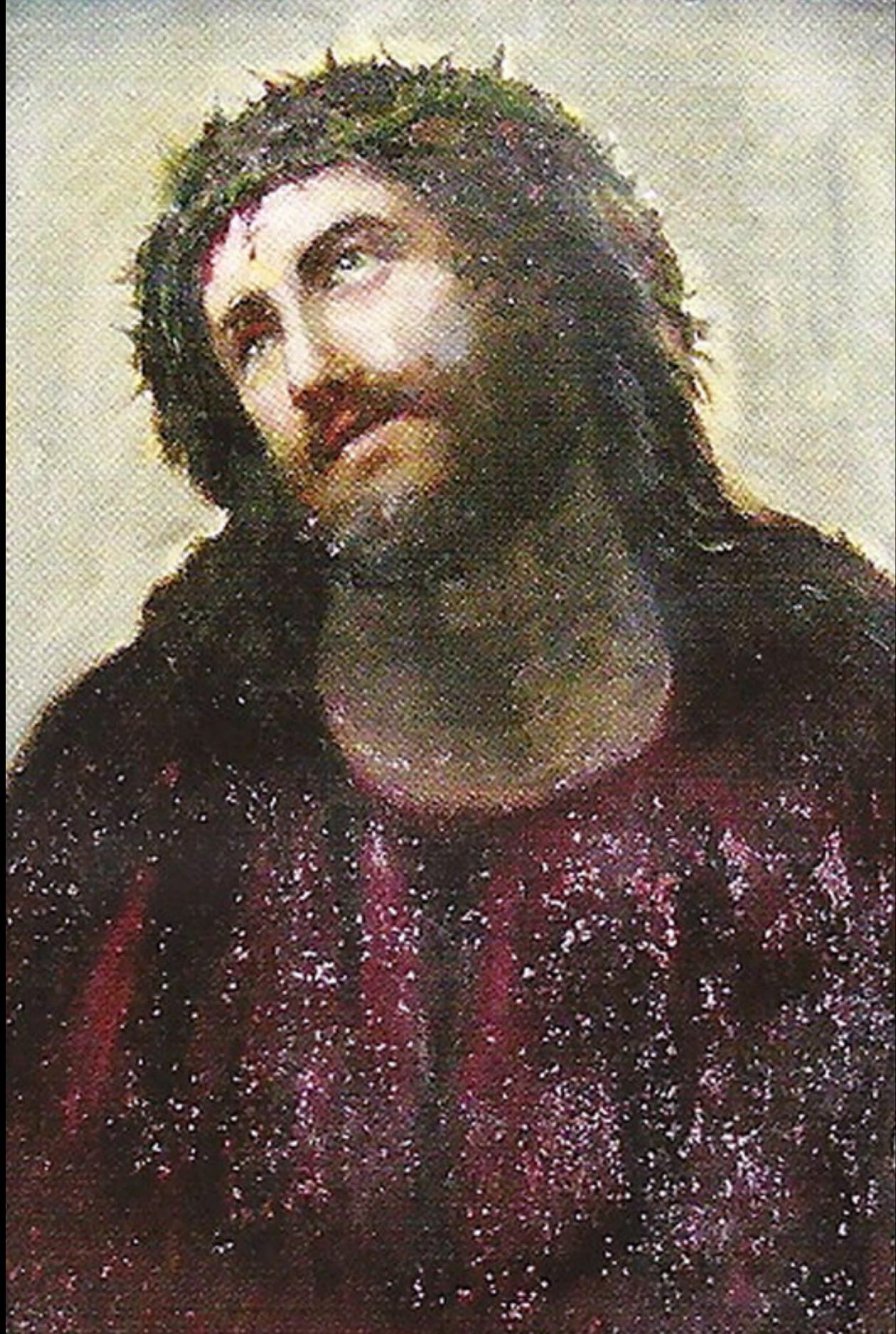
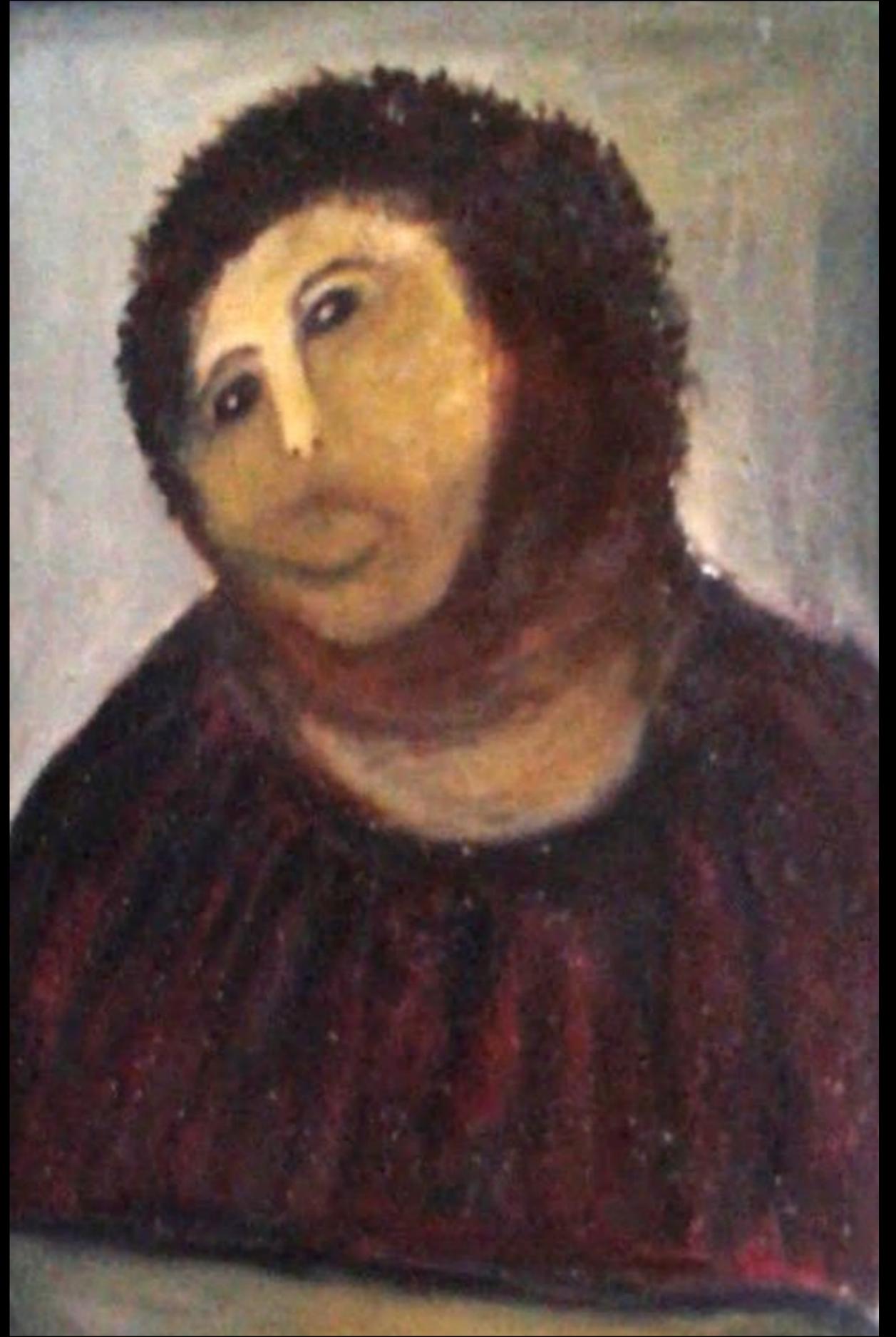
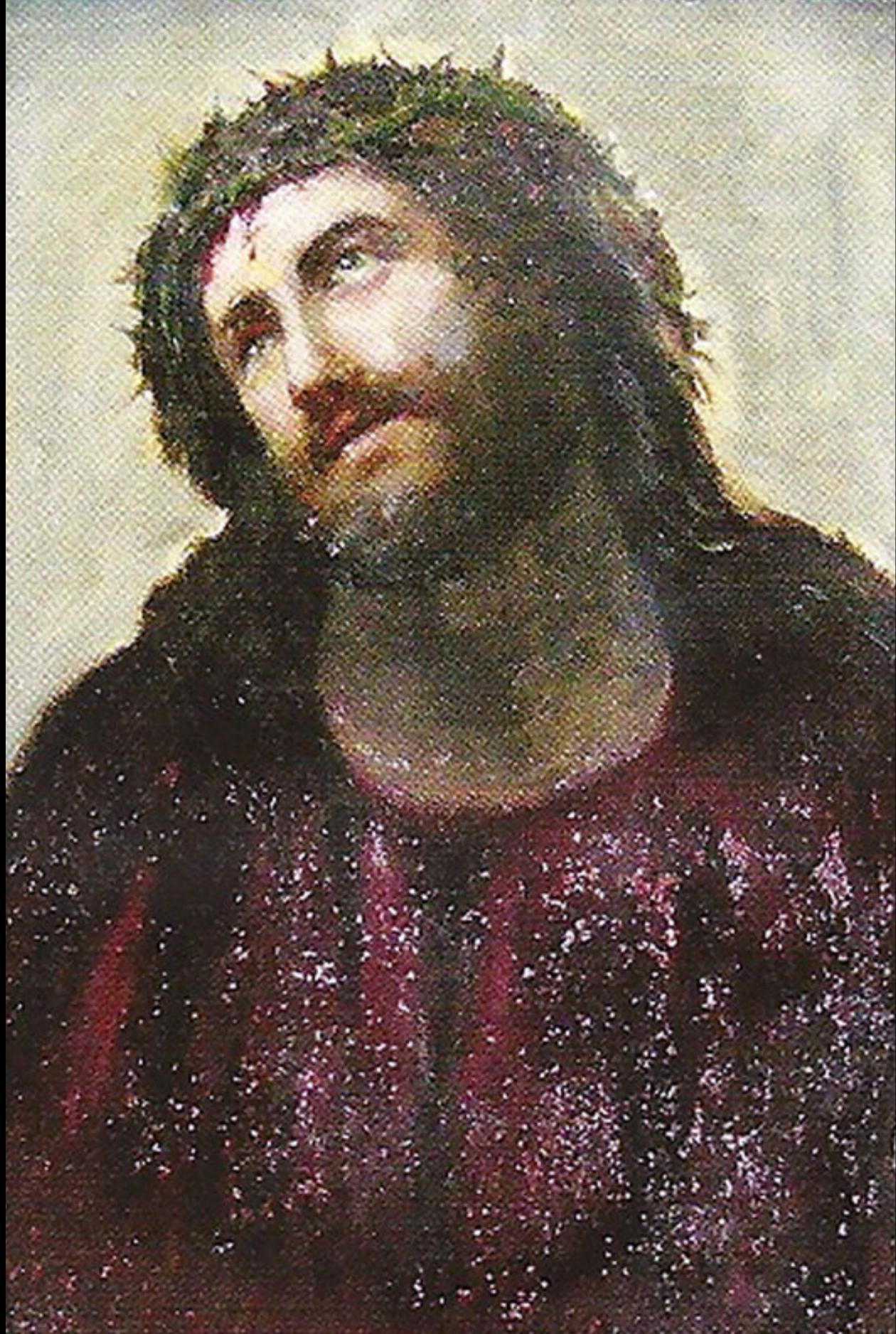
A person wearing a long white robe and sandals is walking on a sandy beach. The background shows a sunset or sunrise over the ocean. Large, stylized letters spelling 'I AM' are overlaid on the scene. The letters are a golden-brown color and have a decorative, floral pattern inside them. The person is walking between the 'I' and the 'AM'.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

JOHN 8:12







I AM ...

the bread of life (6:35)

the light of the world (8:12)

the gate (10:9)

the good shepherd (10:11)

the resurrection and the life (10:9)

the way, the truth and the life (14:6)

the vine (15:5)

I AM ...

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JOHN
8:12

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

LIGHT IMAGERY IN THE BIBLE

guidance

safety

exposing evil

comfort & joy

casting out
darkness

salvation

LIGHT IMAGERY IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

truth

guidance

righteousness

exposing darkness

witness

opportunity to do

life

work

JOHN
7:1-11

After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him. But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near, Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret.

Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world.” For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

JOHN
7:1-11

Therefore Jesus told them, “My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil. You go to the festival. I am not going up to this

festival, because my time has not yet fully come.” After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee.

JOHN
7:1-11

However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret. Now at the festival the Jewish leaders were watching for Jesus and asking, “Where is he?”

DEUT
16:16

Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the LORD empty-handed







By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people. (Exodus 13:21-22)



When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)



The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.”

JOHN
8:13-18

Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by

JOHN
8:13-18

human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”

Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?”

JOHN
8:53-59

Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. Your father

Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

“You are not yet fifty years old,” they said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!”

JOHN
8:53-59

“Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ...

JOHN
1, 4-5,
9, 14

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

In our own struggles through
the darkness of the wilderness
Jesus will always be with us to
light the way.







JOHN
16:33

In this world you will have
trouble. But take heart! I
have overcome the world.

HEBREWS
13:5-6

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?”

