

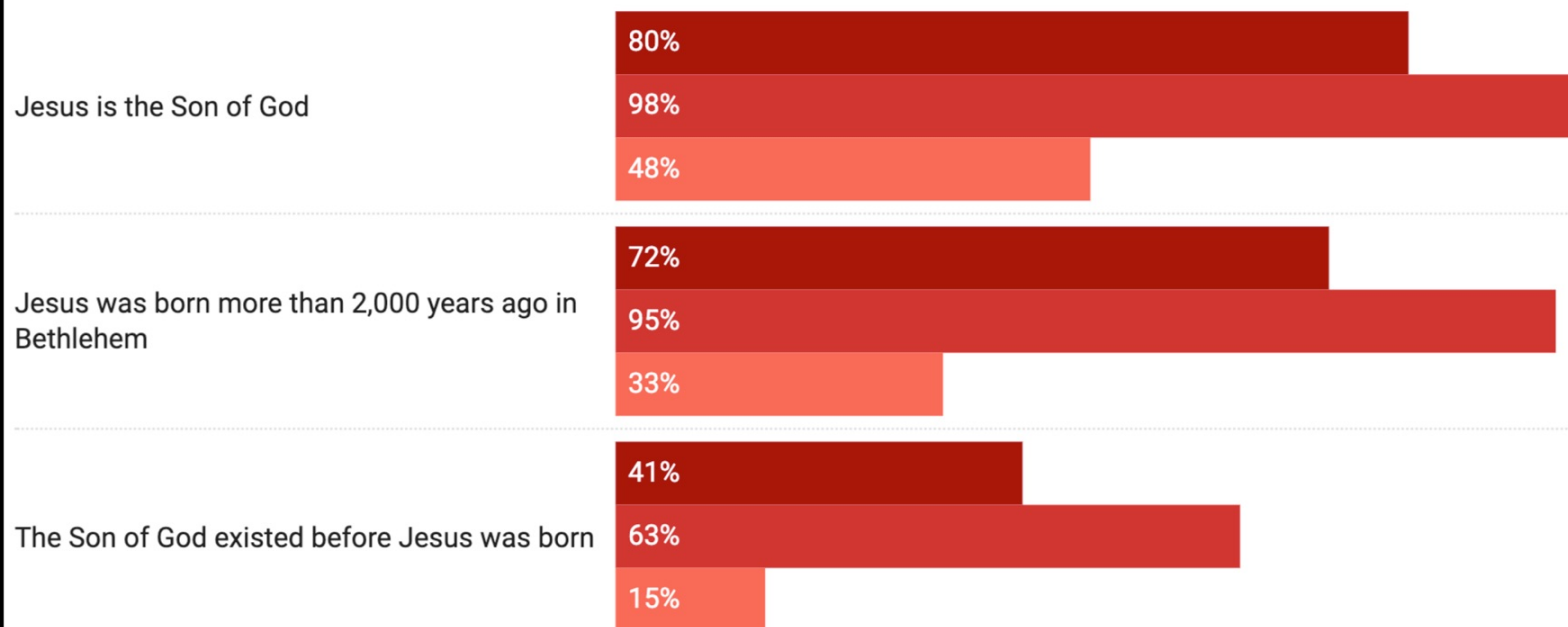
The background is a deep space scene with a vibrant purple and blue color palette. A bright, multi-pointed starburst or nebula is centered at the top, with several distinct light rays or beams of light extending downwards and outwards across the frame. The overall texture is grainy and ethereal, suggesting a celestial or divine atmosphere.

THE
Heresy & Majesty
OF CHRISTMAS

Born Unto Us: Americans' Beliefs About Jesus

Percentage of respondents who agreed with each of the following statements about Jesus.

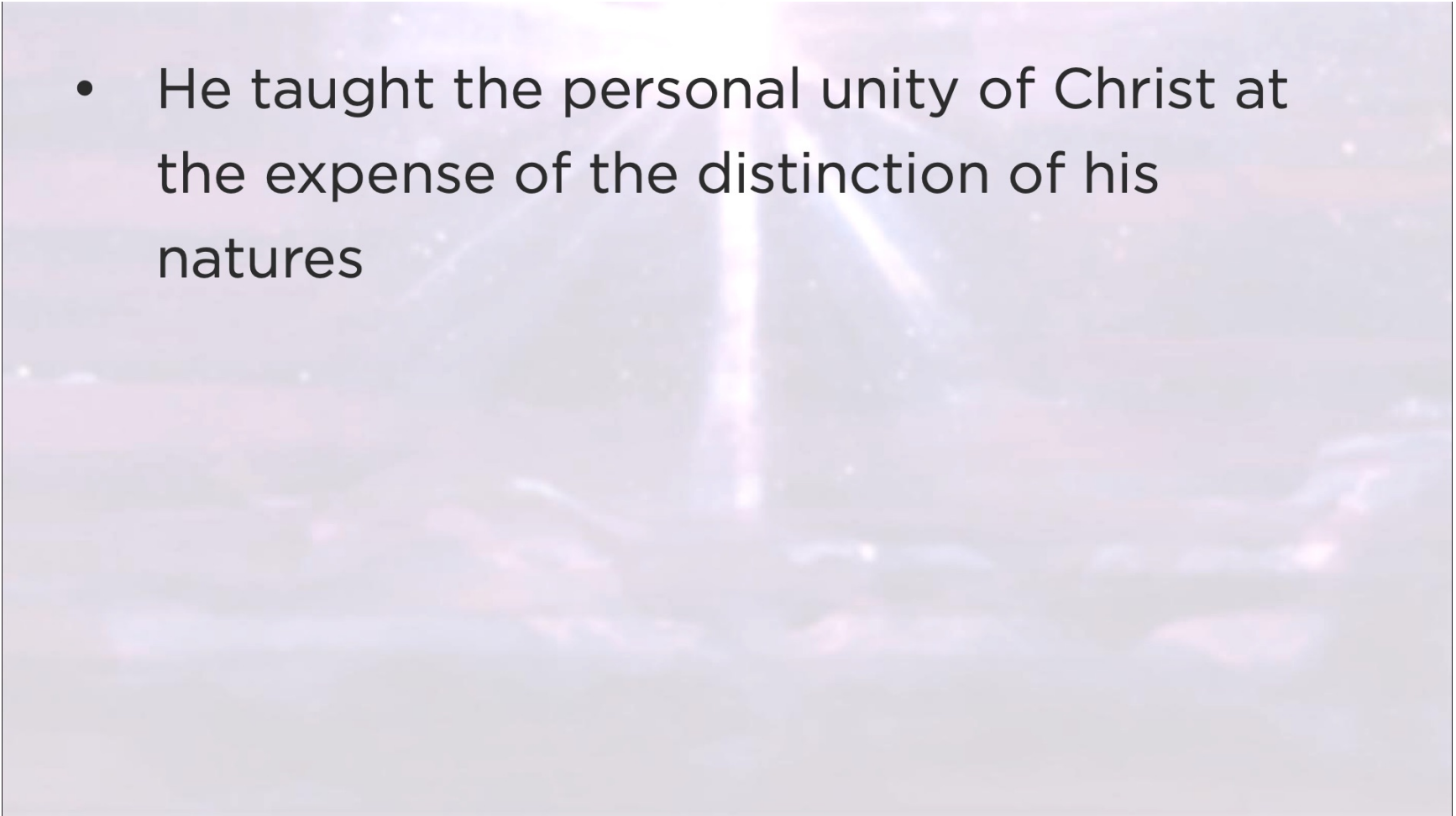
■ US adults ■ Active Christians ■ Unaffiliated



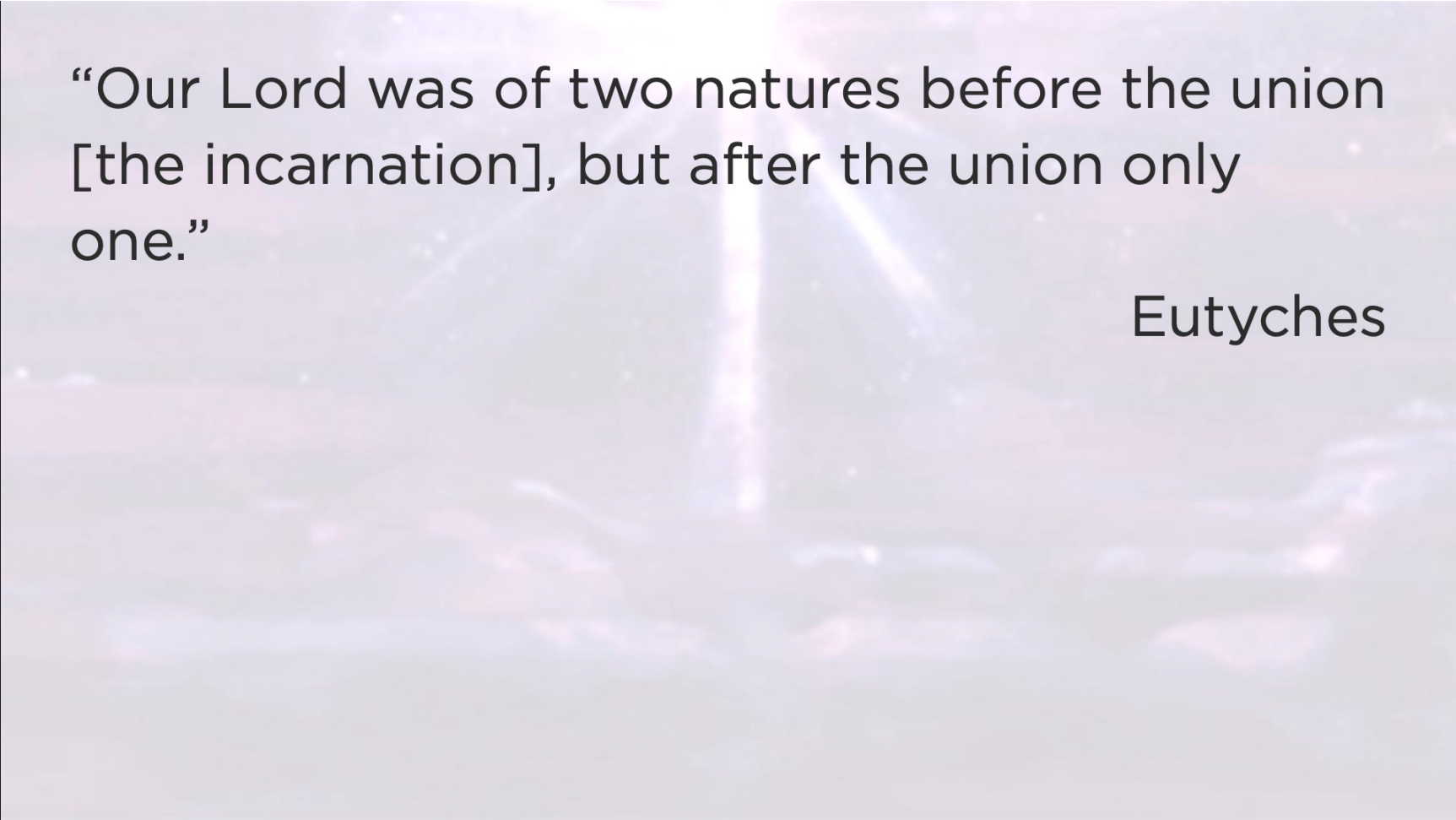
Active Christians are those who attend church four times a month or more.

Chart: Christianity Today • Source: [Lifeway Research](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

- He taught the personal unity of Christ at the expense of the distinction of his natures



- He taught the personal unity of Christ at the expense of the distinction of his natures
- He thought that to distinguish the NATURES of Christ was Nestorian, and therefore, heresy



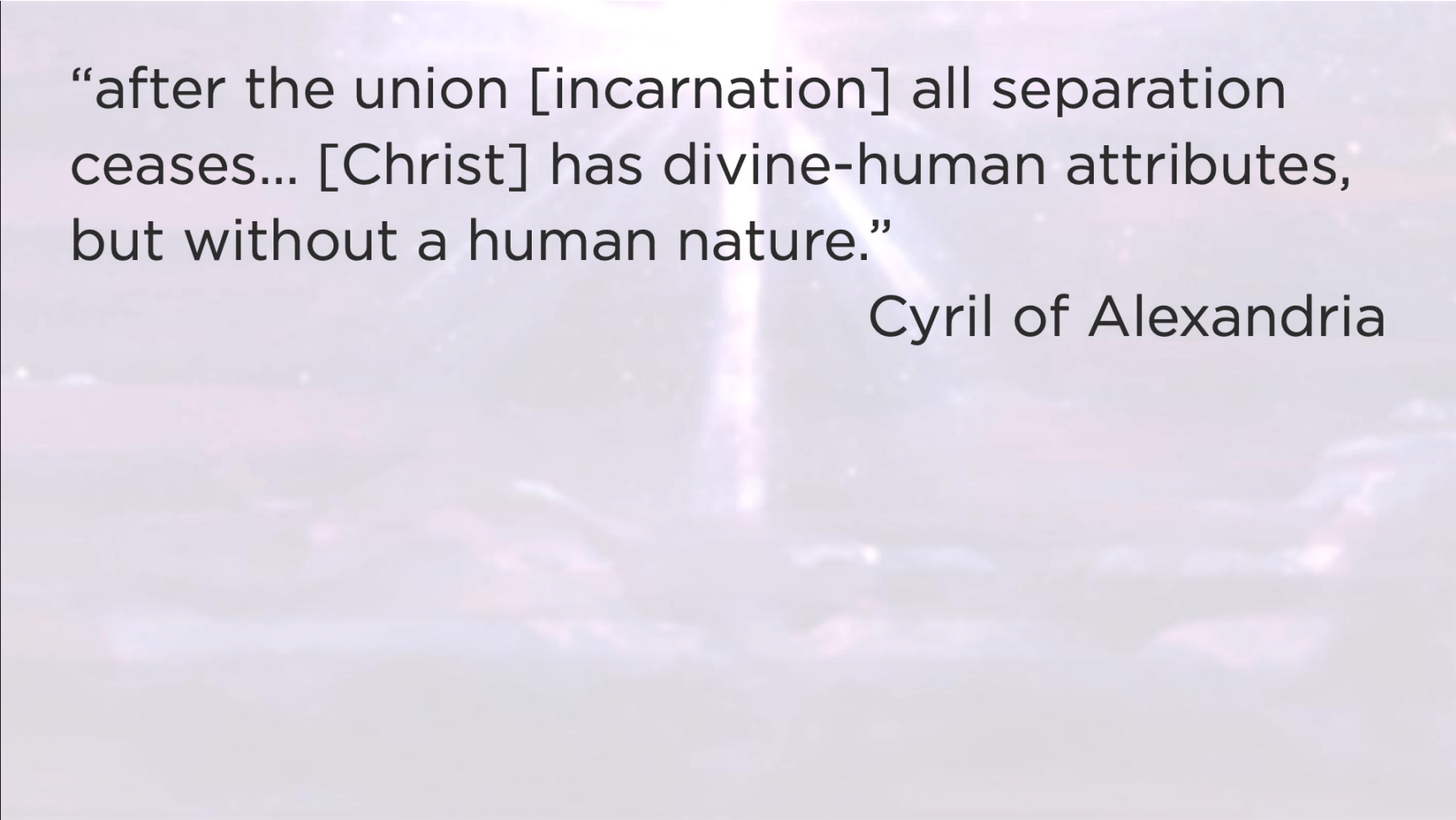
“Our Lord was of two natures before the union [the incarnation], but after the union only one.”

Eutyches

“Our Lord was of two natures before the union [the incarnation], but after the union only one.”

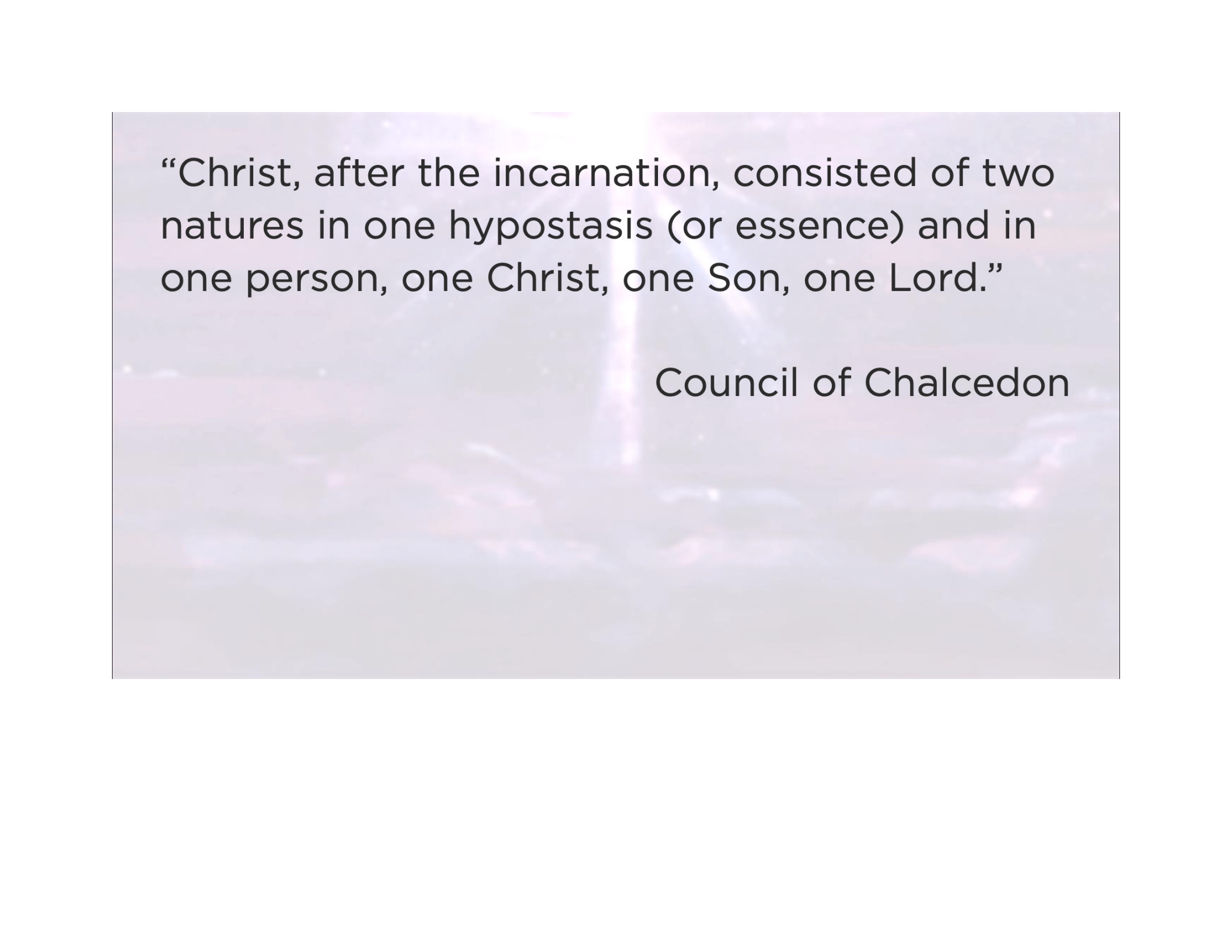
Eutyches

monophysitism = **one nature**



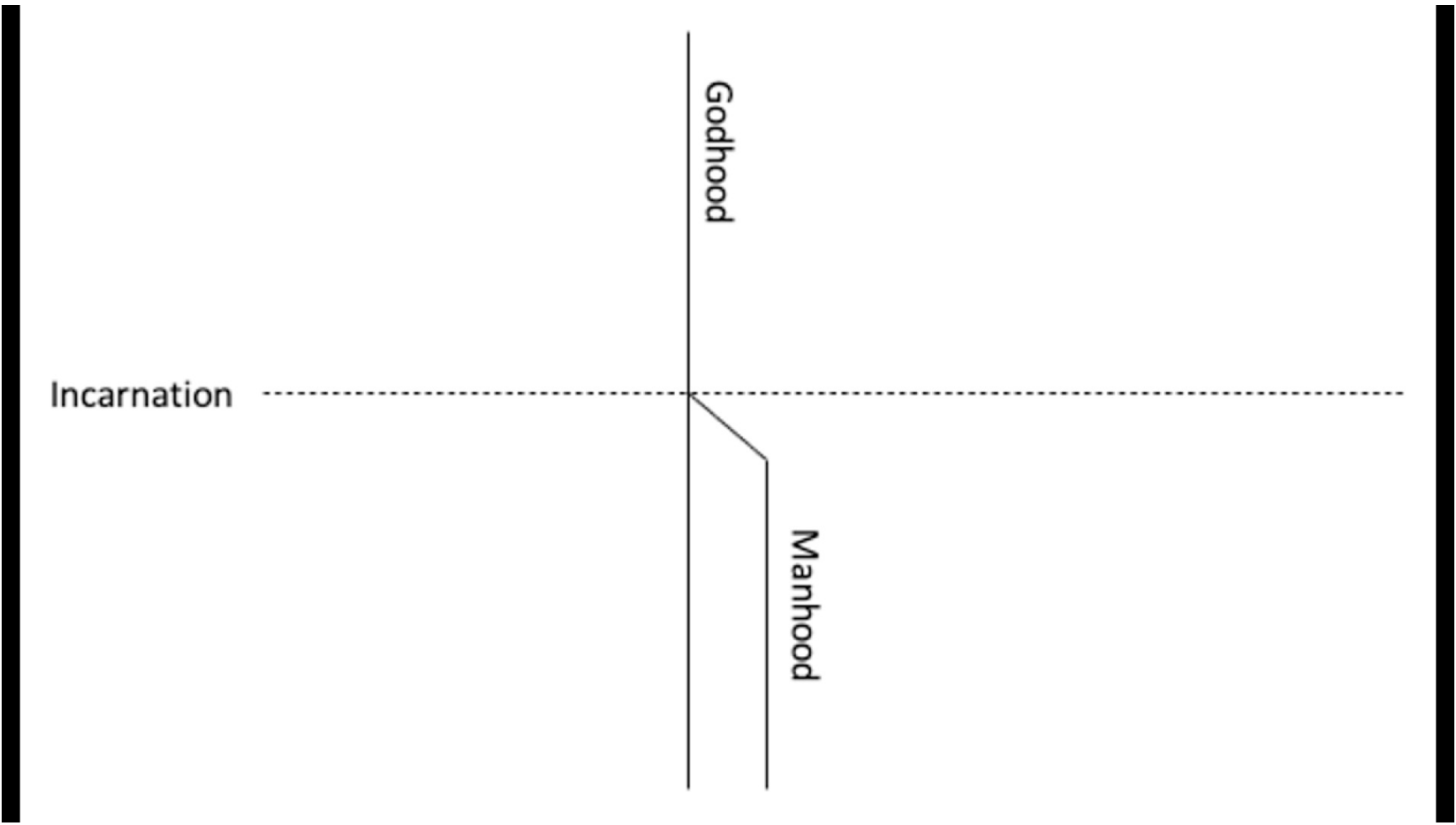
“after the union [incarnation] all separation ceases... [Christ] has divine-human attributes, but without a human nature.”

Cyril of Alexandria

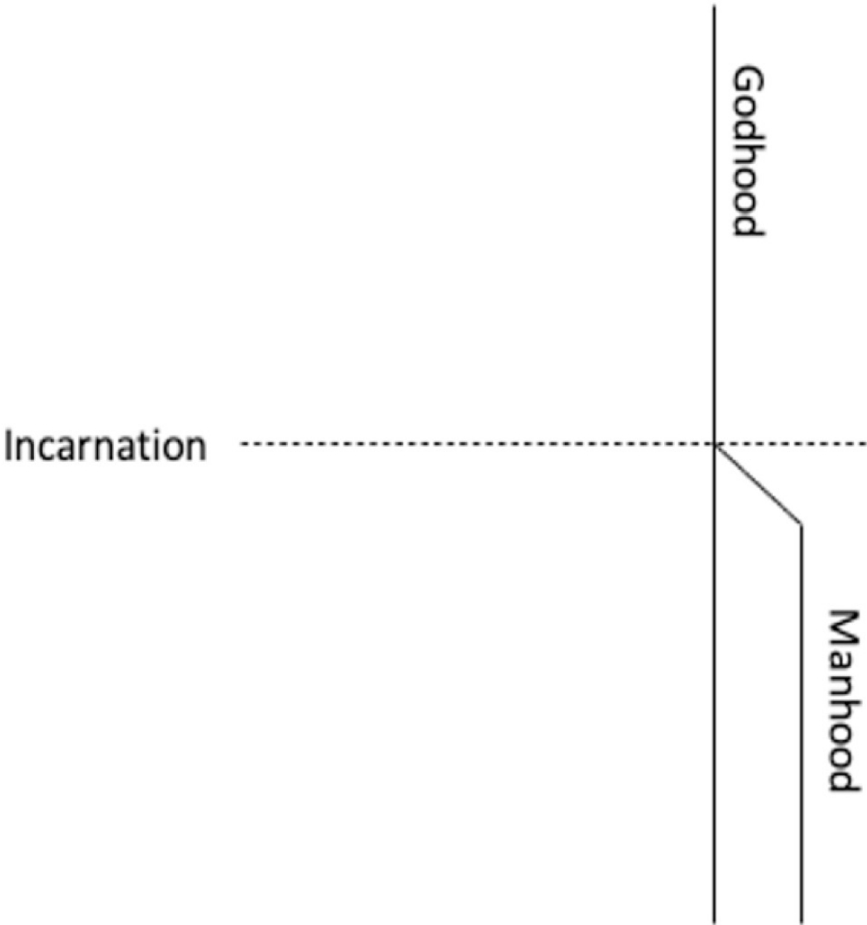


“Christ, after the incarnation, consisted of two natures in one hypostasis (or essence) and in one person, one Christ, one Son, one Lord.”

Council of Chalcedon



John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."



Incarnation

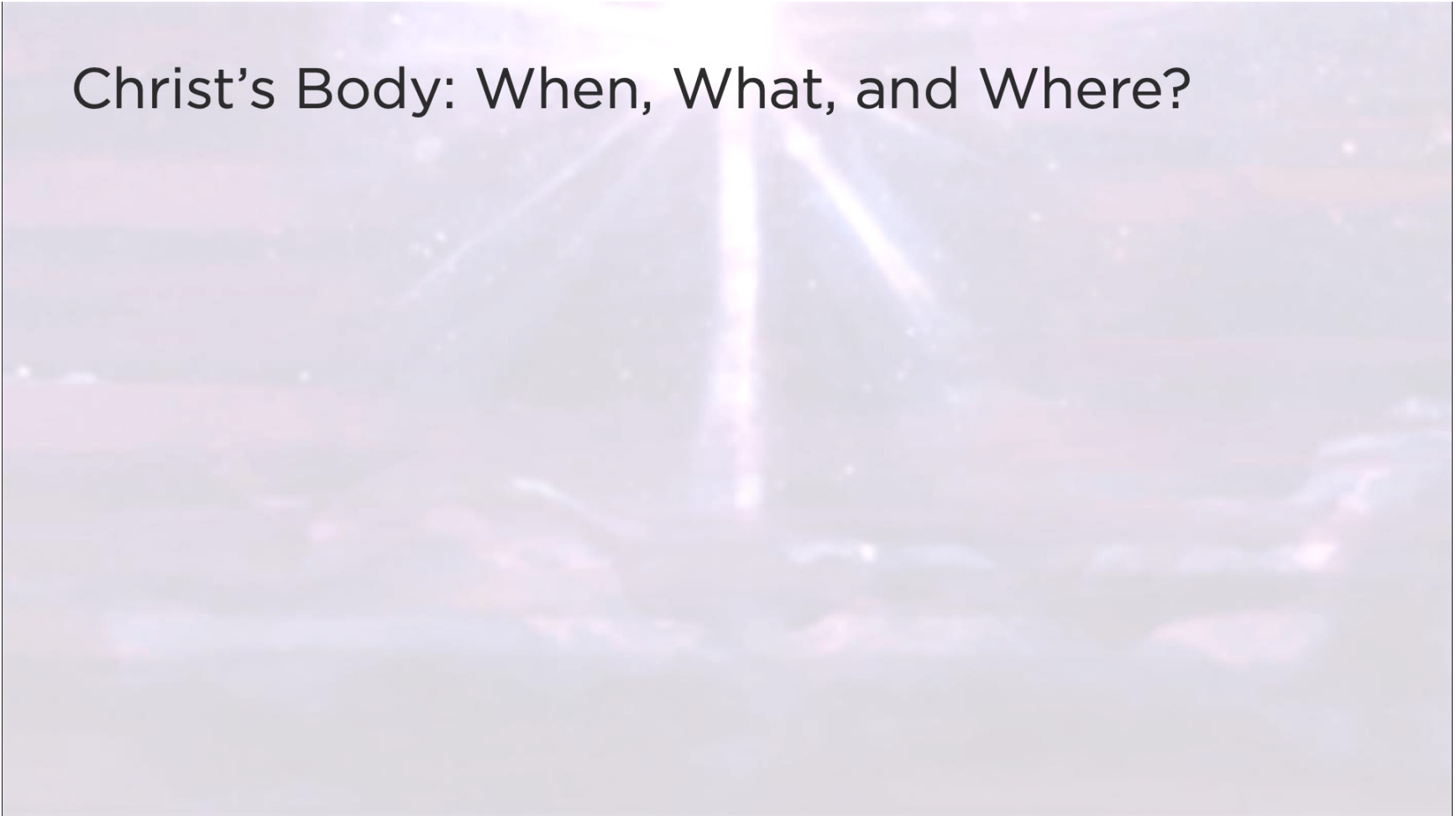
Godhood

John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Manhood

John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Christ's Body: When, What, and Where?





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1. Pre-incarnation = no body

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Christ's Body: When, What, and Where?

1. Pre-incarnation = no body
2. Incarnation to death = human body
3. Resurrection to future = **resurrected** body

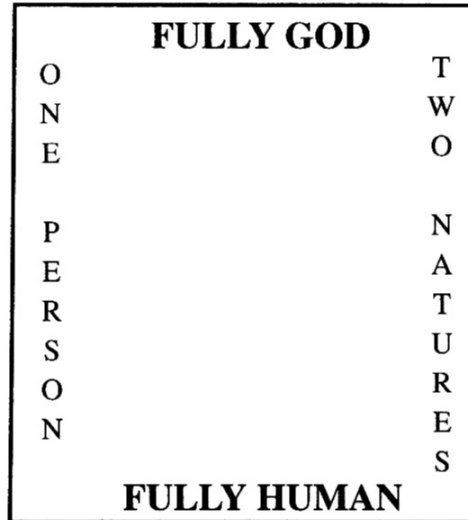
First Council: Nicea (AD 325)

Condemned *Arianism*

Soteriological axiom: "God alone can save us."

**Third Council:
Ephesus (AD 431)**

Condemned
Nestorianism.
Specified the one
person of Christ.



**Fourth Council:
Chalcedon (AD 451)**

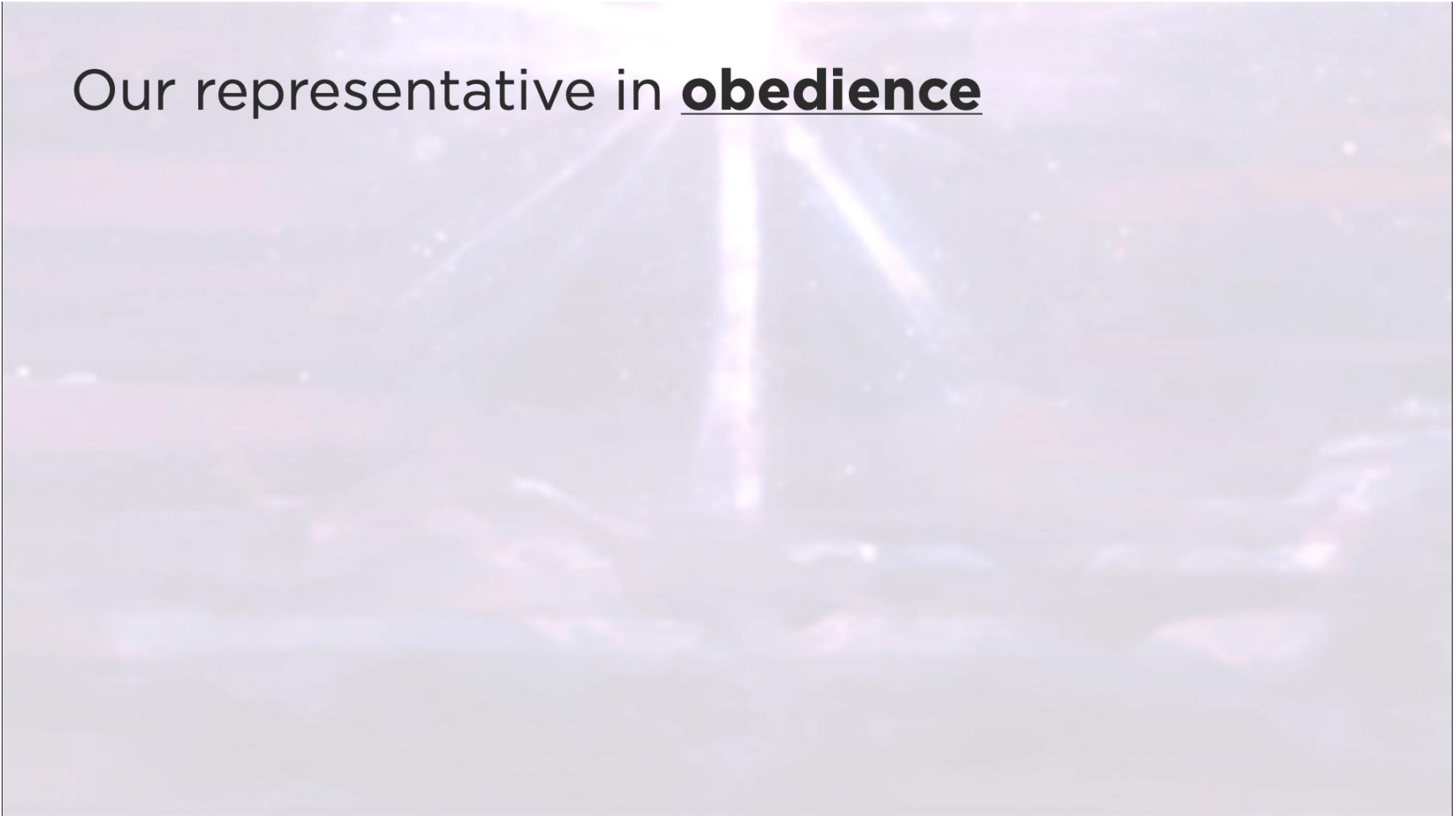
Condemned
Eutychianism.
Maintained the two nature
without confusion or change,
separation or division.

Second Council: Constantinople I (AD 381)

Re-affirmed Nicaea, condemned *Apollinarianism.*

Soteriological Axiom: "That which is not assumed is not healed."

Our representative in **obedience**

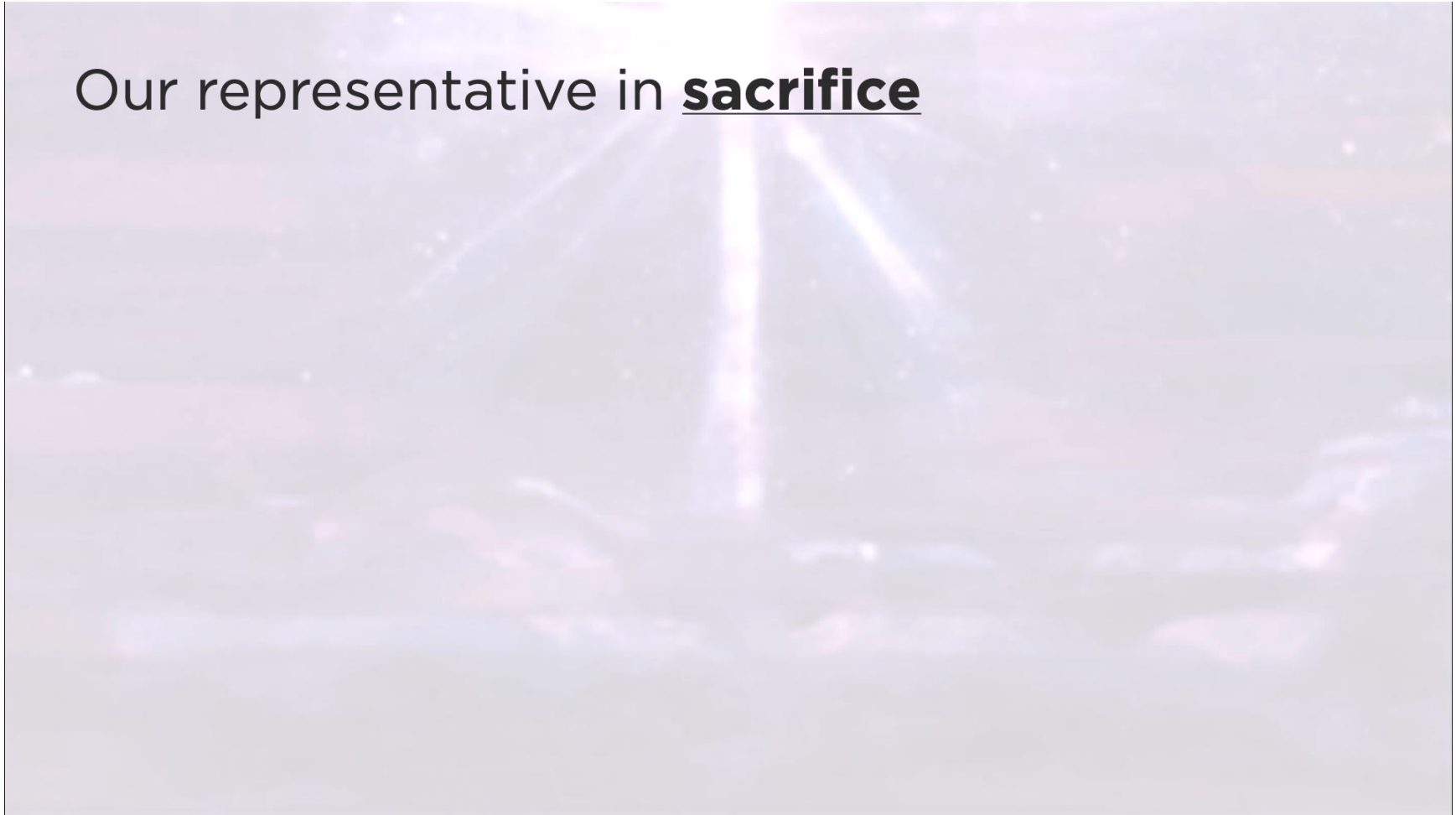


Our representative in obedience

“Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.”

Romans 5:18-19

Our representative in **sacrifice**

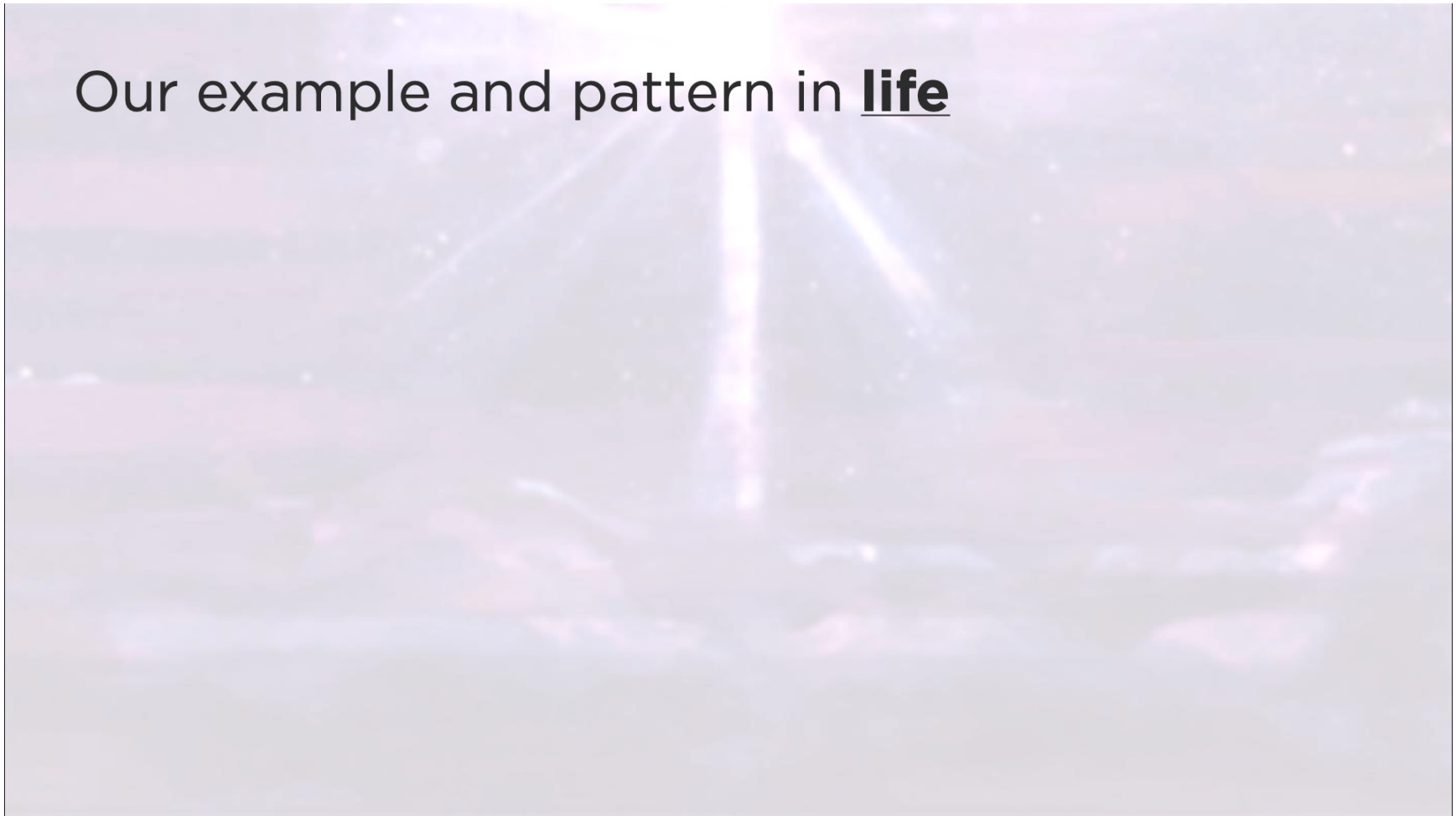


Our representative in sacrifice

“For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”

Hebrews 2:16-17

Our example and pattern in **life**



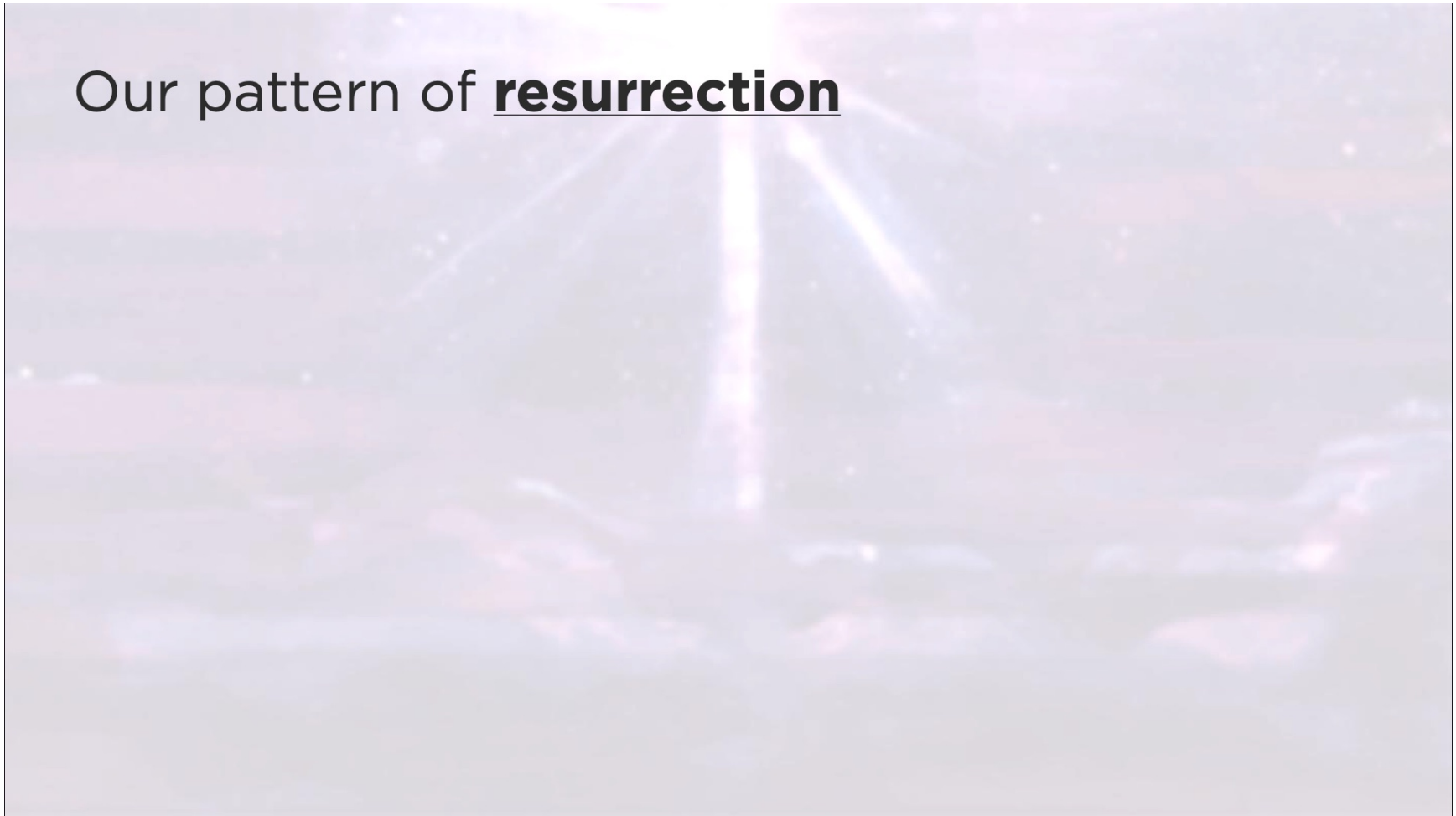


Our example and pattern in life

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.”

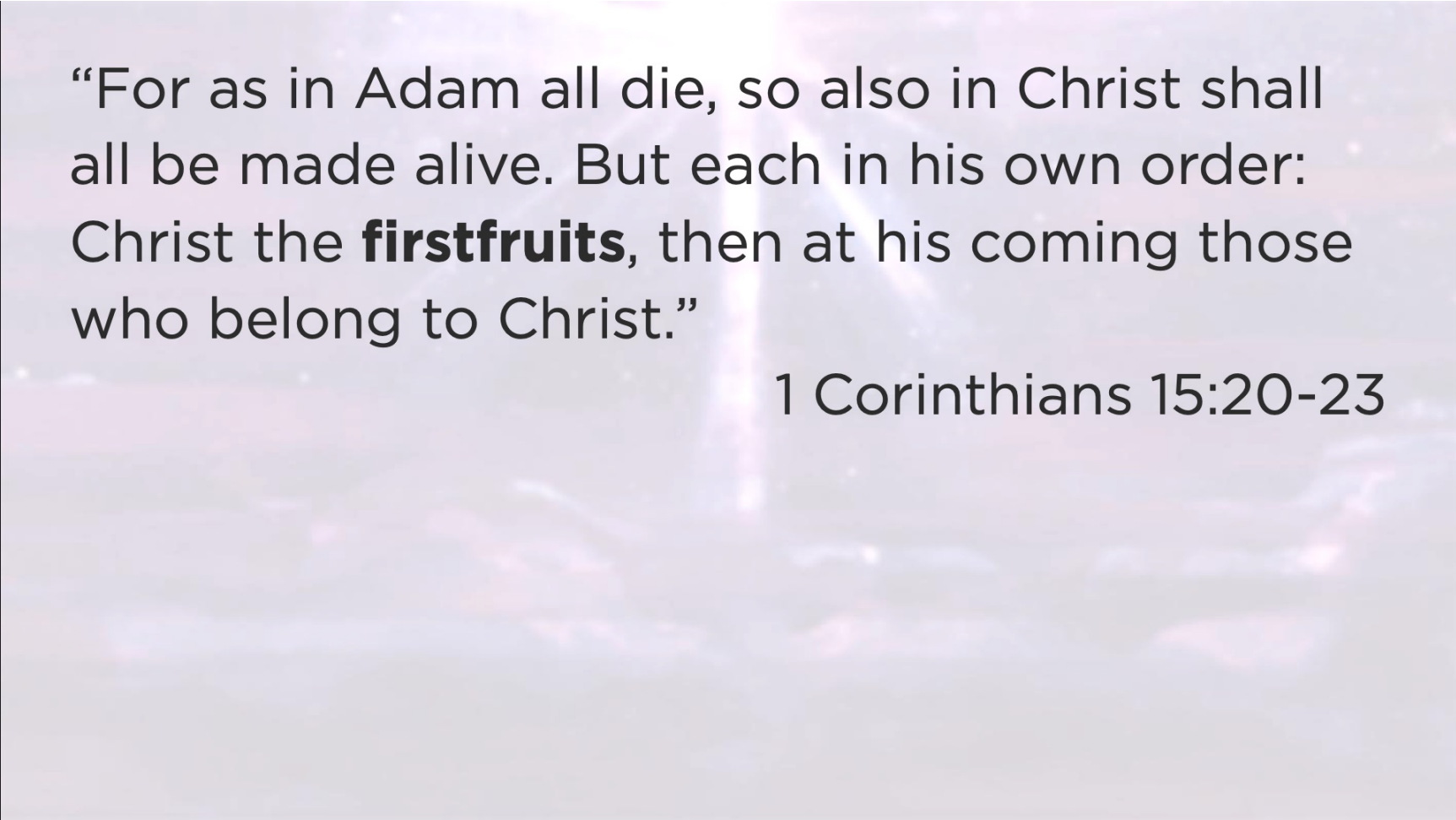
1 Peter 2:21

Our pattern of **resurrection**



Our pattern of resurrection

“But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the **firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

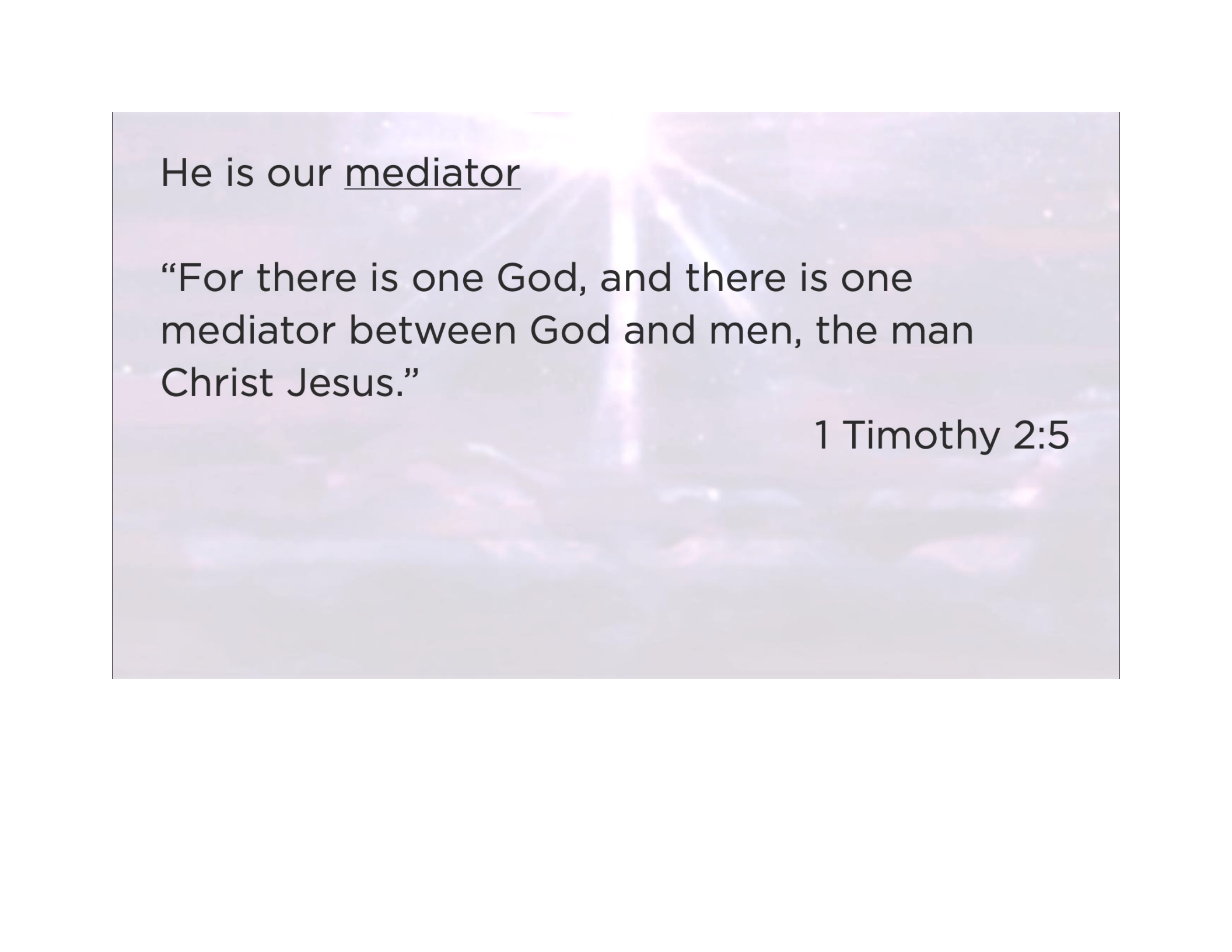


“For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the **firstfruits**, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.”

1 Corinthians 15:20-23

He is our **mediator**





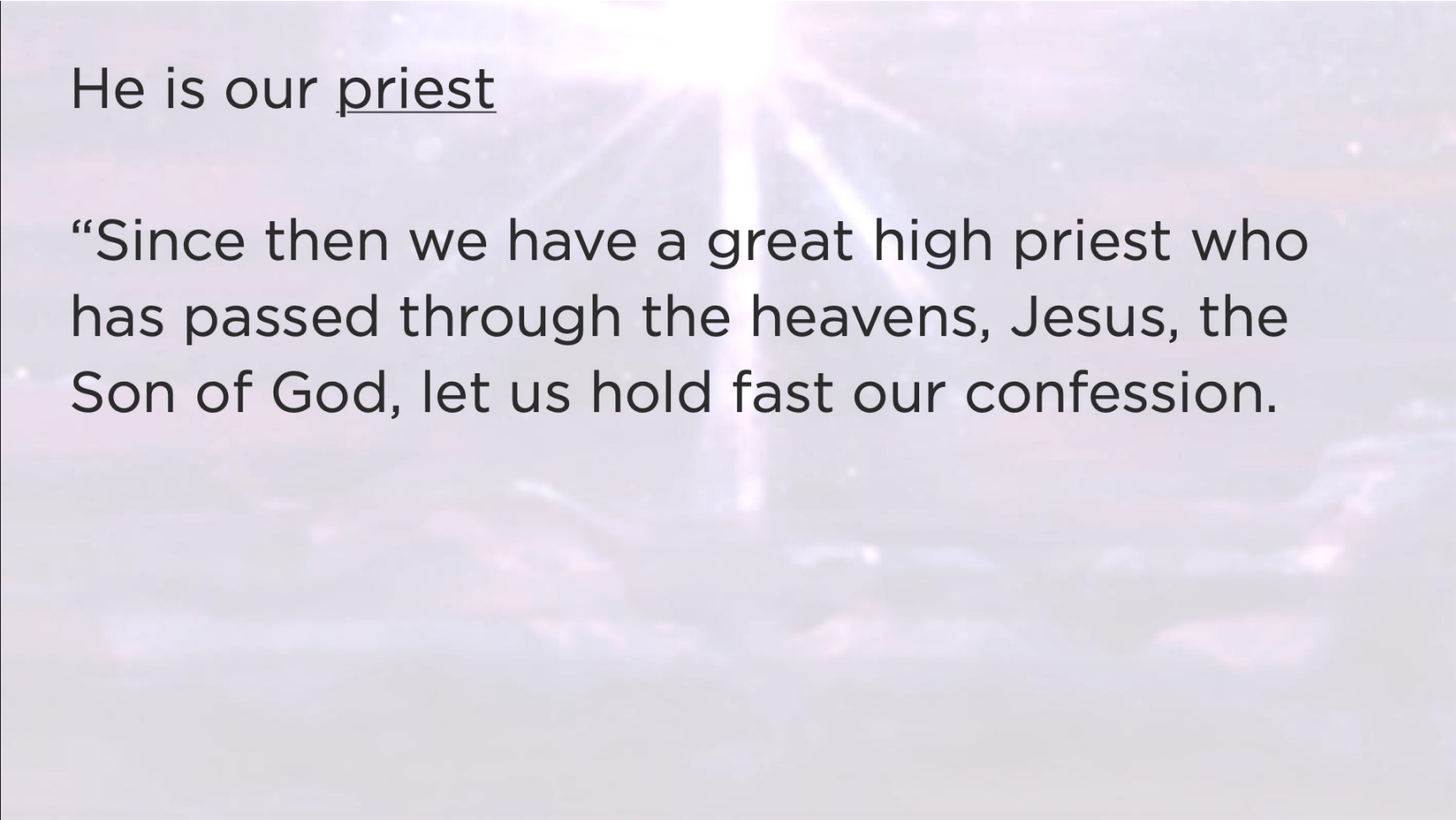
He is our mediator

“For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

1 Timothy 2:5

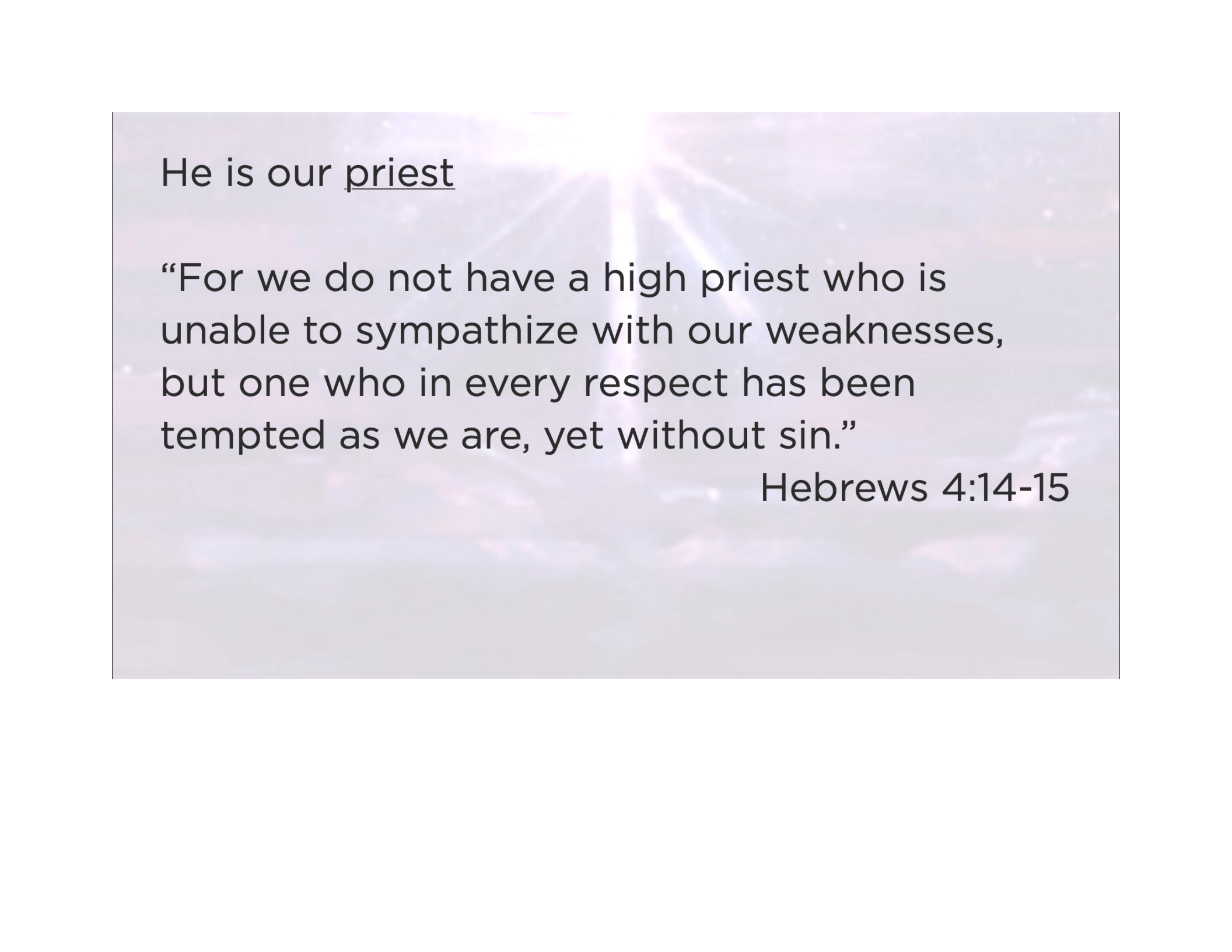
He is our **priest**





He is our priest

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.



He is our priest

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Hebrews 4:14-15

“It is necessary that the self-same Person who is to make this satisfaction [for sin] be perfect God and perfect man, since He cannot make it unless He be really God, and He ought not to make it unless He be really man.”

Anselm of Canterbury



1. Pendulums -
Theological **reactions** aren't helpful.



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2. Power -

Christians don't do well with **human power**.



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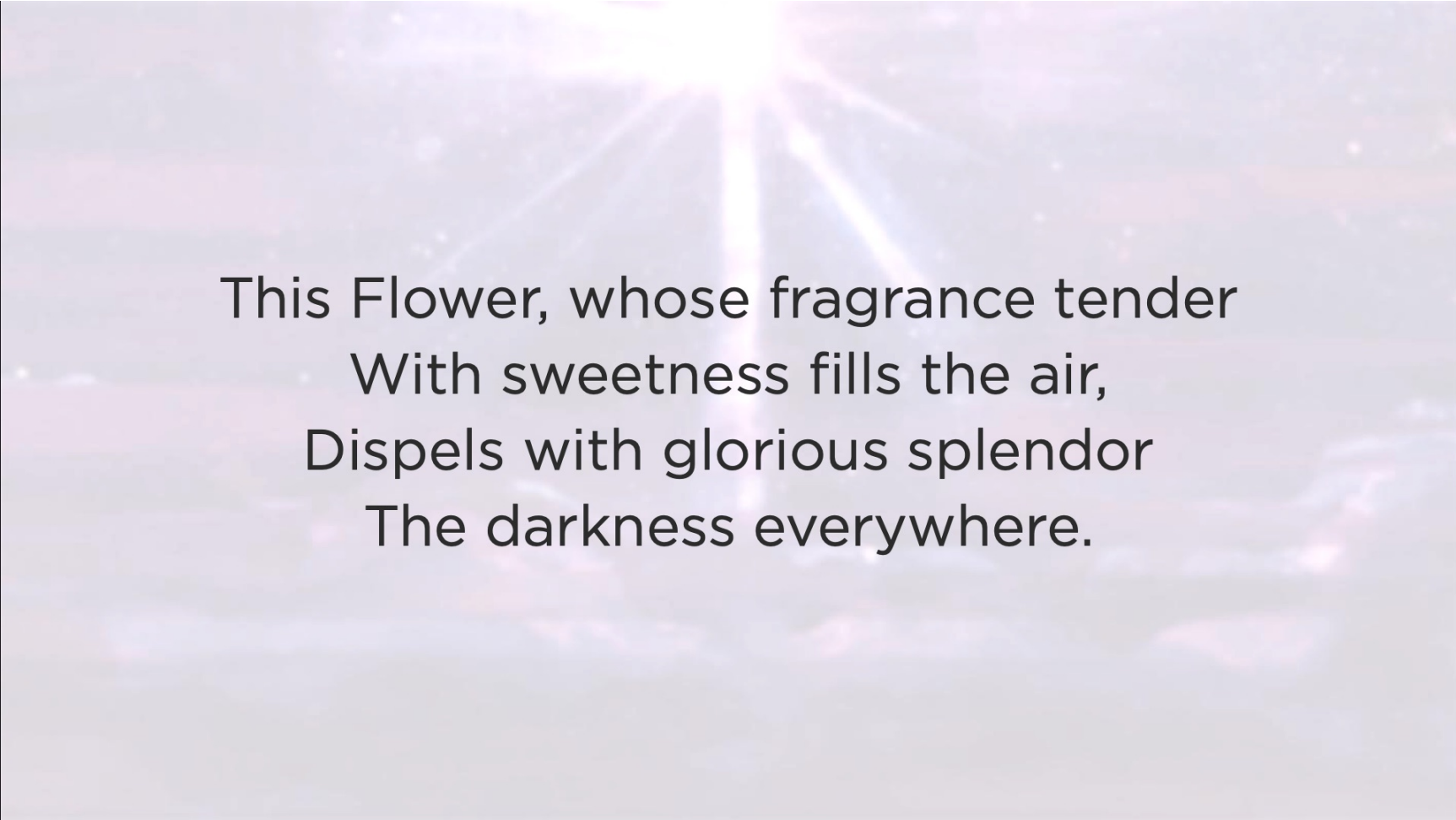
Theological reactions aren't helpful.

2. Power -

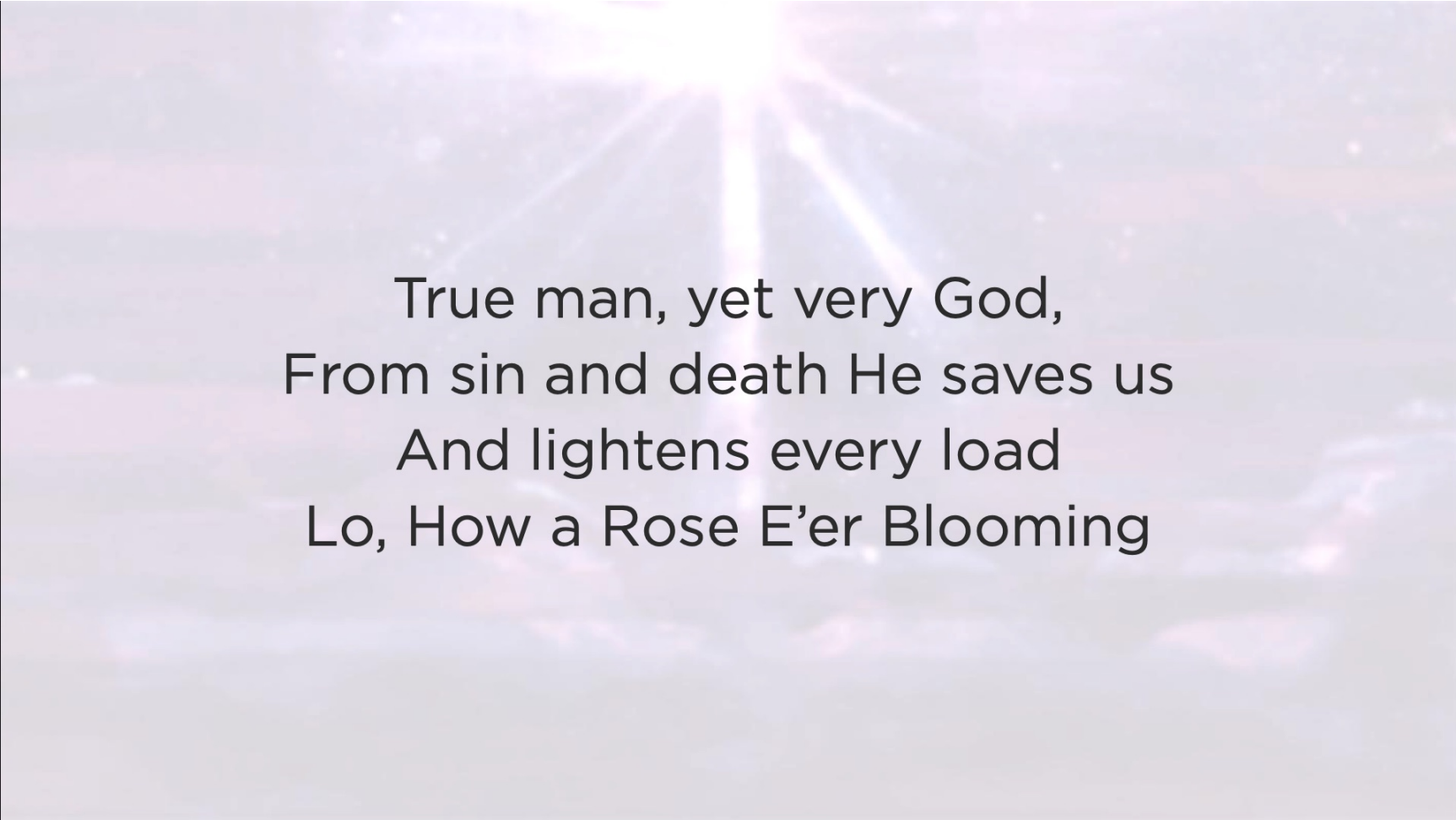
Christians don't do well with human power.

3. Incarnation -

Who is like our God?



This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.



True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming