

# ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY  
IN THE GLORY OF GOD



**Knowing that God is  
The LORD is the only  
thing that can fit us for  
glory.**



**1. Divine empathy can  
reveal the weight of  
our abominations.**



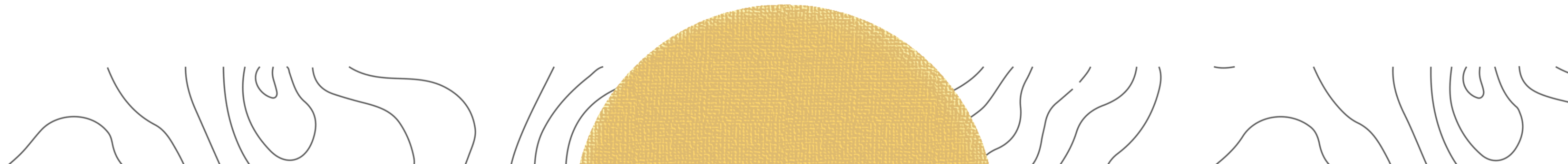
**Human beings miss God because they are  
in denial.**

**This leads people to "abominations"**

39 occurrences in Ezekiel (most in the Bible)

NIV translates "Detestable Practices"

"Abomination": *Ab Homine* - "against humanity", "beastly"





# An Unbreakable Delusion: People are morally untouchable in this denial

The death of  
Ezekiel's wife  
(Chapter 24)





# An Unbreakable Delusion:

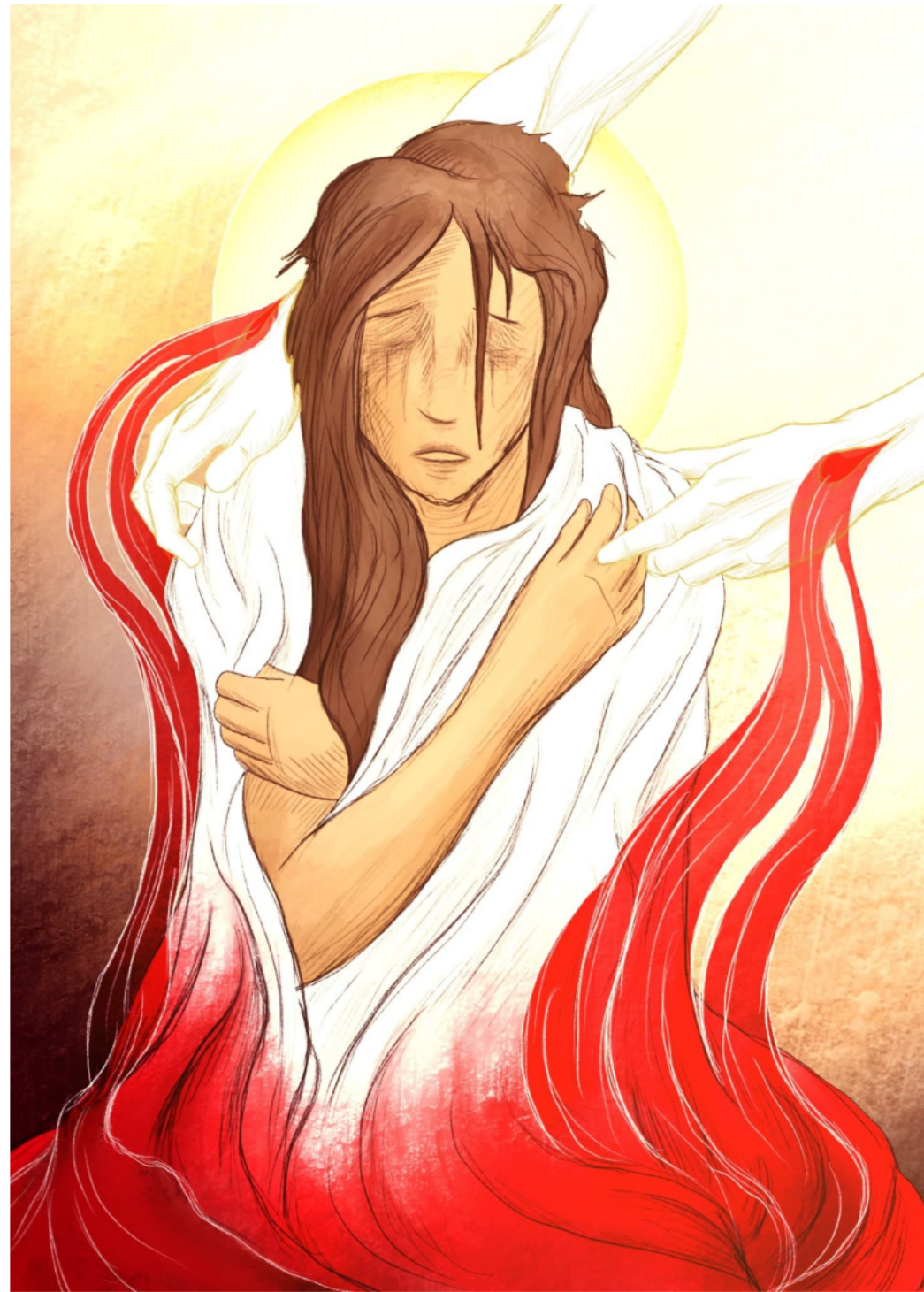
## Ezekiel 24:23

"You shall not mourn or weep,  
but you shall rot away in your  
iniquities and groan to one  
another."





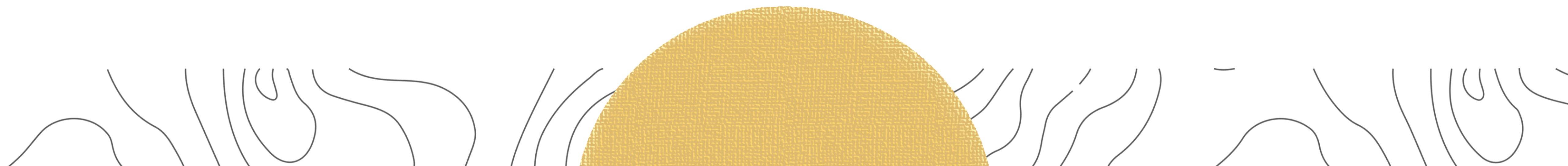
# Divine empathy: God shows His perspective in vividness.





## **Ezekiel 8:17**

Is it too light a thing for the house of Judah to commit the abominations that they commit here, that they should fill the land with violence and provoke me still further to anger?...





**2. Among a stubborn  
people, we must stand  
and fall ourselves.**



## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

**The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him.**

"But if a wicked man turns away from all the sins he has committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, he will surely live; he will not die.



## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

None of the offenses he has committed will be remembered against him. Because of the righteous things he has done, he will live. Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the Sovereign LORD. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live?" But if a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin and does the same detestable things the wicked man does, will he live?



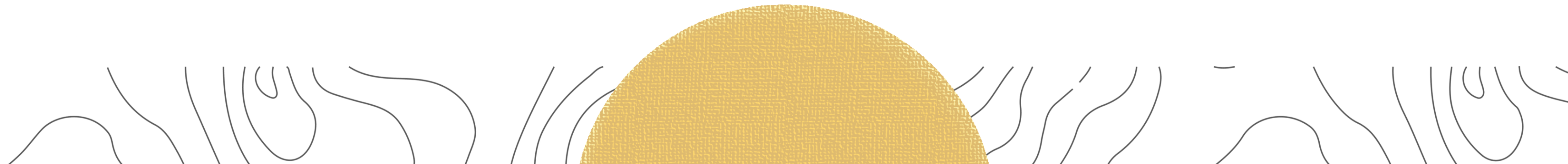
## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

None of the righteous things he has done will be remembered. Because of the unfaithfulness he is guilty of and because of the sins he has committed, he will die. "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; because of the sin he has committed he will die.



## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

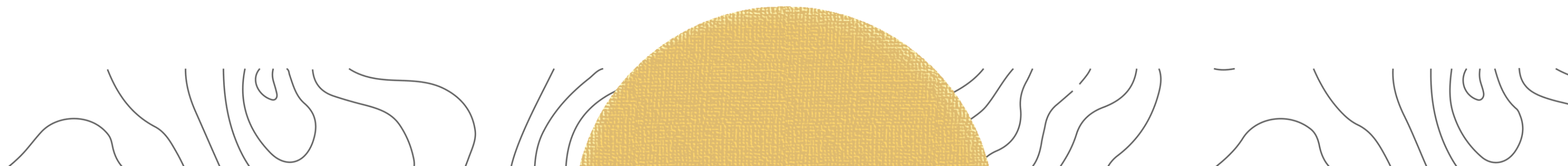
But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?





## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

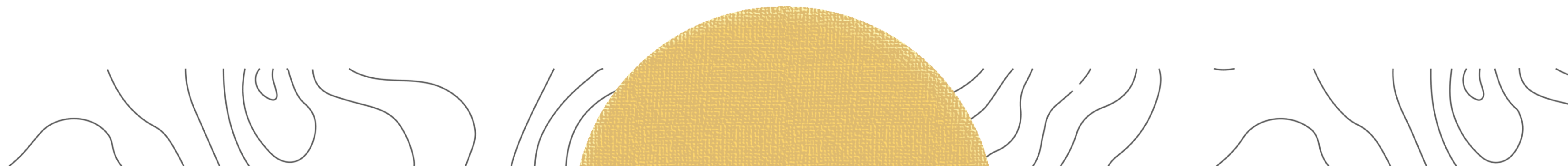
"Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel?"





## **Ezekiel 18:20 – 32**

For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live! God makes clear that whatever happens to the nations- we are each judged individually by whether we are willing to have faith- and so turn to live as faithfully as we know how.





# Divine sovereignty and human responsibility:

*God's Work: Resurrection of dead, dry bones*

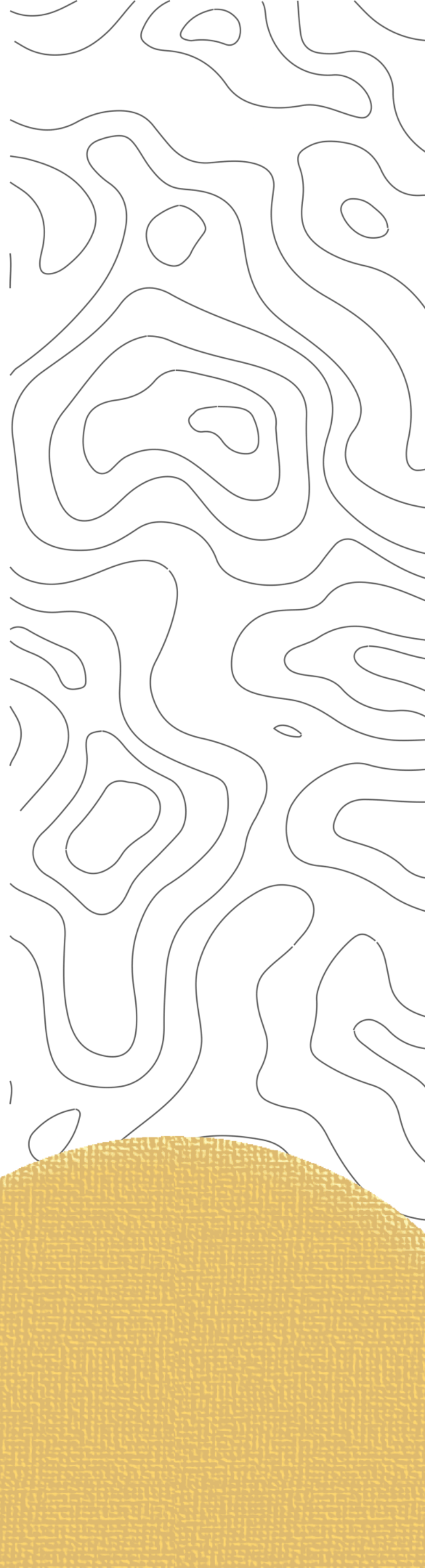
- God works for our salvation
- God makes a way for our atonement
- God works by His Spirit to give us a new heart
- God shows himself sufficient for our understanding, but insufficient to overpower our self-indulgent thinking



# Divine sovereignty and human responsibility:

*Our own moral responsibility, without excuses*

- **Recognition:** Acknowledge and renounce the moral and spiritual status of our abominations
- **Consent:** Receive God as the Covenant LORD
- Not by works, but framed in works





**3. The miracle of  
Redemption must  
establish the  
grounding grief of  
moral memory.**





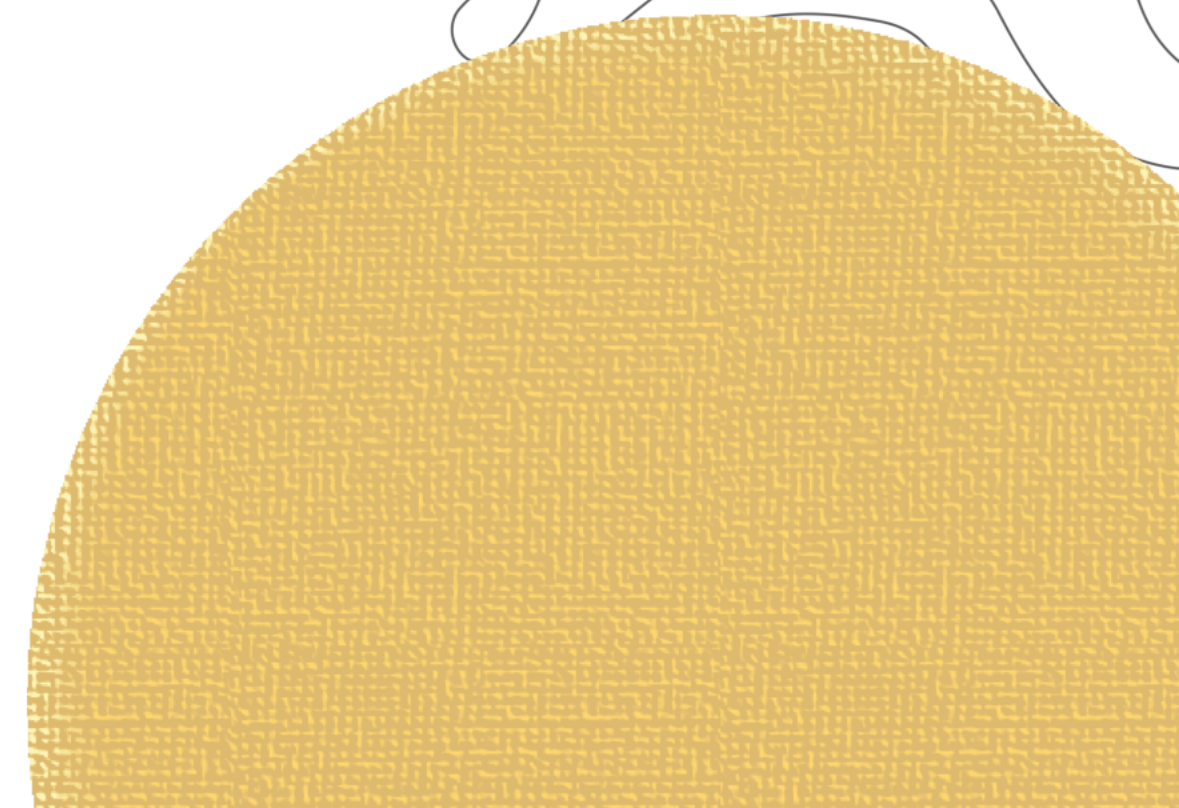
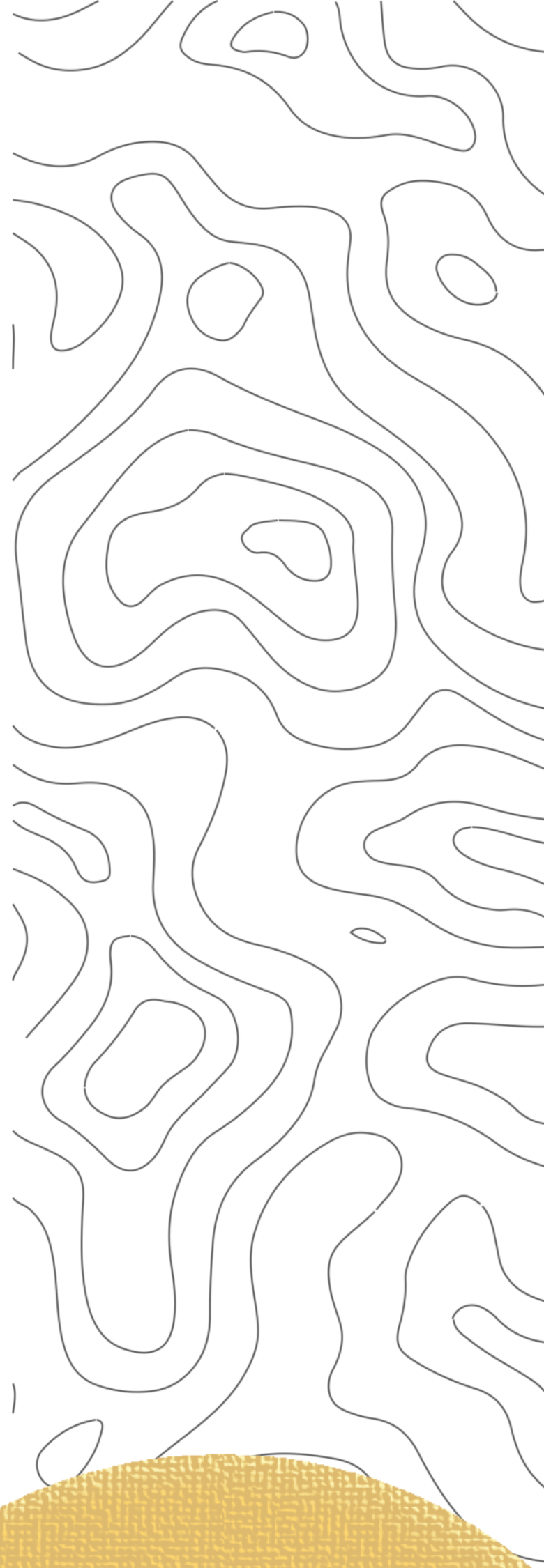
# **God's promise of a new heart in conjunction with a resurrection**

The most celebrated and unique  
redemptive promise in Ezekiel



## **Ezekiel 11:17 – 21**

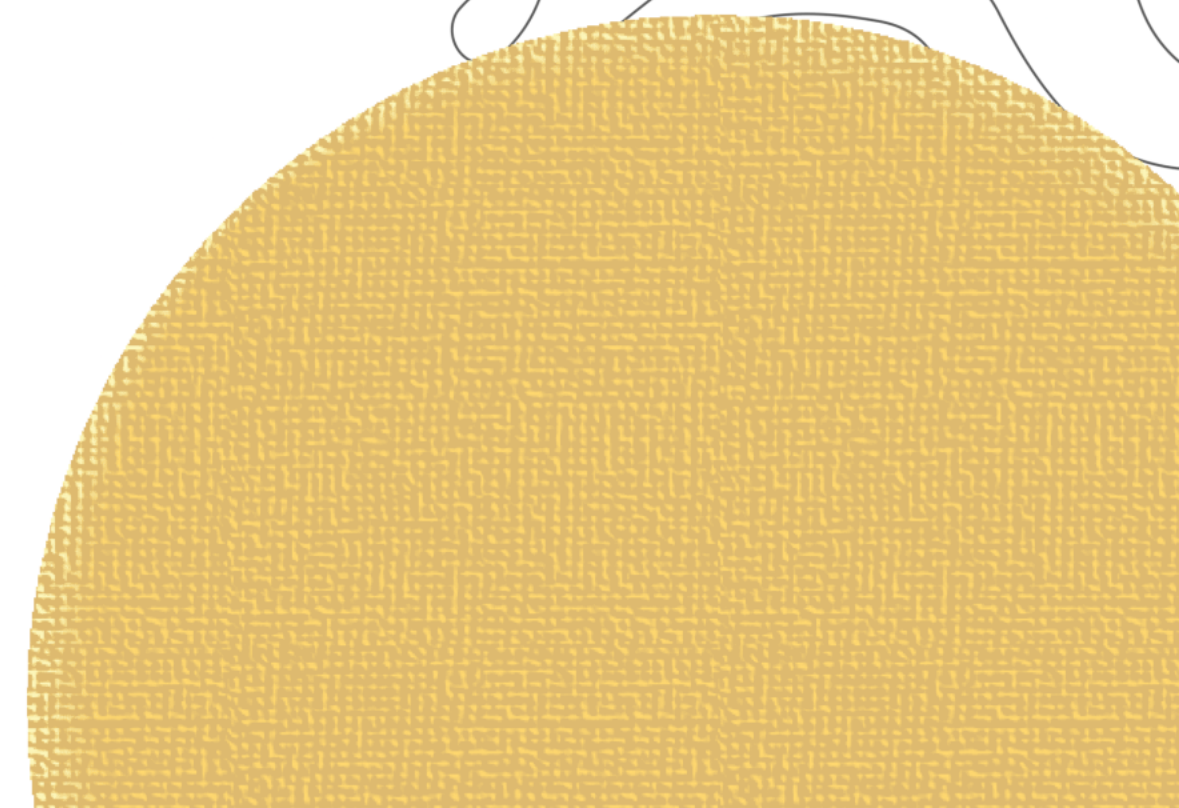
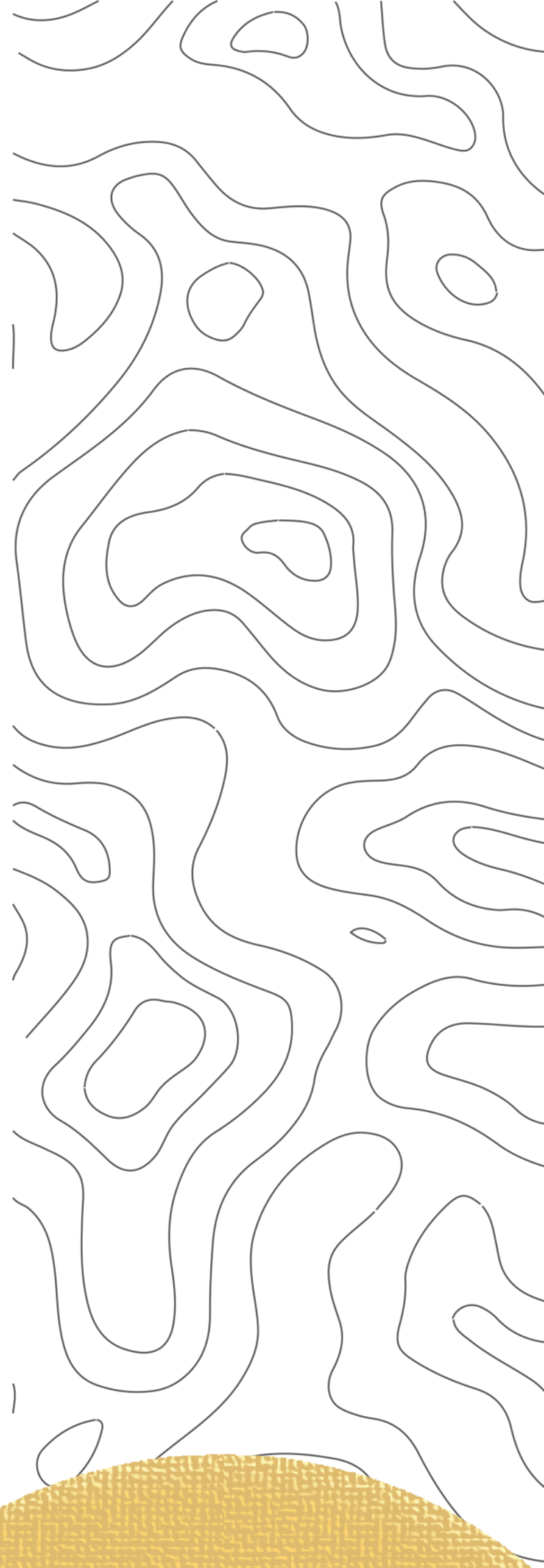
"Therefore say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.' "They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols. I **will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them;**"





## **Ezekiel 11:17 – 21**

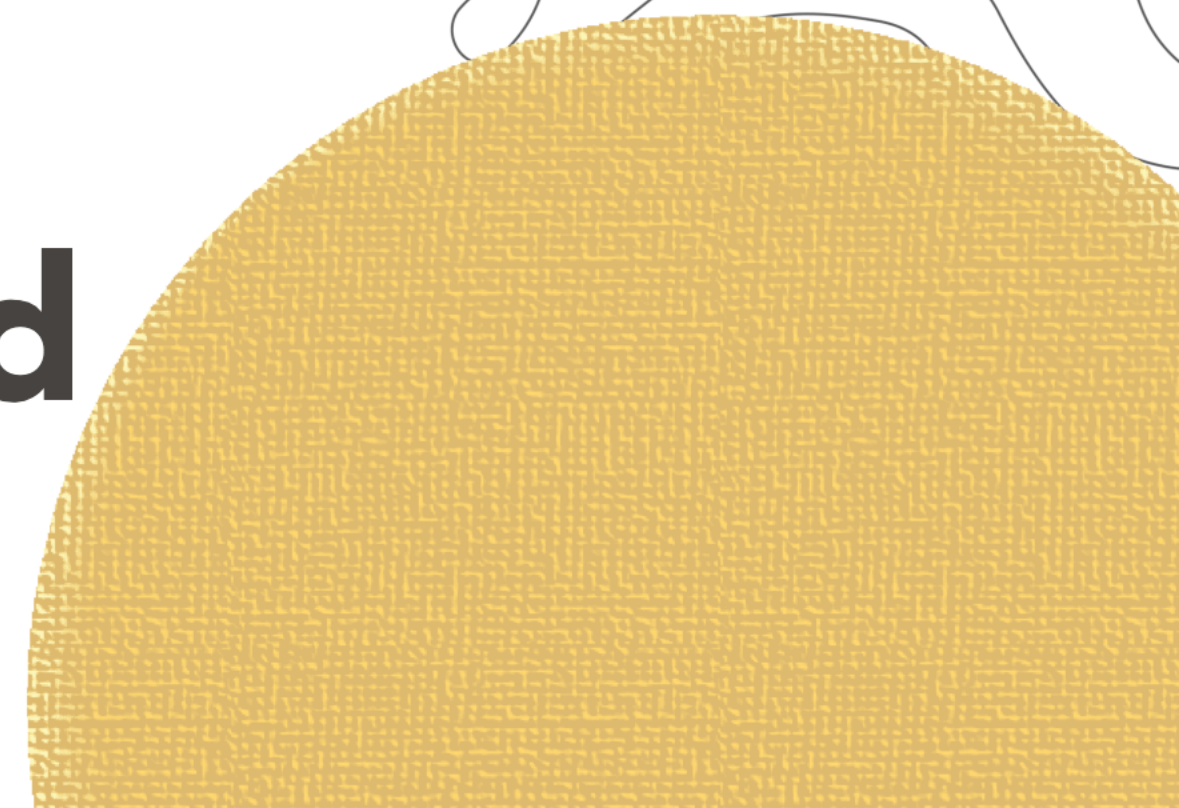
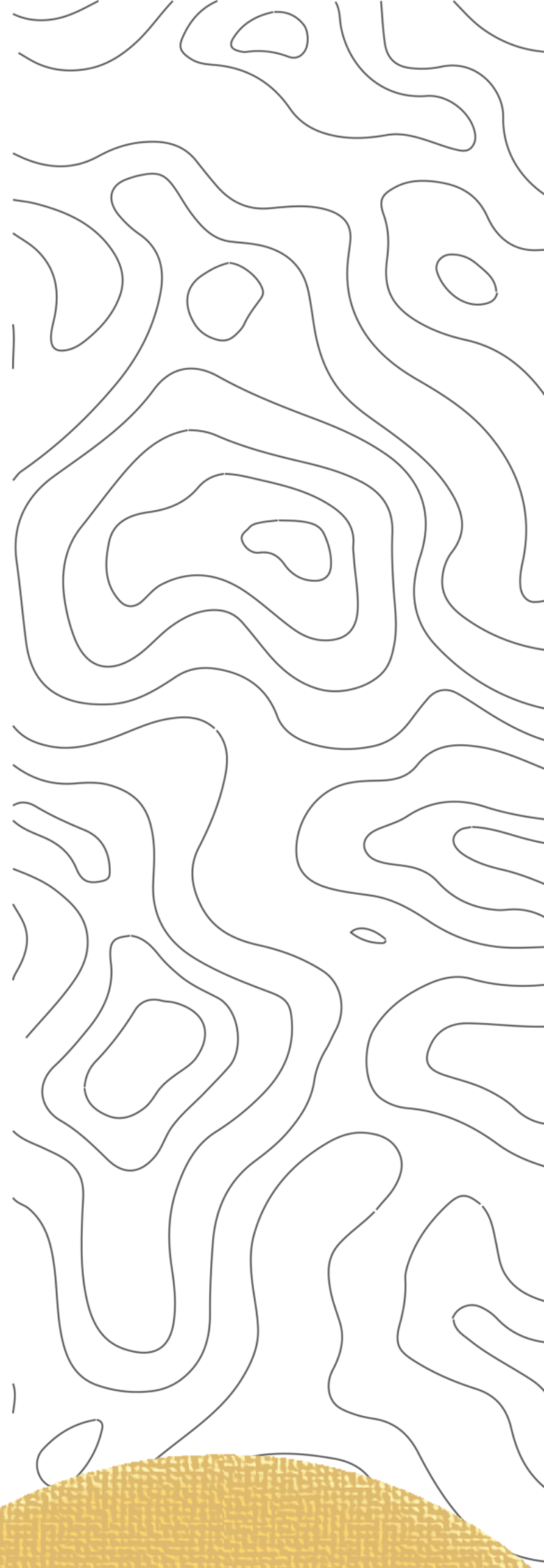
**"I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh. Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God. But as for those whose hearts are devoted to their vile images and detestable idols, I will bring down on their own heads what they have done, declares the Sovereign LORD."**





## **Ezekiel 36:24 – 28**

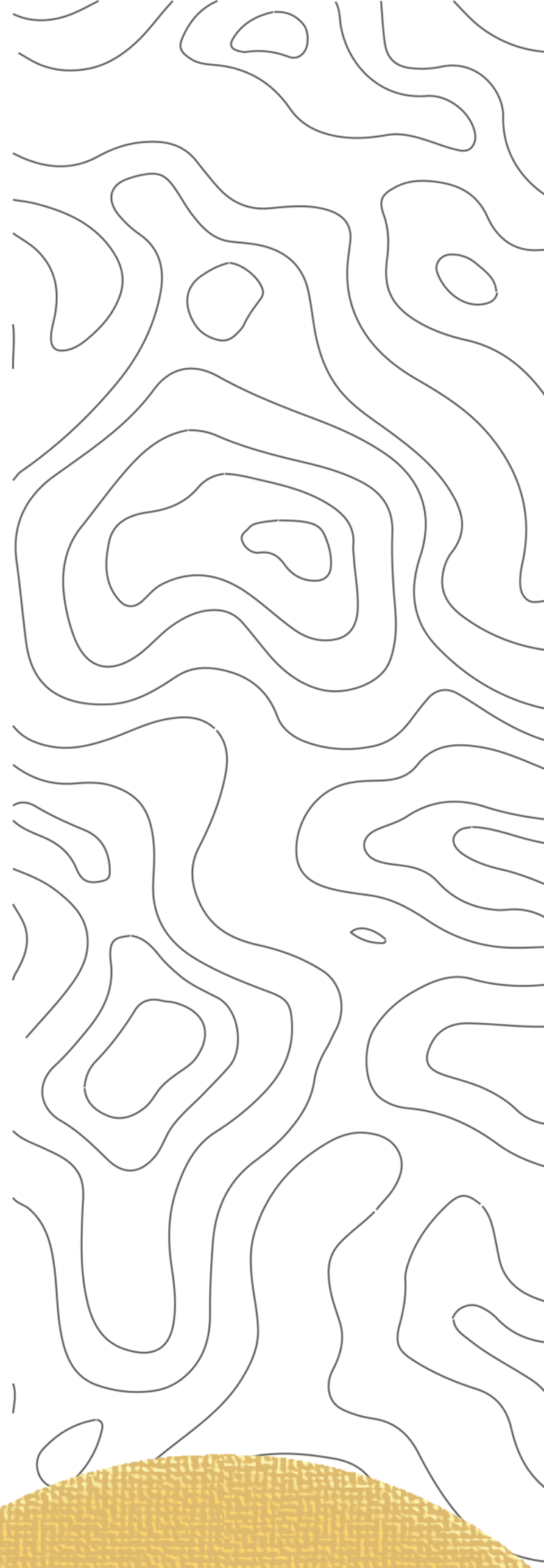
**"'For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."**





## **Ezekiel 36:24 – 28**

**And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.**



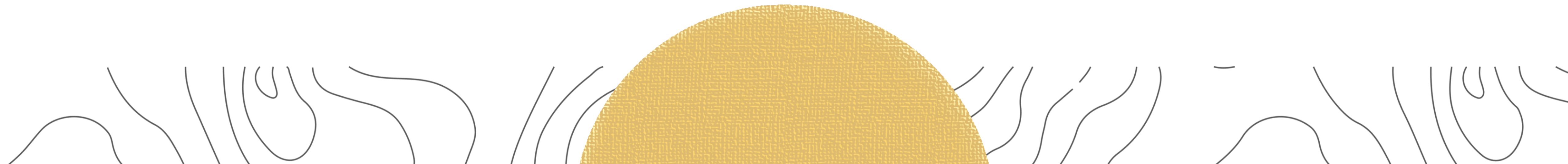


# Valley of dry bones

## *Chapter 37*

He raises people up who are dead, rotten and dried up:  
*culturally, nationally, spiritually, morally, physically.*

This miraculous redemption comes with spiritual  
recognition, a divine empathy.

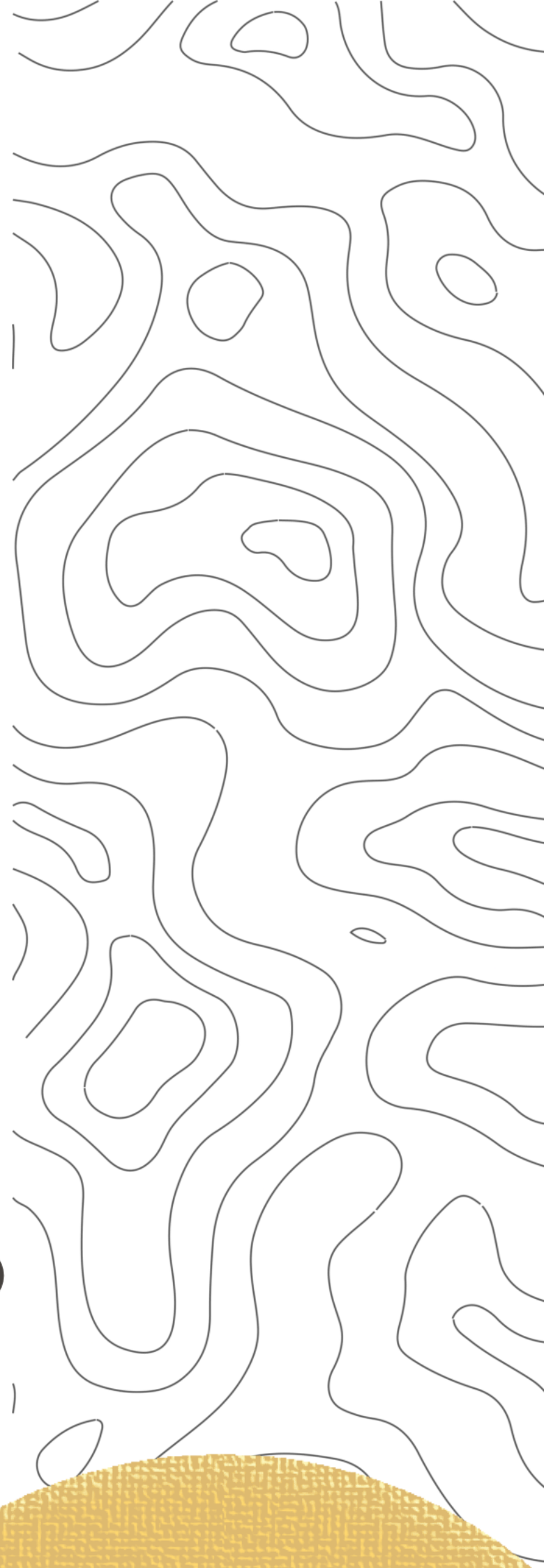




# **Grounding grief of moral memory:**

## **Ezekiel 20:41 – 44**

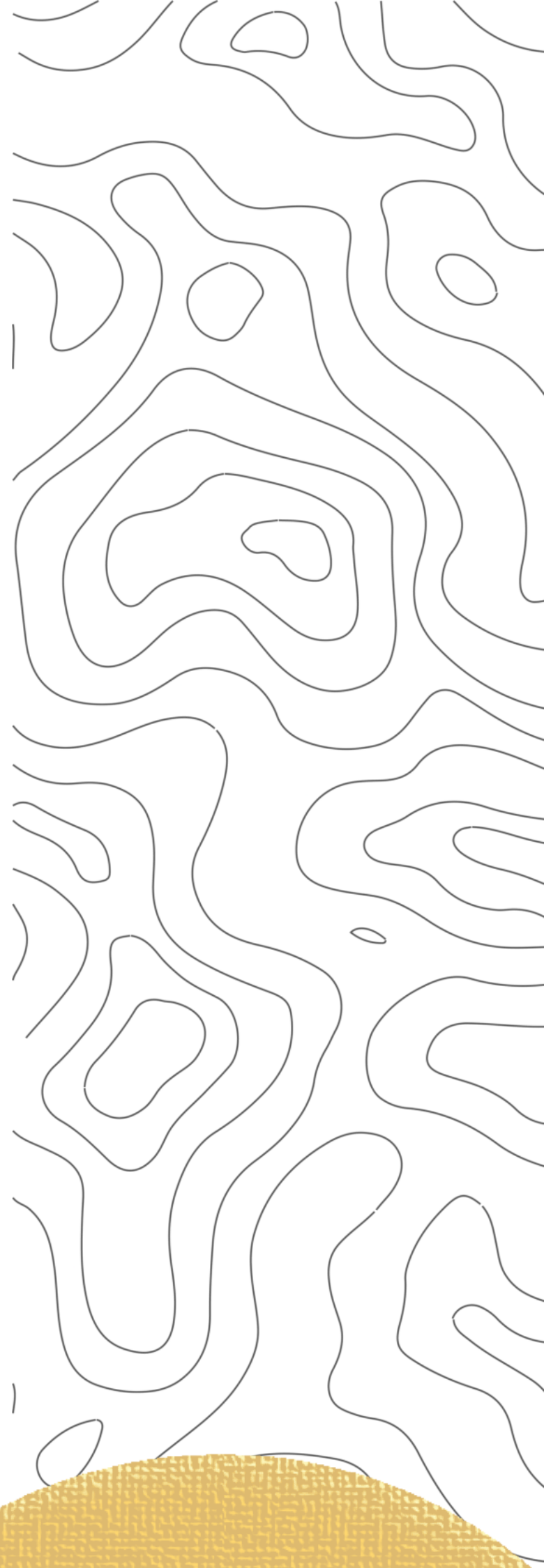
I will accept you as fragrant incense when I bring you out from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will show myself holy among you in the sight of the nations. Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the land I had sworn with uplifted hand to give to your fathers.





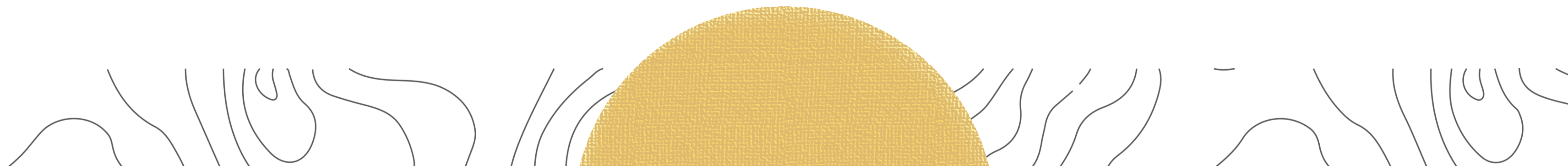
## **Ezekiel 20:41 – 44**

**There you will remember your conduct and all the actions by which you have defiled yourselves, and you will loathe yourselves for all the evil you have done. You will know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake and not according to your evil ways and your corrupt practices, O house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.'"**

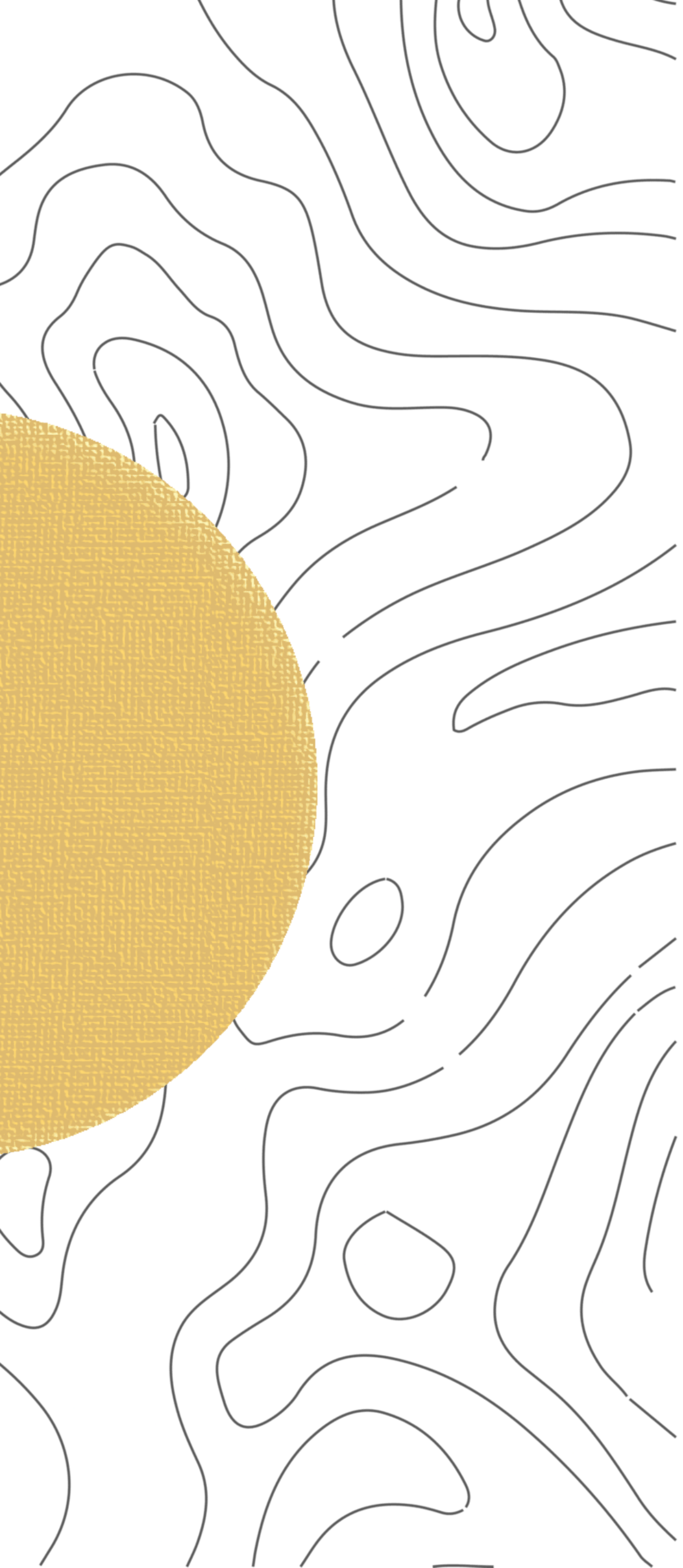




**God's redemption,  
which uses our recognition and consent,  
leaves a *grounding* and *stabilizing*  
moral humiliation,  
while alleviating debilitating moral shame.**







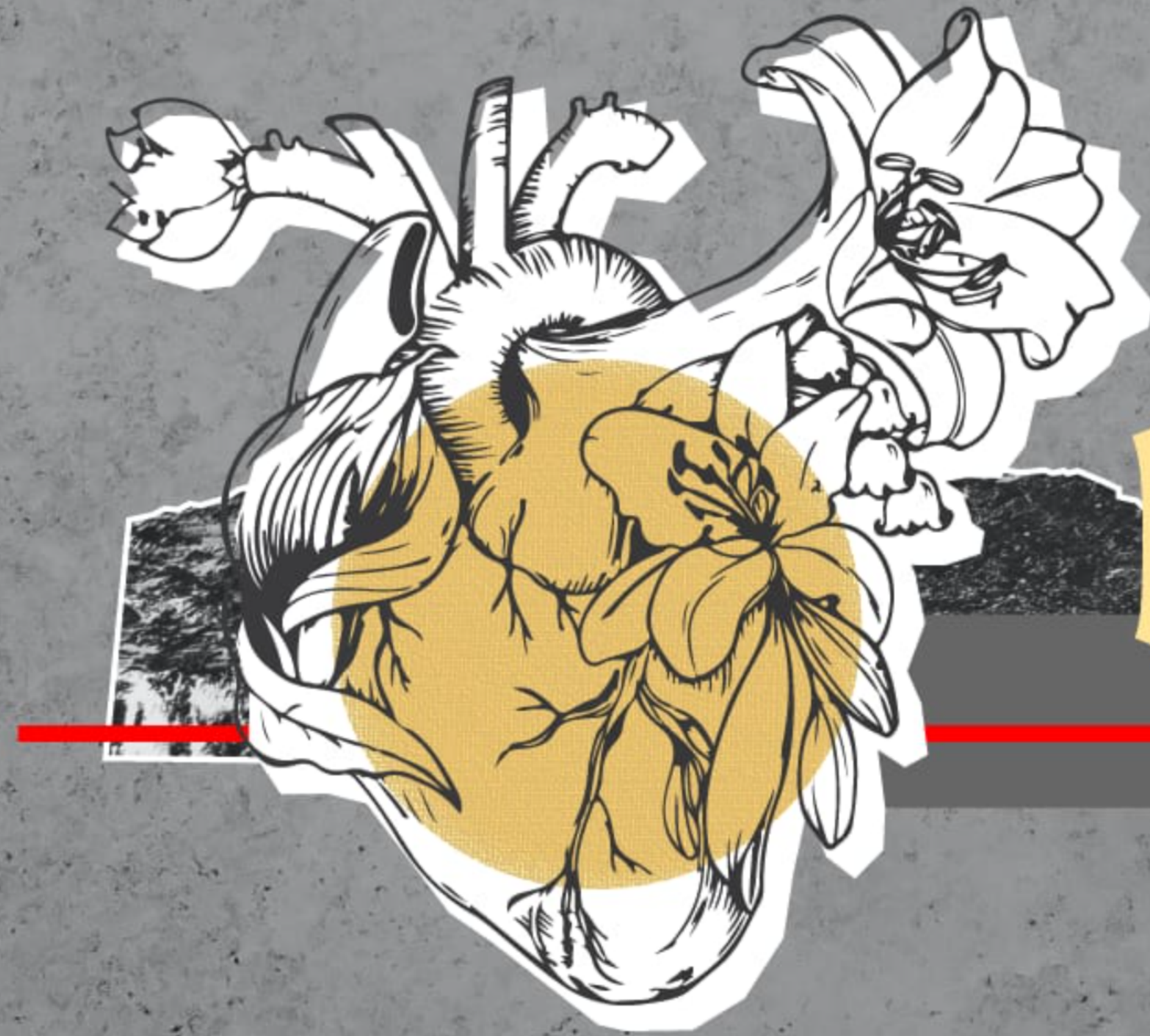
Where is the Good News?

The Scroll

The New King

Lament, mourning and woe that is  
sweeter than honey.





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