

## Chapter 4

# The Messiah

His Advent and the Purpose  
of His Second Coming

# Messiah

.....

# King



- The word “Messiah” in Hebrew means the “anointed one,” signifying a king (p. 111).

**Messiah** ..... **King**

**Messianic  
expectation**

..... **Savior (King)**



- The chosen people of Israel believed in the Word of God as revealed through the **prophets**, which promised that God would send them a king and savior. Such was their messianic expectation.



**Messiah**

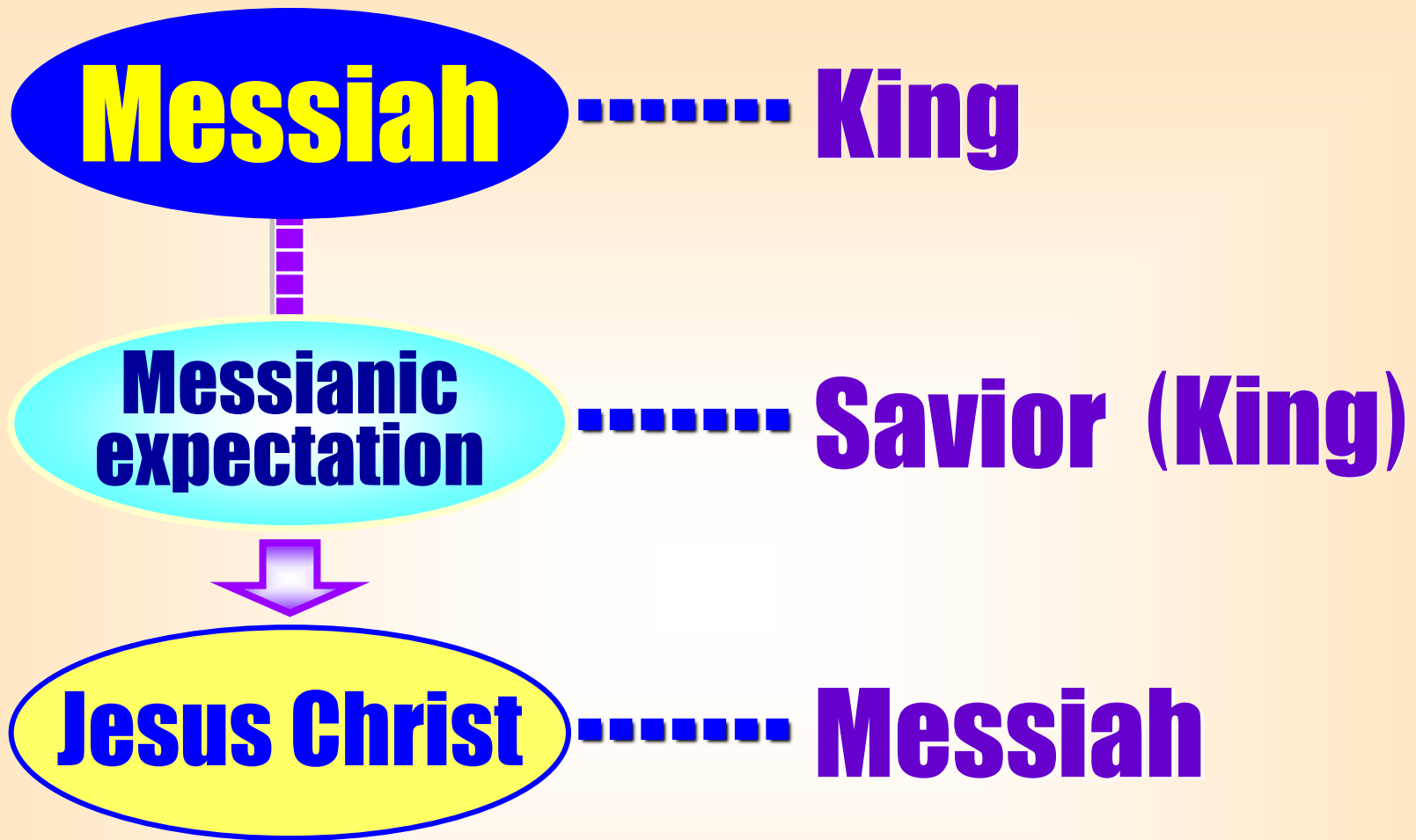
**Messianic  
expectation**

**Jesus Christ**

**Messiah**



- God sent this Messiah in the person of Jesus Christ.  
“Christ” is the Greek word for Messiah.



- The Messiah comes to fulfill the purpose of God's work of salvation.

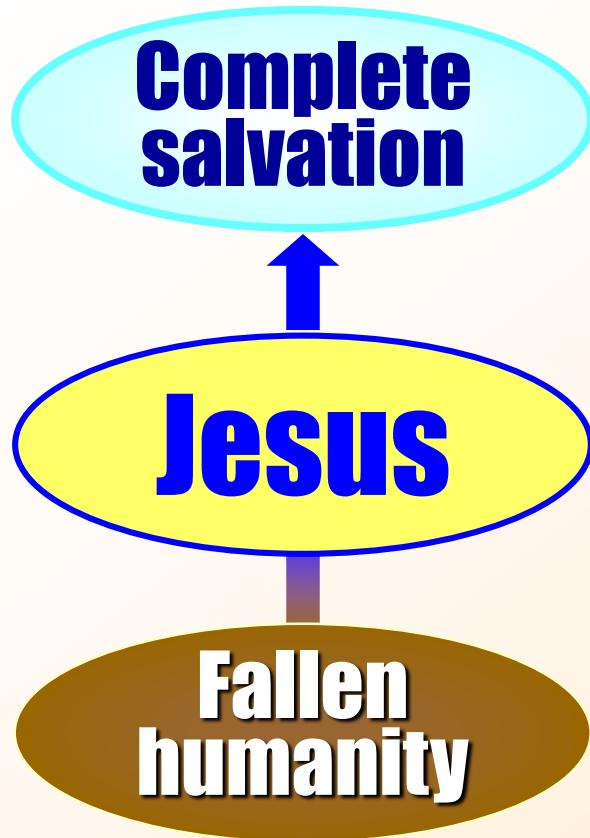


# Section 1

## Salvation through the Cross



# 1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah

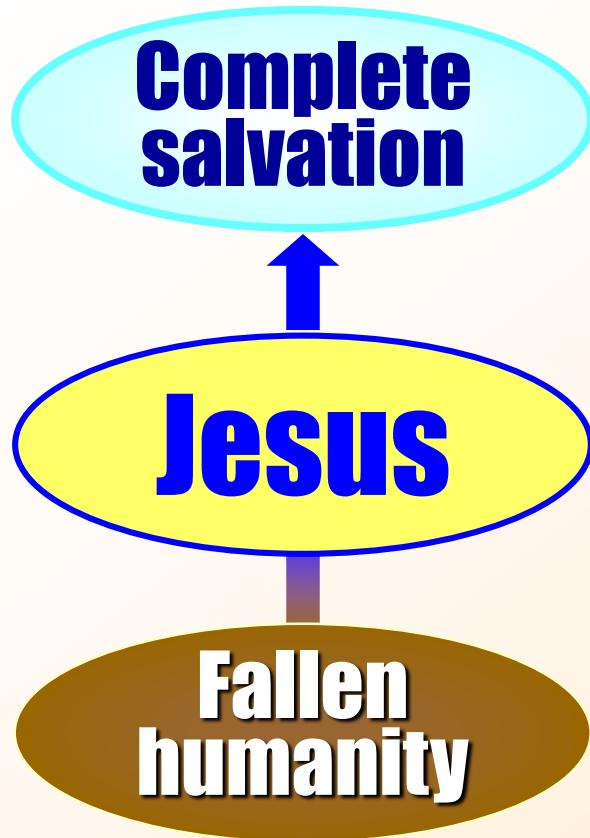


**Goal of the providence  
of restoration**

- Jesus came as the Messiah for nothing less than the complete salvation of humanity; he was to fulfill the goal of the providence of restoration (p. 112).



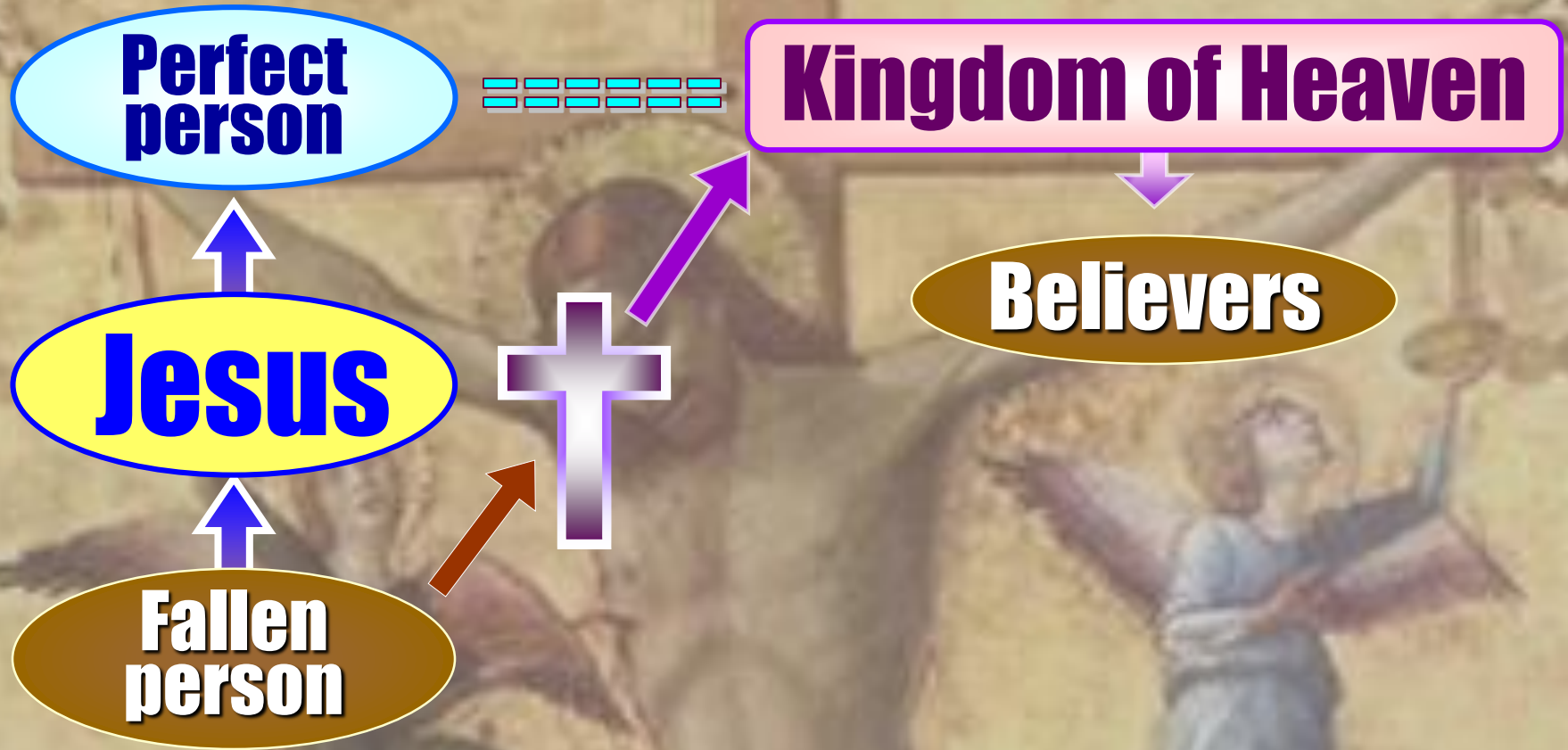
# 1.1 The Purpose of Jesus' Coming as the Messiah



- Jesus was supposed to establish the Kingdom of Heaven, first on the earth.



## 1.2 Was Salvation Completed through the Cross?



- Did **Jesus'** crucifixion fulfill the purpose of the providence of restoration? If so, faithful **believers** in Jesus would have restored their **original** nature and built the **Kingdom** of Heaven on earth (p. 113).

## 1.2 Was Salvation Completed through the Cross?



- ① Yet in the entire history of Christianity, there has been no one, no matter how devout, who lived his life in inseparable oneness with God.**



## 1.2 Was Salvation Completed through the Cross?



- ② There has never been a believer who had no need of redemption or a life of ardent prayer and devotion.



# 1.2 Was Salvation Completed through the Cross?



- ③ No matter how devout, Christian parents continue to transmit the original sin to their children.



# 1.2 Was Salvation Completed through the Cross?



- It teaches us that the grace of redemption by the cross has neither fully uprooted our original sin nor perfectly restored our original nature.

# 1.3 Jesus' Death on the Cross

①

②

③

None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

1 Cor. 2:8

- Considering ① the words and deeds of the disciples, ② God's providence, and ③ words and deeds of Jesus himself (Matt. 26:39), Jesus' **death** on the cross was not the most desired Will of God (1 Cor. 2:8) (p. 113-115).



## 1.3 Jesus' Death on the Cross

①

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Matt. 26:39

②

③

Jesus

- Considering ① the words and deeds of the disciples, ② God's providence, and ③ words and deeds of Jesus himself (Matt. 26:39), Jesus' death on the **cross** was not the most desired Will of God (1 Cor. 2:8) (p. 113-115).

# 1.3 Jesus' Death on the Cross



- Ever since Jesus died on the cross, the people of Israel became scattered over the face of the earth, suffering oppression and persecution (p. 117).



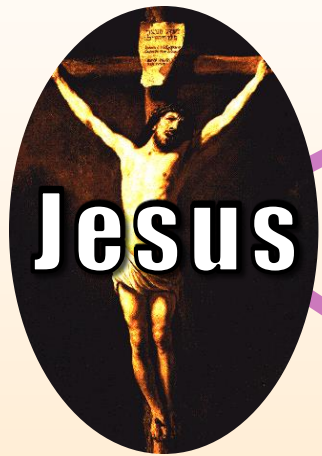


## **Suffering of the Israelites**

## **Cross of the Christians**

- Also many faithful Christians have shouldered the cross as their portion for the collective sin of having killed **Jesus**.

# 1.4 The Limit of Salvation through Redemption by the Cross and the Purpose of Jesus' Second Advent



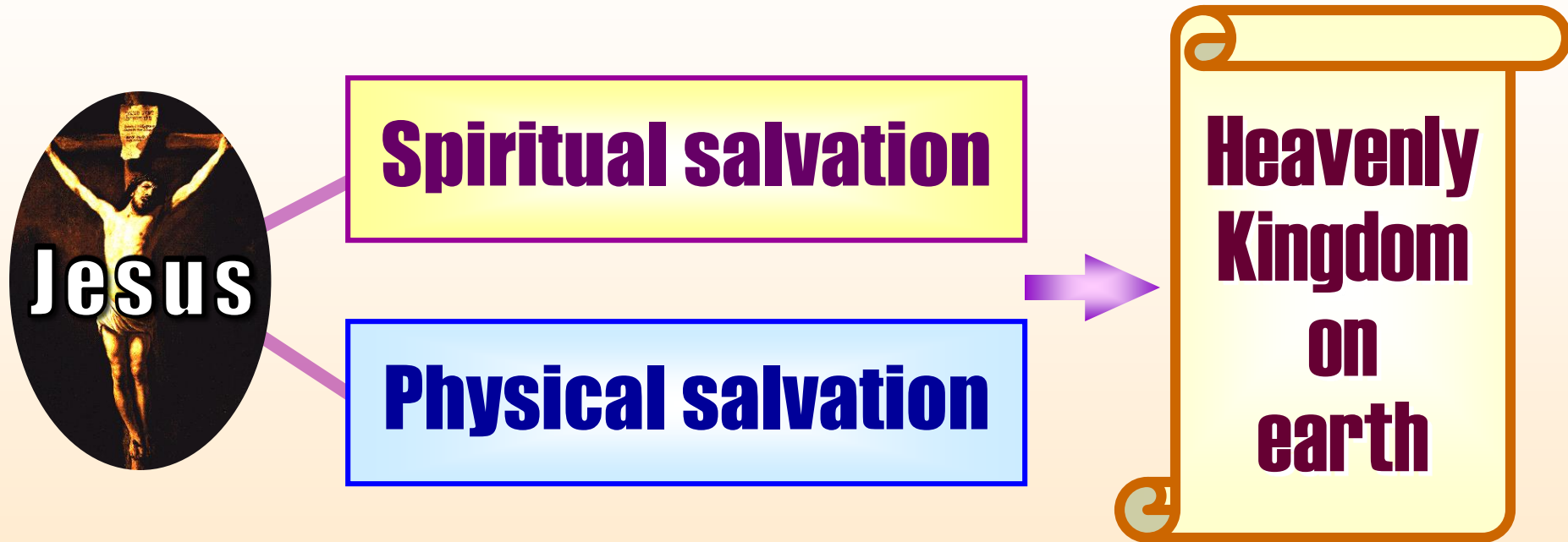
**Spiritual salvation**

**Physical salvation**

- If Jesus had not been crucified, he would have accomplished both the spiritual and physical aspects of salvation (p. 118).



# 1.4 The Limit of Salvation through Redemption by the Cross and the Purpose of Jesus' Second Advent



- He surely would have established the everlasting and indestructible Kingdom of Heaven on earth.





**Body : Satan's  
assault**

**No  
Physical  
salvation**

- The people led him to the cross. Jesus' body was exposed to Satan's assault, and he was killed. Consequently, Christians cannot attain physical salvation.





**Spirit: basis  
for  
salvation**

**Body : Satan's  
assault**

**No  
Physical  
salvation**

- However, Jesus laid the basis for spiritual salvation by securing the victorious foundation for his **resurrection** through the redemption by his blood on the **cross**.





**Spirit: basis  
for  
salvation**

**Spiritual  
salvation**

**Believers**

**Body : Satan's  
assault**

**No  
Physical  
salvation**

As a result, all **believers** since his resurrection have received the benefit of spiritual salvation, but not physical salvation (p. 119).



**Spirit: basis  
for  
salvation**



**Believers**

**Spiritual  
salvation**

**Body : Satan's  
assault**

**No  
Physical  
salvation**



**Spiritual and  
physical salvation**

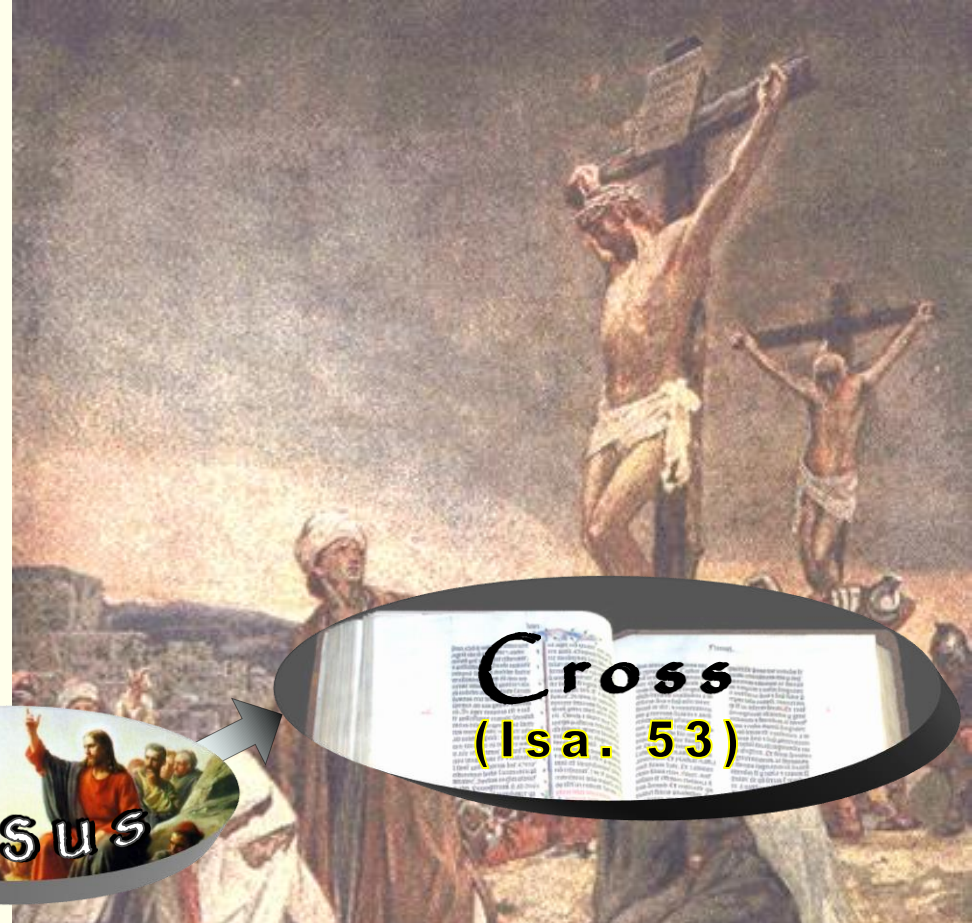
- To complete the work of spiritual and physical salvation, Jesus must come again on earth.



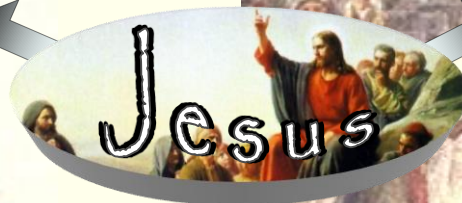
# 1.5 Two Kinds of Prophecies Concerning the Cross



**King-Kingdom**  
(Isa. 9, 11, 60)



**Cross**  
(Isa. 53)



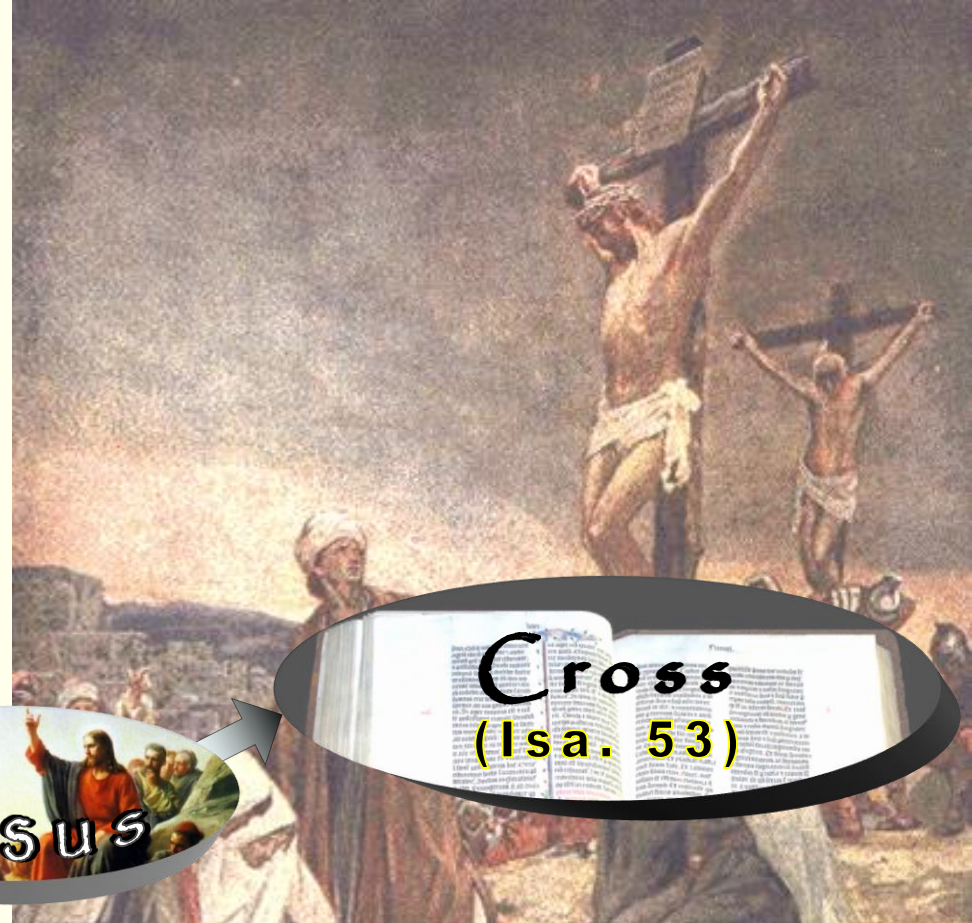
- It was prophesied in Isaiah 53 that Jesus would suffer on the cross; in Isaiah 9, 11, 60, however, it was foretold that Jesus would become the king of the Jews in his lifetime and establish an everlasting kingdom on earth.



# 1.5 Two Kinds of Prophecies Concerning the Cross



**King-Kingdom**  
(Isa. 9, 11, 60)



**Cross**  
(Isa. 53)

**Jesus**

Let us investigate why God gave two contrasting kinds of prophecies concerning Jesus (p. 120).

# 1.5 Two Kinds of Prophecies Concerning the Cross



- The nature of the fruits human beings bear depends upon whether or not they fulfill their portion of responsibility. For this reason, God gave two kinds of prophecies concerning the accomplishment of His Will.



## **1.6 Gospel Passages in which Jesus Spoke of His Crucifixion as if it were Necessary**



**Jesus**

- Several times Jesus spoke of his suffering on the cross as if it were necessary for salvation.

## 1.6 Gospel Passages in which Jesus Spoke of His Crucifixion as if it were Necessary

### Matt. 16:23

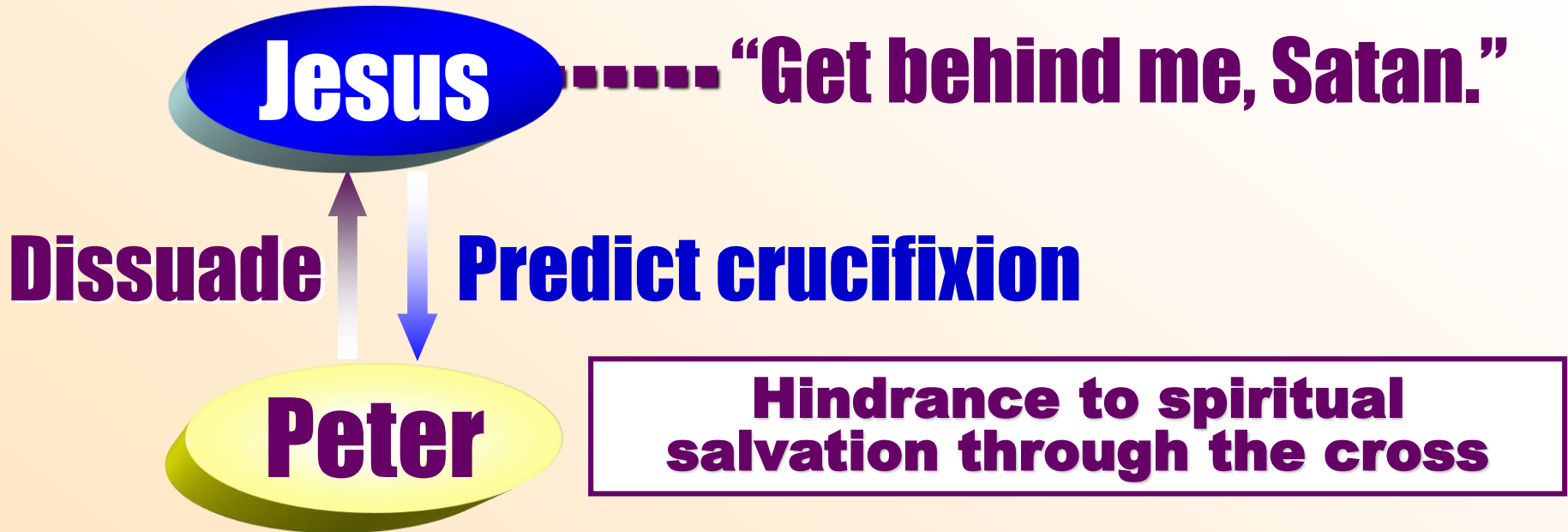


For example, when Peter heard Jesus' prediction of his imminent crucifixion and tried to **dissuade** him, Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Get behind me, Satan!” (Matt. 16:23) (p. 121).



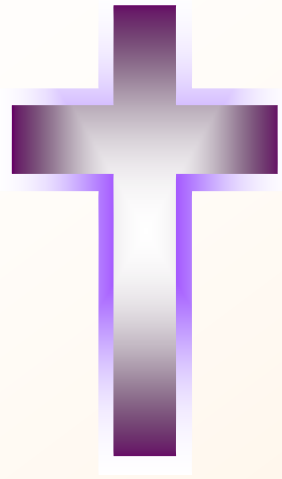
# 1.6 Gospel Passages in which Jesus Spoke of His Crucifixion as if it were Necessary

**Matt. 16:23**



- Peter's dissuasion could have hindered Jesus from paving the way for spiritual salvation through the cross. For this reason, Jesus rebuked him.

# John 19:30



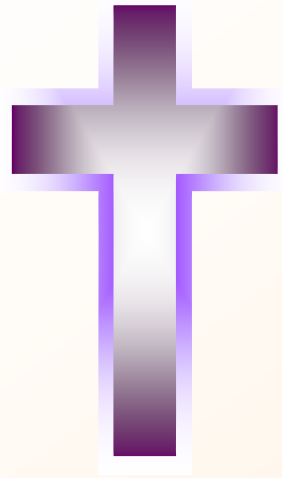
**Jesus**

..... **“It is finished.”**

- Jesus said, on the cross, “It is finished.” (John 19:30)



# John 19:30

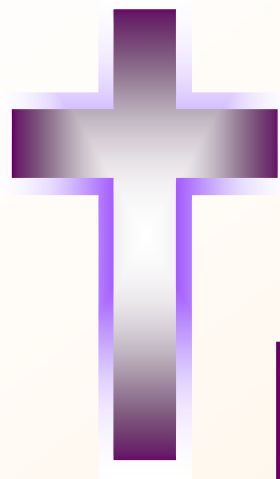


**Jesus**

..... **“It is finished.”**

- Jesus did not utter these words to mean that through the crucifixion he had completely accomplished the providence of salvation.

# John 19:30



**Jesus**

..... **“It is finished.”**

**Finished laying the foundation  
for spiritual salvation  
through the cross**

- Jesus meant that he had finished laying the foundation for spiritual salvation. By this time, it had become the alternative goal of the providence.





# Section 2

**The Second Coming  
of Elijah  
and John the Baptist**



# Elijah

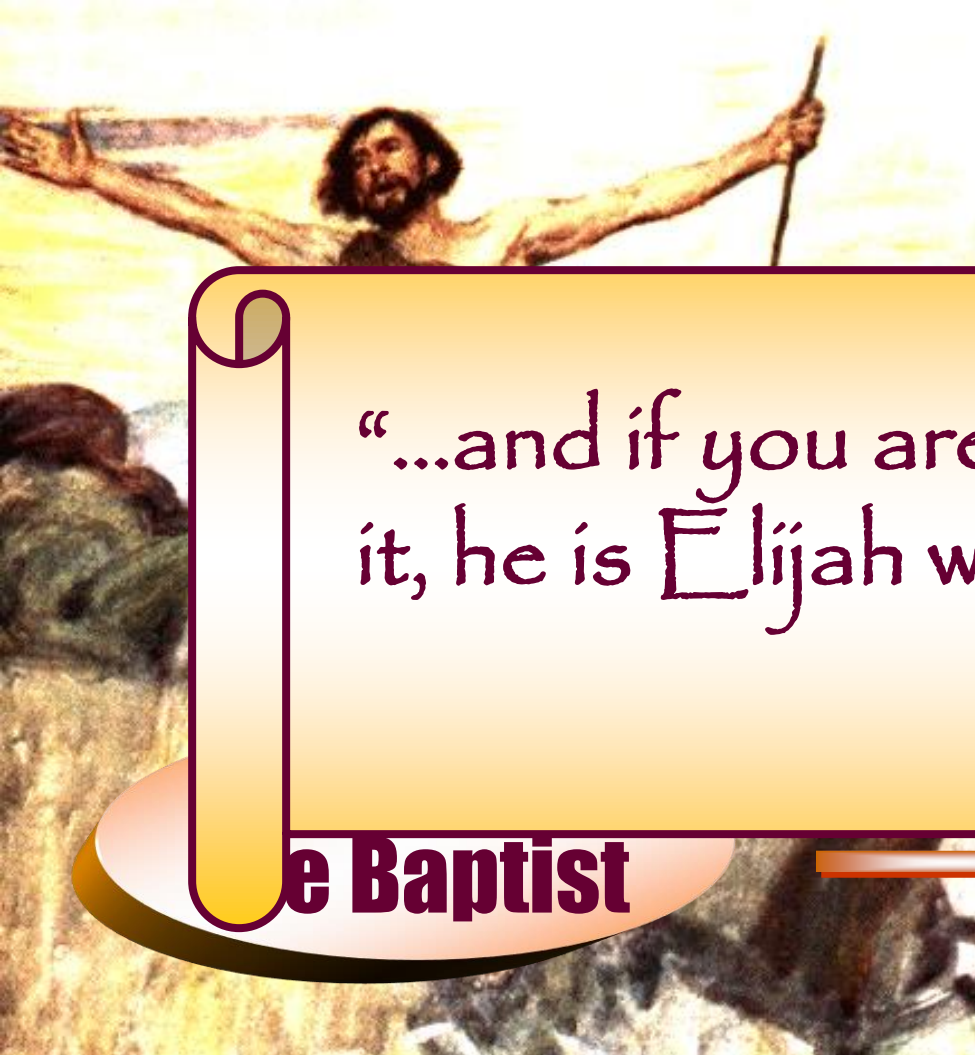
”Behold, I will send you Elijah  
before the great and terrible day  
of the Lord comes”

Mal. 4:5

hi  
5)

- The prophet Malachi foretold that Elijah would come again before the Messiah (p. 122).





**Elijah**

“...and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ...”

Matt. 11:14

**John the Baptist**

**Elijah**

- Jesus testified that the prophesied coming of Elijah was realized in none other than John the Baptist.



**Elijah**

..."Elijah does come, and he is to restore all things; ..." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Matt. 17:13

**John the Baptist**

**Elijah**

- Jesus testified that the prophesied coming of Elijah was realized in none other than John the Baptist.



## 2.1 The Jewish Belief in the Return of Elijah



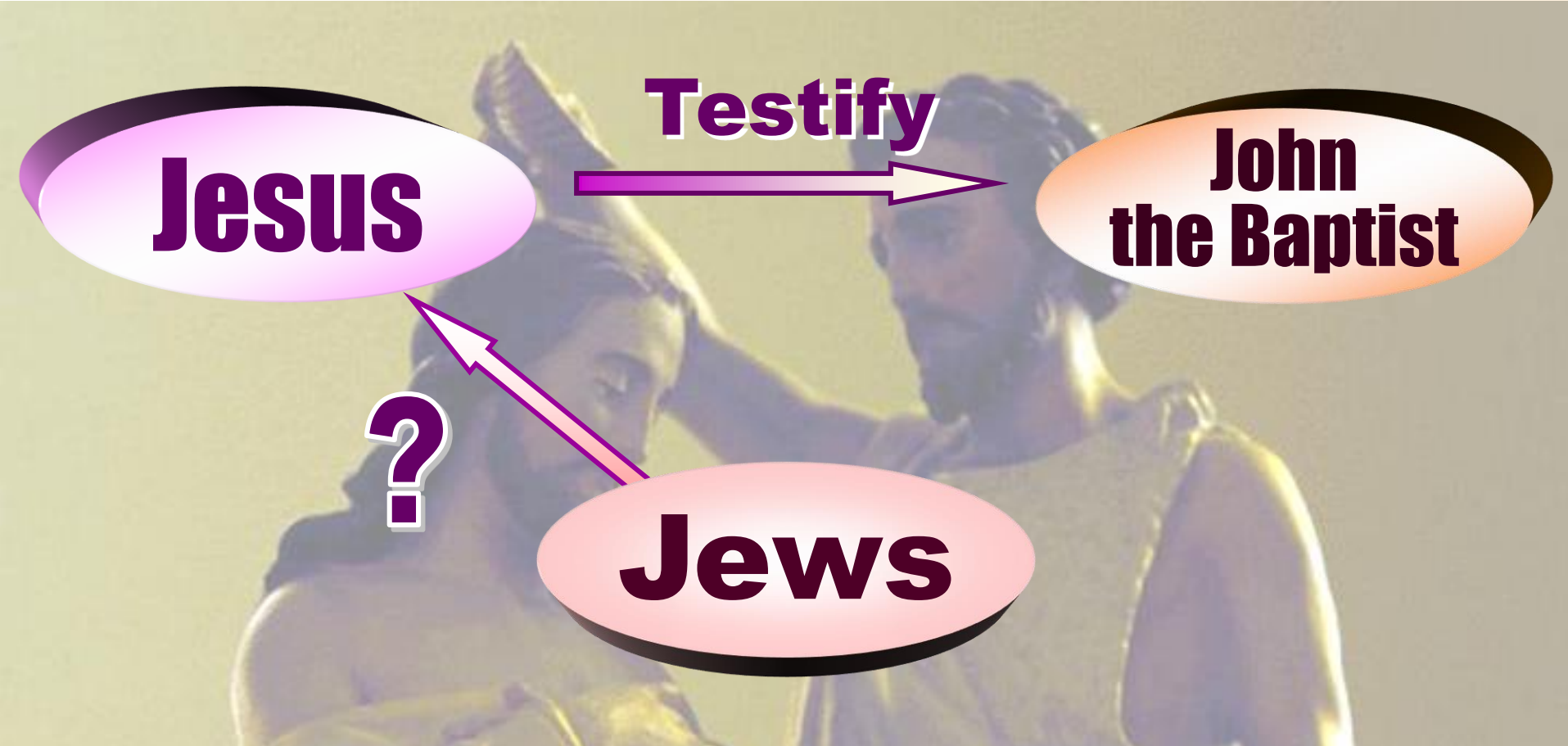
**Jesus**

**Testify**

**John  
the Baptist**

- Since the disciples already believed that Jesus was the Messiah, they willingly accepted his testimony that John the Baptist was Elijah (p. 124).

## 2.1 The Jewish Belief in the Return of Elijah



- Yet how could the other Jews who did not know Jesus accept this controversial claim?



## 2.2 The Direction the Jewish People Would Choose

### Testify

“...and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ...”

Matt. 11:14

- Jesus testified that John the Baptist was the very Elijah (Matt. 11:14).

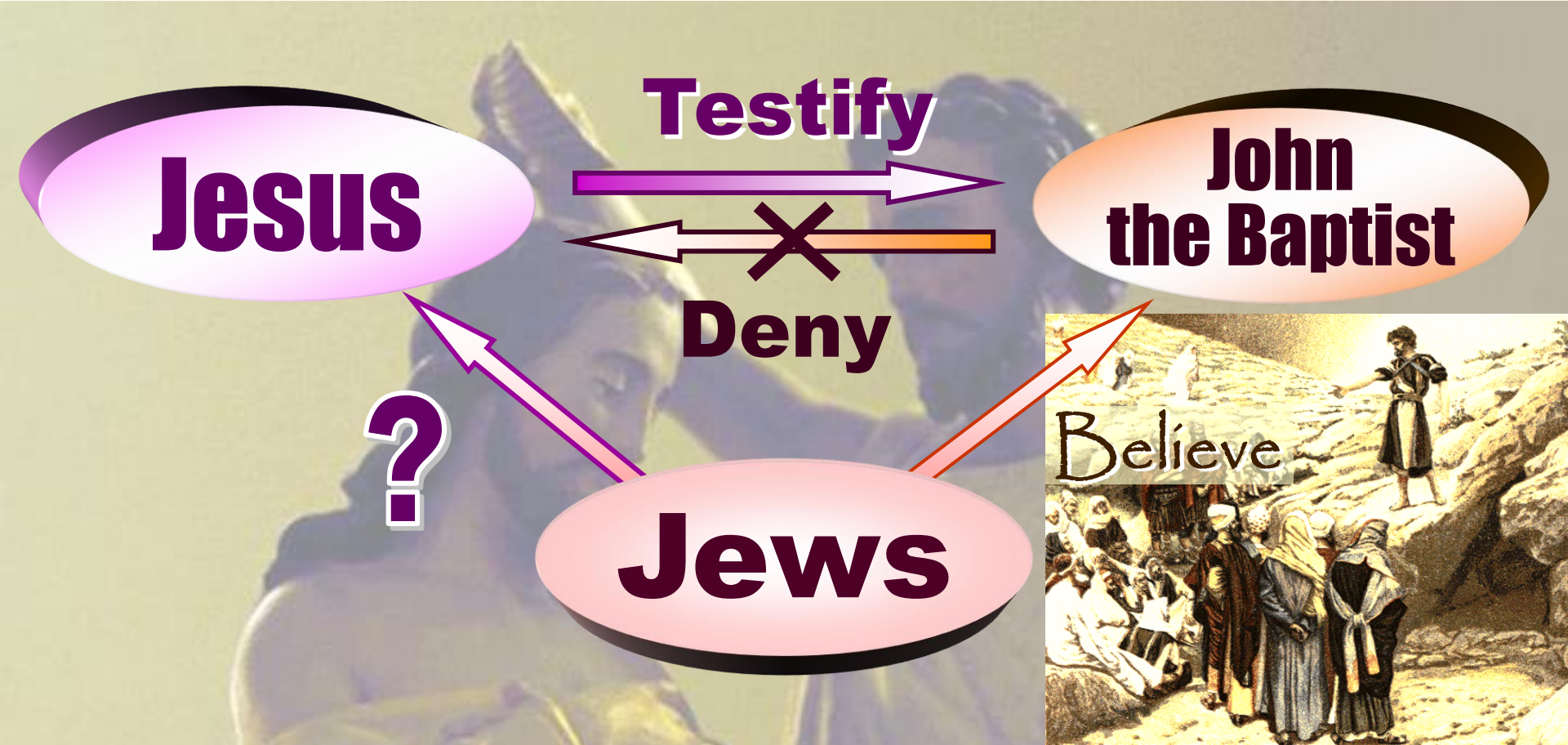
## 2.2 The Direction the Jewish People Would Choose

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not."

John 1:19-20

On the contrary, John the Baptist himself flatly denied this claim.

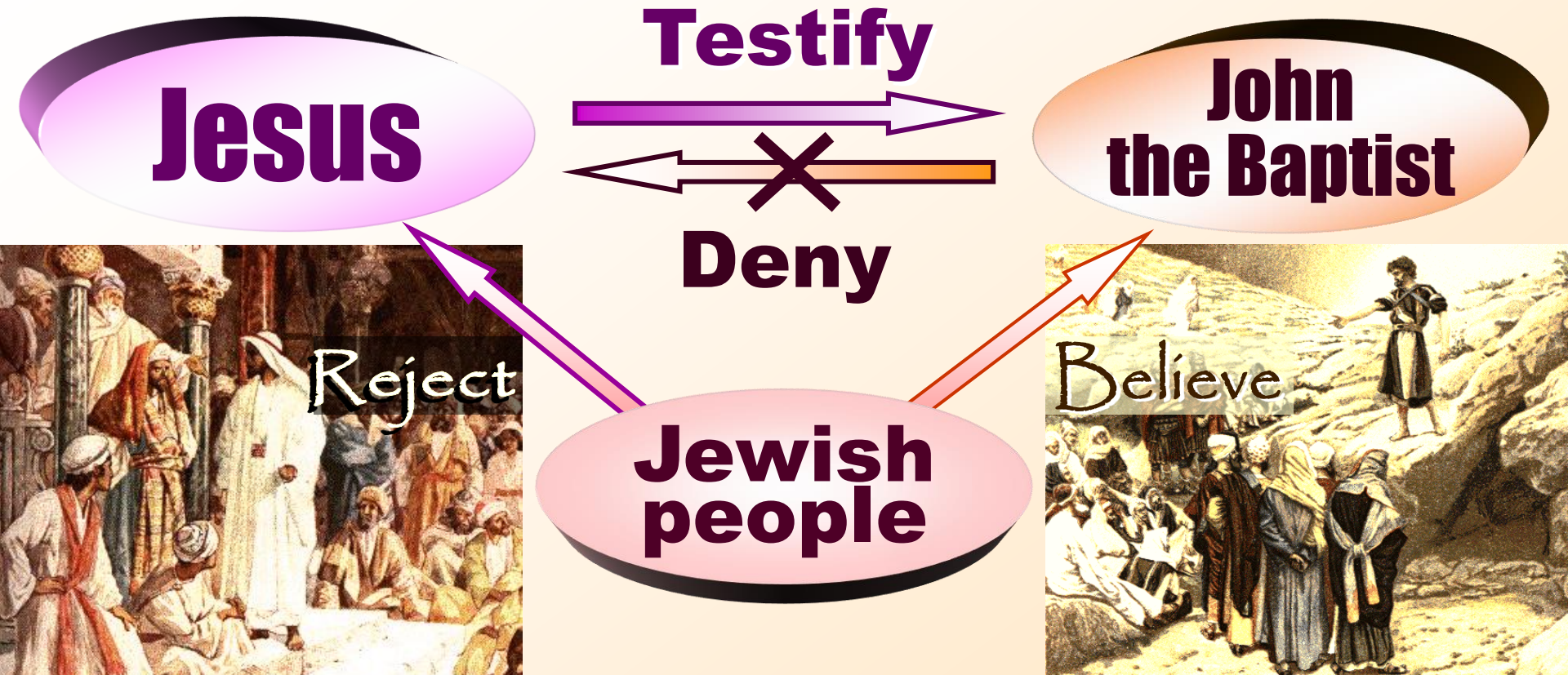
## 2.2 The Direction the Jewish People Would Choose



- At that time, the Jewish people believed John the Baptist more than Jesus (p. 126).

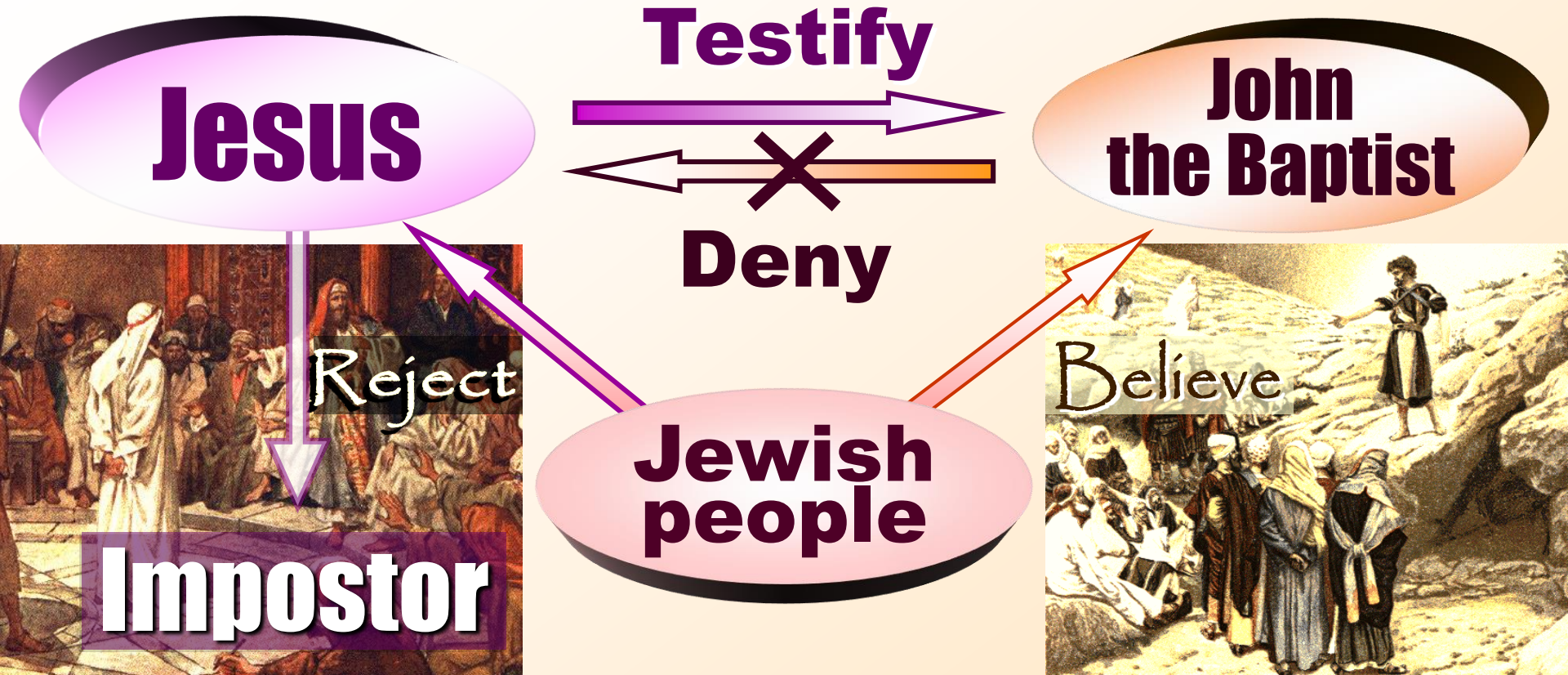


## 2.2 The Direction the Jewish People Would Choose



- Thus, they rejected Jesus' words as a fabrication concocted to support his dubious claim to be the Messiah.

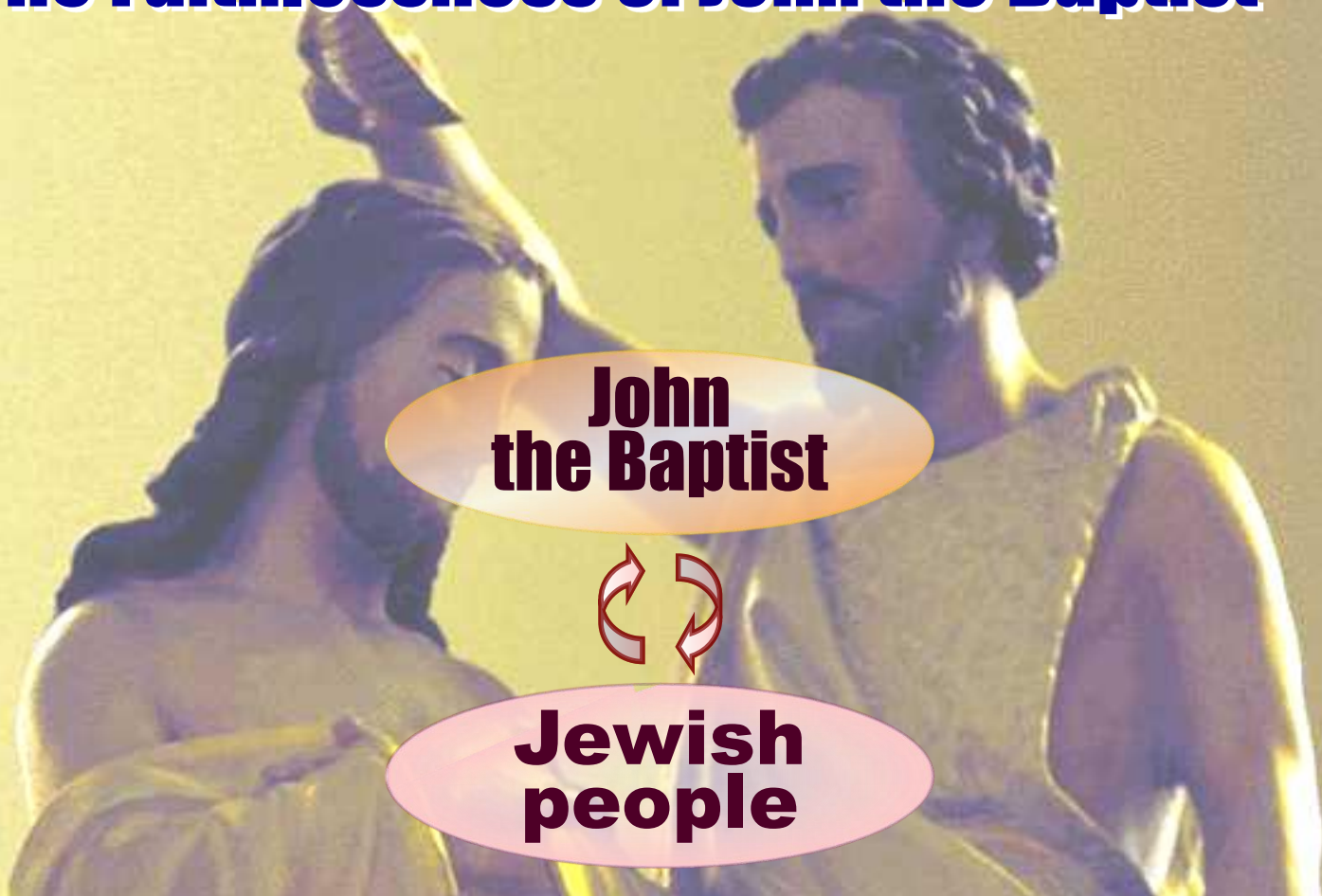
## 2.2 The Direction the Jewish People Would Choose



- Consequently, Jesus was condemned as an impostor.



## 2.3 The Faithlessness of John the Baptist



- Many among the Jewish leadership and people of Jesus' day had the highest respect for John the Baptist; some even thought of him as the Messiah.

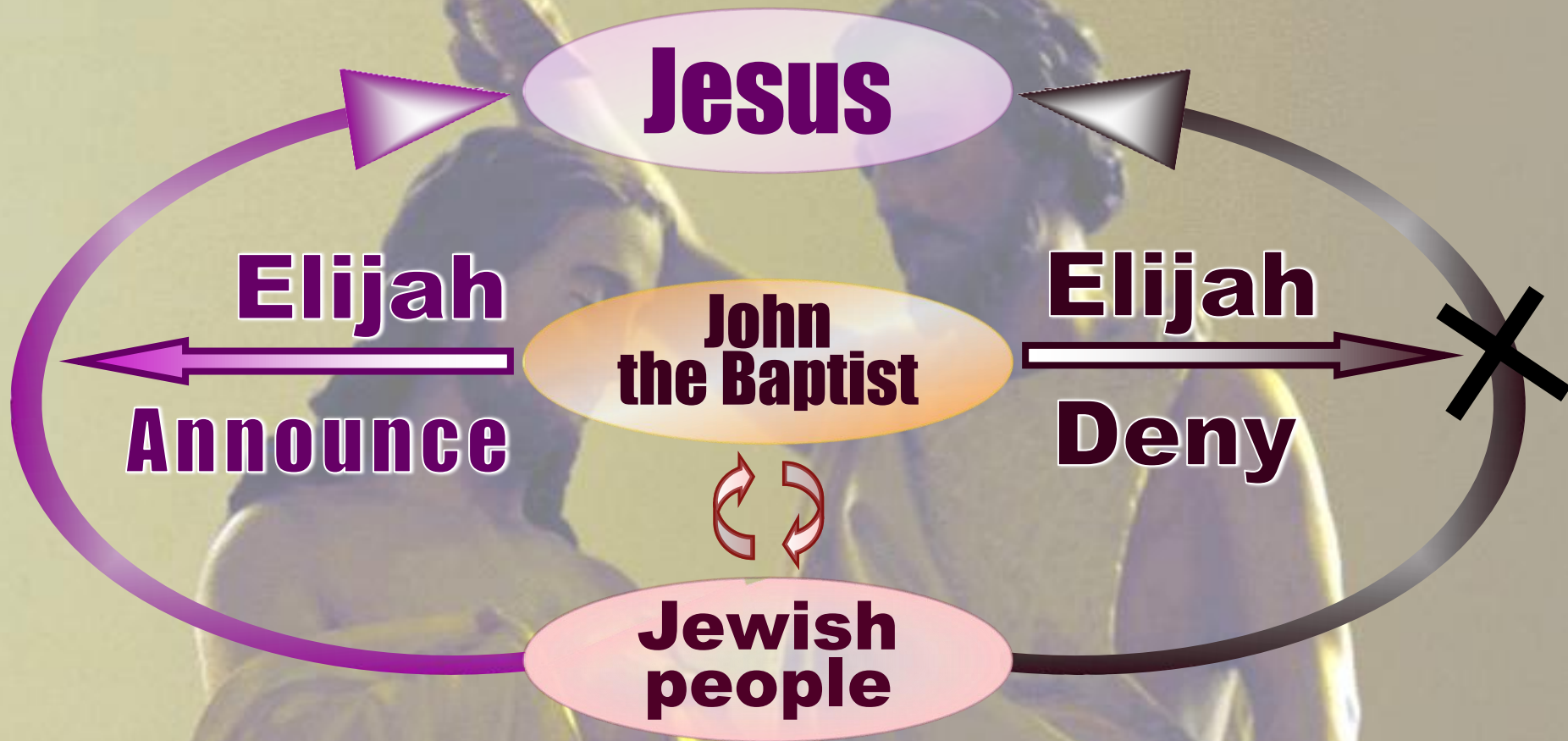


## 2.3 The Faithlessness of John the Baptist



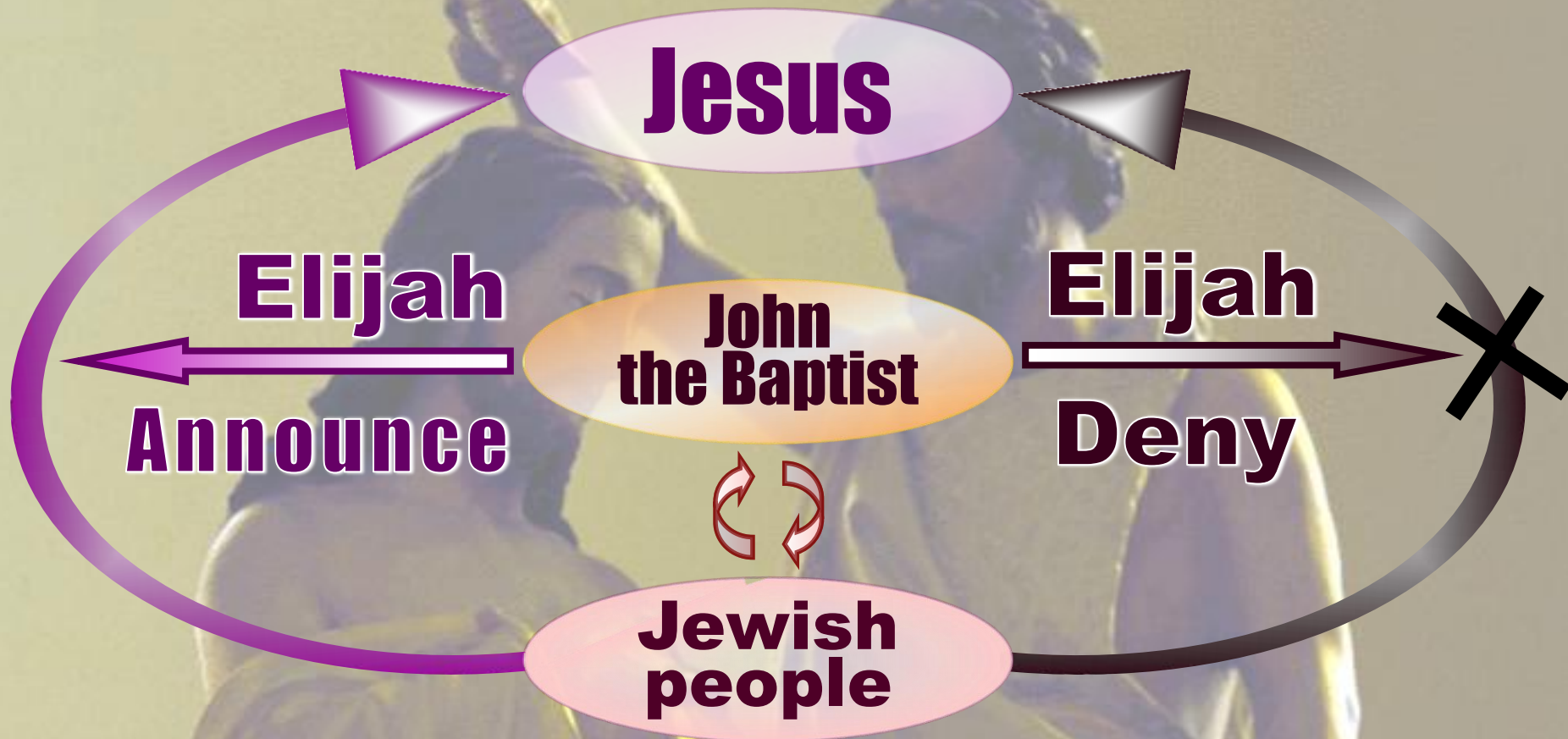
- Had John the Baptist announced that he was Elijah, as Jesus had testified, all the Jewish people would have readily believed John's testimony and flocked to Jesus.

## 2.3 The Faithlessness of John the Baptist



- Instead, John's ignorance of God's providence, which led him to insist that he was not Elijah, became the principal reason why the Jewish people did not come to Jesus.

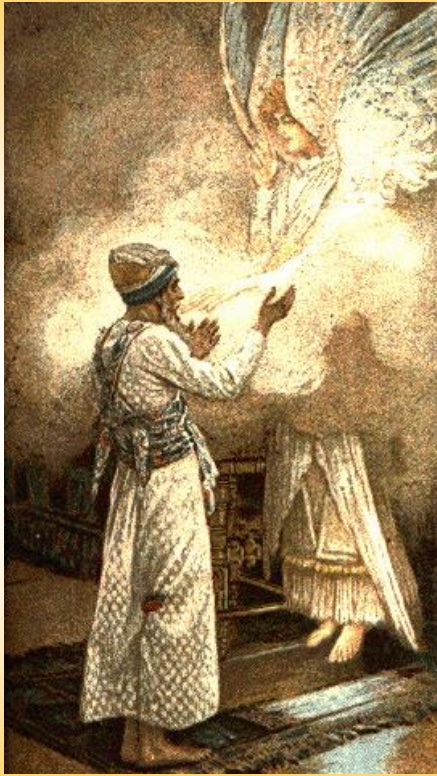
## 2.3 The Faithlessness of John the Baptist



- Here we have come to understand that the main reason why Jesus had to die on the cross was the failure of John the Baptist (p. 130).



## 2.4 The Sense in Which John the Baptist Was Elijah



“....and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ..... to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”

Luke. 1:17

- As recorded in the Bible, John the Baptist was to inherit and complete the mission which Elijah had left unfinished on earth (Luke 1:17).

## 2.4 The Sense in Which John the Baptist Was Elijah

**Inherit the mission**

**(Luke 1:17)**



**John  
the  
Baptist**



**Elijah**

**(Second  
Coming)**

- Hence, in terms of his mission, John was the second coming of Elijah.



## 2.5 Our Attitude toward the Bible



- Until today, no one has ever uncovered this heavenly secret.



## 2.5 Our Attitude toward the Bible

**Conventional  
view  
of the Bible**



**John the Baptist:  
great prophet**



- This is because we have been reading the **Bible** based on the unquestioned belief that John the Baptist was a great prophet.

## 2.5 Our Attitude toward the Bible

**Conventional  
view  
of the Bible**



**John the Baptist:  
great prophet**



**Dispense with the conservative  
attitude of faith !**

- We should dispense with the conservative attitude of faith which makes us afraid to question conventional beliefs and traditional doctrines (p. 131).

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