


2ND BOOK OF MACCABEES – PT 4

Judas – called Maccabaeus, the son
takes over!

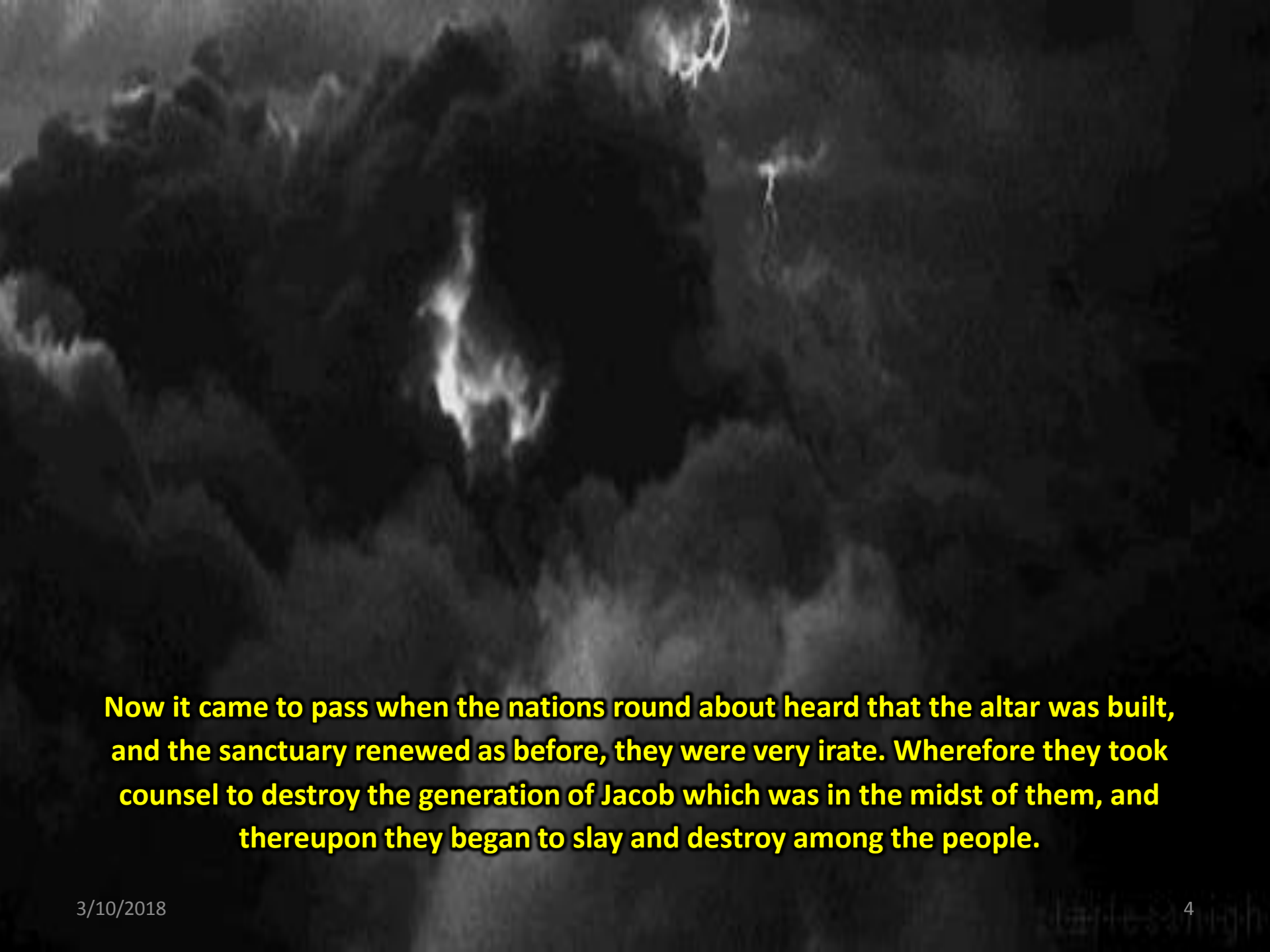


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Previously, in pt. 3 – nope they didn't survive the MACC attack. Judas succeeded in taking back the Temple, cleaning it up, and then they ordained the "days of dedication" (the festival of lights) for 8 days. Oddly though, there was no miracle of the oil, turns out Hanukkah is even more of a man's tradition than we thought by taking out the real reason for this rededication of the temple, which was the defeat of the heathen with the help of YAHUAH.



A dark, stormy sky with lightning bolts striking down. The lightning is bright white and jagged, contrasting sharply with the dark, swirling clouds. The overall mood is ominous and dramatic.


Now it came to pass when the nations round about heard that the altar was built, and the sanctuary renewed as before, they were very irate. Wherefore they took counsel to destroy the generation of Jacob which was in the midst of them, and thereupon they began to slay and destroy among the people.



Then Judas fought against the children of Esau, in Idumaea, at Acrabattine (Joshua called Akrabbim) because they besieged Israel; and he gave them a great overthrow, and brought them down, and took their spoils.

Also he remembered the injury of the children of Baean (an Idumaen chief) who had been a snare and a stumbling block unto the people, in that they lay in wait for them in the ways.






And they were shut up by him in the towers, and he encamped against them, and destroyed them utterly, and burnt the towers of that place with fire, with all those who were therein. Afterwards he passed over to the children of Amnion, where he found a mighty power, and much people, with Timotheus their captain.

So he fought many battles with them, and they were discomfited before his face; and he smote them. And when he had taken Jazer (a city north of Aroer), and the towns belonging thereto, he returned into Judaea.





Then the heathen who were in Galaad (Gilead, eastward of the Jordan River) assembled themselves together against the Israelites who were in their quarters, to destroy them; but they fled to the fortress of Dathema (a fortress in the land of Gilead); and sent letters unto Judas and his brethren, "The heathen who are round about us are assembled together against us, to destroy us. And they are preparing to come and take the fortress whereunto we are fled, Timotheus being captain of their host."

Gilead

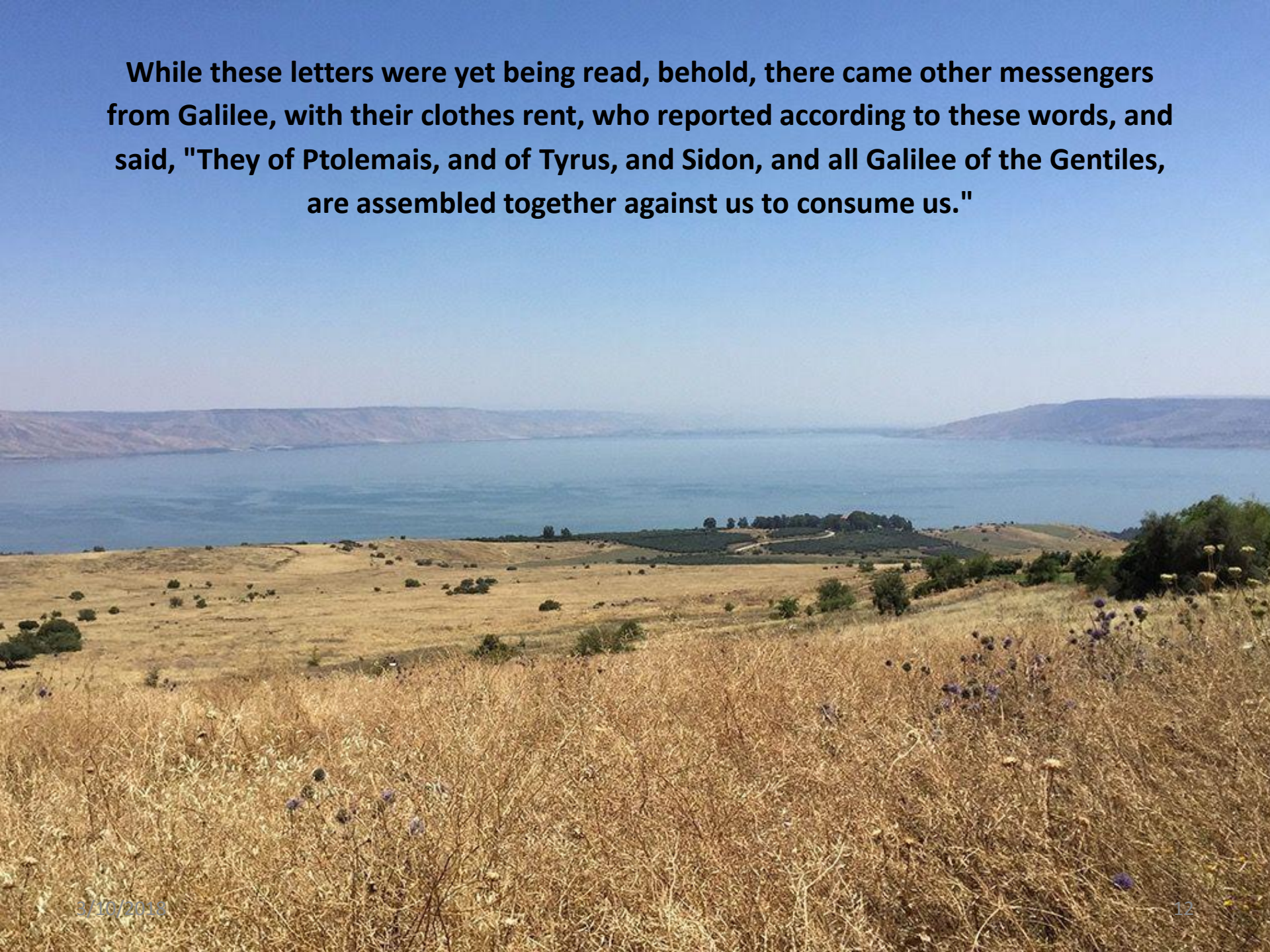
Also known as Galaad

- In the bible Gilead is an idyllic section of the land of the Hebrews, a mountainous region east of Jordan.
- In Hebrew the name means "heap of stones"
- MA probably referring to Jeremiah 8:22; "Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?"
- One Old Testament reference which Gilead chooses not to include occurs in Hosea 6:8 'Gilead is a city of wicked men, with footprints of blood.' (Look for omissions and misinterpretations throughout the text)



"Come now therefore and deliver us from their hands, for many of us are slain. Yea, all our brothers who were in the places of Tobie, are put to death: their wives and their children also they have carried away captives, and borne away their stuff, and they have destroyed there about a thousand men."

While these letters were yet being read, behold, there came other messengers from Galilee, with their clothes rent, who reported according to these words, and said, "They of Ptolemais, and of Tyrus, and Sidon, and all Galilee of the Gentiles, are assembled together against us to consume us."



Now when Judas and the people heard these words, there assembled a great congregation together, to consult what they should do for their brothers who were in trouble, and assaulted by them.



Gilead

Gilead is also known as Galaad.

Mediterranean Sea



Then said Judas to Simon his brother, choose your men, and go and deliver your brothers who are in Galilee; but I and Jonathan will go into the country of Galaad. So he left Joseph the son of Zacharias and Azarias, captains of the people, with the remnant of the host in Judaea, to keep it.

And he gave them a commandment, saying, "Take charge of the people, and make no war against the heathen, until the time that we come again."

* The tribe of Levi, as the priesthood, were distributed throughout the other tribes.

3/10/2018

Palestine Under the Maccabees

No. 2

Approximate
Scale of Miles

0 15 30

Mediterranean
Sea

PHOENICIA

GAULANITIS

GALILEE

GALAADITIS

SAMARIA

JUDEA

IDUMEA

Jerusalem

Samaris

DEAD SEA

NABATEANS

Now to Simon were given three thousand men to go into Galilee, and to Judas eight thousand men for the country of Galaad. Then Simon went into Galilee, where he fought many battles with the heathen, and the heathen were discomfited before his face.

And he pursued them to the gate of Ptolemais; and there were slain of the heathen about three thousand men, whose spoils he took.



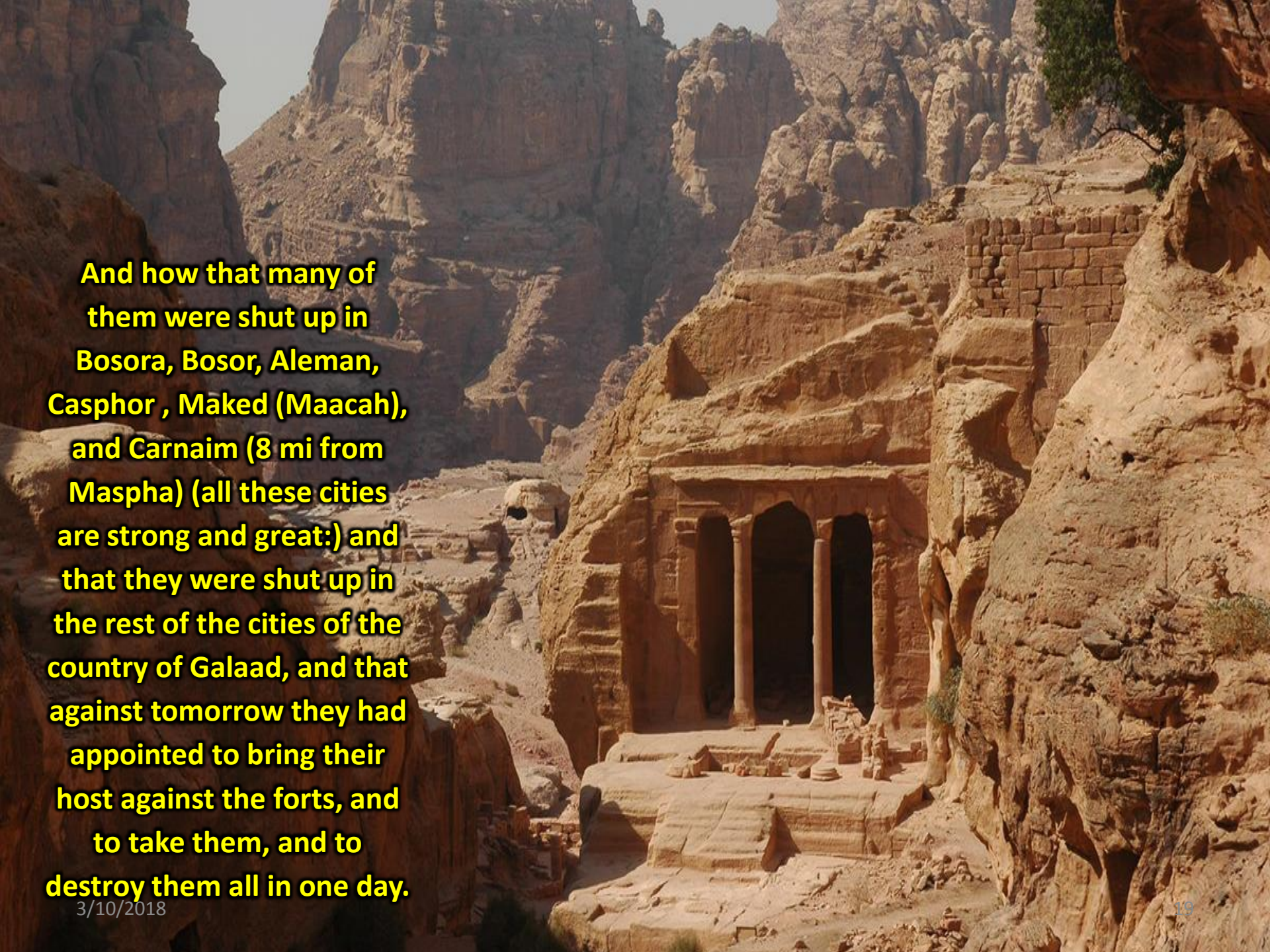
Galilee of the Gentiles



**And those who were in Galilee,
and in Arbatta (a city in Galilee),
with their wives and their
children, and all which they had,
he took away with him, and
brought them into Judaea with
great joy.**

The Nabatean capital Petra

Judas Maccabeus and his brother Jonathan went over Jordan, and travelled three days journey into the wilderness; where they met with the Nabatheans (These were Arabians, some of the ancient Edomites, descended from Nebaioth, eldest son of Ishmael), who came unto them in a peaceable manner, and told them everything which had happened to their brethren in the land of Gilead:



And how that many of them were shut up in Bosora, Bosor, Aleman, Casphor , Maked (Maacah), and Carnaim (8 mi from Maspha) (all these cities are strong and great:) and that they were shut up in the rest of the cities of the country of Galaad, and that against tomorrow they had appointed to bring their host against the forts, and to take them, and to destroy them all in one day.

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Hereupon Judas and his host turned suddenly by the way of the wilderness unto Bosor; and he won the city, and slew all the males with the edge of the sword, and took all their spoils, and burnt the city with fire. From whence he removed by night, and went till he came to the fortress (Dathema).

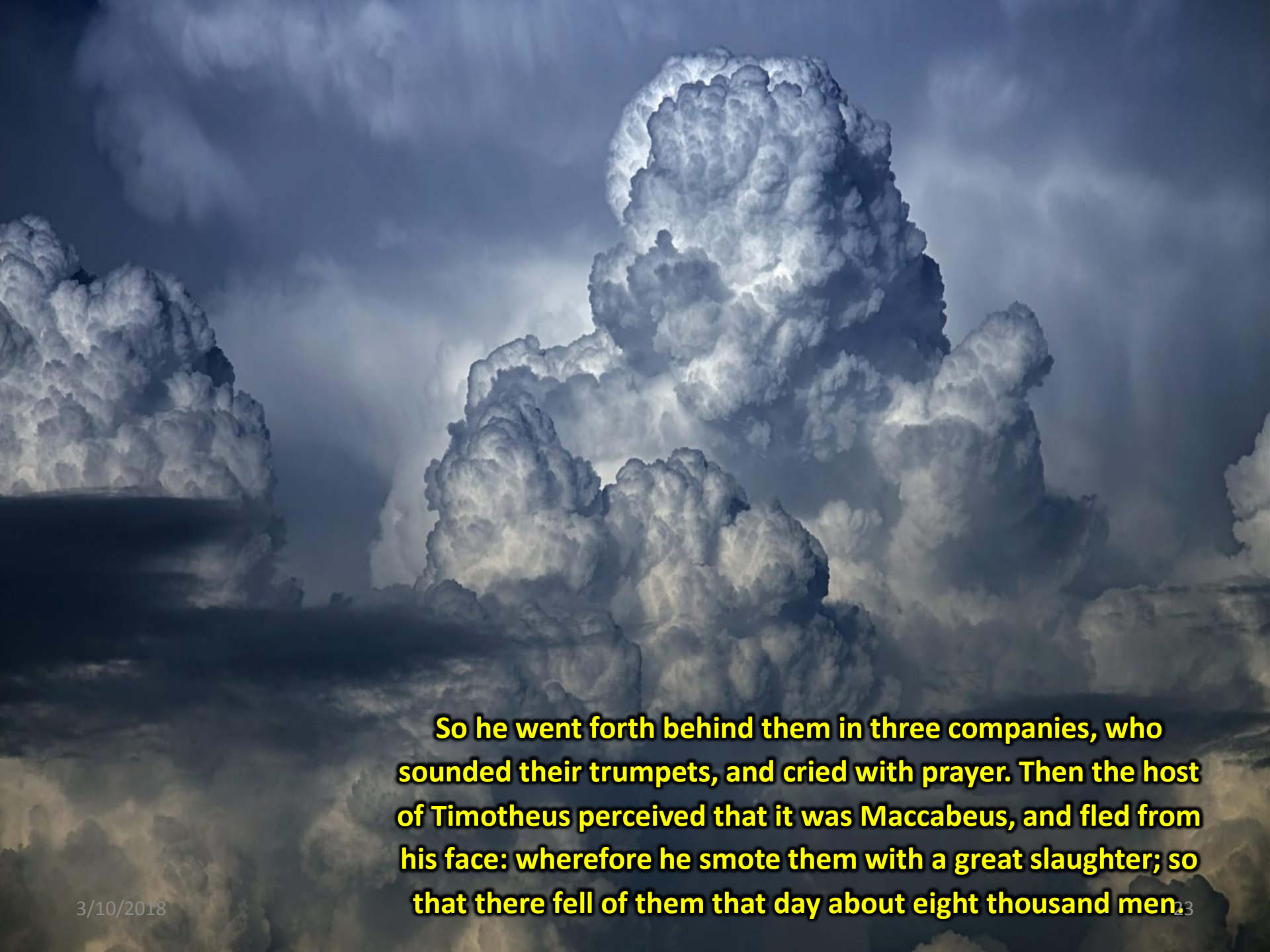


And in the morning they lifted up their eyes, and behold, there was an innumerable people bearing ladders, and other engines of war to take the fortress, and they assaulted them.



JERUSALEM SKY With TRUMPET SOUNDS

When Judas therefore saw that the battle was begun, and that the cry of the city went up to heaven, with trumpets, and a great sound; he said unto his host, “Fight this day for your brothers.”



So he went forth behind them in three companies, who sounded their trumpets, and cried with prayer. Then the host of Timotheus perceived that it was Maccabeus, and fled from his face: wherefore he smote them with a great slaughter; so that there fell of them that day about eight thousand men.²³

Land of Palestine under the Maccabees


- Judea, 166 B.C.
- Conquests, 134 B.C.
- Total Maccabean conquests, 76 B.C.
- Major Roads



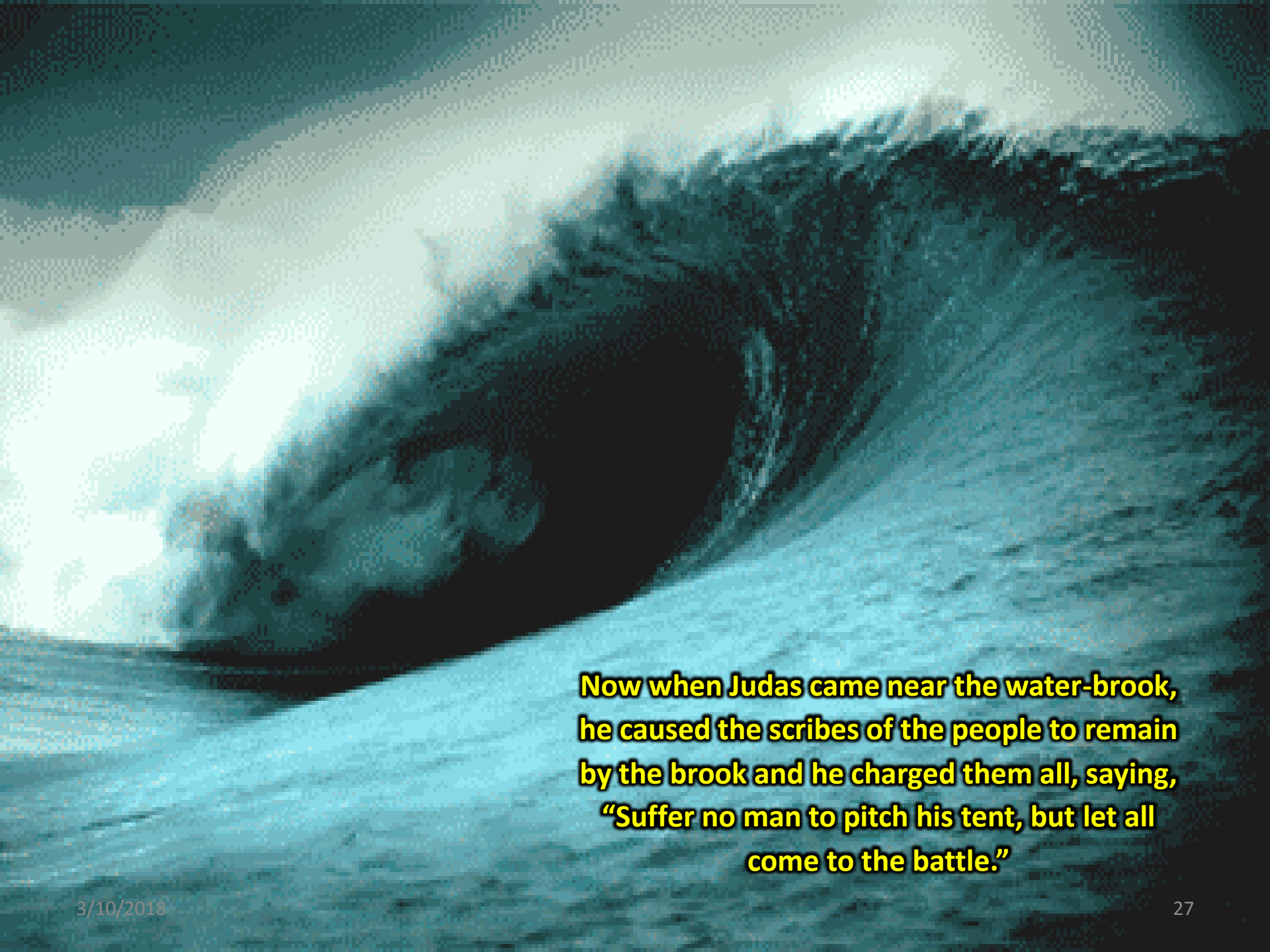
This done, Judas turned aside to Maspha (Mizpah); and he assaulted it, and took it, and slew all the males therein, and gathered the spoils thereof, and burnt it with fire. From thence went he and took Casphon, Maked, Bosor, and the other cities of the country of Gilead.



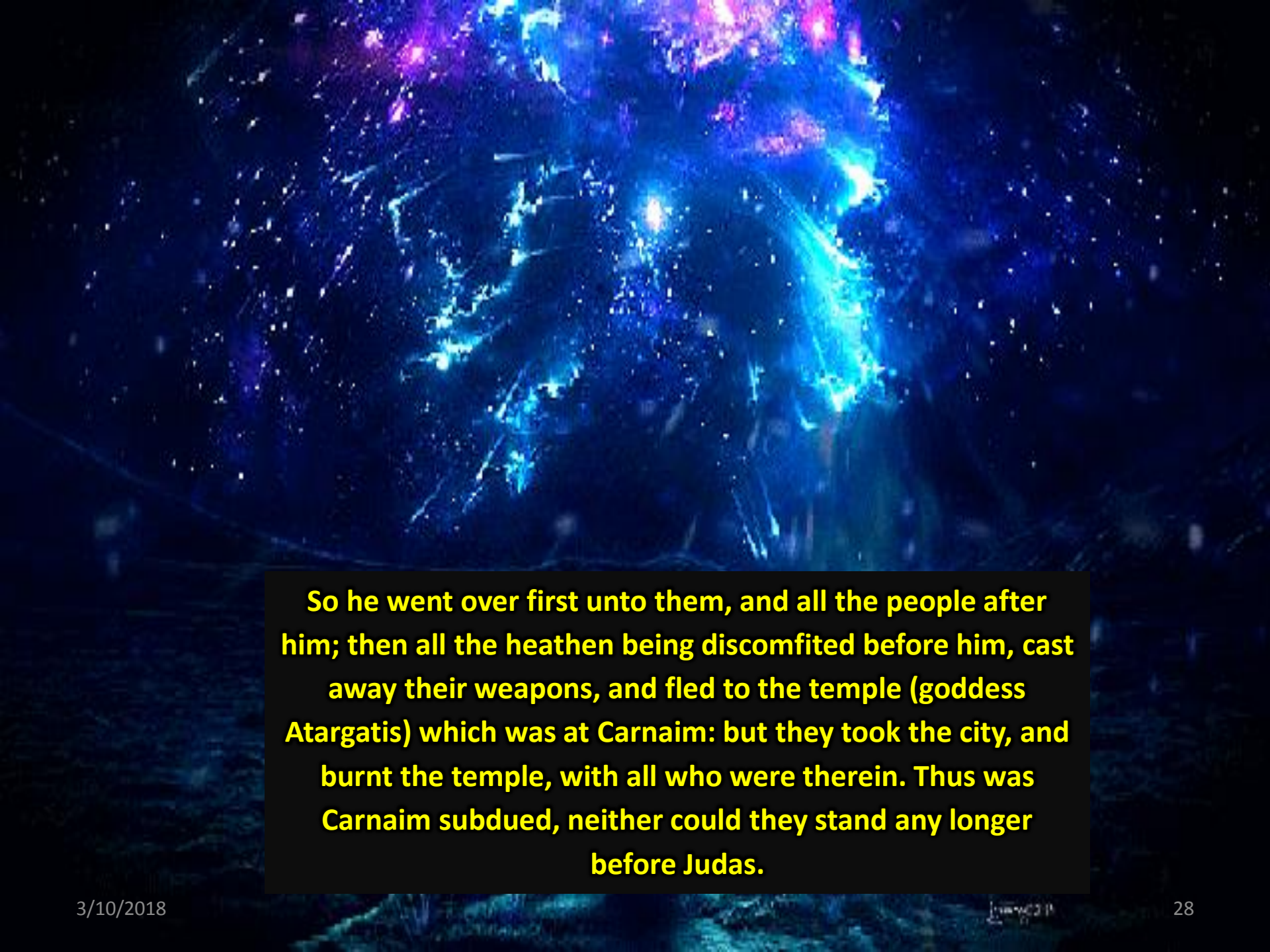
After these things Timotheus gathered another host, and encamped before Raphon beyond the brook. So Judas sent men to spy on the host, who brought him word, saying, “All the heathen which are round about us are assembled unto them, even a very great host. He has also hired the Arabians to help them, and they have pitched their tents beyond the brook, ready to come and fight against you.” Upon this Judas went to meet them.



Then Timotheus said unto the captains of his host, “When Judas and his host come near the water-brook, if he pass over first unto us, we shall not be able to withstand him: for he will mightily prevail against us. But if he be afraid, and camp beyond the river, we shall go over unto him, and prevail against him.

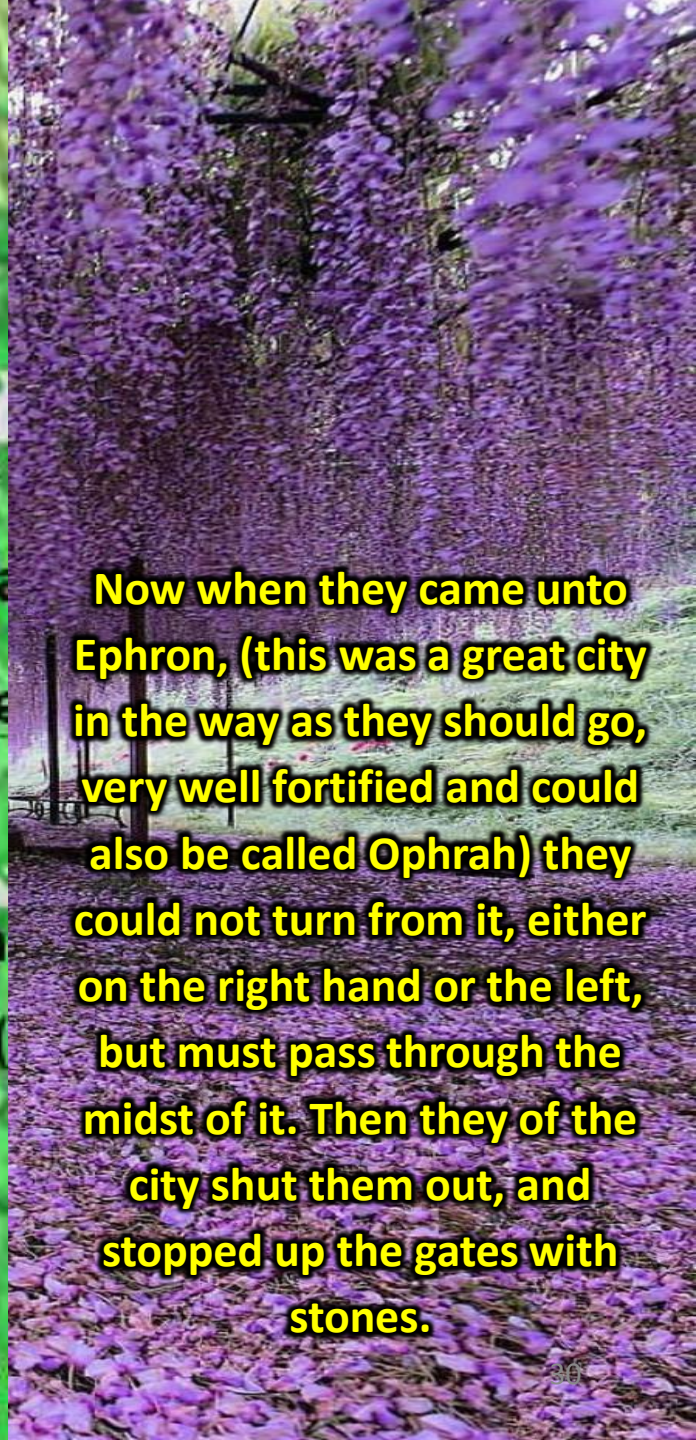


Now when Judas came near the water-brook, he caused the scribes of the people to remain by the brook and he charged them all, saying, "Suffer no man to pitch his tent, but let all come to the battle."



So he went over first unto them, and all the people after him; then all the heathen being discomfited before him, cast away their weapons, and fled to the temple (goddess Atargatis) which was at Carnaim: but they took the city, and burnt the temple, with all who were therein. Thus was Carnaim subdued, neither could they stand any longer before Judas.


Then Judas gathered together all the Israelites who were in the country of Gilead, from the least to the greatest, even their wives and their children, and their stuff, a very great host, to the end they might come into the land of Judah.



Now when they came unto Ephron, (this was a great city in the way as they should go, very well fortified and could also be called Ophrah) they could not turn from it, either on the right hand or the left, but must pass through the midst of it. Then they of the city shut them out, and stopped up the gates with stones.



Whereupon Judas sent unto them with peaceable words, saying, “We will pass through your land to go into our own country, and none shall do you any hurt; we will only pass through on foot”: however, they would not open unto him. Wherefore Judas commanded a proclamation to be made throughout the host, that every man should pitch his tent in the place where he

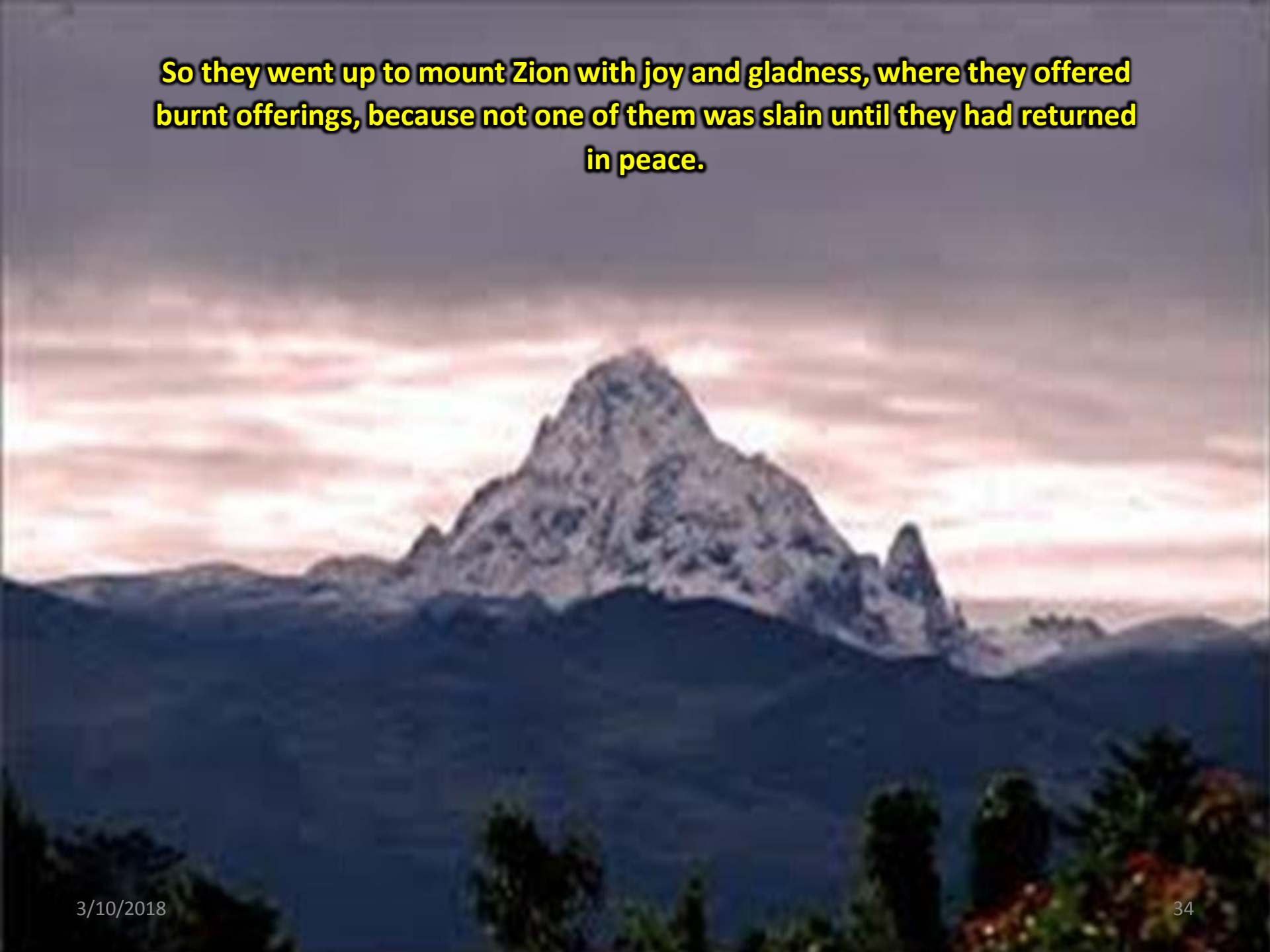
A yellow tent is pitched on a dark, textured surface. A long, thin wooden pole leans against the left side of the tent. The tent has a simple, conical shape with a dark opening at the front. The background is a dark, mottled blue-grey color.

So the soldiers pitched, and assaulted the city all that day and all that night, till at the length the city was delivered into their hands: and they slew all the males with the edge of the sword, and razed the city, and took the spoils thereof, and passed through the city, over them which were slain.

And they passed over Jordan, into the great plain before Bethsan. And Judas was gathering together those who were hindmost, and exhorting the people all the way through, till they came into the land of Judah.



So they went up to mount Zion with joy and gladness, where they offered burnt offerings, because not one of them was slain until they had returned in peace.




Now during the time Judas and Jonathan were in the land of Galaad, and Simon his brother in Galilee before Ptolemais; Joseph, the son of Zacharias, and Azarias, captains of the army, heard of the valiant acts and warlike deeds which they had done.



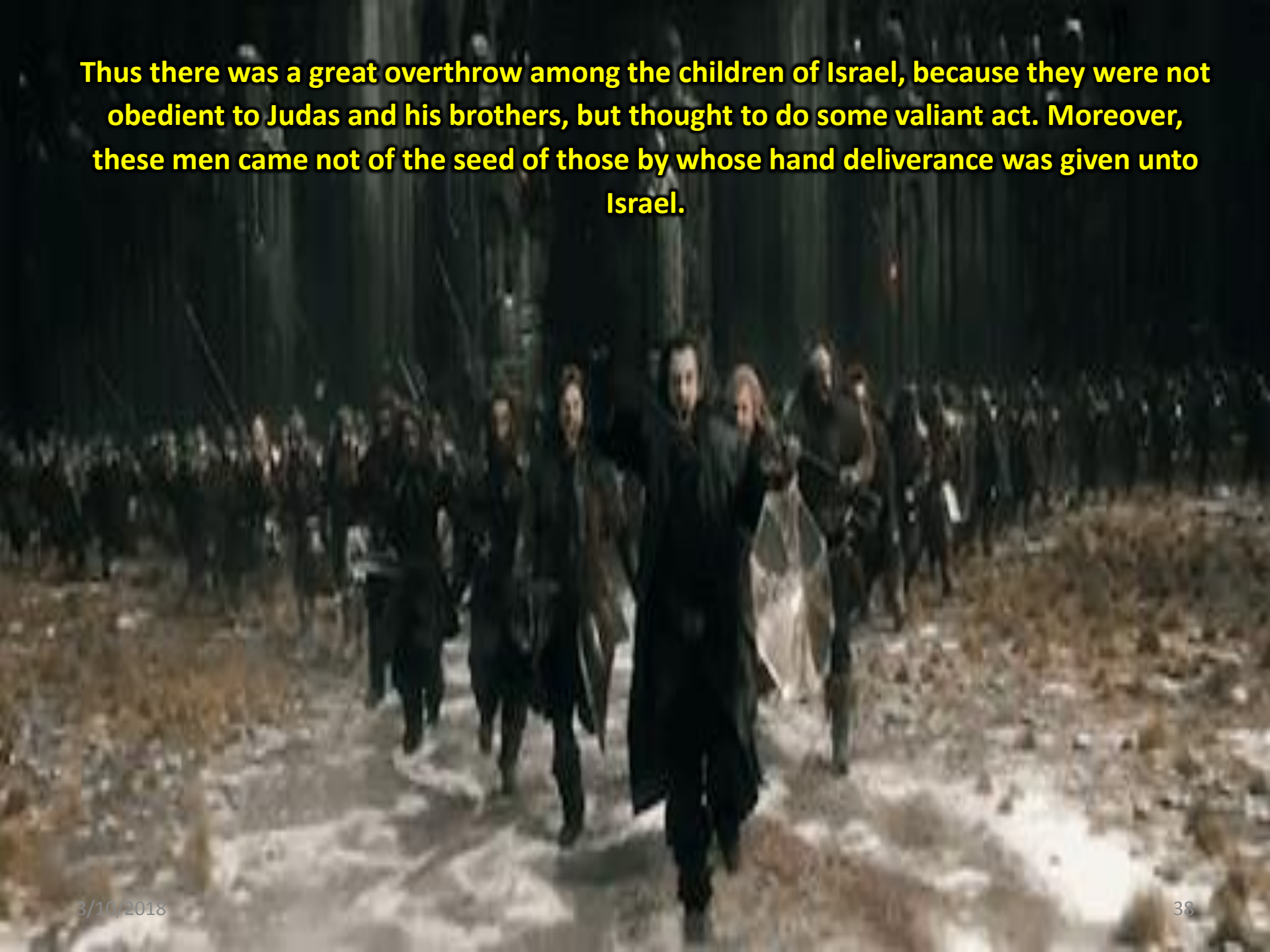


Wherefore they said, “Let us also get us a name, and go fight against the heathen who are round about us.” So when they had given charge unto the army which was with them, they went towards Jamnia.

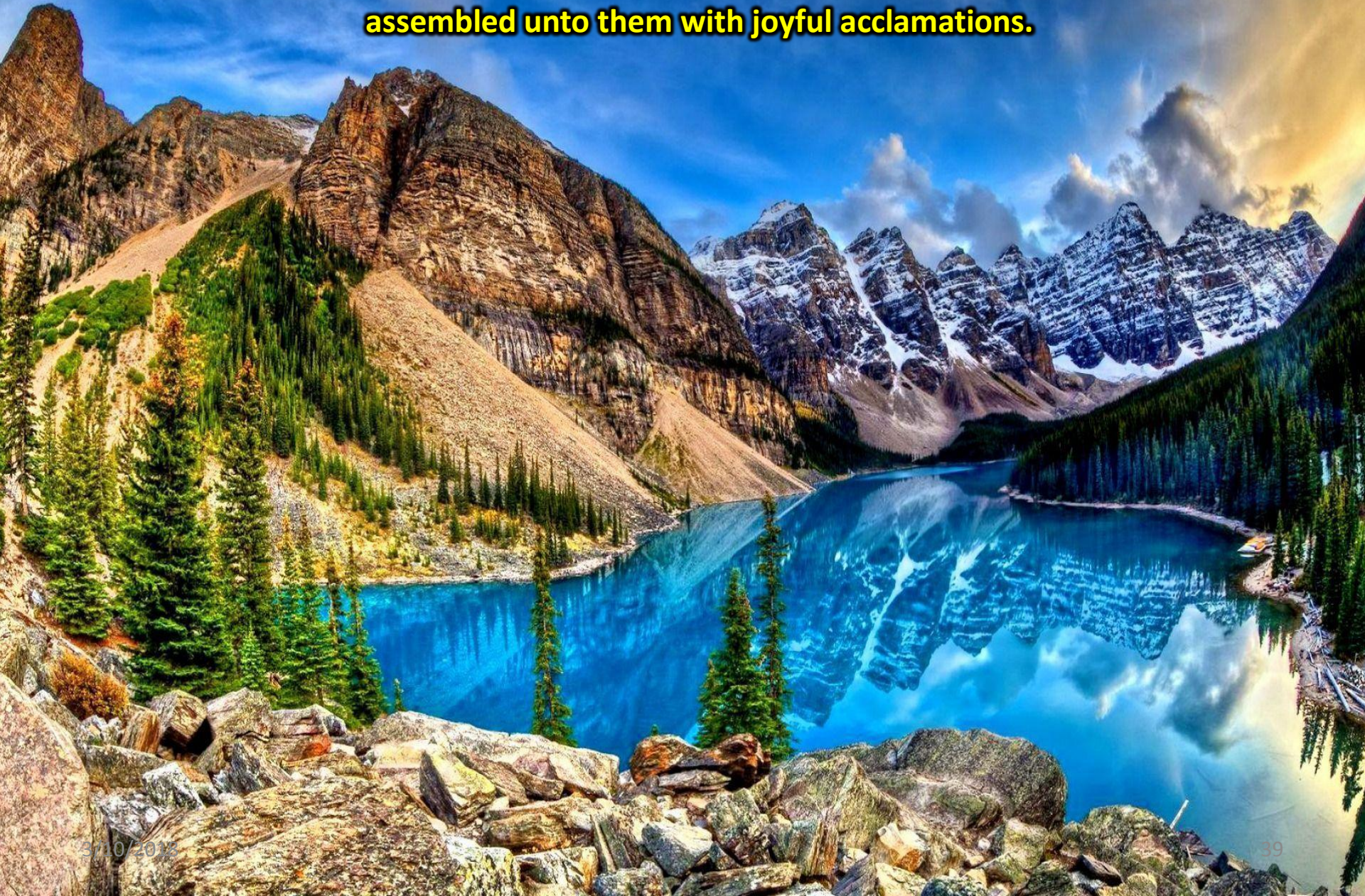


Then Gorgias and his men came out of the city to meet them in battle. And so it was that Joseph and Azarias were put to flight, and pursued unto the borders of Judaea: and there were slain that day of the people of Israel, about two thousand men.

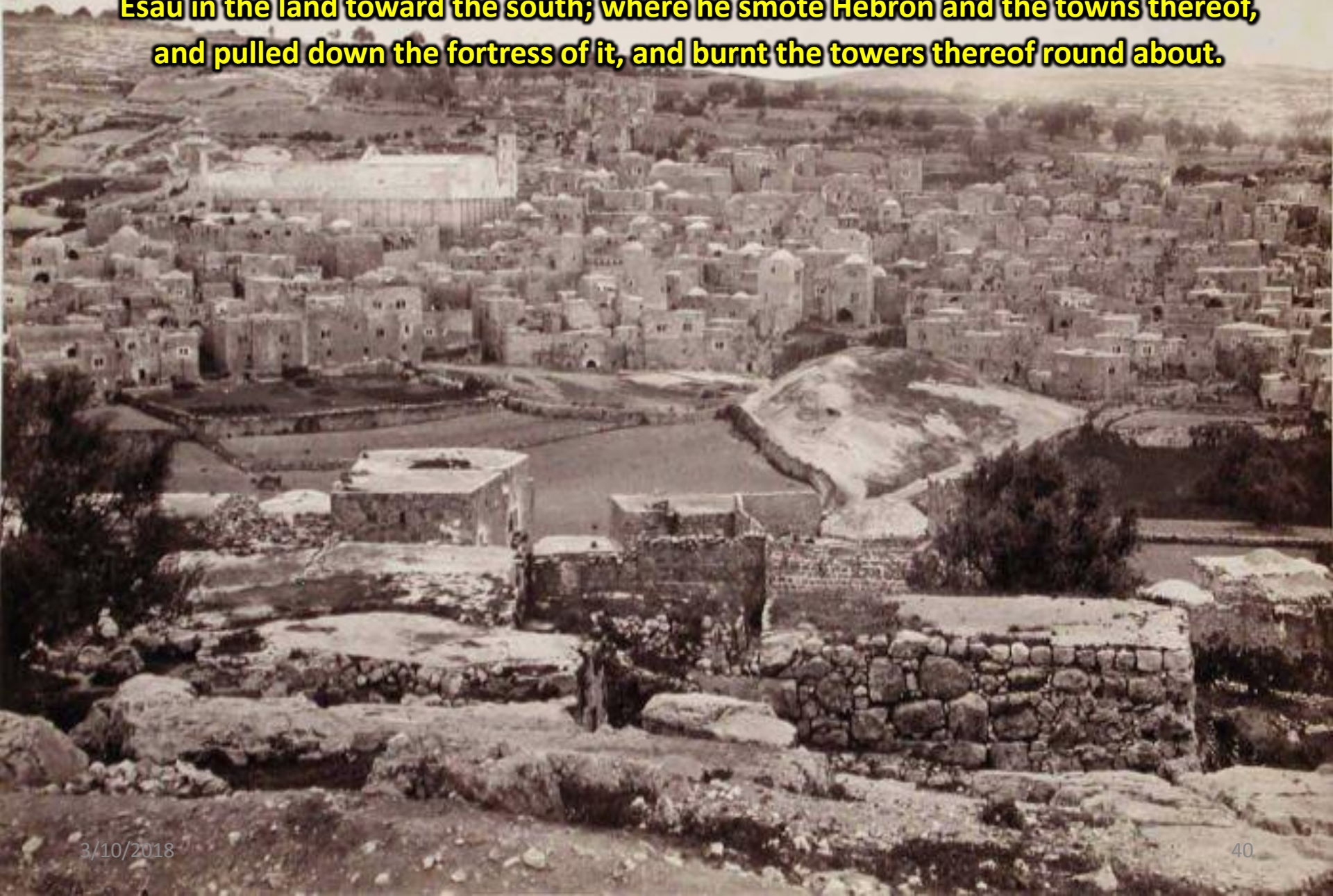
Thus there was a great overthrow among the children of Israel, because they were not obedient to Judas and his brothers, but thought to do some valiant act. Moreover, these men came not of the seed of those by whose hand deliverance was given unto Israel.

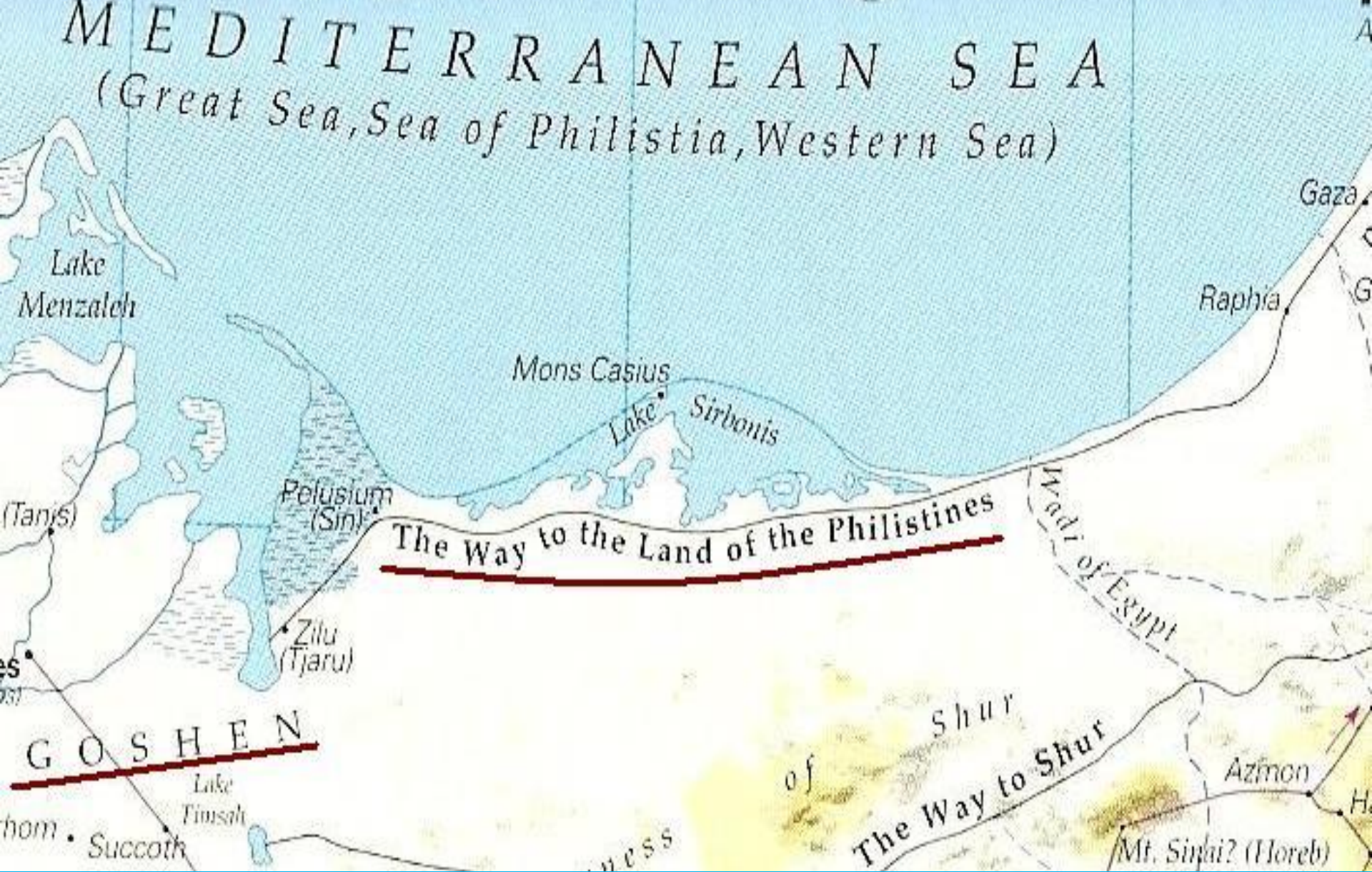


And the man Judas and his brothers were greatly renowned in the sight of all Israel, and of all the heathen wherever their name was heard, insomuch that the people assembled unto them with joyful acclamations.



Afterward Judas went forth with his brothers, and fought against the children of Esau in the land toward the south; where he smote Hebron and the towns thereof, and pulled down the fortress of it, and burnt the towers thereof round about.





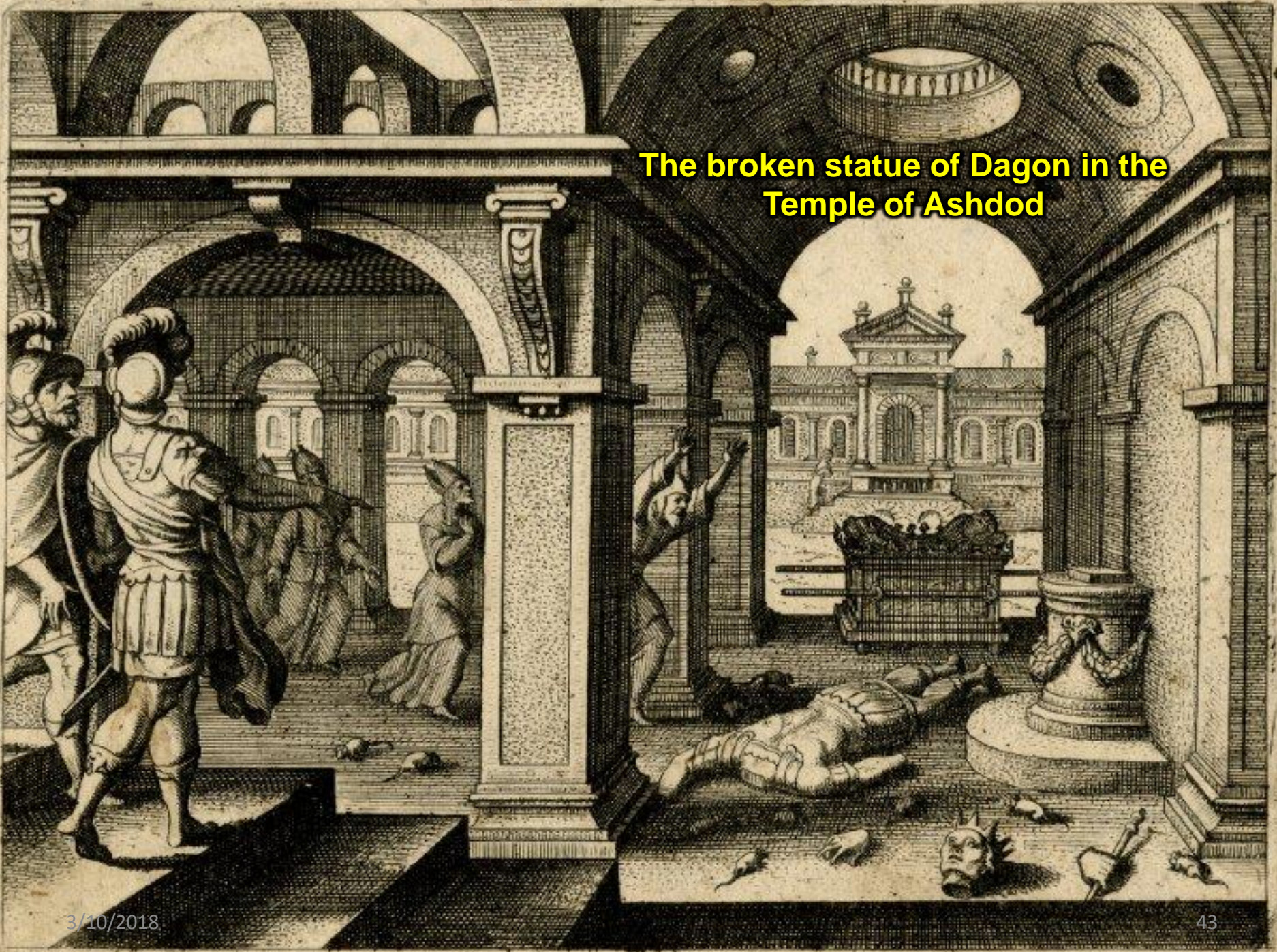
From thence he removed to go into the land of the Philistines, and passed through Samaria. At that time certain priests, desirous to show their valour, were slain in battle, for that they went out to fight unadvisedly.



So Judas turned aside to Azotus (Ashdod) in the land of the Philistines; and when he had pulled down their altars, and burnt the carved images of their gods with fire, and spoiled their cities, he returned into the land of Judah.



**The broken statue of Dagon in the
Temple of Ashdod**



Dagon is particularly the god of the Philistines



**Dagon was a national god of the Philistines;
the meaning of the name is abundant
propagation, fish**

Once again proving that Yahuah is stronger than rock, stick and stone idols. As Yahuah did in the Exodus, with EliYAHU and the Maccabees, Yahuah created it, he can destroy it!!

**NEXT UP – PART 5 OF
THE 2ND BOOK OF
MACCABEES**



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