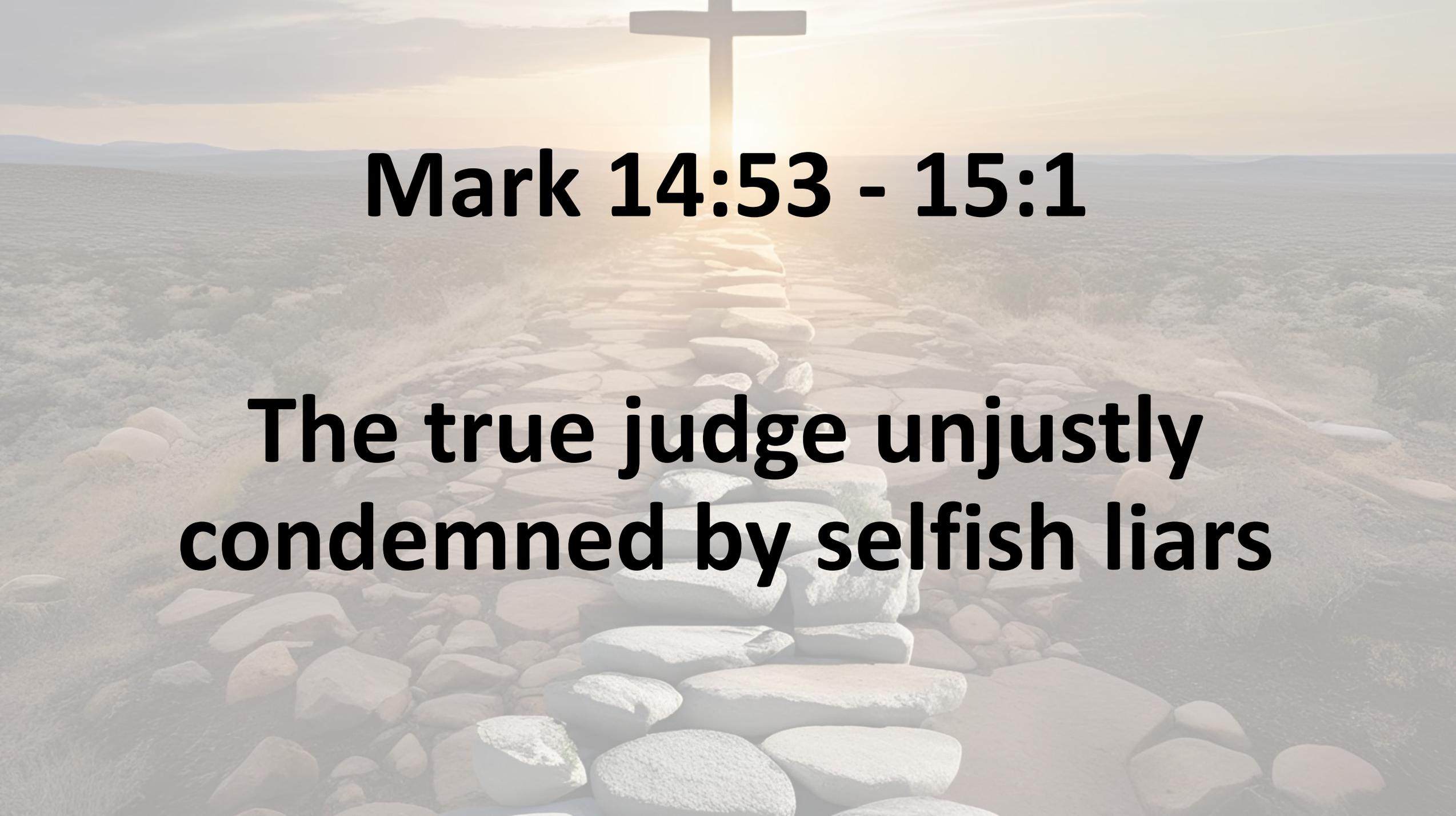
A stone path made of flat, irregular stones leads from the foreground towards a large, simple cross in the distance. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with a bright sun low on the horizon behind the cross, creating a strong lens flare and a warm, golden glow. The background shows a vast, open landscape with rolling hills under a hazy sky.

Trials and Truth

What is True?

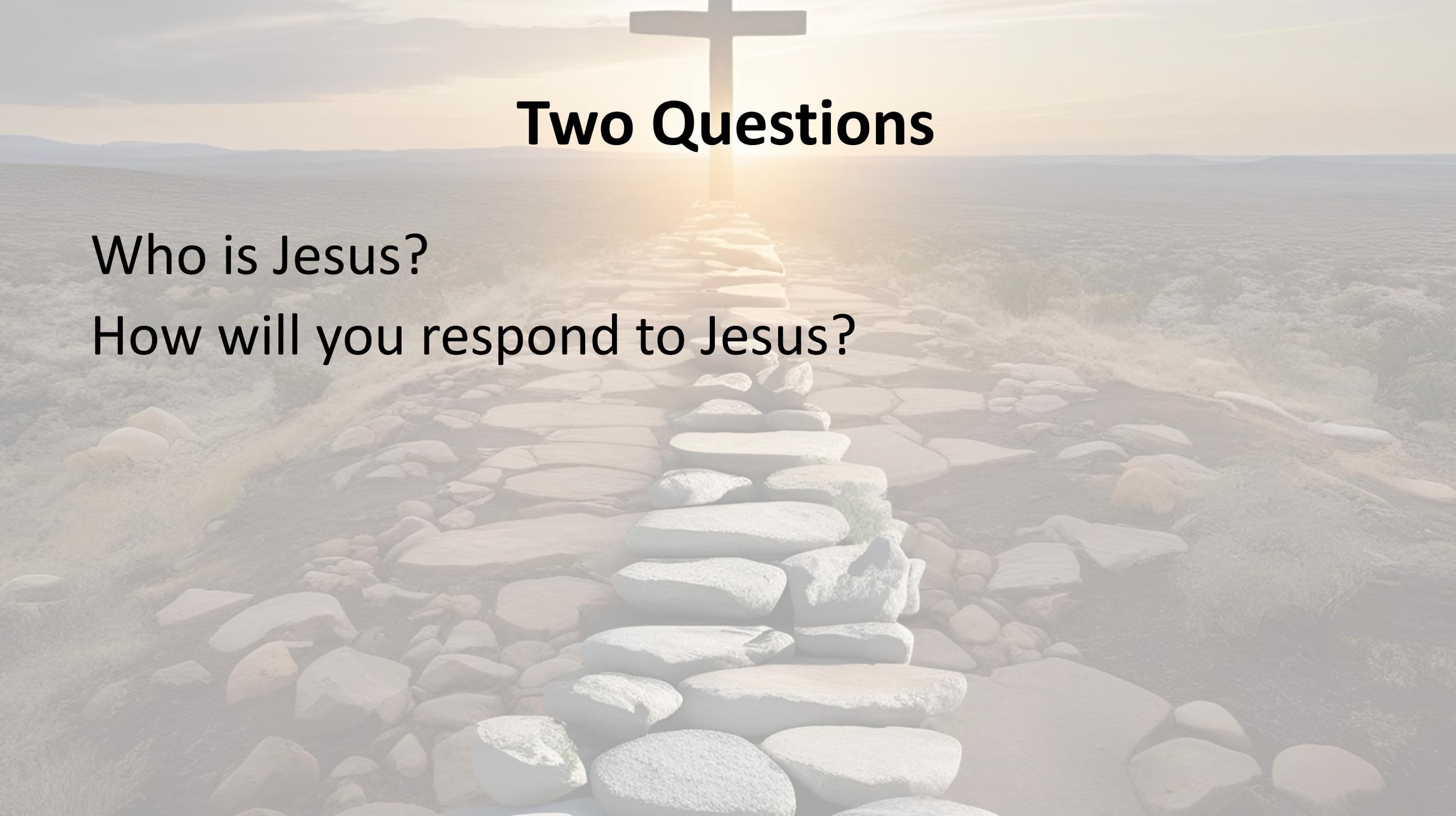
Finding Evidence to Protect myself, my view?

What is Just?

A stone path leads from the foreground towards a large cross in the distance. The path is made of flat, light-colored stones. The background is a hazy, open landscape with rolling hills under a bright, overcast sky. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

Mark 14:53 - 15:1

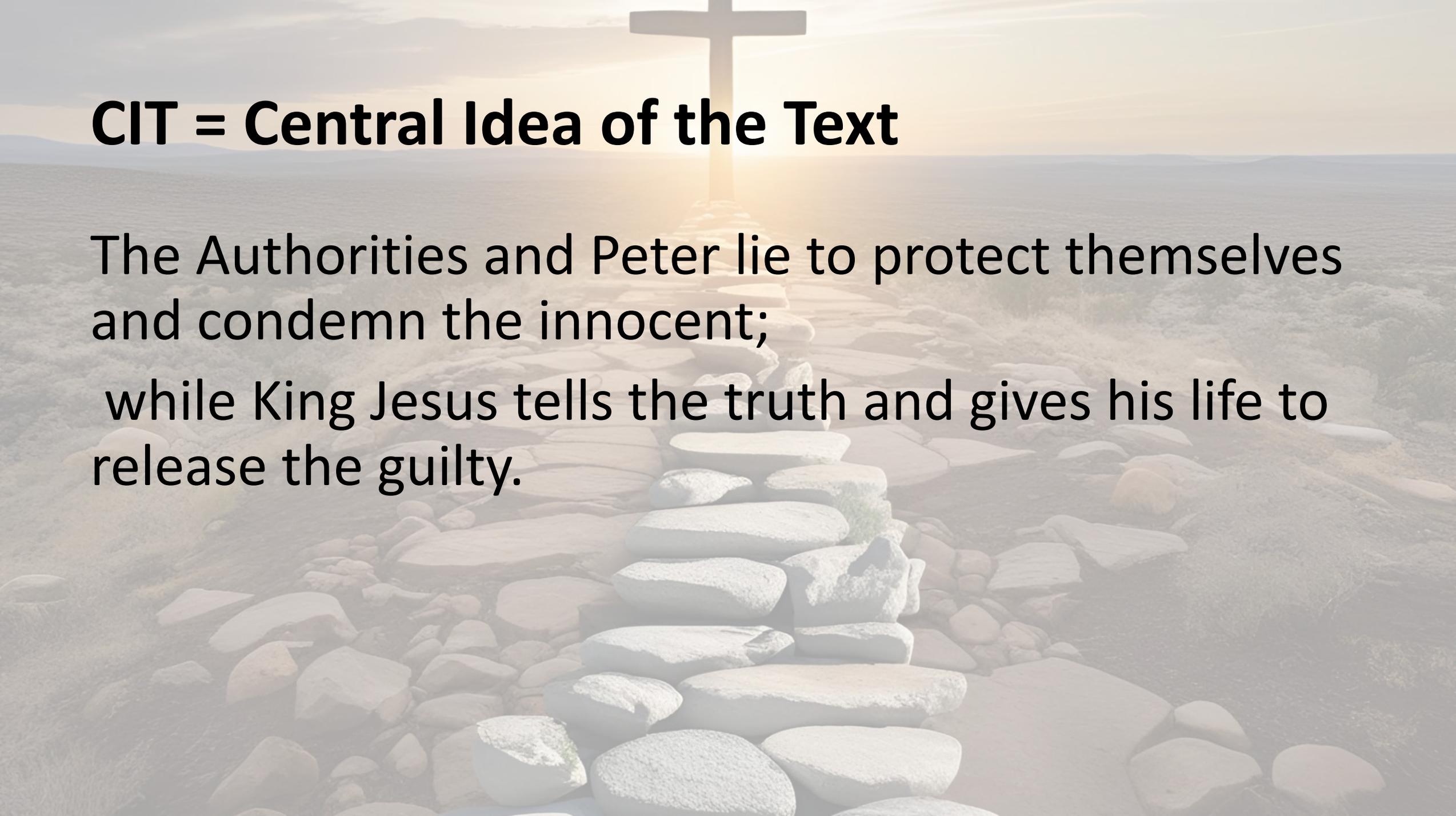
**The true judge unjustly
condemned by selfish liars**

A stone path made of flat, irregular stones leads from the foreground towards a large, simple cross in the distance. The path is set in a hazy, open landscape with rolling hills under a bright, overcast sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a soft, golden glow. The cross is positioned at the end of the path, serving as a focal point.

Two Questions

Who is Jesus?

How will you respond to Jesus?

A stone path leads from the foreground towards a large cross in the distance. The path is made of flat, grey stones, and the surrounding landscape is hazy and mountainous under a bright, hazy sky. The cross is a simple wooden structure with a horizontal bar and a vertical post.

CIT = Central Idea of the Text

The Authorities and Peter lie to protect themselves and condemn the innocent;

while King Jesus tells the truth and gives his life to release the guilty.

A stone path leads from the foreground towards a large wooden cross in the distance. The scene is set against a sunset or sunrise sky, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The path is made of irregular, light-colored stones, and the background shows a hazy landscape with rolling hills.

Outline

- 1. Jewish Trial** - Jewish Authorities lie while Jesus tells truth (14:53-65)
- 2. Peter's Denial** - Peter lies about knowing Jesus (14:66-72)
- 3. Roman Trial** - Pilate condemns righteous King Jesus (15:1-15)

1. Jewish Trial

Setting:

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. ⁵⁴ Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire.

False Testimony

⁵⁵ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. ⁵⁶ Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.

⁵⁷ Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸ “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹ Yet even then their testimony did not agree.

⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” ⁶¹ But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.

Jesus's True Testimony

Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

⁶² “I AM,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Psalm 110

The LORD said to my Lord,

“Sit in the place of honor at my right hand
until I humble your enemies,
making them a footstool under your feet.”

² The LORD will extend your powerful kingdom from
Jerusalem

Daniel 7

¹³ As my vision continued that night, I saw someone **like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven**. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

Authorities Response

⁶³ The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked. ⁶⁴ “You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?”

They all condemned him as worthy of death.

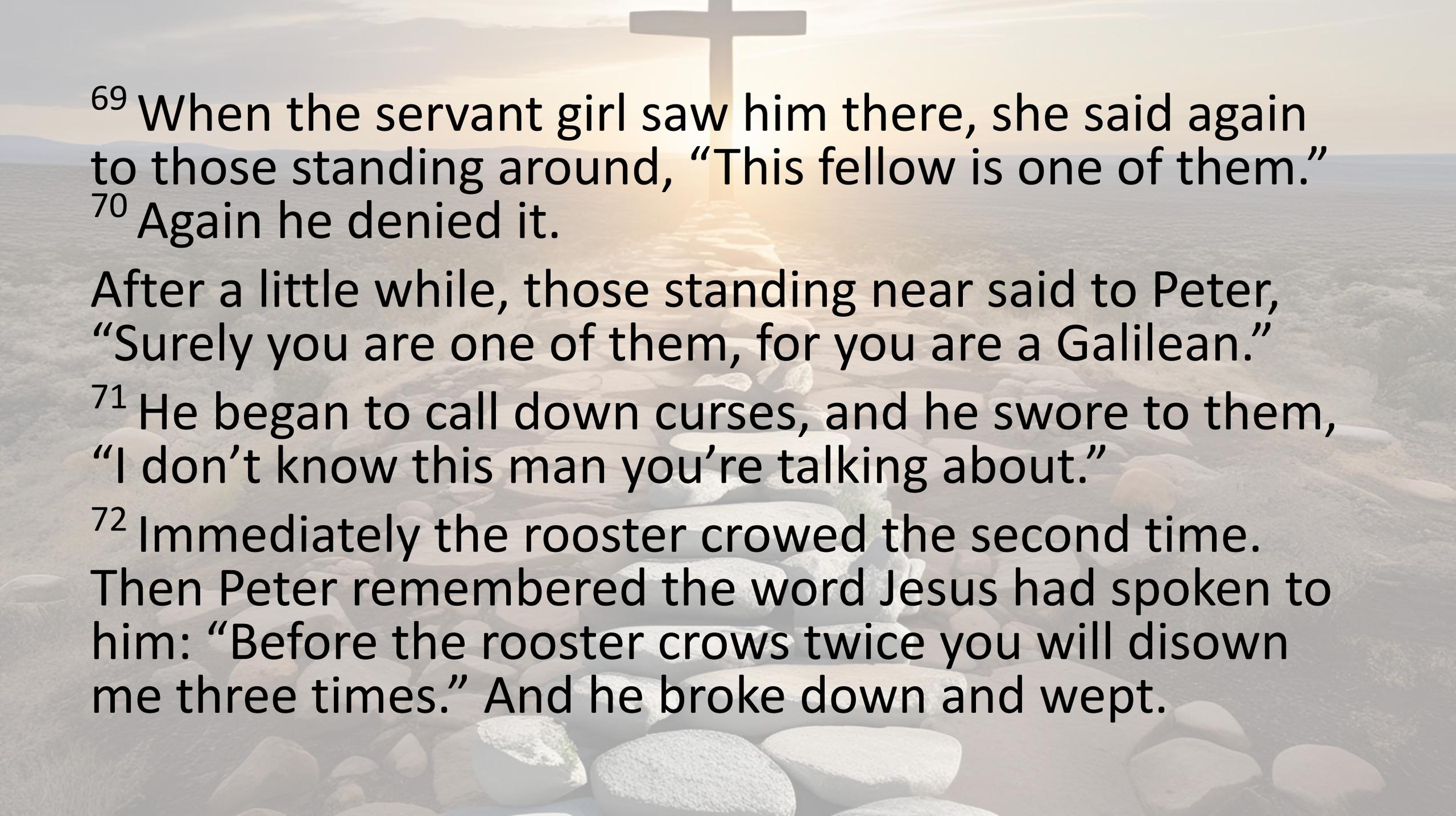
⁶⁵ Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy!” And the guards took him and beat him.

2. Peter's Denial

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him.

“You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said.

⁶⁸ But he denied it. “I don't know or understand what you're talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway.



⁶⁹ When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.”

⁷⁰ Again he denied it.

After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.”

⁷¹ He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.”

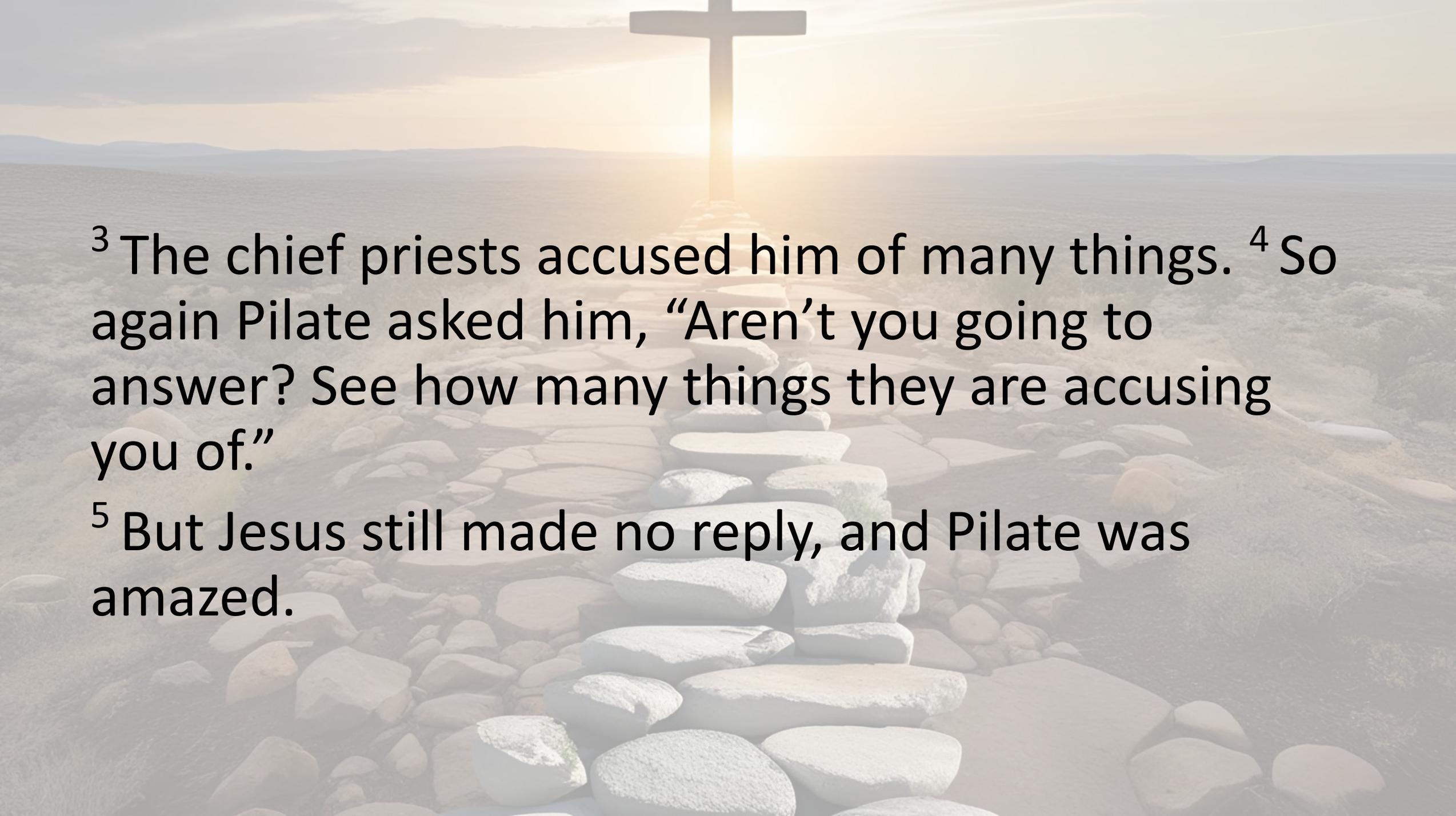
⁷² Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

3. Roman Trial

Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans. So they bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.

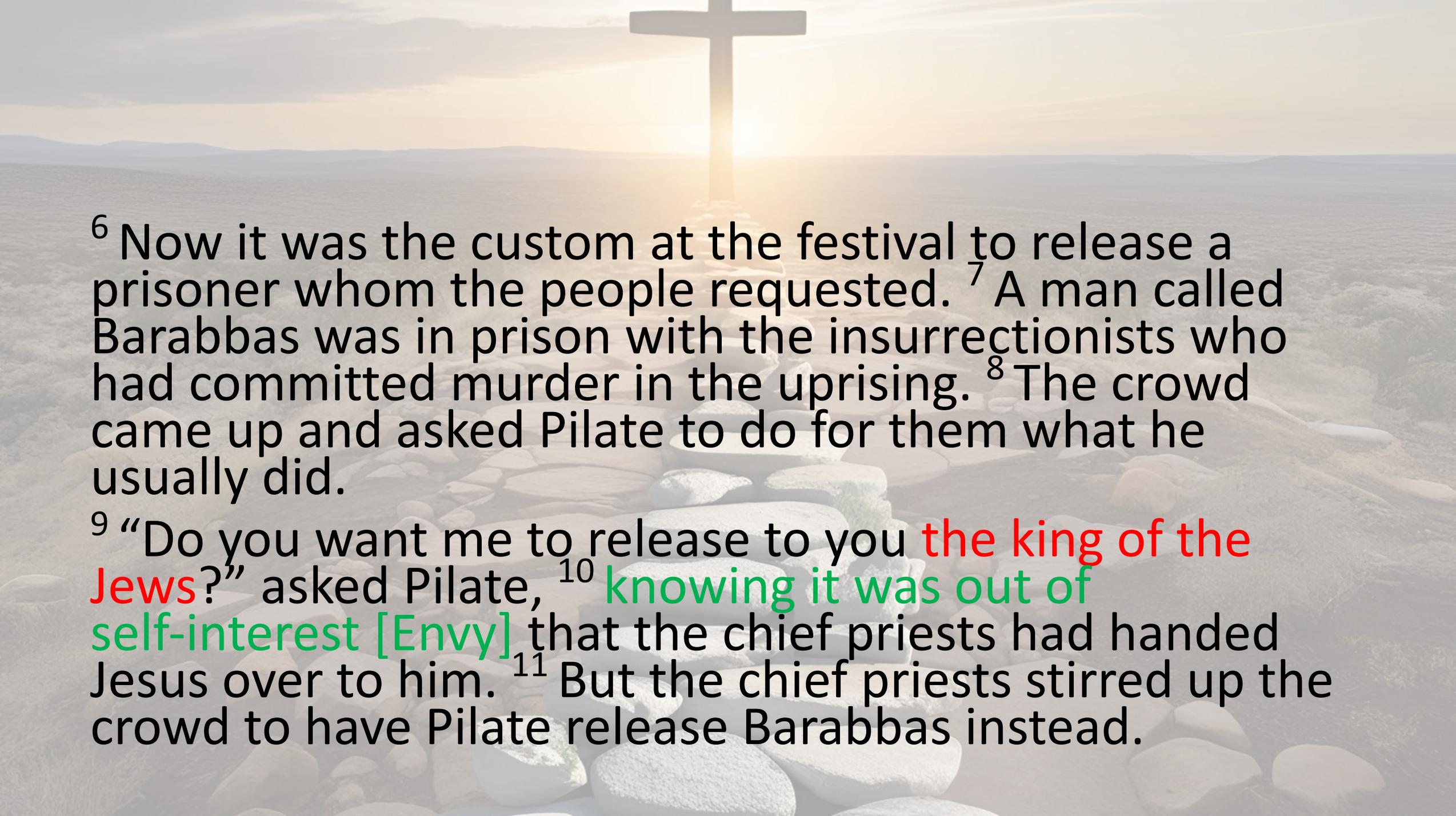
² “Are you the **king of the Jews?**” asked Pilate.

“**You have said so,**” Jesus replied.

A stone path leads towards a large wooden cross in the distance. The sun is setting behind the cross, creating a bright glow and long shadows. The background shows a hazy landscape with rolling hills.

³ The chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ So again Pilate asked him, “Aren’t you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of.”

⁵ But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.



⁶ Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. ⁷ A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. ⁸ The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

⁹ “Do you want me to release to you **the king of the Jews?**” asked Pilate, ¹⁰ **knowing it was out of self-interest [Envy]** that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

The innocent/righteous king condemned

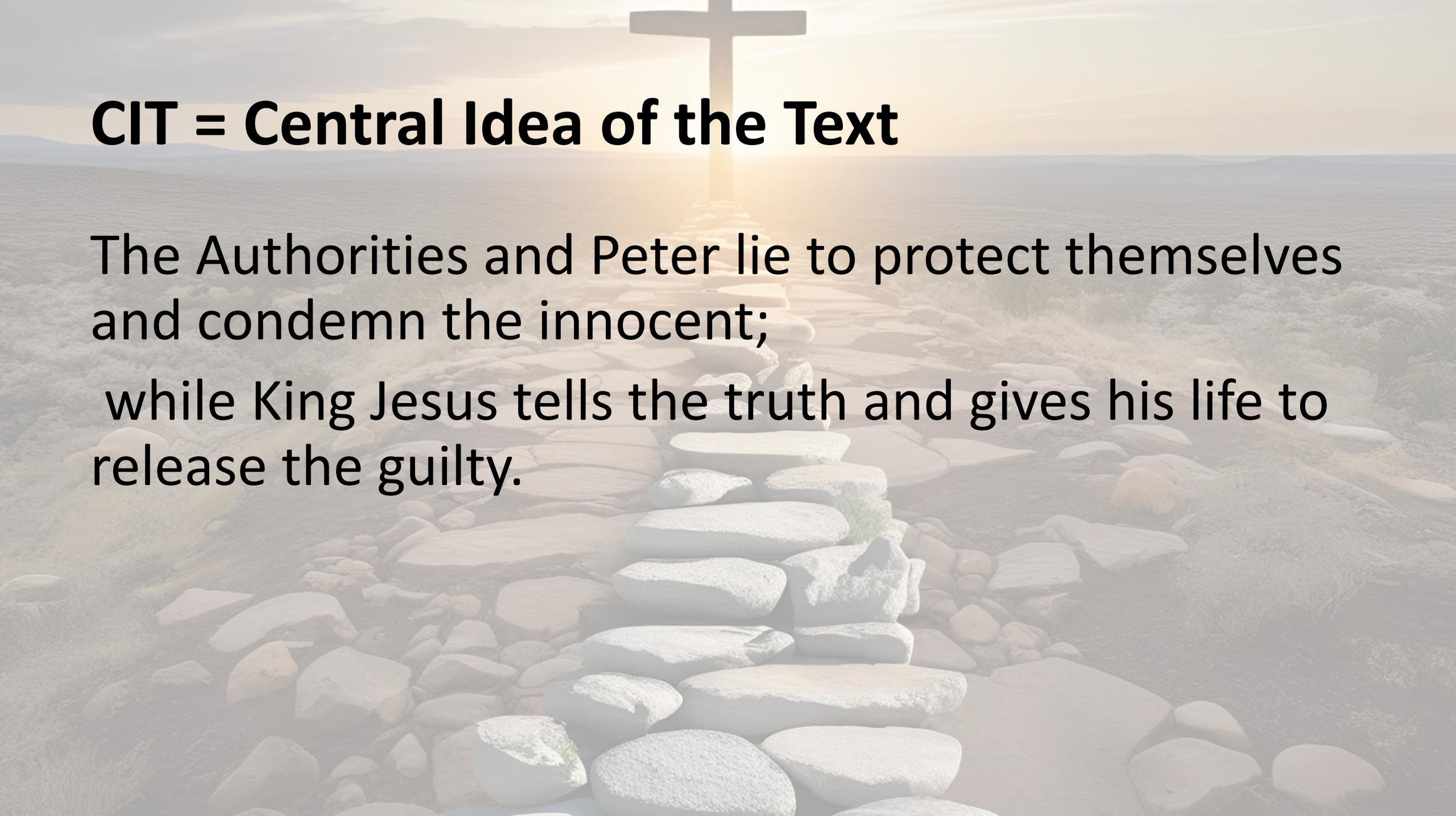
¹² “What shall I do, then, with the one you call **the king of the Jews?**” Pilate asked them.

¹³ “Crucify him!” they shouted.

¹⁴ “**Why? What crime has he committed?**” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

¹⁵ **Wanting to satisfy the crowd,** Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

A stone path leads from the foreground towards a large, simple cross in the distance. The path is made of flat, rectangular stones, and the surrounding landscape is hazy and mountainous. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow.

CIT = Central Idea of the Text

The Authorities and Peter lie to protect themselves and condemn the innocent;

while King Jesus tells the truth and gives his life to release the guilty.

Who is Jesus? Suffering Servant King (Mark 8)

Peter replied, “You are the **Messiah.**”

³⁰ But Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then Jesus began to tell them that **the Son of Man must suffer many terrible things and be rejected** by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but three days later he would rise from the dead.

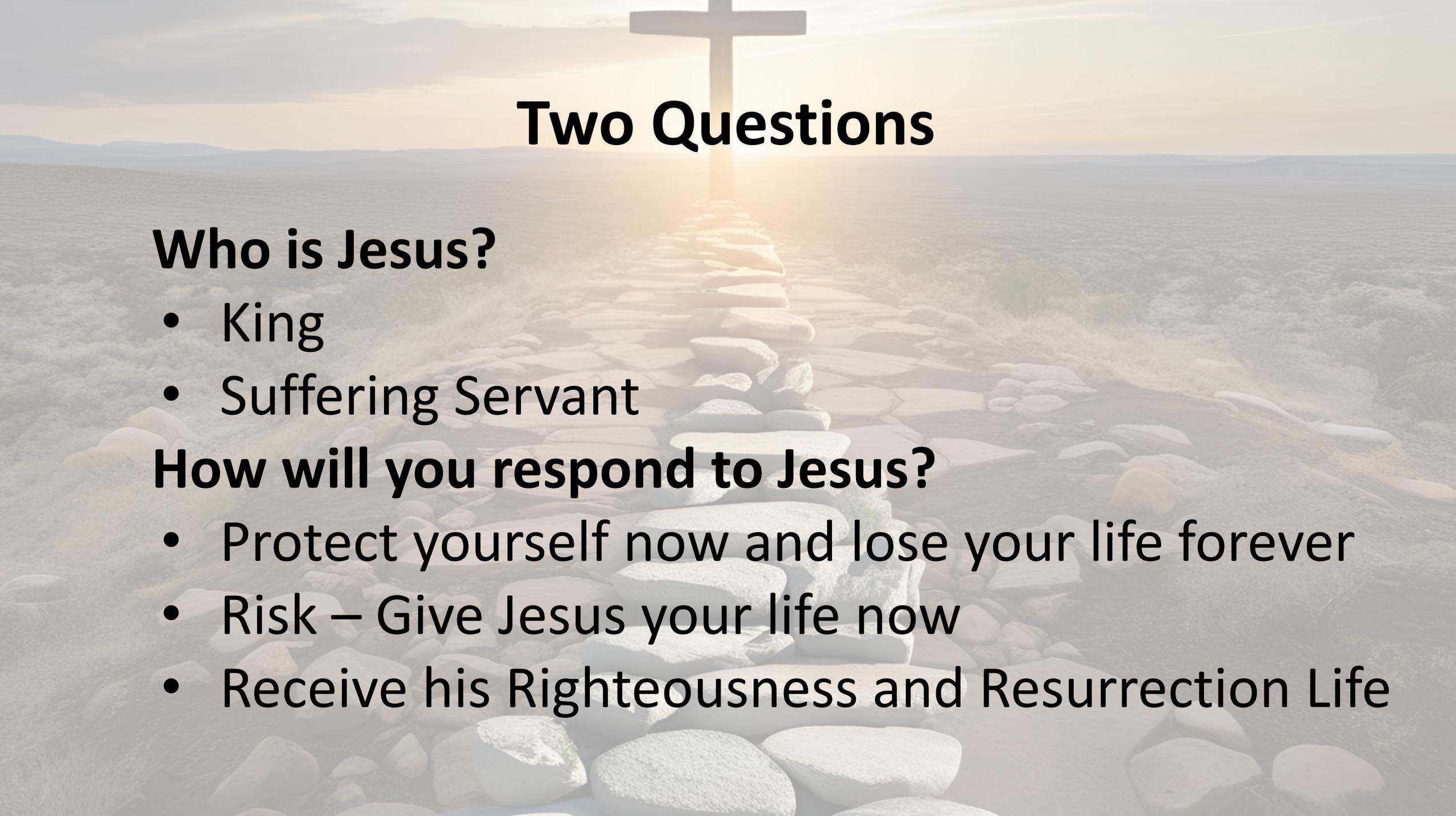
³² As he talked about this openly with his disciples, Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things.

How to Respond? (Mark 8)

³⁴ Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must **give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.** ³⁵ **If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.**

³⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? ³⁷ Is anything worth more than your soul?

³⁸ **If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”**

A stone path leads from the foreground towards a large cross in the distance. The background is a hazy, mountainous landscape under a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Two Questions

Who is Jesus?

- King
- Suffering Servant

How will you respond to Jesus?

- Protect yourself now and lose your life forever
- Risk – Give Jesus your life now
- Receive his Righteousness and Resurrection Life