

CHRISTMAS
AT
Central

The Joseph Journey



Matthew 1:18-19

18 This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Matthew 1:18-19

19 Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.



**This past year...
has God been trying to get my attention?**



**This past year...
has God been trying to get my attention?**

Life's circumstances



Matthew 1:18

18 This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.



**This past year...
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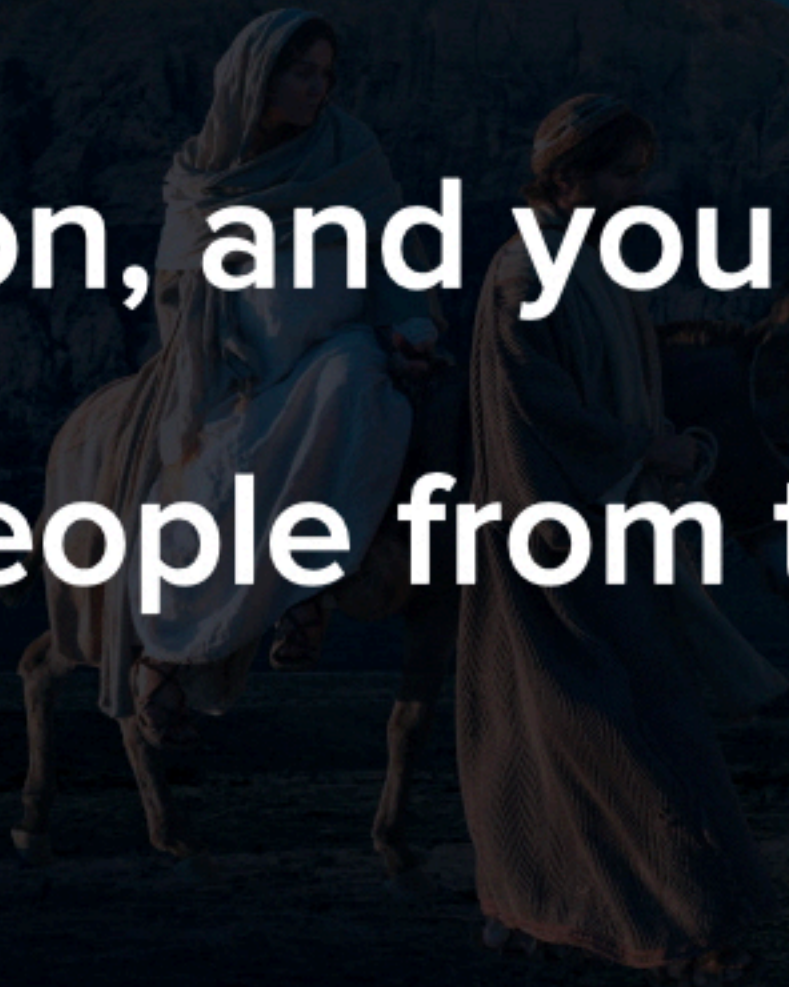
Life's circumstances

God's voice



Matthew 1:20-21

20 As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. **21** And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”



**This past year...
have I been noticing any warning signs?**



Matthew 2:13

¹³ After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”



Matthew 2:22

22 Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of Galilee.



**This past year...
have I been noticing any warning signs?**

Personal conviction

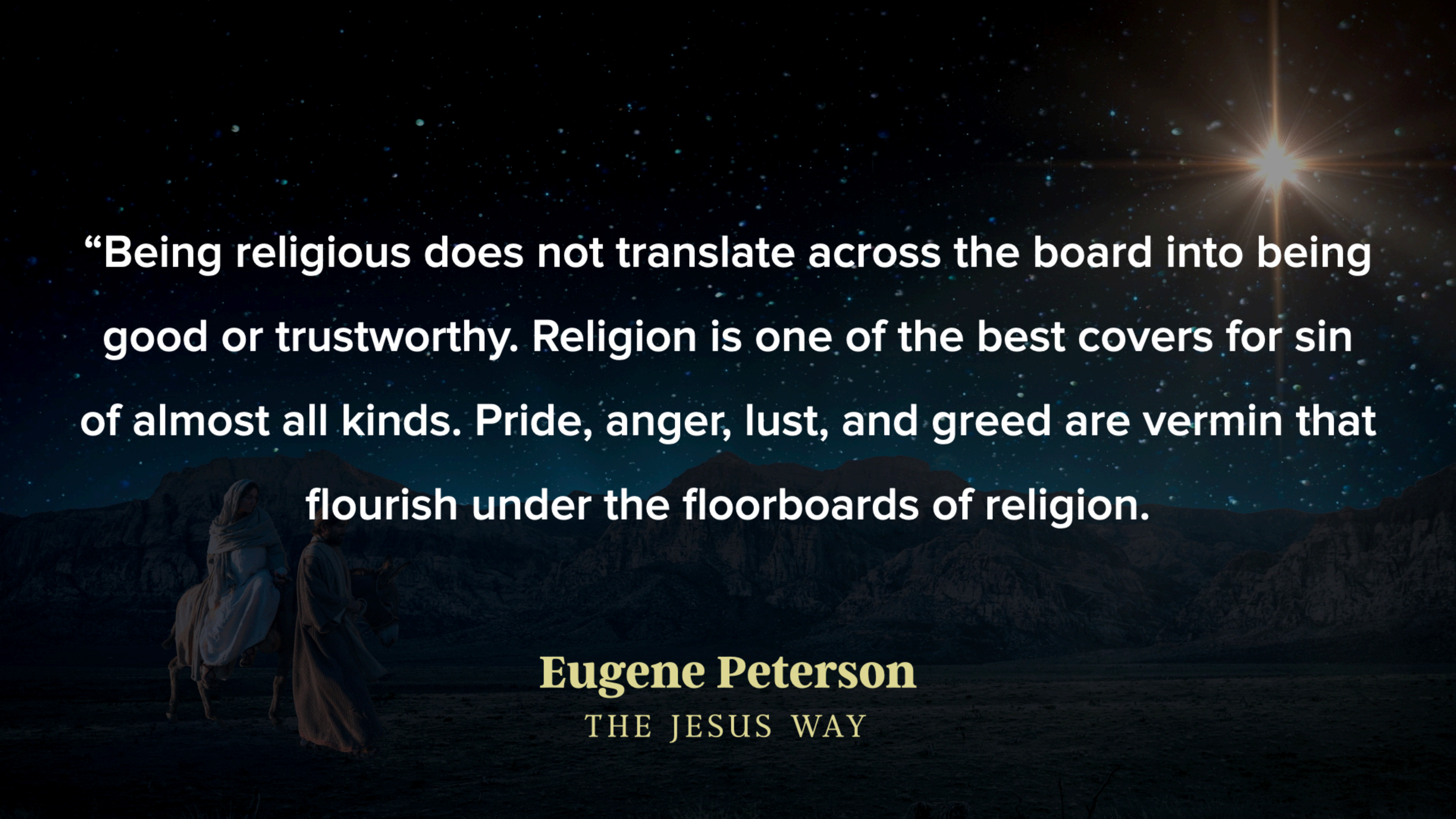


**This past year...
have I been noticing any warning signs?**

Personal conviction

People's concerns

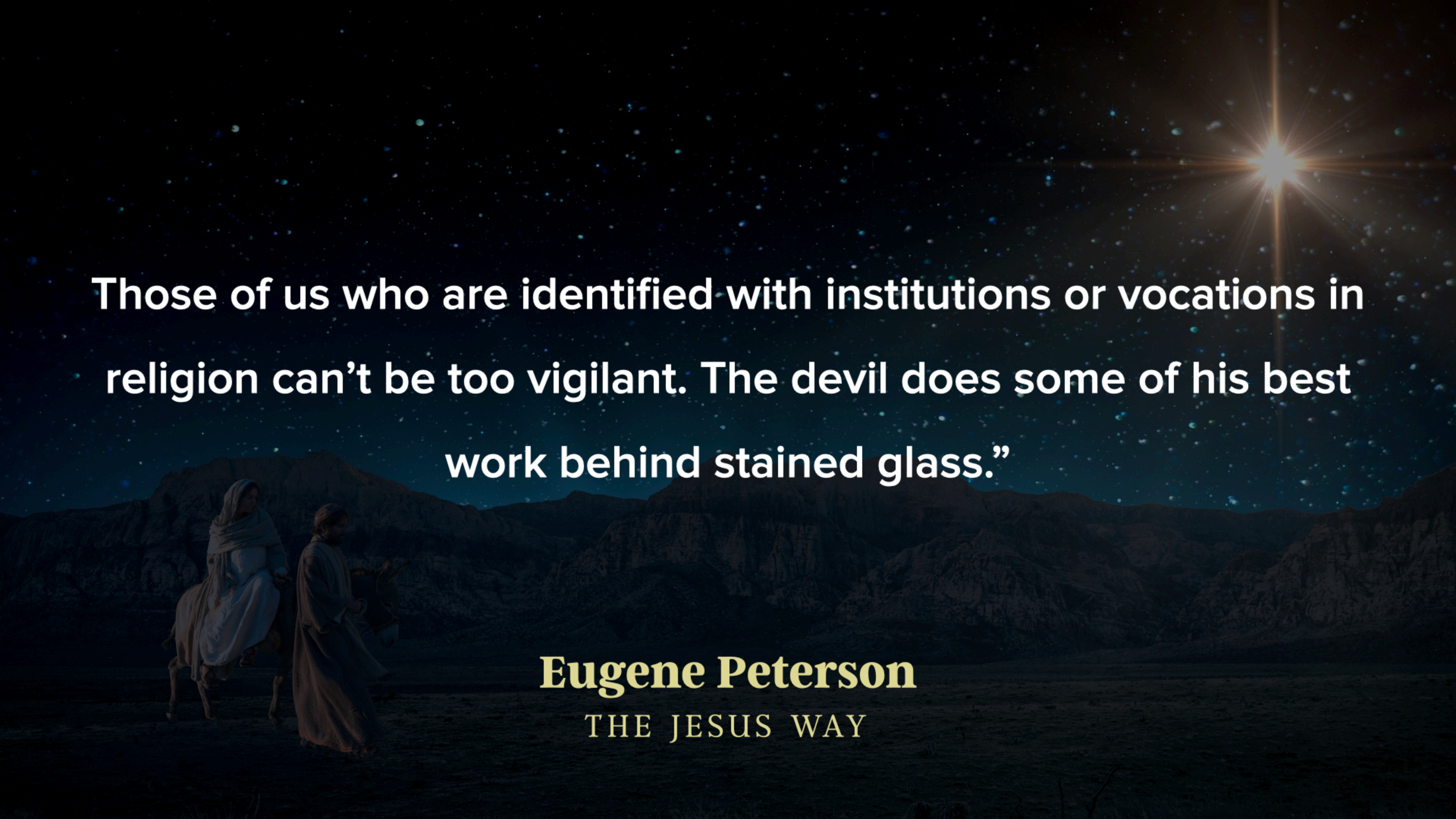


A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The background is dark with many small, faint stars. In the lower left, there is a silhouette of a person riding a donkey, with another person walking beside them. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric.

“Being religious does not translate across the board into being good or trustworthy. Religion is one of the best covers for sin of almost all kinds. Pride, anger, lust, and greed are vermin that flourish under the floorboards of religion.

Eugene Peterson

THE JESUS WAY

The background of the image is a dark, starry night sky. A prominent, bright star with a lens flare is located in the upper right quadrant. In the lower left, there is a silhouette of a woman riding a donkey, with a man walking beside her, set against a dark, mountainous landscape. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the star in the sky.

Those of us who are identified with institutions or vocations in religion can't be too vigilant. The devil does some of his best work behind stained glass."

Eugene Peterson

THE JESUS WAY

This past year...
what has the Lord been asking me to do next?



This past year...
what has the Lord been asking me to do next?

Specific obedience



Matthew 1:24

24 When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.



Matthew 2:19-21

19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt **20** and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.” **21** So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.



This past year...
what has the Lord been asking me to do next?

Specific obedience

Simple faithfulness



Matthew 2:23

23 and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.



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