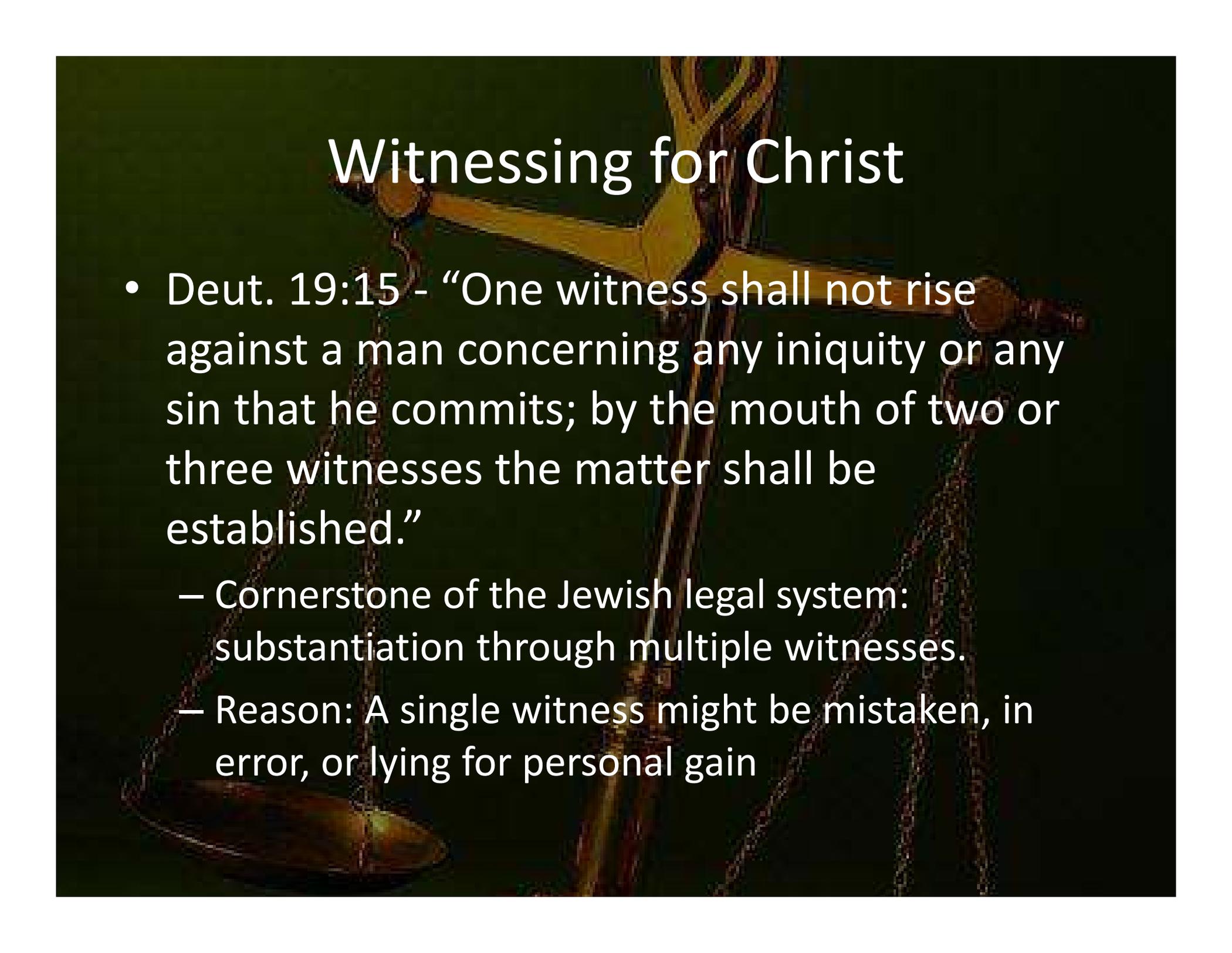
A pair of brass scales of justice is shown against a dark, almost black background. The scales are made of polished brass and feature a central vertical beam with two horizontal arms extending outwards. Each arm has a hook from which a chain hangs down to a shallow, circular weighing pan. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the metallic texture and the intricate details of the scales' construction.

Witnessing for Christ

John 5:30-47

A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background of the slide. The scales are slightly out of focus, with the top part being more prominent. The background is a dark, textured greenish-black. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, sans-serif font.

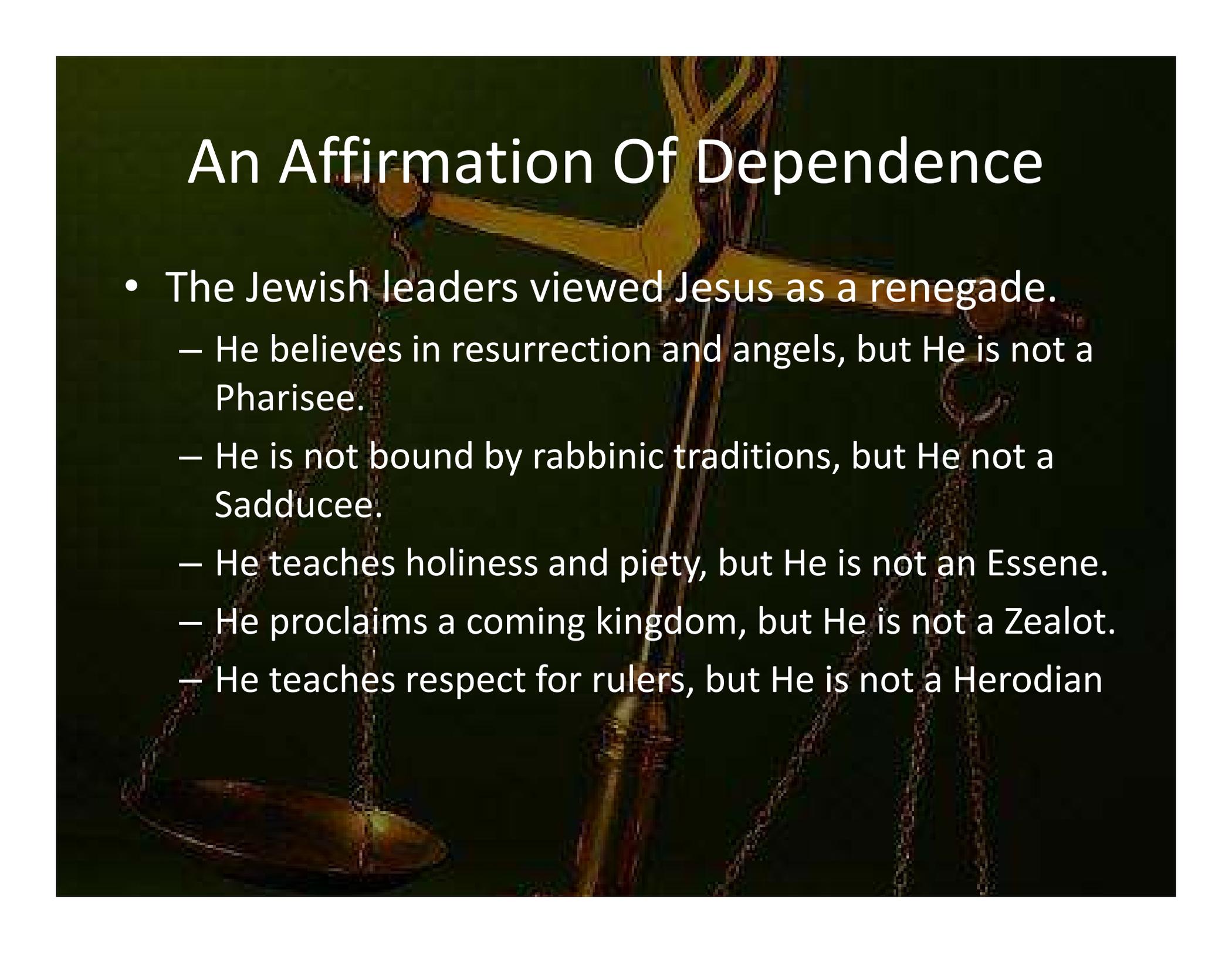
Witnessing for Christ

- Deut. 19:15 - “One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established.”
 - Cornerstone of the Jewish legal system: substantiation through multiple witnesses.
 - Reason: A single witness might be mistaken, in error, or lying for personal gain

An Affirmation Of Dependence

- John 5:30 - “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”
- John 5:17-19 - “But Jesus answered them, My Father has been working until now, and I have been working. 18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.”

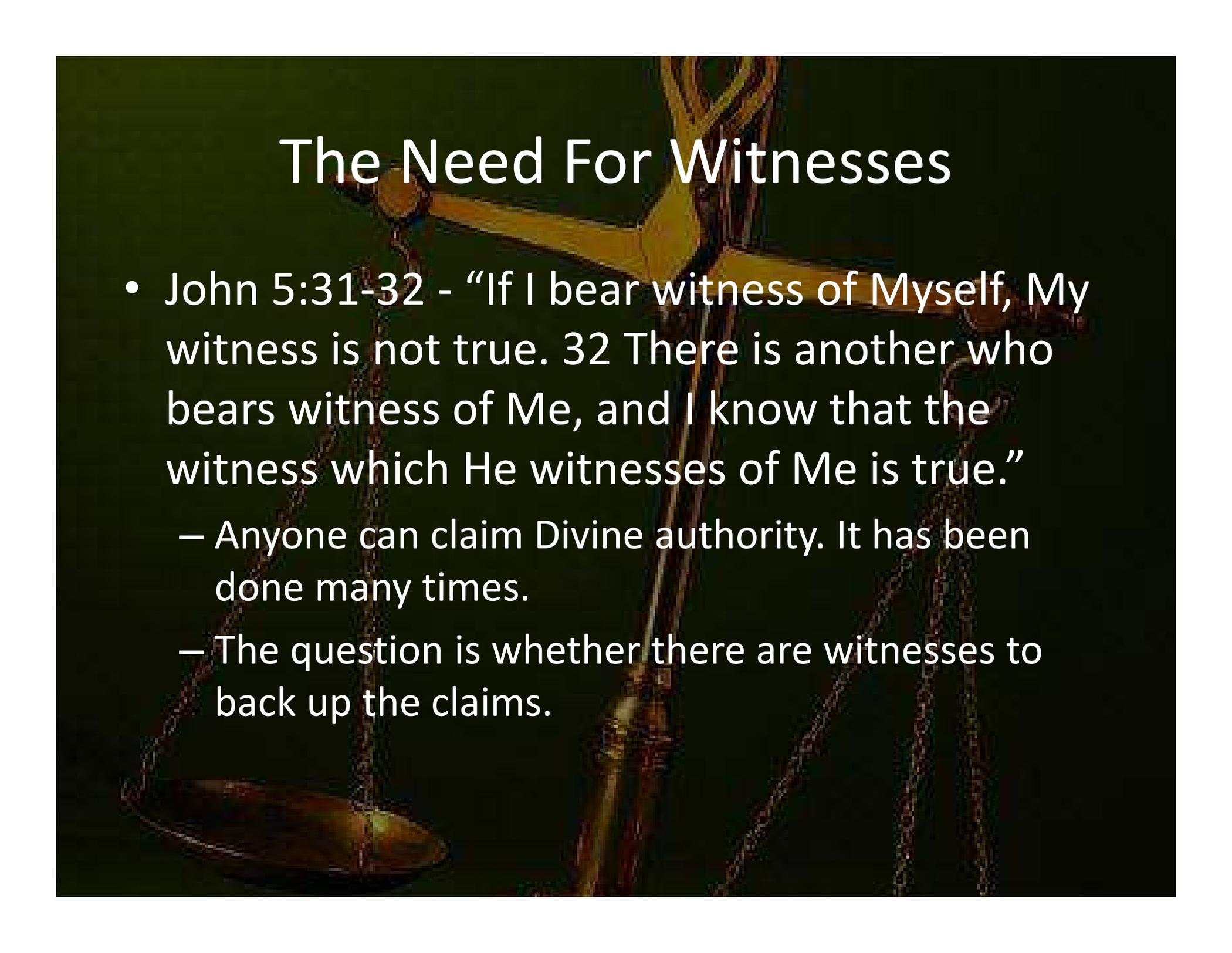
An Affirmation Of Dependence

A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are slightly tilted, with the right pan being lower than the left. The background is a dark, textured greenish-black. The scales have a classic design with a central vertical beam and two horizontal arms extending outwards, each ending in a circular pan. The lighting highlights the metallic texture of the scales.

- The Jewish leaders viewed Jesus as a renegade.
 - He believes in resurrection and angels, but He is not a Pharisee.
 - He is not bound by rabbinic traditions, but He not a Sadducee.
 - He teaches holiness and piety, but He is not an Essene.
 - He proclaims a coming kingdom, but He is not a Zealot.
 - He teaches respect for rulers, but He is not a Herodian

An Affirmation Of Dependence

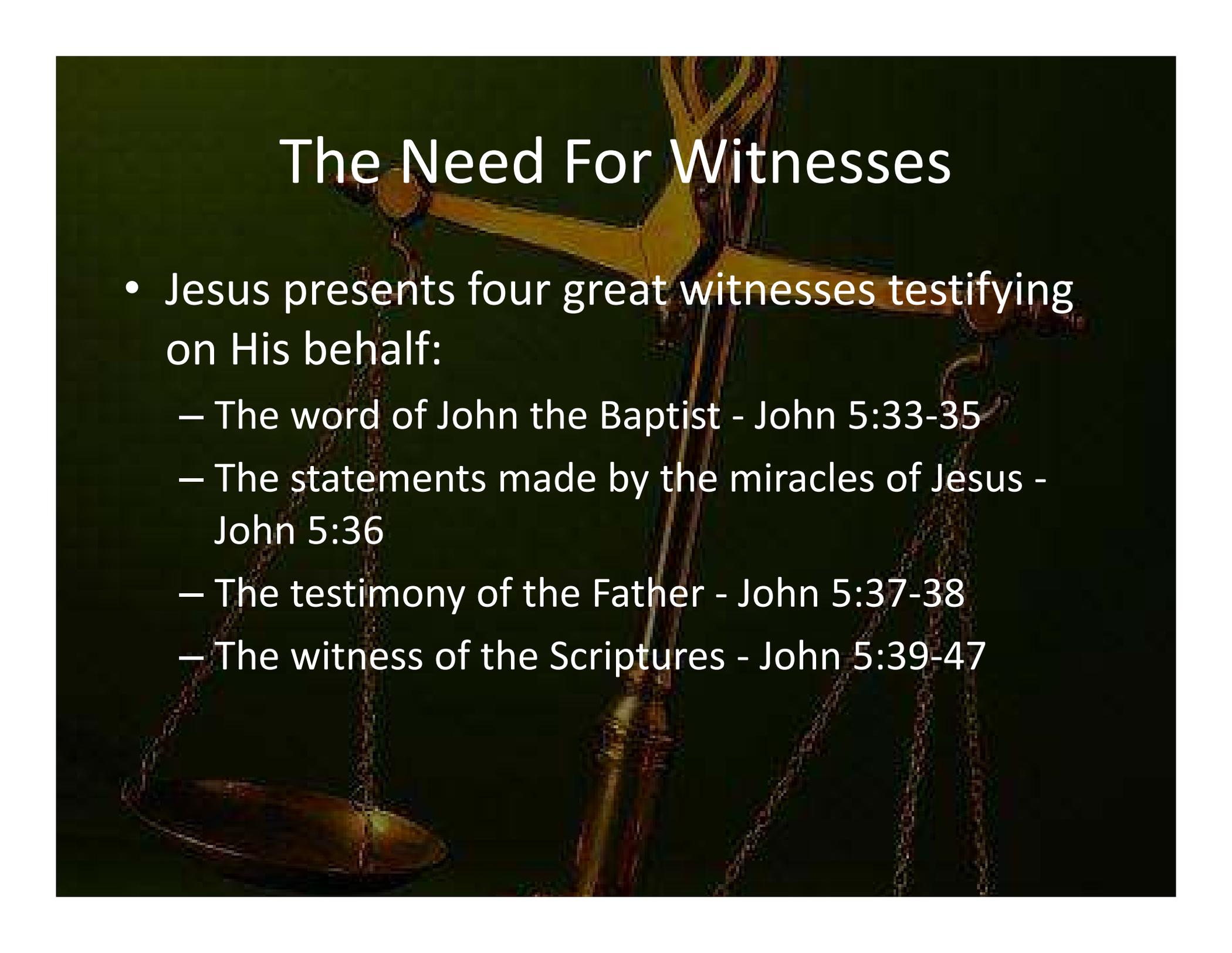
- Jesus is under God's authority and is following His orders.
- When He heals on the Sabbath day, it is not because He is voiding the Sabbath, but rather it is authorized for the Son of God to do the work of God on the Sabbath.

A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background of the slide. The scales are made of a polished, reflective metal, likely gold or brass, and are set against a dark, almost black background. The lighting highlights the intricate details of the scales, including the central pillar, the horizontal beam, and the two pans hanging from it. The overall mood is serious and authoritative.

The Need For Witnesses

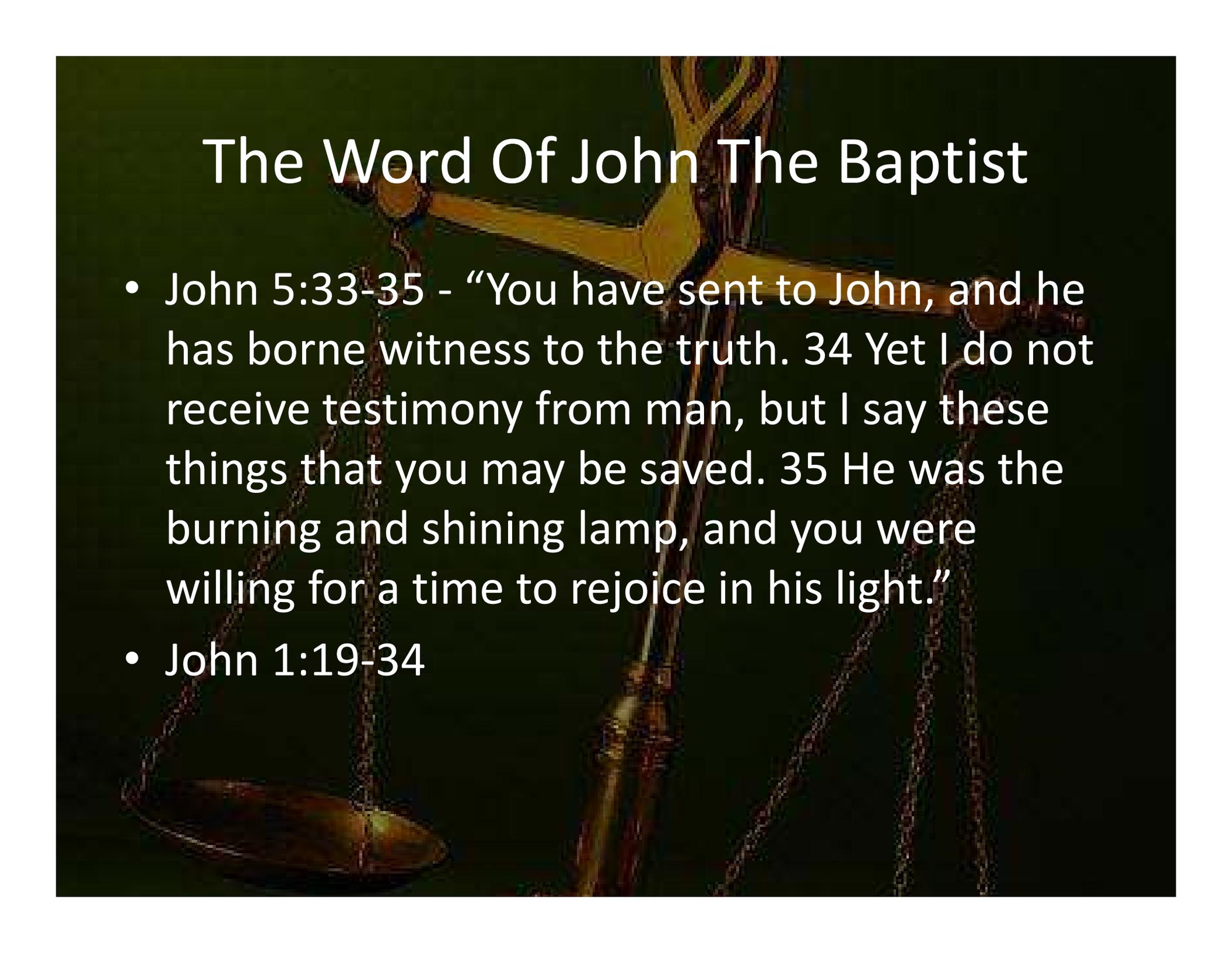
- John 5:31-32 - “If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. 32 There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true.”
 - Anyone can claim Divine authority. It has been done many times.
 - The question is whether there are witnesses to back up the claims.

The Need For Witnesses

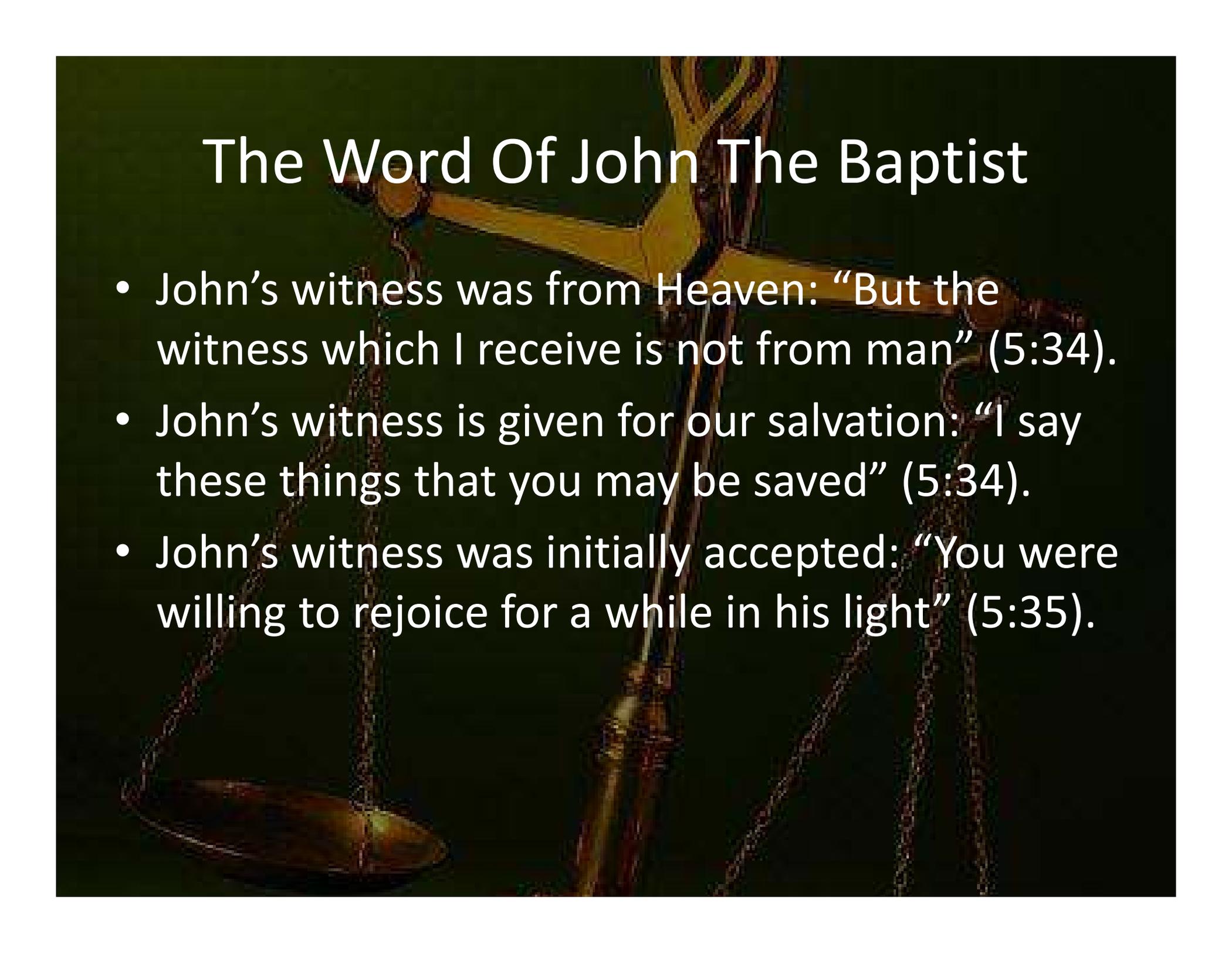
A golden scale of justice is centered in the background, set against a dark, almost black background. The scale is illuminated from the side, creating a strong contrast and highlighting its intricate details. The pans are empty, and the central pillar is prominent.

- Jesus presents four great witnesses testifying on His behalf:
 - The word of John the Baptist - John 5:33-35
 - The statements made by the miracles of Jesus - John 5:36
 - The testimony of the Father - John 5:37-38
 - The witness of the Scriptures - John 5:39-47

The Word Of John The Baptist

A pair of golden scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of a polished, reflective metal, likely gold, and are set against a dark, almost black background. The lighting highlights the intricate details of the scales, including the central pillar, the horizontal beam, and the two pans hanging from it. The overall mood is solemn and just.

- John 5:33-35 - “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. 35 He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light.”
- John 1:19-34

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The Word Of John The Baptist

- John's witness was from Heaven: "But the witness which I receive is not from man" (5:34).
- John's witness is given for our salvation: "I say these things that you may be saved" (5:34).
- John's witness was initially accepted: "You were willing to rejoice for a while in his light" (5:35).

The Statements Made By The Miracles Of Jesus

- John 5:36 - “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.”
- John 3:1-2 - “There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”
- John 9:32-33 - “Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. 33 If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

The Statements Made By The Miracles Of Jesus

- In the same way that Jesus called for men to judge Him by the nature of His works, so also we will one day be judged by the nature of our own works
 - Matt. 7:17-20 - “Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”
 - 2Cor. 5:9-10 - “Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

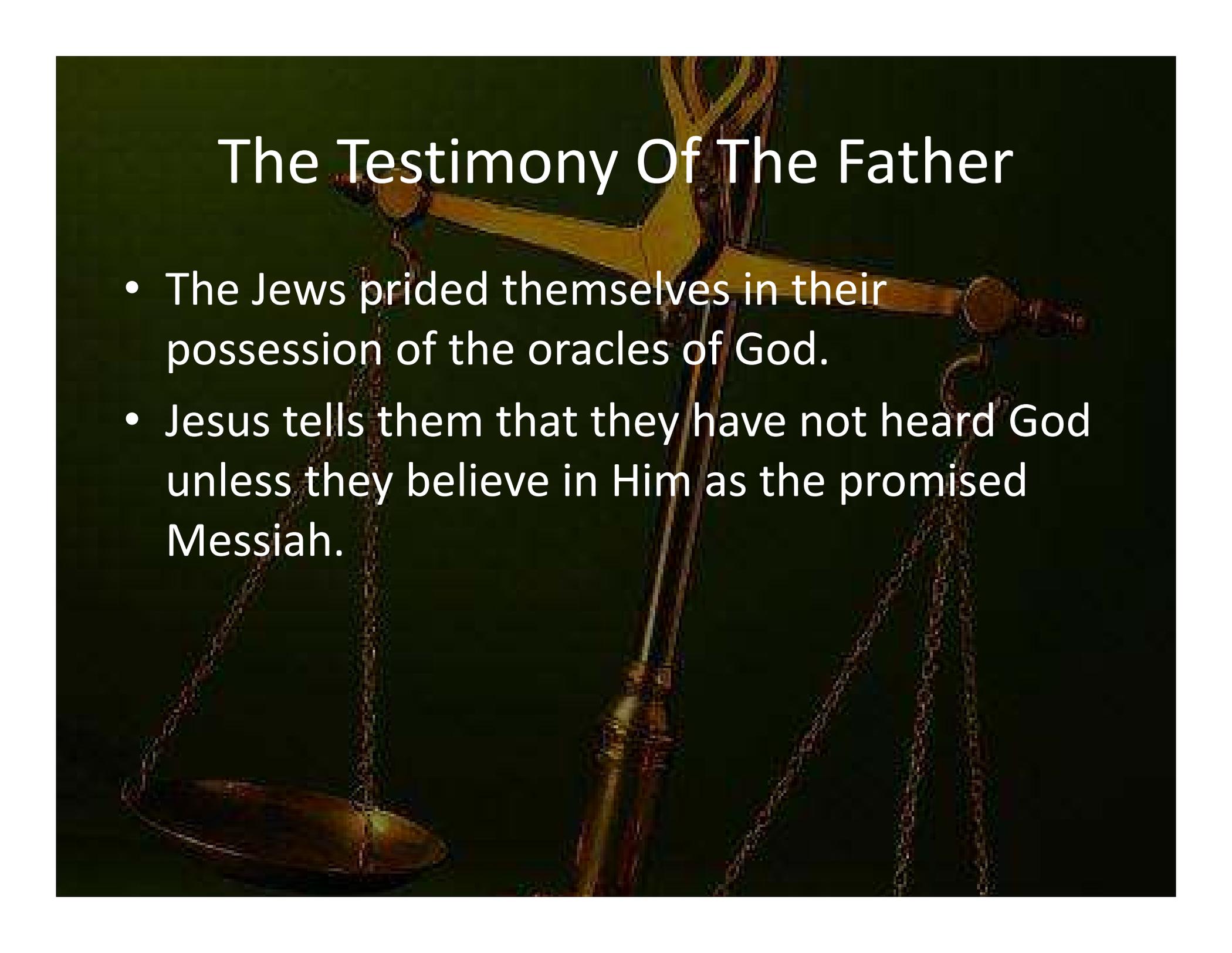
The Testimony Of The Father

- John 5:37-38 - “And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. 38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.”
- Matt. 3:16-17 - “When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

The Testimony Of The Father

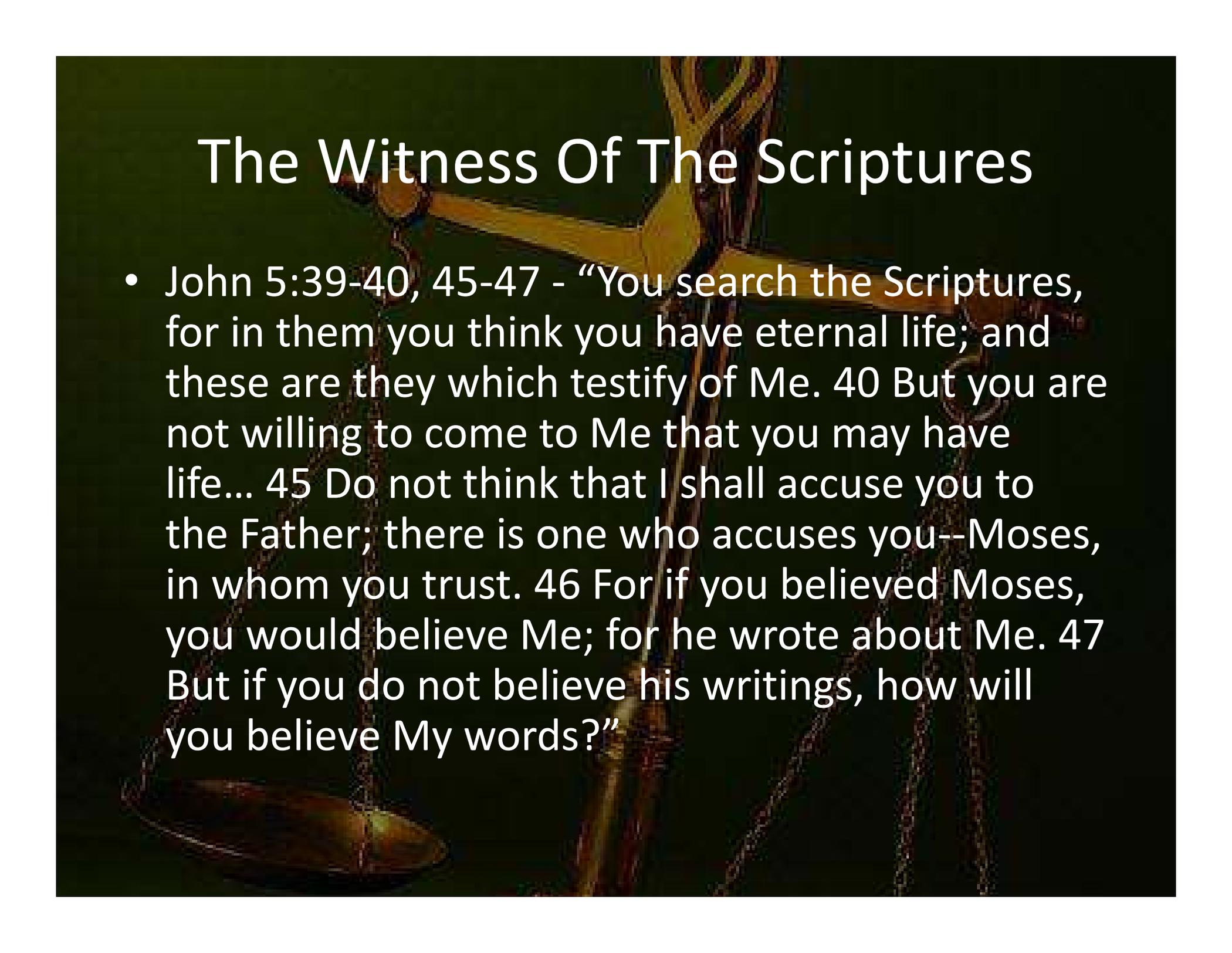
- Matt. 17:4-5 - “Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. 5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”
- John 12:27-30 - “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name. Then a voice came from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it and will glorify it again. 29 Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, An angel has spoken to Him. 30 Jesus answered and said, This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake.”

The Testimony Of The Father

A pair of brass scales of justice is centered in the background. The scales are made of polished brass and are set against a dark, almost black background. The central pillar is vertical, with two horizontal arms extending outwards. From each arm, a chain hangs down to a circular weighing pan. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the metallic texture and the curves of the pans and chains.

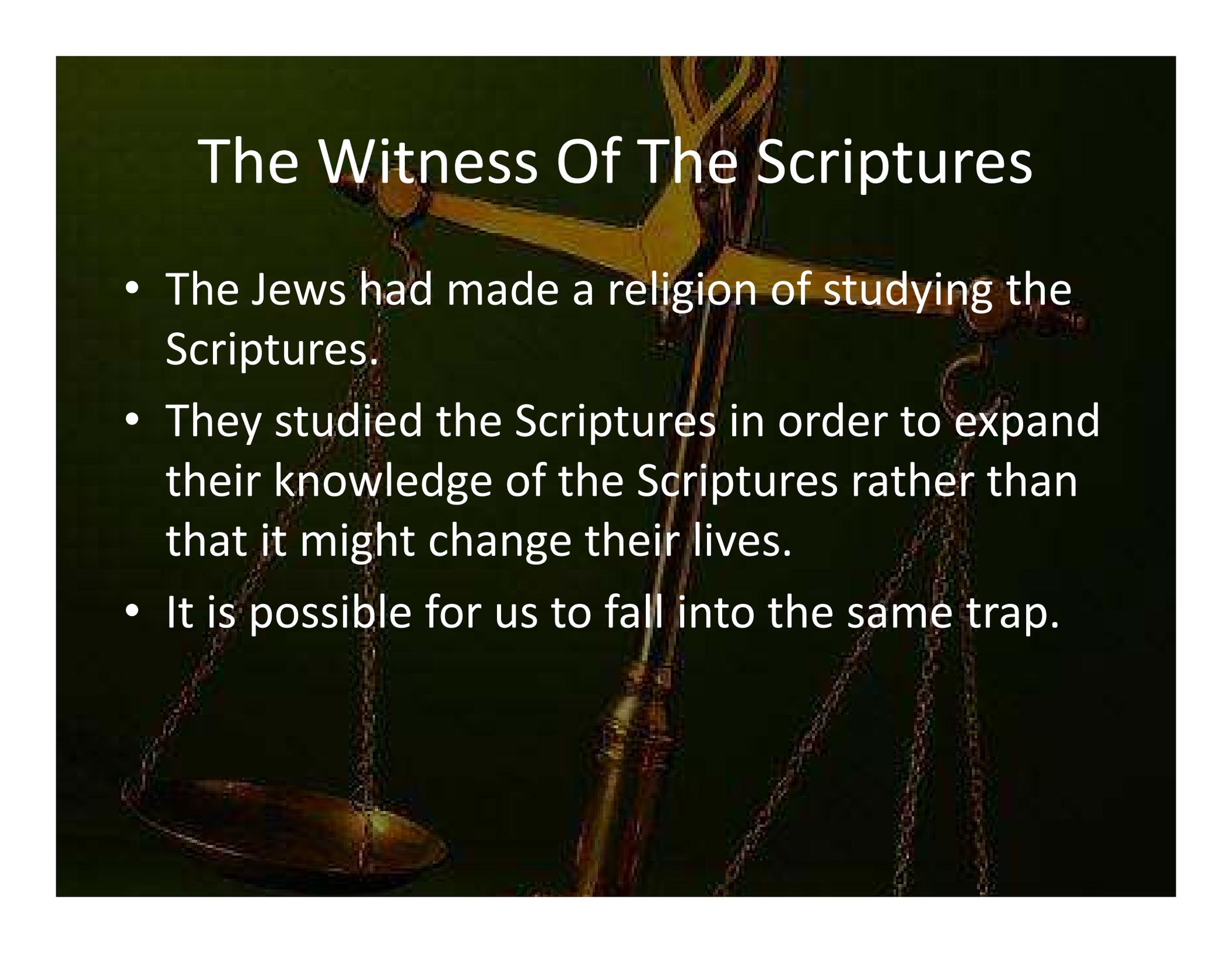
- The Jews prided themselves in their possession of the oracles of God.
- Jesus tells them that they have not heard God unless they believe in Him as the promised Messiah.

The Witness Of The Scriptures



- John 5:39-40, 45-47 - “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... 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?”

The Witness Of The Scriptures

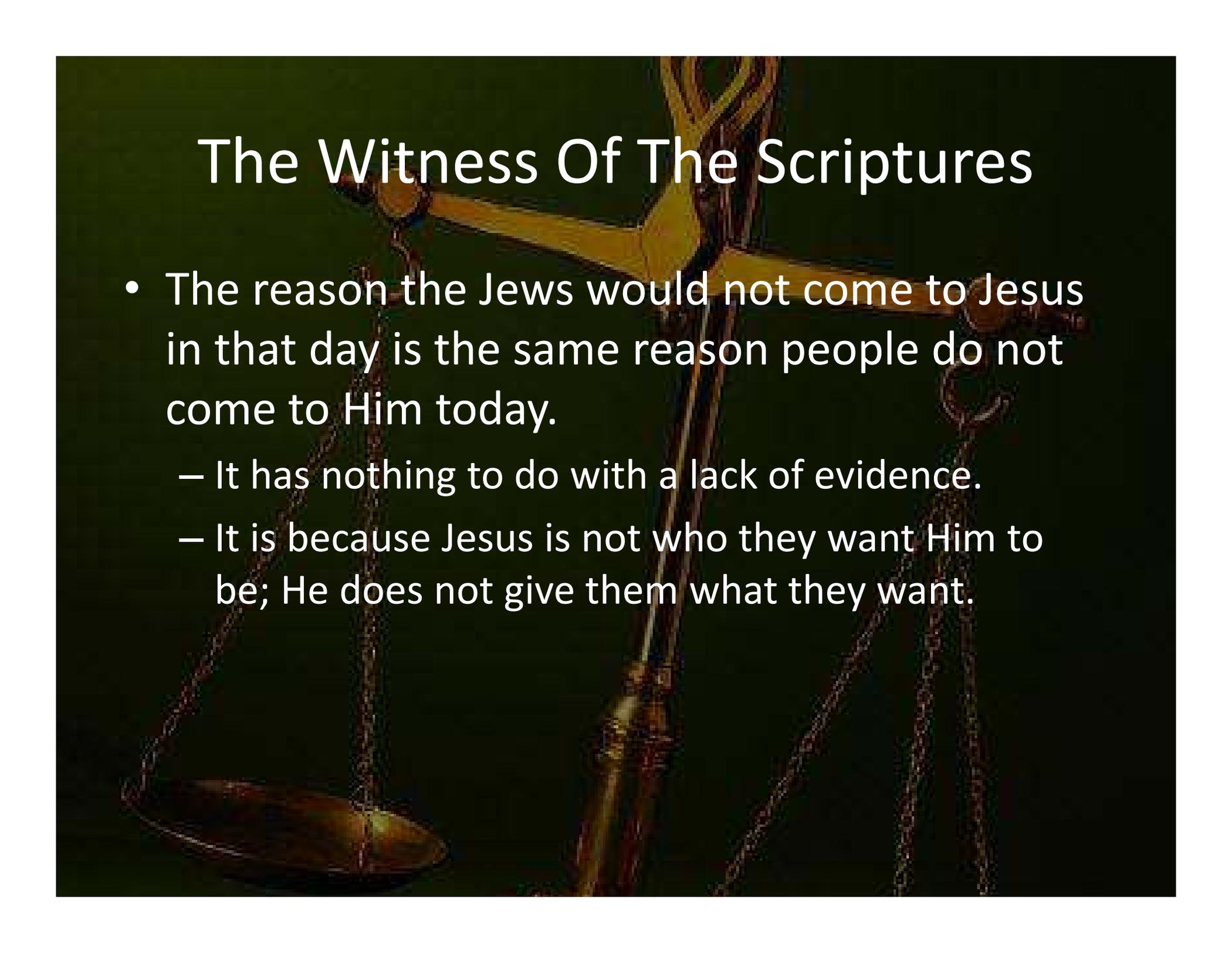
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- The Jews had made a religion of studying the Scriptures.
- They studied the Scriptures in order to expand their knowledge of the Scriptures rather than that it might change their lives.
- It is possible for us to fall into the same trap.

The Witness Of The Scriptures

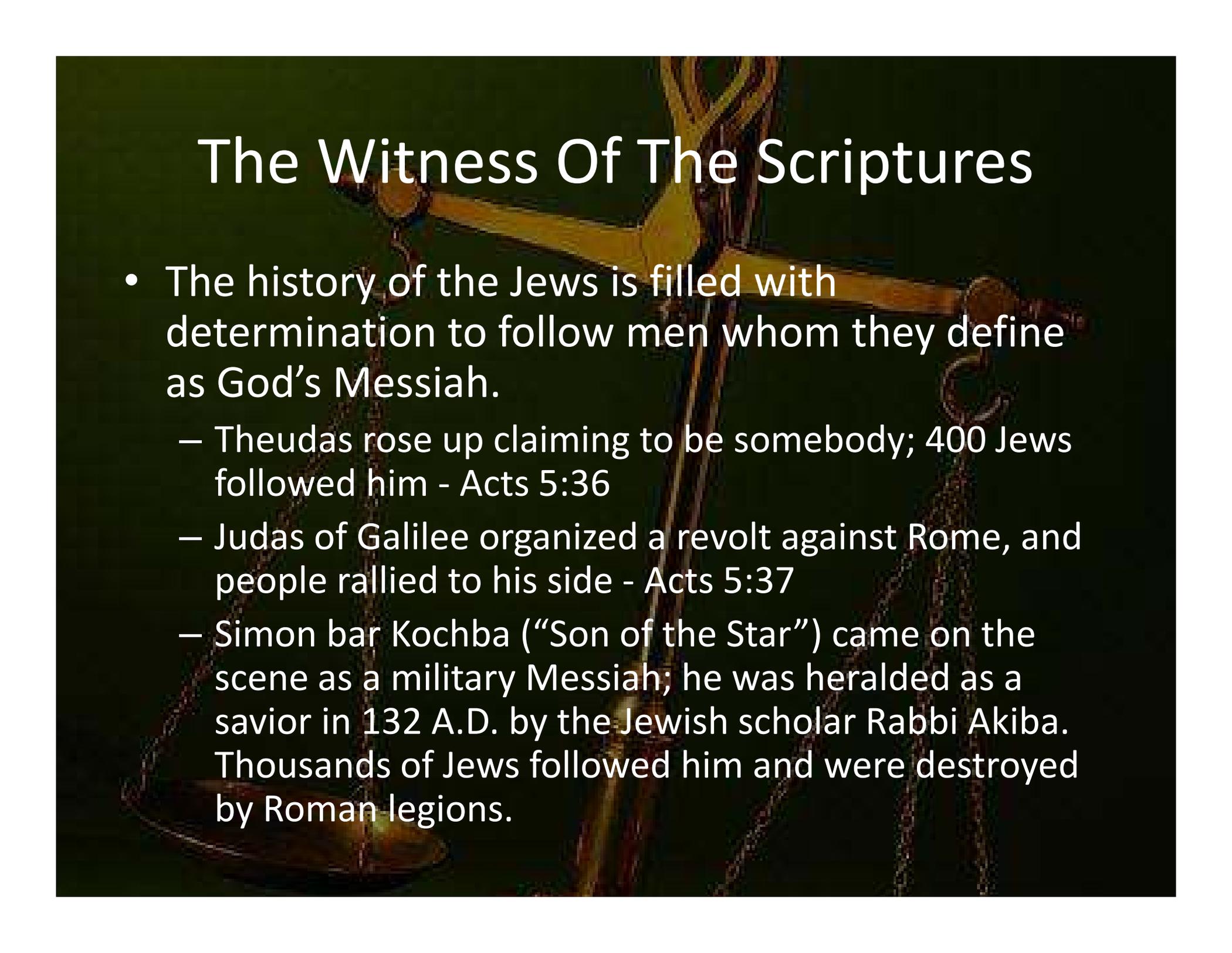
- The Old Testament is filled with prophecies of Jesus.
 - They tell where He would be born.
 - They speak of the miraculous nature of His birth.
 - They list His ancestry.
 - They address attempts against His life.
 - They mention His sojourn in Egypt.
 - They foretell the town of His upbringing.
 - They describe His forerunner.
 - They predict His ministry.
 - They foretell His betrayal.
 - They prophesy of His sufferings.
 - They describe numerous details of His death, burial, and resurrection.
 - They even outline the spiritual nature of His Kingdom.

The Witness Of The Scriptures

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- The reason the Jews would not come to Jesus in that day is the same reason people do not come to Him today.
 - It has nothing to do with a lack of evidence.
 - It is because Jesus is not who they want Him to be; He does not give them what they want.

The Witness Of The Scriptures

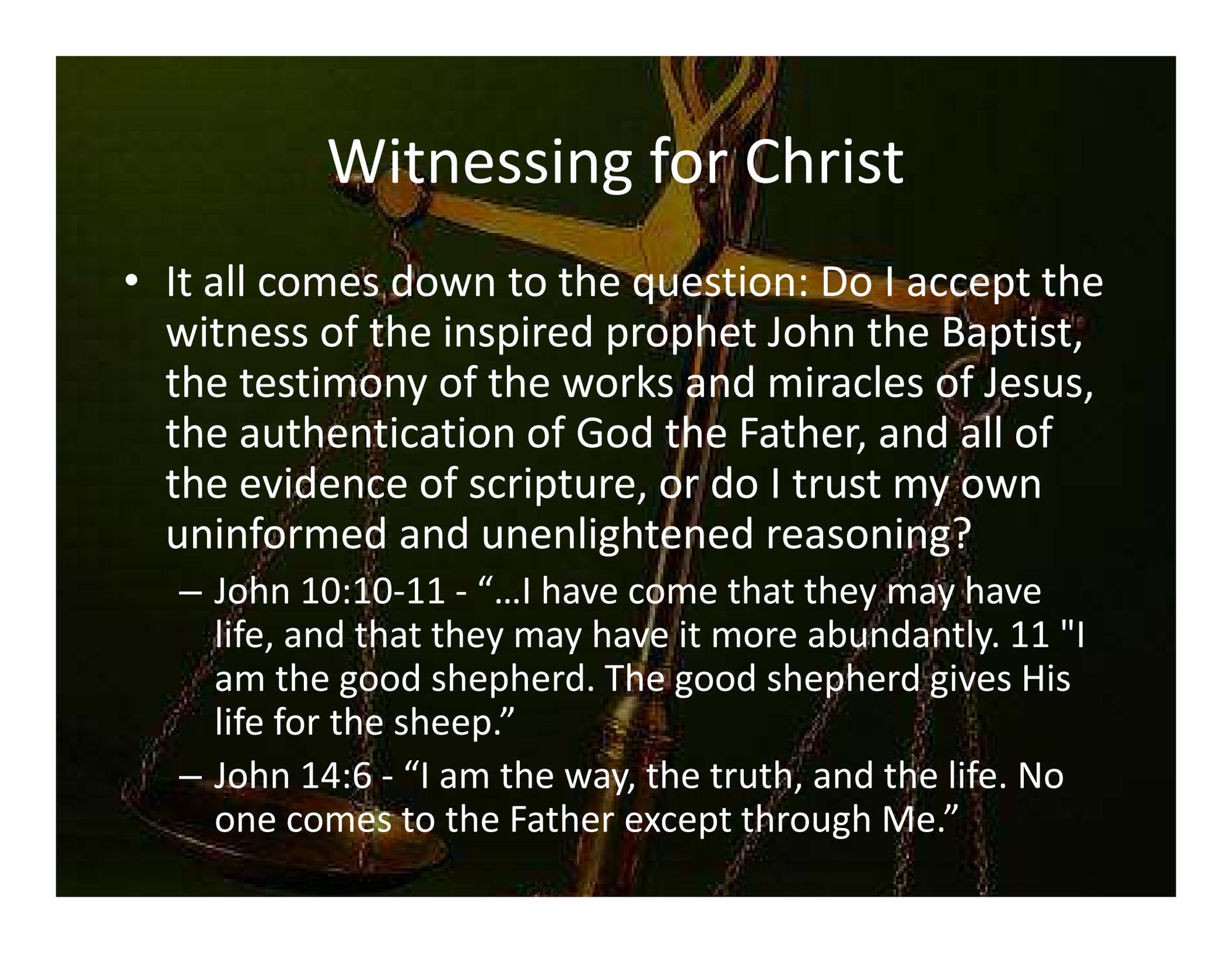
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- The history of the Jews is filled with determination to follow men whom they define as God's Messiah.
 - Theudas rose up claiming to be somebody; 400 Jews followed him - Acts 5:36
 - Judas of Galilee organized a revolt against Rome, and people rallied to his side - Acts 5:37
 - Simon bar Kochba ("Son of the Star") came on the scene as a military Messiah; he was heralded as a savior in 132 A.D. by the Jewish scholar Rabbi Akiba. Thousands of Jews followed him and were destroyed by Roman legions.

The Witness Of The Scriptures

- Have things changed among Gentiles today?
 - When someone rejects the truth of the gospel, they inevitably seek another, lesser leader or principle in which to believe.
 - 2Thes. 2:9-12 - “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

Witnessing for Christ



- It all comes down to the question: Do I accept the witness of the inspired prophet John the Baptist, the testimony of the works and miracles of Jesus, the authentication of God the Father, and all of the evidence of scripture, or do I trust my own uninformed and unenlightened reasoning?
 - John 10:10-11 - "...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."
 - John 14:6 - "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."