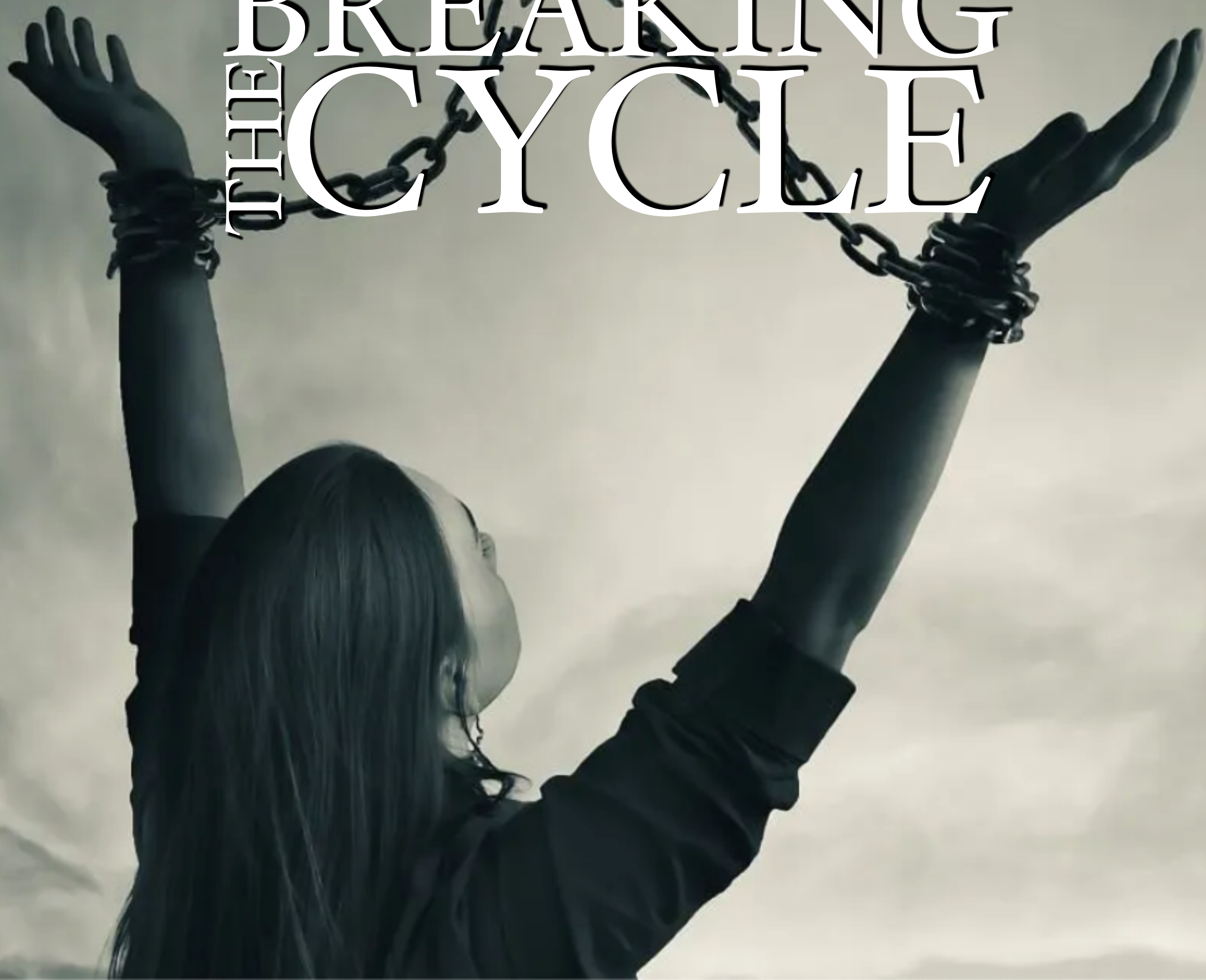
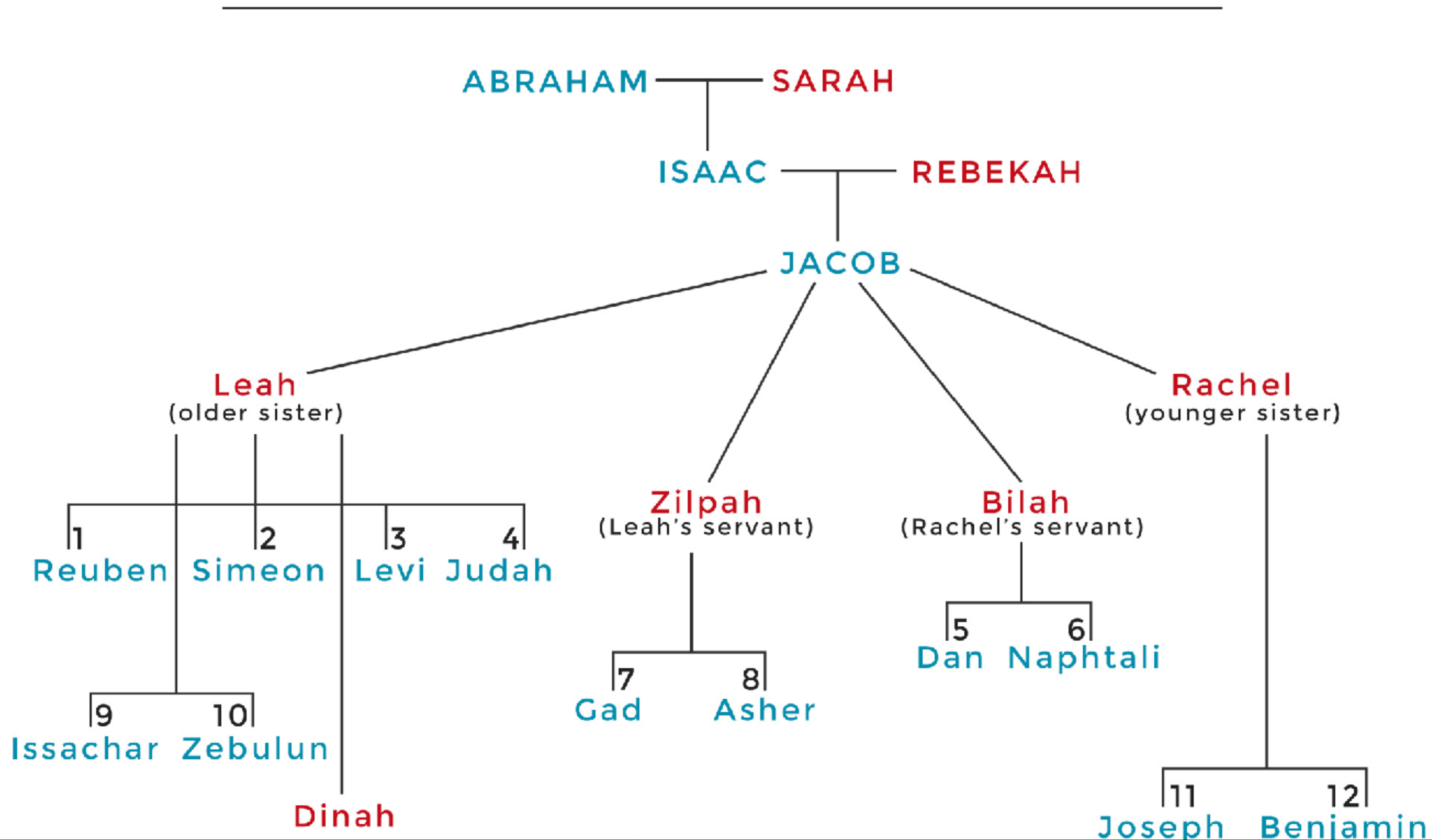


BREAKING THE CYCLE



FAVOURITISM

12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL



OFFENDED



SHECHEM

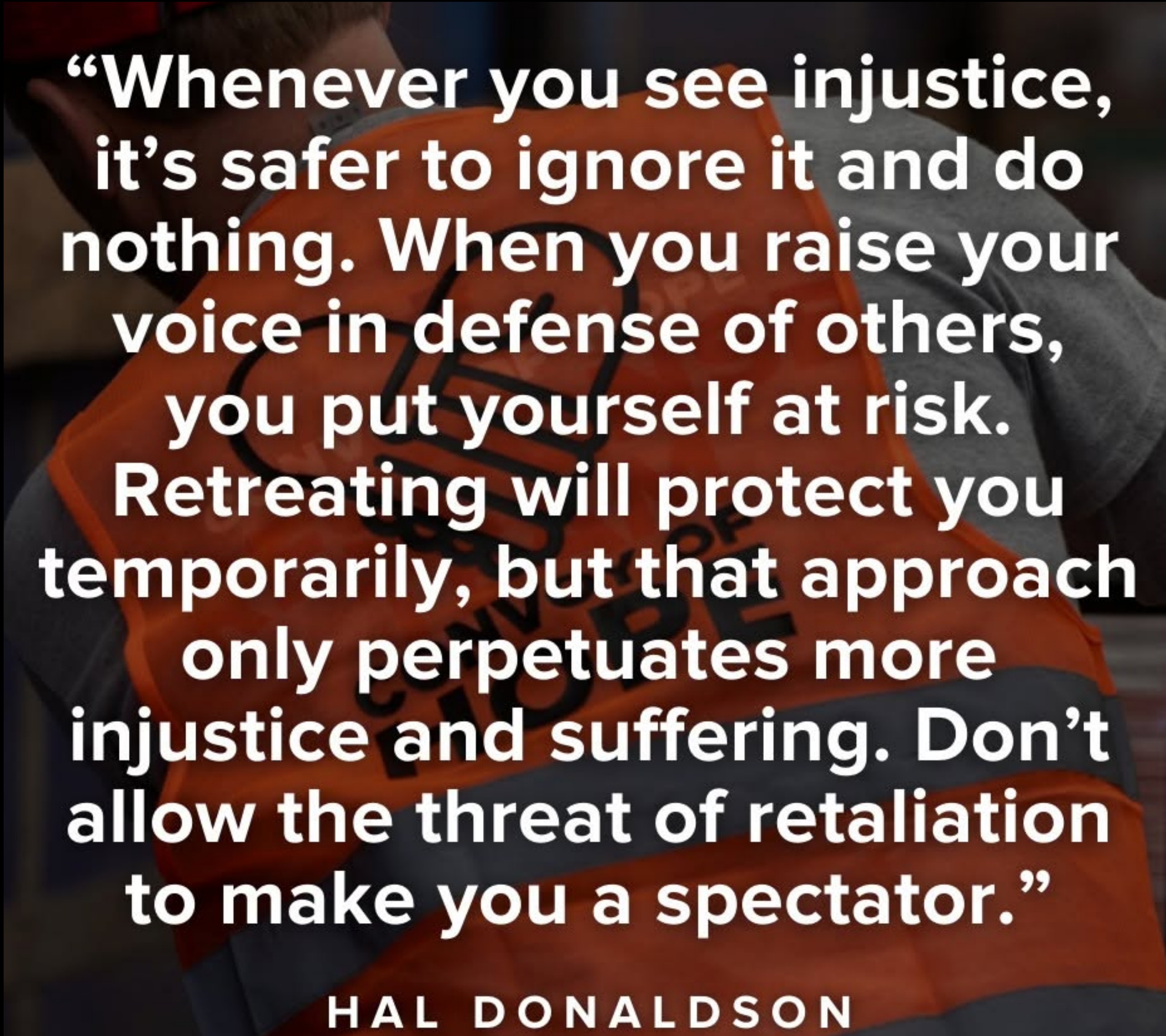


DOING THE RIGHT THING

But when Reuben heard of their scheme, he came to Joseph's rescue. "Let's not kill him," he said. "Why should we shed any blood? Let's just throw him into this empty cistern here in the wilderness. Then he'll die without our laying a hand on him."

**REUBEN WAS SECRETLY
PLANNING TO RESCUE JOSEPH
AND RETURN HIM TO HIS
FATHER.**

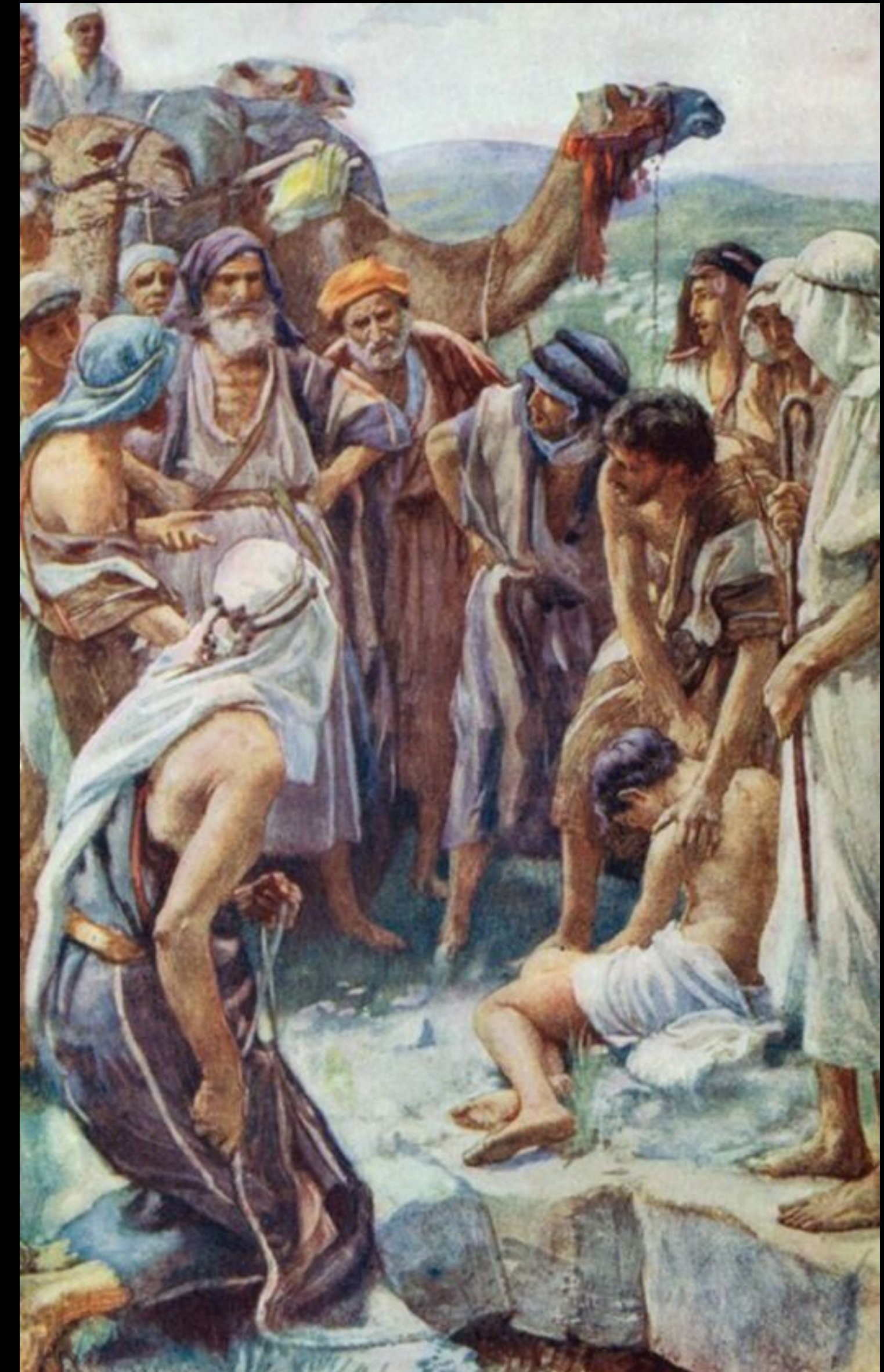
GENESIS 37:21-22

A person is holding a red protest sign. The sign has a black circle with a diagonal slash over a logo that appears to be a stylized 'B' or 'P'. The text on the sign is partially obscured but seems to say 'STOP' or 'NO'. The person holding the sign is wearing a grey shirt.

"Whenever you see injustice, it's safer to ignore it and do nothing. When you raise your voice in defense of others, you put yourself at risk. Retreating will protect you temporarily, but that approach only perpetuates more injustice and suffering. Don't allow the threat of retaliation to make you a spectator."

HAL DONALDSON

BROTHER FOR SALE



A BROKEN FAMILY

Some time later, Reuben returned to get Joseph out of the cistern. **WHEN HE DISCOVERED THAT JOSEPH WAS MISSING, HE TORE HIS CLOTHES IN GRIEF...**

...JACOB TORE HIS CLOTHES AND DRESSED HIMSELF IN BURLAP. HE MOURNED DEEPLY FOR HIS SON FOR A LONG TIME. His family all tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. “I will go to my grave mourning for my son,” he would say, and then he would weep.

GENESIS 37:29-30, 34-35



TAKE IT HOME...



cycles can be repeated



or they can be broken

None of us gets to choose what we inherit from our families – the wounds, patterns, attitudes and ways of relating to one another. But we do have a choice about what we pass on...

Brokenness and sin has a way of reproducing itself – but by the grace of God, it doesn't have to continue... In Jesus, we are invited into a different way of being human, rediscovering the image of God in us.