



*In The Time
of Crisis*

DAVID

Strengthened

Himself

IN THE

LORD HIS GOD

1 Sam 30:1-31

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DAVID STRENGTHENED HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD

We all need encouragement from time to time.



- ❖ Times of discouragement, (*loss of health, done wrong by a friend etc.*)
- ❖ Times of uncertainty, (*when we lose our sense of control*)
- ❖ Times of stress, (*when our load seems heavier than we can bear*).
- ❖ Times of crisis & fear. (*When all seems lost ...*)

Where Do We Turn In Such Times?

DAVID ELUDES SAUL

David flees to Samuel
in Ramah - 19:18

Goes to Nob & gets
Goliath's sword - 21:1-9

David escapes Saul in
Gath - Aligns himself
with Achish & the
Philistines - 27:1-6

Goes to Adullam &
gathers followers - 22:1,2

David given Ziklag
where he lives & fights
for the Philistines -
27:7-28:2

David saves Keilah from
the Philistines - 23:1-5

Saul tries to take David at
Keilah - David flees to
wilderness of Ziph - 23:6-18

David flees to en-Gedi - 23:29
David spares Saul's life - 24

David spares Saul's life a
second time - 26:1-25

David returns to Judah
as instructed - 22:5

Finds refuge for his parents
at Mizpeh - 22:3-4

David flees to the wilderness
of Maon - Saul follows - Saul is
called to fend off an attack of
the Philistines - 23:19-28

It is possible that the
Dead Sea was low enough
to allow crossing by foot.



— David's travels
● Town of uncertain location

0 10 km
0 10 miles

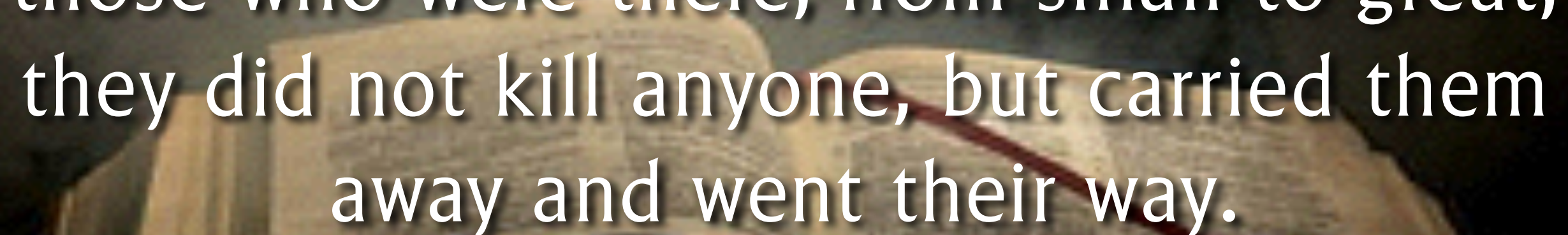
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- A map of the region around Shechem and Gilboa, showing the movements of Philistine and Israeli forces during the events of 1 Samuel 28. The map includes labels for various locations: Geshur, Endor, Shunem, Jezreel, Taanach, Ibleam, Dothan, Tirzah, Shechem, Aphek, Bethel, Gath, and Gibeah. The Philistine army's path is marked with a red line, starting from the bottom left and moving north towards Endor. The Israeli forces' path is marked with a green line, starting from the bottom left and moving north towards Endor. A pink arrow points from the Philistine path to Endor, indicating Saul's journey to the witch. A yellow arrow points from the Philistine path to Aphek, indicating David's return to Ziklag. A red arrow points from the Philistine path to Gilboa, indicating Saul's death and the recovery of his body. The map also shows the locations of the witch of Endor, the battle of Gilboa, and the recovery of Saul's body.
- Philistine armies -
1 Sam 28:1-4
 - Israeli forces -
1 Sam 28:4
 - Saul seeks out the witch of Endore -
1 Sam 28:5-25
 - David sent back to Ziklag from Aphek -
1 Sam 1:29-11
 - Saul's death & body recovered -
1 Sam 31

1 Samuel 28:4–5
(NKJV)

⁴ Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. ⁵ When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ...

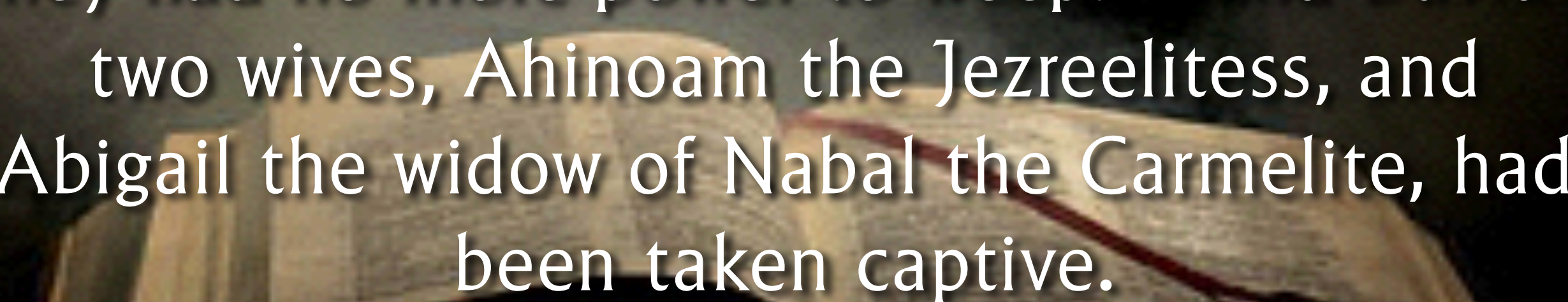
I Samuel 30:1-6 (NKJV)

¹ Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire, ² and had taken captive the women and those who were there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried them away and went their way.



I Samuel 30:1-6 (NKJV)

³ So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. ⁴ Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep. ⁵ And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive.



I Samuel 30:1-6 (NKJV)

⁶ Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.





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DAVID STRENGTHENED HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD

Time For A Purposed Godly Perspective

- ❖ When it says, David “strengthened himself” the Hebrew verb implies persistent and continuous effort.
- ❖ In times of trouble, David didn’t deny the realities around him, but he focused on God’s might, faithfulness & promises -
- ❖ (consider the many Psalms written during times of crisis - he praised & worshipped ...)

⁶ ... But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

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Time For A Purposed Godly Perspective

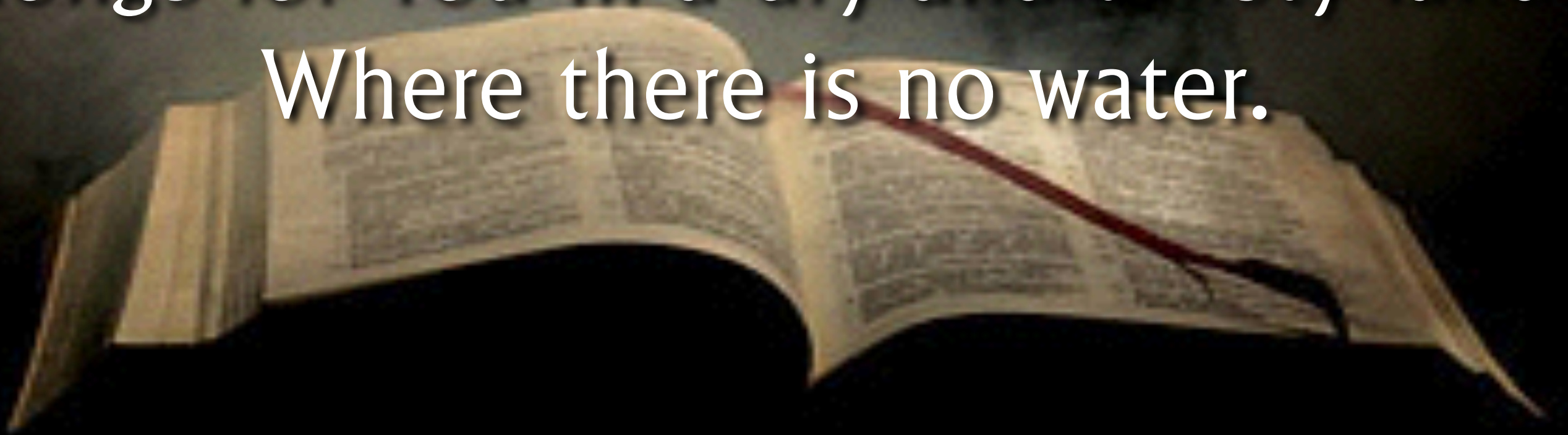
- ❖ After being betrayed by Doeg to Saul - (Psalm 52, 54),
- ❖ After being captured by the Philistines in Gath - (Psalm 56),
- ❖ In hiding in caves while running from Saul (Psalm 57),
- ❖ When Saul had staked out his home to betray him (Psalm 59),
- ❖ In the desert (Psalm 63).

⁶ ... But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.



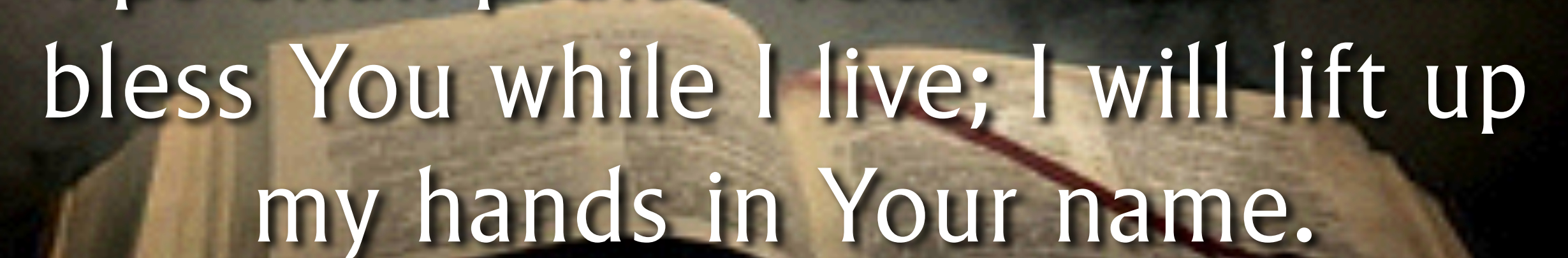
Psalms 63:1-11 (NKJV)

A Psalm of David When He Was in
the Wilderness of Judah. ¹ O God,
You are my God; Early will I seek You;
My soul thirsts for You; My flesh
longs for You In a dry and thirsty land
Where there is no water.



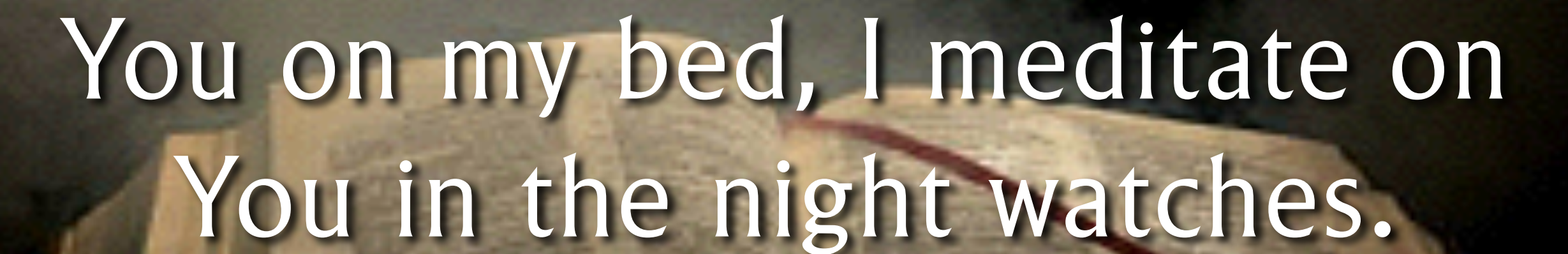
Psalms 63:1-11 (NKJV)

² So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. ³ Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. ⁴ Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

An open book, likely a Bible, is shown from a slightly elevated angle, resting on a dark, textured surface. The pages are aged and yellowed, with visible text. A red bookmark or ribbon is tucked into the right page. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the dark cover of the book.


Psalm 63:1-11 (NKJV)

⁵ My soul shall be satisfied as
with marrow and fatness, And my
mouth shall praise You with
joyful lips. ⁶ When I remember
You on my bed, I meditate on
You in the night watches.



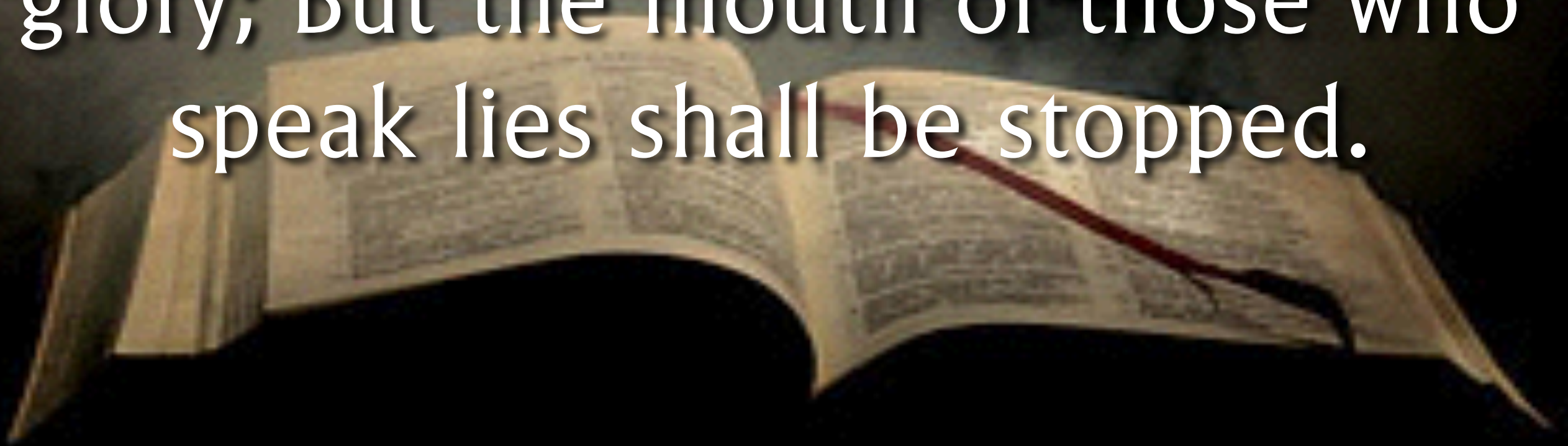
Psalm 63:1-11 (NKJV)

⁷ Because You have been my help,
Therefore in the shadow of Your wings
I will rejoice. ⁸ My soul follows close
behind You; Your right hand upholds
me. ⁹ But those who seek my life, to
destroy it, Shall go into the lower
parts of the earth.

An open book with a red bookmark, resting on a dark surface. The pages are aged and yellowed, with some text visible. The book is open to a spread of two pages, and the red bookmark is placed in the center fold.

Psalms 63:1-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ They shall fall by the sword; They shall be a portion for jackals. ¹¹ But the king shall rejoice in God; Everyone who swears by Him shall glory; But the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.





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Time For A Purposed Godly Perspective

❖ Strengthening yourself in the Lord is an intentional act - Eph 6:10-18; 2 Pet 1:5-11; Heb 5:12-15; Acts 20:32

❖ We may need to REMIND OURSELVES - (Ps 43:5) "Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God: For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God."

⁶ ... But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

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Time For A Purposed Godly Perspective

How will we be able to
“STRENGTHEN
OURSELVES IN THE
LORD” in the time of
crisis if we have not
strengthened ourselves in
the Lord in the times of
peace? - 2 Tim 2:15

⁶ ... But David strengthened
himself in the Lord his God.





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Time For Seeking God's Will

❖ The inquiry was made by means of the ephod, the high priest's apron-like garment which contained the Urim and Thummim which Abiathar the son of Ahimelech had - (cf. Ex. 28:30; Num 27:21; 1 Sam 22:20,21).

❖ Assured of victory (v. 8), David and his 600 men pursued the Amalekites to the Besor Ravine (the Wadi el-Arish, some 20 miles south of Ziklag).

⁸ So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?"



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Time For Seeking God's Will

- ❖ He did not presume and act in the impulse of the moment - he waited on the Lord's permission - (23:2-9; cf. 2 Sam 5:19,23; 1 Chron 14:10).
- ❖ Many do as they wish or react in the moment - then attempt to justify what they have done ...
- ❖ We must ALWAYS act within God's authority - (Col. 3:17; 2 Jn 9,10; Eph 5:15-17)

⁸ So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?"



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Time For Courage & Strength To Act

- ❖ When he heard from the Lord, he moved swiftly in obedience - (9-15)
- ❖ David acted by faith - not of his own will, or strength, but of God's instruction - thus the victory was the Lord's - the reward was of God's grace - (20-23)
- ❖ Faith that obeys is the faith that saves, (James 2:14-26), and such a faith does not nullify God's grace, but receives it - (Eph 2:8-10; Rom 4:12; Heb 3:12-19; 4:11; 5:8,9)

⁹ So David went, he and the six hundred men ... ¹⁰ But David pursued, he and four hundred men

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Time For Courage & Strength To Act

❖ It takes a great deal of courage to live faithfully in today's secular, ungodly world, and to stand for the truth -

Psalm 31:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Be of good courage, And
He shall strengthen your
heart, All you who hope in
the Lord.

⁹ So David went, he and the six
hundred men ... ¹⁰ But David
pursued, he and four hundred men



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Time For Courage & Strength To Act

❖ The Christian's courage & strength to obey, even in times of crisis, is NOT derived from our own strength - but from God in whom we fully place our confidence -

❖ (Psalm 27:14; Josh 1:6-9; Daniel 3:16-18; Num 13,14; Eph 6:10-18; Col. 1:11; Phil 4:13)

⁹ So David went, he and the six hundred men ... ¹⁰ But David pursued, he and four hundred men

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Time For Mercy

- David did not require more from his men that what they were able to accomplish - He had pity on those exhausted and required rest - (10,23-25)

¹⁰ ... for two hundred stayed behind, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor

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Time For Mercy

❖ David did not require more from his men that what they were able to accomplish - He had pity on those exhausted and required rest - (10,23-25)

❖ David treats an Egyptian, a servant of one of the Amalekites, with kindness - He could have assumed him guilty by association - (11-16)

¹¹ Then they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water

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Time For Mercy

❖ It is common for hurting people to lash out at others - to be critical, judgmental, hateful and even injurious to others - (Mat 5:38-48; Prov 20:22; Rom 12:17-19; 1 Thes 5:15; 1 Pet 3:9; Prov 3:27; Luke 6:35)

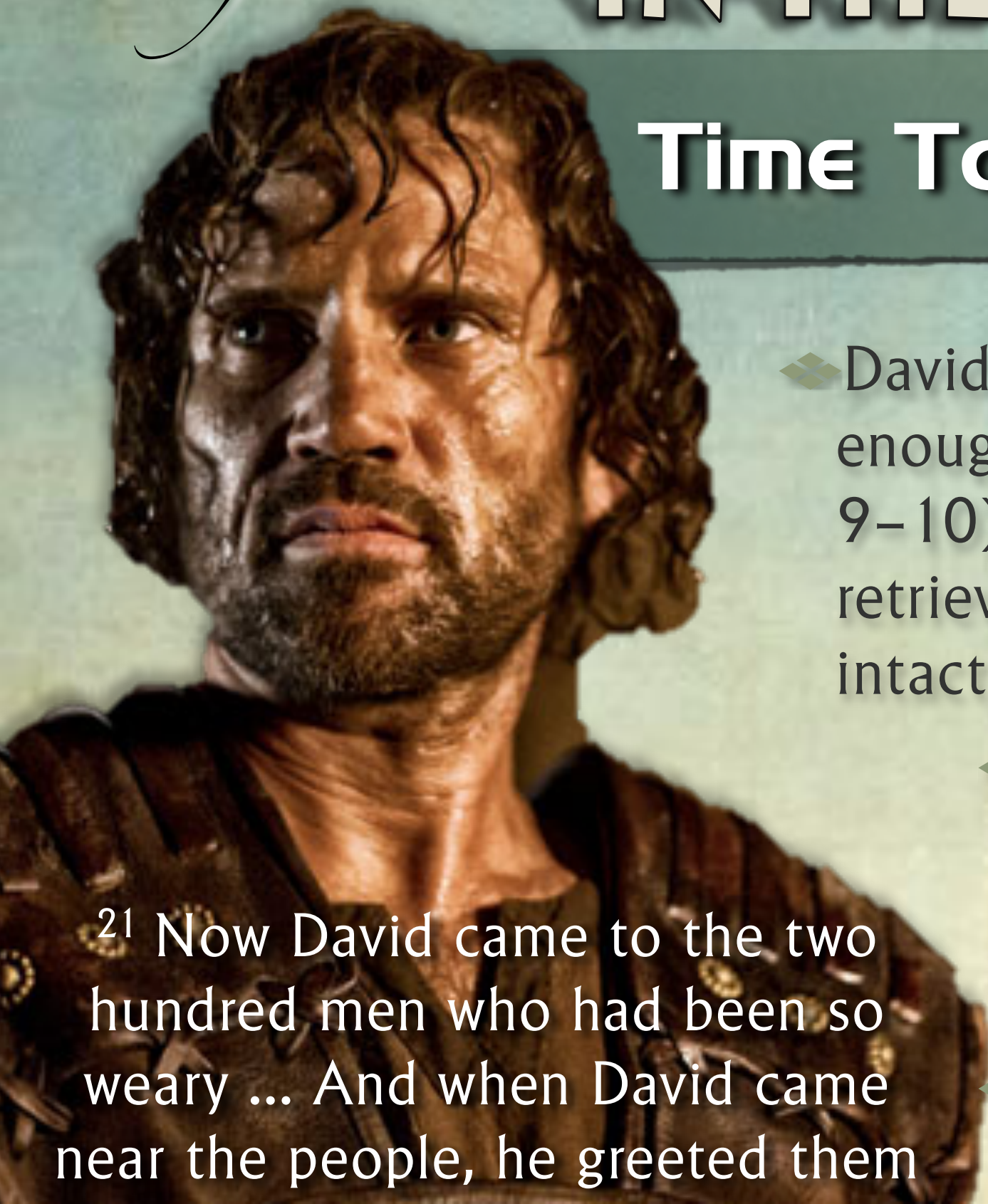
❖ It is also common for the weak to be looked down on & judged by the strong - (22; Ro 12:3-21; 14:1; 15:1; 1 Cor 12:20-23; Luke 10:29-37)

¹¹ Then they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water

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Time To Encourage Others



David's 400 men who were rugged enough to stand the rigorous march (vv. 9–10) defeated the Amalekites and retrieved all their families and property intact (vv. 17–20).

The 200 who had remained behind by the Besor Ravine (vv. 10, 21) wanted a share of the Amalekite spoils.

The 400 resented this request ...

²¹ Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary ... And when David came near the people, he greeted them

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Time To Encourage Others

- ❖ The strong should encourage the weak -
(Ro 14:1; 15:1; Gal 6:1; 1 Thes 4:18;
5:11,14,15; Heb 10:24,25)
- ❖ We must be considerate of one another
- merciful, kind, helpful & forgiving -
(Ro 12:3-21; Col. 3:12-15)

²¹ Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary ... And when David came near the people, he greeted them

- ❖ Every person & task in the kingdom is important - we should encourage one another to greater service - to do what they can - (1 Cor 12:20-26)



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Time To Encourage Others

- ❖ After we faithfully endure the crisis - we are better equipped to help & encourage others! -
- ❖ We should be willing to share with others that which the Lord has blessed us - (23-25; Acts 8:4; 1 Thes 1:8)

²³ But David said, "My brethren, you shall not do so with what the Lord has given us, ... ²⁴ ... But as his part is who goes down to the battle, so shall his part be who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike." ²⁵ So it was, from that day forward



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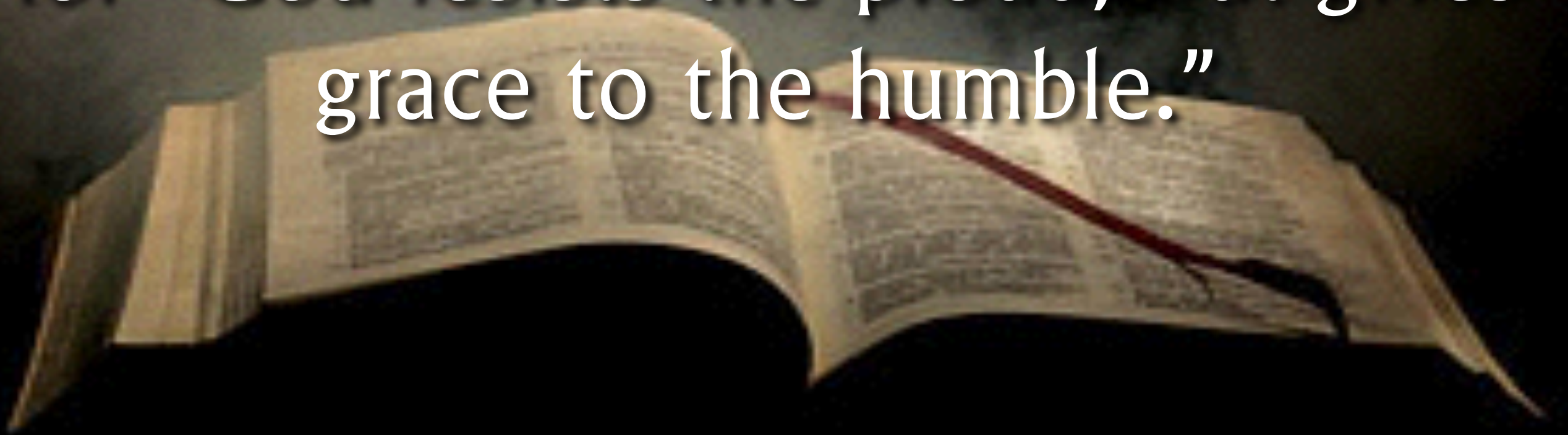
We all need encouragement from time to time.

- ❖ Times of discouragement, (*loss of health, done wrong by a friend etc.*)
- ❖ Times of uncertainty, (*when we lose our sense of control*)
- ❖ Times of stress, (*when our load seems heavier than we can bear*).
- ❖ Times of crisis & fear. (*When all seems lost ...*)

Where Do We Turn In Such Times?

I Peter 5:5-11 (NKJV)

⁵ Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”




I Peter 5:5-11 (NKJV)

⁶ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, ⁷ casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.



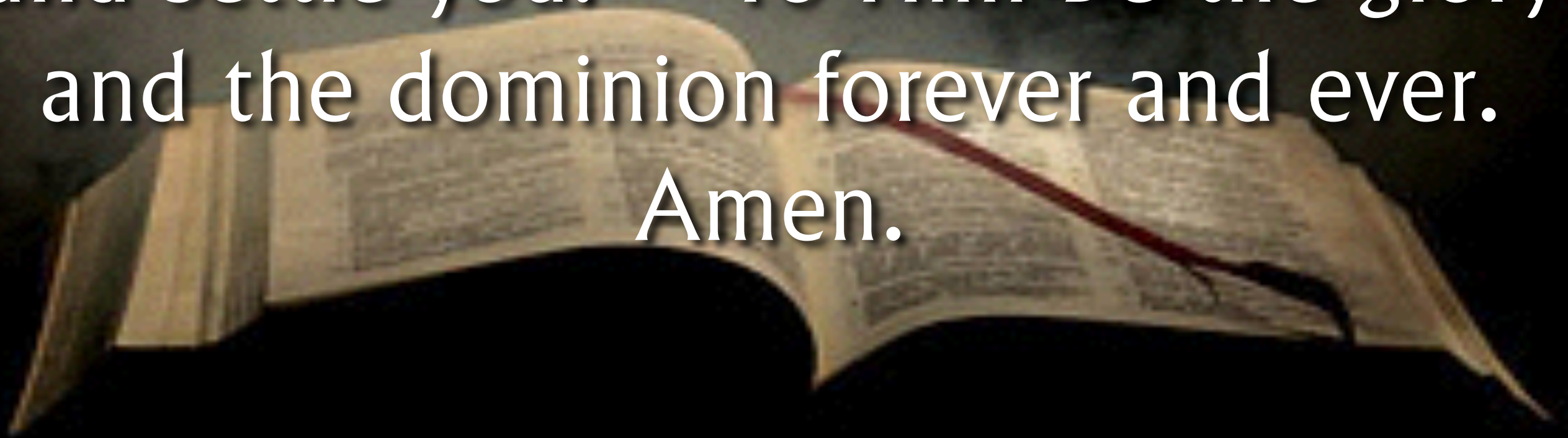
I Peter 5:5-11 (NKJV)

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

An open book, likely a Bible, is shown from a high angle, resting on a dark, textured surface. The pages are aged and yellowed, with visible text in two columns. A red bookmark or ribbon is visible, marking a page. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the binding.

I Peter 5:5-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. ¹¹ To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.



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DAVID STRENGTHENED HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD

In The Time of Crisis

- ❖ We Need A Purposed Godly Perspective
- ❖ We Need To Seek God's Will
- ❖ We Need Courage & Strength To Obey God
- ❖ We Need To Show Mercy
- ❖ And Encourage Others

Let us "Strengthen Ourselves In The Lord Our God so we can in turn be a source of encouragement to others!!

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a dark brown Bible. The person is wearing a blue shirt. The Bible's cover has "HOLY BIBLE" embossed on it. The background is blurred, showing the person's face and the blue shirt.

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DAVID

Strengthened Himself

IN THE **LORD HIS GOD**

1 Sam 30:1-31

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Charts by Don McClain

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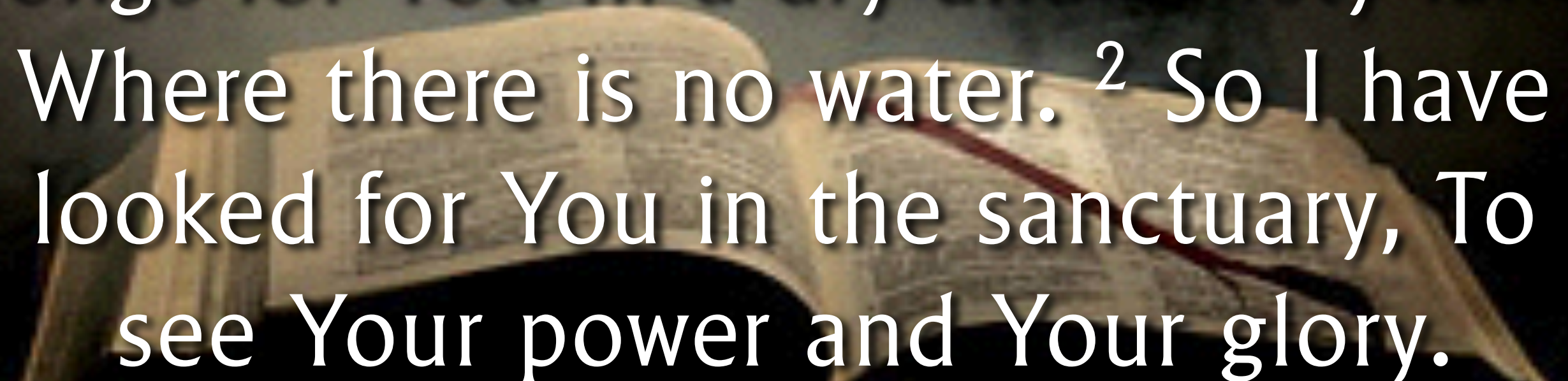
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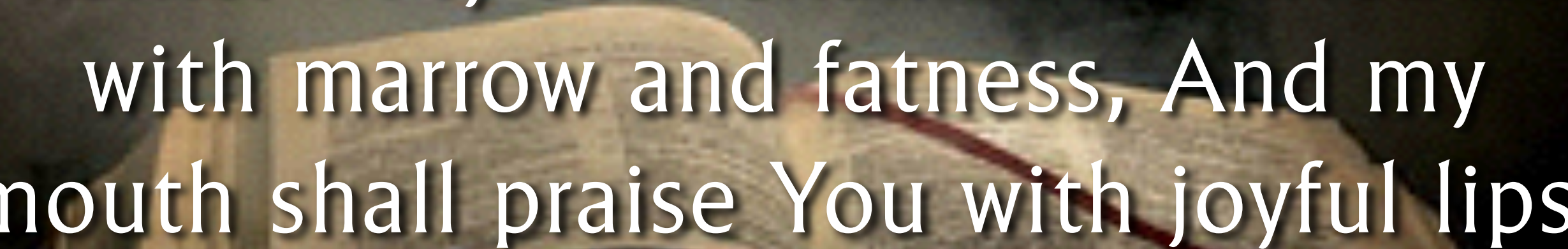
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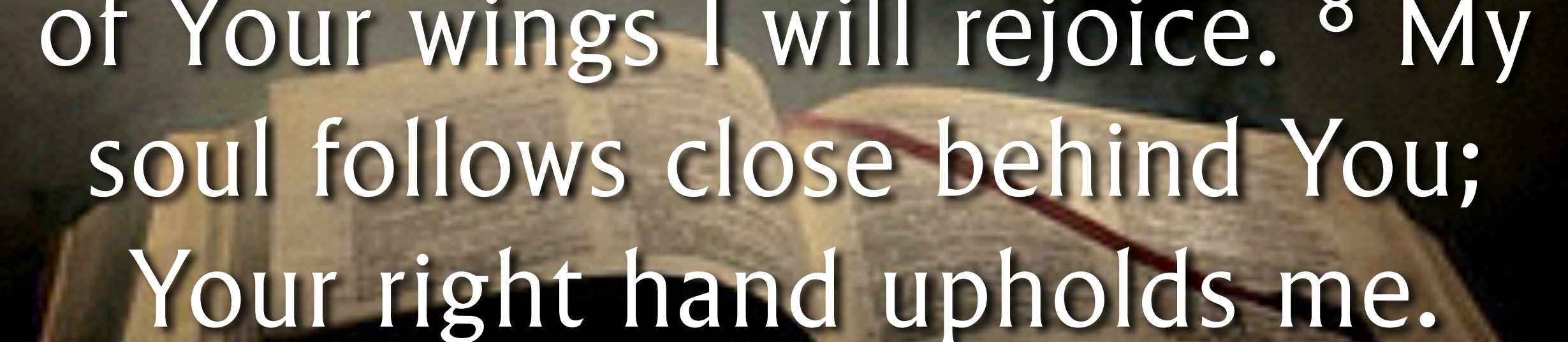
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Psalm 63:1-10 (NKJV)

⁹ But those who seek my life,
to destroy it, Shall go into
the lower parts of the earth.

¹⁰ They shall fall by the
sword; They shall be a
portion for jackals.

