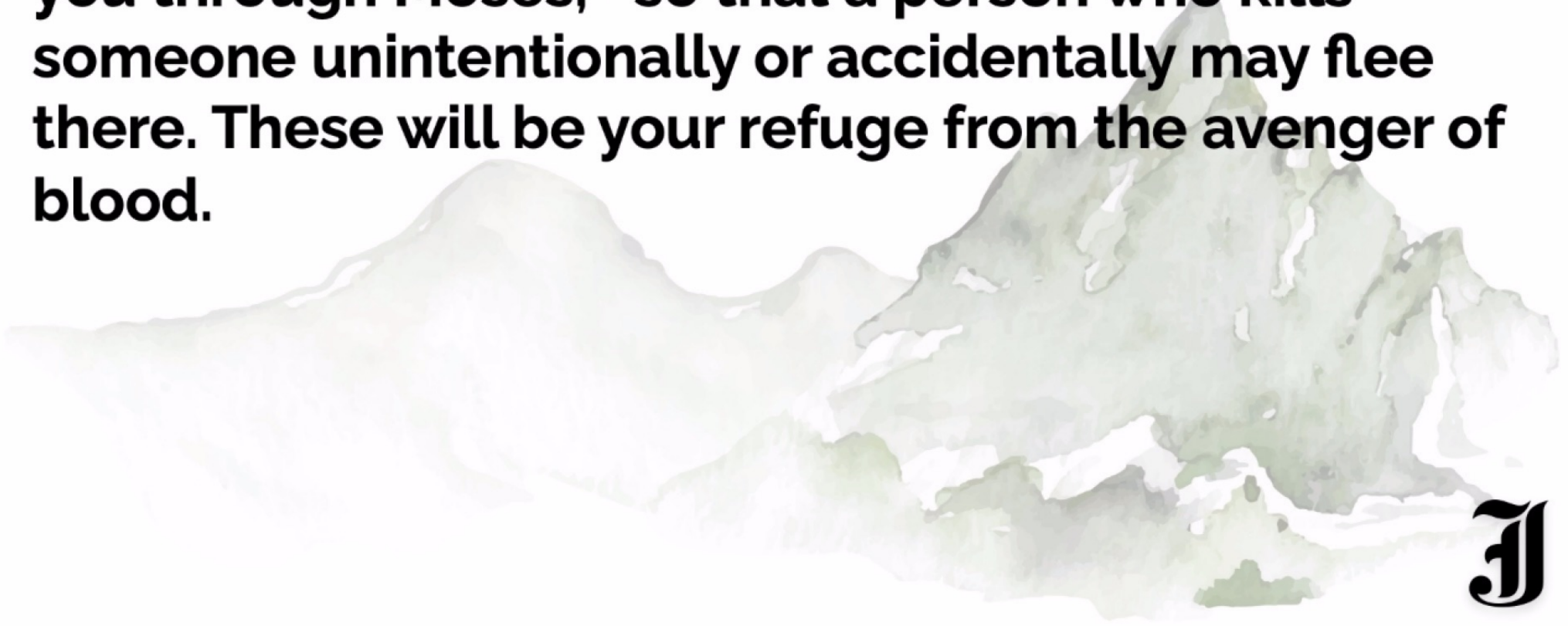


Joshua

The Story of
The Promise-Keeping God

20:1-3 Then the LORD spoke to Joshua, ² “Tell the Israelites: Select your cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses, ³ so that a person who kills someone unintentionally or accidentally may flee there. These will be your refuge from the avenger of blood.



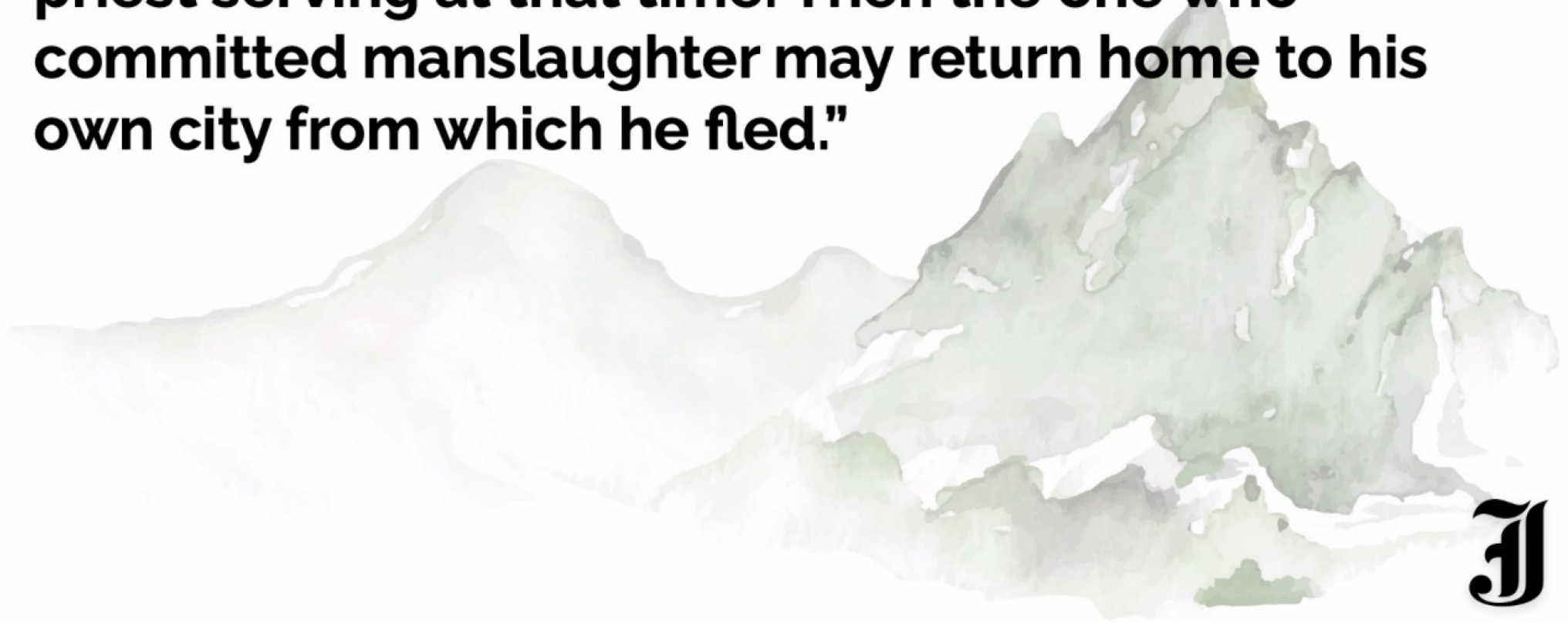
Exodus 21:12-14 **“Whoever strikes a person so that he dies must be put to death. ¹³ But if he did not intend any harm, and yet God allowed it to happen, I will appoint a place for you where he may flee. ¹⁴ If a person schemes and willfully acts against his neighbor to murder him, you must take him from my altar to be put to death.**



20:4-6 When someone flees to one of these cities, stands at the entrance of the city gate, and states his case before the elders of that city, they are to bring him into the city and give him a place to live among them. ⁵ And if the avenger of blood pursues him, they must not hand the one who committed manslaughter over to him, for he killed his neighbor accidentally and did not hate him beforehand...



20:6 He is to stay in that city until he stands trial before the assembly and until the death of the high priest serving at that time. Then the one who committed manslaughter may return home to his own city from which he fled."



21:1-3 The Levite family heads approached the priest Eleazar, Joshua son of Nun, and the family heads of the Israelite tribes. ² At Shiloh, in the land of Canaan, they told them, “The LORD commanded through Moses that we be given cities to live in, with their pasturelands for our livestock.” ³ So the Israelites, by the LORD’s command, gave the Levites these cities with their pasturelands from their inheritance.



Genesis 49:5-7

⁵ Simeon and Levi are brothers; their knives are vicious weapons.

⁶ May I never enter their council; may I never join their assembly. For in their anger they kill men, and on a whim they hamstring oxen.

⁷ Their anger is cursed, for it is strong, and their fury, for it is cruel! I will disperse them throughout Jacob and scatter them throughout Israel.



**Deut 17:8-10 “If a case is too difficult for you—
concerning bloodshed, lawsuits, or assaults—cases
disputed at your city gates, then go up to the place
the LORD your God chooses. ⁹ You are to go to the
Levitical priests and to the judge who presides at
that time. Ask, and they will give you a verdict in the
case. ¹⁰ You must abide by the verdict they give you
at the place the LORD chooses. Be careful to do
exactly as they instruct you.**



Psalm 119:114 You are my shelter and my shield; I put my hope in your word.



14:1-4 The Israelites received these portions that the priest Eleazar, Joshua son of Nun, and the family heads of the Israelite tribes gave them in the land of Canaan. ² Their inheritance was by lot as the LORD commanded through Moses for the nine and a half tribes, ³ because Moses had given the inheritance to the two and a half tribes beyond the Jordan. But he gave no inheritance among them to the Levites. ⁴ The descendants of Joseph became two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. No portion of the land was given to the Levites except cities to live in, along with pasturelands for their cattle and livestock.



Joshua 20:9 These are the cities appointed for all the Israelites and **the aliens residing** among them...

Deuteronomy 18:6-7 When a Levite leaves one of your towns in Israel where **he was staying** and wants to go to the place the LORD chooses, ⁷ he may serve in the name of the LORD his God like all his fellow Levites who minister there in the presence of the LORD.



The Levite is a parable for us to see and hear, a sort of visual aid of our fleeting, transitory, rootless existence. A reminder that we must always say, 'If the Lord wills, we live and do this or that' (James 4:15), a nudge that 'even we ourselves who have the firstfruits, namely the Holy Spirit, go on groaning within ourselves as we expect the adoption, that is, the redemption of our body' (Rom. 8:23).

Dale Ralph Davis



Joshua 13:14

Moses did not, however, give any inheritance to the tribe of Levi. This was their inheritance, just as he had promised: the food offerings made to the LORD, the God of Israel.



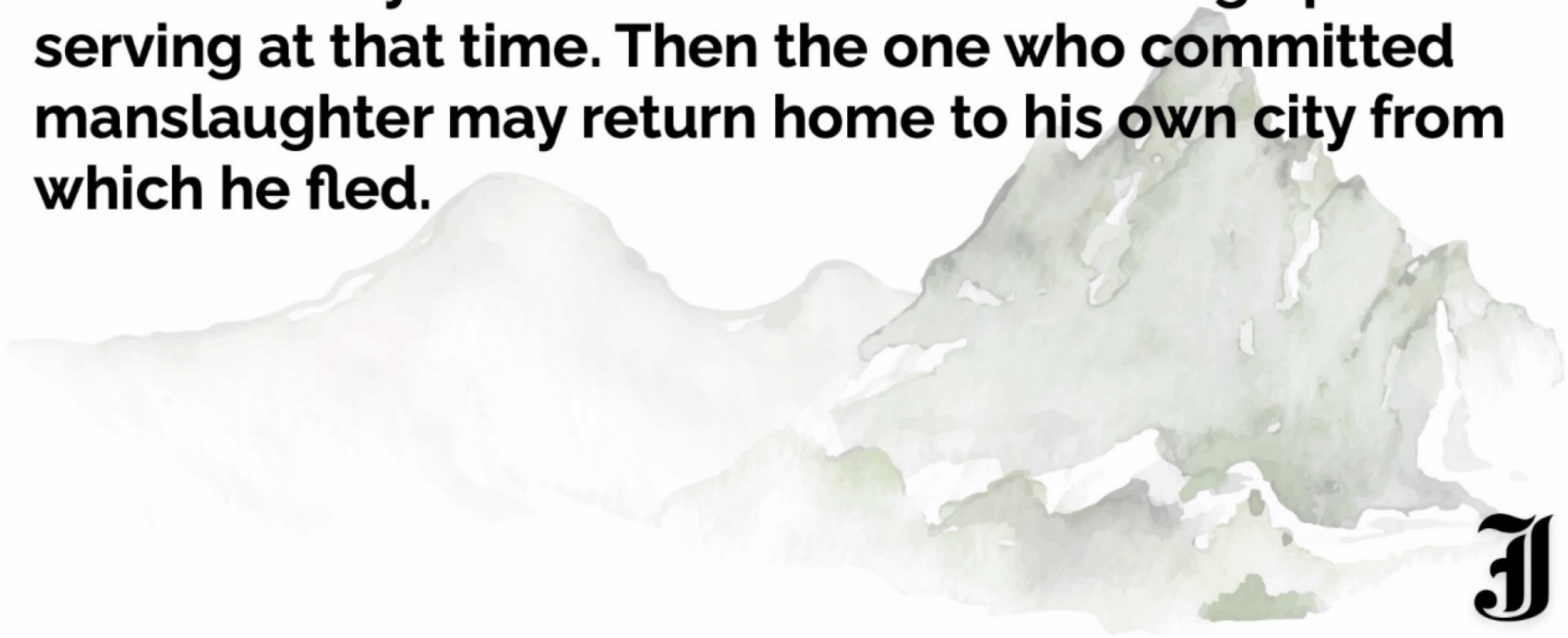
Joshua 13:32-33

**These were the portions Moses gave them on the plains of Moab beyond the Jordan east of Jericho.
33 But Moses did not give a portion to the tribe of Levi. The LORD, the God of Israel, was their inheritance, just as he had promised them.**



Joshua 20:6

He is to stay in that city until he stands trial before the assembly and until the death of the high priest serving at that time. Then the one who committed manslaughter may return home to his own city from which he fled.



Numbers 35:28

Only after the death of the high priest may the one who has killed a person return to the land he possesses.



**It is not the exile that expiates, but the death of the
high priest.**

The Talmud



Hebrews 7:26-28 For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.²⁷ He doesn't need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do—first for their own sins, then for those of the people. He did this once for all time when he offered himself.²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak, but the promise of the oath, which came after the law, appoints a Son, who has been perfected forever.



1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, since he always lives to intercede for them.



Revelation 21:23-27 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because the glory of God illuminates it, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never close by day because it will never be night there. ²⁶ They will bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ Nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those written in the Lamb's book of life.

