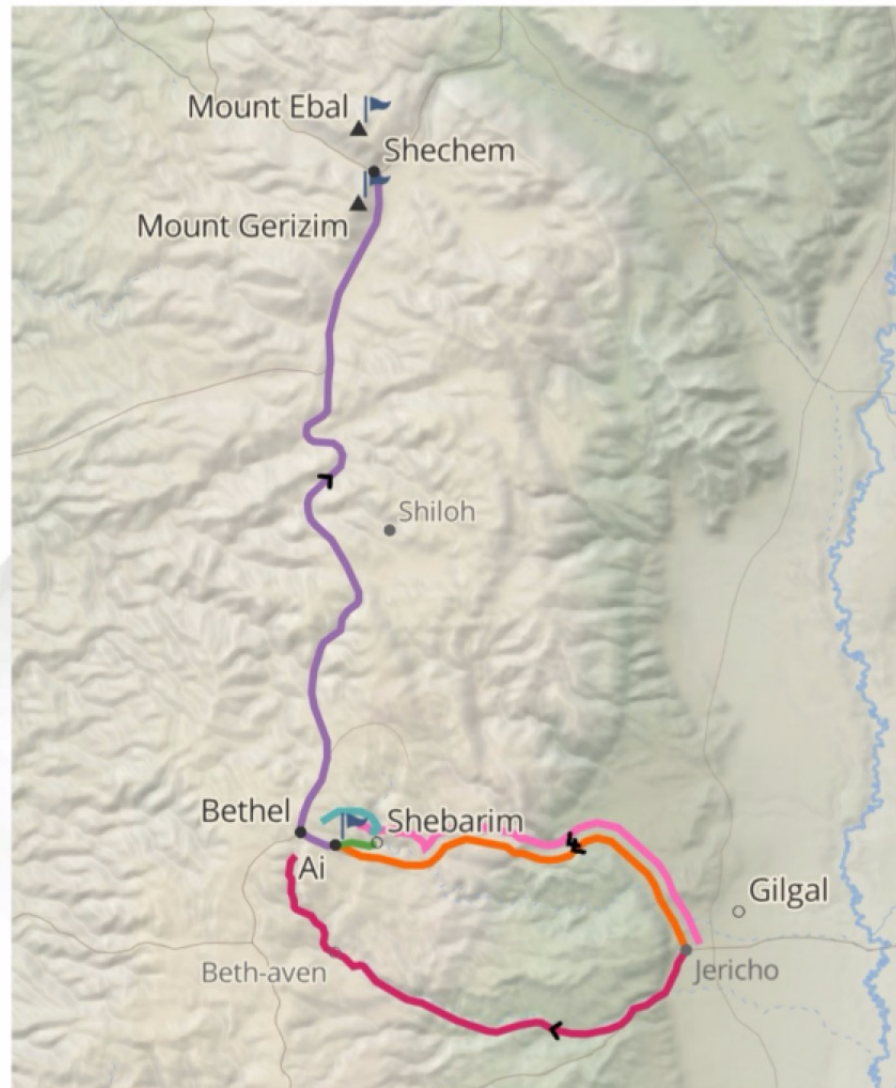


Joshua

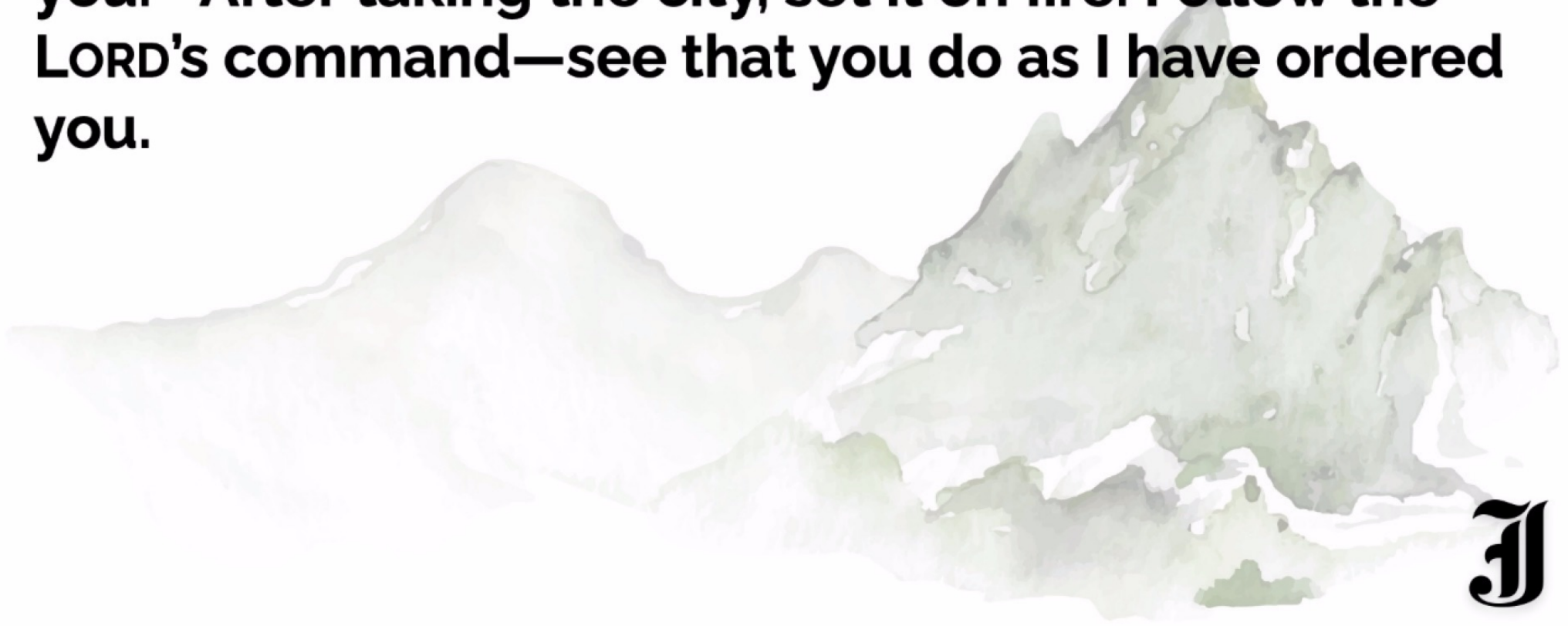
The Story of
The Promise-Keeping God



**8:1-2 The LORD said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid or discouraged. Take all the troops with you and go attack Ai. Look, I have handed over to you the king of Ai, his people, city, and land.
² Treat Ai and its king as you did Jericho and its king, except that you may plunder its spoil and livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush behind the city.”**



8:7-8 Now you are to come out of your ambush and seize the city. The LORD your God will hand it over to you. ⁸ After taking the city, set it on fire. Follow the LORD's command—see that you do as I have ordered you.



Psalm 139:23-24

**²³ Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my concerns.**

**²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me;
lead me in the everlasting way.**



8:14 When the king of Ai saw the Israelites, the men of the city hurried and went out early in the morning so that he and all his people could engage Israel in battle at a suitable place facing the Arabah. But he did not know there was an ambush waiting for him behind the city. **15** Joshua and all Israel pretended to be beaten back by them and fled toward the wilderness. **16** Then all the troops of Ai were summoned to pursue them, and they pursued Joshua and were drawn away from the city. ...



8:17 Not a man was left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel, leaving the city exposed while they pursued Israel.

18 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Hold out the javelin in your hand toward Ai, for I will hand the city over to you." So Joshua held out his javelin toward it.

19 When he held out his hand, the men in ambush rose quickly from their position. They ran, entered the city, captured it, and immediately set it on fire. ...



8:20 The men of Ai turned and looked back, and smoke from the city was rising to the sky! They could not escape in any direction, and the troops who had fled to the wilderness now became the pursuers.
21 When Joshua and all Israel saw that the men in ambush had captured the city and that smoke was rising from it, they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. ...



8:22 Then men in ambush came out of the city against them, and the men of Ai were trapped between the Israelite forces, some on one side and some on the other. They struck them down until no survivor or fugitive remained, ²³ but they captured the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.



**8:18 Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Hold out the javelin in your hand toward Ai, for I will hand the city over to you.” So Joshua held out his javelin toward it.
19 When he held out his hand, the men in ambush rose quickly from their position. They ran, entered the city, captured it, and immediately set it on fire.**



8:30 At that time Joshua built an altar on Mount Ebal to the LORD, the God of Israel, ³¹ just as Moses the LORD's servant had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the book of the law of Moses: an altar of uncut stones on which no iron tool has been used. Then they offered burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed fellowship offerings on it. ³² There on the stones, Joshua copied the law of Moses, which he had written in the presence of the Israelites.



8:33 All Israel—resident alien and citizen alike—with their elders, officers, and judges, stood on either side of the ark of the LORD’s covenant facing the Levitical priests who carried it. Half of them were in front of Mount Gerizim and half in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the LORD’s servant had commanded earlier concerning blessing the people of Israel. ³⁴ Afterward, Joshua read aloud all the words of the law—the blessings as well as the curses—according to all that is written in the book of the law.



Deuteronomy 27:2-8

² When you cross the Jordan into the land the LORD your God is giving you, set up large stones and cover them with plaster. ³ Write all the words of this law on the stones after you cross to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you. ⁴ When you have crossed the Jordan, you are to set up these stones on Mount Ebal, as I am commanding you today, and you are to cover them with plaster. ...



⁵ Build an altar of stones there to the LORD your God—do not use any iron tool on them. ⁶ Use uncut stones to build the altar of the LORD your God and offer burnt offerings to the LORD your God on it. ⁷ There you are to sacrifice fellowship offerings, eat, and rejoice in the presence of the LORD your God. ⁸ Write clearly all the words of this law on the plastered stones.



Deuteronomy 11:26-29

²⁶ “Look, today I set before you a blessing and a curse: ²⁷ there will be a blessing, if you obey the commands of the LORD your God I am giving you today, ²⁸ and a curse, if you do not obey the commands of the LORD your God and you turn aside from the path I command you today by following other gods you have not known. ²⁹ When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess, you are to proclaim the blessing at Mount Gerizim and the curse at Mount Ebal.



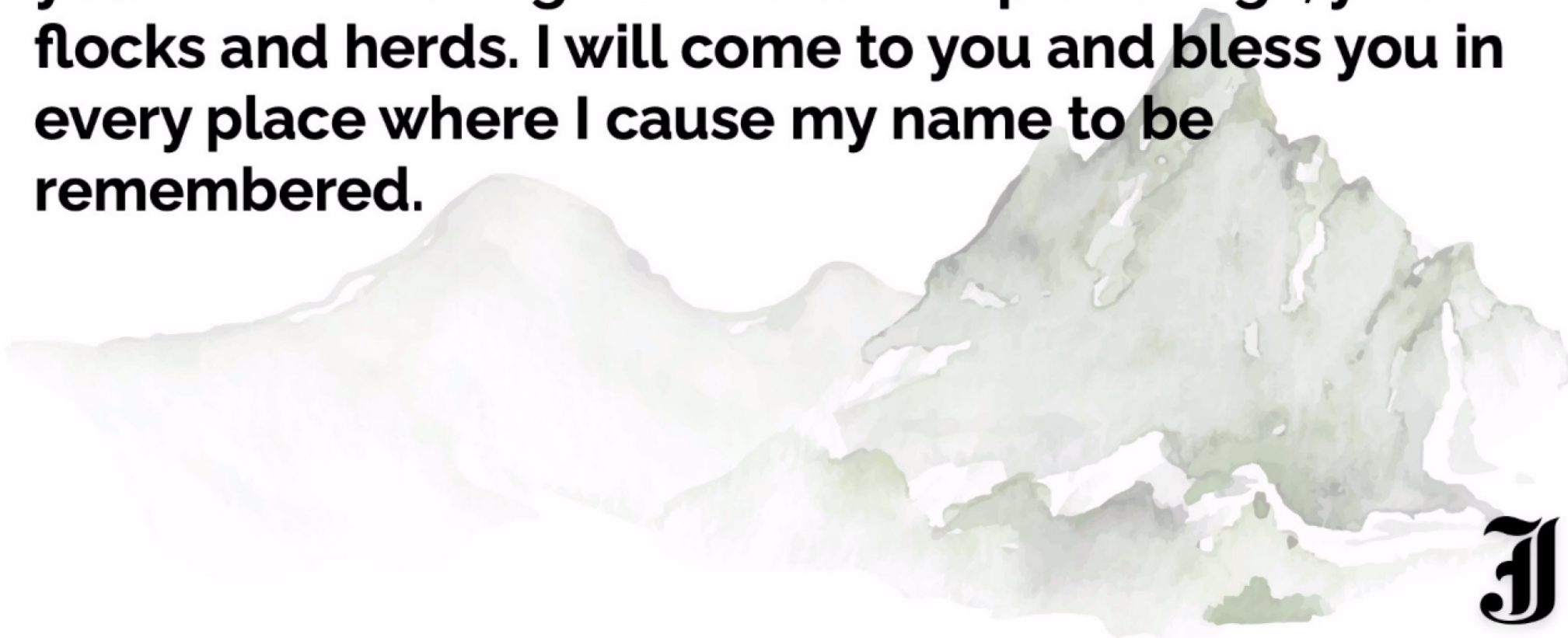
Exodus 20:25

²⁵ If you make a stone altar for me, do not build it out of cut stones. If you use your chisel on it, you will defile it.



Exodus 20:24

²⁴ Make an earthen altar for me, and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, your flocks and herds. I will come to you and bless you in every place where I cause my name to be remembered.



Acts 3:19-20

¹⁹ Therefore repent and turn back, so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰ that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send Jesus, who has been appointed for you as the Messiah.

