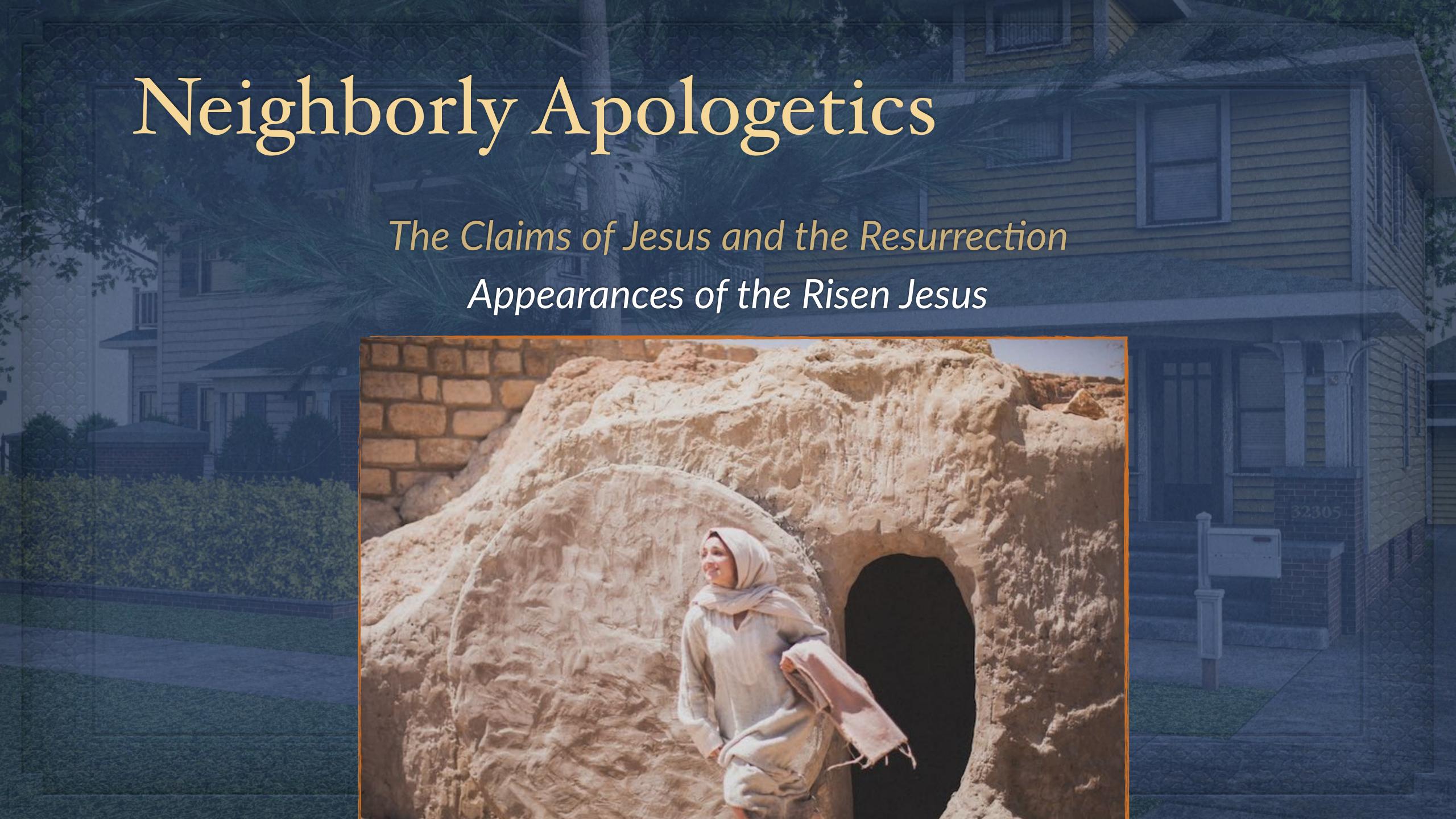


The Royal Law
Love your neighbor

God has entrusted the primary work of the Kingdom to the common Christian family

with a priestly role in our neighborhoods



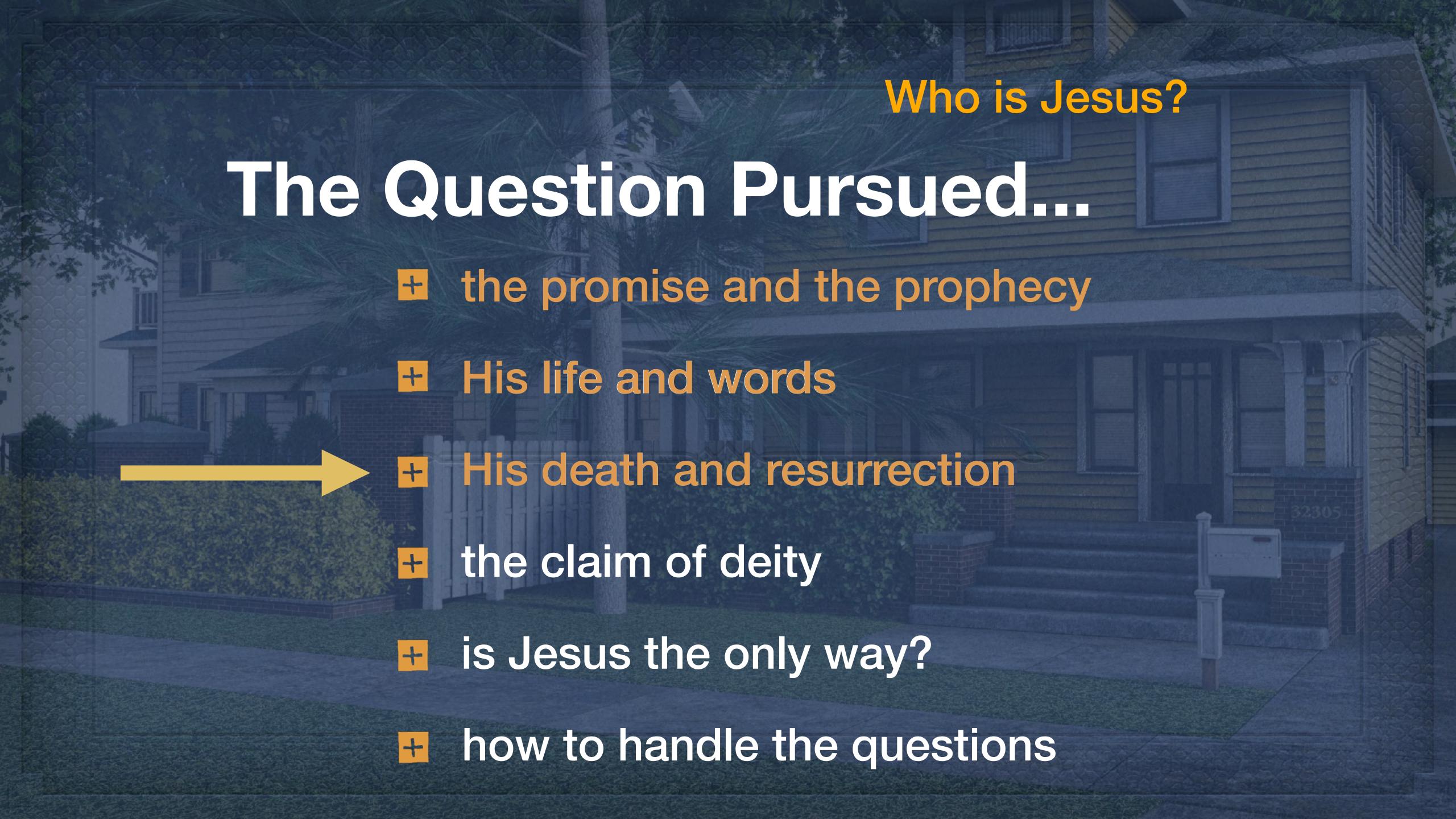
# Neighborly Apologetic Categories:

- 1. Evil and Suffering
- 2. Absolute Truth and Relativism
- 3. "Only One Way" and Religious Pluralism
  - 4. Faith and Reason
  - 5. Free Will and Sovereignty
  - 6. God's Existence and Nature
  - 7. Goodness of Man, Judgment and Hell
- 8. Hypocrisy and Christian Crimes of the Past
  - 9. The Claims of Jesus and the Resurrection

10. Miracles

- 11. Science and Evolution
- 12. The Veracity of the Bible and "Contradictions"

Plus: Burning Issues of our Day









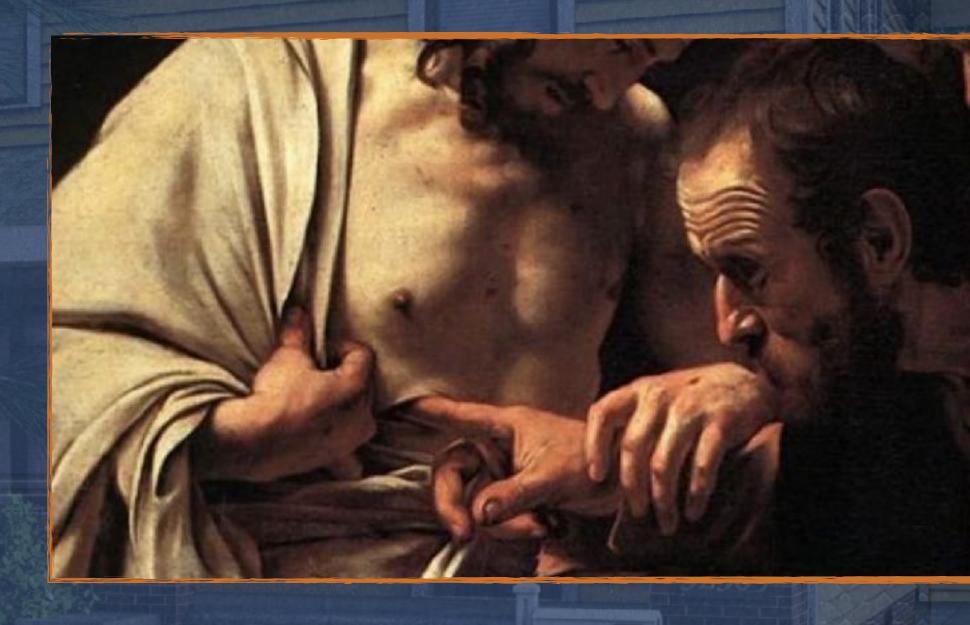




Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him "My Lord and my Cod!"

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"
Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me,
you have believed; blessed are those who have not
seen and yet have believed" (John 20:27-29, NIV).



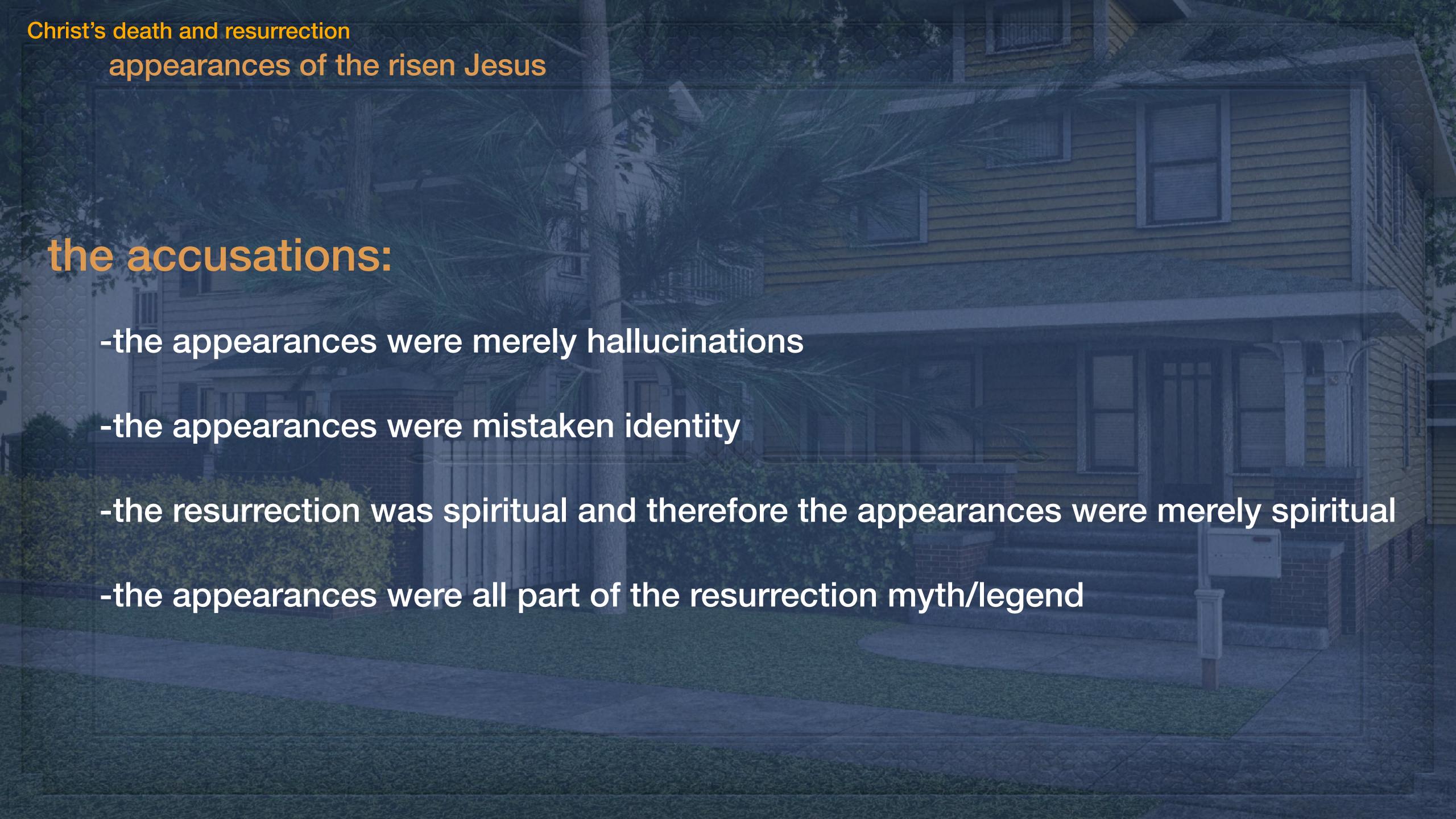
one of the fundamental and critical aspects of the resurrection of Jesus is that it was a real resurrection

- it wasn't a sham
- it wasn't a hoax
- it wasn't the machinations of a devious conspiracy
- it wasn't a vision or hallucination
- nor was it merely a spiritual resurrection
- the physical body of Jesus was raised from the dead

the most significant charge in our day: Jesus didn't physically rise from the dead

#### evidence so far:

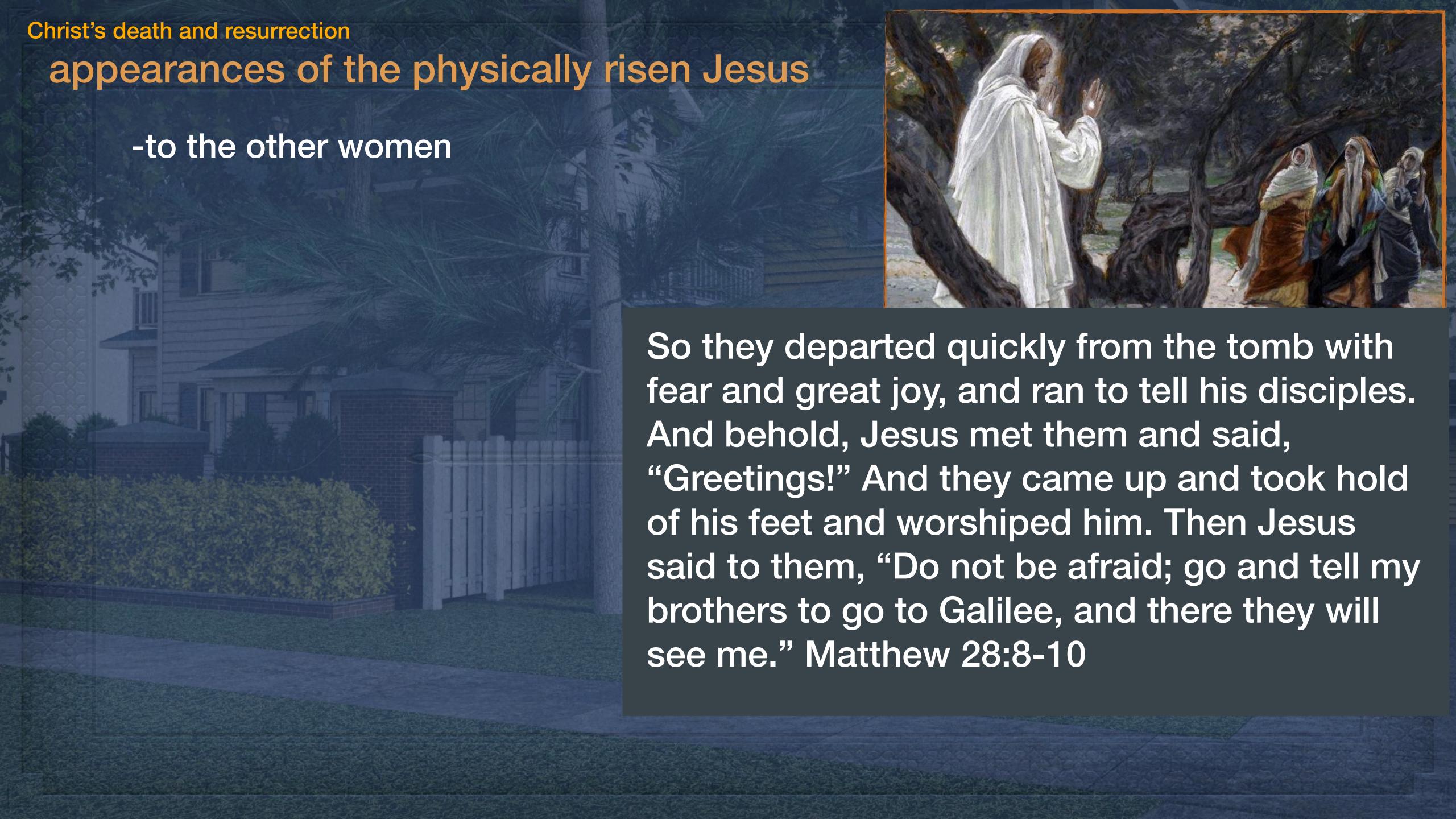
- -The real death of Jesus and the real wrapping and burial in a tomb
- -The sealing of the stone and the contingent of soldiers posted at the tomb
- -The earthquake, the angel, the rolling away of the stone
- -The terror of the guards and subsequently fleeing their post
- -The women seeing the empty tomb and angels declaring the resurrection
- -Peter and John examining the empty tomb and the empty grave wrappings
- -The soldiers reporting that the tomb was empty and the rise of the polemic



# appearances of the physically risen Jesus

-to Magdalene at the tomb

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her. John 20:11-18



# appearances of the physically risen Jesus

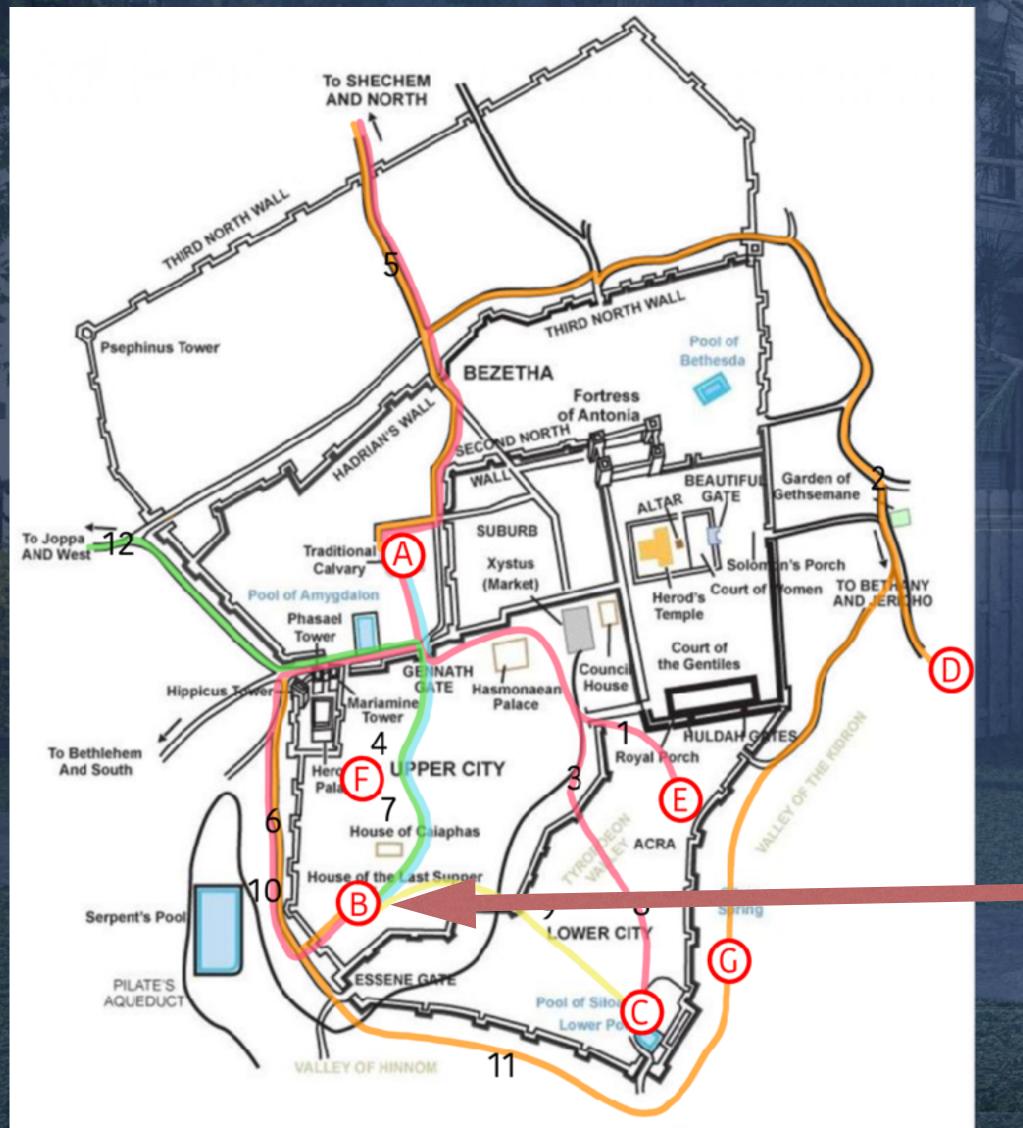
-to Cleopas and the companion in the road to Emmaus



And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. Luke 24:31-35

# appearances of the physically risen Jesus

-to the Ten in a locked room that first night



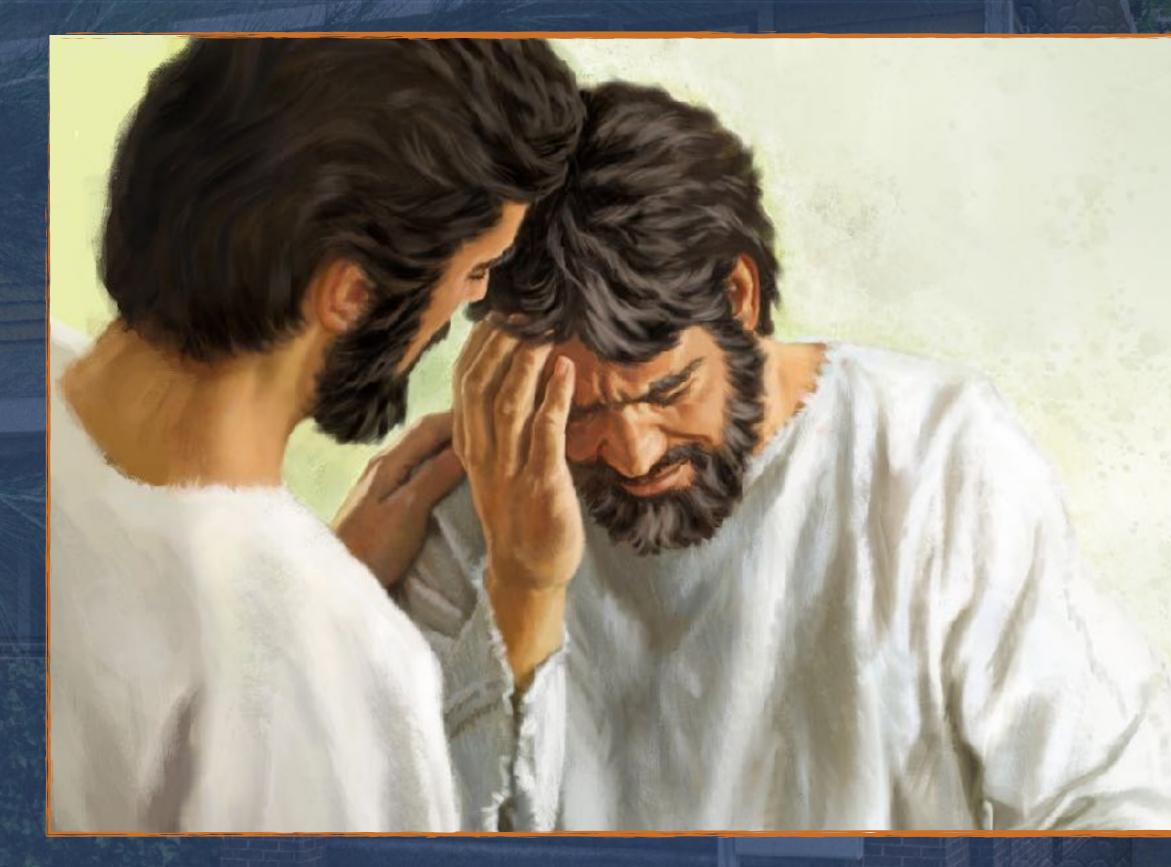


On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19, ESV).

## appearances of the physically risen Jesus

-to Peter

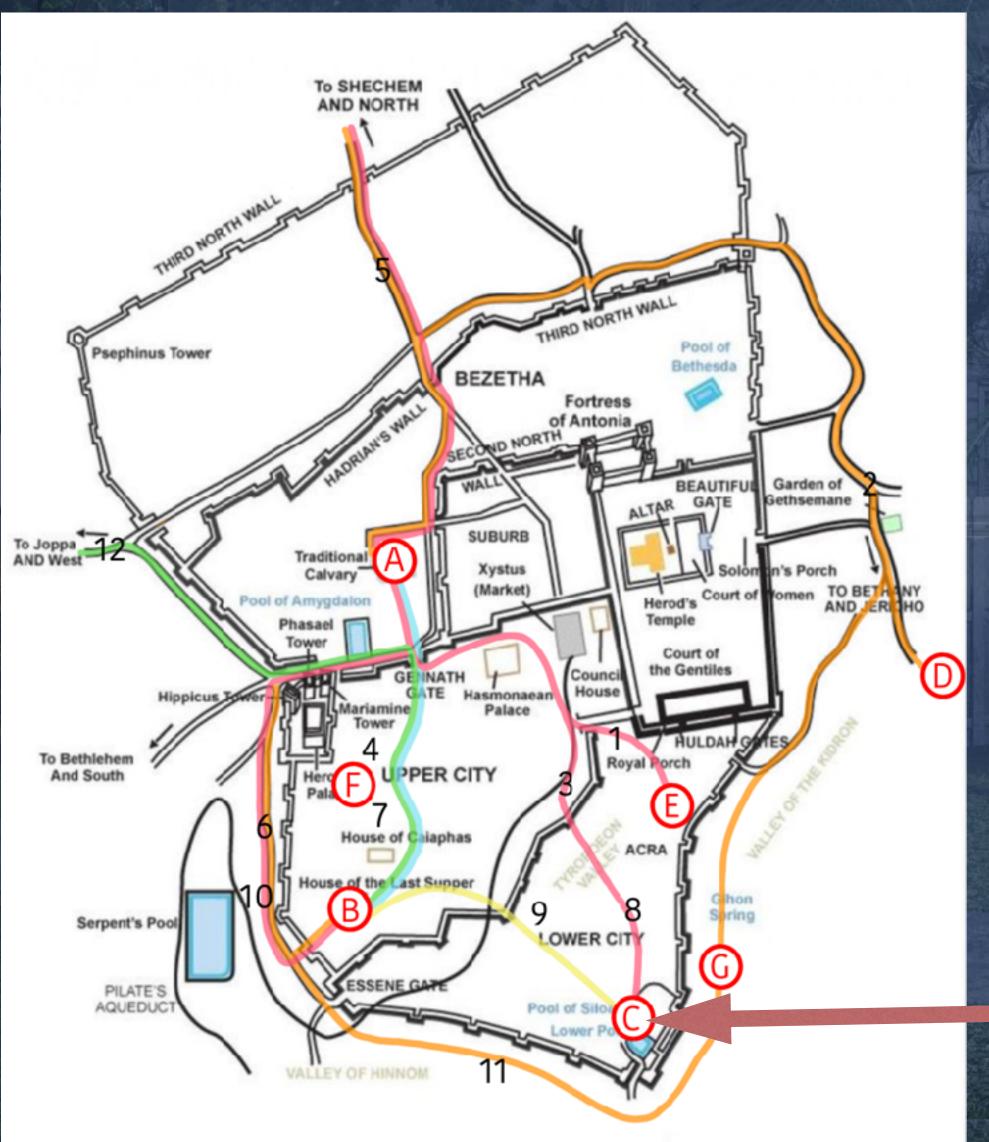
And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Acts 24:34

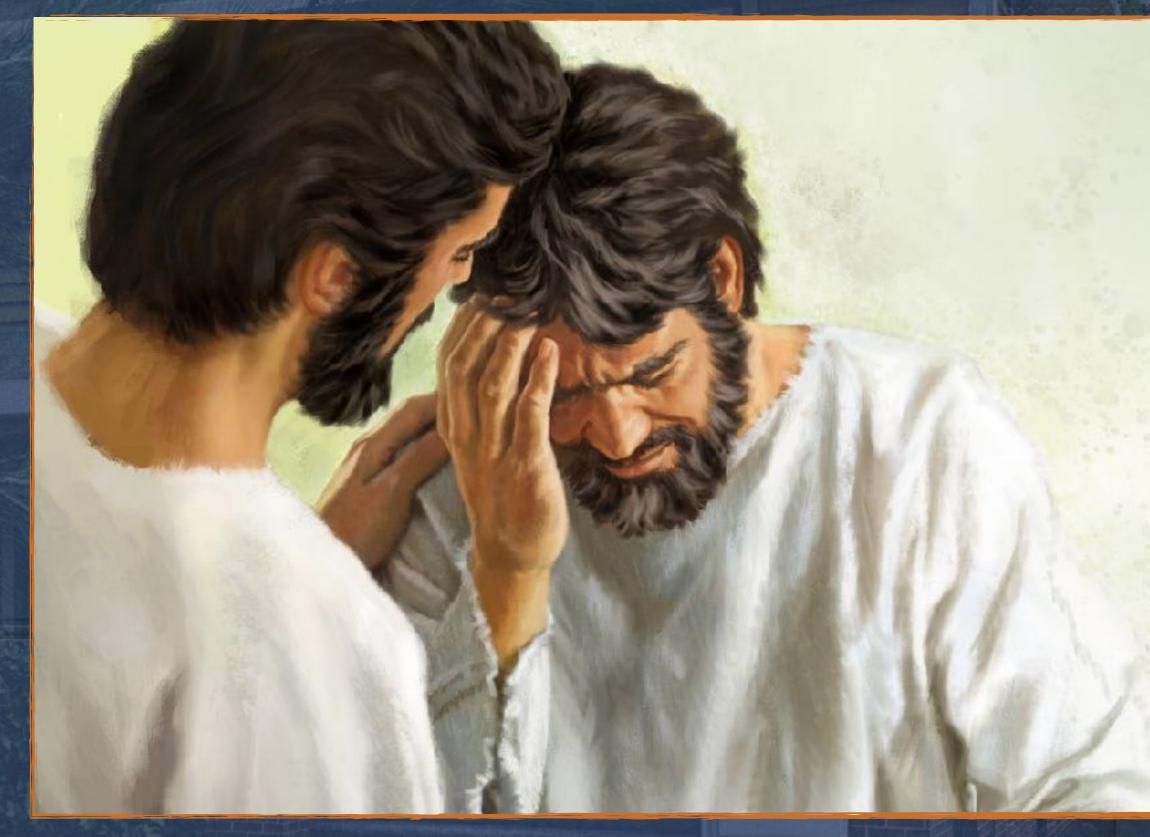


For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 1 Corinthians 15:3-5

# appearances of the physically risen Jesus

#### -to Peter

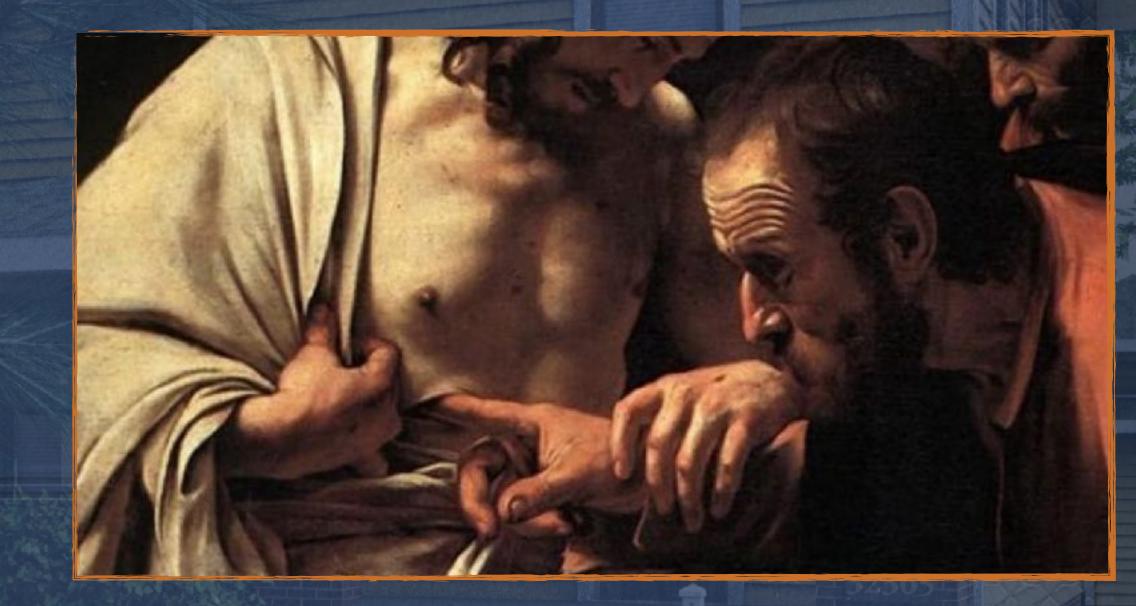




And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Acts 24:34

-to the Eleven in a locked room eight days later

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." John 20:26-27



-to seven of the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. John 21:1



-to the Eleven on a mountain in Galilee

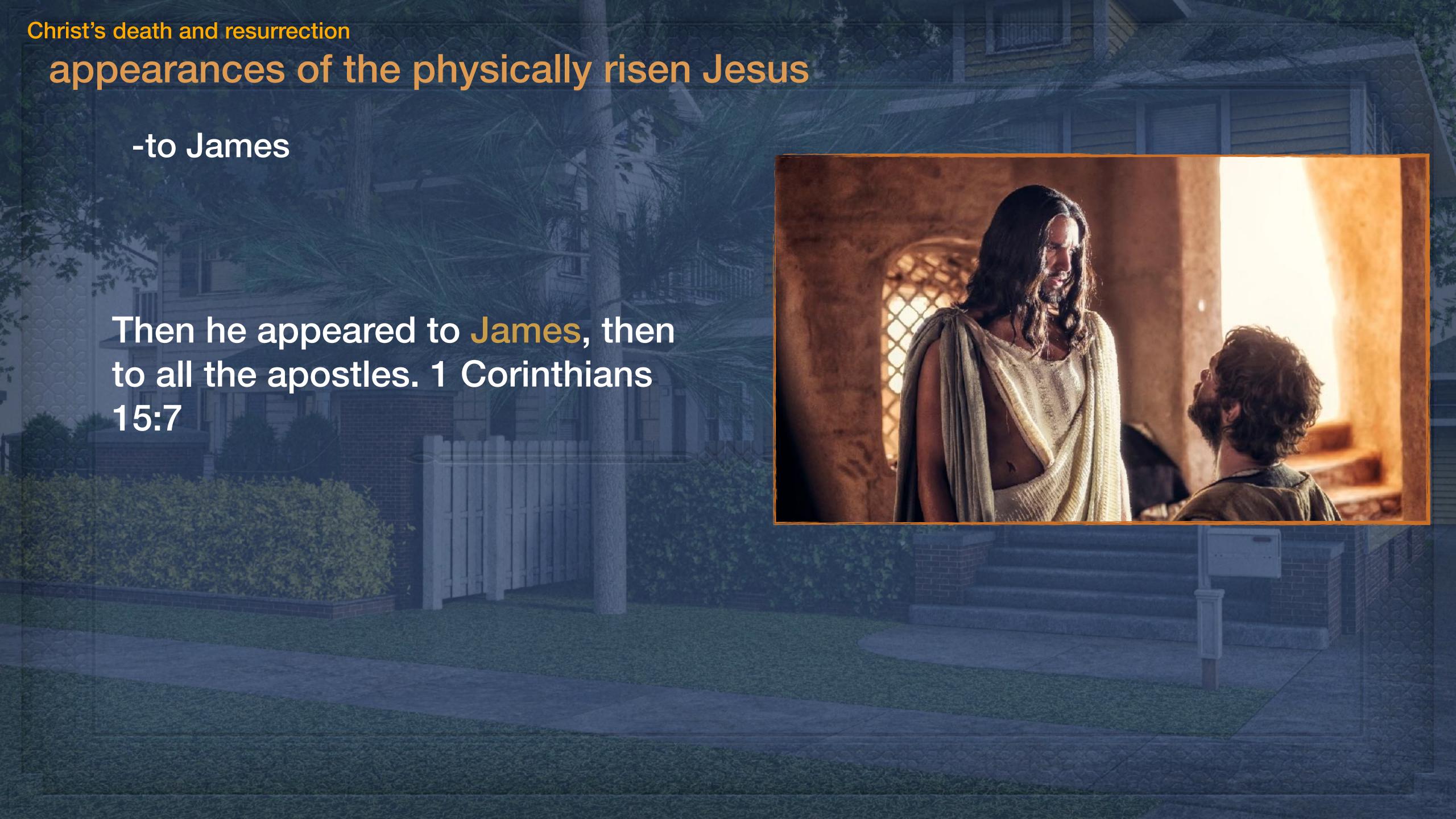


Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Matthew 28:16-18

-to over 500 at the same time

Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 1 Corinthians 15:6





# appearances of the physically risen Jesus

-to the Eleven in Jerusalem/Bethany

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:4-5



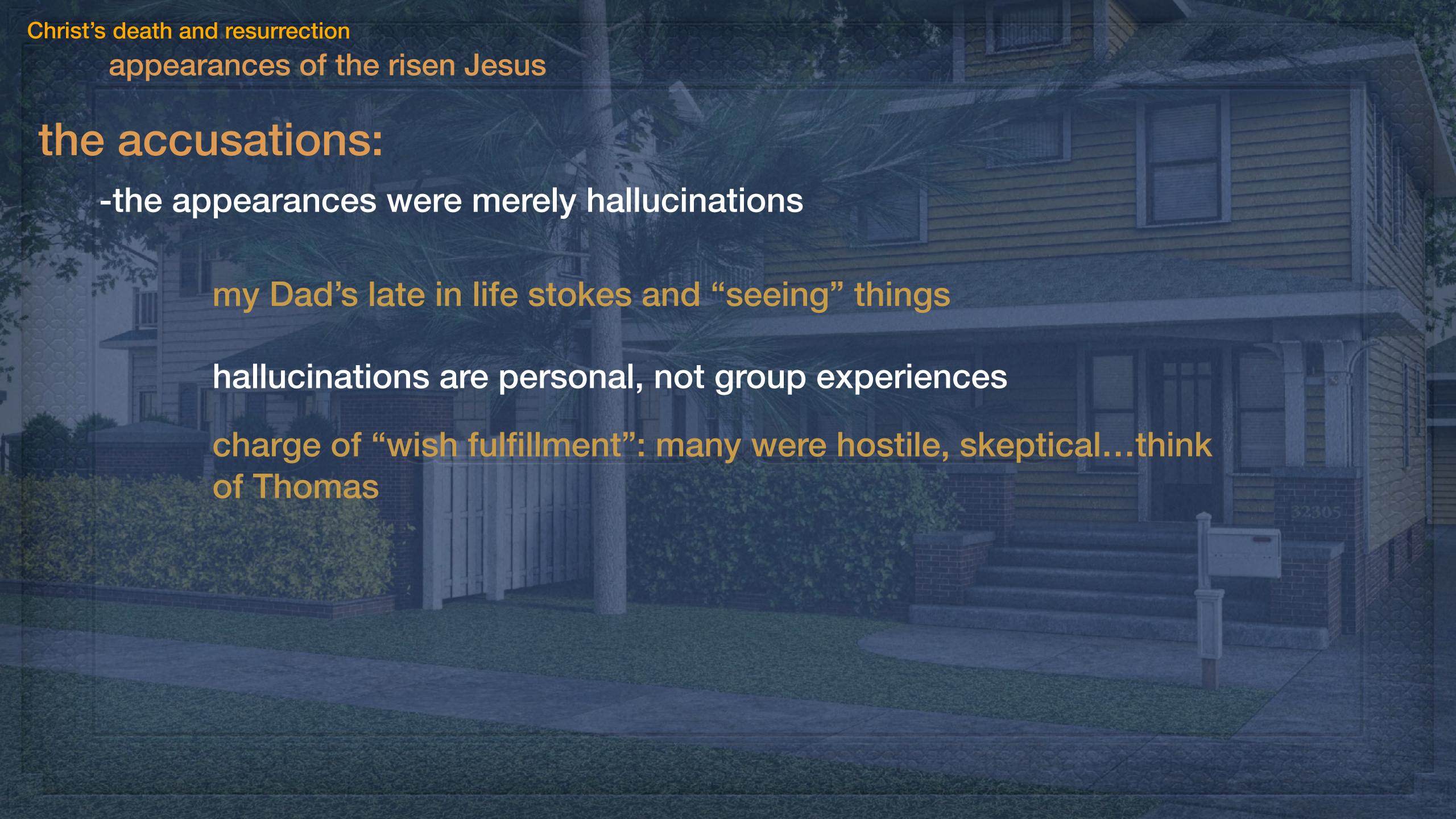
-to the Eleven on Olivet

And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God. Luke 24:50-53

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? Acts 1:9-11



# Christ's death and resurrection appearances of the physically risen Jesus -to Magdalene at the tomb -to the other women -to Cleopas and the companion in the road to Emmaus -to the Ten in a locked room that first night -to Peter -to the Eleven in a locked room eight days later -to seven of the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias -to the Eleven on a mountain in Galilee -to over 500 at the same time -to James -to the Eleven in Jerusalem/Bethany -to the Eleven on Olivet -(many more over a 40-day period)



# the accusations:

- -the appearances were merely hallucinations
- -the appearances were mistaken identity

Hugh Schonfeld, in Passover Plot asserts the disciples were simply mistaken; yearning for this to be true

a lot of people had to be mistaken; and their "mistakens" had to "appear" and "vanish"

Jesus spoke to Magdalene with clarity; James life was transformed

the Emmaus event is strange, but not inexplicable

# the accusations:

- -the appearances were merely hallucinations
- -the appearances were mistaken identity
- -the resurrection was spiritual and therefore the appearances were merely spiritual

what about the body? JW's say God destroyed it

Jesus therefore becomes a "force" or "higher thought"; Jesus becomes something "metaphysical" rather than a real, resurrected person

Jesus ate; Thomas touched Him; women worshipped at His feet

He ascended into heaven

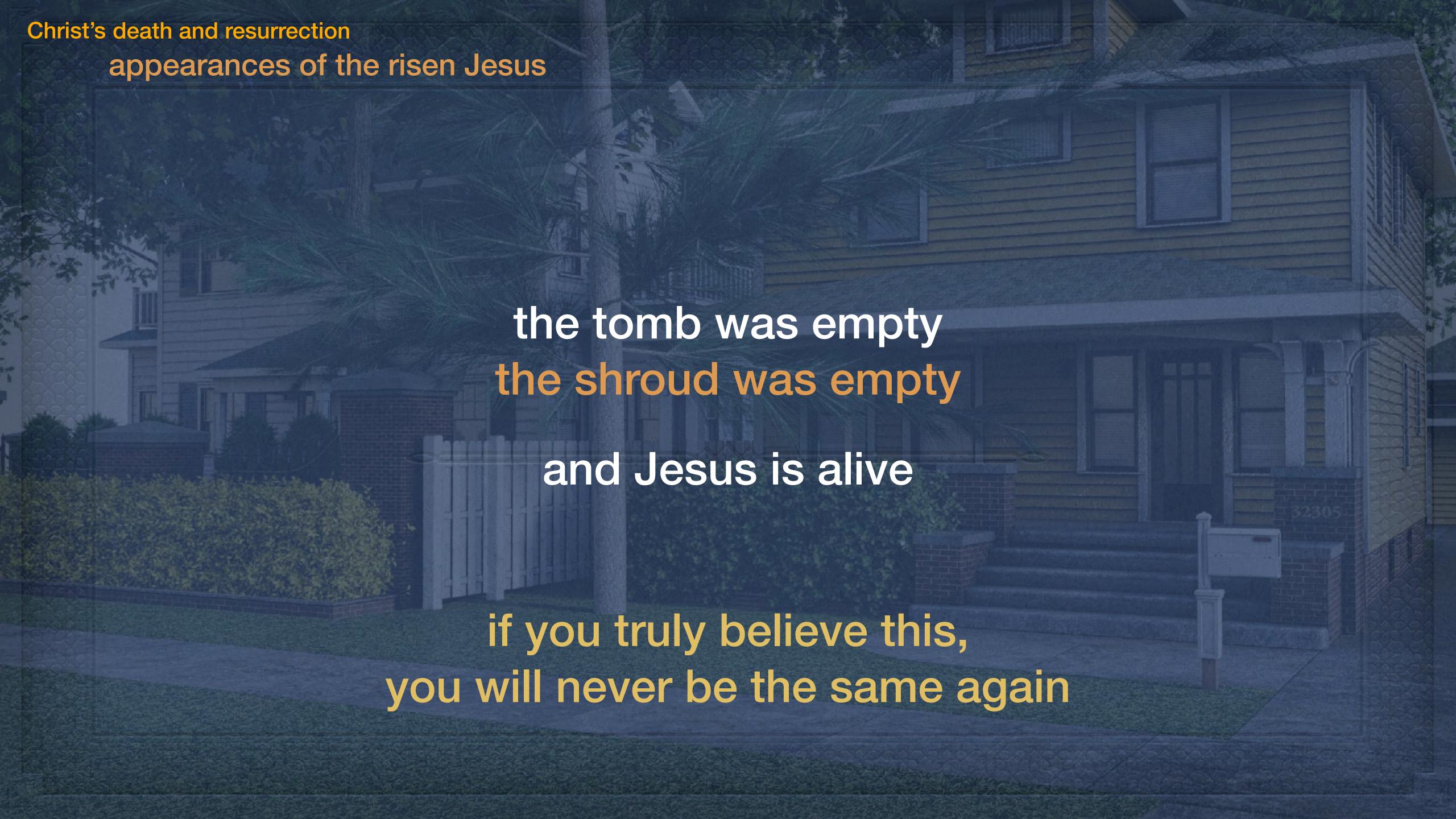
# the accusations:

- -the appearances were merely hallucinations
- -the appearances were mistaken identity
- -the resurrection was spiritual and therefore the appearances were merely spiritual
- -the appearances were all part of the resurrection myth/legend

A.N. Sherwin-White, Oxford, famous historian: even after two generations, there is not enough time for a legend to arise

criticality of understanding the polemic and creed (next time)







The Claims of Jesus and the Resurrection the Appearances of the Risen Jesus

Next: the charge of the resurrection being a myth and the critical understanding of the polemic and the creed

