A person wearing a maroon sweater is holding an open book. The person's left hand is in their pocket, and their right hand is holding the book. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

What to look for

**Reading
Paragraphs
& Context**

Specific Things to Observe

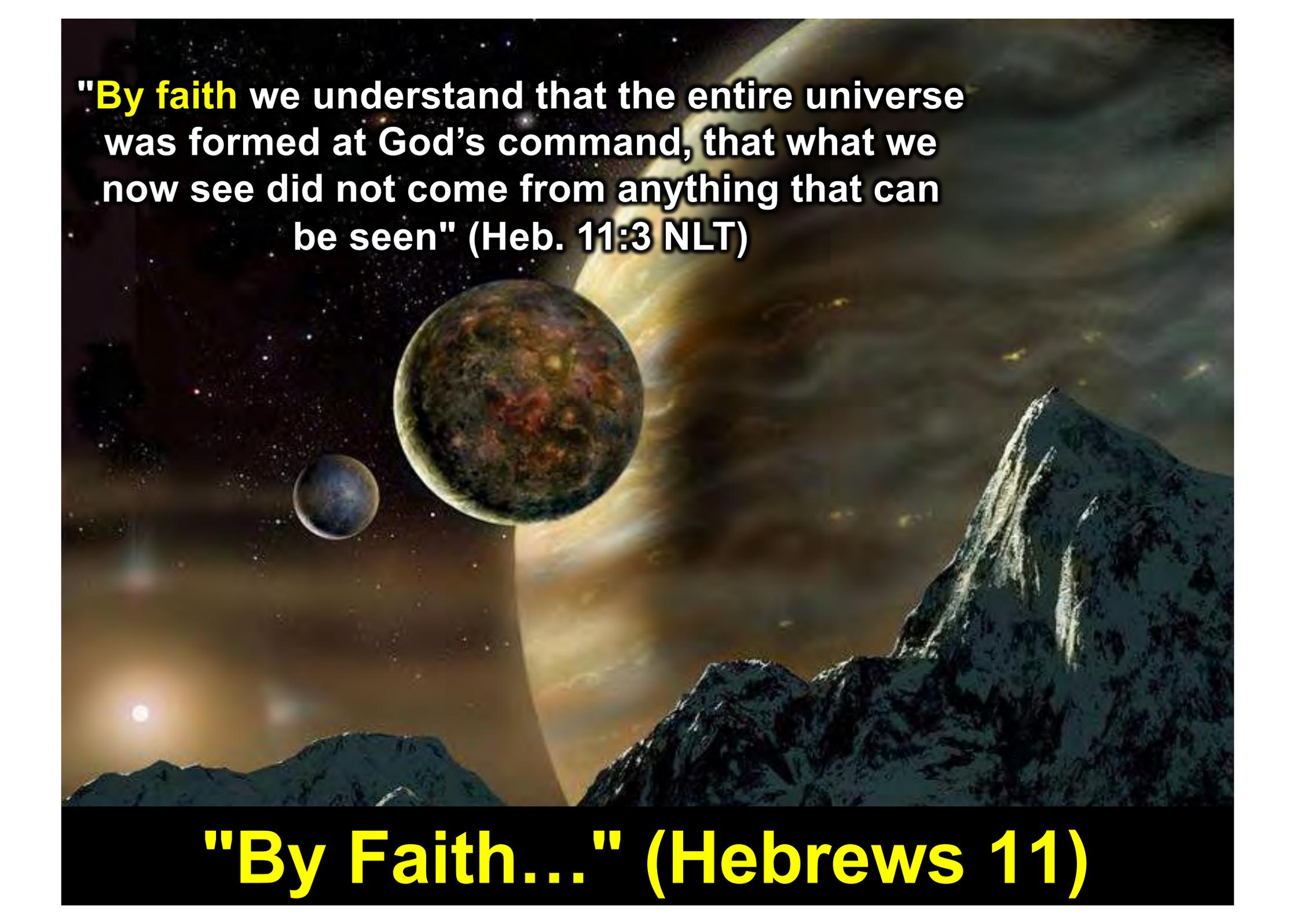
- **Key Words** "by faith" in Hebrews 11



"Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.
²Through their **faith**, the people in days of old earned a good reputation" (Heb. 11:1 NLT)



"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



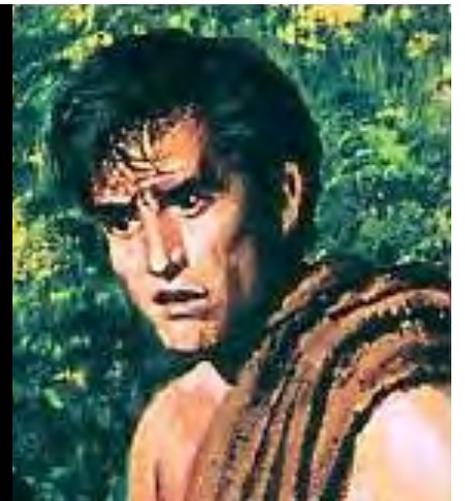
"By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen" (Heb. 11:3 NLT)

"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)

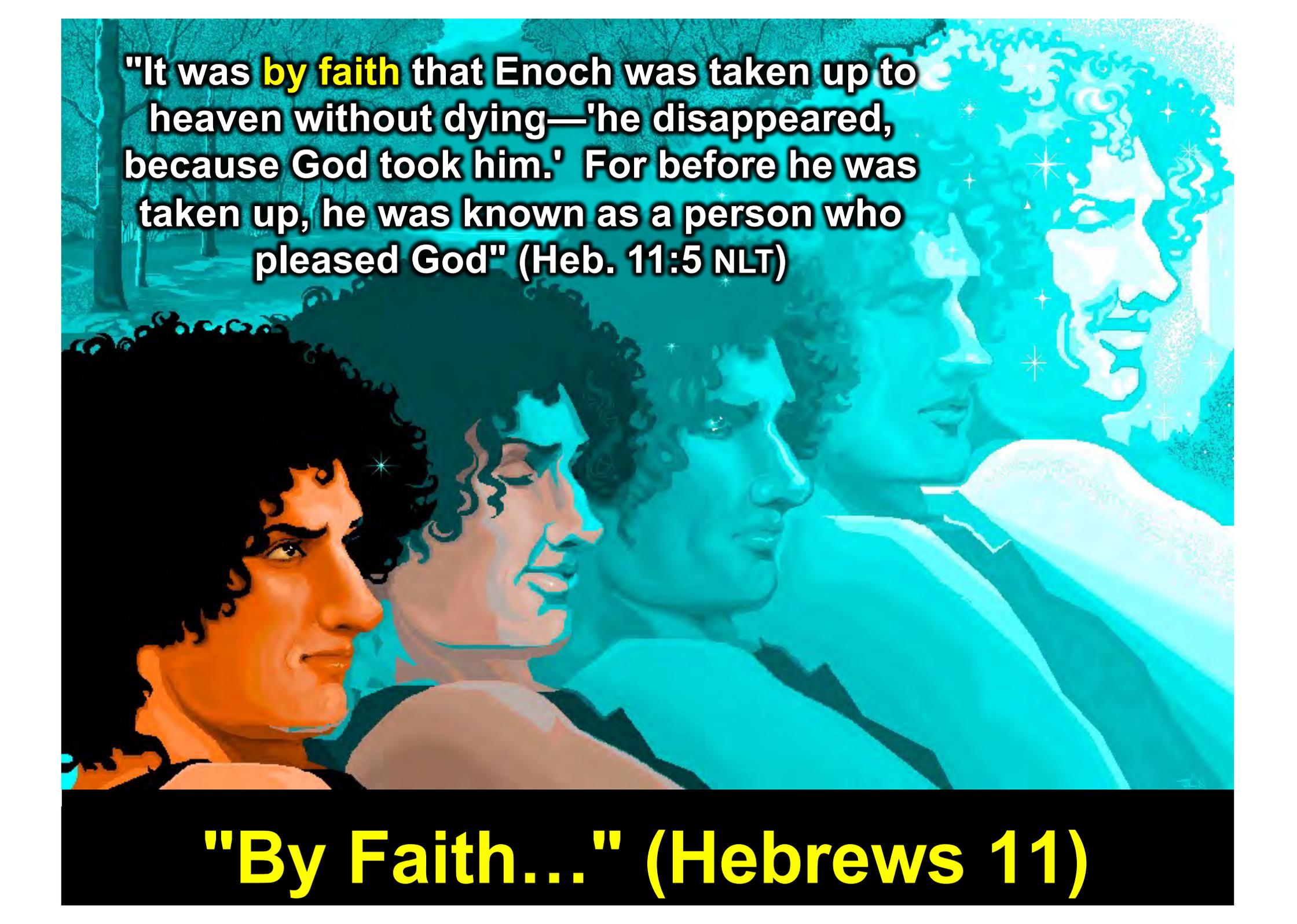


"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)

"It was **by faith** that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of **faith**" (Heb. 11:4 NLT)

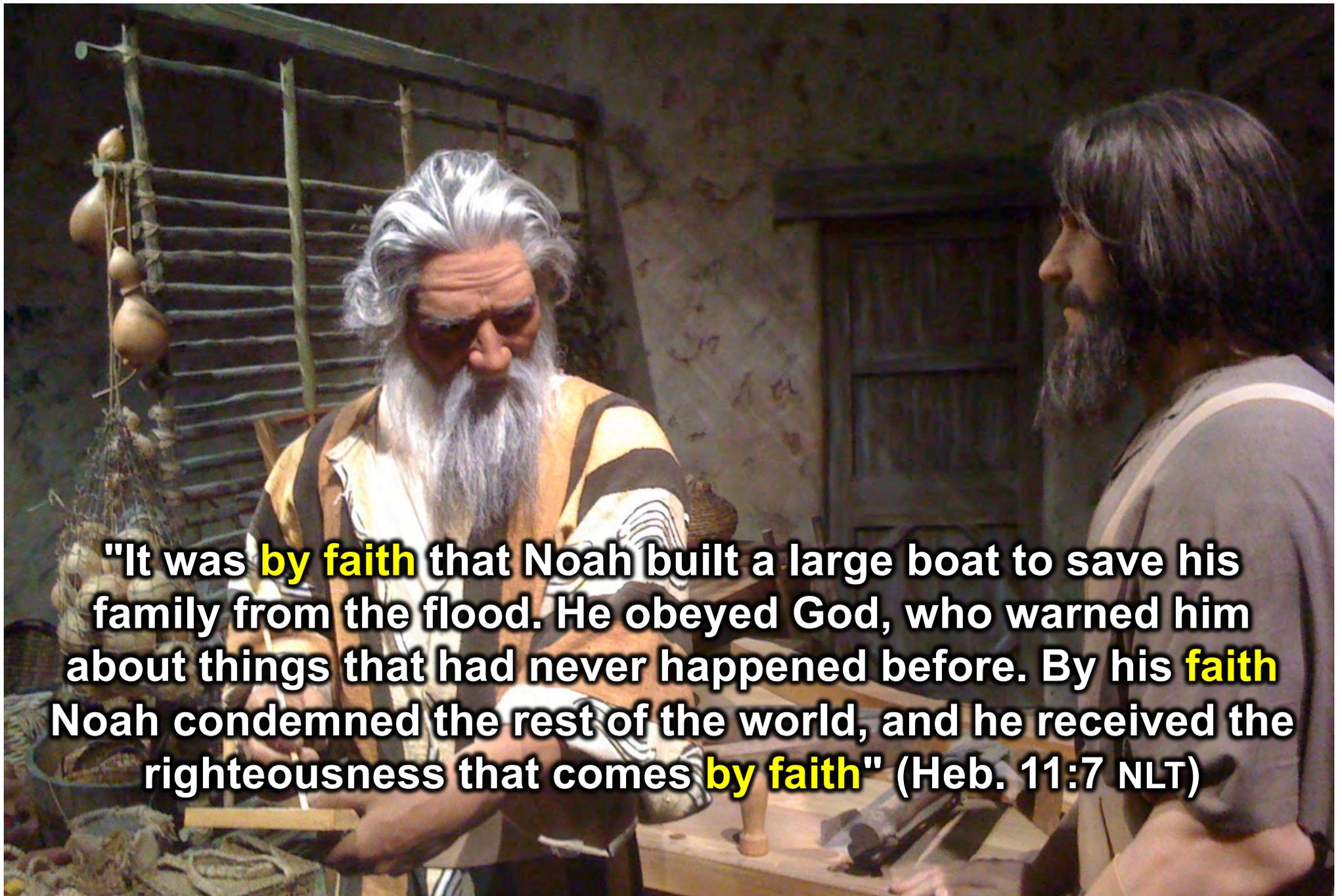


"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



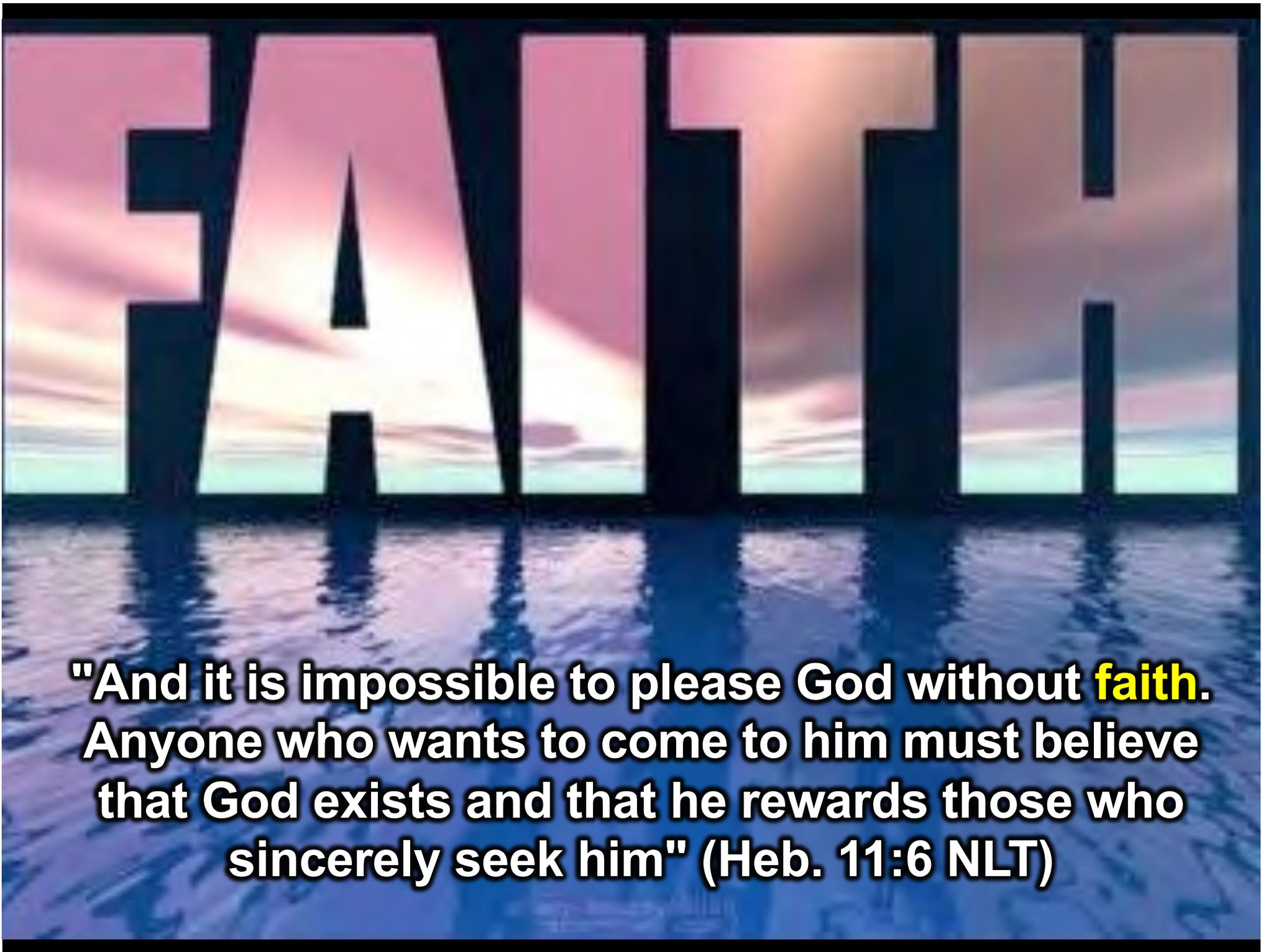
"It was **by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—'he disappeared, because God took him.' For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God" (Heb. 11:5 NLT)**

"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



"It was **by faith** that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his **faith** Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes **by faith**" (Heb. 11:7 NLT)

"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



"And it is impossible to please God without **faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him" (Heb. 11:6 NLT)**

Specific Things to Observe

- **Advice**
 - **Admonitions**
 - **Warnings**
 - **Promises**
- "Listen, my son..."
(Proverbs)

**"Rejoice
in the
Lord
always!"
(Phil. 4:4)**

Really?

Summary of Hebrews

An unknown author shows Hebrew believers the **superiority of Christ as High Priest** and the superiority of Christianity over Judaism to exhort them **to endure persecution rather than return** to their former life under Judaism.



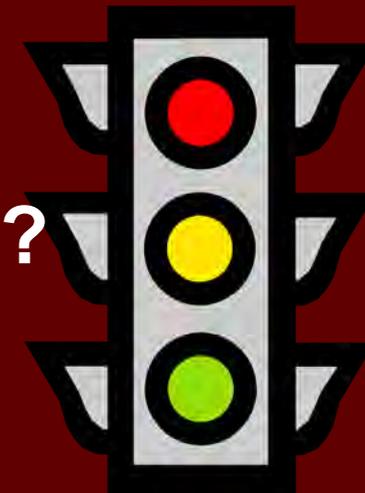
5 Warnings in Hebrews

1. **Warning** of discipline (2:1-4)
2. **Warning** of disinheritance (3:7-19)
3. **Warning** of death (6:4-8)
4. **Warning** of death (10:26-31)
5. **Warning** of disinterest (12:14-29)

An Impossibility (Heb. 6:4-6 NLT)

"For it is **impossible to bring back to repentance** those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ⁶and who then turn away from God. It is **impossible to bring such people back to repentance**; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame."

Views on the Warning Passages



What group of Jews is being addressed ?

False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
People who are not really believers	Christians who sin by not seeing Christ's superiority	Christians who sin by not seeing Christ's superiority

Views on the Warning Passages

What is the nature of their punishment ?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Never had Salvation	Loss of Salvation	Loss of Reward

Views on the Warning Passages

What is the result ?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Hell	Hell	Divine Discipline

Views on the Warning Passages

Which theological perspective holds to this view ?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Reformed	Arminian	Partakers

Views on the Warning Passages

Strengths



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Signifying Hell (sees the judgment as serious)	Signifying Hell (sees the judgment as serious)	Loss of rewards as a judgment (a concept often taught in the NT)

Views on the Warning Passages

Weaknesses



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Consistently speaks of the readers as genuine Christians	Temporal security goes against NT doctrine of justification by grace	10:27 refers to judging persons, not deeds

"...if we deliberately
continue sinning after we
have received knowledge
of the truth, there is no
longer any sacrifice that
will cover these sins.

²⁷There is only
terrible expectation of
God's judgment and the
raging fire that will
consume his enemies"

(10:26-27 NLT).

ARE THESE
PEOPLE
CHRISTIANS?

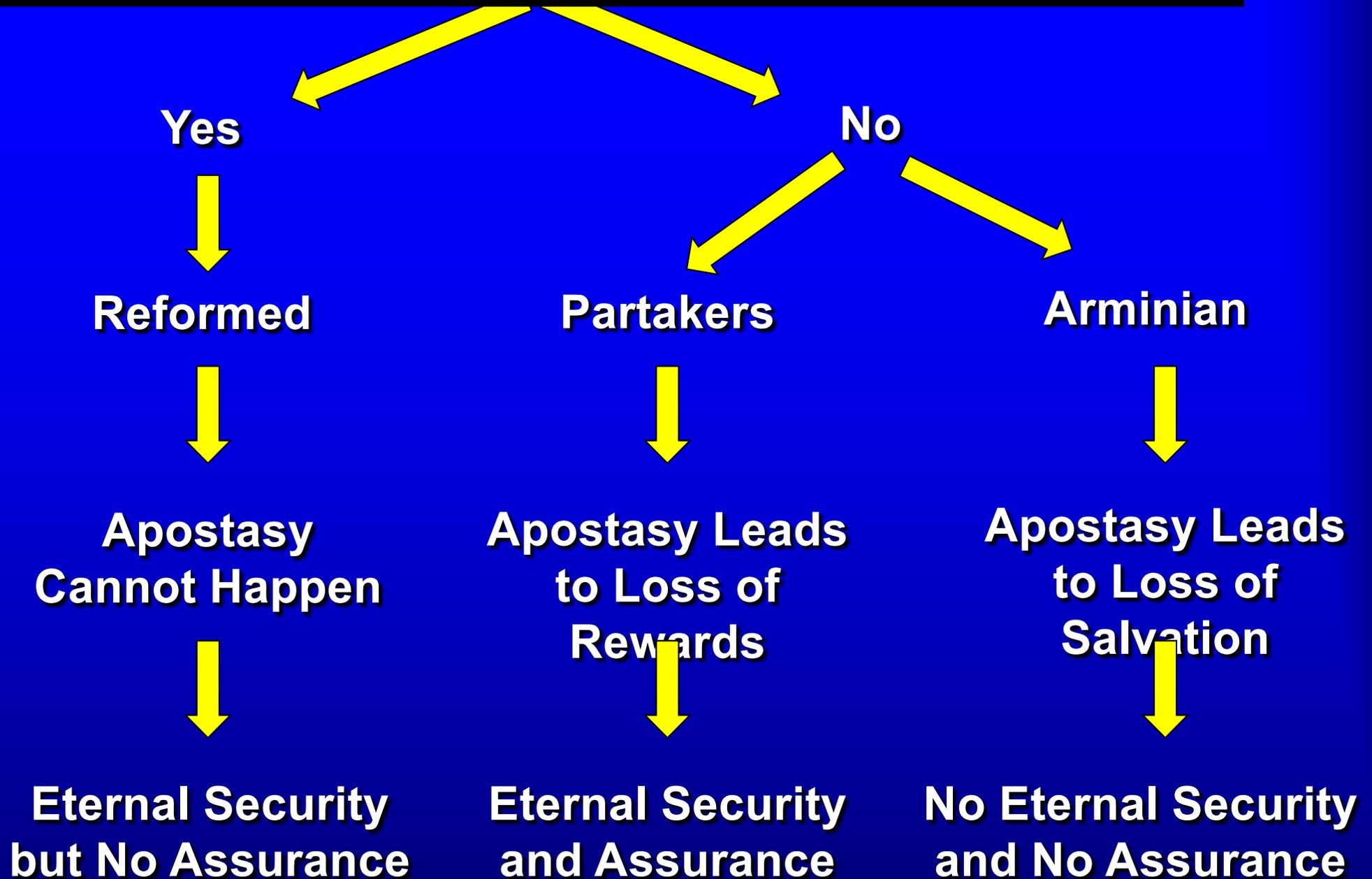
YES!

Why believers?

**The letter repeatedly refers to the readers as believers.
They had already professed this hope in Christ (10:23).
They should build one another up in the faith (10:24-25).
They had "received the knowledge of the truth" (10:26).
The author was also could sin like this (10:26).
They had been "sanctified" (10:29).
They had faithfully suffered for Christ (10:32-34).
They had confidence in the Lord (10:35).
They needed only to persevere in that faith (10:36).
They were deemed among "the righteous" (10:38).**

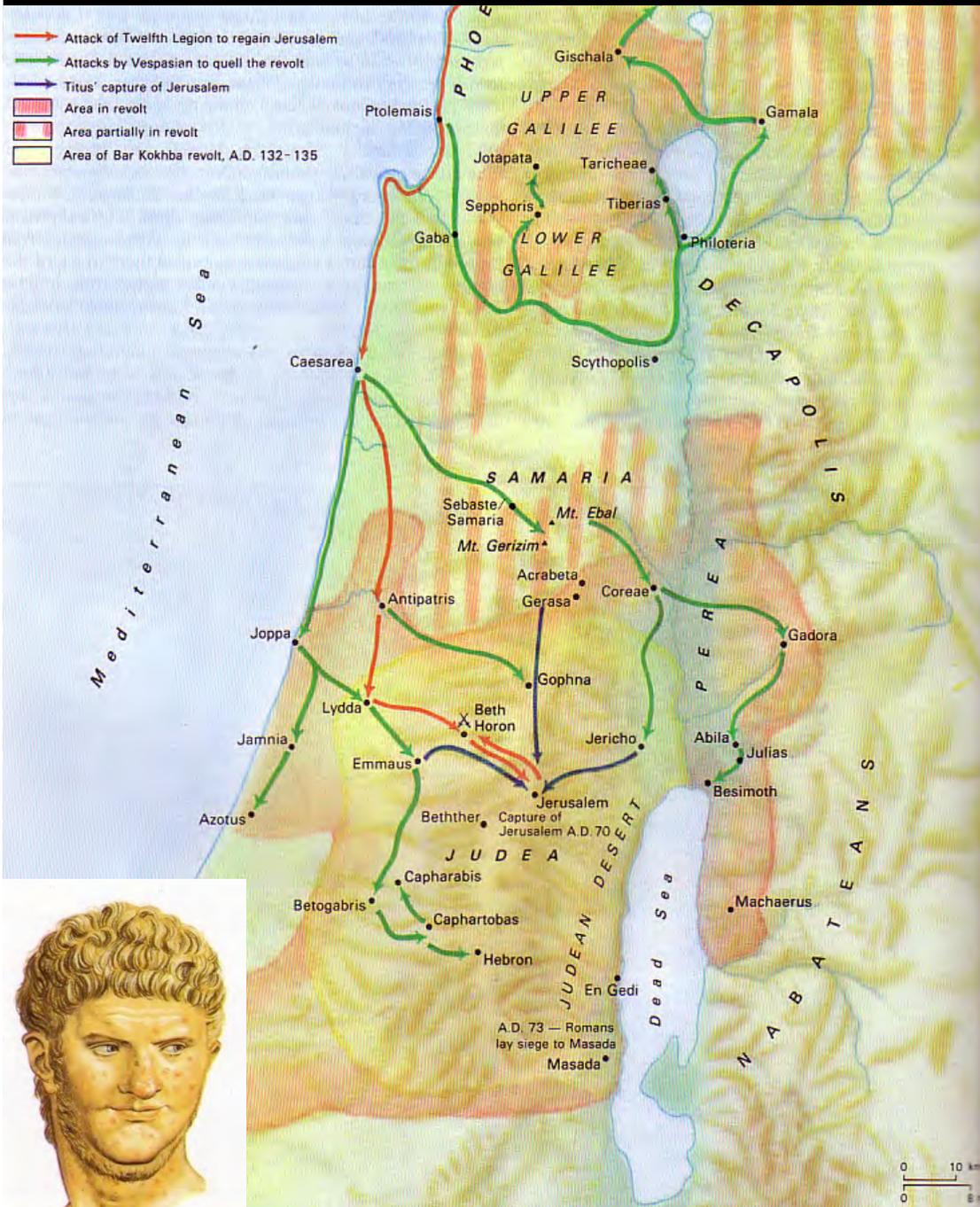
Will each genuine Christian persevere in faithfulness at death?

274i



The Jewish War (AD 66-73)

257



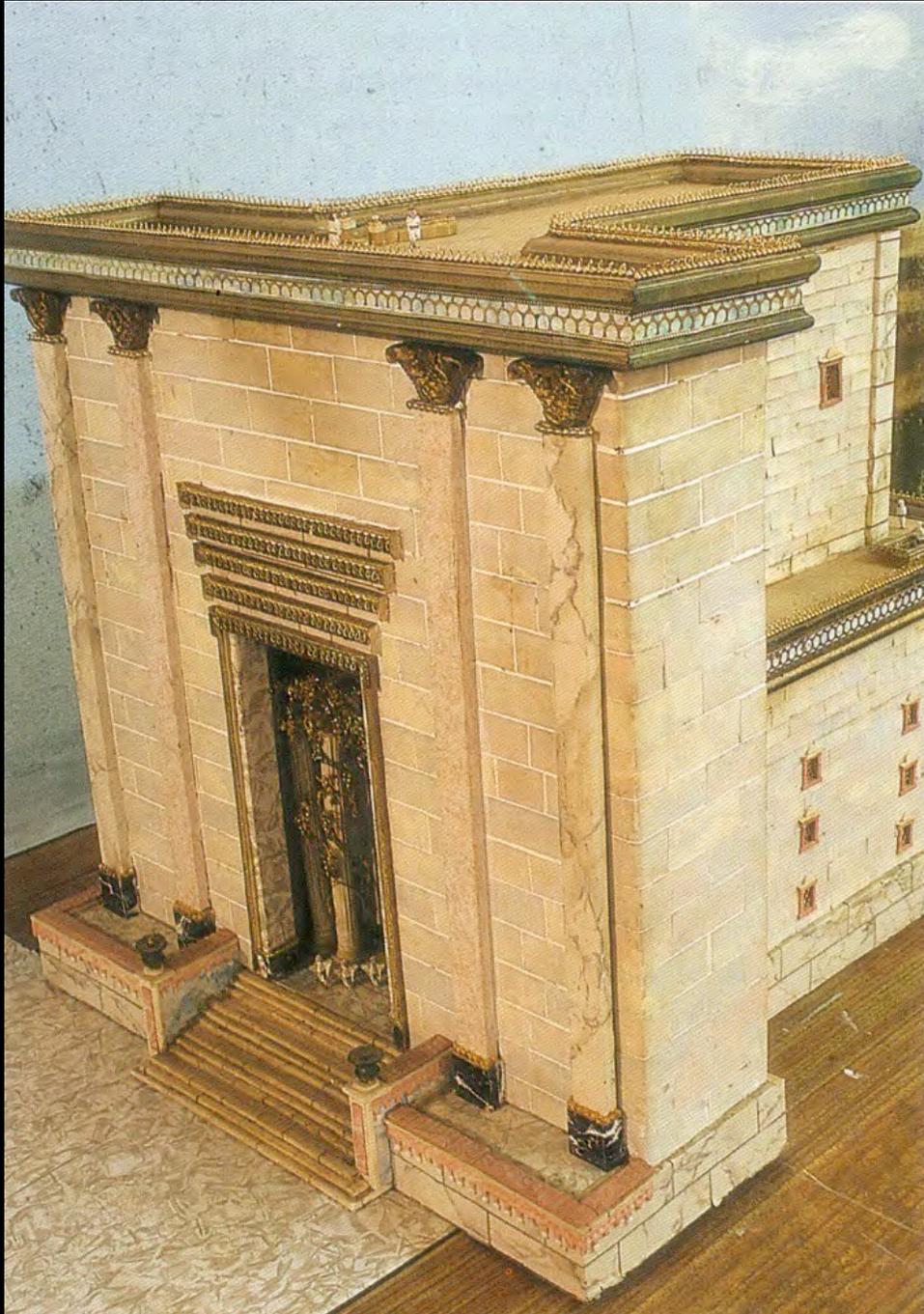
- Caesarea desecration
- Jerusalem revolt
- Temple sacrifice for Nero stopped
- Rome sent Vespasian
- Nero died
- Siege of Jerusalem by Titus (April-Sept. 70)



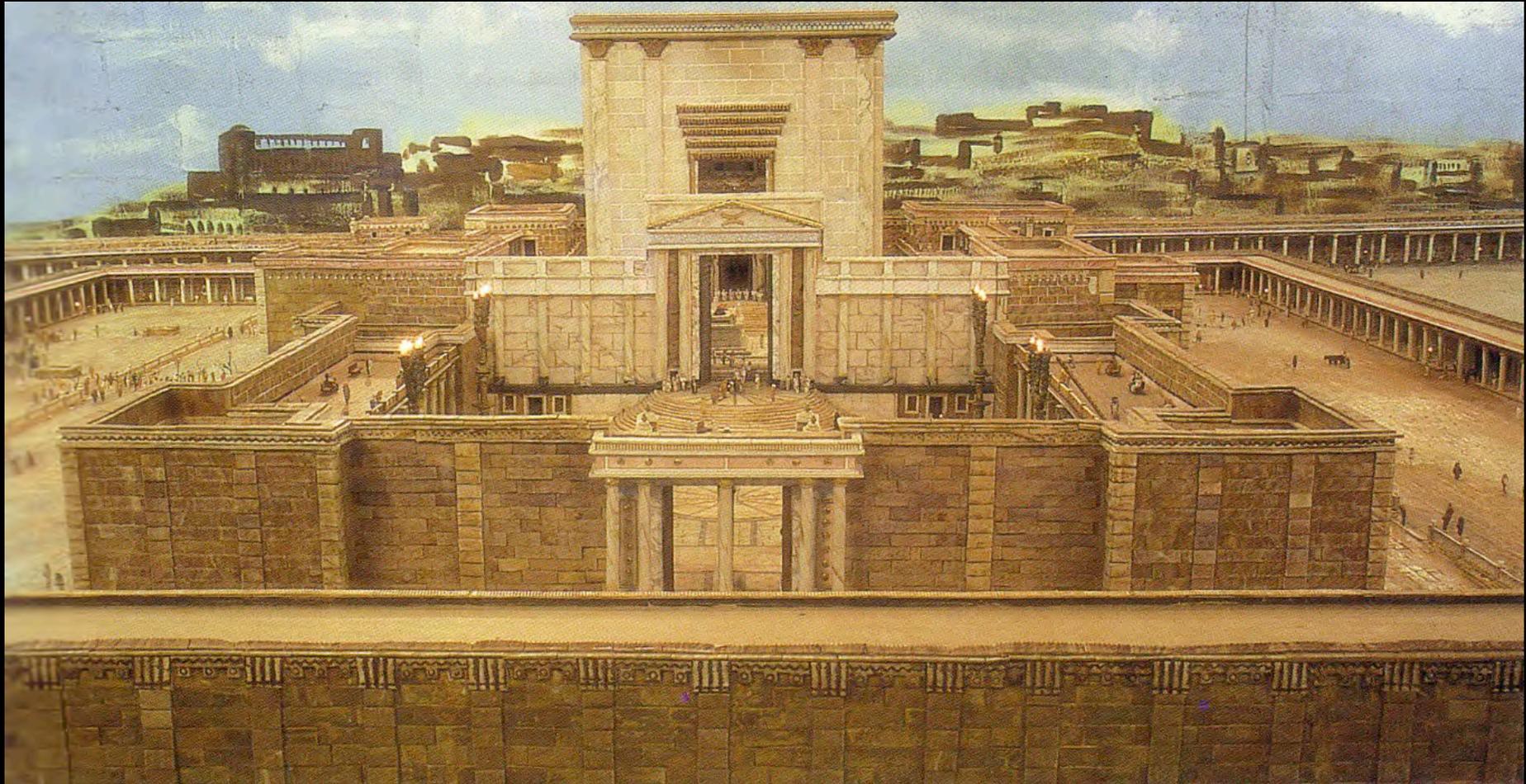
Jerusalem Siege Wall (AD 70)



Josephus notes that a siege wall surrounded the entire city, including the tomb of Annas, located among the tombs of Akeldama. This lends support to these being a wealthy burial place (not Potter's Field).



The Temple Sanctuary

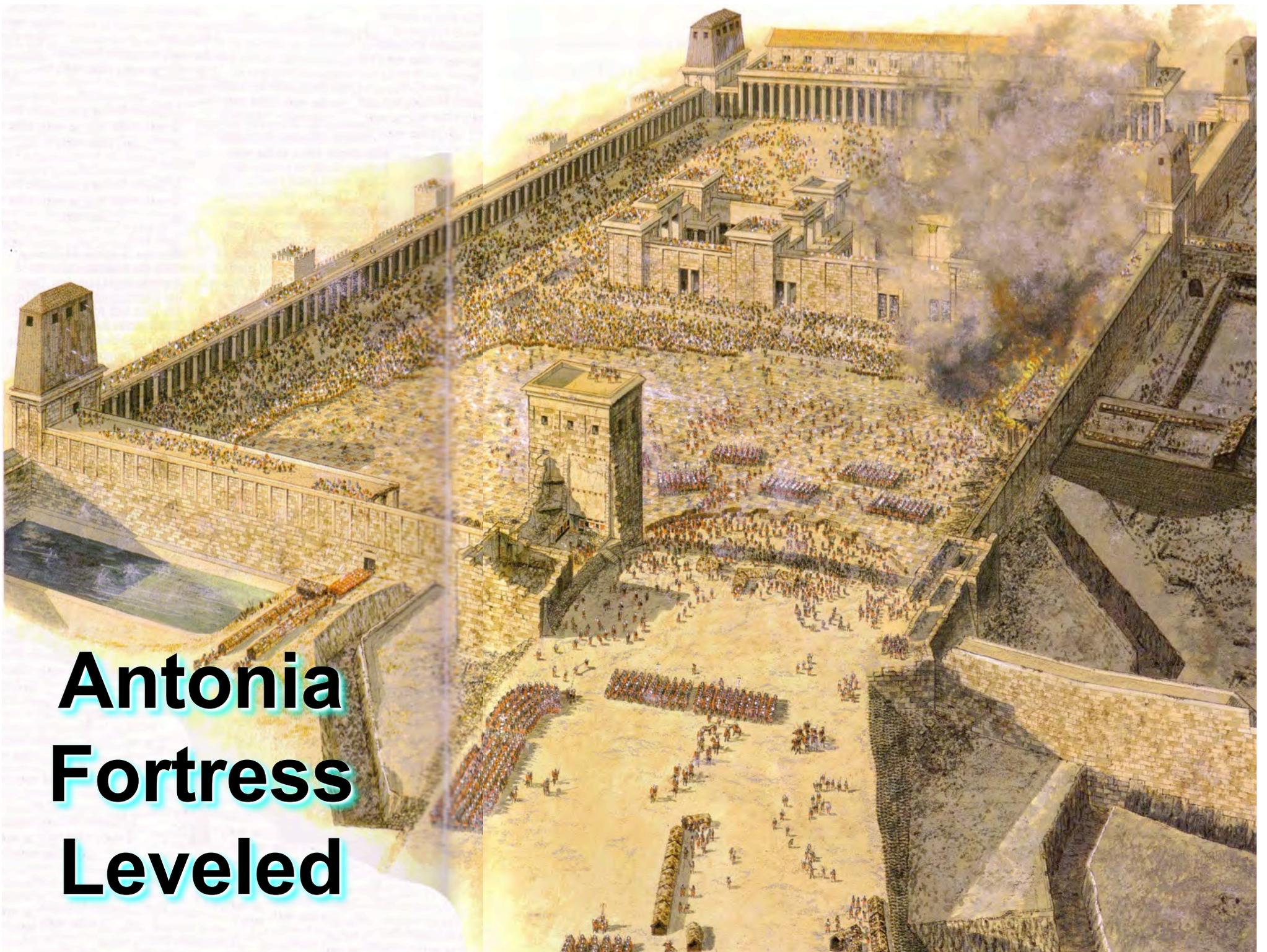


The Temple from the east

Antonia Fortress



Struthion Pool

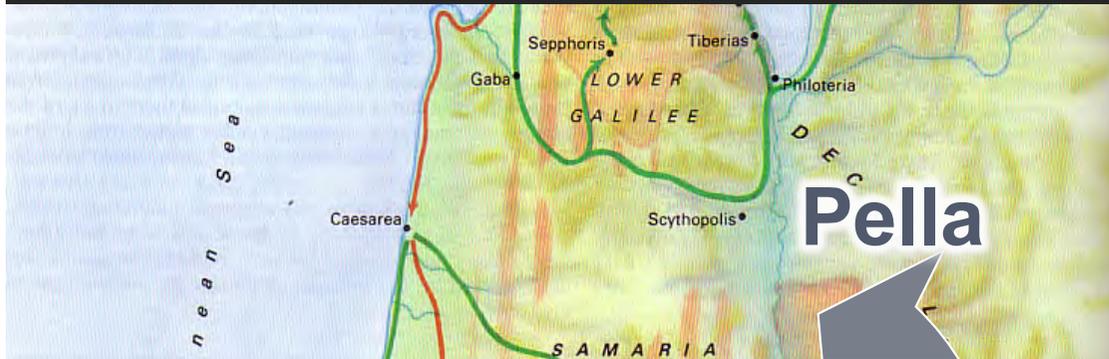


Antonia Fortress Leveled

The Temple Assault



What happened to the Christians in Jerusalem?



A revelation told them to find protection in Pella.



The Fire

"Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. ²⁷ There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (Hebrews 10:26-27 NLT).

Hell fire?

No, Jerusalem fire!

Hebrews 8:13

¹³ *By calling this covenant “new,” he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.*

Obsolete

AD 33



Hebrews Written

AD 67-68



Disappeared

AD 70

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