

FINDING NINEVEH



JONAH 4:5-10

**Jonah's sermon was not
one and done**

He had to walk the streets of Nineveh

He had to eat something

**Somebody had to show
him some hospitality**

**He has witnessed their
repentance first hand**



JONAH LEFT THE CITY

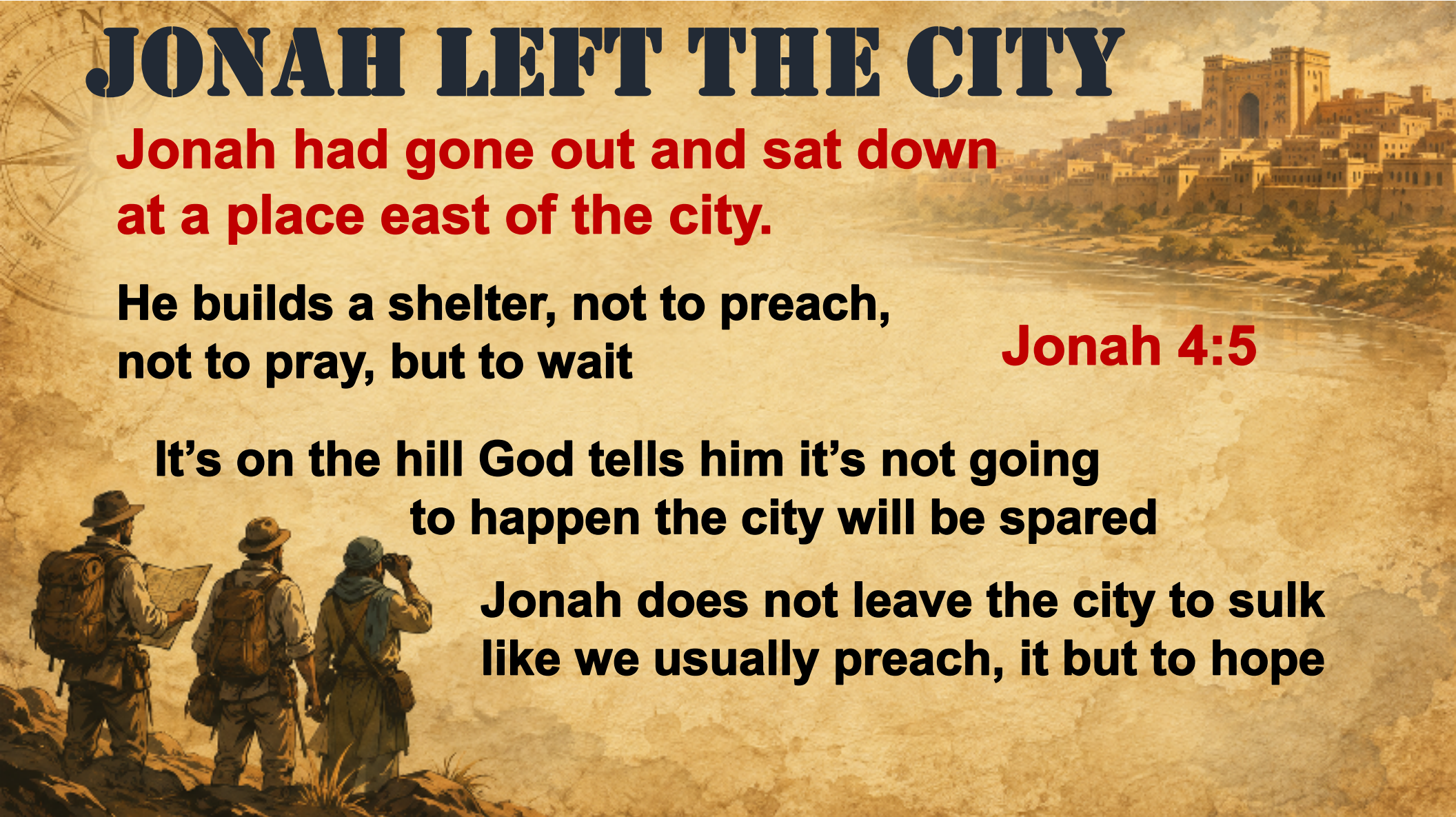
**Jonah had gone out and sat down
at a place east of the city.**

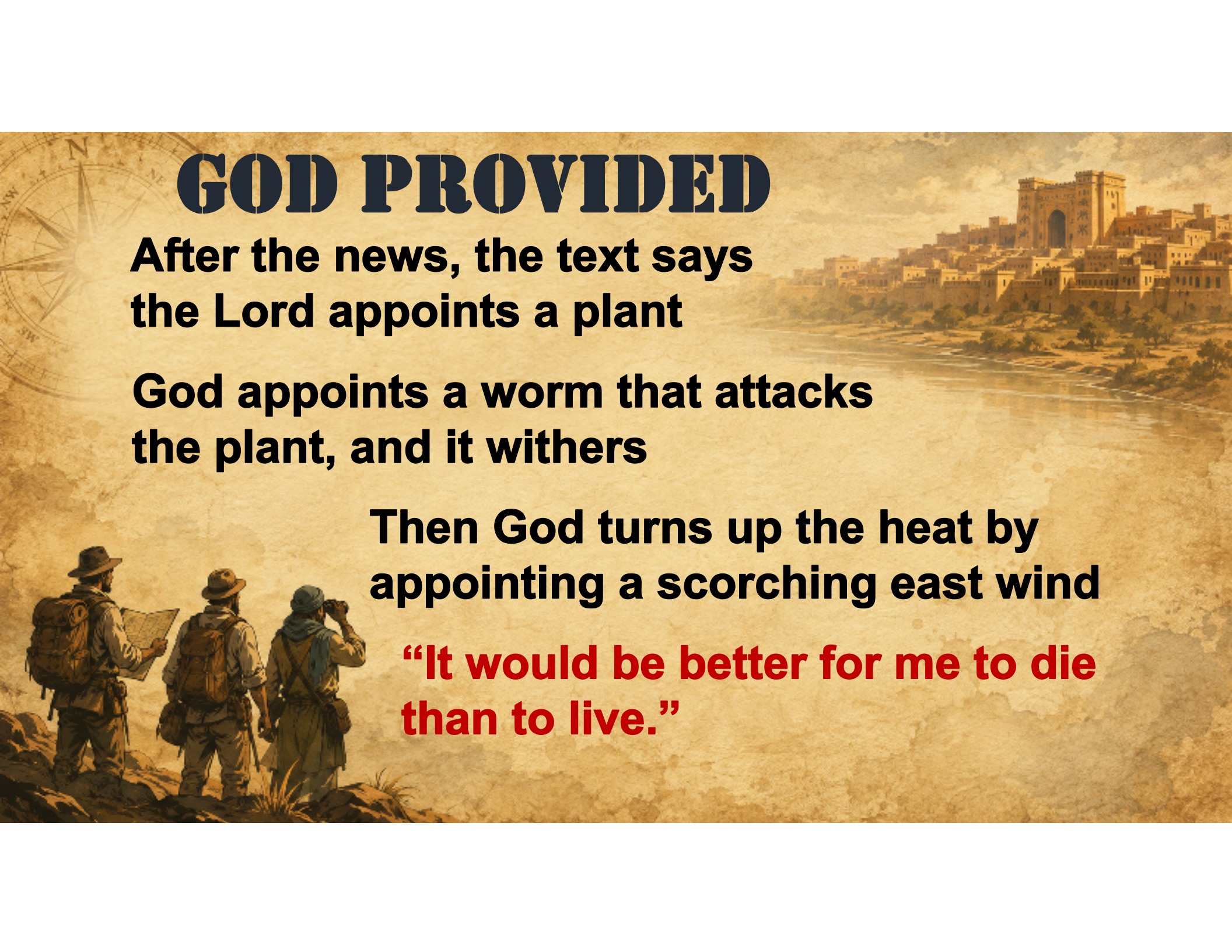
**He builds a shelter, not to preach,
not to pray, but to wait**

Jonah 4:5

**It's on the hill God tells him it's not going
to happen the city will be spared**

**Jonah does not leave the city to sulk
like we usually preach, it but to hope**





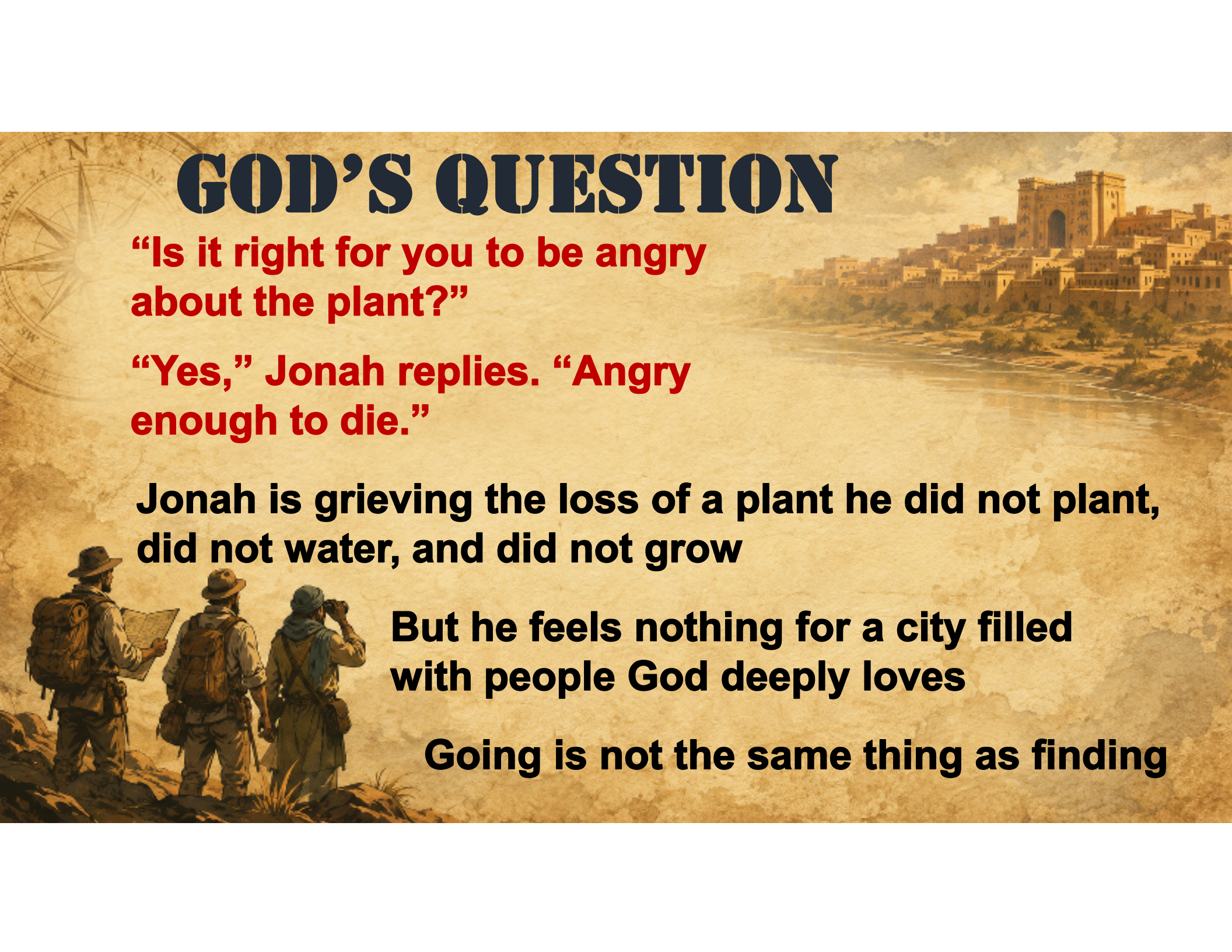
GOD PROVIDED

**After the news, the text says
the Lord appoints a plant**

**God appoints a worm that attacks
the plant, and it withers**

**Then God turns up the heat by
appointing a scorching east wind**

**“It would be better for me to die
than to live.”**



GOD'S QUESTION

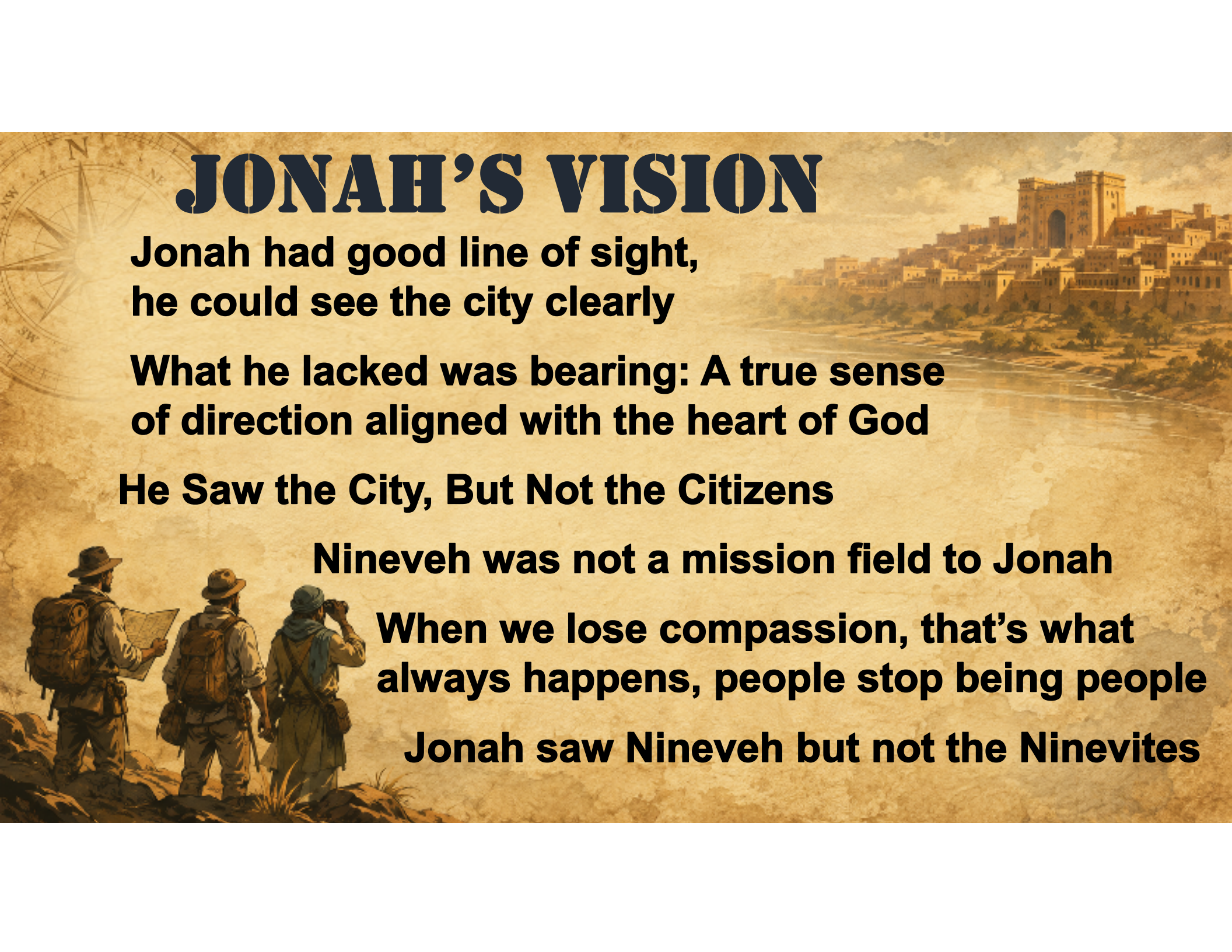
“Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“Yes,” Jonah replies. “Angry enough to die.”

Jonah is grieving the loss of a plant he did not plant, did not water, and did not grow

But he feels nothing for a city filled with people God deeply loves

Going is not the same thing as finding

The background is a sepia-toned illustration. On the left, a large compass rose is partially visible. In the center, three men in desert attire (hats, backpacks) stand on a rocky outcrop, looking towards the right. One man holds a map, another uses binoculars. On the right, a large, walled city (Nineveh) sits atop a hill, overlooking a river. The overall style is that of a vintage travel poster or historical illustration.

JONAH'S VISION

**Jonah had good line of sight,
he could see the city clearly**

**What he lacked was bearing: A true sense
of direction aligned with the heart of God**

He Saw the City, But Not the Citizens

Nineveh was not a mission field to Jonah

**When we lose compassion, that's what
always happens, people stop being people**

Jonah saw Nineveh but not the Ninevites

JONAH'S CONCERN

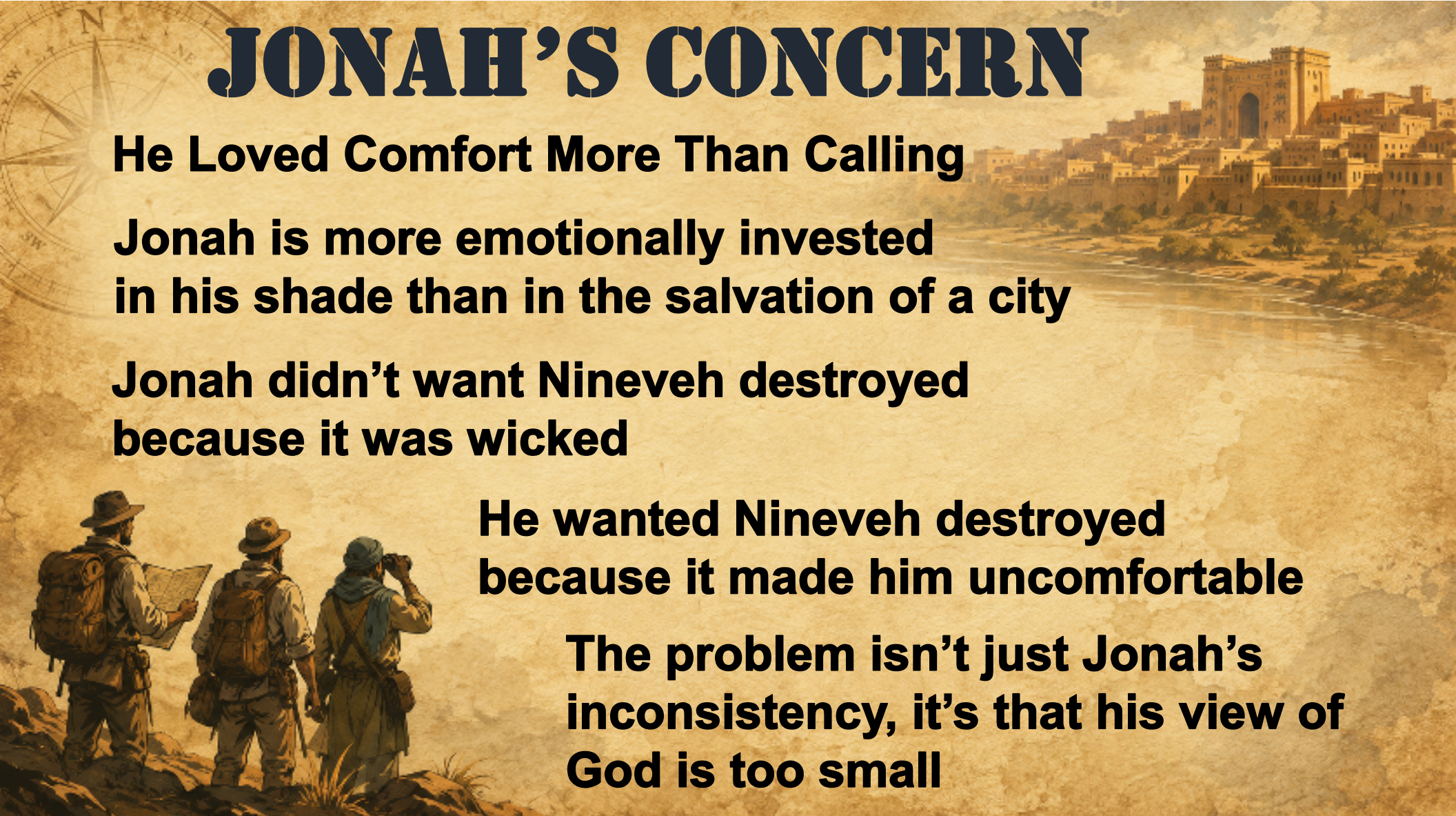
He Loved Comfort More Than Calling

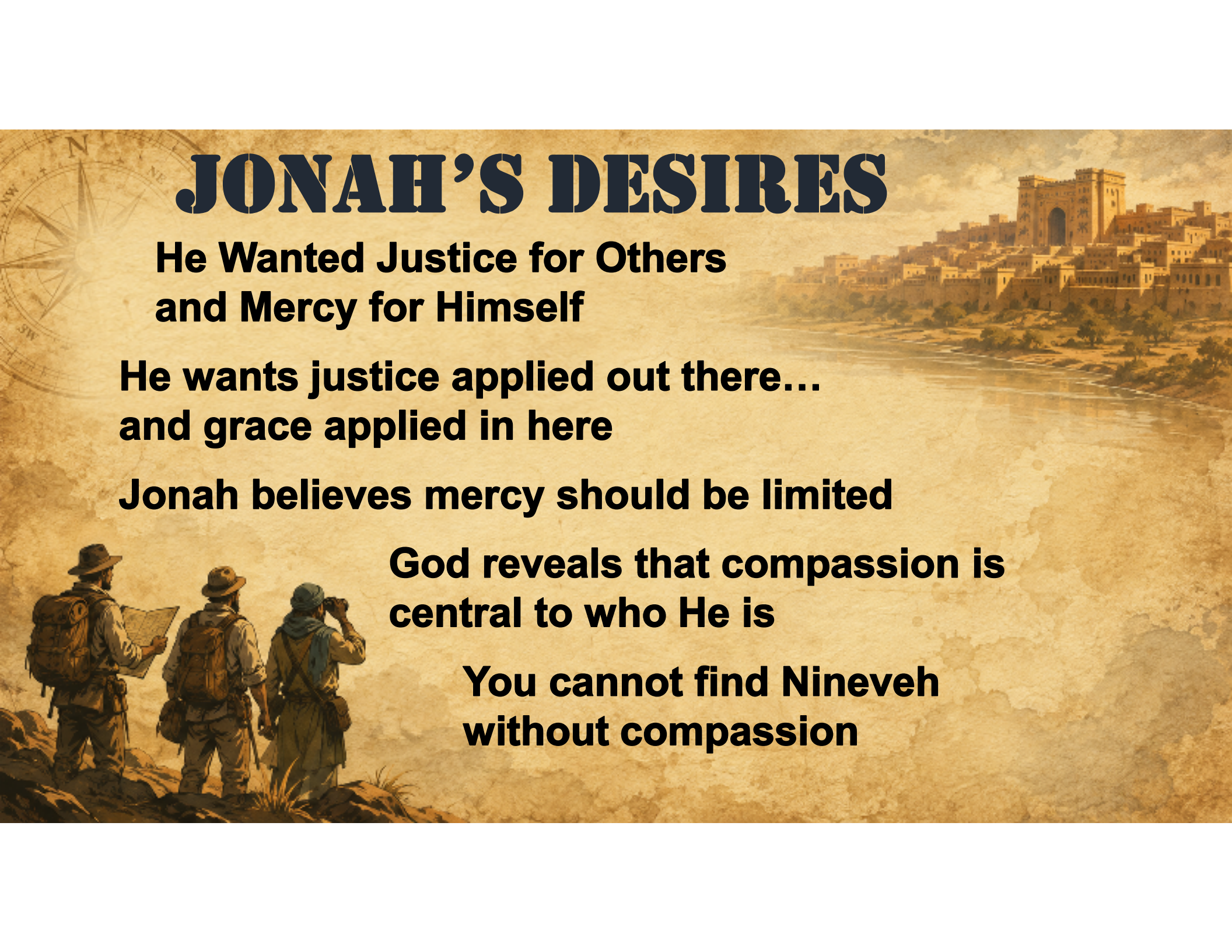
**Jonah is more emotionally invested
in his shade than in the salvation of a city**

**Jonah didn't want Nineveh destroyed
because it was wicked**

**He wanted Nineveh destroyed
because it made him uncomfortable**

**The problem isn't just Jonah's
inconsistency, it's that his view of
God is too small**



The background is a sepia-toned illustration. On the left, a large compass rose is partially visible. In the center, a wide river flows towards the right. On the right bank, a large, ancient city with many buildings and a prominent tower sits on a hill. In the bottom left corner, three men in desert attire are standing on a rocky outcrop, looking out over the landscape. One man is holding a map, another is looking through binoculars, and the third is standing between them.

JONAH'S DESIRES

**He Wanted Justice for Others
and Mercy for Himself**

**He wants justice applied out there...
and grace applied in here**

Jonah believes mercy should be limited

**God reveals that compassion is
central to who He is**

**You cannot find Nineveh
without compassion**



FINDING NINEVEH

**Finding Nineveh is about pursuing
God where He is not just where
we're comfortable**

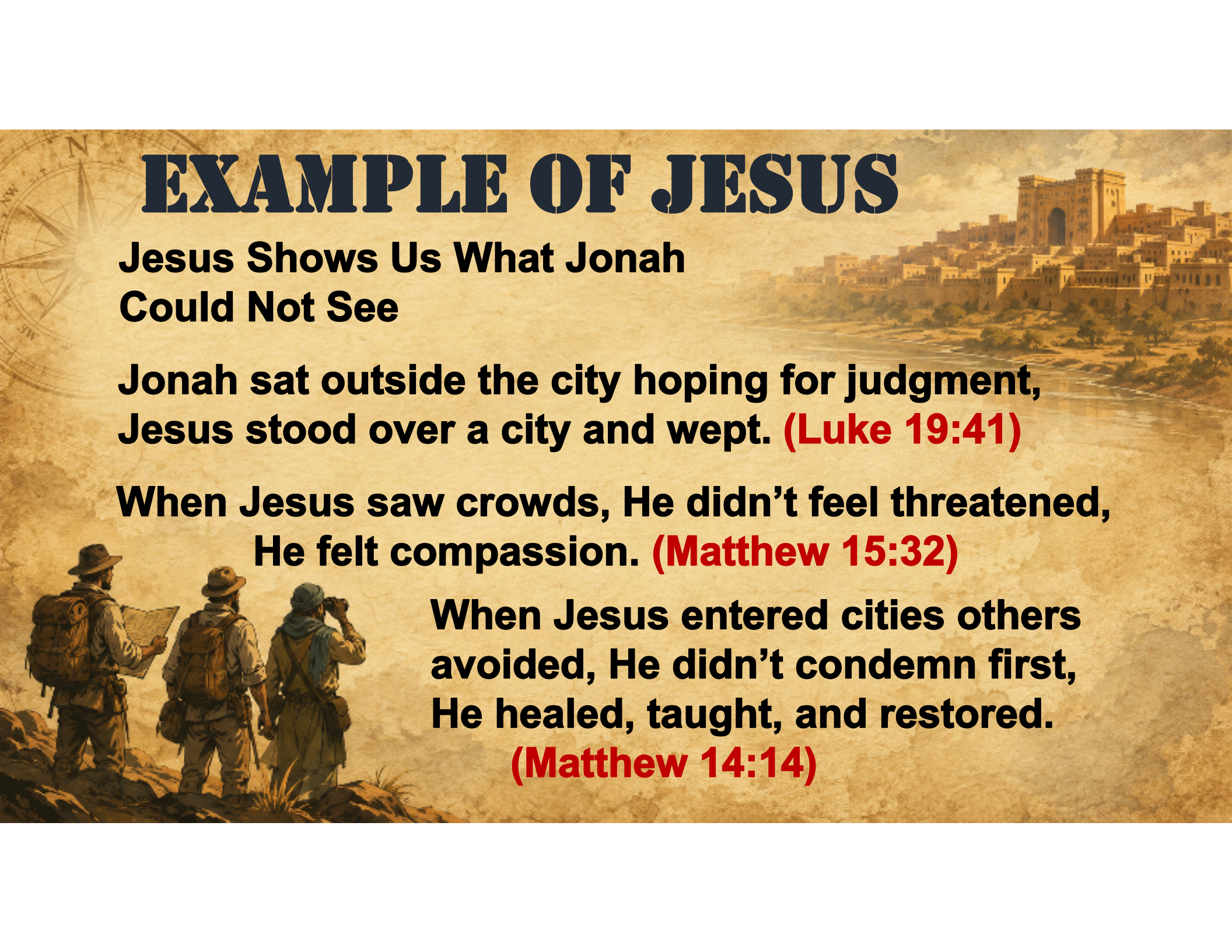
God pursued Jonah with a calling...

with a storm... with a fish... with a second chance

Now add to that a plant, a worm and a wind

**God pursued Nineveh not with
destruction, but with mercy**

**Compassion is not an accessory to
God's character, it is central to it**



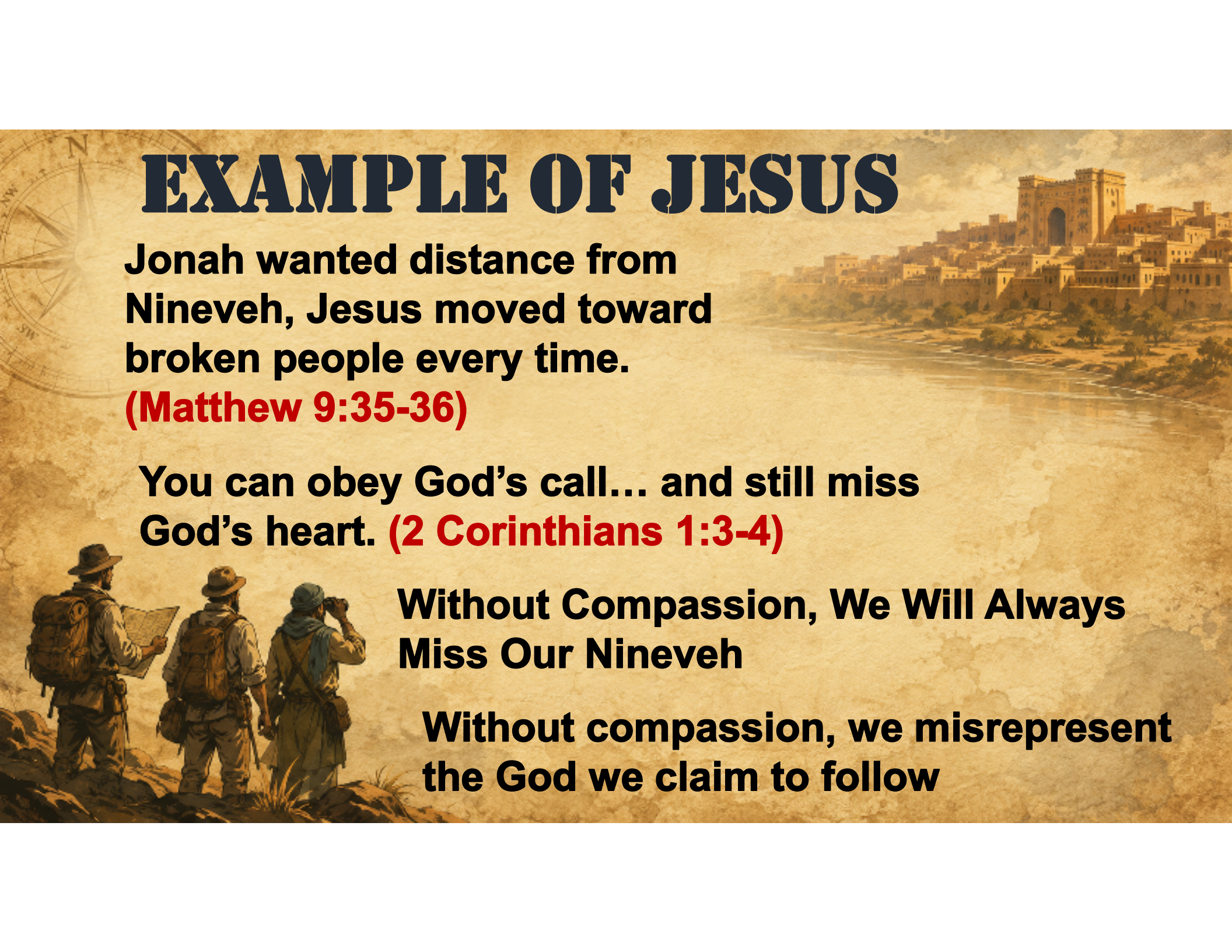
EXAMPLE OF JESUS

**Jesus Shows Us What Jonah
Could Not See**

**Jonah sat outside the city hoping for judgment,
Jesus stood over a city and wept. (Luke 19:41)**

**When Jesus saw crowds, He didn't feel threatened,
He felt compassion. (Matthew 15:32)**

**When Jesus entered cities others
avoided, He didn't condemn first,
He healed, taught, and restored.
(Matthew 14:14)**



EXAMPLE OF JESUS

Jonah wanted distance from Nineveh, Jesus moved toward broken people every time.

(Matthew 9:35-36)

You can obey God's call... and still miss God's heart. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)



Without Compassion, We Will Always Miss Our Nineveh

Without compassion, we misrepresent the God we claim to follow

FINDING NINEVEH



THE FINAL QUESTION

And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Jonah 4:11

God asks the question but

Jonah never answers

No repentance

No resolution

No redemption arc

The silence is intentional because the question is no longer Jonah's to answer... It's ours



The background is a sepia-toned illustration. In the upper right, a large, ancient city with a prominent tower sits atop a hill, overlooking a wide river. In the lower left, three explorers in hats and backpacks stand on a rocky outcrop, looking towards the city. One holds a map, another uses binoculars. A faint compass rose is visible in the upper left corner.

FINDING NINEVEH

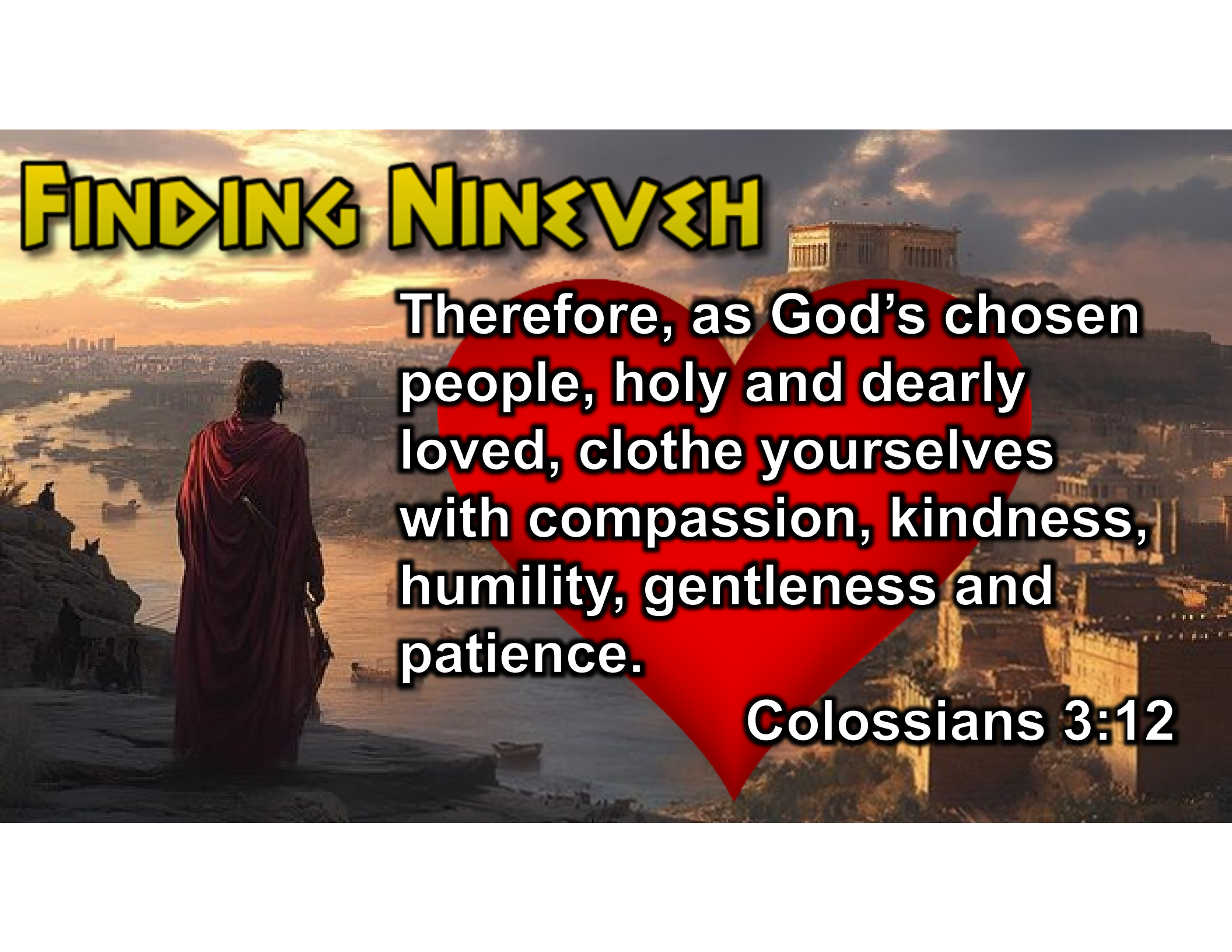
Who is our Nineveh?

**Where have we seen problems
instead of people?**

**Where have we protected comfort
instead of pursuing compassion?**

**Are we more upset about
lost shade...than lost souls?**

FINDING NINEVEH

A dramatic landscape painting. In the foreground, a man with long dark hair, wearing a red robe, stands on a rocky outcrop, looking out over a vast city. The city is built on a hillside, with a large, classical-style temple or palace at the top. The city is surrounded by a river or sea, with several small boats visible. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is contemplative and majestic.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12