



WHAT THE
BIBLE
Is ABOUT

2020
9
SESSION

WHAT THE
BIBLE
Is ABOUT

The book of
Zechariah PART 4

Zechariah

Outline



Zechariah's Night Visions (in one night)

The Riding One
The Measuring One
The Cleansing One
The Empowering One
The Judging One
The Crowned One

Chapters
1-6

Historic Interlude

The Rebuking One
The Restoring One

Chapters
7-8

First Burden: First Advent of Christ

The Kingly One
The Blessing One
The Shepherding One

Chapters
9-11

Second Burden: Second Coming of Christ

The Returning One
The Smitten One
The Reigning One

Chapters
12-14

Outline

Messages given during building of the Temple

- God calls His people to repent (Zech. 1:1–6)
- God encourages His people to trust Him (Zech. 1:7—6:15)
 - Eight night visions (Zech. 1:7—6:15)
 - The crowning of Joshua: Messiah will reign (Zech. 6:9–15)

Historic Interlude

- God instructs His people (Zech. 7:1—8:23)
 - About true fasting (Zech. 7:1–7)
 - About obedience to the word (Zech. 7:8–14)
 - About Jerusalem's future (Zech. 8:1–23)

After Temple was built

- God redeems His people (Zech. 9:1—14:21) two oracles
 - The rejection of Messiah (Zech. 9:1—11:17)
 - The return and reign of Messiah (Zech. 12:1—14:21)

Zechariah's 8 Night Visions

The horseman:
God watches the
nations



(Zech. 1:7–17)

The four horns
and four smiths:
Nations judged



(Zech. 1:18–21)

The measuring
line: Jerusalem
restored



(Zech. 2:1–13)

The high priest:
Israel cleansed



(Zech. 3:1–10)

The lampstand
and olive trees:
God empowers
His people



(Zech. 4:1–14)

The flying scroll:
Evil purged from
the land



(Zech. 5:1–4)

Woman in the
ephah: Evil
taken to Babylon



(Zech. 5:5–11)

Four chariots:
Gentiles judged



(Zech. 6:1–8)



**The
historical
interlude**



The historical interlude





The historical interlude



ZECHARIAH

**God redeems
His people
(Zechariah 9:1-14:21)**

ZECHARIAH

God redeems
His people
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ZECHARIAH

The rejection
of Messiah
(Zechariah 9:1-11:17)

ZECHARIAH

The return and reign
of Messiah
(Zechariah 12:1-14:21)

ZECHARIAH

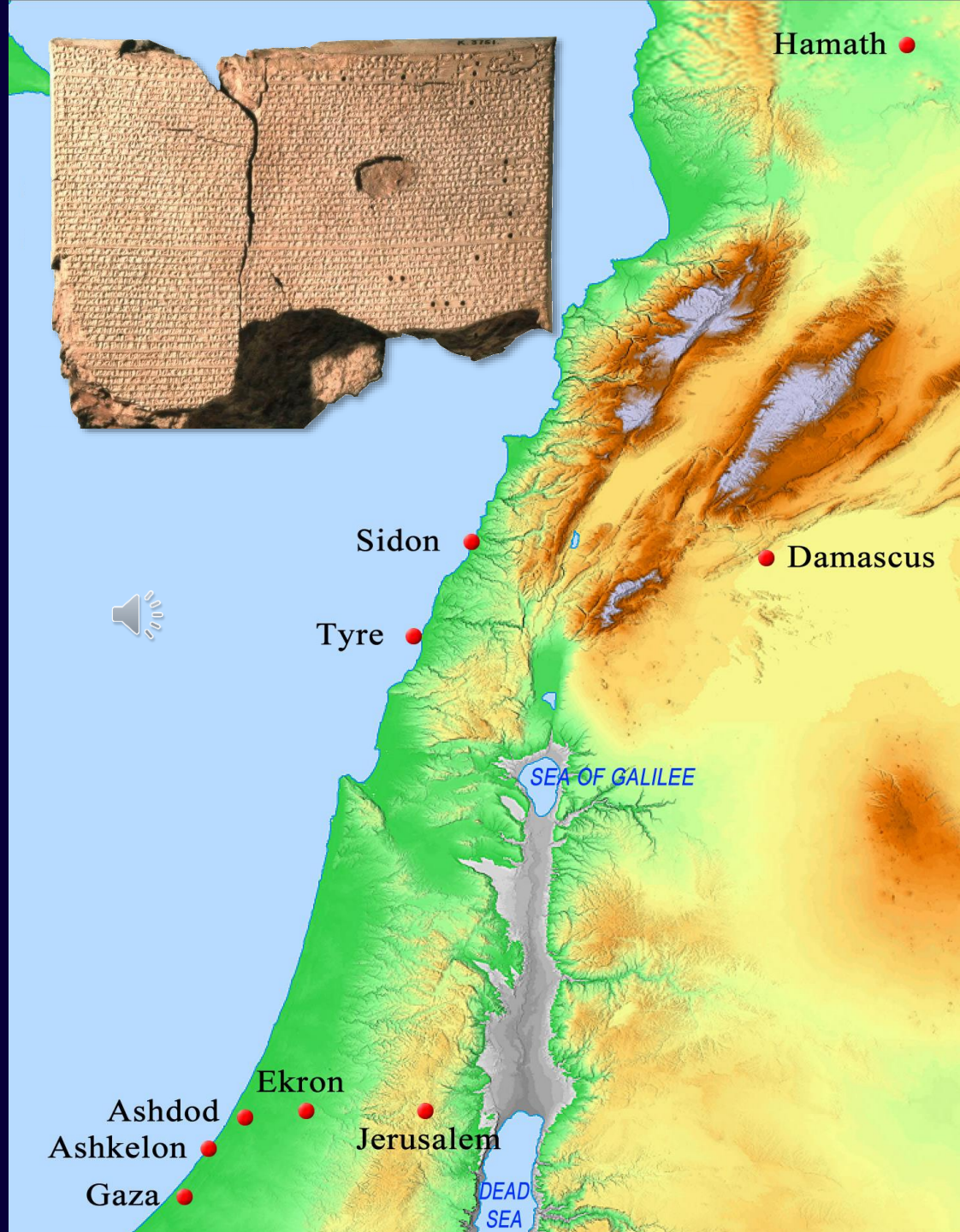
**The rejection
of Messiah
(Zechariah 9:1-11:17)**

Zechariah 9

God defends Israel

- ¹ The burden of the word of the LORD against the land of Hadrach*, and Damascus its resting place (For the eyes of men and all the tribes of Israel are on the LORD);
- ² Also *against* Hamath, *which* borders on it,

* Ancient Hatarika in inscriptions of Assyrian king Tiglath-Pileser III (c.745-727 BC).



"The Battle of Issus," Albrecht Altdorfer, 1529

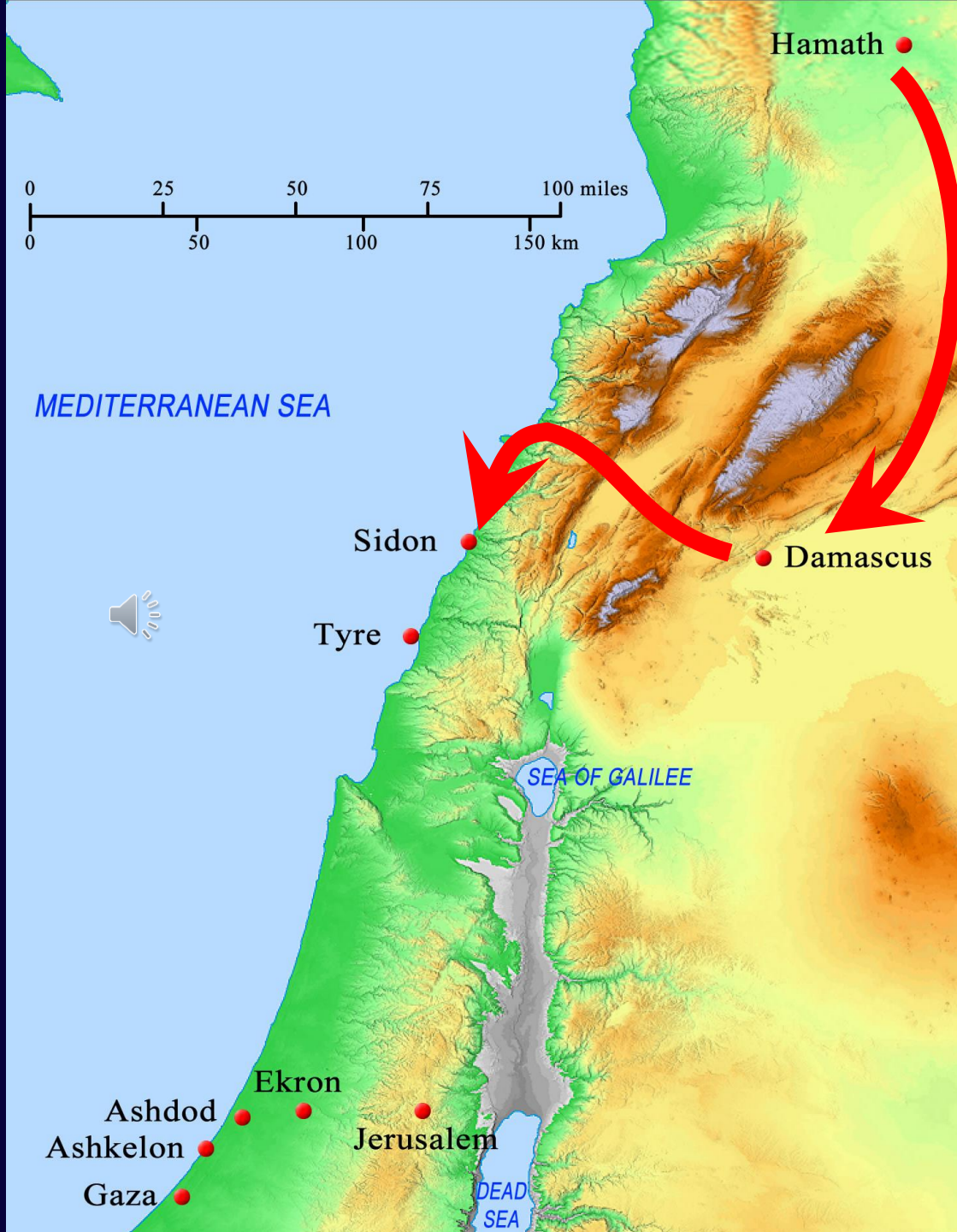




Alexander mosaic, artist unknown, c. 100 BC, Naples.

And *against* Tyre and Sidon,
though they are very wise.

- ³ For Tyre built herself a
tower,
Heaped up silver like the
dust,
And gold like the mire of
the streets.
- ⁴ Behold, the Lord will cast
her out;
He will destroy her power
in the sea,
And she will be devoured
by fire.



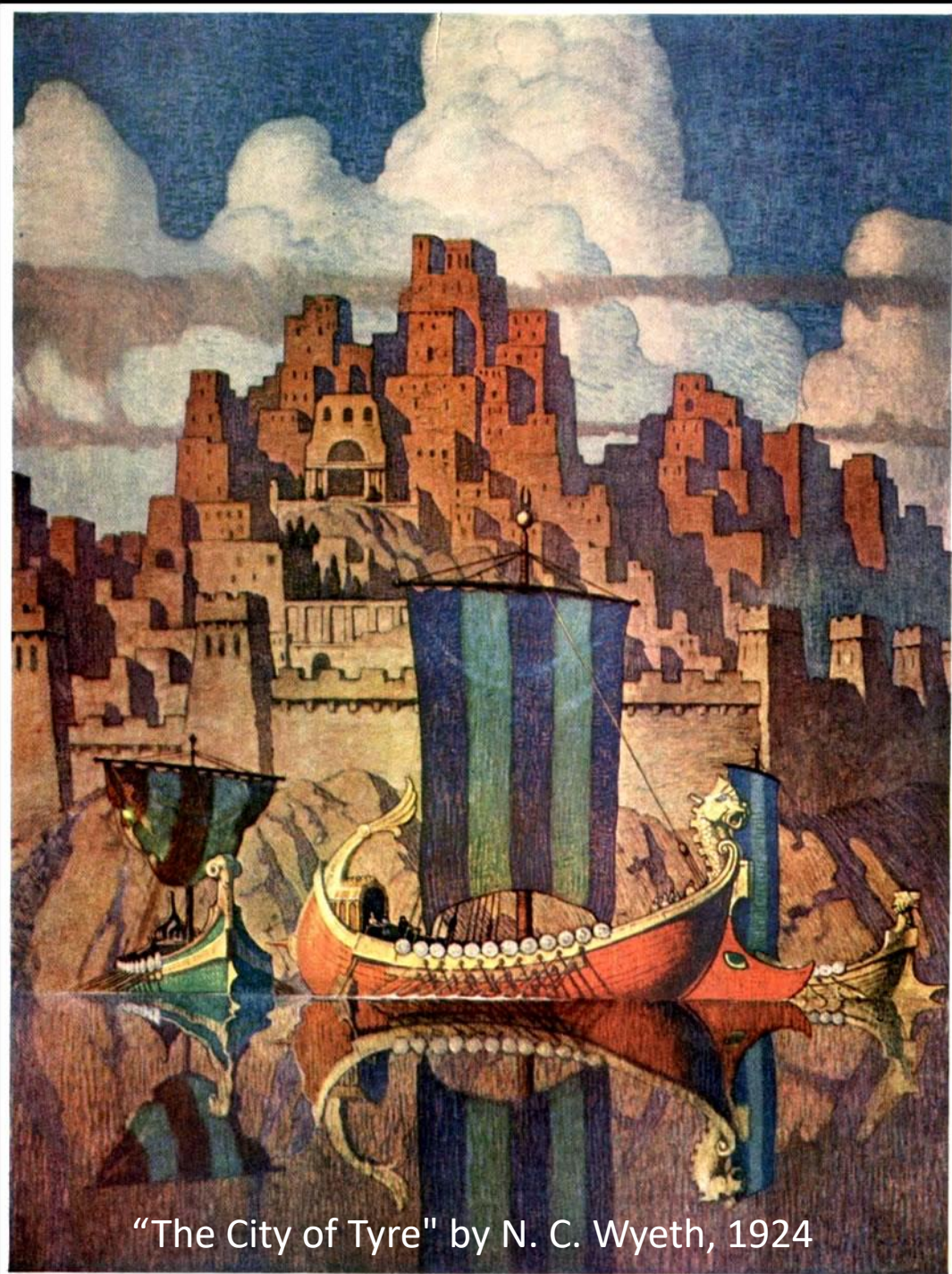
Tyre



Port of
Sidon


800m

Egyptian
Port



"The City of Tyre" by N. C. Wyeth, 1924

Ezekiel 26:1-14

- ¹ And it came to pass in the eleventh year, on the first *day* of the month, *that* the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ² “Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, ‘Aha! She is broken who *was* the gateway of the peoples; now she is turned over to me; I shall be filled; she is laid waste.’
- ³ “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, I *am* against you, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against you, as the sea causes its waves to come up. ⁴ And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. ⁵ It shall be *a place for* spreading nets in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken,’ says the Lord GOD; ‘it shall become plunder for the nations. ⁶ Also her daughter *villages* which *are* in the fields shall be slain by the sword. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.’
- ⁷ “For thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, I will bring against Tyre from the north Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, king of  kings, with horses, with chariots, and with horsemen, and an army with many people. ⁸ He will slay with the sword your daughter *villages* in the fields; he will heap up a siege mound against you, build a wall against you, and raise a defense against you. ⁹ He will direct his battering rams against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers. ¹⁰ Because of the abundance of his horses, their dust will cover you; your walls will shake at the noise of the horsemen, the wagons, and the chariots, when he enters your gates, as men enter a city that has been breached. ¹¹ With the hooves of his horses he will trample all your streets; he will slay your people by the sword, and your strong pillars will fall to the ground.
- ¹² They will plunder your riches and pillage your merchandise; they will break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses; they will lay your stones, your timber, and your soil in the midst of the water. ¹³ I will put an end to the sound of your songs, and the sound of your harps shall be heard no more. ¹⁴ I will make you like the top of a rock; you shall be *a place for* spreading nets, and you shall never be rebuilt, for I the LORD have spoken,’ says the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 29:17-20

- ¹⁷ And it came to pass in the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first *day* of the month, *that* the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- ¹⁸ “Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon caused his army to labor strenuously against Tyre; every head *was* made bald, and every shoulder rubbed raw; yet neither he nor his army received wages from Tyre, for the labor which they expended on it. ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Surely I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; he shall take away her wealth, carry off her spoil, and remove her pillage; and that will be the wages for his army. ²⁰ I have given him the land of Egypt *for* his labor, because they worked for Me,’ says the Lord GOD.”

This passage has been called proof that the Bible is fallible because it appears that Ezekiel came out of retirement to apologise that his prophecy about Nebuchadnezzar conquering Tyre was in error.



Some 270 years later

- Enroute to attack Jerusalem in 332 BC, Alexander asked to enter Tyre to sacrifice to their god Melqart (aka Ba'al, Heracles, Hercules). Denied, he angrily decided to conquer Tyre.



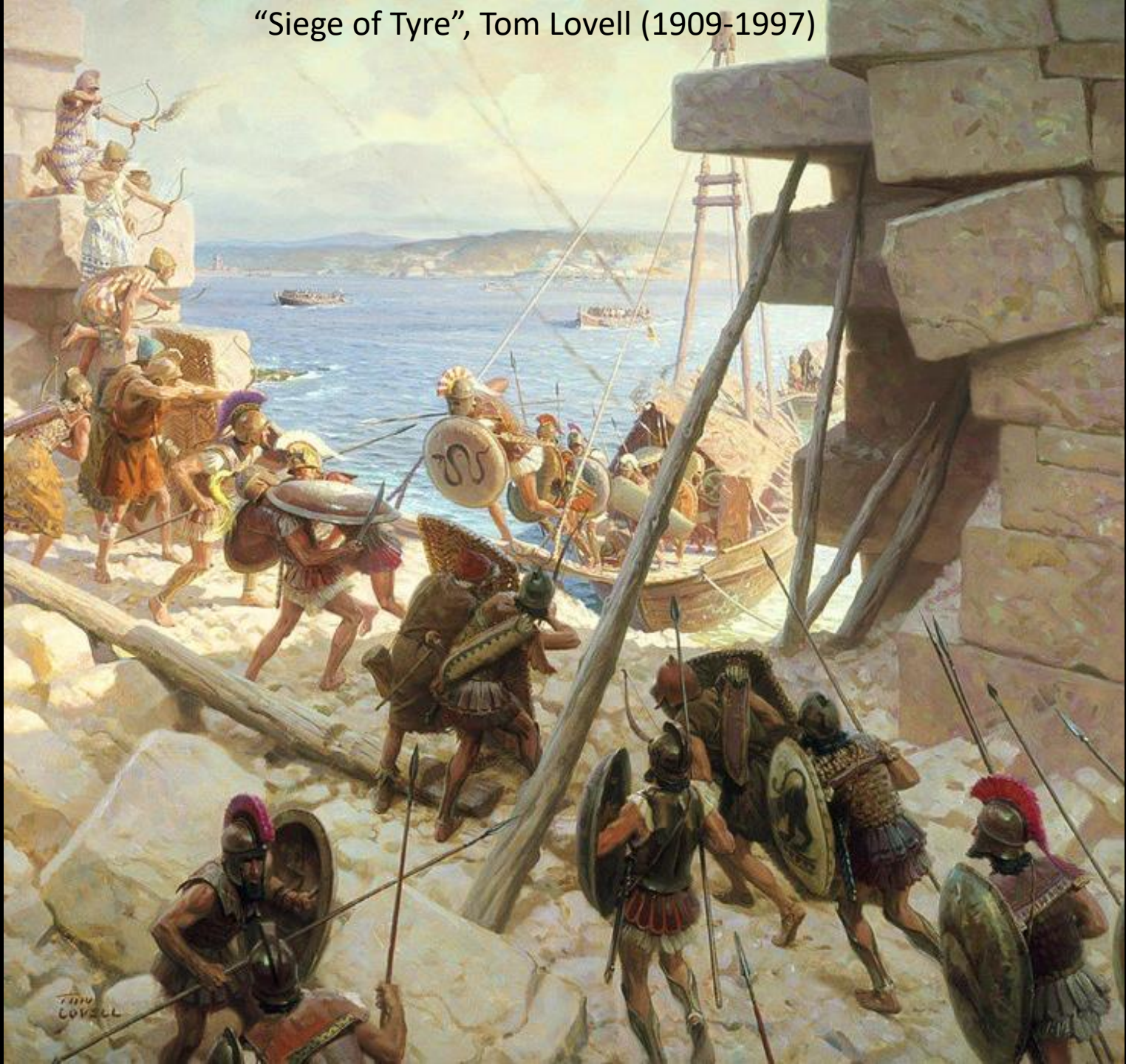
MELQART (L) ON TYRIAN SHEKEL



- Alexander had no navy, so he had to use his army to conquer Tyre.
- However he had conquered empires with navies, so he chartered 250 ships to blockade the two Tyrian ports.
- After capturing the Tyrian shore base, he had to figure a way to get his army across 800 meters of ocean to fight.
- If that wasn't enough, Tyre's fortress walls were 150 feet (45 meters) high.



"Siege of Tyre", Tom Lovell (1909-1997)

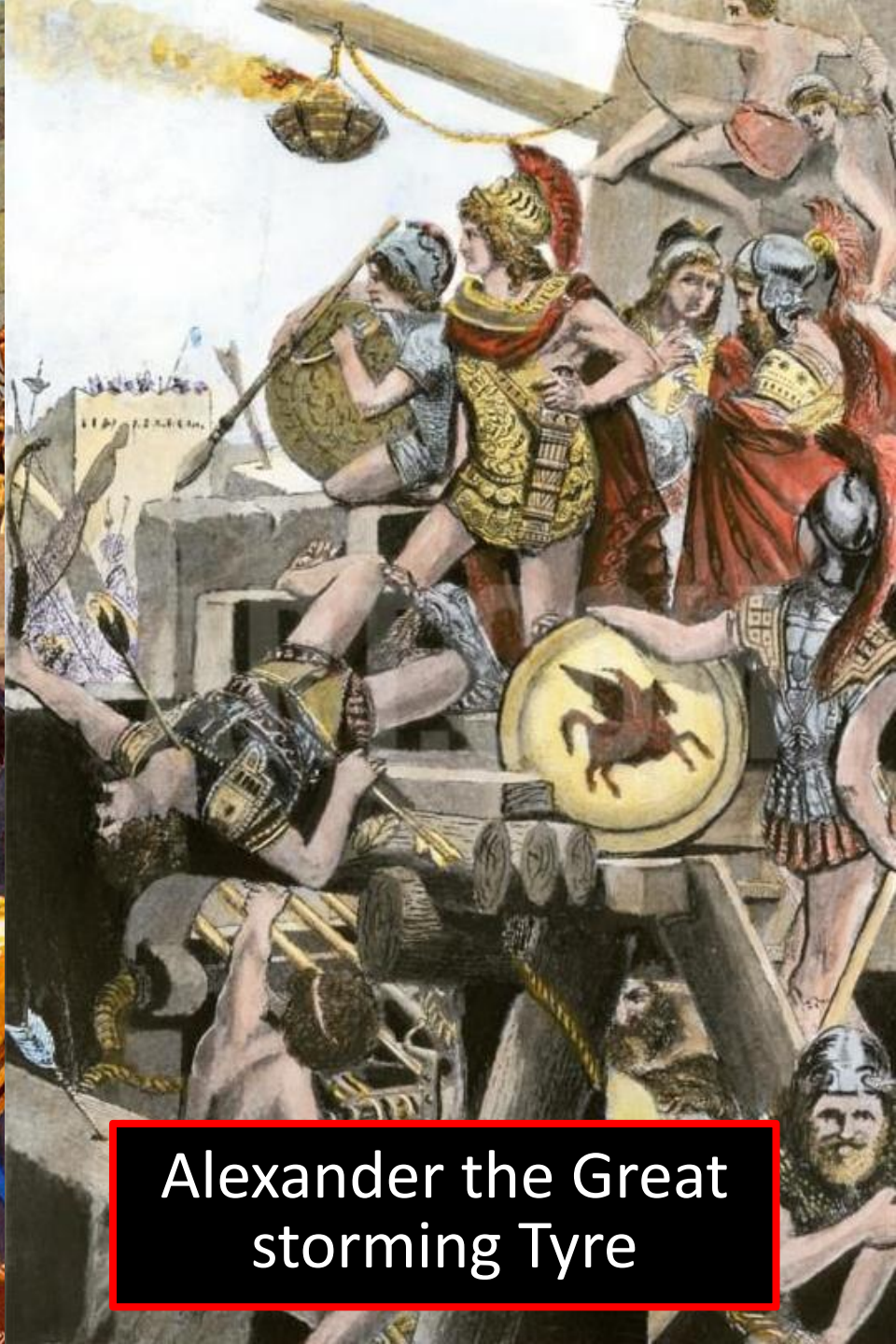


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Nebuchadnezzar
storming Old Tyre



Alexander the Great
storming Tyre

INDISPUTABLE PROOF OF BIBLE INERRANCY

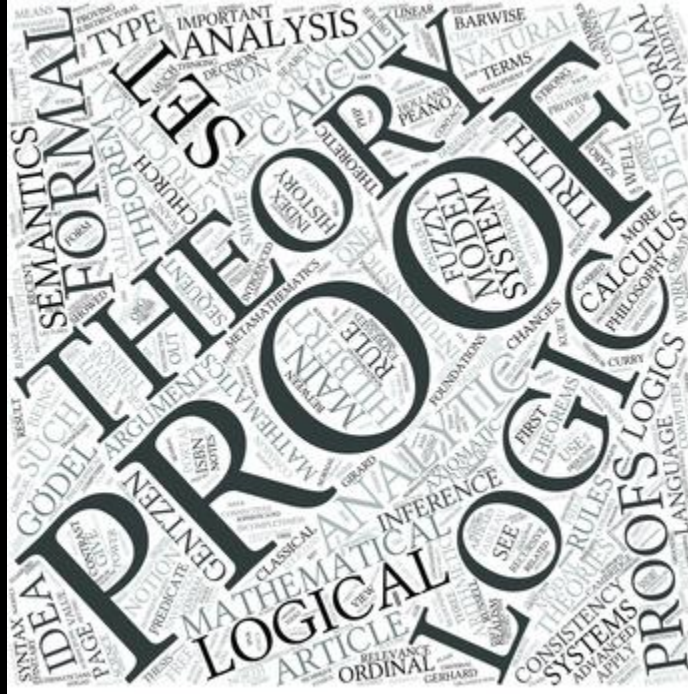
ISAIAH 23:15–18

EZEKIEL 26:1-14

EZEKIEL 29:17-20

ZECHARIAH 29:7-11

ACTS 21:3,7



ACTS 21:3,7

ZECHARIAH 29:7-11

EZEKIEL 29:17-20

EZEKIEL 26:1-14

ISAIAH 23:15–18

INDISPUTABLE PROOF OF BIBLE INERRANCY

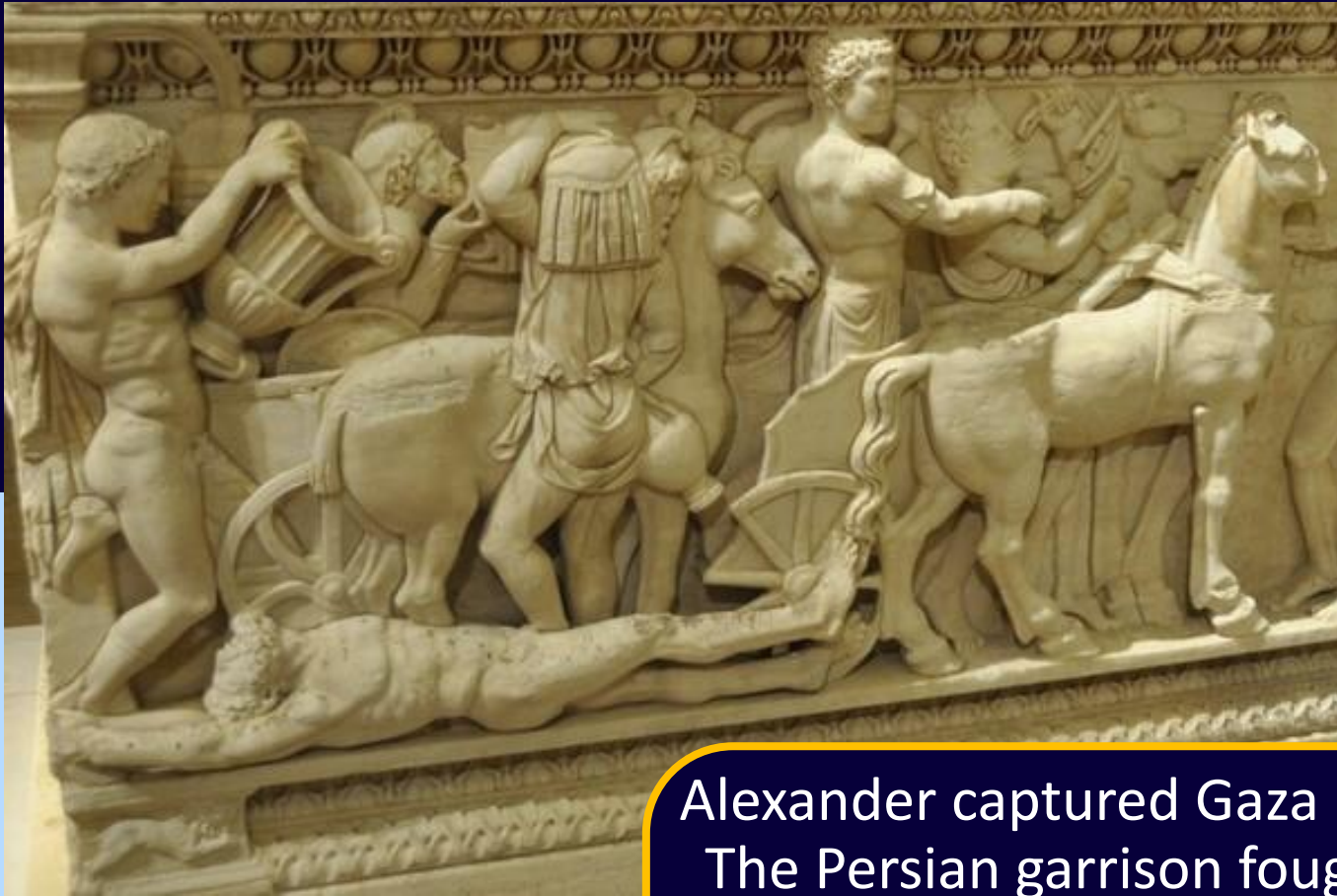
- 5 Ashkelon shall see *it* and fear;
Gaza also shall be very sorrowful;
And Ekron, for He dried up her expectation.
The king shall perish from Gaza,
And Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

Alexander attacks Philistia, 332 BC



Alexander the Great
(356 BC – 323 BC)

“The king shall perish from Gaza....” (Zechariah 9:5d)



Alexander captured Gaza in November 332. The Persian garrison fought bravely and it took four assaults to take the city. Alexander was furious when the king, a man named Batis, was brought to him, unbroken. He acted cruelly, tied Batis to his chariot and dragged him around the city.



- 5 Ashkelon shall see *it* and fear;
Gaza also shall be very sorrowful;
And Ekron, for He dried up her expectation.
The king shall perish from Gaza,
And Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.
- 6 “A mixed race [מִמְזֵר, *mamzer*, “bastard, illegitimate,” from a root meaning “to alienate”] shall settle in Ashdod,
And I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.



Alexander the Great
(356 BC – 323 BC)

⁷ I will take away the blood from his mouth,
And the abominations from between his teeth.
But he who remains, even he *shall be* for our God,
And shall be like a leader in Judah, and Ekron like a Jebusite.

⁸ I will camp around My house because of the army,
because of him who passes by and him who returns.
No more shall an oppressor pass through them,
for now I have seen with My eyes.



Alexander the Great
(356 BC – 323 BC)



"Sparing Jerusalem," Maarten de Vos, 16th century



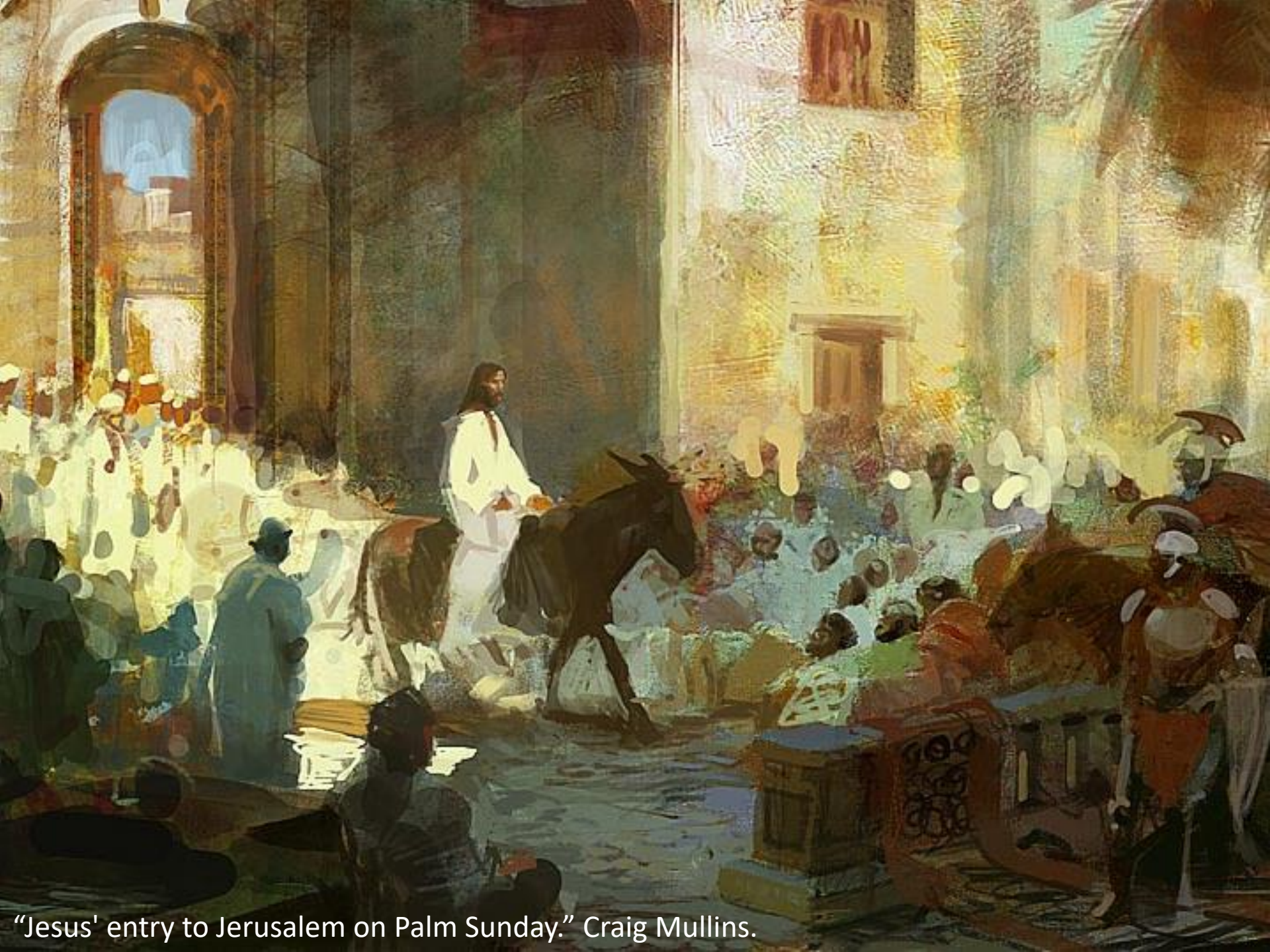
3054. "Great Alexander at the Temple of Jerusalem", Sebastiano Conca, 1736

WHY WASTE TIME ON SOME DEAD WHITE MAN



ALEXANDER THE GREAT
356 BC – 323 BC)





"Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday." Craig Mullins.

MESSIAH (מָשִׁיחַ)

מ	Mem	Mighty/ Blood/ Water	(Water)	𐤌
ש	Shin	Consume / Destroy	(Teeth)	𐤑
י	Yod	Works / Hand	(Arm / Hand)	𐤅
ח	Chet	Tent Wall / Separation	(Tent Wall)	𐤇

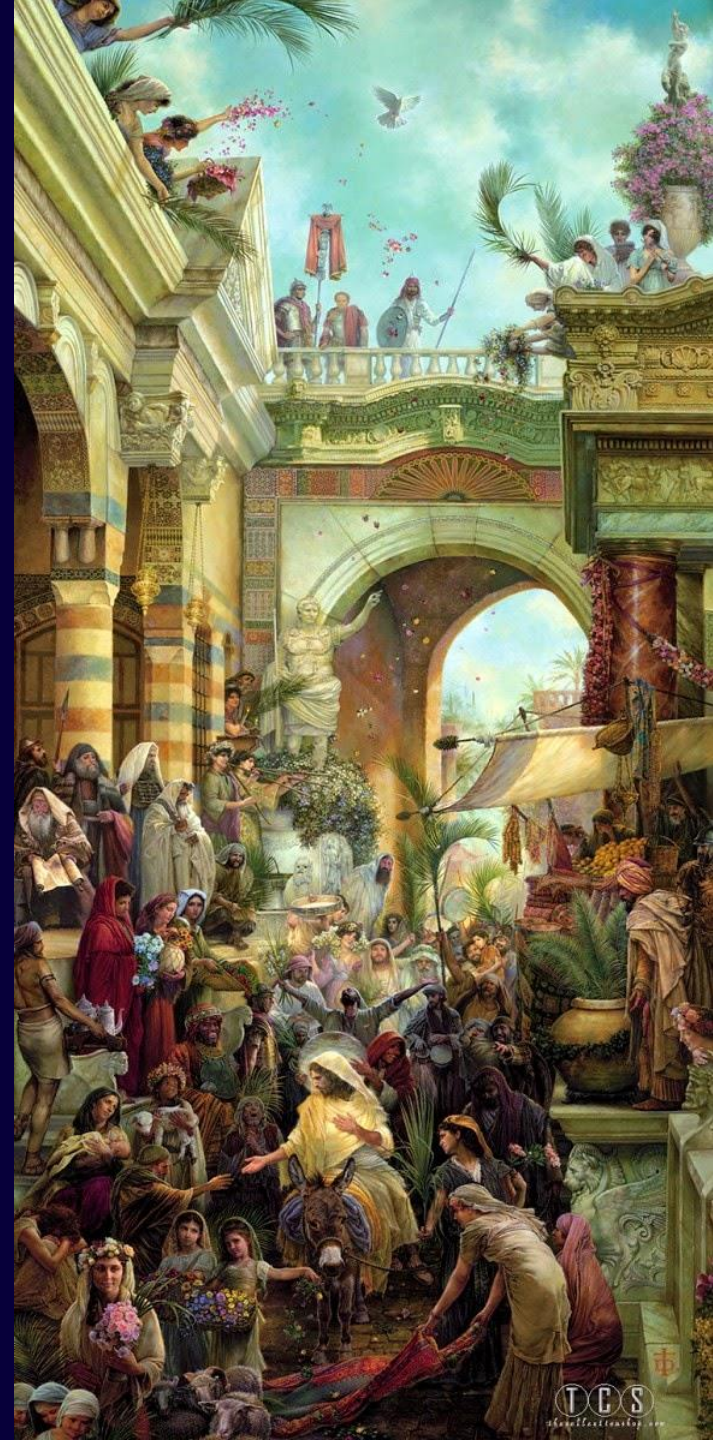
Messiah's blood and water destroyed the sinful works of our hands and the tent wall which separated us from God.

The Coming King

9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.”



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Isaiah 61 – The Good News of Salvation

¹ “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;
² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,....”



2,000 years fits into this comma,
and between Zechariah 9:9 and 9:10.
This was hidden in the O.T.



10 I will cut off the chariot from
Ephraim
And the horse from Jerusalem;
The battle bow shall be cut off.
He shall speak [proclaim] peace
to the nations;
His dominion *shall be* 'from sea
to sea,
And from the River to the ends
of the earth.'



PRISONERS
OF
HOPE

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of the earth.'

11 "As for you also,
Because of the blood of your
covenant,
I will set your prisoners free
from the waterless pit.

12 Return to the stronghold,
You prisoners of hope.
Even today I declare
That I will restore double to you.*



PRISONERS
OF
HOPE



The Resurrection. Sebastiano Ricci. 1715-16.



"Consul Gaius Popillius drawing a circle around King Antiochus IV". Lorenzo Lippi. 17th Century.

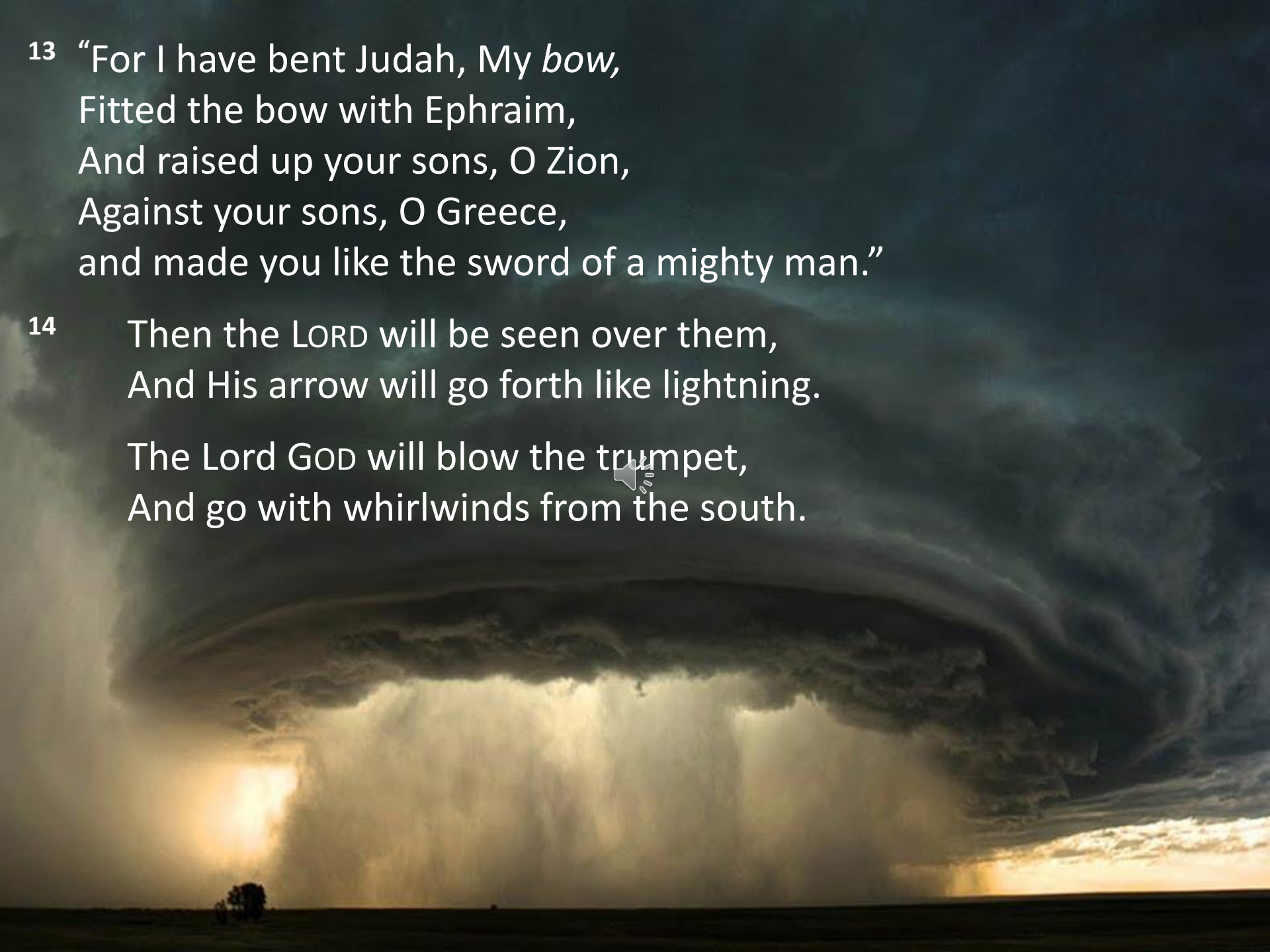




13 “For I have bent Judah, My *bow*,
Fitted the bow with Ephraim,
And raised up your sons, O Zion,
Against your sons, O Greece,
and made you like the sword of a mighty man.”

14 Then the LORD will be seen over them,
And His arrow will go forth like lightning.

The Lord GOD will blow the trumpet,
And go with whirlwinds from the south.



15

The LORD of hosts will defend them;
They shall devour and subdue with slingstones.
They shall drink *and* roar as if with wine;
They shall be filled *with blood* like basins,
Like the corners of the altar.



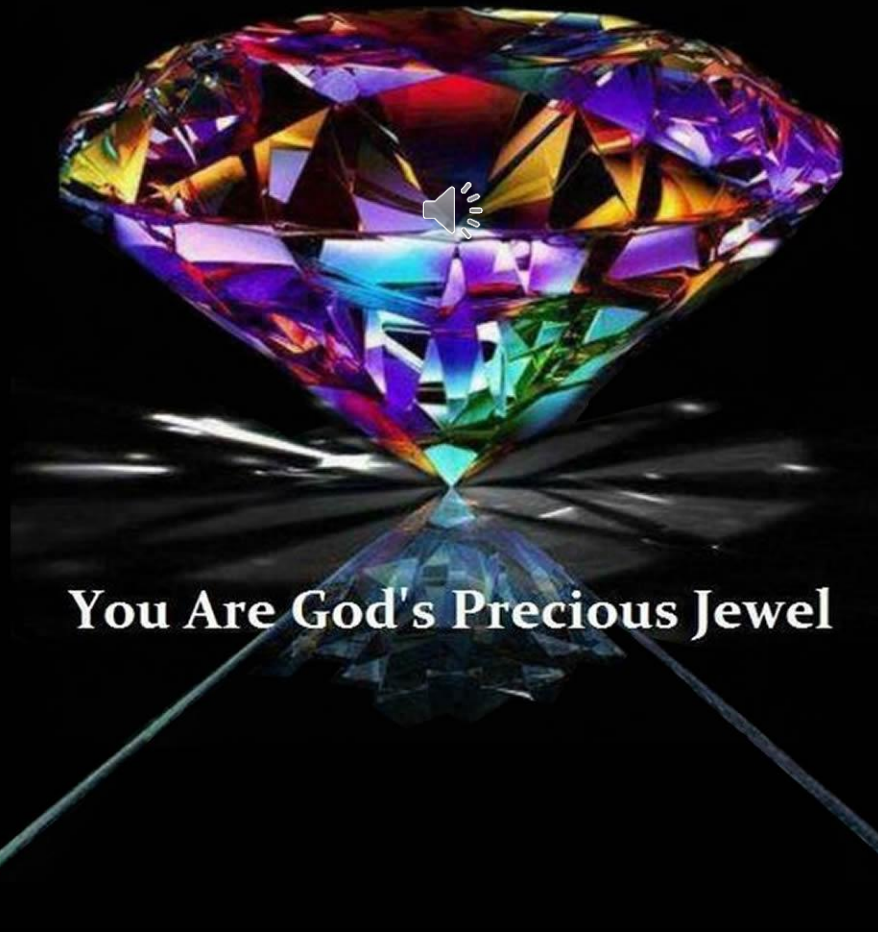
16

The LORD their God will save them in that day,
As the flock of His people.



16

The LORD their God will save them in that day,
As the flock of His people.
For they *shall be like* the jewels of a crown,
Lifted like a banner over His land—

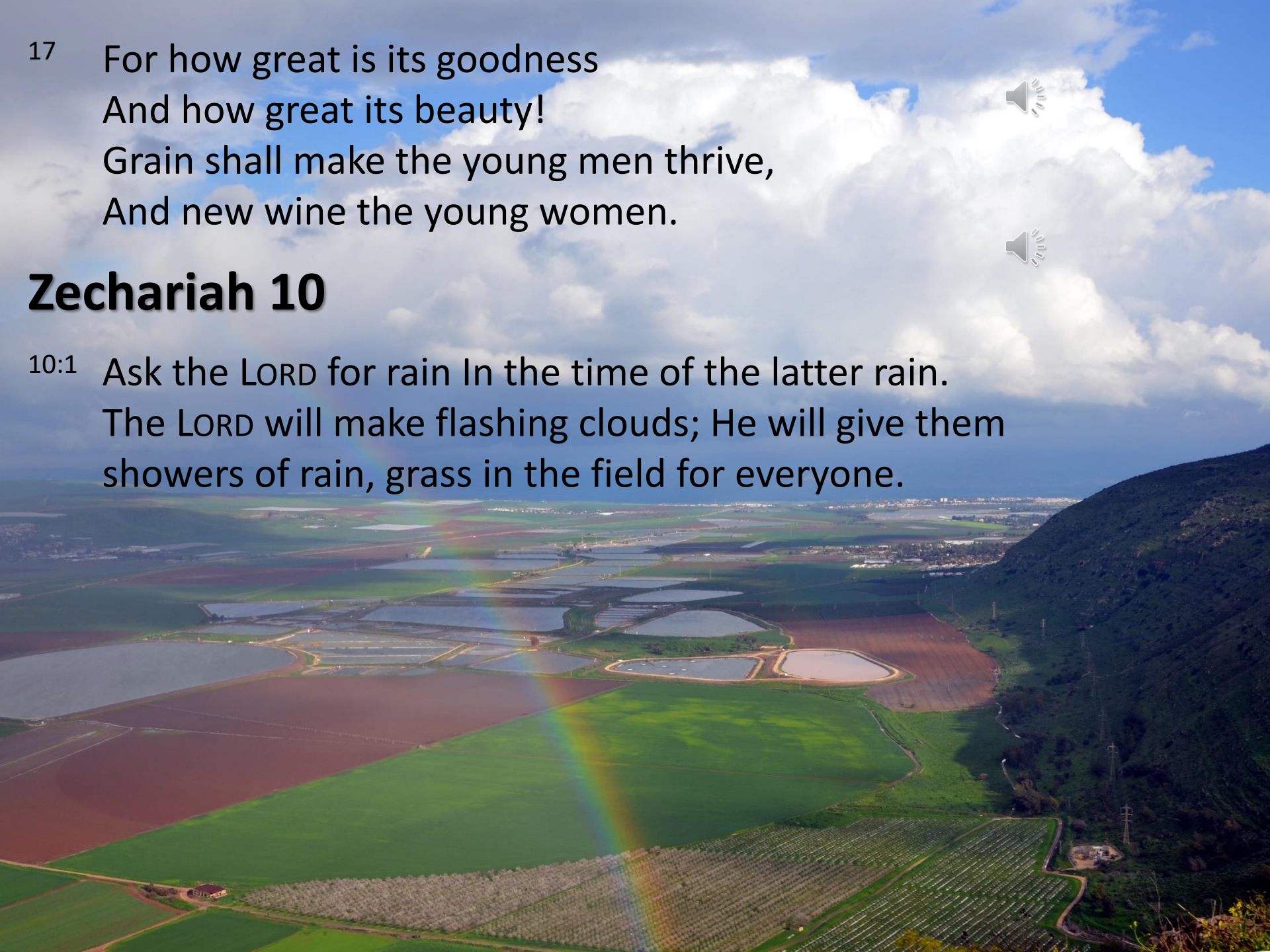


17 For how great is its goodness
And how great its beauty!
Grain shall make the young men thrive,
And new wine the young women.



Zechariah 10

10:1 Ask the LORD for rain In the time of the latter rain.
The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them
showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone.



2 For the idols [*teraphim*, household gods] speak delusion [*empty words*]; the diviners envision lies, and tell false dreams; they comfort in vain. Therefore the people wend their way like sheep; They are in trouble because *there is* no shepherd.



"Rachel sitting on the teraphim." Giovanni Battista Tiepolo. 1726-8.

Shepherds

3 “My anger is kindled against the shepherds,
And I will punish the goatherds.
For the LORD of hosts will visit His flock,
The house of Judah,
And will make them as His royal horse in the battle.



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H. PISAN

The Coming One

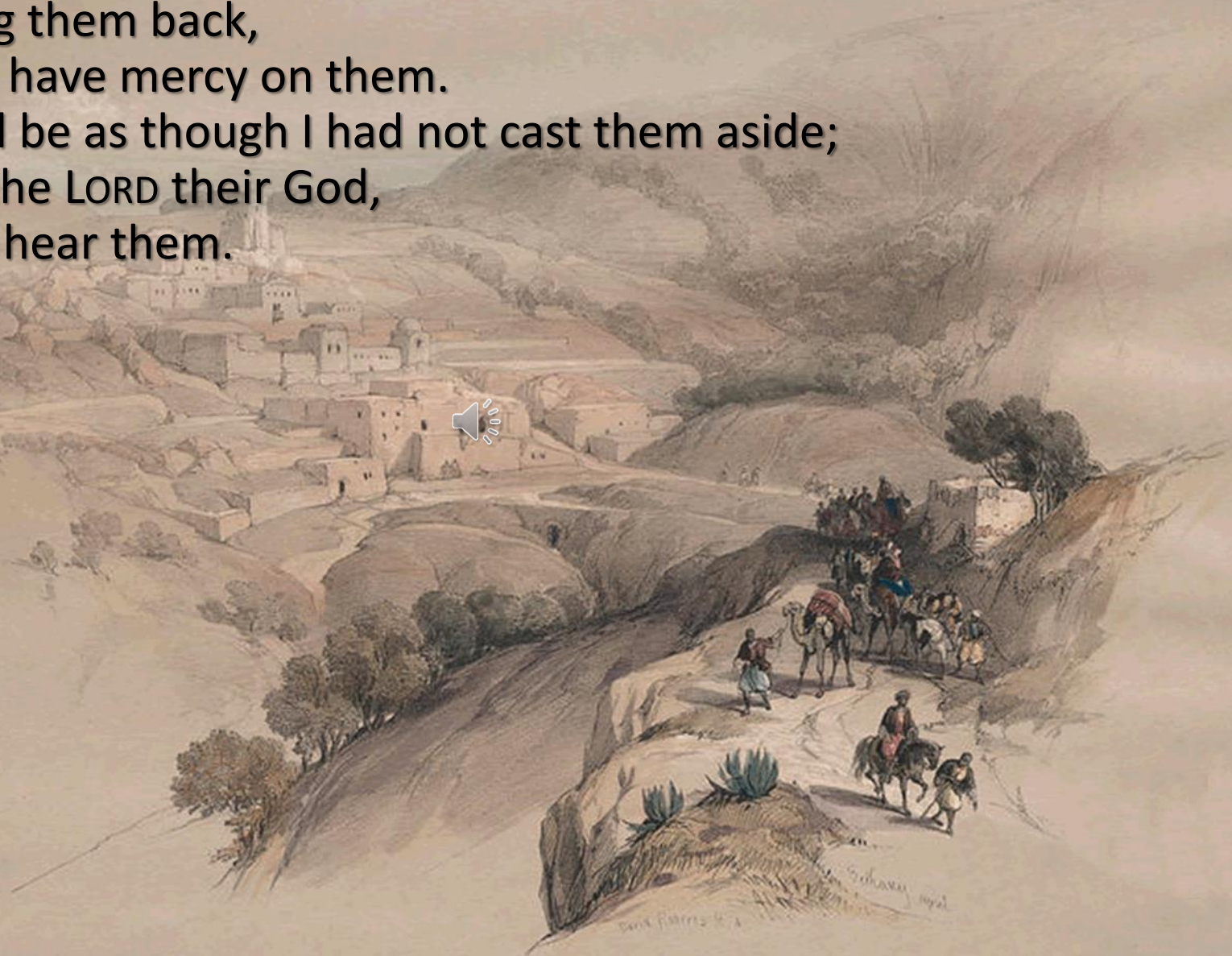
- 4 From him comes the cornerstone,
From him the tent peg,
From him the battle bow,
From him every ruler together.



The Coming One

- 4 From him comes the cornerstone,
From him the tent peg,
From him the battle bow,
From him every ruler together.
- 5 They shall be like mighty men,
Who tread down *their enemies*
In the mire of the streets in the battle.
They shall fight because the LORD is with them,
And the riders on horses shall be put to shame.

6 “I will strengthen the house of Judah,
And I will save the house of Joseph.
I will bring them back,
Because I have mercy on them.
They shall be as though I had not cast them aside;
For I *am* the LORD their God,
And I will hear them.



House of Ephraim



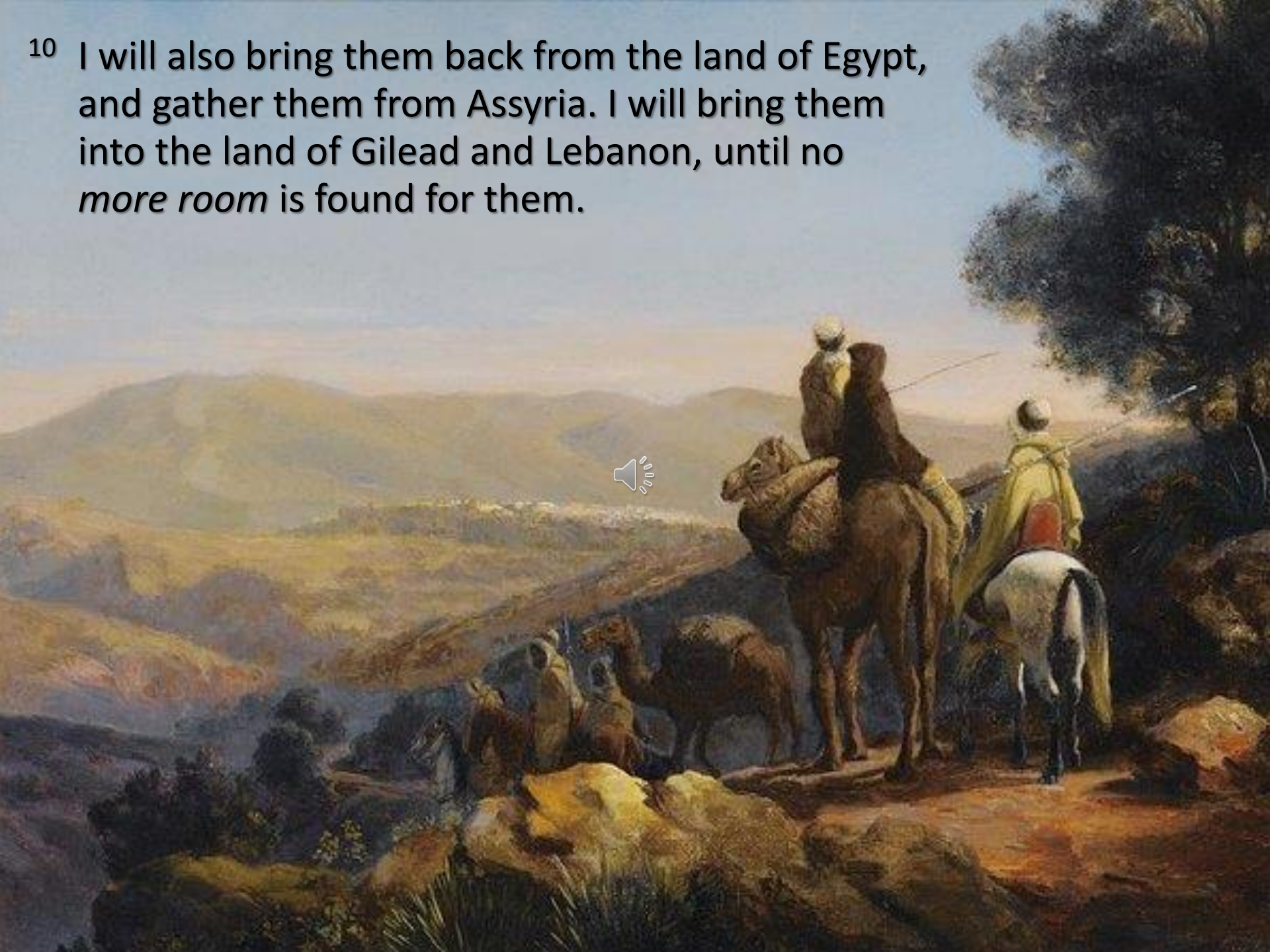
“Mathathias punishing idolatry.”
Philippe De Loutherbourg. 1815.

⁷ Those of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as if with wine.
Yes, their children shall see *it* and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

⁸ I will whistle for them and gather them, for I will redeem them;
And they shall increase as they once increased.

⁹ “I will sow them among the peoples, and they shall remember Me in far countries; they shall live, together with their children,
And they shall return.

¹⁰ I will also bring them back from the land of Egypt,
and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them
into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, until no
more room is found for them.



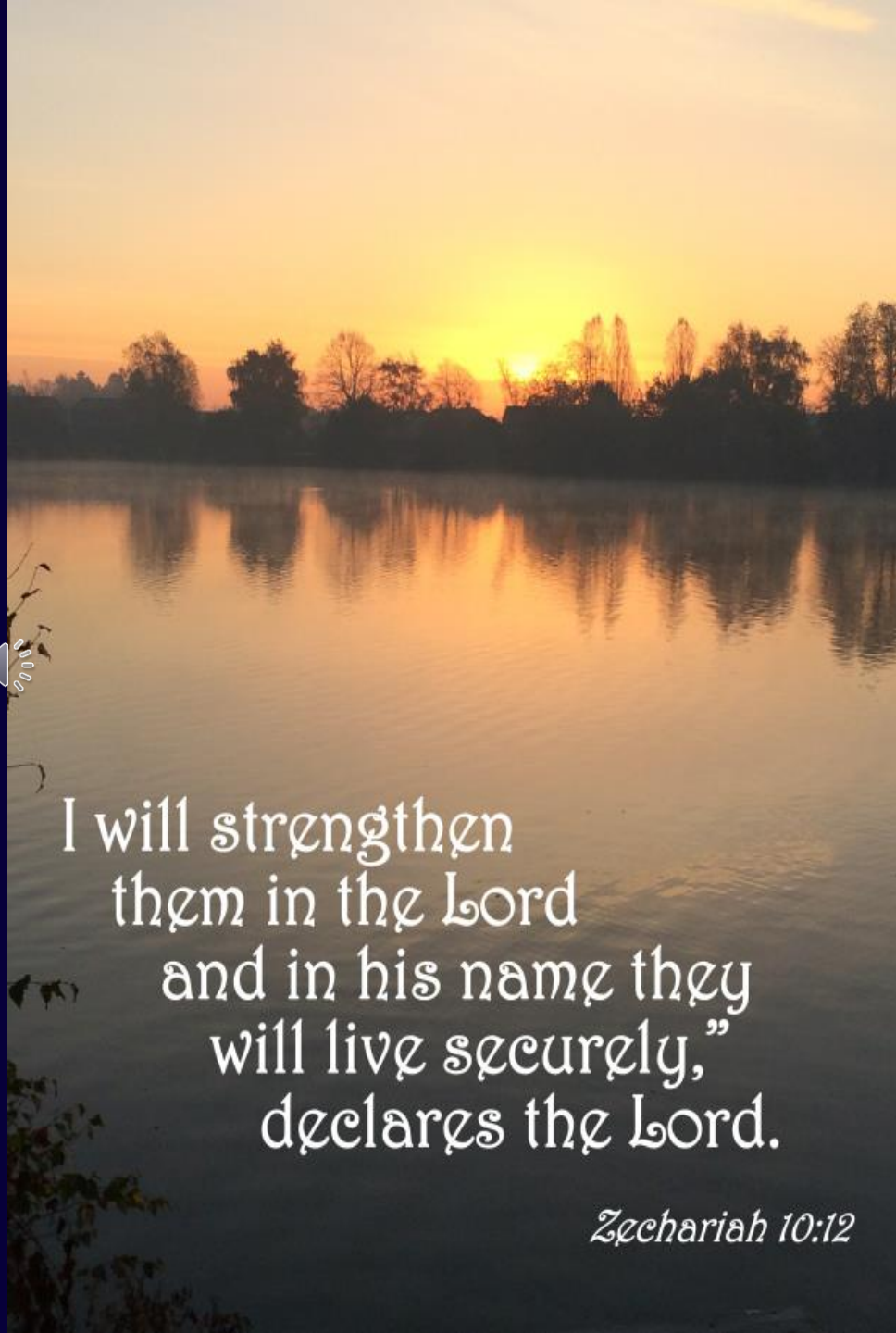
11 He shall pass through the sea with affliction, and strike the waves of the sea: all the depths of the River shall dry up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart.

12 “So I will strengthen them in the LORD, and they shall walk up and down in His name,” says the LORD.



I will strengthen
them in the Lord
and in his name they
will live securely,”
declares the Lord.

Zechariah 10:12



Zechariah 11

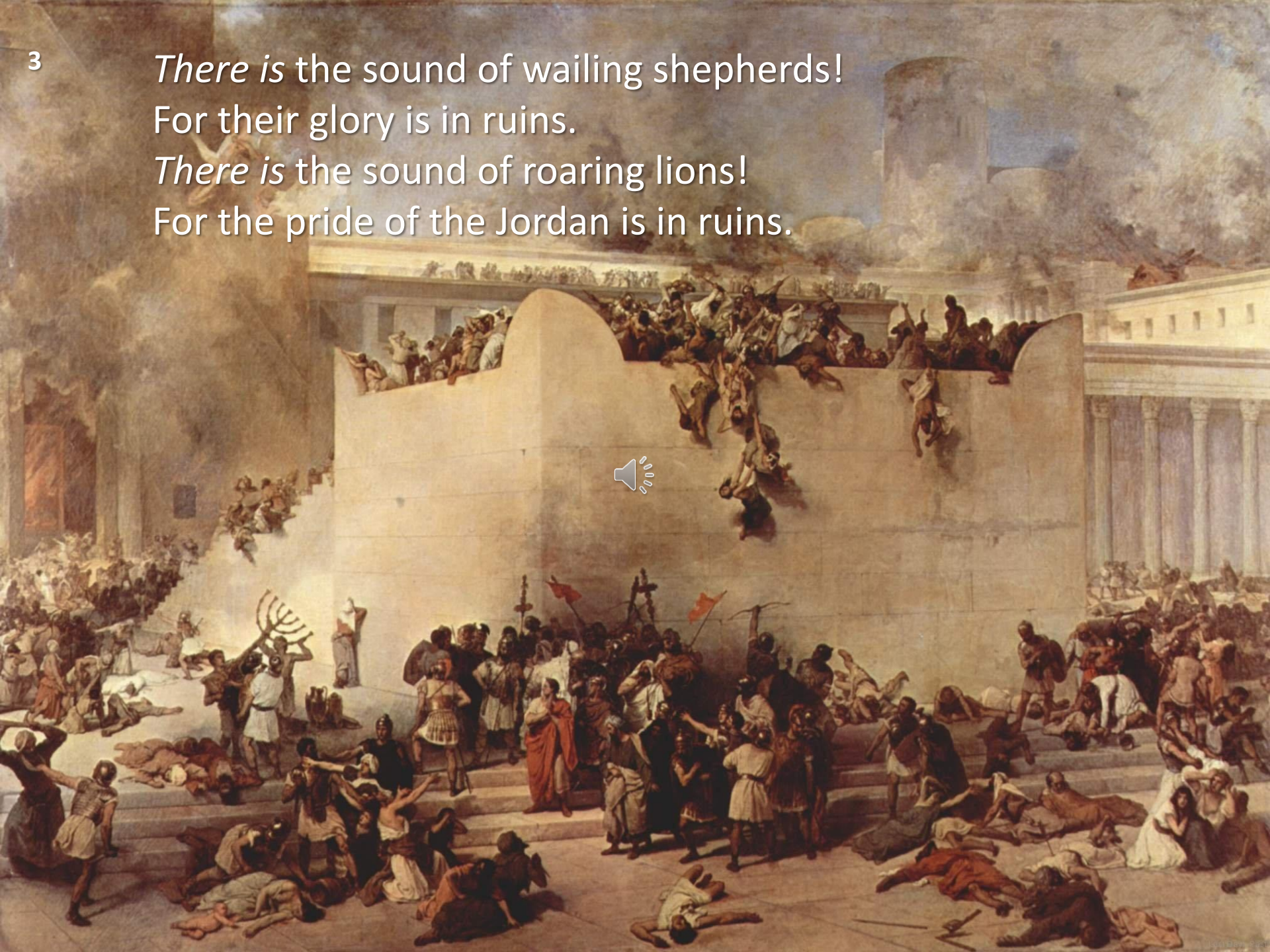
Desolation of Israel

- 1 Open your doors, O Lebanon,
That fire may devour your cedars.
- 2 Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen,
Because the mighty *trees* are ruined.
Wail, O oaks of Bashan,
For the thick forest has come down.



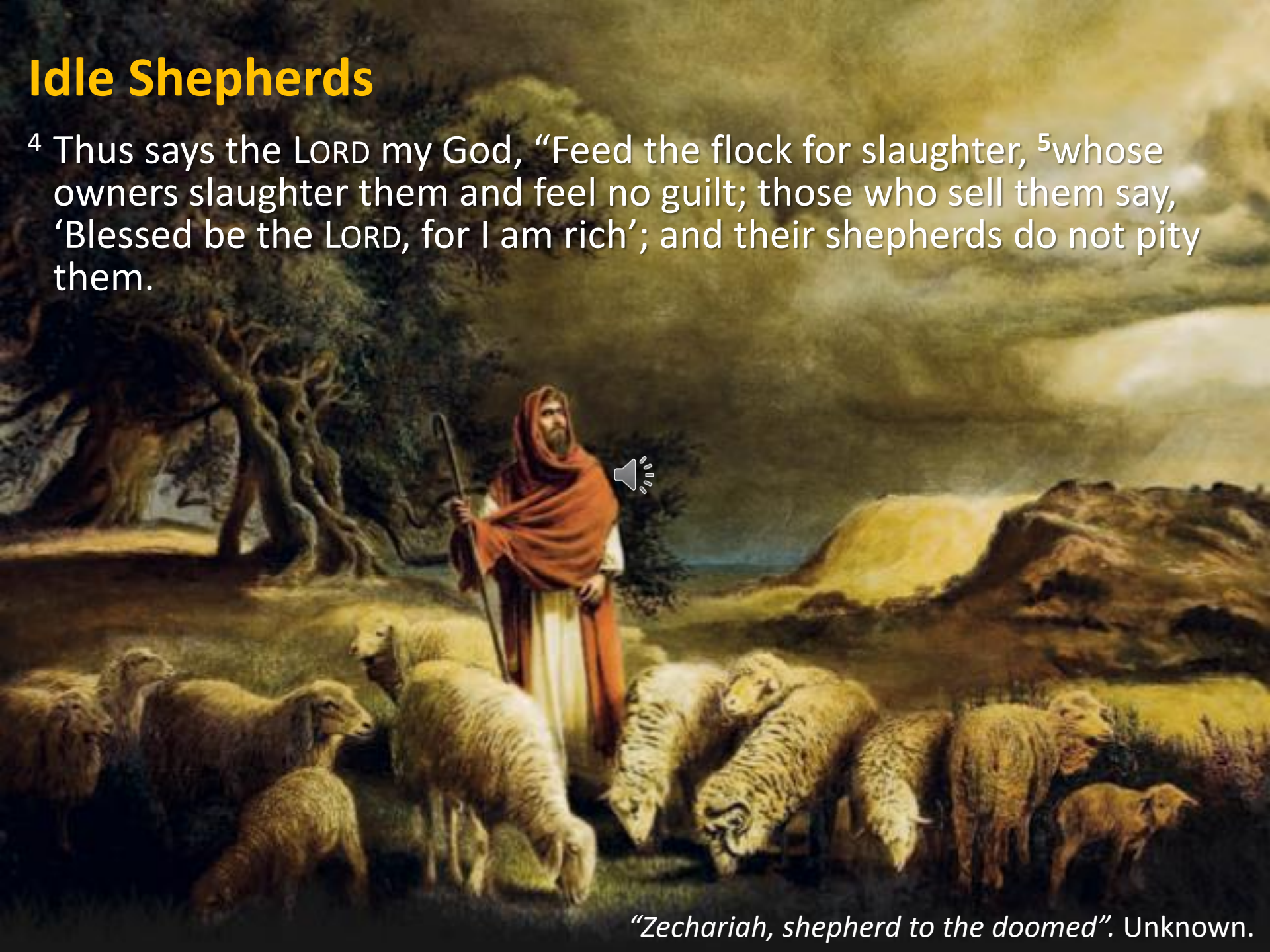
3

There is the sound of wailing shepherds!
For their glory is in ruins.
There is the sound of roaring lions!
For the pride of the Jordan is in ruins.



Idle Shepherds

⁴ Thus says the LORD my God, “Feed the flock for slaughter, ⁵whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, ‘Blessed be the LORD, for I am rich’; and their shepherds do not pity them.



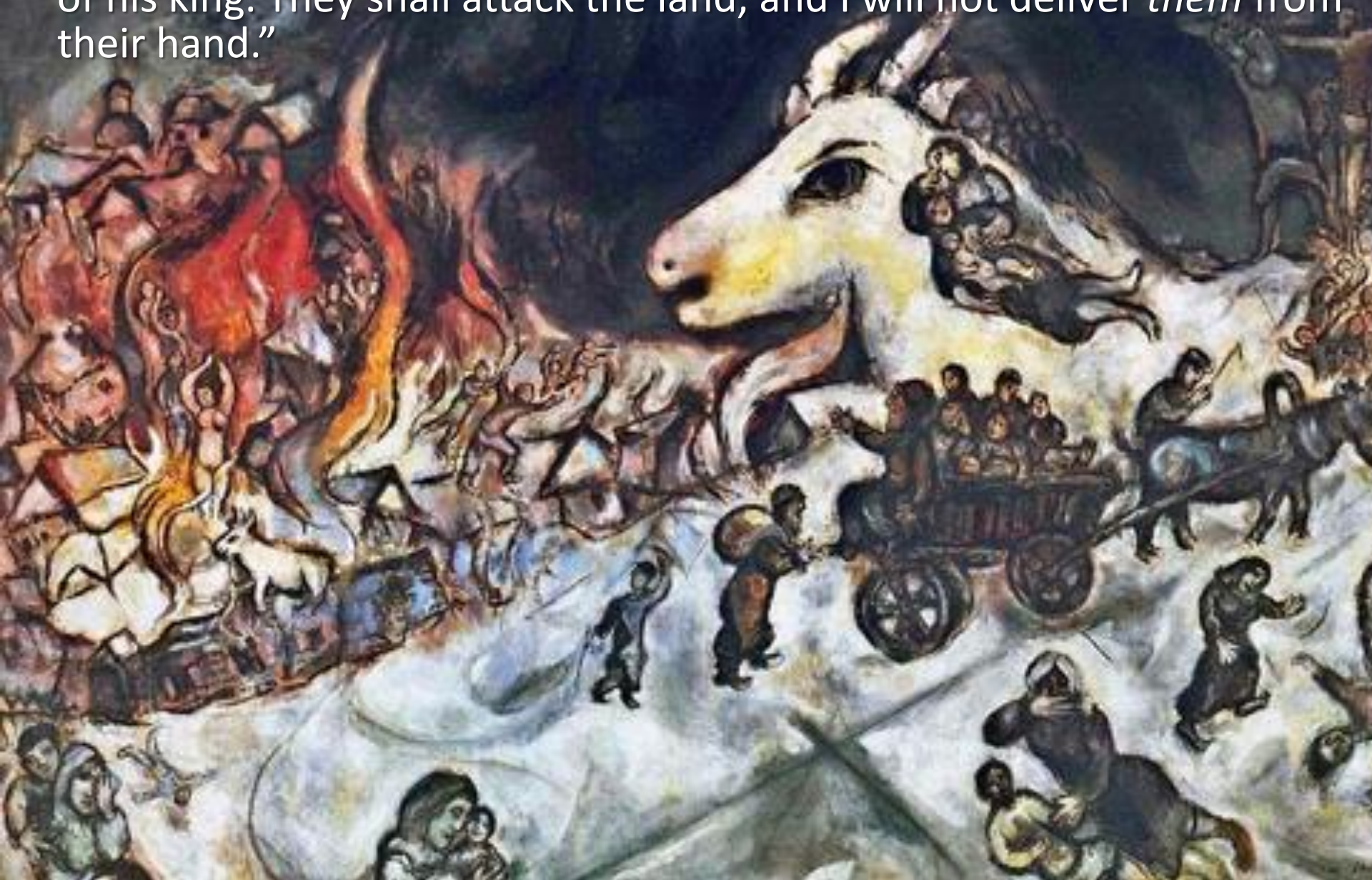
“Zechariah, shepherd to the doomed”. Unknown.

“Destruction of Jerusalem.” David Roberts. 1850.



⁶ For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the LORD. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbor's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver *them* from their hand."

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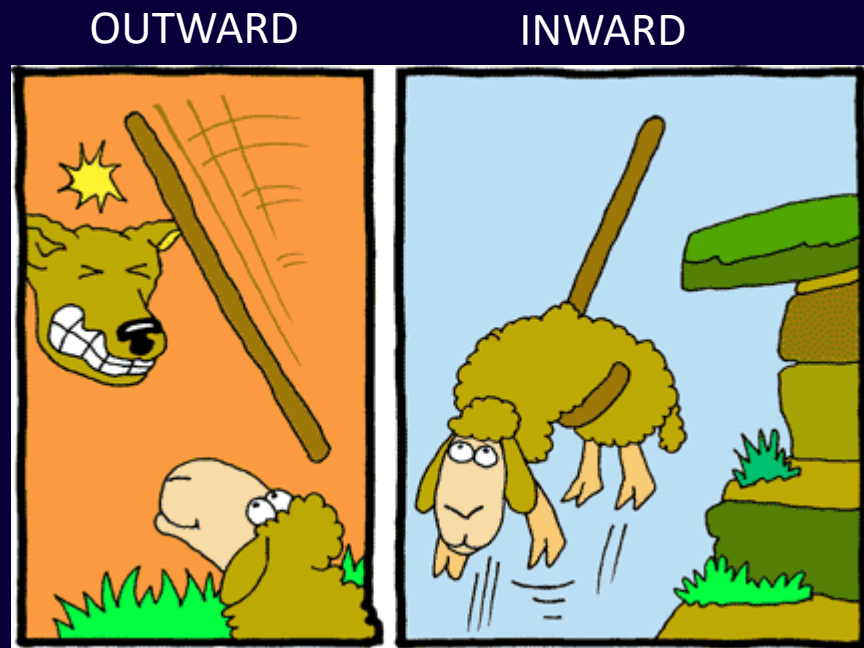


7 So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staffs: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds [*Unity*]; and I fed the flock.

• The rod and staff (see Psalm 23:4) protected sheep against a two-fold danger: outward enemies (rod) and inward strife (staff).



• **Beauty** (grace; pleasant; favour). This is a shepherd's crook used to keep the sheep in line.



Bonds

Beauty

• **Bonds/Bands/Unity** (word has to do with making a covenant; *Hobhelim*: hobbel, bind, pledge.) A heavy stick, used to fight off wild animals or those who would try to steal the sheep.

False Leadership

- 8 I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.
- 9 Then I said, "I will not feed you. Let what is dying die, and what is perishing perish. Let those that are left eat each other's flesh."



The Broken Staff

- ¹⁰ And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples.
- ¹¹ So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it *was* the word of the LORD.



12 Then I said to them, “If it is agreeable to you, give *me* my wages; and if not, refrain.” So they weighed out for my wages thirty *pieces* of silver.



13 And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter” — that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty *pieces* of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.



Akeldama (“The Field of Blood”)
The biblical Potter’s Field.

14 Then I cut in two my other staff, Bonds [*“named Unity”*], that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.



The Arch of Titus: Spoils of Jerusalem Panel. Rome. AD 81.

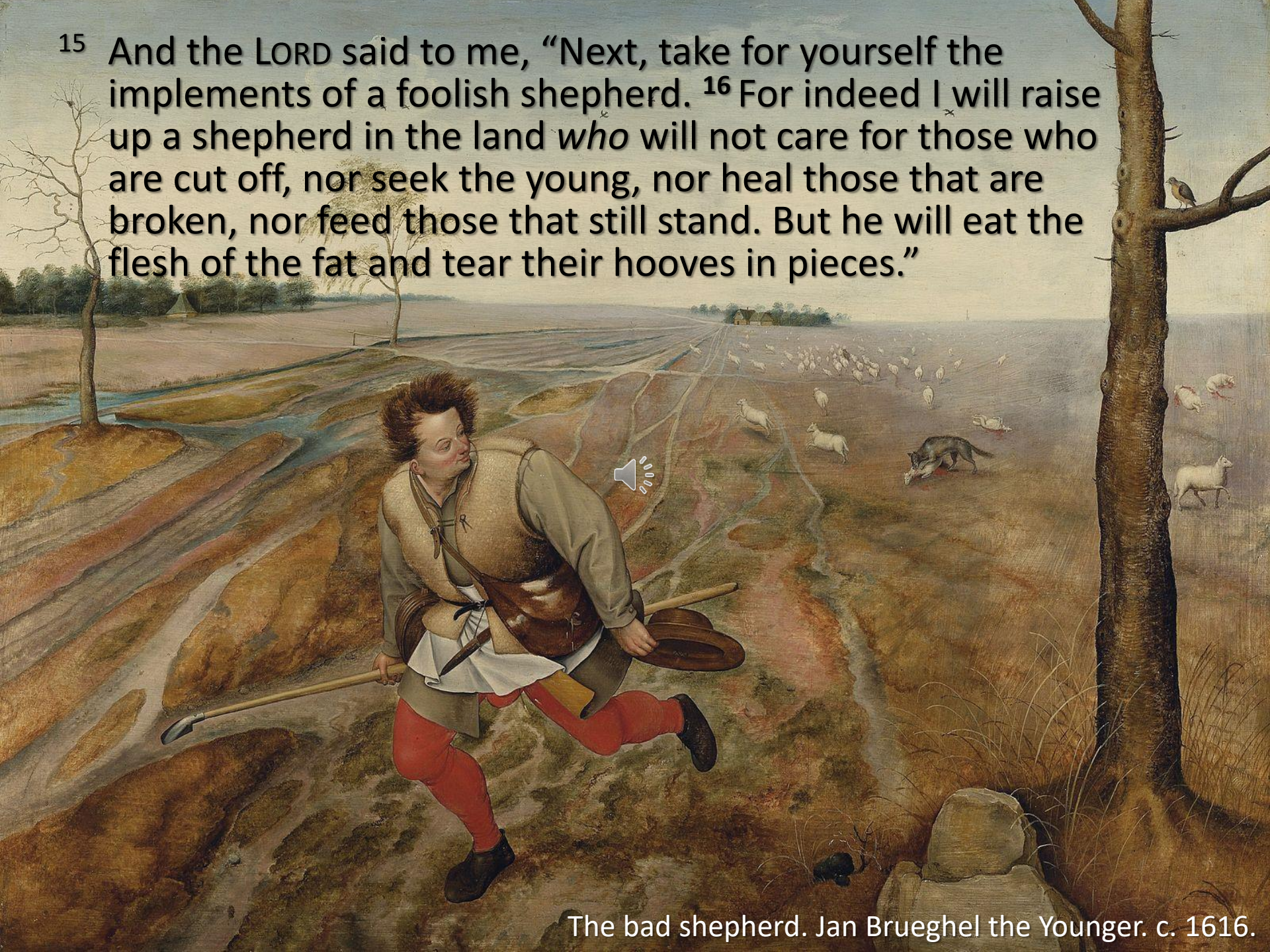
Isaiah 61 – The Good News of Salvation

¹ “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
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To proclaim liberty to the captives,
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15 And the LORD said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd. 16 For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land *who* will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces."



The bad shepherd. Jan Brueghel the Younger. c. 1616.

²³ “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here *is* the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe *it*.

²⁴ “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”

Matthew 24:23-24

⁴³ “I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.”

John 5:43

**“It's easier to fool
people than to
convince them that
they have been
fooled.”**

Mark Twain

**“Professing to be
wise,
they became fools,”**

Romans 1:22

17 “Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword *shall be* against his arm and against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded.”

(Antichrist with the attributes of a king in the *Hortus Deliciarum* c. 1180)



Worthless
shepherds

ZECHARIAH

NEXT WEEK

**The return and reign
of Messiah**

(Zechariah 12:1-14:21)



WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT