



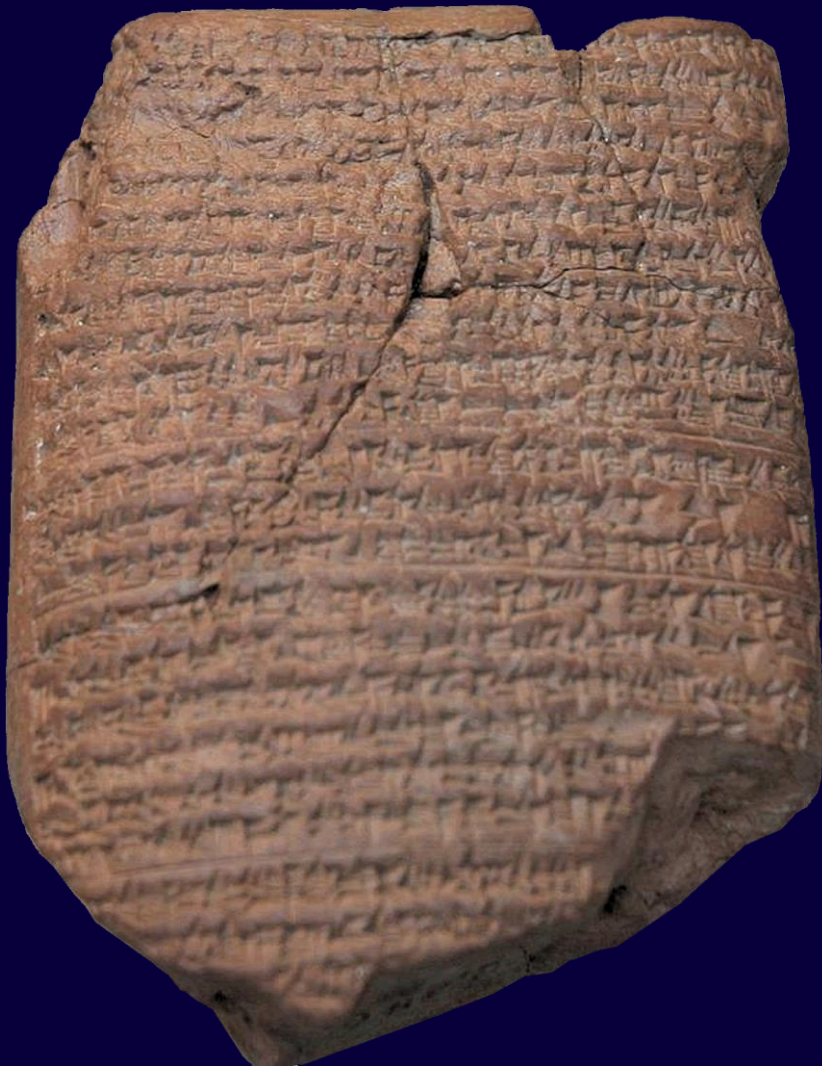
WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT

2021
SESSION
4

MICRV. SALOM.

LAMENTATIONS





JERUSALEM CHRONICLE

The events in this book are mentioned in the chronicles of the early years of Nebuchadnezzar (shown left), also called the “Jerusalem Chronicle”. The siege is described in 2 Kings 24:10–16.

THE
LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH

CHAPTER I

How doth the city sit solitary,
that was full of people!
How is she become as a widow,
that was in the midst of the nations,
and princess among the provinces,
how is she become tributary!
She weepeth sore in the night,
and her tears are on her cheeks:
She hath none comforter:
all her lovers have treacherously forsaken her,
her enemies have gone into captivity before her:
and because of great affliction,
she dwelleth among the heathen,
and findeth no rest:
all her persecutors have gathered together against her,
and have compassed her about as a city that is besieged.

4 The ways of Zi'ōn do mourn,
because none come to the solemn feasts:
her gates are desolate:
her priests are afflicted,
and she is in bitterness.
5 Her adversaries are the chief,
her enemies prosper;
for the multitude of her transgressions,
she is departed:
her beauty is gone.
6 And from the daughter of Zī'ōn all her beauty is departed:
her princes are become like harts that find no pasture,
and they are gone remembered in the days of her affliction and of her misery:
all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old,
when her people were found in the midst of the land,
and the captain of the host, who brought them to the king of Bāb'ŷ-lon to Rib'lah.
32 And he did change the diet, the continual diet given him of Bāb'ŷ-lon, every day a portion of his life.
33 And he changed bread before him, and brought him out of the king's palace, that he might go to the king of Bāb'ŷ-lon.
34 And he did change the diet, the continual diet given him of Bāb'ŷ-lon, every day a portion of his life.

Jeremiah – Chosen by God, Rejected by Men

He proclaimed an unpalatable warning for forty years: this world, this Kingdom, this comfortable way of life is coming to an end!



'Jeremiah Lamenting the
Destruction of Jerusalem'
by Rembrandt, 1630.

Example 2 – The Five Hymns of Lament

A

Chapter 1: The prophet dwells on the manifold miseries oppressed by which the city sits as a solitary widow weeping sorely.

B

Chapter 2: These miseries are described in connection with the national sins that had caused them.

C

- A. Sins of Jerusalem
- B. Wrath of the LORD
- C. Glimpse of hope

Chapter 3: Speaks of hope for the people of God. The chastisement would only be for their good; a better day would dawn for them.

B'

Chapter 4: Laments the ruin and desolation that had come upon the city and temple, but traces it only to the people's sins.

A'

Chapter 5: A prayer that Zion's reproach may be taken away in the repentance and recovery of the people.

Lamentations

A Chapter 1: The cause of Judah's trouble is sin, specifically idolatry

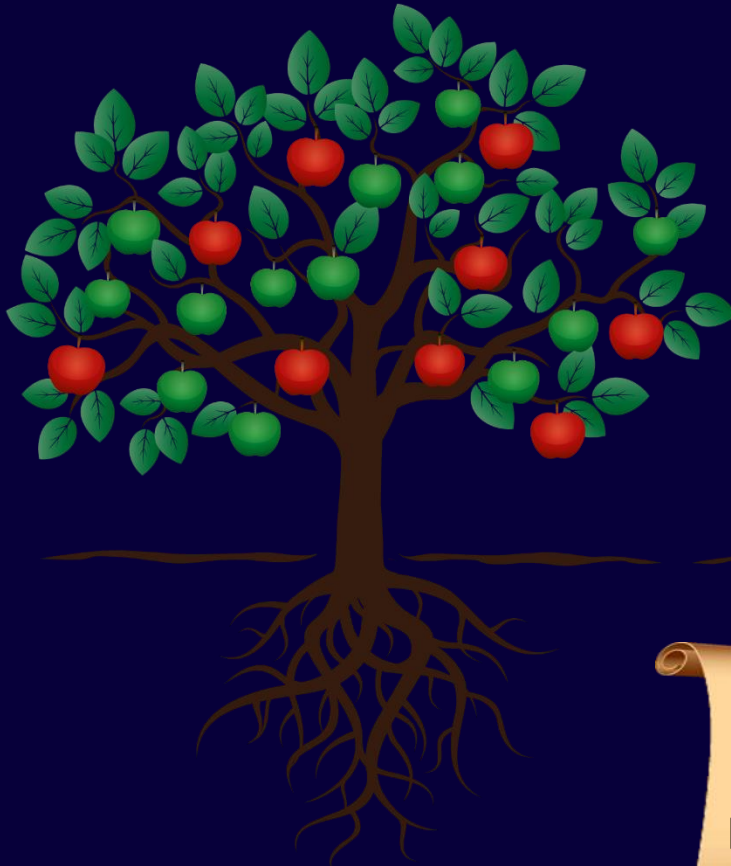
B Chapter 2: The result of their idolatry is the destruction of the nation

**C Chapter 3: Mercy and Grace
(the main point of the book)**

B' Chapter 4: The result of their idolatry is the destruction of the nation

A' Chapter 5: The cause of Judah's trouble is sin, specifically idolatry

Parallels with Deuteronomy



She dwells among
the nations; she finds
no resting place.
(Lam. 1:3)

Lamentations

Deuteronomy

Among those nations you will
find no repose, no resting
place for the sole of your foot.
(Deut. 28:65)

Choosing Sides

The consequences God ordains for those who obey and disobey him

Deuteronomy 28

Curses for Disobedience

Cursed in the city and country
Infertile women
Destroyed crops
Infertile livestock
Scarce bread and grain
Cursed coming in and going out
Defeated by enemies
Ridiculed by other nations
Filled with fear and despair
Powder and dust instead of rain
Borrow from other nations rather than lend
Be the tail and not the head
Afflicted with many diseases

Blessings for Obedience

Blessed in the city and country
Fertile women
Plentiful crops
Fertile livestock
Abundant bread and grain
Blessed coming in and going out
Defeat enemies
Established as God's holy people
Feared by other nations
Plentiful rain
Lend to other nations rather than than borrow
Be the head and not the tail





Outline

Jerusalem's Devastation

(Lamentations 1)

- Jeremiah's Sorrow (1:1–11)
- Jerusalem's Sorrow (1:12–22)

The Lord's Anger Explained

(Lamentations 2)

- The LORD'S Perspective (2:1–10)
- A Human Perspective (2:11–19)
- Jeremiah's Prayer (2:20–22)

Jeremiah's Griefs Expressed

(Lamentations 3)

- Jeremiah's Distress (3:1–20)
- Jeremiah's Hope (3:21–38)
- Jeremiah's Counsel/Prayer (3:39–66)

God's Wrath Detailed

(Lamentations 4)

- For Jerusalem(4:1-20).
- For Edom (4:21-22).

The Remnant's Prayers

(Lamentations 5)

- To Be Remembered by the LORD (5:1-18).
- A plea to Be Restored by the LORD (5:19-22).

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MIERV. SALMO.

LAMENTATIONS



The story thus far

- Chapter 1. What happened

How lonely sits the city!
Judah has gone into exile.
O LORD, I am despised. Is any
sorrow like mine? There is
no one to comfort me.



The story thus far

- **Chapter 1. What happened**

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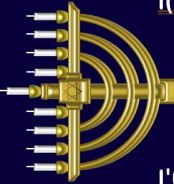


- **Chapter 2. Why it happened**

The LORD has not pitied
Jacob. He has abandoned his
sanctuary. Young and old lie
slaughtered in the streets.
My eyes fail with tears.



A(3:1-3)	3:1 I am a man who knows affliction from the rod of his anger, (3:1)
B(3:4-6)	3:4 He has worn away my flesh and my skin, he has broken my bones; (3:4)
C(3:7-9)	3:8 Even when I cry out for help, he stops my prayer; (3:8)
D(3:10-12)	3:10 A lurking bear he has been to me, a lion in ambush! (3:10)
E(3:13-15)	3:13 He pierces my sides with shafts from his quiver. (3:13)
F(3:16-18)	3:18 I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the LORD. (3:18)
G(3:19-21)	3:19 The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; (3:19)
H(3:22-24)	3:22 The favours of the LORD are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; (3:22)
I(3:25-27)	3:25 Good is the LORD to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; (3:25)
J(3:28-30)	3:28 Let him sit alone and in silence, when it is laid upon him. (3:28)
K(3:31-33)	3:31 For the Lord's rejection does not last forever; (3:31)
K'(3:34-6)	3:36 When he presses a crooked claim, the Lord does not look on unconcerned. (3:36)
J'(3:37-39)	3:38 Except it proceeds from the mouth of the <u>Most High</u> , whether good or bad! (3:38)
I'(3:40-42)	3:40 Let us search and examine our ways that we may return to the LORD! (3:40)
H'(3:43-45)	3:43 You veiled yourself in wrath and pursued us, you slew us and took no pity; (3:43)
G'(3:46-48)	3:48 My eyes run with streams of water over the downfall of the daughter of my people. (3:48)
F'(3:49-51)	3:50 Till the LORD from heaven looks down and sees. (3:50)
E'(3:52-54)	3:53 They struck me down alive in the <u>pit, and</u> sealed me in with a stone. (3:53)
D'(3:55-57)	3:55 I called upon your name, O LORD, from the bottom of the pit; (3:55)
C'(3:58-60)	3:59 You see, O LORD, how I am wronged; do me justice! (3:59)
B'(3:61-63)	3:61 You hear their insults, O LORD, (all their plots against me), (3:61)
A'(3:64-66)	3:66 Pursue them in wrath and destroy them from under your heavens! (3:66)



A: Anger.

B: Sufferings.

C: Wishing for salvation.

D: Predicament.

E: Attacks.

F: Waiting for salvation.

G: Sufferings.

H: Judgement.

I: Call on the LORD.

J: Endure hardships.

K: The LORD doesn't forsake.

Third Song



WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT

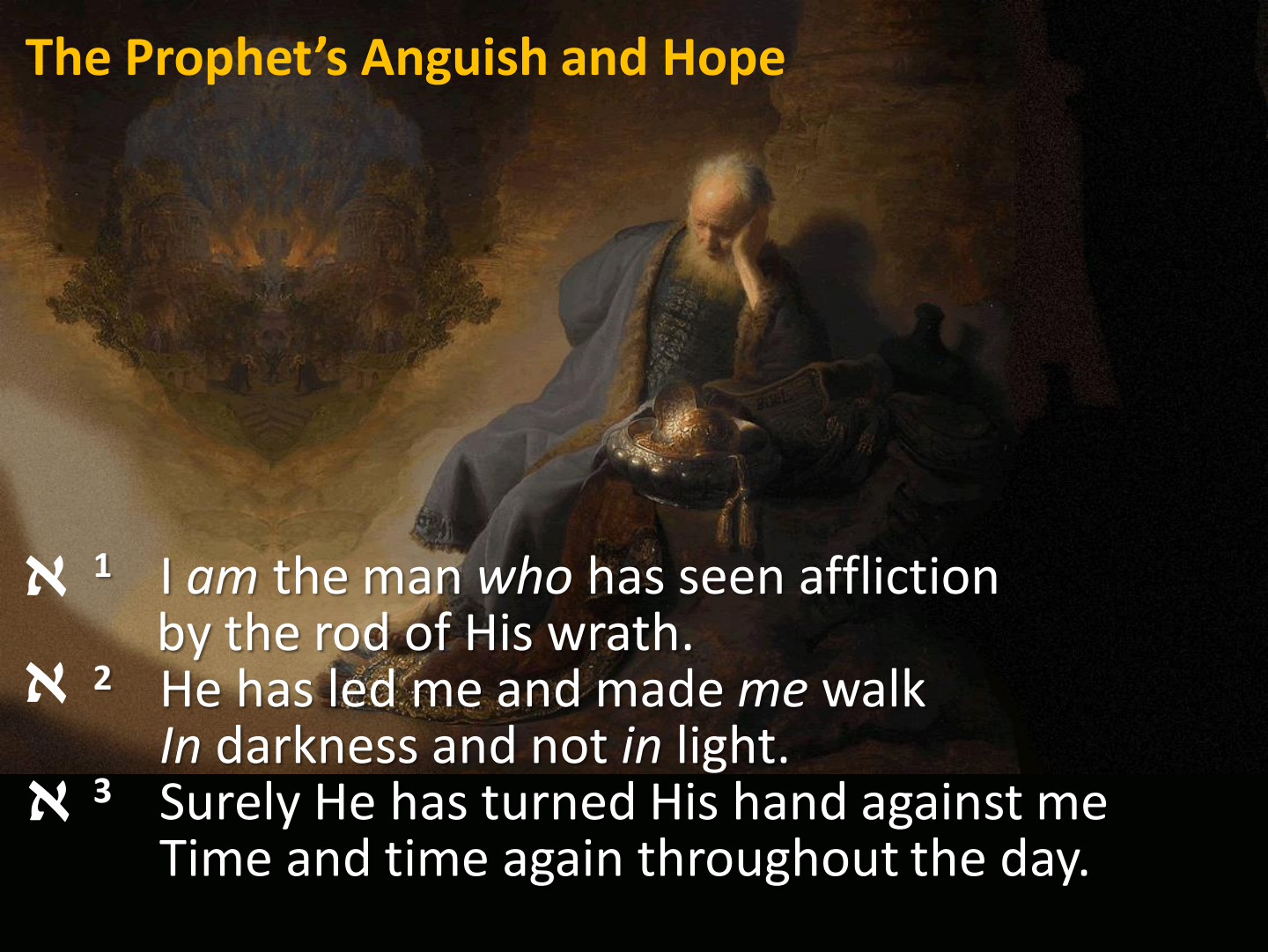
LAMENTATIONS

CHAPTER 3



How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,

The Prophet's Anguish and Hope



⌘ ¹ I *am* the man *who* has seen affliction
by the rod of His wrath.

⌘ ² He has led me and made *me* walk
In darkness and not *in* light.

⌘ ³ Surely He has turned His hand against me
Time and time again throughout the day.

“I am the man who has seen affliction...”



01

Brought about
by the LORD
who chose him

02

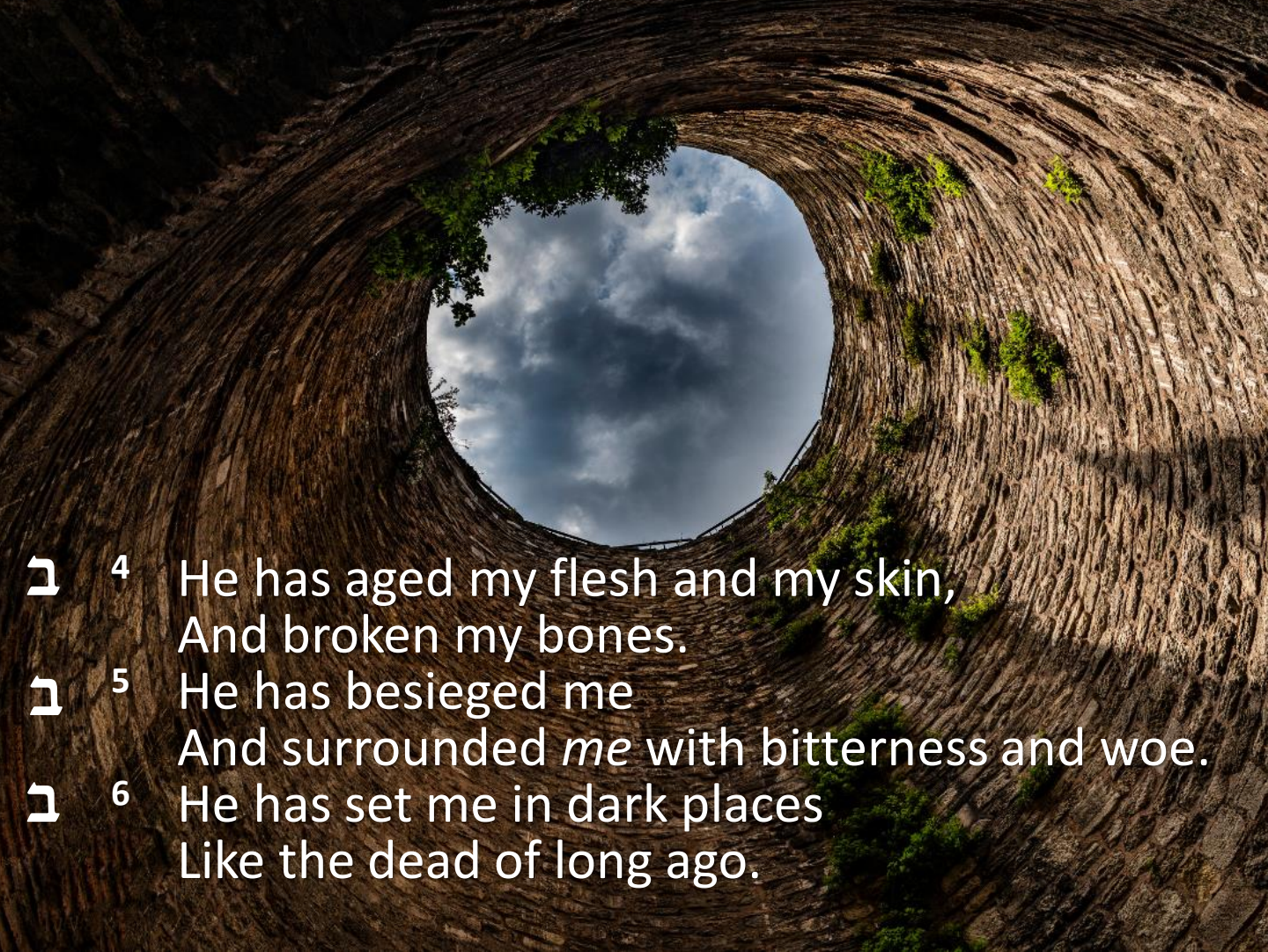
Brought about
by his own
people who
mistreated him

03

Brought about
by the enemies
of Zion.

A dramatic sunset over a body of water with numerous wooden posts sticking out of the water, reflecting the vibrant colors of the sky. The sky is filled with streaks of orange, yellow, and red, transitioning into a deep blue at the top. The water is dark, with the posts creating a rhythmic pattern across the frame. The text is overlaid in white, centered horizontally and positioned in the lower half of the image.

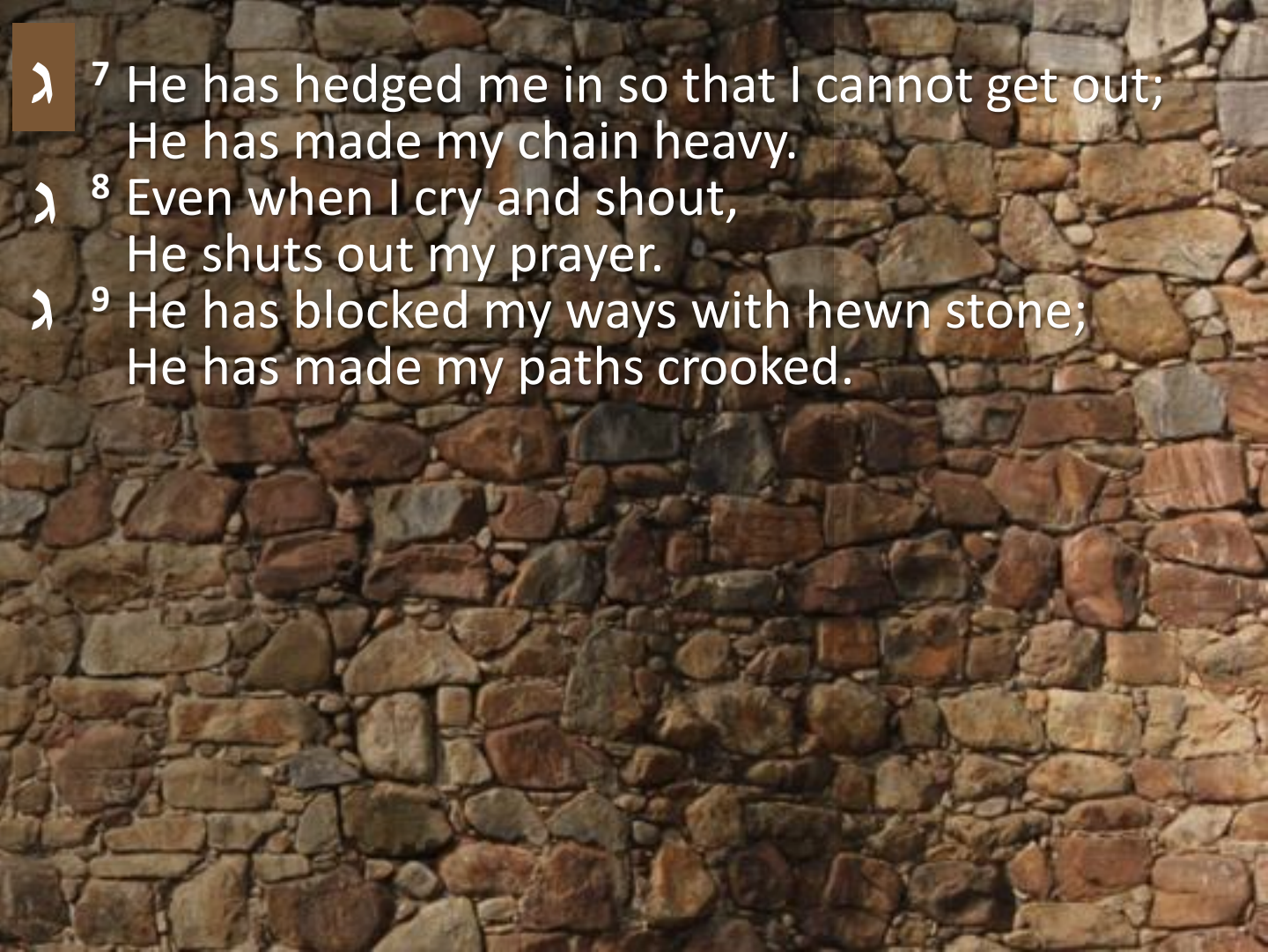
Jeremiah prophesied before the destruction;
He experienced the events;
And now he laments.



ב 4 He has aged my flesh and my skin,
And broken my bones.

ב 5 He has besieged me
And surrounded *me* with bitterness and woe.

ב 6 He has set me in dark places
Like the dead of long ago.

- 
- λ ⁷ He has hedged me in so that I cannot get out;
He has made my chain heavy.
- λ ⁸ Even when I cry and shout,
He shuts out my prayer.
- λ ⁹ He has blocked my ways with hewn stone;
He has made my paths crooked.

† 10 He *has been* to me a bear lying in wait,
Like a lion in ambush.

† 11 He has turned aside my ways and torn me in
pieces; He has made me desolate.

† 12 He has bent His bow
And set me up as a target for the arrow.

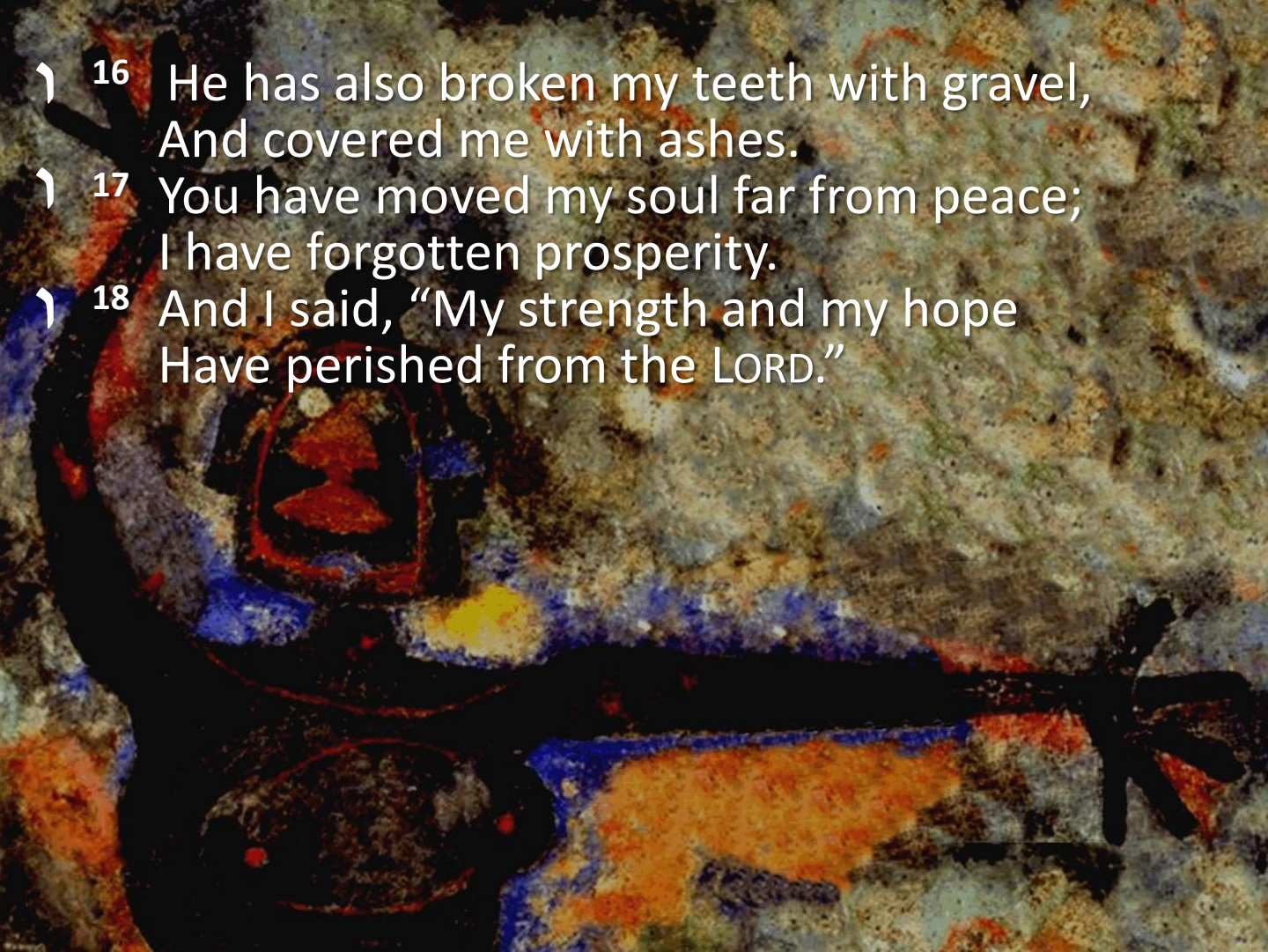




ה 13 He has caused the arrows of His quiver
To pierce my loins.

ה 14 I have become the ridicule of all my people—
Their taunting song all the day.

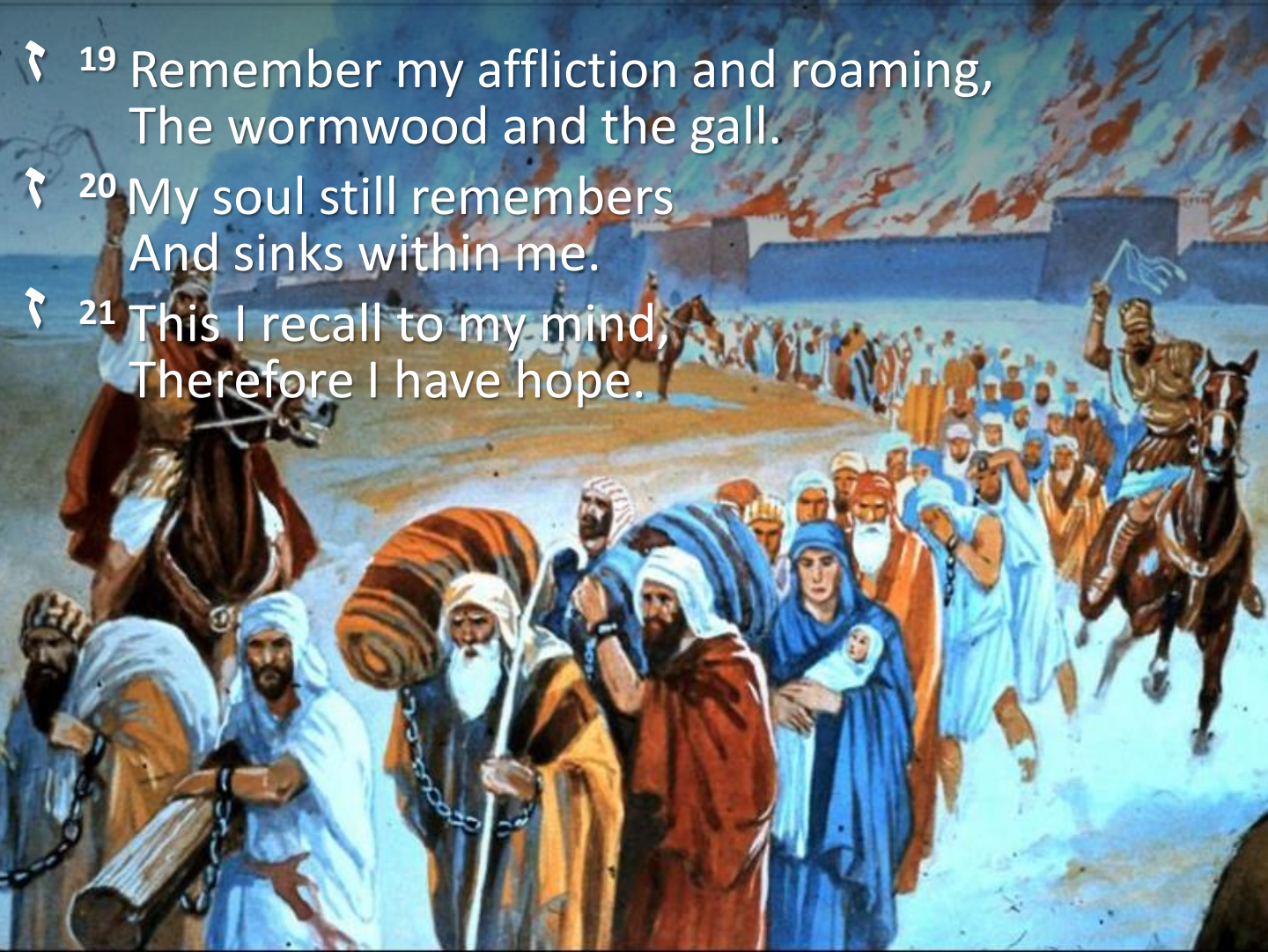
ה 15 He has filled me with bitterness,
He has made me drink wormwood.

- 
- 16 He has also broken my teeth with gravel,
And covered me with ashes.
 - 17 You have moved my soul far from peace;
I have forgotten prosperity.
 - 18 And I said, “My strength and my hope
Have perished from the LORD.”

19 Remember my affliction and roaming,
The wormwood and the gall.

20 My soul still remembers
And sinks within me.

21 This I recall to my mind,
Therefore I have hope.



נ ²² *Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not.*

נ ²³ *They are new every morning; Great is Your
faithfulness.*

נ ²⁴ *"The Lord is my portion [inheritance]," says my soul,
"Therefore I hope in Him!"*

FOR HIS COMPASSIONS

never fail.

They are new every morning;

Great is

Thy

Faithfulness.

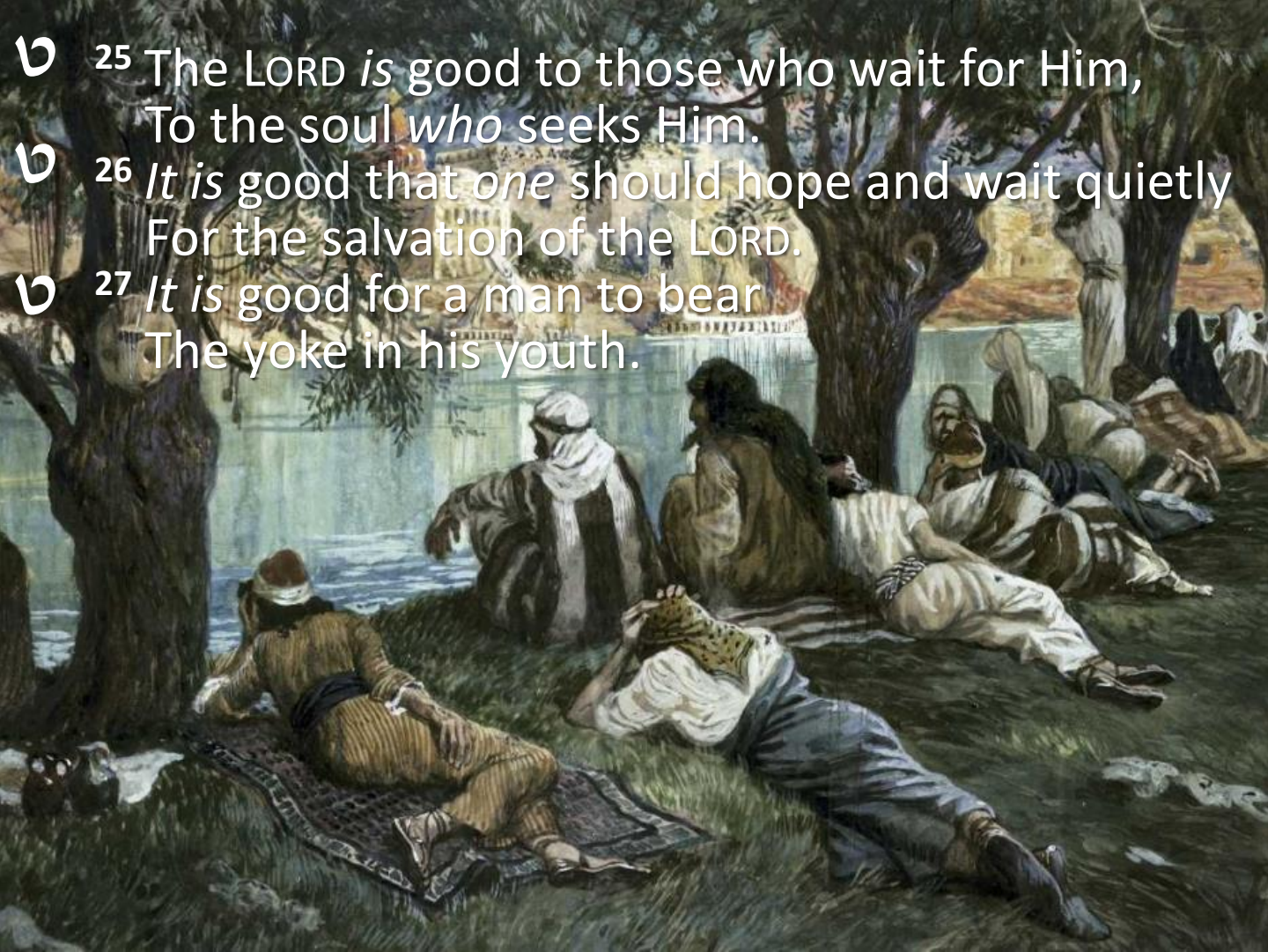
Why was Judah, unlike Samaria, not dispersed?

- God had promised Abraham that He would make a nation come from him—and this was the nation.
- He had promised Moses that He would put them into the land.
- He had promised Joshua that He would establish them there.
- He promised David that there would come One in his line to reign on the throne forever.
- The prophets all said that God would not utterly destroy this people but He would judge them for their sin. God is faithful. He has judged them, but He will not utterly destroy them.
- A faithful remnant has always remained, and ultimately they will become a great nation again.

25 The LORD *is* good to those who wait for Him,
To the soul *who* seeks Him.

26 *It is* good that *one* should hope and wait quietly
For the salvation of the LORD.

27 *It is* good for a man to bear
The yoke in his youth.



Summary



21 This I recall to my mind,
Therefore I have hope.

22 *Through* the LORD's mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not.

23 *They are* new every morning;
Great *is* Your faithfulness.

24 "The LORD *is* my portion," says my soul,
"Therefore I hope in Him!"

25 The LORD *is* good to those who wait for Him,
To the soul *who* seeks Him.

26 *It is* good that *one* should hope and wait quietly
For the salvation of the LORD.

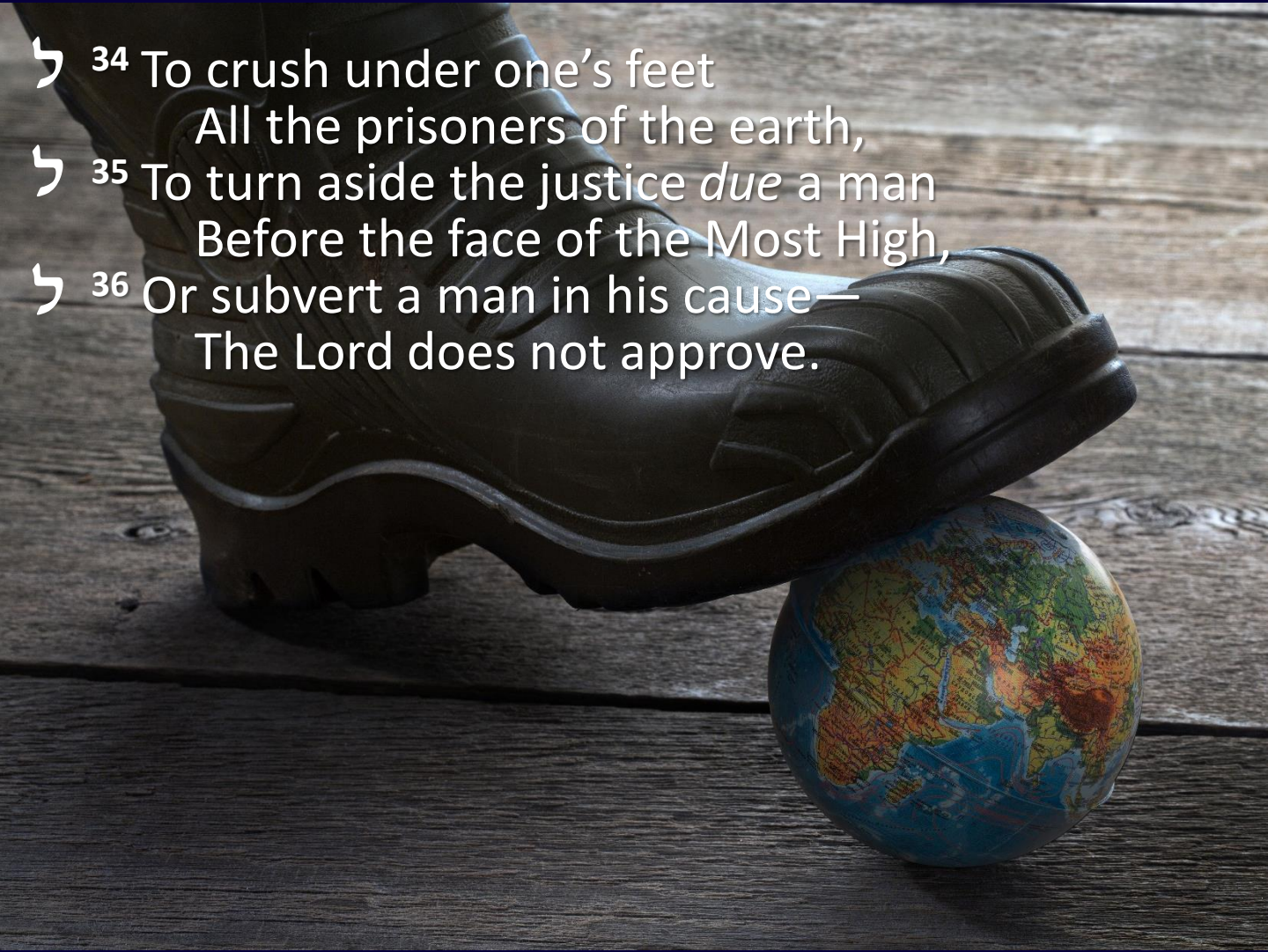
(Lamentations 3:21-26)

- › 28 Let him sit alone and keep silent,
Because *God* has laid *it* on him;
- › 29 Let him put his mouth in the dust—
There may yet be hope.
- › 30 Let him give *his* cheek to the
one who strikes him,
And be full of reproach.





- ↪ ³¹ For the Lord will not cast off forever.
- ↪ ³² Though He causes grief,
Yet He will show compassion
According to the multitude of His mercies.
- ↪ ³³ For He does not afflict willingly,
Nor grieve the children of men.

- 
- A black, heavy-duty boot is shown from a high angle, stepping down on a small globe of the Earth. The globe is resting on a wooden surface. The boot's tread is clearly visible, and the globe is being crushed under its weight. The background is a wooden floor with a metal grate visible in the distance.
- ↳ 34 To crush under one's feet
All the prisoners of the earth,
 - ↳ 35 To turn aside the justice *due* a man
Before the face of the Most High,
 - ↳ 36 Or subvert a man in his cause—
The Lord does not approve.

- מ³⁷ Who *is* he *who* speaks and it comes to pass,
When the Lord has not commanded *it*?
- מ³⁸ *Is it* not from the mouth of the Most High
That woe and well-being proceed?
- מ³⁹ Why should a living man complain,
A man for the punishment of his sins?

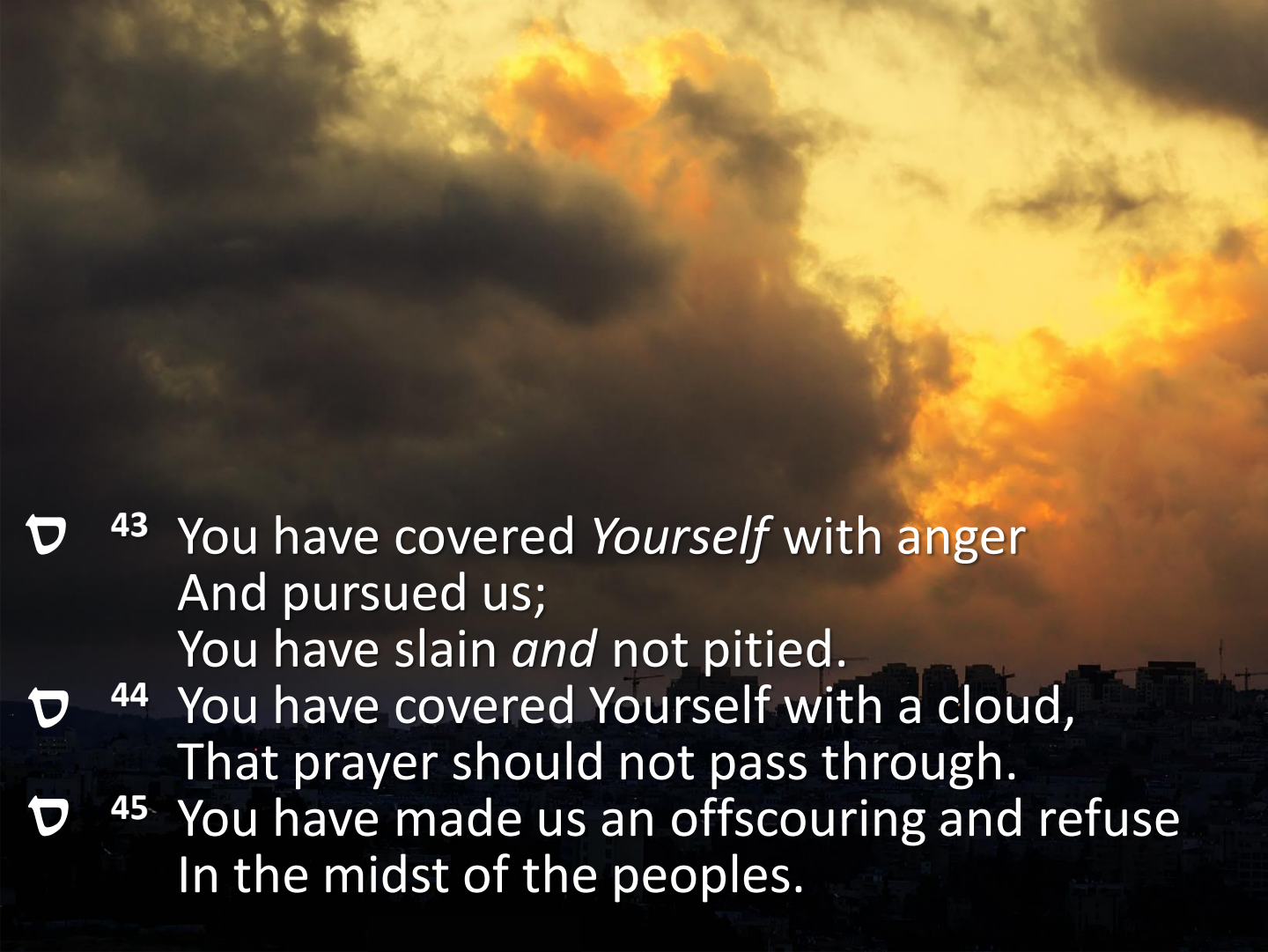
Sin will take you *further* than you
ever thought you'd go; it will *keep*
you there *longer* that you ever
intended to *stay*, and it will *cost* you
more that you ever expected to *pay*.



- › 40 Let us search out and examine our ways,
And turn back to the LORD;
- › 41 Let us lift our hearts and hands
To God in heaven.
- › 42 We have transgressed and rebelled;
You have not pardoned.

LET US SEARCH OUT AND EXAMINE OUR WAYS,
AND **TURN BACK** TO THE LORD.

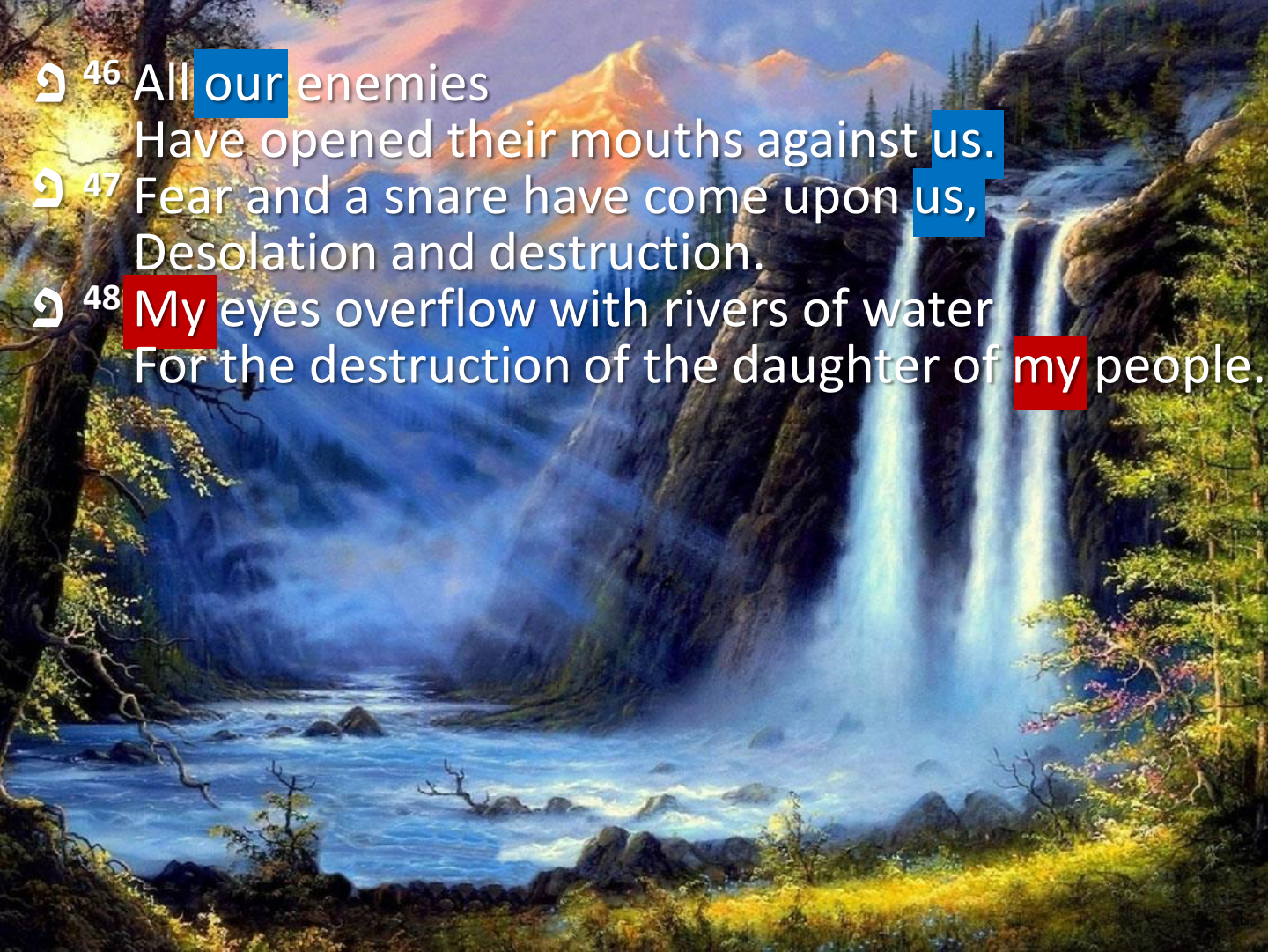


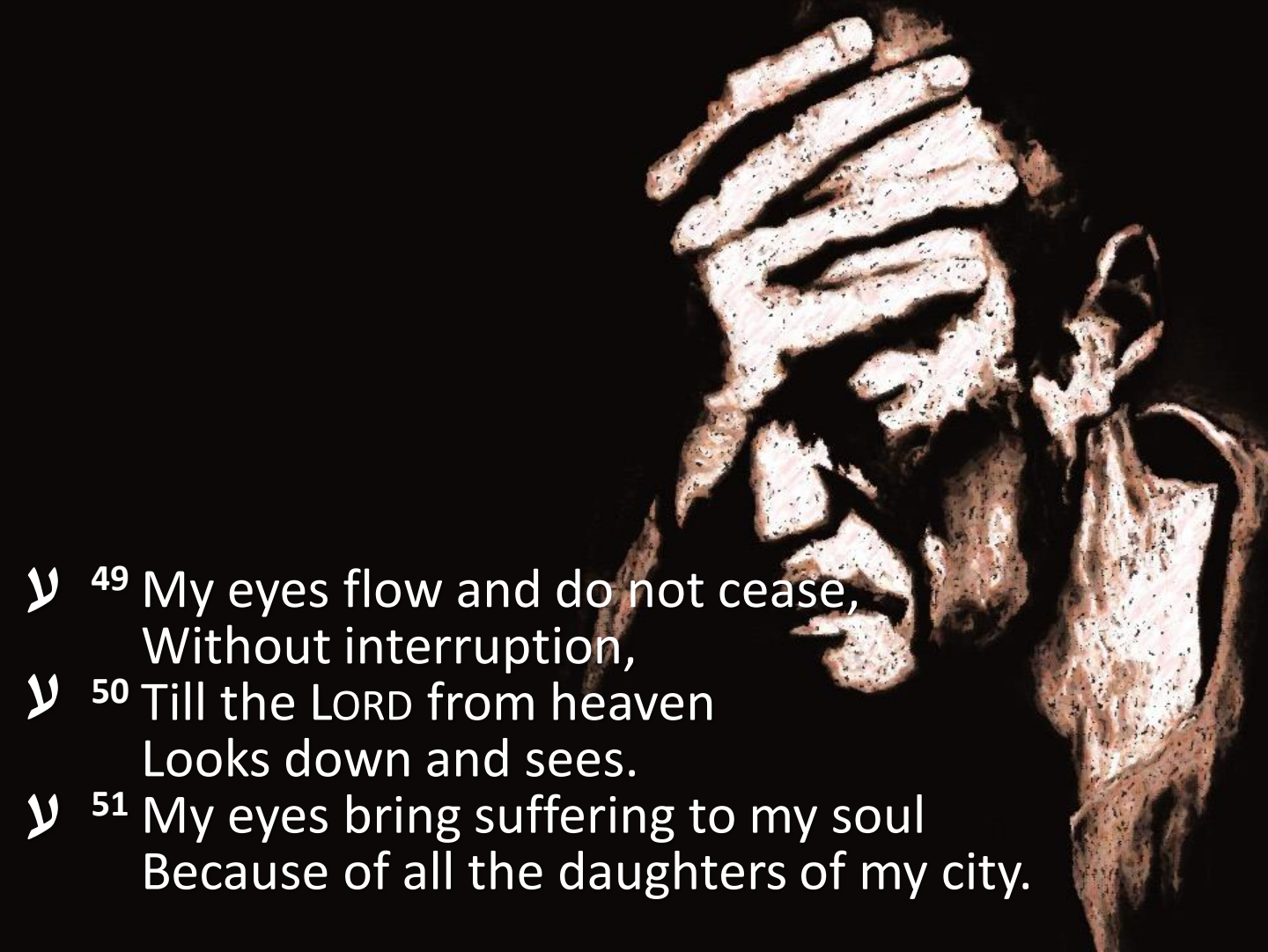


☞ 43 You have covered *Yourself* with anger
And pursued us;
You have slain *and* not pitied.

☞ 44 You have covered Yourself with a cloud,
That prayer should not pass through.

☞ 45 You have made us an offscouring and refuse
In the midst of the peoples.

- 
- 46 All our enemies
Have opened their mouths against us.
- 47 Fear and a snare have come upon us,
Desolation and destruction.
- 48 My eyes overflow with rivers of water
For the destruction of the daughter of my people.



- ⤴ 49 My eyes flow and do not cease,
Without interruption,
- ⤴ 50 Till the LORD from heaven
Looks down and sees.
- ⤴ 51 My eyes bring suffering to my soul
Because of all the daughters of my city.

- ✎ 52 My enemies without cause
Hunted me down like a bird.
- ✎ 53 They silenced my life in the pit
And threw stones at me.
- ✎ 54 The waters flowed over my head;
I said, “I am cut off!”



פ⁵⁵ I called on Your name, O LORD,
From the lowest pit.

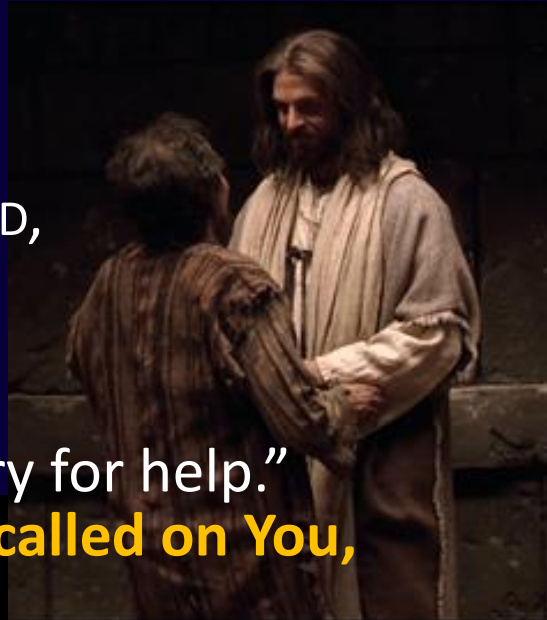
פ⁵⁶ You have heard my voice:
“Do not hide Your ear
From my sighing, from my cry for help.”

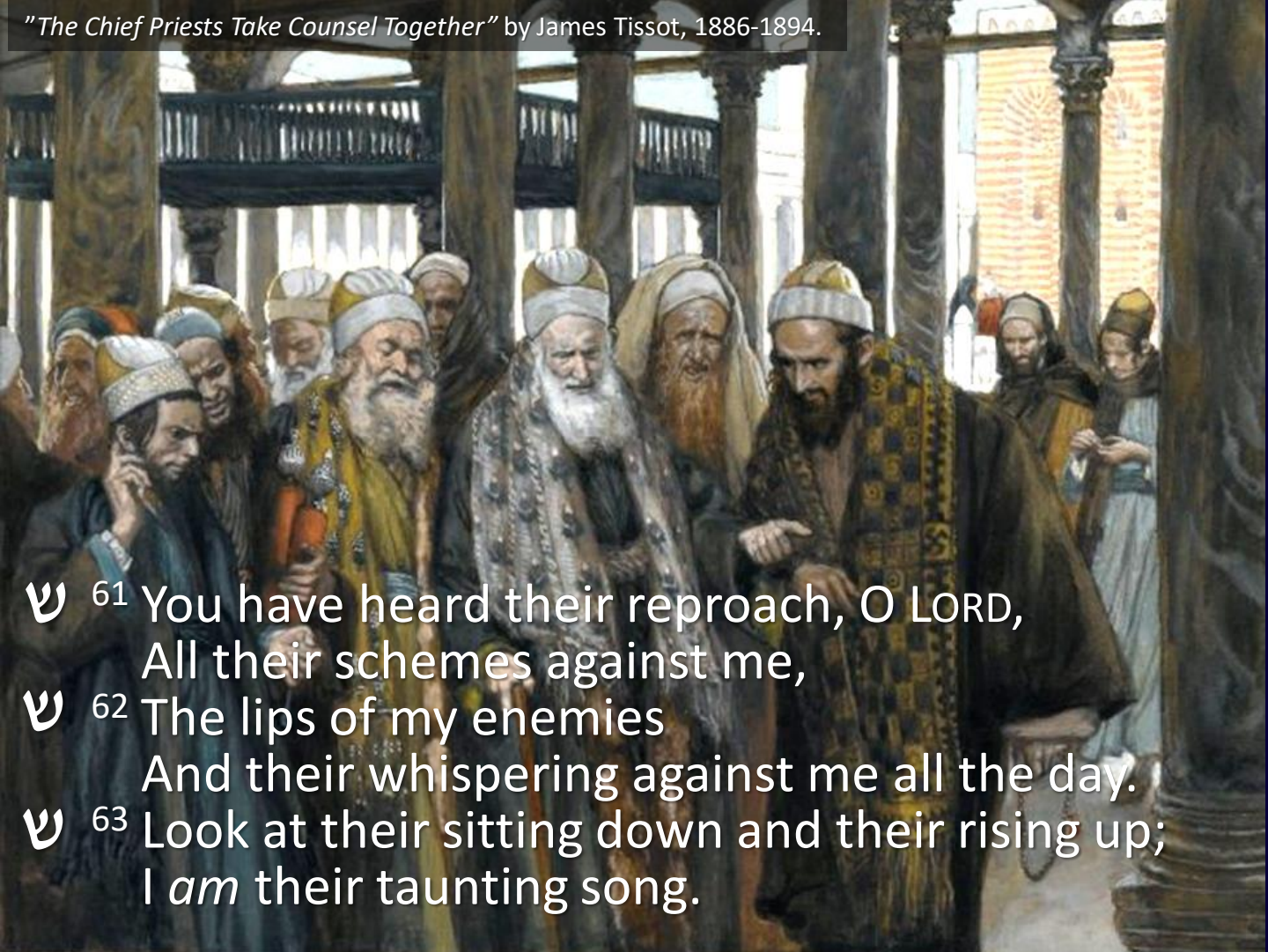
פ⁵⁷ **You drew near on the day I called on You,
And said, “Do not fear!”**

ג⁵⁸ **O Lord, You have pleaded the case for my soul;
You have redeemed my life.**

ג⁵⁹ O LORD, You have seen *how* I am wronged;
Judge my case.

ג⁶⁰ You have seen all their vengeance,
All their schemes against me.

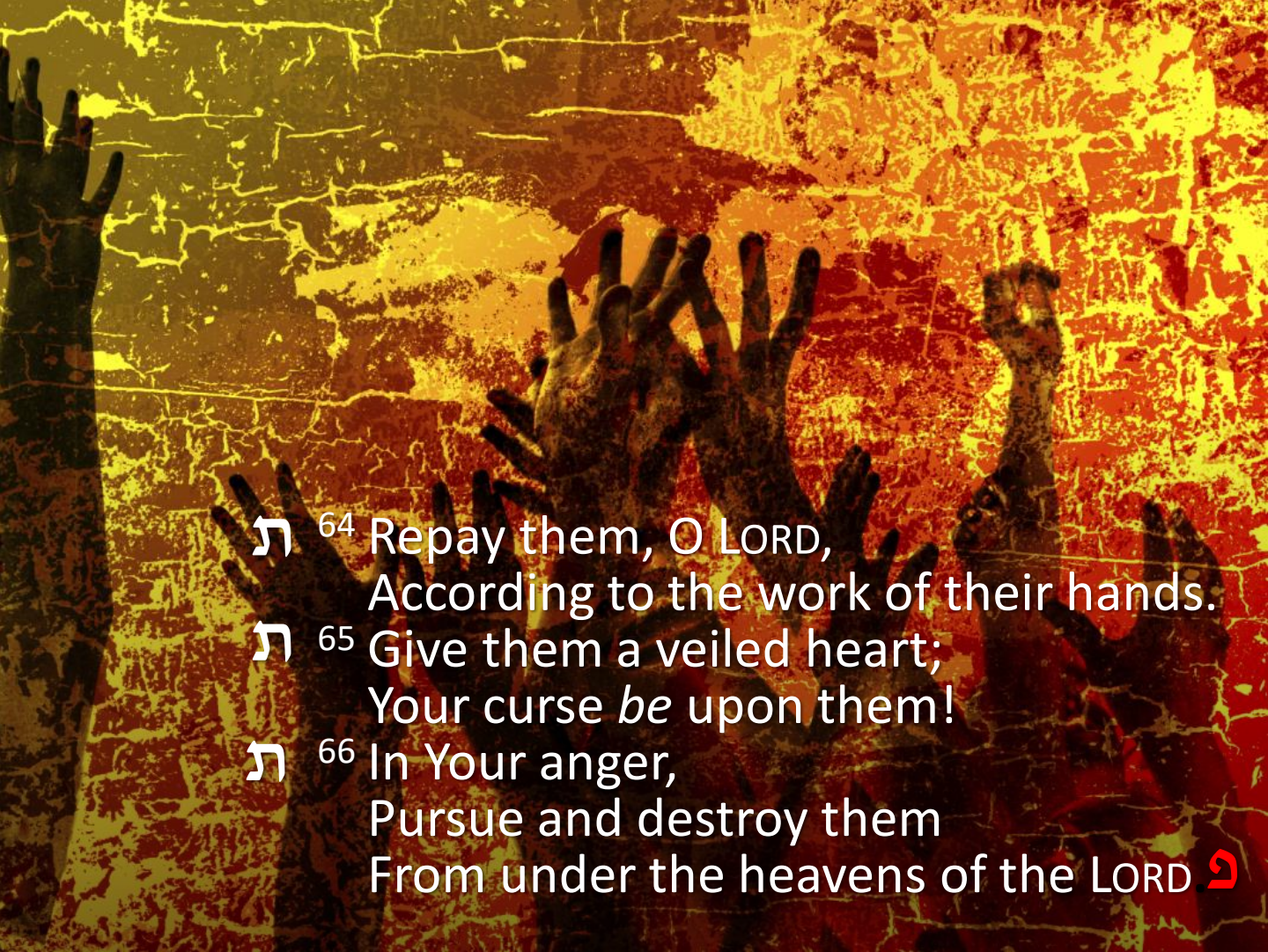




וּ 61 You have heard their reproach, O LORD,
All their schemes against me,


וּ 62 The lips of my enemies
And their whispering against me all the day.

וּ 63 Look at their sitting down and their rising up;
I *am* their taunting song.



ת⁶⁴ Repay them, O LORD,
According to the work of their hands.

ת⁶⁵ Give them a veiled heart;
Your curse *be* upon them!

ת⁶⁶ In Your anger,
Pursue and destroy them
From under the heavens of the LORD 

The story this far

- Chapter 3. What's coming

He has driven me into darkness. But the steadfast love of the LORD never ceases. Let us return to the LORD! You will repay my enemies.



Look at yourself and be **depressed**.

Look at circumstances and be **distressed**.

Look at the Lord and you'll be **blessed**!

Next week

- **Chapter 4. Sin destroyed us**

The holy stones lie scattered.
The children beg for food. The
LORD has poured out his fierce
anger. O Zion, your punishment
will end.



Chapter 5. God, restore us!

Look, O LORD, and see our
disgrace! We have become
orphans. Slaves rule over us.
But you, O LORD, reign forever.
Restore us as of old!



MIERV. SALMO.

LAMENTATIONS

4.5

