



4

BREAKING CHAINS

Pilgrims, Patriots, & Power
in Nephi's Vision

FOR OUR DAY



GOD'S VOLUNTARY DESCENT FOR HUMANITY

"And he said unto me: Knowest thou the **condescension** of God?

"And I said unto him: I know that he **loveth** his children; nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things.

...

"And the angel said unto me: **Behold the Lamb of God**, yea, even the **Son of the Eternal Father**! Knowest thou the meaning of the **tree** which thy father saw?

"And I answered him, saying: Yea, **it is the love of God**, which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men; wherefore, it is the **most desirable** above all things."

1 Nephi 11:16-17, 21-22

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HOW DOES JESUS CHRIST CONDESCEND?

- Life of constant service for others
- Sacrifice of any personal gain and success
- Enduring undeserved humiliation & suffering
- Healing spiritual and physical illness
- Extending long-suffering patience and forgiveness for enemies
- Teaching the word of God to the people

Does your life look like Jesus Christ's?

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CHARITY IS LOSING YOUR LIFE TO SAVE IT

“And again, I remember that thou hast said that thou hast **loved** the **world**, even unto the **laying down of thy life** for the world, that thou mightest take it again to prepare a place for the children of men.

“And now I know that this **love** which thou hast had for the children of men **is charity**; wherefore, **except** men shall have charity they **cannot inherit** that place which thou hast prepared in the mansions of thy Father.”

Ether 12:33-34

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CORRECT UNDERSTANDING OF JESUS CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS LOST & DESTROYED

“And it came to pass that there arose a **mist of darkness**; yea, even an **exceedingly great** mist of darkness, insomuch that they who had **commenced** in the **path** did **lose** their **way**, that they **wandered** off and were **lost**.”

1 Nephi 8:23

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“OUT OF CAPTIVITY”

“And the angel said unto me: Behold the formation of a church which is most abominable above all other churches, which **slayeth the saints** of God, yea, and **tortureth** them and **bindeth** them down, and **yoketh** them with a yoke of iron, and bringeth them down into **captivity**.

...

“And it came to pass that I beheld the **Spirit of God**, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth **out of captivity**, upon the many waters.

...

“And I beheld the **Spirit** of the Lord, that **it was upon the Gentiles**, and they did **prosper** and **obtain the land for their inheritance** . . .”

1 Nephi 13:5, 13, 15

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NEPHI PRAISES EARLY COLONISTS

“And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles who had gone forth out of captivity did **humble themselves before the Lord**; and the power of the Lord was with them.”

1 Nephi 13:16



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NEPHI PROPHECIES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR

“And I beheld that their mother Gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to **battle against them.**”

“And I beheld that the **power of God was with them,** and also that the wrath of God was upon all those that were gathered together against them to battle.

“And I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles that had gone out of captivity were **delivered by the power of God** out of the hands of all other nations.”

1 Nephi 13:17-19



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DUC D'ANVILLE EXPEDITION

- Expedition led by French Admiral Jean-Baptiste Louis Frédéric de La Rochefoucauld de Roye, Duc d'Anville
- 11,000 men, 64 ships
- Given orders to recapture Louisburg, Nova Scotia and burn every American harbor from Boston to Charleston **sparing no life** along the way.



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DAY OF FASTING & PRAYER

“Deliver us from the enemy!
Send thy tempest, Lord, upon
the waters to the eastward!
Raise Thy right hand. Scatter
the ships of our tormentors
and drive them hence. Sink
their proud frigates beneath
the power of Thy winds.”



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THE FATE OF D'ANVILLE'S FLEET

- Two of the largest French frigates sunk in a storm
- Men were sick with scurvy and other diseases
- Only 1000 of the men remained on their feet
- Admiral d'Anville committed suicide
- Few remaining ships were limping southwestward



[Read more about this miracle on the Joseph Smith Foundation website! www.JosephSmithFoundation.org](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org)

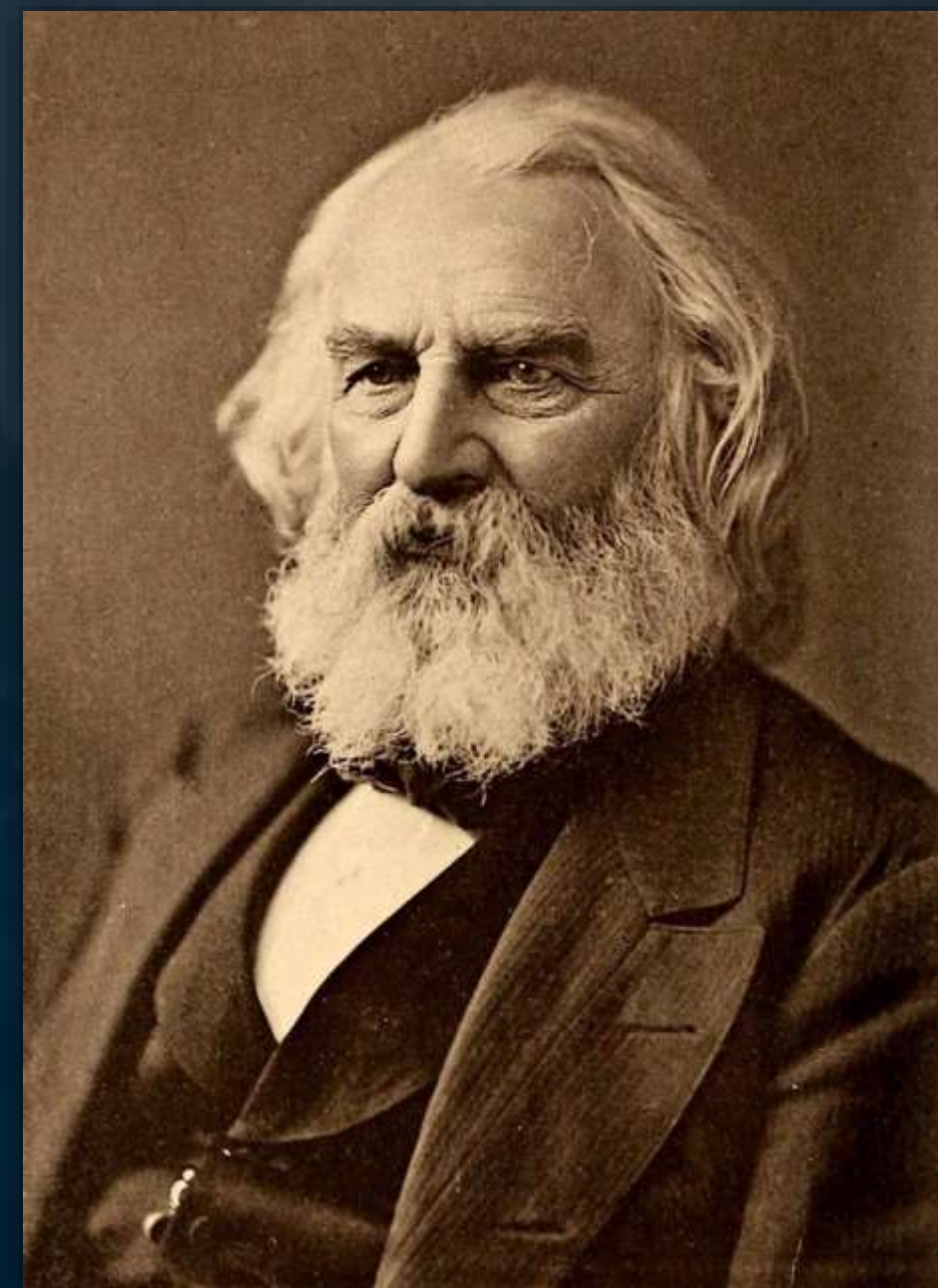
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“BALLAD OF THE FRENCH FLEET”

*... Like a potter's vessel broke
The great ships of the line;
They were carried away as a smoke,
Or sank like lead in the brine.
O Lord! before thy path
They vanished and ceased to be,
When thou didst walk in wrath
With thine horses through the sea!*



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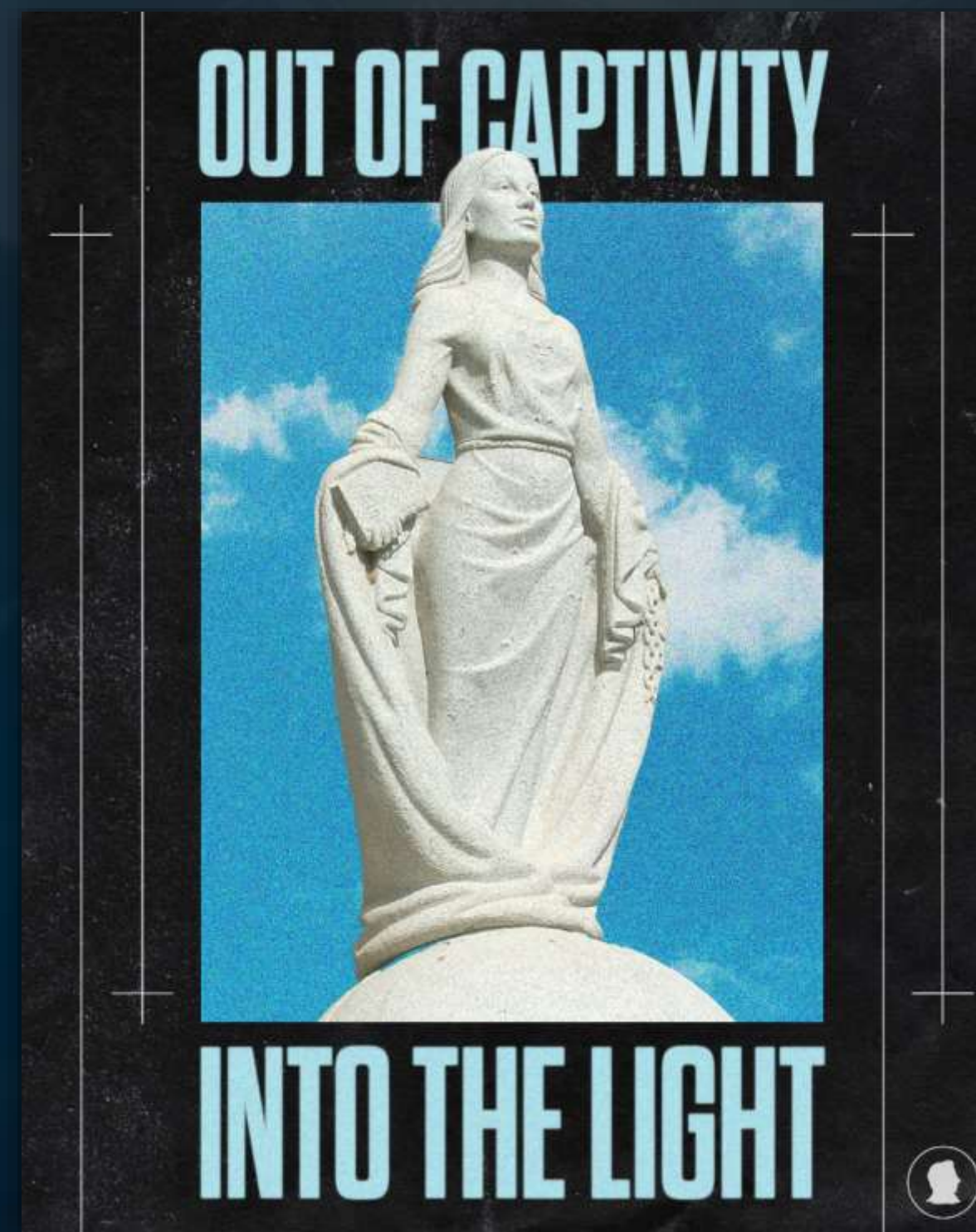
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KEEPING THE COVENANT

“Nevertheless, thou beholdest that the Gentiles who have gone forth out of captivity, and have been **lifted up by the power of God above all other nations**, upon the face of the land which is **choice above all other lands . . .**”

1 Nephi 13:30

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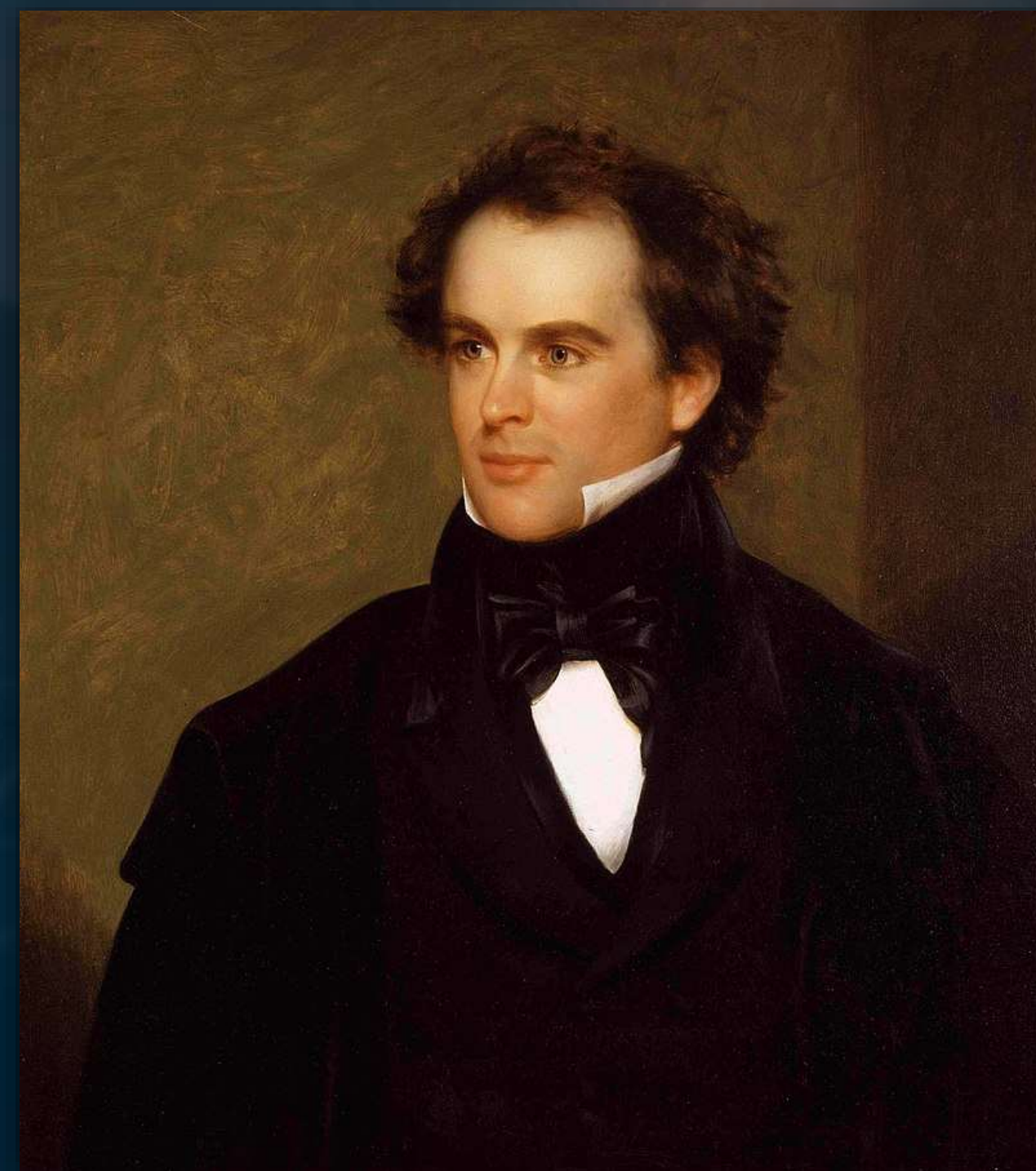


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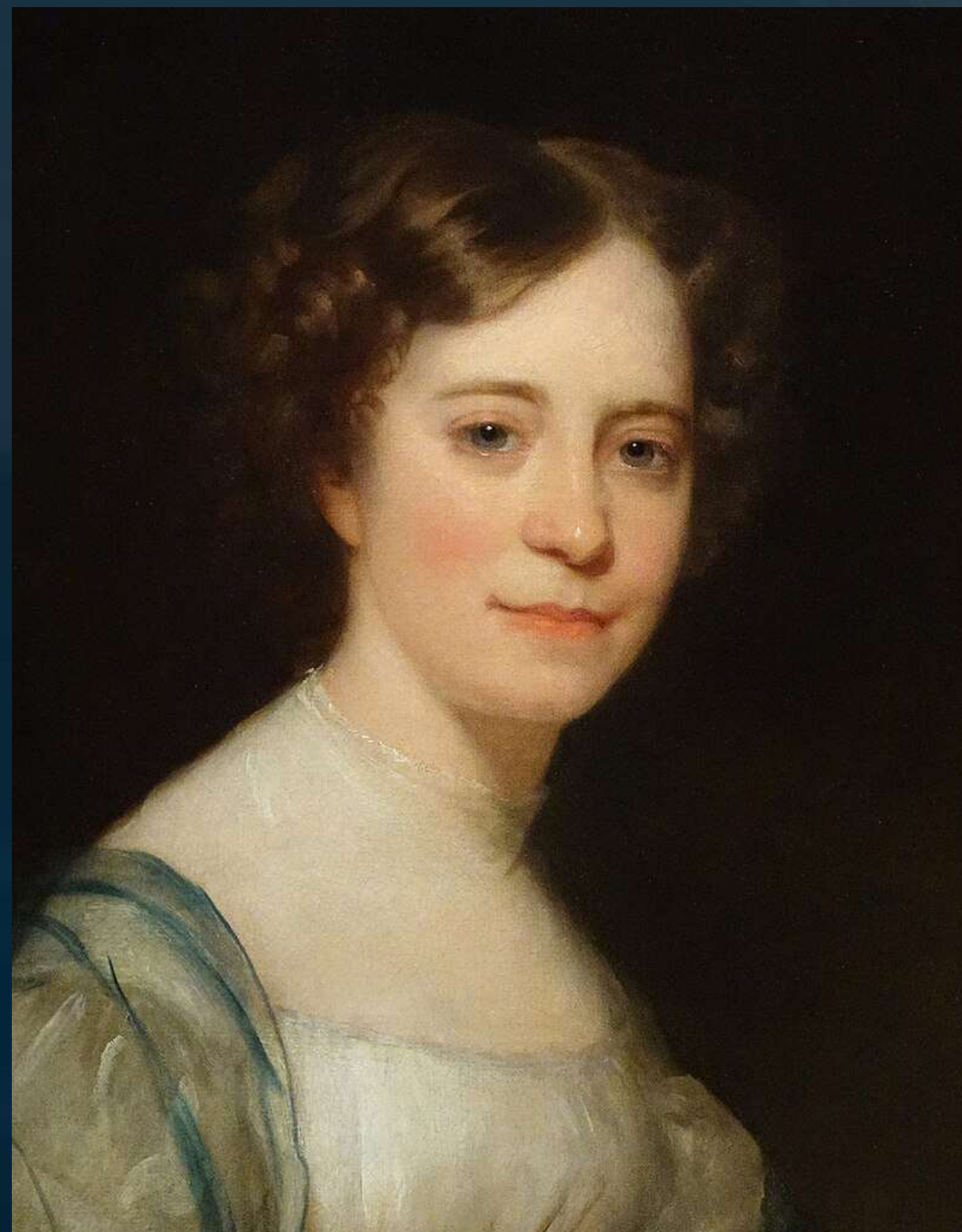
**ALICE DOANE'S
APPEAL**

by
Nathaniel Hawthorne



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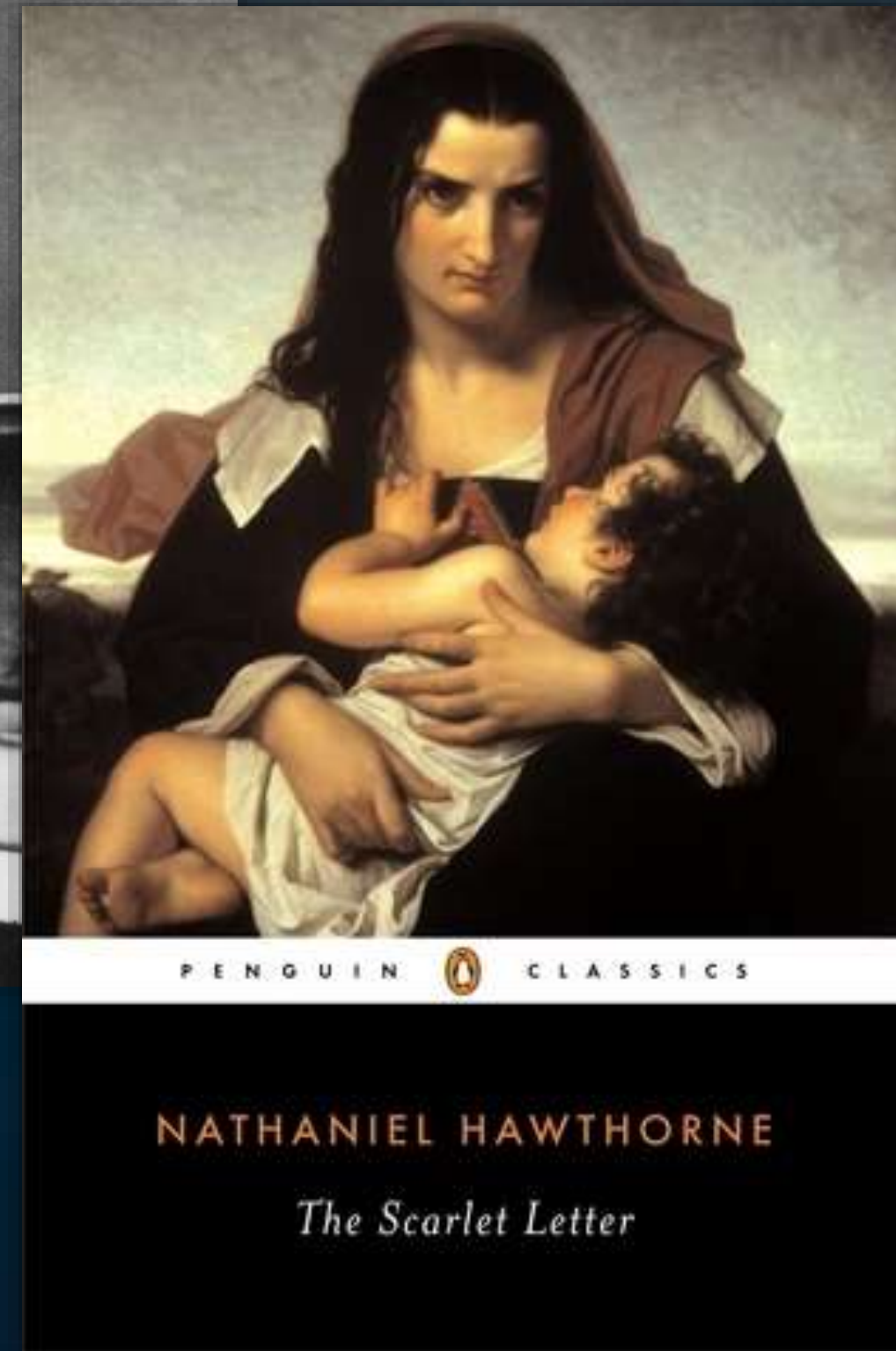
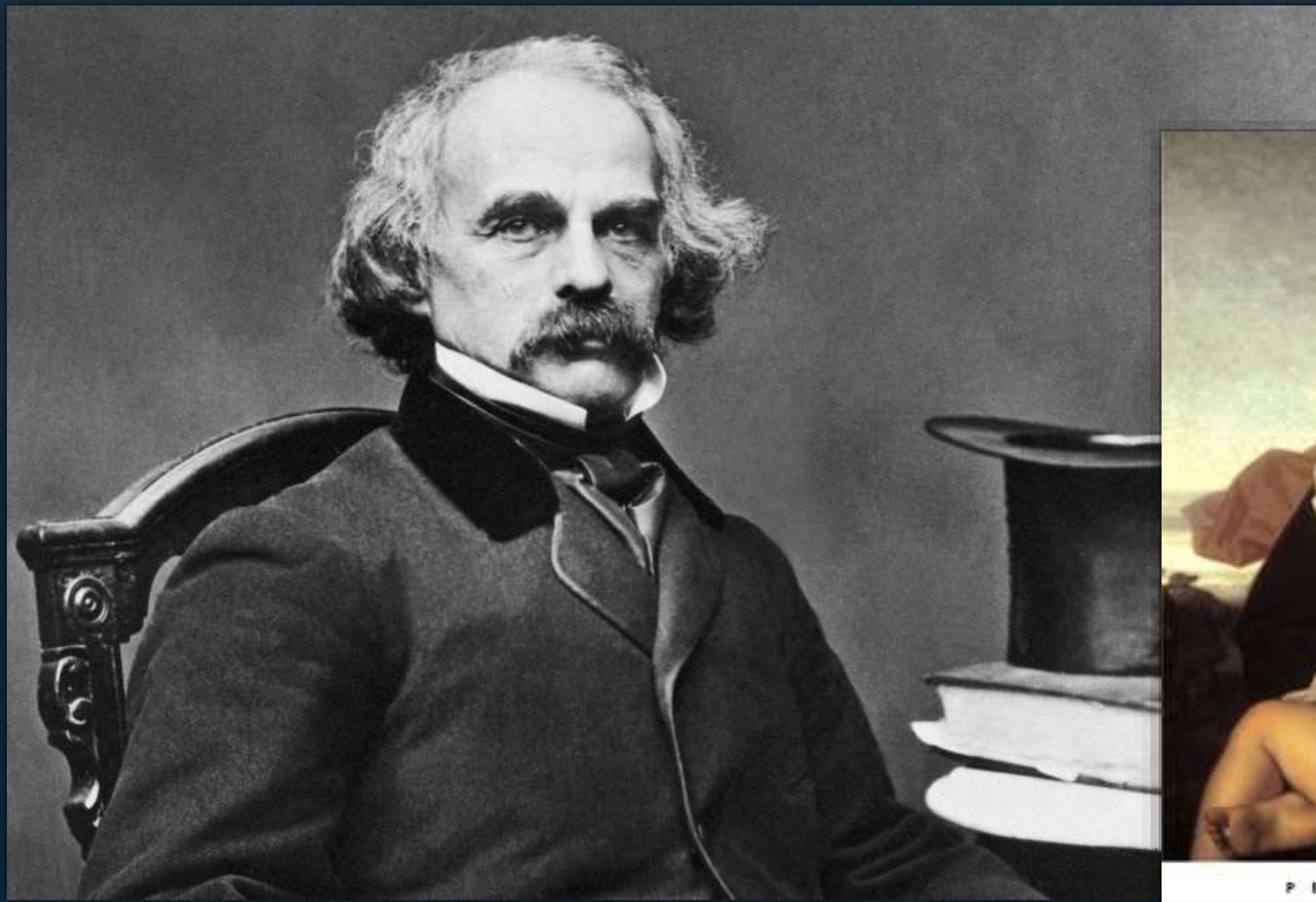
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Sophia Peabody Hawthorne by Chester Harding, 1830

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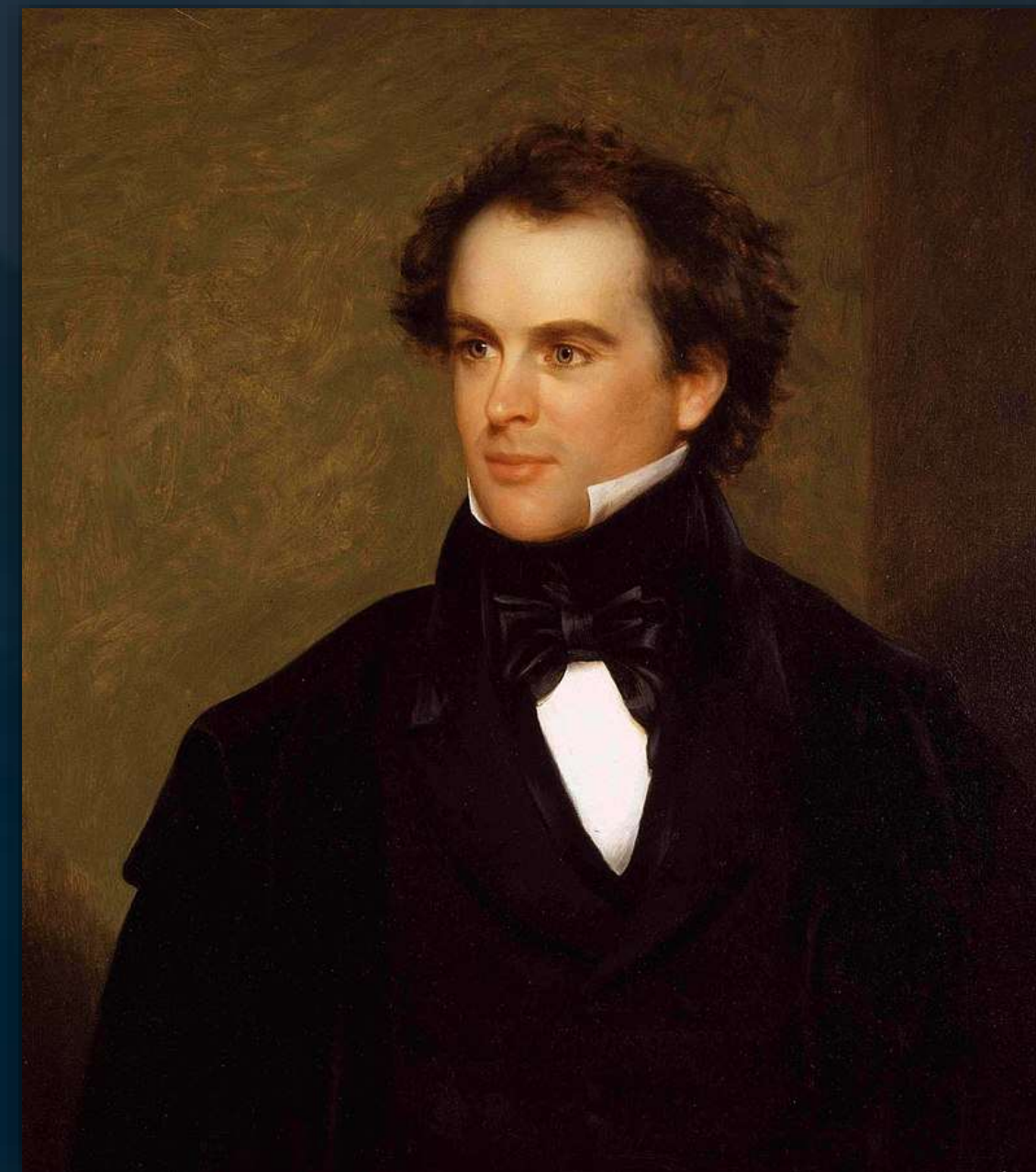


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REJECTING CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

“While at Bowdoin College, the young man made a point to **miss evening prayers** and **public worship** on Sundays (even at the risk of having to pay a small fine for his lapses). . . . He **repudiated family worship** and **Sabbath-keeping**, he openly **mocked** the sermons that spoke of the **Judgment** of God, and he **ridiculed** the **pastors** who had been trained at the more conservative Andover Theological Seminary.”

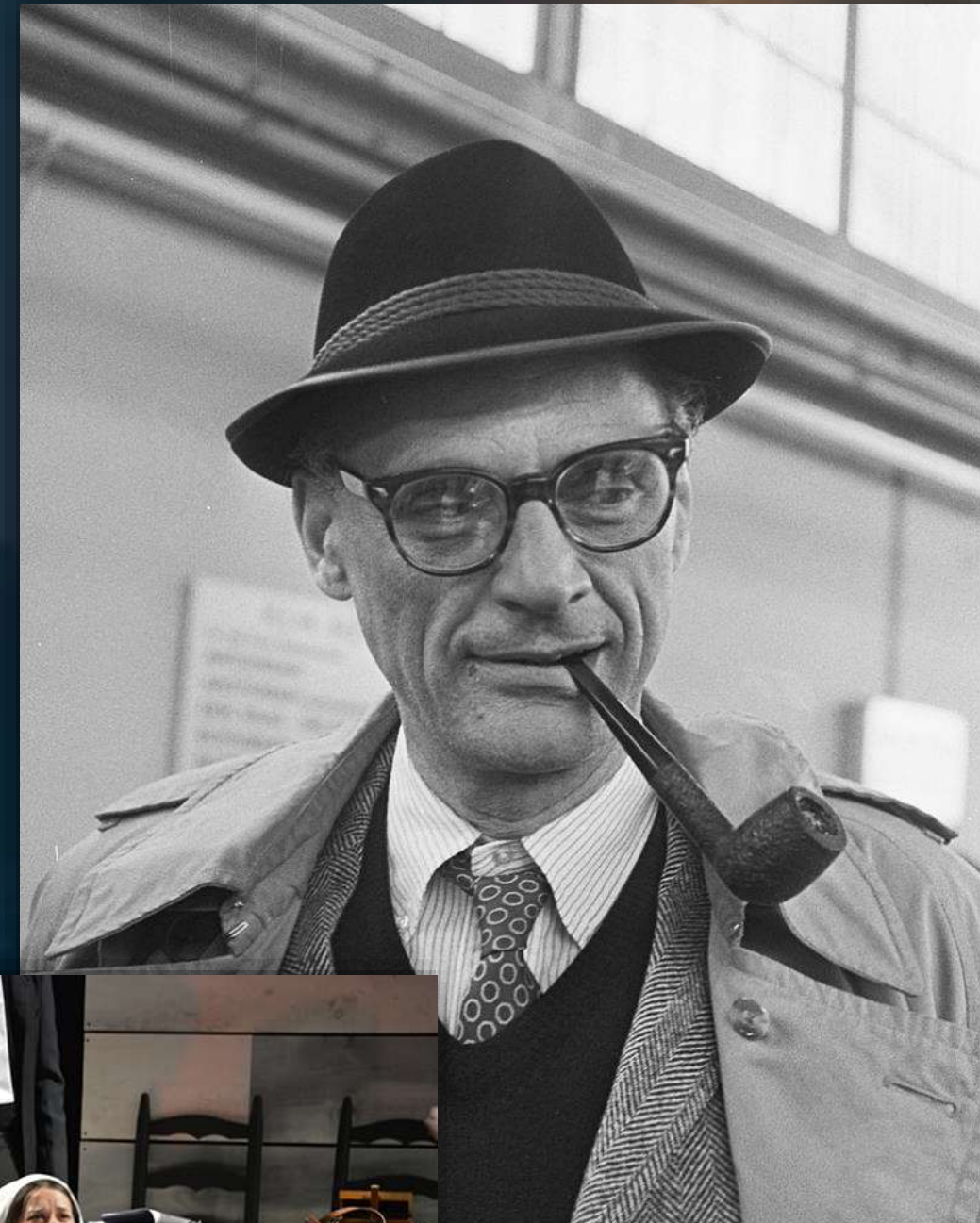


Apostate: The Men Who Destroyed the Christian West, Kevin Swanson

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THE LORD CALLS SALEM PURITANS “TREASURE”



“... inquire **diligently** concerning the more **ancient inhabitants** and **founders** of this city [Salem, Massachusetts]; For there are more **treasures** than one for you in this city.”

Doctrine & Covenants 111:9-10

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“The **foundations** of America are **spiritual**. That must **never** be **forgotten** nor **doubted**. Lest we forget, let us **review** those **beginnings**, looking for the **spiritual moorings** which underpin our nation.”

Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, pg. 569

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“DOMINIONS WERE SMALL”

“... I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the **saints** of God, were also upon **all** the face of the earth; and their **dominions** upon the face of the earth were **small**, because of the **wickedness** of the great whore whom I saw.”

1 Nephi 14:12



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WORLDWIDE BATTLE TO DESTROY SAINTS

“And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did **gather** together **multitudes** upon the face of **all** the **earth**, among **all** the **nations** of the Gentiles, to **fight** against the Lamb of God.”

1 Nephi 14:13



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1 Nephi 14:14

“... I, Nephi, beheld the **power** of the **Lamb** of God, that it descended upon the **saints** of the church of the Lamb, and upon the **covenant** people of the Lord, who were **scattered** upon **all** the face of the **earth**; and they were **armed** with **righteousness** and with the **power of God** in **great glory.**”