



That You May

BELIEVE

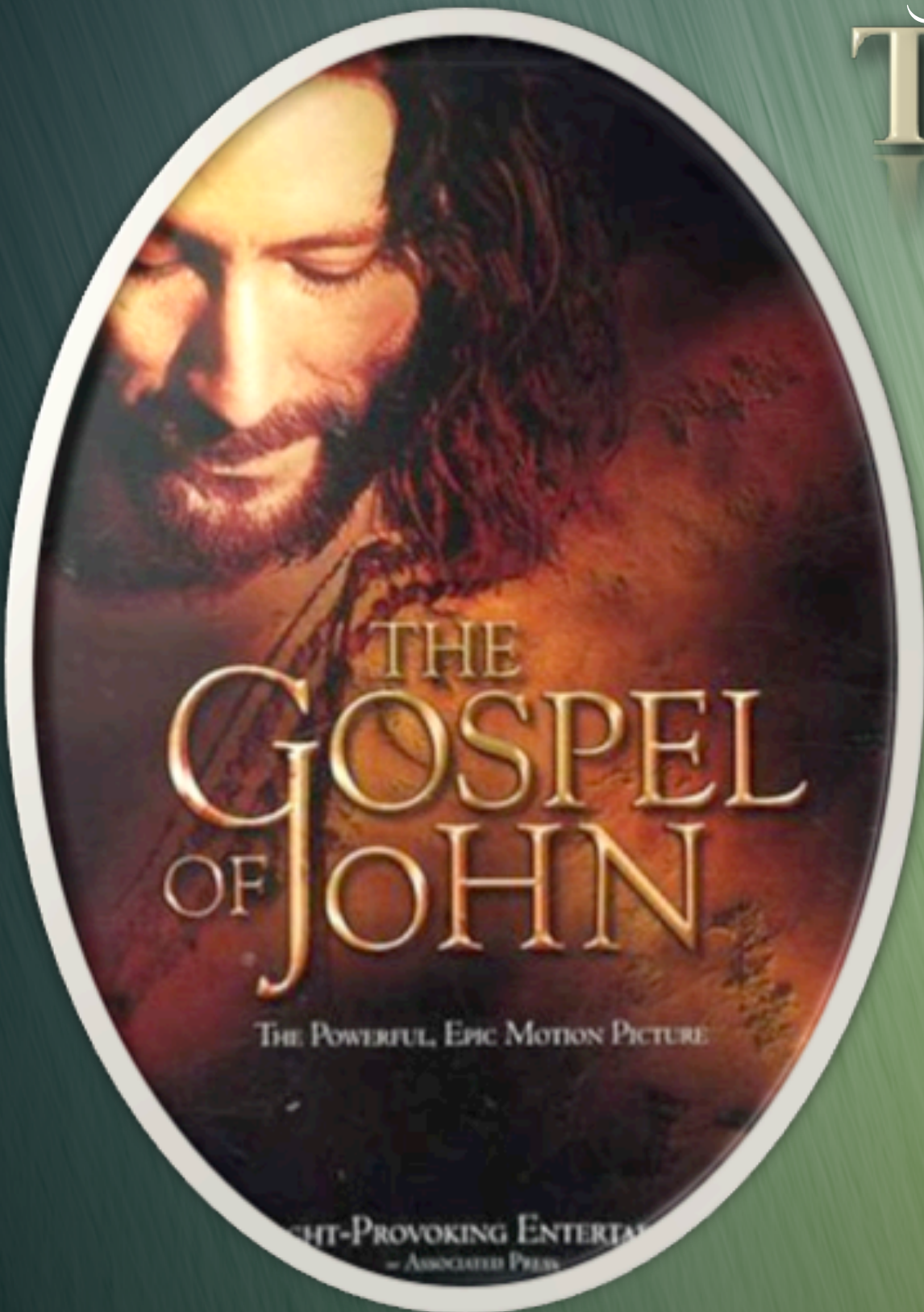
"JESUS' FOURFOLD DEFENSE"
(JOHN 5:31-47)

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THEME

John 20:30-31 (NKJV)

³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



John 5:31-47 (NKJV)

³¹ "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. ³² There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true. ³³ You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved.



John 5:31-47 (NKJV)

³⁵ He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. ³⁶ But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish--the very works that I do--bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. ³⁷ And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.



John 5:31-47 (NKJV)

³⁸ But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. ³⁹ You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. ⁴⁰ But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. ⁴¹ I do not receive honor from men.



John 5:31-47 (NKJV)

⁴² But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. ⁴³ I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. ⁴⁴ How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that *comes* from the only God?



John 5:31-47 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is *one* who accuses you--Moses, in whom you trust. ⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"



"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE CONTEXT – (CHAPTERS 5 & 6)



- ◆ Chapter five begins a distinct section.
- ◆ After Jesus' successful Journey through Samaria & return back to Galilee, Chapters 5 & 6 emphasize the unbelief of the Jews in Jerusalem & many turning away from Him in Bethsaida – (6:60; Luke 9:10)

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

JESUS' CLAIM NOT DEPENDENT ON HIS OWN TESTIMONY – (5:31-37)

John 5:31 (NKJV)

³¹ "If I bear witness of Myself,
My witness is not true.



- ◆ The thought moves from that of Jesus' unity with the Father to that of the Father's witness to Jesus.
- ◆ If He bore witness to Himself, this witness would not be accepted – (8:13,14; Deut 19:15; 17:6; 2 Cor. 13:1; Mat 18:16; 1 Tim 5:19)

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- ✦ Jesus points to external evidence that He is the Son of God – vs 32
- ✦ The witness of John the baptizer – 33-35
- ✦ The works given Him by the Father – 36
- ✦ The Father Himself bears witness – 37

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)



John 5:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ . . . You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.

- ◆ They had neither heard God or seen His form – yet they rejected the testimony of One Who had – (37; 1:18; 6:46)
- ◆ They rejected Jesus because God's word was NOT in them – (38; Deut 11:18-20)

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)



John 5:39 (NKJV)

³⁹ You search the Scriptures,
for in them you think you
have eternal life; and these
are they which testify of Me.

- ◆ They diligently searched the scriptures – They knew the words but missed their object! (2 Cor 3:15)
- ◆ The Scriptures do teach the way of life, & it is our duty to study them. – [The Bereans – (Acts 17:11); – Timothy – (2 Tim 3:15)]

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THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)



John 5:39 (NKJV)

³⁹ You search the Scriptures,
for in them you think you
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- ◆ The scriptures pointed to Jesus, yet they did not see Him – (Deut 18:15,18; 1 Pet 1:10,11; Luke 24:27,44)
- ◆ The scriptures are a means to an end – not an end in themselves! (5:39)
- ◆ By rejecting Jesus, they rejected Life – (5:40)

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)



John 5:41-42 (NKJV)

⁴¹ I do not receive honor from men. ⁴² But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you.

- ◆ They thought they knew Jesus' motivation, but in contrast He knew them and the cause of their unbelief (cf. 2:24-25):
- ◆ They did not love God - but themselves, their status & traditions - (5:44; 12:42,43; Mt 15:1-9; 23:37)

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)

John 5:43-44 (NKJV)

⁴³ I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. ⁴⁴ How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that *comes* from the only God?

- ◆ Three things evidenced their lack of love for God
 - ◆ (1) They rejected the Father's "Representative."
 - ◆ (2) They accepted false teachers or prophets. (2 Thes 2:10-12)
 - ◆ (3) They sought approval from men while ignoring the will of the only God. They were seeking the wrong object: man, not God.

"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

THE JEWS REJECTION OF CHRIST DUE TO THEIR REJECTION OF GOD (5:37-47)

John 5:45-47 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is *one* who accuses you--Moses, in whom you trust. ⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

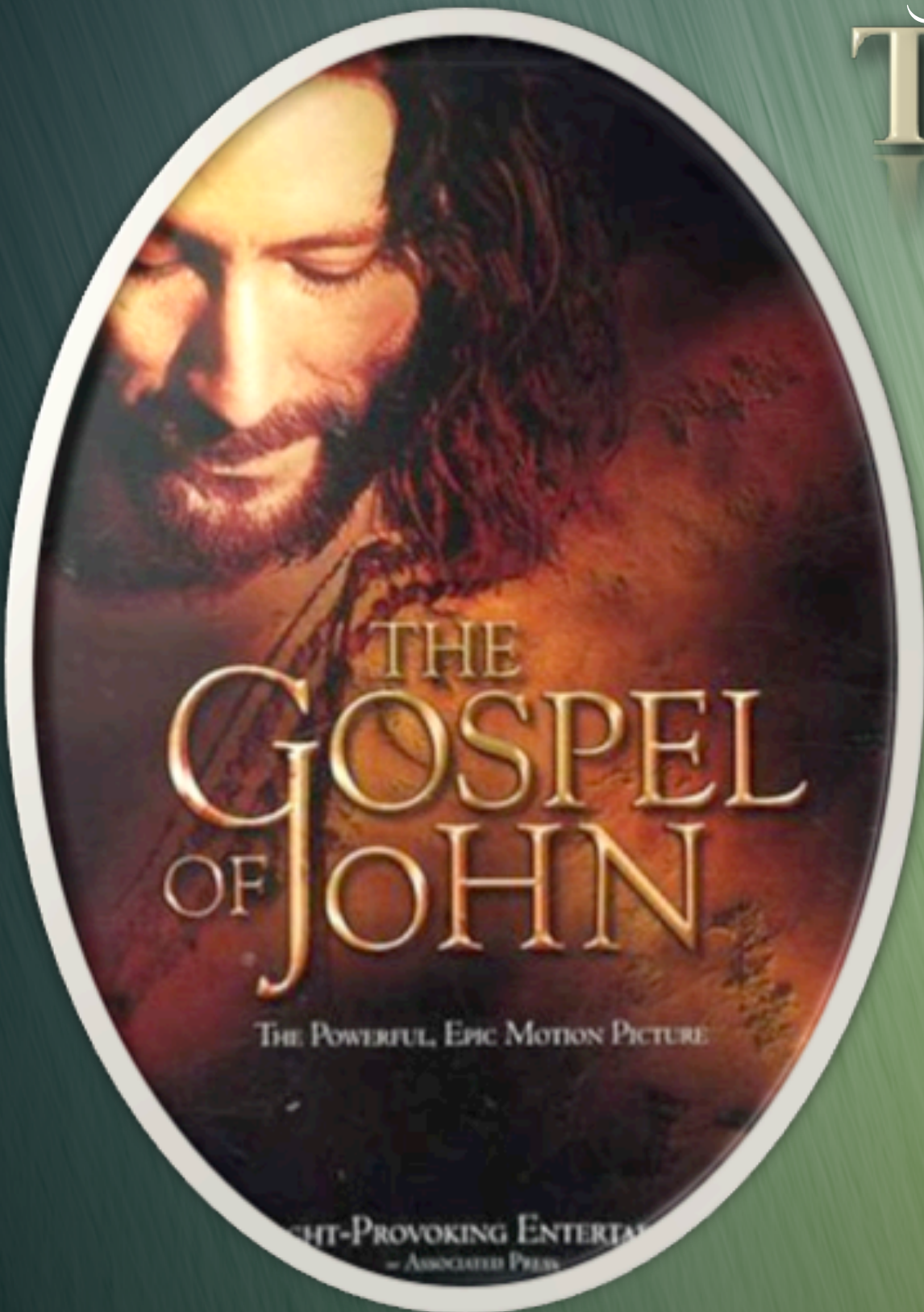
- ✦ They claimed to trust Moses – thinking the Law he gave was the source of life – (
- ✦ But in actuality, they they did not trust Moses – for they did not believe what he wrote, for he testified of Christ – (Deut 18:15-19)

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THEME

John 20:30-31 (NKJV)

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"Jesus' Fourfold Defense"

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Acts 2:22-33 (NKJV)

²² "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know-- ²³ Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; ²⁴ whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.



Acts 2:22-33 (NKJV)

²⁵ For David says concerning Him: '*I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.* ²⁶ Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. ²⁷ For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'



Acts 2:22-33 (NKJV)

²⁹ "Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰

Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, ³¹ he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.



Acts 2:22-33 (NKJV)

³² This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. ³³

Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

