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Introduction:

When word began to spread that Jesus had risen from the dead, not everyone believed.

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Text: John 20:24-31

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

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But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.”

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A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands."

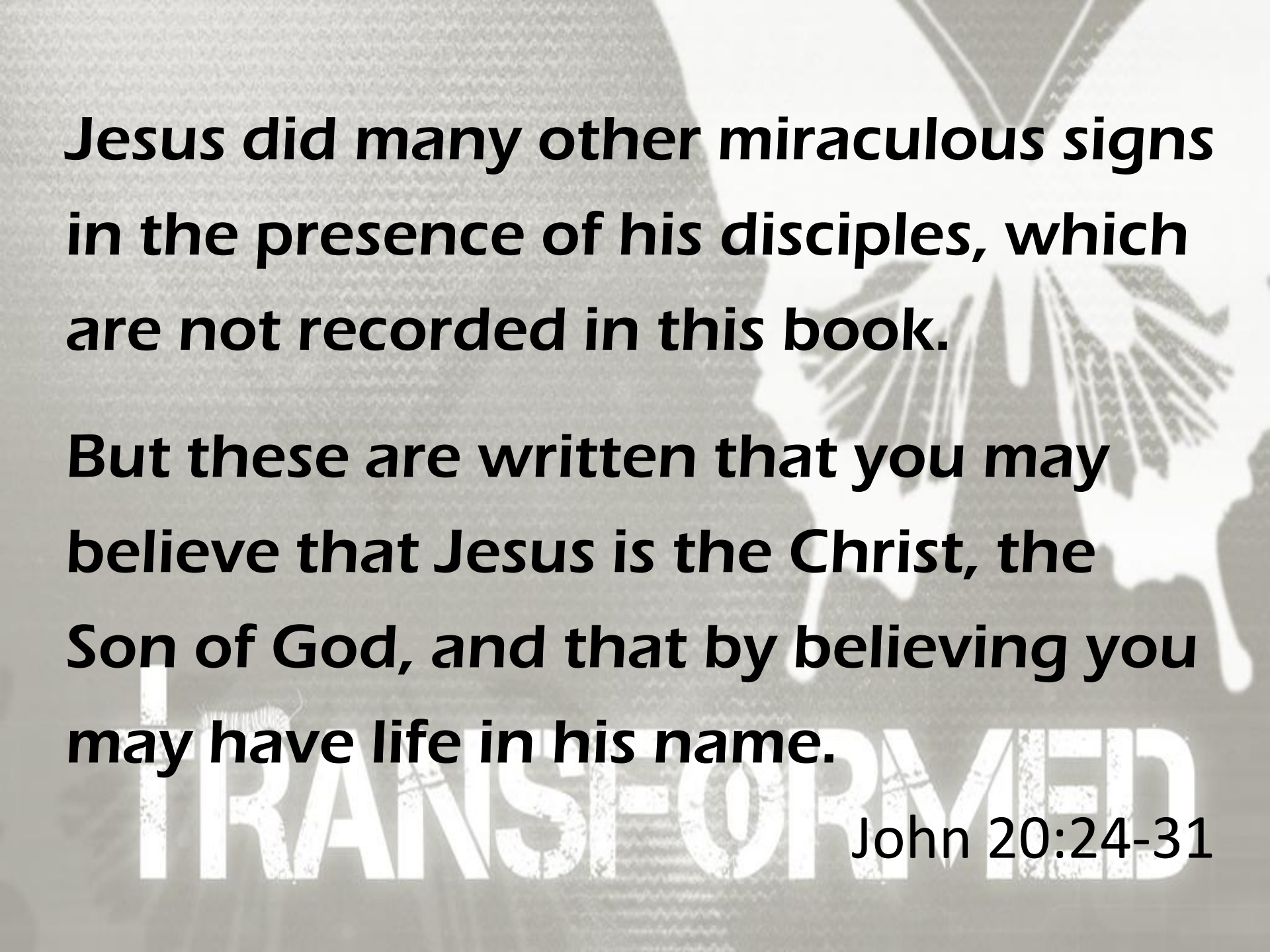
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Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

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The background features a grayscale image of two hands cupping a globe. The word "TRANSFORMED" is written in large, white, distressed capital letters across the bottom of the image, partially overlapping the hands and globe.

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:24-31

The Bible doesn't have much good to say about doubt.

Doubting people:

Lose the ability to

EXPERIENCE God's

power, like Peter did when he walked on water

(Matthew 14:30).

The Bible doesn't have much
good to say about doubt.

Doubting people:

Lose power in **PRAYER**

(Matthew 21:21).

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The Bible doesn't have much good to say about doubt.

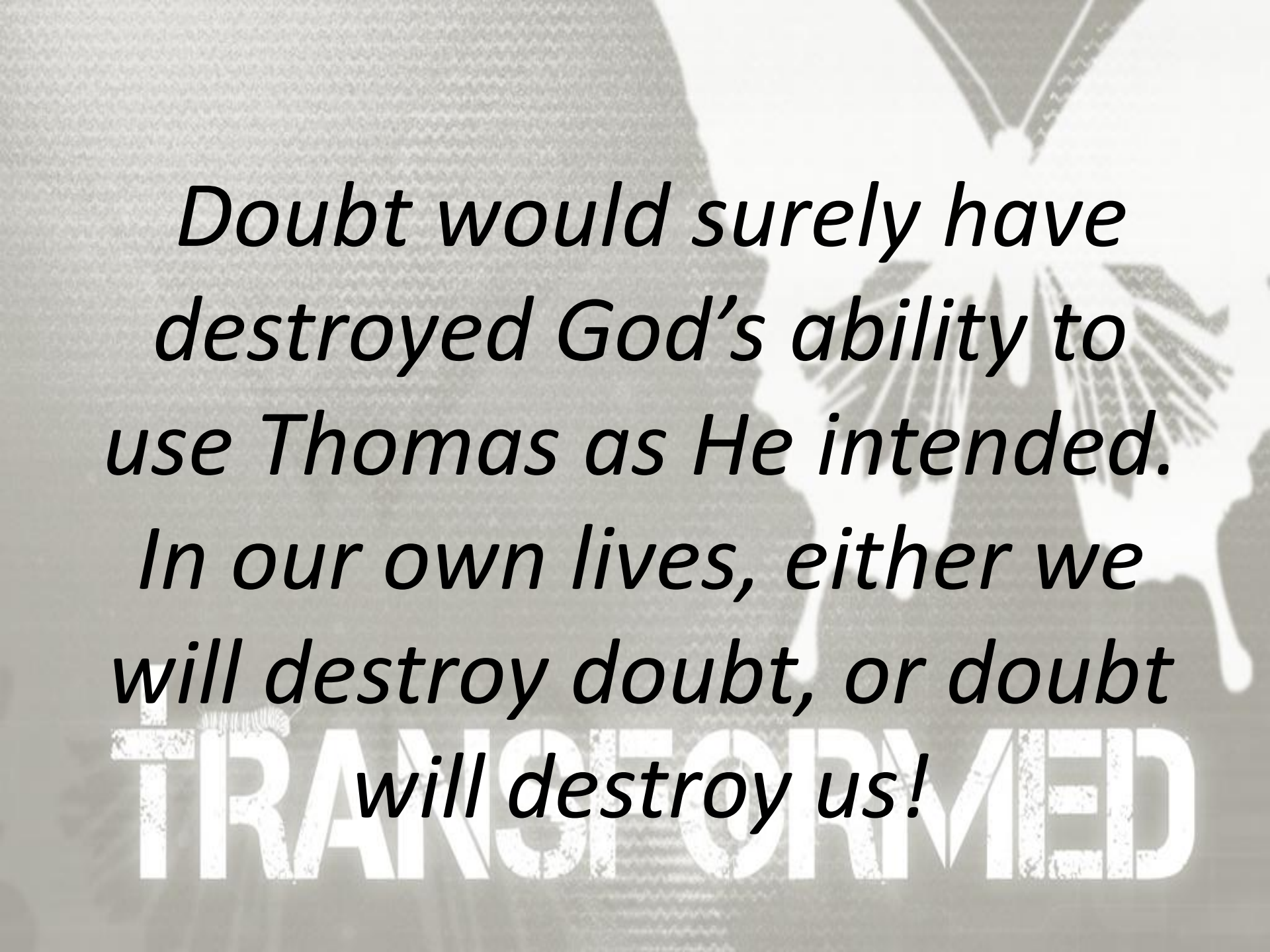
Doubting people:

Lose the ability to **SEE** clearly what is before their very

EYES

(Luke 24:37-39).

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*Doubt would surely have
destroyed God's ability to
use Thomas as He intended.*

*In our own lives, either we
will destroy doubt, or doubt
will destroy us!*

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Doubt has a way of spreading through groups of people and multiplying itself.

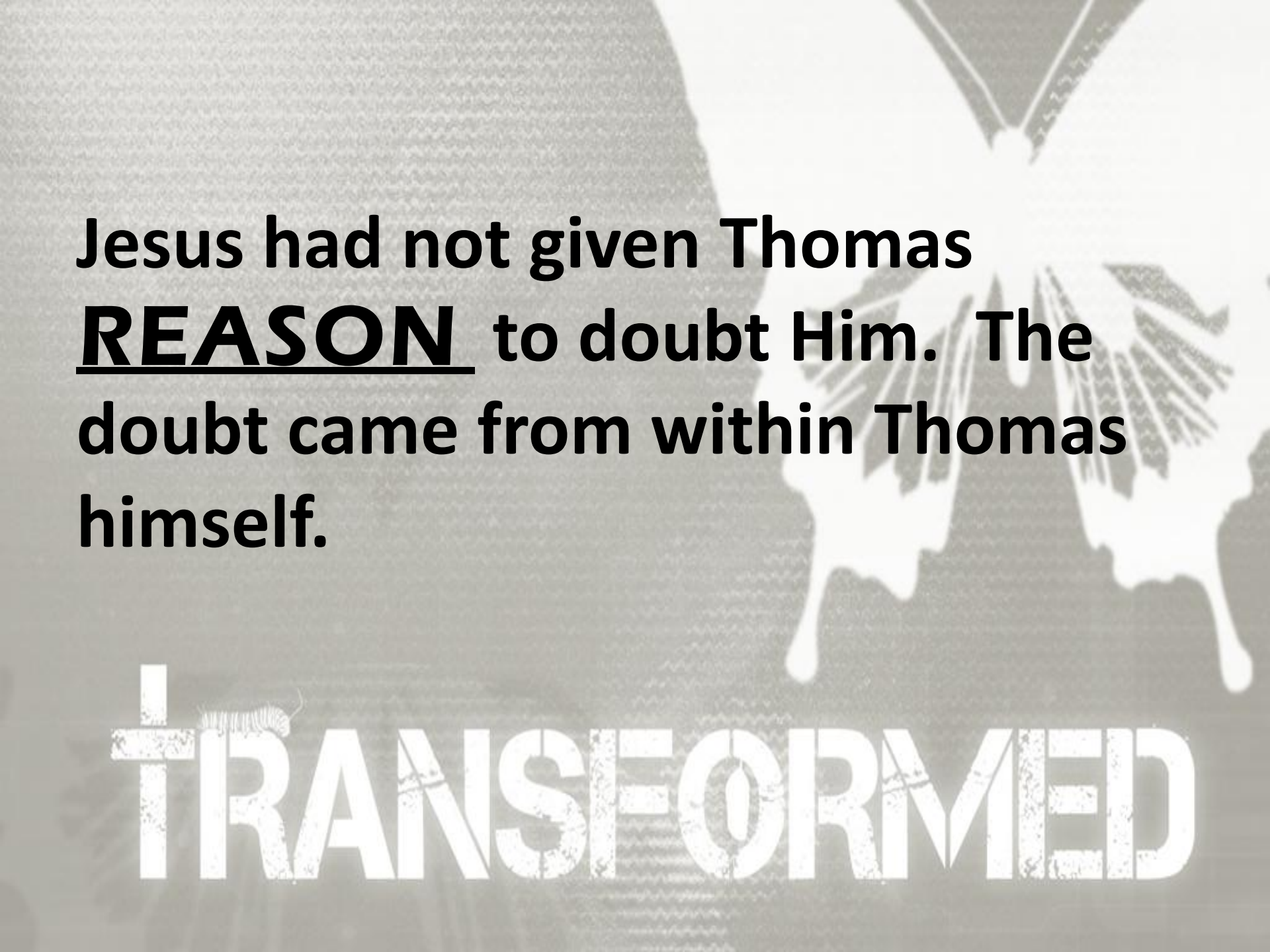
Doubt:

Begins with a **QUESTION.**

Becomes an **EXPECTATION.**

Blossoms into **OPPOSITION.**

Boasts in **DEFEAT.**



Jesus had not given Thomas
REASON to doubt Him. The
doubt came from within Thomas
himself.

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The background of the slide features a grayscale image of several hands of different skin tones reaching upwards to hold a large, glowing cross. The hands are positioned around the cross, with some appearing to support it from below and others reaching towards it from the sides. The overall tone is inspirational and spiritual.

*THE FIRST LAW OF
COUNSELLING:*

*“What you say about me
says more about you than it
does about me.”*

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Belief is a **CHOICE** and doubt
is a **CHOICE**.

Otherwise Jesus would not have
COMMANDED Thomas to
stop doubting!

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Since what we believe
CONTROLS our actions,
could it be that the real cause of
doubt is a reluctance to do what
belief will **COMMAND** us to
do?

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Conclusion:

Jesus transformed Thomas into a man of belief, trust, and obedience by offering evidence of His resurrection. Are you willing to follow the evidence **WHEREVER** it leads?

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