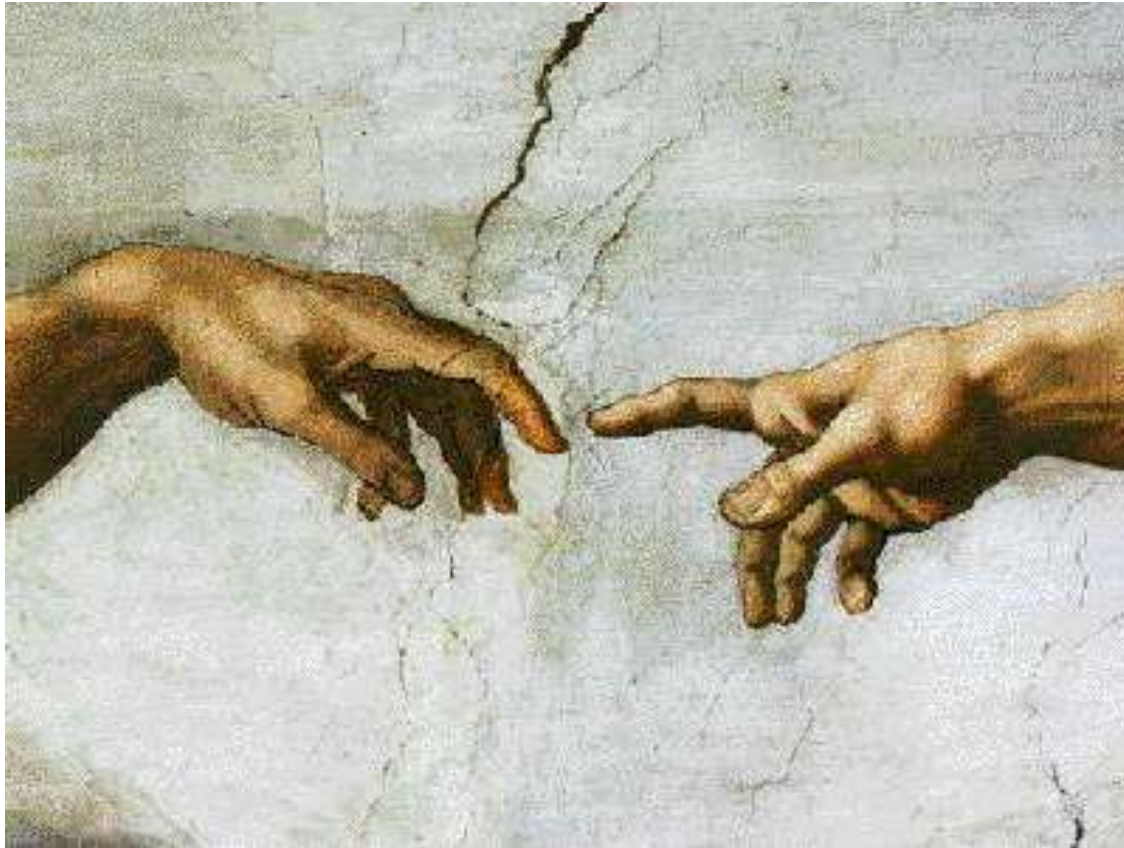
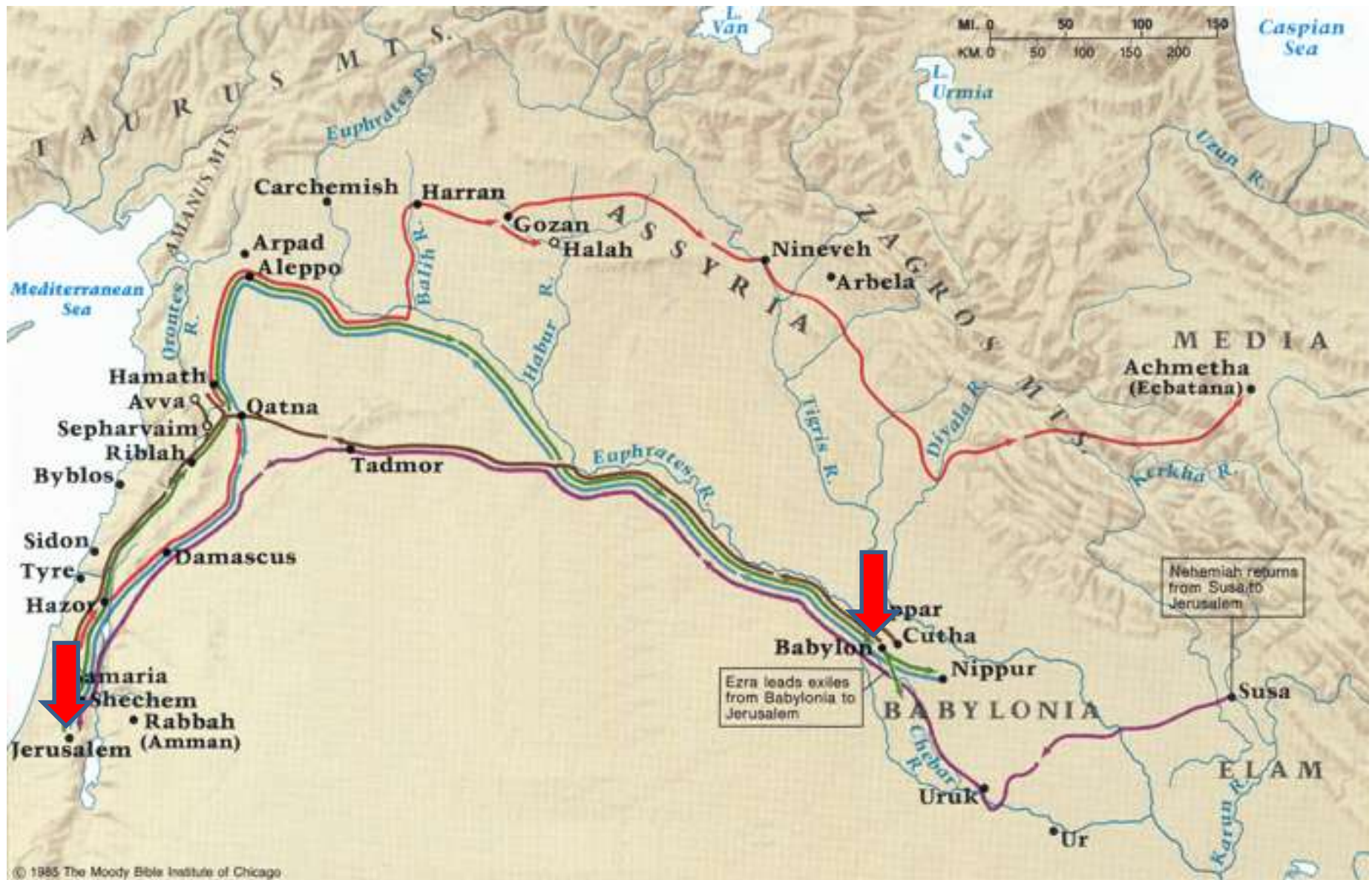


**BE INTENTIONAL . . .
About Seeking God's Hand
Of Blessing**

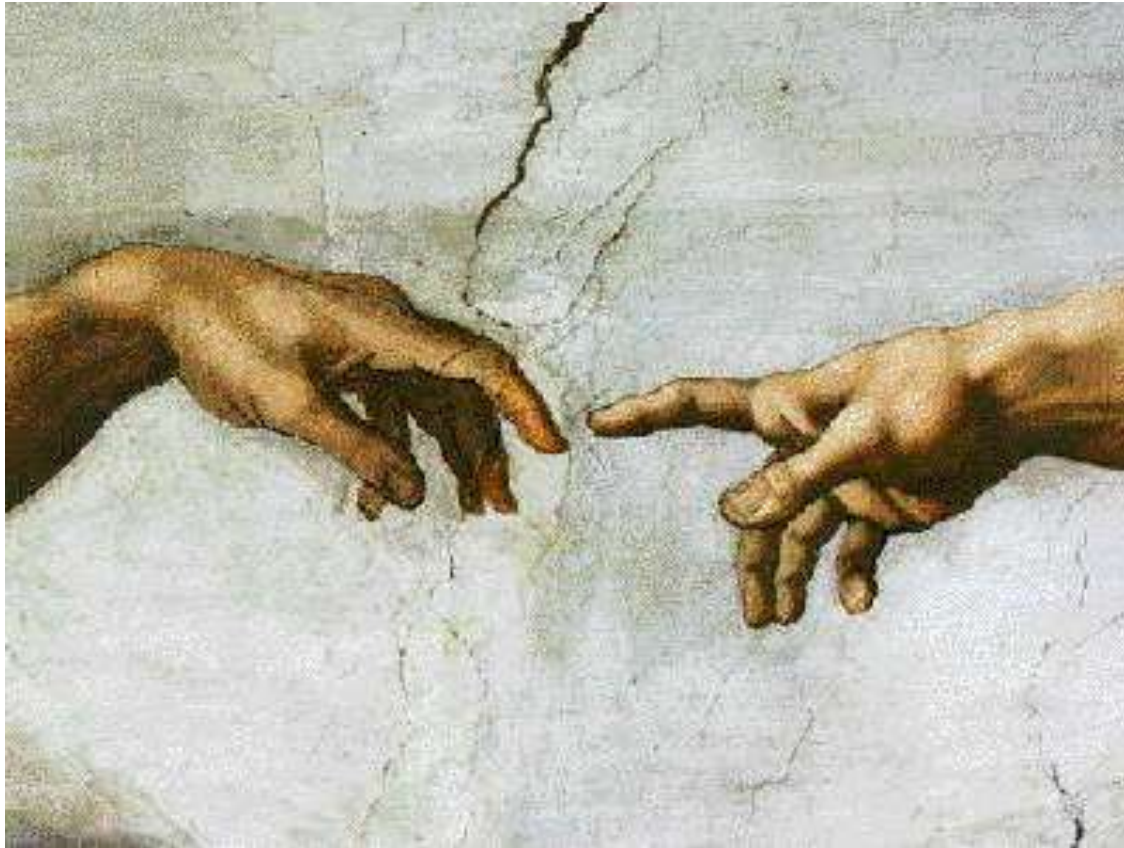






**God wants to bless us
more than we want to be blessed**

**BE INTENTIONAL . . .
About Seeking God's Hand
Of Blessing**



1. LIKE EZRA, OUR LIVES CAN AND SHOULD SHOW EVIDENCE OF GOD'S BLESSING

“the king granted him all he requested because **the hand of the LORD his God was upon him**”- 7:6

“he came to Jerusalem, because **the good hand of his God was upon him**”- 7:9

“I was strengthened according to **the hand of the LORD my God upon me**”- 7:28

“according to **the good hand of our God upon us** “- 8:18

“**the hand of our God was over us**, and He delivered us from the hand of the enemy and the ambushes by the way”- 8:31

→ Ezra had a clear conviction as to how God works...

**"The hand of our God is favorably disposed to all those who seek Him, but His power and His anger are against all those who forsake Him."
(Ezra 8:22)**



2. LIKE EZRA, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE CAUSE BEHIND GOD'S BLESSING

- A. it wasn't his family heritage (vv1-5)
- B. it wasn't his status in society (v6)
- C. it wasn't his education/training/degrees
- D. it was the SET OF HIS HEART (v10)



→ Ezra “SET HIS HEART”



1) TO STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

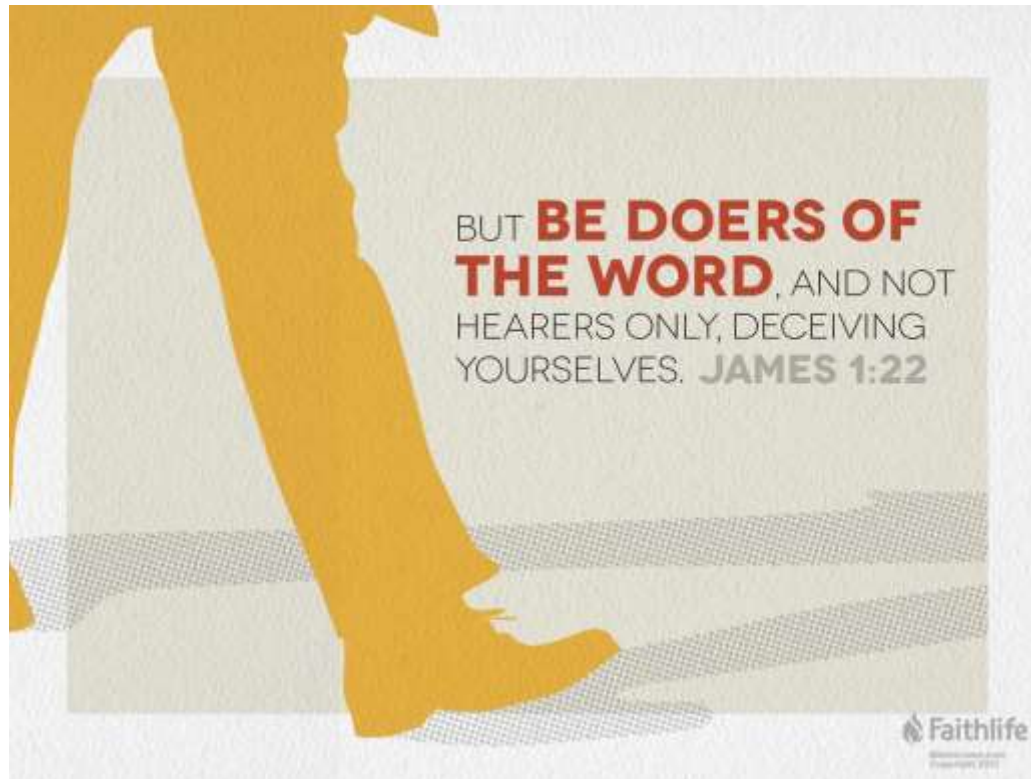


→ Ezra “SET HIS HEART”



1) TO STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

2) TO LIVE THE SCRIPTURES



→ Ezra “SET HIS HEART”

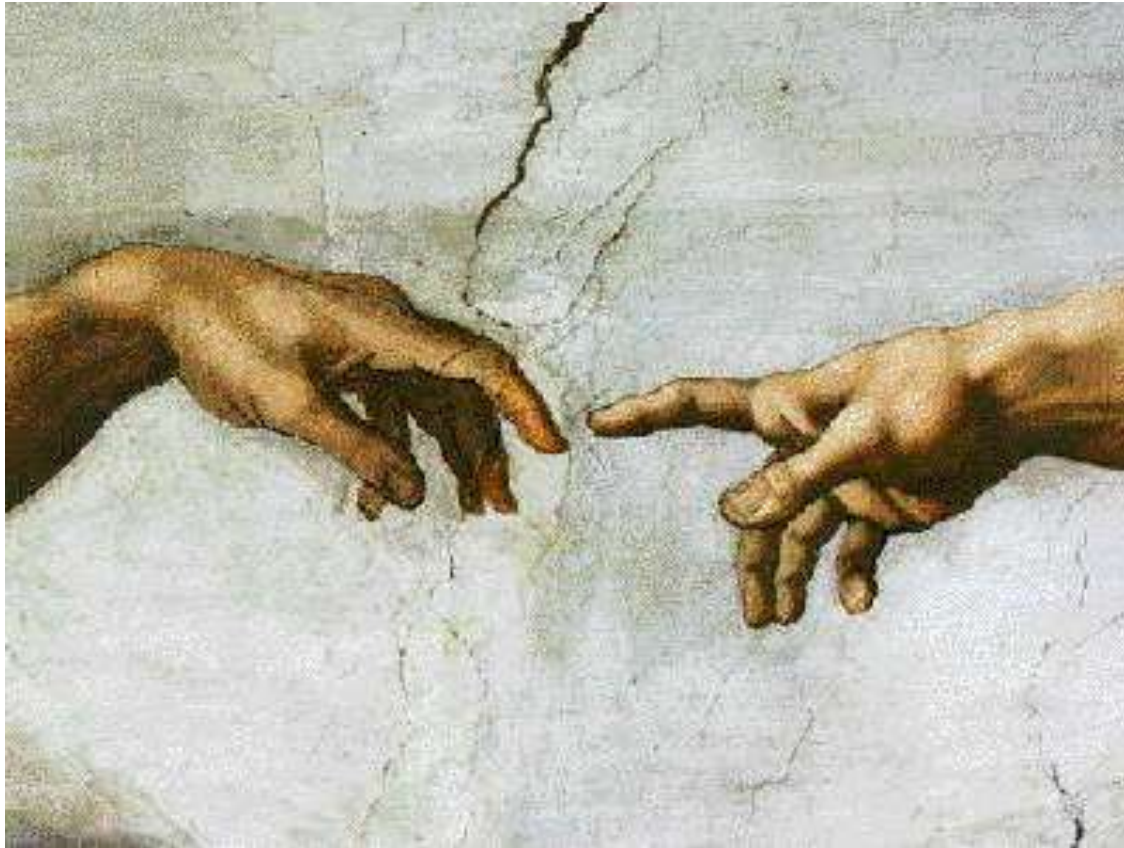
- 1) TO STUDY THE SCRIPTURES
- 2) TO LIVE THE SCRIPTURES
- 3) TO TEACH THE SCRIPTURES



The image is a close-up of the central portion of Michelangelo's famous fresco, 'The Creation of Adam'. It shows the two hands reaching toward each other: the hand of God on the right, extended from a reclining position, and the hand of Adam on the left, also extended from a reclining position. The fingertips are just inches apart, creating a sense of tension and divine spark. The background is the cracked and aged plaster of the original artwork.

**IS THE GOOD HAND
OF YOUR GOD
UPON YOU?**

**BE INTENTIONAL . . .
About Seeking God's Hand
Of Blessing**



**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way

Still, you're there right beside me;

And nothing will I fear

as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

I will not forget your love for me and yet

My heart forever is wandering;

Jesus, be my guide, hold me to your side,

And I will love you to the end.

**BE INTENTIONAL . . .
About Seeking God's Hand
Of Blessing**

