

A person in a green jacket and pants is walking away from the camera down a dirt path that leads into a dense forest. The path is illuminated by a bright light source from the sky, creating a lens flare effect. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds. The overall mood is one of journey and perseverance.

# STANDING FIRM IN THE FACE OF OPPOSITION

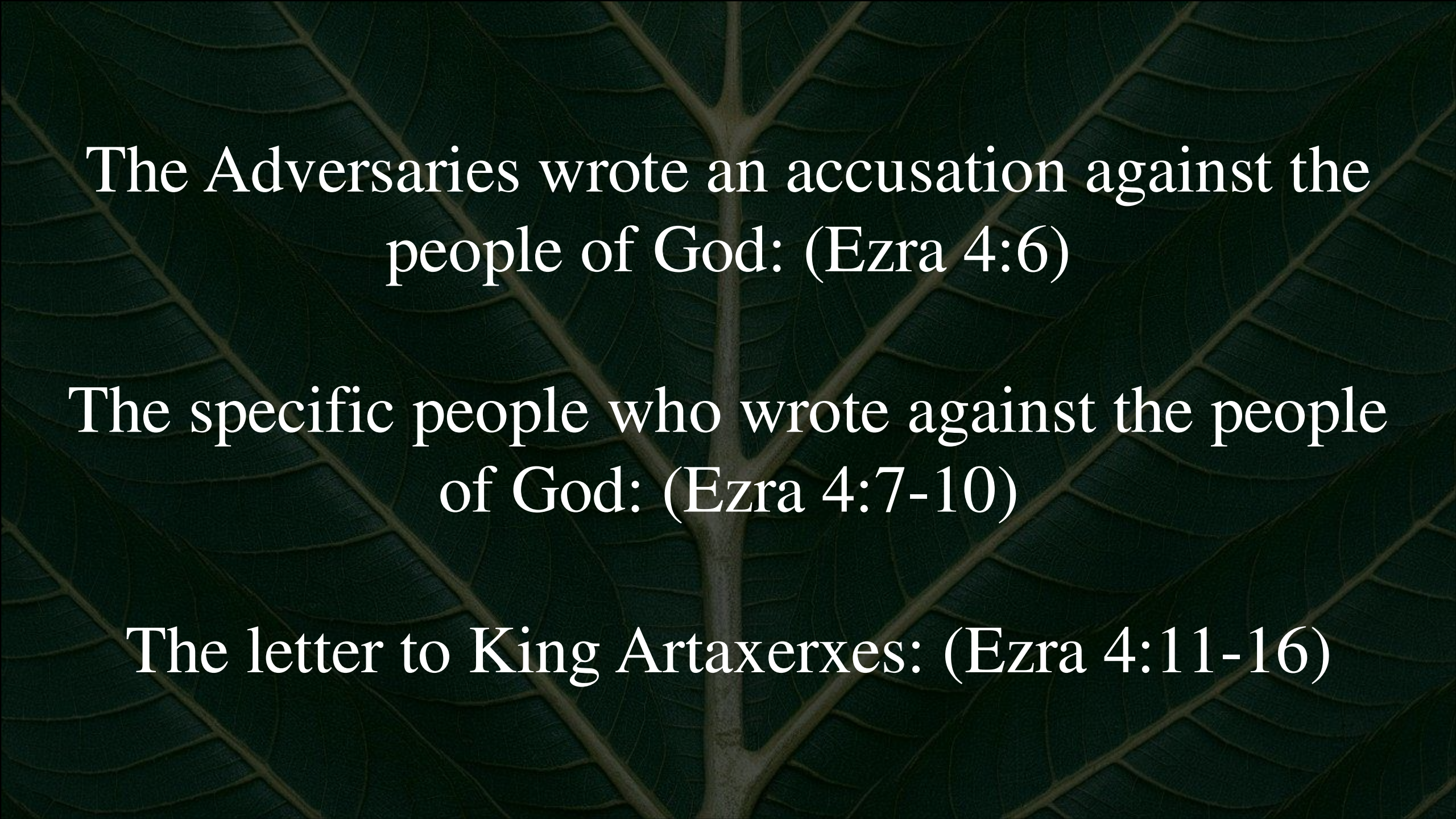
EZRA 4:6-16

An aerial photograph of a dense, lush green forest. The trees are thick and vibrant, with various shades of green. The word "PRAYER" is superimposed in the center of the image in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are clean and modern, standing out prominently against the complex, textured background of the forest canopy.

**PRAYER**



**Observations from Ezra 4:6-16**  
*What is happening in these verses?*



The Adversaries wrote an accusation against the people of God: (Ezra 4:6)

The specific people who wrote against the people of God: (Ezra 4:7-10)

The letter to King Artaxerxes: (Ezra 4:11-16)



**Mithredath:**

Once *for* the people of God (Ezra 1:8),  
now *against* the people of God: (Ezra 4:7)



The Adversaries would  
“*eat the salt of the Palace*”  
(Ezra 4:14)





**Lessons from Ezra 4:6-16**

*What can we learn (interpret) from these verses?*



# The Power of Influence in Opposition

Words and influence can be powerful tools for both good and evil.

*Scripture References: Proverbs 18:21, James 3:5, Proverbs 16:28, Matthew 12:36-37*

# Facing Unfair Accusations

As believers, we may face unjust accusations, but we must remain true to God's Word and maintain our integrity.

*Scripture References: 1 Peter 3:16, Psalm 31:18, Romans 12:17-19, Isaiah 54:17*

# Human Interference in God's Work

Despite human efforts to interfere with God's plans, His purposes will ultimately prevail.

*Reference Verses: Acts 5:29, Isaiah 40:8, Psalm 2:1-4, Isaiah 14:27*



**Application from Ezra 4:6-16**  
*How can I apply / live out these verses?*

# Consider Your Words and Influence

Use your words and influence to build up others and glorify God.

*Reference Verses: Ephesians 4:29, Colossians 4:6, Proverbs 12:18, Matthew 5:16*

# **Respond to Unfair Accusations with Grace and Truth**

When facing unjust treatment, respond with integrity and trust in God's justice.

*Reference Verses: Romans 12:17-21, Matthew 5:44, 1 Peter 2:23, Proverbs 15:1*

# Navigate Political Interference with Wisdom

Stand firm in faith against pressure from authorities while maintaining respect and wisdom.

*Reference Verses: 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Titus 3:1-2, Matthew 22:21, Daniel 6:10*

# Trust God During Times of Delay

Remain patient and trust in God's timing, even when facing setbacks or obstacles.

*Reference Verses: Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 27:14, Romans 8:28, Habakkuk 2:3*



# Encourage One Another in Times of Trial

Let us support and uplift fellow believers during challenging times.

*Reference Verses: Hebrews 10:24-25, 1*

*Thessalonians 5:11, Galatians 6:2, Romans 15:1-2*

# Persevere Through Opposition

Remain committed to God's work and grow in faith through trials.

*Reference Verses: James 1:2-4, Galatians 6:9, Romans 5:3-5, Hebrews 12:1-2*

A person in a green jacket and dark pants is walking away from the camera down a dirt path that leads into a dense forest. The path is illuminated by a bright light source at the end, creating a lens flare effect. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, and the overall atmosphere is one of hope and perseverance.

# STANDING FIRM IN THE FACE OF OPPOSITION

EZRA 4:6-16

An aerial photograph of a dense, lush forest with various shades of green. The word "PRAYER" is superimposed in the center in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. The background shows a variety of tree species, including some with bright yellow-green foliage and others with darker green leaves. The overall scene is a serene and natural setting.

**PRAYER**

An aerial photograph of a vast, dense green forest. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow and casting long shadows across the canopy. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of orange, red, and purple. The word "BENEDICTION" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image, partially overlapping the forest and the horizon.

**BENEDICTION**