

Building Faith in Desperate Times

Class 4 - Making Preparations

Reading: 2 Chronicles 32:1-8













- Strengthening the Defenses
- Encouraging Words

- I A Root Out of Dry Ground
  - 2 Dedication and Passover
    - 3 Living by Principle
    - 4 Making Preparations
      - 5 Sick unto Death
    - 6 The Author of Faith



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Why: did Hezekiah surrender?

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Core:

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Class Lessons:

Core: Only God has the answers.

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2 - Dedication and Passover

Class Lessons:

Core: Only God has the answers.

Sup'l: Pride destroys us.

- Strengthening the Defenses

Encouraging Word:

- A Covenant with Death







God had saved them from Egypt!



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2 Chronicles 30:6-9



2 Chronicles 30:6-9 "so shall they come again"



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2 Chronicles 30:6-9 "so shall they come again"

They needed to see Yahweh as their source of true life.

And they did, for a time.

But, they quickly tried to find hope in other sources.



Distractions





Distractions







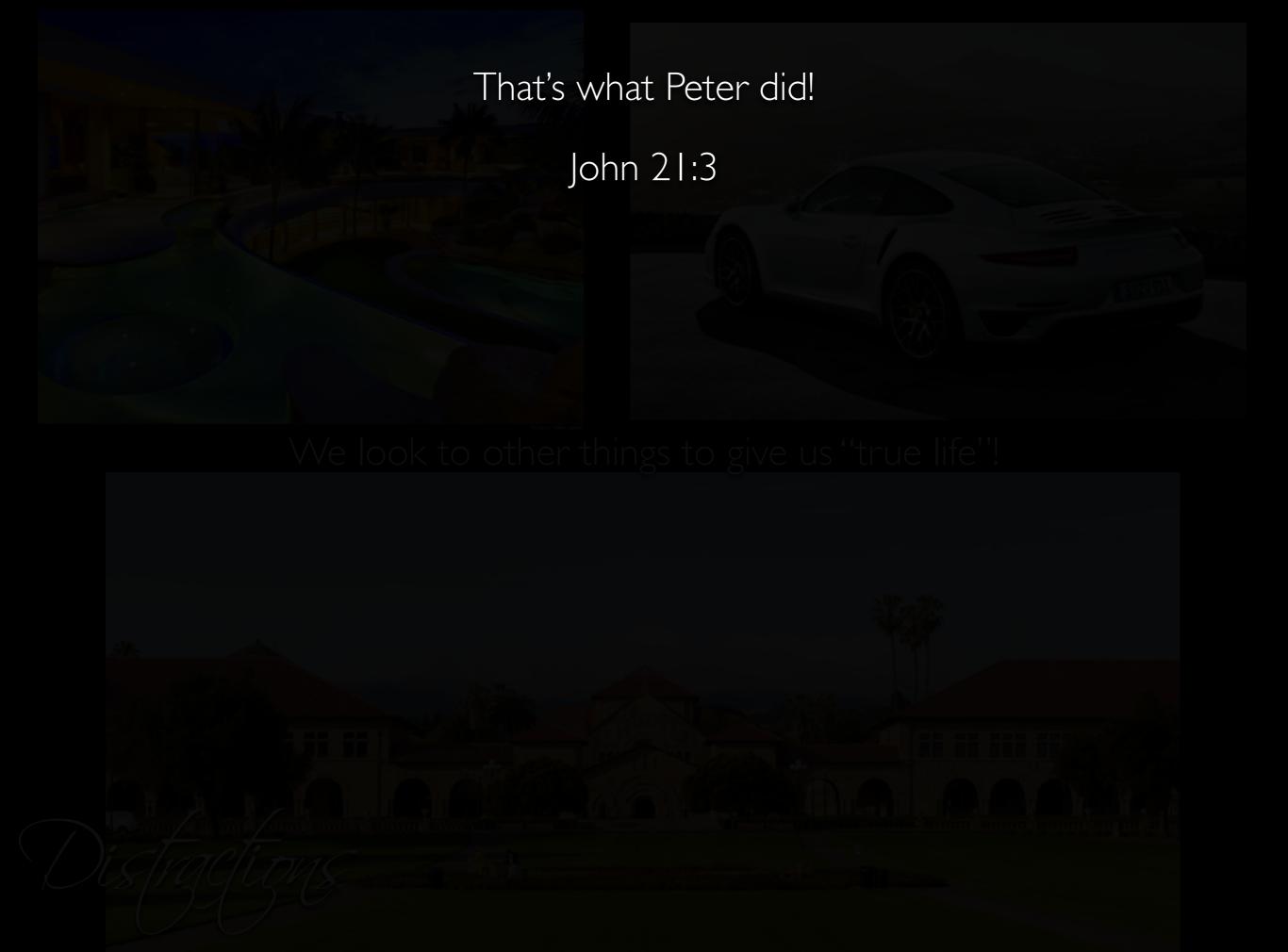




We look to other things to give us "true life"!







John 21:3

Psalm 37:5 - "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

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John 15:5 - "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

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So often, life is about balancing principles.



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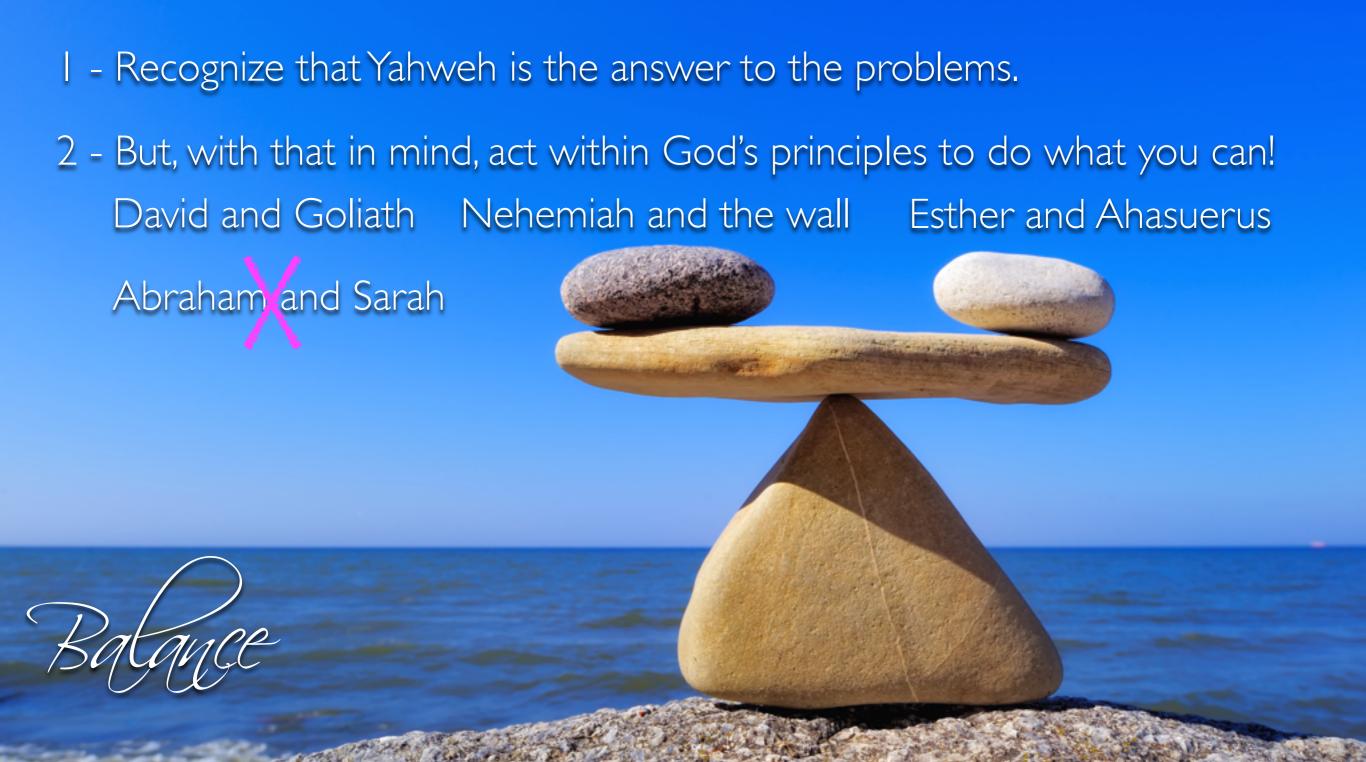


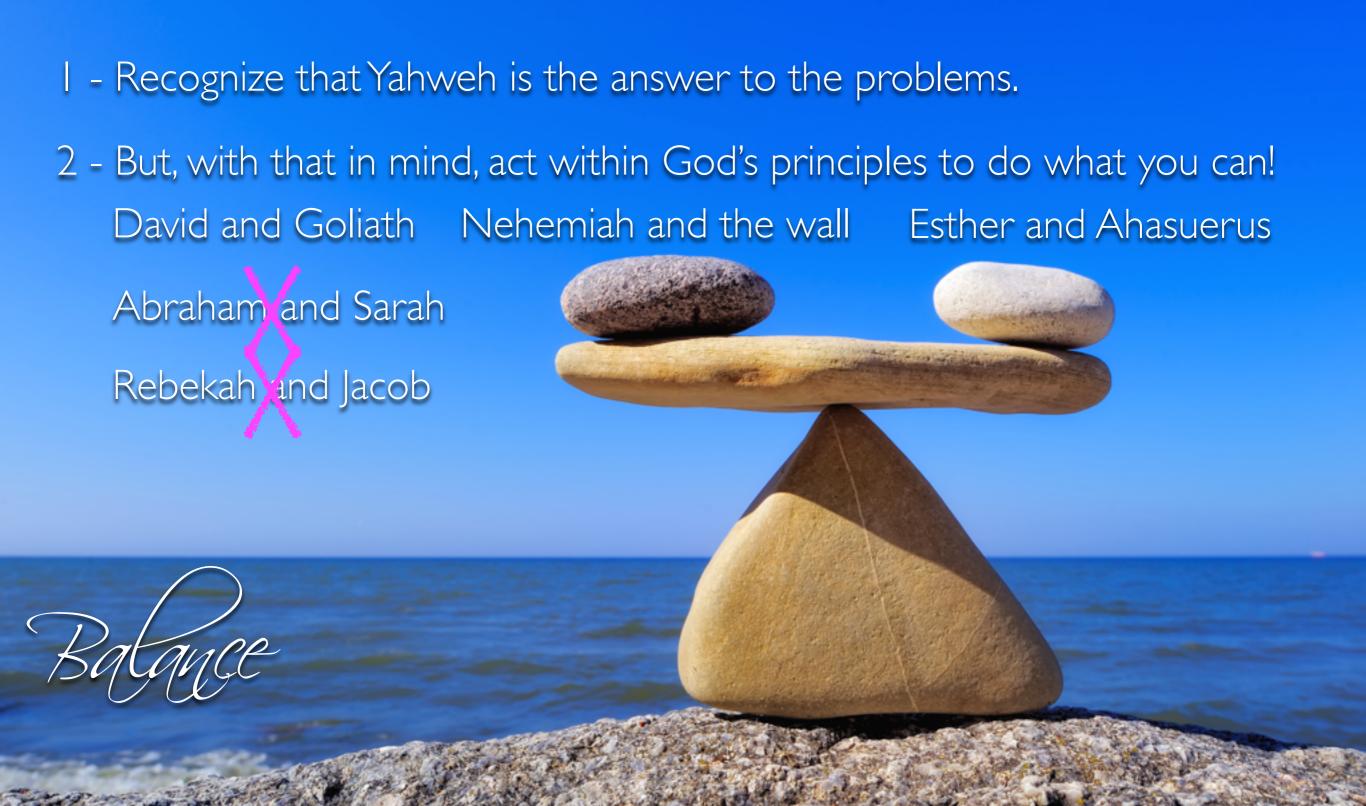
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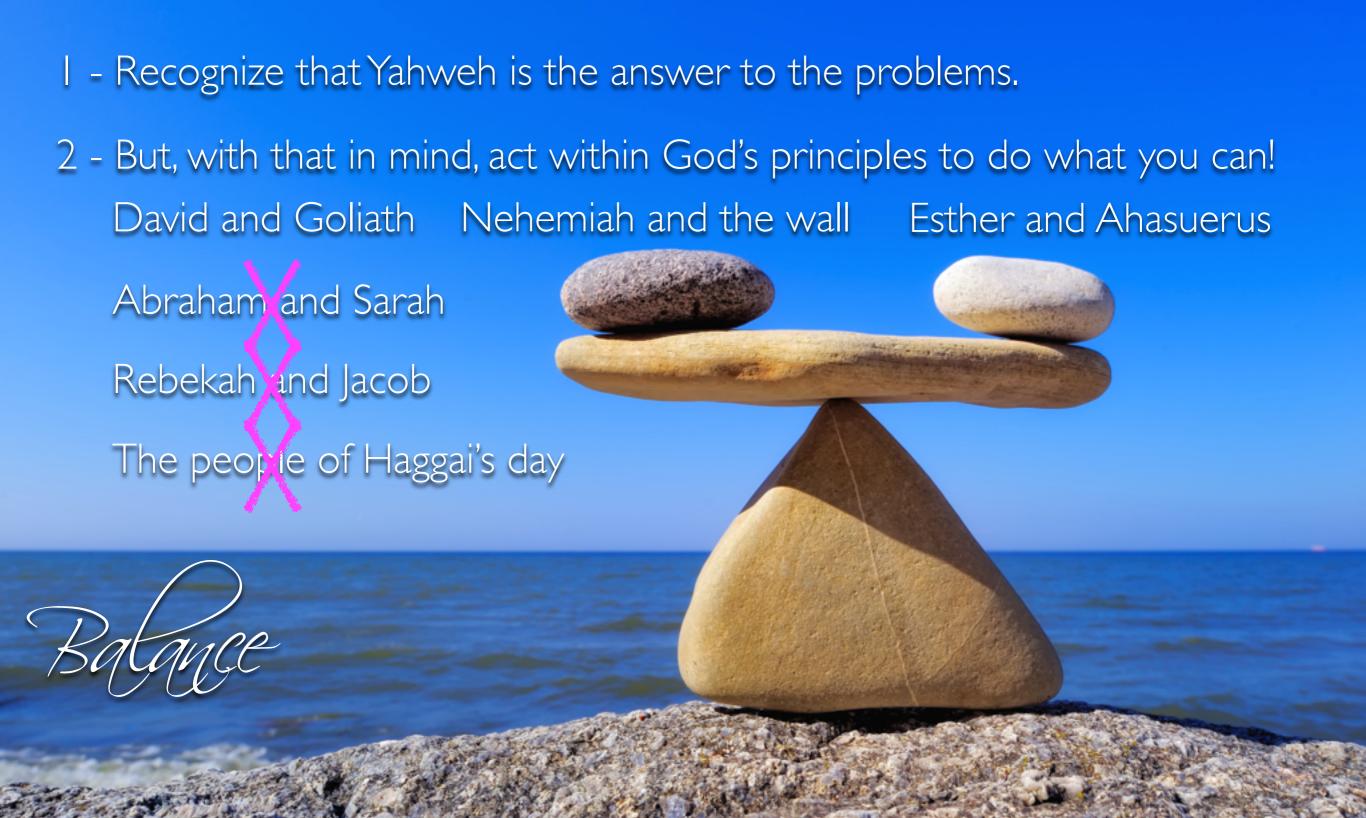


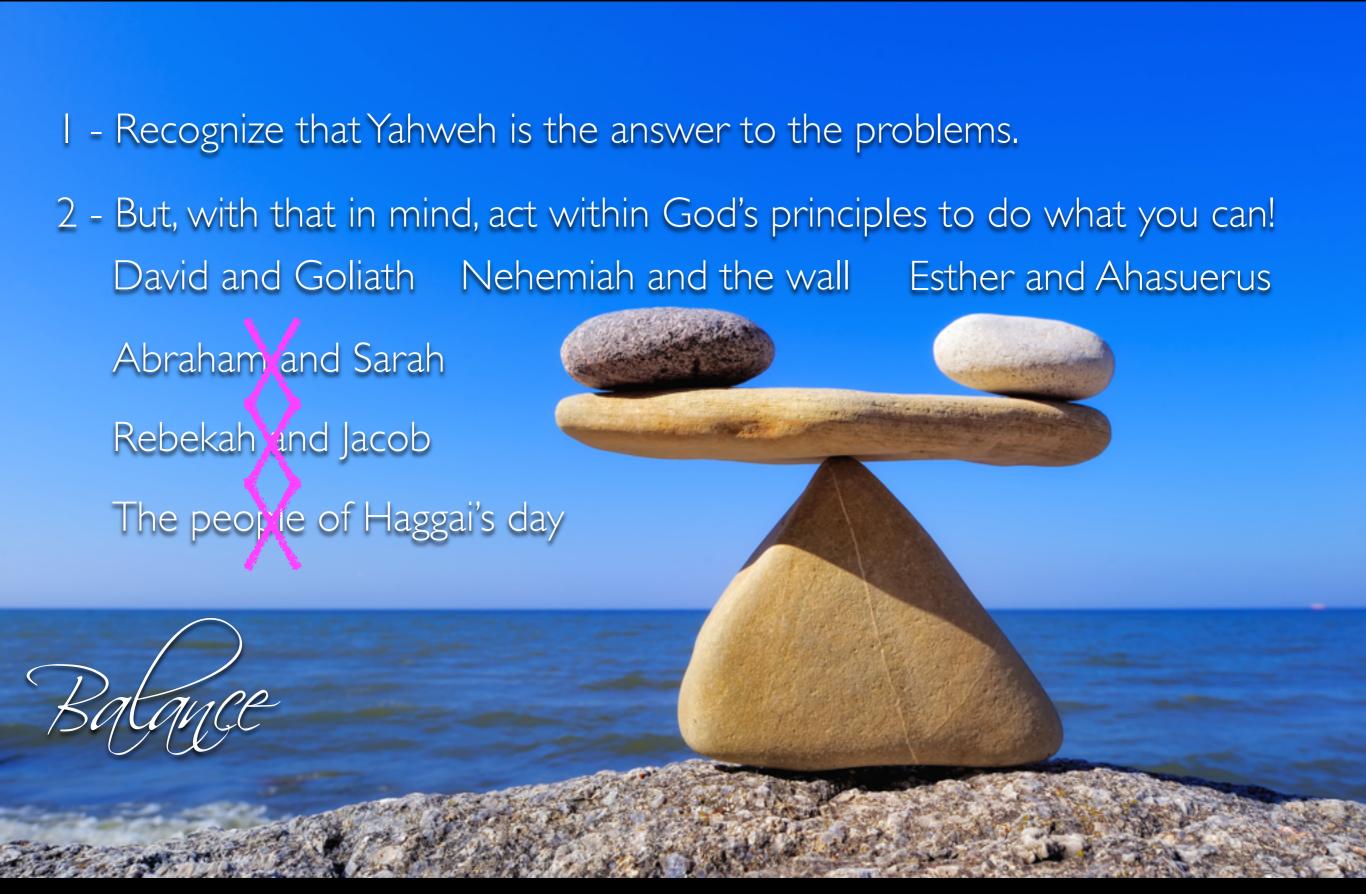
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Making defenses was a good idea.

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Making defenses was a good idea.

The problem was their trust in them.

Work, but trust

Work, but don't trust

Making defenses was a good ideal

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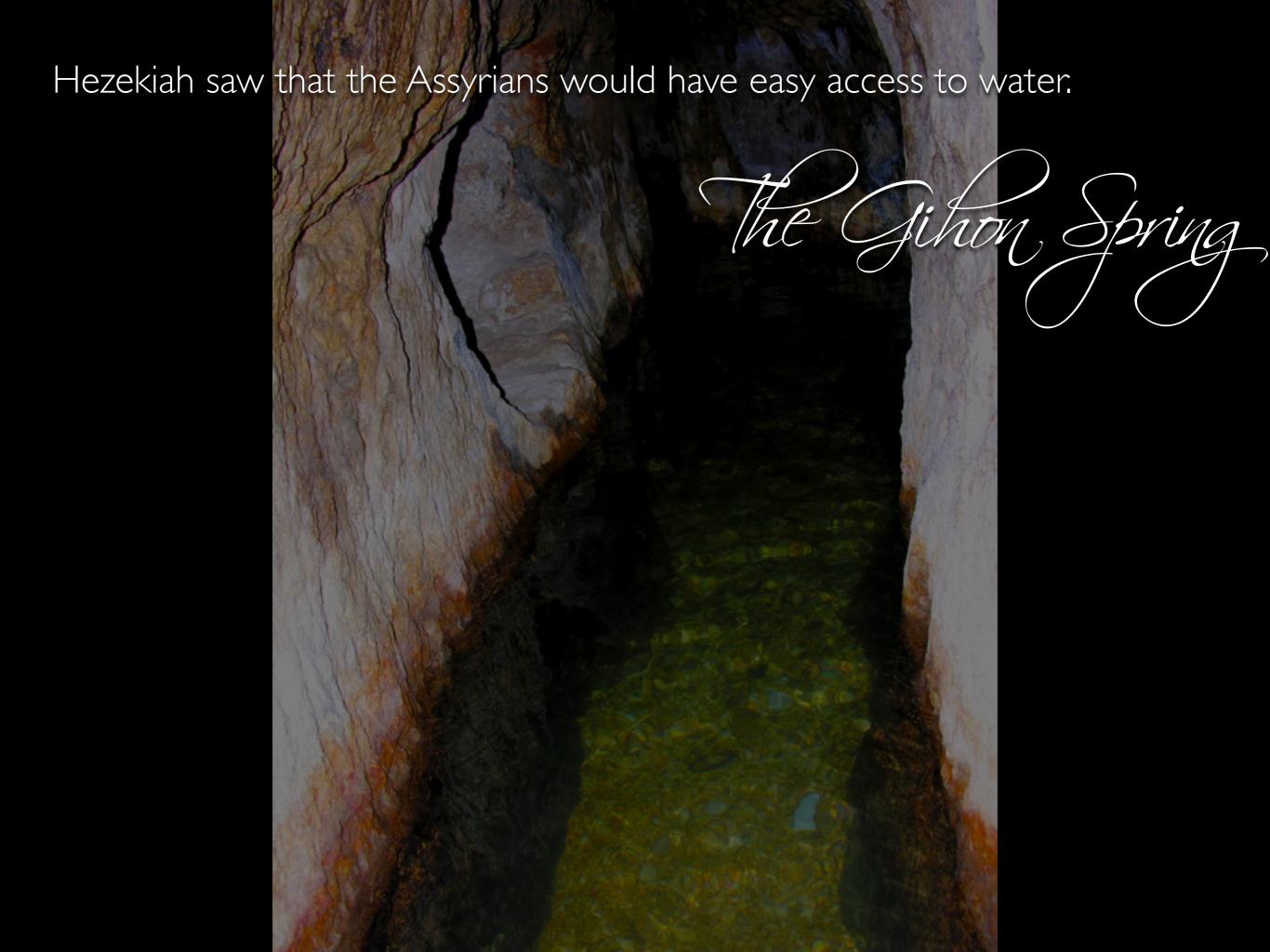
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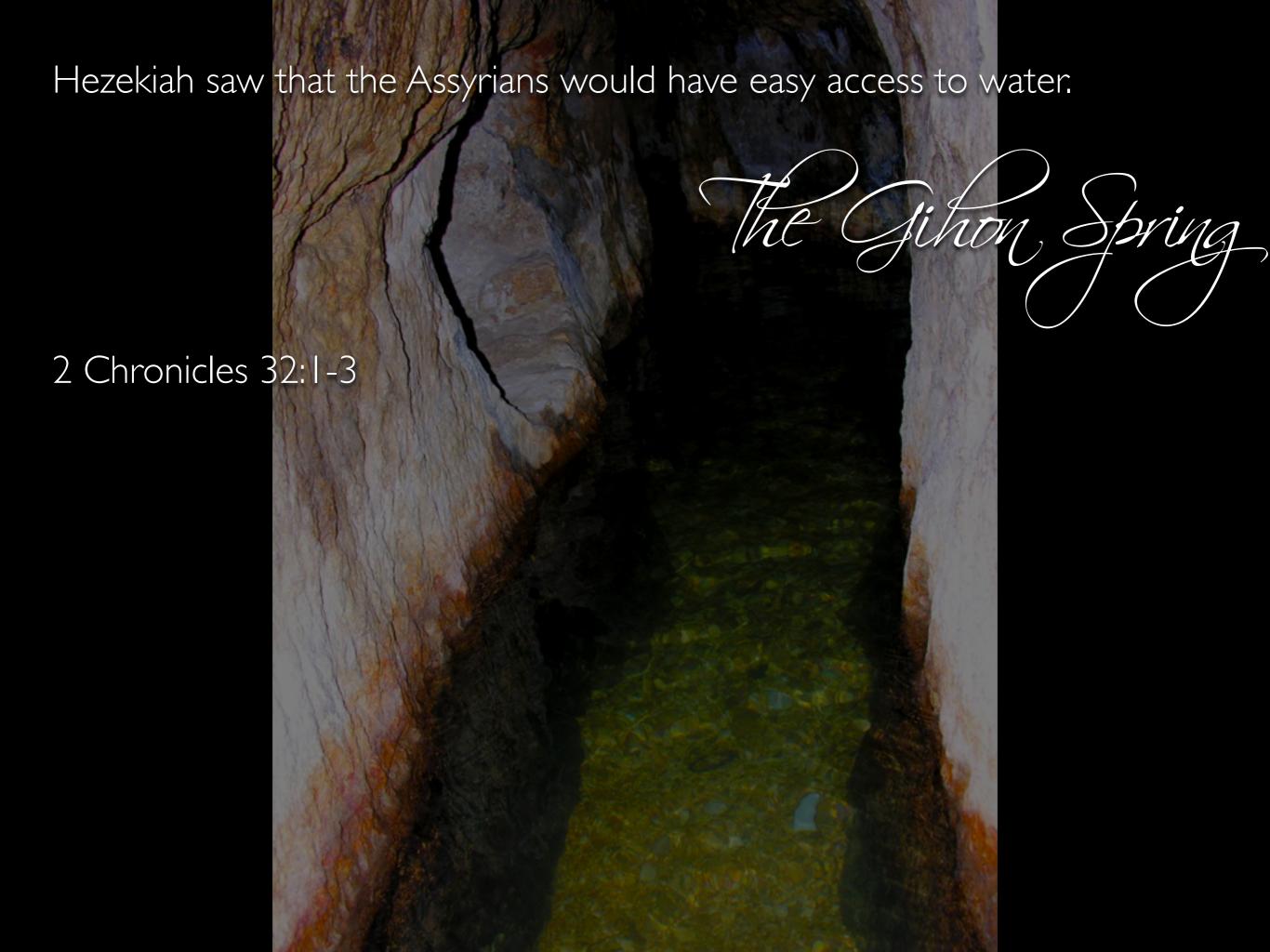
the people
the priests
the princes

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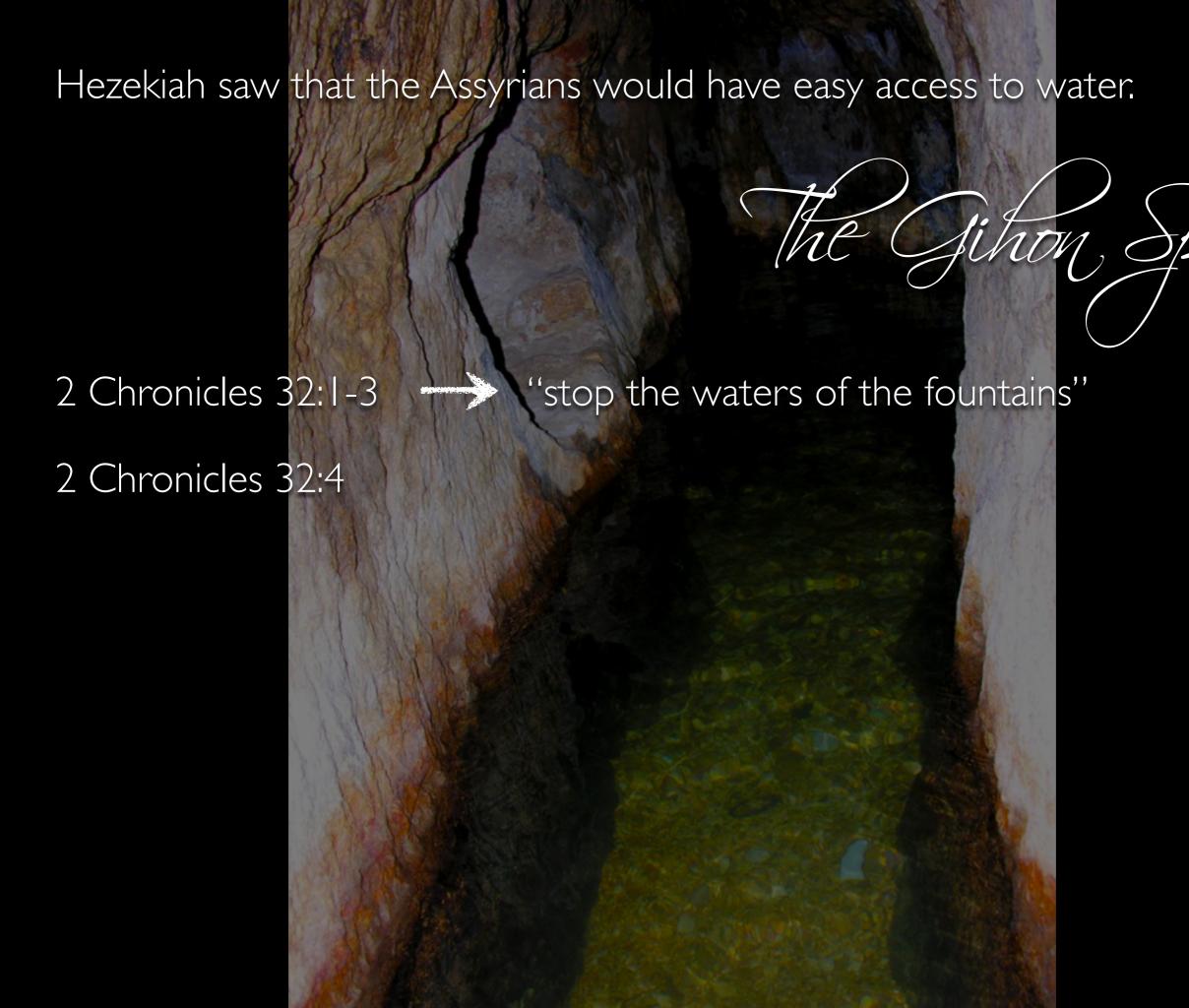
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Hezekiah saw that the Assyrians would have easy access to water. 2 Chronicles 32:1-3 "stop the waters of the fountains"



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Helpless





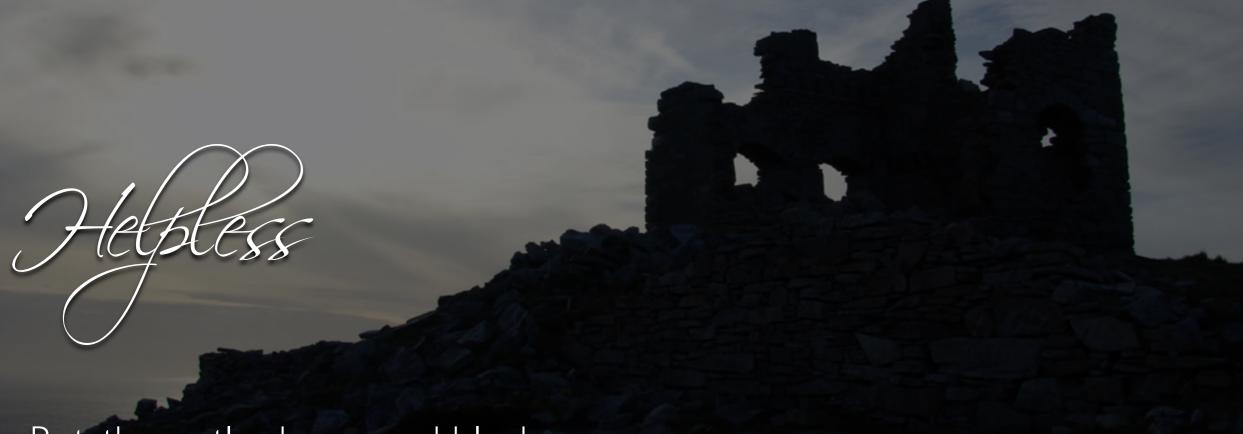








2Chronicles 32:5 - "Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance."



But, the outlook seemed bleak.

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## Isaiah 22:8 had fallen into disrepair.

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Isaiah 22:8 NASB - "And He removed the defense of Judah. In that day you depended on the weapons of the house of the forest."

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"discovered" אָלָה HI540

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"discovered" + אָלָה HI540 "uncover"

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"discovered" בְּלָה HI540 "uncover" "remove"

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"discovered" בְּלְהֹ HI540 "uncover" "remove" יניבל

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"discovered" גְלָה HI540 "uncover" "remove" "piel" construction

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"discovered" בְּלְה HI540 "uncover" "remove"

"piel" construction to uncover nakedness

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Genesis 9:21

But, the outlook seemed bleak.

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Genesis 9:21 Leviticus 18:6

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"covering"

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Isaiah 22:8-10 feel the helplessness!

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"As for Hezekiah, the terrifying splendor of my majesty overcame him, and the Urbi (Arabs) and his mercenary (?) troops which he had brought in to to strengthen Jerusalem, his royal city, deserted him."

The Oriental Prism; Column 3:37-41

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Even the army had issues...

But why had God done this to them?

2 Chronicles 32:6-8 'there be more with us than with him'

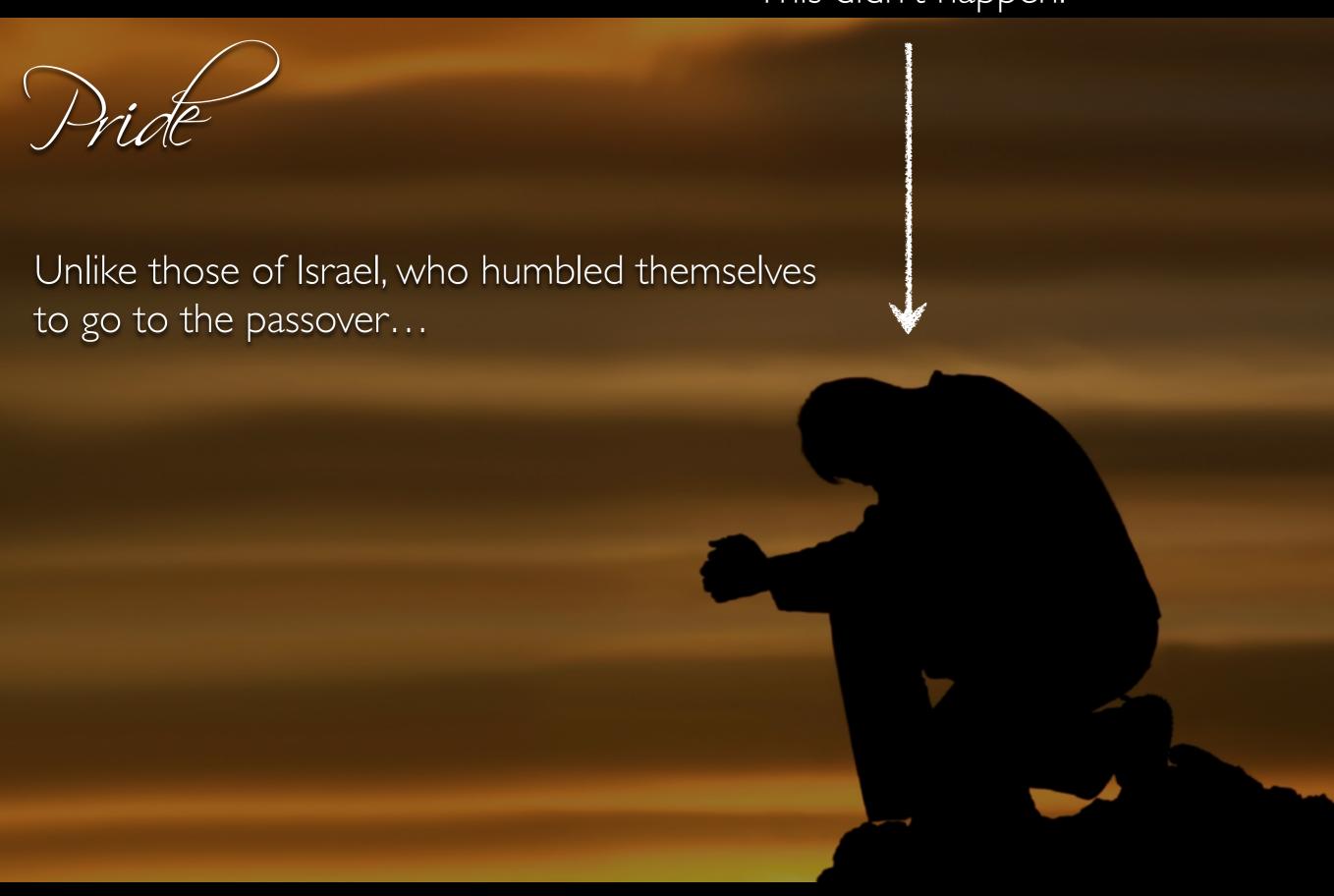
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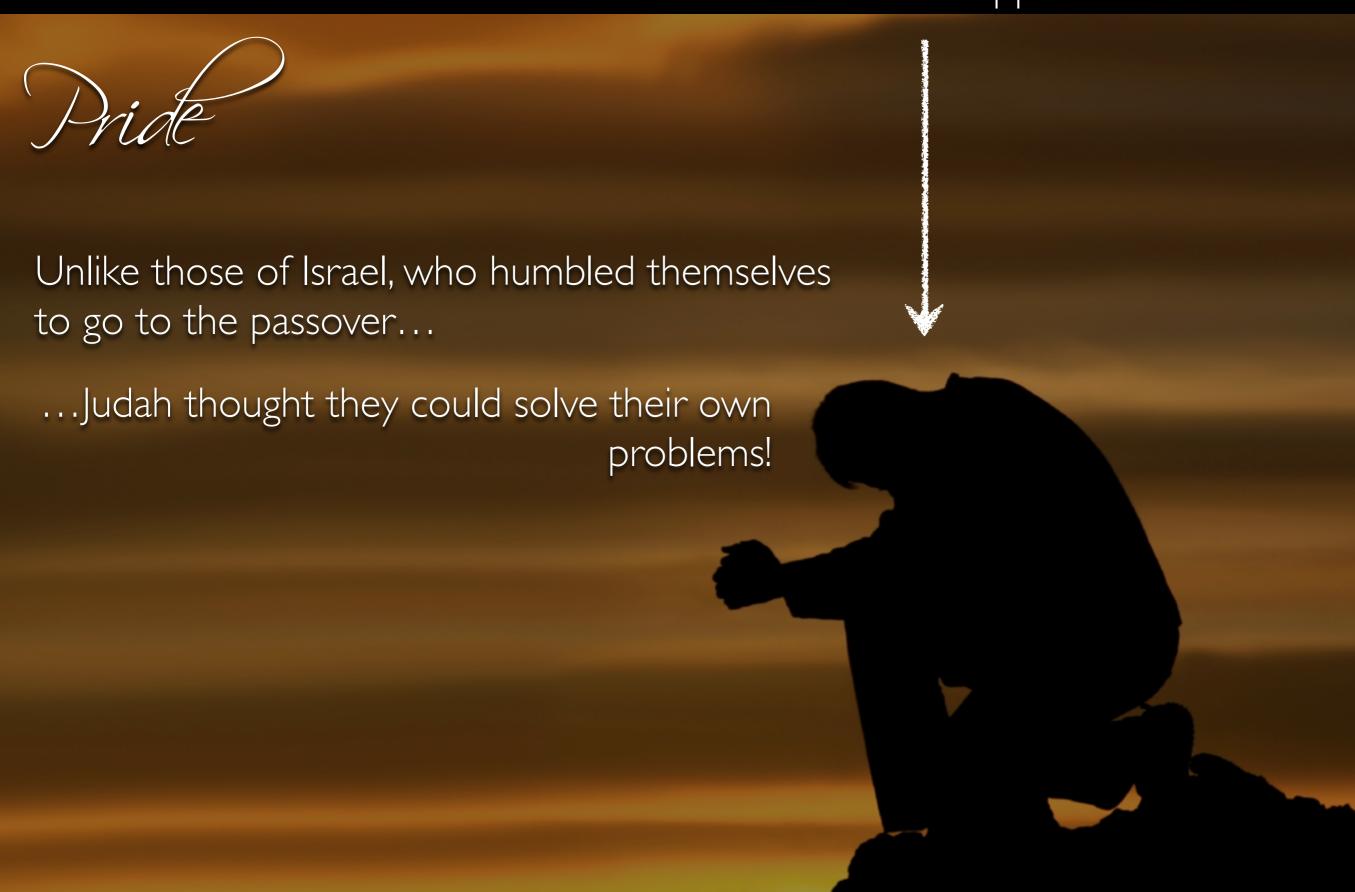
The Oriental Prism; Column 3:37-41

Pride

This didn't happen!









Unlike those of Israel, who humbled themselves to go to the passover...

...Judah thought they could solve their own problems!

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2 Kings 18:10



2 Kings 18:10 "three years"



2 Kings 18:10 ''three years'' cp. 2 Kings 10:1-2



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2 Kings | 8:10 - > ''three years'' cp. 2 Kings | 0:1-2

# IF SAMARIA ALONE TOOK THREE YEARS, HOW LONG WOULD ALL JUDAH TAKE?

2 Kings 18:10 --> ''three years'' cp. 2 Kings 10:1-2

## IF SAMARIA ALONE TOOK THREE YEARS, HOW LONG WOULD ALL JUDAH TAKE?

Perhaps they would be okay.

## IF SAMARIA ALONE TOOK THREE YEARS, HOW LONG WOULD ALL JUDAH TAKE?

Perhaps they would be okay.

And thus began their thoughts that they could solve their own problems...





















They thought that they had a "secret weapon." 2 Kings 17:4 Egypt Assyria versus 2 Kings 19:9 2 Kings 23:29 Assyria knew! Isaiah 36:6

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Egypt versus Assyria

Assyria knew! Isaiah 36:6

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2 Chronicles 32:6-8



2 Chronicles 32:6-8

"be strong and courageous"



2 Chronicles 32:6-8

"be strong and courageous" > Joshua 1:6



2 Chronicles 32:6-8

"be strong and courageous" >> Joshua 1:6

"be not afraid nor dismayed"



2 Chronicles 32:6-8

"be strong and courageous" > Joshua 1:6

"be not afraid nor dismayed" > 2 Chronicles 20:17



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"to fight our battles" >> Exodus 14:14



And so, Hezekiah, using Scripture, sought to change their thinking In the same way that God:

2 Chronicles 32:6-8

"be strong and courageous" --> Joshua 1:6

''be not afraid nor dismayed'' 🥕 🔰 2 Chronicles 20:17

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"to fight our battles" - Exodus 14:14

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Isaiah 1:7-8 - "Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city."

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Isaiah 8:7-8 - "Now therefore, behold the LORD bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks: and he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck..."

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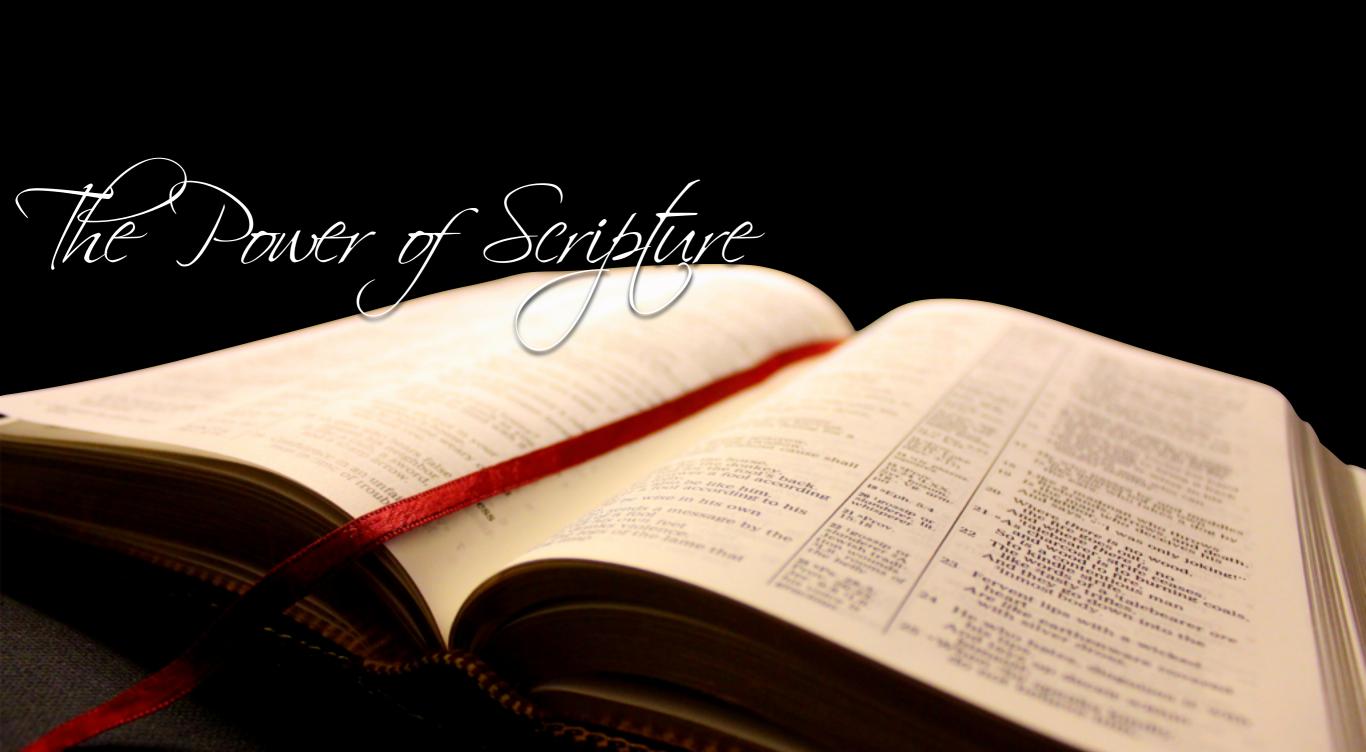
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For a time, the people believed.



the Mext Challenge



But life isn't that easy. People change quickly. But life isn't that easy. And confidence is fleeting. People change quickly.

Suddenly, the faithful king was struck with a deadly illness.

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Isaiah 53:4

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Isaiah 53:4 "'smitten of God''

Was God angry with Hezekiah?

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2 Kings 18:13 - "Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them."

"As for Hezekiah, the Jew, who did not submit to my yoke, 46 of his strong, walled cities, as well as the small cities in their neighborhood, which were without number,—by leveling with battering-rams (?) and by bringing up siege-engines (?), by attacking and storming on foot, by mines, tunnels and breaches (?), I besieged and took (those cities). 200, I 50 people, great and small, male and female, horses, mules, asses, camels, cattle and sheep, without number, I brought away from them and counted as spoil." The Oriental Prism; Column 3:18-3 I

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## THUS, THE PEOPLE WENT BACK TO THEIR OWN DEVICES.

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Isaiah 28:15-16 - "Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves."

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Isaiah 22:2, 12-13 - "Thou that art full of stirs, a tumultuous city, a joyous city: thy slain men are not slain with the sword, nor dead in battle...And in that day did the Lord GOD of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth: and behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die."

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Everyone rejoiced at their "victory"!

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Standing Atome 

























Because only God has the answers.

The situation originally looked hopeless.

But then it got even worse.



## BUT DO WE BELIEVE THAT?

And while God sometimes makes it look even more hopeless...

...He's looking to see if we will turn solely to Him.

Because only God has the answers.