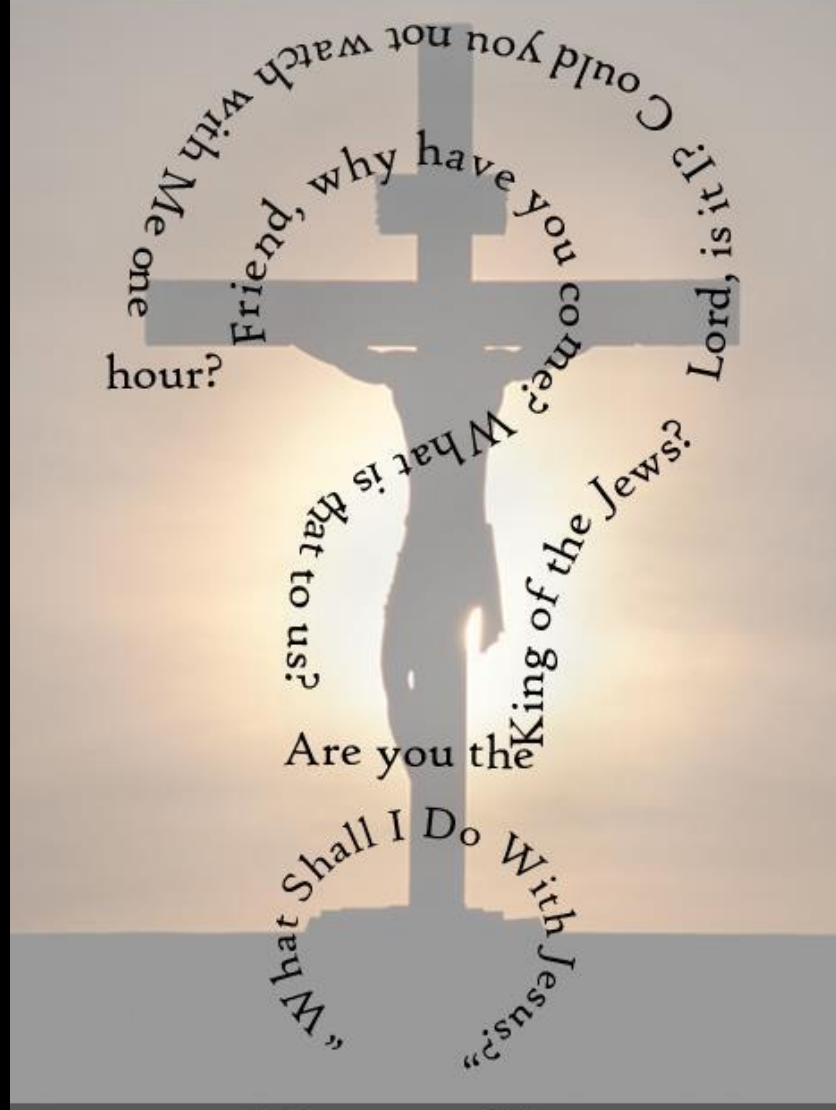






GOOD
FRIDAY

Probing Questions of the Passion



2016 Lenten Vespers



Grace Lutheran Church
WORSHIP SERVICE

March 25, 2016

Good Friday



ENTRANCE

LSB 456:

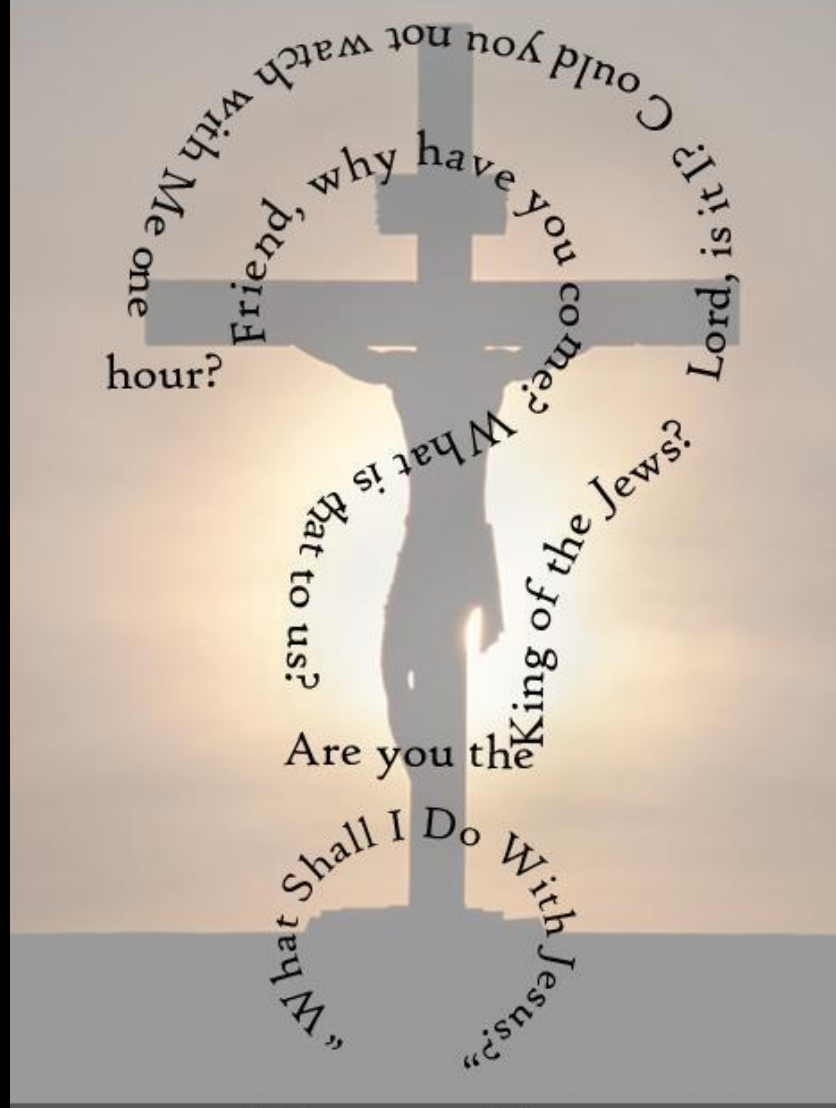
Were You There

**1. Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to
tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?**



**WELCOME AND
INTRODUCTION**

Probing Questions of the Passion



2016 Lenten Vespers

Worship Notes

- ★ **The sanctuary will get darker during the worship service, picturing how Jesus was punished for the darkness of our sin**
- ★ **Ponder the great love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, as we progress through the Bible readings and hymns**
- ★ **Please remain silent at the end and usher yourself out, speaking outside if you wish**
- ★ **Please turn off all cell phones**
- ★ **Our Easter worship service is at 9 am on Sunday w/breakfast at 7:30-8:30 am.**

A silhouette of a crucifix is positioned on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

OPENING HYMN

**LSB 456, st. 2-4: Were You
There**

LSB 456, st. 2-4:

Were You There

2. Were you there

when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there

when they nailed Him to the tree?

**Oh... Sometimes it causes me to
tremble, tremble, tremble.**

Were you there

when they nailed Him to the tree?

LSB 456, st. 2-4:

Were You There

3. Were you there

when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there

when they laid Him in the tomb?

**Oh... Sometimes it causes me to
tremble, tremble, tremble.**

Were you there

when they laid Him in the tomb?

LSB 456 456, st. 2-4:

Were You There

4. Were you there

when God raised Him from the tomb?

Were you there

when God raised Him from the tomb?

**Oh... Sometimes it causes me to
tremble, tremble, tremble.**

Were you there

when God raised Him from the tomb?



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION



Invocation



*P: In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins ...

Confession and Absolution

C: Lord Jesus, in this holy season, Your living and powerful Word penetrates to the very depth of my soul. With the probing instrument of Your holy Law, You expose my sinful heart and life, convicting and condemning me. Yet with the powerful and permeating Gospel of redemption you also come to me – assuring me of forgiveness and peace through Your saving merit. In repentance and faith I now come to You, O Lamb of God, looking to the cross alone. Forgive me, strengthen me and renew me for Your Name's sake.

Confession and Absolution

P: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy upon us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.

P: Lent brings us the assurance from heaven that God has seen the suffering of His Son and is satisfied (Isaiah 53:11). “Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven you” (Matthew 9:2).

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.



CONFESSION OF FAITH

Luther's Explanation to the Second Article

Confession of Faith

Luther's Explanation to the Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

Confession of Faith

Luther's Explanation to the Second Article

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true.

A silhouette of a crucifix stands on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

OFFERING HYMN

**TLH 140, st. 1-2, 4:
Jesus, I Will Ponder Now**

TLH 140, st. 1-2, 4:

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

1. [All]

**Jesus, I will ponder now
On Thy holy Passion;
With Thy Spirit me endow
For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith
May the image cherish
Of Thy suff'ring, pain, and death,
That I may not perish.**

TLH 140, st. 1-2, 4:

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

2. [Men]

**Make me see Thy great distress,
Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness
And Thy crucifixion;**

[Women]

**Make me see how scourge and rod,
Spear and nails, did wound Thee,
How for man Thou diedst, O God,
Who with thorns had crowned Thee.**

TLH 140, st. 1-2, 4:

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

4. [All]

Grant that I Thy Passion view

With repentant grieving

Nor Thee crucify anew

By unholy living.

How could I refuse to shun

Ev'ry sinful pleasure

Since for me God's only Son

Suffered without measure?

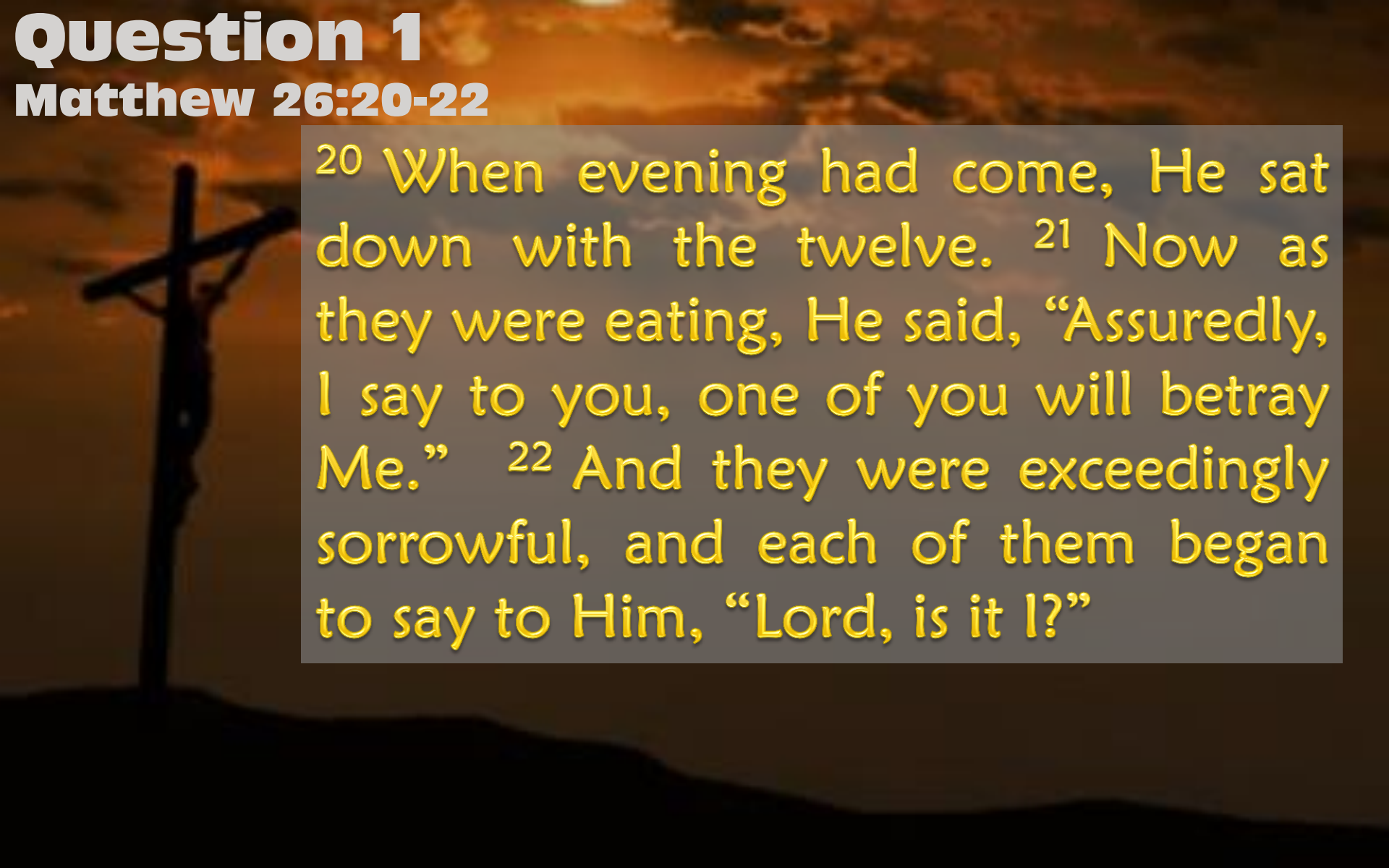
The background of the slide features a dramatic sunset or sunrise sky with warm, orange and yellow tones. On the left side, there is a dark silhouette of a crucifix with a figure on it, set against the bright sky. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

Question 1

Matthew 26:20-22

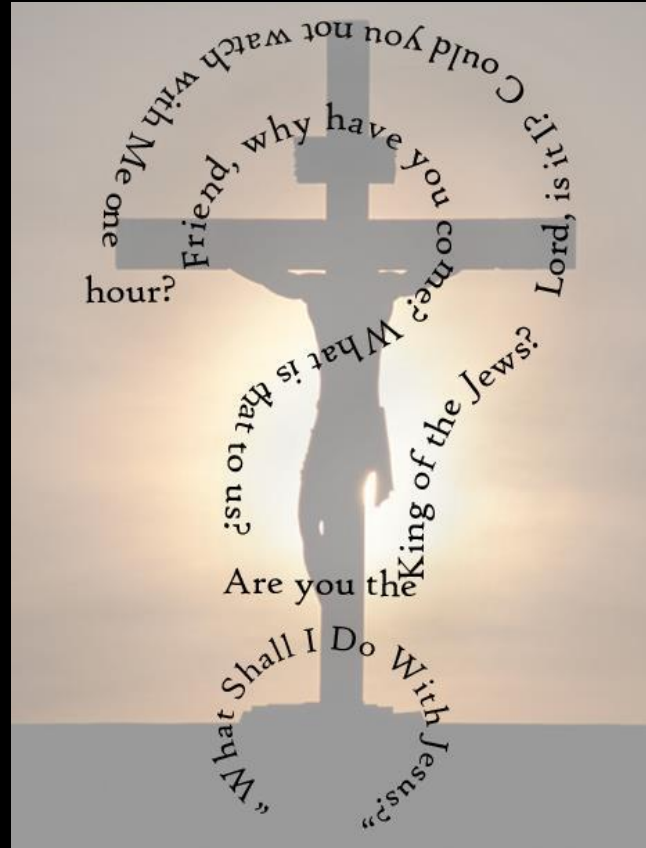
Question 1

Matthew 26:20-22

A silhouette of a cross is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with warm orange and yellow tones. The cross is positioned on a dark, silhouetted hill.

²⁰ When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve. ²¹ Now as they were eating, He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.” ²² And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, “Lord, is it I?”

A Question of Accountability



“Lord, is it I?”

A silhouette of a crucifix stands on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The foreground shows a dark silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Candles Extinguished

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a cross on the left side, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The cross is positioned on a dark, silhouetted hill. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

HYMN

**TLH 171, st. 1, 3-5: Upon
the Cross Extended**



**TLH 171, st. 1, 3-5:
Upon the Cross Extended**

**1. Upon the cross extended,
See, world, thy Lord suspended,
Thy Savior yields His breath.
The Prince of Life from heaven
Himself hath freely given
To shame and blows and bitter death.**



**TLH 171, st. 1, 3-5:
Upon the Cross Extended**

**3. Who is it that hath bruised Thee?
Who hath so sore abused Thee
And caused Thee all Thy woe?
While we must make confession
Of sin and dire transgression,
Thou deeds of evil dost not know.**



**TLH 171, st. 1, 3-5:
Upon the Cross Extended**

**4. I caused Thy grief and sighing
By evils multiplying
As countless as the sands.
I caused the woes unnumbered
With which Thy soul is cumbered,
Thy sorrows raised by wicked hands.**

TLH 171, st. 1, 3-5: **Upon the Cross Extended**

**5. 'Tis I who should be smitten
My doom should here be written:
Bound hand and foot in hell.
The fetters and the scourging,
The floods around Thee surging,
'Tis I who have deserved them well.**

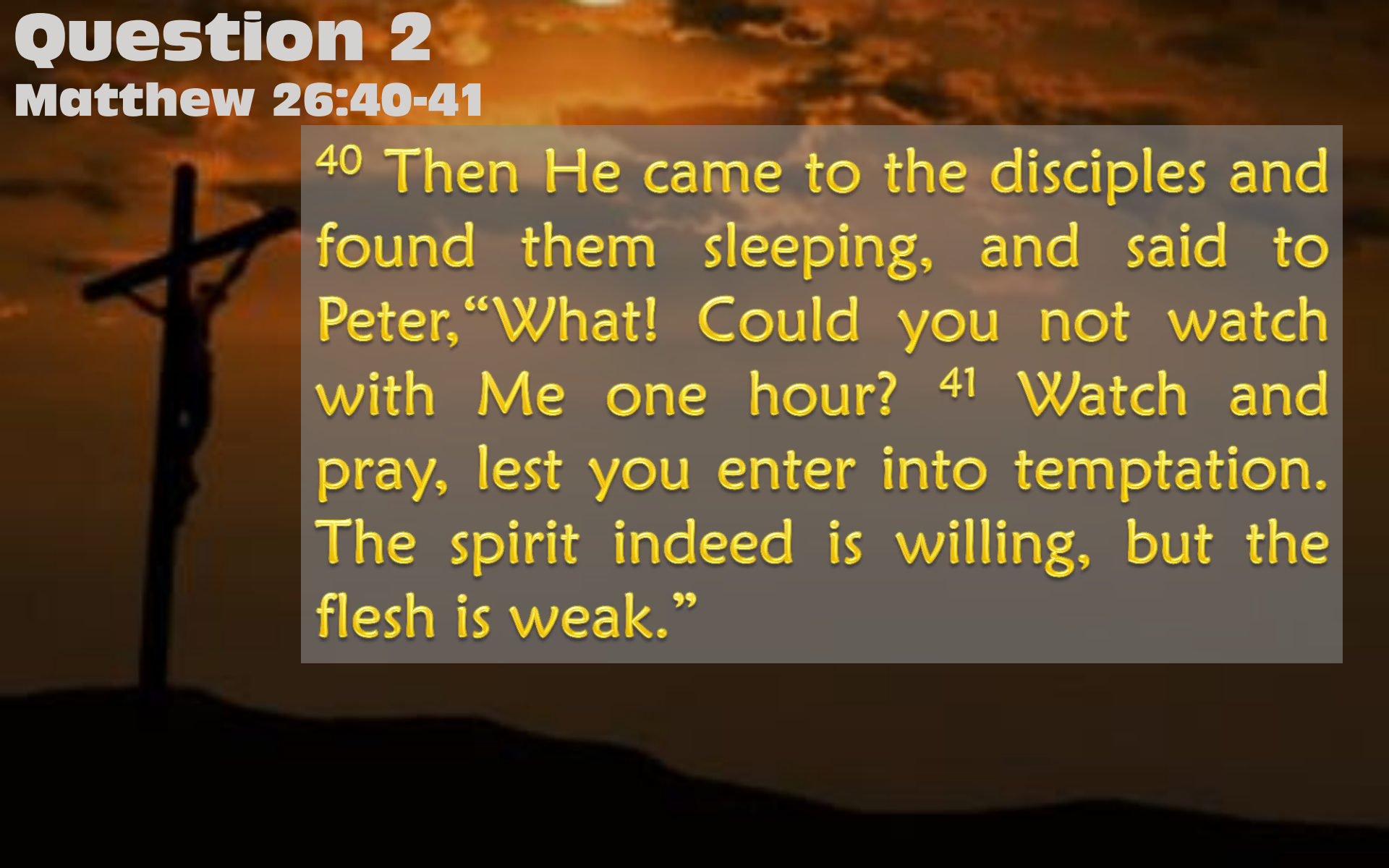
The background of the slide features a dramatic sunset or sunrise sky with warm, orange, and yellow tones. On the left side, there is a dark silhouette of a crucifix with a figure on it, set against the bright sky. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

Question 2

Matthew 26:40-41

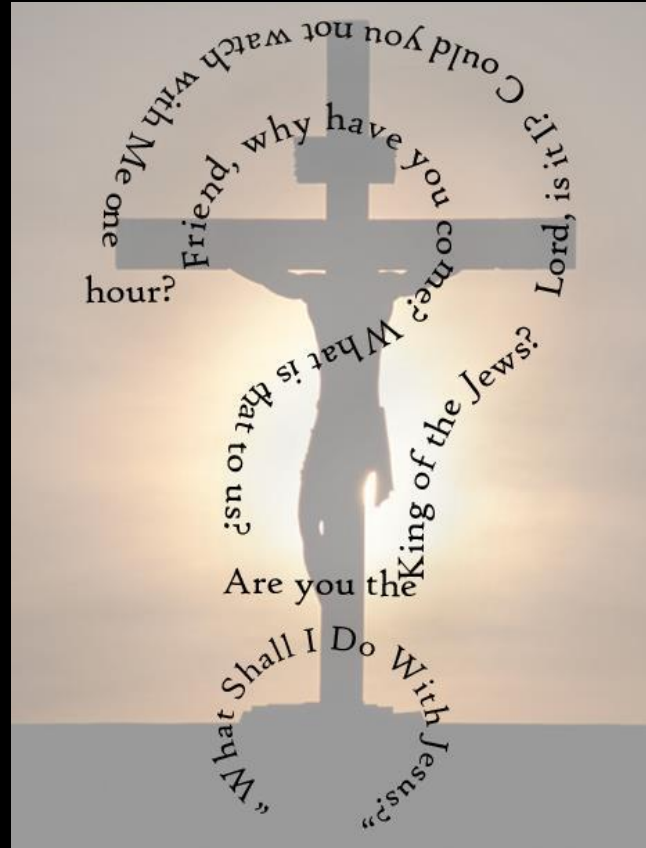
Question 2

Matthew 26:40-41

A silhouette of a person on a cross is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow tones. The cross is a simple wooden structure. The person's form is dark against the lighter sky.

⁴⁰ Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

A Question of Vigilance



“Could you not watch with Me one hour?”



Candles Extinguished



CHOIR

And Then He Died

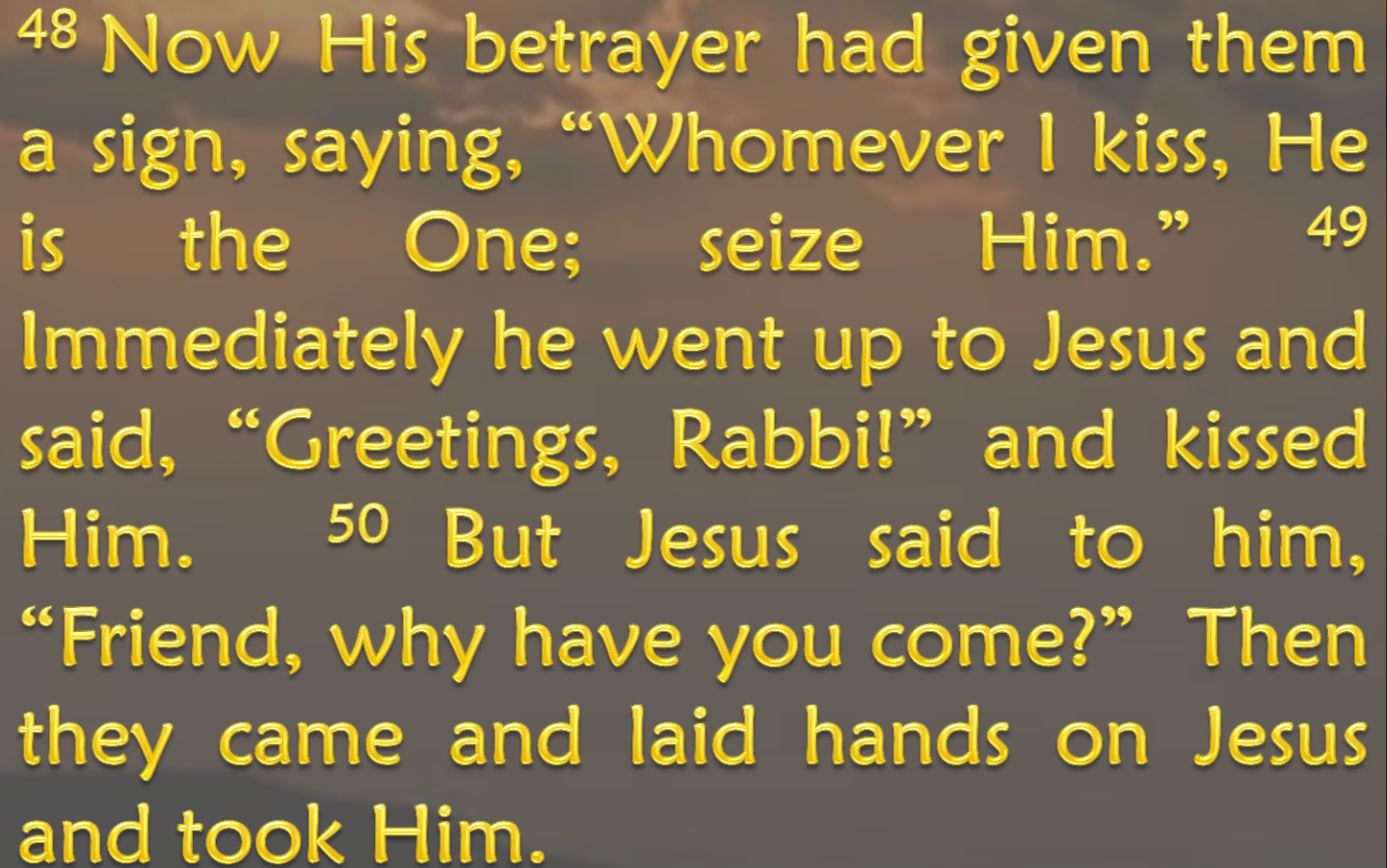
The background of the slide features a silhouette of a crucifix on the left side, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

Question 3

Matthew 26:48-50

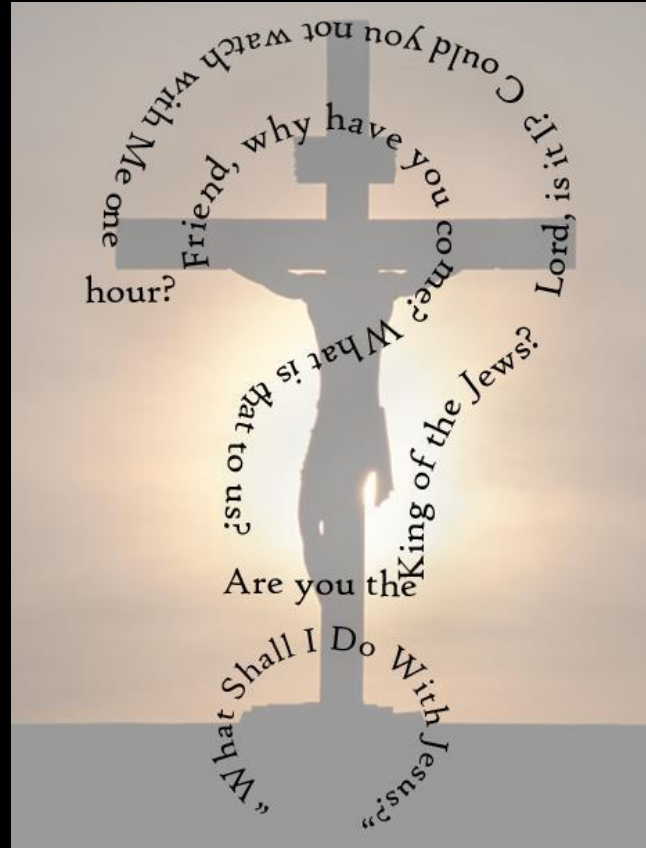
Question 3

Matthew 26:48-50



⁴⁸ Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him.” ⁴⁹ Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. ⁵⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

A Question of Motives



“Friend, why have you come?”

A silhouette of a person on a cross is positioned on the left side of the image. The background is a dramatic sunset or sunrise sky with orange and yellow clouds. The foreground shows a dark silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Candles Extinguished



HYMN

TLH 172, st. 1, 4, 8: 0
Sacred Head, Now
Wounded

TLH 172, st. 1, 4, 8: **Upon the Cross Extended**

**1. O sacred Head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory,
What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call Thee mine.**

TLH 172, st. 1, 4, 8:
Upon the Cross Extended

**4. My burden in Thy Passion,
Lord, Thou hast borne for me,
For it was my transgression
Which brought this woe on Thee.
I cast me down before Thee,
Wrath were my rightful lot;
Have mercy, I implore Thee;
Redeemer, spurn me not!**

The background of the image is a dramatic sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow light, with dark, swirling clouds. In the foreground, the dark silhouette of a cross is visible against the bright sky. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

TLH 172, st. 1, 4, 8:
Upon the Cross Extended

**8. What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
Oh, make me Thine forever!
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
Outlive my love for Thee.**

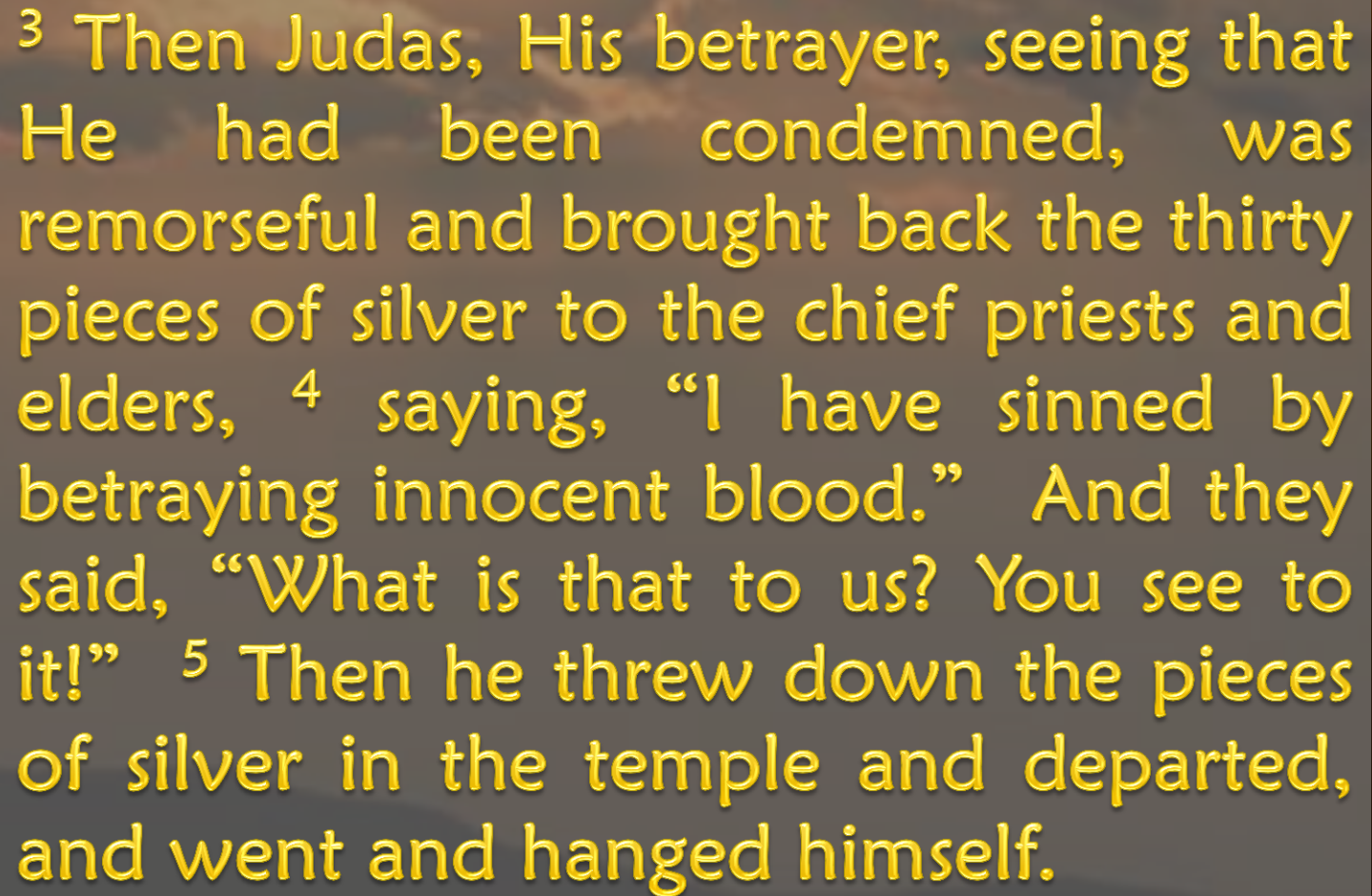
A silhouette of a crucifix stands on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Question 4

Matthew 27:3-5

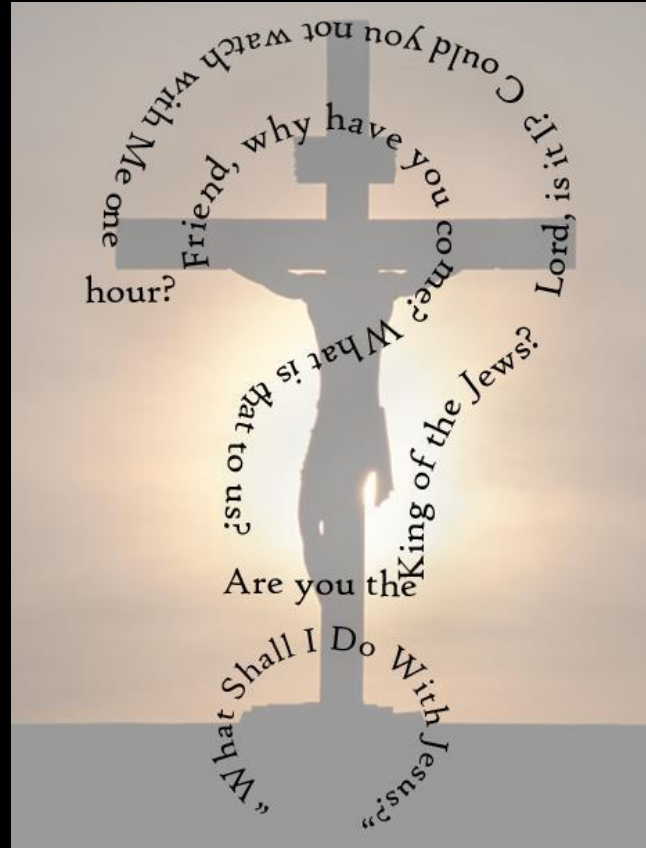
Question 4

Matthew 27:3-5

A silhouette of a crucifix is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with warm, orange and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box in the center-right.

³ Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴ saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” And they said, “What is that to us? You see to it!” ⁵ Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself.

A Question of Denial



“What is that to us?”



Candles Extinguished

The background of the image is a sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. On the left side, there is a silhouette of a cross on a hill. The cross is made of two wooden beams, and a figure is visible on the vertical beam. The overall scene is dramatic and evocative.

HYMN

**TLH 175: When I Survey
the Wondrous Cross**

TLH 175:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1. [All]

**When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

TLH 175:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

2. [Men]

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

TLH 175:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

3. [Women]

**See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.**

**Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

TLH 175:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

4. [All]

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

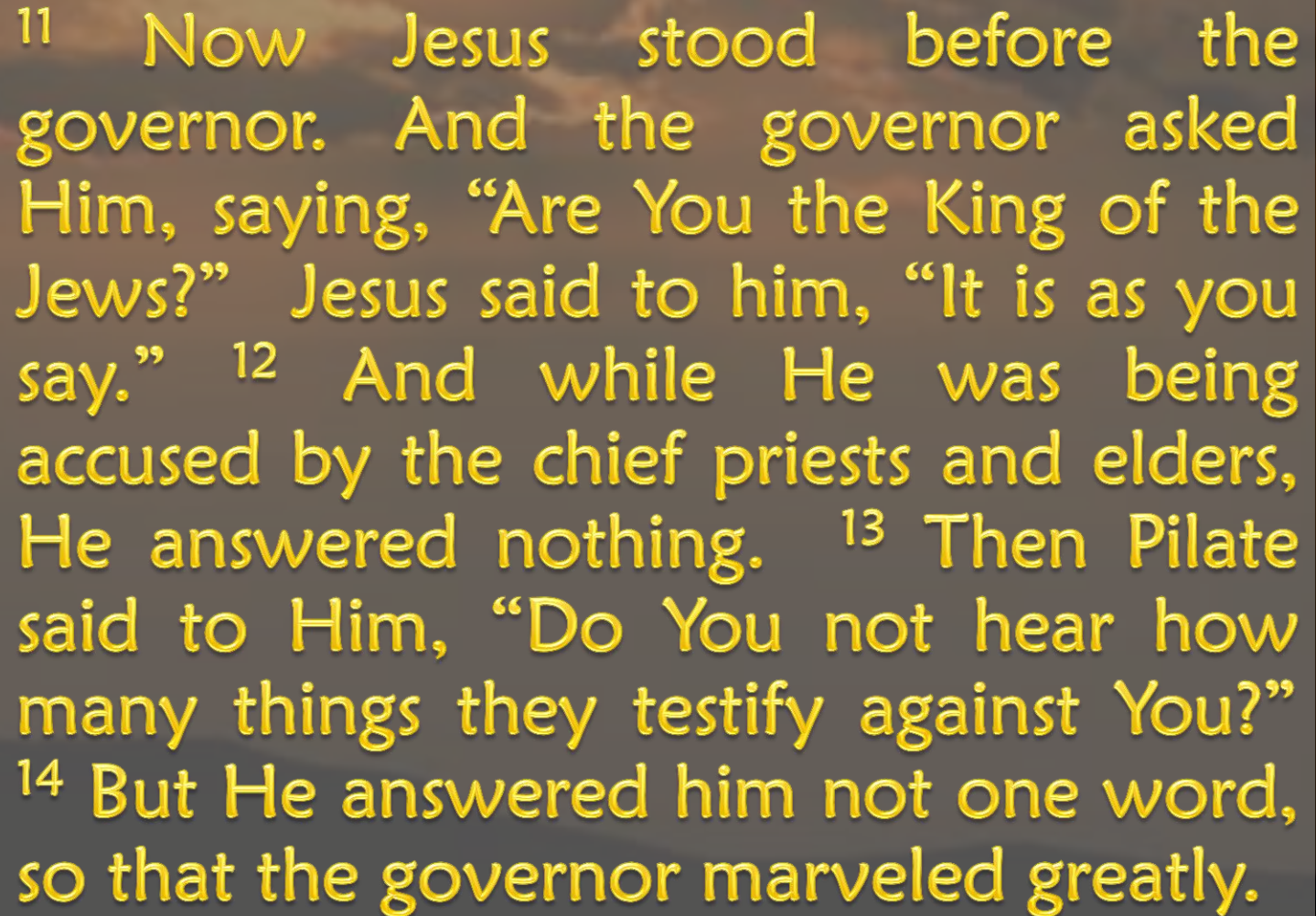
A silhouette of a crucifix stands on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Question 5

Matthew 27:11-14

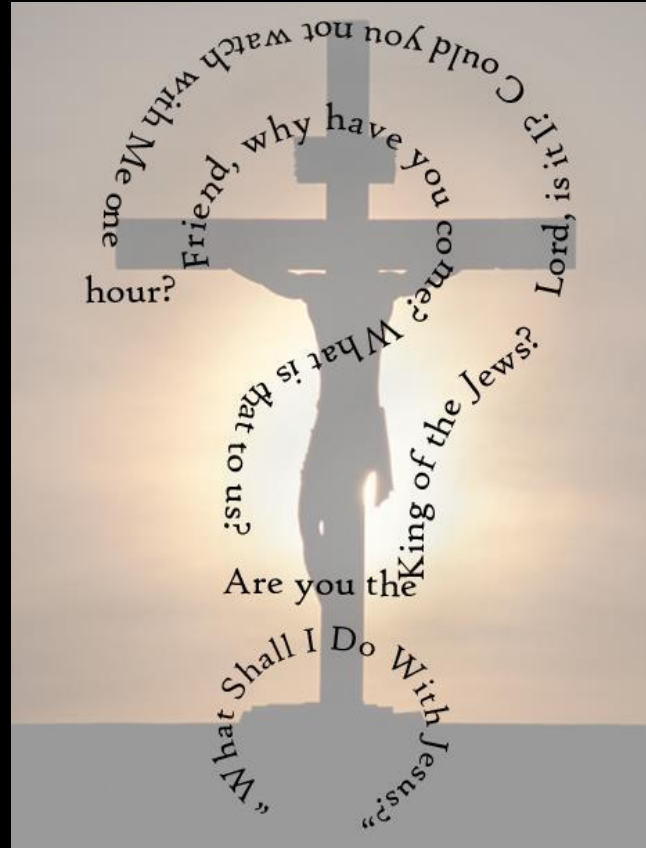
Question 5

Matthew 27:11-14

A silhouette of a crucifix is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with warm, orange and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box in the center-right.

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.” ¹² And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. ¹³ Then Pilate said to Him, “Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?” ¹⁴ But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly.

A Question of Authority



“Are You the King of the Jews?”



Candles Extinguished

The background of the image is a dramatic sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow tones and dark, silhouetted clouds. On the left side, there is a silhouette of a wooden cross with a figure on it, set against the bright part of the sky. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

HYMN

TLH 143, st. 1-3, 8: 0
Dearest Jesus, What Law
Hast Thou Broken

TLH 143, st. 1-3, 8:

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

**1. O dearest Jesus,
what law hast thou broken
That such sharp sentence
should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime
hast Thou to make confession, --
What dark transgression?**

TLH 143, st. 1-3, 8:

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

**2. They crown Thy head with thorns,
they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings
to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink,
they still decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.**

TLH 143, st. 1-3, 8:

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

**3. Whence come these sorrows,
whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord,
must languish;
Yea, all the wrath,
the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.**

TLH 143, st. 1-3, 8:

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

**8. O mighty King,
no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread
abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some
worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?**

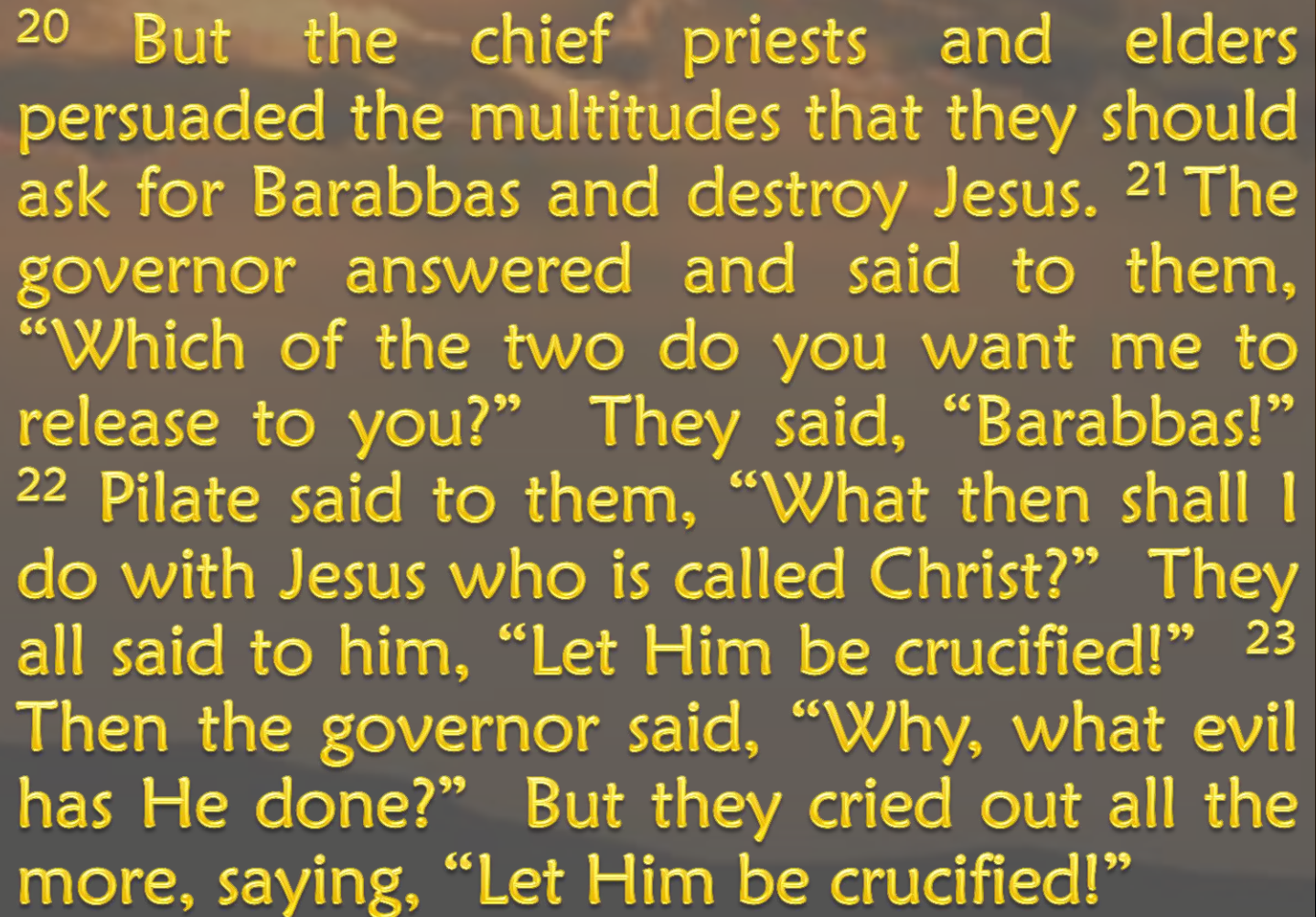
A silhouette of a crucifix is positioned on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Question 6

Matthew 27:20-23

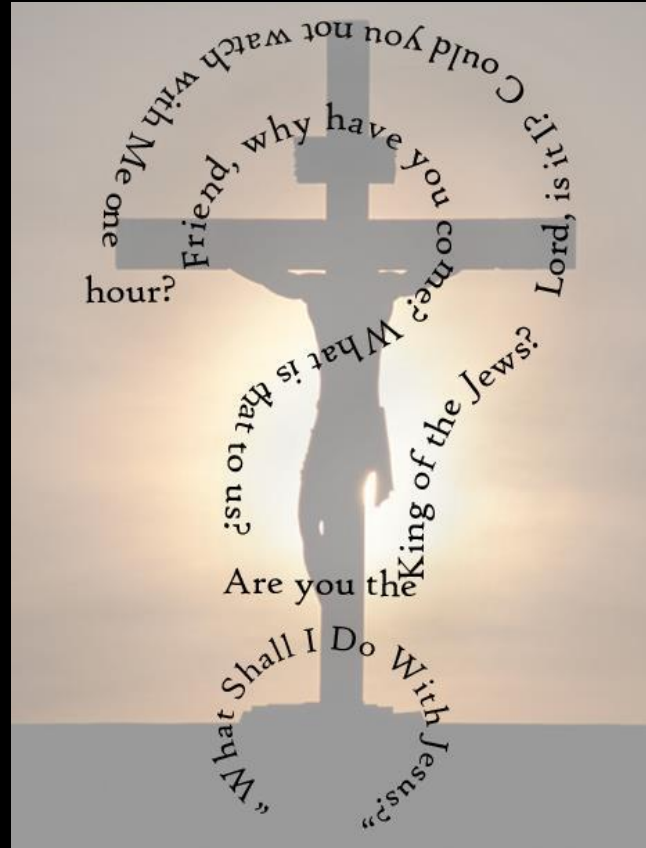
Question 6

Matthew 27:20-23

A silhouette of a crucifix is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with warm, orange and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark grey box.

²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor answered and said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” They said, “Barabbas!” ²² Pilate said to them, “What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said to him, “Let Him be crucified!” ²³ Then the governor said, “Why, what evil has He done?” But they cried out all the more, saying, “Let Him be crucified!”

A Question of Significance



“What shall I do with Jesus?”

A silhouette of a crucifix stands on a dark, rolling hill against a dramatic sunset sky. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

Candles Extinguished



HYMN

**TLH 154: Alas! And Did My
Savior Bleed**



TLH 154 (5 stanzas):
Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

1. [All]

Alas! and did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

TLH 154 (5 stanzas):

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

2. [Men]

**Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!**



TLH 154 (5 stanzas):
Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

3. [All]

**Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut His glories in
When God, the Mighty Maker, died
For man the creature's sin.**

TLH 154 (5 stanzas):

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

4. [Women]

**Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.**



TLH 154 (5 stanzas):
Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

5. [All]

**But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do.**



COMMUNION PREPARATION

Based on the Catechism

Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, given to us Christians under the bread and wine to eat and to drink, as it was instituted by Christ Himself.

Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: Where is this written, as we speak the Words of Institution together?

C: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' ...

Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

C: In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, 'Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'

Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C: The words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that God gives forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation through the sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: How can simple eating and drinking do these wonderful things?

C: Eating and drinking actually do nothing. It is the words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," which do this. These words, together with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main part of the sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: forgiveness of sins.

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a crucifix on the left side, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The overall tone is solemn and religious.

HYMN

WS 755, st. 1-2,5: What Is This Bread

Note: Pastor sings the opening question at the beginning of each stanza with the congregation responding thereafter.

WS 755, st. 1-2,5

What Is This Bread

1. [Pastor]

What is this bread?

**[All] Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
Oh, taste and see – the Lord is peace.**

WS 755, st. 1-2,5

What Is This Bread

2. *[Pastor]*

What is this wine?

**[All] The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love, and so I sing:
Oh, taste and see – the Lord is King.**

WS 755, st. 1-2,5

What Is This Bread

5. [Pastor]

Is this for me?

[All] I am forgiven and set free!

I do believe That I receive

His very body and His blood.

Oh, taste and see – the Lord is good.

The Distribution



At Grace Lutheran, we practice close communion. Communicants at Grace or another CLC church may approach at the direction of the ushers.

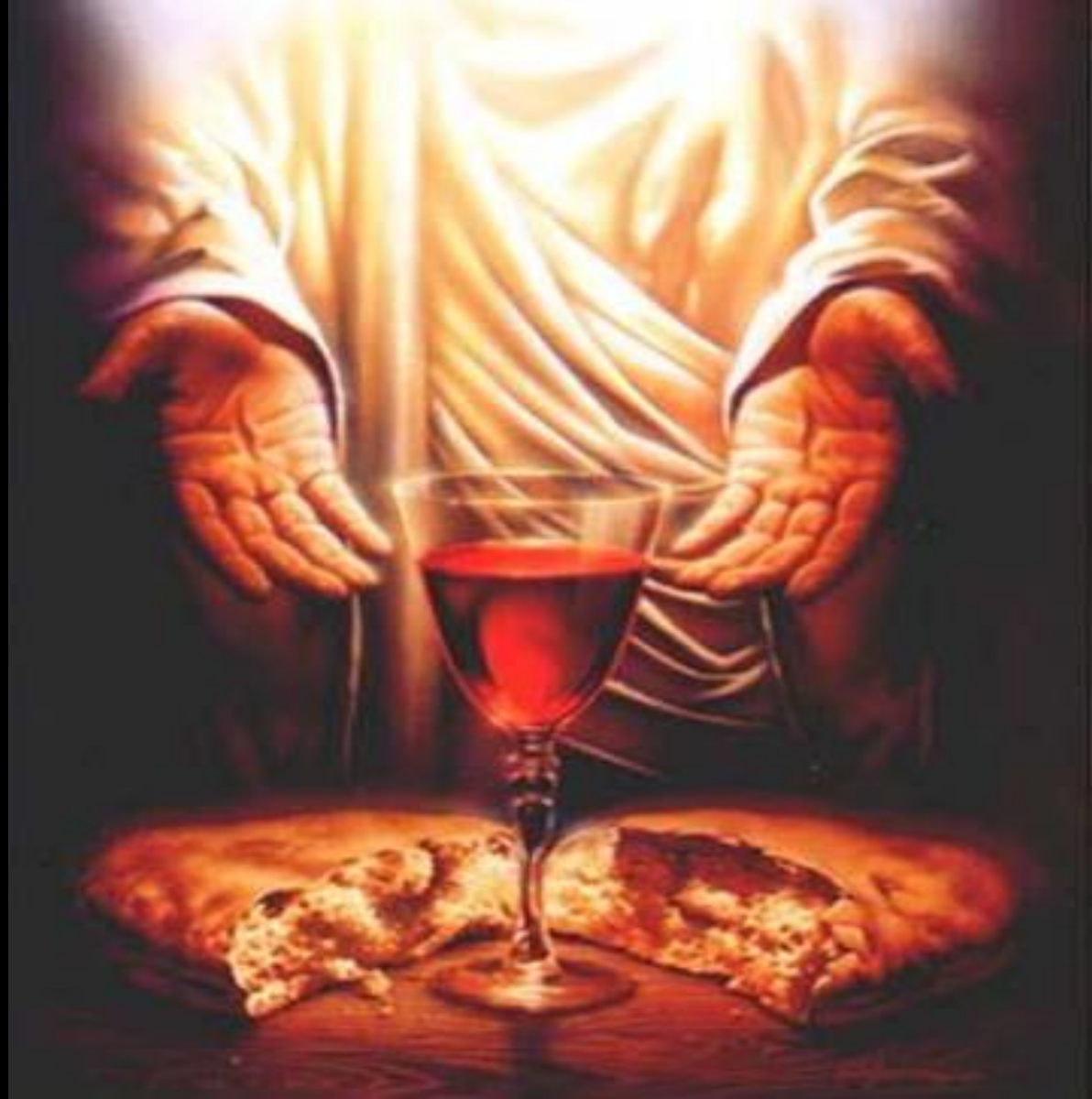
Reminders:

- **Toes up to 1st step so servers do not have to reach far**
- **Extend hands to receive wafer**
- **If you choose the common cup, help bring up to mouth**
- **Dispose individual cups in container on front pew**

**G
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Communion Preparation

Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: Let us pray ... [Prayer]

Sing [♫]:

**Oh, may I never fail
To thank Thee day and night
For Thy true body and true blood,
O God, my Peace and Light!**

TLH 310:6



**CDS CHILDREN
RECITATION**

John 19:17-20, 25-30



CDS CHILDREN HYMN

**TLH 159: Go to Dark
Gethsemane**

TLH 159 (4 stanzas)

Go to Dark Gethsemane

1. Go to dark Gethsemane,
Ye that feel the Tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away,
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

2. Follow to the judgment-hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn of Him to bear the cross.

3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry;
Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

4. Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom,--
Who hath taken Him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.

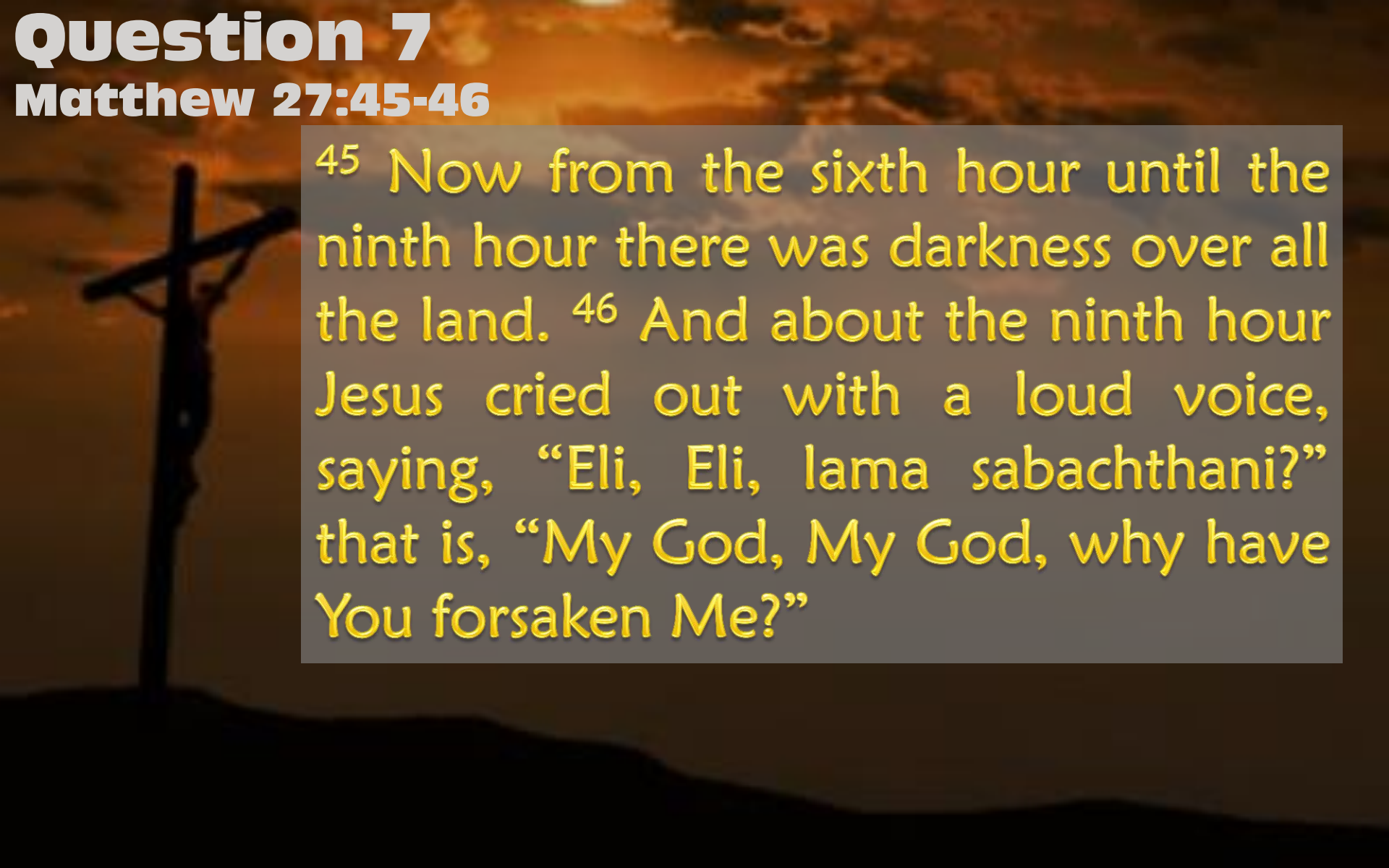
A silhouette of a crucifix stands on the left side of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The background is dark, suggesting a silhouette of a hill or landscape.

Question 7

Matthew 27:45-46

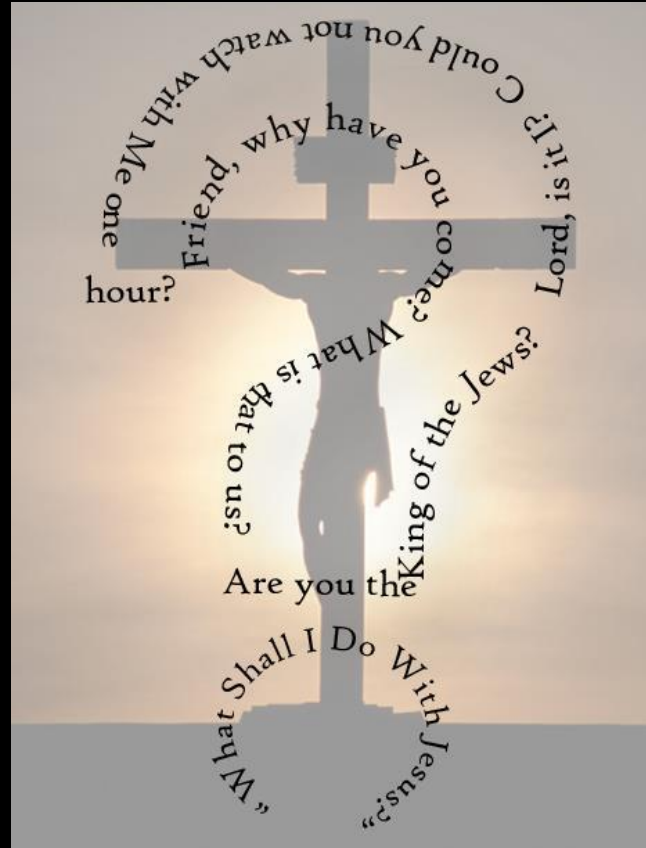
Question 7

Matthew 27:45-46

A silhouette of a crucifix is visible on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow tones. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box in the center-right.

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

A Question of Anguish



“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”



Candles Extinguished



THE BENEDICTION



EXIT OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

NOTE: Please remain silent for personal meditation and reflection, leaving when you wish. You may greet each other outside the church.





GOOD
FRIDAY