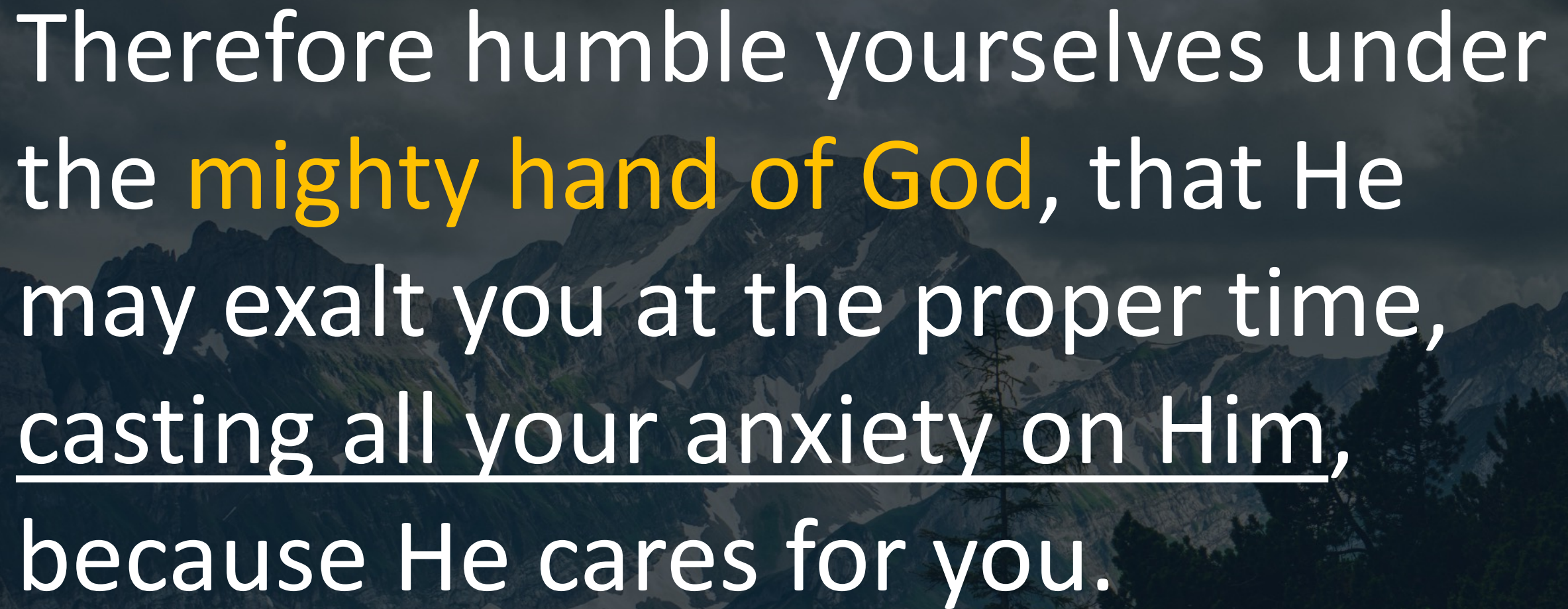




A MIGHTY HAND

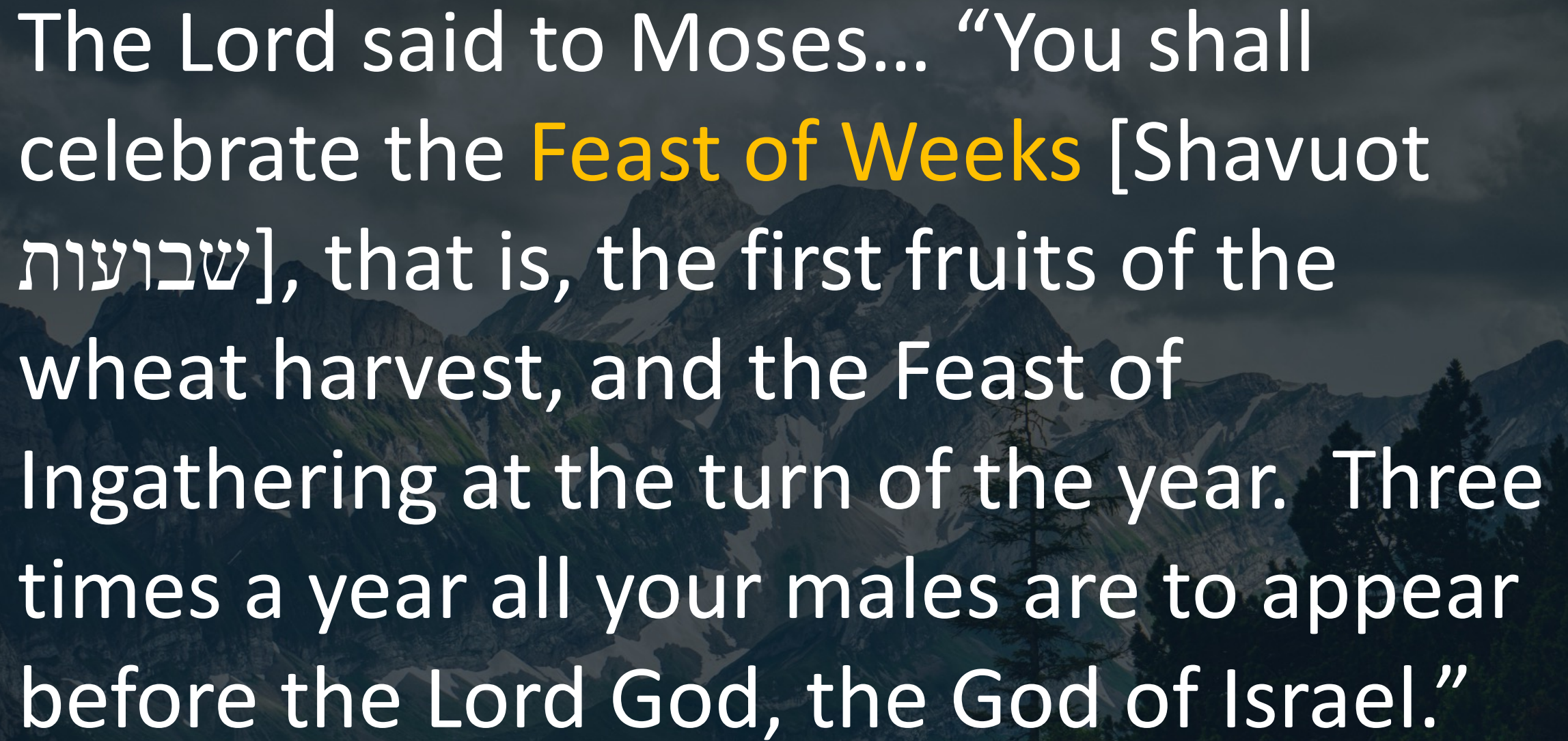
SEEING THE POWER OF GOD AT WORK



Therefore humble yourselves under
the **mighty hand of God**, that He
may exalt you at the proper time,
casting all your anxiety on Him,
because He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7

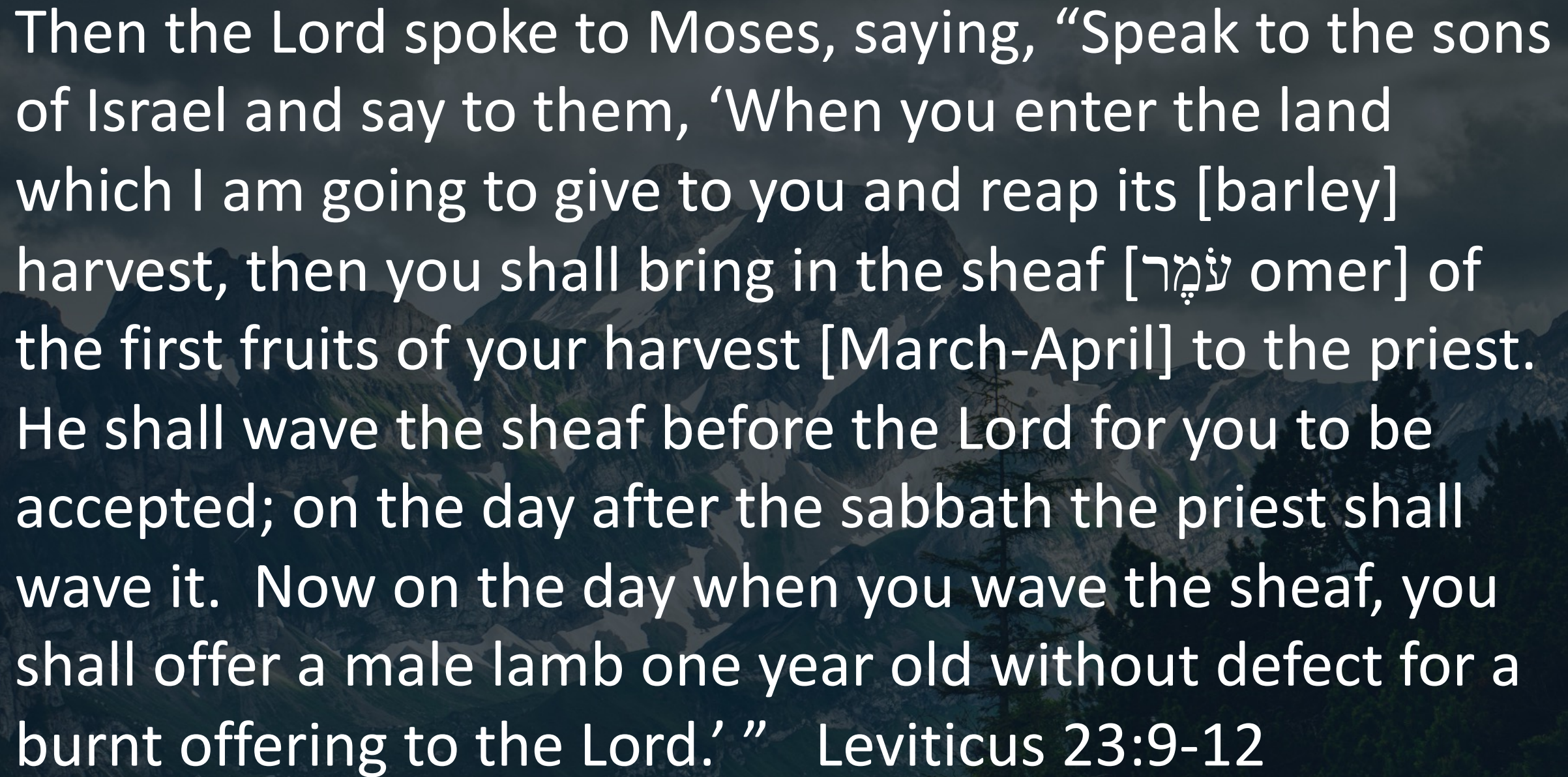
A MIGHTY HAND



The Lord said to Moses... “You shall celebrate the **Feast of Weeks** [שבועות], that is, the first fruits of the wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the turn of the year. Three times a year all your males are to appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel.”

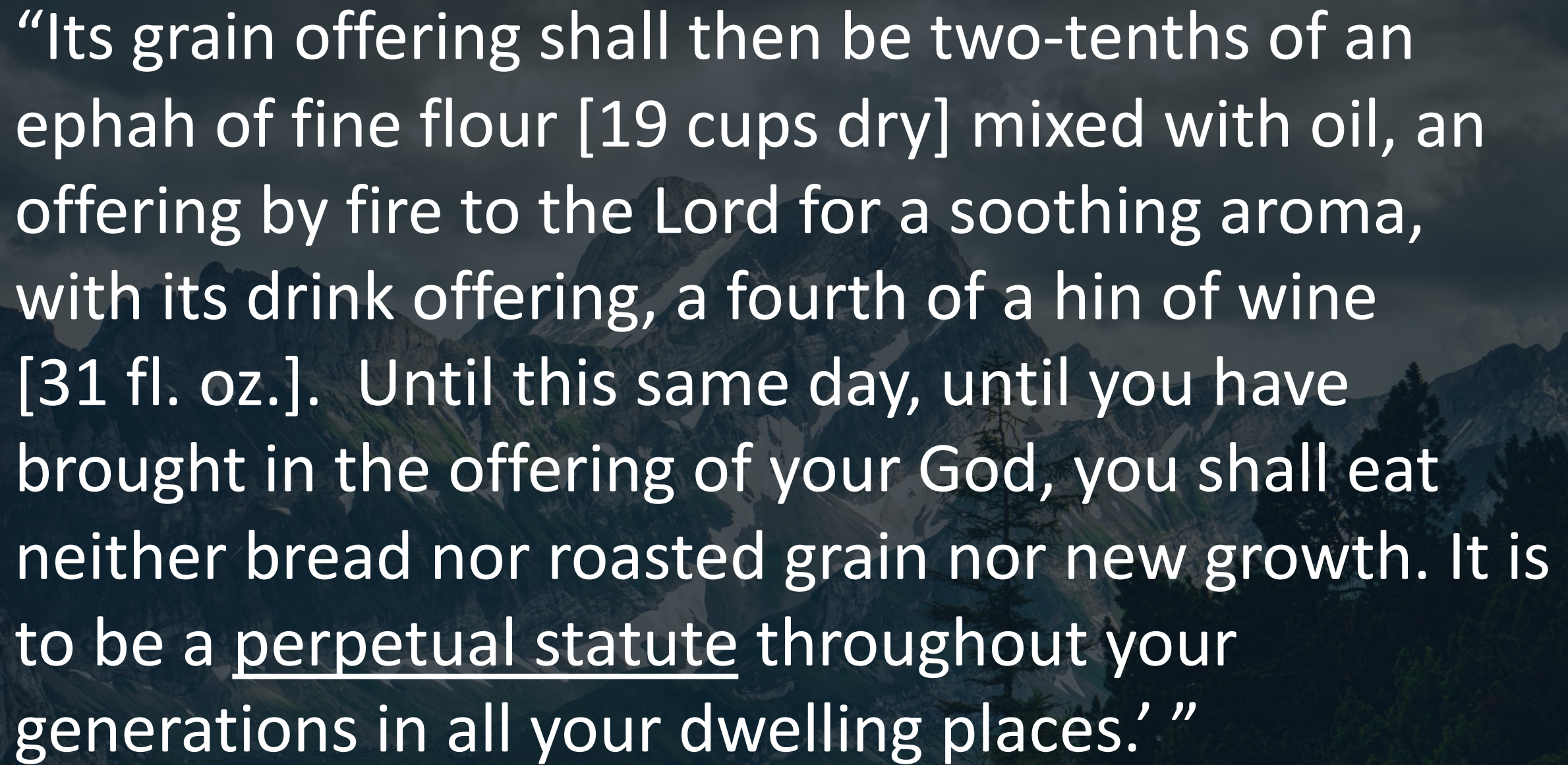
Exodus 34:22-23

A MIGHTY HAND



Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you enter the land which I am going to give to you and reap its [barley] harvest, then you shall bring in the sheaf [עֹמֶר omer] of the first fruits of your harvest [March-April] to the priest. He shall wave the sheaf before the Lord for you to be accepted; on the day after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. Now on the day when you wave the sheaf, you shall offer a male lamb one year old without defect for a burnt offering to the Lord.’ ” Leviticus 23:9-12

A MIGHTY HAND



“Its grain offering shall then be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour [19 cups dry] mixed with oil, an offering by fire to the Lord for a soothing aroma, with its drink offering, a fourth of a hin of wine [31 fl. oz.]. Until this same day, until you have brought in the offering of your God, you shall eat neither bread nor roasted grain nor new growth. It is to be a perpetual statute throughout your generations in all your dwelling places.’ ”

Leviticus 23:13-14

A MIGHTY HAND

The Lord said to Moses, “You shall also count for yourselves from the day after the sabbath, from the day when you brought in the sheaf [עֹמֶר omer] of the wave offering; there shall be seven complete sabbaths. You shall **count fifty** [“Pentecost” in Greek] **days to the day after the seventh sabbath**; then you shall present a new grain offering to the Lord.” Leviticus 23:15-16

*The counting period is called Sefirat HaOmer (Counting the Omer)

A MIGHTY HAND



The Lord said to Moses...

“Also on the day of the first fruits, when you present a new grain [wheat] offering to the Lord in your **Feast of Weeks**, you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no laborious work.” Numbers 28:26

A MIGHTY HAND

Moses said to the people of Israel...

“**You shall count seven weeks** [Shavuot] for yourself; you shall begin to count seven weeks [49 days] from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain. Then you shall celebrate the **Feast of Weeks** to the Lord your God with a tribute of a freewill offering of your hand, which you shall give just as the Lord your God blesses you;” Deuteronomy 16:9-10

A MIGHTY HAND

“Three times in a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread and at the **Feast of Weeks** and at the Feast of Booths, and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you.” Deuteronomy 16:16-17

- Three Biblical pilgrimage festivals
- In Hebrew... Shalosh Regalim שלוש רגלים

A MIGHTY HAND

HISTORICAL CELEBRATION OF SHAVUOT

- Although a one-day festival, Shavuot really begins with the conclusion of the first day of Passover, some fifty days earlier. On that second day of the Passover festival, the new barley crop was first harvested and offered in the Temple. On Shavuot the wheat harvest was celebrated by the harvesting and bringing of the new wheat crop to the Temple, where it was prepared and used in the baking of the two special Shavuot loaves.
- Pilgrims brought the firstfruits from their own fields and orchards. Despite being at the height of the growing season, when the physical demands upon farmers was great, the pilgrims joyfully gathered their firstfruit offerings, and set out for Jerusalem and the Temple.
- In anticipation of Shavuot, families began gathering the firstfruits that they had previously marked with the reed-grass ribbon.

- <https://templeinstitute.org/shavuot>

A MIGHTY HAND

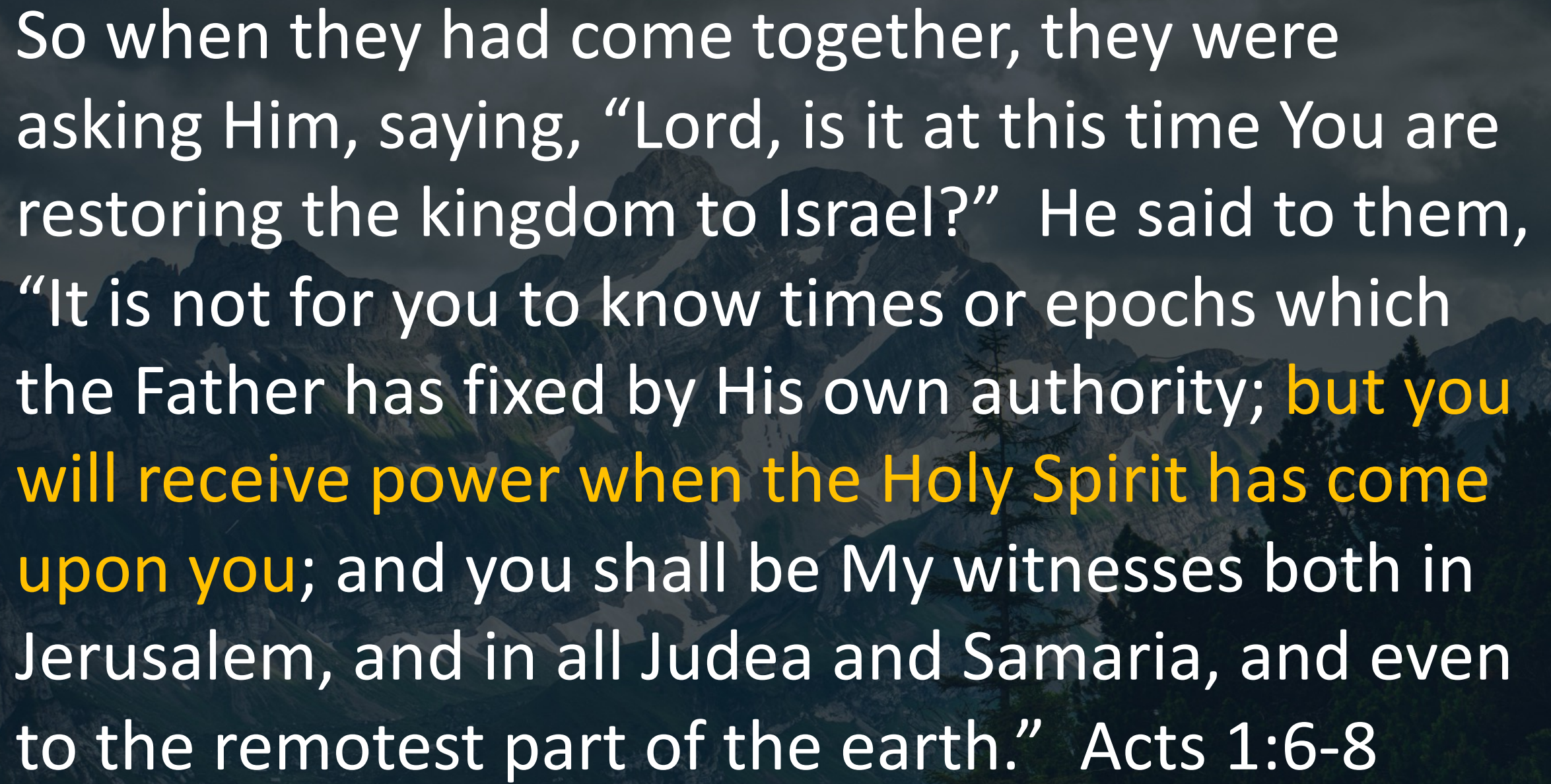


Acts 1 and 2

A MIGHTY HAND

To these [the apostles] He [Jesus] also presented Himself alive after His suffering [crucifixion], by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. Gathering them together, He [Jesus] commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit **not many days from now.**” Acts 1:3-5

A MIGHTY HAND



So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; **but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” Acts 1:6-8

A MIGHTY HAND

On Day #40 after the resurrection...

And after He [Jesus] had said these things, He was lifted up [ascended] while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Acts 1:9

*TODAY (on this year's calendar) is the 40th day of Counting the Omer ("Mem B'Omer").

*TODAY (on this year's calendar) is the day when Jesus ascended to Heaven.

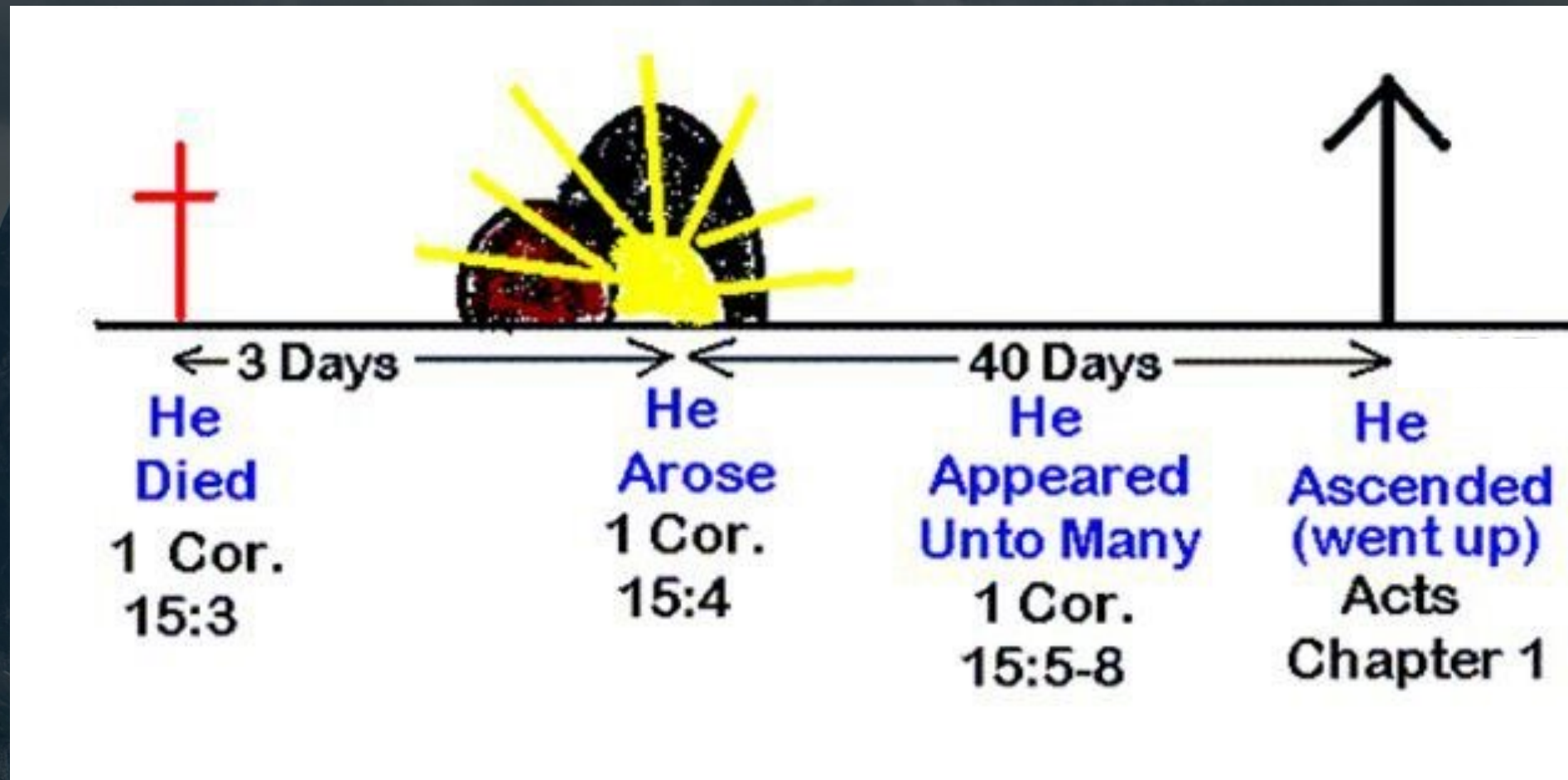
A MIGHTY HAND

Day 40 ★

Crucifixion

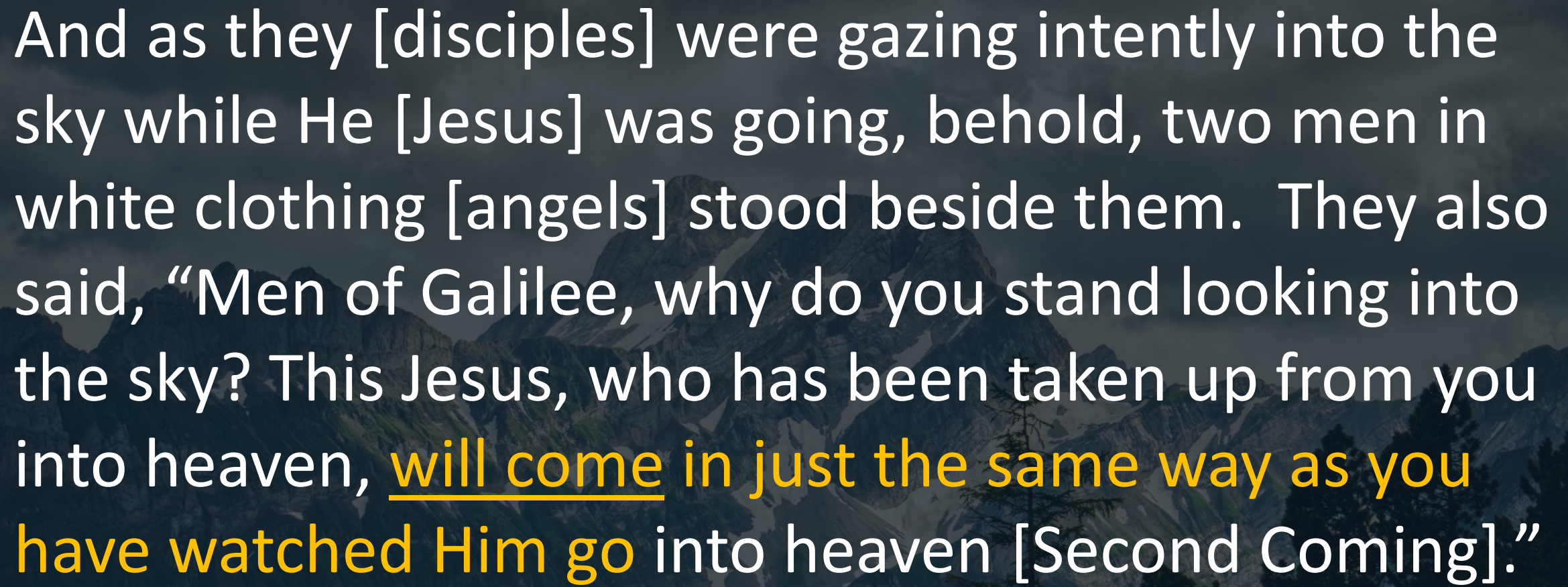
Resurrection

Ascension



https://www.middletownbiblechurch.org/a_gospel/agosp13.htm

A MIGHTY HAND



And as they [disciples] were gazing intently into the sky while He [Jesus] was going, behold, two men in white clothing [angels] stood beside them. They also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven [Second Coming].”

Acts 1:10-11

*TODAY is the day that Jesus’ followers began to anticipate His Second Coming.

A MIGHTY HAND

Then they [disciples] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the **upper room** where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. Acts 1:12-14

**“Is not this the carpenter’s son?
Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this man get all these things?”**

**Matthew
13:55-56**

A MIGHTY NAME

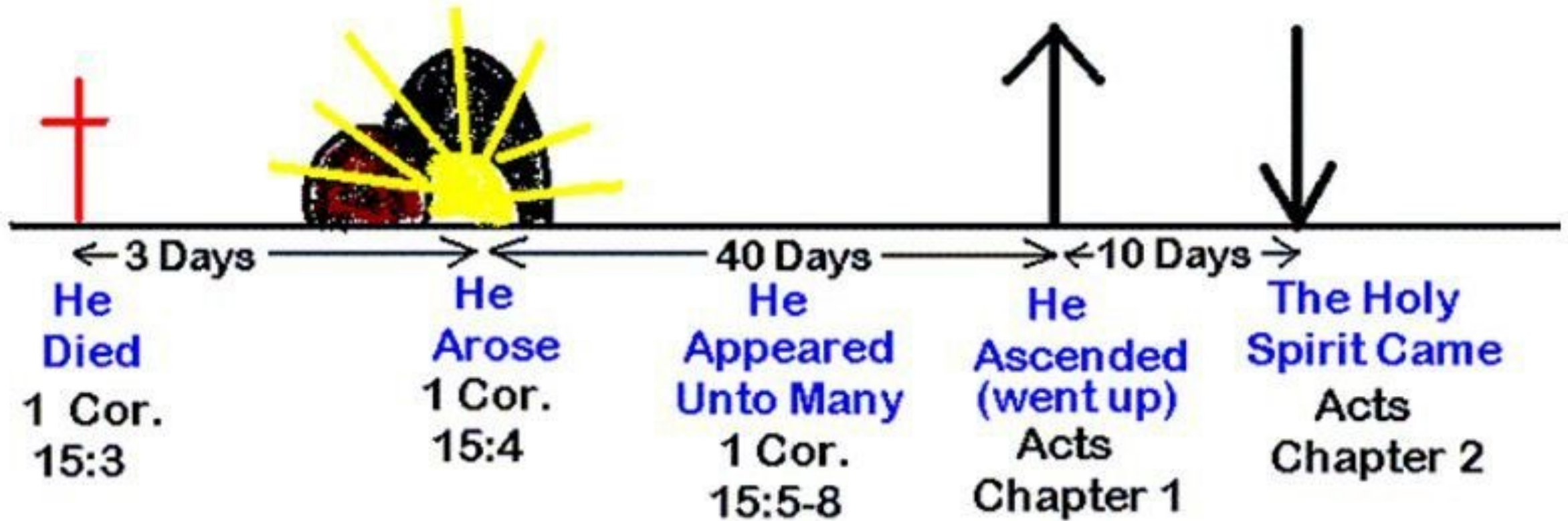
When
the day
of
Pentecost
[50th] had
come,
they
were all
together
in one
place.
Acts 2:1



Crucifixion

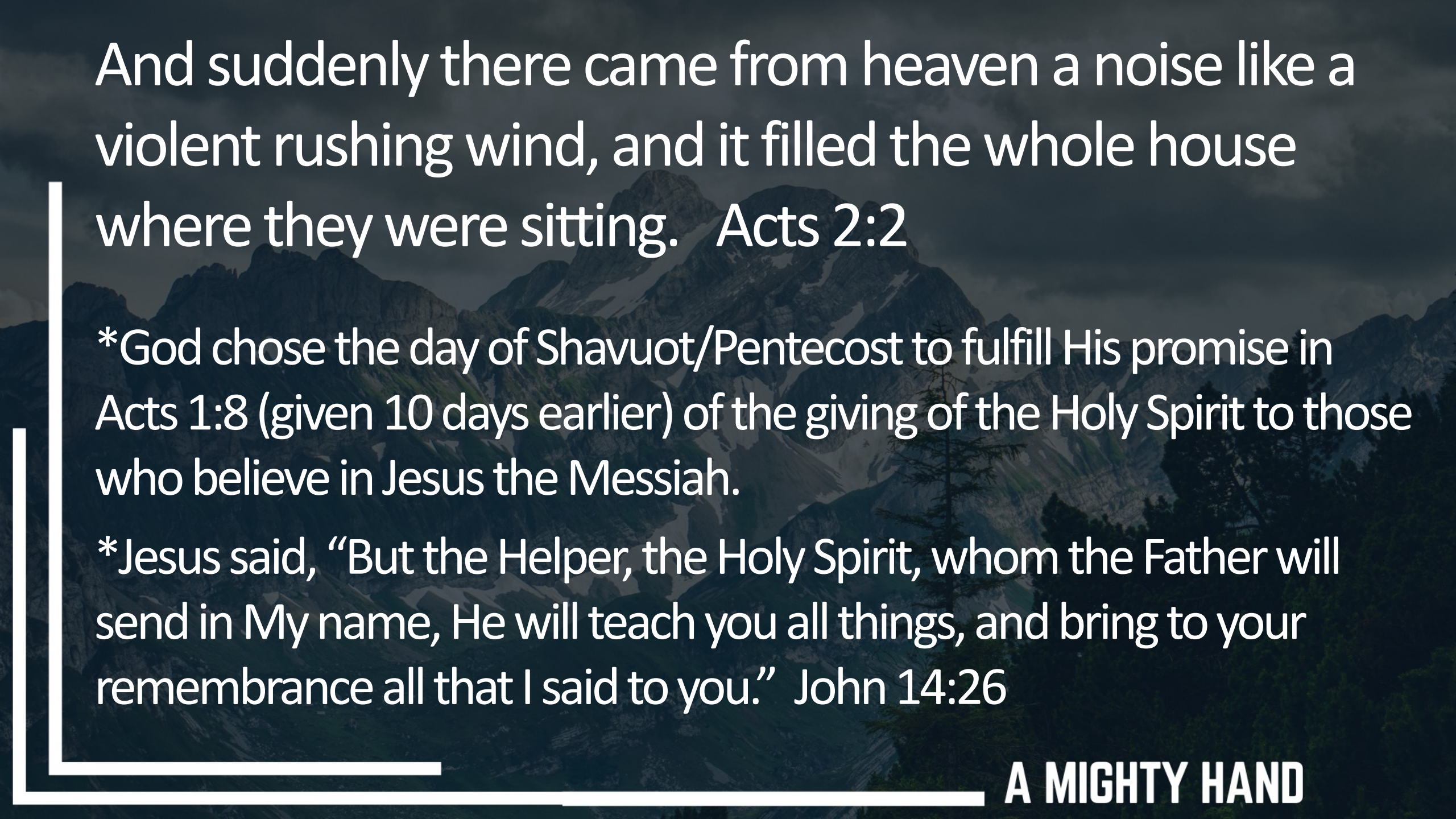
Resurrection

Day 40 Day 50 ★
Ascension Shavuot/Pentecost



https://www.middletownbiblechurch.org/a_gospel/agosp13.htm

A MIGHTY HAND

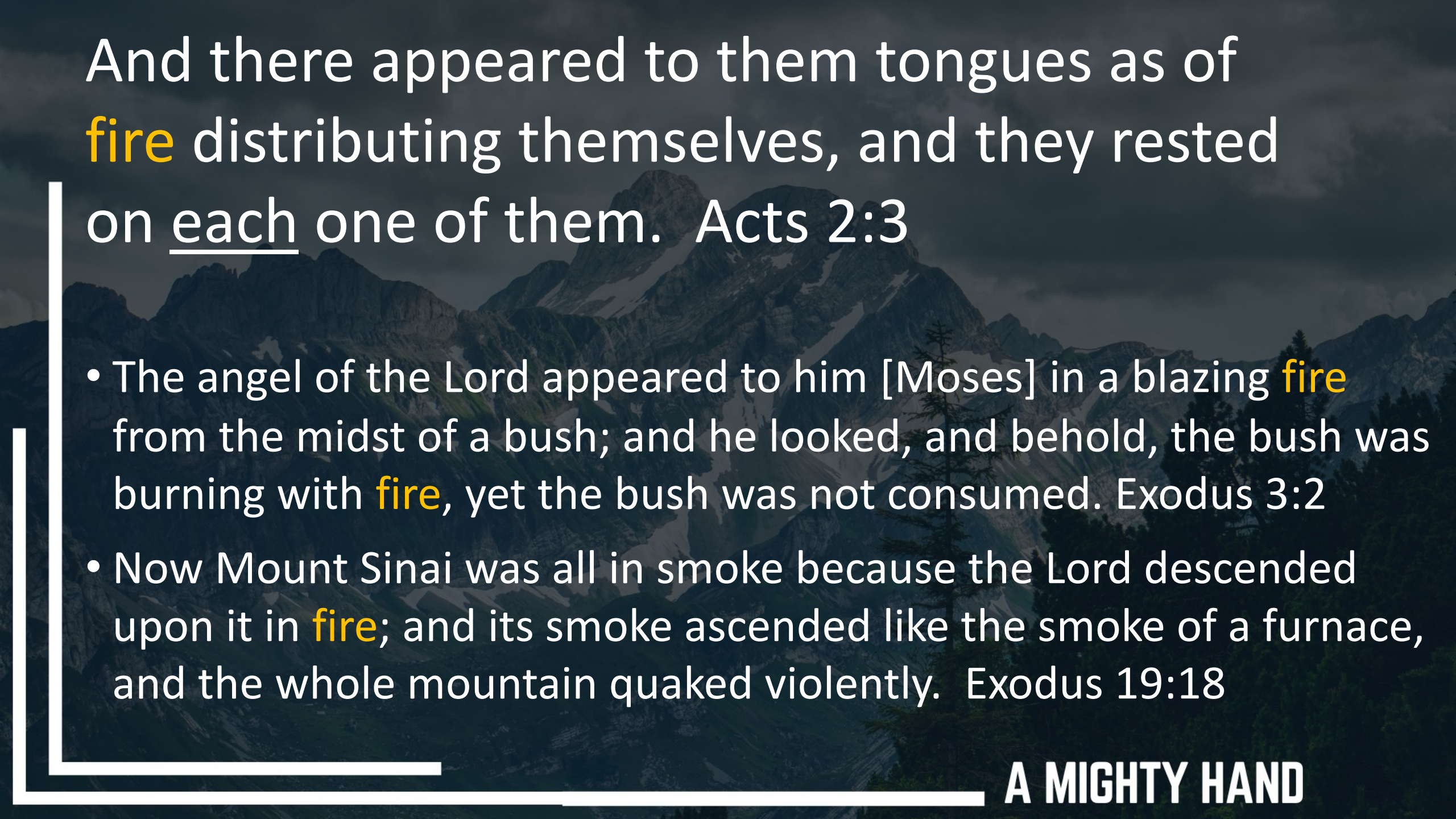


And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Acts 2:2

*God chose the day of Shavuot/Pentecost to fulfill His promise in Acts 1:8 (given 10 days earlier) of the giving of the Holy Spirit to those who believe in Jesus the Messiah.

*Jesus said, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.” John 14:26

A MIGHTY HAND



And there appeared to them tongues as of **fire** distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. Acts 2:3

- The angel of the Lord appeared to him [Moses] in a blazing **fire** from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with **fire**, yet the bush was not consumed. Exodus 3:2
- Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in **fire**; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. Exodus 19:18

A MIGHTY HAND

And they were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** [Ruach HaKodesh רוח הקודש] and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. Acts 2:4-6

A MIGHTY HAND

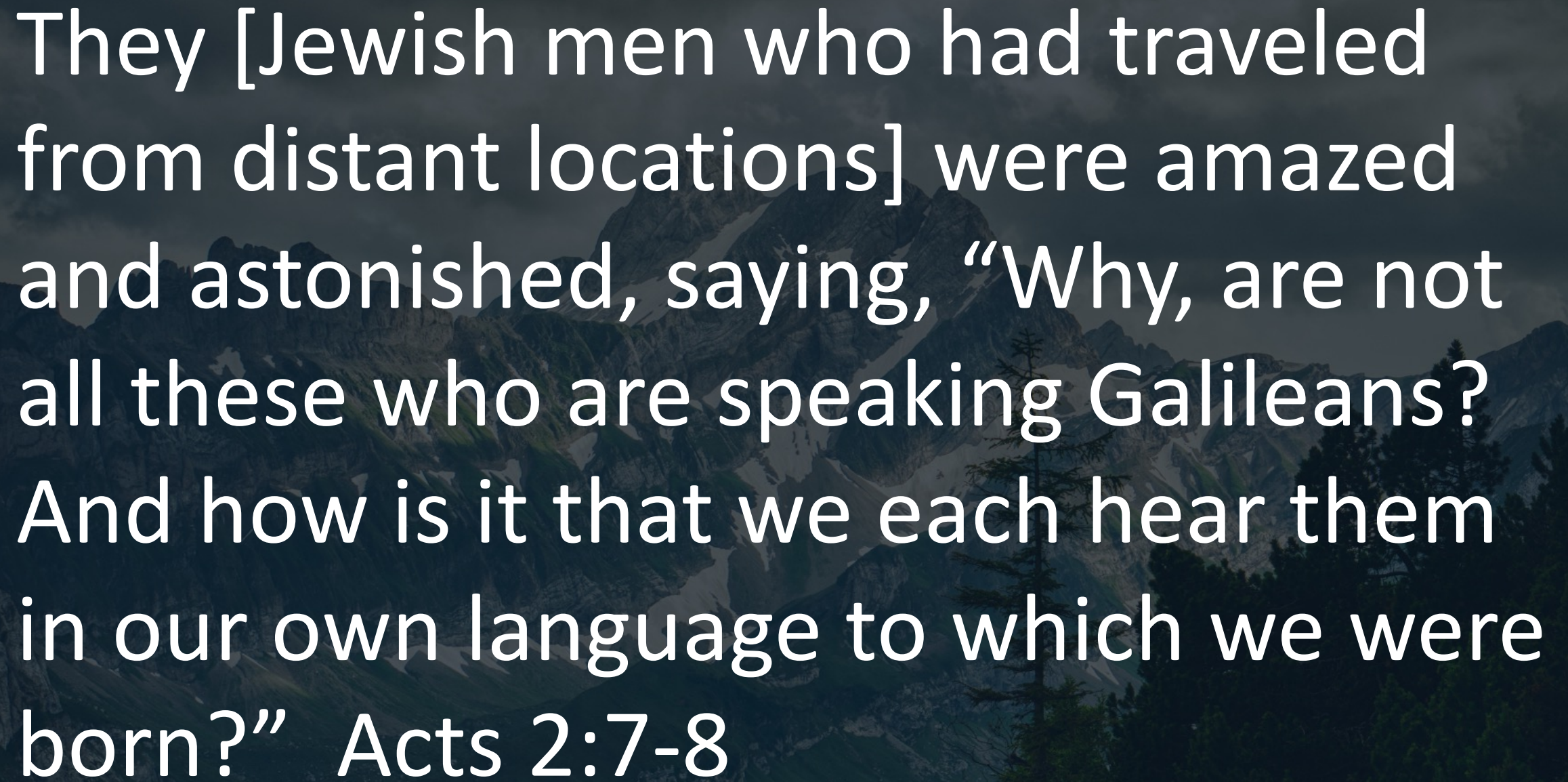


Why were all these Jewish men in Jerusalem?

Why were the disciples of Jesus in Jerusalem?

Answer:
Shavuot
(Pentecost)





They [Jewish men who had traveled from distant locations] were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?” Acts 2:7-8

A MIGHTY HAND



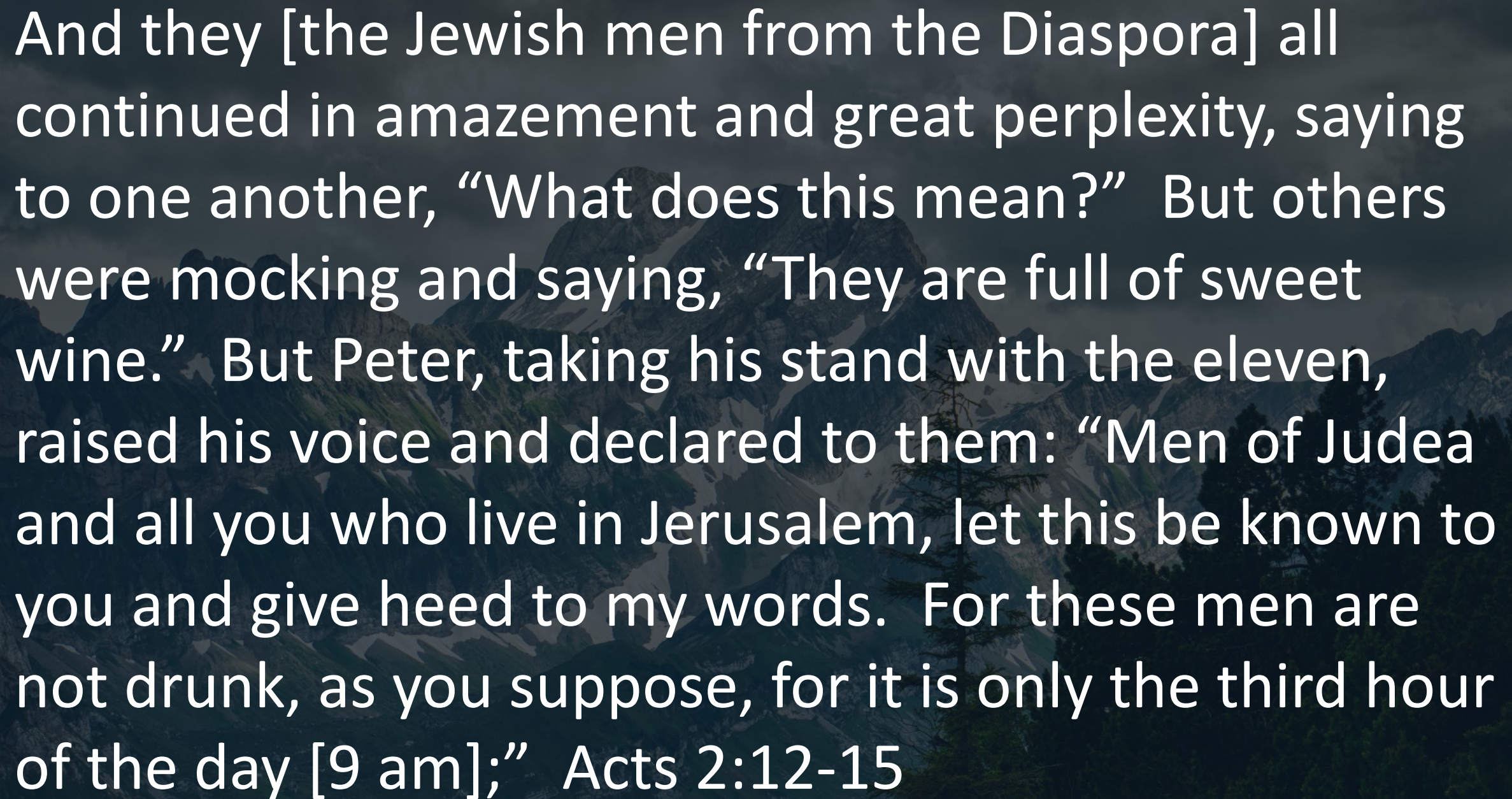
“Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.” Acts 2:9-11

What did Jesus teach about people groups?

“For God so loved [verb ἀγαπάω *agapao*] the **world**, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

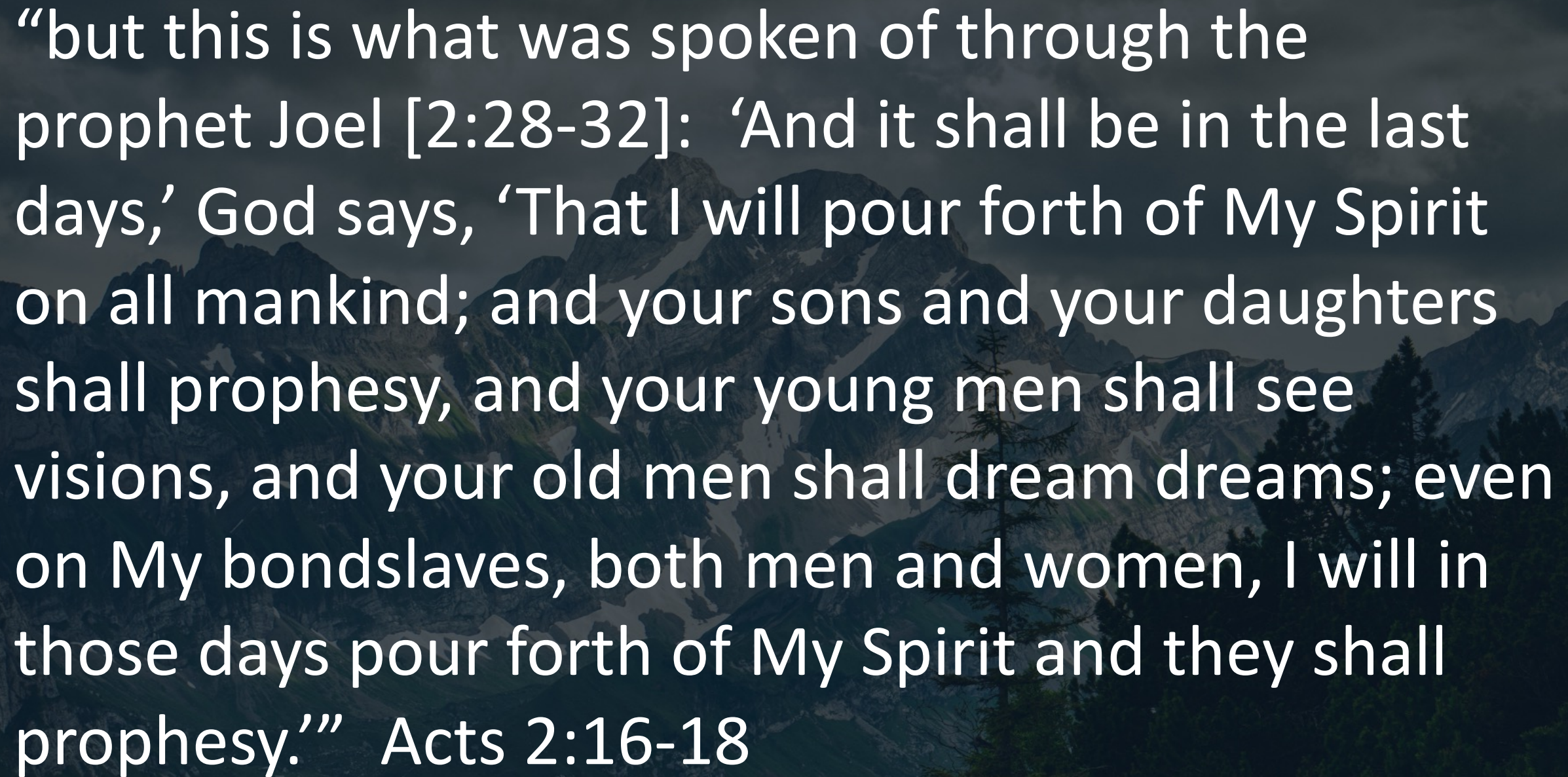
“you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the **earth**” Acts 1:8

A MIGHTY HAND



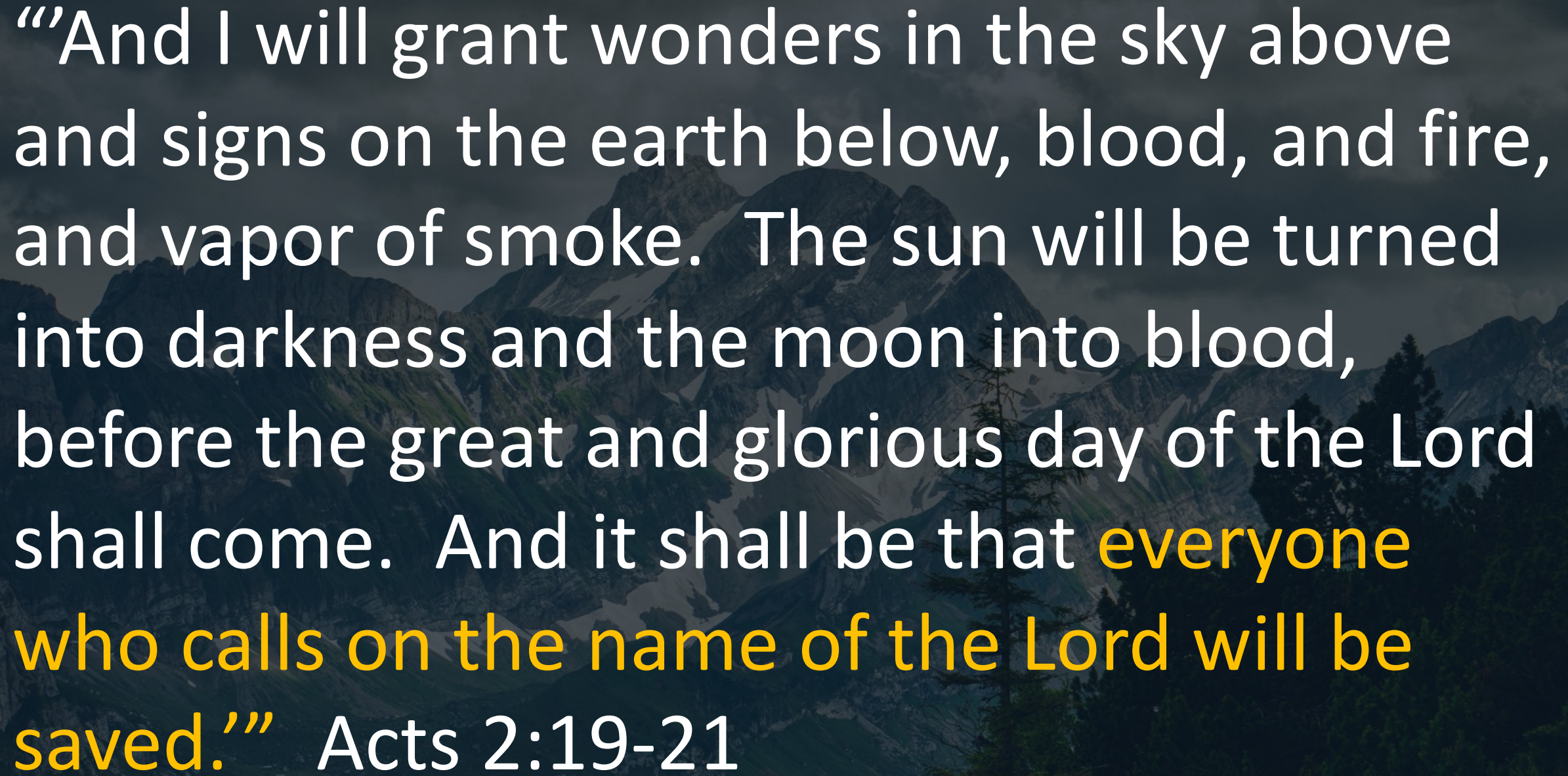
And they [the Jewish men from the Diaspora] all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others were mocking and saying, “They are full of sweet wine.” But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: “Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day [9 am];” Acts 2:12-15

A MIGHTY HAND



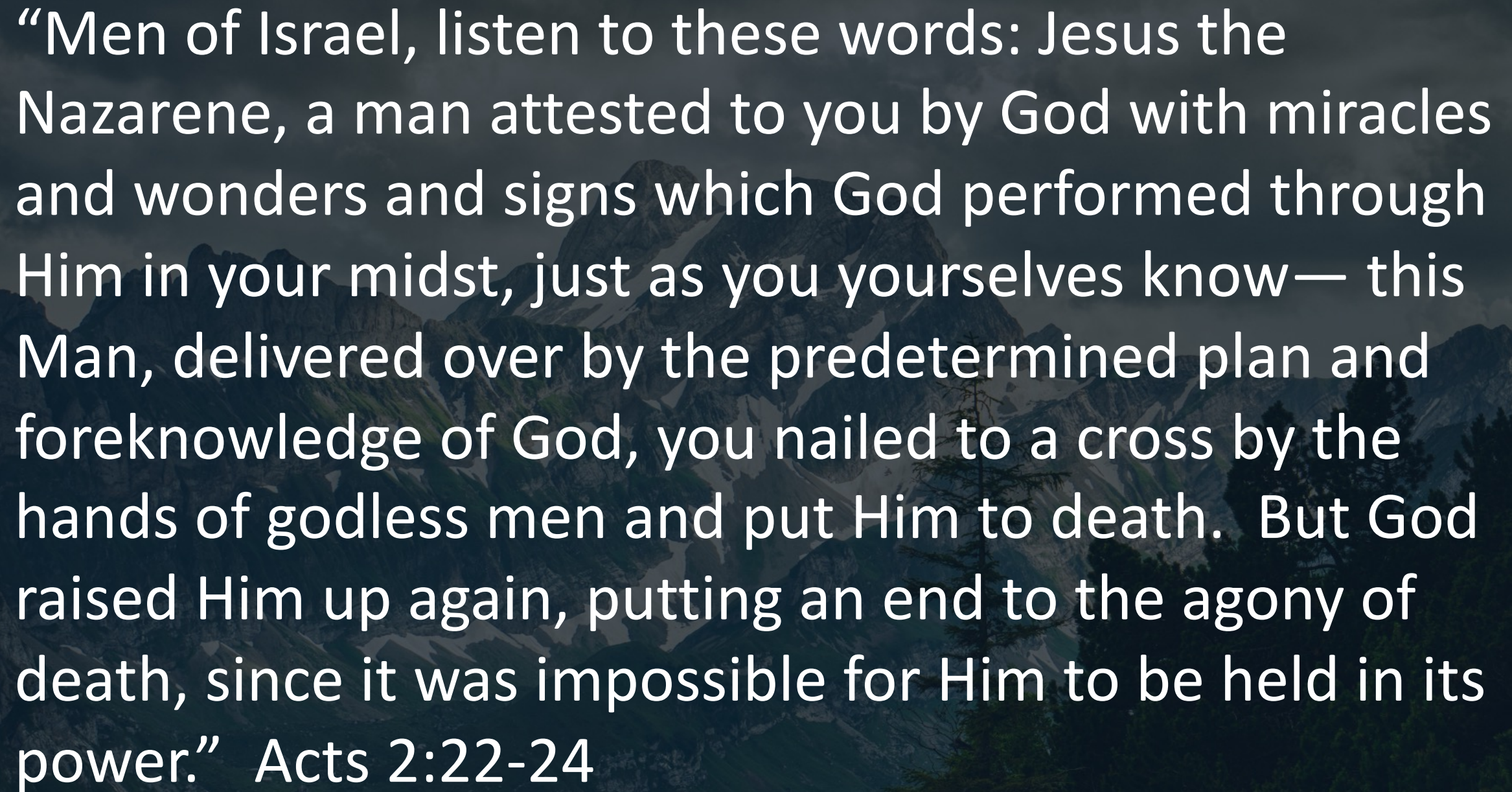
“but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel [2:28-32]: ‘And it shall be in the last days,’ God says, ‘That I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on My bondslaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy.’” Acts 2:16-18

A MIGHTY HAND



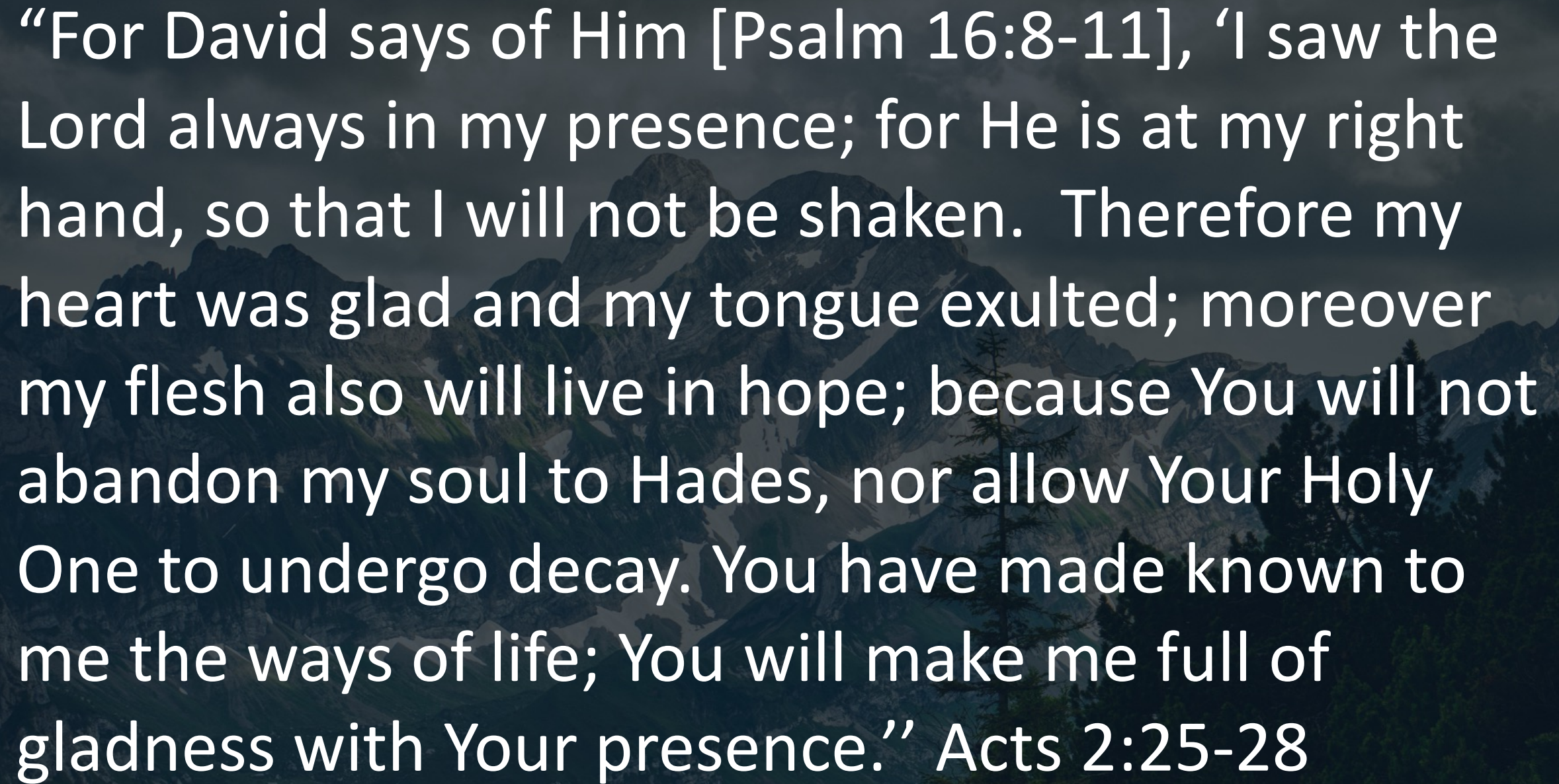
“And I will grant wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and glorious day of the Lord shall come. And it shall be that **everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**” Acts 2:19-21

A MIGHTY HAND



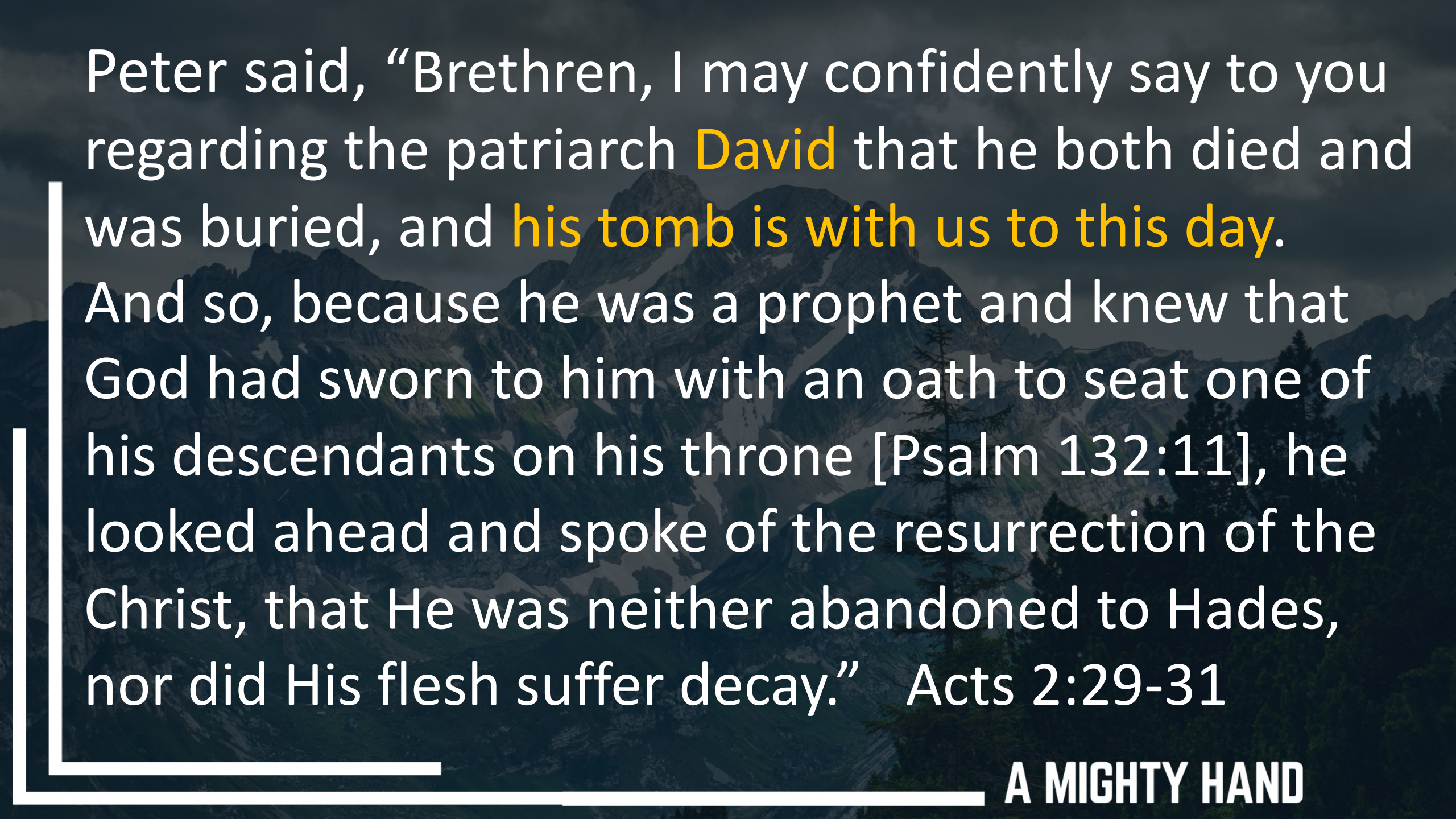
“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.” Acts 2:22-24

A MIGHTY HAND



“For David says of Him [Psalm 16:8-11], ‘I saw the Lord always in my presence; for He is at my right hand, so that I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue exulted; moreover my flesh also will live in hope; because You will not abandon my soul to Hades, nor allow Your Holy One to undergo decay. You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of gladness with Your presence.’ Acts 2:25-28

A MIGHTY HAND



Peter said, “Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch **David** that he both died and was buried, and **his tomb is with us to this day**.

And so, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants on his throne [Psalm 132:11], he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay.” Acts 2:29-31

A MIGHTY HAND

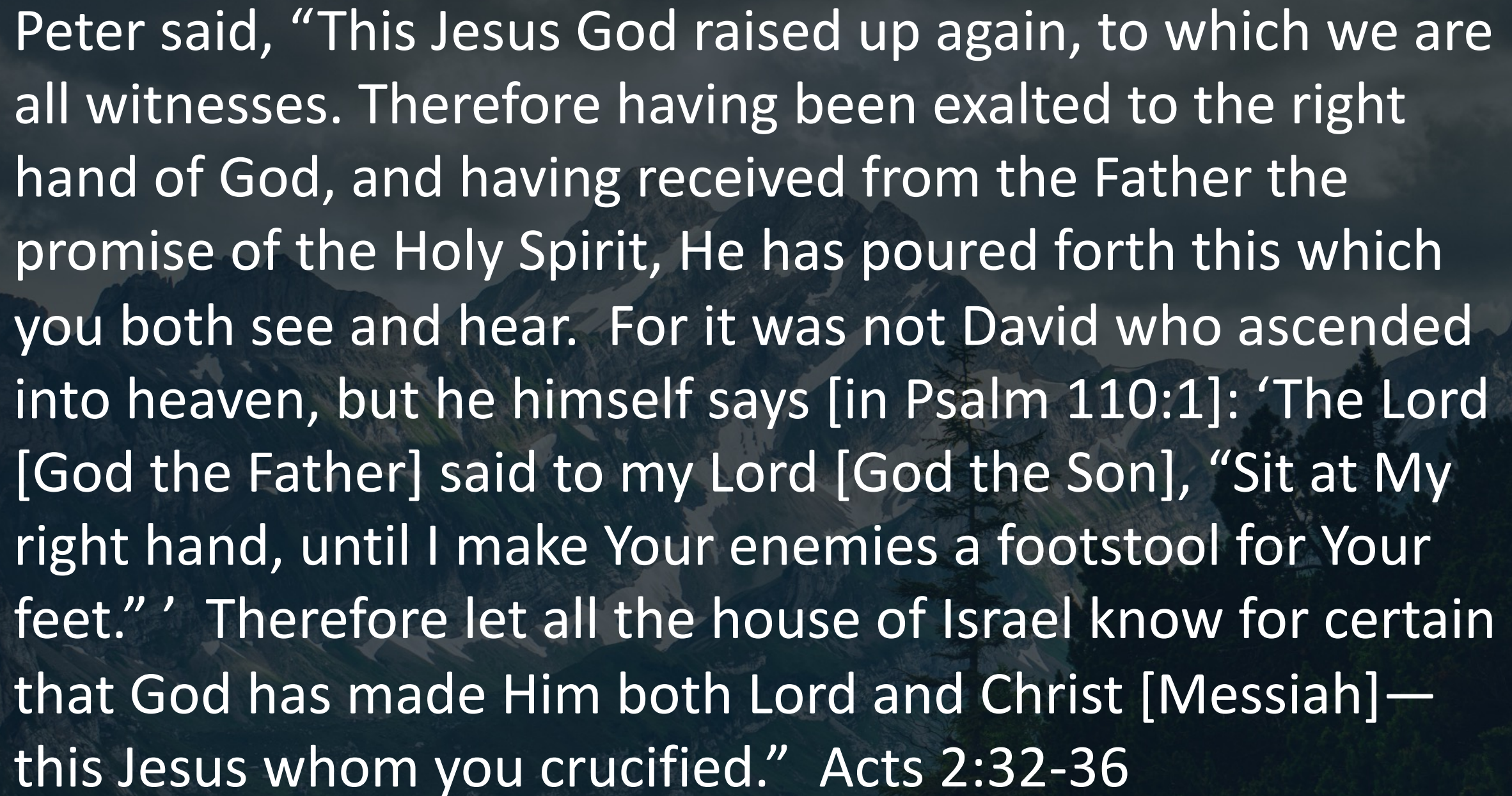
David's Tomb on Mount Zion

Tradition tells us that King David was born and also died on Shavuot.

(Jerusalem Talmud Hagigah 2:3)

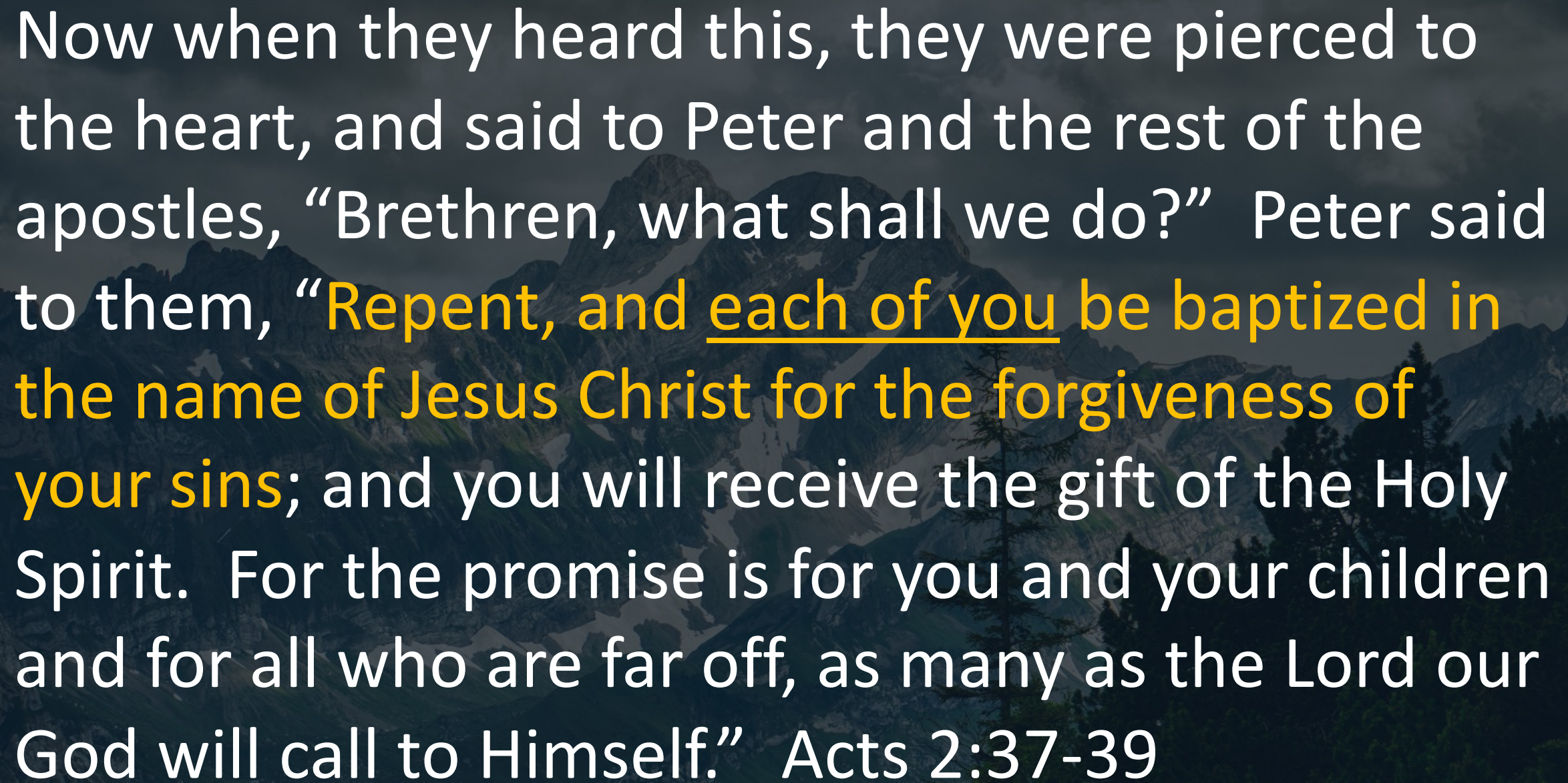


MIGHTY HAND



Peter said, “This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says [in Psalm 110:1]: ‘The Lord [God the Father] said to my Lord [God the Son], “Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.” ’ Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ [Messiah]—this Jesus whom you crucified.” Acts 2:32-36

A MIGHTY HAND



Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” Acts 2:37-39

A MIGHTY HAND

And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!” So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about **three thousand souls**. Acts 2:40-41

- On that Shavuot, Israel saw an amazing reversal. After receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai, 3,000 souls perished because of the sin of the golden calf (Exodus 32:28).
- On this same day 1,400 years later, this same number of souls were saved after the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) was poured out! About 3,000 people were added to the community of Believers on Shavuot/Pentecost.
- The Spirit of God reversed the destruction caused by the sin of man!

- <https://free.messianicbible.com/holiday/shavuot/>

A MIGHTY HAND



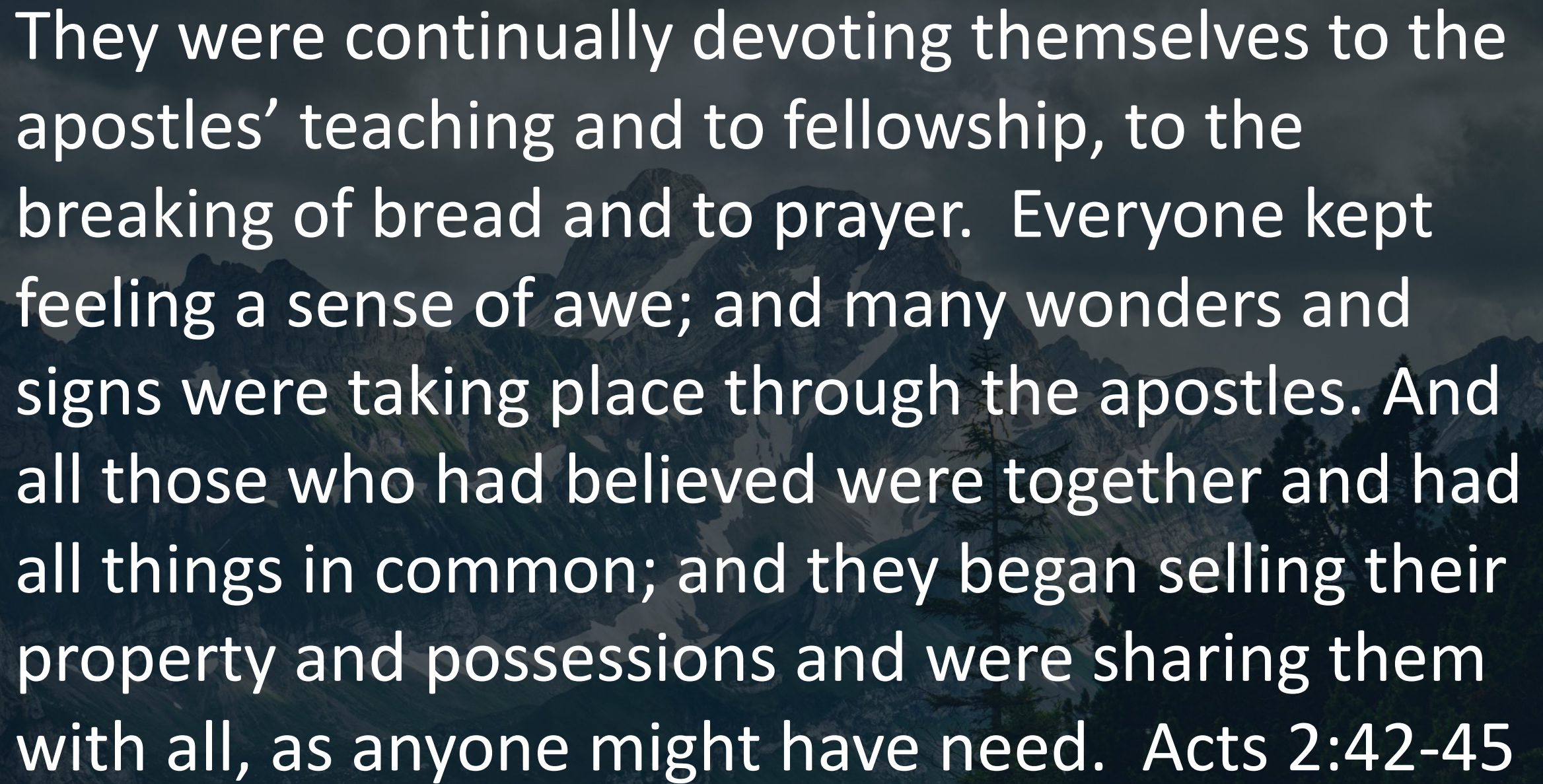
**Southern steps leading up to the
Jewish Temple in Jerusalem**

A MIGHTY HAND



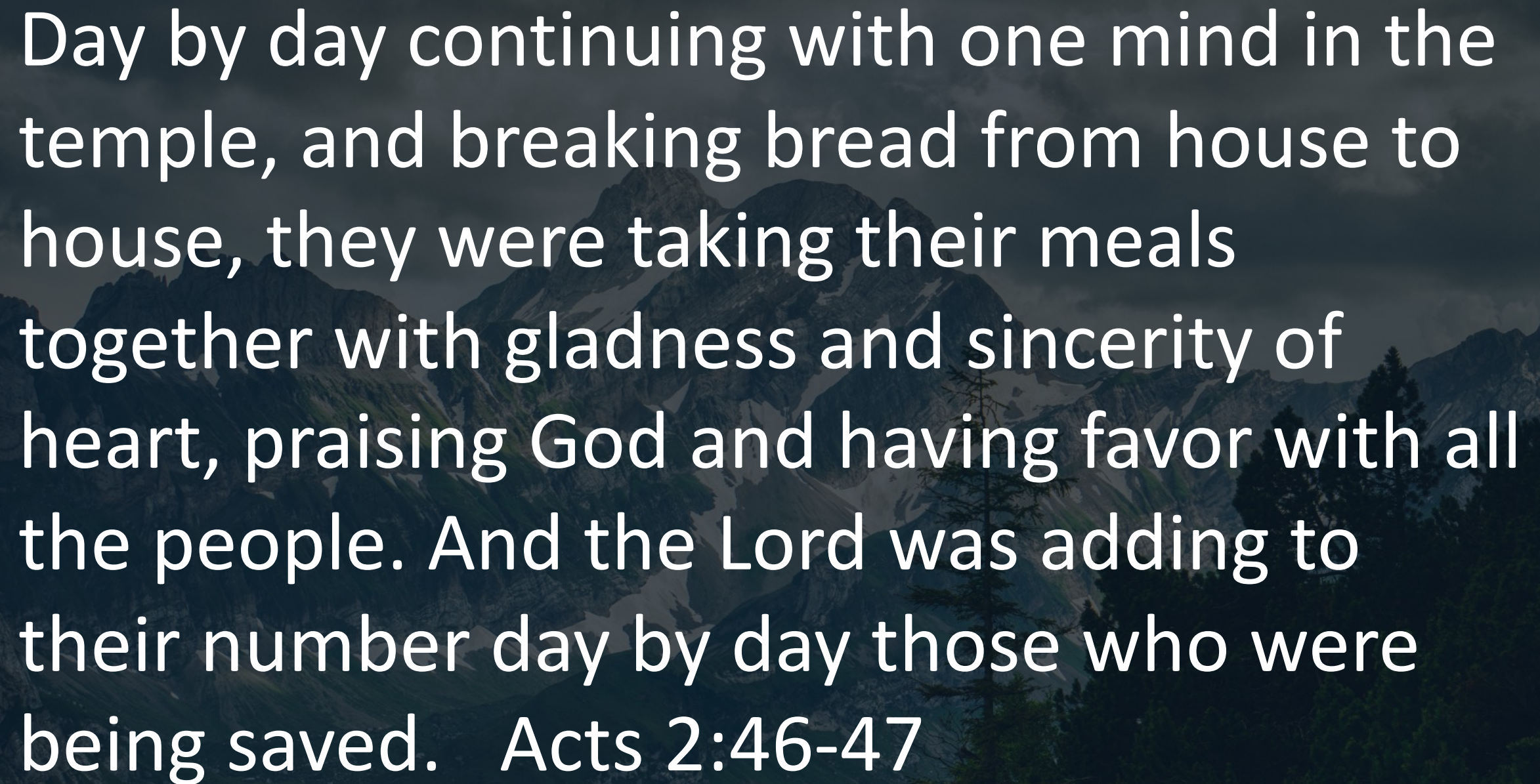
A mikveh
(Jewish
ritual bath)
near the
Southern
steps leading
up to Temple
Mount in
Jerusalem

MIGHTY HAND



They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Acts 2:42-45

A MIGHTY HAND



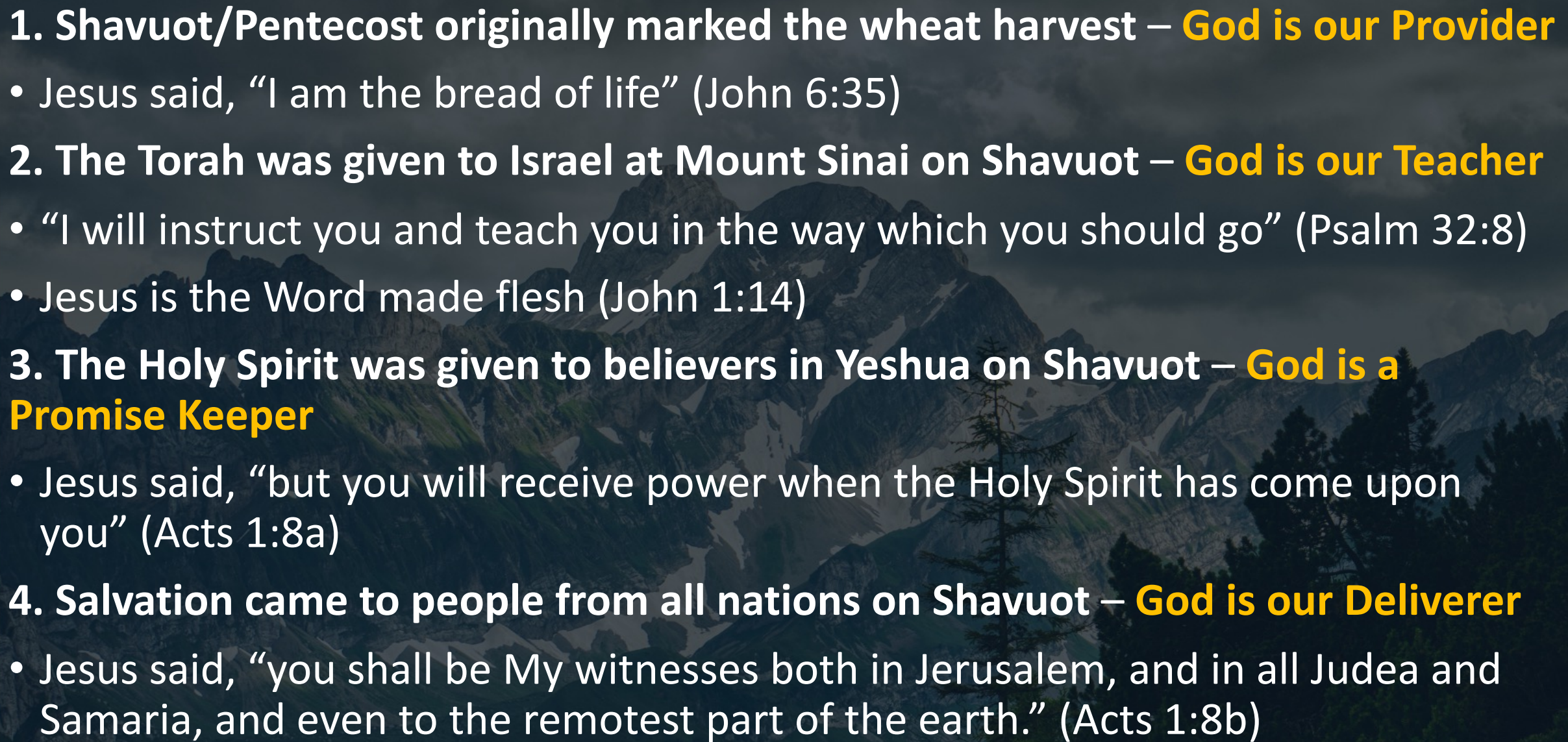
Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47

A MIGHTY HAND



How can we see
God's Mighty Hand
in the celebration of
Shavuot/Pentecost?

A MIGHTY HAND

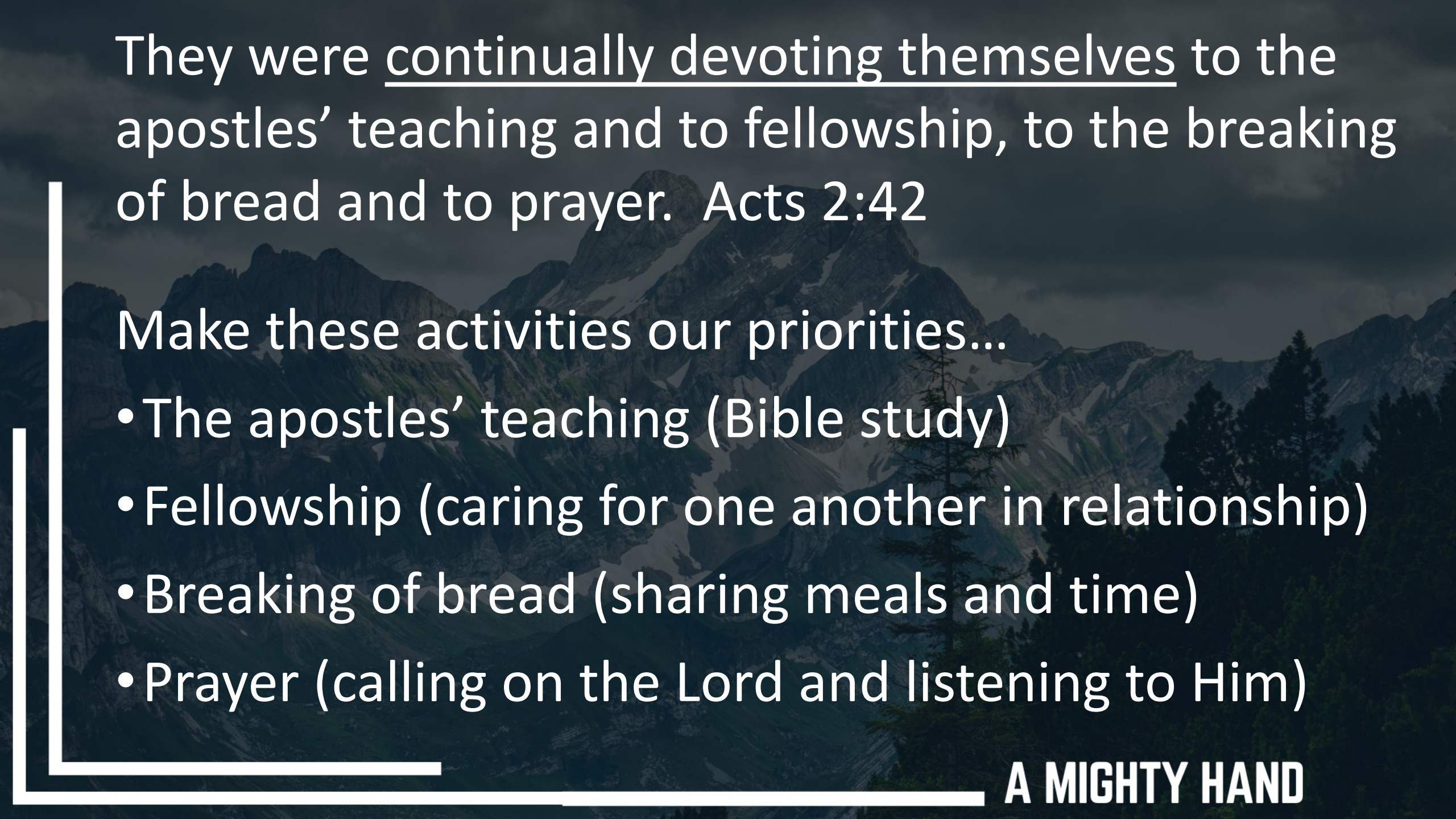
- 
- 1. Shavuot/Pentecost originally marked the wheat harvest – God is our Provider**
 - Jesus said, “I am the bread of life” (John 6:35)
 - 2. The Torah was given to Israel at Mount Sinai on Shavuot – God is our Teacher**
 - “I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go” (Psalm 32:8)
 - Jesus is the Word made flesh (John 1:14)
 - 3. The Holy Spirit was given to believers in Yeshua on Shavuot – God is a Promise Keeper**
 - Jesus said, “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” (Acts 1:8a)
 - 4. Salvation came to people from all nations on Shavuot – God is our Deliverer**
 - Jesus said, “you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8b)

A MIGHTY HAND



**How can we see
God's Mighty Hand
at work in our lives?**

A MIGHTY HAND



They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

Make these activities our priorities...

- The apostles' teaching (Bible study)
- Fellowship (caring for one another in relationship)
- Breaking of bread (sharing meals and time)
- Prayer (calling on the Lord and listening to Him)

A MIGHTY HAND

Psalm 67 is traditionally recited on Shavuot because it is composed of forty-nine words in Hebrew. God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us— Selah. That Your way may be known on the earth, **Your salvation** (Hebrew Yeshua יְשׁוּעָה) among all nations. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the peoples with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth. Selah. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him. Psalm 67:1-7

A MIGHTY HAND