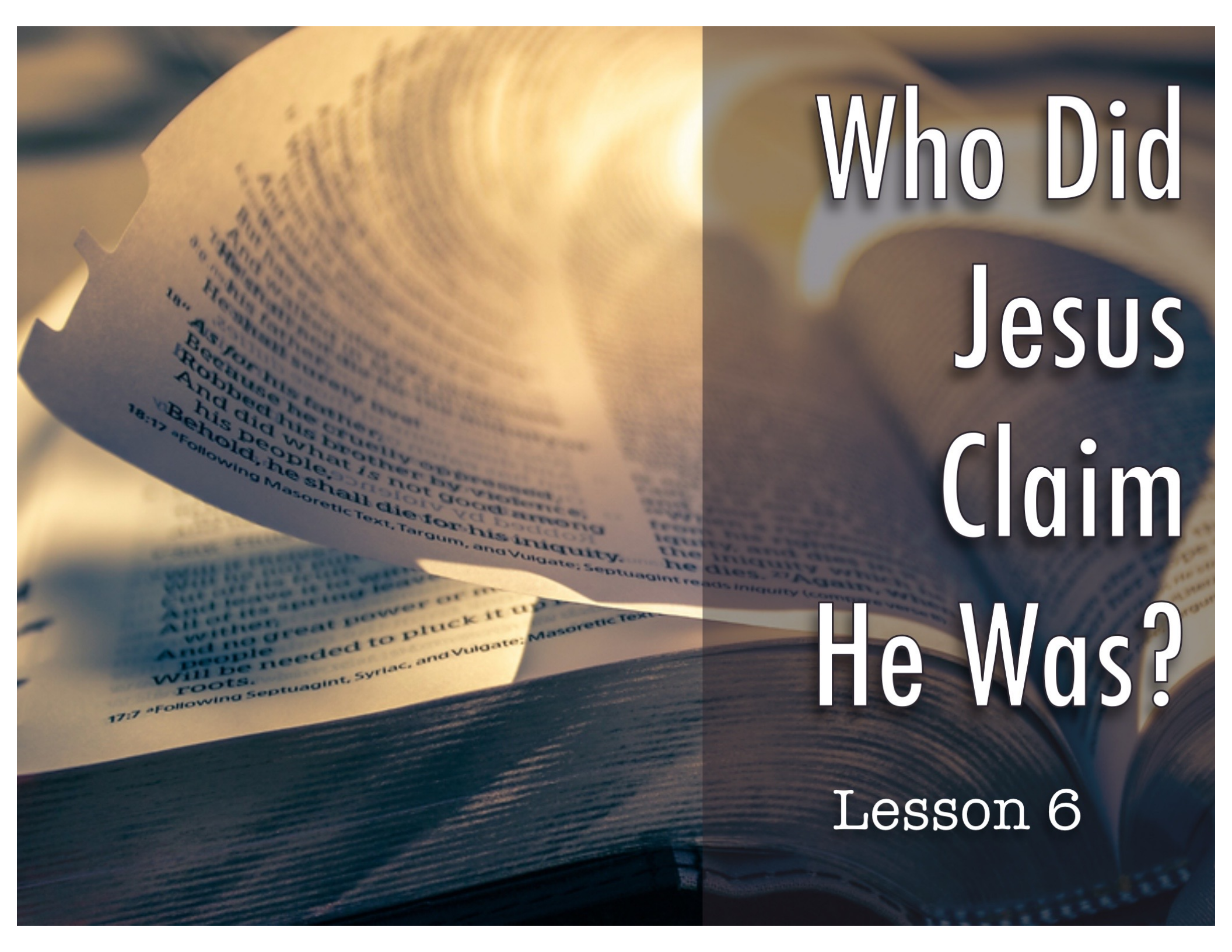




Why Should I Believe?



Who Did Jesus Claim He Was?

Lesson 6



MERE
CHRISTIANITY

C. S. Lewis

18:17 *Following Masoretic
As for his father
Because he cry
Robbed his law
And did what
his people,
Behold, he sha
18:17 *Following Septuagint,
And leaves it
All of its sp
withen
And no great
people
Will be neede
roots.

“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: ‘I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.’ That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse.”

-C.S. Lewis from "Mere Christianity"

*The
Historical
Jesus*

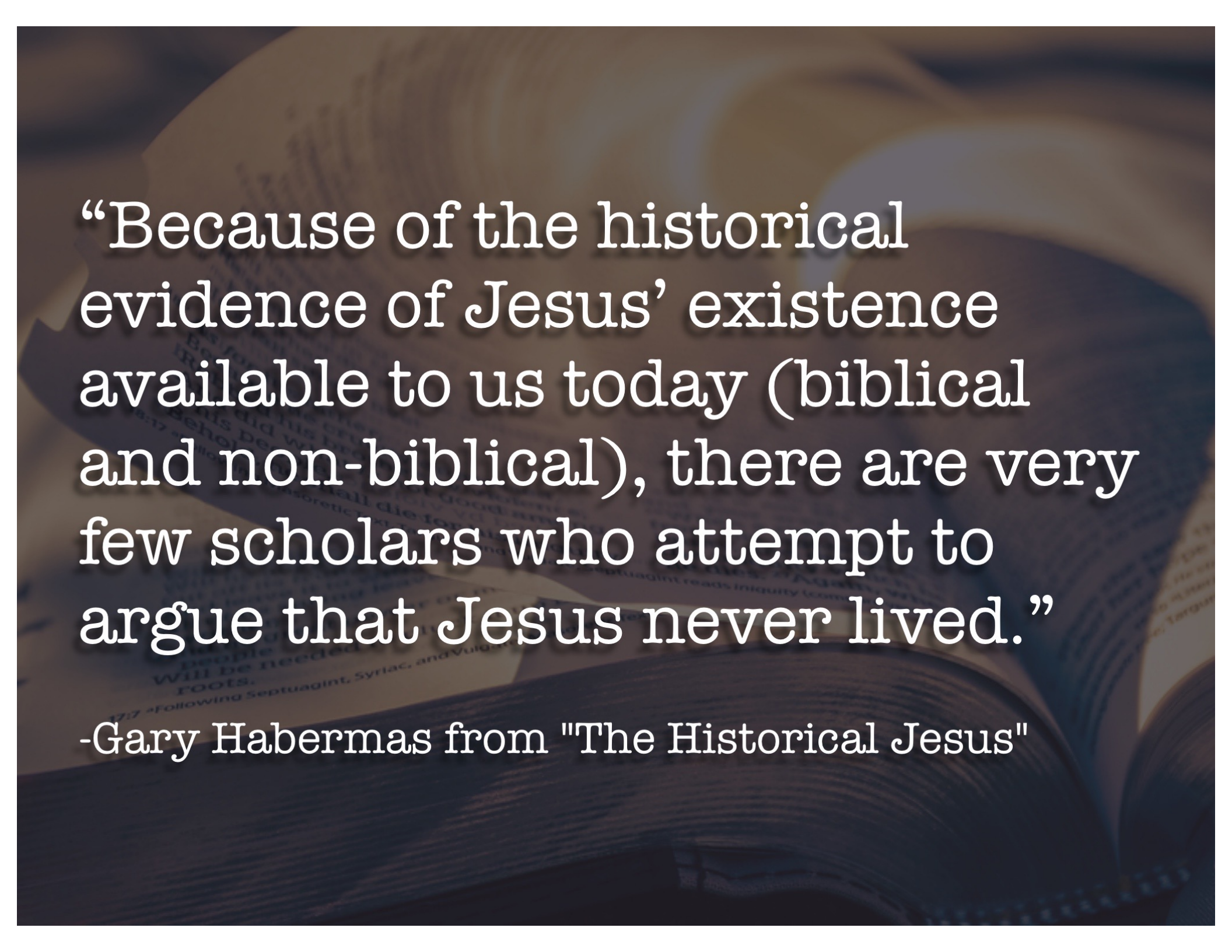
Who Did Jesus Claim He Was?

Lesson 6

**THE
HISTORICAL
JESUS**

**ANCIENT EVIDENCE FOR
THE LIFE OF CHRIST**

GARY R. HABERMAS



“Because of the historical evidence of Jesus’ existence available to us today (biblical and non-biblical), there are very few scholars who attempt to argue that Jesus never lived.”

-Gary Habermas from "The Historical Jesus"

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Oxford Bible Series

The Gospels and Jesus

Second edition



Graham Stanton

Copyrighted Material

"The early Christians' opponents all accepted that **Jesus existed, taught, had disciples, worked miracles, and was put to death on a Roman cross.** As in our day, debate and disagreement centered largely not on the story but on the significance of Jesus. Today **nearly all historians, whether Christians or not, accept that Jesus existed** and that the gospels contain plenty of valuable evidence which has to be weighed and assessed critically."

-Graham Stanton from "The Gospels and Jesus"

Jesus and the word

RUDOLF BULTMANN

"Of course the doubt as to whether Jesus really existed is unfounded and not worth refutation. No sane person can doubt that Jesus stands as founder behind the historical movement whose first distinct stage is represented by the Palestinian community."

-Rudolf Bultmann from "Jesus and the Word"



JESUS

An.
Historian's
Review
of the
Gospels

MICHAEL GRANT

"To sum up, modern critical methods fail to support the Christ myth theory. It has 'again and again been answered and annihilated by first rank scholars.' In recent years, no serious scholar has ventured to postulate the non historicity of Jesus or at any rate very few, and they have not succeeded in disposing of the much stronger, indeed very abundant, evidence to the contrary."

-Michael Grant (Atheist) from
"Jesus: An Historian's Review of the Gospels"





18:17 *Following Masoreth
And he shall be
his people
Behold, he shall
As for his father
Because he
Robbed his
And did what
his people
Behold, he shall
18:17 *Following Septuagint
And he shall be
All of its strength
And no great
people
Will be needed
roots,
17:7 *Following Septuagint

בסוד מיד

THE
TALMUD

THE HOLY BIBLE OF THE HEBREW RELIGION.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

187
As for his fate
Because he had
Robbed his father
And did what
his people,
Behold, he shall
18:17 *Following Masoretic

177 *Following Septuagint

*Did Jesus
Believe He
Was God?*

Who Did
Jesus
Claim
He Was?

Lesson 6

Daniel 7:13-14 (ESV)

¹³ “I saw in the night visions,
and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a **son of man**,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.

¹⁴ And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.

Mark 14:60-64 (ESV)

⁶⁰ And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?”

⁶¹ But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” ⁶² And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the **Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.**” ⁶³ And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death.

Luke 5:20-26 (ESV)

²⁰ And when he saw their faith, he said, “**Man, your sins are forgiven you.**” ²¹ And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ²² When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “**Why do you question in your hearts?**” ²³ **Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?** ²⁴ **But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“**I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.**” ²⁵ And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. ²⁶ And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen extraordinary things today.”



My Father

177 *Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate; Masoretic text

John 10:24-30 (ESV)

²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

John 10:31-33 (ESV)

³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him.
³² Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?” ³³ The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, **make yourself God.**”

John 8:53-59 (ESV)

⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” ⁵⁴ Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’” ⁵⁵ But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I am.**” ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.



Judgment

18^a As for his father,
Because he crucified
Robbed
And died
Behold

17:7 ^aFollowing Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate; Masoretic text
And leaves it to wither
All of its spring leaves
And no great power or
people
Will be needed to pluck it up
roots.

...the iniquity which
he dies. ^aAgain, which
Septuagint reads iniquity (compare verse 17)

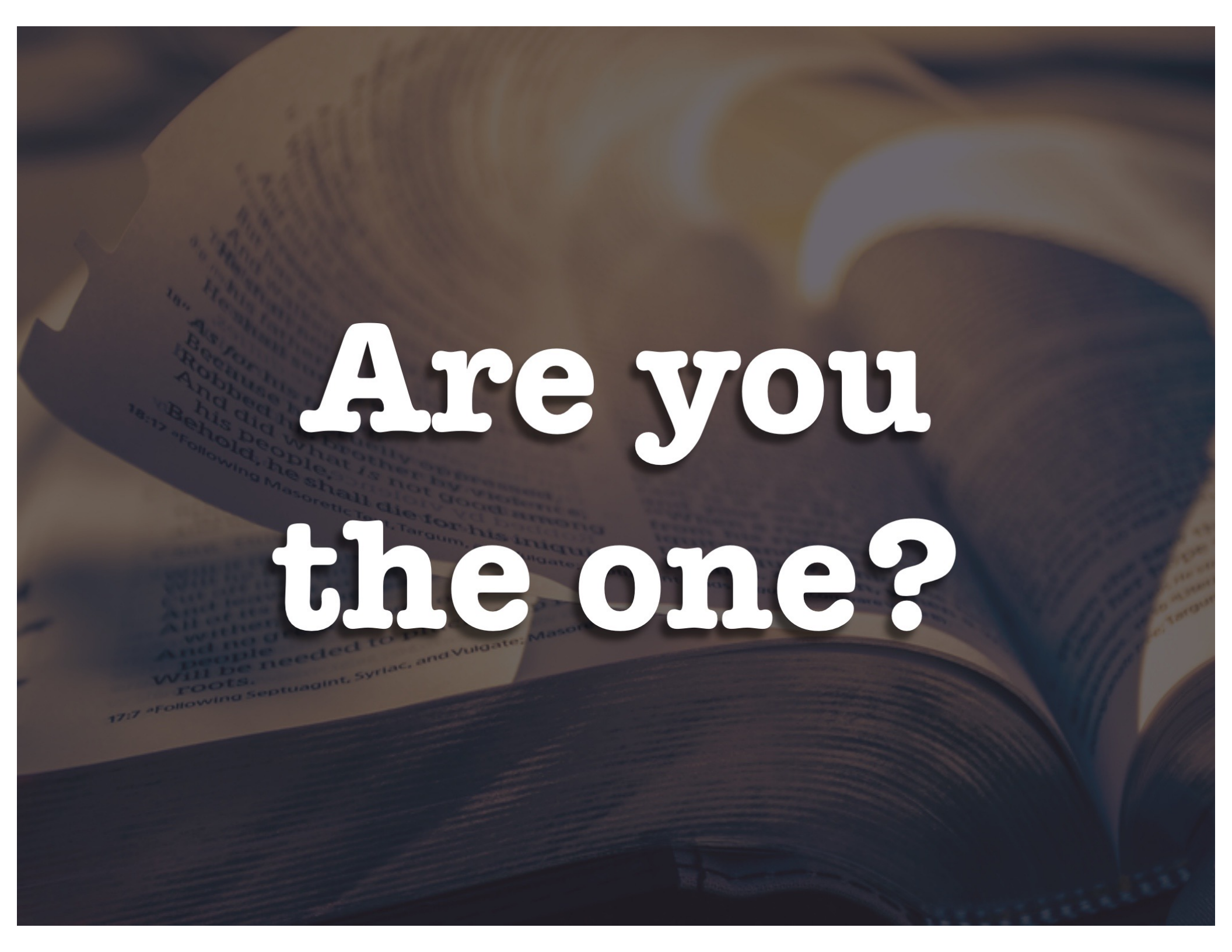
Matthew 7:21-23 (ESV)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Matthew 25:31-33 (ESV)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, with its pages slightly curved. The text on the pages is mostly illegible due to a dark, semi-transparent overlay. The central focus is a large, white, bold question.

**Are you
the one?**

17:7 *Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate; Masor...

Matthew 11:2-3 (ESV)

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples
³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

Matthew 11:4-6 (ESV)

⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”



MERE
CHRISTIANITY

C. S. Lewis

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As for his father
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All of its spr
withen
And no great
people
Will be neede
roots.

Lord, Liar, or Lunatic

"You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

-C. S. Lewis from "Mere Christianity"

*Next
Lesson...*

The Resurrection: Is There Another Explanation?

Lesson 7