



*E Musaeo Dñi. Arthuri Pond.*

# Jesus & the Resurrection

— Acts 17:16-34 —



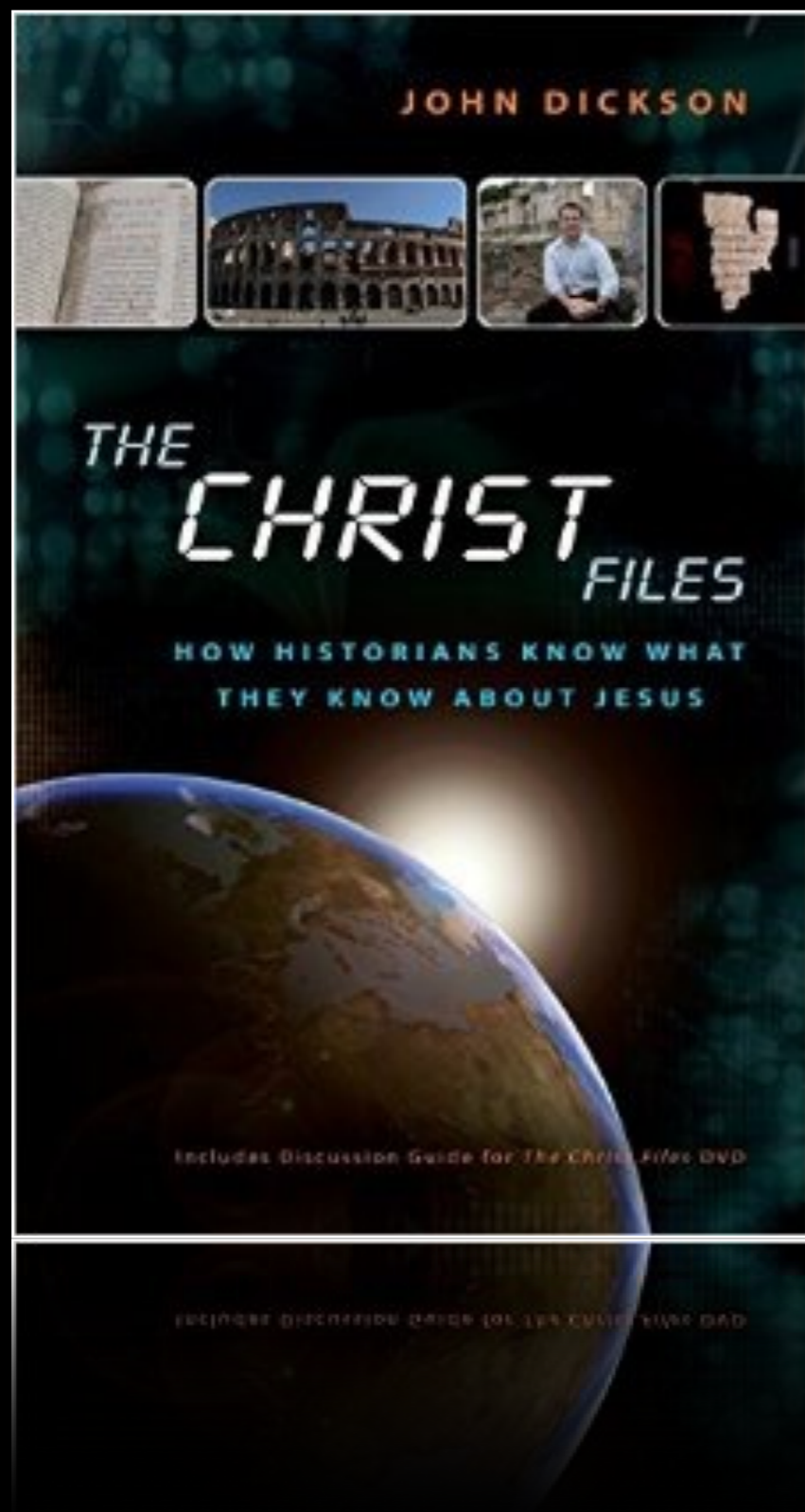






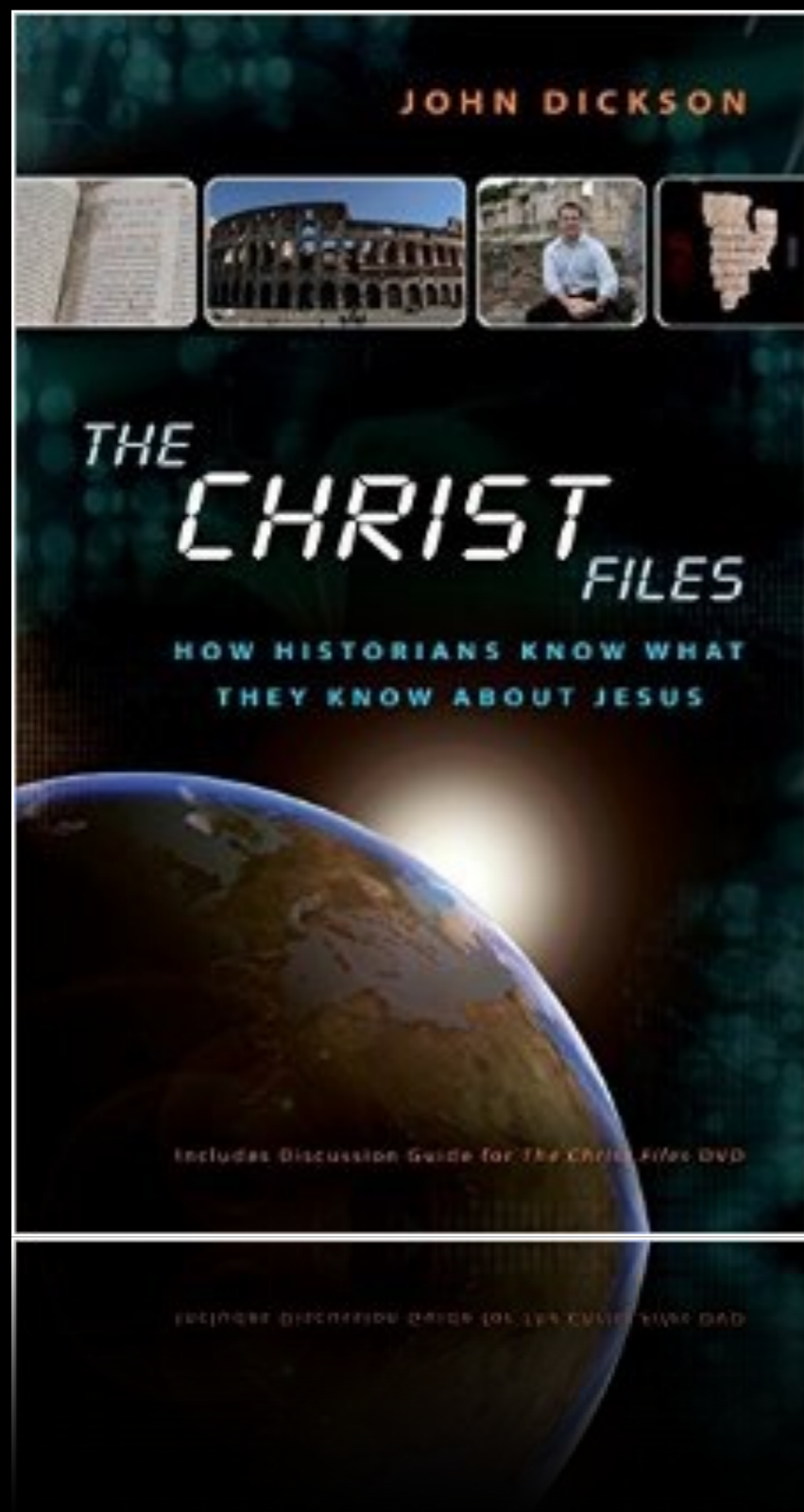
**EXECUTION  
EMPTY TOMB  
EYEWITNESSES**





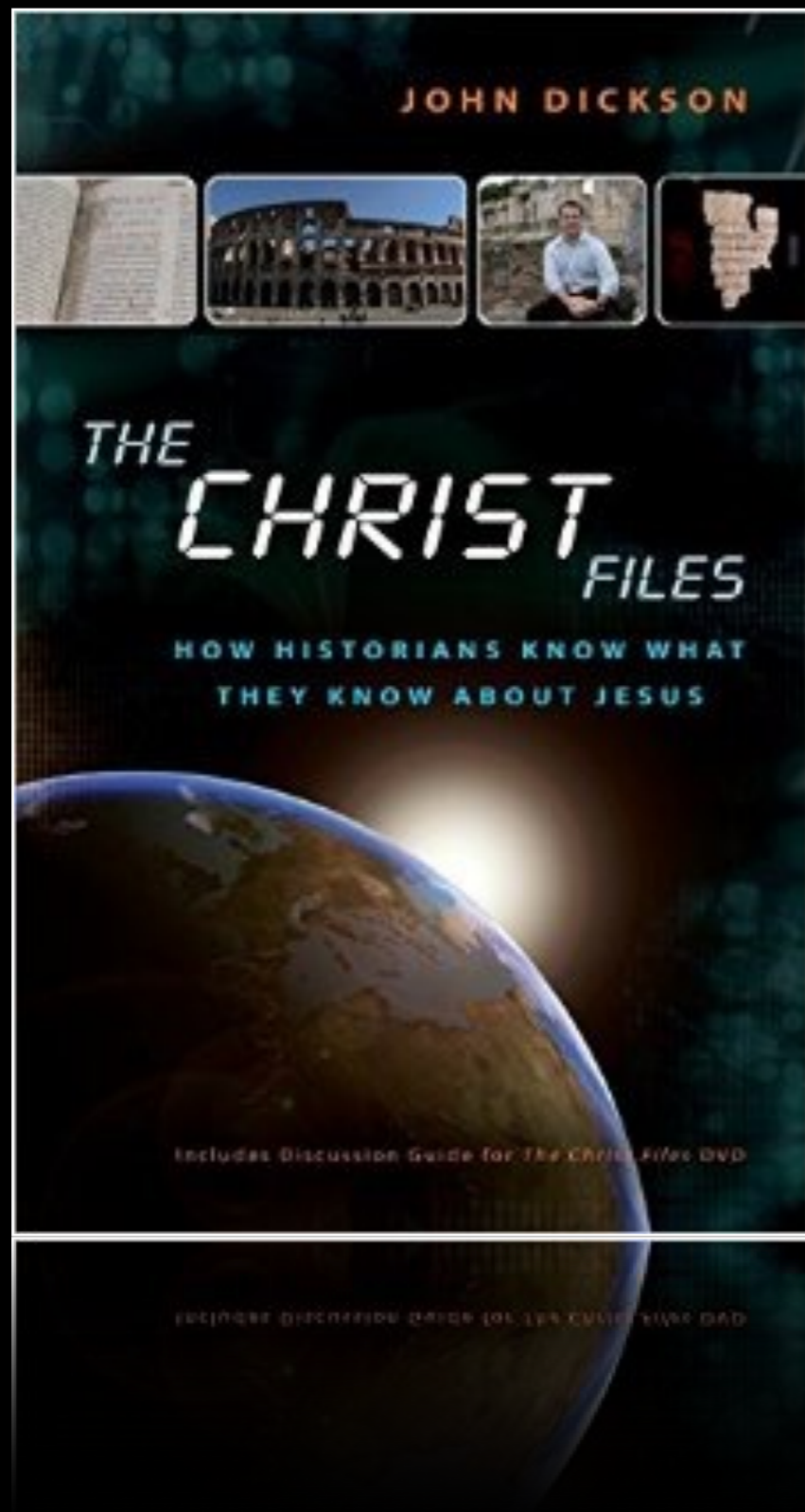
**The New Testament revolves around a series of events said to have occurred in Palestine between 5BC and AD30. This makes Christianity open—some would say vulnerable....**





**The logic is simple:  
if you claim that  
something specta-  
cular took place in  
history, intelligent  
people are going to  
ask you historical  
questions.**





**On the whole,  
Christianity has  
welcomed this. It is  
as if the Christian  
faith places its head  
on the chopping  
block of public  
scrutiny and invites  
us all to take a swing.**





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# Jesus & the Resurrection

— Acts 17:16-34 —



**16 Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was provoked within as he saw that the city was full of idols.**







**16 Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was provoked within as he saw that the city was full of idols.**





- **40 ft high statue of Athena**
- **Alter to the Twelve Gods**
- **The Temple of Mars**
- **The Temple of Apollo**
- **Plus countless images of muses and gods of mythology**





**Petronius, the Roman satirist, once said that it was easier to find a god in Athens than a human.**



**For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
Romans 1:18-23



**For although they  
knew God, they did  
not honor him as God  
or give thanks to him,  
but they became futile  
in their thinking, and  
their foolish hearts  
were darkened.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
Romans 1:18-23

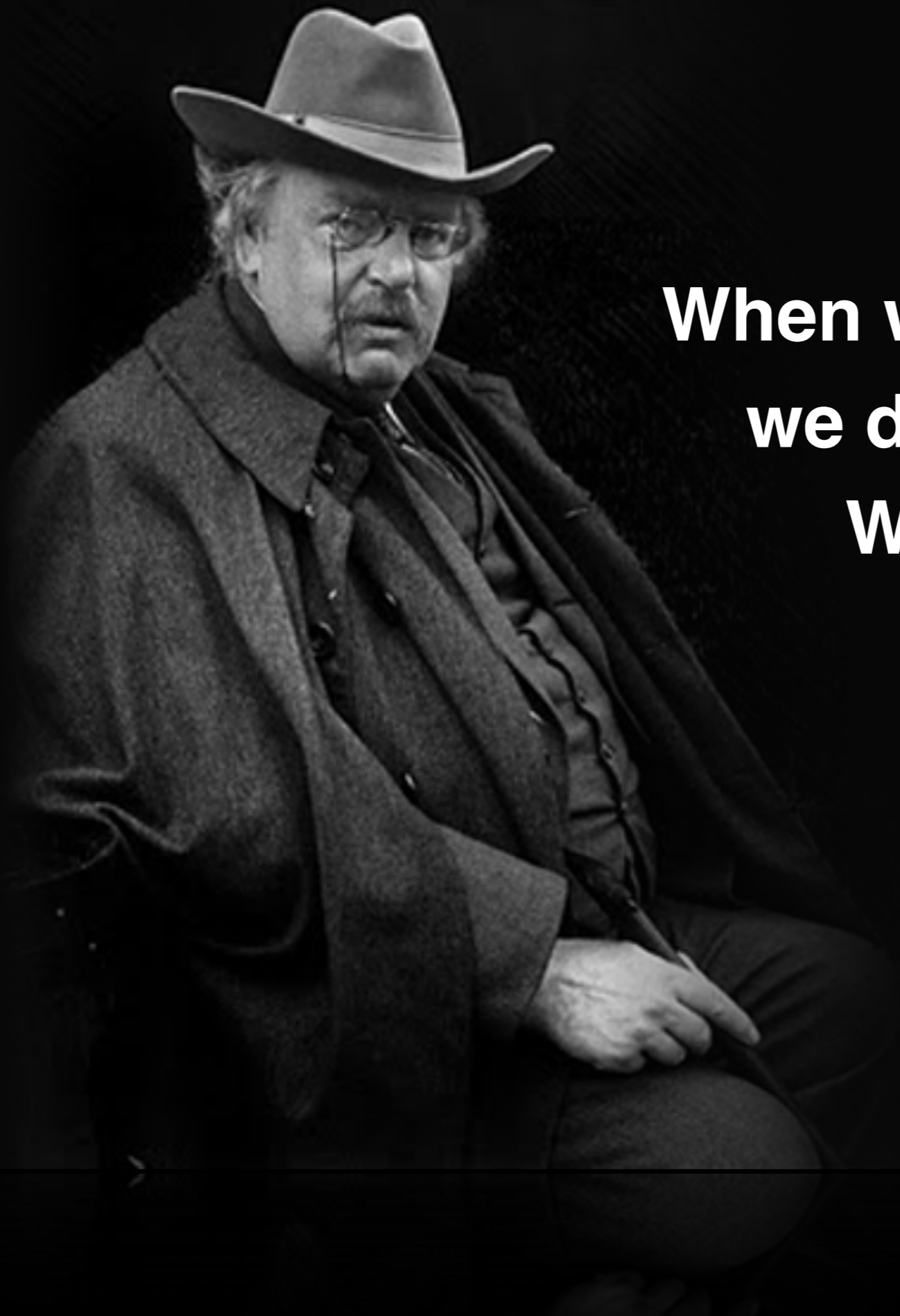


**Claiming to be wise,  
they became fools,  
and exchanged the  
glory of the immortal  
God for images  
resembling mortal  
man and birds and  
animals and creeping  
things.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
Romans 1:18-23





**When we cease to worship God,  
we do not worship nothing.  
We worship anything.**

— GK Chesterton —



Acts 17:16-34

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17 So he **reasoned in the synagogue** with the Jews and the devout persons, and in **the market place** every day with those who happened to be there.



18 Some of the **Epicurean** and **Stoic philosophers** also conversed with him. And some said, “What does **this bab-bler** wish to say?”



## Acts 17:16-34

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18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this bab-  
bler wish to say?” Others said, “**He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities**” — because he was preach-  
ing about Jesus and the resurrection.







## Acts 17:16-34

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seems to be a preacher of foreign  
divinities” — **because he was preach-  
ing about Jesus and the resurrection.**



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



**The Apostle Paul**  
1 Corinthians 15



**and that he appeared to  
Cephas, then to the  
twelve... Then he appeared  
to more than five hundred  
brothers at one time, most  
of whom are still alive,  
though some have fallen  
asleep. Then he appeared  
to James, then to all the  
apostles.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
1 Corinthians 15



**Last of all, as to one  
untimely born, he  
appeared also to me.  
For I am the least  
of the apostles,  
unworthy to be called  
an apostle, because  
I persecuted the  
church of God.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
1 Corinthians 15



**If Christ has not  
been raised, then  
our preaching is in  
vain and your faith  
is in vain.... But in  
fact, Christ has  
been raised from  
the dead.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
1 Corinthians 15

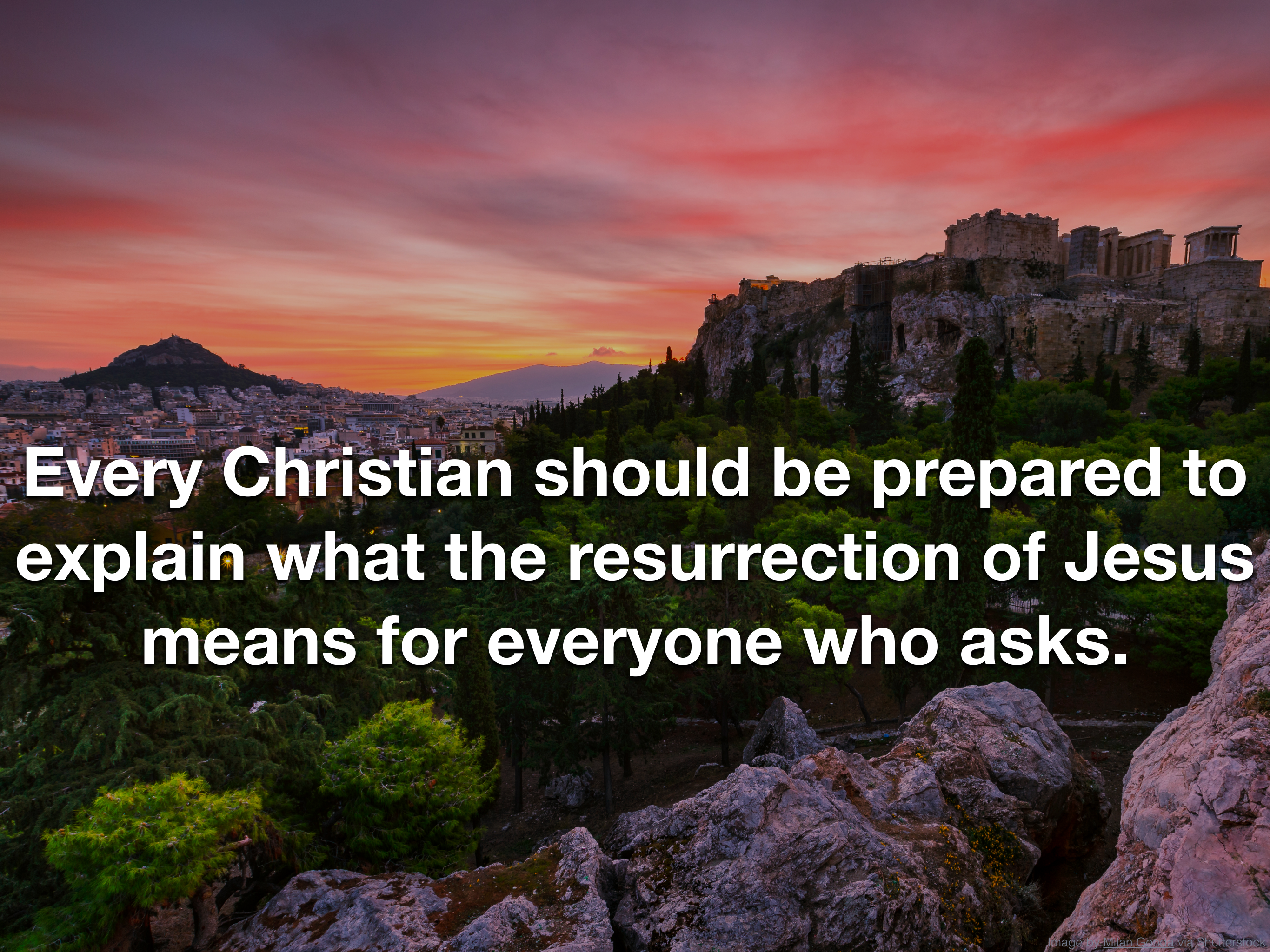


19 And they took him and brought him to the **Areopagus**, saying, “May we know what **this new teaching** is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring **strange things** to our ears. **We wish to know therefore what these things mean.**”









**Every Christian should be prepared to explain what the resurrection of Jesus means for everyone who asks.**



Acts 17:16-34

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**21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.**



22 So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an alter with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god’....”



Acts 17:16-34

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**23** What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.



**24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.**



26 And **he made** from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined the allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that **they should seek God**, and perhaps feel their way toward him **and find him**, yet actually **he is not far from each of us....**,



Acts 17:16-34

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28 for **'In him we live and move and have our being'**; even as some of your own poets have said, **'For we are indeed his offspring.'**





**“...in him we live and  
move and have our being.”**

— Epimenides (mid 7th or 6th cent.) —



**“...for we are his  
offspring.”**

— Aratus (300s-mid 200s BC) —



Acts 17:16-34

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29 Being then **God's offspring**, we ought not to think that **the divine being** is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and the imagination of man.



Acts 17:16-34

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30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but **now he commands all people everywhere to repent....**





**repentance**



30 ...now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**Jesus “was declared  
to be the Son of God  
in power according to  
the Spirit of holiness  
by his resurrection  
from the dead....”**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Romans 1:4 —





**Jesus stands at the  
end of history  
for every person  
without exception.**

— JI Packer —





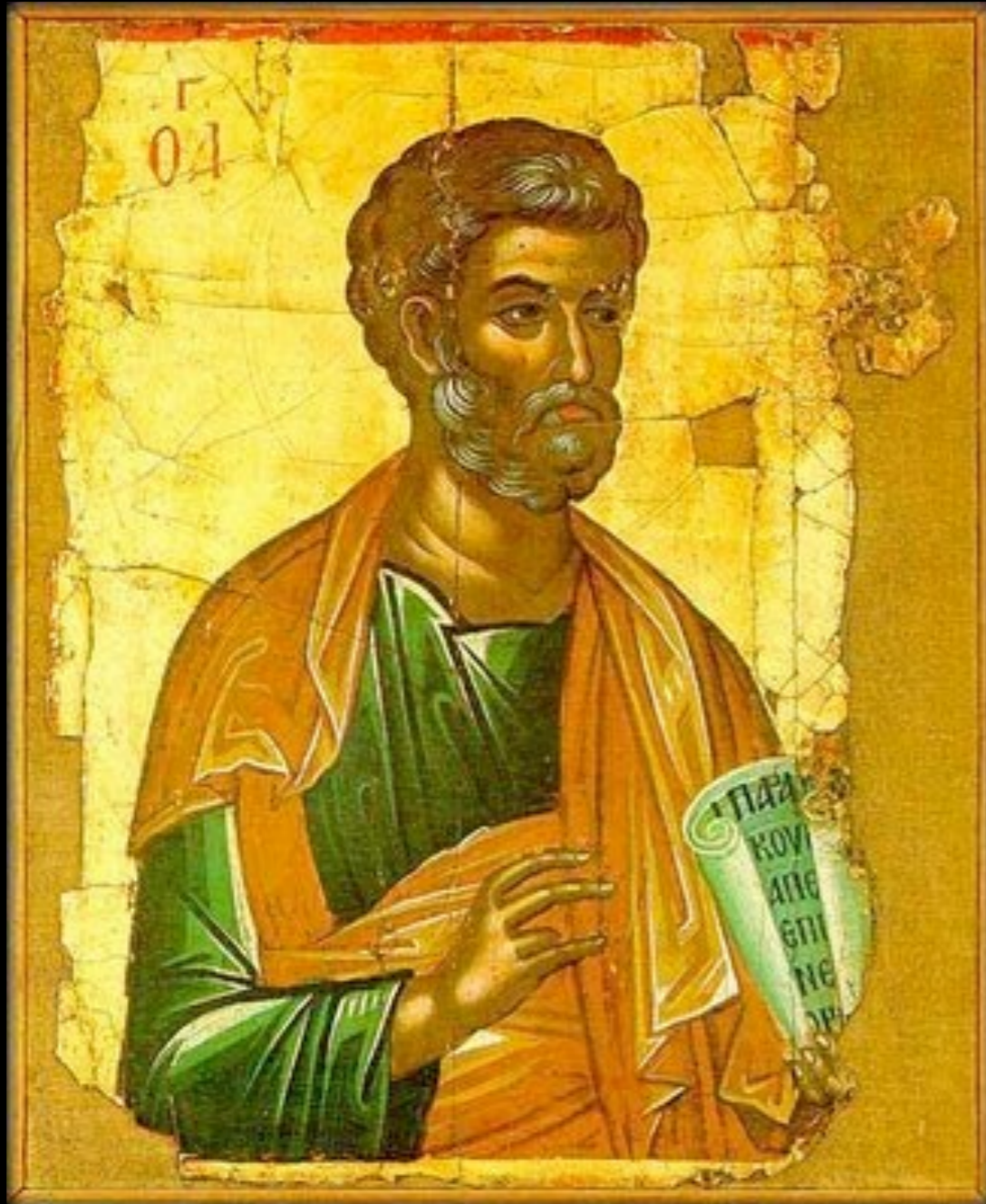
32 Now when they heard of **the resurrection** of the dead, **some mocked**. But others said, **“We will hear you again about this.”** 33 So Paul went out from their midst. 34 But **some men joined them and believed**, among them were Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris and others with them.



# So, where are you?

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1 “This is silly.”



**God has raised  
this Jesus to life,  
and we are all  
witnesses of it.**

**The Apostle Peter  
in Acts 2:33**





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

— Galatians 1:23 —



# Paul before King Agrippa



**Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?**

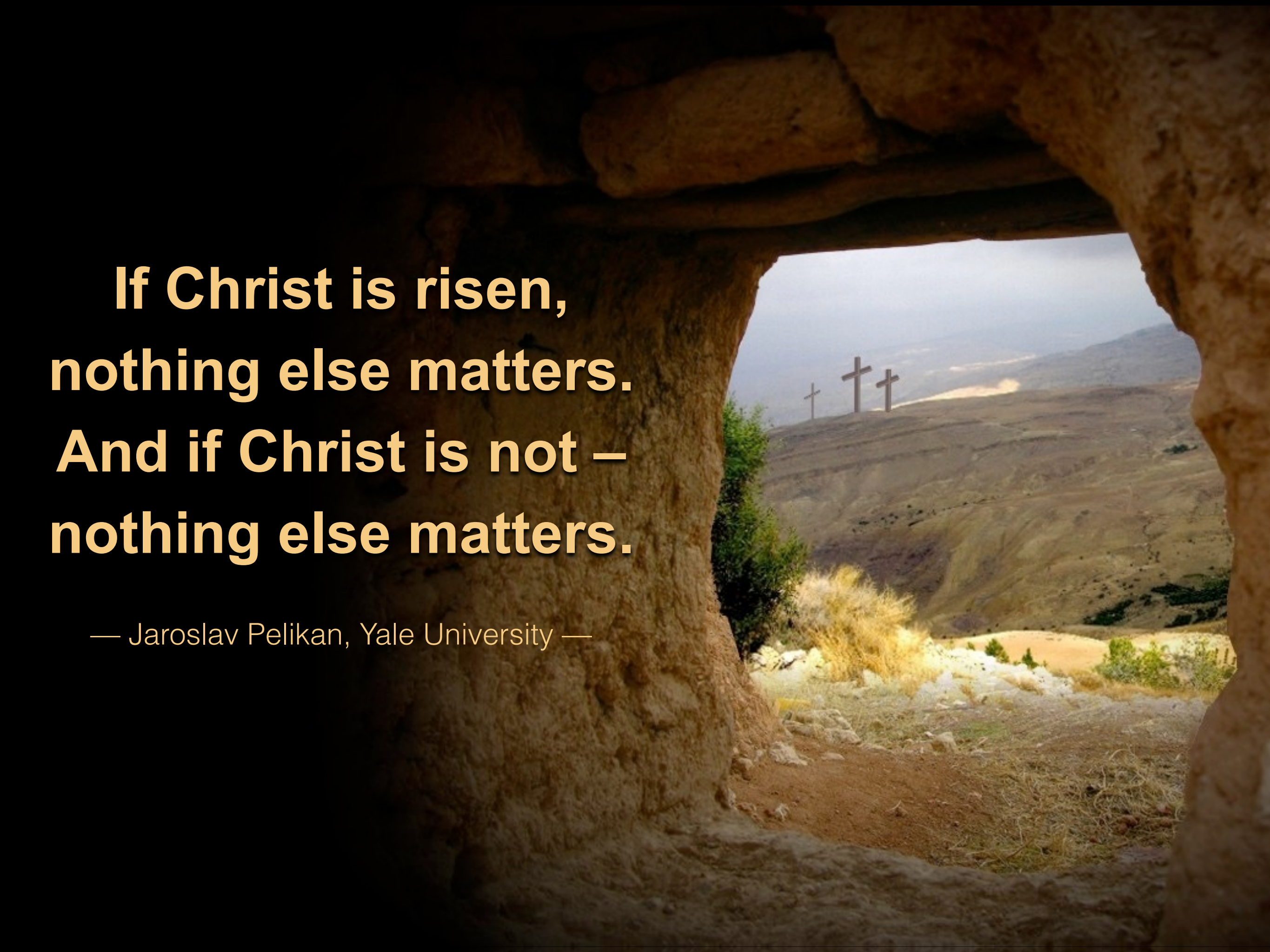


# So, where are you?

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1 “This is silly.”

2 “I’m curious. I want to hear more.”

A photograph of a rocky cave entrance. The cave's interior is dark and textured with rough stone walls. Through the opening, a bright, hazy landscape is visible. In the distance, three crosses stand on a hillside. The foreground shows a dirt path leading out of the cave, with some dry grass and small shrubs. The overall scene is a mix of natural rock formations and a religious symbol.

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

— Jaroslav Pelikan, Yale University —



# So, where are you?

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- 1 “This is silly.”
- 2 “I’m curious. I want to hear more.”
- 3 “I’m ready to repent & believe.”

**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.**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Romans 10:9 —







— Bobby Jindal —  
Former Governor of Louisiana

**I don't know why I was struck so hard at that moment.... There was nothing fascinating about this particular video.... But watching this depiction of an actor playing Jesus on the cross, it just hit me, harder than I'd ever been hit before.**



**If that was really the  
Son of God, and he  
really died for me,  
then I felt compelled  
to get on my knees  
and worship him.**

**— Bobby Jindal —**  
Former Governor of Louisiana



# So, where are you?

---

1 “This is silly.”

2 “I’m curious. I want to hear more.”

3 “I’m ready to repent & believe.”

4 “I believe it.”

# NEWS

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## Kenya attack: 147 dead in Garissa University assault

3 April 2015



Share

A video player from BBC showing a white ambulance with "GARISSA COUNTY" and "emergency" written on its side. The ambulance has "AMBULANCE" written on the roof. The video player includes a progress bar at 00:55 / 01:38, a play button, a volume icon, and a full-screen icon. A caption at the bottom reads: "Student Augustine Alanga: 'They were shooting randomly'"



**“...on this Good Friday we are reminded that the very worst evil can do is not the last word.”**

Good Friday Statement from  
the Anglican Archbishop of Kenya

— April 3, 2015 —



**N.T. WRIGHT**

**FOLLOWING  
JESUS**

*Biblical Reflections  
on Discipleship*

with a new preface by the author

with a new preface by the author

on Discipleship  
Biblical Reflections

**Without Easter, Calvary  
was just another  
political execution of a  
failed Messiah. Without  
Easter, the world is  
trapped between the  
shoulder shrug of the  
cynic, the fantasy of the  
escapist, and the tanks  
of the tyrant.**





**N.T. WRIGHT**

**FOLLOWING  
JESUS**

*Biblical Reflections  
on Discipleship*

with a new preface by the author

**Without Easter, there is  
no reason to suppose  
that good will triumph  
over evil, that love will  
win over hatred, that life  
will win over death.**

with a new preface by the author

*on Discipleship  
Biblical Reflections*



**N.T. WRIGHT**

**FOLLOWING  
JESUS**

*Biblical Reflections  
on Discipleship*

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on Discipleship  
Biblical Reflections

**But with Easter we have hope; because hope depends on love; and love has become human and has died, and is now alive forevermore, and holds the keys of Death and Hades.**





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**It is because of him that we know—we don't just hope, we know—that God will wipe away all tears from our eyes. And in that knowledge we find ourselves to be Sunday people, called to live in a world of Fridays.**



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**FOLLOWING  
JESUS**

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Biblical Reflections

**In that knowledge we know ourselves to be Easter people, called to minister to a world full of Calvarys. In that knowledge we find the hand that dries our tears passes the cloth to us, and bids us follow him, to go to dry one another's tears.**



**MHC, may you  
be anchored in Jesus  
& the Resurrection**

