

# Too Good to be True?

(2 Sam 9-10)





BLESSED 38<sup>TH</sup>



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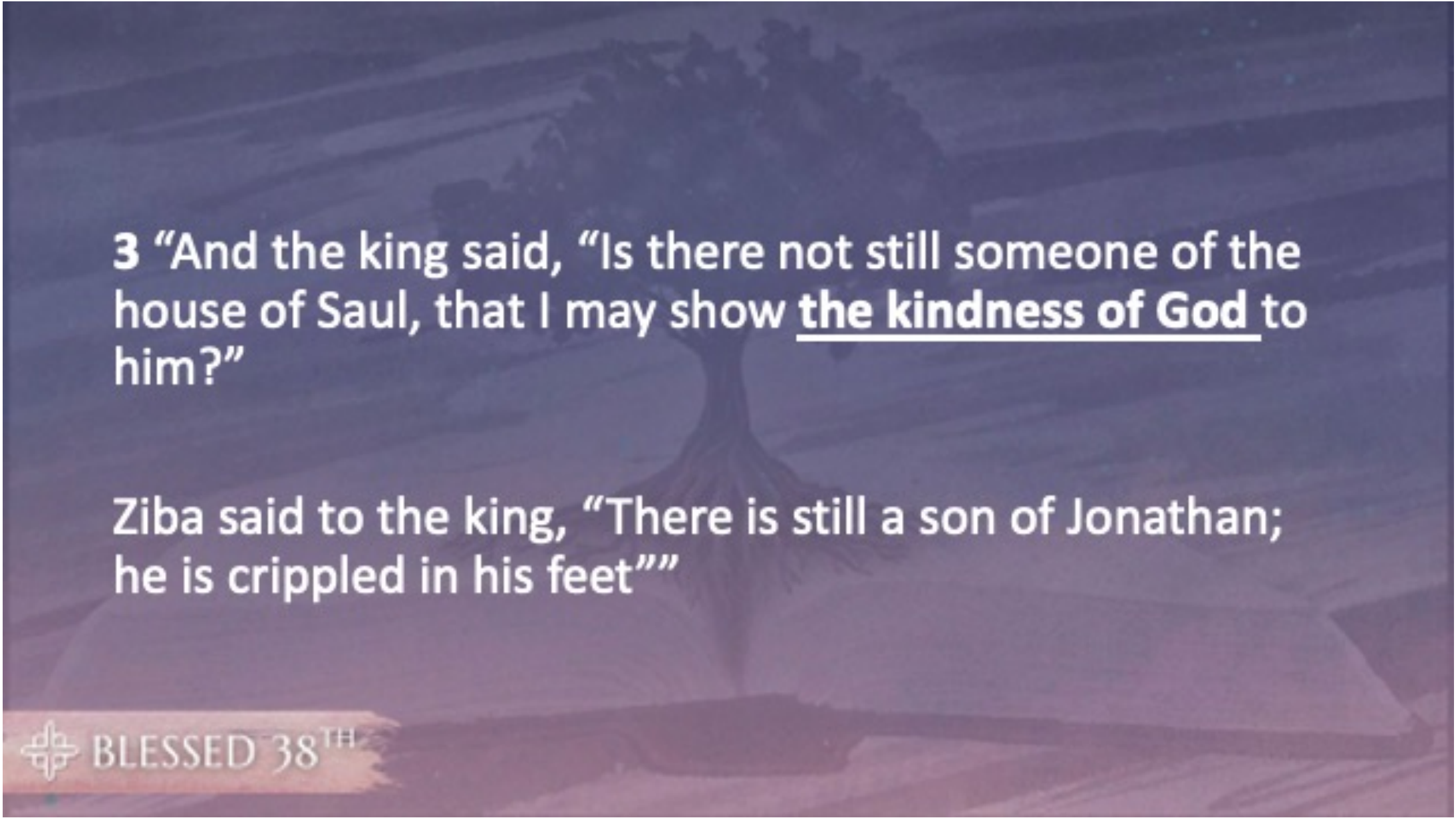


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3 “And the king said, “Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?”

Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet””



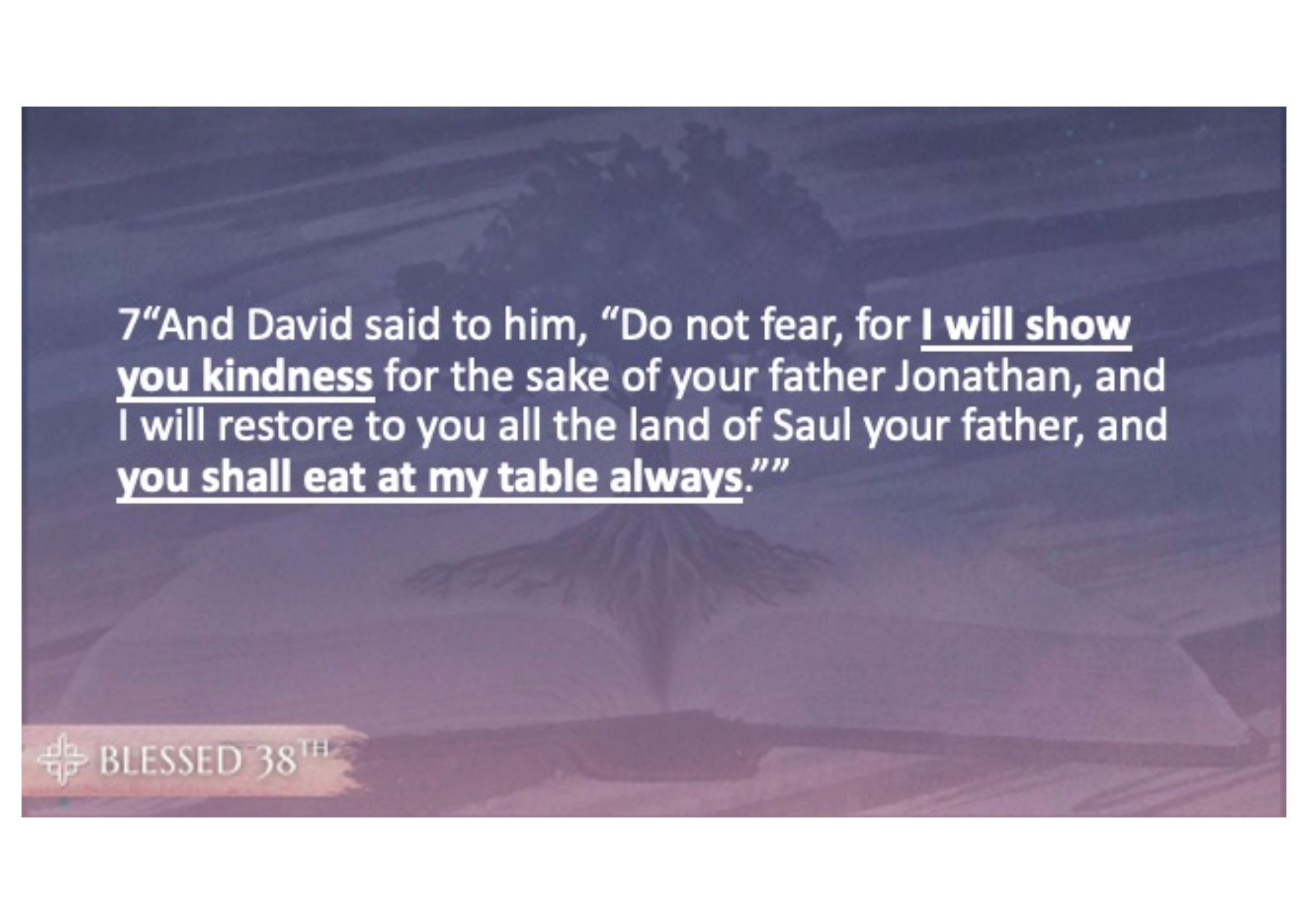
6 “And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage.

And David said, “Mephibosheth!”

And he answered, “Behold, I am your servant.””



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7“And David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always.””

**9** Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson.



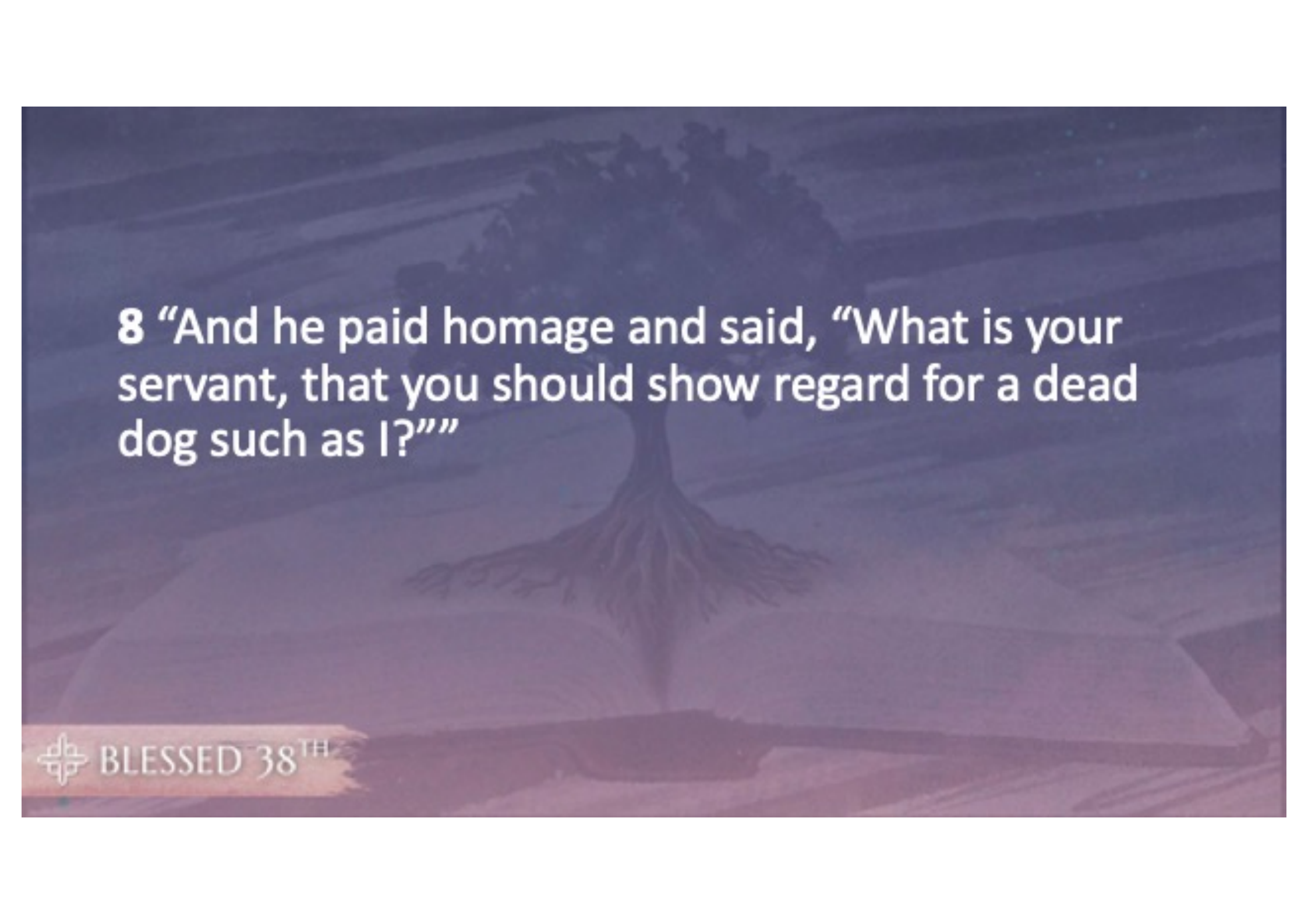
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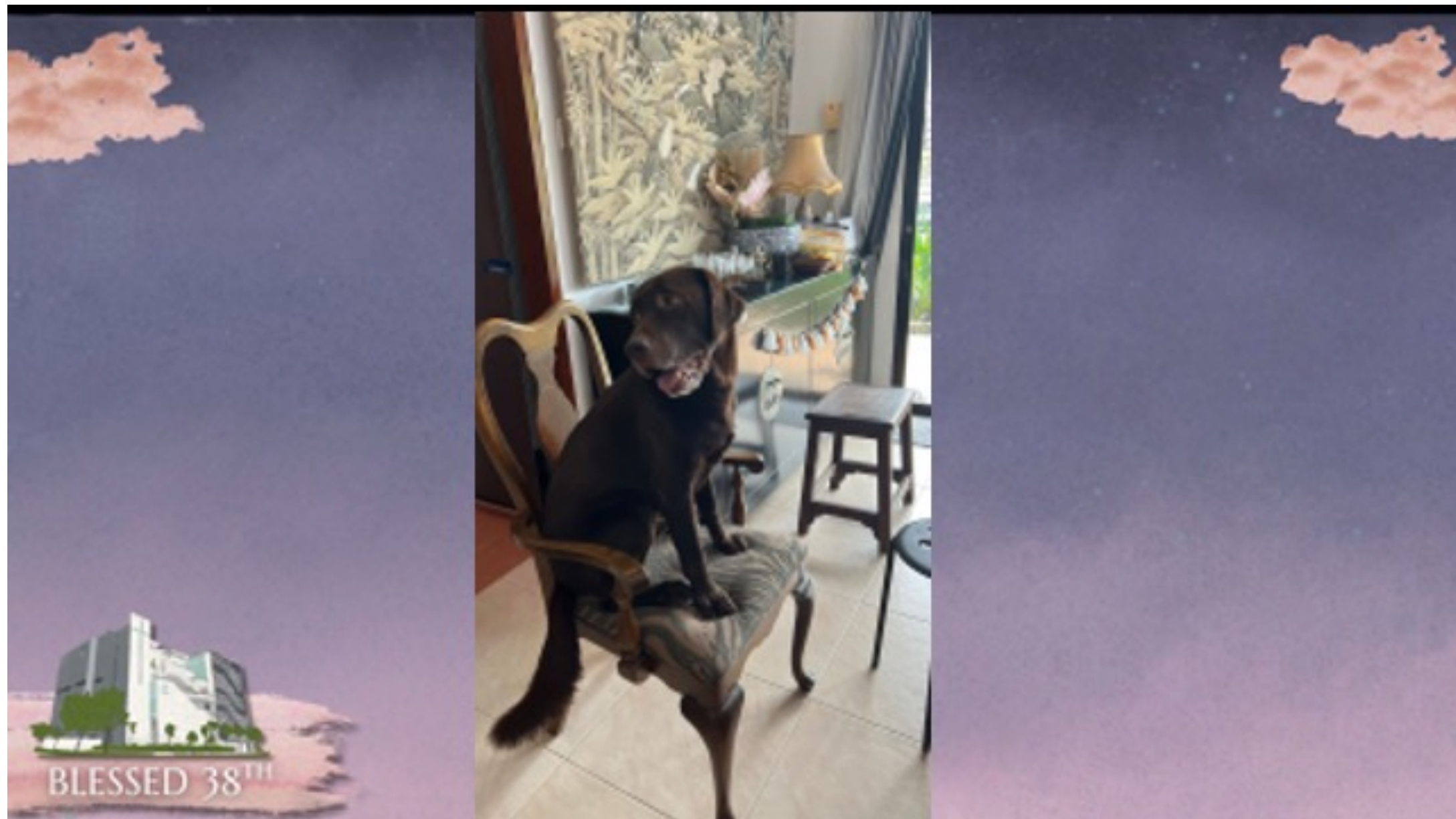
**10** And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table."



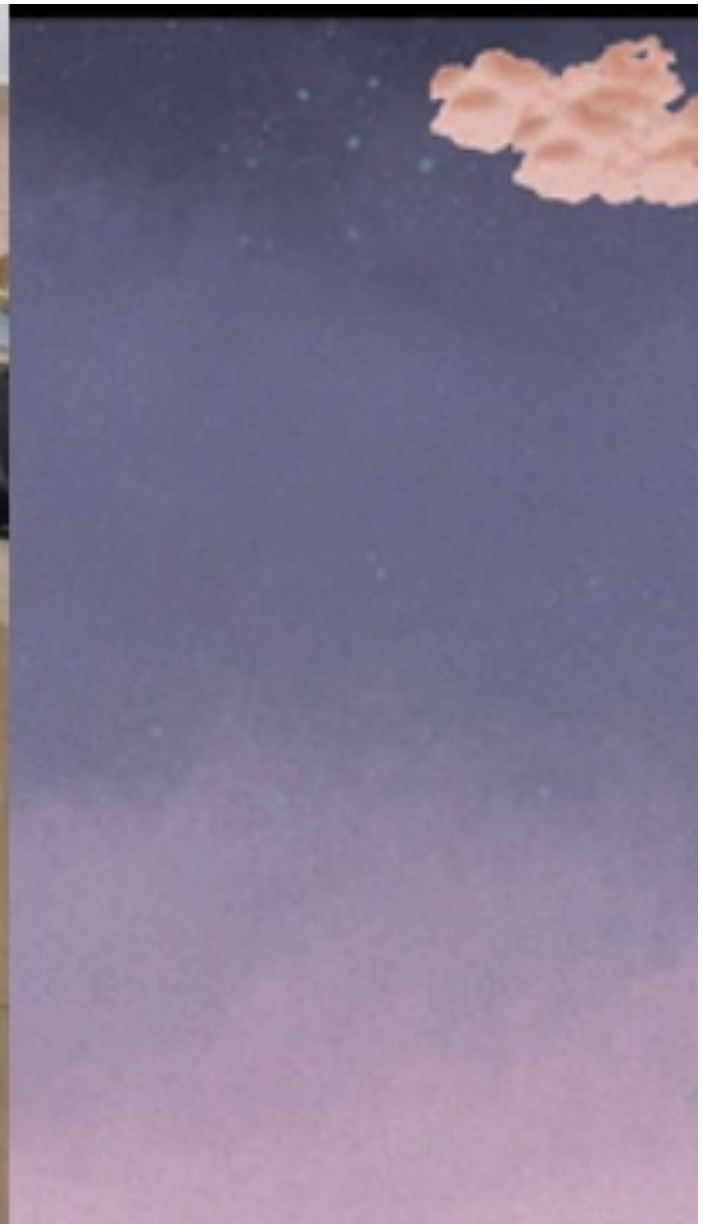
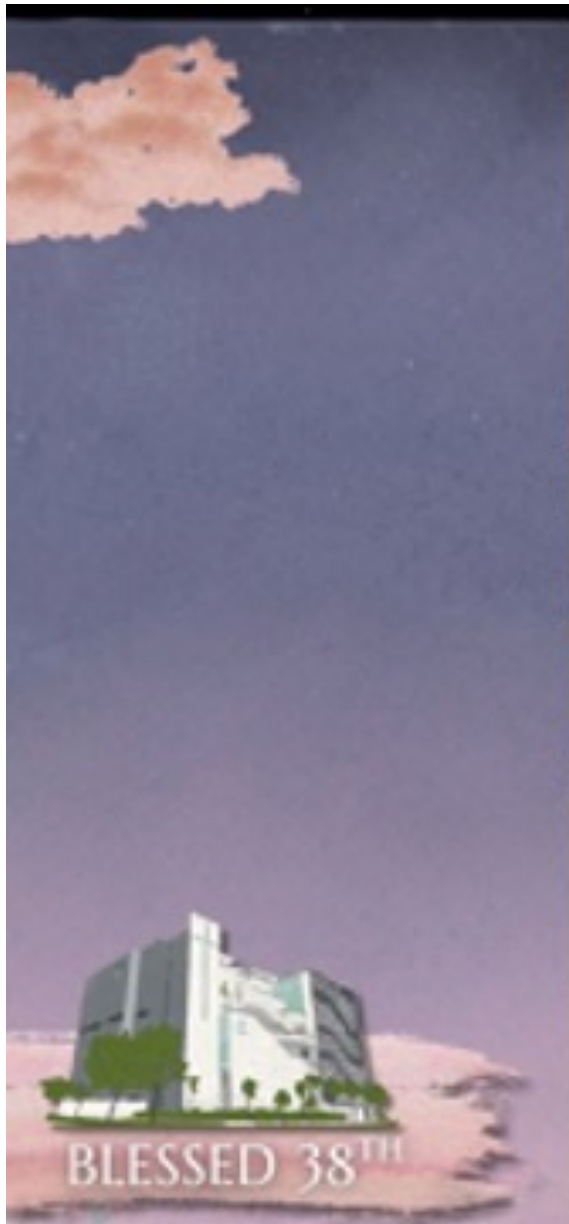
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8 “And he paid homage and said, “What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?””







# 1. The King's Kindness Received (chap 9)



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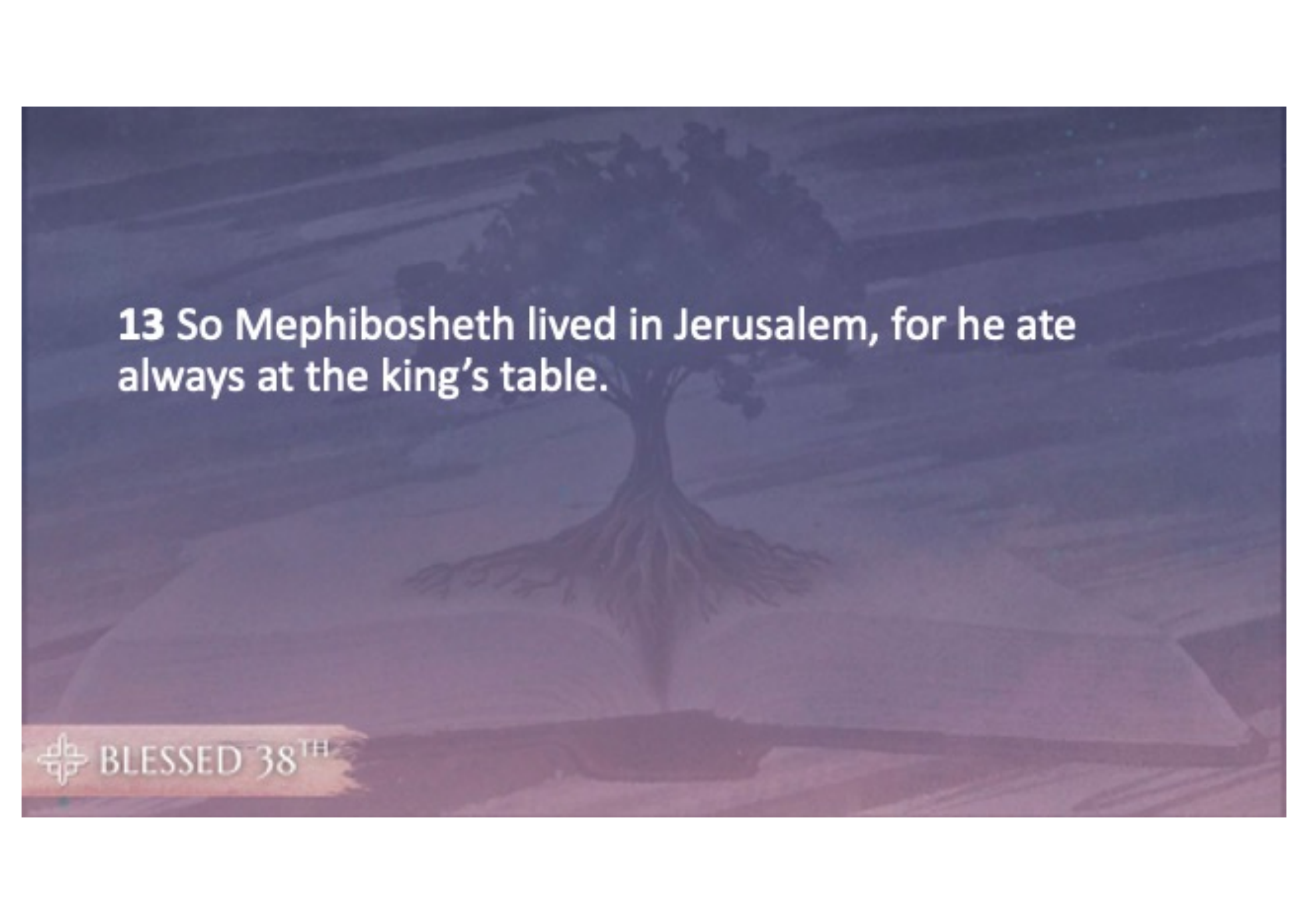
**16** And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

**17** And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." (Mark 2)



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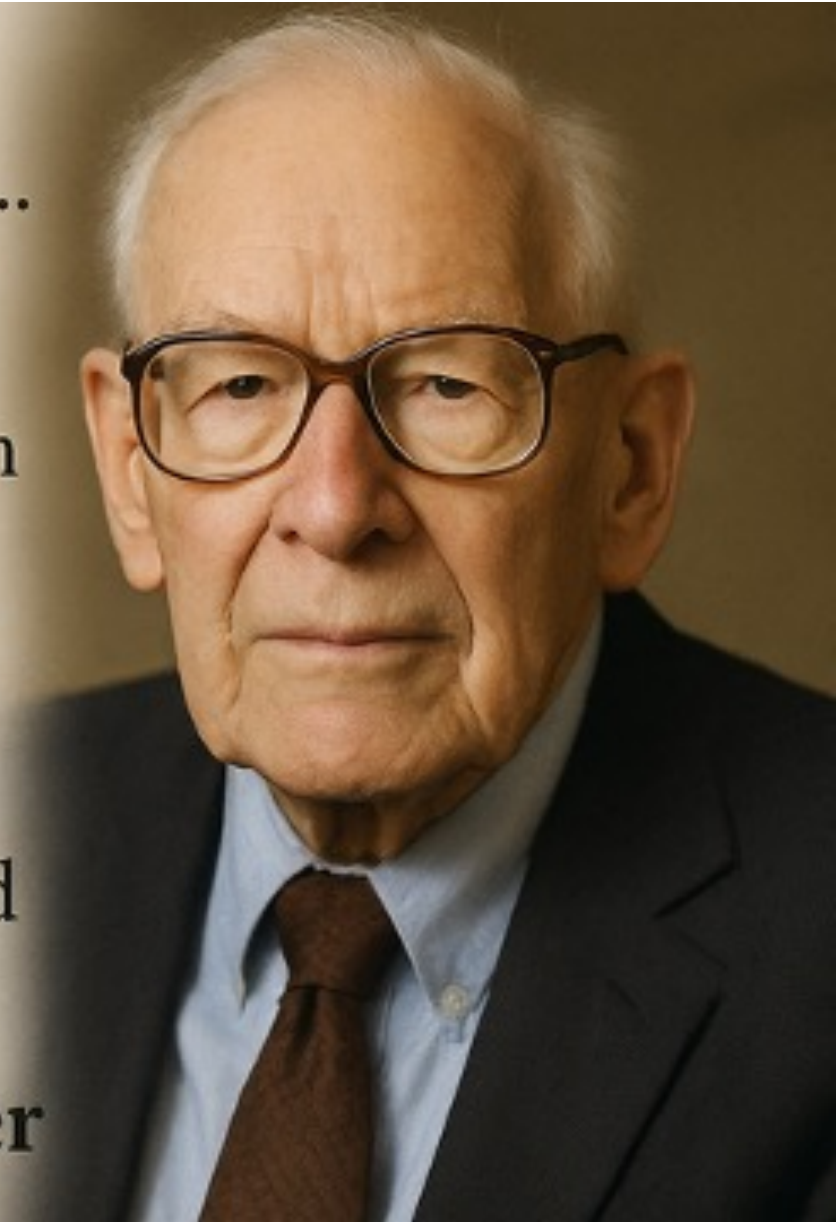
**13** So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate  
always at the king's table.



See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that  
we should be called children of God (1 John 3:1)

“Adoption is the highest privilege that the gospel offers... In adoption, God takes us into his family and fellowship — he establishes us as his children and heirs. Closeness, affection and generosity are at the heart of the relationship. To be right with God the judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by the Father is greater.”

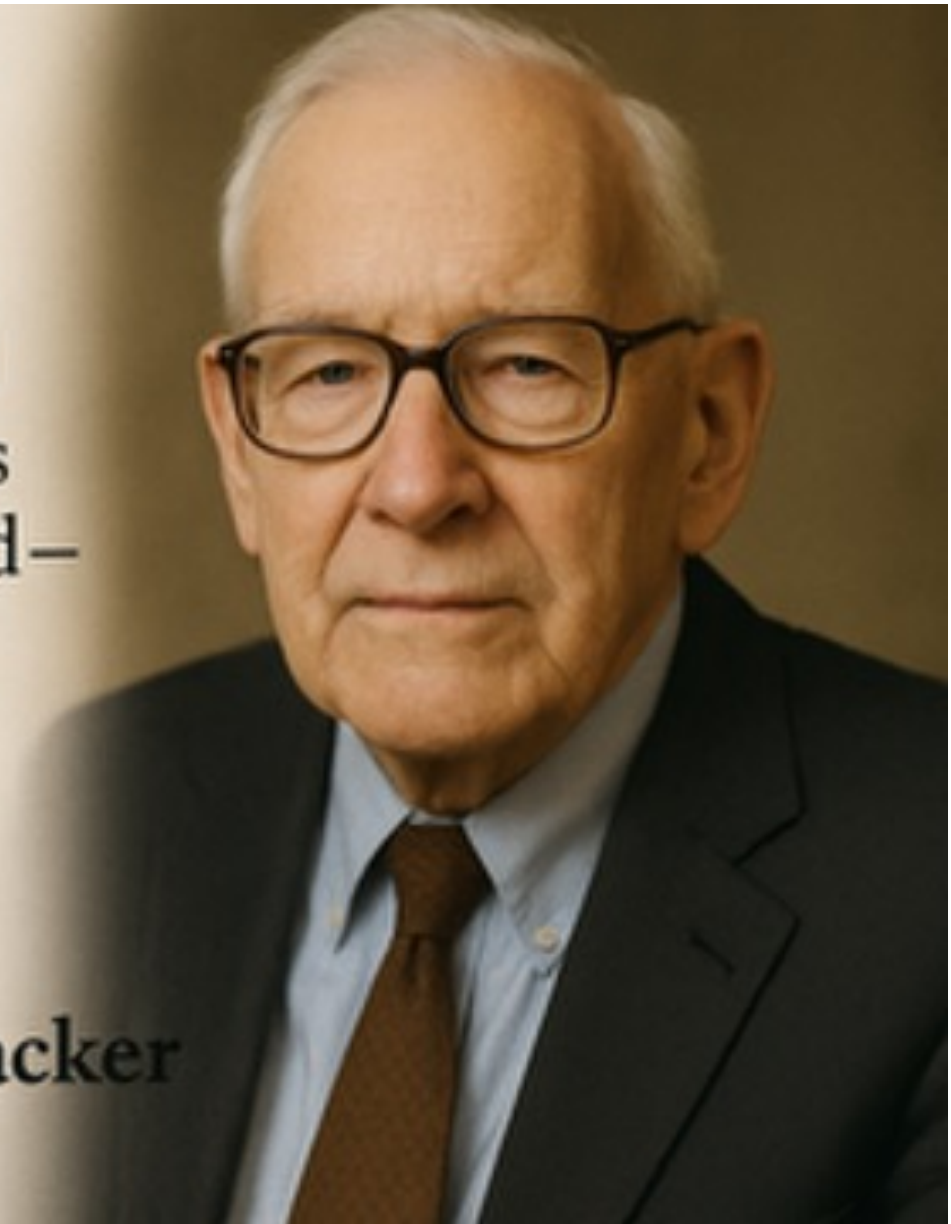
**J. I. Packer**





We are not fit for a place in God's family; the idea of his loving and exalting us sinners as he loves and has exalted the Lord Jesus sounds ludicrous and wild—yet that, and nothing less than that, is what our adoption means.

**J. I. Packer**





See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that  
we should be called children of God (1 John 3:1)



## 2. The King's Kindness Rejected (ch 10)



9:1 And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

10: 2 And David said, "I will deal loyally with Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father dealt loyally with me."

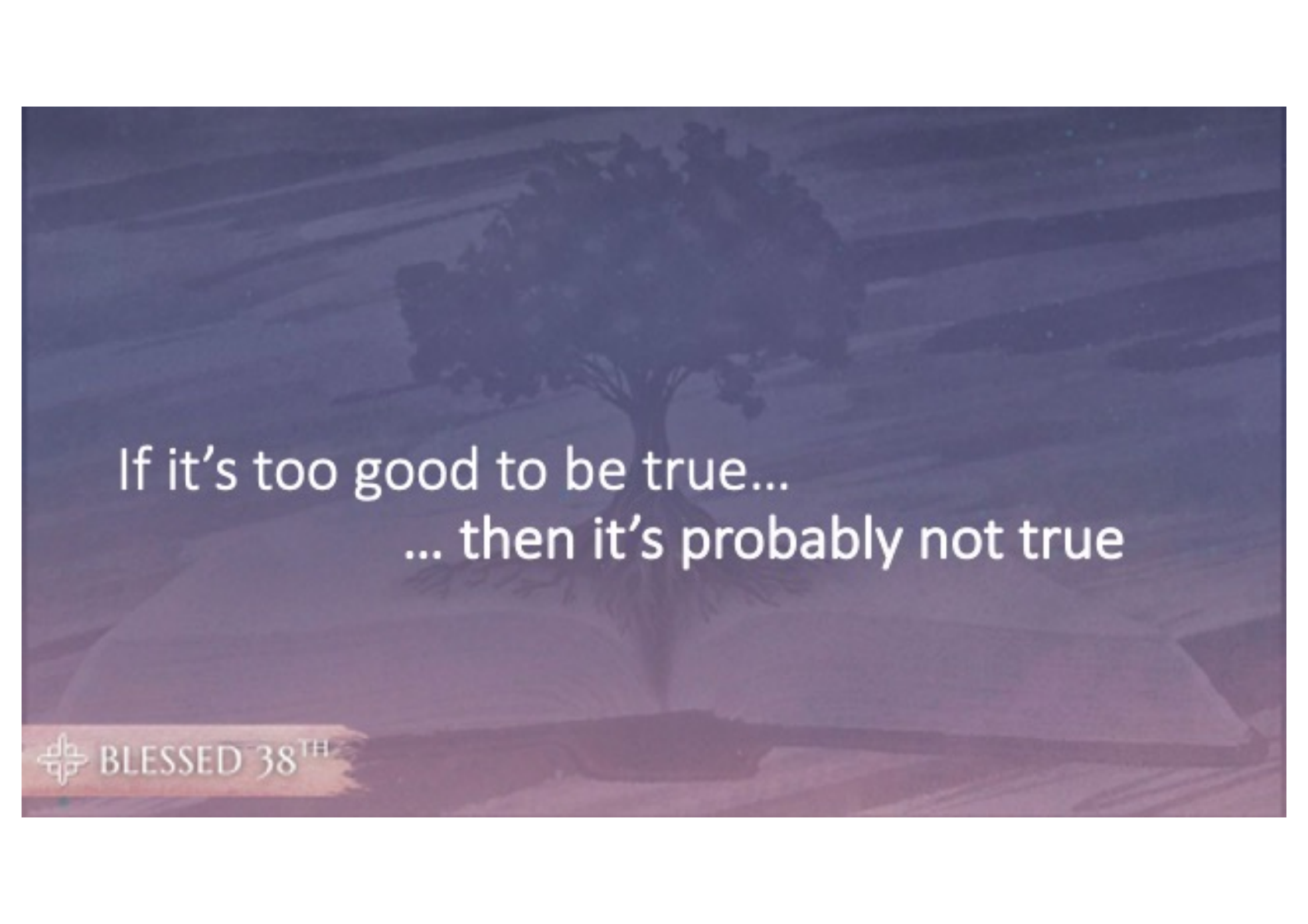


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If it's too good to be true...

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If it's too good to be true...  
... then it's probably not true





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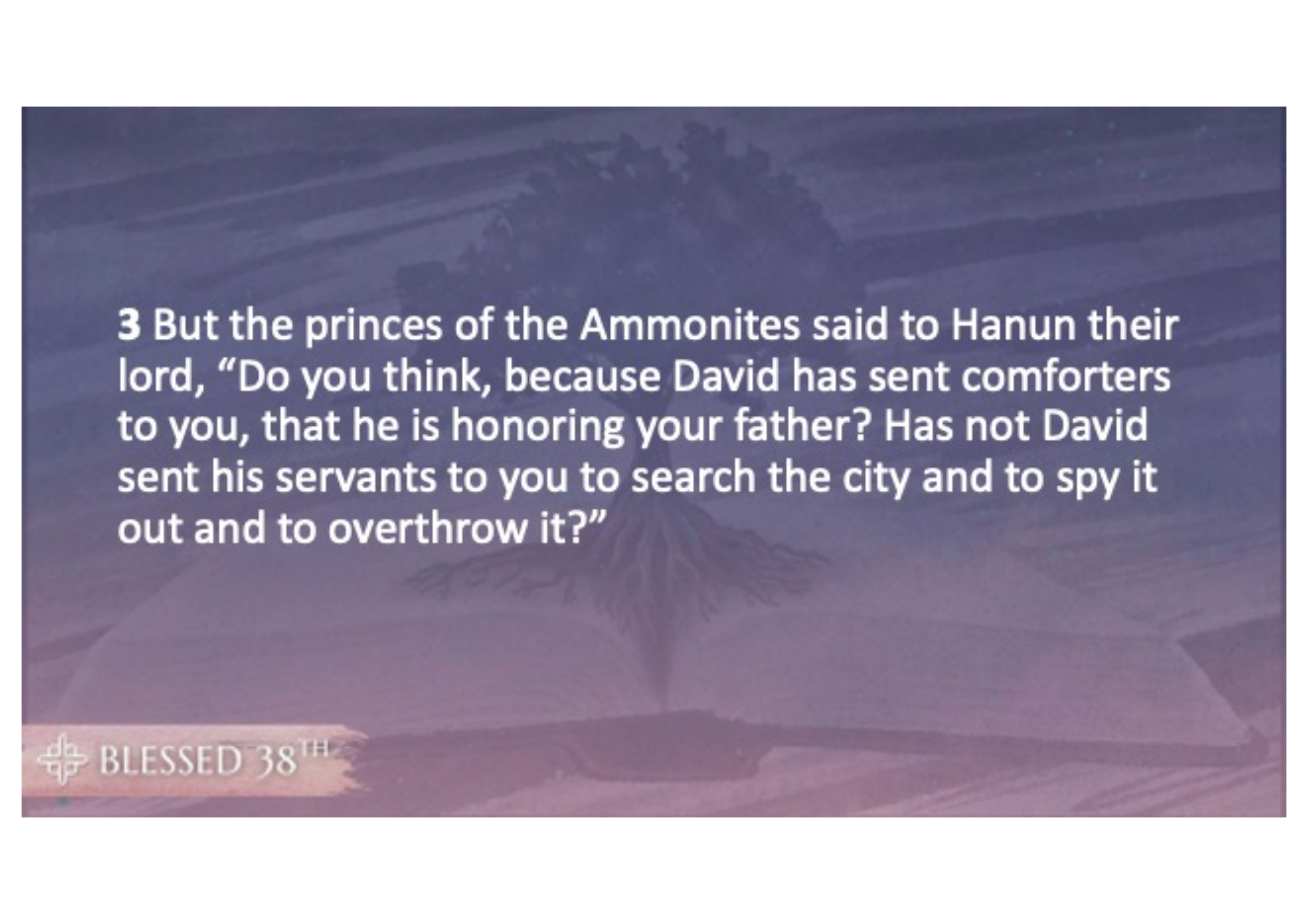


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**2** And David said, "I will deal loyally with Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father dealt loyally with me." So David sent by his servants to console him concerning his father. And David's servants came into the land of the Ammonites.



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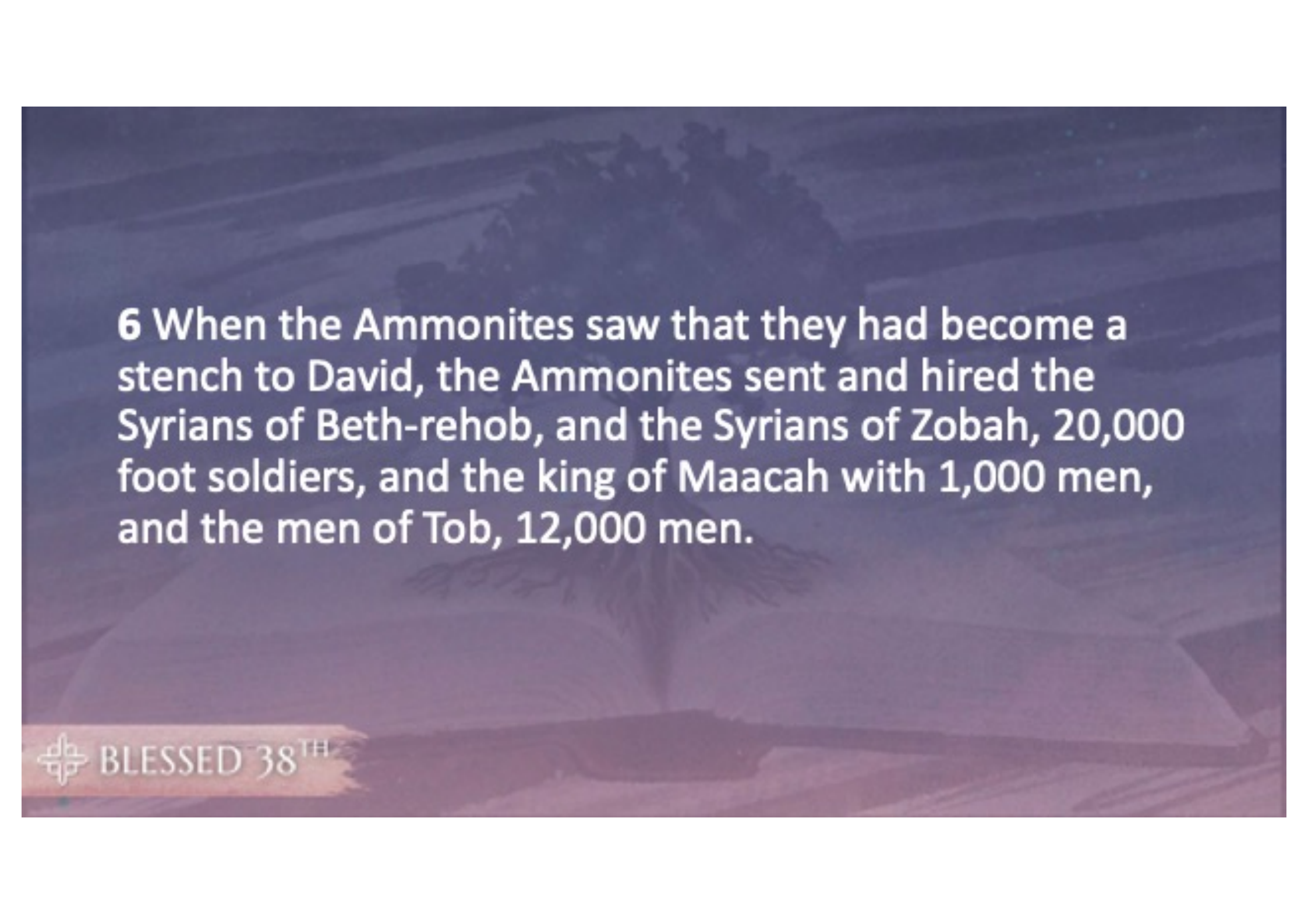
**3** But the princes of the Ammonites said to Hanun their lord, “Do you think, because David has sent comforters to you, that he is honoring your father? Has not David sent his servants to you to search the city and to spy it out and to overthrow it?”



**4** So Hanun took David's servants and shaved off half the beard of each and cut off their garments in the middle, at their hips, and sent them away.



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**6** When the Ammonites saw that they had become a stench to David, the Ammonites sent and hired the Syrians of Beth-rehob, and the Syrians of Zobah, 20,000 foot soldiers, and the king of Maacah with 1,000 men, and the men of Tob, 12,000 men.

**13** Joab and the people who were with him drew near to battle against the Syrians, and they fled before him.



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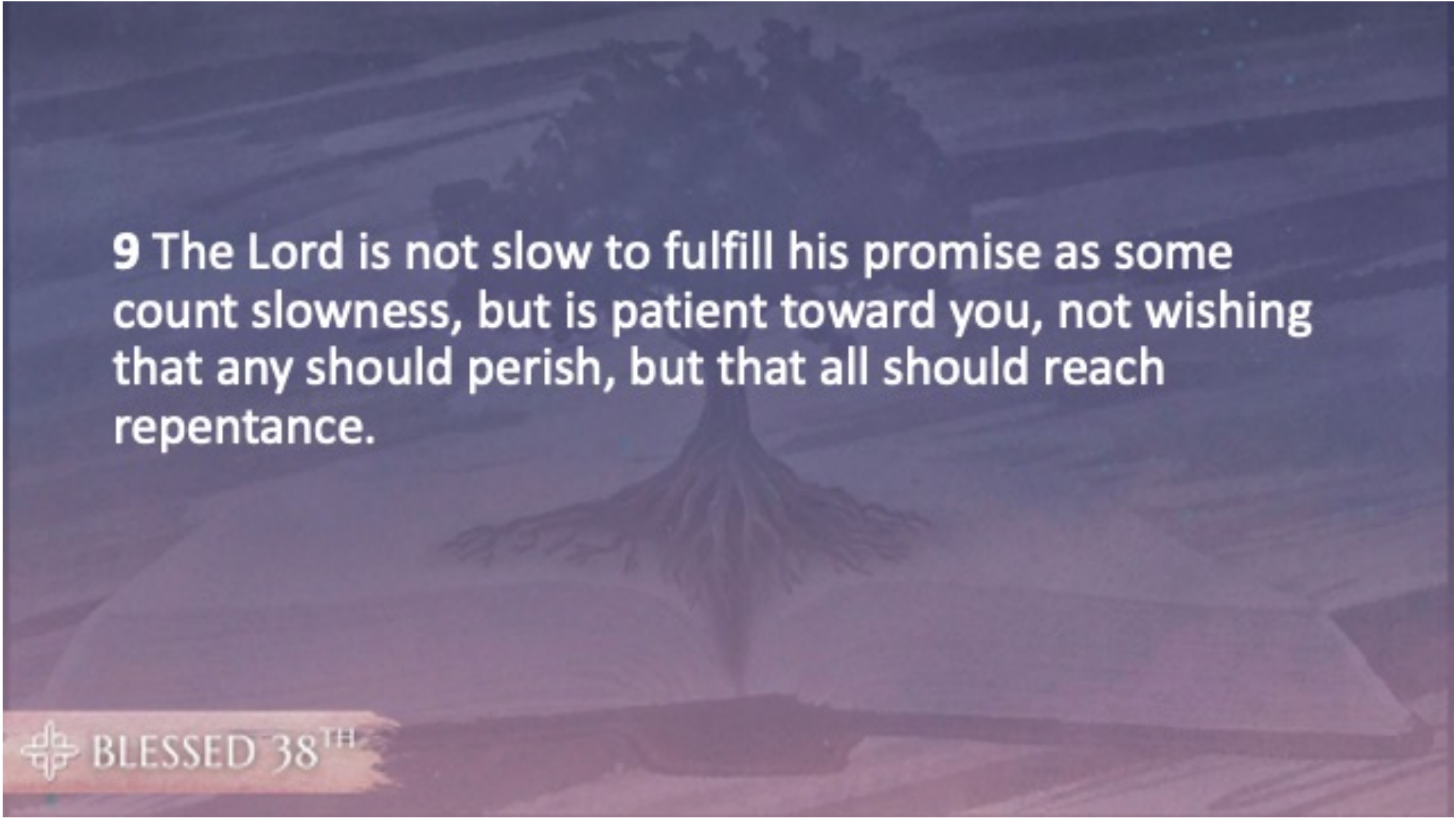


**14** And when the Ammonites saw that the Syrians fled, they likewise fled before Abishai and entered the city.

**19** they made peace with Israel and became subject to them. So the Syrians were afraid to save the Ammonites anymore



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**9** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.



**10** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. (2 Peter 3)

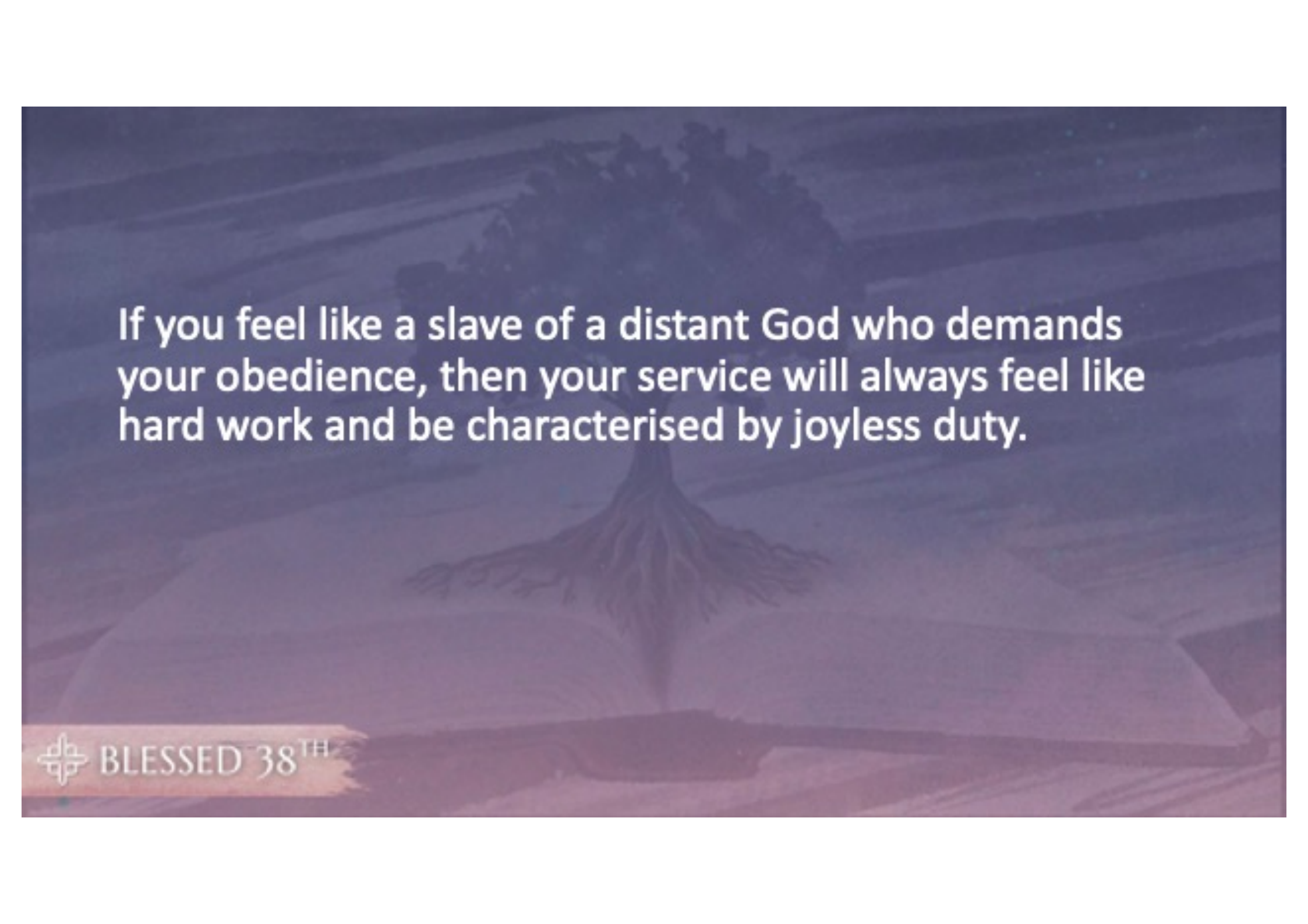


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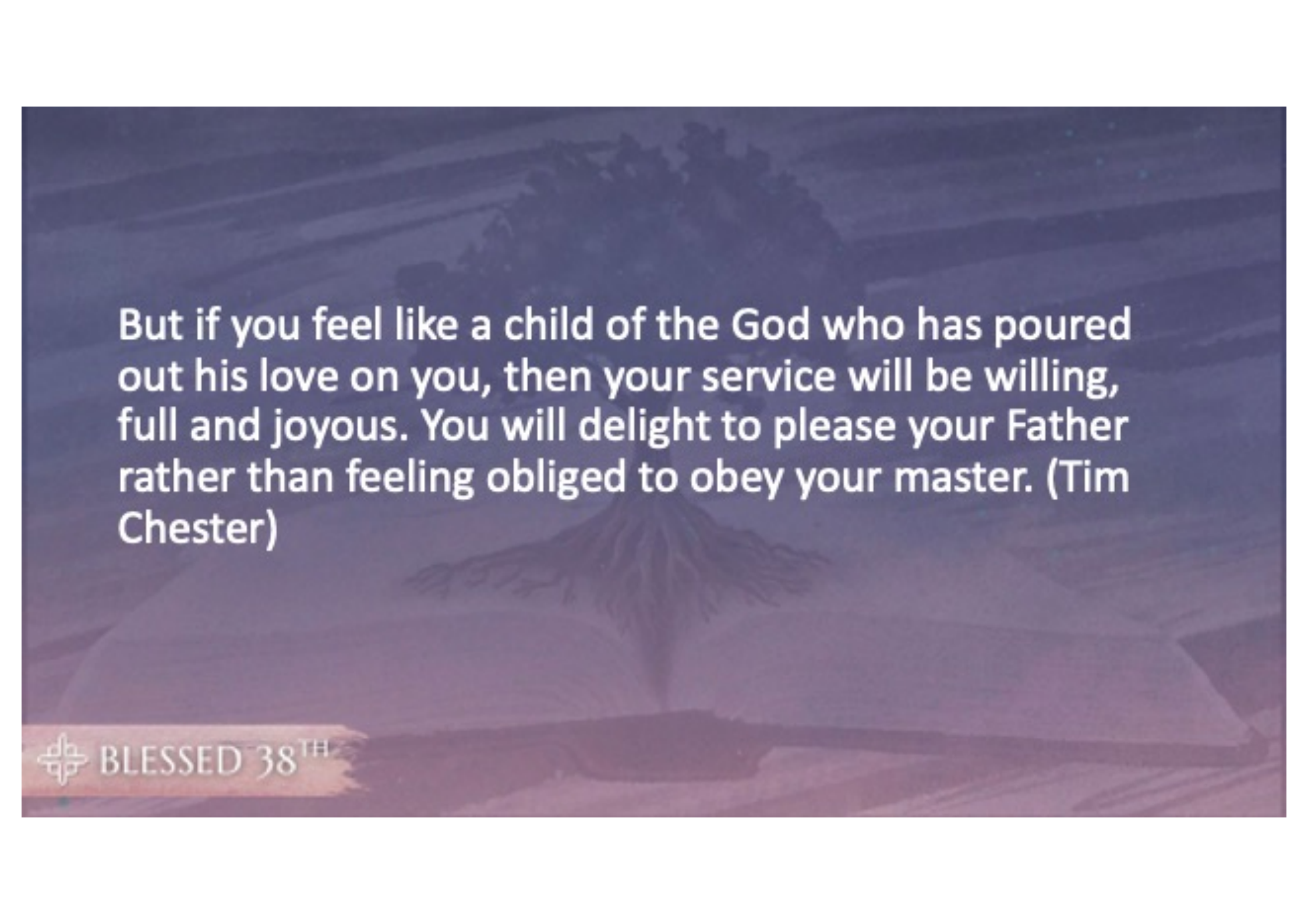
(2 Sam 9-10)





If you feel like a slave of a distant God who demands your obedience, then your service will always feel like hard work and be characterised by joyless duty.





But if you feel like a child of the God who has poured out his love on you, then your service will be willing, full and joyous. You will delight to please your Father rather than feeling obliged to obey your master. (Tim Chester)