The background of the slide is a sunburst pattern with rays emanating from the bottom center, transitioning from a bright yellow at the center to a darker orange at the edges.

**Have you seen the
wounds of Jesus, yet?**

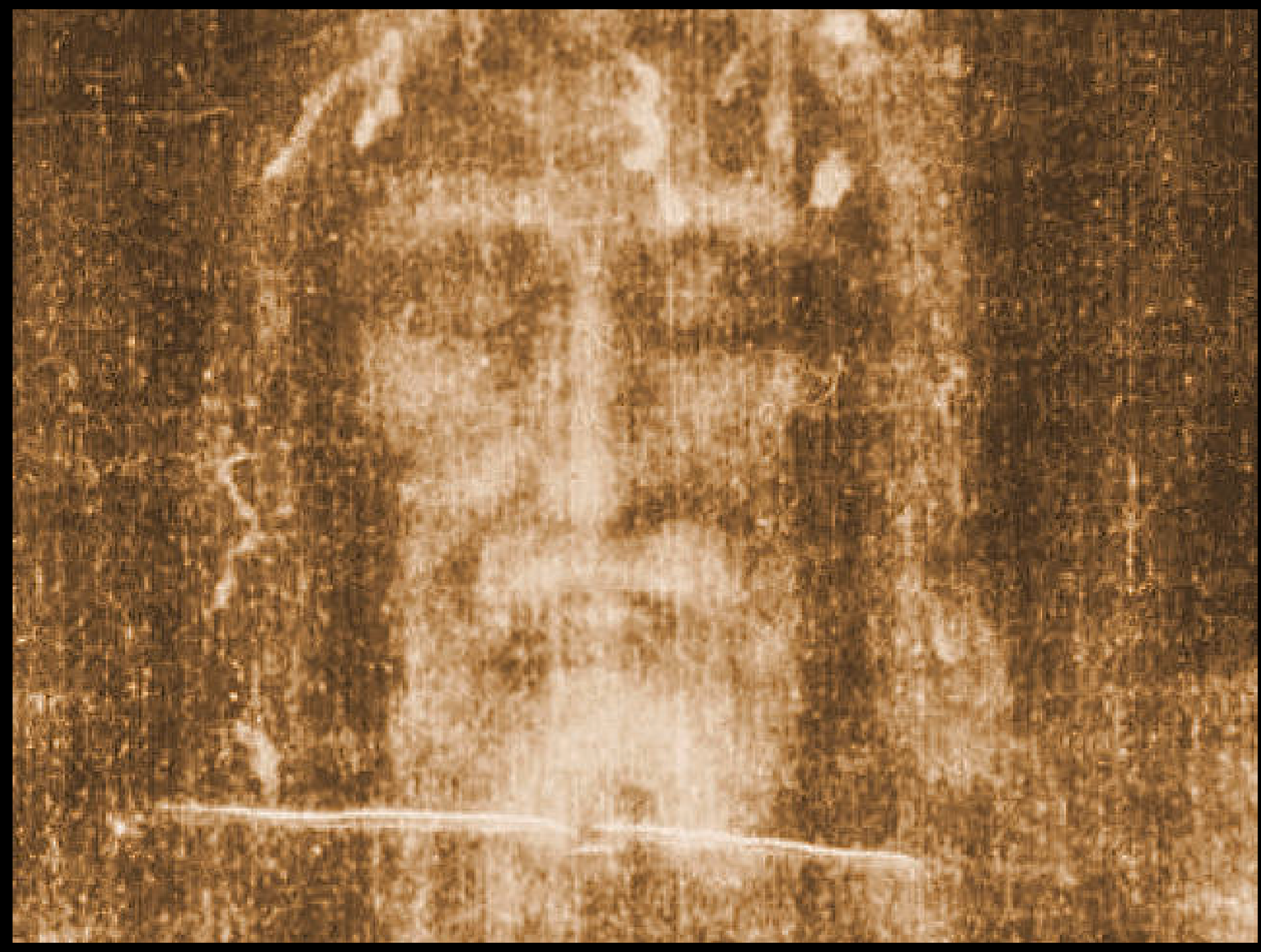
John 20:19-31

1. Jesus revealed himself in the only way that resolved their fear. *He showed them his wounds.*

A. John 20:19-20

B. Jesus penetrated their “locked doors.” He will do the same for you and me.

C. They saw his wounds. Then, they received his “sending.” Have we?



2. Thomas' words reveal his personal struggle. Can you relate to the *disillusioned* Thomas?

A. John 20:25. "Never" vs "not yet"; "place" vs "shove"?

B. Thomas represents hope to the disappointed, the disillusioned, the grief stricken, who has lost their love of Jesus.

**3. It was the “8th day,” Thomas’ day.
Thomas, although disbelieving, was
present. Jesus helped his unbelief.**

A. 8th Day. V 20:26.

B. Mark 9:24, Phil 1:6

"And it was on the eighth day"

(Leviticus 9:1)

Nisan 23, 5783/April 14, 2023

*Today is **Eight** Days, which are One Week and One Day of the Omer*

This week's Torah reading, *Shemini*, opens up on the eighth day. In the language of the Torah that is already telling us something. There is no eighth day in the natural world. The world was created in six days and on the seventh day G-d rested. This seven-day repeating cycle is what has defined our world ever since. Once the seventh day of rest concludes, we start anew with day one. There is no eighth day. Therefore, every time an eighth day does pop up, we understand it as being *me'ial hateva*, literally, "above nature," or, more simply, supernatural. And what are the eighth days that we are familiar with? The eighth day which is the day of *brit milah* - circumcision. *Brit milah*, which means, "covenant of the foreskin," is an additional, *me'ial hateva* step, which manipulates our natural body and fuses our being with our Creator. *Shemini Atzeret*, which is the Eighth Day Assembly which follows the seven days of Sukkot, likewise, is an above, or out of nature convocation. It follows the seven days of Sukkot, the festival of the autumn harvest, which is saturated in the natural world, including our leafy sukkot booths and the four species that we wave each day. But *Shemini Atzeret*, also known as *Simchat Torah*, is a celebration of our Torah, yet another *me'ial hateva* covenant with

Next Step.

1. Have you seen the wounds of Jesus, yet? Jesus' words to Thomas are the same to us today, "Be not unbelieving, but believe."
2. The disciples received Jesus' "sending." Have we? May today be our "8th Day."