



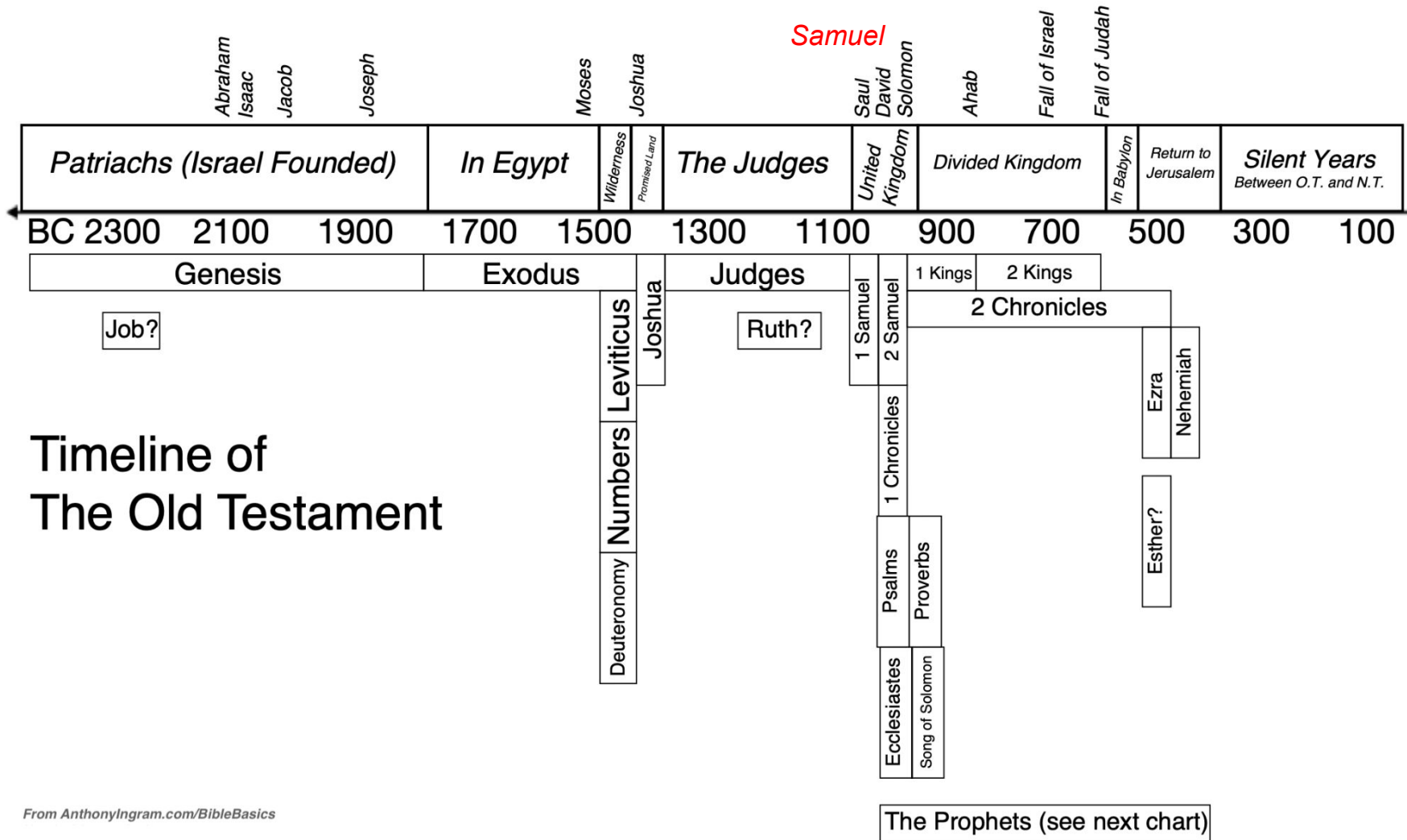
# BETWEEN TWO MOUNTAINS

THE STORY OF ISRAEL AND THE  
BIRTH OF THE CHURCH



# The Assyrian Conquest

The Fall of Israel and Judah



# Timeline of The Old Testament



# Strengths of the Assyrian Empire

1. Military Superiority
2. Strong Administrators and Politicians
3. Skilled Architects and Engineers
4. High Level of Cultural and Intellectual Achievements
5. Economically Strong
6. Adaptable (multicultural)

## 2 Kings 17

In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah began to reign in Samaria over Israel, and he reigned nine years. **2** And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, yet not as the kings of Israel who were before him. **3** Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria. And Hoshea became his vassal and paid him tribute.



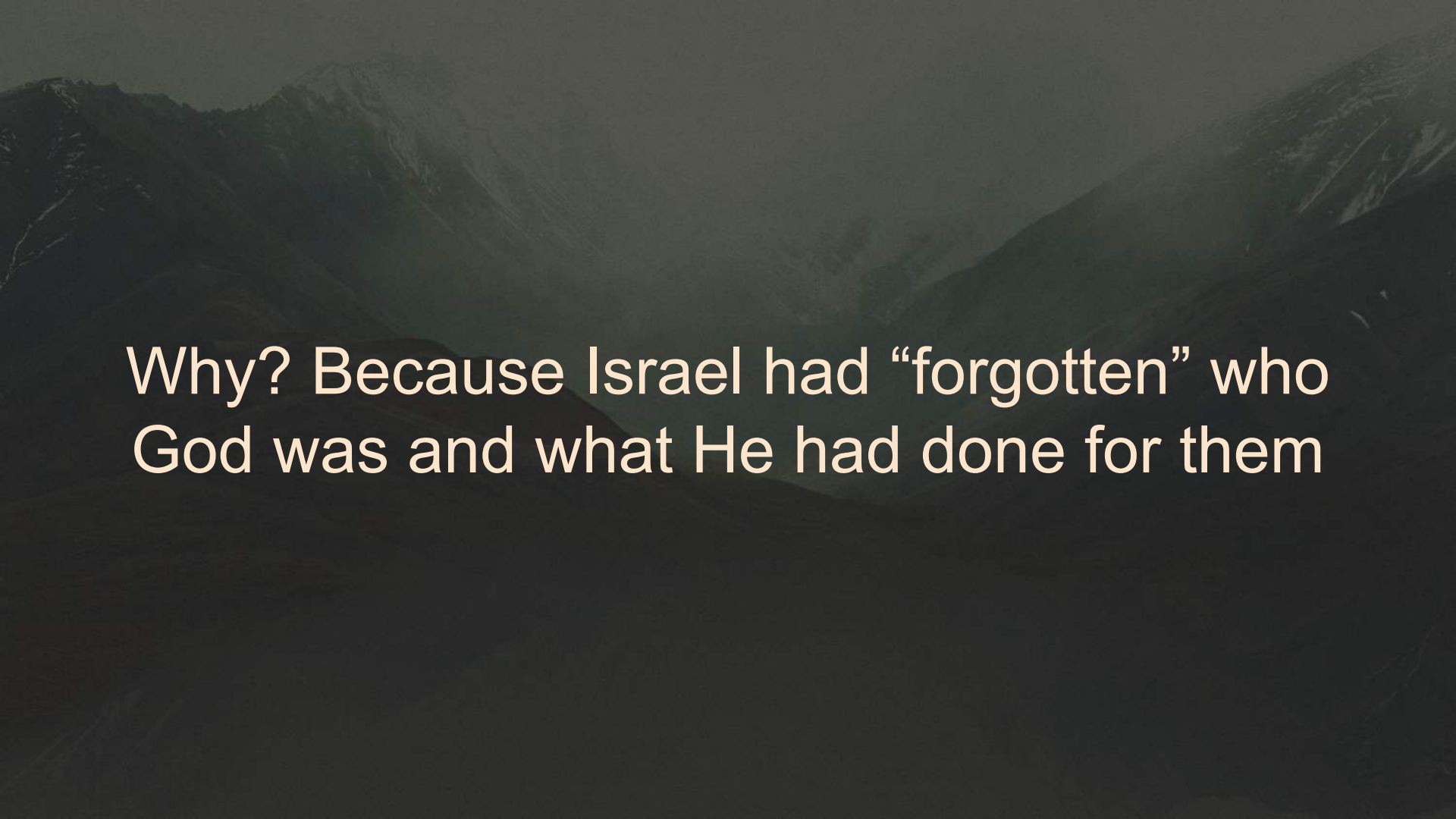
## 2 Kings 17

**4** But the king of Assyria found treachery in Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year. Therefore the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison. **5** Then the king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria, and for three years he besieged it.

## 2 Kings 17

**6** In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, and he carried the Israelites away to Assyria and placed them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.





Why? Because Israel had “forgotten” who  
God was and what He had done for them

## 2 Kings 17

7 And this occurred because the people of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods 8 and walked in the customs of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the people of Israel, and in the customs that the kings of Israel had practiced. 9 And the people of Israel did secretly against the LORD their God things that were not right.

## 2 Kings 17

They built for themselves high places in all their towns, from watchtower to fortified city. **10** They set up for themselves pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree, **11** and there they made offerings on all the high places, as the nations did whom the LORD carried away before them. And they did wicked things, provoking the LORD to anger, **12** and they served idols, of which the LORD had said to them, “You shall not do this.”

## 2 Kings 17

**14** But they would not listen, but were stubborn, as their fathers had been, who did not believe in the LORD their God.

## 2 Kings 17:15-17

1. Rejected God's covenants and commands
2. Followed pagan nations
3. Created idols (golden calves, Asherah pole)
4. Worshiped Baal
5. Practiced child sacrifice
6. Used divination and omens

## 2 Kings 20

**1** In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.’” **2** Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, saying, **3** “Now, O LORD, please remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

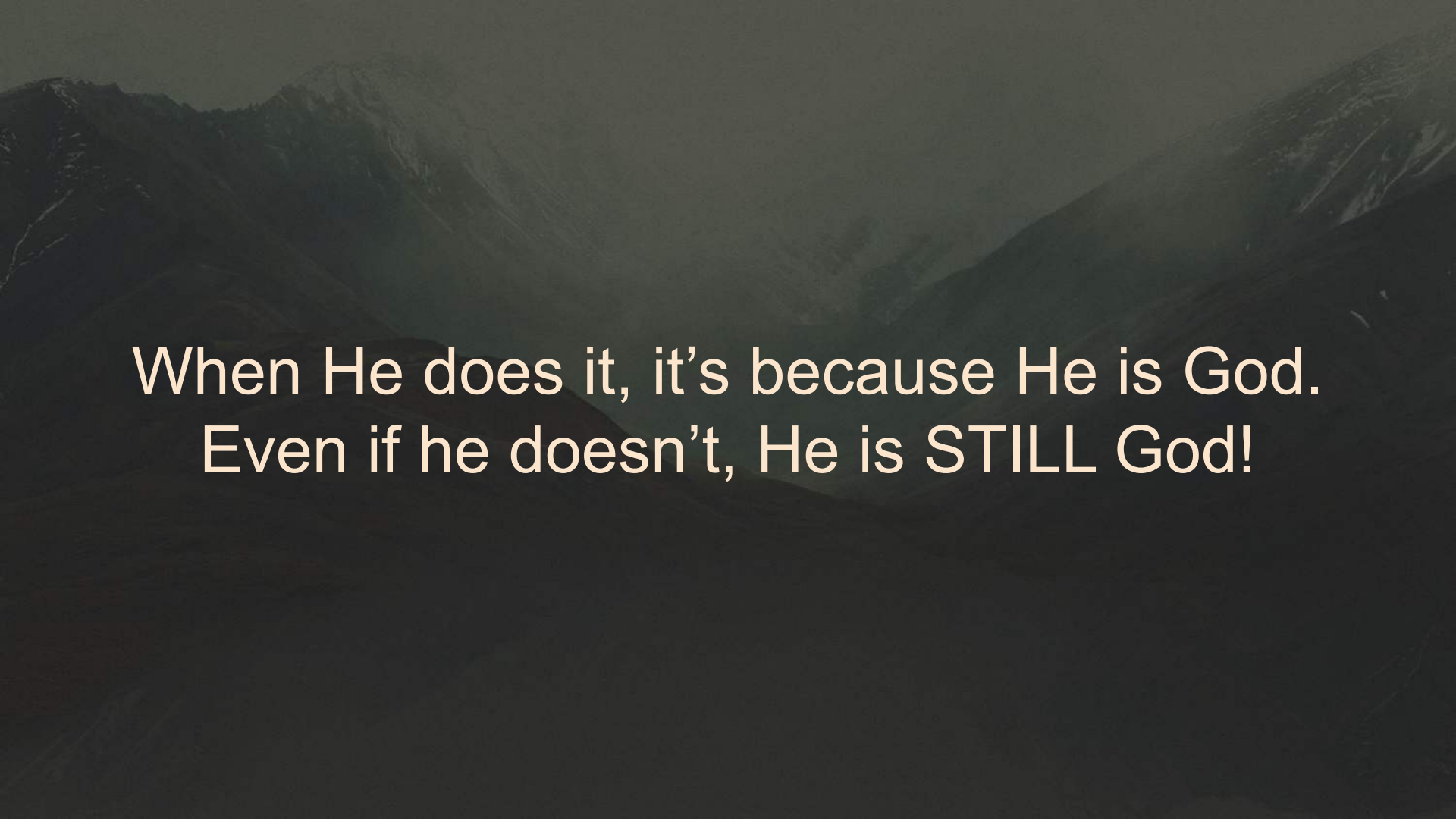


## 2 Kings 20

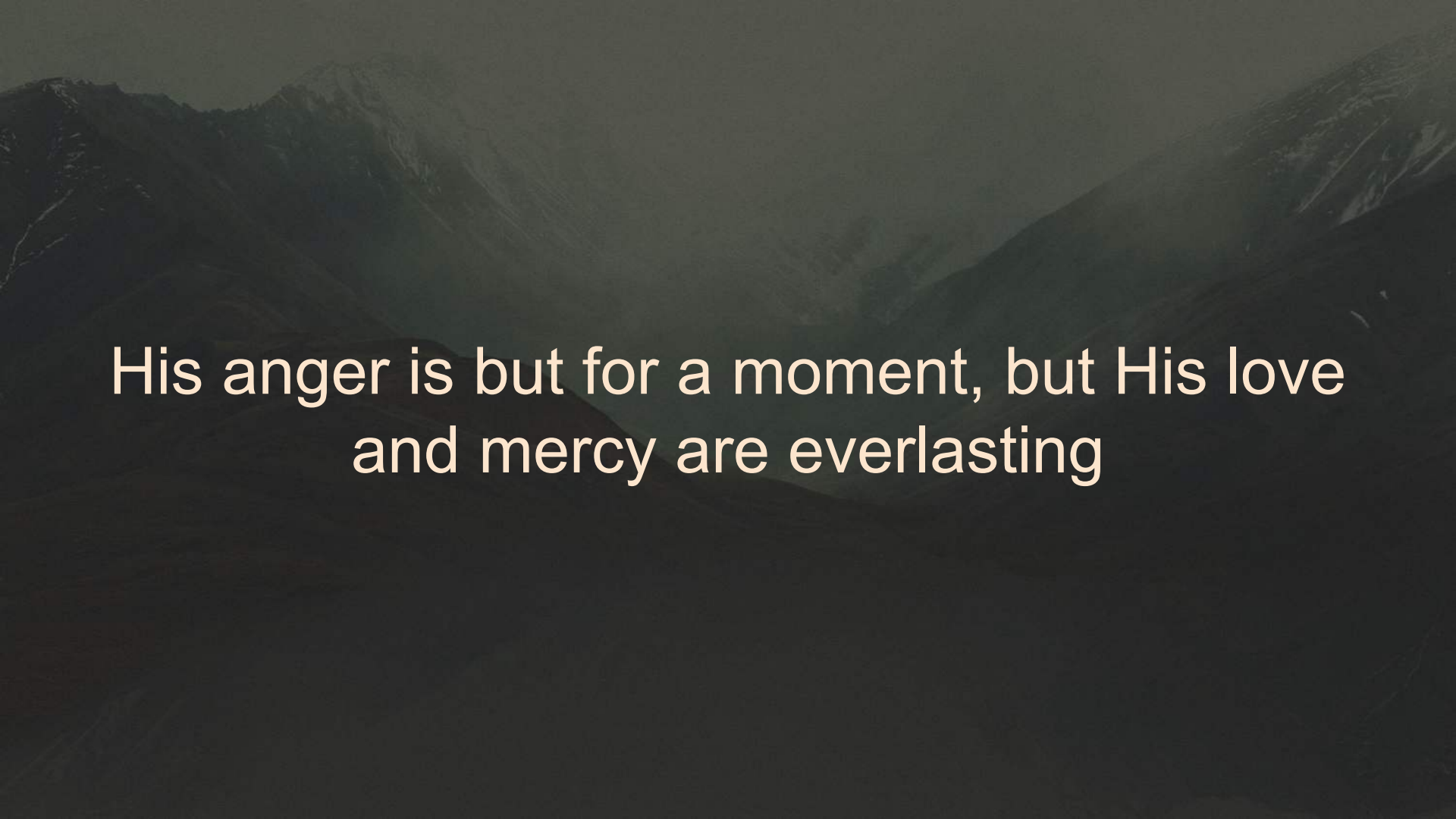
4 And before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, the word of the LORD came to him: 5 “Turn back, and say to Hezekiah the leader of my people, Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD, 6 and I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's sake.”



Even when it's about us, it's really about God



When He does it, it's because He is God.  
Even if he doesn't, He is STILL God!



His anger is but for a moment, but His love  
and mercy are everlasting



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