



kings & kingdoms

You shall have no foreign god
among you; you shall not worship
any god other than me.

Psalms 81:9 (NIV)

...know therefore today, and lay it
to your heart, that the LORD is
God in heaven above and on the
earth beneath; there is no other.

Deuteronomy 4:39 (ESV)

“You shall have no other gods before me.”

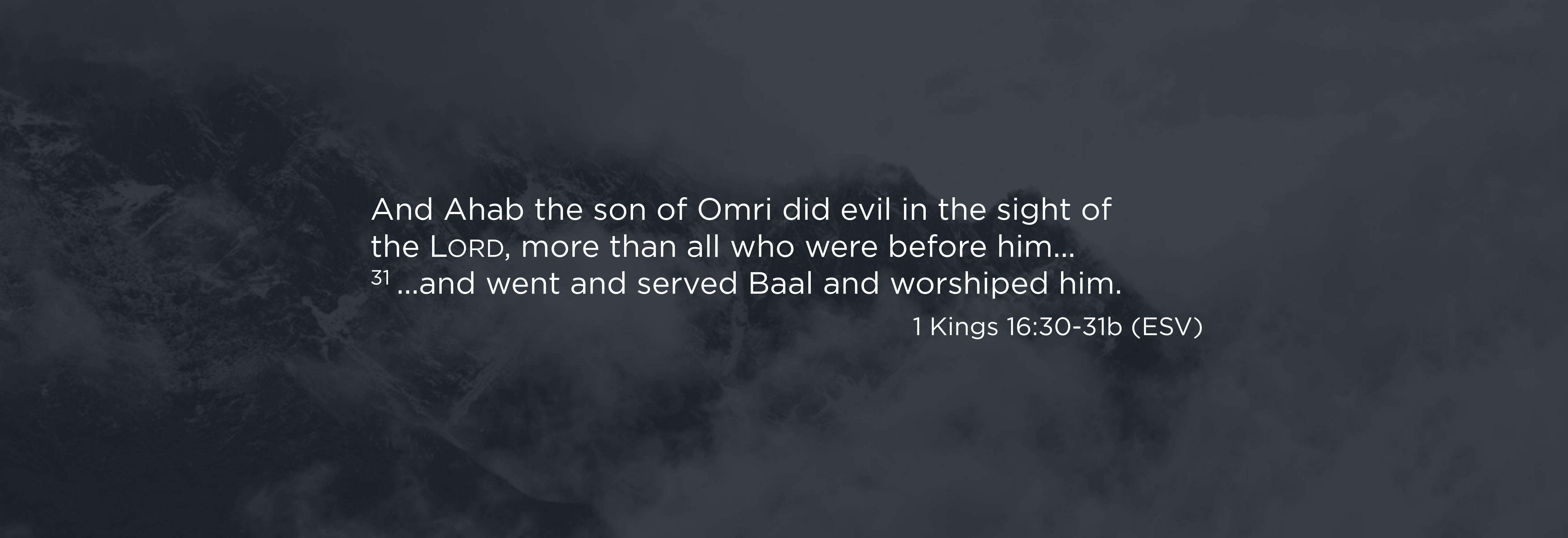
Exodus 20:3 (NIV)

...that all the peoples of the earth
may know that the LORD is God;
there is no other.

1 Kings 8:60 (ESV)

“Turn to me and be saved, all the
ends of the earth! For I am God,
and there is no other.”

Isaiah 45:22 (ESV)



And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of
the LORD, more than all who were before him...

³¹ ...and went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 16:30-31b (ESV)



THE DIVIDED MONARCHY

REHOBOAM

Judah

South

2 Tribes

19 Kings / 1 Queen

8 “Good” Kings

340 Years

Babylonian Captivity

1 & 2 Chronicles

JEROBOAM

Israel

North

10 Tribes

19 Kings - AHAB

All “Evil” Kings

209 Years

Assyrian Captivity

1 & 2 Kings



What you hold highest will ultimately
determine everything about you.

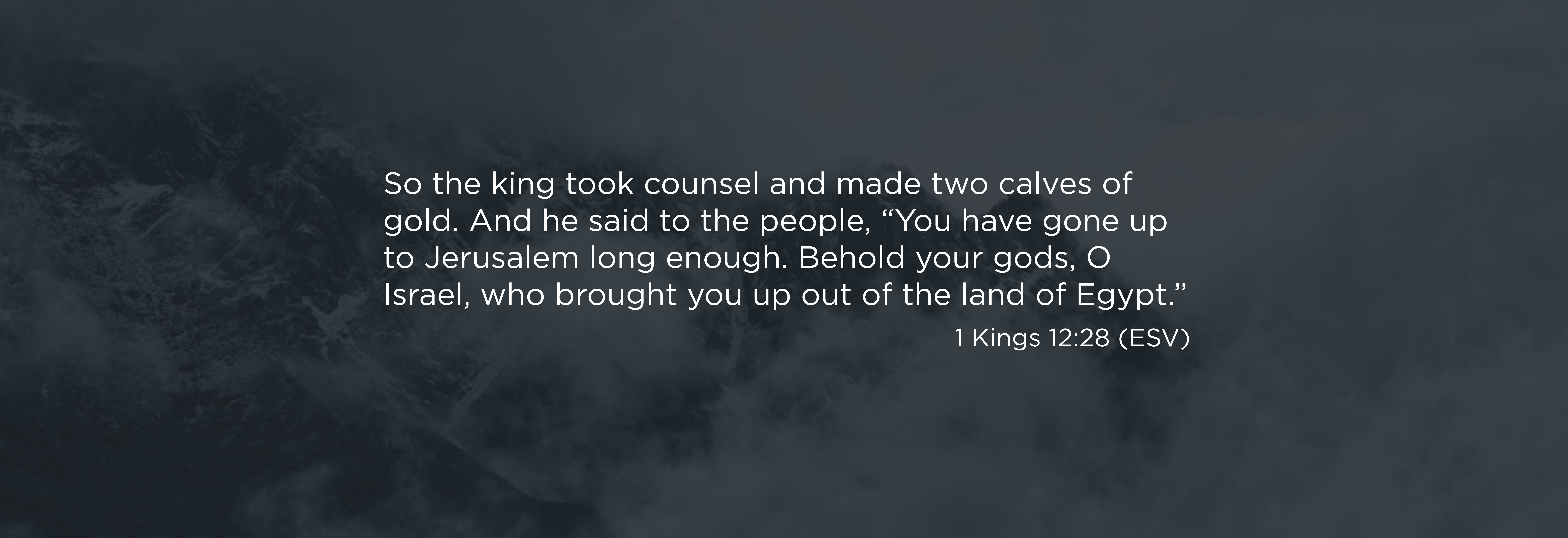
And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 16:30-31 (ESV)

And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to **walk in the sins of Jeroboam** the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 16:30-31 (ESV)

1. Walked in the sins of Jeroboam



So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to the people, “You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.”

1 Kings 12:28 (ESV)

And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to **walk in the sins of Jeroboam** the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 16:30-31 (ESV)

1. Walked in the sins of Jeroboam

Omri did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and did more evil than all who were before him. ²⁶ For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in the sins that he made Israel to sin, provoking the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger by their idols.

1 Kings 16:25-26 (ESV)

And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and **served Baal and worshiped him.**

1 Kings 16:30-31 (ESV)

- 1. Walked in the sins of Jeroboam*
- 2. Worshiped and served Baal*

“When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of...

³ You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴ for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. ⁵ But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.”

Deuteronomy 7:1, 3-5 (ESV)

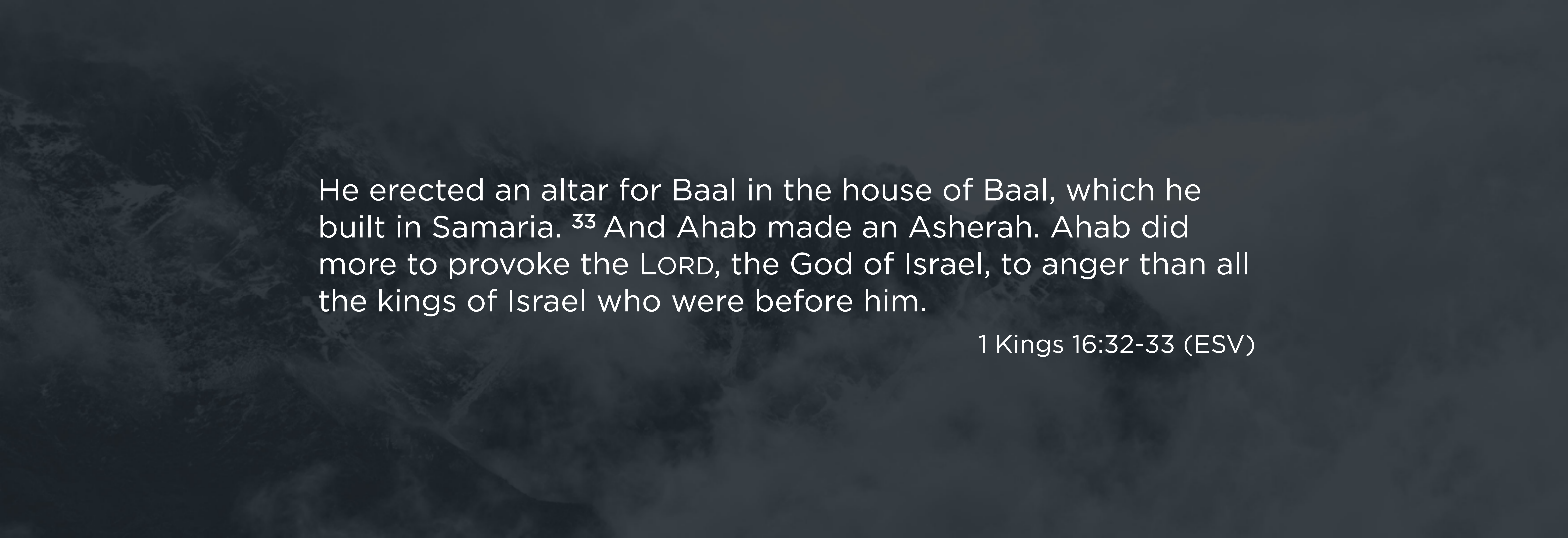
And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 16:30-31 (ESV)

1. *Walked in the sins of Jeroboam*
2. *Worshiped and served Baal*

“Idolatry is the rejection of God as God. In other words, it’s the refusal to admit that God alone is God... Idolatry is substituting other gods in place of God. And so, it is a violation, rejecting God as God, as the Creator of the universe, as the Creator of all mankind.”

Dr. Mark Bailey



He erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he built in Samaria. ³³ And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

1 Kings 16:32-33 (ESV)

EASTERN CULTURE

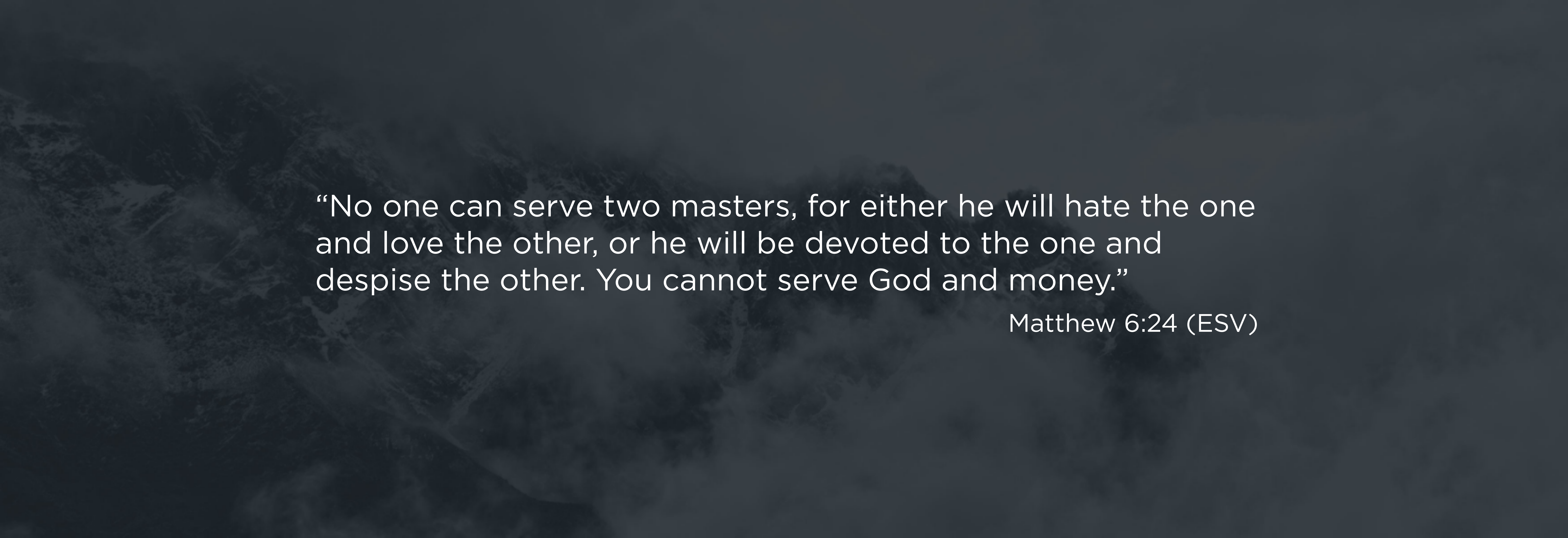
Community-Oriented
Superstition

EASTERN CULTURE

Community-Oriented
Superstition

WESTERN CULTURE

Individual Autonomy
Materialism

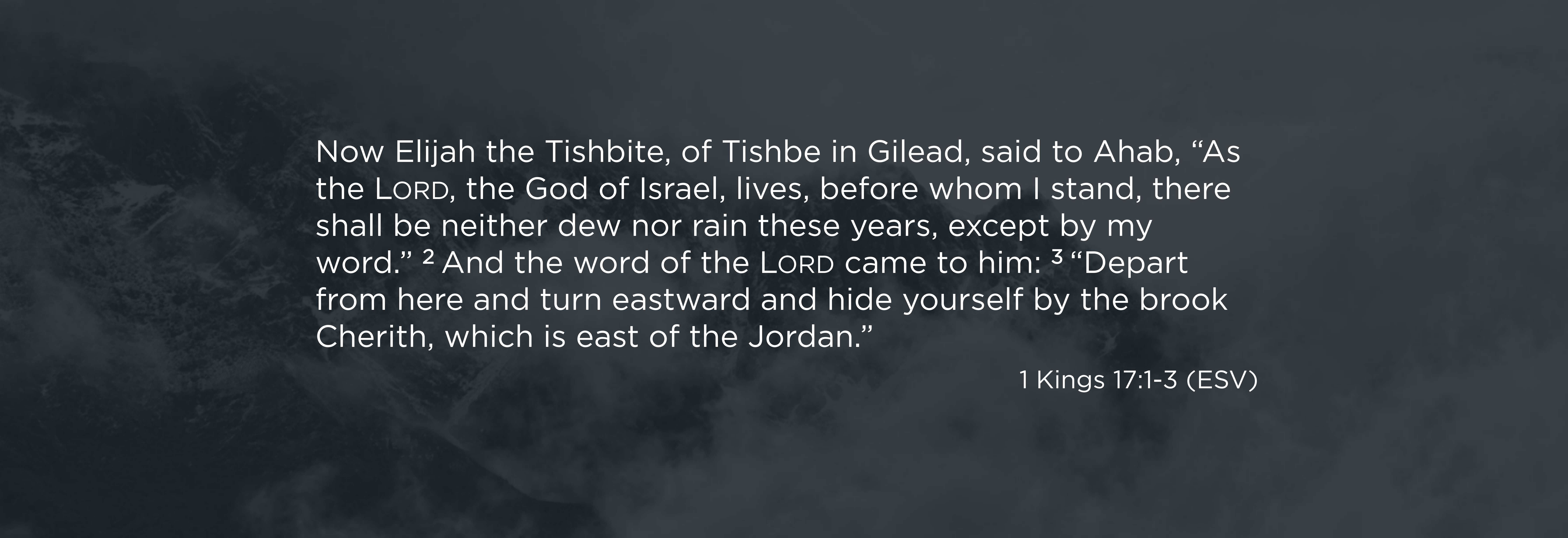


“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Matthew 6:24 (ESV)

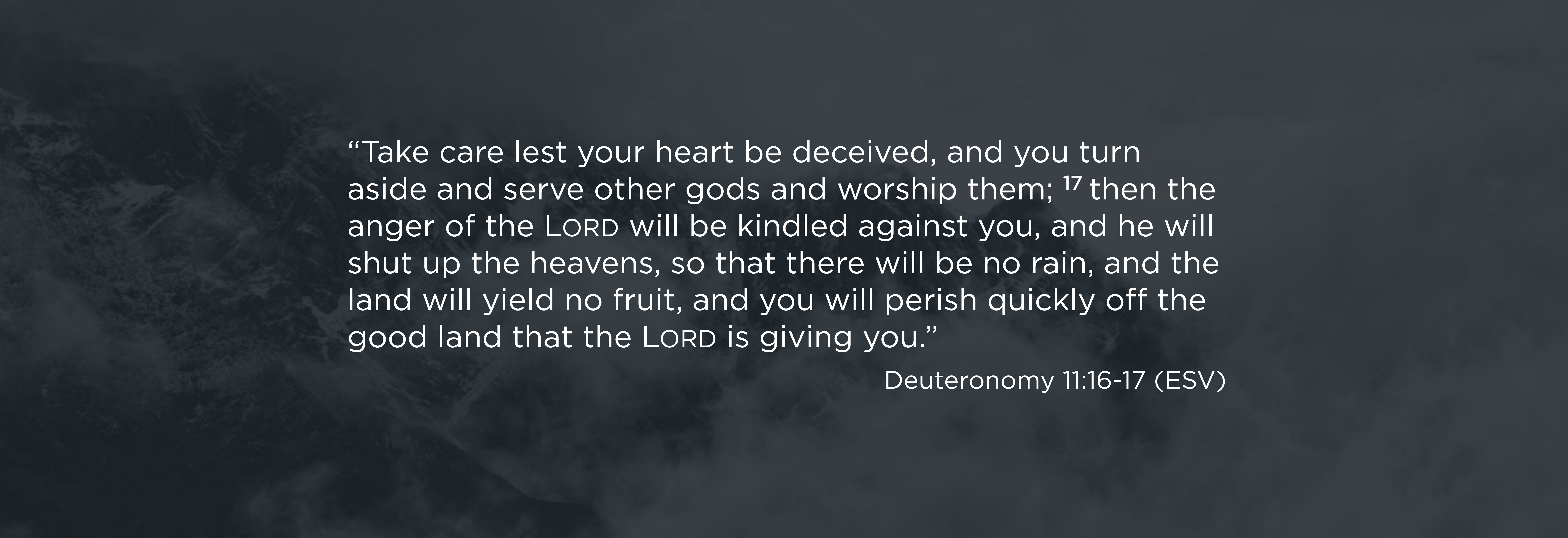


“Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee.”
Augustine



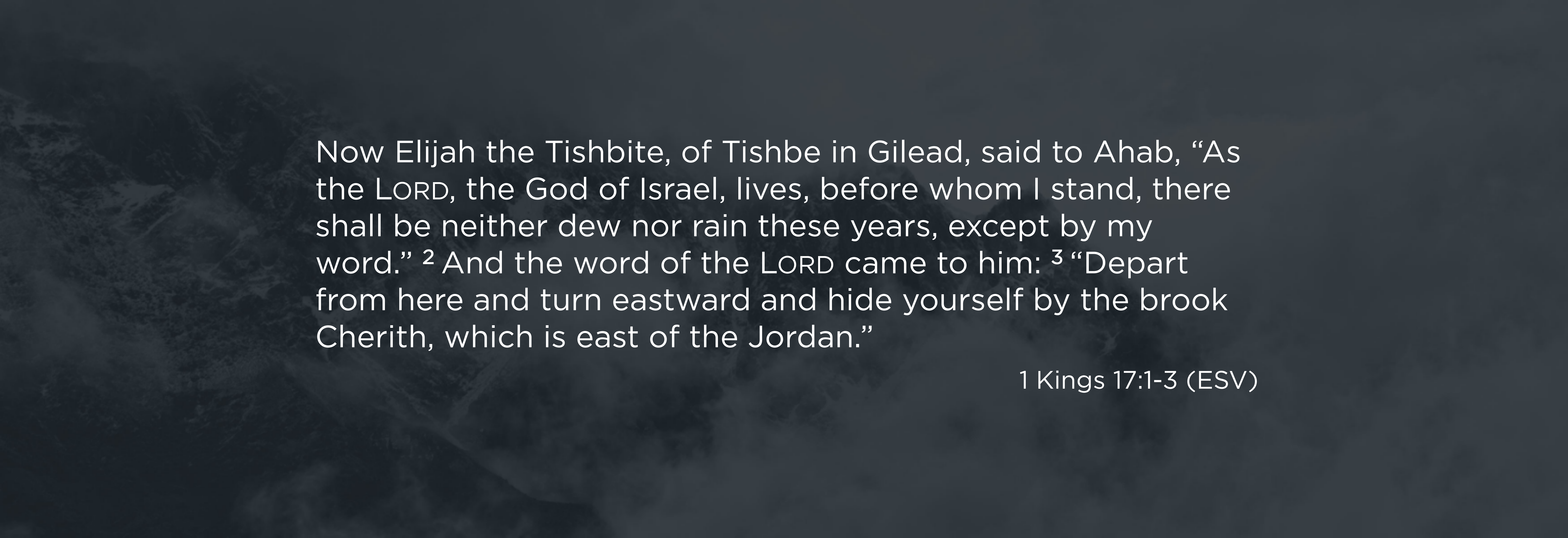
Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.” ² And the word of the LORD came to him: ³ “Depart from here and turn eastward and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.”

1 Kings 17:1-3 (ESV)



“Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them; ¹⁷ then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will yield no fruit, and you will perish quickly off the good land that the LORD is giving you.”

Deuteronomy 11:16-17 (ESV)

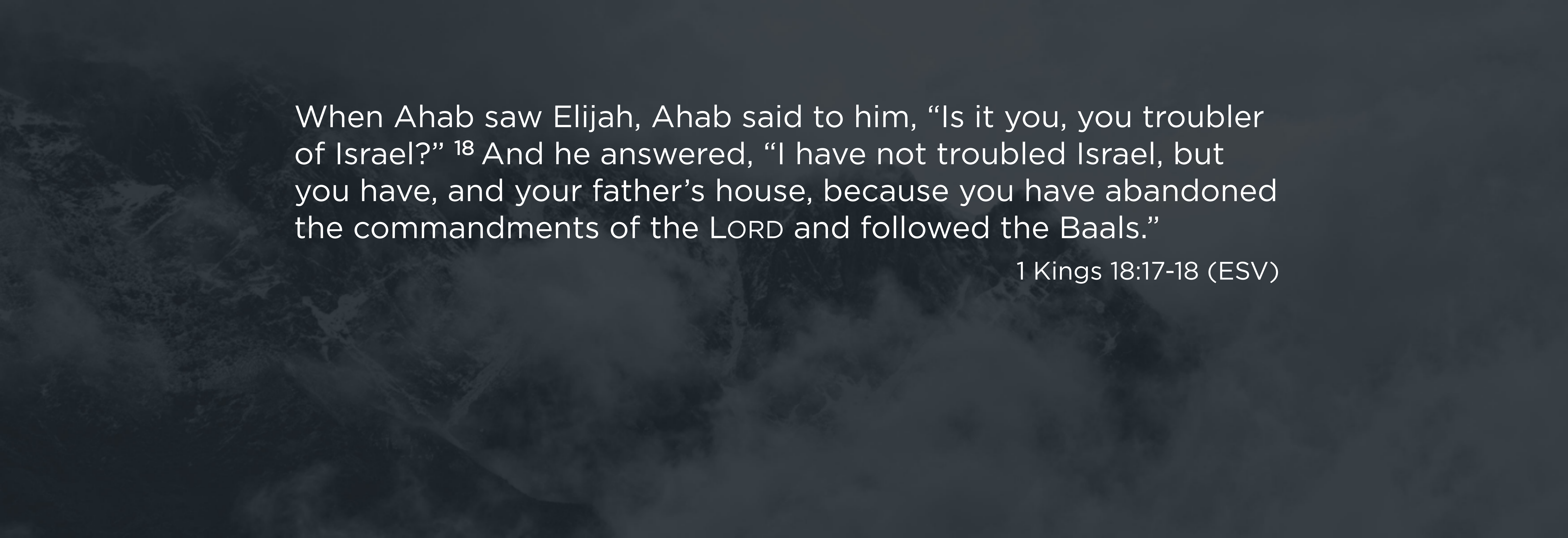


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1 Kings 17:1-3 (ESV)

After many days the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, “Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth.” ² So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria.³ And Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly, ⁴ and when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.)

1 Kings 18:1-4 (ESV)



When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is it you, you troubler of Israel?” ¹⁸ And he answered, “I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father’s house, because you have abandoned the commandments of the LORD and followed the Baals.”

1 Kings 18:17-18 (ESV)

When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is it you, you troubler of Israel?” ¹⁸ And he answered, “I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father’s house, because you have **abandoned the commandments of the LORD** and followed the Baals.”

1 Kings 18:17-18 (ESV)

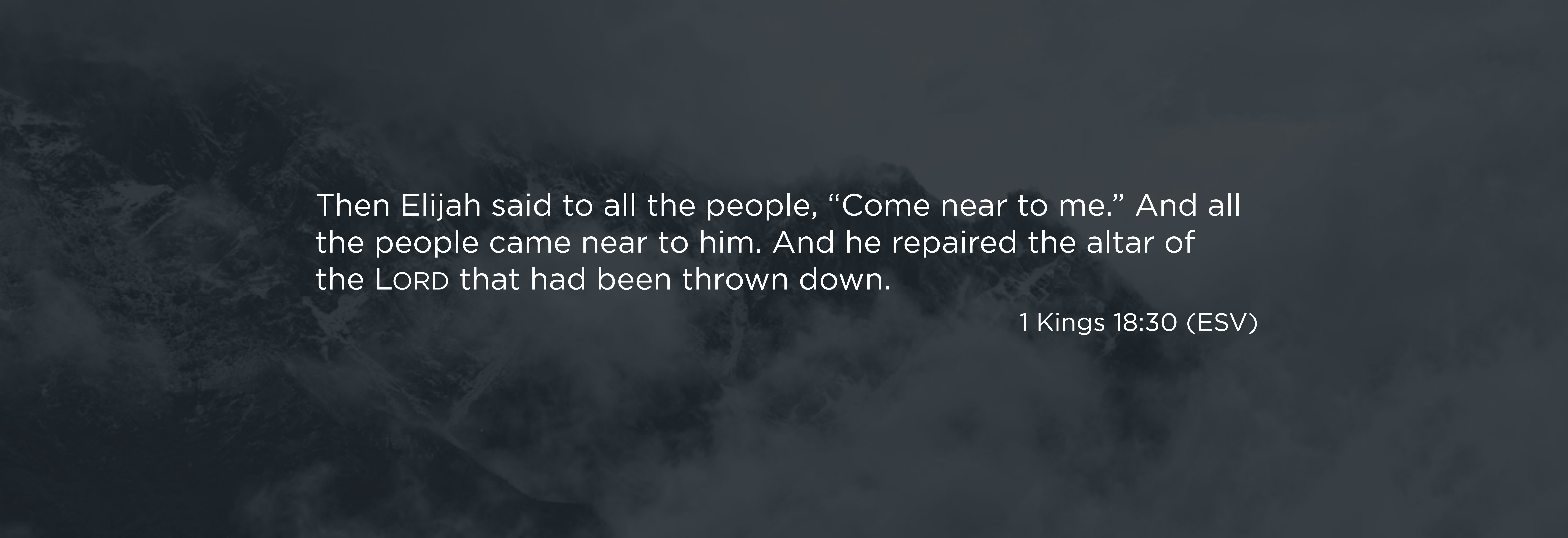
- 1. Walked in the sins of Jeroboam*
- 2. Worshiped and served Baal*
- 3. Abandoned the Commandments of the Lord*

“Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.” ²⁰ So Ahab sent to all the people of Israel and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel. ²¹ And Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” And the people did not answer him a word.

1 Kings 18:19-21 (ESV)

And at noon Elijah mocked them, saying, “Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.” ²⁸ And they cried aloud and cut themselves after their custom with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out upon them. ²⁹ And as midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice. No one answered; no one paid attention.

1 Kings 18:27-29 (ESV)



Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come near to me.” And all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down.

1 Kings 18:30 (ESV)

“Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹ And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God.”

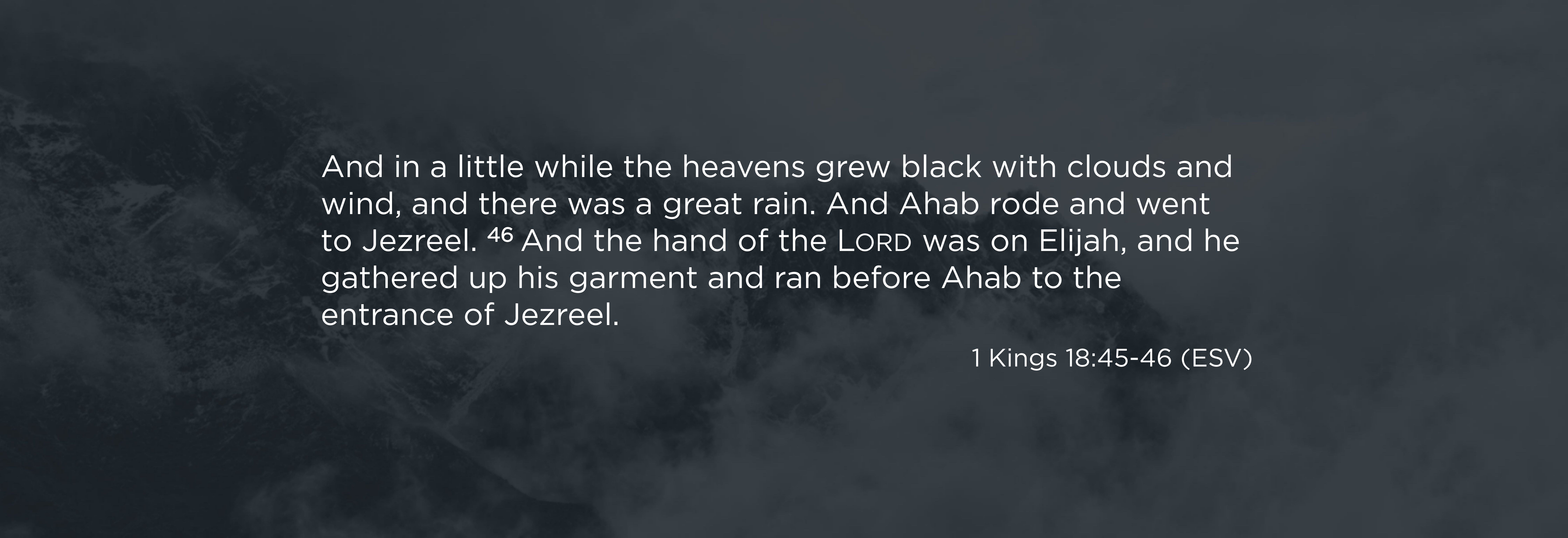
1 Kings 18:37-39 (ESV)

“Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹ And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God.”

1 Kings 18:37-39 (ESV)

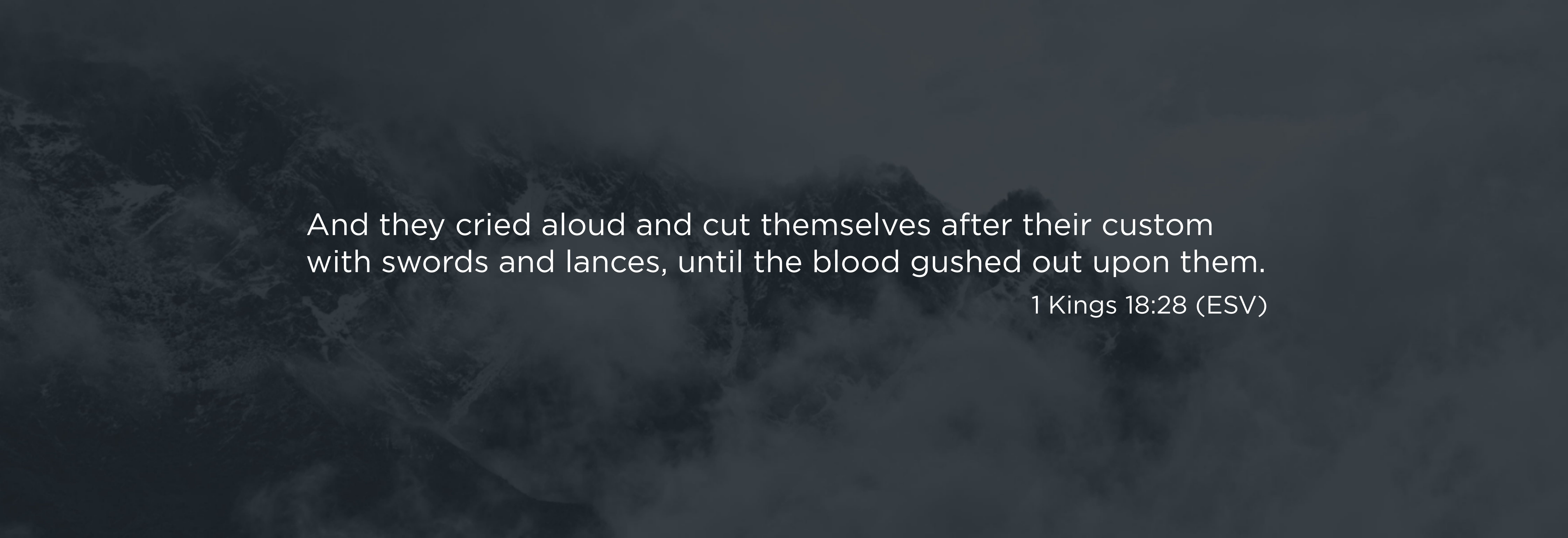
And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain.” ⁴² So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees. ⁴³ And he said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” And he went up and looked and said, “There is nothing.” And he said, “Go again,” seven times. ⁴⁴ And at the seventh time he said, “Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising from the sea.” And he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.’”

1 Kings 18:41-44 (ESV)



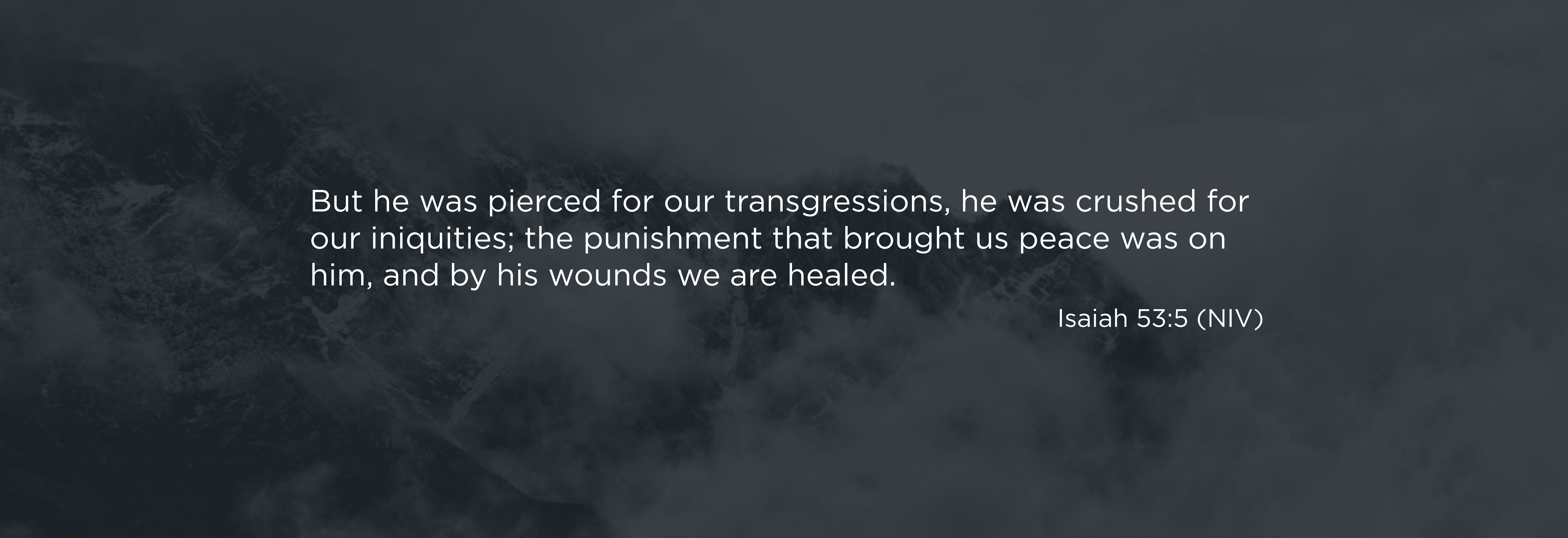
And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶ And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he gathered up his garment and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

1 Kings 18:45-46 (ESV)



And they cried aloud and cut themselves after their custom
with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out upon them.

1 Kings 18:28 (ESV)



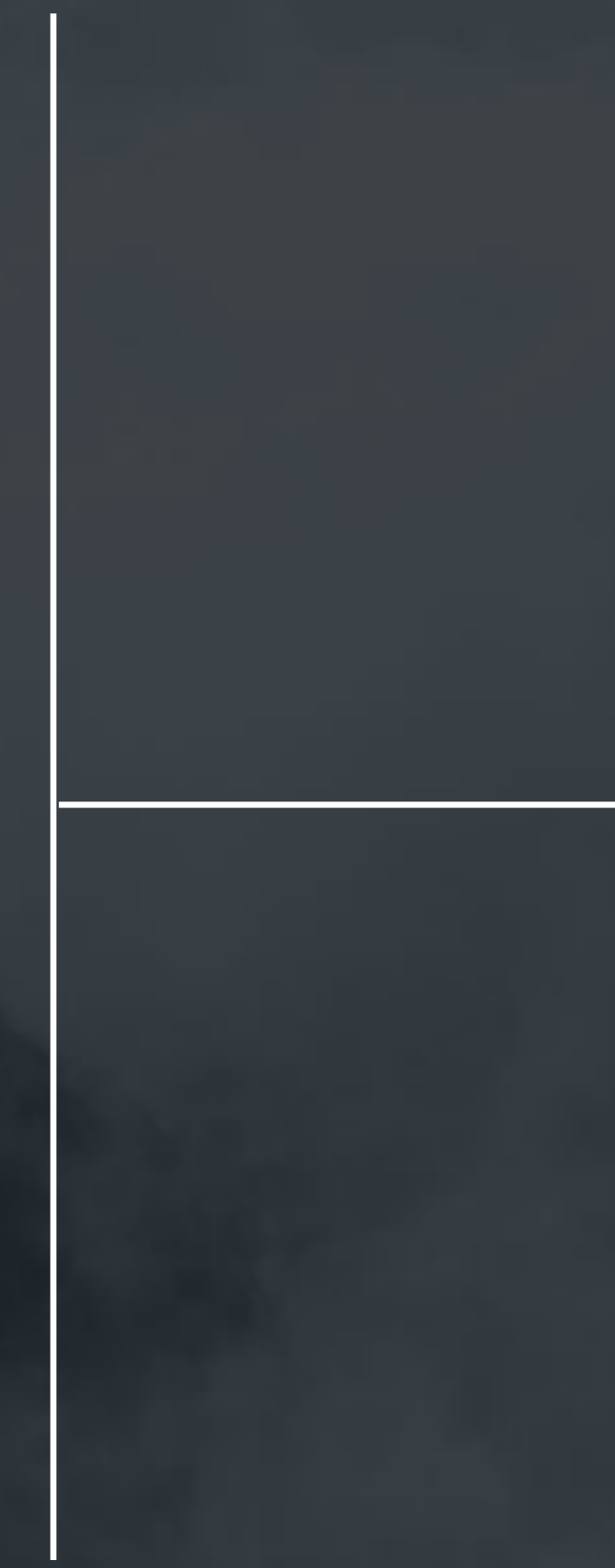
But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)



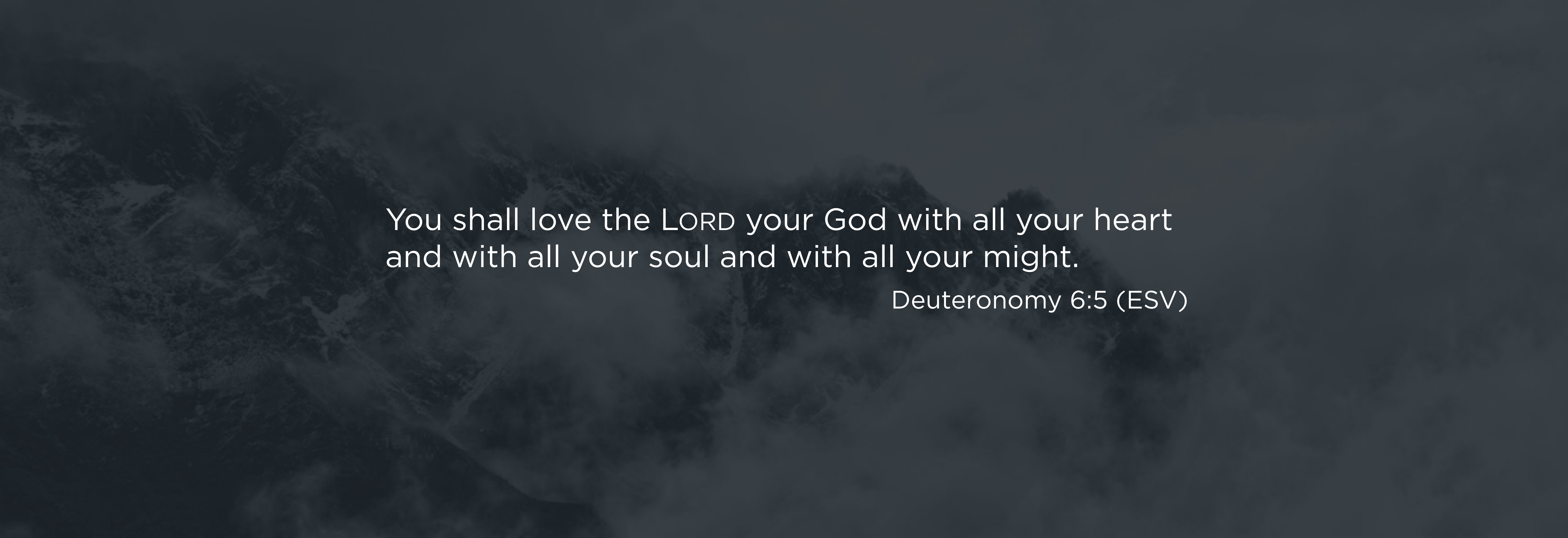
What you hold highest will ultimately
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- *Spirit of Truth*
- *Word of Truth*
- *People Who Speak Truth*



You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:5 (ESV)