



**EVIL REPORT
FROM THE 10 SPIES**

Moses sent 12 men into Canaan to spy out the land.





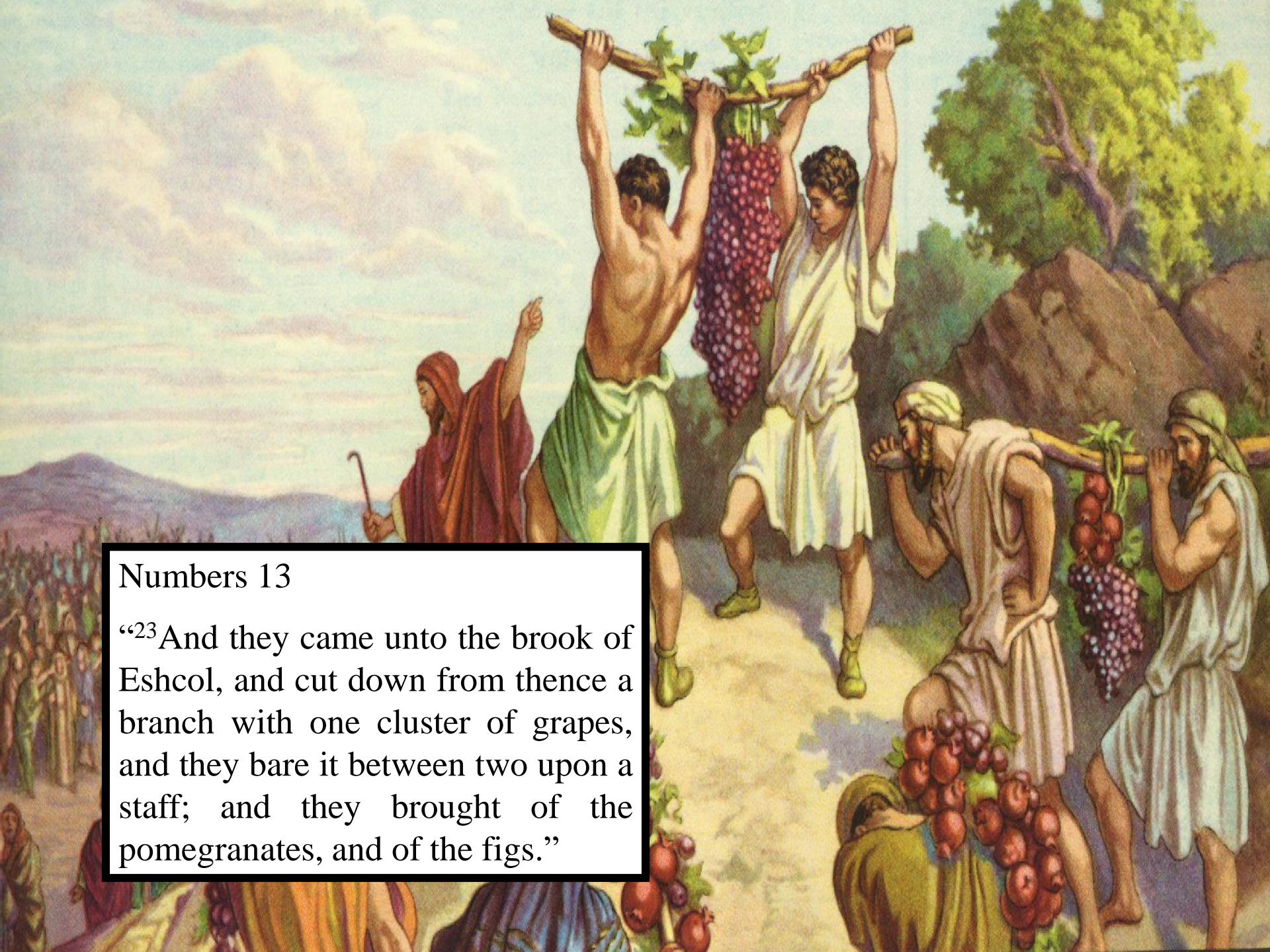
They were to spy out the land and report about :

- . . . the people that dwelt there
- . . . whether they were strong or weak, few or many
- . . . what kind of land it was, whether it was good or bad
- . . . what size the cities were
- . . . whether they lived in tents, or in strong holds
- . . . if the land was fat or lean, whether it had wood or not



And they were to—

- ... Bring of the fruit of the land
- ... Be of good courage



Numbers 13

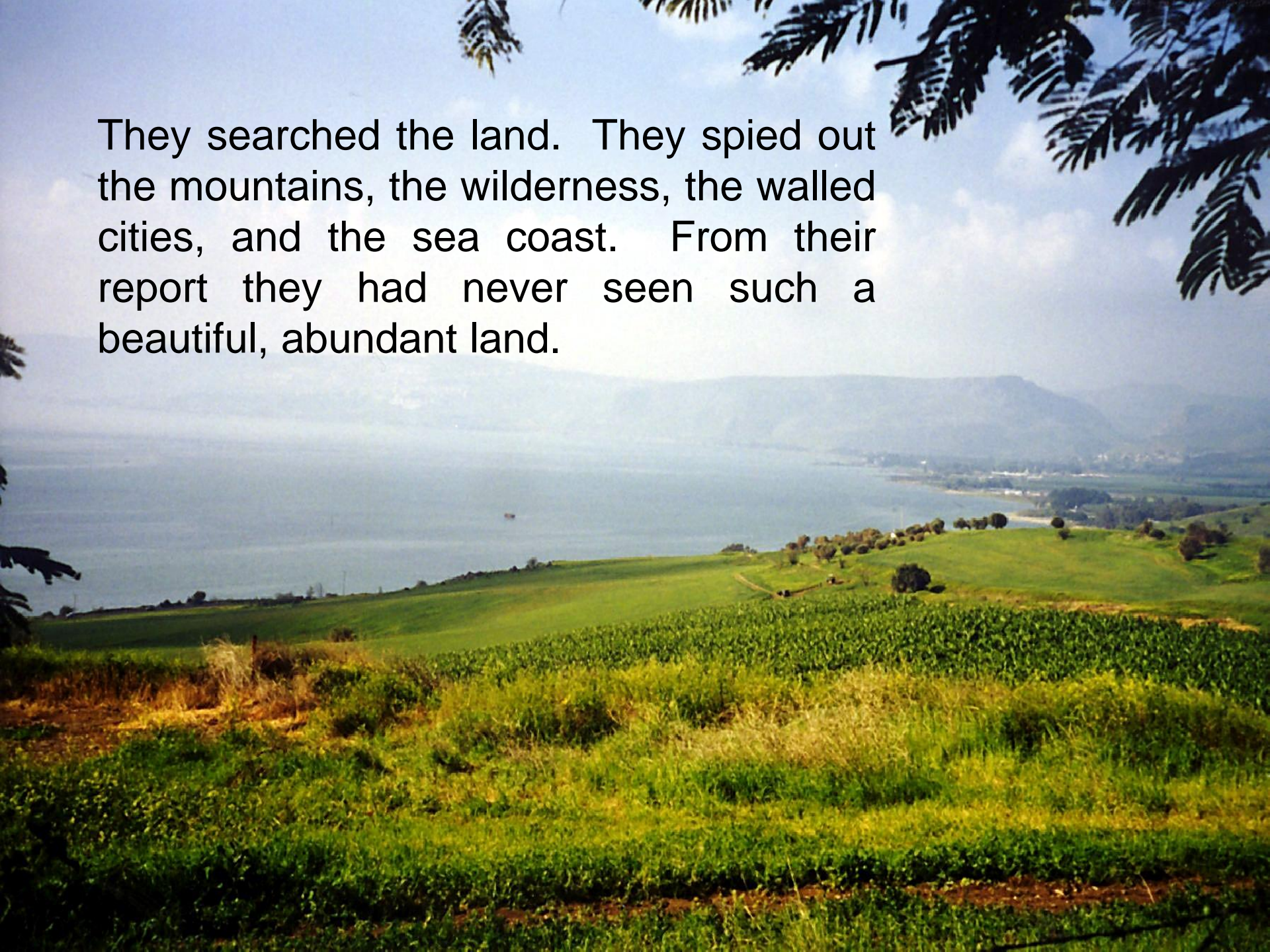
“²³And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.”

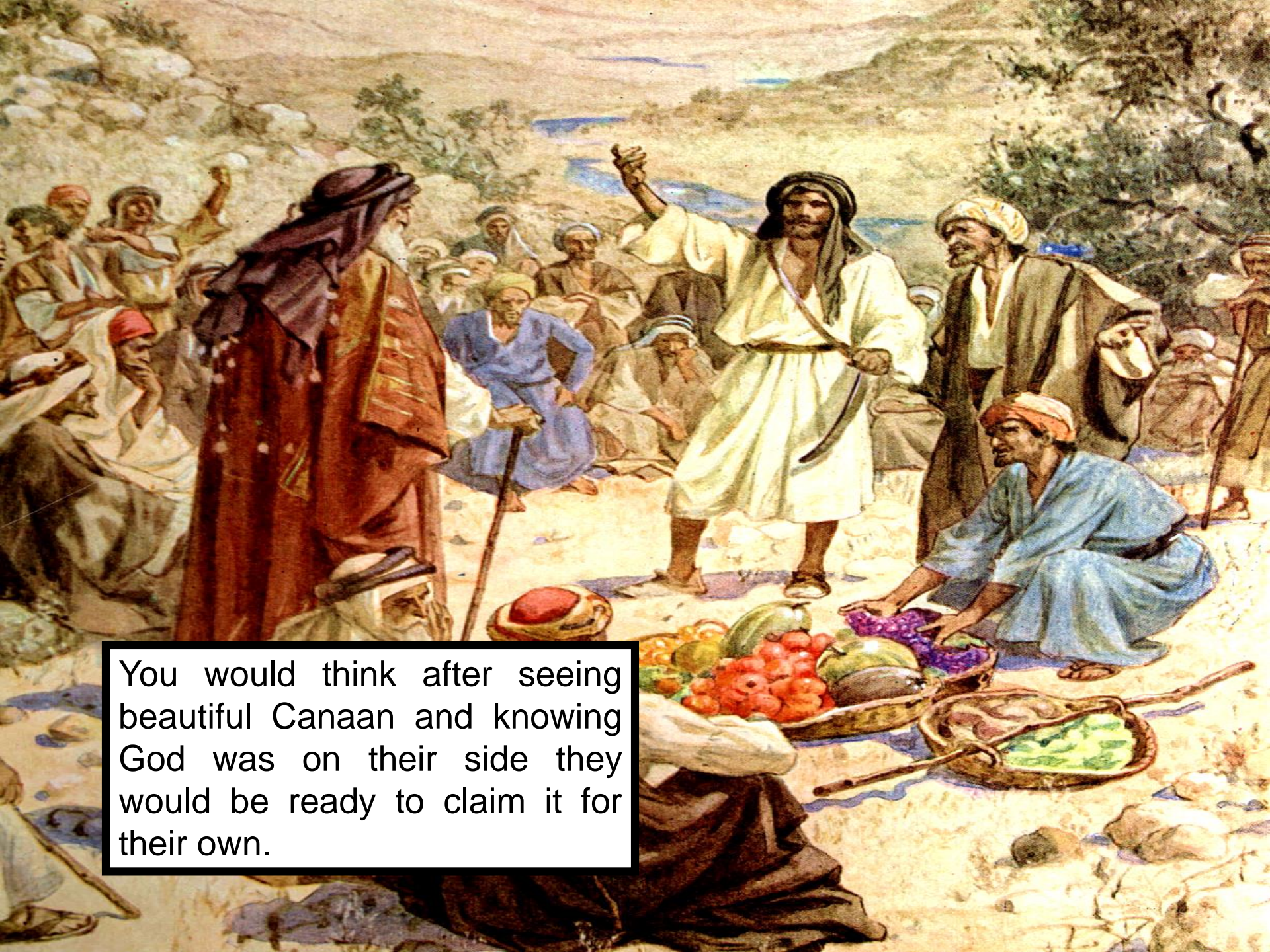


Numbers 13

“²⁴The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence. ²⁵And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.”

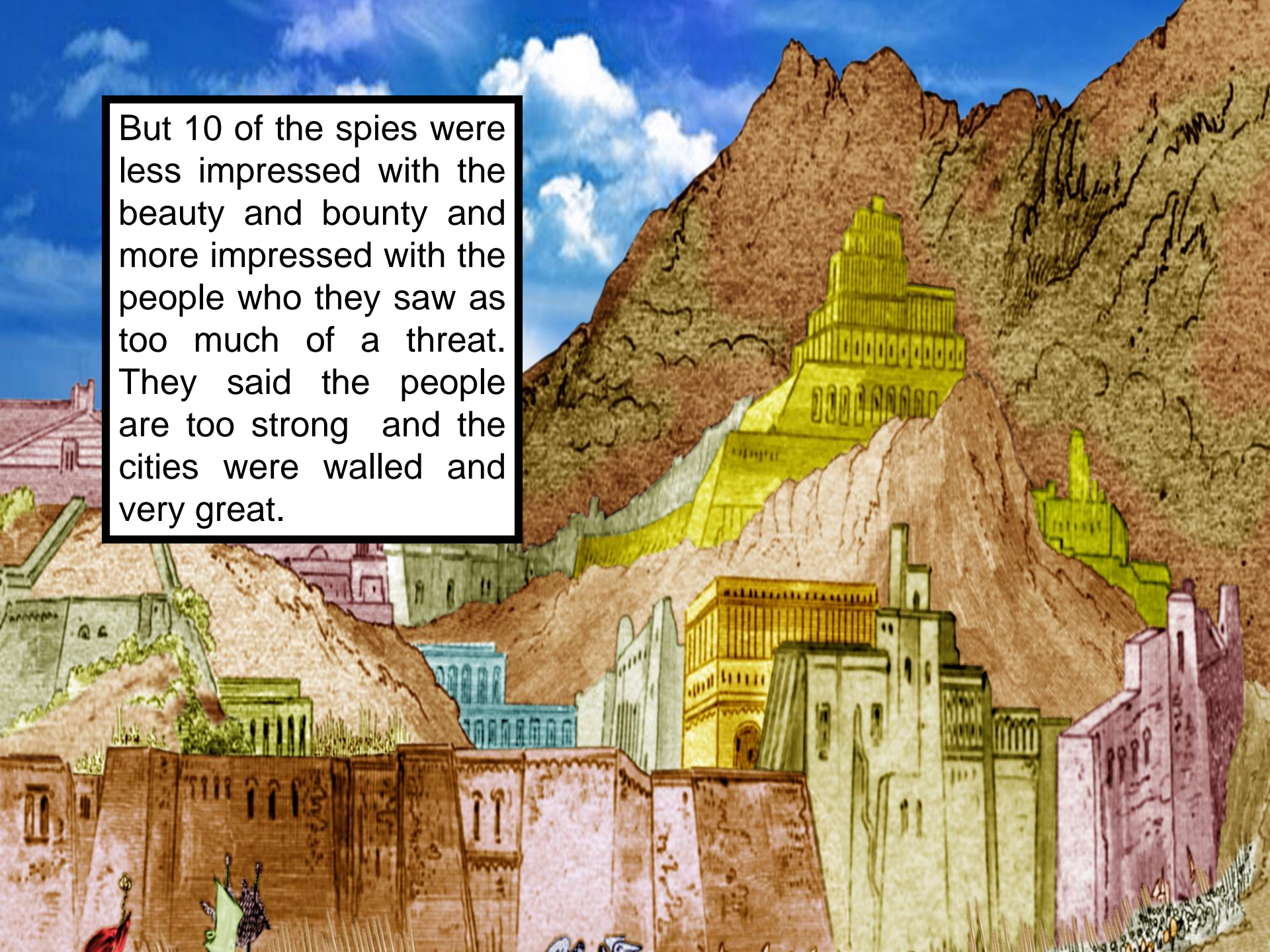
They searched the land. They spied out the mountains, the wilderness, the walled cities, and the sea coast. From their report they had never seen such a beautiful, abundant land.





You would think after seeing beautiful Canaan and knowing God was on their side they would be ready to claim it for their own.

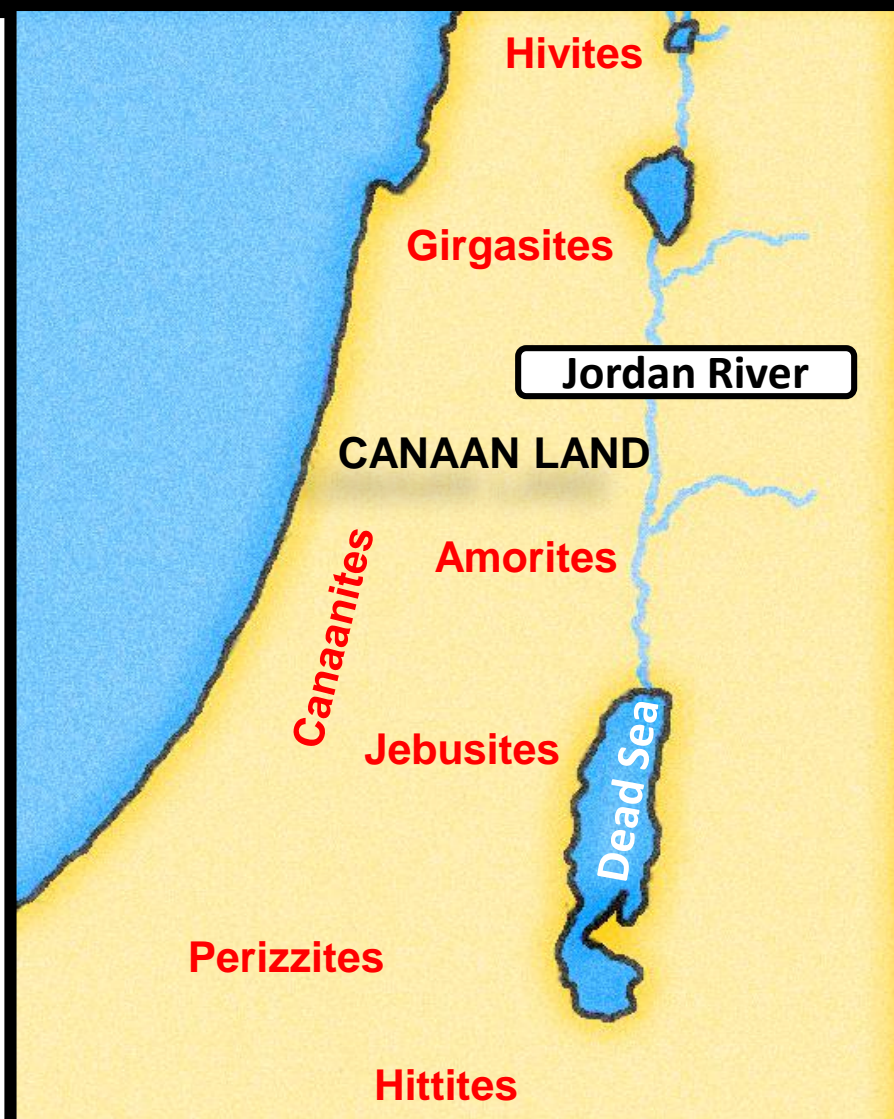
But 10 of the spies were less impressed with the beauty and bounty and more impressed with the people who they saw as too much of a threat. They said the people are too strong and the cities were walled and very great.



The 10 spies were afraid because of the evil nations that inhabited Canaan.

There were 7 nations of Canaan—

Hittites
Perizzites
Jebusites
Amorites
Canaanites
Girgasites
Hivites



But two of the spies,
Joshua and Caleb, had
faith in God, and
courage to obey him.

Caleb said:

“Let us go up at once
and possess it; for we
are well able to
overcome it.”



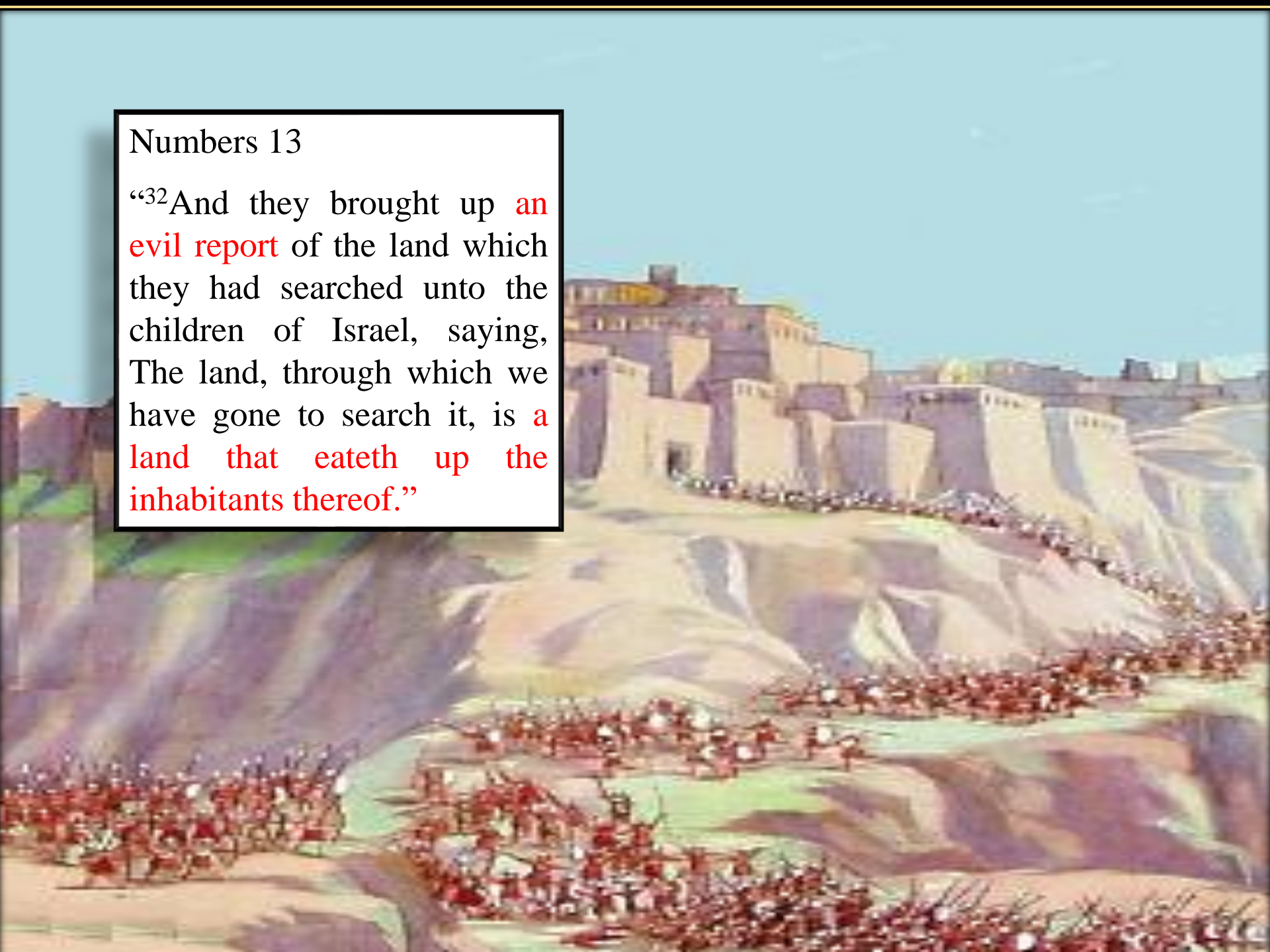


The other spies were adamant that it was impossible to take the land because the Canaanites were stronger .



Numbers 13

“³²And they brought up **an evil report** of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is **a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof.**”



Numbers 13

“³² . . . and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

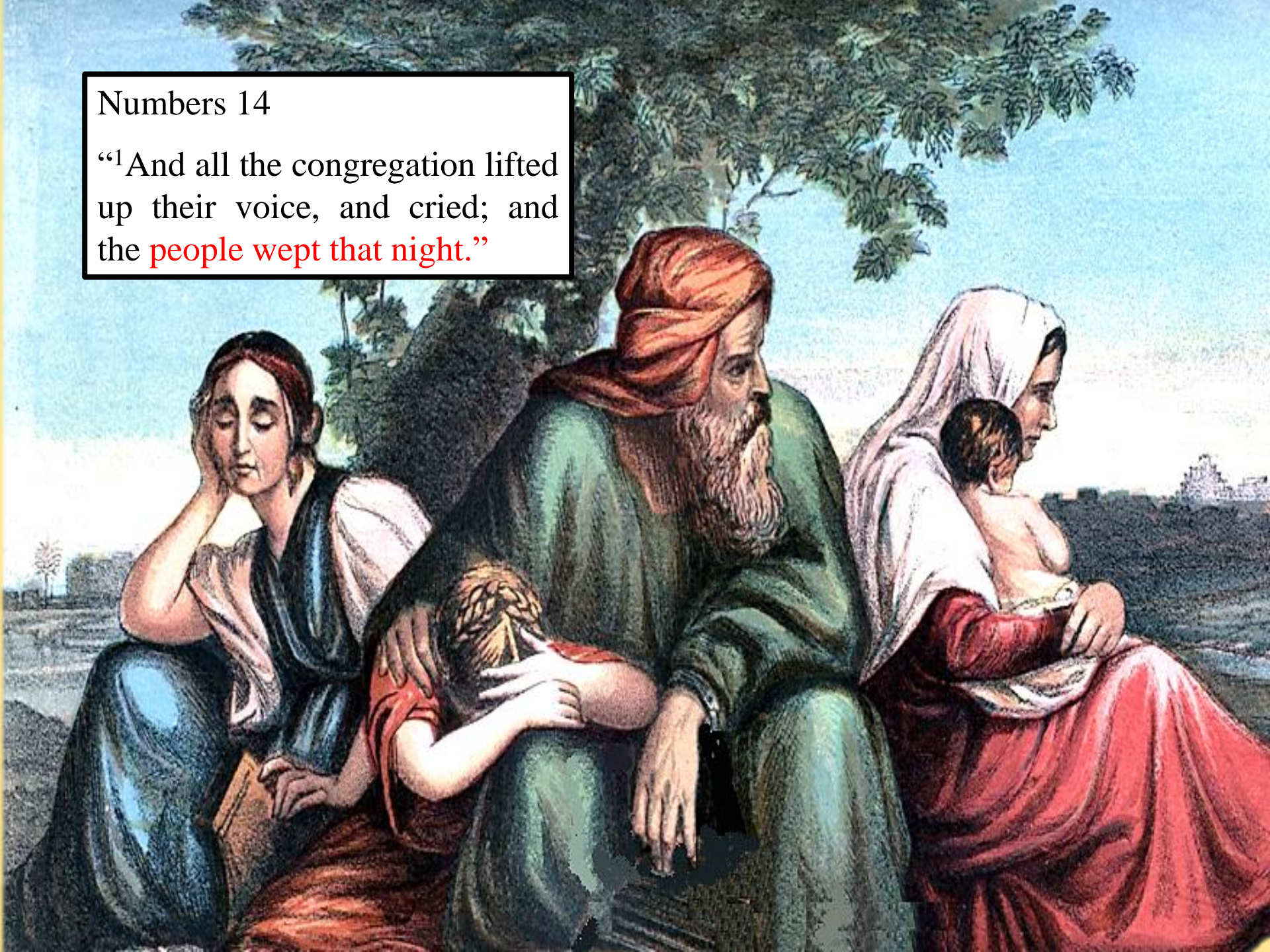
³³And there **we saw the giants**, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and **we were in our own sight as grasshoppers**, and so we were in their sight.”

were in their sight,
grasshoppers, and so we
our own sight as
giants: and we were in



Numbers 14

“¹And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the **people wept that night.**”



Numbers 14

“²All the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, **Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!** ³And wherefore hath the **LORD** brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?”



The people wanted to appoint a captain to lead them back to Egypt! Moses and Aaron fell on their faces, Joshua and Caleb rent their clothes and said the land was a good land, and God would be with them. They should not rebel against the LORD, or be afraid of the people of Canaan.



Numbers 14

“¹¹And the LORD said unto Moses,

How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them? ¹²I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.”



Numbers 14

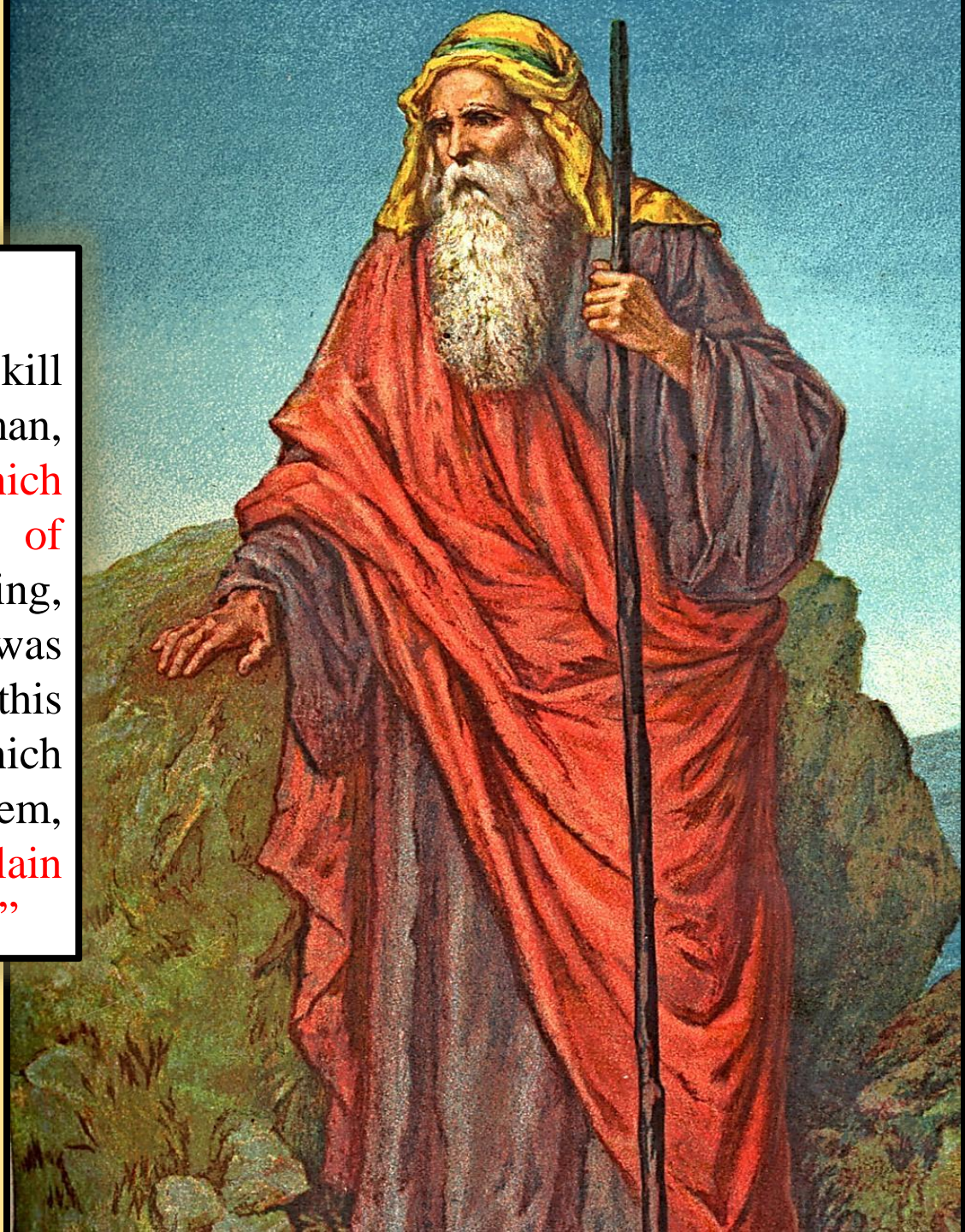
“¹³And Moses said unto the LORD,

Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;) ¹⁴And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.”



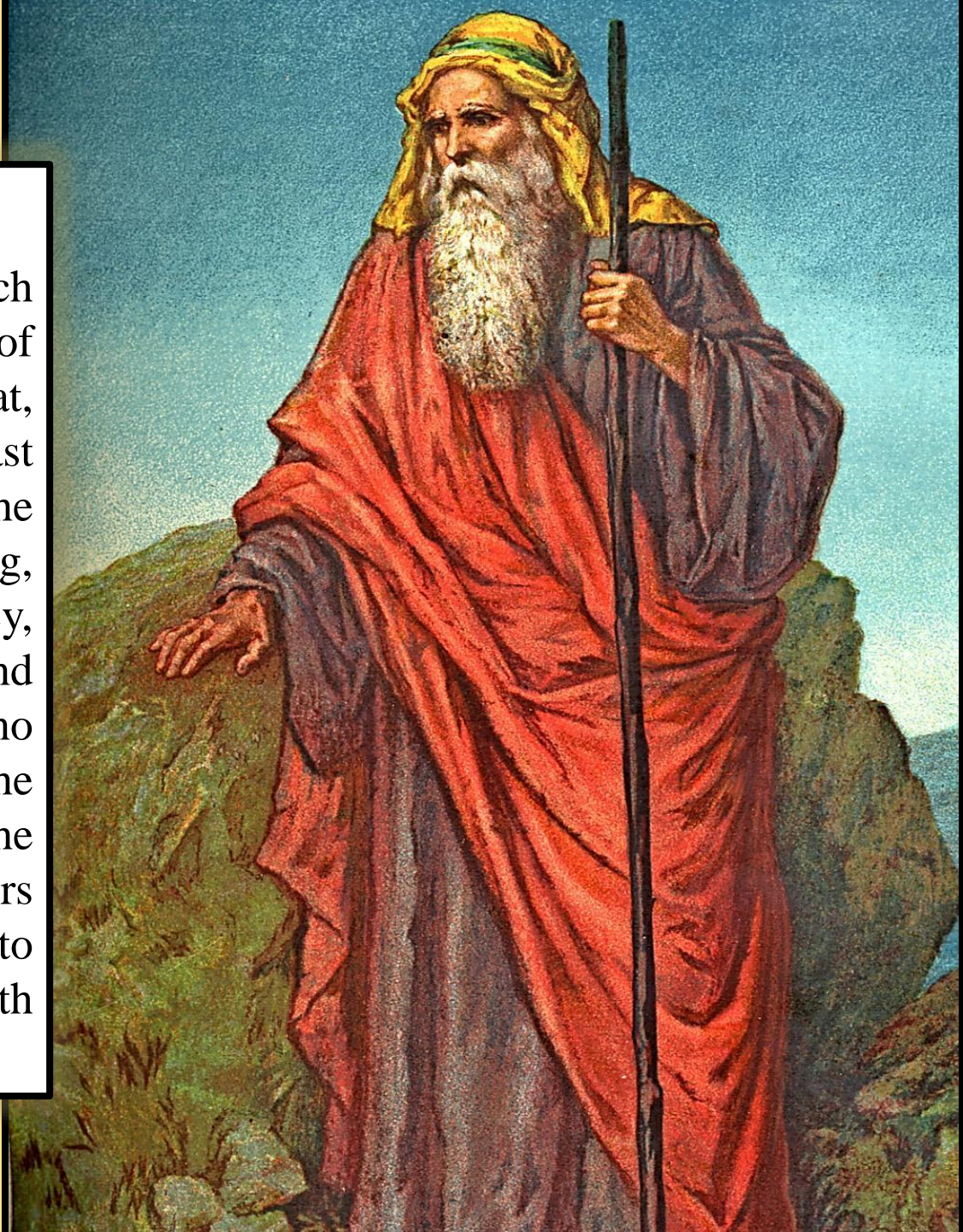
Numbers 14

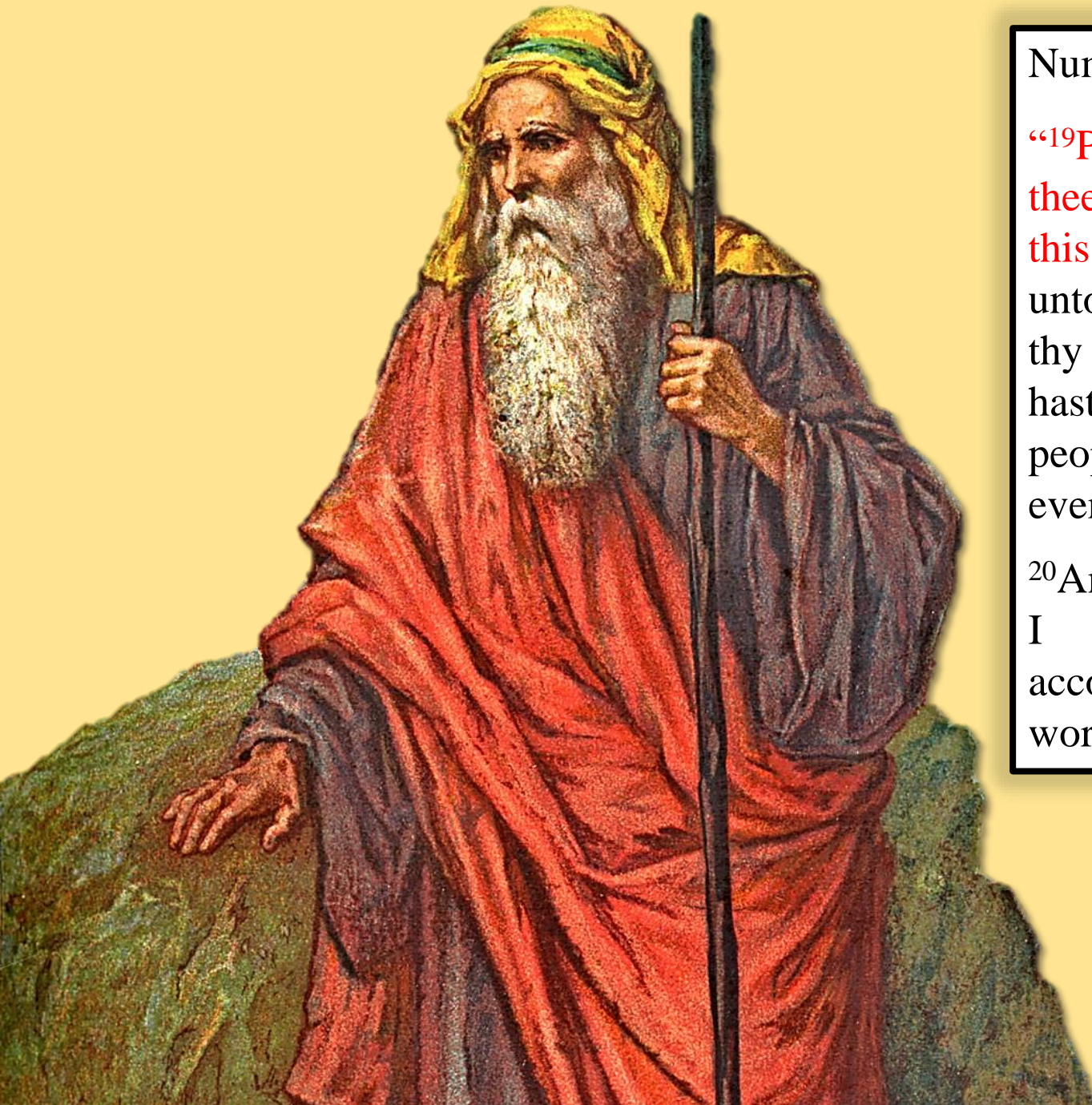
“¹⁵Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then **the nations which have heard the fame of thee** will speak, saying, ¹⁶Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore **he hath slain them in the wilderness.**”



Numbers 14

“¹⁷And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying. ¹⁸The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.”





Numbers 14

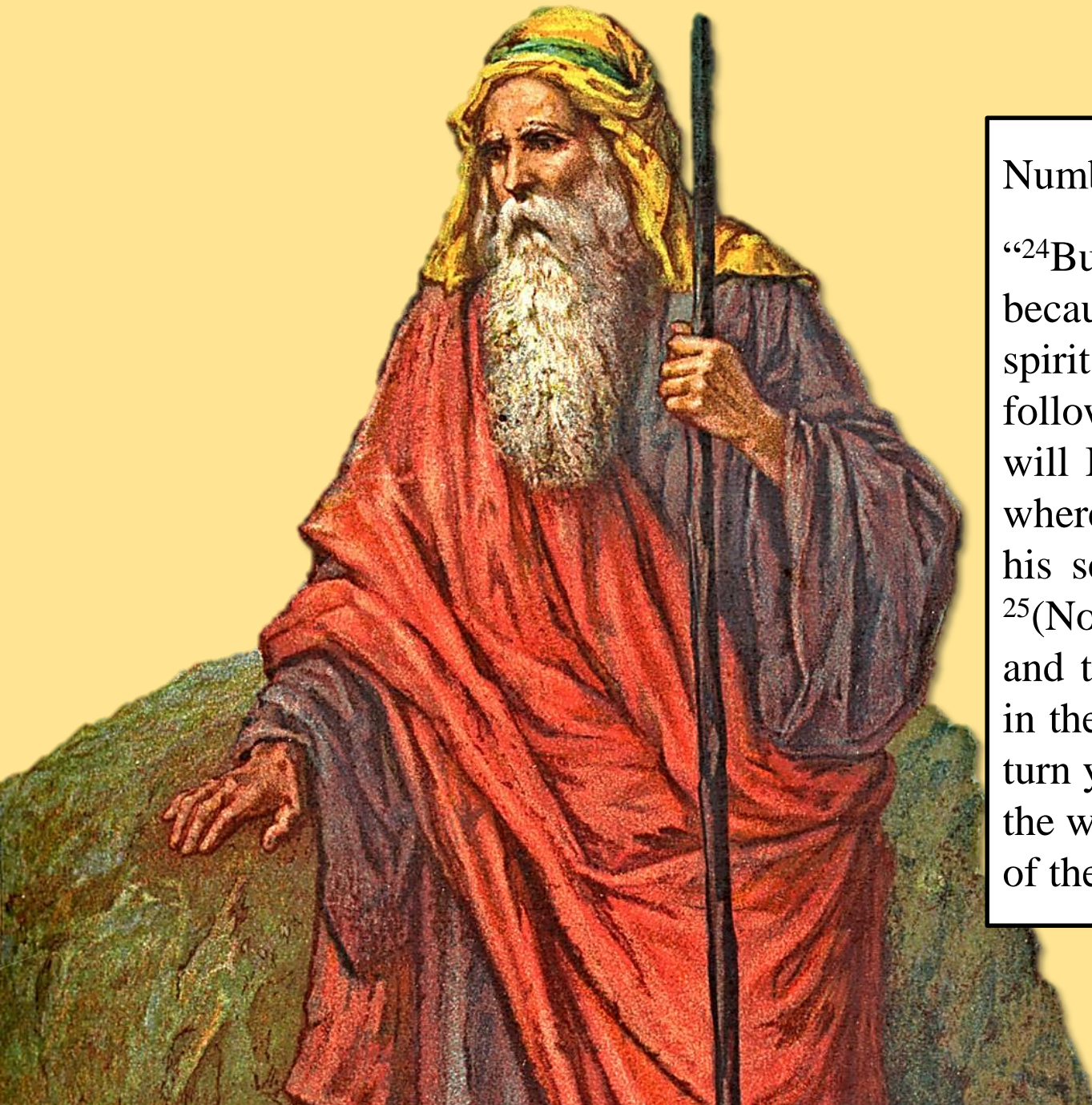
“¹⁹Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

²⁰And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word.”



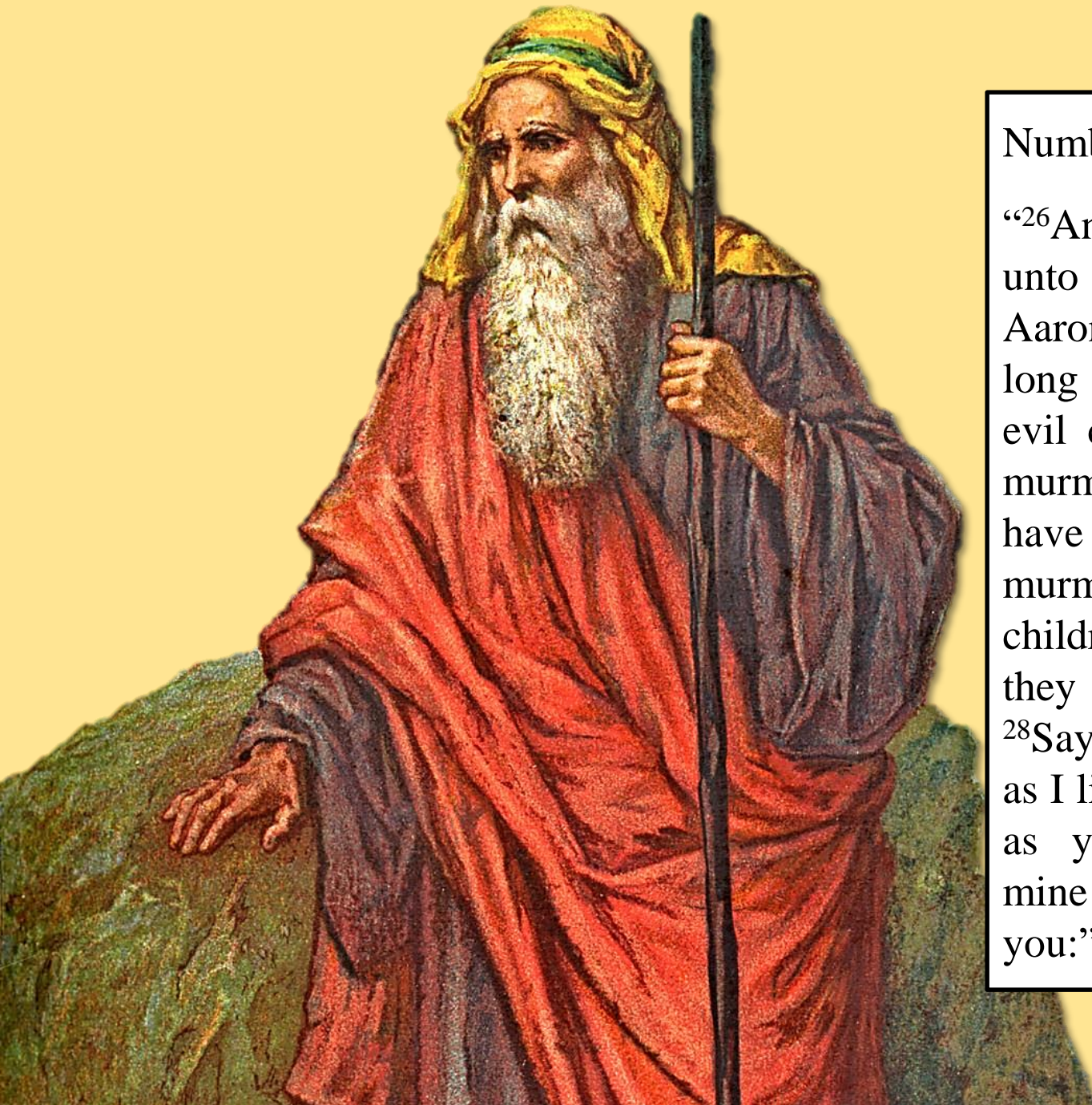
Numbers 14

“²¹But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.
²²Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;
²³Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it.”



Numbers 14

“²⁴But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it. ²⁵(Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.”



Numbers 14

“²⁶And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, ²⁷How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me. ²⁸Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:”

Because Moses plead for the people the LORD did not do as he had threatened (smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them). Instead he sent them back to wander in the wilderness for 40 years.

Numbers 14

“²⁹Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me, ³⁰Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun. ³¹But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised. ³²But as for you, **your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.** ³³And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until **your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.** ³⁴After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.”

The Israelites back in verse 2 had said they would rather have died in Egypt or in the wilderness than enter Canaan and face the enemies there. God decides to grant their wish.

Numbers 14

“³⁵I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and **there they shall die.**”

The 10 spies that brought an evil report died by a plague.

Numbers 14

“³⁶And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a **slander** upon the land,

³⁷Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, **died by the plague before the LORD.**

³⁸But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.”

The 12 Spies

Shammua

Shaphat

Caleb

Igal

Joshua

Palti

Gaddiel

Gaddi

Ammiel

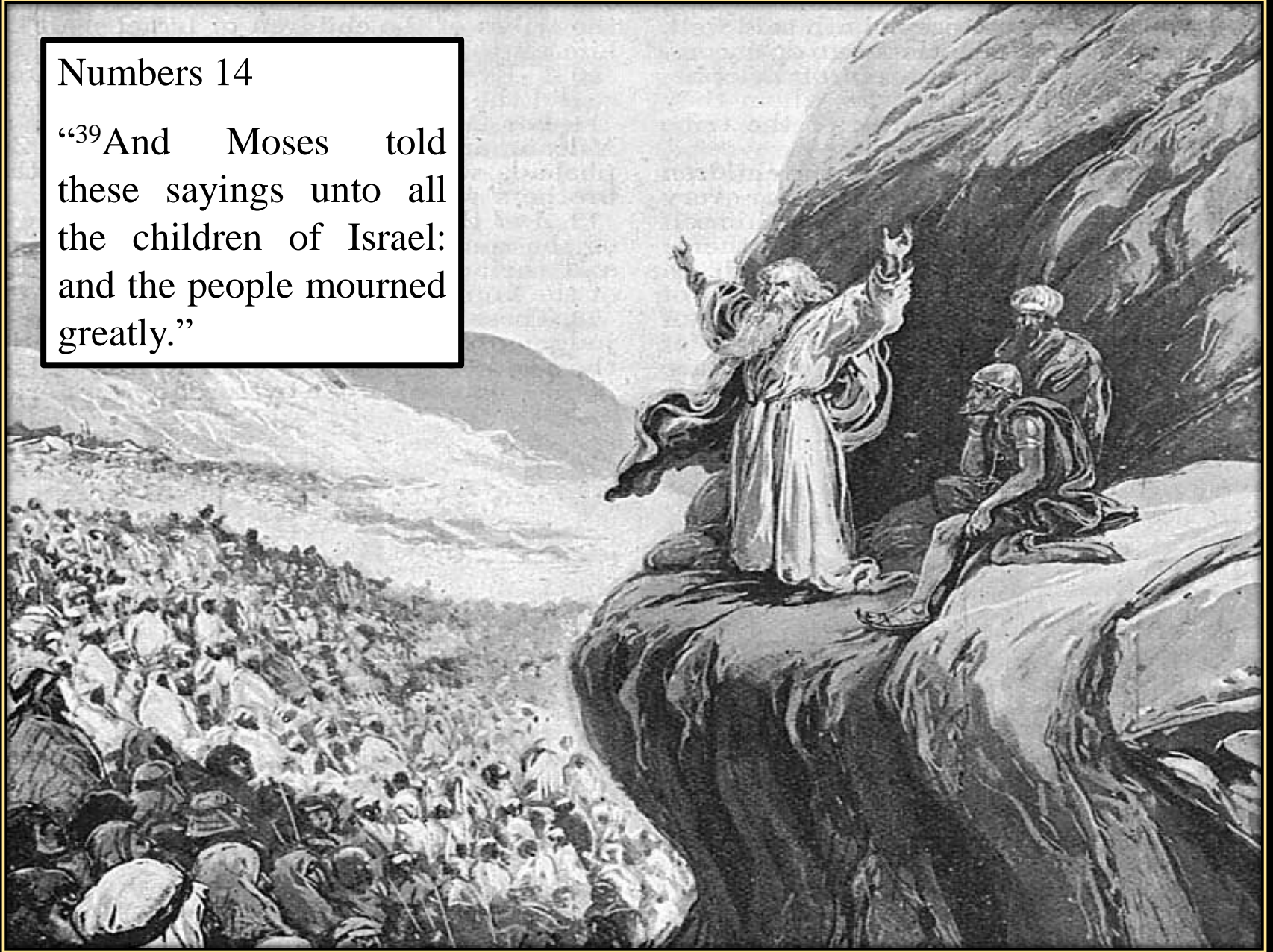
Sethur

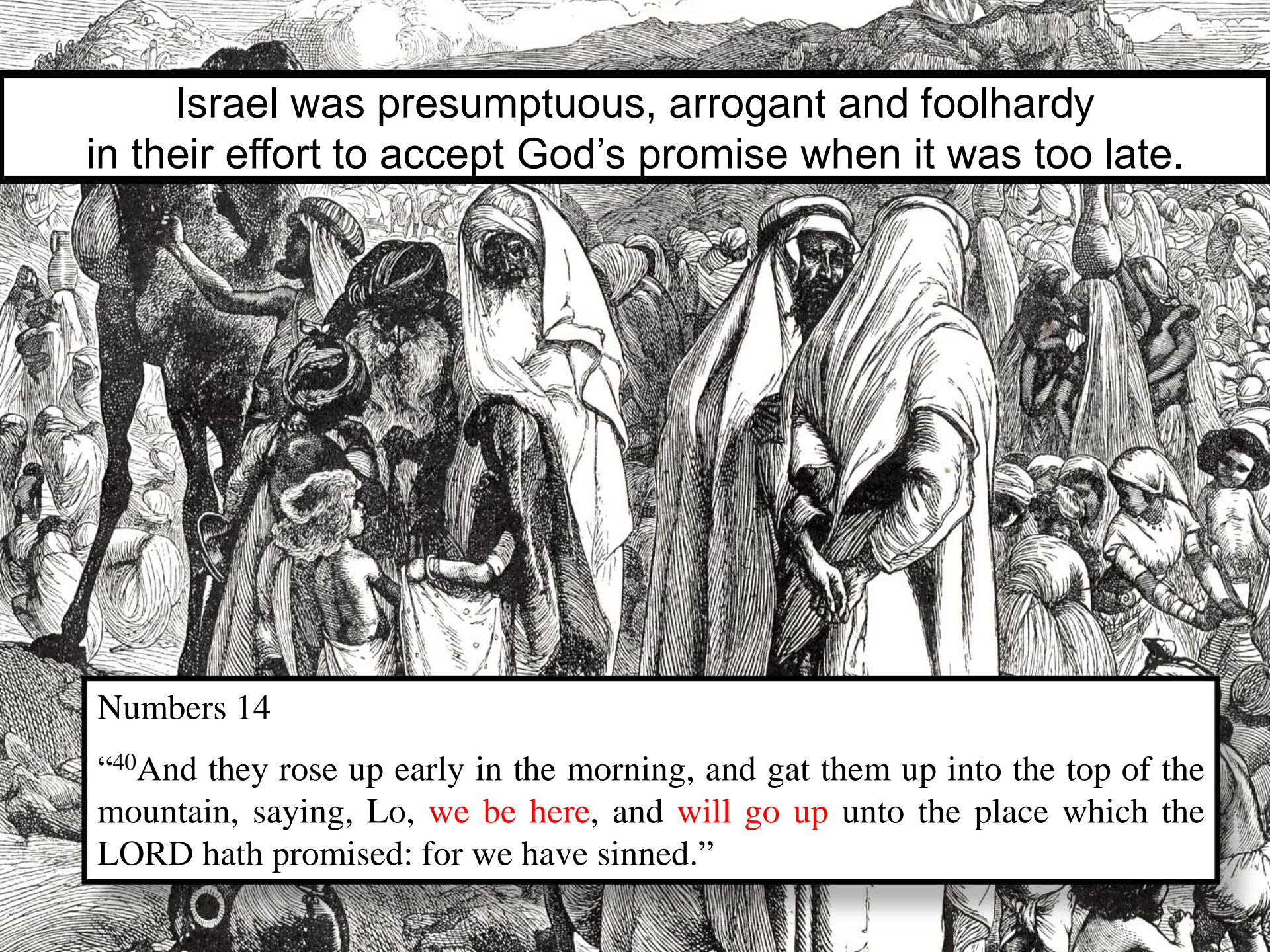
Nahbi

Geuel

Numbers 14

“³⁹And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.”





Israel was presumptuous, arrogant and foolhardy in their effort to accept God's promise when it was too late.

Numbers 14

“⁴⁰And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, **we be here**, and **will go up** unto the place which the LORD hath promised: for we have sinned.”

Numbers 14

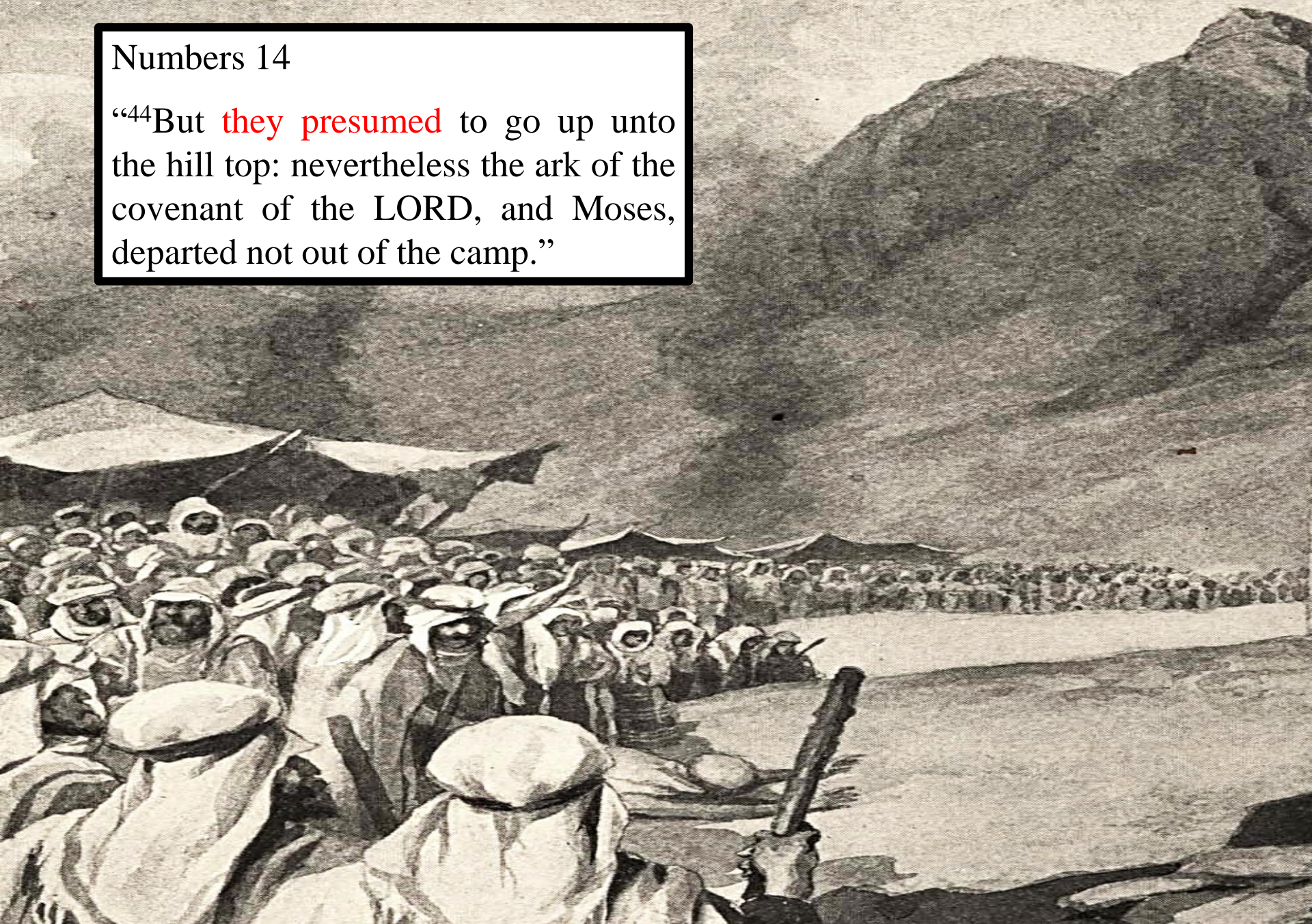
“⁴¹And Moses said,

Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper. ⁴²**Go not up**, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies. ⁴³For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.”

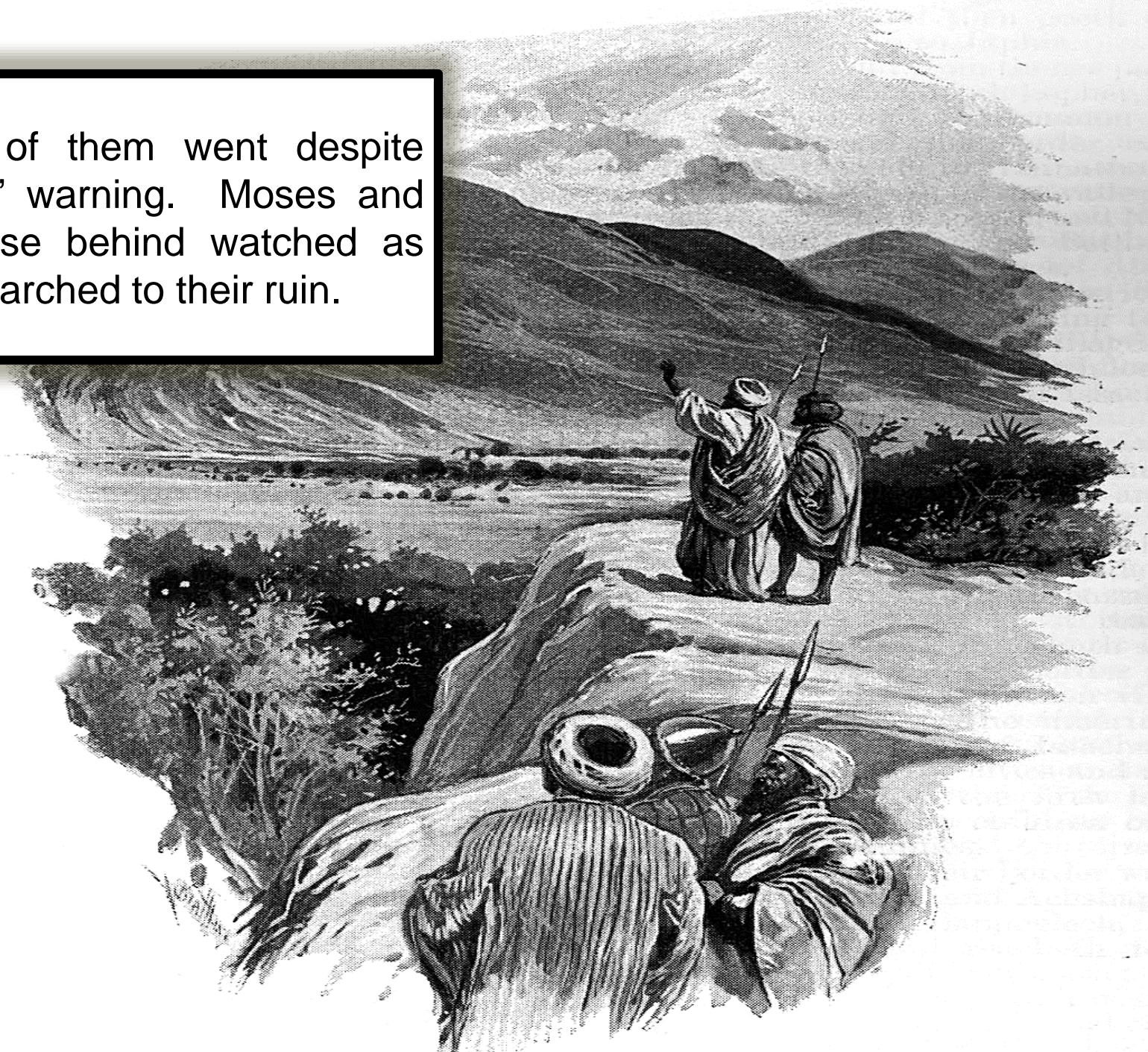


Numbers 14

“⁴⁴But **they presumed** to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp.”

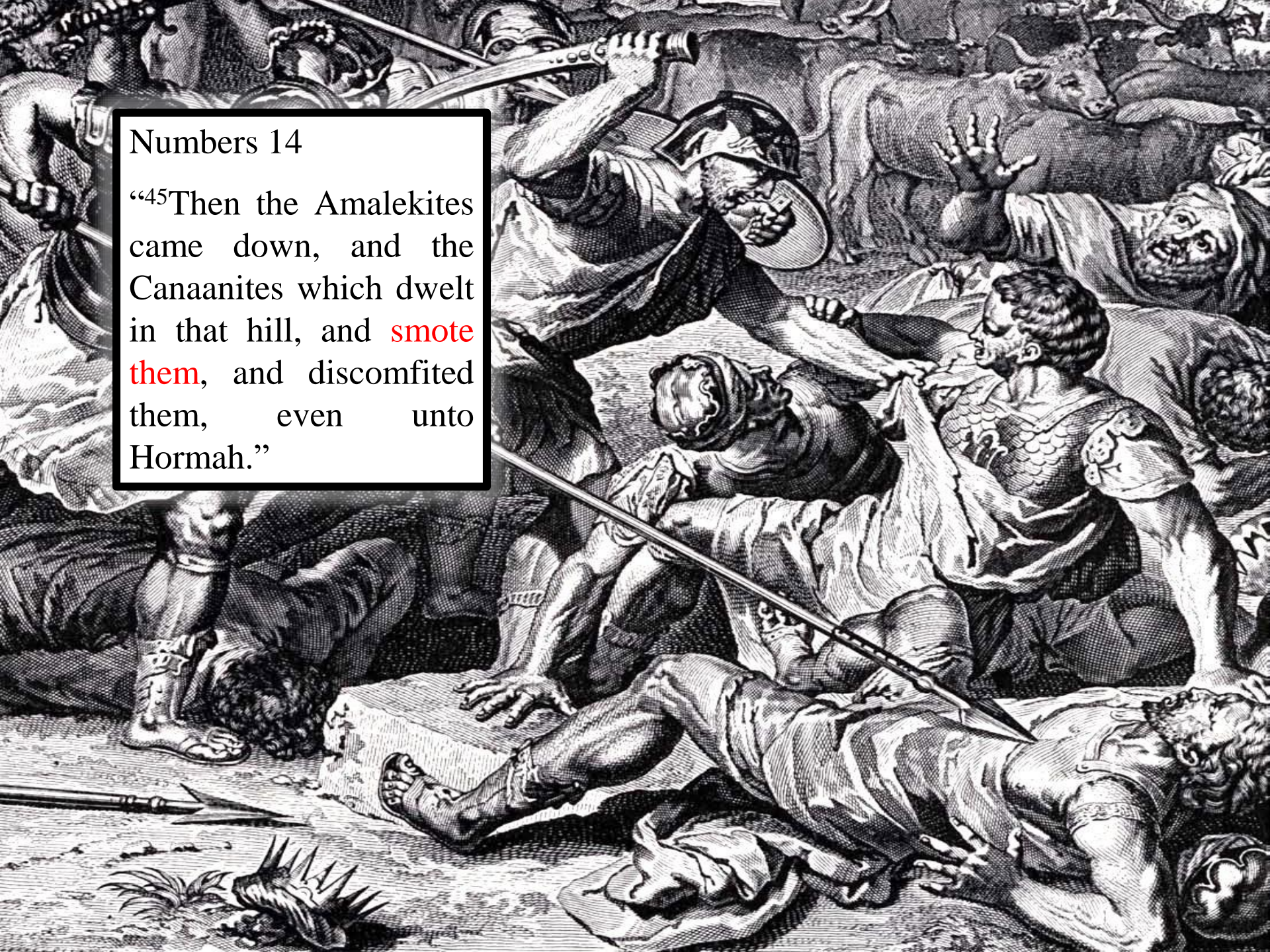


Many of them went despite Moses' warning. Moses and all those behind watched as they marched to their ruin.

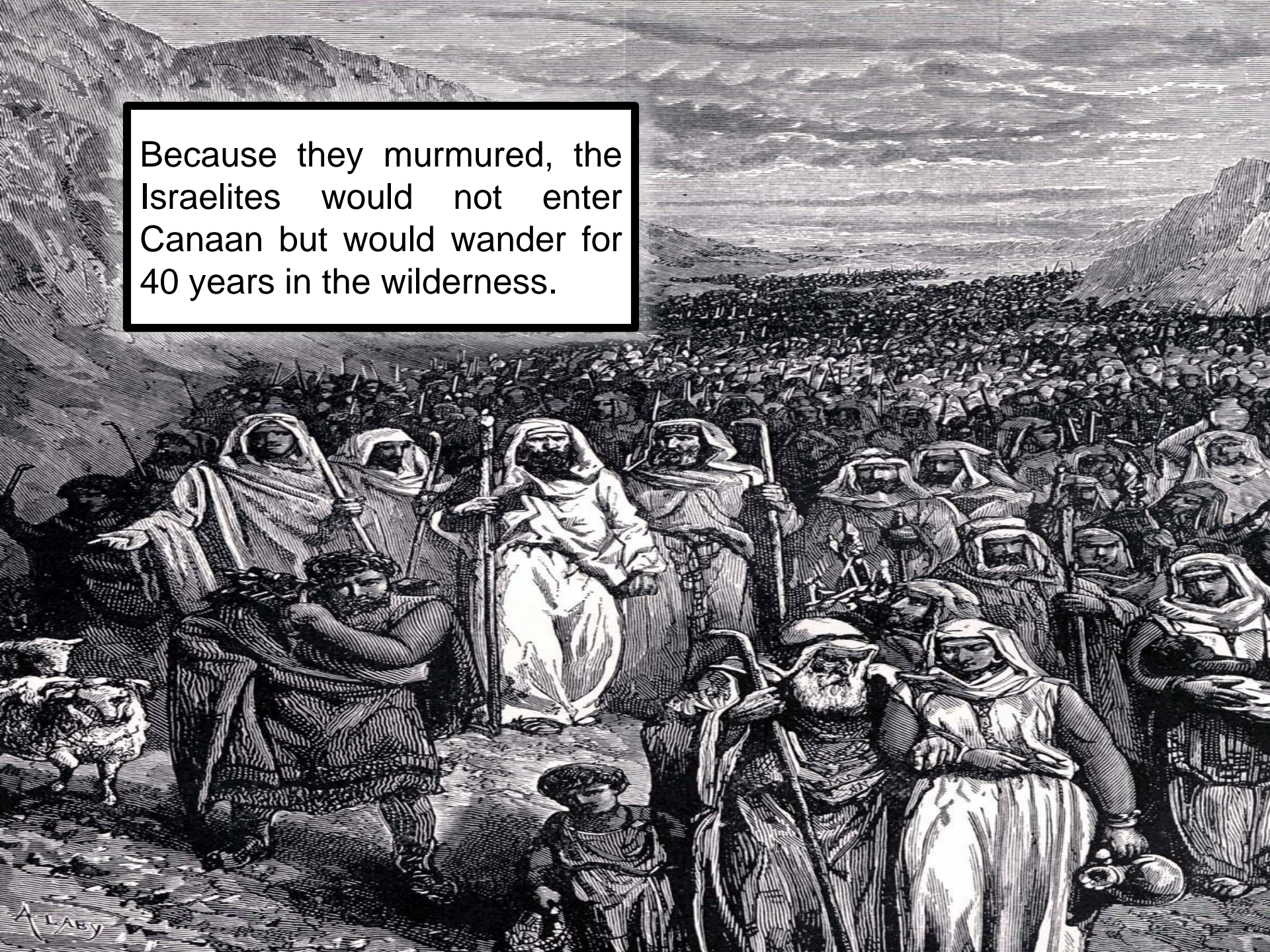


Numbers 14

“⁴⁵Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and **smote them**, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.”



Because they murmured, the Israelites would not enter Canaan but would wander for 40 years in the wilderness.



NUMBERS 15

In token of God's mercy following the Israelites' rebellion, Chapter 15 repeats and explains some of the laws about offerings. It is an expression of reconciliation. Included in the list of offerings are those for presumptuous sins and sins done in ignorance; weaknesses of the children of Israel.

NUMBERS 16

Korah, Dathan, and Abiram's
Rebellion Against Moses

Three men of the Israelites, Korah, Dathan and Abiram recruited 250 men against Moses and Aaron.

Numbers 16

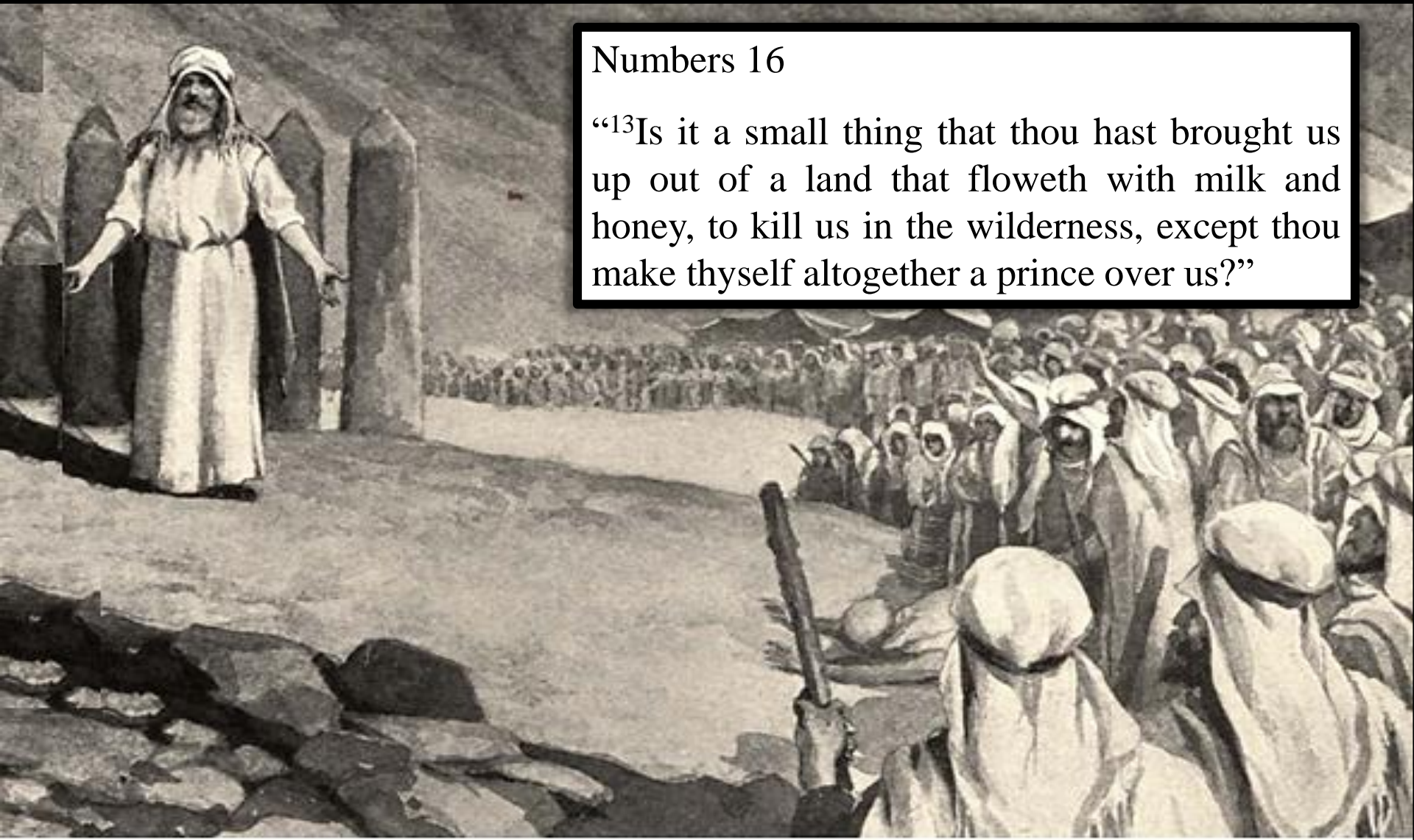
“³They gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD? ⁴And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face.”



They rebelled because they blamed Moses for not getting to enter Canaan.

Numbers 16

“¹³Is it a small thing that thou hast brought us up out of a land that floweth with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, except thou make thyself altogether a prince over us?”



**God wanted to consume all of Israel but Moses pled for them.
Moses told them to burn incense in their censers for God to
choose who he wanted to serve as priests.**

Numbers 16

“⁶This do; **Take you censers, Korah, and all his company;** ⁷**And put fire therein, and put incense in them before the LORD to morrow:** and it shall be that the man whom the LORD doth choose, he shall be holy: ye take too much upon you, ye sons of Levi. ⁸And Moses said unto Korah, Hear, I pray you, ye sons of Levi: ⁹Seemeth it but a small thing unto you, that the God of Israel hath separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister unto them? ¹⁰And he hath brought thee near to him, and all thy brethren the sons of Levi with thee: **and seek ye the priesthood also?** ¹¹For which cause both thou and all thy company are gathered together against the LORD: and what is Aaron, that ye murmur against him?”

Numbers 16

“¹⁸ And they took every man his censer, and put fire in them, and laid incense thereon, and stood in the door of the tabernacle of the congregation with Moses and Aaron.

¹⁹ And Korah gathered all the congregation against them unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the congregation.

²⁰ And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

²¹ **Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.”**



**God would have consumed
all the congregation but
Moses and Aaron
interceded.**

The rebellion was crushed by destroying the leaders Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. The ground opened up and swallowed them, their houses, their families, and all that they had.

The people that saw and heard this event screamed and ran for fear the earth would open and swallow them too. Then fire came down from God and consumed the 250 men who offered incense.



Numbers 16

“³⁵And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.”



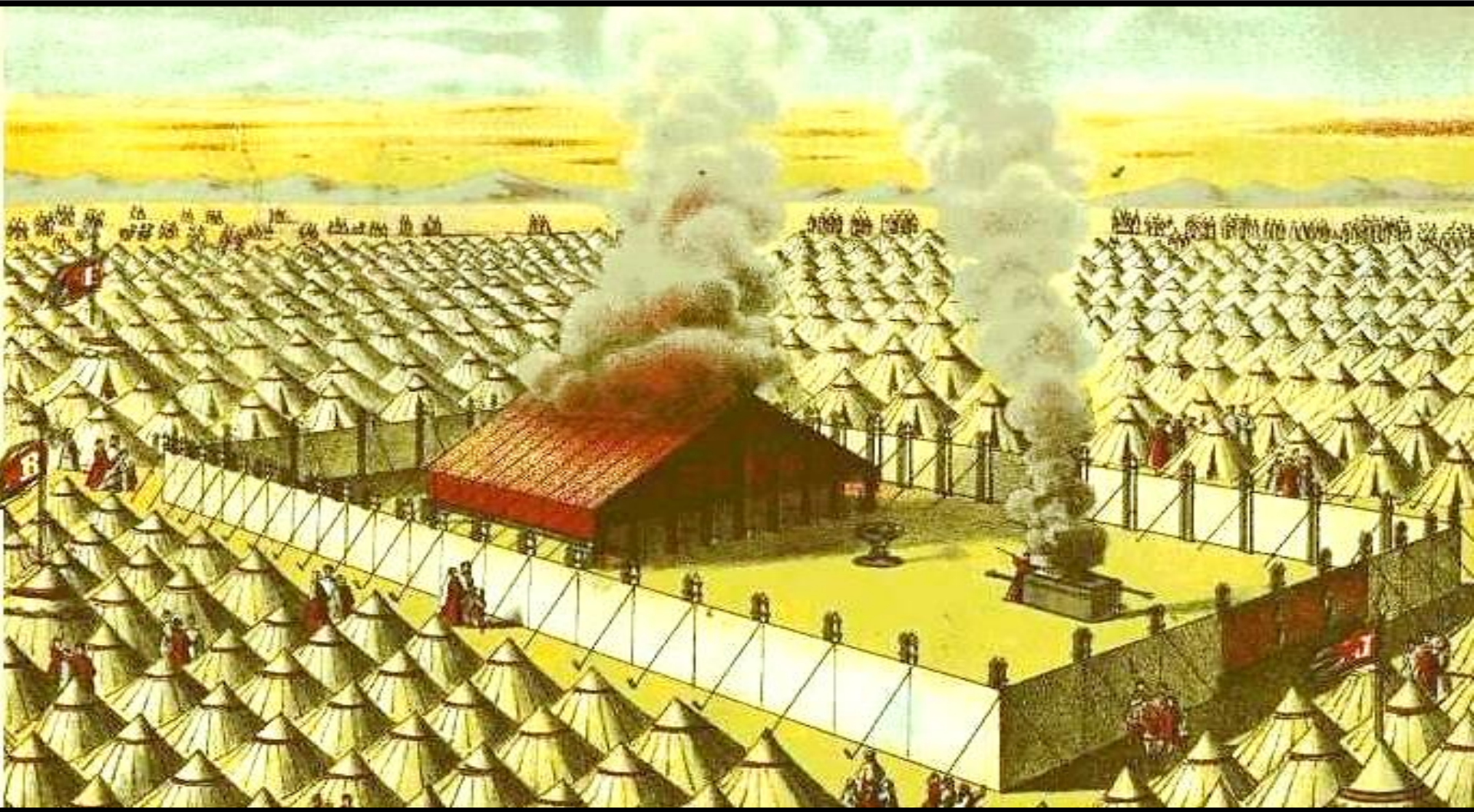
The censers they were holding melted and were used to make a covering for the altar (v. 38).

Numbers 16

“³⁸The censers of these sinners against their own souls, let them make them broad plates for a covering of the altar: for they offered them before the LORD, therefore they are hallowed: and they shall be a sign unto the children of Israel.”



The next day the people accused Moses of murdering Korah, Dathan, and Abiram and the 250 men (Numbers 16:41). God's answer to this accusation was to appear in the cloudy pillar at the tabernacle and tell Moses and Aaron to move away so he could consume the congregation.



Moses and Aaron pled with God and fell on their faces. Then Moses told Aaron to light a censer and take it among the people to stop the plague that had begun. 14,700 died in the plague.



This was the 4th time God told Moses he was going to utterly destroy the Israelites.

INCIDENT

EVENTUAL RESULT

1. Exodus 32:10
Golden Calf

The Levites killed 3,000 men with their swords v. 26ff.

2. Numbers 14:12
After the report of the spies

Not allowed to enter Canaan

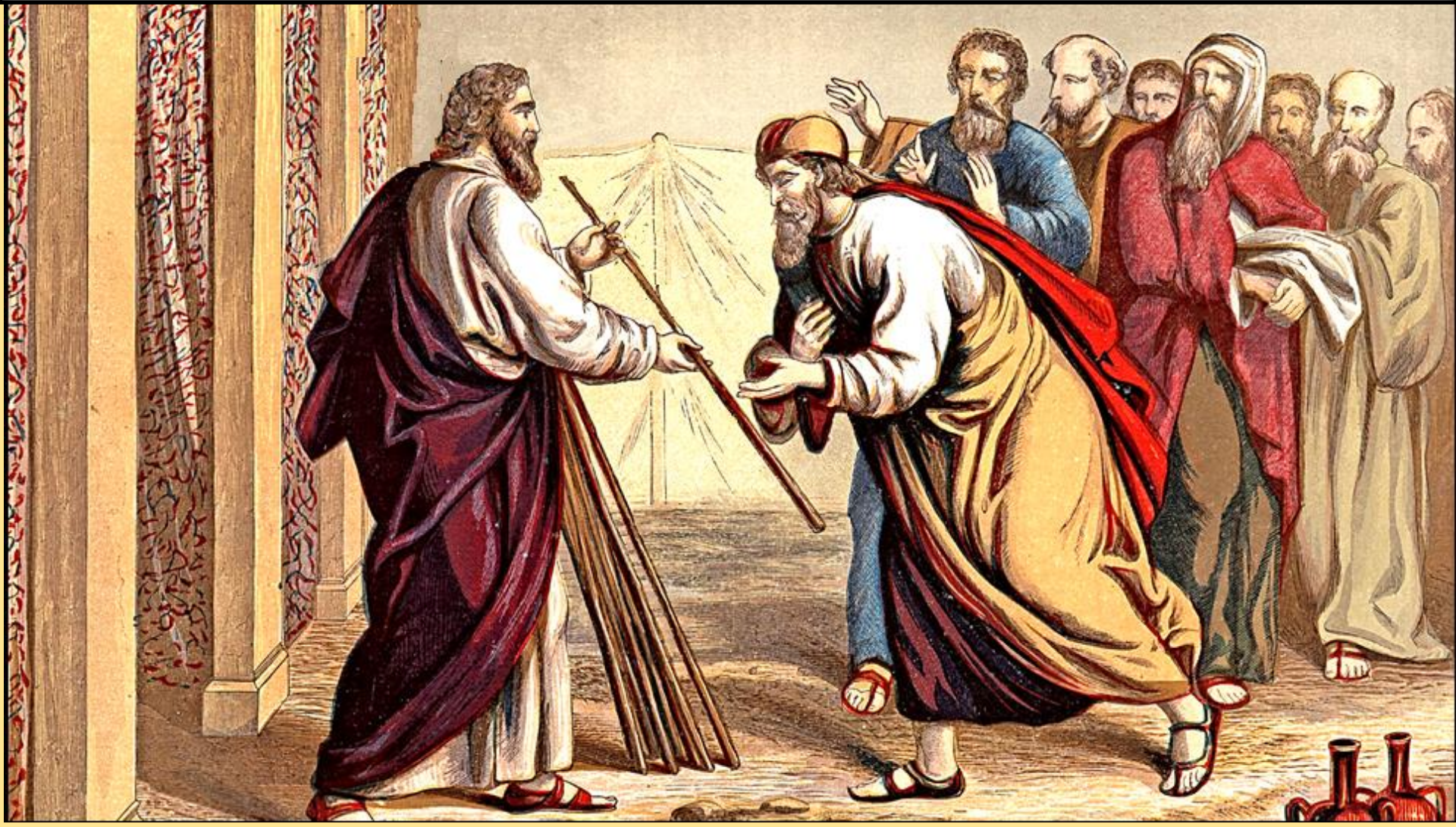
3. Numbers 16:21ff.
Korah, Dathan and Abirm
rebel against Moses

*Earth opens and swallows them
Fire from the Lord killed 250
who offered incense*

4. Numbers 16:45
Day after the death of Korah

14,700 died of a plague

God demonstrated to Israel that Moses and Aaron were his chosen prophets by having each tribe take a rod and put their name on it. The rods were placed in the tabernacle.



The rod which God chose
blossomed . . .

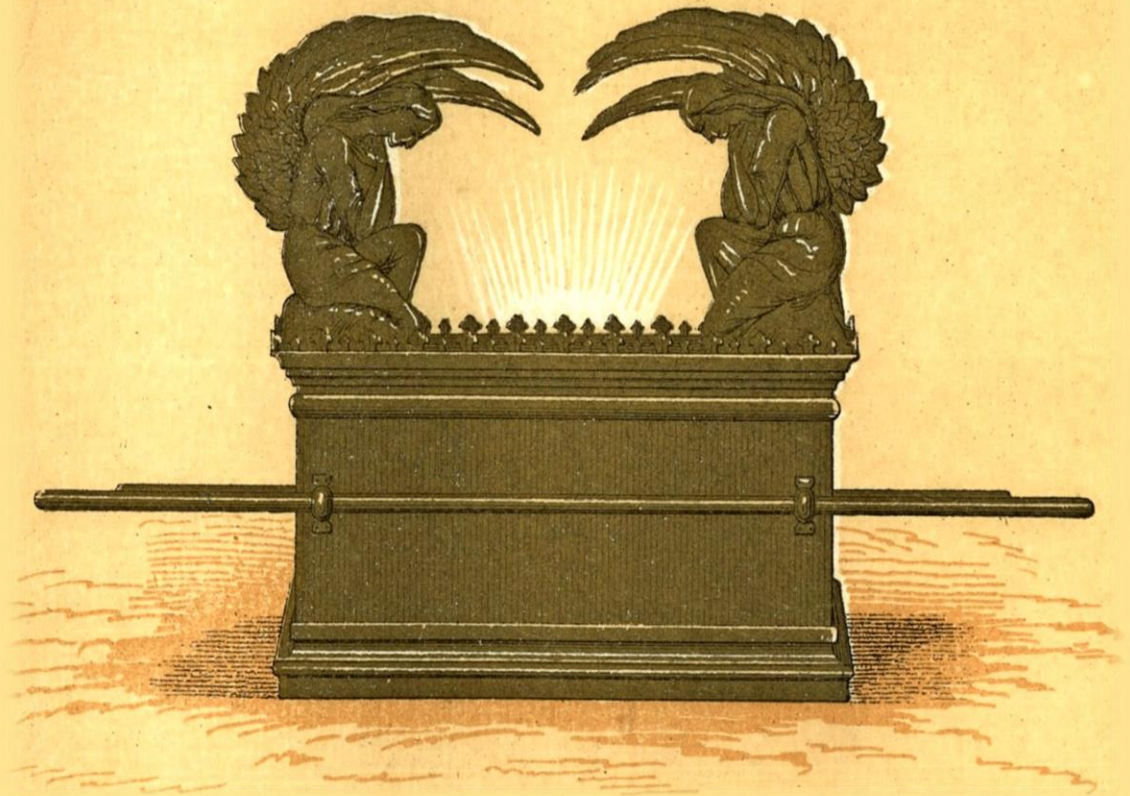
Aaron's rod budded and
produced almonds!
(Num. 17:1-13).



Aaron's rod was placed in the Ark Of The Covenant.

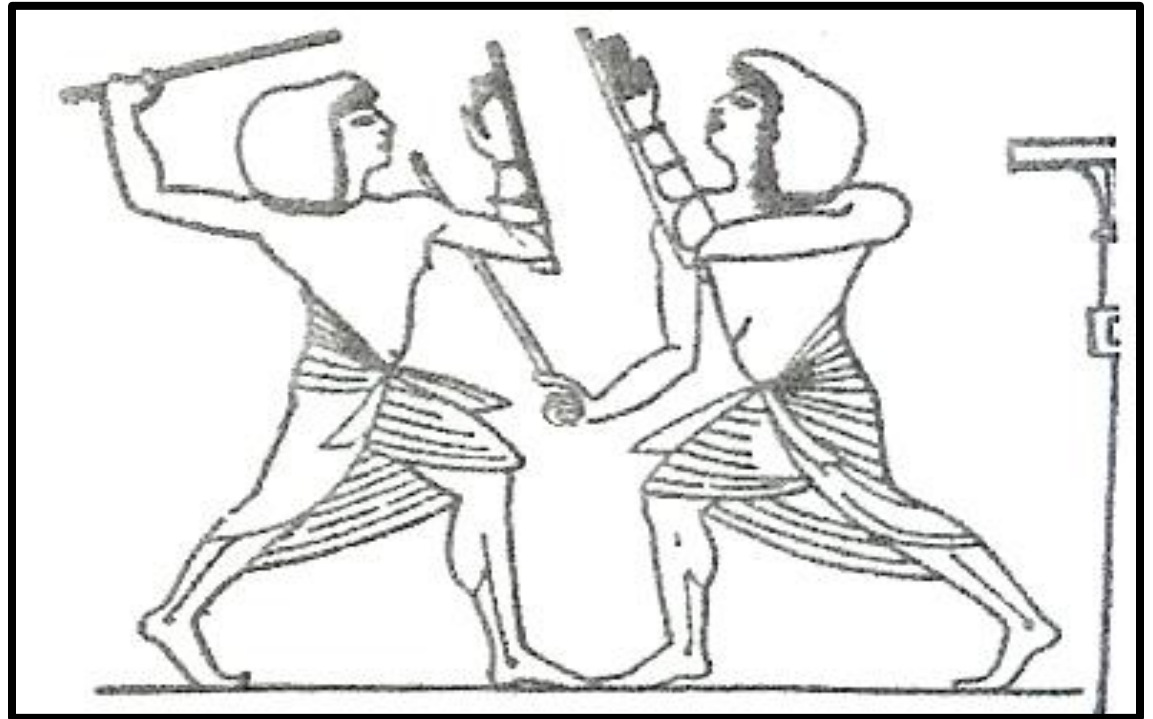
Hebrews 9:4

“⁴Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and **Aaron's rod that budded**, and the tables of the covenant;”



INTERESTING NOTE:

The ark of the covenant was only 45 inches by 27 inches and 27 inches tall. This means Aaron's rod could not have been longer than 45 inches. Artists have helped mislead us in depicting Aaron's rod as much longer, several feet longer.



There is archaeological evidence that rods or straight stick weapons were used in ancient times. The tomb of Merire II in Egypt has a drawing of men fighting with such rods.

Psalms 23:4 and Proverbs 29:15 refer to a rod that comforts (possibly providing protection) and disciplines.

Aaron had officially moved past his mistakes, but we are not told much about Miriam after she along with Aaron had attempted to usurp Moses' leadership.



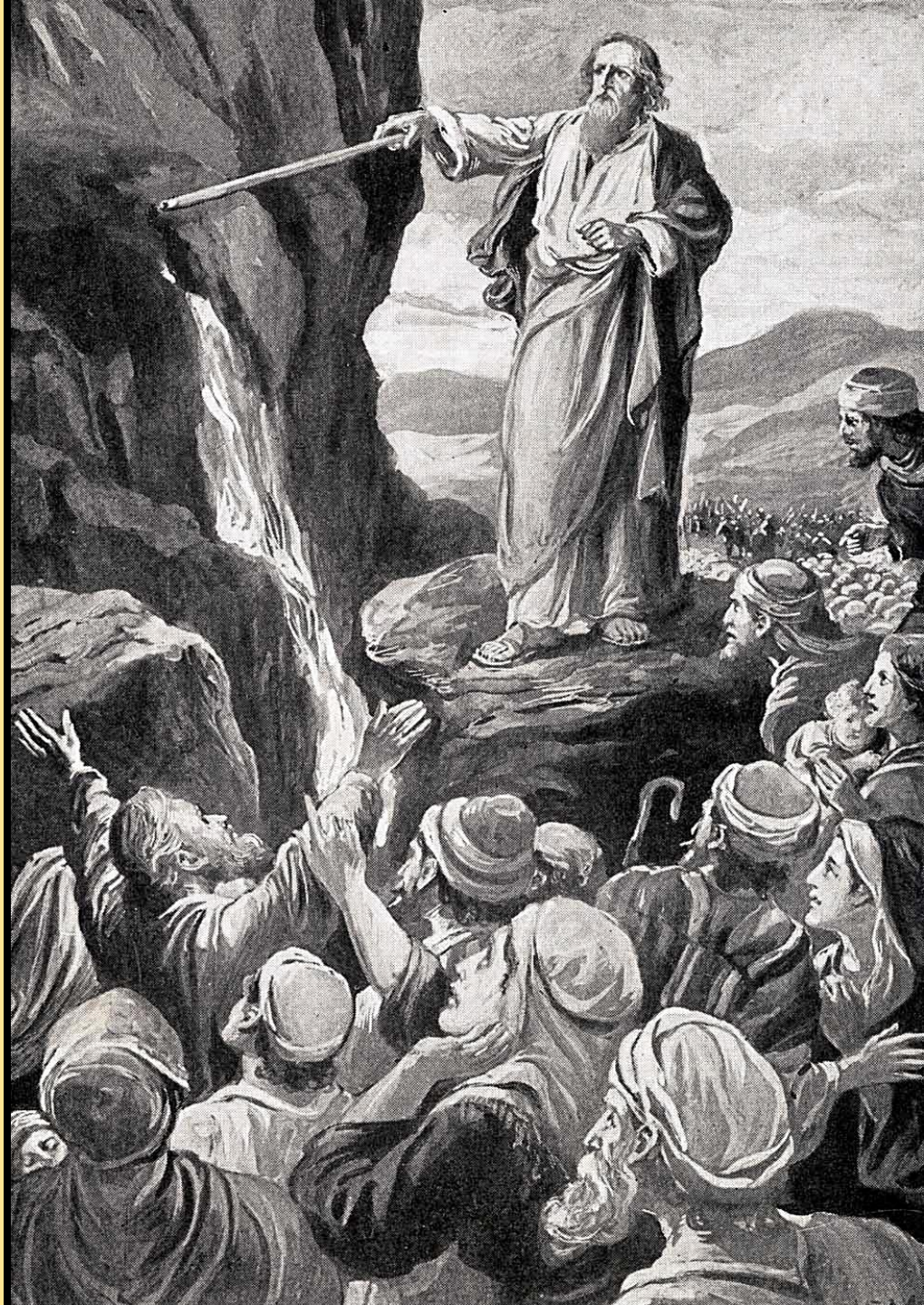
By Numbers 20 the Israelites had traveled to the **Wilderness of Zin**, and we are told simply, “and Miriam died there, and was buried there” (Numbers 20:1). What a sad ending for the little girl who had so much to do with her brother, Moses, surviving through infancy.



After Miriam's death, we are told that again there was no water and the people murmured. Moses was instructed to speak to the rock but he struck it instead. God provided water from the rock, but Moses was punished for his disobedience.

Numbers 20:12

“And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.



Yes, Moses and Aaron were not allowed to enter the promised land because of their unbelief and because they did not sanctify God in the eyes of Israel. After Israel left Meribah God told Moses and Eleazer to take Aaron to the top of Mount Hor where he would die (Numbers 20:24-29). God told them to put Aaron's priestly garments on his son Eleazer.



The

End