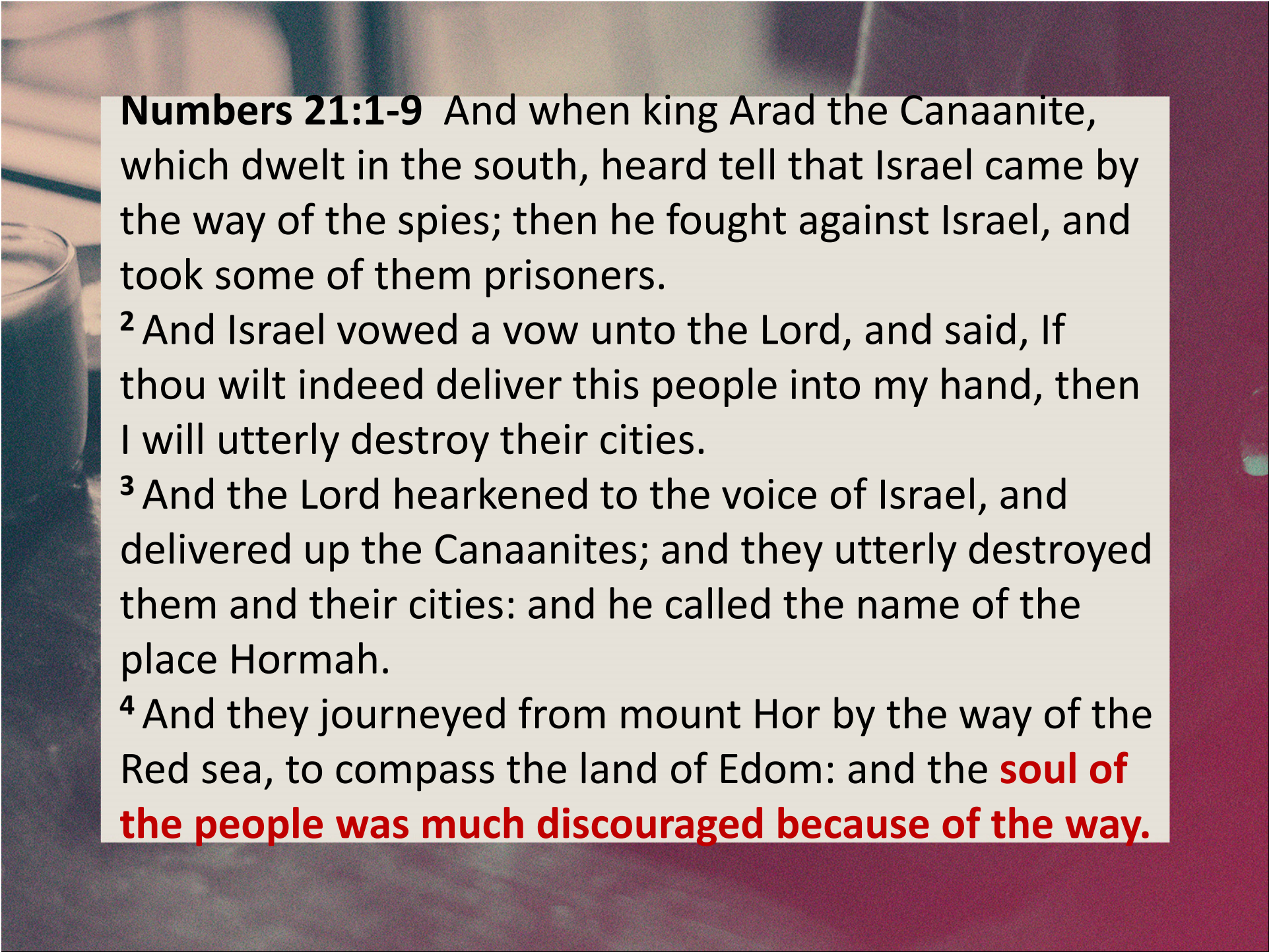


A photograph of a person's hands writing in an open notebook on a wooden desk. A glass of water is visible on the left. The image has a dark, moody aesthetic with a reddish-brown color overlay. The word "DISCOURAGEMENT" is written in white capital letters at the bottom.

DISCOURAGEMENT

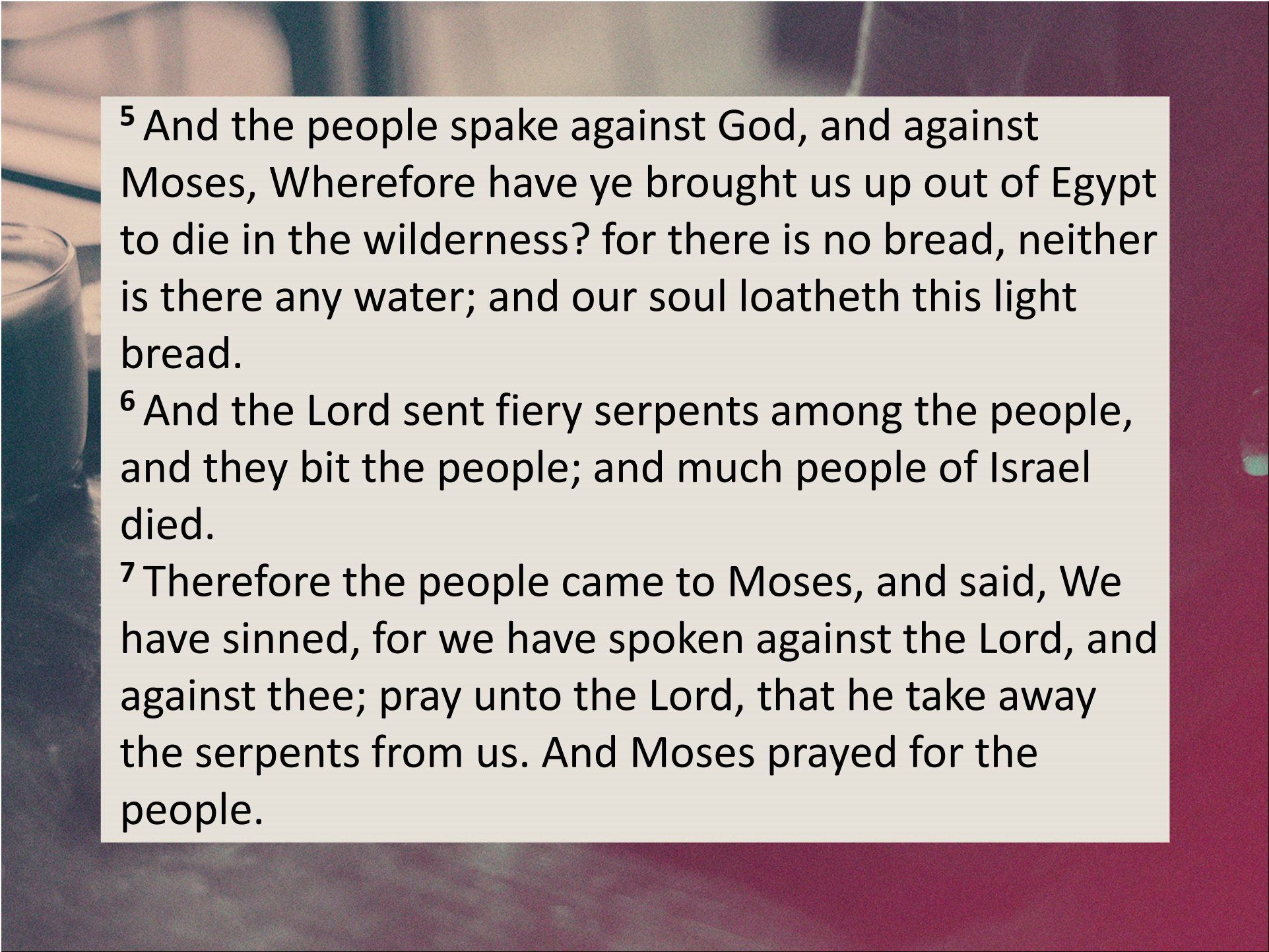


Numbers 21:1-9 And when king Arad the Canaanite, which dwelt in the south, heard tell that Israel came by the way of the spies; then he fought against Israel, and took some of them prisoners.

² And Israel vowed a vow unto the Lord, and said, If thou wilt indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.

³ And the Lord hearkened to the voice of Israel, and delivered up the Canaanites; and they utterly destroyed them and their cities: and he called the name of the place Hormah.

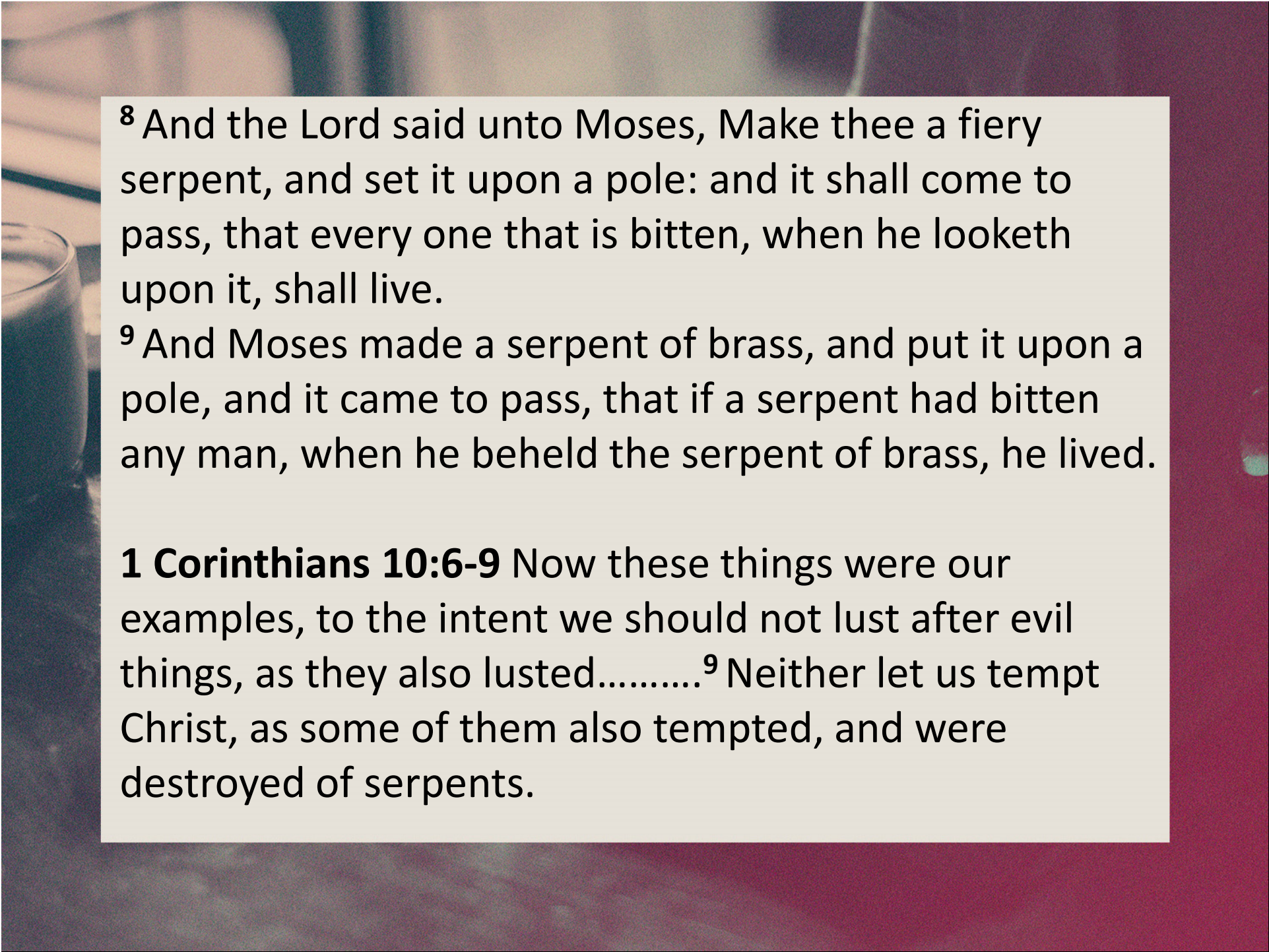
⁴ And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the **soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.**



⁵ And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

⁶ And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.



⁸ And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

⁹ And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

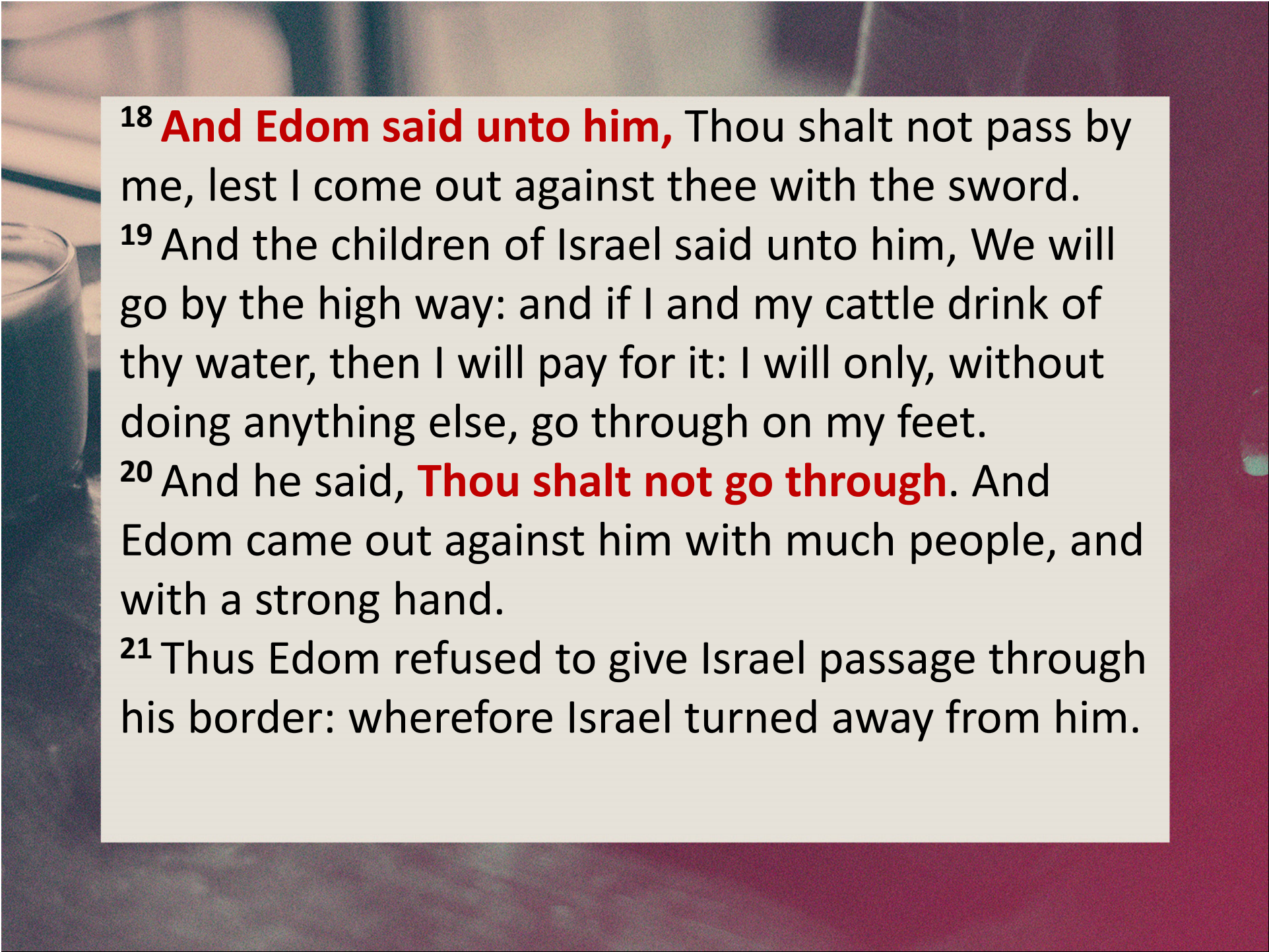
1 Corinthians 10:6-9 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.....⁹ Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

Numbers 20:14-21 And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy **brother Israel**, Thou knowest all the **travail that hath befallen us**:

¹⁵ How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers:

¹⁶ And when we cried unto the Lord, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border:

¹⁷ Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders.



¹⁸ **And Edom said unto him,** Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword.

¹⁹ And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing anything else, go through on my feet.

²⁰ And he said, **Thou shalt not go through.** And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand.

²¹ Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him.

The background of the slide features a blurred image of a glass of milk on the left and a book with a maroon cover on the right. A semi-transparent white box is centered over the image, containing the text.

I. THE CAUSE OF DISCOURAGEMENT. (Edomites)

A. Discouraged in the way.

Act 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

B. Discouraged by a brother.

Psalm 55

¹² For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him:

¹³ But it was thou, **a man mine equal**, my guide, and mine acquaintance.

¹⁴ We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

II. THE EFFECTS OF DISCOURAGEMENT

1. Dishonored God and God's Man

Numbers 21:5 And the people spake **against God**, and **against Moses**,

2. Doubted Salvation

Numbers 21:5a Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness??

3. Denied God's Care

Numbers 21:5a Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness??

4. Despised the Provision of God.

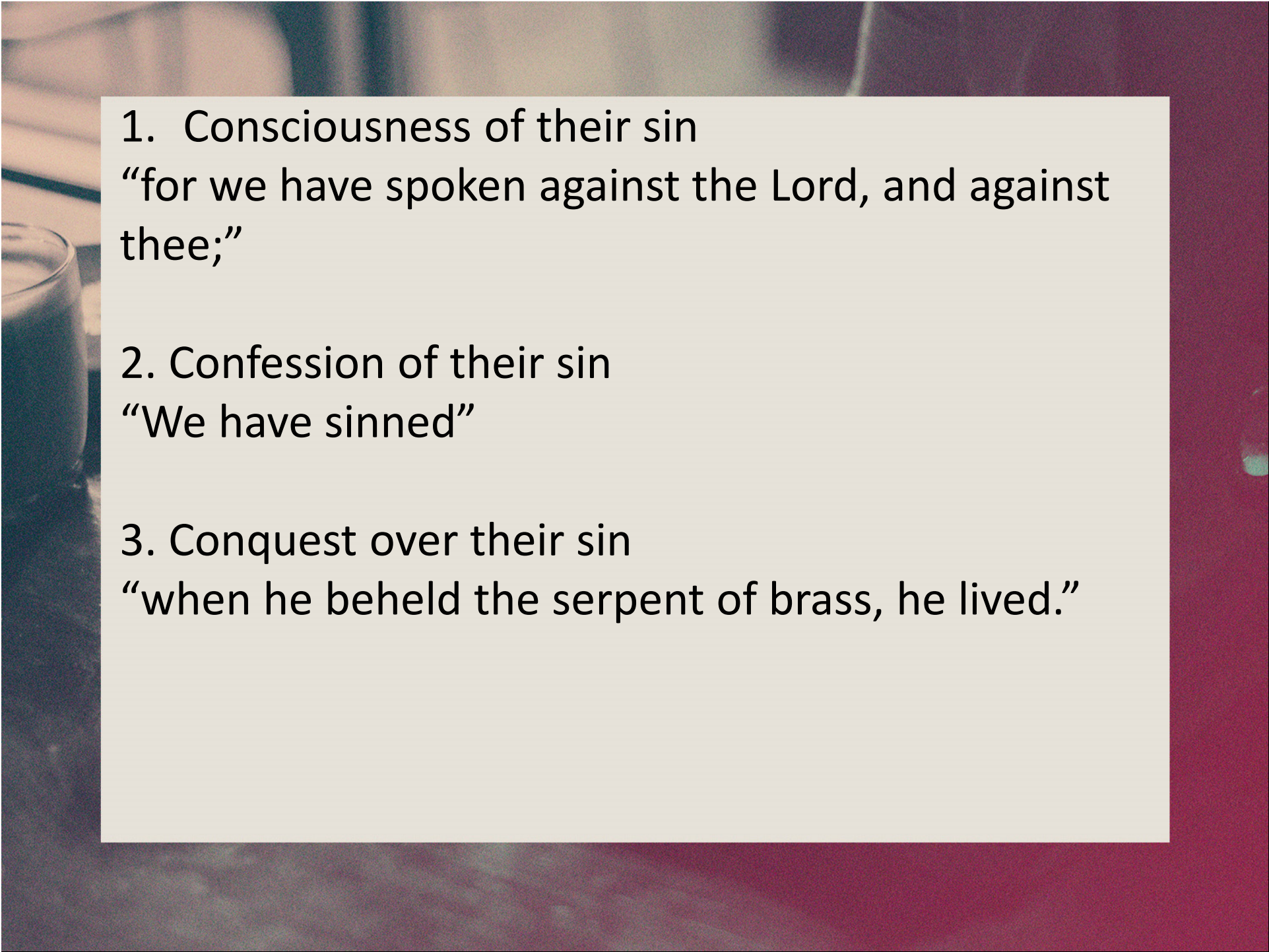
Numbers 21:5 for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

5. Discovered the Discipline of God

Numbers 21:6 And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

III. THE CURE OF DISCOURAGEMENT.

Numbers 21:7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

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1. Consciousness of their sin

“for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee;”

2. Confession of their sin

“We have sinned”

3. Conquest over their sin

“when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.”