






**In early March,  
I completed a two  
part teaching on  
Pharmakeia.**

**At that time, we discovered that the definition of Pharmakeia is based on the context in which it is used.**

**Pharmakeia used for healing was considered acceptable and good in the Bible.**

**Pharmakeia for the purpose of altering the mind and separating you from Yahovah was considered evil and unacceptable.**

**In my study of Biblical  
Pharmakeia I discovered  
a “rabbit hole” that  
needed to be looked into.  
The time to do that  
is now.**



**This teaching is not stating a personal or theological position. Nor is it to cause controversy. It is meant to stimulate your thought on the following subject:**

**Click Anywhere To Start Video**



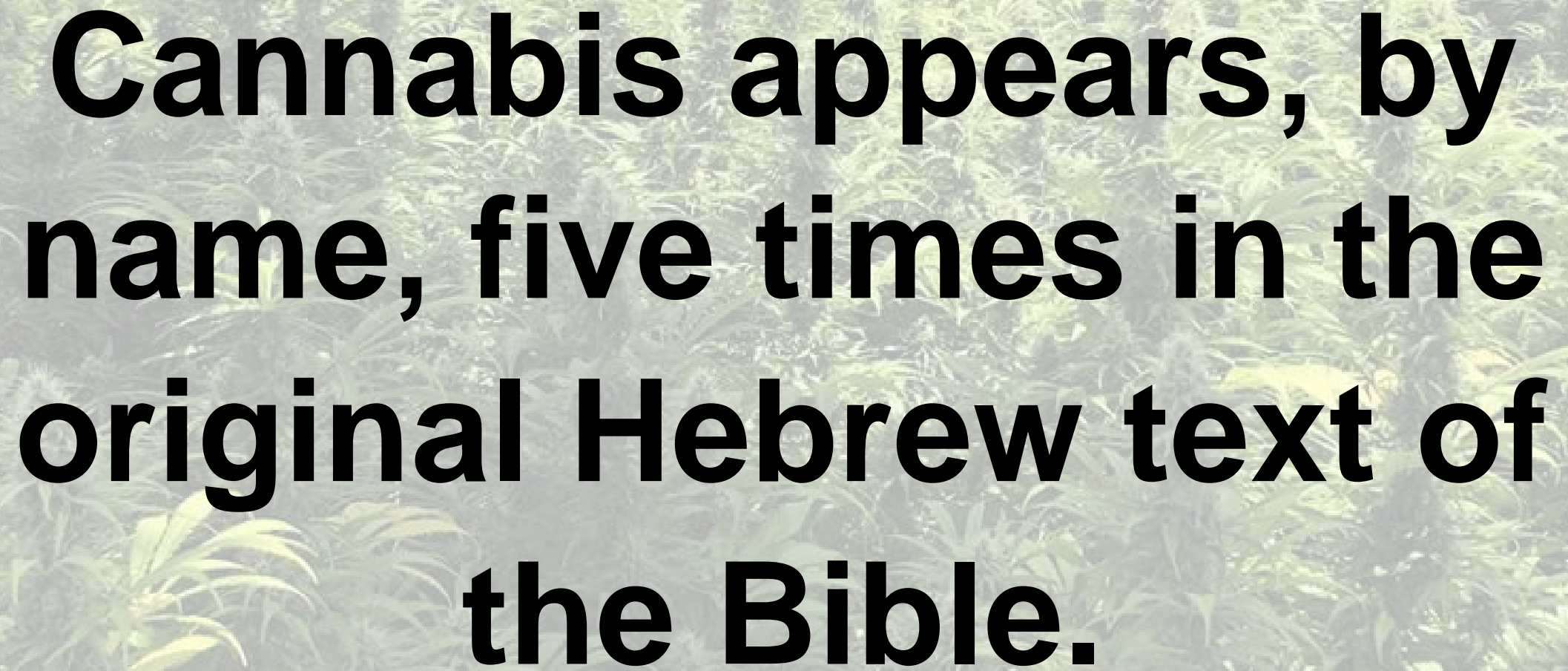
# קנבוס



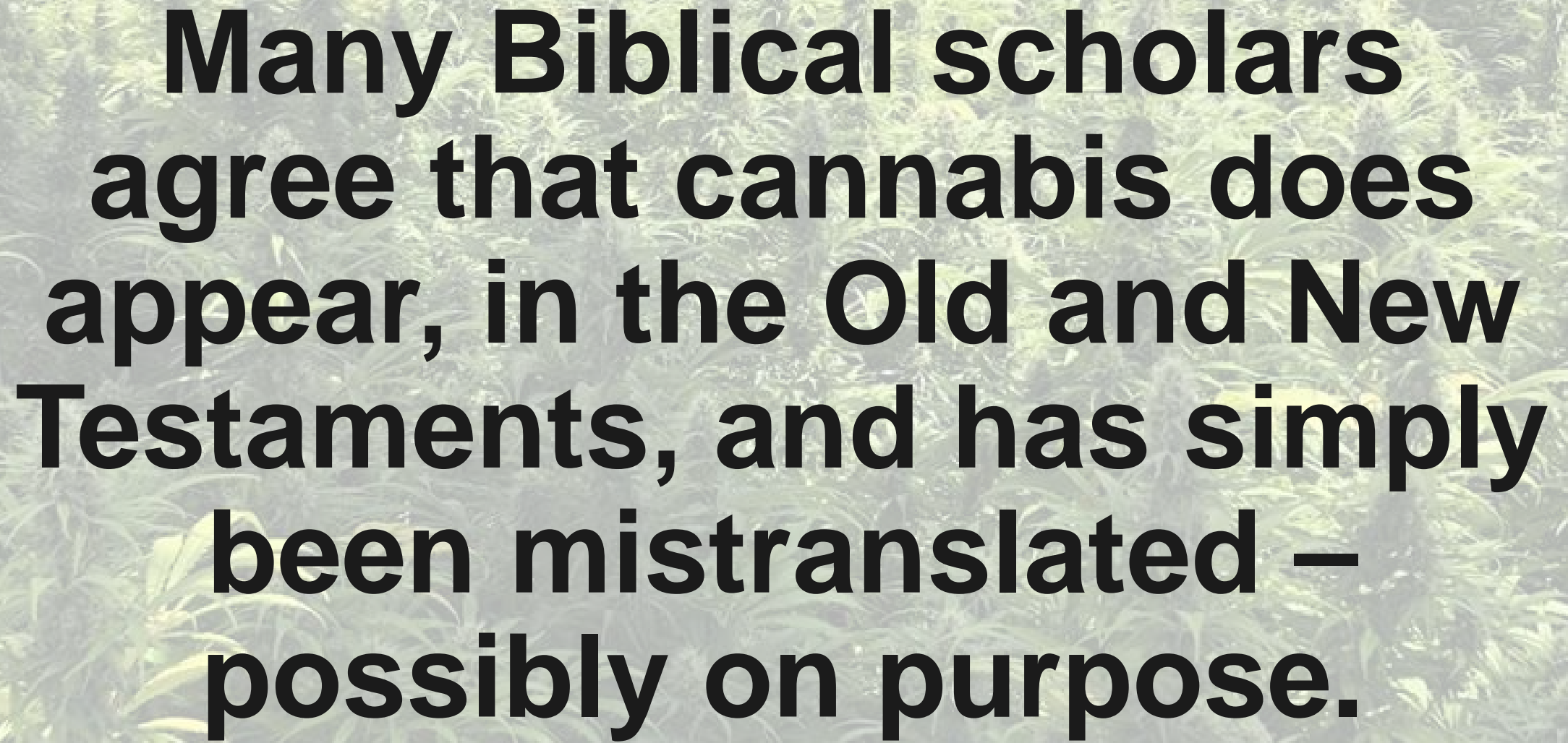


# קנבוס

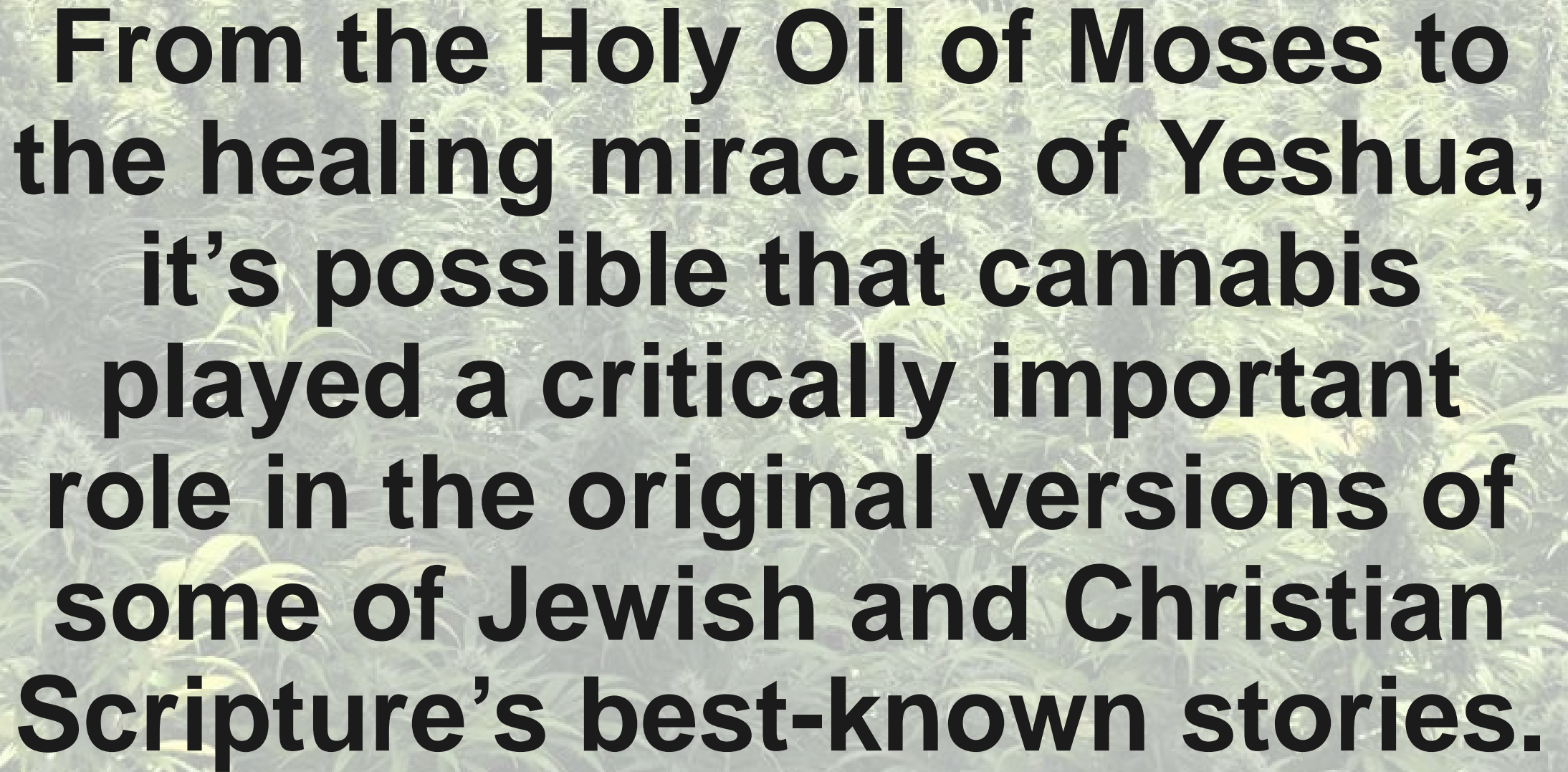
## Kaneh-Bosm

A photograph of a cannabis field with a semi-transparent text overlay. The plants are green and densely packed, with some showing small white flowers. The text is centered and reads: 


**Cannabis appears, by name, five times in the original Hebrew text of the Bible.**



**Many Biblical scholars agree that cannabis does appear, in the Old and New Testaments, and has simply been mistranslated – possibly on purpose.**

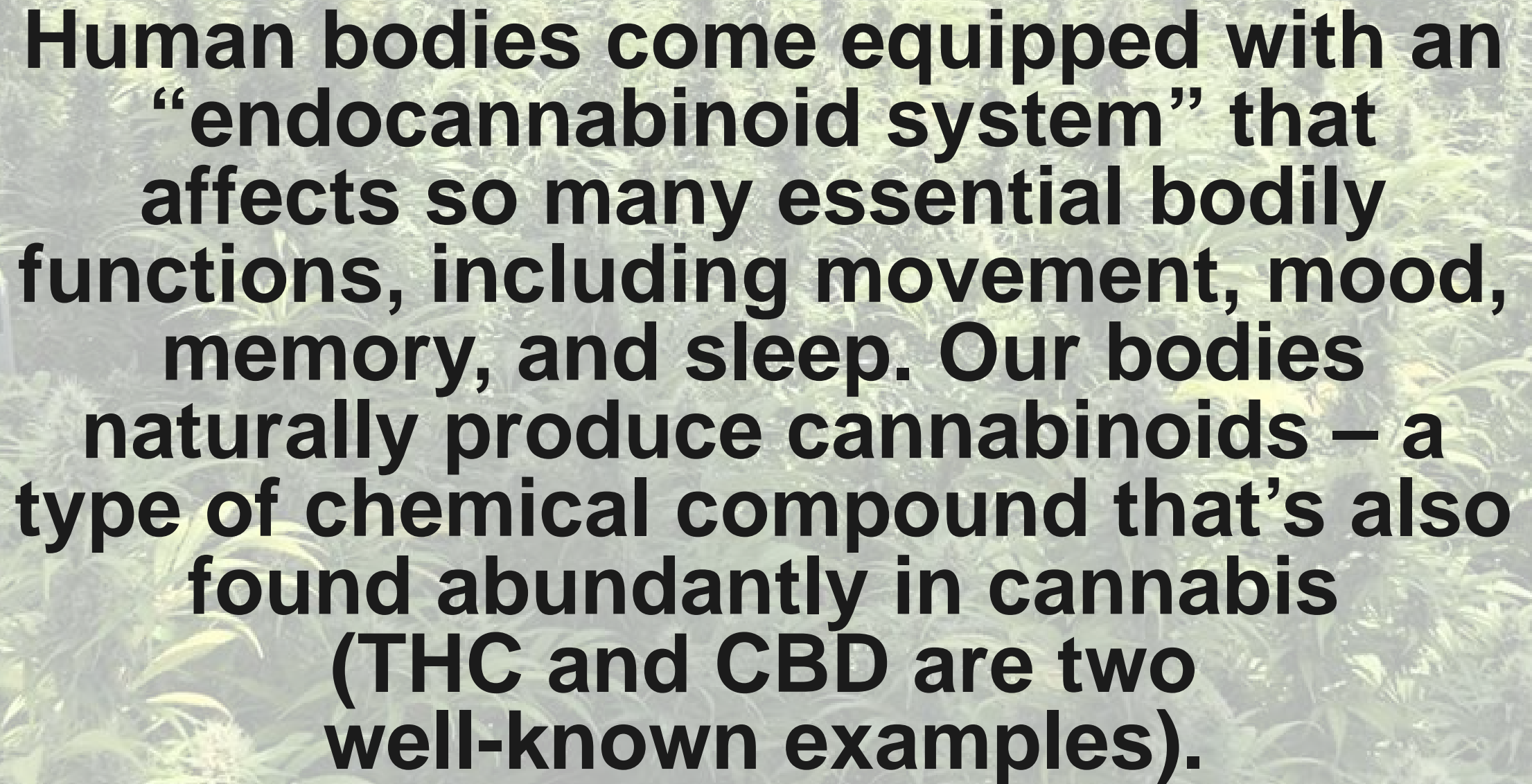


**From the Holy Oil of Moses to the healing miracles of Yeshua, it's possible that cannabis played a critically important role in the original versions of some of Jewish and Christian Scripture's best-known stories.**

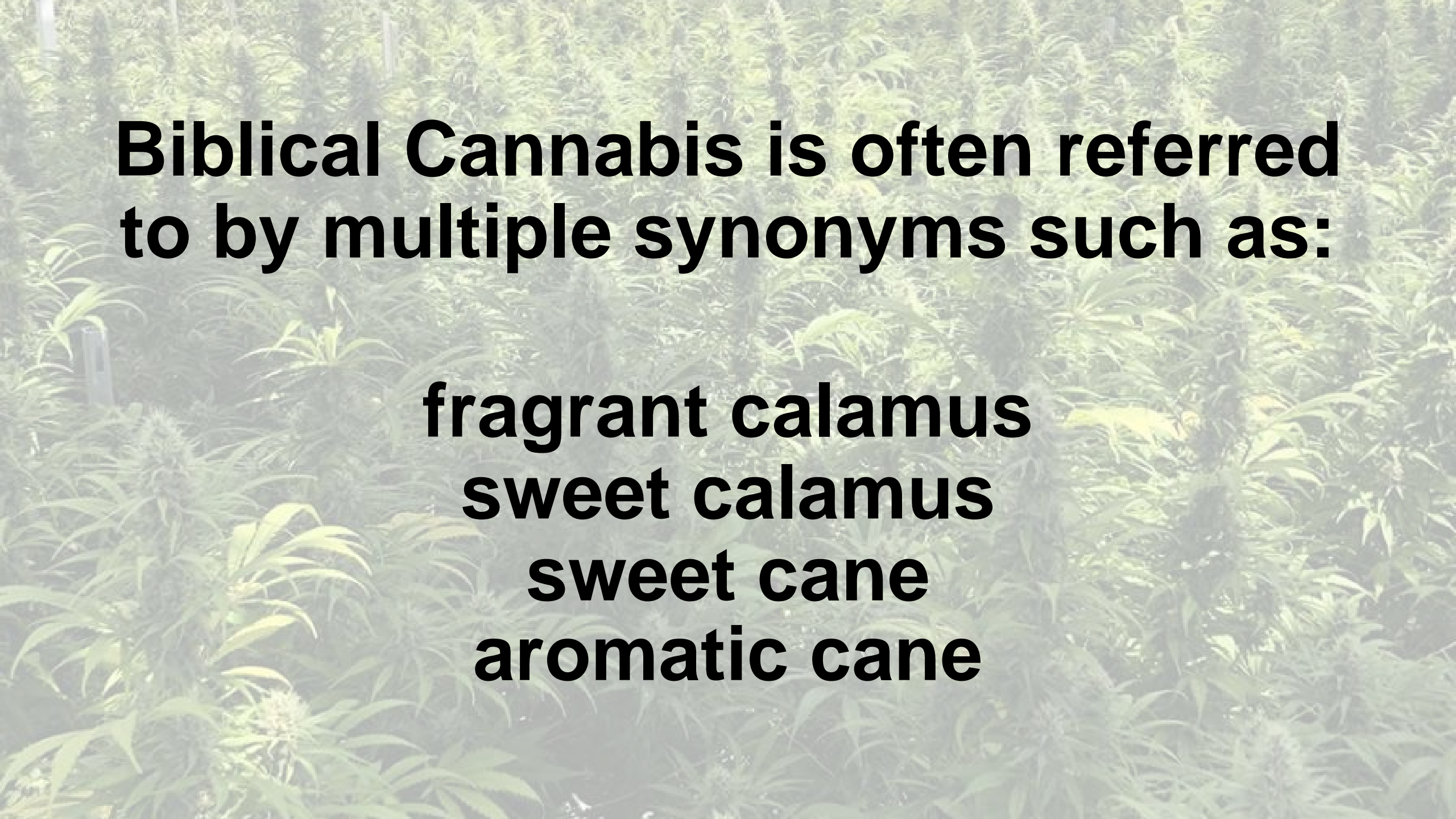


**Though cannabis, by its proper name, is never mentioned in the Bible, many Bible scholars believe that numerous references to a plant called calamus are actually mistranslations of cannabis. One of these references is to calamus/cannabis as a primary ingredient in a Holy oil recipe given directly to Moses by God.**

**Many people interpret the words of Genesis 1:29 to imply that cannabis is inherently good and approved for human use since, like all plants, it was created for us by God. In this verse, God tells Adam that *“Every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit, you shall have them for food.”***



**Human bodies come equipped with an “endocannabinoid system” that affects so many essential bodily functions, including movement, mood, memory, and sleep. Our bodies naturally produce cannabinoids – a type of chemical compound that’s also found abundantly in cannabis (THC and CBD are two well-known examples).**



**Biblical Cannabis is often referred to by multiple synonyms such as:**

**fragrant calamus  
sweet calamus  
sweet cane  
aromatic cane**



**The non-canonical texts tell of a sect that became known as “Gnostics.” The Gnostics believed that they achieved a higher degree of enlightenment and understanding of their religion through first-hand use of Holy Oil, rather than relying on the words of the Scriptures and priests. These texts indicate that this sacramental rite of anointment would have indeed been a psychoactive experience.**

# **Biblically Cannabis was used 12 ways:**

**Clothing**

**Cord**

**Fishnet**

**Sealant**

**Food**

**Relaxation**

**Paper**

**Sails**

**Oil**

**Incense**

**In ceremonies**

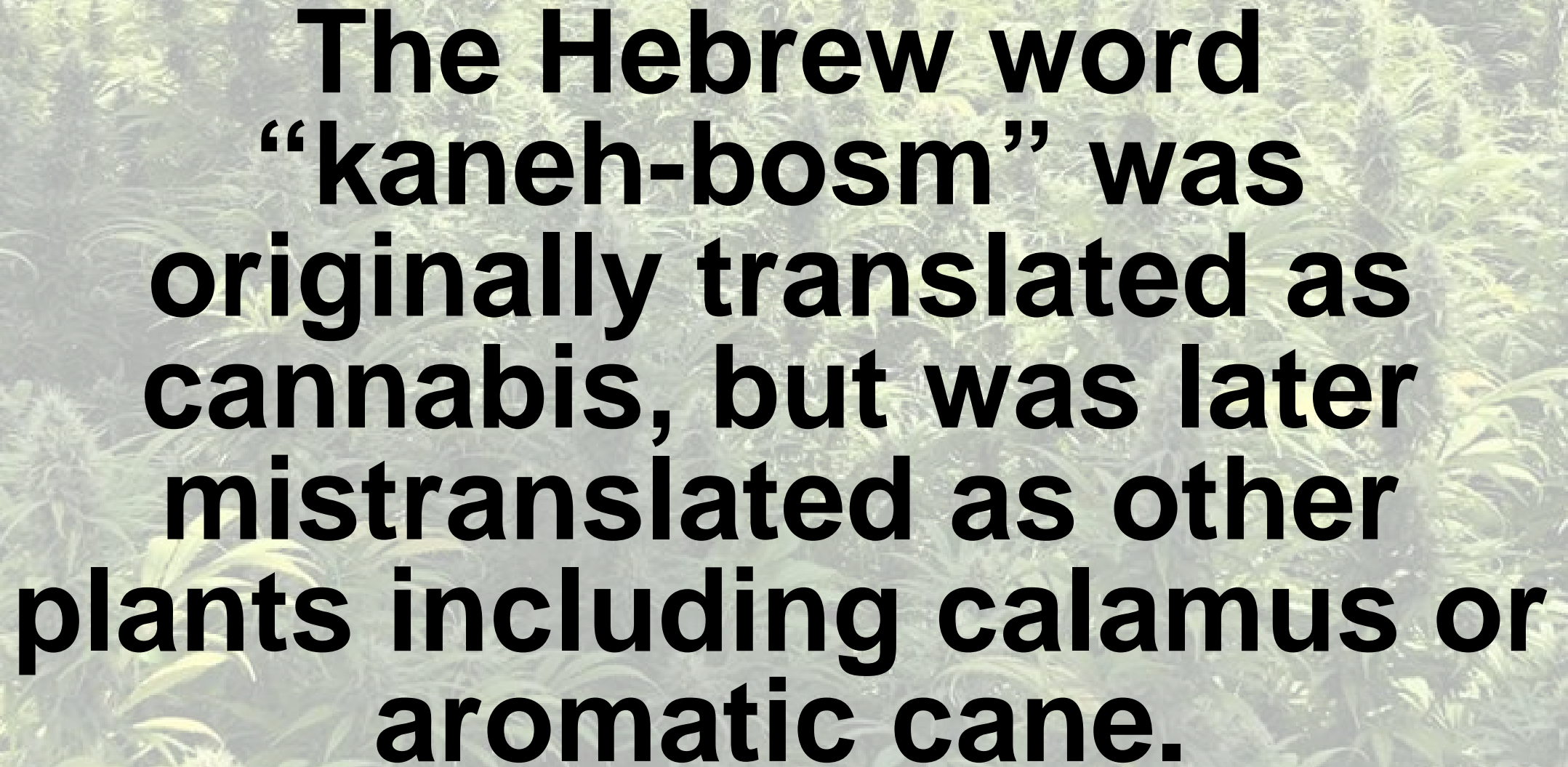
**Medicine**

**Opinions among religious groups are pretty split on whether there was cannabis use in the Bible.**

**To be clear, there's no real way to know for sure!**



# Kaneh-Bosm



**The Hebrew word  
“kaneh-bosm” was  
originally translated as  
cannabis, but was later  
mistranslated as other  
plants including calamus or  
aromatic cane.**

**In the Old Testament, a common (and rather ordinary) plant called calamus is credited as a primary ingredient in this Holy anointing oil. However, both the Hebrew and Aramaic translations of the Old Testament instead list this ingredient as “kaneh-bosm,” – which is cannabis.**

**The literal translation of kaneh-bosm (which has also been written as q'aneh-bosm, kaneh, kannabus, kanabos, and kineboisin) is “aromatic reed” or “aromatic hemp.”**

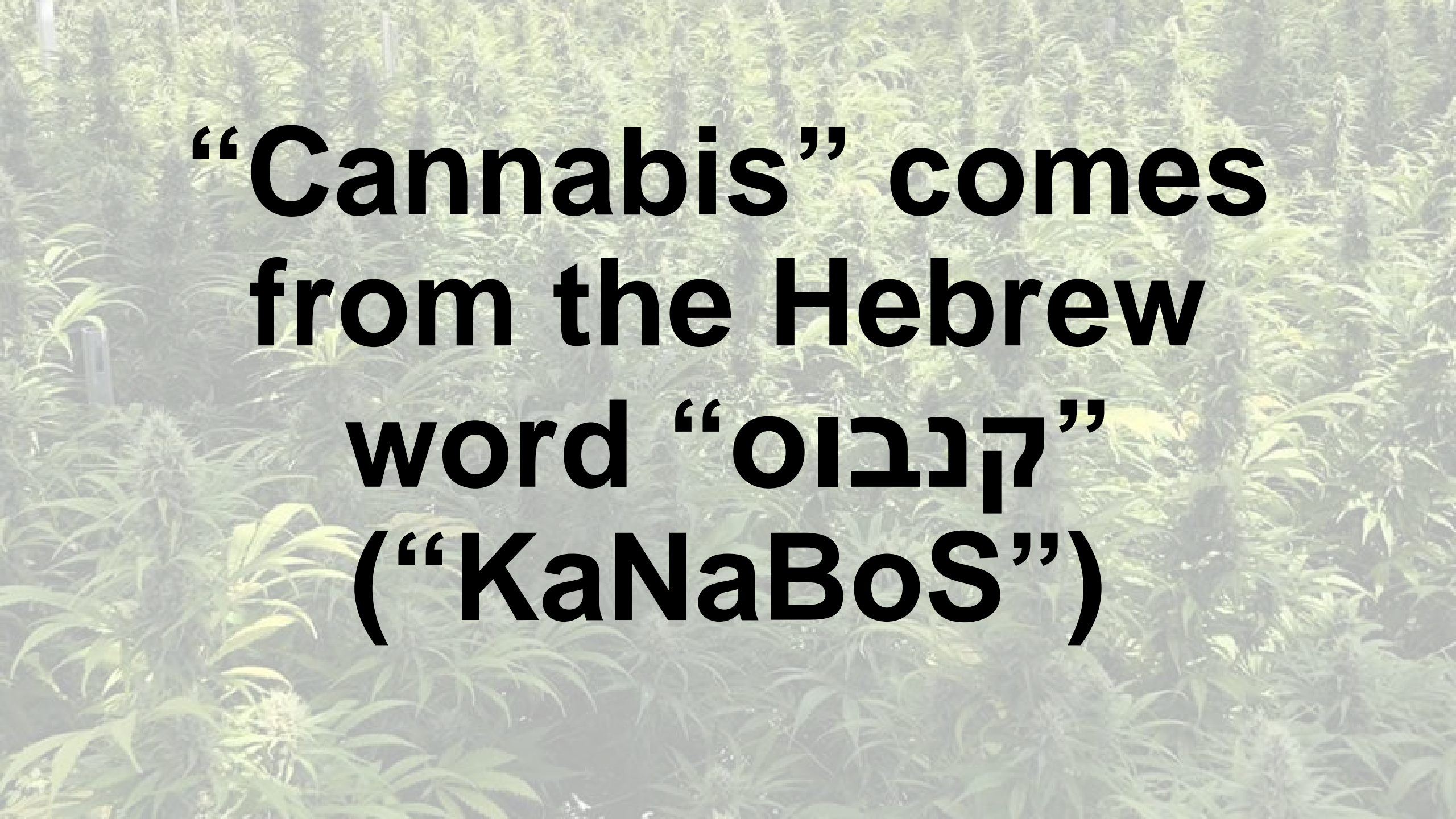


**The word 'kan'  
meaning *reed* or *hemp*,  
and 'bosm'  
meaning *aromatic*.**



**The Hebrew word קנה (*k'neh*, Strong's #7070) literally means, according to Strong's and Brown-Driver-Briggs, "reed" or "stalk." This noun is derived from the root קנה (Q.N.A, Strong's #7069) meaning "to acquire, purchase or buy." This verb is derived from the parent root קן (*qen*, Strong's #7064) meaning "nest." The connection between all of these words is a bird's nest, which is made by "acquiring" branches, leaves or "reeds."**

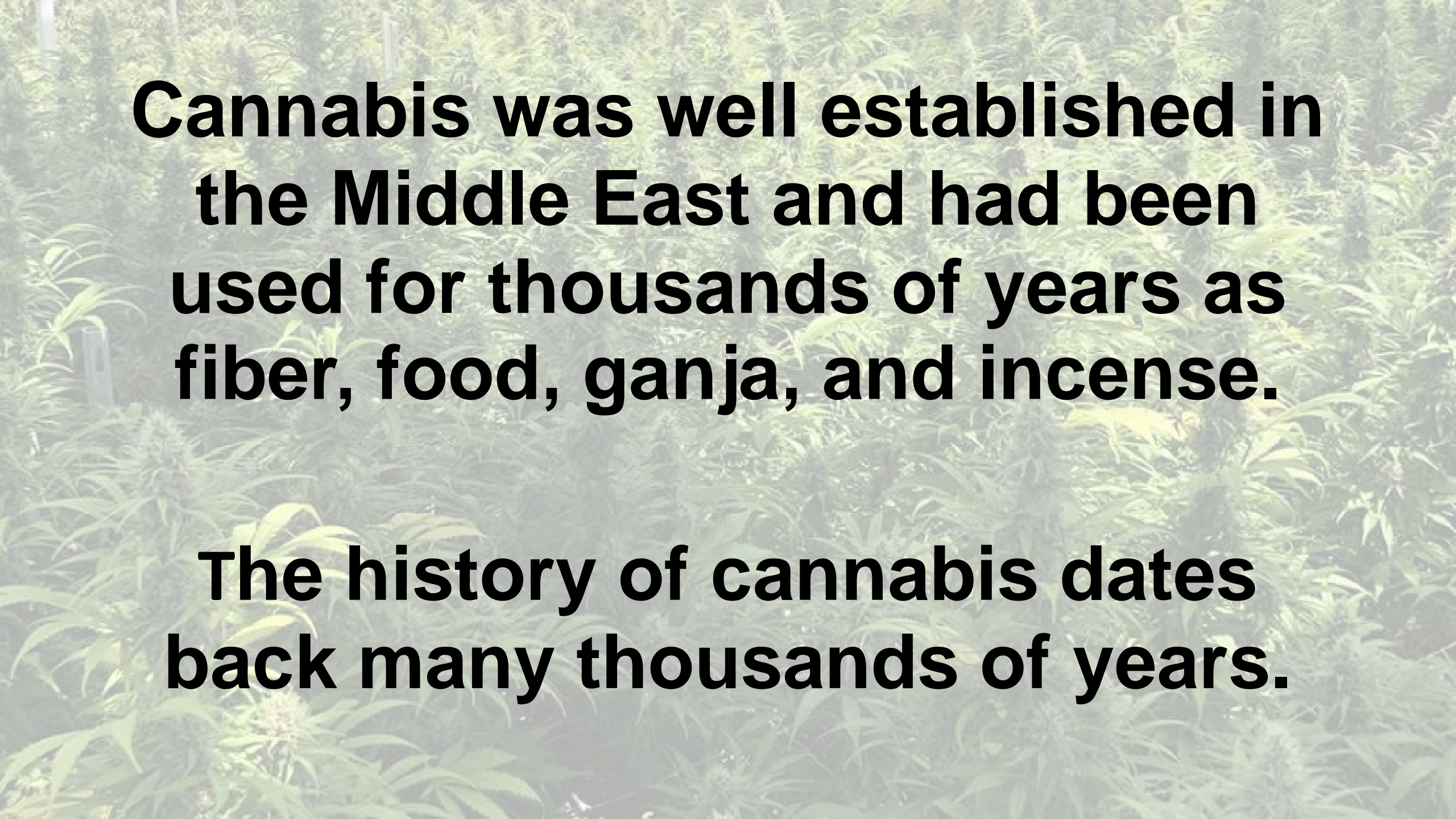
**The Hebrew word בושם (*bosem*, Strong's #1314) means, also according to Strong's and Brown-Driver-Briggs, "spice" or "balsam" (an aromatic resinous substance). This noun is derived from the root word בושם (*B.S.M*, this Semitic root is not used in the Hebrew Bible) meaning "to be fragrant."**



**“Cannabis” comes  
from the Hebrew  
word “קנבוס”  
 (“KaNaBoS”)**

**And קנבוס actually comes  
from the ancient Biblical  
term, “קנה בשם”  
 (“KaNeH BoSeM”), one  
of the ingredients of the  
anointing oil delineated  
in Exodus 30:23!**

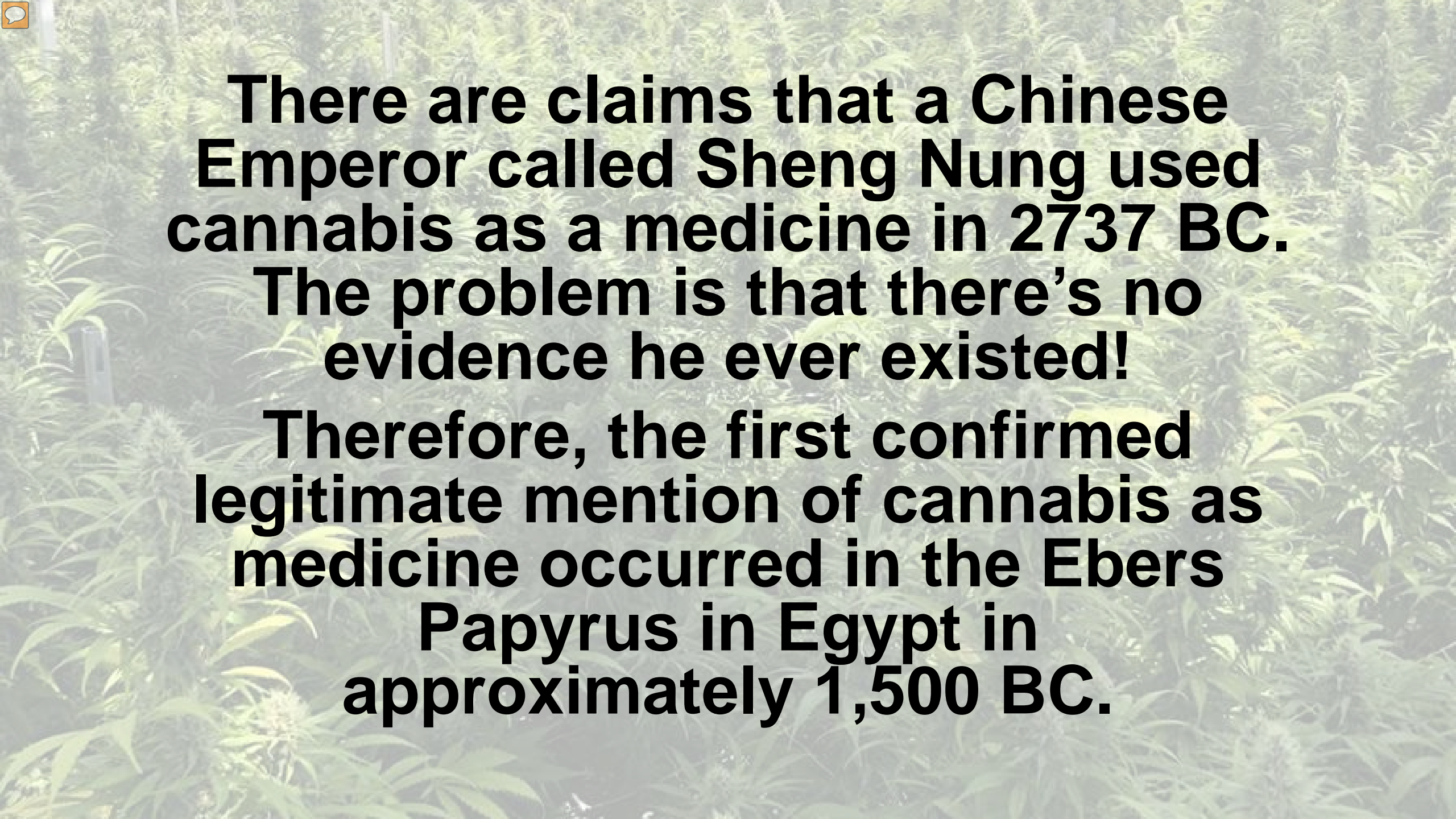
**“KaNeh Bosem” was a pungent and aromatic stalk plant used to soak in the sacred oil, most likely hemp. The Hebrew root קנה (KaNeH) means a reed or stalk, as in the thick stalk of a hemp plant.**



**Cannabis was well established in the Middle East and had been used for thousands of years as fiber, food, ganja, and incense.**

**The history of cannabis dates back many thousands of years.**

**Recent research by the University of Lausanne in Switzerland suggests that cannabis was domesticated in northwest China over 6,000 years ago. Researchers gained this information after analyzing the genomes of 110 plants worldwide. Yet, the study also found that farmers didn't begin breeding distinct strains for drug or fiber production until 4,000 years ago.**



**There are claims that a Chinese Emperor called Sheng Nung used cannabis as a medicine in 2737 BC.**

**The problem is that there's no evidence he ever existed!**

**Therefore, the first confirmed legitimate mention of cannabis as medicine occurred in the Ebers**

**Papyrus in Egypt in approximately 1,500 BC.**



**A Chinese medical collection from 1 AD mentions cannabis as a cure for over 100 medical issues.**

**Dozens of countries used cannabis during the Dark Ages and Middle Ages.**

**Taoism, which originates back to 4th century China, uses cannabis incense as a cleansing tool.**

**In Norse mythology the cannabis plant relates to beauty, fertility, and love.**

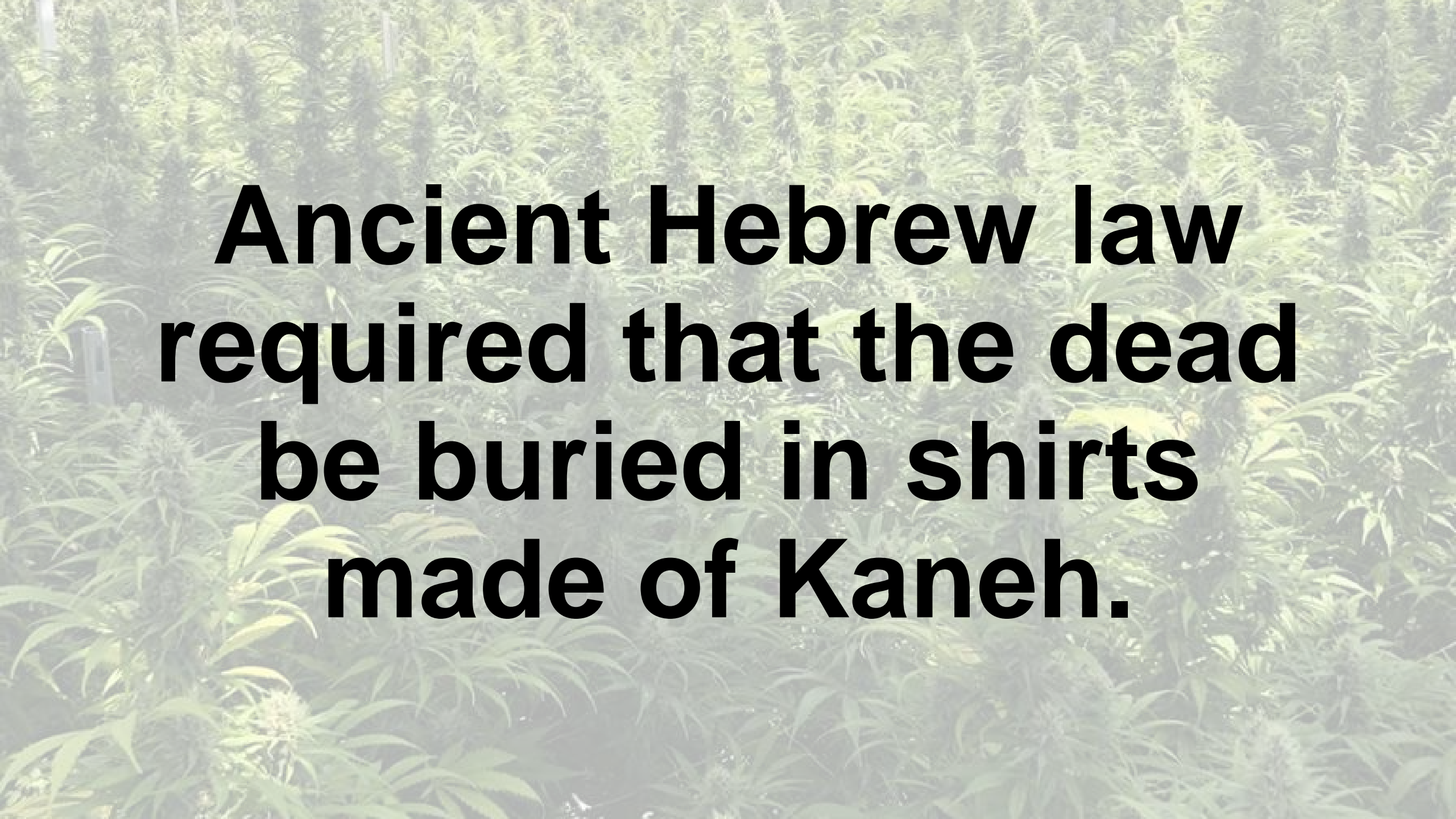
**Assyrian and Babylonian culture left behind cuneiform clay tablets, dated between 1,000 and 500 BCE, some describing medical and religious practices. The cuneiform word for cannabis was *azullu*. It was used for treating depression, as well as in different medical recipes. Under the name *kunubu*, it was one of the ingredients in their religious incense, which they traded with Egypt and Judaea.**

**There is a classic Greek term, *Cannabeizein*, which means to smoke cannabis. Cannabeizein frequently took the form of inhaling vapors from an incense burner in which these resins were mixed with other resins, such as myrrh, balsam, frankincense, and perfumes."**

**From the time of Pliny the Elder (23-79 CE) and into the late Roman Empire, cannabis appears in various medical and pharmacological texts. The Roman naturalist Pliny mentioned cannabis in several passages, including medical usages.**



**The *Talmud*,  
contains a recipe for  
wine infused with  
cannabis and myrrh.**

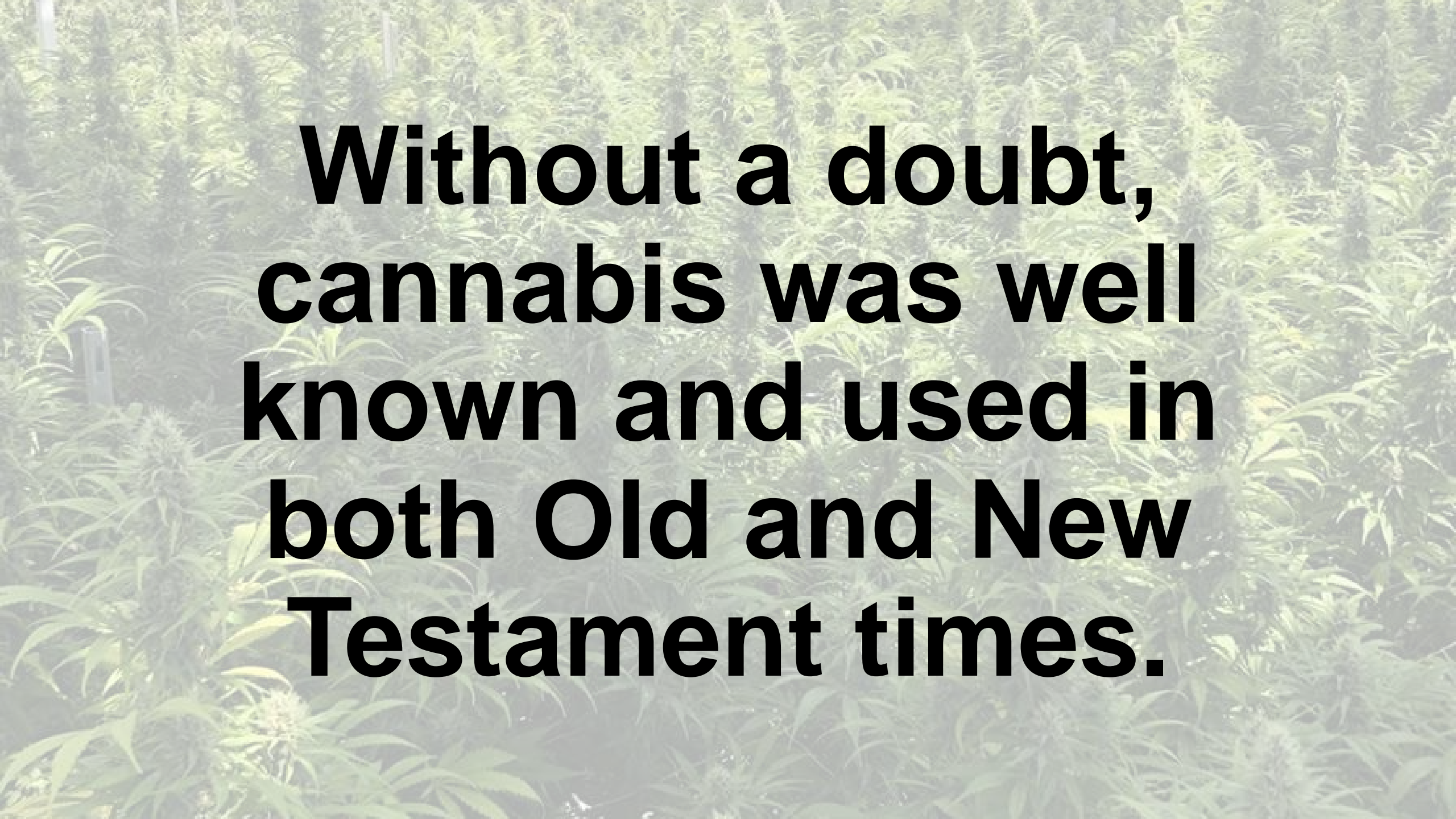
A field of green plants, likely hemp or cannabis, with a semi-transparent text overlay. The plants are arranged in rows and have long, narrow leaves. The text is centered and reads: 

**Ancient Hebrew law  
required that the dead  
be buried in shirts  
made of Kaneh.**

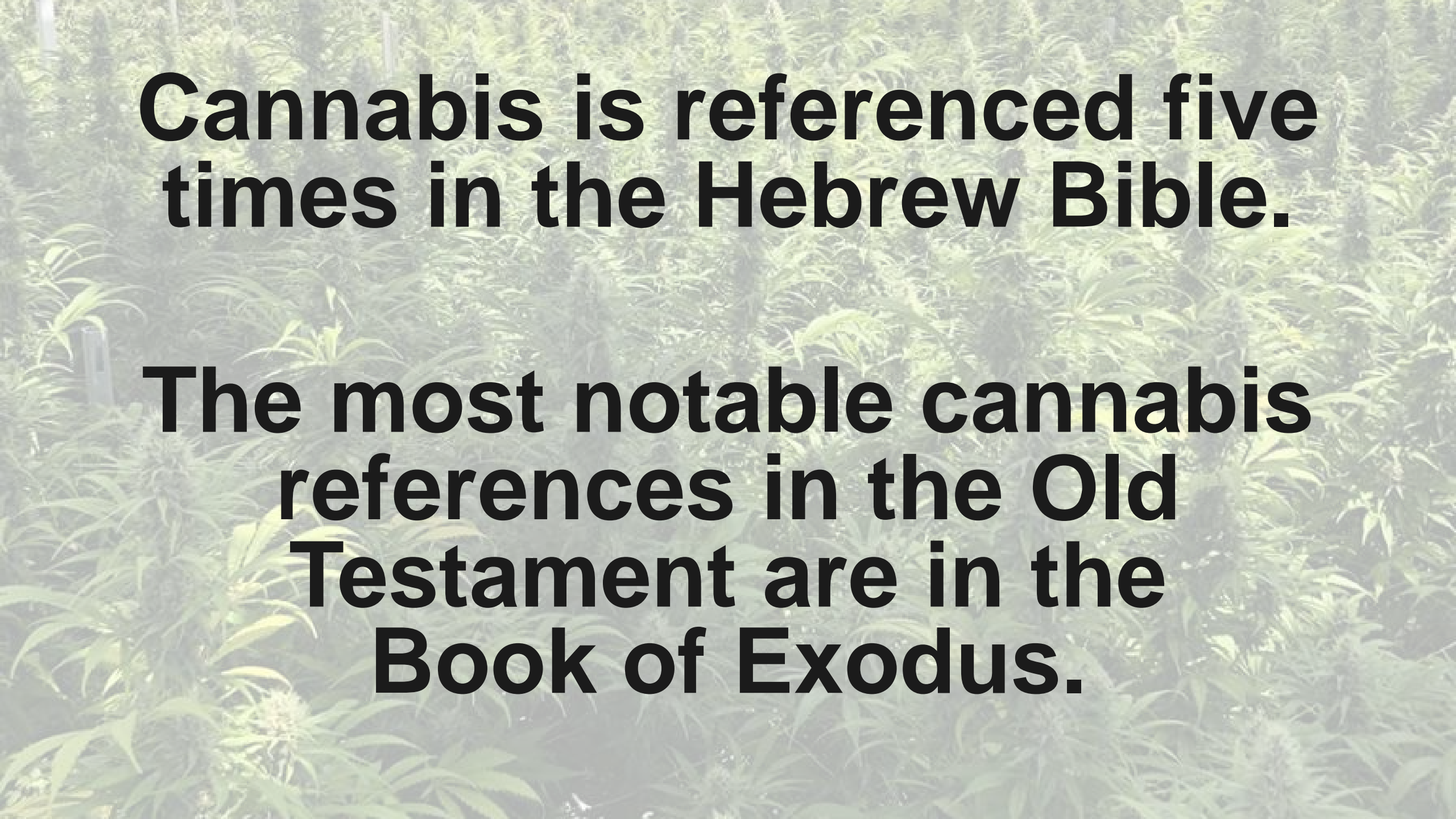
**Israeli archaeologists recently unearthed evidence of burnt ritual cannabis in the ruins of a 2,700-year-old Jewish temple. In 1963, two limestone altars were found at the entrance to the “Holy of Holies” of a Judahite shrine at Beersheba Valley, in Israel’s Tel Arad, an archaeological mound located west of the Dead Sea. Analysis of the materials on two altars, now housed in the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, found they contained cannabis and frankincense.**



**A 1993 study on the materials on the remains of a teenage girl who died during labor in an ancient cave in Jerusalem found cannabis was likely used to reduce childbirth pain.**



**Without a doubt,  
cannabis was well  
known and used in  
both Old and New  
Testament times.**



**Cannabis is referenced five times in the Hebrew Bible.**

**The most notable cannabis references in the Old Testament are in the Book of Exodus.**



**Exodus 30: 23-25**

**contains a cannabis  
holy oil recipe used  
by Moses**

## Exodus 30: 23-25: (1446 BCE)

***“Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Take the following fine spices: 500 shekels of liquid myrrh, half as much (that is, 250 shekels) of fragrant cinnamon, 250 shekels of fragrant calamus [cannabis], 500 shekels of cassia—all according to the sanctuary shekel—and a hin of olive oil. Make these into a sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend, the work of a perfumer. It will be the sacred anointing oil.’”***



**Liquid myrrh 500 shekels 5.75 kg (12.68 lbs)**

**Cassia 500 shekels 5.75 kg (12.68 lbs) (Cassia bark, the spice made from the bark of East Asian evergreen trees)**

**Cinnamon leaf 250 shekels 2.875 kg (6.34 lbs)**

**Cannabis flowers 250 shekels 2.875 kg (6.34 lbs)**

**Olive oil 1 hin 6.5 liters (1.72 gallons)**

**This oil was applied topically to the skin of Holy men and would have undoubtedly altered their mental state, perhaps opening them up to the ability to communicate with God on an entirely different level than in simple prayer.**



**An argument that this oil was made with cannabis, not calamus, is that calamus at such a high concentration would have been toxic, capable of causing damage to the liver, kidneys, and heart.**



**Also, calamus does not have all of the same uses or chemical properties as cannabis. Calamus may be a linguistic substitution for cannabis, but it doesn't physically or socially replicate it.**


In Exodus 30:33 & 38 exile or death awaited anyone other than the priests making this anointing oil or the incense derived from it.

***33 Whoever makes perfume like it and puts it on anyone other than a priest must be cut off from their people.”***

***38 Whoever makes incense like it to enjoy its fragrance must be cut off from their people.”***

**It was the practice of some ancient peoples to burn cannabis and other herbs in tents, so that more smoke could be captured and inhaled.**

**Moses and his priests burned incense and used the holy ointment in a portable 'tent of meeting', the famous *Tent of the Tabernacle*. It seems likely that Moses and the Levite priesthood would have burned cannabis flowers and pollen along with the ointment and incense which God commanded them to make.**



***And Aaron shall burn incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the lord throughout your generations.***

**Exodus 30:8-10**

## **Song of Songs 4: 10-15 (950 BCE)**

***“How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume more than any spice! Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. The fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon. You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride; you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain. Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates with choice fruits, with henna and nard, nard and saffron, calamus [cannabis] and cinnamon, with every kind of incense tree, with myrrh and aloes and all the finest spices. You are a garden fountain, a well of flowing water streaming down from Lebanon.”***

**Isaiah 43:24 (711 BCE)**

***“You have not bought any fragrant calamus [cannabis] for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses.”***

**Jeremiah 6:20 (627 BCE)**

***“What do I care about incense from Sheba or sweet calamus [cannabis] from a distant land? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable; your sacrifices do not please me.”***

**Ezekiel 27:18-19 (586 BCE)**

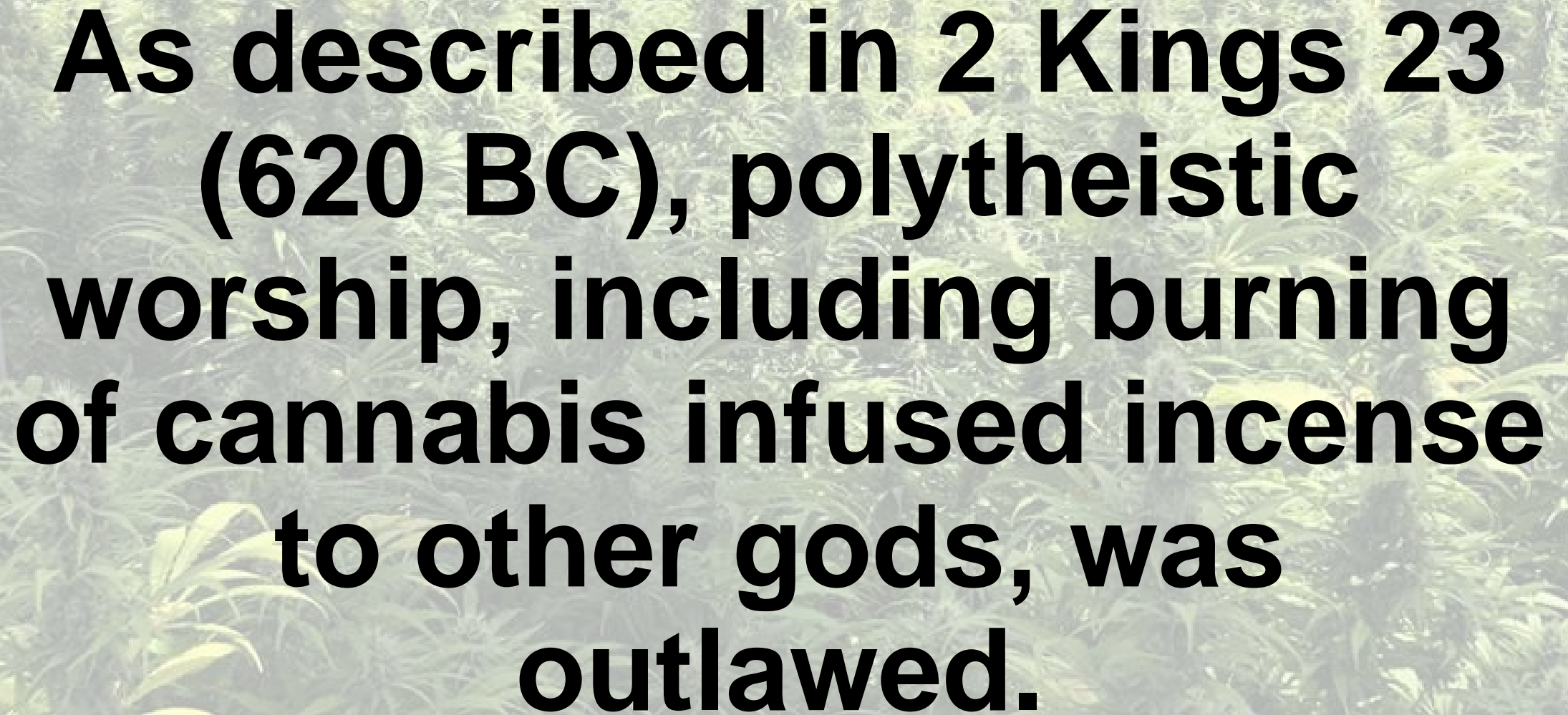
***“Damascus did business with you because of your many products and great wealth of goods. They offered wine from Helbon, wool from Zahar and casks of wine from Izal in exchange for your wares: wrought iron, cassia and calamus [cannabis].”***





**Cannabis is ultimately rejected by the Israelites once and for all during the time of Babylonian exile along with the worship of the Mother Goddess Asherah, the Queen of Heaven.**

**The Asherah priestesses of pre-reformation Jerusalem mixed cannabis resins with those from myrrh, balsam, frankincense, and perfumes, and then anointed their skins with the mixture, as well as burnt it.**



**As described in 2 Kings 23  
(620 BC), polytheistic  
worship, including burning  
of cannabis infused incense  
to other gods, was  
outlawed.**

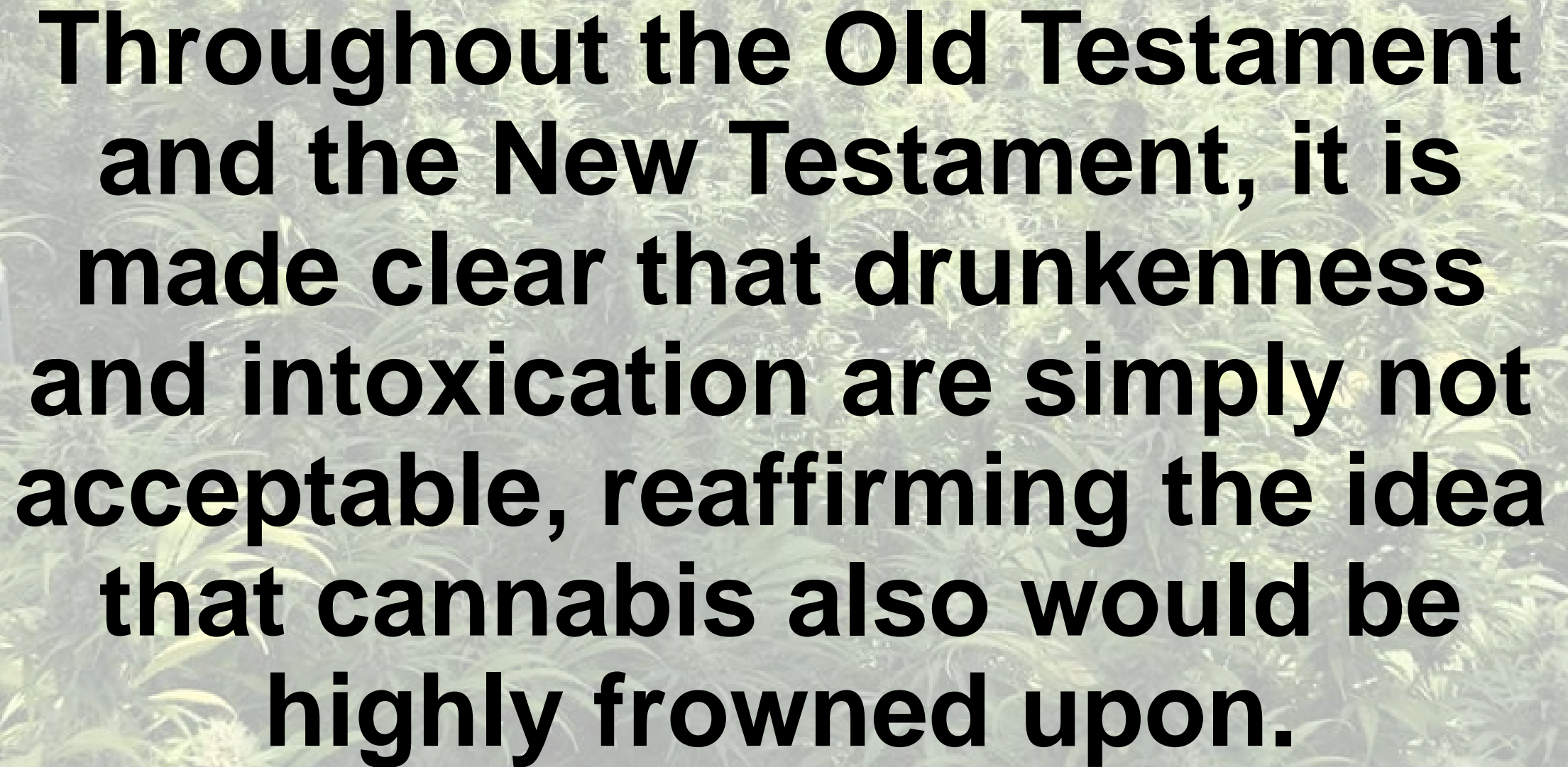


**Does the Bible  
approve of  
Cannabis?**



**Is cannabis a  
dangerous, corrupting  
substance – or a  
healing gift from  
Yahovah Himself?**

**As we have previously seen,  
in the original Hebrew Old  
Testament, the use of  
cannabis, both as an  
incense and oil for religious  
celebration, and as an  
intoxicant, was mentioned.**



**Throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament, it is made clear that drunkenness and intoxication are simply not acceptable, reaffirming the idea that cannabis also would be highly frowned upon.**


**But what about non-intoxicating uses of kaneh-bosm?**

**From what we know about Pharmakeia, the medicinal only use of cannabis would be an acceptable form of Pharmakeia.**





# Did Yeshua use Cannabis?



**Yeshua did anoint common people with His healing oil.**

**As described in Mark 6:13,  
“They cast out many devils and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.”**

**Matthew 4:24 goes on to say:  
“News about Him spread all over  
Syria and people brought to Him  
all who were ill with various  
diseases, those suffering severe  
pain, the demon-possessed,  
those having seizures, and the  
paralyzed; and he healed them.”**

**The types of conditions that Yeshua is credited with healing include:**

**Severe and painful skin conditions, such as leprosy, dermatitis, eczema, and psoriasis. Muscle conditions such as rheumatism and multiple sclerosis. Eye disease, such as glaucoma. Issues related to menstruation, and uterine hemorrhage related to childbirth. Epilepsy, the symptoms of which would have likely been viewed as demonic possession in Biblical times.**

**Interestingly, all of these conditions have been shown in recent years to respond well to treatment with cannabis.**

**If Yeshua were applying highly concentrated cannabis oil to the skin of those suffering from these ailments, it makes sense that quick and dramatic improvements would be seen in their condition. It's little wonder that Yeshua would be hailed as a miracle worker by anyone observing these effects.**

A photograph of a large field of green cannabis plants, likely in a cultivation facility, with a semi-transparent text overlay. The plants are densely packed and show signs of being in the flowering stage, with some buds visible. The text is centered and reads: 

**Was Cannabis  
purposely removed  
from the Bible?**

**What happened is a translation problem.**

**The word Kaneh-Bosm (cannabis) was translated as calamus, a plant growing in ponds and which, in addition to having little value, does not have the medicinal properties attributed to kaneh-bosm.**

**Scholars even managed to locate when this translation error occurred. It was during the translation into ancient Greek of the Bible from Hebrew, (the Septuagint) which dates back to the 3rd century AD.**





**In Summary:**

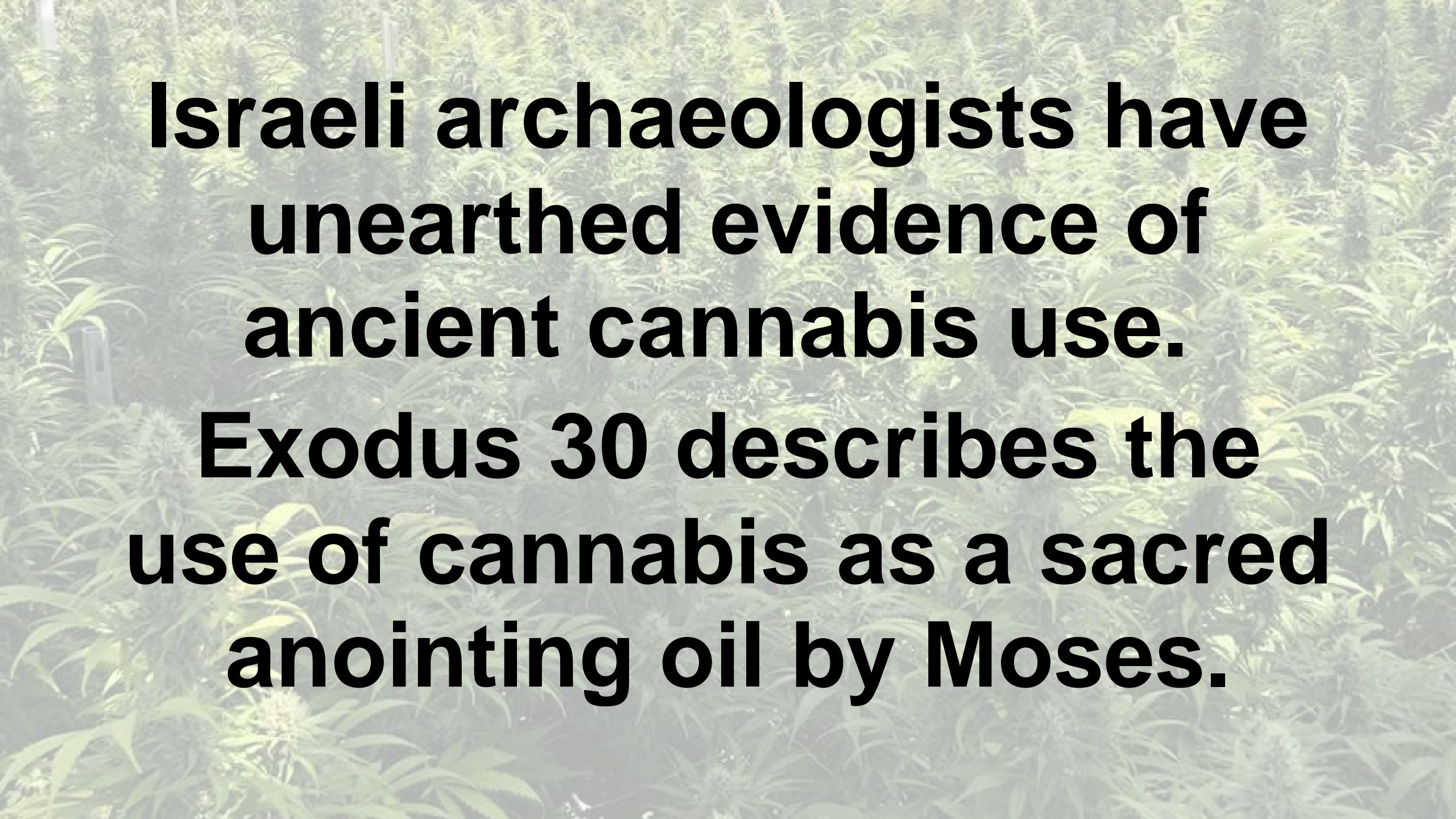
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**Cannabis appears, by name, five times in the original Hebrew text of the Bible.**

**From the Holy Oil of Moses to the healing miracles of Yeshua, it's possible that cannabis played a critically important role in the Bible.**

**The Hebrew word “kaneh-  
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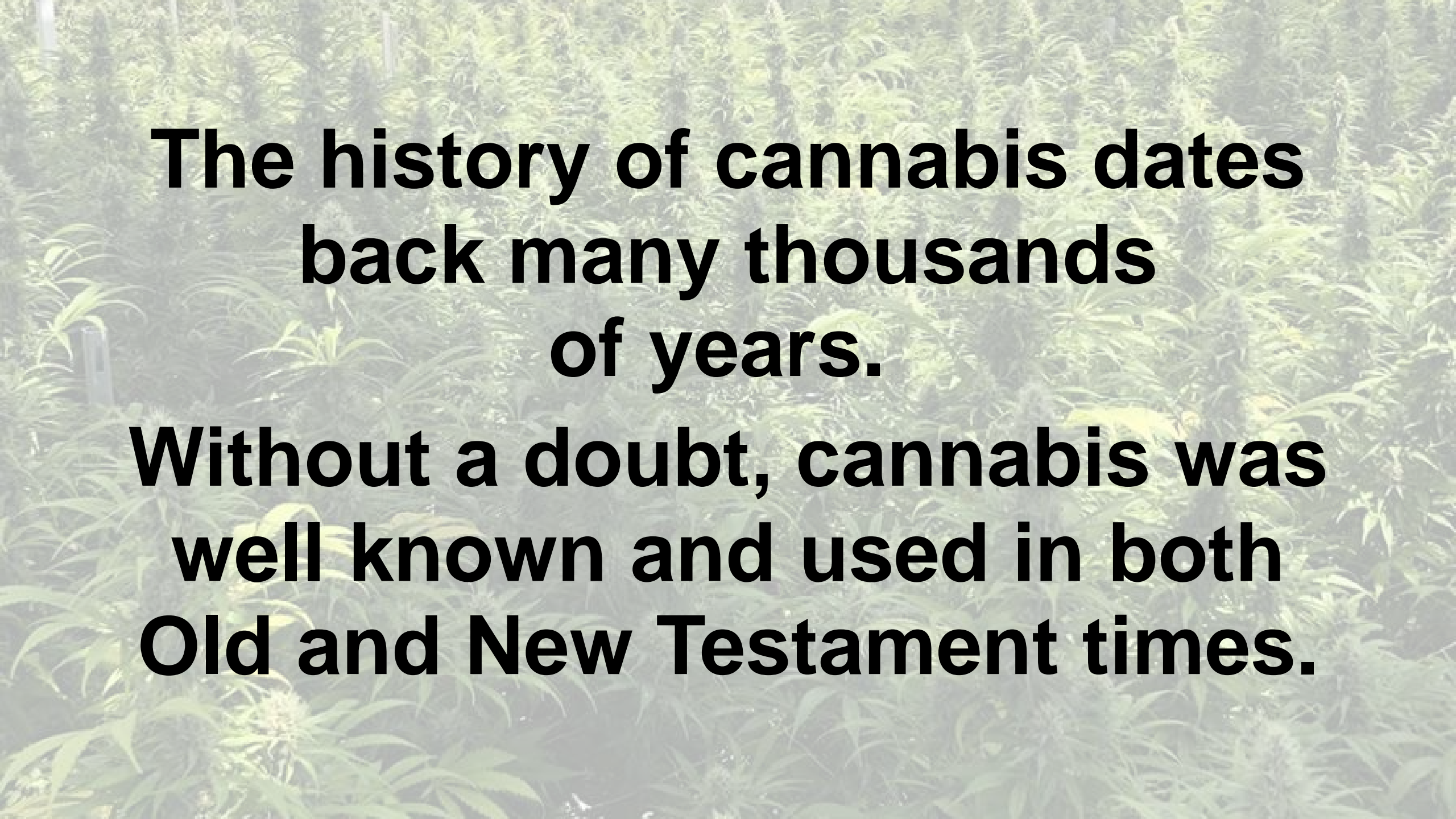


**Israeli archaeologists have  
unearthed evidence of  
ancient cannabis use.**

**Exodus 30 describes the  
use of cannabis as a sacred  
anointing oil by Moses.**

**Conditions healed by Yeshua  
have been shown, in recent years,  
to respond well to treatment with  
cannabis.**

**Translation problems led to the  
substitution of the word Kaneh-  
Bosm with other words not  
related to cannabis.**



**The history of cannabis dates  
back many thousands  
of years.**

**Without a doubt, cannabis was  
well known and used in both  
Old and New Testament times.**



**There's no real way  
to know for sure  
what the complete  
role of Cannabis was  
in the Bible!**



