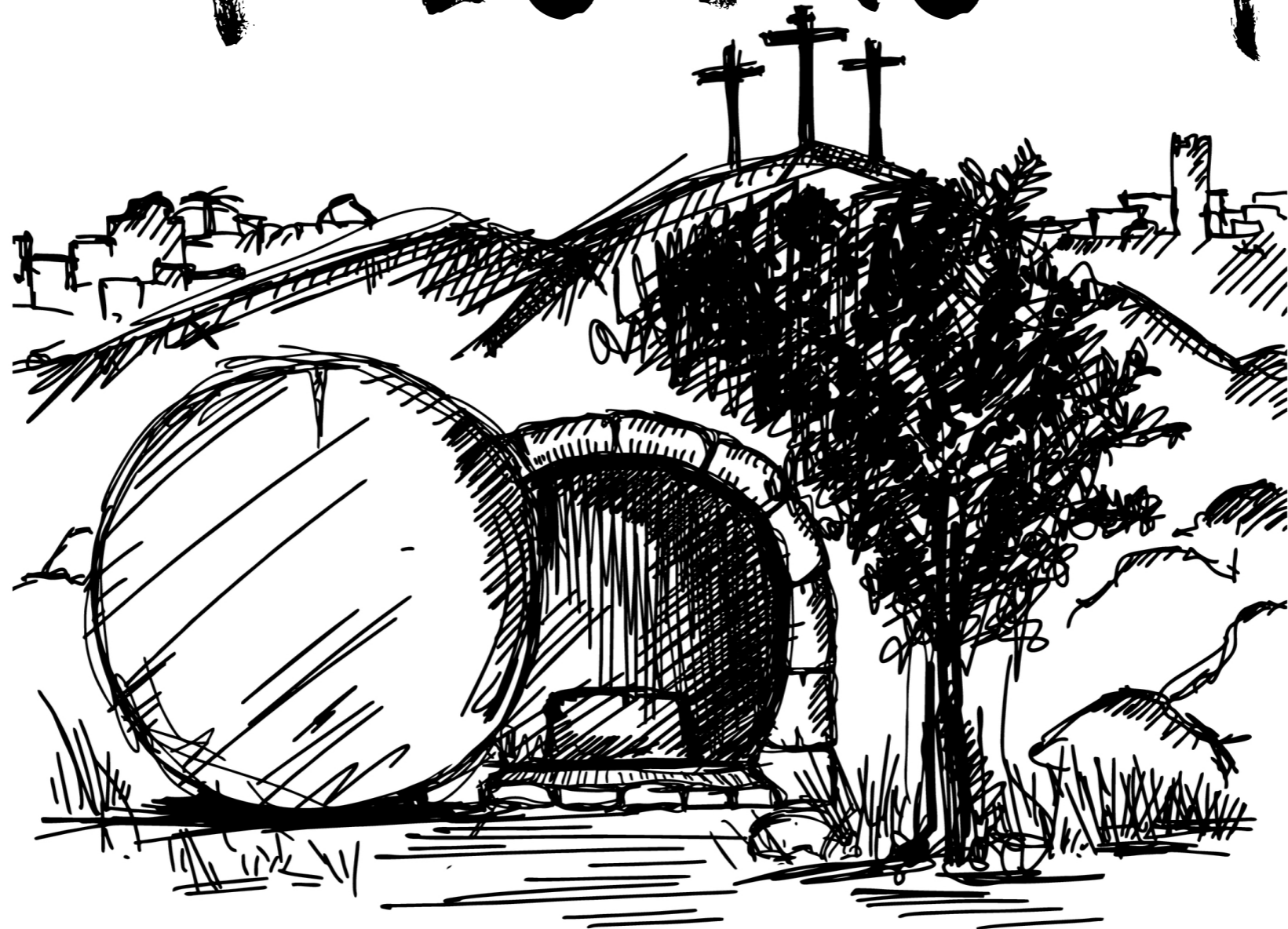


He Is Risen



The Essential Facts Every Person Should Know

— 1 Corinthians 15.1-9 —



A Five Questions Survey
About What People Believe
About The Big Questions of Life

1

Do you consider
yourself to be a
spiritual person?

2

What do you believe
is humanity's
biggest problem?

3

What do you
believe happens
to us when we die?

4

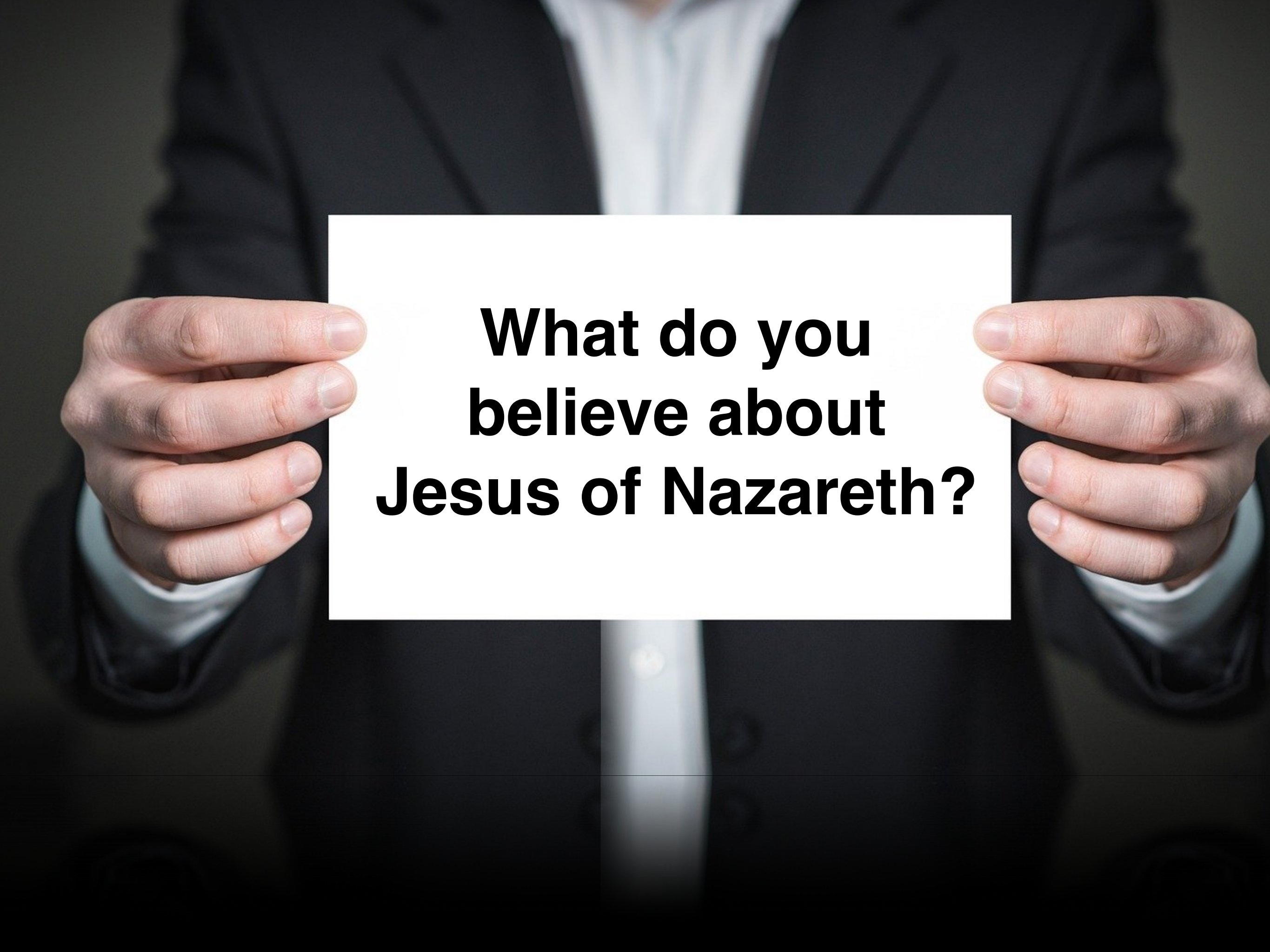
Who in your
opinion was Jesus
of Nazareth?

5

If you could ask
God one question,
what would it be?

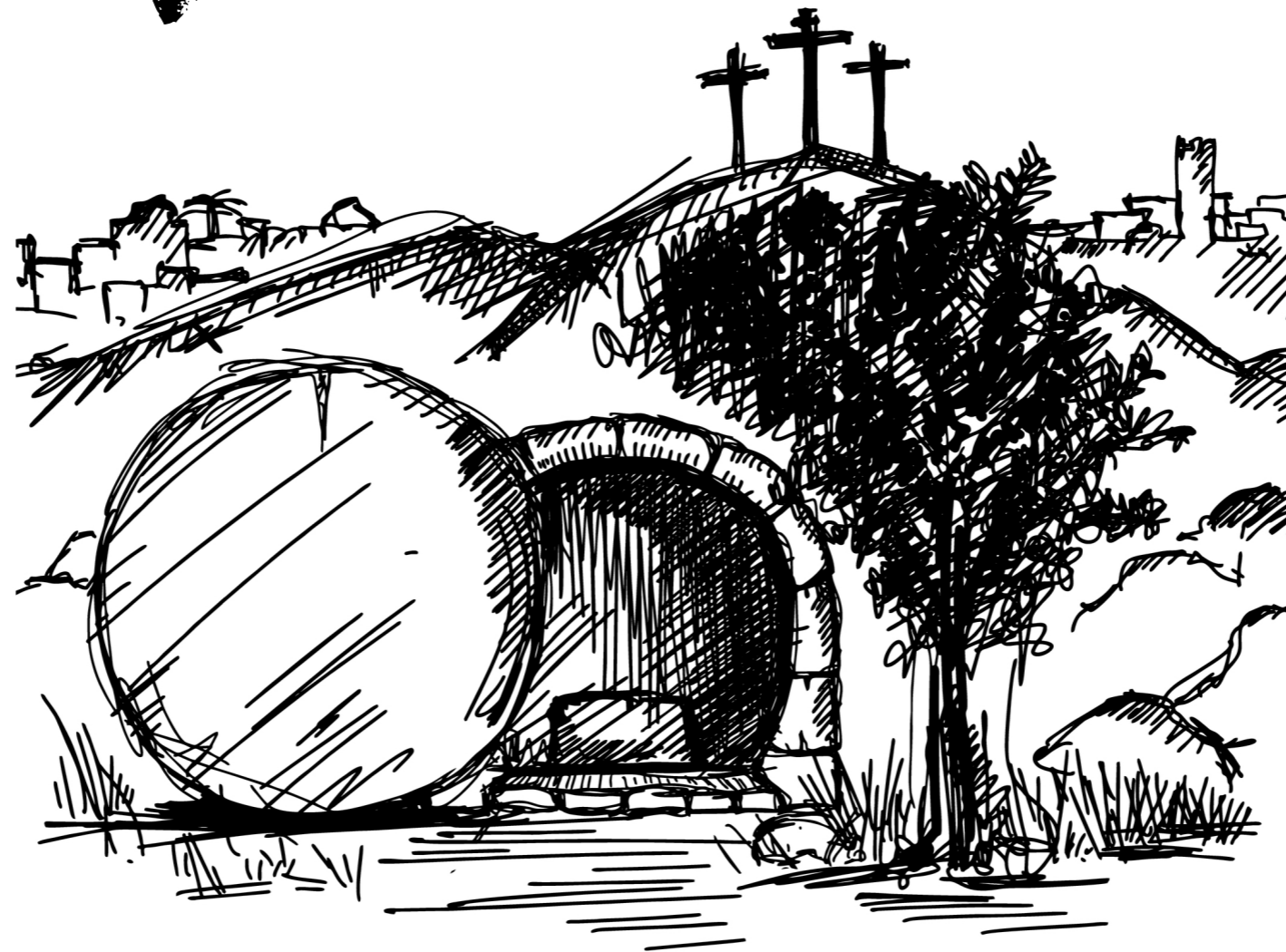


**What do I believe
happens to humans
when we die?**

A person wearing a dark suit and a light-colored shirt is holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign contains the text "What do you believe about Jesus of Nazareth?" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background is dark and out of focus.

**What do you
believe about
Jesus of Nazareth?**

He Is Risen



**The Essential Facts Every Person Should Know
And Why It Matters
— 1 Corinthians 15.1-9 —**

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

**1 Now I would remind you, brothers,
of the gospel I preached to you, which
you received, in which you stand
2 and by which you are being saved,
if you hold fast to the word I preach-
ed to you—unless you believed in
vain..**

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

1 Now I would remind you, brothers,
of the gospel **I preached to you**, which
you received, in which you stand
2 and by which you are being saved,
if you hold fast to the word **I preach-
ed to you**—unless you believed in
vain..

The Apostle Paul

A former persecutor of Jesus' people

Presided over the execution of the 1st Christian

Encountered the resurrected Jesus

Became Jesus' ambassador to the Empire

**He who used to persecute us
is now preaching the faith
he once tried to destroy.**

— Galatians 1:23 —

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

1 Now I would remind you, brothers,
of **the gospel I preached to you**, which
you received, in which you stand

“the gospel I gospeled to you”

“the good news I good newsed to you”

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

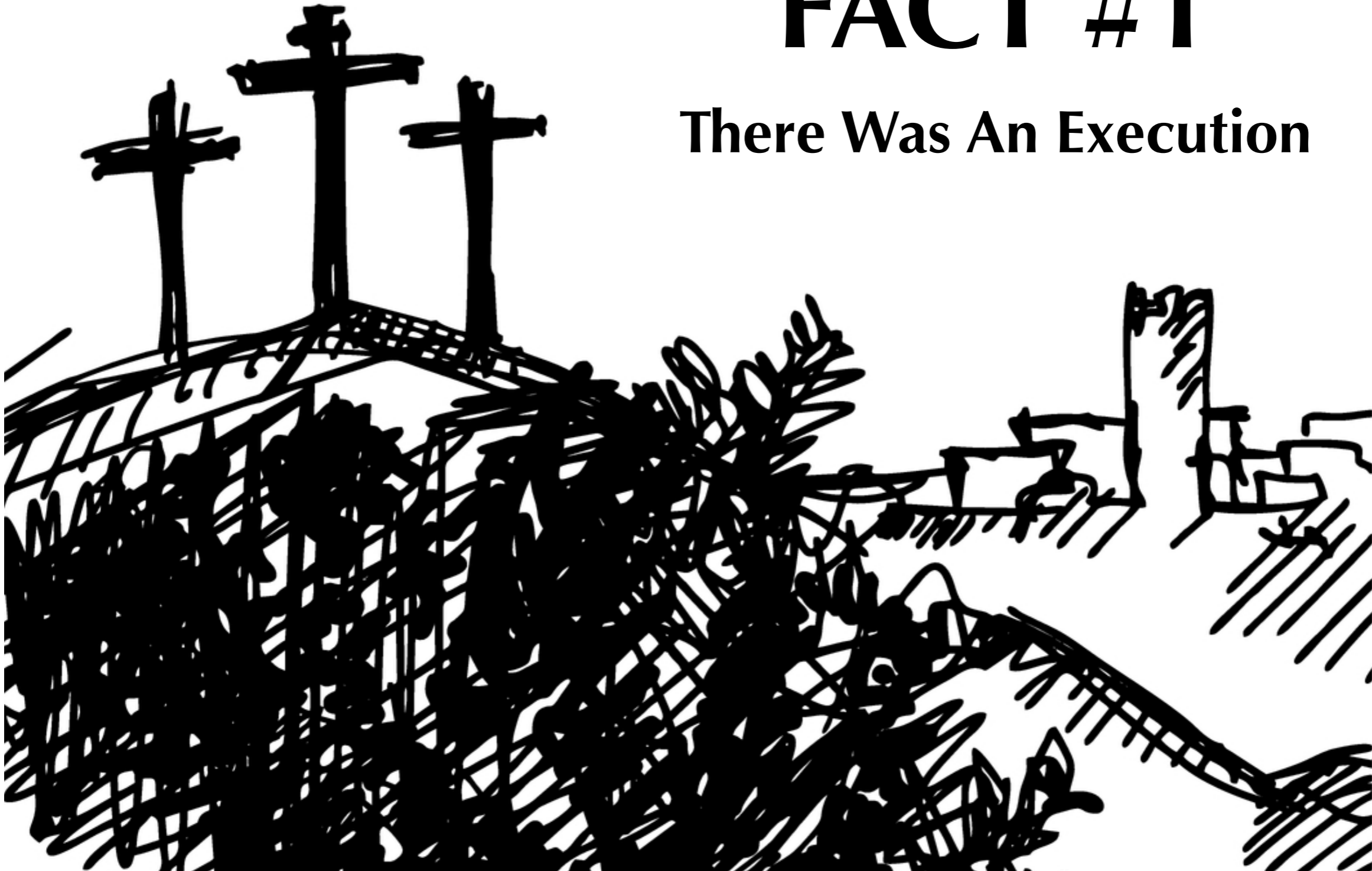
**1 Now I would remind you, brothers,
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you received, in which you stand
2 and by which you are being saved,
if you hold fast to the word I preach-
ed to you—unless you believed in
vain.**

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4 that he was buried,**

FACT #1

There Was An Execution



After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.



Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him.



But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.



**For these things took place that the
Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his
bones will be broken.” And again another
Scripture says, “They will look on him
whom they have pierced.”**

— The Gospel of John 19:31-37 —



That he was crucified is as sure as anything historical can ever be. For if no follower of Jesus had written anything for one hundred years after his crucifixion, we would still know about him from two authors not among his supporters. Their names are Flavius Josephus and Cornelius Tacitus.

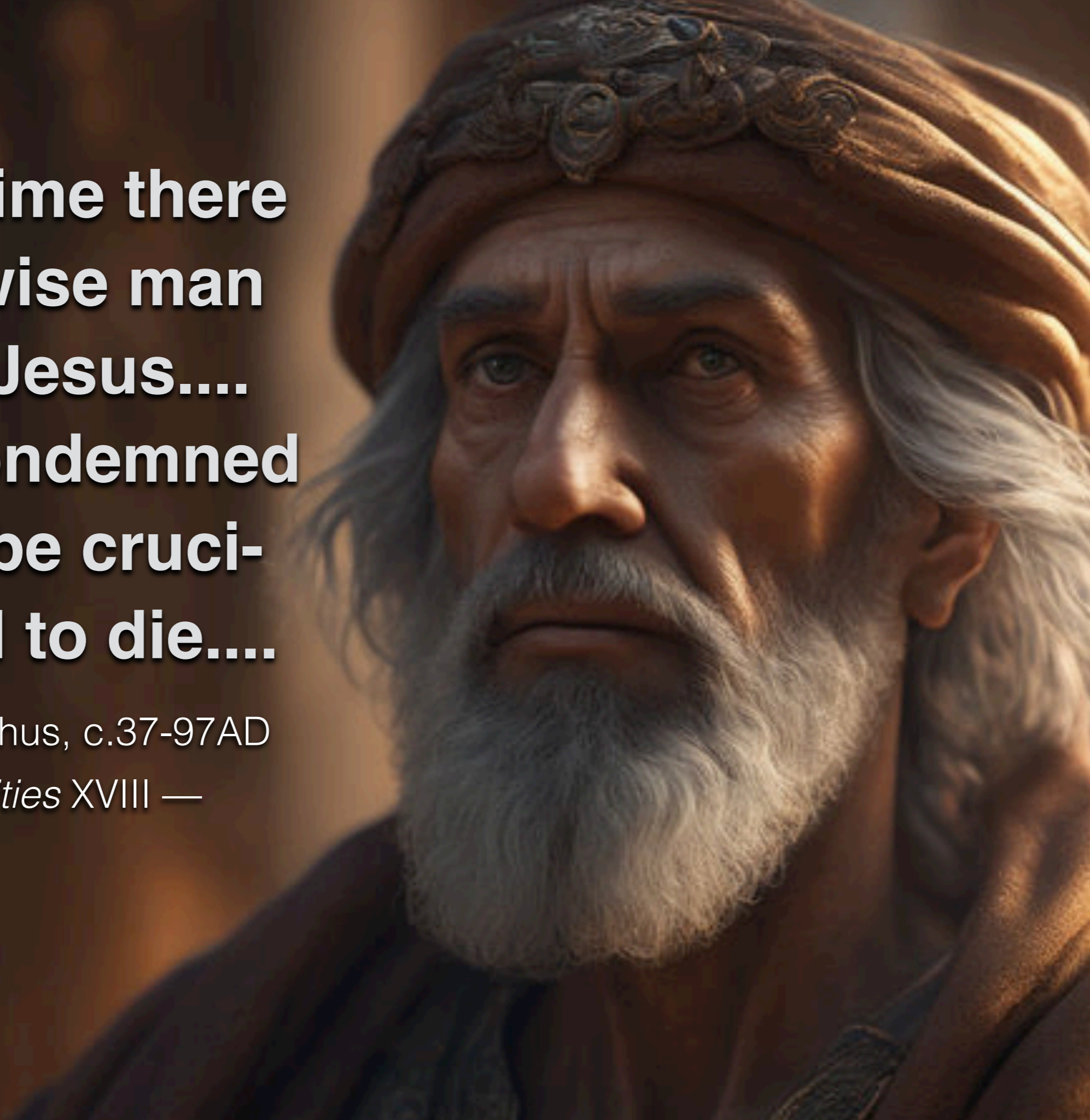
John Dominic Crossan

DePaul University

**At this time there
was a wise man
called Jesus....
Pilate condemned
him to be cruci-
fied and to die....**

Flavius Josephus, c.37-97AD

— *Antiquities XVIII* —





**Christus...suffered
the extreme penalty
during the reign of
Tiberius at the
hands of one of our
procurators, Pontius
Pilatus**

Cornelius Tacitus c. 55-120AD
"The Annals of Imperial Rome"

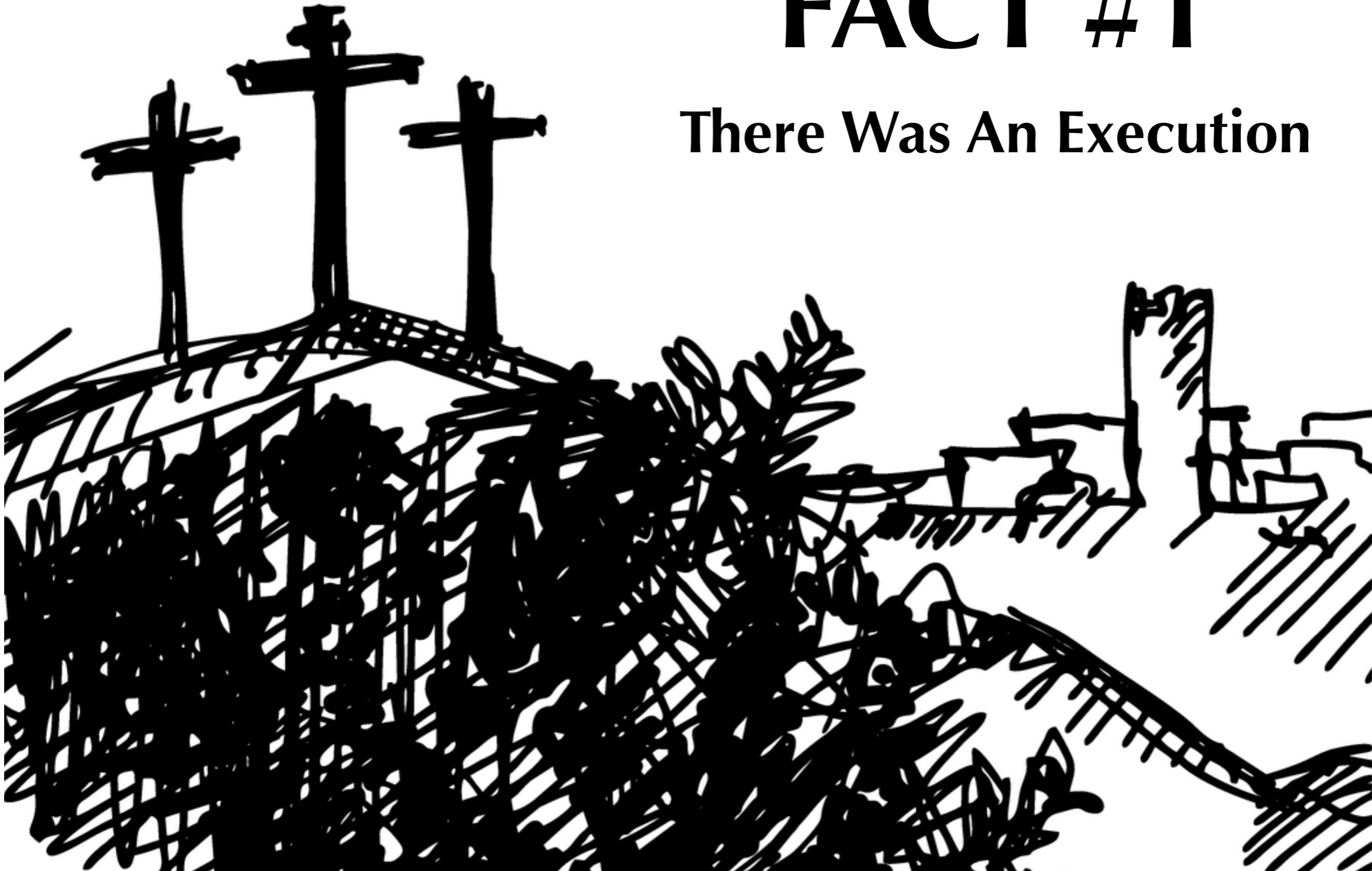
**One of the most
certain facts of
history is that
Jesus was crucified
on orders of the
Roman prefect of
Judea, Pontius
Pilate.**

Professor Bart Ehrman
Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



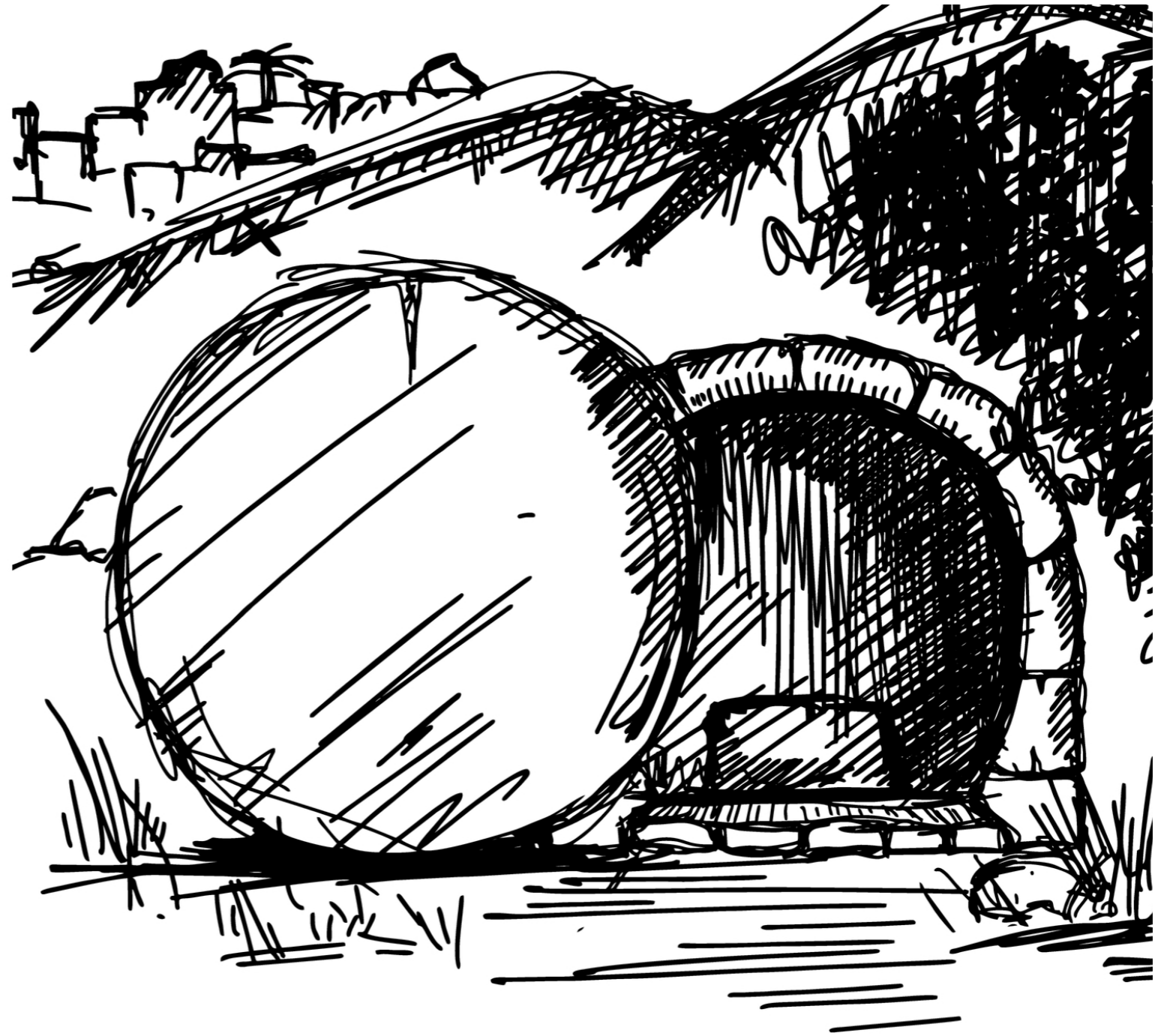
FACT #1

There Was An Execution



FACT #2

**There Was An
Empty Tomb**



1 Corinthians 15:1-9

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures....,



Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God.

— Luke the Evangelist —
The Gospel of Luke 23:50-56



This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and

— Luke the Evangelist —
The Gospel of Luke 23:50-56



the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

— Luke the Evangelist —
The Gospel of Luke 23:50-56

Joseph of Arimathea

A Member of the Jewish Sanhedrin

“...who had not consented to their decision to crucify Jesus” (Luke 23:51).

All four Gospels record that he requested the body of Jesus & buried him in his own tomb.

The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.



But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel.



And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”



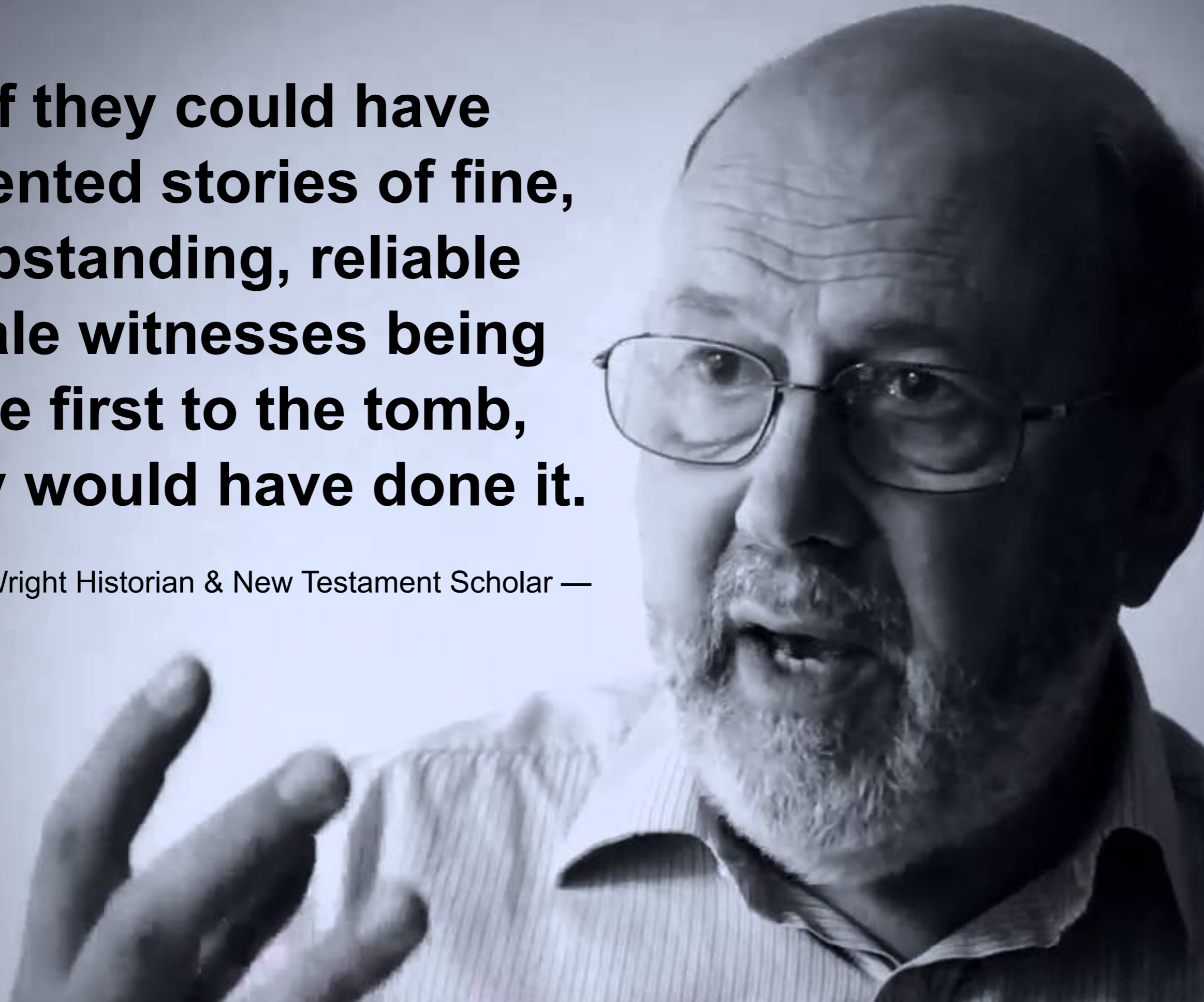
And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

— The Gospel of Luke 23:65-24:11



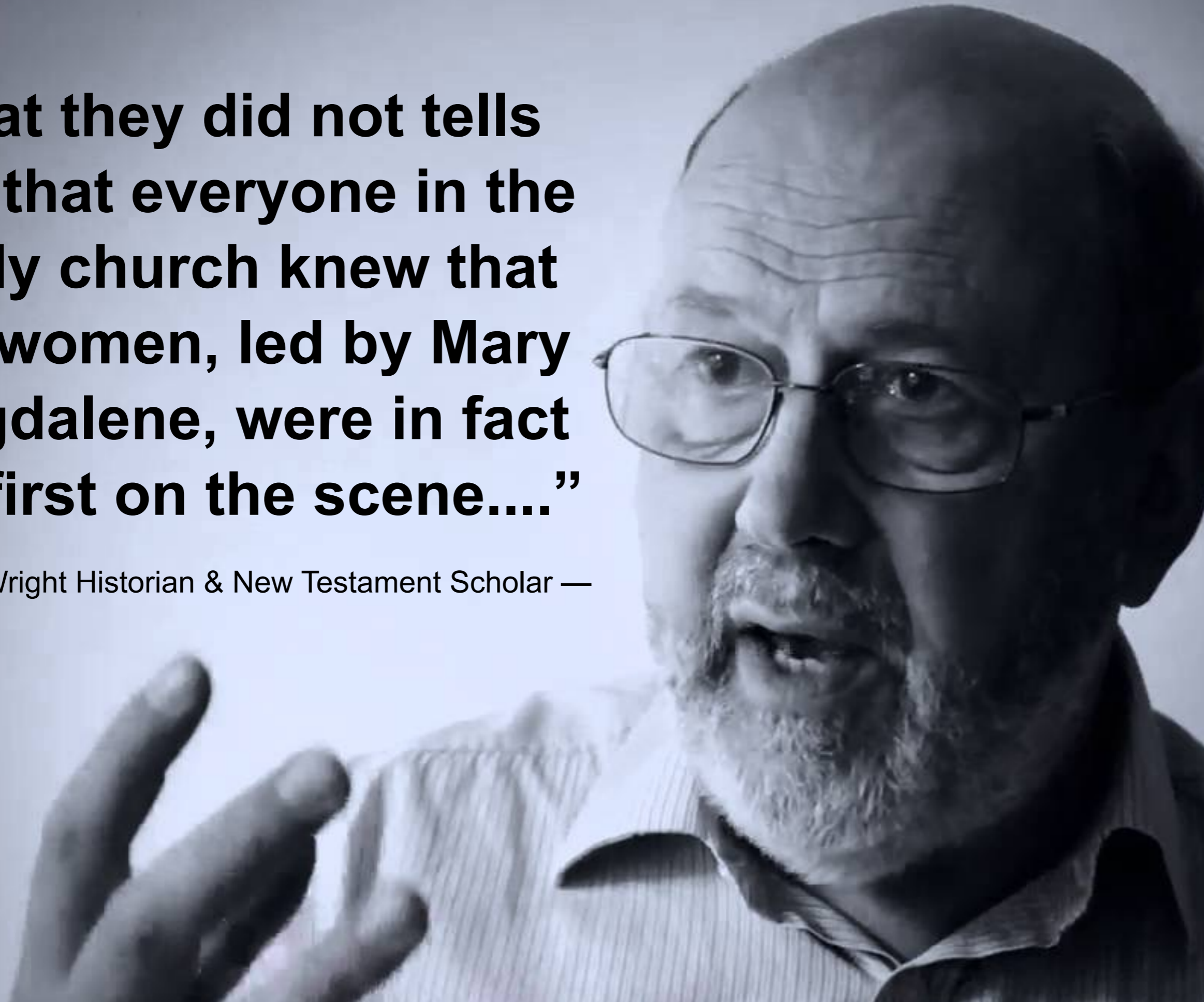
**If they could have
invented stories of fine,
upstanding, reliable
male witnesses being
the first to the tomb,
they would have done it.**

— N.T. Wright Historian & New Testament Scholar —



That they did not tells us...that everyone in the early church knew that the women, led by Mary Magdalene, were in fact the first on the scene....”

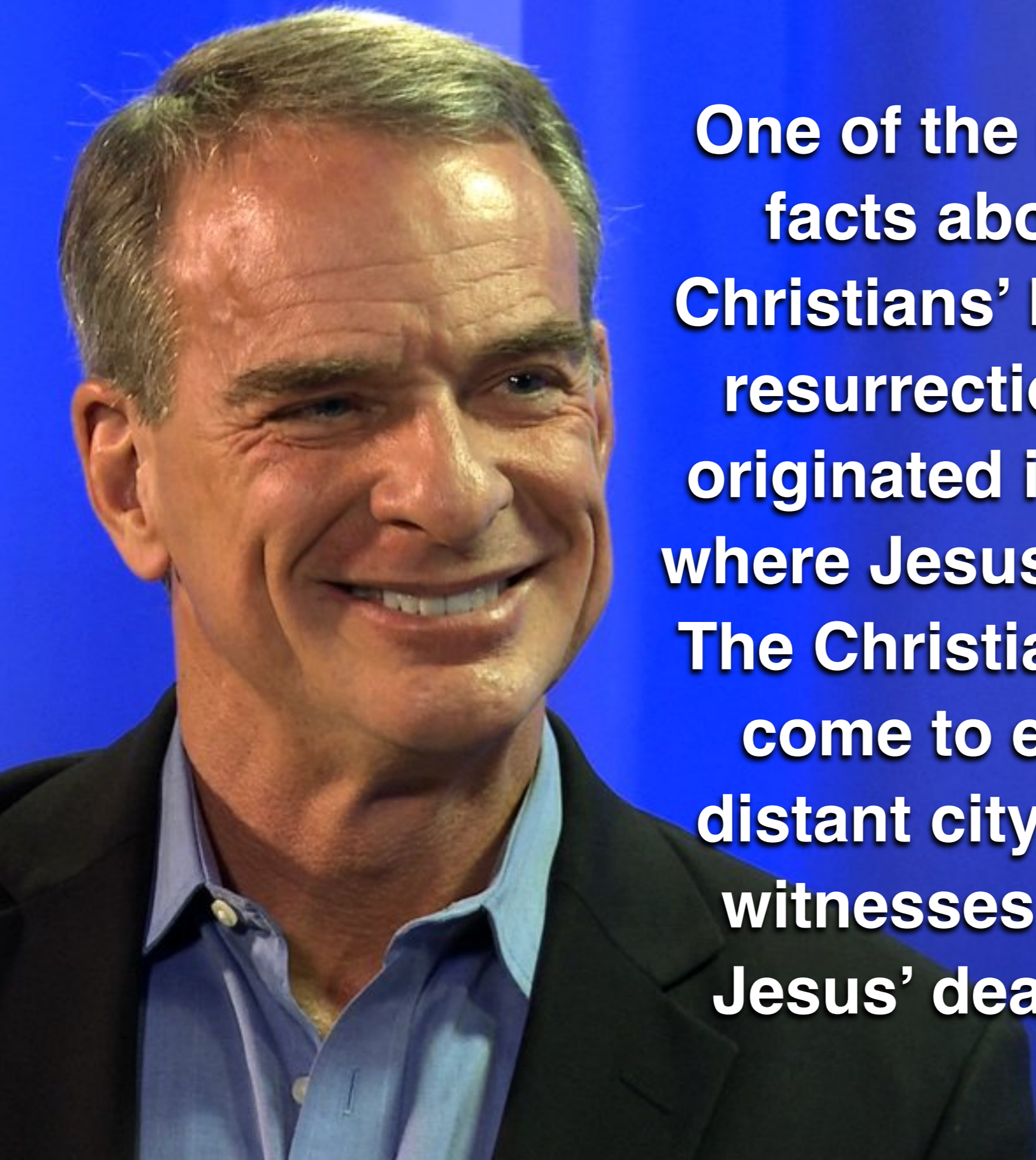
— N.T. Wright Historian & New Testament Scholar —



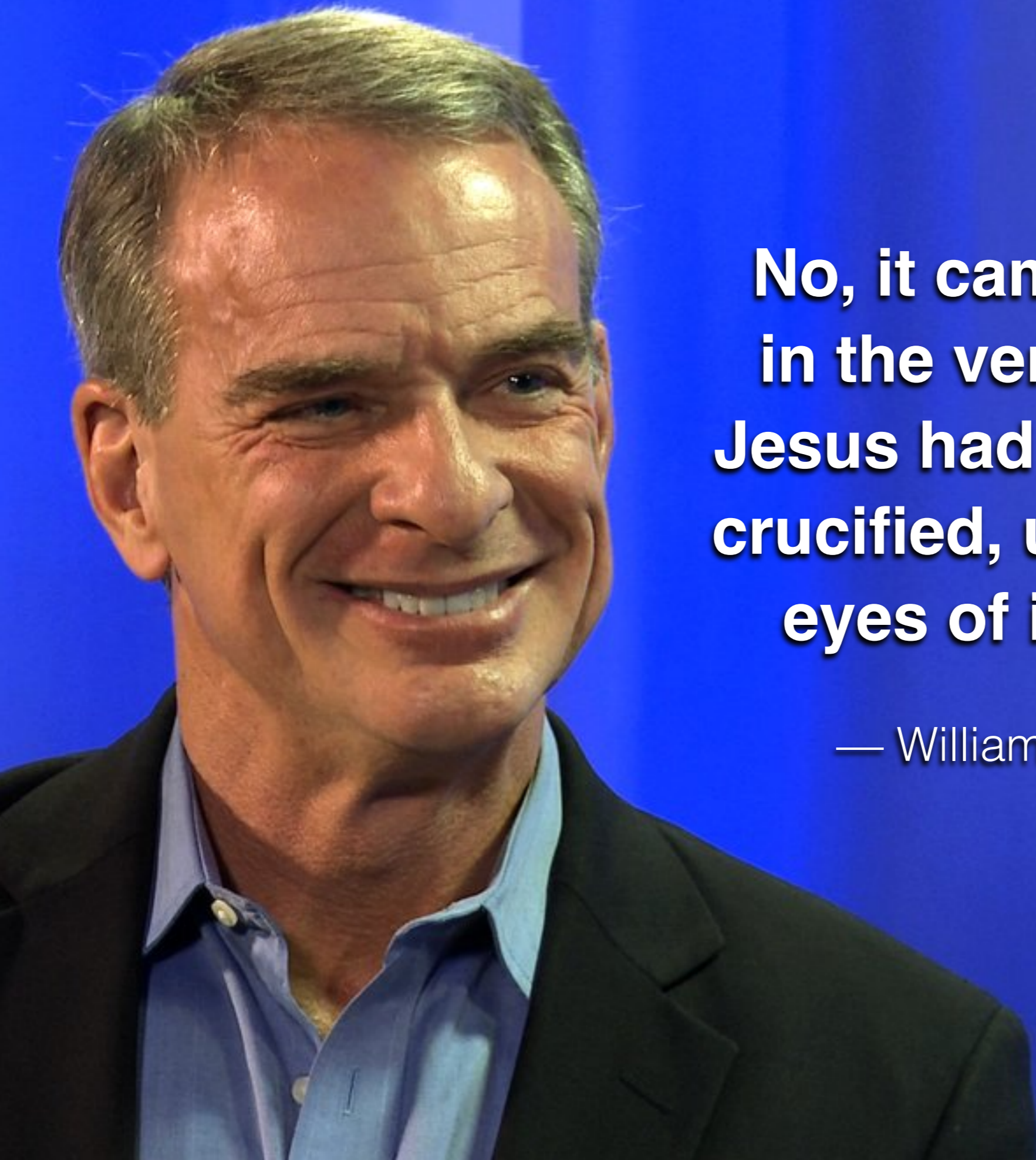
FACT #3

There Were Eyewitnesses





One of the most amazing facts about the early Christians' belief in Jesus' resurrection was that it originated in the very city where Jesus was crucified. The Christian faith did not come to exist in some distant city, far from eyewitnesses who knew of Jesus' death and burial.



**No, it came into being
in the very city where
Jesus had been publicly
crucified, under the very
eyes of its enemies.**

— William Lane Craig —

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

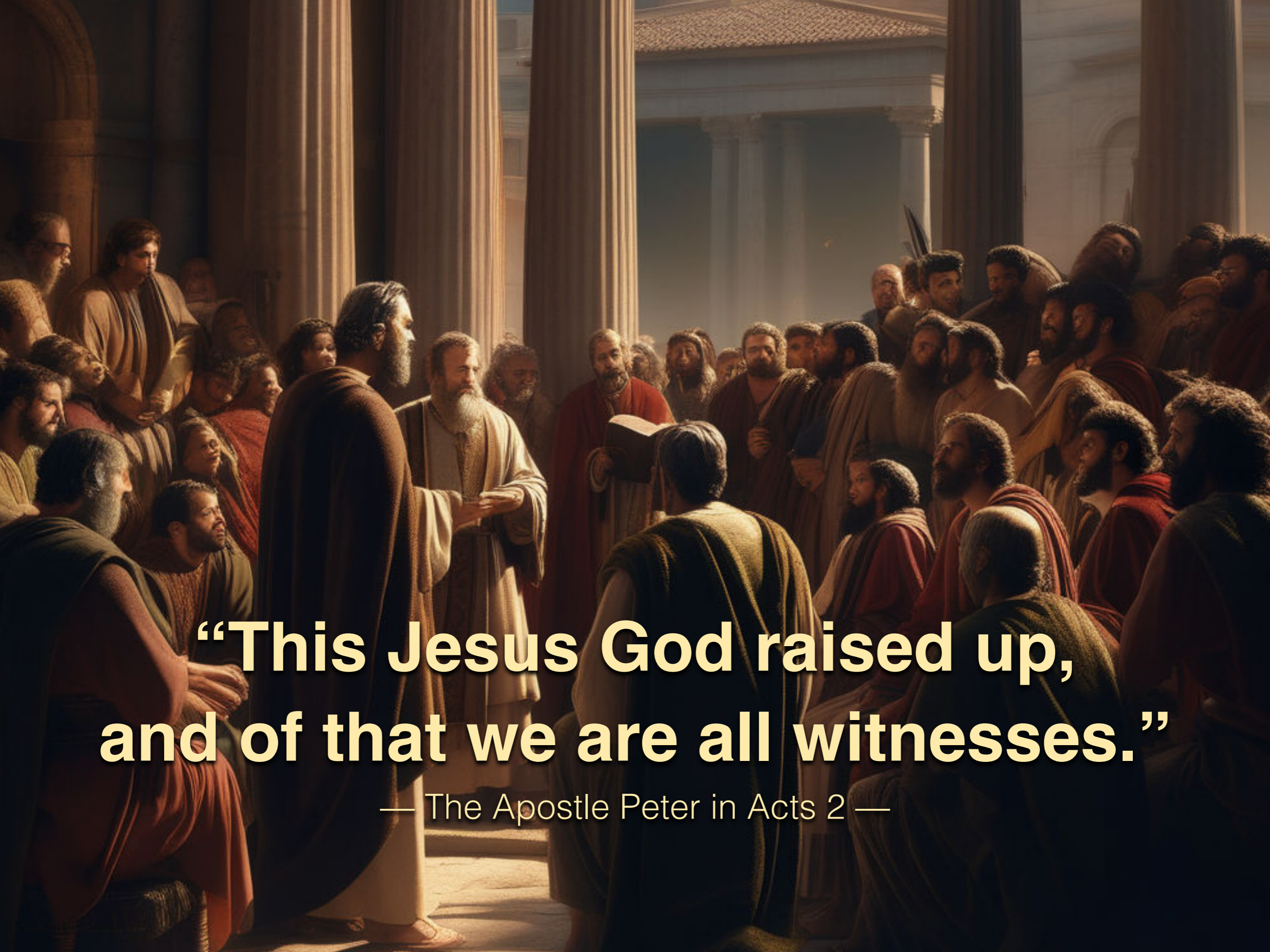
3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to **more than five hundred brothers at one time,** most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to **James,** then to **all the apostles.** 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared

1 Corinthians 15:1-9

also to **me.** 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God.



**“This Jesus God raised up,
and of that we are all witnesses.”**

— The Apostle Peter in Acts 2 —

**For we did not follow cleverly
devised myths when we made
known to you the power and
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,
but we were eyewitnesses....**

— The Apostle Peter in 2 Peter 2:16 —

“...he appeared to over five hundred people at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.”



“...then he appeared to James.”

James did not follow Jesus during his ministry,
thinking his brother was out of his mind.

James became the leader of the first church
in Jerusalem which was persecuted intensely.

**For I am not ashamed of the Gospel
because it is the power of God for
salvation for everyone who believes....**

— Romans 1:16 —

Paul before King Agrippa



“Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead...?”

Paul before King Agrippa



“...I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass:

Paul before King Agrippa



“that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

Paul before King Agrippa



And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.”

Paul before King Agrippa



But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly.

Paul before King Agrippa



“For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.”

Paul before King Agrippa



And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?”

Paul before King Agrippa



And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.”

It may be taken as historically certain that Peter and the disciples had experiences after Jesus' death in which Jesus appeared to them as the risen Christ.

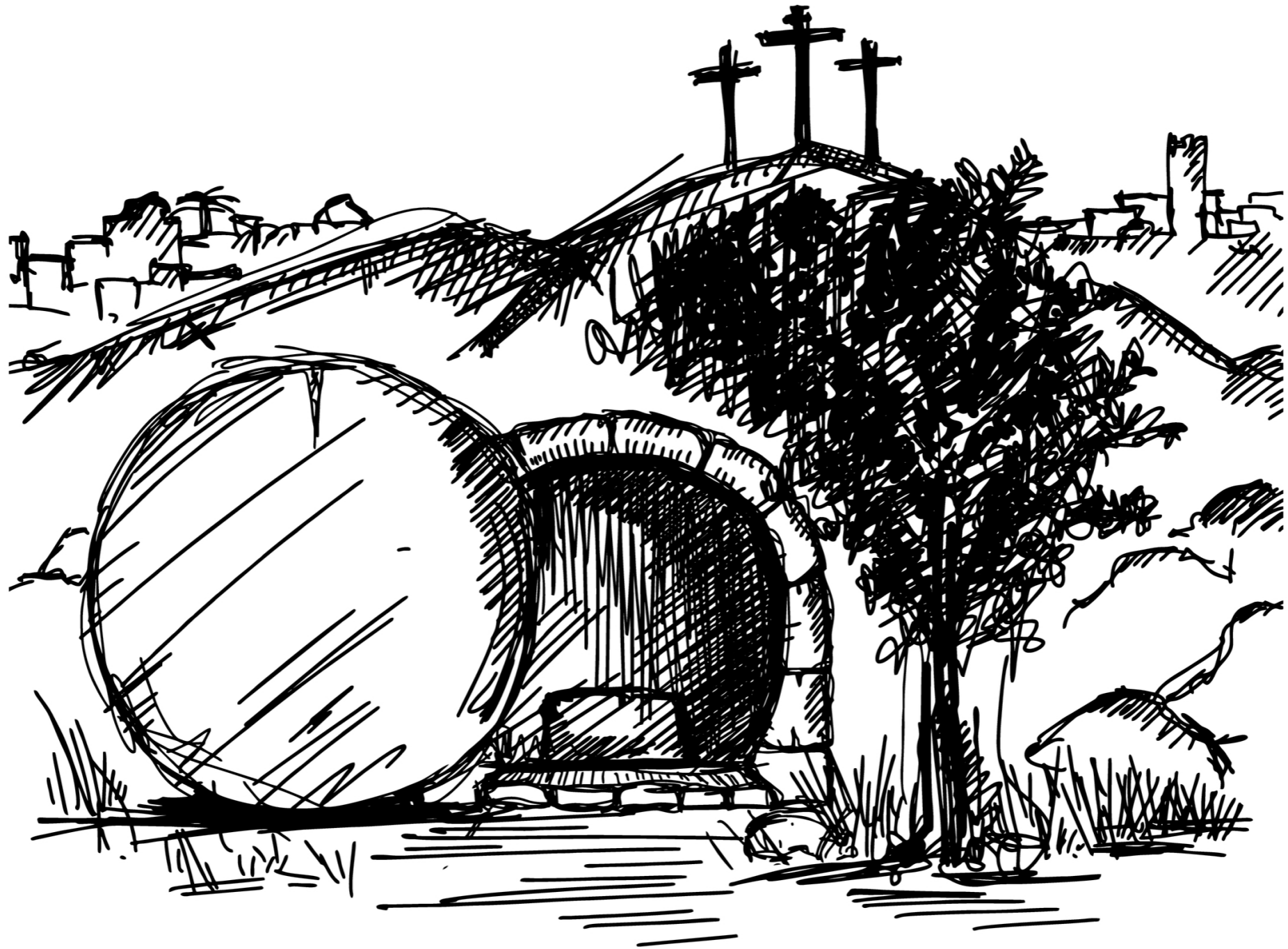
Gerd Ludemann, Professor of History and Literature of Early Christianity at Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany





**I believe those witnesses
that get their throats cut.**

— Blaise Pascal — 1623-1662 —



BONUS FACT

This Good News Is For Everyone!

For I delivered to you as of first importance... that Christ died for our sins..., that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day...



And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

— Acts 4:33 —



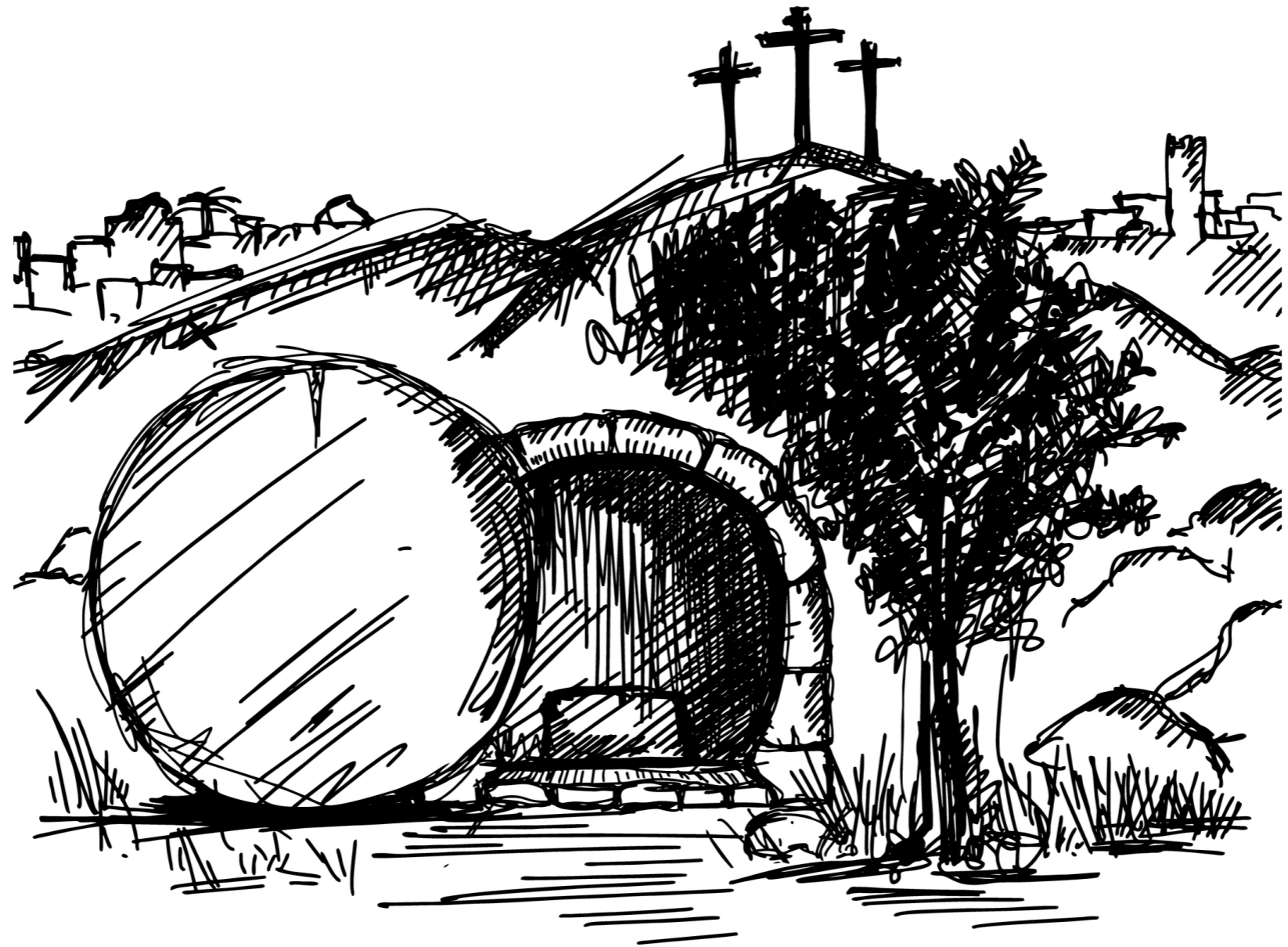
**...they were teaching the people
and proclaiming in Jesus
the resurrection from the dead.**

— Acts 4:1-2 —

The Early Followers of Jesus Proclaimed...



...Both the Resurrection of Jesus &
the Resurrection of the Dead in Jesus





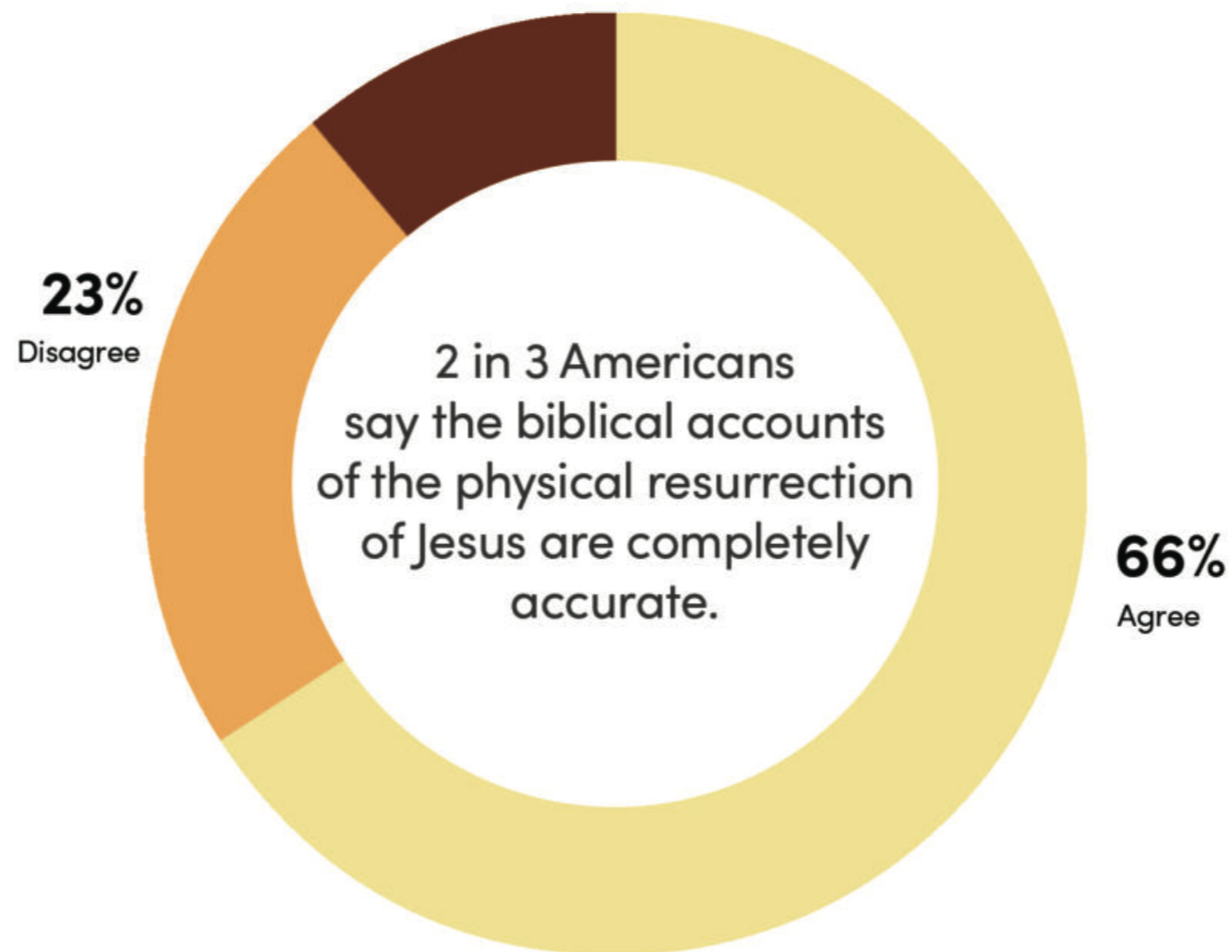
Execution

Empty Tomb

Eyewitnesses

Most believe Jesus' resurrection happened as described in the Bible.

Among U.S. adults



Note: 11% aren't sure.

**I believe Jesus rose
from the dead. My
question is: What
difference does
that make for
my everyday
life?**



The Resurrection of Jesus Helps Us Clarify the Core of the Good News



...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

— Romans 10:9-13 —

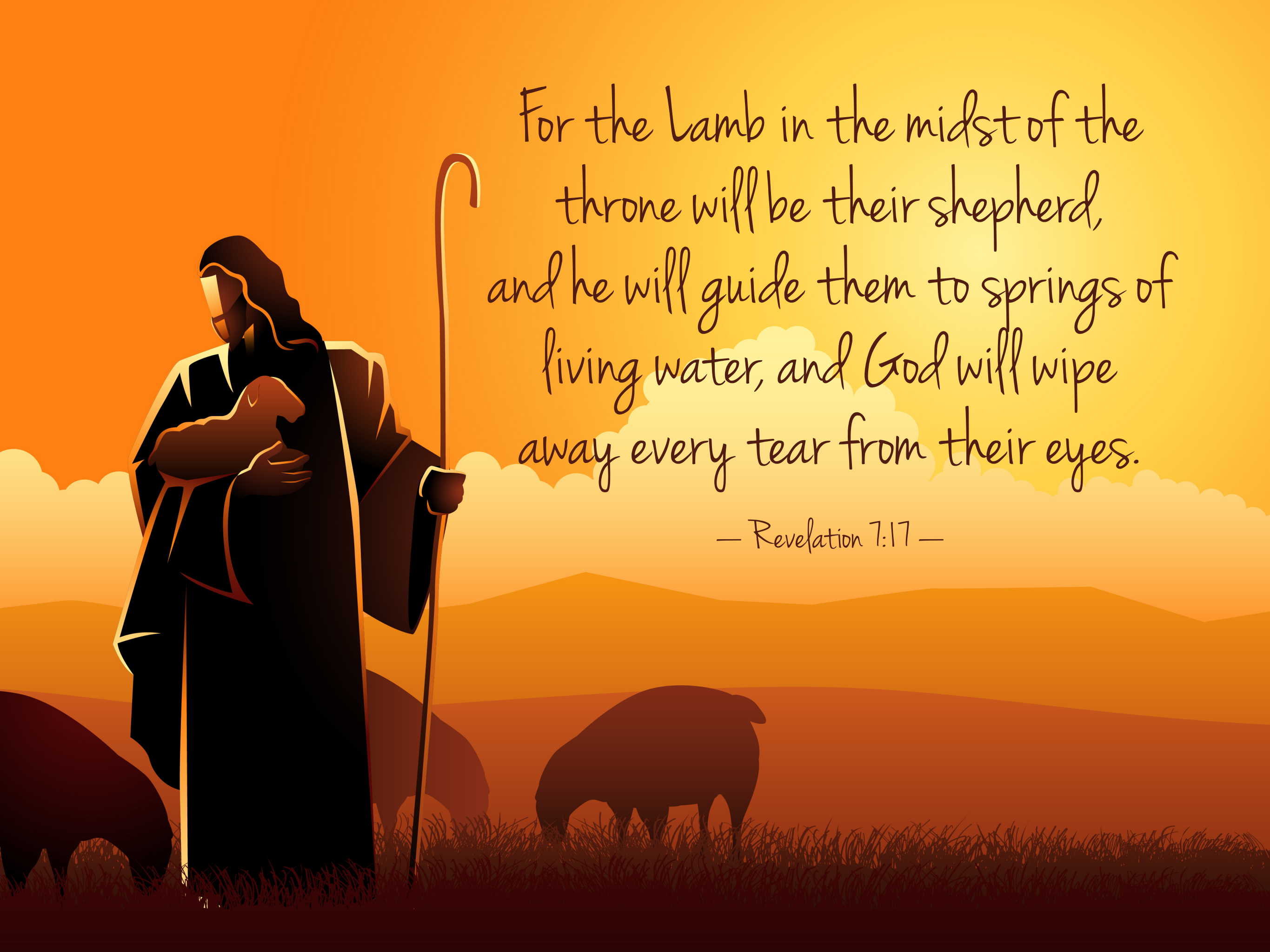
**The Resurrection of Jesus is the
Guarantee of Our Own Resurrection**



If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

— 1 Corinthians 15:19-20 —

**The Resurrection of Jesus Ensures
That God Will Redeem Our Suffering**



For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

— Revelation 7:17 —

The Beauty of Christian Theism

WHY GOD
MAKES SENSE
IN A WORLD THAT
DOESN'T

GAVIN ORTLUND

GAVIN ORTLUND

The imagery suggests not merely the cessation of suffering but the consolation for earthly suffering. Not only will we stop weeping; God will wipe away the tears previously shed.

The Beauty of Christian Theism

WHY GOD
MAKES SENSE
IN A WORLD THAT
DOESN'T

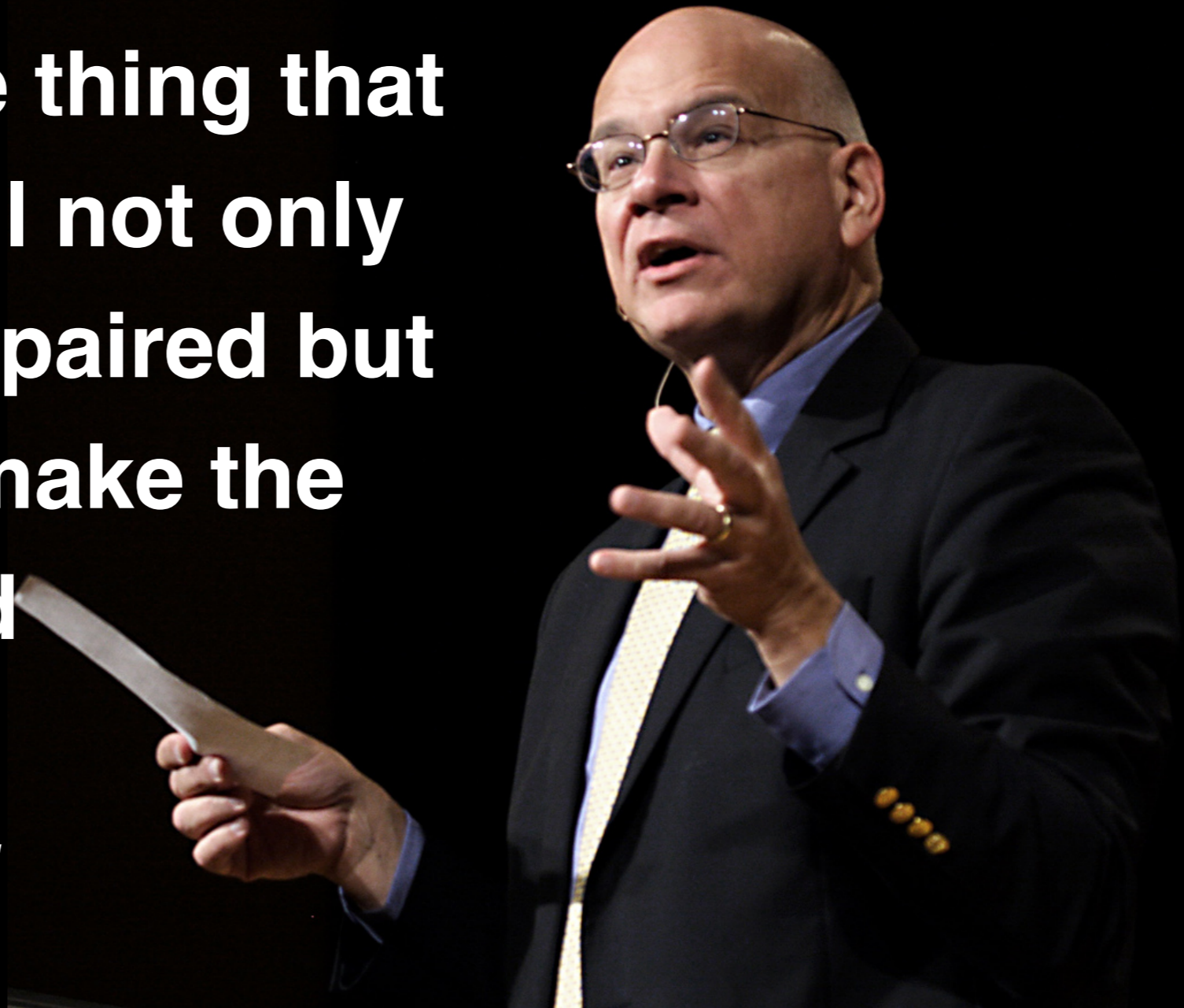
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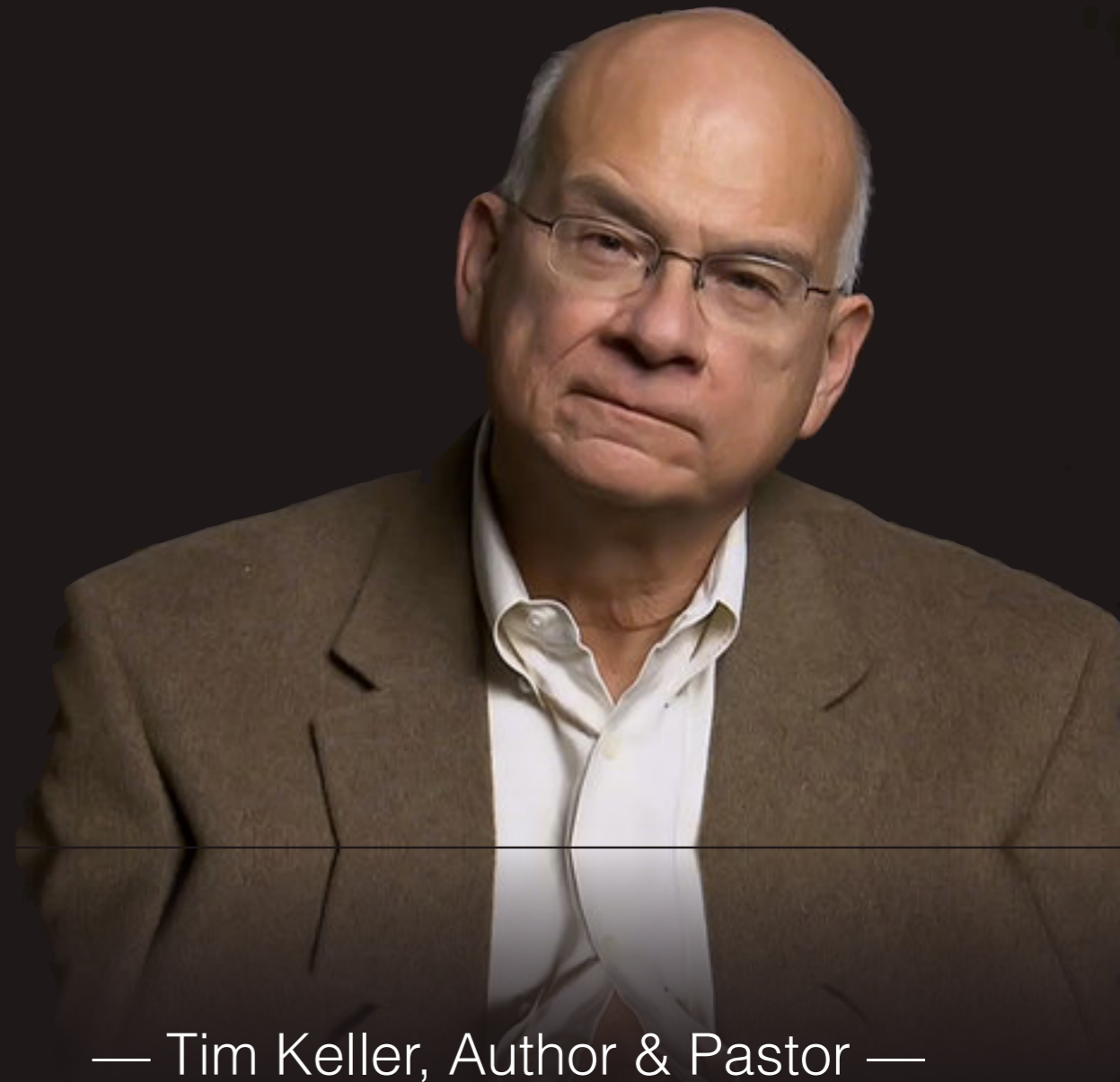
**Thus, not only will
earthly sadness
not enter heaven;
heaven will enter
our earthly sadness
and transform it
forever.**

The Biblical view of things is resurrection —not a future that is just a consolation for the life we never had but a restoration of the life you always wanted. This means that every horrible thing that ever happened will not only be undone and repaired but will in some way make the eventual glory and joy even greater.”

Tim Keller, *The Reason for God*



Jesus taught that a lack of concern for the poor is not a minor lapse, but reveals that something is seriously wrong with one's spiritual compass, the heart.

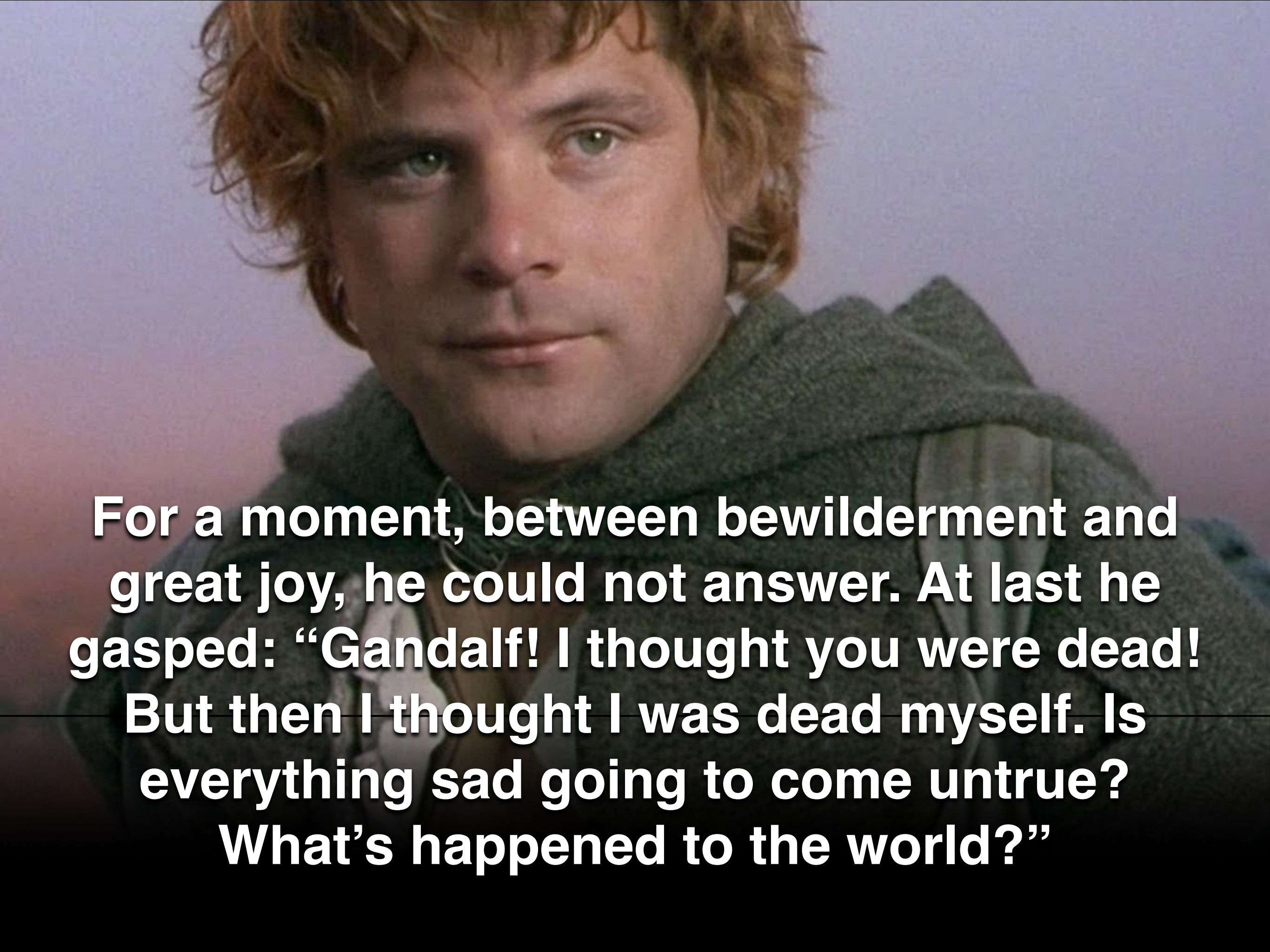


— Tim Keller, Author & Pastor —

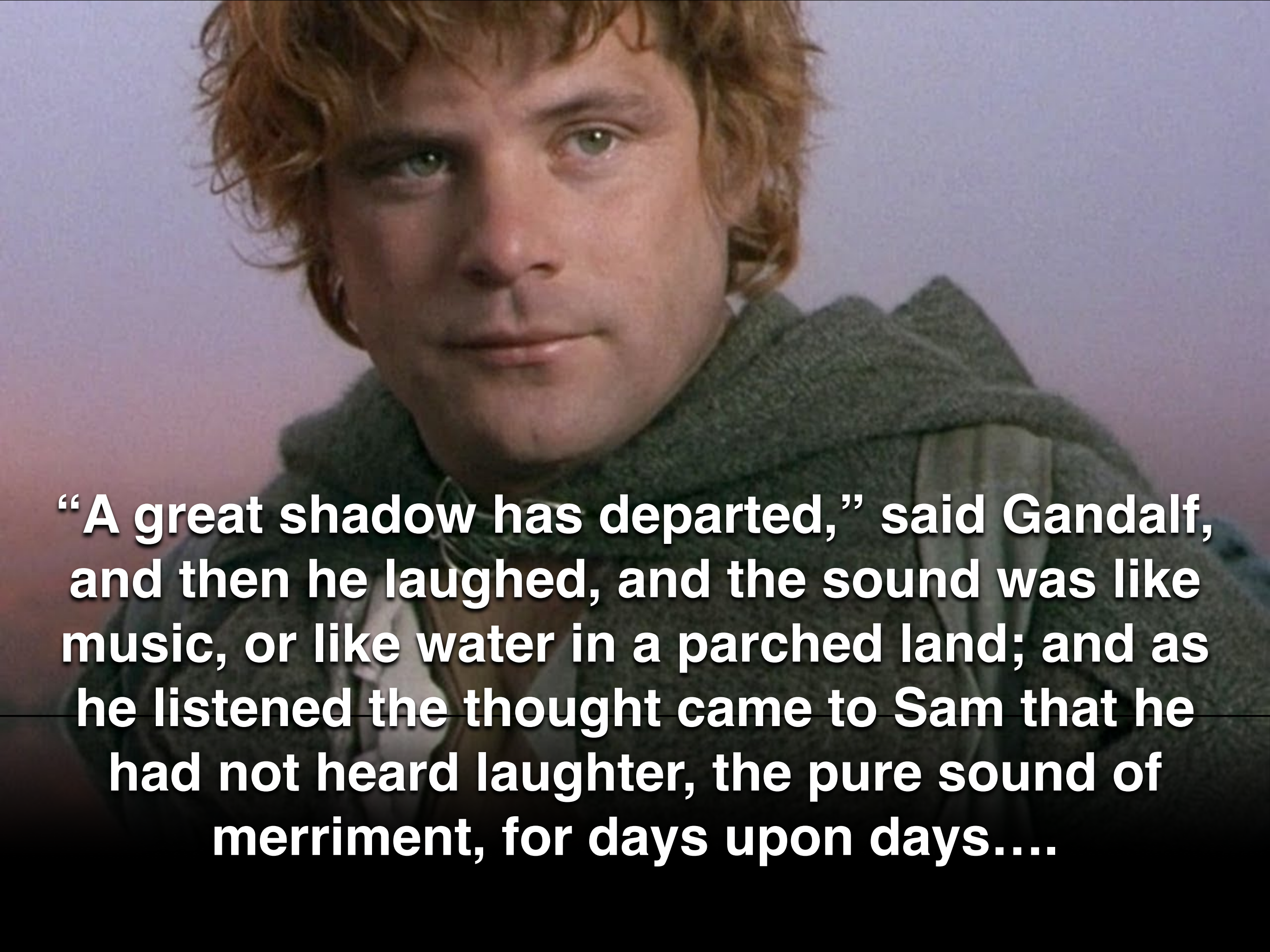
When you go through a period in your life in which your life is going smoothly, you are in very dangerous territory spiritually.... There is no greater crisis than to have no crisis in your life. There is no greater danger than to have no sense of danger in your life.

~ Tim Keller, Pastor & Author
Redeemer NYC

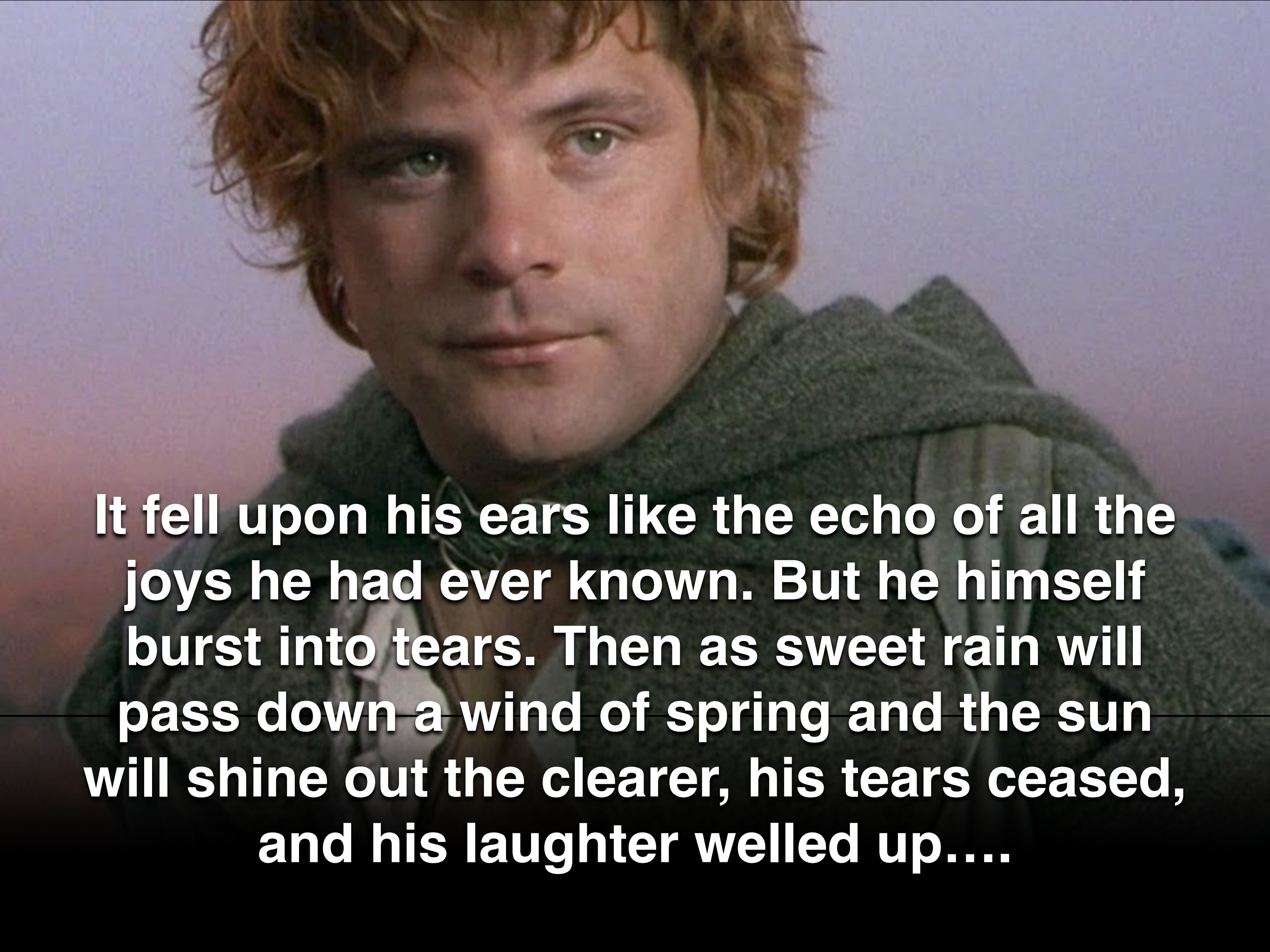




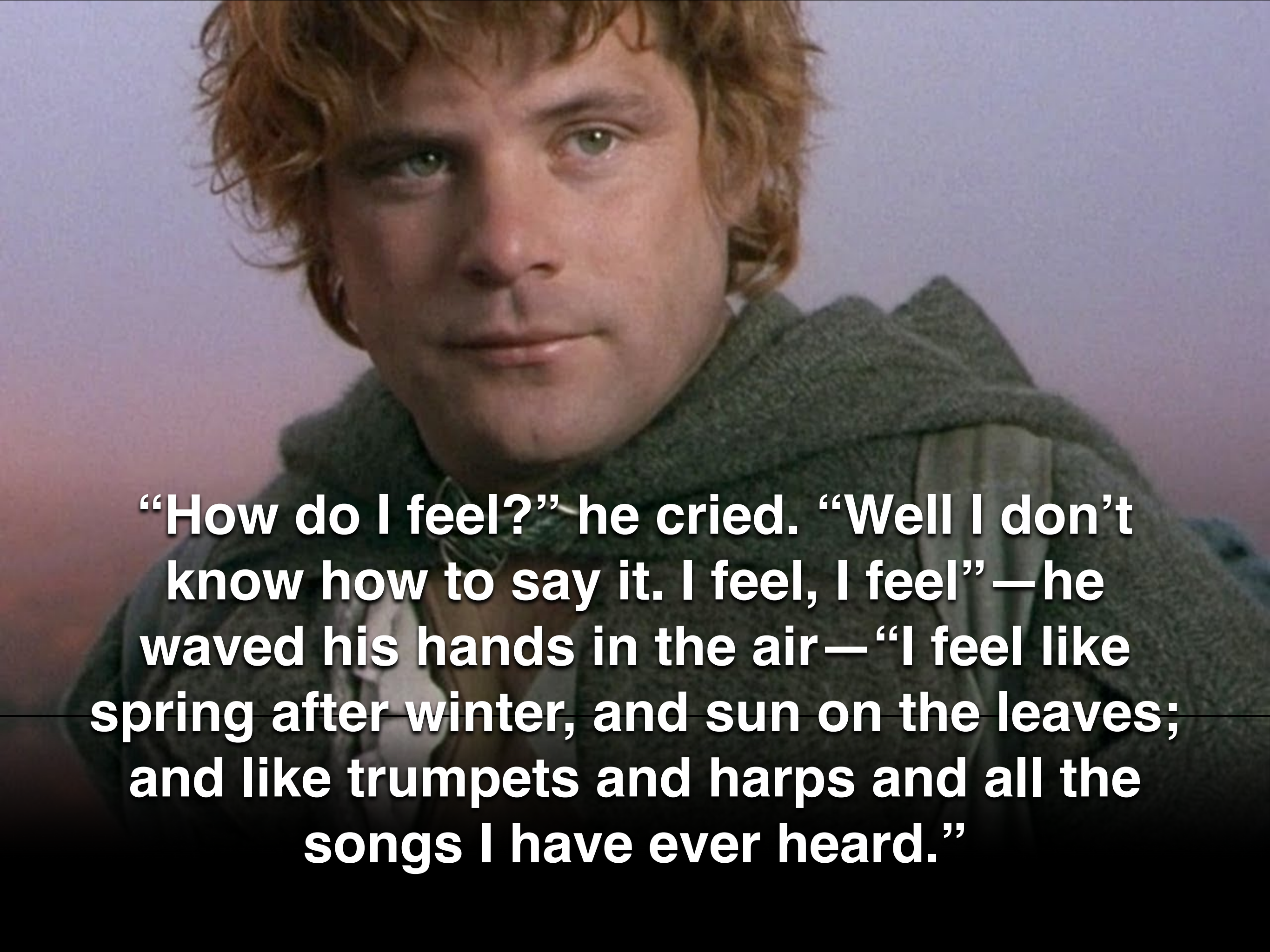
For a moment, between bewilderment and great joy, he could not answer. At last he gasped: “Gandalf! I thought you were dead! But then I thought I was dead myself. Is everything sad going to come untrue? What’s happened to the world?”



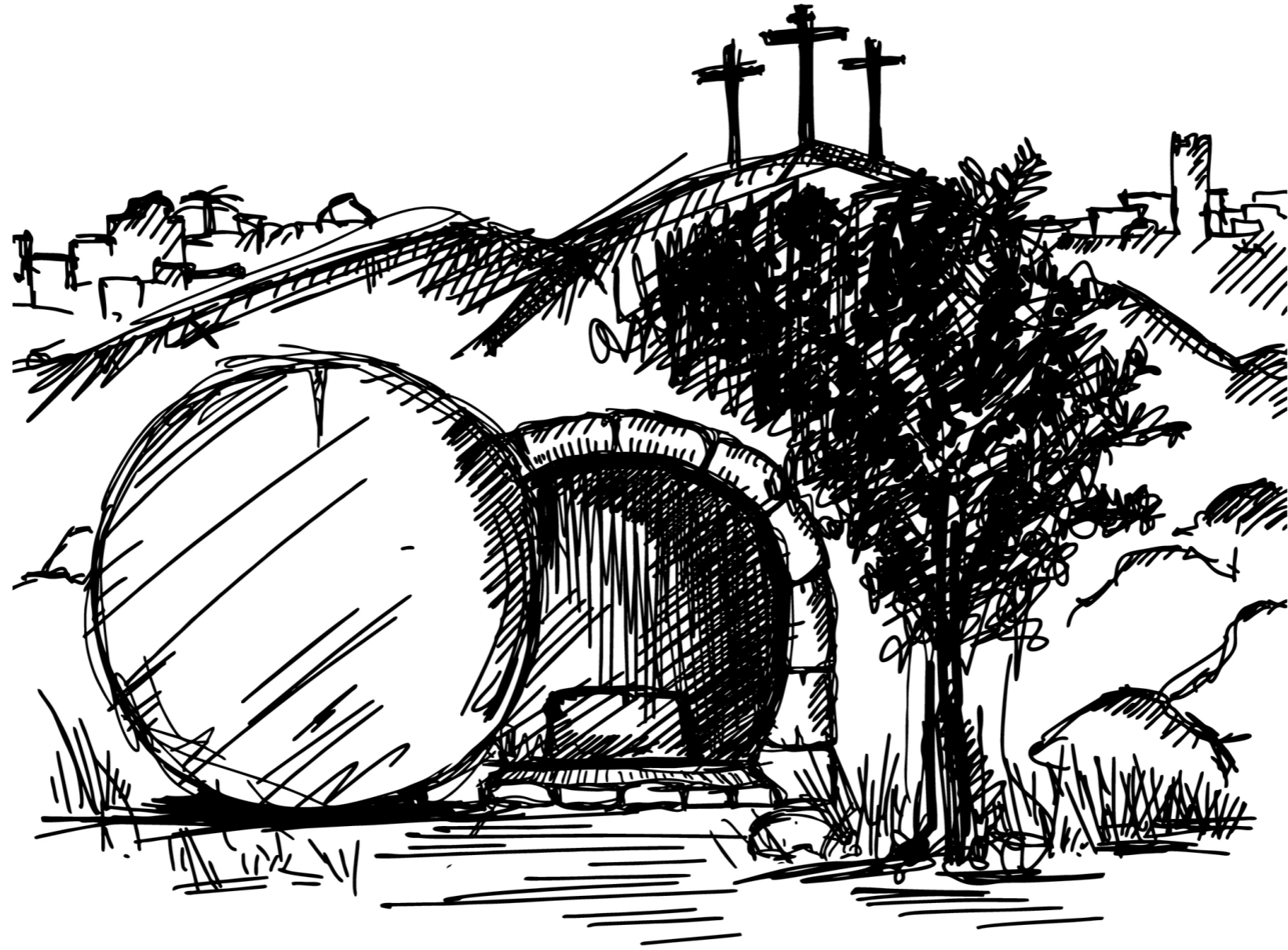
“A great shadow has departed,” said Gandalf, and then he laughed, and the sound was like music, or like water in a parched land; and as he listened the thought came to Sam that he had not heard laughter, the pure sound of merriment, for days upon days....



It fell upon his ears like the echo of all the joys he had ever known. But he himself burst into tears. Then as sweet rain will pass down a wind of spring and the sun will shine out the clearer, his tears ceased, and his laughter welled up....

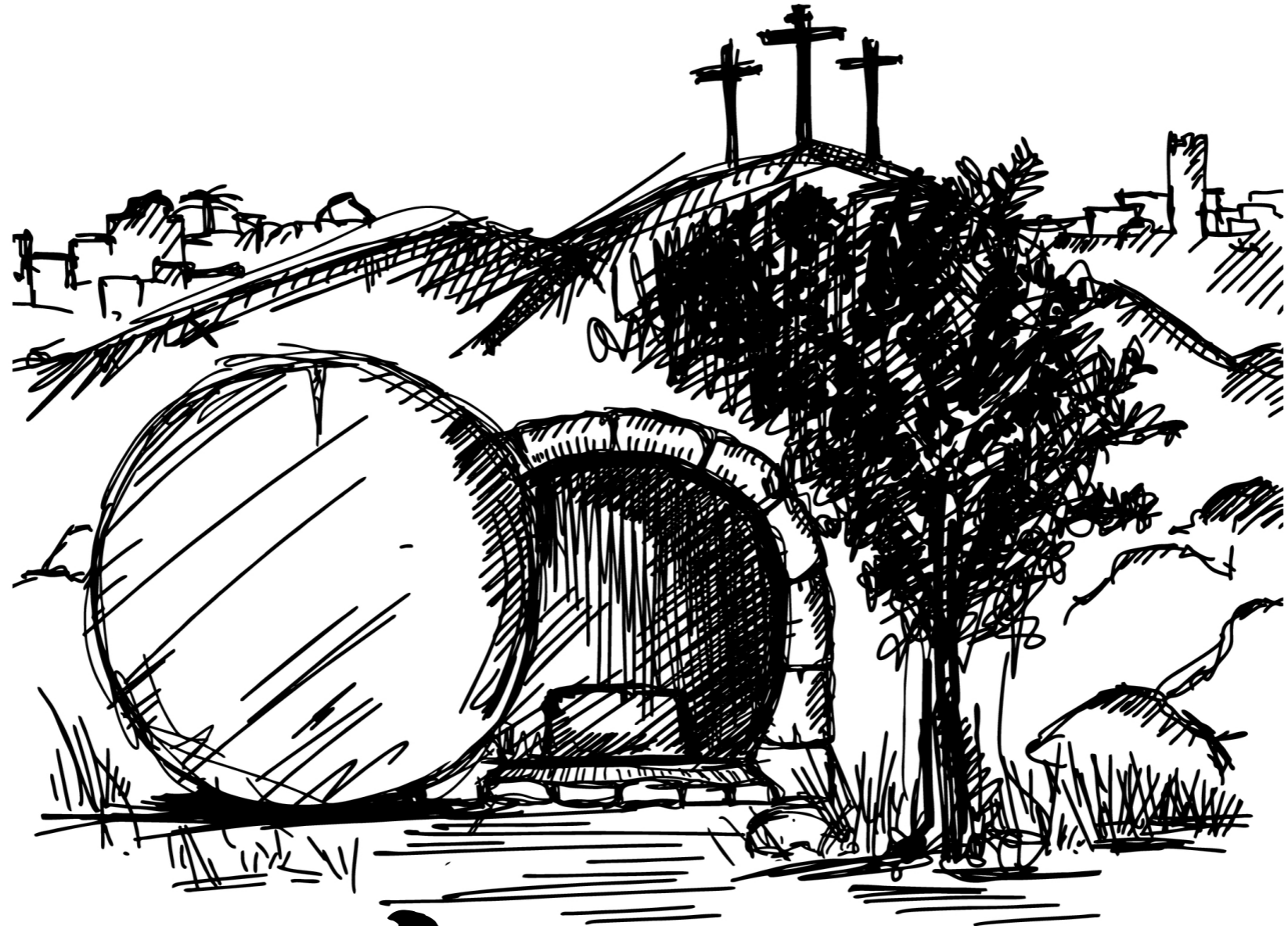


“How do I feel?” he cried. “Well I don’t know how to say it. I feel, I feel” — he waved his hands in the air — “I feel like spring after winter, and sun on the leaves; and like trumpets and harps and all the songs I have ever heard.”



**If Christ is risen, nothing else matters.
And if Christ is not — nothing else matters.**

— Jaroslav Pelikan - Yale University —



christ is risen