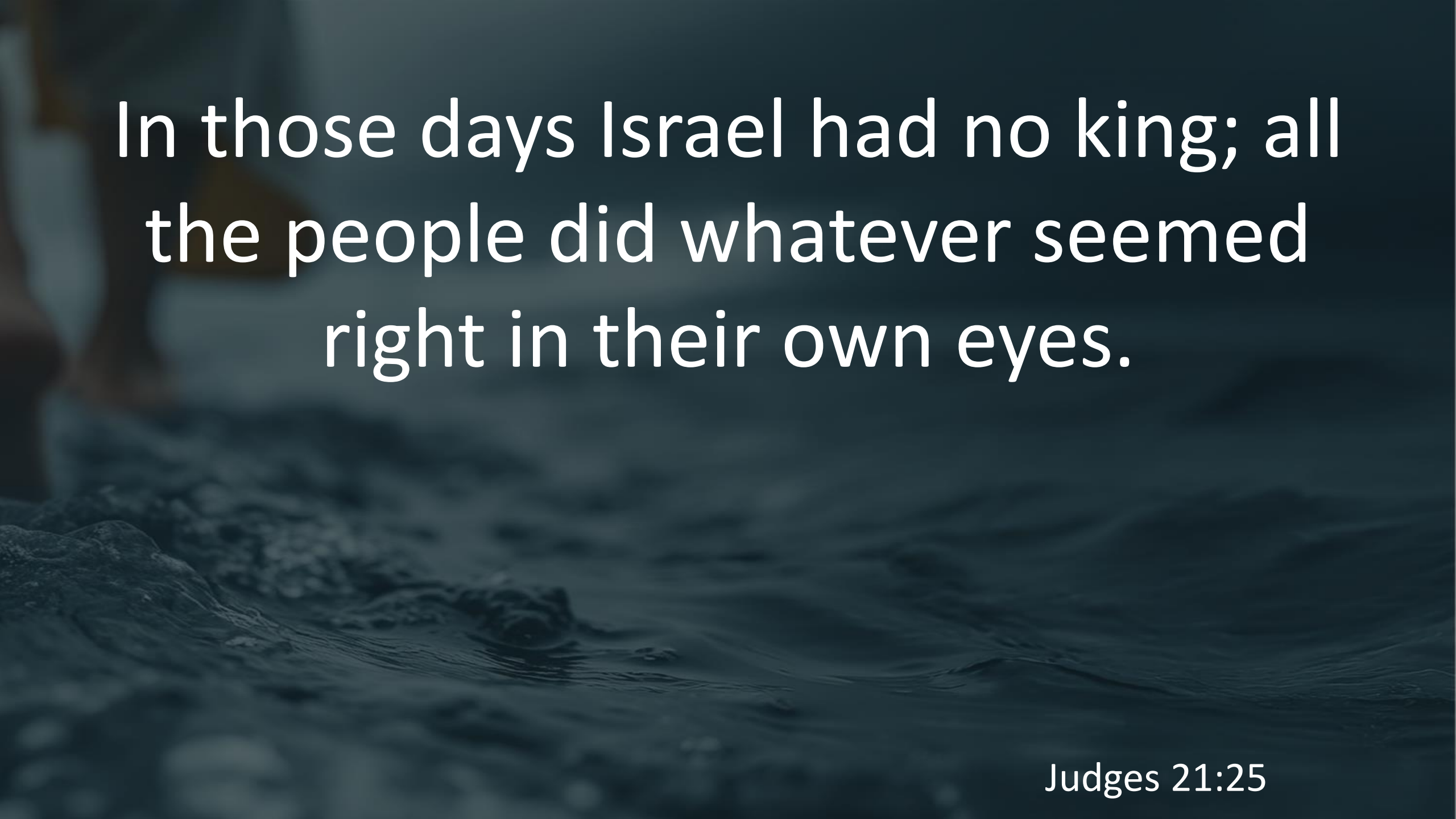


A person's legs are visible in the upper left, walking on a dark, wet, rocky surface. Water is splashing around the feet, creating white foam and droplets. The background is a blurred expanse of water and a hazy sky. The overall color palette is cool, with blues, greys, and a hint of orange from the sky.

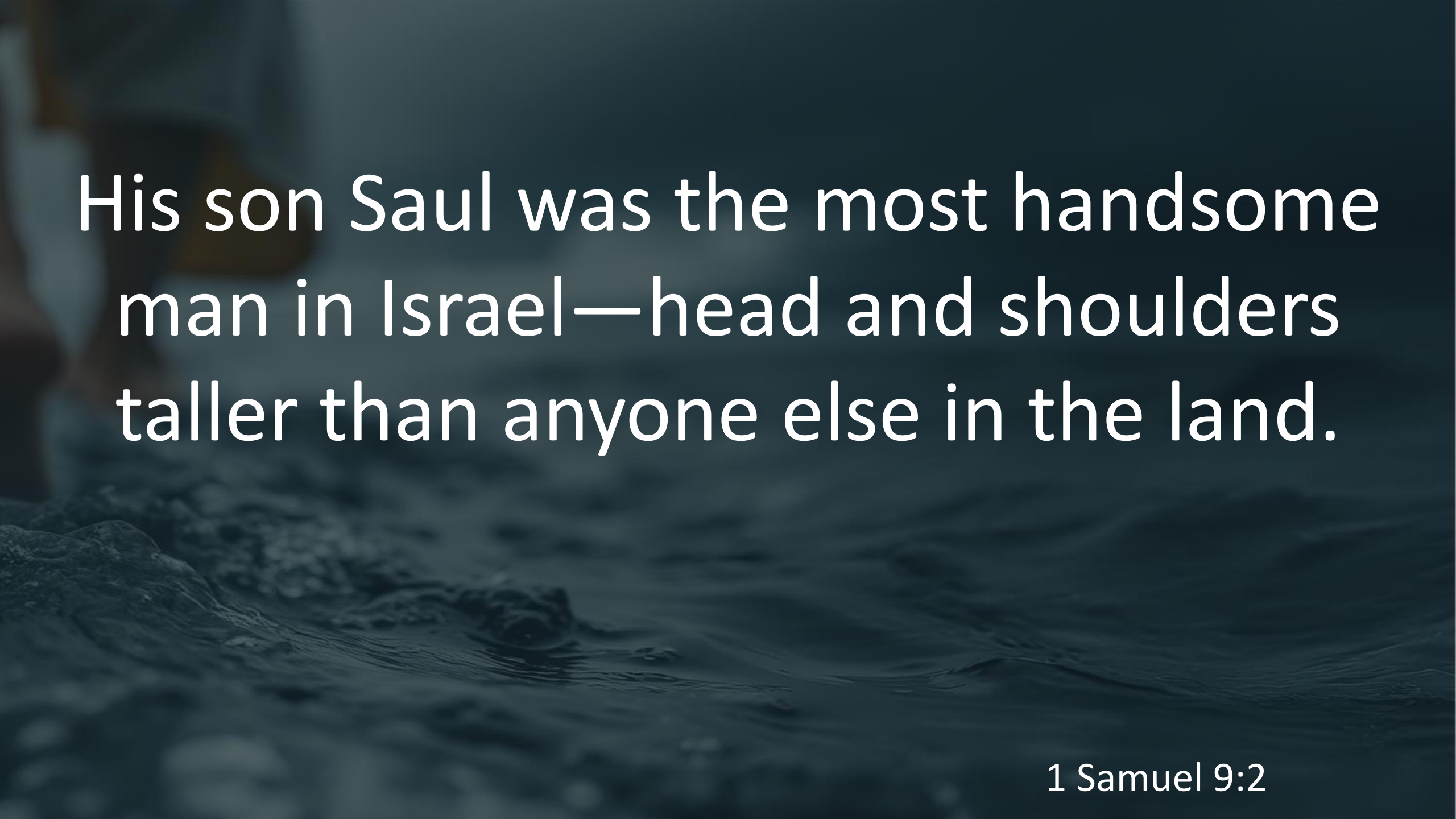
Faith that Bears Fruit

DAVID



In those days Israel had no king; all
the people did whatever seemed
right in their own eyes.

Judges 21:25



His son Saul was the most handsome
man in Israel—head and shoulders
taller than anyone else in the land.

1 Samuel 9:2

When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, “Surely this is the Lord’s anointed!” 7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him.

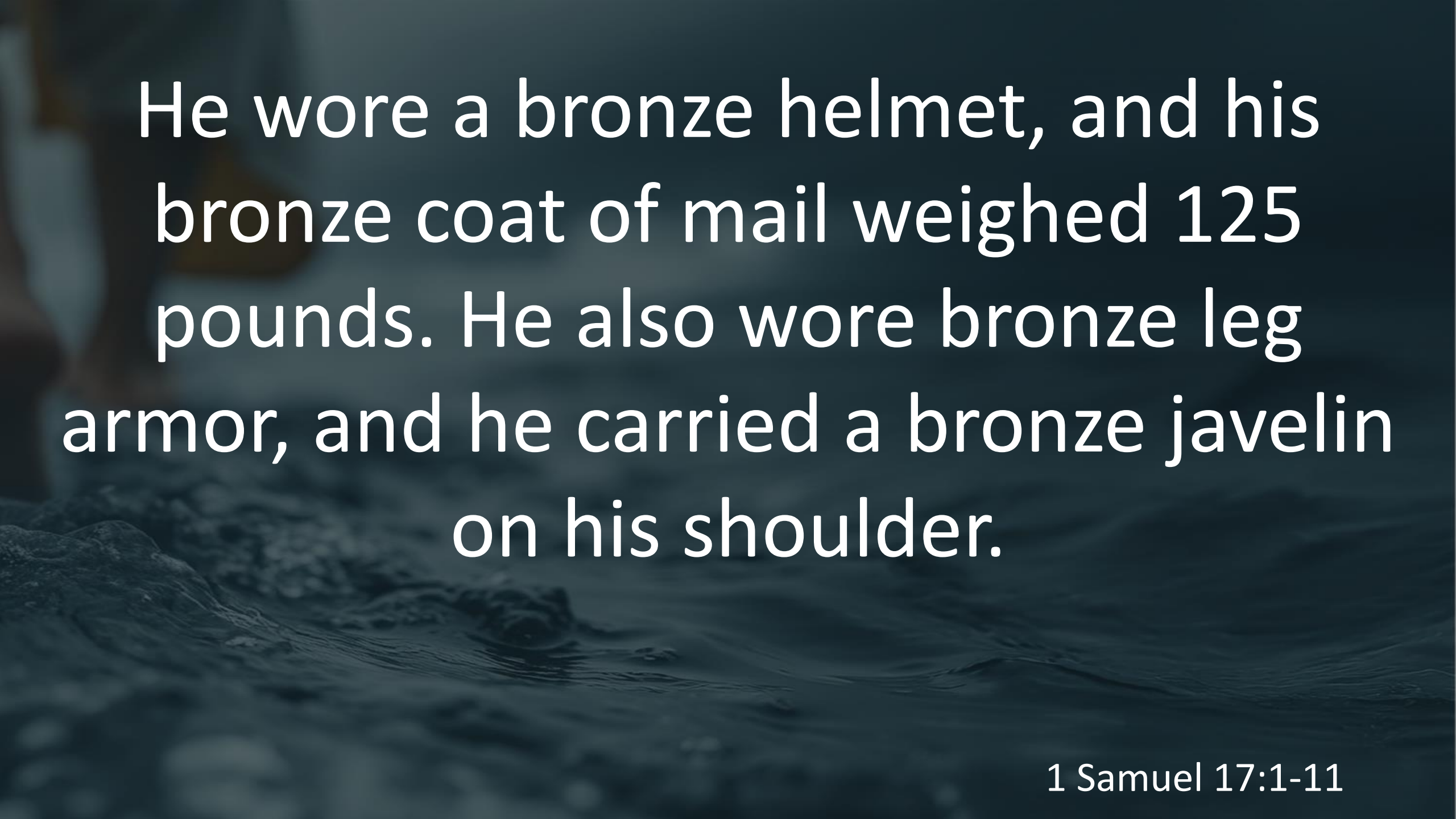
. The LORD doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:6-7

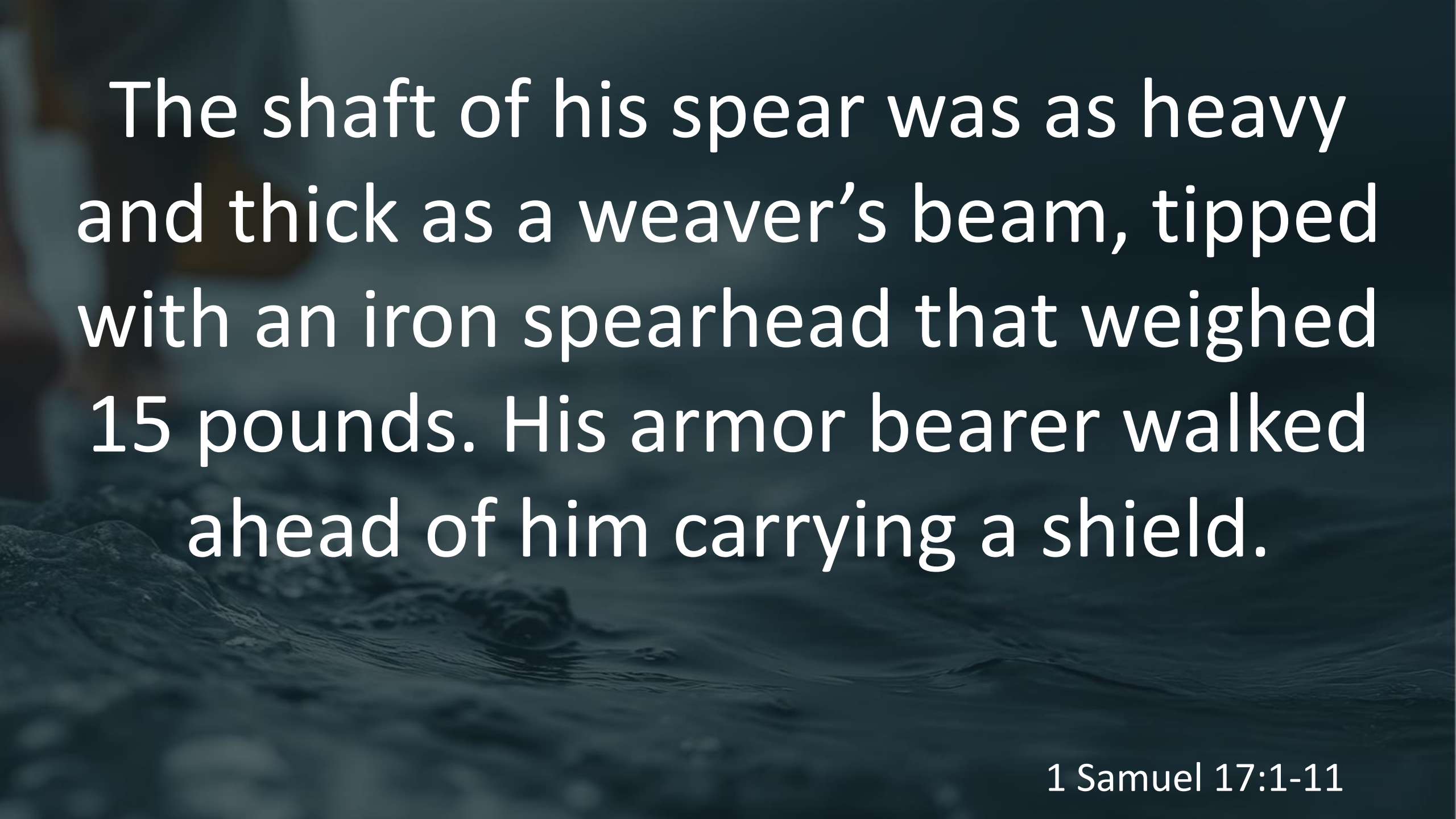
The Philistines now mustered their army for battle and camped between Socoh in Judah and Azekah at Ephes-dammim. Saul countered by gathering his Israelite troops near the valley of Elah.

So the Philistines and Israelites faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them. Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over nine feet tall!

1 Samuel 17:1-11



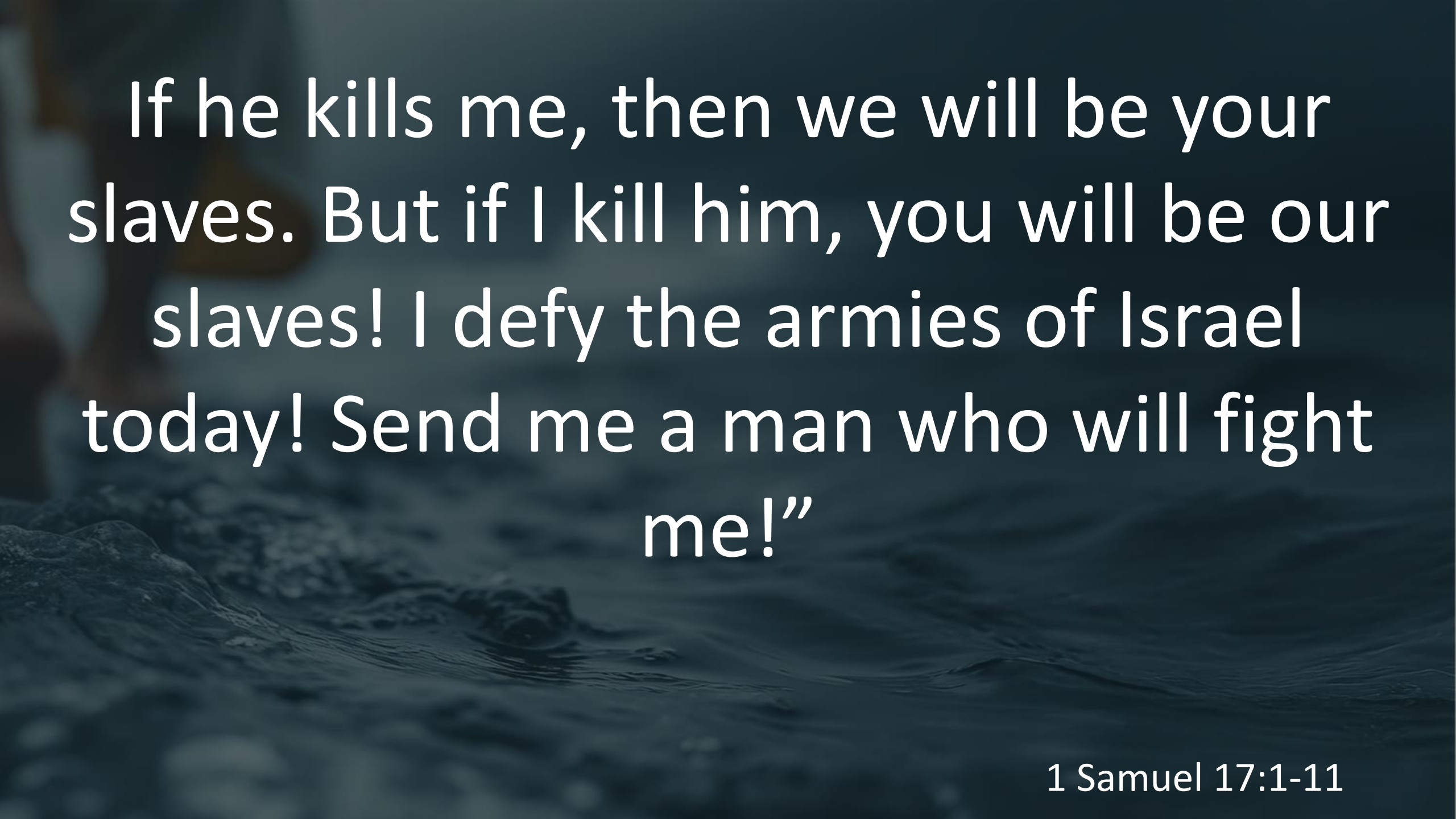
He wore a bronze helmet, and his
bronze coat of mail weighed 125
pounds. He also wore bronze leg
armor, and he carried a bronze javelin
on his shoulder.



The shaft of his spear was as heavy
and thick as a weaver's beam, tipped
with an iron spearhead that weighed
15 pounds. His armor bearer walked
ahead of him carrying a shield.

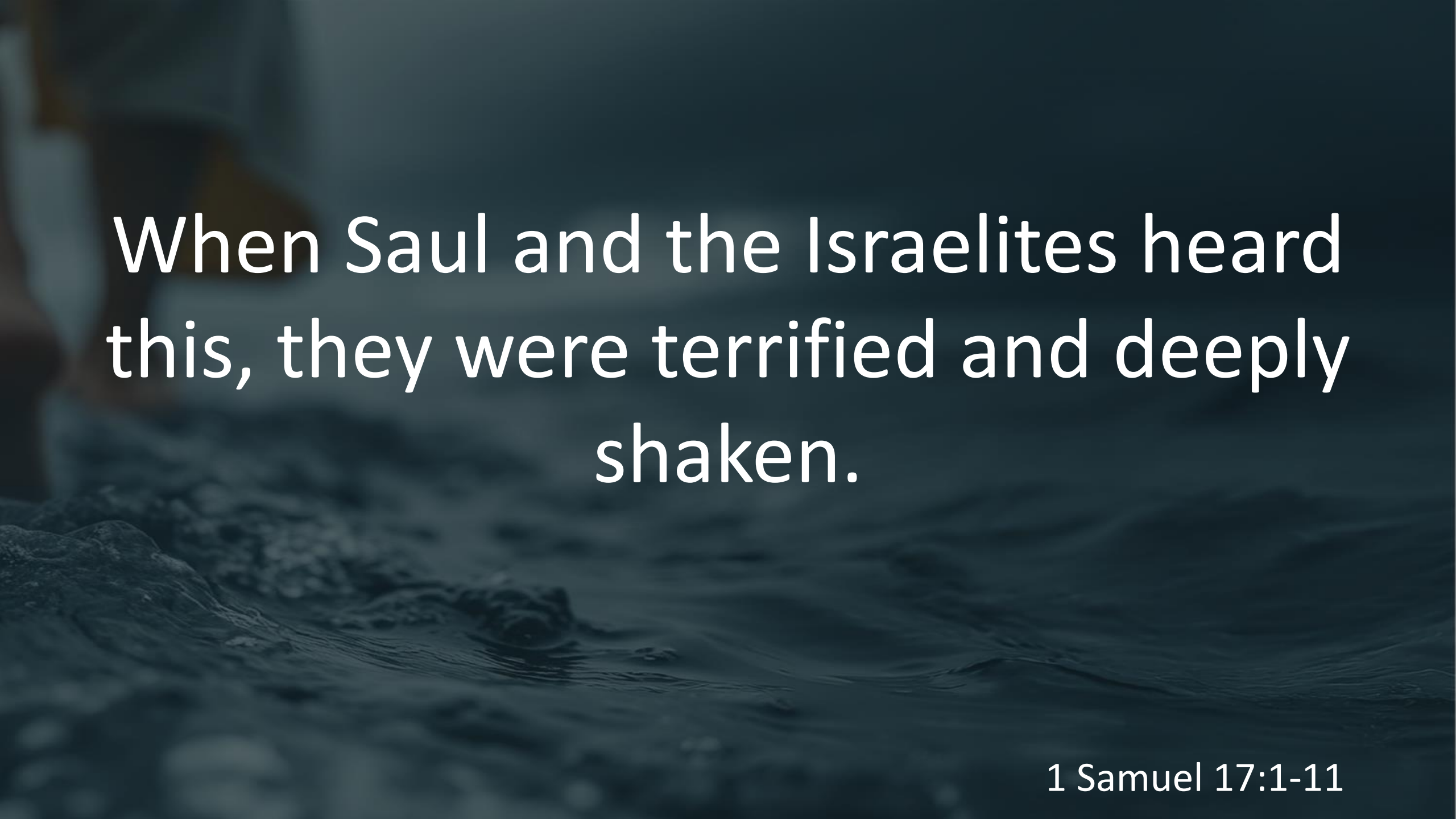
Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. “Why are you all coming out to fight?” he called. “I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. Choose one man to come down here and fight me!”

1 Samuel 17:1-11



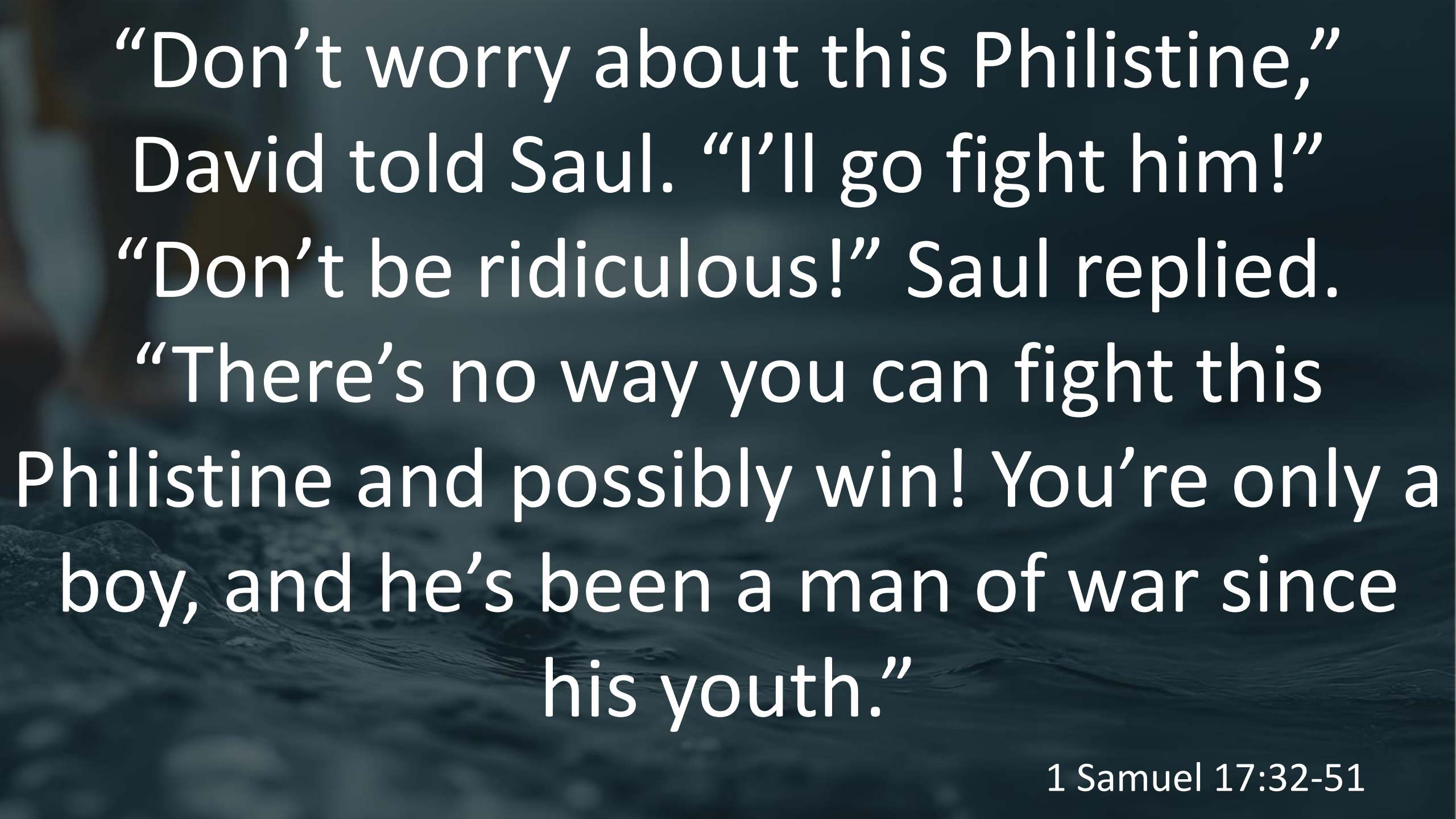
If he kills me, then we will be your
slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our
slaves! I defy the armies of Israel
today! Send me a man who will fight
me!”

1 Samuel 17:1-11



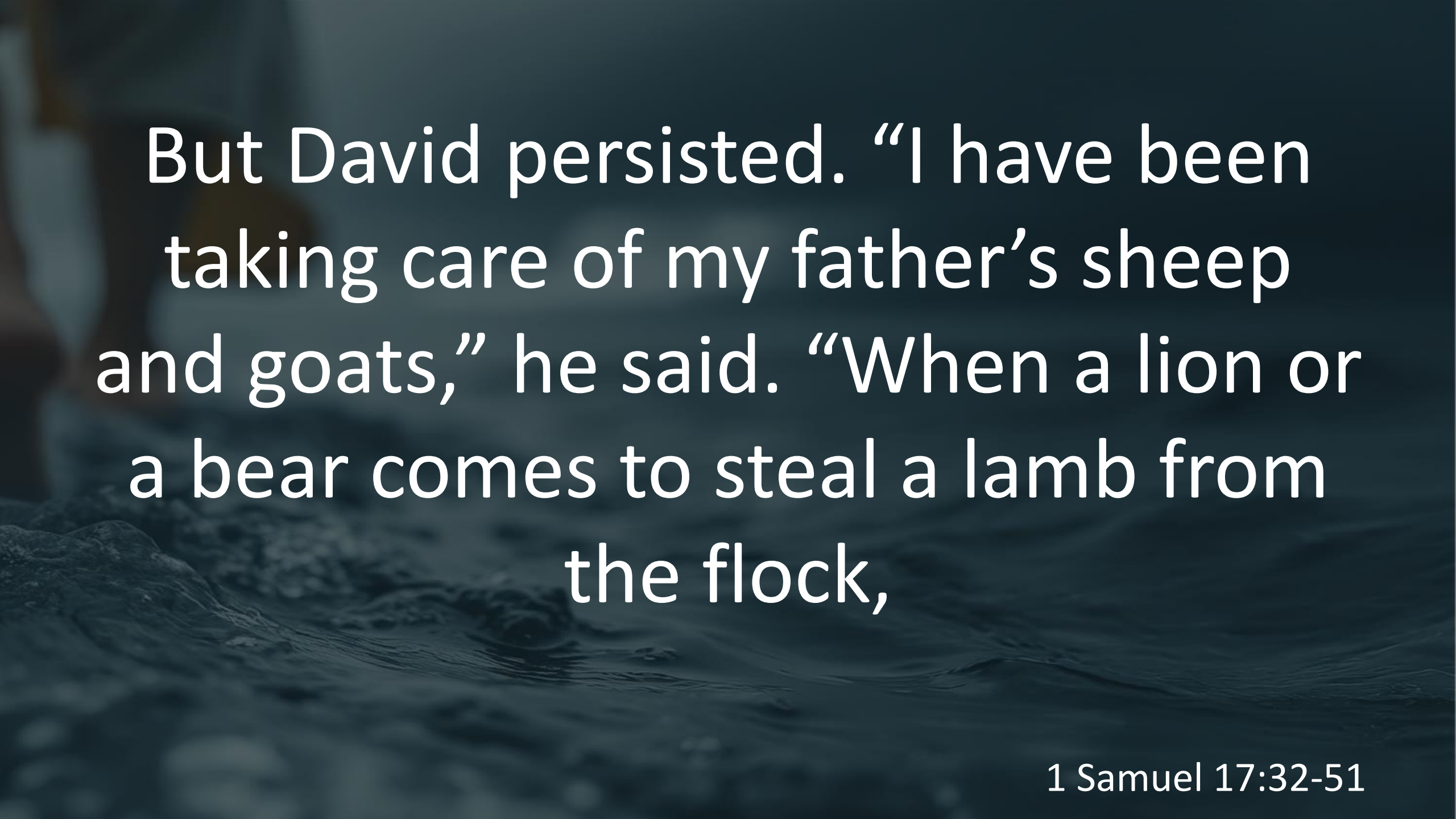
When Saul and the Israelites heard
this, they were terrified and deeply
shaken.

1 Samuel 17:1-11



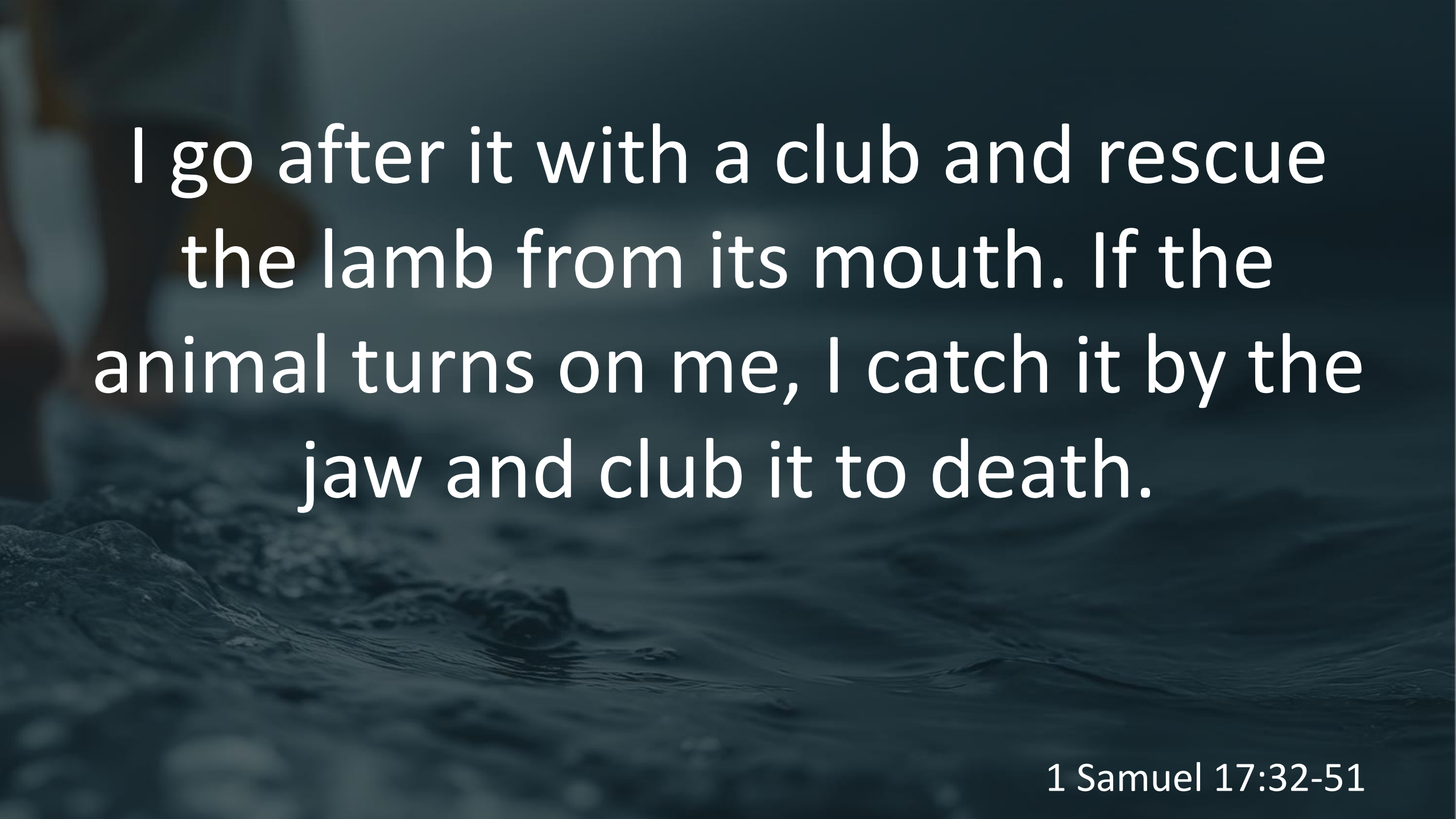
“Don’t worry about this Philistine,”
David told Saul. “I’ll go fight him!”
“Don’t be ridiculous!” Saul replied.
“There’s no way you can fight this
Philistine and possibly win! You’re only a
boy, and he’s been a man of war since
his youth.”

1 Samuel 17:32-51



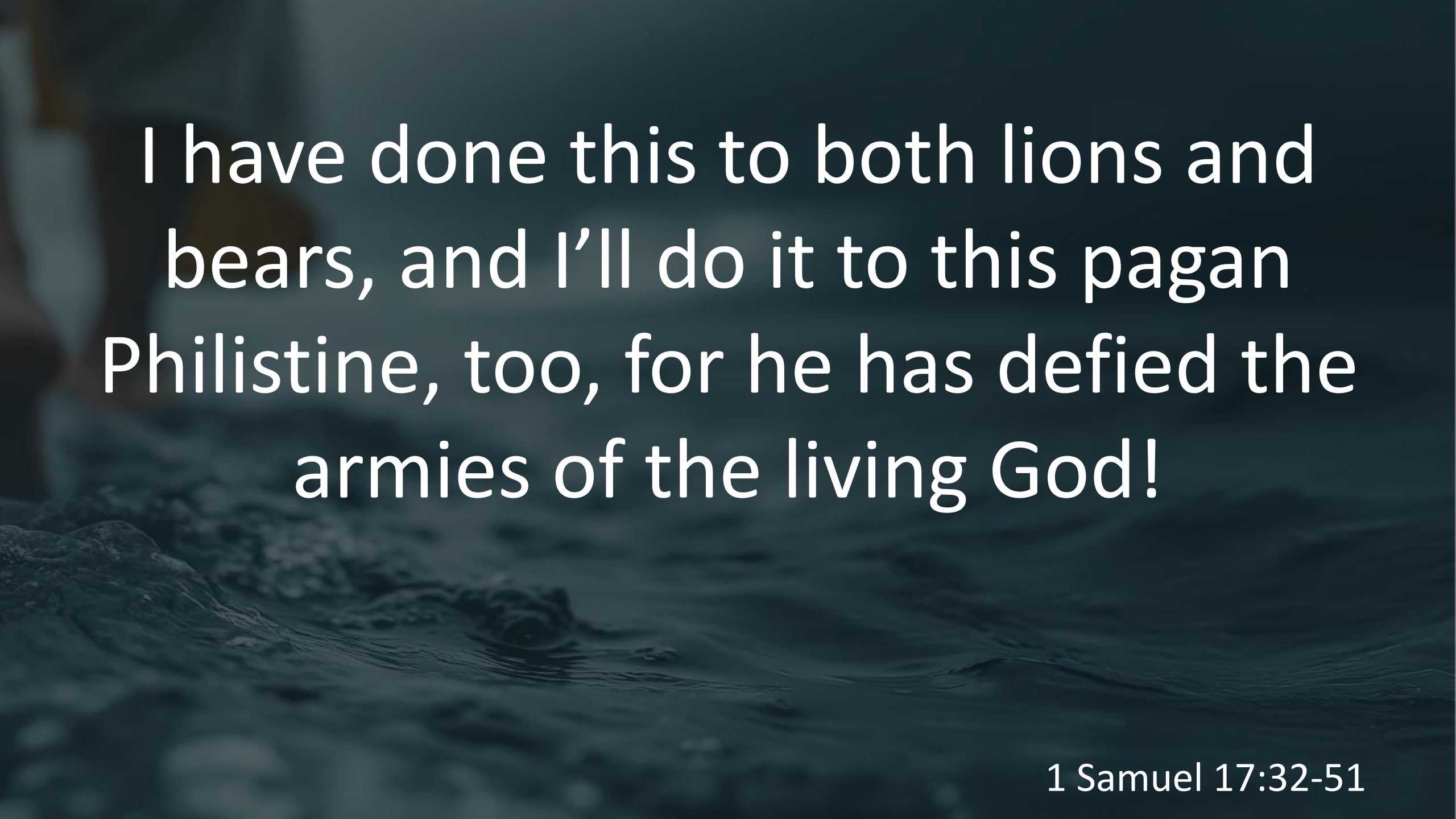
But David persisted. “I have been taking care of my father’s sheep and goats,” he said. “When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock,

1 Samuel 17:32-51



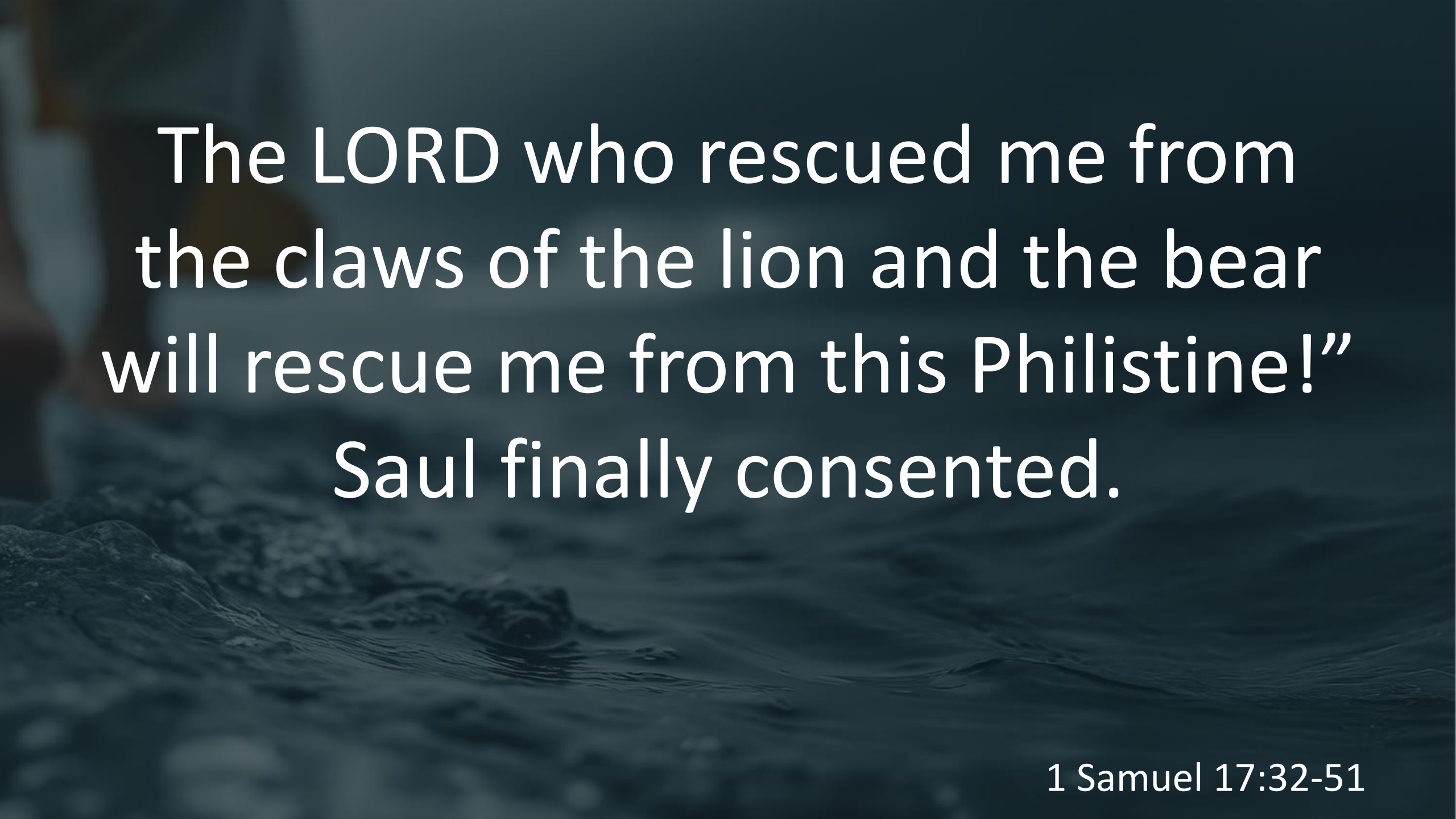
I go after it with a club and rescue
the lamb from its mouth. If the
animal turns on me, I catch it by the
jaw and club it to death.

1 Samuel 17:32-51

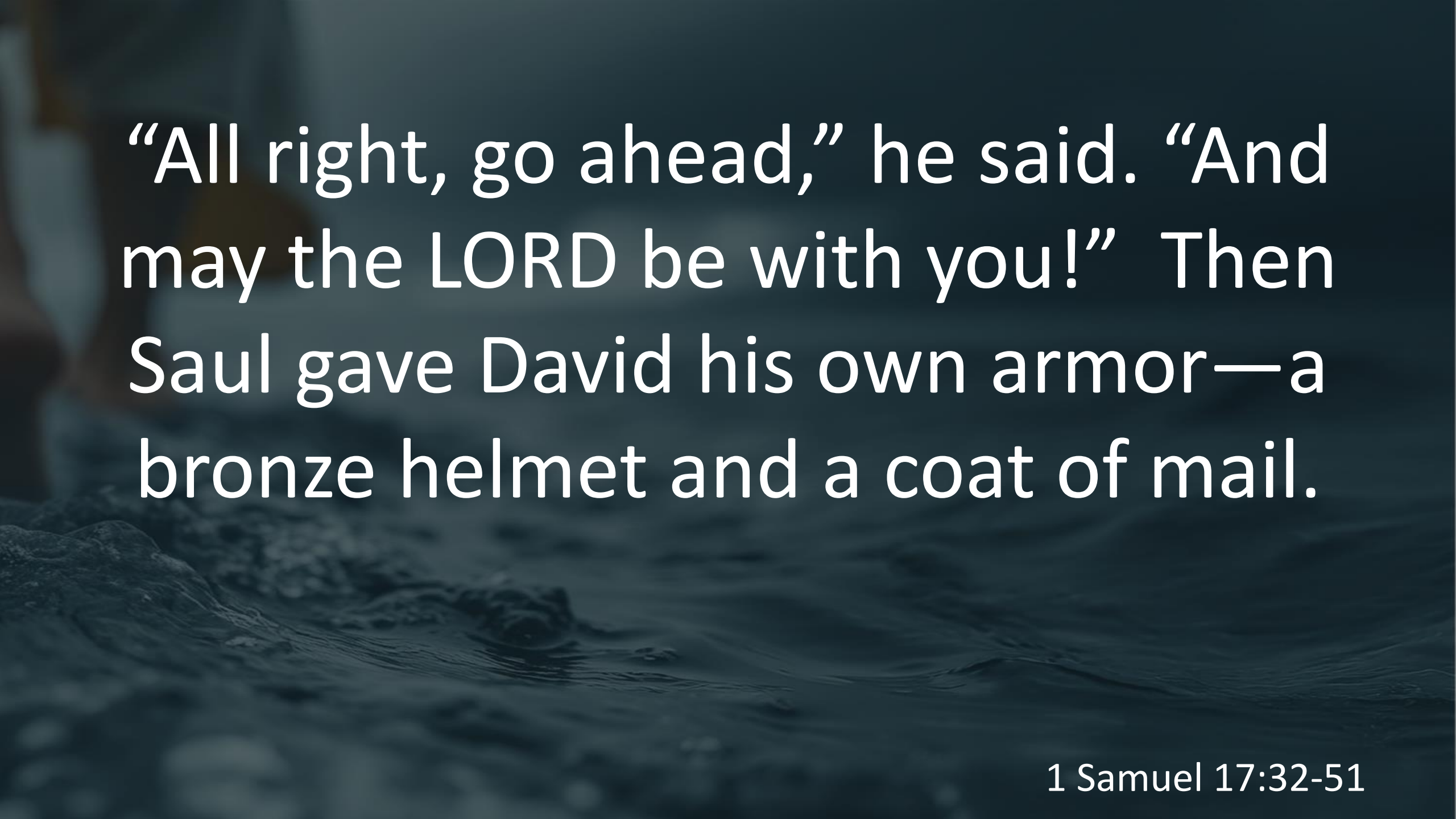


I have done this to both lions and
bears, and I'll do it to this pagan
Philistine, too, for he has defied the
armies of the living God!

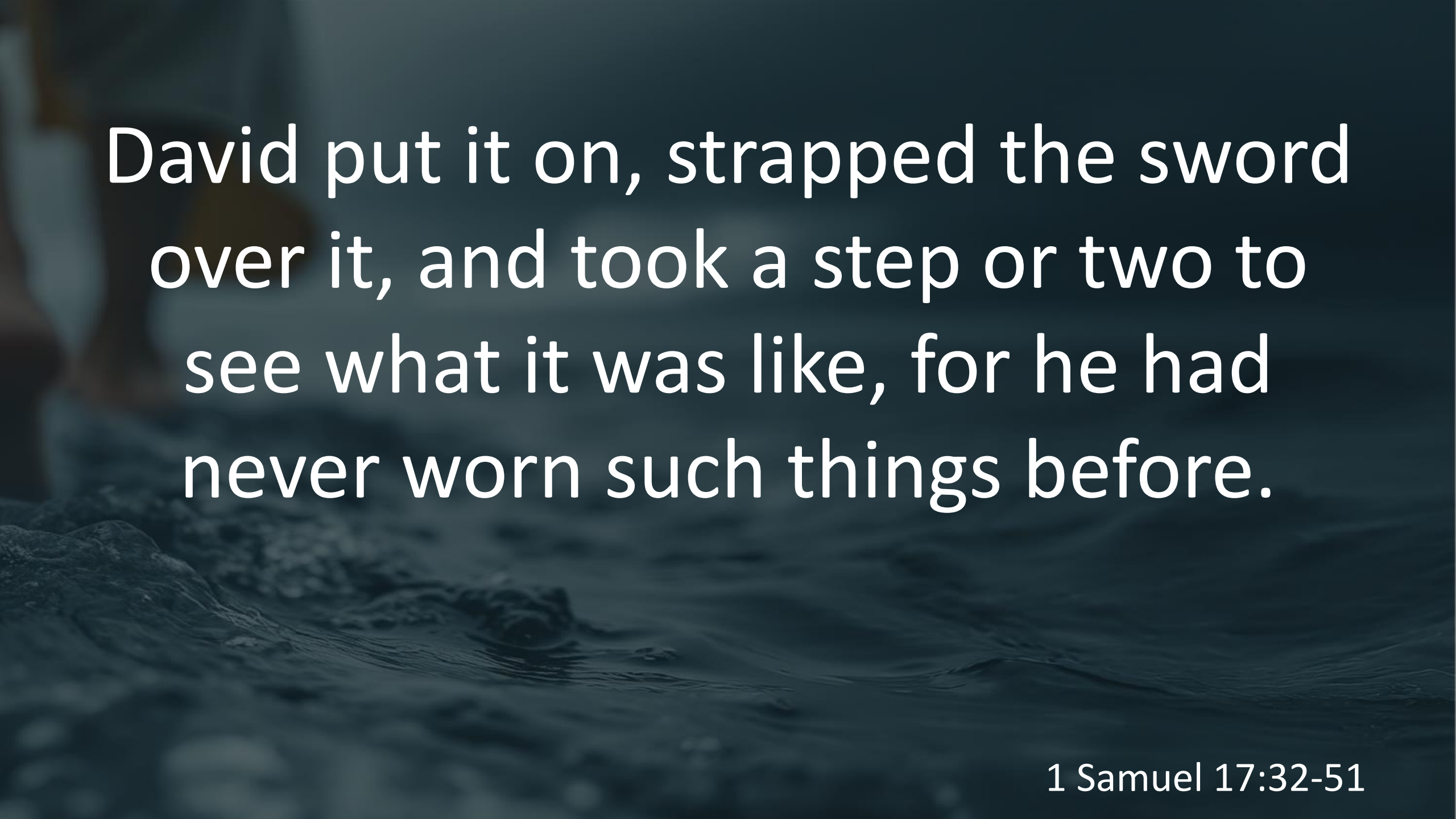
1 Samuel 17:32-51



The LORD who rescued me from
the claws of the lion and the bear
will rescue me from this Philistine!”
Saul finally consented.

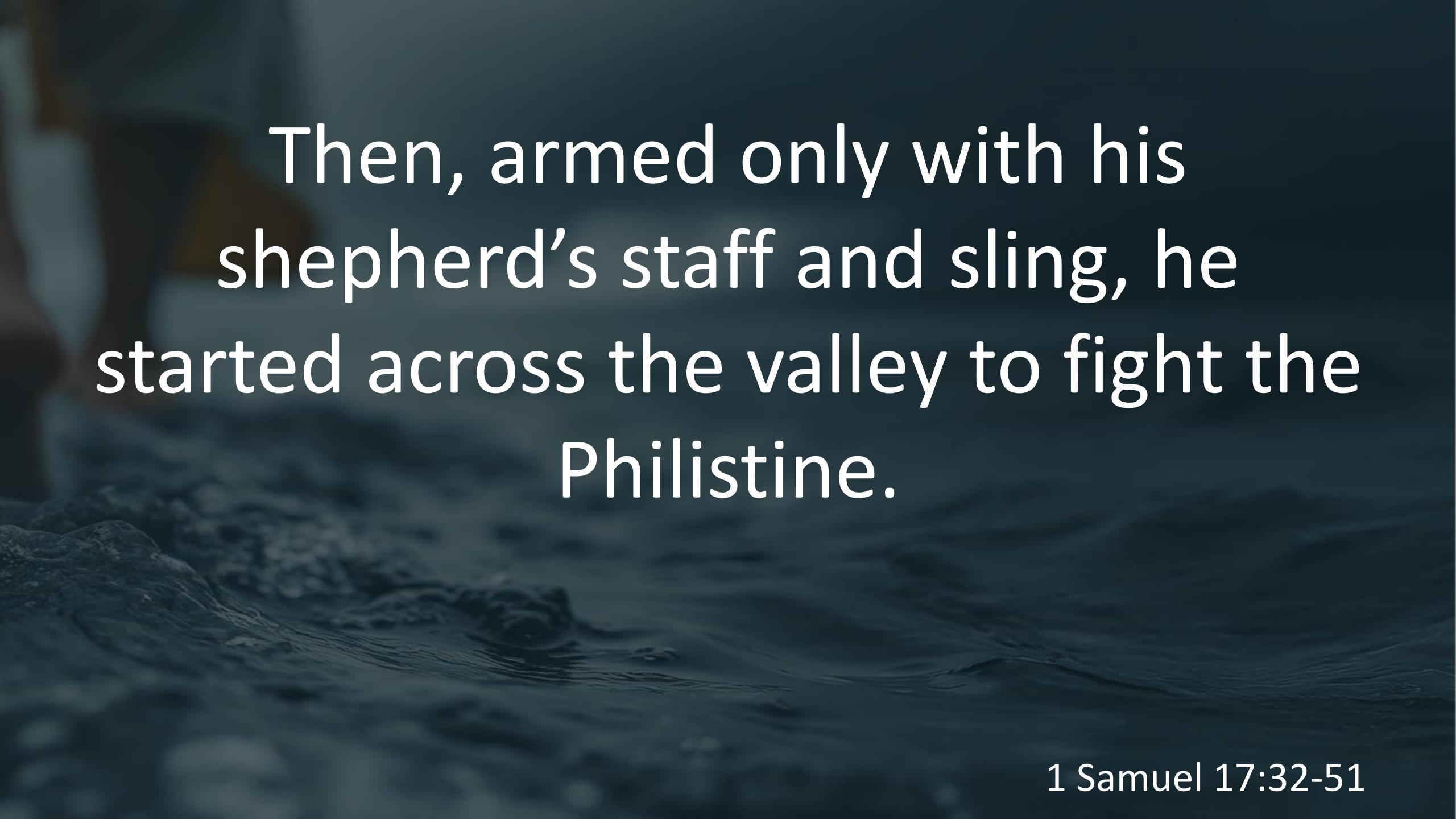


“All right, go ahead,” he said. “And may the LORD be with you!” Then Saul gave David his own armor—a bronze helmet and a coat of mail.



David put it on, strapped the sword over it, and took a step or two to see what it was like, for he had never worn such things before.

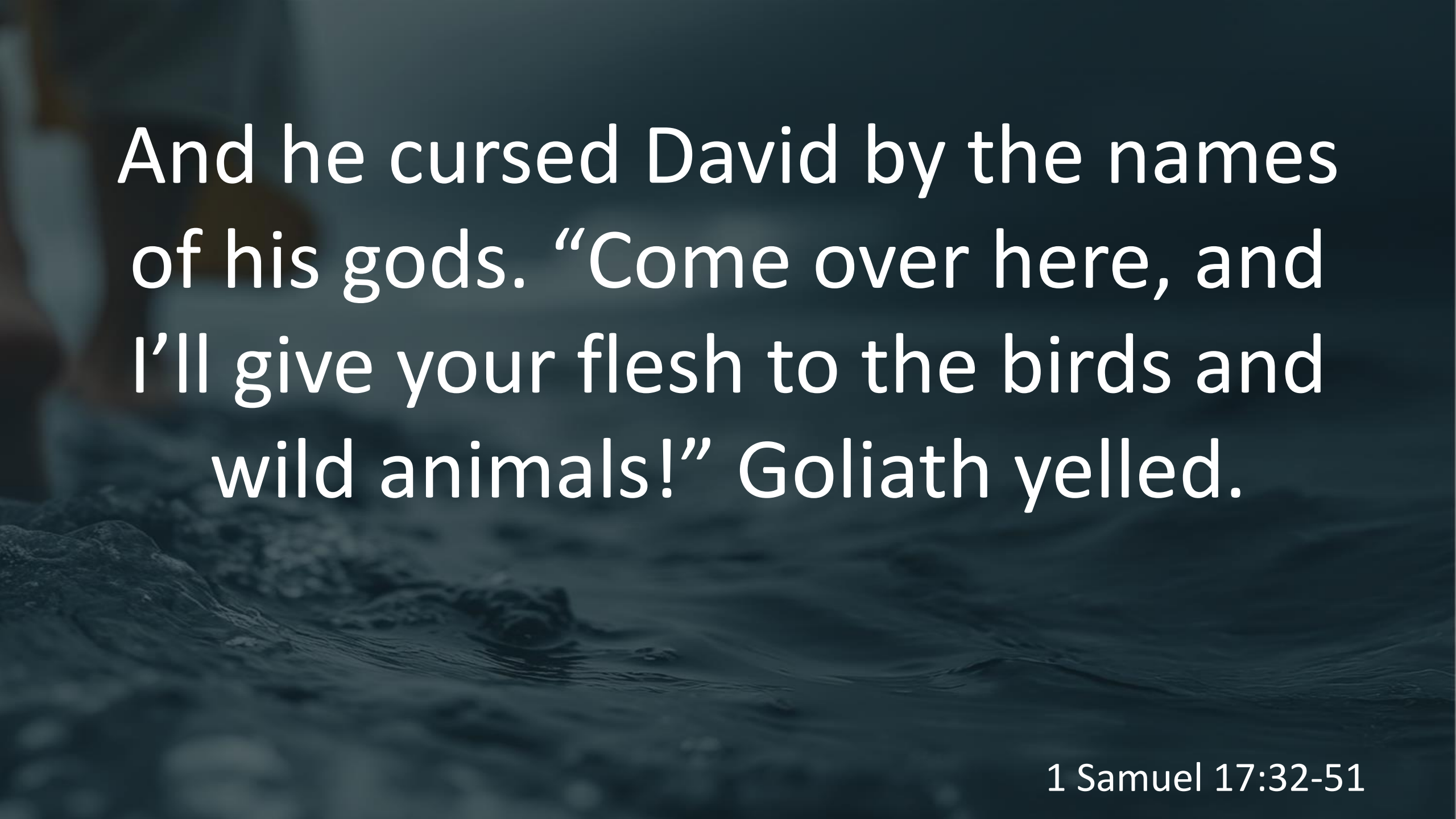
“I can’t go in these,” he protested to Saul. “I’m not used to them.” So David took them off again. 40 He picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them into his shepherd’s bag.



Then, armed only with his
shepherd's staff and sling, he
started across the valley to fight the
Philistine.

1 Samuel 17:32-51

Goliath walked out toward David with his shield bearer ahead of him, sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy. “Am I a dog,” he roared at David, “that you come at me with a stick?”



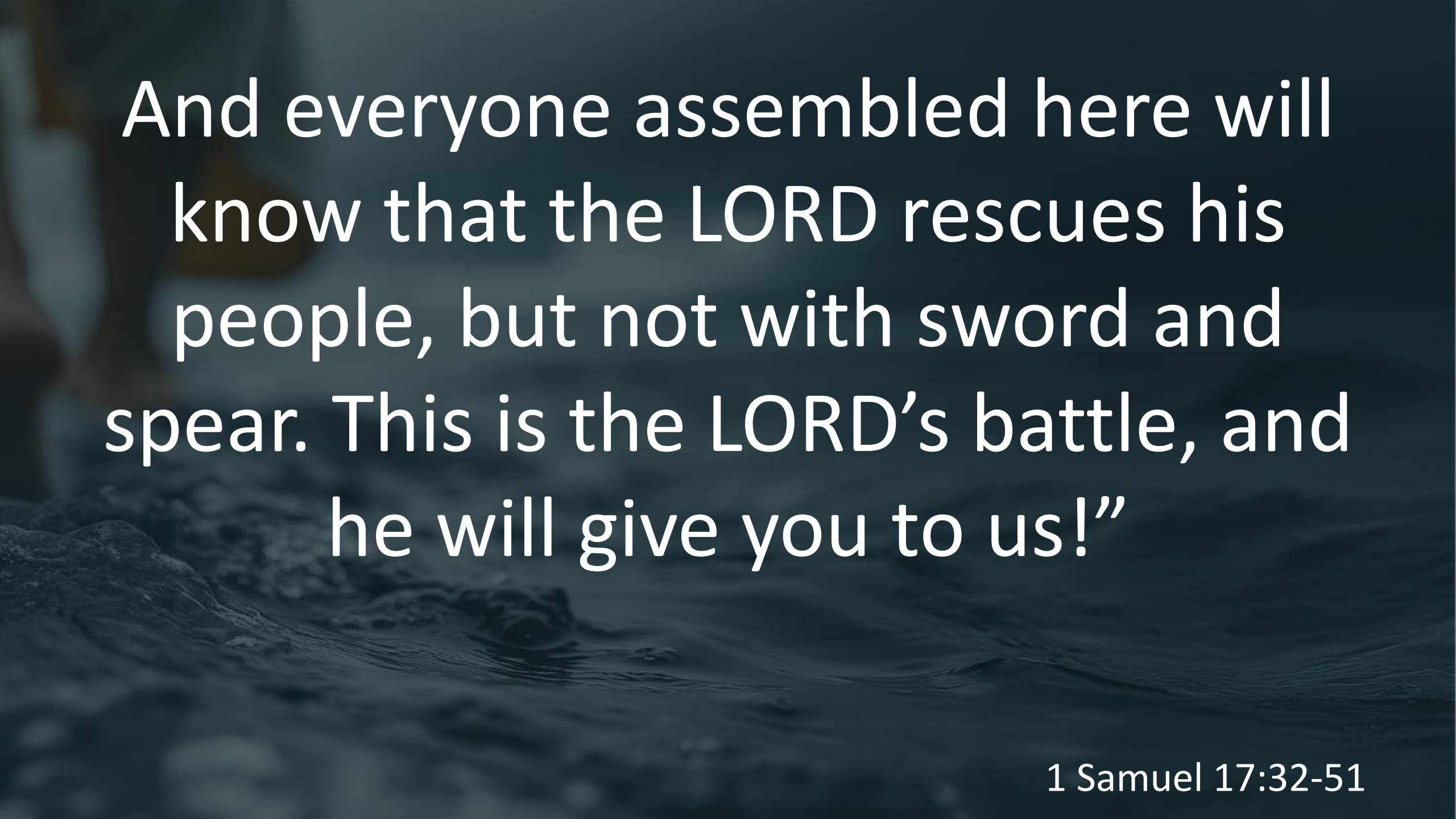
And he cursed David by the names of his gods. “Come over here, and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!” Goliath yelled.

David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

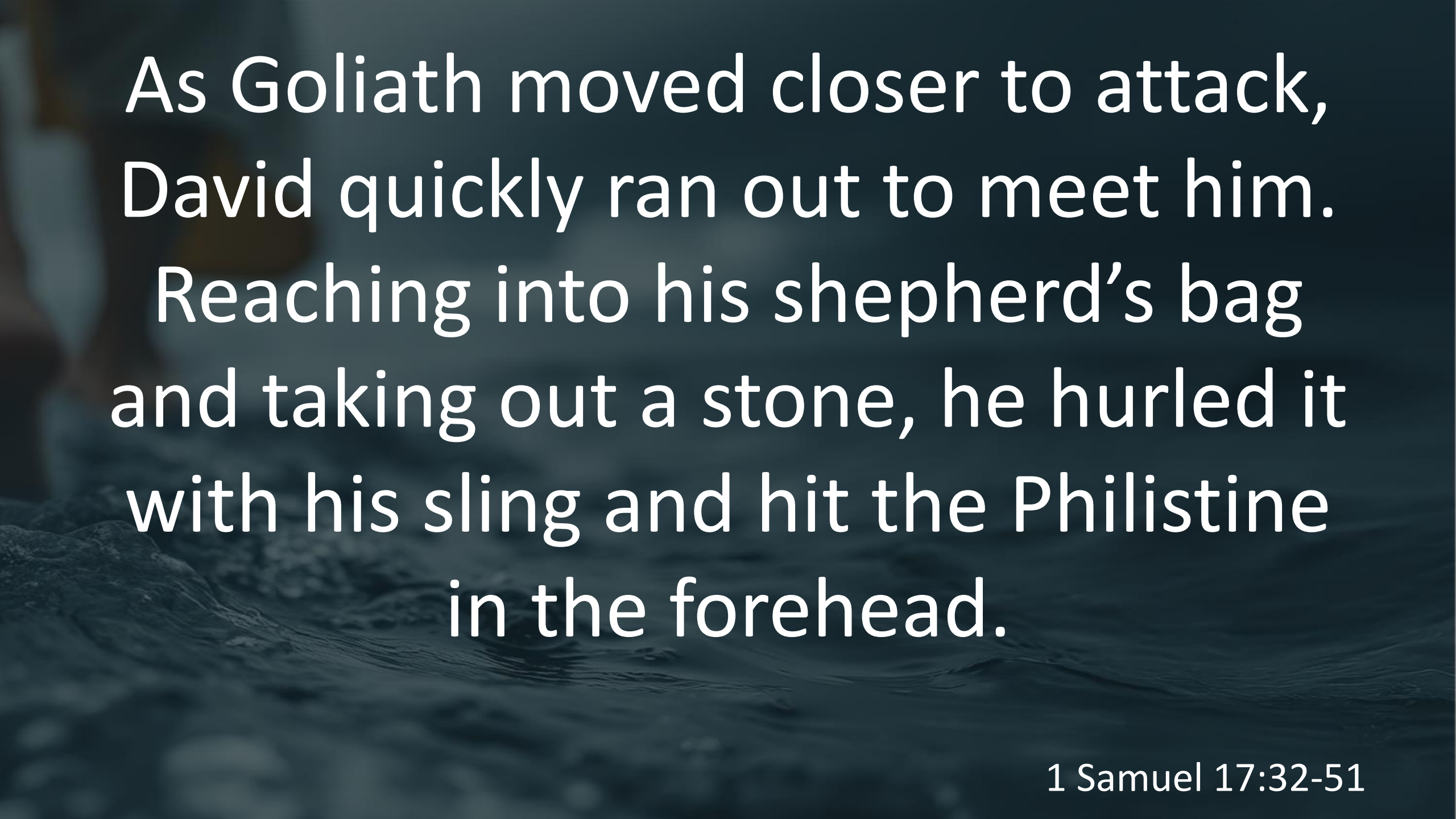
1 Samuel 17:32-51

Today the LORD will conquer you,
and I will kill you and cut off your
head. And then I will give the dead
bodies of your men to the birds and
wild animals, and the whole world
will know that there is a God in
Israel!

1 Samuel 17:32-51

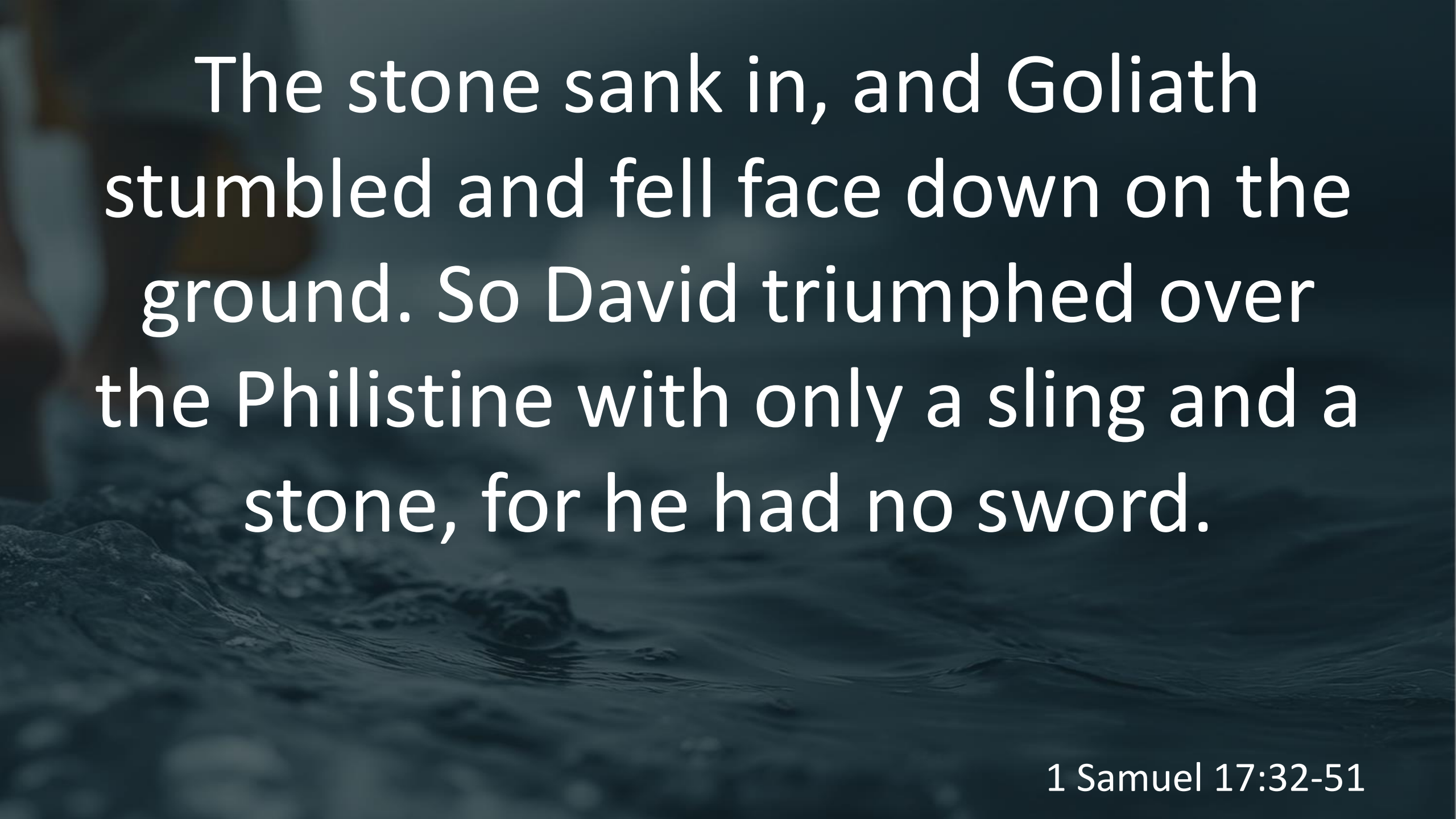


And everyone assembled here will
know that the LORD rescues his
people, but not with sword and
spear. This is the LORD's battle, and
he will give you to us!”



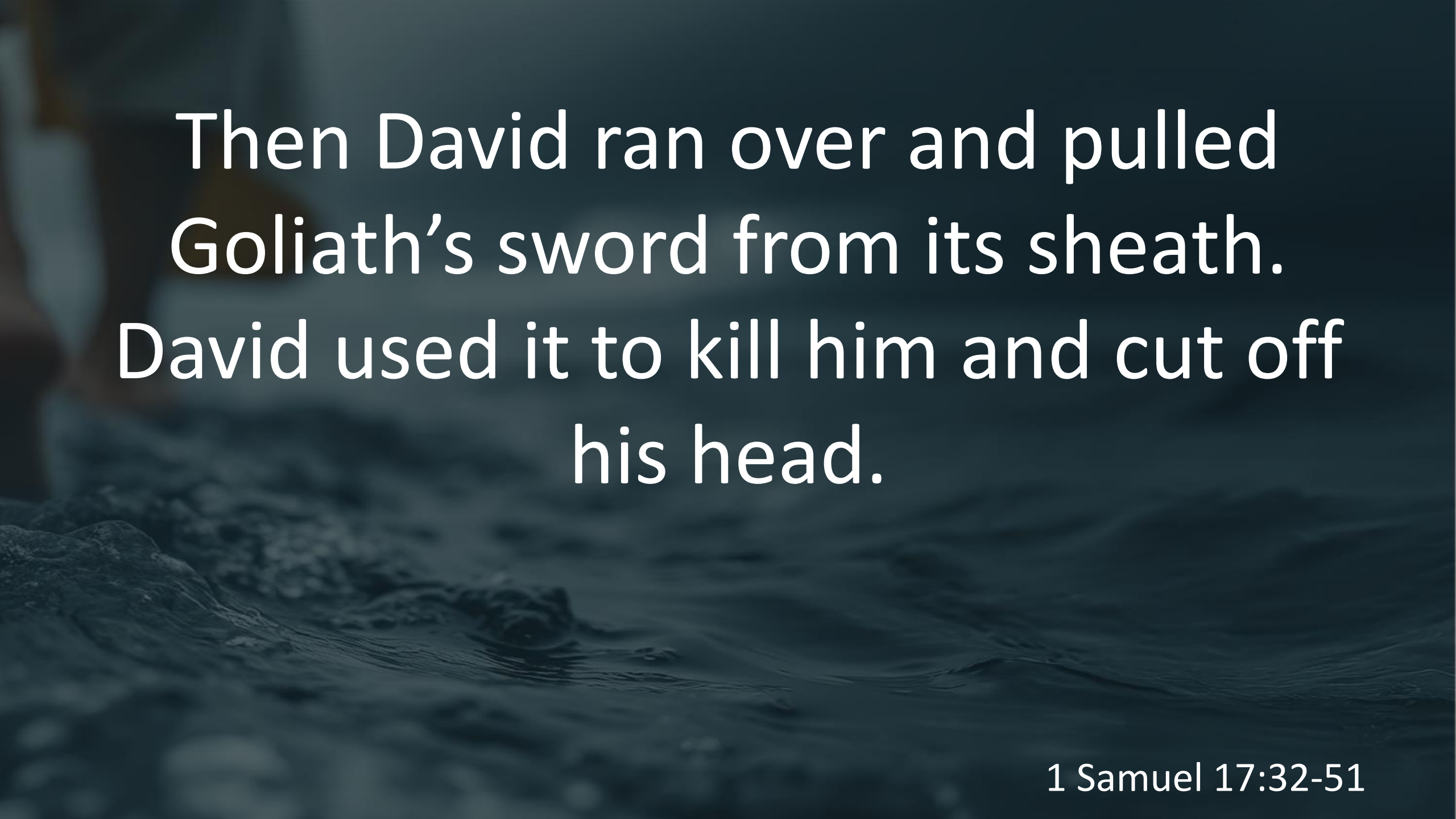
As Goliath moved closer to attack,
David quickly ran out to meet him.

Reaching into his shepherd's bag
and taking out a stone, he hurled it
with his sling and hit the Philistine
in the forehead.



The stone sank in, and Goliath
stumbled and fell face down on the
ground. So David triumphed over
the Philistine with only a sling and a
stone, for he had no sword.

1 Samuel 17:32-51

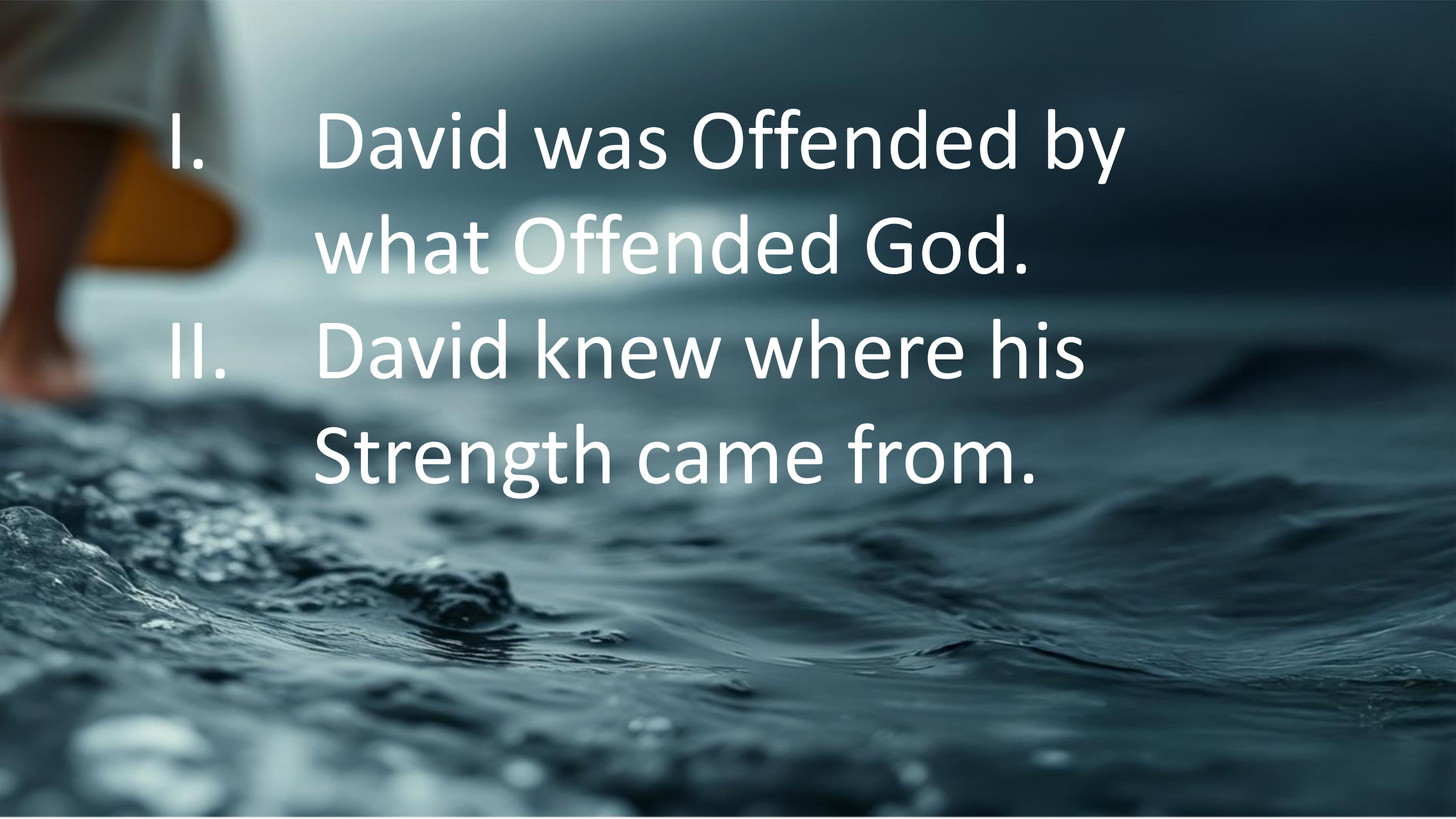
The background is a dark, atmospheric photograph of a body of water. In the lower-left foreground, a person's head is visible just below the water's surface, creating a subtle ripple. The overall tone is somber and dramatic, with deep blues and greys.

Then David ran over and pulled
Goliath's sword from its sheath.
David used it to kill him and cut off
his head.

1 Samuel 17:32-51

A person's foot wearing a brown sandal is visible on the left side of the frame, standing on a sandy beach. The background shows the ocean with gentle waves and a soft, hazy sky. The overall tone is calm and contemplative.

I. David was Offended by
what Offended God.

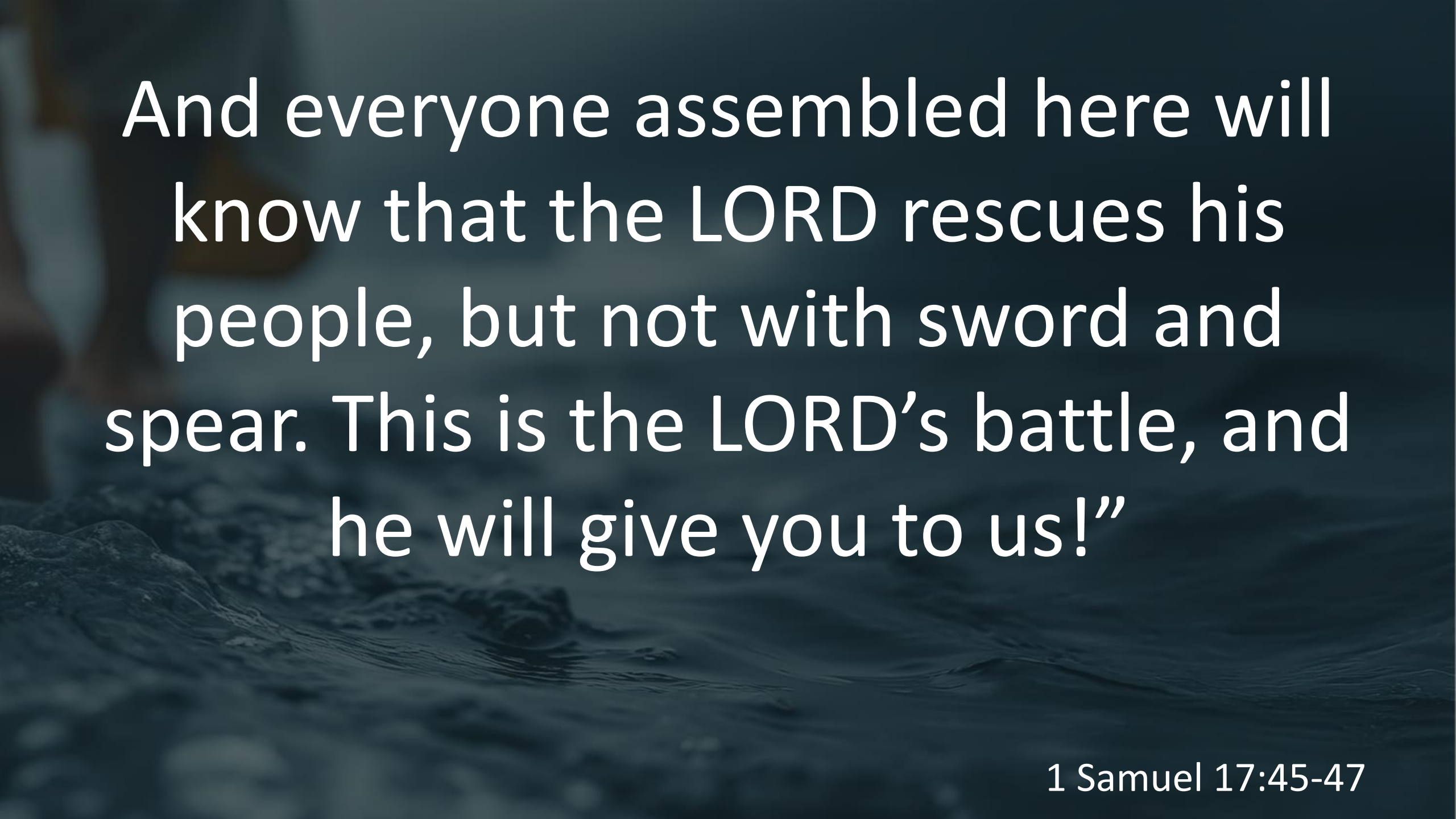
- 
- A person's legs and feet are visible on the left side of the frame, wading through dark, rippling water. The water is a deep blue-grey color with many small, white-capped ripples. The person's legs are dark, and their feet are visible, kicking up small waves. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue-grey, suggesting a body of water under a cloudy sky.
- I. David was Offended by what Offended God.
 - II. David knew where his Strength came from.

David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

1 Samuel 17:45-47

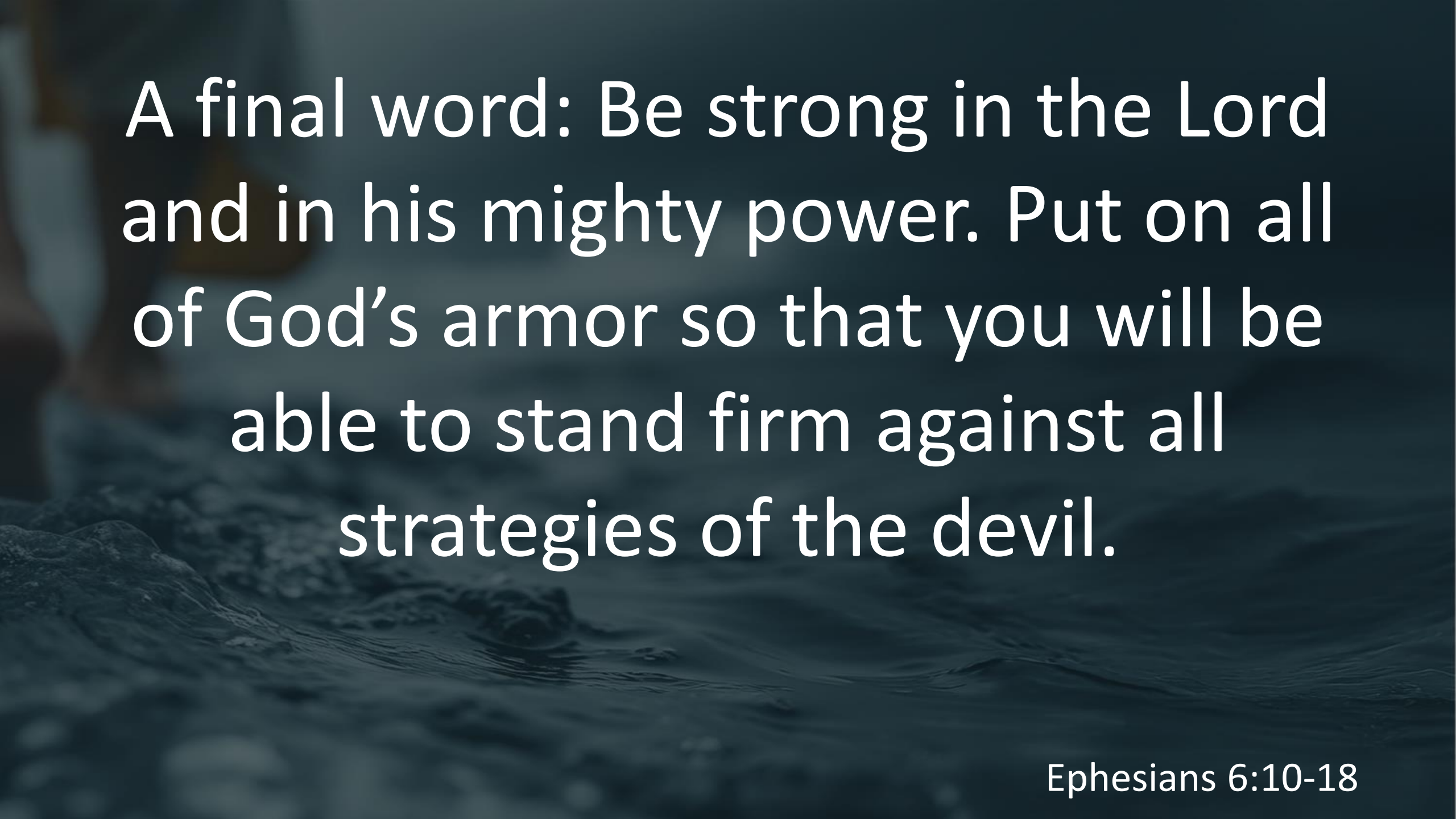
Today the LORD will conquer you,
and I will kill you and cut off your
head. And then I will give the dead
bodies of your men to the birds and
wild animals, and the whole world
will know that there is a God in
Israel!

1 Samuel 17:45-47



And everyone assembled here will
know that the LORD rescues his
people, but not with sword and
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1 Samuel 17:45-47

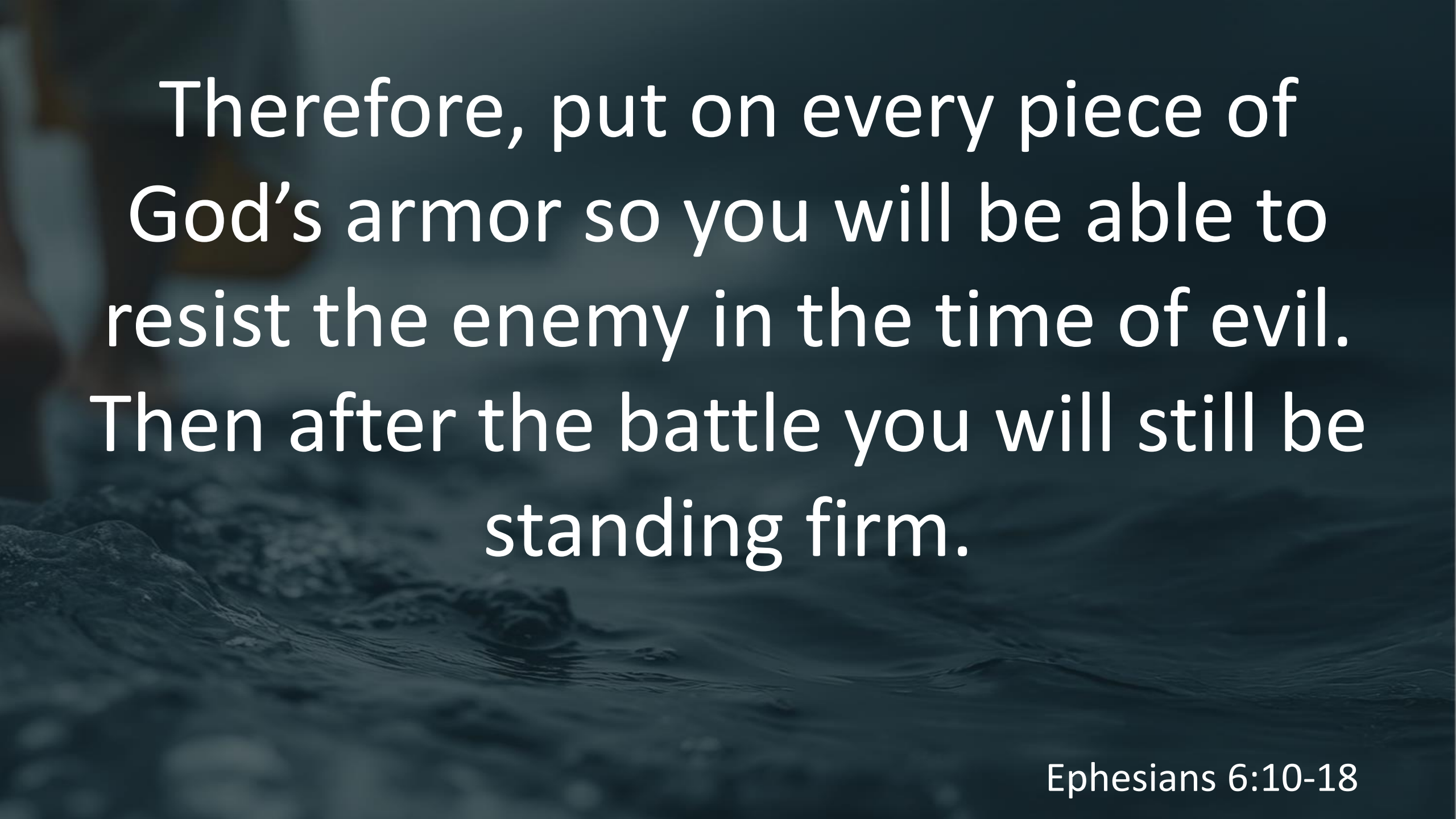


A final word: Be strong in the Lord
and in his mighty power. Put on all
of God's armor so that you will be
able to stand firm against all
strategies of the devil.

Ephesians 6:10-18

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:10-18

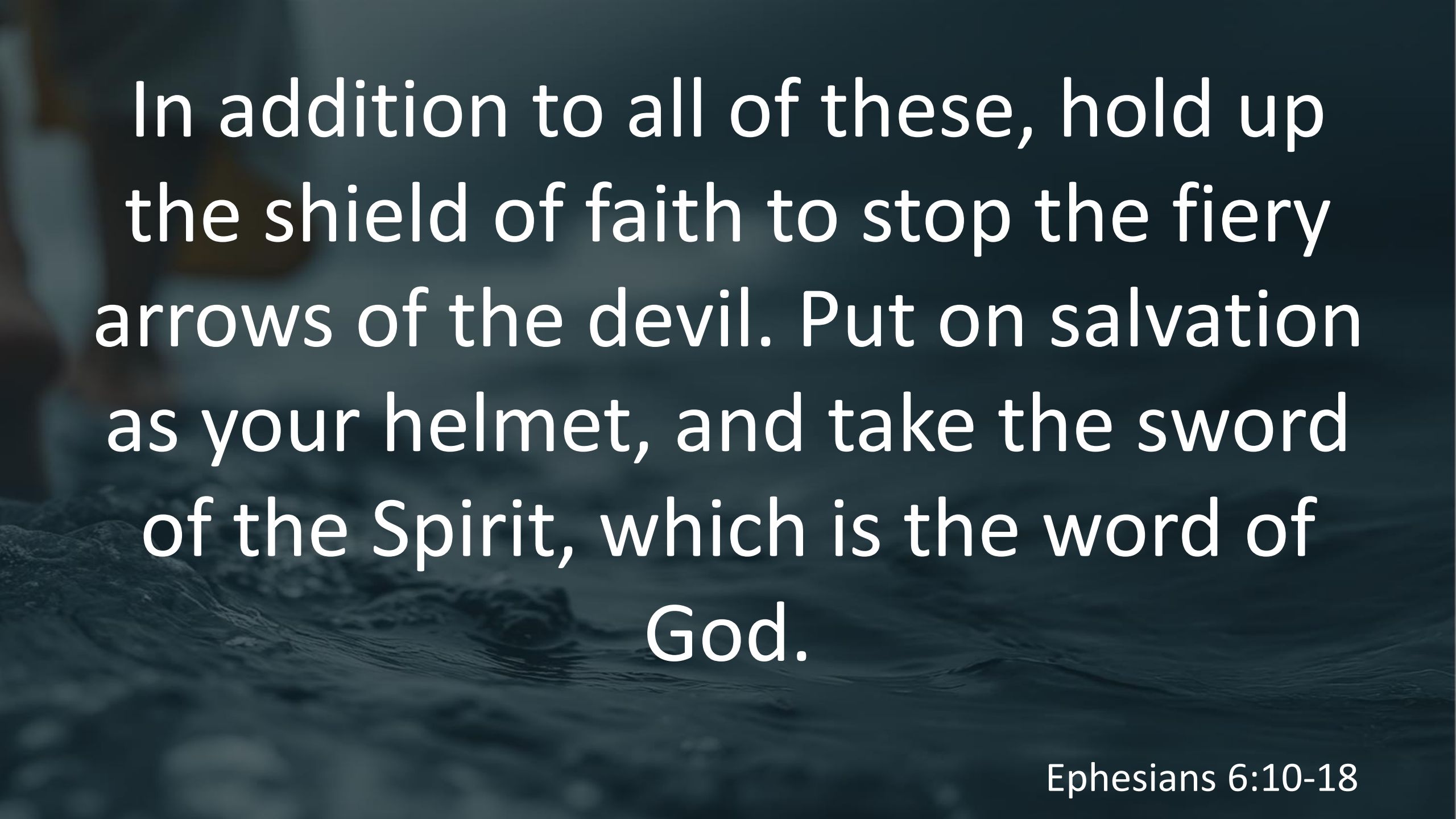


Therefore, put on every piece of
God's armor so you will be able to
resist the enemy in the time of evil.
Then after the battle you will still be
standing firm.

Ephesians 6:10-18

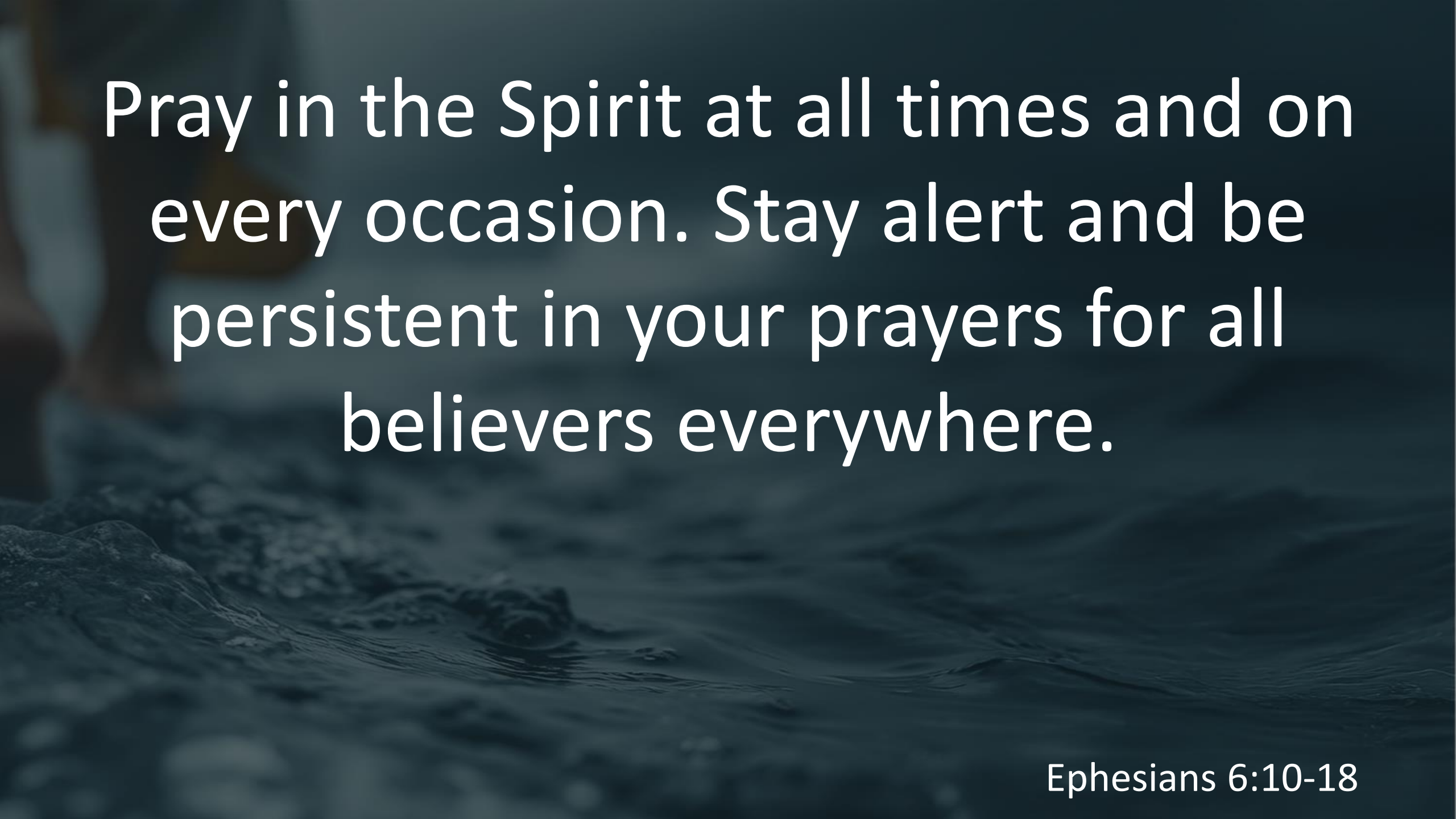
Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.

Ephesians 6:10-18



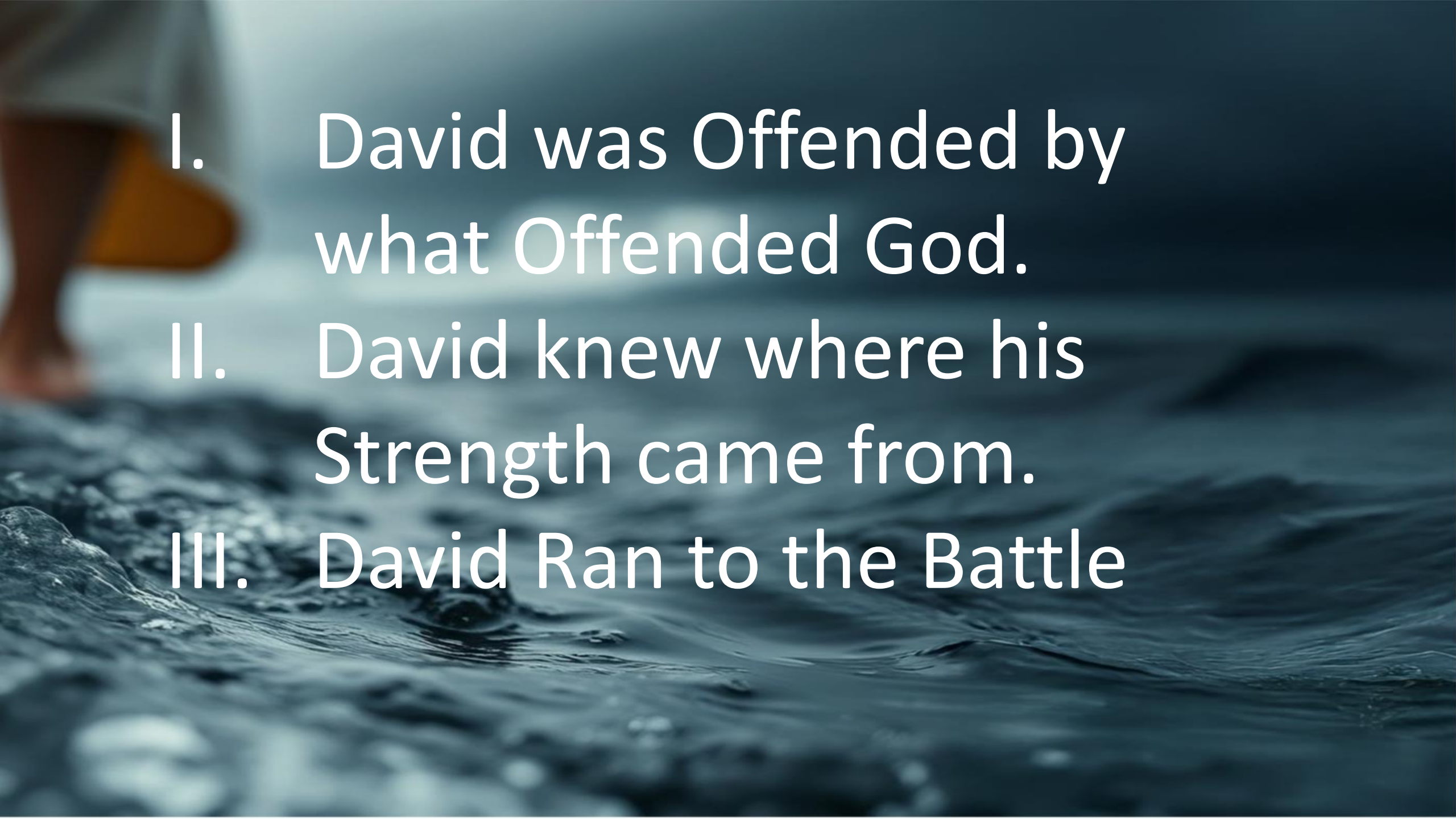
In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ephesians 6:10-18



Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Ephesians 6:10-18

- 
- I. David was Offended by what Offended God.
 - II. David knew where his Strength came from.
 - III. David Ran to the Battle

A person's legs are visible in the upper left, walking on a dark, wet, rocky surface. Water is splashing around the rocks, creating white foam and droplets. The background is a blurred expanse of water and a hazy sky. The overall color palette is cool, with blues, greys, and a hint of orange from the sky.

Faith that Bears Fruit

DAVID