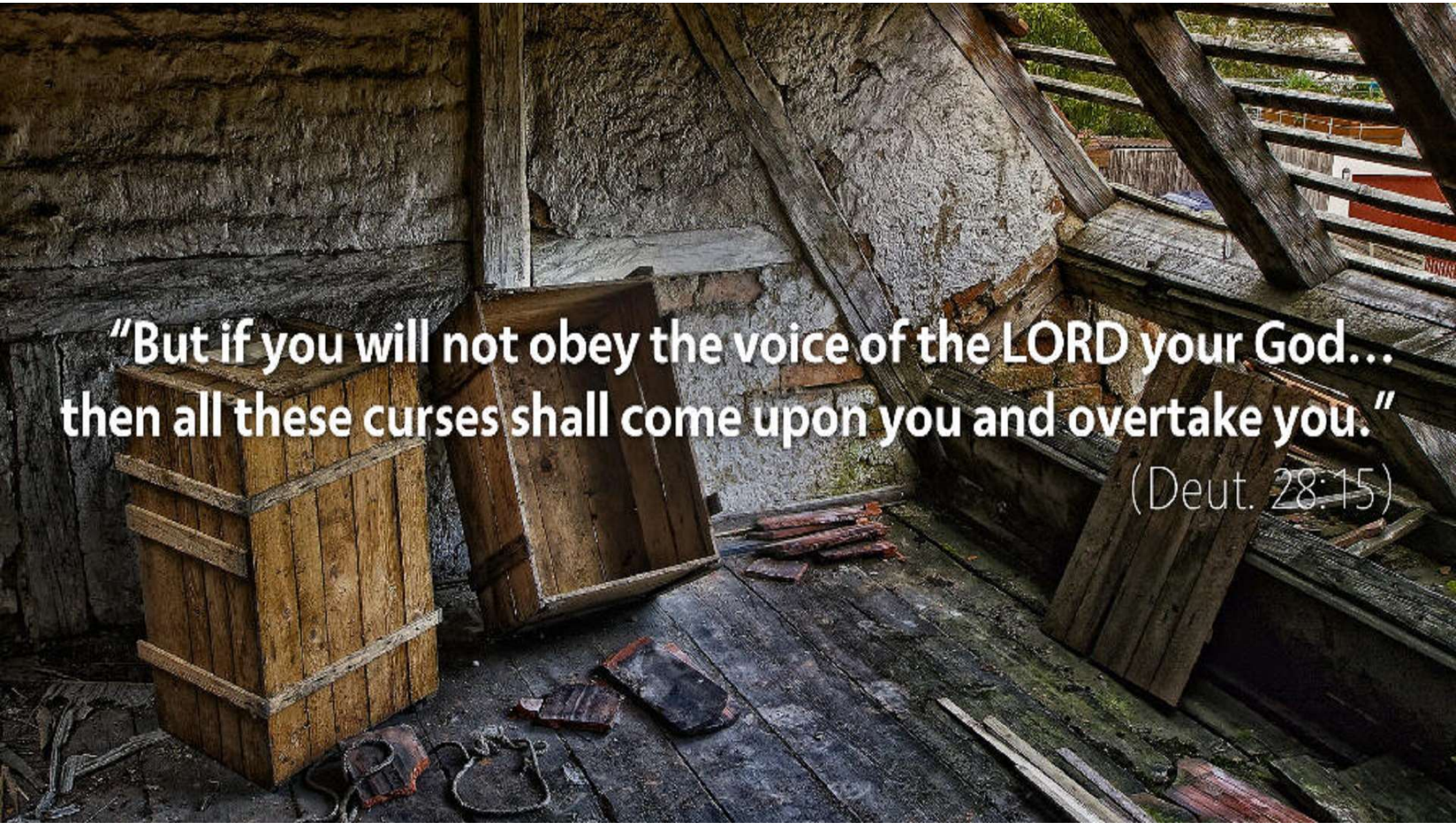
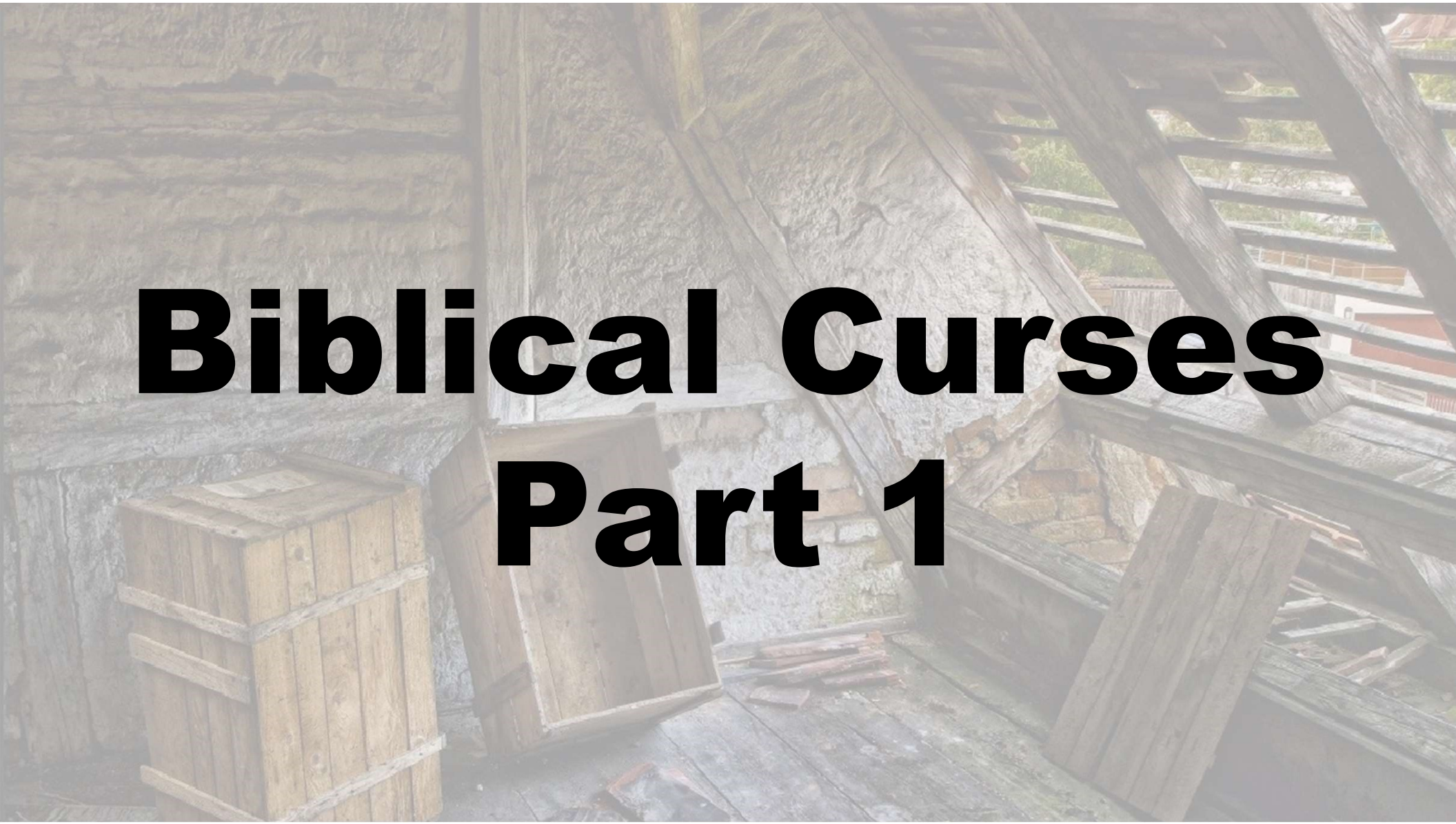
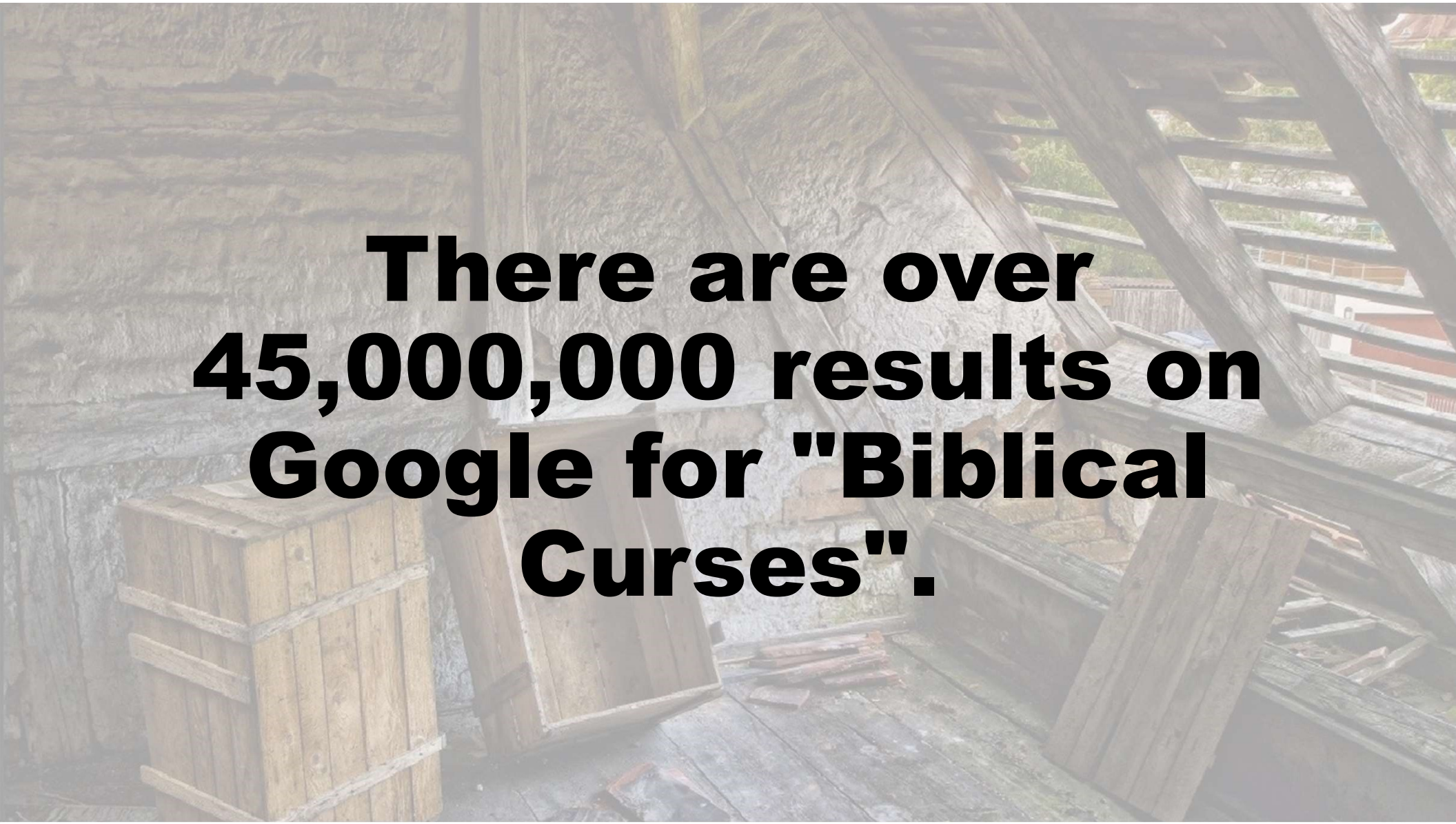
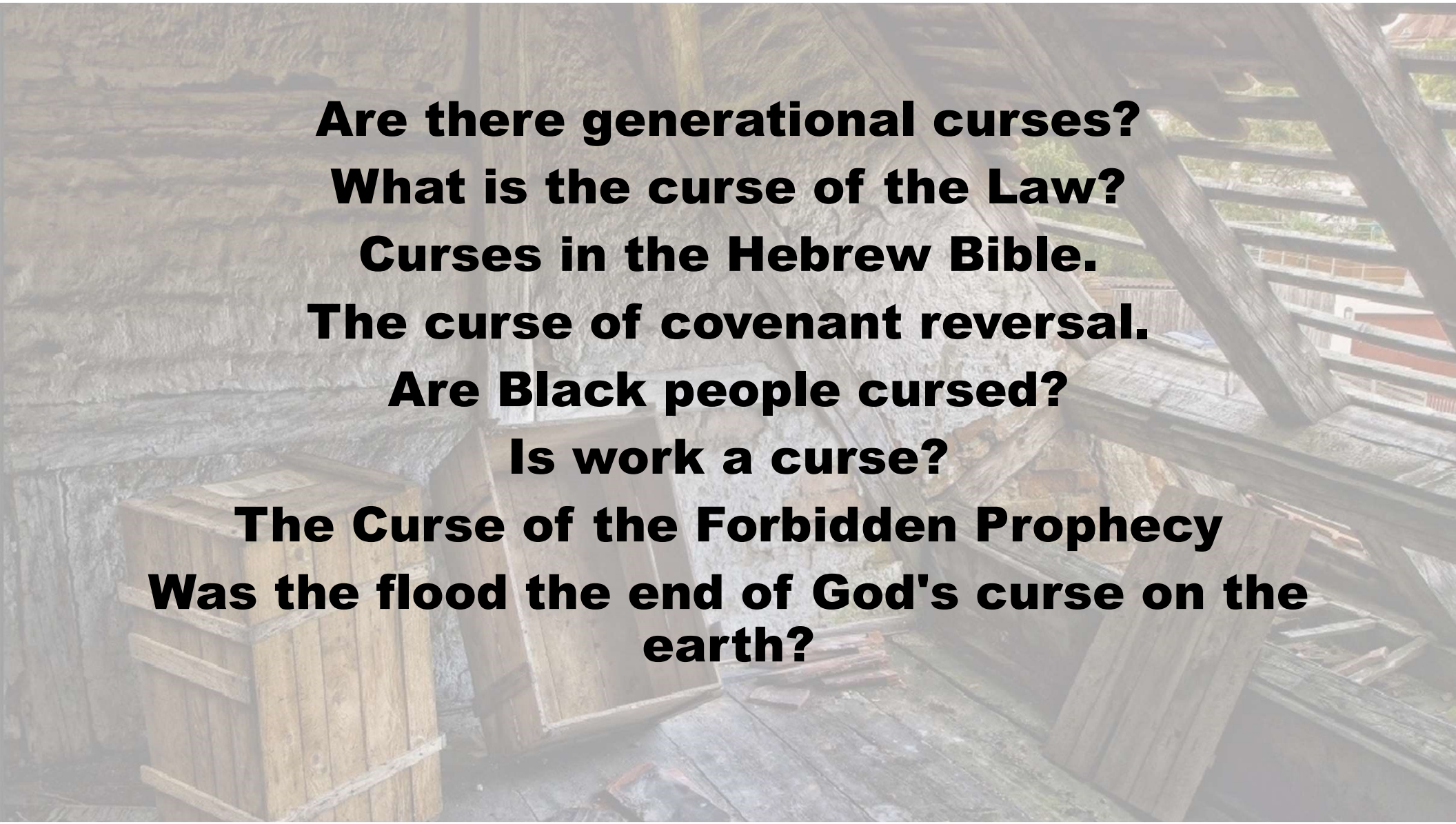
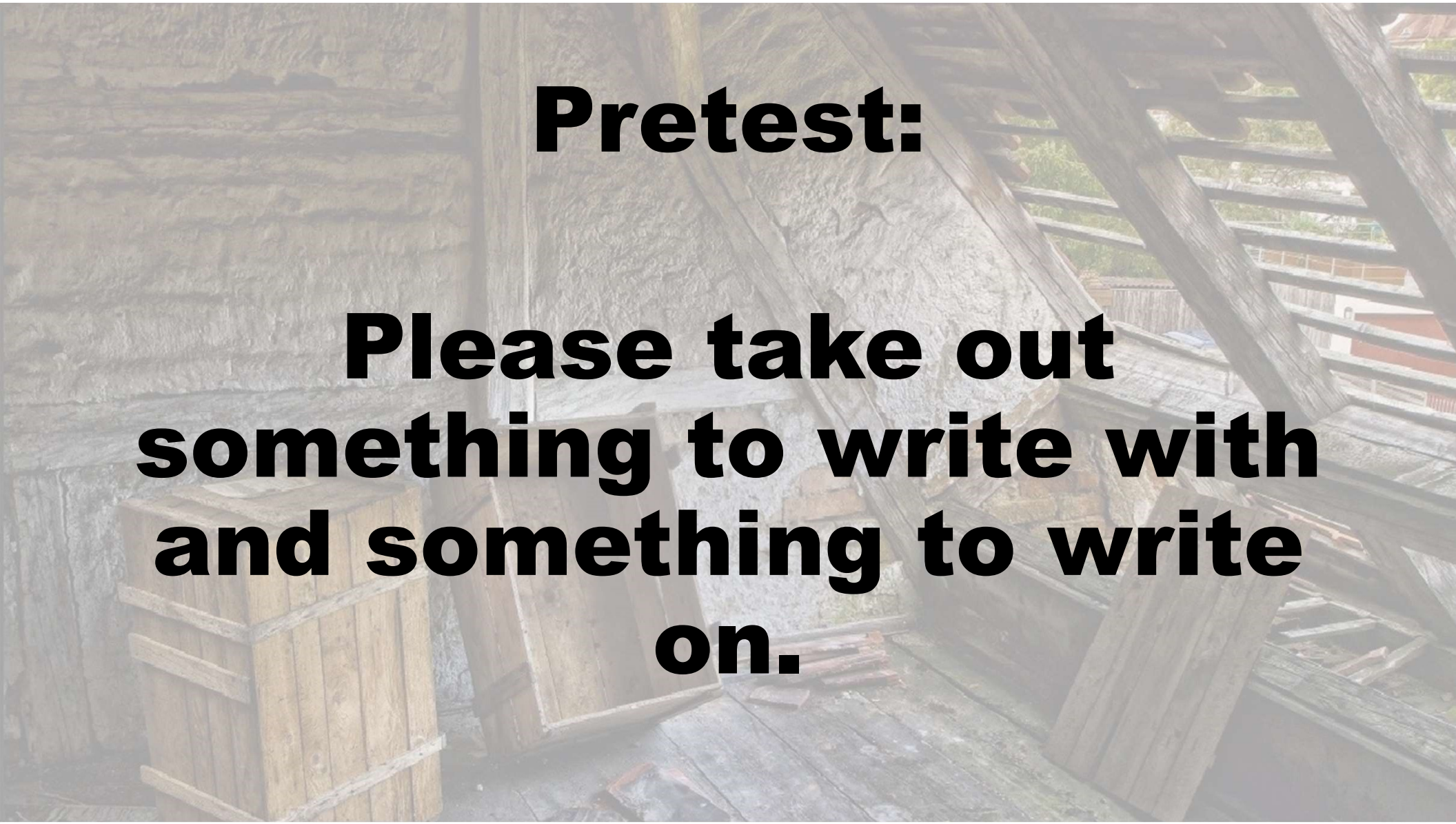

"But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God…
then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you."
(Deut. 28:15)



Biblical Curses Part 1

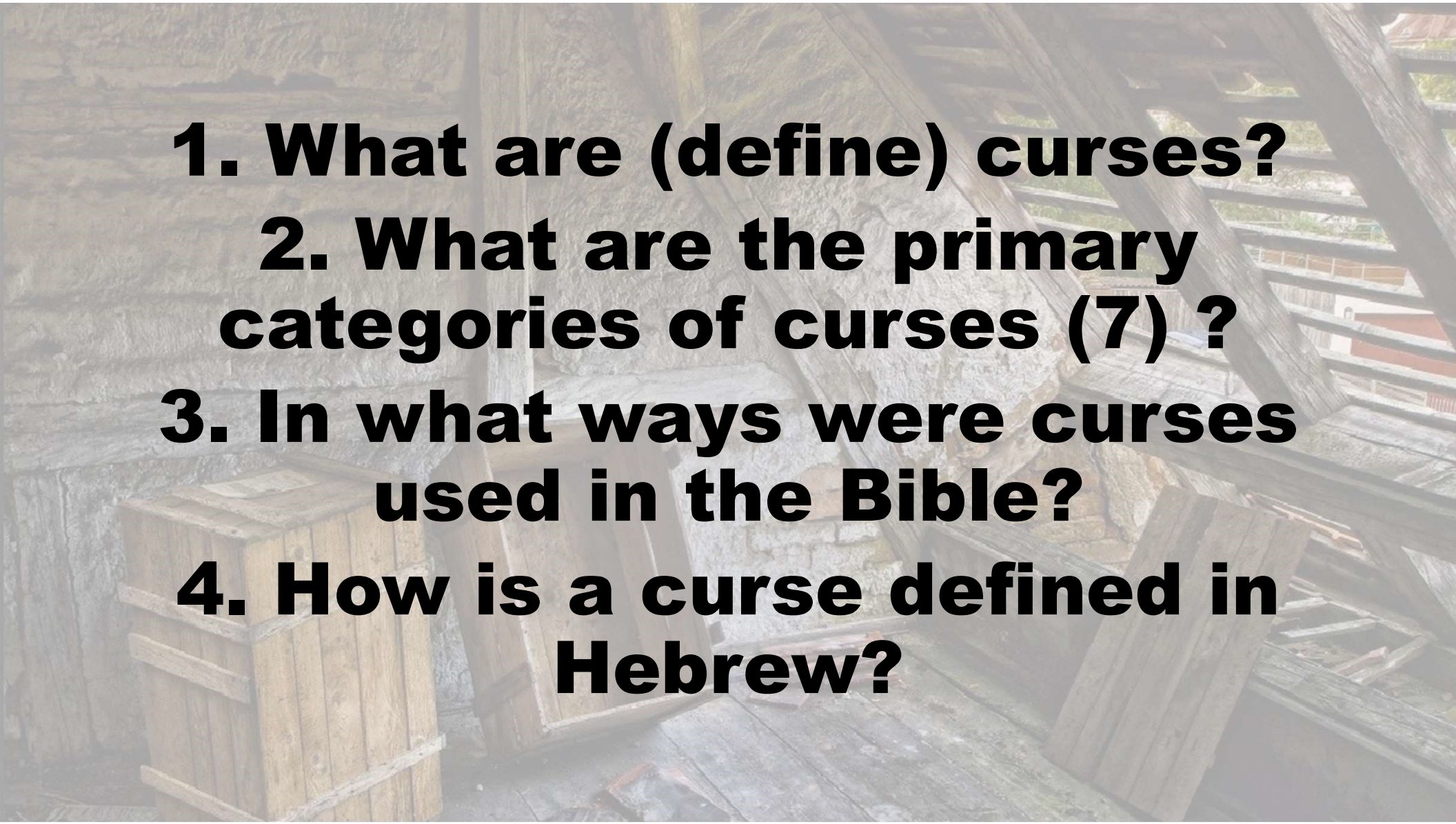

There are over
45,000,000 results on
Google for "Biblical
Curses".


Are there generational curses?
What is the curse of the Law?
Curses in the Hebrew Bible.
The curse of covenant reversal.
Are Black people cursed?
Is work a curse?
The Curse of the Forbidden Prophecy
Was the flood the end of God's curse on the earth?

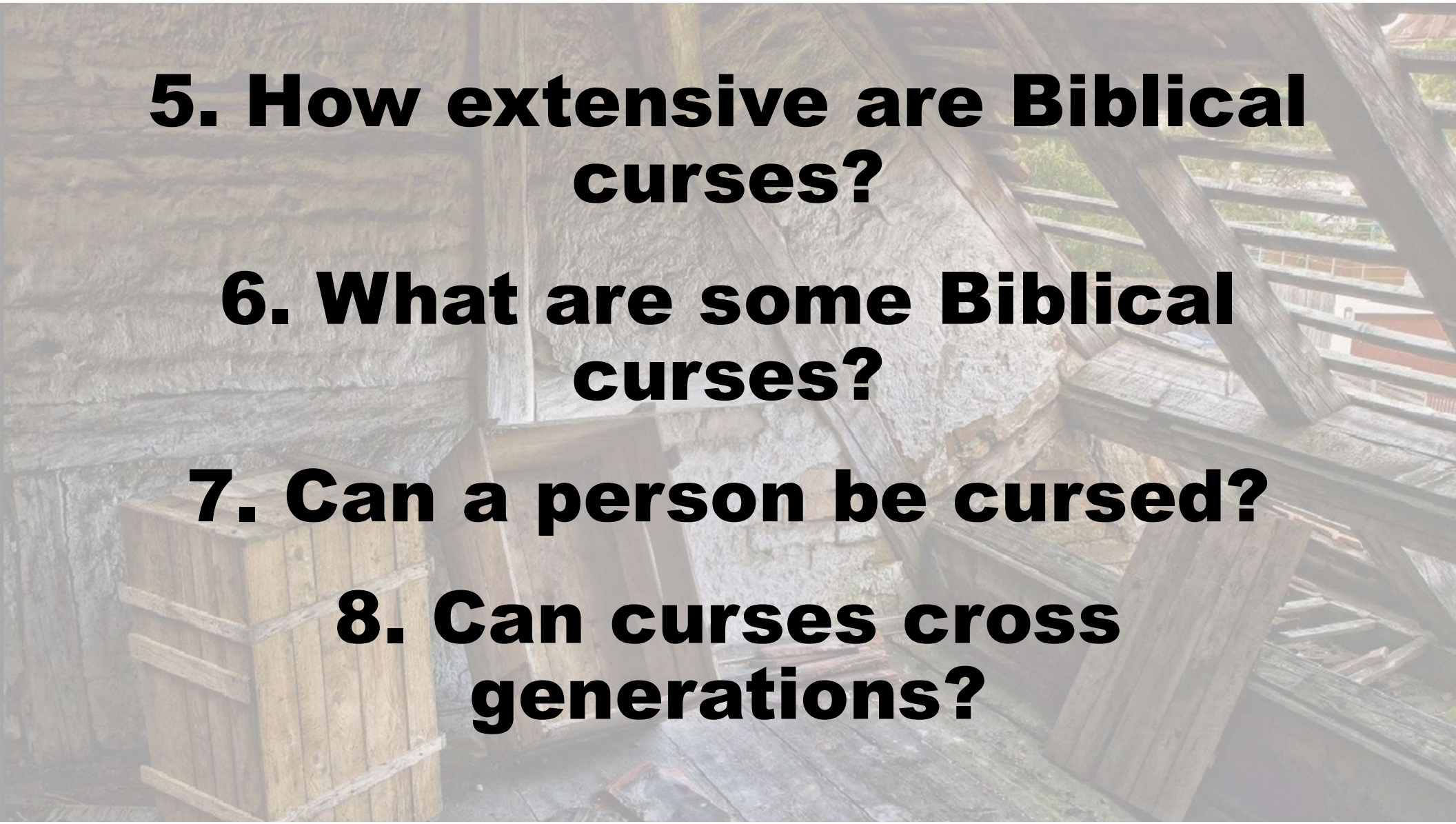


Pretest:

Please take out something to write with and something to write on.



1. What are (define) curses?
2. What are the primary categories of curses (7) ?
3. In what ways were curses used in the Bible?
4. How is a curse defined in Hebrew?

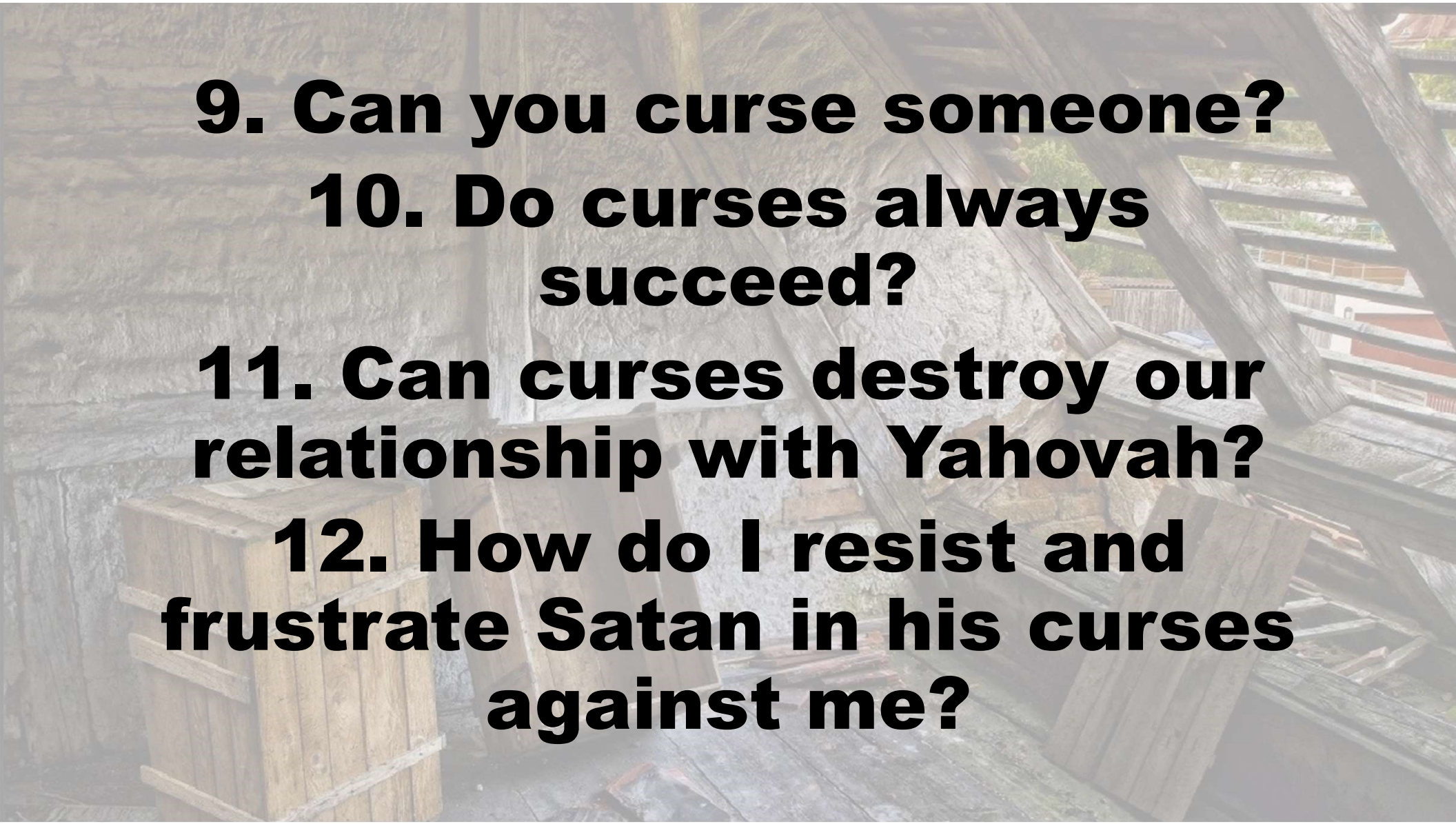


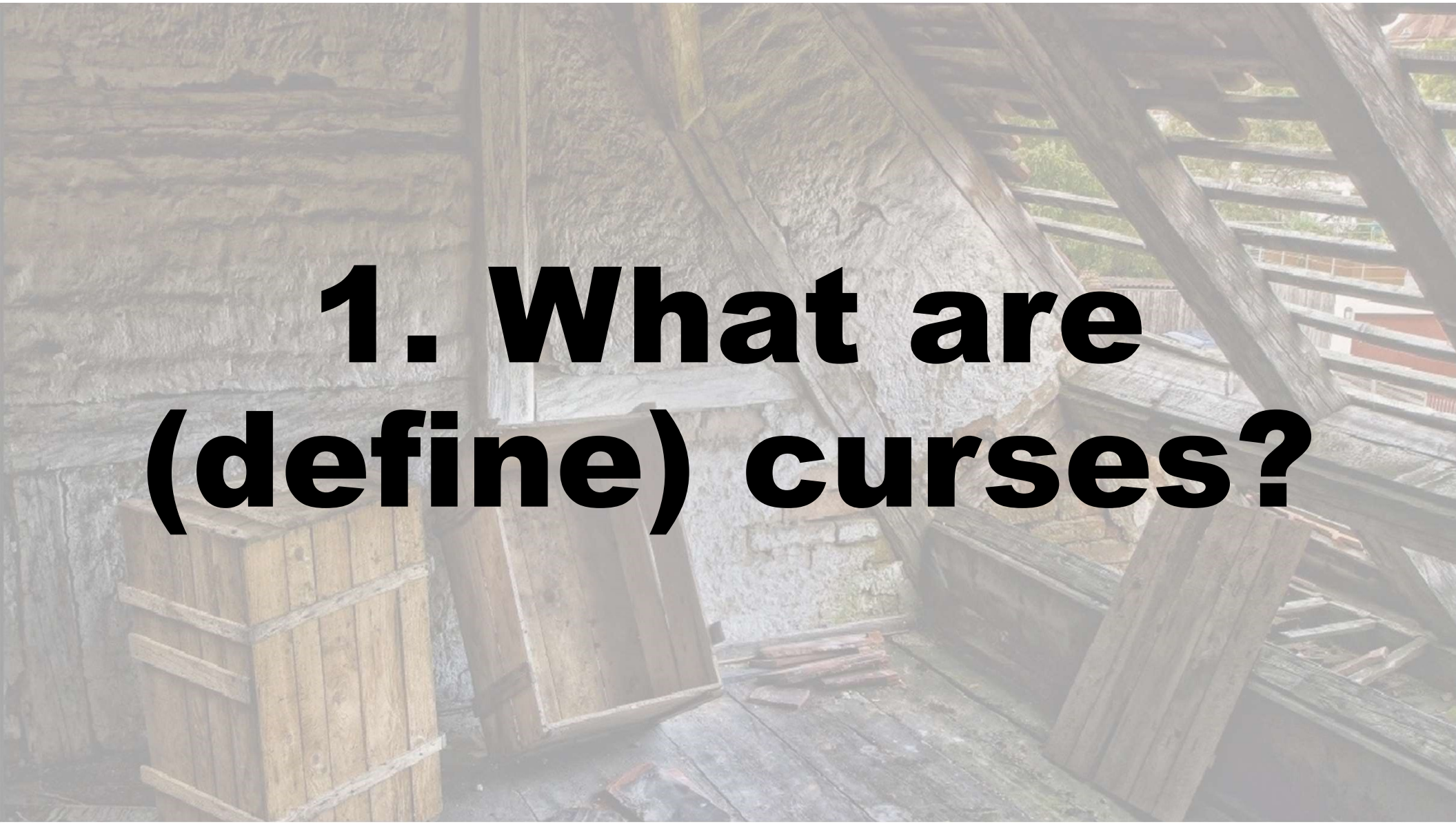
5. How extensive are Biblical curses?

6. What are some Biblical curses?

7. Can a person be cursed?

8. Can curses cross generations?

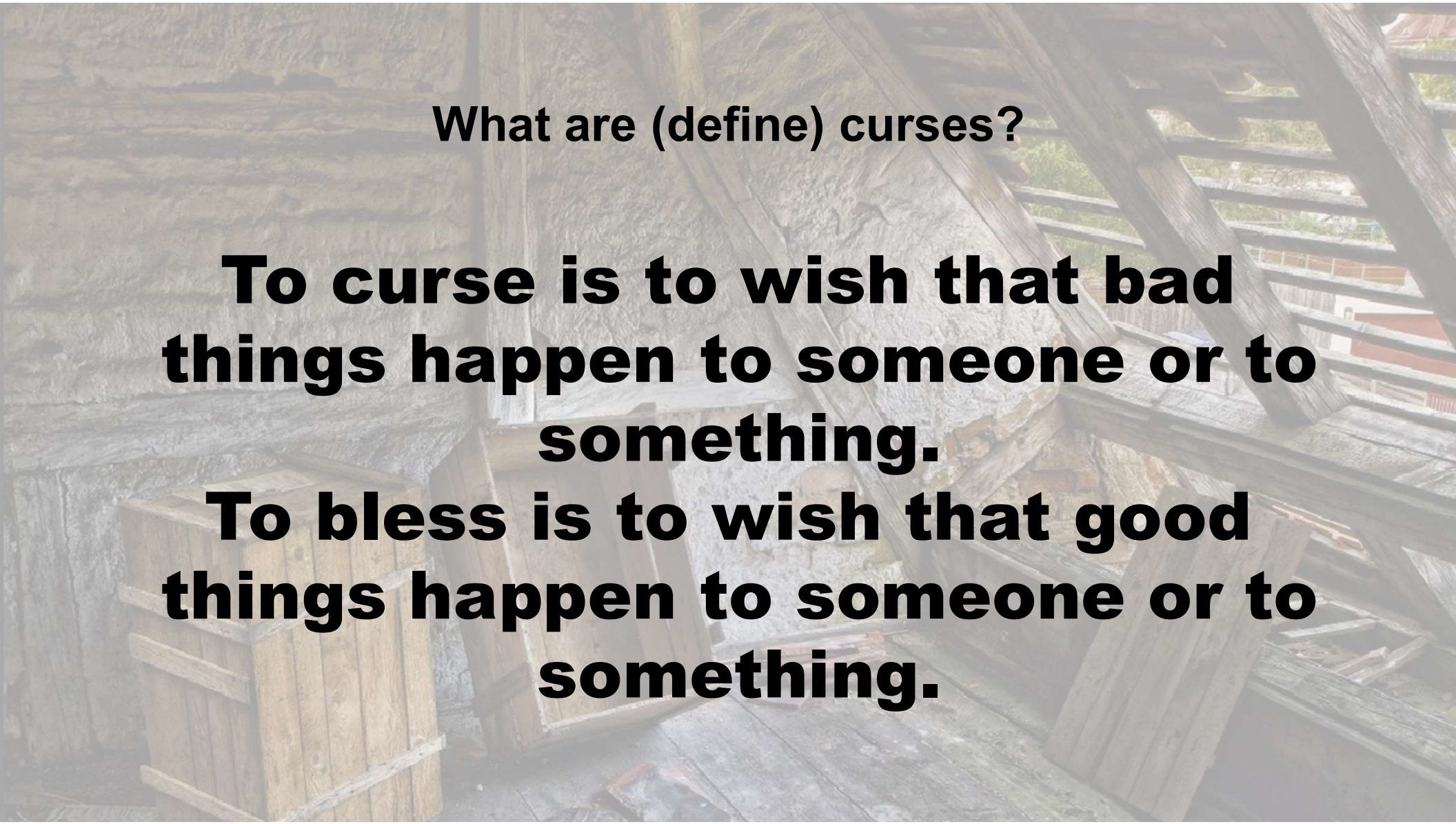

9. Can you curse someone?
10. Do curses always succeed?
11. Can curses destroy our relationship with Yahovah?
12. How do I resist and frustrate Satan in his curses against me?



1. What are (define) curses?

What are (define) curses?

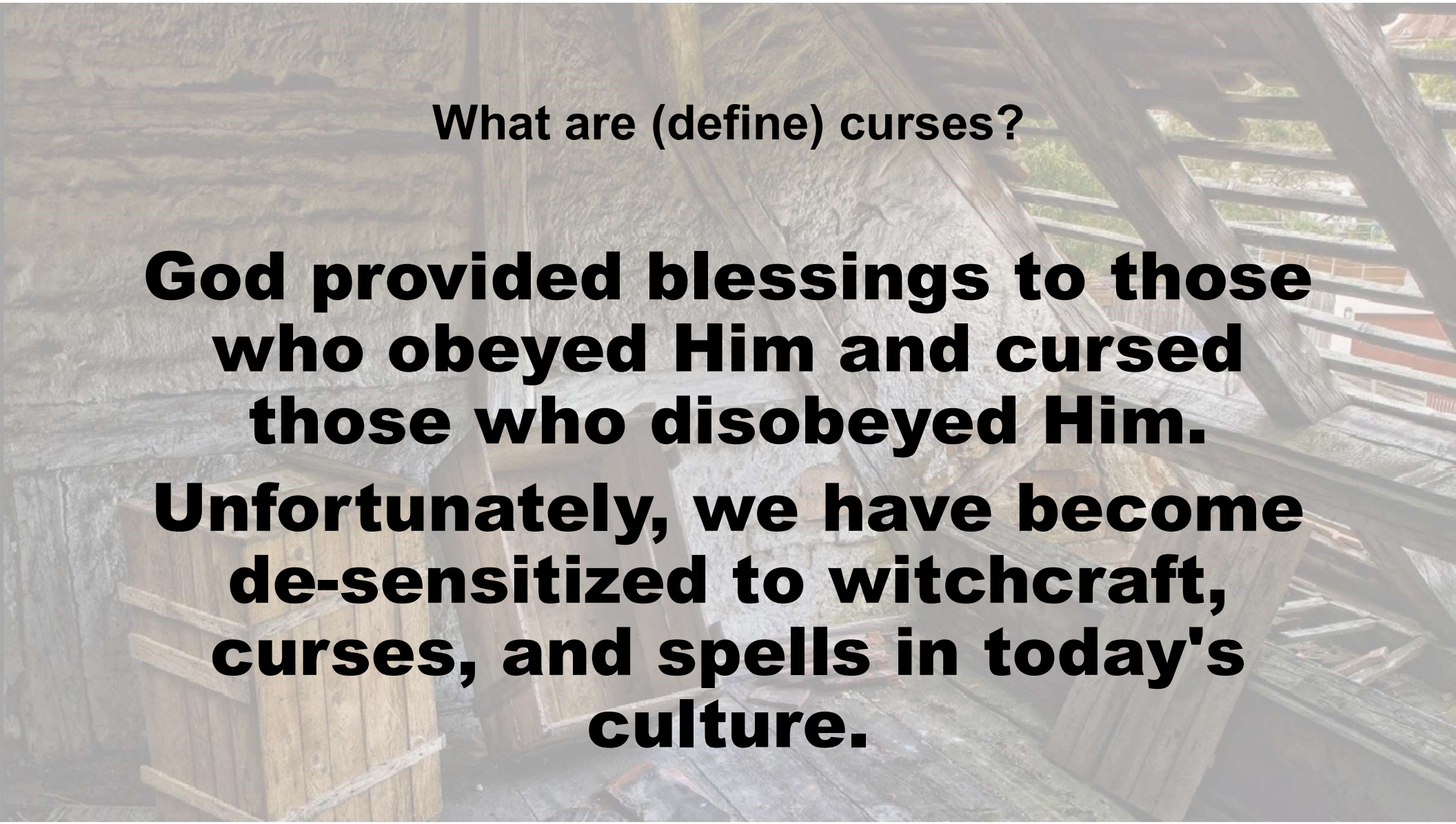
1. **To utter a wish of evil against one; to call for mischief or injury to fall upon someone or something.**
2. **To injure; to subject to evil; to vex, harass or torment with great calamities.**



What are (define) curses?

To curse is to wish that bad things happen to someone or to something.

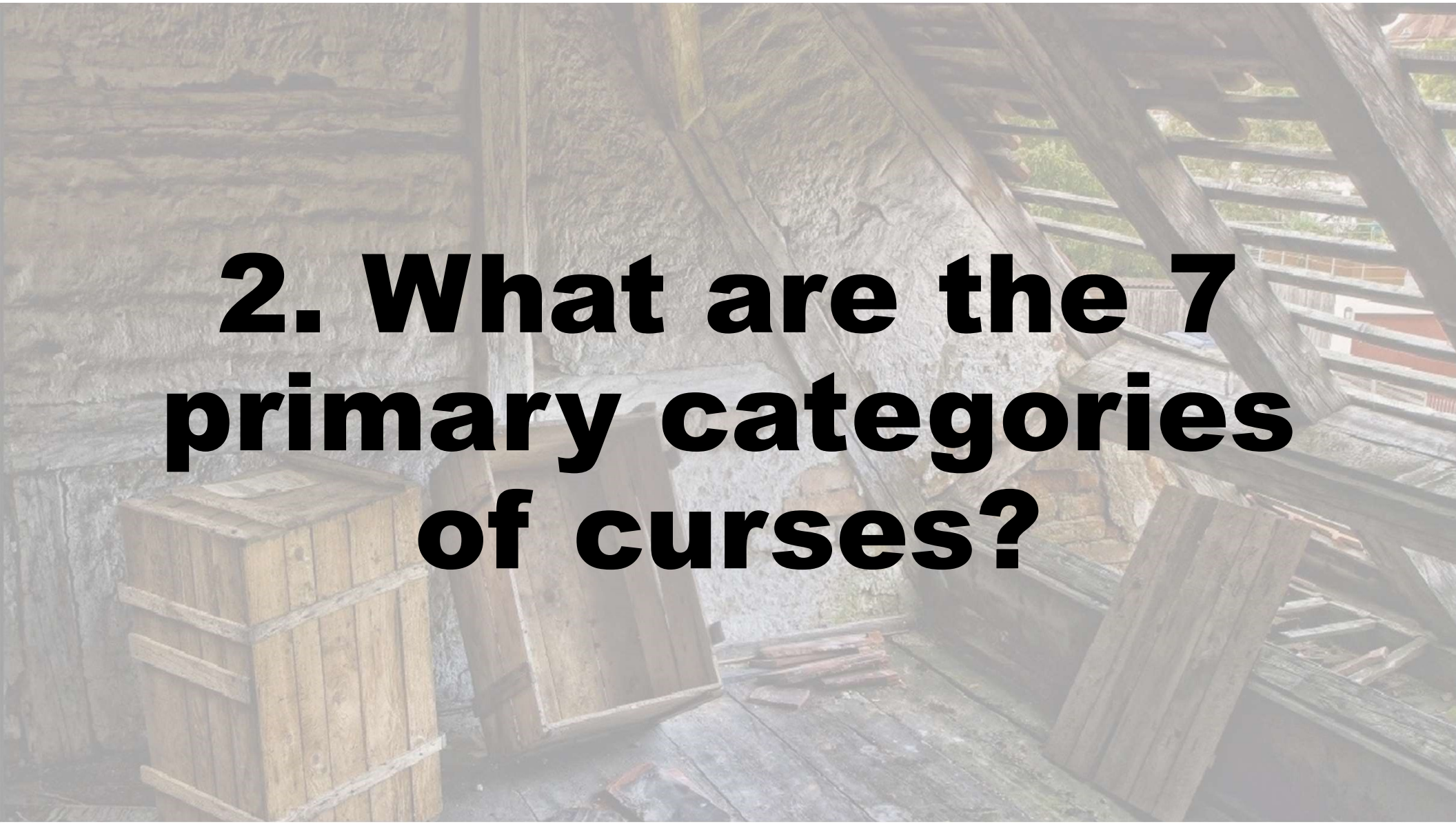
To bless is to wish that good things happen to someone or to something.



What are (define) curses?

God provided blessings to those who obeyed Him and cursed those who disobeyed Him.

Unfortunately, we have become de-sensitized to witchcraft, curses, and spells in today's culture.



2. What are the 7 primary categories of curses?

What are the 7 primary categories of curses?

<u>Humiliation</u> (Genesis 3:16a) ***16a To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children.***

<u>Failure To Reproduce</u> (Barrenness) (Genesis 20:18) ***18 For the Lord had closed fast all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.***

What are the 7 primary categories of curses?

Sickness (Deuteronomy 28:61) ***61 The LORD will also bring on you every kind of sickness and disaster not recorded in this Book of the Law, until you are destroyed.***

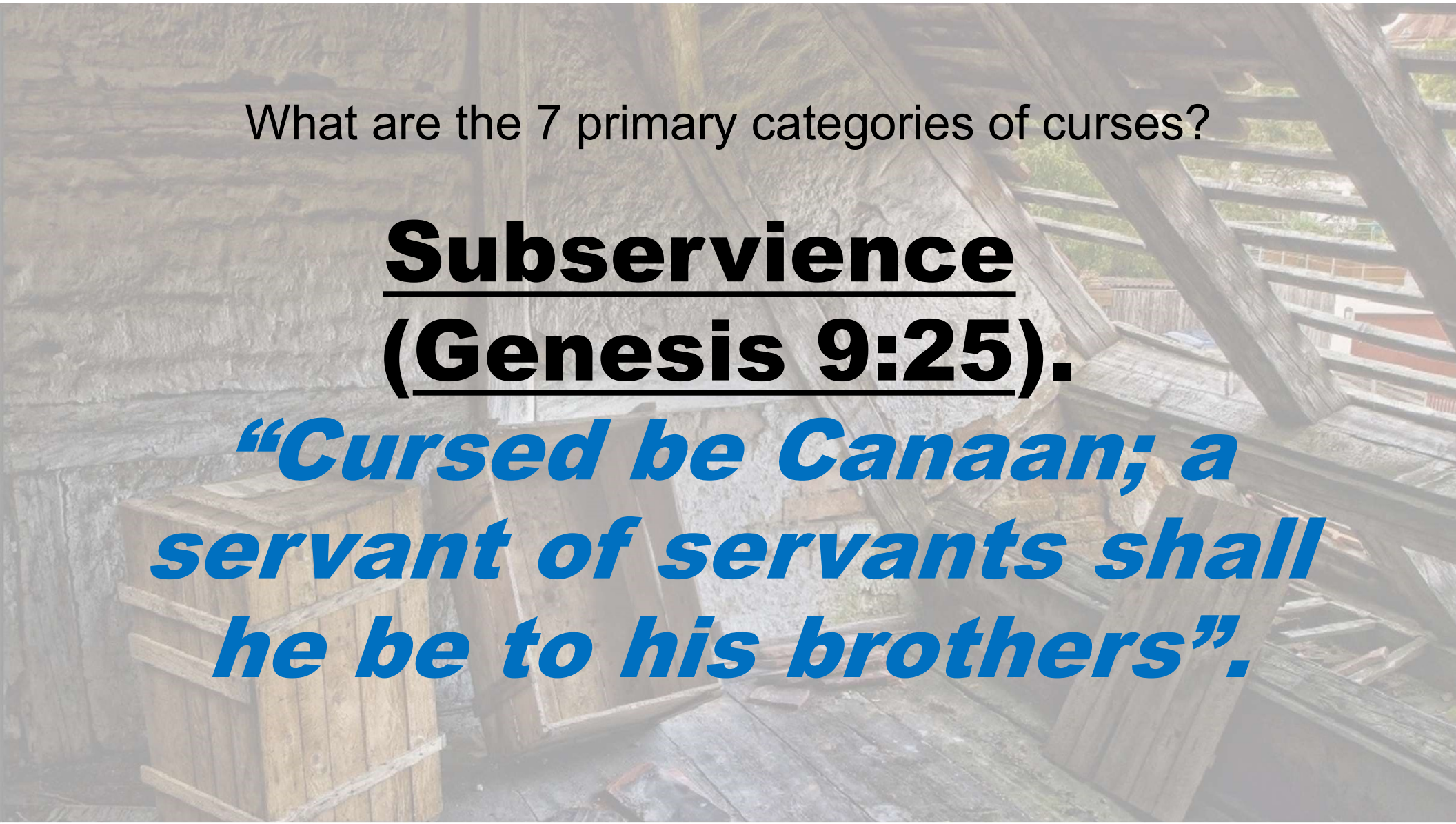
Poverty Or Failure (Proverbs 28:27) ***Whoever gives to the poor will not want, but he who hides his eyes will get many a curse*.**

What are the 7 primary categories of curses?

Deceit (Psalm 101:7) ***No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes.***

Destined To Follow Not Lead

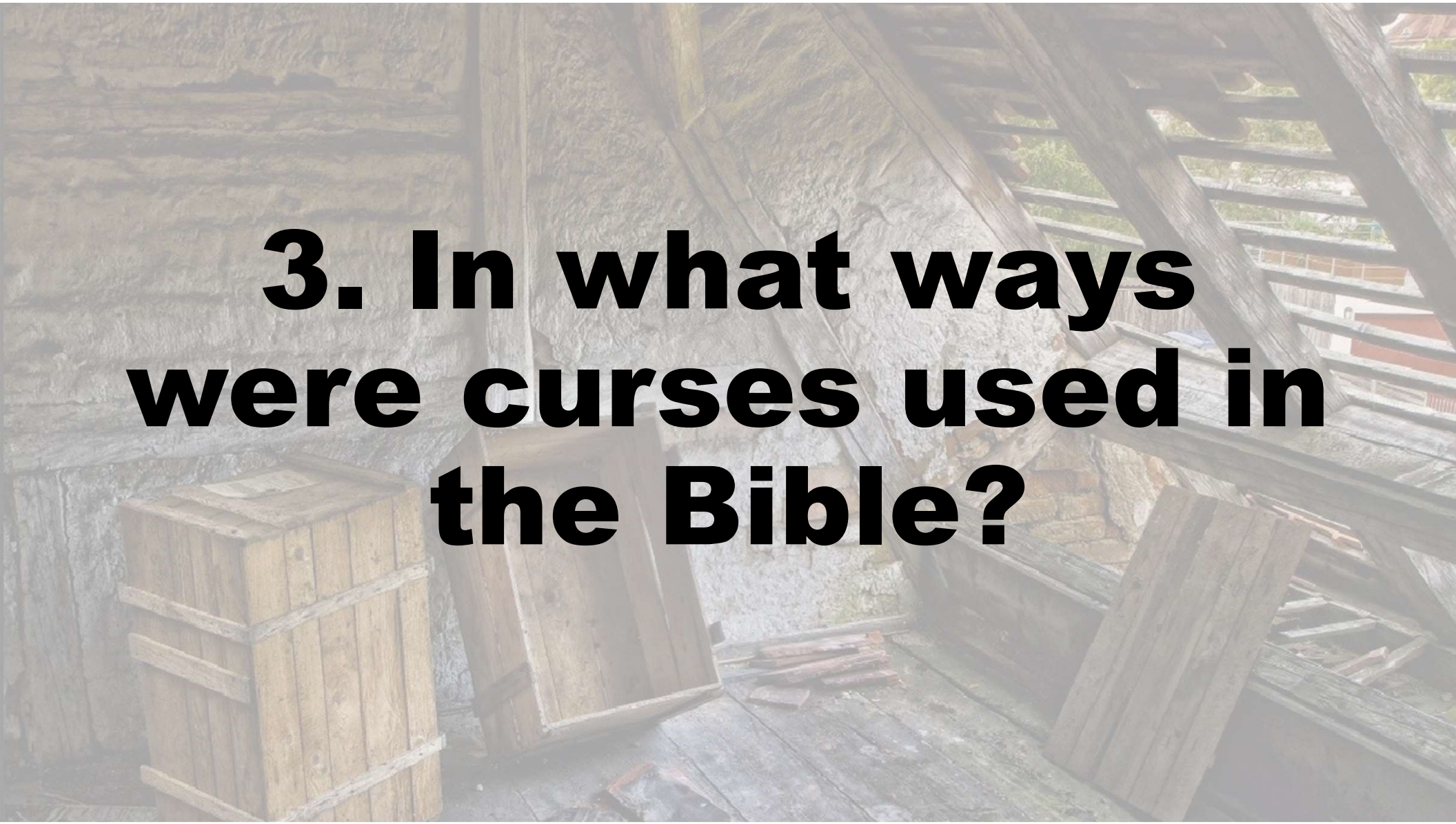
(Genesis 3:16b) ***16b Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."***



What are the 7 primary categories of curses?

Subservience (Genesis 9:25).

"Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers".



3. In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses can be approved by Yahovah</u>.

In what we will later see as the Curses of the Mosaic Law (Deuteronomy 27-29) there are 14 blessings and 54 curses.

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be condemned by Yahovah (Job 2:10),

You're speaking nonsense like some depraved woman. Are we to accept the good that comes from God, but not accept the bad?

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be collective (Numbers 22:6)

Come now, curse this people for me, since they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them from the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed."

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be individual

(Genesis 9:24-25) ***24 When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him, 25 he said, "Cursed be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers." (This curse eventually becomes a generational and family curse).***

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses may combine political and theological aims (Jeremiah 24:9).

I will make them a horror, an evil thing, to all the kingdoms of the earth—a disgrace, a byword, a taunt, and a curse in all the places where I shall drive them.

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses can be ethnic based</u> (Joshua 9:22-23)

22 Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, "Why did you deceive us by saying, 'We live a long way from you,' while actually you live near us? 23 You are now under a curse: You will never be released from service as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God."

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can morph into blessings.

We'll see this later in Numbers Chapters 22-24.

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be in the form of an object – [flying scroll]. (Zechariah 5:3)

Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land; for everyone who steals shall be cut off according to the writing on one side, and everyone who swears falsely shall be cut off according to the writing on the other side.

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses are sometimes figures of speech</u>.

The curse on the serpent in Genesis 3:14 is really a judgment expressed as a curse: ***14So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.***

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses can be in the form of a Biblical sacrifice</u>.

When God and Abram "cut" (make) a covenant in Genesis 15, God commands Abram to cut animals as well. Such cutting of animals is a conditional curse that warns parties what will happen to them if they fail to uphold its terms:

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses can be against yourself</u>.

People curse their own lives as when Job curses the day of his birth (Job 3) , or (Jeremiah 20:14-15) ***14 Cursed be the day I was born! May the day my mother bore me not be blessed! 15 Cursed be the man who brought my father the news.***

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

The biblical expression *"so may God do to me"* (2 Samuel 3:35, 2 Samuel 19:13, 1 Kings 2:23, 2 Kings 6:31) accompanies a statement indicating you will harm yourself in case the oath is violated.

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be prophetical:

(Genesis 9:25) ***25 he said, "Cursed be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers."***

(Genesis 49:7*); Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury, so cruel! I will scatter them in Jacob and disperse them in Israel.*

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

From (Joshua 6:26*).* ***[26] At that time Joshua pronounced this solemn oath: “Cursed before the LORD is the one who undertakes to rebuild this city, Jericho: “At the cost of his firstborn son he will lay its foundations; at the cost of his youngest he will set up its gates.”***

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Later in 1 Kings 16:34 we find out:

[34] In Ahab's time, Hiel of Bethel rebuilt Jericho. He laid its foundations at the cost of his firstborn son Abiram, and he set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son Segub, in accordance with the word of the LORD spoken by Joshua son of Nun.

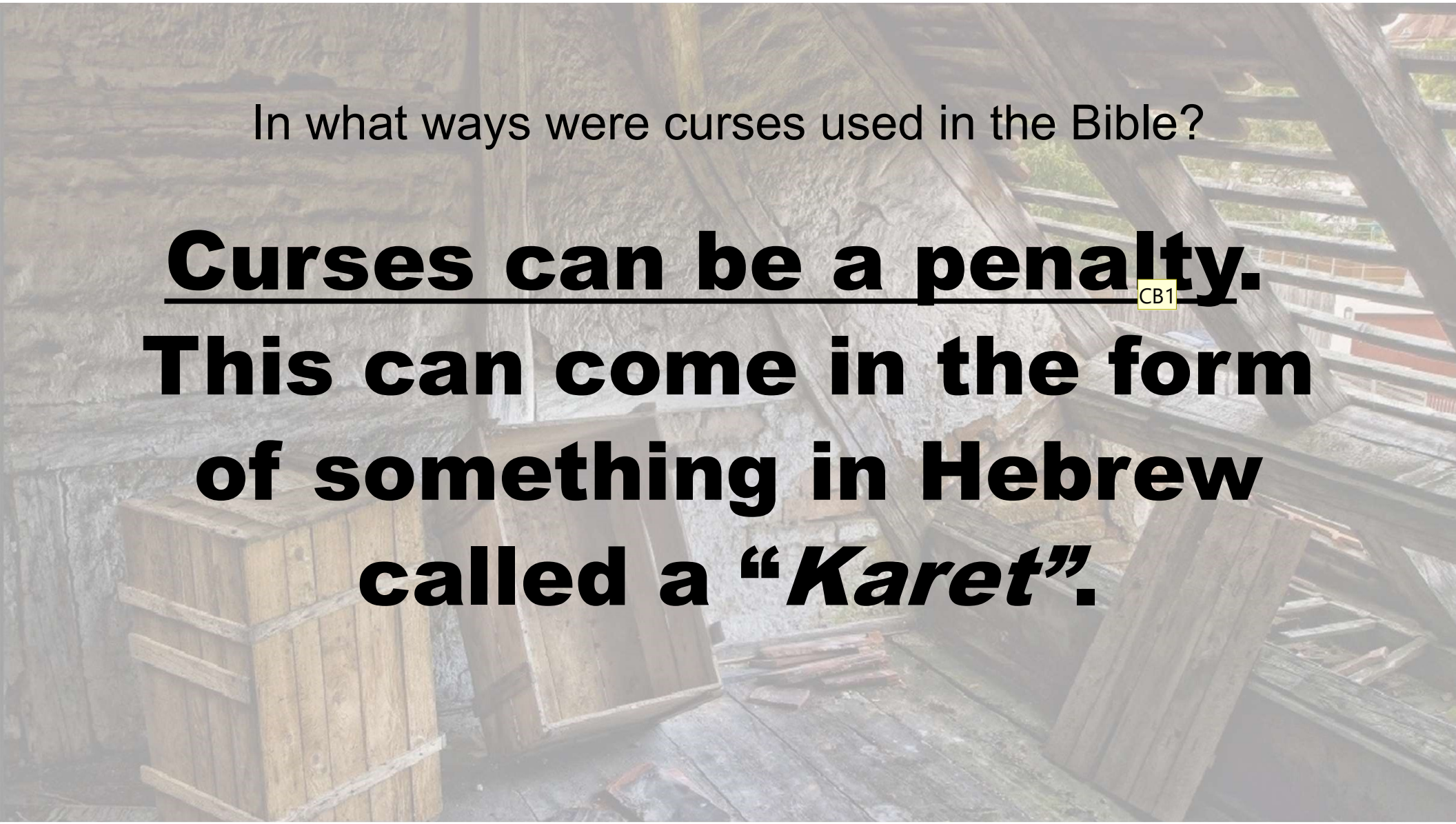
In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

<u>Curses can be conditional</u>

There are 1,595 "*if's*" in Scripture, most of which express the conditions for which Yahovah will bless people (or permit a curse).

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

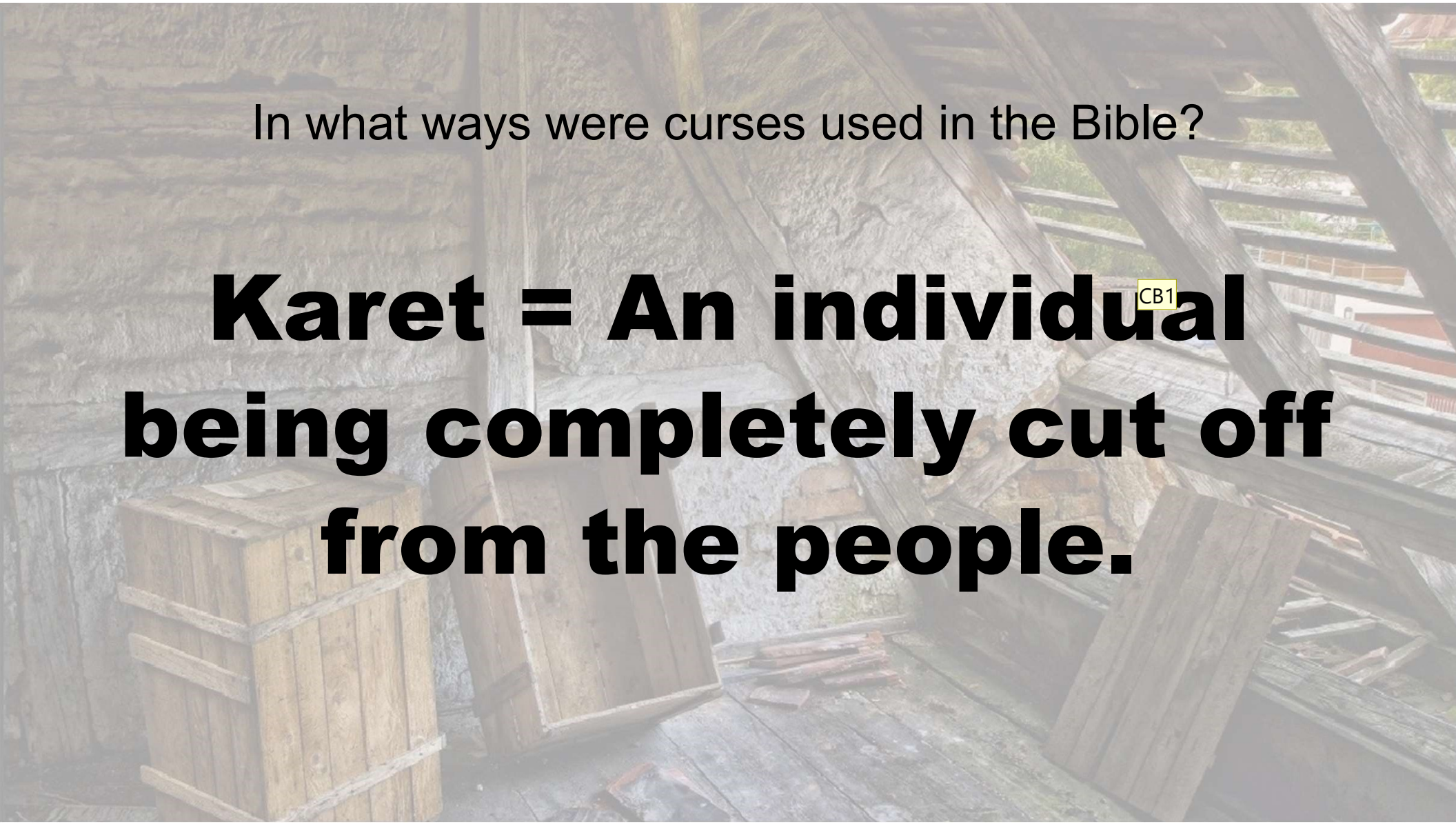
(1 Kings 19:2) ***2So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."***



In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Curses can be a penalty. CB1

This can come in the form of something in Hebrew called a "*Karet*".



In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Karet = An individual being completely cut off from the people.

CB1

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Examples are punishment CB1 for failure to observe Passover or the Day of Atonement properly (Numbers 9:13, Exodus 12:15, Exodus 12:19, Leviticus 23:29-30).

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

Also, slaughtering animals CB1 **outside the temple precinct (Leviticus 17:9) or worshipping Molech, which probably entails child sacrifice, (Leviticus 20:2-5).**

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

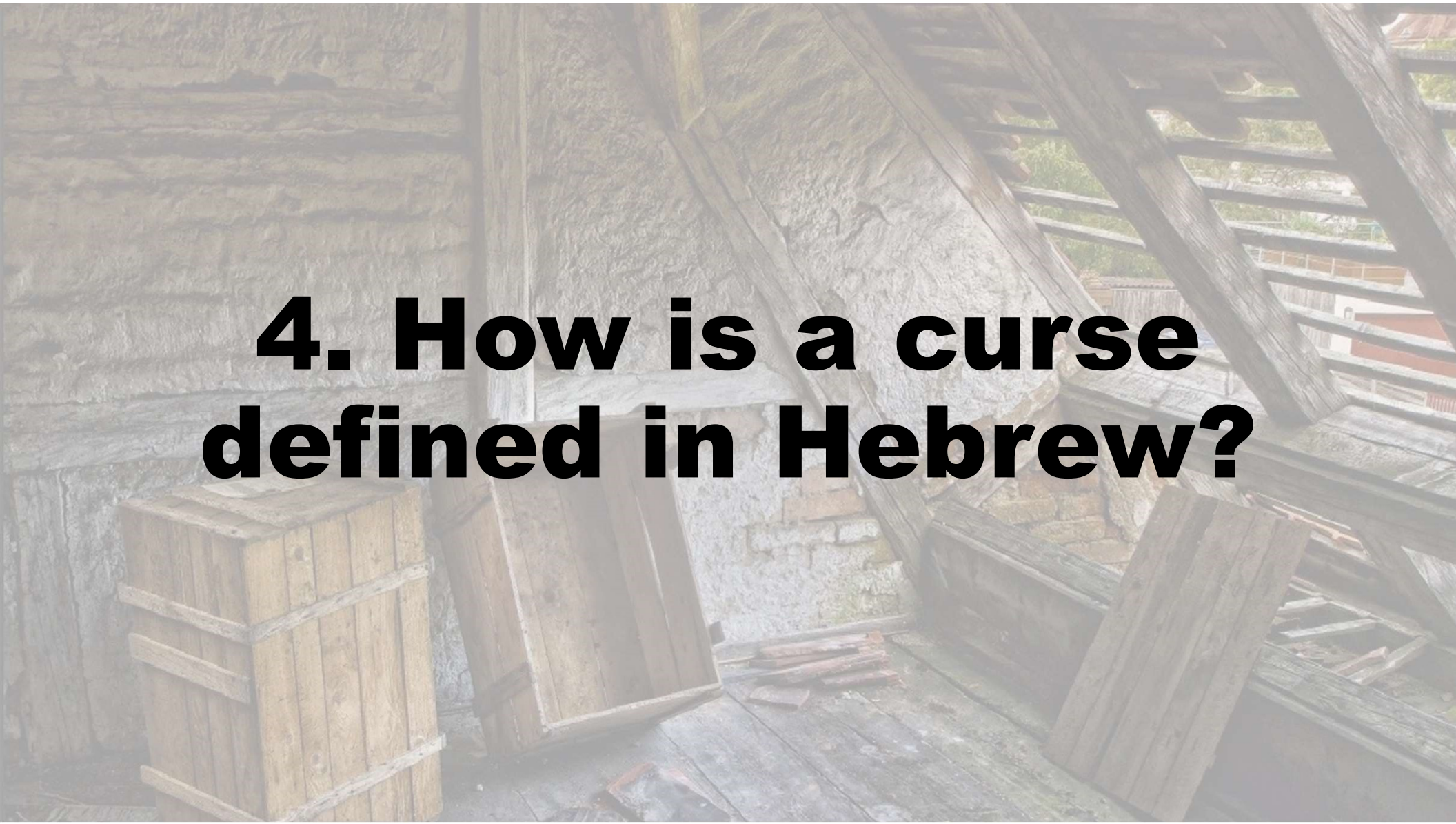
All these are violations that will result in *Karet*.

CB1

The proper way to atone for K*aret* violations is with sacrifice or a scapegoat (Leviticus 4, Leviticus 16).

In what ways were curses used in the Bible?

In all these ways, the *Karet* curse, like the cutting of a covenant, is directly linked to the language and imagery of sacrifice. CB1



4. How is a curse defined in Hebrew?

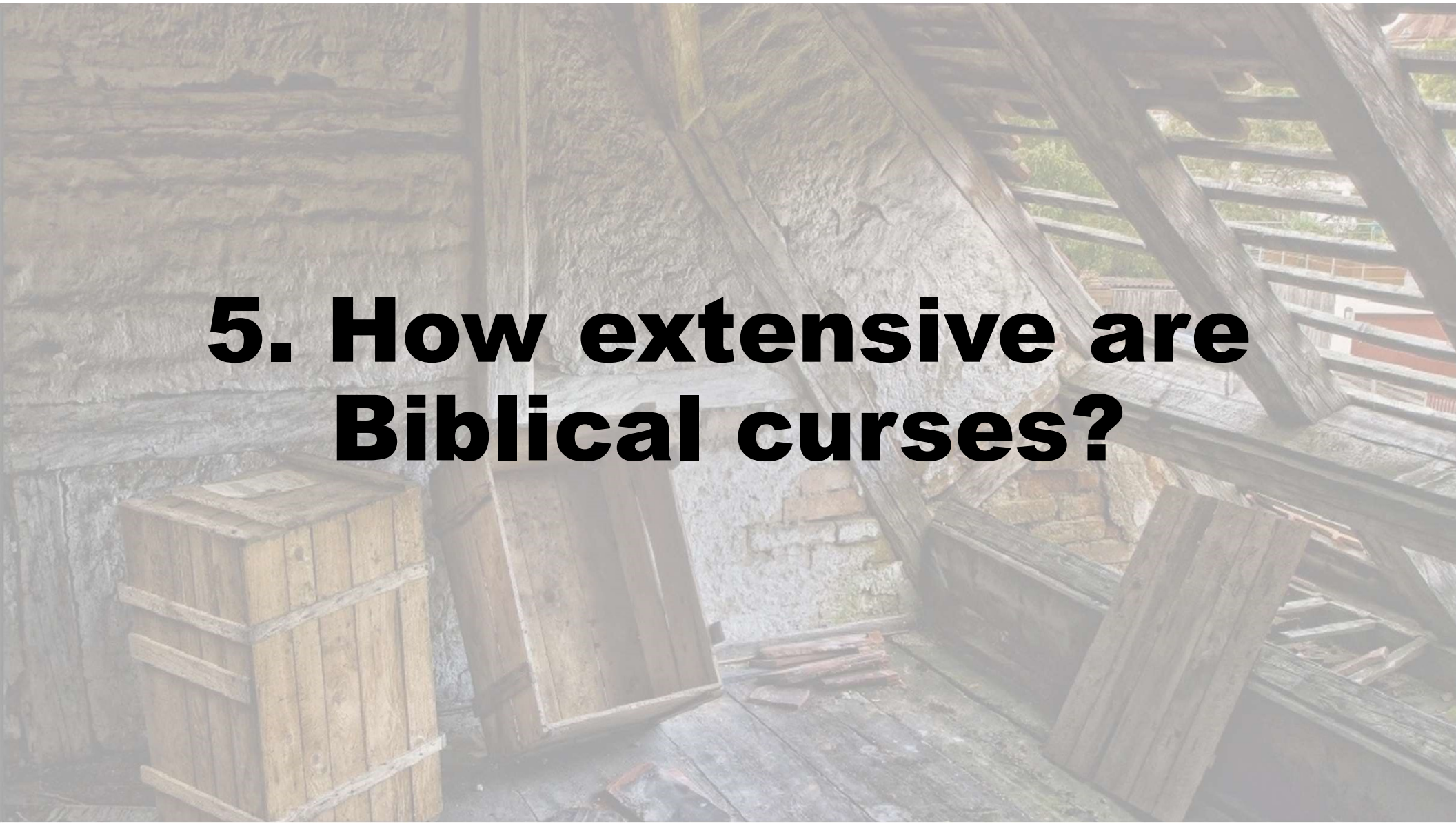
How is a curse defined in Hebrew?

At least three Hebrew verbs; *alah* (עלה), *arar* (ארר), and *qalal* (קאלאל) can be translated "curse", though these terms cover a variety of oaths, taunts, ridicule, and denial of blessings uttered by people and the God of Israel.

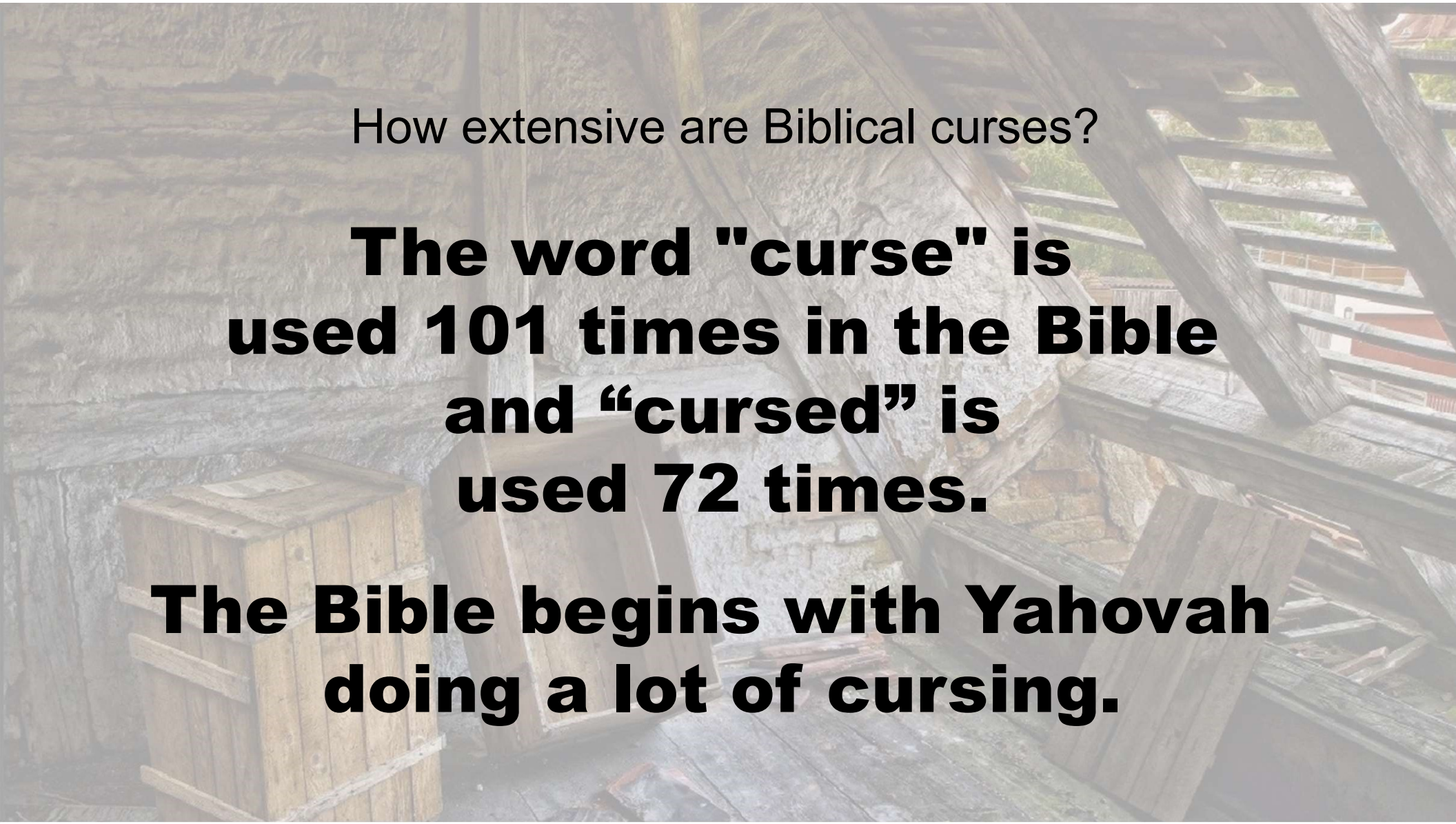
How is a curse defined in Hebrew?

Curse **can be defined as the use of powerful words to invoke supernatural harm.**

Curses can be human or divine, oral or written, personal or collective. Some curses are binding, whereas others are conditional, such as the covenant curses pronounced in Deuteronomy 27-29.



5. How extensive are Biblical curses?



How extensive are Biblical curses?

The word "curse" is used 101 times in the Bible and “cursed” is used 72 times.

The Bible begins with Yahovah doing a lot of cursing.

How extensive are Biblical curses?

The first curse found in the bible is in (Genesis 3:14)

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

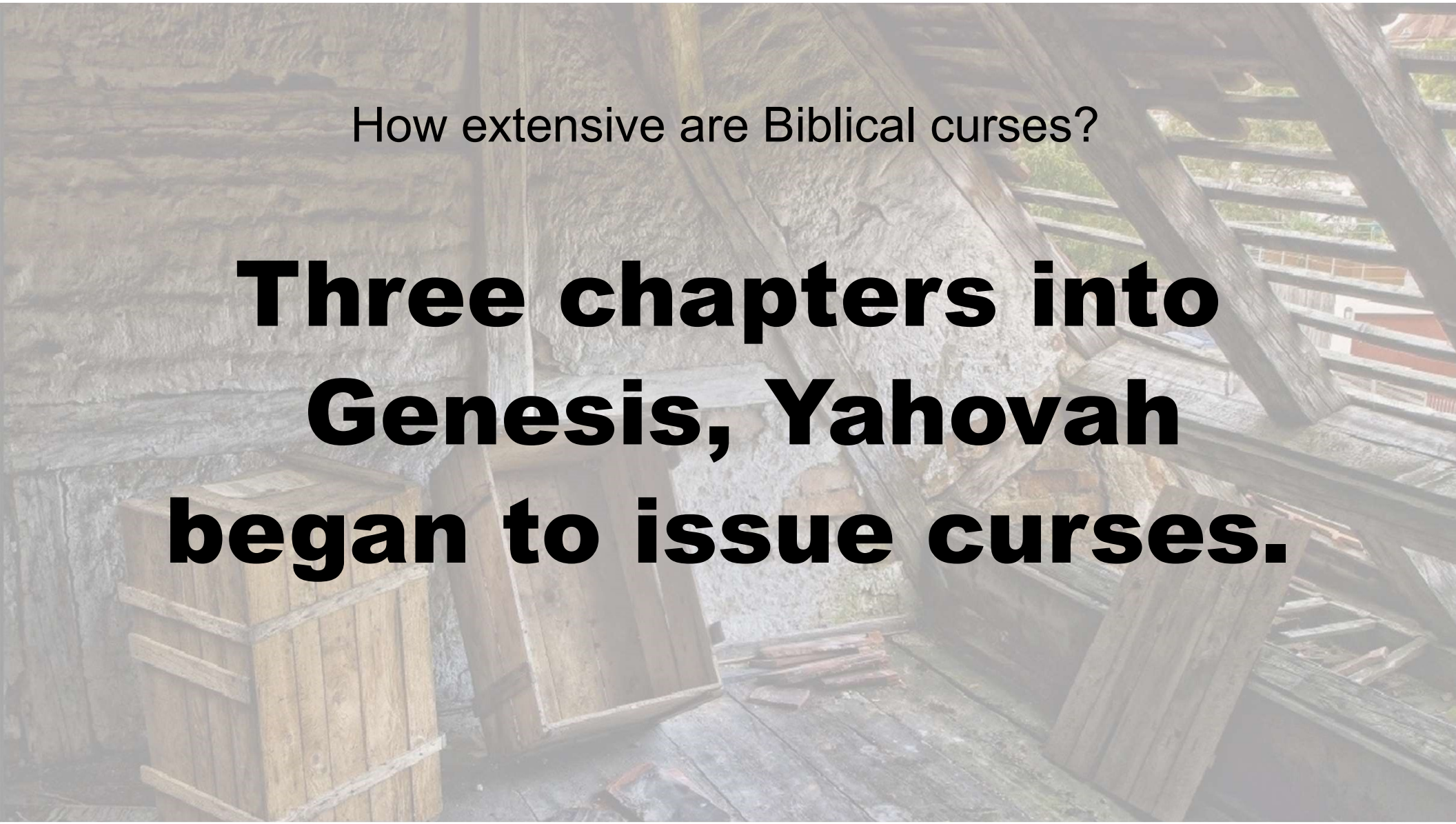
How extensive are Biblical curses?

The last curse in the Bible is in (Revelation 16:21):

21 From the sky huge hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell on people. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.

How extensive are Biblical curses?

However, the removal of a curse CB1 **is one of the final events in the Bible when in Chapter 22 of Revelation, Eden is restored. (Revelation 22:3)** ***3 No longer will there be any curse.***



How extensive are Biblical curses?

Three chapters into Genesis, Yahovah began to issue curses.

How extensive are Biblical curses?

He cursed Satan for tempting Adam and Eve into sin (Genesis 3:17).

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it, "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life."

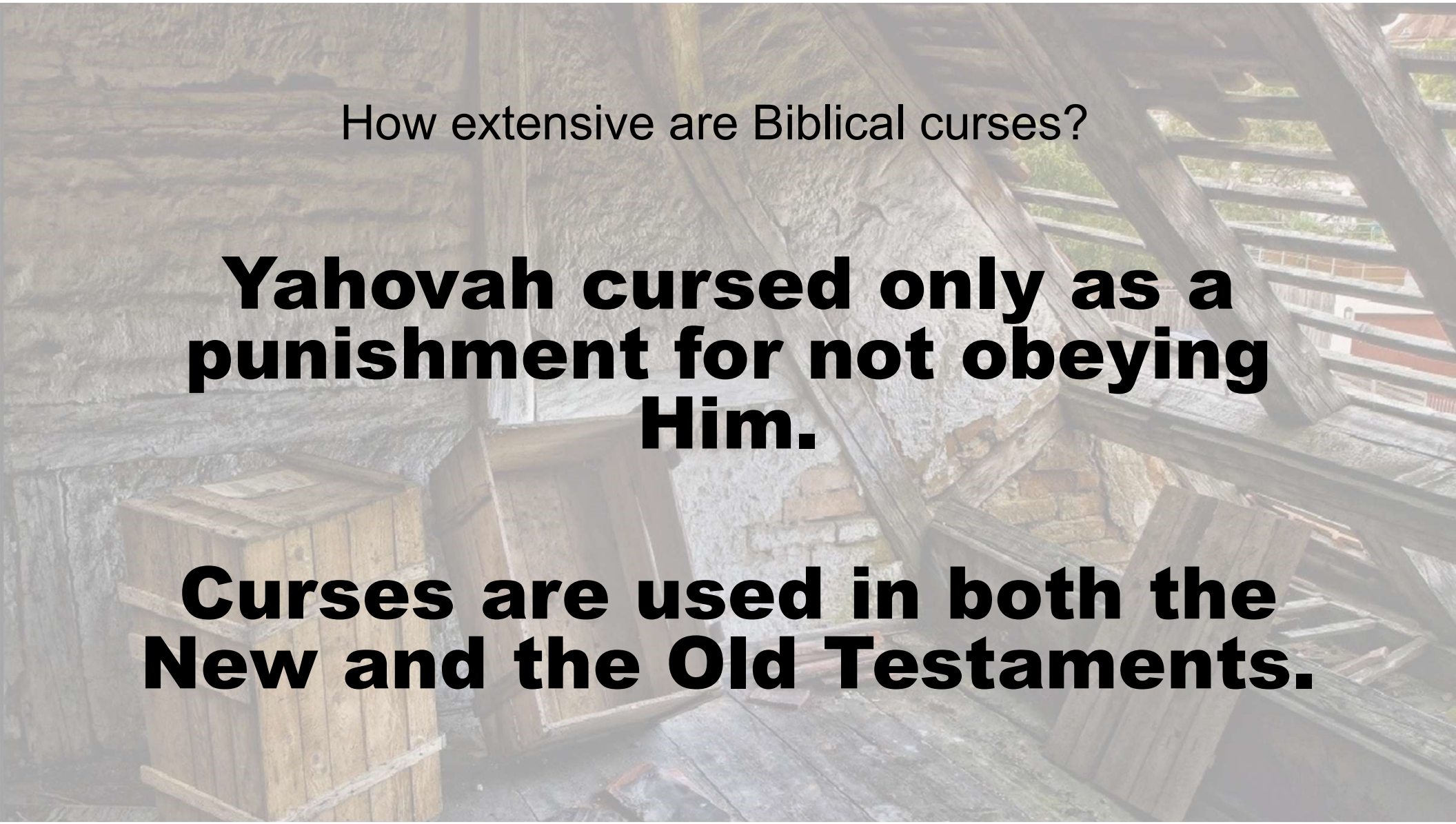
How extensive are Biblical curses?

Yahovah indirectly cursed all mankind when He cursed the ground so that weeds would sprout and man would work hard and sweat profusely in order to make a living from the cursed earth.

(Genesis 3:19). ***19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."***

How extensive are Biblical curses?

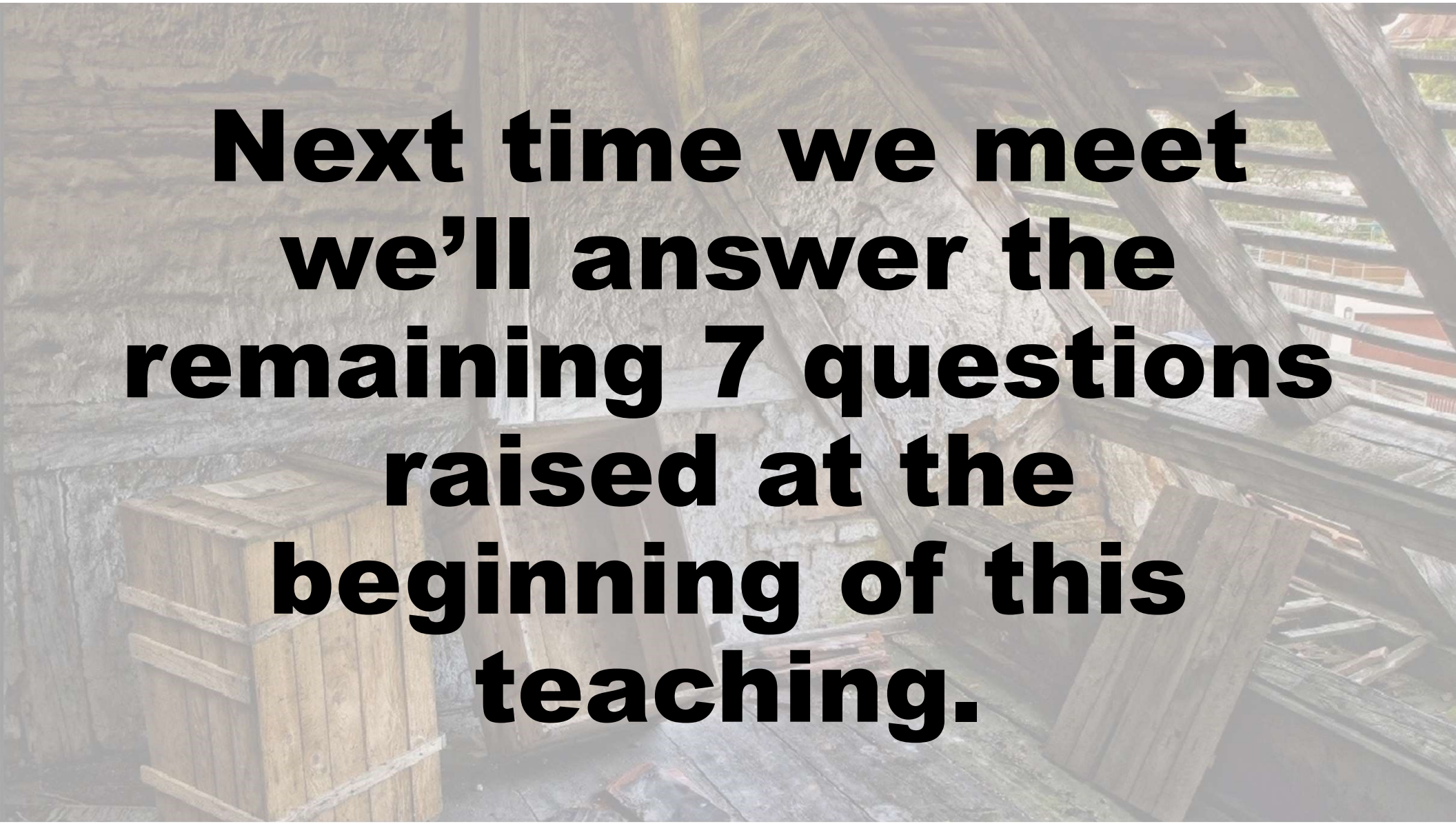
In Genesis 4:10-12 God placed a curse upon Cain for killing his brother. All of these curses were well deserved. **10 The Lord said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. 11 Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. 12 When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”**



How extensive are Biblical curses?

Yahovah cursed only as a punishment for not obeying Him.

Curses are used in both the New and the Old Testaments.



Next time we meet we'll answer the remaining 7 questions raised at the beginning of this teaching.