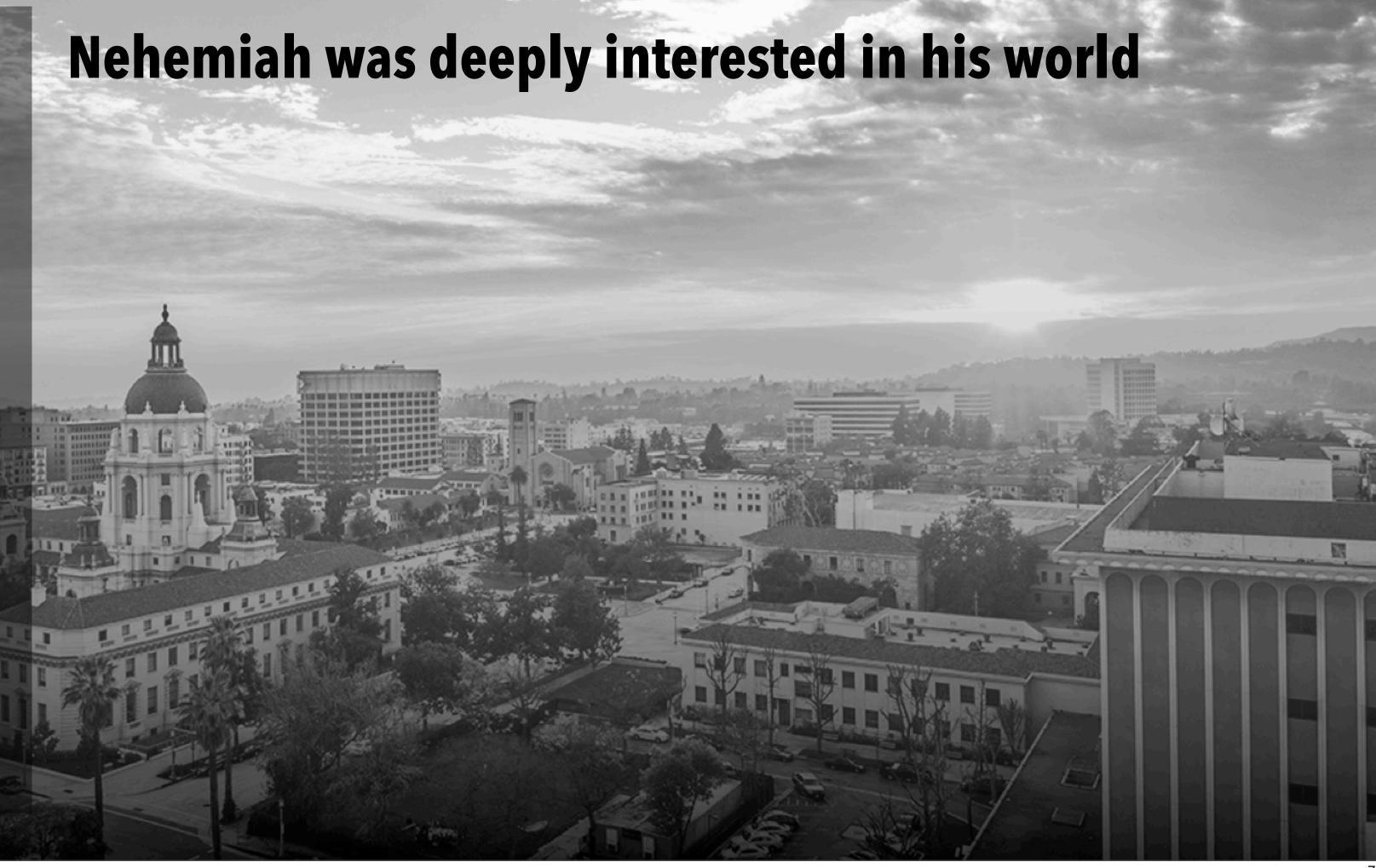


<sup>1</sup>The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, <sup>2</sup> Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.





They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace.

The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."

## Nehemiah was confronted with the broken-down walls in his world

Jerusalem = the work of God in the world through His people

people of God were meant to be light to draw the nations to God

cultural compromise

money

sex

power

true doctrine

financial generosity

sexual purity

servant leadership

<sup>3</sup>They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace.

The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."

# Nehemiah was confronted with the broken-down walls in his world

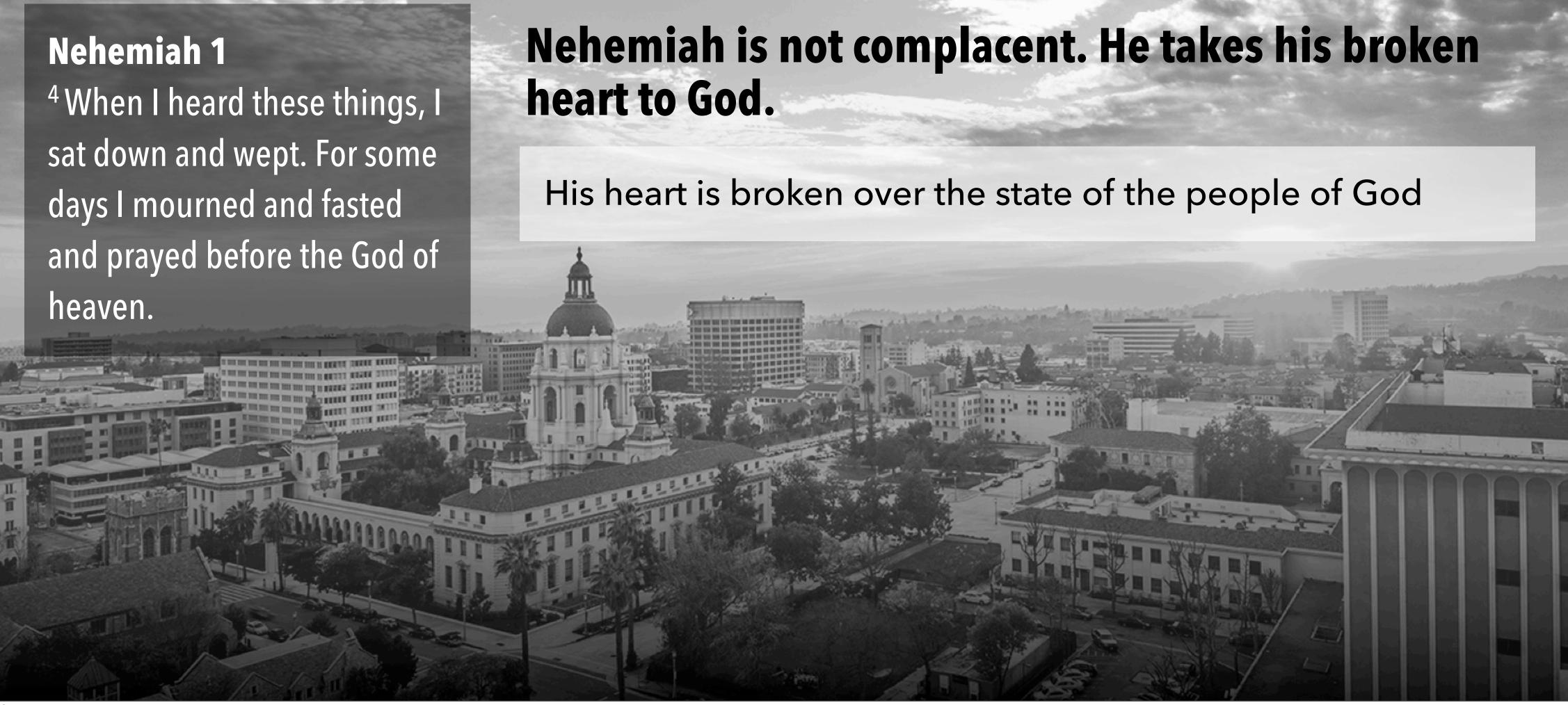
Jerusalem = the work of God in the world through His people

Walls = protection from the enemy

rest for the people of God

the ability of the people of God to come together to do what God called them to do

The walls of today's church are broken down. This is why we have societal breakdown.







I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. <sup>7</sup> We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses. <sup>8</sup> "Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, <sup>9</sup> but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.'

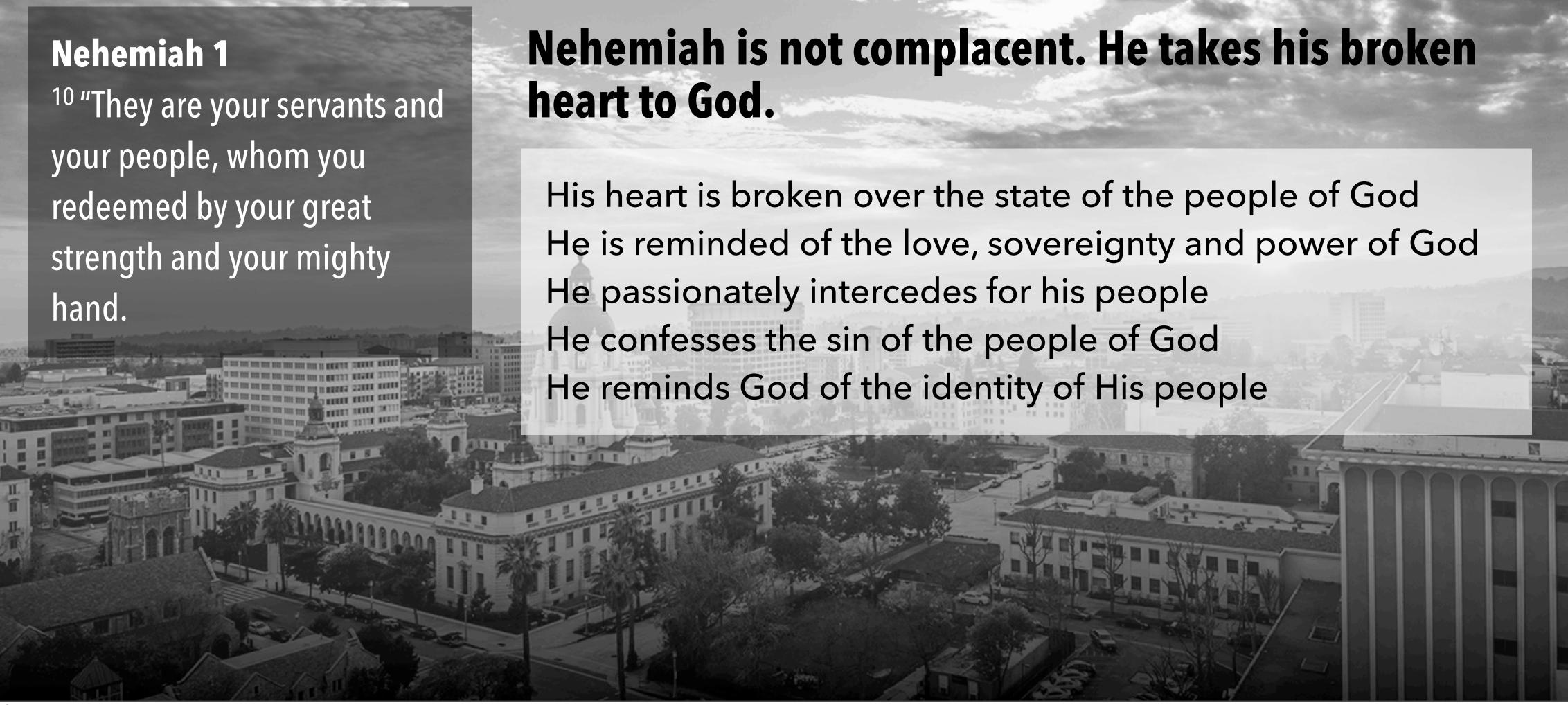
### Nehemiah is not complacent. He takes his broken heart to God.

His heart is broken over the state of the people of God

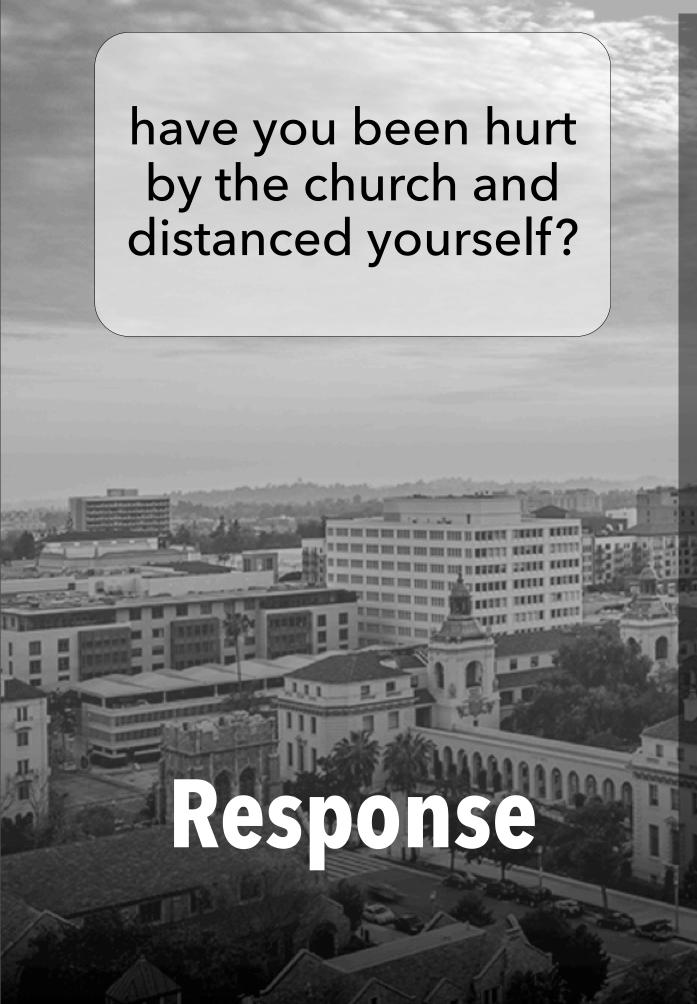
He is reminded of the love, sovereignty and power of God

He passionately intercedes for his people

He confesses the sin of the people of God







Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments,

<sup>6</sup> let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. <sup>7</sup> We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses. 8 "Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, <sup>9</sup> but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name. <sup>10</sup> They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand.

have you been hurt by the church and distanced yourself?

Response

Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup> let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. <sup>7</sup> We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses. 8 "Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, <sup>9</sup> but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name. <sup>10</sup> They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand.

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