

What on Earth is God Doing?

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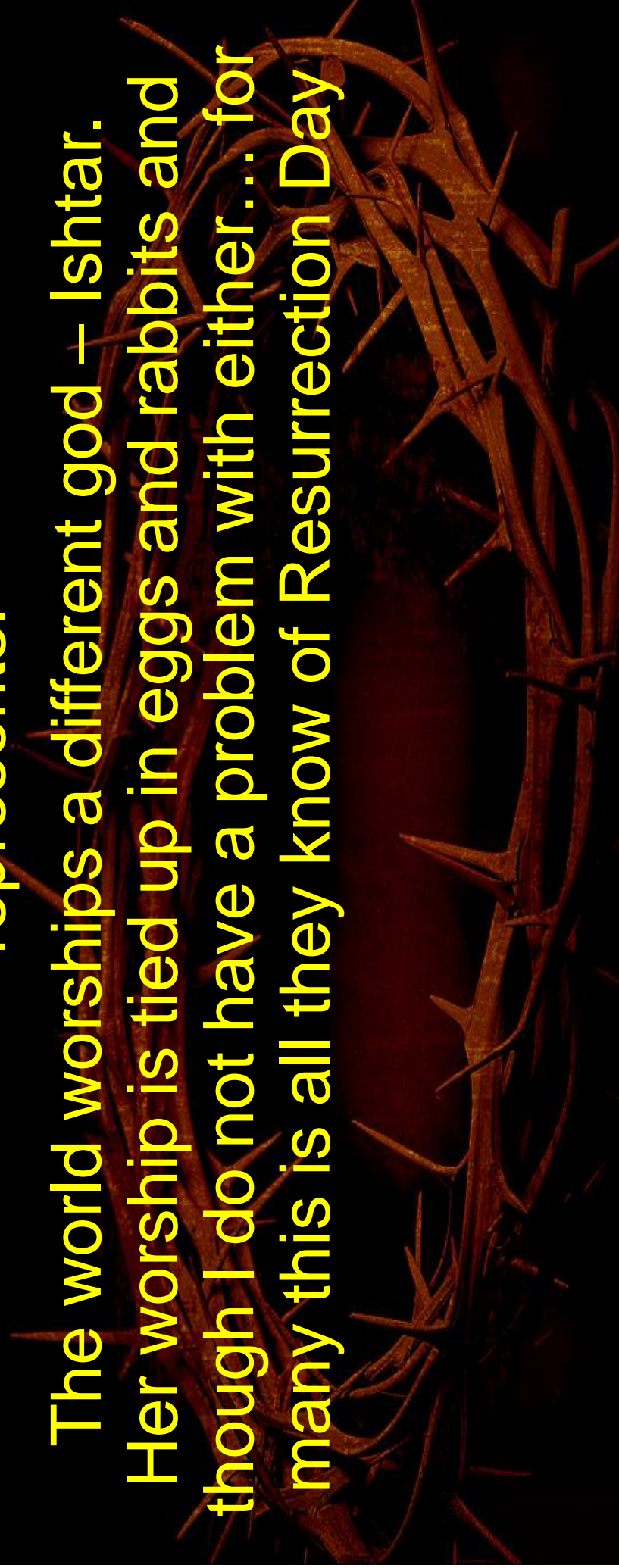
Clueless about Eternity



What on Earth is God Doing?

The World is Clueless about what this day represents.

The world worships a different god – Ishtar. Her worship is tied up in eggs and rabbits and though I do not have a problem with either... for many this is all they know of Resurrection Day



What on Earth is God Doing?

There have been surveys of what Easter is all about. These answers would be amusing if they were not so tragic.

Yet people were just as clueless in Jesus day.



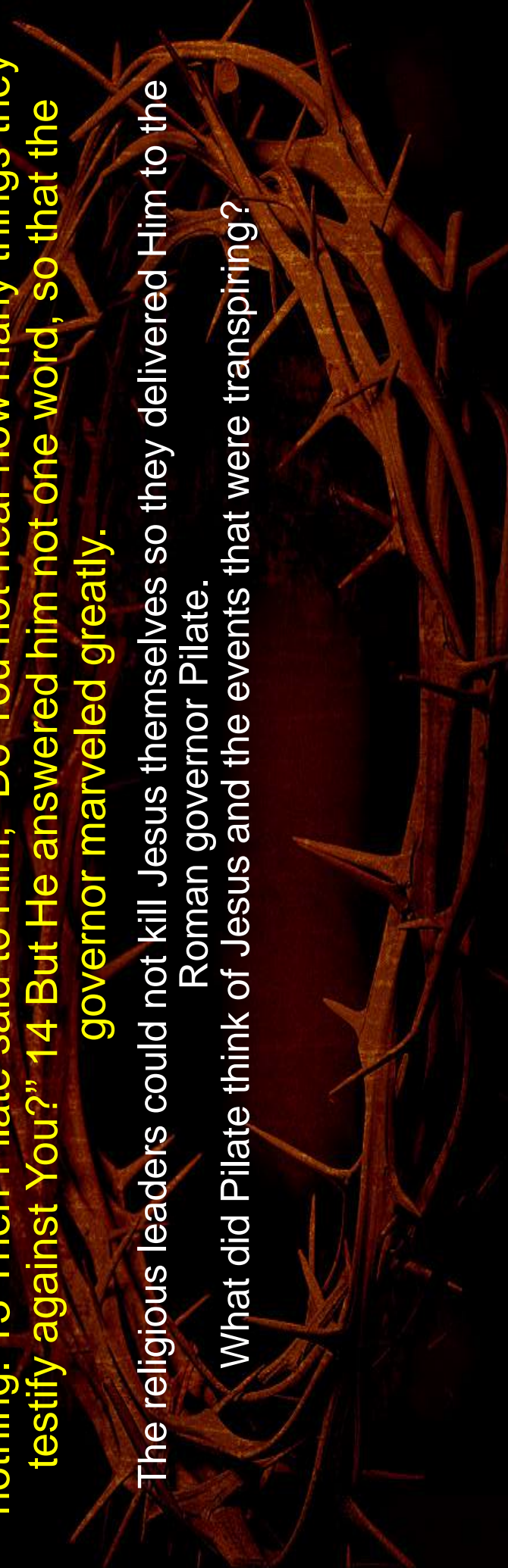
Pilate Was Clueless

Matthew 27:11-14

Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.” 12 And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. 13 Then Pilate said to Him, “Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?” 14 But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly.

The religious leaders could not kill Jesus themselves so they delivered Him to the Roman governor Pilate.

What did Pilate think of Jesus and the events that were transpiring?

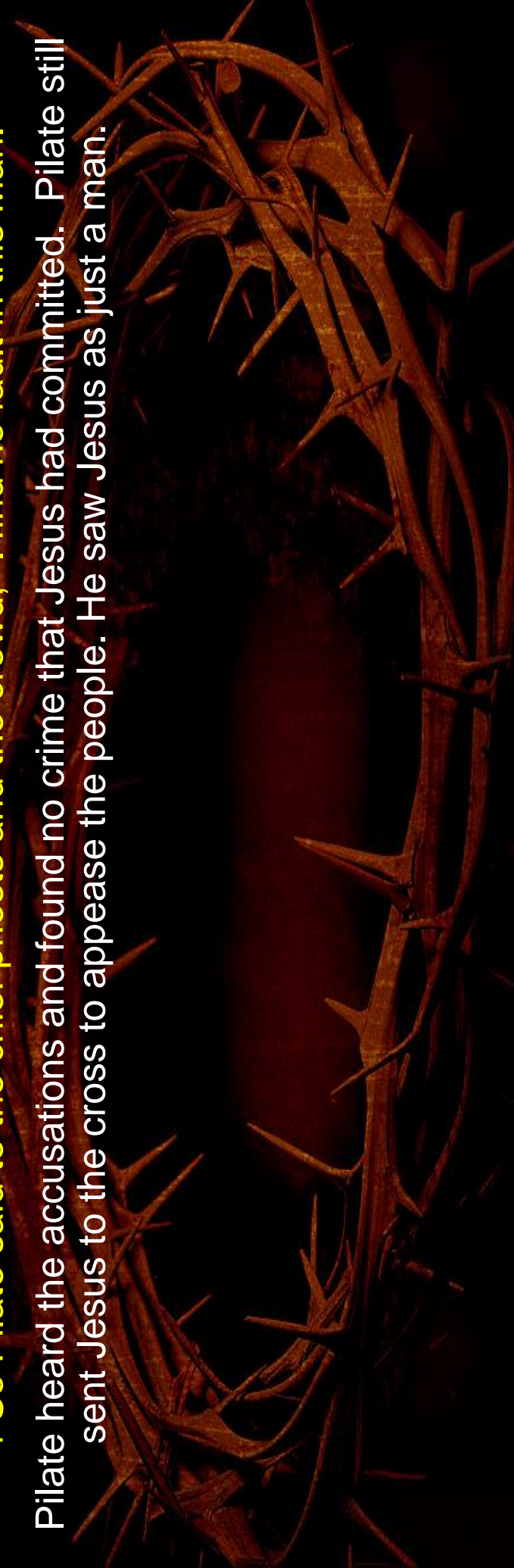


Pilate Was Clueless

Luke 23:1-4

Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Him to Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, “We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.” 3 Then Pilate asked Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” He answered him and said, “It is as you say.” 4 So Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no fault in this Man.”

Pilate heard the accusations and found no crime that Jesus had committed. Pilate still sent Jesus to the cross to appease the people. He saw Jesus as just a man.



Pilate Was Clueless

Matthew 27:62-65

On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, 63 saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’ 64 Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ So the last deception will be worse than the first.” 65 Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how.” 66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

Pilate had seen and heard the events surrounding Jesus’ death. Is there a hint of uncertainty in his answer?

Pilate Was Clueless

To Pilate, Jesus was another nuisance in his day. Another issue that upset the Jews. Another accusation to be brought before Caesar.

Pilate had no idea that he was sending the Savior of the world to the cross.

Pilate had no idea that the King of all Kings stood before Him.

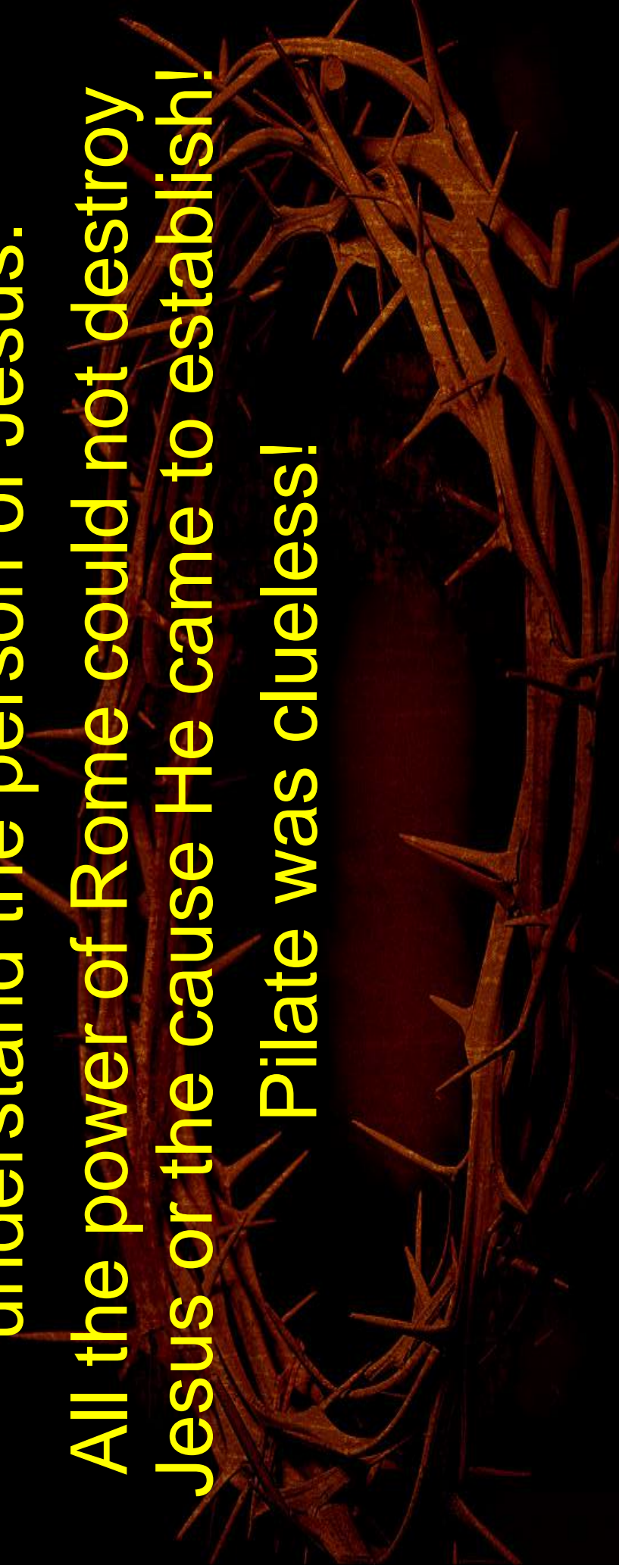
Pilate had no idea that he stood in the presence of the Creator of the Universe.

Pilate Was Clueless

Pilate and all the religious leaders did not understand the person of Jesus.

All the power of Rome could not destroy Jesus or the cause He came to establish!

Pilate was clueless!



Herod Was Clueless

Luke 23:8-11

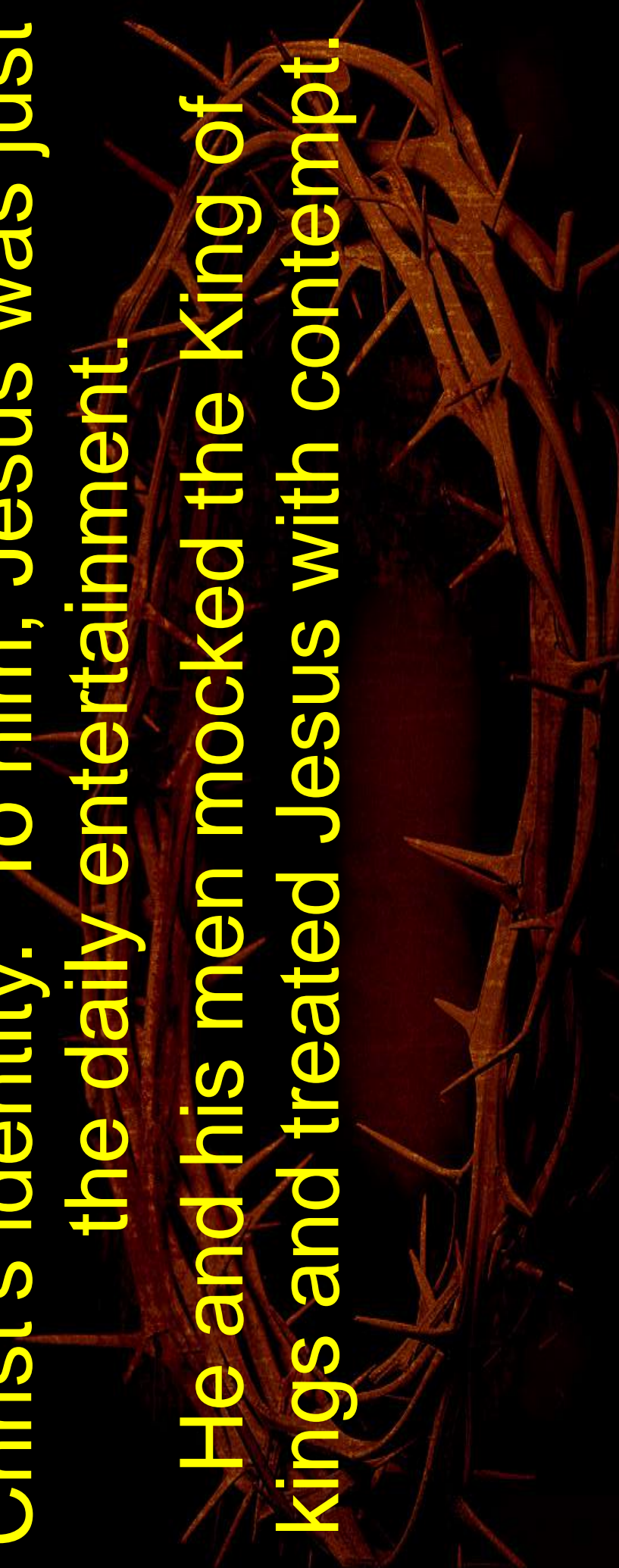
Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. 9 Then he questioned Him with many words, but He answered him nothing. 10 And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him.

11 Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent Him back to Pilate.

Herod Was Clueless

Like Pilate, Herod was clueless of Christ's identity. To him, Jesus was just the daily entertainment.

He and his men mocked the King of kings and treated Jesus with contempt.

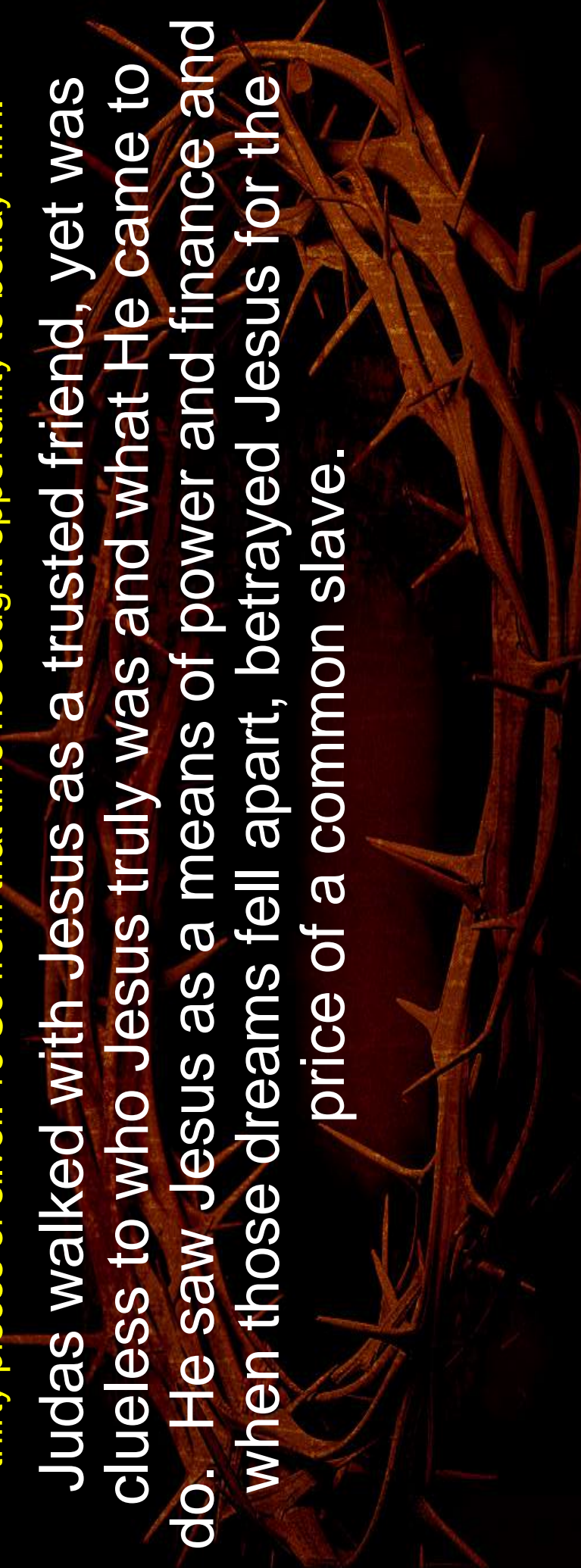


Judas Was Clueless

Matthew 26:14-16

Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests 15 and said, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?” And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. 16 So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

Judas walked with Jesus as a trusted friend, yet was clueless to who Jesus truly was and what He came to do. He saw Jesus as a means of power and finance and when those dreams fell apart, betrayed Jesus for the price of a common slave.

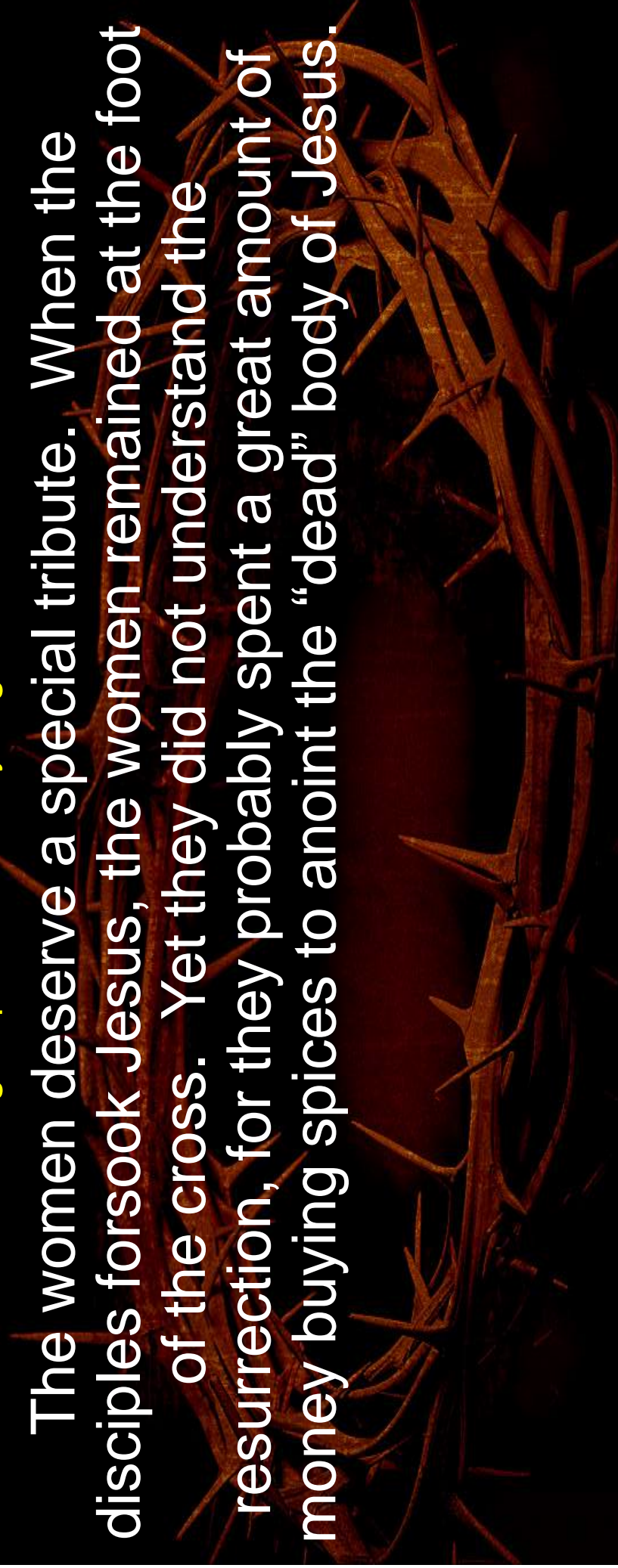


The Women Were Clueless

Mark 16:1

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

The women deserve a special tribute. When the disciples forsook Jesus, the women remained at the foot of the cross. Yet they did not understand the resurrection, for they probably spent a great amount of money buying spices to anoint the “dead” body of Jesus.

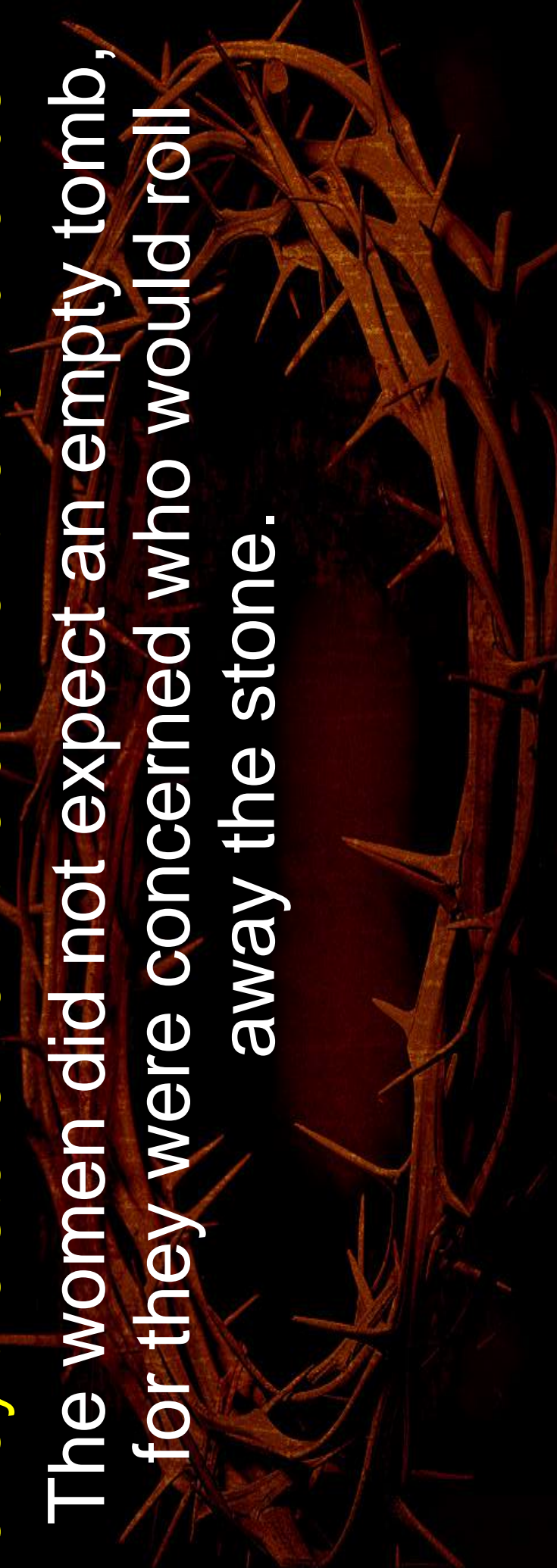


The Women Were Clueless

Mark 16:3

And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?”

The women did not expect an empty tomb,
for they were concerned who would roll
away the stone.



The Women Were Clueless

John 20:11-13

But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”

Mary also struggled with understating the resurrection.

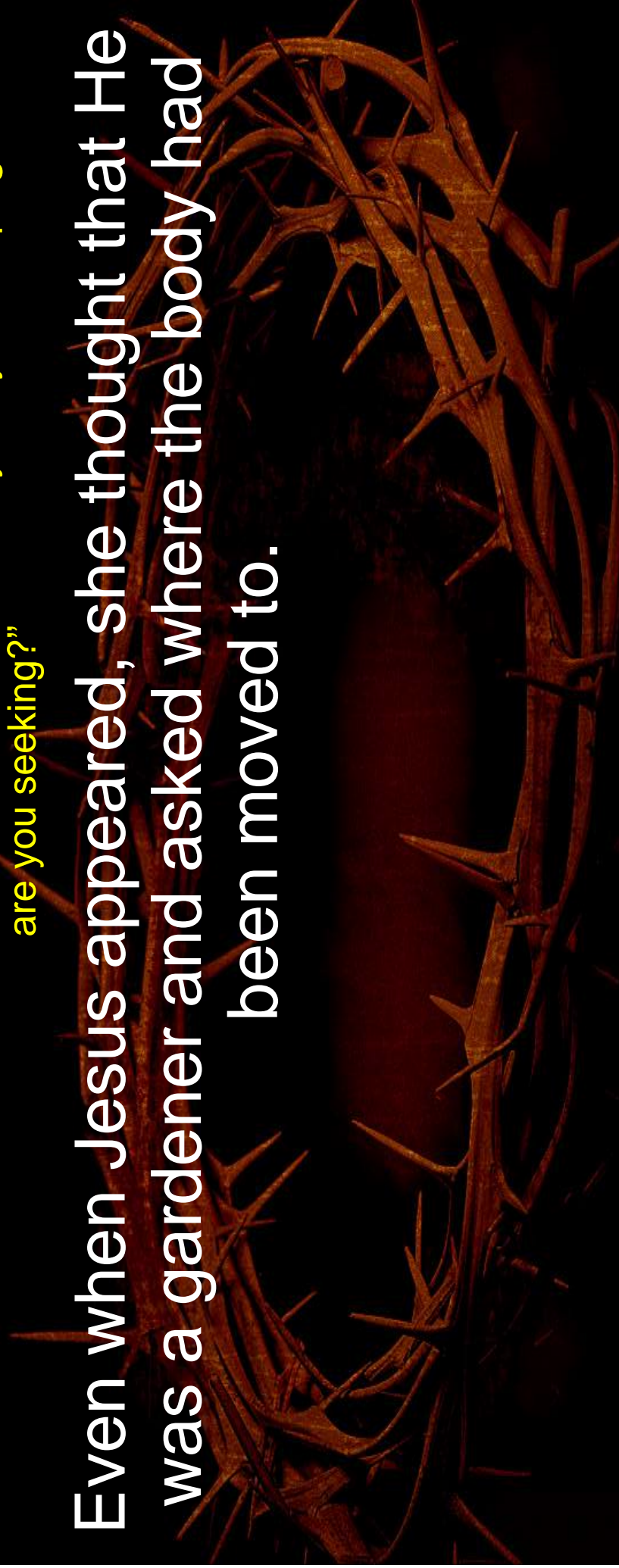


The Women Were Clueless

John 20:14-15

Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?"

Even when Jesus appeared, she thought that He was a gardener and asked where the body had been moved to.

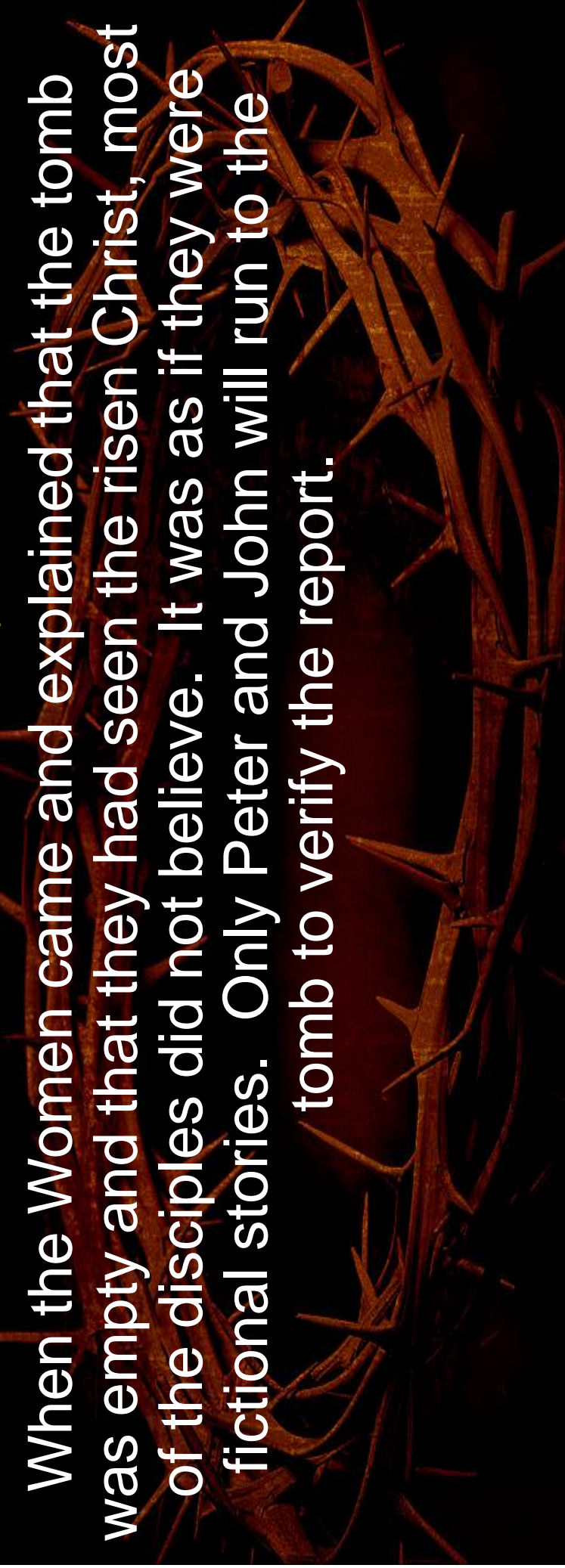


The Disciples Were Clueless

Luke 24:10-11

It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. 11 And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them.

When the Women came and explained that the tomb was empty and that they had seen the risen Christ, most of the disciples did not believe. It was as if they were fictional stories. Only Peter and John will run to the tomb to verify the report.



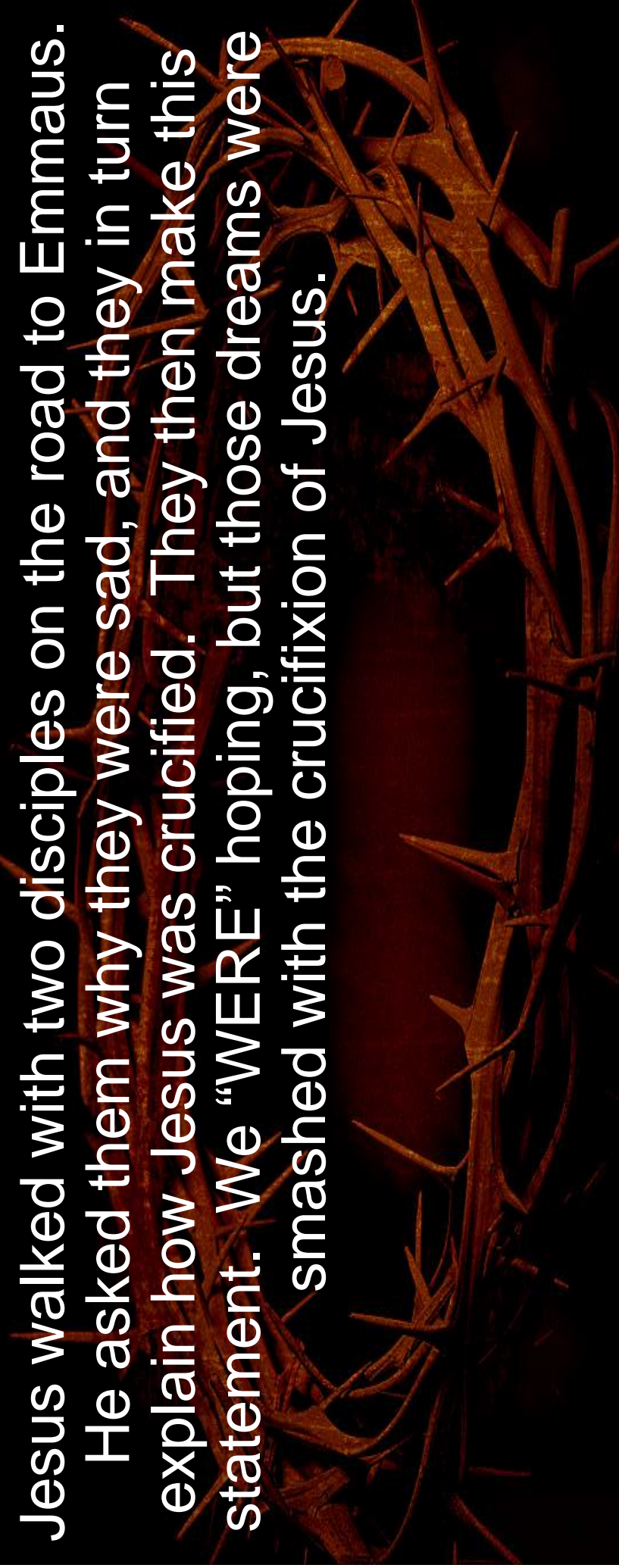
The Disciples Were Clueless

Luke 24:21

But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

Jesus walked with two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

He asked them why they were sad, and they in turn explain how Jesus was crucified. They then make this statement. We “WERE” hoping, but those dreams were smashed with the crucifixion of Jesus.

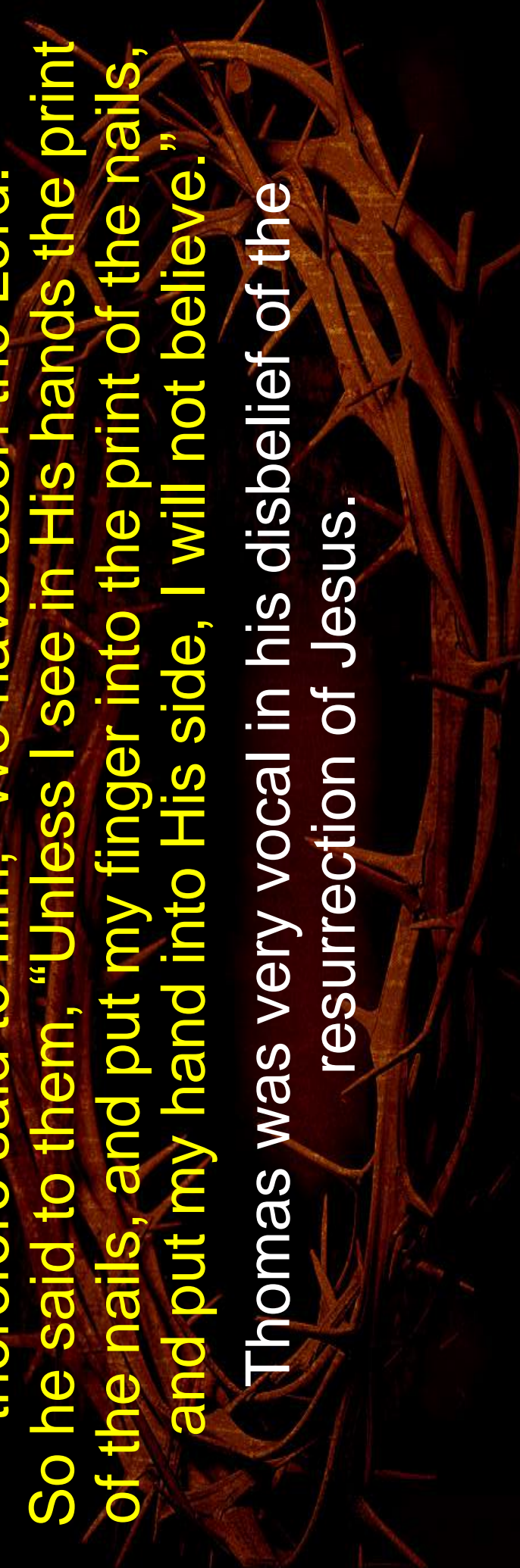


The Disciples Were Clueless

John 20:24-25

Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

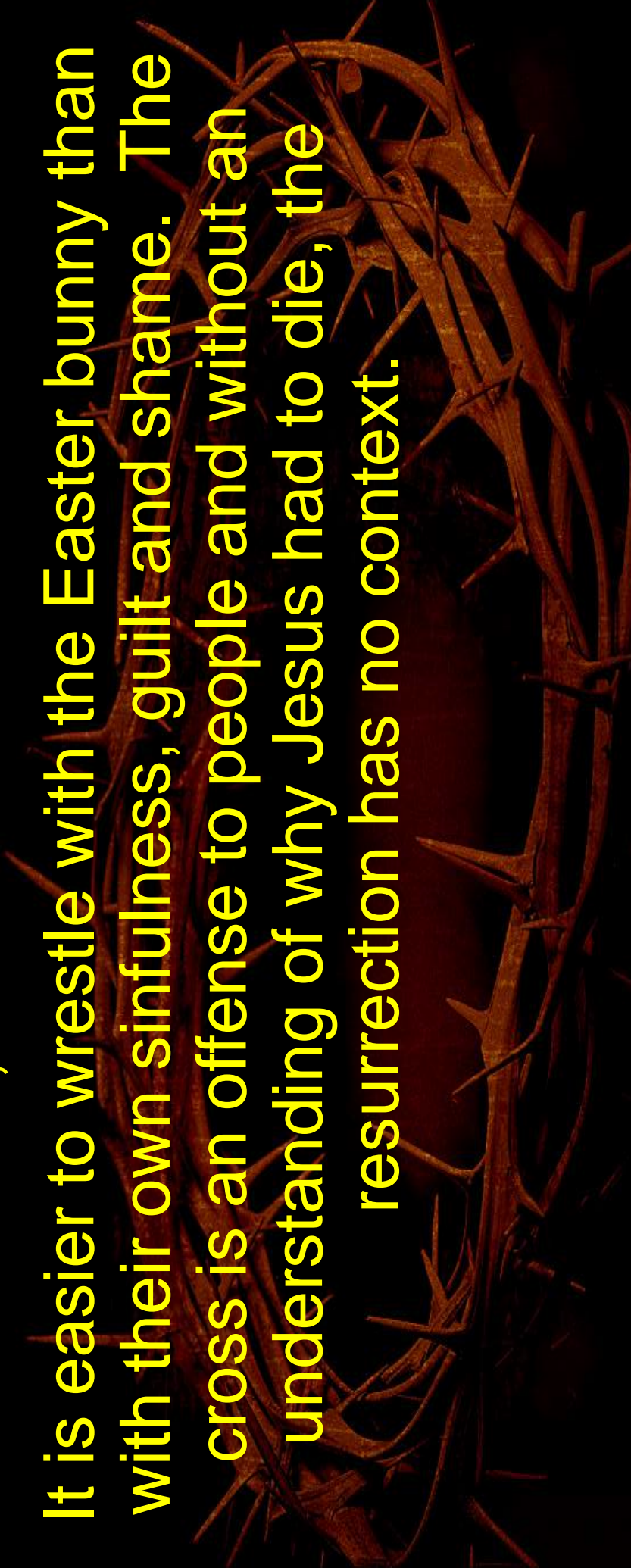
Thomas was very vocal in his disbelief of the resurrection of Jesus.



Most People Today are Clueless

The world does not understand the importance of the cross, much less the resurrection.

It is easier to wrestle with the Easter bunny than with their own sinfulness, guilt and shame. The cross is an offense to people and without an understanding of why Jesus had to die, the resurrection has no context.



Is the Church Clueless?

**What is the meaning of this
Resurrection Day?**

Why is it important?



Is the Church Clueless? Assurance of Judgment

Acts 17:31

Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.



Is the Church Clueless? Assurance of Forgiveness of Sins

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still
in your sins!

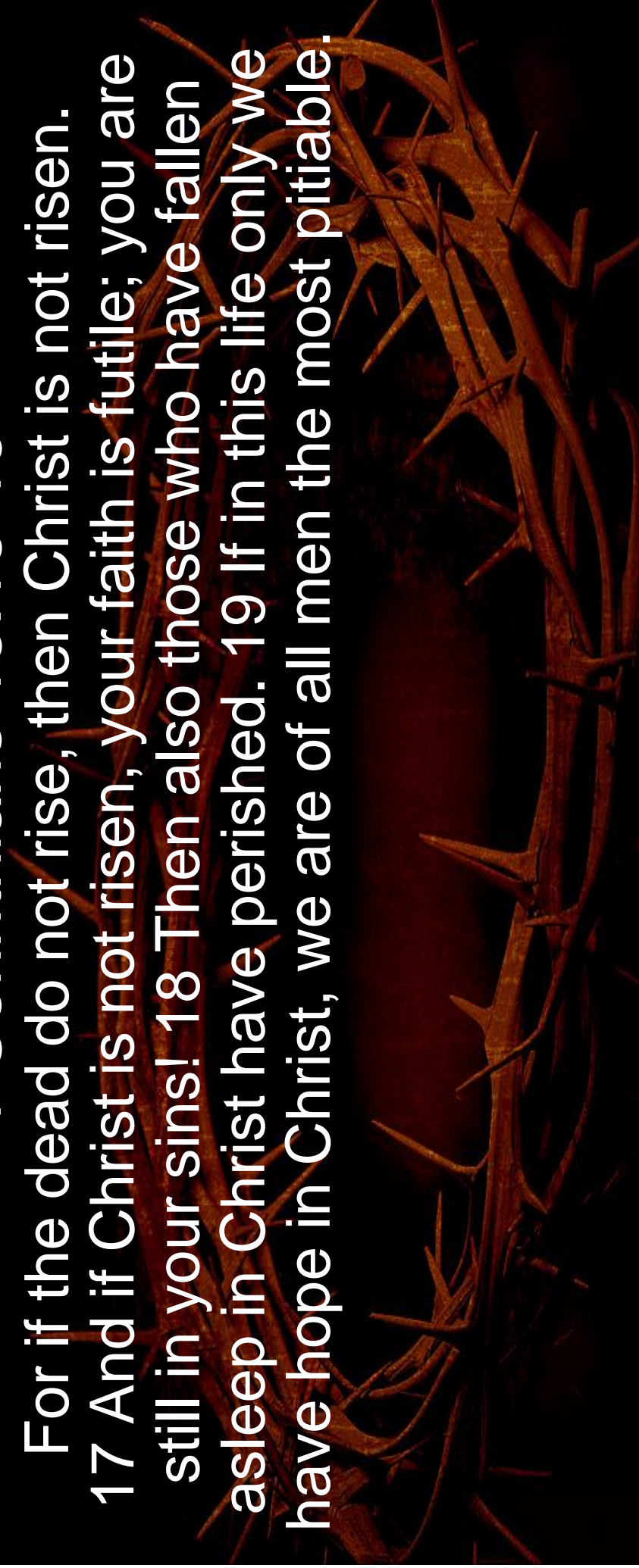


Is the Church Clueless? Assurance of Hope

1 Corinthians 15:16-19

For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen.

17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.



Is the Church Clueless? Assurance of Restoration

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

55 “O Death, where is your sting?

O Hades, where is your victory?”

Is the Church Clueless? Assurance of Restoration

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Are You Clueless?

Do you Know Jesus and the Power of His
Resurrection?

Or

Are you like so many who are trying to figure all
this out?

Please do not leave here today without knowing
Him.

Jesus loves you and died for your sins so you
can live eternally with Him!