

# Acts.

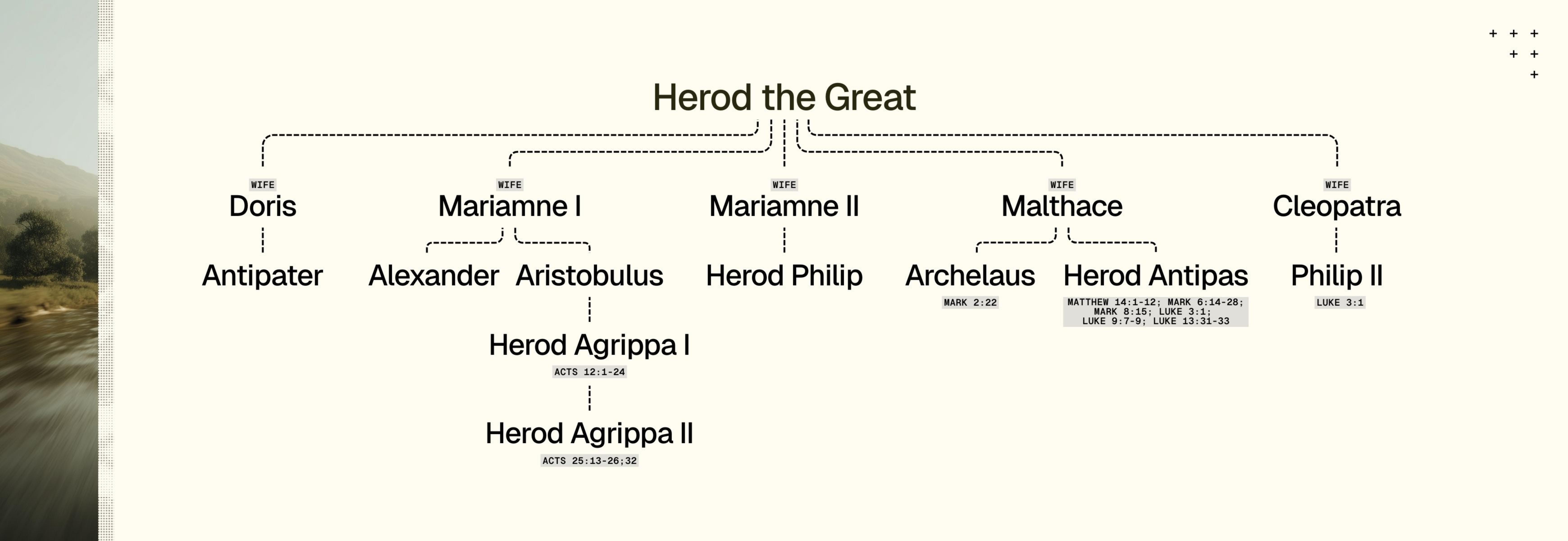


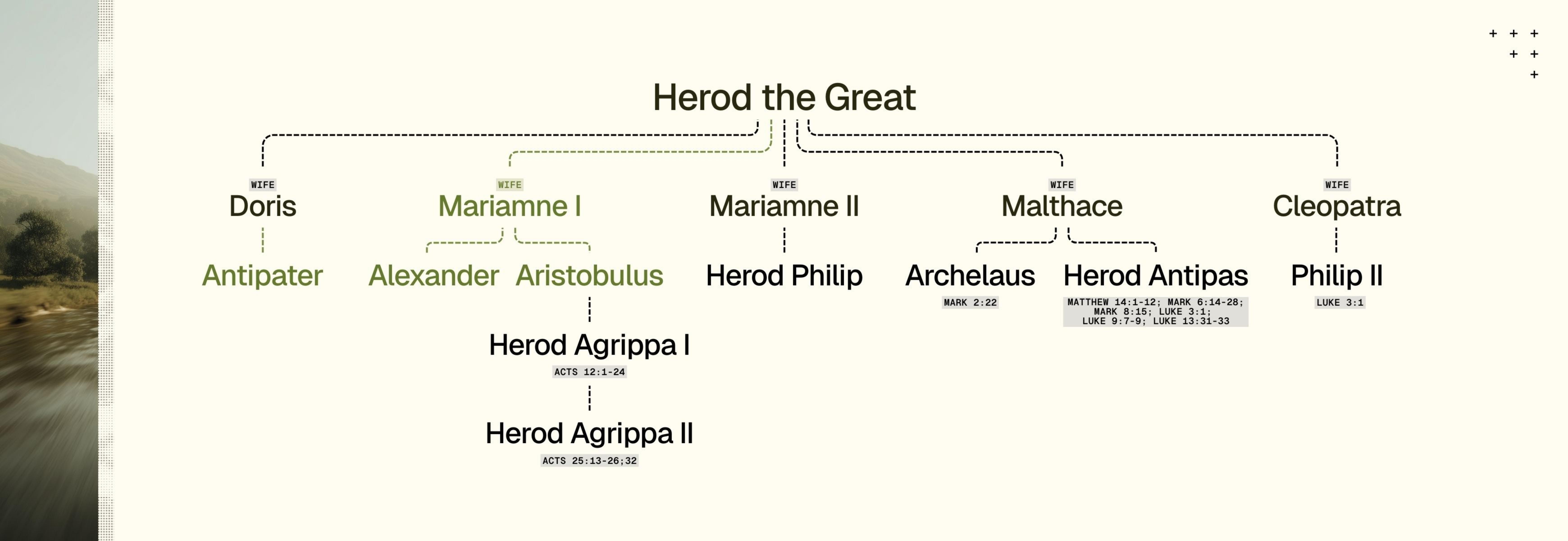
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In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter.<sup>19</sup> After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed. Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there.

ACTS 12:18-19 NIV

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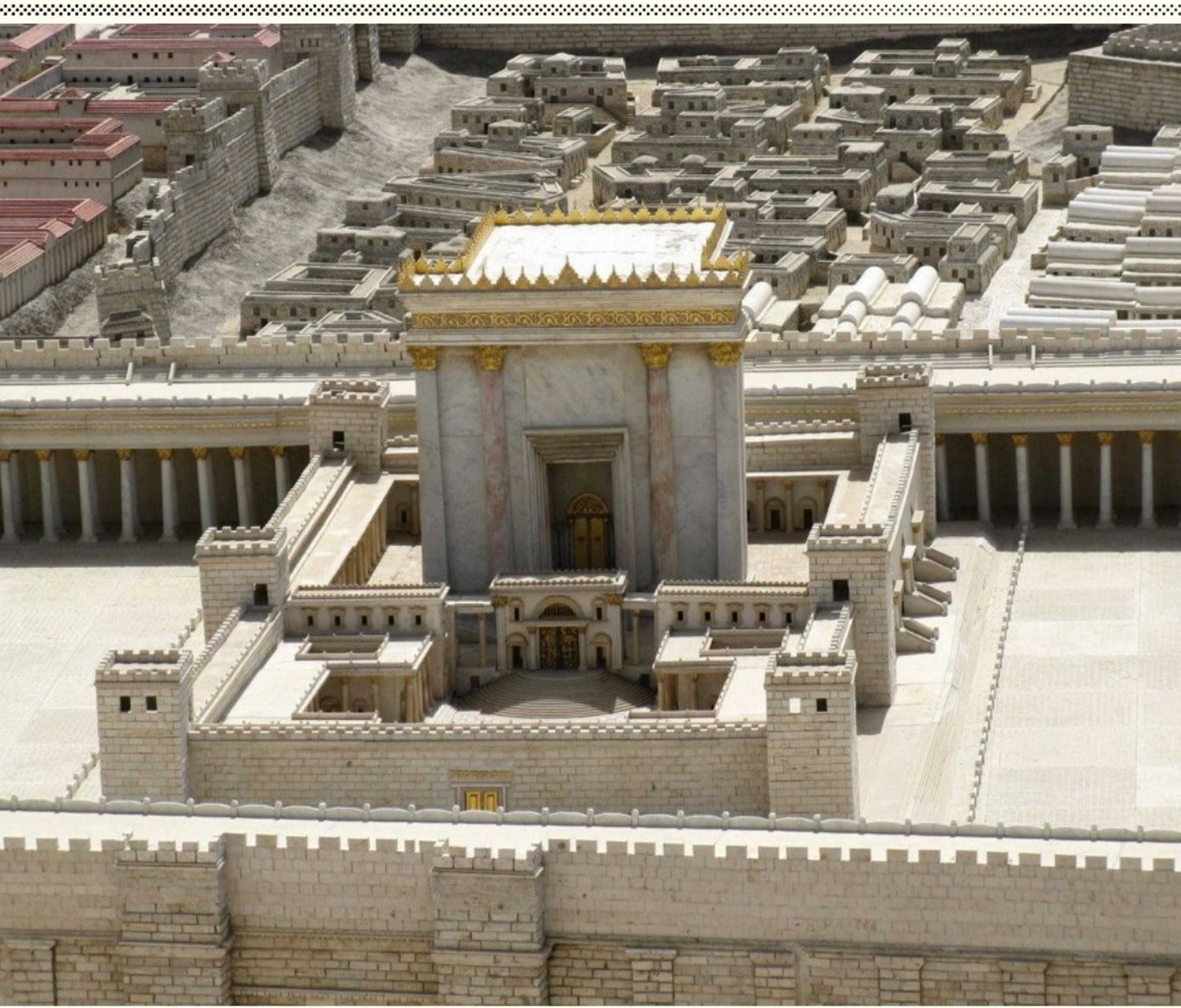






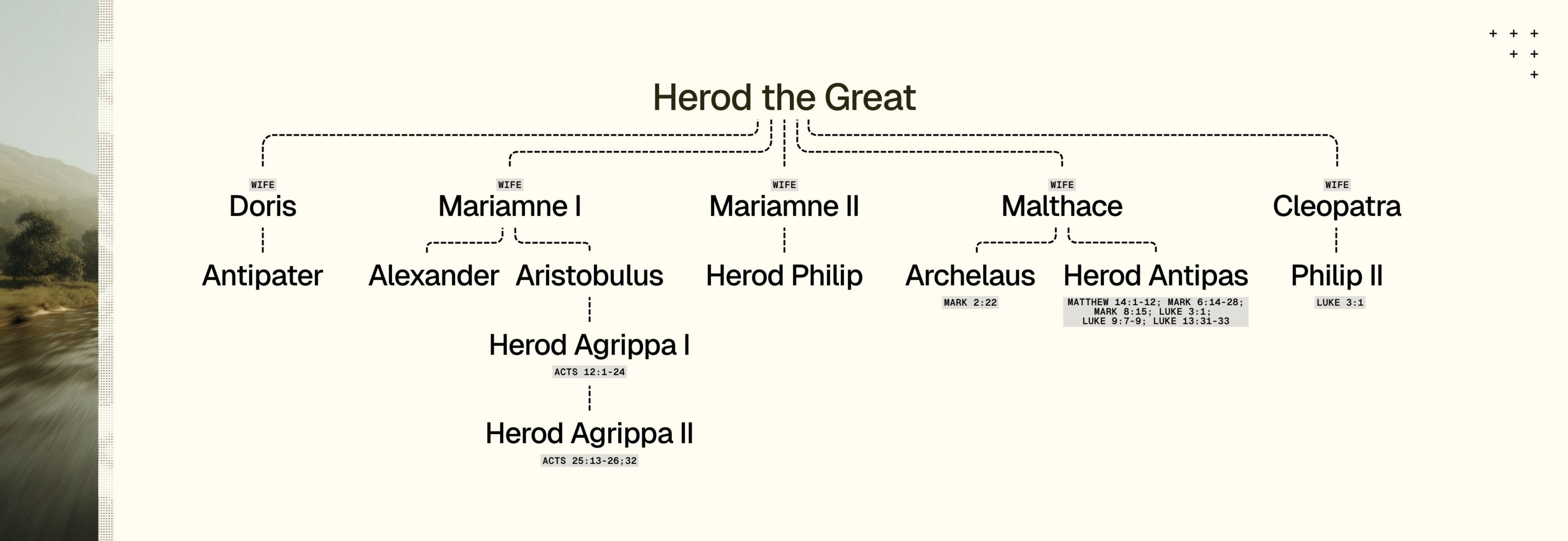














He had been quarreling with the people of Tyre and Sidon; they now joined together and sought an audience with him. After securing the support of Blastus, a trusted personal servant of the king, they asked for peace, because they depended on the king's country for their food supply.

ACTS 12:20 NIV

On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people.<sup>22</sup> They shouted, “This is the voice of a god, not of a man.”<sup>23</sup> Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.

ACTS 12:21-23 NIV

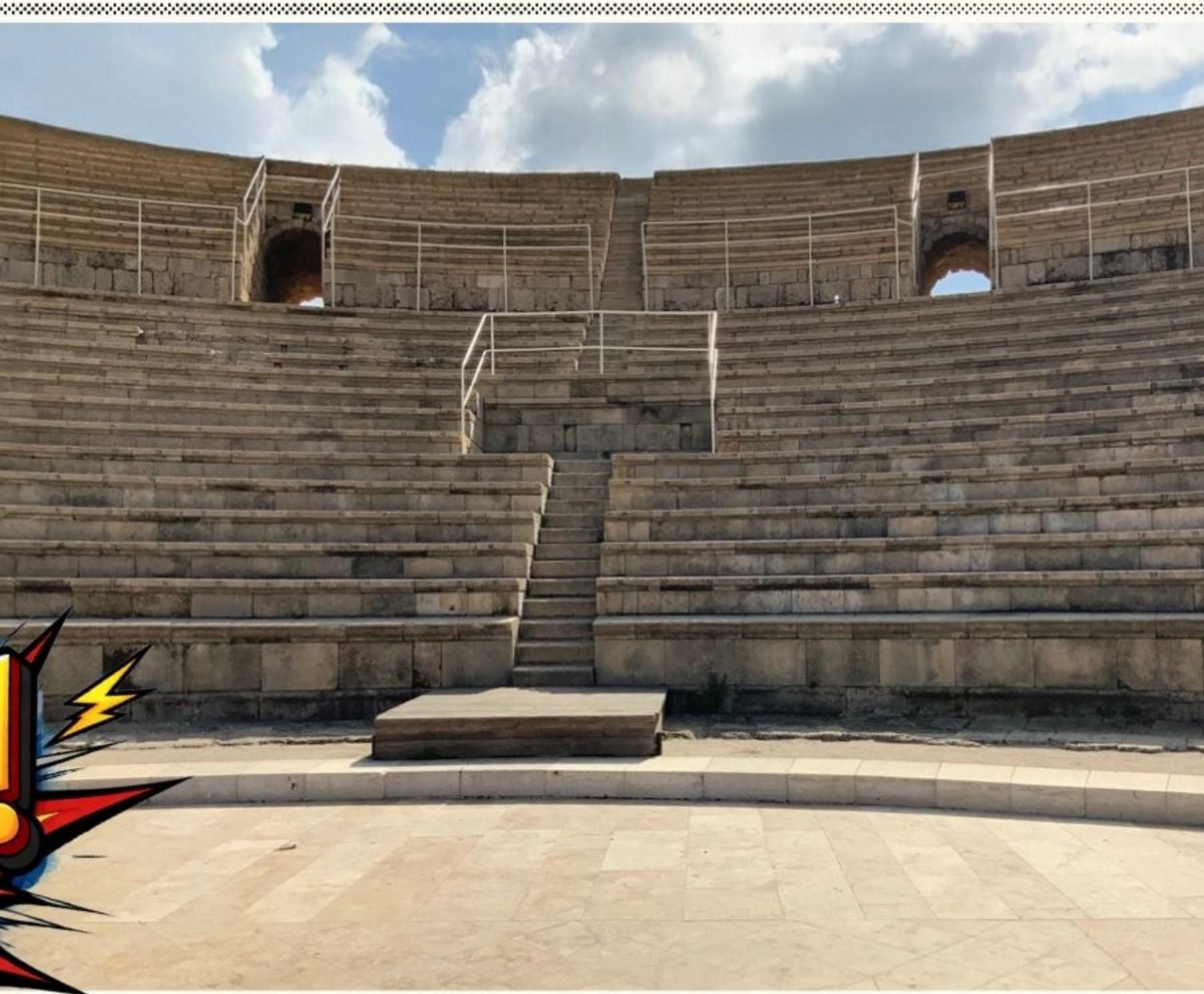




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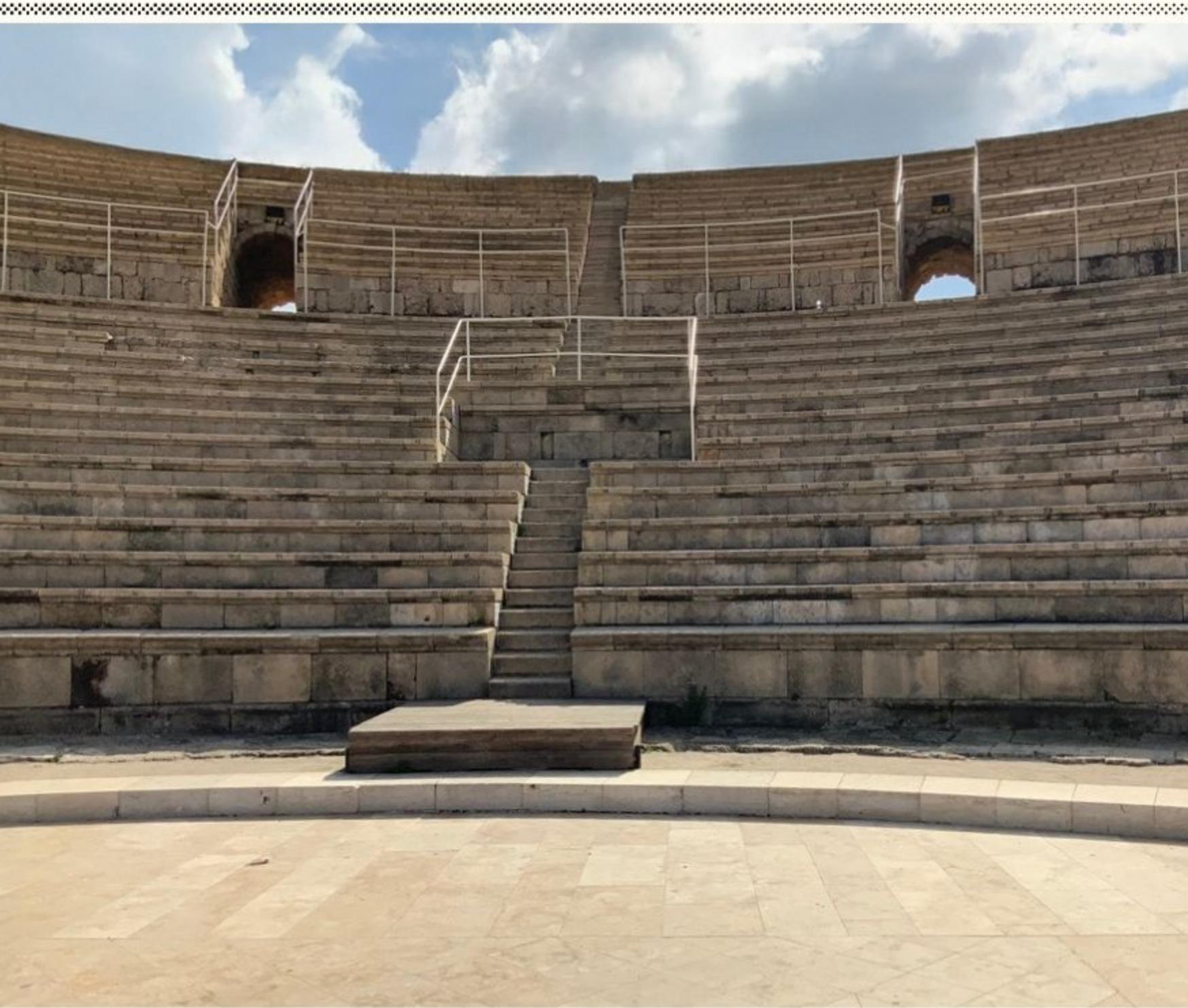
ACTS 12:21-23 NIV

**SMOTE!**



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ACTS 12:21-23 NIV





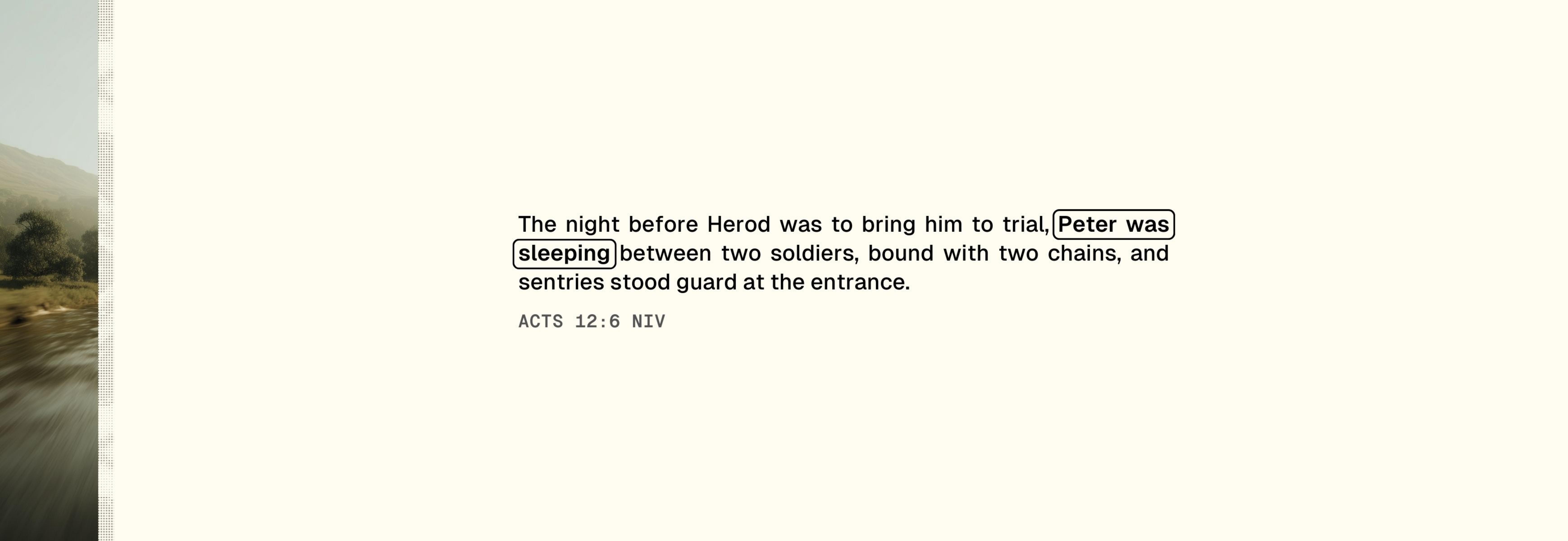
It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them.<sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword.<sup>3</sup> When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.

ACTS 12:1-3 NIV



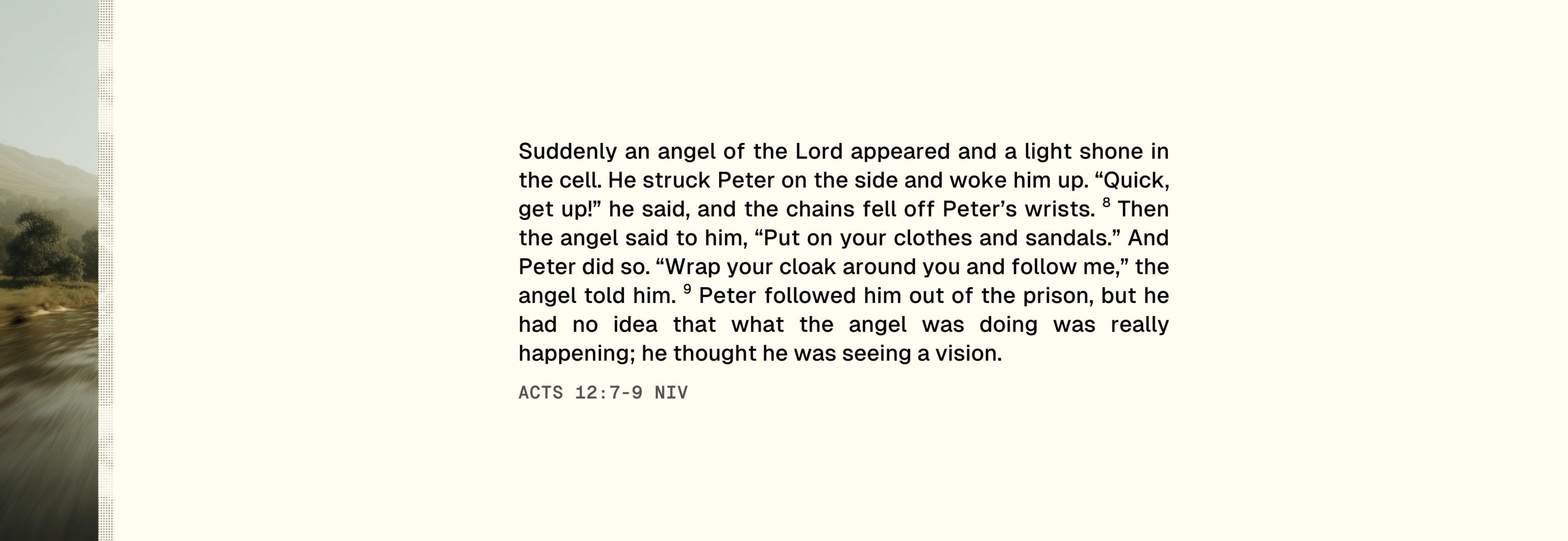
After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.  
<sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was **earnestly** praying to God for him.

ACTS 12:4-5 NIV



The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, **Peter was**  
**sleeping** between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and  
sentries stood guard at the entrance.

ACTS 12:6 NIV



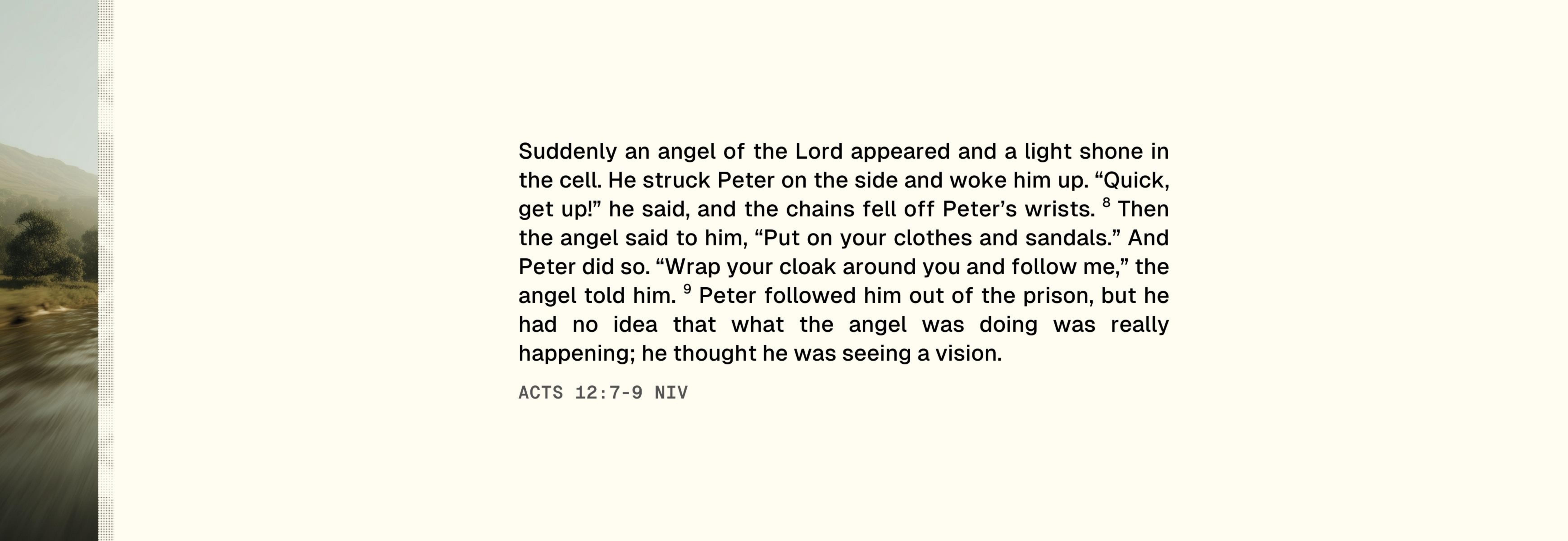
Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.<sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.<sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.

ACTS 12:7-9 NIV



Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.<sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.<sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.

ACTS 12:7-9 NIV



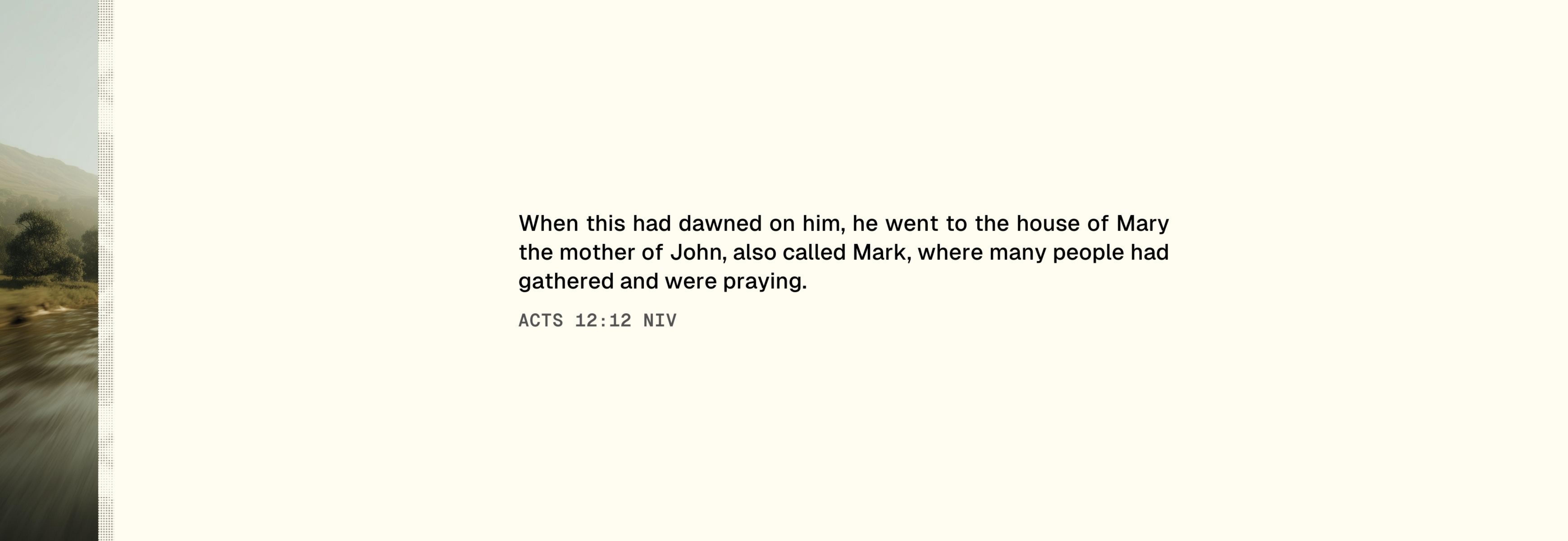
Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.<sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.<sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.

ACTS 12:7-9 NIV



They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.<sup>11</sup> Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod’s clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.”

ACTS 12:10-11 NIV



When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying.

ACTS 12:12 NIV

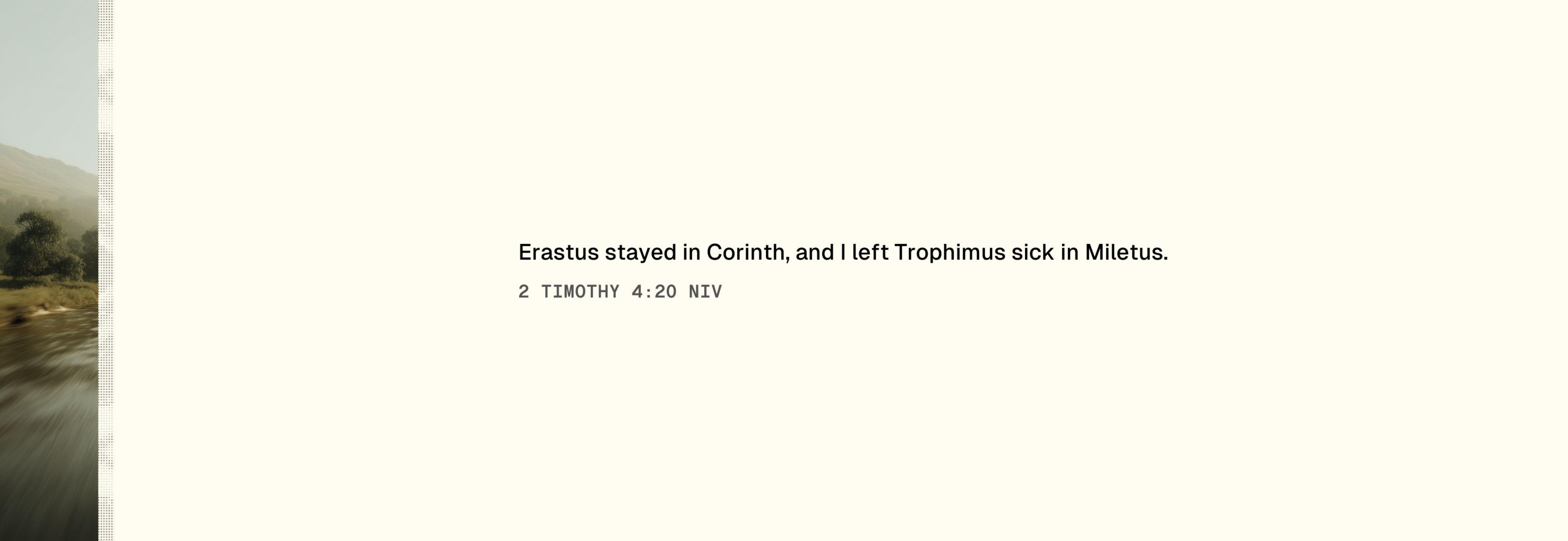


Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door.<sup>14</sup> When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!"<sup>15</sup> "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."<sup>16</sup> But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished.

ACTS 12:13-16 NIV

A landscape photograph with a white rectangular overlay containing text. The background shows a river in the foreground, a line of trees, and rolling hills under a cloudy sky. The white overlay is positioned in the center-left of the image.

Pray earnestly and expectantly.



**Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.**

**2 TIMOTHY 4:20 NIV**

A landscape photograph with a white rectangular overlay containing text. The background shows a river flowing through a valley with trees and hills under a cloudy sky. The white overlay has a thin black border and contains the text "Pray earnestly and expectantly." in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Pray earnestly and expectantly.





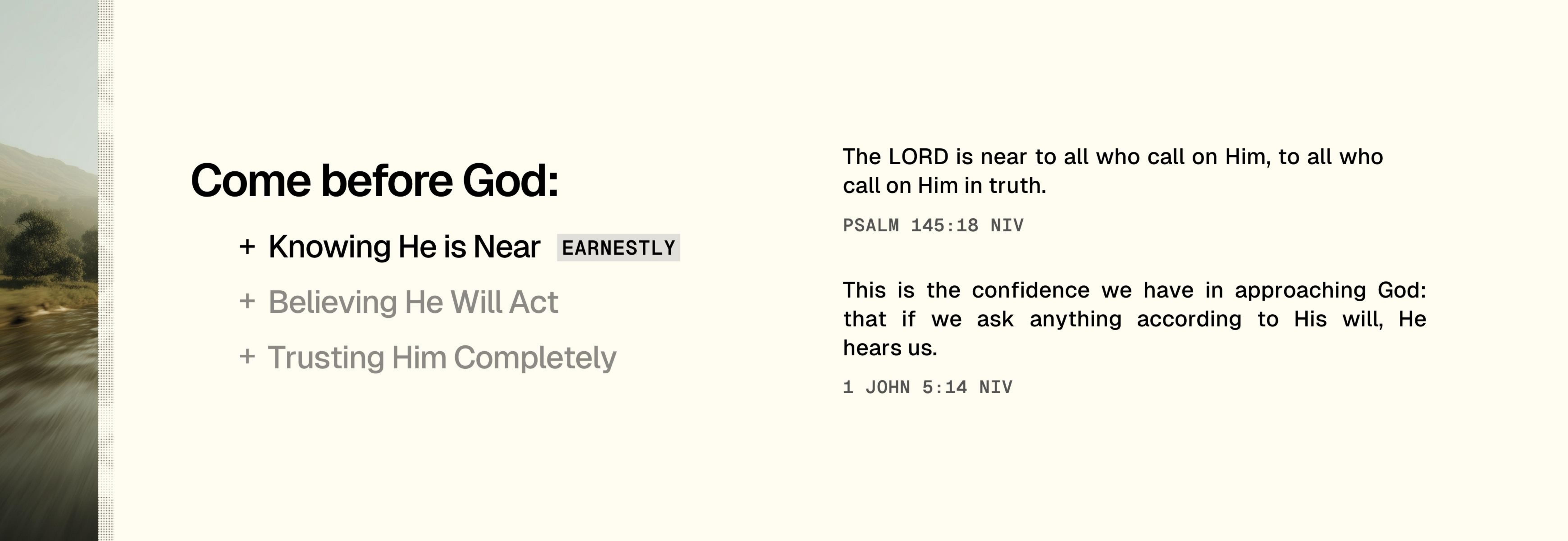
Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. “Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,” he said, and then he left for another place.

ACTS 12:17 NIV



In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter.

ACTS 12:18 NIV



# Come before God:

- + Knowing He is Near **EARNESTLY**
- + Believing He Will Act
- + Trusting Him Completely

The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.

PSALM 145:18 NIV

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

1 JOHN 5:14 NIV



# Come before God:

+ Knowing He is Near

+ Believing He Will Act **EXPECTANTLY**

+ Trusting Him Completely

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.<sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

MATTHEW 7:7-8 NIV

Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

HEBREWS 4:16 NIV



# Come before God:

- + Knowing He is Near
- + Believing He Will Act
- + Trusting Him Completely

HUMBLY

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

PHILLIPIANS 4:6-7 NIV

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

ROMANS 12:12 NIV