

PORTRAIT  
OF THE  
*King*



ADMINISTRATION

**“Life’s Most Important Question”**

**MATTHEW 22:41-46**





**Stephen Hawking**

“We are each free to believe what we want and it is my view that the simplest explanation is that there is no God. No one created the universe and no one directs our fate...This leads me to a profound realization—...

**Stephen Hawking**



“...there is probably no heaven  
and no afterlife either.

We have this one life to  
appreciate the grand design of  
the universe, and for that,  
I am extremely grateful.”

**Stephen Hawking**



“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 ...

**C. S. Lewis**



“...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...or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, ...

**C. S. Lewis**



“... and is, the Son of God,  
or else a madman or  
something worse.

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”

**C. S. Lewis**





Chapters in Matthew	Theme	Examples
1-4	ARRIVAL	incarnation (1-2), preparing for His arrival (3-4)
5-9	AUTHORITY	in His preaching (5-7), and by his miraculous power (8-9)
10-12	AMBASSADORS	charge to the disciples (10), and opposition to the disciples (11-12)
13-17	ADVERSARIES	opposition (13) and withdrawal (14-17)
18-23	ADMINISTRATION	instructions to the disciples (18-20), and conflict with religious leaders (21-23)
24-28	ATONEMENT	predictions of His passion (24-25), crucifixion, burial and resurrection (26-27), and ascension (28)

- Questioning His authority to perform miracles (Matthew 21:23-27)
- Trying to trap Him with a question about paying taxes (Matthew 22:15-22)
- Trying to trap him with a question about the resurrection and marriage in heaven (Matthew 22:23-33)
- Trying to get Him to condense their 613 laws into one (Matthew 22:34-40)

## Attempts at Shaming Jesus



## KEY POINT:

The most important answer you can give to the most important question will say everything about you.



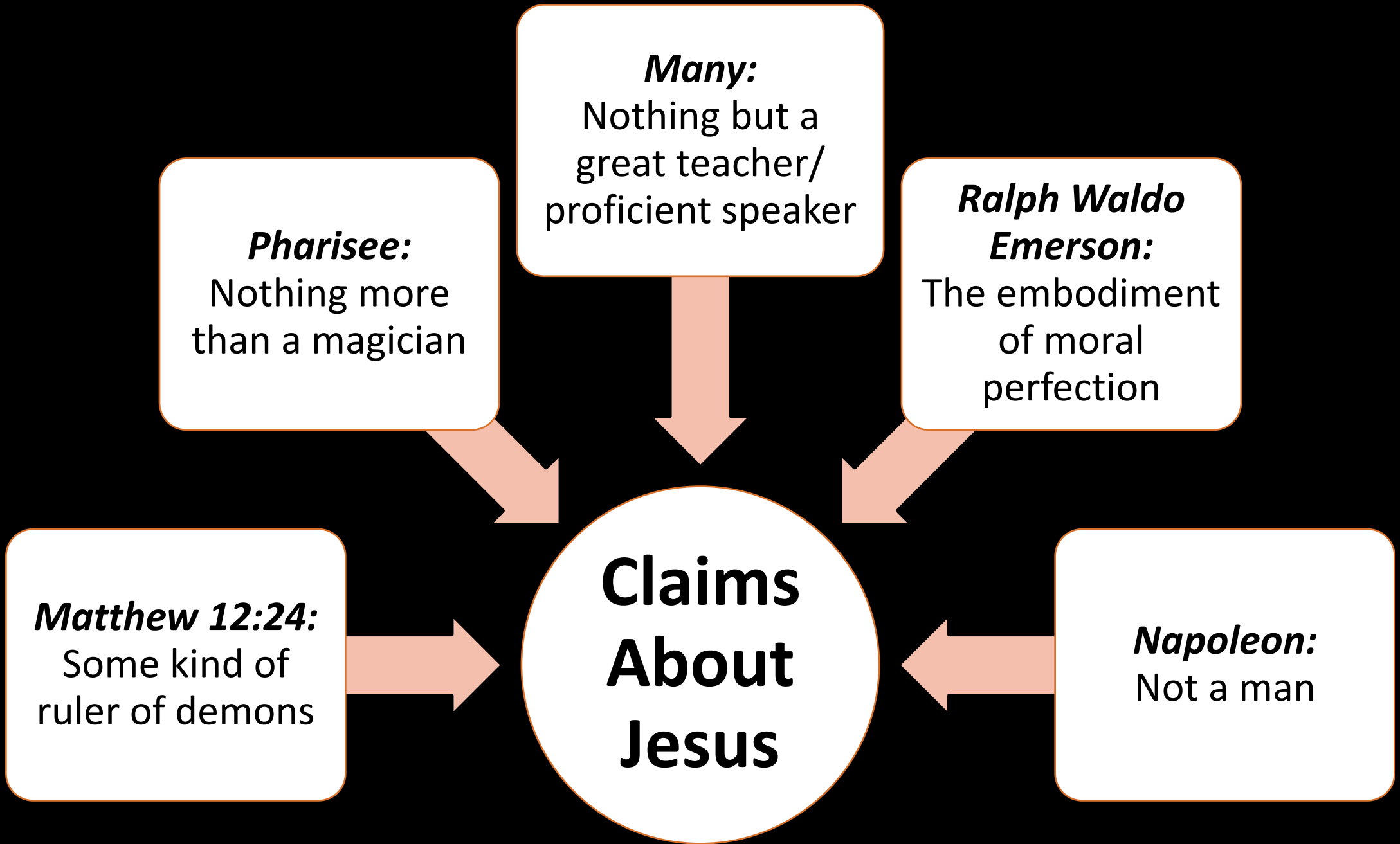
1. What do you think of Jesus?
2. Is that all you think He is?
3. What does God's Word say about Jesus?
4. What will you do about Jesus?

**Four Questions for Our Text**



1. What Do You Think of Jesus? (vs. 41-42a)





**Many:**  
Nothing but a great teacher/  
proficient speaker

**Pharisee:**  
Nothing more than a magician

**Ralph Waldo Emerson:**  
The embodiment of moral perfection

**Matthew 12:24:**  
Some kind of ruler of demons

**Claims About Jesus**

**Napoleon:**  
Not a man

# Napoleon

“I know men, and I tell you that Jesus Christ is not a mere man...Everything in Christ astonishes me. His spirit overawes me, and his will confounds me. Between him and whomever else in the world, there is no possible term of comparison. He is truly a being by himself. His ideals and sentiments, the truth which He announces,...

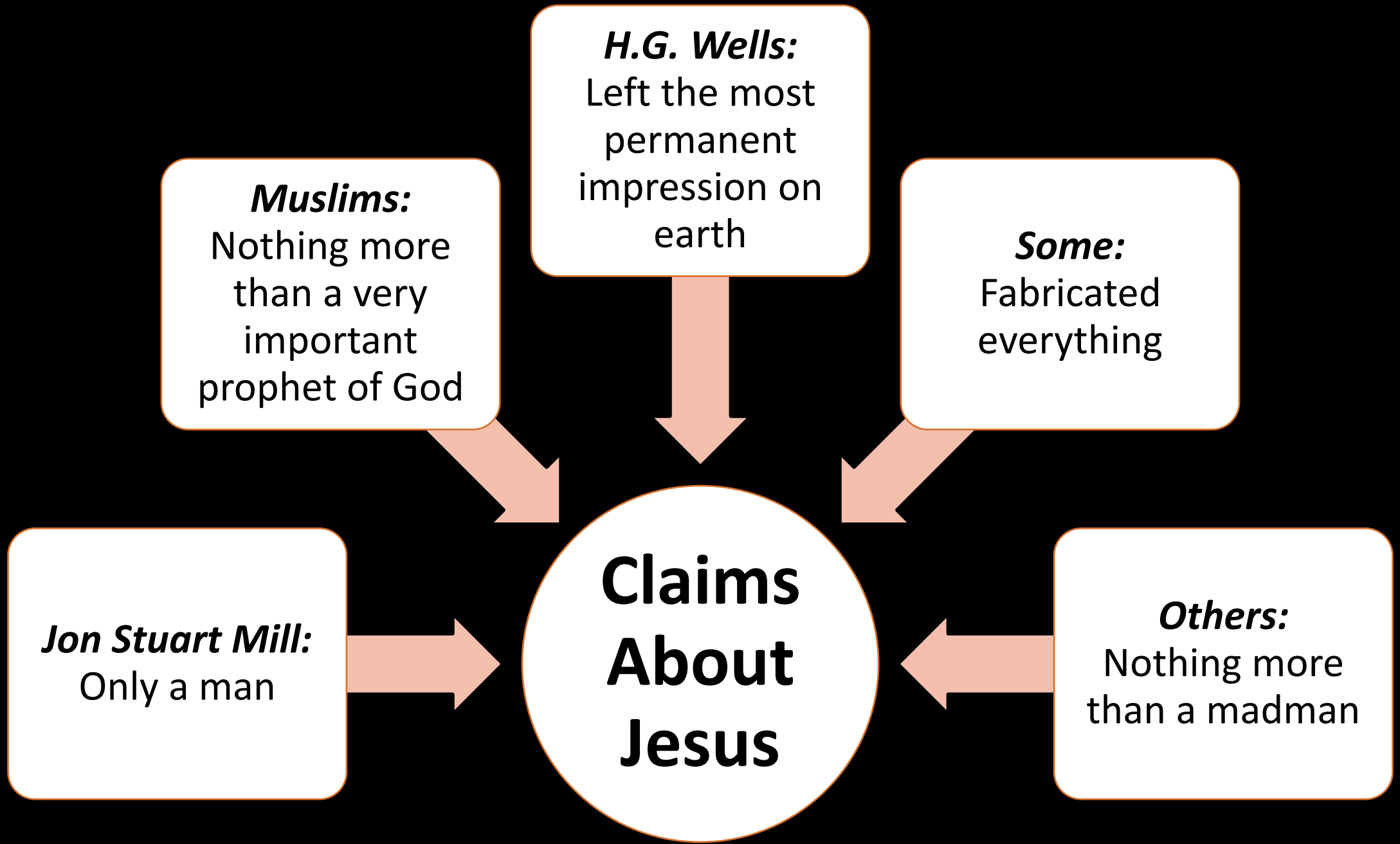


# Napoleon



“...His manner of convincing, are not explained either by human organization or by the nature of things...I search in vain in history to find the similar to Jesus Christ, or anything which can approach the gospel. Neither history, nor humanity, nor the ages, nor nature, offer me anything with which I am able to compare it or to explain it. Here everything is extraordinary.”





**H.G. Wells:**  
Left the most permanent impression on earth

**Muslims:**  
Nothing more than a very important prophet of God

**Some:**  
Fabricated everything

**Others:**  
Nothing more than a madman

**Jon Stuart Mill:**  
Only a man

**Claims About Jesus**

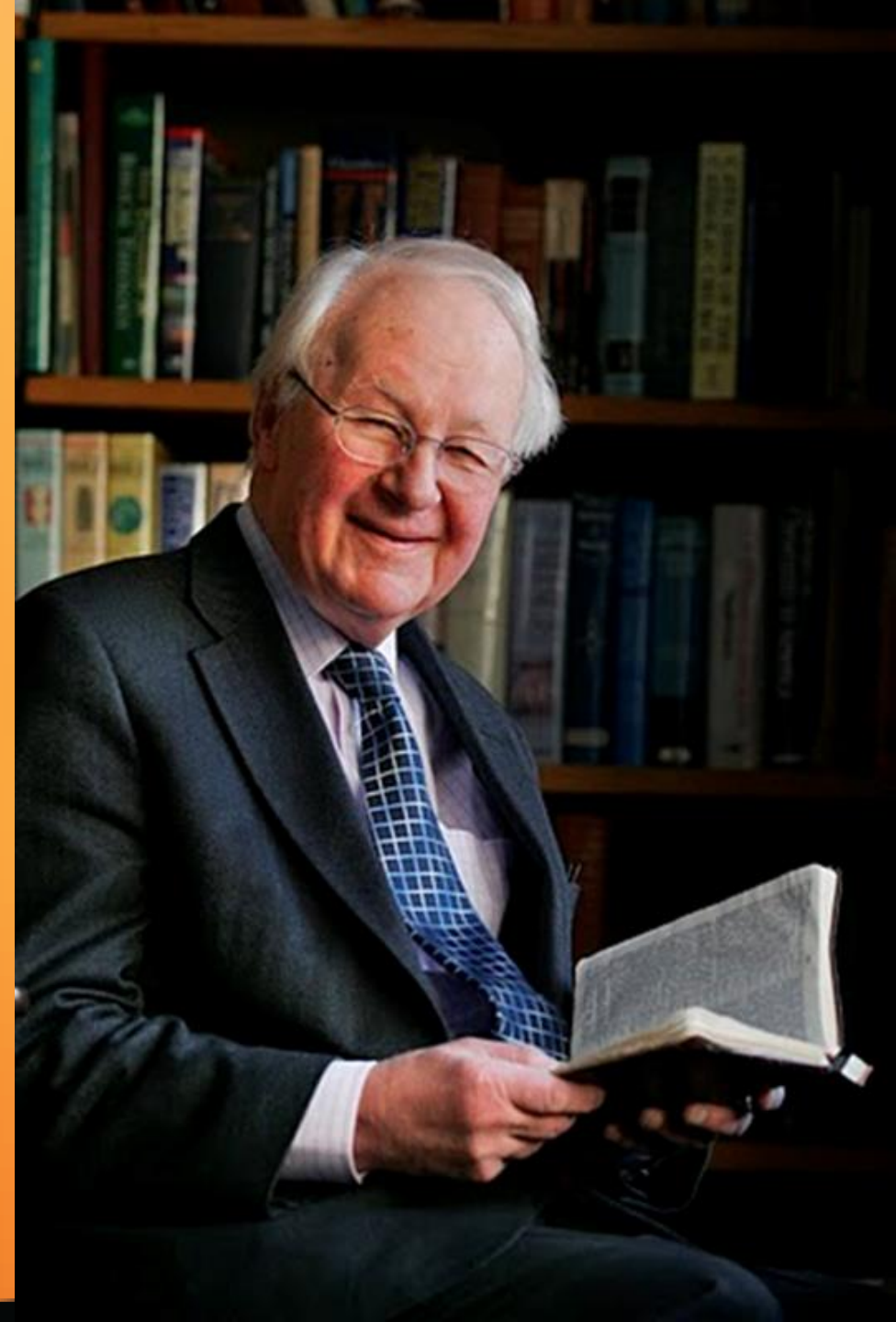
*Simon Peter replied,  
“You are the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.”*

**Matthew 16:16**



“More than nineteen hundred years ago, there was a Man born contrary to the laws of life. This Man lived in poverty and was reared in obscurity. He did not travel extensively. Only once did He cross the boundary of the country in...

**John Stott,**  
***The Incomparable Christ***



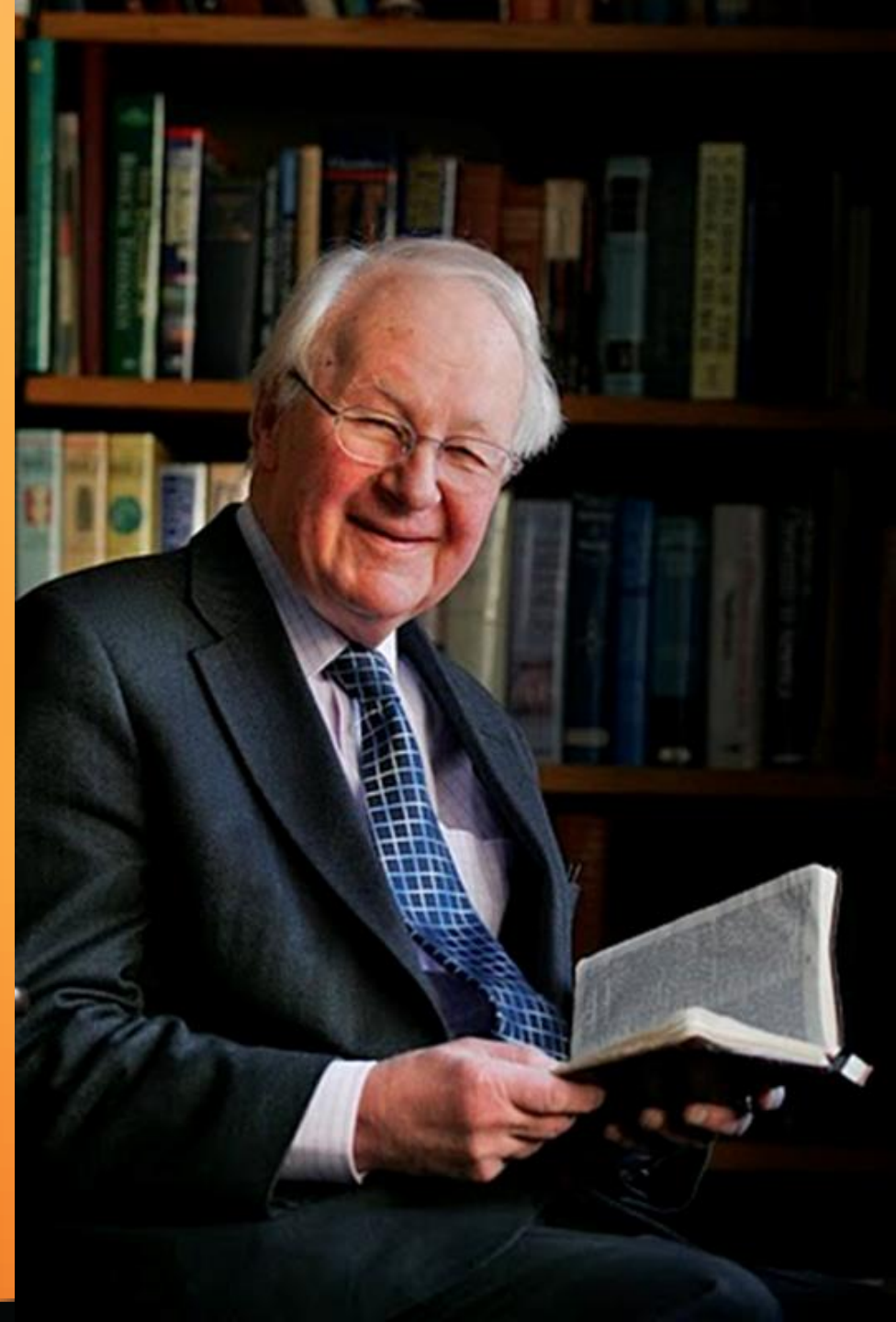
“...which He lived; that was during  
His exile in childhood.

He possessed neither wealth nor  
influence. His relatives were  
inconspicuous and had neither  
training nor formal education.

In infancy He startled a king;  
in childhood He puzzled doctors;...

**John Stott,**

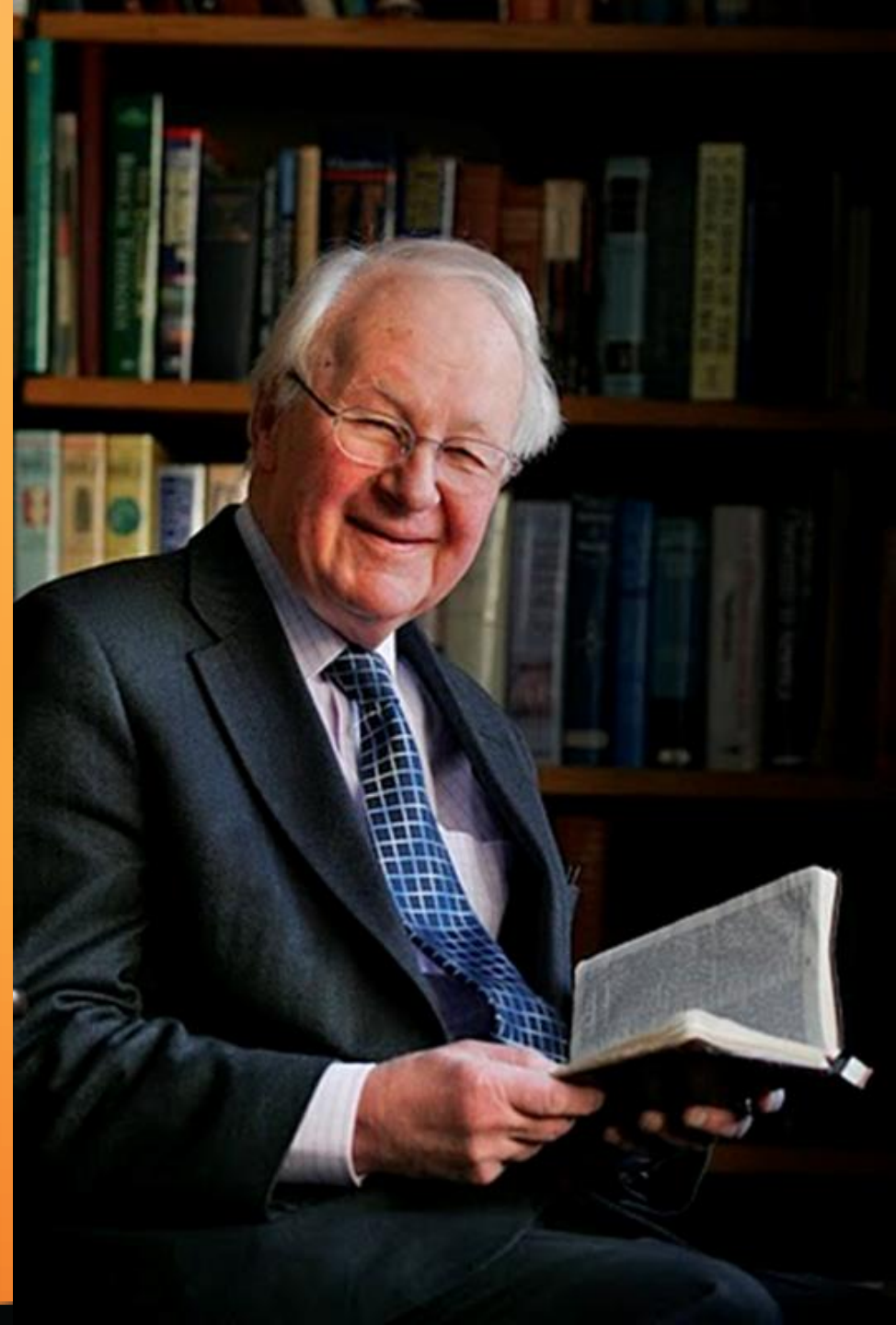
***The Incomparable Christ***



“...in manhood He ruled the course of nature, walked upon the waves as pavement, and hushed the sea to sleep. He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charge for His service. He never wrote a book, and yet perhaps all the libraries of the world could ...

**John Stott,**

***The Incomparable Christ***

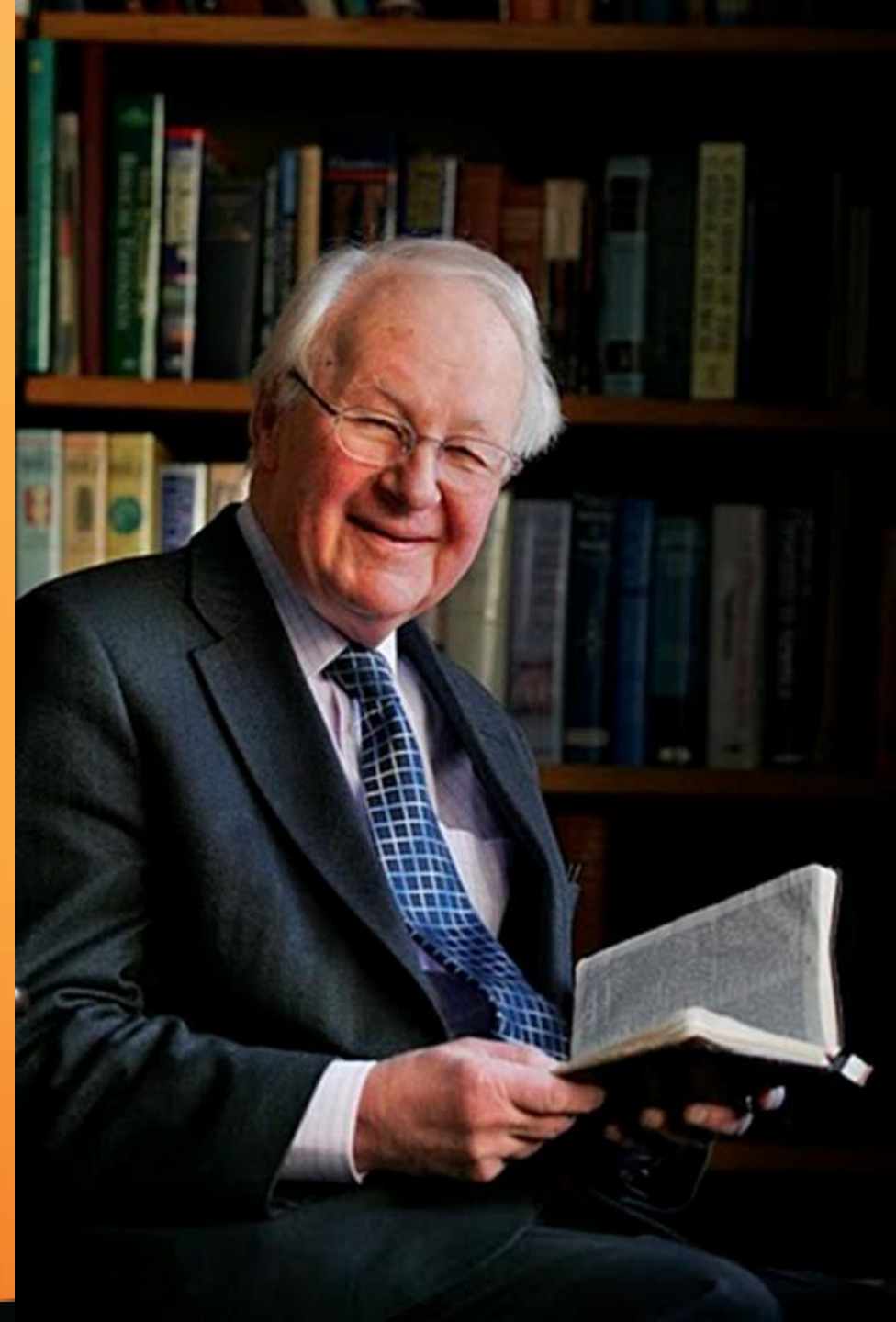


“... not hold the books that have  
been written about Him.

He never wrote a song,  
and yet He has furnished the theme  
for more songs than all the  
songwriters combined. He never  
founded a college, but all the  
schools put together cannot ...

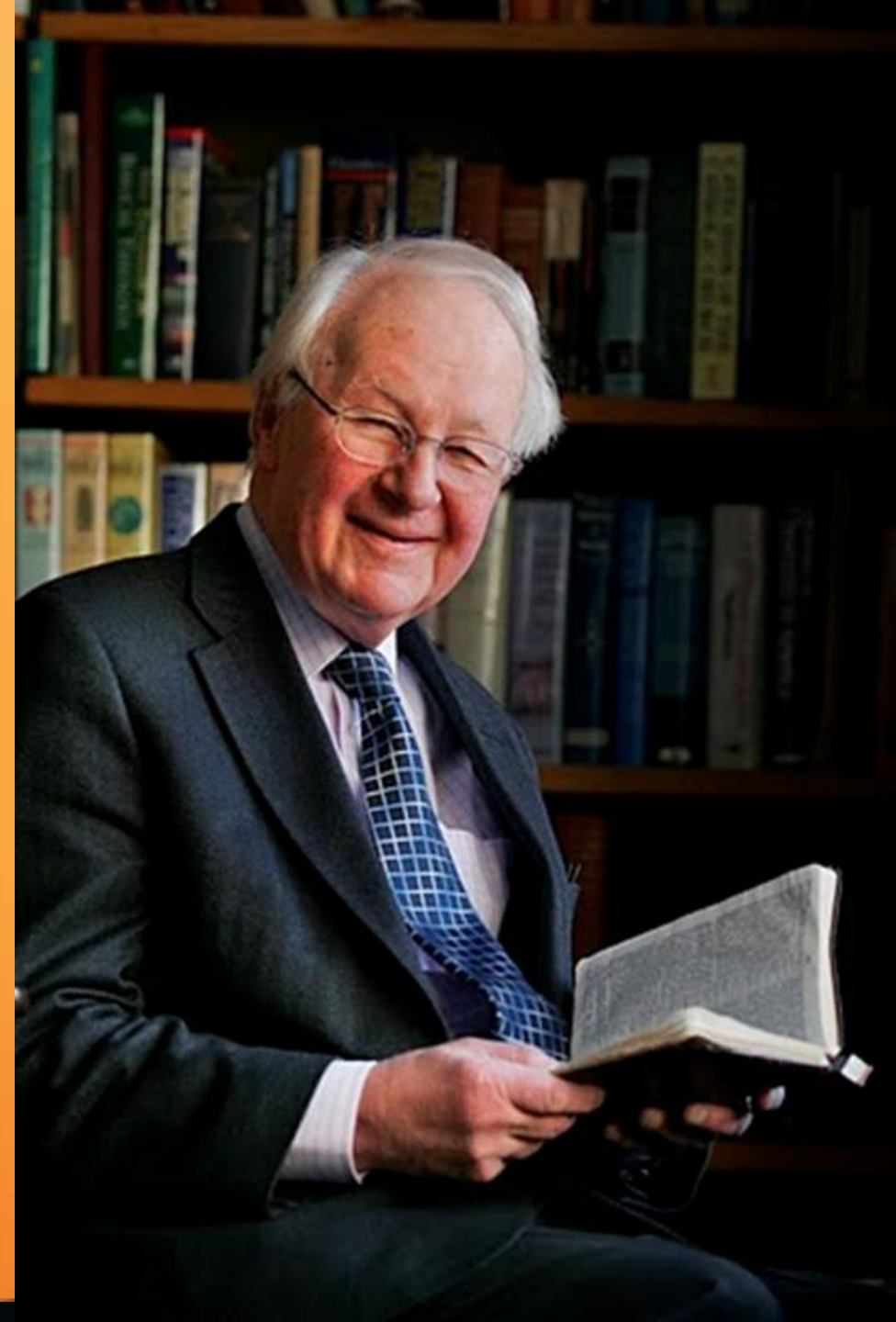
**John Stott,**

***The Incomparable Christ***



“... boast of having as many students. He never marshaled an army, nor drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun; and yet no leader ever had more volunteers who have, under His orders, made more rebels stack arms and surrender without a shot ...

**John Stott,**  
***The Incomparable Christ***

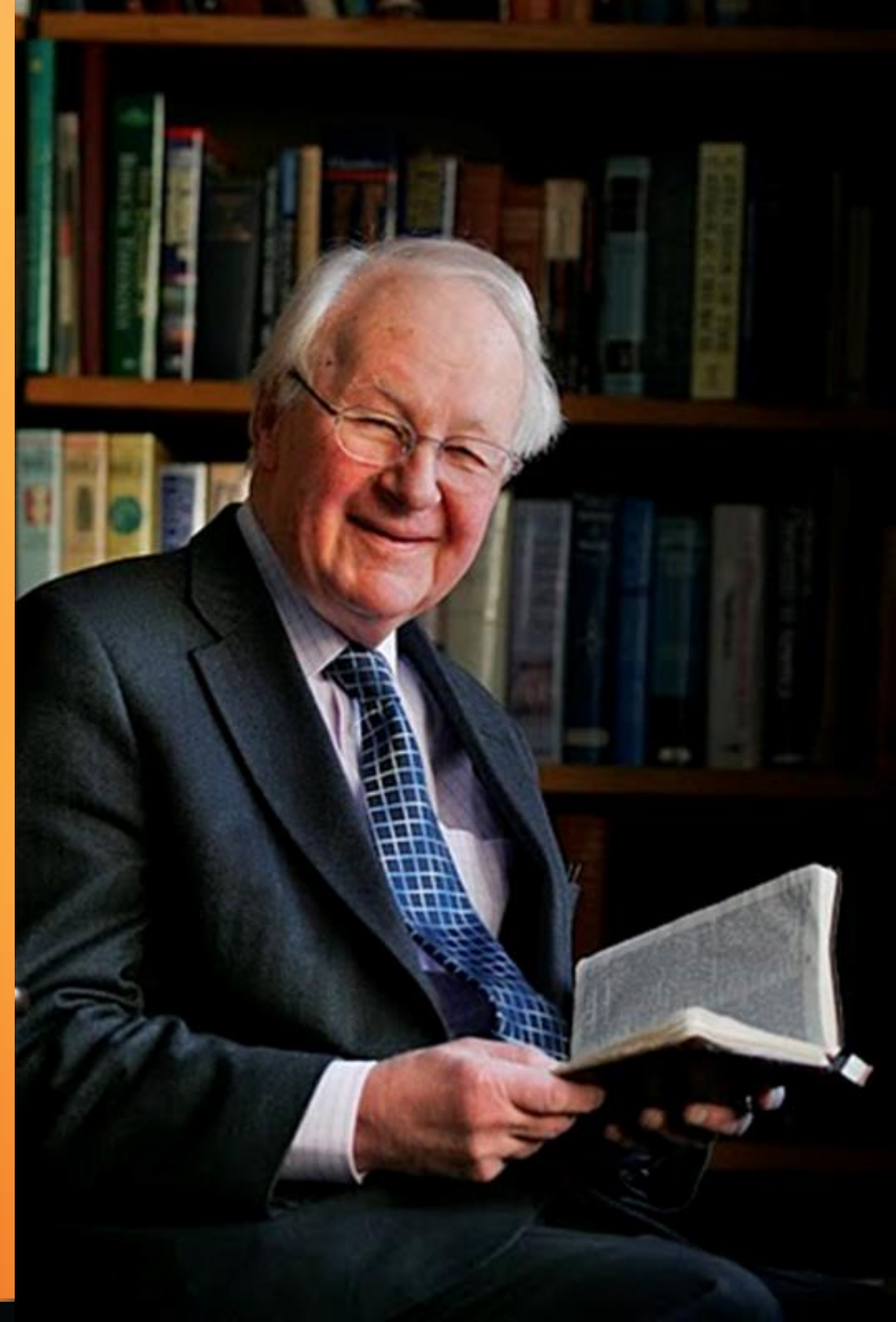


“... fired. He never practiced psychiatry, and yet He has healed more broken hearts than all the doctors far and near.

Once each week, multitudes congregate at worshiping assemblies to pay homage and respect to Him. The names ...

**John Stott,**

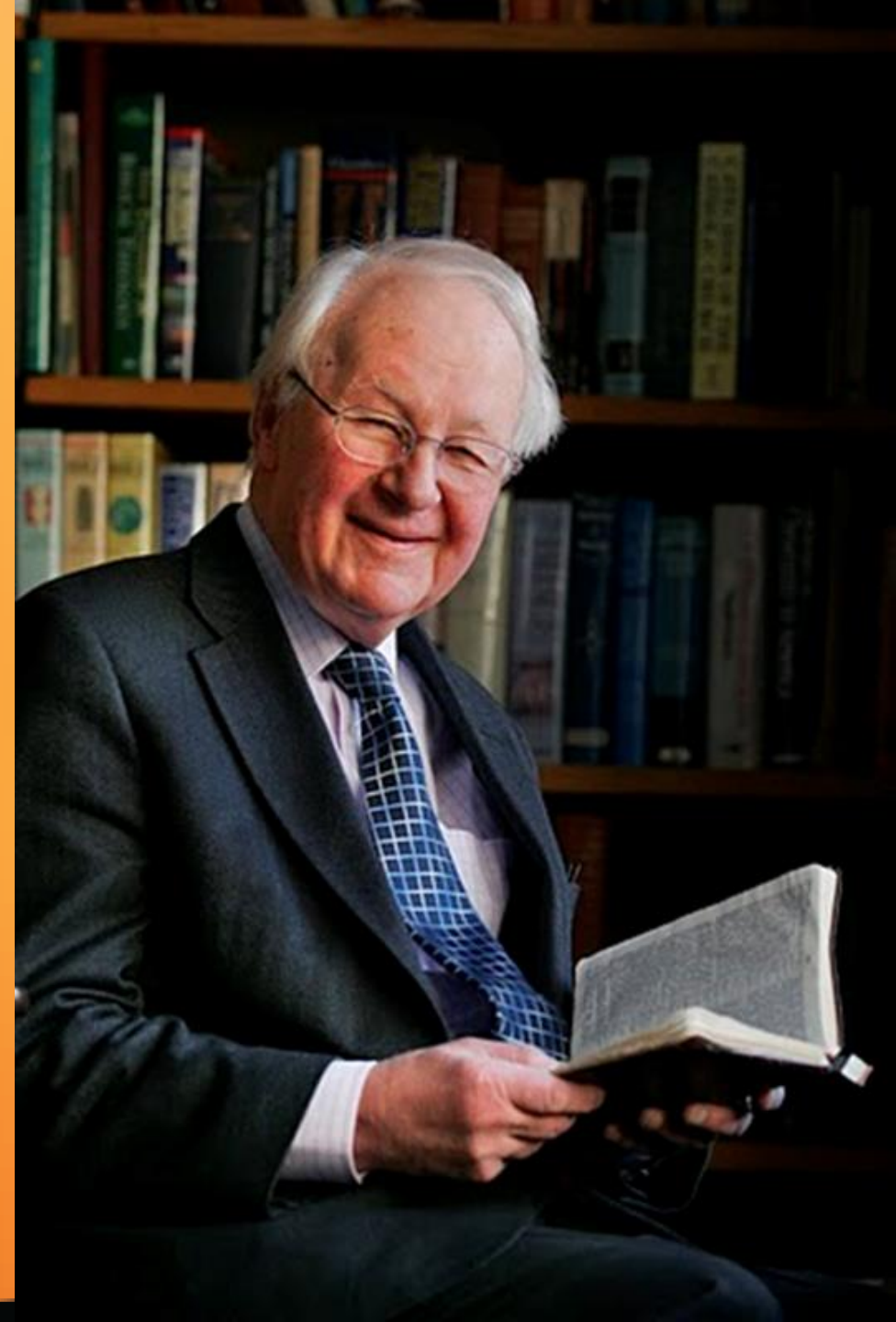
*The Incomparable Christ*





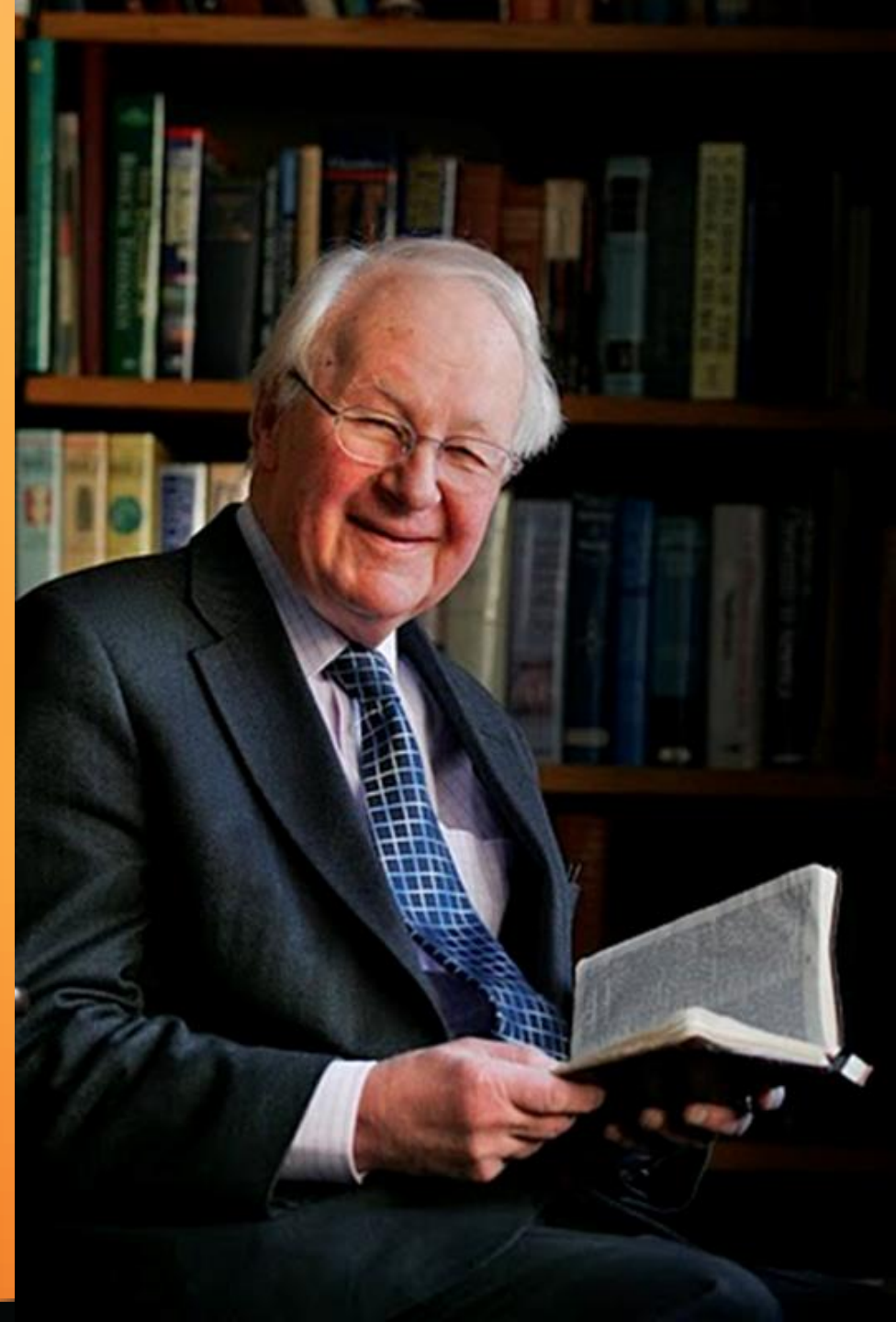
“... of the past, proud statesmen of Greece and Rome have come and gone. The names of the past scientists, philosophers, and theologians have come and gone;... But the name of this Man multiplies more and more. Though time has spread ...

**John Stott,**  
*The Incomparable Christ*



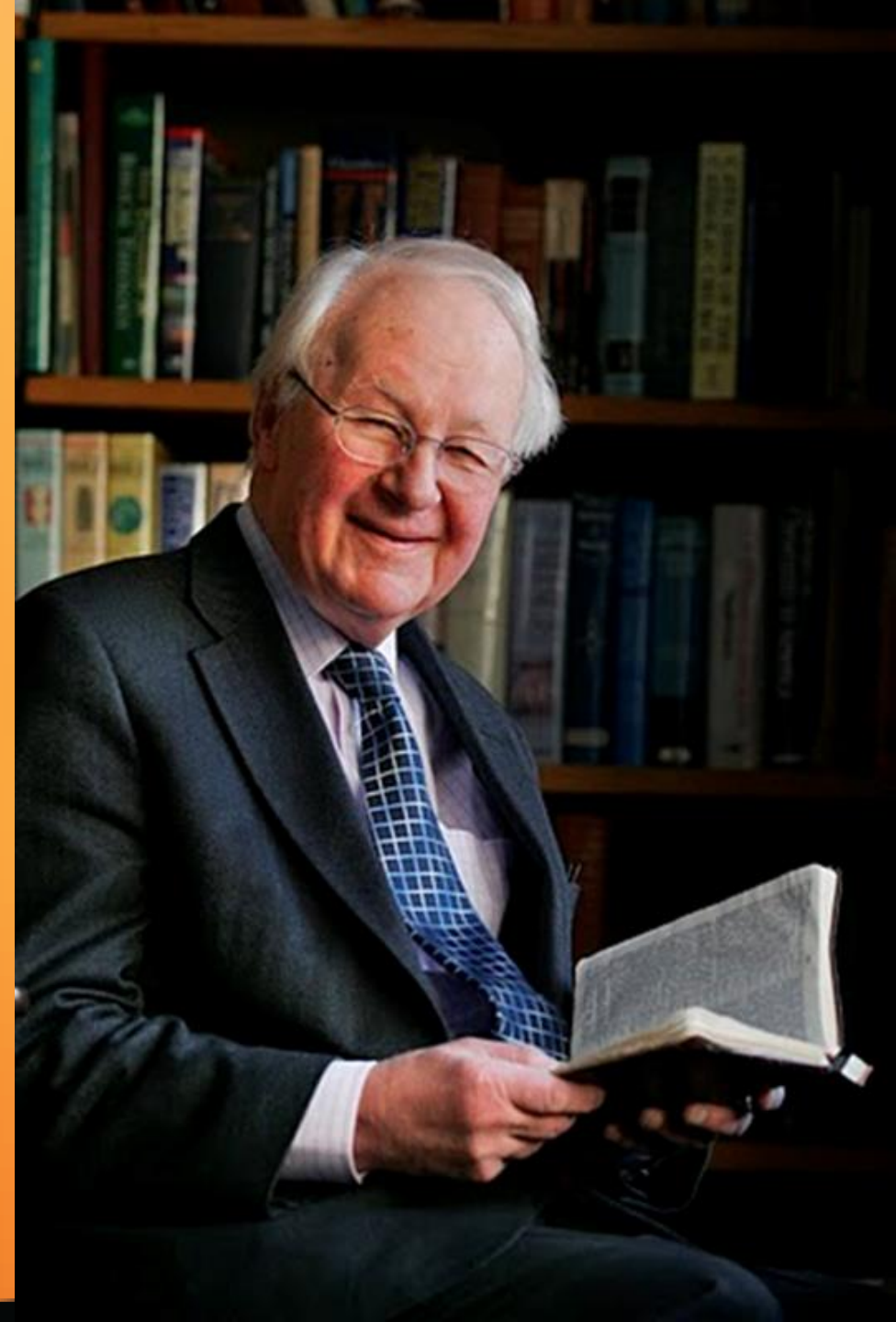
“... nineteen hundred years  
between the people of this  
generation and the mockers at  
His crucifixion, He still lives.  
His enemies could not destroy  
Him, and the grave could not  
hold Him He stands forth upon  
the highest pinnacle of ...

**John Stott,**  
***The Incomparable Christ***



“... heavenly glory, proclaimed  
of God, acknowledged by  
angels, adored by saints,  
and feared by devils,  
as the risen, personal Christ,  
our Lord and Savior.”

**John Stott,**  
***The Incomparable Christ***



1. What Do You Think of Jesus? (vs. 41-42a)
2. Is That All You Think He Is? (vs. 42a)



- Matthew proved this in his genealogy (Matthew 1:1-16). Luke's genealogy does the same (Luke 3:23-38).
- Two blind men healed by Jesus knew this (Matthew 9:27).
- A demon-possessed woman from Canaan knew this (Matthew 15:22).

**Jesus as the Son of David**



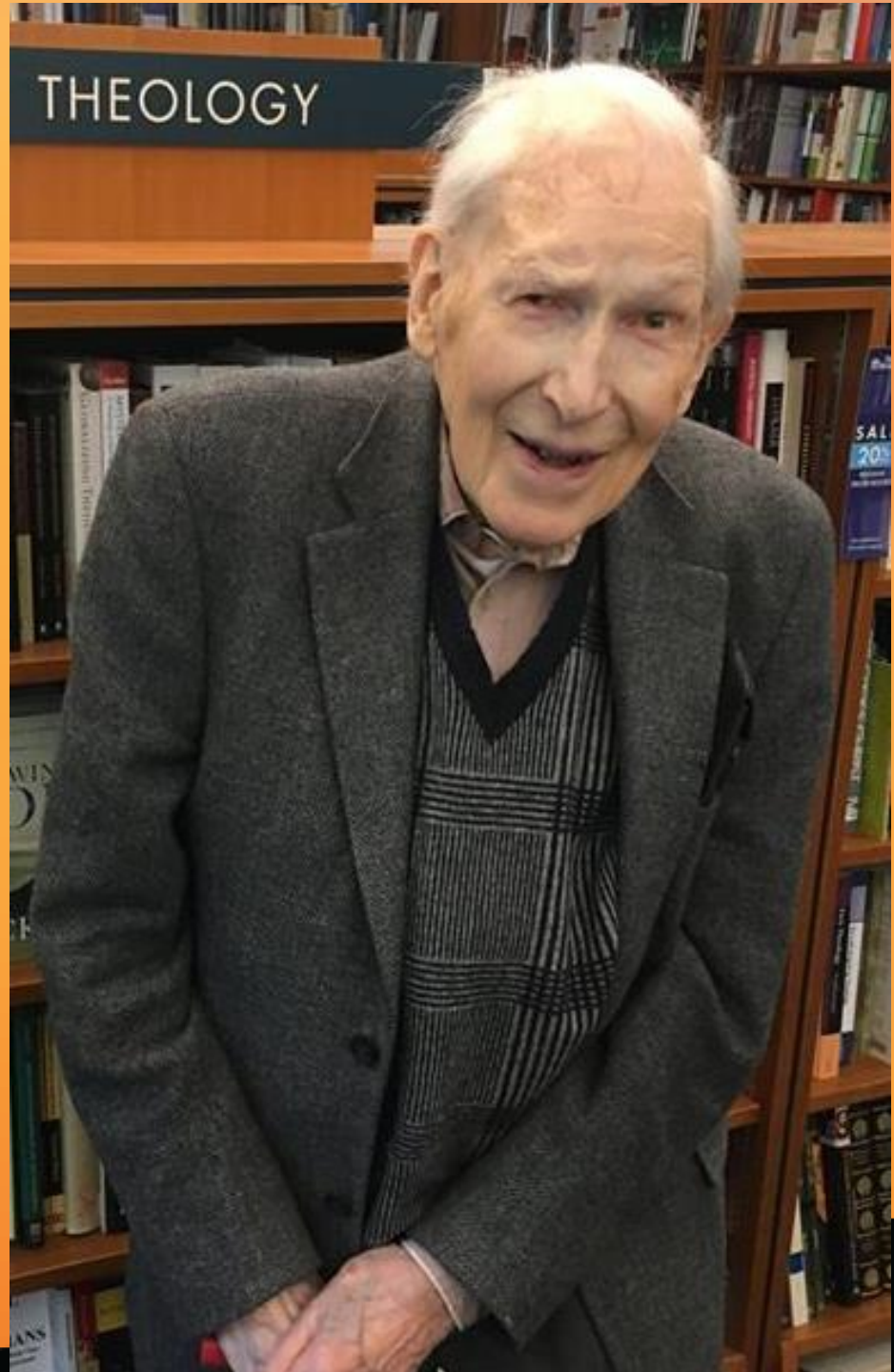
- The crowds who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem one last time shouted Him as such (Matthew 20:30-31).
- The O.T. prophesied the Messiah to be the Son of David (II Samuel 7:12-16; Psalms 78:68-72; 89; Isaiah 11:1, 10; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Ezekiel 37:21-25; Amos 9:11; Micah 5:2).

**Jesus as the Son of David**



“A half-truth masquerading as  
the whole truth becomes a  
complete untruth.”

**J. I. Packer**



1. What Do You Think of Jesus? (vs. 41-42a)
2. Is That All You Think He Is? (vs. 42a)
3. What Does God's Word Say About Jesus? (vs. 43-45)





- Matthew 26:64
- Luke 22:69
- Acts 2:34-35; 7:55-56
- Romans 8; I Corinthians 15; Ephesians 1; Philippian 2; Colossians 3
- Hebrews 1; 8; 10; 12
- I Peter 3:22
- Revelation 3:21

**Jesus, Equal to the Father**



*30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;*  
*31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

**John 20:30-31**



*Now there are also many other things that Jesus did.  
Were every one of them to be written,  
I suppose that the world itself could not contain the  
books that would be written.*

**John 21:25**



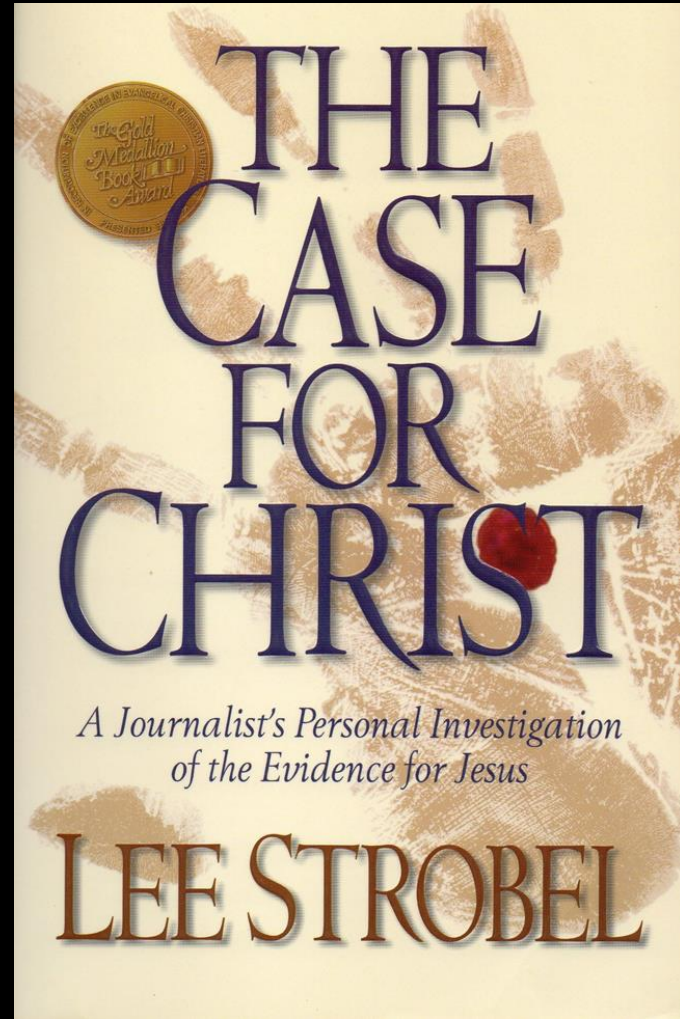
“The Bible will give Christ to you in an intimacy so close that he would be less visible to you if he stood before your eyes.”

**Erasmus**



1. What Do You Think of Jesus? (vs. 41-42a)
2. Is That All You Think He Is? (vs. 42a)
3. What Does God's Word Say About Jesus? (vs. 43-45)
4. What Will You Do About Jesus? (vs. 46)



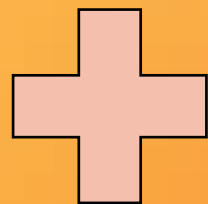


*But to all who did receive him,  
who believed in his name,  
he gave the right to become children of God,*

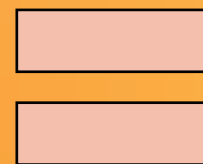
**John 1:12**



Believe



Receive



Become

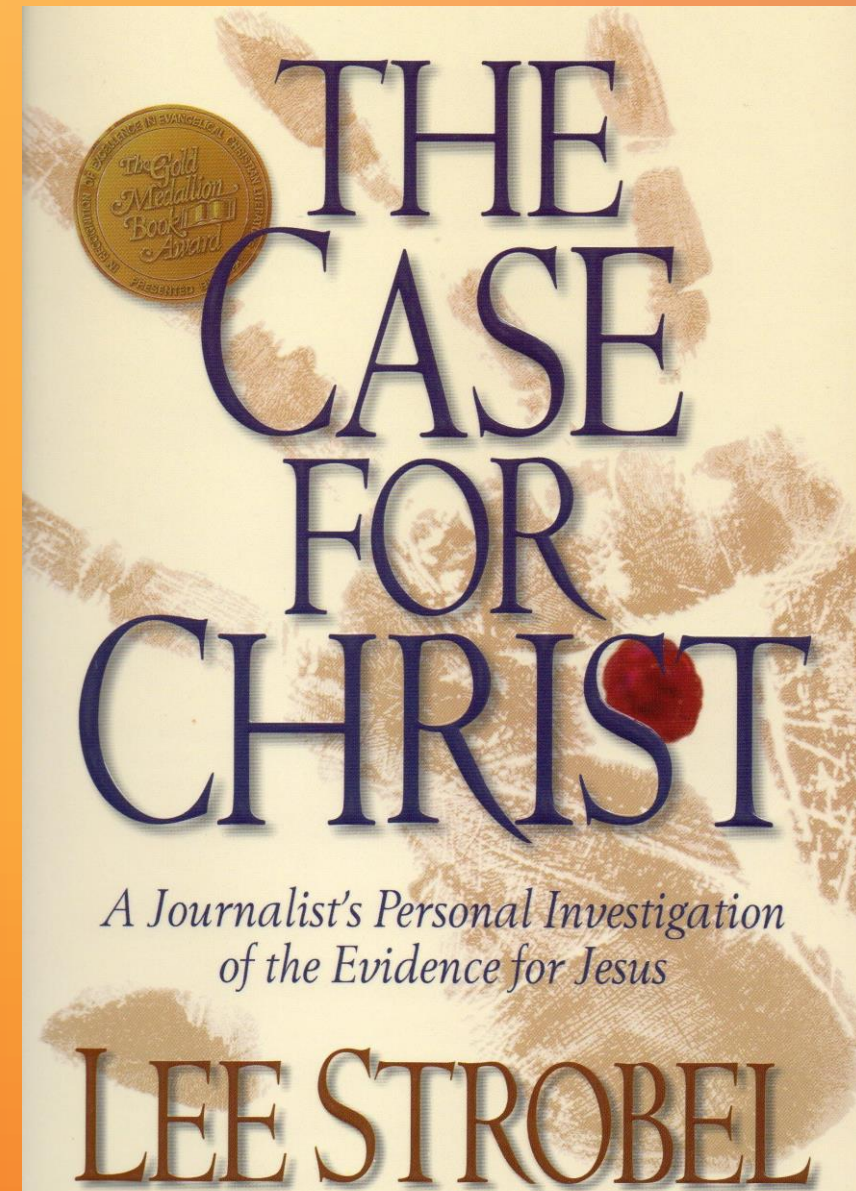




“My main motivator was personal pleasure—and ironically, the more hungrily I sought after it, the more elusive and self-destructive it became.

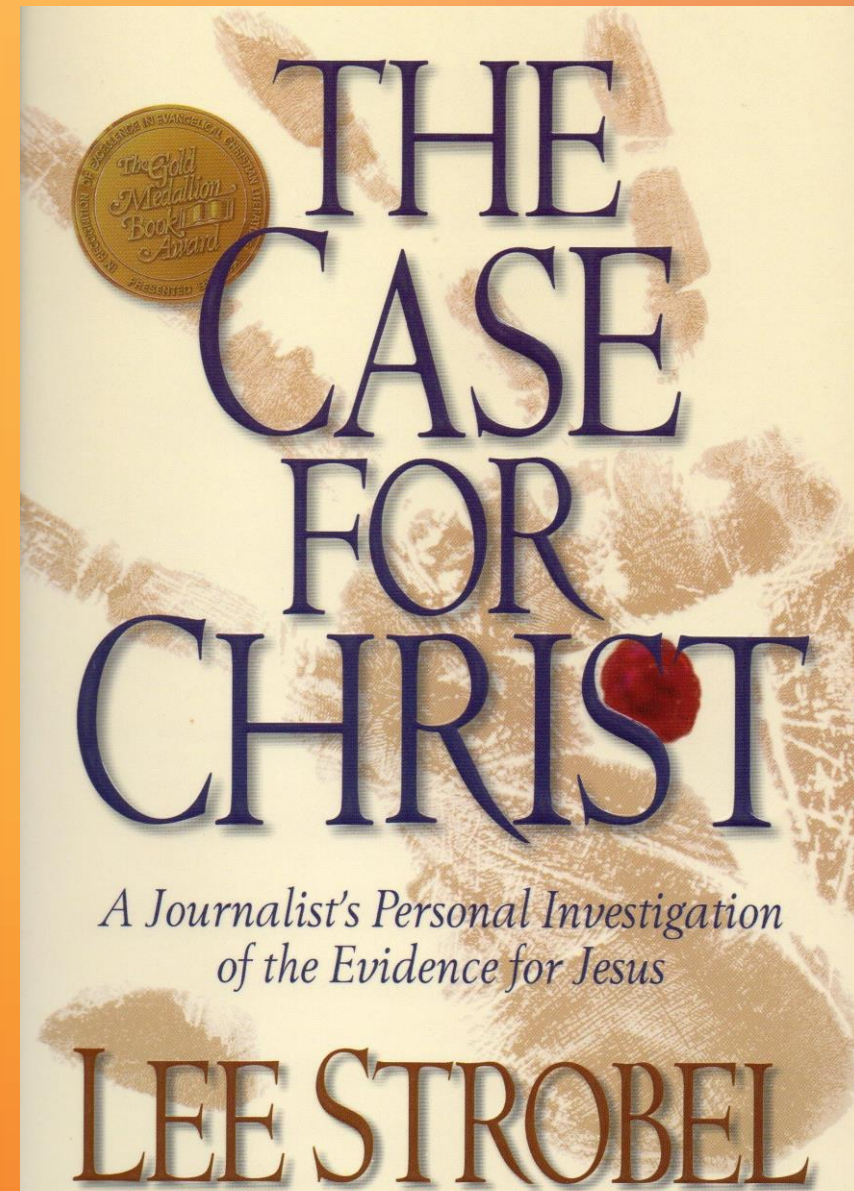
When I read in the Bible that these sins separated me from God, who is holy and morally pure, this resonated as being true. Certainly God, whose existence ...

“Believe”



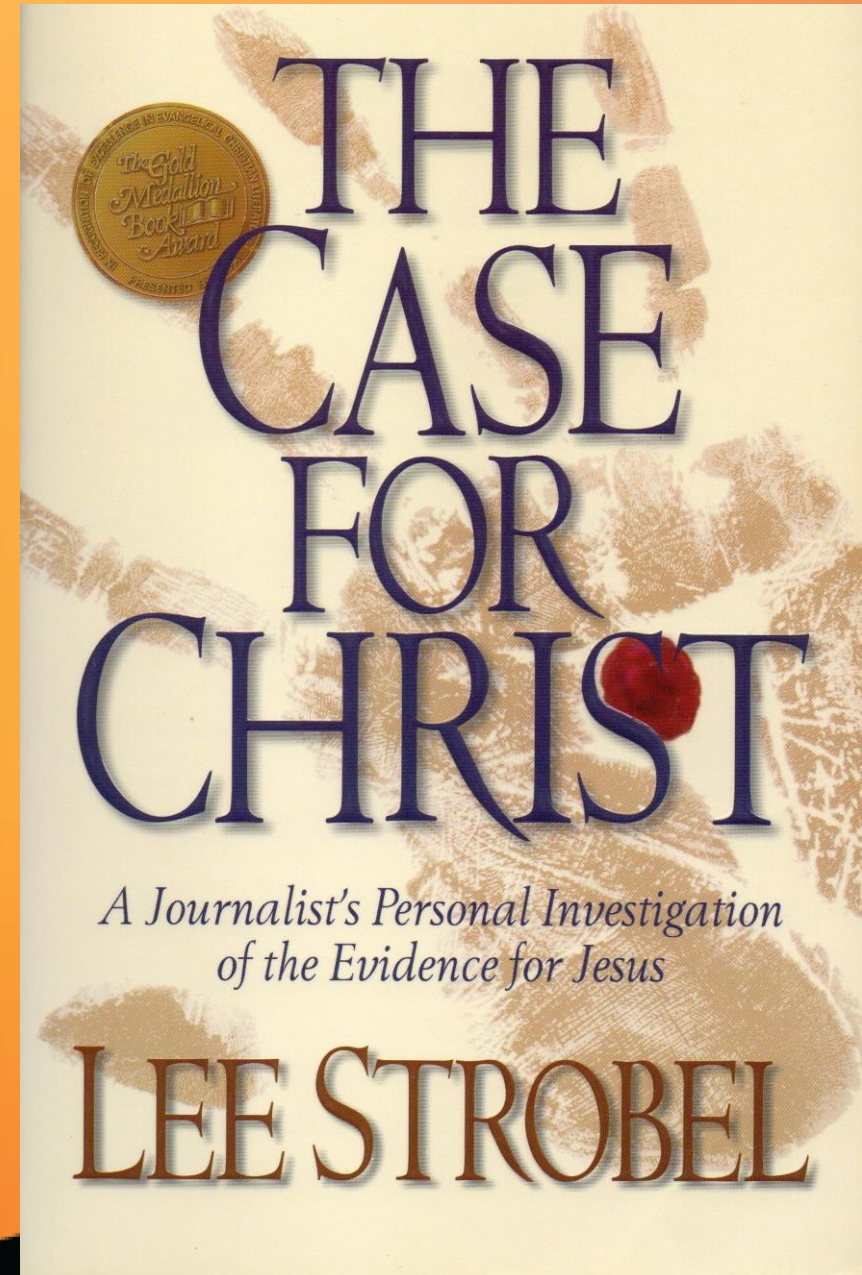
“... I had denied for years, seemed extremely distant, and it became obvious to me that I needed the cross of Jesus to bridge that gulf. Said the apostle Peter, ‘For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God’ (1 Peter 3:18). All this I now ...”

“Believe”



“... believed. The evidence of history and of my own experience was too strong to ignore.”

“Believe”



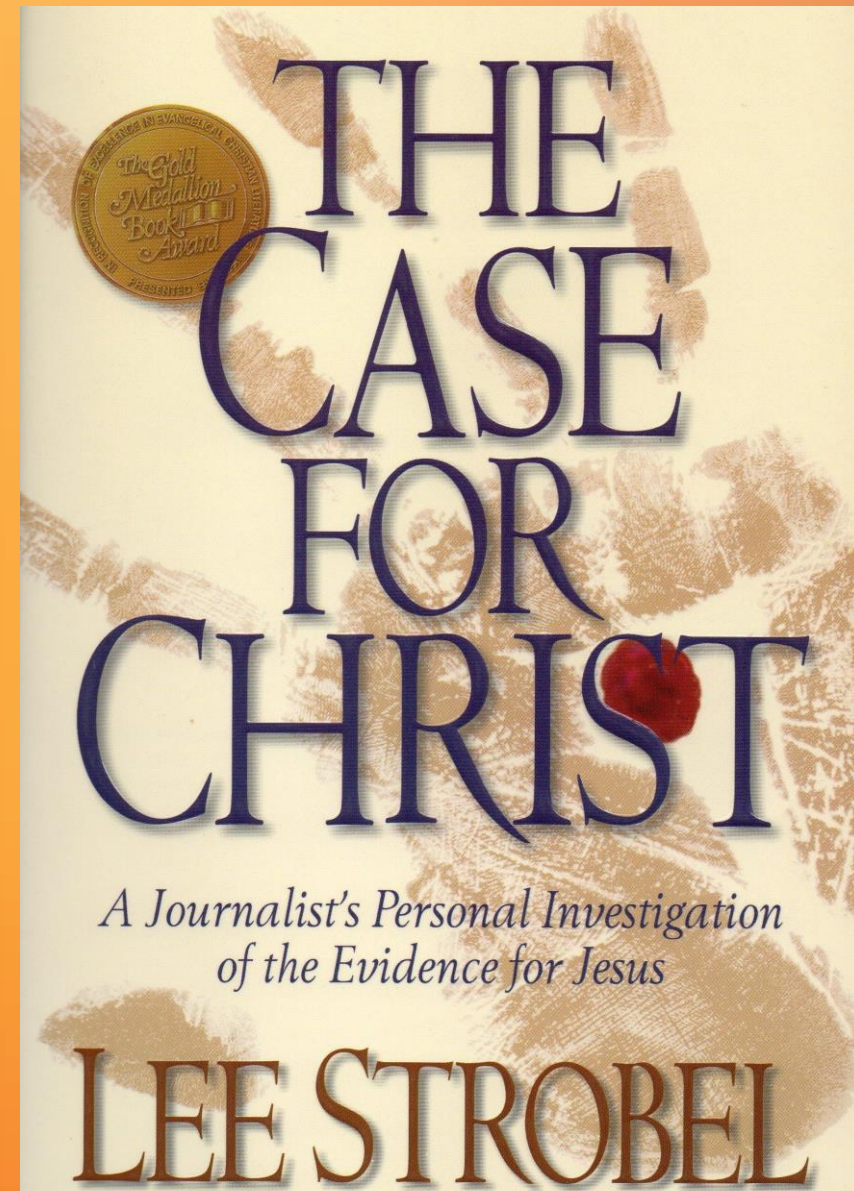
“I didn’t have to struggle and strive to try to do the impossible of making myself worthy.

Over and over the Bible says that Jesus offers forgiveness and eternal life as a free gift that cannot be earned (see Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5). It’s called grace—

amazing grace, unmerited favor.

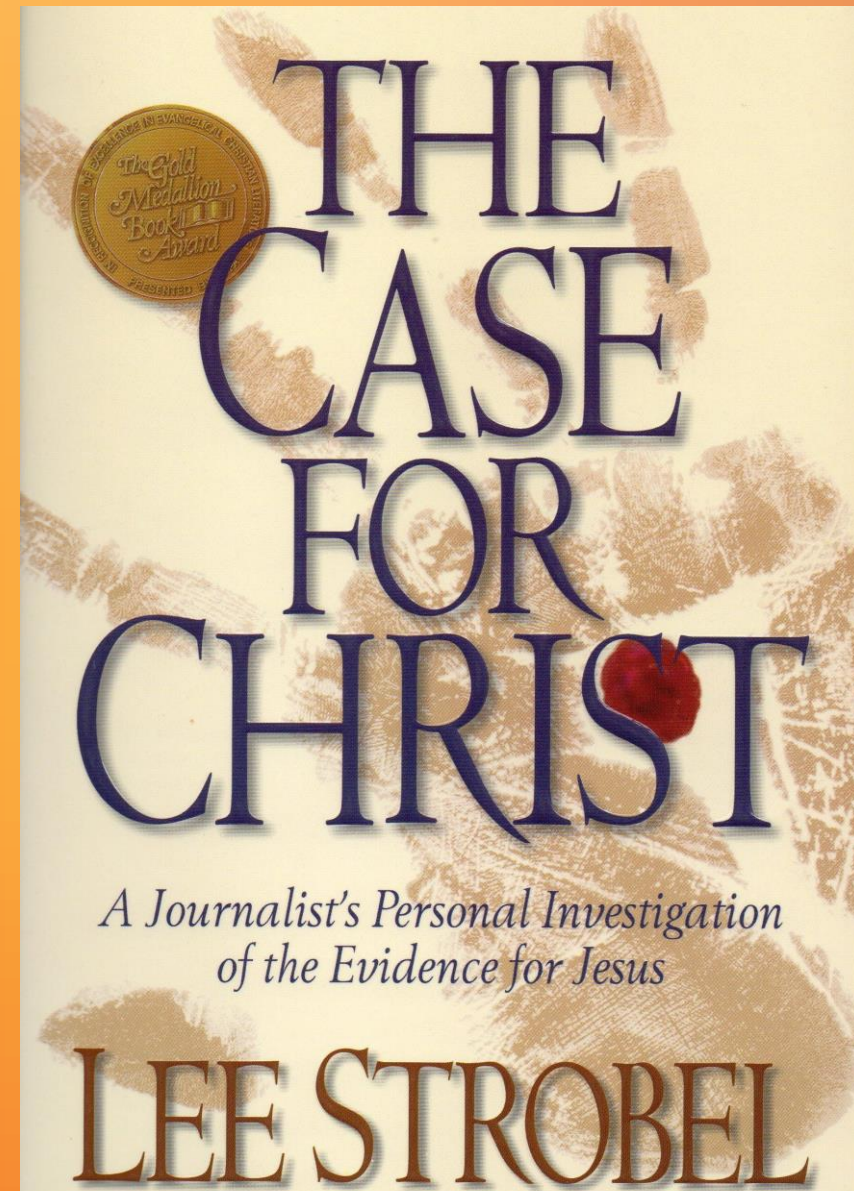
It’s available to anyone who ...

“Receive”



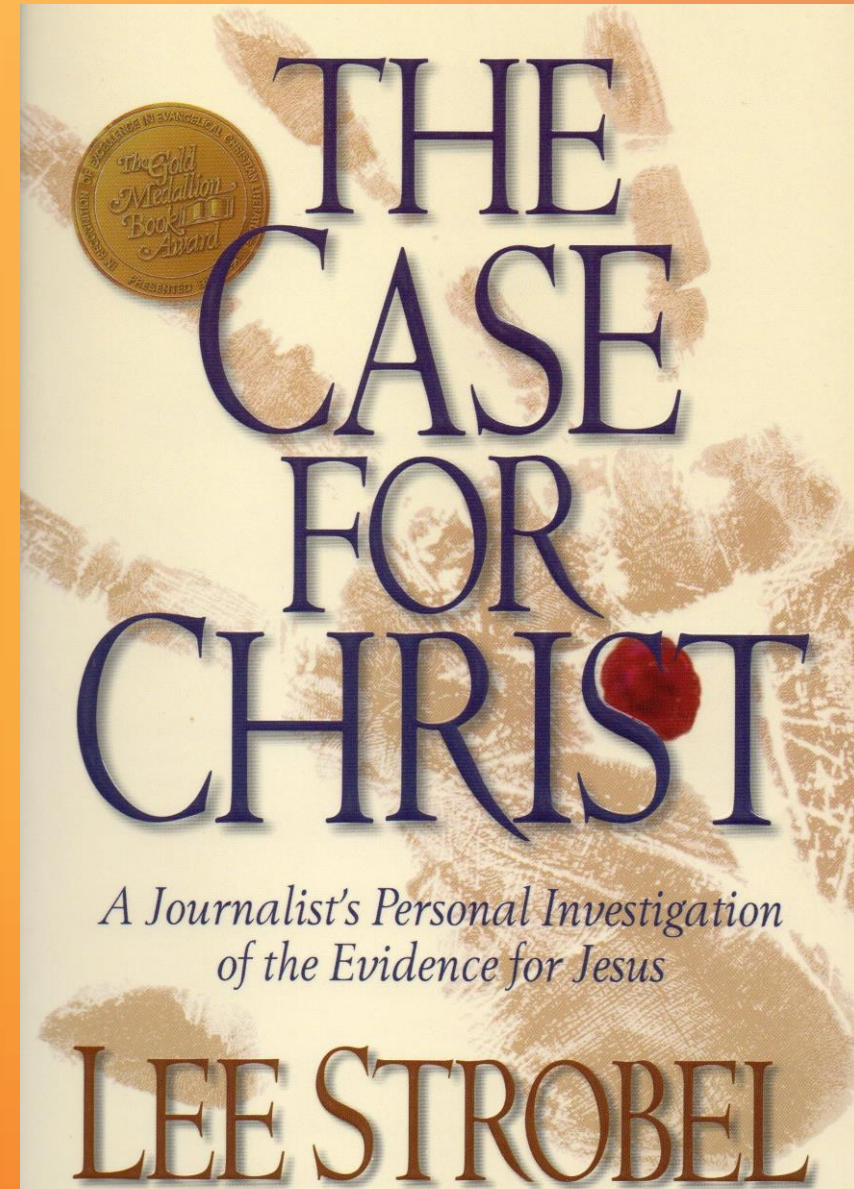
“... receives it in a sincere prayer of repentance. Even someone like me...So on November 8, 1981, I talked with God in a heartfelt and unedited prayer, admitting and turning from my wrongdoing, and receiving the gift of forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus. I told him that with his help I wanted to follow him and his ways from here on out.”

“Receive”



“Sure enough, over time as I endeavored to follow Jesus’ teachings and open myself to his transforming power, my priorities, my values, and my character were (and continue to be) gradually changed. Increasingly I want Jesus’ motives and perspective to be my own. To paraphrase Martin Luther King Jr. ....,

“Become”



# “Become”

“...I may not yet be the man I should be or the man, with Christ’s help, I someday will be—but thank God I’m not the man I used to be!”

