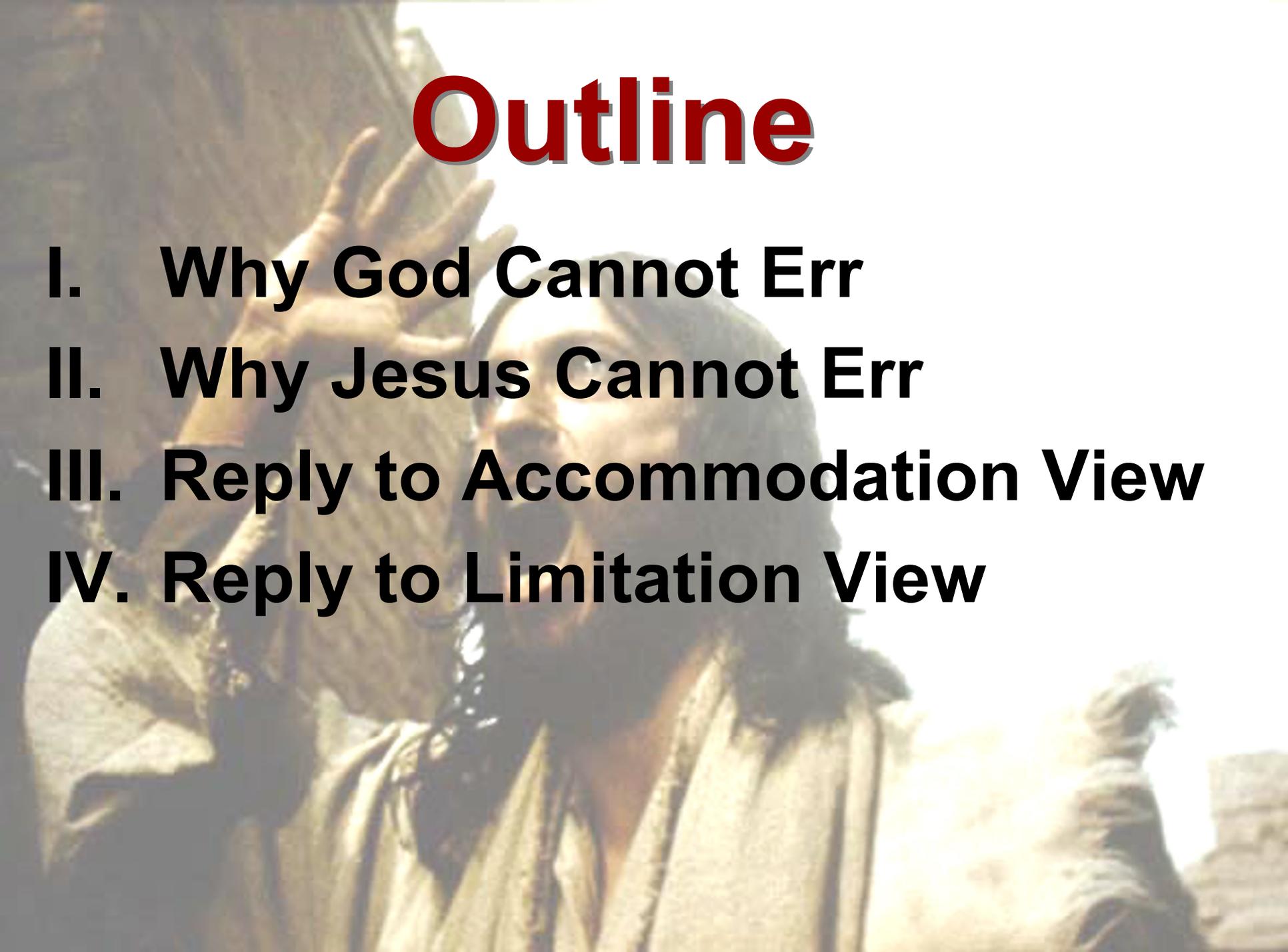
A dramatic scene of Jesus with a shouting expression, wearing a robe and having his hand raised. The background is bright and hazy, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, red font with a drop shadow.

10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true

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Twelve Points that Show Christianity is True

1. Truth about reality is knowable.
2. The opposite of true is false.
3. It is true that a theistic God exists.
4. If God exists then miracles are possible.
5. Miracles can be used to confirm a message from God.
6. The New Testament is historically reliable.
7. The New Testament says Jesus claimed to be God.
8. Jesus' claim to be God was miraculously confirmed by:
 - a. His fulfillment of many prophecies about Himself;
 - b. His sinless and miraculous life;
 - c. His prediction and accomplishment of His resurrection.
9. Therefore, Jesus is God.
10. **Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.**



Outline

- I. Why God Cannot Err
- II. Why Jesus Cannot Err
- III. Reply to Accommodation View
- IV. Reply to Limitation View

Outline

I. Why God Cannot Err: Because-

- A. He knows everything and, so, He can't be wrong about anything (Psa. 147:5; Rom. 11:33).
- B. He must act and speak in accord with His unchanging nature ("I the LORD do not change"--Mal. 3:6)
- C. Hence, He cannot utter falsehoods.

I. Why God Can't Err

“It is impossible for God to lie” (Heb. 6:18).

Paul speaks of “the God who cannot lie” (Titus 1:2).

“Your word is truth” (Jn. 17:17).

“Let God be true and every man a liar” (Rom. 3:4).

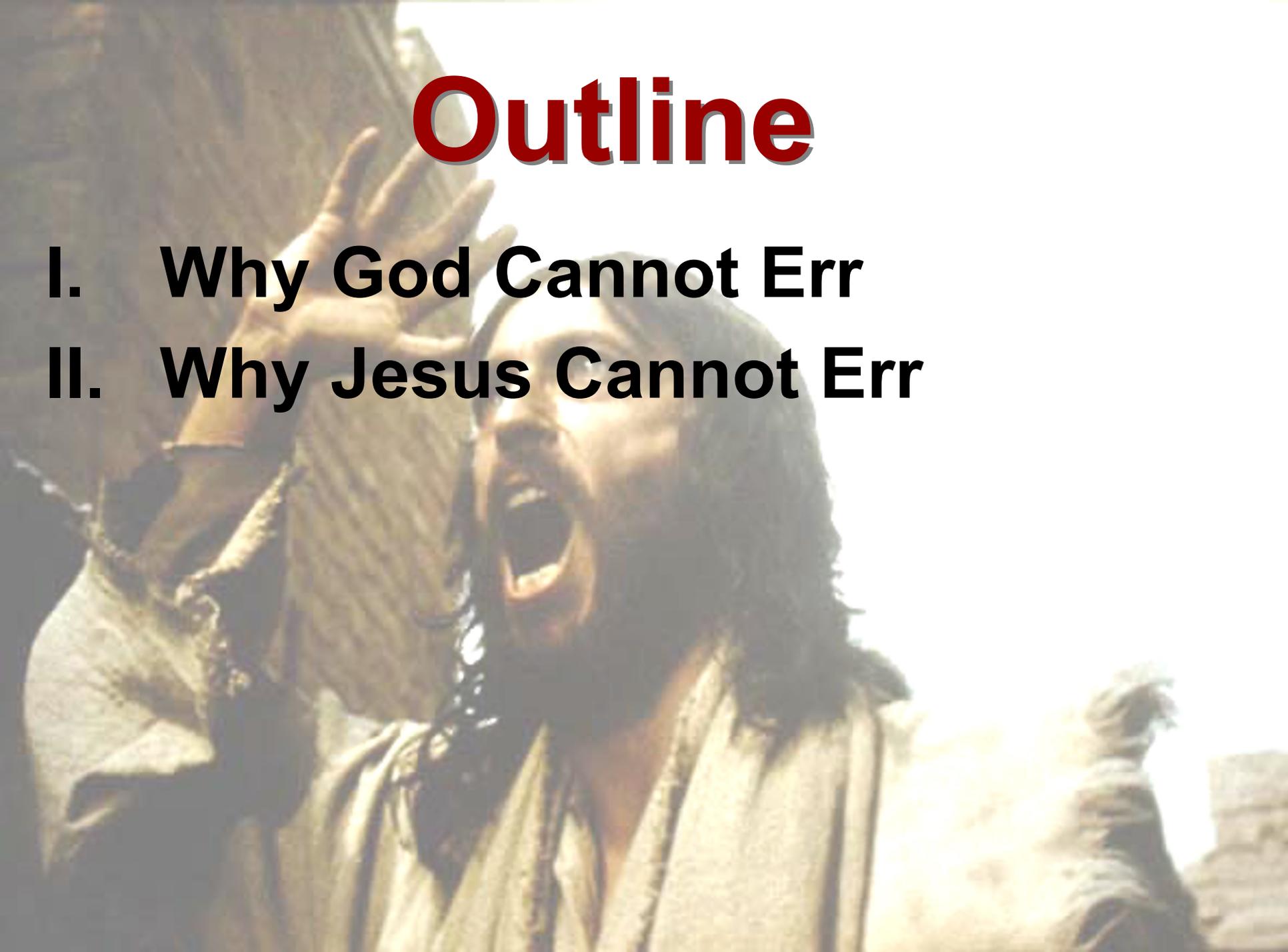
“If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself” (2 Tim. 2:13).

**1Sam. 15:29—“The Strength of Israel
[God] will not lie or change His mind.
For He is not a man that He should
change His mind.”**

**Psa. 102:25-27—“They [the heavens] will
perish, but *you will endure*. Yes, all of
them will grow old like a garment...and
they will be changed. *But you are the
same.*”**

Mal. 3:6—“*I the LORD change not.*”

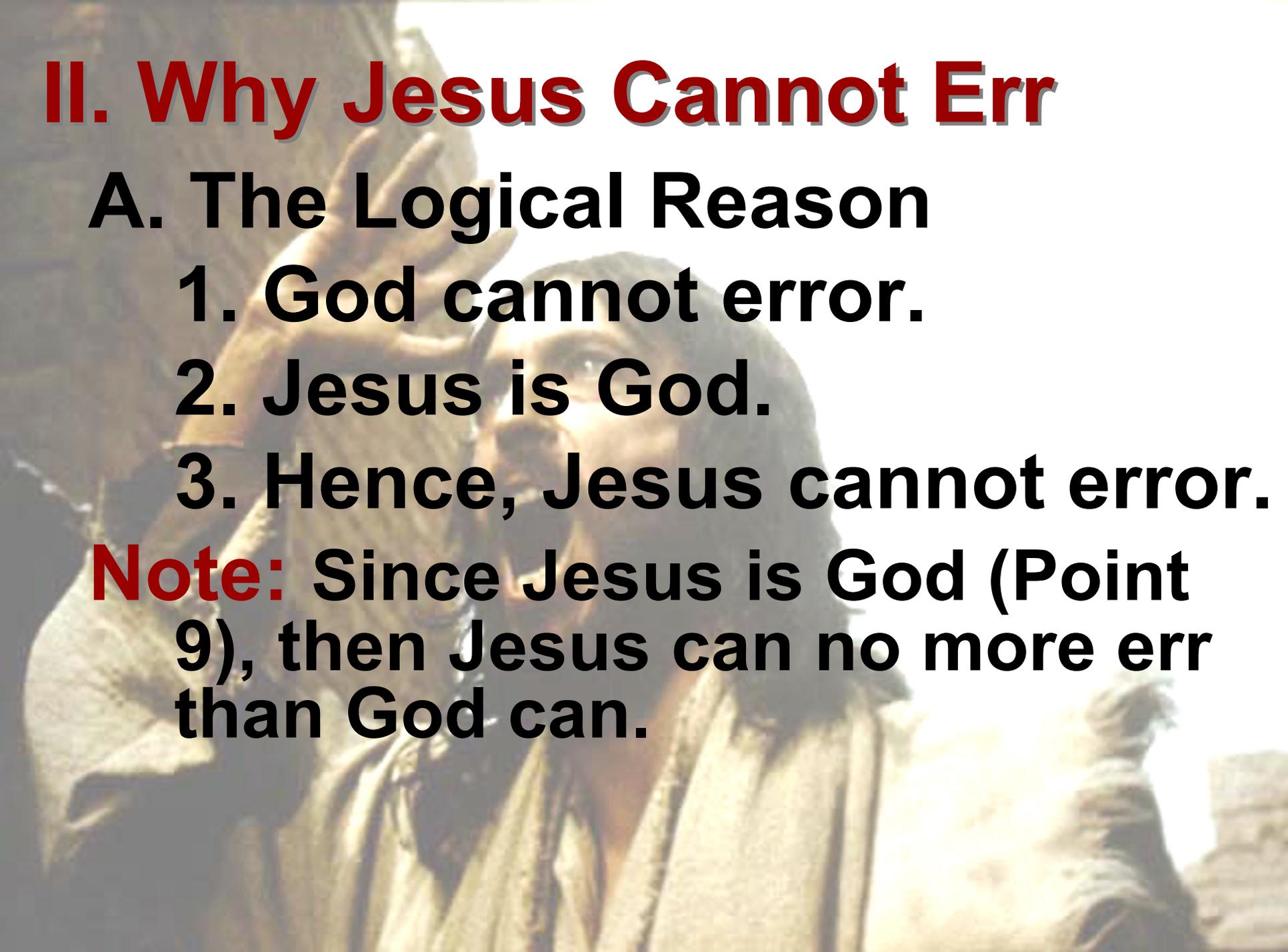
**Jas. 1:17—“Every good and perfect gift is
from above, and comes down from the
Father of lights, with whom *there is no
variation or shadow of turning.*”**



Outline

I. Why God Cannot Err

II. Why Jesus Cannot Err



II. Why Jesus Cannot Err

A. The Logical Reason

- 1. God cannot error.**
- 2. Jesus is God.**
- 3. Hence, Jesus cannot error.**

Note: Since Jesus is God (Point 9), then Jesus can no more err than God can.

II. Why Jesus Cannot Err

B. The Theological Reason

1. As God, Jesus knows everything.

2. One who knows everything can't err.

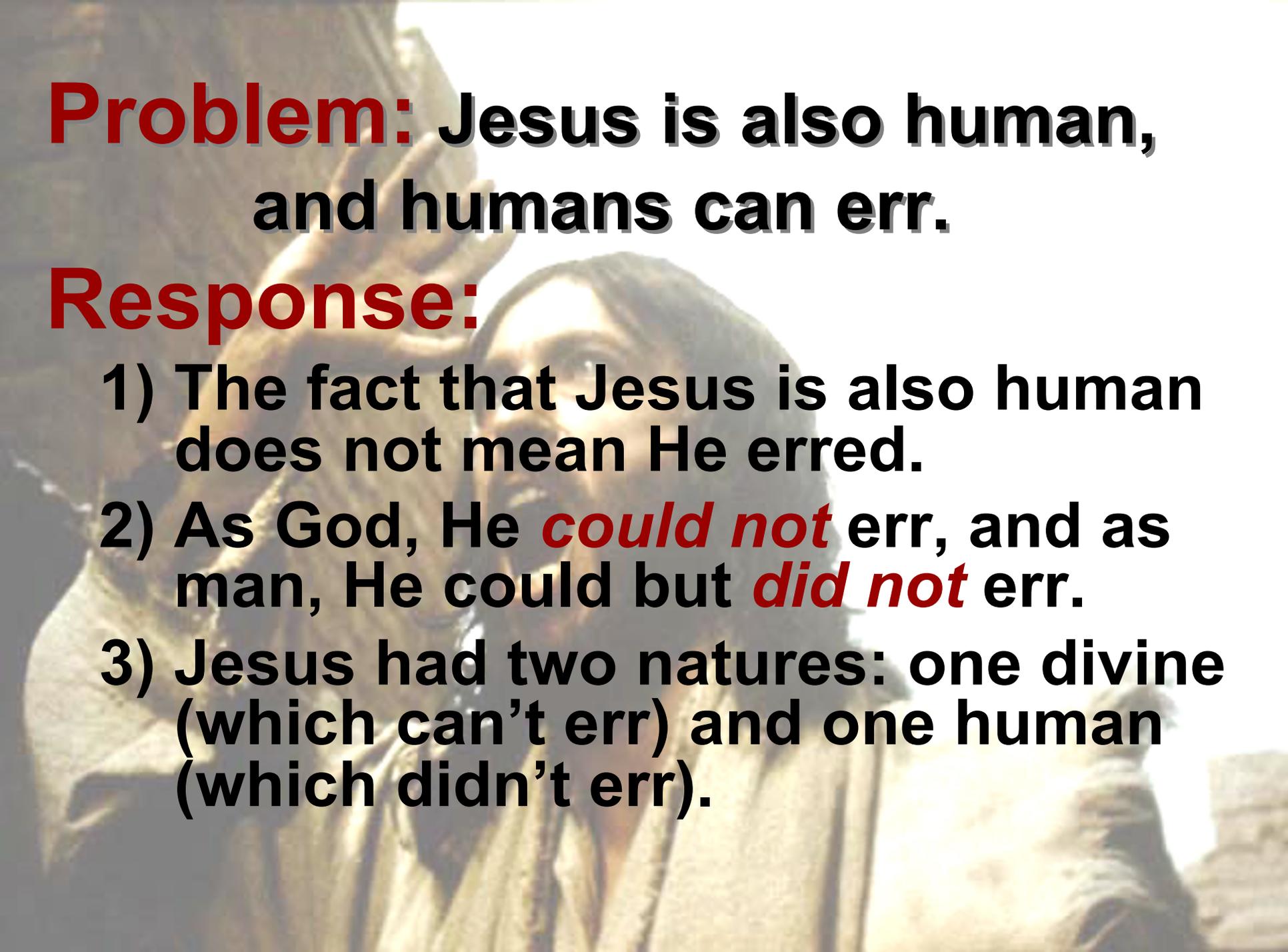
3. Therefore, Jesus can't error.

Note: We err unintentionally because we do not know everything. But God knows everything and, so, He cannot err, even unintentionally .

II. Why Jesus Cannot Err

C. The Moral Reason

1. Jesus is morally perfect.
2. **A morally perfect being cannot deceive (intentionally err).**
3. Therefore, Jesus cannot deceive anyone about what He knows.
4. As God, Jesus knows everything.
5. Hence, **Jesus can not deceive anyone about anything He teaches.**

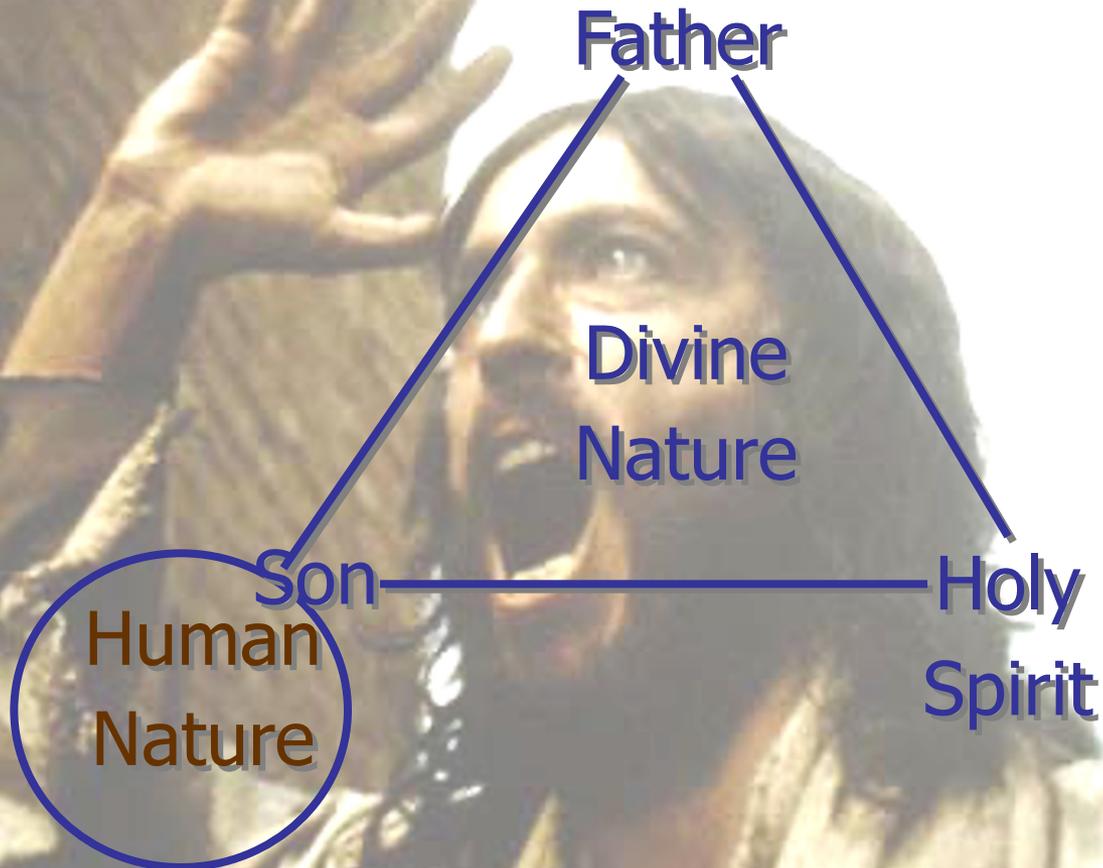


Problem: Jesus is also human,
and humans can err.

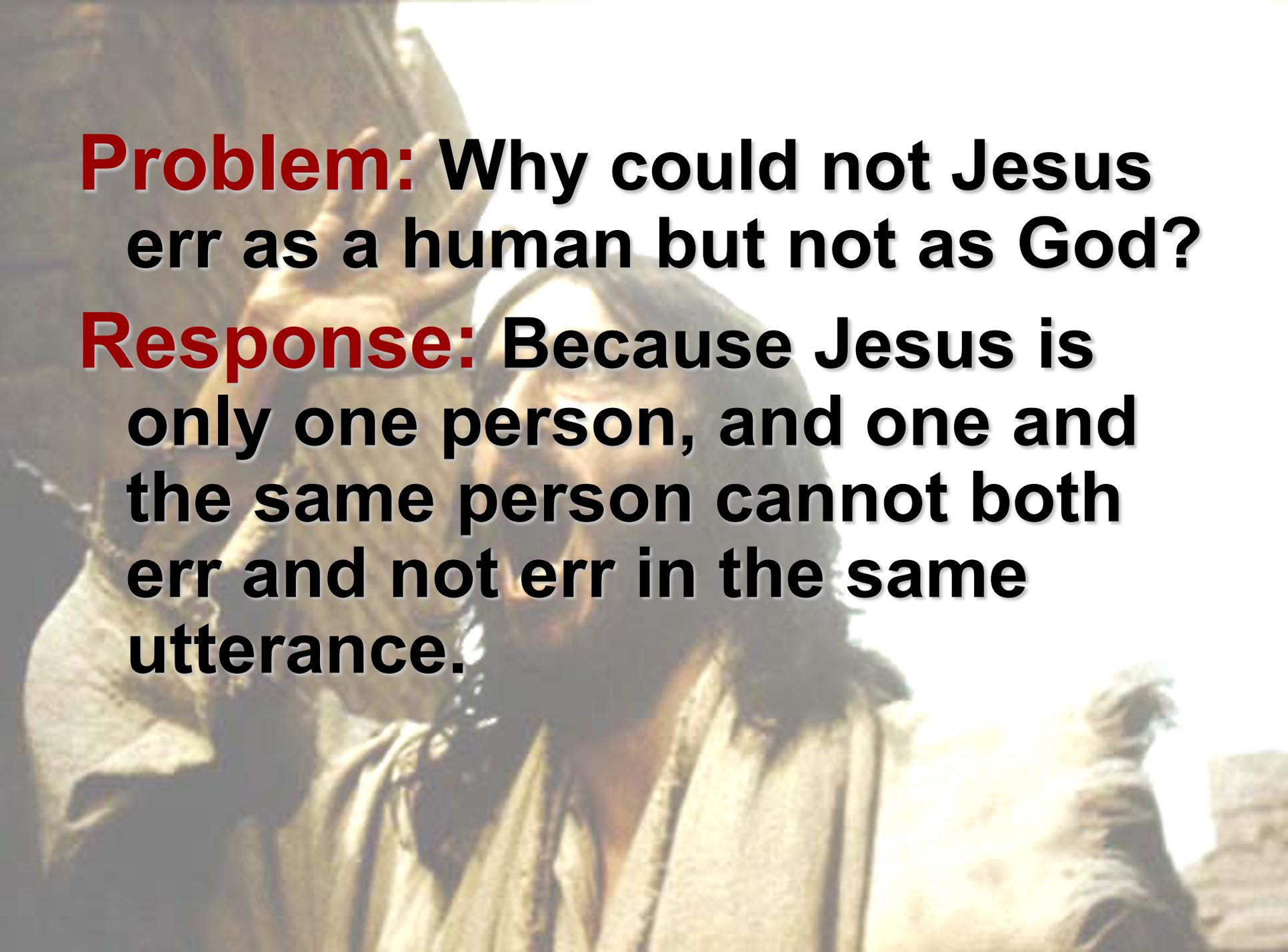
Response:

- 1) The fact that Jesus is also human does not mean He erred.
- 2) As God, He *could not* err, and as man, He could but *did not* err.
- 3) Jesus had two natures: one divine (which can't err) and one human (which didn't err).

God's Tri-Unity

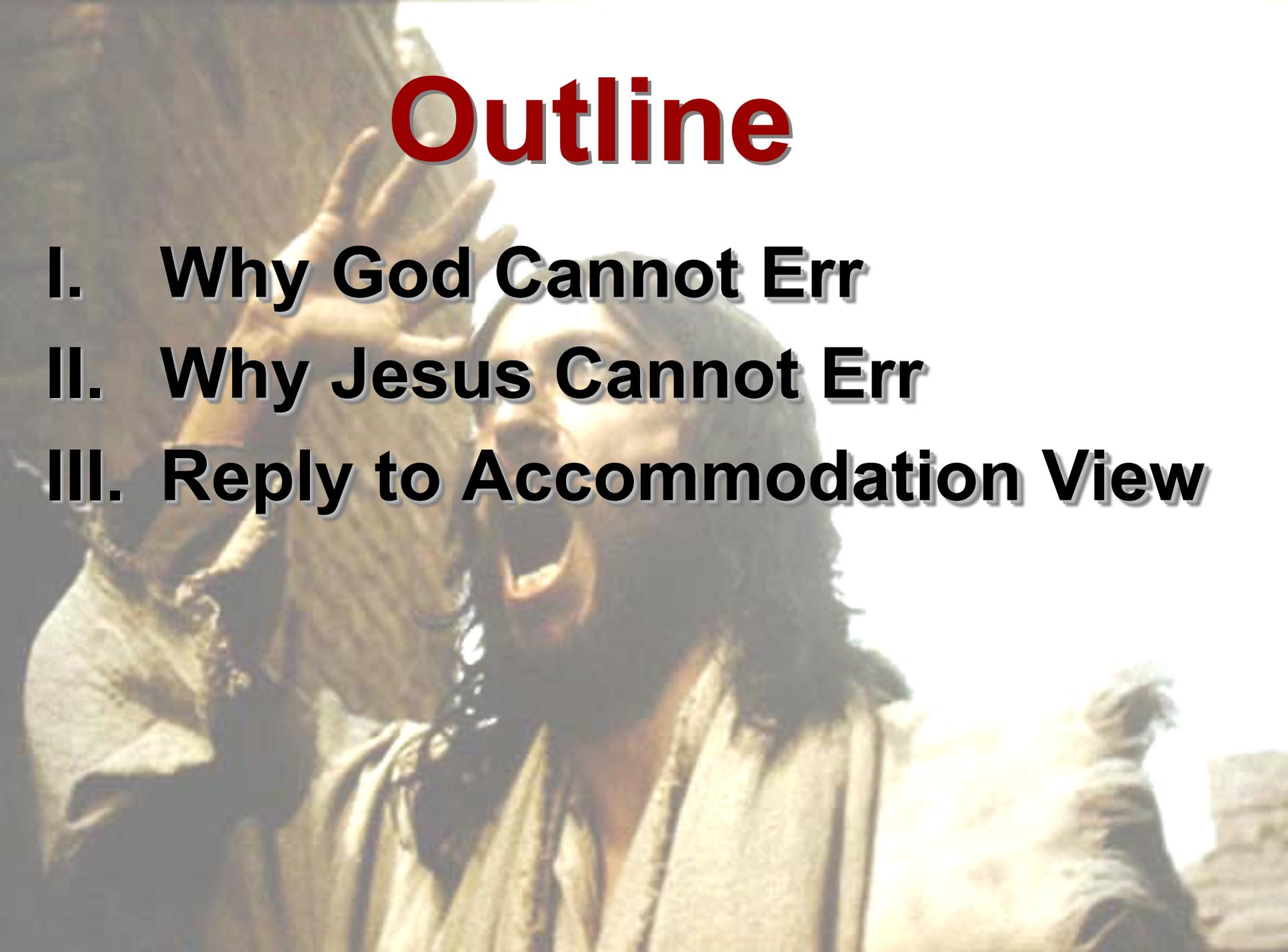


- Note:** 1) The **divine nature** could not err.
2) The **human nature** could but did not err.



Problem: Why could not Jesus err as a human but not as God?

Response: Because Jesus is only one person, and one and the same person cannot both err and not err in the same utterance.



Outline

I. Why God Cannot Err

II. Why Jesus Cannot Err

III. Reply to Accommodation View

III. Reply to Accommodation View

The Problem: God is infinite, and man is finite. So, it is argued that in order for God to communicate with human beings He must make some accommodations to human err.

Likewise, this theory holds as God had to accommodate Himself to our level in order to become a human being (Phil. 2:5-8).

Hence, it would seem that Jesus must accommodate to human err in order to speak with human beings.

Response:

First, just because God must *adapt to our finitude* does not mean He must *accommodate to our error*.

Second, He adapts Himself by use of *partial truths* but never accommodates to *actual errors*.

Third, there is a *condescension to our limits* but no *compromise with our error*.

Fourth, *anthropomorphisms* (speaking of God in human terms) are sometimes employed, but *myths* are never necessary. “We did not follow cunningly devised fables” (2 Pet. 1:16).

The Stork Story

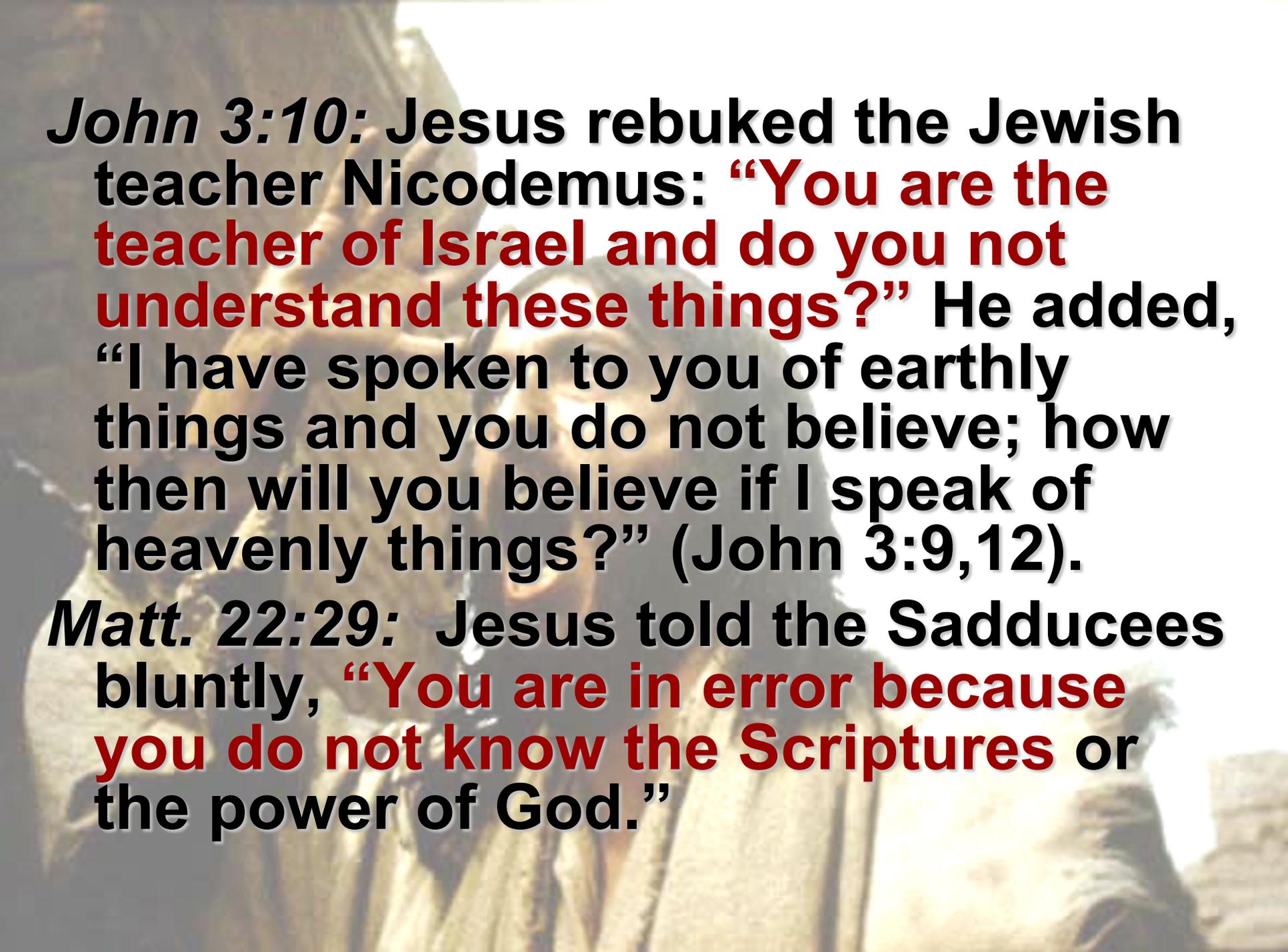


- **Falsehood:** Telling little children that storks bring babies.
- **Partial Truth:** Telling them that: a) Babies come from their mothers tummy, and later that b) Daddy puts a seed there, and later c)....

Fifth, Jesus never accommodated to human error in His teaching.

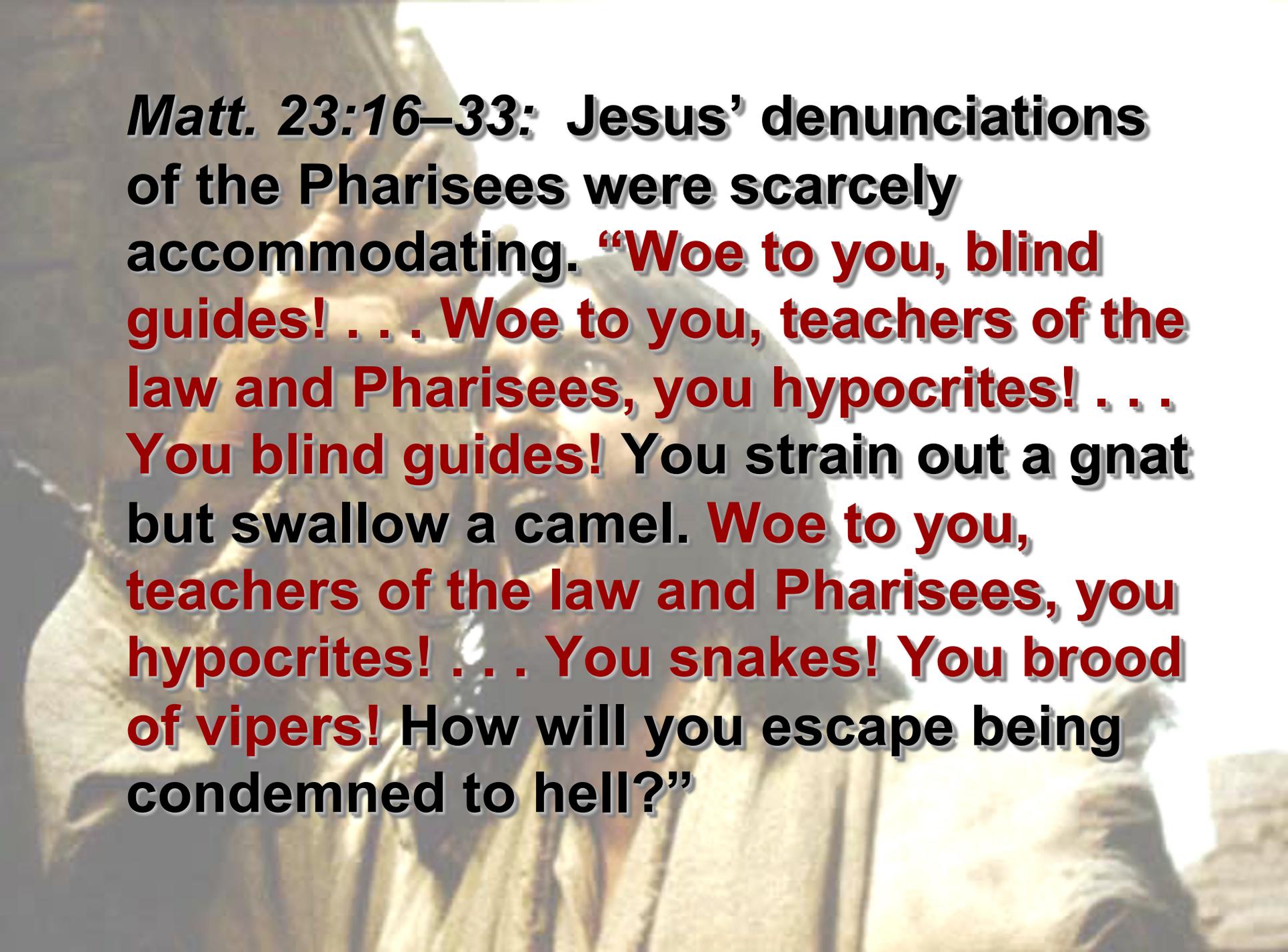
***Matt. 15:3, 6:* He declared “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? . . . Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.”**

***Matt. 5:21–22:* “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.” This or the similar formula of “It has been said. . . . But I say unto you . . .” is repeated in following verses (cf. Matt. 5:23–43).**

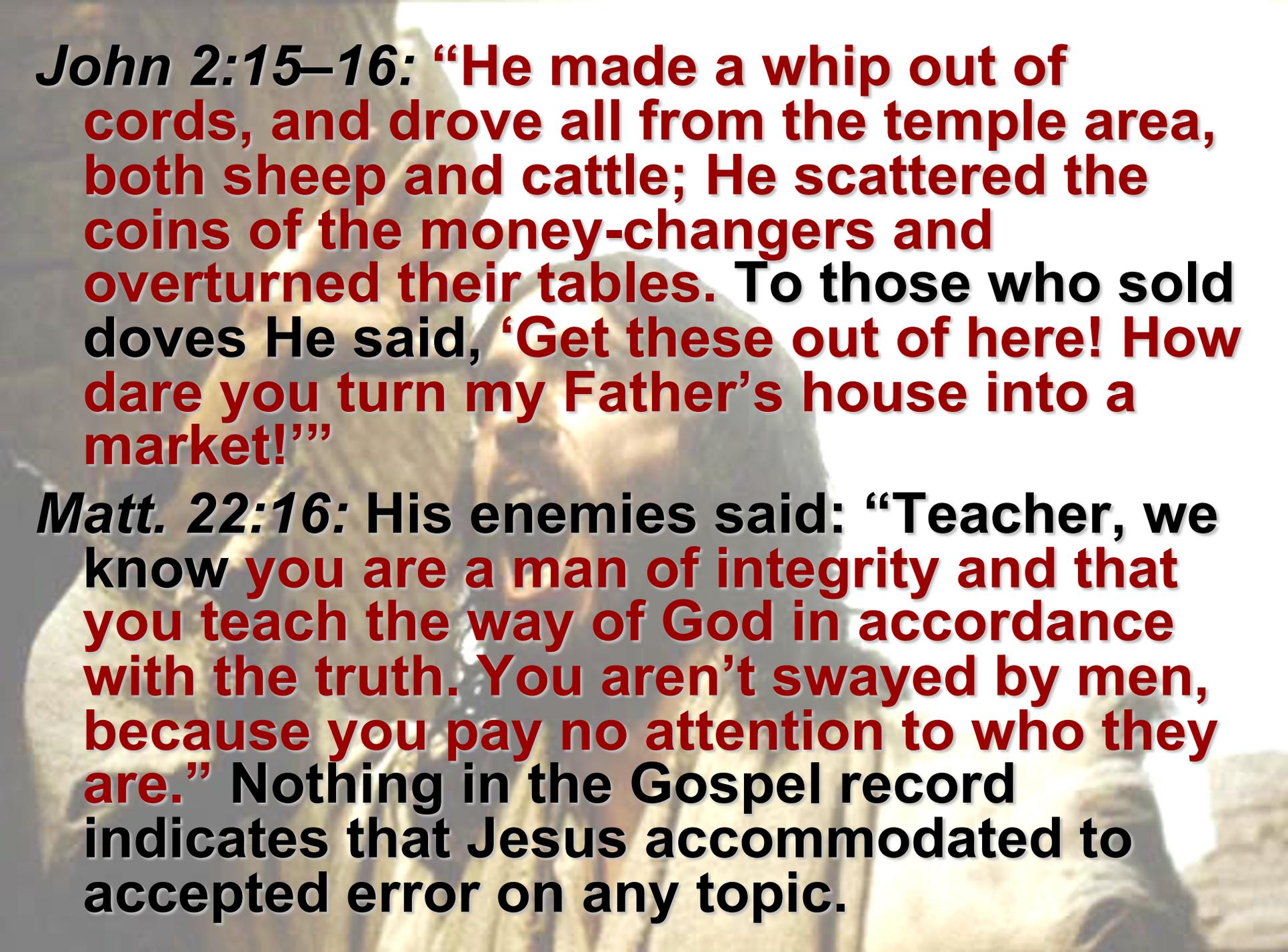


John 3:10: Jesus rebuked the Jewish teacher Nicodemus: **“You are the teacher of Israel and do you not understand these things?”** He added, “I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?” (John 3:9,12).

Matt. 22:29: Jesus told the Sadducees bluntly, **“You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.”**

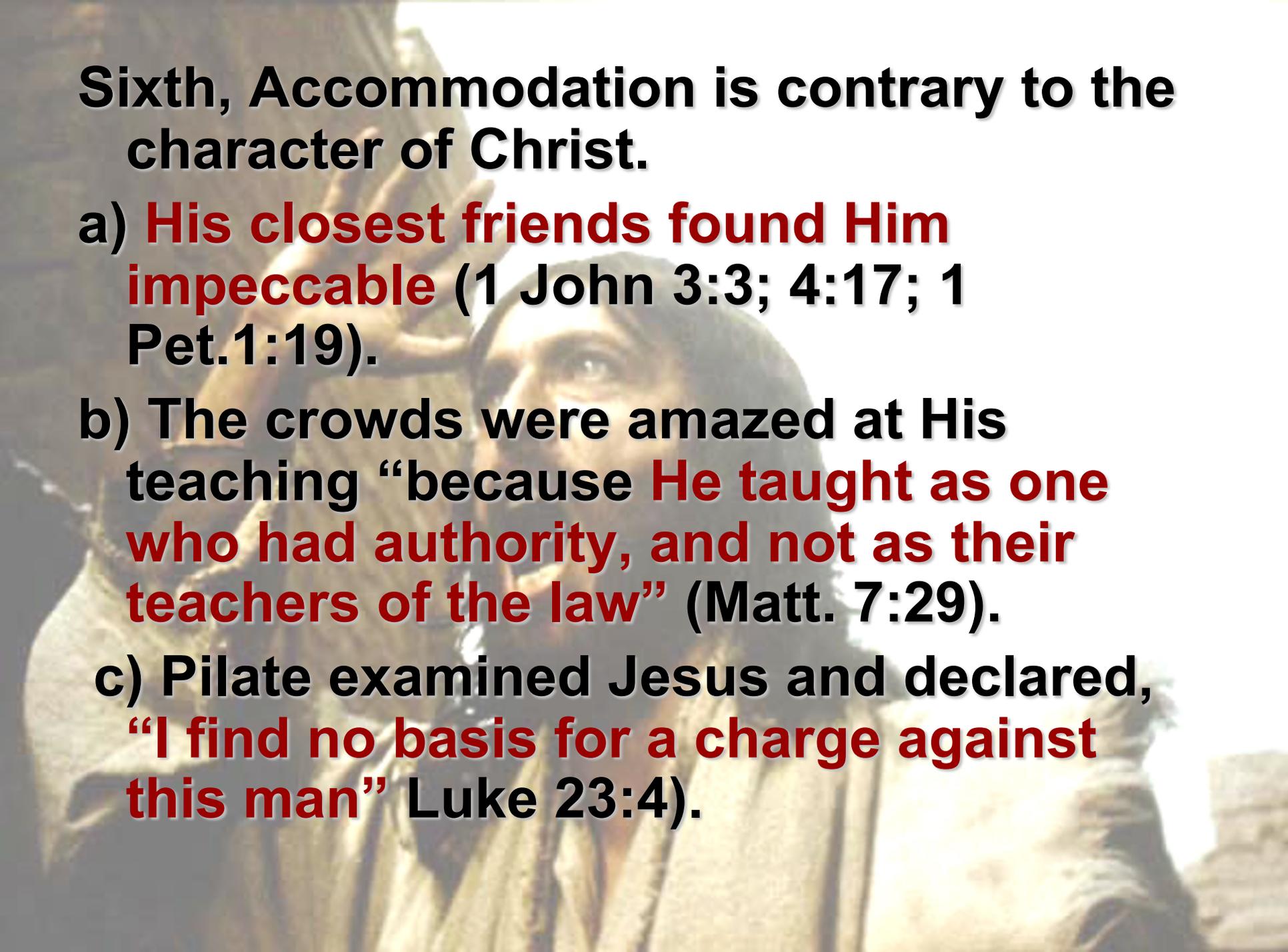


***Matt. 23:16–33:* Jesus' denunciations of the Pharisees were scarcely accommodating. "Woe to you, blind guides! . . . Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! . . . You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! . . . You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?"**



John 2:15–16: “He made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; He scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves He said, ‘Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!’”

Matt. 22:16: His enemies said: “Teacher, we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are.” Nothing in the Gospel record indicates that Jesus accommodated to accepted error on any topic.

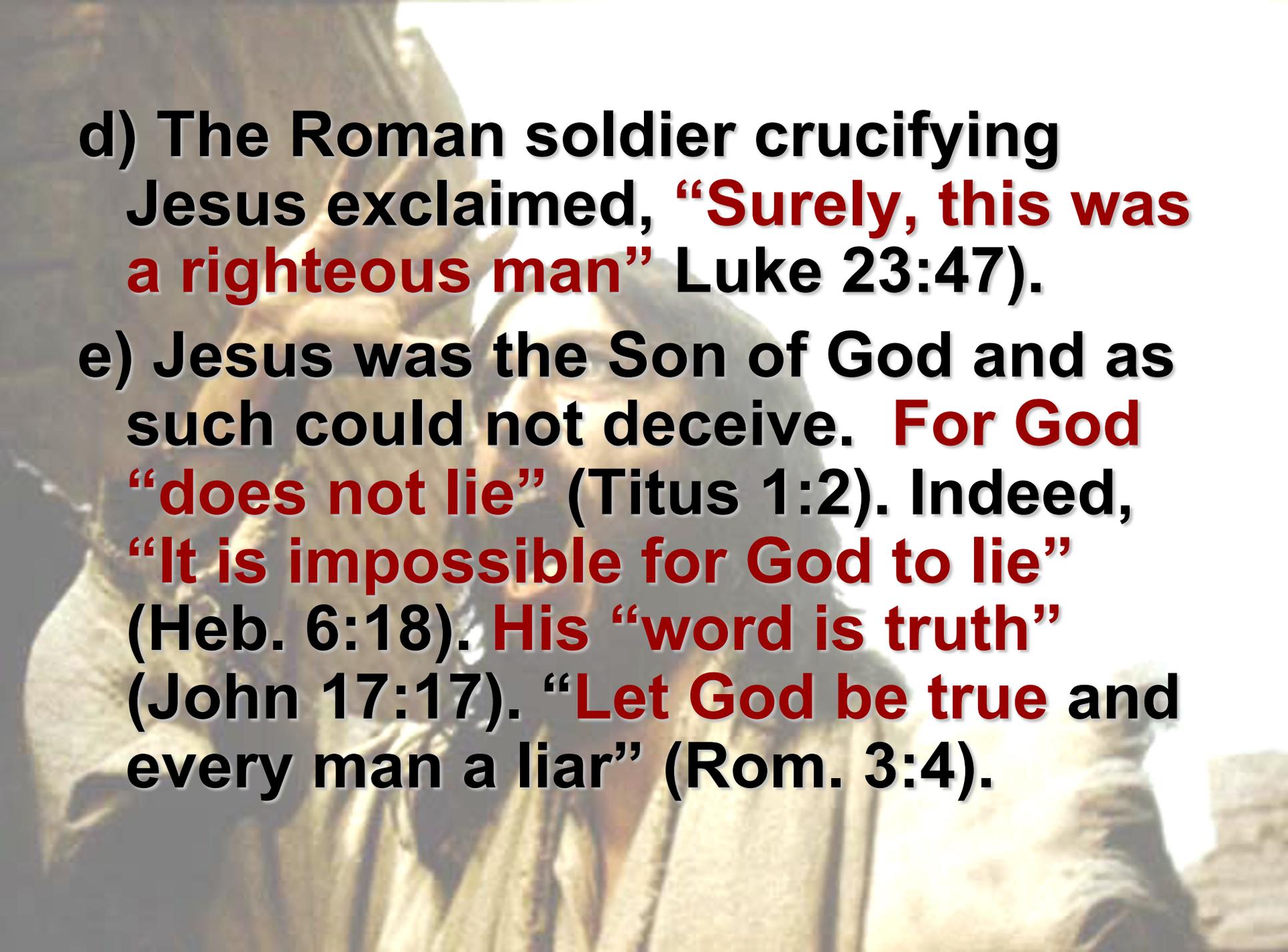


Sixth, Accommodation is contrary to the character of Christ.

a) His closest friends found Him impeccable (1 John 3:3; 4:17; 1 Pet.1:19).

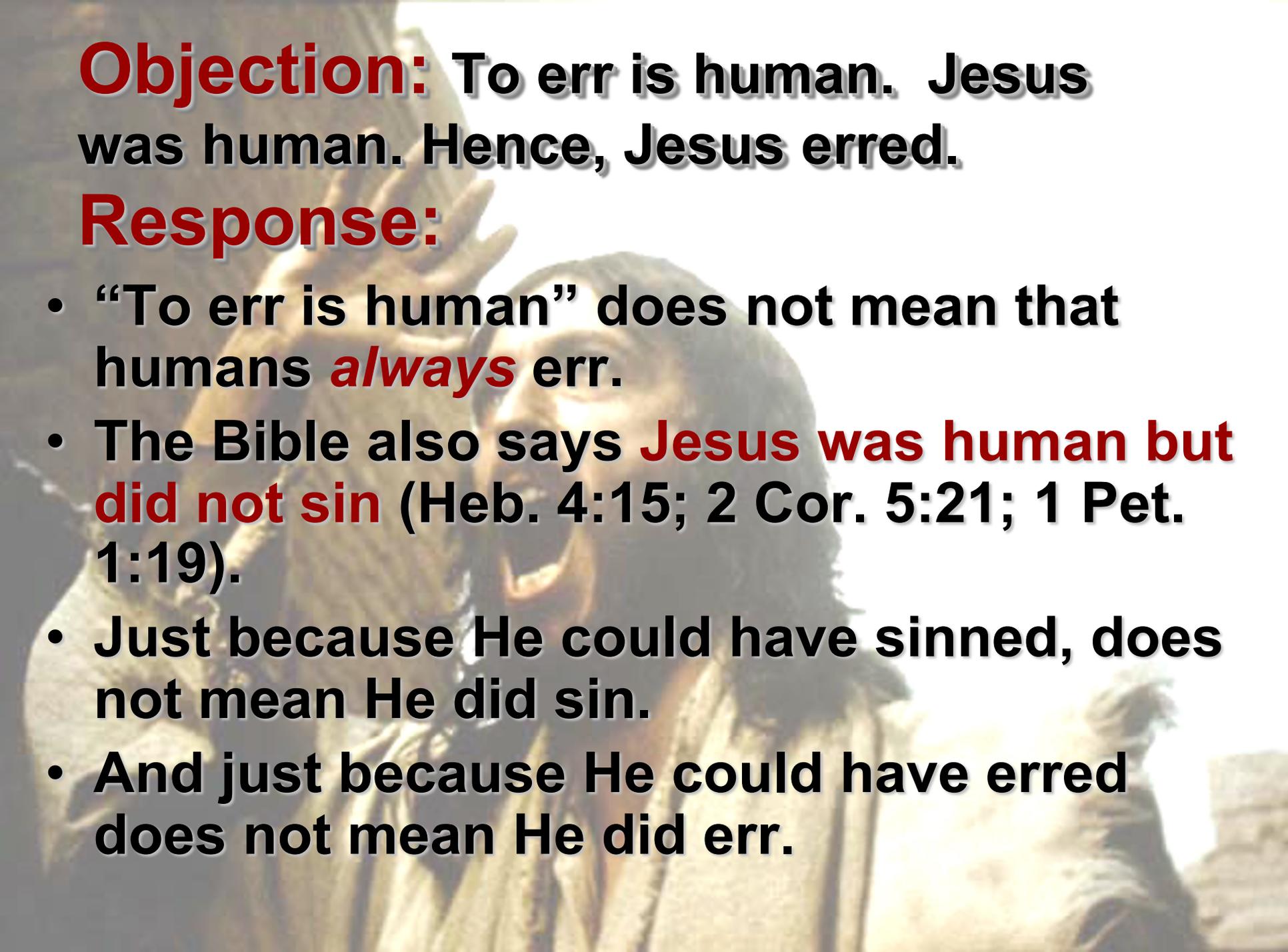
b) The crowds were amazed at His teaching “because He taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law” (Matt. 7:29).

c) Pilate examined Jesus and declared, “I find no basis for a charge against this man” (Luke 23:4).



d) The Roman soldier crucifying Jesus exclaimed, **“Surely, this was a righteous man”** (Luke 23:47).

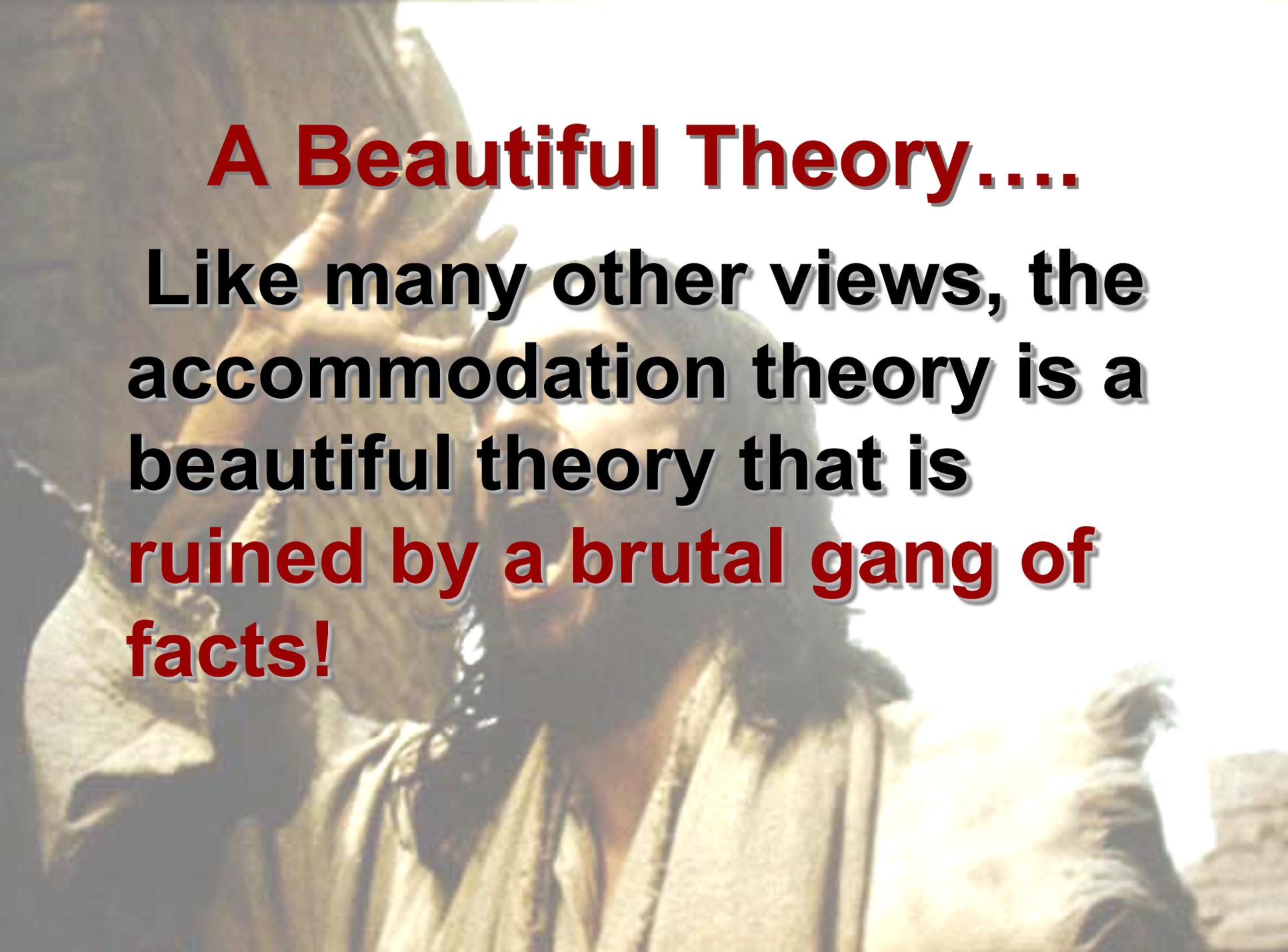
e) Jesus was the Son of God and as such could not deceive. **For God “does not lie”** (Titus 1:2). Indeed, **“It is impossible for God to lie”** (Heb. 6:18). **His “word is truth”** (John 17:17). **“Let God be true and every man a liar”** (Rom. 3:4).



Objection: To err is human. Jesus was human. Hence, Jesus erred.

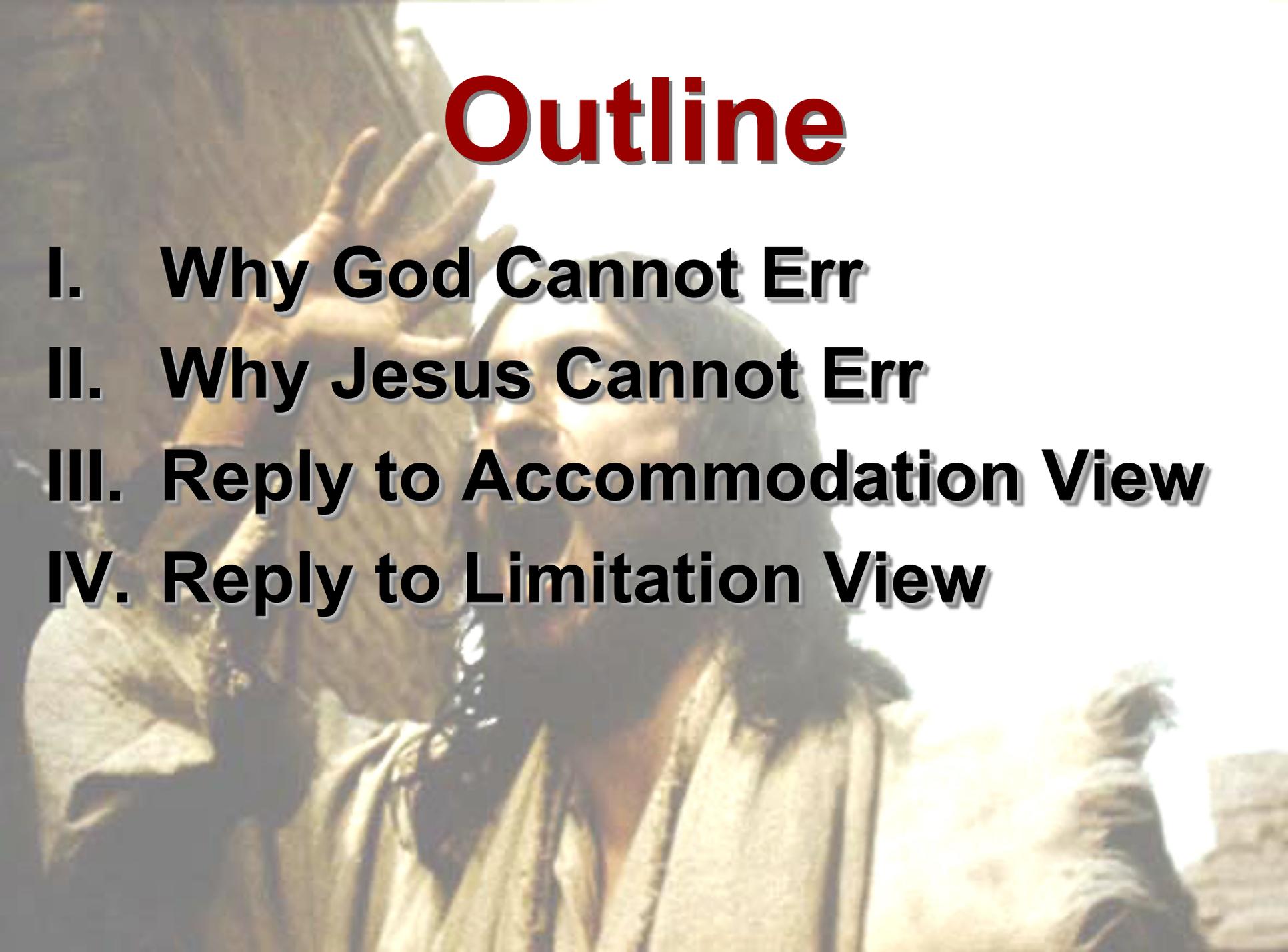
Response:

- “To err is human” does not mean that humans *always* err.
- The Bible also says **Jesus was human but did not sin** (Heb. 4:15; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 1:19).
- Just because He could have sinned, does not mean He did sin.
- And just because He could have erred does not mean He did err.

A man with a beard and a turban, wearing a light-colored robe, is shown from the chest up. He has his right hand raised, palm facing forward, in a gesture of protest or prayer. The background is bright and slightly blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the image.

A Beautiful Theory....

Like many other views, the accommodation theory is a beautiful theory that is ruined by a brutal gang of facts!



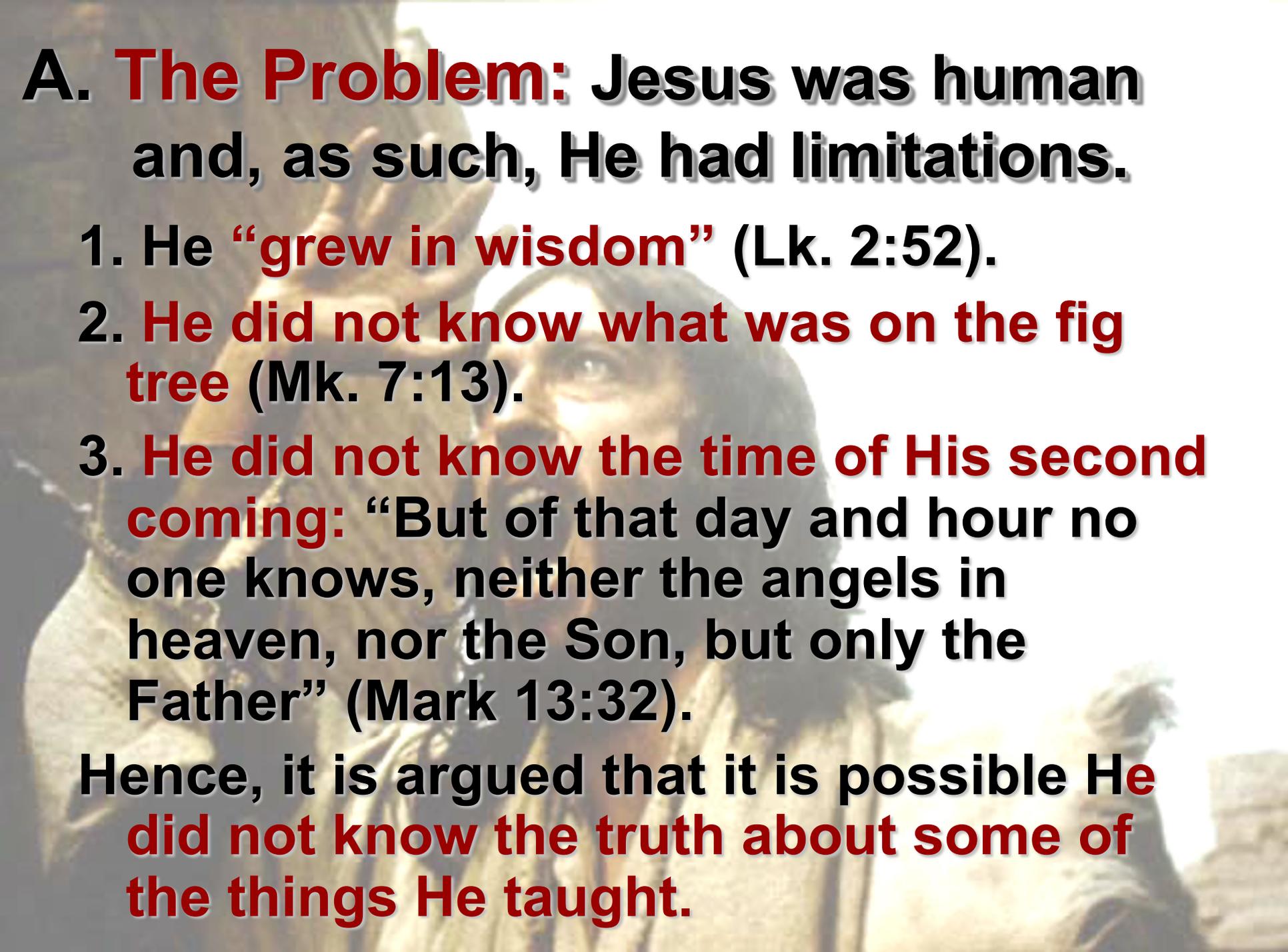
Outline

I. Why God Cannot Err

II. Why Jesus Cannot Err

III. Reply to Accommodation View

IV. Reply to Limitation View



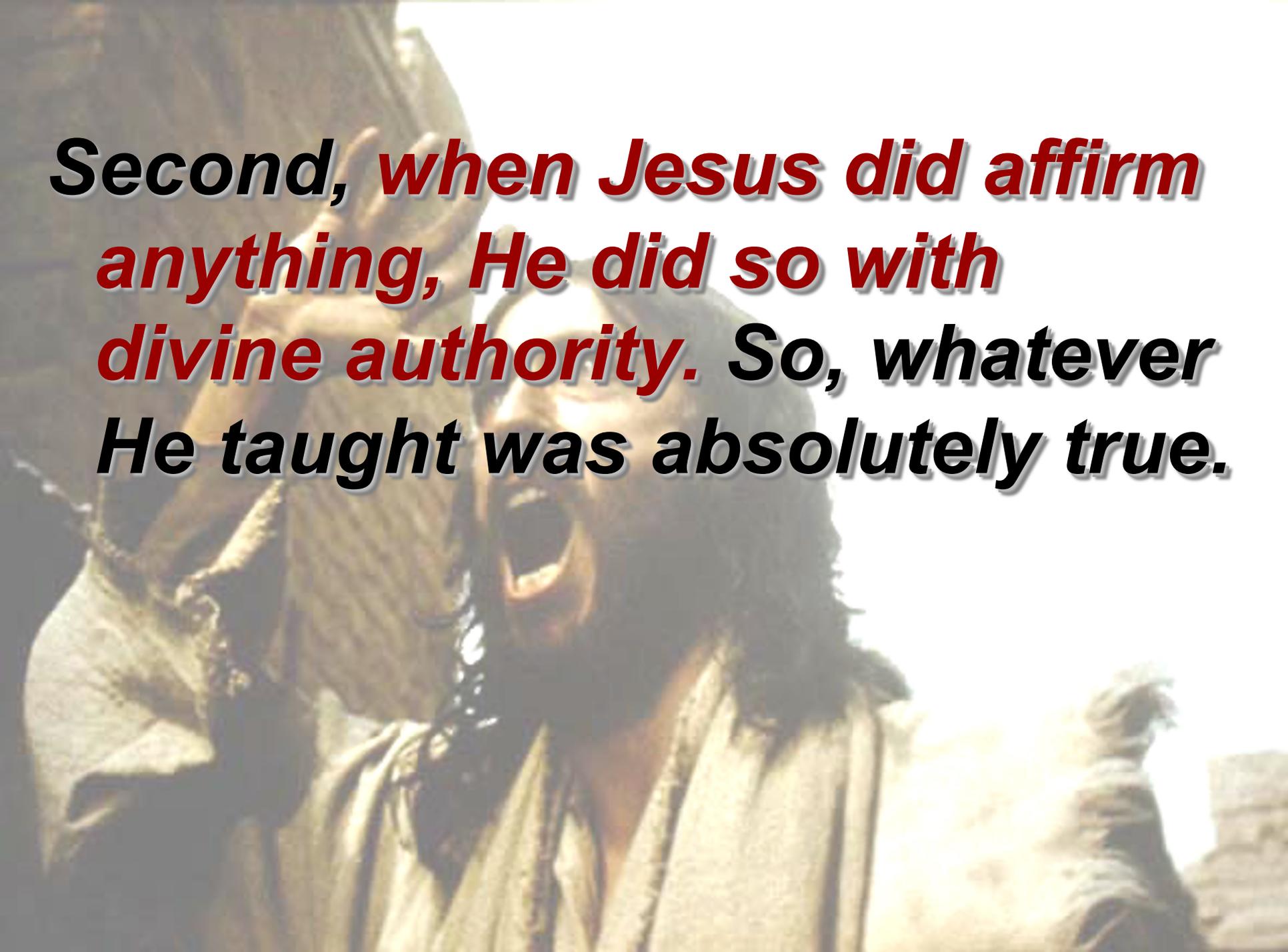
A. The Problem: Jesus was human and, as such, He had limitations.

1. He “grew in wisdom” (Lk. 2:52).
2. He did not know what was on the fig tree (Mk. 7:13).
3. He did not know the time of His second coming: “But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father” (Mark 13:32).

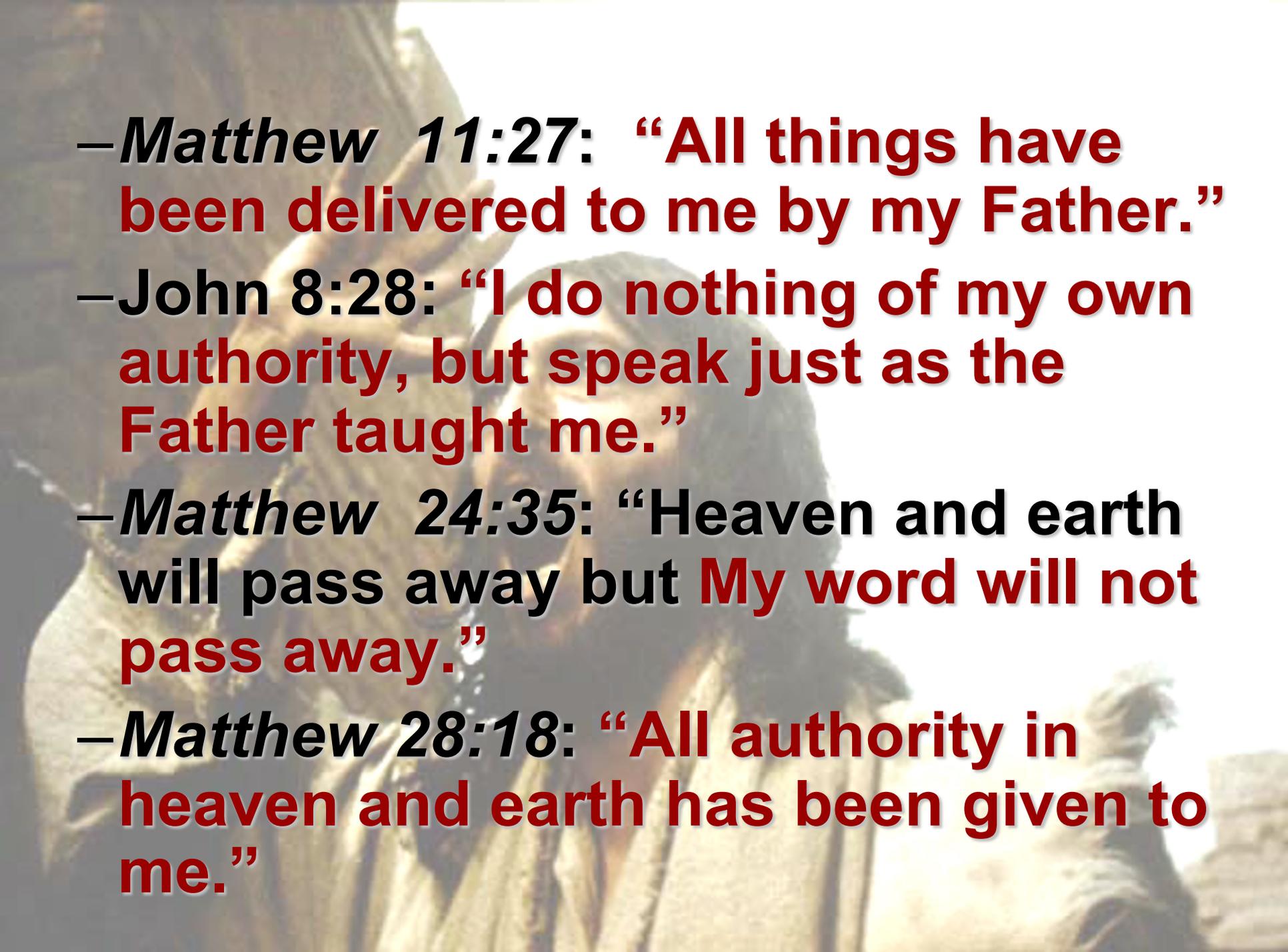
Hence, it is argued that it is possible He did not know the truth about some of the things He taught.

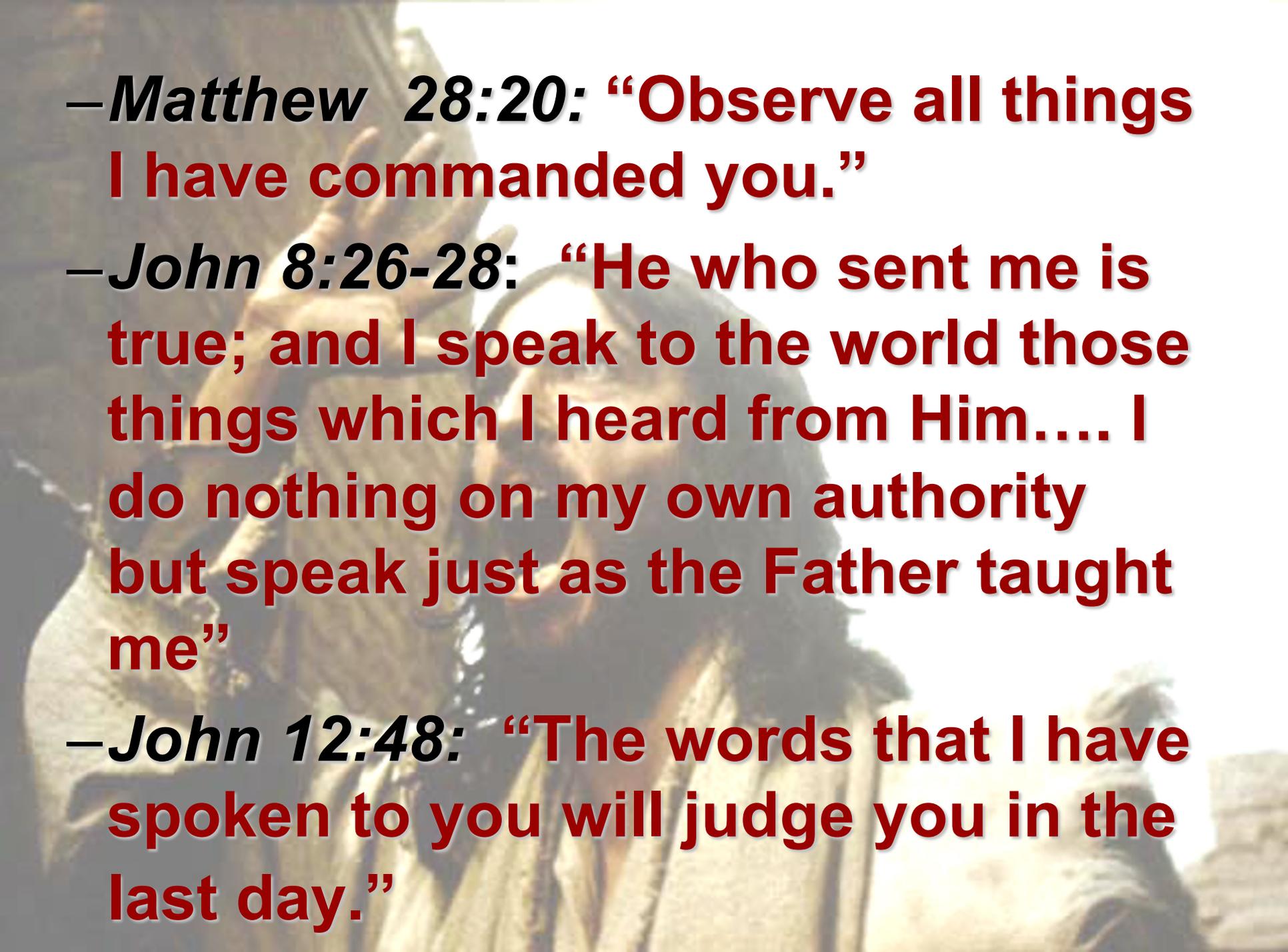
Response:

- *First, as a human being **Jesus** never taught in areas where he lacked knowledge.*
 - He did not know the time of His second coming. So, He never taught anything in that area.
 - Hence, **He made no errors. For what He did not know, that He did not teach.**



Second, when Jesus did affirm anything, He did so with divine authority. So, whatever He taught was absolutely true.

- 
- **Matthew 11:27:** “All things have been delivered to me by my Father.”
 - **John 8:28:** “I do nothing of my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me.”
 - **Matthew 24:35:** “Heaven and earth will pass away but **My word will not pass away.**”
 - **Matthew 28:18:** “All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me.”

- 
- **Matthew 28:20:** “Observe all things I have commanded you.”
 - **John 8:26-28:** “He who sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him.... I do nothing on my own authority but speak just as the Father taught me”
 - **John 12:48:** “The words that I have spoken to you will judge you in the last day.”

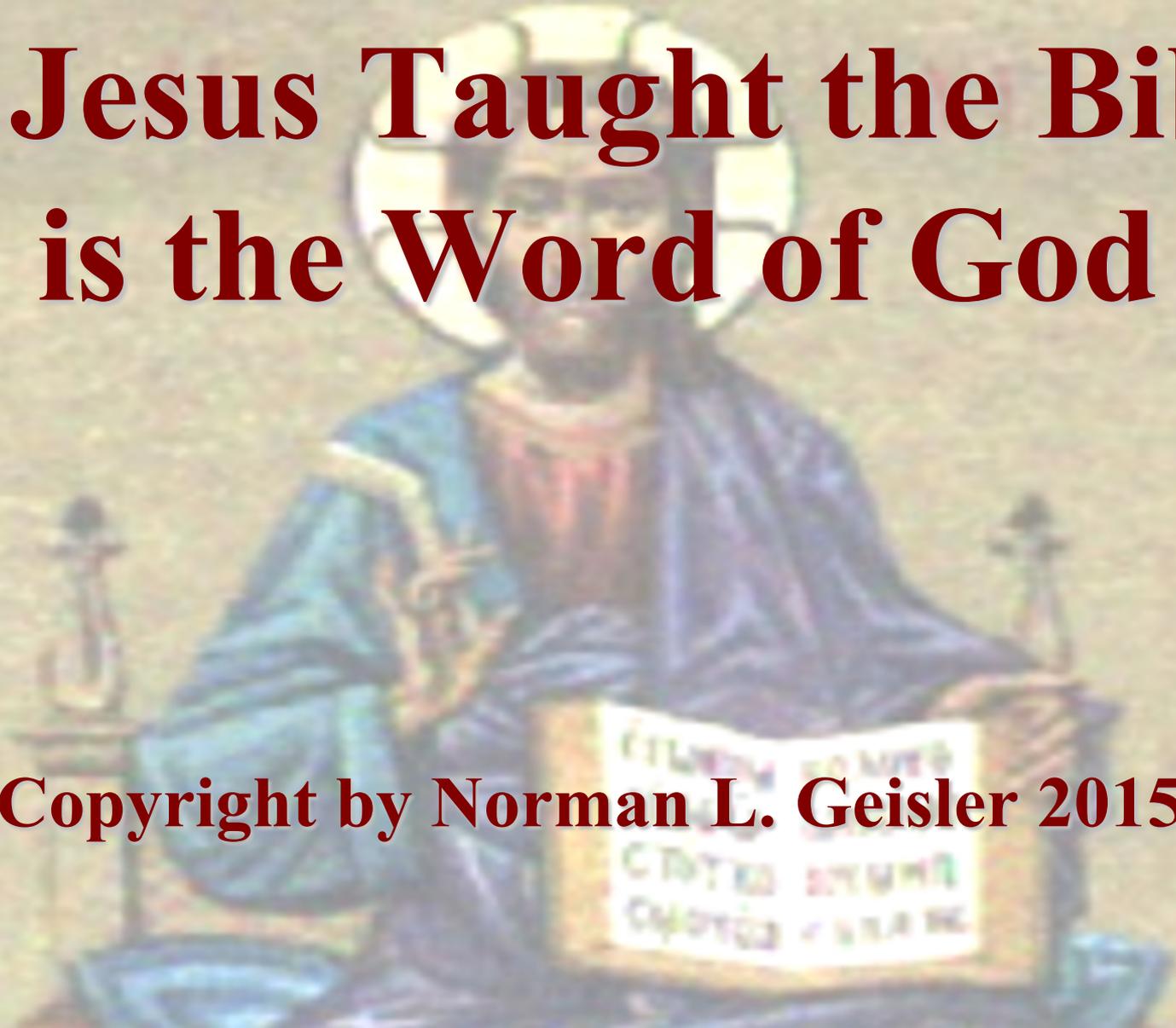
Conclusion:

It is evident from these texts that **whatever Jesus did teach, He taught with divine authority.** That is, He spoke only what the Father told Him to speak, and that Jesus' words, just like God's (Matt. 5:17-18), will never pass away (Matt. 24:35).

So, even what Jesus taught as a human being, was absolutely true. He not only was "the truth" (John 14:6), but everything He spoke was the truth. As the Son of God He could not err. And as the son of Mary He did not err. **He was both divine and human, but never erred as either.**

11. Jesus Taught the Bible is the Word of God

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Twelve Points that Show Christianity is True

1. Truth about reality is knowable.
2. The opposite of true is false.
3. It is true that a theistic God exists.
4. If God exists then miracles are possible.
5. Miracles can be used to confirm a message from God.
6. The New Testament is historically reliable.
7. The New Testament says Jesus claimed to be God.
8. Jesus' claim to be God was miraculously confirmed by:
 - a. His fulfillment of many prophecies about Himself;
 - b. His sinless and miraculous life;
 - c. His prediction and accomplishment of His resurrection
9. Therefore, Jesus is God.
10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.
11. Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.
12. Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God (and anything opposed to it is false).

Outline

What Jesus Taught About:

I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

II. The New Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

III. Christ vs. the Critics

What Jesus Taught About:

I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

- 1. It is divinely authoritative (Mt. 4:4,7,10).**
- 2. It is imperishable (Mt. 5:17-18).**
- 3. It is infallible (Jn. 10:35).**
- 4. It is inerrant (without error) (Mt. 22:29).**
- 5. It is historically reliable (Mt. 12:40; Mt. 24:37-38).**
- 6. It is scientifically accurate (Mt. 19:4-5).**
- 7. It has ultimate supremacy (Mt. 15:3,6).**

1. It is Divinely Authoritative

Jesus said:

“It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’... It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test....’ Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only’” (Mt. 4:4, 7, 10).

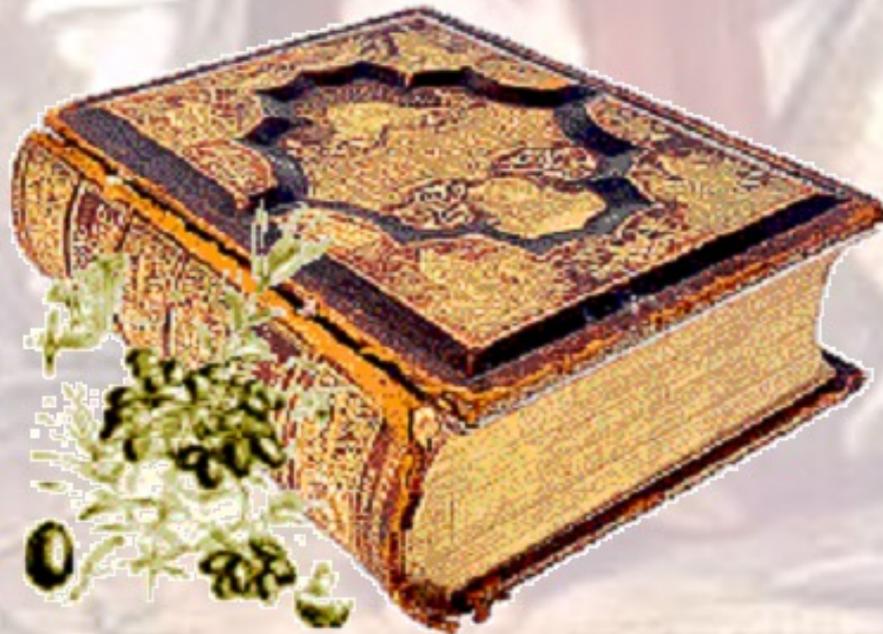
*“How is it that David **by the Spirit** calls him Lord...” (Mt. 22:43 cf. 2 Sam. 23:2)*

2. It is imperishable

Matthew 5:17-18: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”

3. It is infallible

*“If he called them ‘gods,’ to whom **the word of God came**—and **the Scripture cannot be broken....**” (John 10:35)*



4. It is inerrant (without error)

Jesus replied: “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God” (Mt. 22:29).

“Your Word is truth” (Jn. 17:17).



Why The Bible Cannot Error

1. The Bible is the Word of God.
2. God Cannot Err (Heb. 6:18; Titus 1:2).
3. Therefore, the Bible Cannot Err.

Mt. 4:4: *“It is written.... Live...by every word that comes out of the mouth of God.”*

Rom. 3:4: *“Let God be true and every man a liar.”*

Jn. 17:17: *“Thy Word is truth.”*

Jn. 10:35: *“The Scripture cannot be broken.”*

5. It is historically reliable

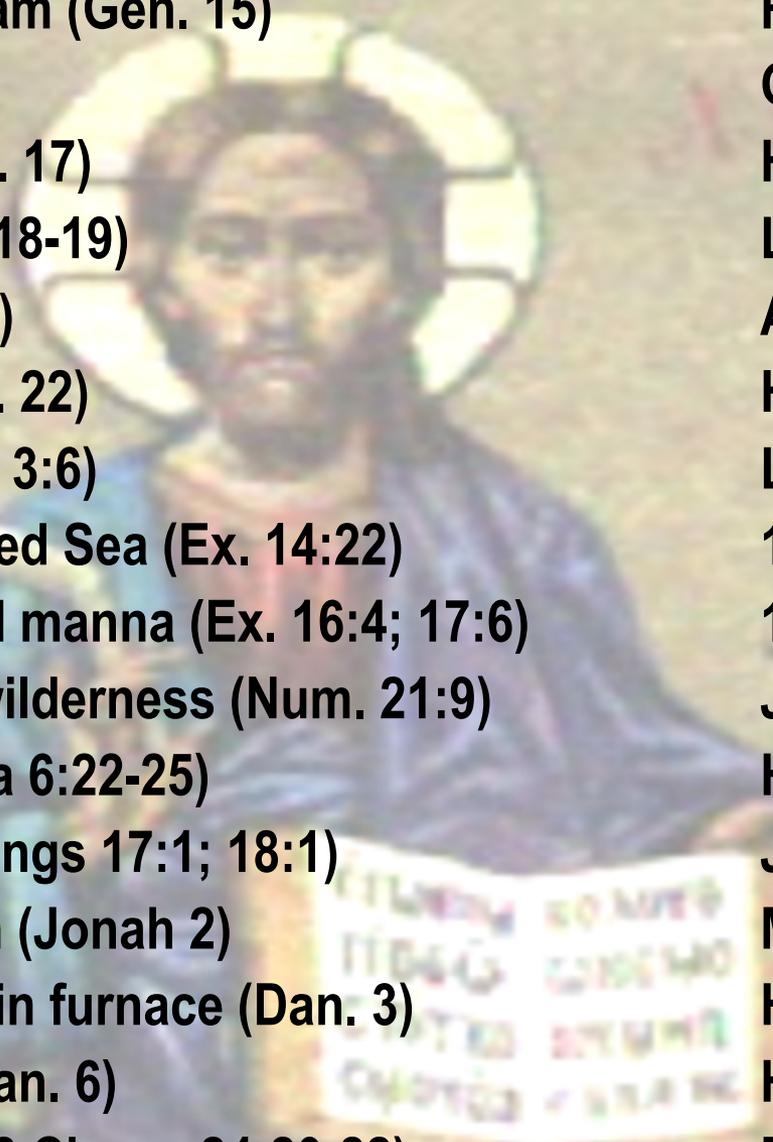
Matthew 12:40: *“For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”*

Matthew 24:37-38: *“As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark.”*

What Jesus and His Apostles Affirmed about the OT

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Creation of the universe (Gen. 1) | John 1:3; Col. 1:16 |
| 2. Creation of Adam and Eve (Gen. 1-2) | 1 Tim. 2:13-14 |
| 3. Marriage of Adam and Eve (Gen. 1-2) | 1 Tim. 2:13 |
| 4. Temptation of the woman (Gen. 3) | 1 Tim. 2:14 |
| 5. Disobedience and sin of Adam (Gen. 3) | Rom. 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:22 |
| 6. Sacrifices of Abel and Cain (Gen. 4) | Heb. 11:4 |
| 7. Murder of Abel by Cain (Gen. 4) | 1 John 3:12 |
| 8. Birth of Seth (Gen. 4) | Luke 3:38 |
| 9. Translation of Enoch (Gen. 5) | Heb. 11:5 |
| 10. Marriage before the flood (Gen. 6) | Luke 17:27 |
| 11. The flood and destruction of man (Gen. 7) | Matt. 24:39 |
| 12. Preservation of Noah and his family (Gen. 8-9) | 2 Peter 2:5 |
| 13. Genealogy of Shem (Gen. 10) | Luke 3:35-36 |
| 14. Birth of Abraham (Gen. 11) | Luke 3:34 |
| 15. Call of Abraham (Gen. 12-13) | Heb. 11:8 |
| 16. Tithes to Melchizedek (Gen. 14) | Heb. 7:1-3 |

What Jesus and His Apostles Affirmed about the OT

- 
- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 17. Justification of Abraham (Gen. 15) | Rom. 4:3 |
| 18. Ishmael (Gen. 16) | Gal. 4:21-24 |
| 19. Promise of Isaac (Gen. 17) | Heb. 11:18 |
| 20. Lot and Sodom (Gen. 18-19) | Luke 17:29 |
| 21. Birth of Isaac (Gen. 21) | Acts 7:9-10 |
| 22. Offering of Isaac (Gen. 22) | Heb. 11:17 |
| 23. The burning bush (Ex. 3:6) | Luke 20:32 |
| 24. Exodus through the Red Sea (Ex. 14:22) | 1 Cor. 10:1-2 |
| 25. Provision of water and manna (Ex. 16:4; 17:6) | 1 Cor. 10:3-5 |
| 26. Lifting up serpent in wilderness (Num. 21:9) | John 3:14 |
| 27. Fall of Jericho (Joshua 6:22-25) | Heb. 11:30 |
| 28. Miracles of Elijah (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1) | Jas. 5:17 |
| 29. Jonah in the great fish (Jonah 2) | Matt. 12:40 |
| 30. Three Hebrew youths in furnace (Dan. 3) | Heb. 11:34 |
| 31. Daniel in lion's den (Dan. 6) | Heb. 11:33 |
| 32. Slaying of Zechariah (2 Chron. 24:20-22) | Matt. 23:35 |

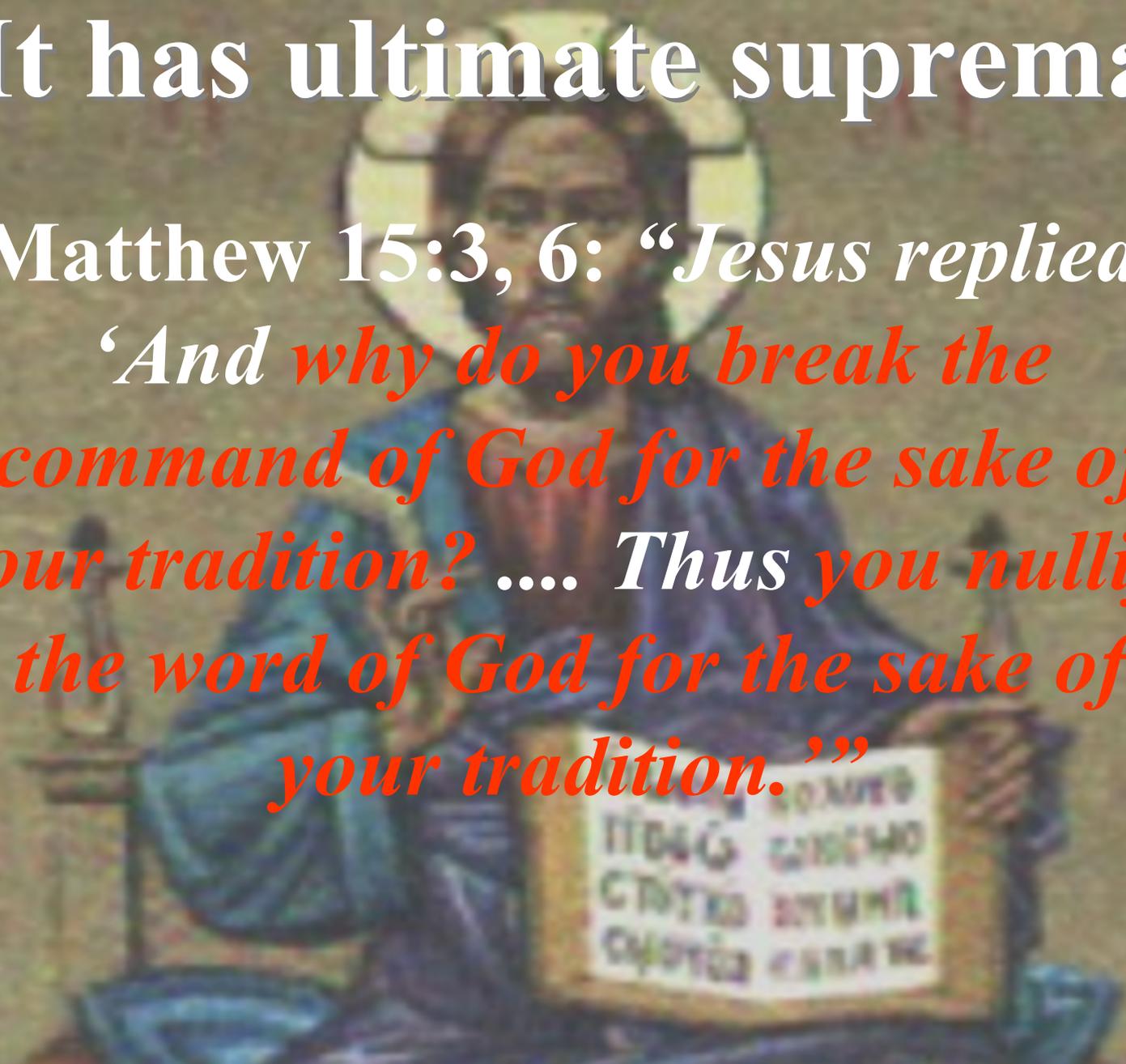
6. It is scientifically accurate

Matthew 19:4-5: “*Haven't you read,*’ he replied, *‘that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’”*



7. It has ultimate supremacy

Matthew 15:3, 6: *“Jesus replied, ‘And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? ... Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.’”*



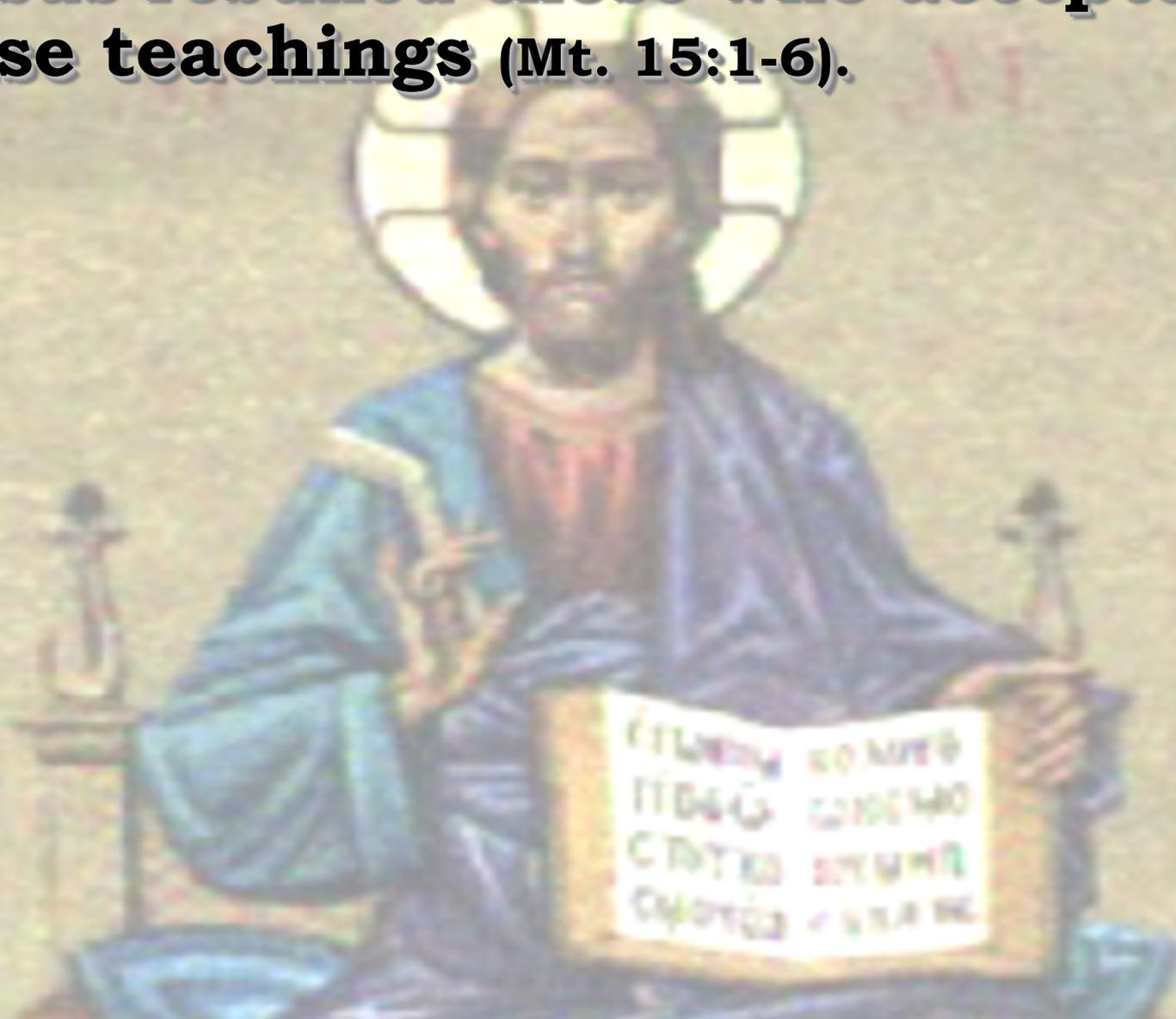
8. Inevitability—“But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that **it must be so.** (Matt.; 26:54; Jn. 5:39).|

9. Unity— “Beginning at Moses and all the prophets He expounded to them **the things concerning Himself.**” (Luke 24:27, 44).

10. Clarity— “**O Foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken. Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory**” (Luke 24:25).

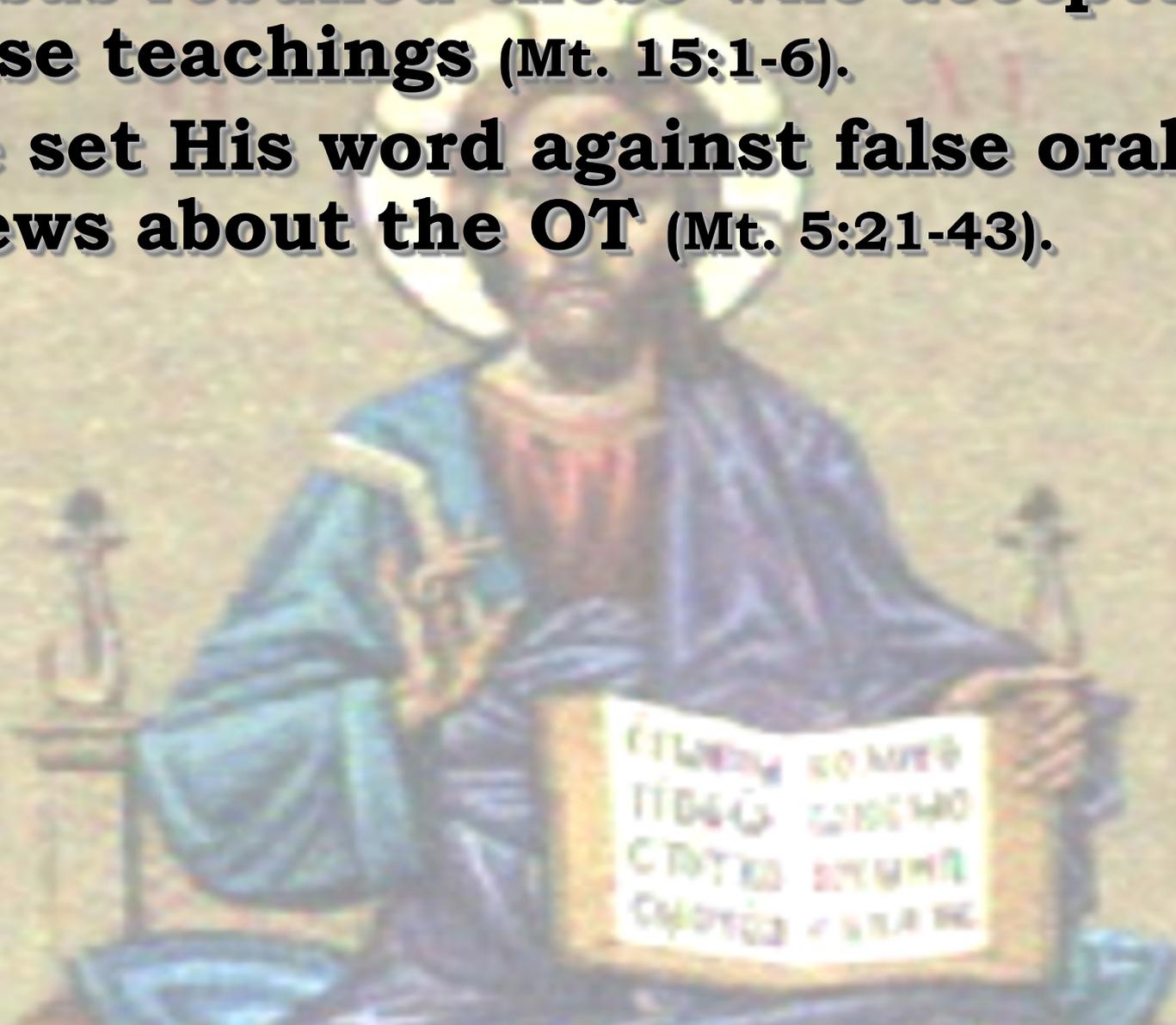
No accommodation to false teachings

1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).



No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
- 2. He set His word against false oral views about the OT (Mt. 5:21-43).**

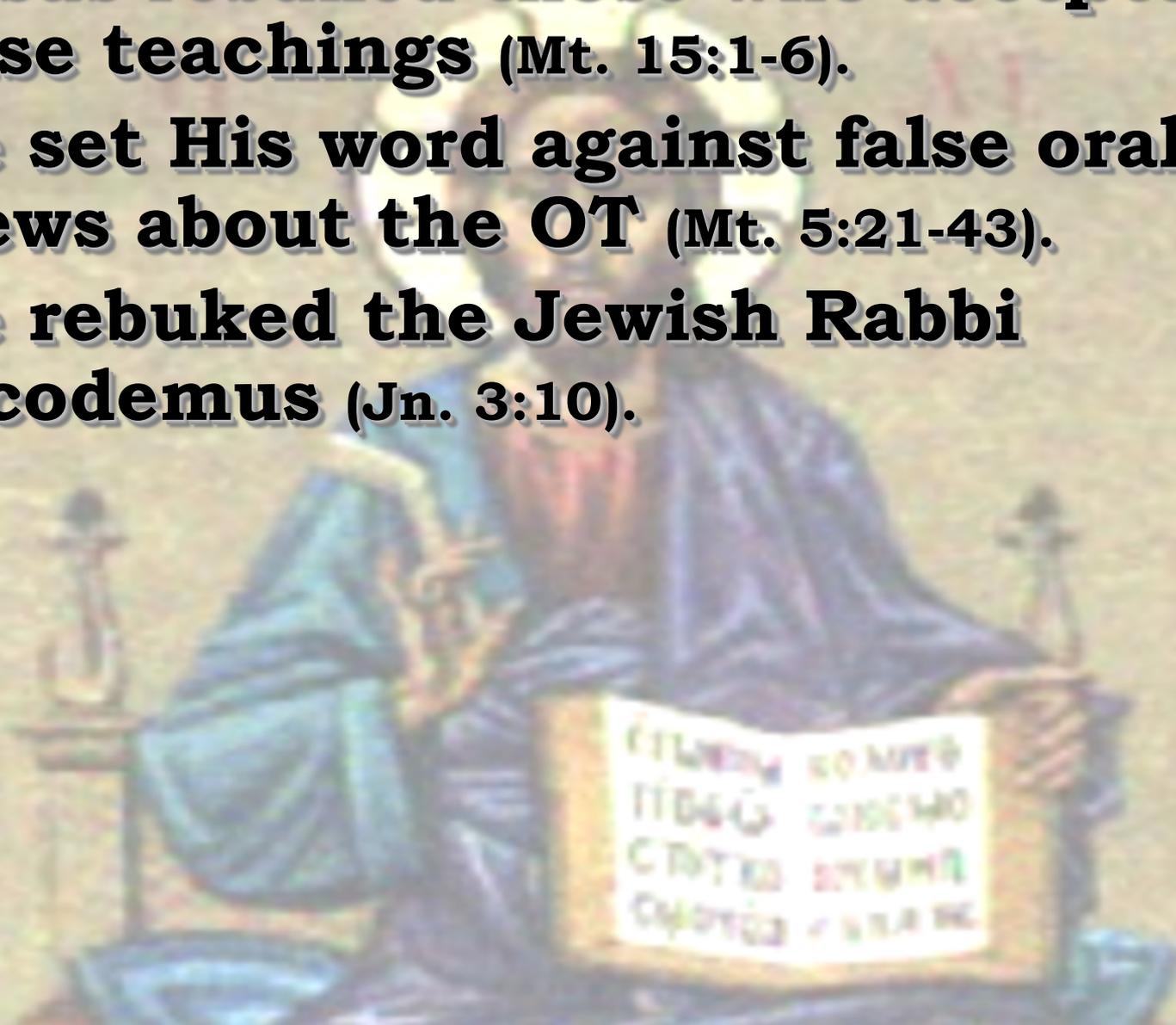


**“You have heard it said,... but I say unto you”
(Mt. 5:21f)**



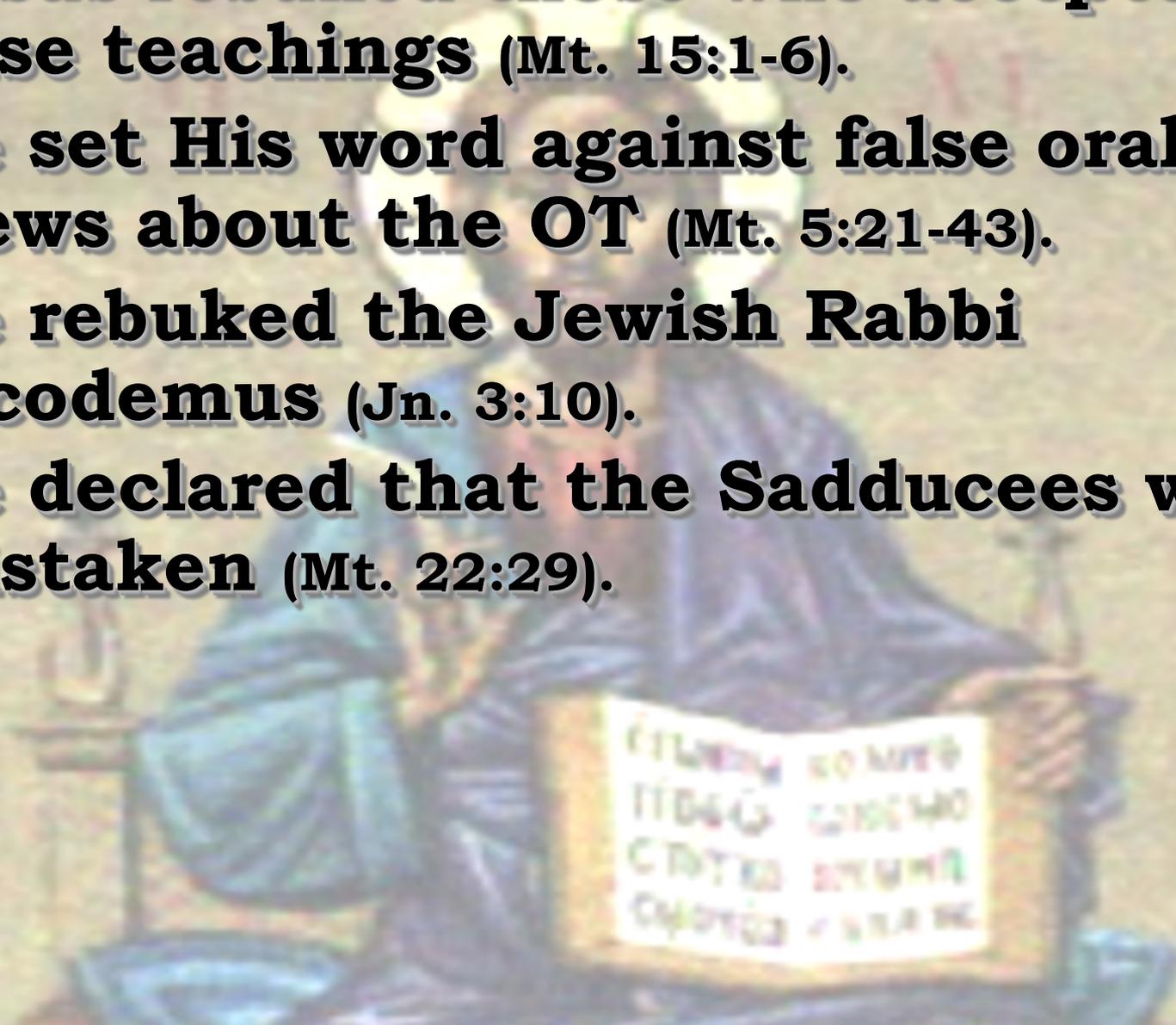
No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
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- 3. He rebuked the Jewish Rabbi Nicodemus (Jn. 3:10).**



No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
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- 3. He rebuked the Jewish Rabbi Nicodemus (Jn. 3:10).**
- 4. He declared that the Sadducees were mistaken (Mt. 22:29).**



No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
- 2. He set His word against false oral views about the OT (Mt. 5:21-43).**
- 3. He rebuked the Jewish Rabbi Nicodemus (Jn. 3:10).**
- 4. He declared that the Sadducees were mistaken (Mt. 22:29).**
- 5. He denounced the Pharisees (Mt. 23:16-33).**

No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
- 2. He set His word against false oral views about the OT (Mt. 5:21-43).**
- 3. He rebuked the Jewish Rabbi Nicodemus (Jn. 3:10).**
- 4. He declared that the Sadducees were mistaken (Mt. 22:29).**
- 5. He denounced the Pharisees (Mt. 23:16-33).**
- 6. He cleansed the Temple (Jn. 2:15-16).**

No accommodation to false teachings

- 1. Jesus rebuked those who accepted false teachings (Mt. 15:1-6).**
- 2. He set His word against false oral views about the OT (Mt. 5:21-43).**
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- 5. He denounced the Pharisees (Mt. 23:16-33).**
- 6. He cleansed the Temple (Jn. 2:15-16).**
- 7. His enemies recognized that He did not compromise (Mt. 22:16).**

Outline

What Jesus Taught About:

I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

1. OT as a Whole

2. All Sections of the OT

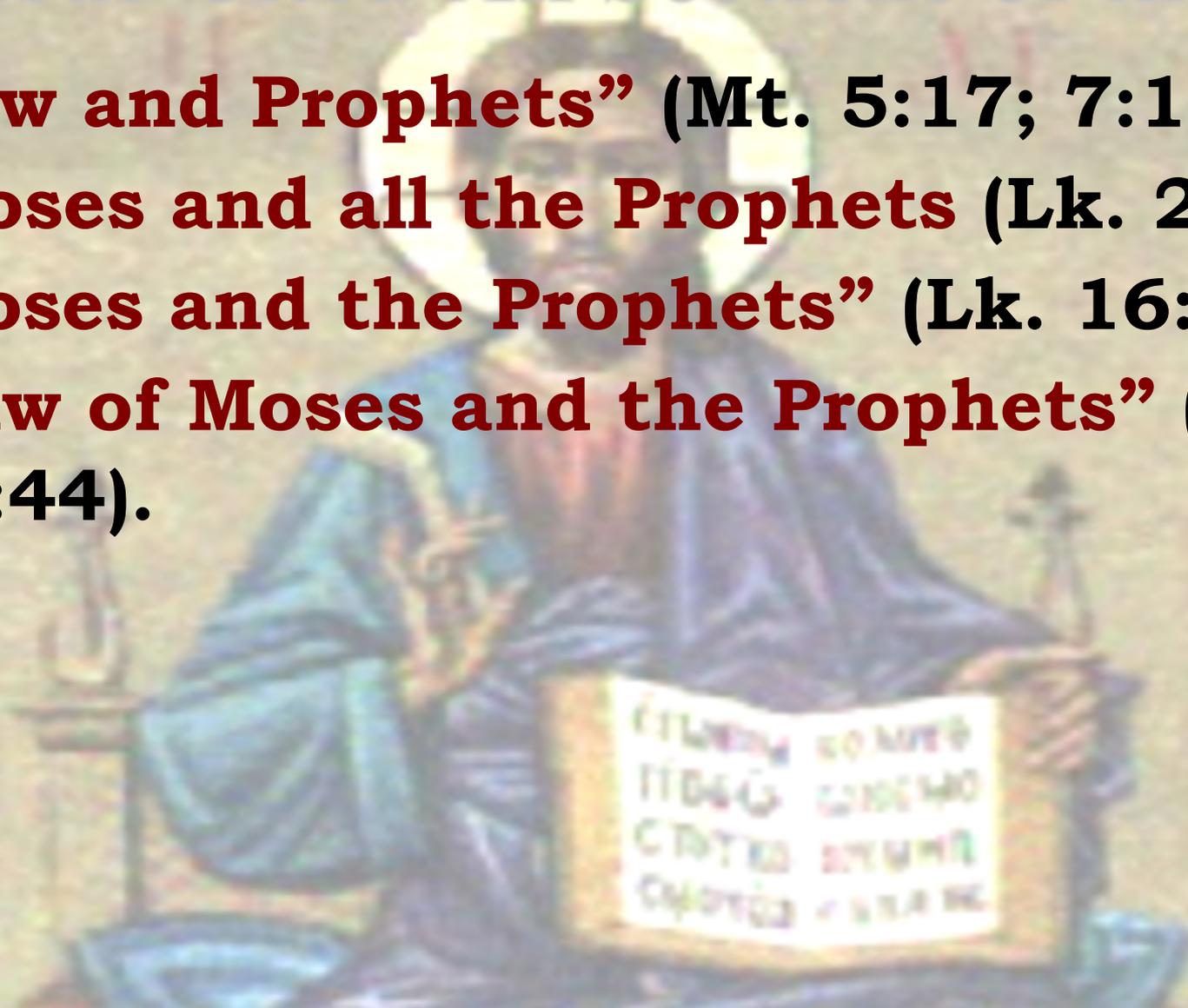
3. Most Books of the OT

1. Jesus Cited OT as a Whole

- a. ***“All the Scriptures”*** (Lk. 24:27).
- b. ***“The Scriptures...testify of Me”*** (Jn. 5:39).
- c. ***“The Scripture cannot be broken”*** (Jn. 10:35).
- d. ***“The Word of God”*** (Jn. 10:35).
- e. ***“Your [Jewish] Law”*** (Jn. 10:34).
- f. ***Everything “From...Abel to Zechariah”*** (Mt. 23:35).

2. Jesus Cited All Sections of the OT

- a. **“Law and Prophets”** (Mt. 5:17; 7:12:).
- b. **“Moses and all the Prophets** (Lk. 24:27).
- c. **“Moses and the Prophets”** (Lk. 16:31).
- d. **“Law of Moses and the Prophets”** (Lk. 24:44).



3. Jesus Cited Most OT Books

Of the 24 books of the Hebrew OT, all but three (Judges, Esther, and Song of Sol.) are cited by Jesus, and Hebrews (11:32) cites Judges.

Note: Jesus did not reject these books; He simply had no occasion to cite them.

Which Books Were in Jesus' Bible?

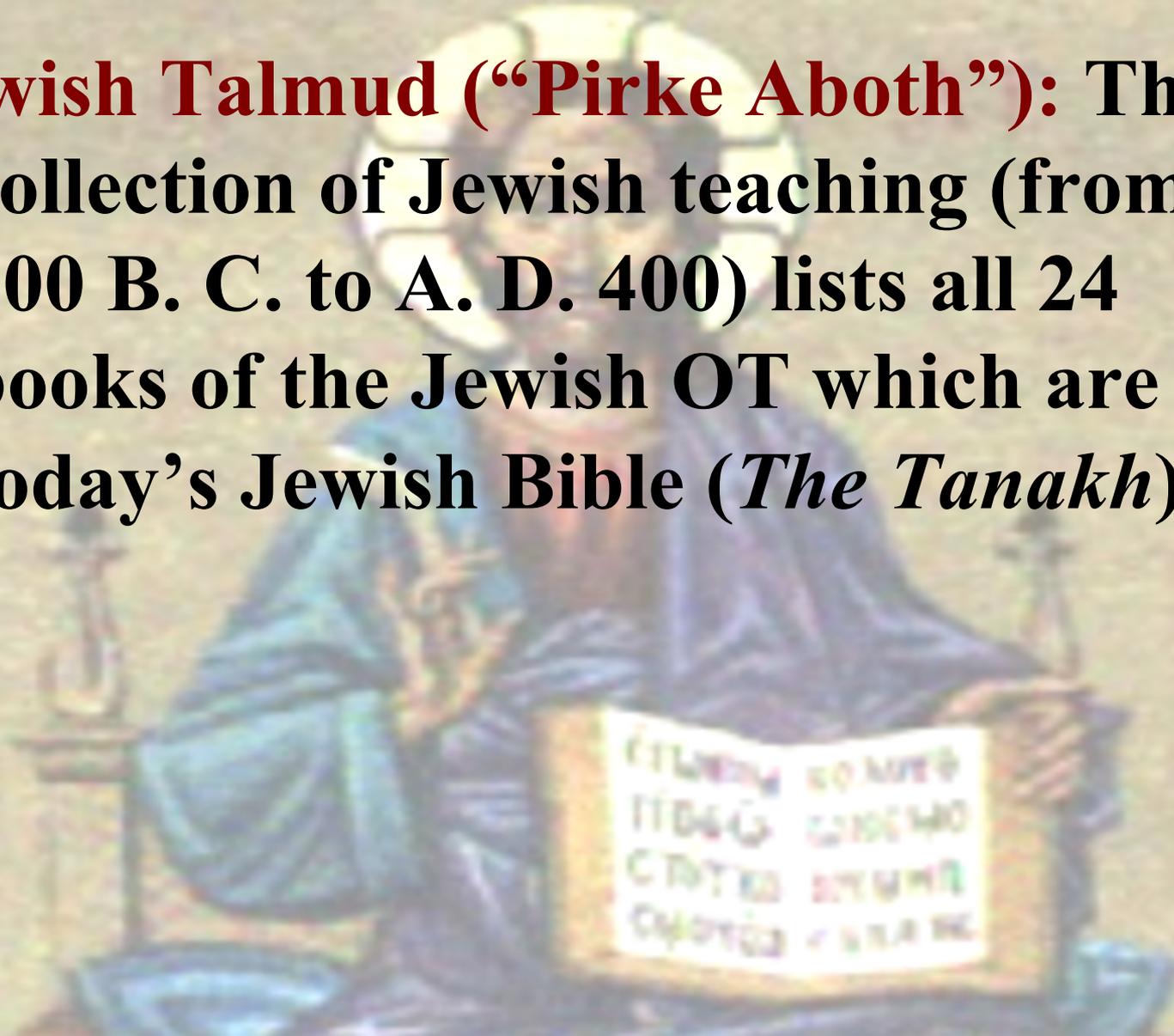
1. The Same Books that are in the Jewish Bible.

Josephus (First century Jewish Historian) said:

“For we have...only twenty-two books, which contain the revelations of all the past times; which are justly believed to be divine; and of them, five belong to Moses.... The prophets, who were after Moses, wrote down what was done in their times in thirteen books. The remaining four books contain hymns to God, and precepts for the conduct of human life” (*Against Apion*, 1.8).

Which Books Were in Jesus' Bible?

Jewish Talmud (“Pirke Aboth”): This collection of Jewish teaching (from 200 B. C. to A. D. 400) lists all 24 books of the Jewish OT which are in today's Jewish Bible (*The Tanakh*).



Which Books Were in Jesus' Bible?

1. The Same Books that are in the Jewish Bible
2. The Same Books that are in the Protestant Bible
 - a. They are Numbered Differently:
 - b. Protestant Bible (39) Jewish Bible (24)*

1&2 Sam.=1

1&2 Kings=1

1&2 Chrn.=1

Ezra-Neh.=1

12 Minor Prophets = 1

Total = 15

***22 if Ruth is with Judges & Lamentations with Jeremiah**

Why Do Roman Catholics Have 11 More Books in their OT?

R.C. have 7 more in the Table of Contents

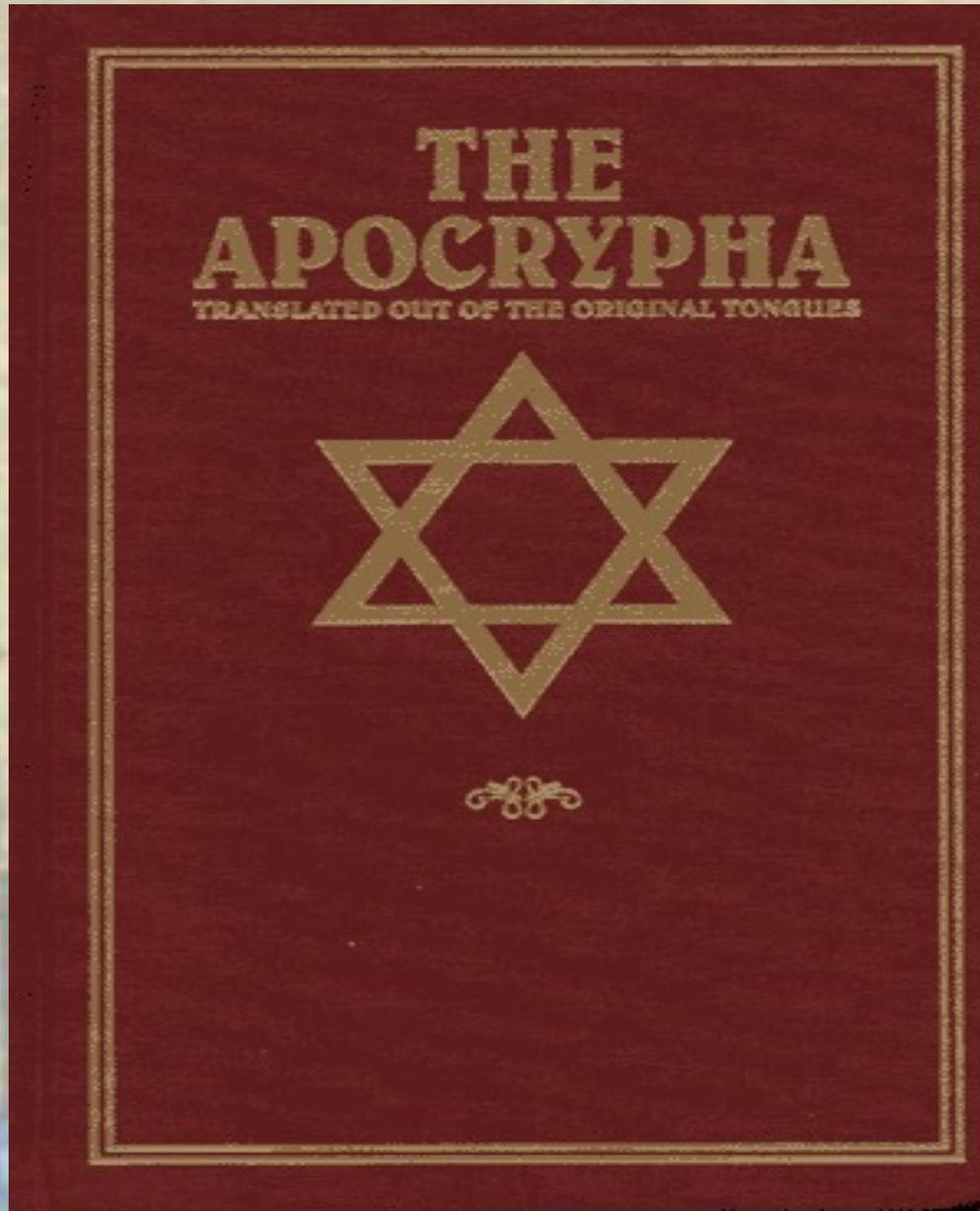
They have 4 more inserted in other OT books

1 is added to Esther

3 are inserted in Daniel (Chaps. 3, 13, 14)

Total = 11 more books

Which Books are in the Apocrypha?



14 Apocryphal Books: 3 Rejected by Rome

- 1) **The Wisdom of Solomon (c. 30 B.C.)**
- 2) **Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) (c. 132 B.C.)**
- 3) **Tobit (c. 200 B.C.)**
- 4) **Judith (c. 150 B.C.)**
- 5) **2 Esdras (c. 100 A.D.) [4 Esdras in Catholic Bible]**
- 6) **1 Esdras (c. 150-100 B.C.) [3 Esdras in Catholic Bible]**
- 7) **1 Maccabees (c. 110 B.C.)**
- 8) **2 Maccabees (c. 110-70 B.C.)**
- 9) **Baruch (c. 150-50 B.C.)---Baruch 1-5
(Letter of Jeremiah [c. 300-100 B.C.]--Baruch 6**
- 10) **Addition to Esther (140-130 B.C.)**
- 11) **Prayer of Azariah (2nd or 1st cent B.C.)--Daniel 3:24-90**
- 12) **Susanna (2nd or 1st cent B.C.)--Daniel 13**
- 13) **Bel and the Dragon (c. 100 B.C.)--Daniel 14**
- 14) **Prayer of Manasseh (2nd or 1st cent B.C.)**

Eleven are Accepted by Catholics

Seven are in the table of contents:

- 1) **The Wisdom of Solomon (c. 30 B.C.)**
- 2) **Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) (c. 132 B.C.)**
- 3) **Tobit (c. 200 B.C.)**
- 4) **Judith (c. 150 B.C.)**
- 5) **1 Maccabees (c. 110 B.C.)**
- 6) **2 Maccabees (c. 110-70 B.C.)**
- 7) **Baruch (c. 150-50 B.C.)---Baruch 1-5**
(Letter of Jeremiah [c. 300-100 B.C.]--Baruch 6

Four are added to other books:

- 8) **Addition to Esther (140-130 B.C.)--Esther 10:4-16:24**
- 9) **Prayer of Azariah (2nd or 1st cent B.C.)--Daniel 3:24-90**
- 10) **Susanna (2nd or 1st cent B.C.)--Daniel 13**
- 11) **Bel and the Dragon (c. 100 B.C.)--Daniel 14**

Why Evangelicals Reject the Apocrypha

- 1) It does not claim to be inspired by God.**
- 2) It was not written by prophets of God (1 Mac. 9:27).**
- 3) It was not confirmed by supernatural acts of God (Heb. 2:3-4).**
- 4) It does not always tell the truth of God:
On praying for the dead (2 Mac. 12:46);
On working for salvation (Tobit 12:9).**
- 5) It was not accepted by the people of God (by whom and for whom it was written).**
- 6) It was not accepted by Jesus the Son of God (Lk. 24:27).**
- 7) It was not accepted as inspired by the Apostles of God.**
- 8) It was not accepted by the Early Church of God.**
- 9) It was not accepted by the Catholic translator of Word of God.**
- 10) It was not written during the period of prophets of God.**

10) It was not written during the period of prophets of God (according to Jewish Teaching):

– The Jewish Historian Josephus:

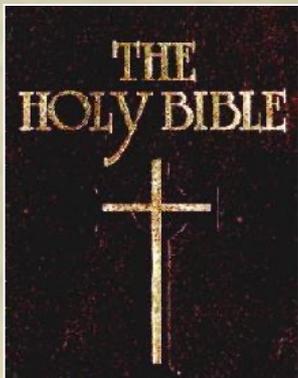
– “From Artaxerxes [4th cent B.C.] until our time everything has been recorded, but has not been deemed worthy of like credit with what preceded, because the exact succession of the prophets ceased” (Contra Apion 1.8).

10) It was not written during the period of prophets of God (according to Jewish Teaching):

– The Jewish Historian Josephus:

– “From Artaxerxes [4th cent B.C.] until our time everything has been recorded, but has not been deemed worthy of like credit with what preceded, because the exact succession of the prophets ceased” (Contra Apion 1.8).

– The Jewish Talmud: *“With the death of Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi the latter prophets, the Holy Spirit ceased out of Israel” (Tos. Sotah 13:2).*



Tests of Which Books Belong in the Bible?

- 1. Was it written by a prophet of God?*
- 2. Was the writer confirmed by acts of God?*
- 3. Does the message tell the truth about God?*
- 4. Did it come with the power of God?*
- 5. Was it accepted by the people of God?*

Apocrypha Fails All These Tests!

Outline

What Jesus Taught About:

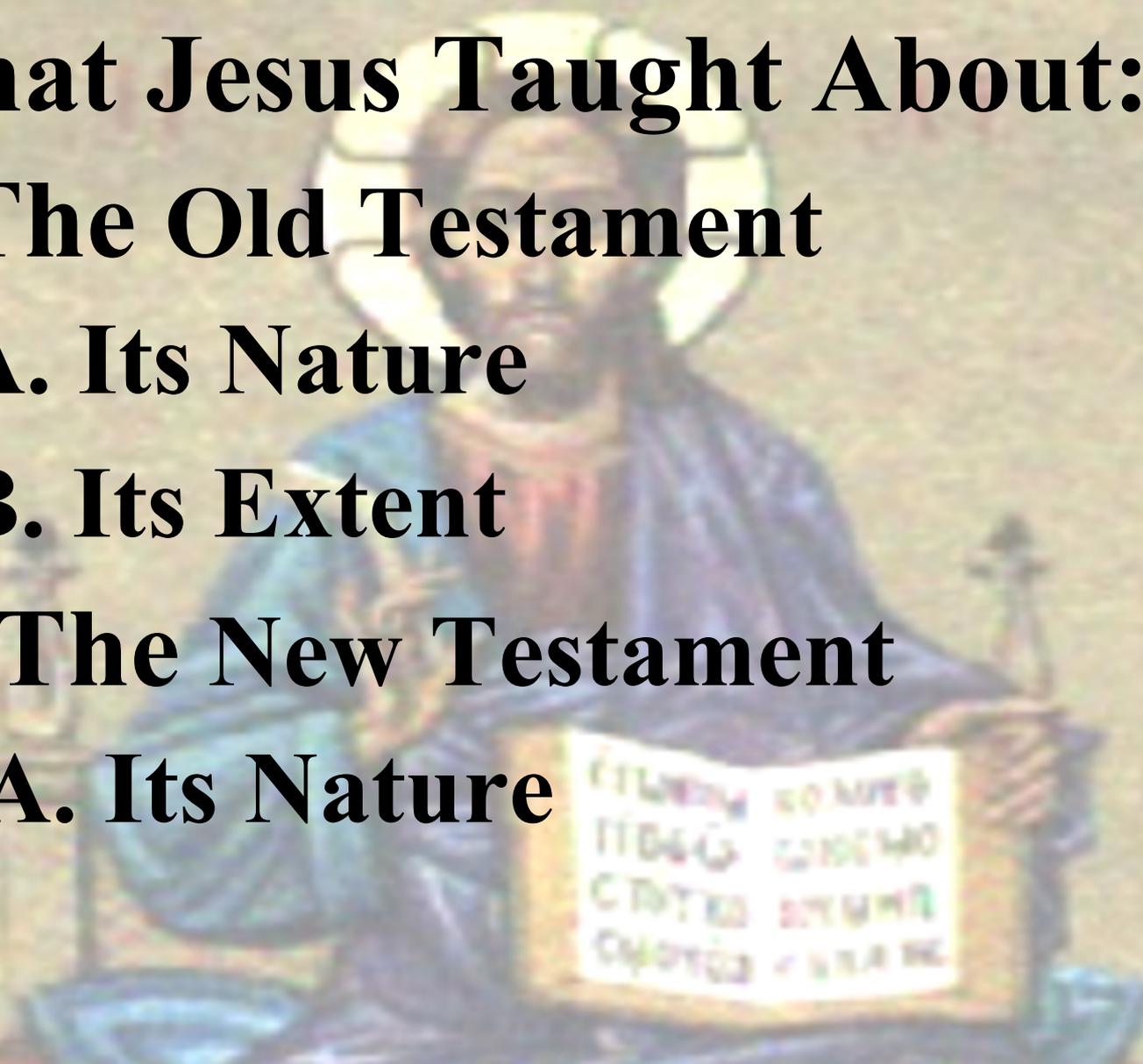
I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

II. The New Testament

A. Its Nature



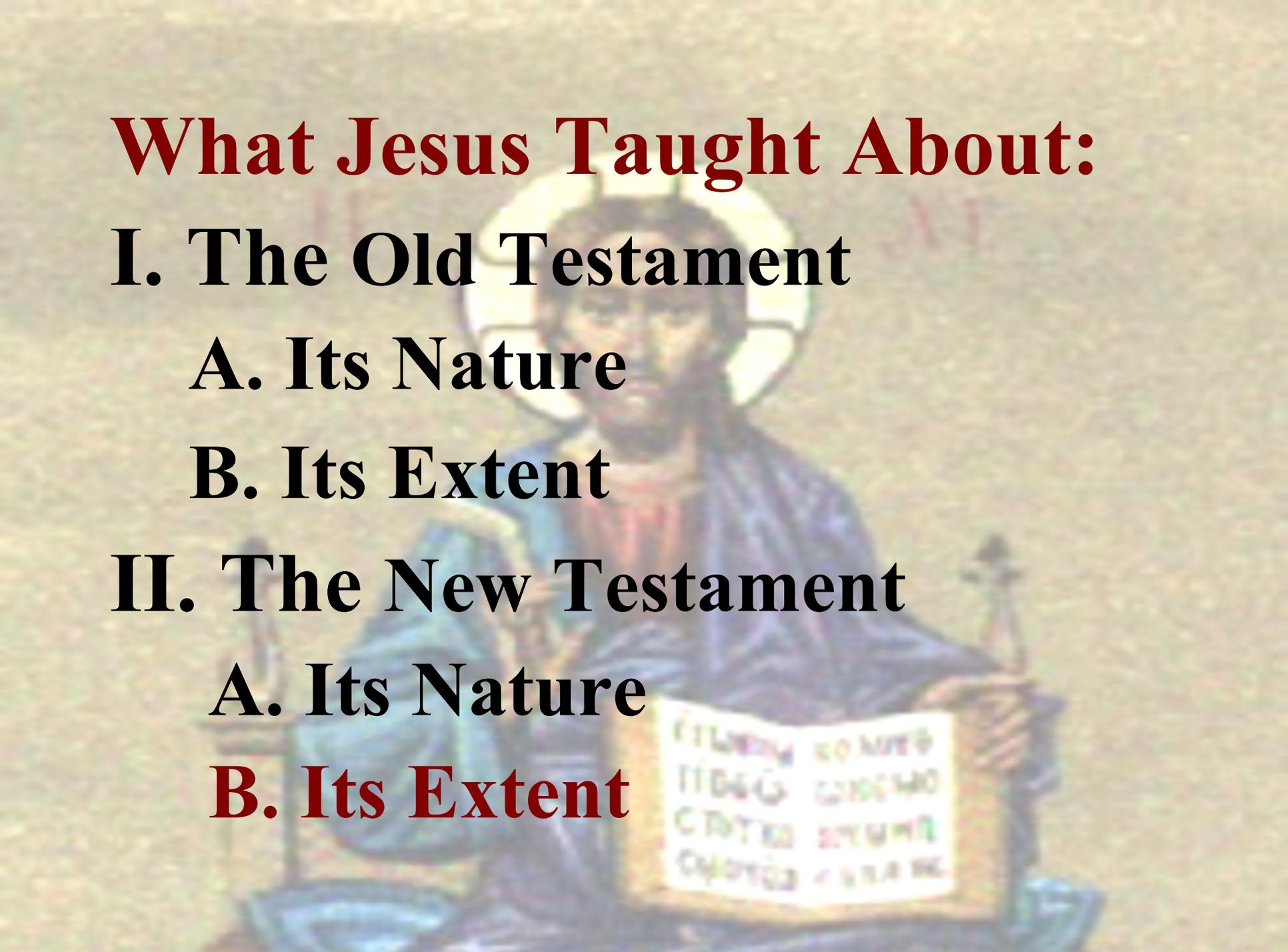
A. Nature of the New Testament

Note: Jesus confirmed the OT (directly) and promised the NT (indirectly):

*“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you**” (Jn. 14:26).*

*“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come**” (Jn. 16:13).*

What Jesus Taught About:



I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

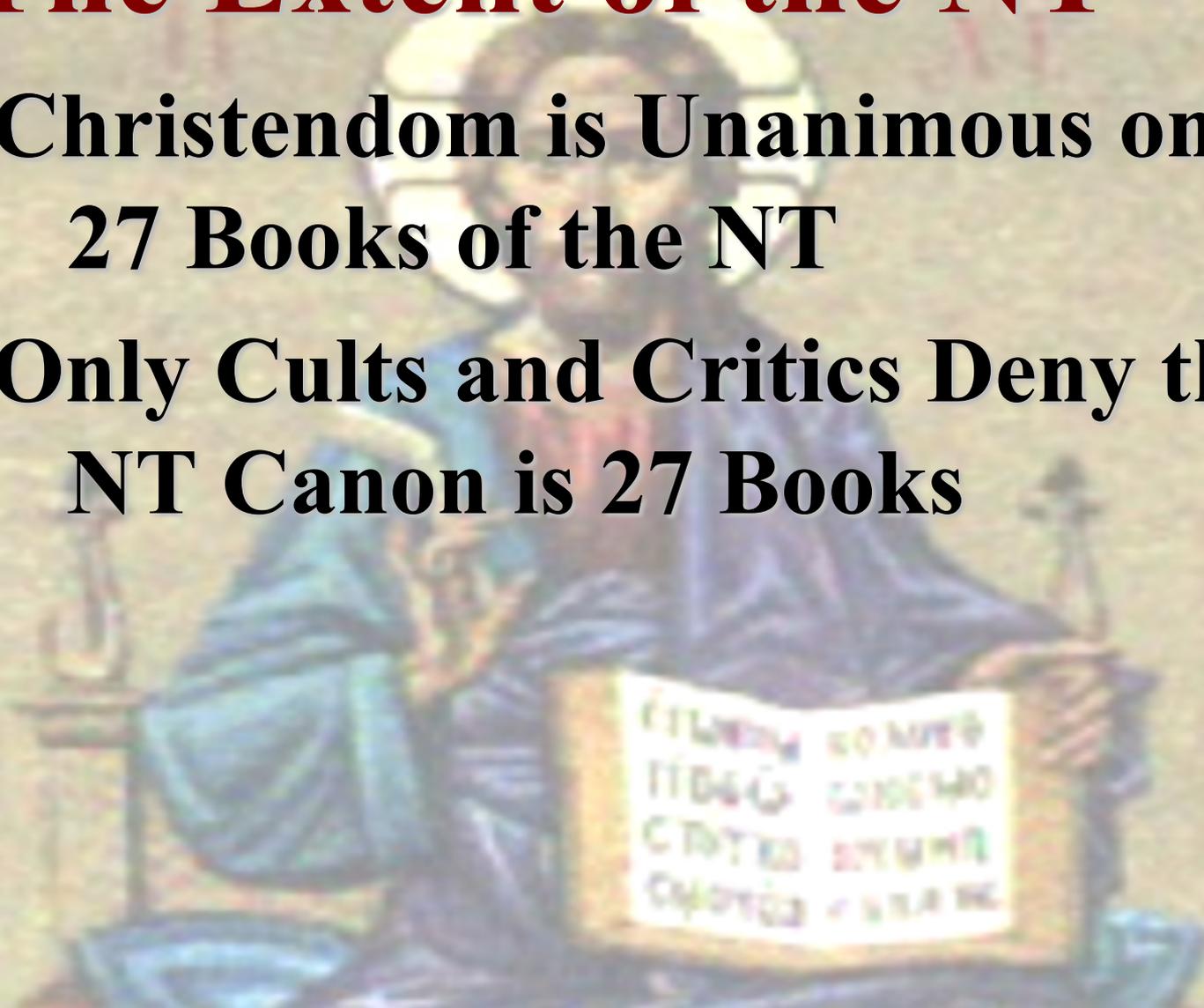
II. The New Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

B. The Extent of the NT

- 1. Christendom is Unanimous on the 27 Books of the NT**
- 2. Only Cults and Critics Deny the NT Canon is 27 Books**



B. Extent of the New Testament

The Overall Argument for the extent of the NT Canon:

- 1. The apostles and NT prophets were given revelation from God (Jn. 14:26; 16:13; Eph. 2:20).**
- 2. To be an apostle one must have been an eyewitness of the resurrection (Acts 1:22; 1 Cor. 9:1).**
- 3. Apostles and their associates were confirmed by miracles (2 Cor. 12:12; Acts 6:6; 2 Tim. 1:6).**
- 4. When the apostles died, the special revelation and miraculous confirmation passed away also (Heb 2:3-4).**
- 5. But Jesus promised to guide them into “all truth” and bring “all things” to their remembrance.**
- 6. Hence, the NT revelation was completed by the time the apostles died.**
- 7. The only record we have from the time of the apostles is the 27 books of the NT (by apostles & associates).**
- 8. Hence, God’s revelation was complete with the NT.**

1. The apostles and NT prophets were given revelation from God.

Jn. 14:26: *“The Helper, the Holy Spirit,...he will teach you **all things** and bring to your remembrance **all things** that I have said to you.”*

Jn. 16:13: *“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into **all the truth**....”*

Acts 2:42: *“And they devoted themselves to the **apostles teaching**....”*

Eph. 2:20: *The church is “built on the **foundation of the apostles and [NT] prophets, Christ Jesus being the cornerstone**” (cf. Eph. 3:5).*

2. To be an apostle one must be an eyewitness of the resurrection

Acts 1:22: *“So one of the men who accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us ... must become with us a witness to his resurrection.”*

1 Cor. 9:1: *“Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?”* (1 Cor. 15:4-8).

3. Apostles and their associates were confirmed by miracles

2 Cor. 12:12: “The signs of an apostle were performed among you...with signs and wonders and mighty works.”

Acts 6:6: “These [deacons] they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.”

Acts 8:6: “Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Now...Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands....”

2 Tim. 1:6: “I remind you [Timothy] to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”

4. When the apostles died, the special revelation and miraculous confirmation passed away also.

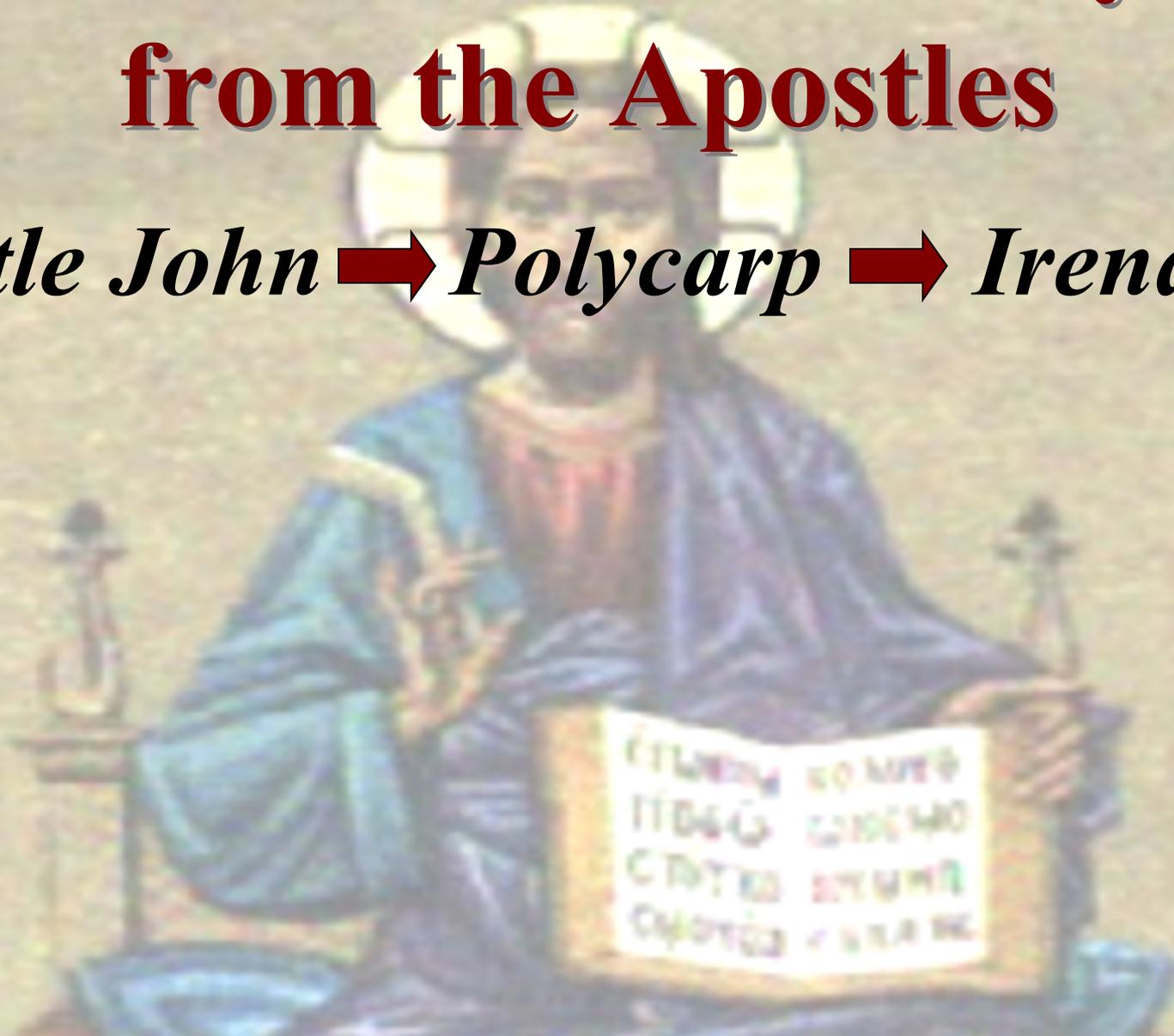
- a. After Pentecost, the special sign gifts were given only to and through the apostles.**
- b. When the apostles died, so did the miraculous signs of an apostle die with them.**
- c. When apostles died, they were not replaced with other apostles (Acts 12: 2).**
- d. Rather, elders were appointed in each church to carry on the ministry (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5).**

5. But Jesus promised to guide them into “all truth” and bring “all things” to their remembrance (see #1 above).

- 1. Thus, the apostles (with their associates) were responsible by the guidance of the Spirit to produce and preserve the whole of Jesus’ teaching for the faith and practice of all future generations of believers.**
- 2. This teaching was the basis of the church until Jesus returns (Acts 2:42; Eph. 2:20).**
- 3. There is an unbroken chain of testimony after the time of the apostles accepting the 27 books of the NT.**

Unbroken Testimony from the Apostles

Apostle John ➡ *Polycarp* ➡ *Irenaeus*



Early Testimony on the NT

Irenaeus (2nd cent.): *“Indeed, they have arrived at such a pitch of audacity, as to entitle their comparatively recent writing, ‘the Gospel of Truth,’ though it agrees in nothing with the Gospels of the Apostles, so that they have really no Gospel, which is not full of blasphemy.... But that these Gospels [of the Apostles] alone are true and reliable, and admit neither an increase nor diminution of the aforesaid number [four], I have proved by so many and such arguments” (AH, 3.11.9).*

The New Testament Canon During the First Four Centuries

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BOOK	Mt	Mk	Lk	Jn	Acts	Rom	1Cor	2Cor	Gal	Eph	Phil	Col	1Thes	2Thes	1Tm	2Tm	Ti	Phe	Heb	Js	1Pet	2Pet	1Jn	2Jn	3 Jn	Jd	Rv
Pseudo-Barnabas (c. 70-130)	x	x	x							x						x	x		x		x	x					
Clement of Rome (c. 95-97)	x	x	x			x	x			x					x		x		x	x	x	x					
Ignatius (c. 110)	x			x	x	x	x		x	x		x									x	x					
Polycarp (c. 110-50)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x							x		x	x		
Hermas (c. 115-40)	x	x			x		x	x			x		x		x	x				x	x	x		x			x
Didache (c. 120-50)	x		x			x	x						x		x												x
Papias (c. 130-40)				x																							x
Marcion (c. 140)			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x								
Irenaeus (c. 130-202)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Justin Martyr (c. 150-55)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x								x					x
Muratorian (c. 170)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	x
Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-215)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		x		x			x	x
Tertullian (c. 150-220)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Origen (c.185-254)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x			x	x
Old Latin (c. 200)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x
Cyprian (d. 258)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Apostolic (c. 300)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 315-86)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Eusebius (c. 325-40)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	x	?	?	?	x
Athanasius (367)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Jerome (c. 340-420)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hippo (393)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Carthage (397)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Augustine (c. 400)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Main source: Philip Schaff, *The Ante-Nicene Fathers Indexes*.

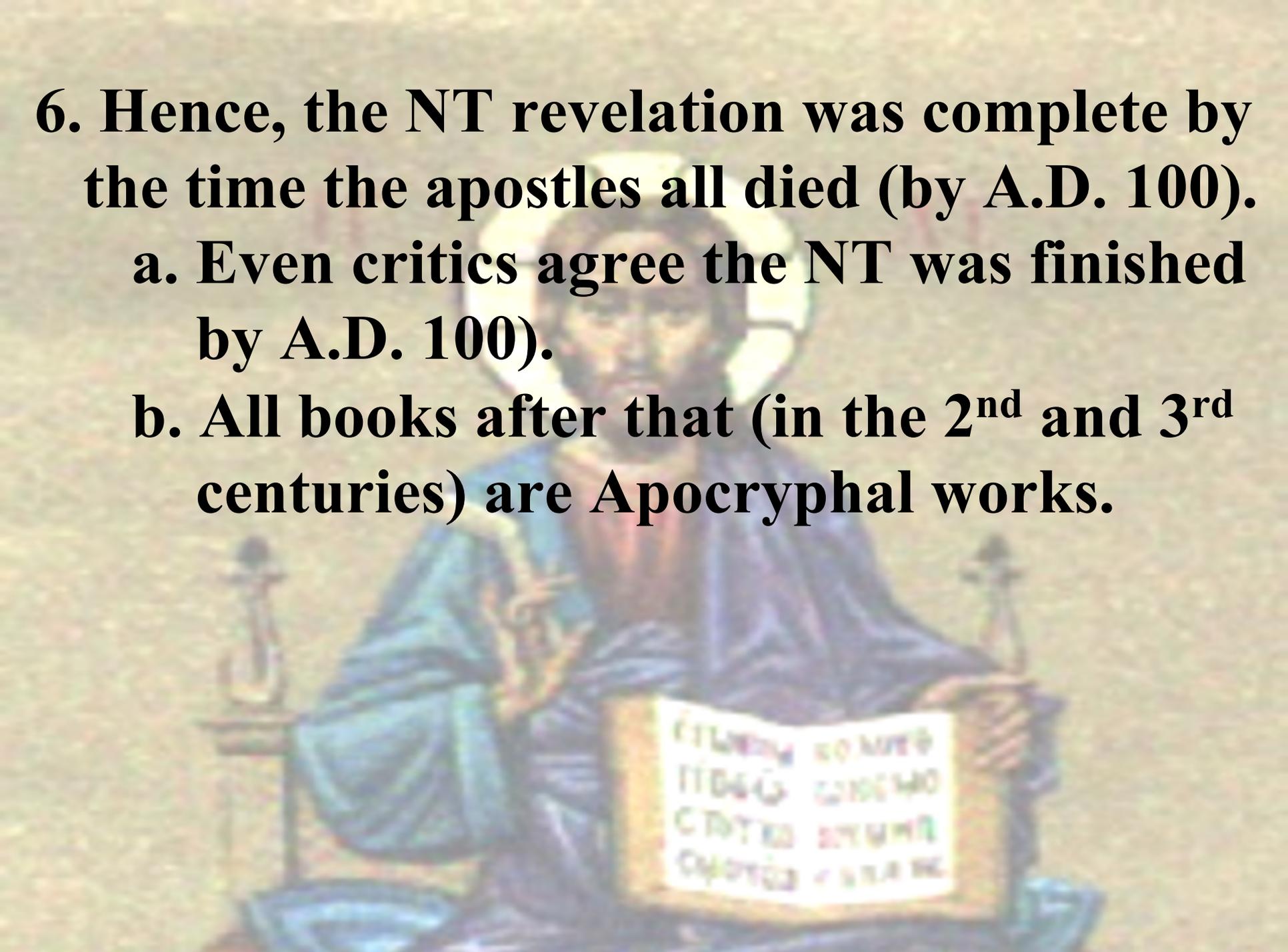
X = Citation or allusion

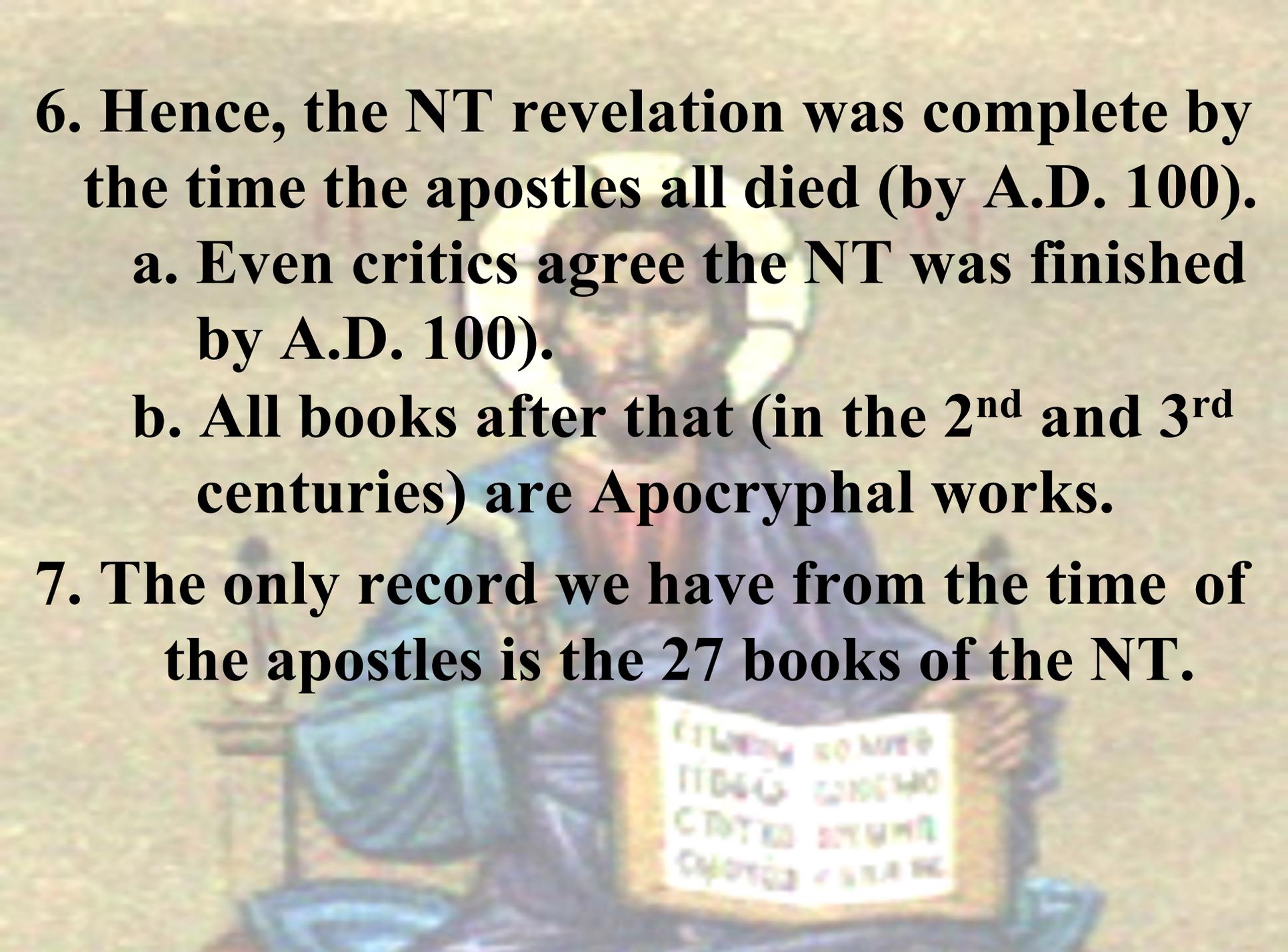
? = Named as disputed

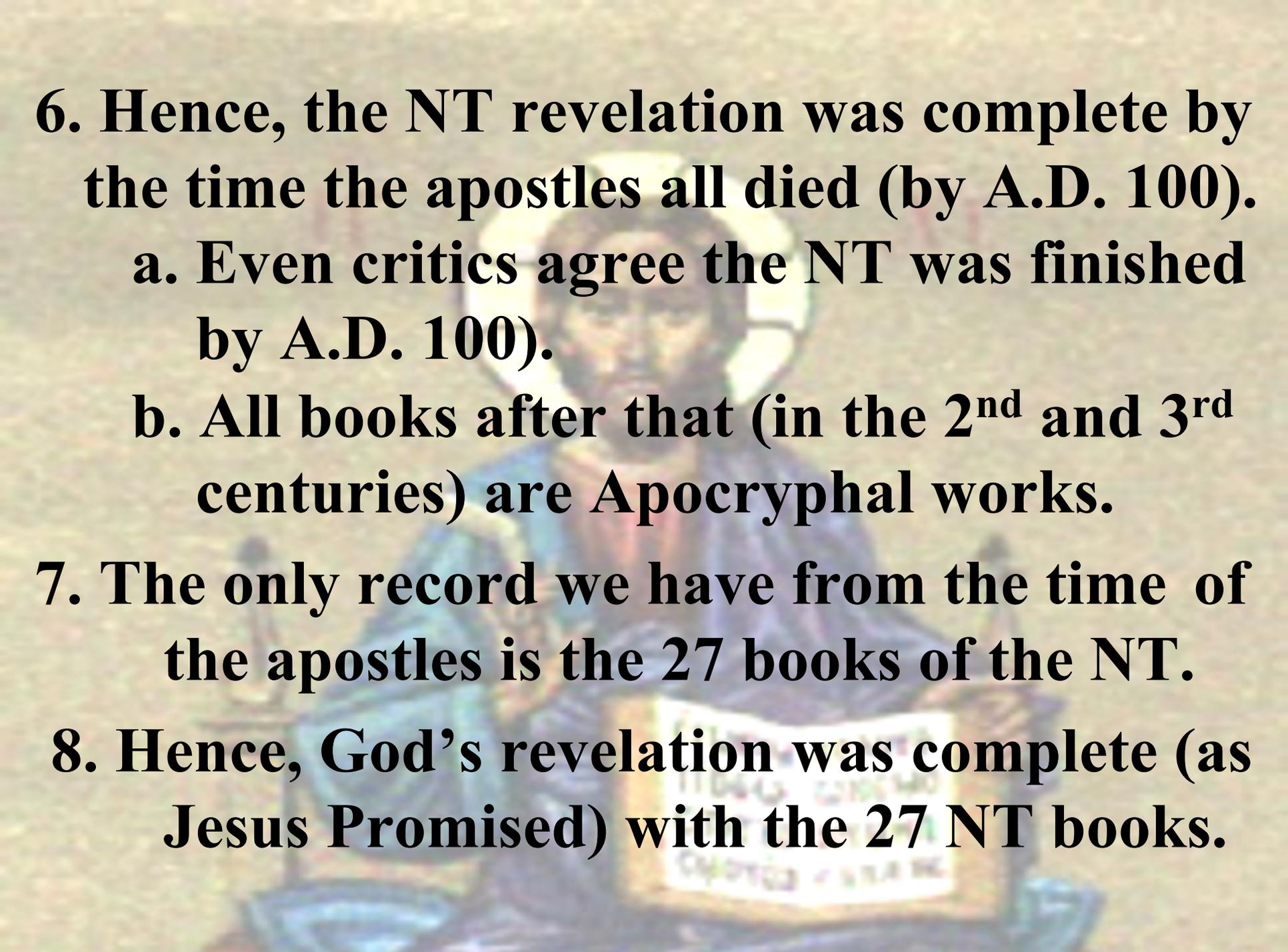
Note: (1) All N.T. books but 3 Jn. are cited by time of Irenaeus (130-202)

(2) All N.T. books are cited by time of Muratorian Canon (170)

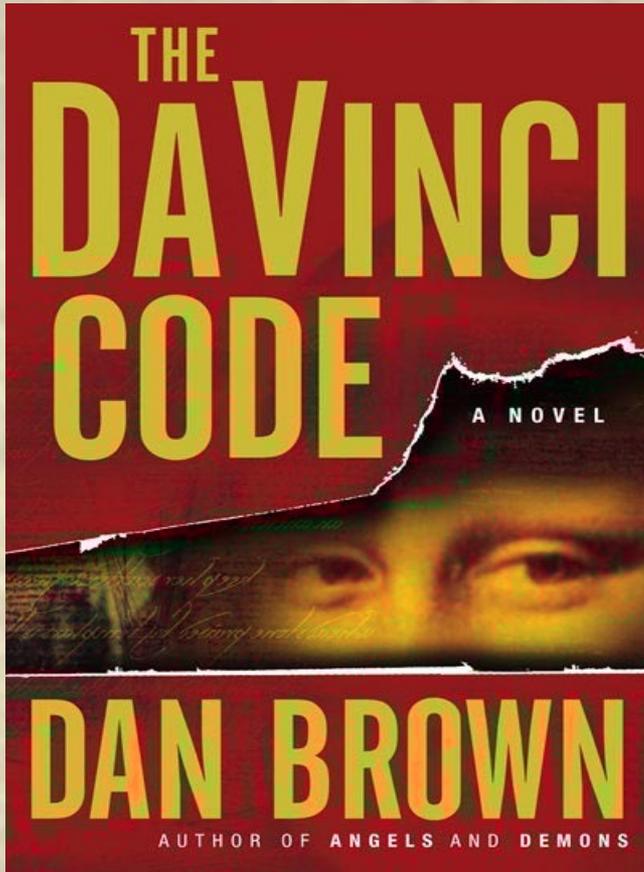
(3) All N.T. books were accepted by the Church as a whole by 393.

- 
- 6. Hence, the NT revelation was complete by the time the apostles all died (by A.D. 100).**
- a. Even critics agree the NT was finished by A.D. 100).**
 - b. All books after that (in the 2nd and 3rd centuries) are Apocryphal works.**

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 - b. All books after that (in the 2nd and 3rd centuries) are Apocryphal works.**
 - 7. The only record we have from the time of the apostles is the 27 books of the NT.**
 - 8. Hence, God's revelation was complete (as Jesus Promised) with the 27 NT books.**

Are There Other Gospels?



“More than eighty gospels were considered for the New Testament, and yet only a few were chosen for inclusion-- Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John among them”(p. 231).

I. Were 80 Other Gospels Considered? **No!**

- A. There are only four from the first century
(Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John).
- B. The others were later (2nd-3rd cent) and were never considered for the New Testament.
- C. There are dozens of fragments but only about 15-20 apocryphal Gospels of note such as:

The Gospel of Thomas

The Gospel of the Ebionites

The Gospel of Peter

The Gospel of the Egyptians

The Gospel of James

The Gospel of Philip

The Gospel of Judas

The Gospel according to Mary M.)

The Gospel of Truth

The Gospel of the Hebrews

The Gospel of Matthias

The Gospel of the Twelve

The Gospel of Eve

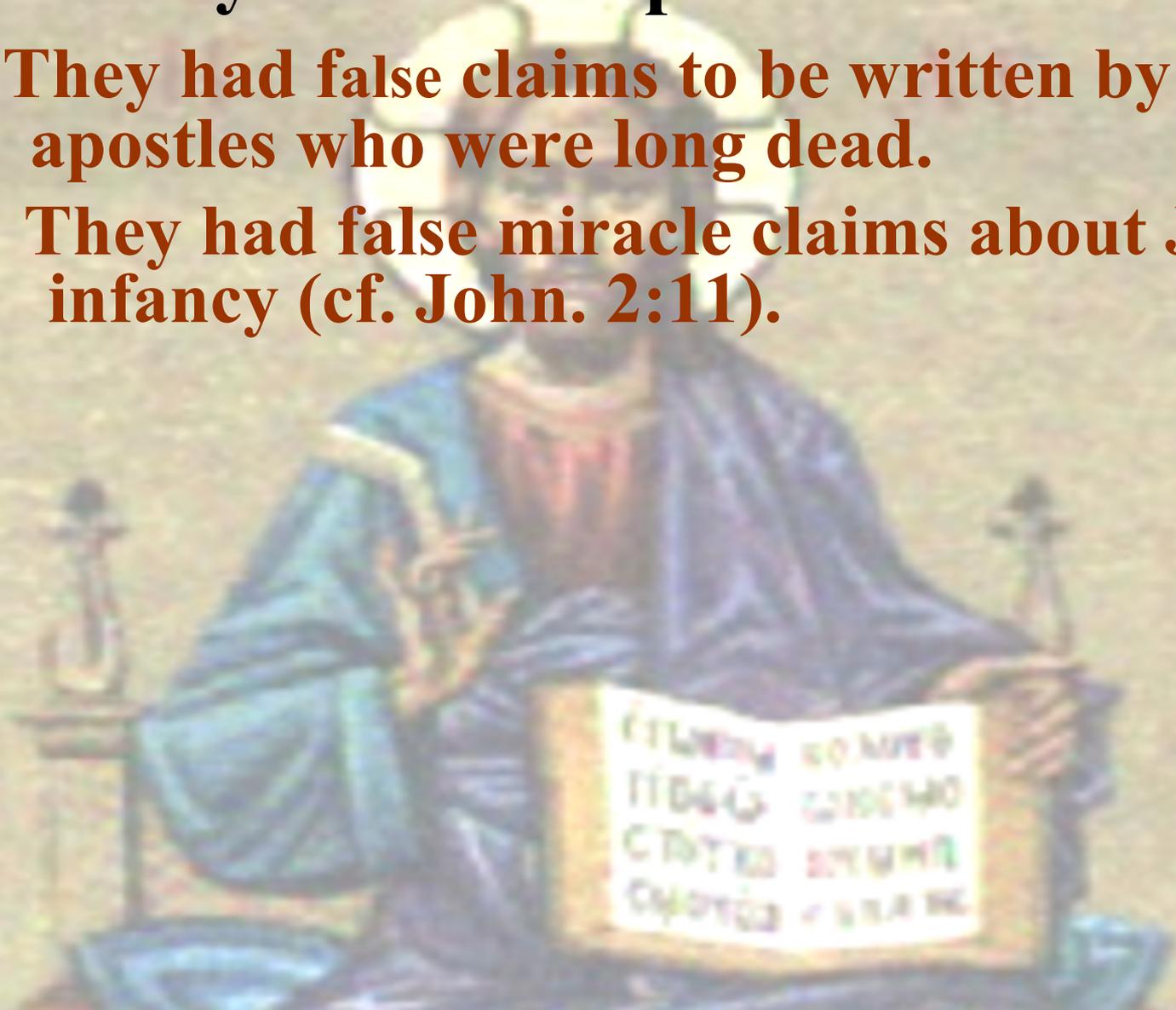
The Gospel of Perfection

I. Were 80 Other Gospels Considered? No!

II. Were Any Other Gospels Authentic? No!

A. They had false claims to be written by apostles who were long dead.

B. They had false miracle claims about Jesus' infancy (cf. John. 2:11).



Jesus Cursed His Teacher

“And Jesus said to him: ‘If you are indeed a teacher, and if you know the letters well, tell me the meaning of the Alpha, and I will tell you the meaning of the Beta.’ And the teacher was annoyed and struck him on the head. And the child was hurt and cursed him, and he immediately fainted and fell to the ground on his face” (The Account of Thomas the Israelite Philosopher Concerning the Childhood of the Lord 14.1-3).

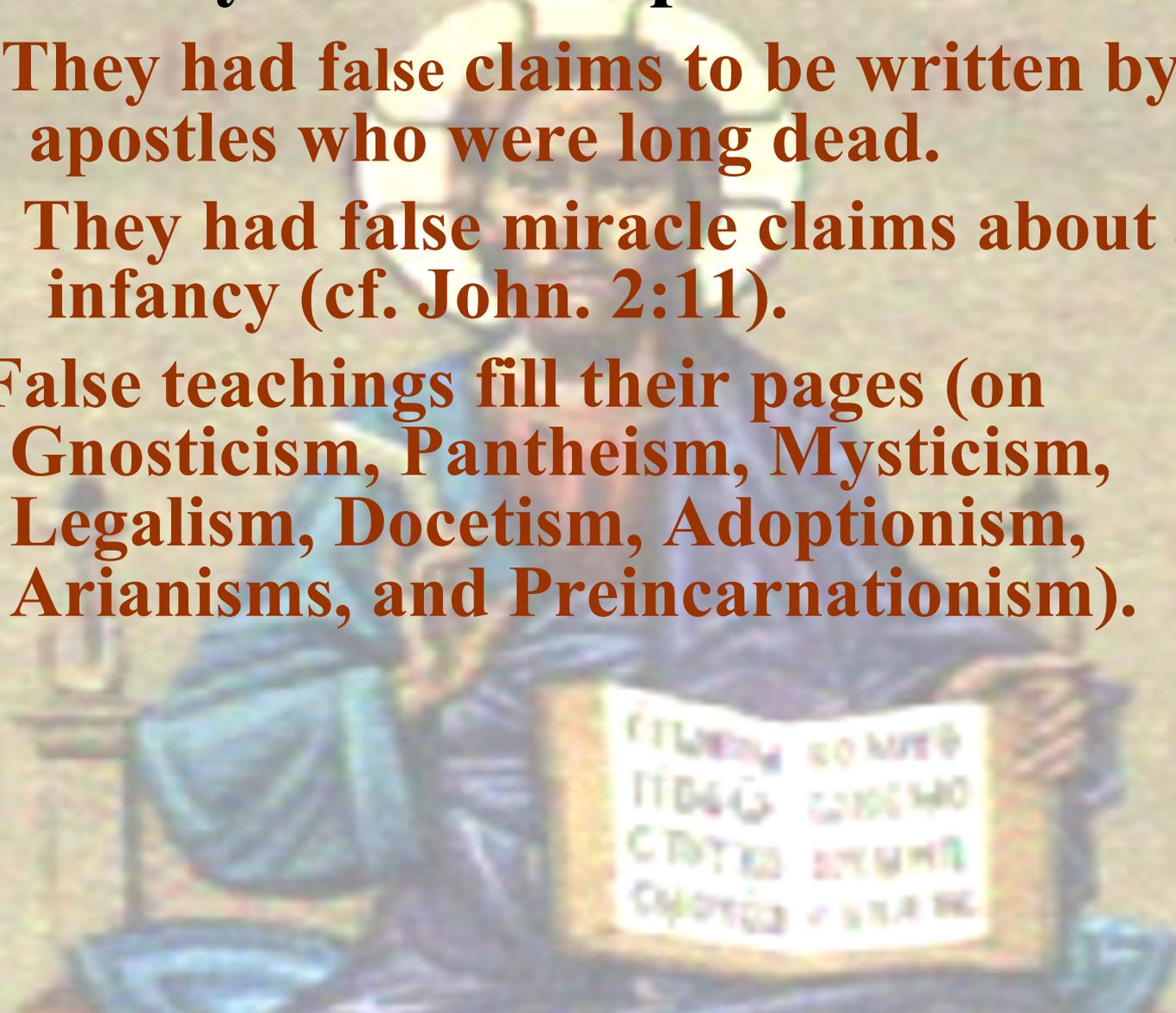
Jesus' Caused a Boy to Wither

“But the son of Annas the scribe was standing there with Joseph; and he took a branch of a willow and (with it) dispersed the water which Jesus had gathered together. When Jesus saw what he had done he was enraged and said to him: ‘You insolent, godless thunderhead, what harm did the pools and the water do to you? See now you also shall wither like a tree and shall bear neither leaves nor root nor fruit.’ And immediately that lad withered up completely”
(The Account of Thomas the Israelite Philosopher 3.1-3).

I. Were 80 Other Gospels Considered? No!

II. Were Any Other Gospels Authentic? No!

- A. They had false claims to be written by apostles who were long dead.**
- B. They had false miracle claims about Jesus' infancy (cf. John. 2:11).**
- C. False teachings fill their pages (on Gnosticism, Pantheism, Mysticism, Legalism, Docetism, Adoptionism, Arianisms, and Preincarnationism).**

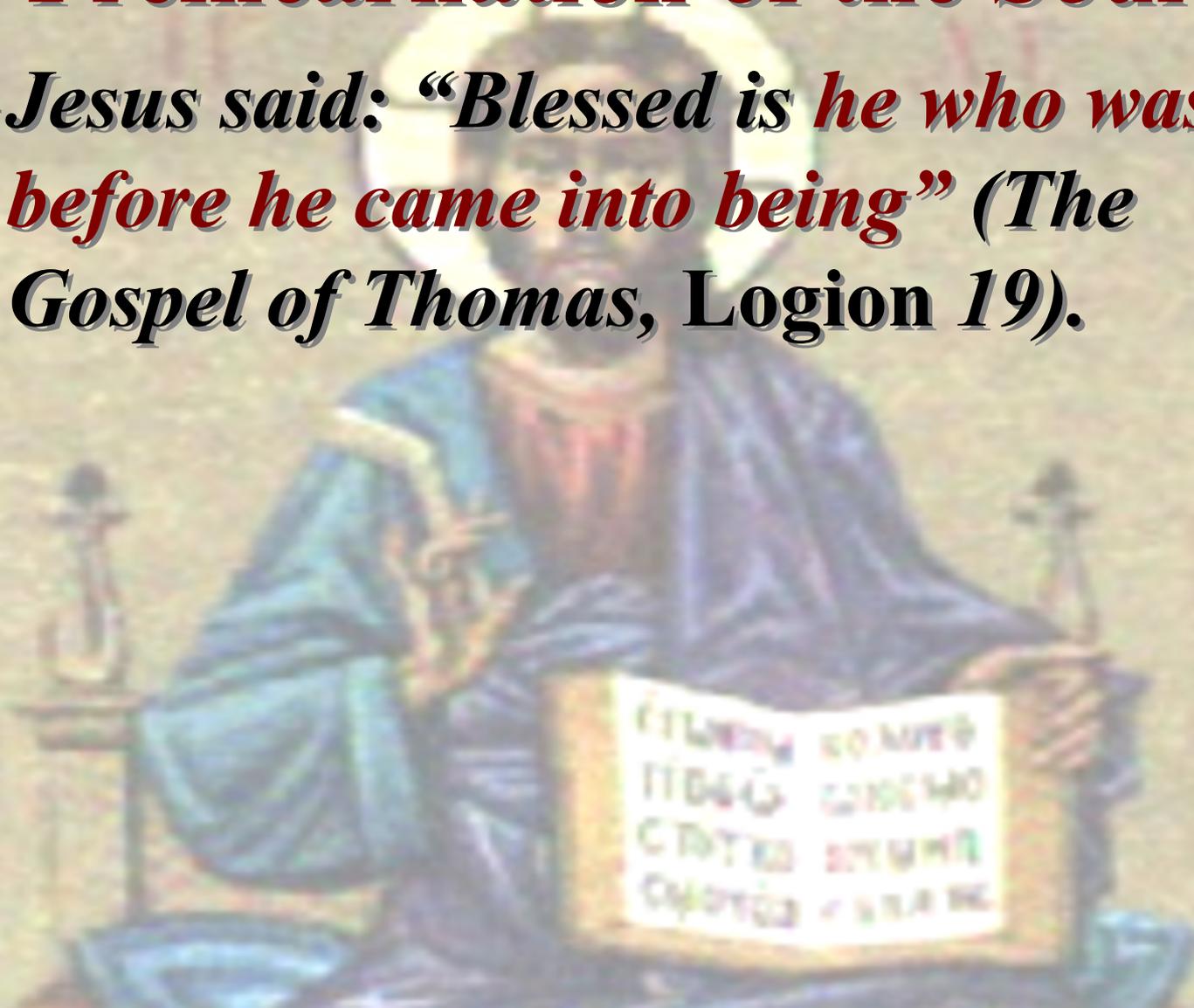


God is our Mother

*“ I am (the Father); **I am the Mother**, I (am the Son). I am the eternally Existing, the Unmixed, (since there is none who) mingles himself with him” (The Apocryphon of John, Codex 8, Hennecke, 322).*

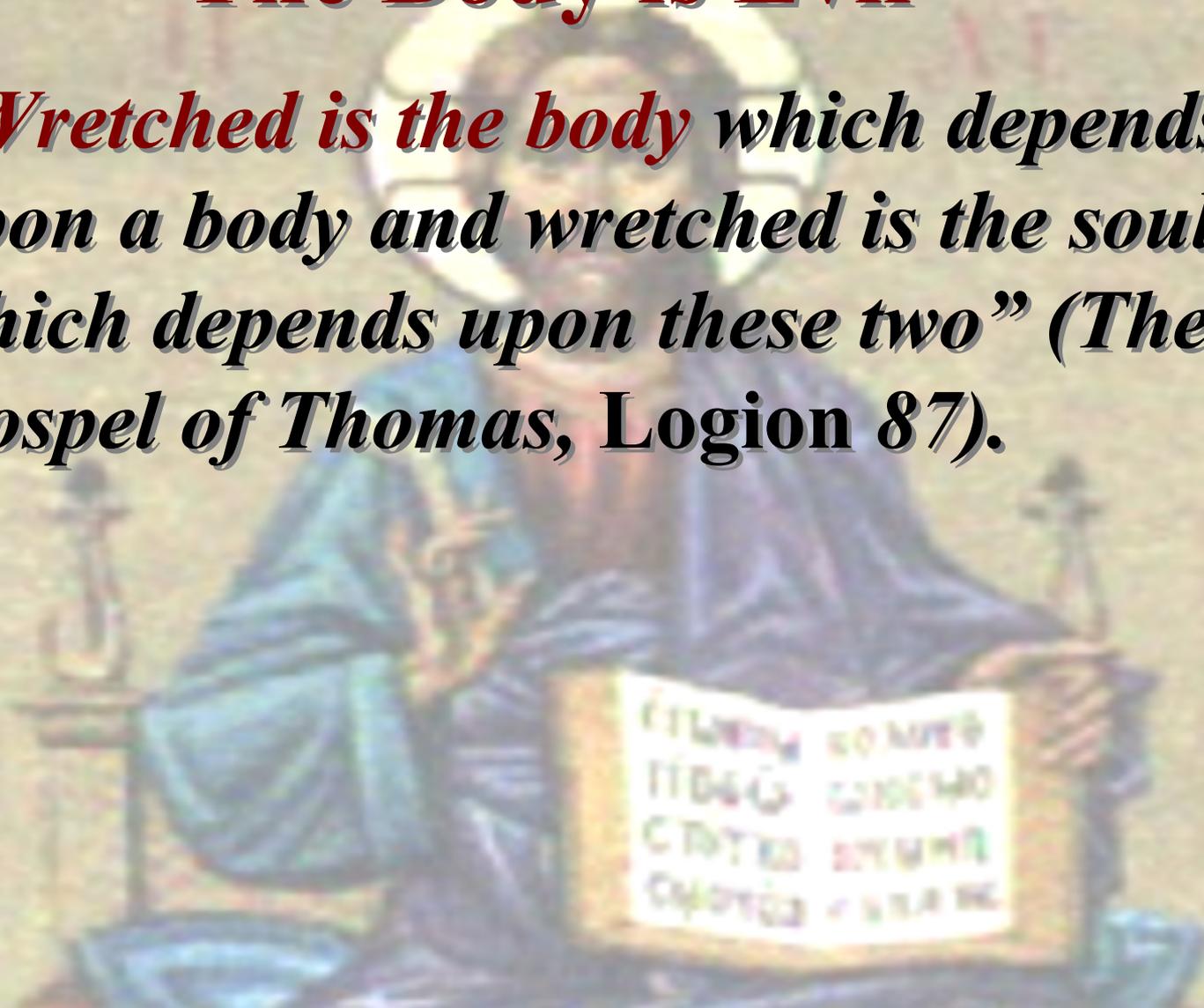
Preincarnation of the Soul

– *Jesus said: “Blessed is he who was before he came into being” (The Gospel of Thomas, Logion 19).*



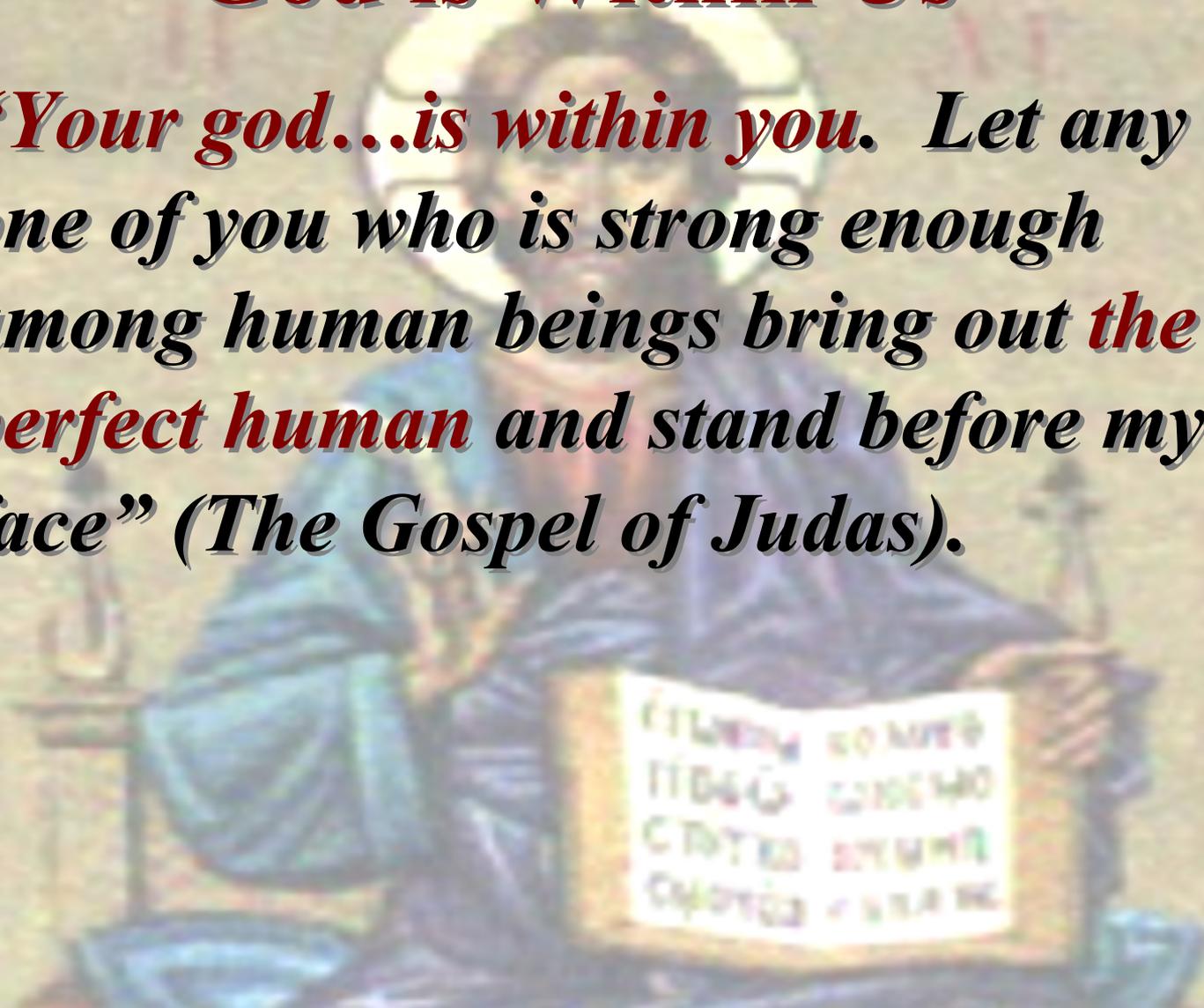
The Body is Evil

“Wretched is the body which depends upon a body and wretched is the soul which depends upon these two” (The Gospel of Thomas, Logion 87).



God is Within Us

*“Your god...is within you. Let any one of you who is strong enough among human beings bring out **the perfect human** and stand before my face” (The Gospel of Judas).*



Salvation: For Males Only

*“See, I shall lead her, so that I will make her male, that she too may become a living spirit, resembling you males. **For every woman who makes herself male will enter the Kingdom of Heaven**” (The Gospel of Thomas, Logion, 114).*

Jesus is only an Angel

“Christ was not begotten of God the Father, but created as one of the archangels...that he rules over the angels and all the creatures of the Almighty...” (Gospel of the Ebionites, Fragment 6).

I. Were 80 Other Gospels Considered? No!

II. Were Any Other Gospels Authentic? No!

A. They have false claims to be written by apostles who were long dead.

B. They have false miracle claims about Jesus' childhood (cf. Jn. 2:11).

C. False teachings fill their pages (on Gnosticism, Pantheism, Mysticism, Legalism, Docetism, Adoptionism, Arianisms, and Preincarnationism).

D. The Fathers of the Church rejected them.

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Irenaeus (2nd cent.): *“It is not possible that the Gospels can be either more or fewer in number than they are. For...while the Church is scattered throughout all the world, and the “pillar and ground” of the Church is the Gospel and the spirit of life; it is fitting that she have four pillars, breathing out immortality on every side, and vivifying men afresh” (Against Hereseis 3.11.8).*

Eusebius (early church historian): He called them
“totally impious and absurd” (Ecclesiastical History)

J. Donaldson (editor of Ante-Nicene Fathers wrote): *“The predominant impression which they leave on our minds is a profound sense of the immeasurable superiority, the unapproachable simplicity and majesty, of the Canonical Writings”* (cited by Yamauchi in CT, 22 [1/13/78]).

Edwin Yamauchi: *“The apocryphal gospels, even the earliest and soberest among them, can hardly compare with the canonical gospels. The former are all patently secondary and legendary or obviously slanted.... The extra-canonical literature, taken as a whole, manifests a surprising poverty. The bulk of it is legendary, and bears the clear mark of forgery”* (ibid.)

What Jesus Taught About:



I. The Old Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

II. The New Testament

A. Its Nature

B. Its Extent

III. Christ vs. the Critics

Christ vs. the Critics

Christ Affirmed

Critics Deny

Daniel was a prophet (Mt. 24:15)



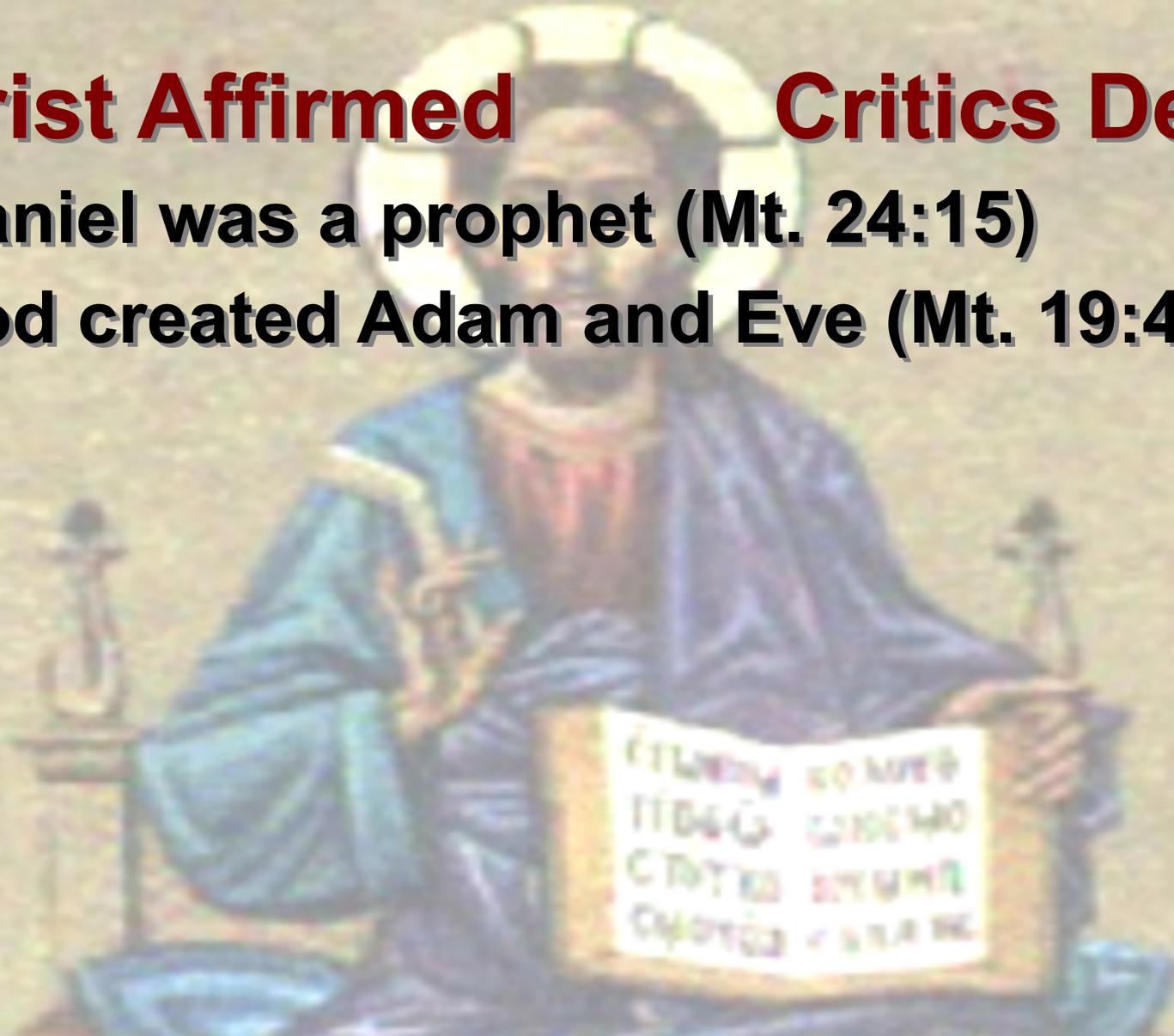
Christ vs. the Critics

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God created Adam and Eve (Mt. 19:4)



Christ vs. the Critics

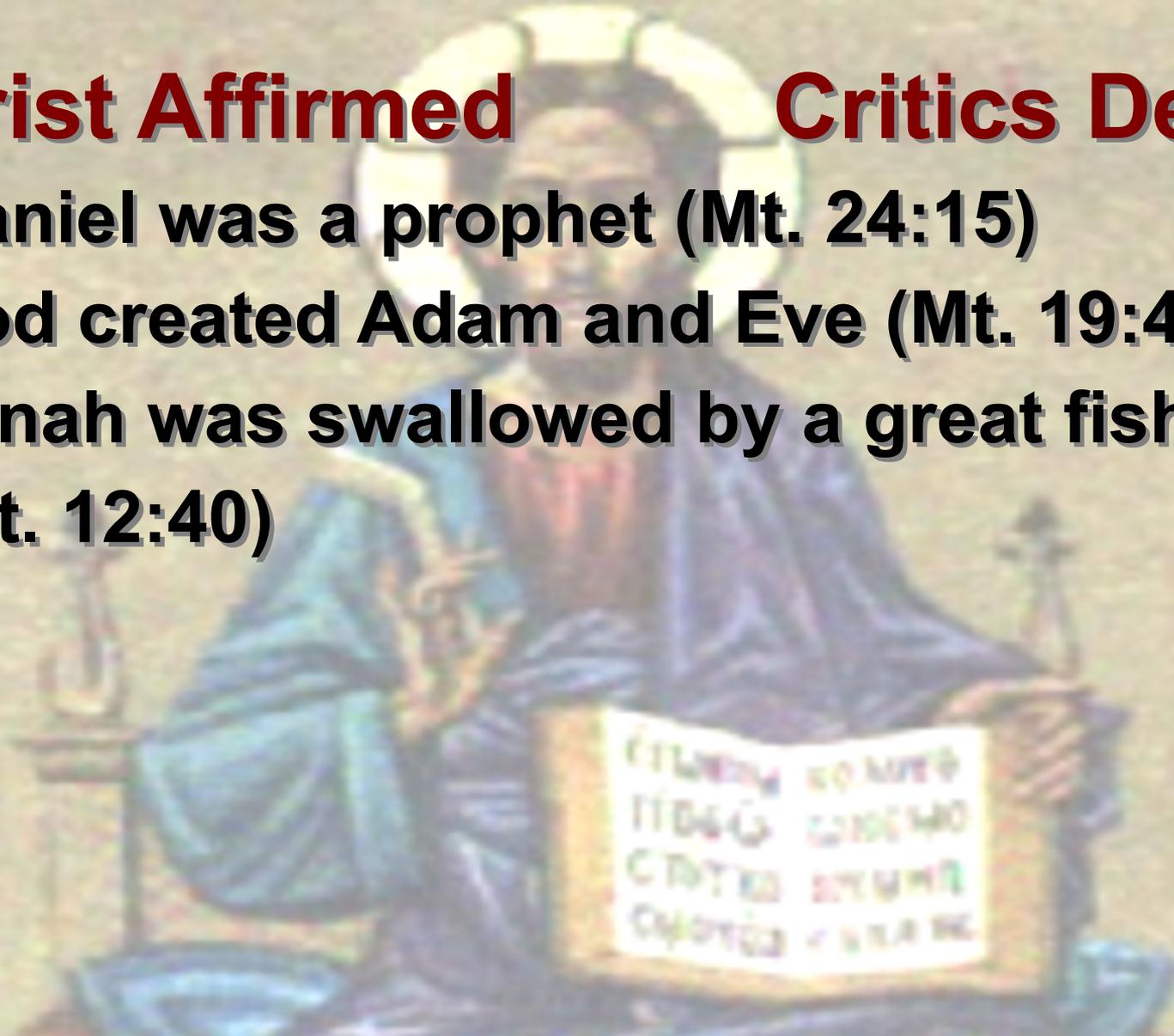
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Christ vs. the Critics

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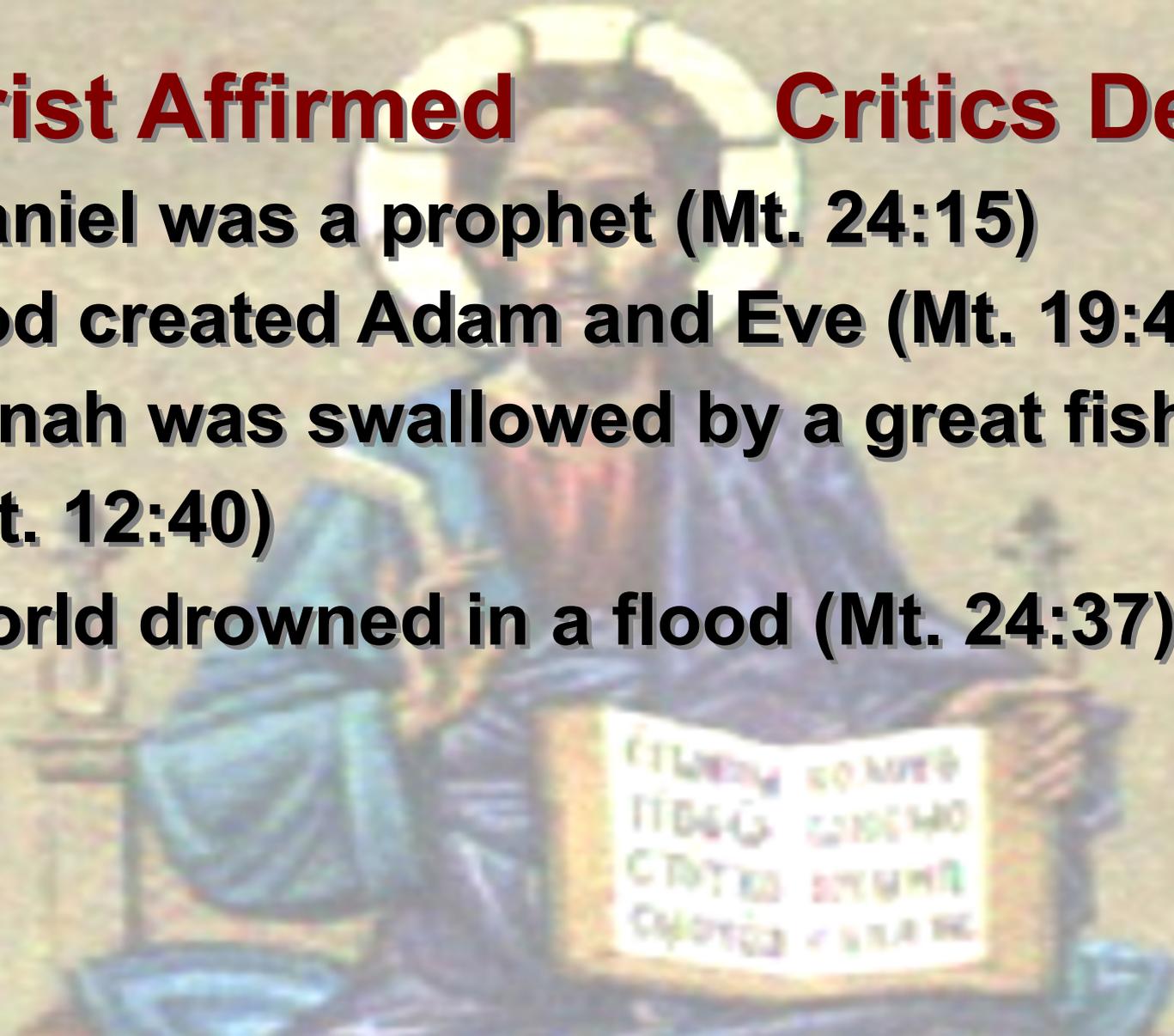
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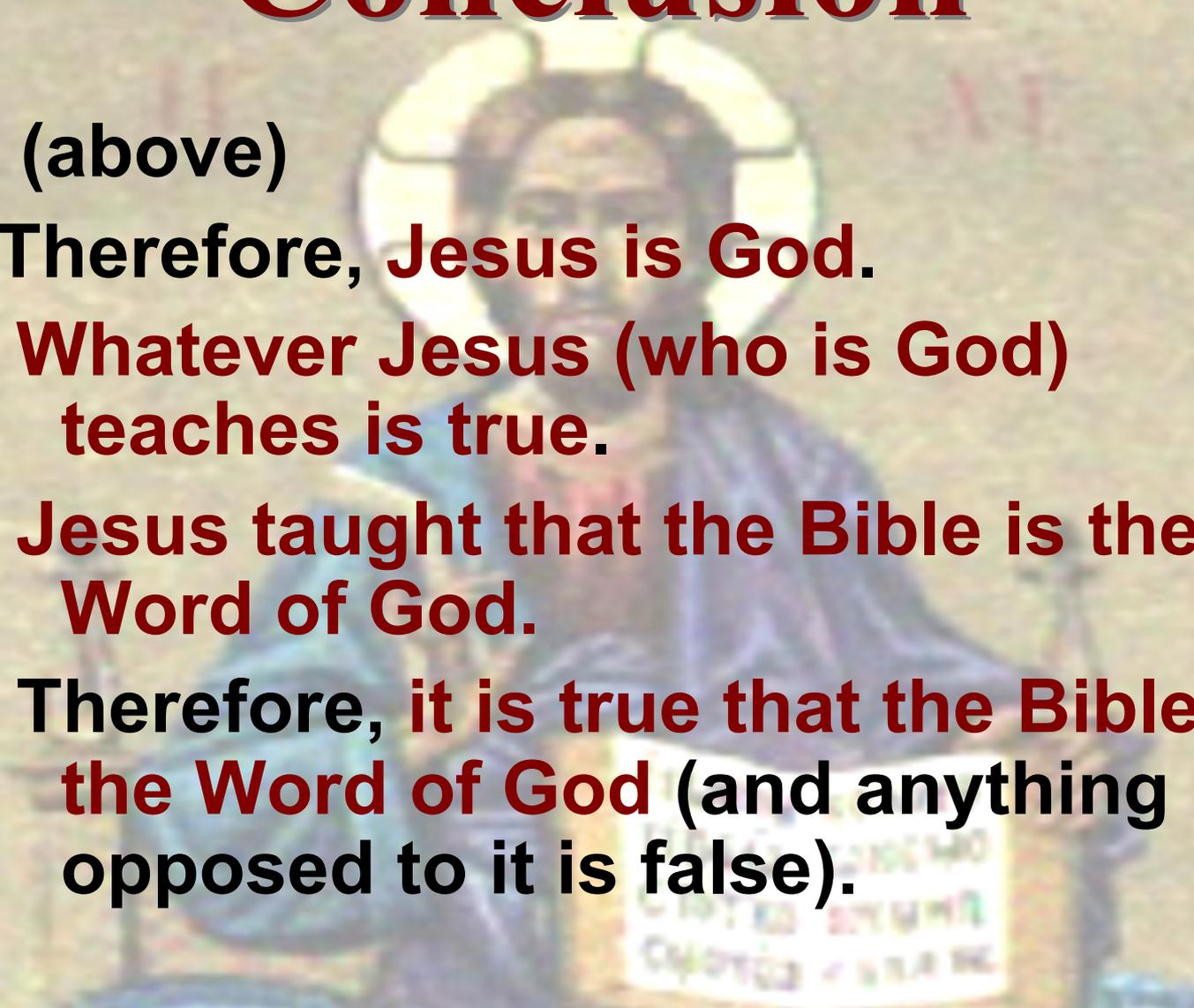
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The Choice: Christ or the Critics?



Conclusion



1-8 (above)

9. Therefore, **Jesus is God.**

10. **Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.**

11. **Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.**

12. Therefore, **it is true that the Bible is the Word of God (and anything opposed to it is false).**