

THE  
CONQUEST  
OF OBEDIENCE

*a study of Joshua 5-12*

## Joshua 5:13-15 (CSB)

*<sup>13</sup> When Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua approached him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"*

*<sup>14</sup> "Neither," he replied. "I have now come as commander of the LORD's army."*

*Then Joshua bowed with his face to the ground in homage and asked him, "What does my lord want to say to his servant?"*

*<sup>15</sup> The commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did that.*

# Joshua 1

**Joshua is the new commander of Israel.**

***<sup>2</sup> Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites. <sup>3</sup> I have given you every place where the sole of your foot treads, just as I promised Moses.***

## Joshua 2

**Rahab vowed to help the spies in Jericho.**

***<sup>9</sup> I know that the LORD has given you this land and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and everyone who lives in the land is panicking because of you.***

## Joshua 2

**Rahab vowed to help the spies in Jericho.**

***<sup>12</sup> Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you. Give me a sure sign <sup>13</sup> that you will spare the lives of my father, mother, brothers, sisters, and all who belong to them, and save us from death.***

## Joshua 3,4

**Miracle! They crossed Jordan's dry bed.**

***• <sup>15</sup> Now the Jordan overflows its banks throughout the harvest season. But as soon as the priests carrying the ark reached the Jordan, their feet touched the water at its edge <sup>16</sup> and the water flowing downstream stood still, rising up in a mass that extended as far as Adam, a city next to Zarethan.***

## Joshua 3,4

**Miracle! They crossed Jordan's dry bed.**

*. The water flowing downstream into the Sea of the Arabah—the Dead Sea—was completely cut off, and the people crossed opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup> The priests carrying the ark of the LORD's covenant stood firmly on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel crossed on dry ground until the entire nation had finished crossing the Jordan.*

# Joshua 5

**Joshua obeyed, circumcising the men.**

***<sup>6</sup> For the Israelites wandered in the wilderness forty years until all the nation's men of war who came out of Egypt had died off because they did not obey the LORD. So the LORD vowed never to let them see the land he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>7</sup> He raised up their sons in their place; it was these Joshua circumcised. They were still uncircumcised, since they had not been circumcised along the way.***

# Joshua 5

**Israel finally tasted their land's fruit.**

***11 The day after Passover they ate unleavened bread and roasted grain from the produce of the land.***

# Joshua- Slave

**Joshua was born in Egyptian slavery,...When Moses passed the baton of leadership on to Joshua before he died (Deut. 34), Israel was at the end of its 40 year wilderness period ca. 1405 B.C. Joshua was approaching 90 years of age when he became Israel's leader.**

**MacArthur Study Bible, p303**

# Joshua- Servant

**Exodus 17:10**

**<sup>10</sup> Joshua did as Moses had told him,**

**Exodus 24:13**

**<sup>13</sup> So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua and went up the mountain of God.**

# Joshua- Warrior

**Exodus 17:9-13**

**<sup>9</sup> Moses said to Joshua, “Select some men for us and go fight against Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the hilltop with God’s staff in my hand.”  
<sup>10</sup> Joshua did as Moses had told him, and fought against Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup> While Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, but whenever he put his hand down, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup> When Moses’s hands grew heavy, they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat down on it. Then Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other so that his hands remained steady until the sun went down. <sup>13</sup> So Joshua defeated Amalek and his army with the sword.**

# Joshua- Spy

Numbers 13,14

<sup>6</sup> Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who scouted out the land, tore their clothes <sup>7</sup> and said to the entire Israelite community, “The land we passed through and explored is an extremely good land. <sup>8</sup> If the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us into this land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and give it to us. <sup>9</sup> Only don’t rebel against the LORD, and don’t be afraid of the people of the land, for we will devour them. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us. Don’t be afraid of them!”

# Joshua- Ordained Leader

## Numbers 27:18

**<sup>18</sup> The LORD replied to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man who has the Spirit in him, and lay your hands on him. <sup>19</sup> Have him stand before the priest Eleazar and the whole community, and commission him in their sight. <sup>20</sup> Confer some of your authority on him so that the entire Israelite community will obey him.**

# Joshua- Selfless

**Numbers 32:11-12**

**Because they did not remain loyal to me, none of the men twenty years old or more who came up from Egypt will see the land I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—<sup>12</sup> none except Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua son of Nun, because they did remain loyal to the LORD.'**

# Joshua-Strategist

**Joshua 5:13**

**<sup>13</sup> When Joshua was near Jericho,**

# The Commander of the Lord's Army

The more general term “commander of the army” refers most commonly in the Old Testament (thirty-five times) to a human, military commander ... In each of these cases, the commander was the supreme military authority, but he was subordinate to someone else, the king. In almost every case, the commander's name is found only along with the king's name, not by itself. Thus, the designation here—“the commander of the army of the LORD”—indicates an authority figure, yet one whose superior is the king, who in this case is God himself.

D. M., Howard Jr. (1998). Joshua (Vol. 5, pp. 156–157)

# The Commander of the Lord's Army

T. McComiskey's conclusion is a judicious one: "It is best to see the angel as a self-manifestation of Yahweh in a form that would communicate his immanence and direct concern to those to whom he ministered." The exact nature or personality of this divine self-revelation are not known precisely because the Scriptures are silent on the question. This self-revelation of God certainly anticipated Christ in a typological way, even if it was not Christ himself. This may be analogous to the way in which "wisdom"—as it is described and personified in Job 28 and Proverbs 8—displays remarkable affinities with the Incarnate Word.

D. M. Howard Jr. (1998). *Joshua* (Vol. 5, p. 160)

# The Lord's Army-Ultimate Fighters

**Matthew 26:52-53**

**Then Jesus told him, “Put your sword back in its place because all who take up the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Or do you think that I cannot call on my Father, and he will provide me here and now with more than twelve legions of angels?”**

# The Lord's Army-Ministering Spirits

**Hebrews 1:14**

**<sup>14</sup> Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve those who are going to inherit salvation?**

## Joshua 5:13

***13 When Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua approached him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"***

# Joshua 5:14

**14 “Neither,” he replied. “I have now come as commander of the LORD’s army.”**

## 2 Corinthians 12:9

**My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in weakness.**

# Donald Madvig

**God is sovereign. It is never a question of whether God is on our side but whether we are on God's side...The Lord was the real military leader of the conquest...The purpose of this encounter was not to impart commands but to inspire Joshua with humility and reverence and to instill the confidence that God was with him and was in control.**

**Madvig, *Joshua*, EBC**

## Joshua 5:14

Then Joshua bowed with his face to the ground in homage and asked him, “What does my lord want to say to his servant?”

<sup>15</sup> The commander of the LORD’s army said to Joshua, “Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.

# D.K. Campbell

**The presence of the holy God sanctified this spot in a strange and defiled land (cf. a similar command to Moses, Ex. 3:5).**

**Campbell, D. K. (1985). Joshua. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 339).**

# D.K. Campbell

How comforting all this was for Joshua. He did not need to bear the heavy burden and responsibility of leadership alone. By removing his sandals he gladly acknowledged that this battle and the entire conquest of Canaan was God's conflict and that he was merely God's servant.

Campbell, D. K. (1985). Joshua. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 339).

# Joshua 5:15

**And Joshua did that.**

# Objective of Our Study

*That we conquer evil in our lives and times by trusting and obeying God.*

**M.W. Braudrick**

## Premise of Our Study

*The Christian today needs to recognize the power of the conquering God. By renewing our understanding of the awesome might of the Lord, we are more likely to enjoy the trusting obedience that makes the Christian life joyful and productive. This is a grace situation, in that the sovereign Lord cares so deeply for us as to provide for us the power and opportunity to obey.*

**M.W. Braudrick**

# What is Our Conquest?

**We are a redeemed community,  
doing the great commission,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
for the glory of God.**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to...*

<sup>8</sup> ...act justly,  
to love faithfulness,  
and to walk humbly with [our] God.

**Micah 6:8**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are redeemed community.*

Am I engaging the family of God justly, with loving faithfulness, and humility?

Micah 6:8

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to...*

<sup>19</sup> Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.

**Matthew 28:19–20**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to do the great commission.*

**Who am I helping to know and follow Jesus?**

**Matt. 28:18**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to...*

**<sup>16</sup> walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.**

**Galatians 5:16**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We walk by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

What fleshly desires bind me and make me ineffective in loving God and others?

**Gal. 5:16**

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to...*

<sup>9</sup> Exalt the LORD our God;  
bow in worship at his holy mountain,  
for the LORD our God is holy.

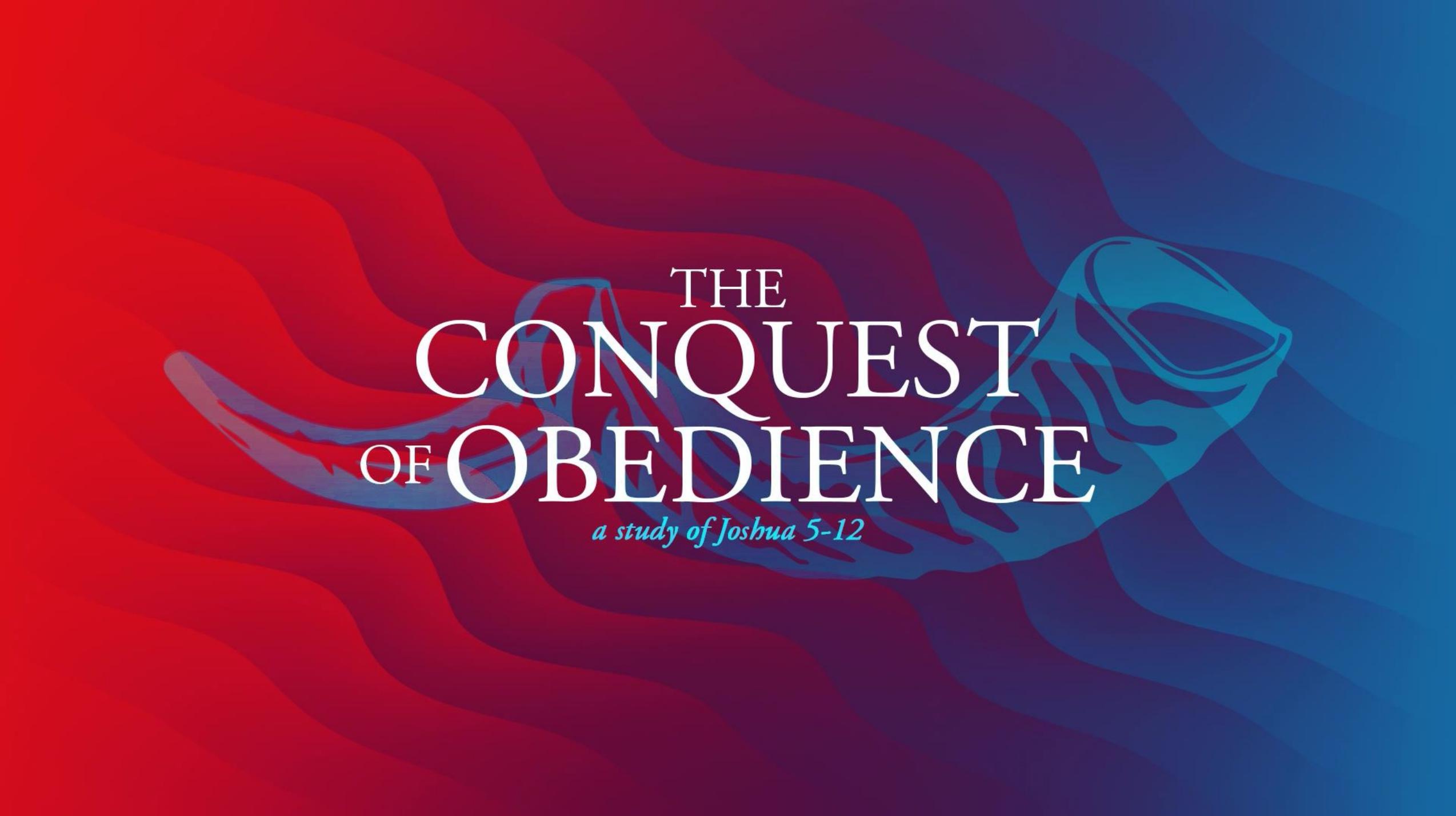
Psalm 99:9

# What is Our Conquest?

*We are to glorify God.*

How's my worship? Am I focused on self or  
Yahweh?

Psalm 99:9



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# Thomas Campbell

**“Are you a saint or a sinner?”**

# Romans 3:23

**23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;**

# Thomas Campbell

**“You are a saint who wrestles with sin.”**

## Romans 3:23-26

<sup>23</sup> For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;  
<sup>24</sup> they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented him as the mercy seat, by his blood, through faith, to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his restraint God passed over the sins previously committed. <sup>26</sup> God presented him to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be just and justify the one who has faith in Jesus.



# Greil Marcus

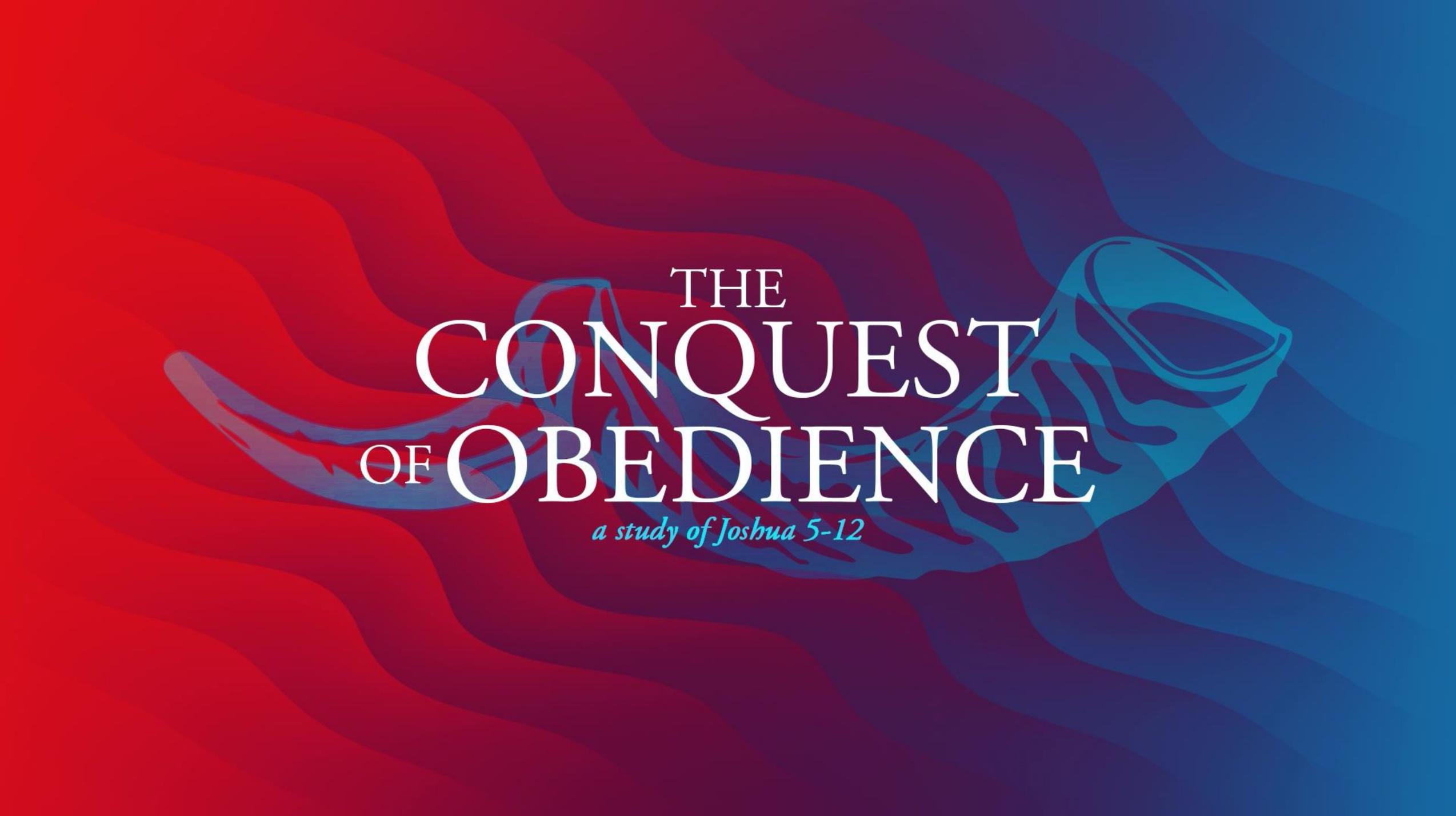
“Who Are You” was spun out of the night that Townshend, already drunk after hours of financial haggling, half-recognized two members of the [another band] in a bar: that is, he thought either Steve Jones or Paul Cook was Johnny Rotten. Corrected, he felt even more confused: *Why can't I see straight?* Cook and Jones, supposedly arrogant young punks working out their rock & roll Oedipal complex, were thrilled to meet Townshend and horrified at what he had to tell them: the Who were finished, used up, wasted. The incident left Townshend passed out in a Soho street, which is where the song begins.

# Greil Marcus

Townshend (in the voice of Roger Daltrey) wakes up with one enormous question: *Who are you?* It's addressed to Cook and Jones (Who are these upstarts, who would never have played a note had not Townshend picked up a guitar more than a decade back?); to the cop who, recognizing Townshend, sends him home without a bust (Who are the fans?); to himself (What does it mean to be a rocker? What kind of wreck has the life made him?); and, finally, to anyone who's listening.

"Whoooooo/*Are you?*" hums the chorus. "I really want to know!" Daltrey shouts back, echoing Donovan's "What Goes On," but while Donovan communicated hippie certainty that all things would come, Daltrey is desperate, sure of nothing.

Marcus, Greil. (Oct. 19, 1978). Who Are You. Rolling Stone. [rollingstone.com](http://rollingstone.com)



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# Psalm 96:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Sing a new song to the LORD;  
let the whole earth sing to the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
proclaim his salvation from day to day.

# Behold the King

Behold the King,  
Full of wonder and of grace.  
Have you looked upon His face?  
He is God.

# Behold the King

**For He is creator of all things,  
Tells the winds and waves to cease.  
He is the perfect Prince of Peace.**

# Behold the King

**For He makes the lame to walk again,  
And He gives sight to the blind man,  
Offers to call you as His friend.**

# Behold the King

**For He came to set the sinners free.  
Jesus, He died for you and me,  
But He's no longer on that tree.**

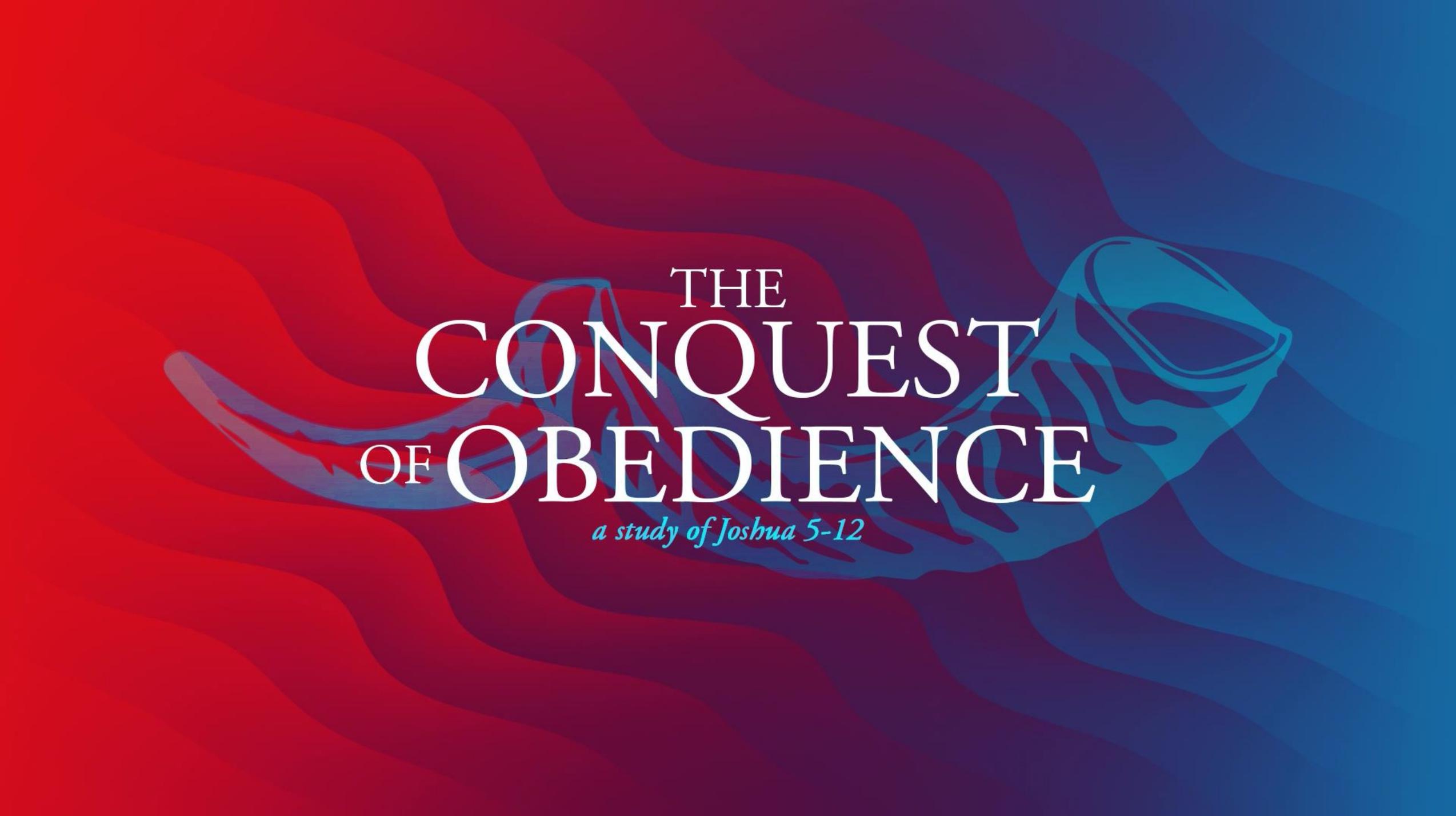
# Behold the King

**Behold the King,  
Full of wonder and of grace.  
Have you looked upon His face?  
He is God.**

# Behold the King

Behold my King,  
Full of wonder and of grace.  
Oh, won't you look upon His face?  
He is God

Jeremy Mikeska-Behold the King, Feb. 2022.



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