

2021

SESSION  
8

TERM 3

WHAT THE  
BIBLE  
IS ABOUT



The Gospel of John

## Key Theme

# JOHN

JESUS IS THE CHRIST: BELIEVE AND LIVE!

“<sup>30</sup>And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>**but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.**”

JOHN 20:31

# The Gospel of John

## OPPORTUNITY

Christ presents Himself to:

- His disciples—1:19-2:12
- The Jews—2:13-3:36
- The Samaritans—4:1-54
- The Jewish leaders—5:1-47
- The multitudes—6:1-71

## OPPOSITION

There is conflict with the Jewish leaders over:

- Moses—7:1-8:11
- Abraham—8:12-59
- Who Messiah is—9:1-10:42
- His miraculous power—11:1-12:36
- They would not believe on Him-12:37-50

## OUTCOME

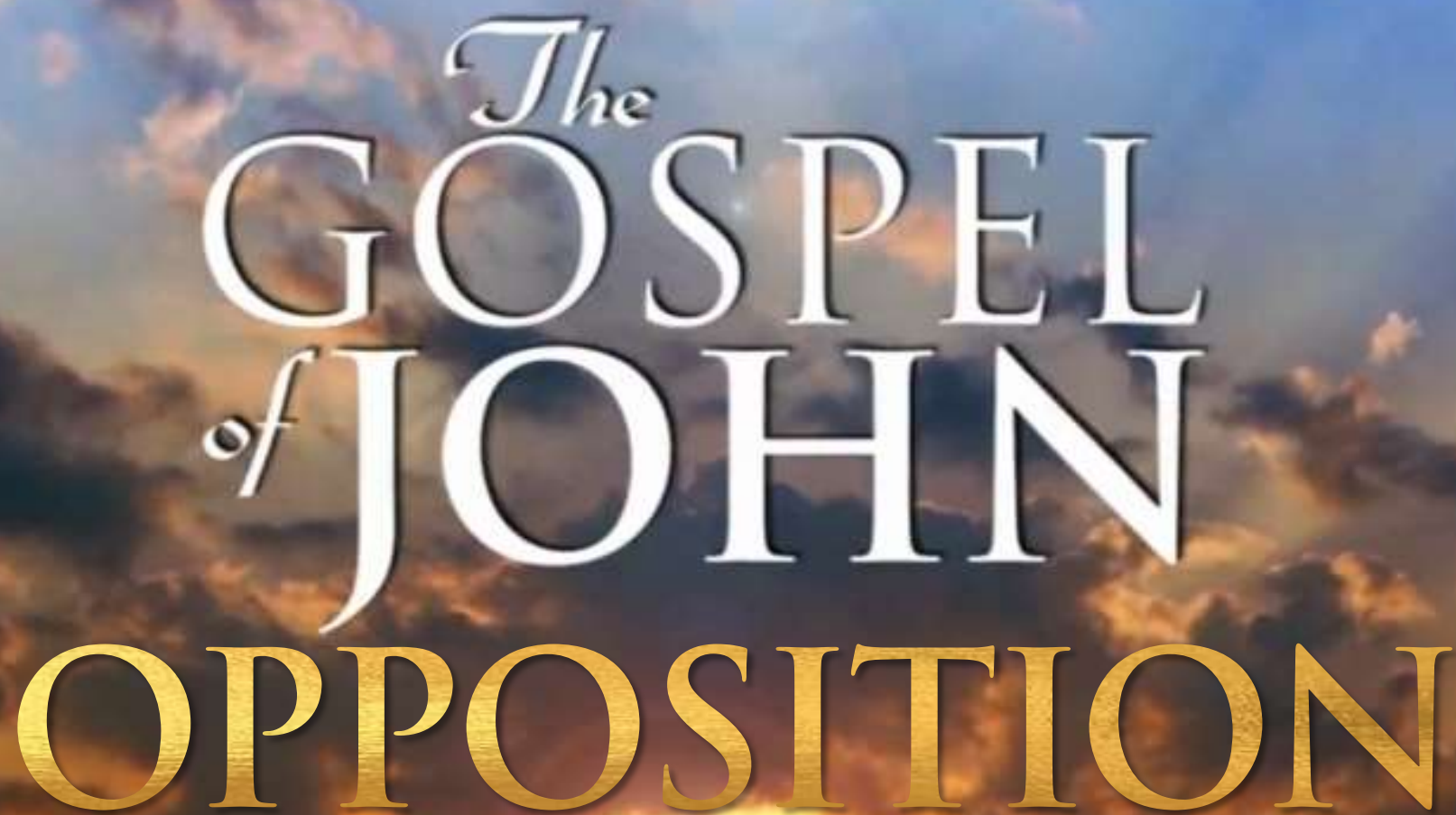
Christ's farewell message to His beloved disciples:

- The faith of the disciples—13-17
- The unbelief of the Jews—18-19
- The victory of Christ—20-21



*The*  
GOSPEL  
*of* JOHN

OPPORTUNITY



*The*  
GOSPEL  
*of* JOHN  
OPPOSITION

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 7**

**CHRIST THE HEAVENLY ONE**



Before the Feast of Tabernacles  
**Disbelief!**

For even His brothers did not believe in Him.  
So Jesus went in secret to Jerusalem for the feast.



How does this man know letters?

'Jesus teaches in Temple' by James Tissot.

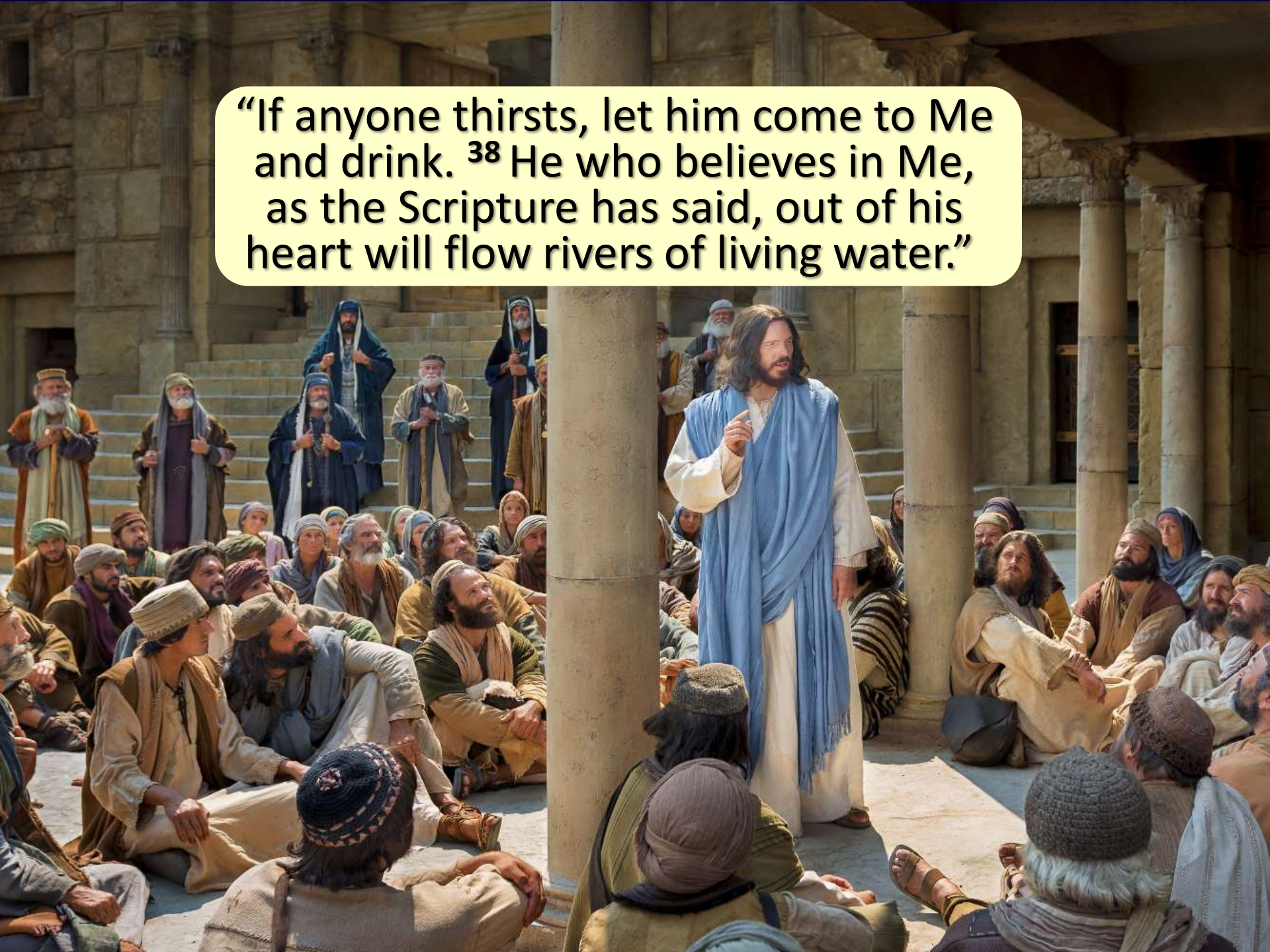




During the Feast of Tabernacles  
**Debate!**

'Christ and the pharisees' by Ernst Zimmermann, c. 1895.

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”





He prophesied of the  
**Holy Spirit.**



After the Feast of Tabernacles  
**Division!**

'The Chief Priests Take Counsel Together' by James Tissot

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 8**

**CHRIST THE TRUTH**



# Grace versus Law!

“Jesus and the Sinner,” by Vasily Polenov, 1888.

Go and **sin no more.**



“Jesus and Adulterous Woman,” by James Tissot

Light versus Darkness!

I AM the  
light of the world.





If you had known **Me**, you would  
have known **the Father** also!



'But No Man Laid Hands Upon Him' by James Tissot, 1886-1896.

# Life and Death!





When you lift up the **Son of Man**,  
then you will know that **I AM!**



# Freedom and Bondage!



Whoever commits a sin,  
is a slave of sin!



If the Son makes you free,  
you shall be **free indeed!**

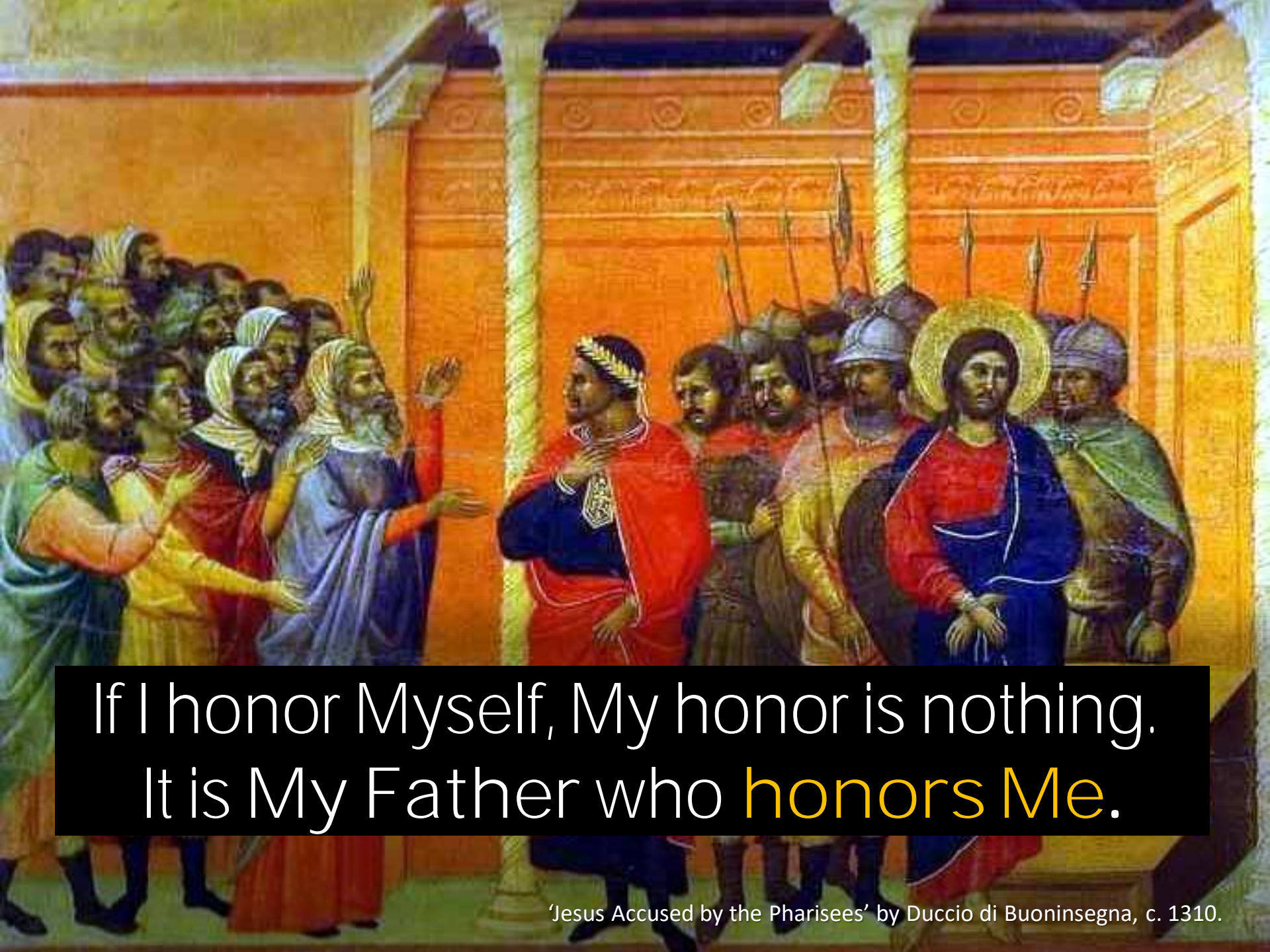
# “If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

1. **Free** from the condemnation of sin, the penalty of the law and the wrath of God (Isa 42:7; 60:1; Rom 8:1).
2. **Free** from the power of Satan (Acts 26:18; Col 1:13; Heb 2:14,15).
3. **Free** from the bondage of sin (Rom 6:14,18).
4. **Free** from the authority of man (Gal 4:8, 9; 5:1; Col 2:20-22).
5. **Free to serve God** (1 Cor 7:22; Rom 6:16-18, 22).



Honor and Dishonor!





If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing.  
It is My Father who honors Me.

Are **you** greater than our father Abraham, who is dead?



GOOD SHEPHERD  
BREAD OF LIFE  
**TRUE VINE**  
RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE  
THE DOOR  
LIGHT  
OF THE WORLD  
**WAY**  
TRUTH  
AND THE LIFE  
THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
BREAD OF LIFE  
THE TRUE VINE

LIGHT  
OF THE WORLD  
RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE  
THE DOOR  
**GOOD**  
SHEPHERD THE WAY  
TRUE VINE THE TRUTH  
LIGHT OF THE WORLD THE LIFE  
RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE  
THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE  
TRUE VINE THE DOOR  
BREAD  
OF LIFE

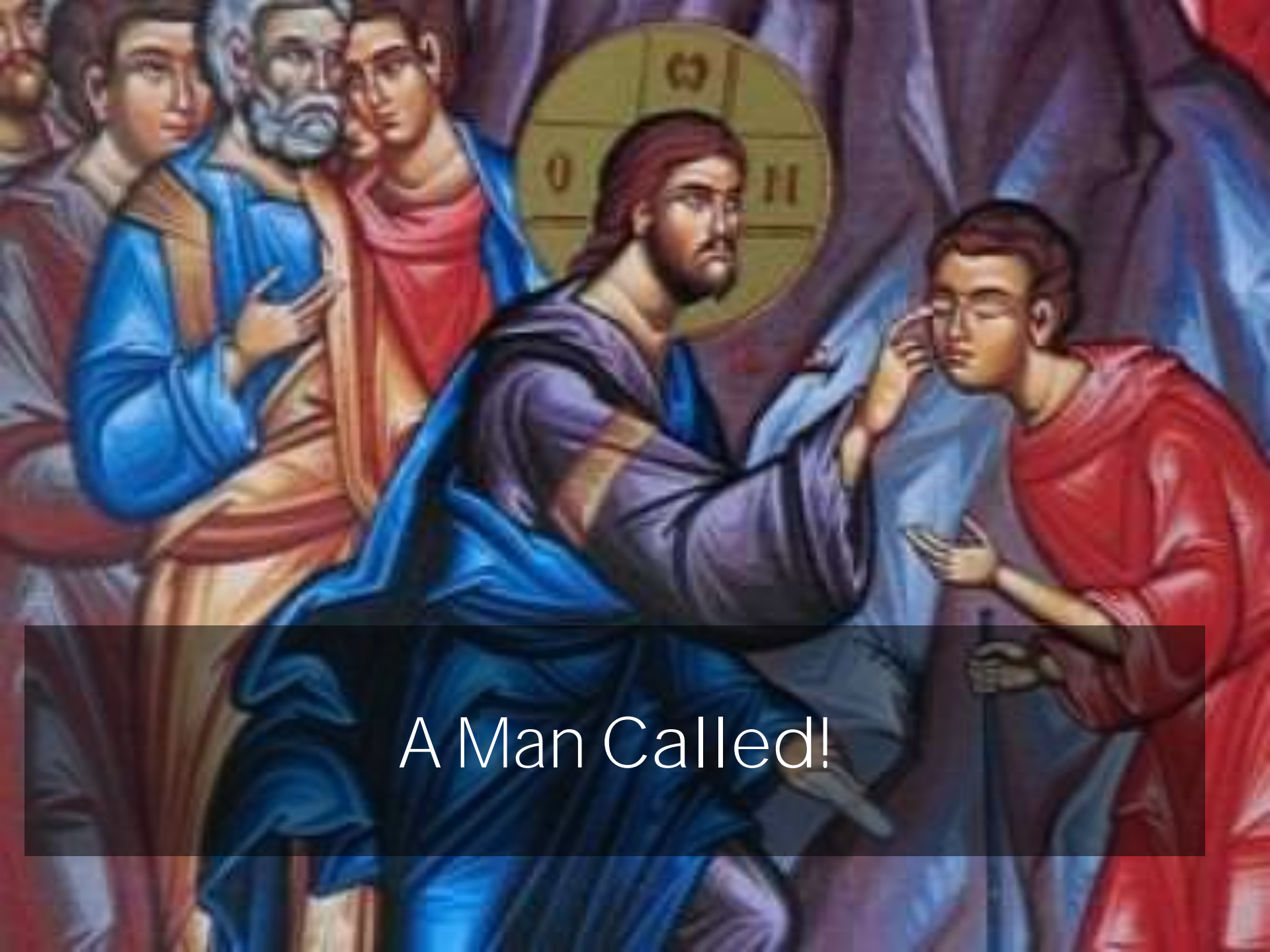
BREAD OF LIFE  
RESURRECTION THE WAY  
THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
TRUE VINE **TRUTH**  
LIGHT OF THE WORLD  
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GOOD SHEPHERD  
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TRUE VINE BREAD OF LIFE  
LIGHT THE WAY **TRUE**  
OF THE WORLD THE TRUTH **VINE**  
GOOD THE LIFE BREAD OF LIFE  
SHEPHERD **DOOR**  
THE DOOR BREAD  
RESURRECTION

Before Abraham was, **I AM!**

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 9**

**CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

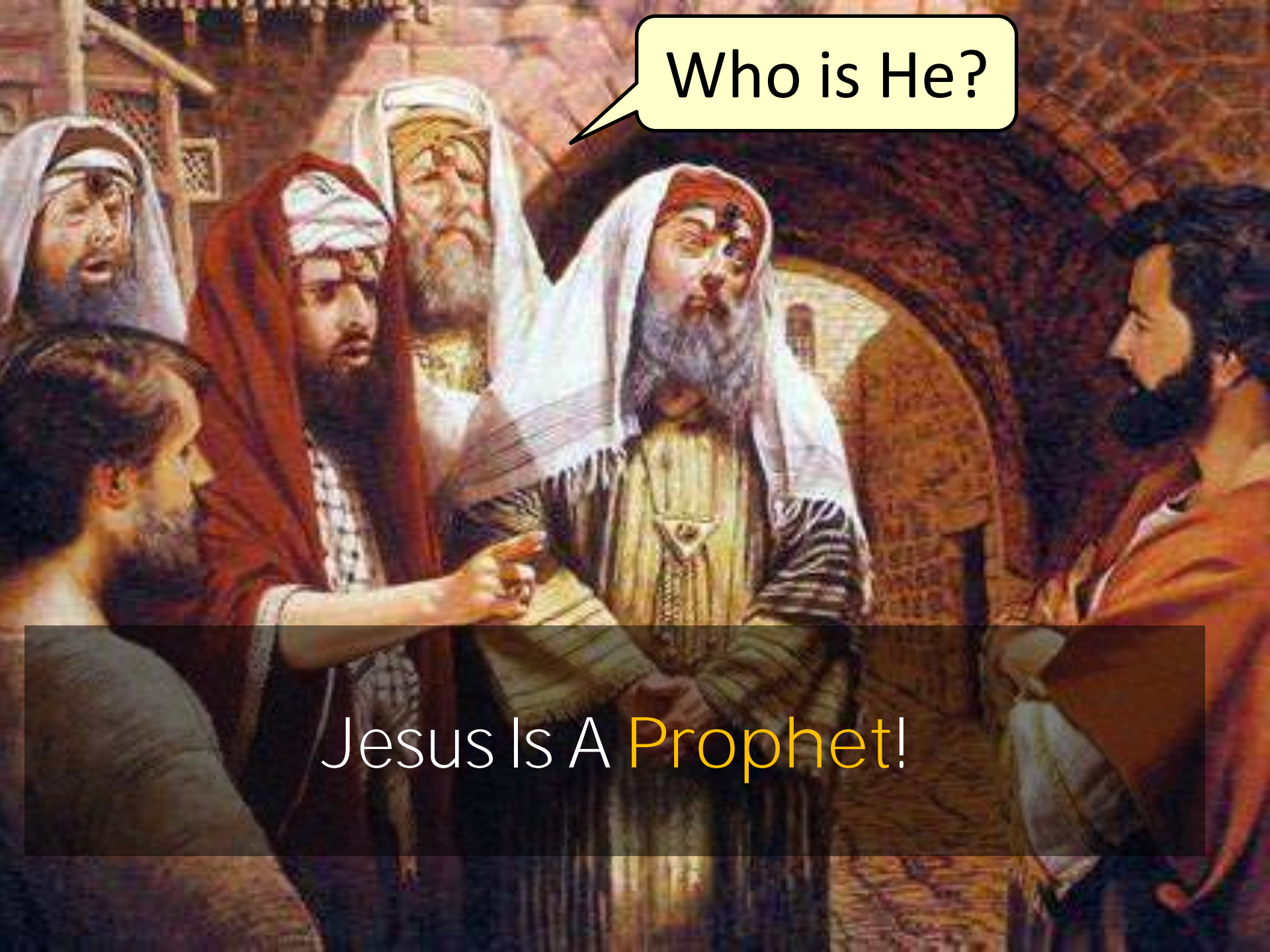


A Man Called!

I AM the  
light of the world.



'The blind man washes his eyes in the pool at Siloam' by Harold Copping.

A religious painting depicting a scene where Jesus is being questioned by a group of men. Jesus is the central figure, wearing a white head covering and a striped tunic, looking slightly to the right. He is surrounded by several men in traditional Middle Eastern attire, including head coverings and robes. One man in a red robe is pointing towards Jesus. The background shows a stone archway and a building. A speech bubble with a black border and a yellow background points to Jesus, containing the text "Who is He?".

Who is He?

Jesus Is A Prophet!

# Jesus Is A Man of God!

He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know.  
One thing I do know, that though

**I was blind, now I see."**

John 9:25



And  
they  
cast  
him  
out.





“Lord, I believe.”

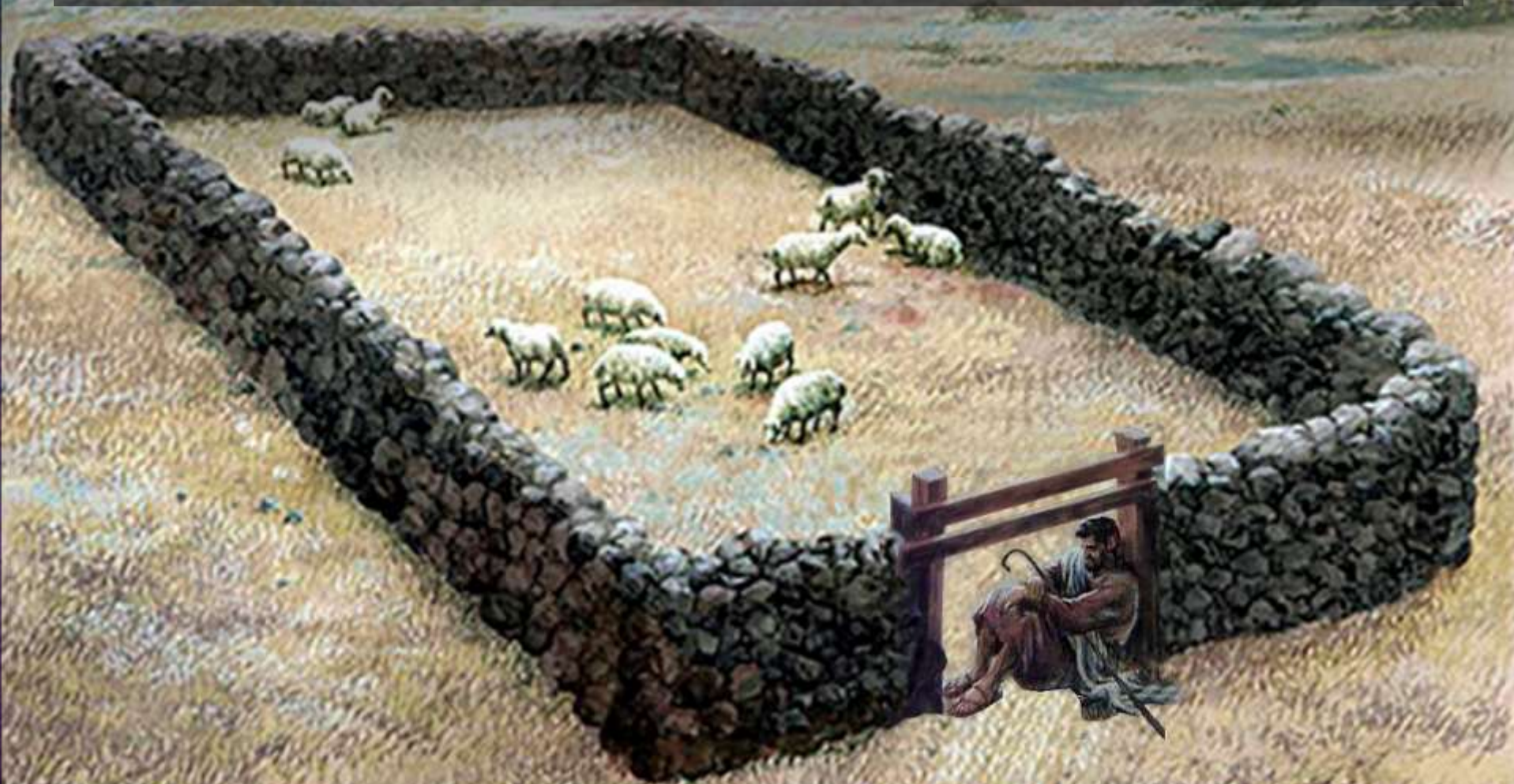
Jesus Is The Son of God!

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 10**

**CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

I AM The Door!





I AM The Good Shepherd!

Two and a Half Months Pass.



I AM The Son of God!





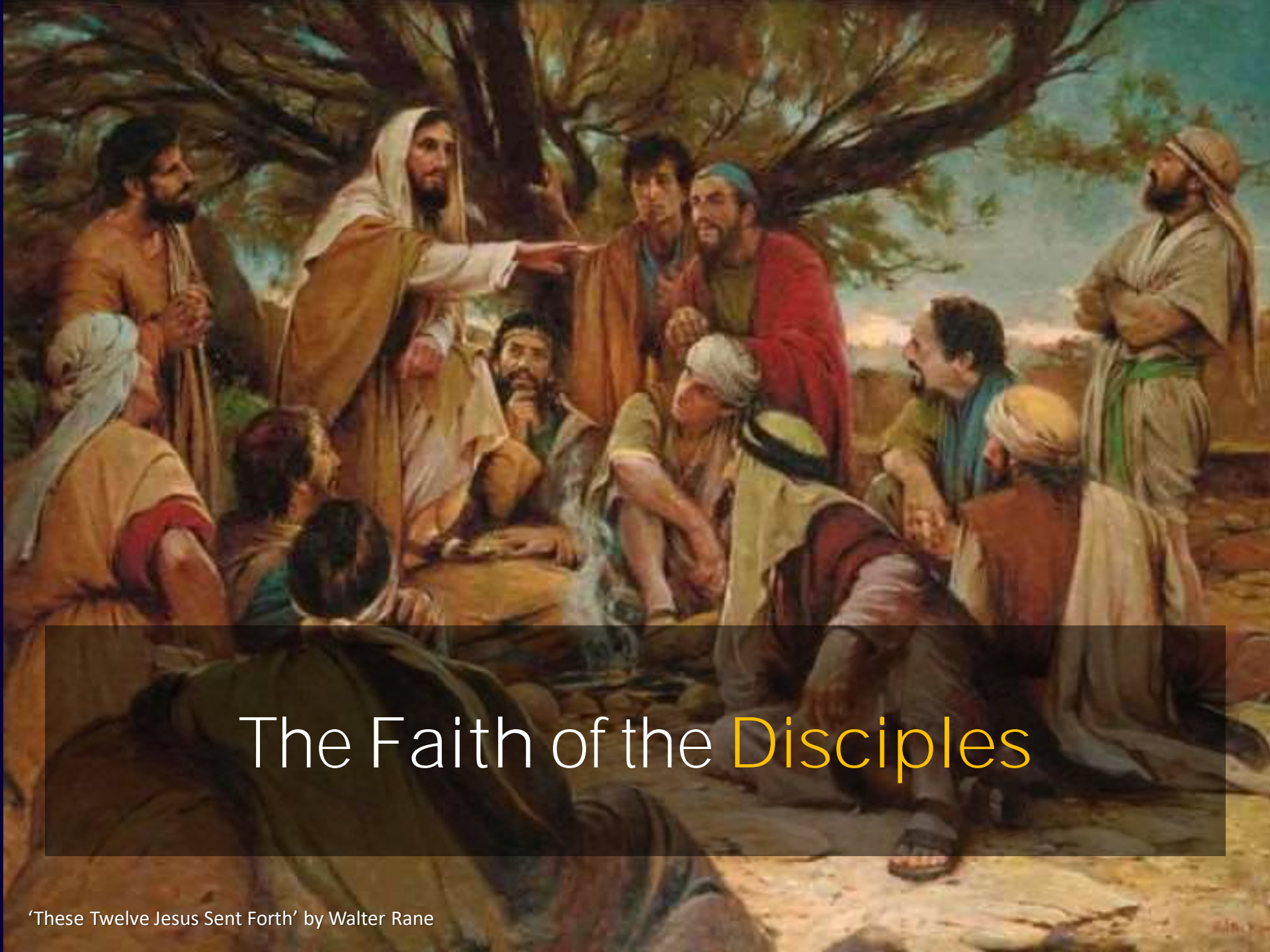
So They Take Up Stones  
to Stone Him.



THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 11**

**CHRIST THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE**



# The Faith of the Disciples

'These Twelve Jesus Sent Forth' by Walter Rane

Faithful to my Lord's commands,  
I would choose the better part:  
Serve with careful Martha's hands  
And love with Mary's heart.

## The Faith of **Mary** and **Martha**



“But, Lord, he stinketh!”

The Faith of Many People

‘The Resurrection of Lazarus’ by Marco Pino, c. 1570).

# The Faith of Jewish Leaders



“Then, from that day on,  
they plotted to put Him to death.”

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

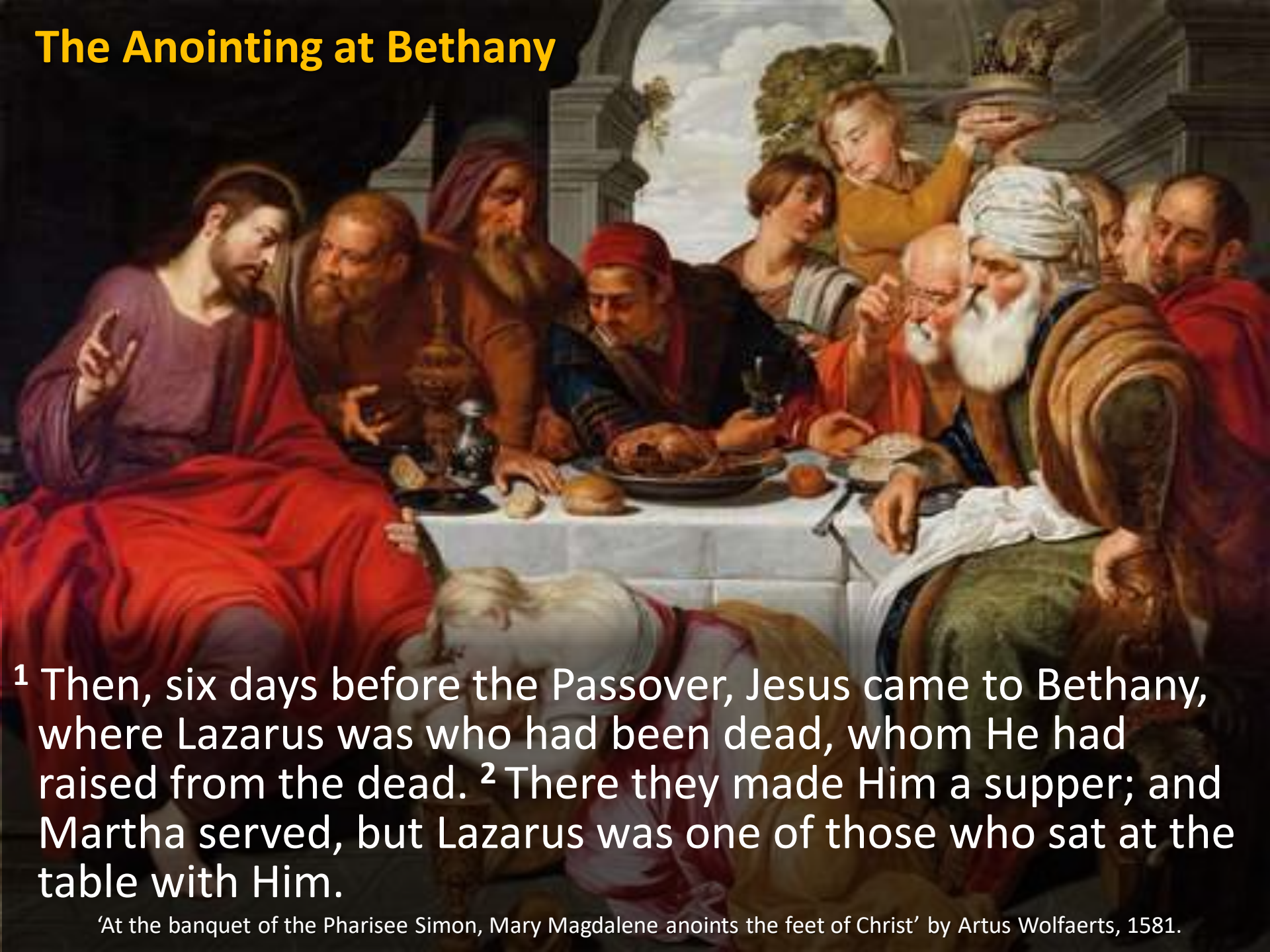
**END OF REVIEW**

THE **GOSPEL**  
OF **JOHN**

**CHAPTER 12**

**CHRIST THE CENTRE OF  
ATTRACTION**

# The Anointing at Bethany



<sup>1</sup> Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

*'At the banquet of the Pharisee Simon, Mary Magdalene anoints the feet of Christ' by Artus Wolfaerts, 1581.*



'The Conversion of Mary Magdalene' by Jacopo Tintoretto, 1546-7.





Detail of 'Conspiracy of the Jews' by James Tissot



<sup>3</sup> Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spike-nard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

‘Mary anoints Jesus with oil’  
by Daniel F. Gerhartz



<sup>4</sup> But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"

<sup>6</sup> This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

<sup>7</sup> But Jesus said, “Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.


<sup>8</sup> For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always.”



# The parable of the two debtors (Luke 7:40-50)



'Christ in the House of Simon the Pharisee' by Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1619.



**"Her sins, as many as they are,  
have been forgiven,  
and so she shows  
great love."**

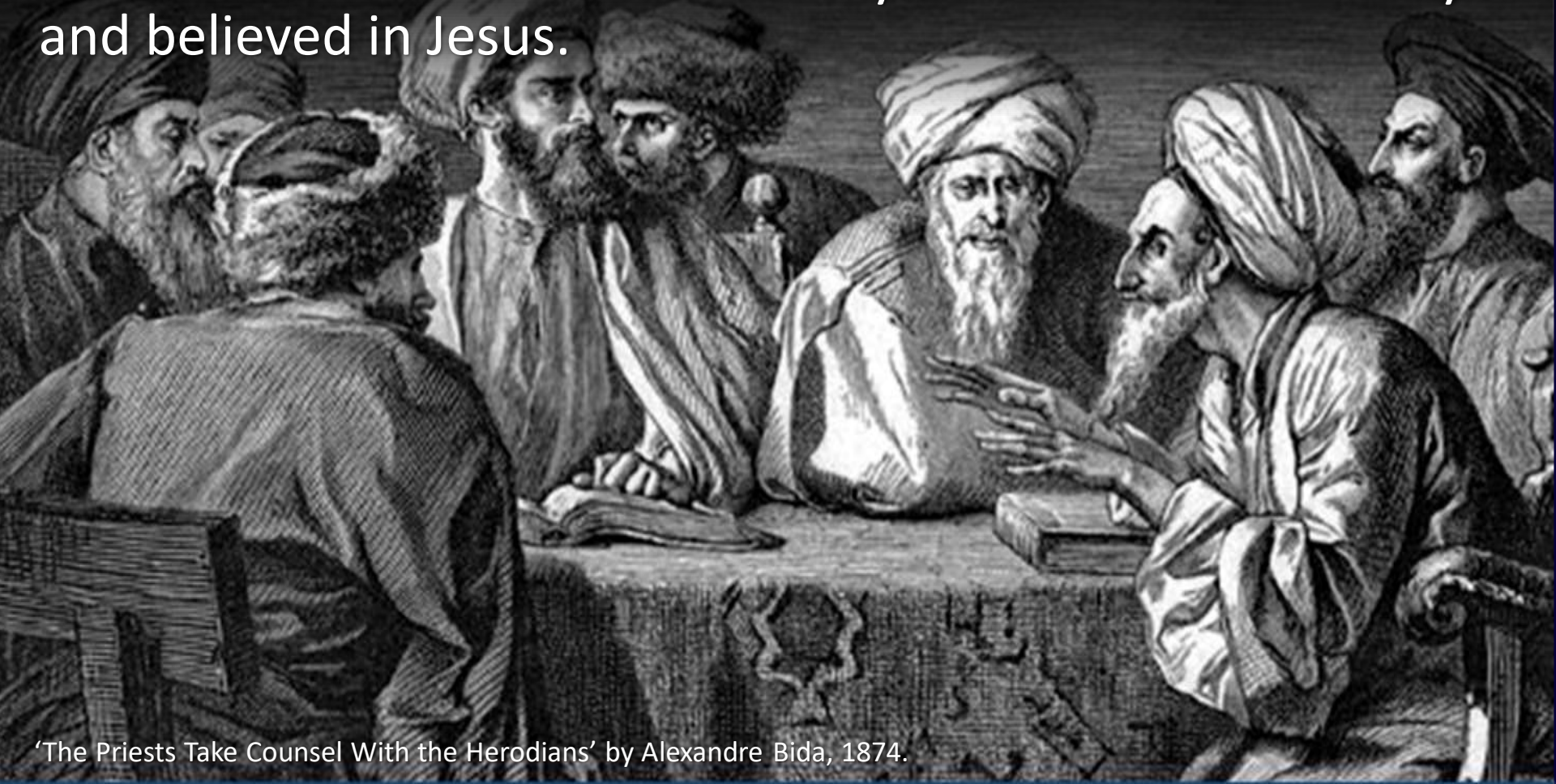
**"But whoever is forgiven little  
shows little love."**

## The Plot to Kill Lazarus

<sup>9</sup> Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

<sup>10</sup> But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

<sup>11</sup> because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.



'The Priests Take Counsel With the Herodians' by Alexandre Bida, 1874.



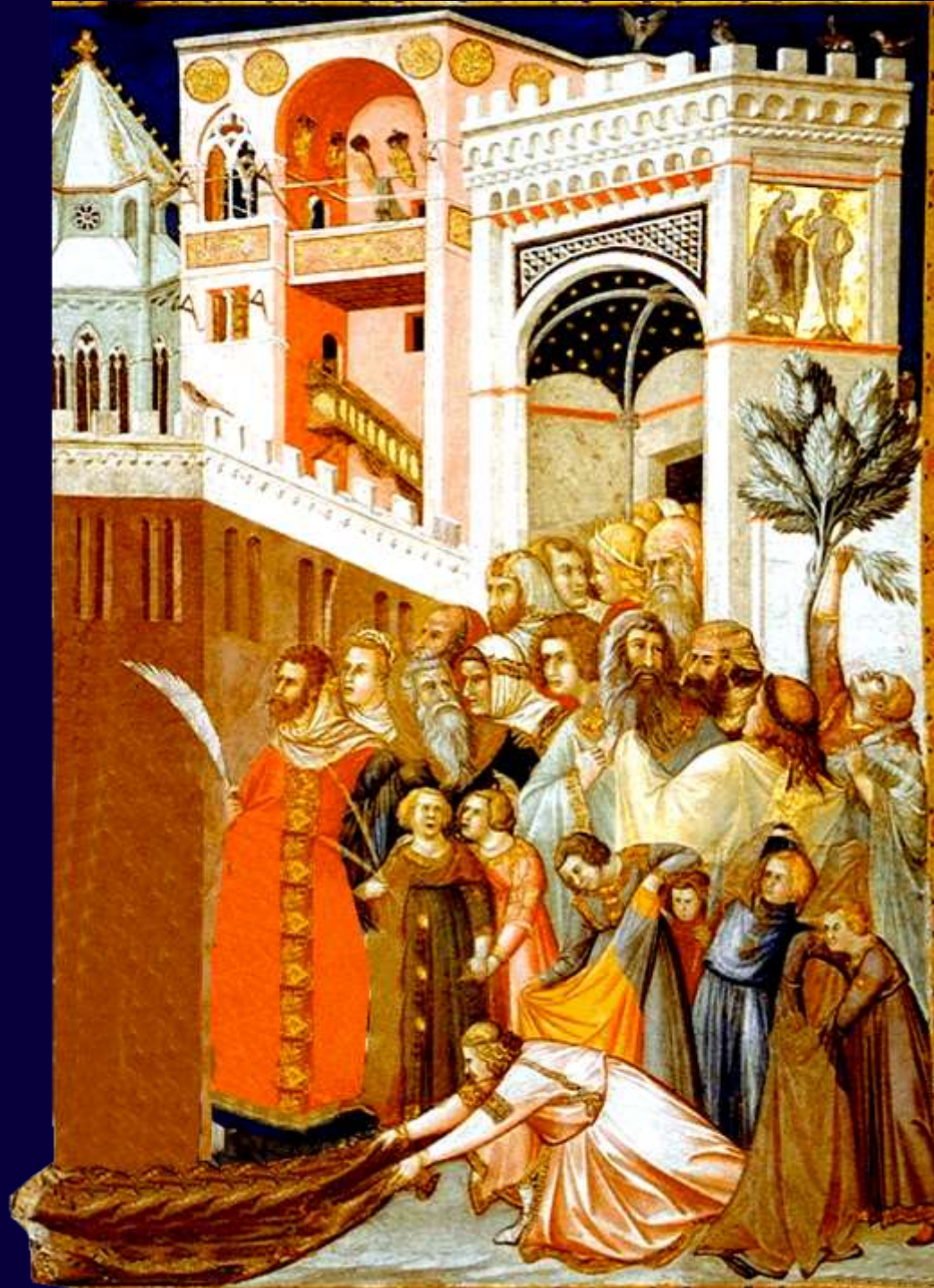
## The Triumphal Entry

<sup>12</sup> The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,  
<sup>13</sup> took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out:

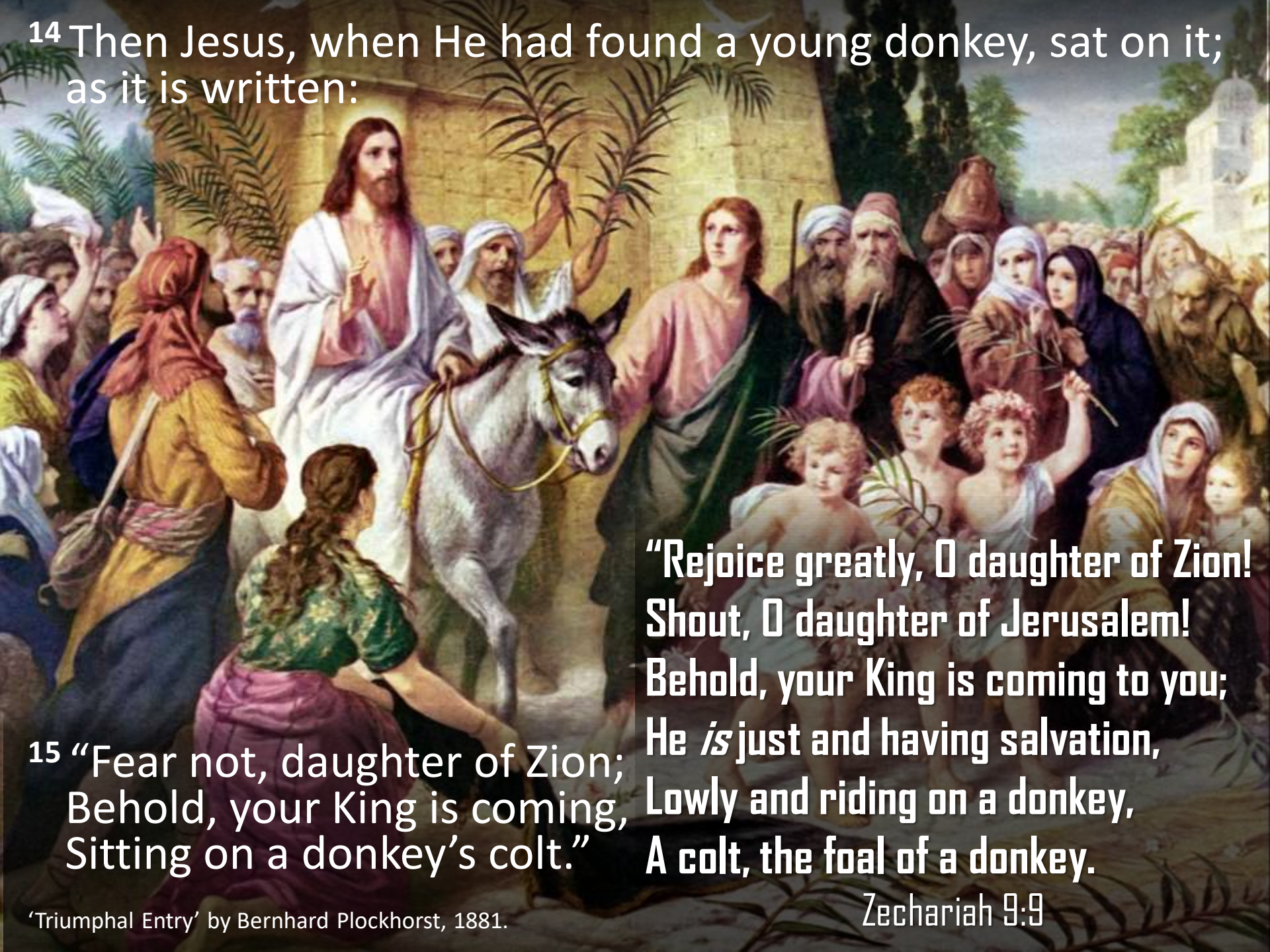
**“Hosanna!**

*‘Blessed is He  
who comes in the  
name of the LORD!’*

**“The King of Israel!”**”



**14** Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written:



**15** “Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

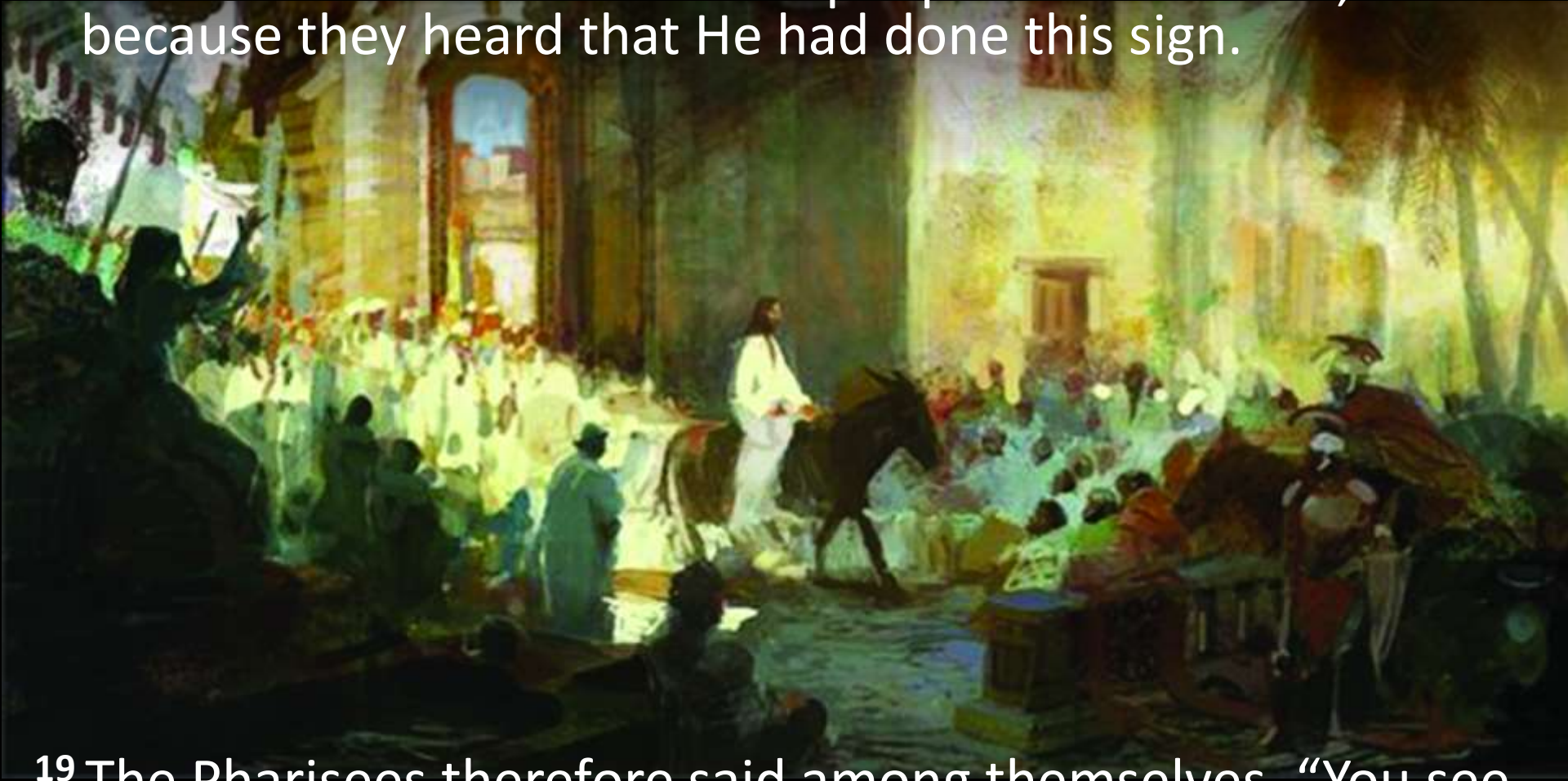
**“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.**

<sup>16</sup> His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and *that* they had done these things to Him.



'The Procession in the Streets of Jerusalem' by James Tissot

**17** Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. **18** For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.



**19** The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, “You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!”

## The Fruitful Grain of Fruit

<sup>20</sup> Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. <sup>21</sup> Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

“When the King of Edessa in Syria saw the obstinacy of the Jews in rejecting Jesus, he sent an embassy to Jesus to invite Him to come to his home promising Him a royal welcome.”

<sup>23</sup> But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.



<sup>25</sup> He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him *My* Father will honor.

Whoever **loves**  
his life **loses** it...

“Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify Your name.”



“The Resurrection” from the main altar of Valencia Cathedral, Spain.



'God the Father' by Giovanni Battista Cima da Conegliano, c. 1517.



Then a voice came from heaven, *saying*,  
“I have both glorified *it* and will glorify *it* again.”

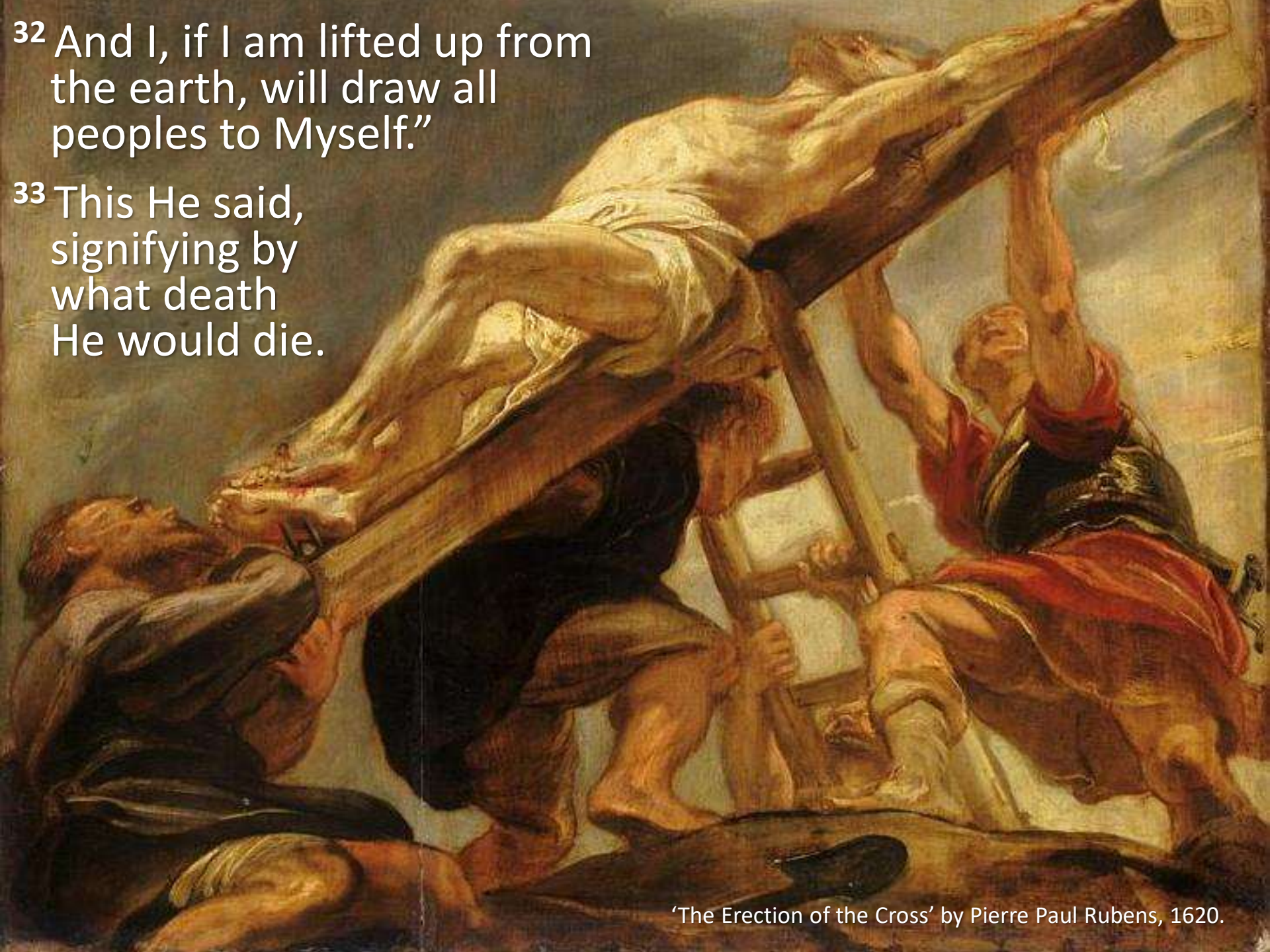
<sup>29</sup> Therefore the people who stood by and heard *it* said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.”

<sup>30</sup> Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

‘There Appeared An Angel’ by Walter Rane

<sup>32</sup> And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.”

<sup>33</sup> This He said, signifying by what death He would die.



‘The Erection of the Cross’ by Pierre Paul Rubens, 1620.

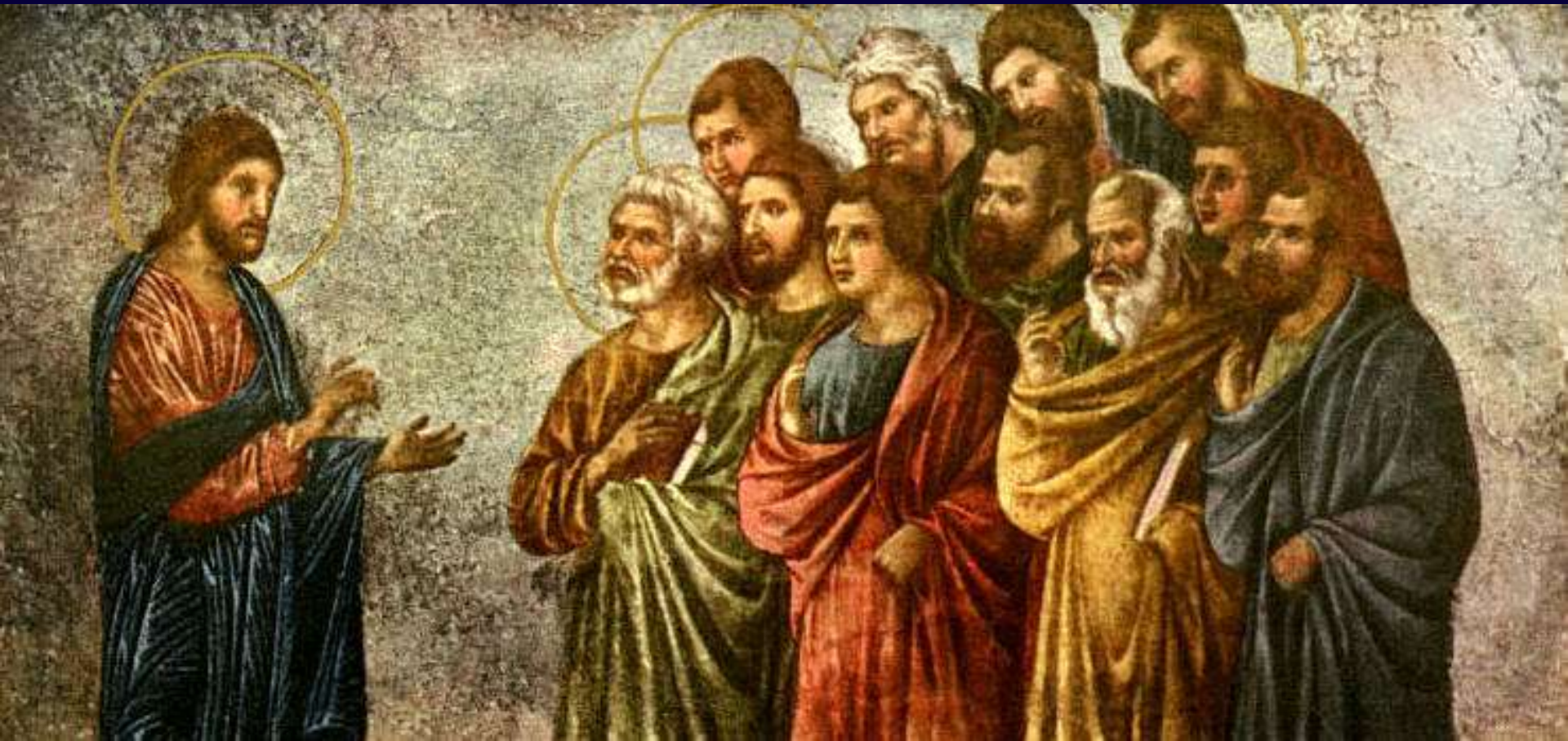
<sup>34</sup> The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how *can* You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son of Man?”



**THE SON  
OF GOD  
BECAME  
A MAN  
TO ENABLE MEN  
TO BECOME BETTER  
SONS OF GOD**

- C.S. Lewis -

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. <sup>36</sup> While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.



<sup>37</sup> But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, <sup>38</sup> that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

“Lord, who has believed our report?  
And to whom has the arm of the  
LORD been revealed?” [Isaiah 53:1]

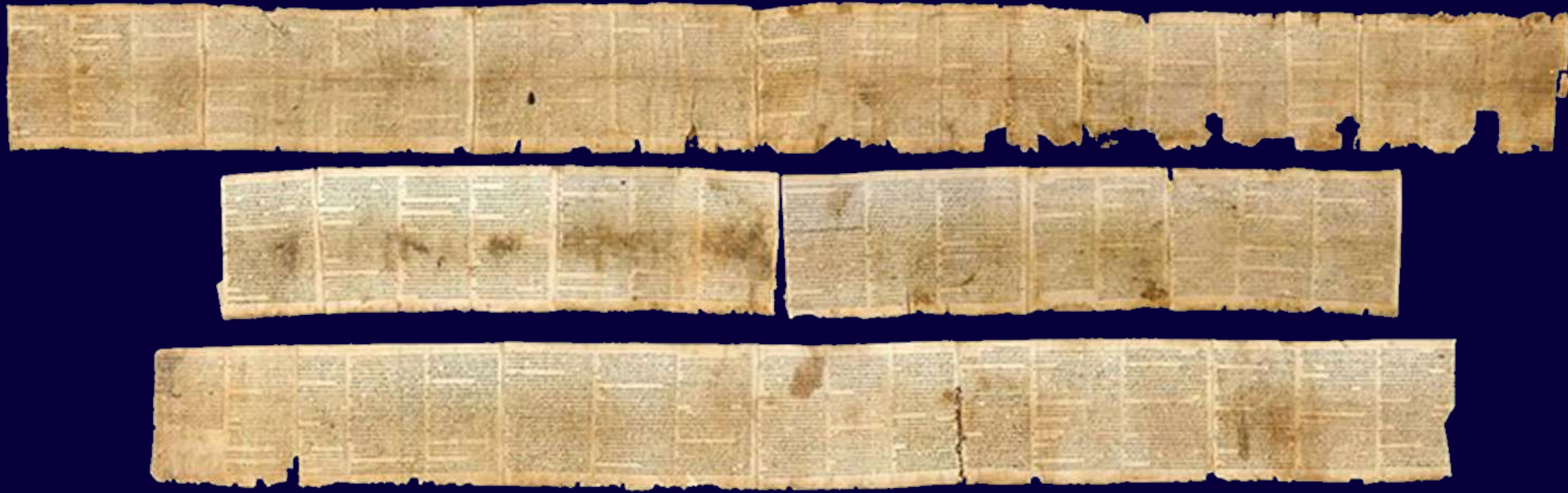
<sup>39</sup> Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

<sup>40</sup> “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with *their* eyes, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.” [Isaiah 6:10]

<sup>41</sup> These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

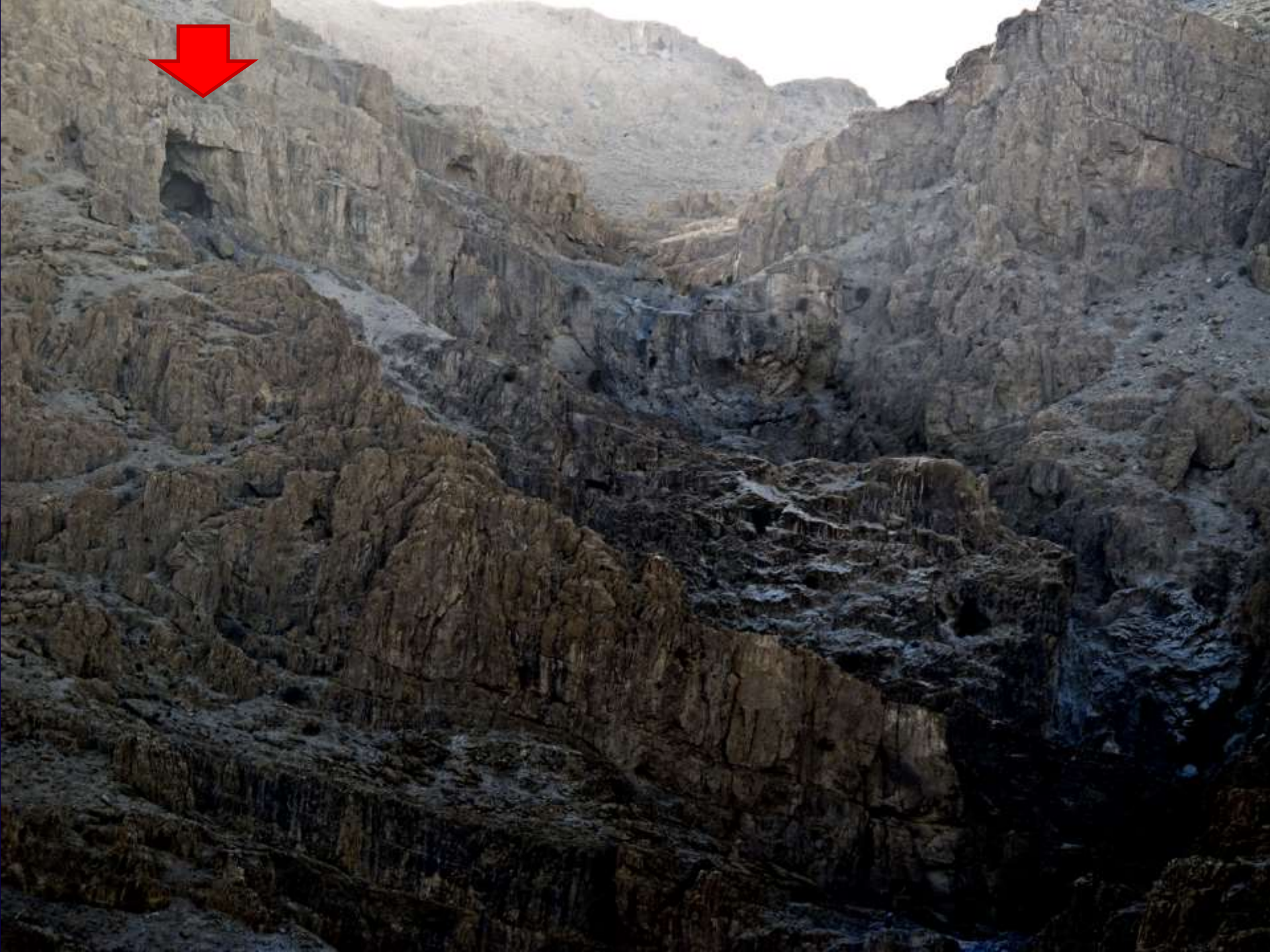


# John 12:37-43 - A Case Study in Belief



## The Great Isaiah Scroll (1QIsa<sup>a</sup>)

- Dated between 356 and 100 BC, the scroll is 1,000 years older than previously found Hebrew documents.
- One of the original seven scrolls found in 1946, there are 21 Isaiah copies among the 220 biblical Dead Sea scrolls discovered.
- It's 17 sheets of parchment are 7.24 meters long and  $\leq 27$ cm high.





# How Many Authors Wrote the Isaiah Scroll?

- ❖ Isaiah has two distinct parts. Chapters 1-39 clearly addresses the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC and Chapters 40-66 seem to address the Babylon captivity two centuries later. The latter mentions Cyrus, King of Babylon (539-530 BC), who reigned even 50 years later, decades after Isaiah died. Both parts include many references to the coming Messiah.
- ❖ For ±2,500 years, people believed Isaiah wrote both parts about 15 years apart between, say, 740 and 700 BC. Most conservative Bible scholars today believe this.
- ❖ However, many modern scholars question anything that suggests supernatural inspiration, and explain fulfilled prophecy by re-dating the passages to after the events occurred. Isaiah poses a problem. Their solution is to hypothesize that multiple authors wrote Isaiah.
  - ❖ Deutero-Isaiah. Textual critics use stylistic differences to say that Isaiah wrote Chapters 1-39, and others wrote Chaps 40-66 later.
  - ❖ Other modern theories suggest three or four or more authors.

<sup>37</sup> But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, <sup>38</sup> that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

“Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?” [Isaiah 53:1]

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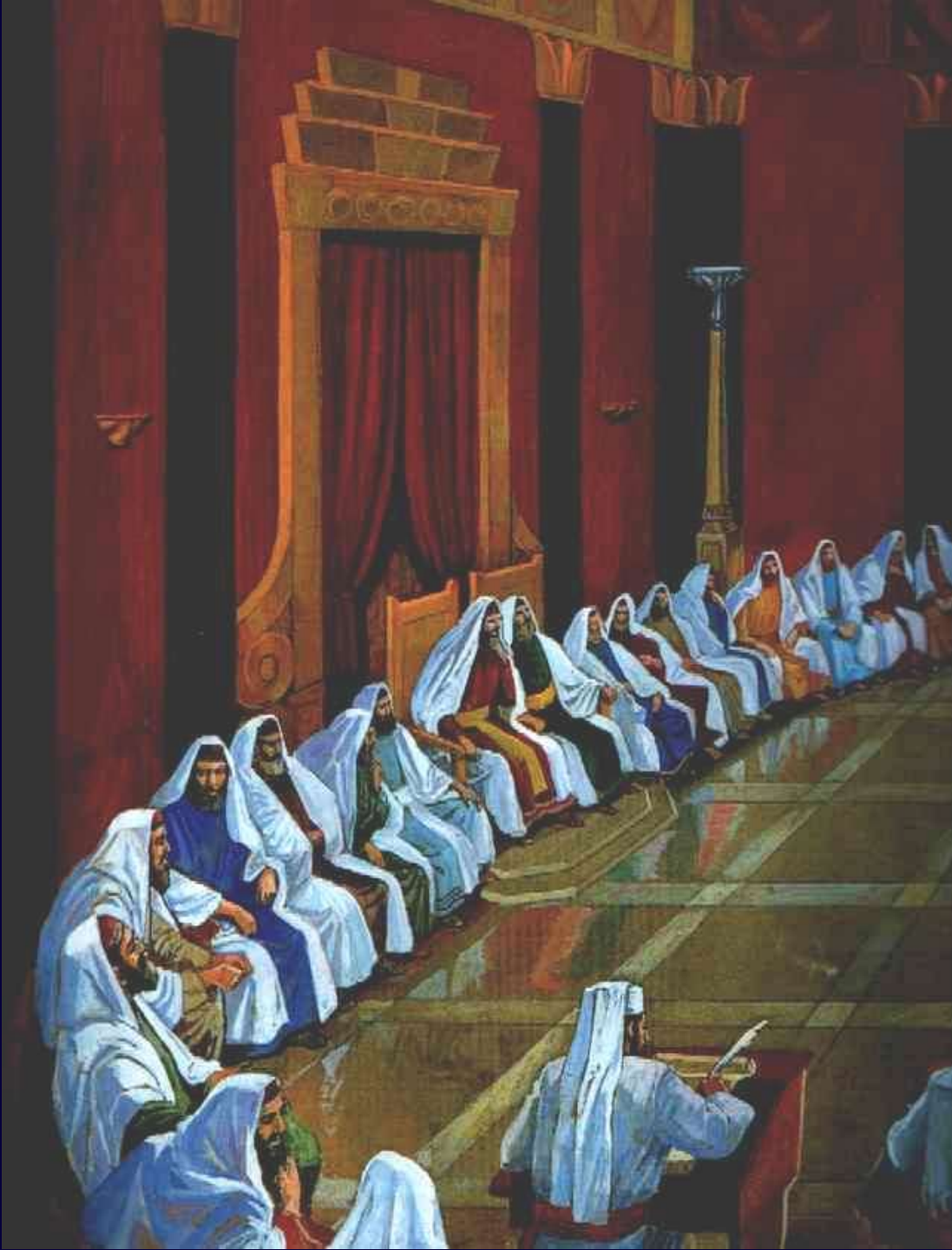
<sup>40</sup> “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with *their* eyes, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.” [Isaiah 6:10]

<sup>41</sup> These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.



## Walk in the Light

<sup>42</sup> Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup> for **they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.**

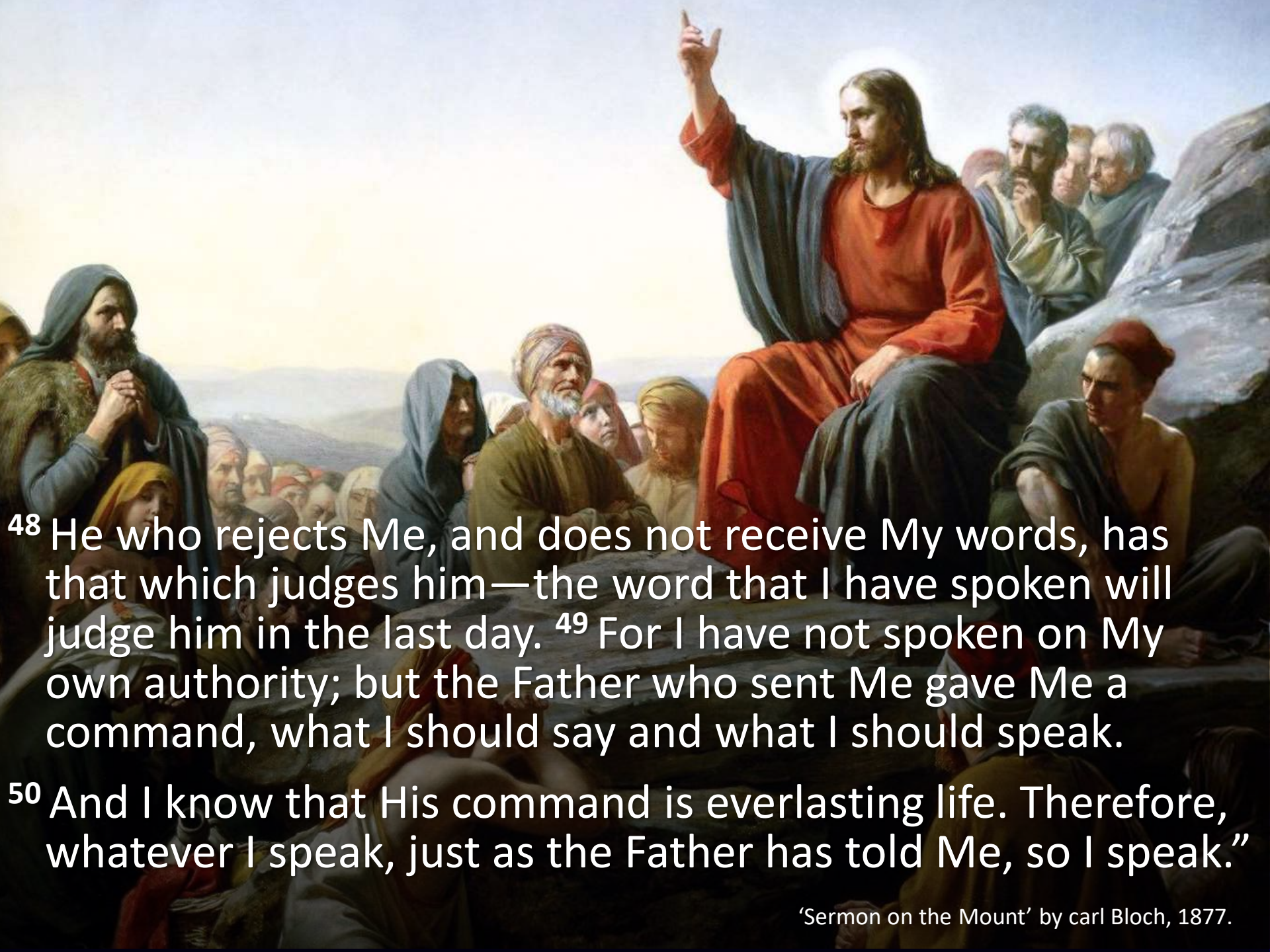


44 Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, but in Him who sent Me. 45 And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. 46 I have come *as* a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

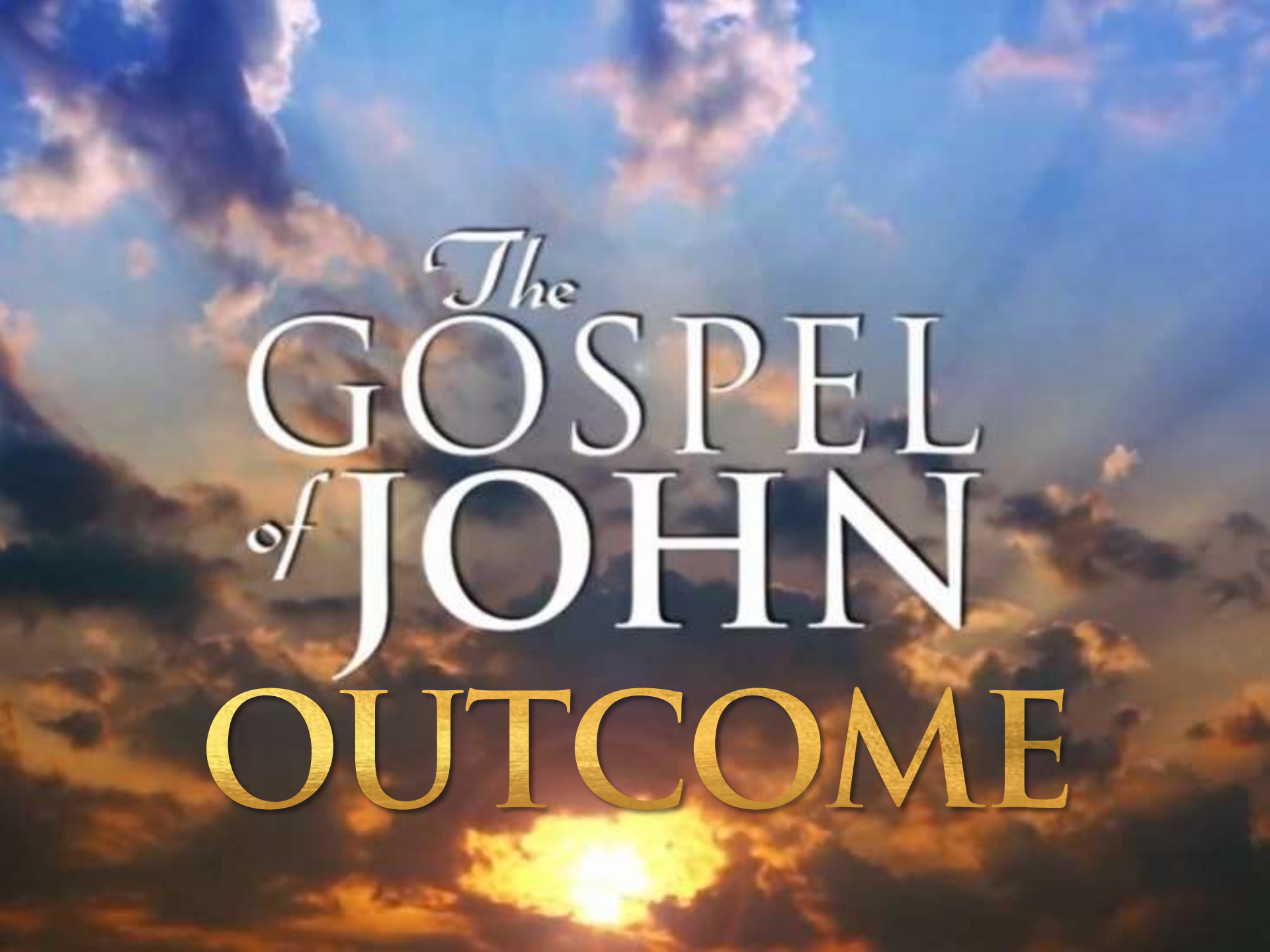


‘In the Wilderness’ by Ron DiCianni.



<sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. <sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.

<sup>50</sup> And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”



*The*  
GOSPEL  
*of* JOHN  
OUTCOME