



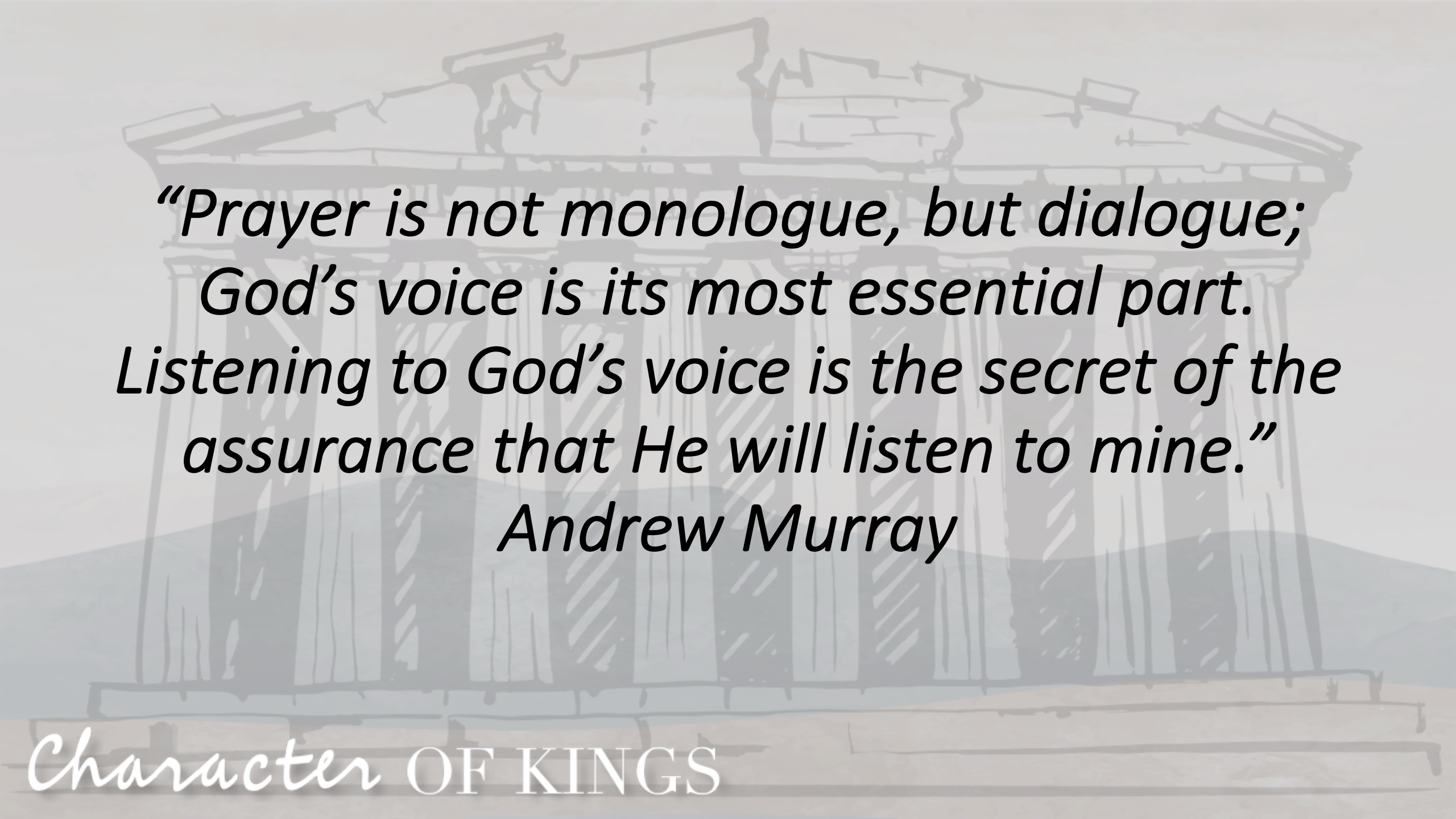
Character
OF KINGS



I Saw a Ghost!

1 Samuel 28

Character OF KINGS



*“Prayer is not monologue, but dialogue;
God’s voice is its most essential part.
Listening to God’s voice is the secret of the
assurance that He will listen to mine.”
Andrew Murray*

Character OF KINGS

Saul's Good Start

1 Sam 9:2 'tall, dark, handsome'

Rescues donkeys of Kish 1 Sam 9

Hero of rescue at Jabesh-Gilead 1 Sam 11

Merciful of critics

Saul's Poor Choices

Presumptuous sacrifice – impatient

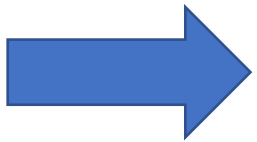
Did not eliminate last Amalekite – Agag

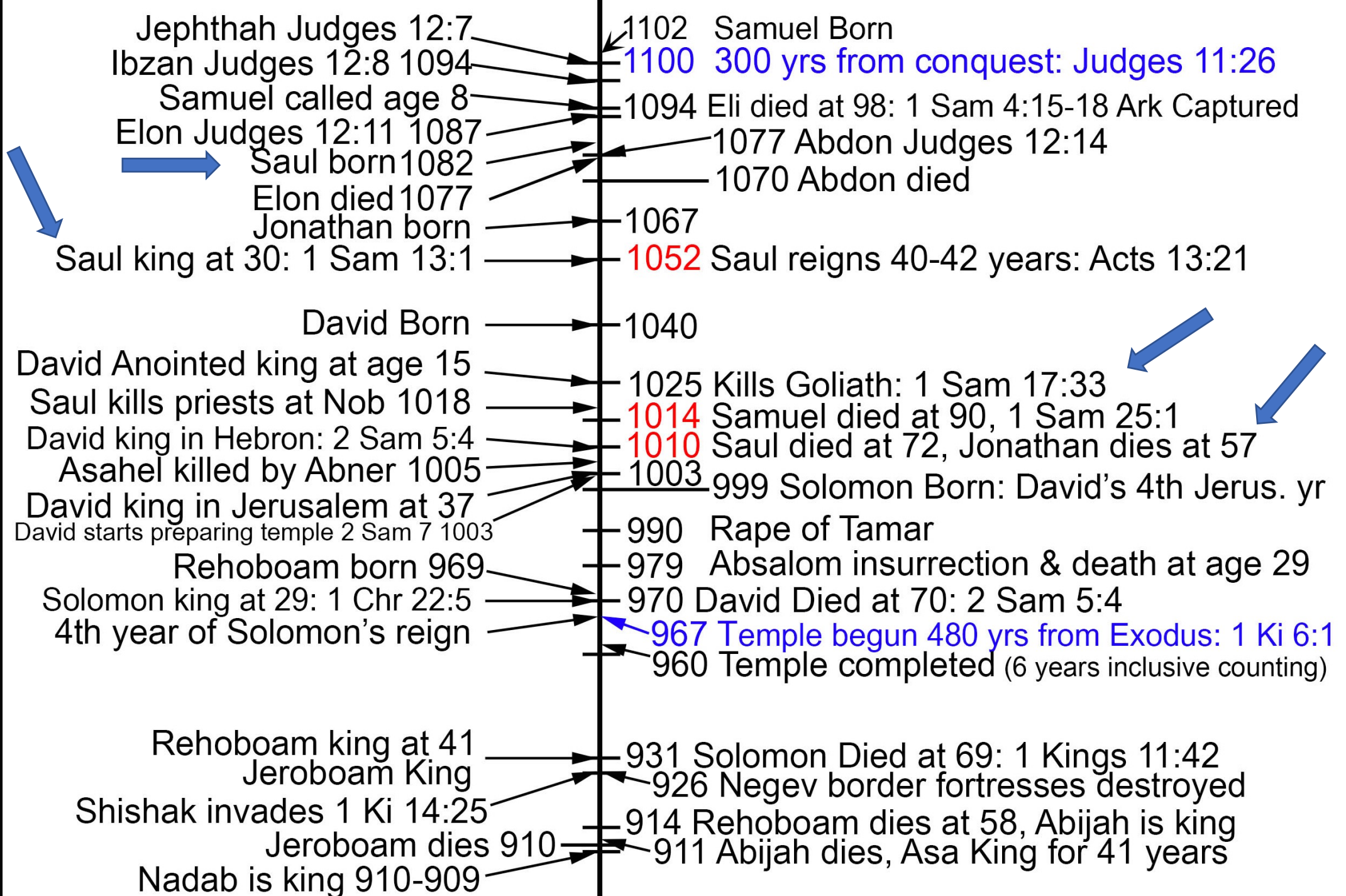
Proud – monuments to himself

Envy of David – anger and murder

BIBLE IN BIG PICTURE

- Abraham 2000 BC
- Moses/Exodus 1500 BC
- David King 1000 BC
- Ezra/Nehemiah 500 BC







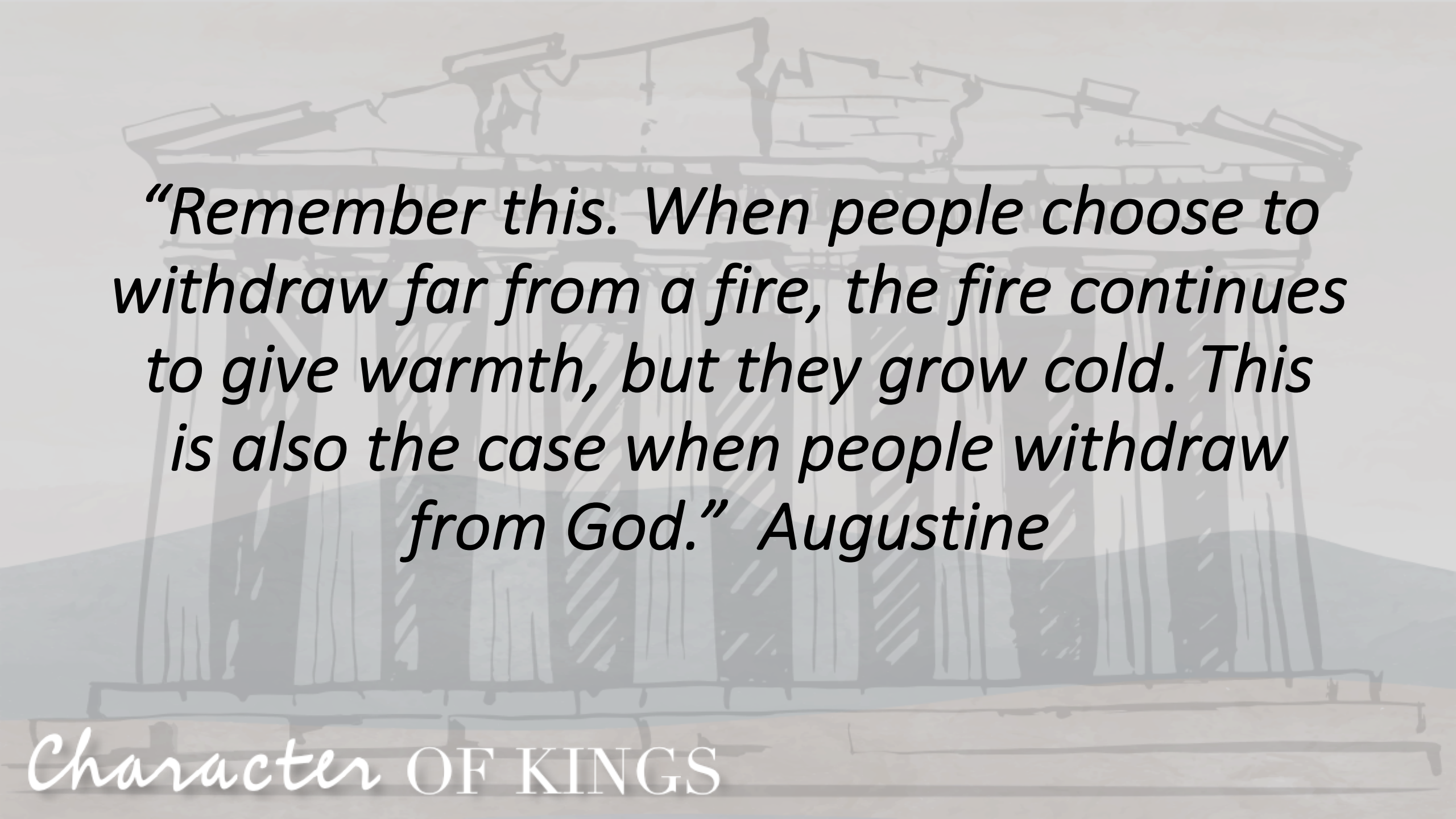
1Sam 28:3

Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had removed from the land those who were mediums and spiritists.

Character OF KINGS

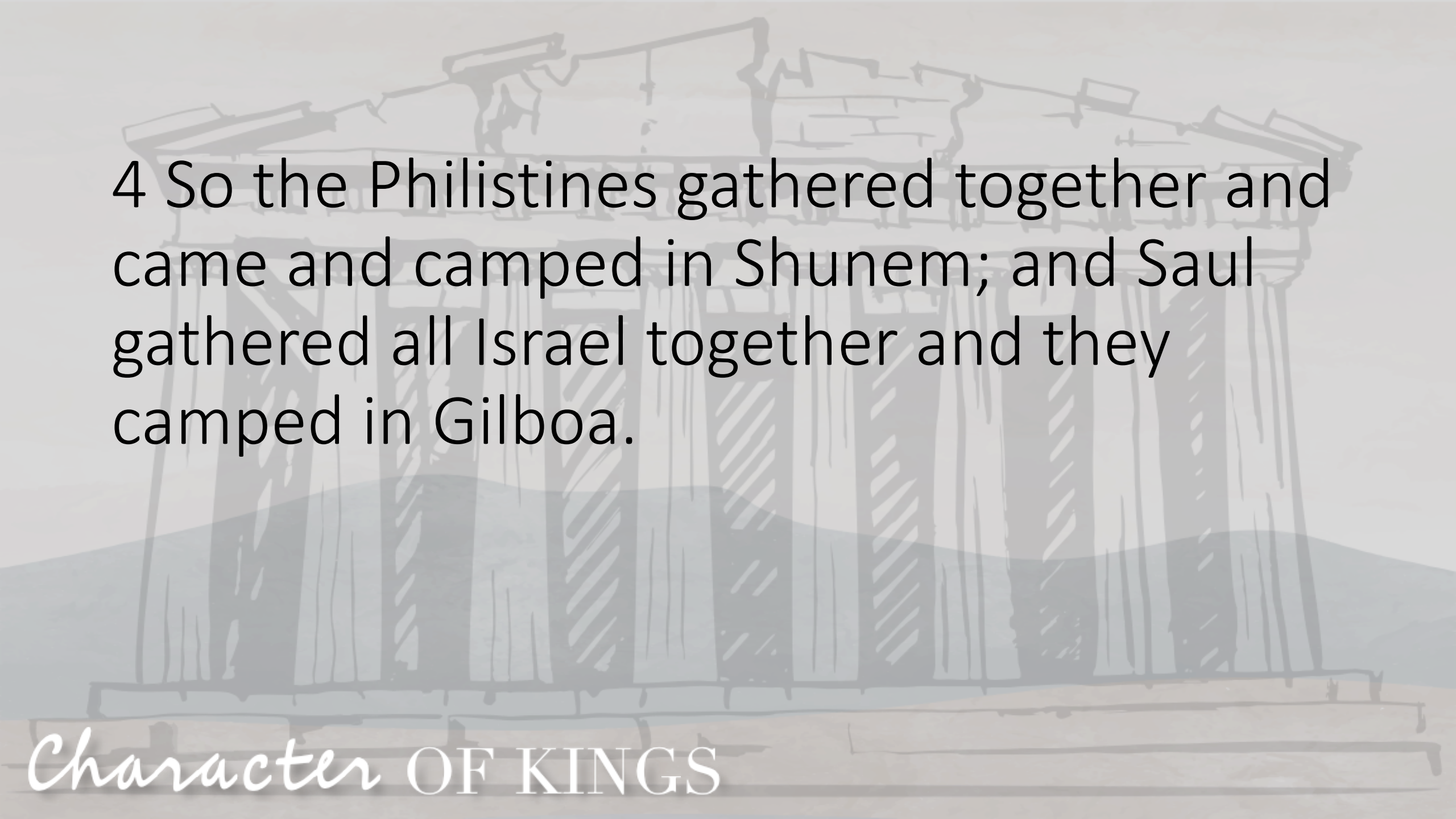
Saul's Good Start 3

- Evil is present
- Excluded those who were 'other gods'
- Even a faithful Servant is no guarantee
- Ever is a long time!



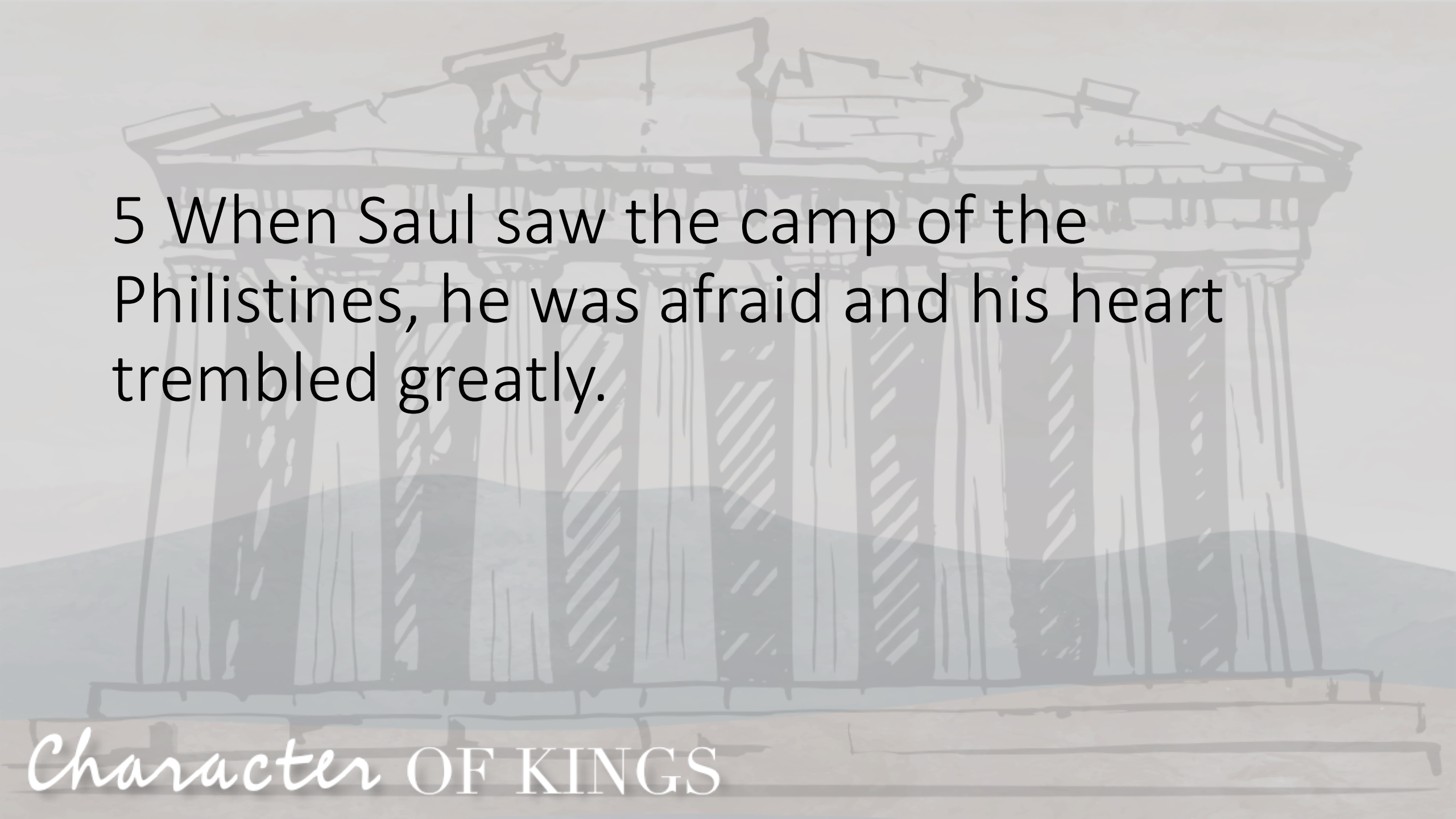
“Remember this. When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. This is also the case when people withdraw from God.” Augustine

Character OF KINGS



4 So the Philistines gathered together and came and camped in Shunem; and Saul gathered all Israel together and they camped in Gilboa.

Character OF KINGS

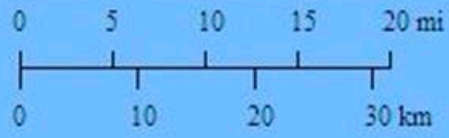


5 When Saul saw the camp of the Philistines, he was afraid and his heart trembled greatly.

Character OF KINGS

Saul's Bad Choices 4,5

- Philistines are back
- Philistines threaten war
- Philistines camp at Shunem
- Phear! Fear!



SEA OF GALILEE

The Philistines rallied and, coming to Shunem, they encamped. (1 Samuel 28:4)

Samuel was dead. All Israel had mourned him and buried him in his city, Ramah. (1 Samuel 28:3)

Saul conjures for Samuel through a medium at Endor. (1 Samuel 28:8-25)

Saul mustered all Israel; they camped on Gilboa. (1 Samuel 28:4)

LAND OF TOB

When the Philistine commanders had mustered all their forces in Aphek, they refused David to go with them in battle. (1 Samuel 29)

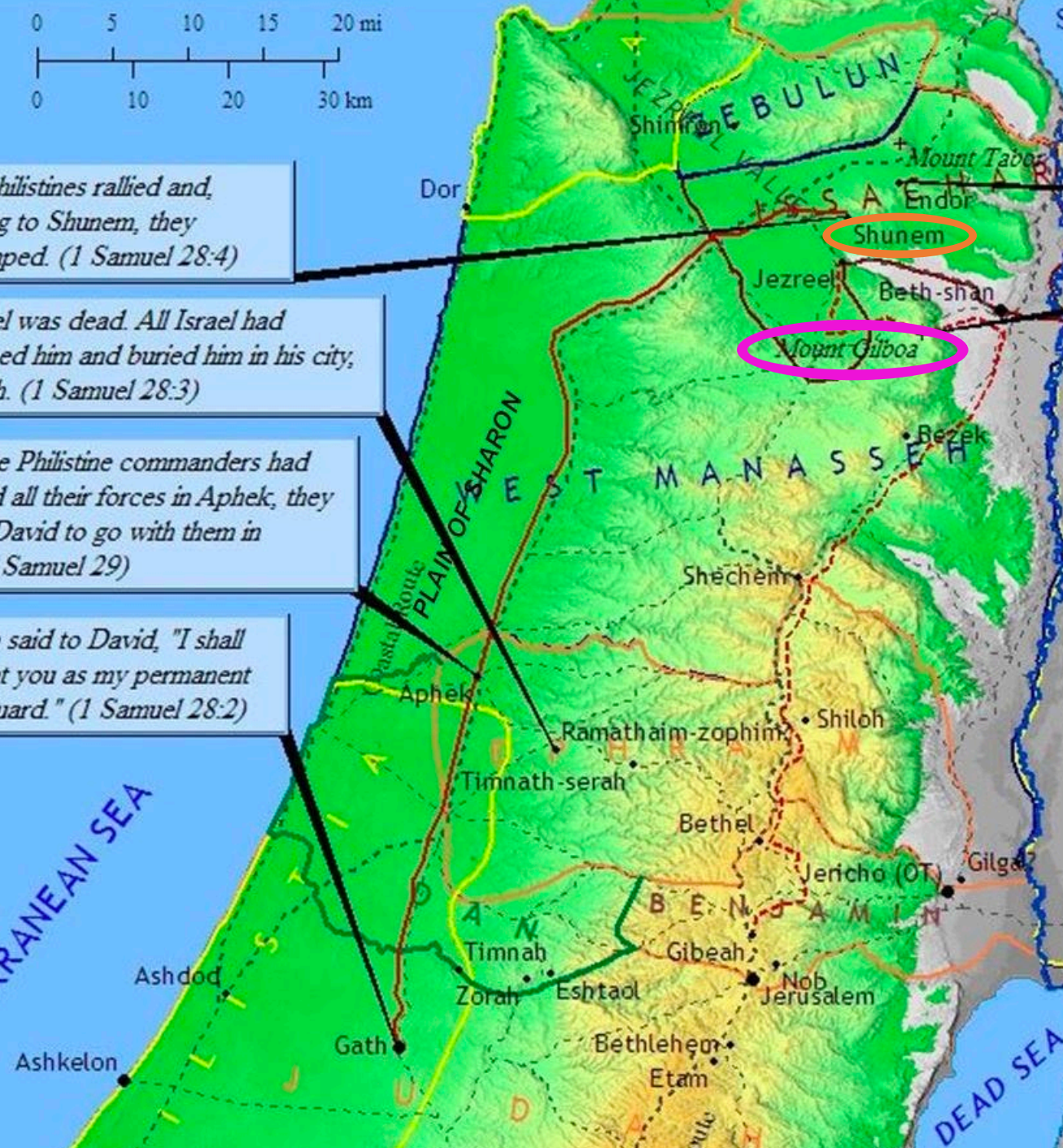
Achish said to David, "I shall appoint you as my permanent bodyguard." (1 Samuel 28:2)

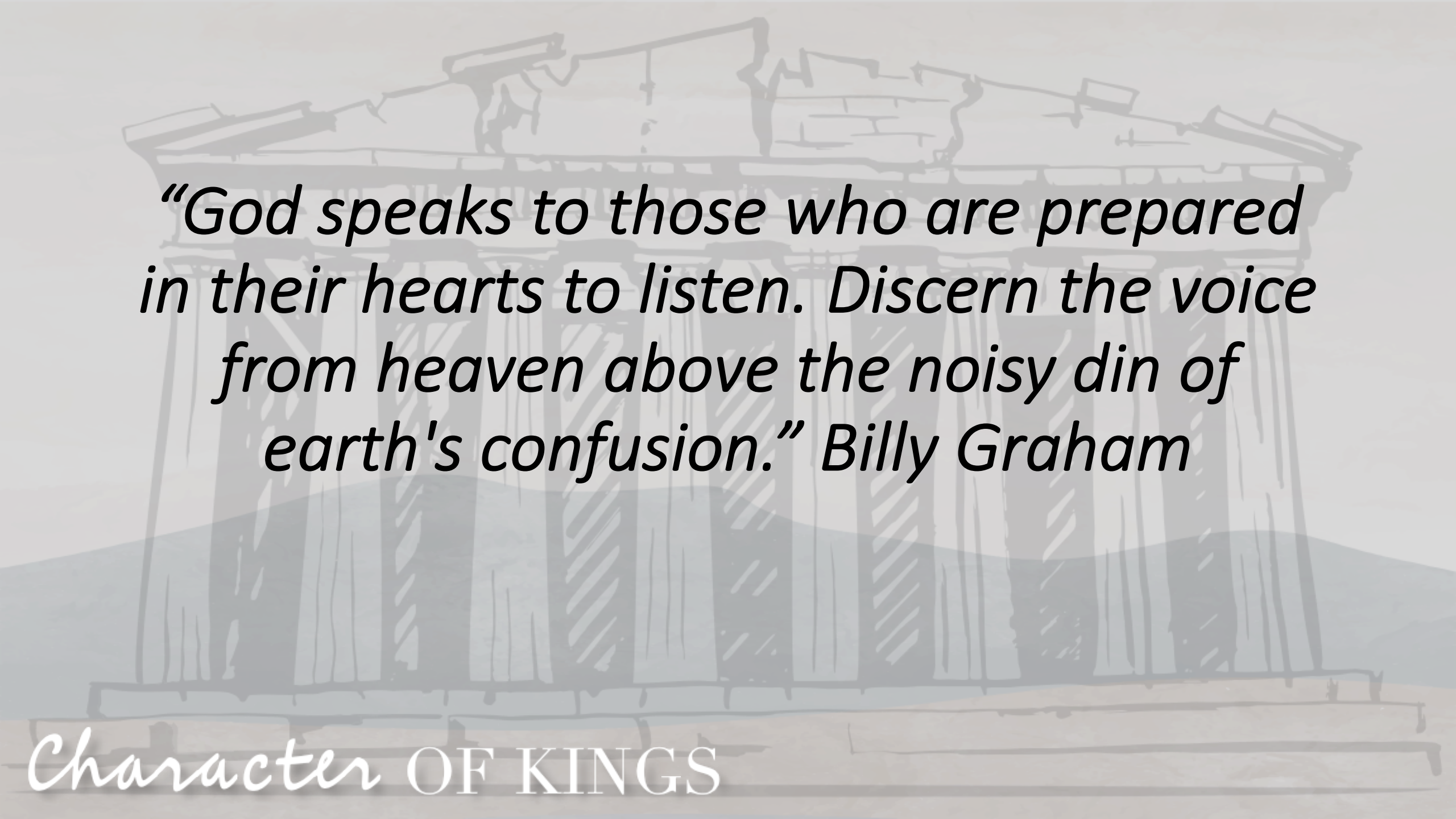
LEGEND:

- Philistines rally to Shunem
- - - Saul mustered all Israel against the Philistines

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

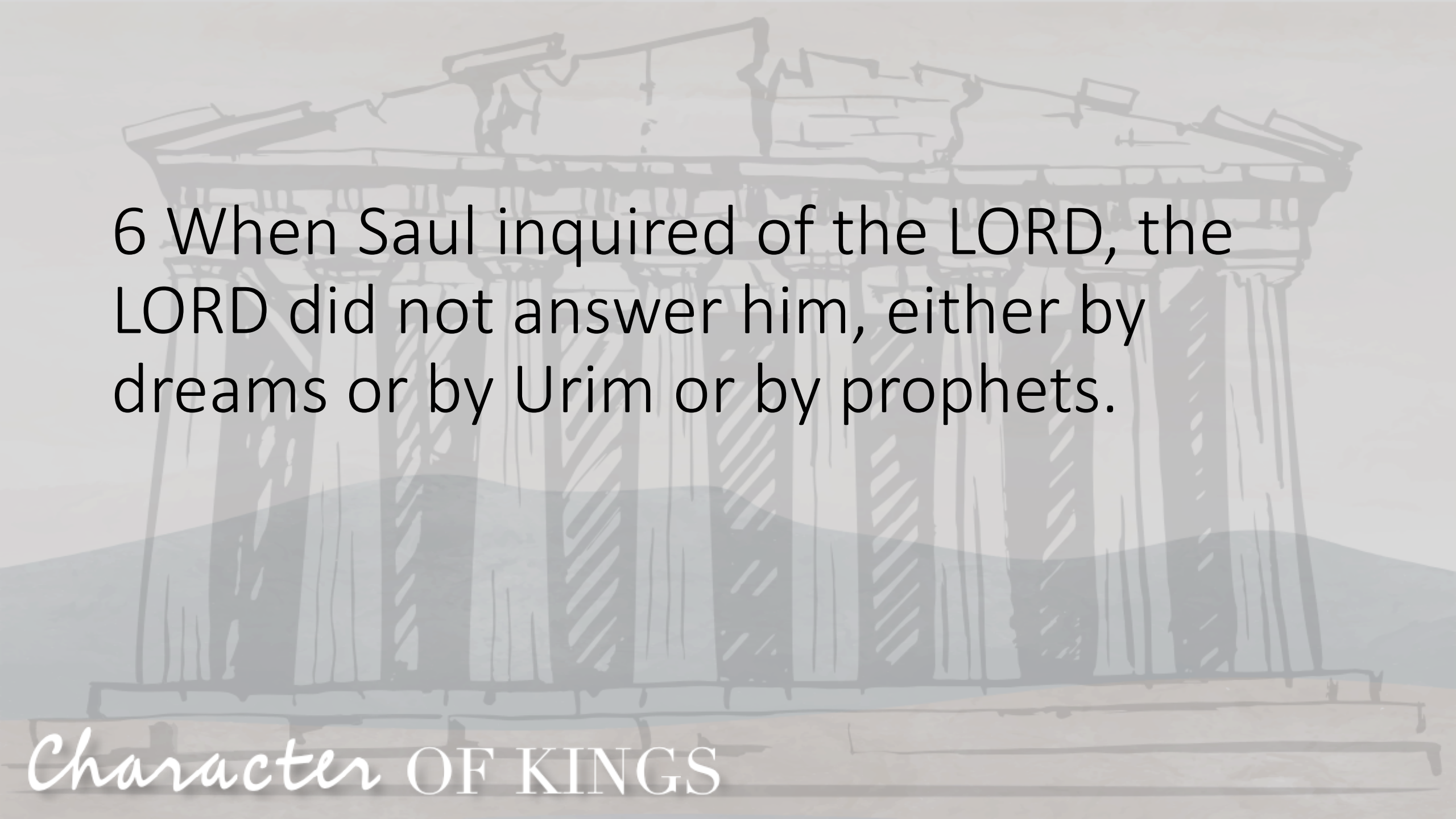
Saul Conjures for Samuel





“God speaks to those who are prepared in their hearts to listen. Discern the voice from heaven above the noisy din of earth's confusion.” Billy Graham

Character OF KINGS



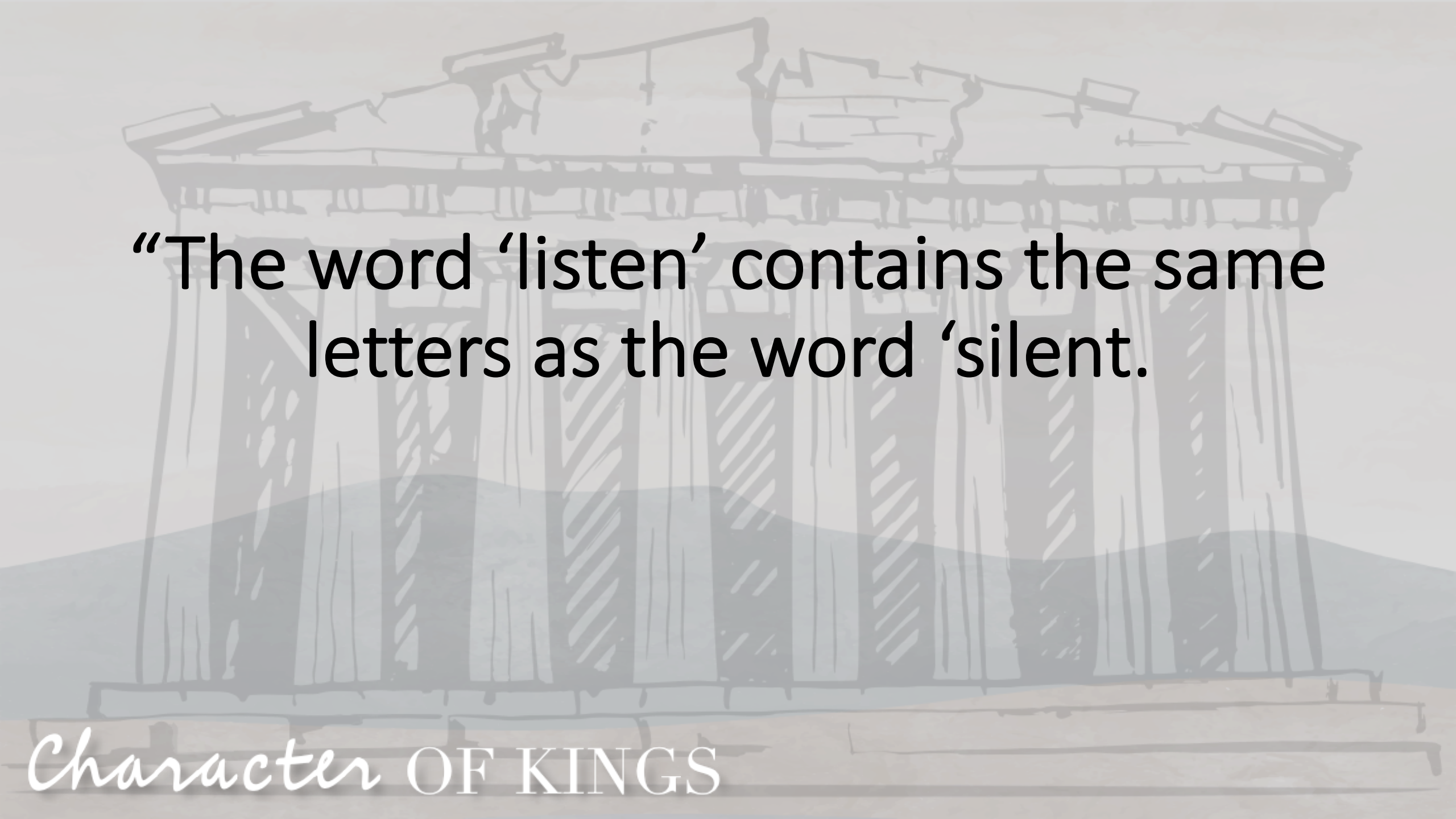
6 When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by prophets.

Character OF KINGS

Saul's Prayer 6

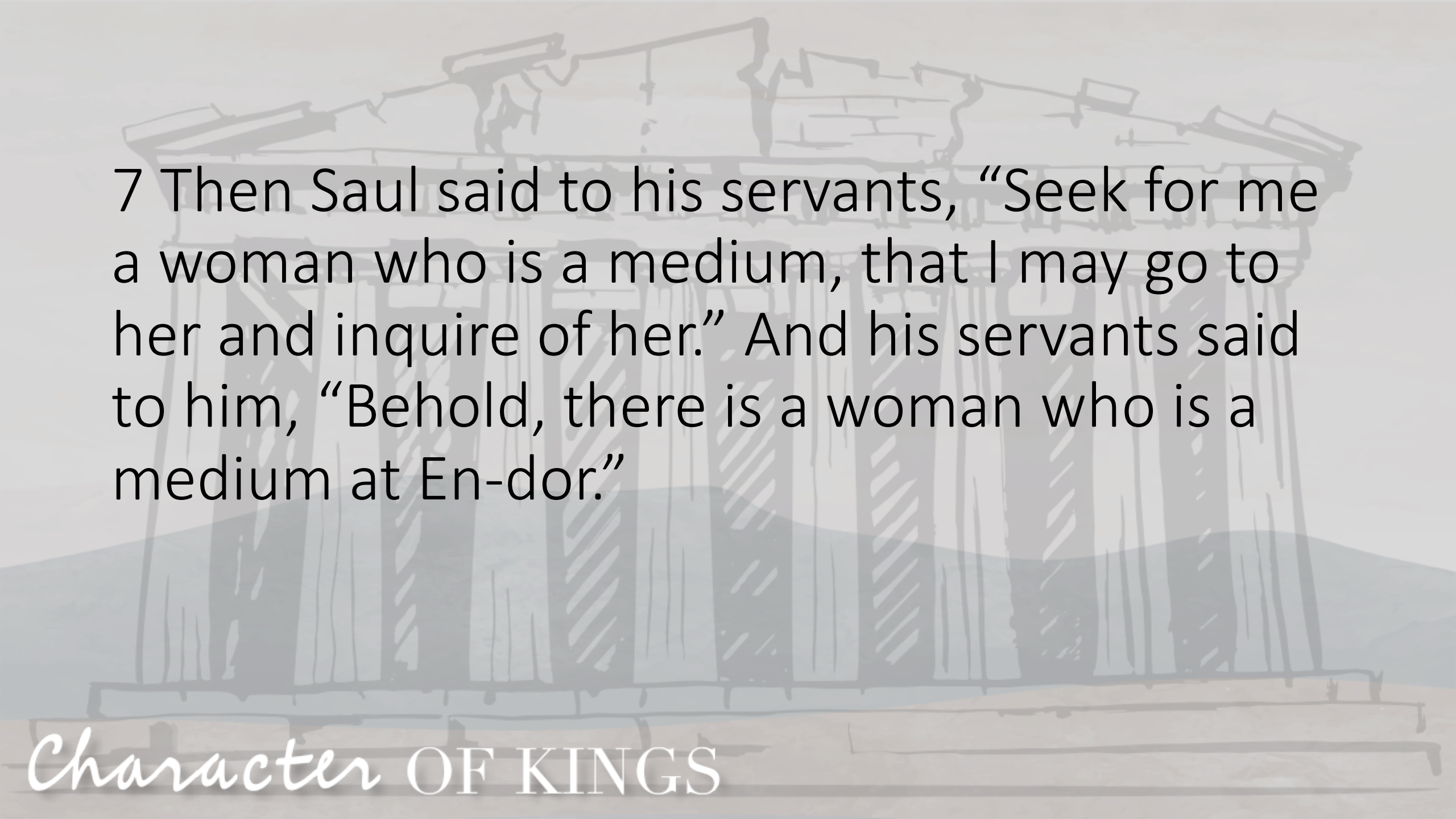
- Right place to turn
- Right hand man is gone – Samuel
- Response when God is silent

Character OF KINGS



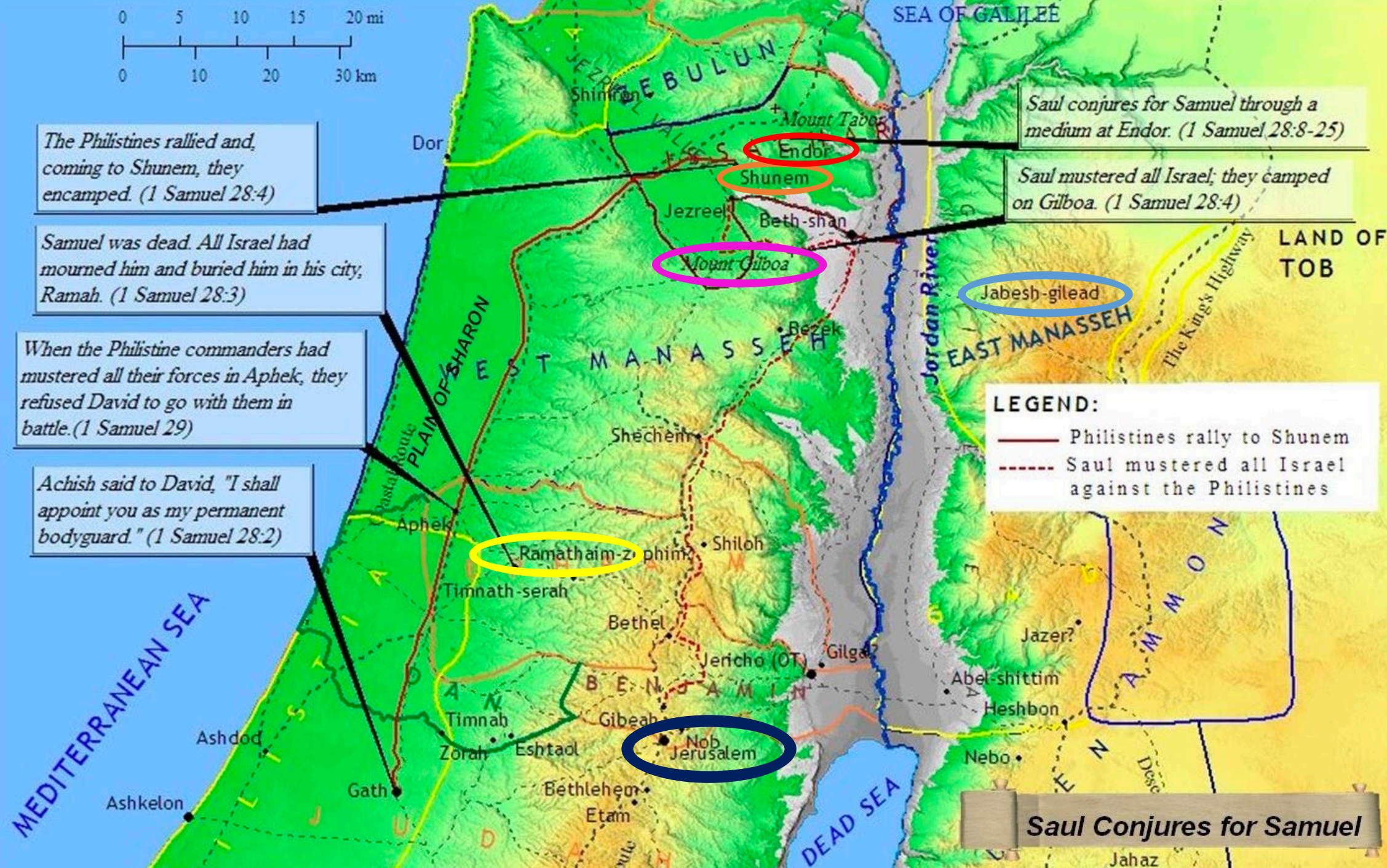
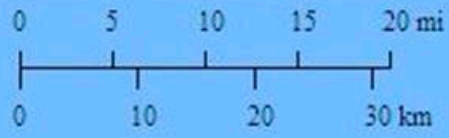
“The word ‘listen’ contains the same letters as the word ‘silent.’

Character OF KINGS



7 Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “Behold, there is a woman who is a medium at En-dor.”

Character OF KINGS



The Philistines rallied and, coming to Shunem, they encamped. (1 Samuel 28:4)

Samuel was dead. All Israel had mourned him and buried him in his city, Ramah. (1 Samuel 28:3)

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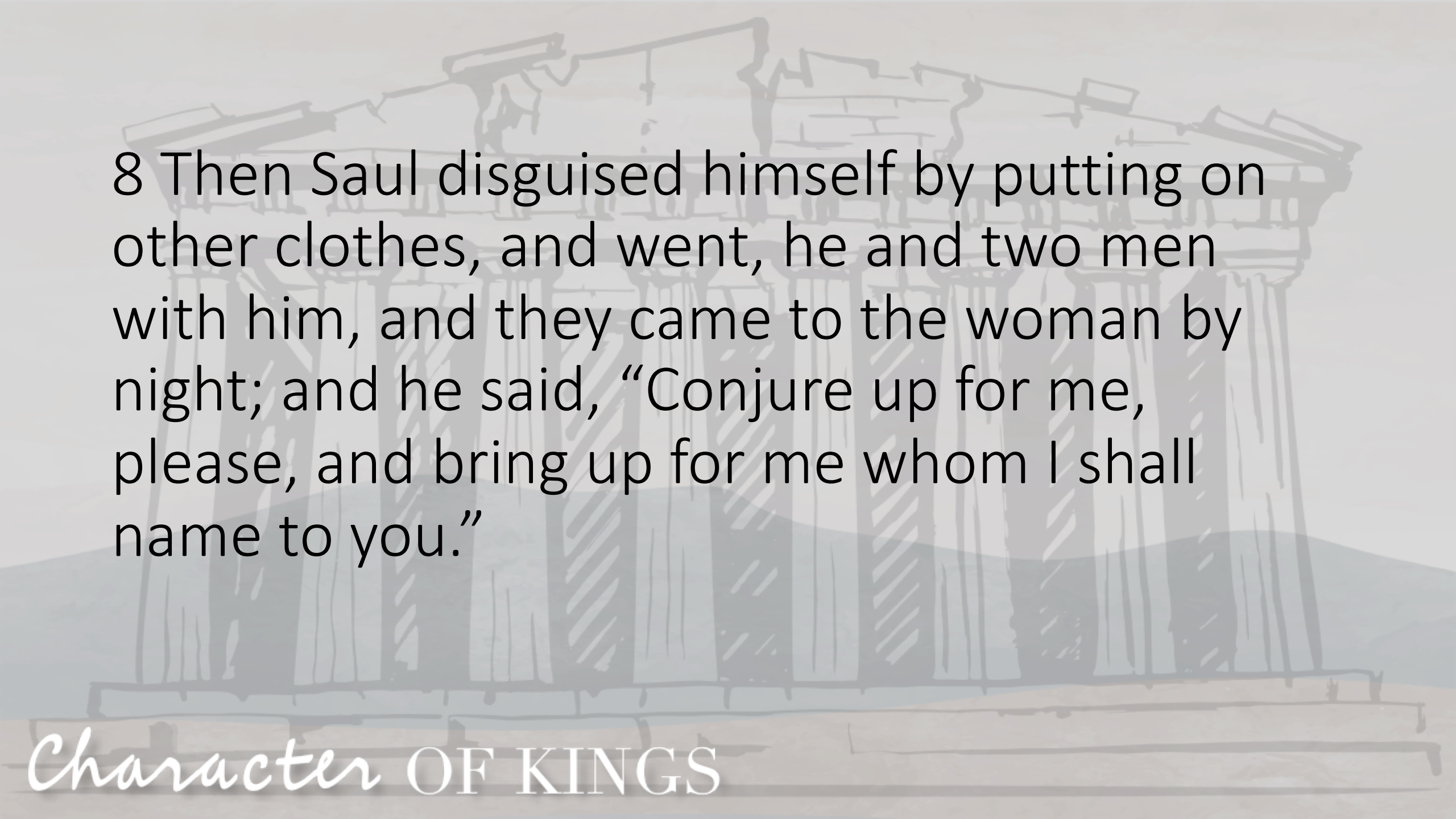
Saul conjures for Samuel through a medium at Endor. (1 Samuel 28:8-25)

Saul mustered all Israel; they camped on Gilboa. (1 Samuel 28:4)

LEGEND:

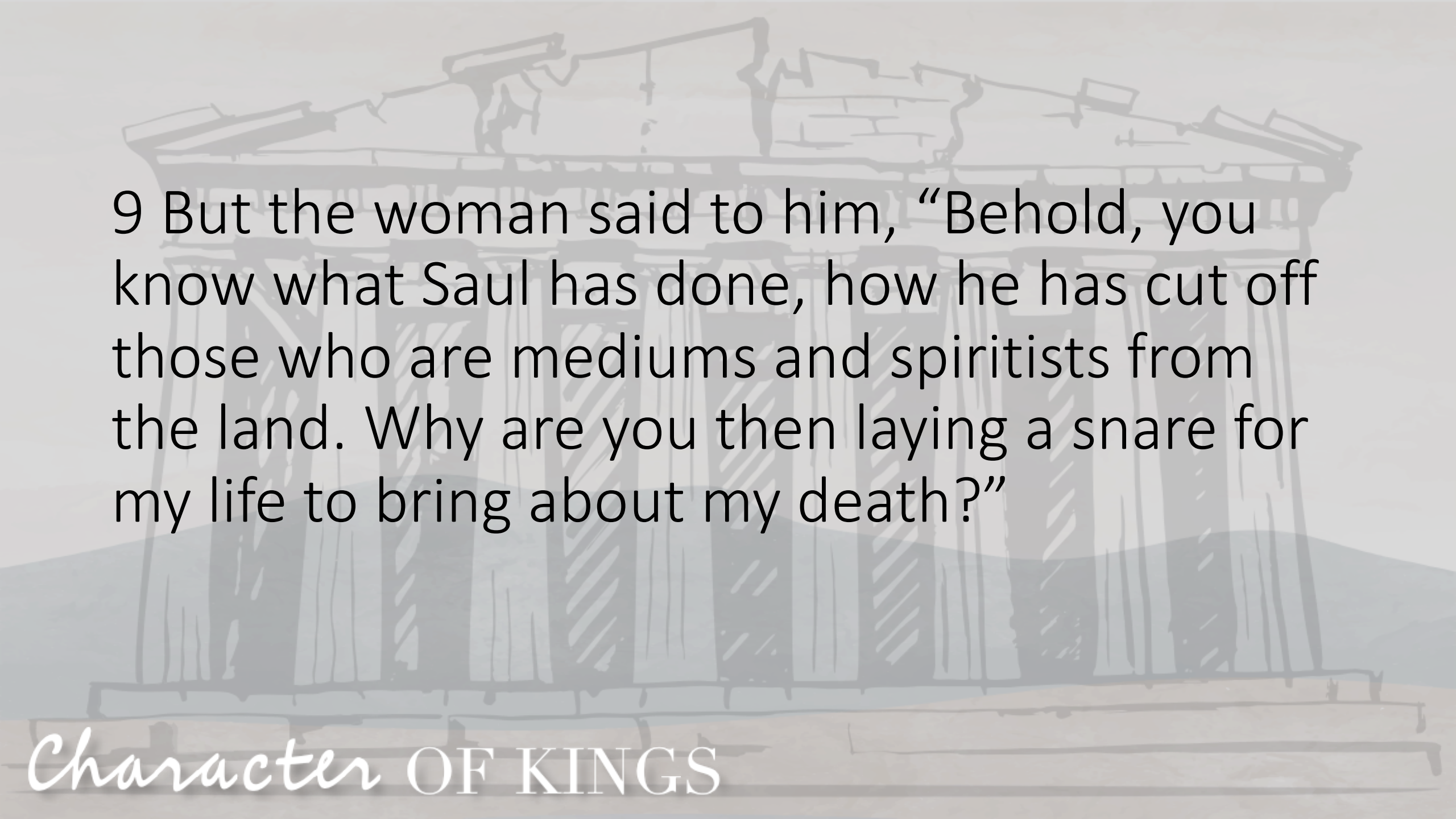
- Philistines rally to Shunem
- - - Saul mustered all Israel against the Philistines

Saul Conjures for Samuel



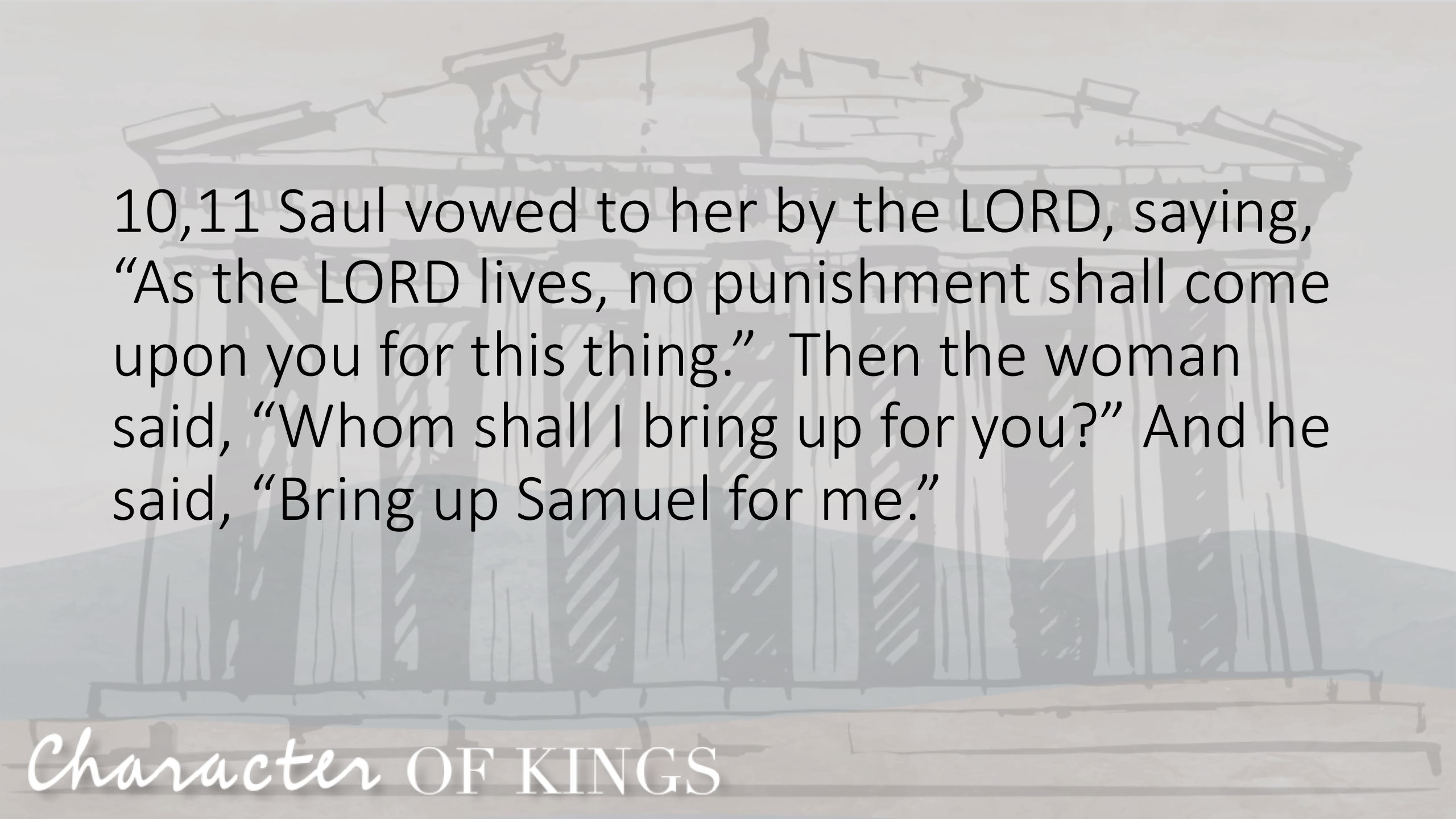
8 Then Saul disguised himself by putting on other clothes, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night; and he said, “Conjure up for me, please, and bring up for me whom I shall name to you.”

Character OF KINGS



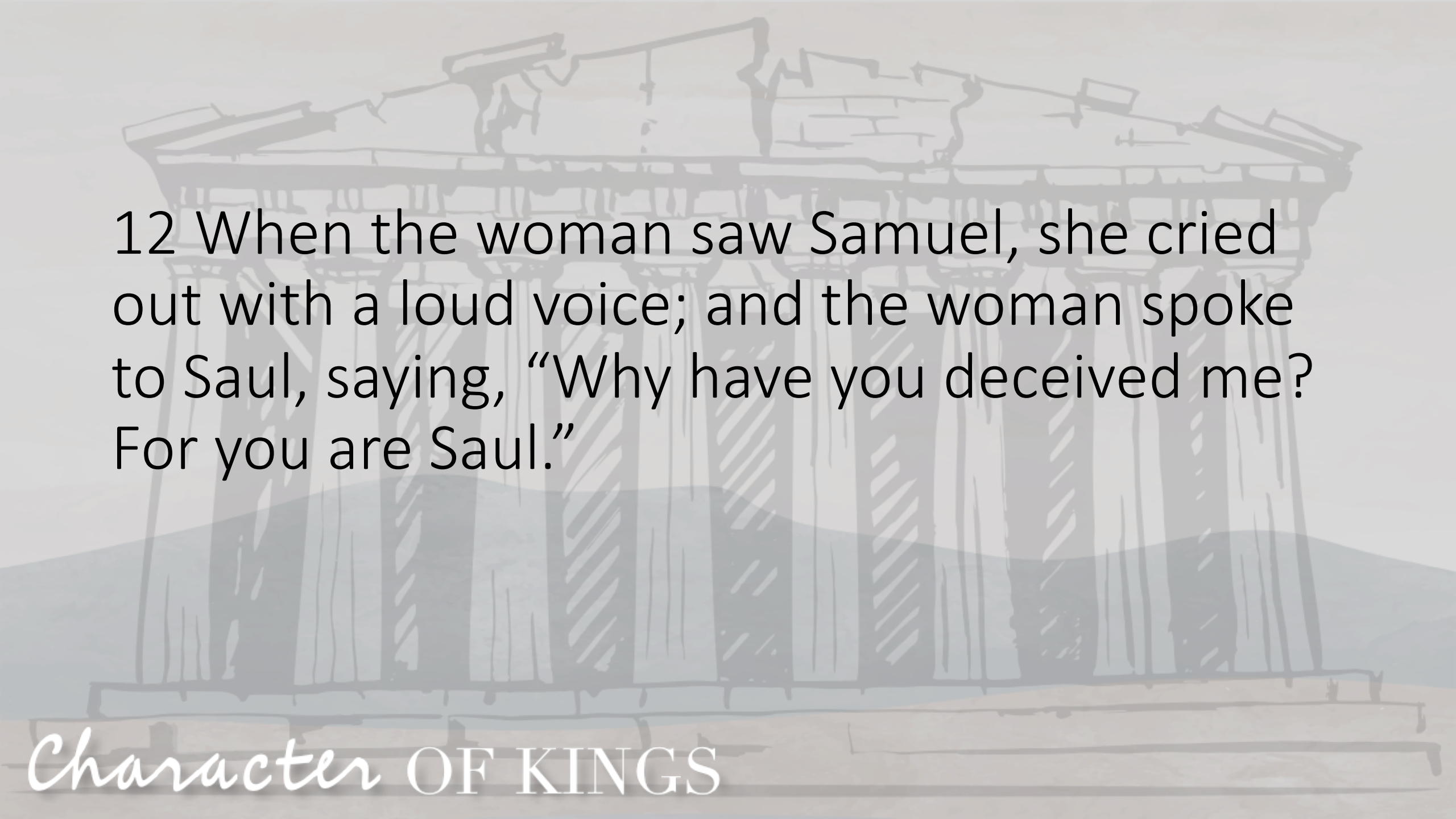
9 But the woman said to him, “Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off those who are mediums and spiritists from the land. Why are you then laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?”

Character OF KINGS



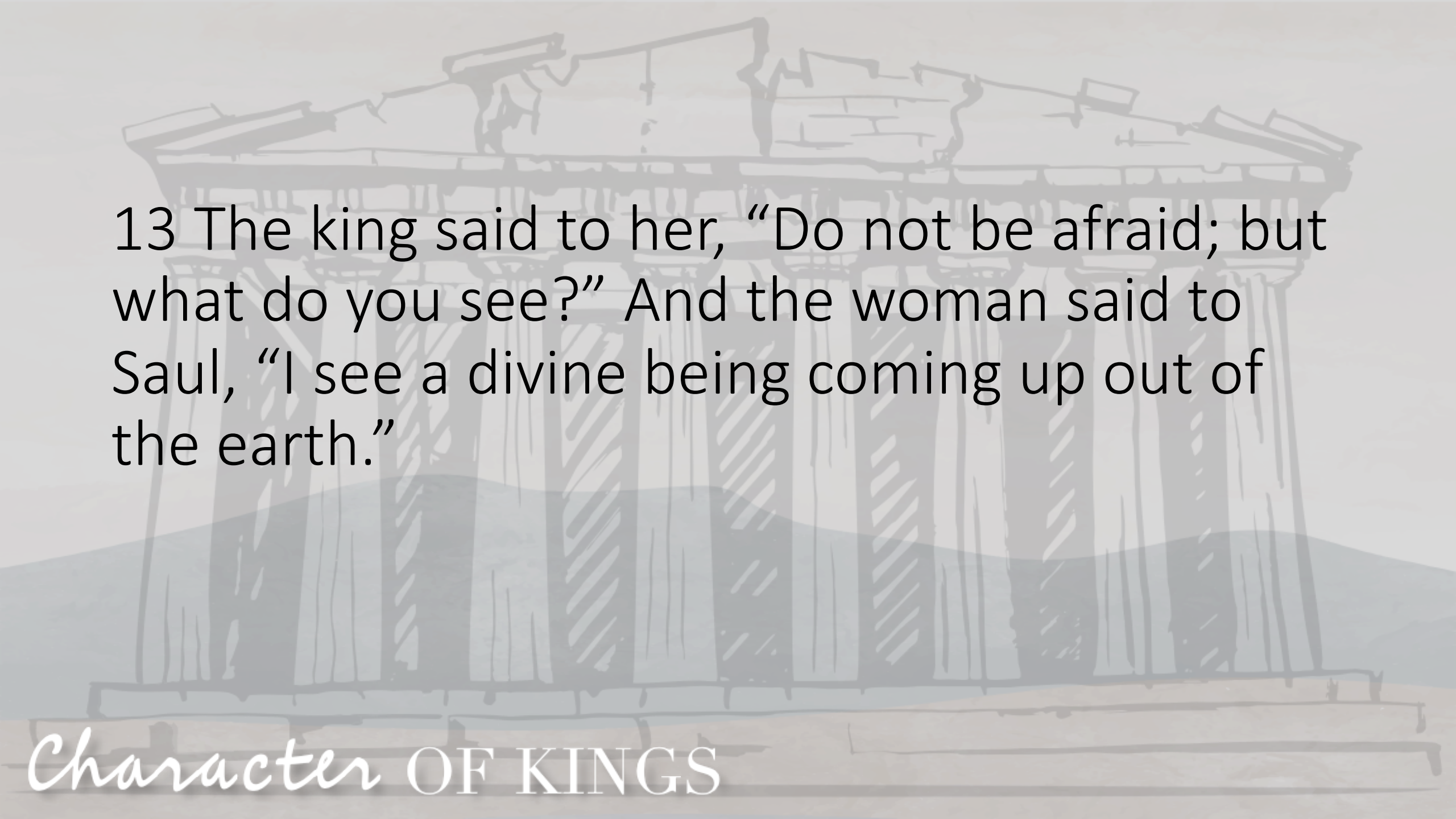
10,11 Saul vowed to her by the LORD, saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing.” Then the woman said, “Whom shall I bring up for you?” And he said, “Bring up Samuel for me.”

Character OF KINGS



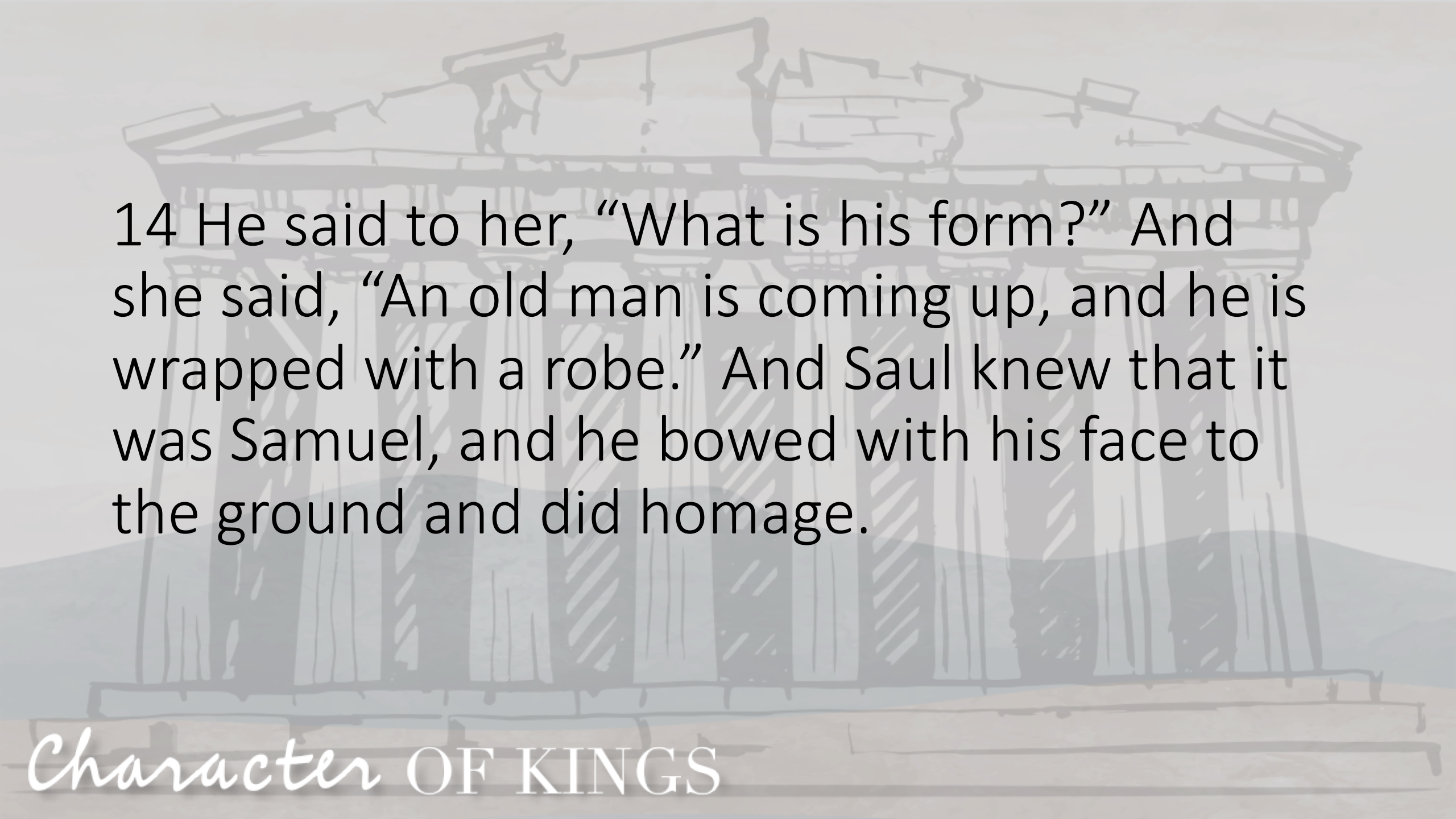
12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, “Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul.”

Character OF KINGS



13 The king said to her, “Do not be afraid; but what do you see?” And the woman said to Saul, “I see a divine being coming up out of the earth.”

Character OF KINGS

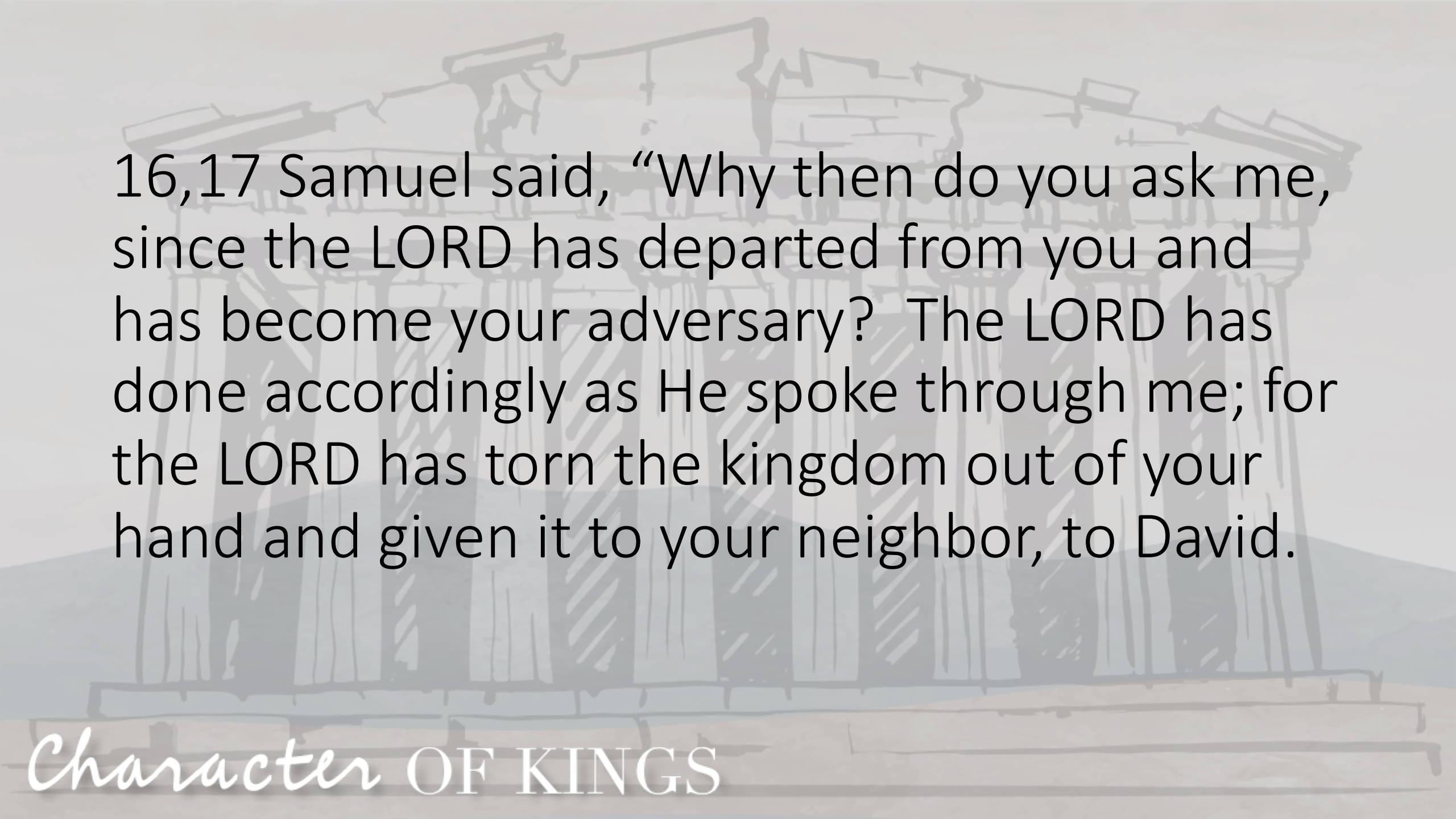


14 He said to her, “What is his form?” And she said, “An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped with a robe.” And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and did homage.

Character OF KINGS

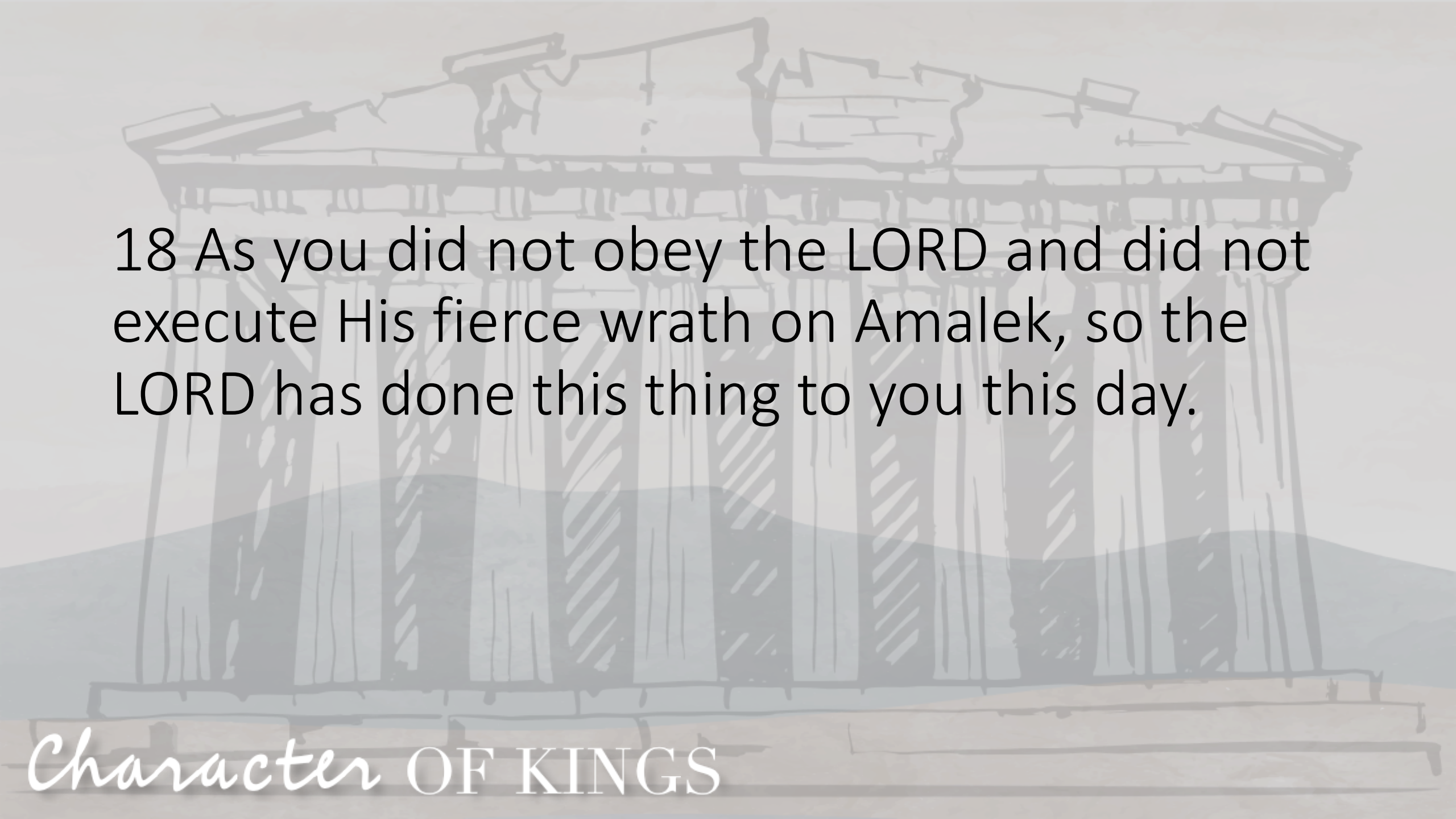
15 Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” And Saul answered, “I am greatly distressed; for the Philistines are waging war against me, and God has departed from me and no longer answers me, either through prophets or by dreams; therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I should do.”

Character OF KINGS



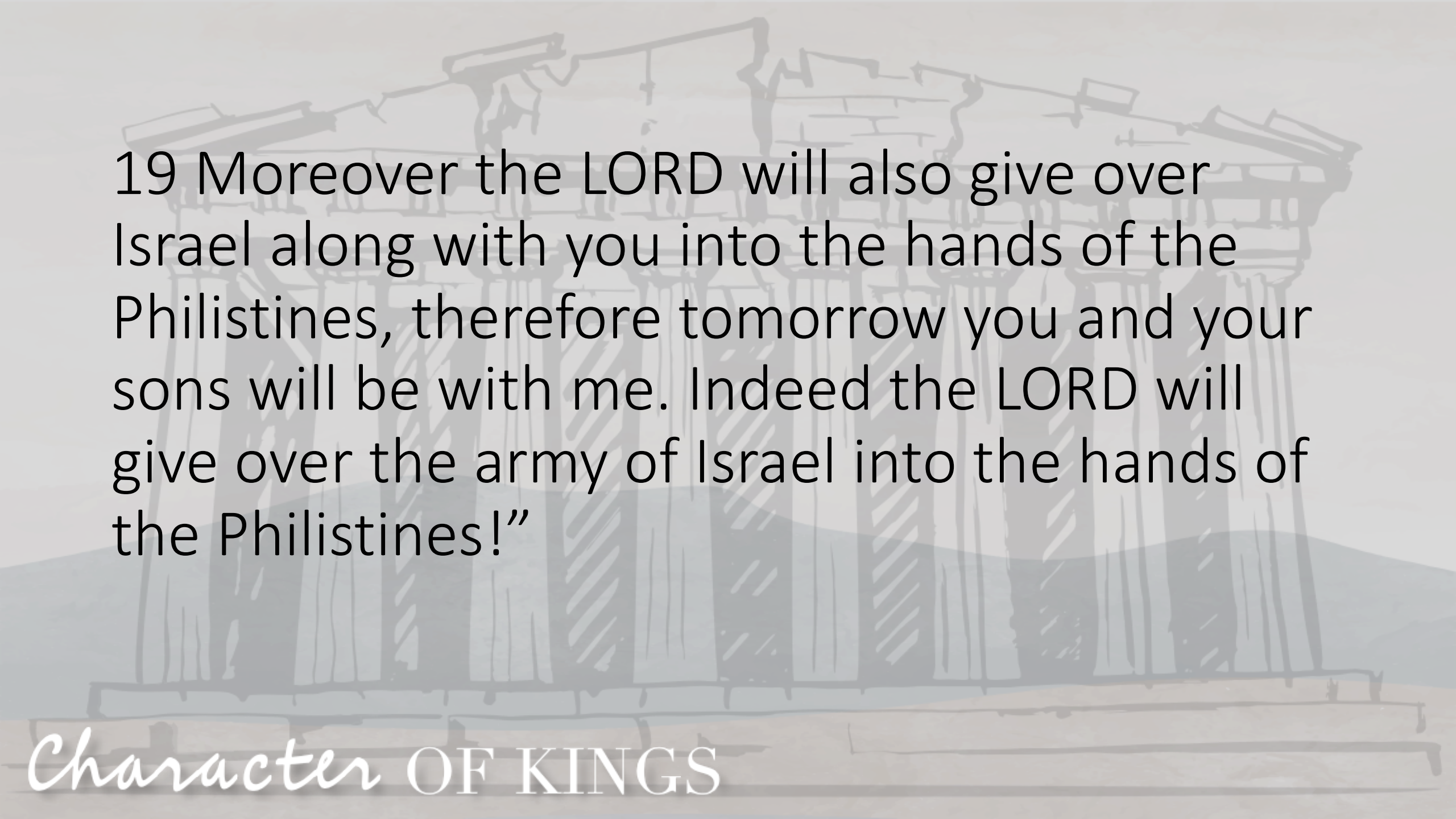
16,17 Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the LORD has departed from you and has become your adversary? The LORD has done accordingly as He spoke through me; for the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, to David.

Character OF KINGS



18 As you did not obey the LORD and did not execute His fierce wrath on Amalek, so the LORD has done this thing to you this day.

Character OF KINGS

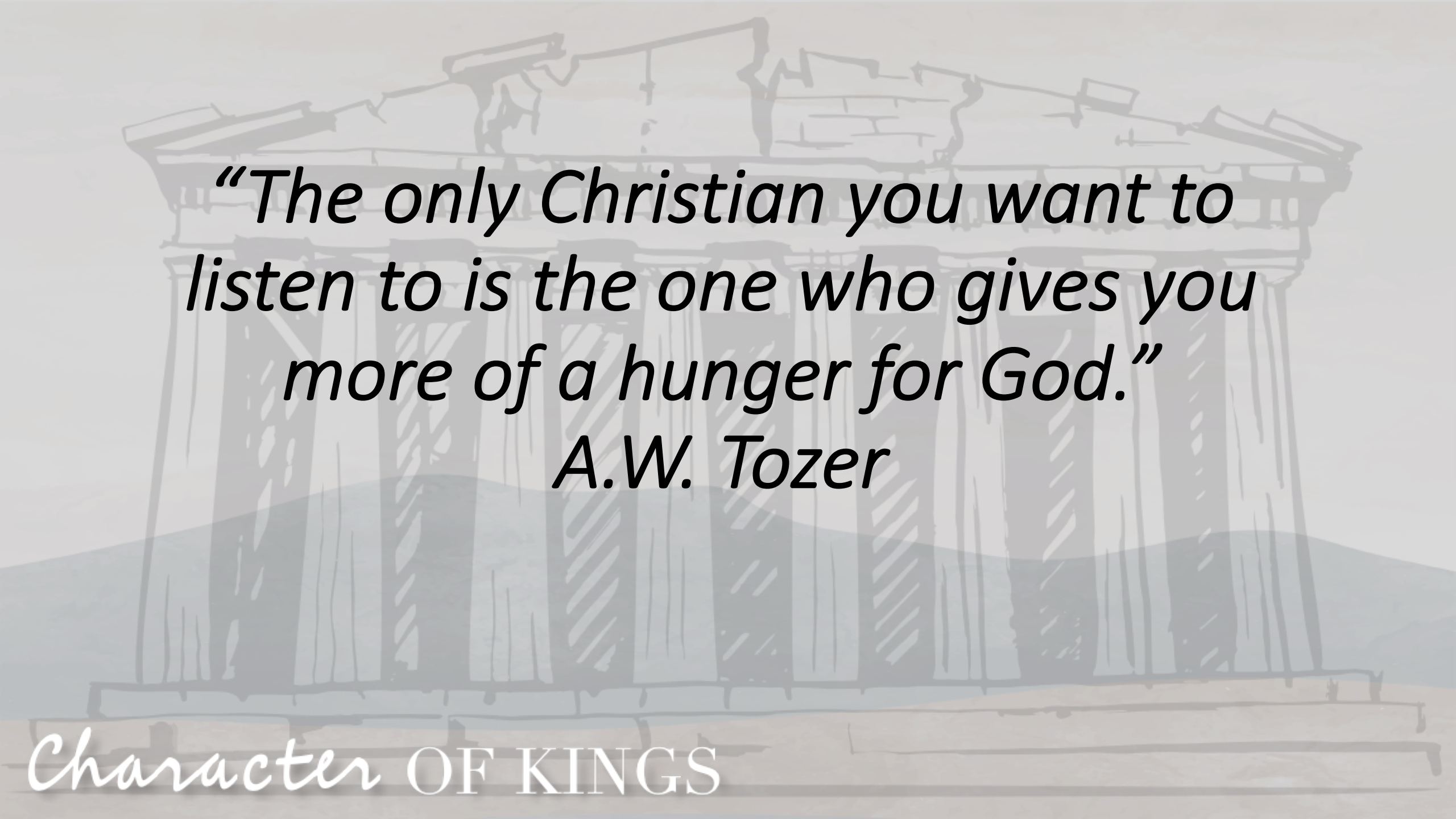


19 Moreover the LORD will also give over Israel along with you into the hands of the Philistines, therefore tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. Indeed the LORD will give over the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines!”

Character OF KINGS

Saul's Patience 7-19

- Saul disguised himself
- Saul went to Endor – past enemy lines
- Saul sought a good thing a bad way
- Saul looked to a man of God – NOT God
- Saul got an unpleasant prophecy -



“The only Christian you want to listen to is the one who gives you more of a hunger for God.”

A.W. Tozer

Character OF KINGS

Saul's Ghost – his own future

- Patience – Silence is God's Pause
- Sin is never the right answer!
- Curiosity & Creativity are a Gift & a Curse!
- God is not holding out – He is holding up!

“If the person you are talking to doesn't appear to be listening, be patient. It may simply be that he has a small piece of fluff in his ear.”

A.A. Milne (Winnie-the-Pooh)



Character OF KINGS



Character
OF KINGS