

1 Sam. 30:1-31

“Strengthened in God”

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I. Foundations: Necessary & Purposeful

A. Building with a weak foundation has consequences.





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A. Building with a weak foundation leads to disaster.

B. But a foundation without a building is basically . . . just a hole.

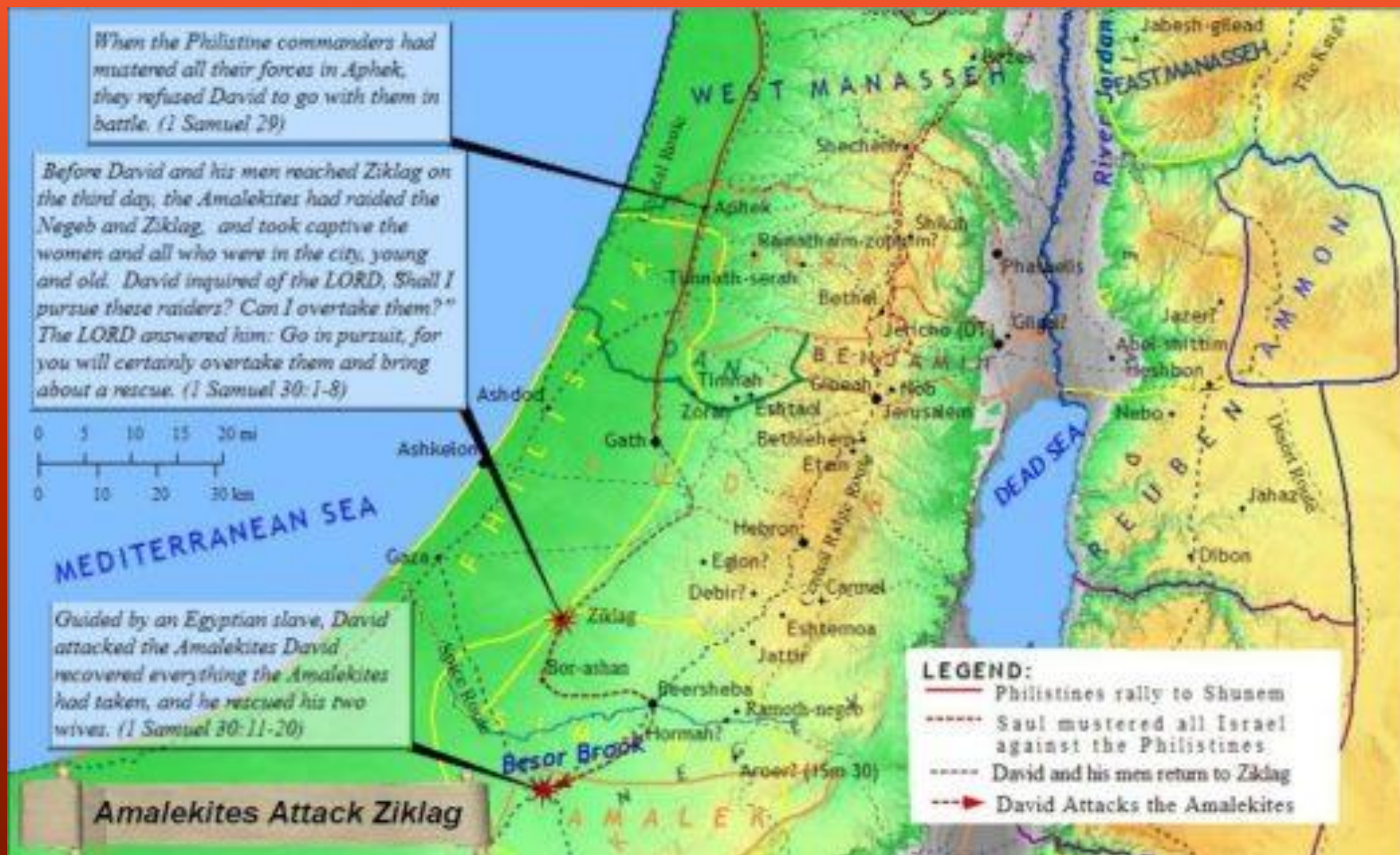
C. Spiritual foundations are also necessary & purposeful.

II. God Is Fundamentally, Unfailingly Trustworthy.

A. No circumstances that can overwhelm His capacity to deliver

1. David & his men return to a desolate ruin.

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1. David & his men return to a desolate ruin.

2. We also face and have faced devastating circumstances.

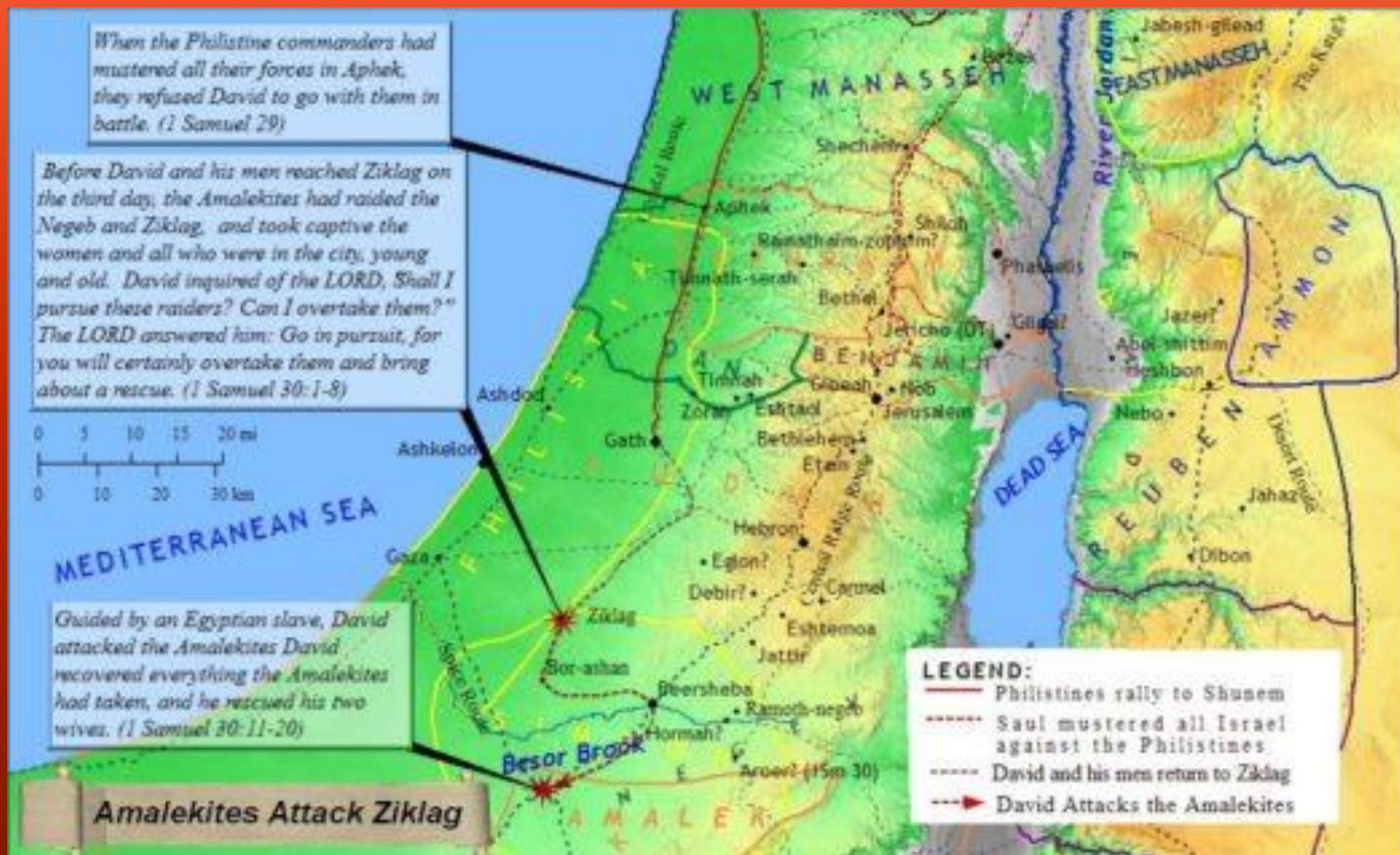
3. David’s pain compounded by blame

4. But David has a rock to which he can run!

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 - B. God's ability to deliver not dependent on resources we can count
 1. 1/3 of David's force left behind at Besor

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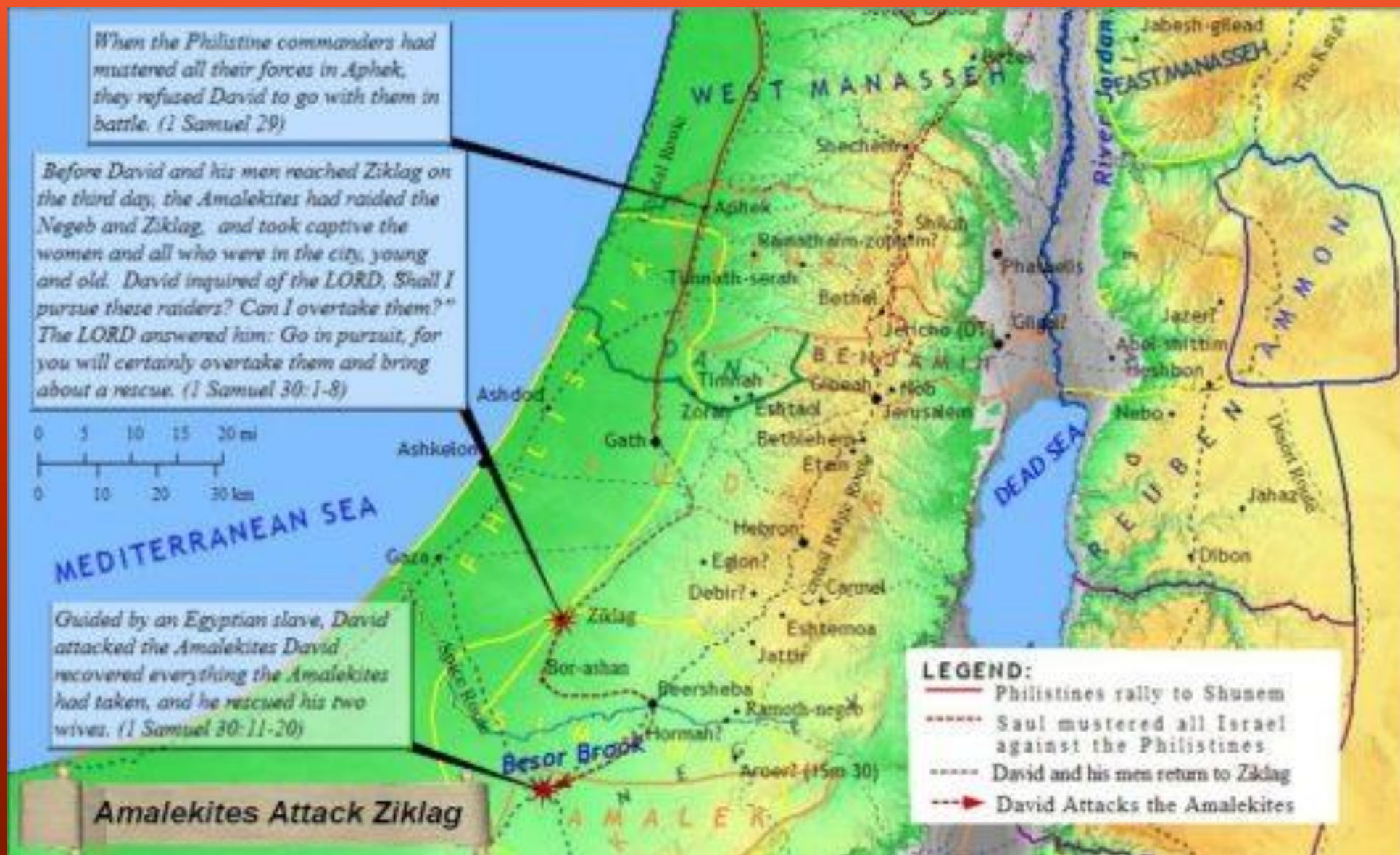
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 - 1. 1/3 of David's force left behind at Besor
 - 2. Our faithlessness causes us to focus on what we bring to the table.
 - C. God's providence is ever-ready.
 - 1. Defectors from Manasseh in the nick of time (1 Chr. 12:19-21)
 - 2. God provides an unlikely scout.

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 - 1. The Amalekites started the party too soon.
 - 2. God's promise fulfilled: "David brought it all back."
 - 3. Spoils taken that pave the path to kingship

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 3. Spoils taken that pave the path to kingship (Rom. 8:28)
 - E. Two intertwining themes in these accounts of David's troubles
 1. Physical deliverance
 2. Spiritual qualifications

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III. God’s Unfailing Trustworthiness Calls Us to Faithfully Follow

A. Based on who God has shown Himself to be, draw near in faith.

B. Cultivate a close, personal relationship with God.

1. “. . . the LORD *his* God.”

C. Choose encouragement & the means that God has provided.

1. Sanctified “self-talk” (Ps. 42:5)

2. Take it upon yourself to look at God.

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C. Choose encouragement & the means that God has provided.

D. Let God’s gracious provision free you to be gracious to others.

1. Dealing with the ones who stayed at Besor

2. David disagrees with the “wicked work-ethic”

a. Matt. 20:1-16

3. Let the generosity He has shown to you overflow.

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E. Know that there is mercy for your failures

1. Maybe I'm Saul, not David.

2. Another time that David was in "distress" (2 Sam. 24:10-14)

F. Keep deliverance on God's timetable, not yours.

1. "Unquestionable" deliverance?

2. The promise is sure: "Though it tarries, wait for it . . ."

a. Rev. 21:1-6