THE STORY OF HOPE

ATALE OF TWO STORIES

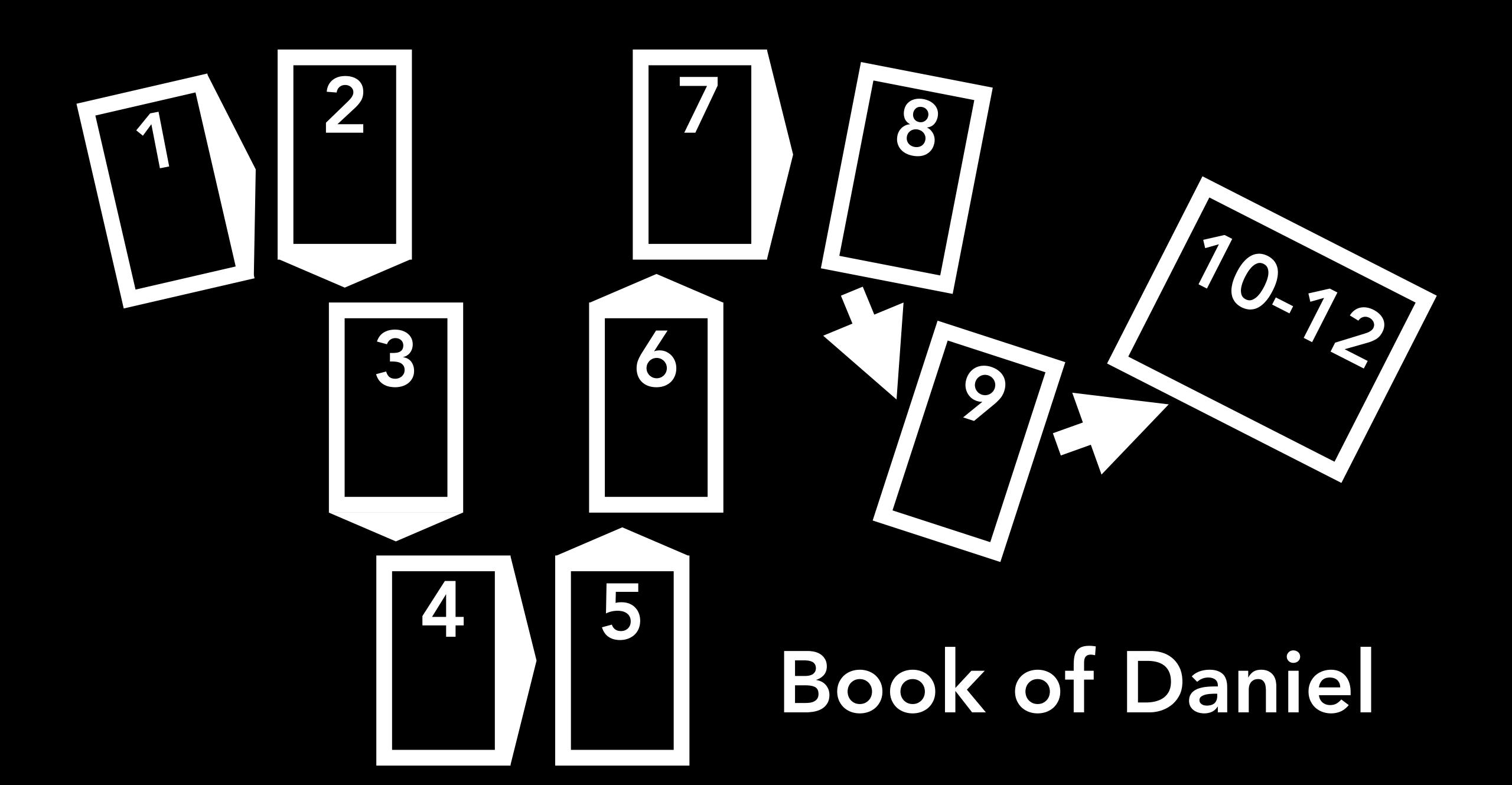
THE STORY OF FAITH

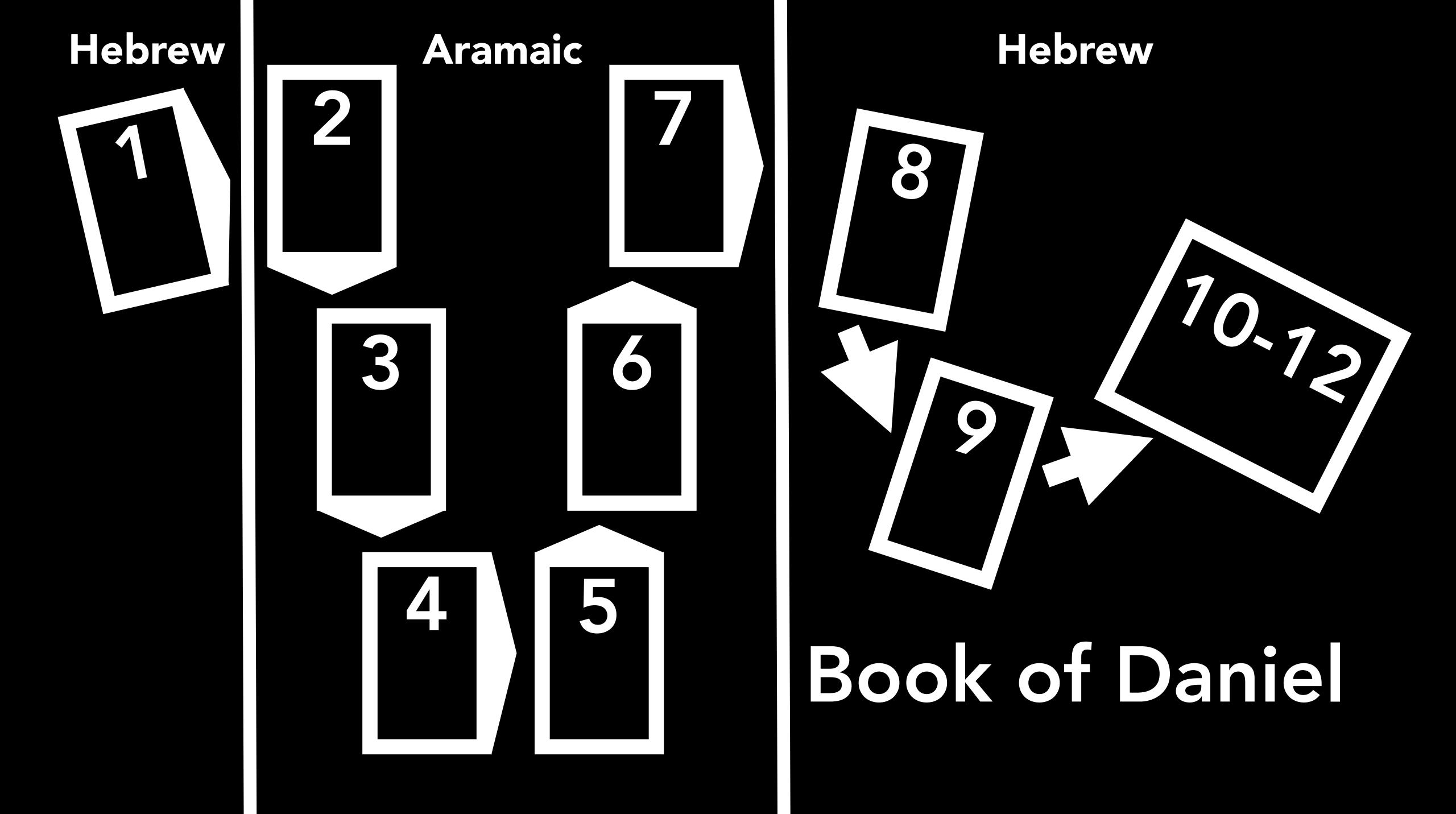
DANIEL 2

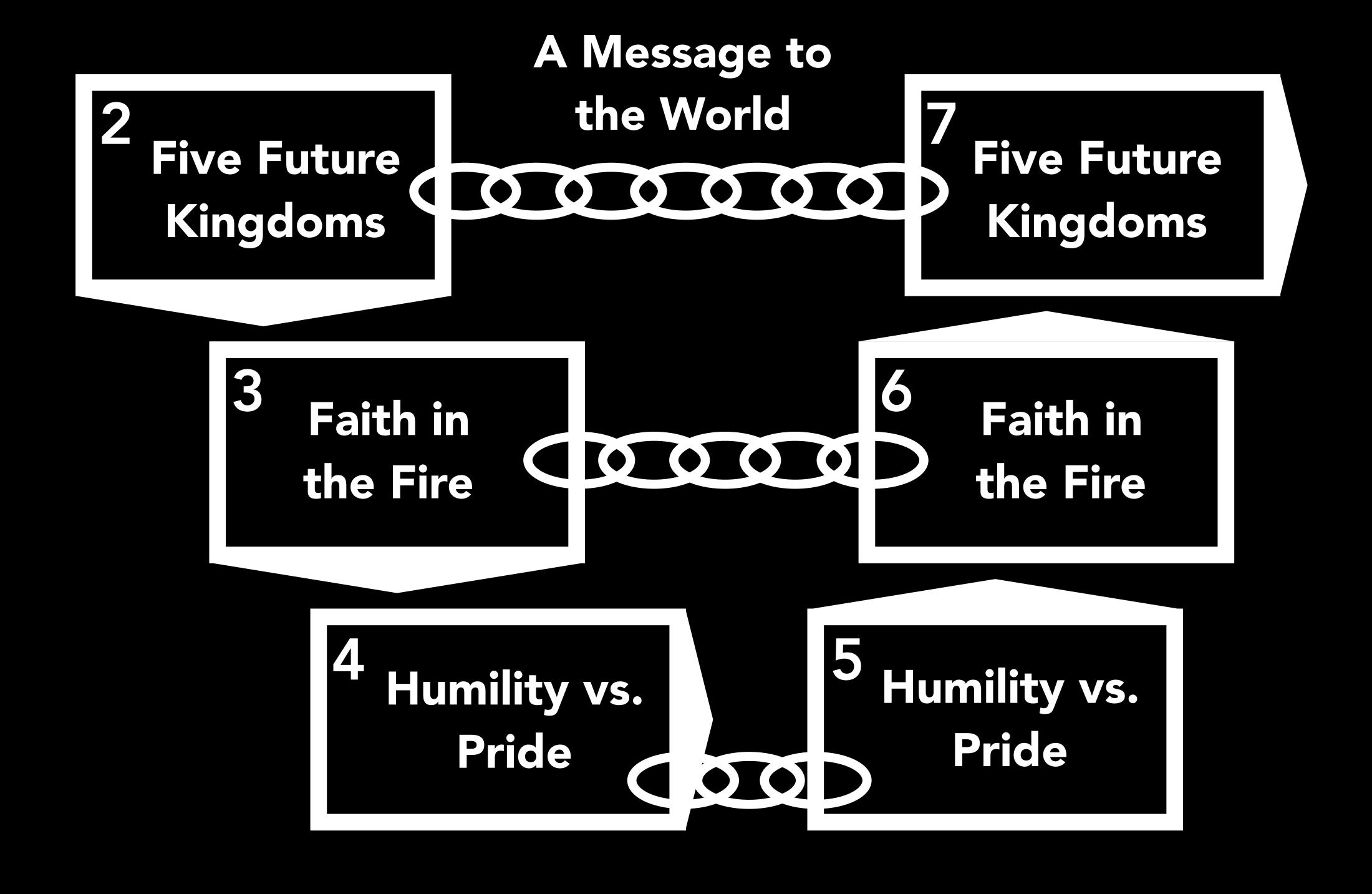
THE STORY OF FAITH

Upper Story

Lower Story





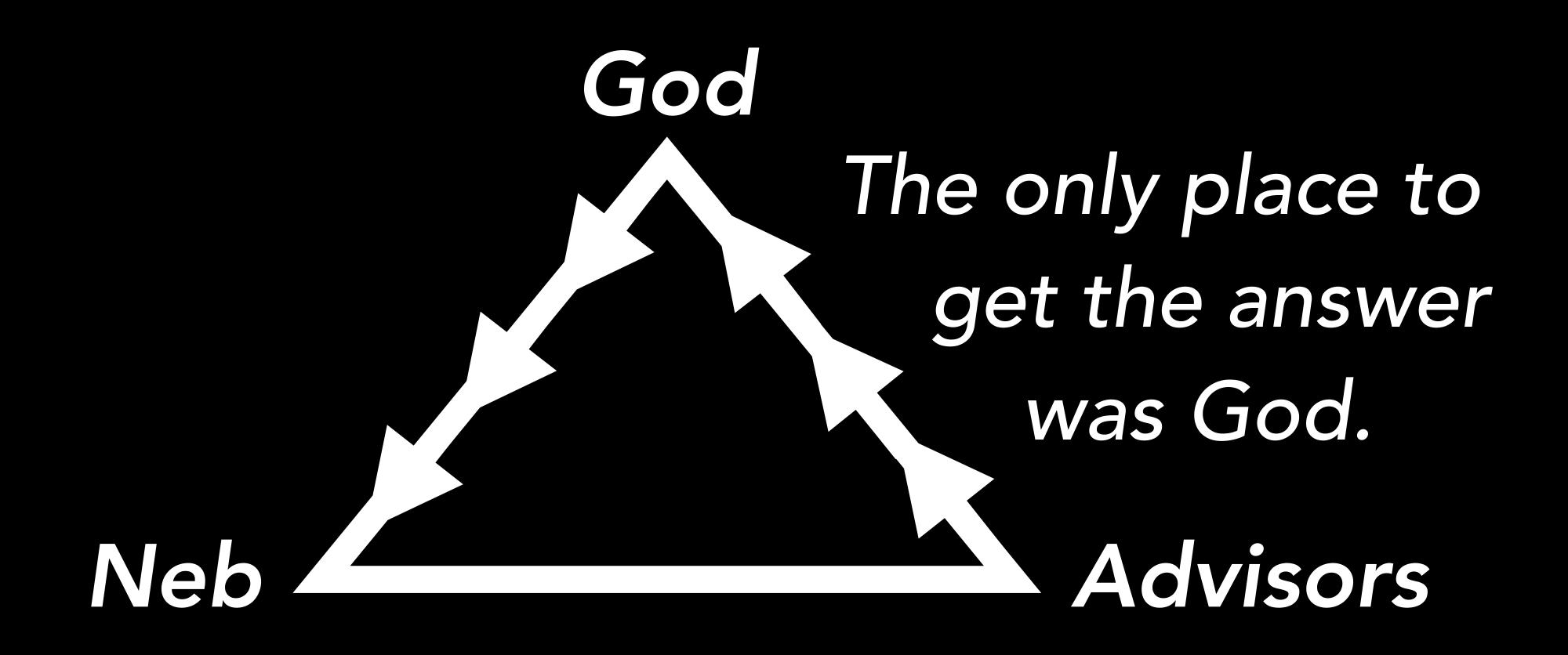


Daniel
2

Five Future Kingdoms



"There is no one on earth who can do what the king asks! ... What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans." vv. 10-11



James 1

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.... ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

The only place to get the answer is God. He is right there waiting for you to ask.

"17 Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends
Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

18 He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery ..."

20 "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are His. 21 He changes times and seasons; He deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. 22 He reveals deep and hidden things...

"...He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him. 23 I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors: You have given me wisdom and power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king."

Everyone believes that prayer is important. But there is a difference between believing that prayer is important and believing it is essential. Essential means that there are things that will not happen without prayer.

What won't happen if you don't pray?

3. God reveals the mystery of His kingdom to demonstrate His power. (verses 24-45)

Let's not forget:
This was a gift that God had already given Daniel. (1:17)

3. God reveals the mystery of His kingdom to demonstrate His power. (verses 24-45)

Daniel gave ALL the credit to God!

"27 Daniel replied, 'No wise man...can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, 28 but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.'" 3. God reveals the mystery of His kingdom to demonstrate His power. God The only place to get the answer was God. Neb Daniel



The Bottom Line:

God's sovereignty means that He has supremacy over all things and does what ever He desires with whomever or whatever He pleases. To miss God's sovereignty in the Book of Daniel is to miss the point.

4. God honors His servants who faithfully serve Him. (verses 46-49)

"46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. 47 The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."

4. God honors His servants who faithfully serve Him. (verses 46-49)

Matthew 5

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

In spite of present appearances, God is in control and WILL overcome the seemingly invulnerable evil forces of our day.

This is true in the world.

And it is true in YOUR world.

17 Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends... 18 He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery.

God Knows.