


Lessons from the Heart



Learning from David



Saul is a
picture of

missing
courage



Goliath is a

picture of

counterfeit

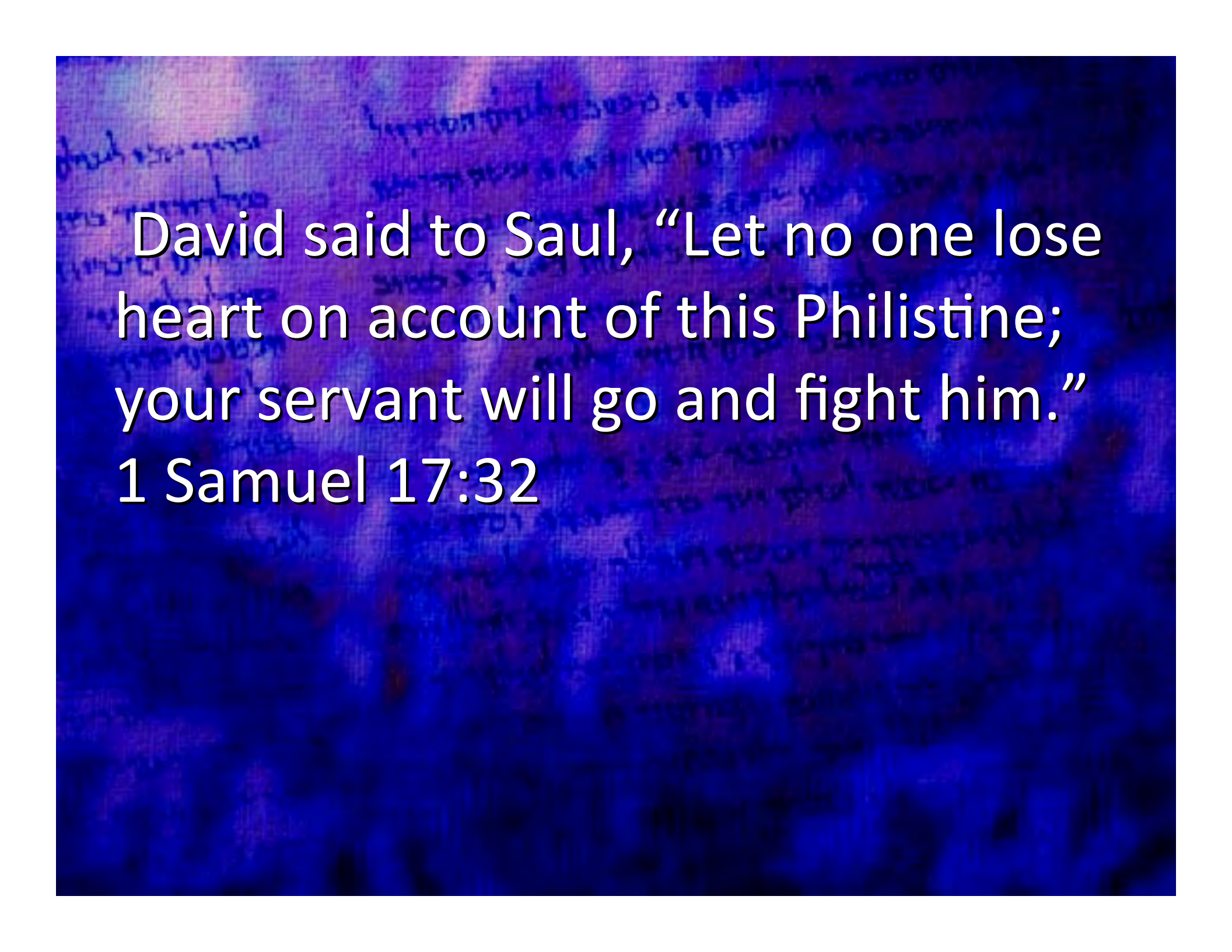
courage

A painting depicting David slinging a stone. The scene is set against a background of warm, golden-brown and light green tones. David is shown in silhouette, holding a long wooden staff or sling over his shoulder. A large, solid black circle is positioned over his face, obscuring his features. In the lower-left corner, the silhouettes of other figures are visible, suggesting a crowd or a battle scene. The overall style is expressive and dramatic.

David is a
picture of

true

courage



David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.”

1 Samuel 17:32

The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. 4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. 1 Samuel 17:3,4

Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. **9** If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” **10** Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.” 1 Samuel 17:8-10



On hearing the Philistine's words,
Saul and all the Israelites were
dismayed and terrified.

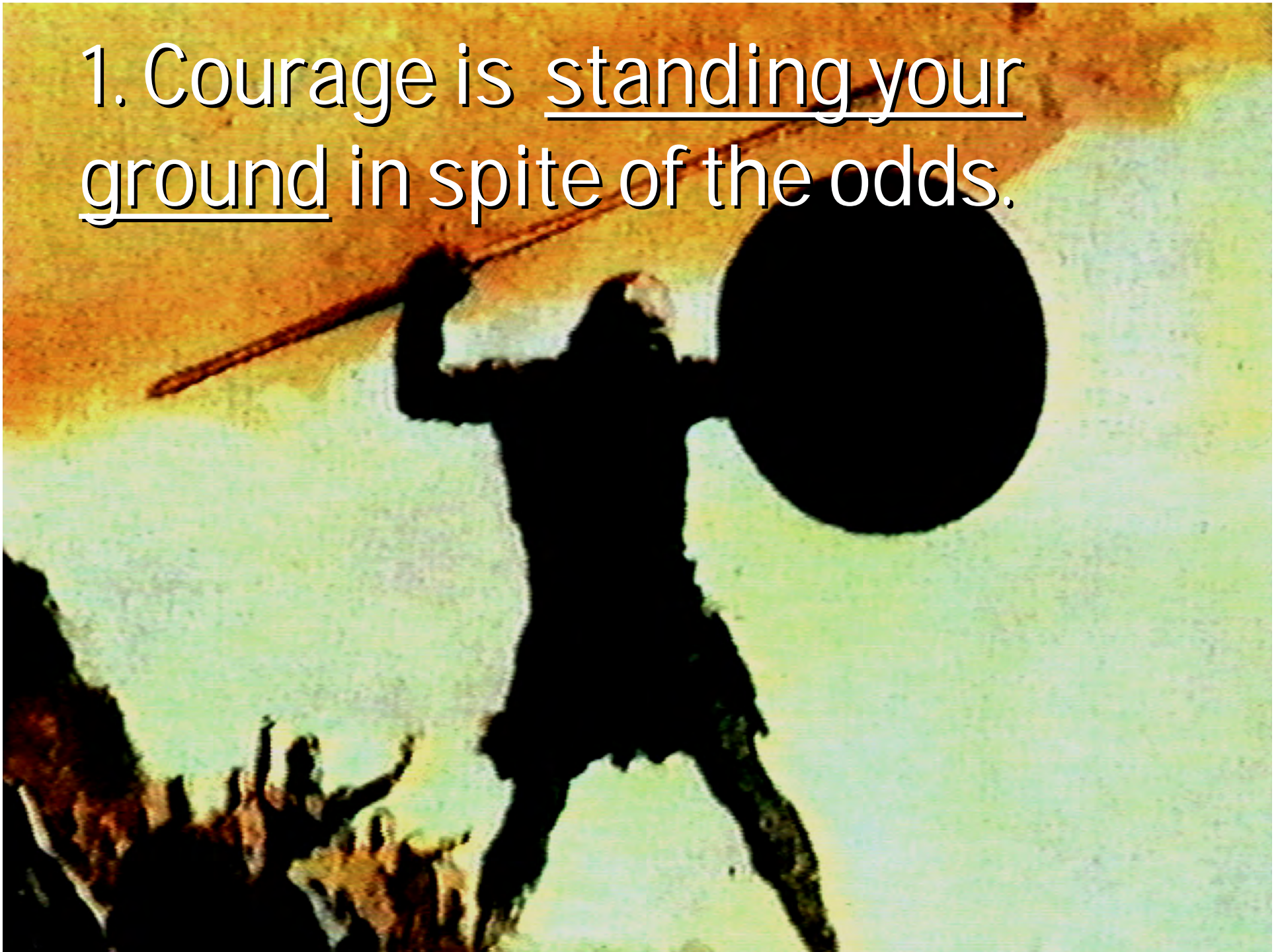
1 Samuel 17:11

WHAT IS COURAGE?

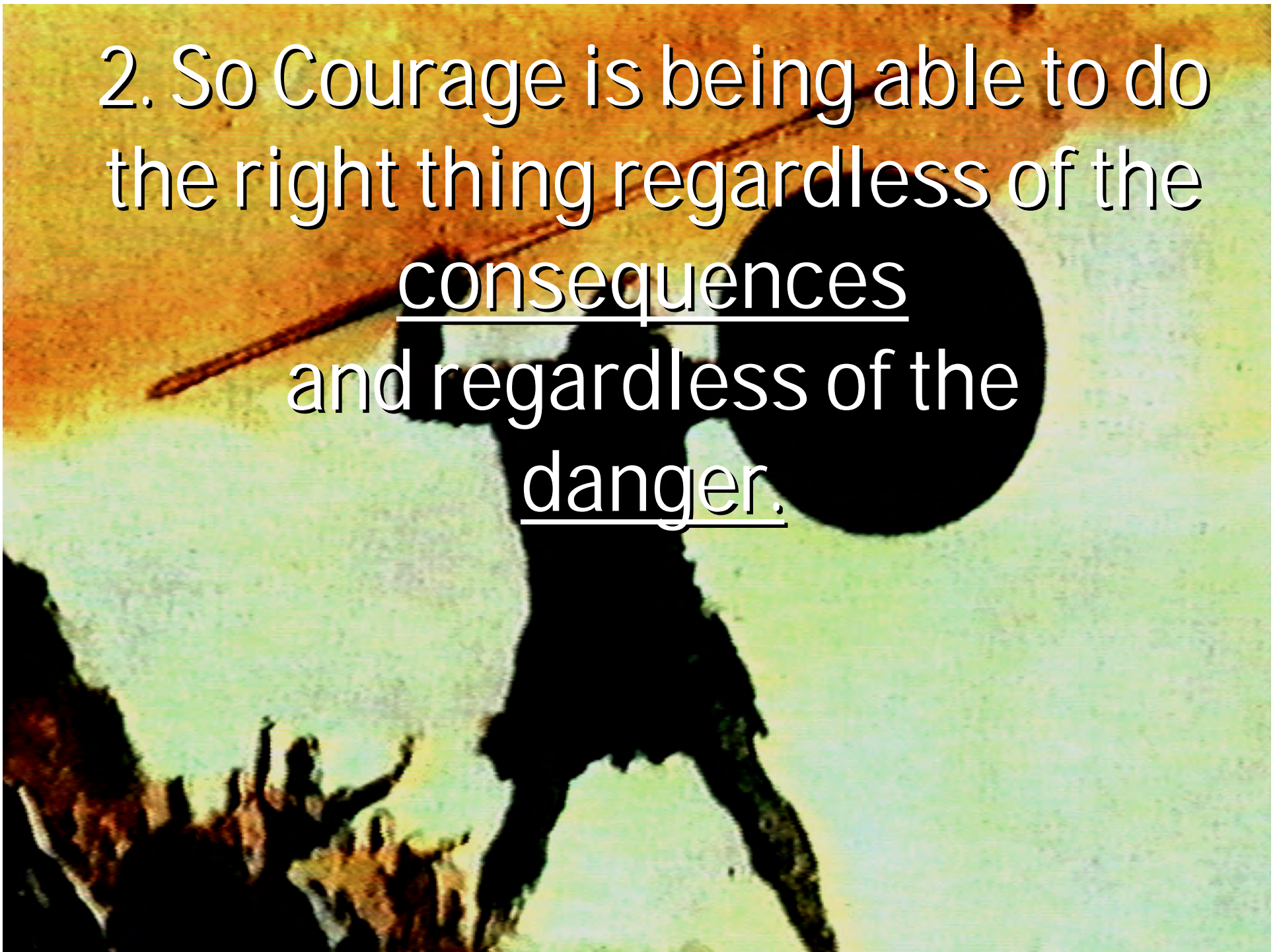
David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine;

1 Samuel 17:32a

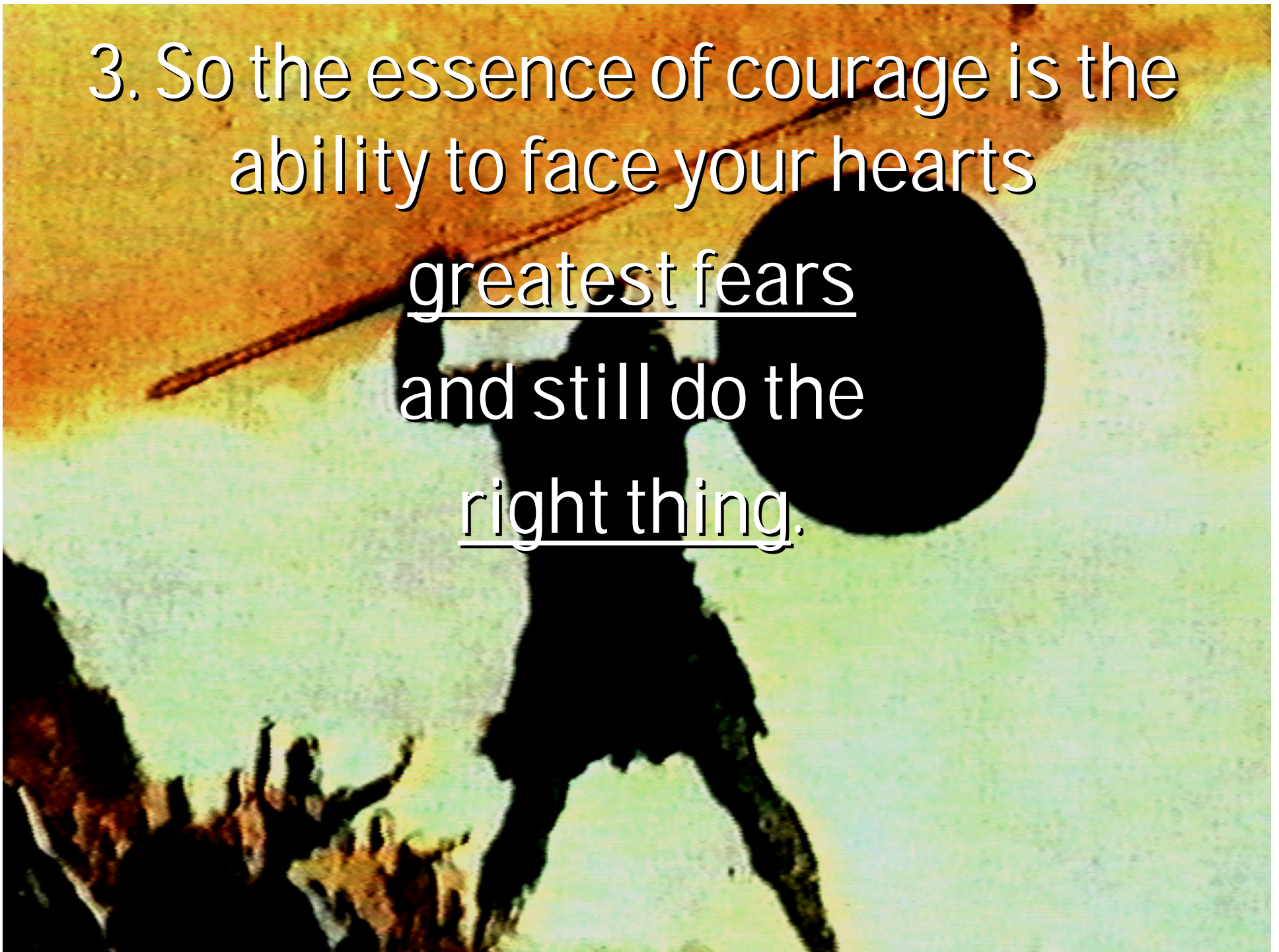
1. Courage is standing your ground in spite of the odds.



2. So Courage is being able to do the right thing regardless of the consequences and regardless of the danger.



3. So the essence of courage is the
ability to face your hearts
greatest fears
and still do the
right thing.



His height was six cubits and a span. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; 6 on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. 7 His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

1 Samuel 17:5-7

What does Goliath have?



1. He has
physical
prowess

What does Goliath have?



2. He's
High-Tech

What does Goliath have?



3. He's
hugely
self-
confident

Here's the down side of this approach:

1. There is still a danger.



A silhouette of a person climbing a rope against a bright sun, with a large black circle obscuring the sun's center. The background is a mix of orange and green hues, suggesting a sunset or sunrise over a landscape.

Here's the down side of this approach:

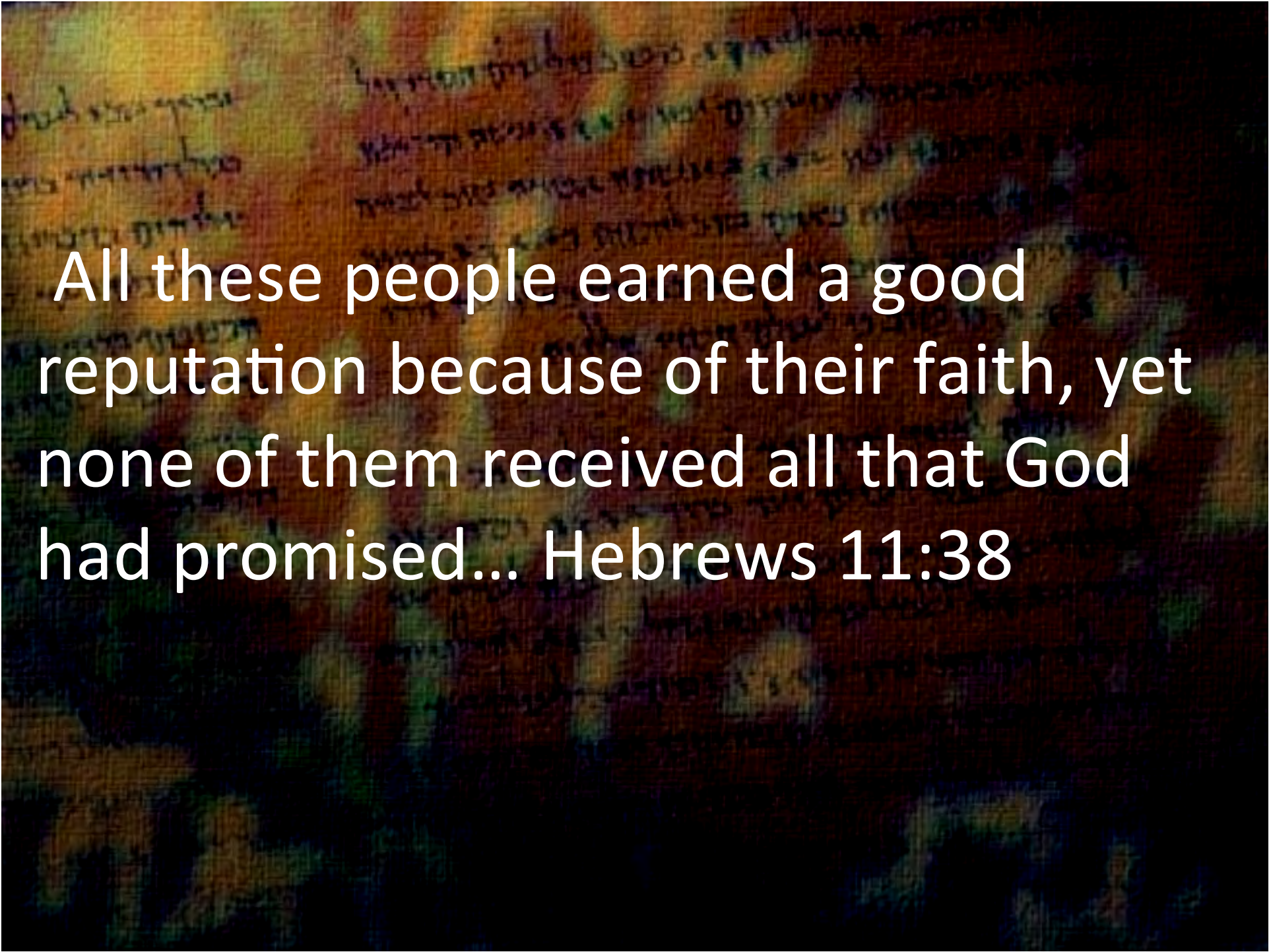
2. Banishing away your fears will never help you to do the right thing when there is no prospect for success.

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. **46** This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. **47** All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.”

1 Samuel 17:45-47

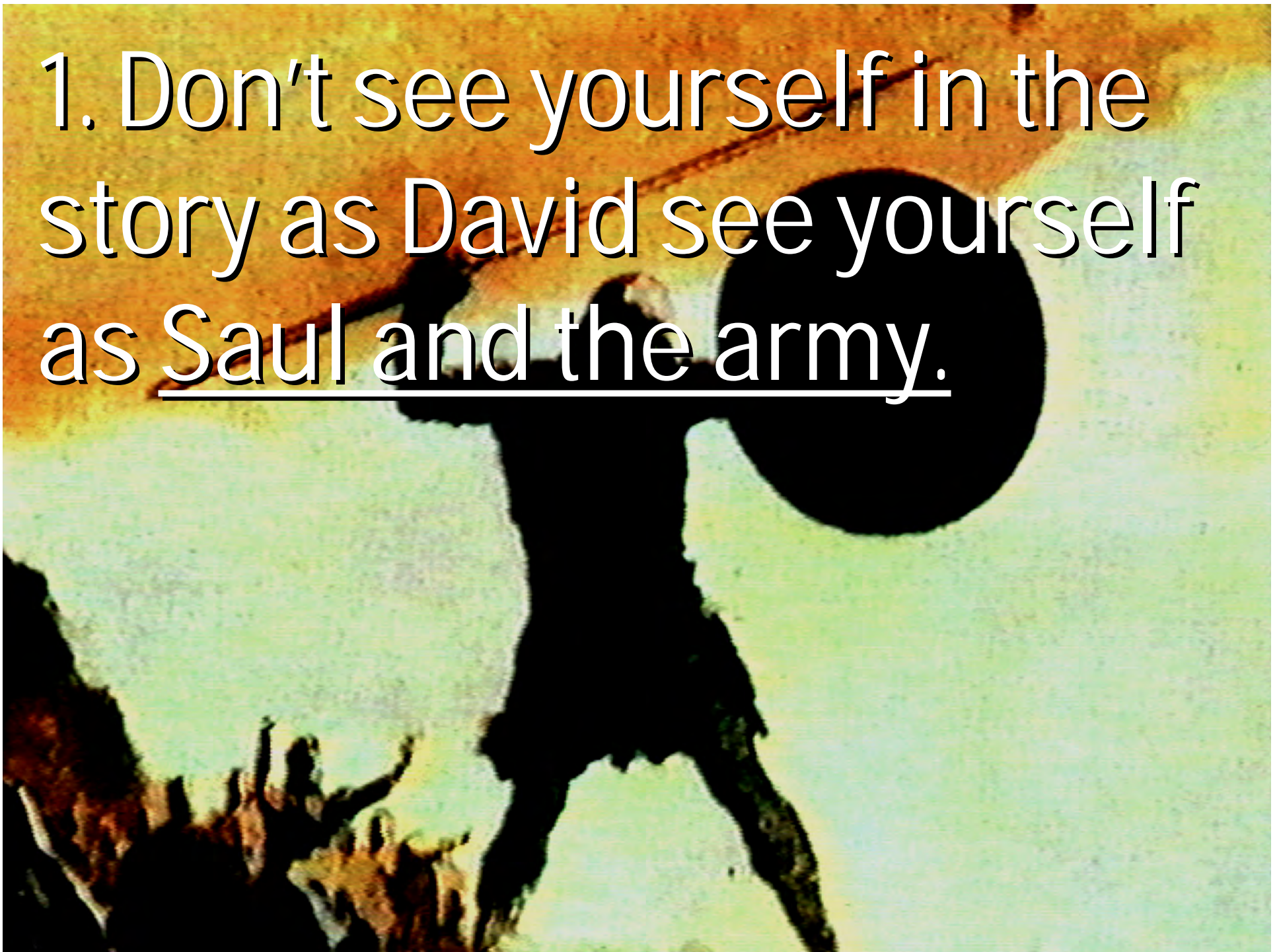
By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, **34** quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. **35** Women received their loved ones back again from death. Hebrews 11:33-35a

But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection. **36** Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. **37** Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. Hebrews 11:35b-37

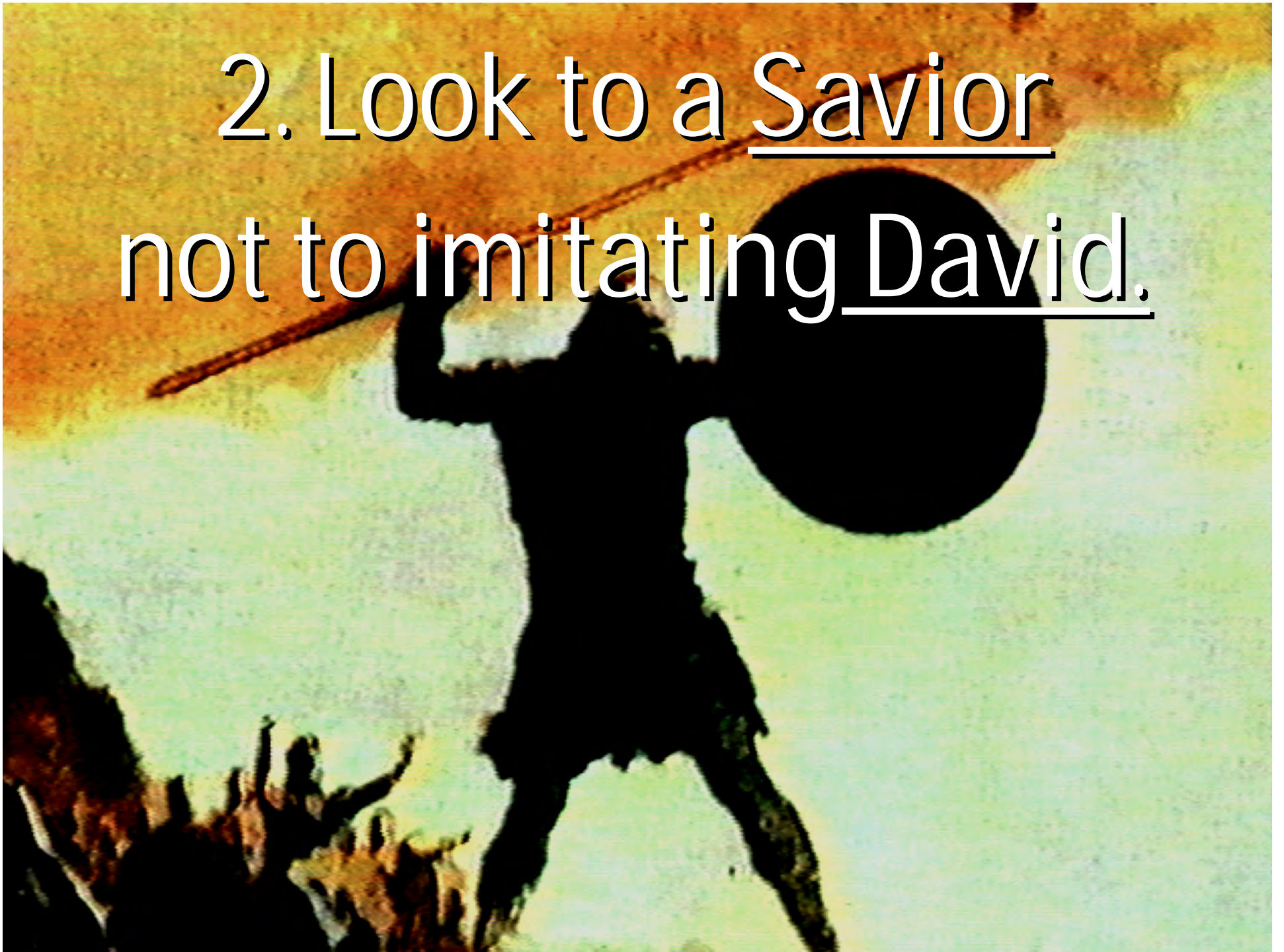


All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised... Hebrews 11:38

1. Don't see yourself in the story as David see yourself as Saul and the army.



2. Look to a Savior
not to imitating David.



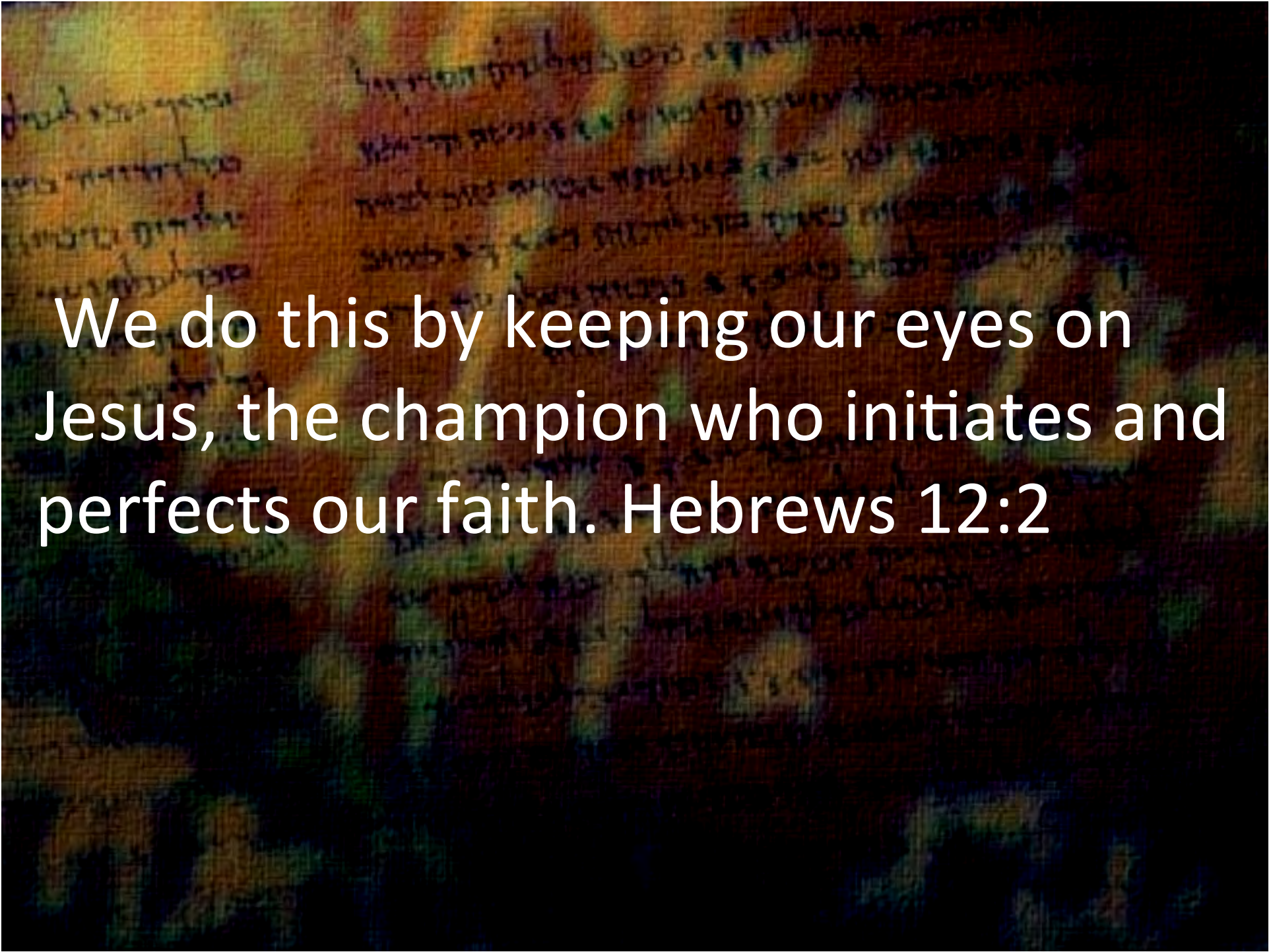
The Point Of The Story:

1. God's Savior is weak

The Point Of The Story:

2. God's Savior is
a representative

Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” 1 Samuel 17:8,9



We do this by keeping our eyes on
Jesus, the champion who initiates and
perfects our faith. Hebrews 12:2