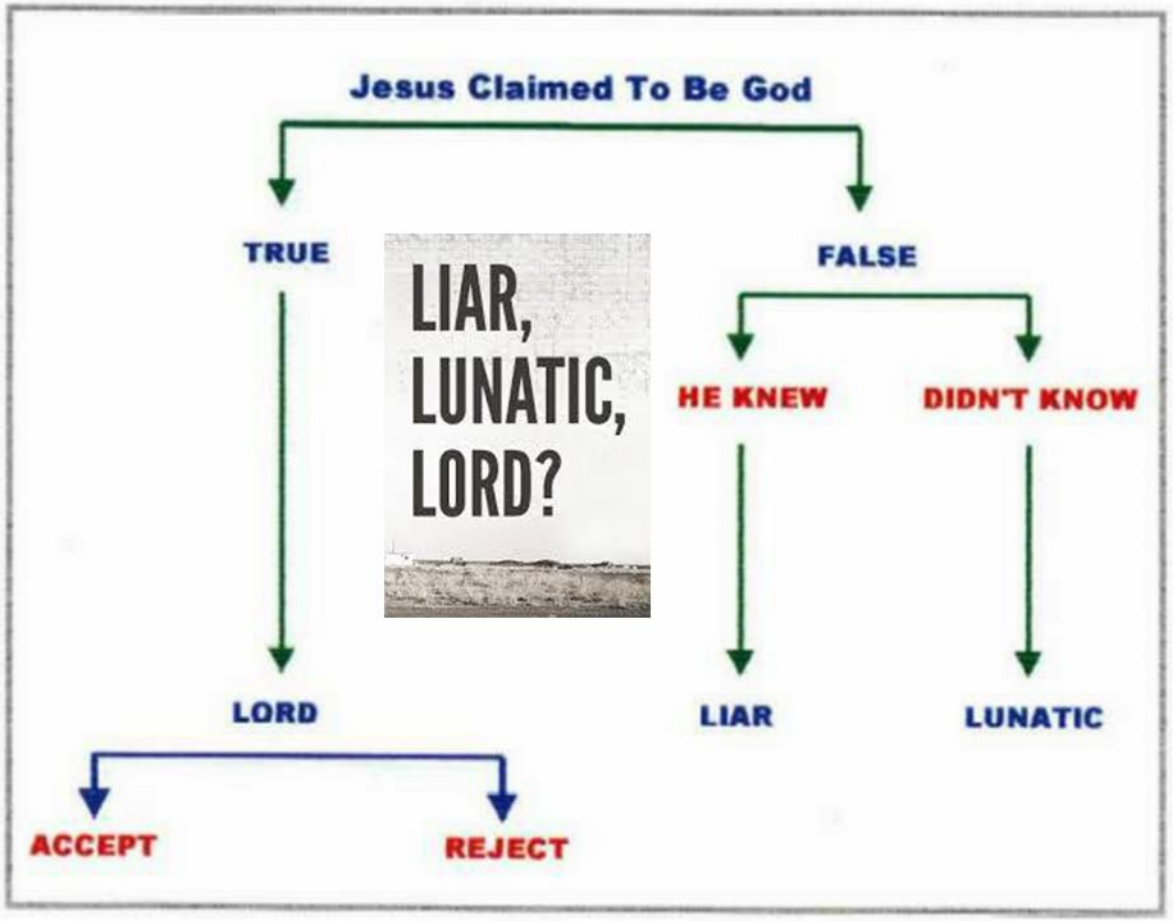
Thomas Jefferson

...perfect than those of the most correct of the philosophers...gathering all into one family under the bonds of love, charity, peace, common wants and common aids. A development of this head will evince the peculiar superiority of the system of Jesus over all others. The precepts of philosophy, and of the Hebrew code, laid hold of actions only. **He pushed his scrutinies into the heart of man; erected his tribunal in the region of his thoughts, and purified the waters at the fountain head**."

On April 21, 1803, Jefferson wrote to Dr. Benjamin Rush, also a signer of the Declaration

Who is Jesus to you?

Logical Syllogism: Tri-Lemma



KAIROS PRODUCTIONS

Campus Kairos

The University movement of Campus Crusade for Christ, Jamaica

Your Best Opportunity on Campus!



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. **A man of authentic miracles**
7. A man of bodily resurrection

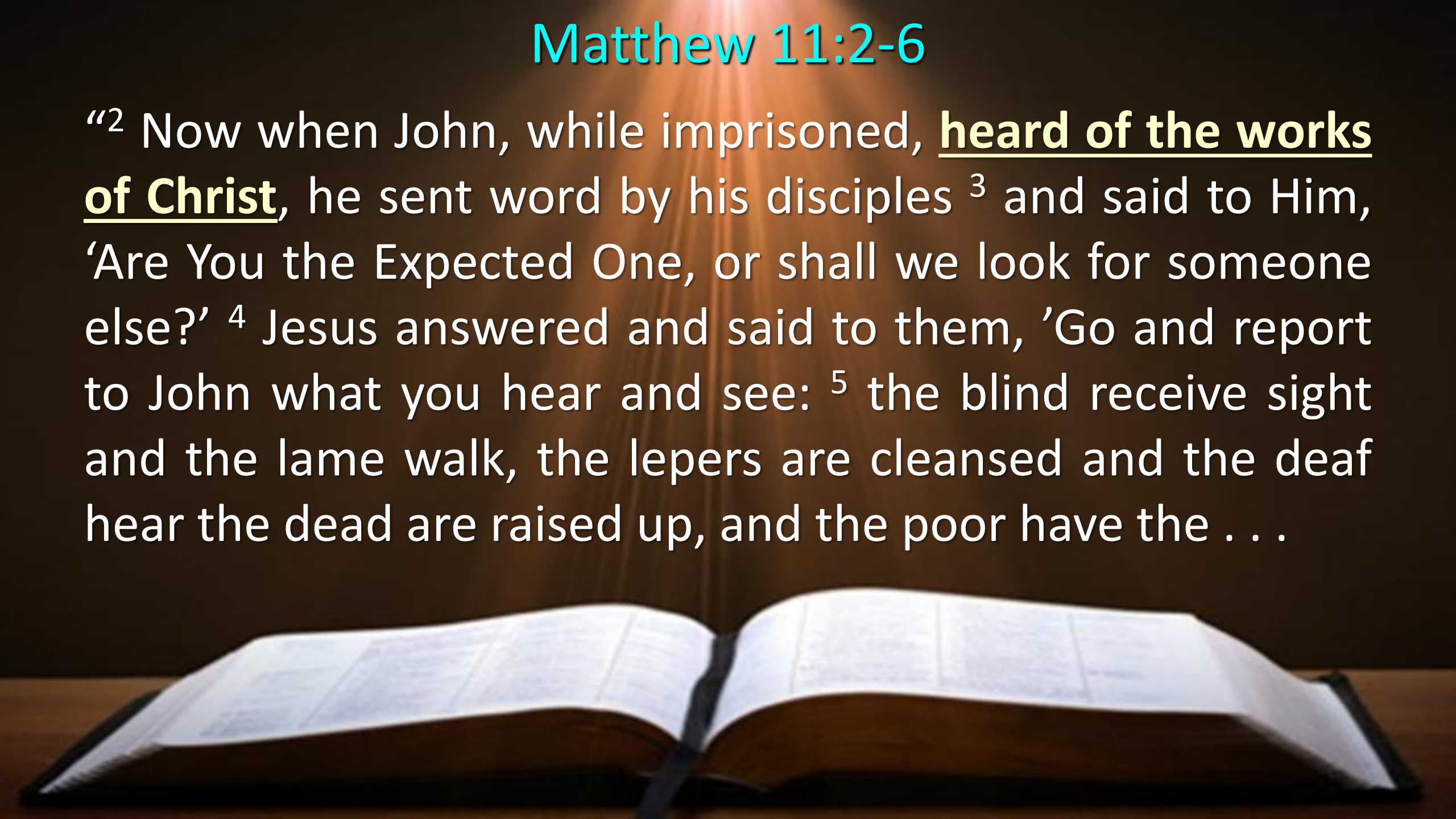
John 3:2

"this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these **signs** that You do unless God is with him."



Matthew 11:2-6

“[2] Now when John, while imprisoned, **heard of the works of Christ**, he sent word by his disciples [3] and said to Him, ‘Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?’ [4] Jesus answered and said to them, ’Go and report to John what you hear and see: [5] the blind receive sight and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear the dead are raised up, and the poor have the . . .



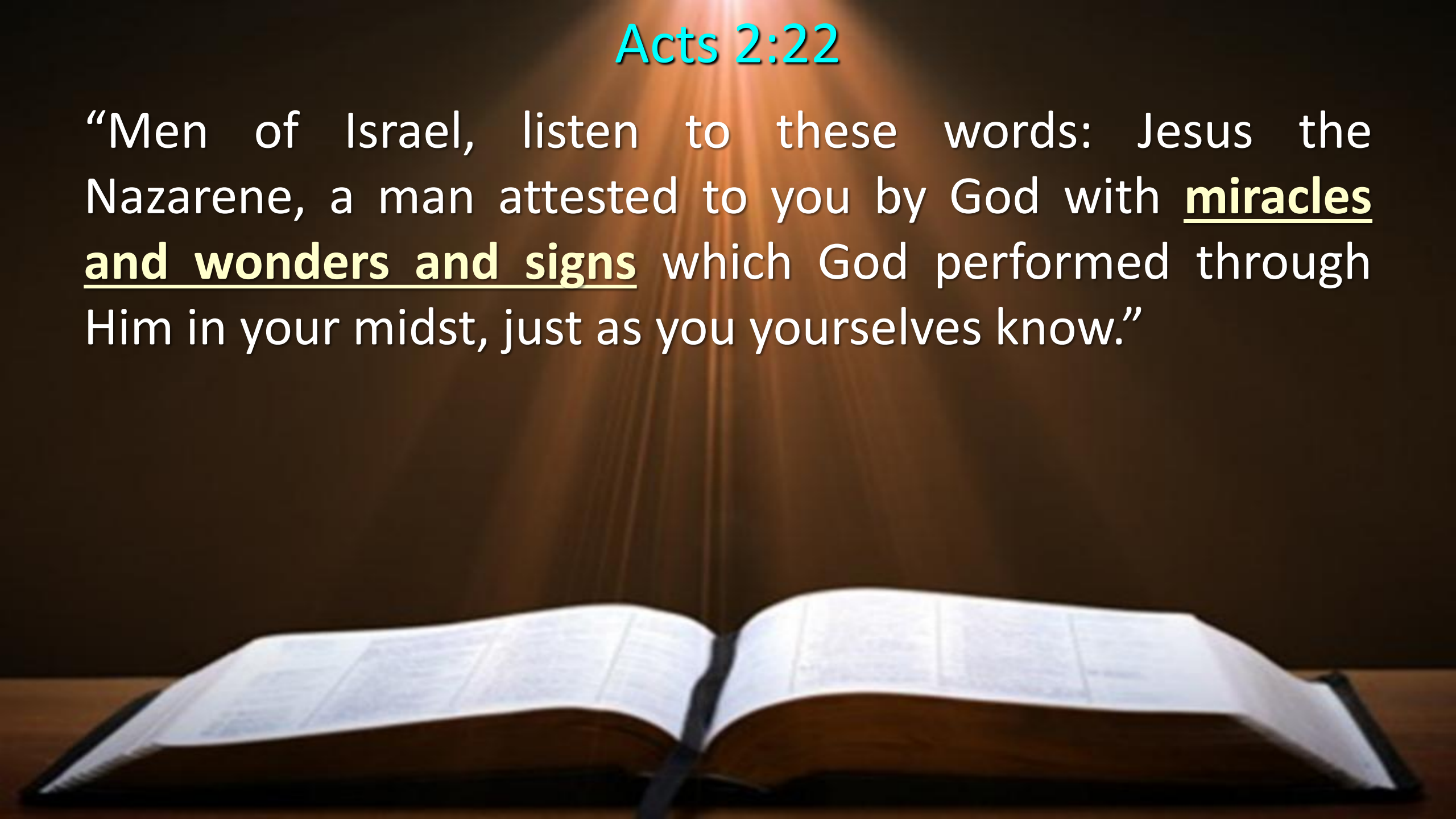
Matthew 11:2-6

. . . gospel preached to them. [6] And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me.’”



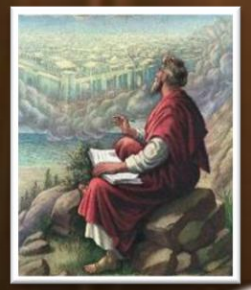
Acts 2:22

"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with **miracles and wonders and signs** which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know."



John 20:30-31

“Therefore many other **signs** Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may **believe** that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God**; and that **believing** you may have **life** in His name.”



“SEVEN SIGNS” in Gospel of John

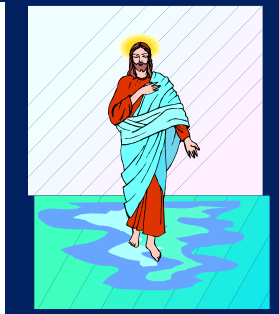




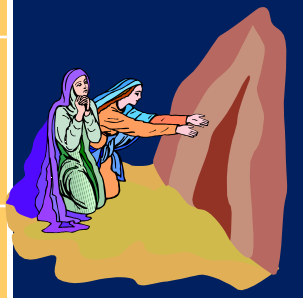




1. Changing Water into Wine	2:11
2. Healing official’s son	4:46-54
3. Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda	5:1-18
4. Feeding the 5,000	6:5-14
5. Walking on water	6:16-21
6. Healing a blind man	9:1-7
7. Raising dead Lazarus	11:1-45



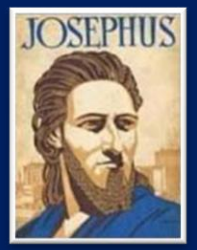




Matthew 12:24

“But when the Pharisees heard *this*, they said, ‘This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons.’”





Josephus

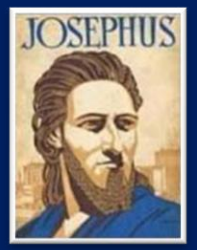
Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived **Jesus**, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who **performed surprising deeds** and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was **the Christ**. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

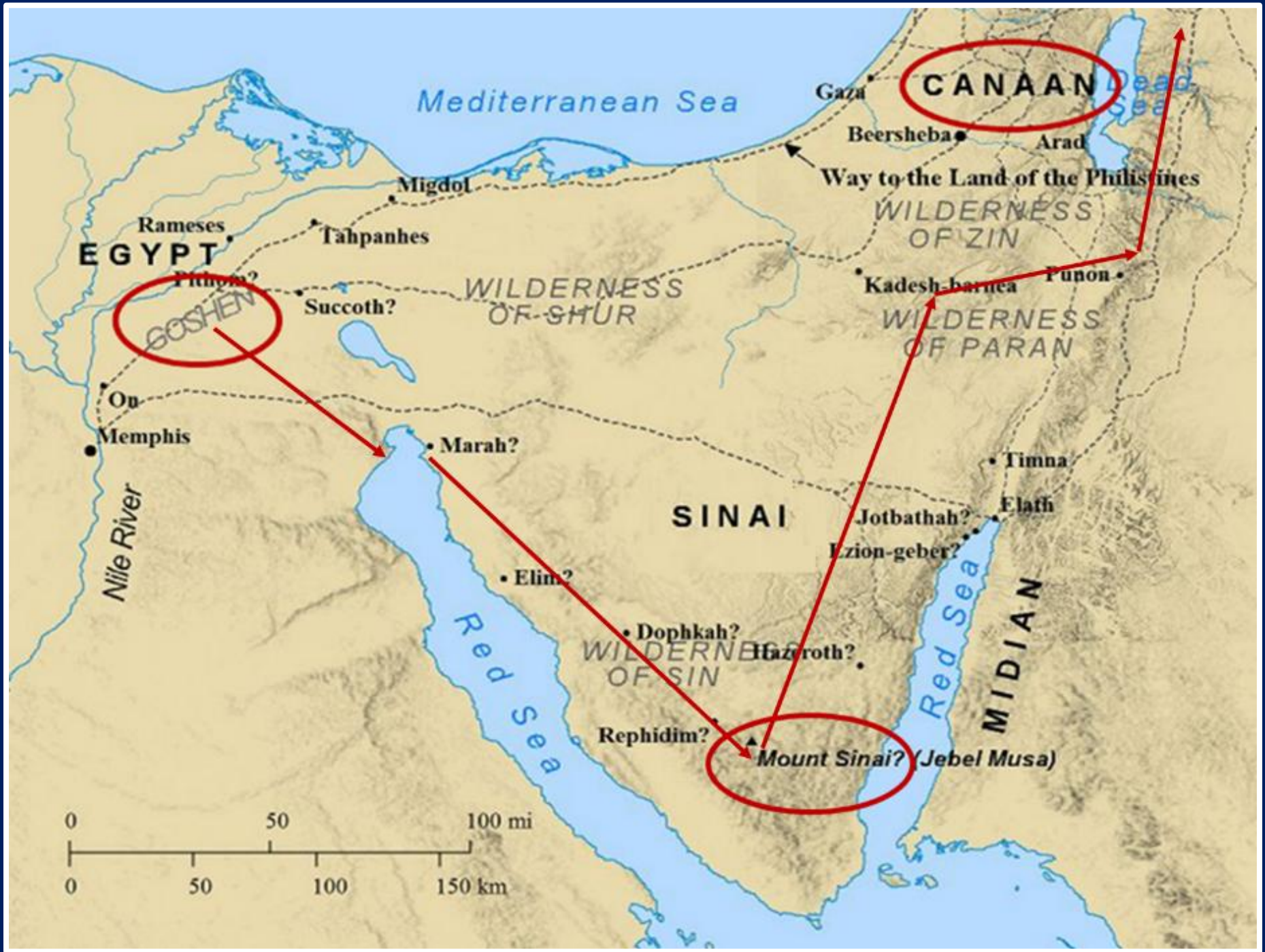
1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. **A man of bodily resurrection**



Josephus

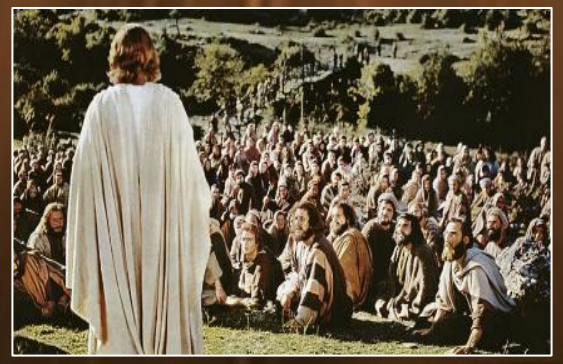
Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived **Jesus**, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was **the Christ**. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, **Pilate** had condemned him to a **cross**, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending **a third day restored to life**, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the **Christians**, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."


Mediterranean Sea
Gaza
CANAAN
Dead Sea
Beersheba
Arad
Way to the Land of the Philistines
Migdol
WILDERNESS OF ZIN
Rameses
EGYPT
Tahpanhes
Pithom?
GOSHEN
Succoth?
WILDERNESS OF SHUR
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
WILDERNESS OF PARAN
On
Memphis
Marah?
Timna
Elath
SINAI
Jotbathah?
Ezion-geber?
Nile River
Elim?
Red Sea
Dophkah?
WILDERNESS OF SIN
Hazeroth?
MIDIAN
Red Sea
Rephidim?
Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)
0
50
100 mi
0
50
100
150 km

1 Corinthians 15:6-7

"[6] After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, **most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep**; [7] then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles…"



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. Theft theory
3. Hallucination theory
4. Wrong tomb theory



Naturalistic Theories

1. **Swoon theory**
2. Theft theory
3. Hallucination theory
4. Wrong tomb theory



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. **Theft theory**
3. Hallucination theory
4. Wrong tomb theory





2. Theft Theories

A. Rome



B. Jews



C. Disciples





2. Theft Theories

A. **Rome**



B. Jews



C. Disciples





2. Theft Theories

A. Rome



B. <u>Jews</u>



C. Disciples





2. Theft Theories

A. Rome



B. Jews



C. **Disciples**



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. Theft theory
3. **Hallucination theory**
4. Wrong tomb theory



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. Theft theory
3. Hallucination theory
4. **Wrong tomb theory**



How Does Jesus Compare?

Deity	Tomb Status
Confucius	Occupied
Buddha	Occupied
Mohammed	Occupied
Jesus	***EMPTY***

G.B. Hardy, *Countdown*

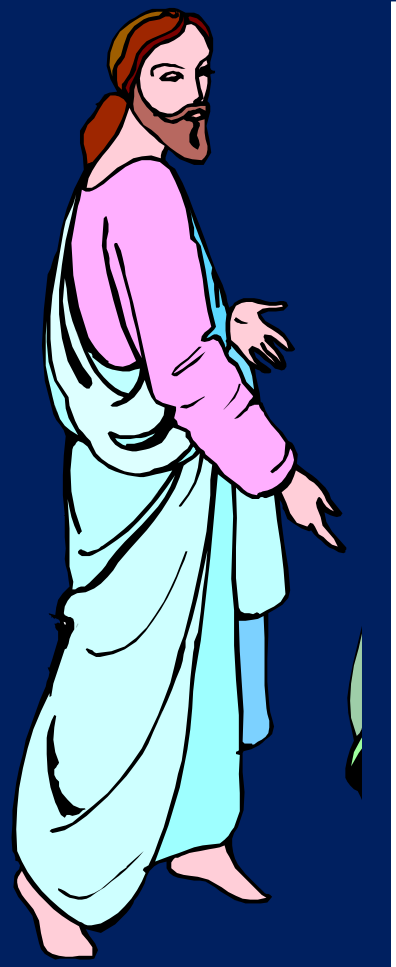
Conclusion



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection

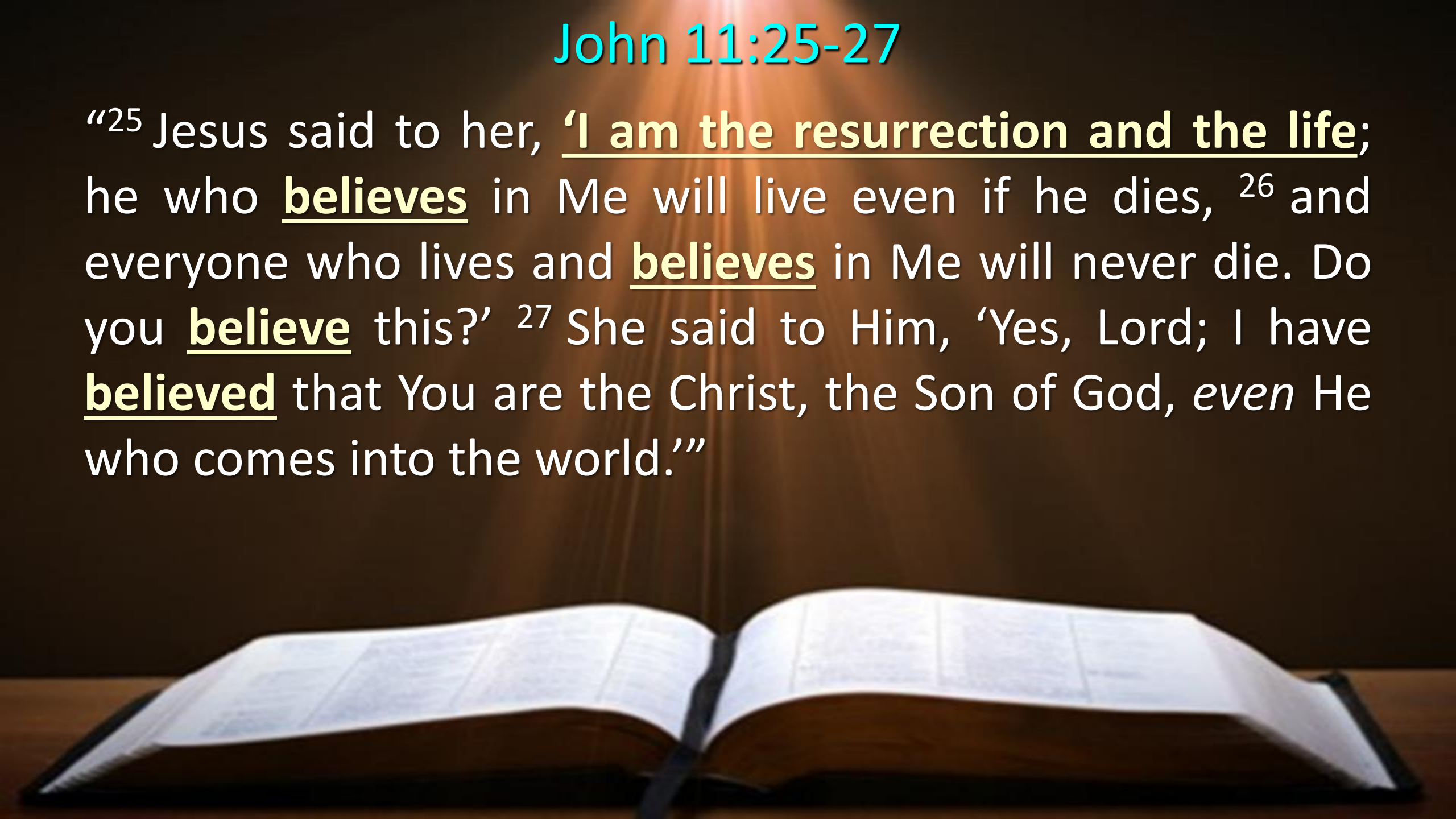
Seven “I AM” statements in John



1. I am the Bread of Life	6:35
2. I am the Light of the world	8:12
3. I am the Gate for the sheep	10:7; cf. v.9
4. I am the Good Shepherd	10:11,14
5. I am the Resurrection and the Life	11:25
6. I am the Way and the Truth and the Life	14:6
7. I am the true Vine	15:1; cf. v.5

John 11:25-27

“[25] Jesus said to her, **‘I am the resurrection and the life**; he who **believes** in Me will live even if he dies, [26] and everyone who lives and **believes** in Me will never die. Do you **believe** this?’ [27] She said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; I have **believed** that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world.’”







"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." (NIV)