

THE CALLED UNDERSIAND HIS PRESENCE

When they learned that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp, the Philistines were afraid. "A god has come into the camp," they said. "Oh no! Nothing like this has happened before. ⁸We're doomed! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? They are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness.

When they learned that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp, the Philistines were afraid. "A god has come into the camp," they said. "Oh no! Nothing like this has happened before. ⁸We're doomed! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? They are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness.

Be strong, Philistines! Be men, or you will be subject to the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Be men, and fight!" 10So the Philistines fought, and the Israelites were defeated and every man fled to his tent. The slaughter was very great; Israel lost thirty thousand foot soldiers. 11The ark of God was captured, and Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

¹⁸When he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell backward off his chair by the side of the gate. His neck was broken and he died, for he was an old man, and he was heavy. He had led Israel forty years. 19 His daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant and near the time of delivery.

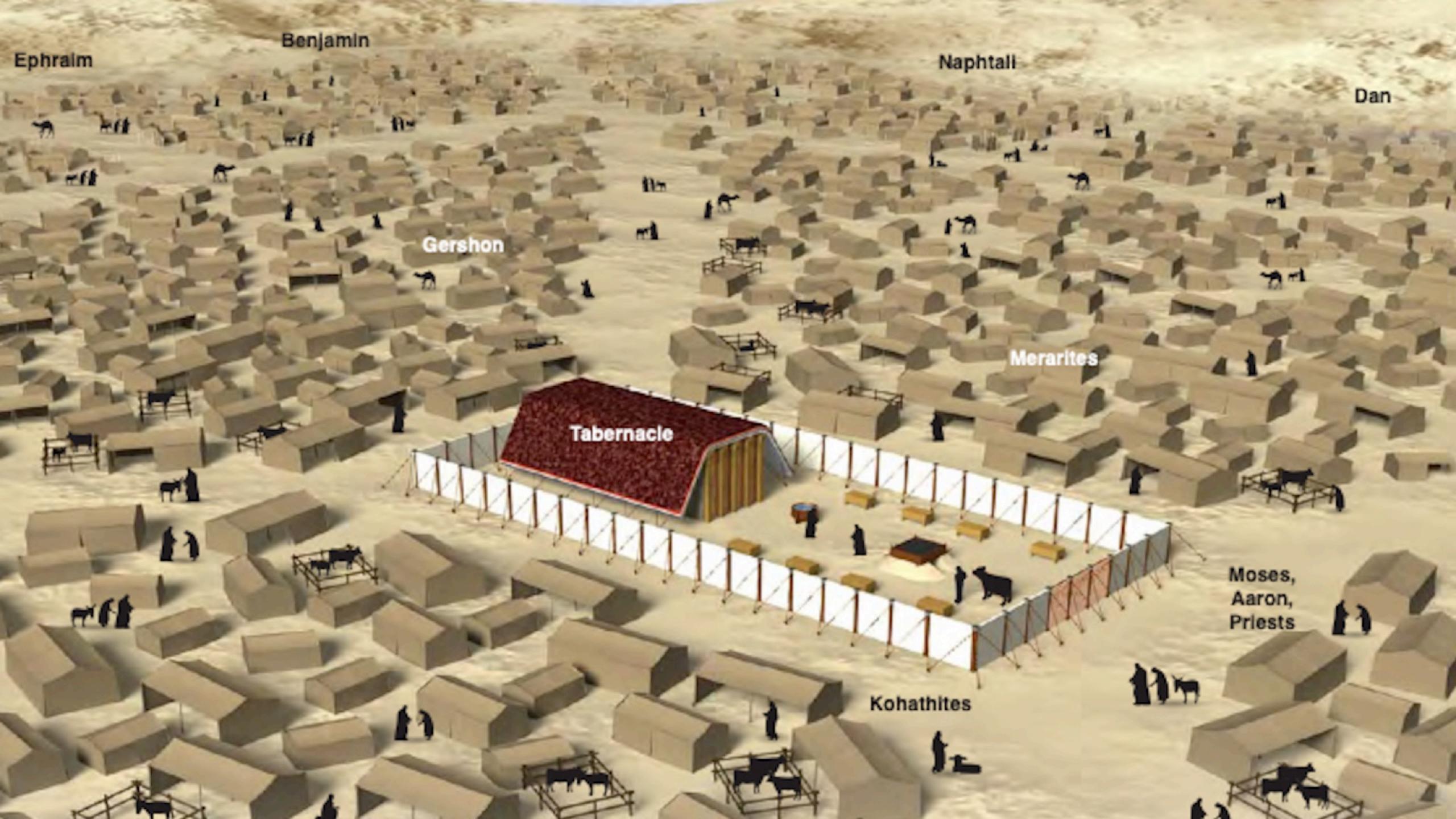
When she heard the news that the ark of God had been captured and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she went into labor and gave birth, but was overcome by her labor pains. 20 As she was dying, the women attending her said, "Don't despair; you have given birth to a son." But she did not respond or pay any attention.

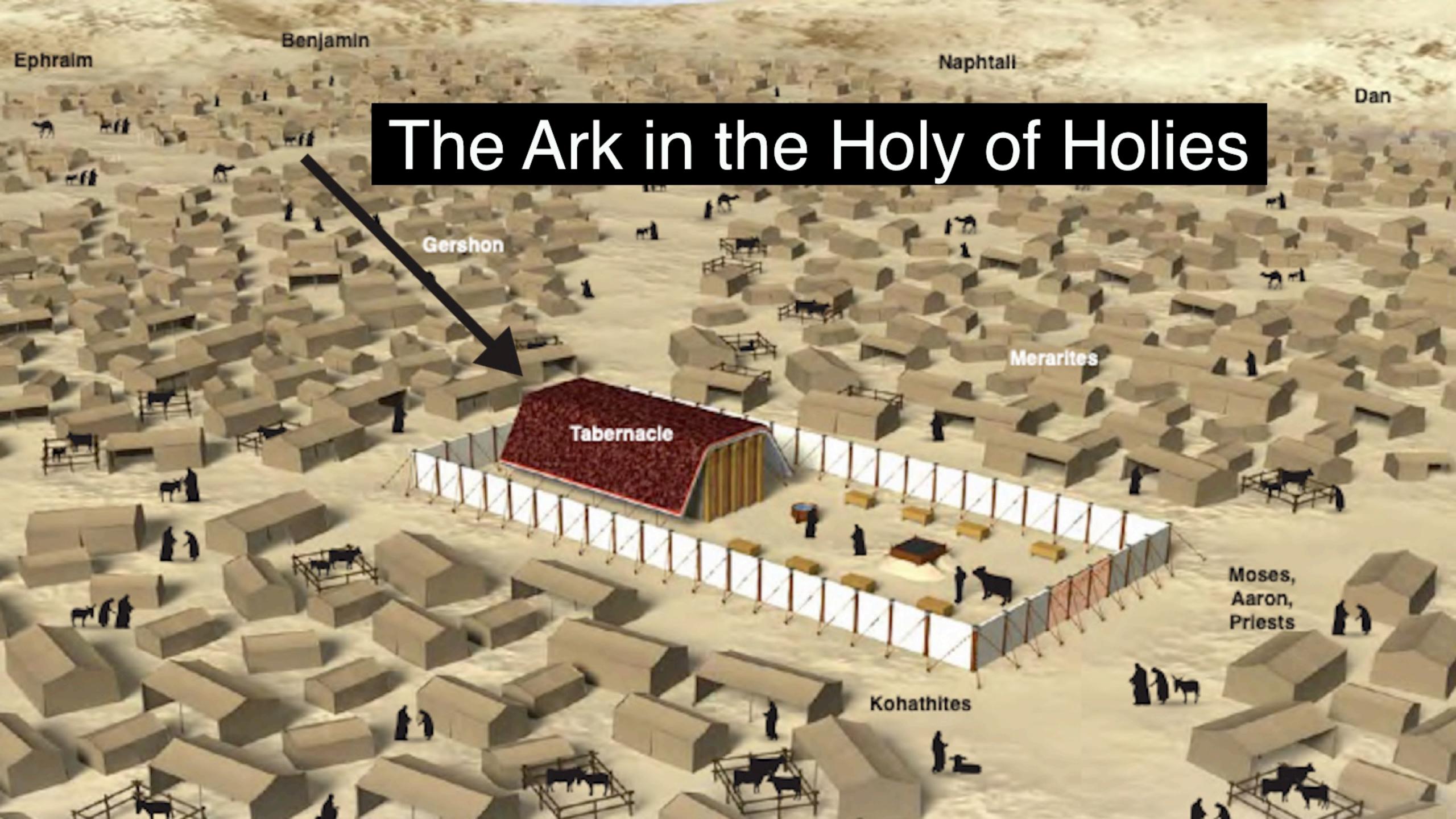
²¹She named the boy Ichabod, saying, "The Glory has departed from Israel"—because of the capture of the ark of God and the deaths of her father-in-law and her husband. 22 She said, "The Glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

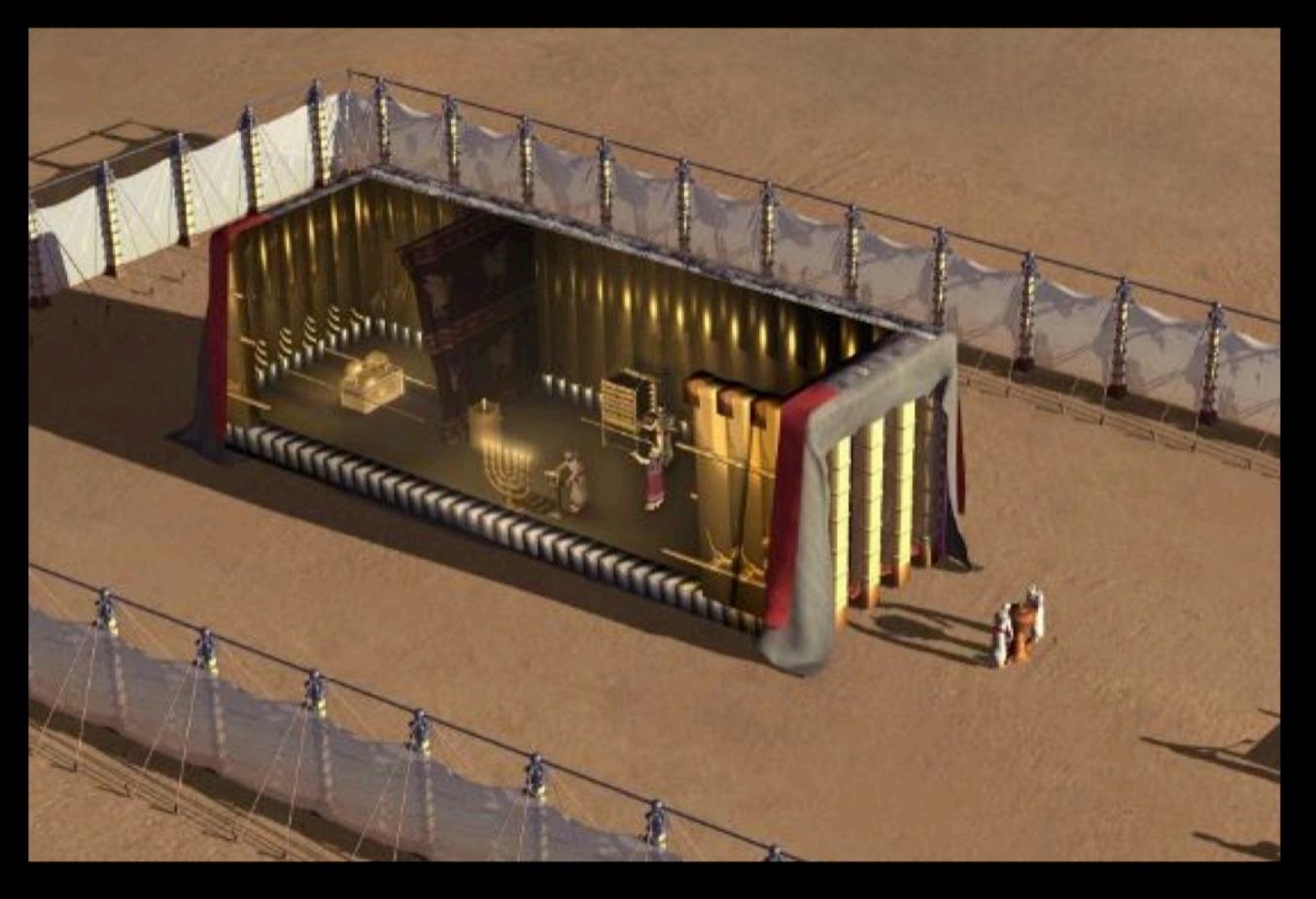
His Presence is Primary

""Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and will dwell among them . . . ²¹Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the tablets of the covenant law that I will give you. 22 There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the covenant law, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.

Exodus 25:8-9, 21-22 (NIV)









"The ark was the well-known expression of the divine presence and power of God." C.H. Macintosh

The Ark:

- 1. Directed their Worship
- 2. Determined their Movement
- 3. Displayed His Power

Worship, Guidance, and Dependence Places Jesus at the Center of Our Lives



A Solar Eclipse occurs when the moon momentarily gets between Earth and the sun.

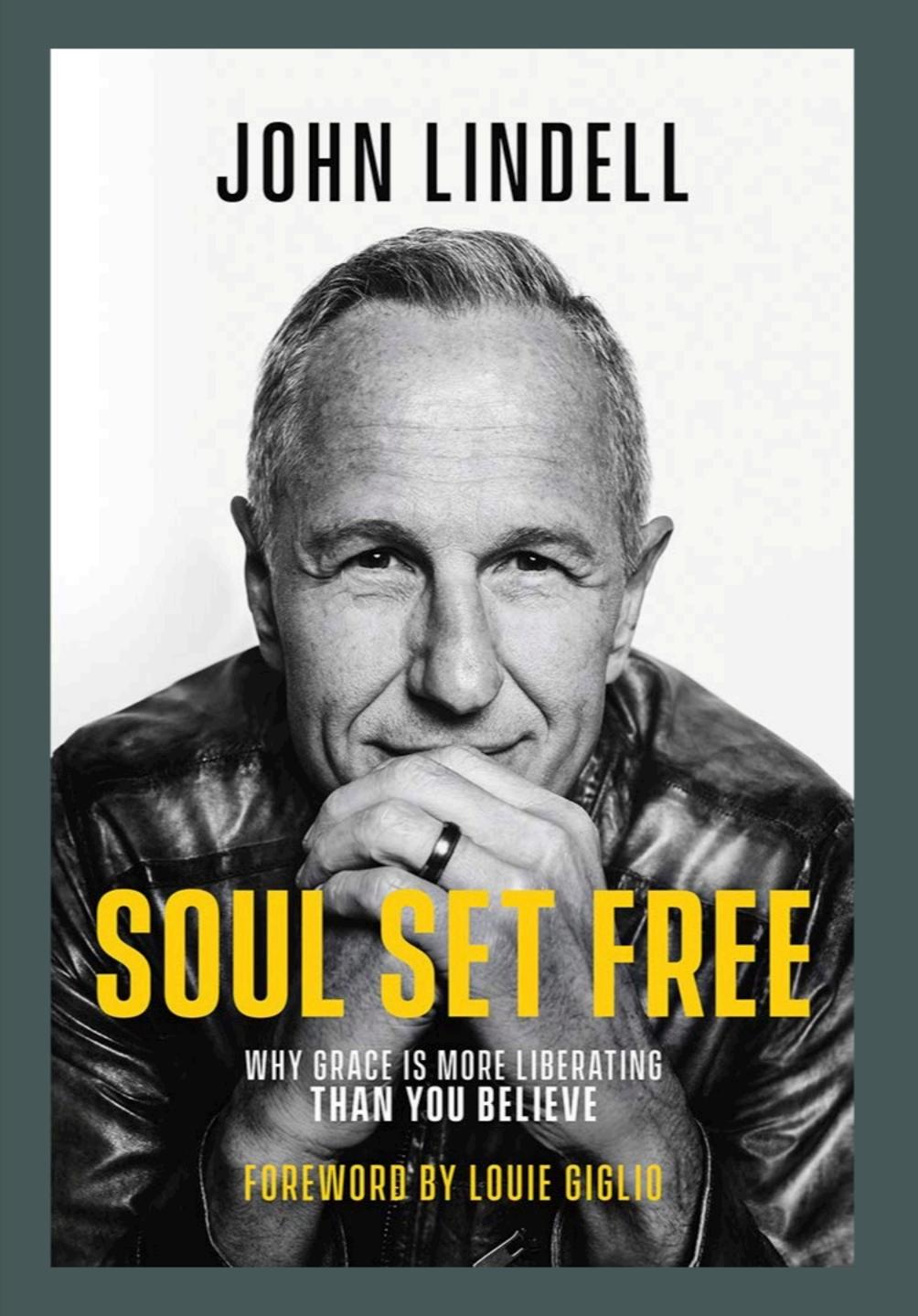
His Presence is Paternal

Because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? Hebrews 12:6-7 (NIV)

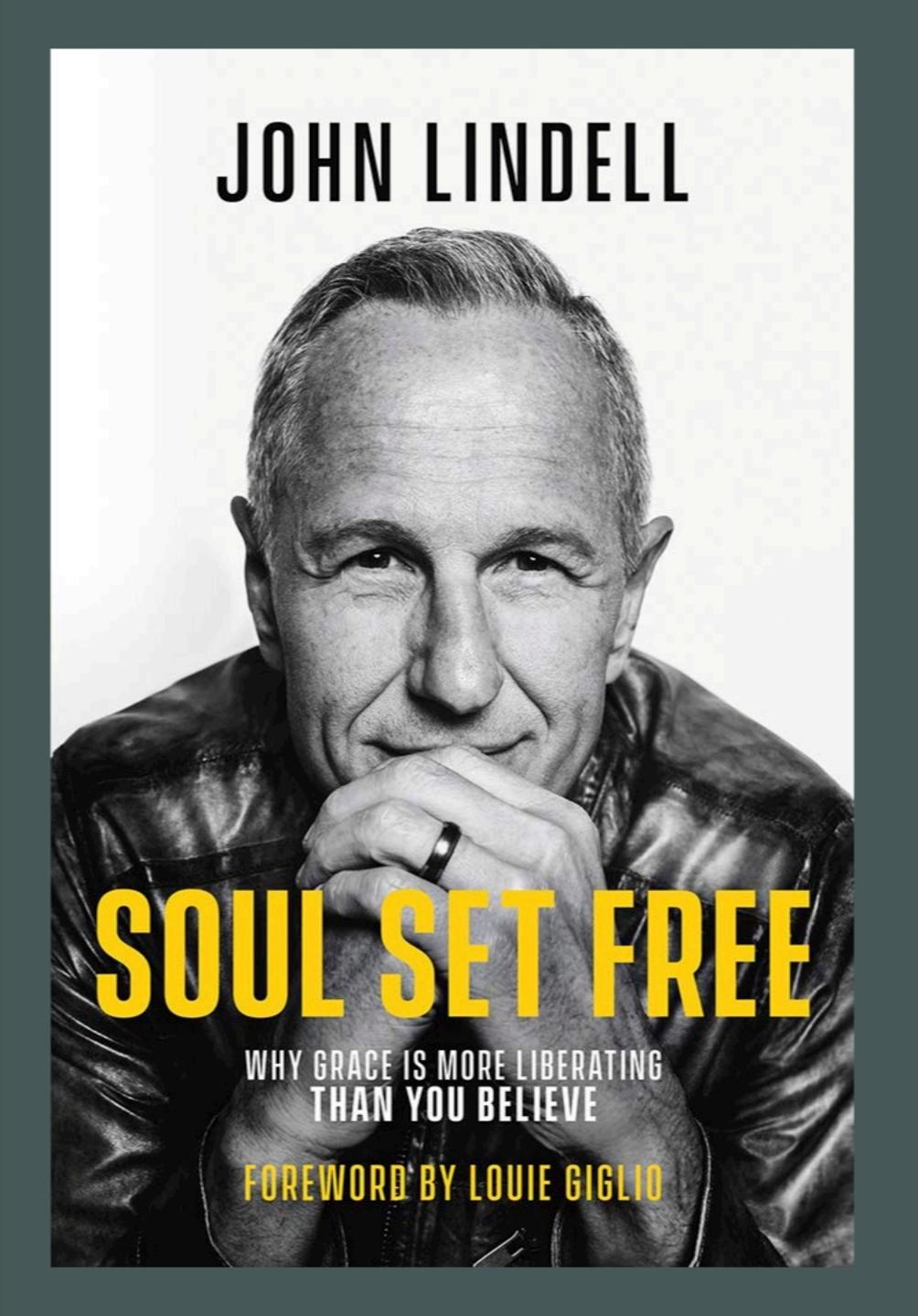
Father knows best and does best – even when it doesn't feel the best!

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world.

Romans 1:8 (NIV)



"The wrath of God is not emotional, petty, or punitive. It has nothing to do with 'rage.' Rather, the wrath of God, in Romans, is bound up in the natural consequences of certain kinds of choices as Paul will put it later in the book, 'the wages of sin is death' (6:23).



God's primary job is not to go around making sure everybody gets what they deserve—in fact, God is constantly interrupting the natural cycle of cause and effect with grace!" -

But as for me, God's presence is all I need. I have made the sovereign LORD my shelter, as I declare all the things you have done.

Psalm 73:28 (NET)