



BRICK BY BRICK



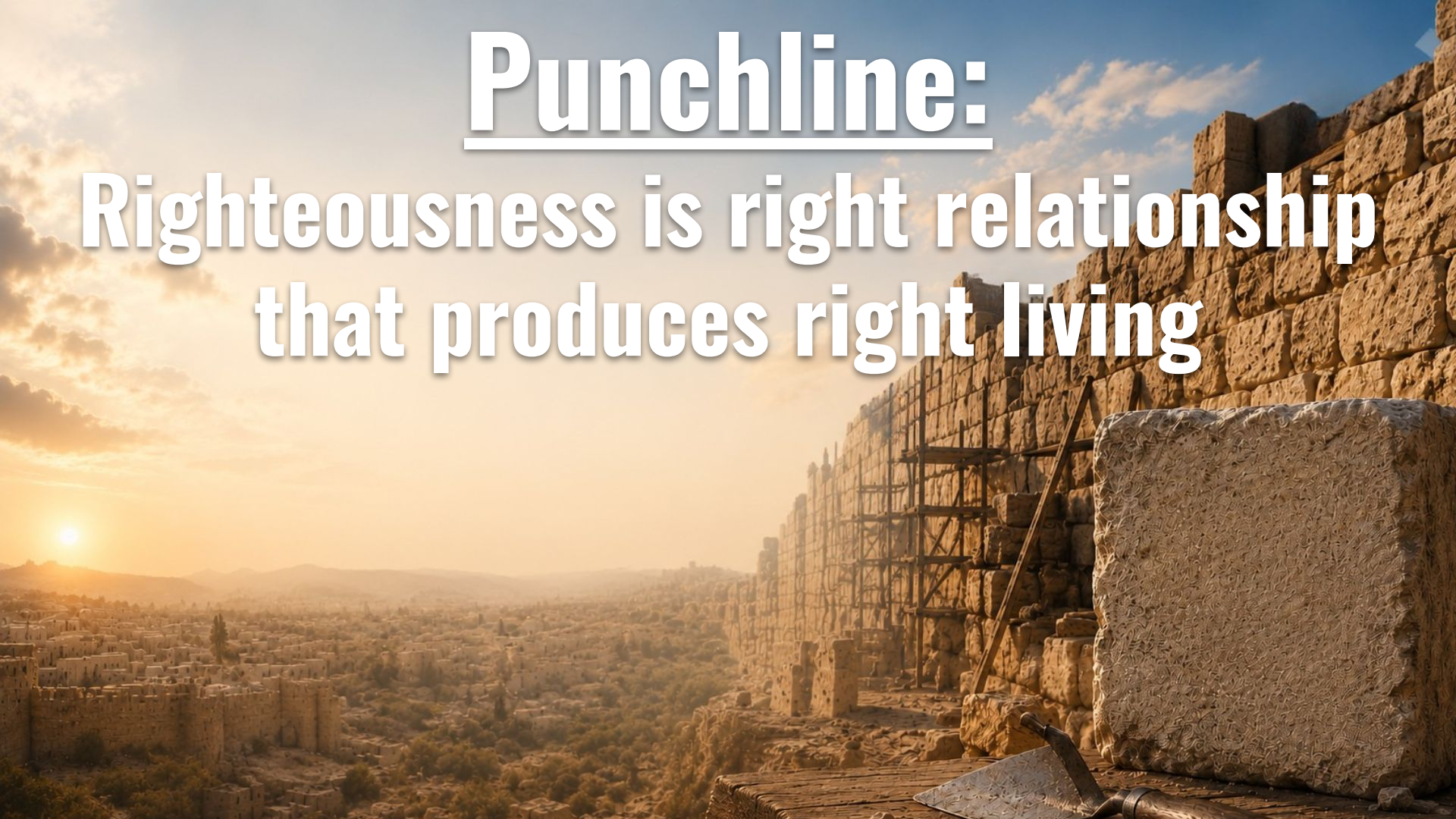
THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

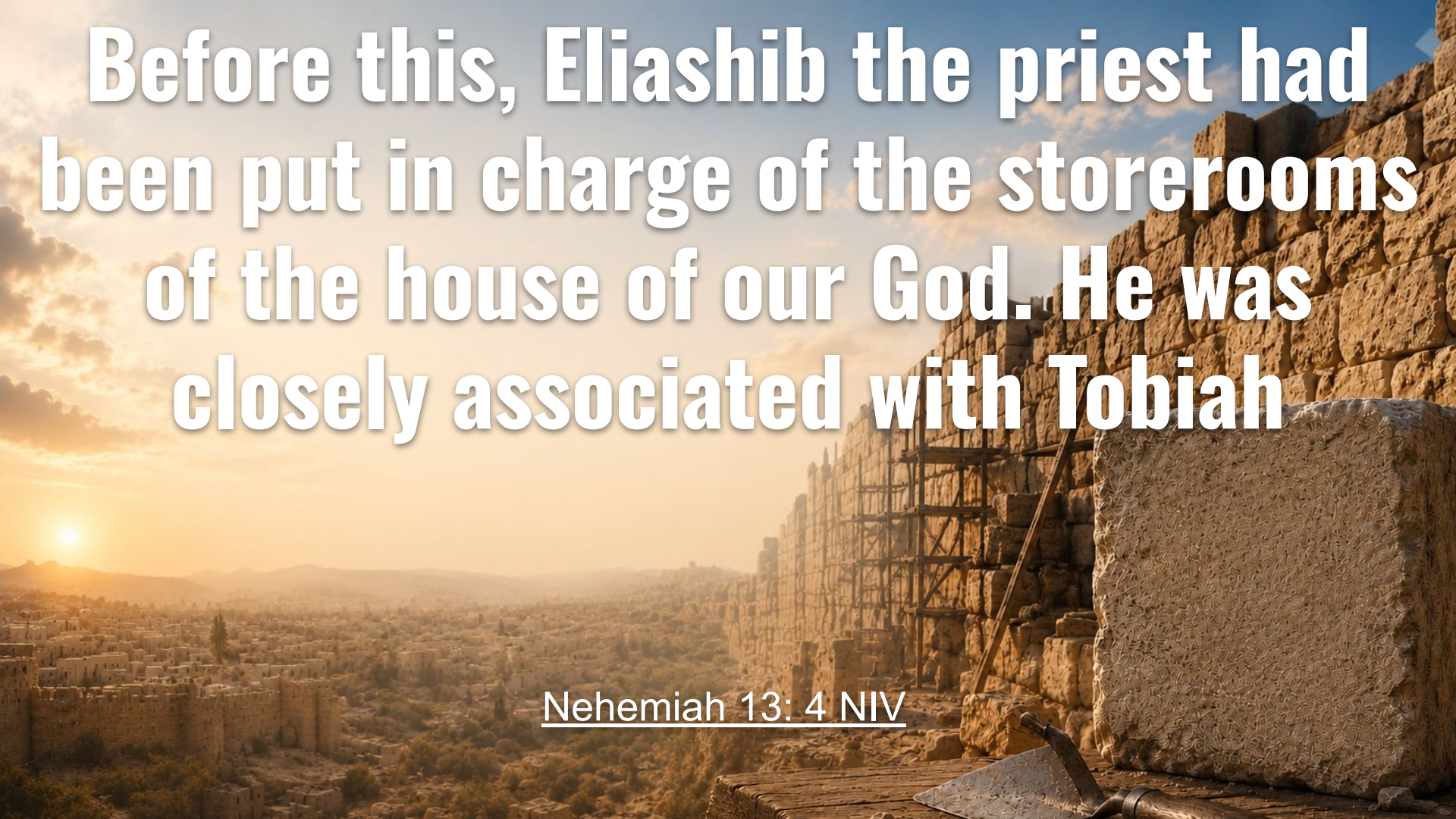
God builds
our lives
and His church
brick by brick



Punchline:

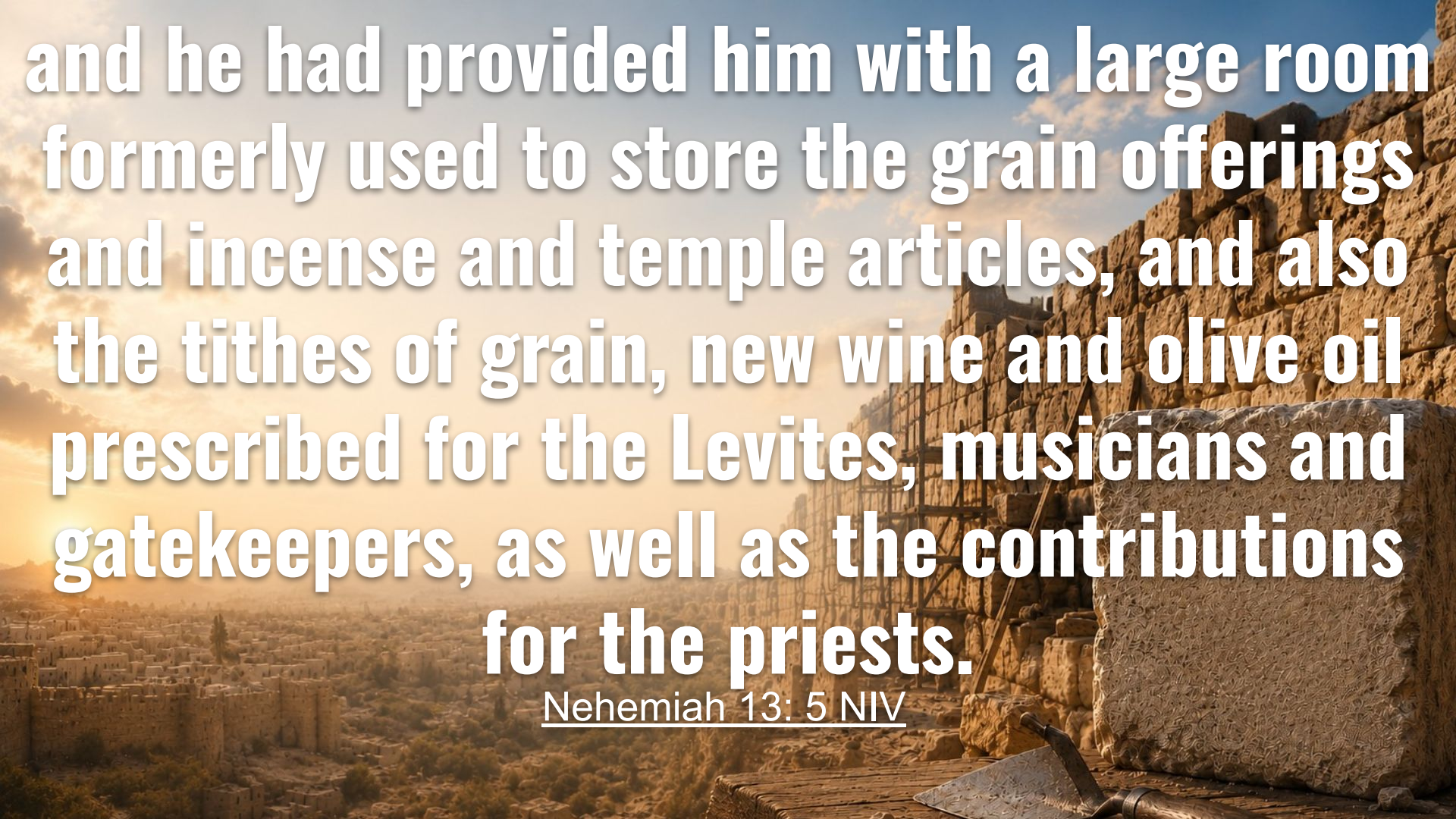
**Righteousness is right relationship
that produces right living**





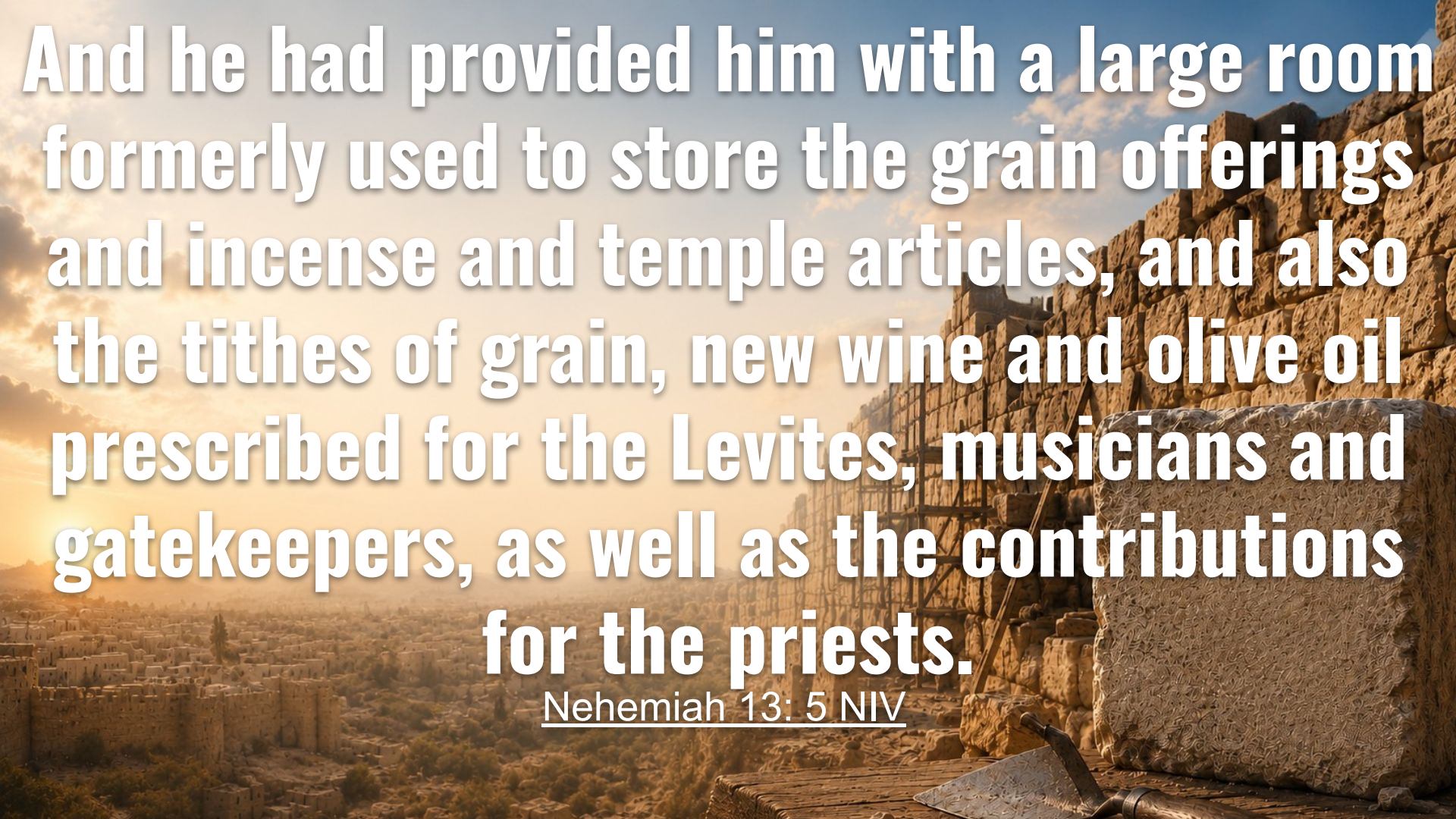
**Before this, Eliashib the priest had
been put in charge of the storerooms
of the house of our God. He was
closely associated with Tobiah**

Nehemiah 13: 4 NIV

The background image shows a panoramic view of Jerusalem from a high vantage point. In the foreground, the massive, weathered stone wall of the Temple Mount is visible, with a large, rectangular stone block lying on the ground. A metal tool, possibly a trowel or chisel, is also visible. The wall extends into the distance, with a wooden scaffolding structure leaning against it. Below the wall, the city of Jerusalem is visible, with its dense collection of buildings and the Dome of the Rock in the distance. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

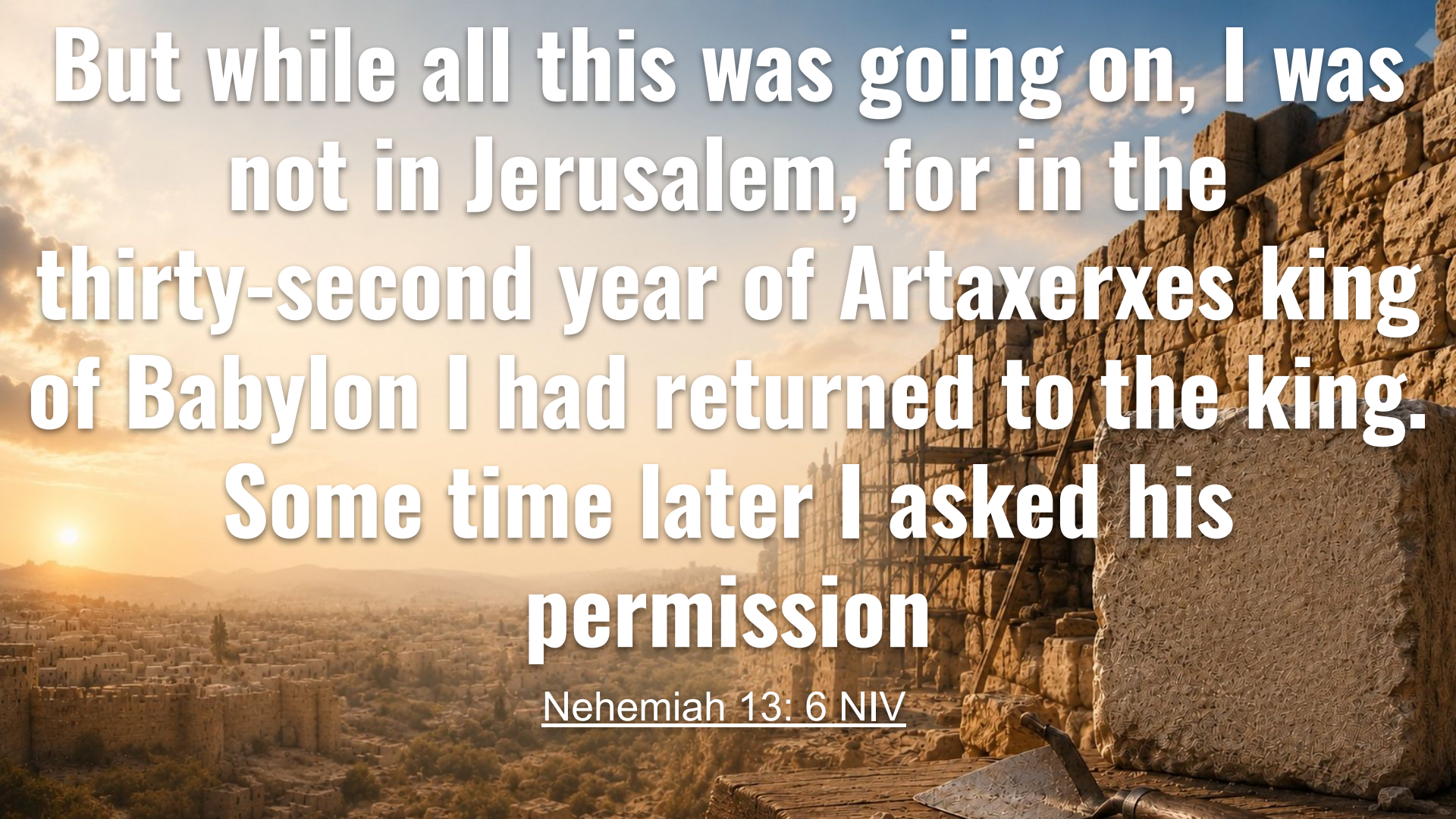
**and he had provided him with a large room
formerly used to store the grain offerings
and incense and temple articles, and also
the tithes of grain, new wine and olive oil
prescribed for the Levites, musicians and
gatekeepers, as well as the contributions
for the priests.**

Nehemiah 13: 5 NIV



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and incense and temple articles, and also
the tithes of grain, new wine and olive oil
prescribed for the Levites, musicians and
gatekeepers, as well as the contributions
for the priests.**

Nehemiah 13: 5 NIV

The background image shows a cityscape at sunset. In the foreground, there's a large, rough-hewn stone block and a metal trowel. Behind it, a high stone wall with scaffolding is visible. The city below is filled with buildings, and the sun is setting on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene.

**But while all this was going on, I was
not in Jerusalem, for in the
thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king
of Babylon I had returned to the king.
Some time later I asked his
permission**

Nehemiah 13: 6 NIV



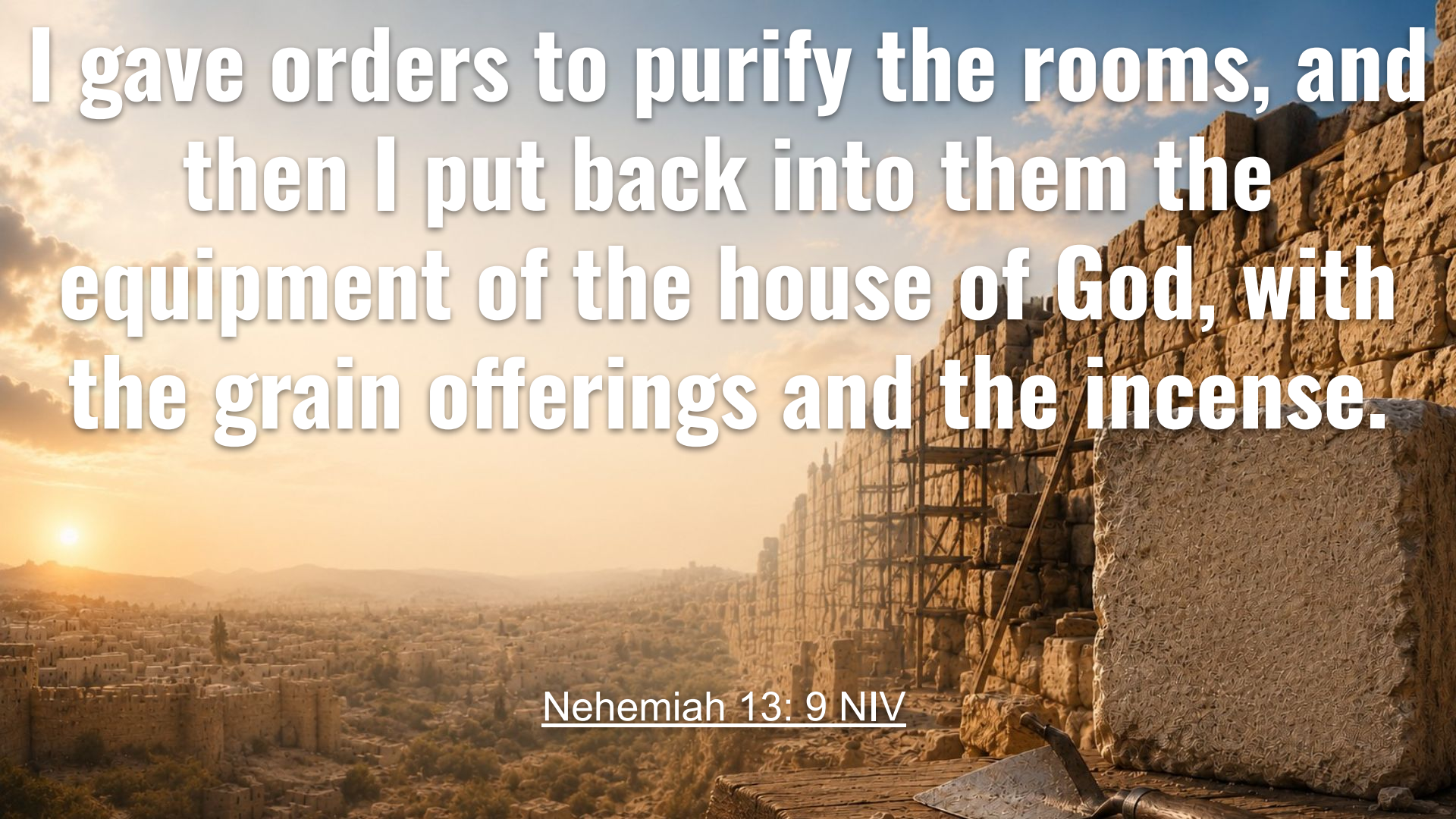
And came back to Jerusalem. Here I learned about the evil thing Eliashib had done in providing Tobiah a room in the courts of the house of God.

Nehemiah 13: 7 NIV

**I was greatly displeased and threw all
Tobiah's household goods out of the
room.**

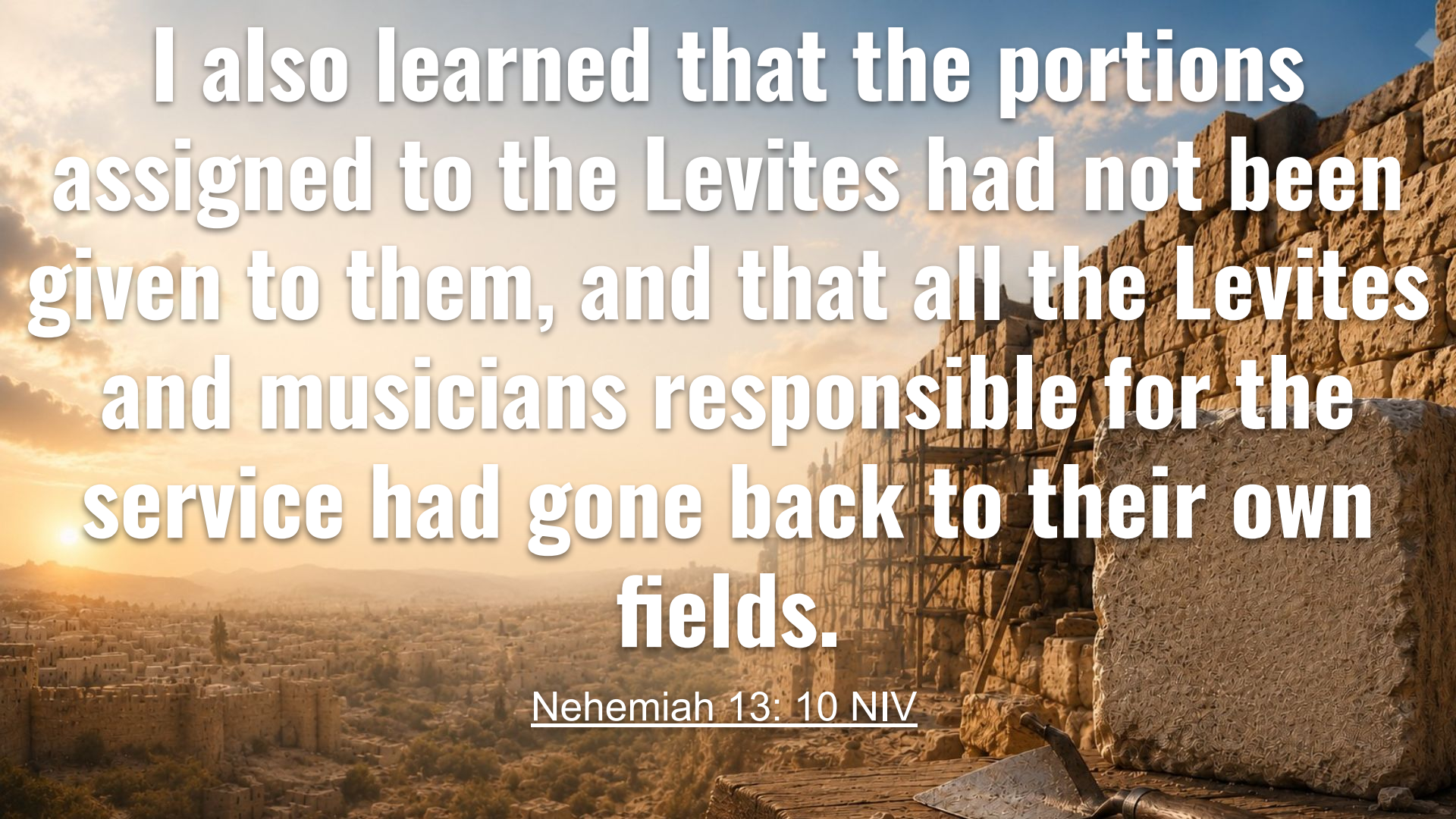
Nehemiah 13: 8 NIV



A dramatic sunset scene over a city, likely Jerusalem. In the foreground, a large stone wall is under construction, with scaffolding and a wooden ladder visible. A large, rough-hewn stone block lies on the ground in the lower right. The sun is low on the horizon to the left, casting a warm, golden glow over the city and the wall. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds.

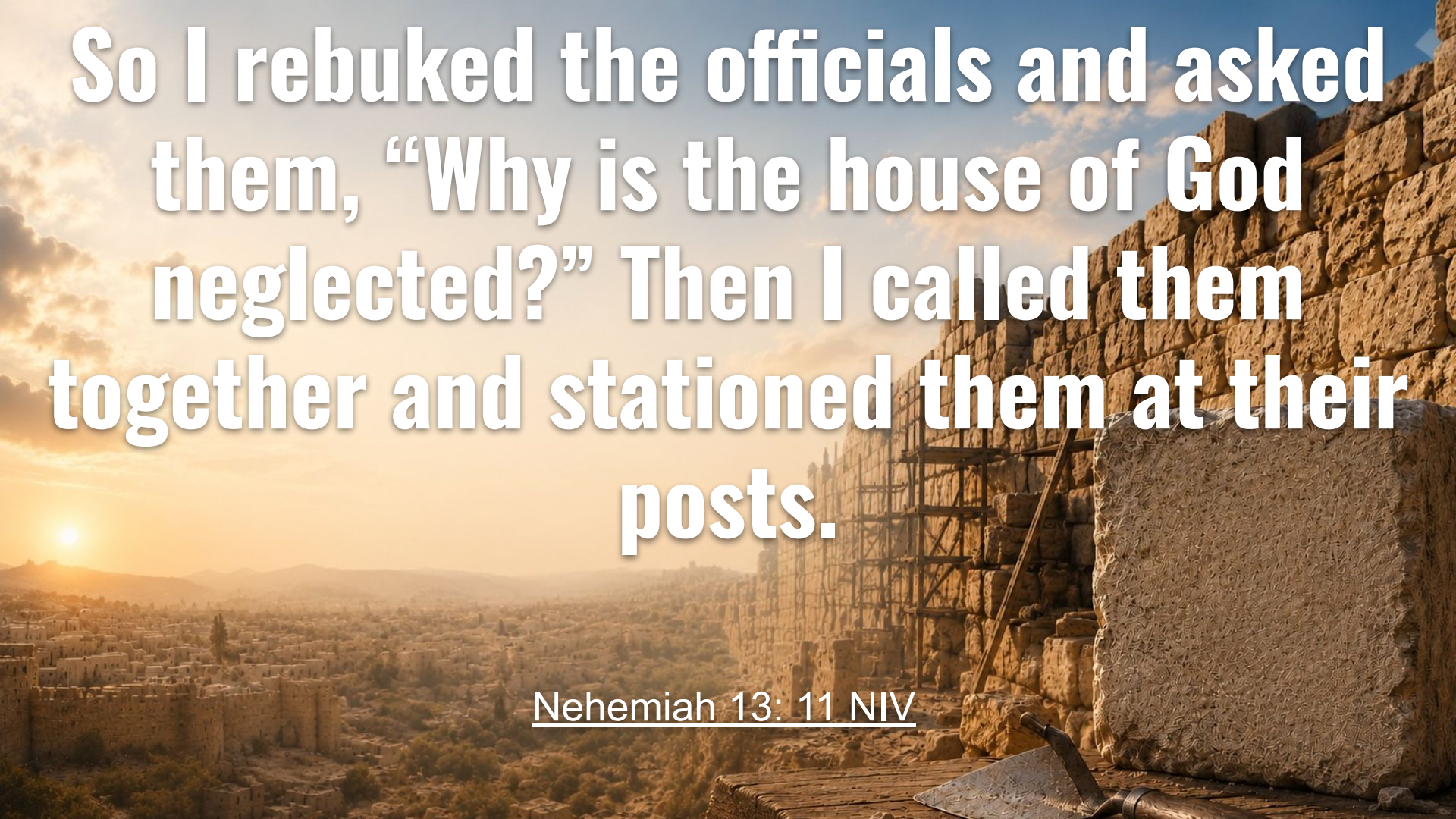
**I gave orders to purify the rooms, and
then I put back into them the
equipment of the house of God, with
the grain offerings and the incense.**

Nehemiah 13: 9 NIV



**I also learned that the portions
assigned to the Levites had not been
given to them, and that all the Levites
and musicians responsible for the
service had gone back to their own
fields.**

Nehemiah 13: 10 NIV

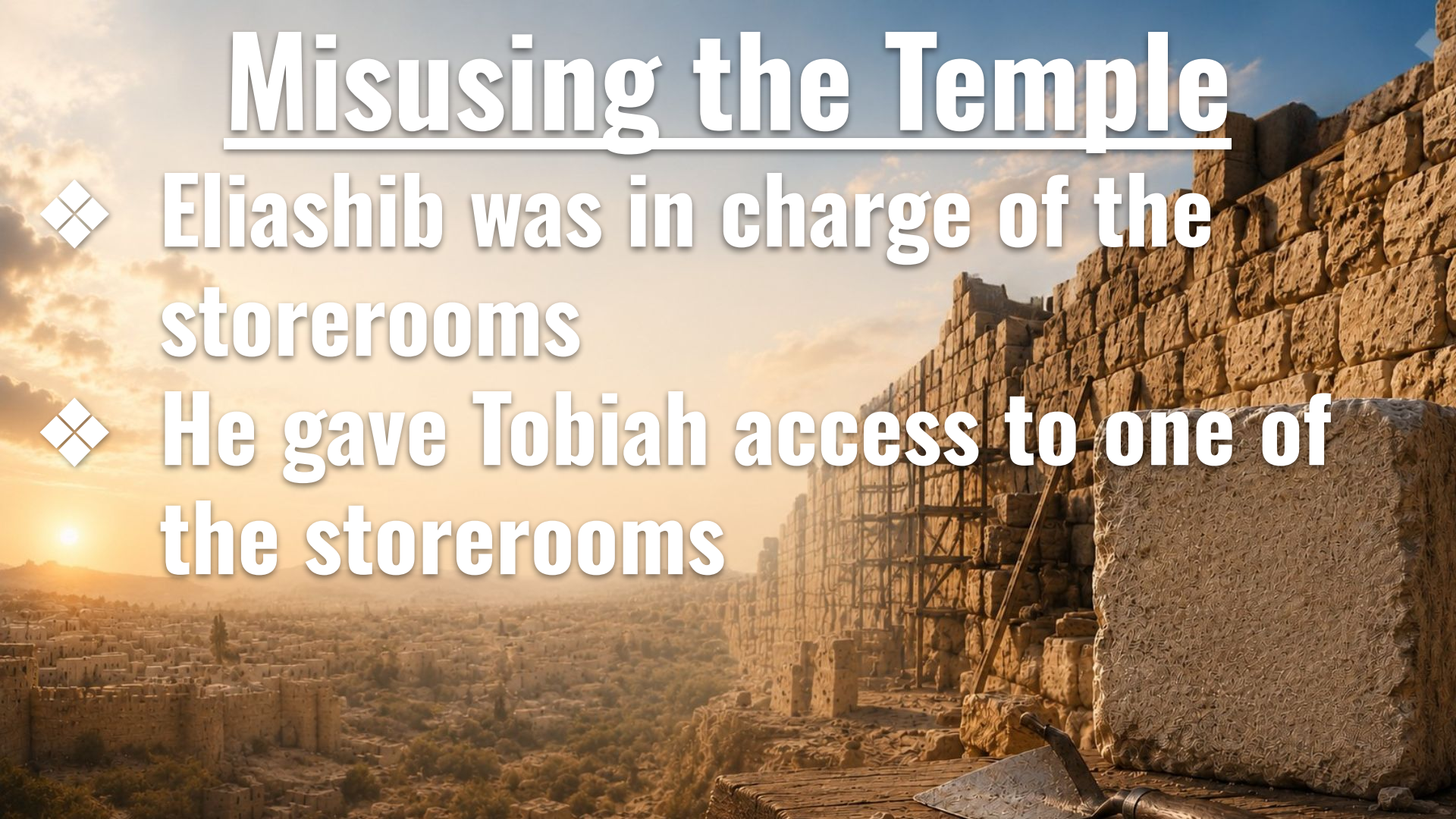
A dramatic sunset scene over a city, likely Jerusalem, with ancient stone walls and scaffolding visible. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the city and the walls. The walls are made of large, rough-hewn stones, and there is a wooden scaffolding structure leaning against them. A large, rectangular stone block is in the foreground on the right, and a metal tool, possibly a trowel or chisel, lies on a wooden surface in front of it. The city below is densely packed with buildings, and the hills in the distance are silhouetted against the sunset sky.

So I rebuked the officials and asked them, “Why is the house of God neglected?” Then I called them together and stationed them at their posts.

Nehemiah 13: 11 NIV

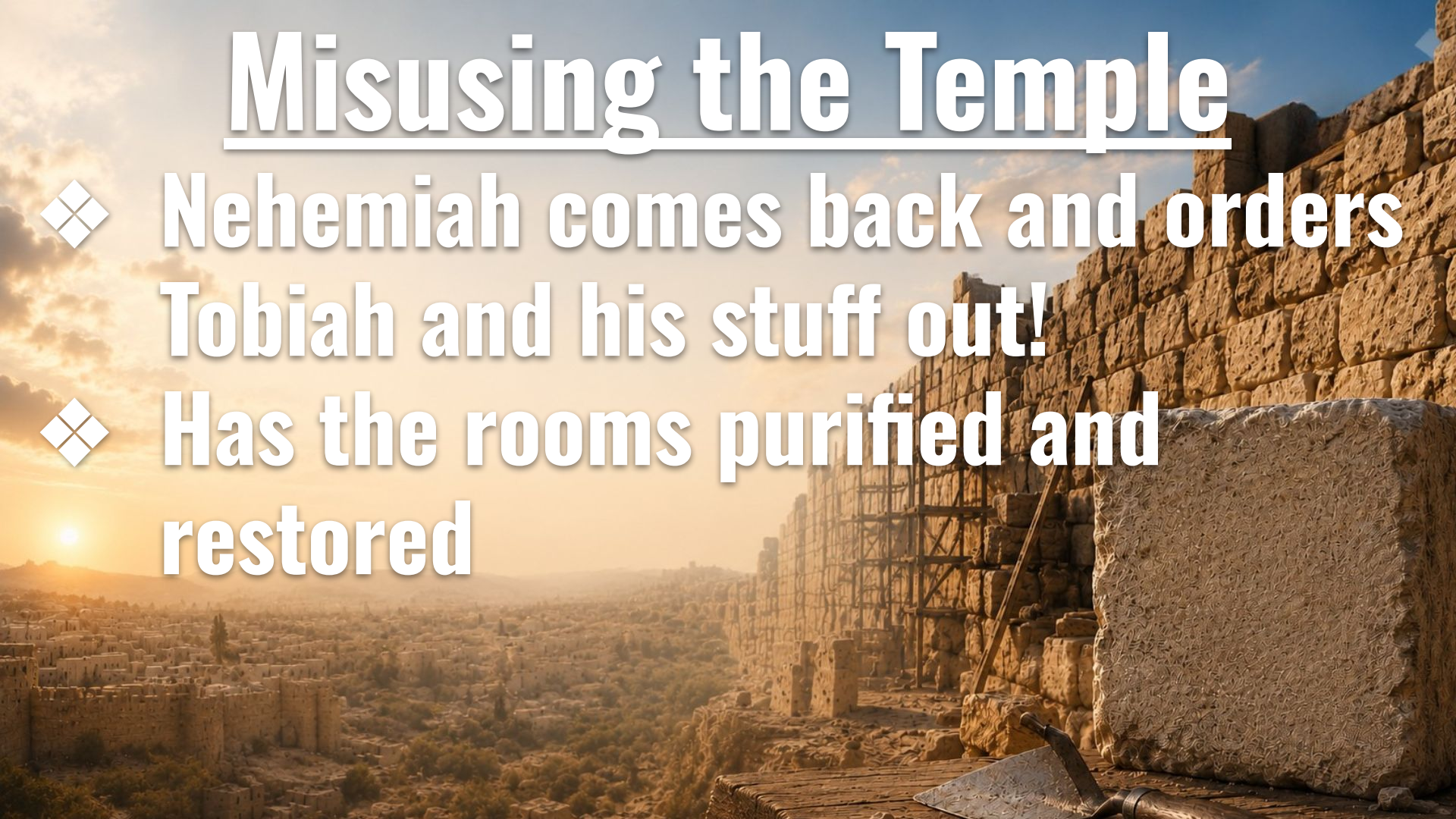
Misusing the Temple

- ❖ Eliashib was in charge of the storerooms
- ❖ He gave Tobiah access to one of the storerooms



Misusing the Temple

- ❖ Nehemiah comes back and orders Tobiah and his stuff out!
- ❖ Has the rooms purified and restored



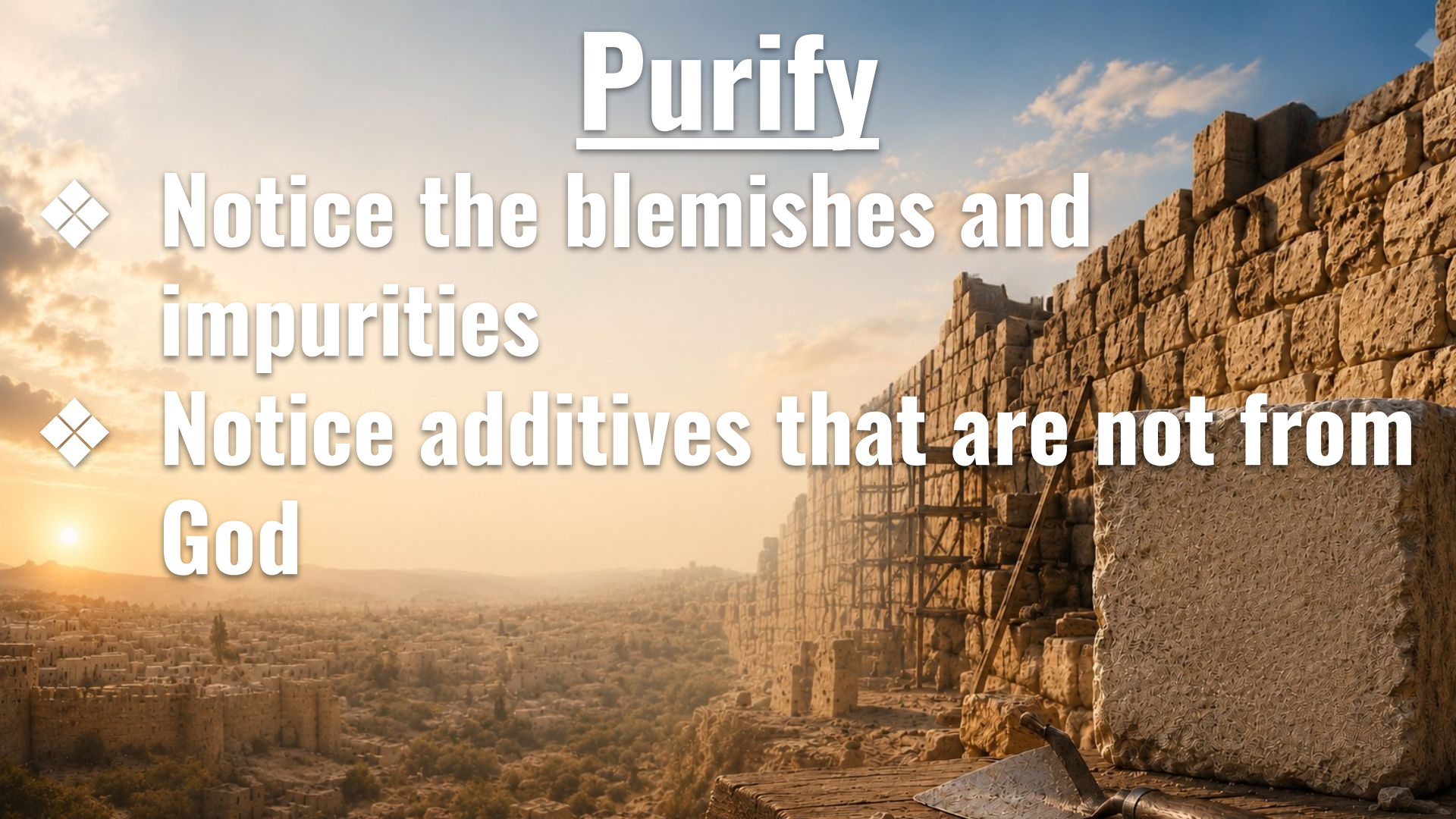


vs



Purify

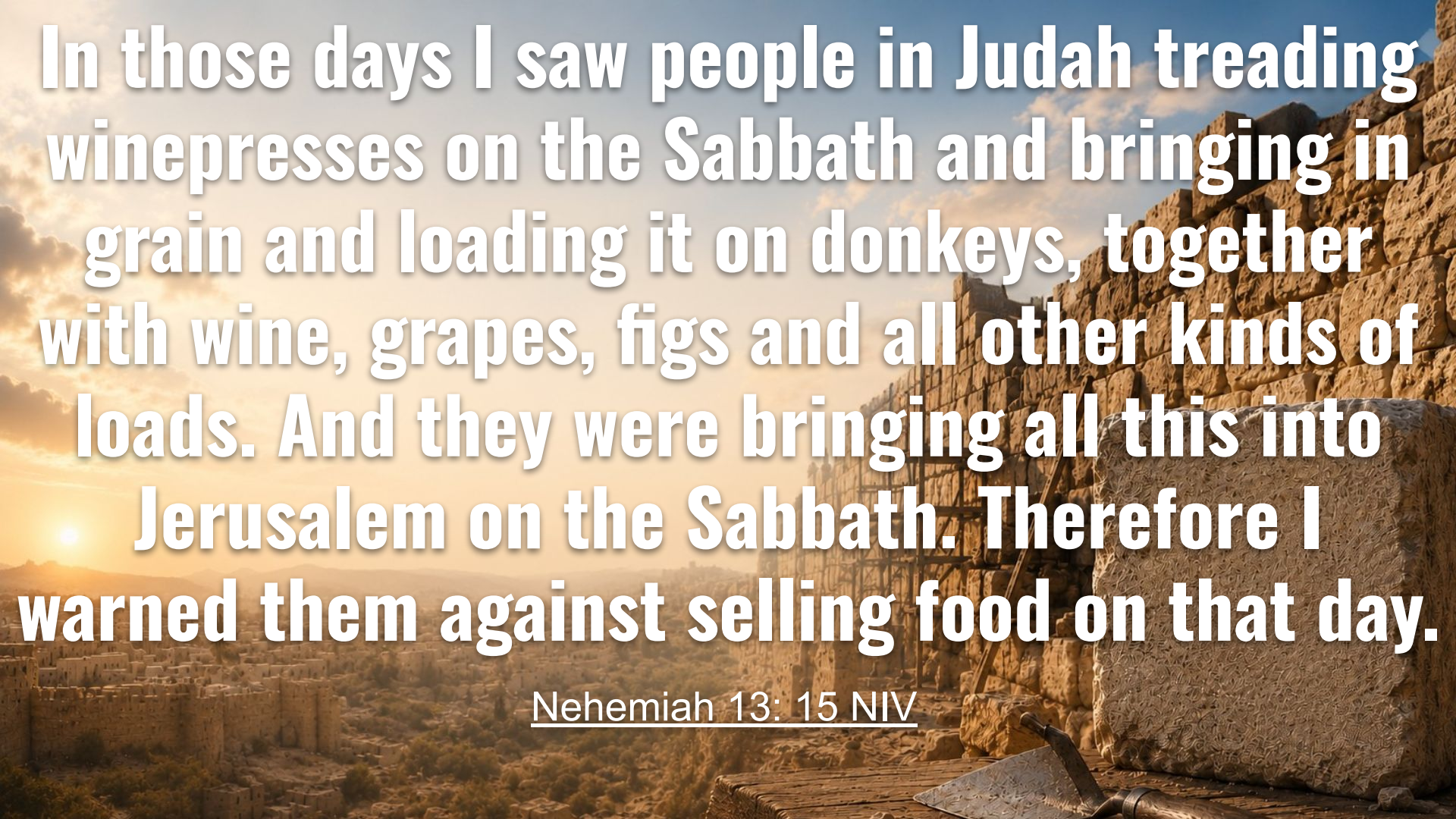
- ❖ Notice the blemishes and impurities
- ❖ Notice additives that are not from God



Purify

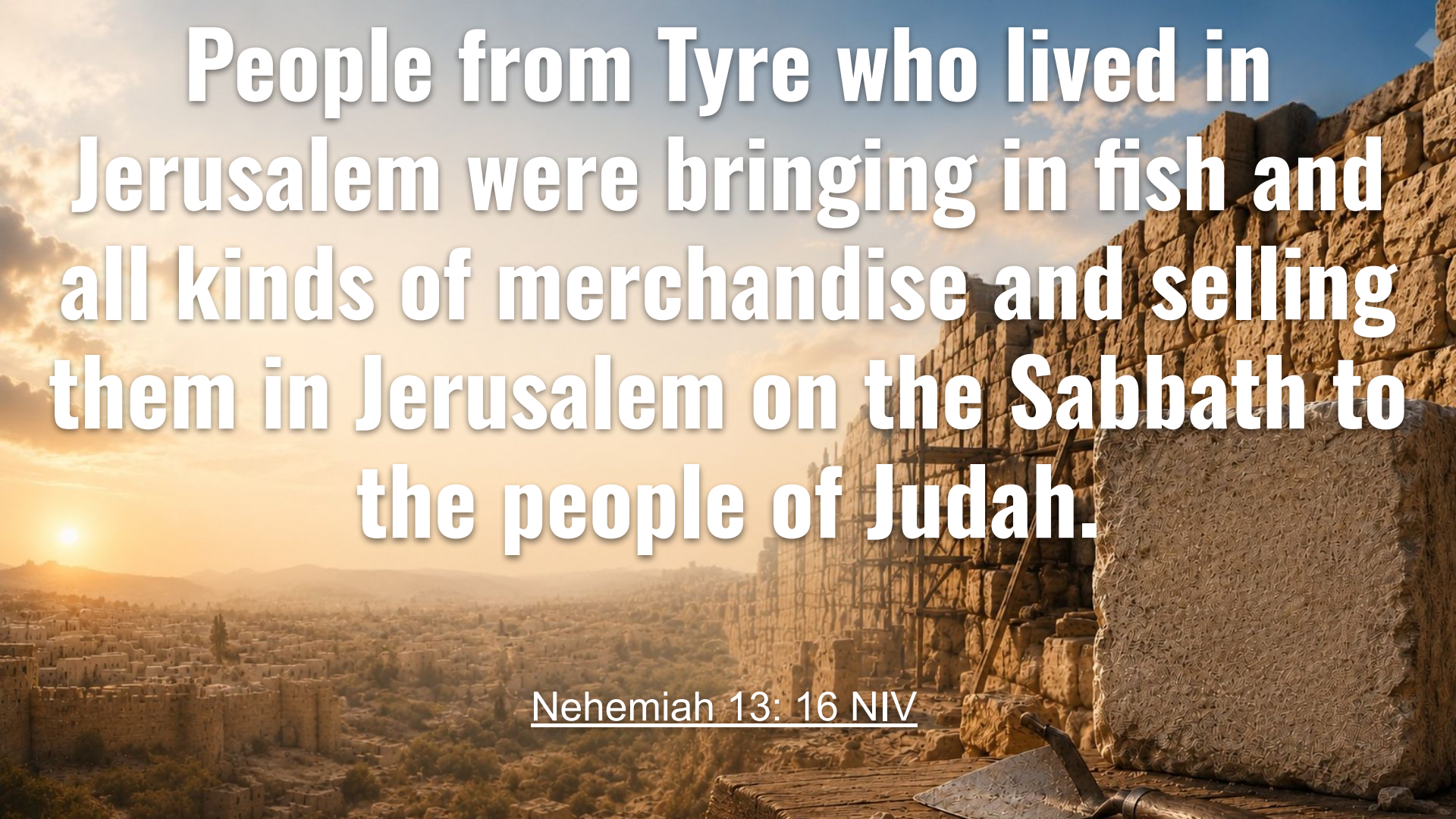
- ❖ How do we do it?
 - Come before God
 - Come with humility and honesty
 - Repentance



A scenic view of Jerusalem's Old City walls at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the city. In the foreground, a large, rough-hewn stone block sits on a wooden surface, with a trowel resting next to it. The background shows the city's walls and buildings, with a few trees visible in the distance.

In those days I saw people in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain and loading it on donkeys, together with wine, grapes, figs and all other kinds of loads. And they were bringing all this into Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Therefore I warned them against selling food on that day.

Nehemiah 13: 15 NIV

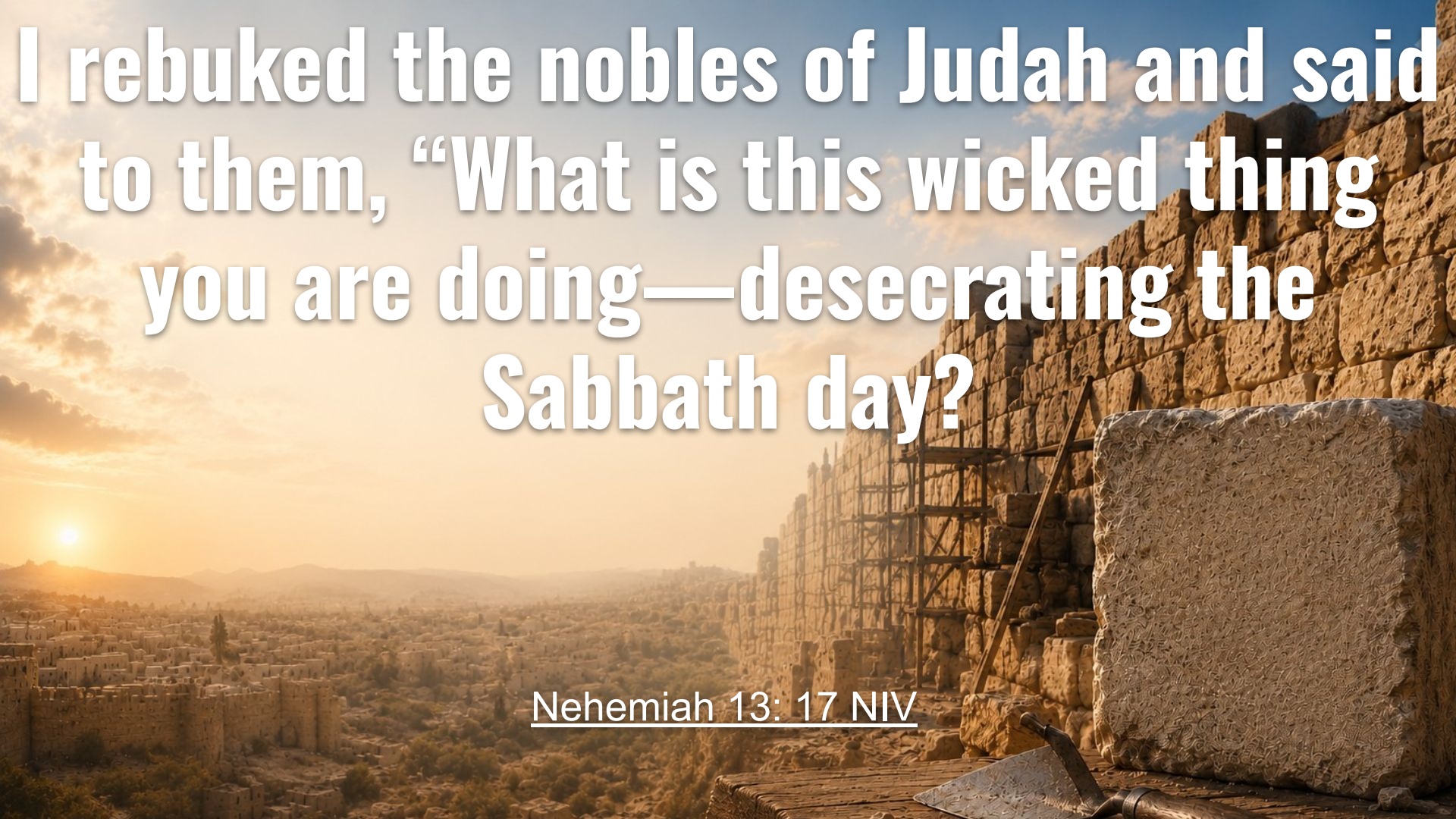
A scenic view of Jerusalem's Old City walls at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the city. In the foreground, a large, rough-hewn stone block sits on a wooden surface, with a trowel resting next to it. The background shows the city's walls and buildings, with a ladder leaning against one of the walls.

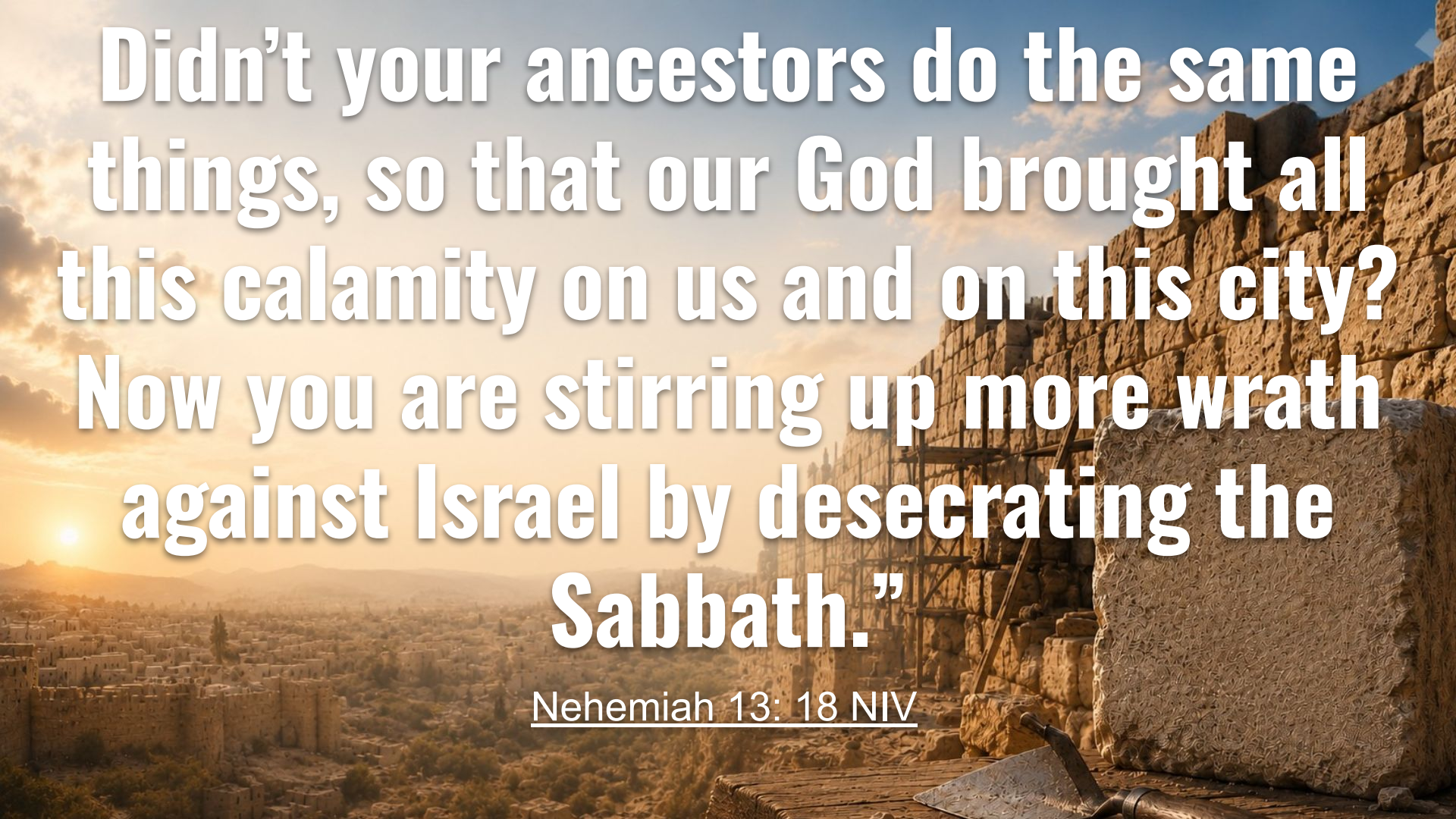
**People from Tyre who lived in
Jerusalem were bringing in fish and
all kinds of merchandise and selling
them in Jerusalem on the Sabbath to
the people of Judah.**

Nehemiah 13: 16 NIV

I rebuked the nobles of Judah and said to them, “What is this wicked thing you are doing—desecrating the Sabbath day?”

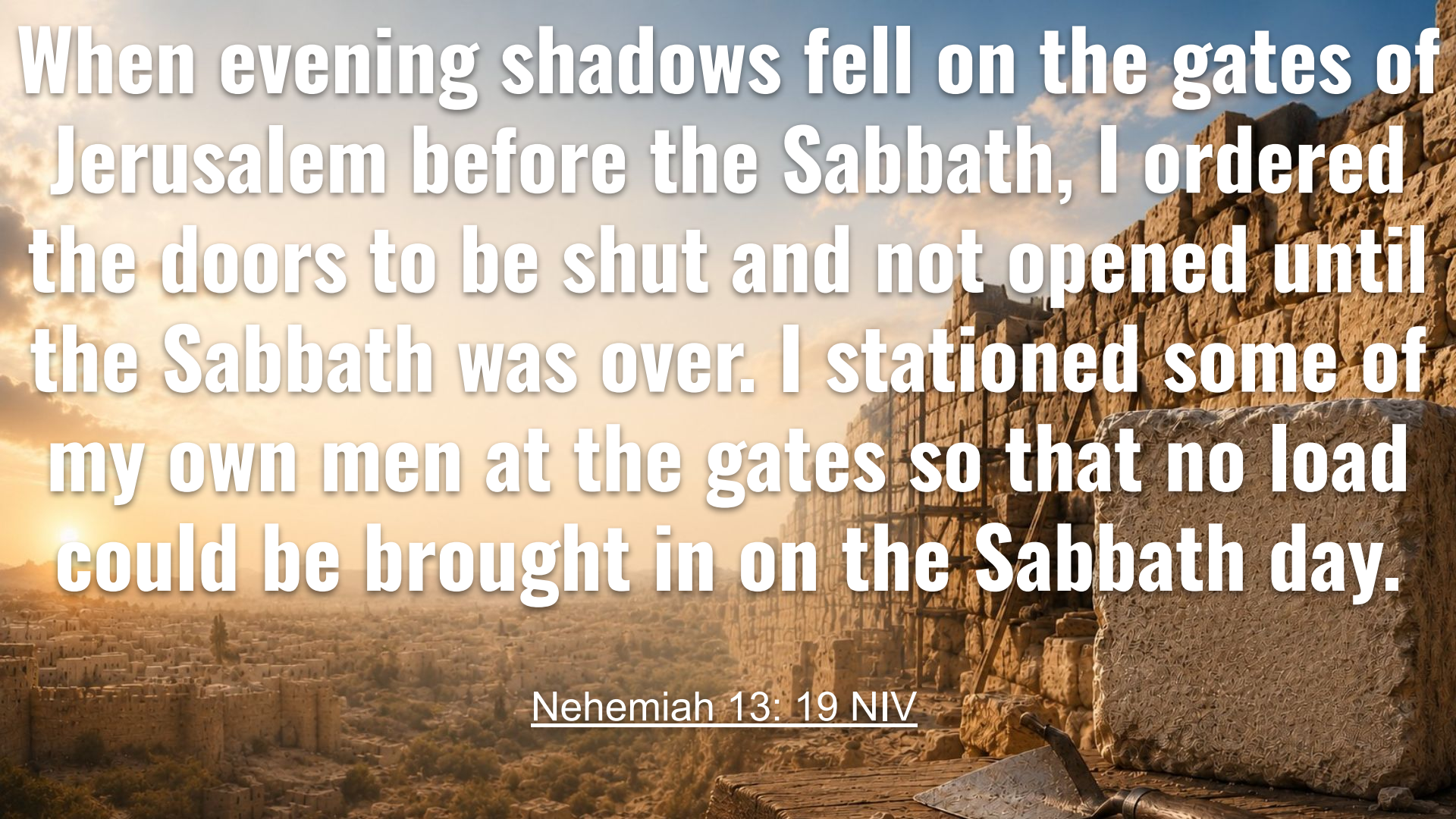
Nehemiah 13: 17 NIV





Didn't your ancestors do the same things, so that our God brought all this calamity on us and on this city? Now you are stirring up more wrath against Israel by desecrating the Sabbath."

Nehemiah 13: 18 NIV

A dramatic sunset over the ancient stone walls of Jerusalem. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the city. The stone walls are made of large, weathered blocks. In the foreground, a large, rough-hewn stone block sits on a wooden surface, with a metal trowel resting next to it. The city of Jerusalem is visible in the background, with its dense collection of buildings and the Temple Mount in the distance.

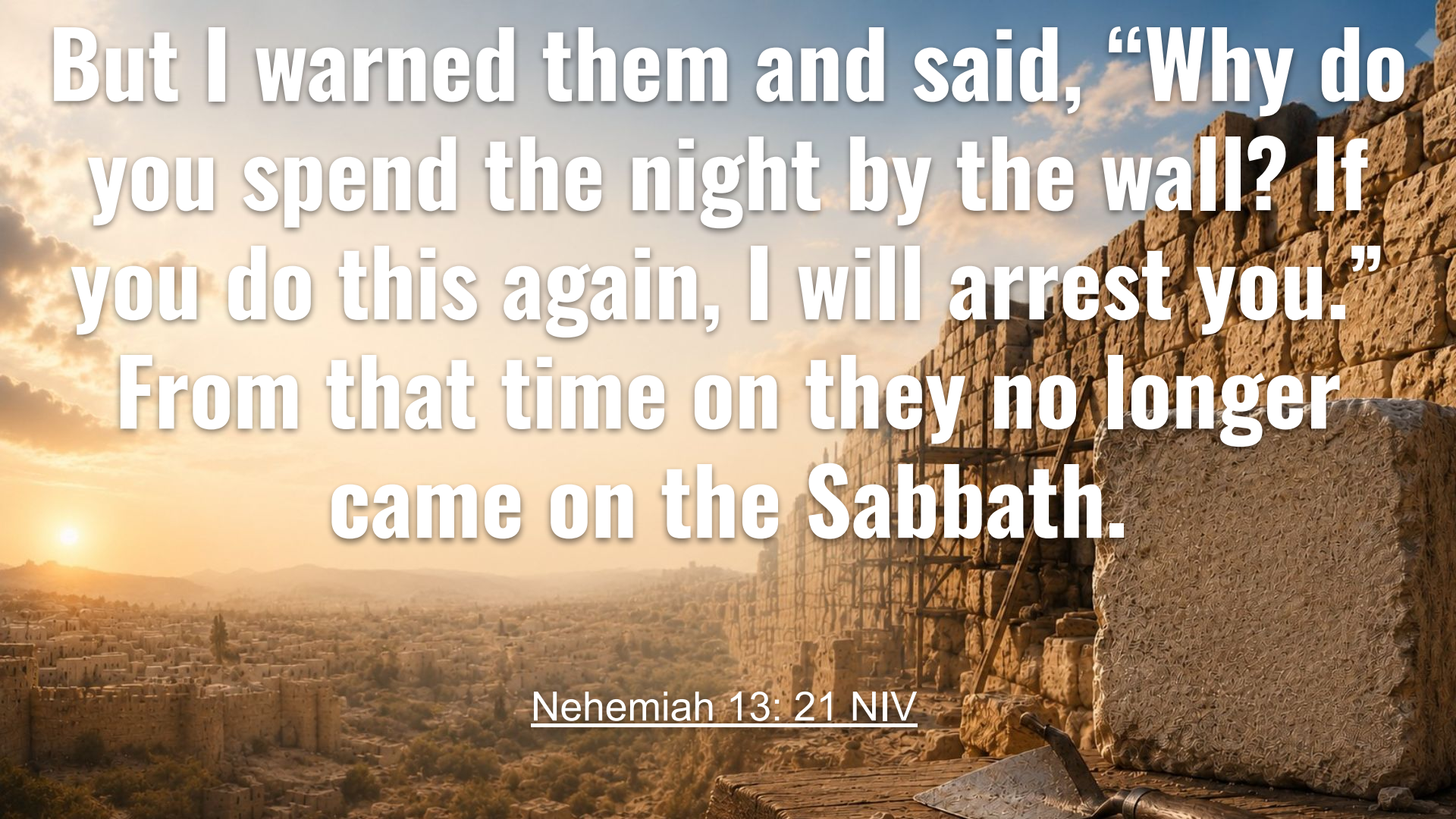
When evening shadows fell on the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I ordered the doors to be shut and not opened until the Sabbath was over. I stationed some of my own men at the gates so that no load could be brought in on the Sabbath day.

Nehemiah 13: 19 NIV



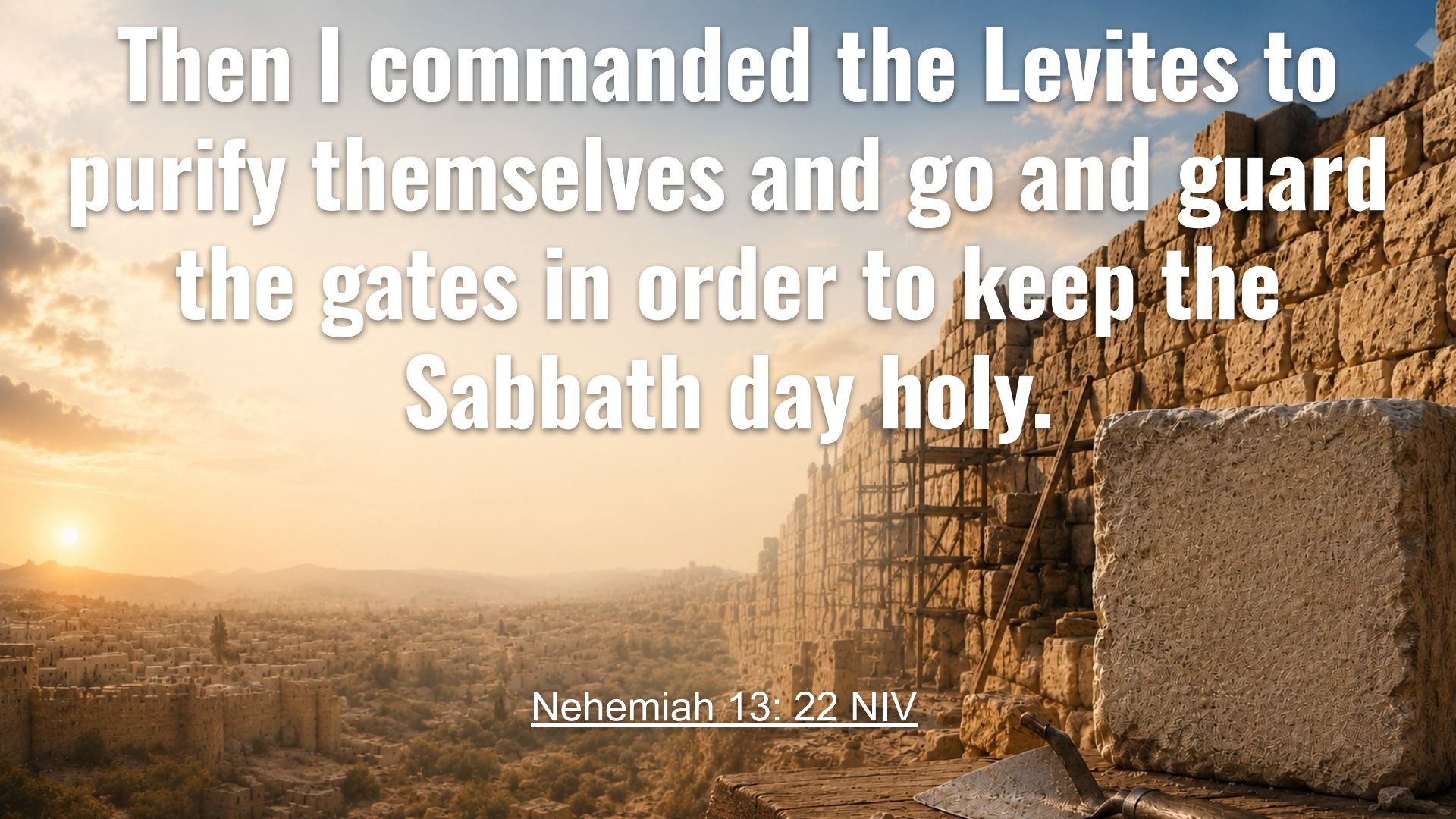
**Once or twice the merchants and
sellers of all kinds of goods spent the
night outside Jerusalem.**

Nehemiah 13: 20 NIV



But I warned them and said, “Why do you spend the night by the wall? If you do this again, I will arrest you.”
From that time on they no longer came on the Sabbath.

Nehemiah 13: 21 NIV



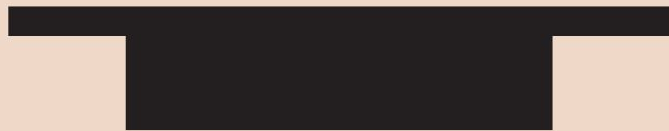
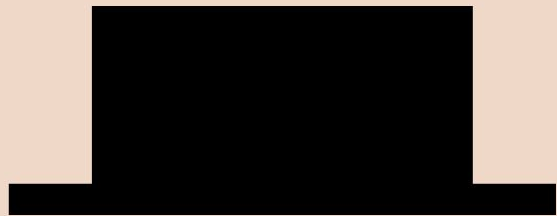
**Then I commanded the Levites to
purify themselves and go and guard
the gates in order to keep the
Sabbath day holy.**

Nehemiah 13: 22 NIV

Working on the Sabbath

- ❖ Day of rest - no work
- ❖ People were making wine and bringing it into Jerusalem
- ❖ Nehemiah calls people out for desecrating the Sabbath

TAKE A
rest



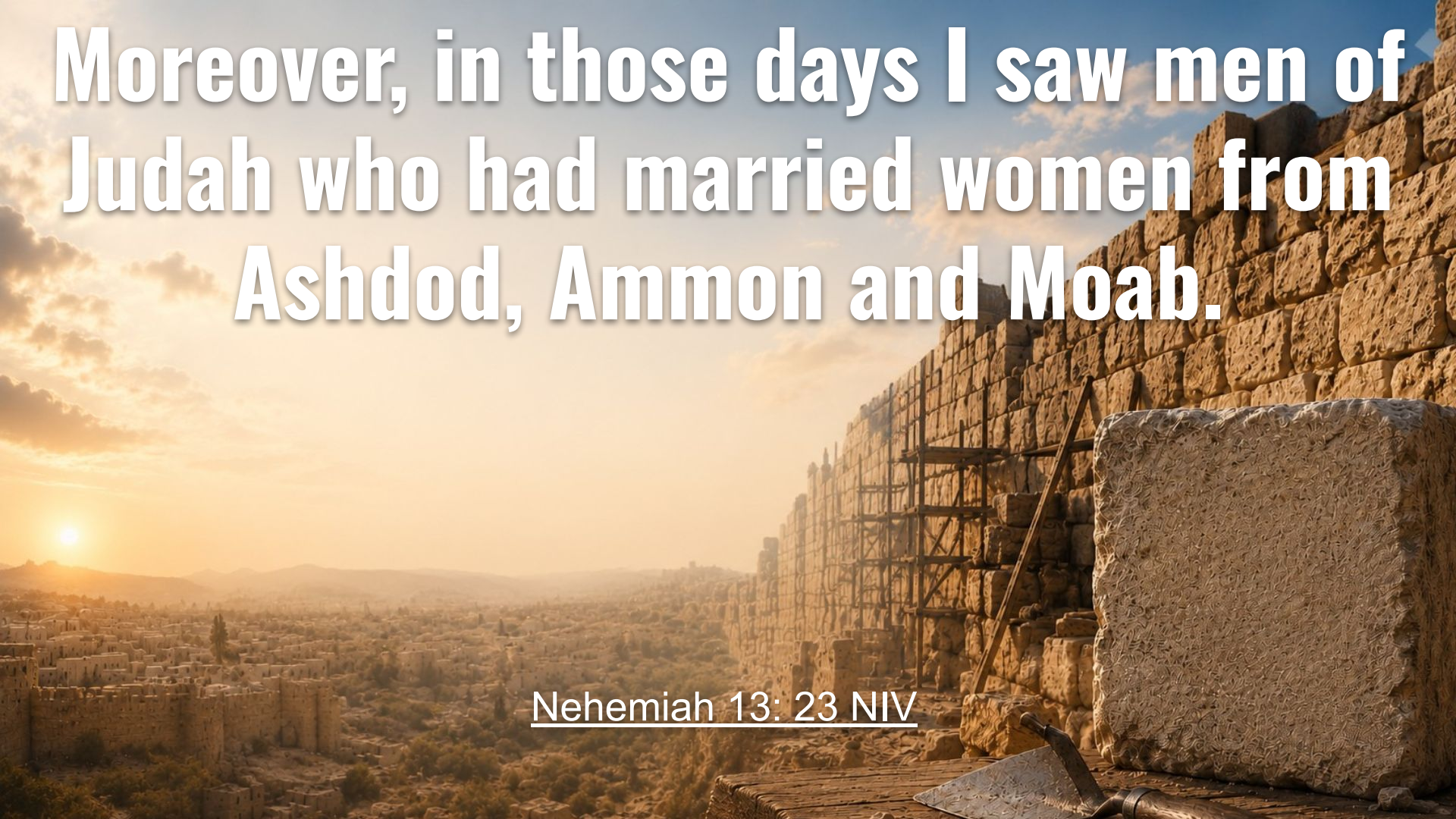
Rest

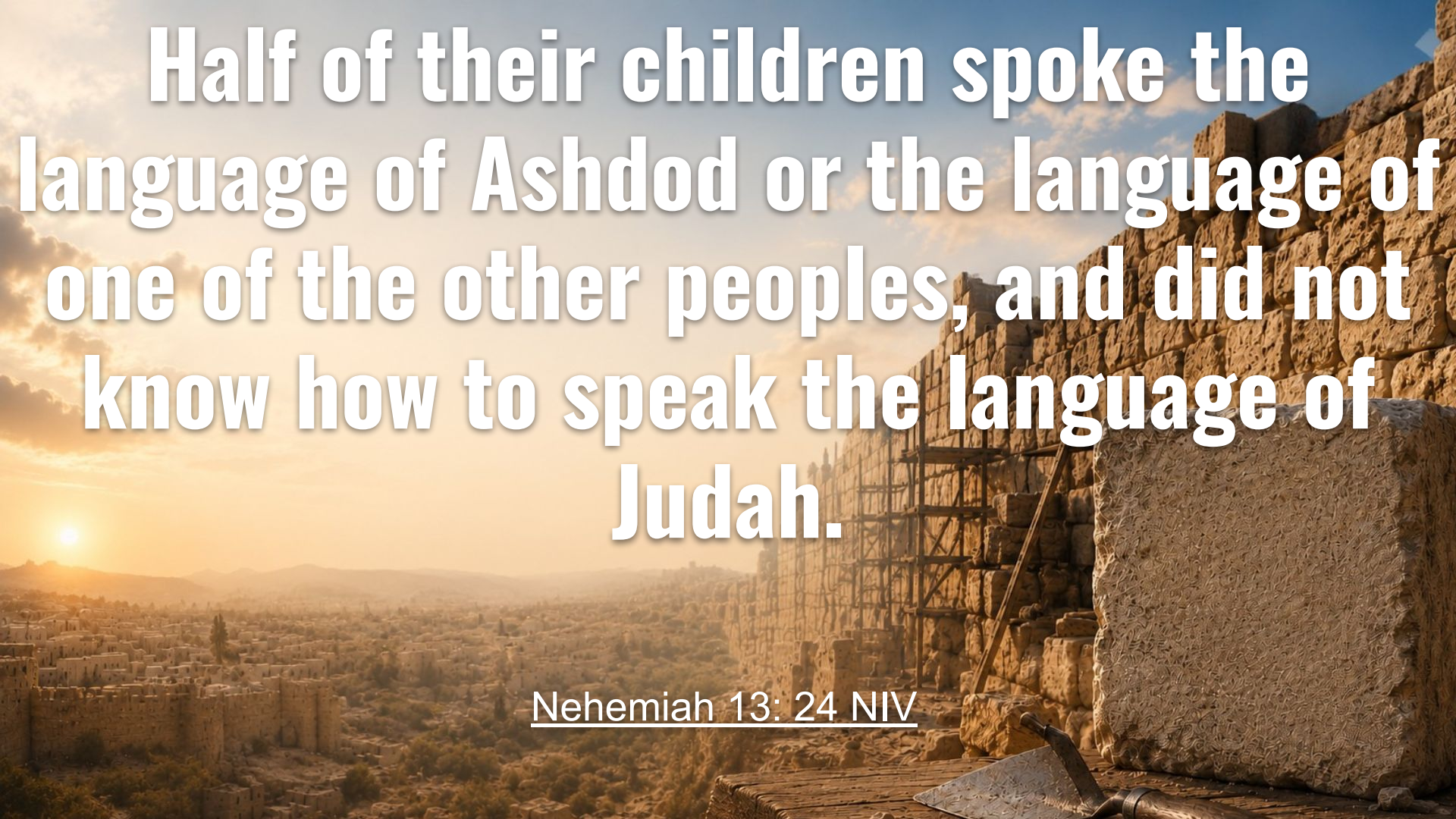
- ❖ The rhythm
- ❖ Rest is spiritual blessing
- ❖ Rest is physical blessing
- ❖ Don't be self-righteous about rest



**Moreover, in those days I saw men of
Judah who had married women from
Ashdod, Ammon and Moab.**

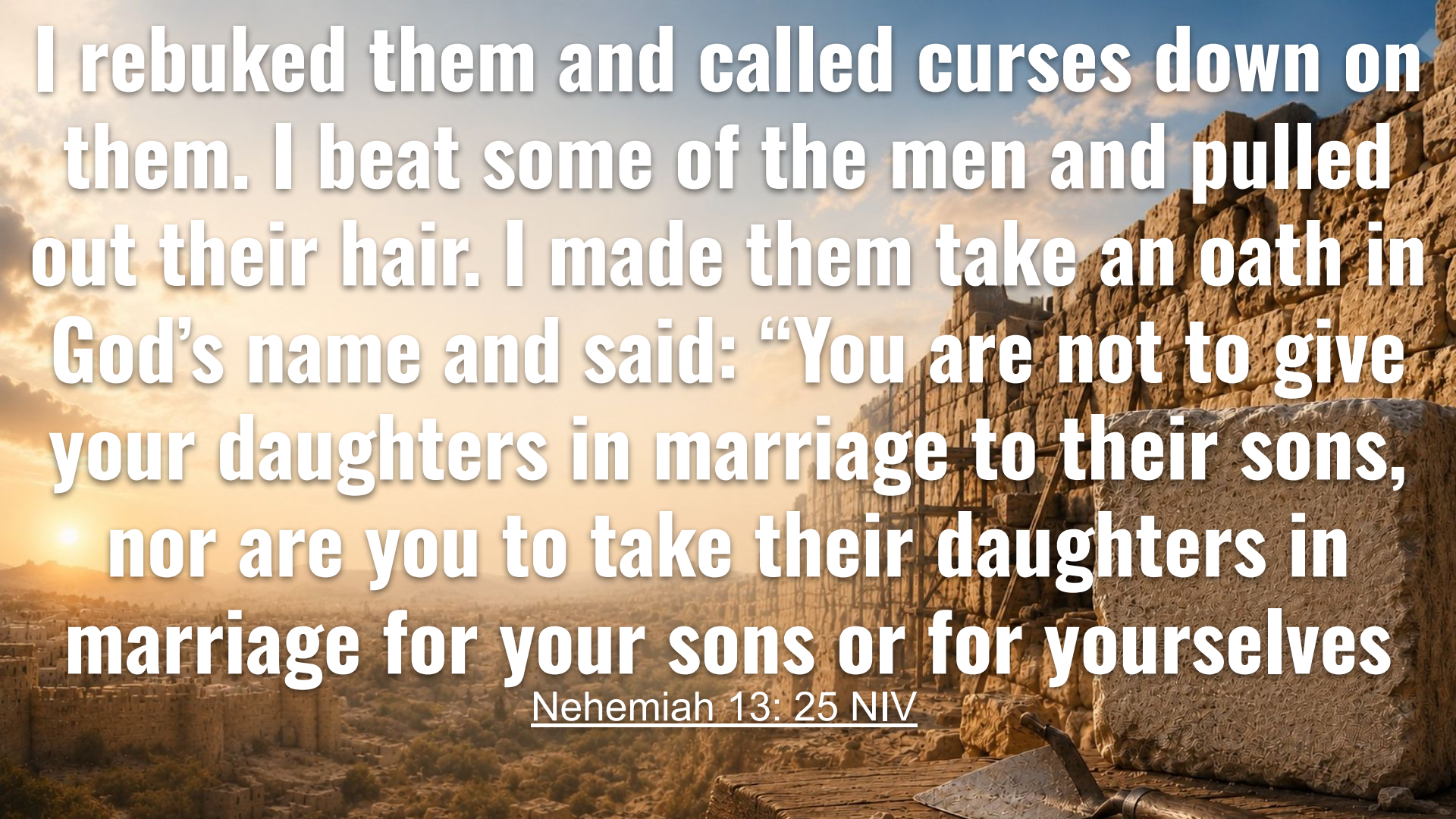
Nehemiah 13: 23 NIV



A dramatic landscape of ancient Jerusalem at sunset. The foreground shows the massive, weathered stone walls of the Temple Mount, with a wooden scaffolding structure leaning against them. A large, rough-hewn stone block lies on the ground in the lower right. In the background, the city of Jerusalem is visible, nestled in a valley with hills in the distance. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene.

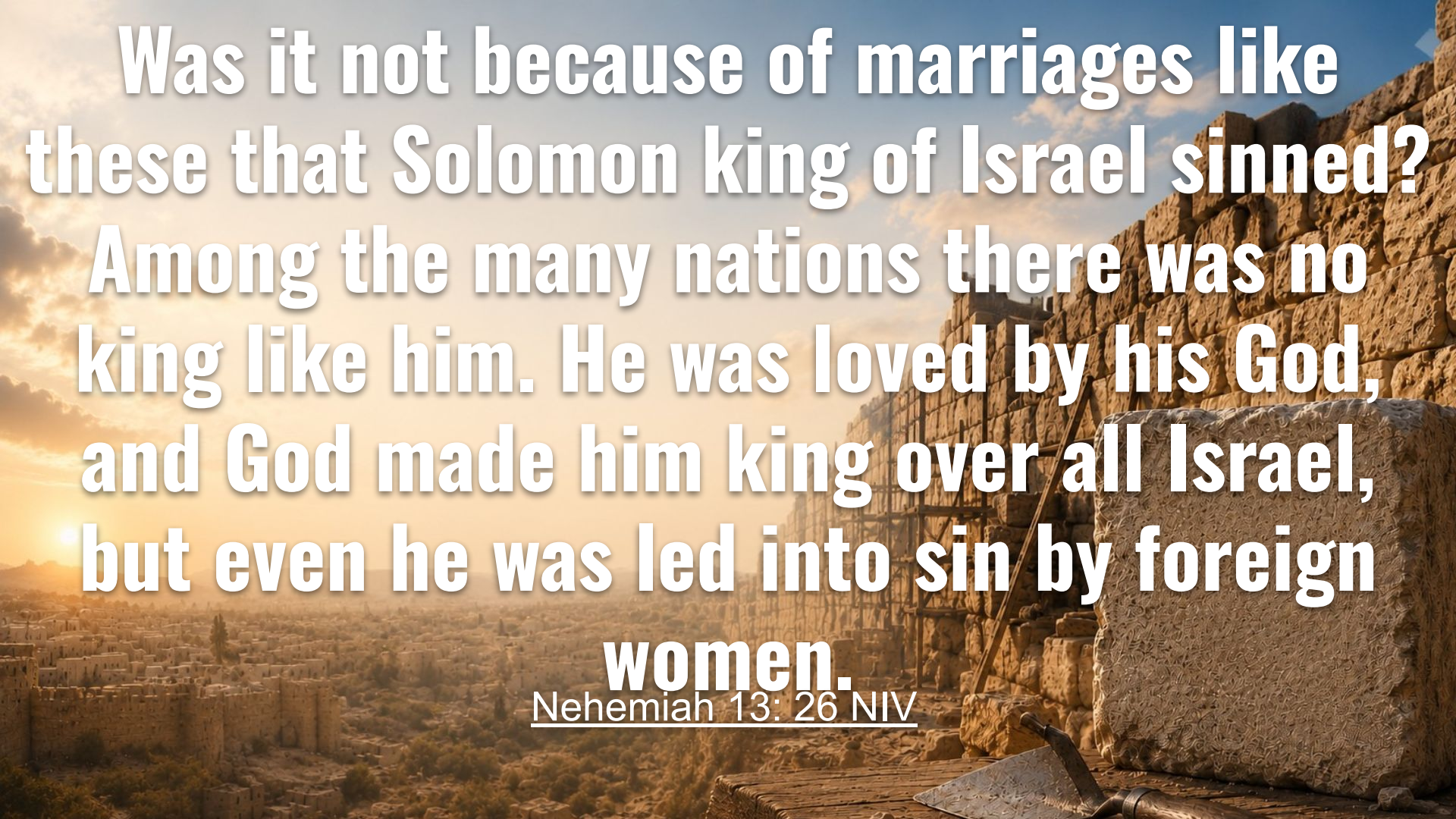
**Half of their children spoke the
language of Ashdod or the language of
one of the other peoples, and did not
know how to speak the language of
Judah.**

Nehemiah 13: 24 NIV

The background of the image is a scenic view of ancient stone walls, likely the walls of Jerusalem, under a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. In the foreground, a large, rough-hewn stone block sits on a wooden surface, with a metal tool, possibly a pickaxe or a chisel, lying next to it. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, bold font with a slight shadow effect.

I rebuked them and called curses down on them. I beat some of the men and pulled out their hair. I made them take an oath in God's name and said: "You are not to give your daughters in marriage to their sons, nor are you to take their daughters in marriage for your sons or for yourselves"

Nehemiah 13: 25 NIV



Was it not because of marriages like these that Solomon king of Israel sinned? Among the many nations there was no king like him. He was loved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel, but even he was led into sin by foreign women.

Nehemiah 13: 26 NIV

A dramatic sunset over a city, likely Jerusalem, with a large stone wall under construction in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The wall is made of large, rectangular stone blocks, and a wooden scaffolding structure is visible. A large, rough-hewn stone block lies on the ground in the foreground. The city below is filled with buildings and trees, and the sky is filled with clouds.

**Must we hear now that you too are
doing all this terrible wickedness and
are being unfaithful to our God by
marrying foreign women?”**

Nehemiah 13: 27 NIV

Breaking Marriage Rules

- ❖ Based on religious grounds
- ❖ Nehemiah rebukes the people breaking the rules
- ❖ Continue following God - stay there



*Staying
Power*

Staying Power

- ❖ No matter changes, trends, setbacks, or how bright the lights stay with God
- ❖ The path has staying power
- ❖ Stay with Him, stay in His presence, stay on His path



Celebration

Righteousness

Commitment

Sacrifice

Confidence

Identity

Scripture

Confession

Burden

Action

Community

Protection

Restoration



Celebration

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