

# Noah, Job and Daniel

Three Pillars of the Old Testament

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**Ezekiel 14:12-23**

# Introduction

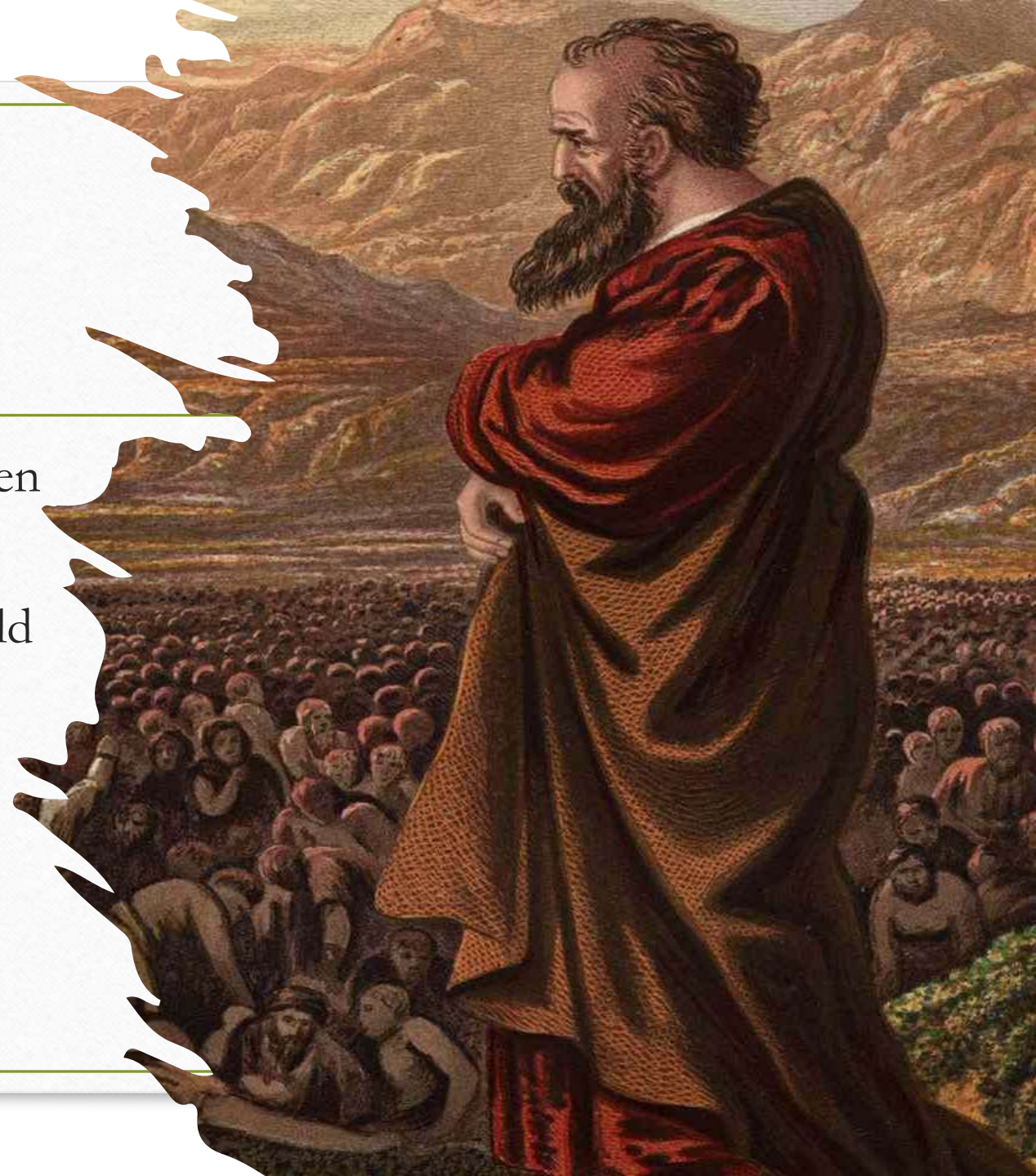
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- People are occasionally described as “pillars of the community”
- David desired to dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of his life (Psalm 27:4).
- Solomon named the two pillars of the Temple (1 Kings 7:21).
  - Jachin (he will establish) and Boaz (meaning is unknown)

# The Burden of Ezekiel

- Ezekiel, like Jeremiah, had a heavy burden to carry
- He was told to prophesy Jerusalem would not be spared

**Ezekiel 14:12-20**



The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: "Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it. Even *if* these three men, **Noah, Daniel, and Job**, were in it, they would deliver *only* themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD. "If I cause wild beasts to pass through the land, and they empty it, and make it so desolate that no man may pass through because of the beasts, even *though* these three men *were* in it, *as* I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate. "Or *if* I bring a sword on that land, and say, 'Sword, go through the land,' and I cut off man and beast from it, even *though* these three men *were* in it, *as* I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but only they themselves would be delivered. "Or *if* I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast, even *though* **Noah, Daniel, and Job** *were* in it, *as* I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver *only* themselves by their righteousness."

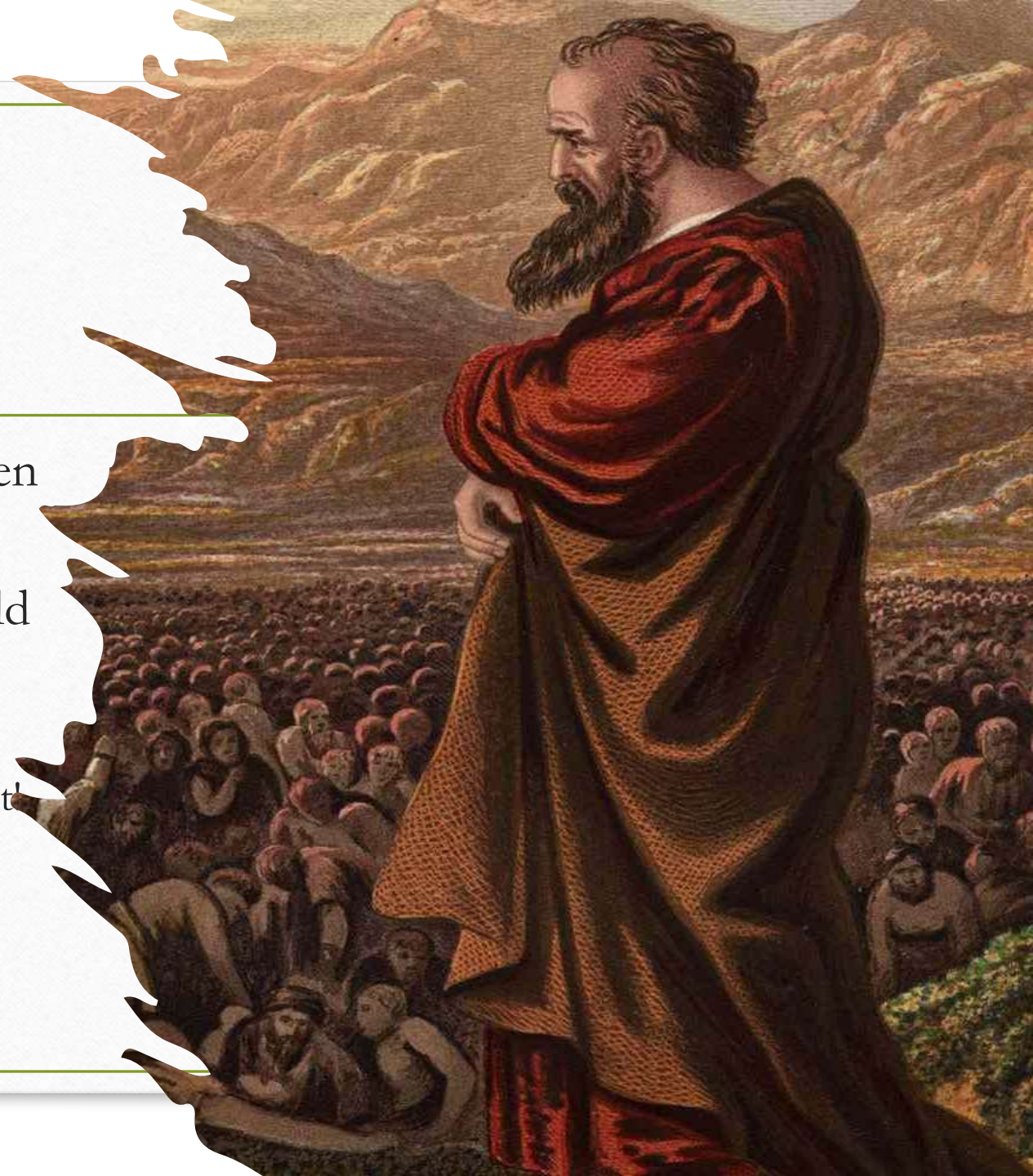
(Ezekiel 14:12-20 NKJV)

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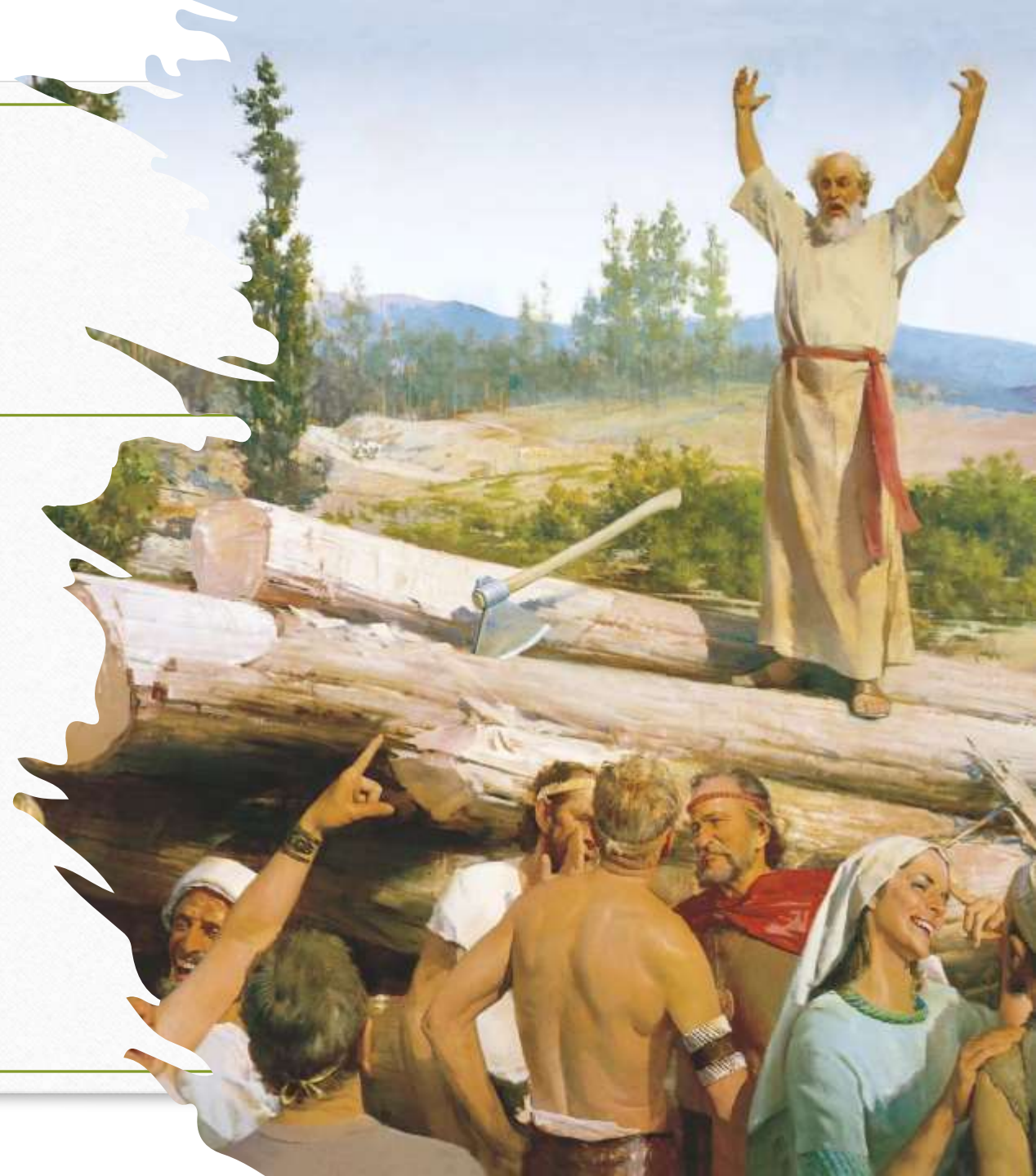
## **Ezekiel 14:12-20**

- Even if... **Noah, Daniel and Job** were in it (vs. 14, 20)
- Of whom might you have thought?
- God named these three men!



# Noah – A Preacher of Righteousness

- All the earth was wicked – **Genesis 6:5-8**

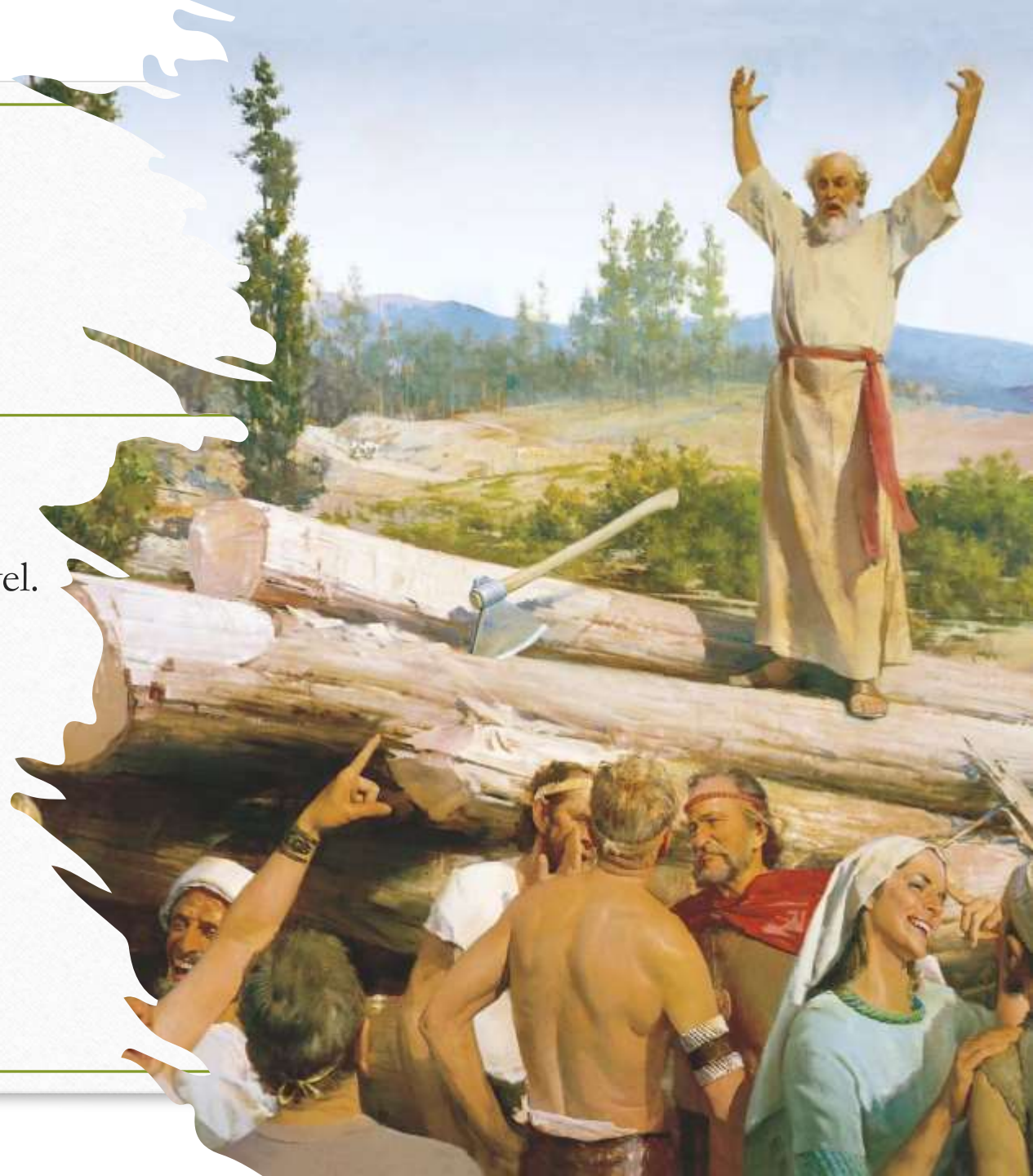


Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

(Genesis 6:5-8 NKJV)

# Noah – A Preacher of Righteousness

- All the earth was wicked – **Genesis 6:5-8**
  - Thankfully, we have not descended to that level.
  - However, we *are* being silenced...
- In all the earth, only Noah found grace
  - Must have been oppressive, living in that level of depravity
  - Yet, Noah stood firm (2 Peter 2:5)!
- **Stand firm like Noah! – Acts 4:19-20**





But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

(Acts 4:19-20 NKJV)

# Job – A Model of Longsuffering

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- Job lost nearly everything – Job 1-2
  - Job's Attitude – **Job 1:20-21 ; 2:10**

Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD." In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

(Job 1:20-22 NKJV)

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

(Job 2:9-10 NKJV)

# Job – A Model of Longsuffering

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- Job lost nearly everything – Job 1-2
  - Job's Attitude – **Job 1:20-21 ; 2:10**
  - Job held firm!
- Do not envy the sinner  
**Proverbs 23:17-18**

Do not let your heart envy sinners,  
But *be zealous* for the fear of the LORD all the day;  
For surely there is a hereafter,  
And your hope will not be cut off.

(Proverbs 23:17-18 NKJV)

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  - Job's Attitude – Job 1:20-21 ; 2:10
  - Job held firm!
- **Hold fast like Job!**
- Do not envy the sinner  
**Proverbs 23:17-18**
- This world is not my home! (Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 2:11)

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

(Hebrews 11:13 NKJV)

Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

(1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:11-12 NKJV)

Let your conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU."

(Hebrews 13:5 NKJV)

# Daniel – A Remarkable Life

- Daniel was a Judean nobleman - **Daniel 1:1-7**
  - But he was taken into captivity – Daniel 1:3-4
  - He was introduced to foreign language, customs, names, diets, histories, gods
- Daniel stood firm! - Daniel 1:8
  - Against uncleanness, and drunkenness – Daniel 1:8
  - Against covetousness – Daniel 5:17
  - Against idolatry – Daniel 6:10
- **Stand firm, hold fast like Daniel!**





In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god. Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, young men in whom *there was* no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who *had* ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans. And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of *that time* they might serve before the king. Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel *the name* Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

(Daniel 1:1-7 NKJV)

# Conclusion

(Ephesians 6:10-20)

- God has equipped us to **STAND!**
- Stand Firm Like Noah and Preach
- Hold Fast Like Job and Endure
- Stand Firm, Hold Fast Like Daniel and Conquer



**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.**