

Chapter 48-50: The Blessings

GENESIS

HIS STORY, OUR HISTORY

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VOLUME 3



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One Hundred Children at Play

Tradition of Su Hanchen & Wang Juzhen 1100-1200 AD



Children's Games

Pieter Bruegel the Elder , 1560 AD



ברכה

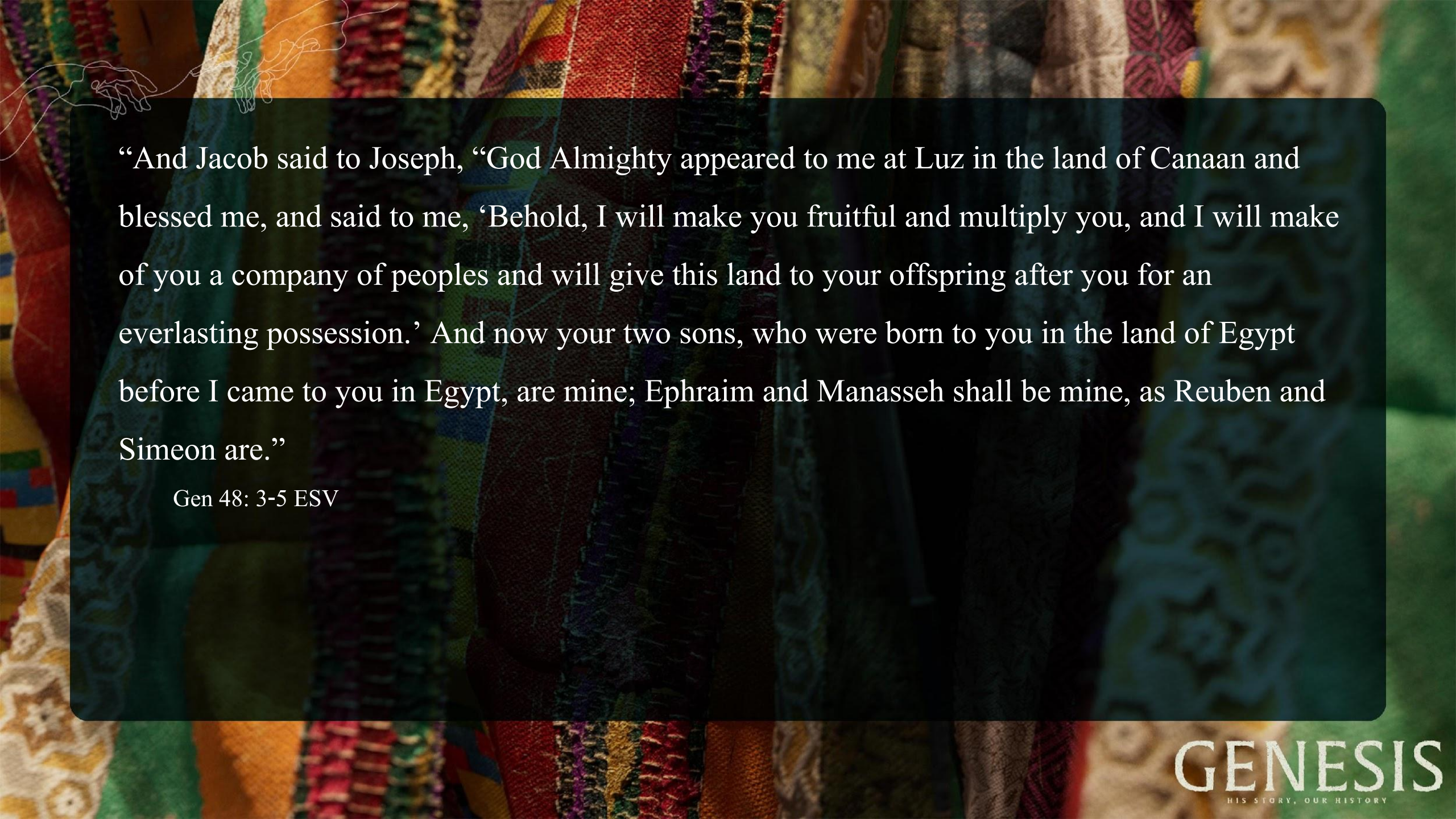
Berakah - Blessing

verb: to endue with power for success, prosperity, fecundity, longevity.



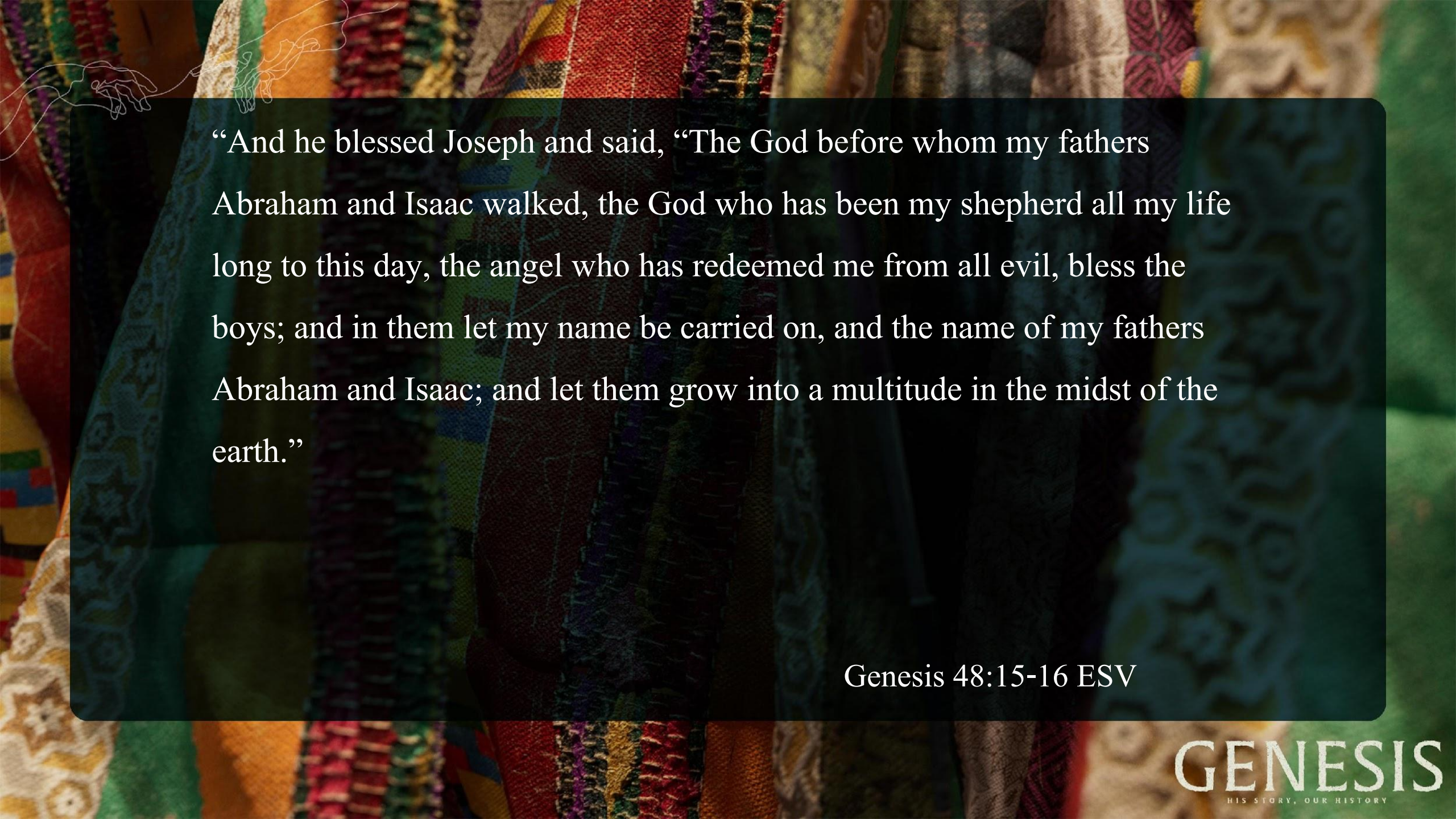
BLESSINGS ANCHOR US TO GOD'S PROMISES

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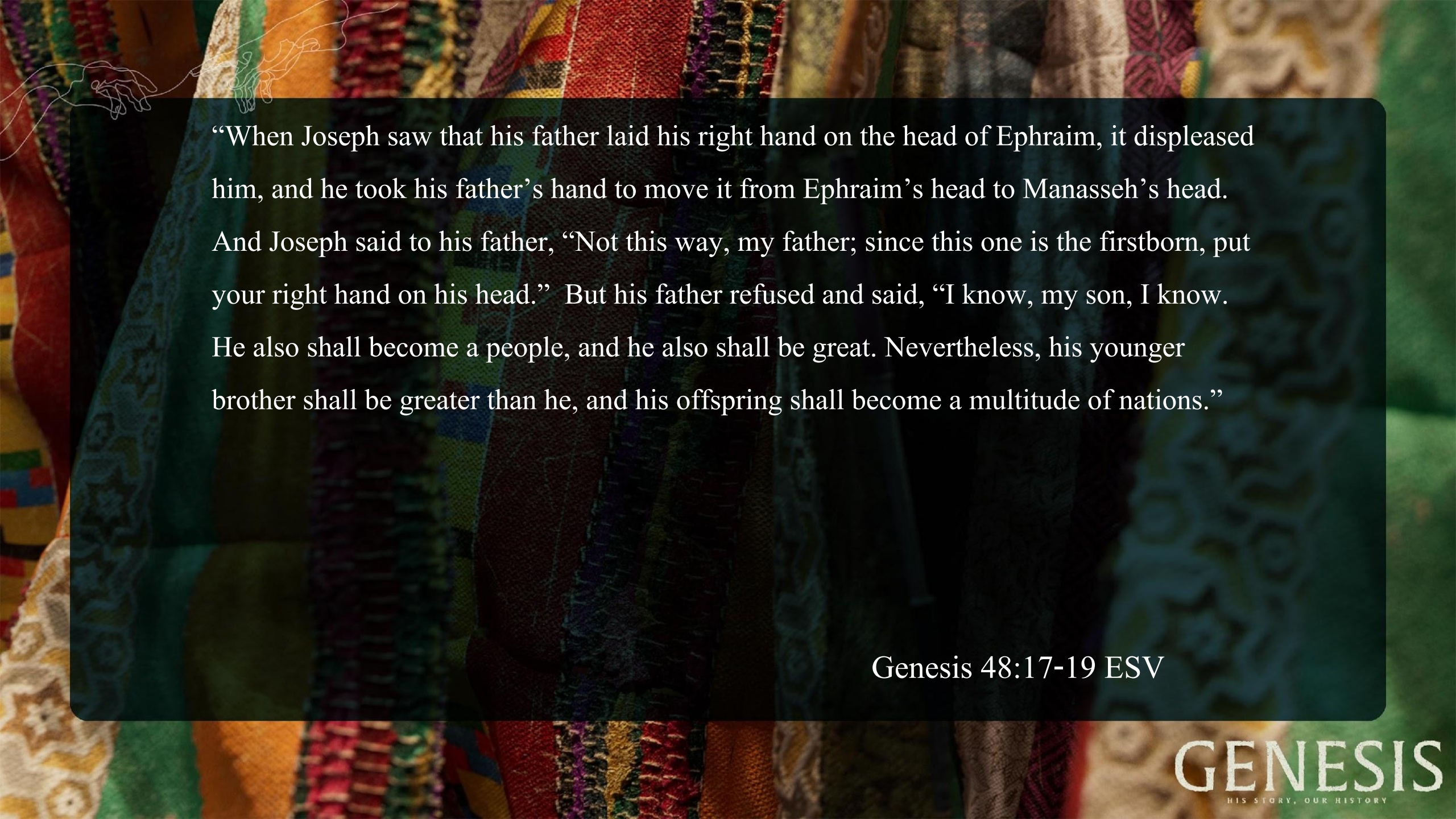
“And Jacob said to Joseph, “God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, and said to me, ‘Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for an everlasting possession.’ And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are.”

Gen 48: 3-5 ESV



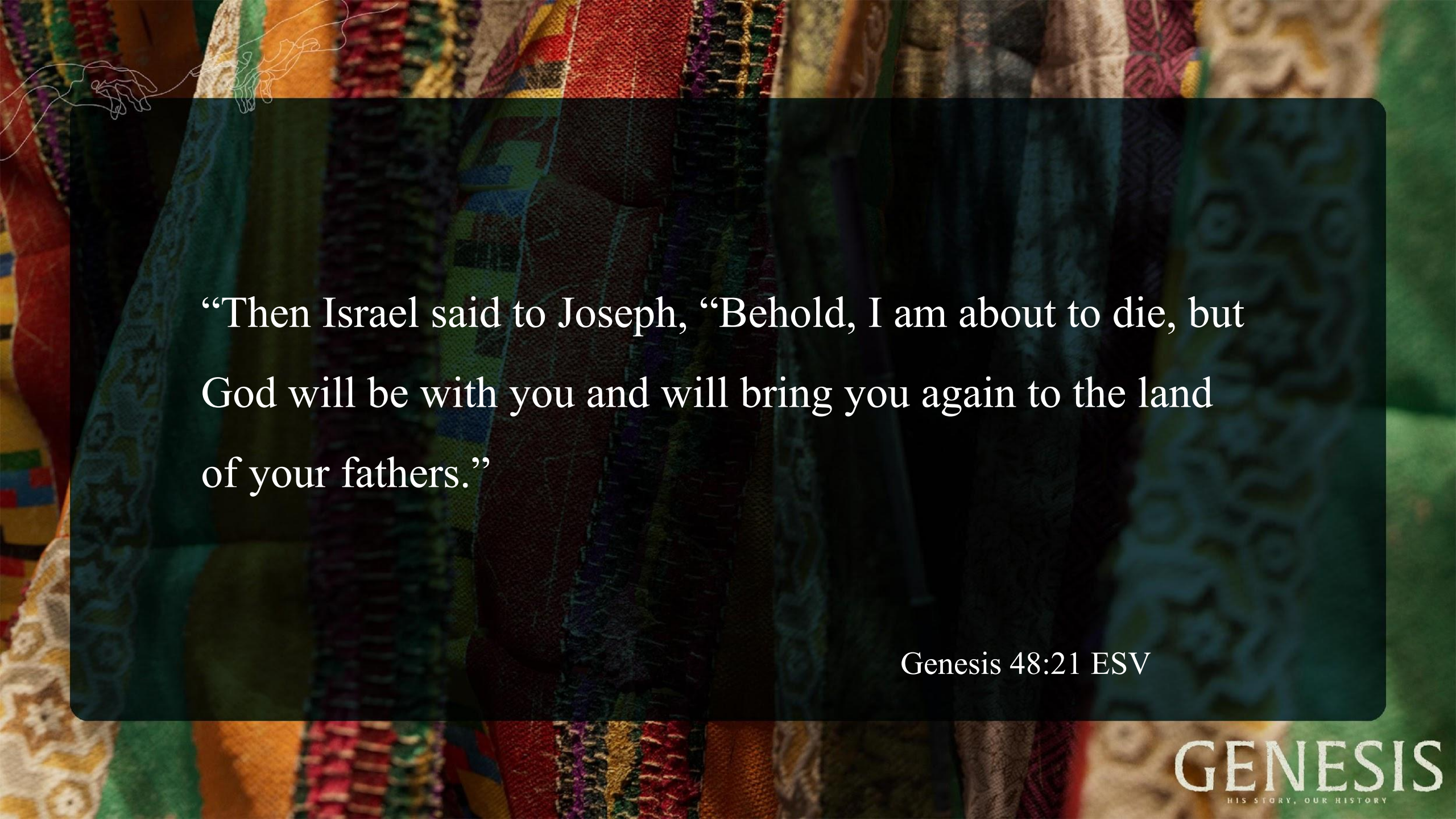
“And he blessed Joseph and said, “The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys; and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”

Genesis 48:15-16 ESV



“When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father’s hand to move it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s head. And Joseph said to his father, “Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head.” But his father refused and said, “I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.”

Genesis 48:17-19 ESV



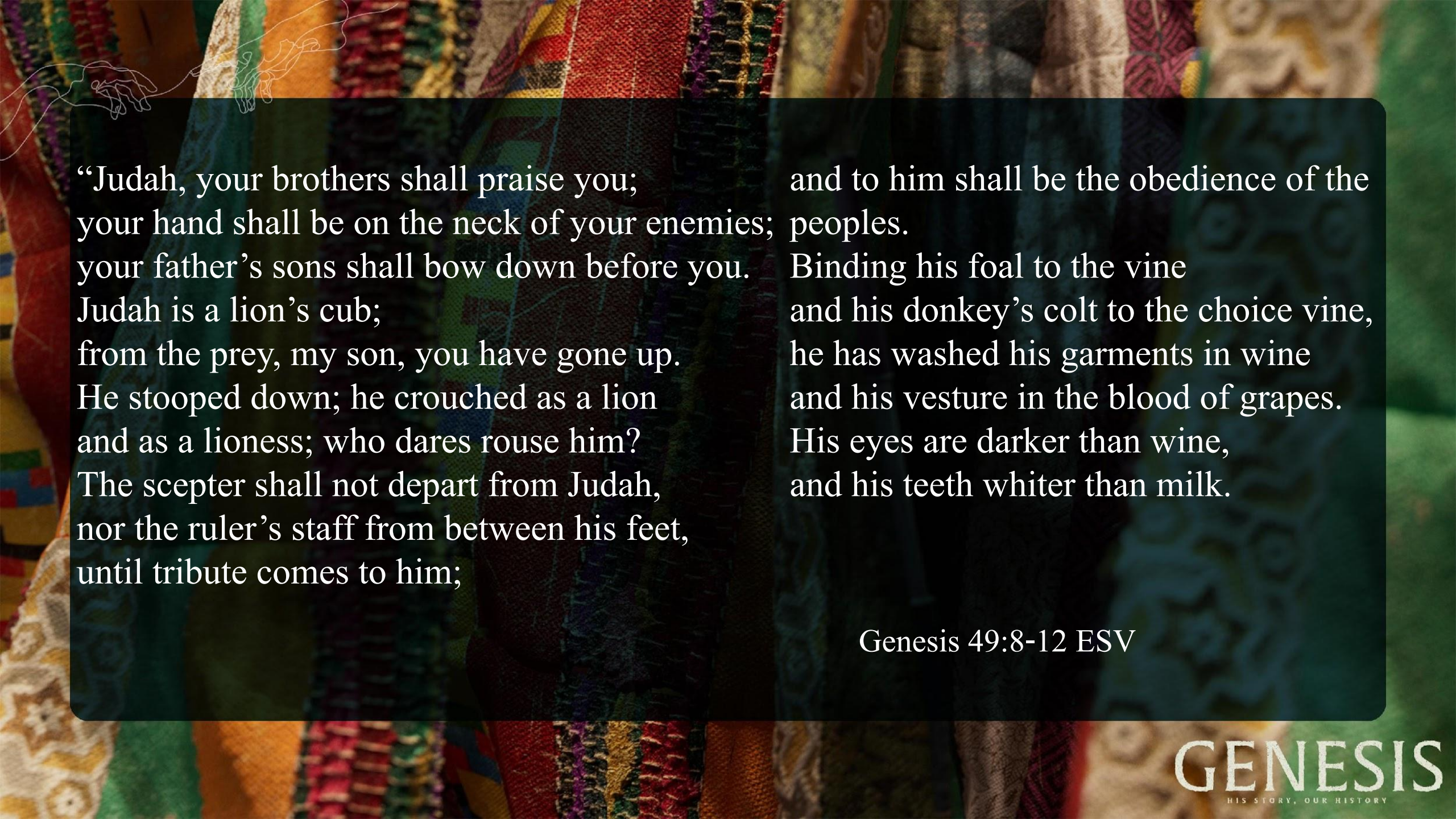
“Then Israel said to Joseph, “Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers.”

Genesis 48:21 ESV



BLESSINGS REVEAL THE HEART OF THE LORD

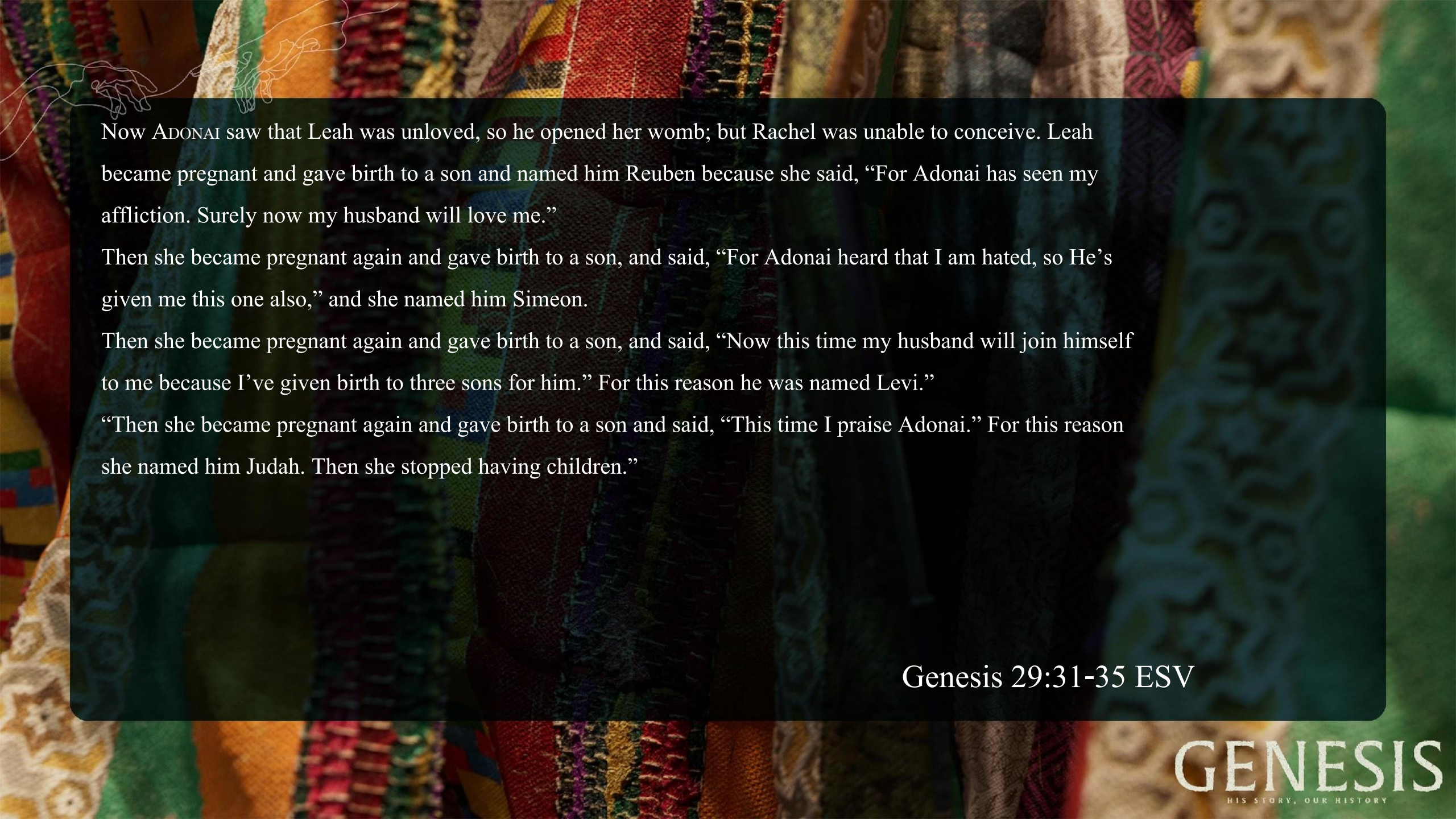
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“Judah, your brothers shall praise you;
your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies;
your father’s sons shall bow down before you.
Judah is a lion’s cub;
from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
He stooped down; he crouched as a lion
and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?
The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet,
until tribute comes to him;

and to him shall be the obedience of the
peoples.
Binding his foal to the vine
and his donkey’s colt to the choice vine,
he has washed his garments in wine
and his vesture in the blood of grapes.
His eyes are darker than wine,
and his teeth whiter than milk.

Genesis 49:8-12 ESV



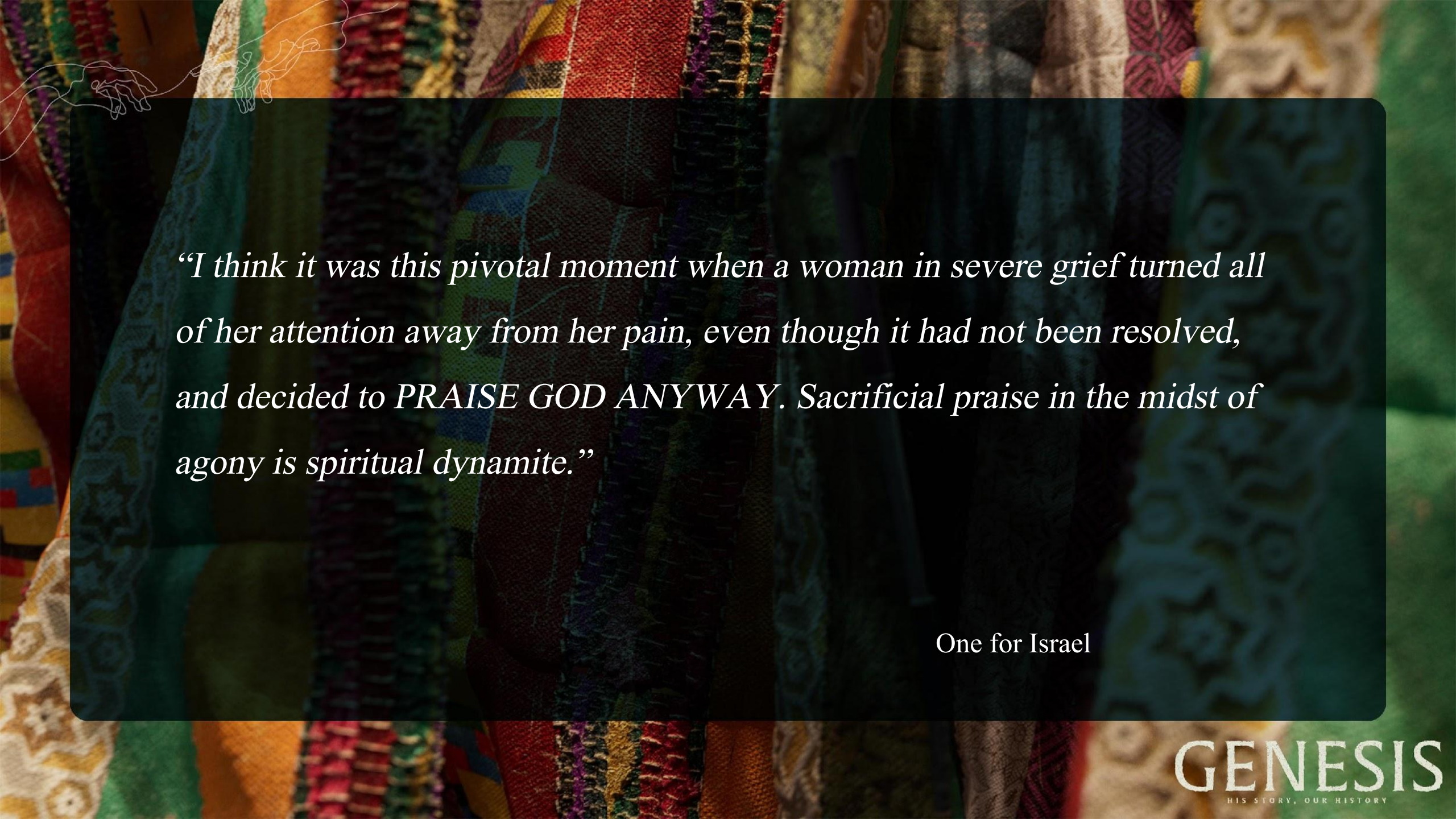
Now ADONAI saw that Leah was unloved, so he opened her womb; but Rachel was unable to conceive. Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son and named him Reuben because she said, “For Adonai has seen my affliction. Surely now my husband will love me.”

Then she became pregnant again and gave birth to a son, and said, “For Adonai heard that I am hated, so He’s given me this one also,” and she named him Simeon.

Then she became pregnant again and gave birth to a son, and said, “Now this time my husband will join himself to me because I’ve given birth to three sons for him.” For this reason he was named Levi.”

“Then she became pregnant again and gave birth to a son and said, “This time I praise Adonai.” For this reason she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.”

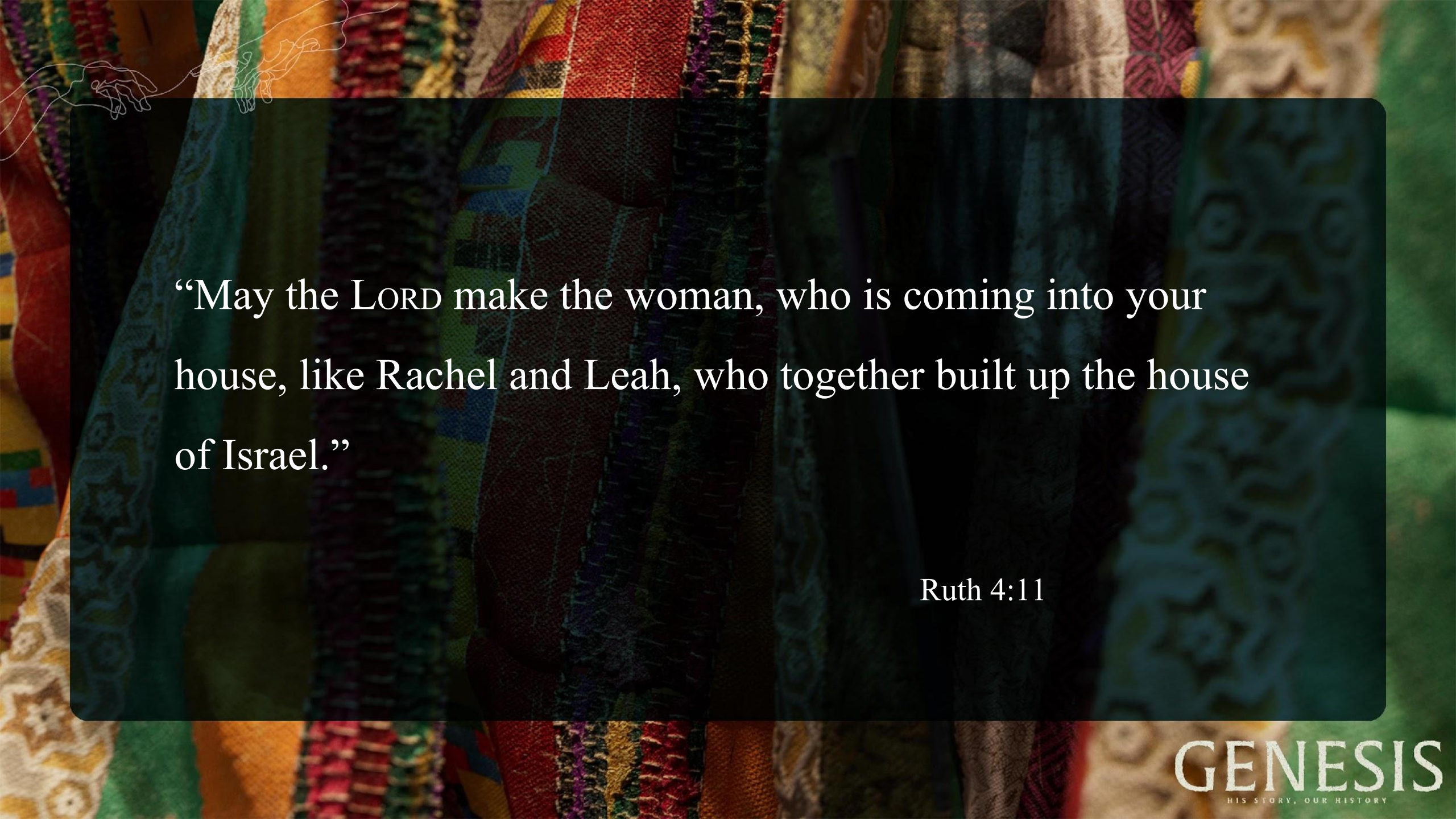
Genesis 29:31-35 ESV



“I think it was this pivotal moment when a woman in severe grief turned all of her attention away from her pain, even though it had not been resolved, and decided to PRAISE GOD ANYWAY. Sacrificial praise in the midst of agony is spiritual dynamite.”

One for Israel

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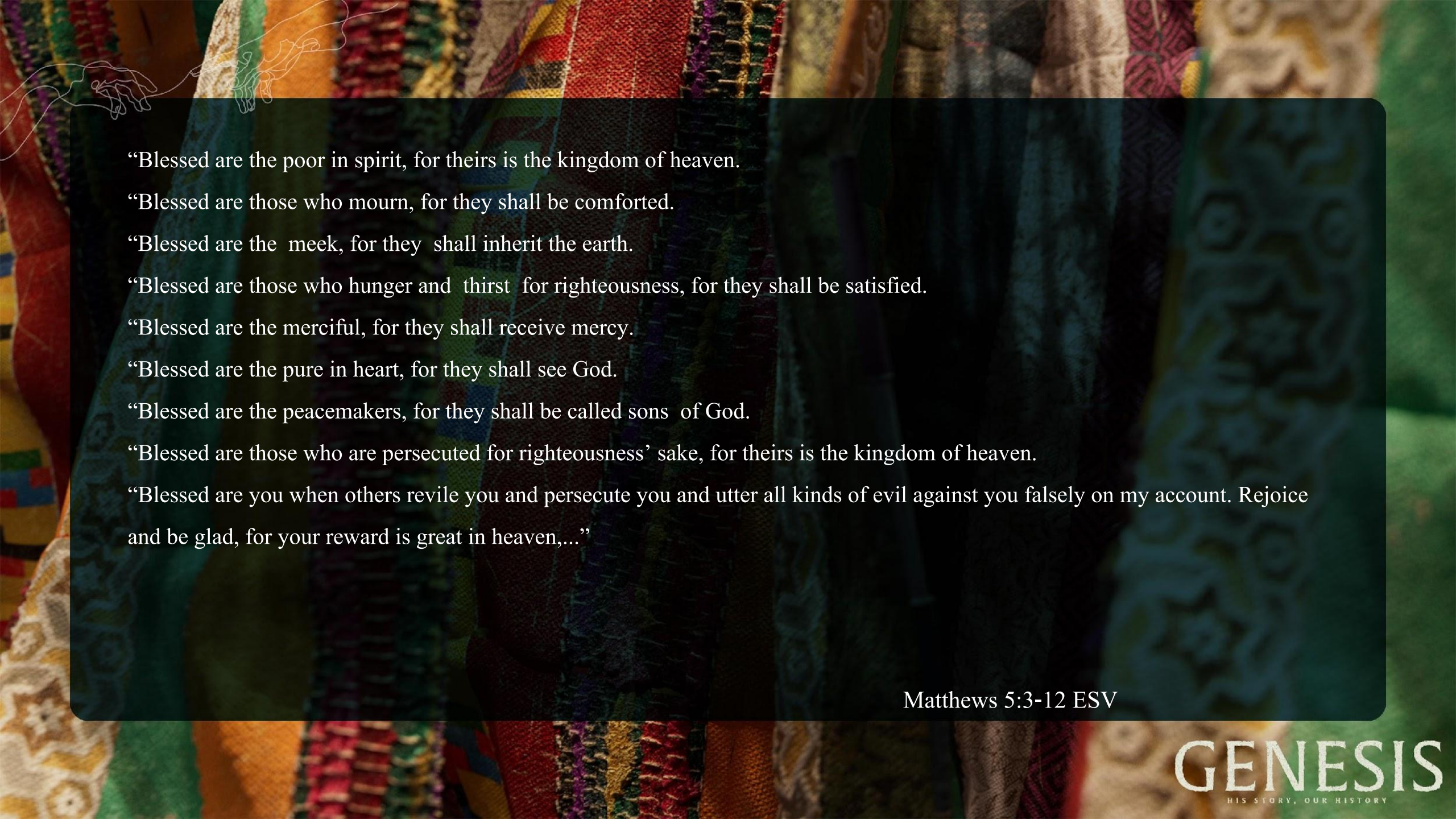
“May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel.”

Ruth 4:11



IMPARTATION OF BLESSING

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“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,...”

Matthews 5:3-12 ESV

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