

Even Now, Return to Me

Joel 2:11-13

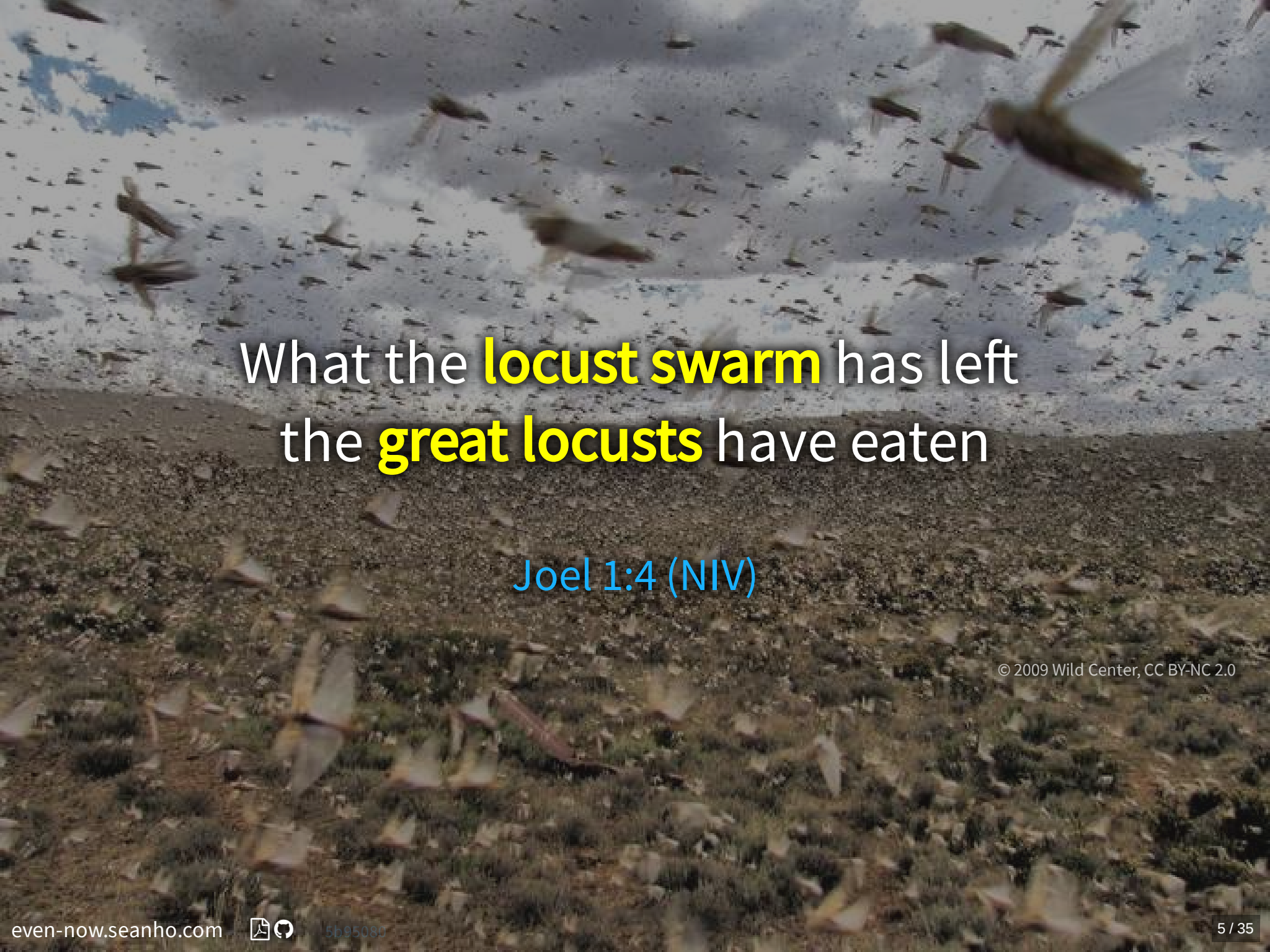
Disaster
is upon us –
what do we do?

Joel: Even Now, Return

1. **Ruin**: The **Day** of the LORD (1:1-2:11)
2. **Return**: The **Call** of God (2:12-17)
3. **Renewal**: The **Promise** of God (2:18-32)

1. The Day of the LORD

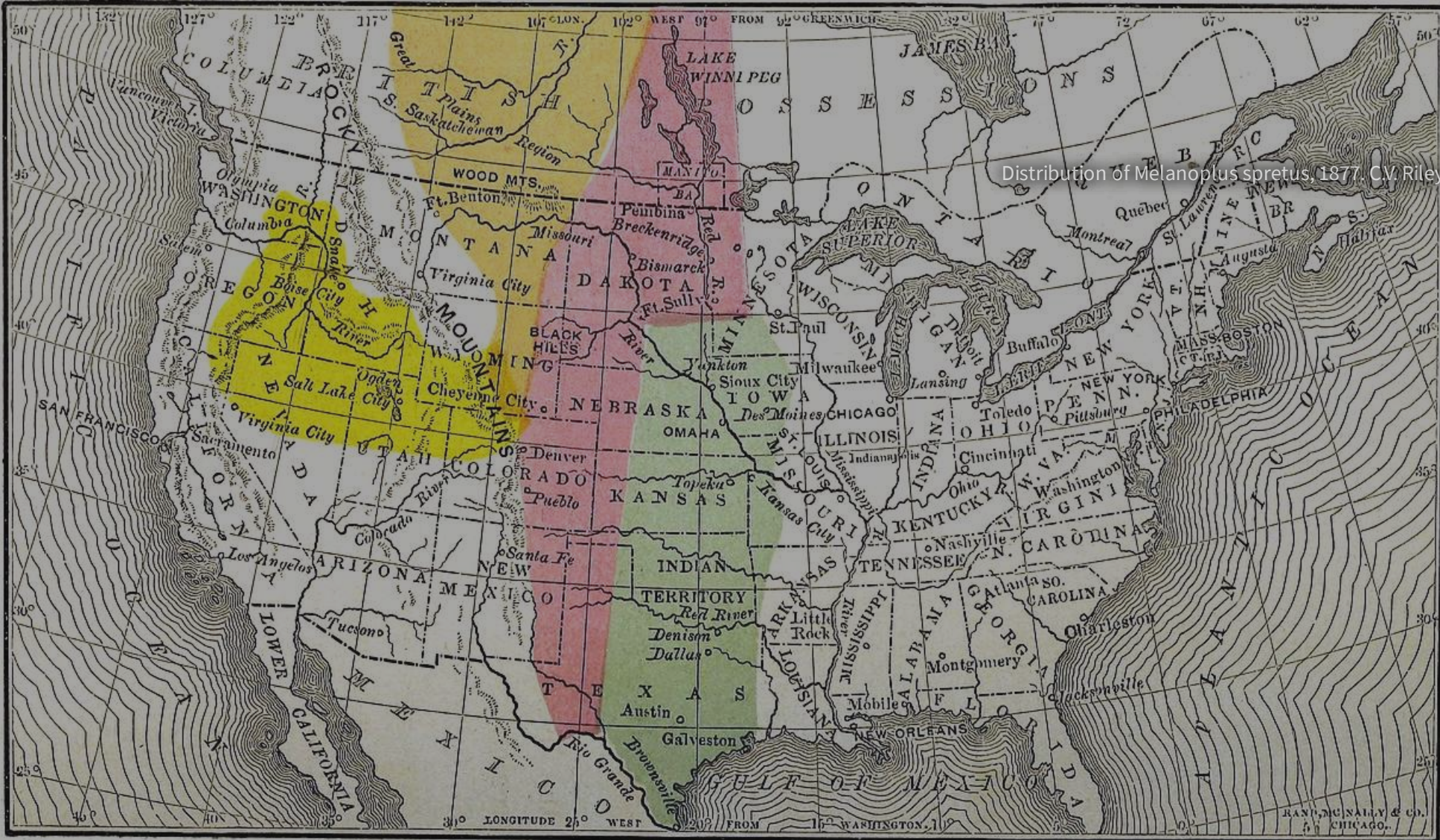
- **Natural** disasters: **famine**, drought (ch1)
 - Wail, you: **drunkards** (1:5-10),
farmers (1:11-12), **priests** (1:13-14)
 - Mourners: the **land** (1:10),
animals (1:18), **people** (1:12)
- **Human** disasters: **armies** of God (2:1-11)
 - **Sun**/moon/stars darkened (2:10)
 - The **LORD** thunders (2:11)



What the **locust swarm** has left
the **great locusts** have eaten

Joel 1:4 (NIV)

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Distribution of *Melanoplus spretus*, 1877. C.V. Riley

Map of North America, showing approximately the probable native home of the Rocky Mountain Locust; the country subject to invasion, and the eastern limit reached by it. — Prepared by C. V. Riley.

Country in which the species is not indigenous; which it visits at irregular intervals; in which it is most disastrous; and which it vacates within a year.

Area more often visited; in which the species holds its own longer, but which it generally forsakes in the course of time.

Region where the species comes to perfection; in which it permanently breeds; and from which come the disastrous swarms that sweep over the first mentioned region.

Area west of the mountains where the species also, in all probability, breeds permanently; from which it sometimes pushes to the east of the mountain range; and from which the California swarms probably come.

RAND, MCNALLY & CO.
CHICAGO.



The **land** mourns,
for the **grain** is ruined

Joel 1:10 (NASB)

Dominik Martin



How the **beasts** groan!

The **herds** of cattle wander aimlessly
Because there is no **pasture** for them

Joel 1:18 (NASB)

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Rejoicing dries up from the **sons of men**

Joel 1:12 (NASB)

Yuriria, Mexico. Cristian Newman

1. The Day of the LORD

- Natural disasters: famine, drought (ch1)
 - Mourners: the land (1:10), animals (1:18), people (1:12)
- **Human disasters: armies of God** (2:1-11)
 - Sun/moon/stars darkened (2:10)
 - The LORD thunders (2:11)

Blow the **trumpet** in Zion;
sound the **alarm** on my holy hill.

Let all who live in the land **tremble**,
for the **day of the LORD** is coming.

Joel 2:1 (NASB)

Ukraine. Paul Itkin

Before them the **earth** shakes,
the **heavens** tremble,
The **sun** and **moon** are darkened,
and the **stars** no longer shine.

Joel 2:10 (NASB)

Ryan Hutton



The LORD **thunders**
at the head of his army ...

The **day of the LORD** is great; it is dreadful.
Who can **endure** it?

Joel 2:11 (NASB)

Breno Machado


Do I **anticipate** the
day of the LORD,
or **ignore** it?

Joel: Even Now, Return

1. Ruin: The Day of the LORD (1:1-2:11)
2. **Return: The Call of God** (2:12-17)
3. Renewal: The Promise of God (2:18-32)

2. The Call of God

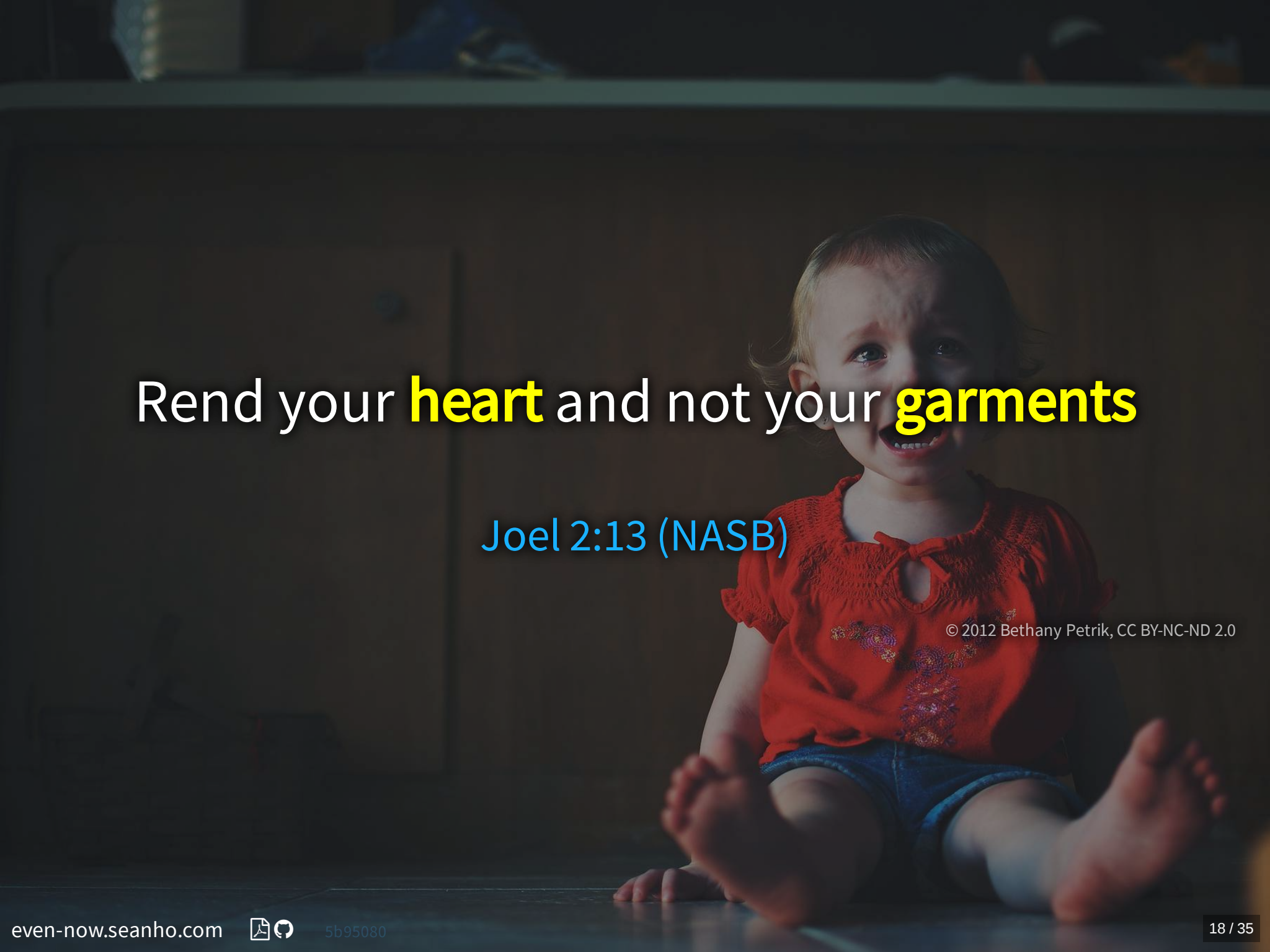
- **Rend** Your Heart (2:13)
- **Rally** the Survivors (2:15-17)
- **Return** to the LORD our God (2:12)



“**Even now,**” declares the LORD,
“return to me with **all your heart,**
with fasting and **weeping** and mourning.”

Joel 2:12 (NASB)


Milada Vigerova



Rend your **heart** and not your **garments**

Joel 2:13 (NASB)

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For you will not delight in **sacrifice**,
or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a **burnt offering**.

17 The sacrifices of God are a **broken spirit**;
a **broken** and **contrite** heart,
O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51:16-17 (ESV)

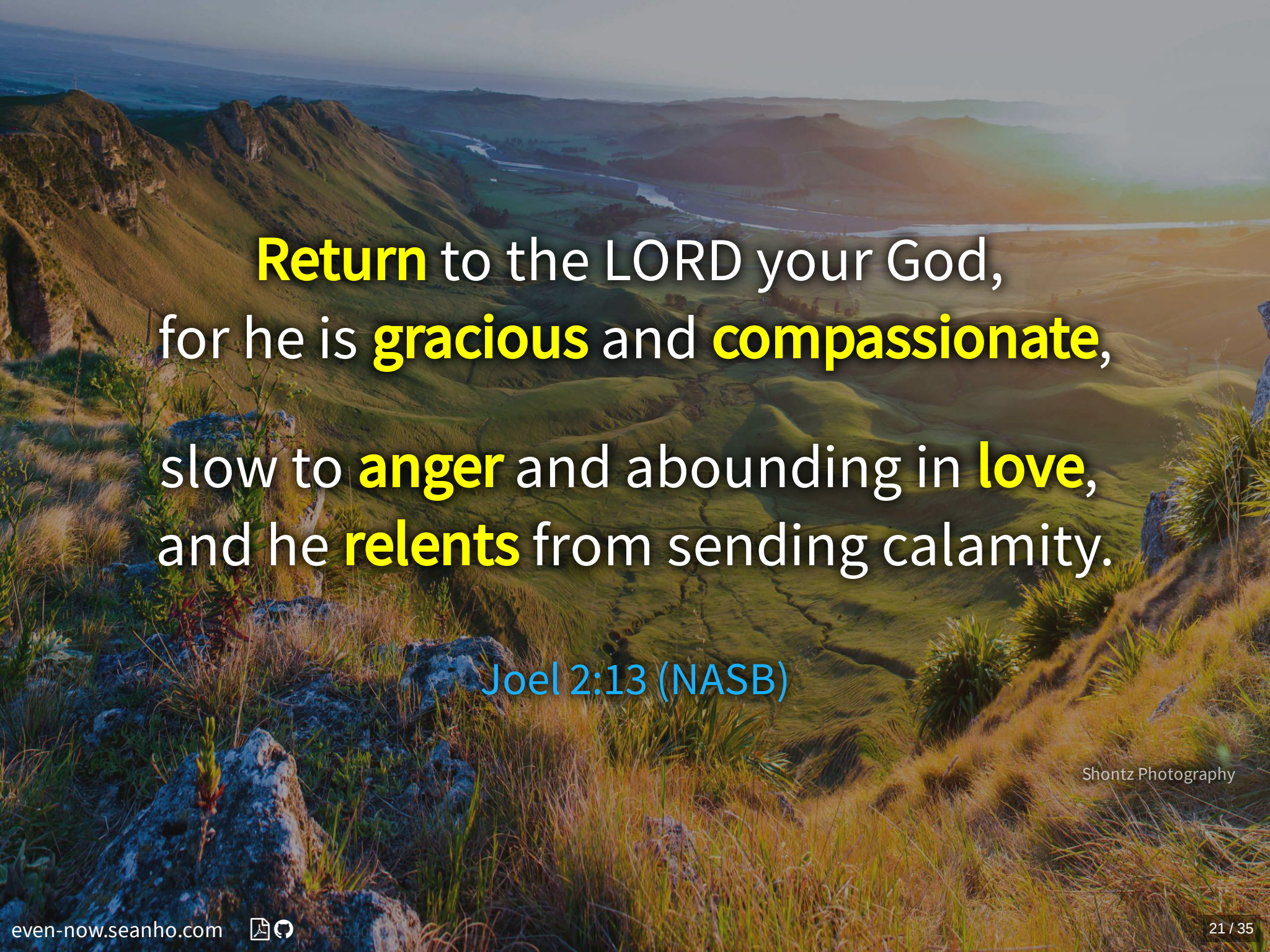
Olivia Snow



Blow the **trumpet** in Zion,
declare a holy **fast**, call a sacred **assembly**.
Gather the people, **consecrate** the assembly

Joel 2:15-16 (NASB)

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Return to the LORD your God,
for he is **gracious** and **compassionate**,
slow to **anger** and abounding in **love**,
and he **relents** from sending calamity.

Joel 2:13 (NASB)

Shontz Photography


Will we
rend our hearts,
rally together, and
return to our God?

Joel: Even Now, Return

1. Ruin: The Day of the LORD (1:1-2:11)
2. Return: The Call of God (2:12-17)
3. **Renewal: The Promise of God** (2:18-32)

3. The Promise of God


- Renewed **Nature** (2:18-27)
 - Comfort: **land, animals, people**
- Redeemed **Spirit** (2:28-32)
 - To all who **call** on His name
- Restored **Nation** (ch3)



Then the LORD
will be **zealous** for His land
And will have **pity** on His people.

Joel 2:18 (NASB)

John Bridges, "Christ Healing the Mother of Simon Peter's Wife", 1839



Do not fear, O **land**,
rejoice and be glad,
for the LORD has done **great** things.

Joel 2:21 (NASB)

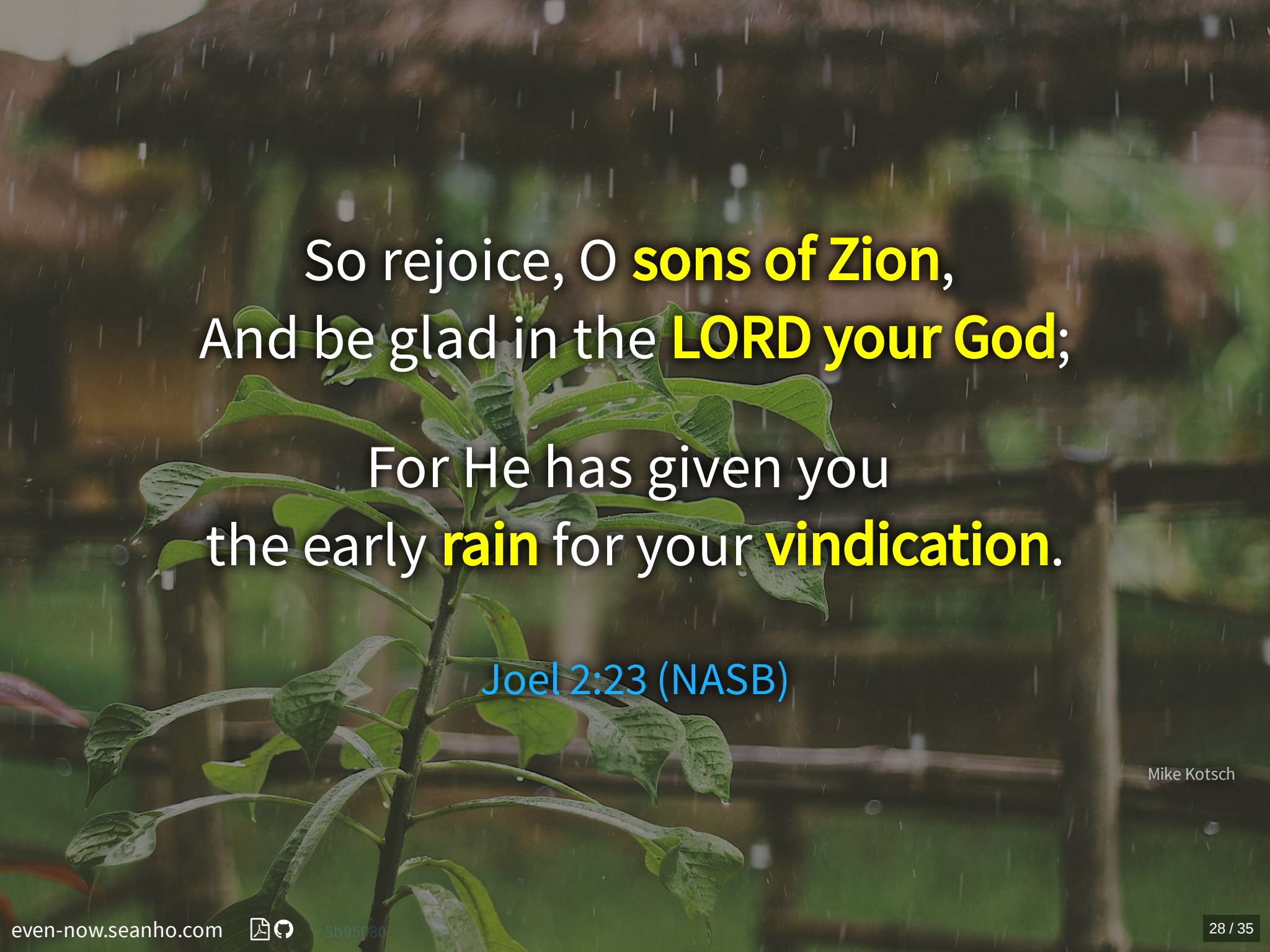
Zugr

A brown cow with horns stands in a lush green field. The cow has a white patch on its face and a yellow ear tag with the number '00923'. The background is a soft-focus green field.

Do not fear, **beasts** of the field,
For the **pastures** of the wilderness
have turned **green**

Joel 2:22 (NASB)

Flängan, Norberg. Adam Morse

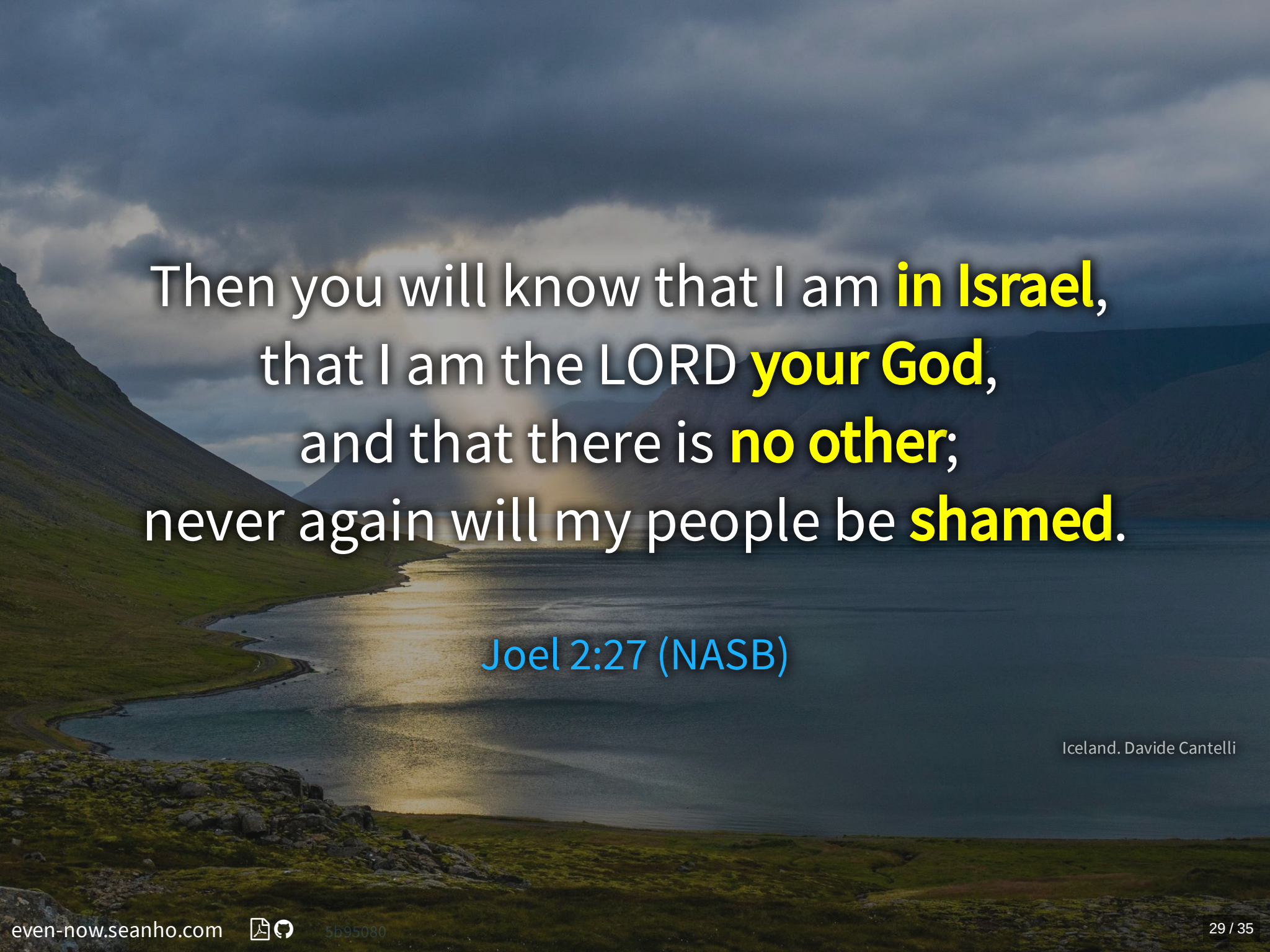


So rejoice, O **sons of Zion**,
And be glad in the **LORD your God**;

For He has given you
the early **rain** for your **vindication**.

Joel 2:23 (NASB)


Mike Kotsch

A scenic landscape of a lake in Iceland, with mountains and a cloudy sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow over the water and the surrounding green hills. The sky is filled with dark, dramatic clouds.

Then you will know that I am **in Israel**,
that I am the LORD **your God**,
and that there is **no other**;
never again will my people be **shamed**.

Joel 2:27 (NASB)

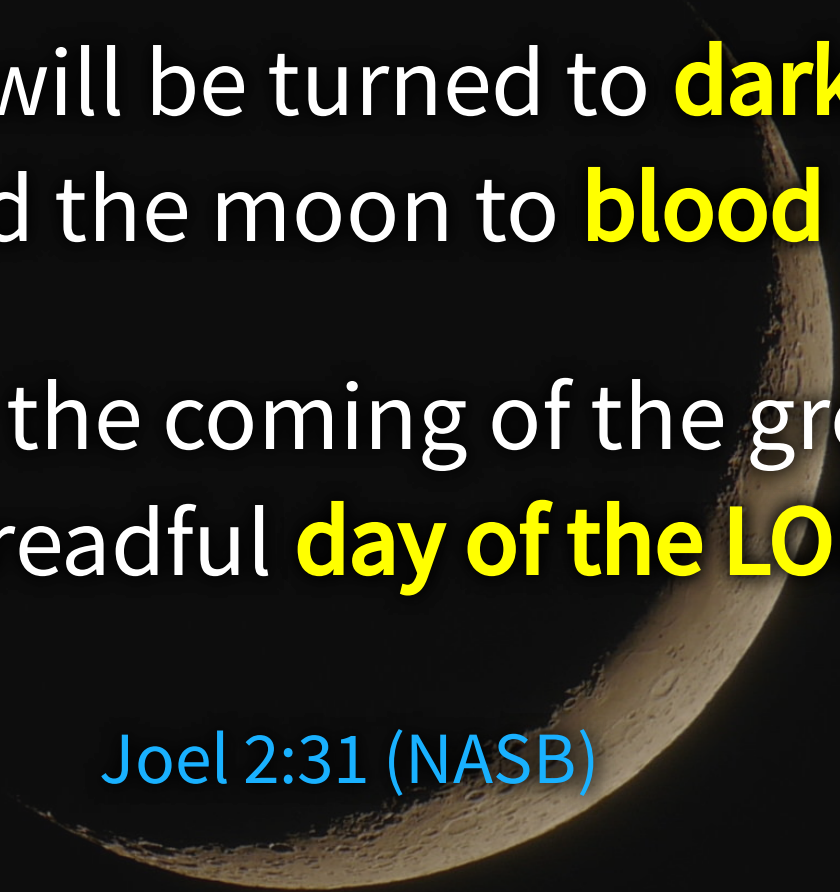
Iceland. Davide Cantelli



And afterward, I will pour out
my Spirit on all people

Joel 2:28 (NASB)

Jean Restout, "Pentecôte", 1732

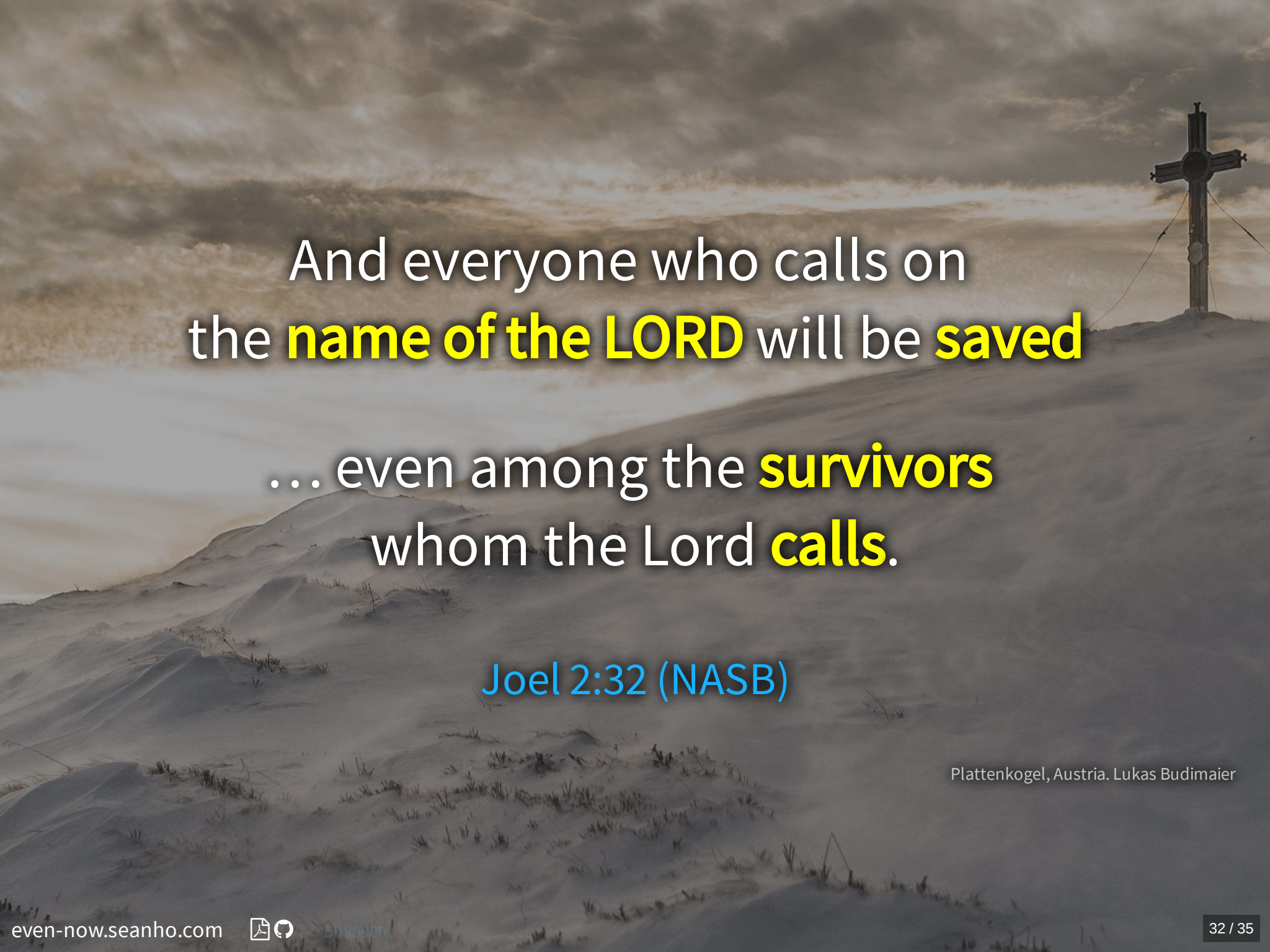


The sun will be turned to **darkness**
and the moon to **blood**

before the coming of the great
and dreadful **day of the LORD**

Joel 2:31 (NASB)

Nousnou Iwasaki

A wooden cross stands on a hilltop under a cloudy sky. The background is a vast, open landscape with rolling hills and sparse vegetation. The text is overlaid on the image.

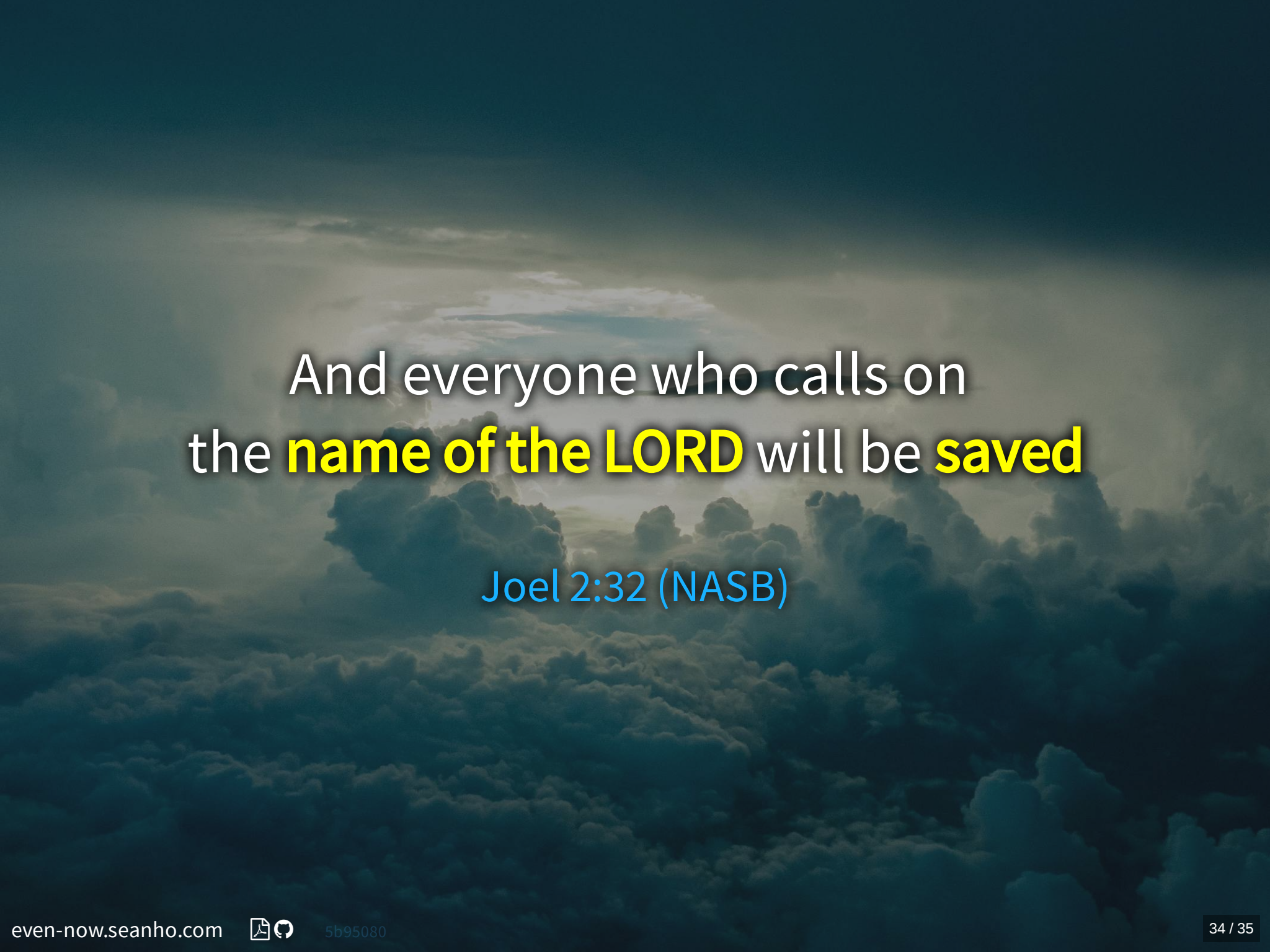
And everyone who calls on
the **name of the LORD** will be **saved**

... even among the **survivors**
whom the Lord **calls**.

Joel 2:32 (NASB)

Plattenkogel, Austria. Lukas Budimaier

Am I **prepared**
for the **day**
of the **LORD?**



And everyone who calls on
the **name of the LORD** will be **saved**

Joel 2:32 (NASB)

