

JOSHUA

COURAGEOUS FAITH. FAITHFUL GOD.

WHEN FAITHFULNESS GETS HARDER | JOSHUA 11



How to move forward when
faithfulness gets harder

1 When Jabin, king of Hazor, heard of this, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, 2 and to the kings who were in the northern hill country, and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the lowland, and in Naphoth-dor on the west, 3 to the Canaanites in the east and the west, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, and the Jebusites in the hill country, and the Hivites under Hermon in the land of Mizpah.

4 And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots. 5 And all these kings joined their forces and came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel. 6 And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this time I will give over all of them, slain, to Israel. You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire.”

JOSHUA 11:1-9

7 So Joshua and all his warriors came suddenly against them by the waters of Merom and fell upon them. 8 And the Lord gave them into the hand of Israel, who struck them and chased them as far as Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim, and eastward as far as the Valley of Mizpeh. And they struck them until he left none remaining. 9 And Joshua did to them just as the Lord said to him: he hamstringed their horses and burned their chariots with fire.

JOSHUA 11:1-9



Pursue obedience that looks
ridiculous to the world

Obedience That Looks Ridiculous

1 When Jabin, king of Hazor, heard of this, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, 2 and to the kings who were in the northern hill country, and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the lowland, and in Naphoth-dor on the west,

JOSHUA 11:1-2

Obedience That Looks Ridiculous

4 And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots.

JOSHUA 11:4



Obedience That Looks Ridiculous

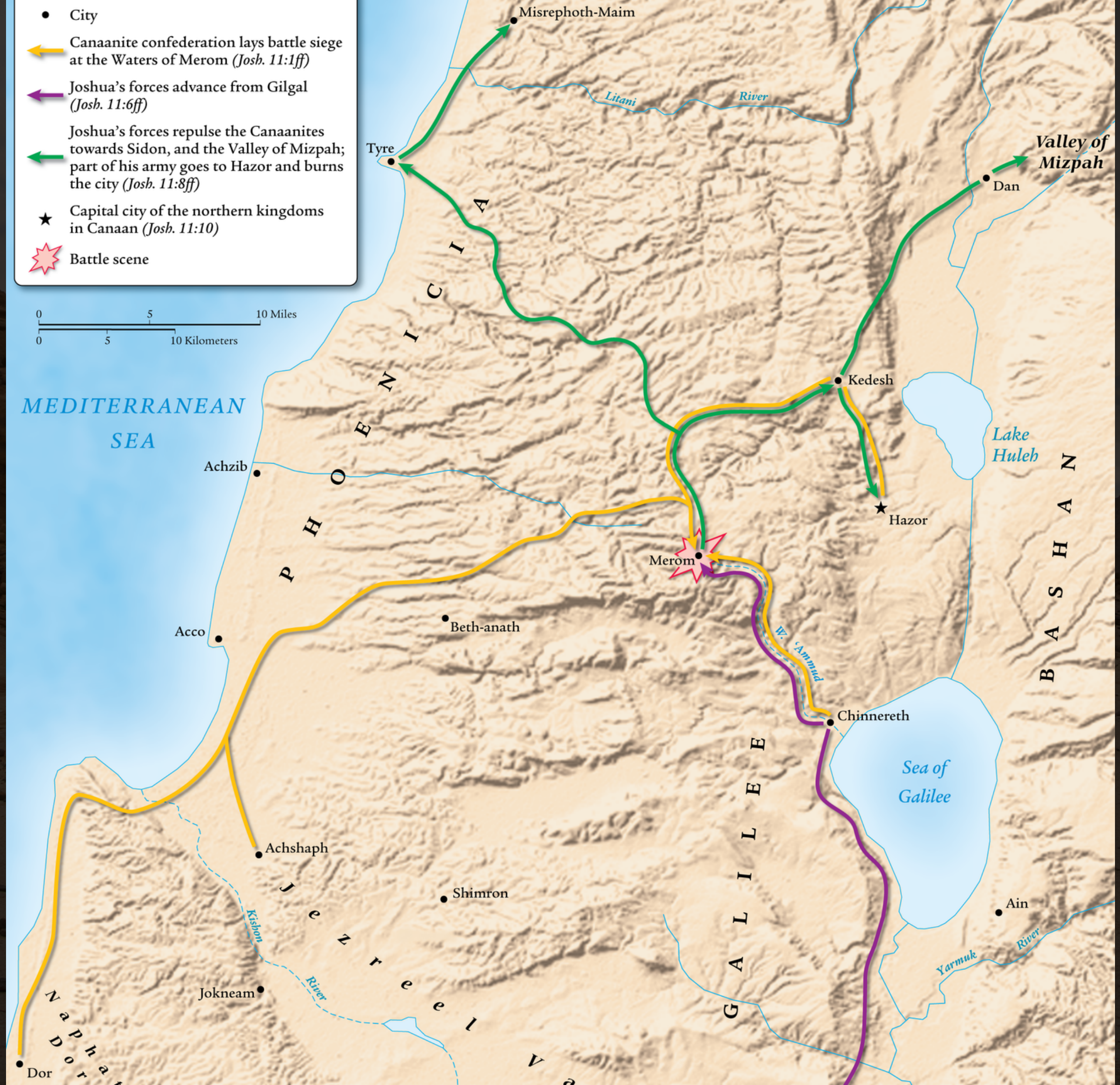
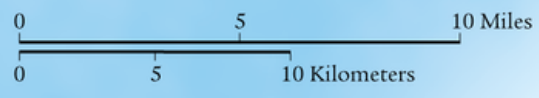
- Don't fear a numberless horde with superior weapons
- And don't keep those weapons when you are done

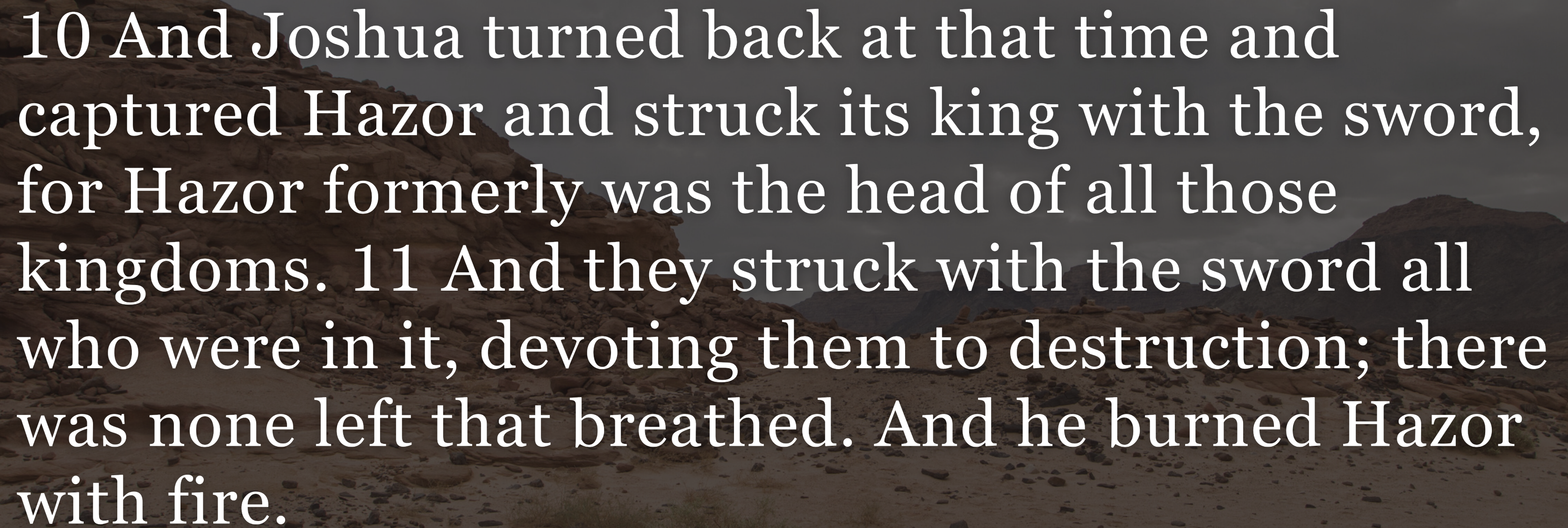
6 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this time I will give over all of them, slain, to Israel. You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire."

JOSHUA 11:6

Are we prepared
to do the same?

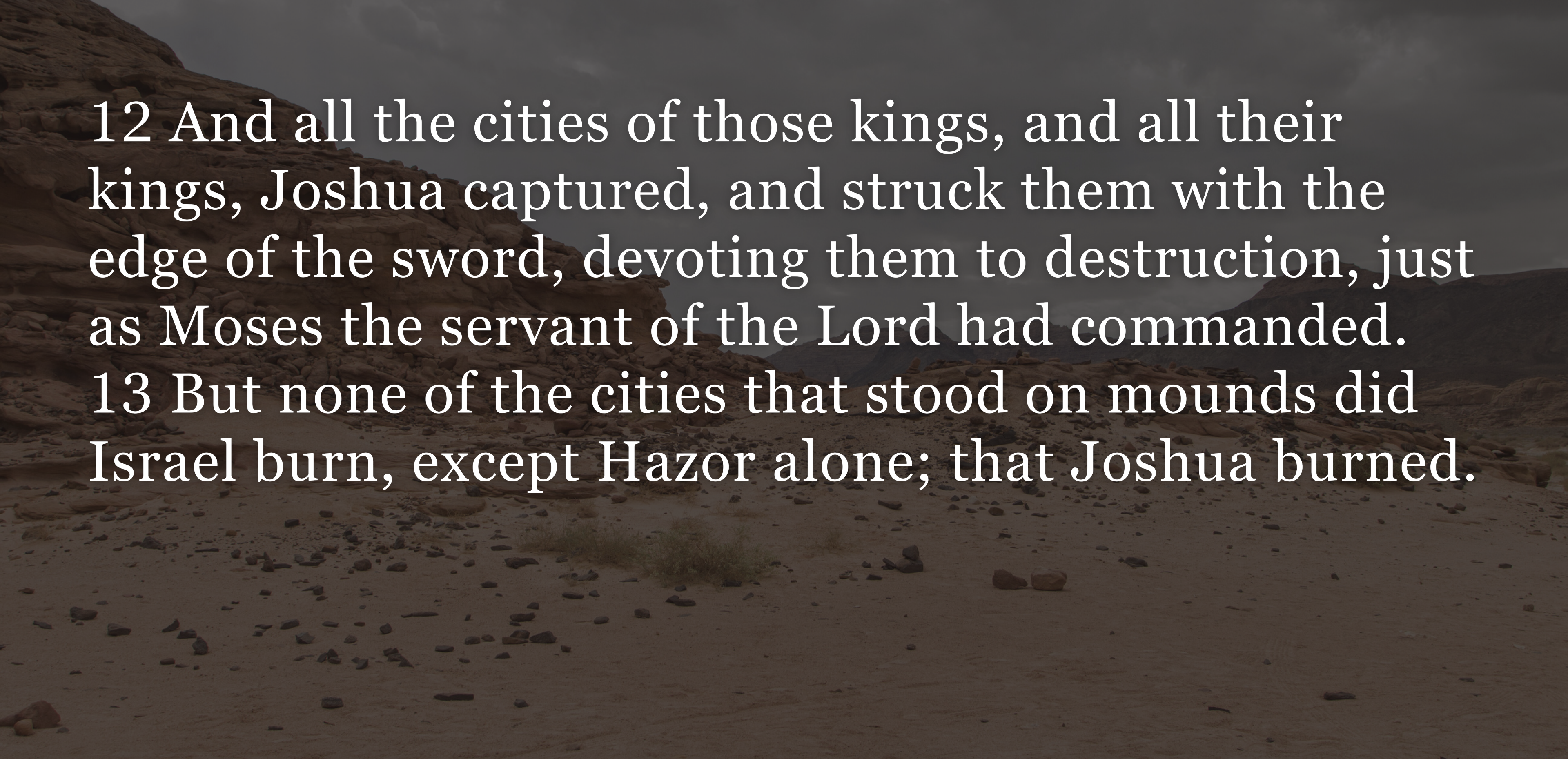
- City
- ← Canaanite confederation lays battle siege at the Waters of Merom (*Josh. 11:1ff*)
- ← Joshua's forces advance from Gilgal (*Josh. 11:6ff*)
- ← Joshua's forces repulse the Canaanites towards Sidon, and the Valley of Mizpah; part of his army goes to Hazor and burns the city (*Josh. 11:8ff*)
- ★ Capital city of the northern kingdoms in Canaan (*Josh. 11:10*)
- ★ Battle scene





10 And Joshua turned back at that time and captured Hazor and struck its king with the sword, for Hazor formerly was the head of all those kingdoms. 11 And they struck with the sword all who were in it, devoting them to destruction; there was none left that breathed. And he burned Hazor with fire.

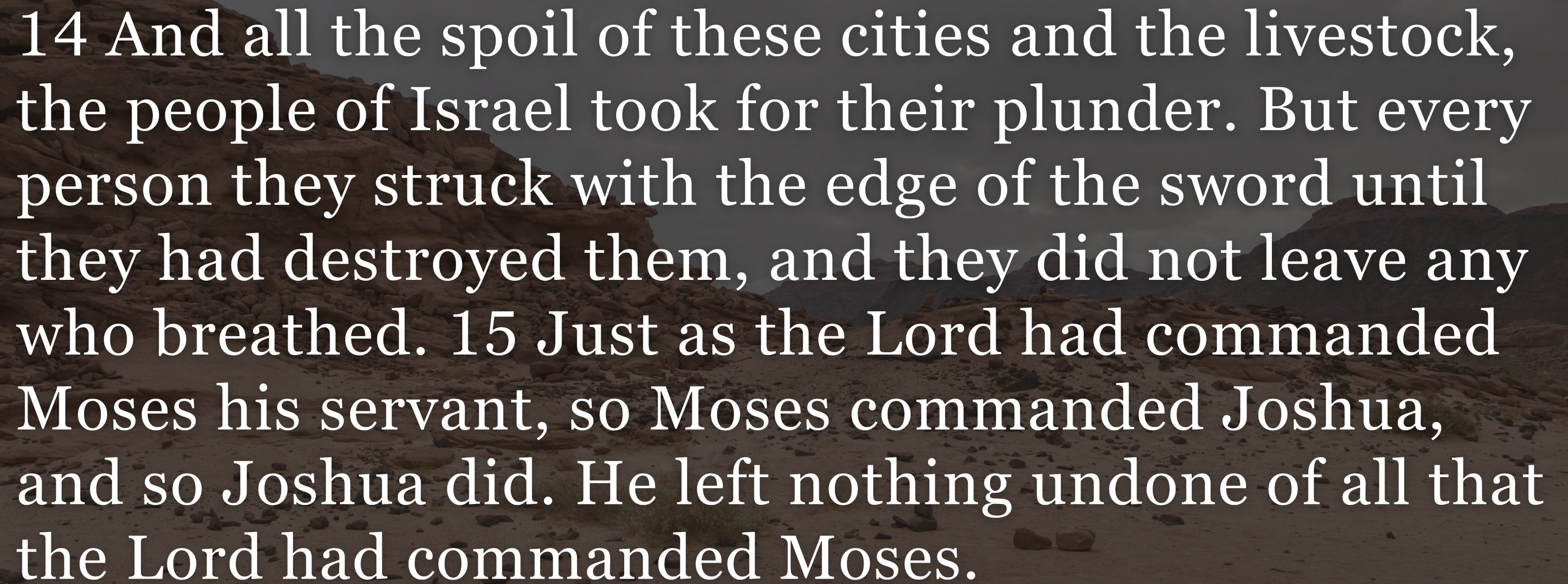
JOSHUA 11:10-20



12 And all the cities of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua captured, and struck them with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded.

13 But none of the cities that stood on mounds did Israel burn, except Hazor alone; that Joshua burned.

JOSHUA 11:10-20



14 And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the people of Israel took for their plunder. But every person they struck with the edge of the sword until they had destroyed them, and they did not leave any who breathed. 15 Just as the Lord had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses.

JOSHUA 11:10-20

16 So Joshua took all that land, the hill country and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the lowland and the Arabah and the hill country of Israel and its lowland 17 from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, as far as Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. And he captured all their kings and struck them and put them to death. 18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

19 There was not a city that made peace with the people of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They took them all in battle. 20 For it was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, in order that they should be devoted to destruction and should receive no mercy but be destroyed, just as the Lord commanded Moses.

JOSHUA 11:10-20



Root our lives in Scripture's story

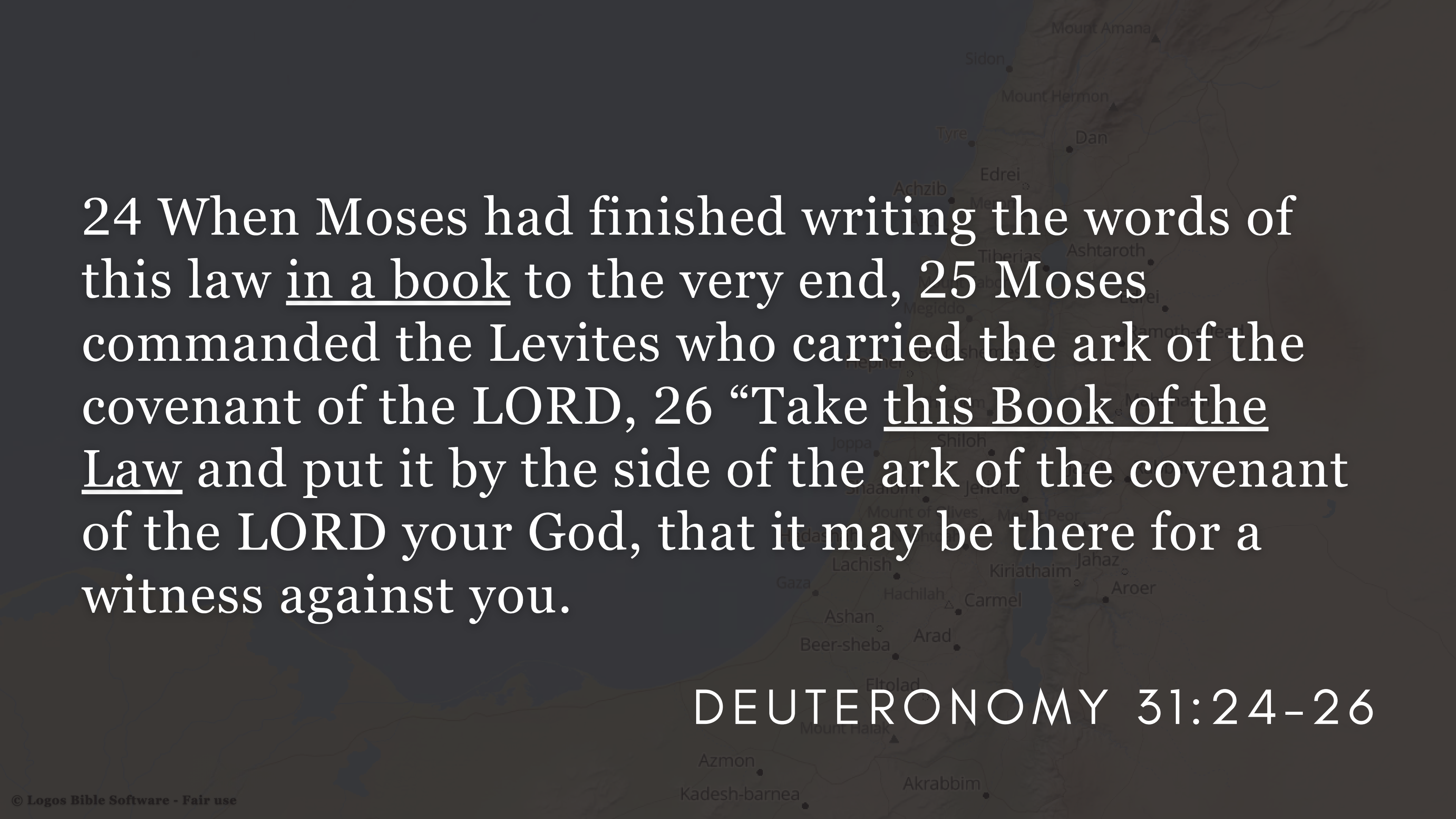
Root Our Lives in Scripture's Story

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JOSHUA 11:10, 12

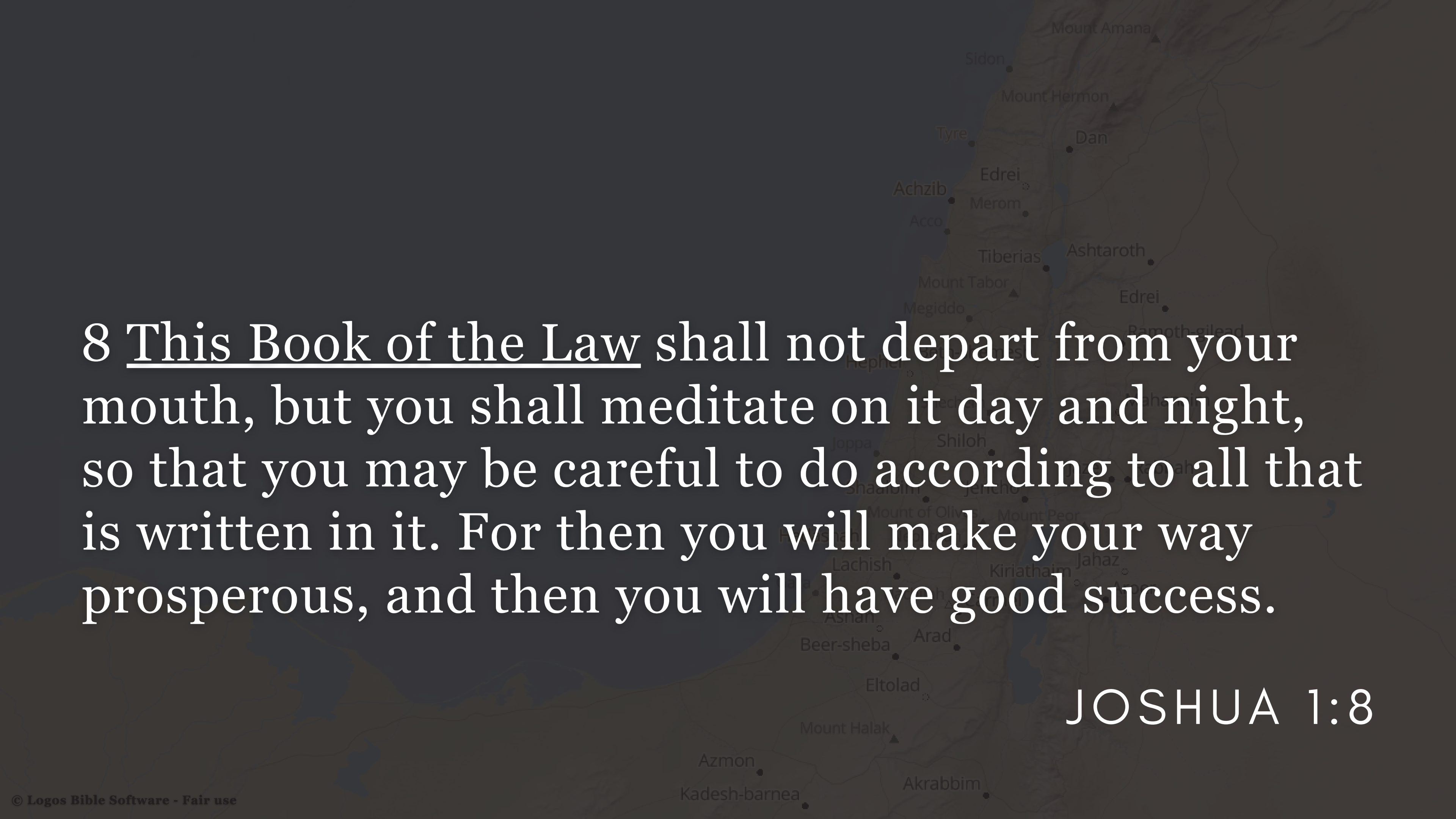
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JOSHUA 11:12-15, 20



24 When Moses had finished writing the words of this law in a book to the very end, 25 Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, 26 “Take this Book of the Law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against you.

DEUTERONOMY 31:24-26



8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

JOSHUA 1:8

Root Our Lives in Scripture's Story

- They have the Book: Genesis through Deuteronomy

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JOSHUA 1:8

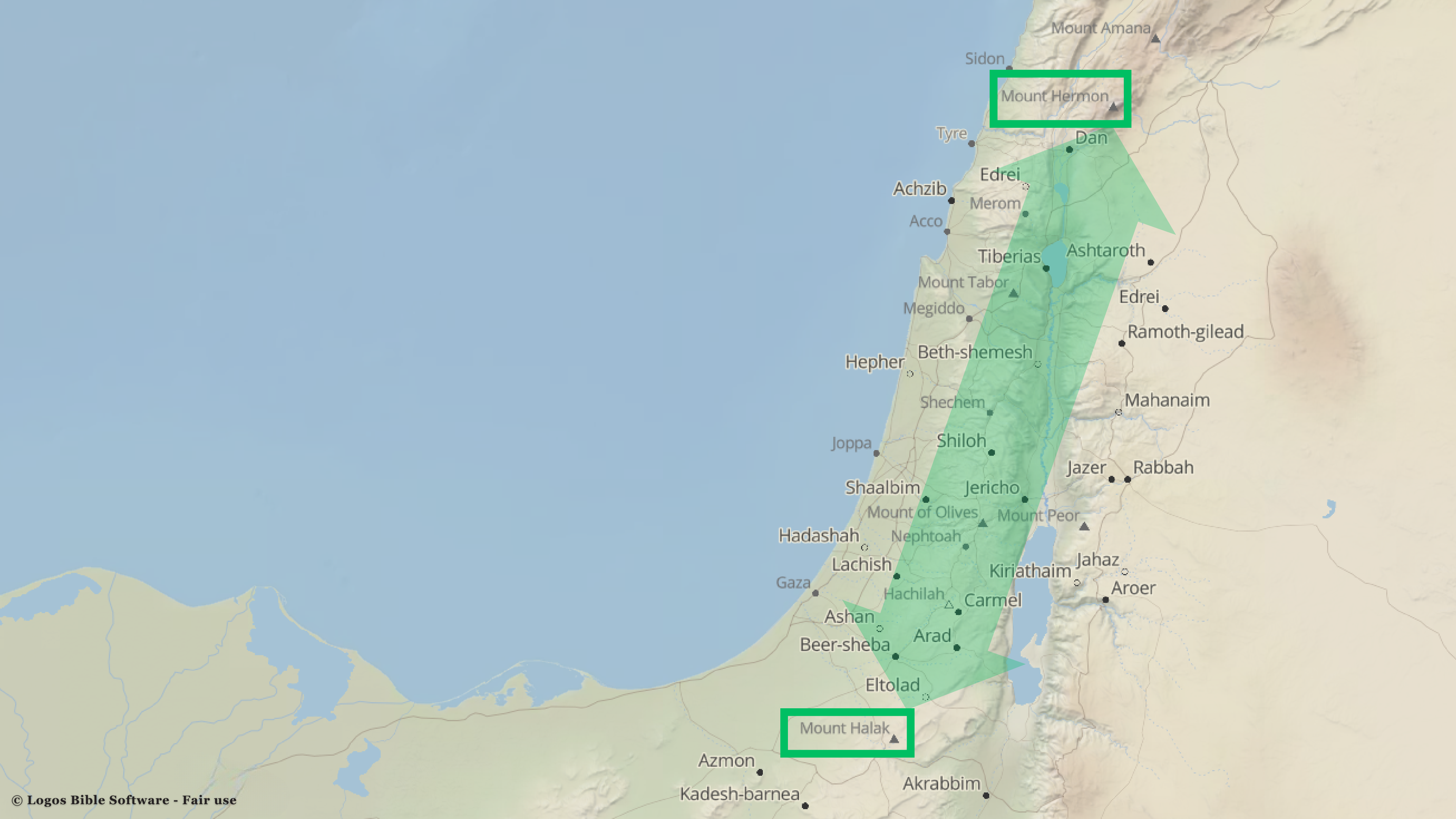
Root Our Lives in Scripture's Story

19 There was not a city that made peace with the people of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They took them all in battle. 20 For it was the LORD's doing to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, in order that they should be devoted to destruction and should receive no mercy but be destroyed, just as the LORD commanded Moses.

JOSHUA 11:19–20

Root Our Lives in Scripture's Story

- Not sit in prideful judgment over God
- But humbly thank God for His great mercy to us



Mount Hermon

Mount Halak

Root Our Lives in Scripture's Story

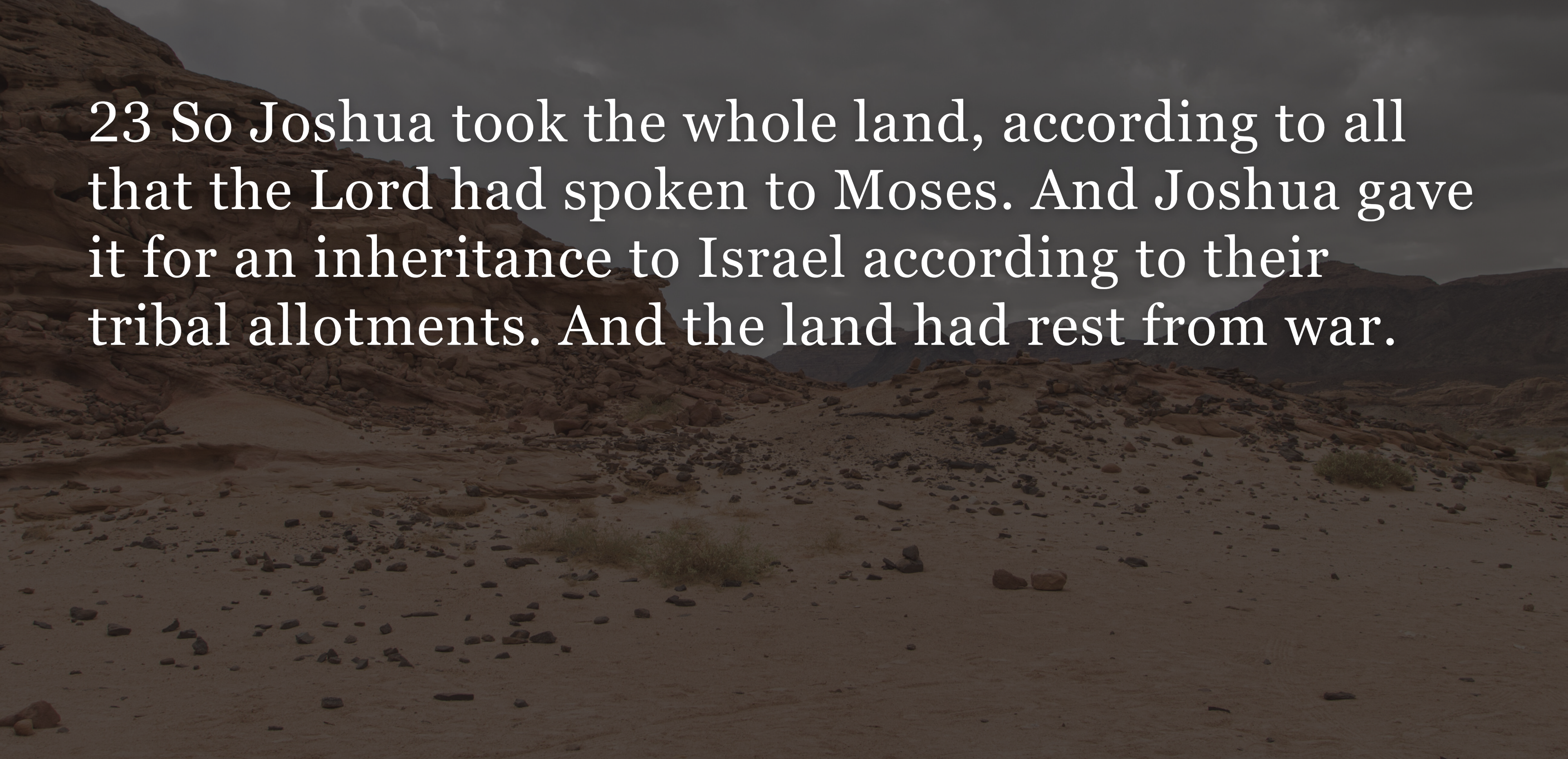
- About 5 years

18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

JOSHUA 11:18

Christ Himself was devoted
to the Lord for destruction

21 And Joshua came at that time and cut off the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua devoted them to destruction with their cities. 22 There was none of the Anakim left in the land of the people of Israel. Only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod did some remain.

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a desert landscape. The scene is dominated by a wide, sandy path that leads from the foreground into the distance. The path is scattered with small, dark rocks and patches of sparse, dry vegetation. In the background, there are rugged, rocky hills and mountains under a heavy, overcast sky. The overall mood is somber and desolate.

23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war.

JOSHUA 11:21-23



Follow through to the end



Follow Through to the End

Anakim

- Exceptionally tall people (7 to 9 feet)
- These are “mighty men”

10 (The Emim formerly lived there, a people great and many, and tall as the Anakim.

DEUTERONOMY 2:10

Follow Through to the End

- Territory already conquered

21 And Joshua came at that time and cut off the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua devoted them to destruction with their cities.

JOSHUA 11:21

Follow Through to the End

- Coastal plain, to be conquered later

22 There was none of the Anakim left in the land of the people of Israel. Only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod did some remain.

JOSHUA 11:22

Follow Through to the End

23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war.

JOSHUA 11:23

Perseverance is one of the
most under-appreciated
realities of the Christian life



JOSHUA

COURAGEOUS FAITH. FAITHFUL GOD.