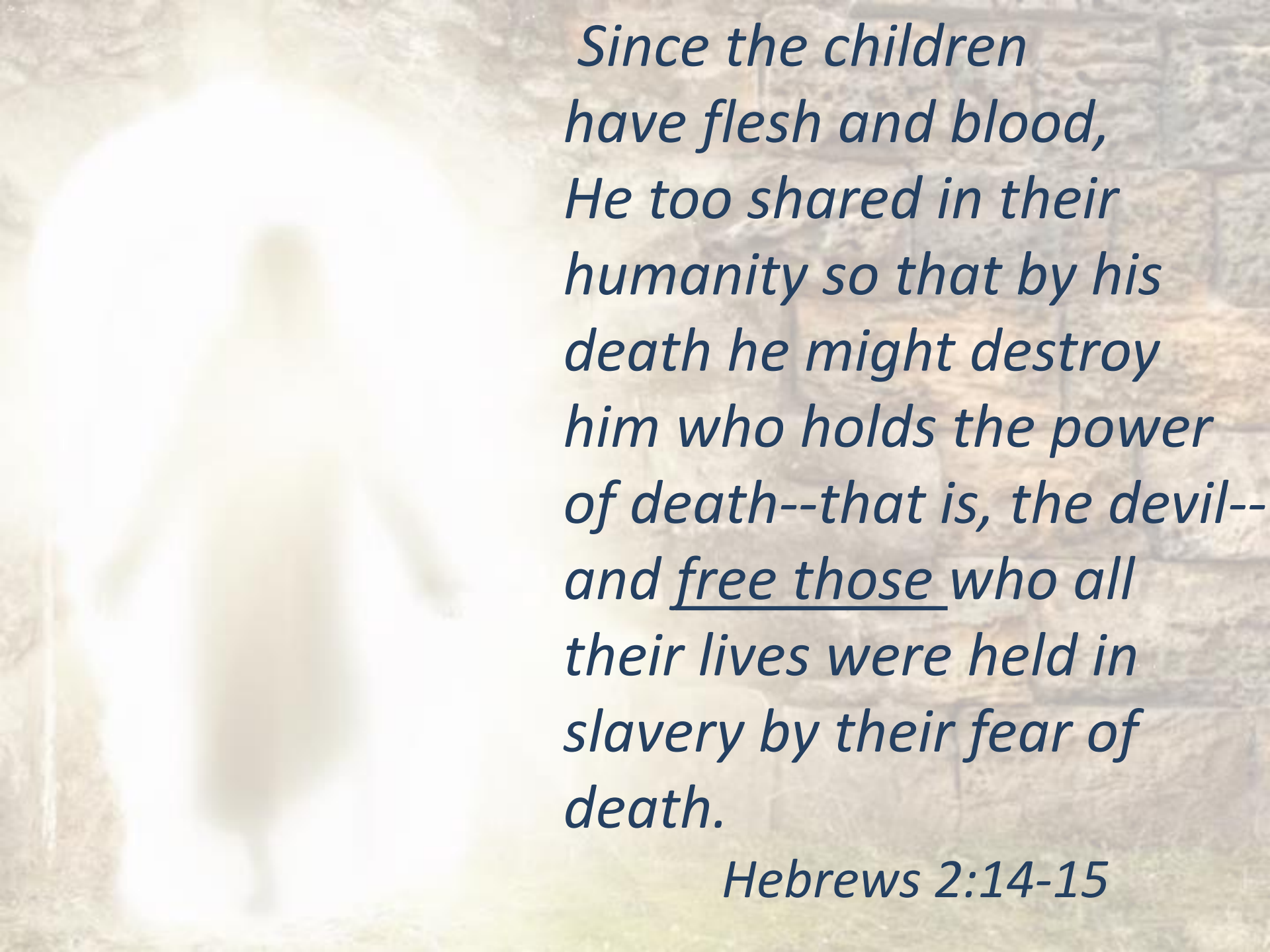
A glowing, ethereal figure of a man in a white robe stands in a stone doorway. The figure is surrounded by a bright, golden light that fills the scene. The background is a rough, stone wall. The text "He is Risen! Our Firstfruits" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a white, serif font.

He is
Risen!
Our
Firstfruits



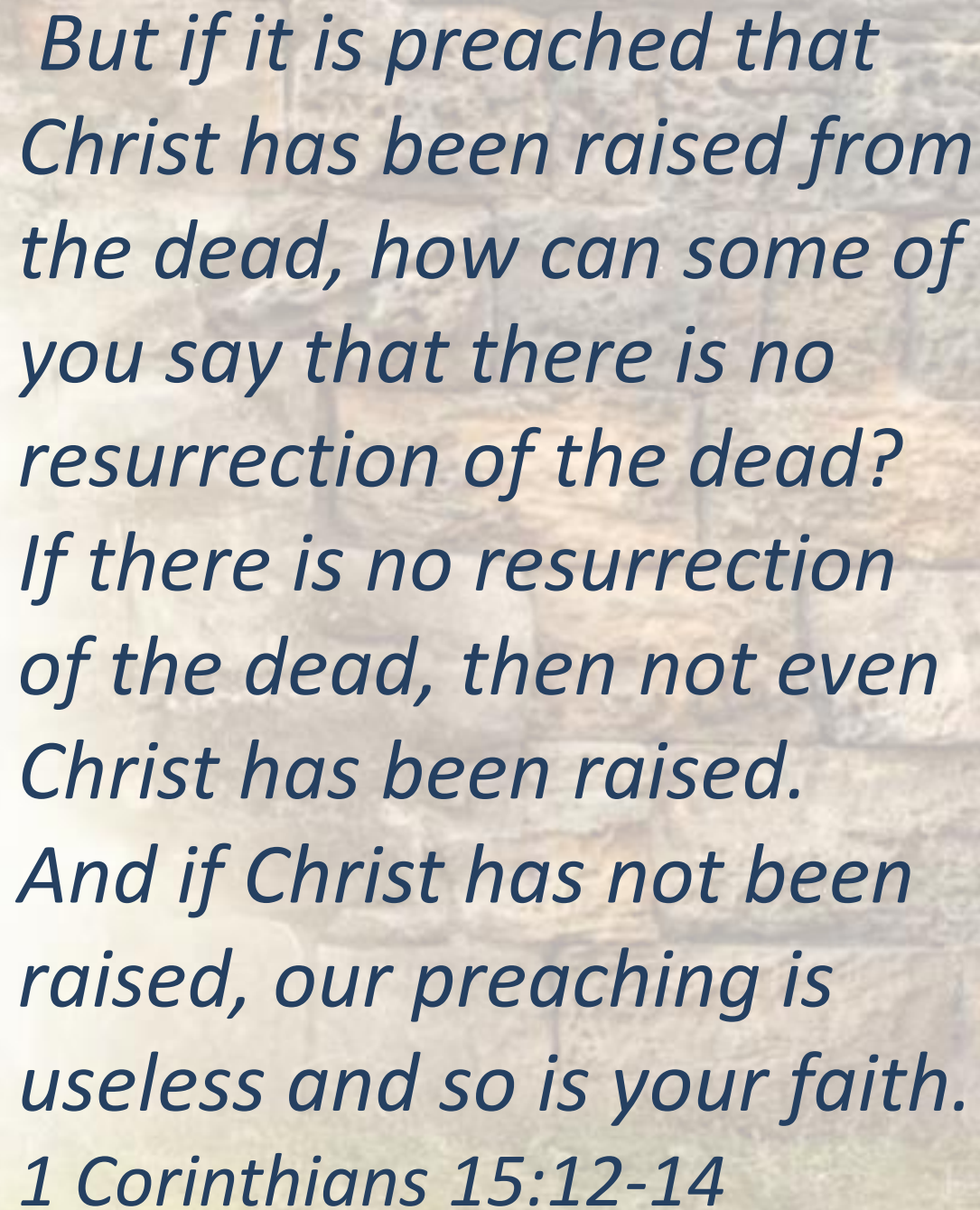
*Since the children
have flesh and blood,
He too shared in their
humanity so that by his
death he might destroy
him who holds the power
of death--that is, the devil--
and free those who all
their lives were held in
slavery by their fear of
death.*

Hebrews 2:14-15

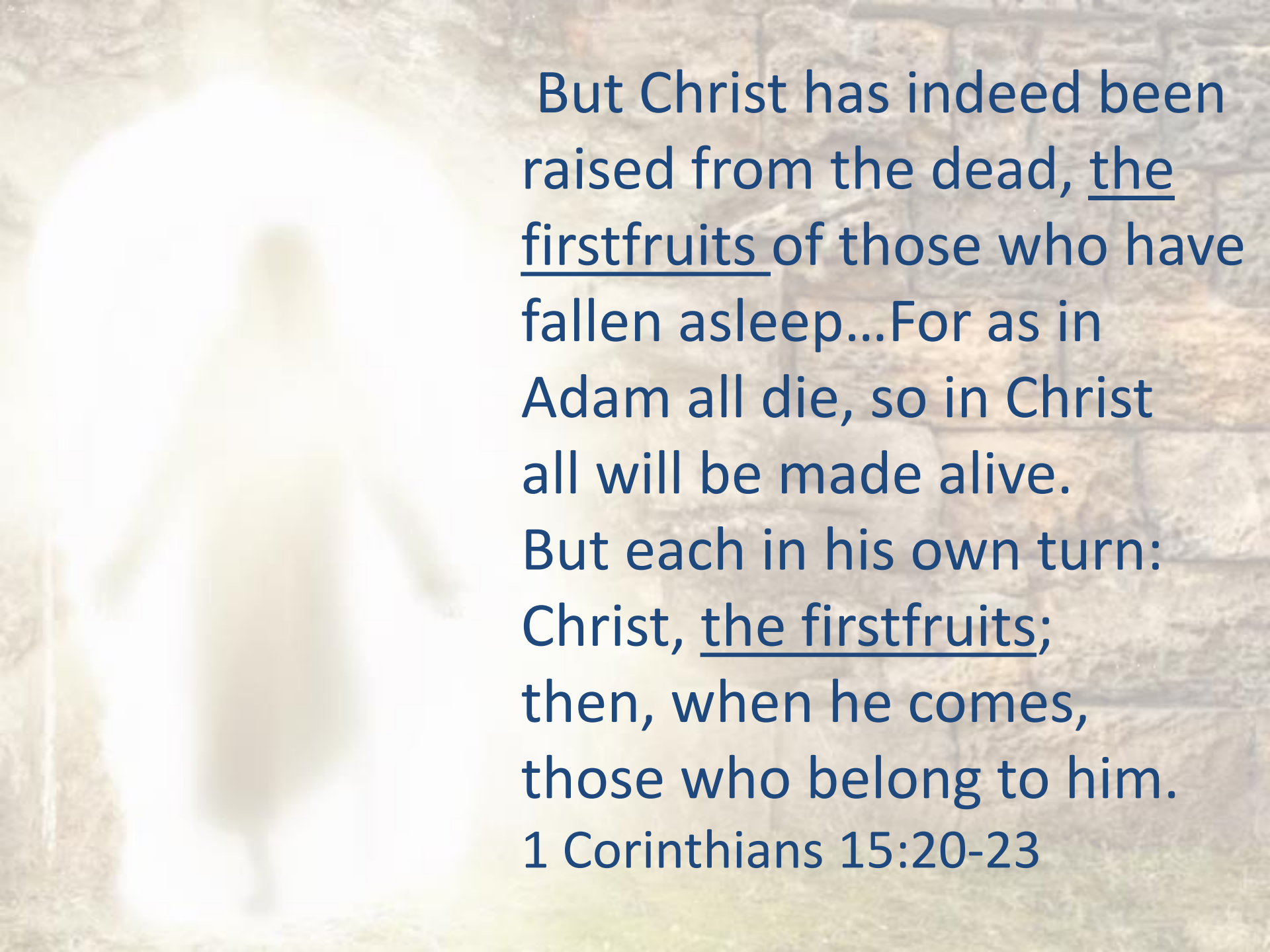
*For what I received I
passed on to you as of
first importance:
that Christ died
for our sins
according to the Scriptures,
that he was buried,
that he was raised on
the third day
according to the Scriptures,
and that he appeared to
Peter... 1 Corinthians 15:3-5*

there's the most convincing circumstantial evidence of all: the fact that every one of Jesus' disciples was willing to suffer and die for his beliefs. These men spent the rest of their lives witnessing about Christ. They frequently went without food; they were mocked, beaten, and thrown into prison.

Dr. J. P. Moreland Ph.D. from USC
The Case for Christ

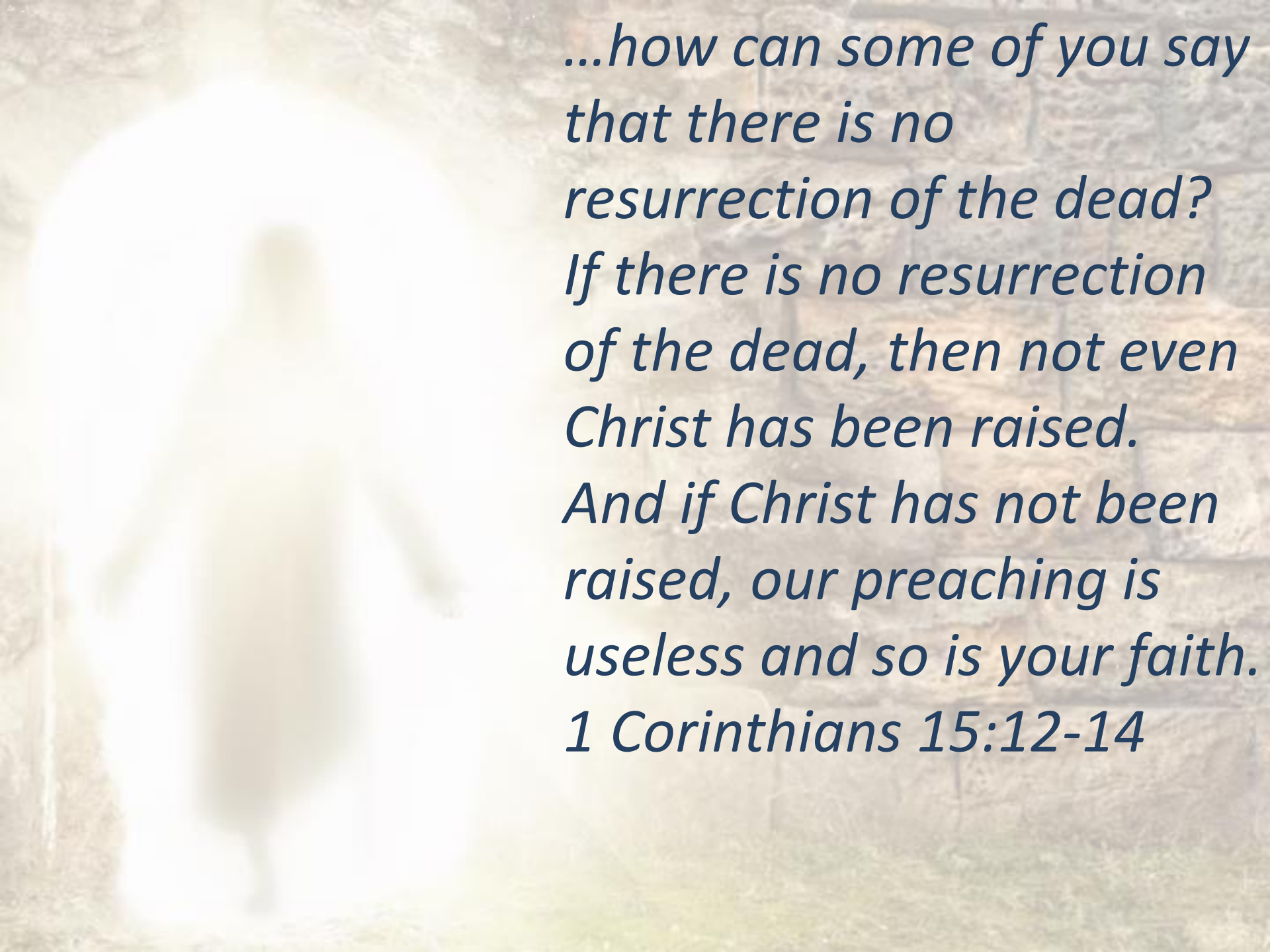


But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. 1 Corinthians 15:12-14



But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23



*...how can some of you say
that there is no
resurrection of the dead?
If there is no resurrection
of the dead, then not even
Christ has been raised.
And if Christ has not been
raised, our preaching is
useless and so is your faith.
1 Corinthians 15:12-14*

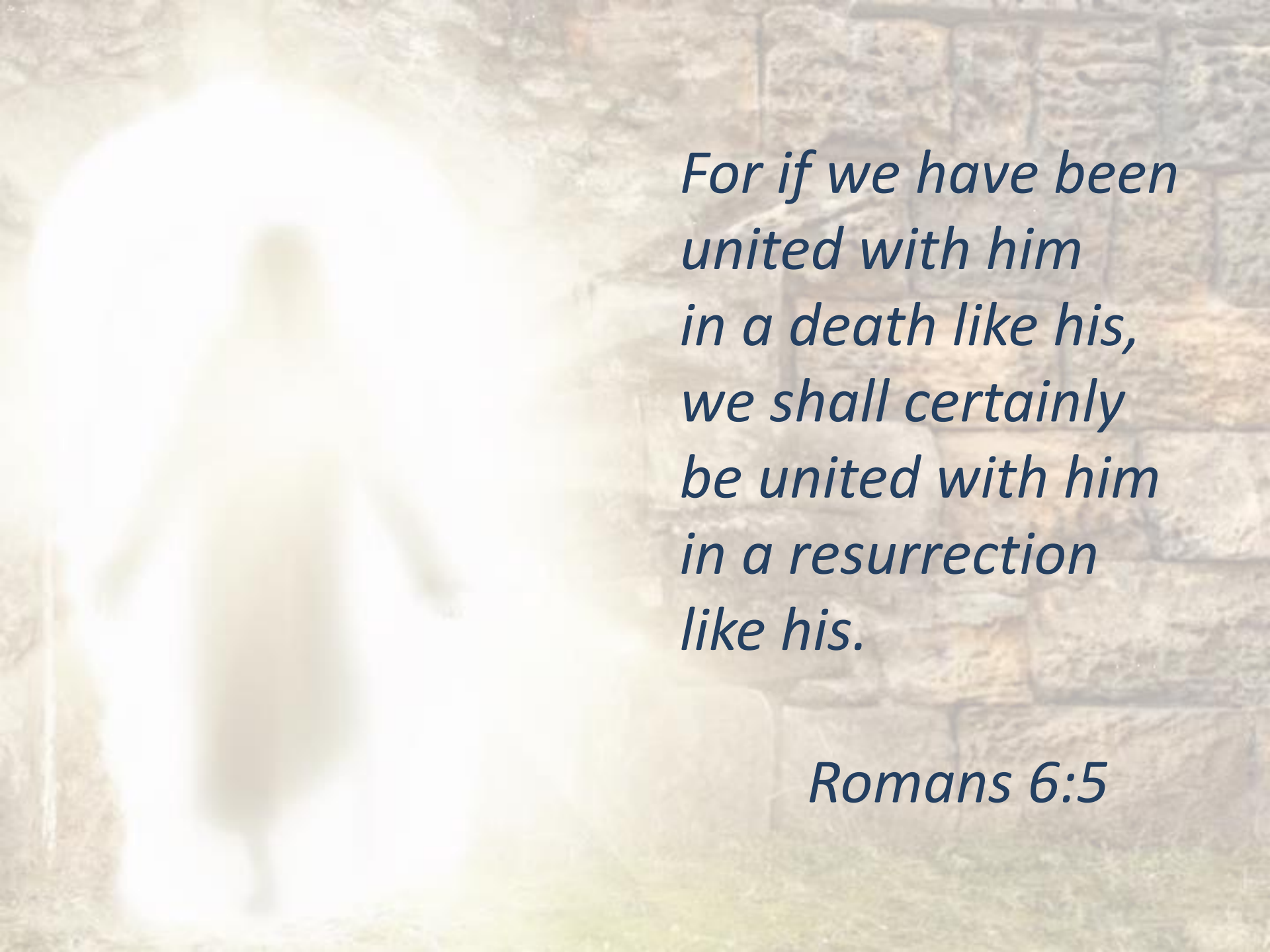
So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

Sown Perishable – Raised Imperishable

Sown in Dishonor – Raised in Glory

Sown in Weakness – Raised in Power

*Sown as a Natural Body – Raised as a
Spiritual Body*

A blurred image of a white dog, possibly a Bull Terrier, standing in a stone-walled enclosure. The dog is the central focus on the left side of the image, appearing out of focus. The background consists of a wall made of large, rectangular stone blocks. The overall lighting is soft and somewhat dim, creating a somber or contemplative atmosphere.

*For if we have been
united with him
in a death like his,
we shall certainly
be united with him
in a resurrection
like his.*

Romans 6:5