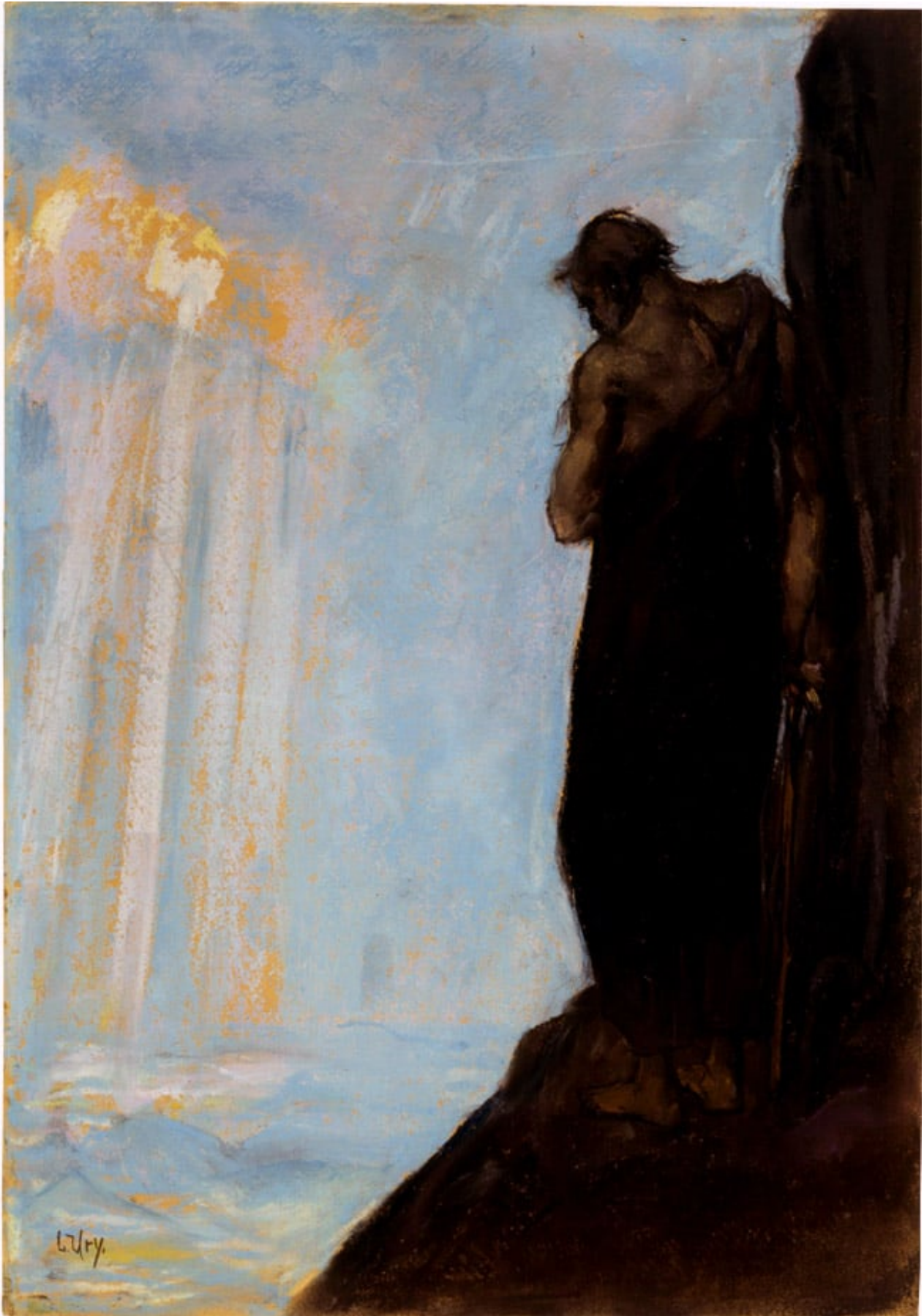


You Shall Not Forget

by [Jeffrey Burghauser](#) (February 2024)



Moses On Mount Nebo Looking at the Promised Land, Lesser Ury, 1927

Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God. Therefore it shall be, when the Lord your God has given you rest from your enemies all around, in the land which the Lord your God is giving you to possess as an inheritance, that you will blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You shall not forget. –Deuteronomy 25:17-19

Our Father, Moses, bravely stood
Above the hissing fight
His scion brought with hardihood
To the Amalekite.

He stood, a solemn figurehead,
Beholding from that height
The Hebrew battling the red,
Foredoomed Amalekite.

By means of hoisted hands, the man
Was able to recite
The will of Heaven, stronger than
A mere Amalekite.

Occasionally, there's a debt
No mortal can requite.
The Scripture says: "Do not forget
The foul Amalekite."

A skull can be History's hearse;
Interminable spite
Is History's mnemonic. Curse
The dark Amalekite.

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Jeffrey Burghauser is a teacher in Columbus, Ohio. He was educated at SUNY-Buffalo and the University of Leeds. He currently studies the five-string banjo with a focus on pre-WWII picking styles. A former artist-in-residence at the Arad Arts Project (Israel), his poems have appeared (or are forthcoming) in *Appalachian Journal*, *Fearsome Critters*, *Iceview*, *Lehrhaus*, and *New English Review*. Jeffrey's book-length collections are available on [Amazon](#), and his website is www.jeffreyburghauser.com.

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