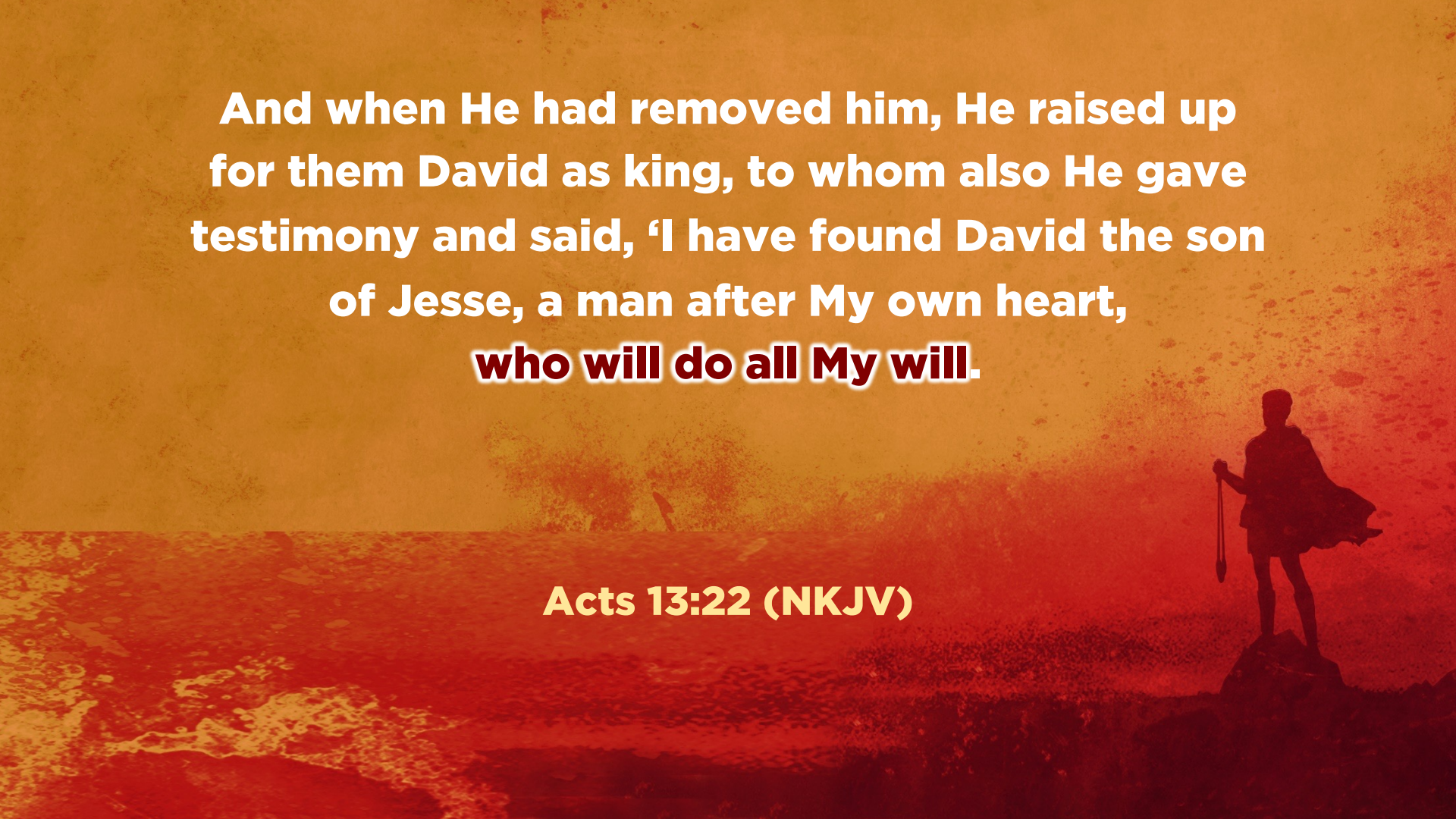

A heart after God
1 SAMUEL 17, 24:1 - 7,
2 SAMUEL 11, 12
PASTOR RUTH TAY
16 JULY 2023


But now your kingdom shall not continue.
The Lord has sought for Himself a man after
His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him
to be commander over His people, because you
have not kept what the Lord commanded you.
1 Samuel 13:14 (NKJV)


And when He had removed him, He raised up
for them David as king, to whom also He gave
testimony and said, ‘I have found David the son
of Jesse, a man after My own heart,
who will do all My will.
Acts 13:22 (NKJV)

Introduction

- It is not just an emotional experience/encounter but it overflows into a willingness to do what God puts in his heart to do

Introduction

- the heart is the command center of all our affections and what we love we will pursue wholeheartedly


For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6:21 (NKJV)


Keep your heart with all diligence,
for out of it spring the issues of life.
Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV)
Guard your heart above all else,
for it determines the course of your life.
Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

Introduction

- **Guard:**
  - To keep, watch, or preserve
  - It carries with it the idea that this is not a one-time deal
  - It requires continual effort. We need to keep watch, careful to not let anything **infiltrate** our heart

David's heart was after God because:

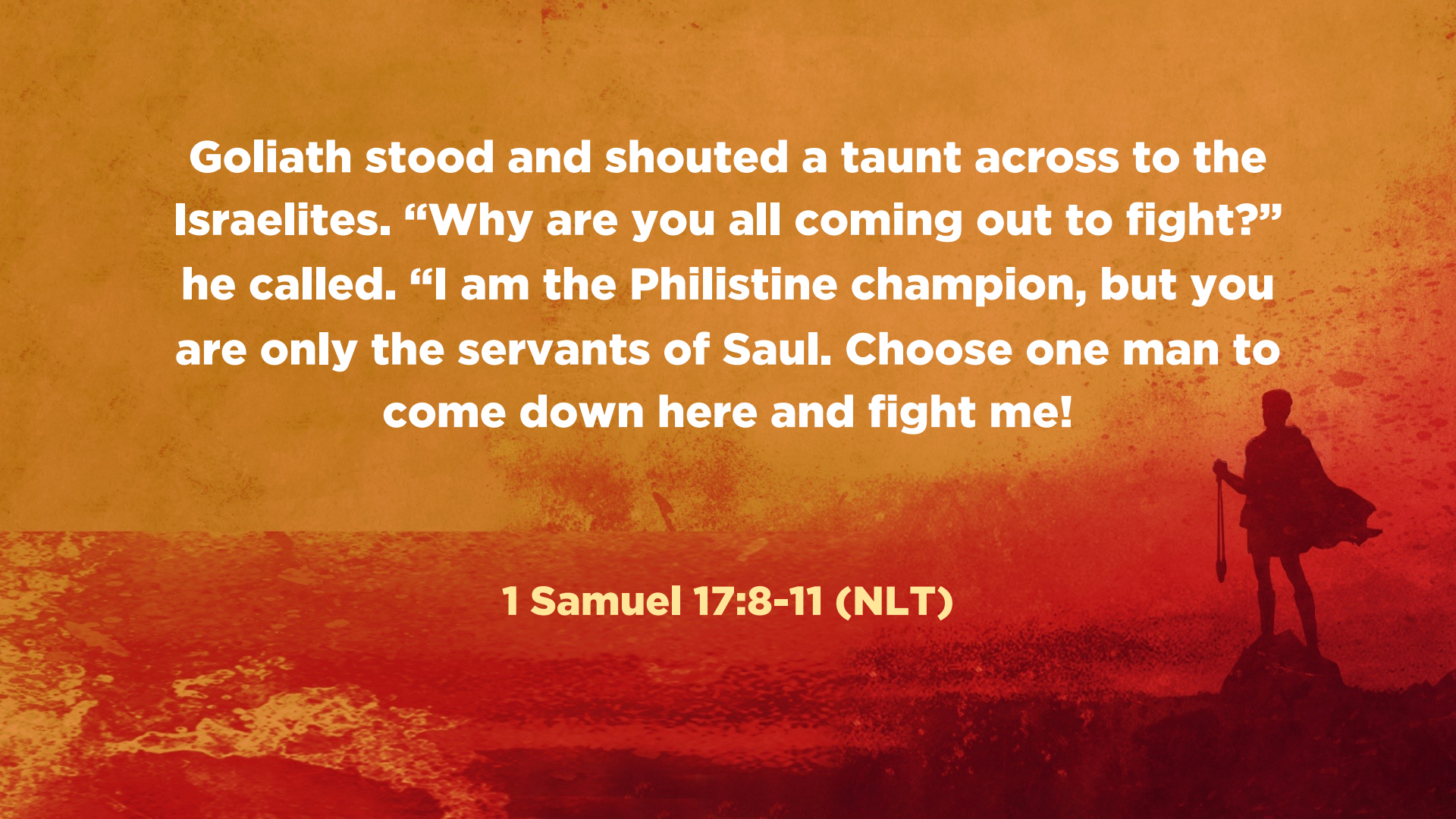
1. **His faith in God was greater than the size of his problem**
2. **His fear for God was more important than his desire for personal advancement**
3. **His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity**

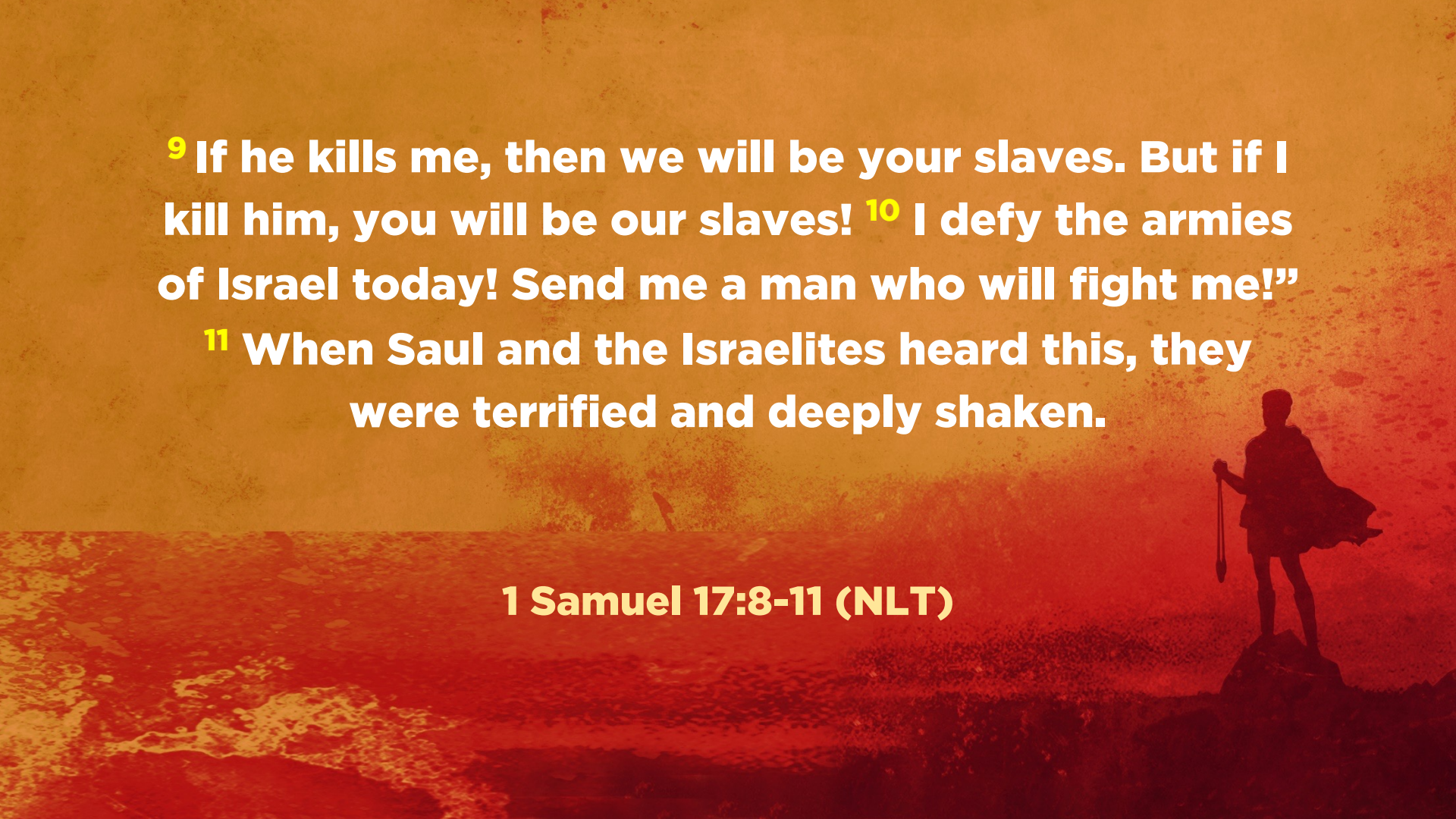
1.

His faith in God was greater than the size of his problem

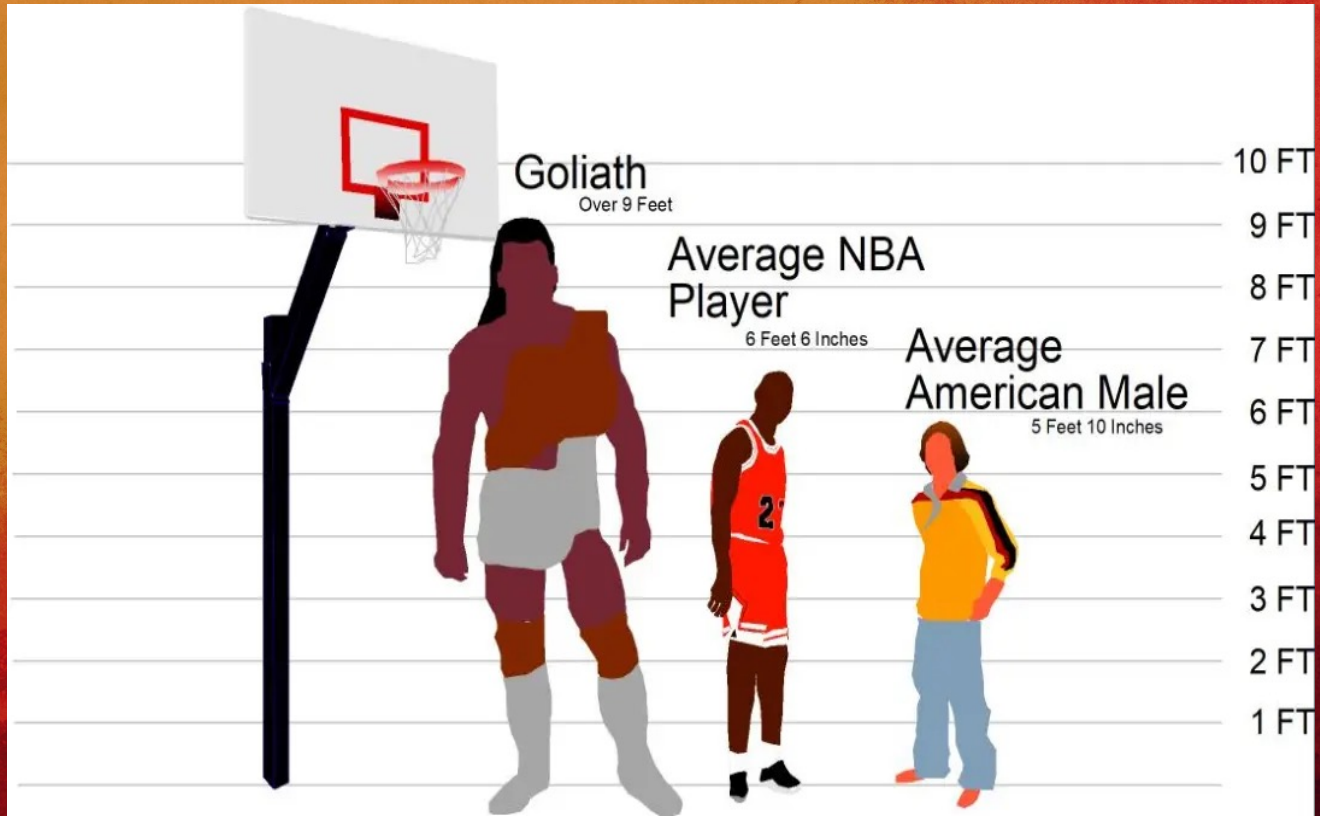
Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. “Why are you all coming out to fight?” he called. “I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. Choose one man to come down here and fight me!

1 Samuel 17:8-11 (NLT)




9 If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I
kill him, you will be our slaves! 10 I defy the armies
of Israel today! Send me a man who will fight me!”
11 When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they
were terrified and deeply shaken.
1 Samuel 17:8-11 (NLT)

1.
His faith in God was greater than the size of his problem



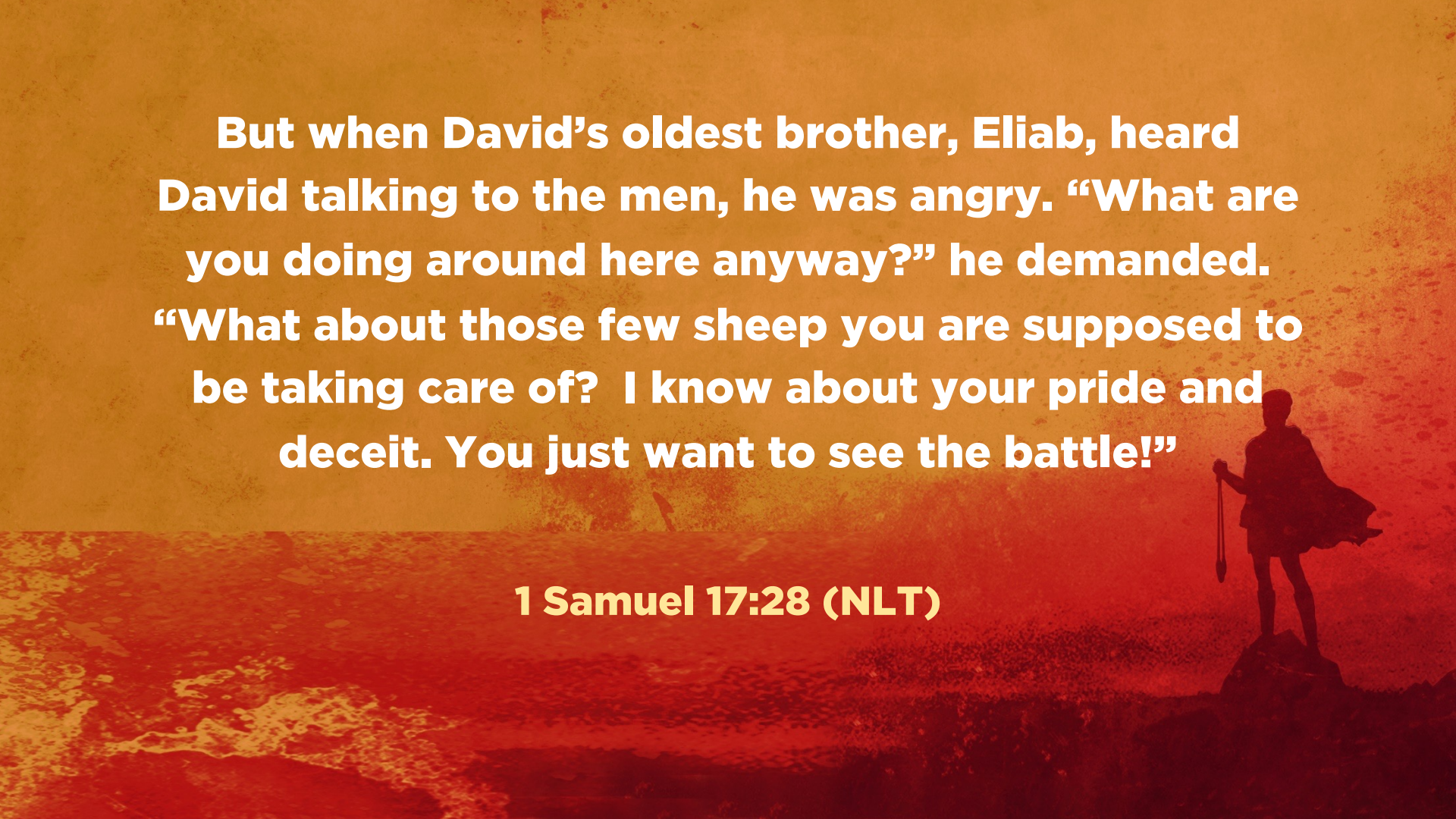
1.

His faith in God was greater than the size of his problem

- tallest man Sultan Kosen
- he is 2.51 meters




“For forty days, every morning and evening,
the Philistine champion strutted in front
of the Israelite army.”
1 Samuel 17:16 (NLT)

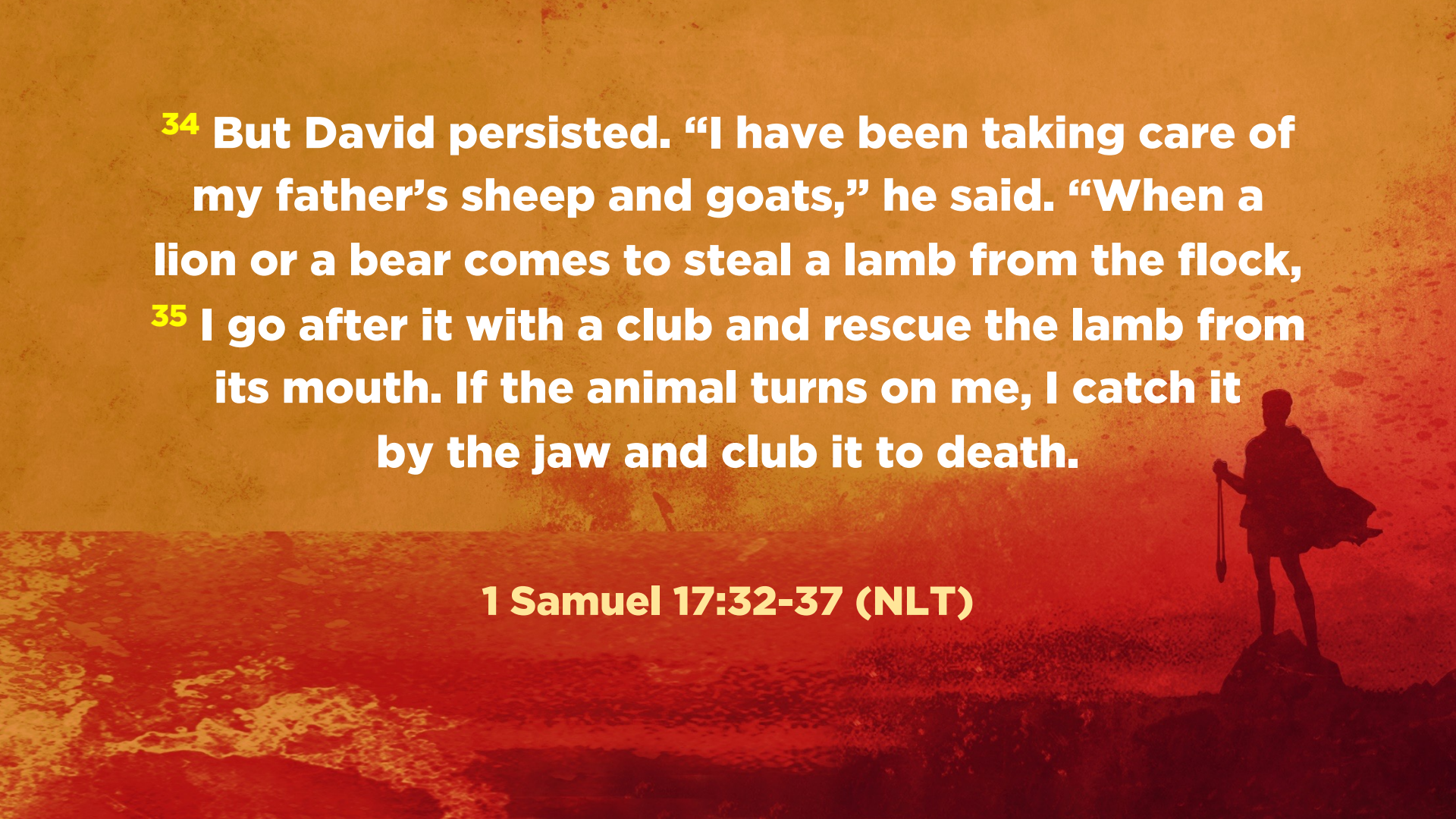

But when David's oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking to the men, he was angry. "What are you doing around here anyway?" he demanded. "What about those few sheep you are supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride and deceit. You just want to see the battle!"
1 Samuel 17:28 (NLT)

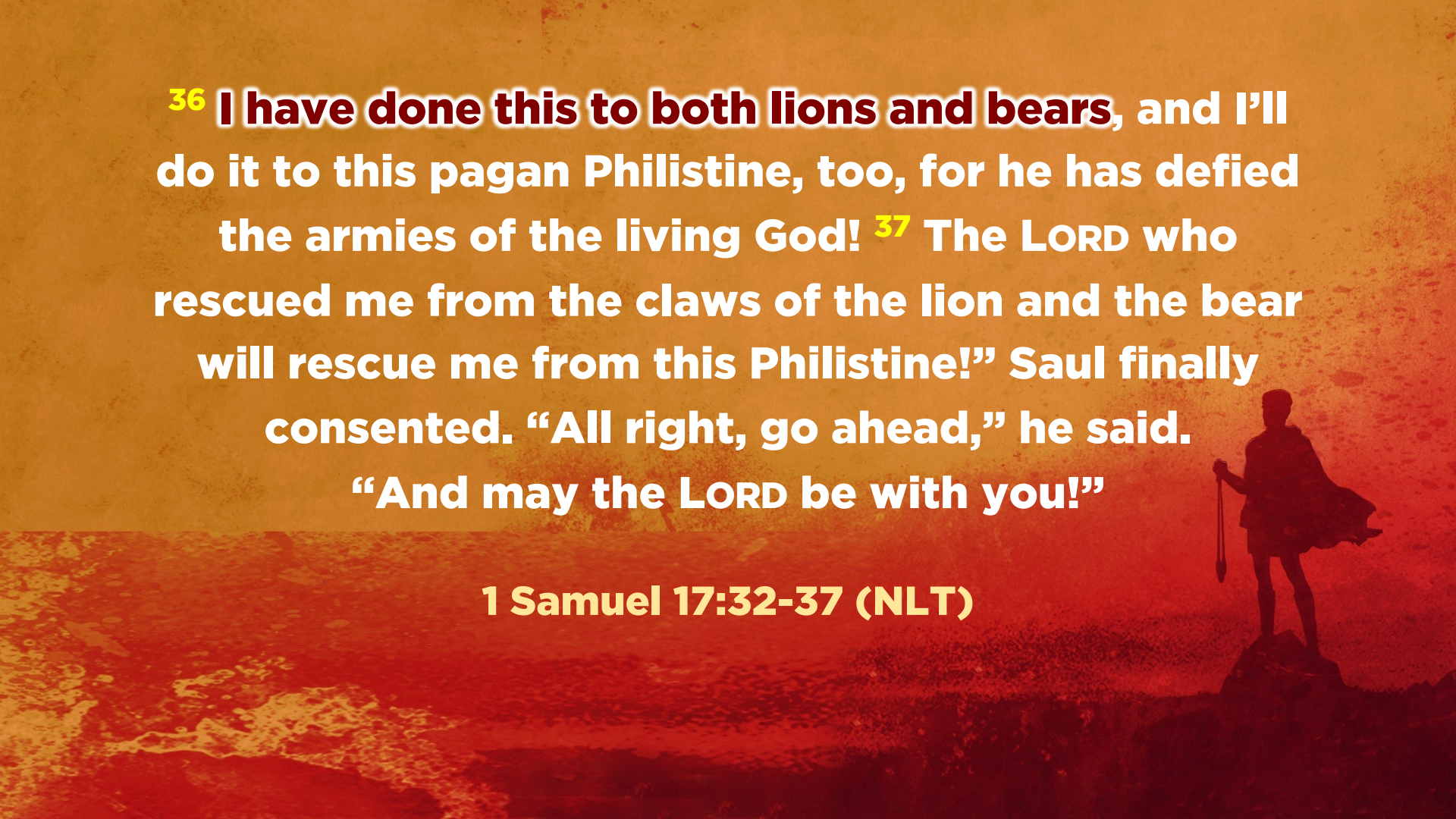
“Don’t worry about this Philistine,” David told Saul.
“I’ll go fight him!” 33 “Don’t be ridiculous!” Saul
replied. “There’s no way you can fight this
Philistine and possibly win! You’re only a boy,
and he’s been a man of war since his youth.”

1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NLT)

34 But David persisted. “I have been taking care of
my father’s sheep and goats,” he said. “When a
lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock,
35 I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from
its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it
by the jaw and club it to death.

1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NLT)




36 I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll
do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied
the armies of the living God! 37 The LORD who
rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear
will rescue me from this Philistine!" Saul finally
consented. "All right, go ahead," he said.
"And may the LORD be with you!"
1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NLT)

1.
His faith in God was greater than the size of his problem

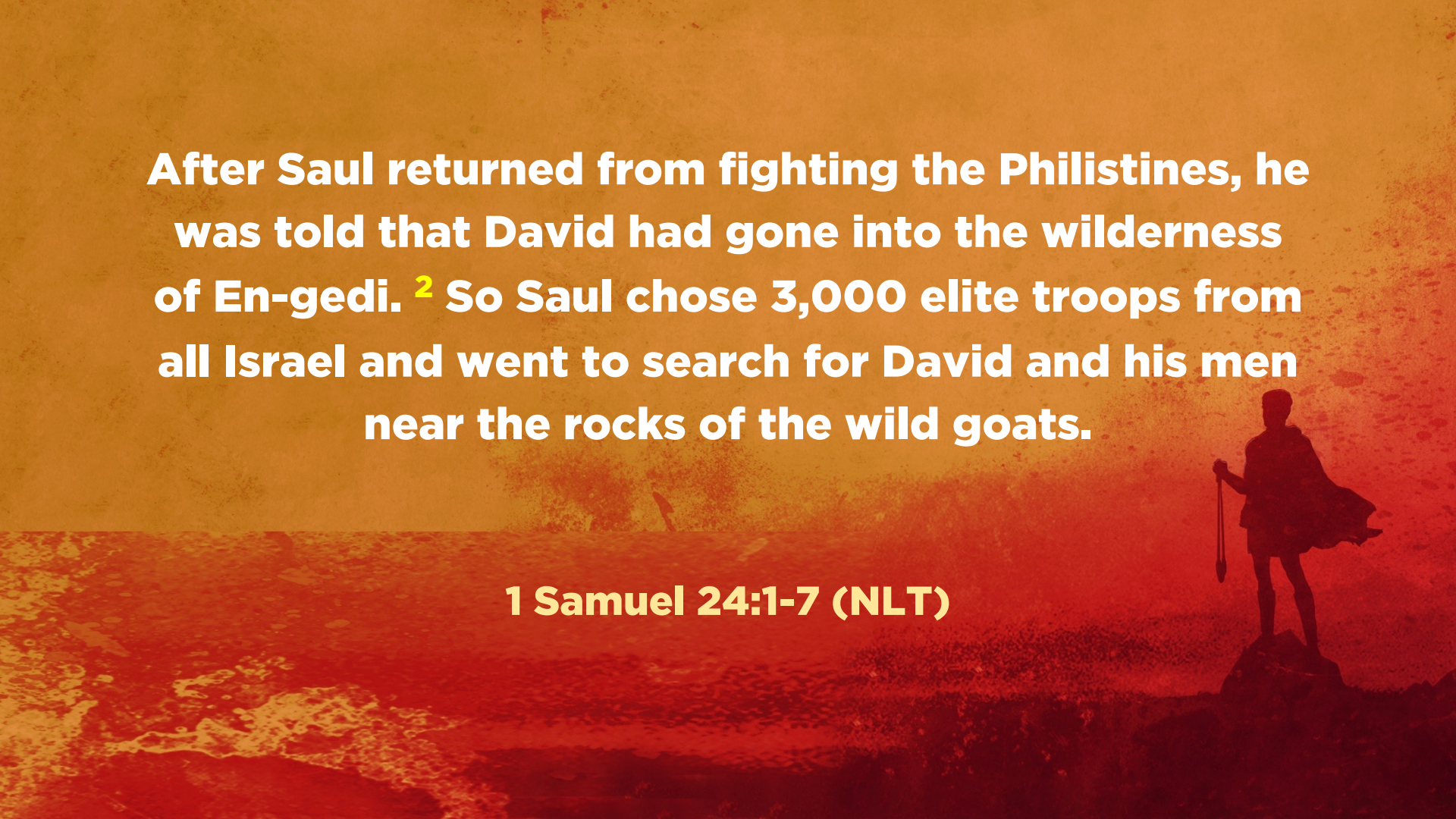
- The obstacles, the challenges we face in life situations are opportunities for our faith in God to grow
- David's faith grew when God delivered him from the lions and the bears

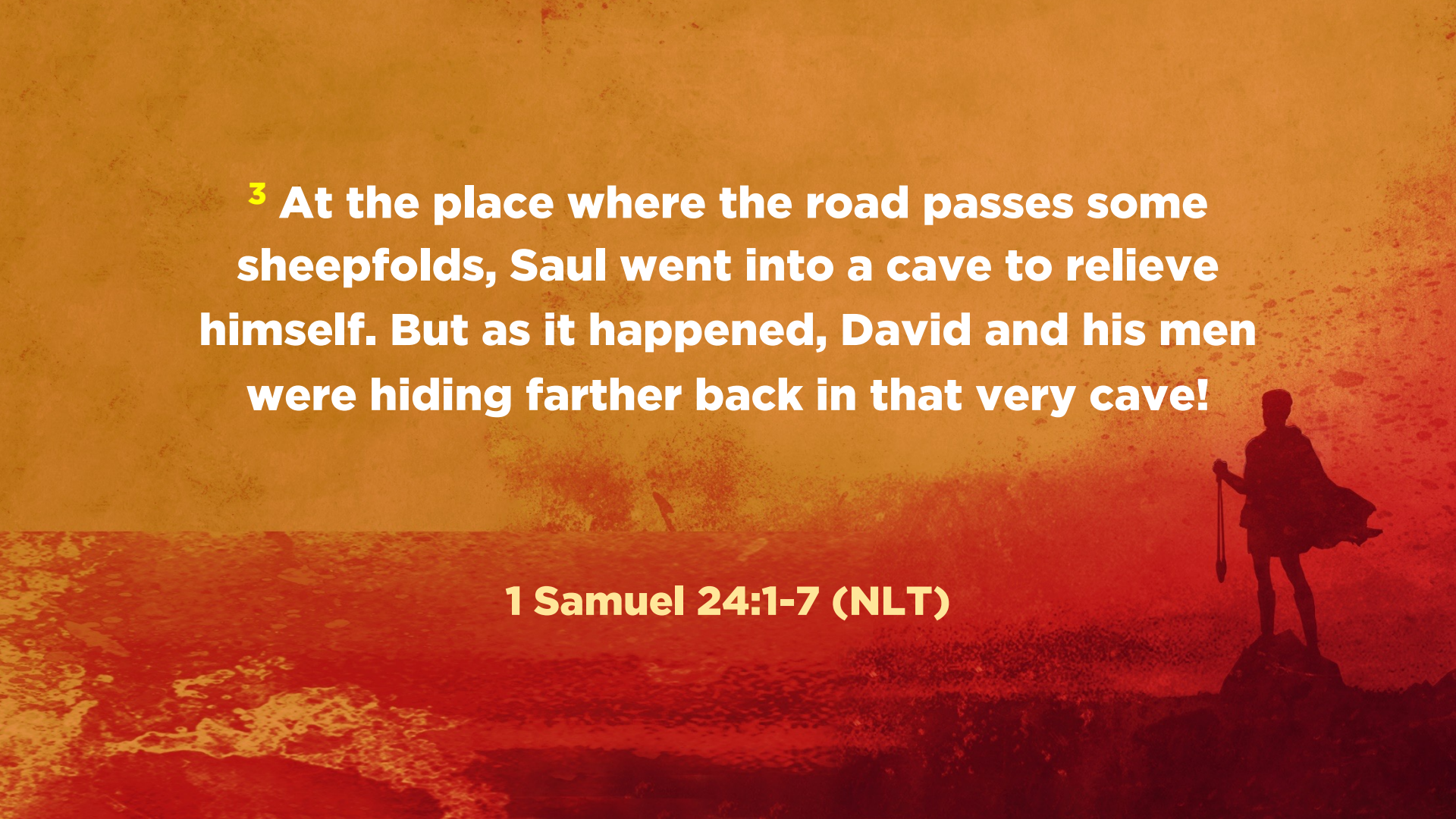
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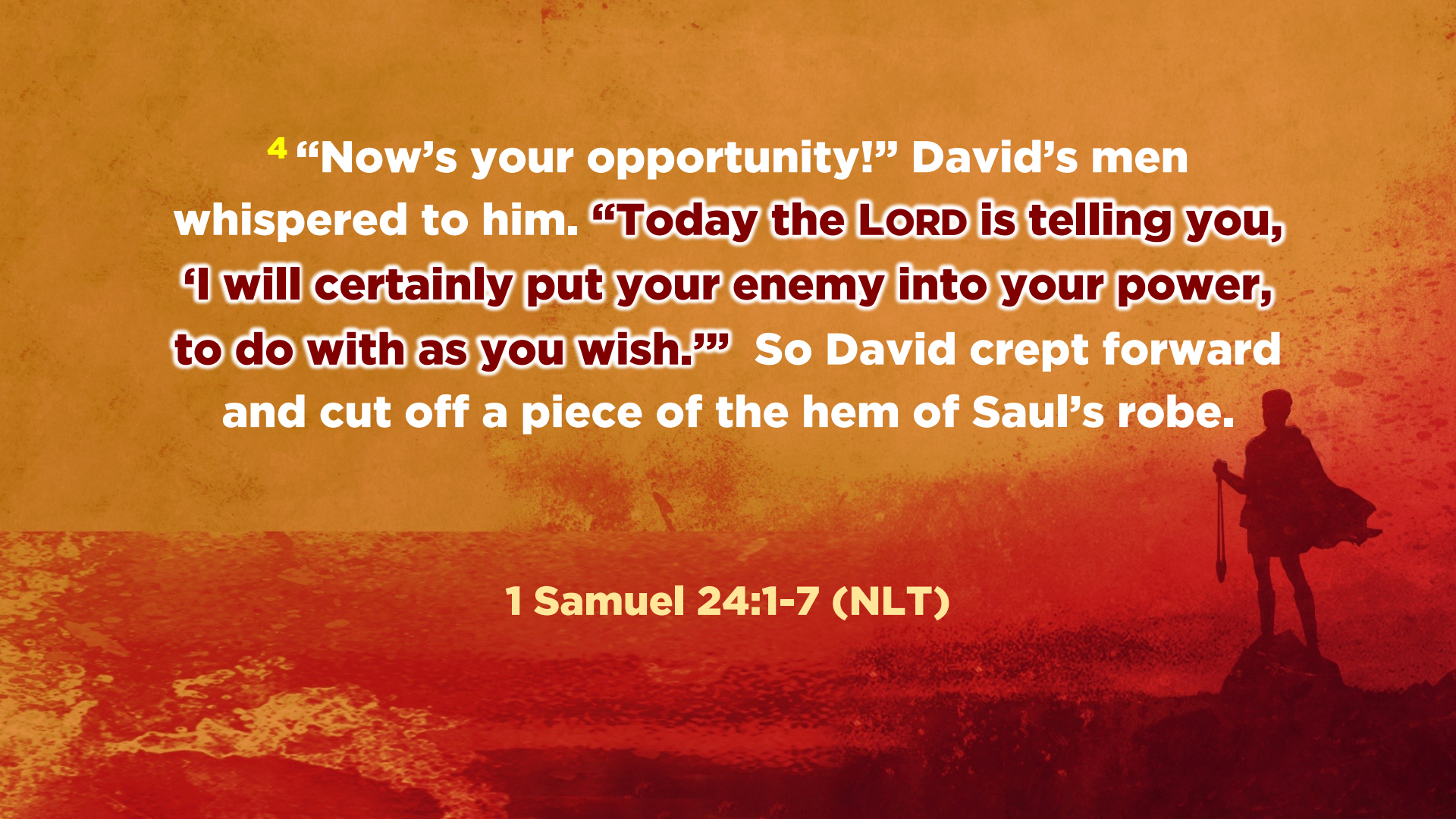
His fear for God was more important than his desire for personal advancement

After Saul returned from fighting the Philistines, he was told that David had gone into the wilderness of En-gedi. 2 So Saul chose 3,000 elite troops from all Israel and went to search for David and his men near the rocks of the wild goats.

1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)



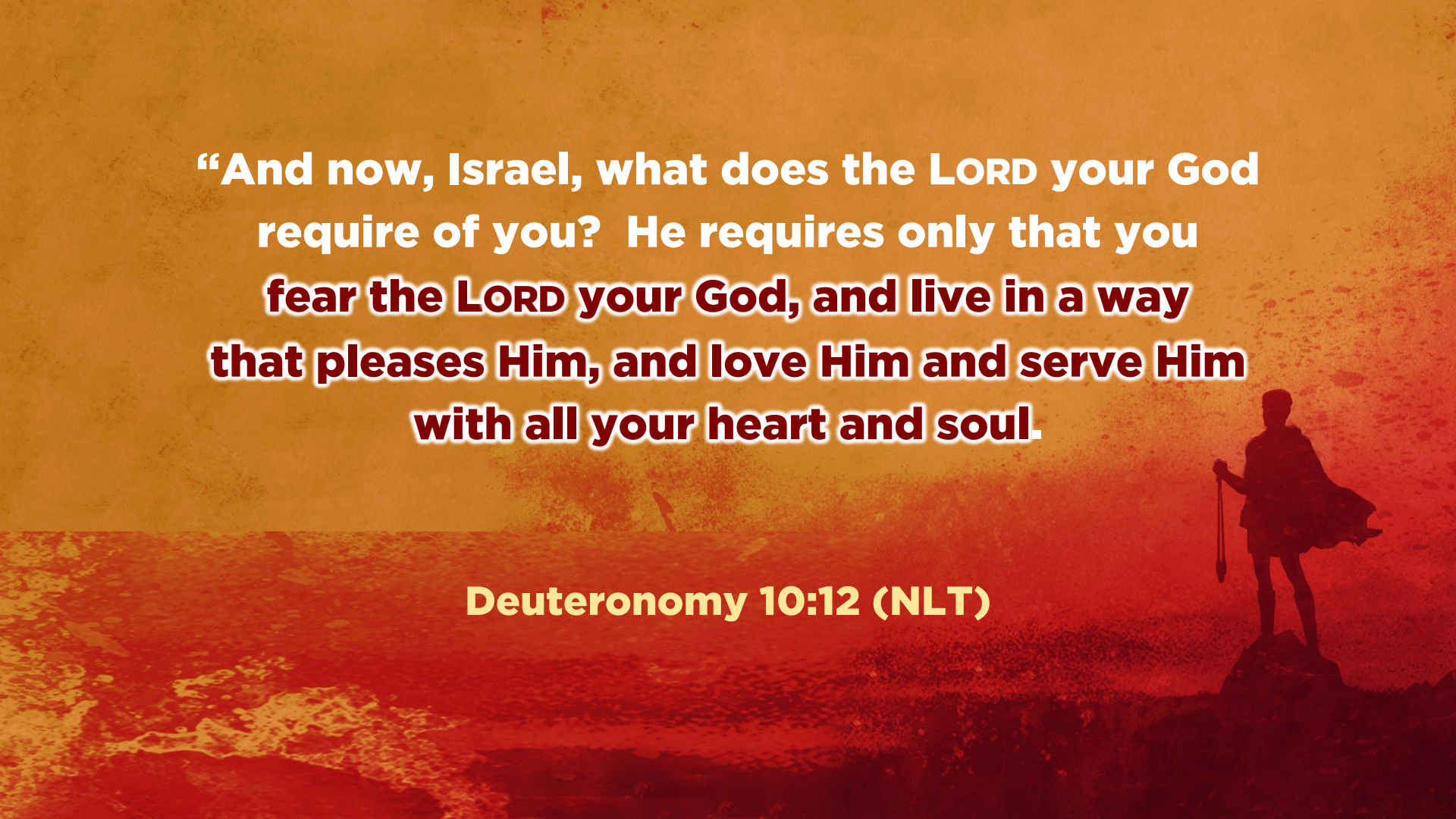

3 At the place where the road passes some sheepfolds, Saul went into a cave to relieve himself. But as it happened, David and his men were hiding farther back in that very cave!
1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)


4 “Now’s your opportunity!” David’s men
whispered to him. “Today the LORD is telling you,
‘I will certainly put your enemy into your power,
to do with as you wish.’” So David crept forward
and cut off a piece of the hem of Saul’s robe.
1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)

5 But then David's conscience began bothering him
because he had cut Saul's robe. 6 He said to his
men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this to my
lord the king. I shouldn't attack the LORD's
anointed one, for the LORD himself has chosen
him." 7 So David restrained his men and
did not let them kill Saul.

1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)




“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? He requires only that you fear the LORD your God, and live in a way that pleases Him, and love Him and serve Him with all your heart and soul.
Deuteronomy 10:12 (NLT)

2.
His fear for God was more important than his desire for personal advancement

Loving and serving God is one single unit, it cannot be separated

We cannot say we love God, sit passively and be a spectator

2.
His fear for God was more important than his desire for personal advancement

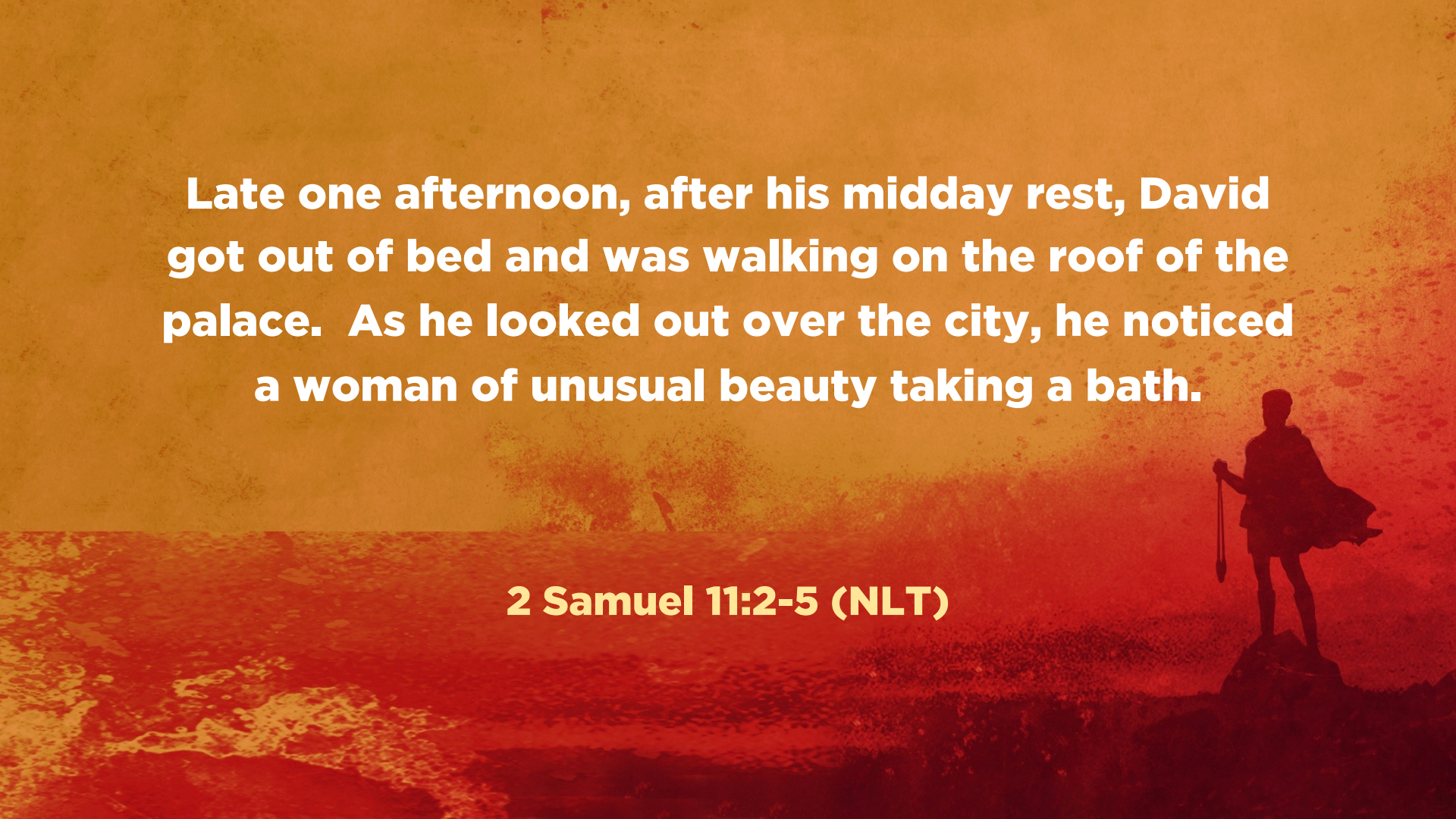
- To desire personal advancement, to pursue our interests is not wrong but we must examine at what cost

2.
His fear for God was more important than his desire for personal advancement

- Joseph waited 13 years
- Abraham waited 25 years
- Moses waited 40 years
- Jesus waited for 30 years


3.
His confession to God was more critical
than preserving his dignity


In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem.
2 Samuel 11:1 (NLT)


Late one afternoon, after his midday rest, David got out of bed and was walking on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath.
2 Samuel 11:2-5 (NLT)

3 He sent someone to find out who she was,
and he was told, “She is Bathsheba, the daughter
of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite.”

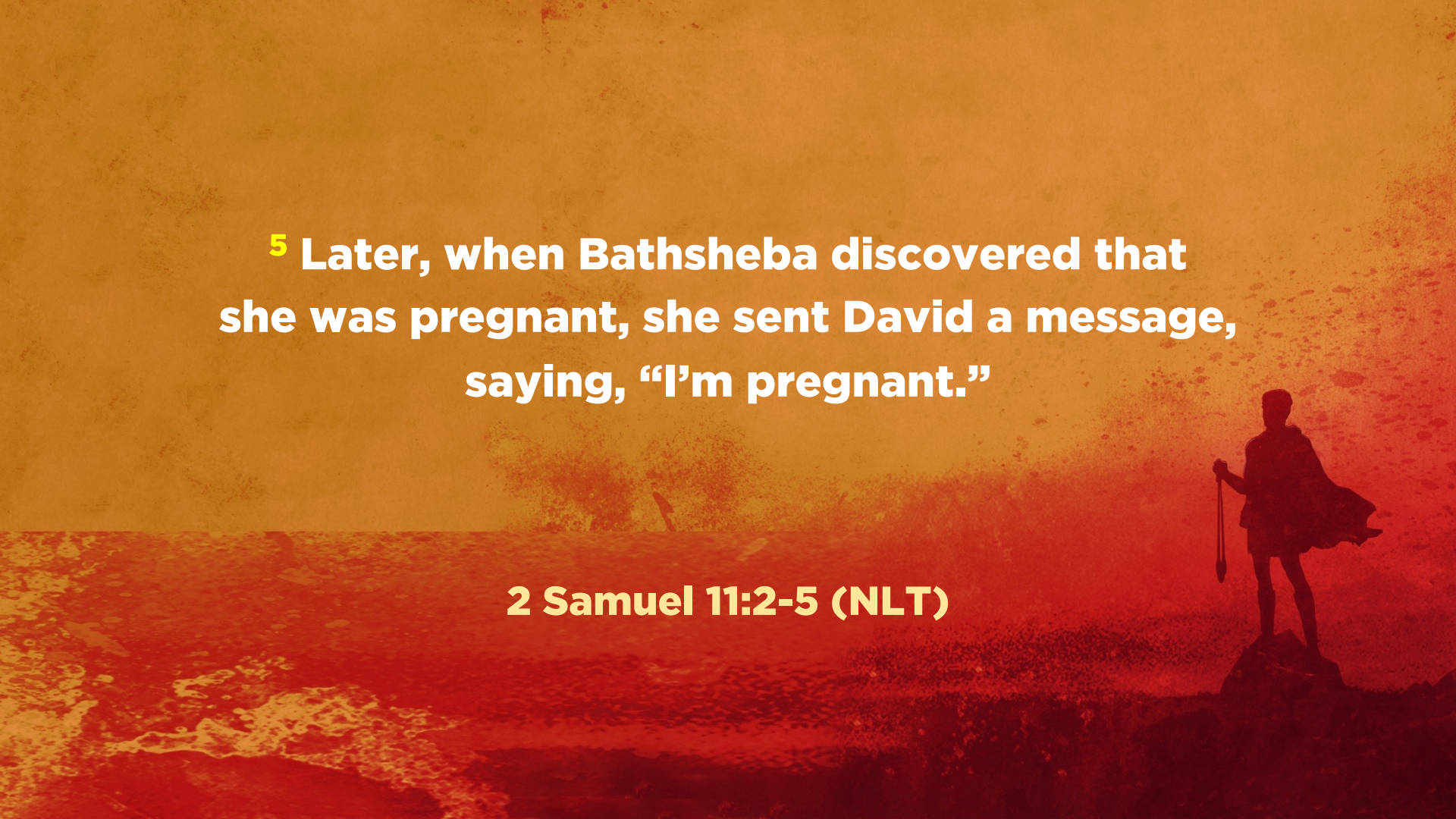
2 Samuel 11:2-5 (NLT)



4 Then David sent messengers to get her; and when she came to the palace, he slept with her. She had just completed the purification rites after having her menstrual period. Then she returned home.

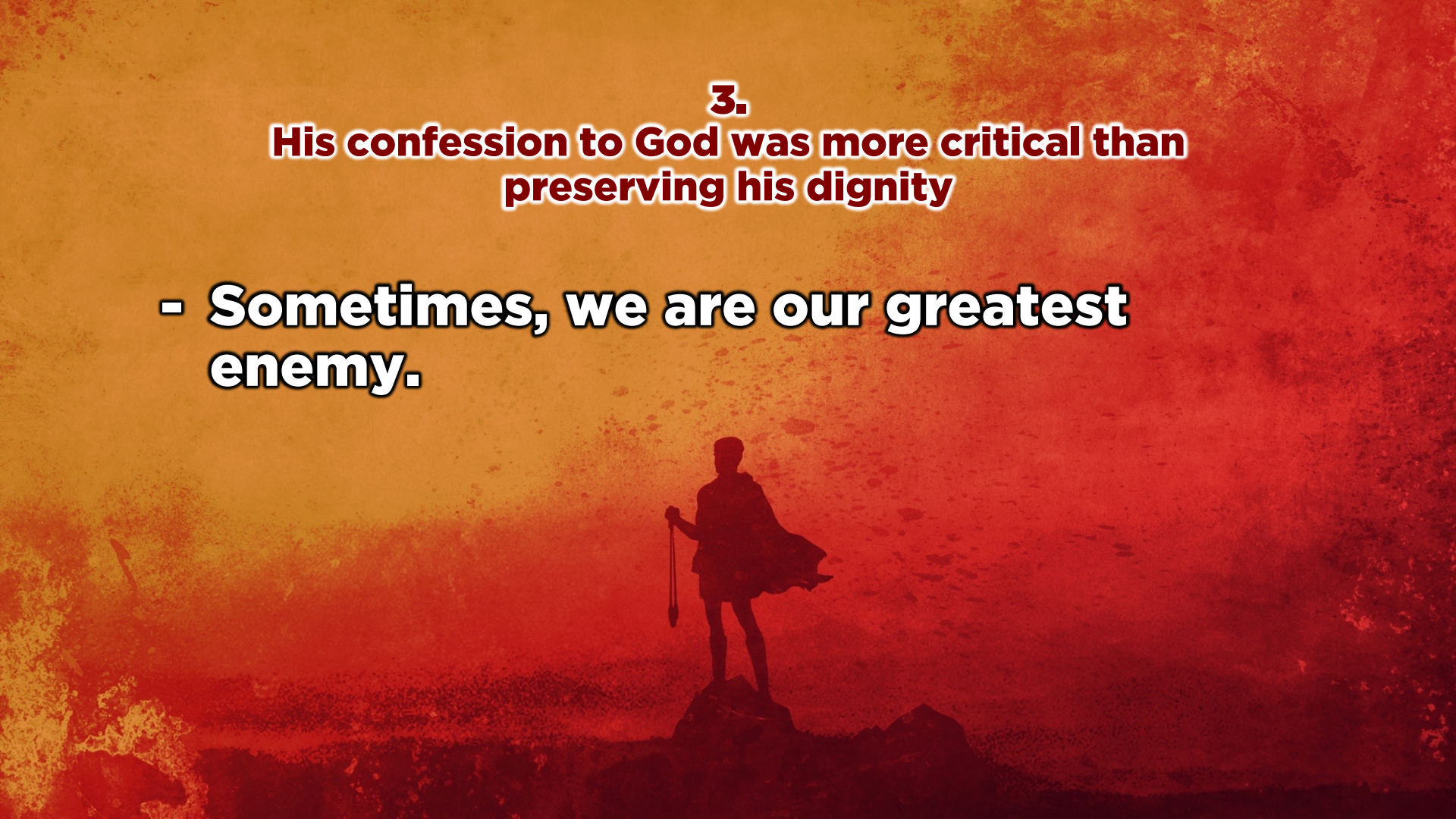
2 Samuel 11:2-5 (NLT)




5 Later, when Bathsheba discovered that
she was pregnant, she sent David a message,
saying, “I’m pregnant.”
2 Samuel 11:2-5 (NLT)

3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

- Sometimes, we are our greatest enemy.



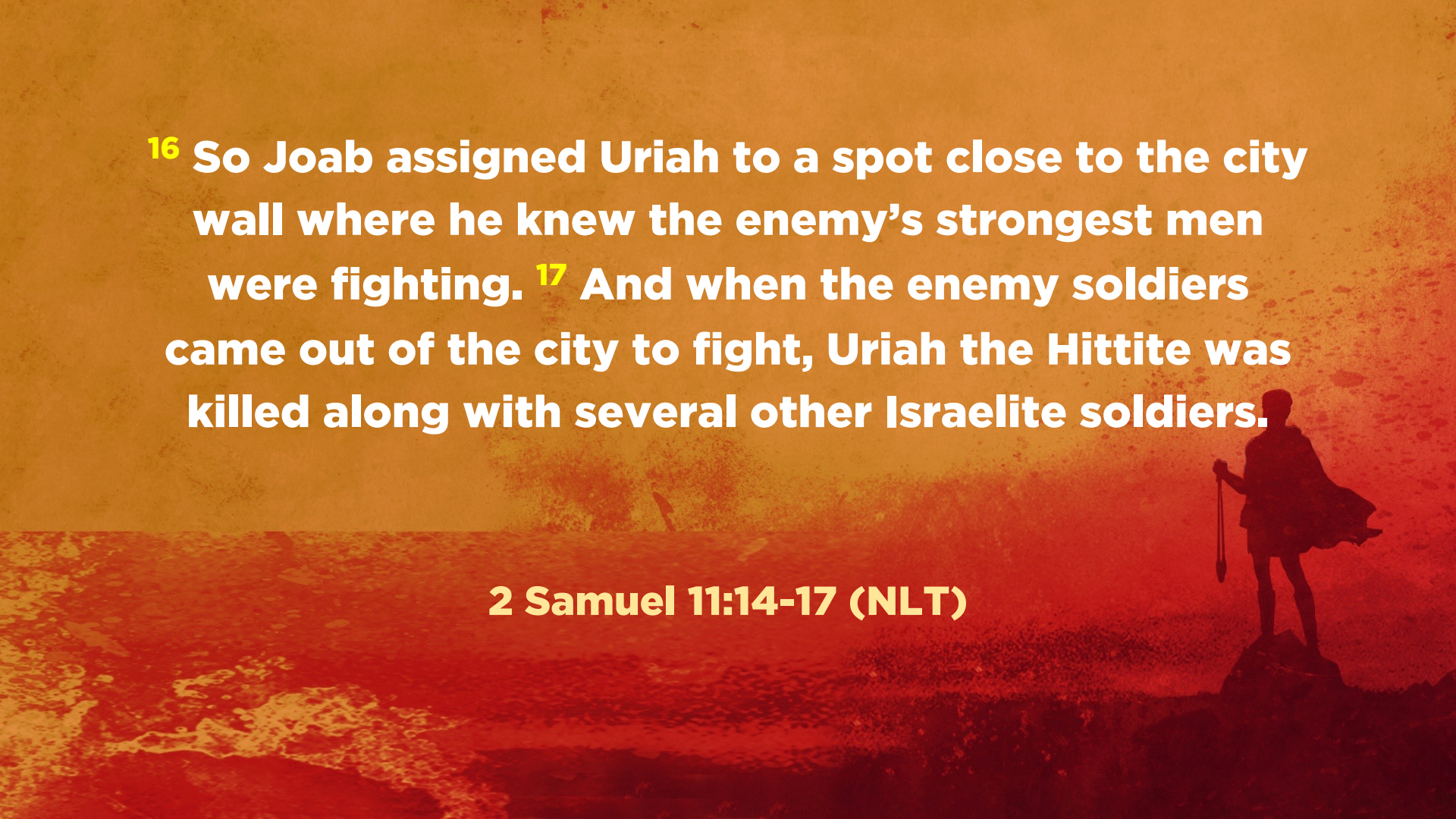
So the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. 15 The letter instructed Joab, “Station Uriah on the front lines where the battle is fiercest. Then pull back so that he will be killed.”

2 Samuel 11:14-17 (NLT)



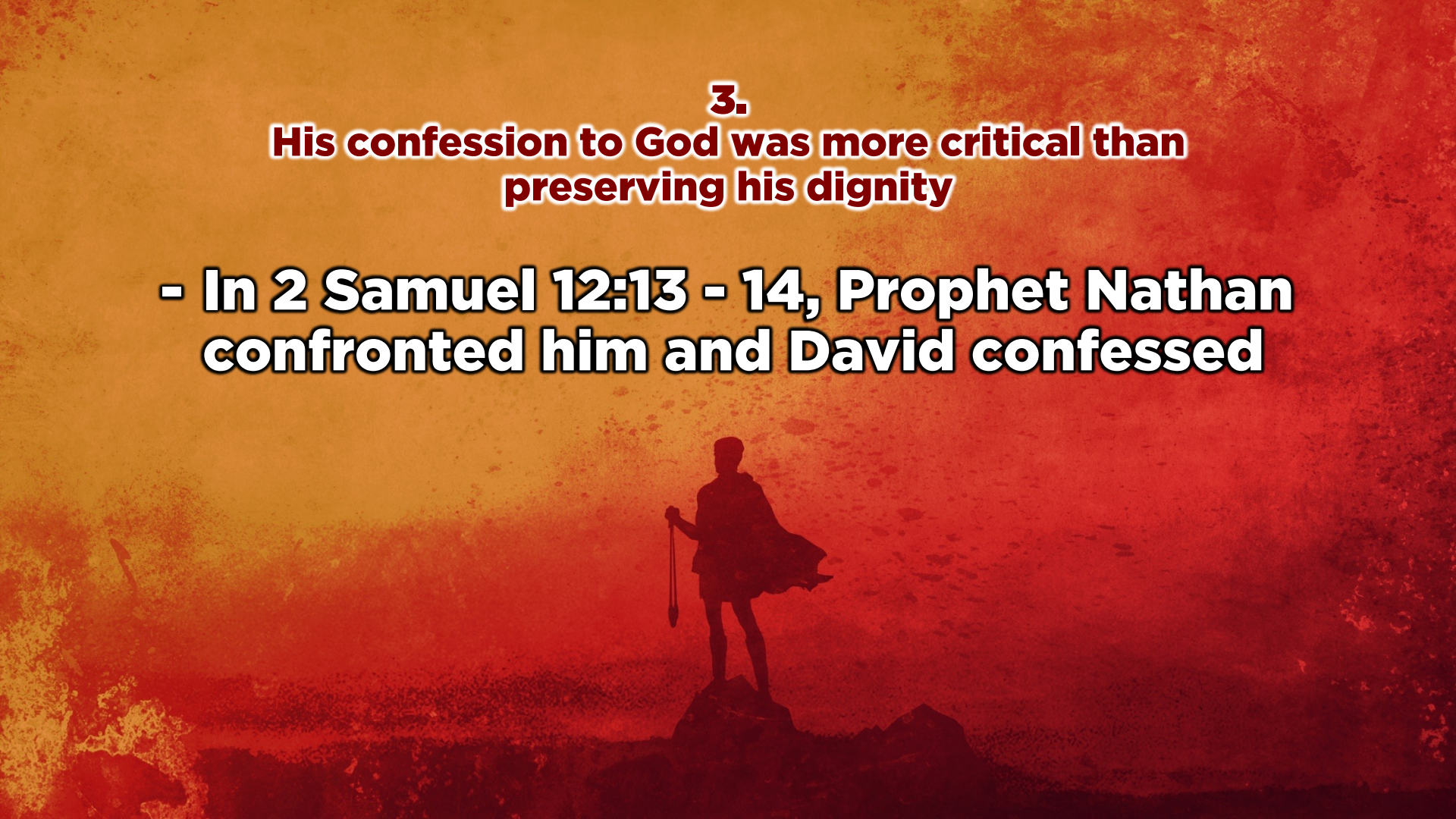
16 So Joab assigned Uriah to a spot close to the city
wall where he knew the enemy's strongest men
were fighting. 17 And when the enemy soldiers
came out of the city to fight, Uriah the Hittite was
killed along with several other Israelite soldiers.

2 Samuel 11:14-17 (NLT)



3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

- In 2 Samuel 12:13 - 14, Prophet Nathan confronted him and David confessed



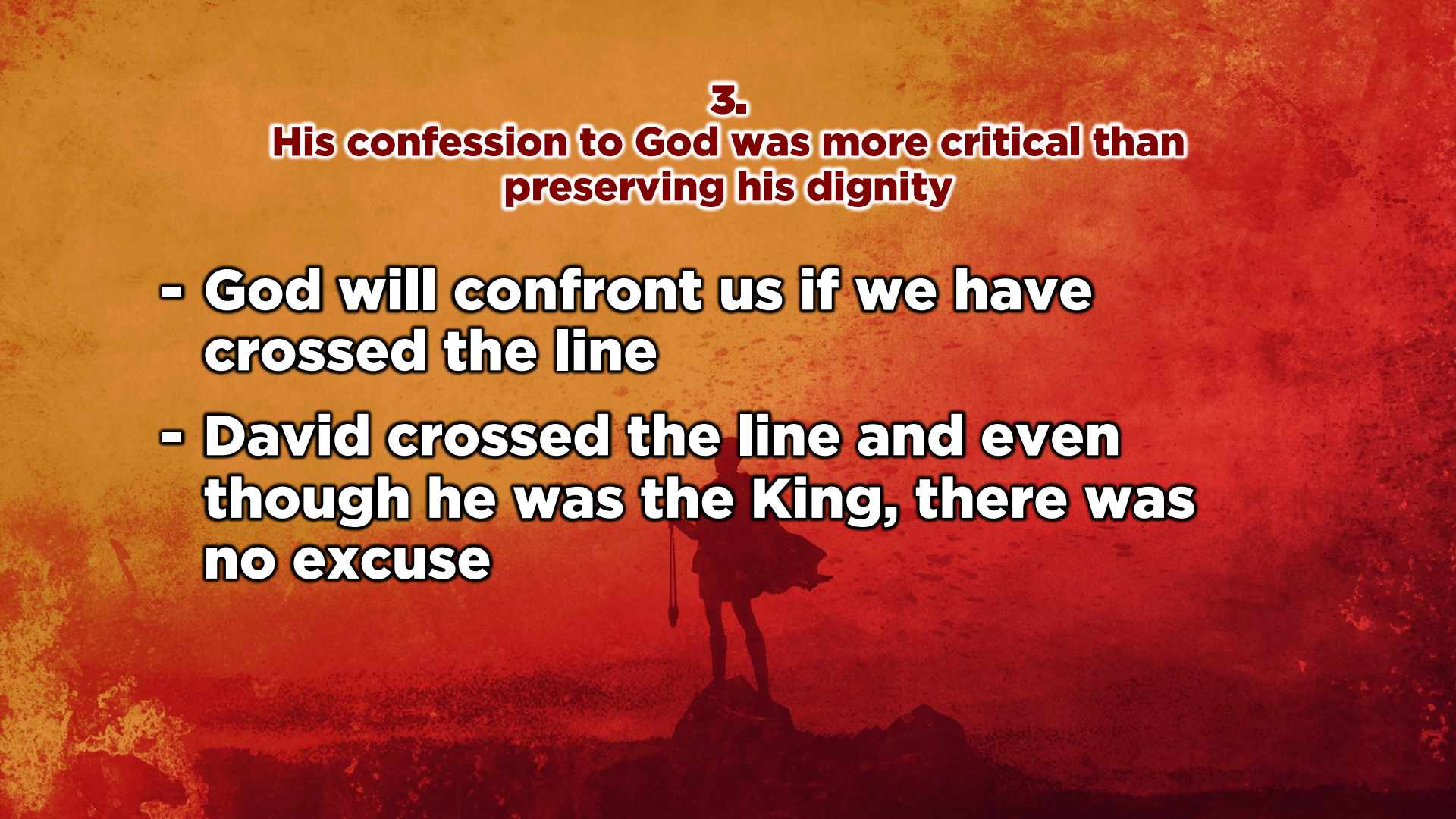
Then David confessed to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” Nathan replied, “Yes, but the LORD has forgiven you, and you won’t die for this sin. 14 Nevertheless, because you have shown utter contempt for the word of the LORD by doing this, your child will die.”

2 Samuel 12:13-14 (NLT)



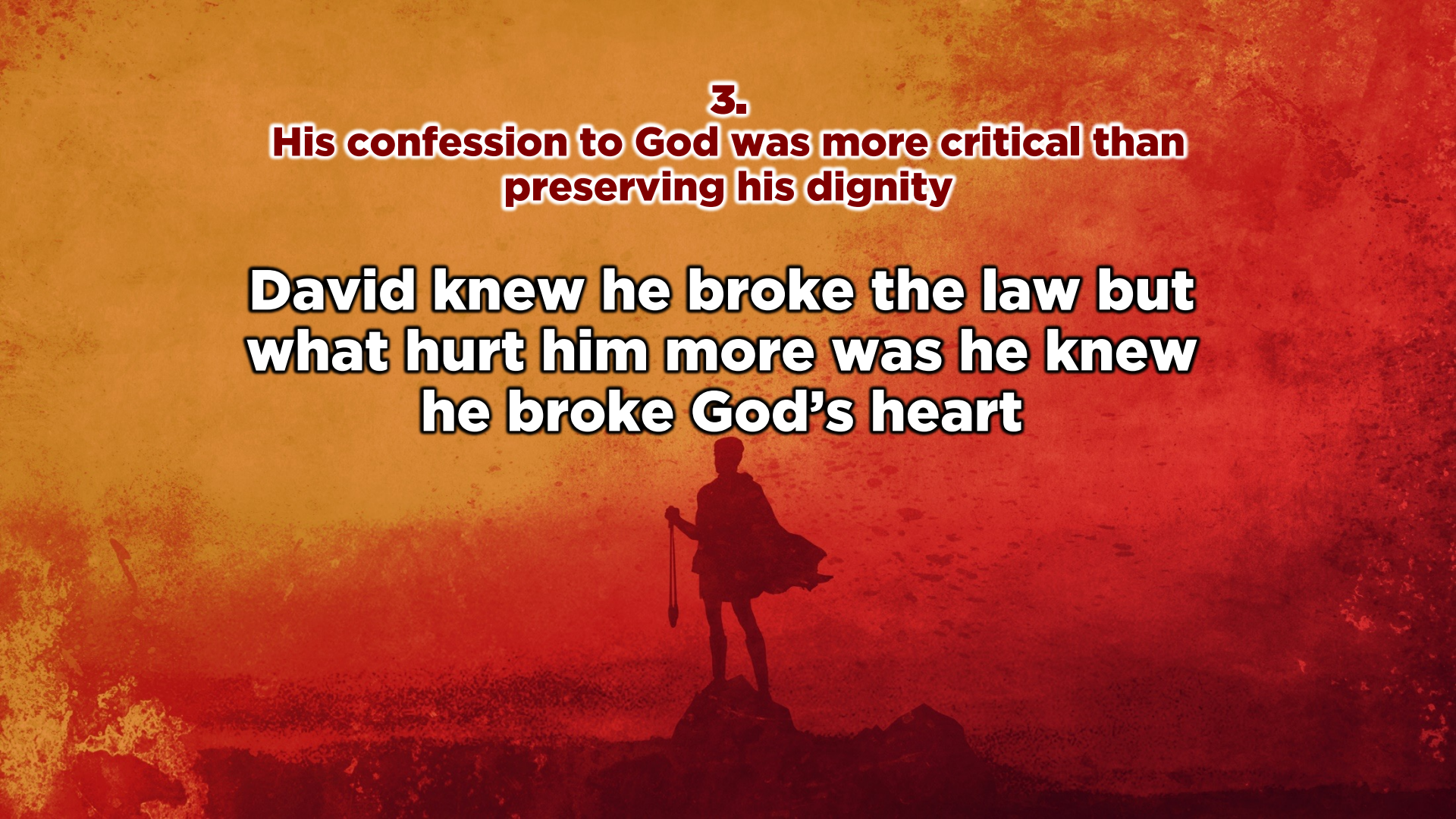
3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

- God will confront us if we have crossed the line
- David crossed the line and even though he was the King, there was no excuse



3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

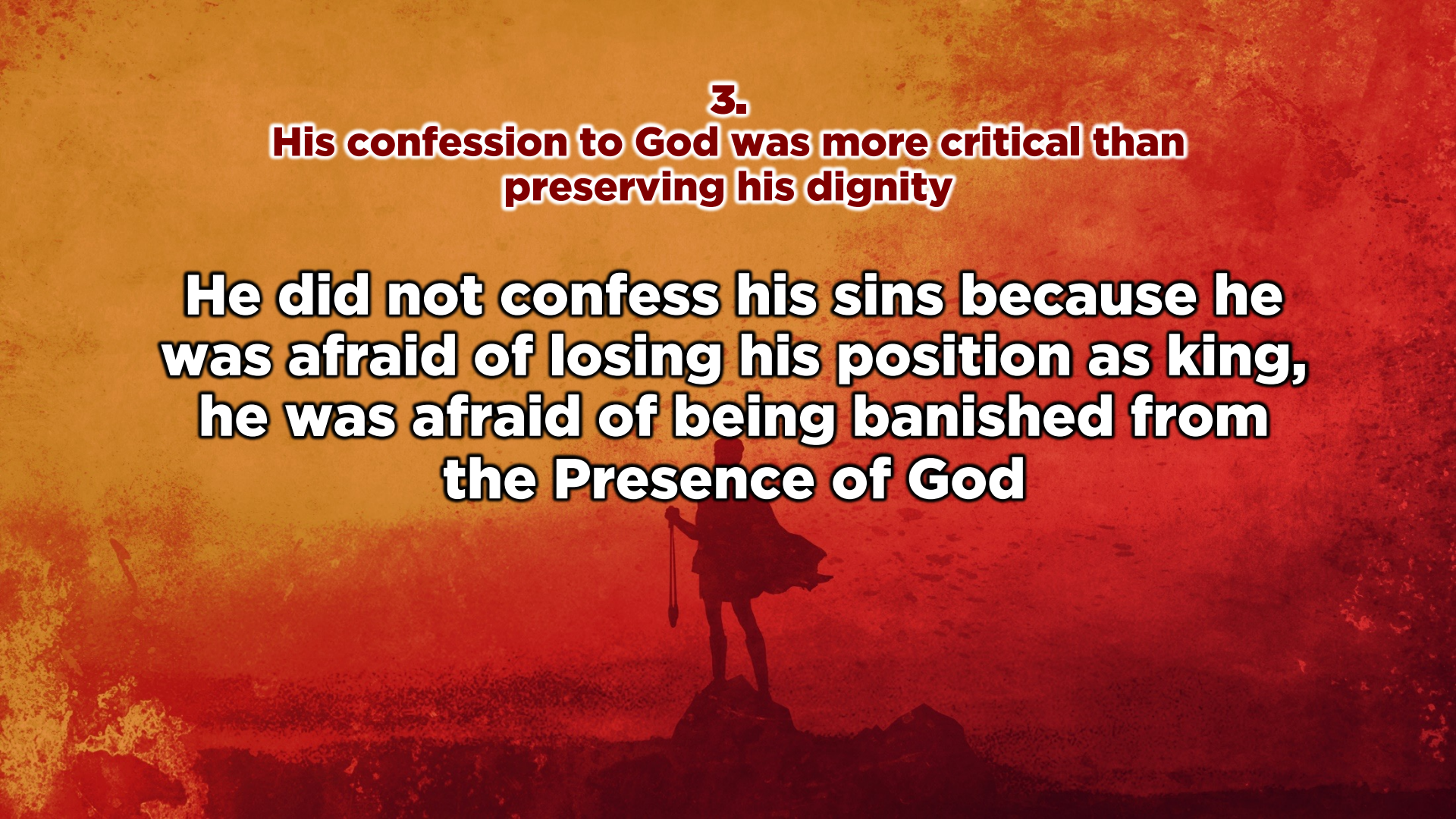
David knew he broke the law but what hurt him more was he knew he broke God's heart




Do not banish me from your presence,
and don’t take your Holy Spirit from me.
Psalm 51:11 (NLT)

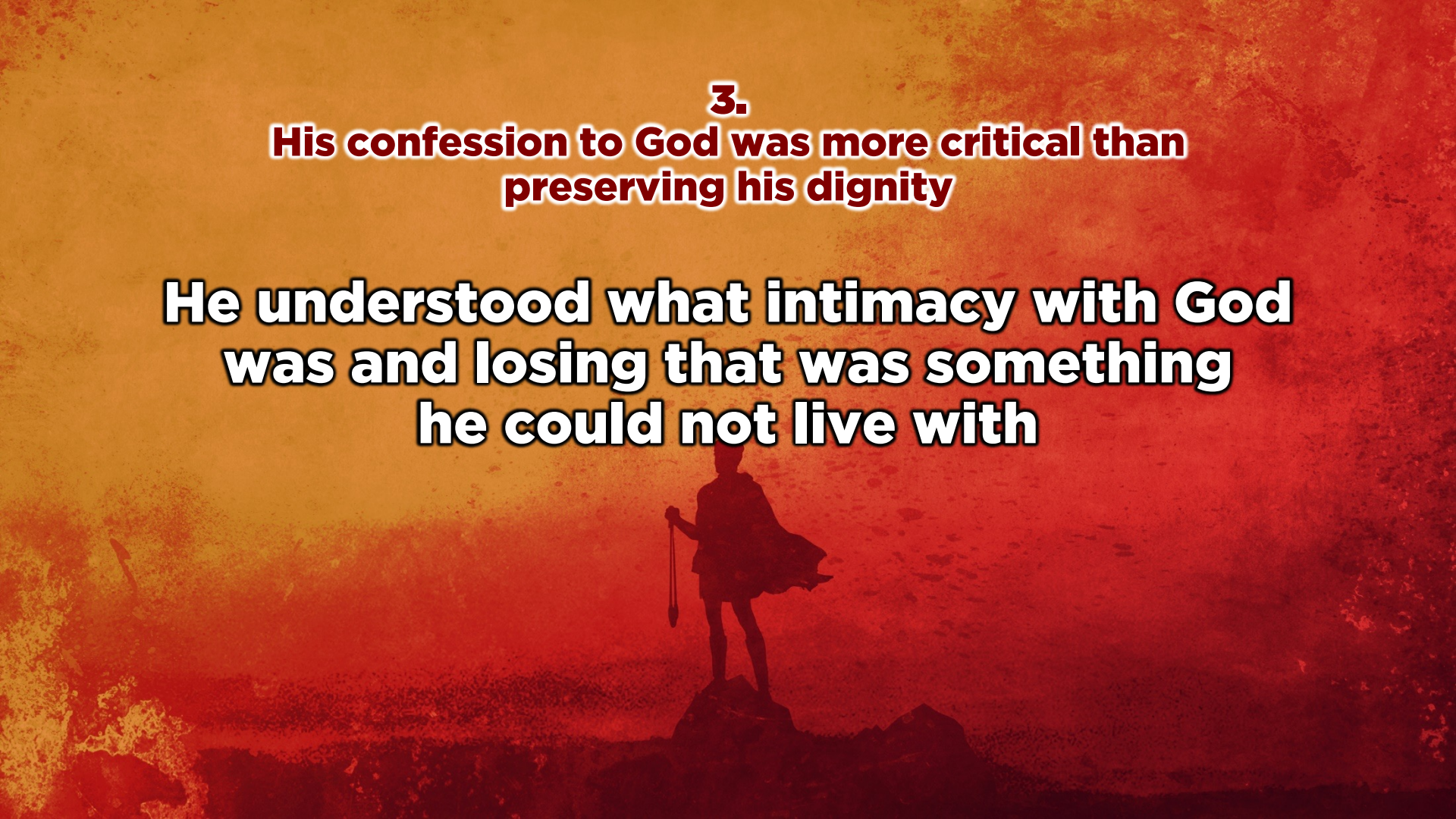
3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

He did not confess his sins because he was afraid of losing his position as king, he was afraid of being banished from the Presence of God



3.
His confession to God was more critical than preserving his dignity

He understood what intimacy with God was and losing that was something he could not live with




Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy,
the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion,
looking for someone to devour.
1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

Conclusion