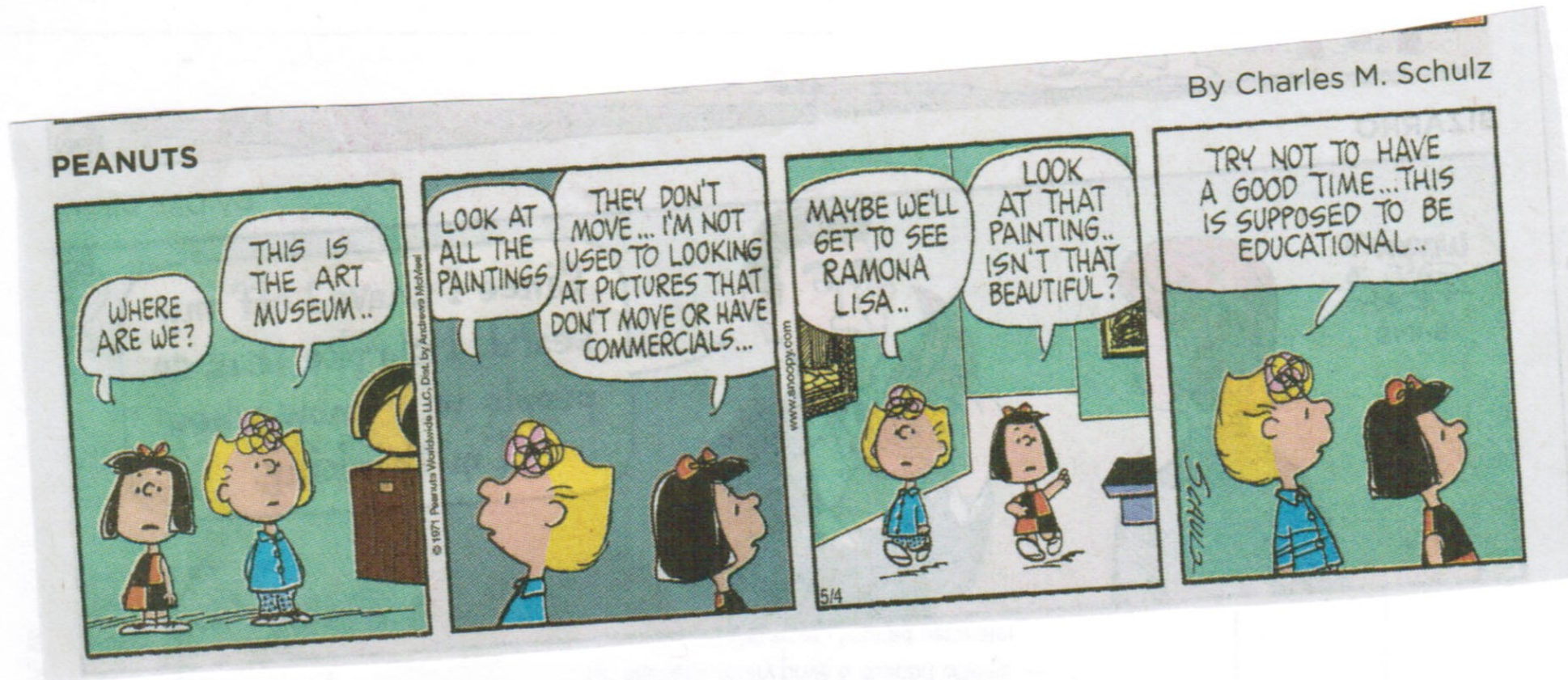


A Little Humor...



Thanks to Susan Griffith

What will God the Father and Jesus the Son look like when you see them in Heaven?

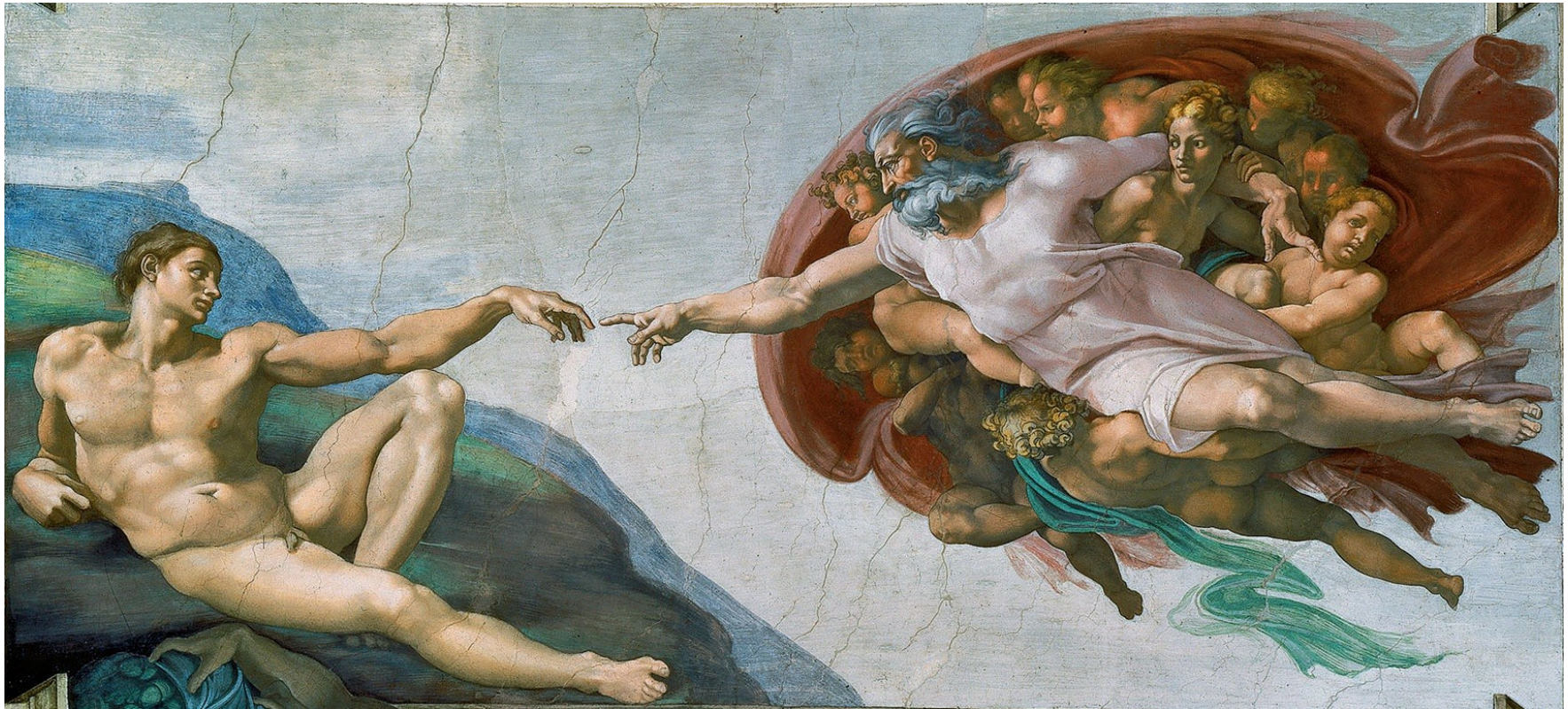
*One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek:
To dwell in the Lord's house all the days of my life,
To gaze on the Lord's beauty, to visit his temple.*

*"Come," says my heart, "seek His face";
Your face, Lord, do I seek!
Do not hide Your face from me; do not repel Your servant in anger.
You are my salvation; do not cast me off; do not forsake me, God my Savior!*

Psalms 27: 4, 8-9

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in **Our image**, according to **Our likeness**; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

27 So God created **man in His own image**; **in the image of God He created him**; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:26-27 (NKJV)



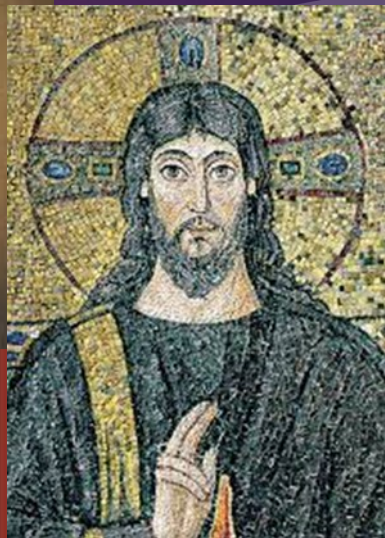
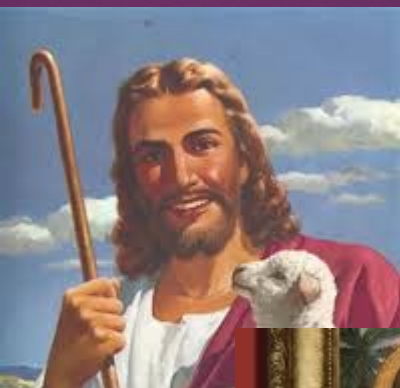
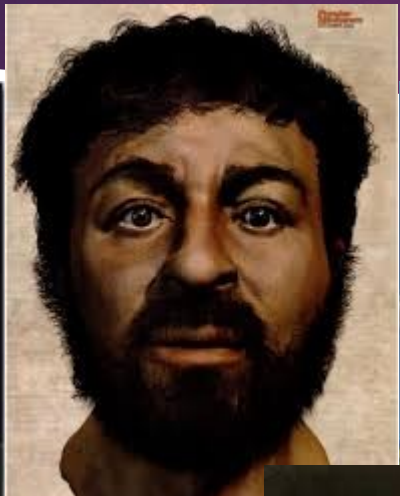
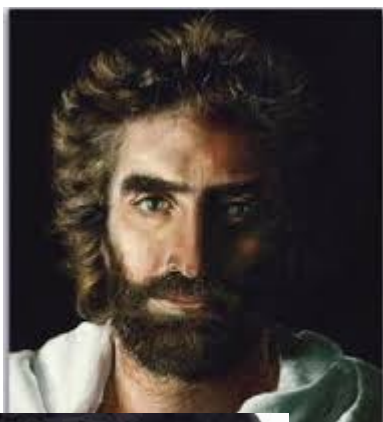
The Creation of Adam. Michelangelo, c. 1512.



The Faces of Jesus

A LIFE STORY THROUGH ART AND SCRIPTURE

“He had a face...”



He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Isaiah 53:7 (NKJV)



Zurbaran, Francisco de. *Agnus Dei*, c. 1635-1640

“...Before Abraham was I am.” Jesus, John 8:58

- ▶ “am” = “is”
- ▶ Jesus existed from the first atom...It is implicit that Jesus is in **the present**...
- ▶ **Jesus’ person begins with a girl...**

The Annunciation

- ▶ “And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary.
- ▶ ...’Hail thou art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.’... [Mary] she was troubled at his saying...
- ▶ ...And the angel said unto her, ‘Fear not, Mary: for though hast found favor with God....though shalt conceive in thy womb...a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever...Mary said unto the angel, ‘How shall this be, seeing as I know not a man?’ And the angel answered...’For with God nothing shall be impossible.’
- ▶ And Mary said, ‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.’ And the angel departed from her.” Luke 1:26-28, 30-38 (KJV)

“The announcement has been made and heard. The world is with child.” Buechner



'A young woman is with child, and she will bear a son . . .' Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)

- ▶ *Annunciation*. Dante Gabriel Rossetti, 1850. Luke I: 26-35



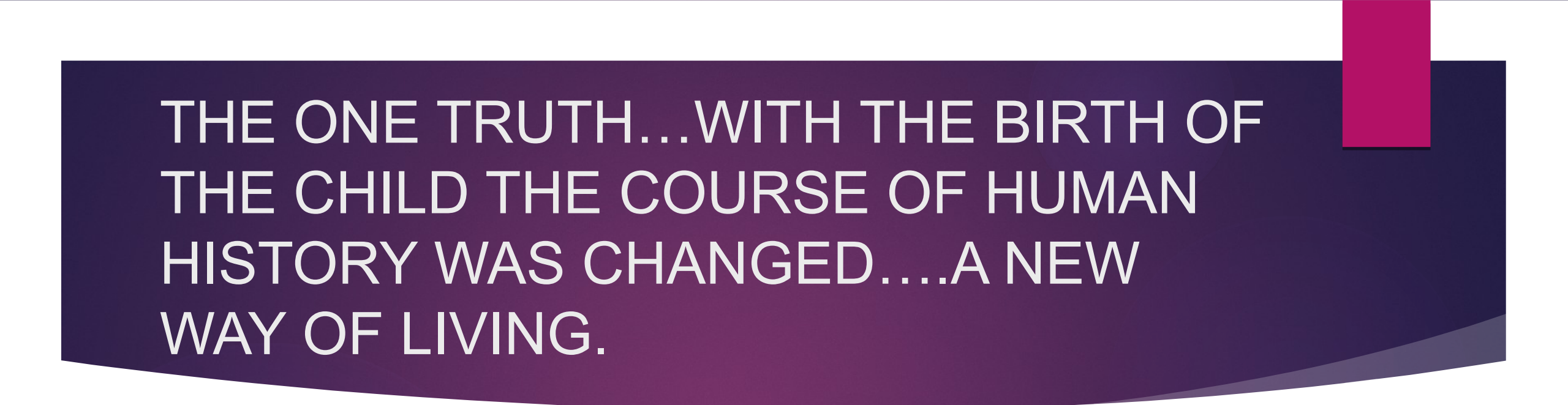
“...there neither has been or ever will be real time without him... there never has been or never will be a world without salvation.”
Buechner



Annunciation. John Collier, 2000.

The Nativity

*Some say that ever 'gainst the season comes
Wherein our Savior's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all nigh long;
And the, they say, no spirit dare stir abroad.
The nights are wholesome, then no planets strike.
No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm
"So hallowed and so gracious is the time." Marcellus. Shakespeare, Hamlet*



THE ONE TRUTH...WITH THE BIRTH OF
THE CHILD THE COURSE OF HUMAN
HISTORY WAS CHANGED....A NEW
WAY OF LIVING.

We as Christians adhere to the words found in Hebrews 11:1...

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence
of things not seen.*



And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

The Nativity. Arthur Hughes, 1857-58



16 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

17 Now when they had seen Him, they made widely[d] known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

18 And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

20 Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

The Adoration of the Shepherds.
Gerard van Honthorst, 1622.



*Silent night, holy night. All is
calm, all is bright.*

*For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**. Isaiah 9:6*

Mystic Nativity. Sandro Botticelli, c. 1500-01.



The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple. William Holman Hunt, 1860.



The Baptism of Christ. Andrea del Verrocchio and Leonardo da Vinci, 1472–75.

The Baptism

15 Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not,

16 John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but **One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

17 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”....

21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that **Jesus also was baptized**; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. 22 And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.”
Luke 3

The Temptation

1 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into[a] the wilderness, 2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

3 And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

4 But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'" Luke 4:1-4

Tríptico da Vida de Cristo - Command that these stones be made bread, 16th C.



“We see only
dimly....”

10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

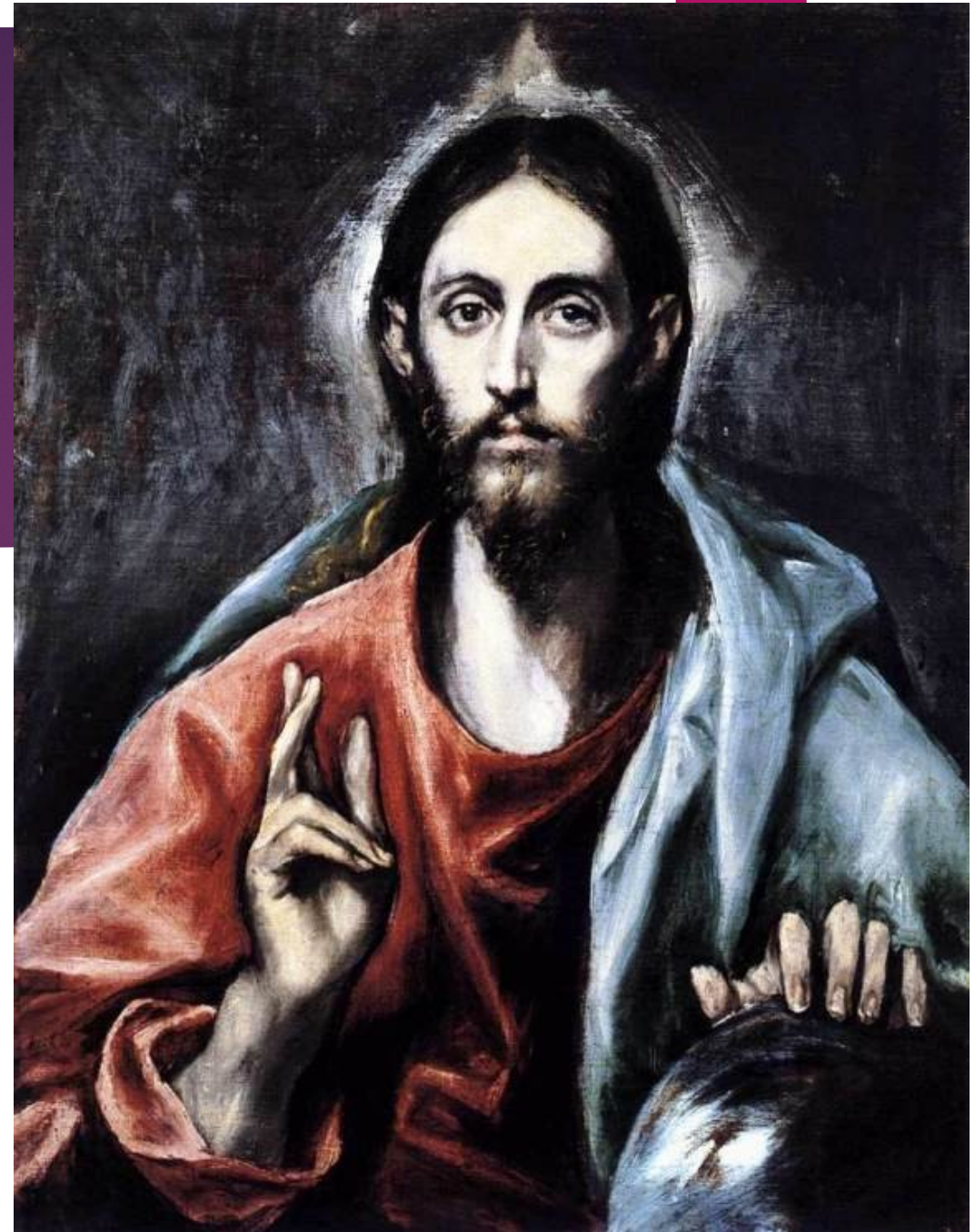
11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him. Matthew 4:10-11 (NKJV)

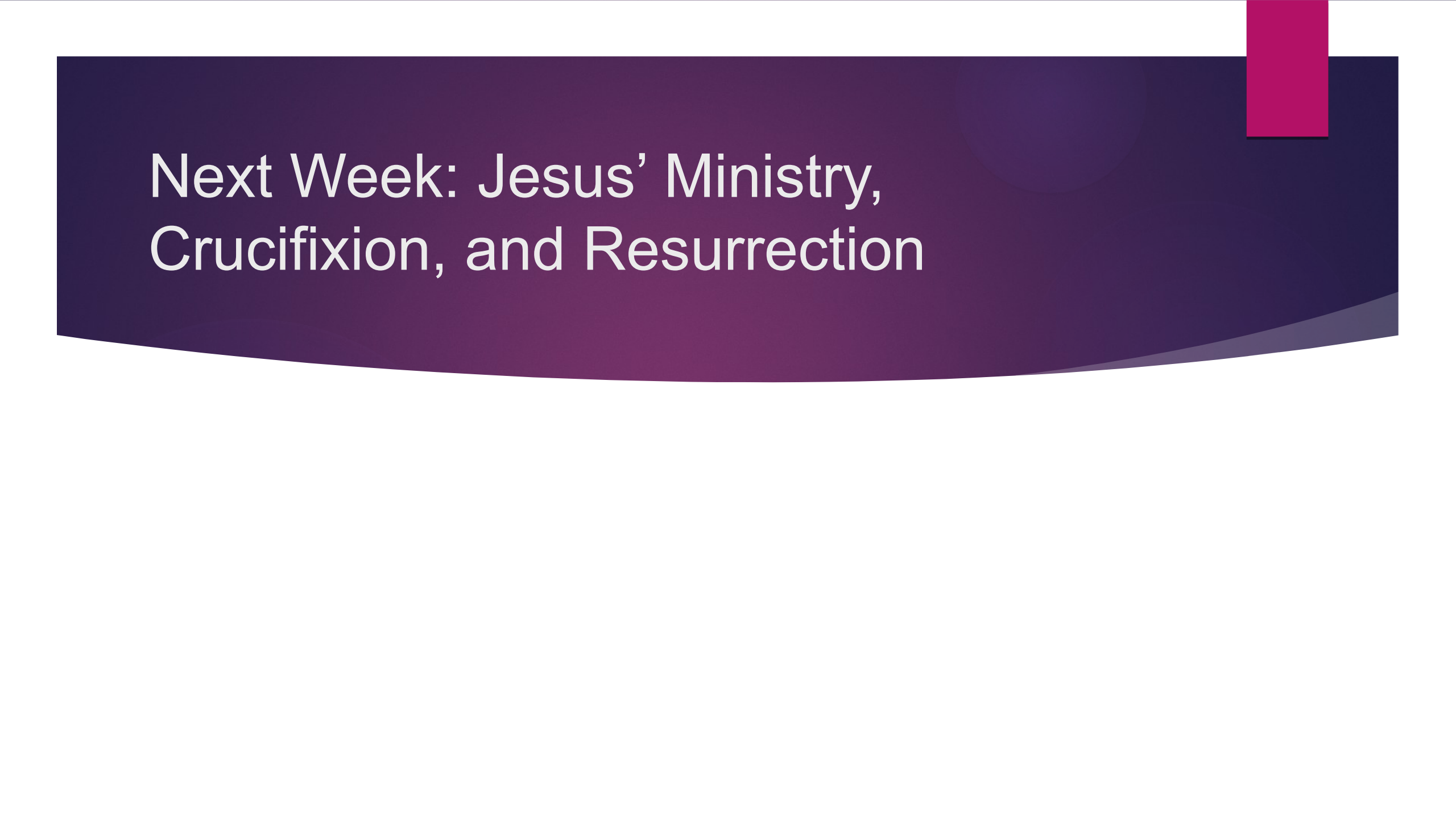


Jesus Ministered to by Angels. James Tissot, 1886-1894.

“Why did you seek Me?”

Cristo Salvator Mundi (Christ, Savior of the World). El Greco, c. 1600.





Next Week: Jesus' Ministry, Crucifixion, and Resurrection