

I
THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER
GODS BEFORE ME.

II
THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO
THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE.

III
THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME
OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN.

IV
REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY
TO KEEP IT HOLY.

V
HONOR THY FATHER AND
THY MOTHER.

VI
THOU SHALT NOT KILL.

VII
THOU SHALT NOT
COMMIT ADULTERY.

XIII
THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.

IX
THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS
AGAINST THY NEIGHBOUR.

X
THOU SHALT NOT COVET.

The Great Commandment

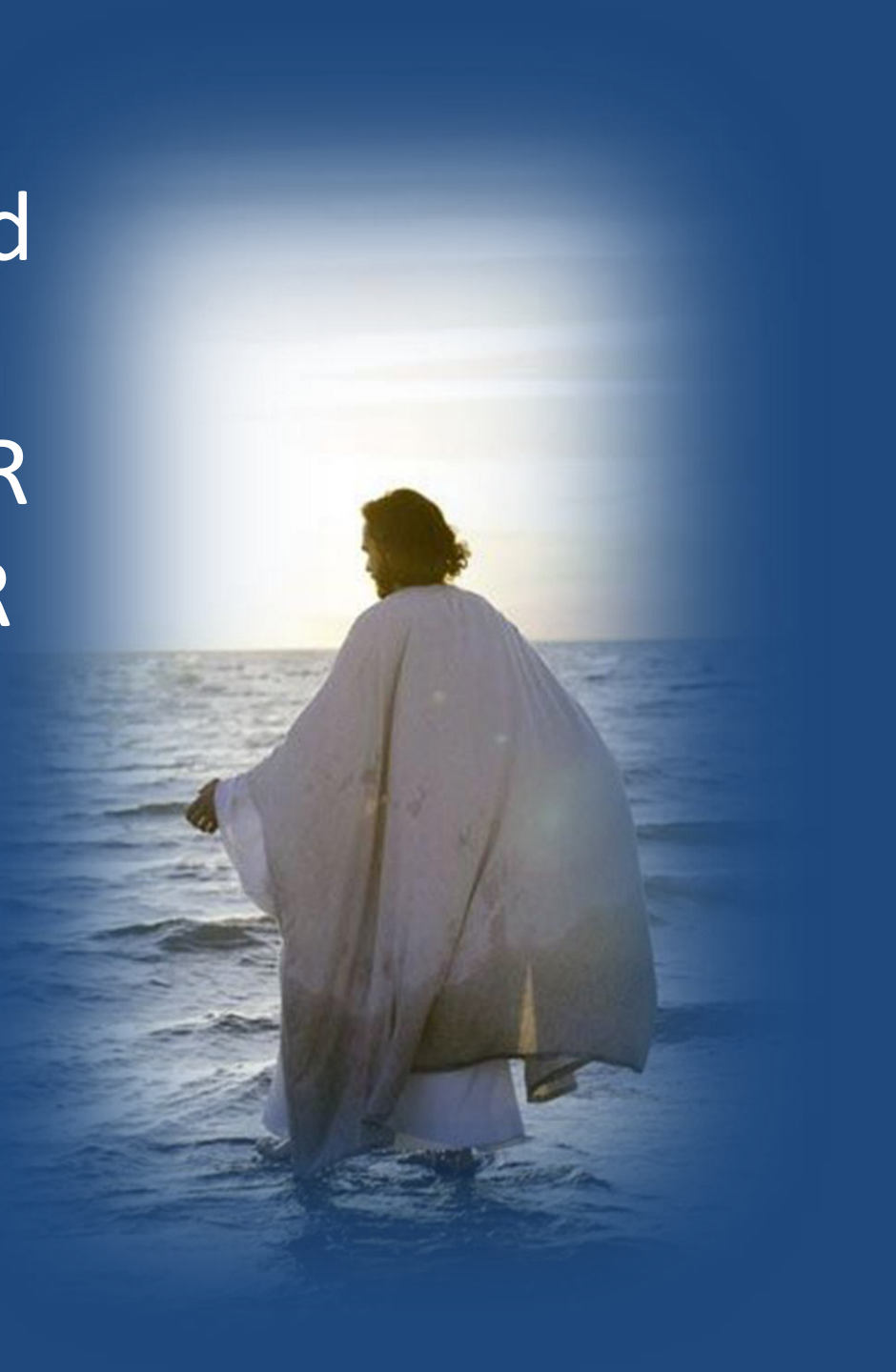
Jesus was often challenged by difficult questions. One day he was approached by a lawyer who wanted to test his knowledge of the law:



Mat 22:36 - "Teacher,
which *is* the great
commandment in the
law?"



Mat 22:37 - Jesus said
to him, 'YOU SHALL
LOVE THE LORD YOUR
GOD WITH ALL YOUR
HEART, WITH ALL
YOUR SOUL, AND
WITH ALL YOUR
MIND.'



Mat 22:38 - This
is *the* first and great
commandment.



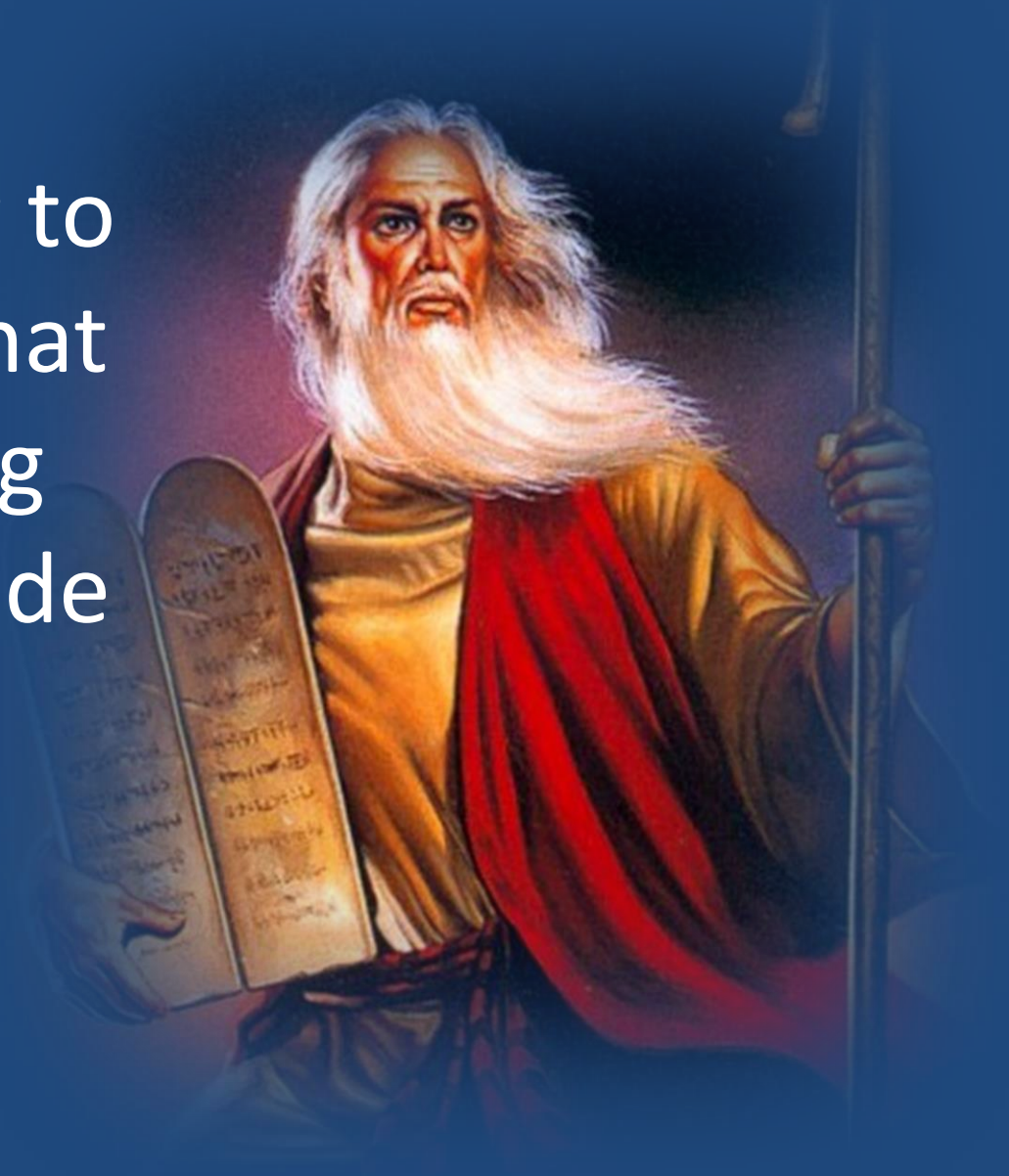
Mat 22:39 -
And *the second is* like
it: 'YOU SHALL LOVE
YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF.'



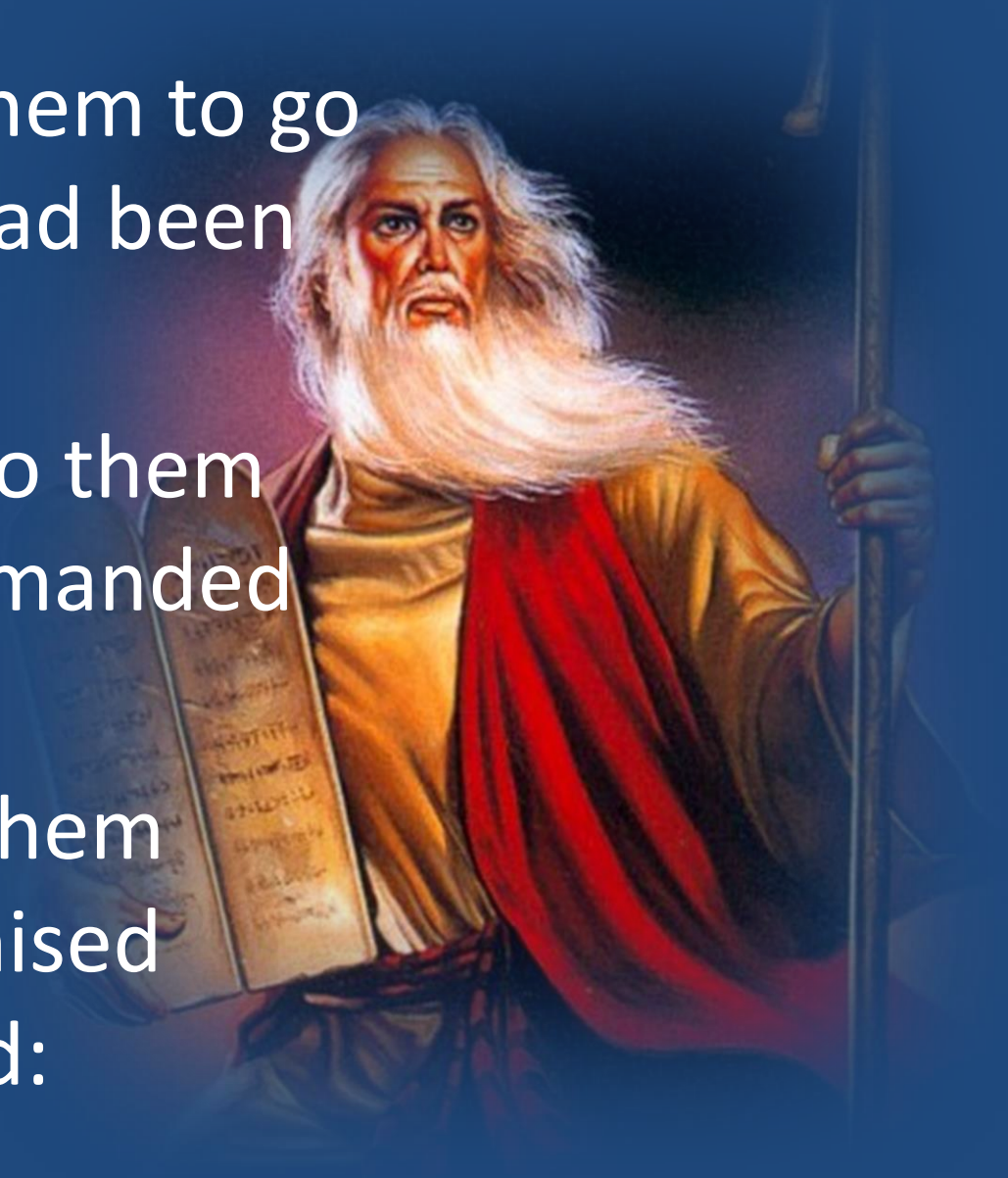
Mat 22:40 - On these
two commandments
hang all the Law and
the Prophets."



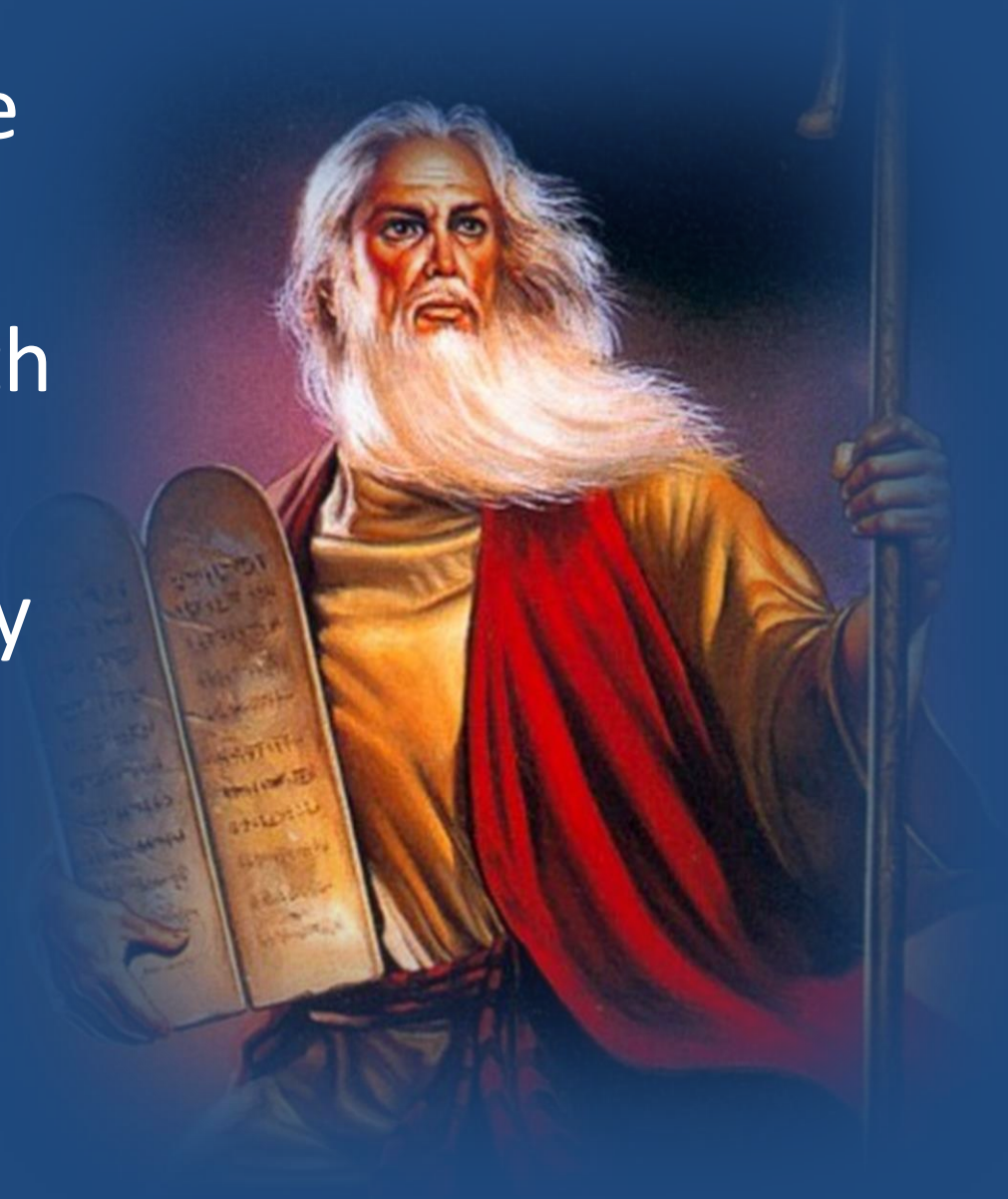
Jesus was referring to
Deuteronomy! What
was Moses talking
about when he made
this amazing
statement?



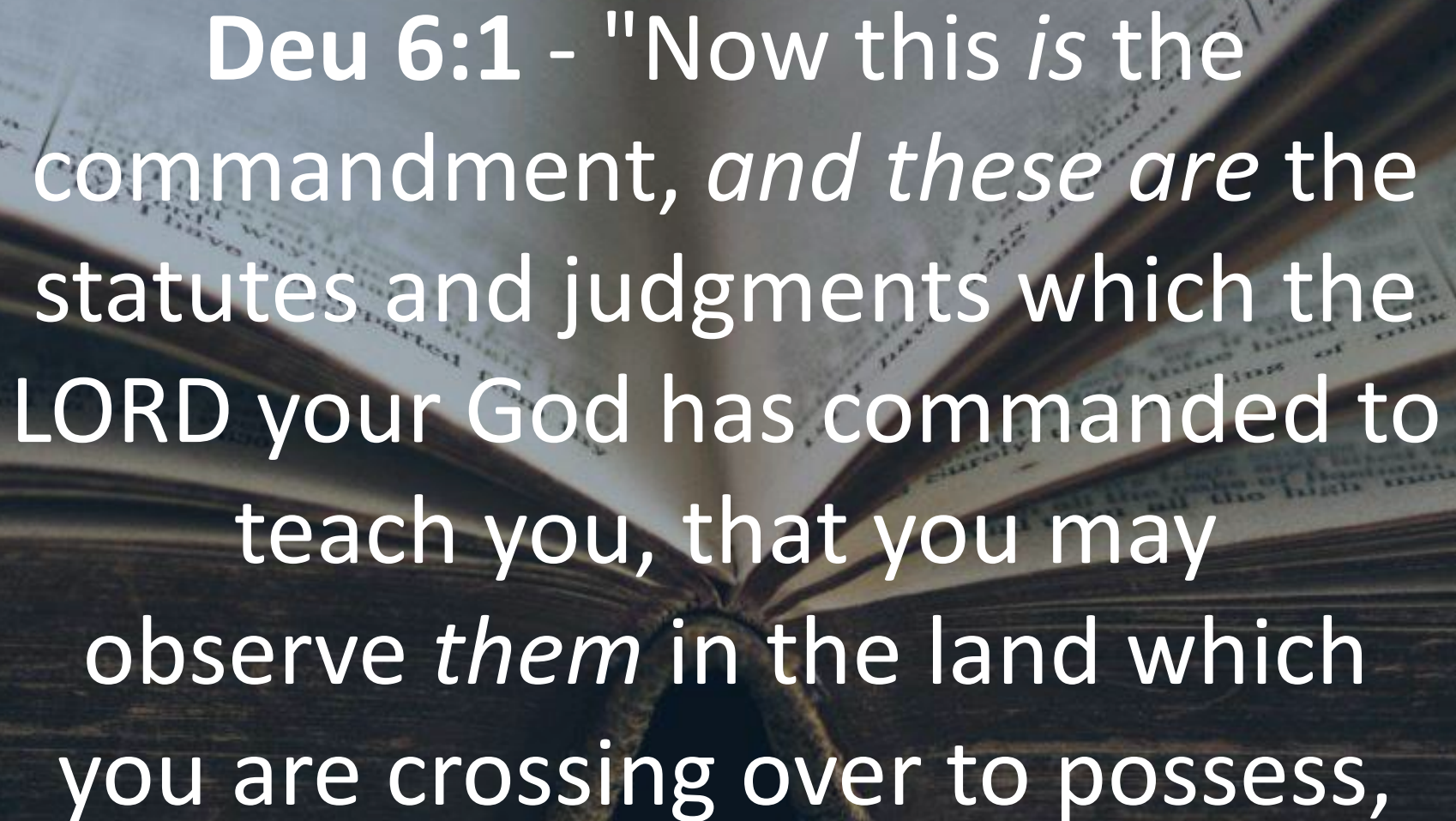
- He was preparing them to go into the land that had been promised to them.
- He was explaining to them what God had commanded them to do.
- He was reminding them what God has promised them if they obeyed:



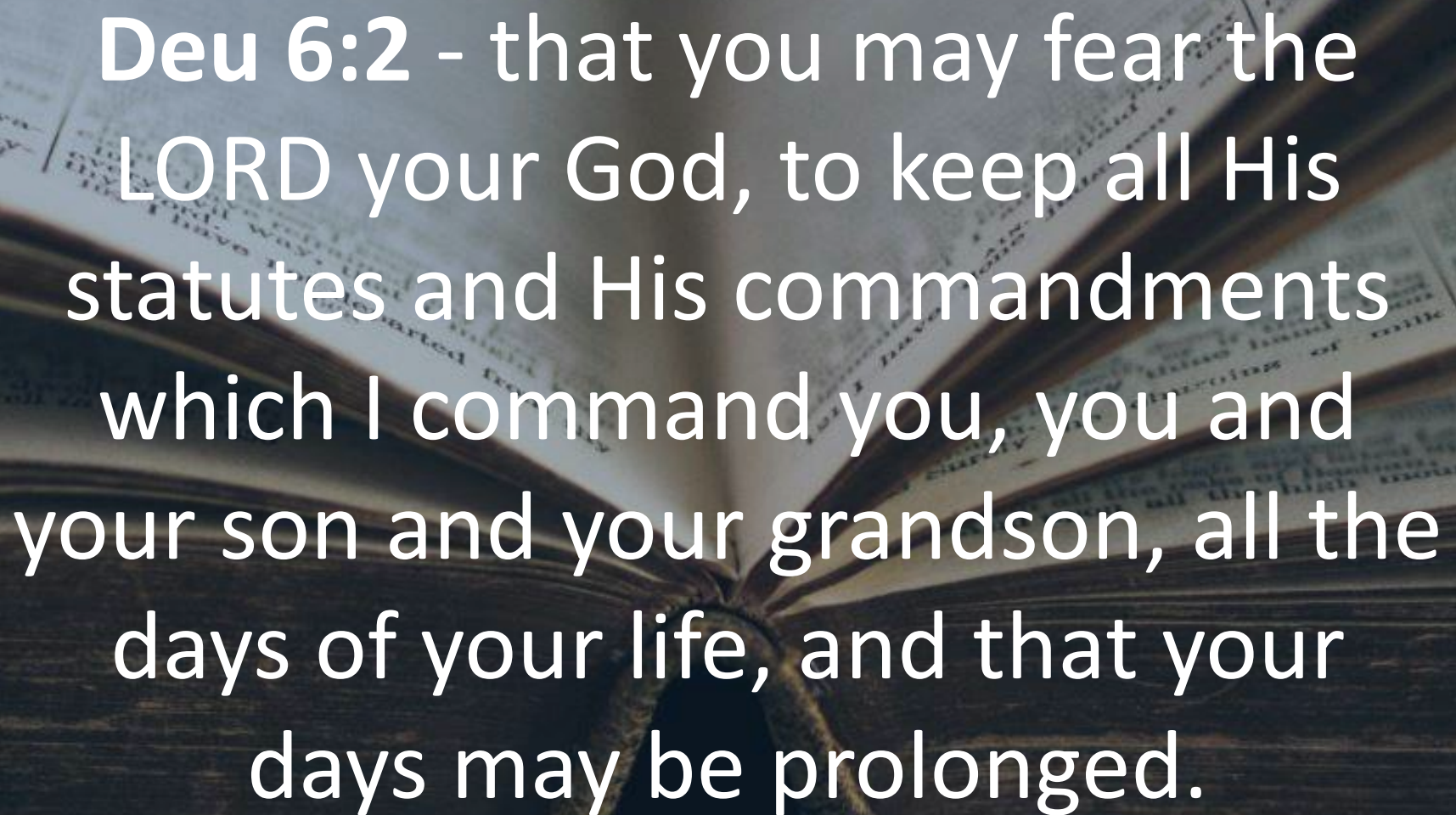
- Their days would be prolonged
- It would go well with them
- They would multiply greatly



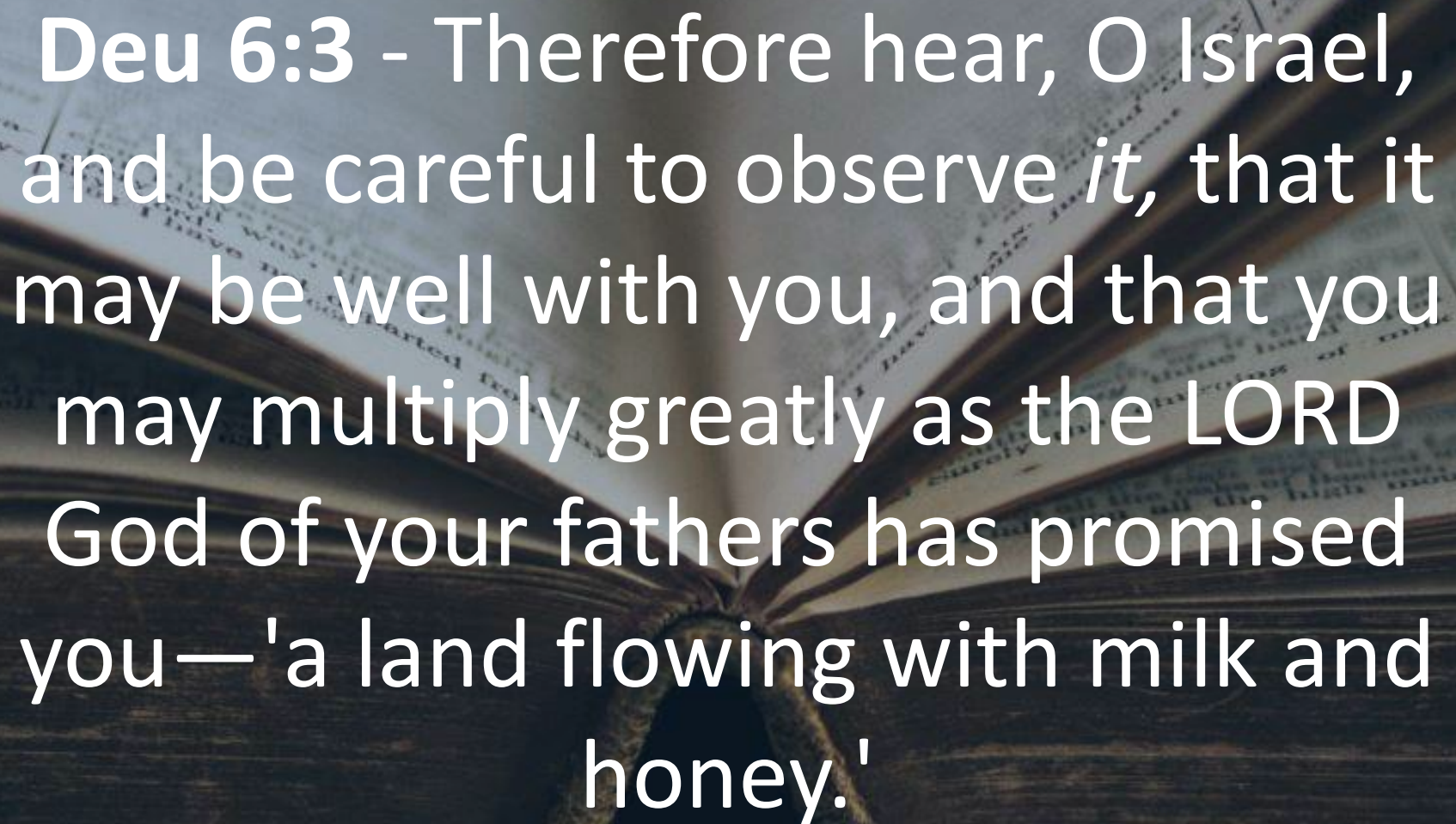
Here is what Moses actually said:

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with small, illegible text, likely a Bible. The book is open to a central fold, and the pages curve upwards. Overlaid on the book is a large, white, serif font text. The text is centered and reads: "Deu 6:1 - 'Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess,". The text is in a mix of bold, regular, and italicized serif fonts. The background is a dark, muted blue-grey color.


Deu 6:1 - "Now this *is* the
commandment, *and these are* the
statutes and judgments which the
LORD your God has commanded to
teach you, that you may
observe *them* in the land which
you are crossing over to possess,

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with small, illegible text, likely a Bible. The book is open to a spread of two pages, with the spine visible in the center. The overall lighting is dim, creating a solemn and focused atmosphere. Overlaid on the center of the open pages is a large, white, sans-serif text block.


Deu 6:2 - that you may fear the
LORD your God, to keep all His
statutes and His commandments
which I command you, you and
your son and your grandson, all the
days of your life, and that your
days may be prolonged.

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with small, illegible text, likely a Bible. The book is open to a central point, with the pages fanning out. Overlaid on the center of the book is a large, white, serif font text. The text is centered and reads: "Deu 6:3 - Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you—'a land flowing with milk and honey.'". The background is a soft, out-of-focus image of the book's pages and cover.

Deu 6:3 - Therefore hear, O Israel,
and be careful to observe *it*, that it
may be well with you, and that you
may multiply greatly as the LORD
God of your fathers has promised
you—'a land flowing with milk and
honey.'



**Deu 6:4 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD
our God, the LORD *is* one!"**



**Deu 6:5 - You shall love the LORD
your God with all your heart, with
all your soul, and with all your
strength.**

The last two verses here are considered to be very important.

Verse 4 is called
the “Shema”,
which means
“Hear”:



Deu 6:4 - "Hear,
O Israel: The
LORD our God,
the LORD *is* one!"




This verse was
to be read
morning and
evening of the
Jewish prayer
service.



It expresses the
unity of God –
one God, self-
existent, eternal,
unchallengeable,
King of kings and
LORD of lords.




Verse 5 is called the great
commandment:

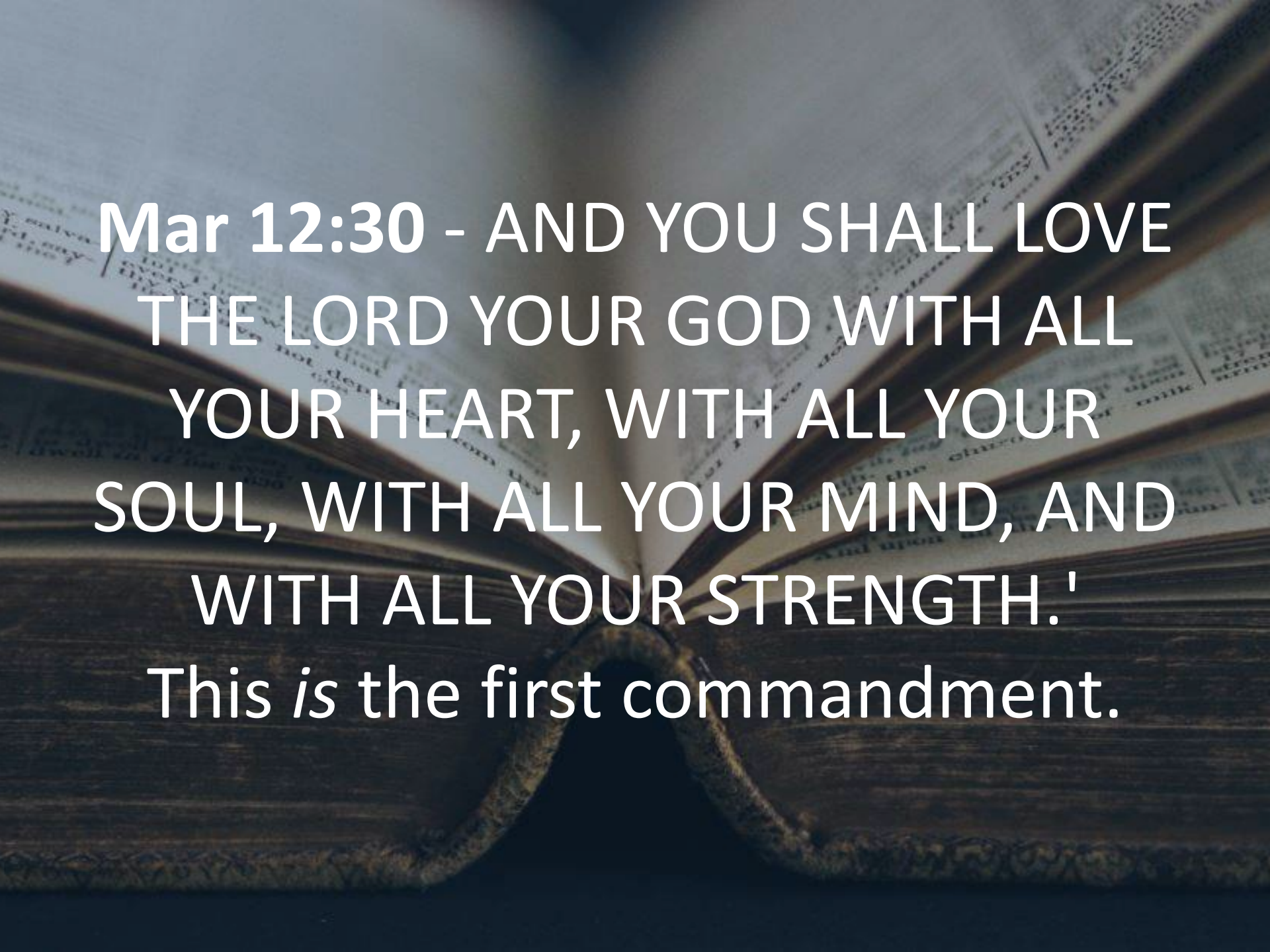


**Deu 6:5 - You shall love the LORD
your God with all your heart, with
all your soul, and with all your
strength.**

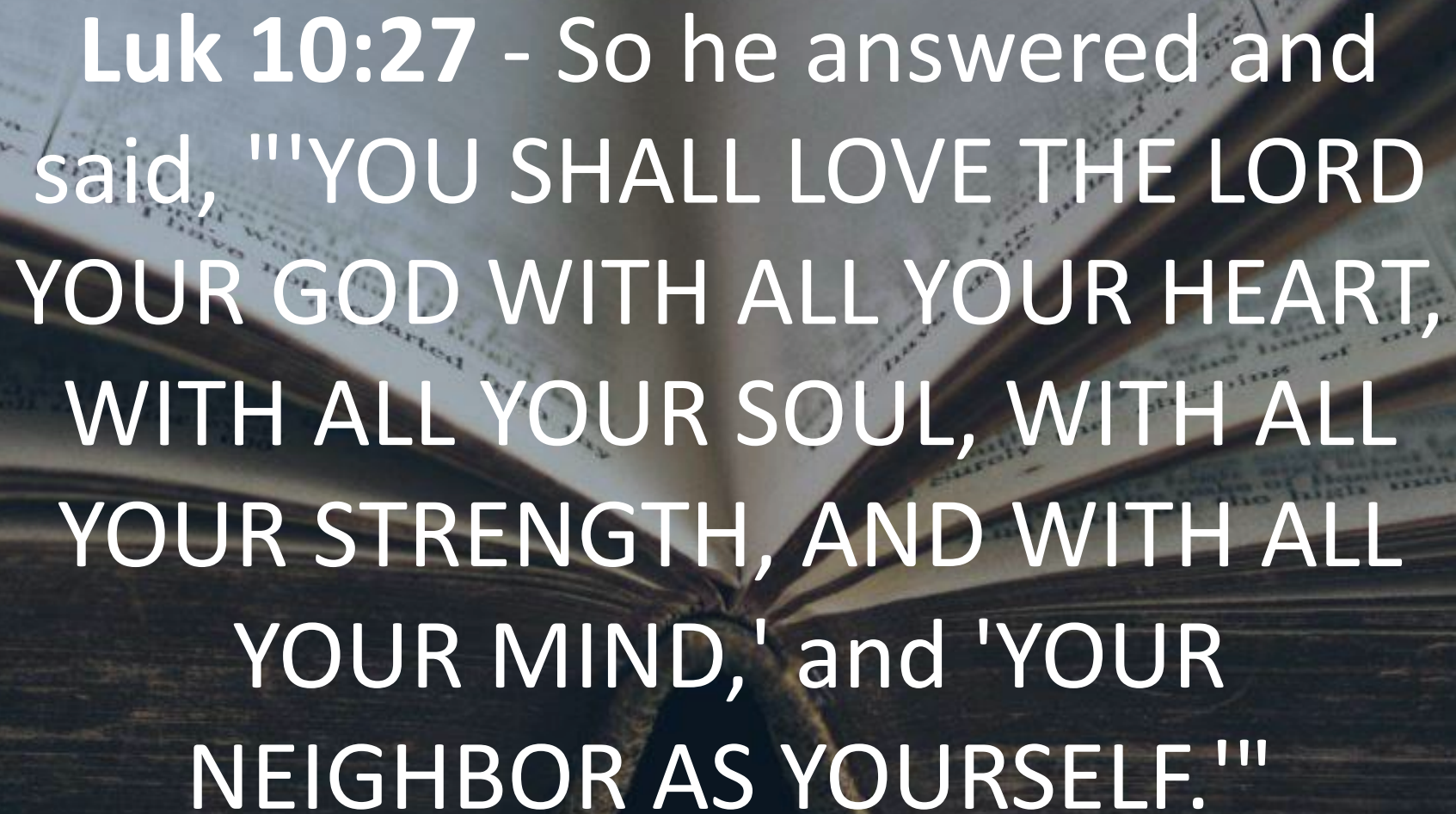
This verse is expressed slightly
differently in the gospels:



Mat 22:37 - Jesus said to him, 'YOU
SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD
WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL
YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR
MIND.'



**Mar 12:30 - AND YOU SHALL LOVE
THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL
YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR
SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND
WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'**
This is the first commandment.

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with small, illegible text, likely a printed version of the Bible. Overlaid on the center of the open pages is a large, white, sans-serif text block. The text is centered and reads: "Luk 10:27 - So he answered and said, ''YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND,' and 'YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'". The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the overlaid text.

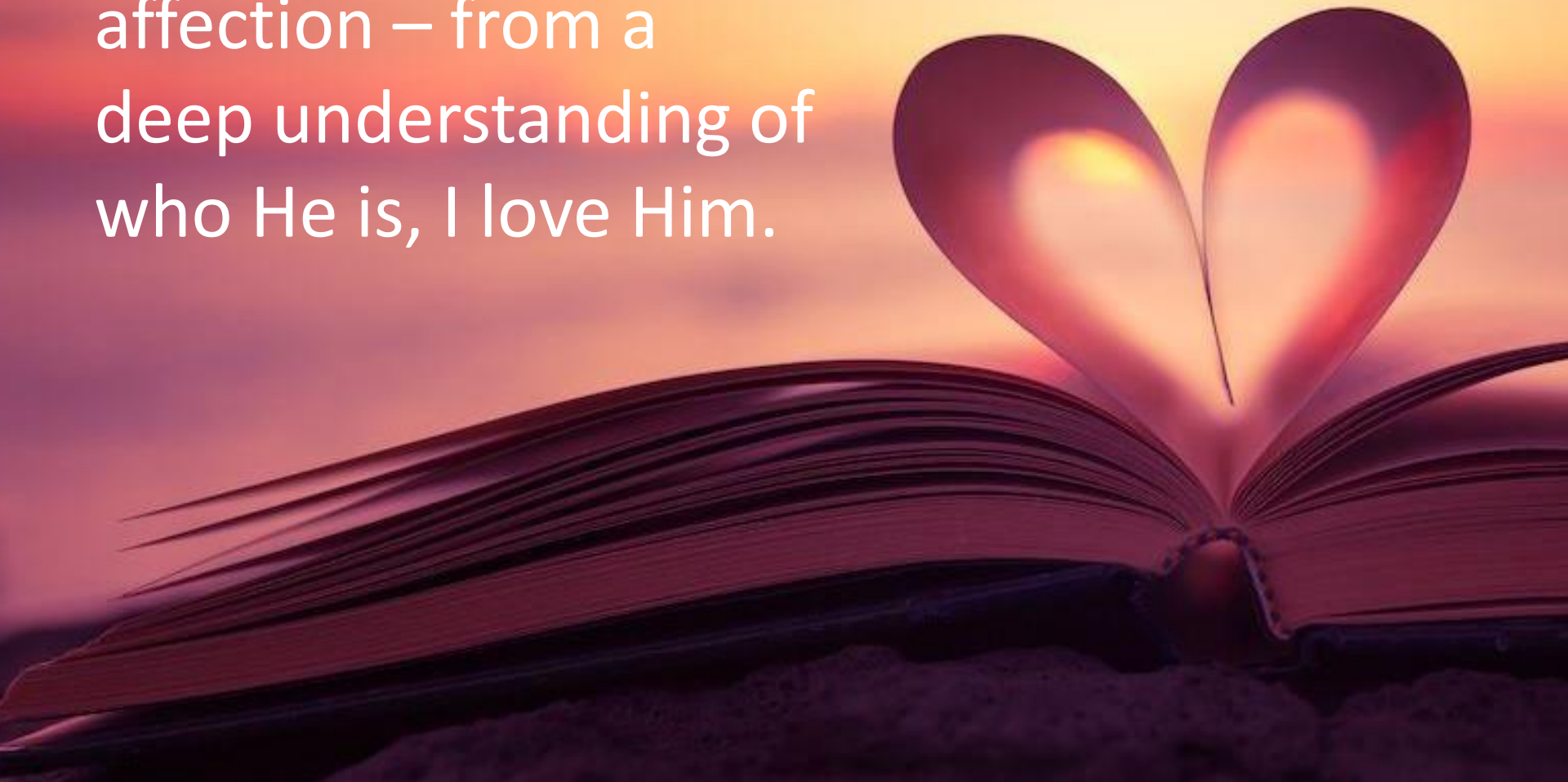
Luk 10:27 - So he answered and said, ''YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND,' and 'YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'''

Why the slight differences?

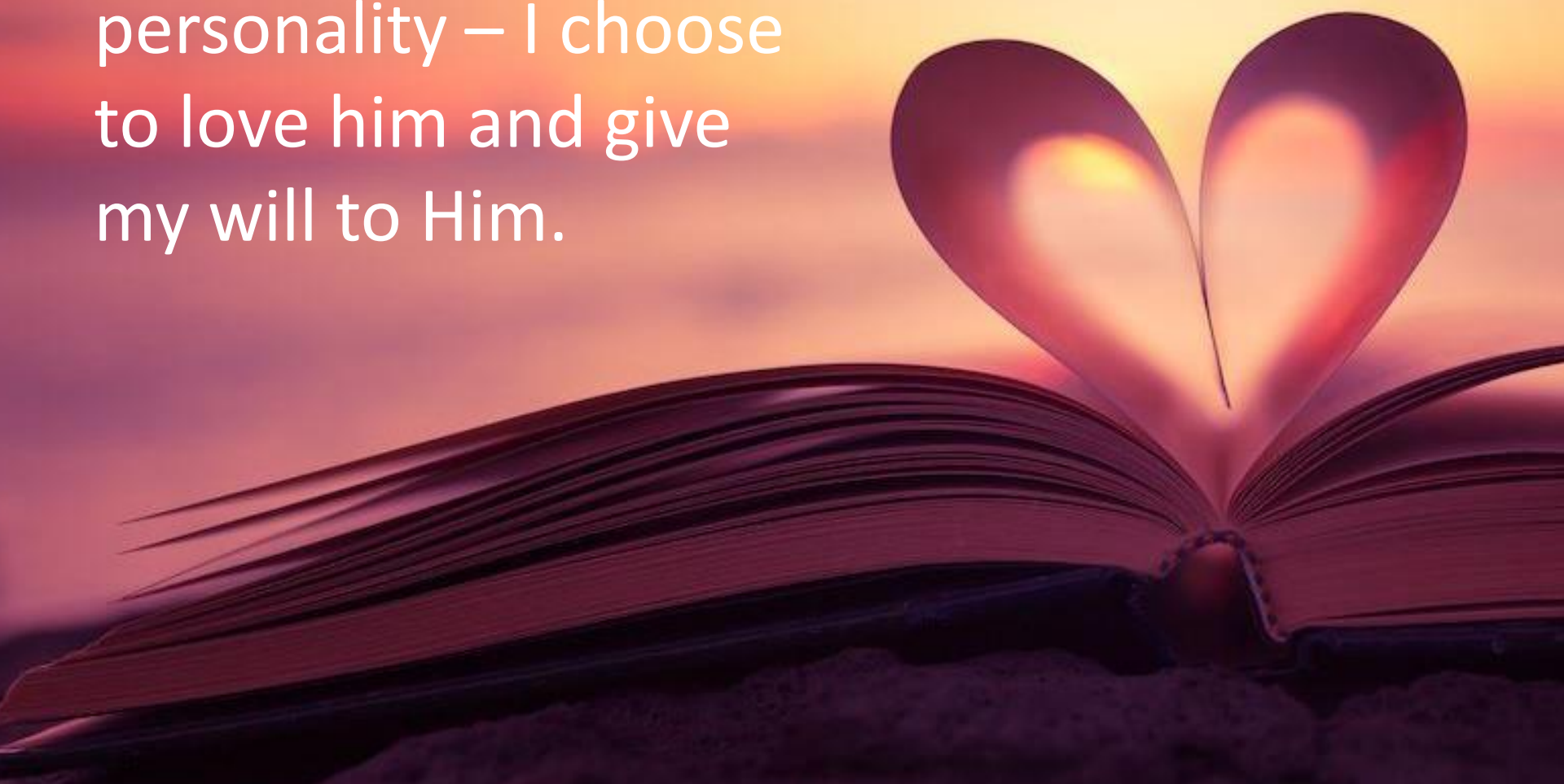
- Because Jesus would have said this more than once.
- Because the writers were expressing all of what Jesus meant:



The heart is meant as
the seat of our
affection – from a
deep understanding of
who He is, I love Him.



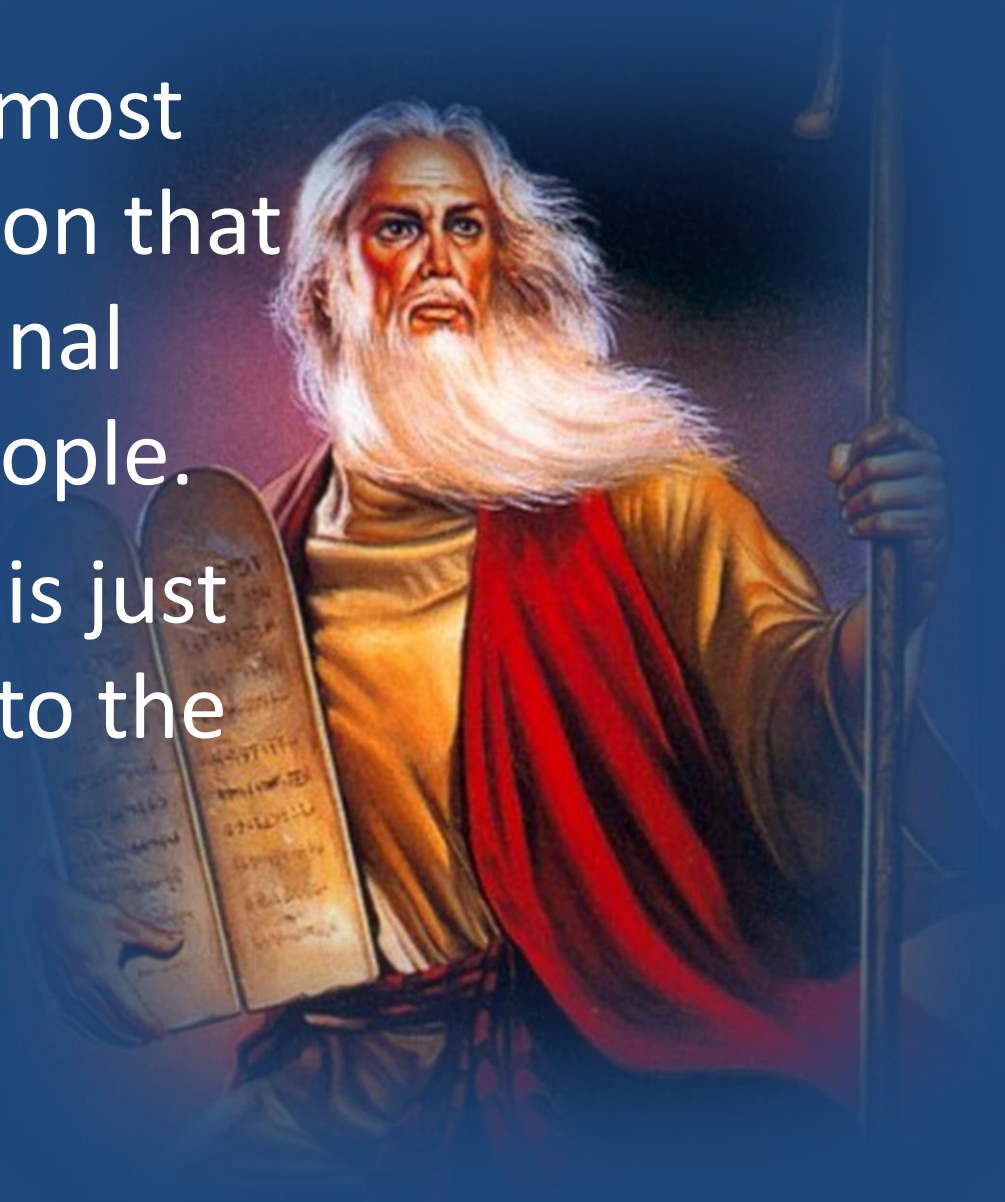
The soul is the center
of our will and
personality – I choose
to love him and give
my will to Him.




The might is the
requirement of all of
our energy, vigor,
effort and force – I
give Him my best with
fervency



- This is the first and most important exhortation that Moses gives in his final address to God's people.
- Moses tells them this just before they head into the promised land.



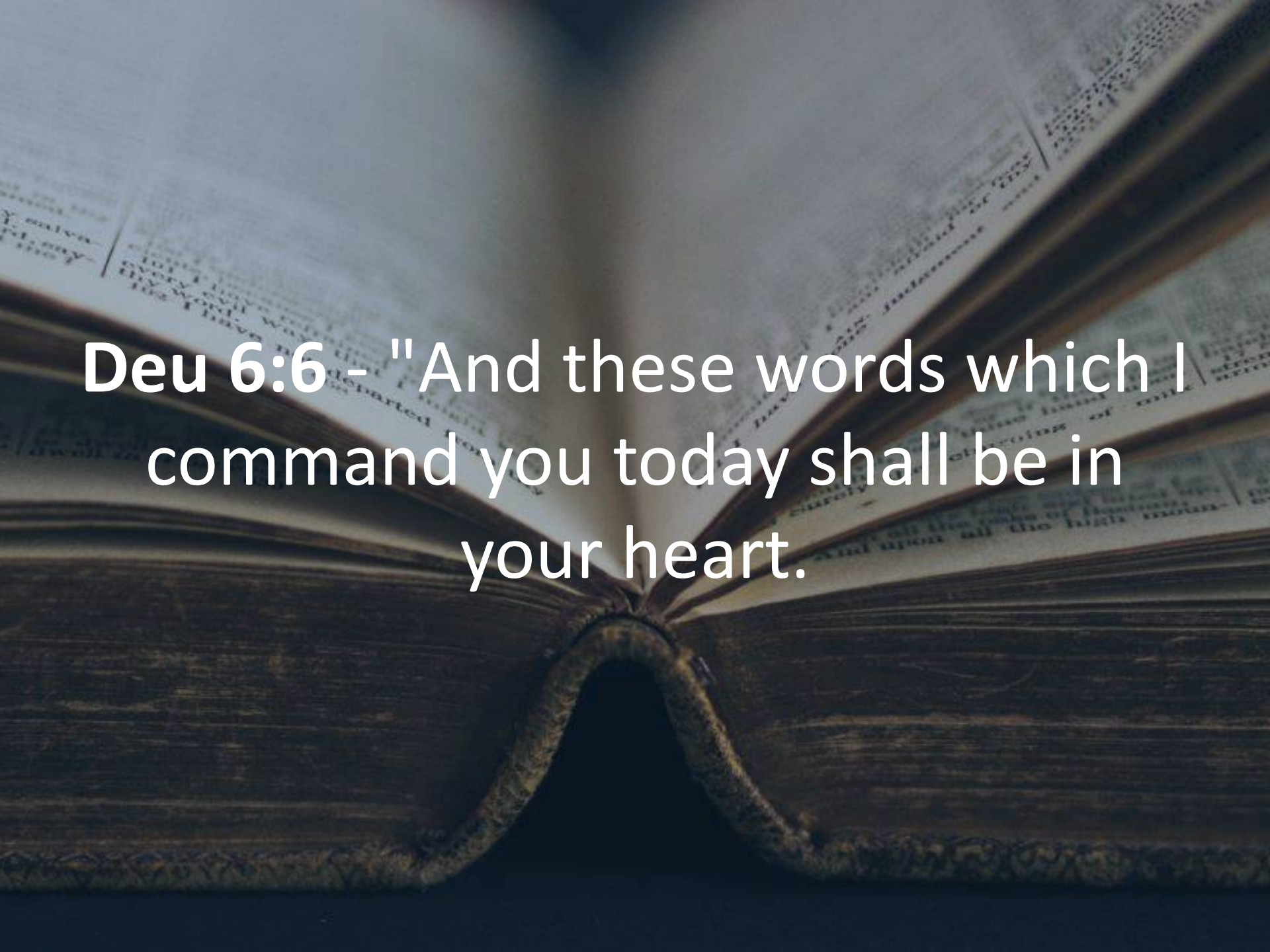
But how do we love God?



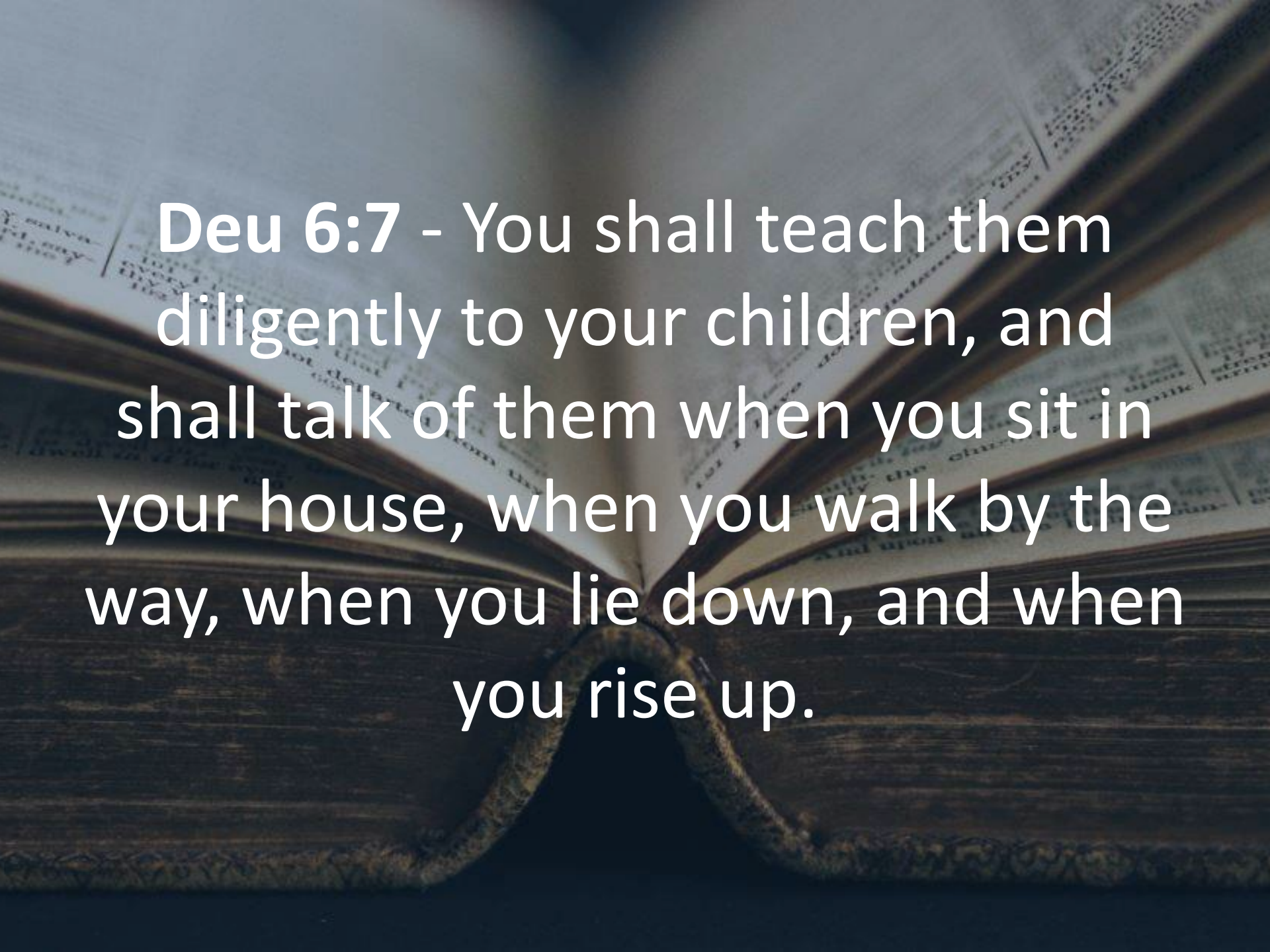
Joh 14:15 - "If you love me, keep
my commands.

Keeping God's commands means:

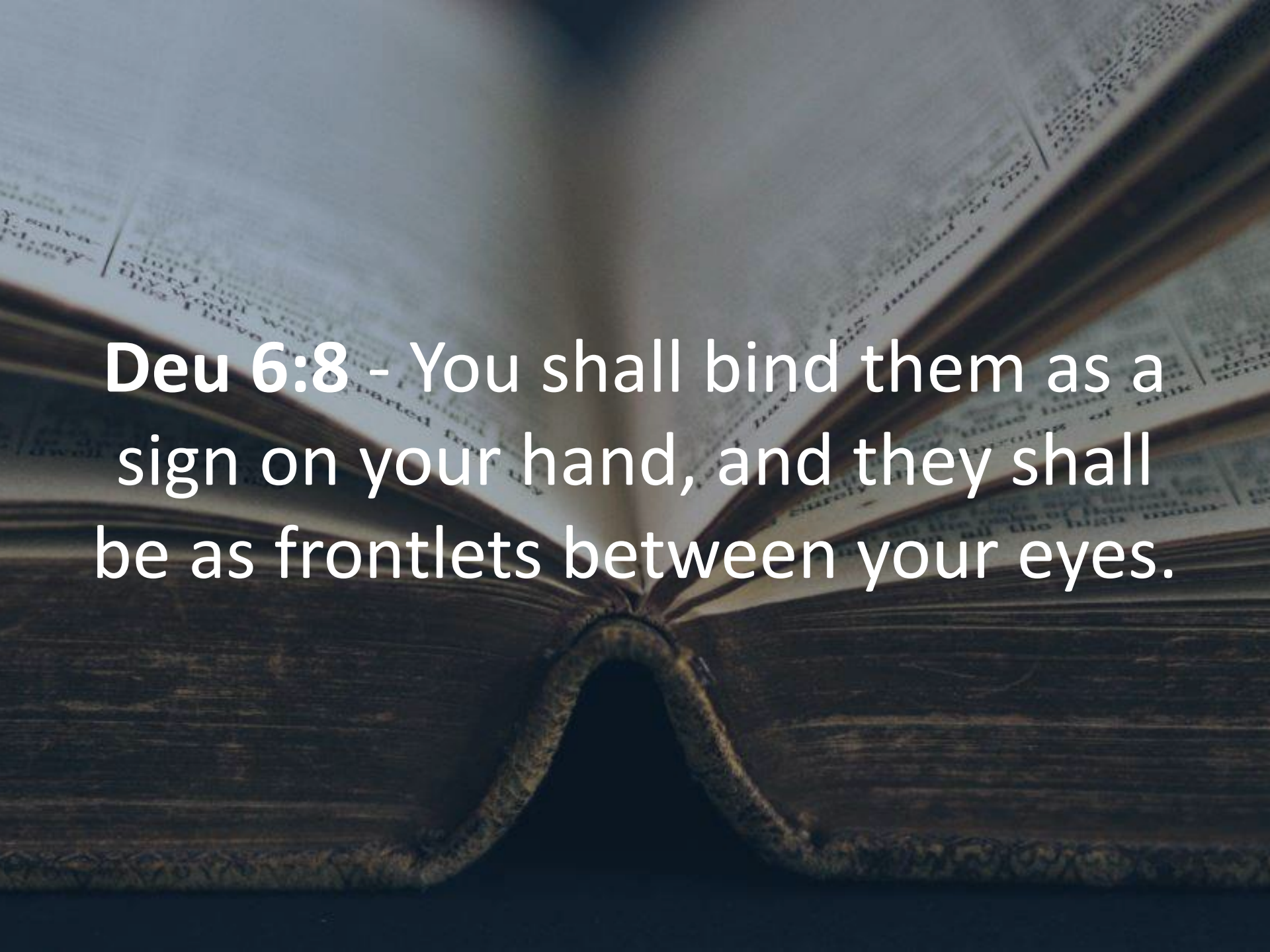
- Obedience – when you love someone, you will do what pleases them.
- Gratitude – when you love someone, you are thankful for having them in your life.
- Willingness to serve – when you love someone, you will want to help them.
- Desiring their presence – when you love someone, you want to be with them.



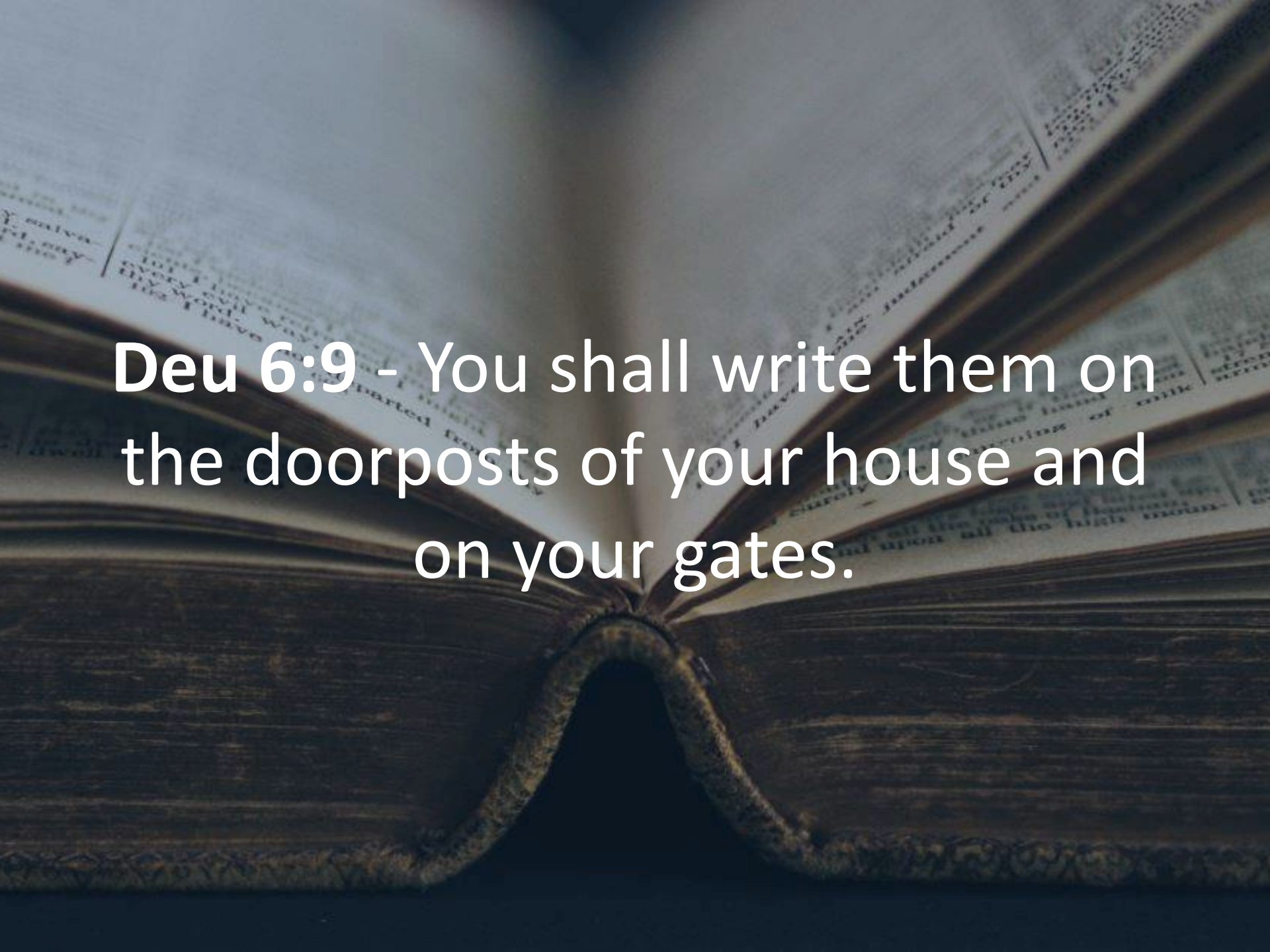
Deu 6:6 - "And these words which I
command you today shall be in
your heart.

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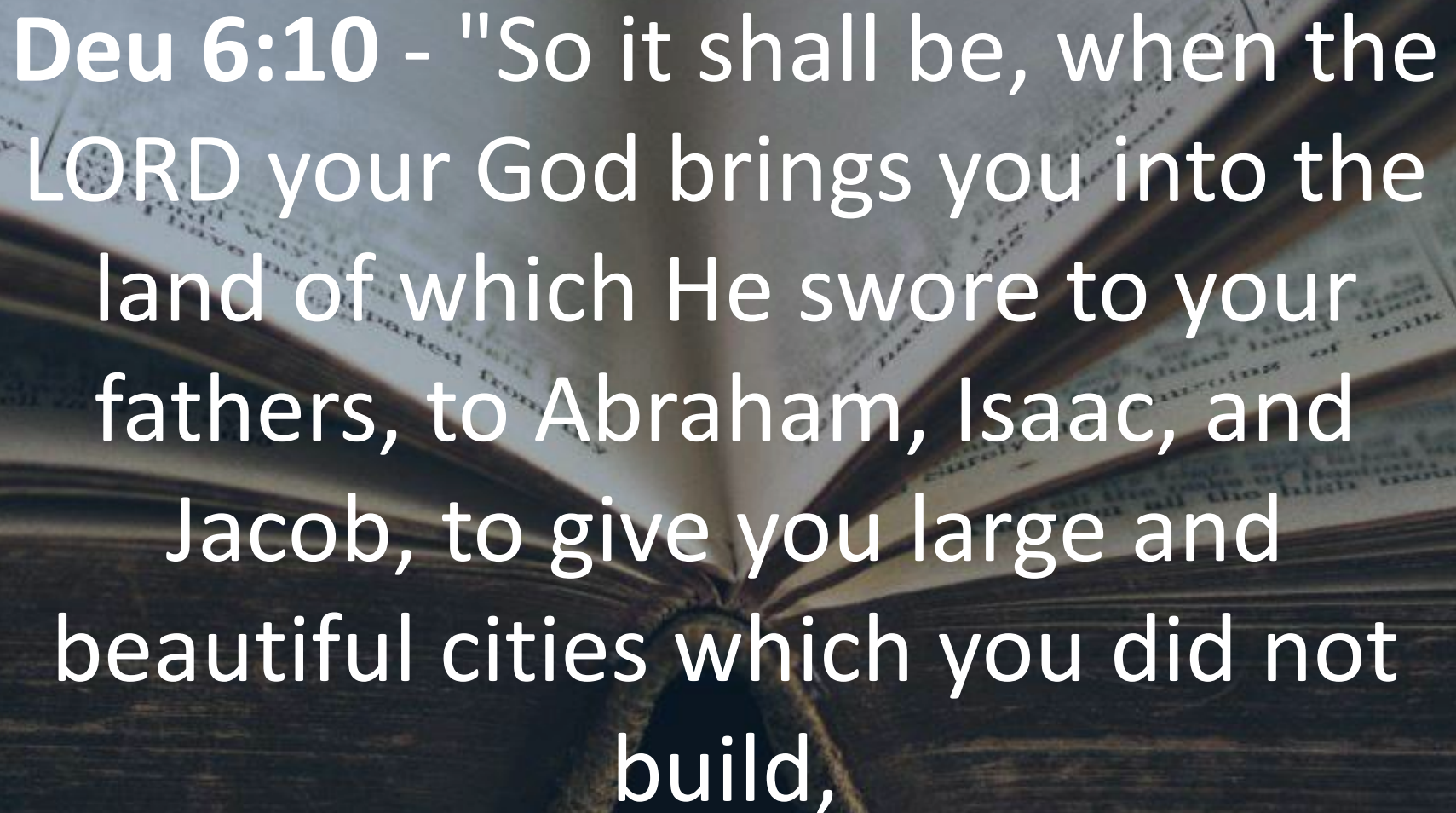
Deu 6:7 - You shall teach them
diligently to your children, and
shall talk of them when you sit in
your house, when you walk by the
way, when you lie down, and when
you rise up.



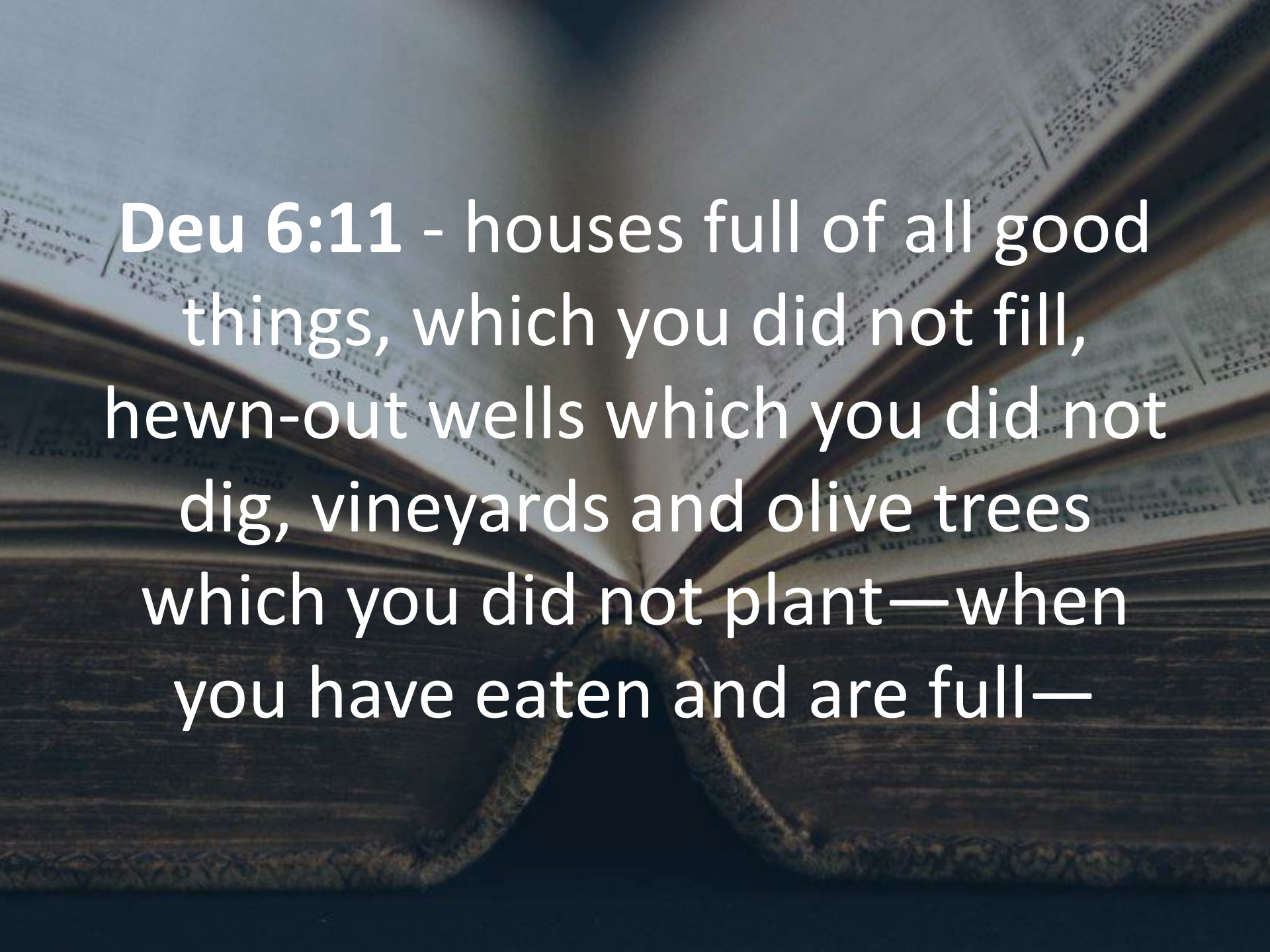
Deu 6:8 - You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.



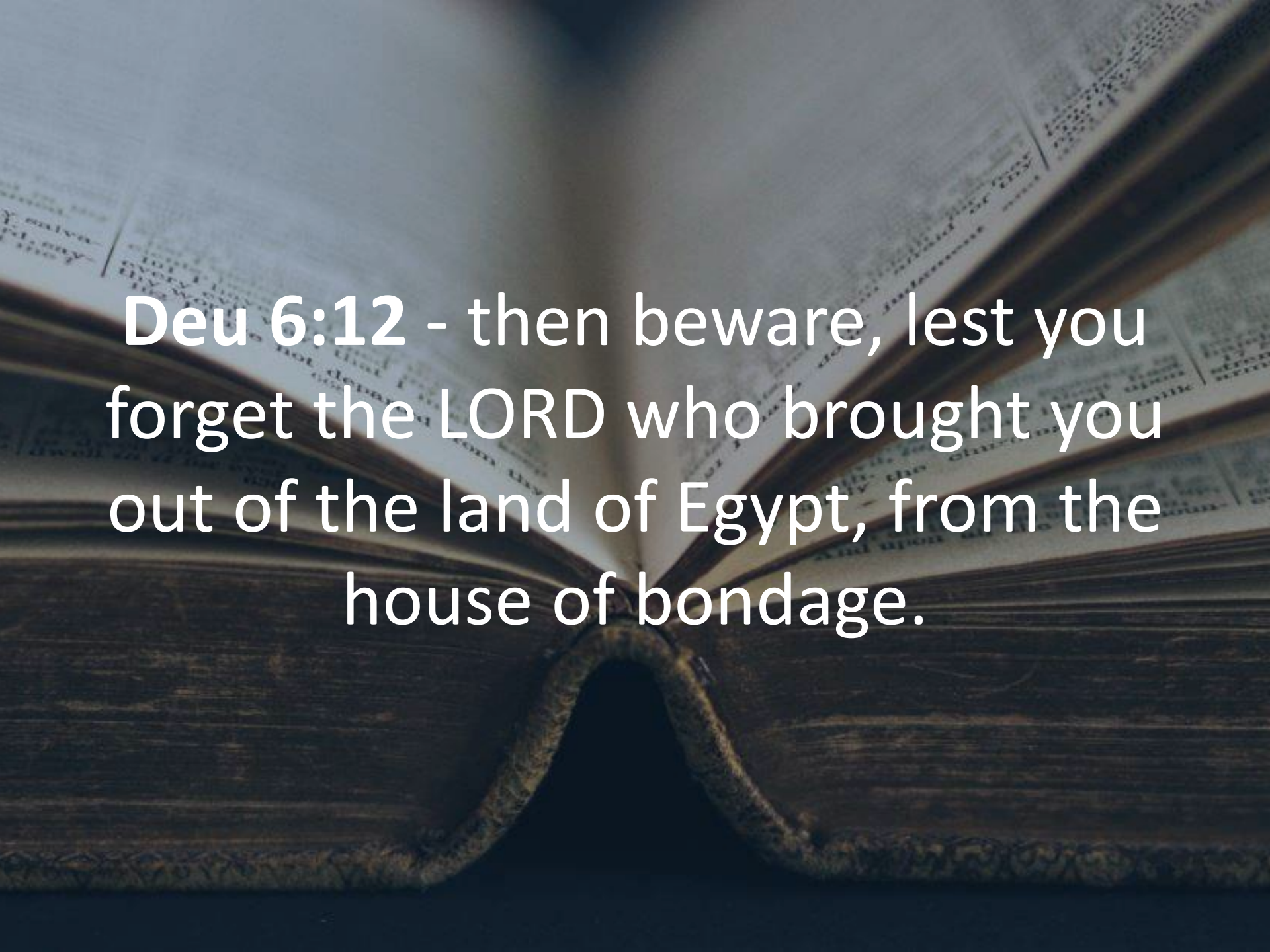
Deu 6:9 - You shall write them on
the doorposts of your house and
on your gates.

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with faint, illegible text. Overlaid on the center of the book is a large, white, serif font text. The text is arranged in seven lines, with the first line being the largest and the subsequent lines decreasing in size. The background is a soft, out-of-focus image of the book's pages and binding.

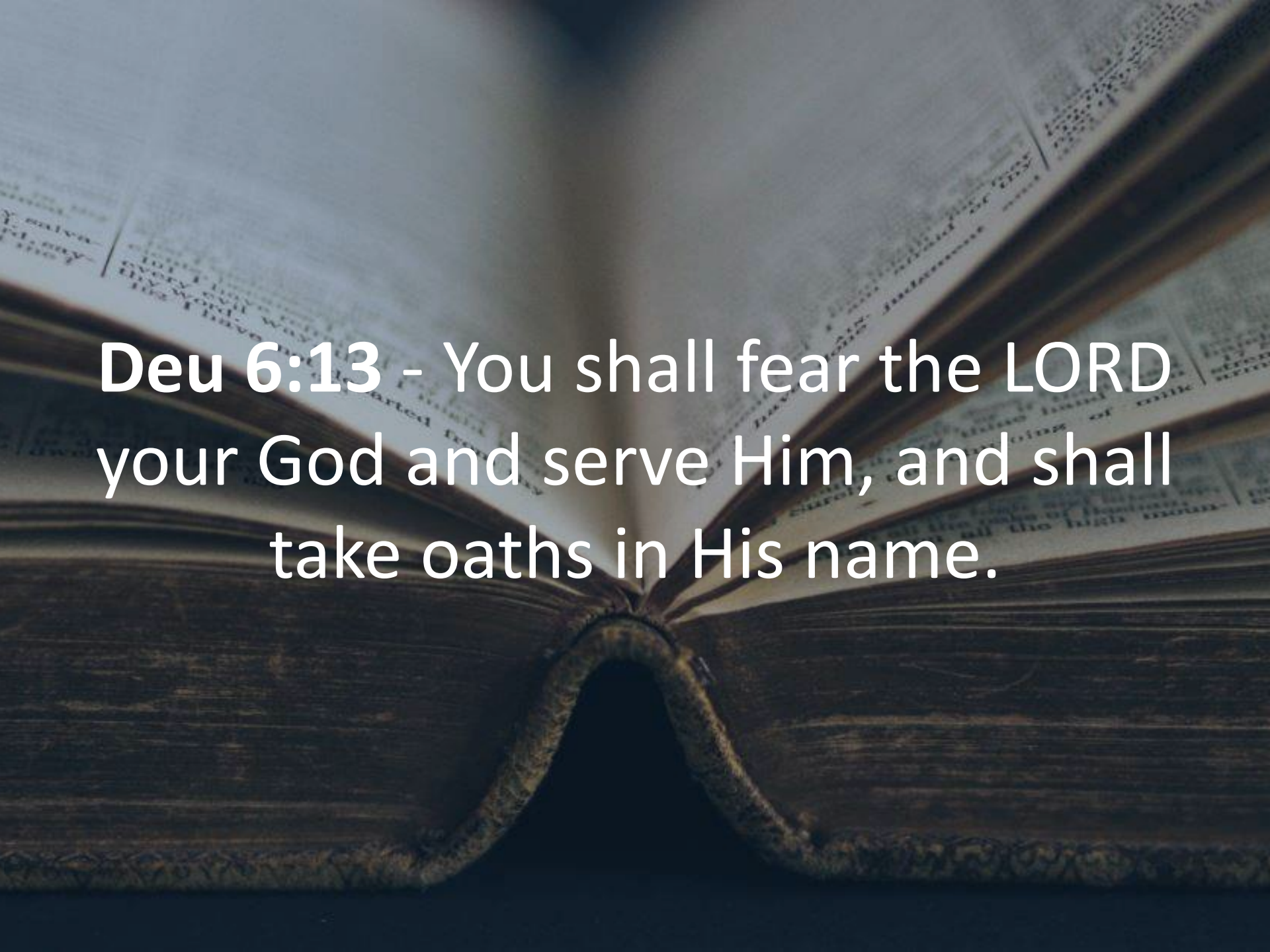
Deu 6:10 - "So it shall be, when the
LORD your God brings you into the
land of which He swore to your
fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and
Jacob, to give you large and
beautiful cities which you did not
build,



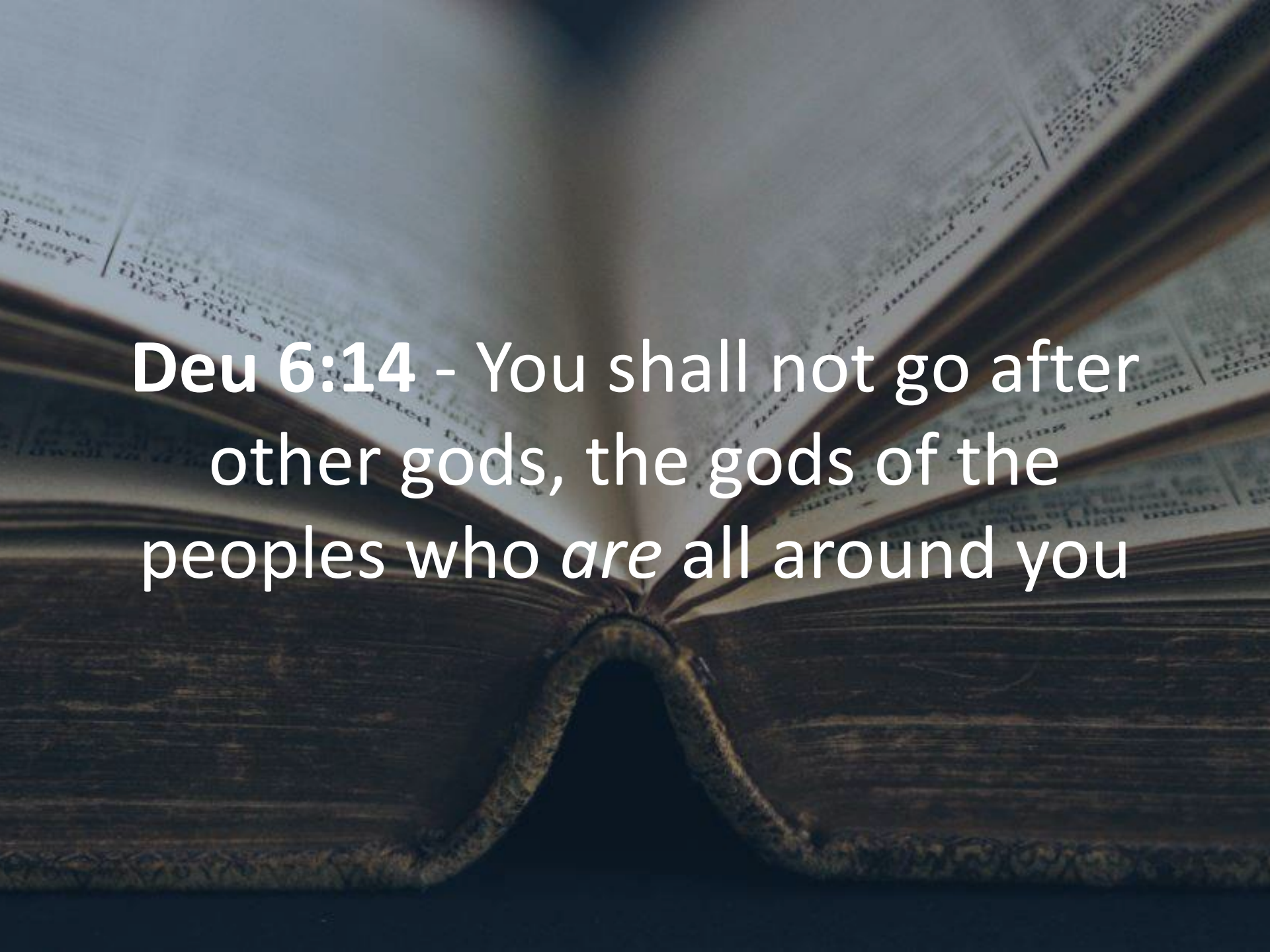
Deu 6:11 - houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant—when you have eaten and are full—




Deu 6:12 - then beware, lest you forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.




Deu 6:13 - You shall fear the LORD
your God and serve Him, and shall
take oaths in His name.




Deu 6:14 - You shall not go after
other gods, the gods of the
peoples who *are* all around you

An open book with a dark, textured cover is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with small, illegible text. Overlaid on the center of the book is a large, white, serif text block. The text is arranged in six lines, with the last line being significantly larger than the others.

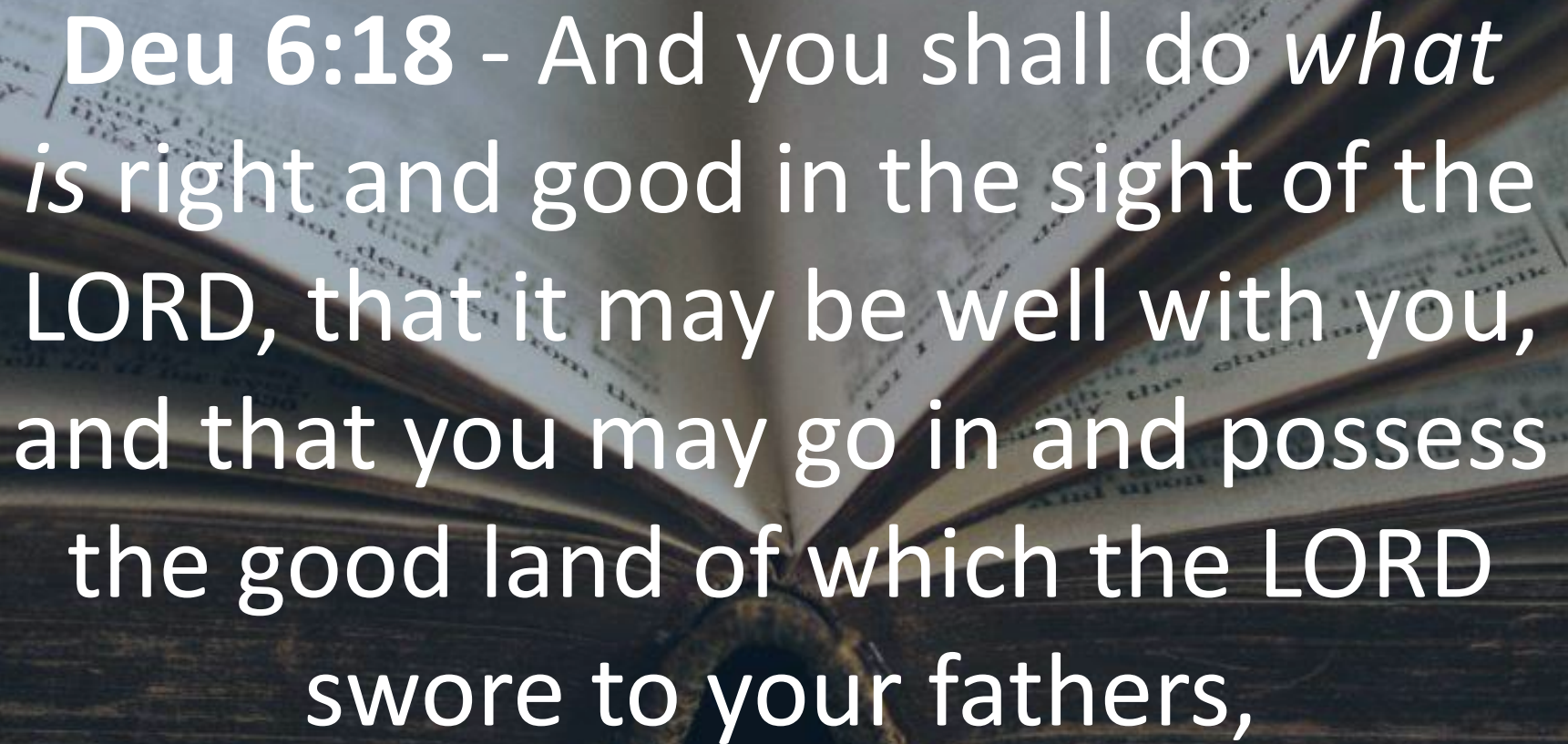
Deu 6:15 - (for the LORD your
God *is* a jealous God among you),
lest the anger of the LORD your
God be aroused against you and
destroy you from the face of the
earth.




Deu 6:16 - "You shall not tempt the
LORD your God as you
tempted *Him* in Massah.



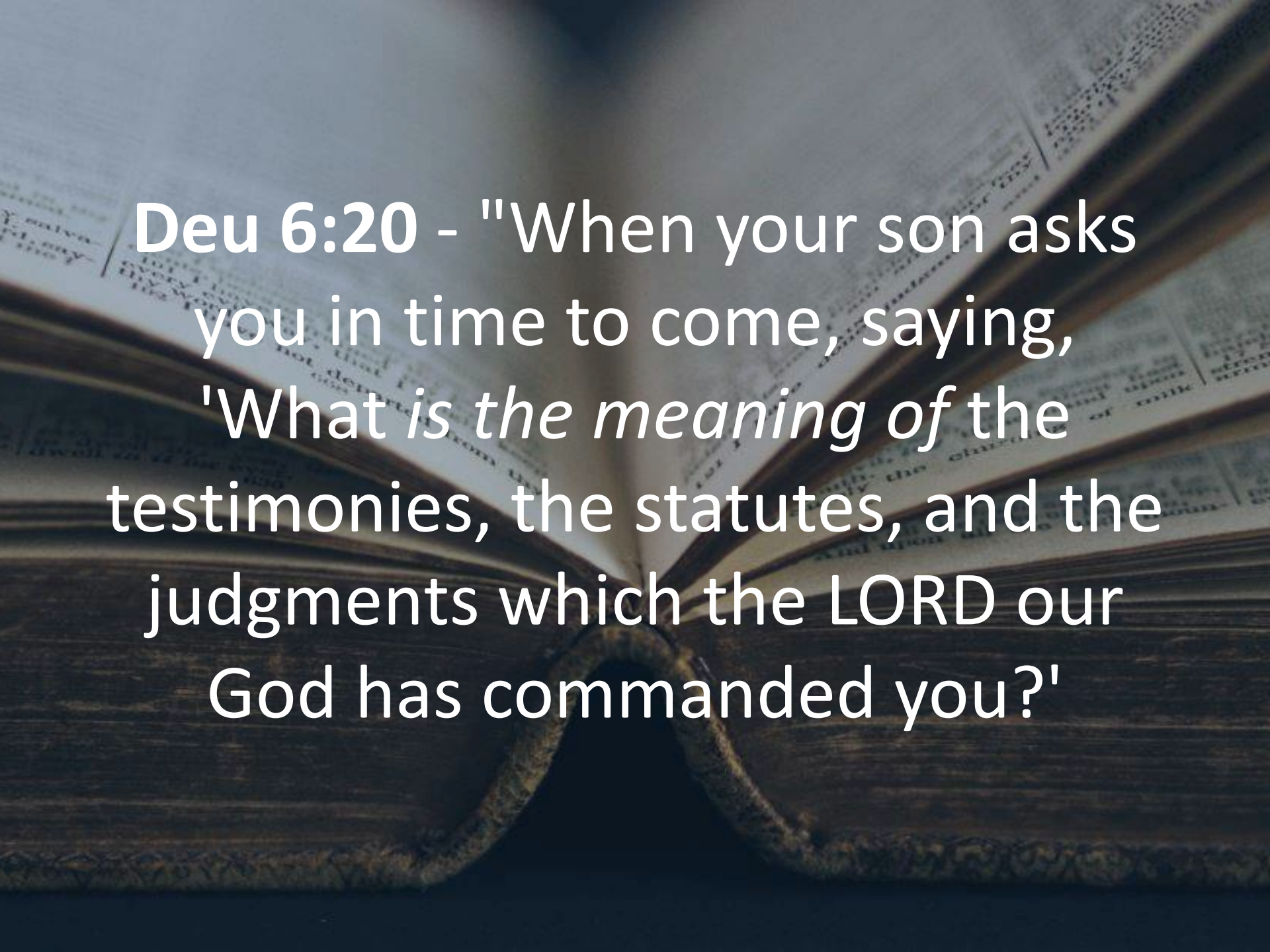
Deu 6:17 - You shall diligently keep
the commandments of the LORD
your God, His testimonies, and His
statutes which He has commanded
you.



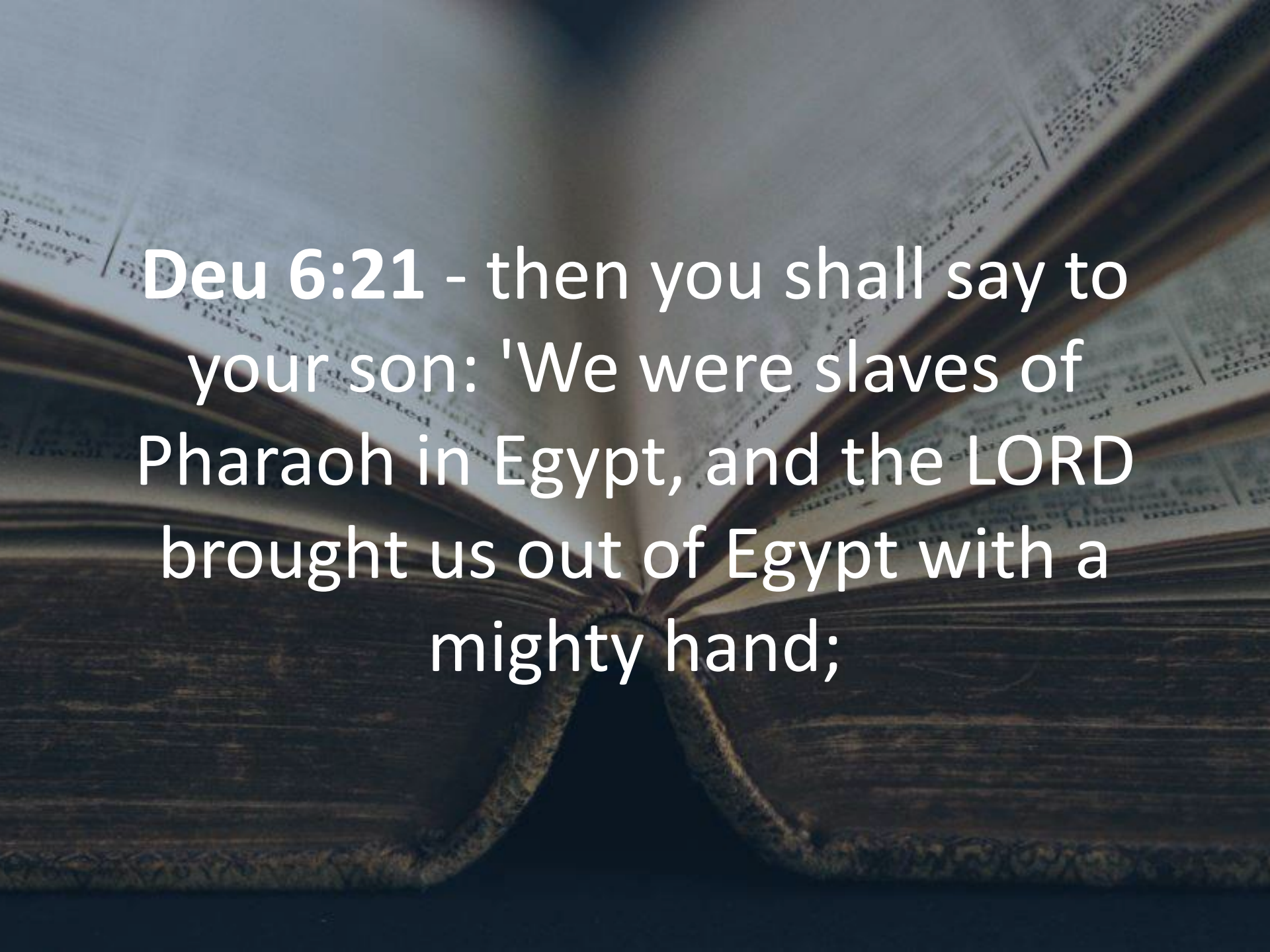
Deu 6:18 - And you shall do *what*
is right and good in the sight of the
LORD, that it may be well with you,
and that you may go in and possess
the good land of which the LORD
swore to your fathers,



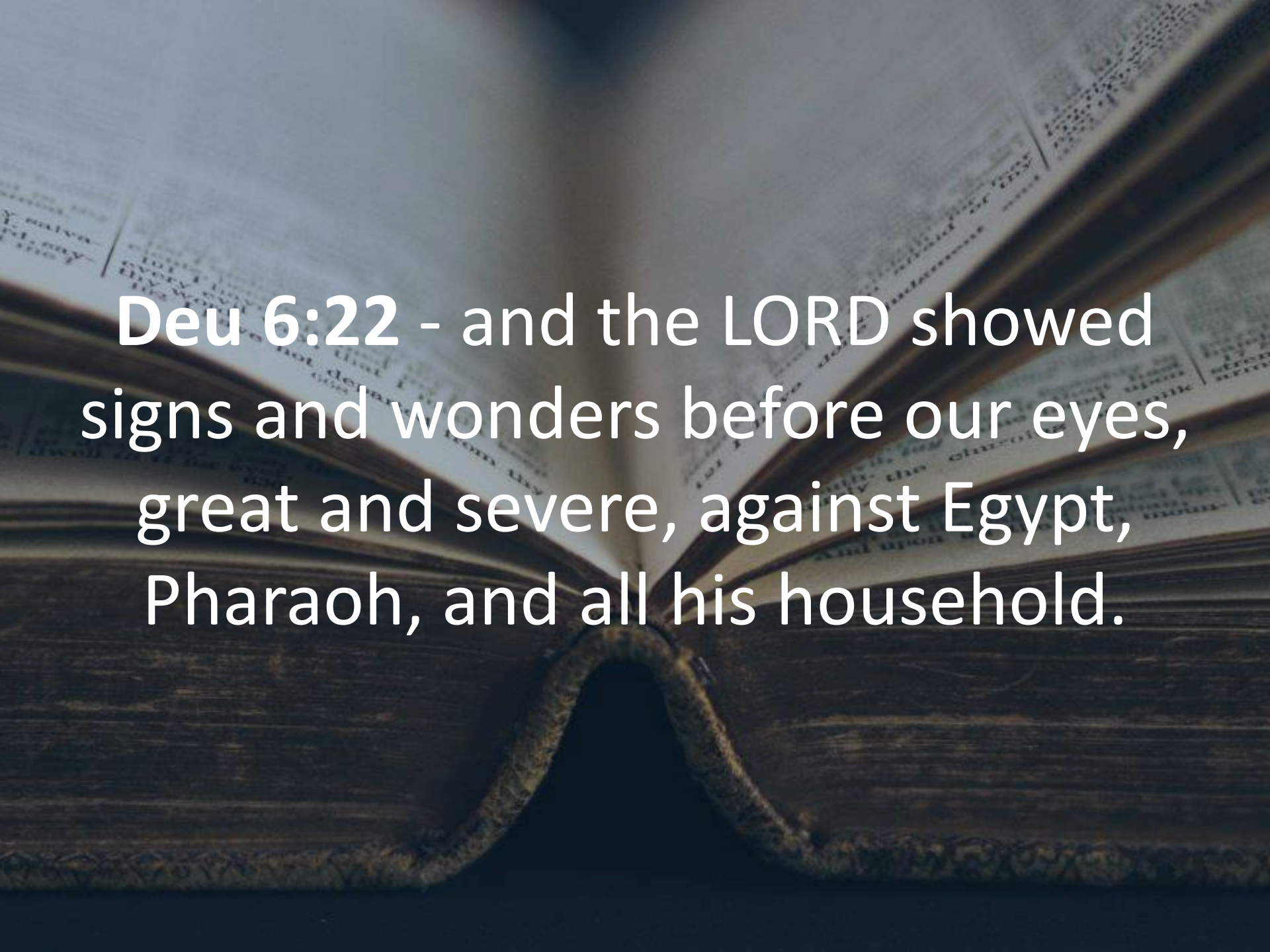
Deu 6:19 - to cast out all your
enemies from before you, as the
LORD has spoken.



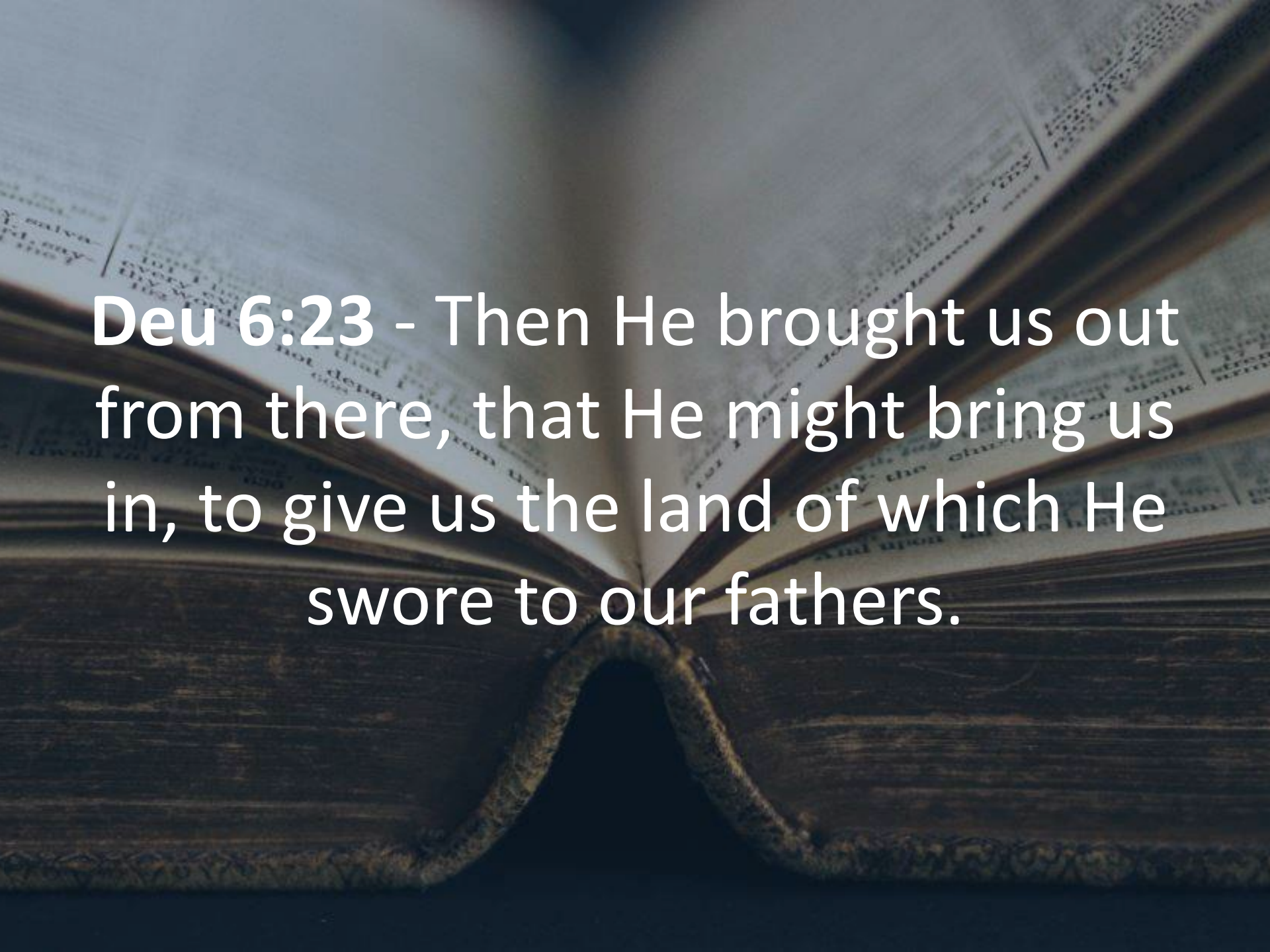
Deu 6:20 - "When your son asks
you in time to come, saying,
'What *is the meaning of* the
testimonies, the statutes, and the
judgments which the LORD our
God has commanded you?'



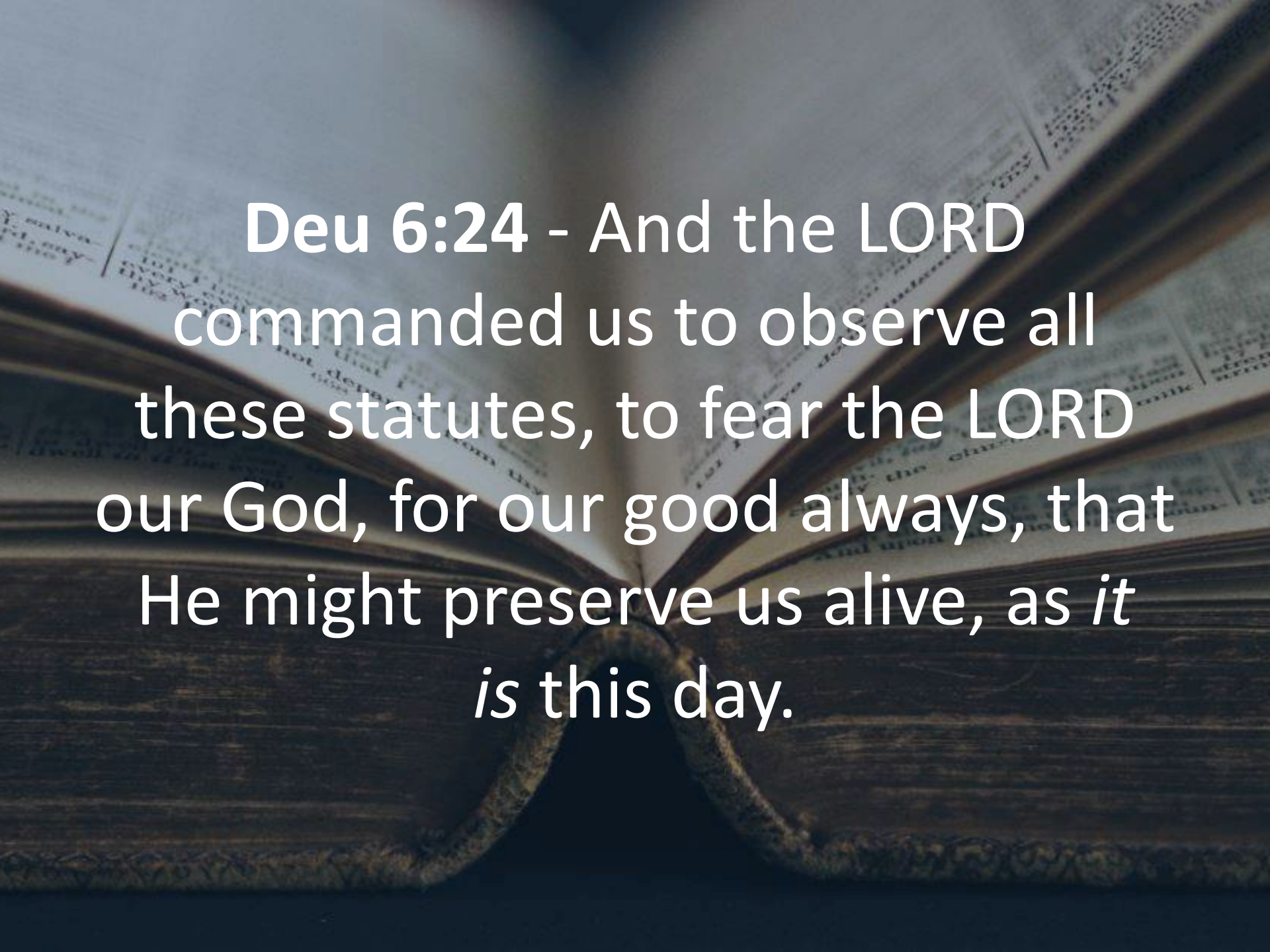
Deu 6:21 - then you shall say to
your son: 'We were slaves of
Pharaoh in Egypt, and the LORD
brought us out of Egypt with a
mighty hand;



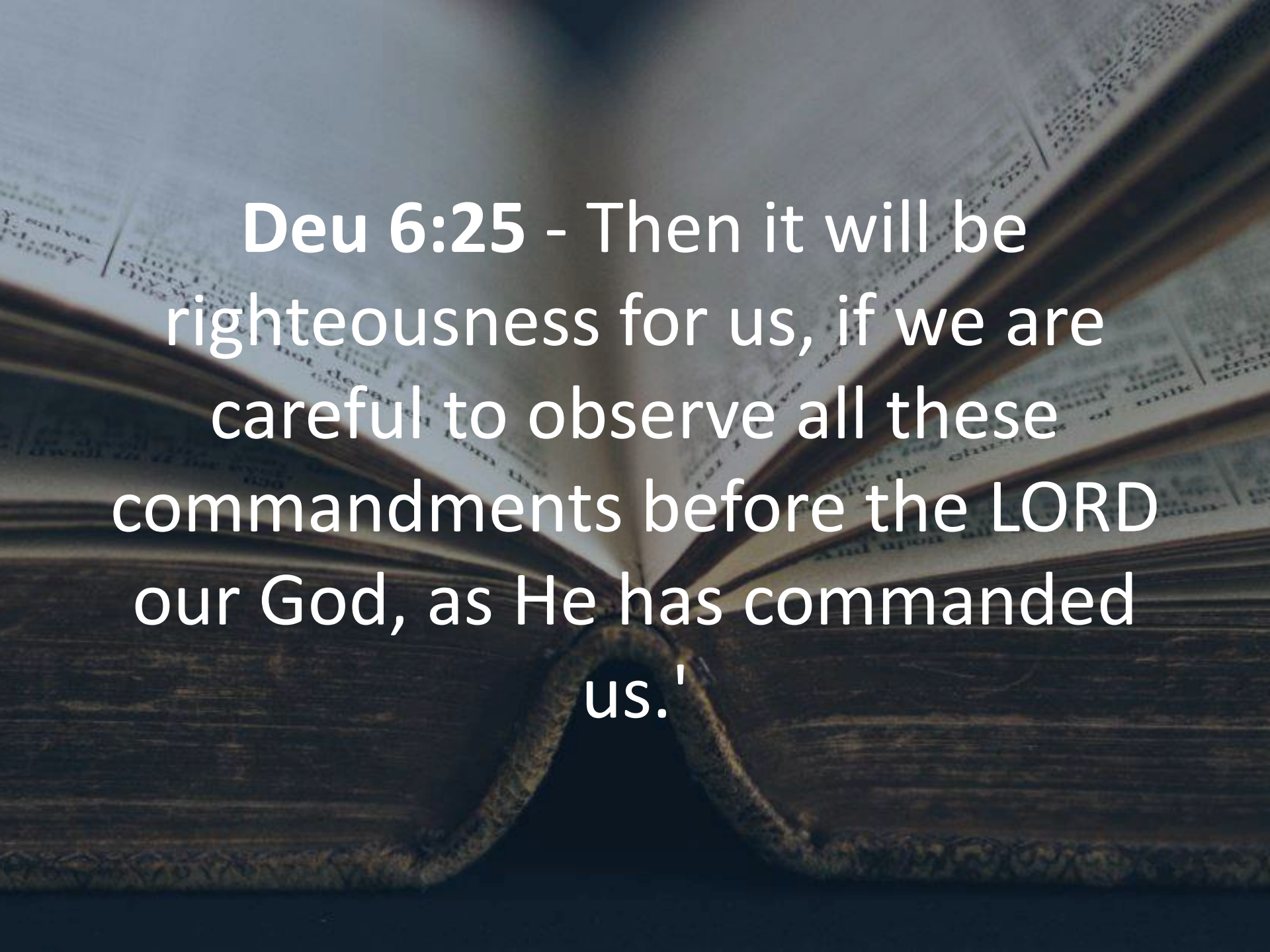
Deu 6:22 - and the LORD showed
signs and wonders before our eyes,
great and severe, against Egypt,
Pharaoh, and all his household.



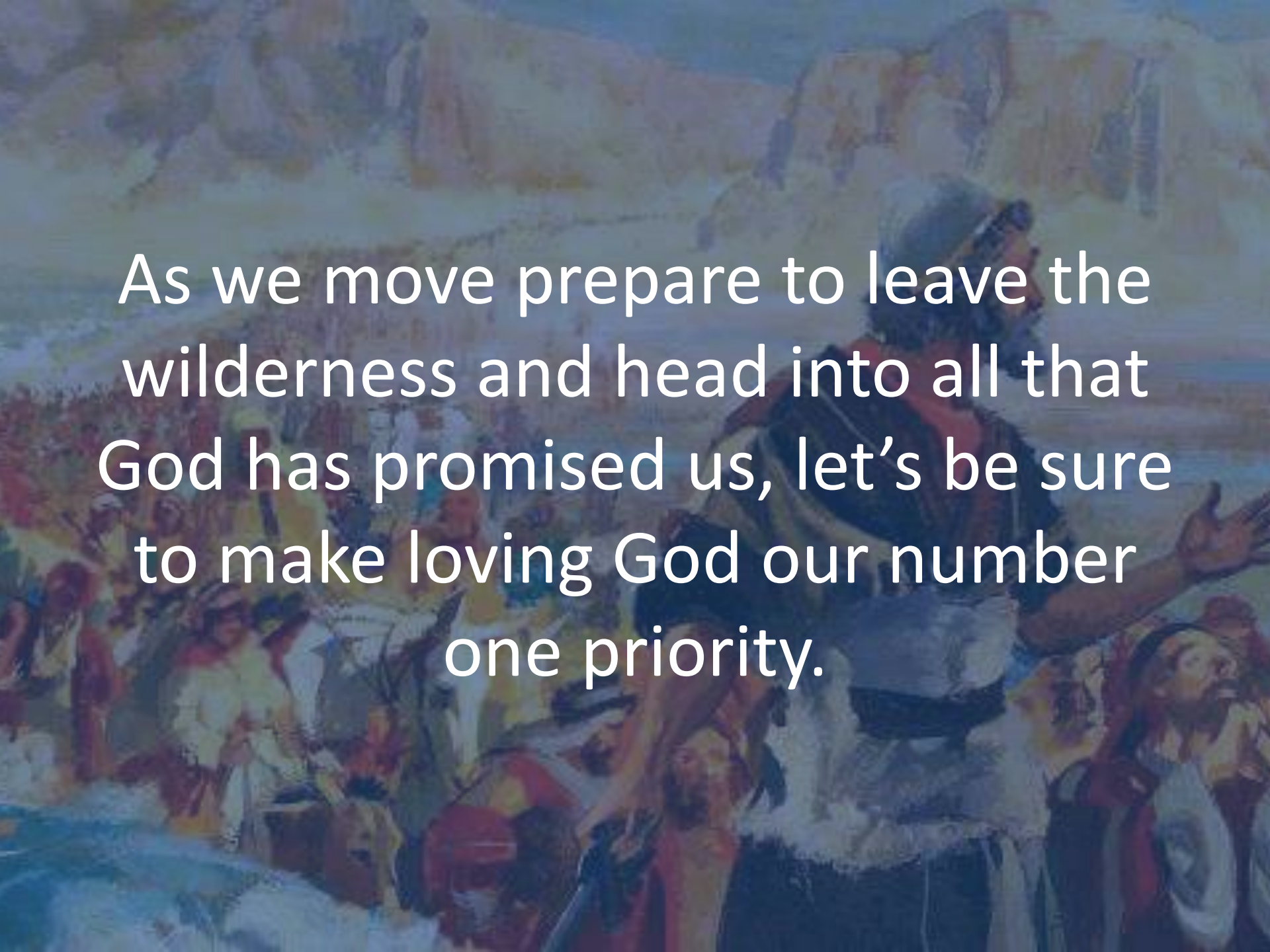
Deu 6:23 - Then He brought us out from there, that He might bring us in, to give us the land of which He swore to our fathers.



Deu 6:24 - And the LORD
commanded us to observe all
these statutes, to fear the LORD
our God, for our good always, that
He might preserve us alive, as *it*
is this day.

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Deu 6:25 - Then it will be
righteousness for us, if we are
careful to observe all these
commandments before the LORD
our God, as He has commanded
us.'

A painting depicting a biblical scene, likely the Israelites leaving Egypt. In the foreground, a man with a long white beard and a blue robe (Moses) stands with his arms outstretched, looking towards a large crowd of people. The crowd, dressed in various colorful garments, follows him through a landscape. The background shows a hazy, mountainous terrain under a blue sky. The overall style is classical, with visible brushstrokes and a rich color palette.

As we move prepare to leave the wilderness and head into all that God has promised us, let's be sure to make loving God our number one priority.

