

The background is a deep teal color. It is decorated with watercolor-style flowers in shades of pink, red, and orange, primarily located in the corners. There are also green leaves and small gold dots scattered across the background. The word "EASTER" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally. The letter 'A' is replaced by a white triangle pointing to the right.

EASTER



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Did it really happen?





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It is as well attested to as any event in ancient history.





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If it did happen,
what is its importance?





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**If it did happen,
what is its importance?**

That is the question on the table today!





Context for the passage we are looking at today...

I Corinthians 15





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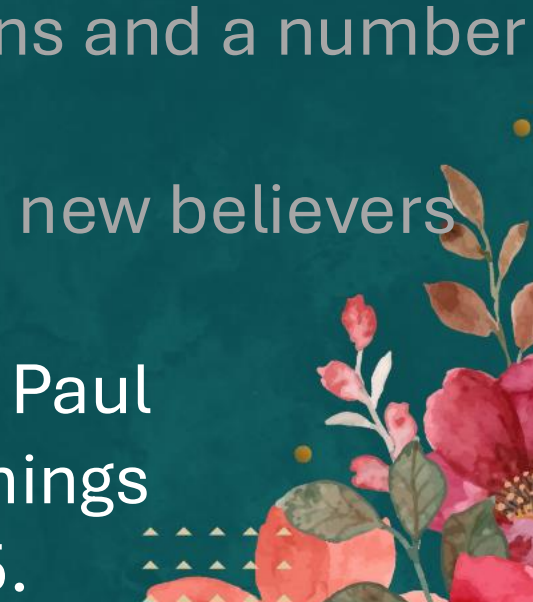
I Corinthians 15

- Paul planted the church in approximately 50-51 AD.
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I Corinthians 15

- Paul planted the church in approximately 50-51 AD.
 - He wrote this letter in response to reported concerns and a number of questions the Corinthians sent him in 56-57 AD.
 - This letter addresses all sorts of ‘*messy*’ issues the new believers there were dealing with (or not dealing with).
 - However, these issues, and the corrective answers Paul supplied, were simply profound moralistic teaching without the substantive core truth of Chapter 15.
 - **There was a group in the church that was suggesting there was no after-life...no resurrection.**
- 

I Corinthians 15:3-8

3

4

5

6

7

8

I Corinthians 15:3-8

- ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,
⁴ that He was buried,
that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures,
⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
⁶ Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time,
most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.
⁷ Then He appeared to James,
then to all the apostles.
⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me.

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I Corinthians 15:12-28

- ¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead,
how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
- ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead,
then not even Christ has been raised.
- ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised,
then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
- ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God,
because we testified about God that He raised Christ,
whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
- ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised,
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**They lived in a culture that was wrestling with the question of
what happens when a person dies.**

Is it annihilation?

Or is there life after death?

If there is something after death, what is it?

Not even Christ has been raised.

I Corinthians 15:12-28

- 12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead,
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Greek: kenos

Empty of moral content, devoid of truth;
ineffective, foolish, worthless, false, unreal, pretentious, hollow,
empty of substance, **a waste of time and effort**,
a violation of fundamental human integrity.

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I Corinthians 15:12-28

12 **Perpetrating a lie;**
13 **knowingly or unknowingly,**
14 **it does not matter. It is still a lie.**

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because we testified about God that He raised Christ,
whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
16 For if the dead are not raised,
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- 17 And if Christ has not been raised,
your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
- 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
- 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only,
we are of all people most to be pitied.
- 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- 21 For as by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
- 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

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To be left without any real hope,
and in need of pity or compassion
from others,
but stuck in the quagmire of brokenness.

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It's an issue of death vs. life.

- 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first-fruits,
then at His coming those who belong to Christ.
- 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father
after destroying every rule and every authority and power.
- 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.
- 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.
- 27 For “God has put all things in subjection under His feet.”
But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,”
it is plain that He is excepted who put all things in subjection under Him.
- 28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be
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v.26

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that God may be all in all.

Majestic

Creator

Redeemer

Awesome

Almighty

Infinite

Sovereign

Sustainer

Holy

Omnipotent

Transcendent

Friend

Shepherd

Physician

Personal

Helper

Peacemaker

Savior

But when it says, "all things are put in subjection,"
it is plain that He is excepted who put all things in subjection under Him.
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Shepherd

Physician

Refuge

Personal

Emmanuel

Helper

Peacemaker

Longsuffering

Savior

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Shepherd

Physician

Merciful

Refuge

Personal

Emmanuel

Helper

Peacemaker

Longsuffering

Savior

But when it says, "all things are put in subjection,"

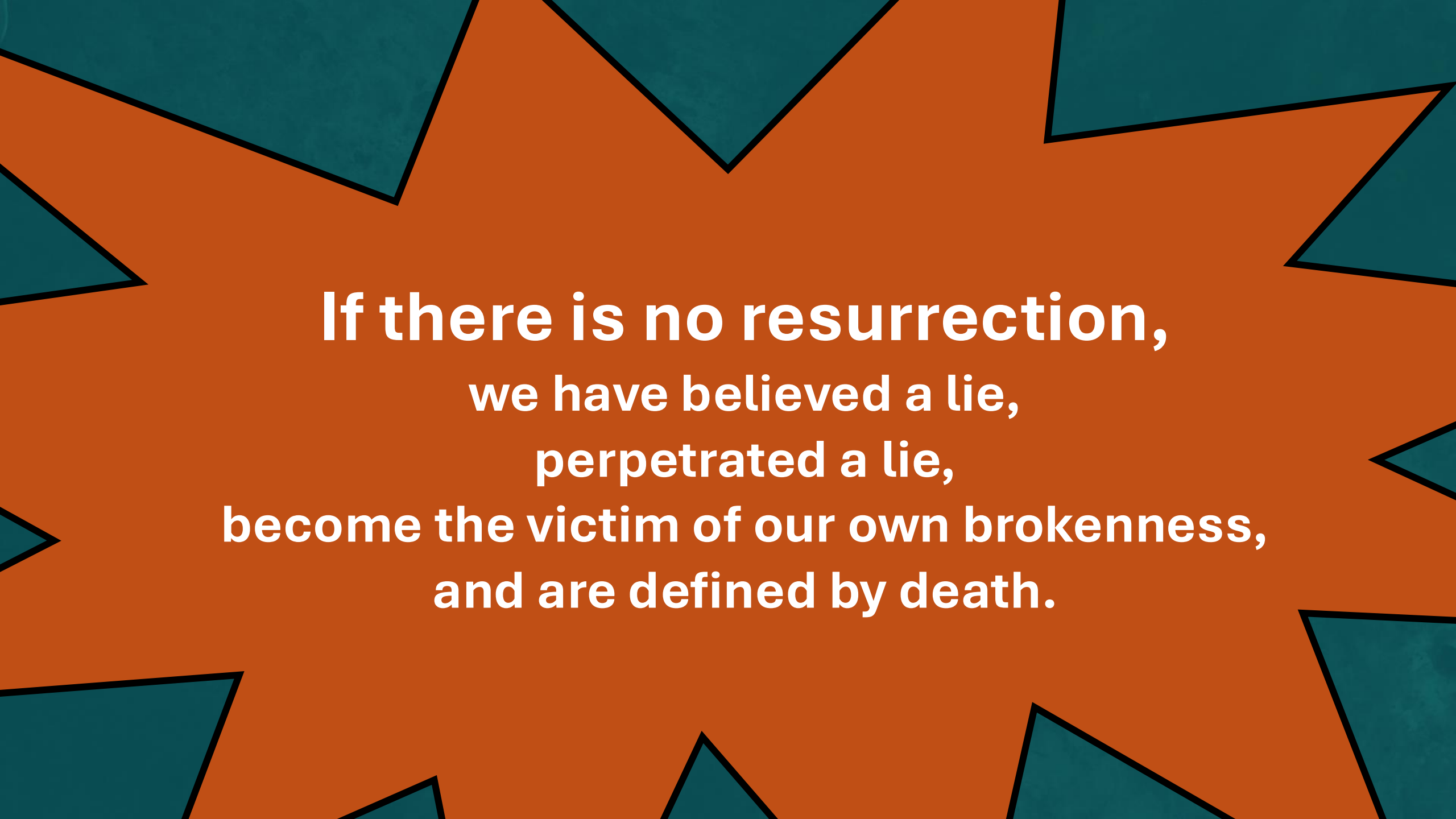
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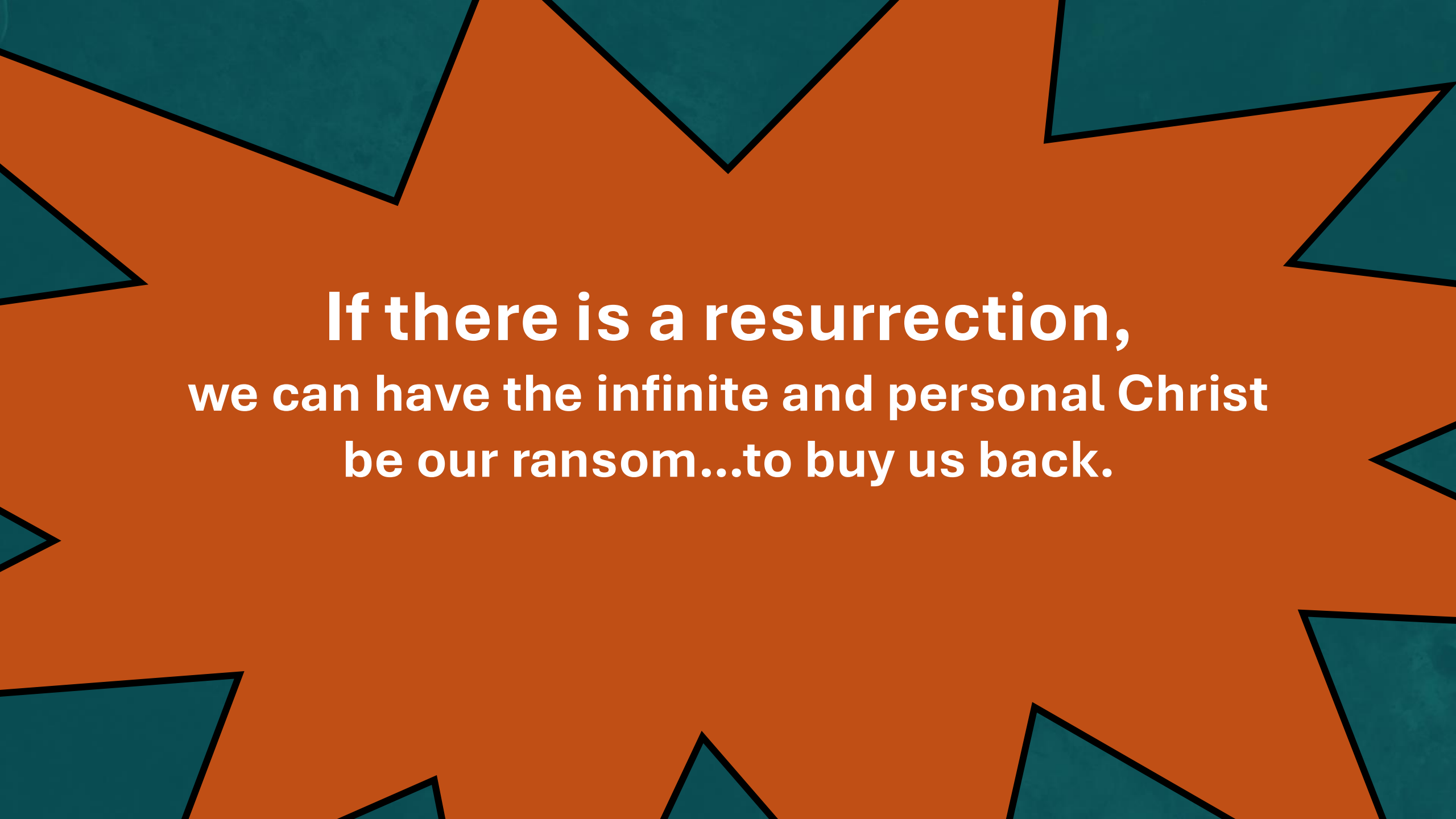
that God may be all in all.

The background is a solid orange color with several teal-colored triangles of various sizes scattered across it. Each triangle has a thin black outline. The text is centered horizontally and vertically.

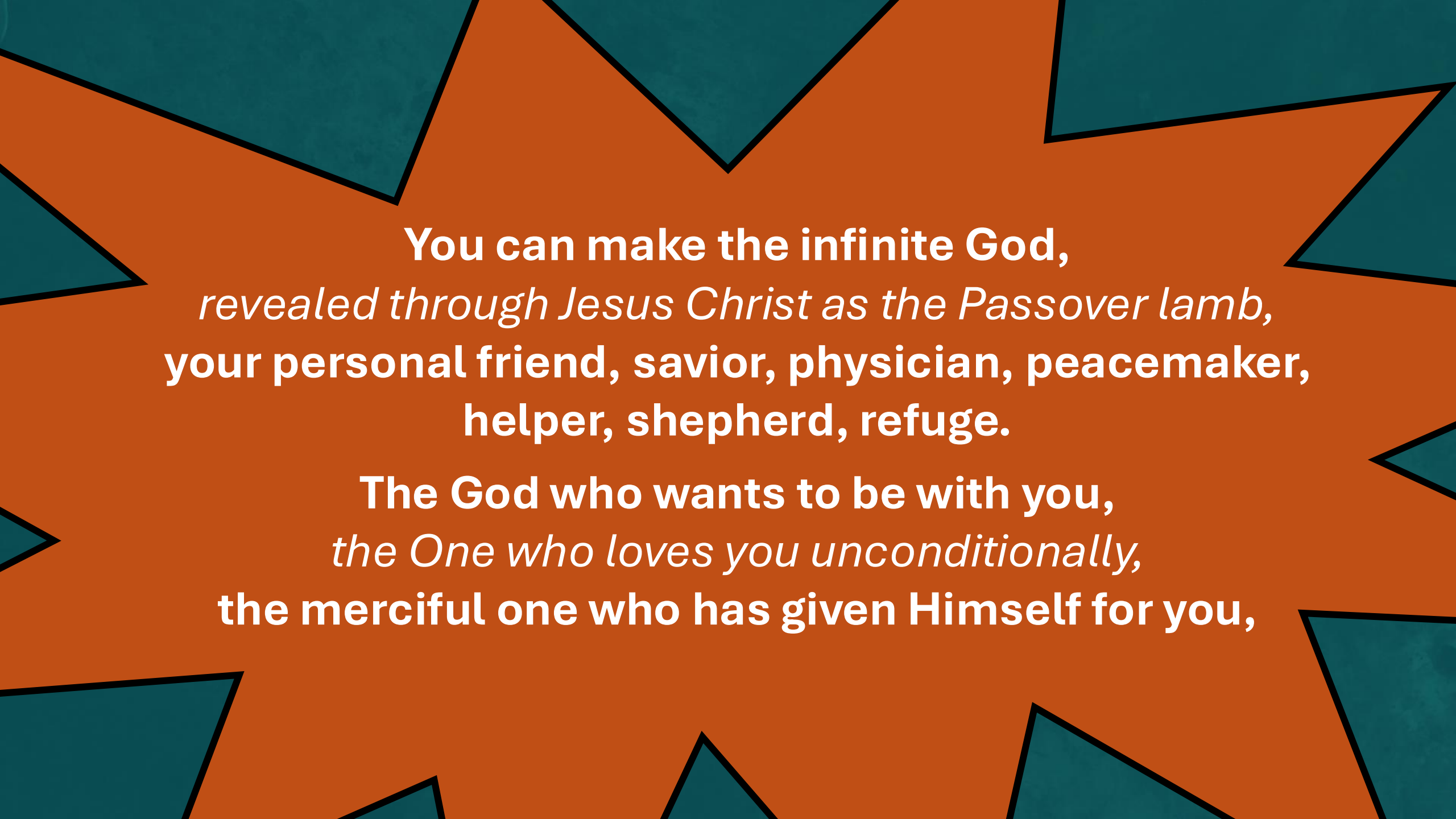
So...therefore...what do we do now?

The background consists of a solid orange field with several teal-colored triangles of various sizes and orientations scattered across it. Each triangle is outlined with a thin black border.

**If there is no resurrection,
we have believed a lie,
perpetrated a lie,
become the victim of our own brokenness,
and are defined by death.**

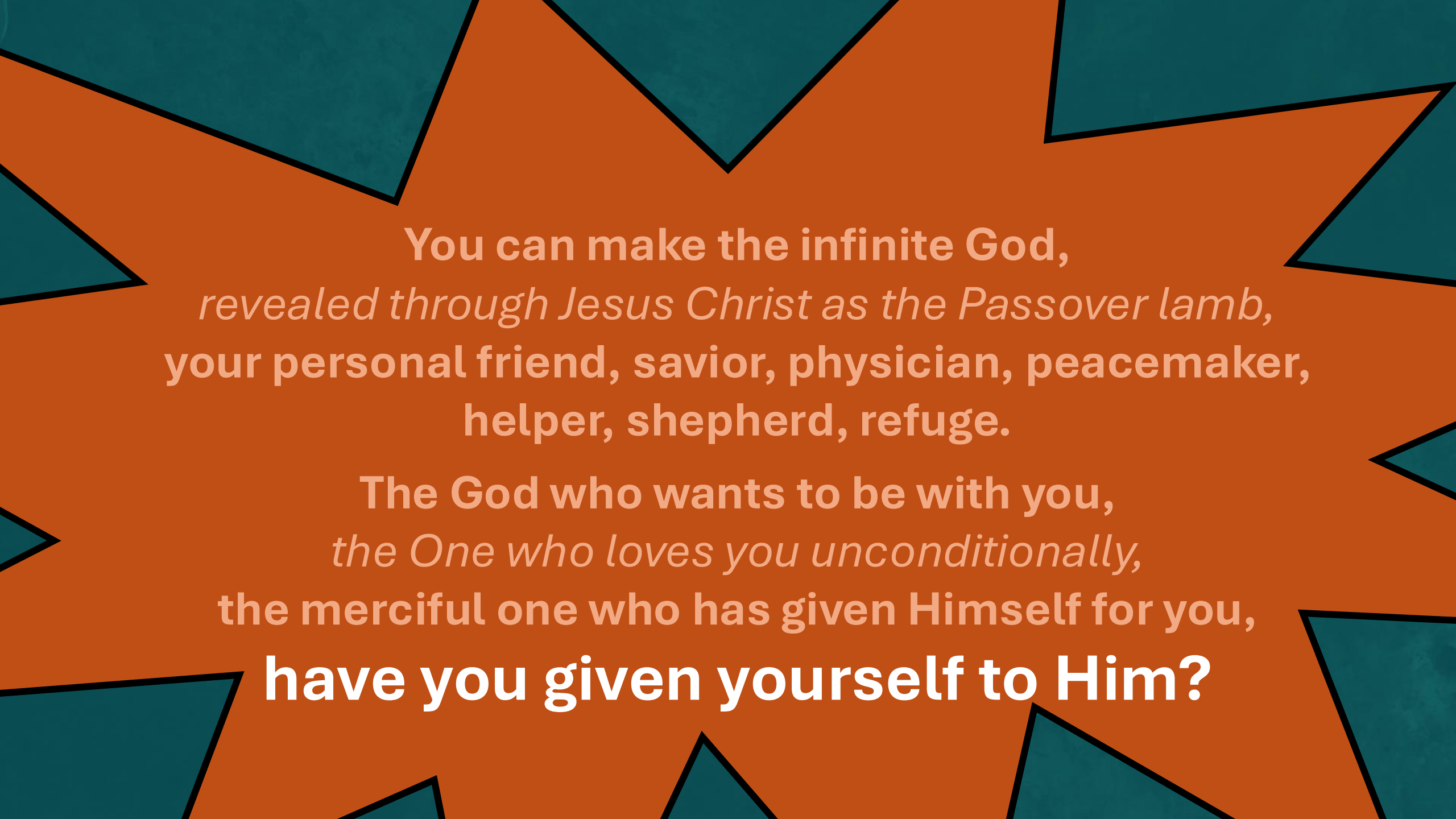
The background consists of a solid orange field with several teal-colored triangles of various sizes and orientations scattered across it. Each triangle is outlined with a thin black border. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**If there is a resurrection,
we can have the infinite and personal Christ
be our ransom...to buy us back.**

The background consists of a solid orange field with several teal-colored triangles of various sizes scattered across it. Each triangle has a thin black outline. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

You can make the infinite God,
revealed through Jesus Christ as the Passover lamb,
your personal friend, savior, physician, peacemaker,
helper, shepherd, refuge.

The God who wants to be with you,
the One who loves you unconditionally,
the merciful one who has given Himself for you,

The background consists of a solid orange field with several teal-colored triangles of various sizes scattered across it. Each triangle has a thick black outline. The triangles are positioned in a way that they appear to be floating or falling, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern.

You can make the infinite God,
revealed through Jesus Christ as the Passover lamb,
your personal friend, savior, physician, peacemaker,
helper, shepherd, refuge.

The God who wants to be with you,
the One who loves you unconditionally,
the merciful one who has given Himself for you,
have you given yourself to Him?



Ephesians 1:19-23

What is the the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

And He put all things under His feet
and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
which is His body,
the fullness of Him who fills **all in all**.



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Colossians 2:16-19

- ¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.
- ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.
- ¹⁸ Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,
- ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.