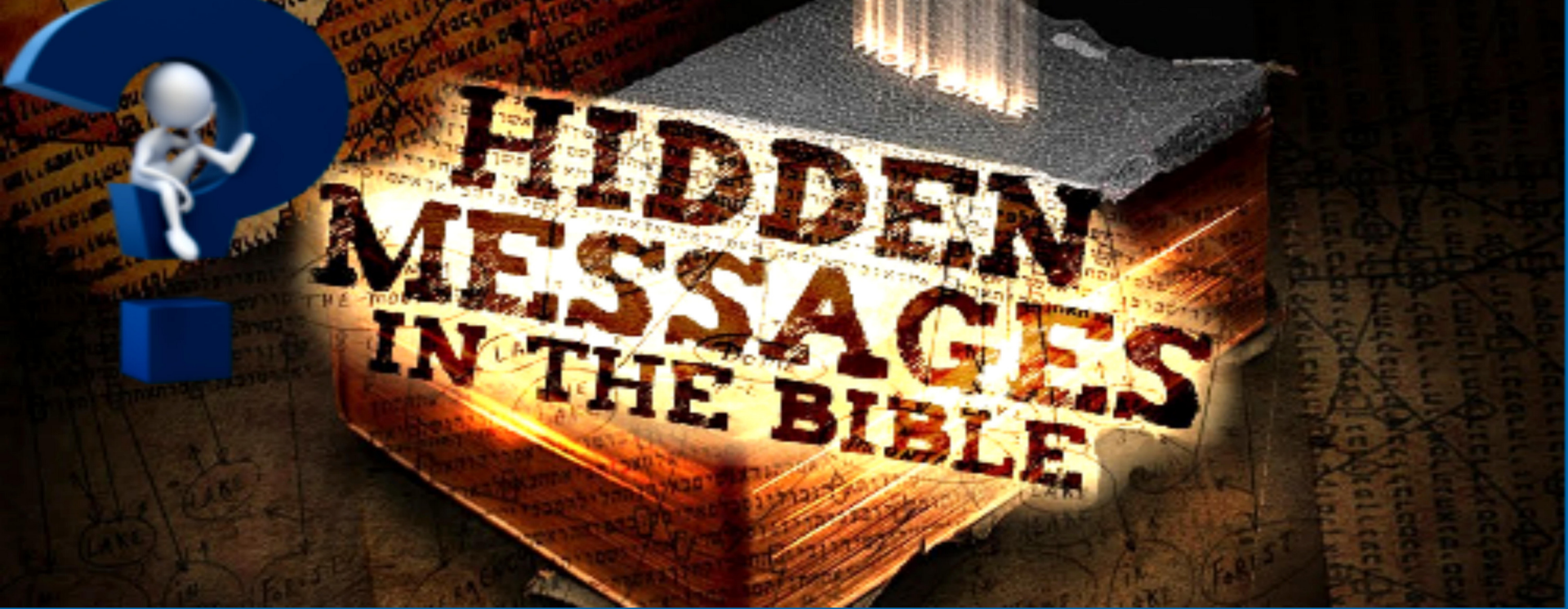



- Because people in various ways didn't always understand Yeshua, He used different methods to inform them
- Yeshua is traveling, while John the Baptist is in prison
- John wants to know: ***"Are you the one who is to come.....?"***
- Christian theologians often try to side-step the problem using various solutions



- **Popular option #1**: Matthew was mistaken. John never said those words
- Based on Matt. 3:11 & 17 and John 1:29
- **Popular option #2**: the message was code
- Several Early Church Fathers decided John was not doubting; he was only instructing his disciples

A white lamb with large ears stands in a lush green field, looking directly at the camera. The background is a soft-focus green landscape.

what does it mean
that Jesus is the
lamb of God?

- Neither John the Baptist nor Jesus has said He was Messiah
- “Son of God” and “Lamb of God” are not equivalent titles to Messiah
- John 1:28 – 34
- John said twice that the Baptist didn’t know who Yeshua was
- ***Mashiach*** = Messiah = anointed one
- All kings and prophets of Israel were ***mashiach*** (anointed ones)

JOHN NOT SURE WHO YESHUA IS

- John knew Yeshua was more than a typical king, prophet, or *Tzadik*
- Lambs sacrificed for sin by the thousands, daily
- Passover Lamb had little to do with sin
- OT “sins atoned for” and NT “sins taken away” are functionally equal
- Jews unsure of how exactly to identify their Deliverer
- They didn’t have the insights and hind sights that we have

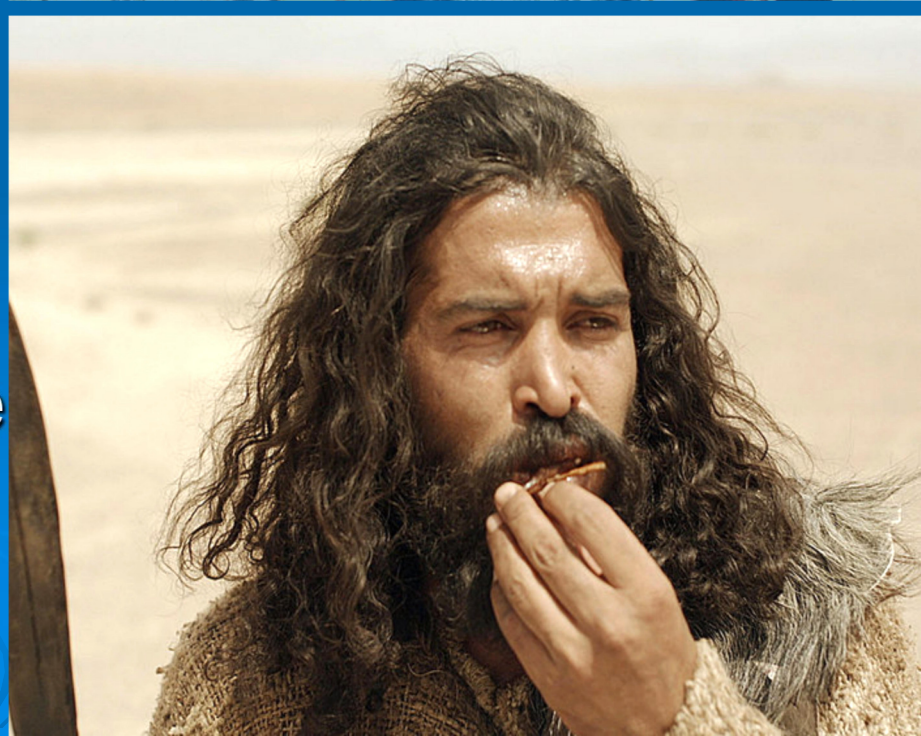
Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the World



John 1:29

AN ORDINARY MAN

- John it seems was hot-headed and imprudent
- He was in prison for denouncing the marriage of Antipas to Herodias. Why would he do that???
- What did John mean by asking if Yeshua was “the one to come”?
- For John it had to mean the one he made a way for in the wilderness



THINGS WHICH YOU HEAR
AND SEE: THE BLIND SEE
AND THE LAME WALK; THE
LEPERS ARE CLEANSED AND
THE DEAF HEAR; THE DEAD
ARE RAISED UP AND THE
POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL
PREACHED TO THEM."

MATTHEW 11:4-5



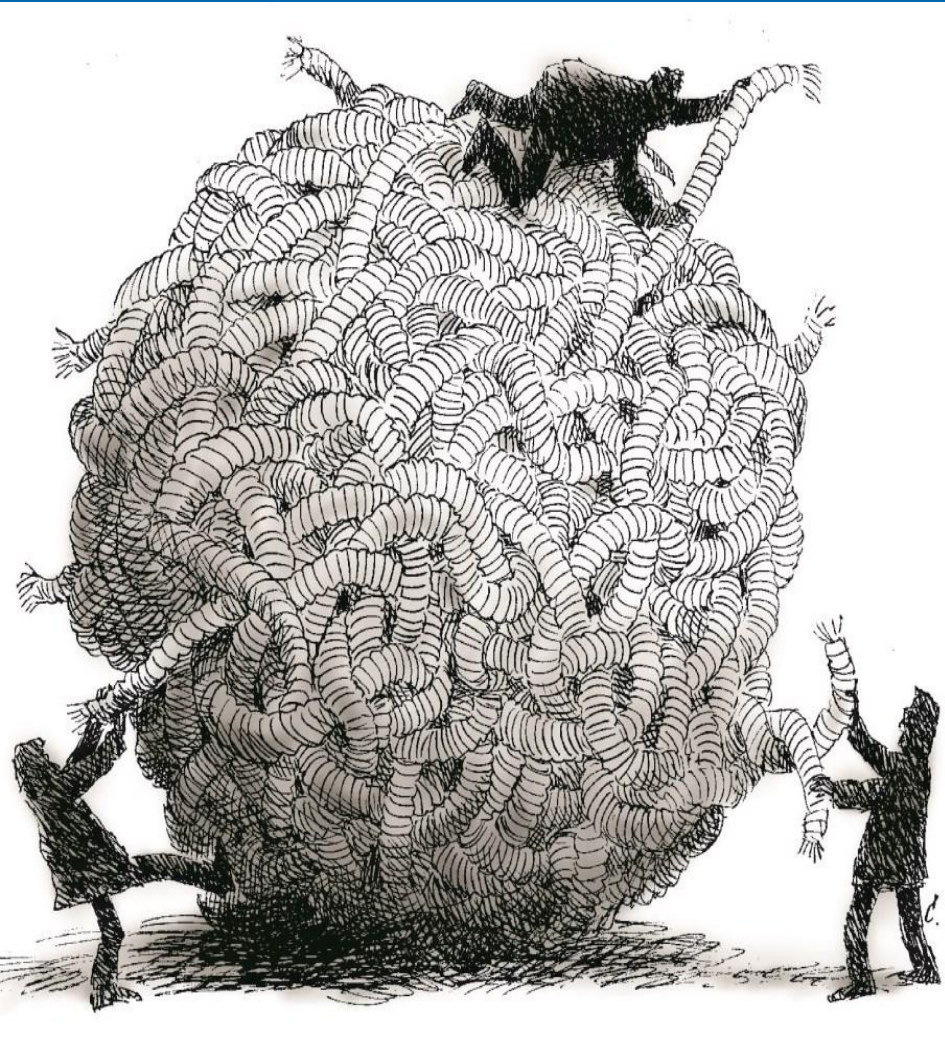
- Jesus responds to John citing 4 passages in Isaiah
- Isaiah 26:19, 29:18, 35:5 - 6, 61:1
- ***“How blessed is anyone who is not offended by Me.”***
- 6 clauses ending with a blessing....
In Aramaic it is poetic
- Some translate it as “because of Me” or
“stumble over Me”

JUDGMENT DAY



- John believed that with the Messiah came Judgment
- If there was no judgment, then how could Yeshua be “the one to come”?
- Matthew 3:1 – 12 John preaches that when the Kingdom of Heaven arrives, so will God’s judgment
- Yeshua responds by listing the messianic prophecies He has publicly fulfilled..... Healing and miracles were to come first before Judgment

SO MANY UNRESOLVED ISSUES



- The idea of a 1st and 2nd Latter Days didn't exist
- The idea of 2 appearances of Messiah was not widely accepted
- Church is wrestling with similar issues to this day
- Yeshua has not named Himself Messiah, or the Suffering Servant, or Elijah... only Son of Man
- Jesus continues to teach what Scripture says about Him versus what Tradition says



“What did you go out to
the desert to see...?”

MATT. 11:7

- The subject changes from “Who is Jesus?” to “Who is John?”
- Apparently some in the crowd had gone to see John when he was out in the desert
- The illustrations of the reeds and the well-dressed person was gentle sarcasm
- The answer: The people went to see a Prophet



- Malachi 3:1 ***“Look! I am sending my messenger..”***
- Yeshua plainly says John is that messenger
- Malachi 3:23 – 24 ***“Look, I will send to you Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.....”***
- Elijah never died.... He went to Heaven alive

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women
there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.

**YET THE ONE WHO IS LEAST
IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
IS GREATER THAN HE.**

Matthew 11:11



- Yeshua says no human being (born of a woman) is greater than John
- However! The least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.
- Probably a word play, but what does it mean?
- Refers to Matthew 5:17 – 20 from the Sermon on the Mount