

An hourglass is the central focus, with its two bulbs filled with a dark, starry substance that resembles a galaxy or a field of distant stars. The stars are in various colors, including white, yellow, and orange, and are scattered throughout the hourglass. The background is a deep, dark blue, and the overall lighting is soft and ethereal, with some light flares and bokeh effects. The hourglass is positioned on the left side of the frame, with the text on the right.

Anticipation

Advent 2022

René Descartes: “I doubt it!”



René Descartes
1596 – 1650

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A rigorous process of doubt...

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The one thing Descartes could not doubt was that he was doubting.

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Doubt is a form of thinking.

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Doubt is a form of thinking.

Thinking requires a thinker.

René Descartes: “I doubt it!”



I am that thinker!

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1596 – 1650

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I am that thinker!

cogito ergo sum:

“I think, therefore I am.”

René Descartes: “I doubt it!”



René Descartes
1596 – 1650

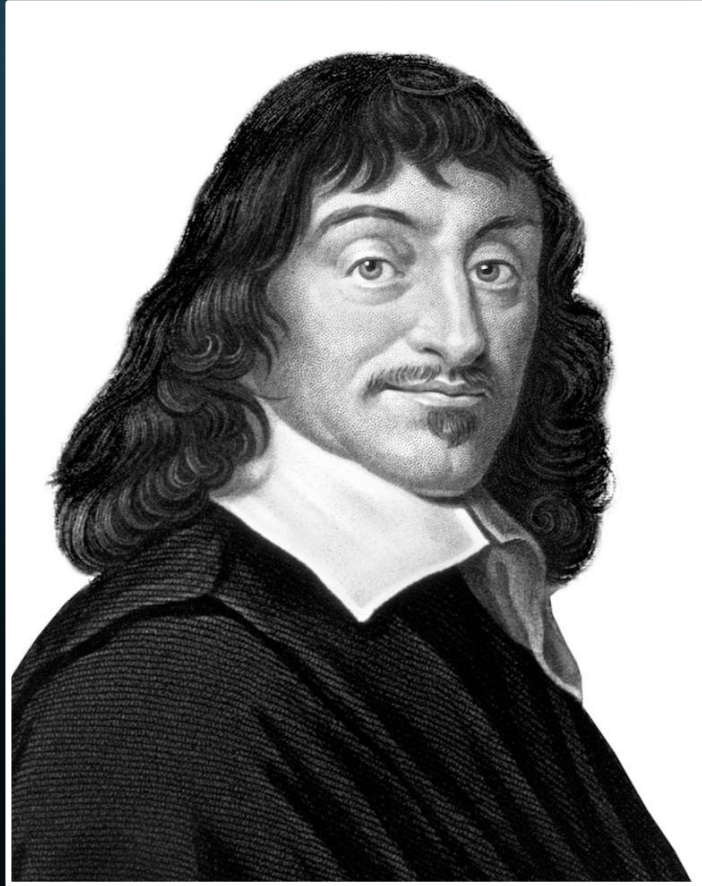
I am that thinker!

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Descartes: The starting point for philosophical investigation is self-consciousness.

René Descartes: “I doubt it!”



Something exists.

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ex nihilo nihil fit:
out of nothing, nothing comes

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For Descartes, doubt gave way
to greater certainty.

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- The doubt of the discouraged
- The doubt of the defiant

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Jesus is sympathetic toward the doubt of the discouraged, but he is antagonistic toward the doubt of the defiant.

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For Jesus, there is a moral dimension to doubt.

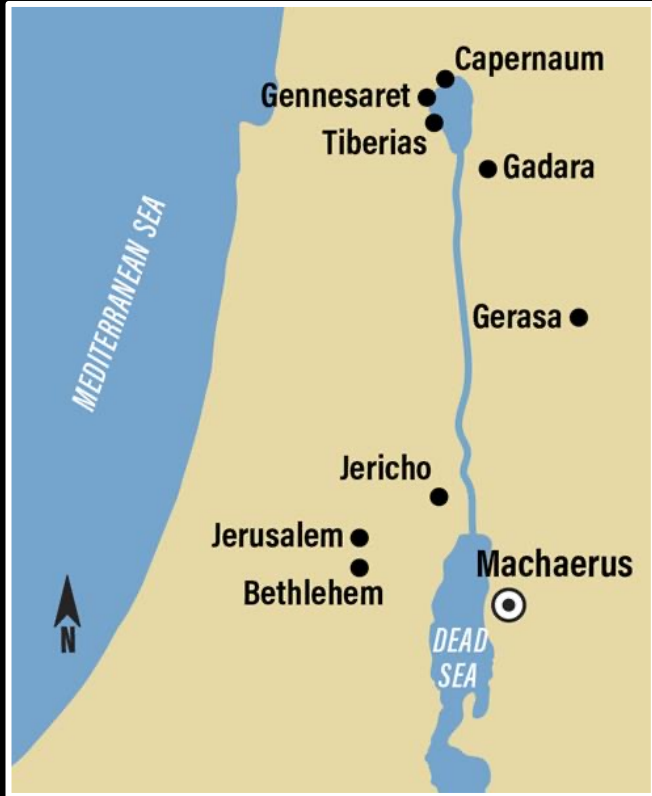
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If Jesus is who he says he is, then why is he not doing what I expected?

If Jesus is who he says he is, then why do I still hurt so much?

HELPFUL ANSWERS

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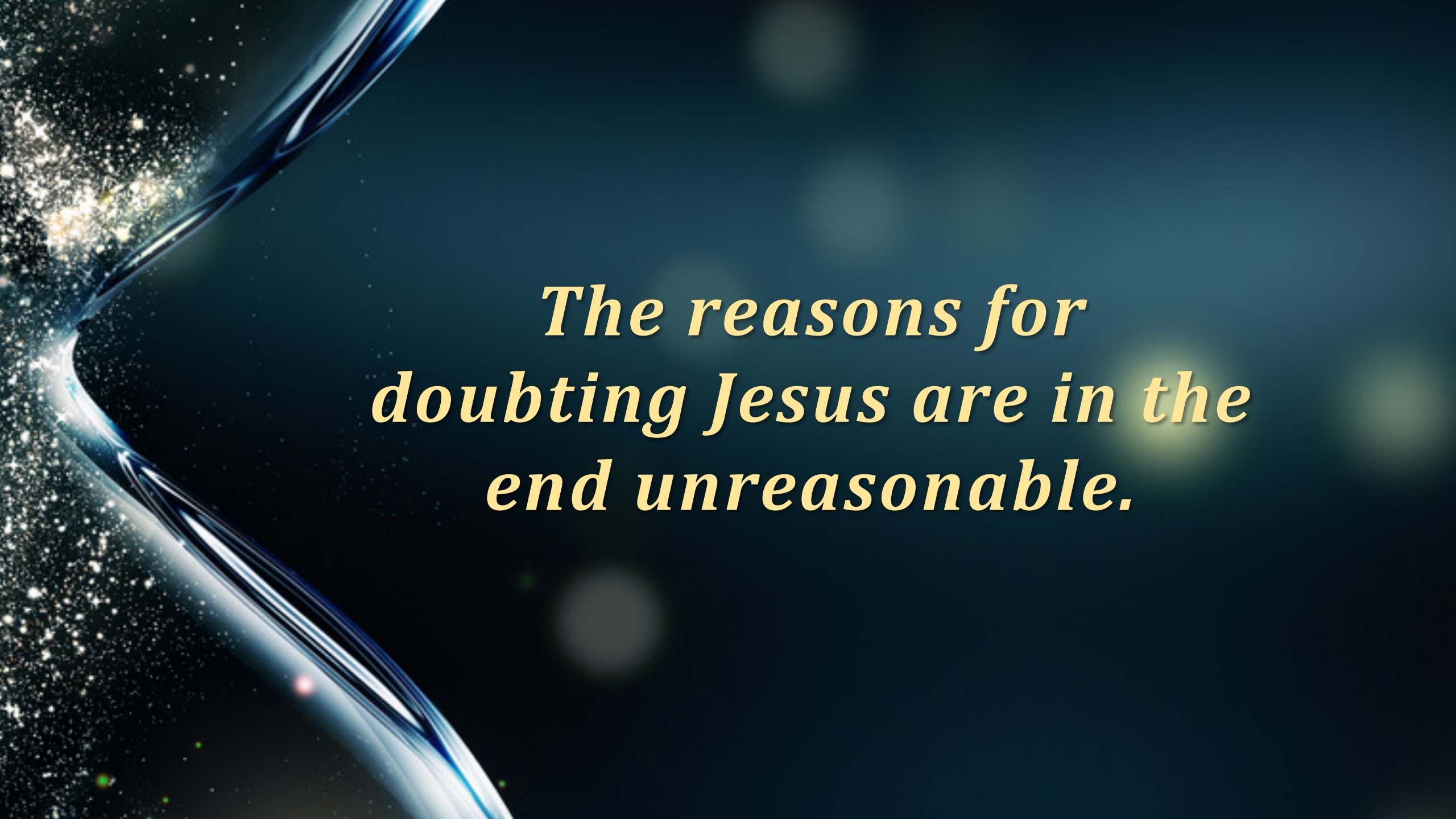
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Jesus provides reassurance by showing his powerful deeds to his followers.

Jesus provides reassurance by sharing his personal devotion to his followers.





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HEART EVALUATIONS

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The problem is not “the dance”—the
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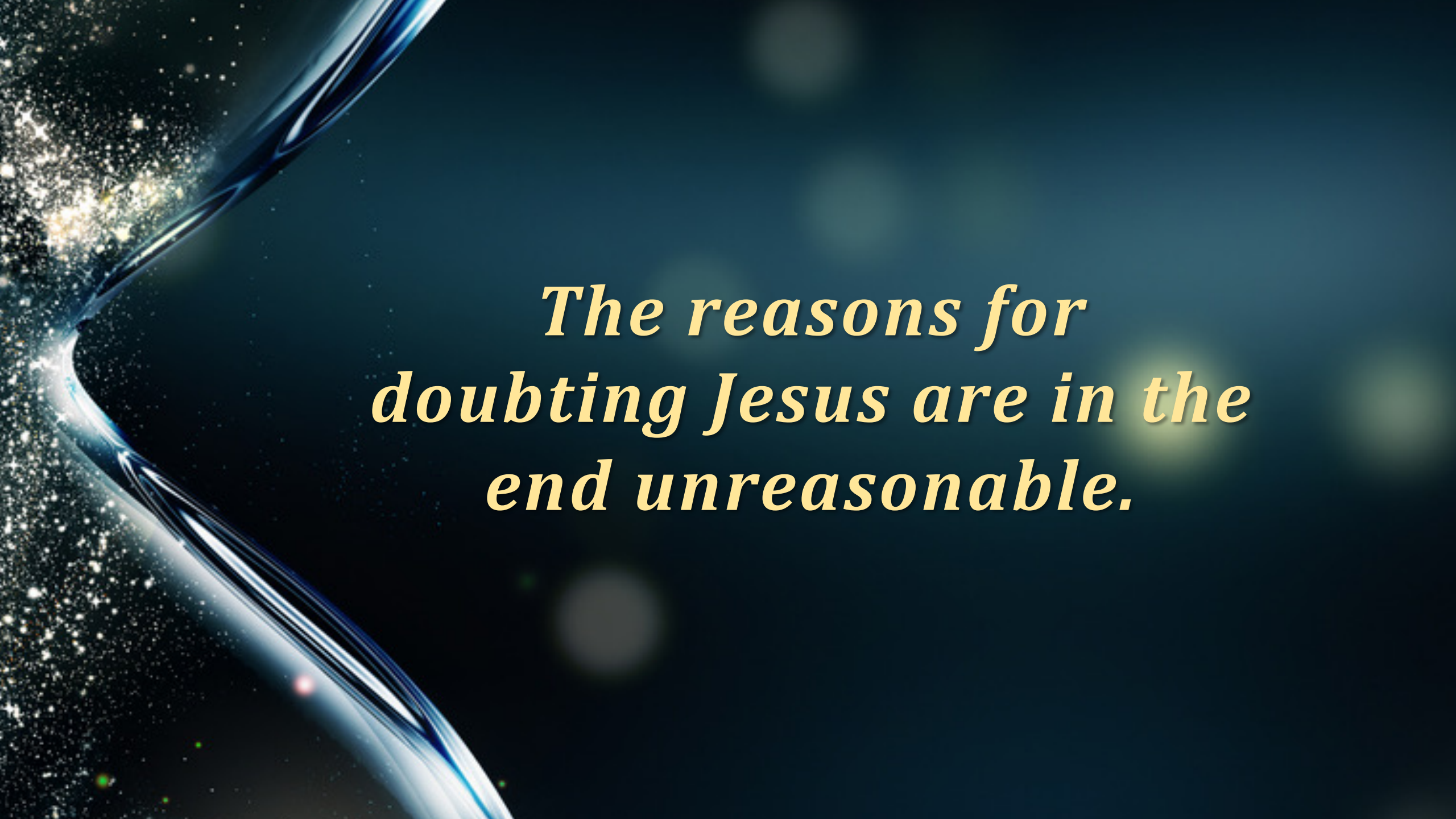
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The problem is that we want to call the tune that God plays.

The solution is to wait and see the wisdom of God as vindicated in Christ.



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C. S. Lewis: "I can no longer doubt it!"



C. S. Lewis
1898 – 1963

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1915: "I believe in no religion. There is absolutely no proof for any of them, and from a philosophical standpoint, Christianity is not even the best."

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C. S. Lewis
1898 – 1963

1929: "I...admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed; perhaps that night the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England."

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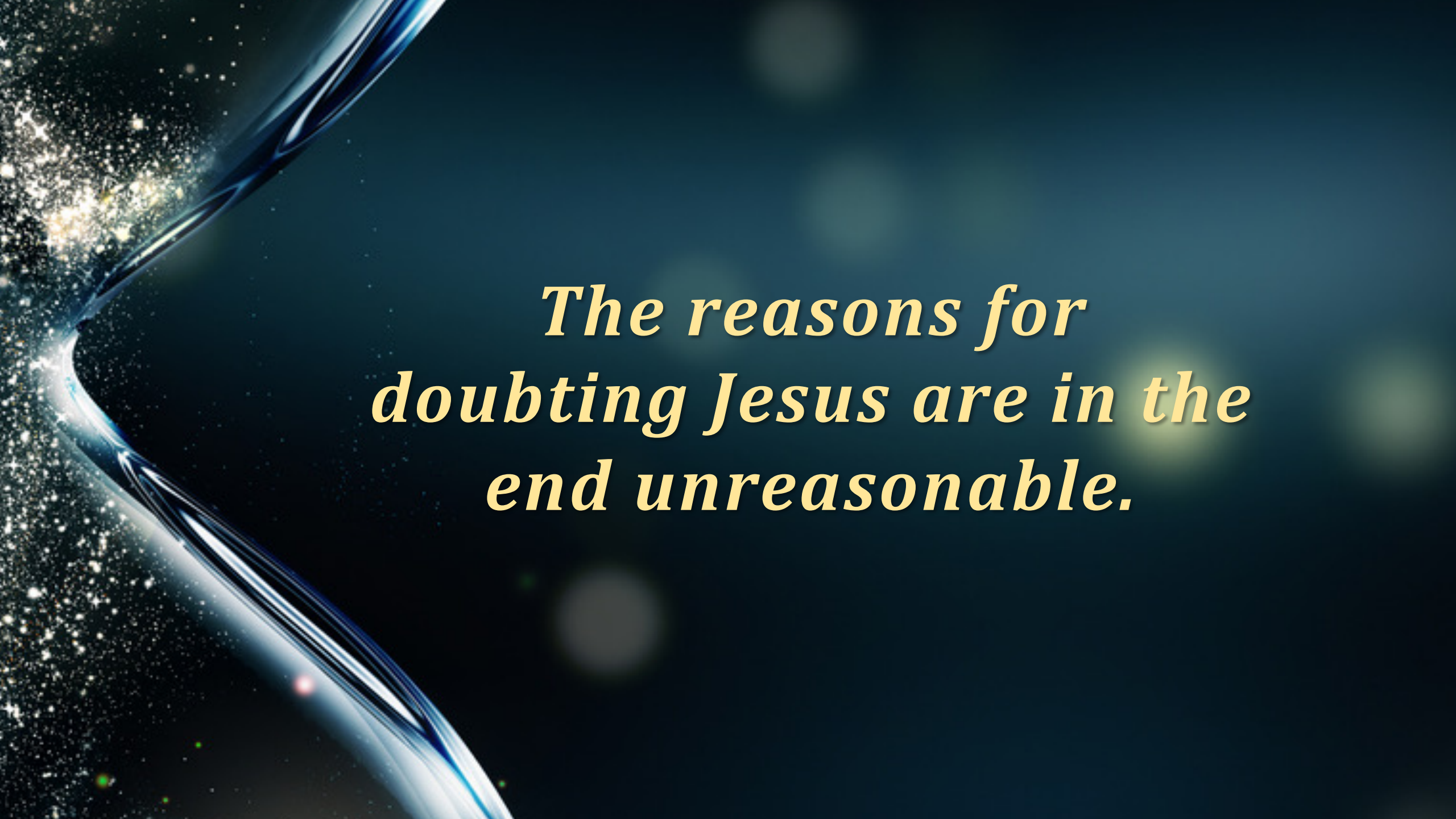
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1931: "Christianity is God expressing himself through what we call real things, namely the actual incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection."



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