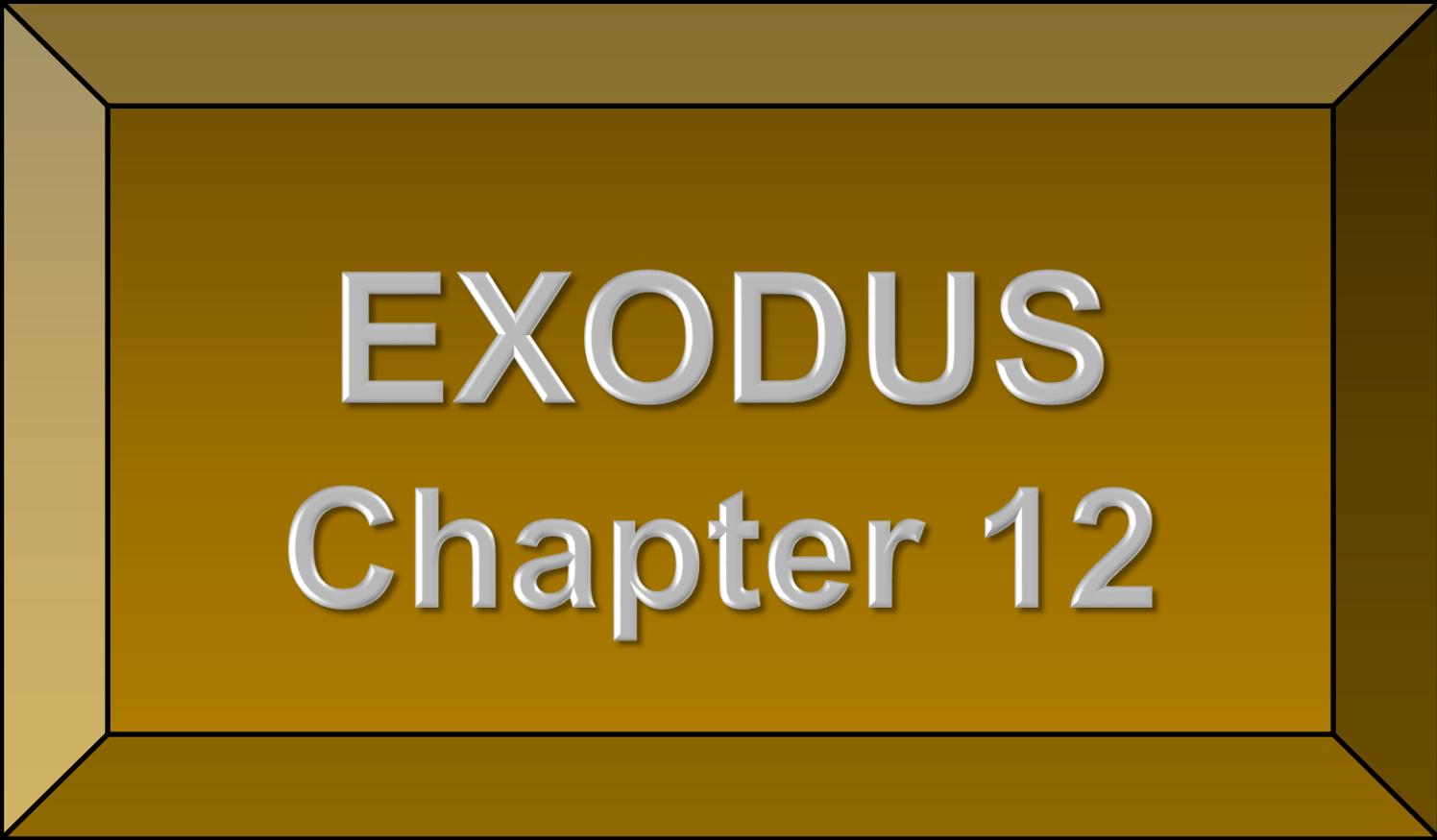




THE LAST PLAGUE



EXODUS
Chapter 12

The Passover

Exodus 12 records God's instructions for the 10th plague to protect the Israelites. They were to—

Kill a lamb

Put blood on the door post

Cook and eat the lamb

Be ready to leave with shoes on



The Passover

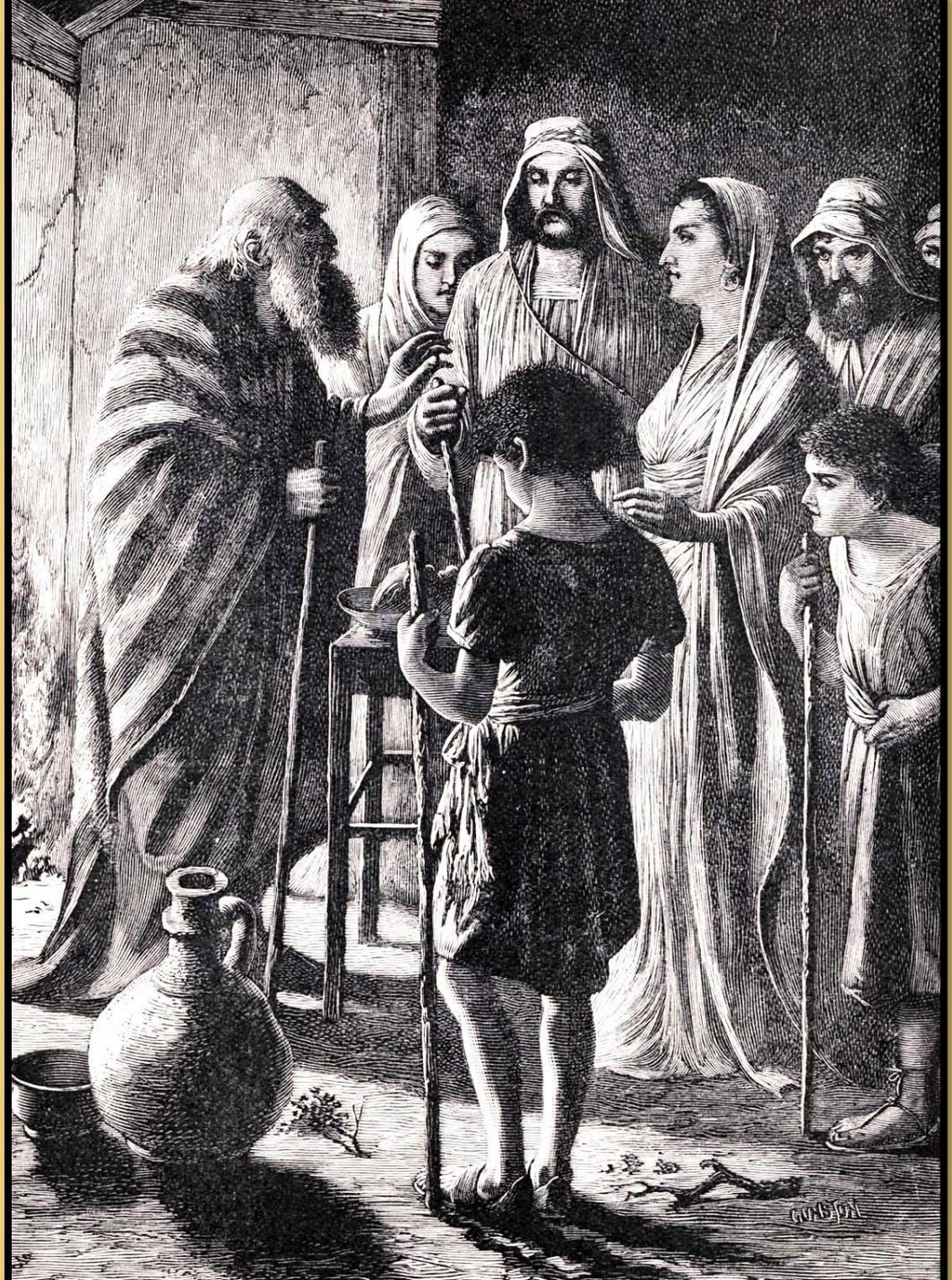
The Israelites obeyed God and put the blood on the door posts. Thus the Israelites were spared the horrible plague of the death of the first born in their households.



But, the Egyptians were struck with death in every house, even Pharaoh's.



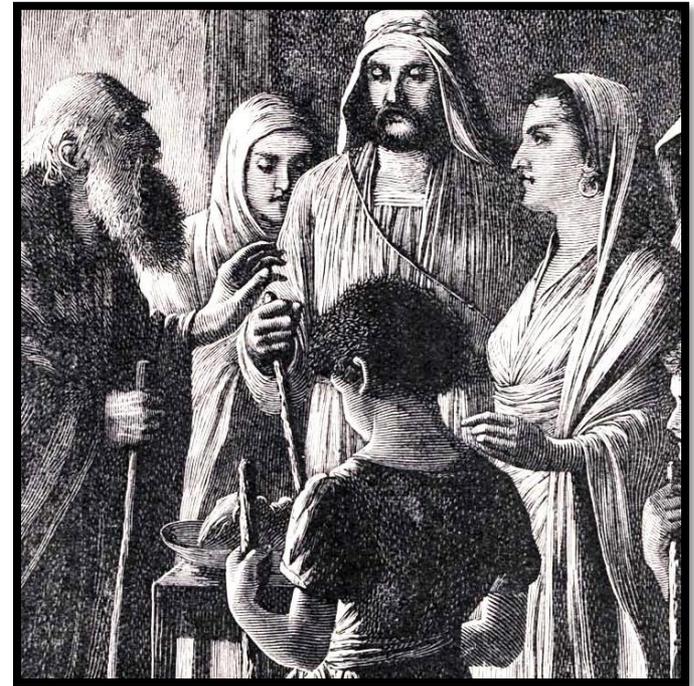
While the Israelites were eating the Passover lamb, and staying in their houses ready to go all night the firstborn of the Egyptians were dying.



Eighty years before this Pharaoh ordered all the Hebrew male newborn babies to be killed. Had that order continued to be carried out for eighty years?

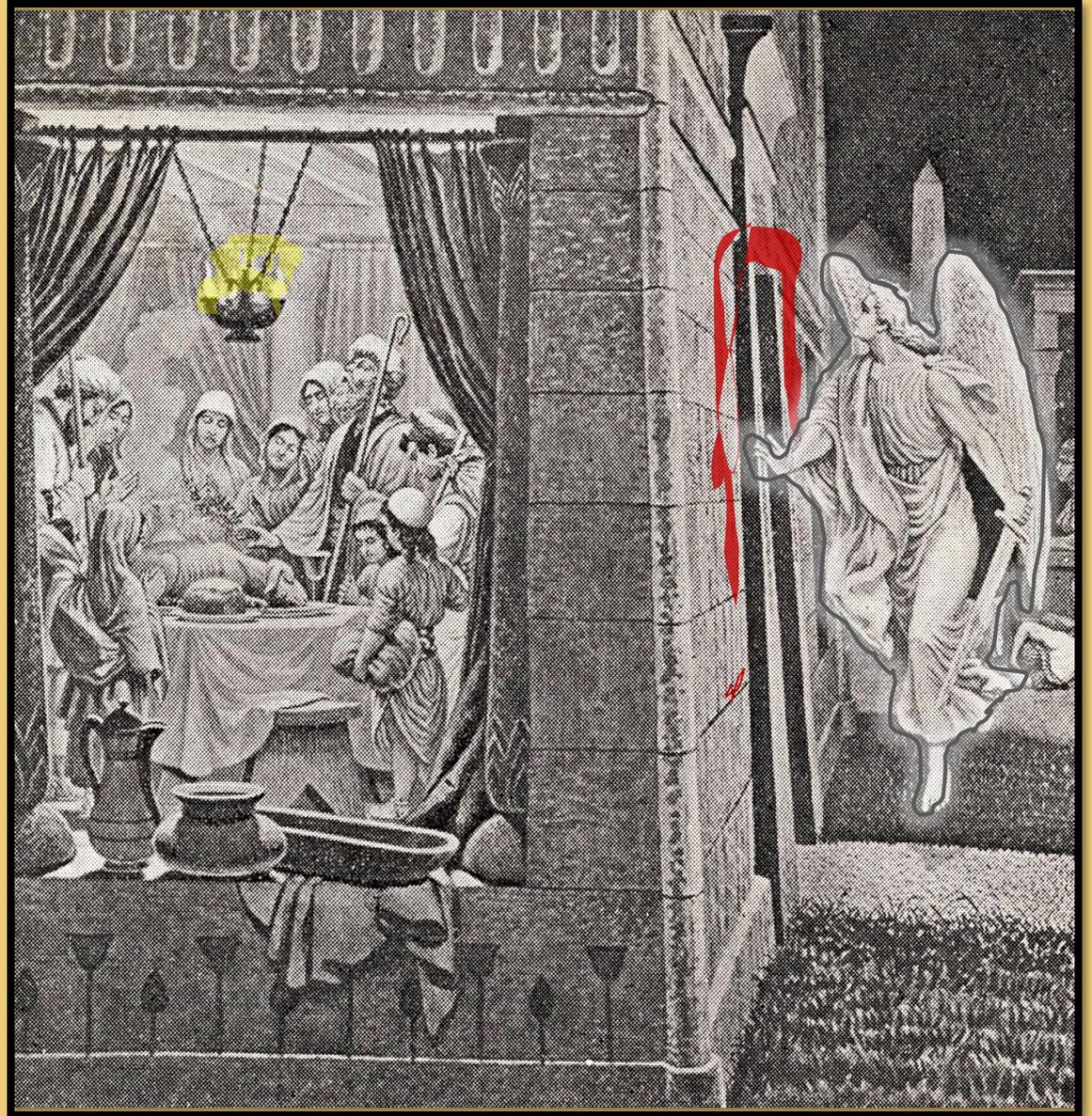
Now, God slew the Egyptian children, the firstborn; everyone that was the first child of their mother.

The 5th century B.C. historian, Herodotus, reveals that it was the custom of the Egyptians to rush from the house into the street to bewail the dead with loud and bitter cries of sorrow. How great the cry in Egypt must have been! Imagine the Hebrews standing in their homes and hearing the screams and cries of the Egyptians.



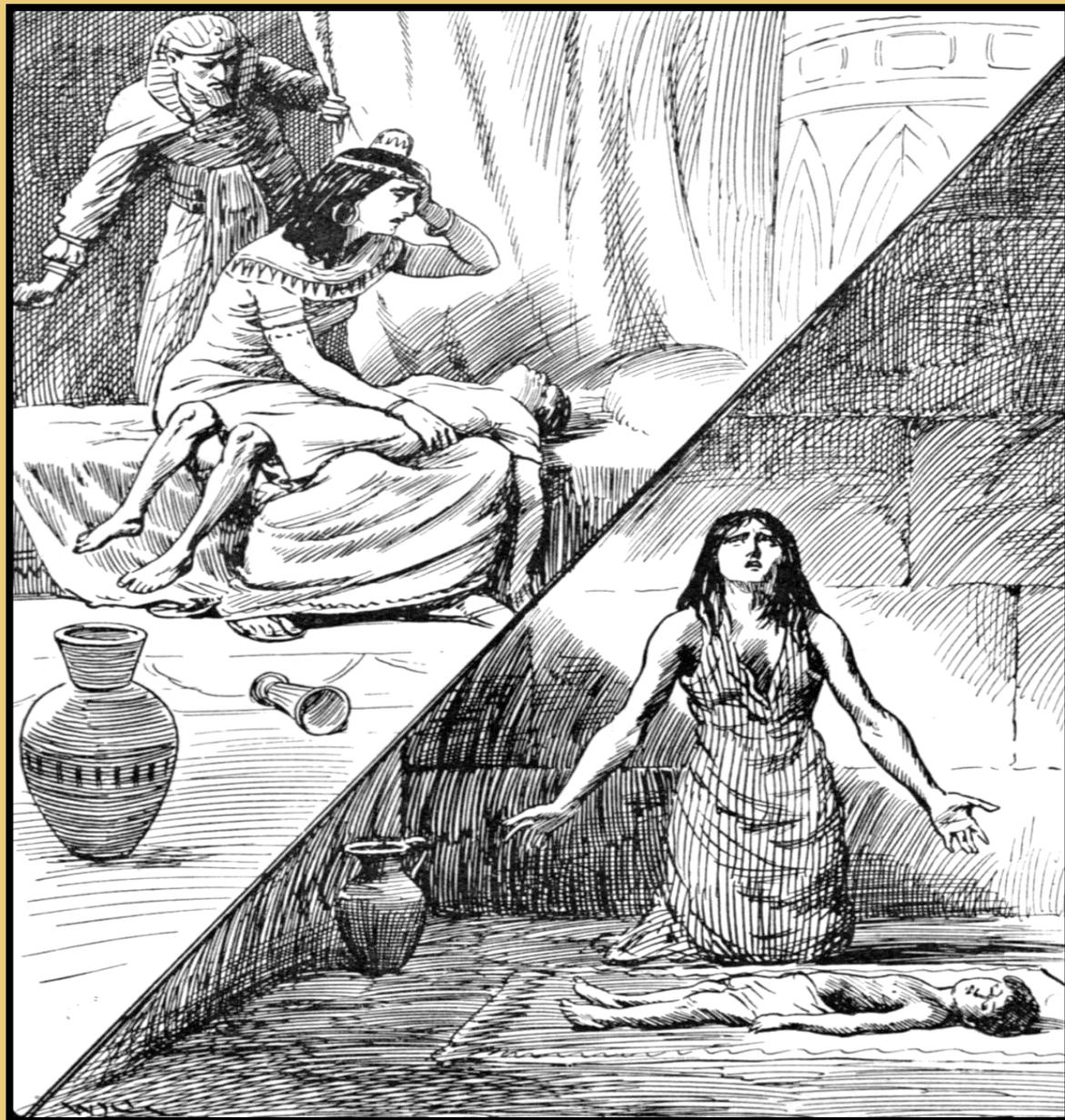
Exodus 12

“²³For the **LORD will pass through** to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, **the LORD will pass over the door**, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.”



Exodus 12

“²⁹And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.”



Exodus 12

“³⁰And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a **great cry in Egypt**; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.”



Previously when Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh that God had said, “Let my people go,” Pharaoh immediately began to offer certain compromises, but after the death of the first born he begged them to leave Egypt.

COMPROMISES OF PHARAOH

- ⇒ He asked that the people stay in Egypt (Ex. 5).
- ⇒ He didn't want them to go into the wilderness to worship (Ex. 8:25).
- ⇒ “Ye shall not go very far” (Ex. 8:28).
- ⇒ Leave the little ones at home (Ex. 10:9-11).
- ⇒ Leave money, flocks and herds behind (Ex. 10:24).

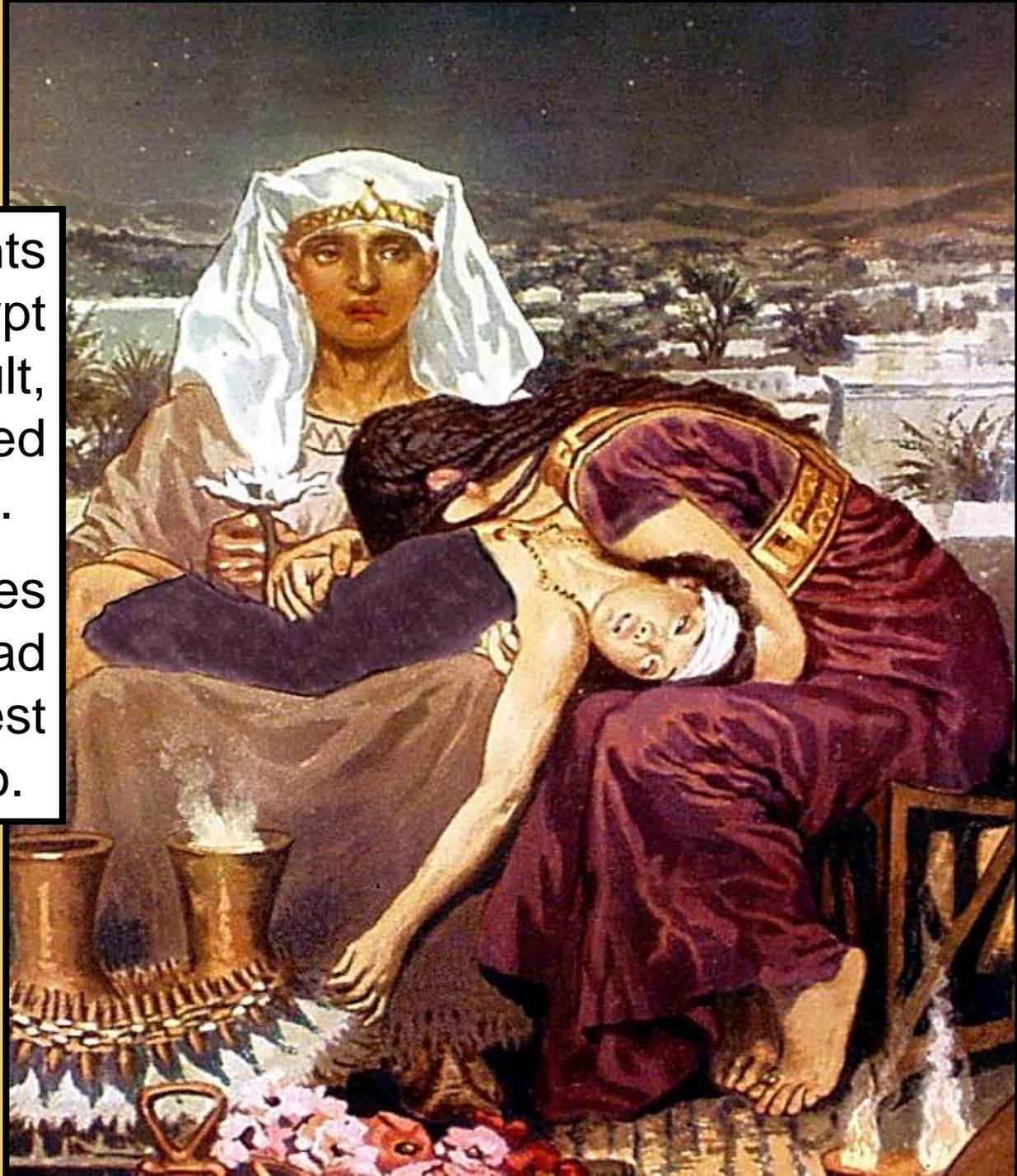
Exodus 12

“³¹And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said. ³²Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also. ³³And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.”



The horrible events that took place in Egypt were Pharaoh's fault, because he hardened his heart against God.

He tried to get Moses to compromise instead of granting his request to let God's people go.



HEBREWS Chapter 3

**Pharaoh hardened his heart
and
Israel hardened its heart.**

Let's take a close look at Hebrews chapter 3 for the writer reflects upon the events of the exodus and wilderness wandering and their effect upon the human heart.

HEBREWS Chapter 3

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

3 For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.



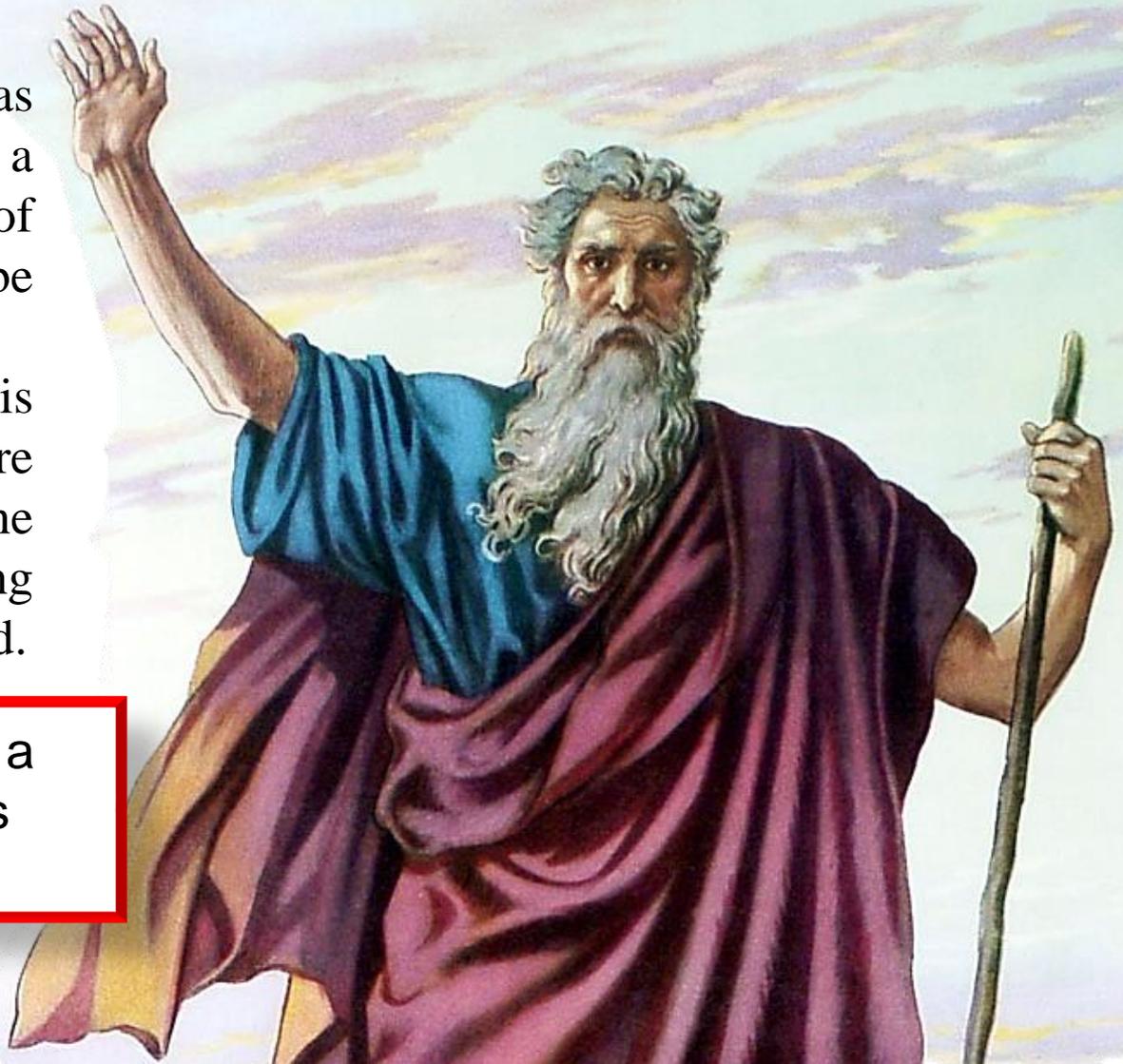
The nation of Israel under the Theocracy was a house, a dwelling place of the Most High, and as such it must have had a builder. God himself (including the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) was the Supreme Architect in building the house of Israel. Hence it follows that Jesus is much superior to Moses as the builder of a house is to the house itself.

HEBREWS Chapter 3

5 And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

Moses is described as a “servant,” but Christ is described as a “son.”

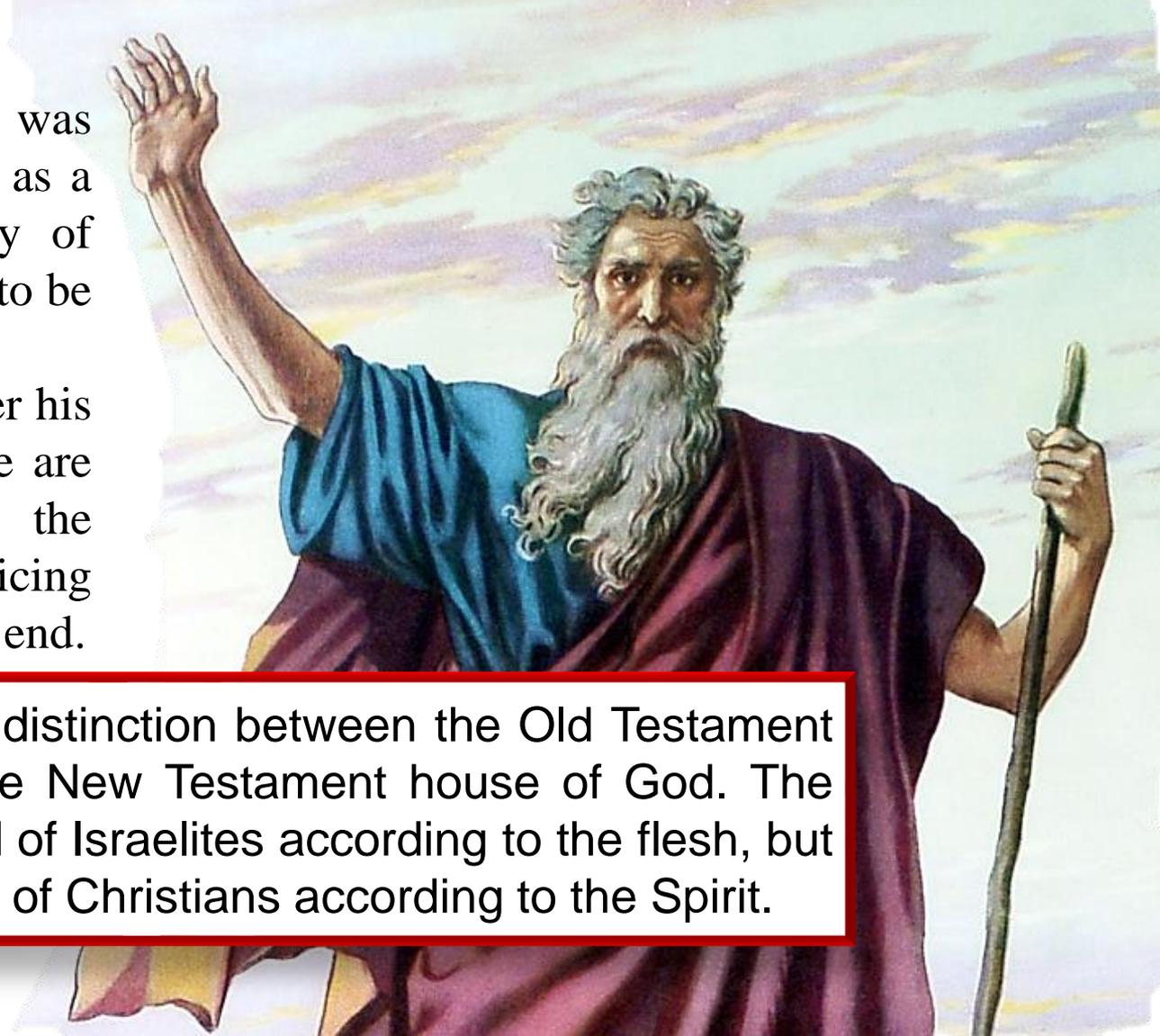


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Our writer makes the distinction between the Old Testament house of God and the New Testament house of God. The former was composed of Israelites according to the flesh, but the latter is composed of Christians according to the Spirit.



HEBREWS Chapter 3

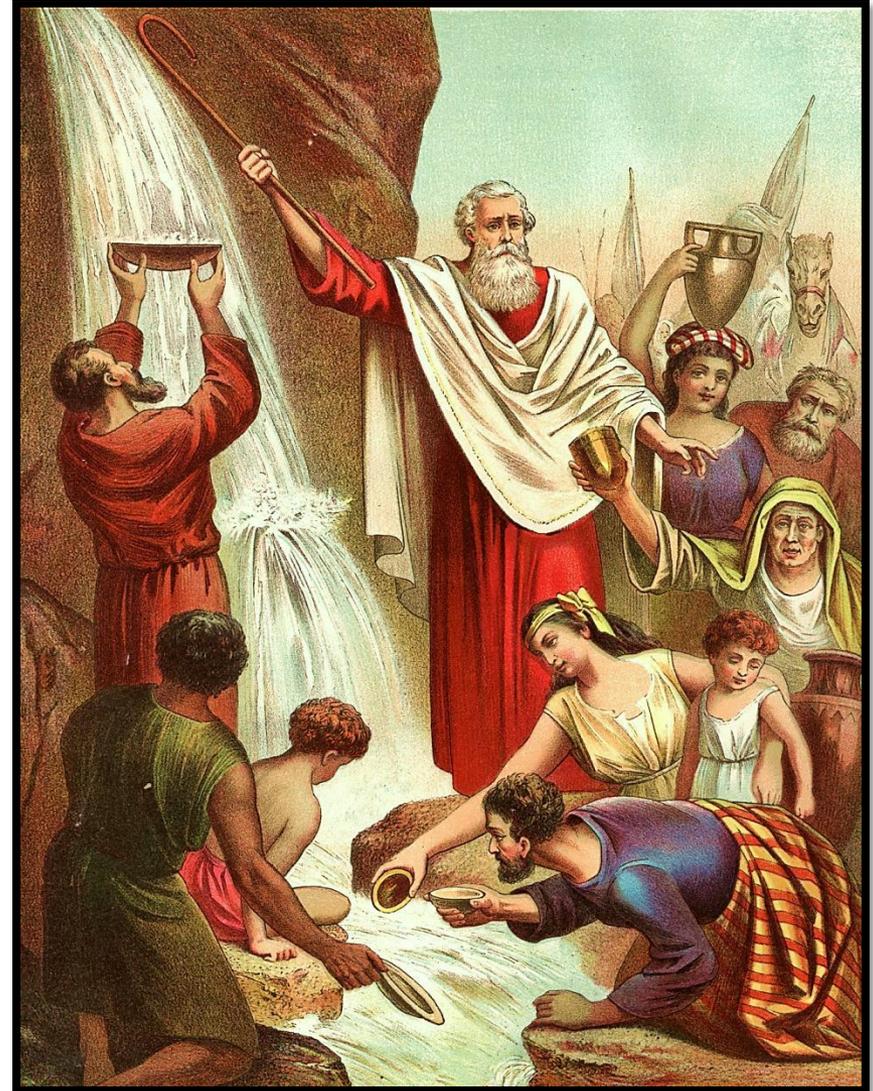
7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.

10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.

11 So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)



HEBREWS Chapter 3

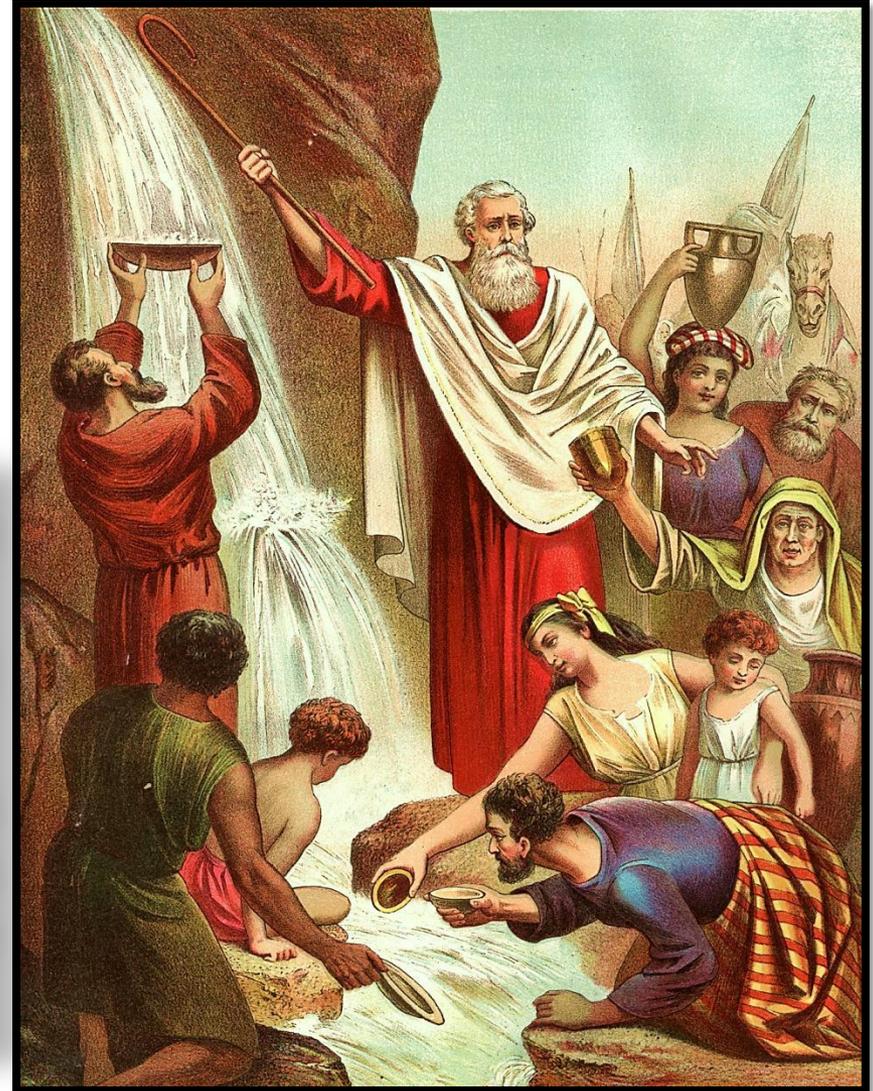
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Verse 8— This verse rendered literally is as follows:

Harden not your hearts like Meribah in the wilderness.

That is, harden not your hearts as Israel did at Meribah. Meribah was a place near Mount Horeb where Israel murmured for water (Ex. 17).



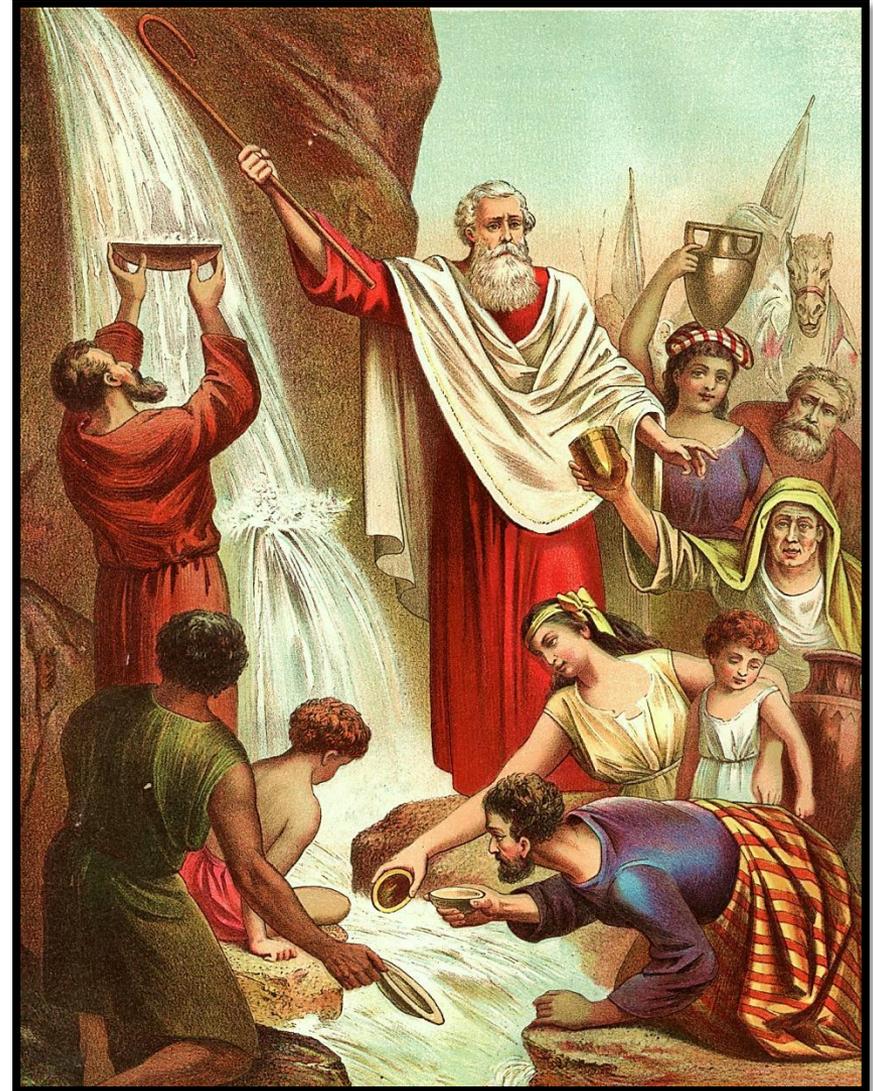
HEBREWS

Chapter 3

Verse 11— After the Hebrews escaped the slavery of Egypt God prepared them to enter Canaan by many miracles, giving them his law, and the plan for the tabernacle.

The Hebrew's murmuring and repeated rebellion became intolerable to God and he rejected that generation from **entering into his rest** [Canaan]. They wandered 40 years until the rebellious generation died.

11 So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)

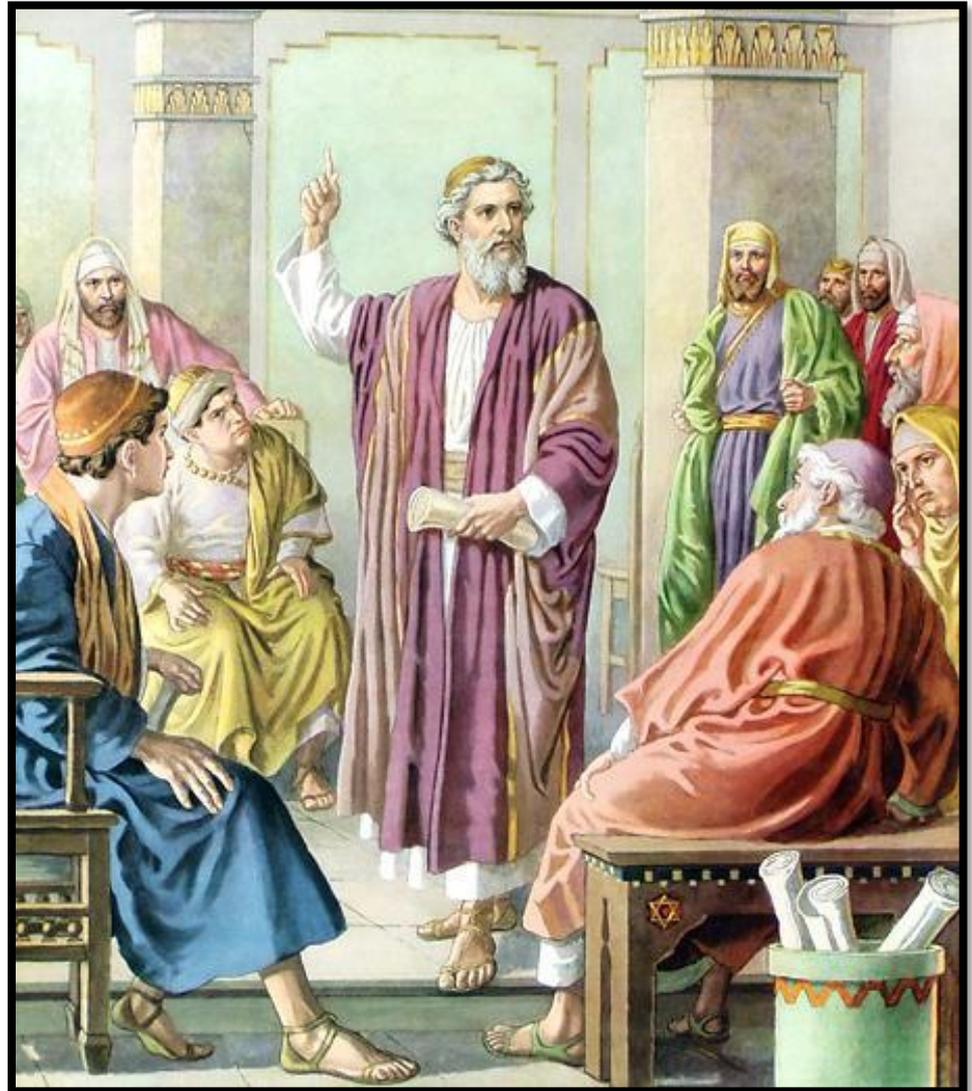


HEBREWS Chapter 3

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence [assurance] stedfast unto the end;



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THESE VERSES TEACH THE POSSIBILITY OF APOSTASY

The *Baptist Faith And Message* contradicts the Bible by claiming that it is impossible for a true believer to depart from God. Their stance regarding this passage is that those addressed had never been *true believers*. But look at the passage, and notice that they are referred to as “brethren” and “partakers of Christ” who at the beginning had “confidence” or assurance. Also, we put forth the question: How can you *depart* from God if you were never with him?

HEBREWS Chapter 3

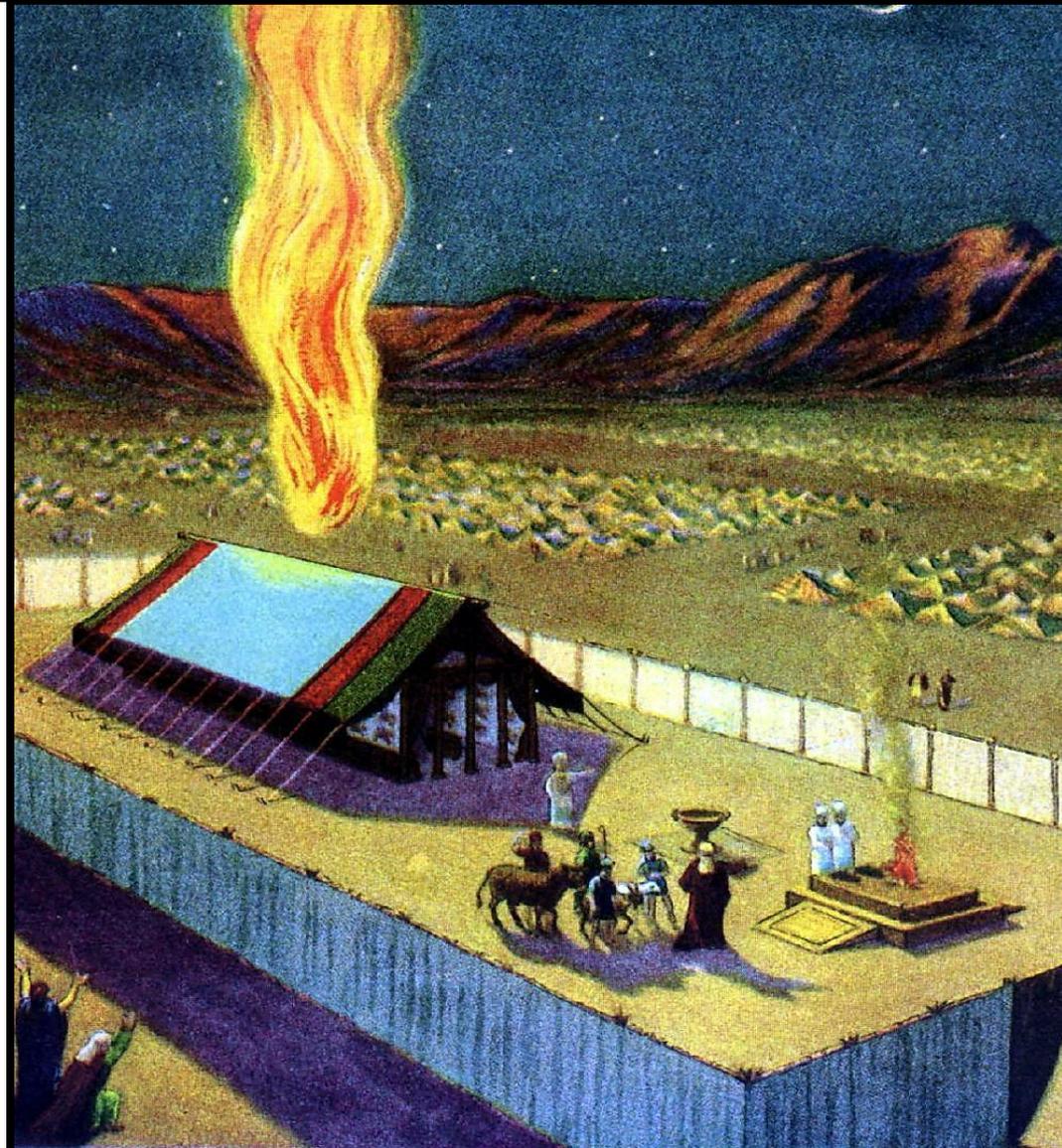
15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

17 But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?

18 And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?

19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.



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The history of Israel's provocations and of God's dealings with them was so fully recorded in the Old Testament and so generally believed by the Hebrew Christians, that it was unnecessary to formally recount them. Hence, without further argument the writer simply concludes that owing to the sins of the Hebrews a whole generation of God's chosen people were excluded from the promised rest.

This is given as a warning to all Christians to beware, lest they too fall after the same example of unbelief.

FALL FROM GRACE

**One of the five points of Calvinistic doctrine is referred to as
PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS
also known as “once saved always saved.”**

The Baptist denomination vehemently defends this doctrine though it directly contradicts Galatians 5:4 and many other passages in the Bible—

Ezekiel 18:24

Matthew 7:21

Matthew 10:22

Matthew 24:24

Mark 13:3

John 15:6

Romans 11:19-22

1 Corinthians 9:27

1 Corinthians 10:12

2 Corinthians 13:5

Galatians 5:19-21

Galatians 6:9

1 Timothy 4:1

Hebrews 6:4-6

Hebrews 10:26

James 2:14-17

James 5:19-20

2 Peter 1:10

2 Peter 2:20-22

Revelation 2:1-29

Revelation 2:10

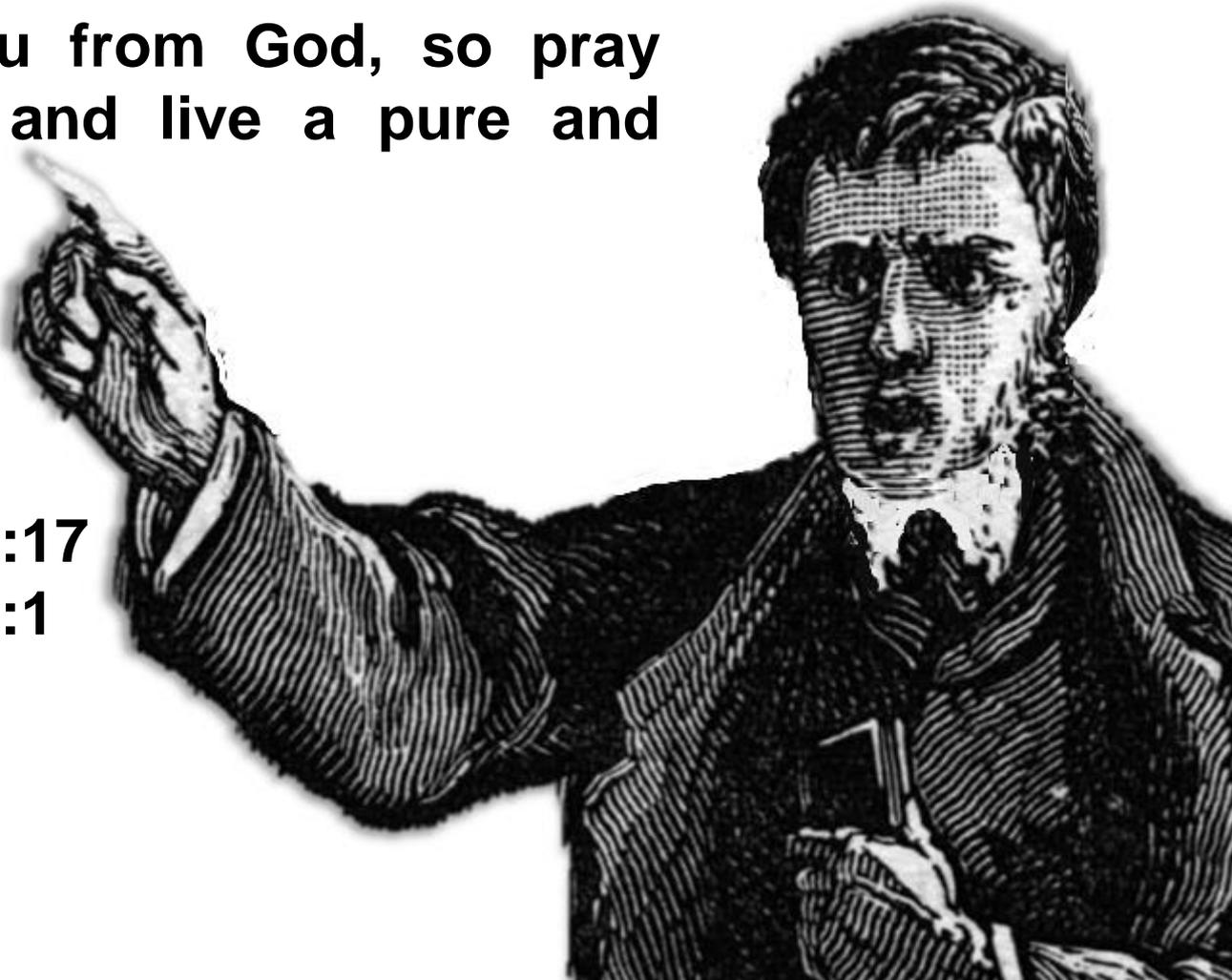
**Do not be fooled by false teachers.
IT IS POSSIBLE TO FALL AWAY.**

**Sin separates you from God, so pray
without ceasing, and live a pure and
holy life.**

Isaiah 59:2

1 Thessalonians 5:17

1 Thessalonians 4:1



The

End