

April 16
Matthew 28:1-15

Where Is Jesus?

previous lessons here
PreciousHeart.net/SS



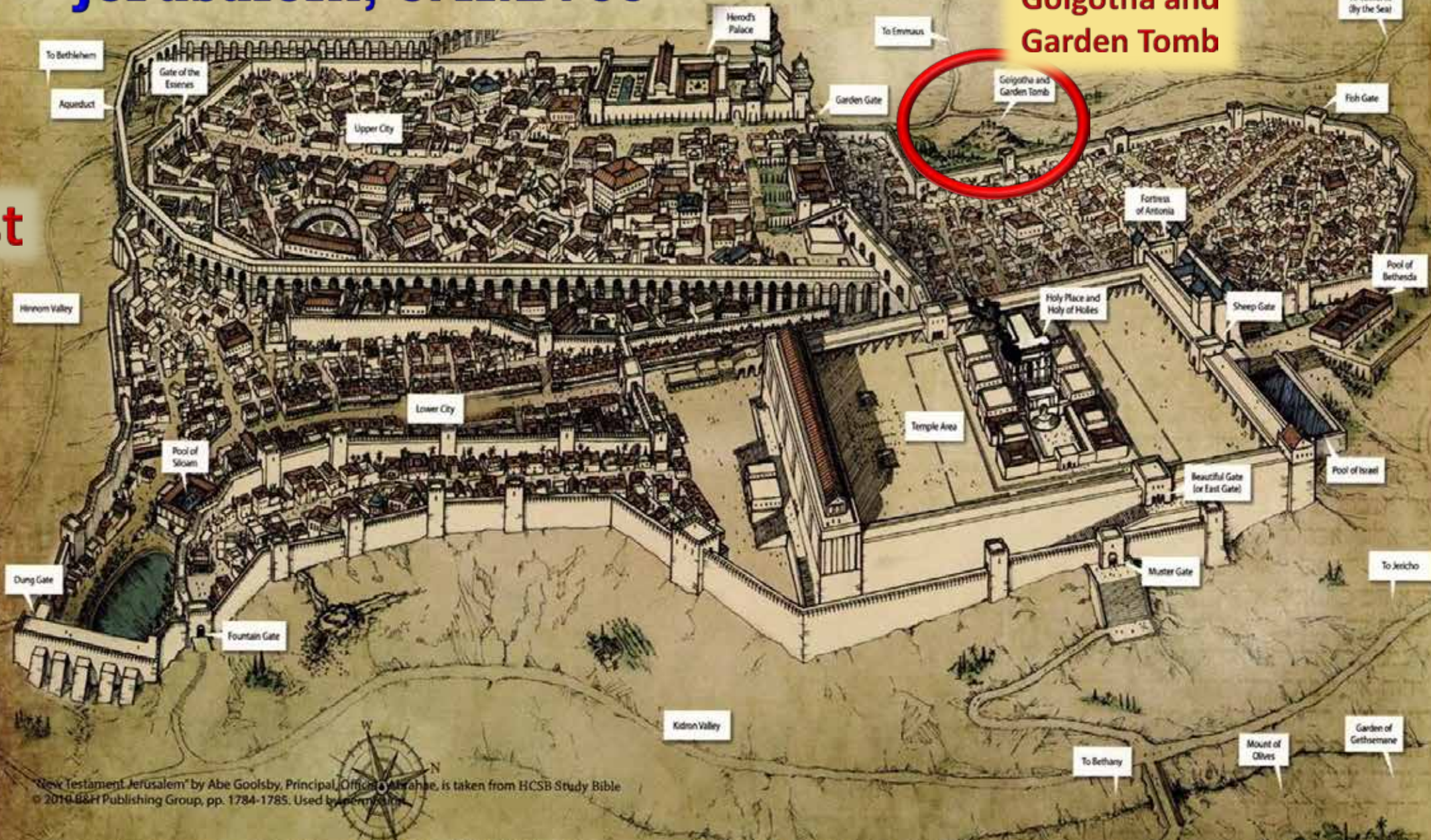
FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS



Jerusalem, c. A.D. 33



Golgotha and Garden Tomb



Jesus and the Kingdom of God Matthew 16-28

1. Mar 5 Who is Jesus? 16:13-28 Caesarea Philippi
2. Mar 12 Is Jesus Fully God? 17:1-13 Transfiguration
3. Mar 19 What Is Required? 19:16-26 Rich Young Ruler
4. Mar 26 More than a Prophet 21:1-11 Triumphant Entry
5. Apr 2 If I Reject Jesus? 21:33-45 Wicked Tenants
6. Apr 9 Offered to All? 22:1-14 Wedding Banquet
- ★ 7. Apr 16 Where Is Jesus? 28:1-15 **Resurrection**
8. Apr 23 What About the Future? 24:36-51 Thief in Night
9. Apr 30 How Do We Remember? 26:17-30 Last Supper
10. May 7 Do I Have the Strength? 26:36-46 Gethsemane
11. May 14 Loyal? 26:63-75 Peter's Denial
12. May 21 Crucified 27:41-52 Crucifixion
13. May 28 What Do We Do Now? 28:16-20 Great Commission

Parable
Parable
Happy Easter
Parable

Lesson Author's Theme

Jesus was resurrected to reign forever as the King.

Resurrection

28:1-4

Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

28:5-10

Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

28:11-15

Cover-up Concocted – Bribing Guards to Lie





Lesson Author's Theme

Jesus was resurrected to reign forever as the King.

Resurrection

junky stuff first

28:11-15 **Cover-up Concocted – Bribing Guards to Lie**

28:1-4 **Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone**

28:5-10 **Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All**








Key Verse Matthew 28:6

He is not here!

**For He has been resurrected,
just as He said. Come and see
the place where He lay.**



Alternate Title

Universe's Realignment Resurrected to Rule



Science of Resurrection – NONE

We don't know how God did it ...

CRITICAL: Jesus “Raised” the dead ...
and *OTHERS* were “Raised” too

But GOD Himself Raised Jesus ...

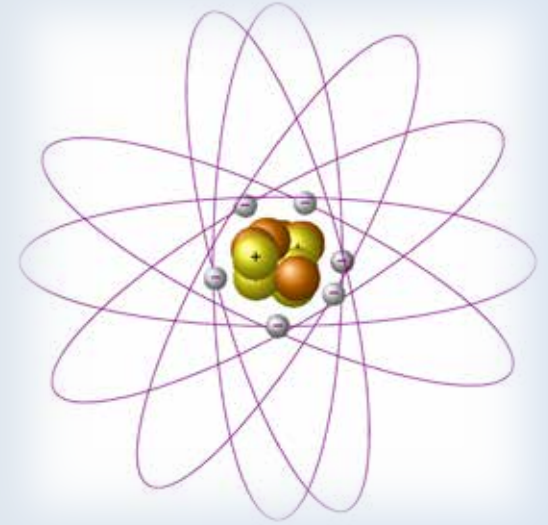
Today ... we **KNOW** so much **SCIENCE**

We have split the atom ... and have particle
accelerators that are trying to find ... the

GOD Particle

Scientists call it the “Higgs boson”

“Particle” so small, defies detection



Part of the
“STUFF” that
makes up world

STILL a
mind-boggling
Mystery

Science of Resurrection – NONE

Evolution has its fans ... we are MIRACLES

We KNOW so much ... yet so LITTLE

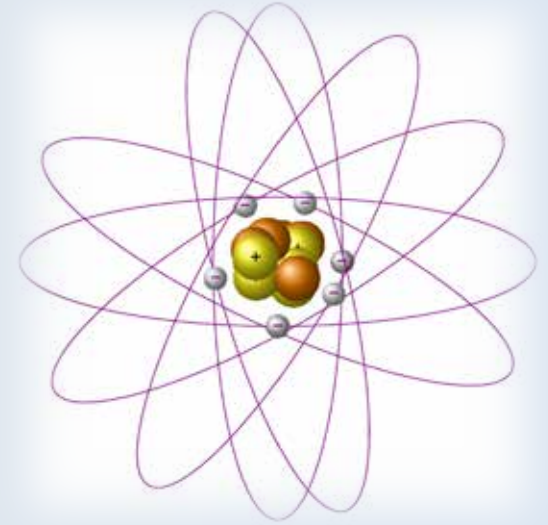
Still, we have NO CLUE ... Not a scintilla

Have NO idea whatsoever ...

How Atoms spinning turn into CELLS
or CELLS turn into a BODY
that THINKS about ITSELF

STILL do NOT know HOW

How LIFE Comes into Being
EXCEPT that God Breathes Life into US



Resurrection
of Christ Realigned
The Universe

Fixed the Fall of Adam
God Gave Us His LIFE
Eternal Life

Science of Resurrection – NONE

What you **MUST** see ...

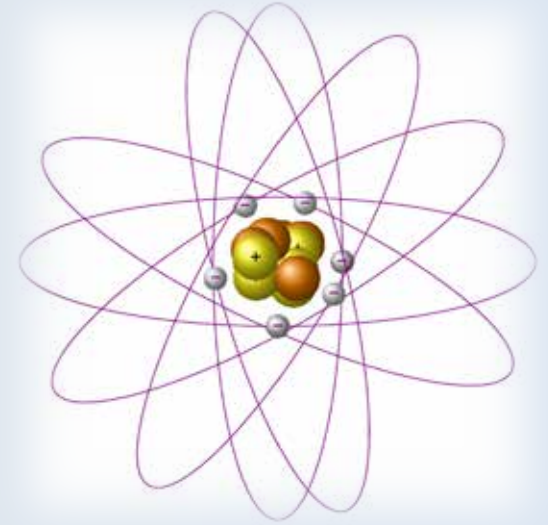
All of our Christian Faith ... all of it

Rests upon the Certain Reality of the

Resurrection of Christ

FACT – or no faith at all ... 1 Cor. 15

Oh ... Christ is *the WAY*
the TRUTH ... the LIFE



1 Cor. 15:53

For the perishable
must clothe itself with
the **imperishable**,
and the mortal with
immortality.

28:11-15 Cover-up Concocted – asdf

FIRST ... what the CLOWNS did ...

12 AFTER the priests had assembled ...
agreed on a plan, they gave the soldiers a
LARGE SUM OF MONEY



**13 "Say this, 'His disciples came during the
night and stole Him while we were sleeping.'**

**14 If this reaches the governor's ears, we will
deal with him and keep you out of trouble."**

**15 So they took the money and did as they
were instructed. And this story has been
spread among Jewish people to this day.**

Really now?

**FIRST ... that had to be
a LOT of gold coin**

Ah, enough to retire

Perhaps even

SKIP TOWN

28:11-15 Cover-up Concocted – asdf

FIRST ... what DID the CLOWNS do???
REALLY?

Let's see ... the HOLY PRIESTS

Bribed Soldiers ... to LIE

HOLY PRIESTS expect the SOLDIERS to
what ... what ... what ...

BELIEVE the Priests who Bribe for a LIE

NOT those soldiers ...

But something WORSE took place ...



EARTHQUAKE

STUNNED them

Soldiers SAW an

ANGEL

Roll a Stone!

28:11-15 Cover-up Concocted – asdf

FIRST ... what DID the CLOWNS do???

Worst of ALL ...

Utterly despicable ... crooked ...

Murderers ... Liars ... Bribing FOOLS

WORST of ALL ... those

Wicked Tenants tried to COVER UP

COVER UP what? ... Deceive WHAT?

Cover Up The WORK OF GOD

Cover Up Redeeming of the Human Race!

In OPENING Heaven to Believers



No Place in Hell
Too HOT for those
Wicked Tenants
Their Doom is Sealed

28:11-15 Cover-up Concocted - asdf

Ohhh ... said in another way

Worst of ALL ... despicable, crooked

Holy Priests of God's Temple

Holy CHIEF Priests of God's People

Are SATAN's emissaries

WICKED Tenants trying to Cover UP the

What? ... BEST NEWS – the Good News

WORK OF GOD

**Very Redemption of
the Human Race!**



No Place in Hell

Too HOT for those

Wicked Tenants

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, **Mary Magdalene** and the **other Mary** went to view the tomb.

Mary of Magdala, known for its dried fish



Penitent Magdalene, c. 1635, by Guido Reni
in Walters Art Museum, Baltimore

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, **Mary Magdalene** and the **other Mary** went to view the tomb.

Mary of Magdala

OTHER Mary ... Mark 15:40

mother of the James, Joses & Salome

Both were at the crucifixion of Jesus

How do you like that?

Seems so very, very, very **RIGHT** that

Believers who WITH Jesus in His WORST HOUR

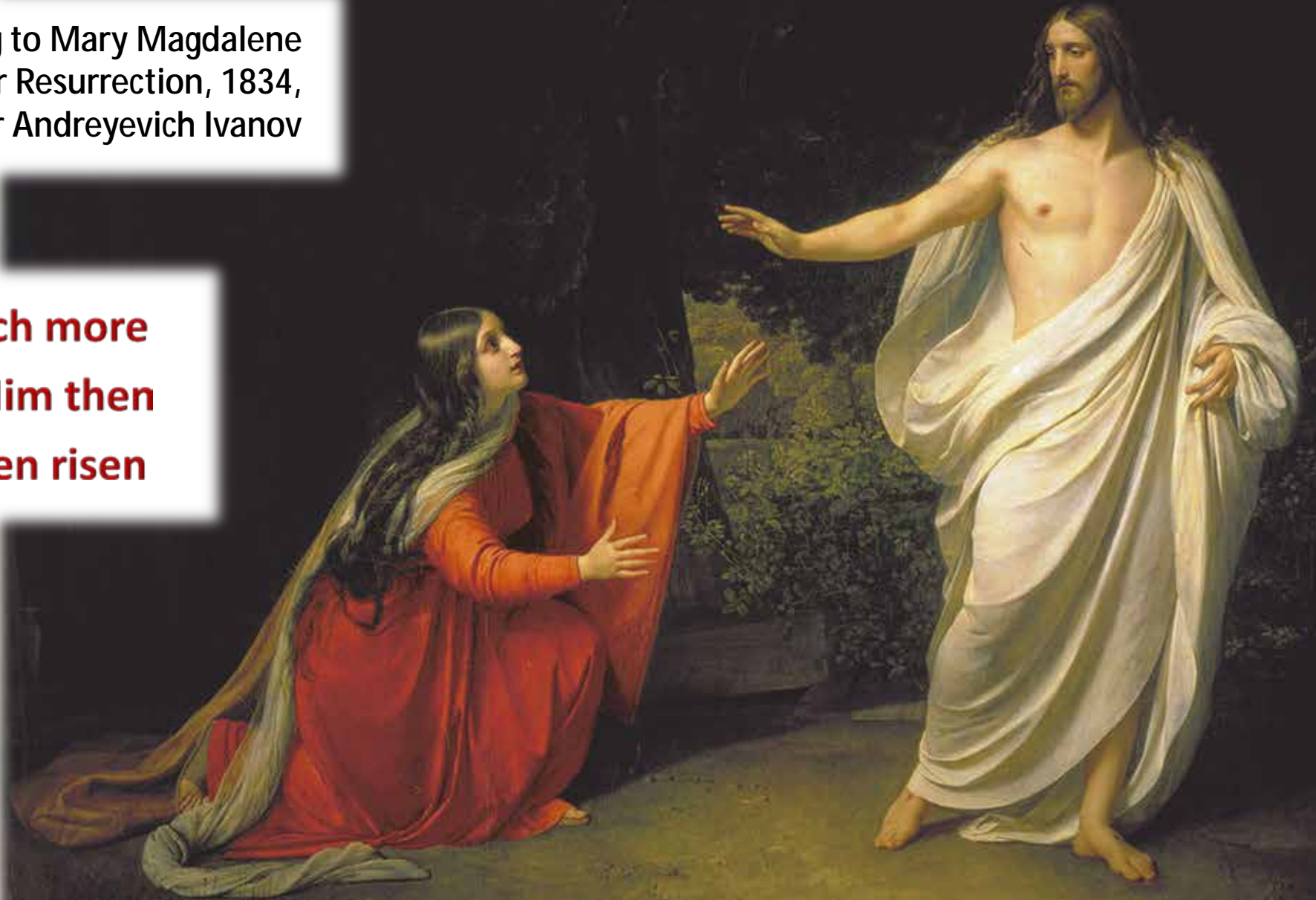
could see Him FIRST in His BEST HOUR



Jesus Appearing to Mary Magdalene
after Resurrection, 1834,
by Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov

Jesus Appearing to Mary Magdalene
after Resurrection, 1834,
by Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov

**Fitting ... and much more
They were with Him then
Saw Him first when risen**



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, **Mary Magdalene** and the **other Mary** went to view the tomb.

Mary of Magdala & Other Mary

You too ... I'm sure ... Like ME

Disciples fell asleep in Gethsemane
and All but one absent at His crucifixion

YES—you & me—those WITH you

In your **TOUGHEST hour** ...

Seem so much more PRECIOUS when

WITH you in your **BEST hour**



Jesus Appearing to Mary Magdalene
after Resurrection, 1834,
by Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to **view the tomb**.

That was in Jerusalem ...

As you well know ...

2,500 feet above sea level

Jerusalem:

“Possession of Peace”

or

“Foundation of Peace”

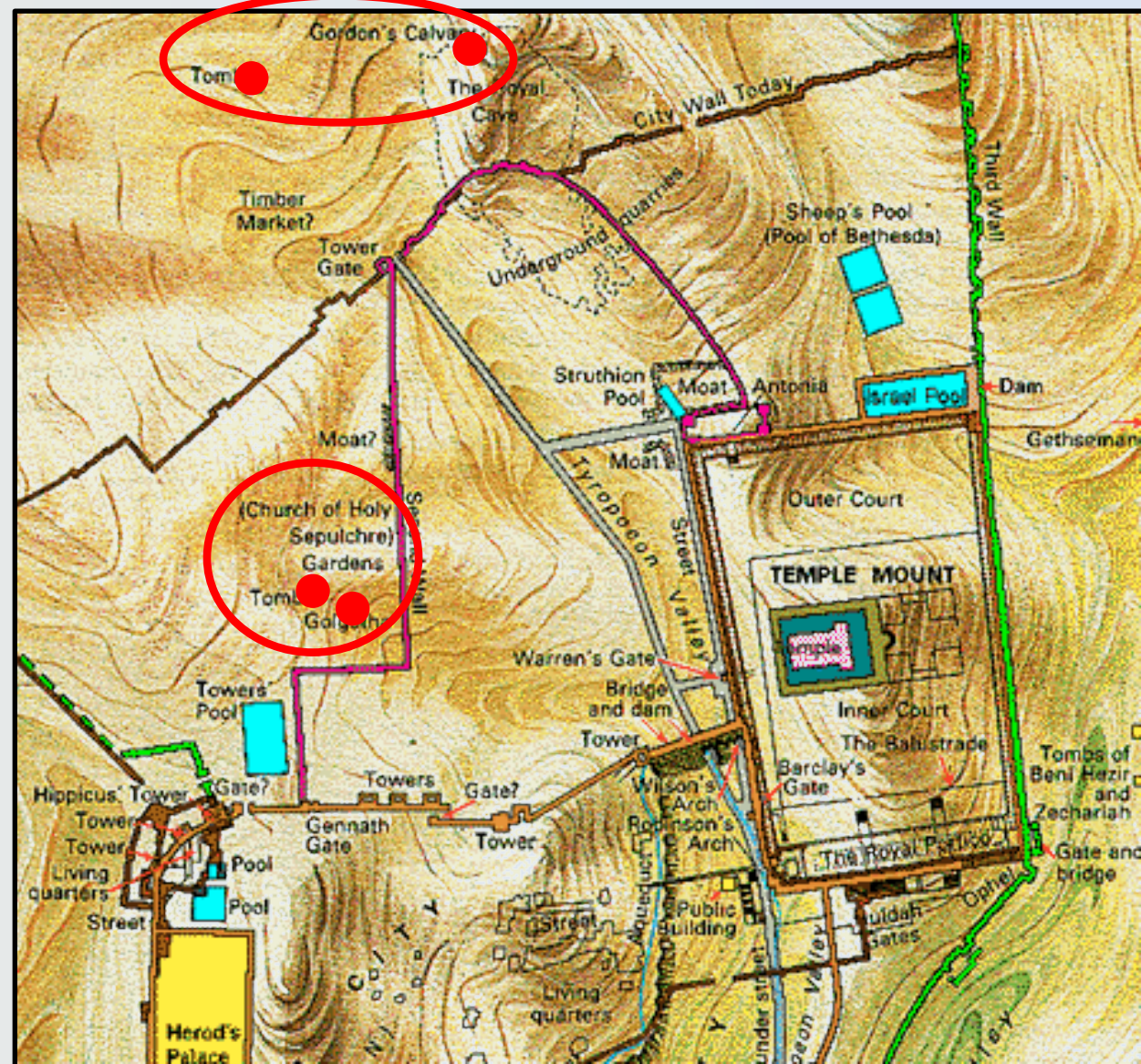


28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to view the tomb.

Notice TWO places:

1. Church of Holy Sepulcher and Garden Tomb
2. Gordon's Calvary



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

Church of Holy Sepulchre

Here is a photo of the tomb itself

Beautiful ...

Gooooood place
for a church



Church of the Holy Sepulchre
or Church of the Resurrection
or Church of the *Anastasi*

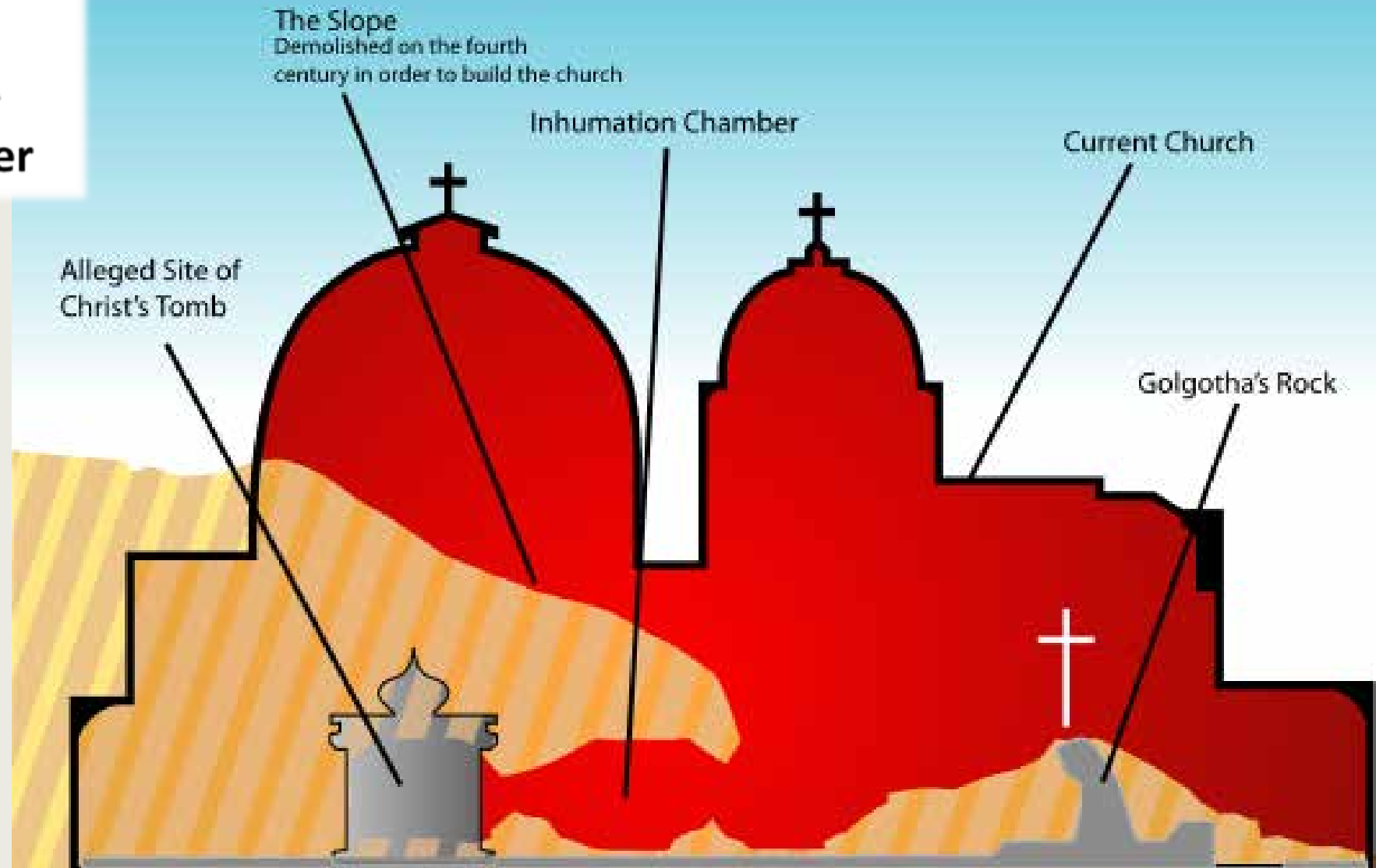
Church of the Holy Sepulchre or Church of the Resurrection



Calvary

On the first century A.C.
it was just a rocky
denivellation outside the town

Inside of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to view the tomb.

This is the place PREFERRED by

- ✓ Roman Catholics**
- ✓ Greek Orthodox**
- ✓ Armenian Orthodox**
- ✓ Egyptian Coptics, Syrians
and Ethiopians**

However ...

**Protestants prefer Garden Tomb ...
Near Golgotha**



**Church of the Holy Sepulcher
or Church of the Resurrection
or Church of the Anastasi**

Golgotha

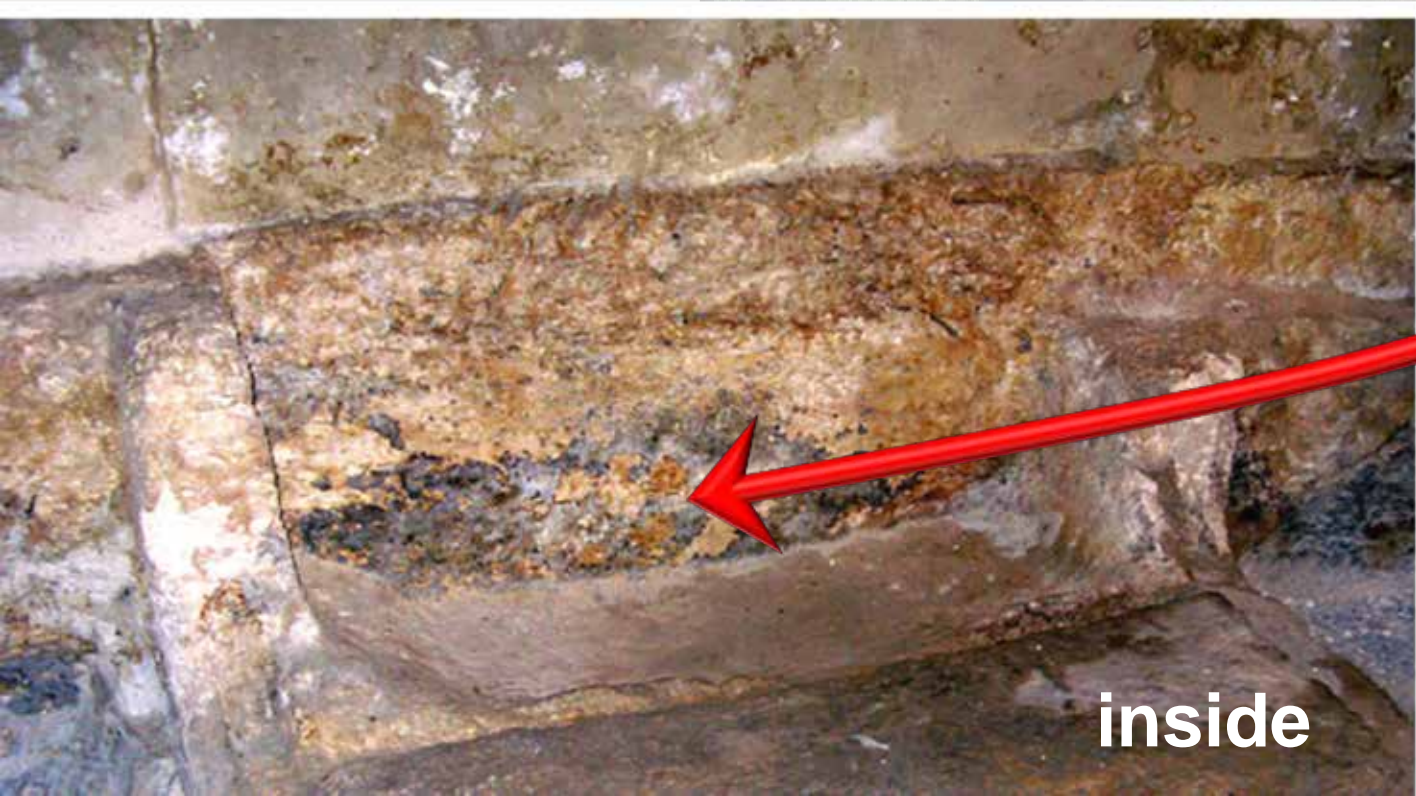
**Place of the skull
Northwest of the
Church of the
Holy Sepulchre
Near the
Garden Tomb**



**See an OLD Photo of Golgotha
they have posted there**



Garden Tomb Found in 1867



inside



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

Where Is Jesus? ... or where WAS He Laid?

Maybe it was one of the sites listed.

So much was happening ...

After the book of Matthew, we have Acts

**30 more years of GROWTH and the
destruction of the Jerusalem in A.D. 70**

We want a photo and videos ...

no surprise that the Jews disperse

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

Where WAS He Laid? ... *Maybe* ...
Maybe it was one of the sites listed.

Christianity came under BRUTAL persecution
No surprise that **THE Tomb** of Jesus was
Never truly made a MONUMENT

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to view the tomb.

If EVER there was a HOLY PLACE

If ANY place on earth was EVER HOLY

That MORNING was it ... the **HOLIEST**

God was always in charge ... sure

That MORNING ... GOD took control

God grabbed the steering wheel of the

ENTIRE UNIVERSE

Sent an Angel for dramatic reasons



The Angel Is Opening Christ's Tomb, by Benjamin G. Cuyt (1612-1652)

- ✓ For the poor soldiers
- ✓ For Mary and Mary

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to view the tomb.

HOLiest PLACE ... HOLiest TIME

Two WOMEN first BELIEVERS on scene

Though, I suspect, the soldiers

Became Believers

Here ... we could SKIP to verse 5

They meet the angel who has

ALREADY rolled away the stone ...



The Angel Is Opening Christ's Tomb, by Benjamin G. Cuyp (1612-1652)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to view the tomb.

HOLiest PLACE ... HOLiest TIME

Angel says he KNOWS why they came ...

As if Mary Magdalene and Mary had NOT yet seen what the what angel had done

Magnificent event ...

Supernatural – Spiritual Event

Mary & Mary talk to an Angel



The Angel Is Opening Christ's Tomb, by Benjamin G. Cuyp (1612-1652)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

Perhaps ALL of them ...

Soldiers, Mary and Mary SAW ALL

And ALL were STUNNED ...

² Suddenly there was a violent earthquake,

because an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and approached the tomb. He rolled back the stone and was sitting on it.

³ His appearance was like lightning, and his robe was as *white as snow*.



The Angel Is Opening Christ's Tomb, by Benjamin G. Cuyper (1612-1652)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² Suddenly ... a **[LISTEN]**
violent earthquake,
BECAUSE
an angel of the Lord
DESCENDED from heaven
and approached the tomb.
He rolled back the stone
and was sitting on it.

To have been there that
day ... and **KNOW** ...

Seeing an Angel

Angel in Action



Glowing tombstone in Cecil B. DeMille's
The King of Kings (1927)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² ... violent earthquake ...

Angel in Action

Yet, much more ...

PLEASE remember
Colossians 1

Apostle Paul fills in the
back story to Matthew

Earthquake ... yeah

More like **Cosmic Quake**

Universe Felt its own

Realignment



Glowing tombstone in Cecil B. DeMille's
The King of Kings (1927)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

You do NOT believe that it was a
MERE itsy bitsy earthy quakey?

Surely NOT ... you KNOW better

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁷ He is before all things, and in
him all things **hold together**.

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body,
the church; he is the beginning
and the firstborn from among
the dead, so that in everything he
might have the **supremacy**.

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all
HIS FULLNESS DWELL IN HIM,

²⁰ and through him to reconcile to
himself **all things**, whether things
ON EARTH OR THINGS IN HEAVEN,
by making peace through his blood,
shed on the cross.



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² ... violent earthquake ...

Angel in Action

I suspect God told a
Legion of Angels ...

Get ye yourselves to the
10,000-year-old gates

Old Gates of Pearl ... PUSH

PUSHING of the heavenly
Gates of Pearl that caused

a Cosmic Quake
Shook Space-Time

Eternity CERTIFIED

Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered to Us



Glowing tombstone in Cecil B. DeMille's
The King of Kings (1927)

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² ... violent earthquake ...

Angel in Action

What caused the earthquake?

Oh ... THEY saw it as a local earthquake ... but so did EVERYONE on earth ...

Cosmic Quake ... caused
Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered
CROSS-CERTIFEID ...

Delivery of ...



Eternal Life to God's Chosen

Eternity CERTIFIED

Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered to Us

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² ... violent earthquake ...

Angel in Action

From Universe's **CENTER**
to its farthest **OUTPOST**

From the smallest, in the
INFINITY below the microscopic

To the farthest, in the **INFINITY**
of distance past the
known universe's edge ...

Here we **LIVE**

between two infinities ... Christ ... risen ...

now freeing us from death to **Eternal LIFE**

Eternity CERTIFIED

Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered to Us



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

² ... violent earthquake ...

Angel in Action

So very much more ...

From Universe's **CENTER**
to its farthest **OUTPOST**

From 10^{-10} billionth of an **Atom**
to far beyond the farthest **Star**

where even **Black Holes**
cannot **see or pull or blink**

Universe had an upgrade

Realignment

Eternity CERTIFIED

Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered to Us



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

Angels, Roll the Rock Away

by Thomas Scott, in the Bristol
Baptist Collection, 1769

Angels, roll the rock away,
Death, yield up your mighty prey.

See, the Savior leaves the tomb,
Glowing with immortal bloom,
Glowing with immortal bloom.



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rolls Back Stone

'Tis the Savior. “Angels, raise
Fame’s eternal trump of praise.”
Let the earth’s remotest bound
Hear the joy inspiring sound,
Hear the joy inspiring sound.

Now ye saints, lift up your eyes
Now to glory see Him rise,

In long triumph up the sky,
Up to waiting worlds on high,
Up to waiting worlds on high.



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel

² ... ANGEL rolled back the stone and was sitting on it.

And Waited ... Patiently waiting ...

The Angel knew ... likely had a smile

WE DID NOT KNOW ... not yet ...

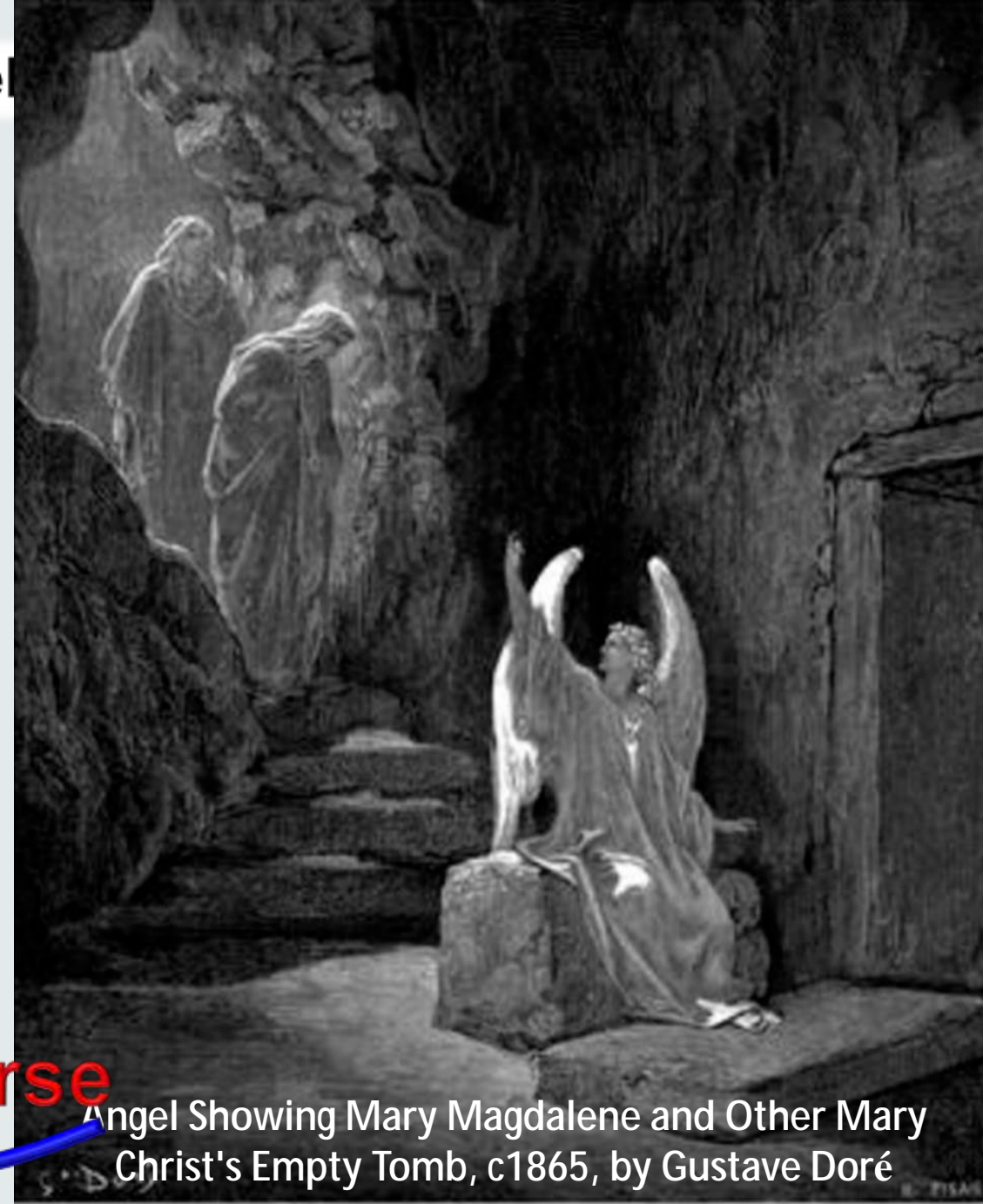
*Even the Satan did not know ALL
Satan ... just a scratching his horn*

Yet Angel **KNEW** ...

God was in taking charge

God was Redeeming Us

Realigning the Universe



Angel Showing Mary Magdalene and Other Mary
Christ's Empty Tomb, c1865, by Gustave Doré

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel

2 ... He rolled back the stone and was sitting on it.

Patiently waiting ... Angel knew

NOT the first time God raised one from the dead ... not first time

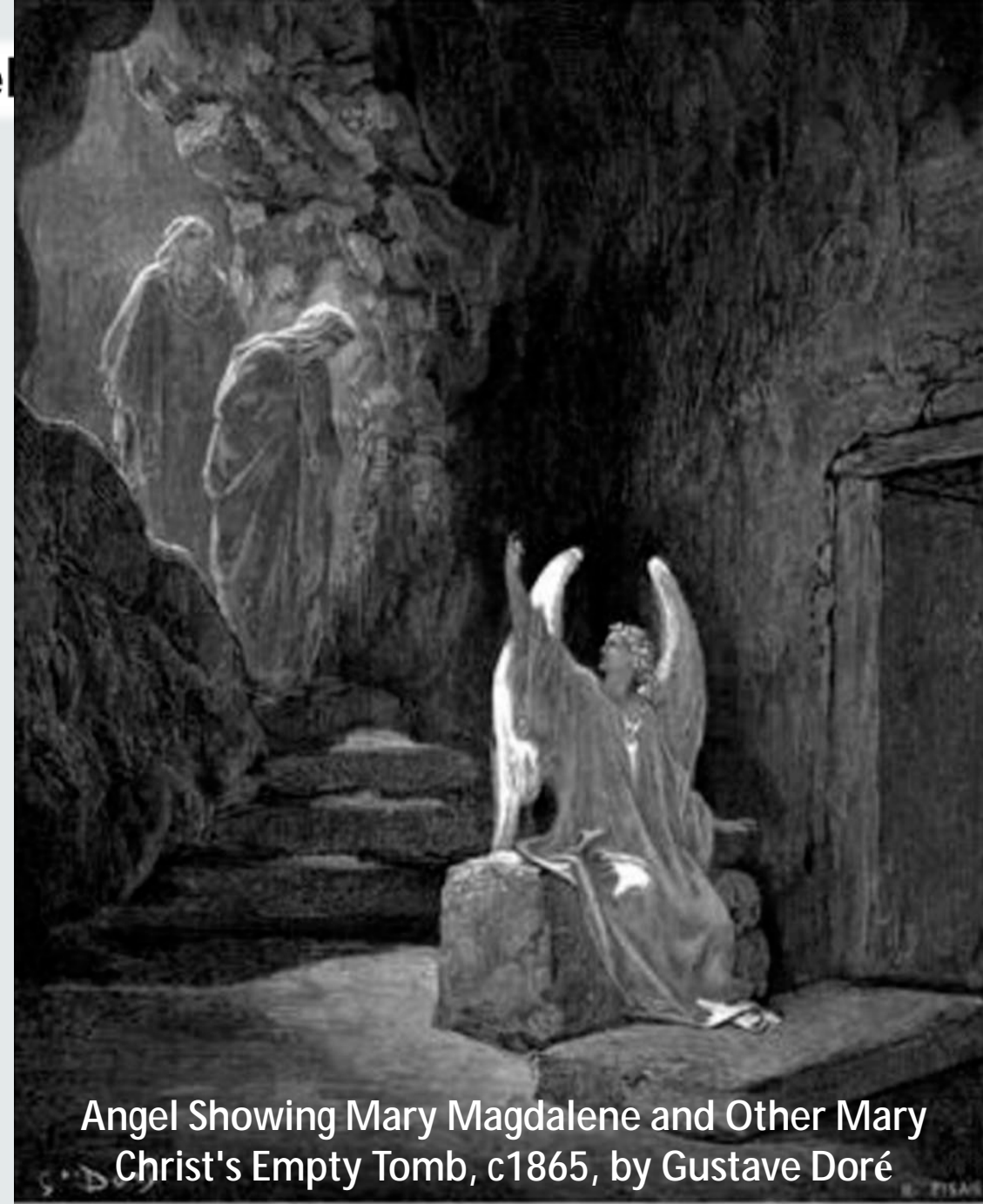
Most recent was Lazarus ... who lived in Bethany a few miles away

This was a SPECIAL resurrection

Resurrection of Christ, Messiah

King of Kings ...

Lord of Lords



Angel Showing Mary Magdalene and Other Mary
Christ's Empty Tomb, c1865, by Gustave Doré

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel

OTHER most holy event happened

33 years before ... by a Virgin

Mary ... gave birth to Jesus

God in the flesh ...

Three days ago ... Jesus “died”

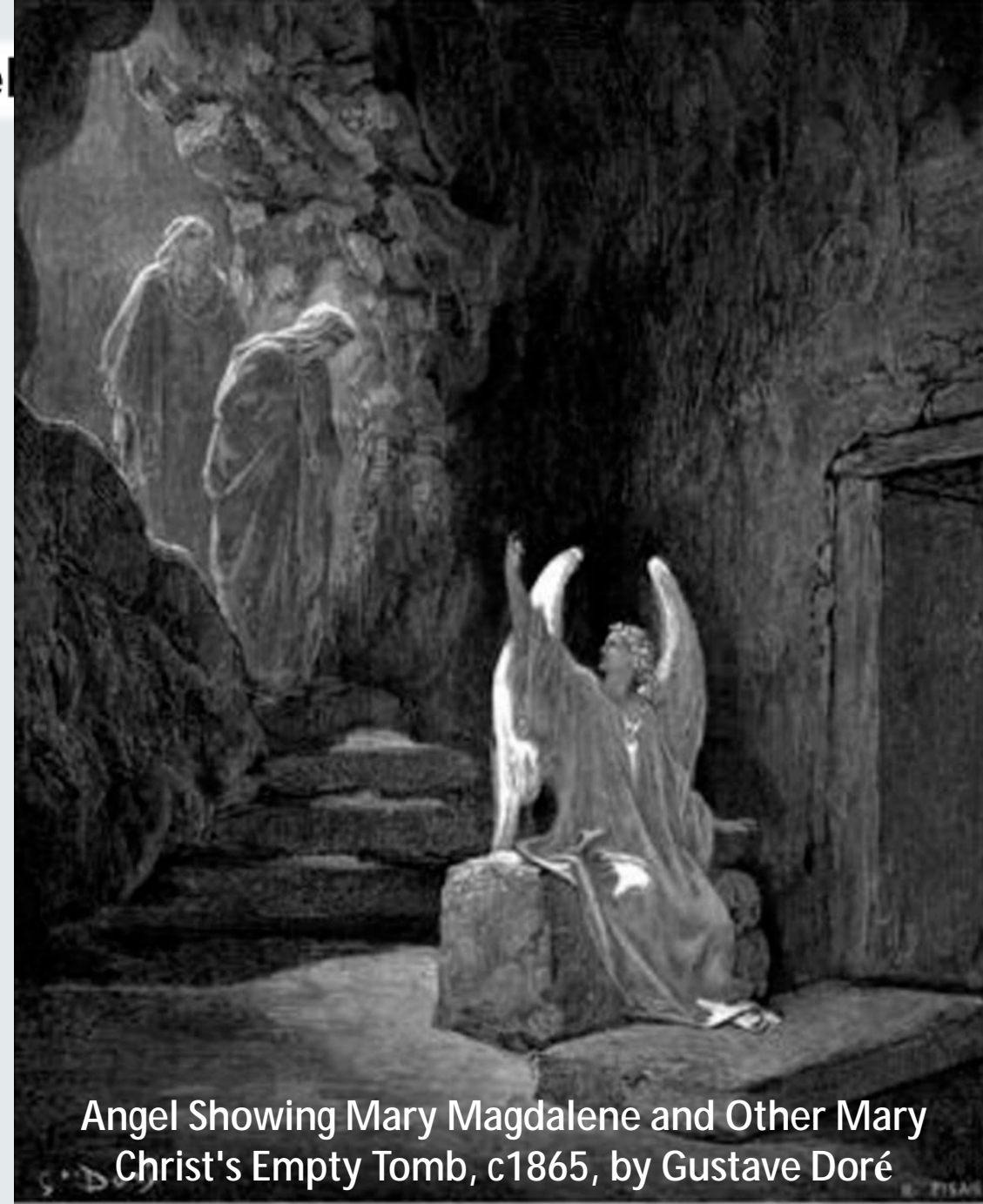
The penalty PAID for all time

For all of humanity ...

God in united himself – in Trinity

This **RESURRECTION**

Saved US ... for Heaven



Angel Showing Mary Magdalene and Other Mary
Christ's Empty Tomb, c1865, by Gustave Doré

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel

² ... He rolled back the stone and was sitting on it.

Jesus ... WHERE was Jesus?

Oh ... we do NOT know ...

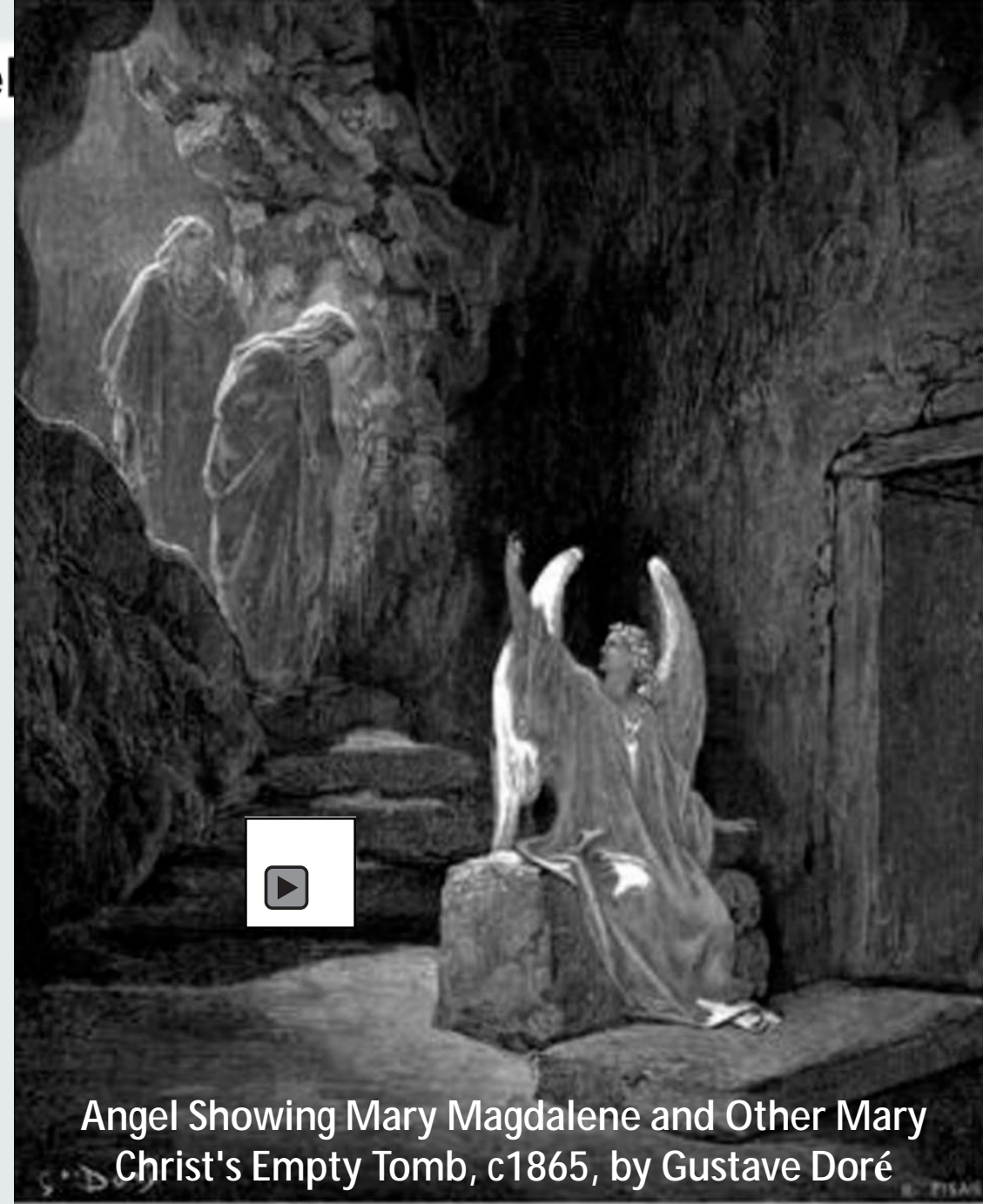
Mulling about ... watching ...

WHERE was Jesus?

We are NOT told just yet ...

But we know WHO Jesus is ...

**King of Kings ...
Lord of Lords**



Angel Showing Mary Magdalene and Other Mary
Christ's Empty Tomb, c1865, by Gustave Doré

Ceiling Mural
Saint Augustine Catholic Church
Minster, Ohio



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rol

³ His appearance was like **LIGHTNING**,
and his robe was as **WHITE AS SNOW**.

⁴ Guards were so shaken from **FEAR** of
him that they became like **DEAD MEN**.

How convoluted the wording is ...

Perhaps the **Soldiers, Mary & Mary**

SAW ALL

I'd like to think they did ...

As result ... **ALL** were **SHAKEN** ...

Resurrection of Christ, 1699
by Noel Coypel (1628-1707)



28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Roll

This was A.D. 33 ... I can very easily see the GUARDS being SHAKEN at the first SIGHT of the Angel!

³ His appearance was like lightning, and his robe was as white as snow.

⁴ The guards were so shaken from fear of him that they became like dead men.

Earth Shook ...

SO VERY MUCH is taking place all at once ... *all at the same time*



NOTHING anyone could do about it

Resurrection of Christ, 1699
by Noel Coypel (1628-1707)



**No One
knows
What is
happening**

28:1-4 Grave Opened – Angel Rol

SEING ALL

ALL were SHAKEN ...

At the resurrection ... of Jesus Christ

Entire UNIVERSE was shaken

Not local *earth*quake – a *Cosmic Quake*

Atomic Structure of the UNIVERSE
shook to its very core ...

DEATH itself was conquered ...

Resurrection of Christ, 1699
by Noel Coypel (1628-1707)



28:5-10 Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

⁵ But the angel told the women, "Don't be afraid, because I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified."

Oh ... what precious words ...

What dearly precious words are those ...

“Don't be afraid.”

There have been a few times in MY life

A few times in YOUR life too

I am certain of it ... if you're over 25, 35

Oh, as a child too ...

but especially as an adult

To hear an Angel say, “Don't be afraid.”



Women at the Tomb of Christ with Angel, 1805, by Benjamin West

Women at the Tomb of
Christ with Angel, 1805
by Benjamin West

**Magnificent piece of art ...
we have lost something
today when works like this
are no longer created**



28:5-10

Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

⁵ But the angel told the women, "***DON'T BE AFRAID***, because I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.

Dearly precious words are those ...

“Don't be afraid.”

Times in OUR lives when we WISH to high heaven an ANGEL would say that

KNOWING it was an Angel from God

Too very often, we go **ALONE** ...

Too very often, we **MUST** go **ALONE**

INTO THE DARKNESS OF A TRIAL



Women at the Tomb of Christ with Angel, 1805, by Benjamin West

28:5-10

Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

***5 "DON'T BE AFRAID*, because I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.**

***6 HE IS NOT HERE!* For He has been resurrected, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay.**

7 Then go quickly and tell His disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead. In fact, He is going ahead of you to Galilee; you will see Him there.' Listen, I have told you."

He is NOT here ... to

Come and see the place where he lay



Women at the Tomb of Christ with Angel, 1805, by Benjamin West

28:5-10

Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

⁶ HE IS NOT HERE! ...

Come and see the place where He lay.

You may have heard this before ...

The stone was NOT rolled away to ... to ... to

Let Christ OUT ... No sir, no mam

Stone was rolled away so Mary & Mary

could SEE Jesus was NOT there

Where IS Jesus? Where?

Resurrected ... by God ...

Not yet ascended to God in Heaven

Where? ... Where is Jesus?...

28:5-10

Risen King Announced – Angel Tells All

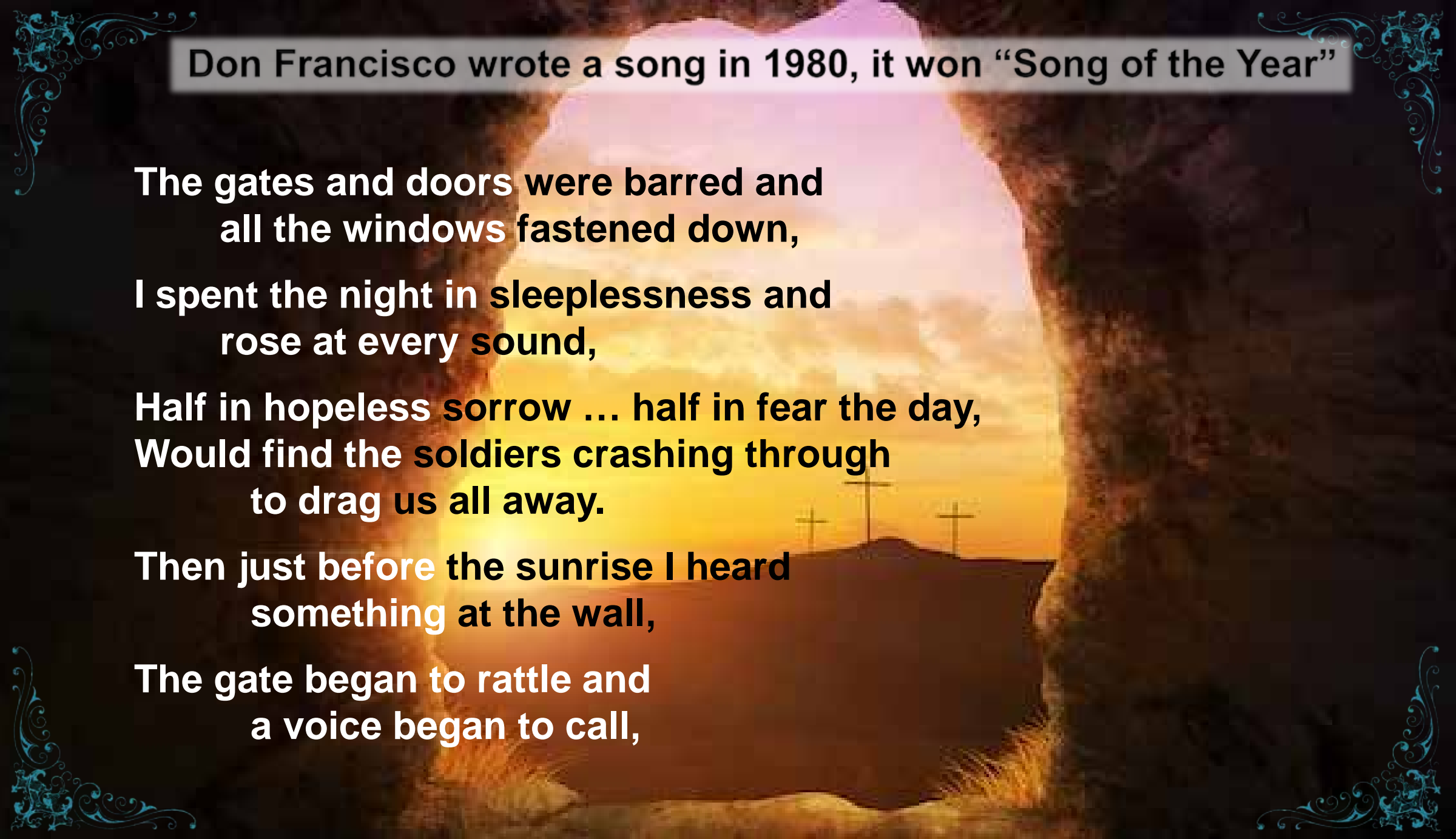
⁸ So, departing quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, they ran to tell His disciples the news.

⁹ Just then Jesus met them and said, "Good morning!" They came up, took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him.

¹⁰ Then Jesus told them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see Me there."

Where?

Jesus was at work



Don Francisco wrote a song in 1980, it won “Song of the Year”

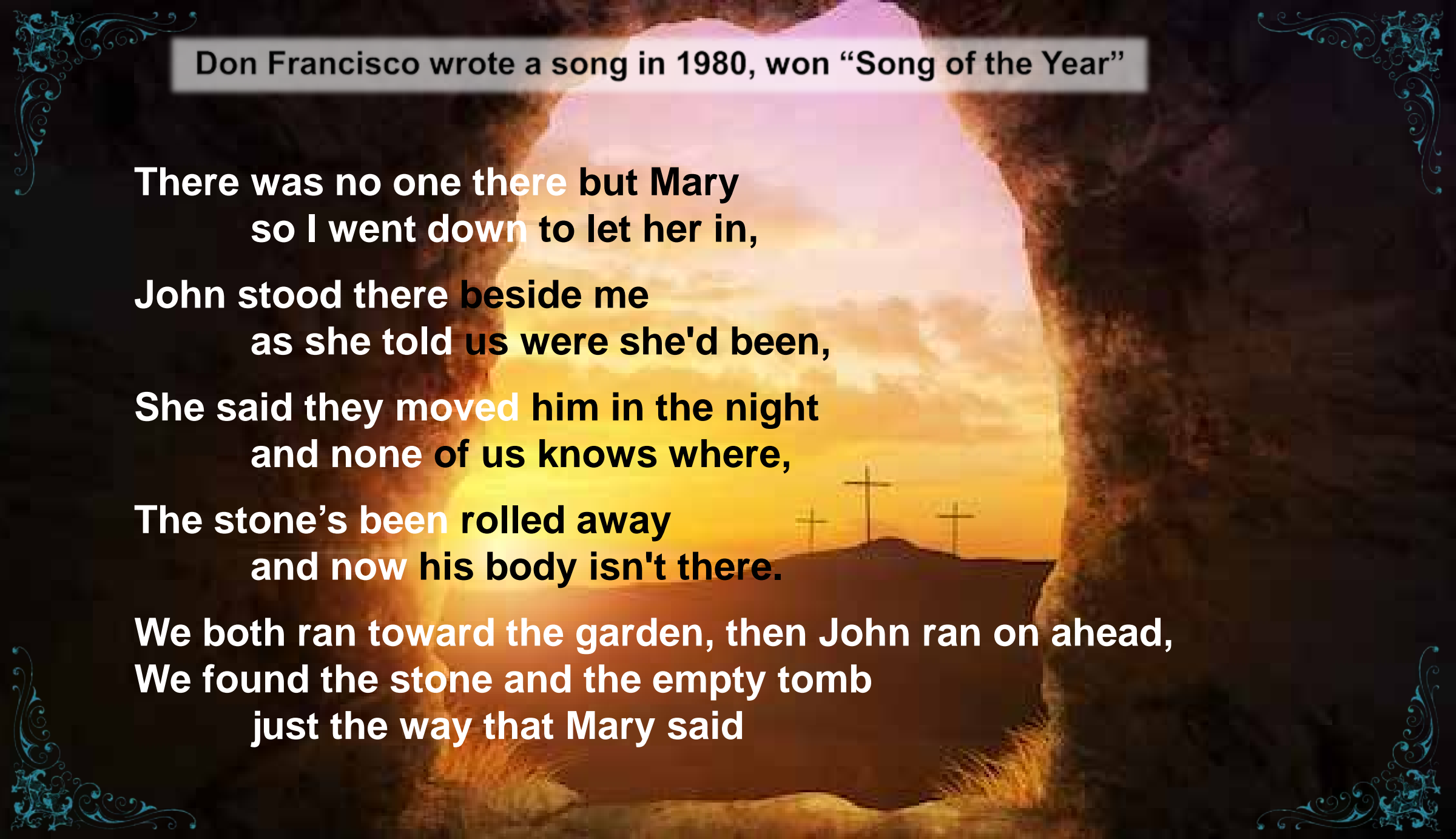
**The gates and doors were barred and
all the windows fastened down,**

**I spent the night in sleeplessness and
rose at every sound,**

**Half in hopeless sorrow ... half in fear the day,
Would find the soldiers crashing through
to drag us all away.**

**Then just before the sunrise I heard
something at the wall,**

**The gate began to rattle and
a voice began to call,**

The background of the slide is a religious scene. In the center, a large, irregularly shaped opening, resembling a tomb entrance, is filled with a bright, warm light from a sunset or sunrise. The light is a mix of orange, yellow, and pink. In the foreground, the dark, silhouetted roof of a tomb is visible. In the background, three crosses are visible against the bright sky. The overall mood is solemn and hopeful. The text is overlaid on this scene.

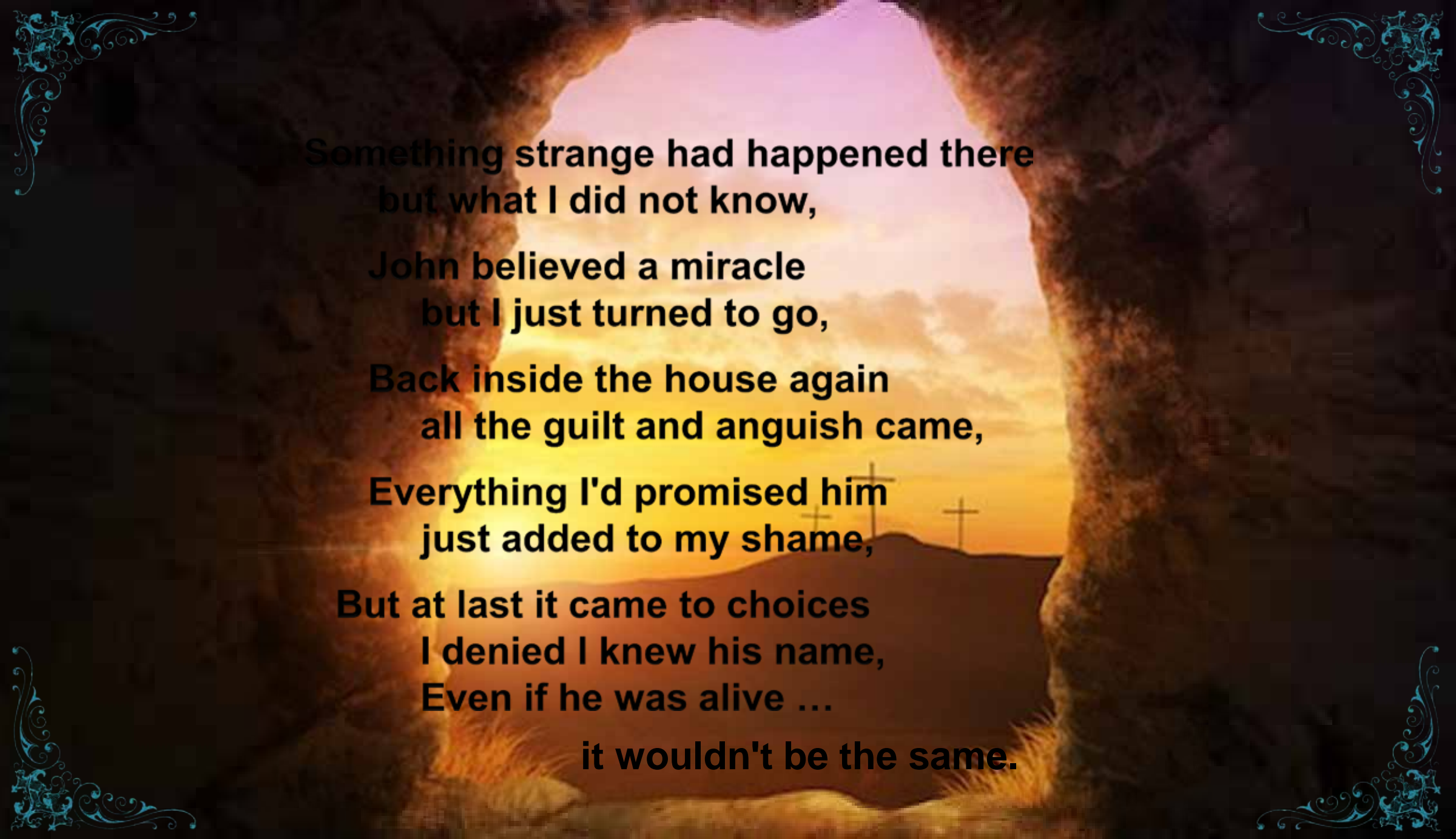
Don Francisco wrote a song in 1980, won "Song of the Year"

**There was no one there but Mary
so I went down to let her in,
John stood there beside me
as she told us were she'd been,**

**She said they moved him in the night
and none of us knows where,**

**The stone's been rolled away
and now his body isn't there.**

**We both ran toward the garden, then John ran on ahead,
We found the stone and the empty tomb
just the way that Mary said**



**Something strange had happened there
but what I did not know,**

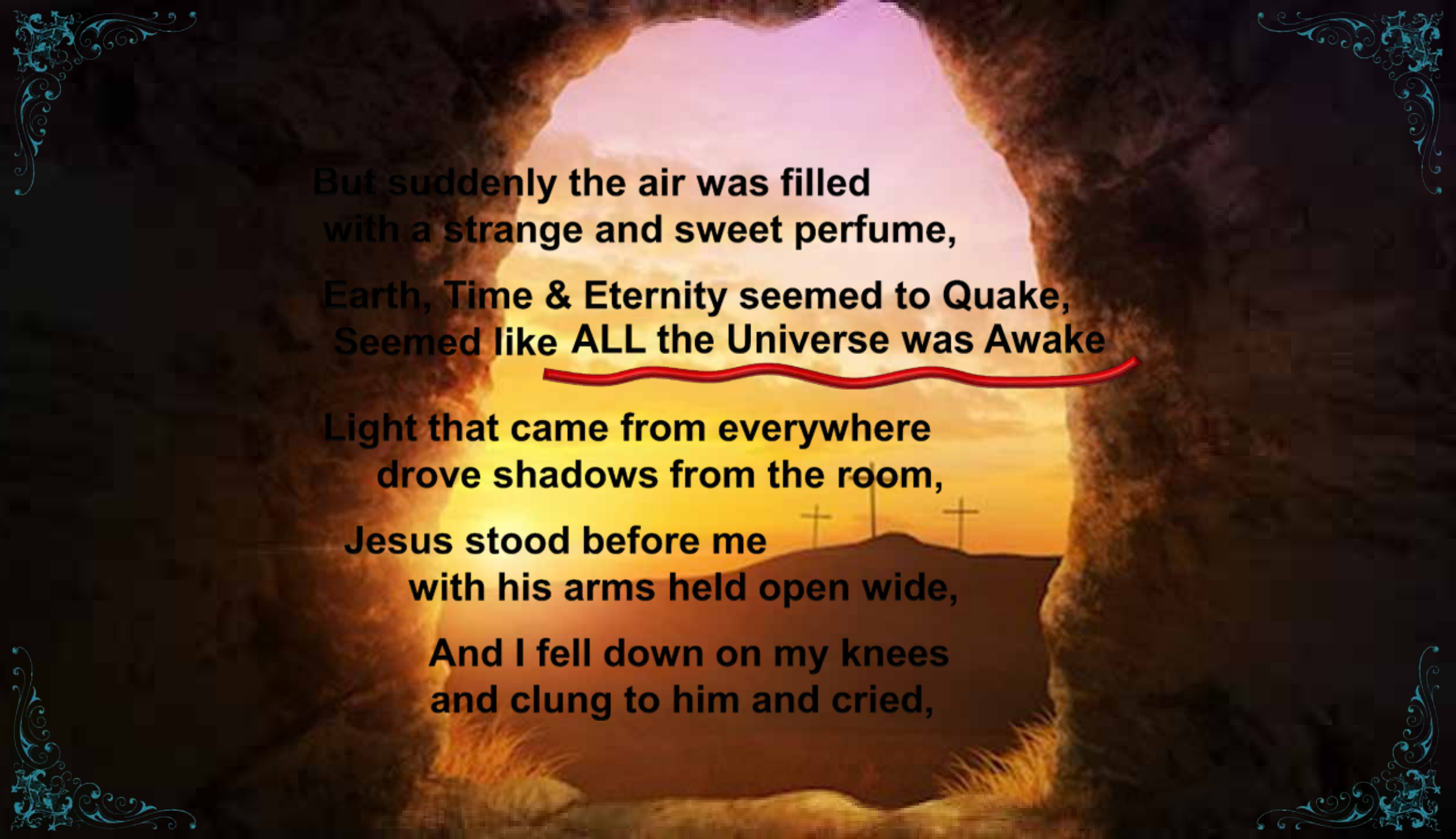
**John believed a miracle
but I just turned to go,**

**Back inside the house again
all the guilt and anguish came,**

**Everything I'd promised him
just added to my shame,**

**But at last it came to choices
I denied I knew his name,
Even if he was alive ...**

it wouldn't be the same.

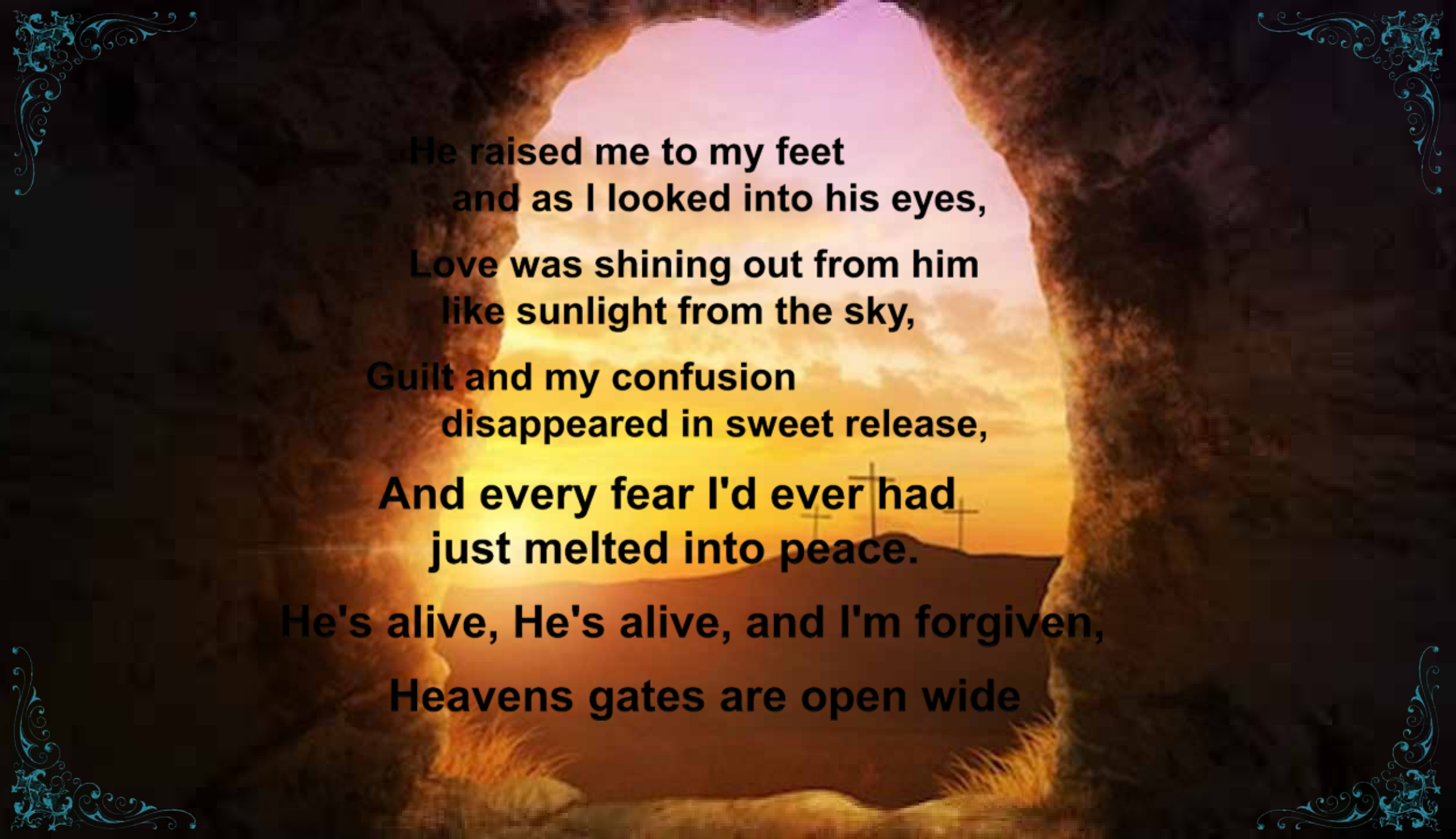


But suddenly the air was filled
with a strange and sweet perfume,
Earth, Time & Eternity seemed to Quake,
Seemed like ALL the Universe was Awake

Light that came from everywhere
drove shadows from the room,

Jesus stood before me
with his arms held open wide,

And I fell down on my knees
and clung to him and cried,



**He raised me to my feet
and as I looked into his eyes,
Love was shining out from him
like sunlight from the sky,
Guilt and my confusion
disappeared in sweet release,
And every fear I'd ever had
just melted into peace.**

**He's alive, He's alive, and I'm forgiven,
Heavens gates are open wide**

He's alive ... He's alive
and I'm forgiven
Heavens gates are
Open Wide
Eternal Life CERTIFIED
Nail-Holed-Hand-Delivered to Us



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

