



CHRIST
IN YOU
the hope of
GLORY



COLOSSIANS 1: 15-29 (NIVUK)

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation -

COLOSSIANS 1: 15-29 (NIVUK)

²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. ²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness - ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

24 Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. 25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness – 26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. 29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

COL 1

28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. 29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

COL 1

28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. 29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

COL 1

What is
spiritual
maturity?

OBEDIENCE

Telling others about Jesus

KNOWING THE
WORD

What is spiritual maturity?

Kingdom
mindset

Christian perfection

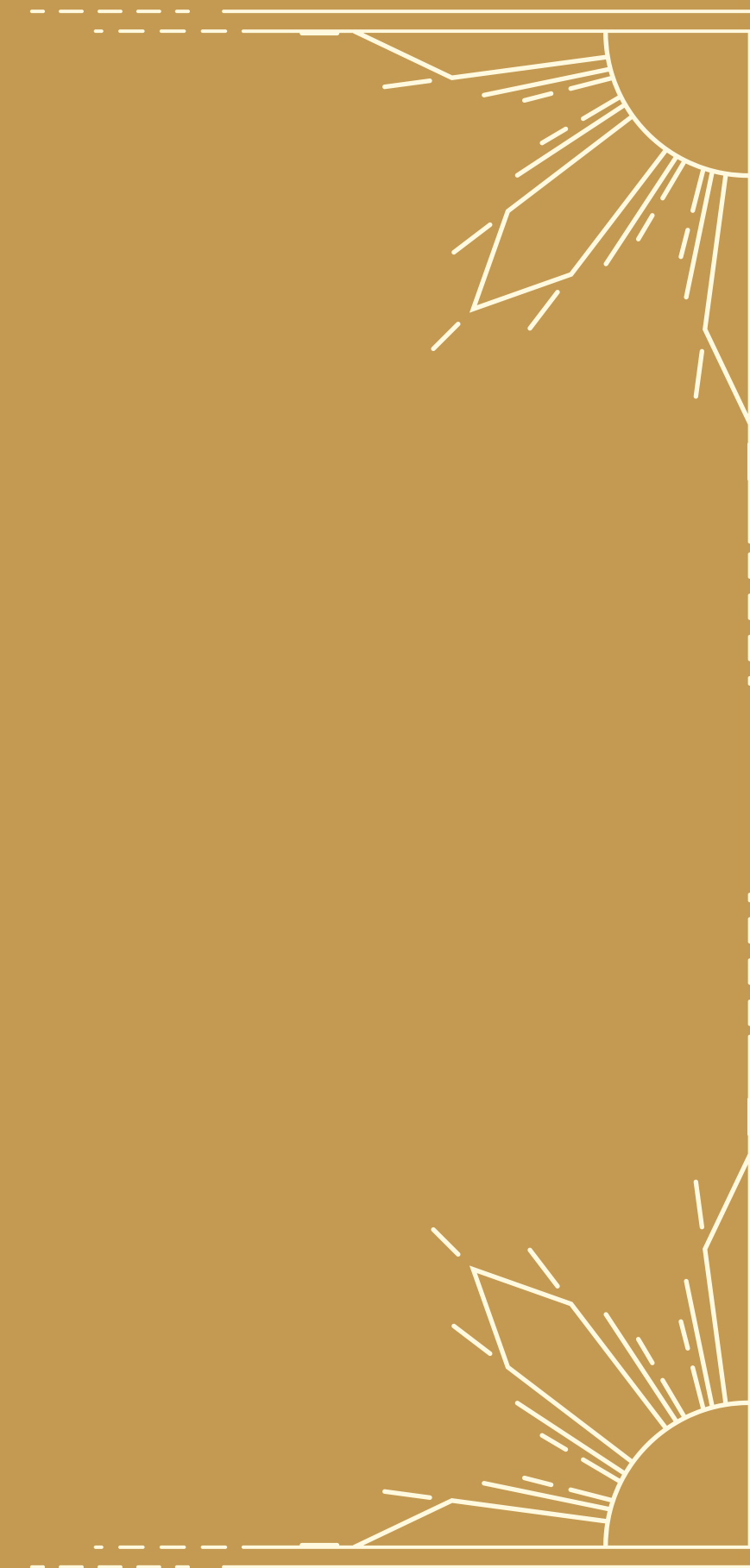
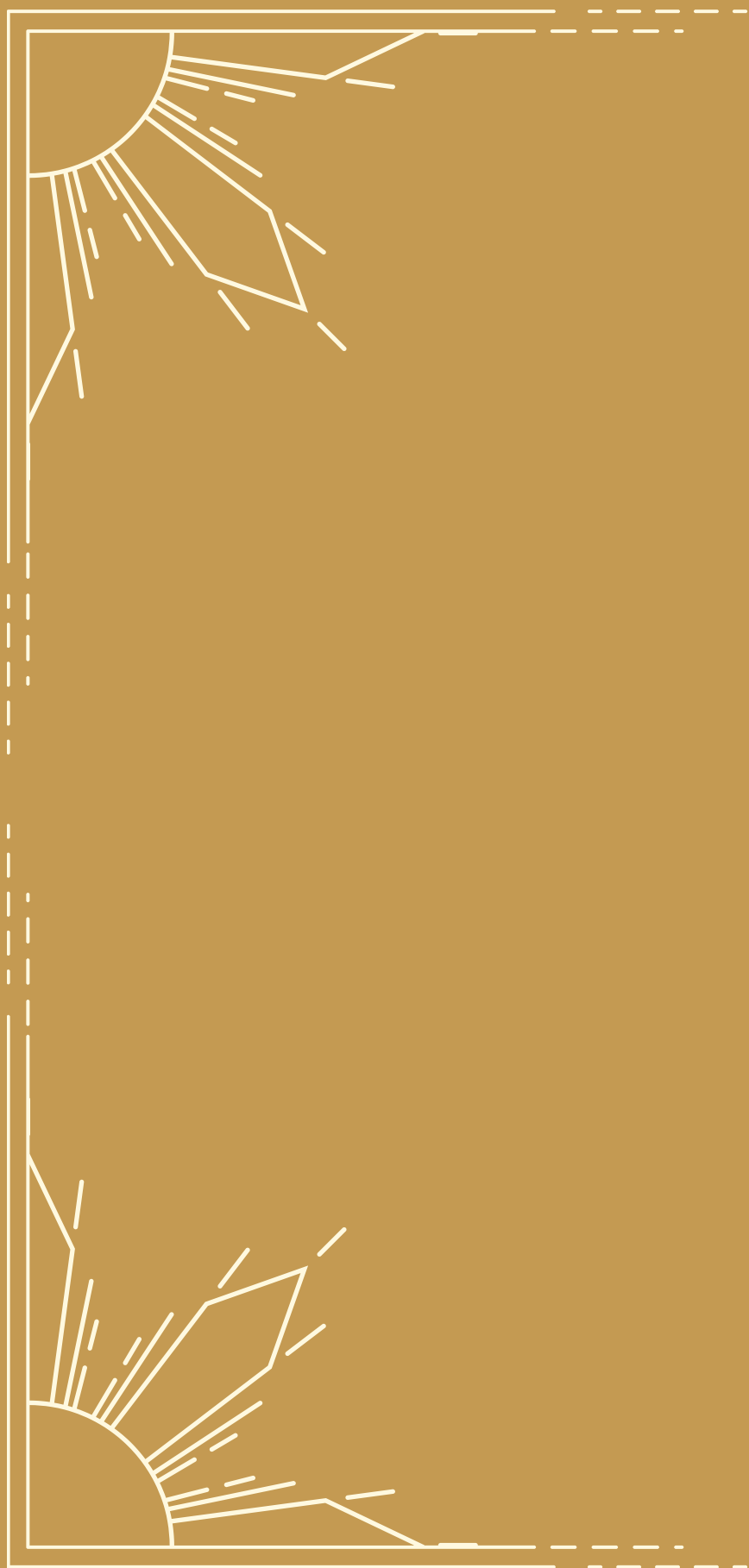
Spirit-led

HAVING FAITH

28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. 29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

COL 1

3 ESSENTIAL TRUTHS



#1:
Christ is
***supreme* over**
ALL



The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

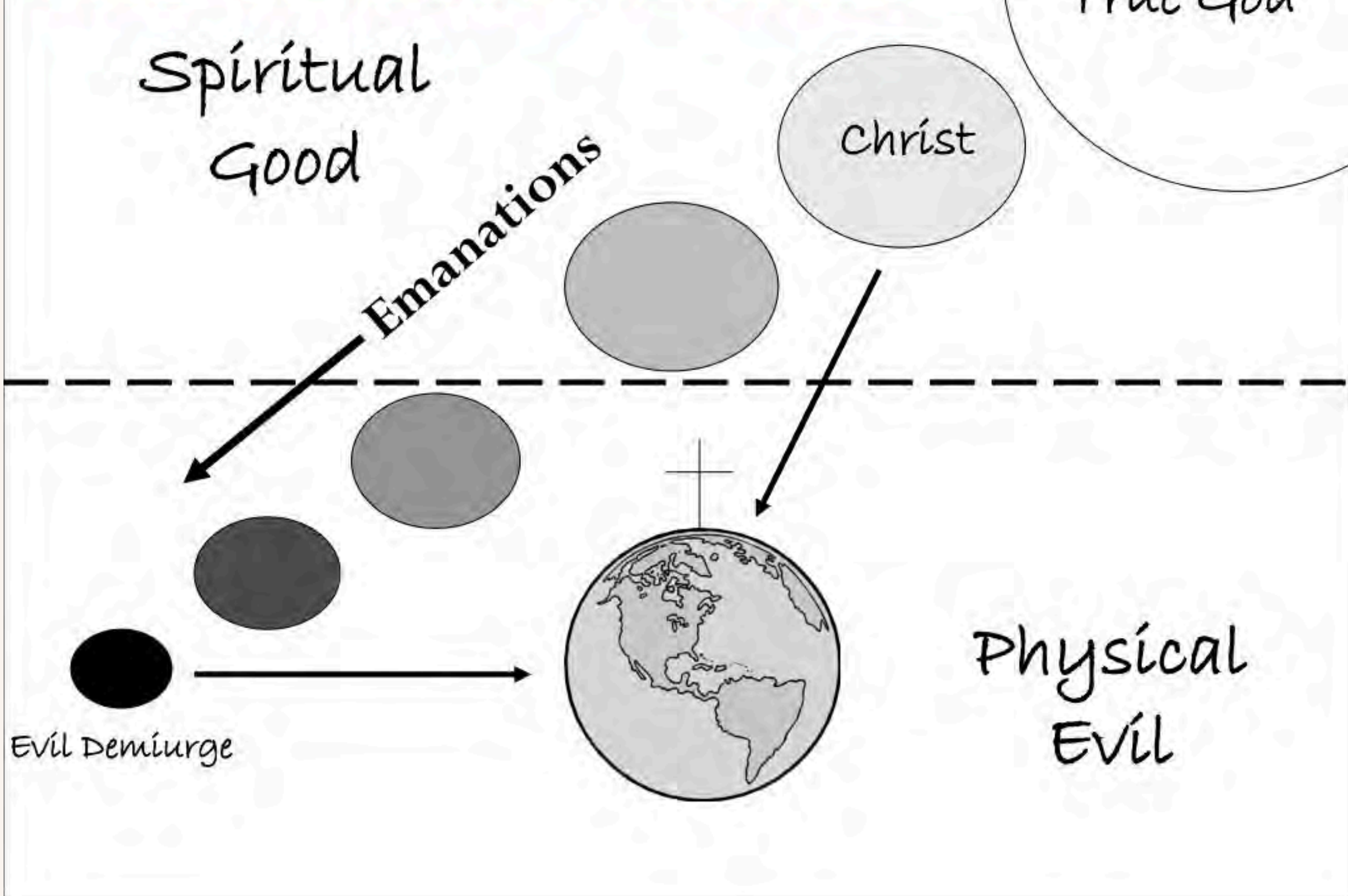


COLOSSIAN HERESY/ GNOSTICISM

- All matter is evil
- Spiritual things are altogether good
- God is spirit and altogether good - cannot have anything to do with matter
- God releases “emanations”
- One of these emanations was so far removed from God that he was hostile toward God, called the “demiurge”
- This demiurge was the one who created the universe and is known as the God of the OT



THE GNOSTIC CHRIST



The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.



The Son is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.



firstborn

1) Priority in time

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. - Jn 1.1-3

2) Supremacy in rank

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. - Jn 1.14



The Son is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and **in him all things hold together.**



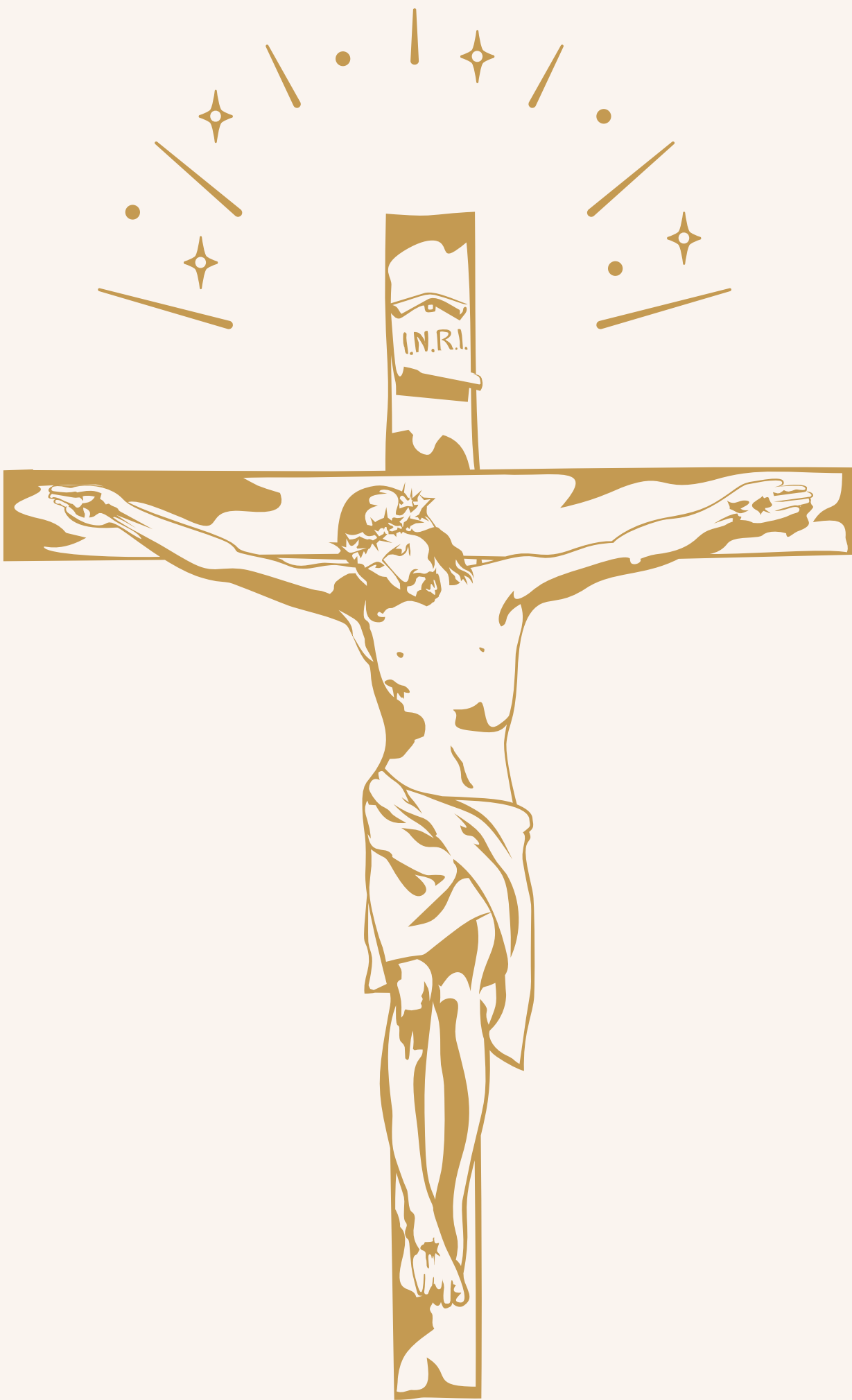
#1:
Christ is
***supreme* over**
ALL



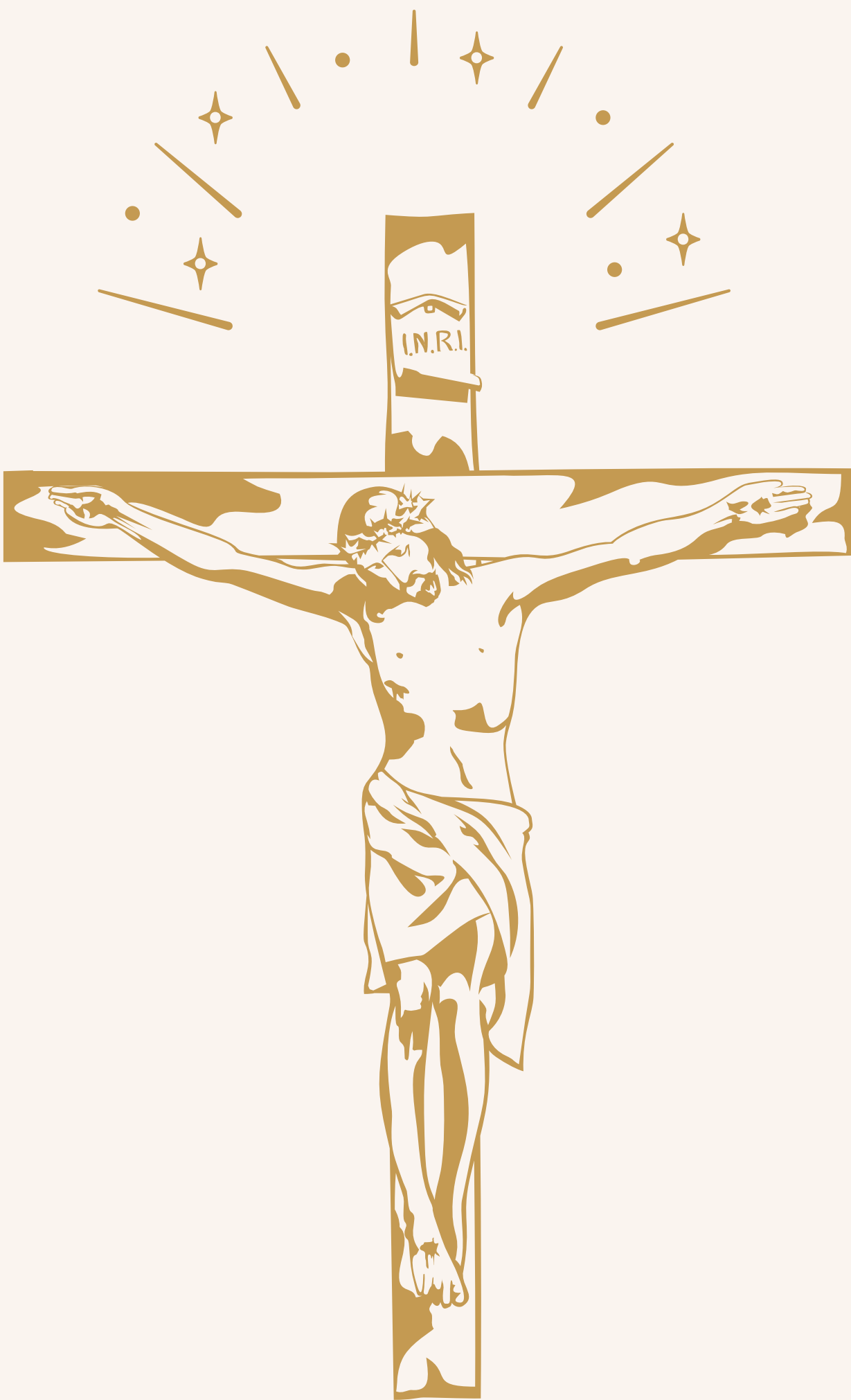


#1:
Christ is
***supreme* over**
ALL

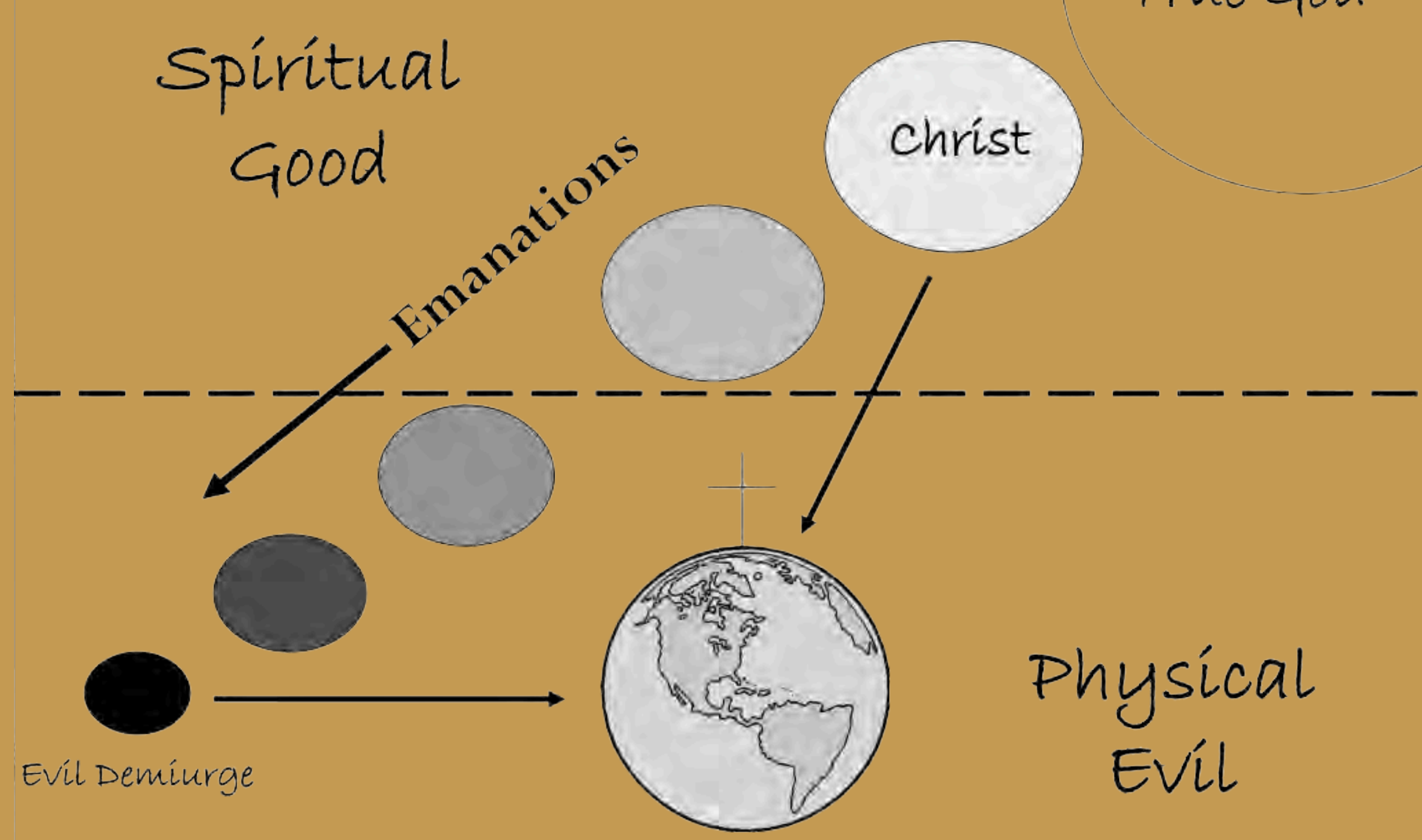




#2:
CHRIST IS *HEAD*
OVER THE
CHURCH



THE GNOSTIC CHRIST



Jesus was just one of the many "emanations"



And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

First claim,

In Christ, the fullness of God dwells

18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

First claim,

In Christ, the fullness of God dwells

**15 The Son is the image of the
invisible God.**



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

First claim,

In Christ, the fullness of God dwells

**15 The Son is the image of the
invisible God.**



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

First claim,

In Christ, the fullness of God dwells

18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

Second claim, Christ is fully human

18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his **blood**, shed on the cross.



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

Second claim, Christ is fully human

22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's
physical body through death to present you holy in
his sight, without blemish and free from accusation



APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

Second claim, Christ is fully human

And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

1 Corinthians 15:14



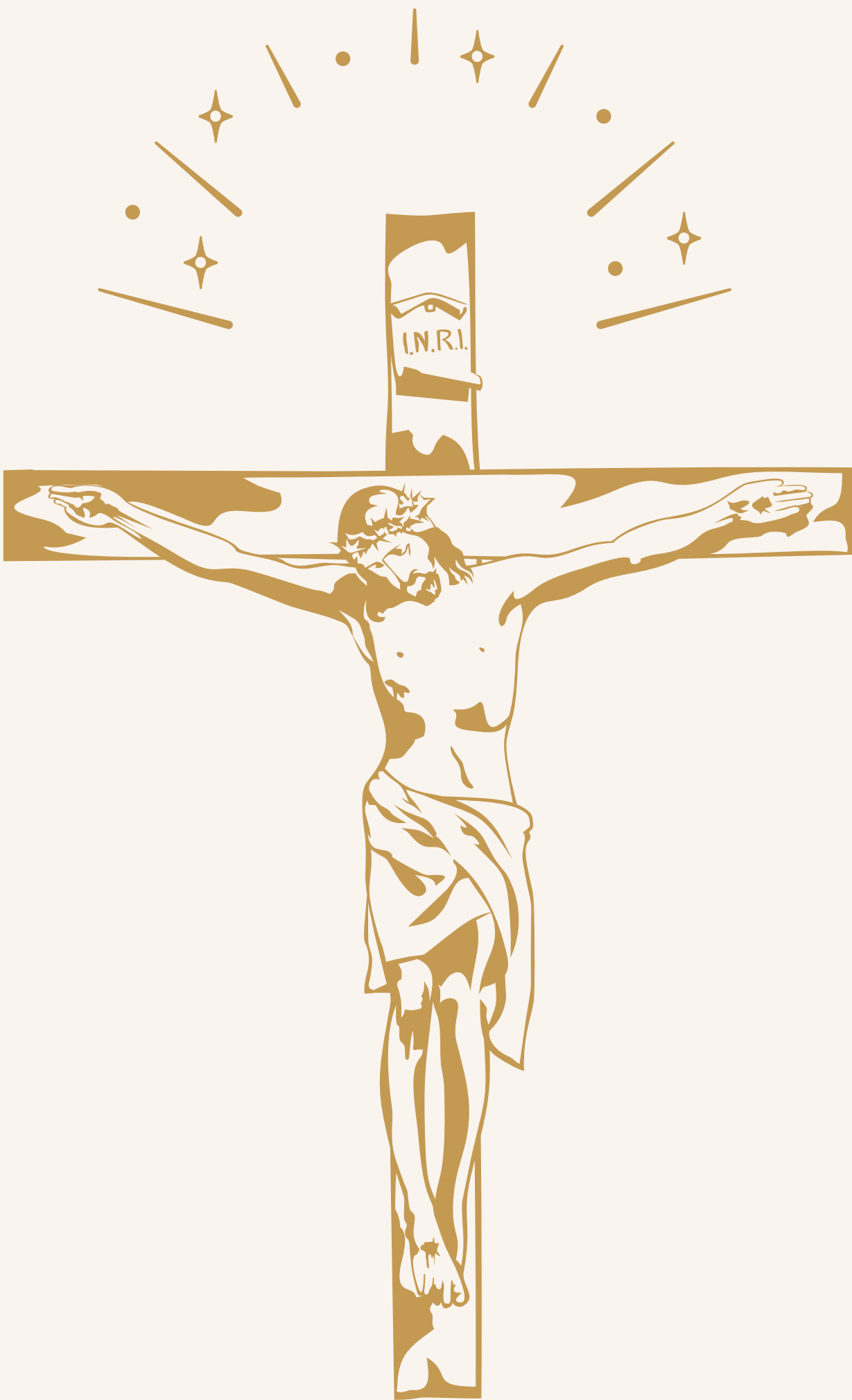
APOSTLE PAUL ON THE IDENTITY OF CHRIST

Second claim, Christ is fully human

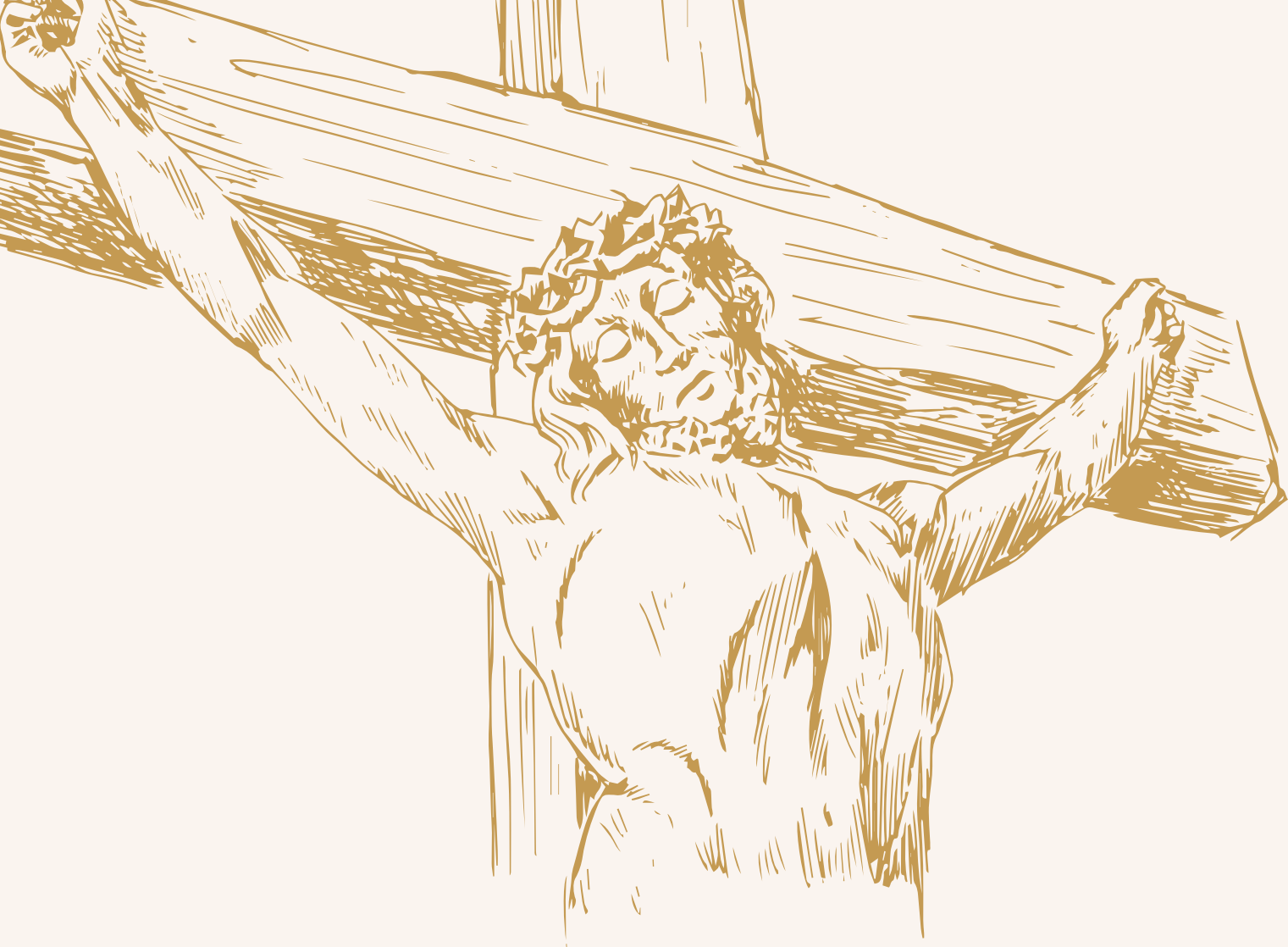
But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22



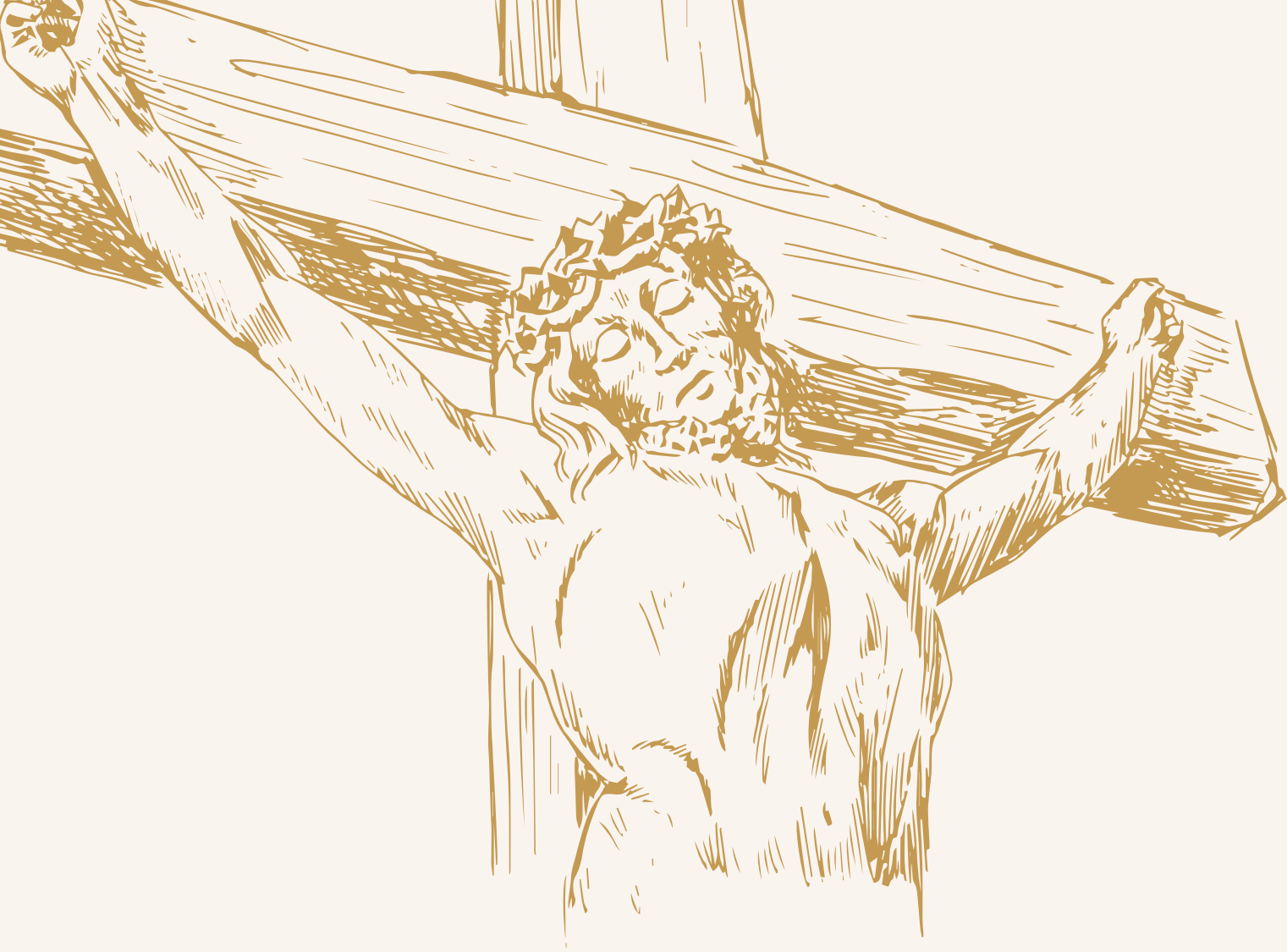


#2:
CHRIST IS *HEAD*
OVER THE
CHURCH



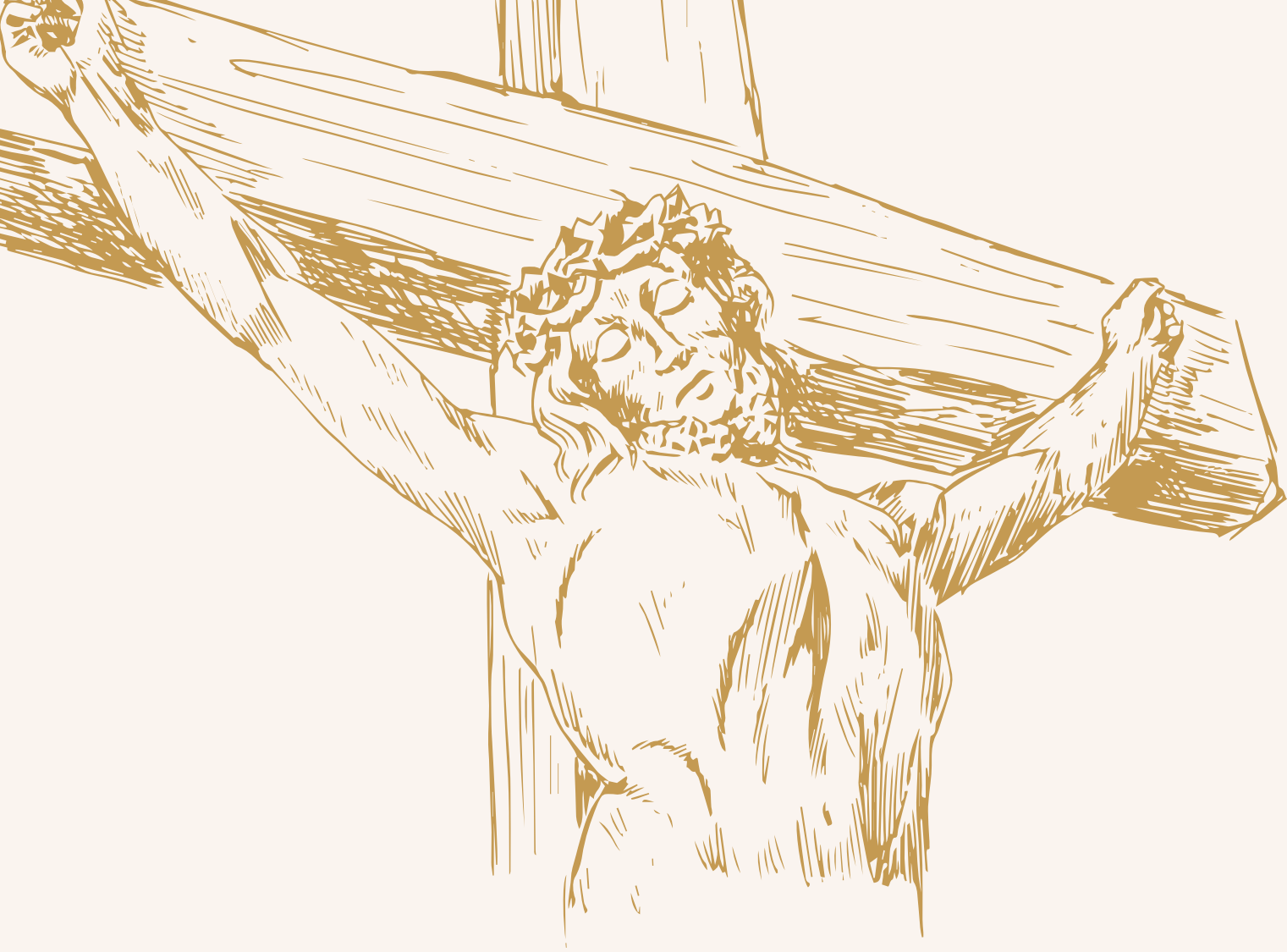
#3: Christ dwells in the *Christian*

25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— 26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.



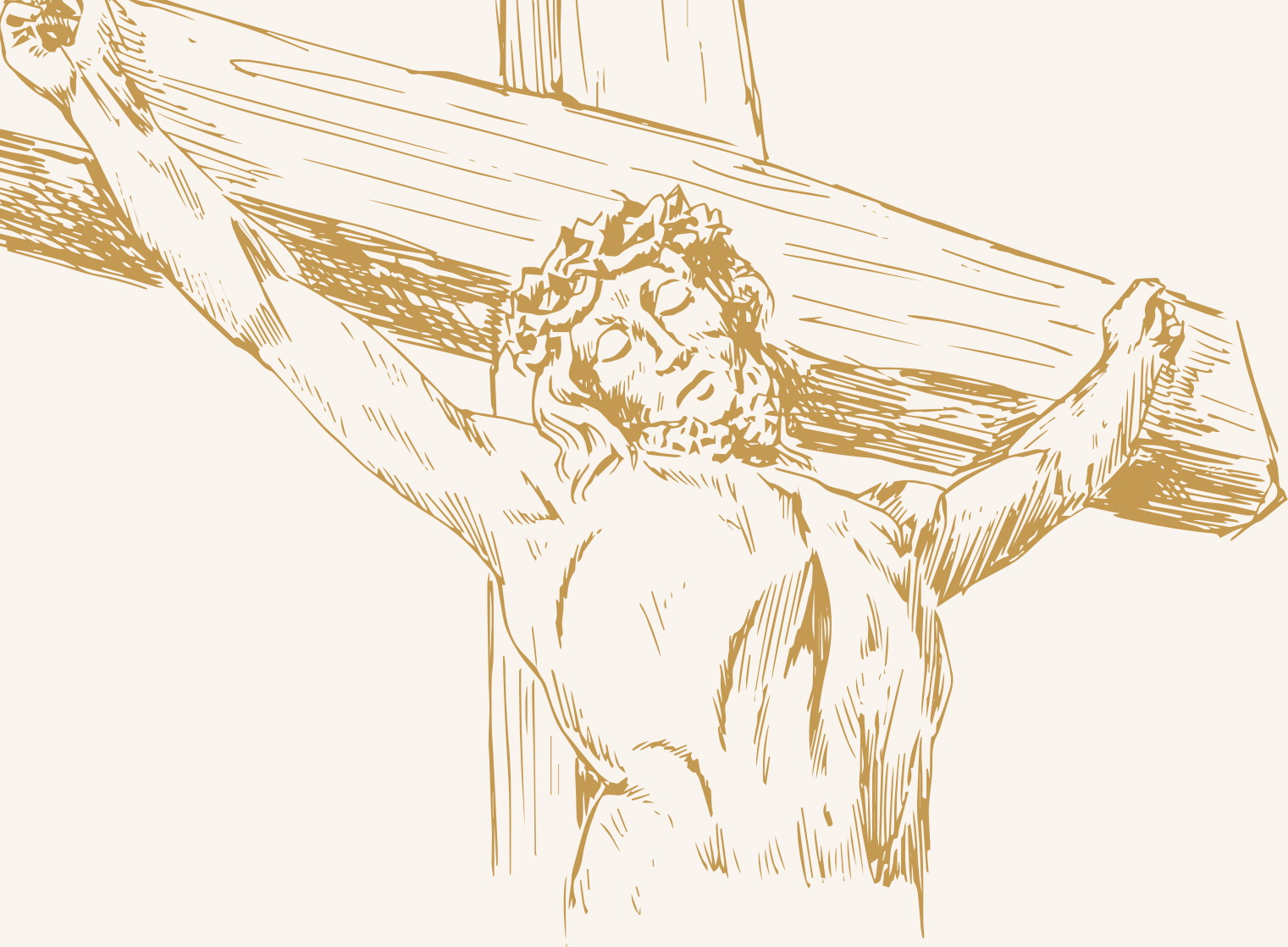
#3: Christ dwells in the *Christian*

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.



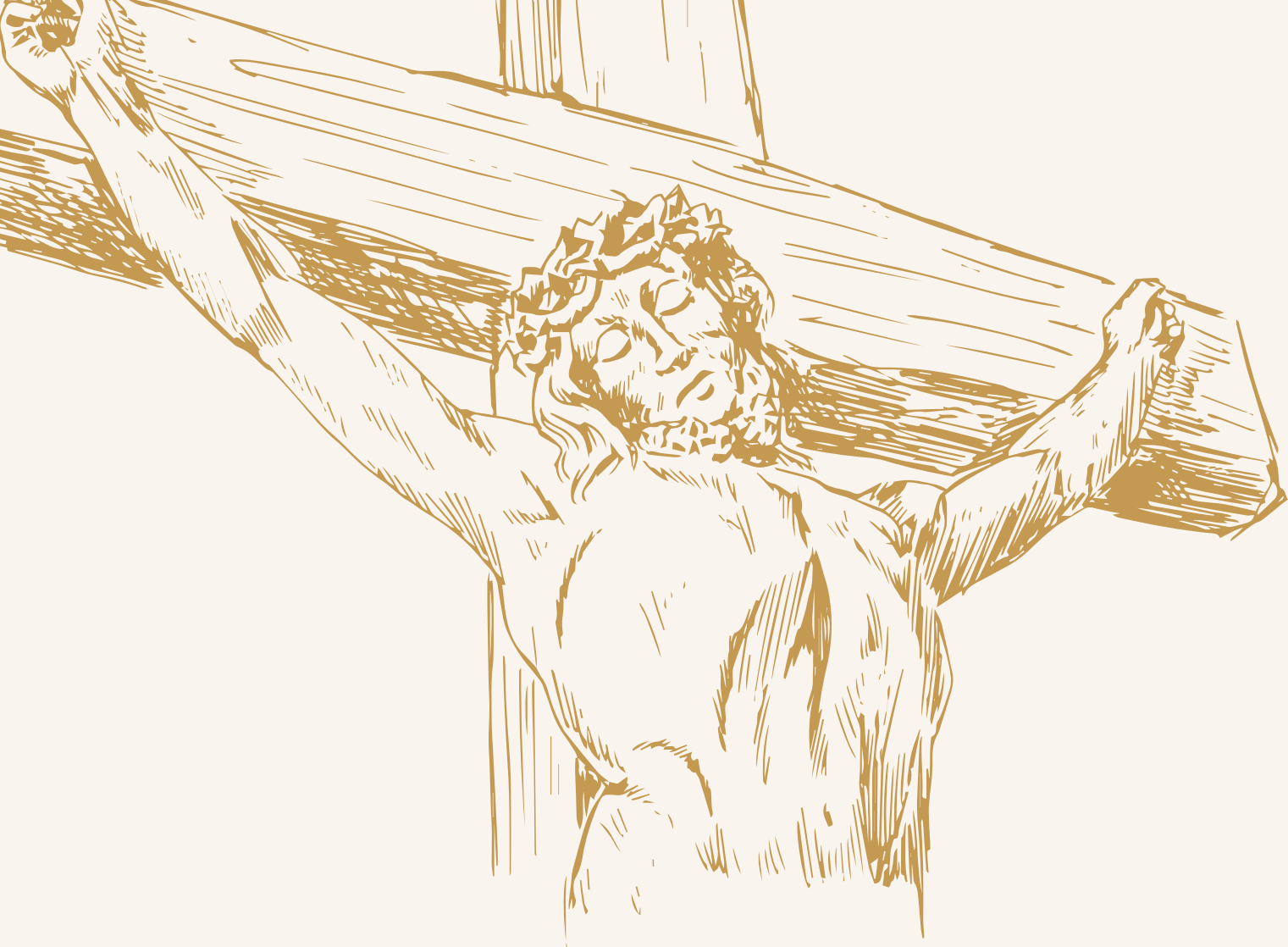
#3: Christ dwells in the *Christian*

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.



#3: Christ dwells in the *Christian*

25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— 26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.



#3: Christ dwells in the *Christian*

25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— 26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Paul's statement in Colossians 1:29, where he mentions "strenuously contend with all the energy," help us understand the relationship between Christ's power and our efforts in the work of ministry?
2. How can the supremacy of Christ in all things, as expressed in Colossians 1:29, shape our perspective on challenges, suffering, and perseverance in our Christian walk?

