

The World



John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.



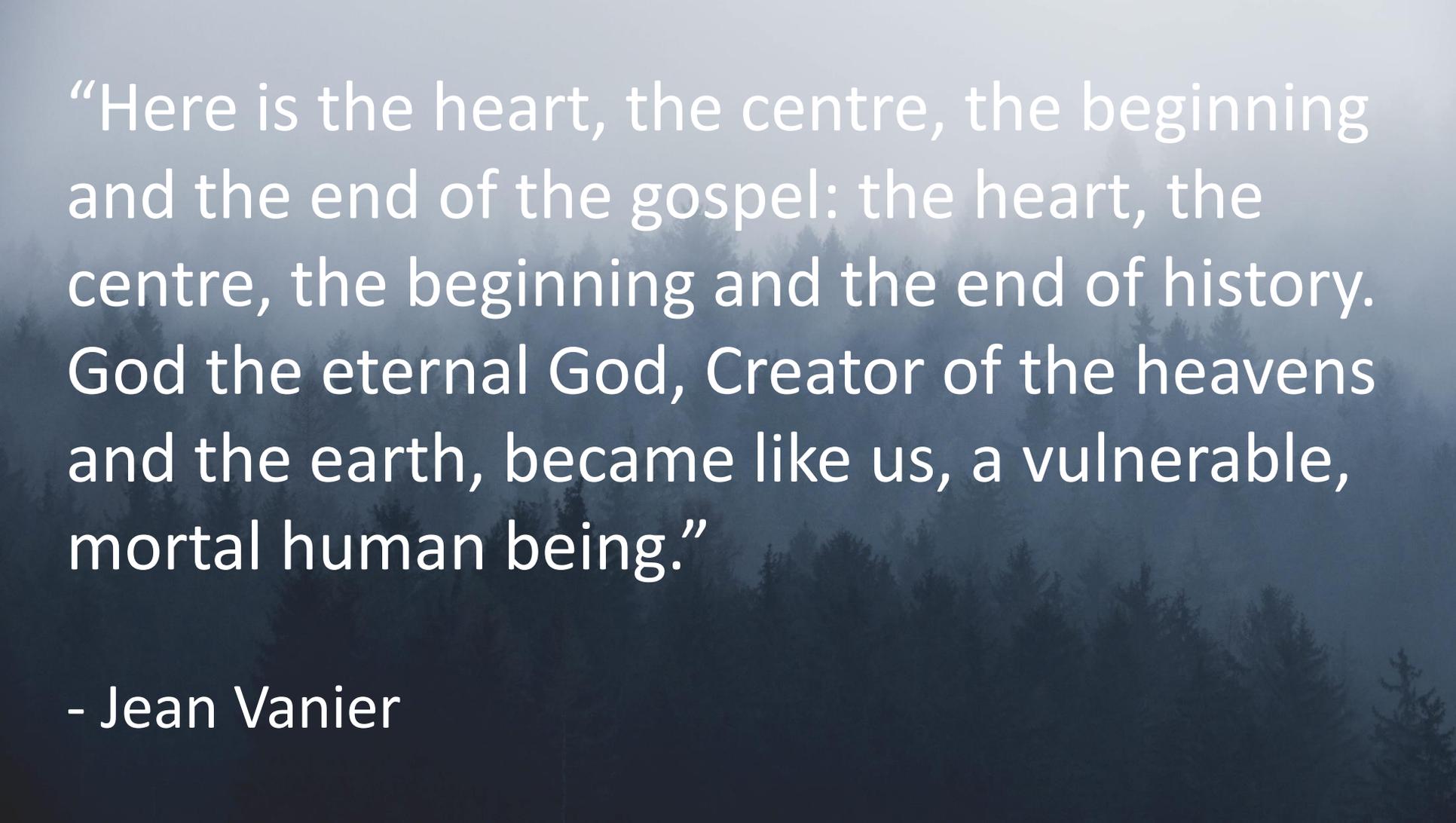


John 1

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. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1

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.

A misty forest background with tall evergreen trees. The text is overlaid in white, centered on the image.

“Here is the heart, the centre, the beginning and the end of the gospel: the heart, the centre, the beginning and the end of history. God the eternal God, Creator of the heavens and the earth, became like us, a vulnerable, mortal human being.”

- Jean Vanier

Luke 1:21-22

When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

John 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20:19-23

Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

Genesis 2:7

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

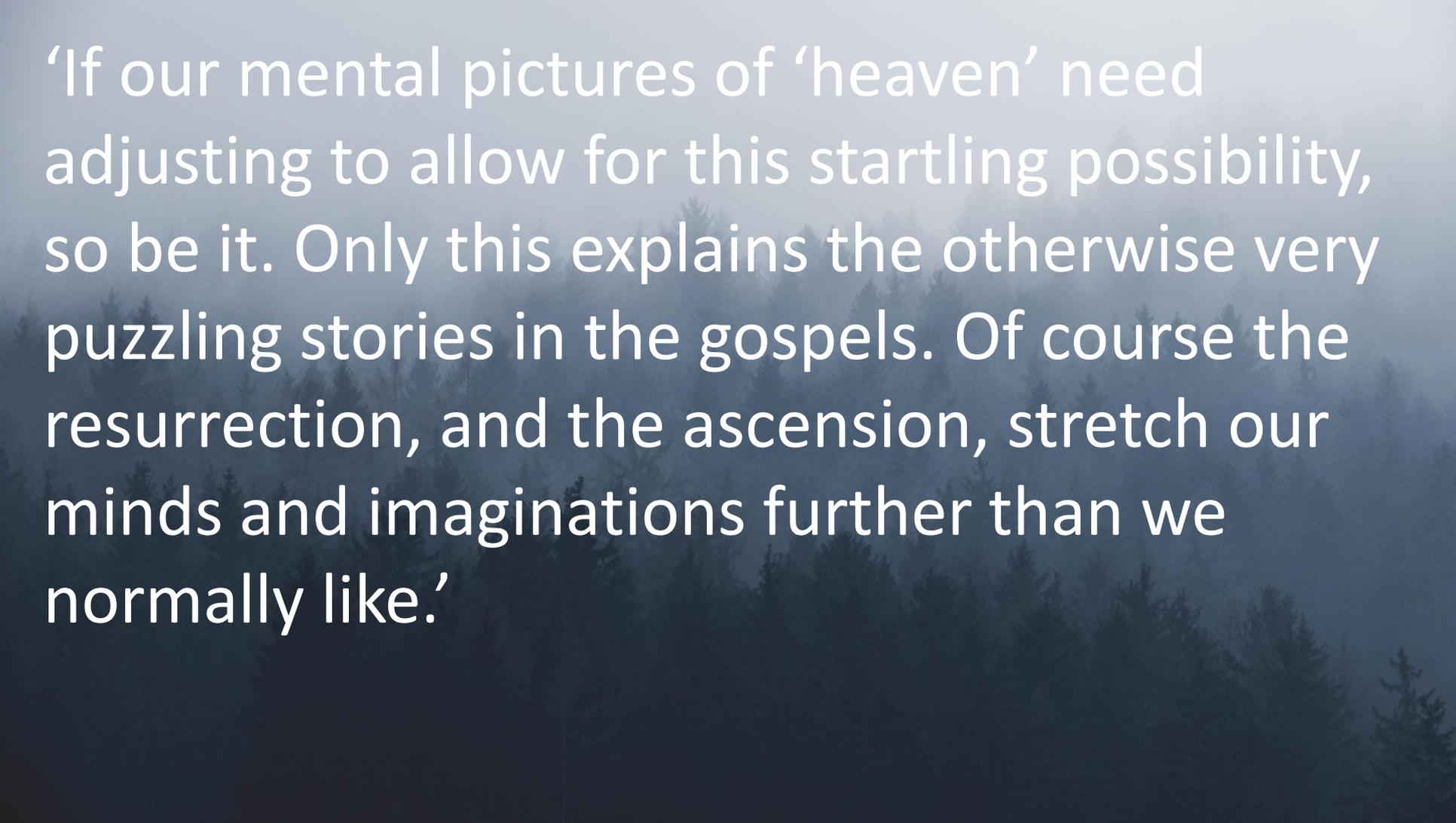


‘People often think that ‘resurrection’ simply means ‘life after death’ or ‘going to heaven’, but in the Jewish world of the first century it meant a new *embodied* life in God’s new world; a life *after* ‘life after death’, if you like.’

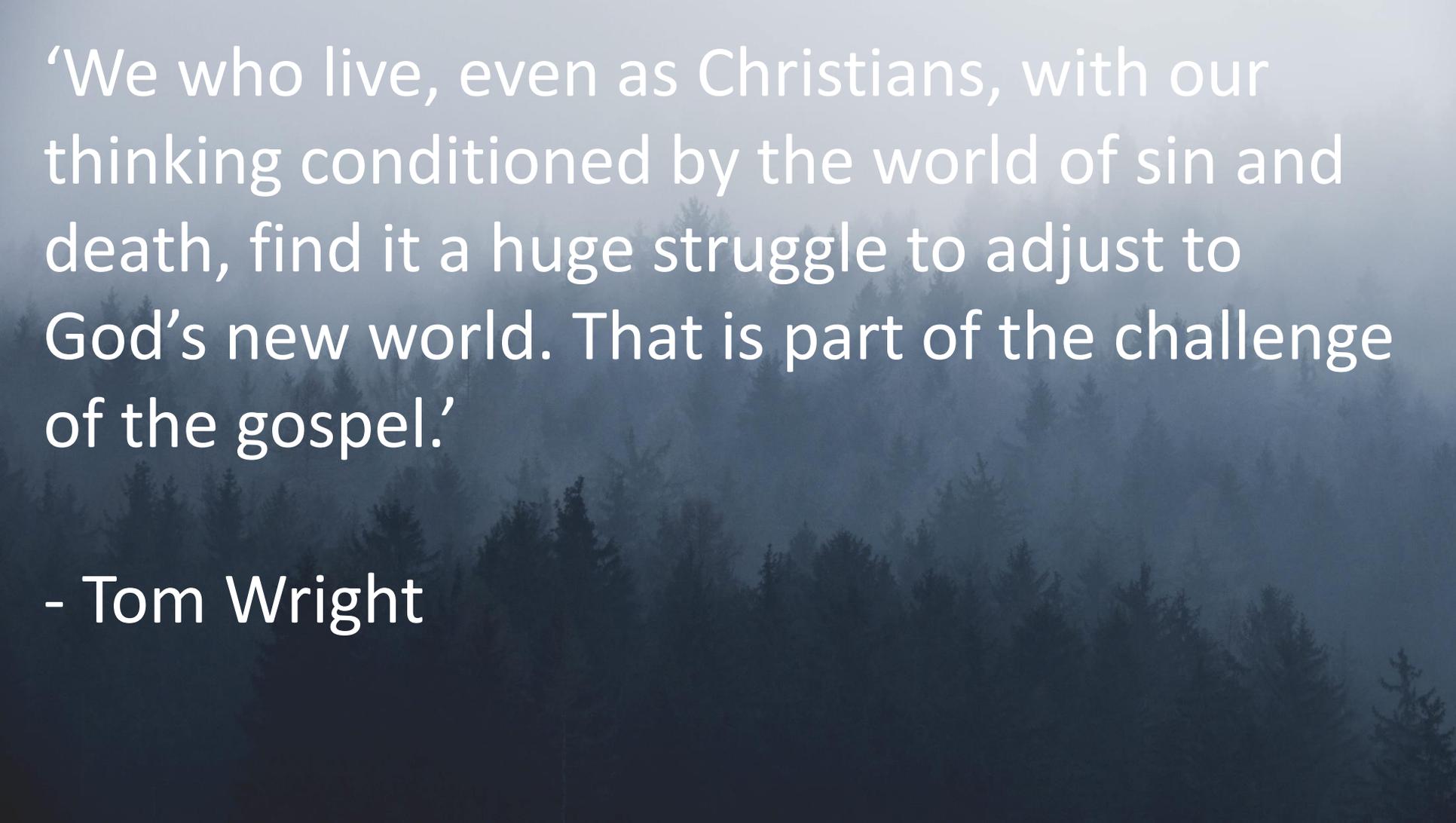
‘The new body - and this is the point - will belong in *both* the dimensions of God’s world, in both heaven and earth (at the end of the book of Revelation, heaven and earth will finally be joined together into one...)’

- Tom Wright





‘If our mental pictures of ‘heaven’ need adjusting to allow for this startling possibility, so be it. Only this explains the otherwise very puzzling stories in the gospels. Of course the resurrection, and the ascension, stretch our minds and imaginations further than we normally like.’

A misty forest background with tall evergreen trees. The scene is dimly lit, with a soft, ethereal glow from the top, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The trees are silhouetted against the lighter sky, creating a sense of depth and tranquility.

‘We who live, even as Christians, with our thinking conditioned by the world of sin and death, find it a huge struggle to adjust to God’s new world. That is part of the challenge of the gospel.’

- Tom Wright



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