A painting depicting a group of people in a dramatic, possibly apocalyptic scene. In the center, a man in a blue robe is looking upwards with a pained expression. To his left, another man in a red robe is also looking upwards. In the foreground, a man in a red robe is kneeling, holding a staff or stick. The background is filled with smoke and figures, suggesting a chaotic or divine event.

**And there was no king... we need  
deliverance from ourselves**

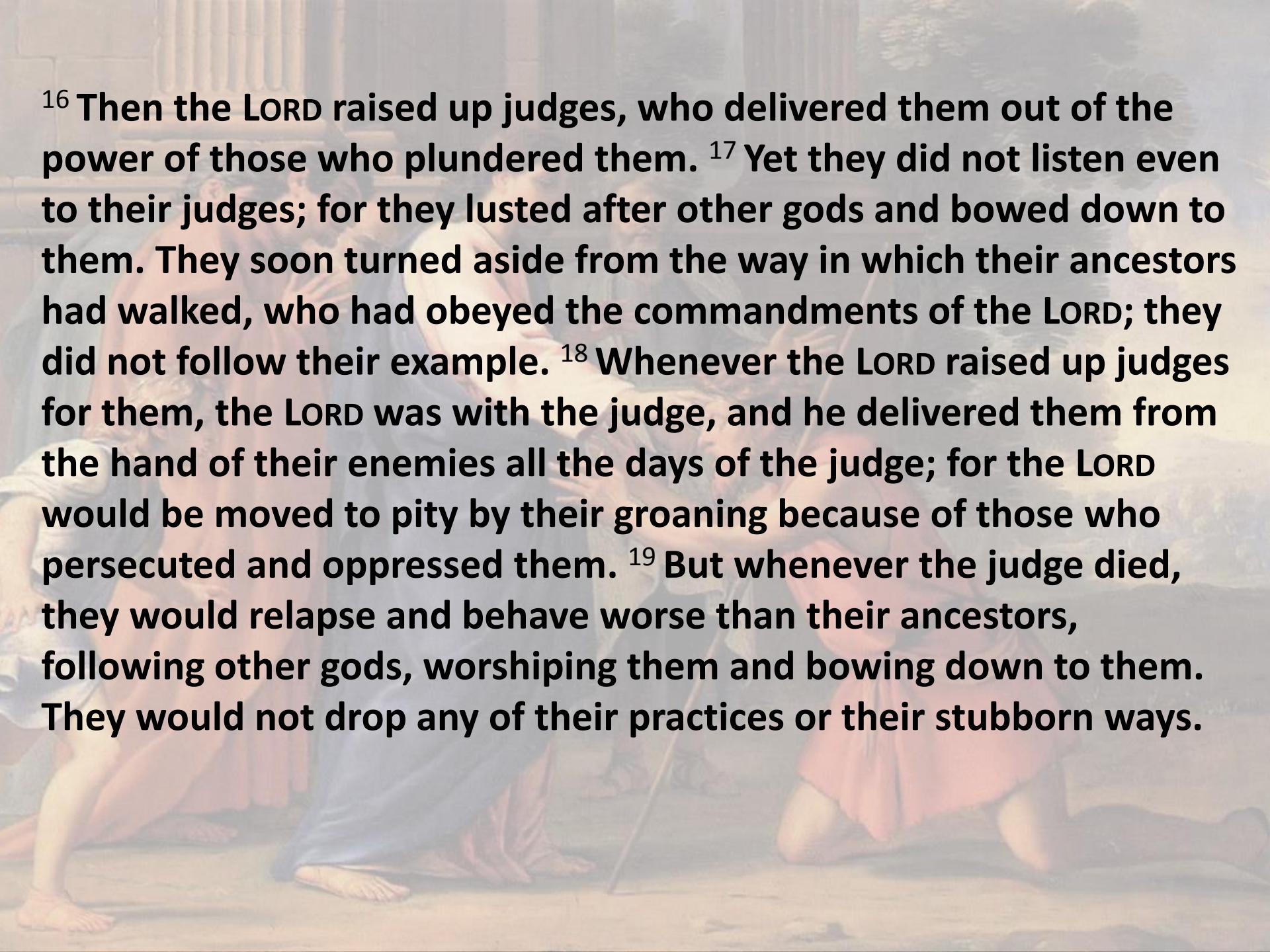
**Bob Hamilton  
April 17, 2016**

# Judges 2 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

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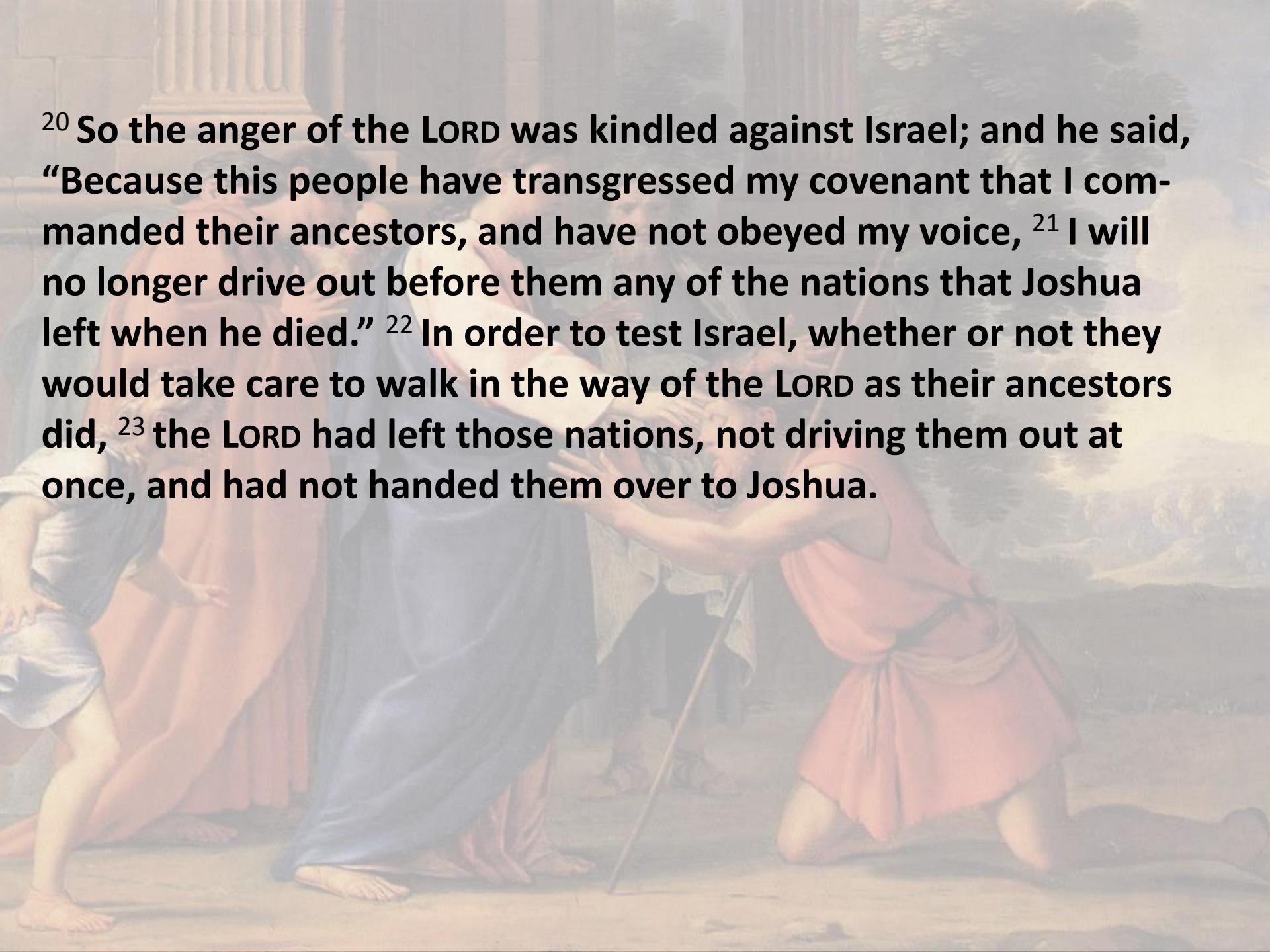
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<sup>15</sup> Whenever they marched out, the hand of the LORD was against them to bring misfortune, as the LORD had warned them and sworn to them; and they were in great distress.



<sup>16</sup> Then the LORD raised up judges, who delivered them out of the power of those who plundered them. <sup>17</sup> Yet they did not listen even to their judges; for they lusted after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their ancestors had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD; they did not follow their example. <sup>18</sup> Whenever the LORD raised up judges for them, the LORD was with the judge, and he delivered them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the LORD would be moved to pity by their groaning because of those who persecuted and oppressed them. <sup>19</sup> But whenever the judge died, they would relapse and behave worse than their ancestors, following other gods, worshiping them and bowing down to them. They would not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.

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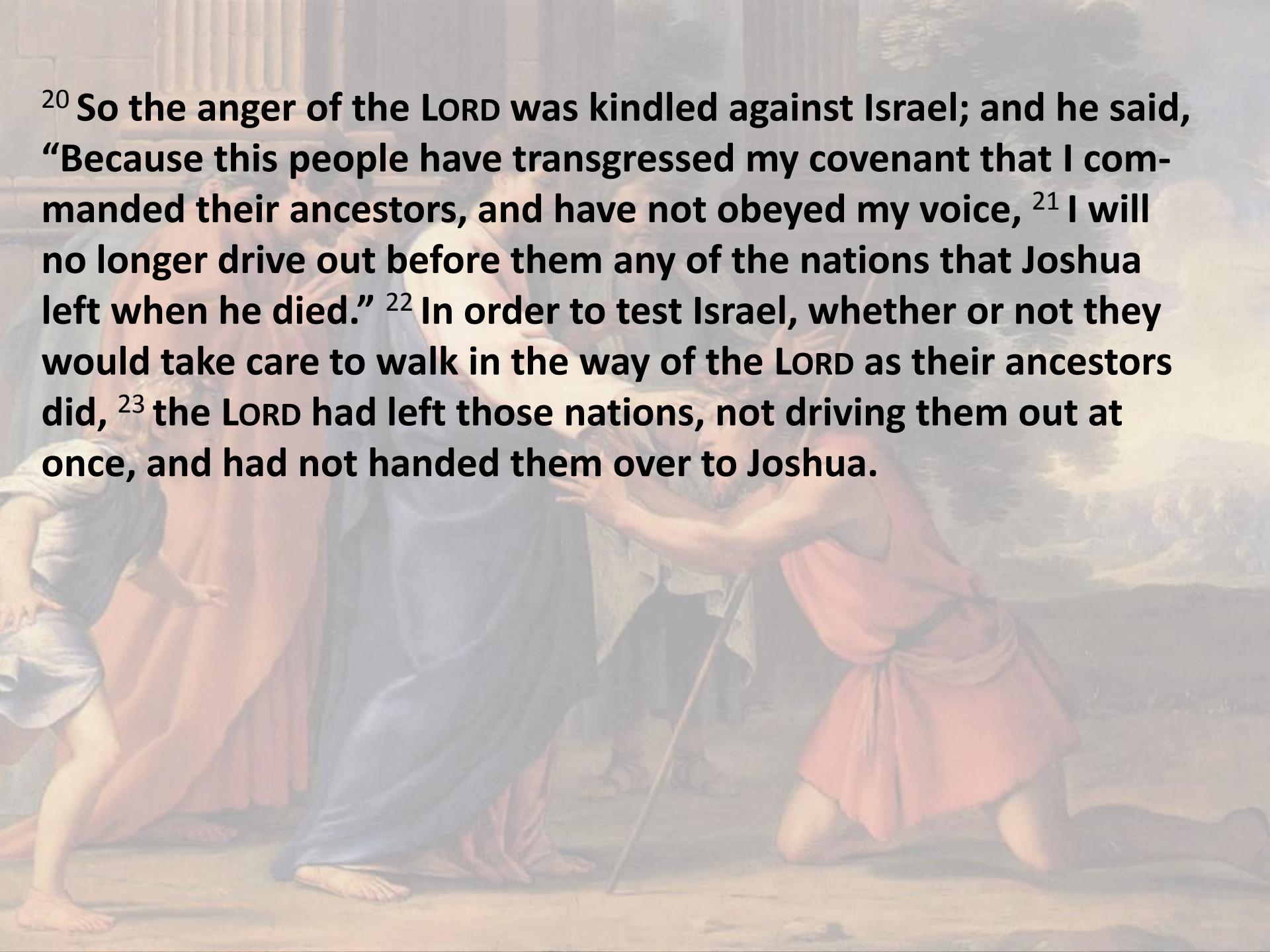
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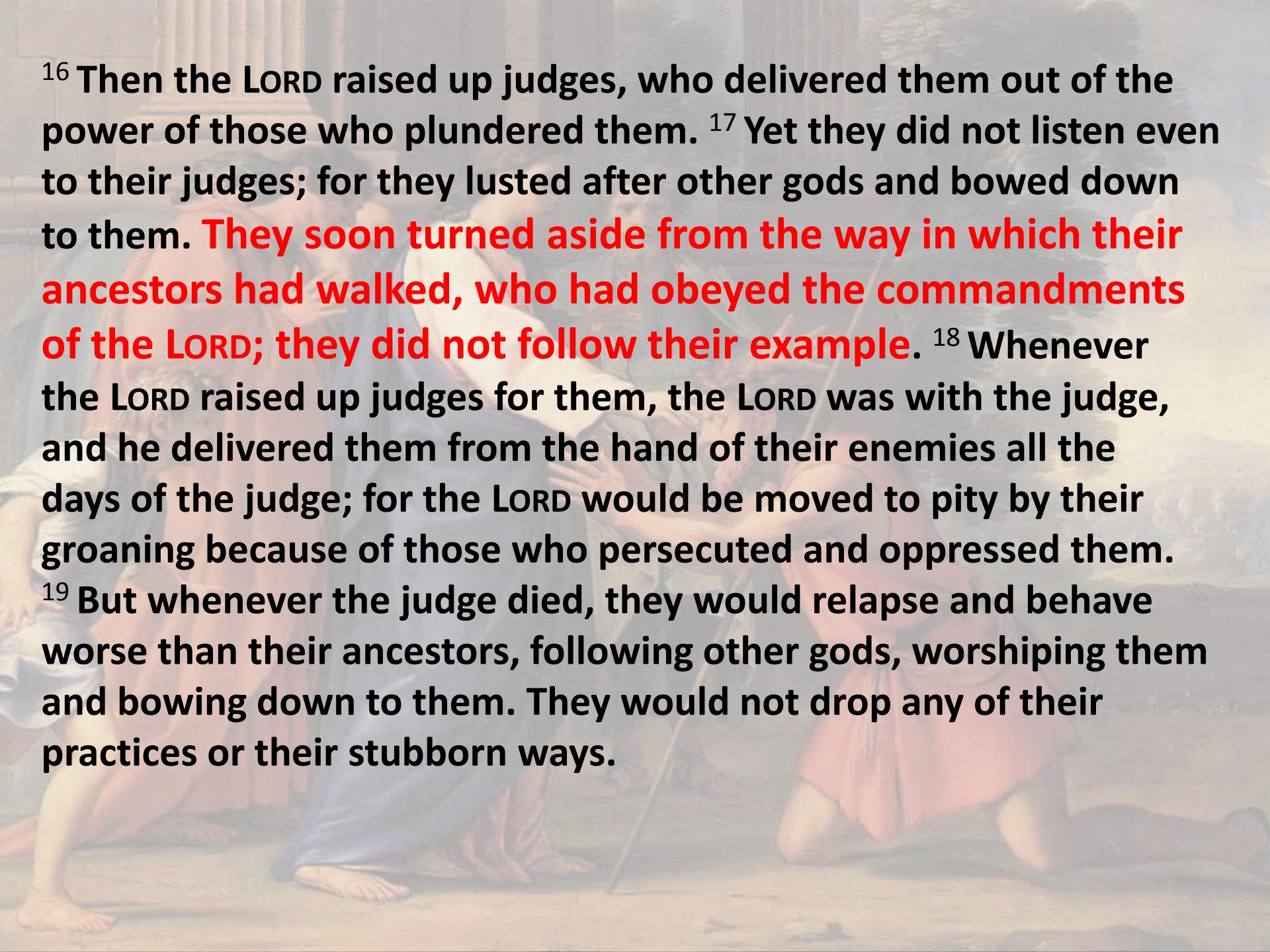
- **You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy** Lev 19:2 cp. 1 Peter 1:15–16

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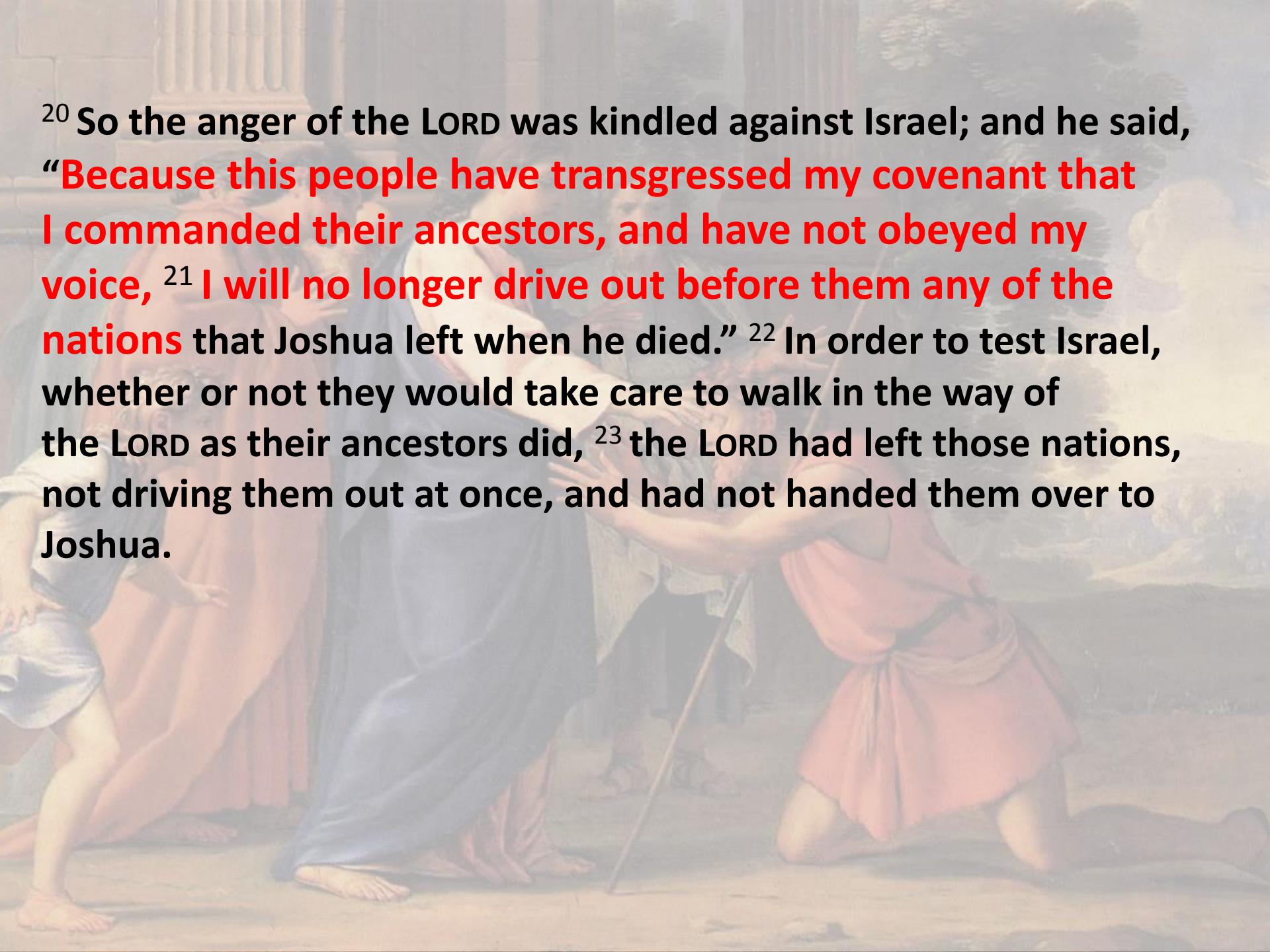
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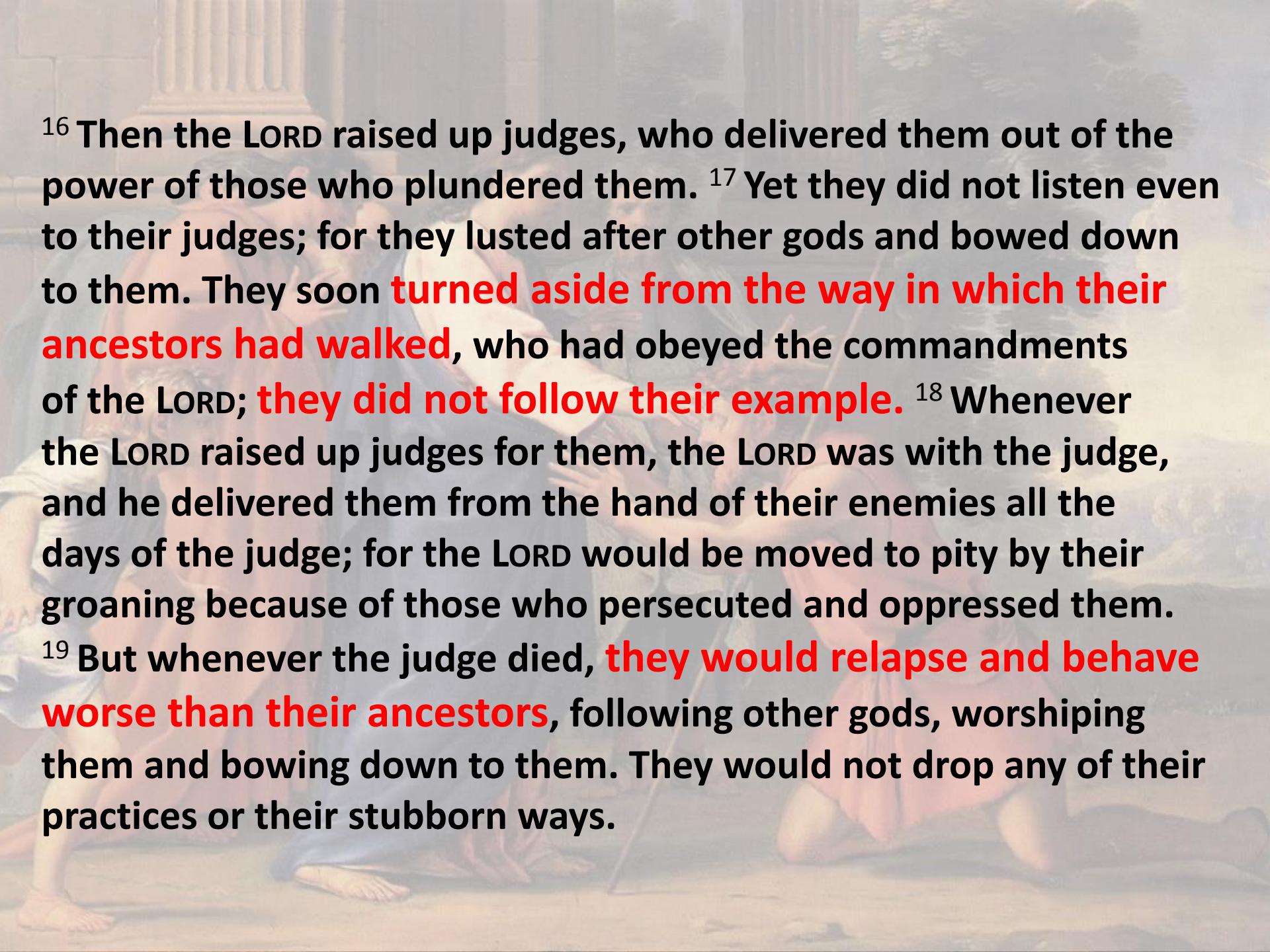
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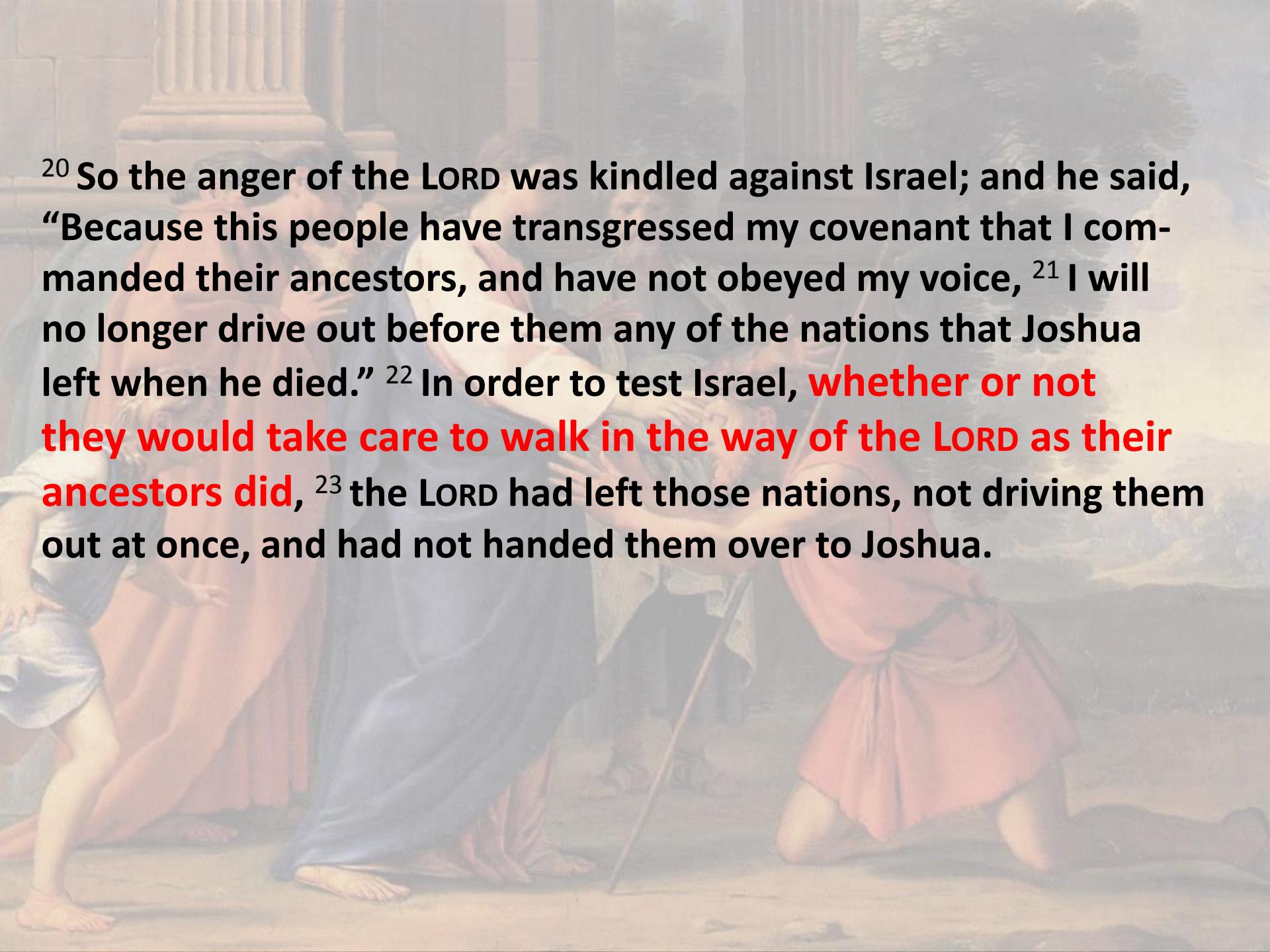
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# And what about the kingdom?

- In those days **there was no king** in Israel; all the people did **what was right in their own eyes**  
Judges 21:25
- But...
- You said to me [Samuel], “No but a king shall reign over us,” **though the LORD your God was your king** 1 Samuel 12:12 cp. Jn 1:10–11