


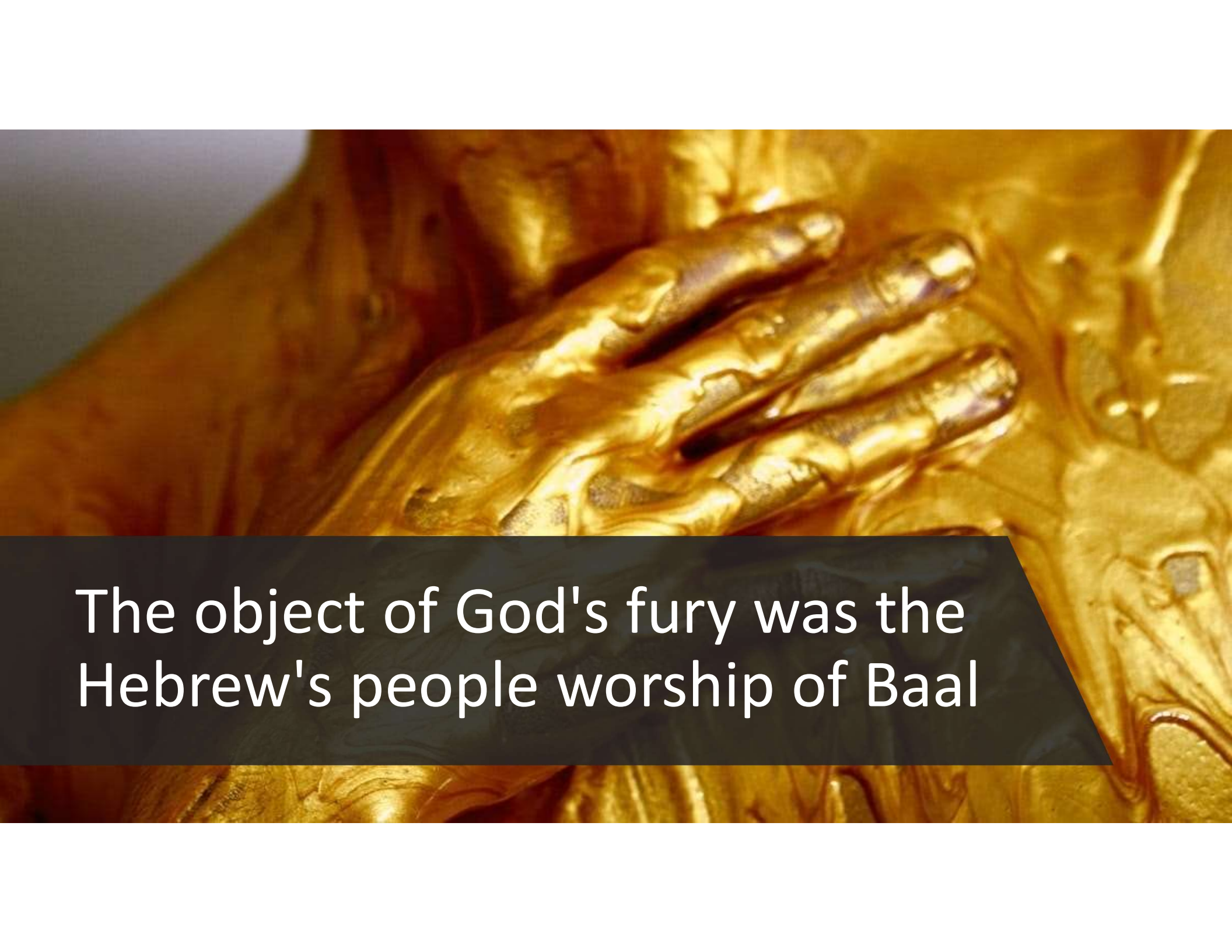
Tear Down Your Idols

SERMON REVIEW

A Sermon by Bishop Andy C. Lewter, D. Min.

An illustration depicting the biblical story of Gideon. In the foreground, Gideon, wearing a blue robe, is kneeling with his hands raised in prayer or awe. In the background, a large angel with expansive, feathered wings stands atop a large, glowing fire. The angel is dressed in white and appears to be speaking to Gideon. The scene is set outdoors, with a wooden structure and some foliage visible in the background.

The central focus of this week's sermon is the instructions God gives to Gideon after Gideon's burnt offer

A close-up photograph of a golden hand sculpture, likely representing the golden calf. The hand is highly detailed, showing the texture of the gold and the contours of the fingers. The lighting is warm, highlighting the metallic sheen. A dark grey semi-transparent banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image, containing white text.

The object of God's fury was the Hebrew's people worship of Baal

Baal was a Canaanite God that was worshipped by the indigenous people of the area where the Children of Israel went after leaving Egypt and the wilderness





You will recall that it was the worship of Baal that angered Moses when he returned from Mt. Sinai with the ten commandments

Notice that the altar of Baal was an altar that belonged to the father of Gideon



Not only was the altar of Baal to be destroyed but also the "pole of Asherah"



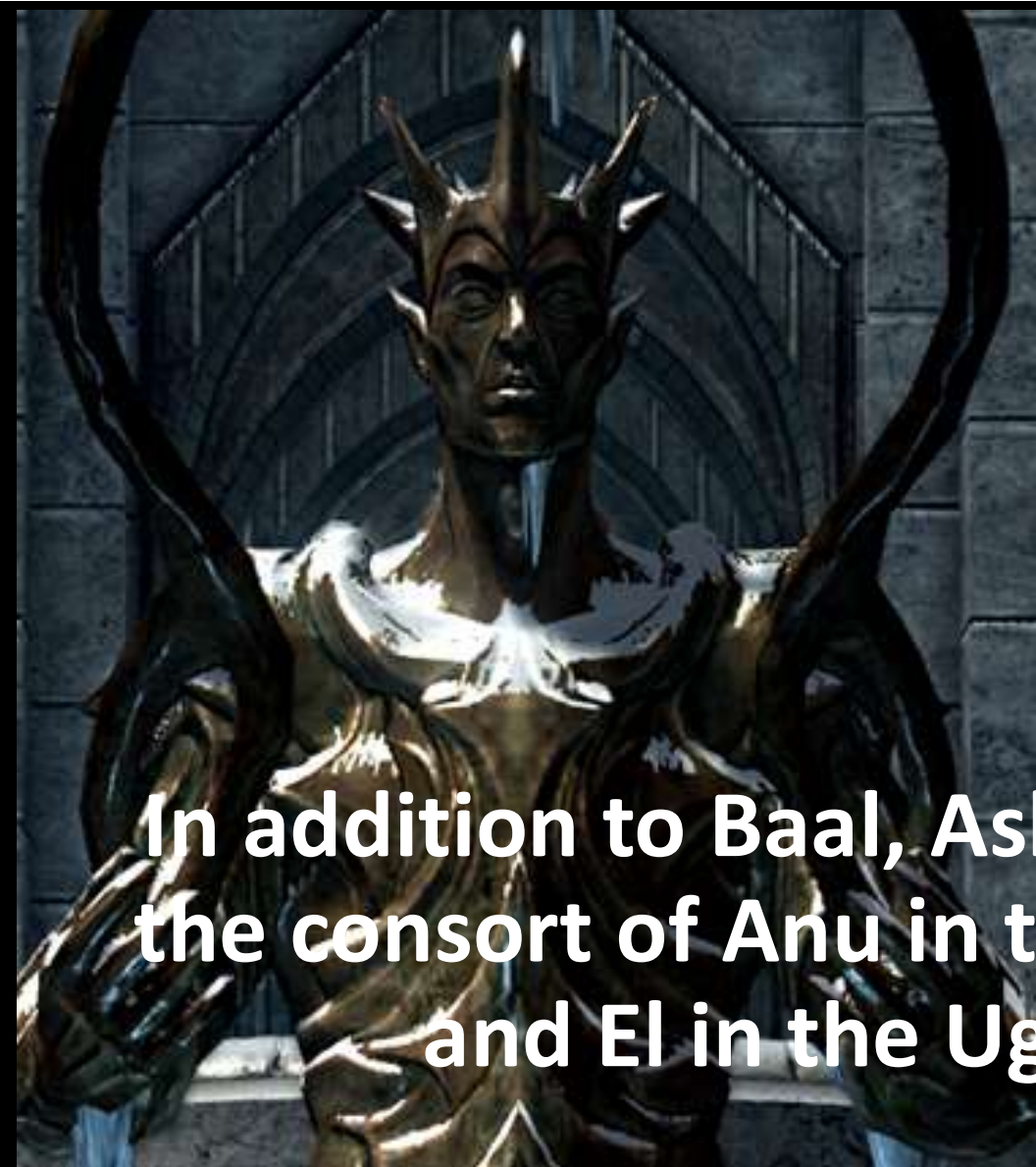


The pole of
Asherah
were
wooden
objects that
rested next
to figurines
that
represented
Canaanite
idols

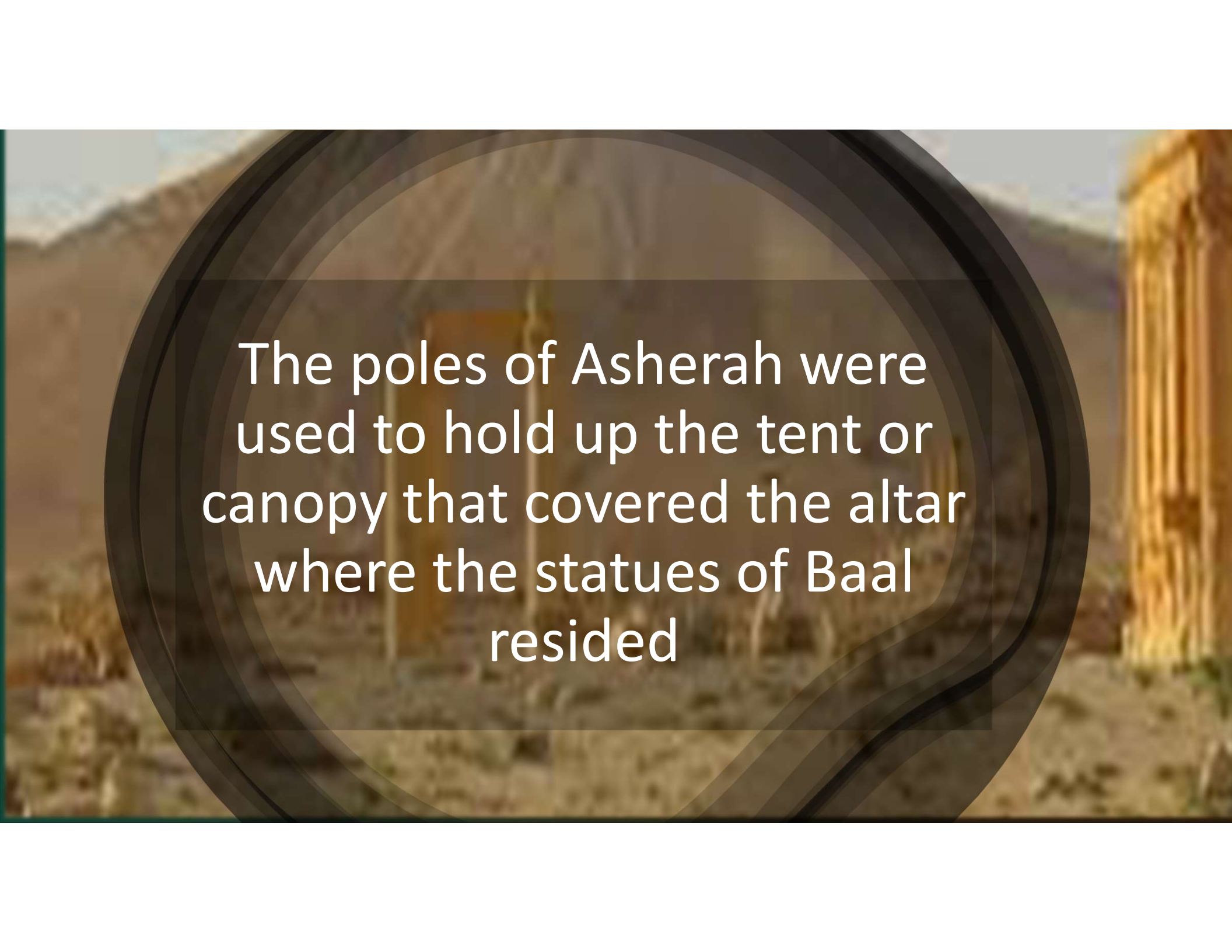
Asherah was the consort or wife of Baal who was the chief god of the Canaanite religion



Asherah
13th century
Israel Museum
Illustration by Sigalit
Part of #BohuProject



In addition to Baal, Asherah was viewed as the consort of Anu in the Sumerian religion and El in the Ugaritic religion



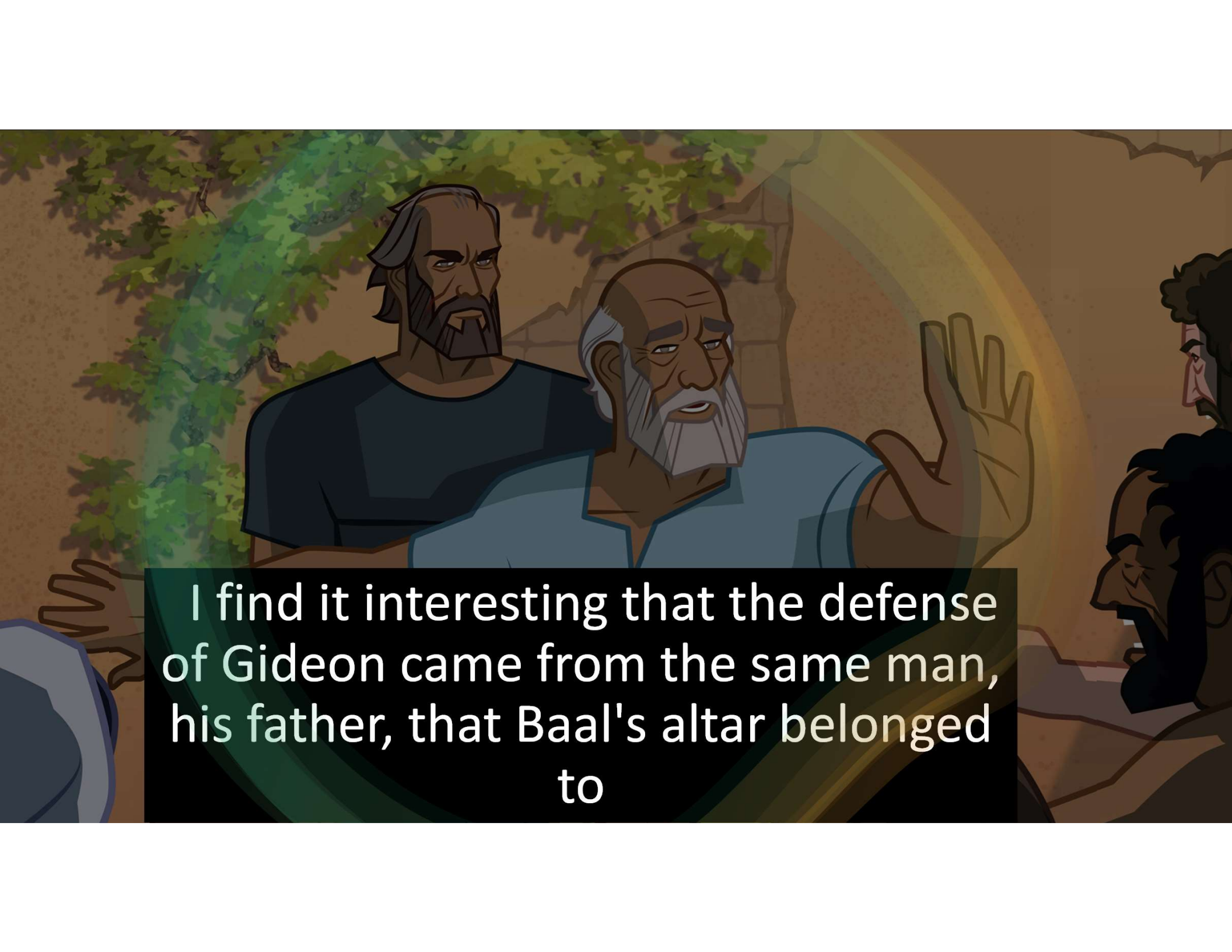
The poles of Asherah were used to hold up the tent or canopy that covered the altar where the statues of Baal resided

God commanded that the poles not only be taken down but broken up to be used as the fuel for Gideon's burnt offering





The fact that the Bible says that Gideon is to build a proper altar suggests that the altar of Baal was not



I find it interesting that the defense of Gideon came from the same man, his father, that Baal's altar belonged to



THANK YOU

For watching....