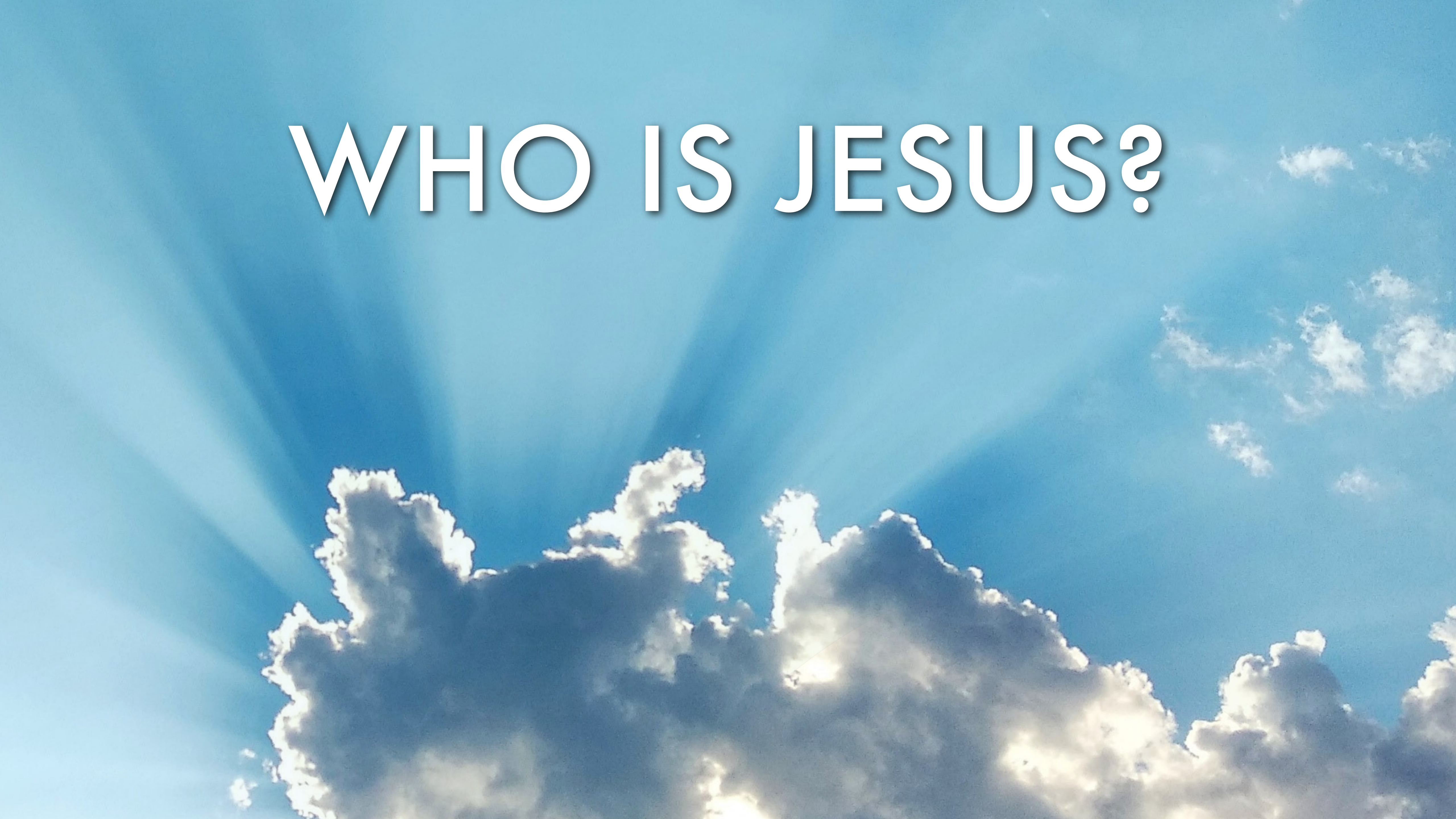


WHO IS JESUS?





# DID JESUS EXIST?

- Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts
- And the Epistles of Paul: Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon

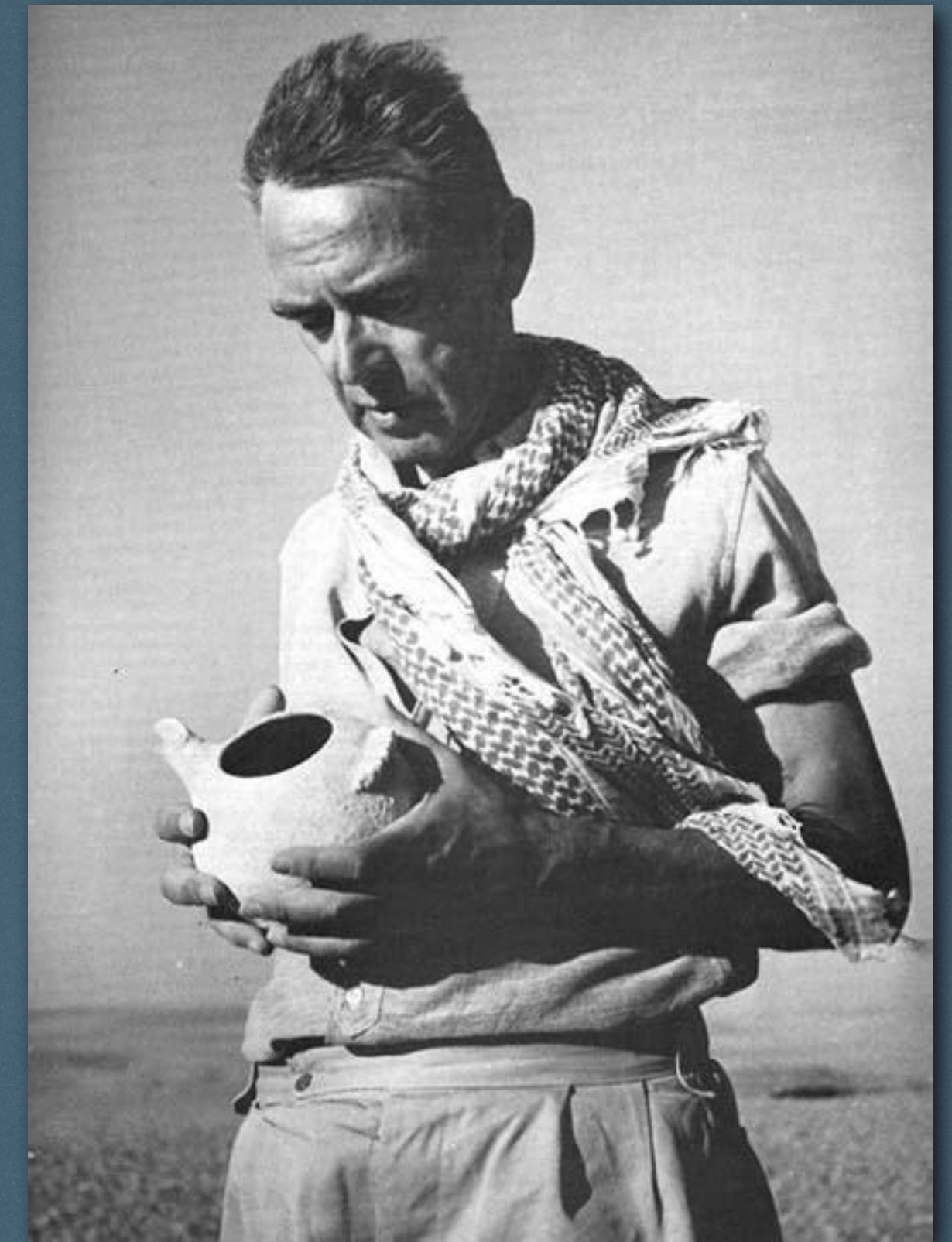
Focus on personality and teachings of Jesus





# DID JESUS EXIST?

World renowned archeologist Nelson Glueck once stated "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible."





# DID JESUS EXIST?

THALLUS (a Samaritan historian, ca. 52 A.D.)

- Wrote attempting to give a natural explanation for the darkness which occurred at the crucifixion of Jesus.

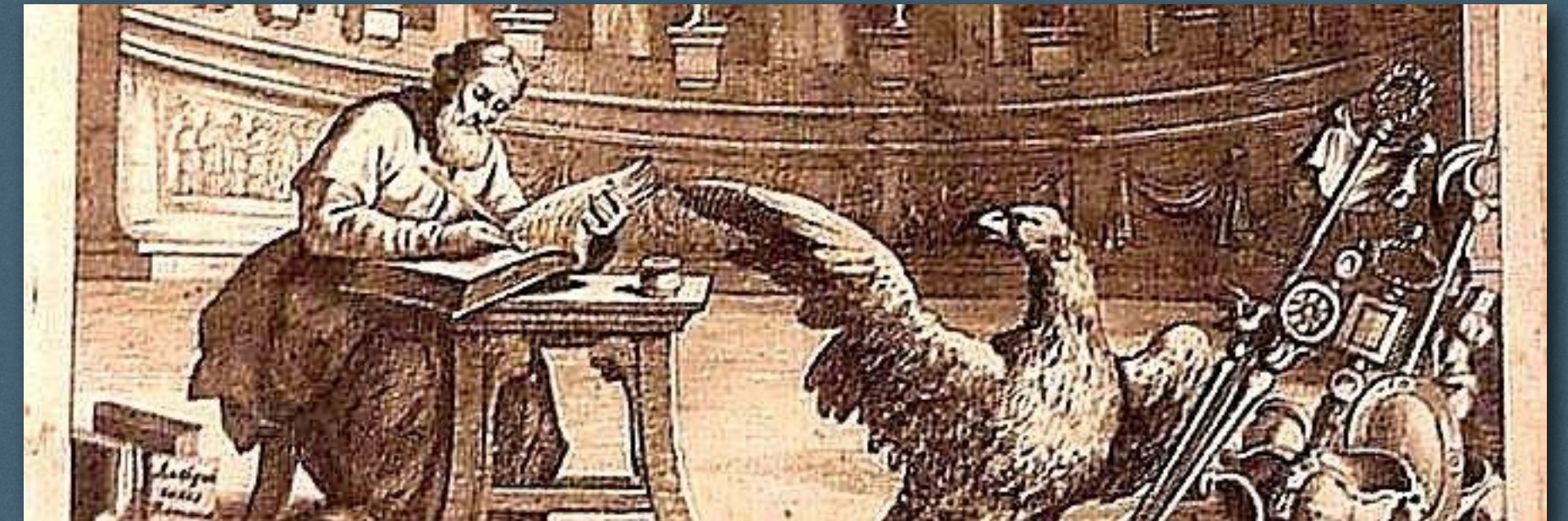




# DID JESUS EXIST?

LETTER OF Mara bar Sarapion, a Syriac Stoic philosopher (written to his son, ca. 73 A.D.)

- "What advantage did the Jews gain from executing their wise king?...Nor did the wise king die for good; he lived on in the teaching which he had given."

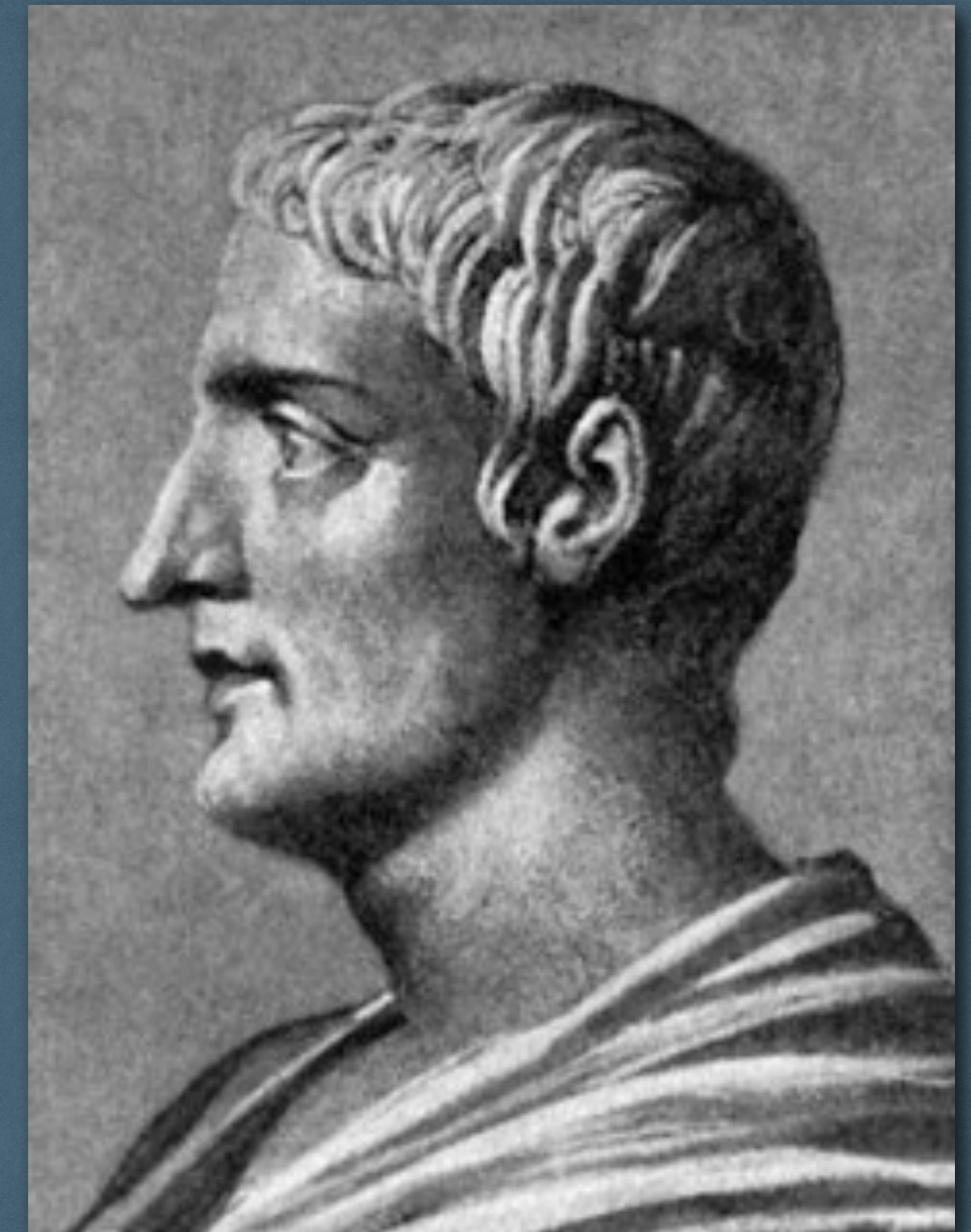




# DID JESUS EXIST?

Roman Historian CORNELIUS TACITUS  
(ca. 112 A.D.)

- "...Their originator, Christ, had been executed in Tiberius' reign by the governor of Judea Pontius Pilatus."





# DID JESUS EXIST?

Pliny The Younger in about AD 112,  
Governor of Bithynia in Asia Minor

- Wrote to the emperor Trajan about Christians and their devotion to Christ





# DID JESUS EXIST?

SEUTONIUS (Court official and annalist under Hadrian, 120 A.D.)

- "As the Jews were making constant disturbance at the instigation of Chrestus, he expelled them from Rome."
- Acts 18:1-2 "After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. 2 And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them."





# DID JESUS EXIST?

## The Talmud

- Consists of two separate books dealing with Jewish law, written during the period from 100 A.D. to 500 A.D.
- Speaks frequently of Jesus of Nazareth

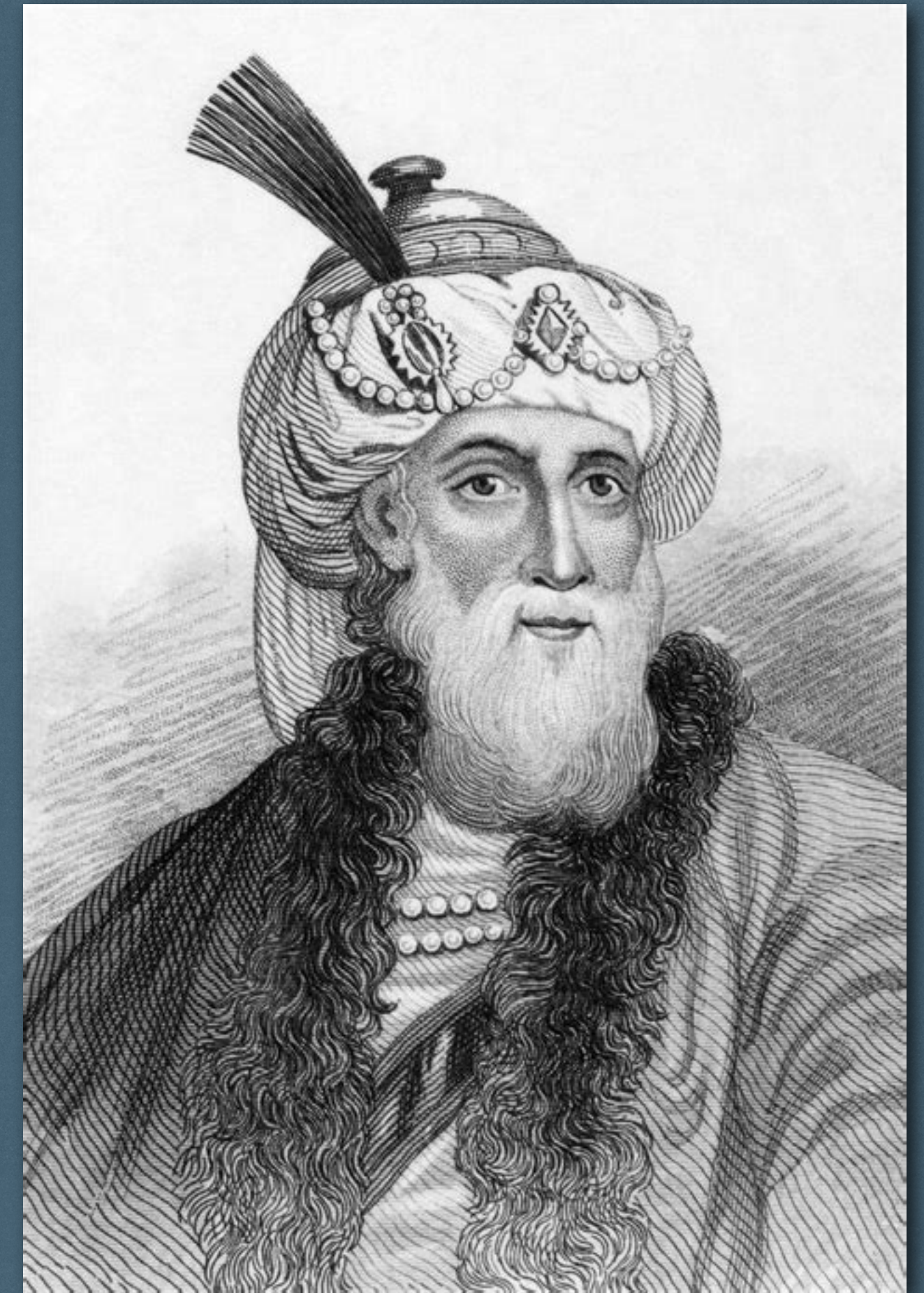




# DID JESUS EXIST?

FLAVIUS JOSEPHUS (A Jewish general turned Roman historian, born 37 A.D.)

- Makes a couple references to Jesus in his History Of The Jews
- E.g., "...and brought before it the brother of Jesus, the so-called Christ, whose name was James."





# DID JESUS EXIST?

H. G. WELLS (an atheist, wrote Outline of History)

- "...one is obliged to say, 'Here was a man. This part of the tale could not have been invented.'"





# DID JESUS EXIST?

WILL DURANT (Ex-professor of Philosophy of History at Columbia University)

- He spent two chapters in *The Story Of Our Civilization* depicting Jesus as a historical figure right along with the Caesars





# DID JESUS EXIST?

LEE STROBLE

- A legal editor for the Chicago Tribune who sought to expose his wife's faith in God as superstitious and insane





# DID JESUS EXIST?

## ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

- Used over 20,000 words to describe Jesus





# DID JESUS EXIST?

Our time keeping system

- A.D. stands for Anno Domini.
- Meaning "In the year of our Lord."

## 2020 CALENDAR

Month	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>JANUARY 2020</b>			1	2	3	4	
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b>							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<b>MARCH 2020</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
<b>APRIL 2020</b>				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30		
<b>MAY 2020</b>					1	2	
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						
<b>JUNE 2020</b>		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30				
<b>JULY 2020</b>			1	2	3	4	
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>AUGUST 2020</b>							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b>			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30			
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<b>NOVEMBER 2020</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					
<b>DECEMBER 2020</b>			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		

**2020 US FEDERAL HOLIDAYS**

Jan 01	New Year's Day	Jan 20	M L King Day	Feb 17	Presidents' Day
May 25	Memorial Day	Jul 3	Independence Day (observed)	Jul 4	Independence Day
Sept 7	Labor Day	Oct 12	Columbus Day	Nov 11	Veterans Day
Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day	Dec 25	Christmas Day		

123Calendars.com



# DID JESUS EXIST?

“Rome was one of the most bureaucratic civilizations in history. The Romans kept records about every detail of life—births, marriages, adoptions, taxes, olive production, and legal documents. Along with the Roman legions, the official government records were a means to control the lands and peoples they conquered. So why is there a total absence of official Roman records concerning Jesus? At the very least, should not there be a record of the trial and the crucifixion? All the historical references to Jesus are all many decades later.””



# DID JESUS EXIST?

Alan Millard, Professor of Hebrew and Ancient Semitic Languages at the University of Liverpool

- Regarding Pontius Pilate "...to his extensive research and review of 1st century writings, this represents "the only known inscription from his lifetime naming Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor who ordered the crucifixion of Jesus"





# WHO IS JESUS

- Did Jesus Exist?
  - YES
  - He lived on the earth
  - He died during the first Century
  - And, Jesus must have done something significant to gain some notoriety by the historians

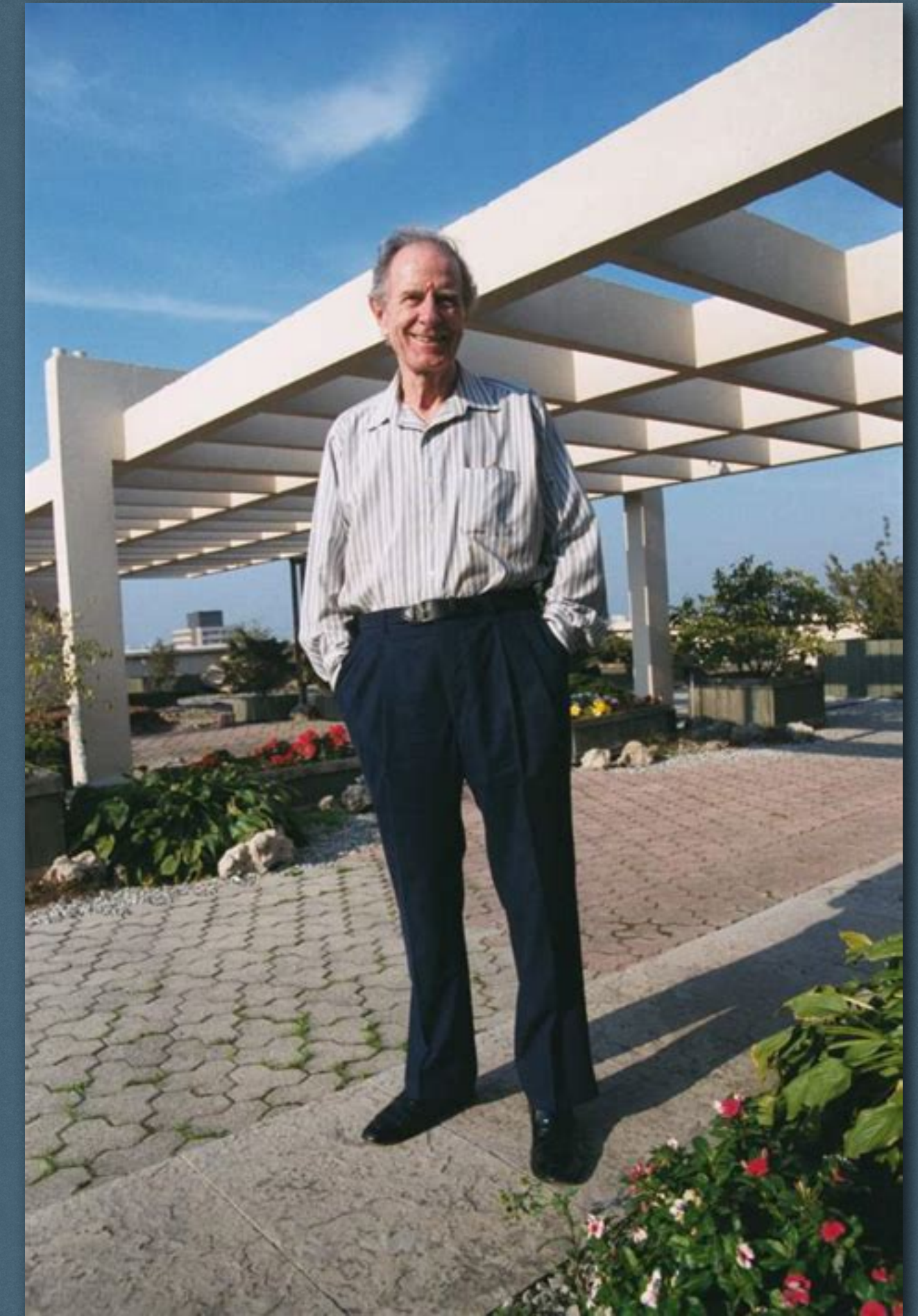
But is there More?



# WHO IS JESUS?

Charles Templeton wrote Farewell to God -  
My reasons for rejecting the Christian Faith

- “He was the greatest human being who has ever lived. He was a moral genius. His ethical sense was unique. He was the intrinsically wisest person that I’ve ever encountered in my life or in my reading. His commitment was total and led to his own death, much to the detriment of the world.”





# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Fulfilling Prophecies

- Chronicled Jesus' life for over a thousand years before he was born
- Luke 24:25-27, 44 NKJV] 25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Fulfilling Prophecies

- The Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem in Judea (Micah 5:2)
- The Messiah was to be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
- He was to be a regal monarch of a kingdom that would never end (Psalm 89:3-4; Isaiah 9:6-7; Psalm 110:1) and at the same time a suffering servant (Isaiah 53)
- He was to be betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9) for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:13)
- The Lord's Ruler would come into Jerusalem riding on the foal of a donkey (Zechariah 9:9)
- Even though His physical suffering would be severe, His bones would not be broken (Psalm 34:20)
- We can outline the Lord's entire crucifixion by only reading the OT
- And so many more...



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Performed Miracles

- Isaiah 35:5-6 "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert."
- Nature
  - Turning the water to grape juice in John 2:1-11
  - Calming the Sea of Galilee during a turbulent storm in Matthew 8:23-27



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Performed Miracles

- Death
  - Widow of Nain's son in Luke 7:14-15
  - Lazarus after being dead for four days in John 11:1-44
  - As an evidence to John who baptized that he was Christ in Matthew 11:5
- Demons
  - Luke 11:14, Matthew 8:16, Mark 1:34 and more



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Performed Miracles

- Jesus rose from the dead
  - Romans 1:4 [and] declared [to be] the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.
  - Acts 1:22 "beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

Observations: Performed Miracles

- And many that weren't recorded
  - John 20:30-31 NKJV] 30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 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.



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Jesus Never Sinned

- A question that has stood the test of time
  - John 8:46 we read "Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?"
- Versus man's state: Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Jesus Never Sinned

- 1Peter 1:19 "but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."
- Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all [points] tempted as [we are, yet] without sin."



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Jesus Accepted Worship

- Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before Me. 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image--any likeness [of anything] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth [generations] of those who hate Me,



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

## Observations: Jesus Accepted Worship

- Revelation 19:10 "And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See [that you do] not [do that]! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."
- However, Jesus did not stop those who worshipped him
  - Matthew 14:33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."
  - John 9:38 Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him



# IS JESUS THE SON OF GOD/DEITY?

Observations: Discipleship attracts regardless of the cost

- Revelation 2:13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells."
- Revelation 2:9 ""I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan."



# WHO IS JESUS

- Did Jesus Exist? YES
- Is Jesus the son of God/Deity? YES
  - Fulfilling Prophecies
  - Performed Miracles
  - Jesus Never Sinned
  - Jesus Accepted Worship
  - Discipleship attracts regardless of the cost



JOHN 10:25, 30, 37-38"JESUS ANSWERED THEM,  
"I TOLD YOU, AND YOU DO NOT BELIEVE. THE  
WORKS THAT I DO IN MY FATHER'S NAME, THEY  
BEAR WITNESS OF ME. ... 30 "I AND [MY] FATHER  
ARE ONE." ... 37 "IF I DO NOT DO THE WORKS OF  
MY FATHER, DO NOT BELIEVE ME; 38 "BUT IF I DO,  
THOUGH YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME, BELIEVE THE  
WORKS, THAT YOU MAY KNOW AND BELIEVE  
THAT THE FATHER [IS] IN ME, AND I IN HIM."