

2ND BOOK OF MACCABEES – PT 2

Judas – called Maccabaeus, the son
takes over!



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Previously in pt. 1, we saw how Mattathias decided to take back Yahuah's temple with his sons and fight against Antiochus IV Epiphanes and Ptolemy VI Philometor. Ever notice how they just use the same name, no wonder it's impossible to tell who from what and where – no worries though, no matter how may Antiochuses and Ptolemys there are – they can not withstand a MACC ATTACK when YAHUAH is helping!

2/17/2018

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SELEUCID



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Jonathan



Apollonius



Judas



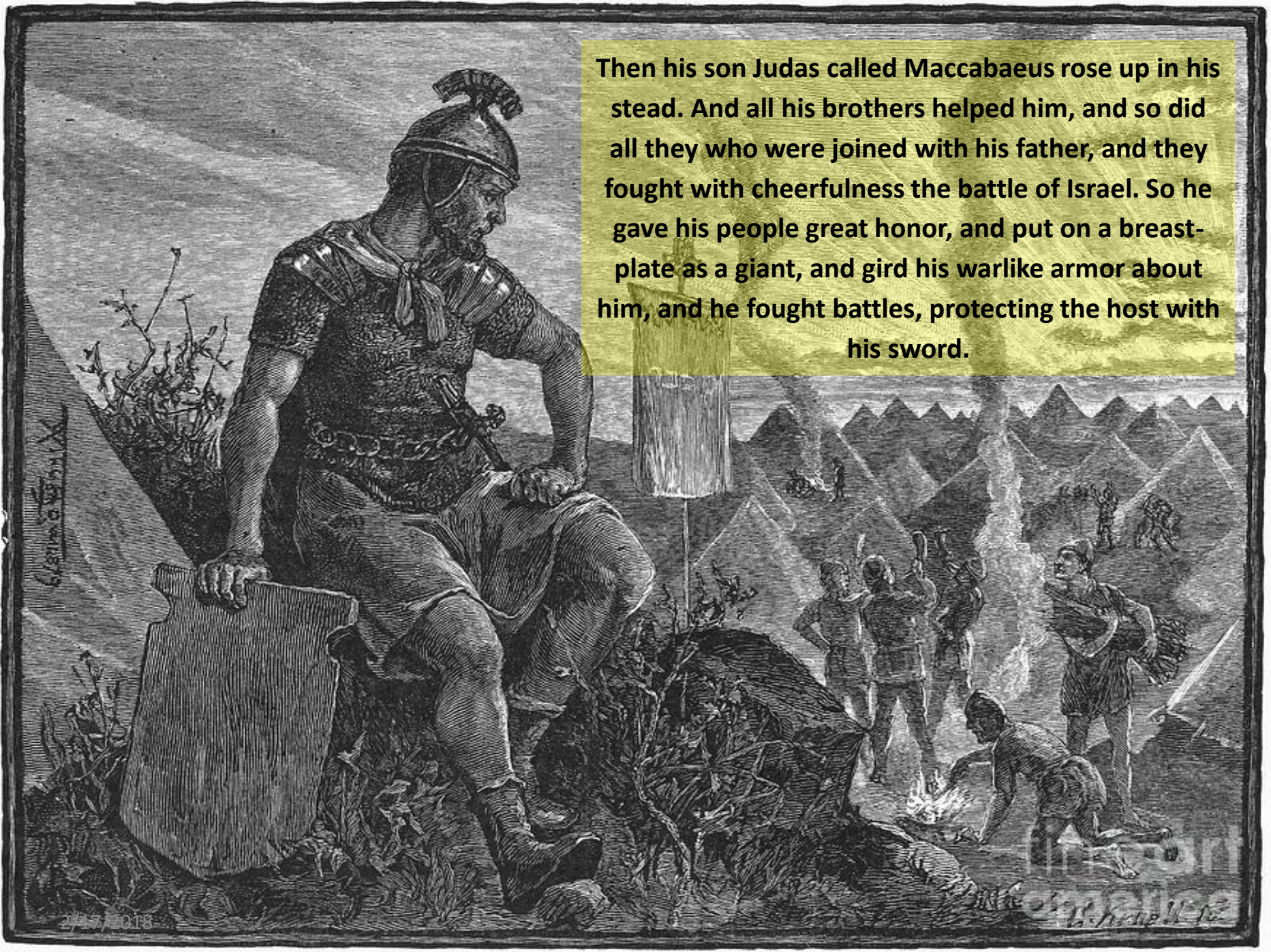
Simeon



HASMONEAN



Then his son Judas called Maccabaeus rose up in his stead. And all his brothers helped him, and so did all they who were joined with his father, and they fought with cheerfulness the battle of Israel. So he gave his people great honor, and put on a breastplate as a giant, and gird his warlike armor about him, and he fought battles, protecting the host with his sword.

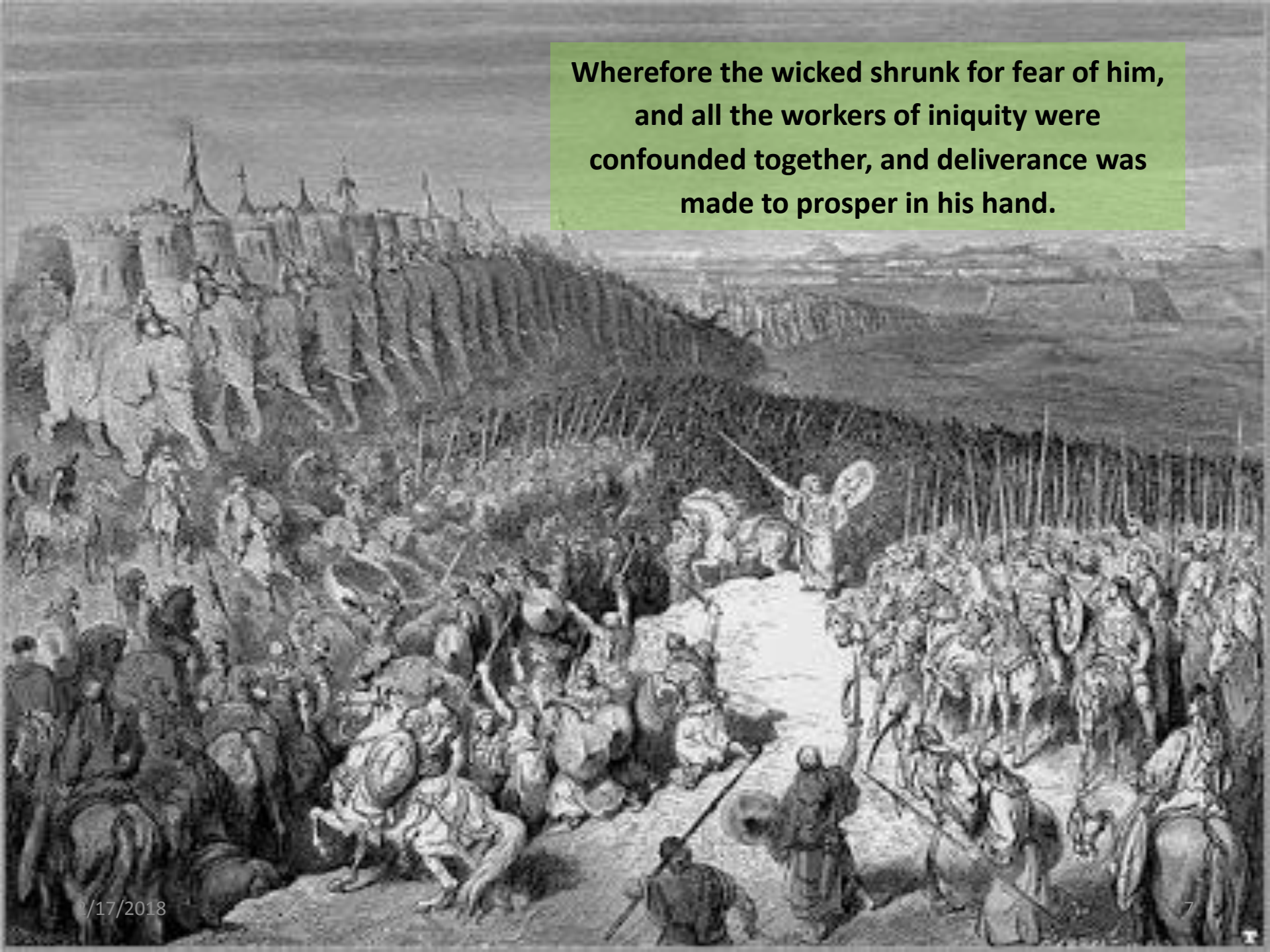


W. G. Smith

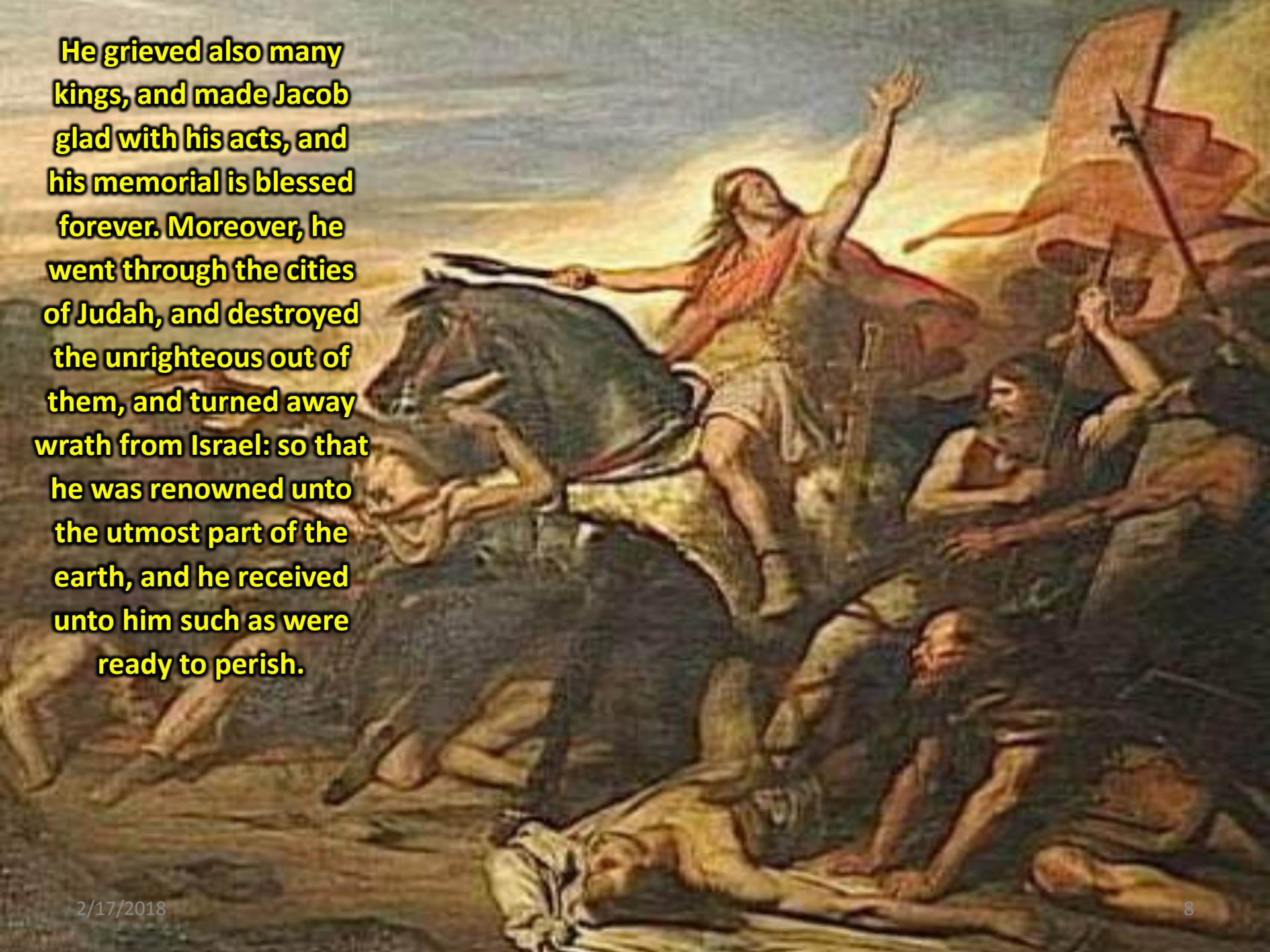
In his acts he was like a lion, and like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey, for he pursued the wicked, and sought them out, and burnt up those who vexed his people.



**Wherefore the wicked shrunk for fear of him,
and all the workers of iniquity were
confounded together, and deliverance was
made to prosper in his hand.**

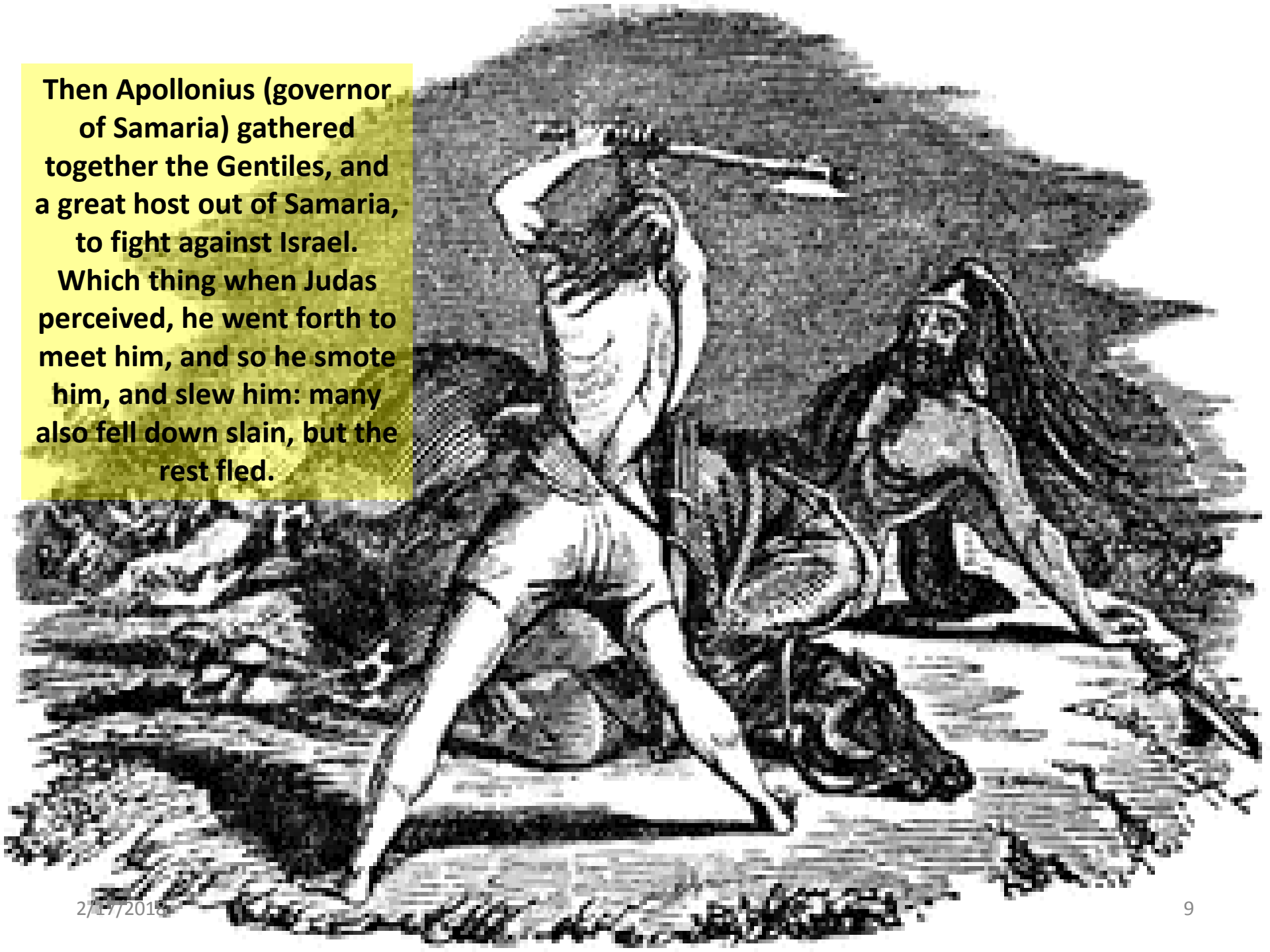


He grieved also many kings, and made Jacob glad with his acts, and his memorial is blessed forever. Moreover, he went through the cities of Judah, and destroyed the unrighteous out of them, and turned away wrath from Israel: so that he was renowned unto the utmost part of the earth, and he received unto him such as were ready to perish.



Then Apollonius (governor of Samaria) gathered together the Gentiles, and a great host out of Samaria, to fight against Israel.

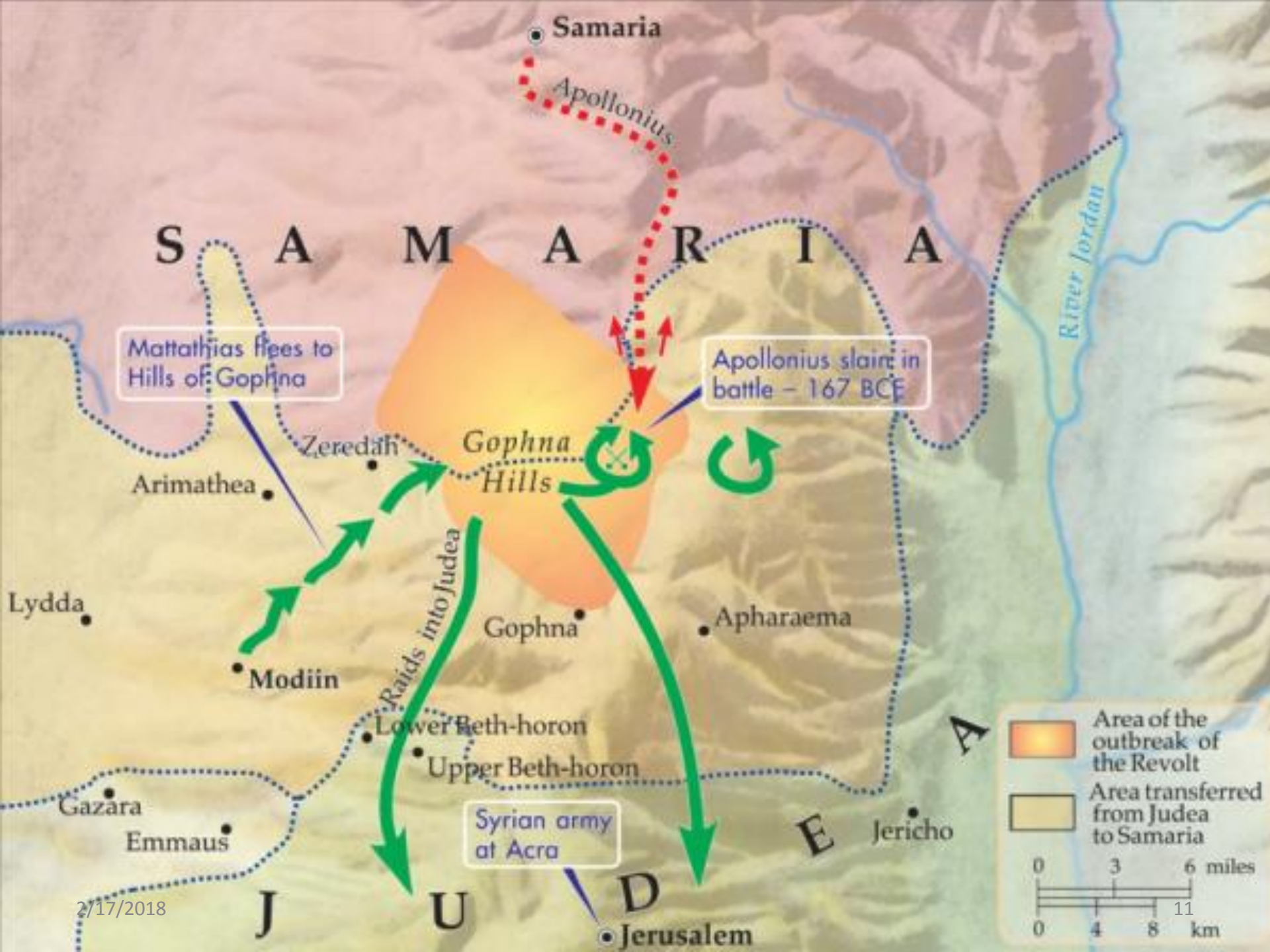
Which thing when Judas perceived, he went forth to meet him, and so he smote him, and slew him: many also fell down slain, but the rest fled.

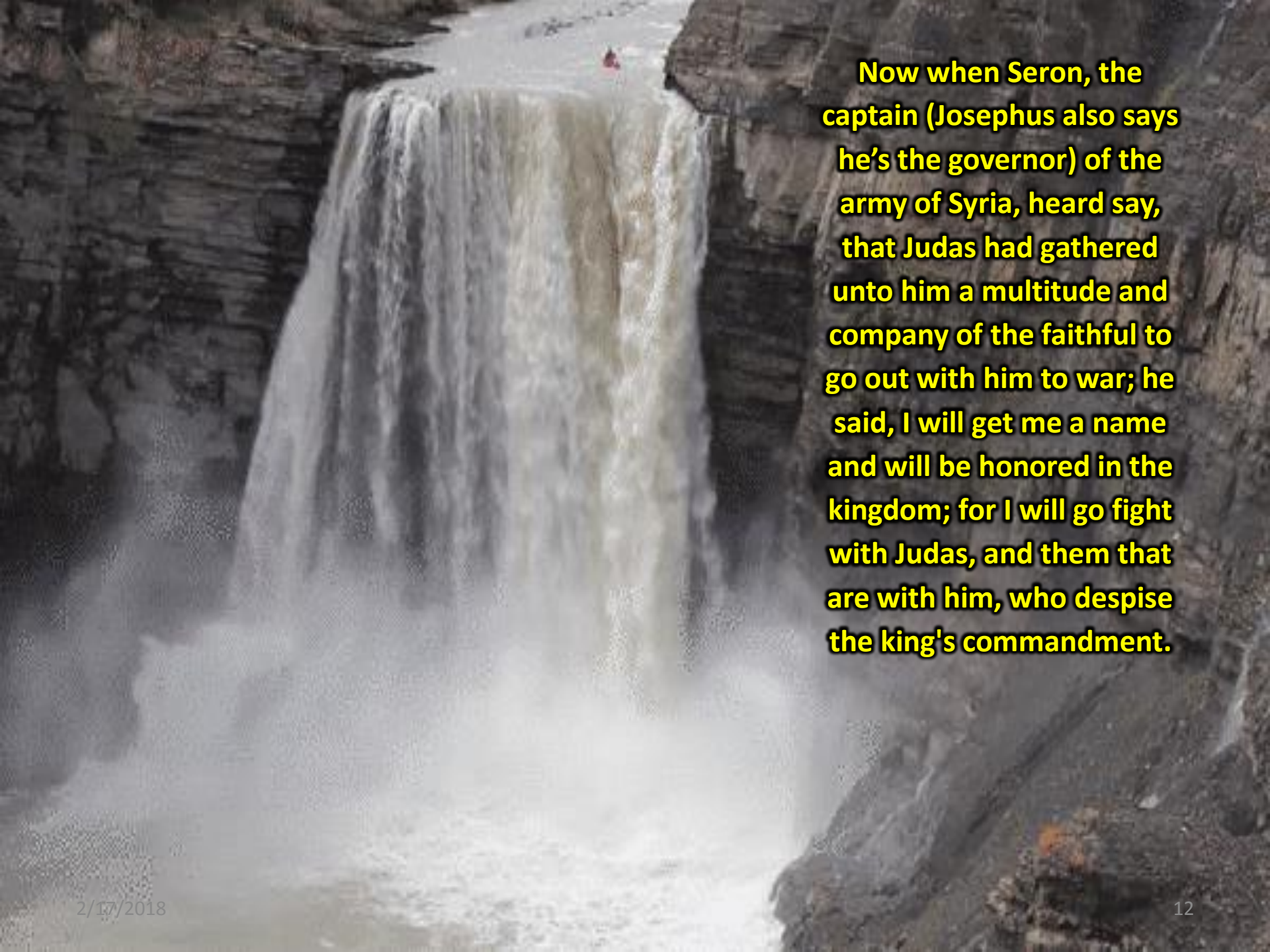




A replica Greek kopis: very possibly the style of sword captured by Judah from Apollonius

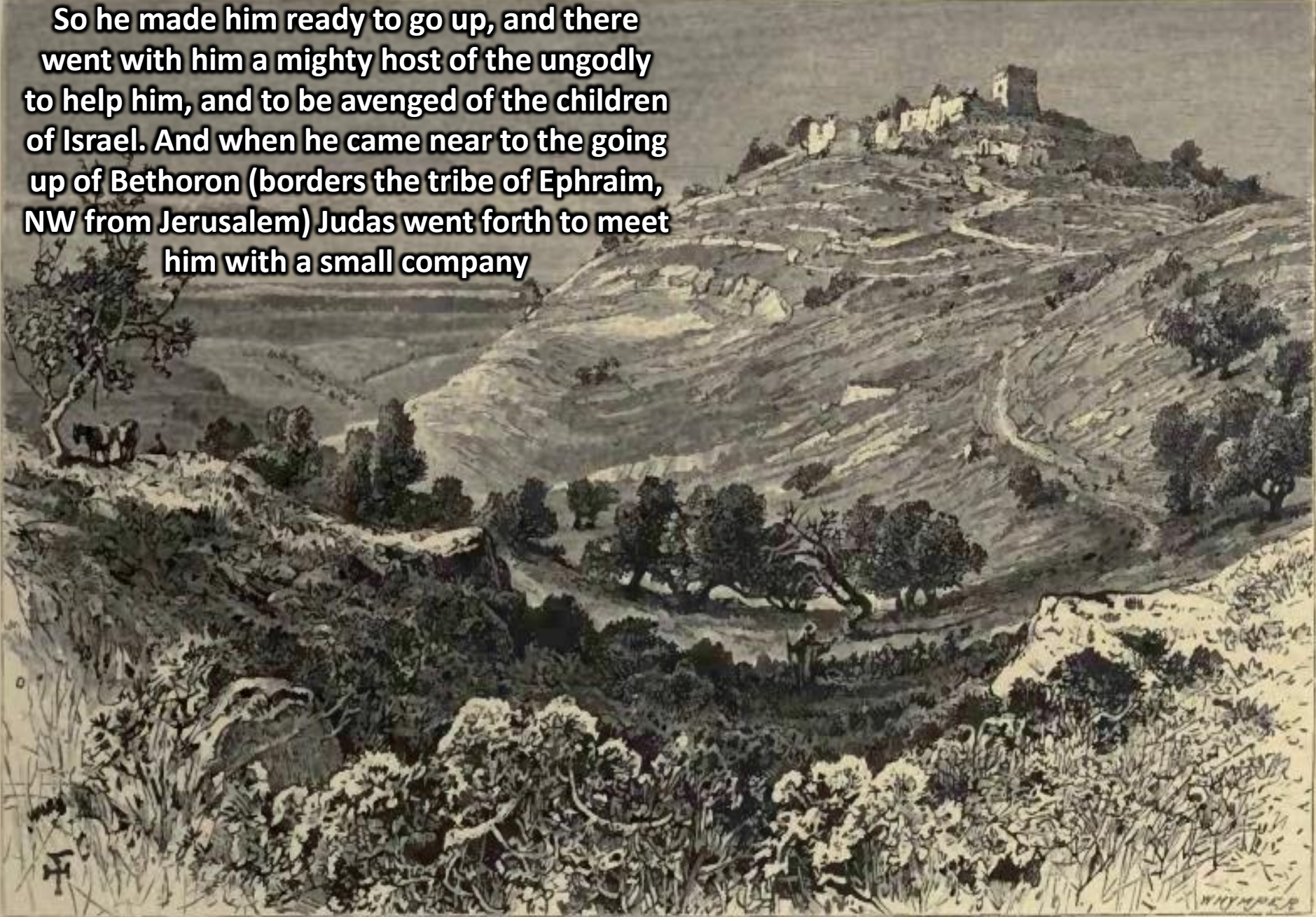
Wherefore Judas took their spoils and Apollonius' sword also, and therewith he fought all his life long.



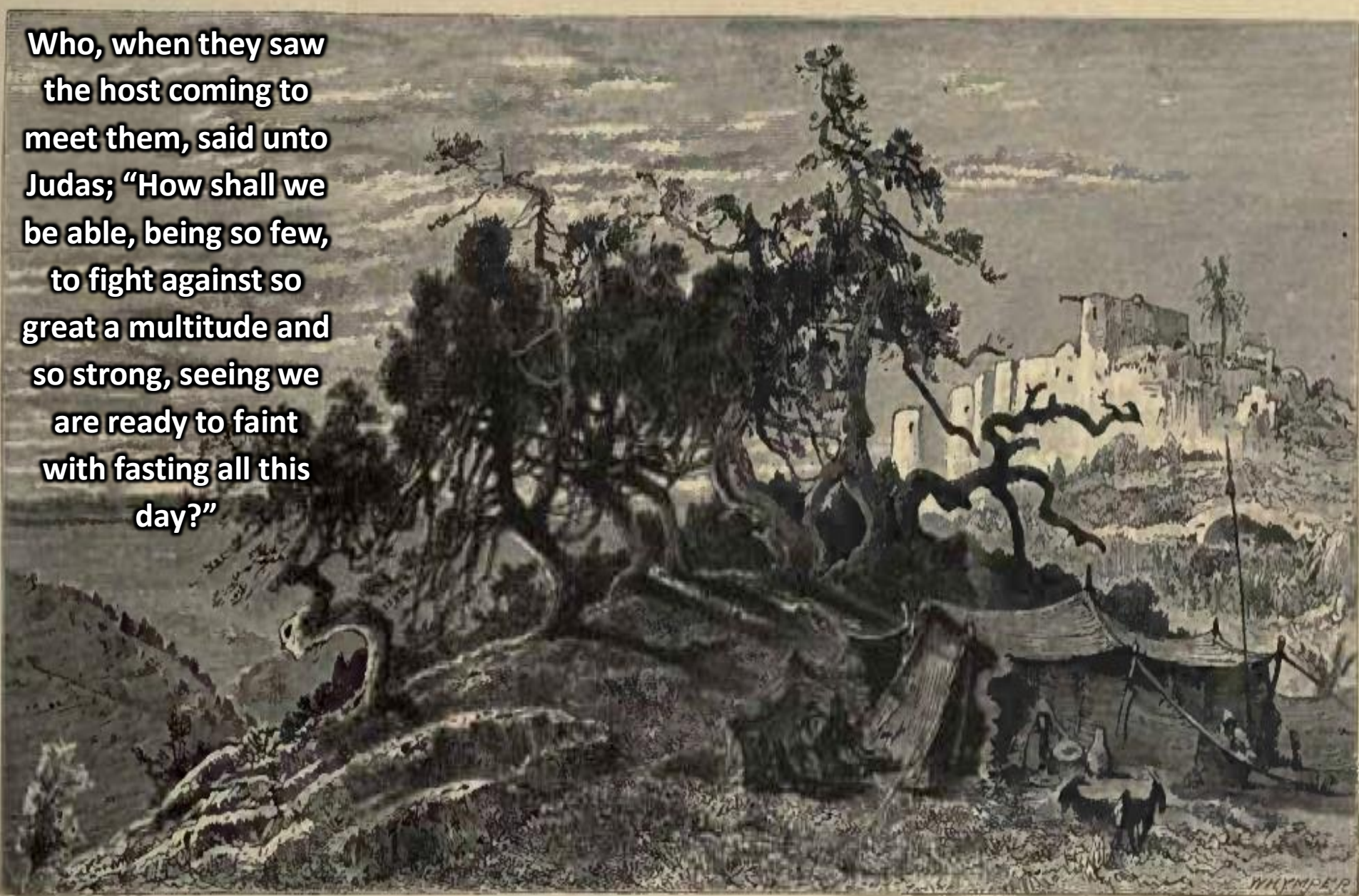


Now when Seron, the captain (Josephus also says he's the governor) of the army of Syria, heard say, that Judas had gathered unto him a multitude and company of the faithful to go out with him to war; he said, I will get me a name and will be honored in the kingdom; for I will go fight with Judas, and them that are with him, who despise the king's commandment.

So he made him ready to go up, and there went with him a mighty host of the ungodly to help him, and to be avenged of the children of Israel. And when he came near to the going up of Bethoron (borders the tribe of Ephraim, NW from Jerusalem) Judas went forth to meet him with a small company

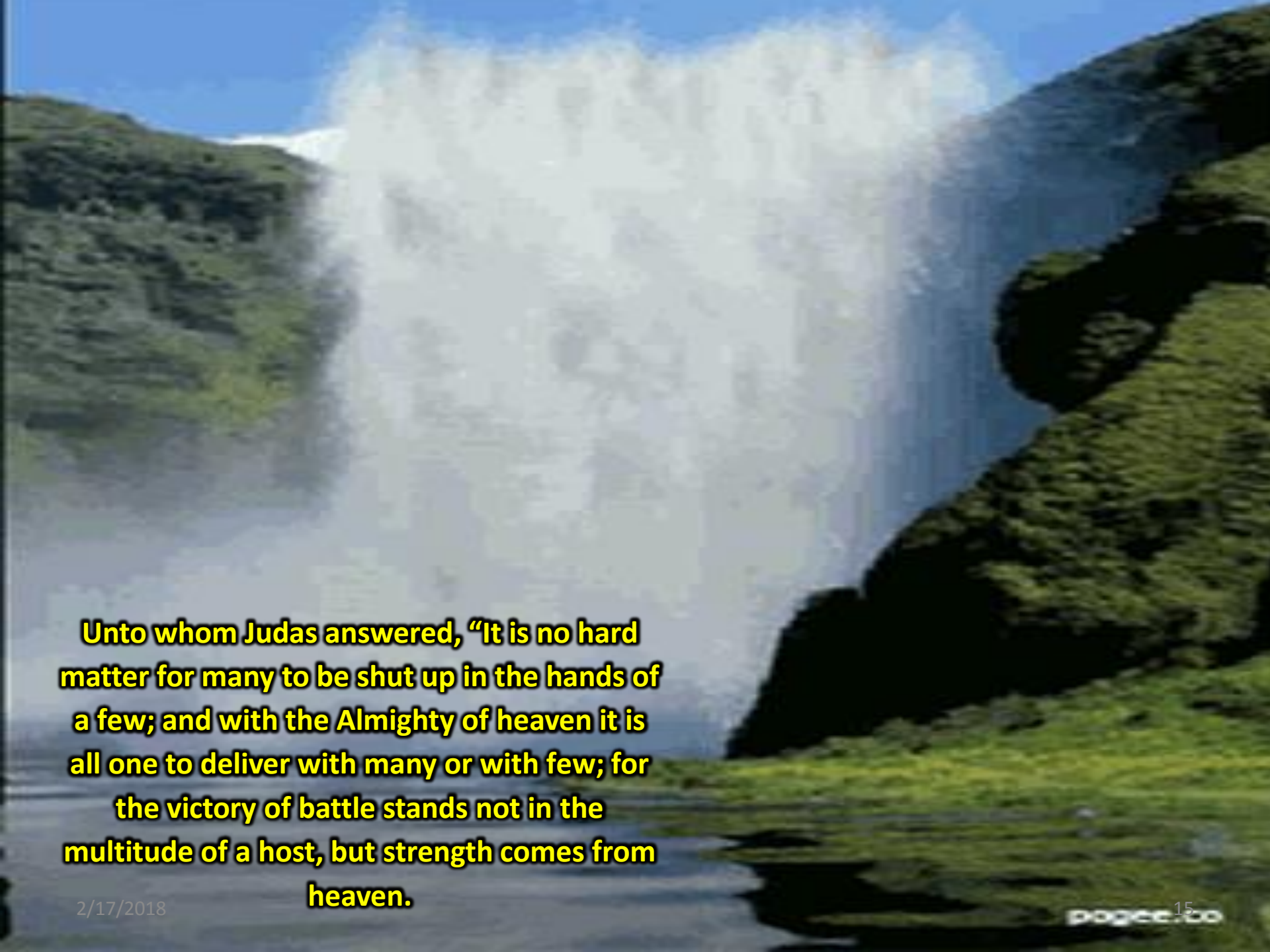


**Who, when they saw
the host coming to
meet them, said unto
Judas; "How shall we
be able, being so few,
to fight against so
great a multitude and
so strong, seeing we
are ready to faint
with fasting all this
day?"**




BEIT 'UR-ET-TAHTA, ON THE SITE OF LOWER BETH-HORON.

A Bedouin tent in the foreground. A woman preparing food, to be eaten at sunset.



Unto whom Judas answered, “It is no hard matter for many to be shut up in the hands of a few; and with the Almighty of heaven it is all one to deliver with many or with few; for the victory of battle stands not in the multitude of a host, but strength comes from heaven.



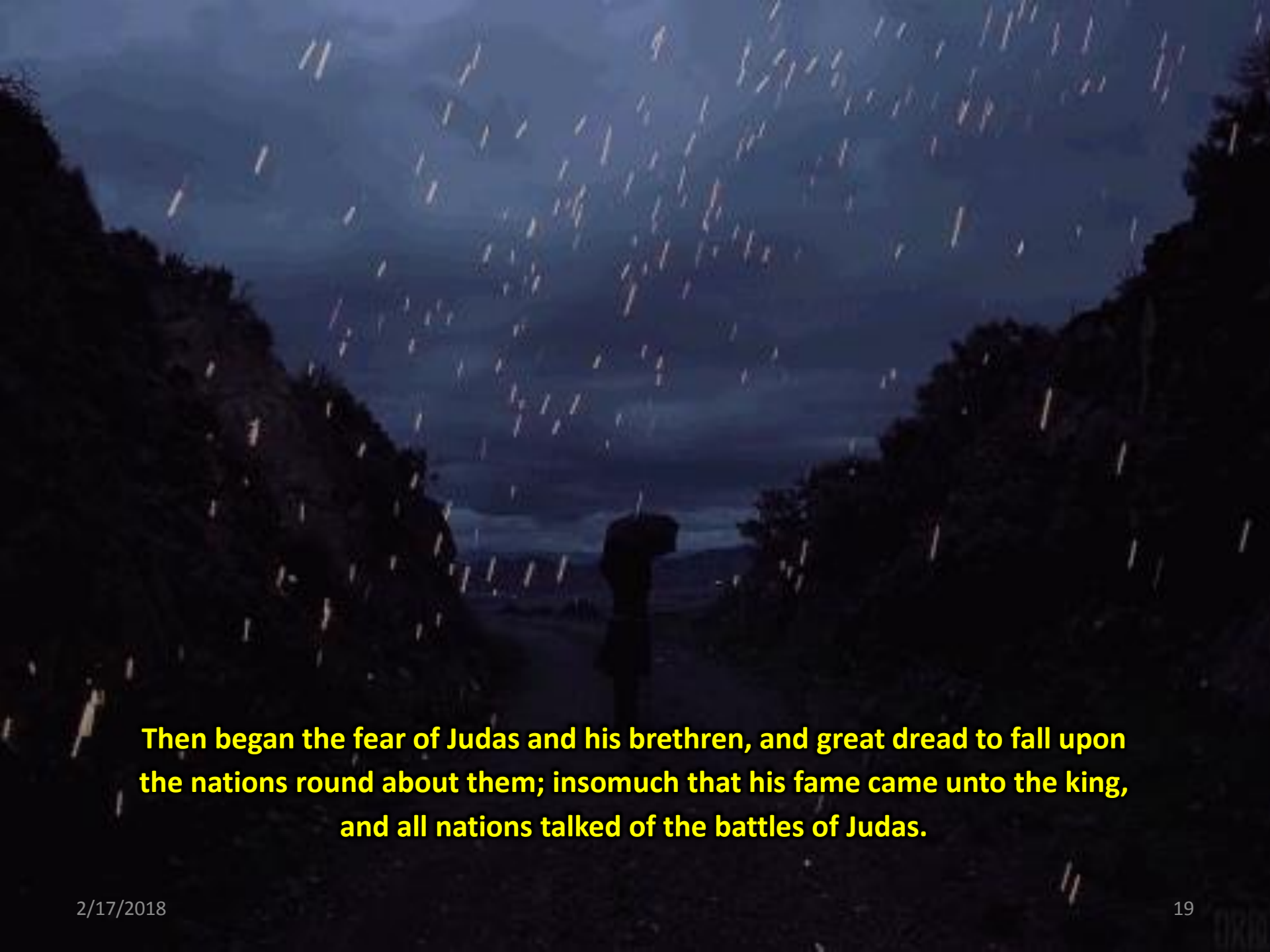
They come to us in the abundance of pride and iniquity, to destroy us and our wives and children, and to spoil us: but we fight for our lives and our Torah. Wherefore Yahuah himself will overthrow them before our face and as for you, be not afraid of them."

Now as soon as he had left off speaking, he leapt suddenly upon them, and so Seron and his host was overthrown (Josephus confirms Seron was slain in this battle) before him.



**And they pursued them in
the going down of
Bethoron, unto the plain,
where were slain about
eight hundred men of them;
and the residue fled into the
land of the Philistines.**





Then began the fear of Judas and his brethren, and great dread to fall upon the nations round about them; insomuch that his fame came unto the king, and all nations talked of the battles of Judas.



Now when King Antiochus heard these things, he was full of indignation: wherefore he sent and gathered together all the forces of his realm, even a very strong army.

He opened also his treasure and gave his soldiers pay for a year, commanding them to be ready for every need. Nevertheless, when he saw that the money of his treasures failed, and that the tributes in the country were small, because of the dissension, and plague which he had brought upon the land by taking away the Torah which had been of old time;

He feared that he should not, as in former times, have sufficient for his charges, and for the gifts, which before he had given with a liberal hand: for he had abounded above the kings that were before him.

Daniel 11:24

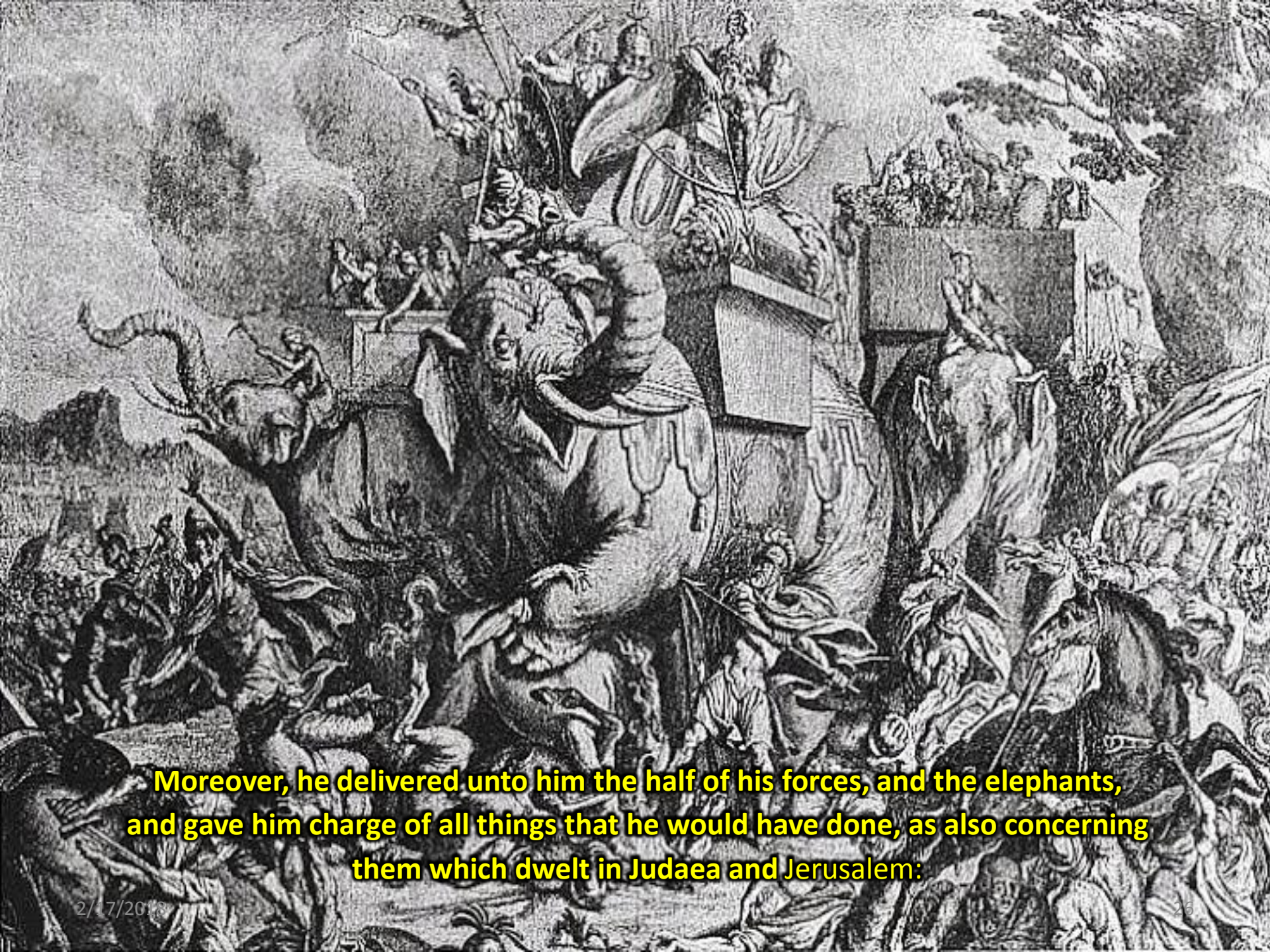
In a time of ease and in the rich parts of the province, he will come and he will do what his predecessors did not do; he will distribute plunder and spoil and possessions to them, and he will devise his plans against fortifications, but for a time.



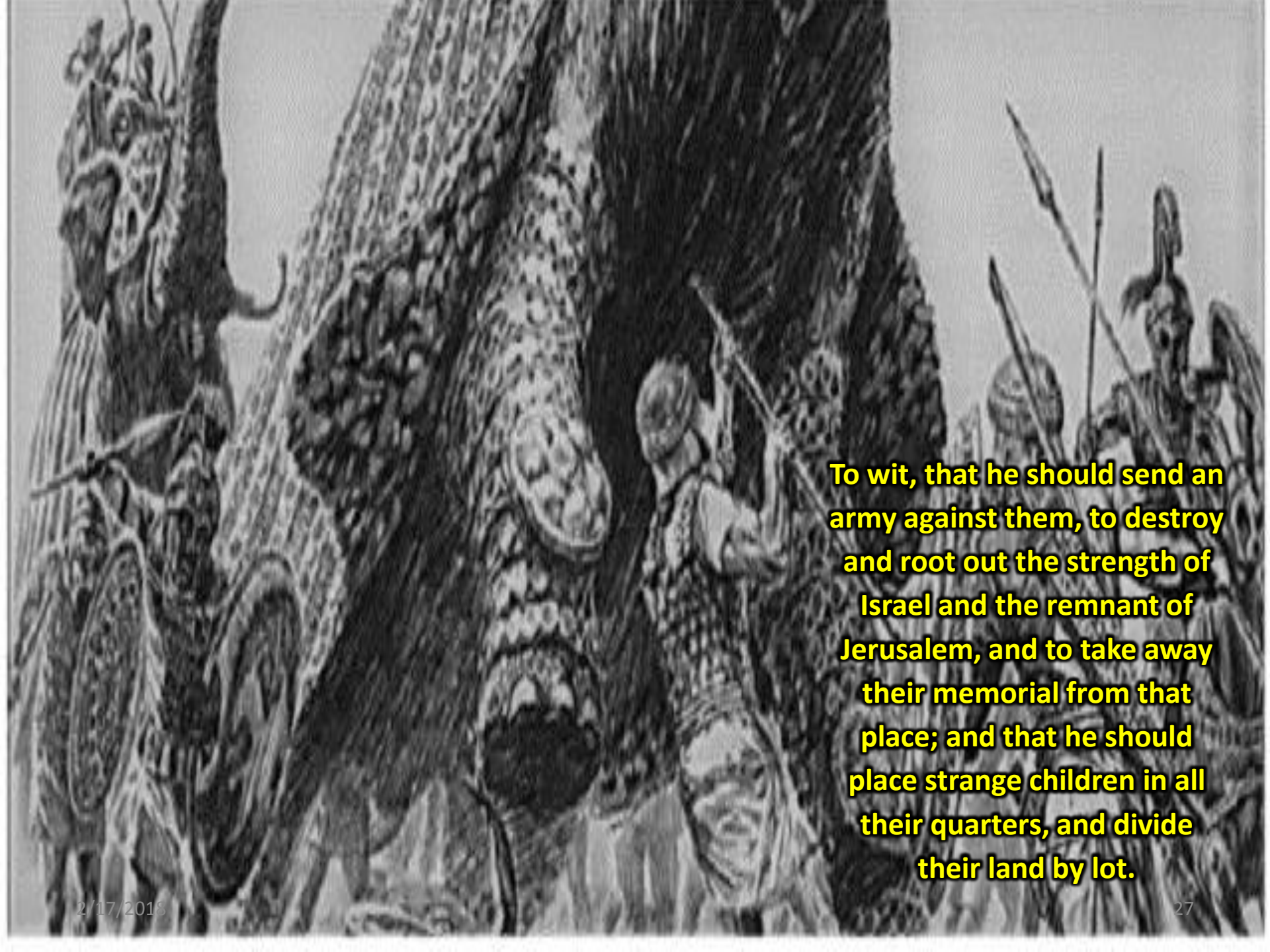


Wherefore, being greatly perplexed in his mind, he determined to go into Persia, there to take the tributes of the countries, and to gather much money.

So he left Lysias, an honorable man, and one of the blood royal, to oversee the affairs of the king, from the river Euphrates, unto the borders of Egypt; and to bring up his son Antiochus, until he came again.



Moreover, he delivered unto him the half of his forces, and the elephants, and gave him charge of all things that he would have done, as also concerning them which dwelt in Judaea and Jerusalem:



To wit, that he should send an army against them, to destroy and root out the strength of Israel and the remnant of Jerusalem, and to take away their memorial from that place; and that he should place strange children in all their quarters, and divide their land by lot.

So the king took the half of the forces which remained, and departed from Antioch (city of Syria on the river Orontes) his royal city, the hundred forty and seventh year (166BC); and having passed the river Euphrates, he went through the high countries (parts adjoining the Euphrates but remote from the sea).

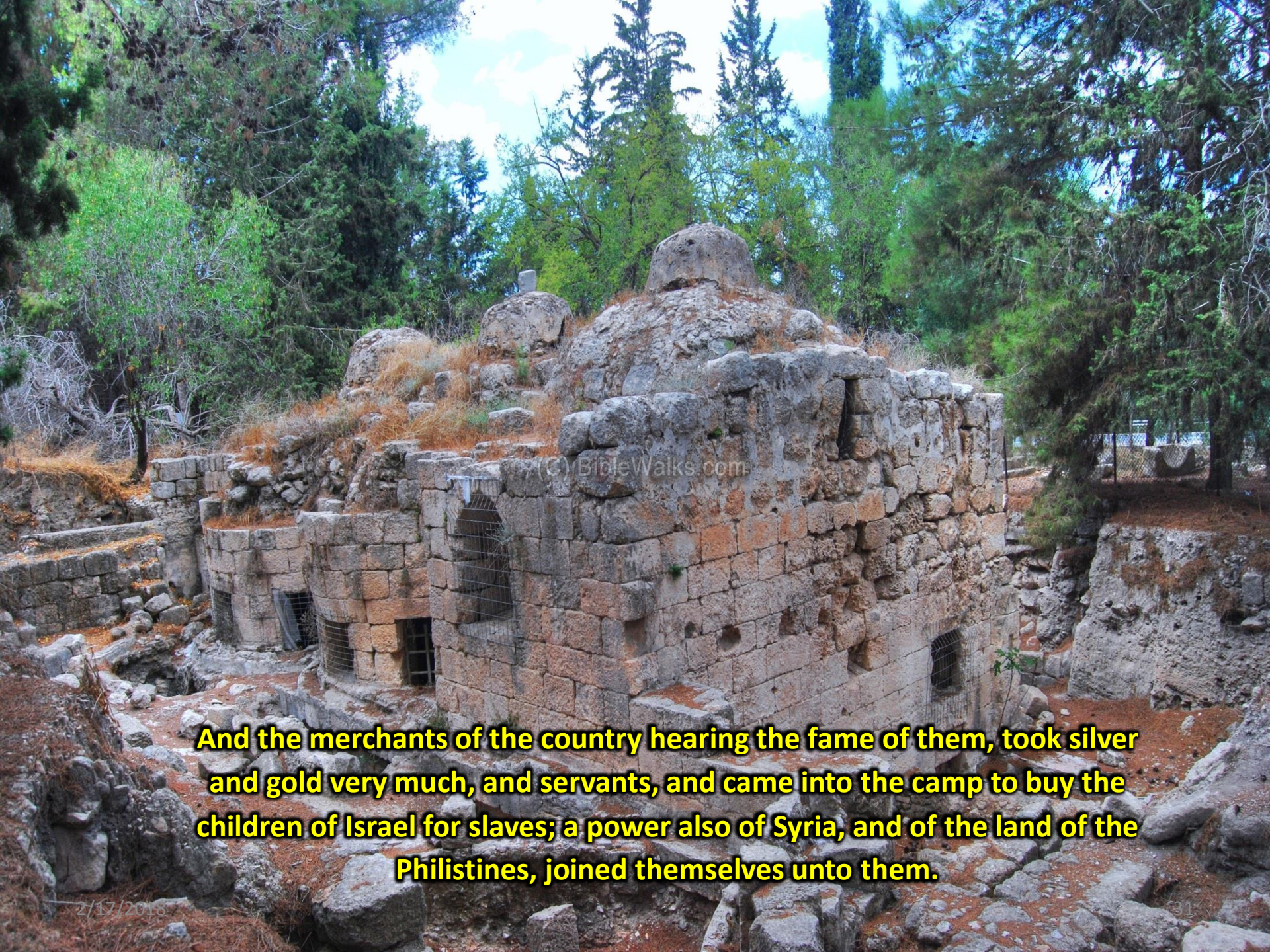




Then Lysias chose Ptolemey Macron the son of Dorymenes (fought against Antiochus the Great), and Nicanor, and Gorgias, mighty men of the king's friends: And with them he sent forty thousand footmen, and seven thousand horsemen, to go into the land of Judah, and to destroy it, as the king commanded.



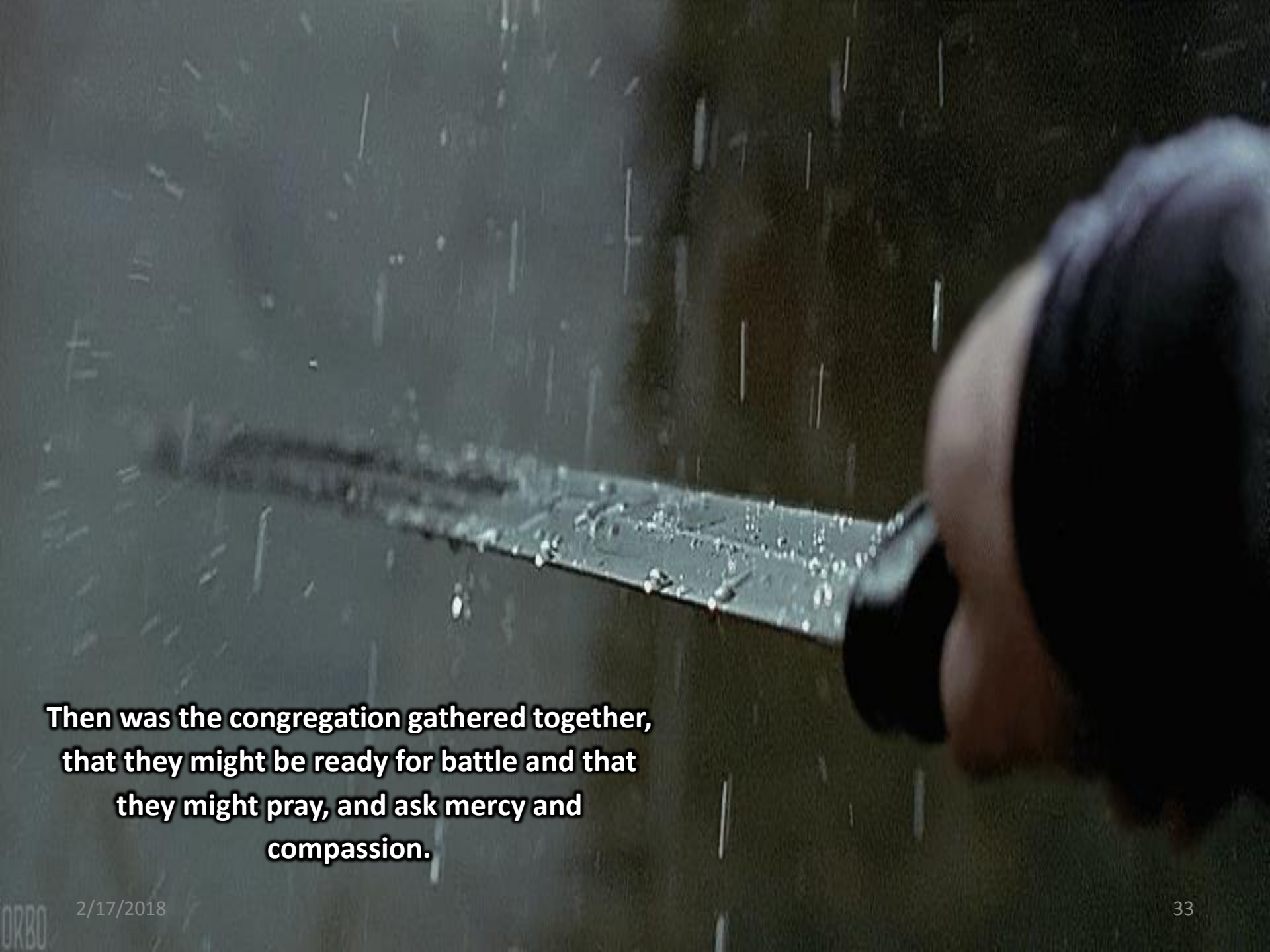
So they went forth with all their power, and came and pitched by Emmaus (a village 7.5 mi from Jerusalem), in the plain country.




And the merchants of the country hearing the fame of them, took silver and gold very much, and servants, and came into the camp to buy the children of Israel for slaves; a power also of Syria, and of the land of the Philistines, joined themselves unto them.



Now when Judas and his brethren saw that miseries were multiplied, and that the forces did encamp themselves in their borders (for they knew how the king had given commandment to destroy the people, and utterly abolish them) they said one to another, “Let us restore the decayed estate of our people, and let us fight for our people, and the sanctuary”.

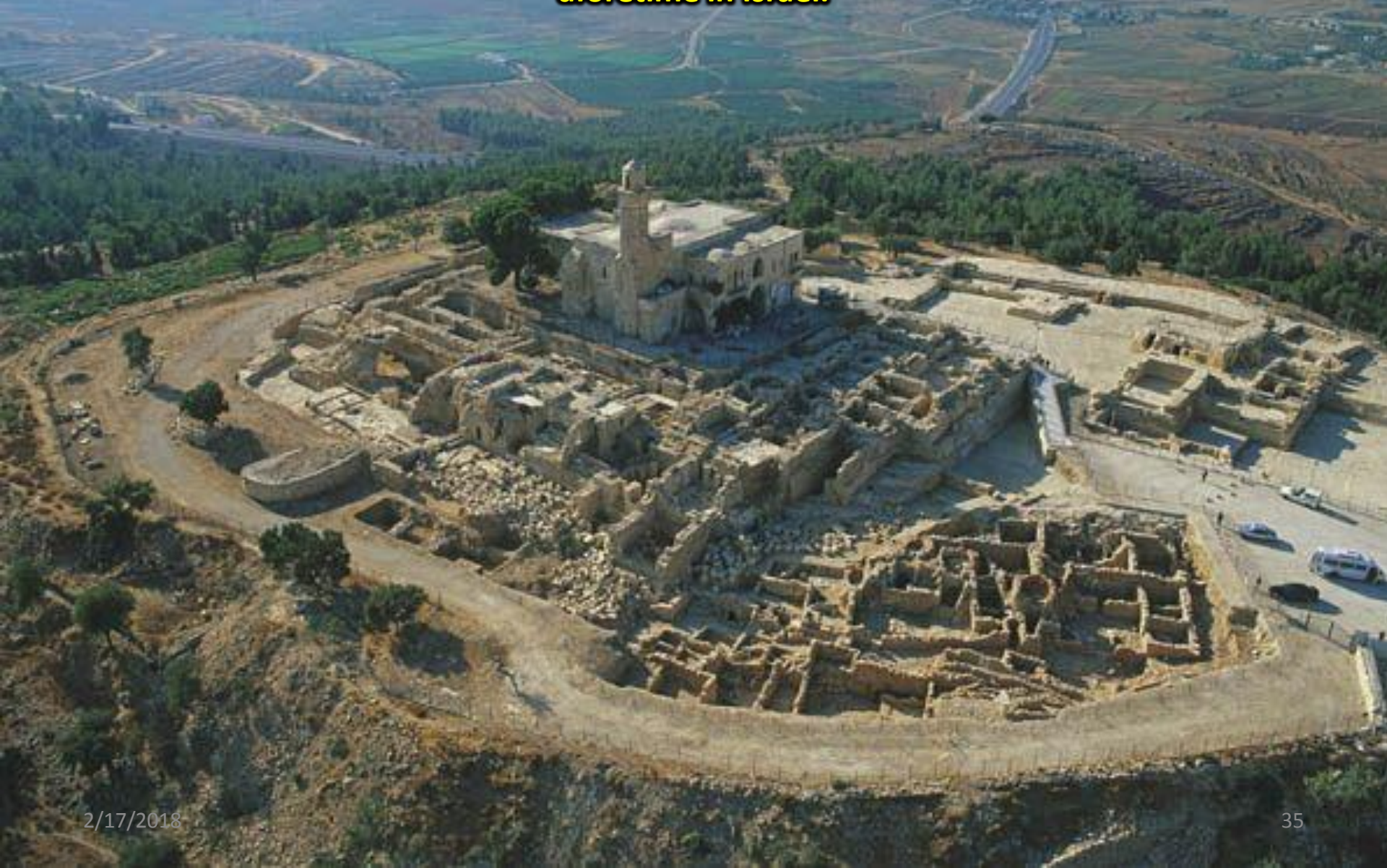
A person wearing a dark, short-sleeved shirt is shown from the side, looking down at a wet, reflective surface. The surface is covered in water droplets and streaks, suggesting it has been recently rained on. The background is dark and blurry, with vertical streaks of light that could be rain falling. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

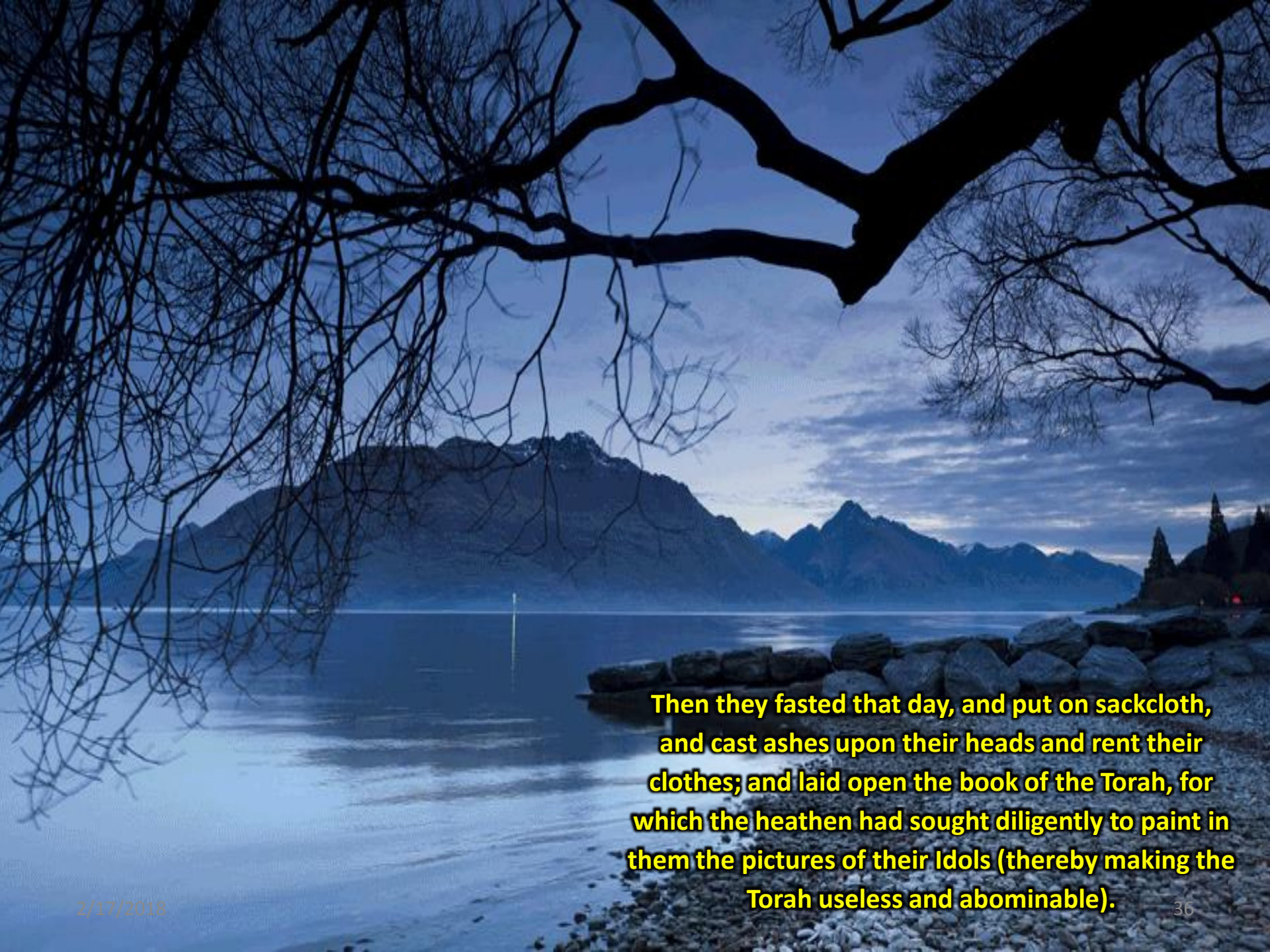
**Then was the congregation gathered together,
that they might be ready for battle and that
they might pray, and ask mercy and
compassion.**

A wide, deep, and rugged canyon with a waterfall on the left side, under a cloudy sky. The canyon walls are steep and layered, showing signs of erosion. The water in the waterfall is a light brown color, matching the surrounding earth. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

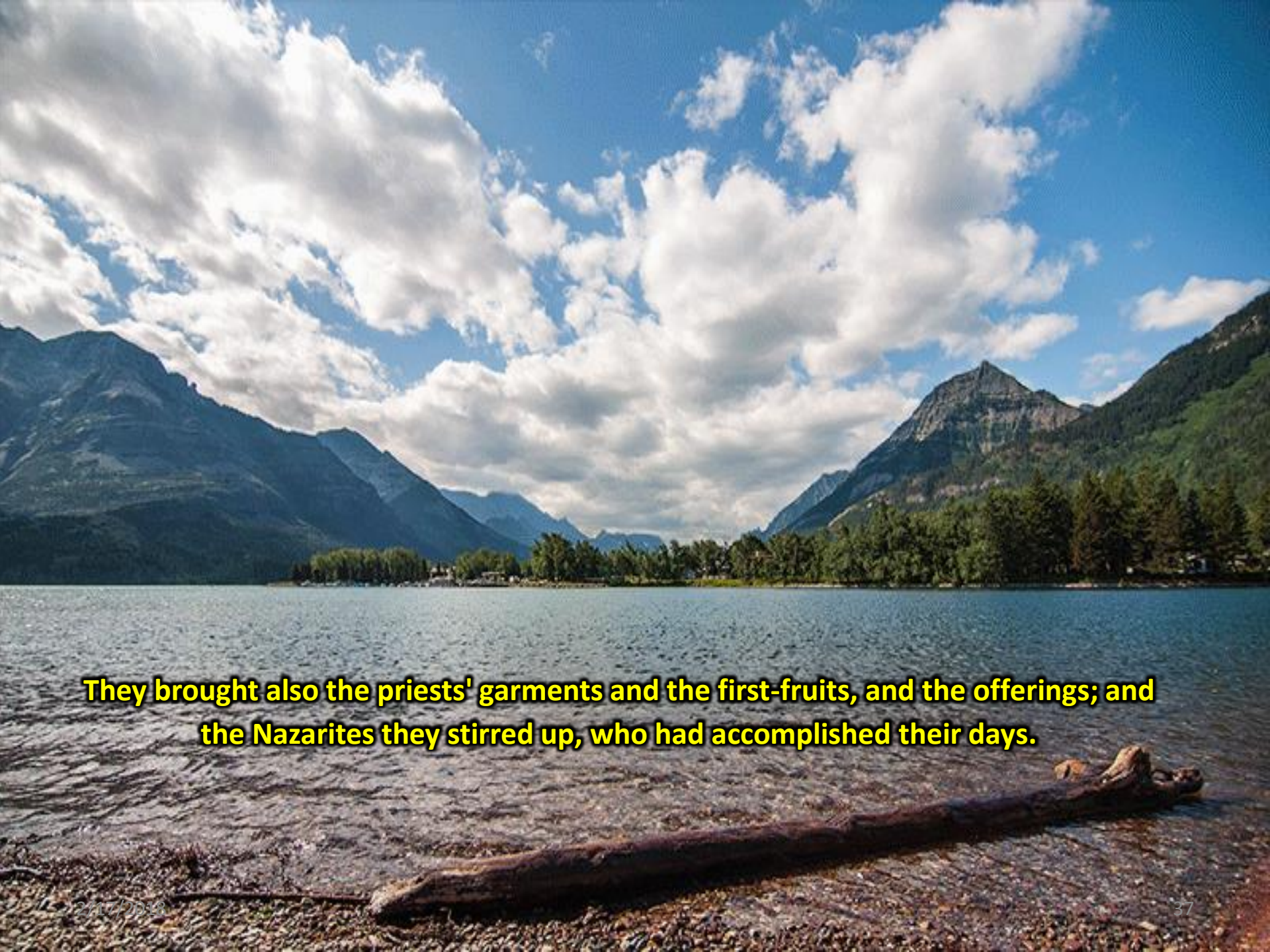
Now Jerusalem was uninhabited as a wilderness, there was none of her children that went in or out: the sanctuary also was trodden down, and aliens kept the stronghold: the heathen had their habitation in that place, and joy was taken away from Jacob, and the pipe and the harp ceased.

Wherefore the Israelites assembled themselves together, and came to Maspha (Mitspah), over against Jerusalem; for in Maspha was the place where they prayed aforetime in Israel.





Then they fasted that day, and put on sackcloth, and cast ashes upon their heads and rent their clothes; and laid open the book of the Torah, for which the heathen had sought diligently to paint in them the pictures of their Idols (thereby making the Torah useless and abominable).



They brought also the priests' garments and the first-fruits, and the offerings; and the Nazarites they stirred up, who had accomplished their days.



Keele
group

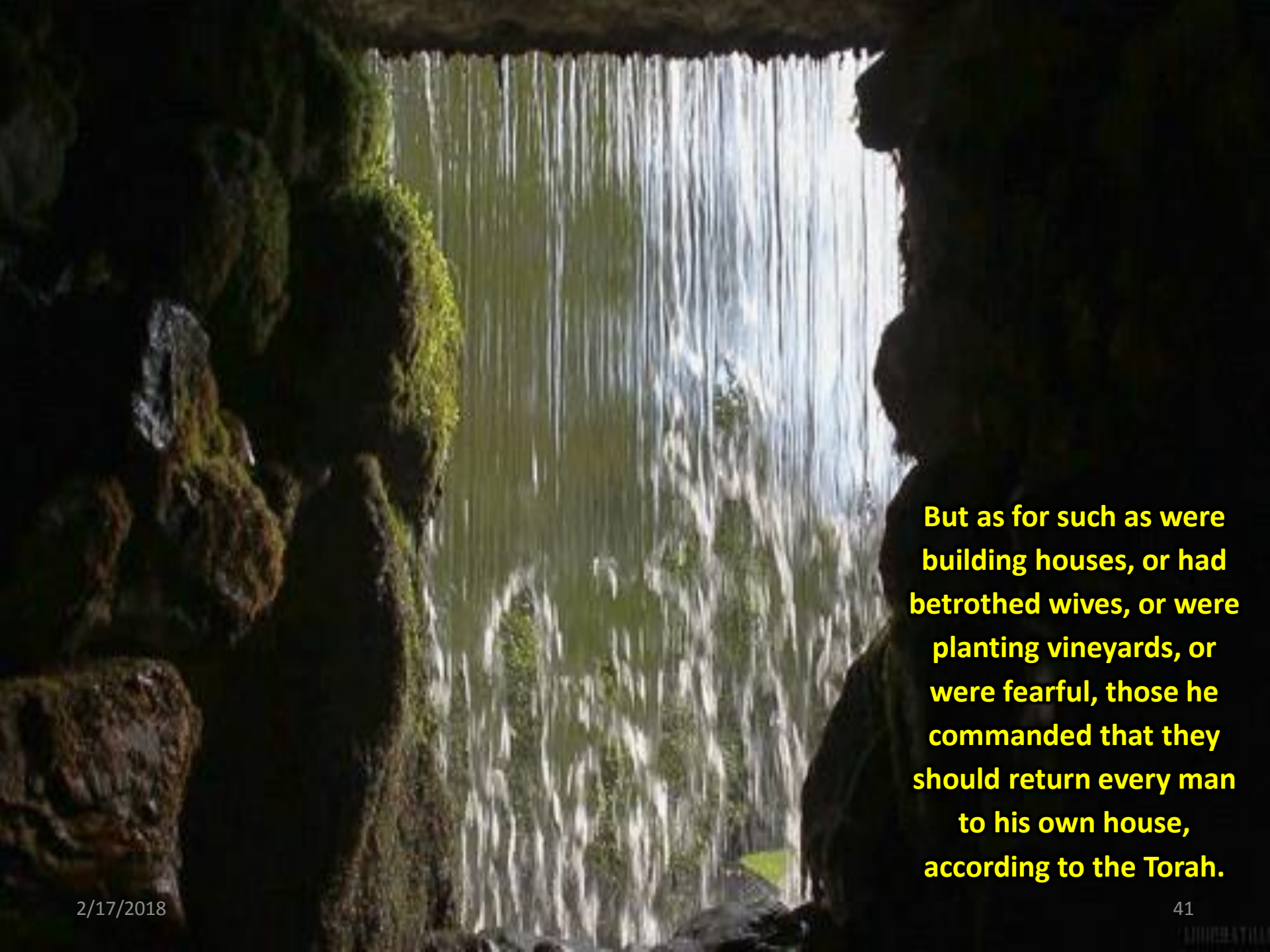
Then they cried with a loud voice toward heaven, saying, “What shall we do with these and whither shall we carry them away, for your sanctuary is trodden down and profaned, and your priests are in heaviness and brought low”.



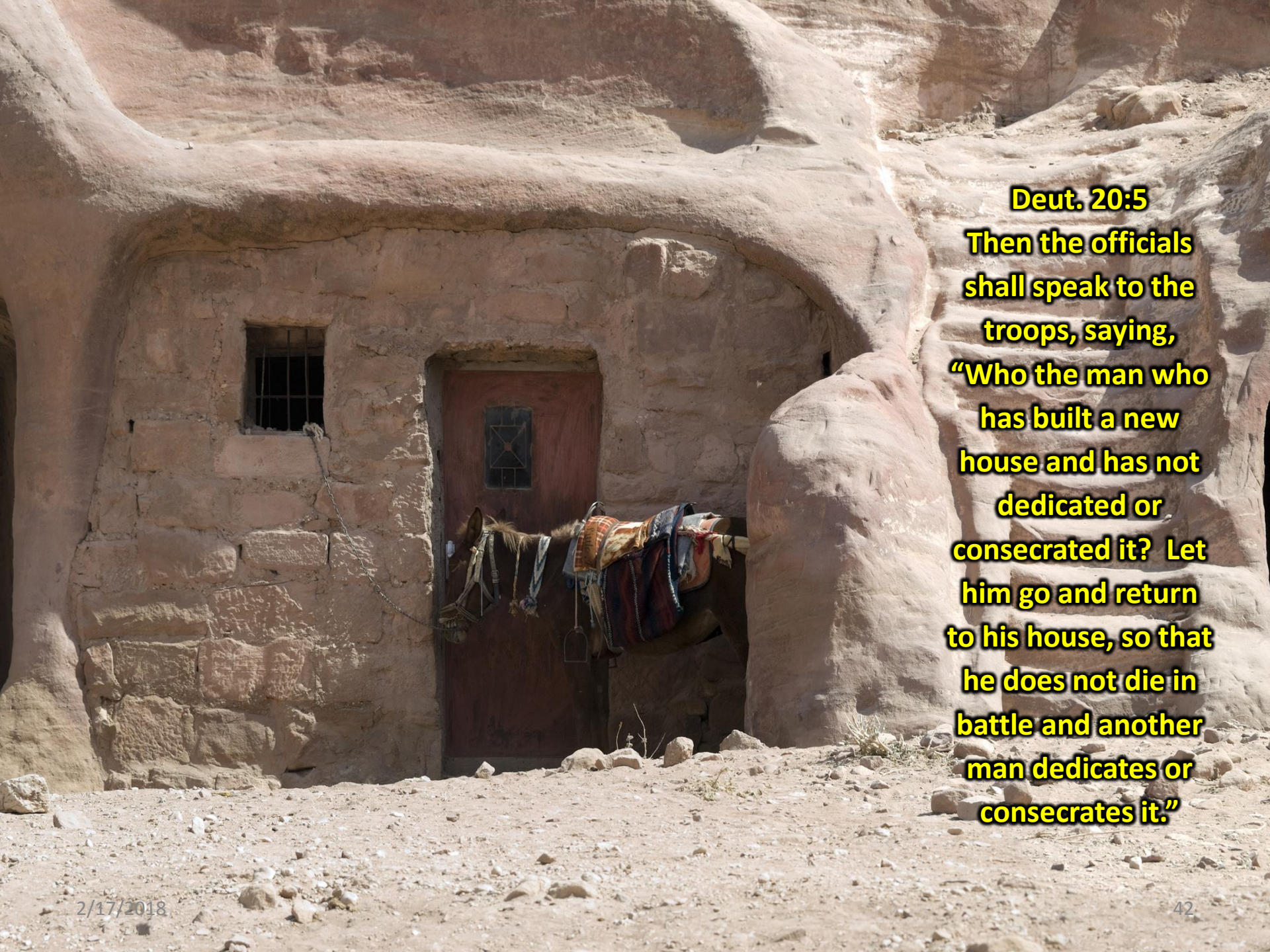
“And lo, the heathen are assembled together against us to destroy us: what things they imagine against us, You know. How shall we be able to stand against them, except you, O Yah, be our help?”



Then sounded they with trumpets, and cried with a loud voice. And after this, Judas ordained captains over the people, even captains over thousands, and over hundreds, and over fifties, and over tens.



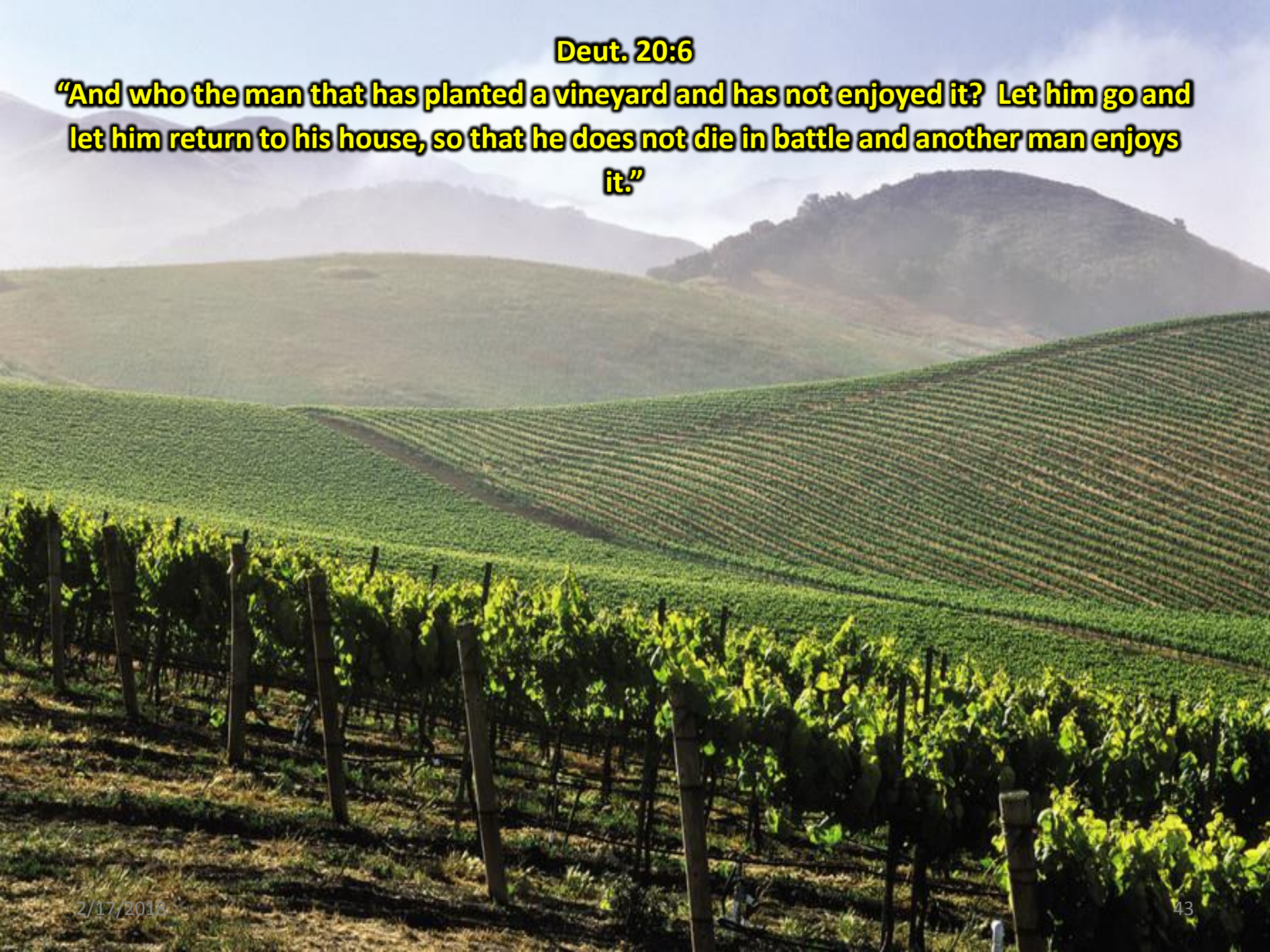
But as for such as were building houses, or had betrothed wives, or were planting vineyards, or were fearful, those he commanded that they should return every man to his own house, according to the Torah.



Deut. 20:5
Then the officials shall speak to the troops, saying, "Who the man who has built a new house and has not dedicated or consecrated it? Let him go and return to his house, so that he does not die in battle and another man dedicates or consecrates it."

Deut. 20:6

“And who the man that has planted a vineyard and has not enjoyed it? Let him go and let him return to his house, so that he does not die in battle and another man enjoys it.”



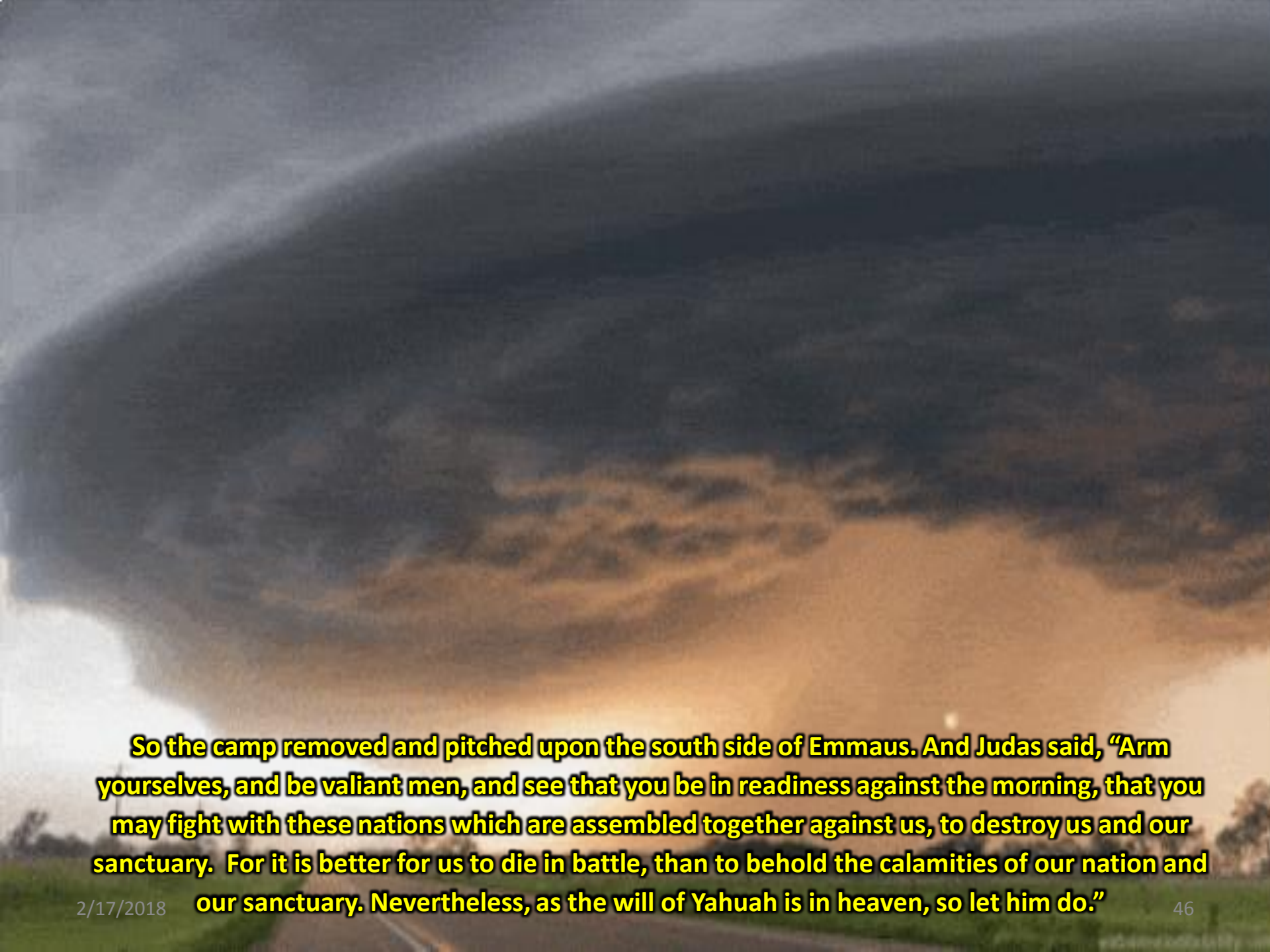
Deut. 20:7

“And who the man who got engaged to a woman and has not married her? Let him go and let him return to his house, so that he does not die in battle and another man marries her.”



Deut. 20:8

And the officials shall continue to speak to the troops, and they shall say, “What man is afraid and disheartened? Let him go, and let him return to his house, and let him not cause the heart of this brothers to melt like his.”



So the camp removed and pitched upon the south side of Emmaus. And Judas said, “Arm yourselves, and be valiant men, and see that you be in readiness against the morning, that you may fight with these nations which are assembled together against us, to destroy us and our sanctuary. For it is better for us to die in battle, than to behold the calamities of our nation and our sanctuary. Nevertheless, as the will of Yahuah is in heaven, so let him do.”

**NEXT UP – PART 3 OF
THE 2ND BOOK OF
MACCABEES**



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