

ISAIAH

"The Light in the Darkness"

Isaiah 40 & 41

"Behold Him"







**“Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.”**

The background of the image is a heavily blurred photograph. It appears to be a sunset or sunrise, with a bright, glowing orb (the sun) partially obscured by dark, silhouetted shapes that could be trees or a crowd of people. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden-brown and orange tones, with deep shadows in the foreground and background. The text 'Behold Him' is centered in the middle of the image in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Behold Him

1. Behold the Comforter (40:1-11)

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- a. A message of hope to weary people in exile.

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“A voice cries: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’” (40:3-5)

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“All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field... the grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.” (40:6-8)



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*“All flesh is like grass... the grass withers and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever. “This word is the good news that was preached to you.”
(1st Peter 1:24-25)*

1. Behold the Comforter (40:1-11)

“Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arms rules for him; and his recompense before him.

He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.” (40:9-11)

1. Behold the Comforter (40:1-11)

- a. A message of hope to weary people in exile.
- b. The mighty God is also the gentle Shepherd.

2. Behold the Creator (40:12-26)

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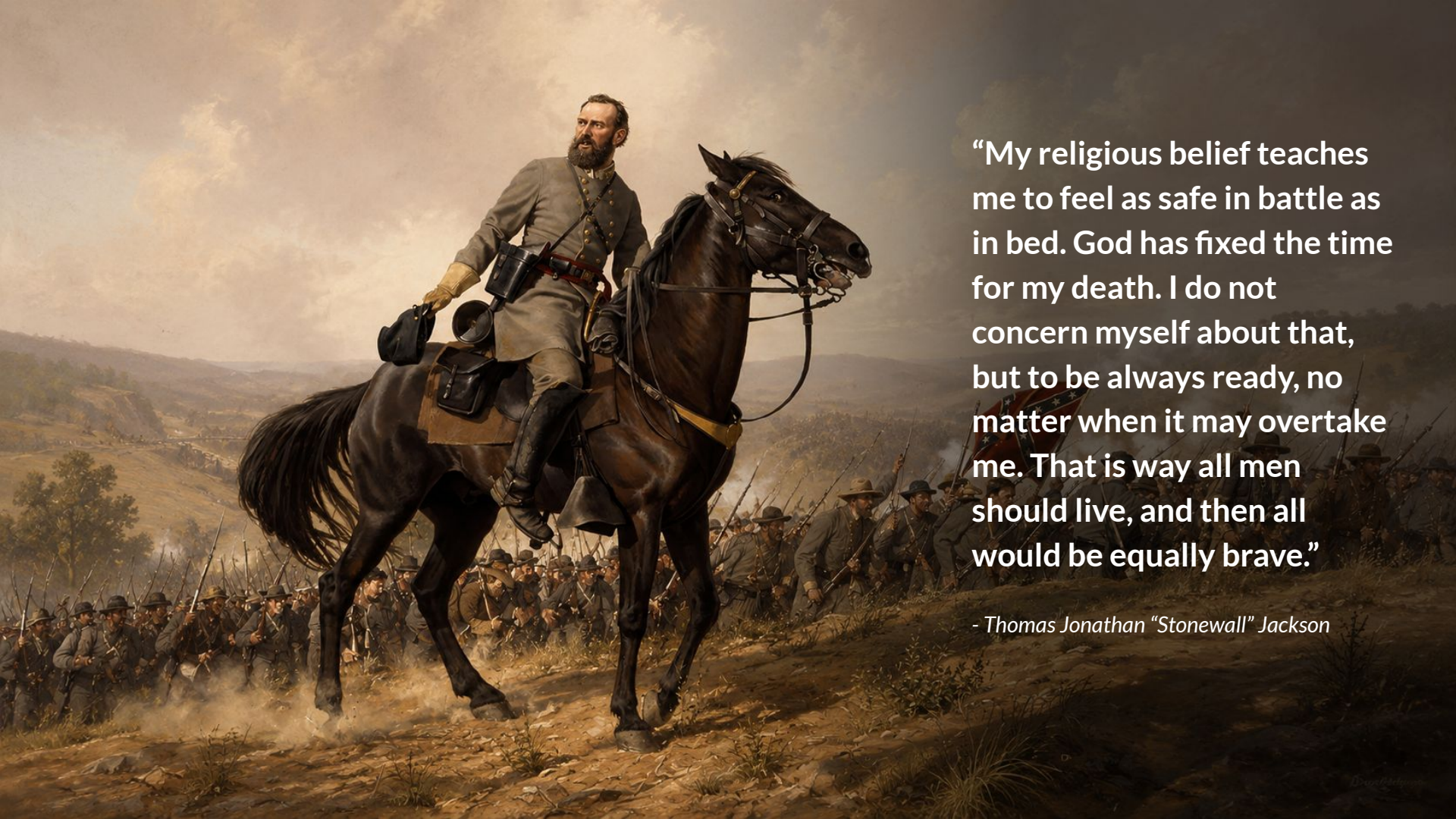
“Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket...” (40:15)

“All the nations are as nothing before Him.” (40:17)

2. Behold the Creator (40:12-26)

- a. Isaiah is calling them to have a right view of God





“My religious belief teaches me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the time for my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to be always ready, no matter when it may overtake me. That is way all men should live, and then all would be equally brave.”

- Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson

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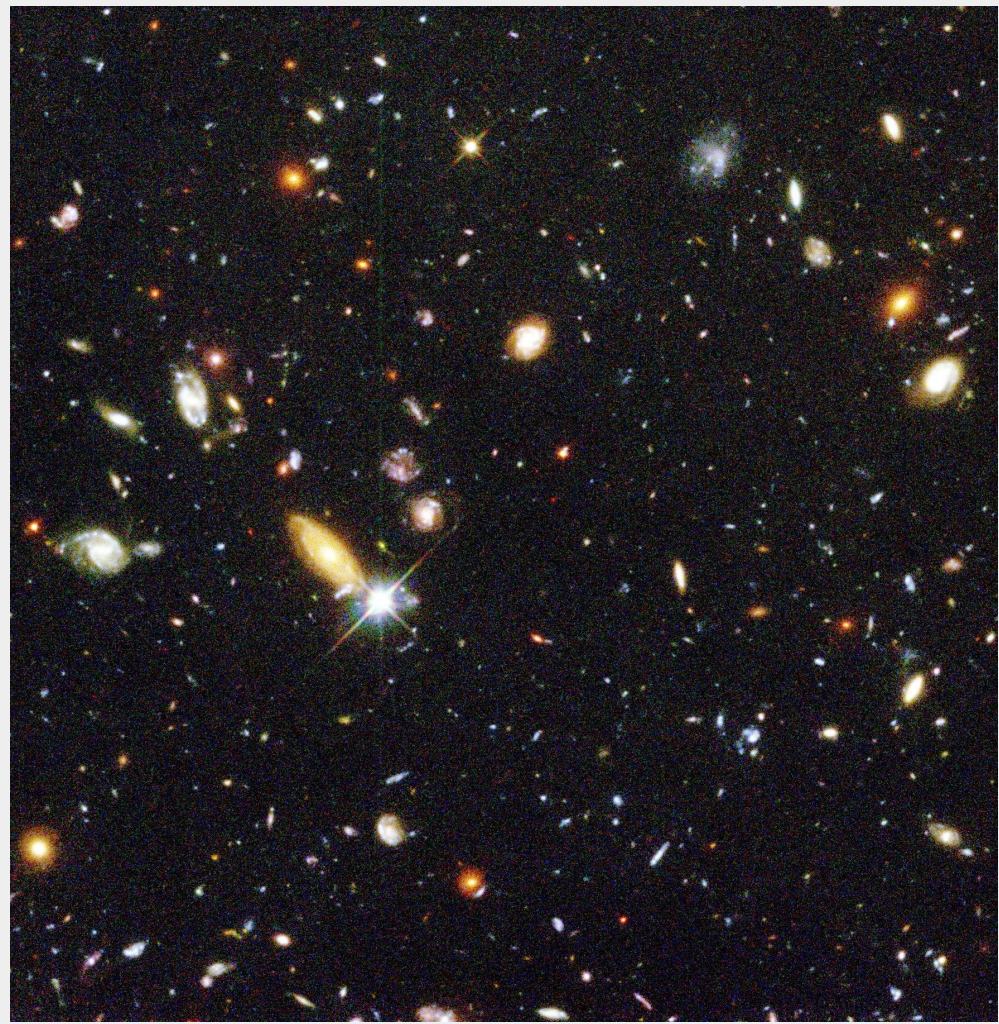
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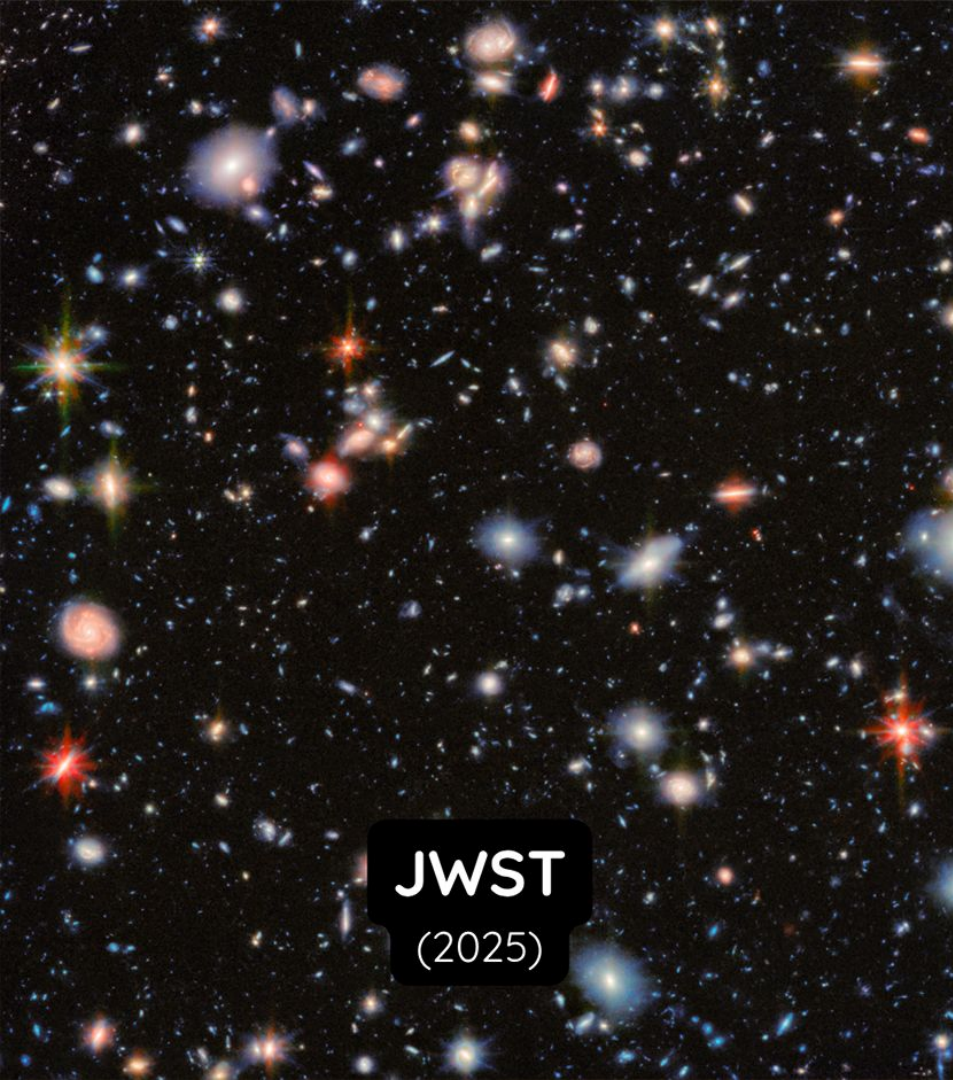
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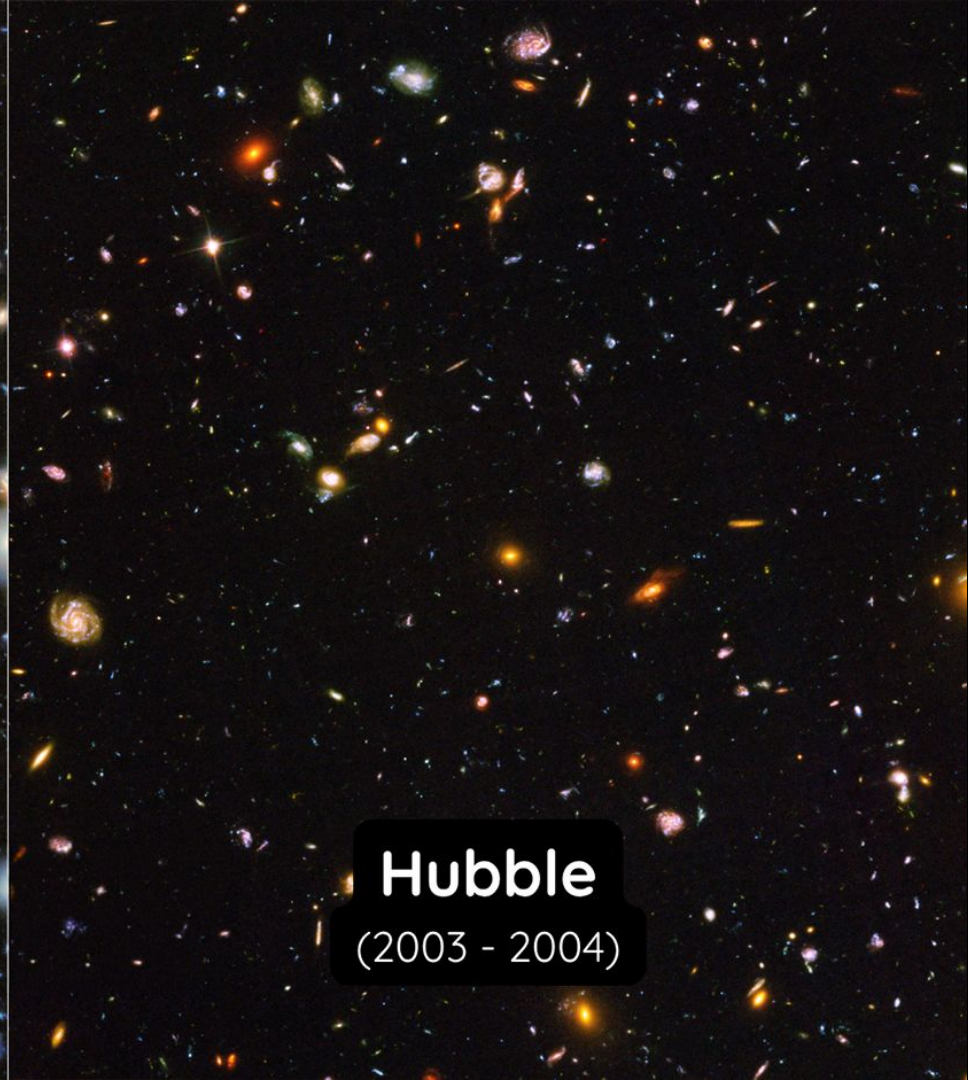
“Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these?” (40:26)





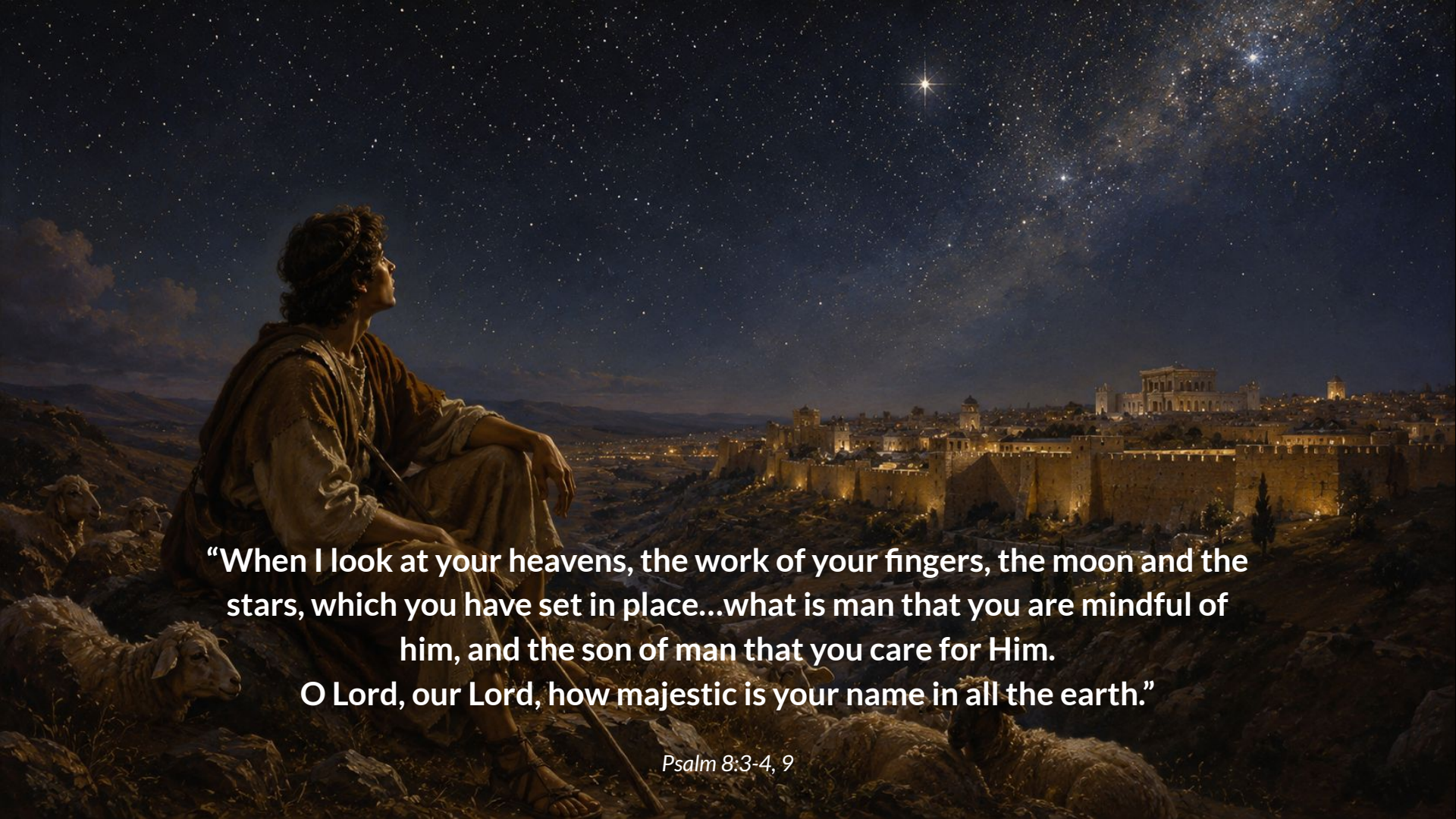
JWST

(2025)



Hubble

(2003 - 2004)



**“When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place...what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for Him.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.”**

Psalm 8:3-4, 9

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- a. God does not grow weary, He gives strength to those who do.

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"I am the First and the Last," (Rev 1:17)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end." (Rev 21:6, 22:13)

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“You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”(41:9b)

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- a. Fear drives people toward false securities
- b. Israel may have felt forgotten, but God will not let them go.

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“Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;” (Isaiah 49:15-16)

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“Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I am the one who helps you, declares the Lord; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.” (41:14)

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“Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I am the one who helps you, declares the Lord; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.” (41:14)

“Behold, I make of you a threshing sledge, new, sharp, and having teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and crush them, and you shall make the hills like chaff;” (41:15)

4. Behold the One Who Holds the Fearful (41:4-20)

“Behold, you are nothing, and your work is less than nothing; an abomination is he who chooses you.” (41:24)

5. Behold the One Who Alone Rules History (41:25-29)

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“I stirred up one from the north, and he has come, from the rising of the sun, and he shall call upon my name; he shall trample on rulers as on mortar, as the potter treads clay.” (41:25)

605 BC



NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE AT ITS GREATEST EXTENT



605 BC

586 BC

NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE AT ITS GREATEST EXTENT

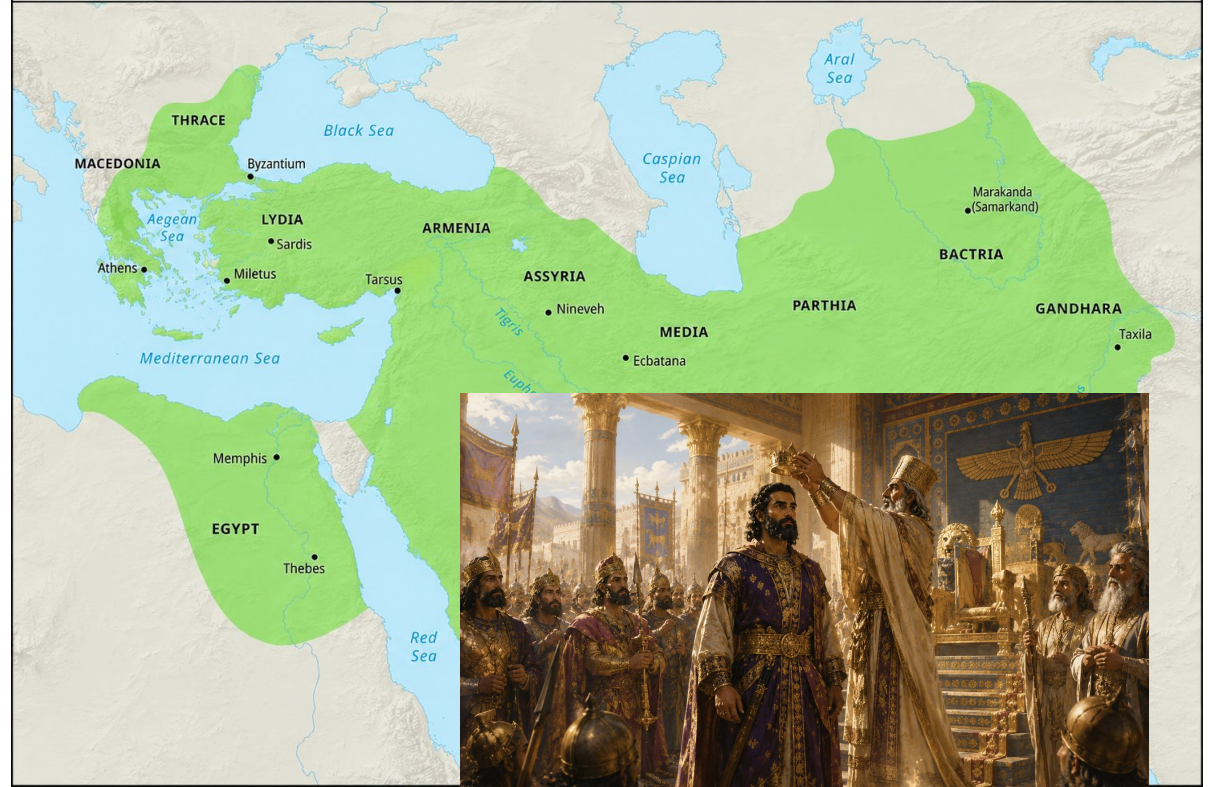


605 BC

586 BC

559 BC

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE ABOUT 500 B.C.



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“I was the first to say to Zion, ‘Behold...’” (41:27)

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- a. God already knows the beginning and the end.

Invitations to Behold Him

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3. Behold His Faithfulness