



“HELLENISM”



Daniel Interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



Head Of Gold – Babylon (605-539 BC)

Chest & Arms Of Silver – Persia (539-331 BC)

Waist & Thighs Of Brass – Greece (331-168 BC)

Legs Of Iron – Rome (168 BC-476 AD)

Feet Of Iron & Clay – Divided Nations

Crushing Stone – Kingdom Of God



Battle Of Issus - 333 BC



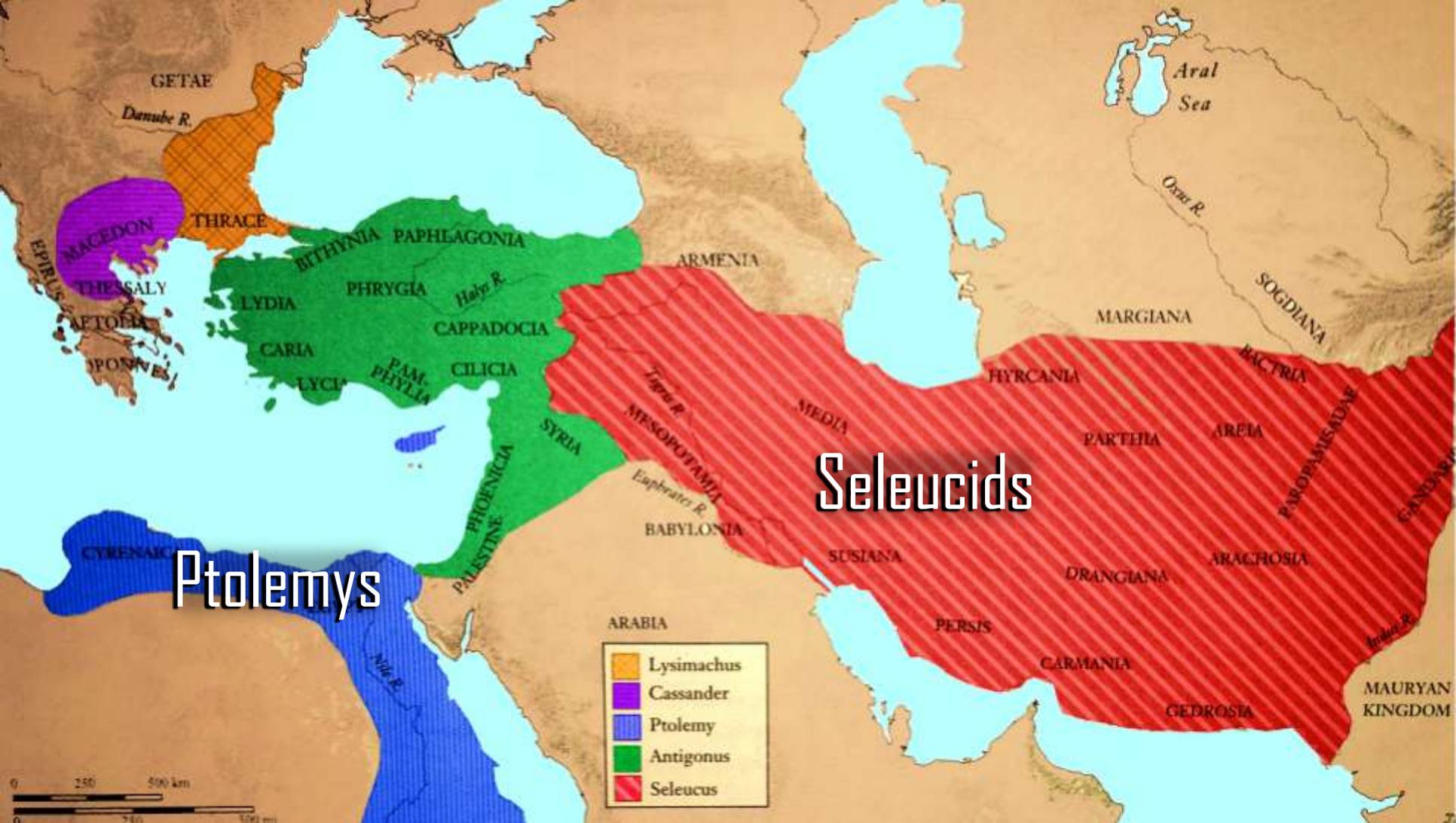
Alexander
The Great
(356-323 BC)



Darius III
(380-330 BC)







Seleucids

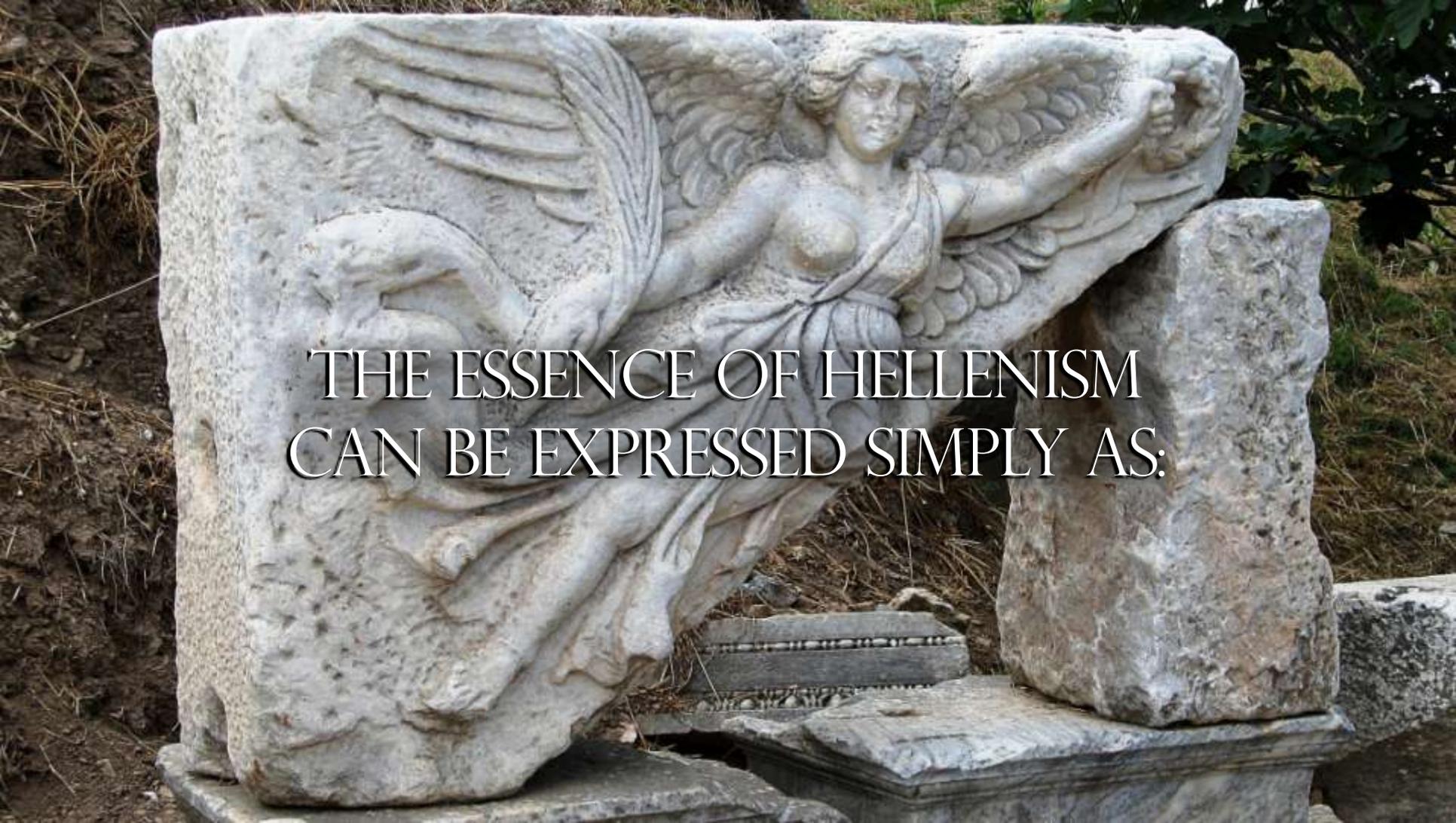
Ptolemys

- Lysimachus
- Cassander
- Ptolemy
- Antigonus
- Seleucus



The Roman Empire at its Height



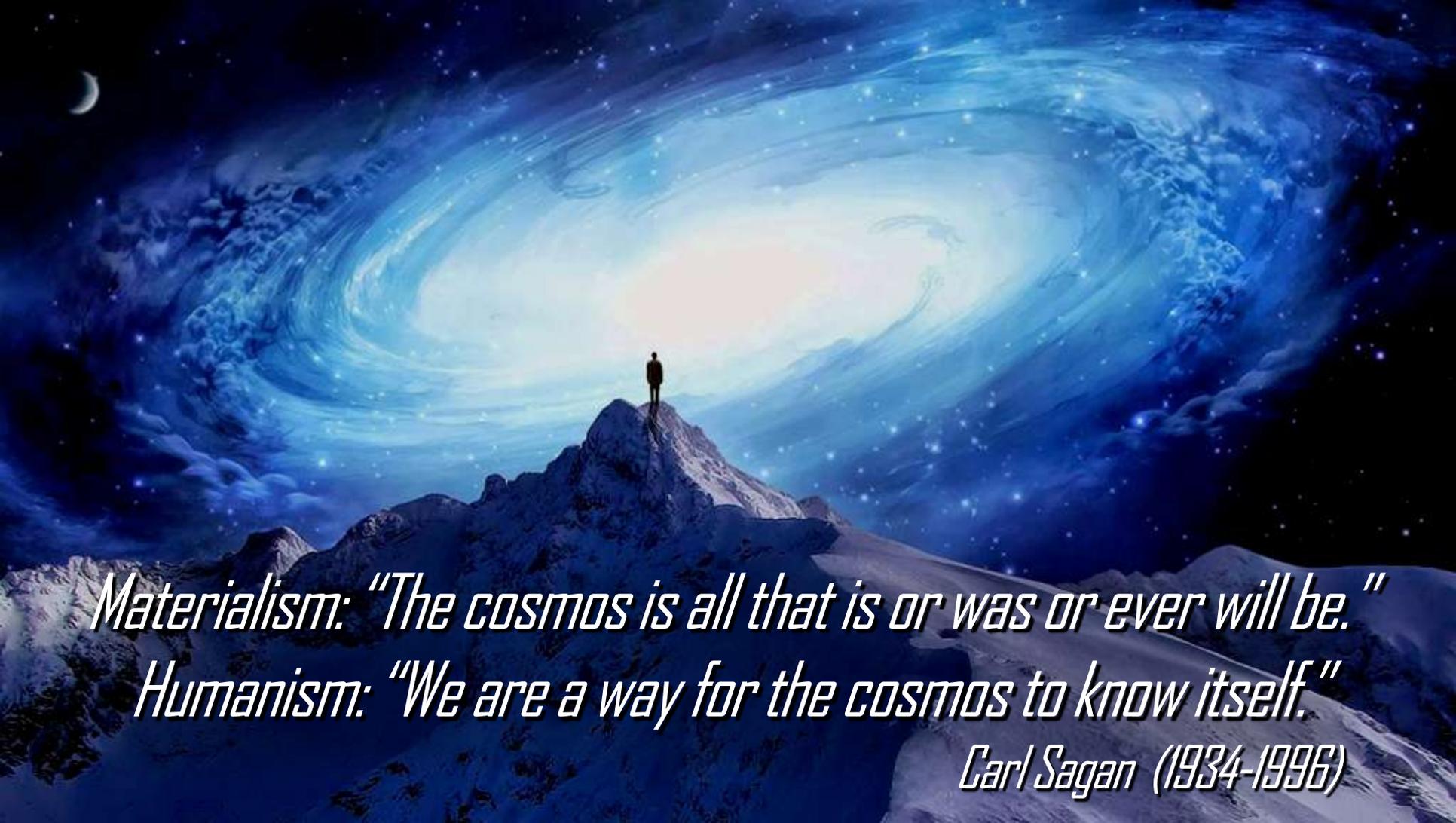
A large stone relief carving of a winged female figure, possibly Nike, holding a laurel wreath and a palm branch, set against a background of a classical building's ruins. The figure is depicted in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose, with her wings spread wide. She is wearing a draped garment. The relief is carved into a large, rectangular stone block. The background shows the ruins of a classical building, including a column and a pediment. The scene is outdoors, with some vegetation visible in the background.

THE ESSENCE OF HELLENISM
CAN BE EXPRESSED SIMPLY AS:

A person stands on the peak of a dark, rocky mountain. The sky is a deep, swirling blue and white, resembling a galaxy or nebula, with numerous stars scattered throughout. A crescent moon is visible in the upper left corner. The overall scene is surreal and cosmic.

*"Man is the measure of all things;
of things that are and of things that are not."*

Protagoras (490-420 BC)



Materialism: "The cosmos is all that is or was or ever will be."

Humanism: "We are a way for the cosmos to know itself."

Carl Sagan (1934-1996)



*You deserve
a break today!*



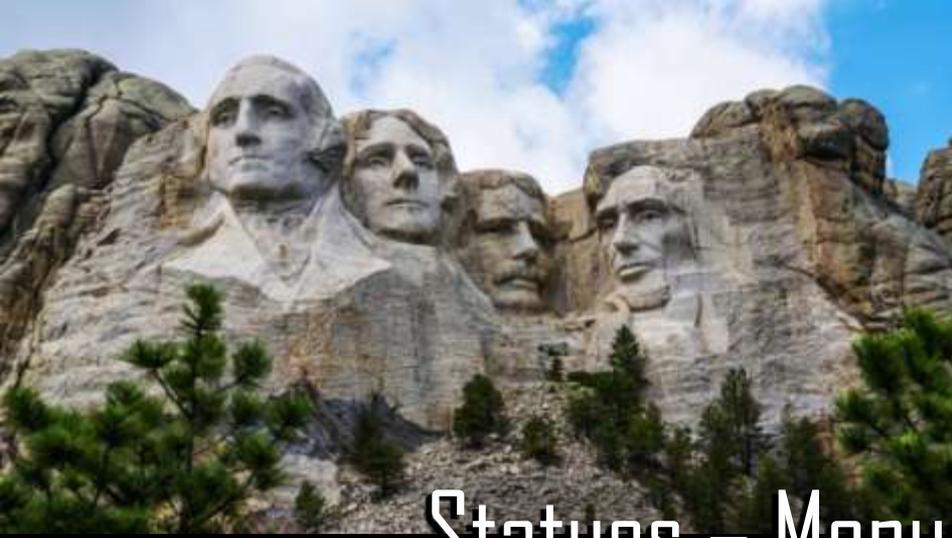
Have it your way!



Just Do It!



DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS
OF A HELLENISTIC SOCIETY



Statues – Monuments – Shrines





Gymnasium – Physical & Intellectual Training



Theater



Agora – Shopping & Gathering Space



Arena



Coliseum – Gladiators



Hippodrome - Chariot Races



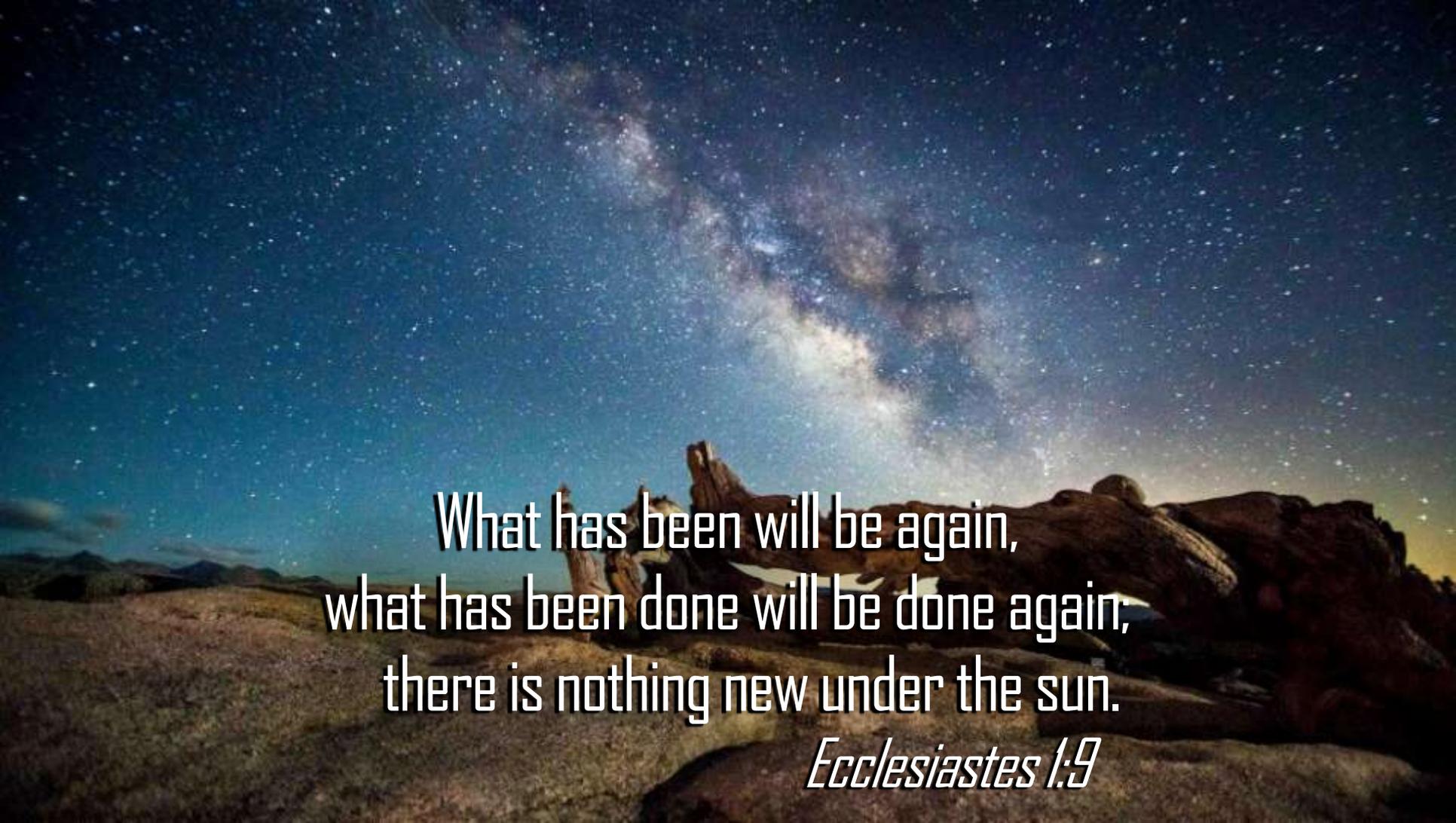
The Baths!



All To The Glorification Of The Human Body

The image shows two unrolled Torah scrolls resting on a dark, polished wooden surface. The scrolls are made of light-colored parchment and are held together by wooden rollers with decorative knobs. The text on the scrolls is written in a traditional Hebrew script. The word "JUDAISM" is superimposed in the center of the image in a white, serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

JUDAISM

A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible, set against a landscape of driftwood and a field of purple flowers.

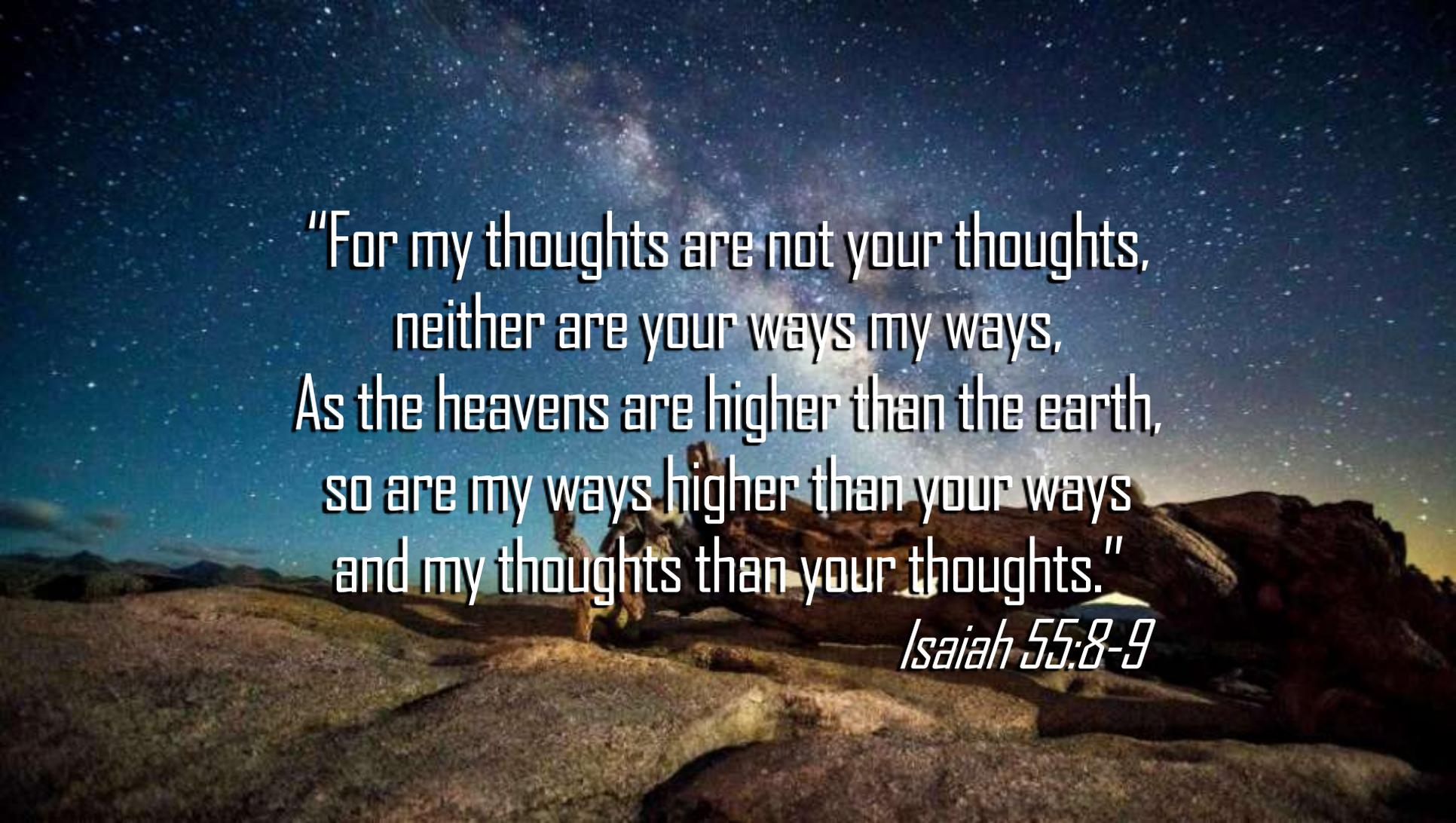
What has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 1:9



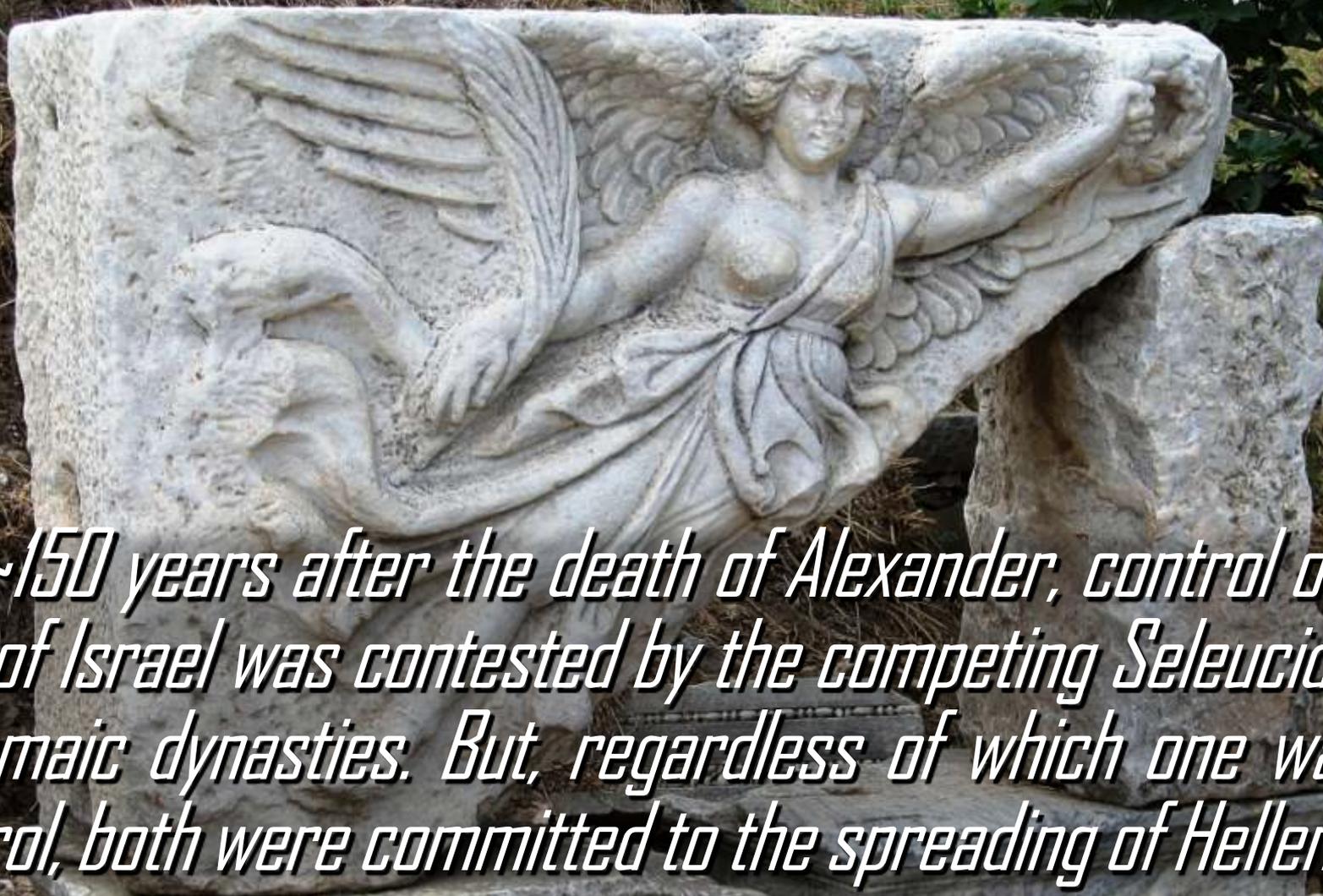
"I am the Lord, and there is no other;
apart from me there is no God..."

Isaiah 45:5a

A night landscape with a starry sky and a desert foreground. The sky is dark blue with many stars and a faint Milky Way galaxy. The foreground is a rocky, desert-like terrain with some sparse vegetation. The text is overlaid on the sky and rocks.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,
As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

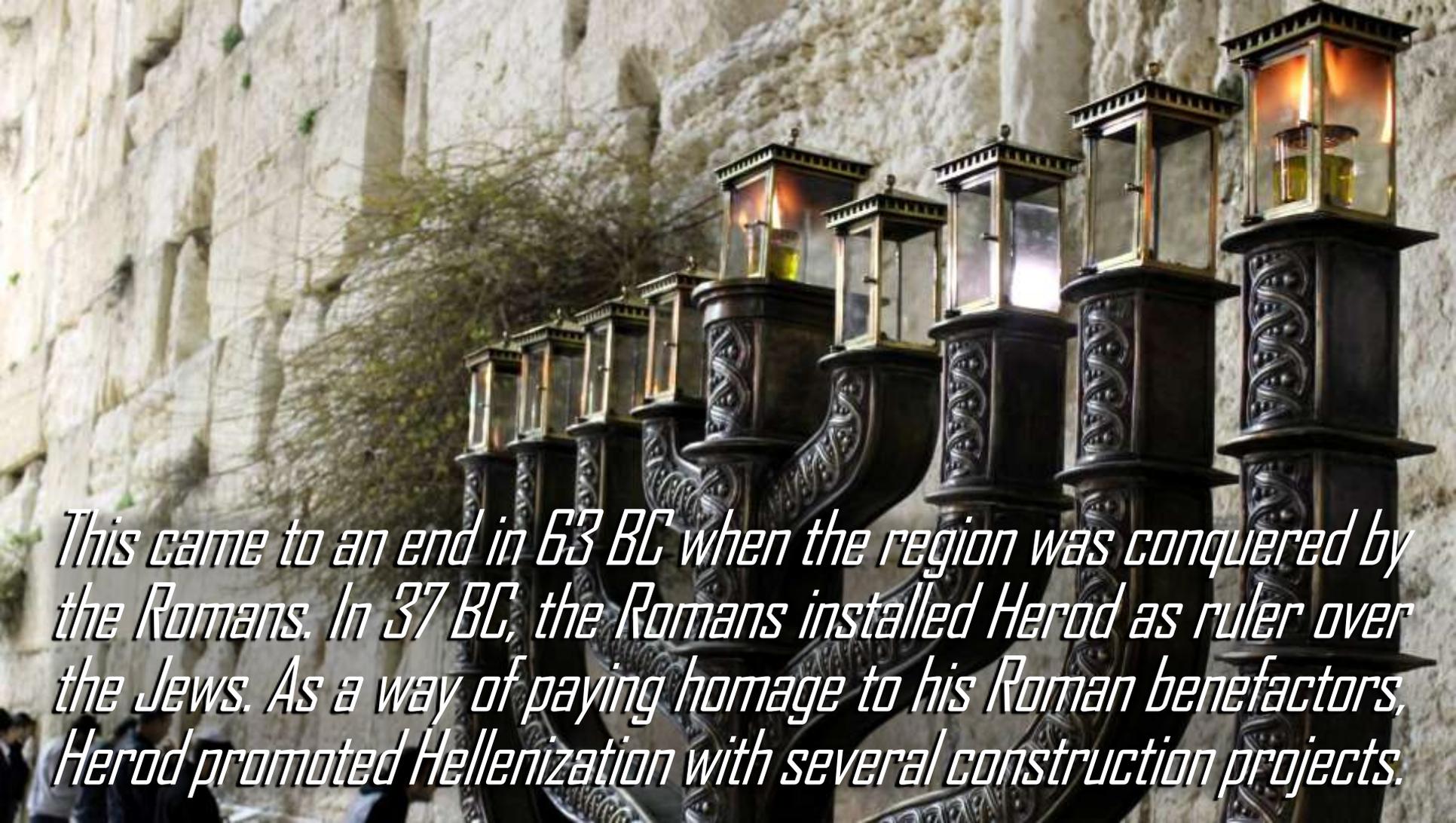
Isaiah 55:8-9



For ~150 years after the death of Alexander, control of the land of Israel was contested by the competing Seleucid and Ptolemaic dynasties. But, regardless of which one was in control, both were committed to the spreading of Hellenism.

A row of lit Hanukkah menorahs is displayed against a light-colored stone wall. The menorahs are dark metal with ornate, embossed patterns. Each has a glass-enclosed flame at the top, and the flames are glowing. The background shows the texture of the stone wall and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

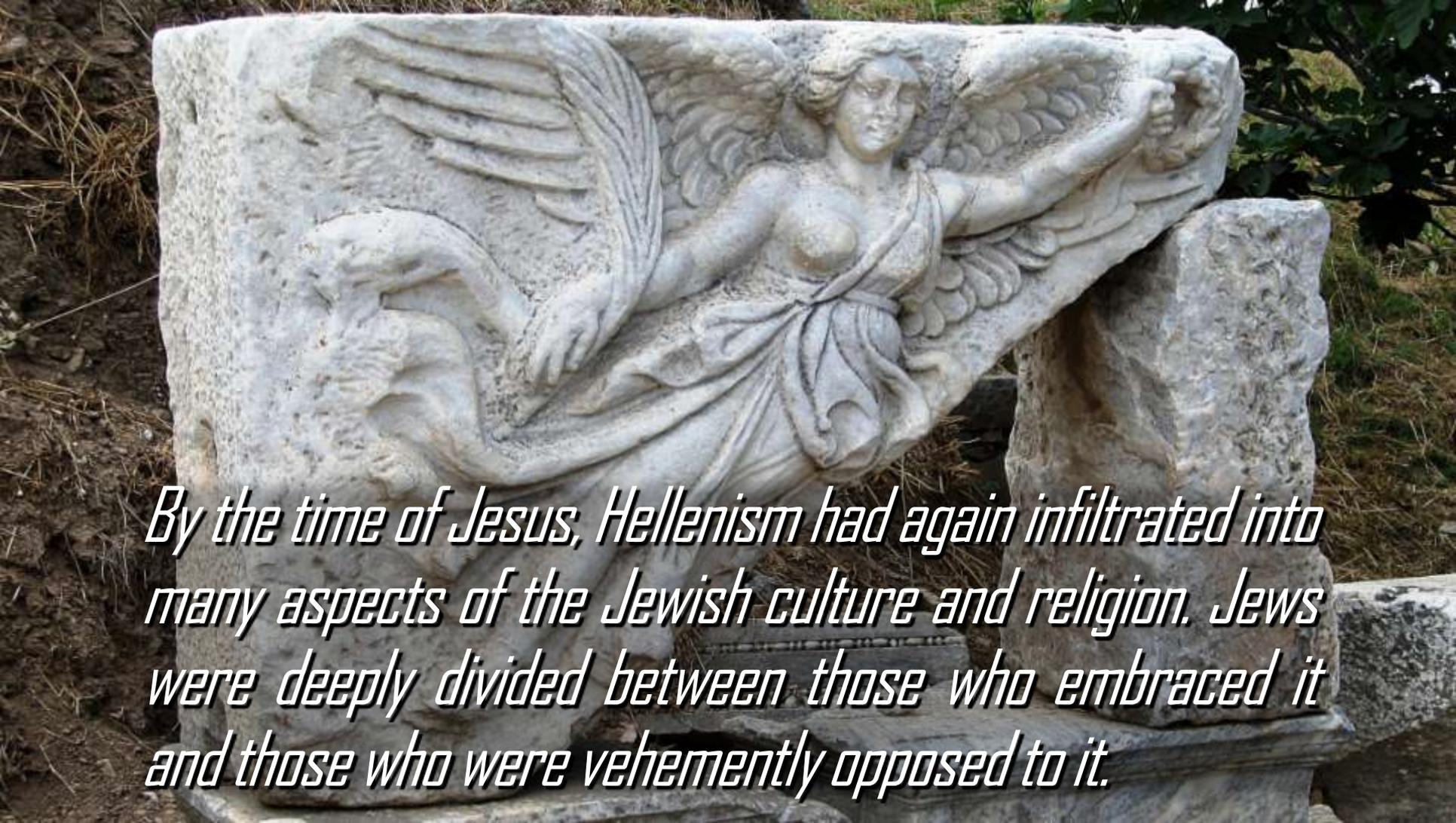
The Maccabean Revolt (166-160 BC) halted the Hellenization of Jewish cultural and religious practices, reestablished Temple worship according to the Mosaic Law and began a period of ~100 years of semi-independence. The celebration of Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Temple in 164 BC.

A row of ornate, dark metal candelabras with lit lanterns, set against a stone wall. The candelabras are arranged in a line, receding into the distance. Each candelabra has a decorative, scrollwork pattern and a glass lantern at the top. The lanterns are lit, casting a warm glow. The background is a light-colored stone wall with some greenery visible on the left side.

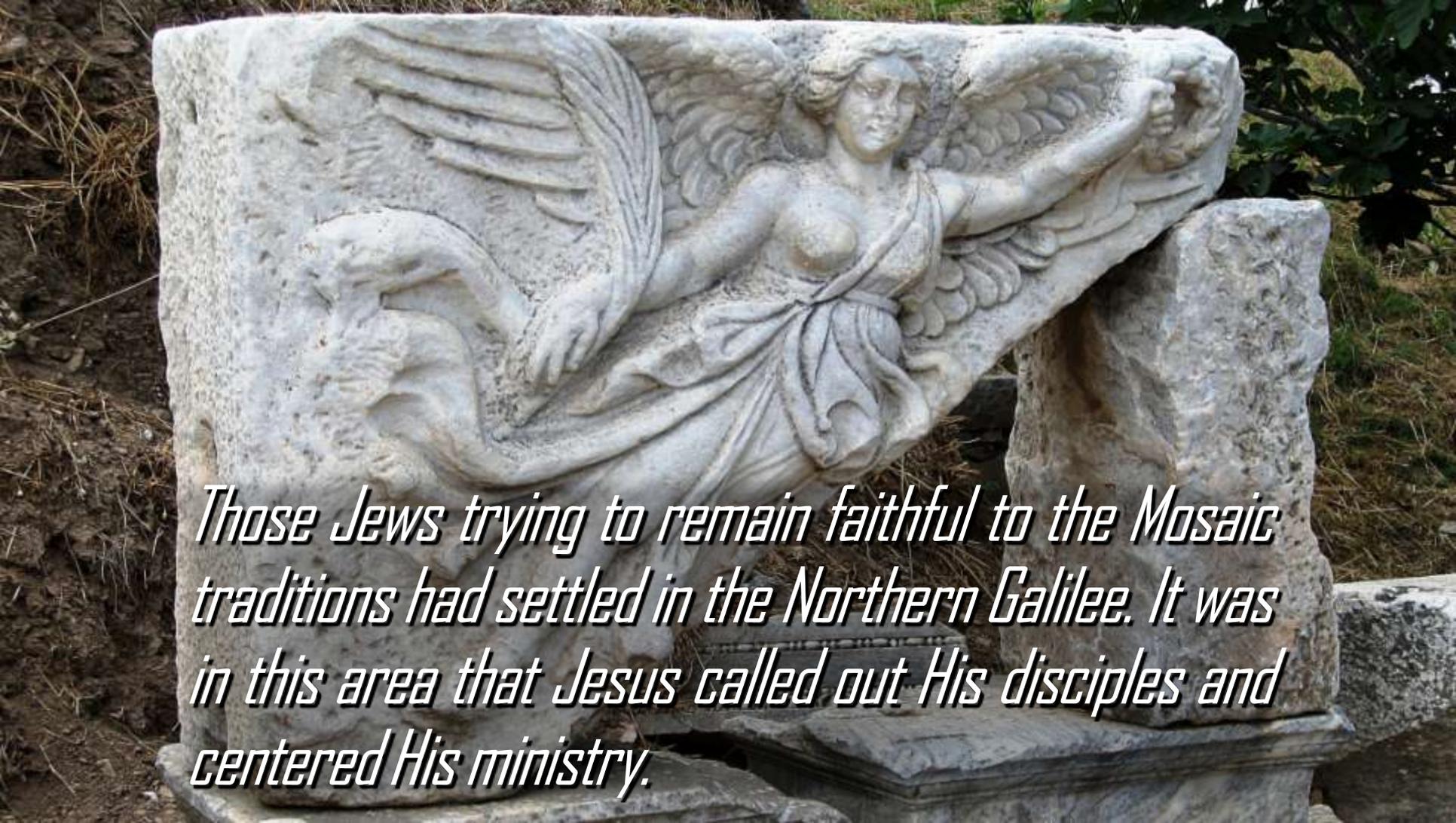
This came to an end in 63 BC when the region was conquered by the Romans. In 37 BC, the Romans installed Herod as ruler over the Jews. As a way of paying homage to his Roman benefactors, Herod promoted Hellenization with several construction projects.



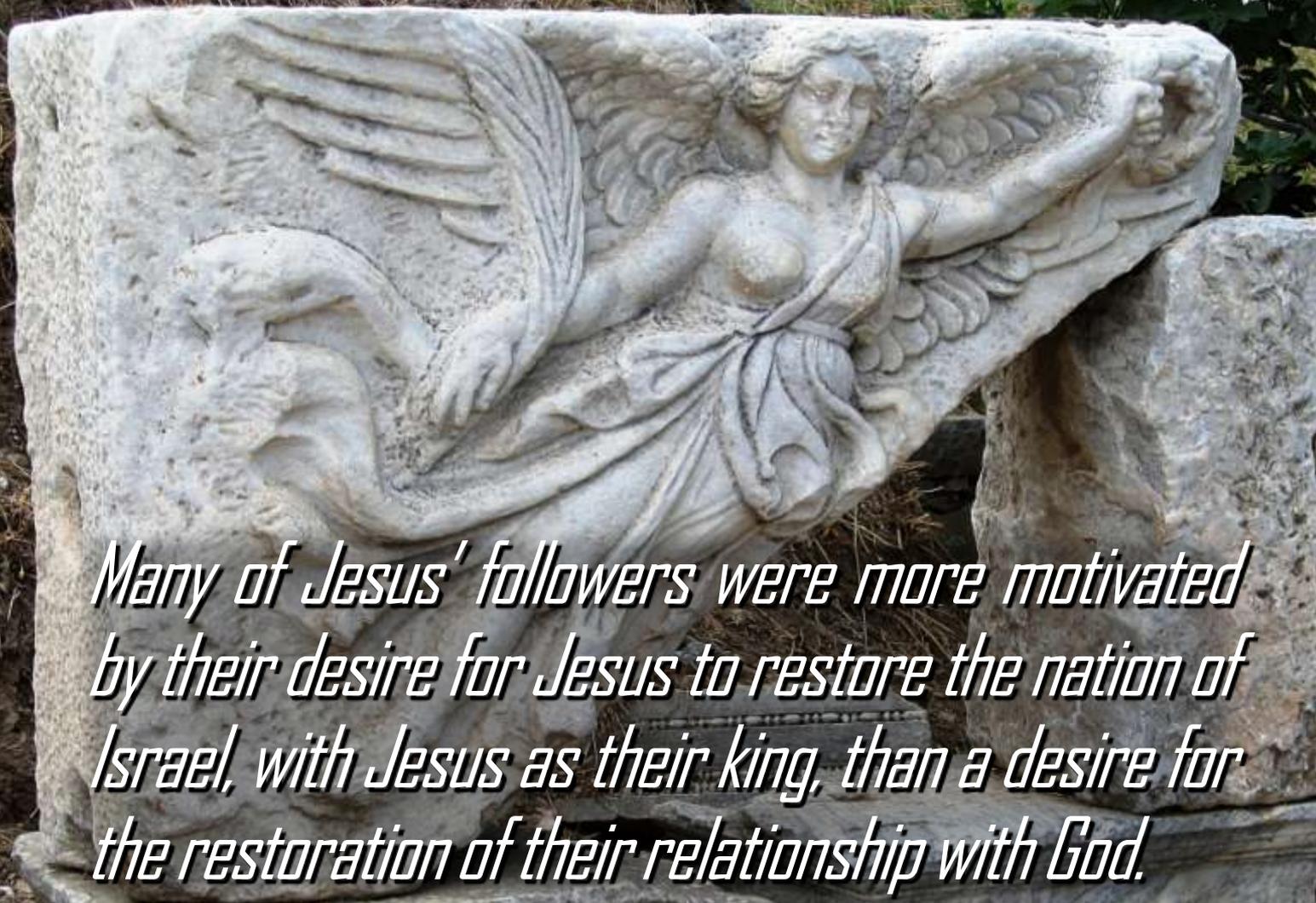
The most notable example being Herod's massive expansion and renovation of the Temple Mount.



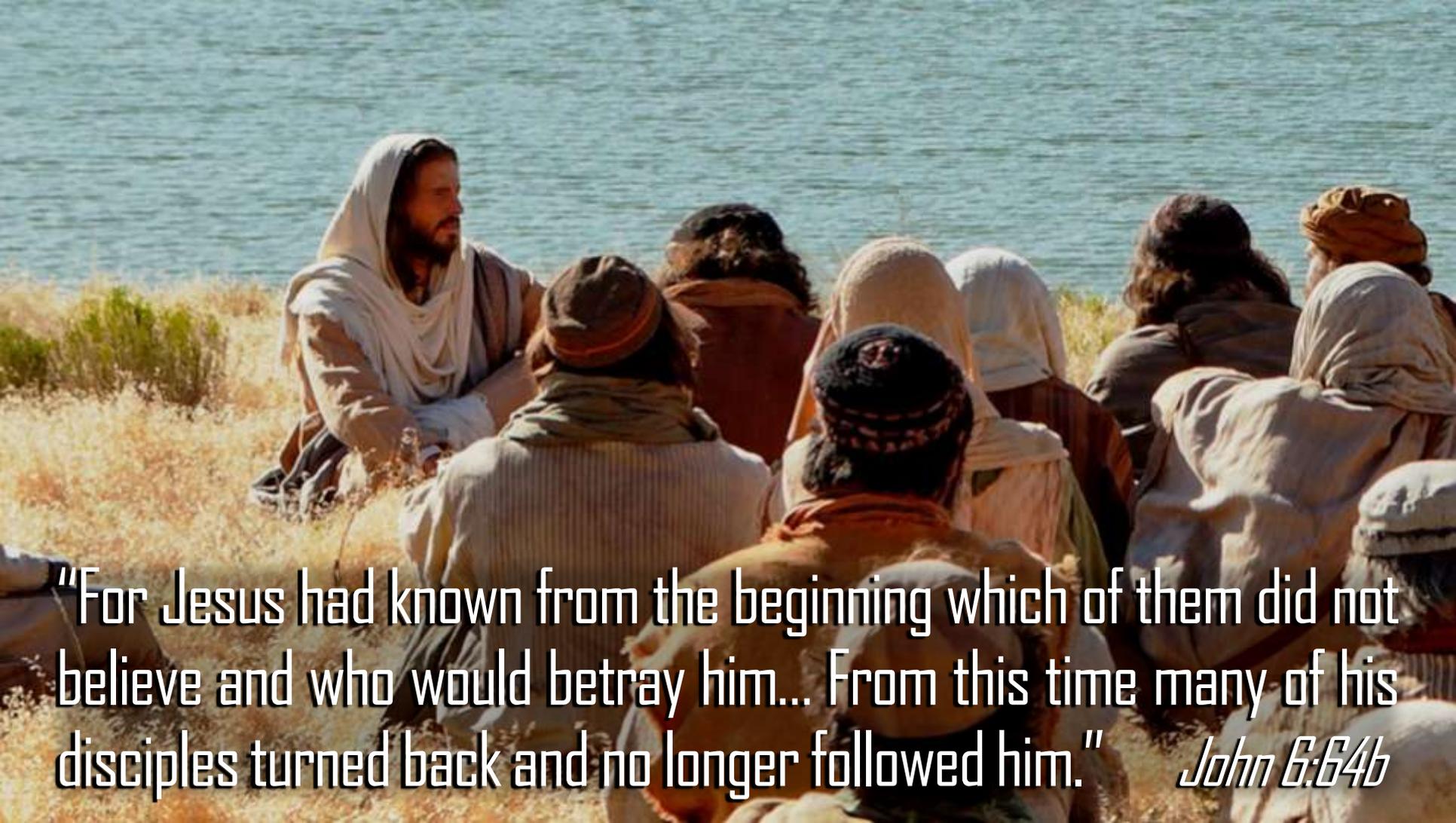
By the time of Jesus, Hellenism had again infiltrated into many aspects of the Jewish culture and religion. Jews were deeply divided between those who embraced it and those who were vehemently opposed to it.



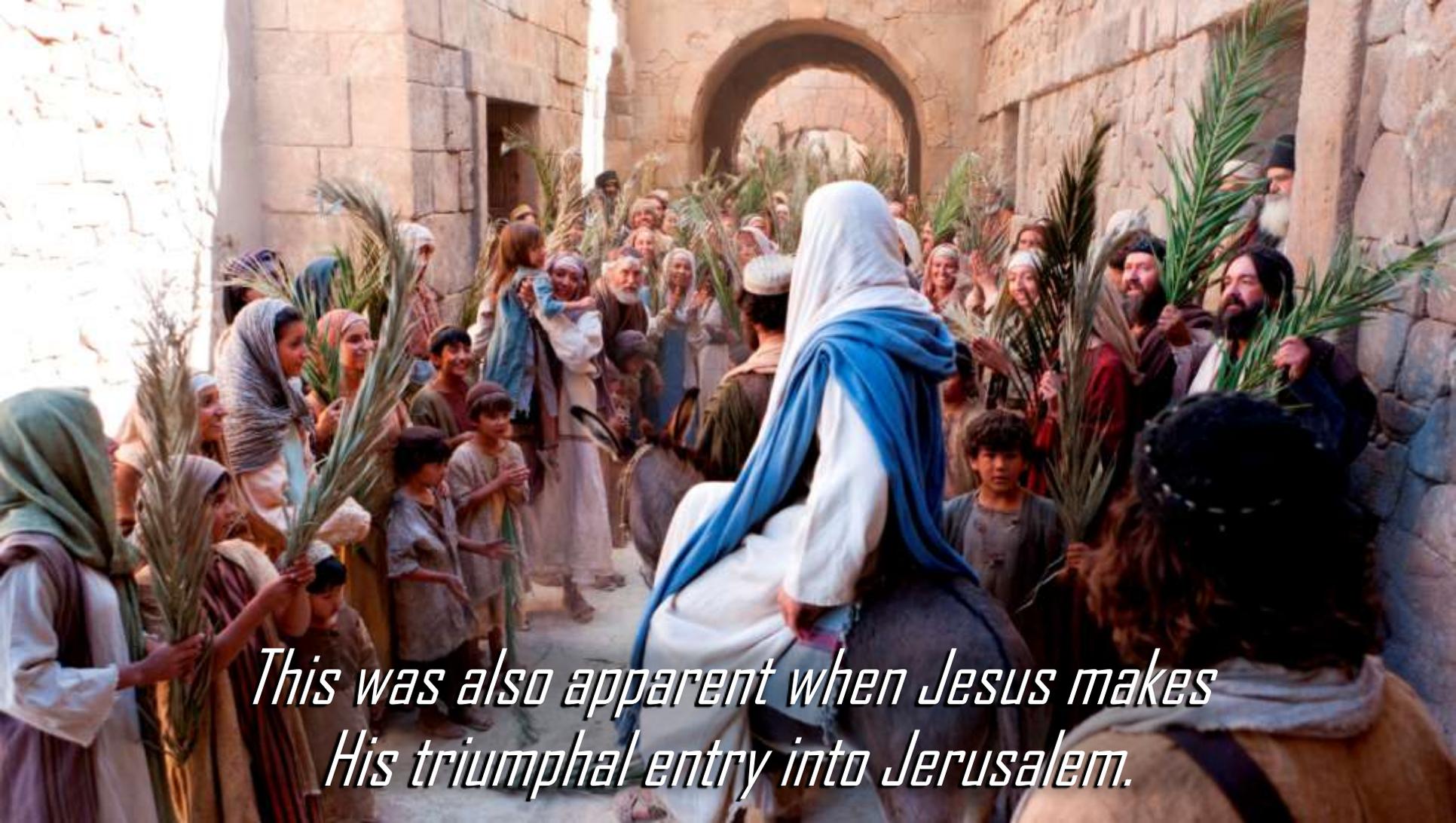
Those Jews trying to remain faithful to the Mosaic traditions had settled in the Northern Galilee. It was in this area that Jesus called out His disciples and centered His ministry.

A stone relief carving of an angel with large, feathered wings, holding a scroll or book, set within a stone archway. The angel is depicted in a dynamic, seated or kneeling pose, looking towards the right. The wings are intricately carved with individual feathers. The entire scene is carved into a rectangular stone block that forms part of a larger archway structure.

Many of Jesus' followers were more motivated by their desire for Jesus to restore the nation of Israel, with Jesus as their king, than a desire for the restoration of their relationship with God.



"For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him... From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him." *John 6:64b*



*This was also apparent when Jesus makes
His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.*



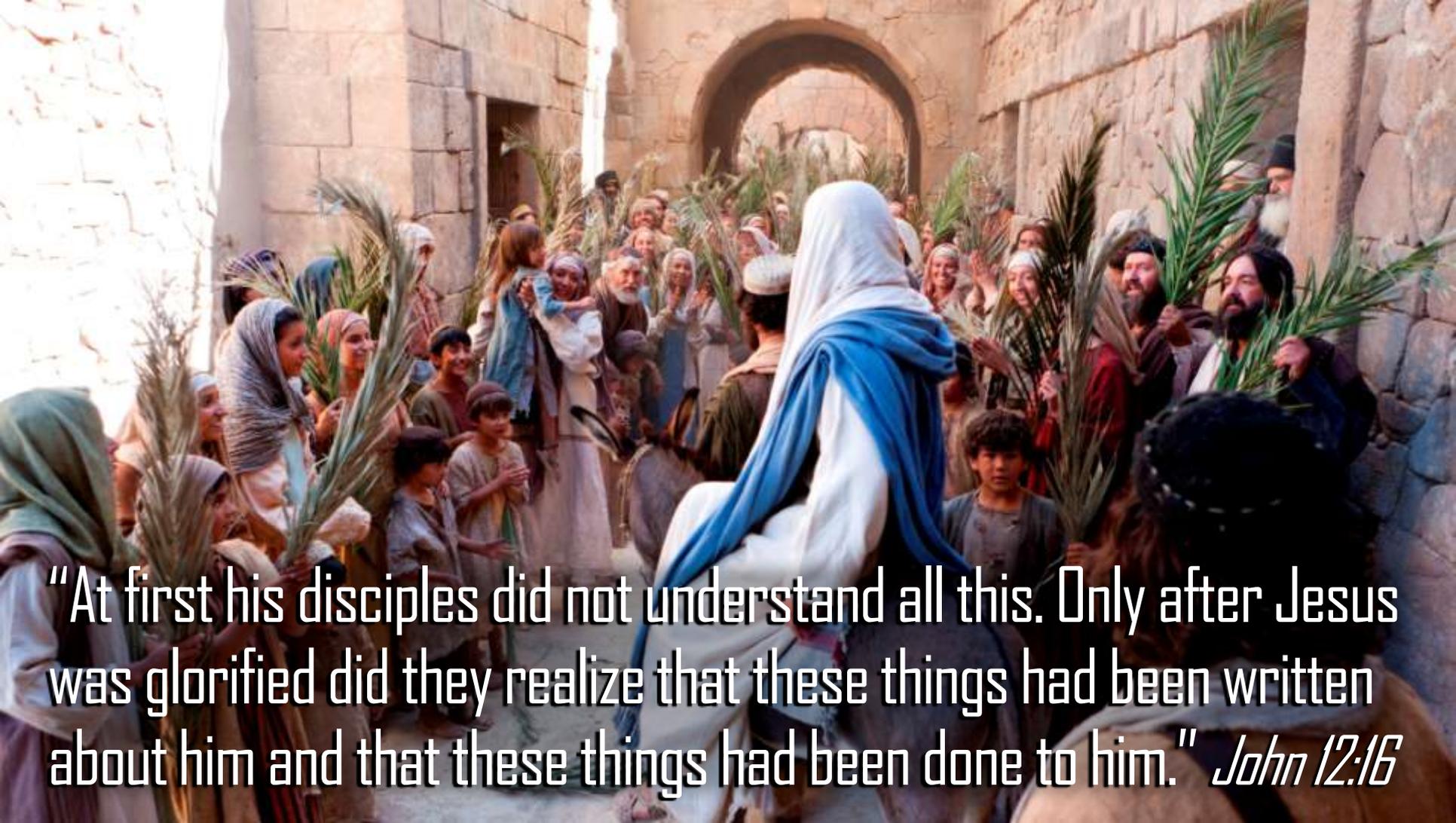
Hosanna!

Hosanna!

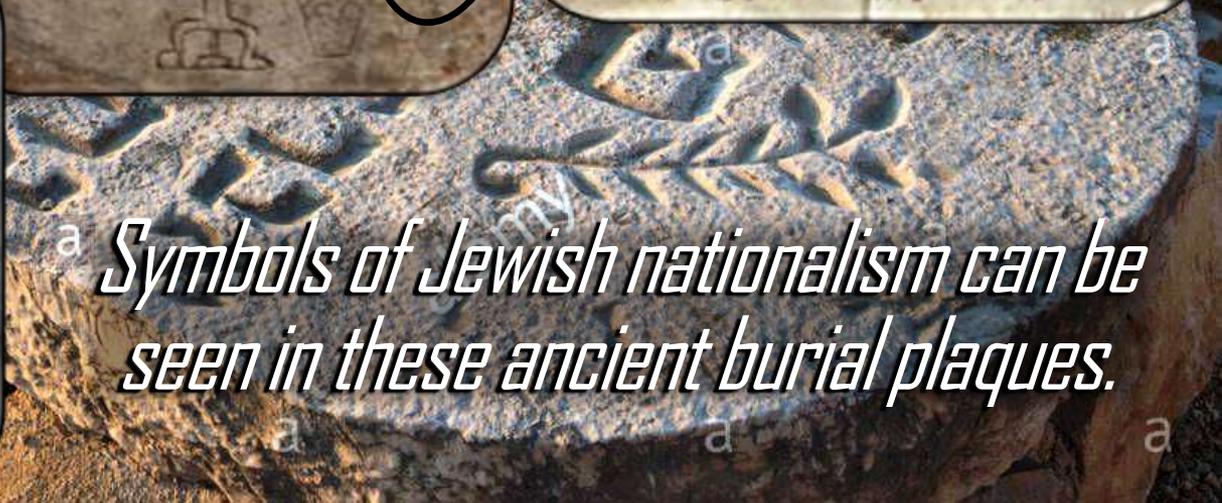
Hosanna!

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the king of Israel!"



"At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him." *John 12:16*



Symbols of Jewish nationalism can be seen in these ancient burial plaques.



Hosanna!

Hosanna!

Hosanna!

Hosanna!



USA!

USA!

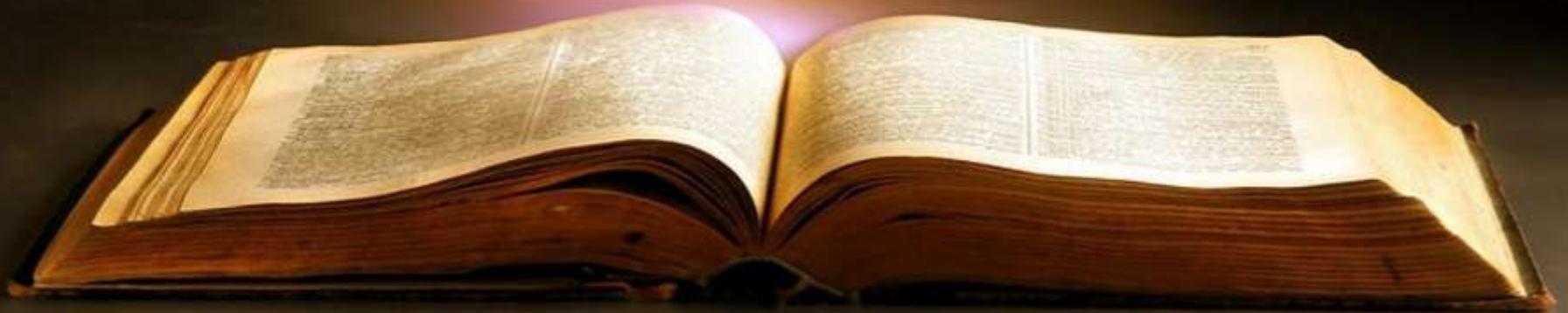
USA!

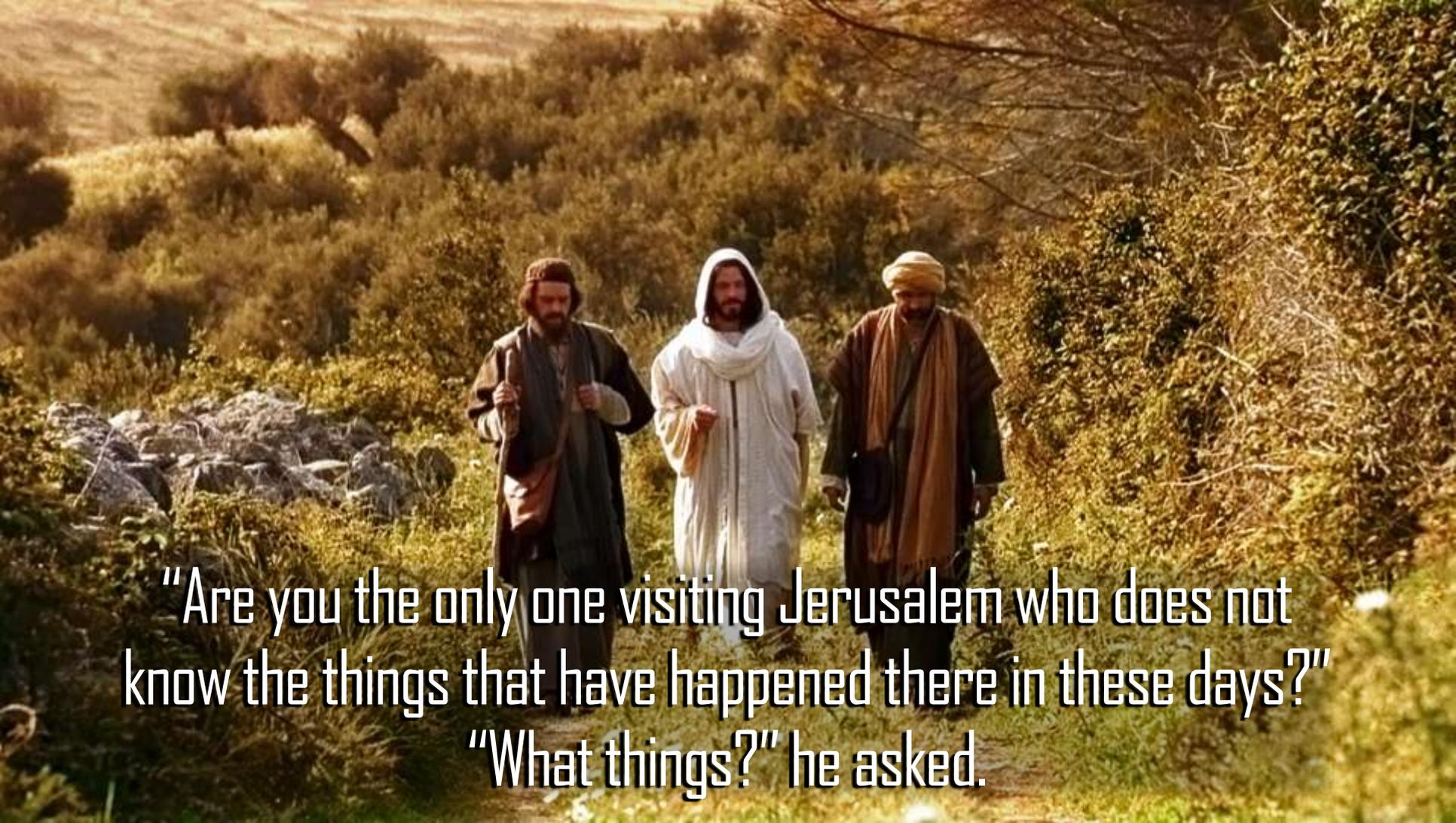
USA!

USA!

USA!

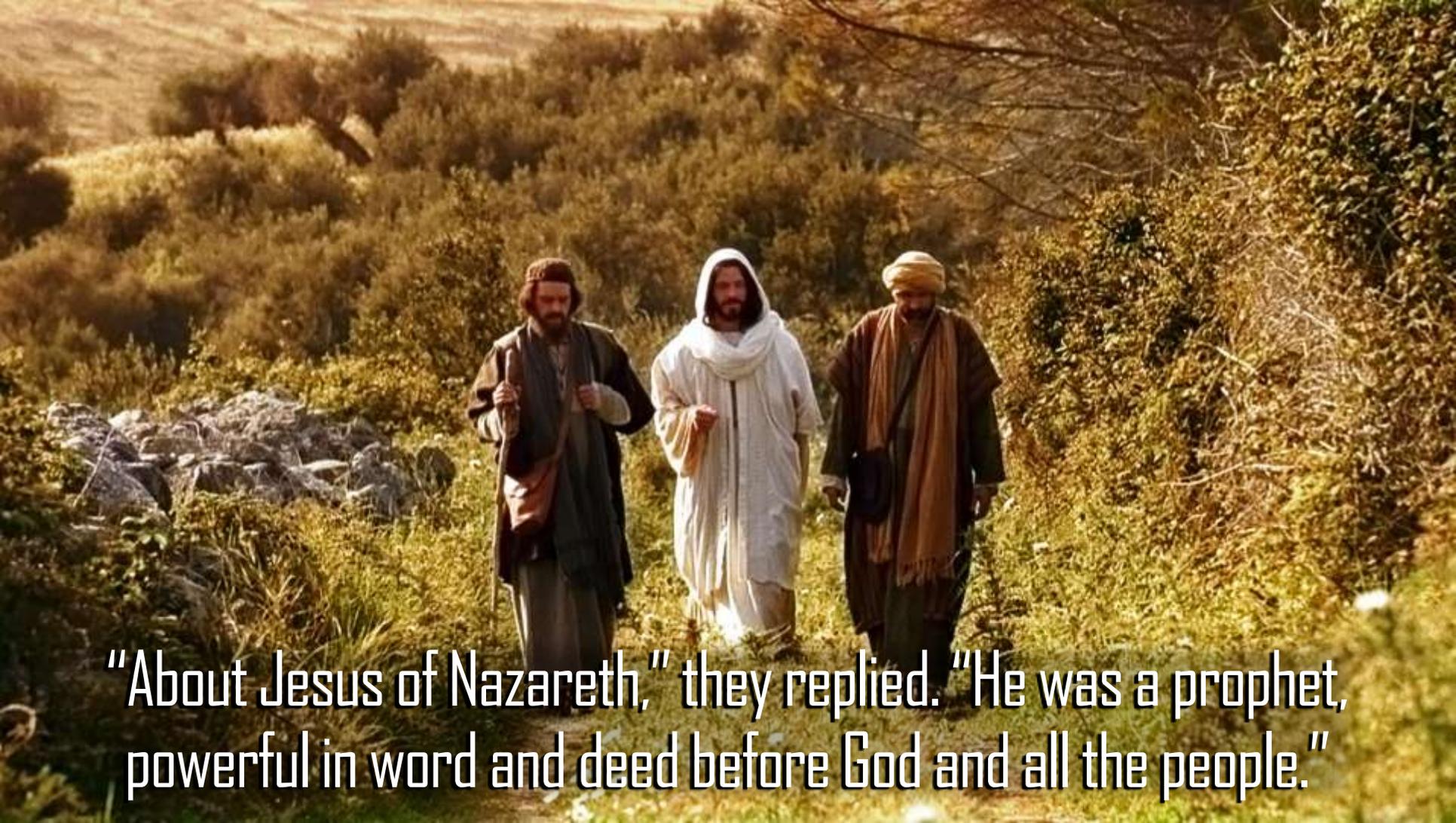
“THE GOSPEL”



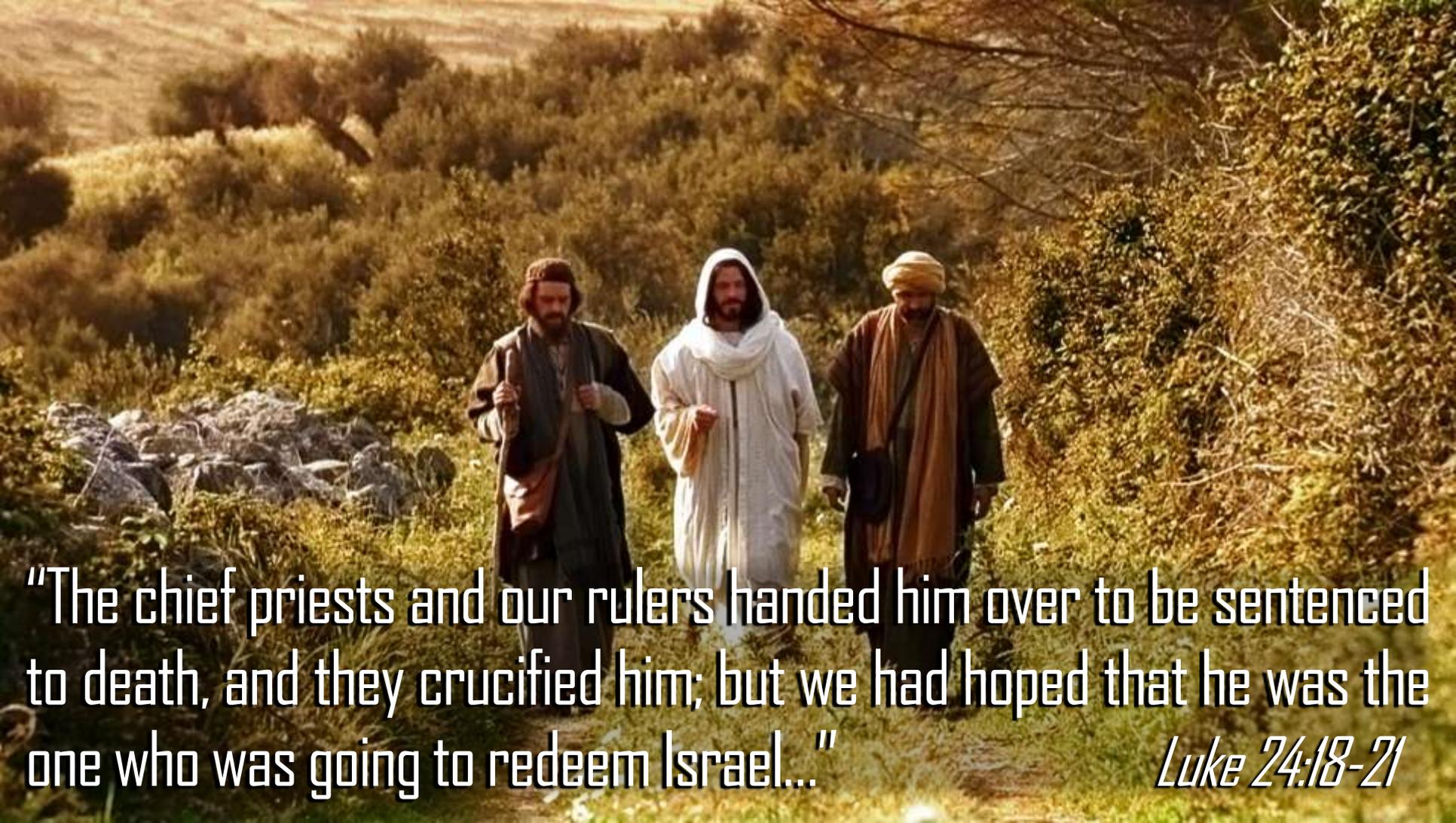


“Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

“What things?” he asked.

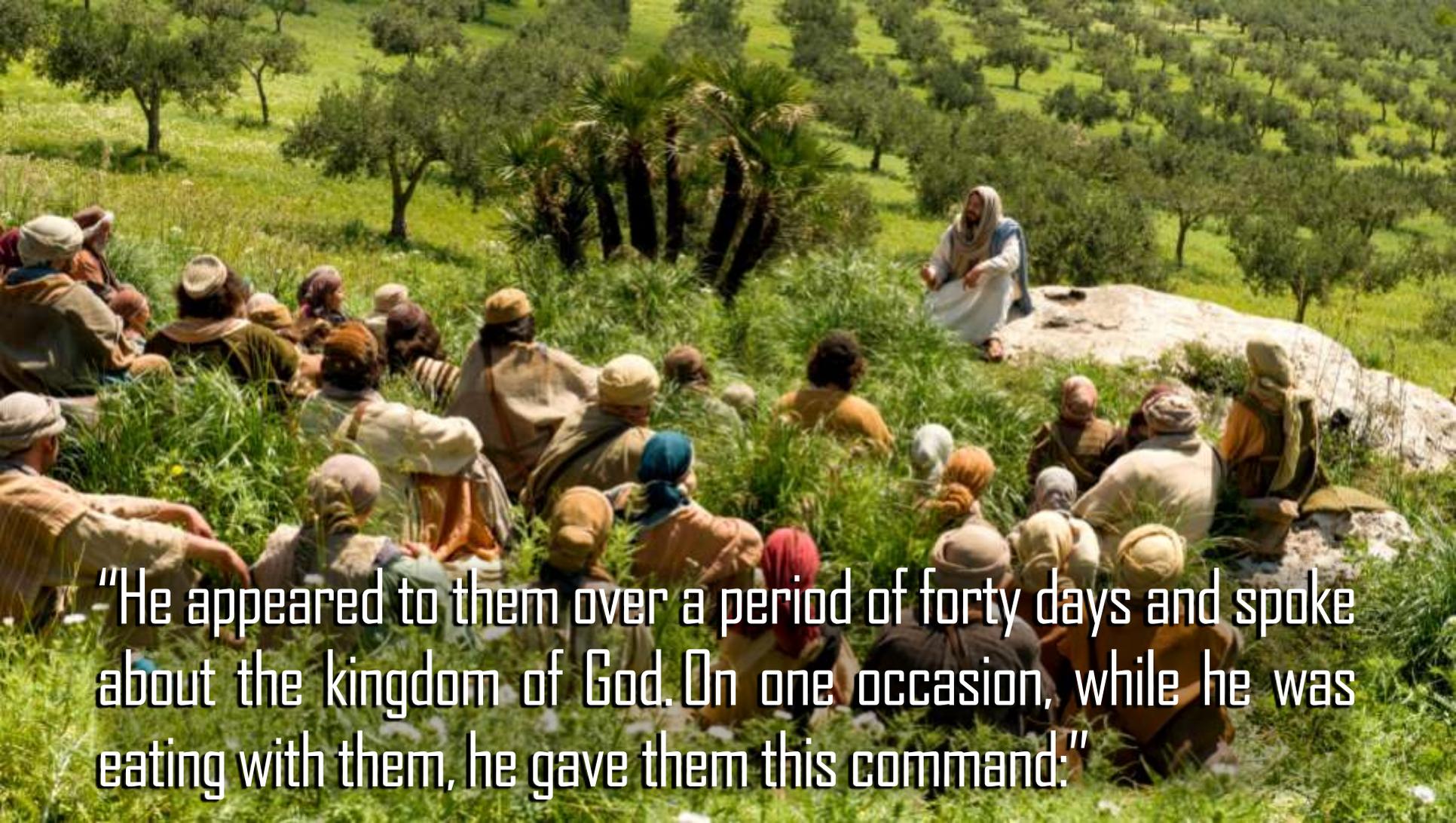


“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.”

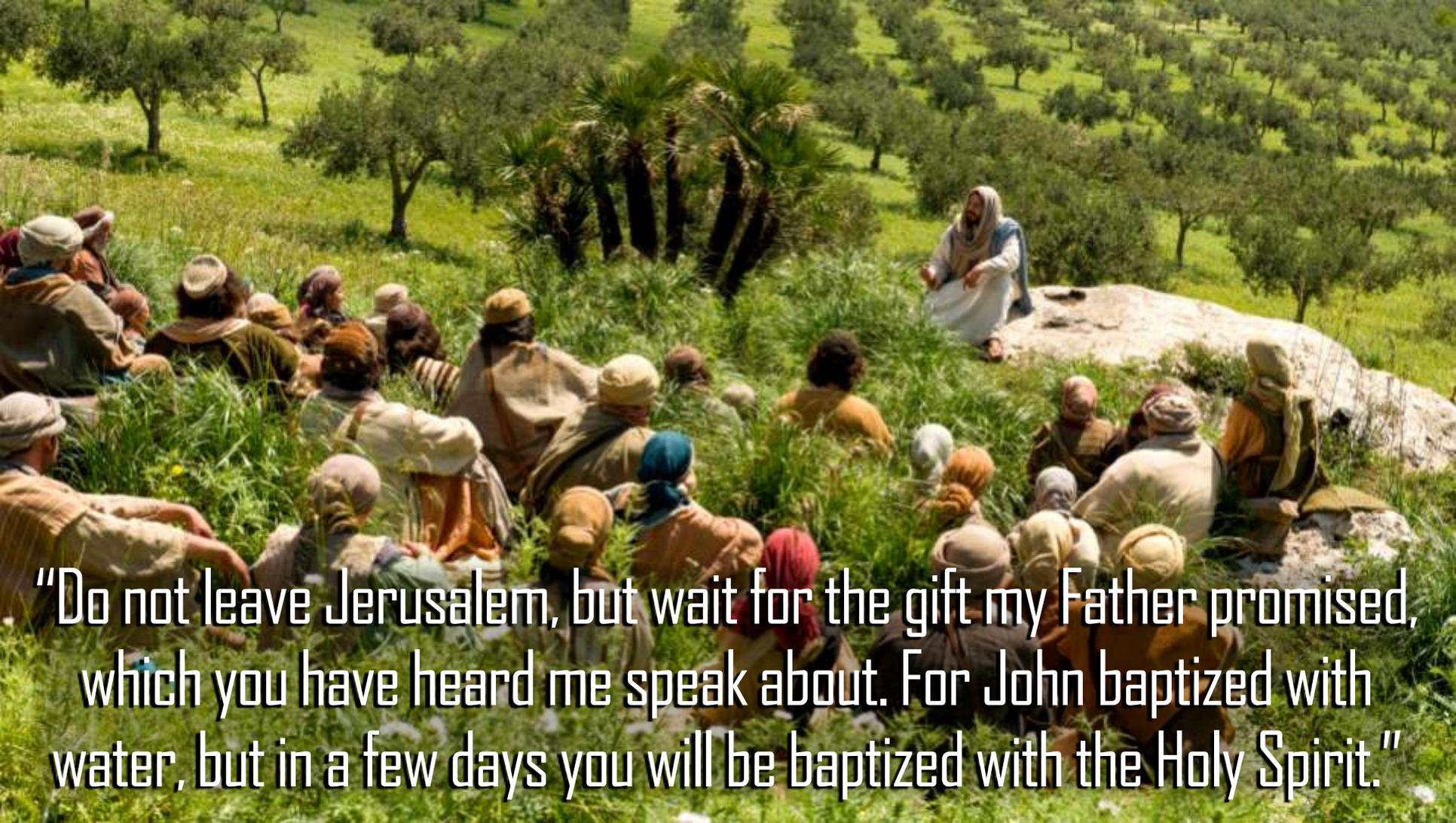


"The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel..."

Luke 24:18-21



"He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command:"



“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”



"Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" *Acts 1:3-6*



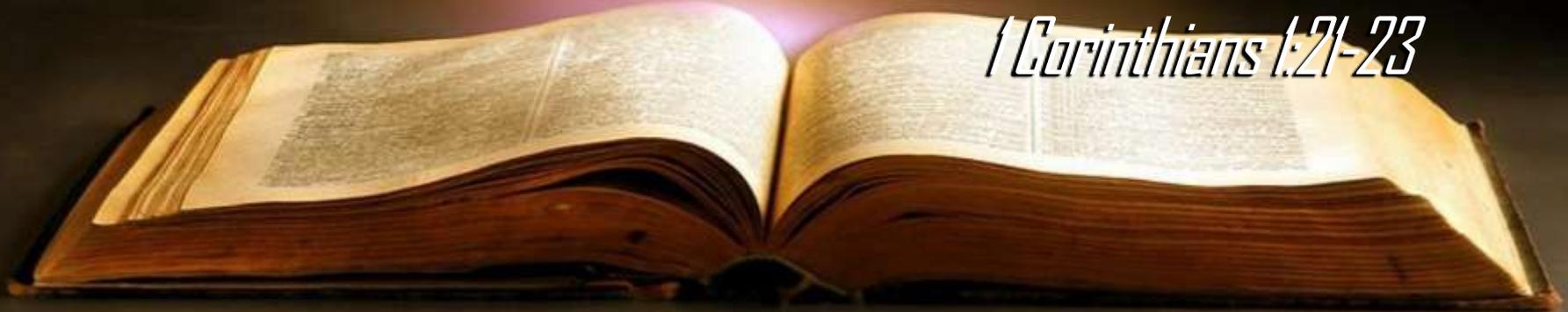
The 'Moses' seat in the synagogue at Korazin



View of Beit She'an from the acropolis

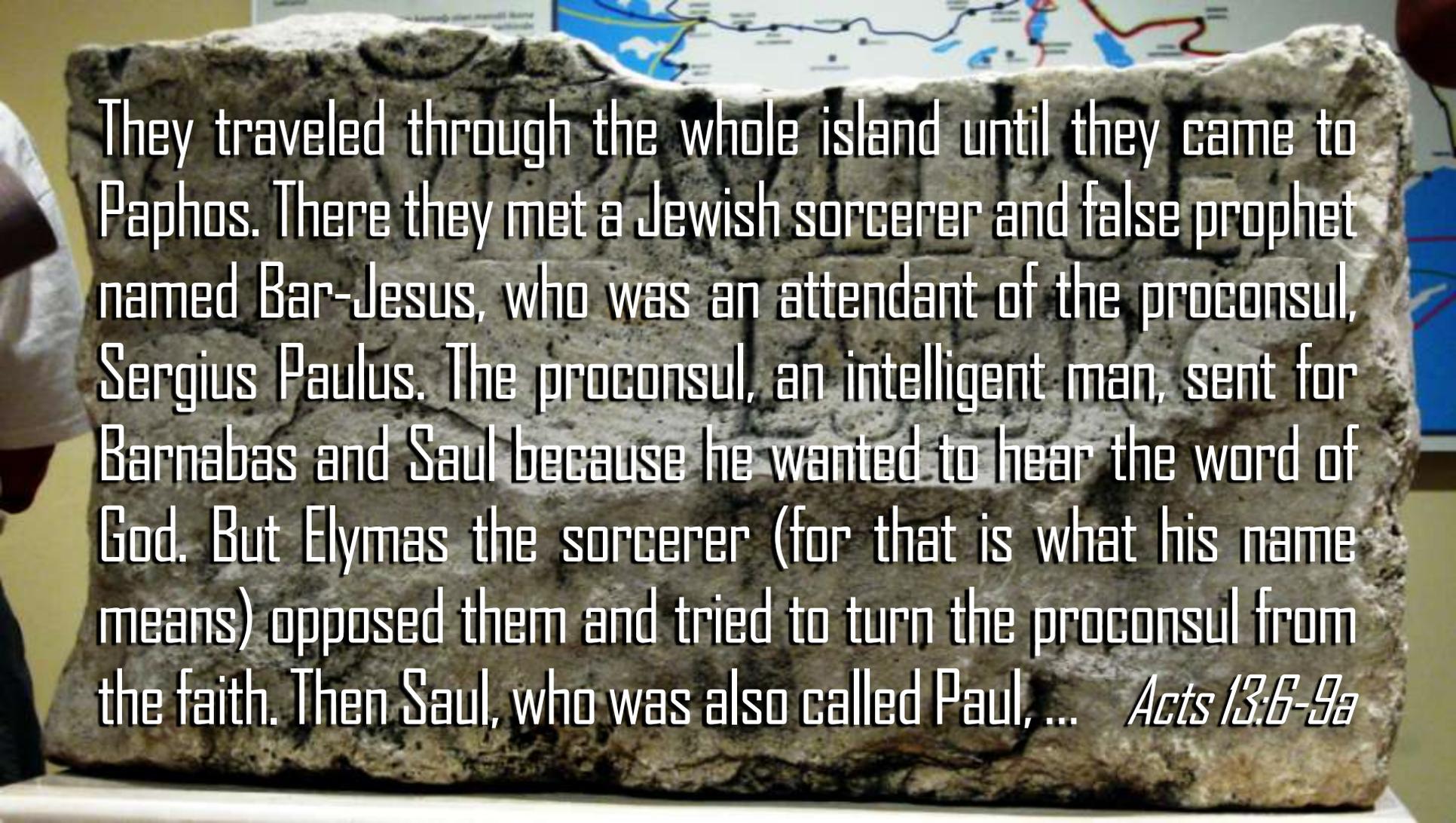
"For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ..."

1 Corinthians 1:21-23

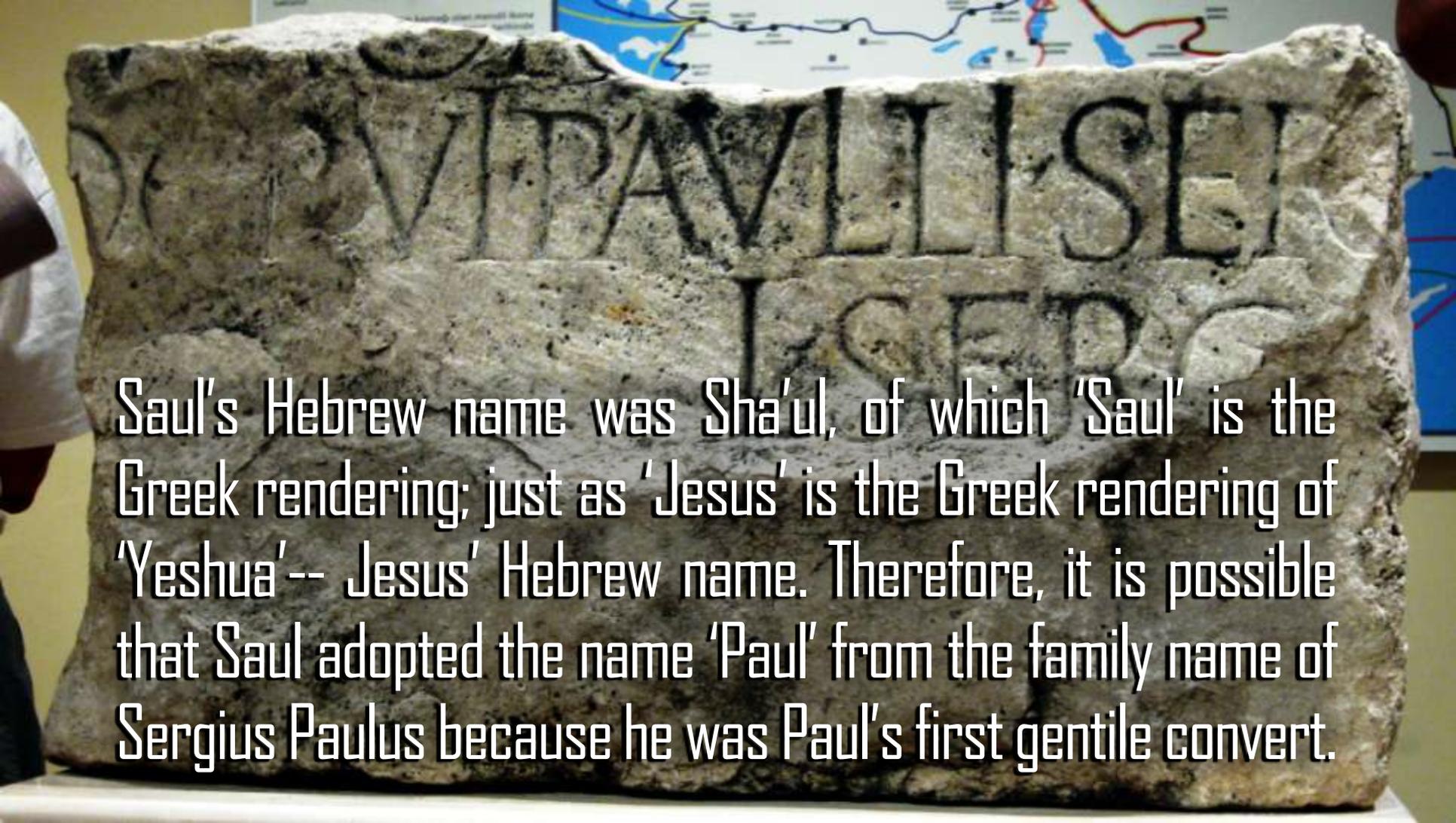


A stone relief carving of a winged figure, possibly Nike, is shown. The figure is depicted in a dynamic, seated or crouching pose, with large, feathered wings spread. The carving is set within a rectangular frame. A large, bright red prohibition sign (a circle with a diagonal slash) is overlaid on the entire image, centered over the text. The background shows some foliage and a stone base.

‘HELLENISM’



They traveled through the whole island until they came to Paphos. There they met a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus, who was an attendant of the proconsul, Sergius Paulus. The proconsul, an intelligent man, sent for Barnabas and Saul because he wanted to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his name means) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul from the faith. Then Saul, who was also called Paul, ... *Acts 13:6-9a*



Saul's Hebrew name was Sha'ul, of which 'Saul' is the Greek rendering; just as 'Jesus' is the Greek rendering of 'Yeshua'-- Jesus' Hebrew name. Therefore, it is possible that Saul adopted the name 'Paul' from the family name of Sergius Paulus because he was Paul's first gentile convert.

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'HELLENISM'

