

A dramatic photograph of a lighthouse on a small, rocky island. A massive, white-capped wave is crashing over the lighthouse, which has a red lantern room and a small arched doorway. The sky is dark and stormy. The text "Be Steadfast" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters with a black outline.

Be Steadfast

Judges

Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
CICFamily.com • BibleStudyDownloads.org

Dr E N Poulson



Arrived in Singapore 17 March 1953

Dr E N Poulson



1 April 1925—13 October 2017

Dr E N Poulson





Steadfast.

Where are you putting your trust? Do you have an immovable trust in God?





SINCE 1828

JOIN MWU

GAMES

BROWSE THESAURUS

WORD C

steadfast


DICTIONARY

THESAURUS

Definition of STEADFAST

- 1 a : firmly fixed in place : **IMMOVABLE**
 b : not subject to change
 - the *steadfast* doctrine of original sin —Ellen Glasgow
- 2 : firm in belief, determination, or adherence : **LOYAL** • her followers have remained *steadfast*

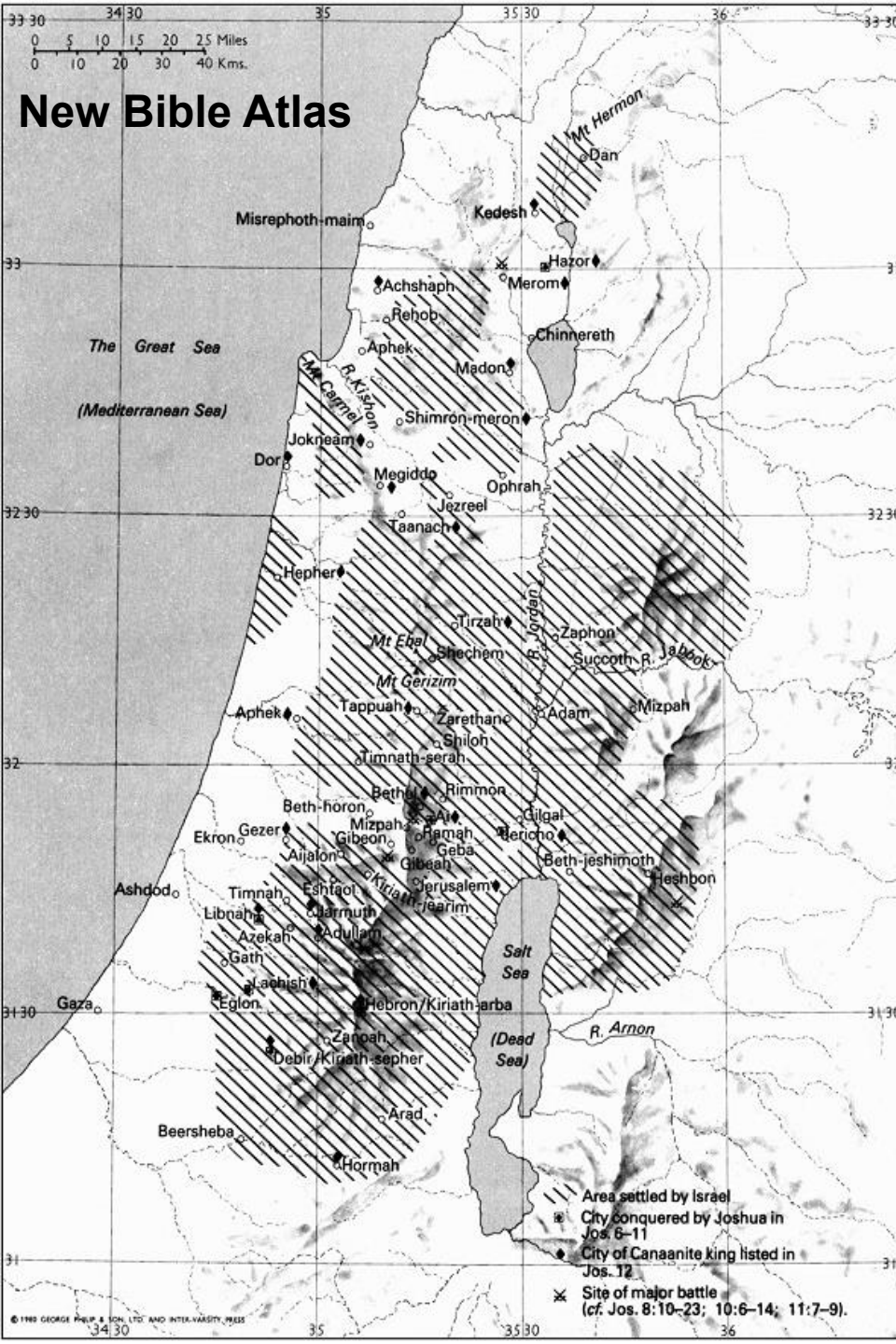
—steadfastly *adverb*

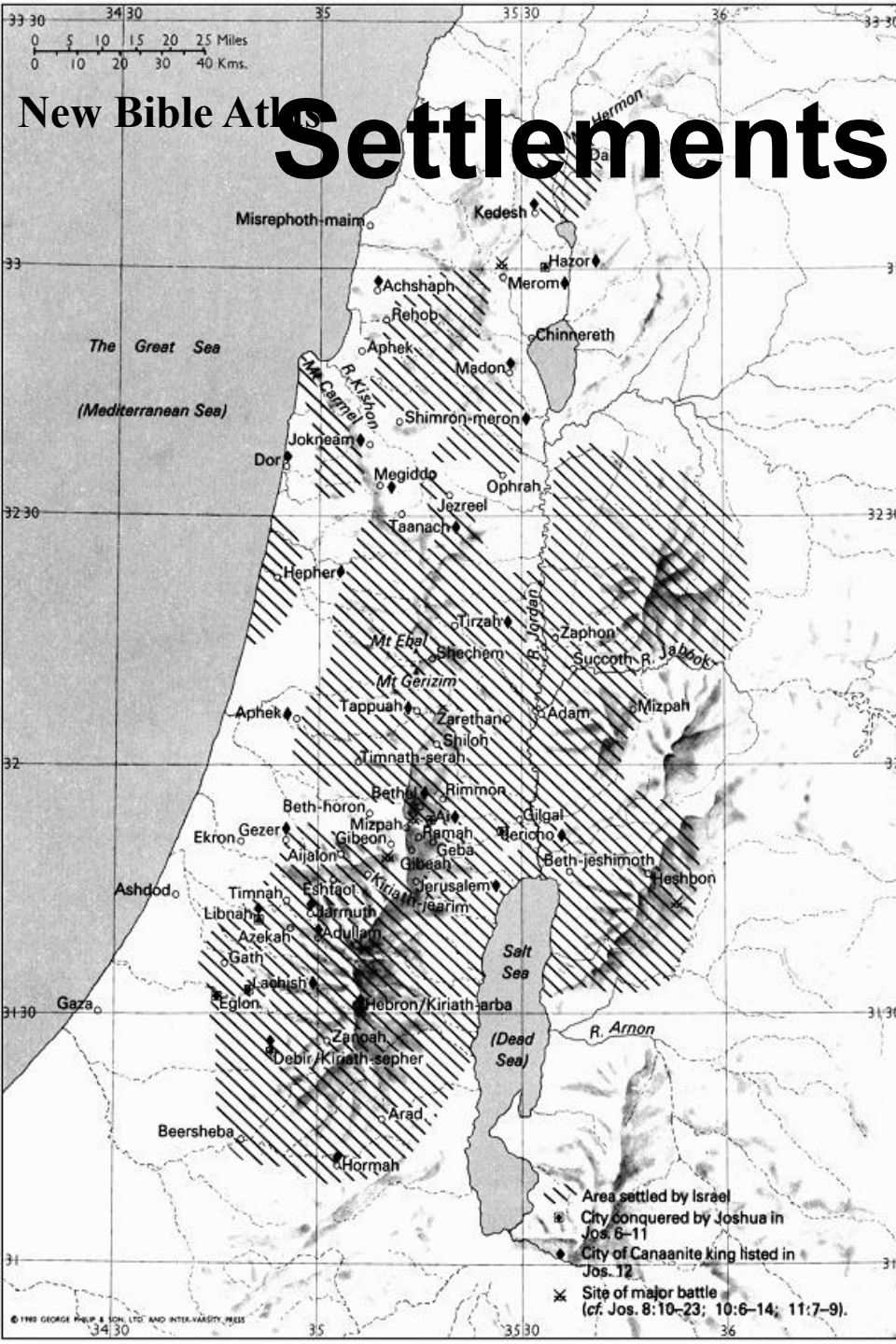
—steadfastness  \-,fas(t)-nəs, -fəs(t)-\ *noun*

Why must you be **steadfast** in
having God as your king?



Land Settled under Joshua



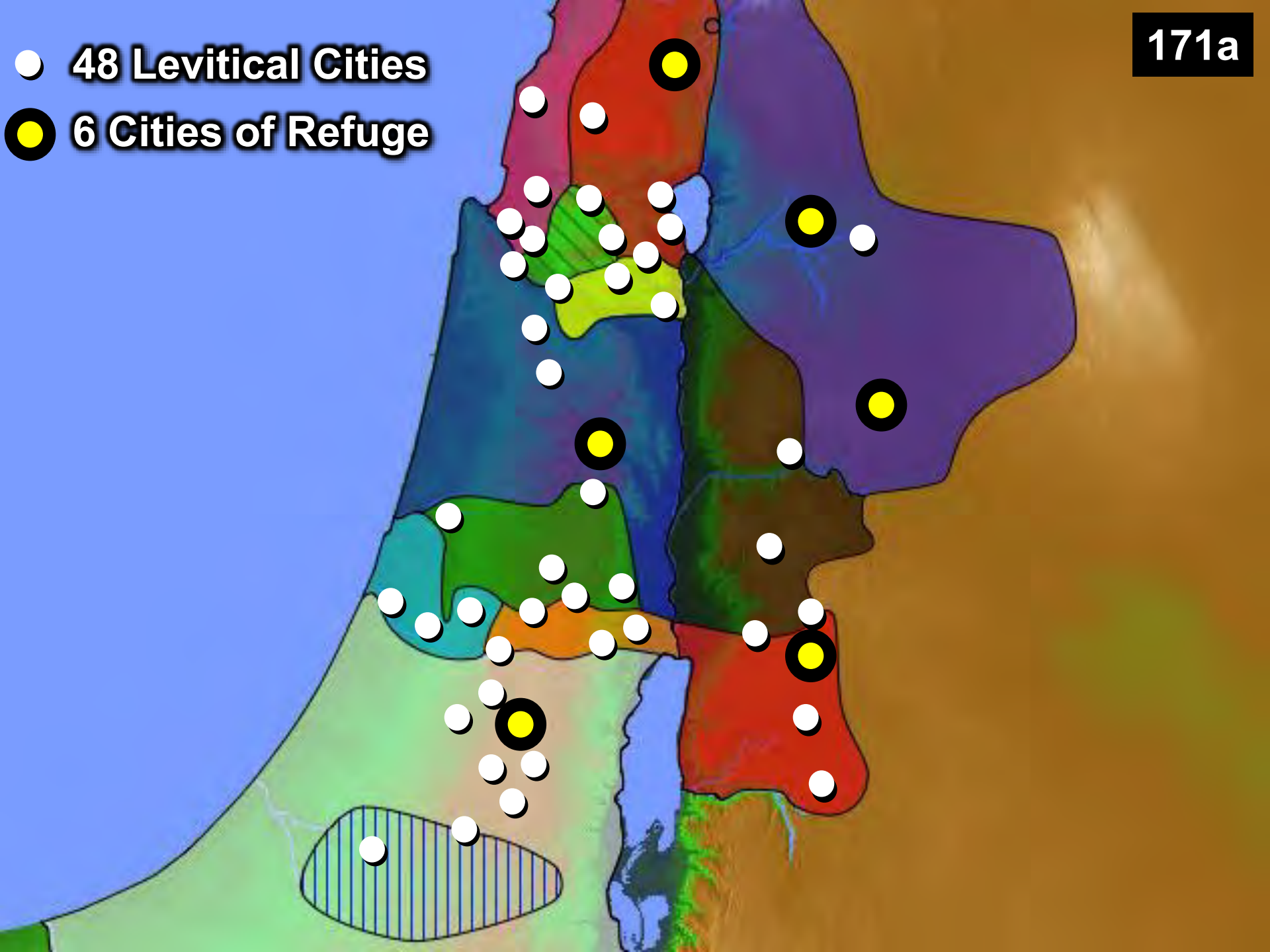


5 Books of Moses + Joshua



The Word Available to Them

- 48 Levitical Cities
- 6 Cities of Refuge

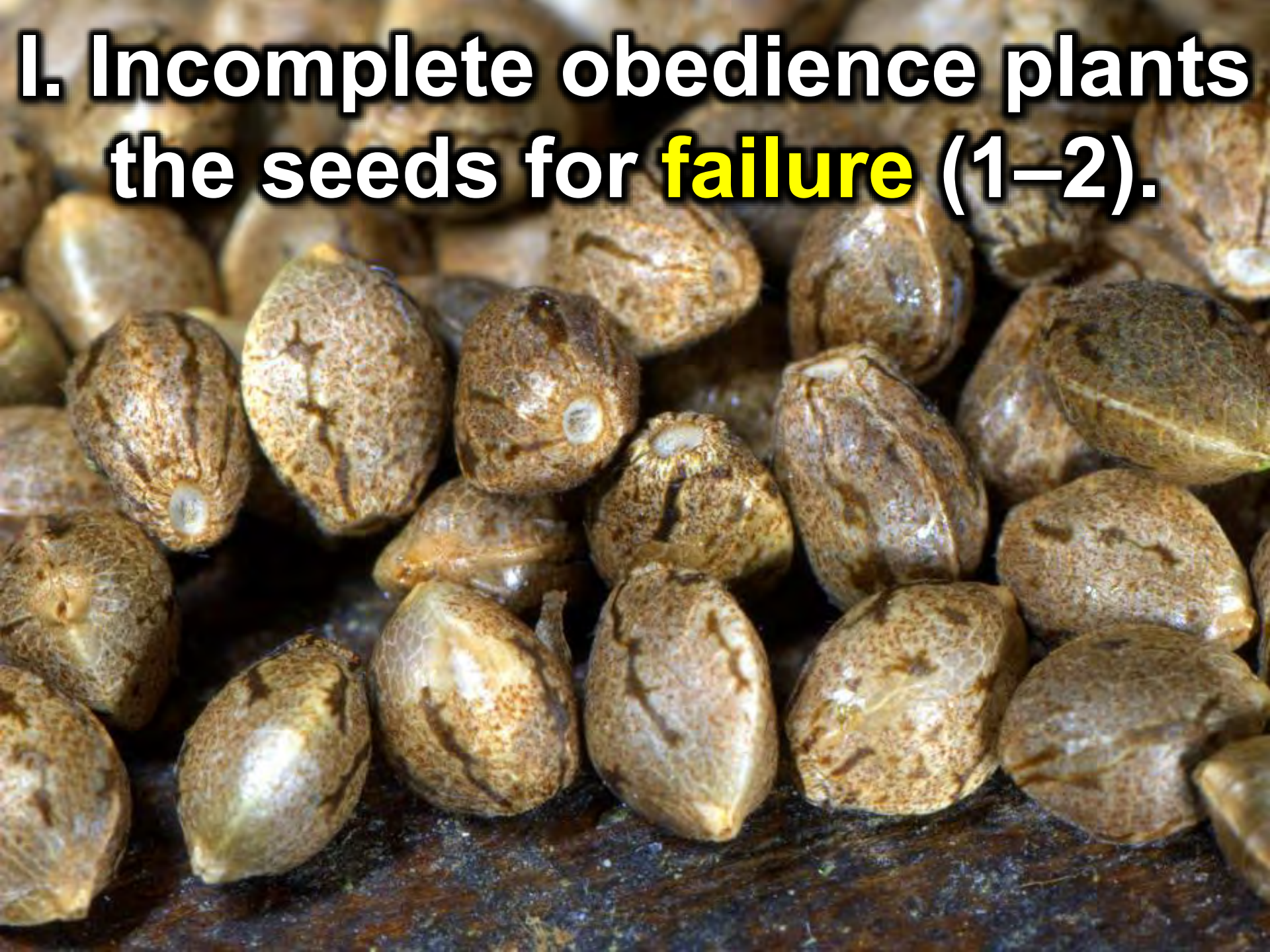


Why must you be **steadfast** in
having God as your king?



3 reasons

**I. Incomplete obedience plants
the seeds for **failure** (1–2).**

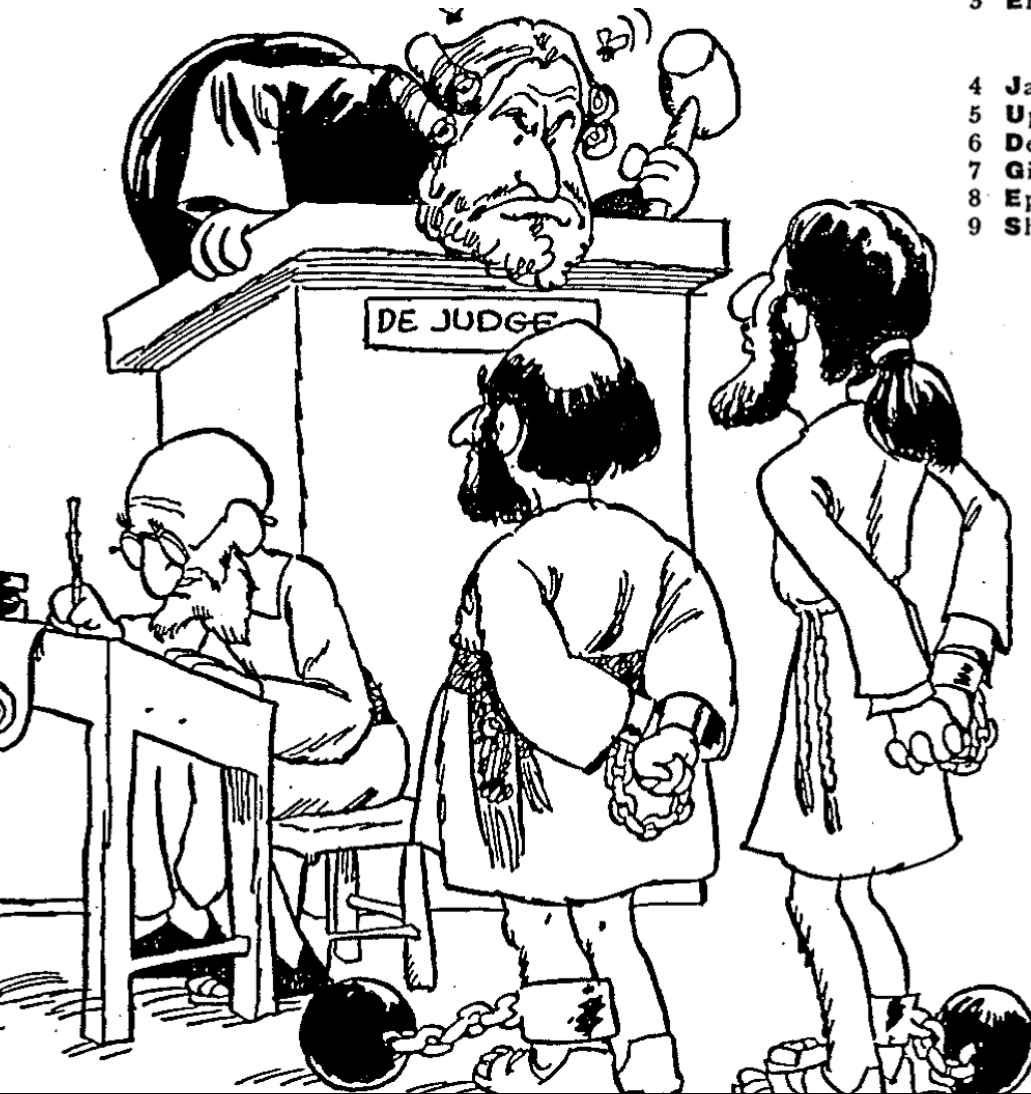


**Israel's incomplete occupation
of Canaan led to the need for
judges (1:1–2:5).**



Dr. Rick Griffith, Singapore Bible College
BibleStudyDownloads.org

Judges



- 1 Territories Israel left unconquered
- 2 How God tested Israel
- 3 Ehud slays Moab's king
- 4 Jabin overcome by Deborah
- 5 Uplifting song of Deborah
- 6 Determination via Gideon's fleece
- 7 Gideon's army routs Midianites
- 8 Ephod causes Gideon's downfall
- 9 Shechemites make Abimelech king
- 10 Oppression by the Ammonites
- 11 Fighting Jephthah subdues Ammonites
- 12 Gileadites overcome the Ephraimites
- 13 Oppression by the Philistines
- 14 Deceit over Samson's riddle
- 15 Samson kills thousand Philistines
- 16 Philistines find Samson's secret
- 17 Ephraimite hires own priest
- 18 Offenses committed by Danites
- 19 Perversion of Levite's concubine
- 20 Levite's vengeance on Benjamites
- 21 Existence of Benjamin assured

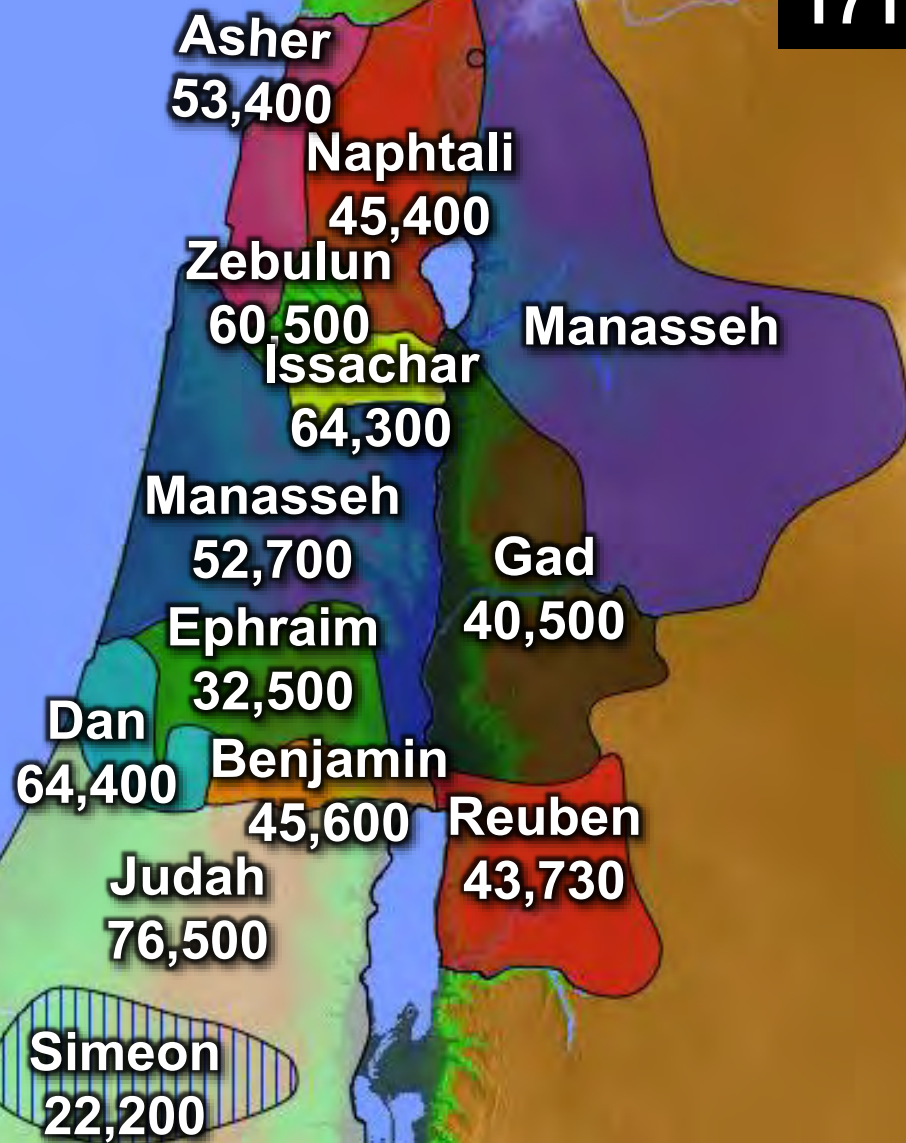
Judges 1

Populations by Tribe

Numbers 26
Joshua 13:1–19:48

171

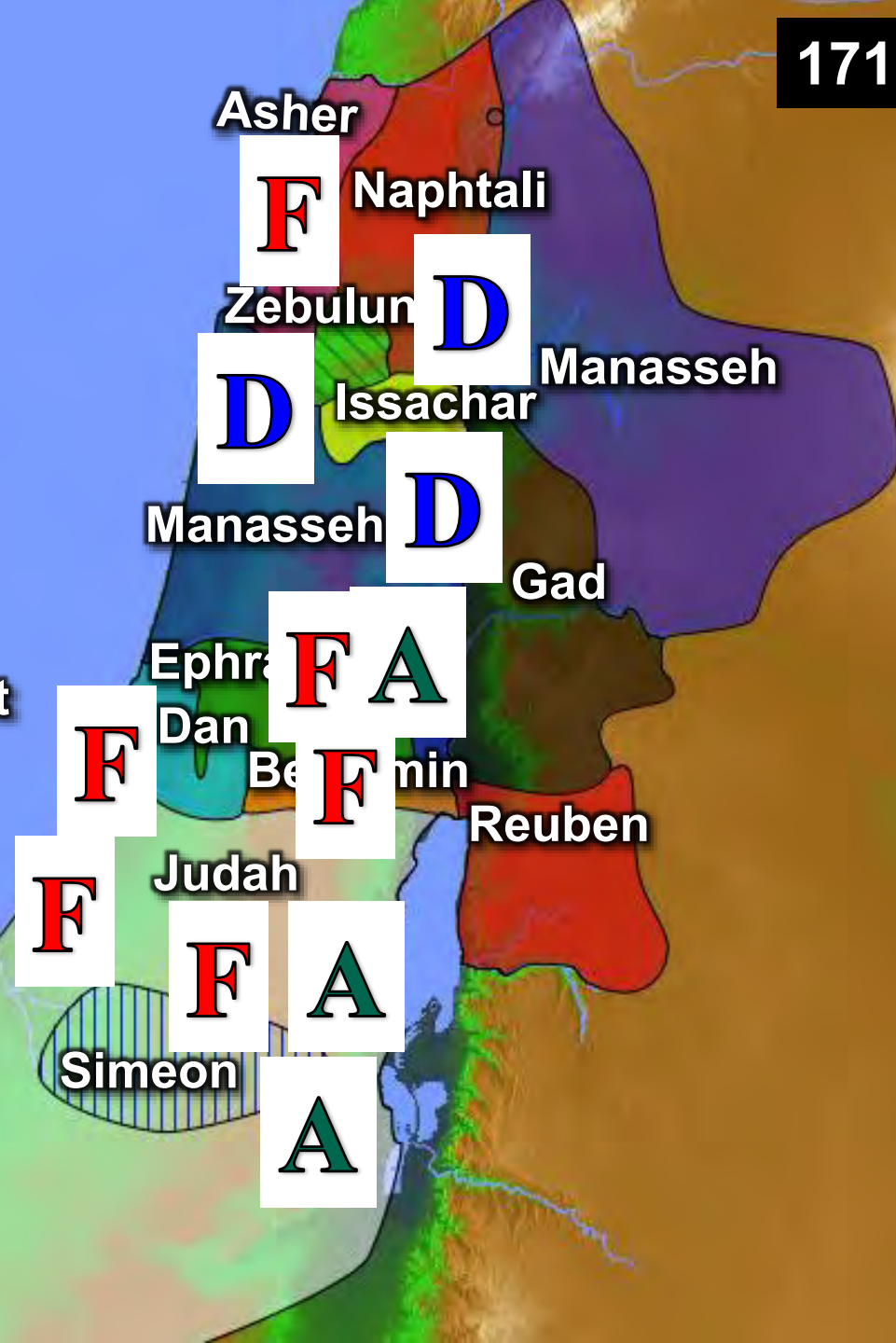
Levi
23,000
Spread
Throughout
Israel



Grades for the Tribes of Israel

Judges 1:1-35

Levites
Spread
Throughout
Israel



Key Word

172
39

Failure

Judges

Theme

**Failure Under
the Theocracy**

Judges

Key Verse

**"In those days Israel had no king;
everyone did as he saw fit
(what was right in his own eyes)"
(17:6; 21:25)**

Judges

Judges 2

False Gods of the Land

BAAL



DAGON

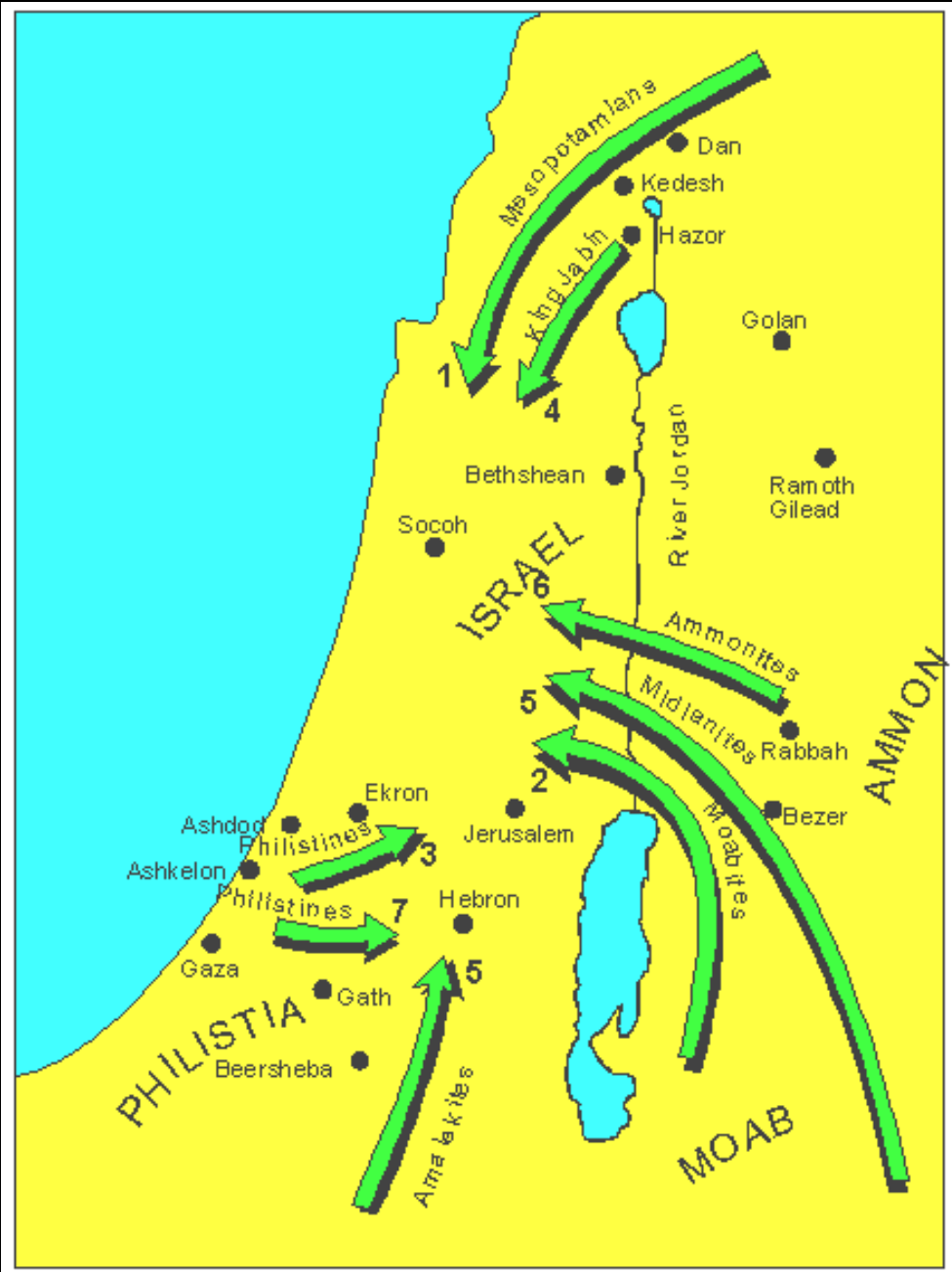


**A
S
T
H
A
R
O
T
H**



The Consequence of Breaking the Mosaic Covenant

Israel was surrounded by enemies that the Lord raised up against them.



+Taken from Nelsons 3D-M Jenkins, S.
1997, c1985. Nelson's 3-D Bible map book
(electronic ed.). Thomas Nelson: Nashville

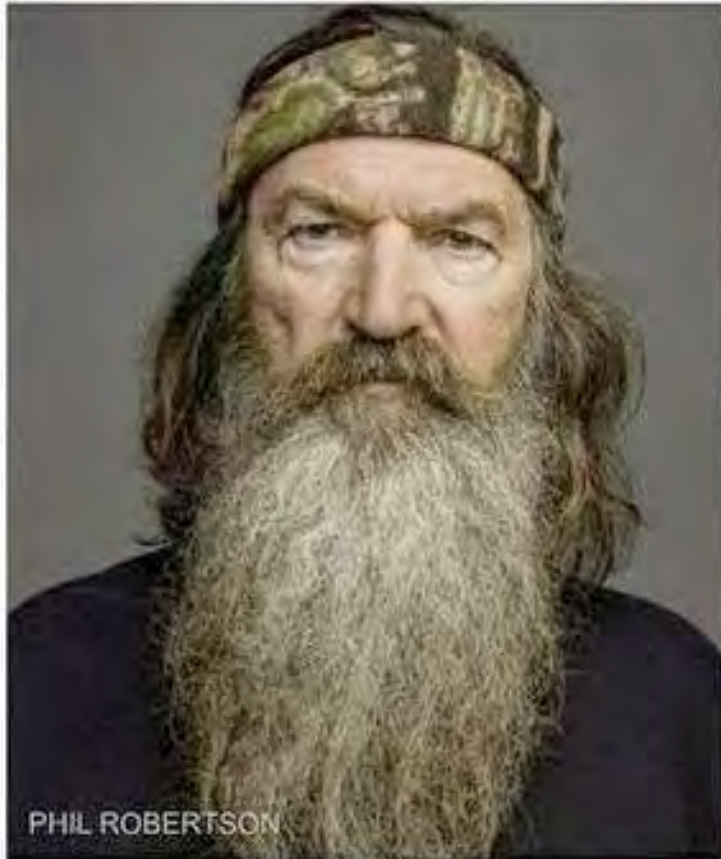
**Disobeying the LORD as king
leads to trouble.**



Relativism

**SAYS GAYS NEED TO
ACCEPT JESUS CHRIST
TO GET TO HEAVEN**

**ORDERS GAYS HANGED,
BEHEADED, STONED &
BURNED ALIVE**



**LIBERALS DEMAND
HE BE CENSORED**

**INVITED TO SPEAK AT
COLUMBIA UNIV., USA**

Relativism



RELATIVISM

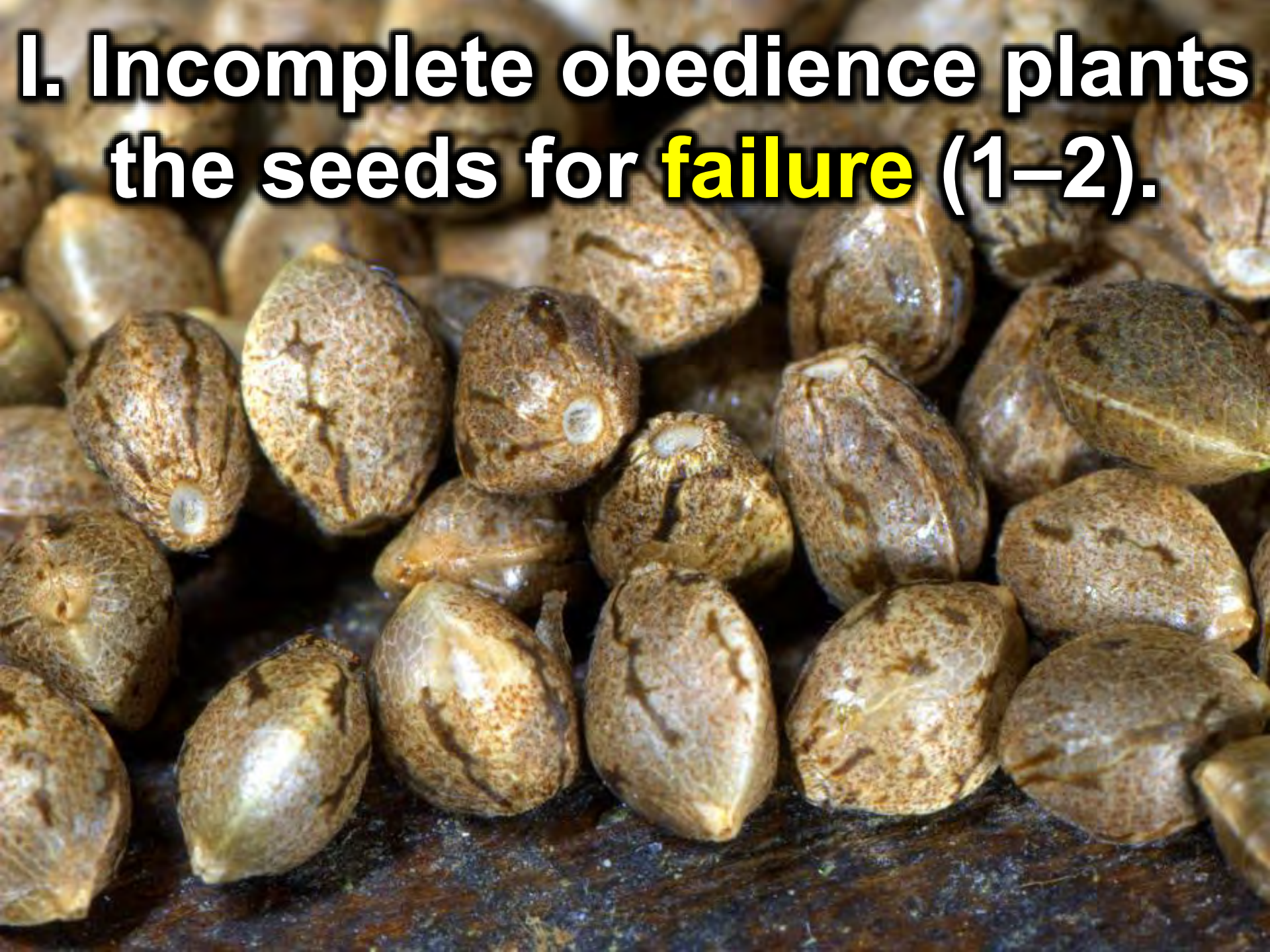
Because there absolutely are no absolutes.

Why must you be **steadfast** in
having God as your king?



3 reasons

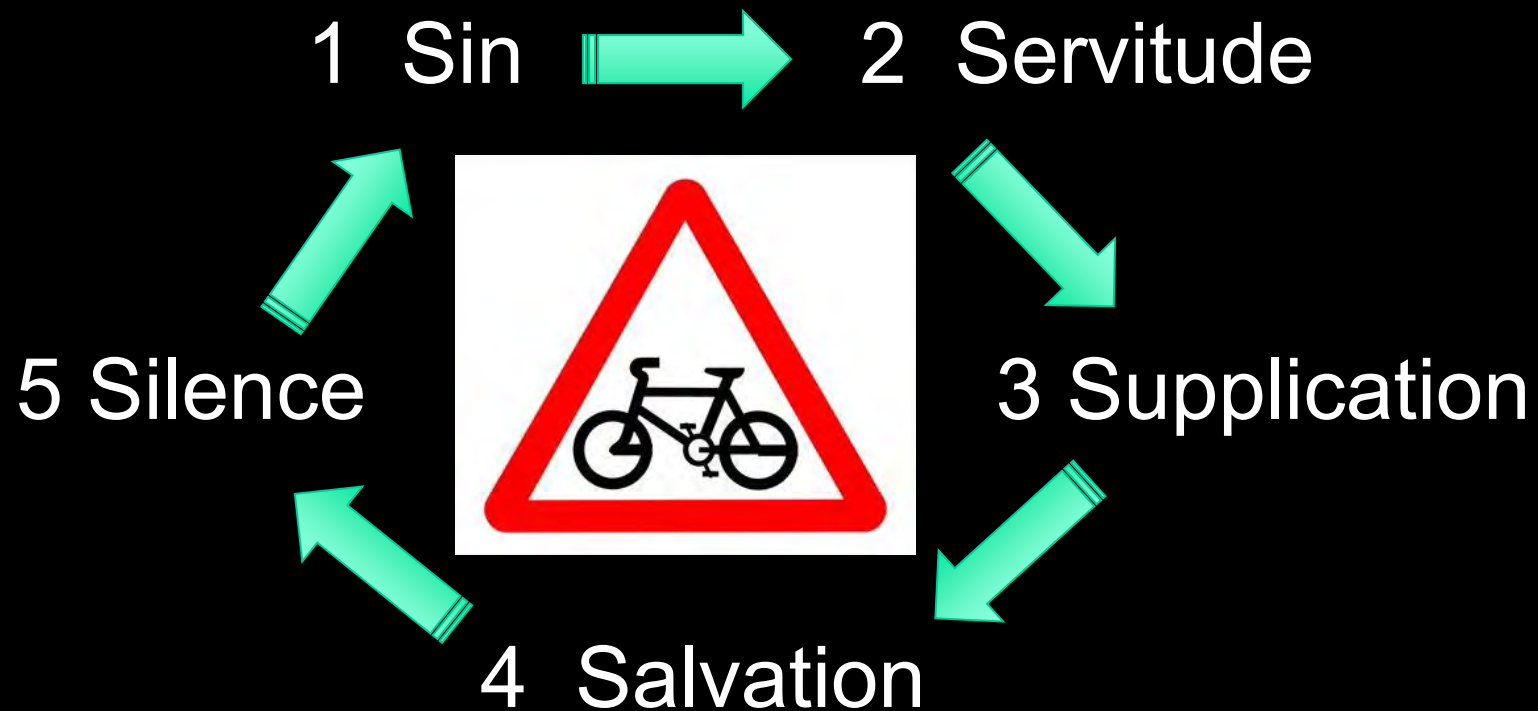
**I. Incomplete obedience plants
the seeds for **failure** (1–2).**



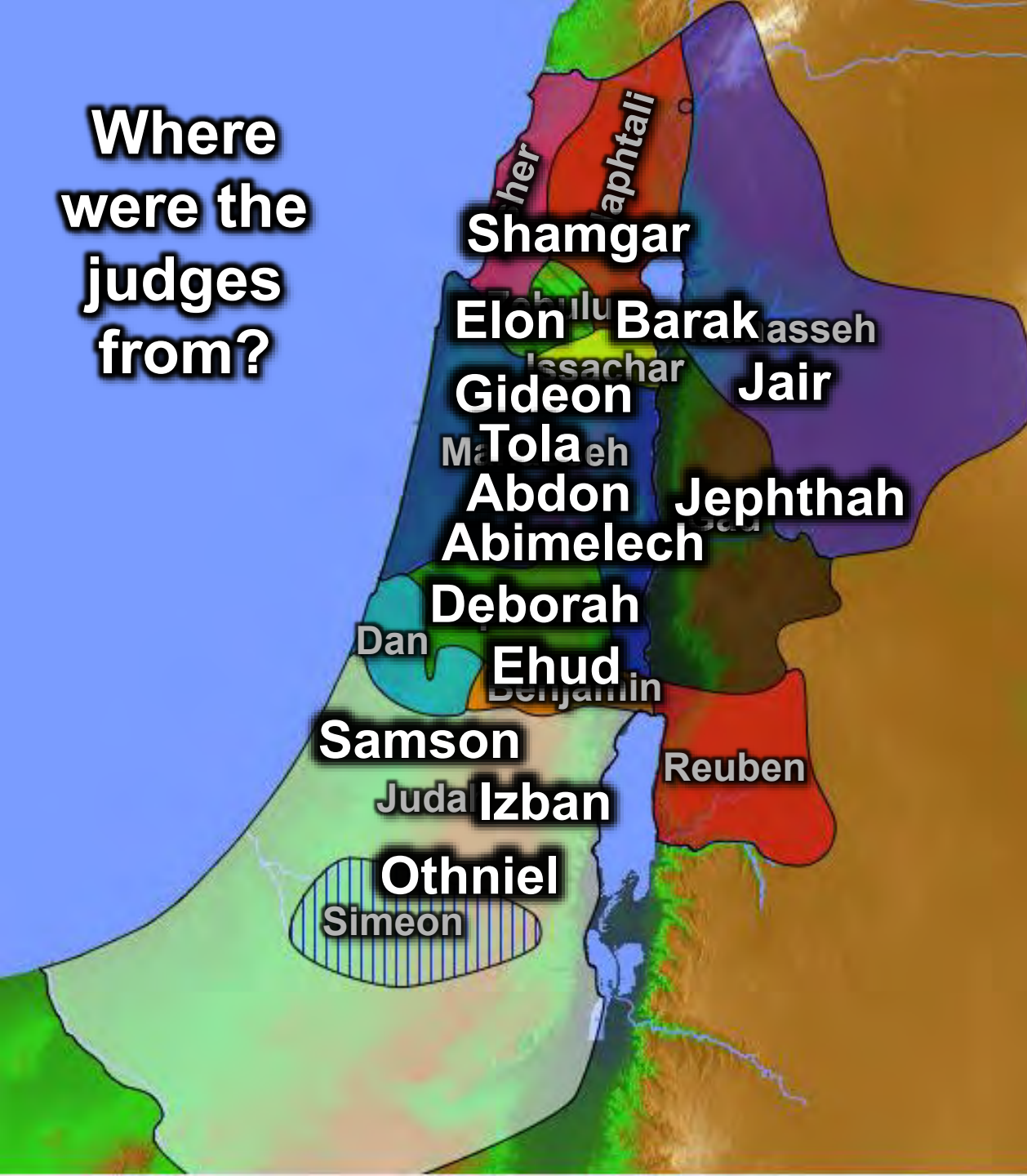
II. Relativism leads to **cycles
of sin (3–16).**

**Judges tried to stop Israel's
cycles of sin to show that
God's absolute standards were
better than Israel's relative
standards (2:6–16:31).**

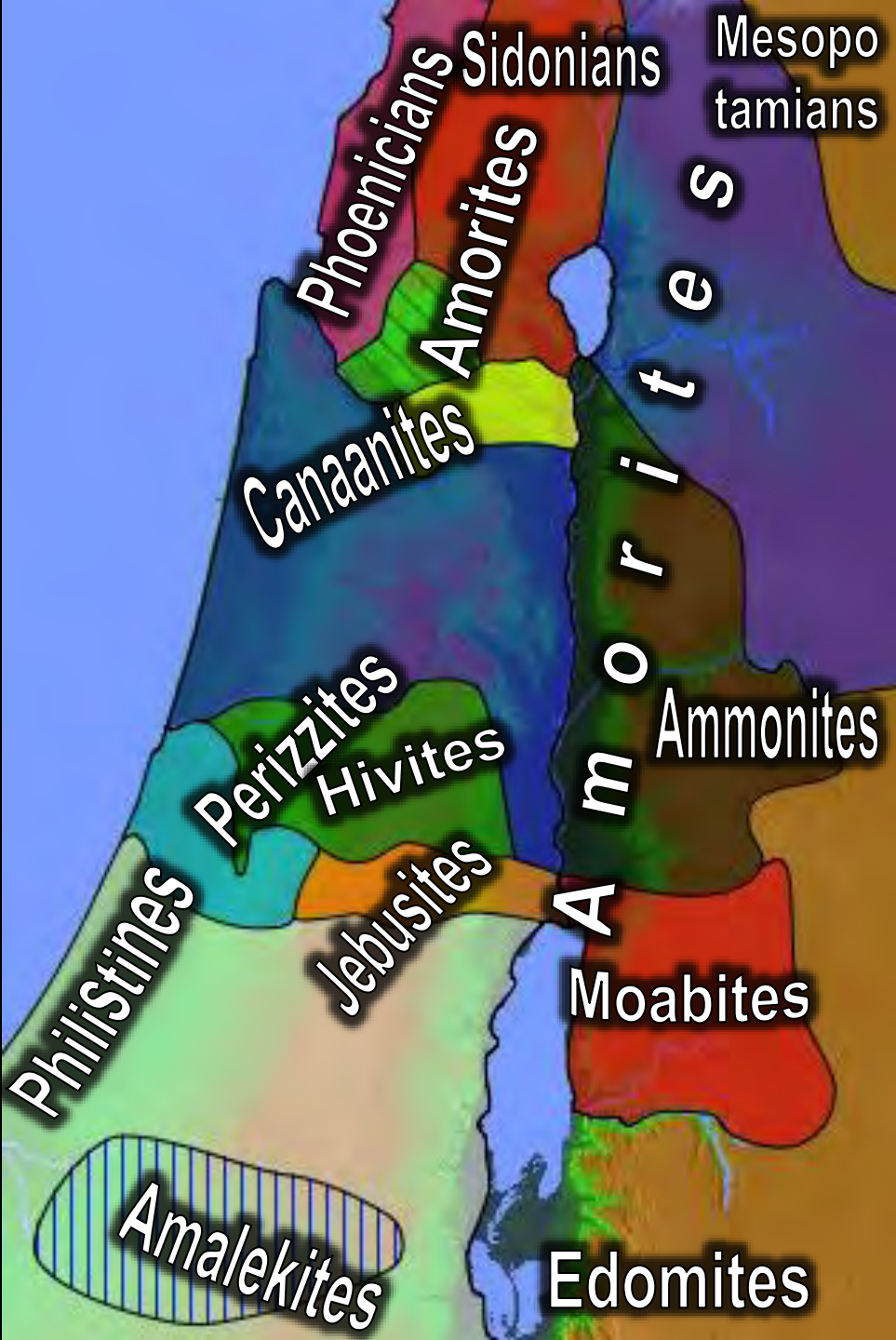
The Cycle Repeated in Judges



Where
were the
judges
from?



Judges 3

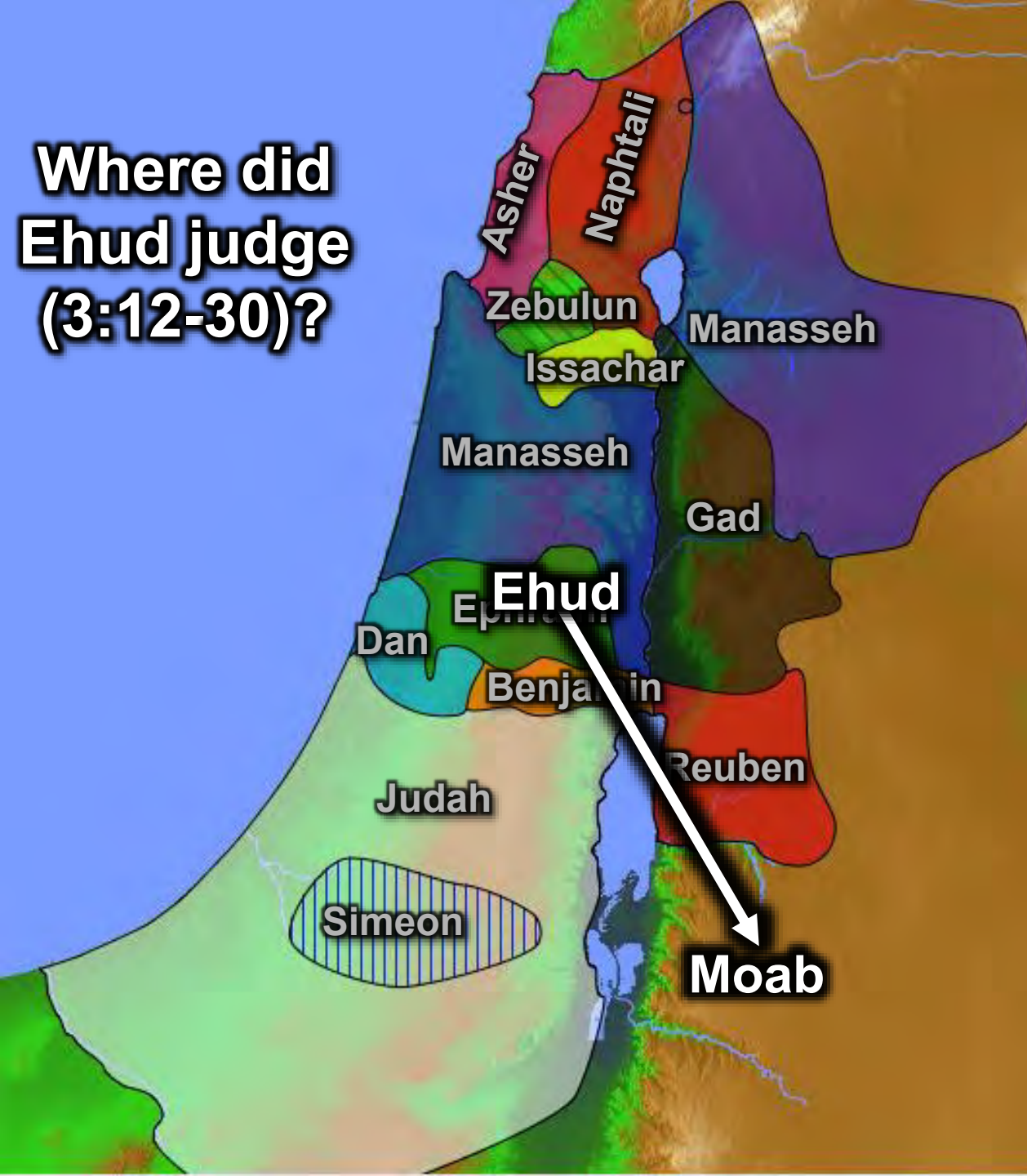


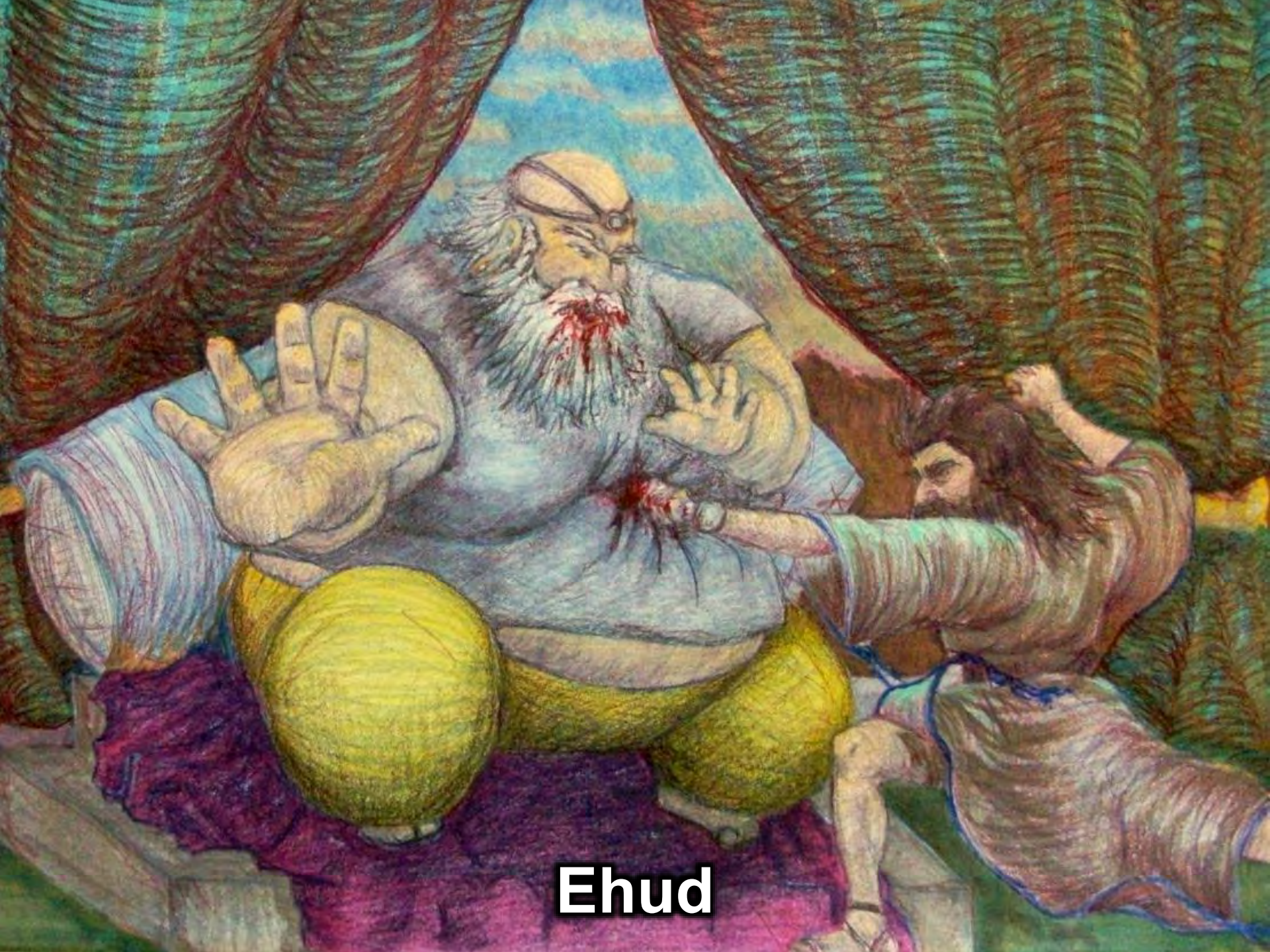
**Enemies in Canaan
During the Judges
(3:5)**

Where did
Othniel
judge (3:7-
11)?



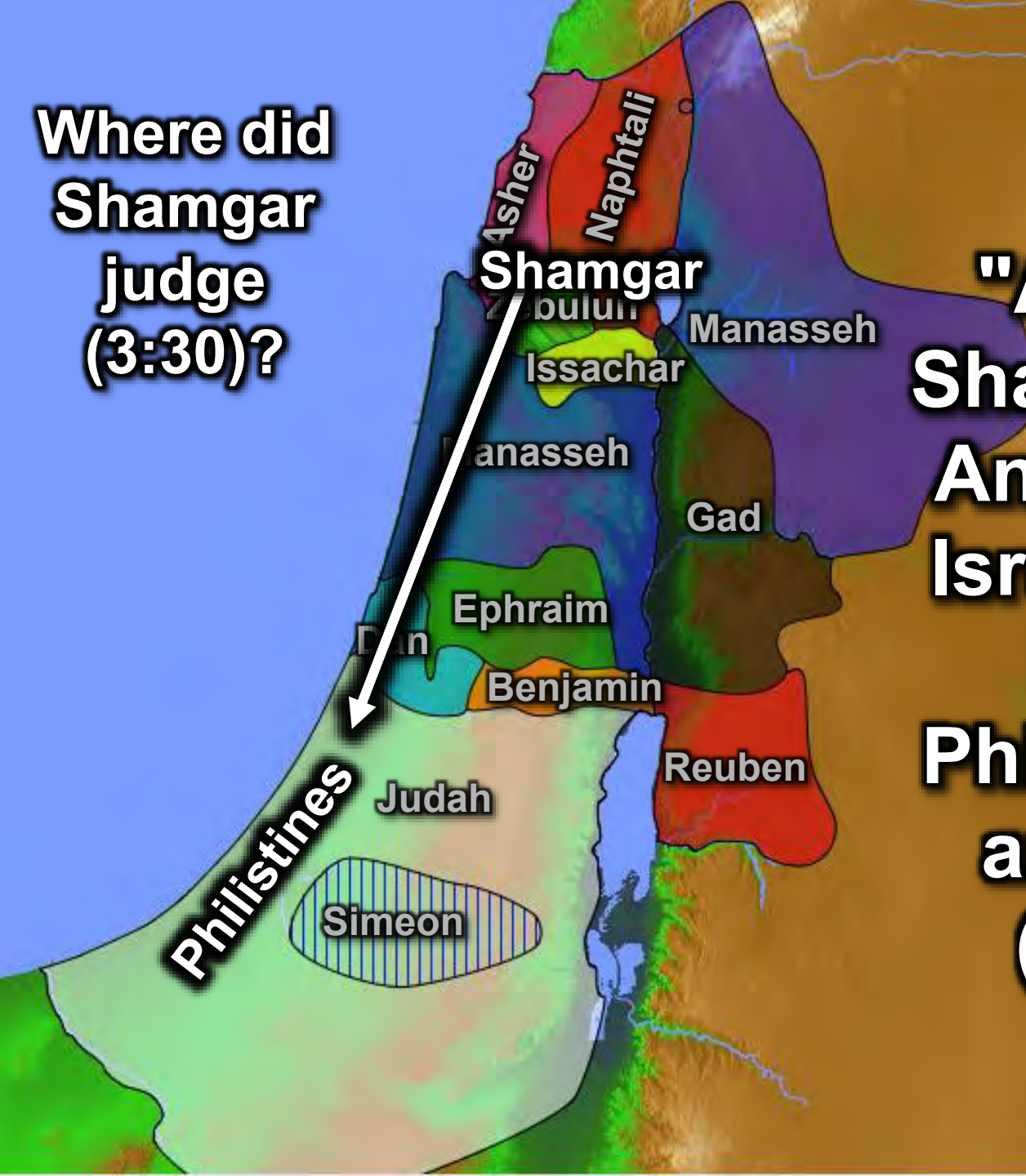
**Where did
Ehud judge
(3:12-30)?**





Ehud

**Where did
Shamgar
judge
(3:30)?**



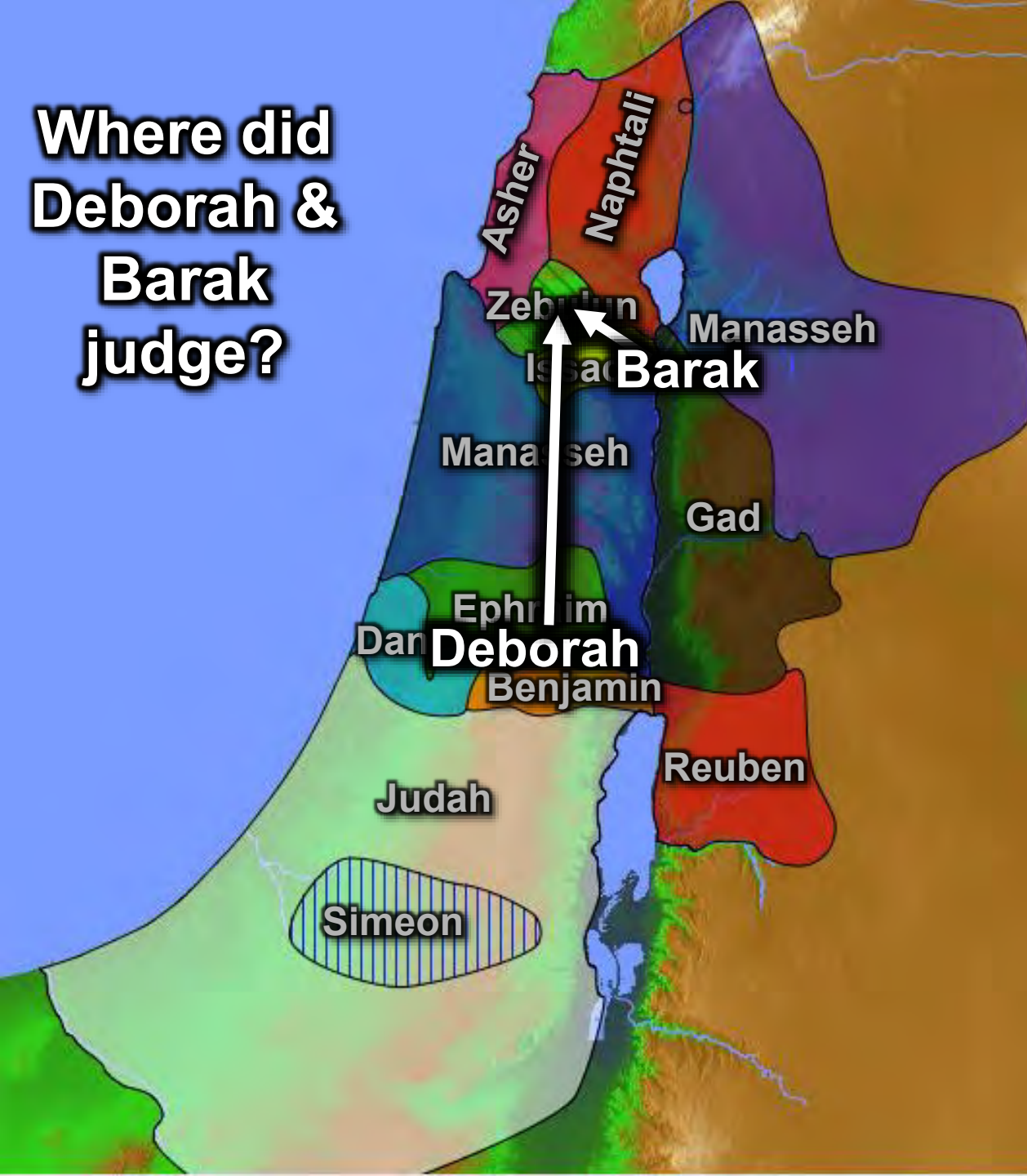
**"After Ehud,
Shamgar son of
Anath rescued
Israel. He once
killed 600
Philistines with
an ox goad"
(3:31 NLT).**

Judges 4



Deborah & Barak

Where did
Deborah &
Barak
judge?



**10,000 Israelite men defeated 900
Canaanite chariots (Judges 4:3, 6)**



Judges 5



Deborah's Song (Judges 5)

Judges 6

**Where did
Gideon
judge?**





God Called Gideon



**"Gideon thanks God for
the miracle of the dew"**

**Painting by Maarten van Heemskerck
(Musée des Beaux-Arts de Strasbourg)
in AD 1550**

Judges 7

Gideon Trimmed Down His Troops (7:1-8a)



Gideon Defeated the Midianites (7:17-21)



Judges 8

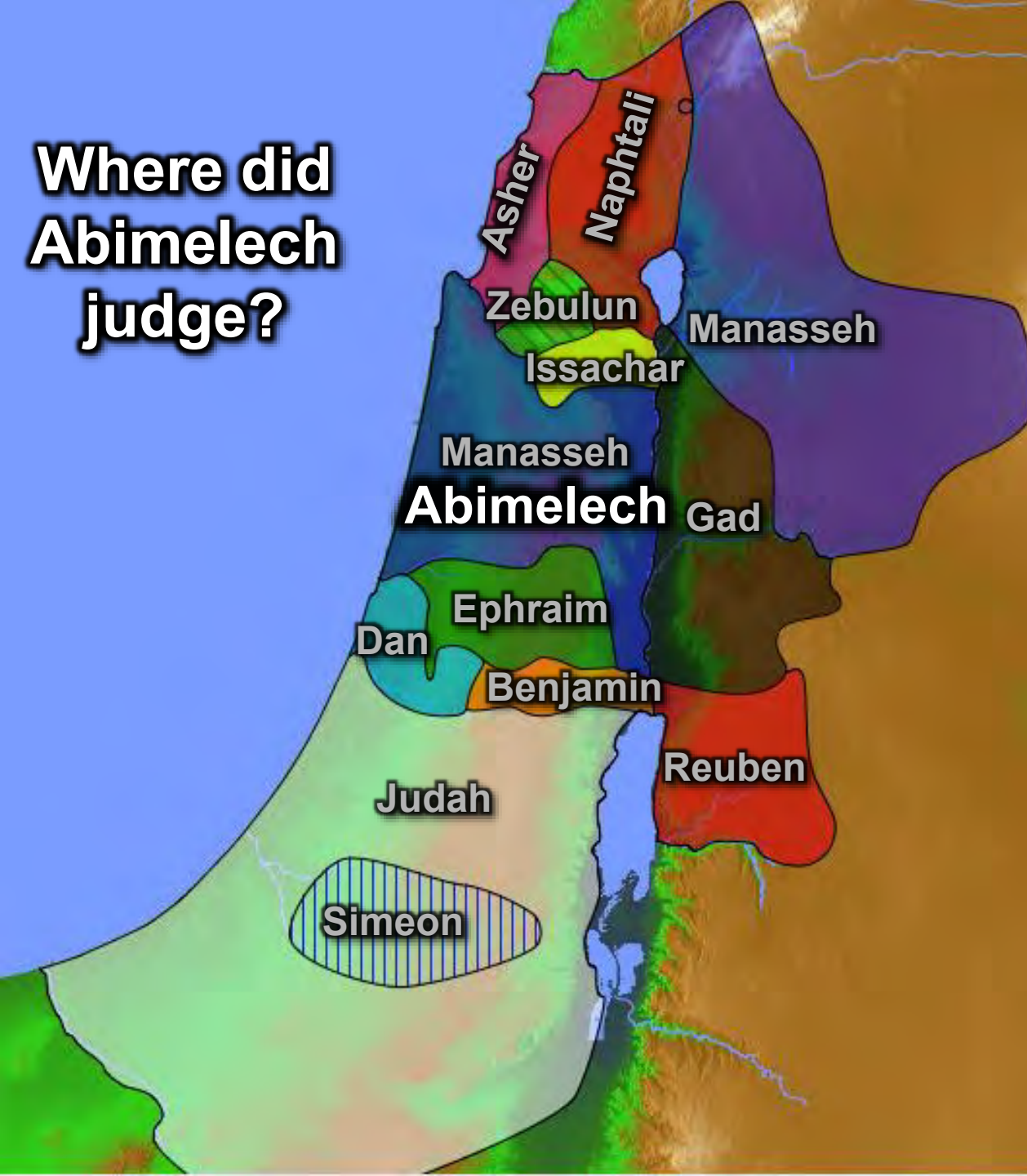
Gideon

**"You will break the oppressor's
rod, just as you did when you
destroyed the army of Midian"
(Isa. 9:4b NLT)**

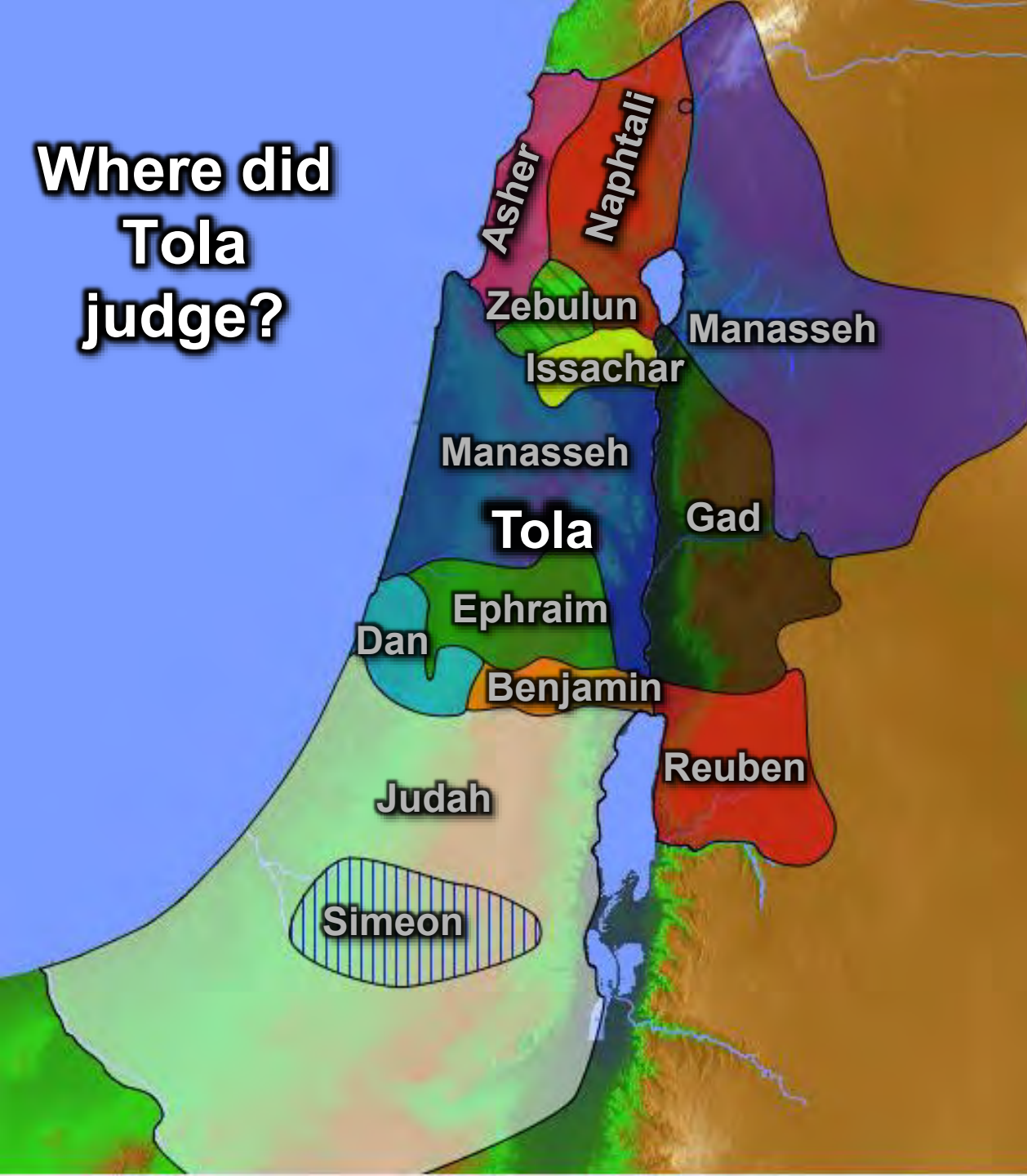


Judges 9

Where did
Abimelech
judge?

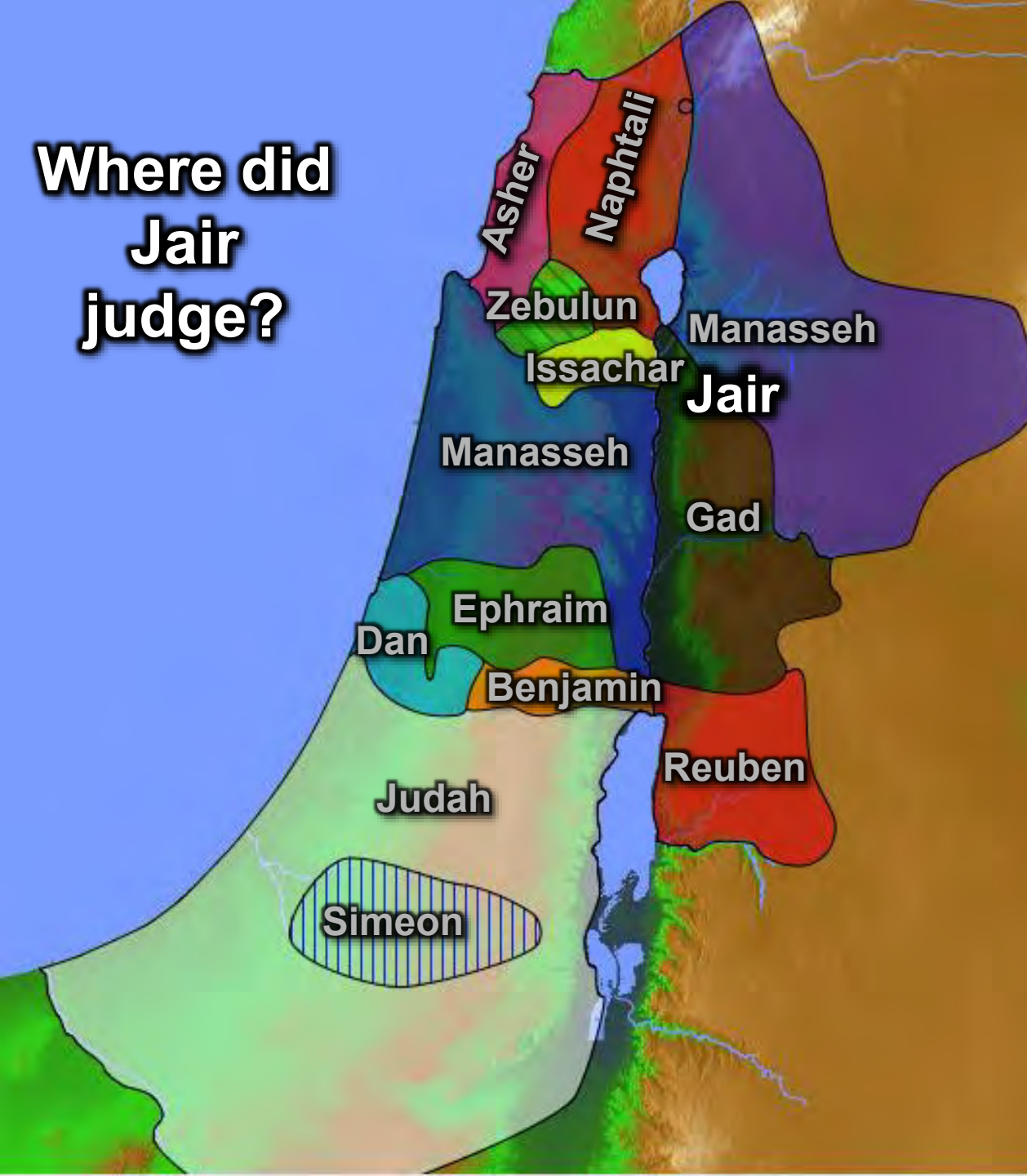


Where did
Tola
judge?

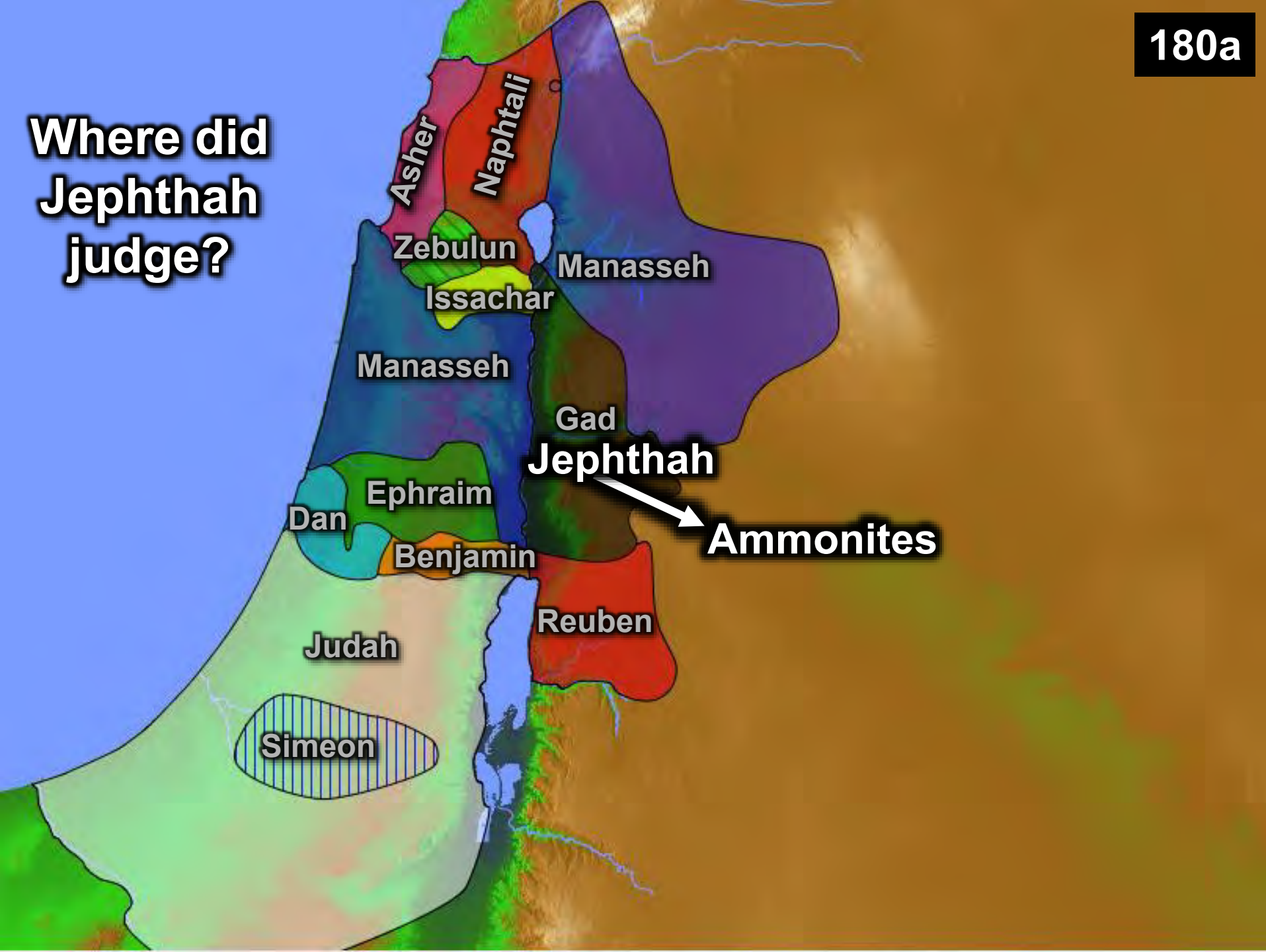


Judges 10

Where did
Jair
judge?



**Where did
Jephthah
judge?**





Jepththah's Victory (10:17–12:6)

Judges 11



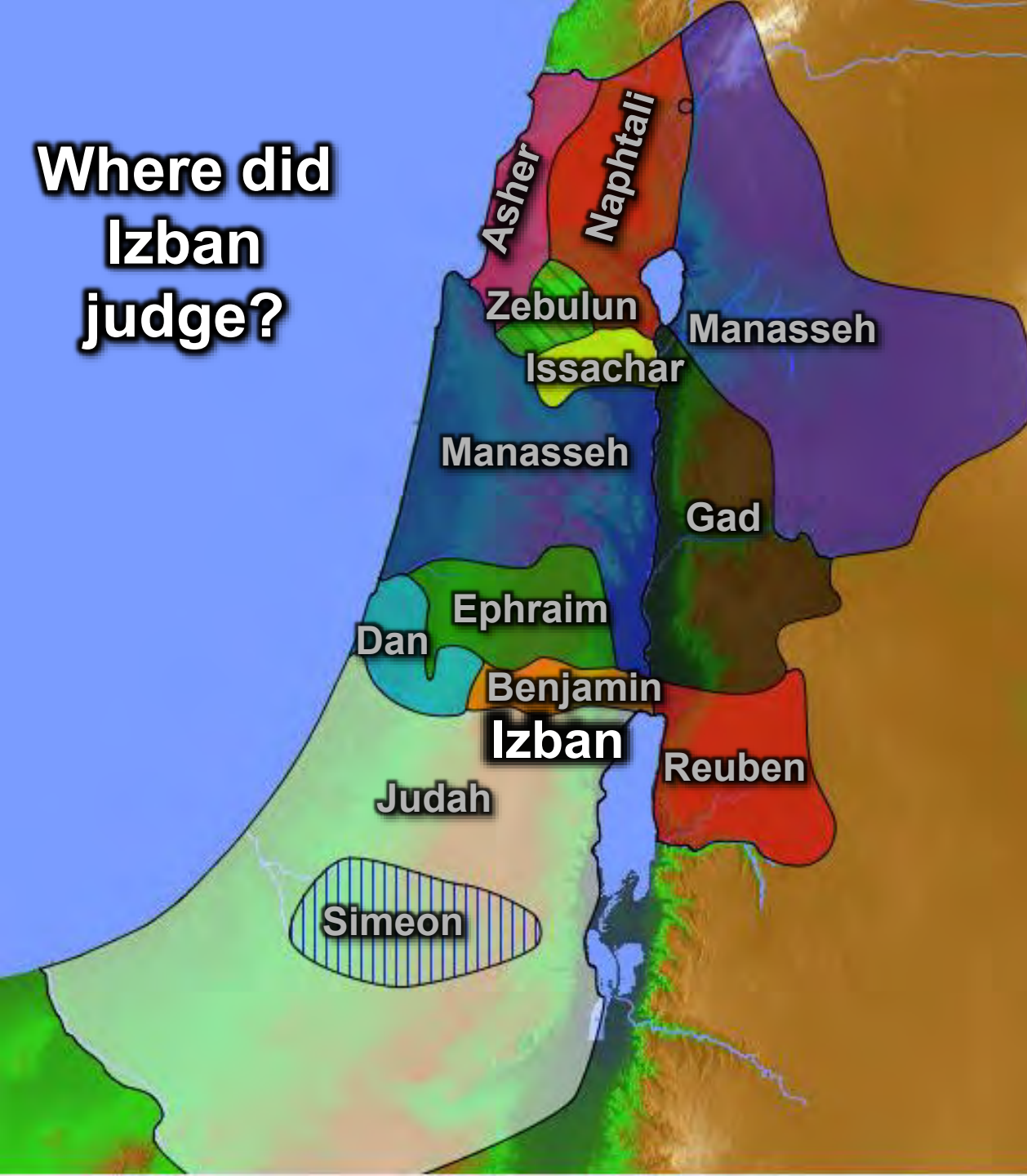
Jephthah's Daughter Greets Him (11:34)



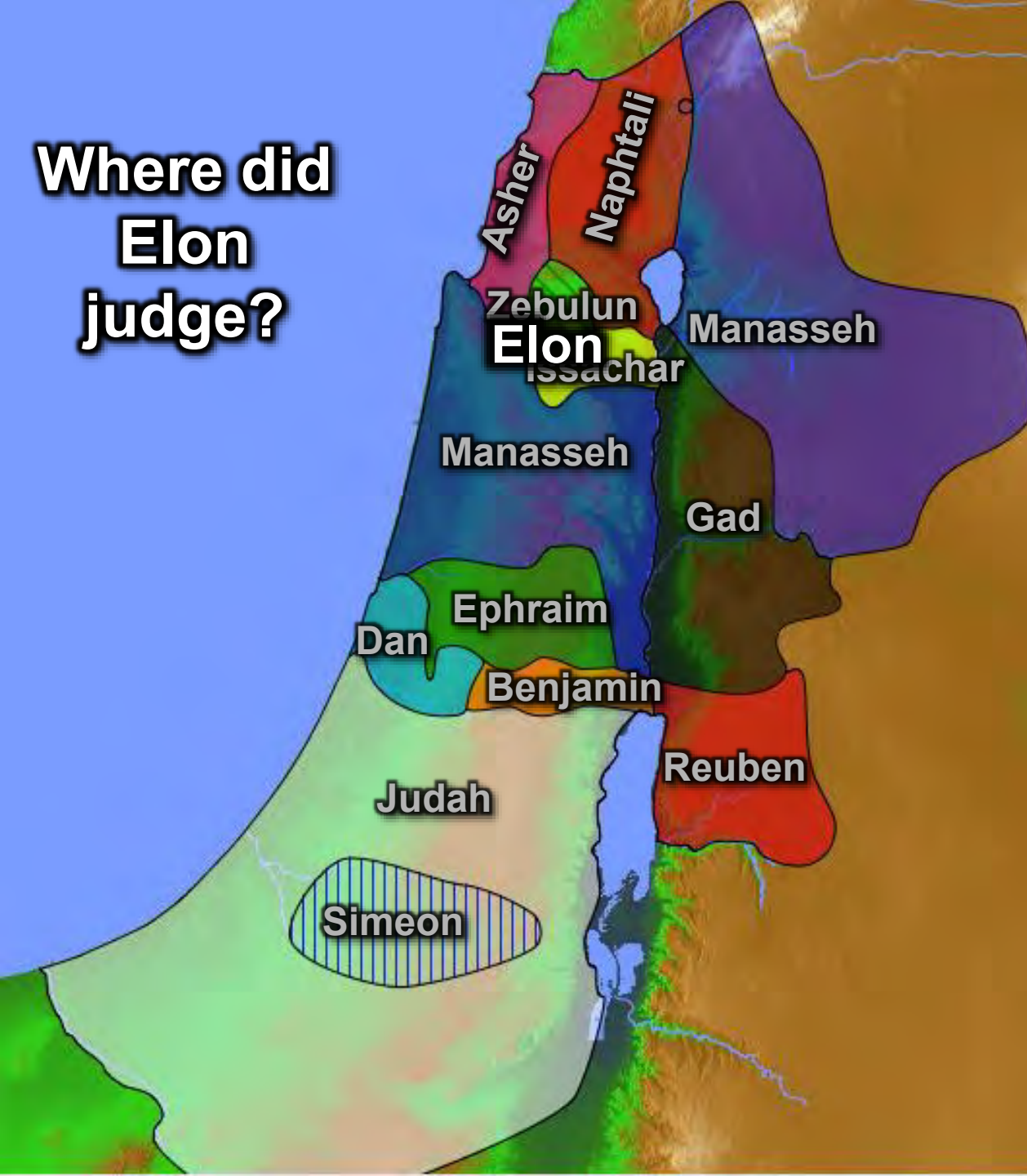
Did Jephthah really kill his daughter?

Judges 12

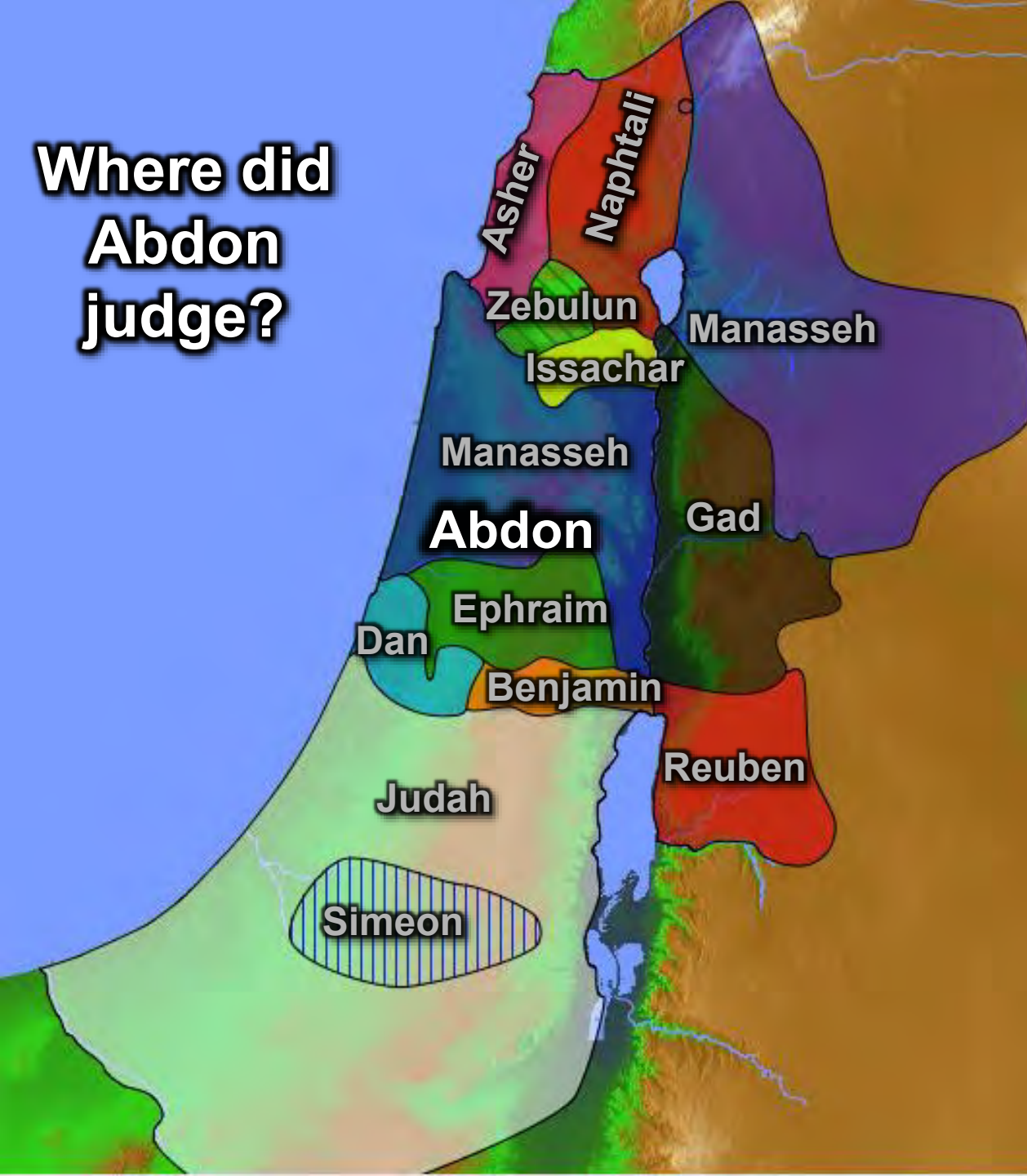
**Where did
Izban
judge?**



**Where did
Elon
judge?**



**Where did
Abdon
judge?**



Judges 13

The Samson Cycle

1 Sin



**"Again the Israelites did evil
in the LORD's sight..." (13:1a).**

The Samson Cycle

1 Sin  2 Servitude



"...so the LORD handed them over to the Philistines, who oppressed them for forty years" (13:1b).

The Samson Cycle

1 Sin → 2 Servitude



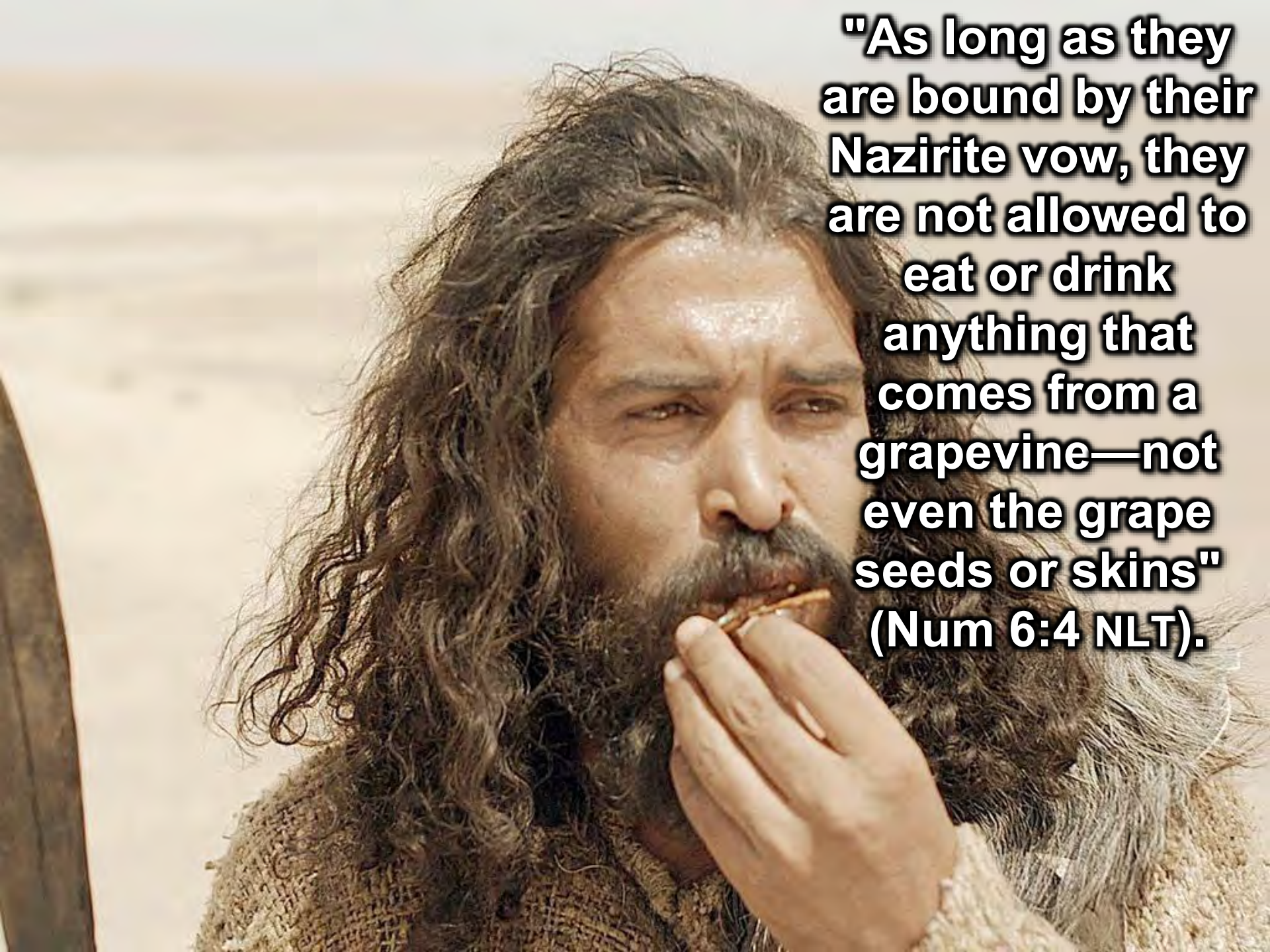
3 Supplication

Supplication Absent: No mention is made of the nation crying out to the LORD for deliverance from its enemy.



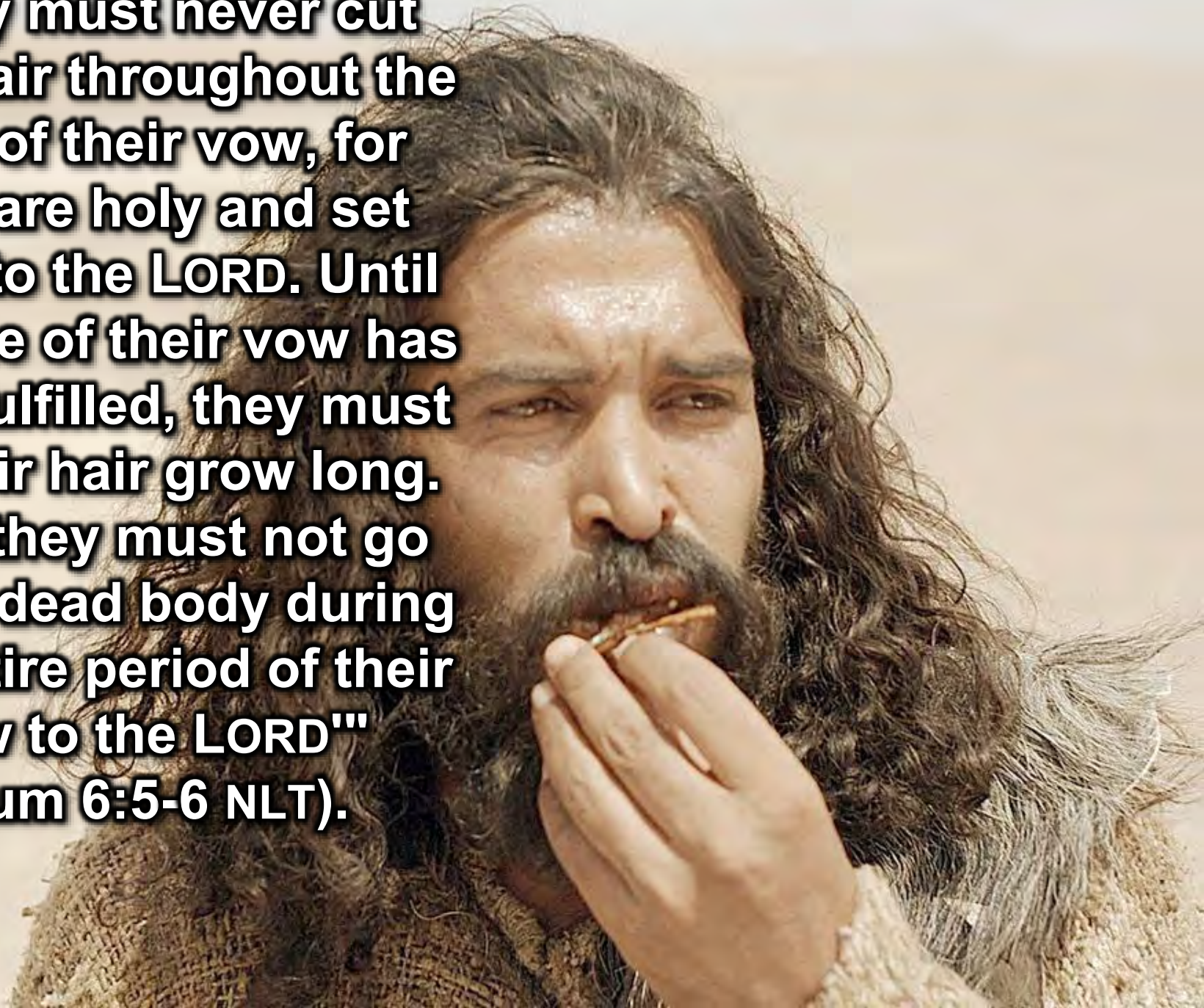
"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Give the following instructions to the people of Israel.

**²"If any of the people, either men or women, take the special vow of a Nazirite, setting themselves apart to the Lord in a special way, ³they must give up wine and other alcoholic drinks. They must not use vinegar made from wine or from other alcoholic drinks, they must not drink fresh grape juice, and they must not eat grapes or raisins""
(Num 6:1-3 NLT).**



**"As long as they
are bound by their
Nazirite vow, they
are not allowed to
eat or drink
anything that
comes from a
grapevine—not
even the grape
seeds or skins"
(Num 6:4 NLT).**

**"They must never cut their hair throughout the time of their vow, for they are holy and set apart to the LORD. Until the time of their vow has been fulfilled, they must let their hair grow long. ⁶And they must not go near a dead body during the entire period of their vow to the LORD"
(Num 6:5-6 NLT).**



The Samson Cycle

Samson delivers southwestern Israel from the Philistines as God's merciful provision for the nation (13:2–16:31).

2 Servitude



3 Supplication



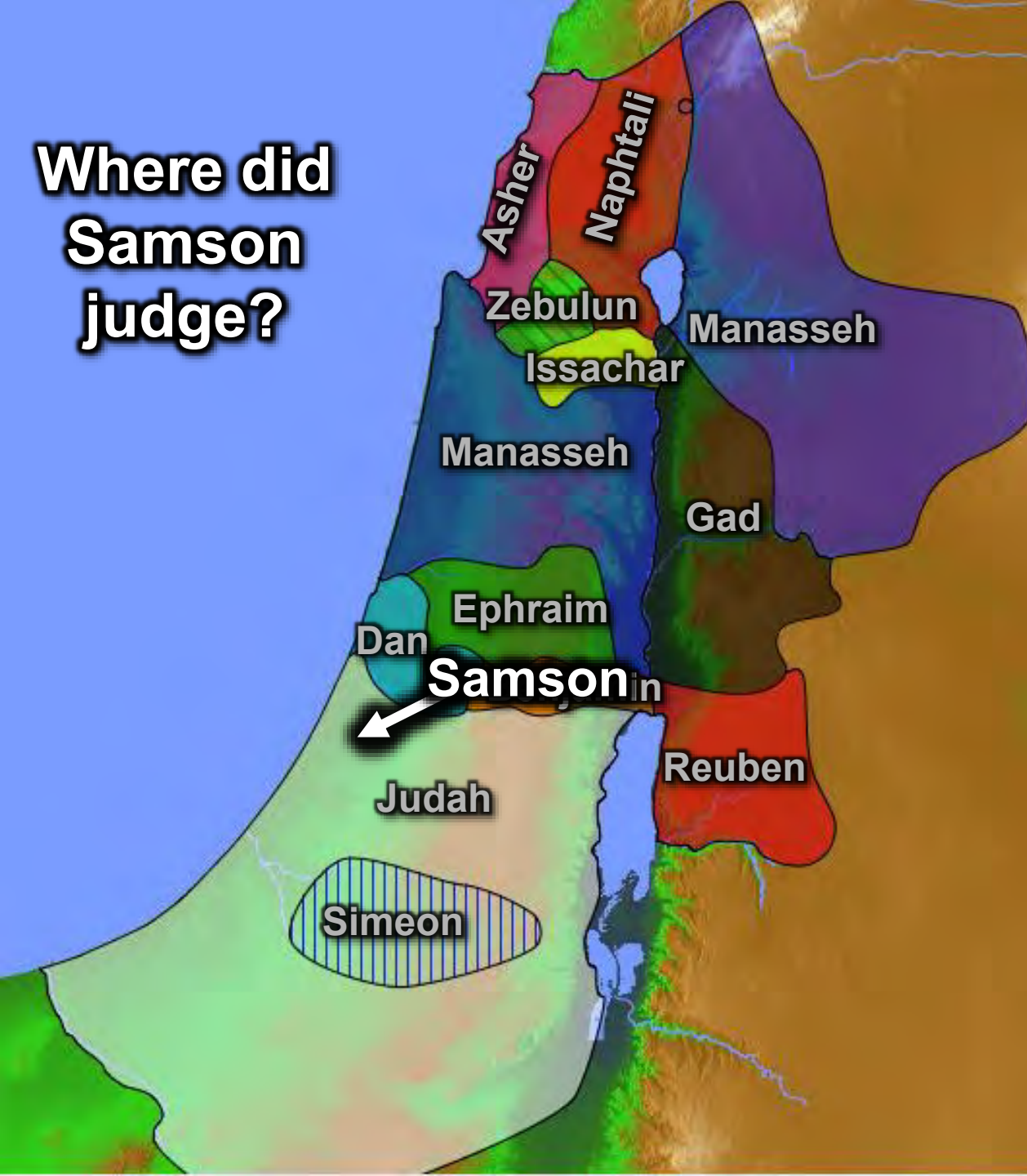
4 Salvation

Samson: A "Sun" in Darkness



"Samson"
means
"Sun"

Where did
Samson
judge?



Judges 14



"One day when Samson was in Timnah, one of the Philistine women caught his eye. ²When he returned home, he told his father and mother, 'A young Philistine woman in Timnah caught my eye. I want to marry her. Get her for me'"
(Judges 14:1-2 NLT).



"As Samson and his parents were going down to Timnah, a young lion suddenly attacked Samson near the vineyards of Timnah. ⁶At that moment the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon him, and he ripped the lion's jaws apart with his bare hands. He did it as easily as if it were a young goat. But he didn't tell his father or mother about it" (Judges 14:5-6 NLT).

Judges 15

Samson & the Foxes (Judges 15)

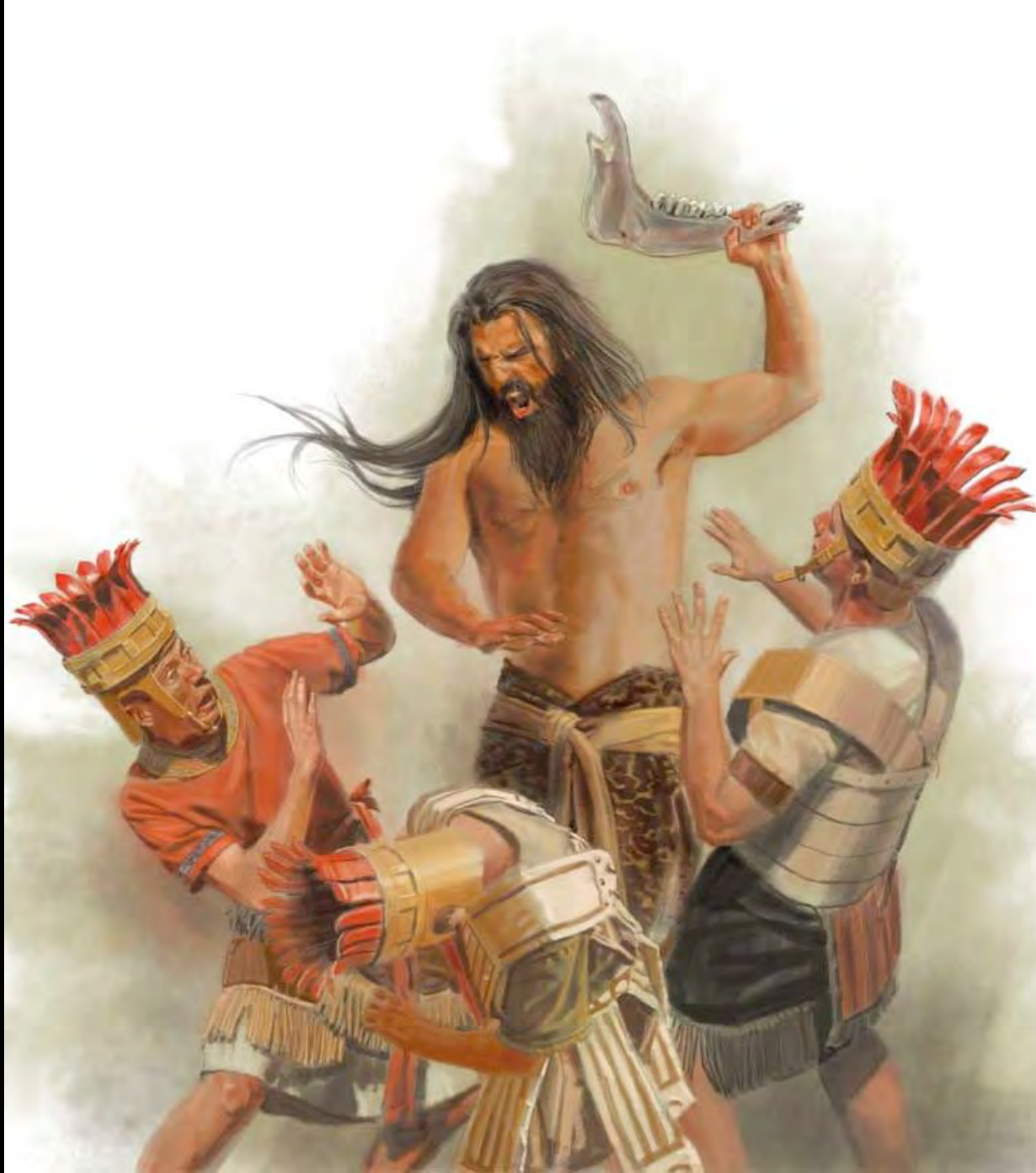


"Samson said, 'This time I cannot be blamed for everything I am going to do to you Philistines.'

⁴Then he went out and caught 300 foxes. He tied their tails together in pairs, and he fastened a torch to each pair of tails. ⁵Then he lit the torches and let the foxes run through the grain fields of the Philistines. He burned all their grain to the ground, including the sheaves and the uncut grain. He also destroyed their vineyards and olive groves"
(Judges 15:3-5 NLT).



Samson's Jawbone Revenge (15:15-16)



Judges 16



"But Samson stayed in bed only until midnight. Then he got up, took hold of the doors of the town gate, including the two posts, and lifted them up, bar and all. He put them on his shoulders and carried them all the way to the top of the hill across from Hebron" (Judges 16:3 NLT).



Samson & Delilah



The Story of Samson

What was his weakness?

Her?

Hair?

Heart?

*"Samson... the **he man**
with a **she weakness**"*

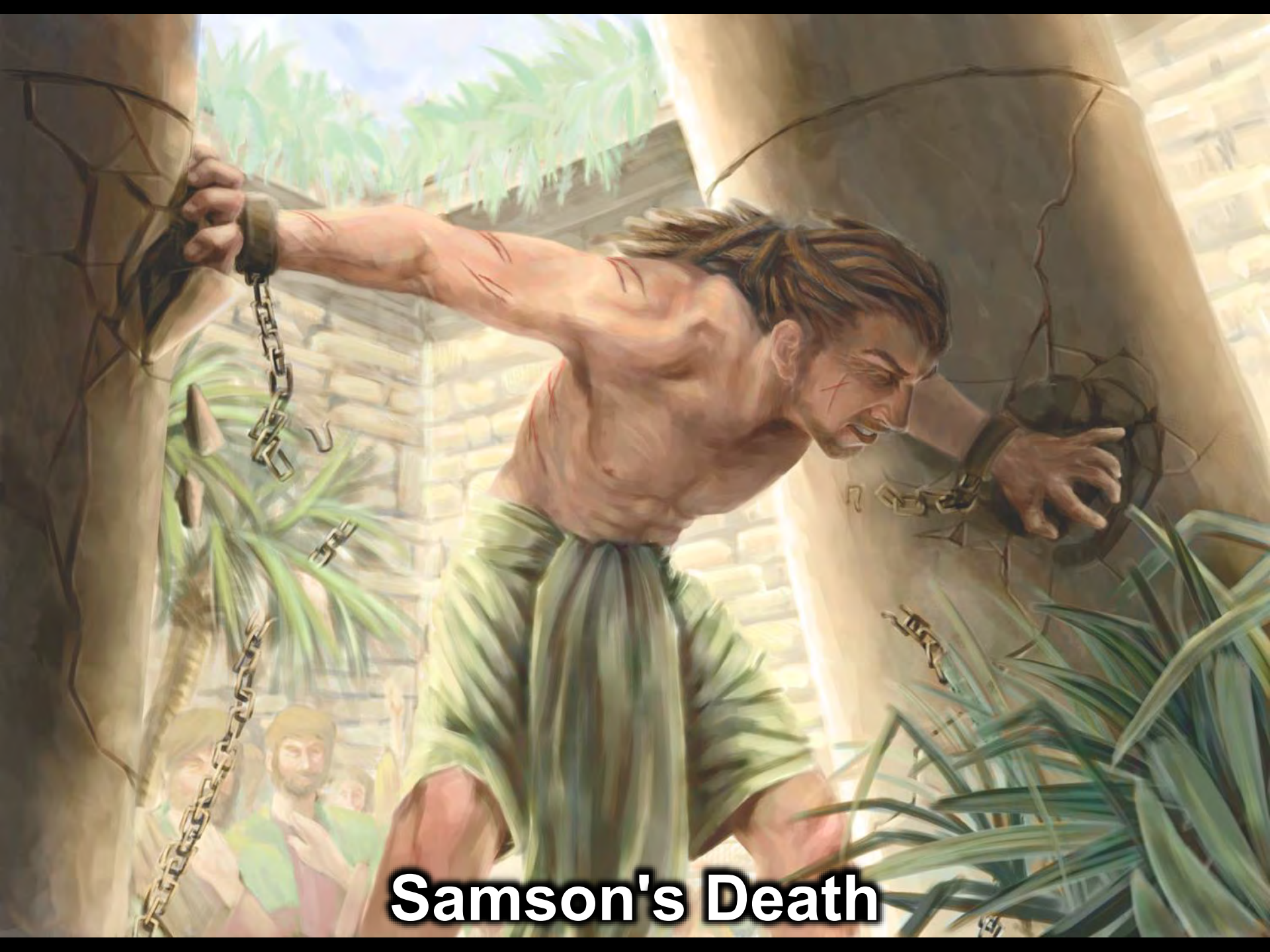
-Chuck Swindoll



Samson's Haircut

Samson's Eyes Cut





Samson's Death

"Samson had judged Israel for twenty years" (16:21) but no mention is made of the nation experiencing peace after Samson's 20-year rule.

5 Silence



3 Supplication

4 Salvation

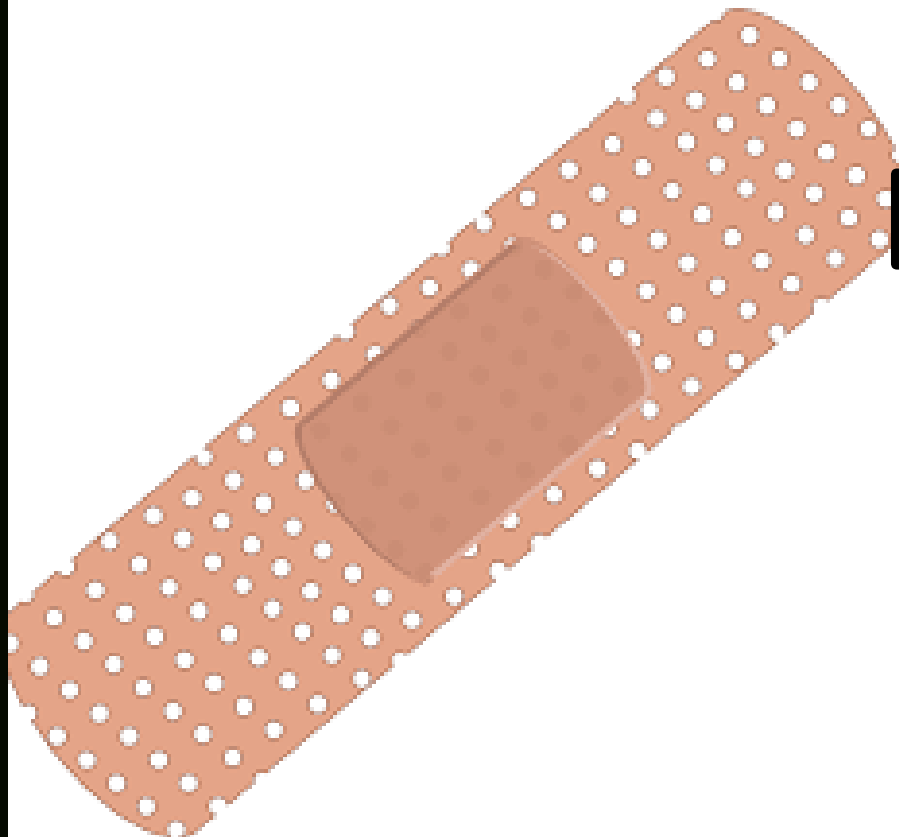
**We go in circles when we make
up the rules.**



Moral Relativism



Relativism



Band-Aids on a Gunshot Wound

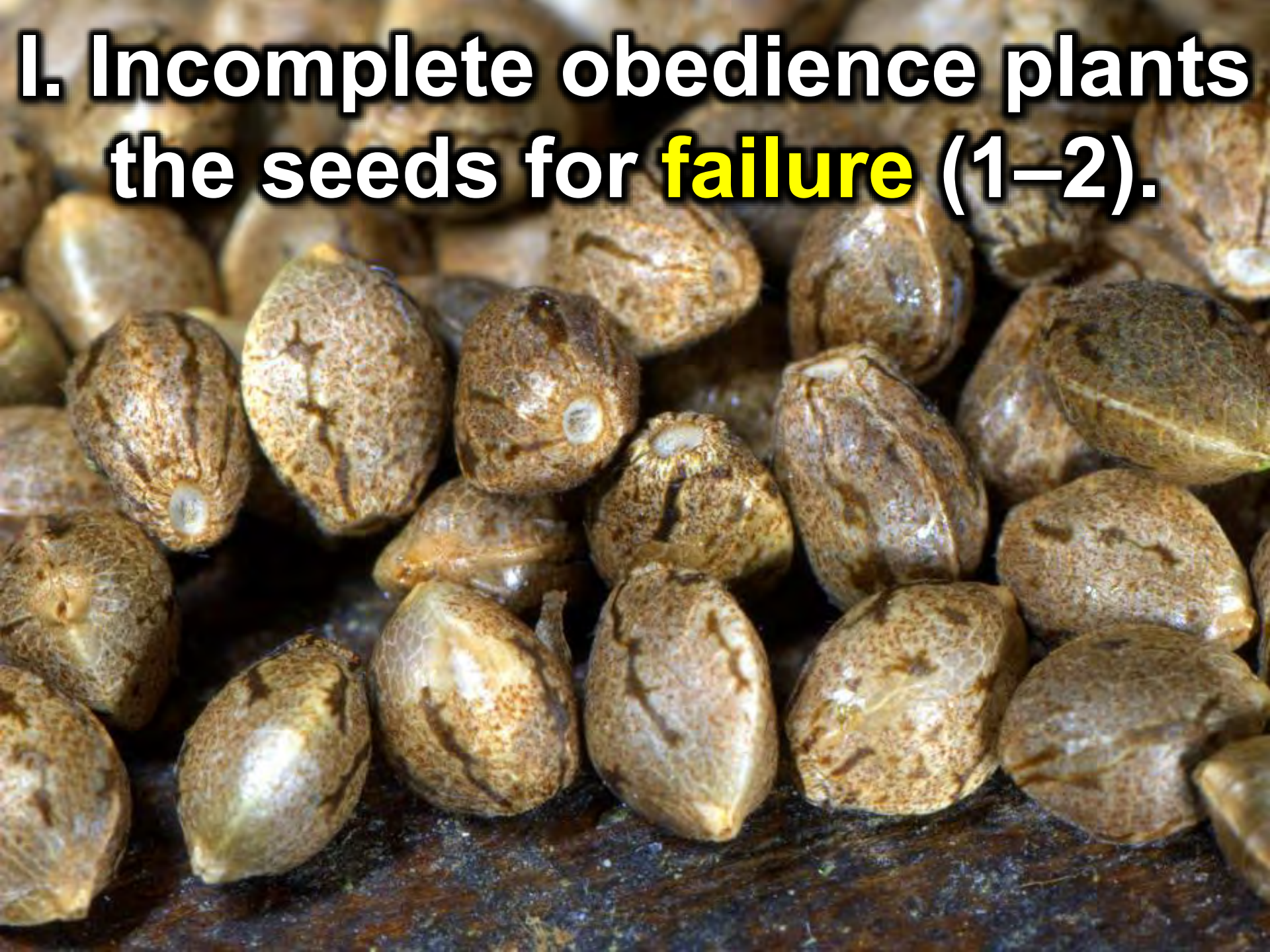
Lessons from Judges

Why must you be **steadfast** in
having God as your king?



3 reasons

**I. Incomplete obedience plants
the seeds for **failure** (1–2).**



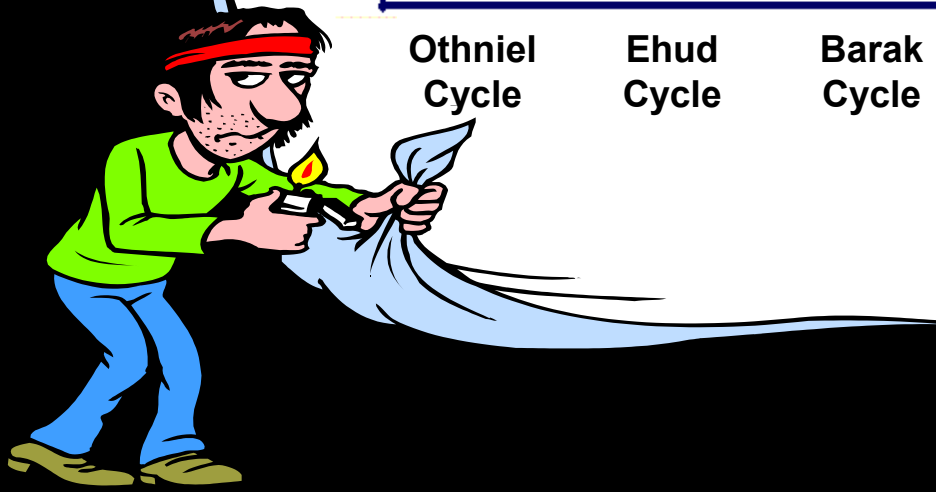
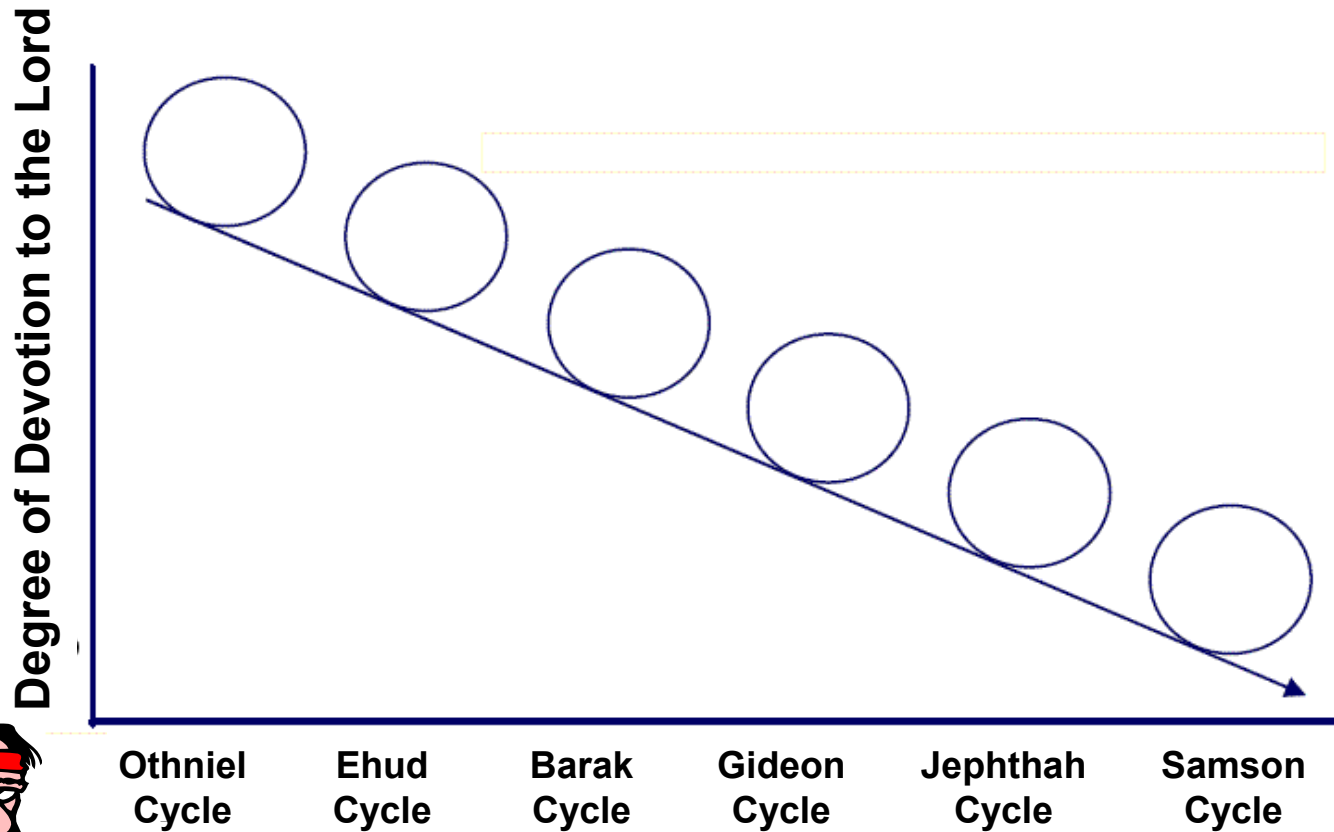
II. Relativism leads to **cycles
of sin (3–16).**

III. Relativism leads to **idolatry** (17–21).



Israel's religious and moral failures showed they needed a righteous king instead of their relativism (Judges 17–21).

Downward Spiral of the Cycles

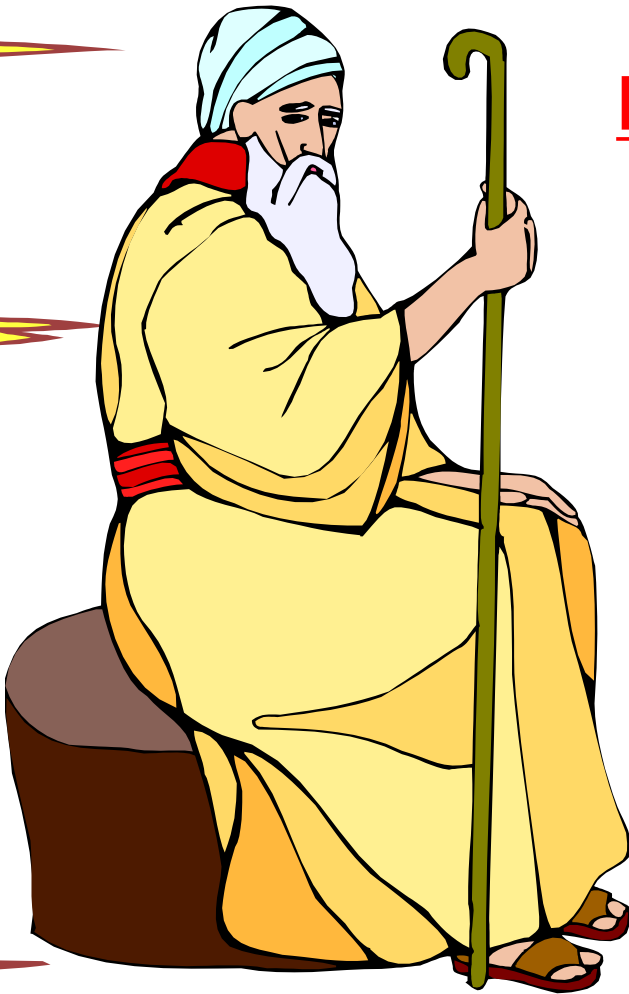


Judges of Israel

Cycle	Opressor	Location in Israel	Years of Oppression	Deliverer	Years of Peace
1 (3:7-11)	Mesopotamians	Peace 5x	8	Othniel	40
2 (3:12-30)	Moabites	Peace 4x	18	Ehud	80
Parenthesis (3:31)	Philistines	Southwest	—	Shamgar	—
3 (chs. 4–5)	Canaanites	Peace 2x	20	Deborah & Barak	40
4 (6:1–8:32)	Midianites	Peace 6x	7	Gideon	40
5 (8:33–9:57)	Abimelech	Central (Ophrah)	3	Unnamed Woman	—
Parenthesis (10:1-2)	—	Central (Shamir)	—	Tola	23
Parenthesis (10:3-5)	—	East (Komon, Gilead)	—	Jair	22
6 (10:6–12:7)	Ar	Oppression 3x (Zaphon, Gilead)	18	Jephthah	6
Parenthesis (12:8-10)	—	Southeast (Bethlehem)	—	Izban	7
Parenthesis (12:11-12)	—	Northwest	—	Elon	10
Parenthesis (12:13-15)	—	Central (Pirathon)	—	Abdon	8
7 (chs. 13–16)	P	Oppression 2x (Zoran)	40	Samson	20

Judges 17

Religious Failure (17–18)



Personal apostasy of Micah (ch. 17)

- Idolatry
- Hiring a Levite pagan priest

Judges 18

Religious Failure (17–18)



Personal apostasy of Micah (ch. 17)

- Idolatry
- Hiring a Levite pagan priest

Tribal apostasy (ch. 18)

- Levite blesses the selfish, faithless migration plan of the Danites
- Syncretism

Cause & Effect



The diagram consists of two large, stylized arrows pointing to the right, connected by a horizontal line. The left arrow is blue and contains the text 'Religious Failure'. The right arrow is black and contains the text 'Moral Failure'. A small inkwell with a quill pen is positioned at the bottom left of the blue arrow.

**Religious
Failure**

**Moral
Failure**

Judges 19

Moral Failure (19–21)

- Benjamites in Gibeah rape and kill a Levite's concubine



Gibeah Gazette

THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS STORY IN THE BIBLE

CONCUBINE KILLED & CUT INTO 12 PIECES (JUDG. 19:1-30)



"Now in those days Israel had no king. There was a man from the tribe of Levi living in a remote area of the hill country of Ephraim. One day he brought home a woman from Bethlehem in Judah to be his concubine."

JUDGES: UNFAITHFUL PEOPLE... FAITHFUL GOD

Moral Failure (19–21)

- Benjamites in Gibeah rape and kill a Levite's concubine (19)



Judges 20

Moral Failure (19–21)

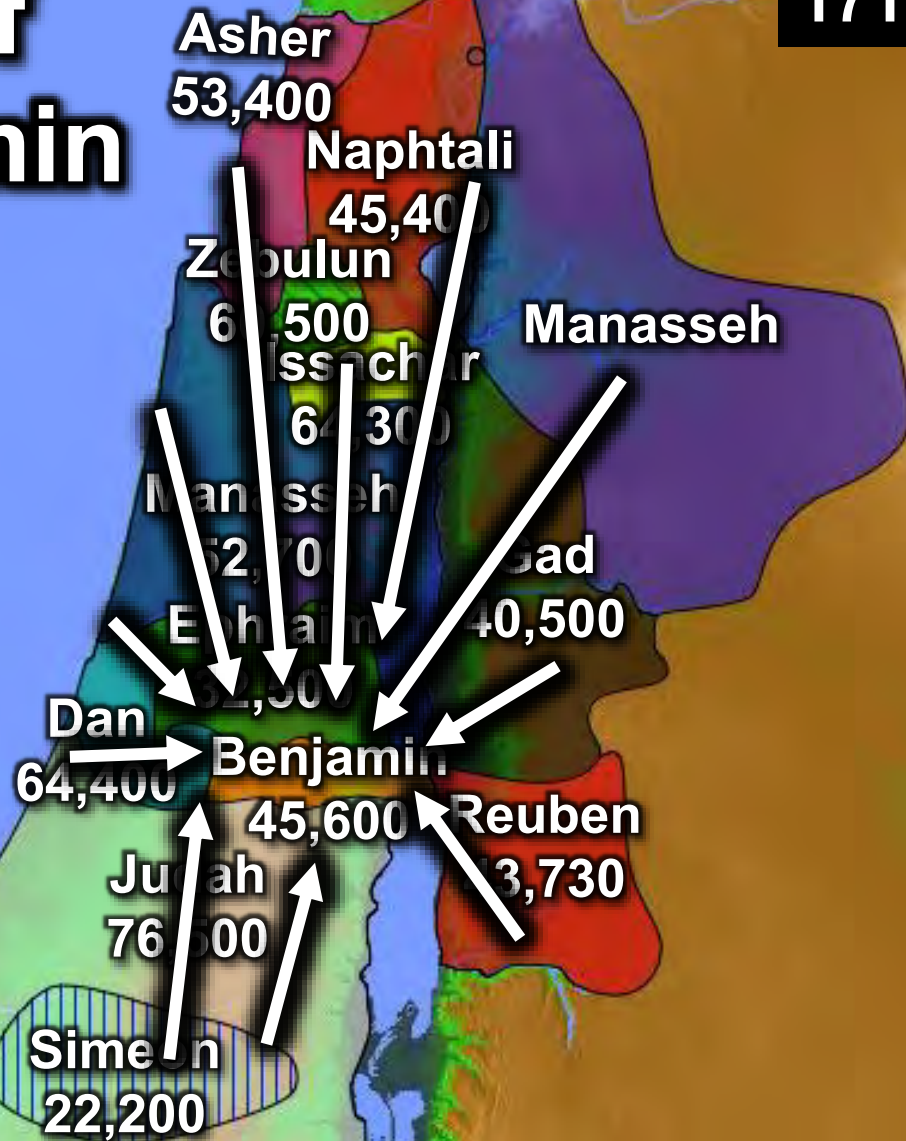


- Benjamites in Gibeah rape and kill a Levite's concubine (19)
- 400,000 warriors of other 11 tribes destroy 26,100 Benjamites, including women and children (20).

Near Destruction of the Tribe of Benjamin

Judges 20

Levi
23,000
Spread
Throughout
Israel



Judges 21

Moral Failure (19–21)



- Benjamites in Gibeah rape and kill a Levite's concubine (19)
- 400,000 warriors of other 11 tribes destroy 26,100 Benjamites, including women and children (20).
- Benjamites kill everyone in Jabesh Gilead except 400 virgins and steal another 200 virgins at Shiloh as wives for the remaining 600 Benjamites to preserve their line.

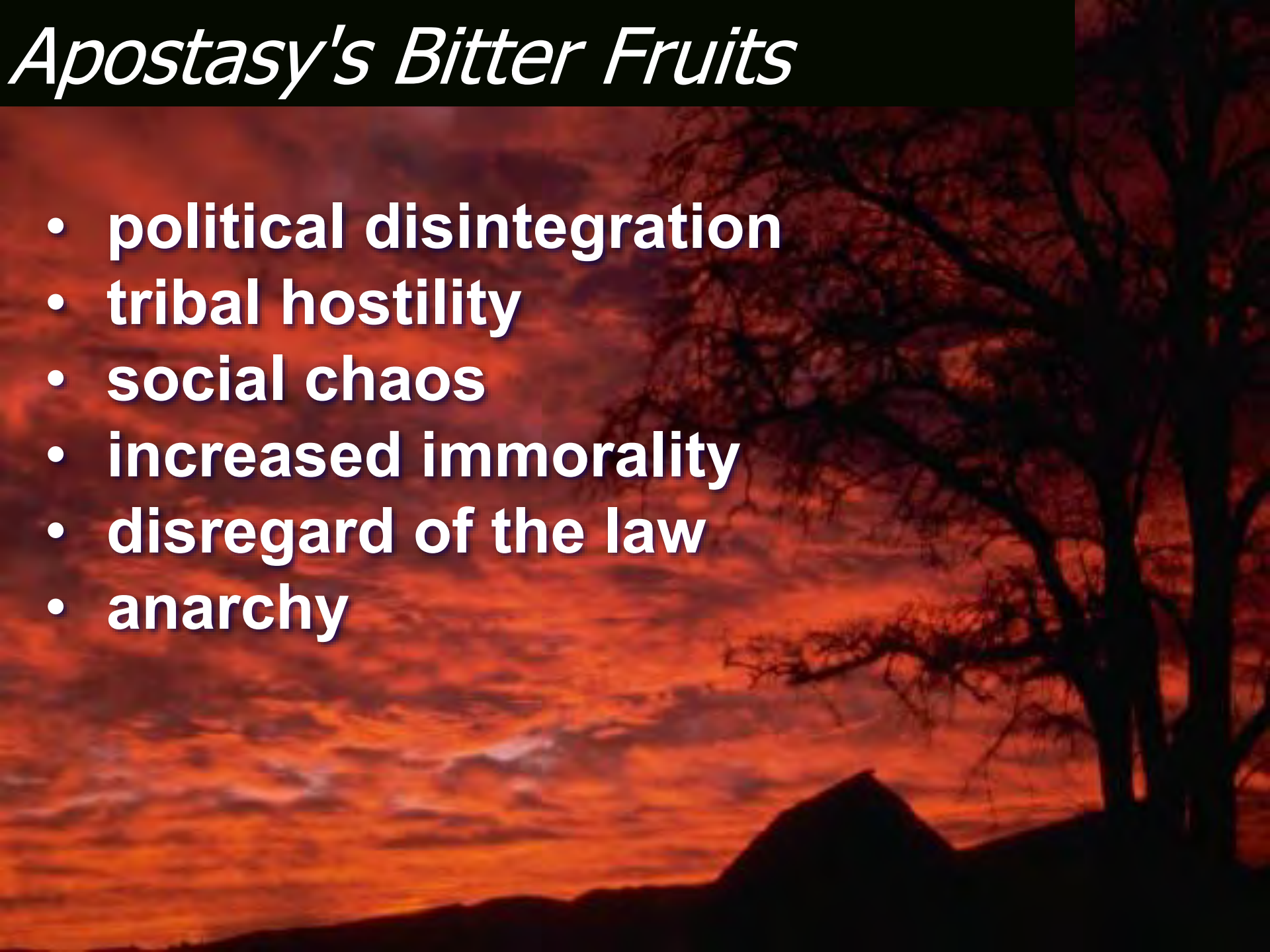
The Last Verse is the Key Verse

***"In those days Israel
had no king. Everyone
did as he saw fit"
(Judges 21:25).***

**Be guided by wisdom instead
of whims that worship a
different god.**

Apostasy's Bitter Fruits

- **political disintegration**
- **tribal hostility**
- **social chaos**
- **increased immorality**
- **disregard of the law**
- **anarchy**



IDOLATRY

MAKING A GOOD THING THE ULTIMATE THING.

Defining Idolatry



Defining Idolatry



Defining Idolatry

Why must you be **steadfast** in
having God as your king?



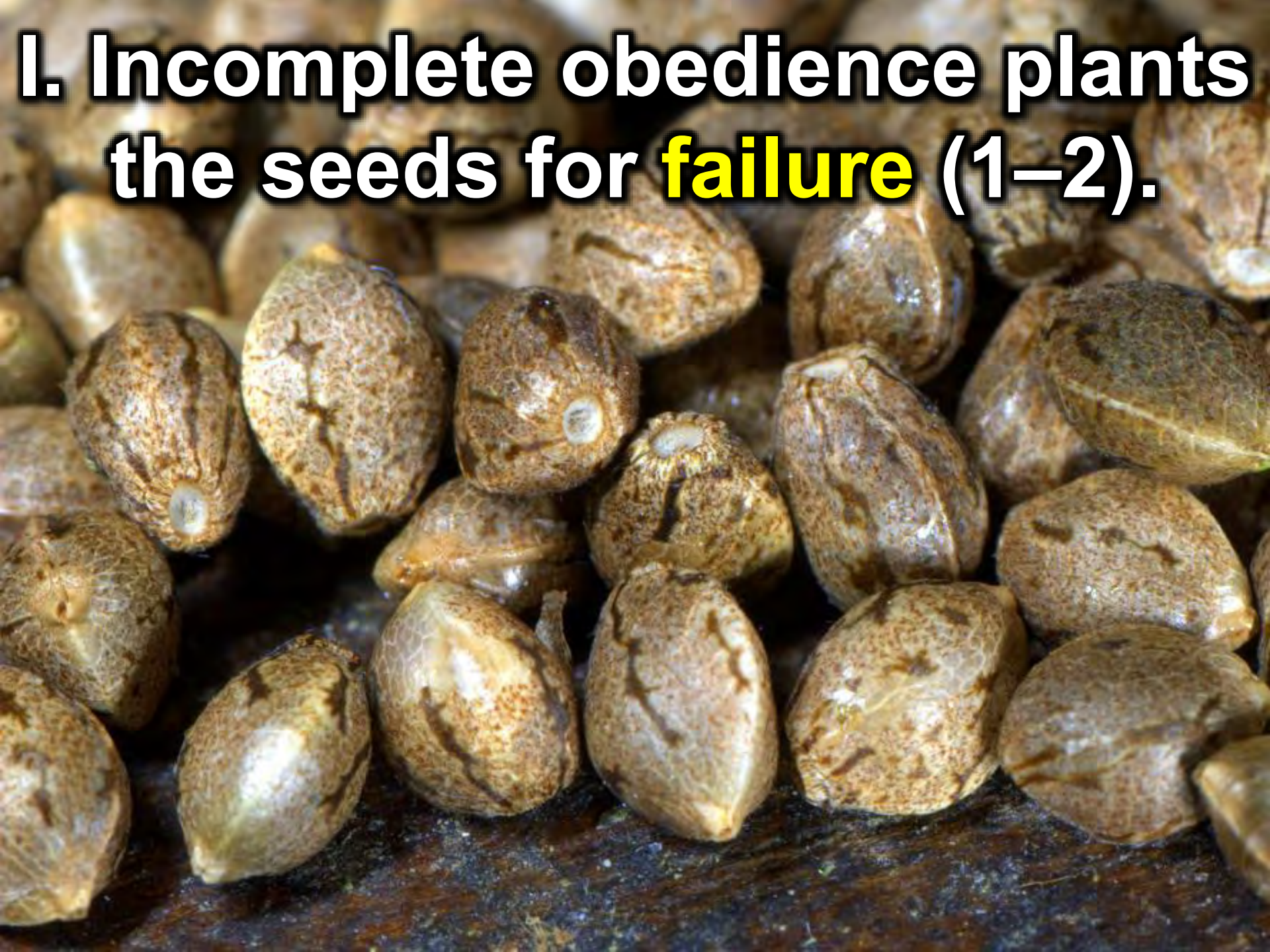
Main Idea



**Make God king
—not relativism
and the idolatry
of sin cycles**

Judges

**I. Incomplete obedience plants
the seeds for **failure** (1–2).**



II. Relativism leads to **cycles
of sin (3–16).**

III. Relativism leads to **idolatry** (17–21).



Discussion Question:
**How is Our Day
Like the Judges
Period?**



- Relativism: "Save the whales" but kill humans
- Secularism: "I don't let my religion affect my politics"
- Promiscuity: "What that leader does in his bedroom is his business and not mine"

**This
pamphlet is
blank.**

**We're
atheists.**

Relativism



Applications

- **Rejecting God's lordship (incomplete obedience) plants the seeds for failure (1–2).**
- **Personal relative standards instead of God's absolute standards lead to cycles of sin (3–16).**
- **Replacing God's wisdom with personal whims leads to idolatry (17–21).**

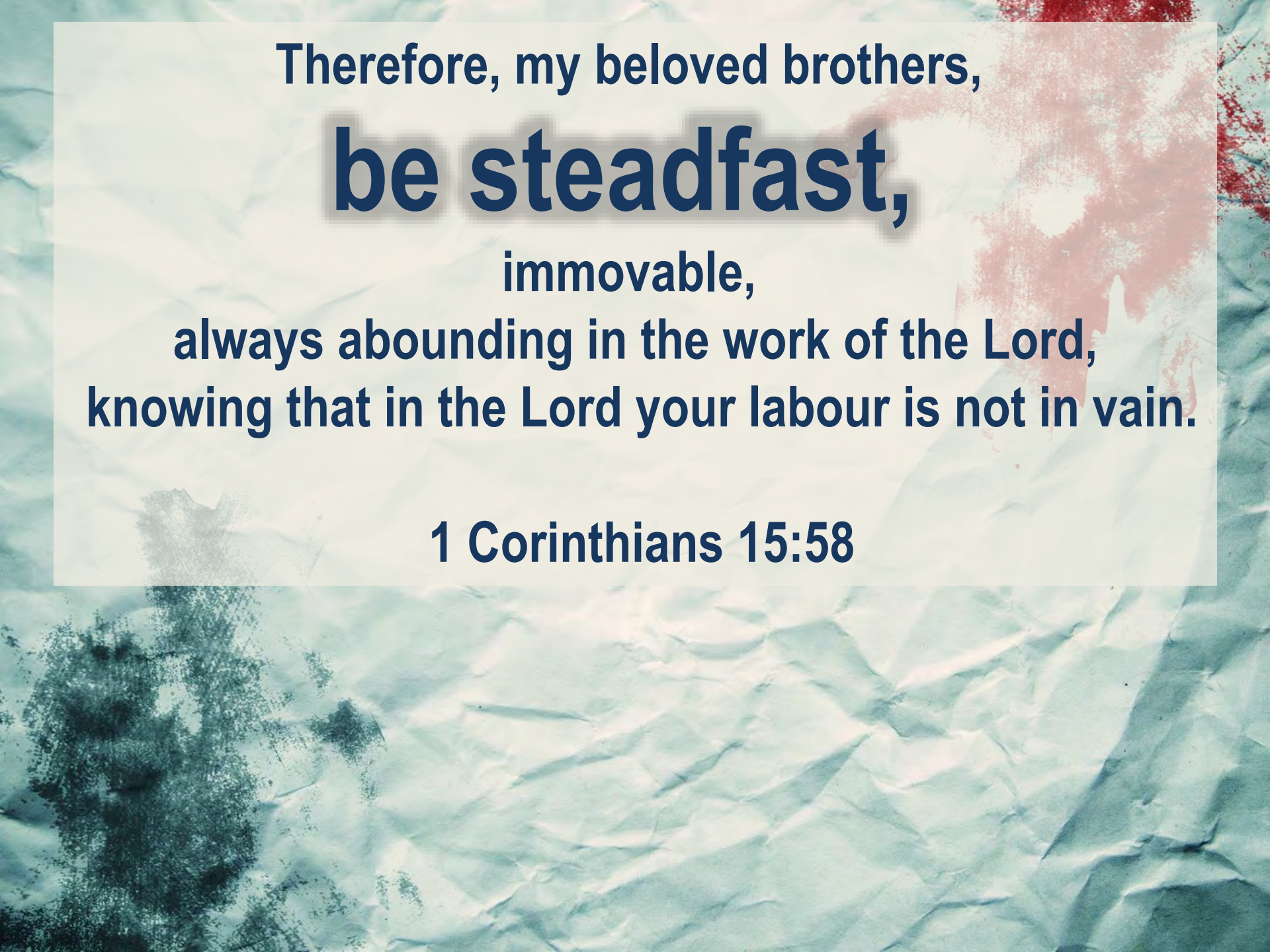
Be Steadfast.



A man in a dark suit is seen from behind, standing in front of a large window with horizontal blinds. The blinds are partially open, allowing light to filter through. The man's hands are behind his back. The overall mood is contemplative.

Think about it.

**Who is the real boss of your life?
How can you enthrone God as
your true king?**



**Therefore, my beloved brothers,
be steadfast,
immovable,
always abounding in the work of the Lord,
knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.**

1 Corinthians 15:58

Get this presentation and script for free!



BIBLE STUDY
DOWNLOADS

[Home](#)[Downloads](#)[FAQ](#)[Links](#)[Contribute](#)[Contact](#)

Bible Study Downloads has thousands of PowerPoint® and Word files in 42 languages for free download [here](#).

OT Preaching link at BibleStudyDownloads.org