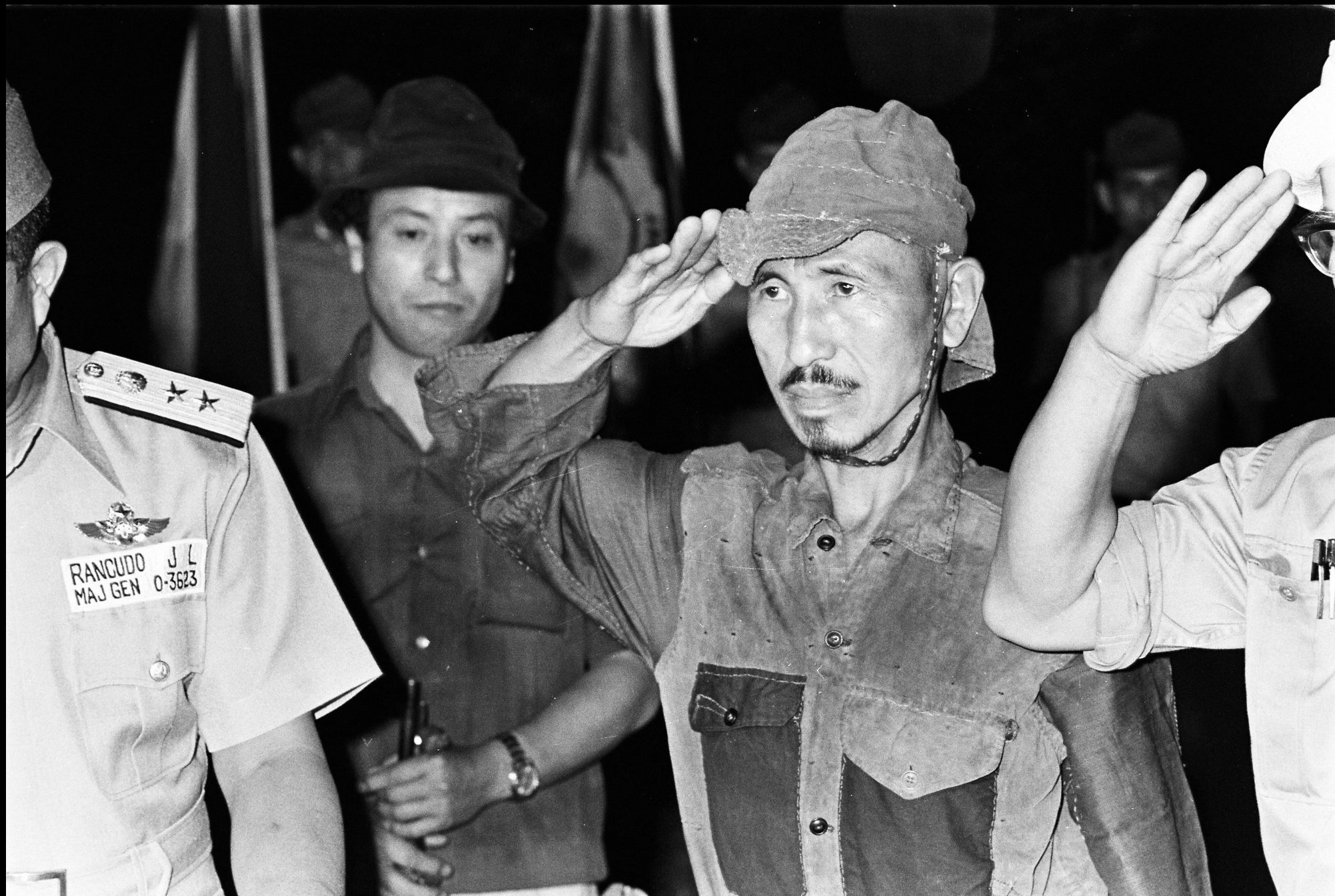




TELL US **PLAINLY**

JOHN 10:19-31 // PASTOR DOUG HURT





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Dissension occurred again among the Jews because of these words. Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to Him?" Others were saying, "These are not the words of one who is demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of those who are blind, can it?"

John 10:19-21

Jesus divides public opinion.

APRIL 8, 2006 \$5.00

TIME

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The Search for Jesus

Some scholars are debunking the Gospels.
Now traditionalists are fighting back.
What are Christians to believe?



15

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place in Jerusalem; it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple area, in the portico of Solomon. The Jews surrounded Him and began saying to Him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

John 10:19-21

Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep."

John 10:22-26

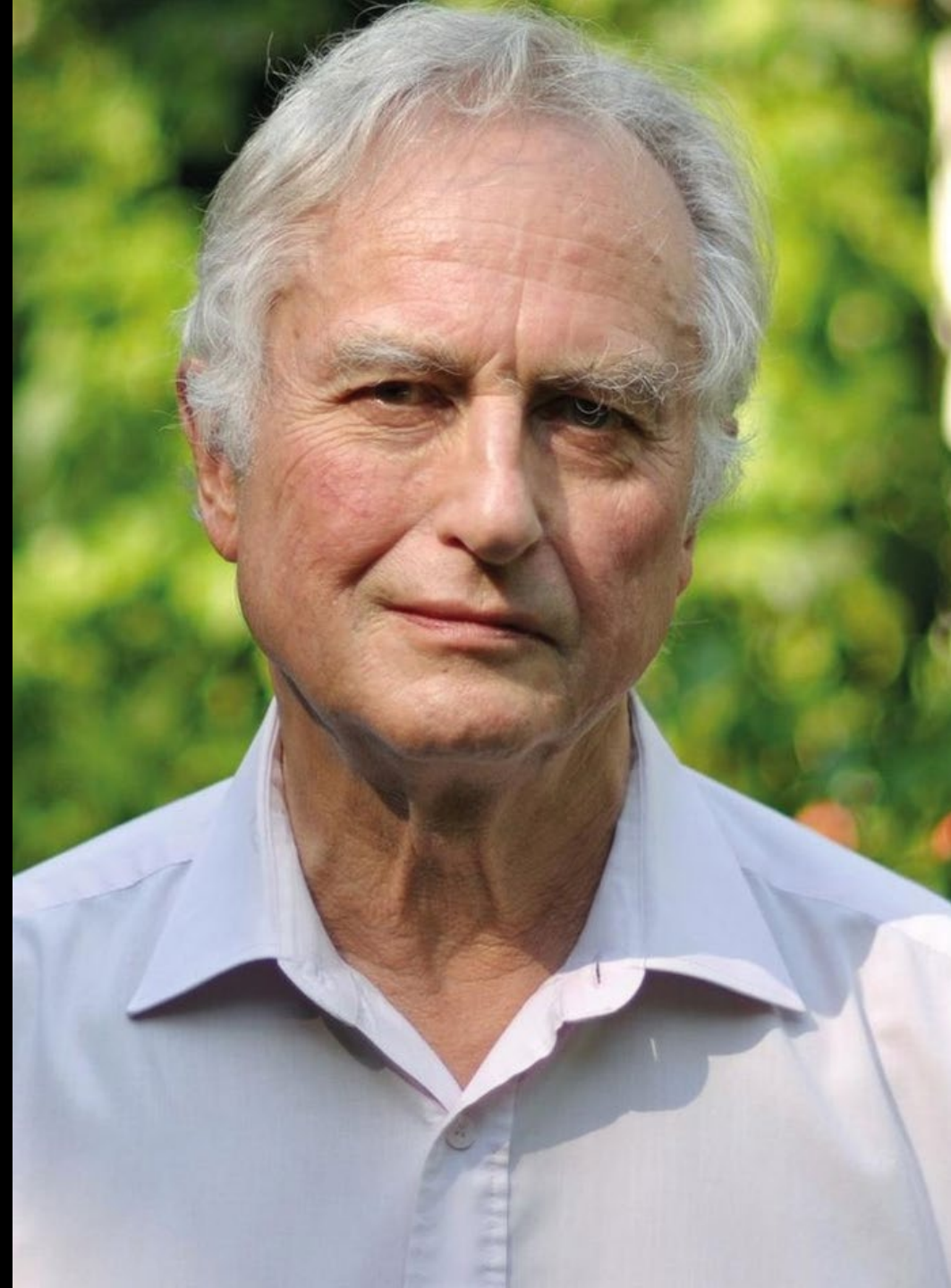


Well, I used to say it would be very simple. It would be the second coming of Jesus or a great, big, deep, booming, bass Paul Robeson voice saying, "I am God, and I created."

But I was persuaded...that even if there was this booming voice in the second coming in the clouds of glory, the more probably explanation is that it's a hallucination, or a conjuring trick by David Copperfield or something...

A supernatural explanation for anything is incoherent. It doesn't add up to an explanation for anything.

-Richard Dawkins



Jesus encourages his sheep.

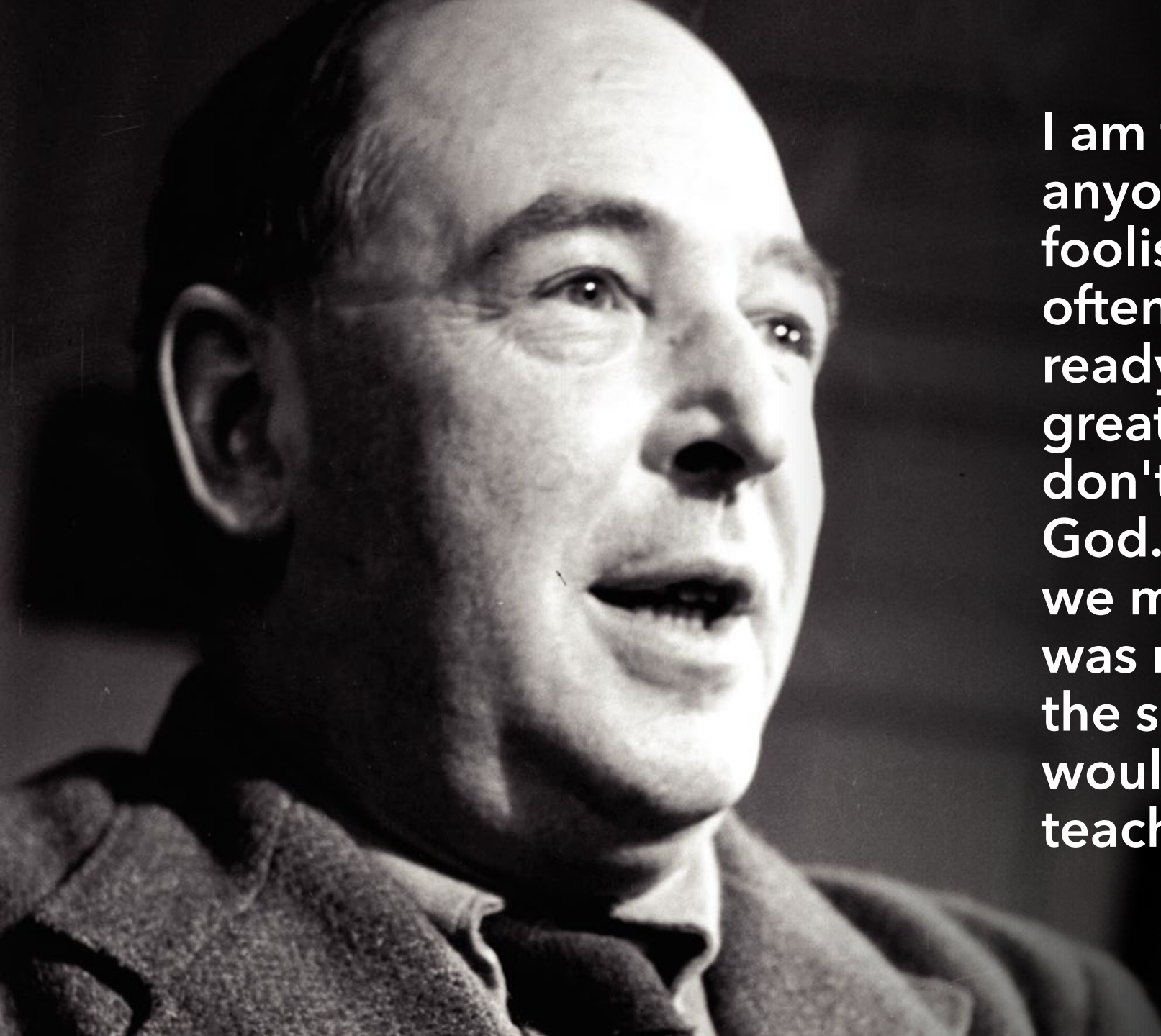
And I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

John 10:28-29

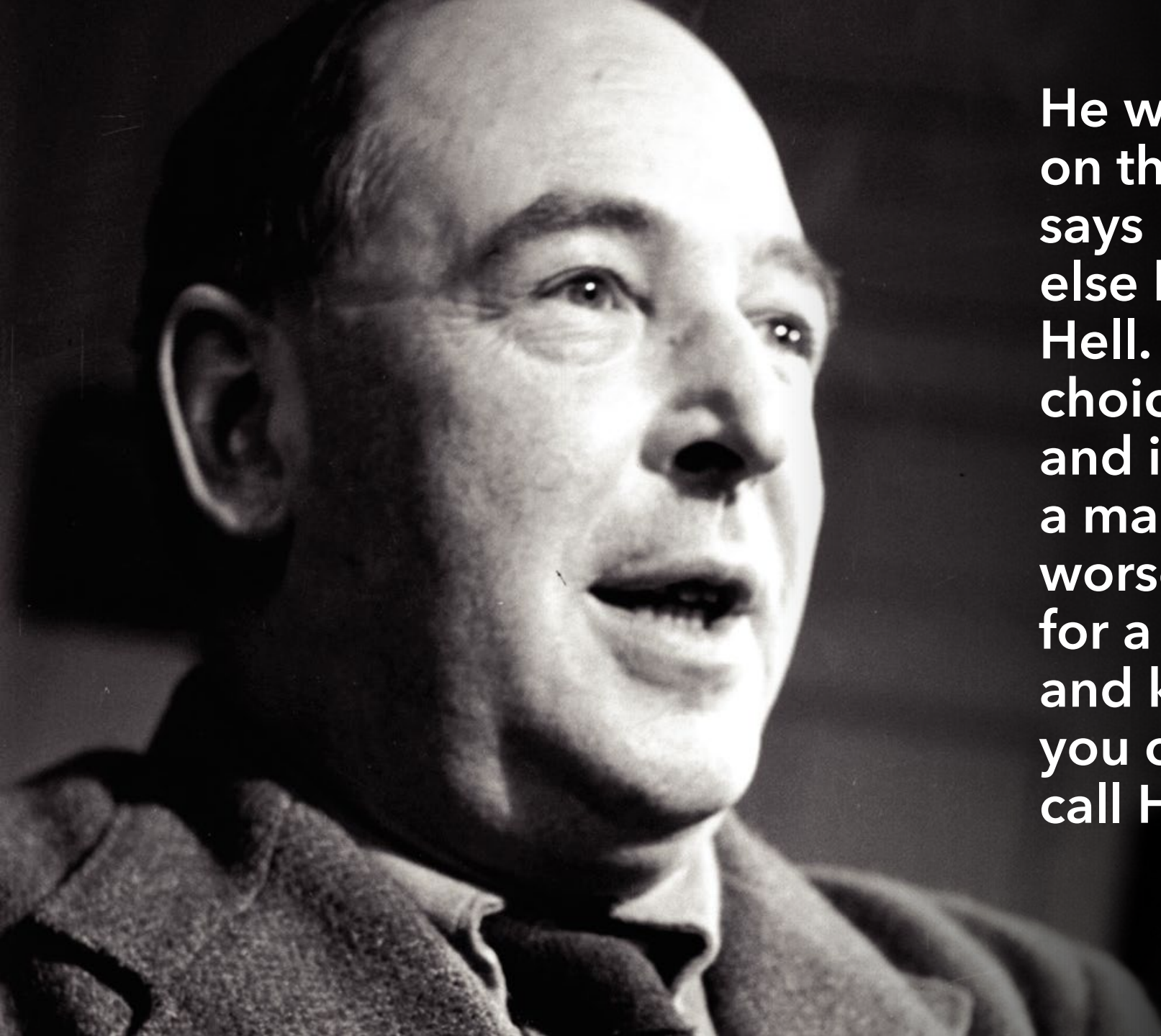
I and the Father are one.

John 10:30

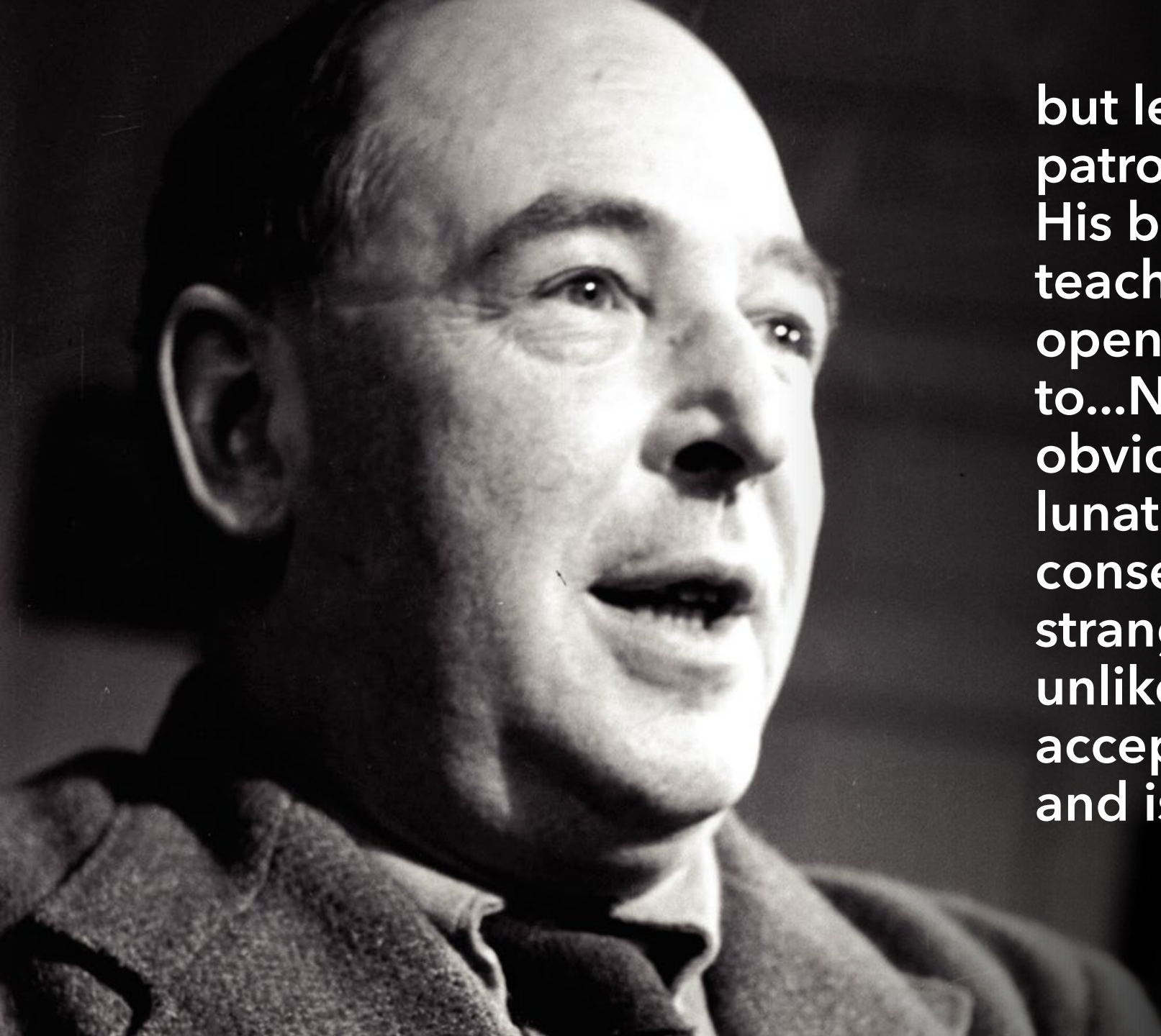
Jesus is God.



I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher.



He would either be a lunatic – on the level of a man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God,



but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to...Now it seems to be obvious that He was neither a lunatic nor a fiend: and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God.

-C.S. Lewis

