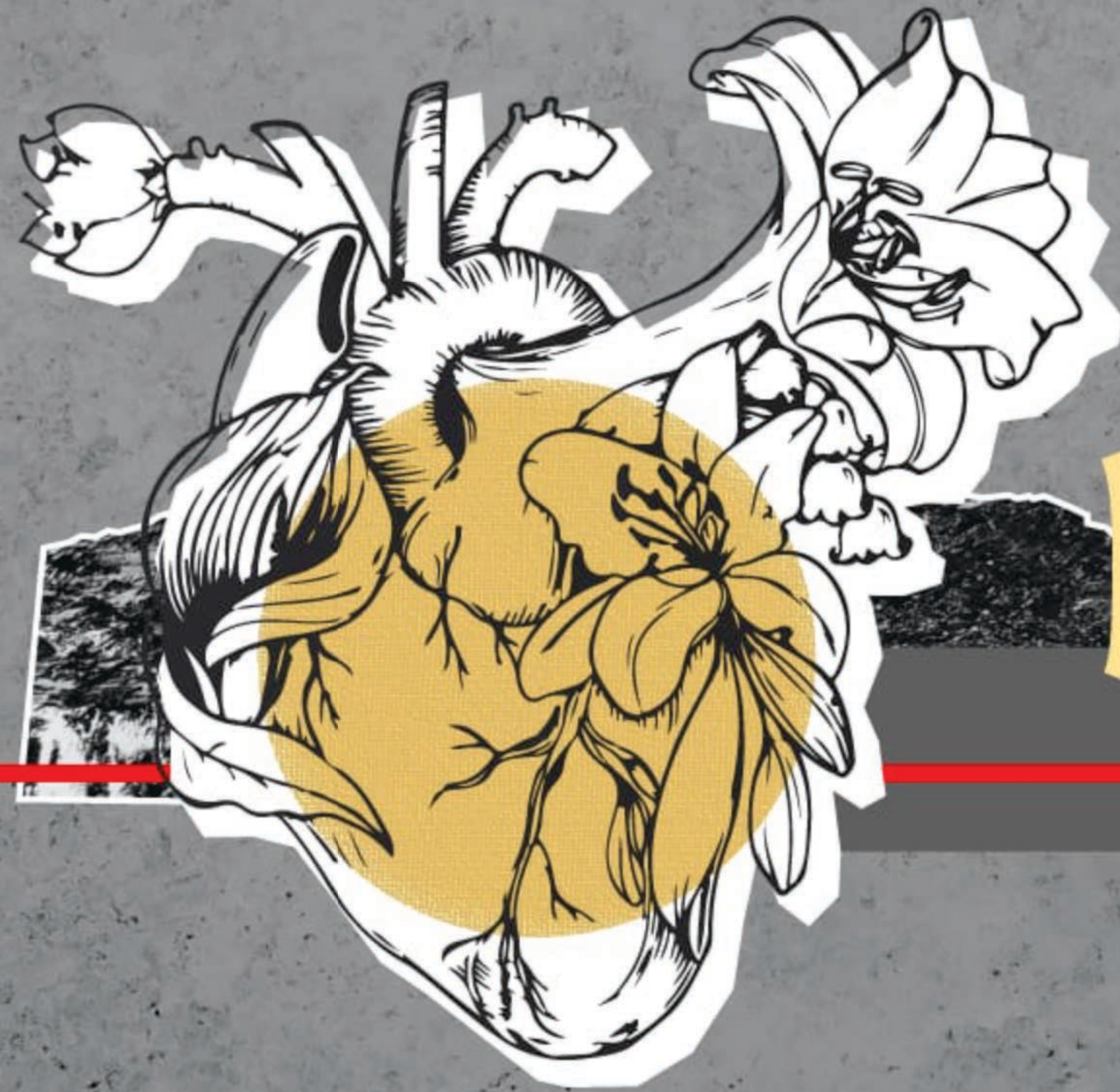




# scrípture

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**EZEKIEL 25 & 35**

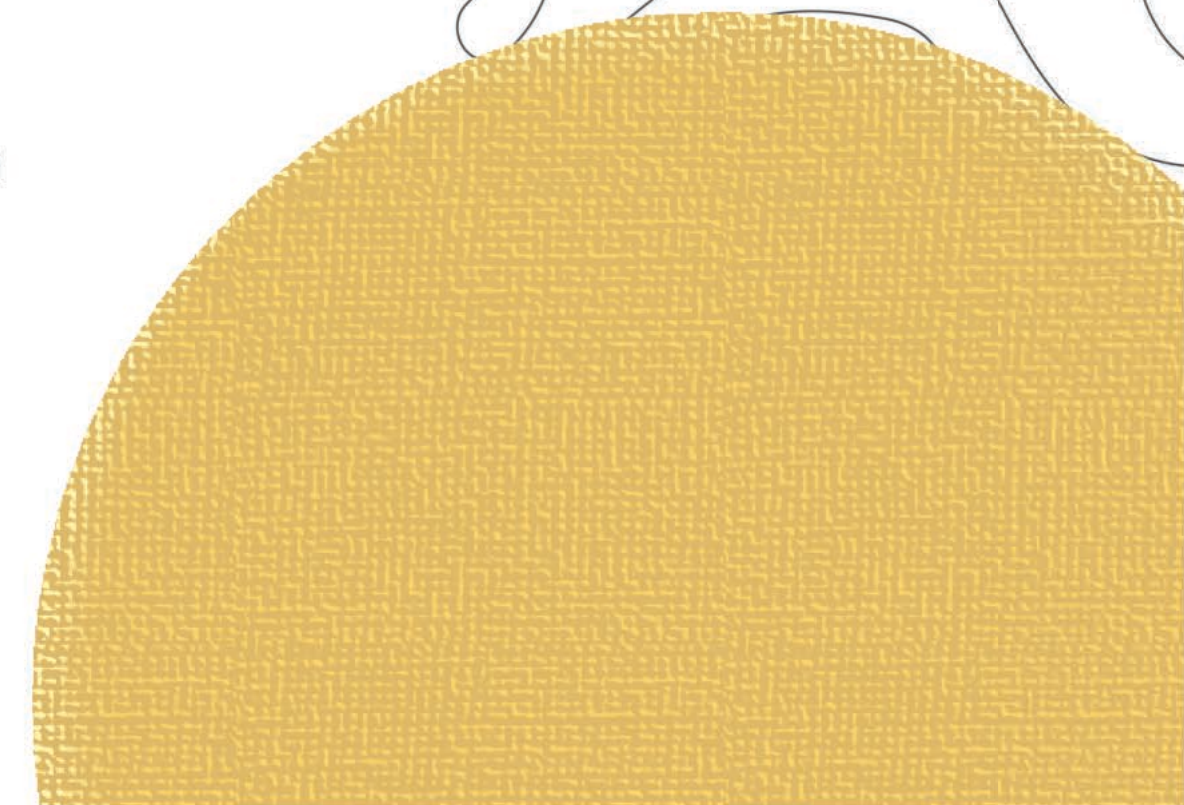


# ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY  
IN THE GLORY OF GOD

## **Proverbs 9:16 – 18**

"Let all who are simple come in here!" she says to those who lack judgment. "Stolen water is sweet; food eaten in secret is delicious!" But little do they know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of the grave.



**God condemns  
human  
condemnation.**

**not human judgment**

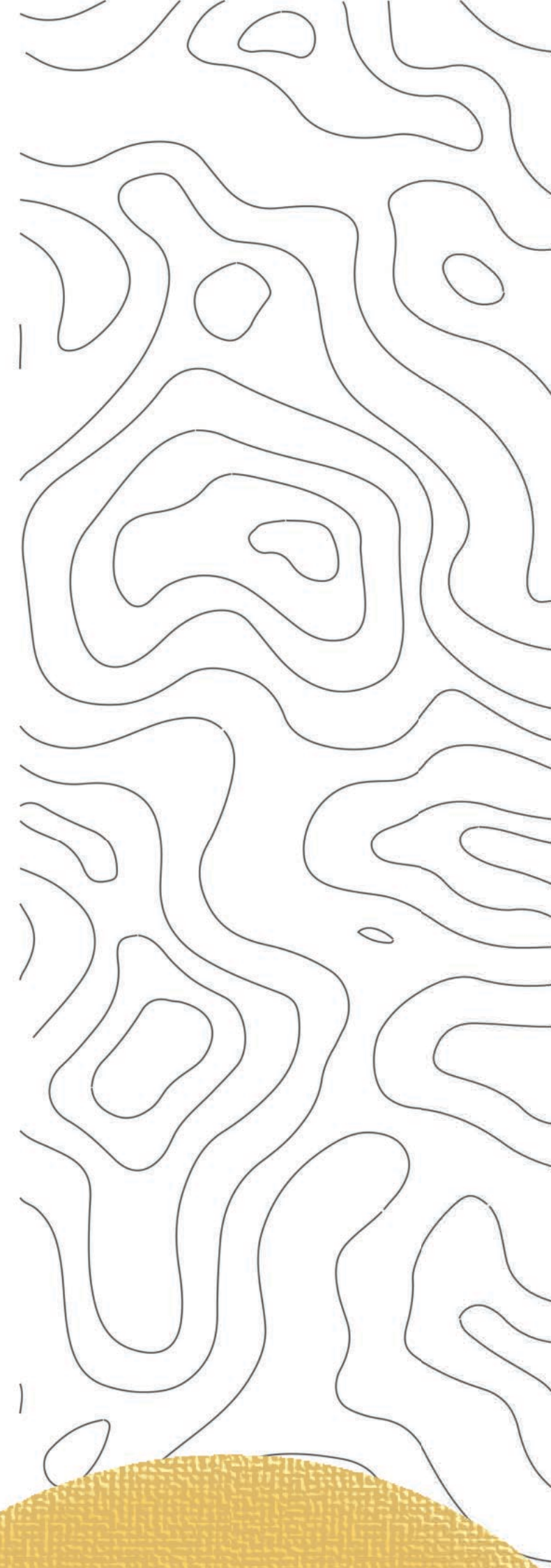
# Condemnation vs Judgment

## Condemnation

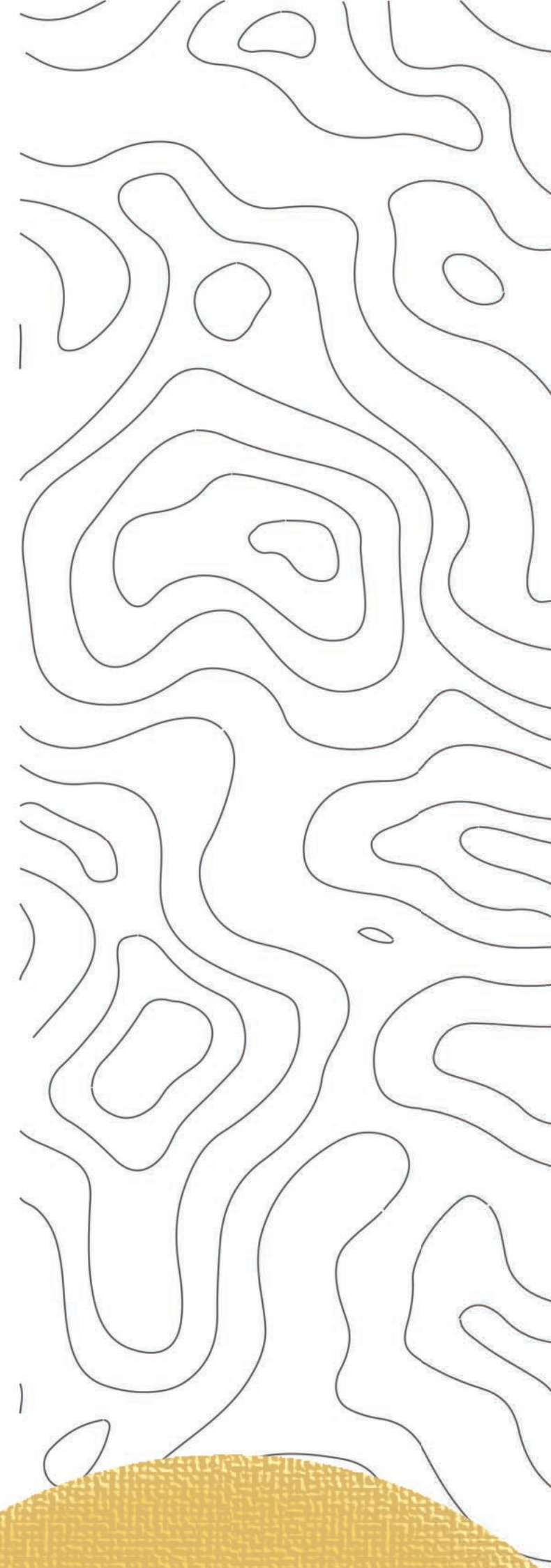
determining the permanent moral status of someone and their deserved penalty

## Judgment

determining the moral status of something and what amounts to good and evil.



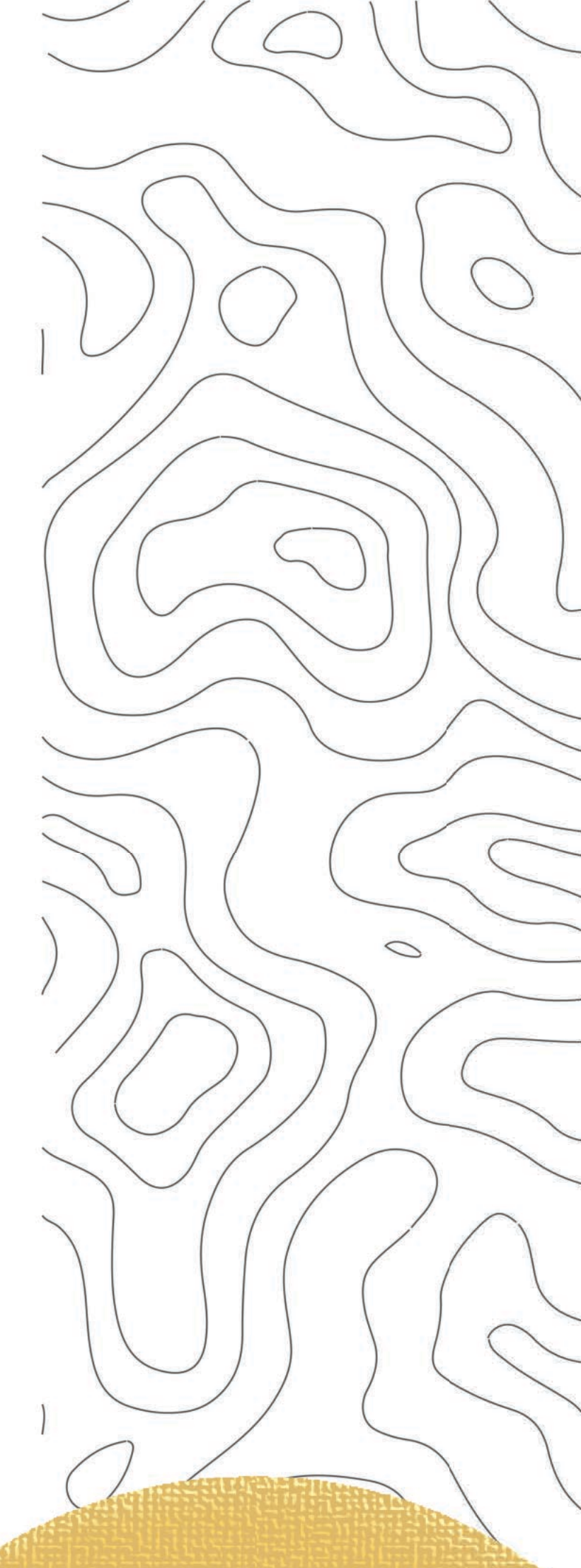
**How absolute is  
God's condemnation  
of human  
condemnation?**



Even **God's**  
**condemnation** must not  
release our vengeance

# **The forgiveness condition:**

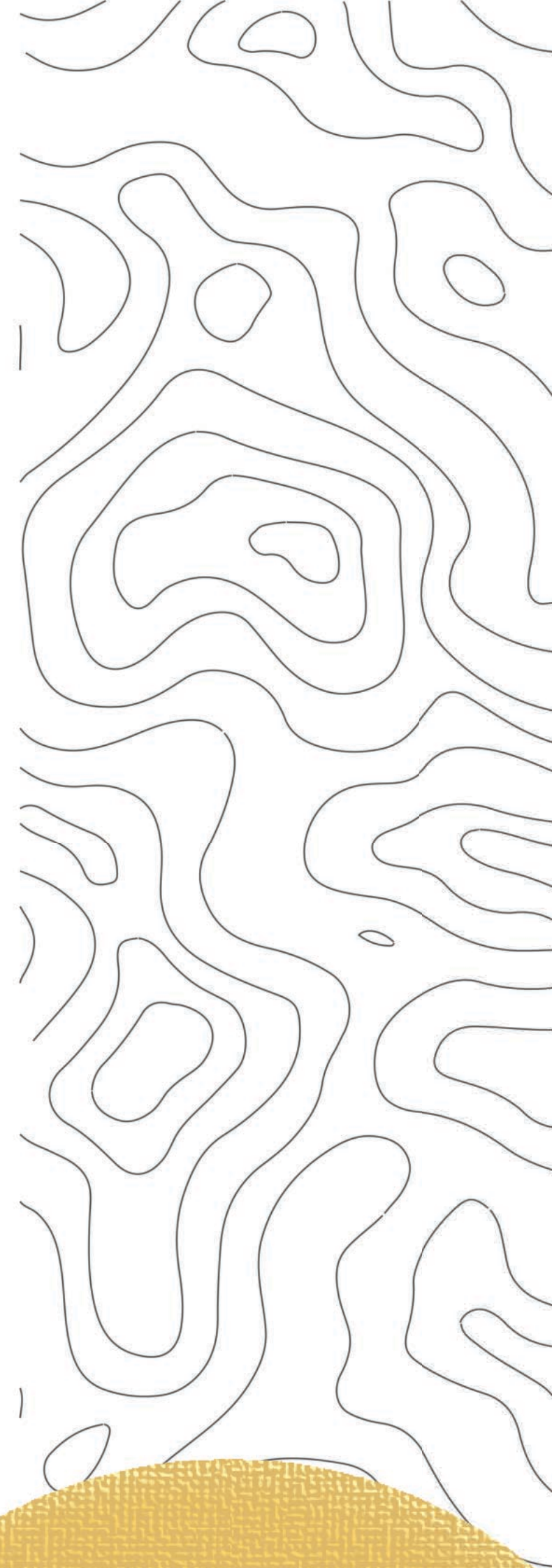
To be saved from your deserved  
condemnation, you release your right to  
demand the condemnation of all others.





## **Matthew 6:9 – 15**

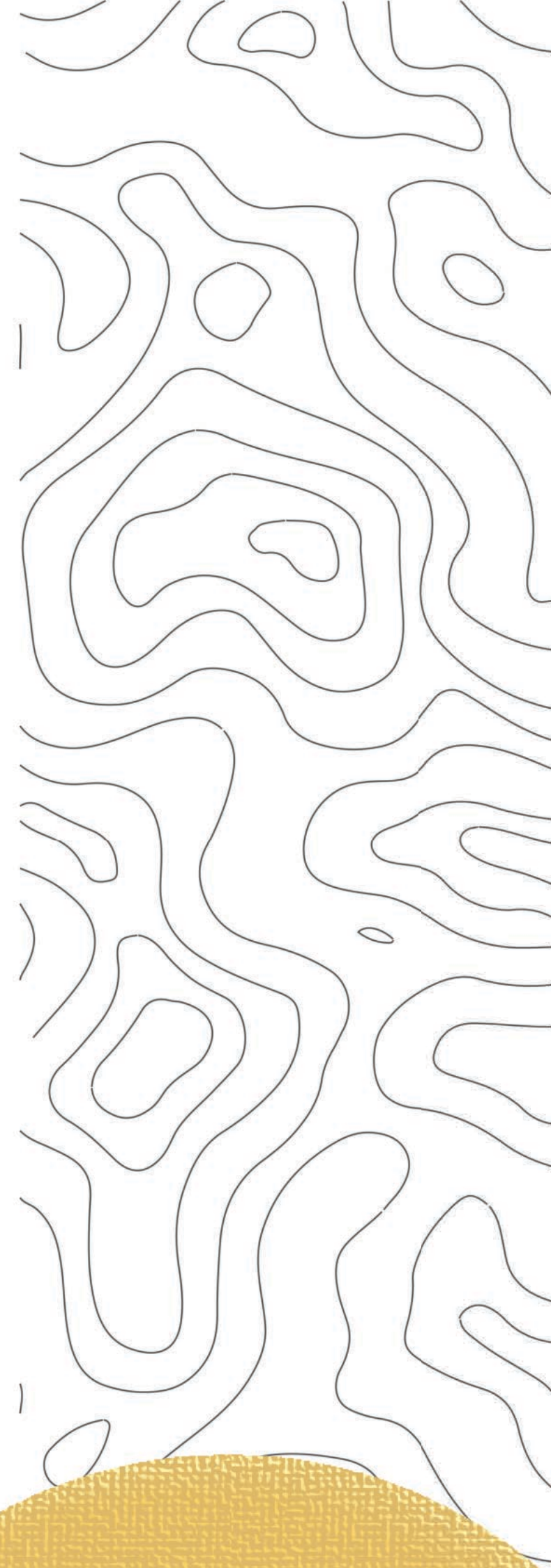
This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'...



## **Matthew 6:9 – 15**

For *if* you forgive men  
when they sin against you, your heavenly  
Father will also forgive you.

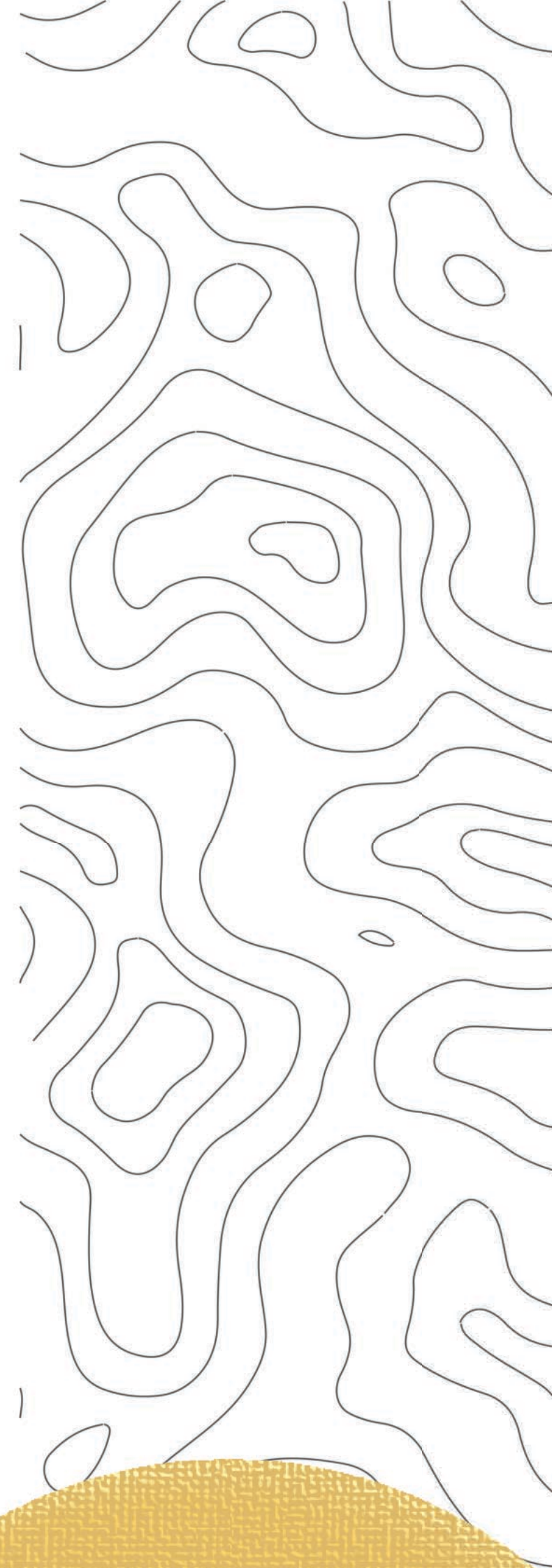
But *if* you do not forgive men their sins,  
your Father will not forgive your sins.



## **Matthew 7:1 – 2**

**Do not judge, or you too will be judged.  
For in the same way you judge others,  
you will be judged, and with the measure  
you use, it will be measured to you.**

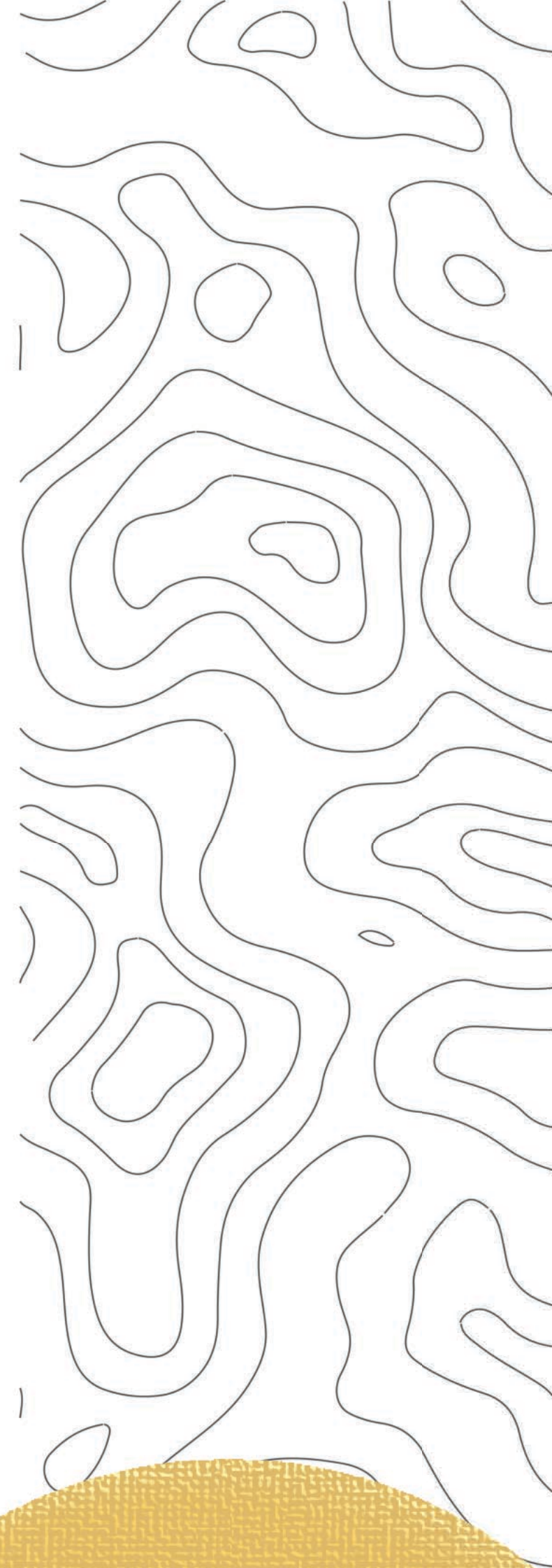
*krima—judge—“decision...verdict, mostly:  
condemnation, sentence, punish.”*



## **James 2:12 – 13**

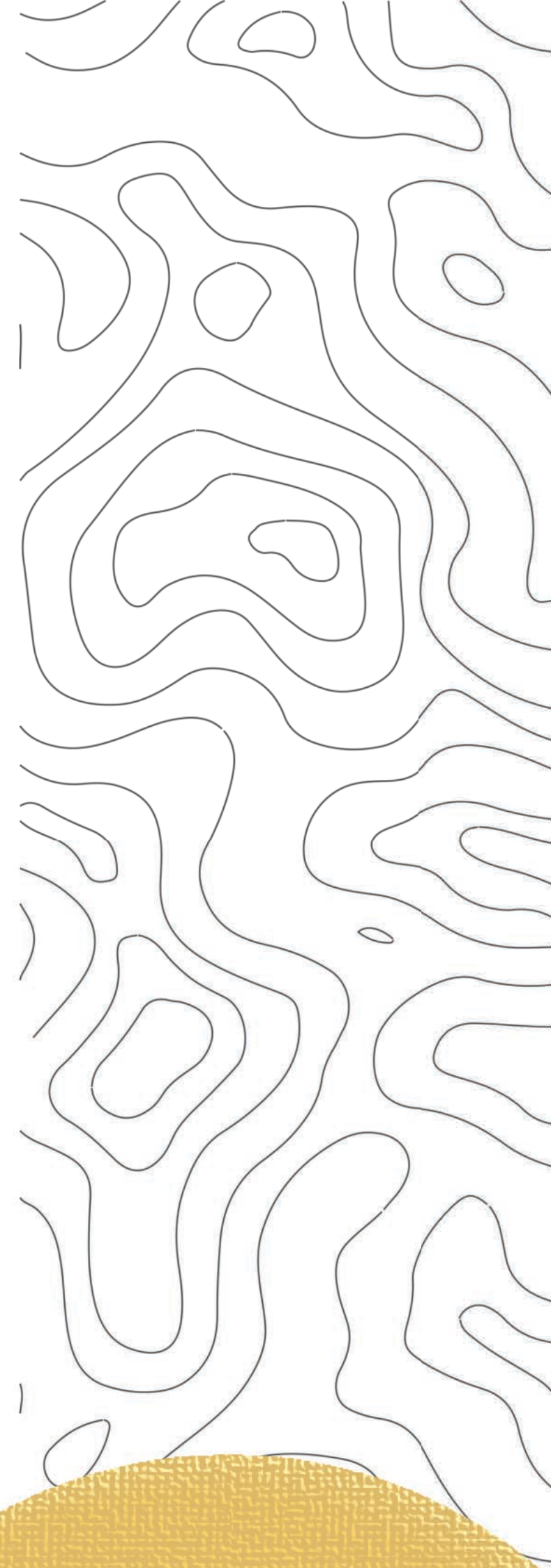
Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful.

**Mercy triumphs over judgment!**



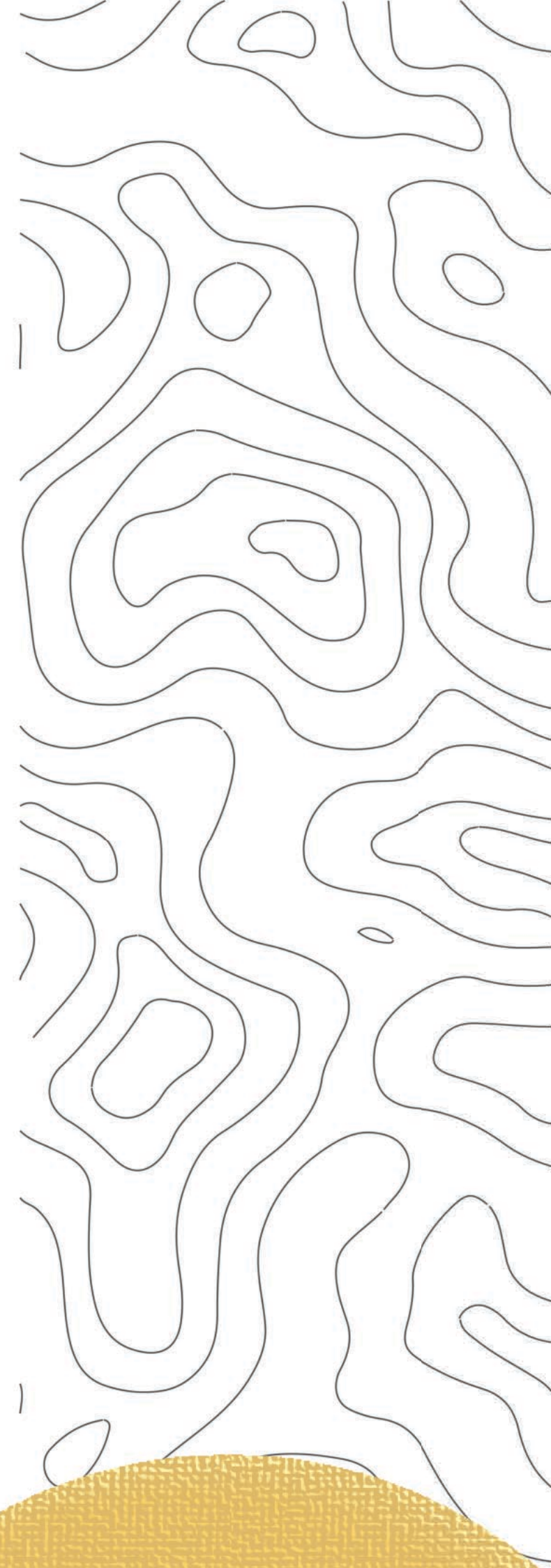
## **Colossians 3:13**

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.



# **3 Versions of the Vengeful Malice of Harbored Hostilities**

Given so we can recognize them



**1. Vengeful malice  
rejoices at the  
downfall of others**

## **Ezekiel 25:3 – 5**

...Say to them, 'Hear the word of the Sovereign LORD. This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Because you said "Aha!" over my sanctuary when it was desecrated and over the land of Israel when it was laid waste and over the people of Judah when they went into exile...'





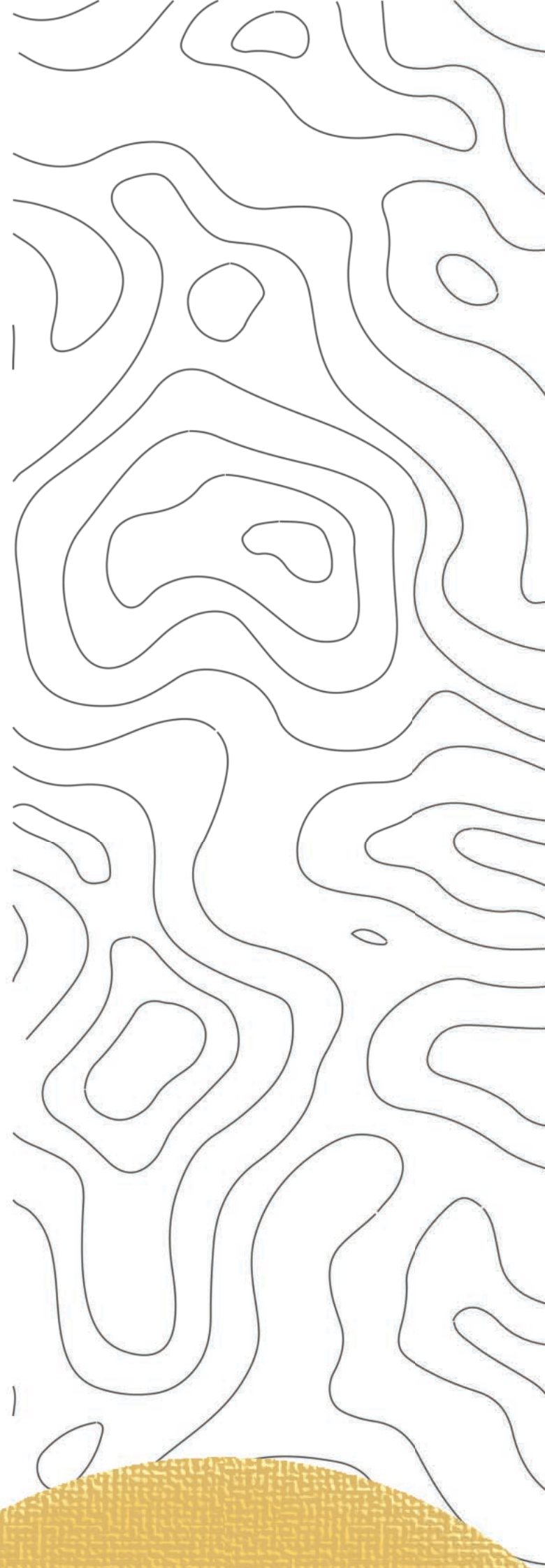
# Example: Afghanistan



The political win in the human catastrophe

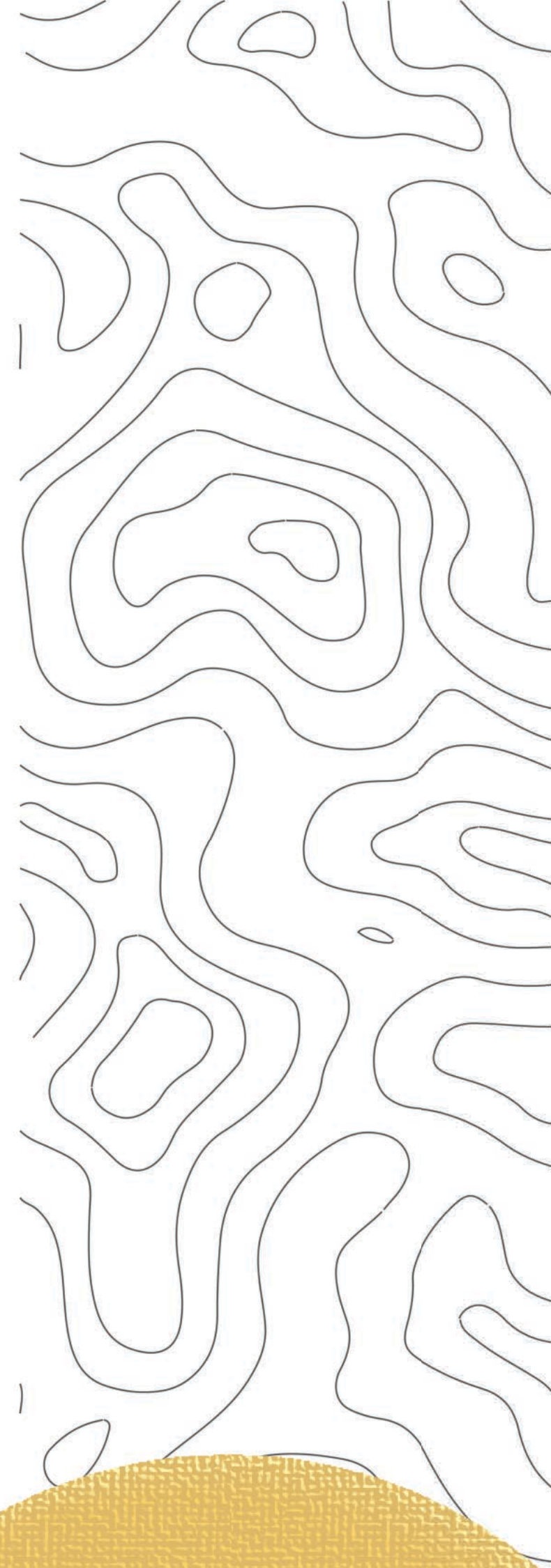
## **Ezekiel 18:32**

**"For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone," declares the Lord God; "so turn, and live."**



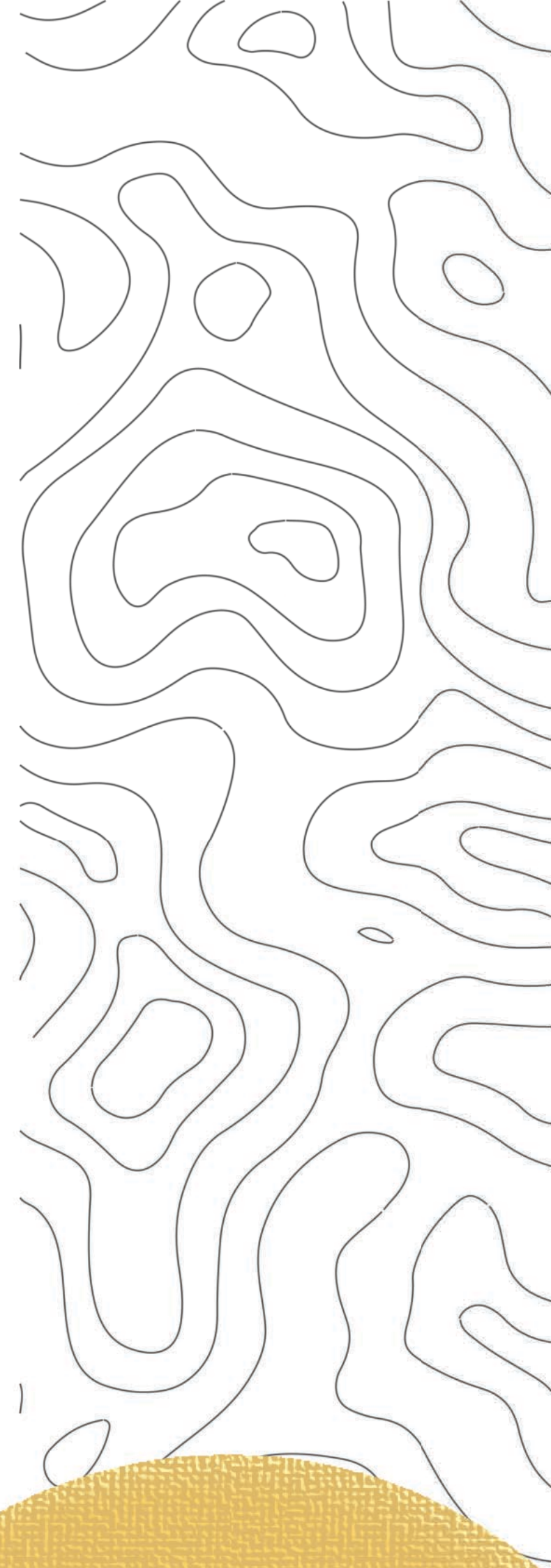
## **Ezekiel 33:11**

Say to them, 'As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?'



# Example of "Aha"...

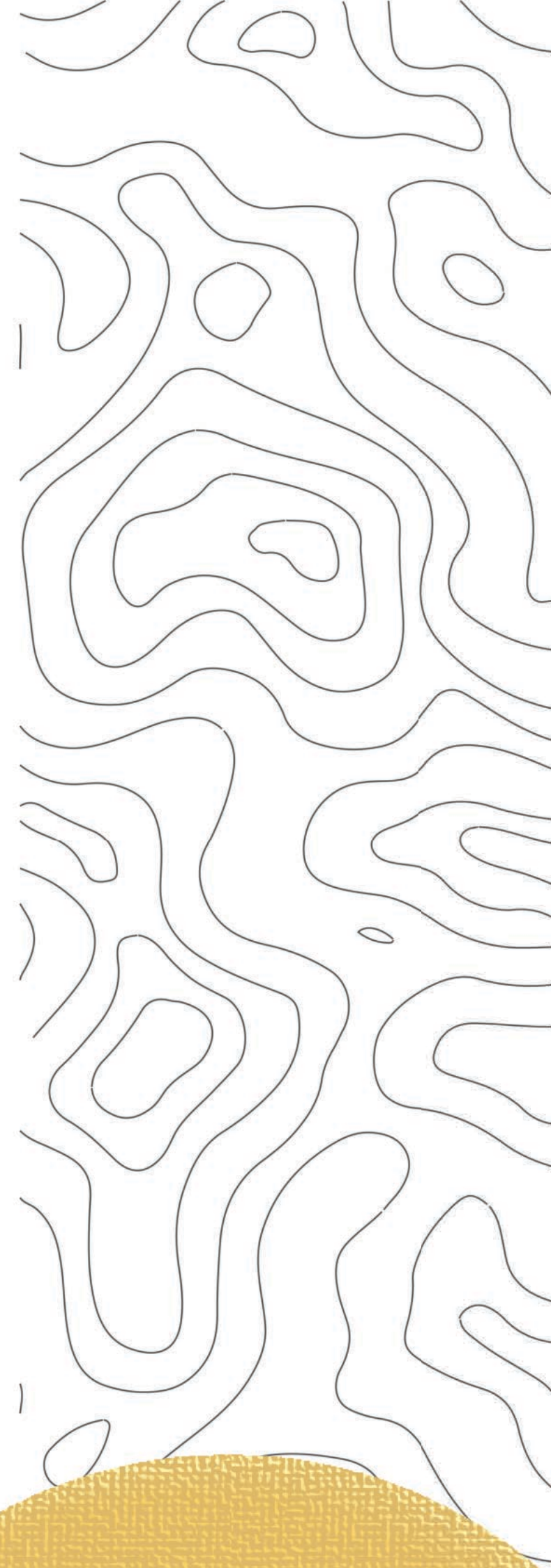
- Personal self-destruction
- Consequences for bad decisions
- Political disenfranchisement
- Racial "come-up-ance"



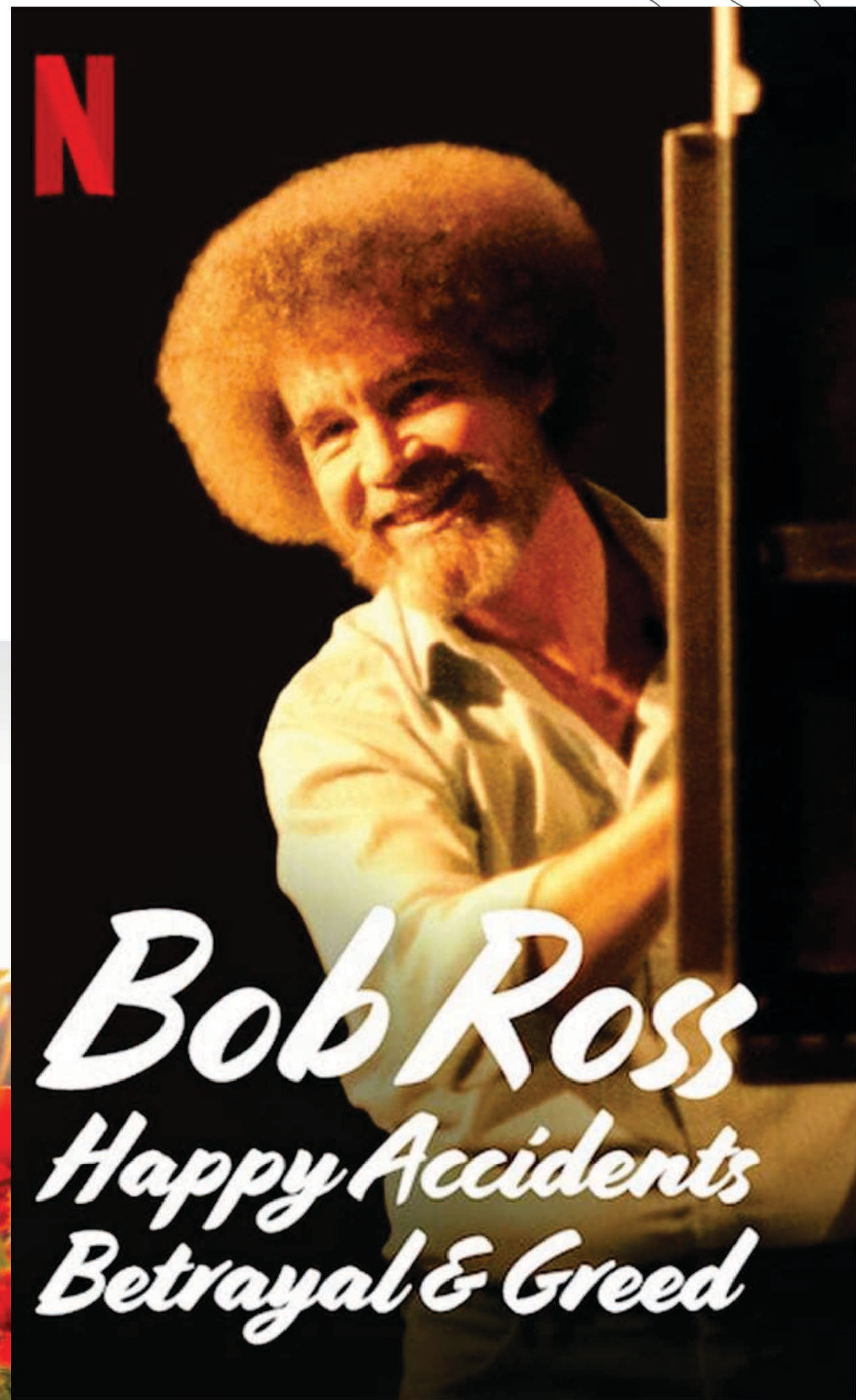
**2. Vengeful malice is glad  
for the special to be  
shown to be typical**

## Ezekiel 25:8-11

This is what the Sovereign LORD says:  
'Because Moab and Seir said, "Look, **the house of Judah has become like all the other nations,**" therefore I will expose the flank of Moab, beginning at its frontier towns—Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon and Kiriathaim—the glory of that land.'



People love to knock others  
down a peg and reveal a fraud



**N**  
*Bob Ross*  
*Happy Accidents*  
*Betrayal & Greed*

**3. Vengeful malice**

**harbors**

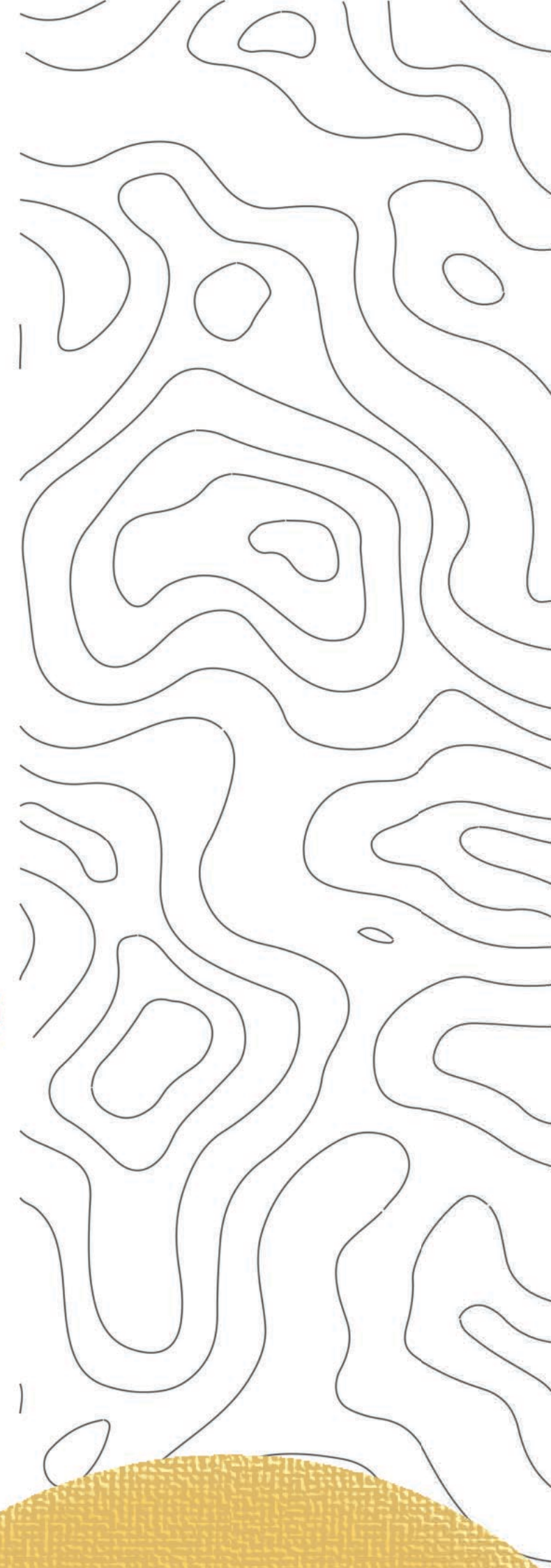
**'ancient hostility'**



## Ezekiel 25:15 – 17

This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

'Because the Philistines acted in vengeance and took revenge with malice in their hearts, and with ancient hostility sought to destroy Judah, therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says...'



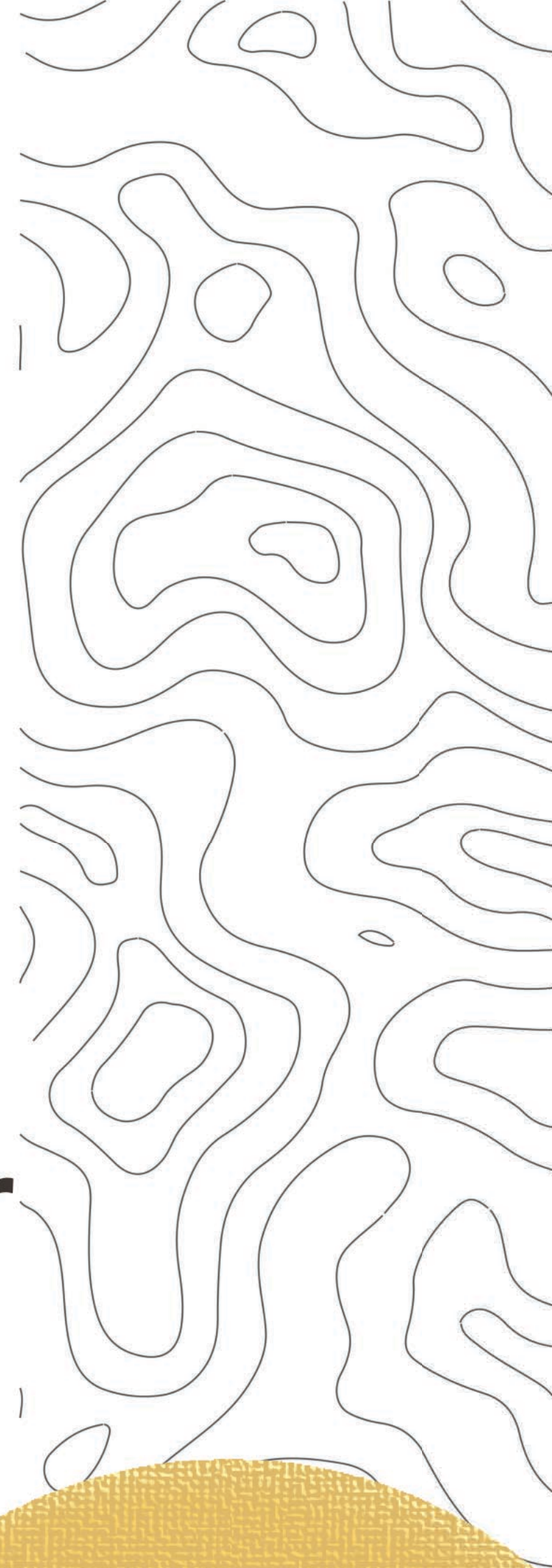
## Ezekiel 35:3 – 6

This is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'I am against you, Mount Seir... I will turn your towns into ruins and you will be desolate. Then you will know that I am the LORD. **Because you harbored an ancient hostility** and delivered the Israelites over to the sword at the time of their calamity... I will give you over to bloodshed and it will pursue you. **Since you did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue you.**'



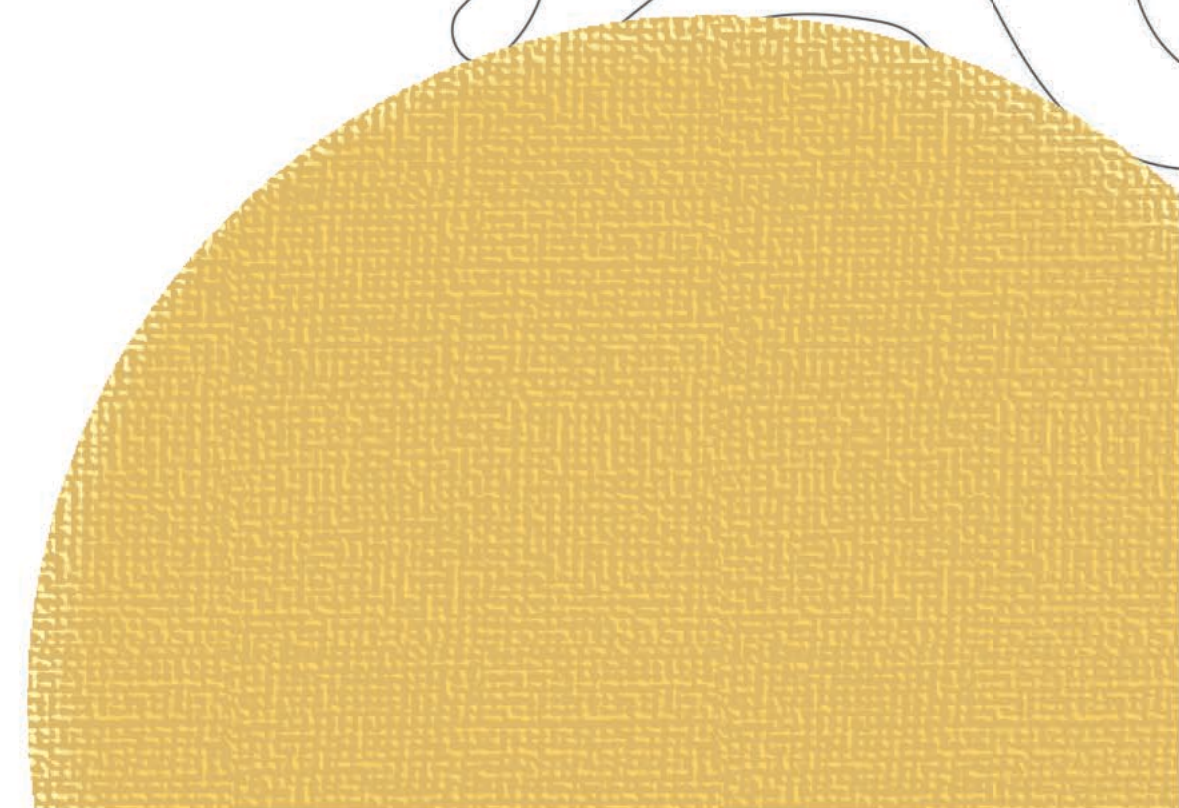
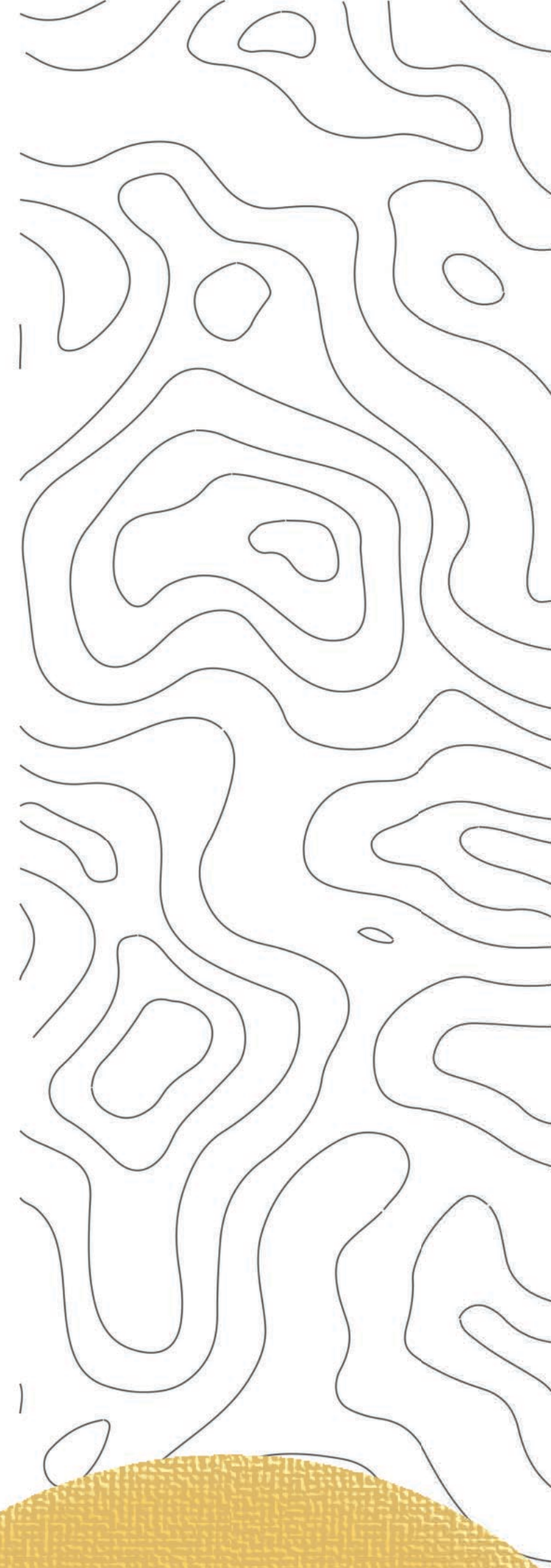
## **Matthew 5:43 – 48**

You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor (Leviticus 19:18) and hate your enemy (not in Leviticus 19).' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous....



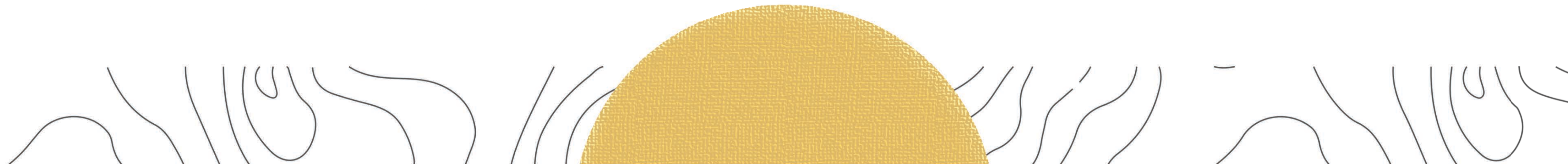
## **Matthew 5:43 – 48**

...If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.



# What it means:

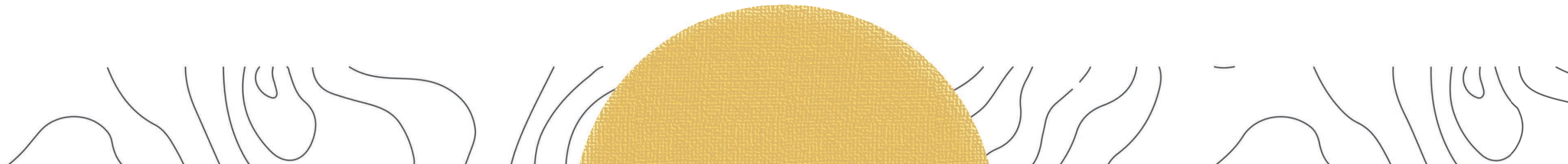
- Does not mean cover for a ritual abuser (no judgment)
- Does mean no action can proceed from harbored malice and revenge (no condemnation)



# **Moral gravity preceeds spiritual uplift.**

God wants us to see the hardening power of condemning malice:

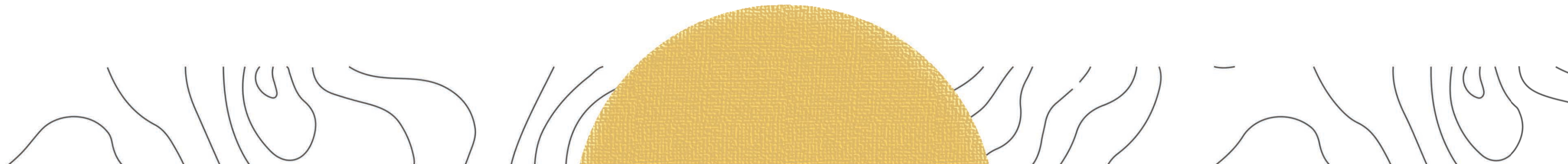
- Rejoicing in the fall of others
- Being glad to see "good people" fall
- Harboring hostility from the past

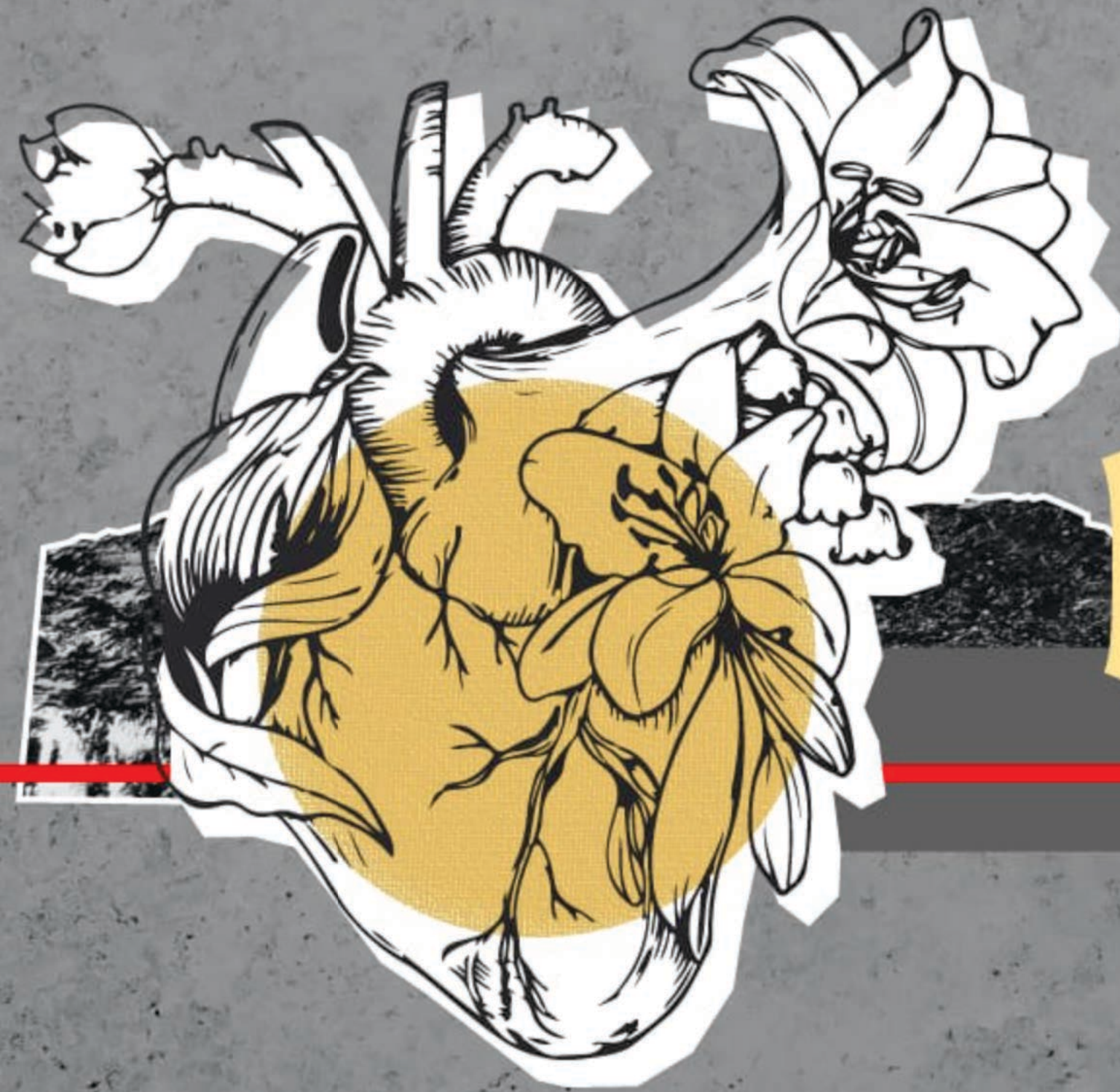


# The irony of condemnation:

**Luke 23:33 – 35**

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."





# ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY  
IN THE GLORY OF GOD