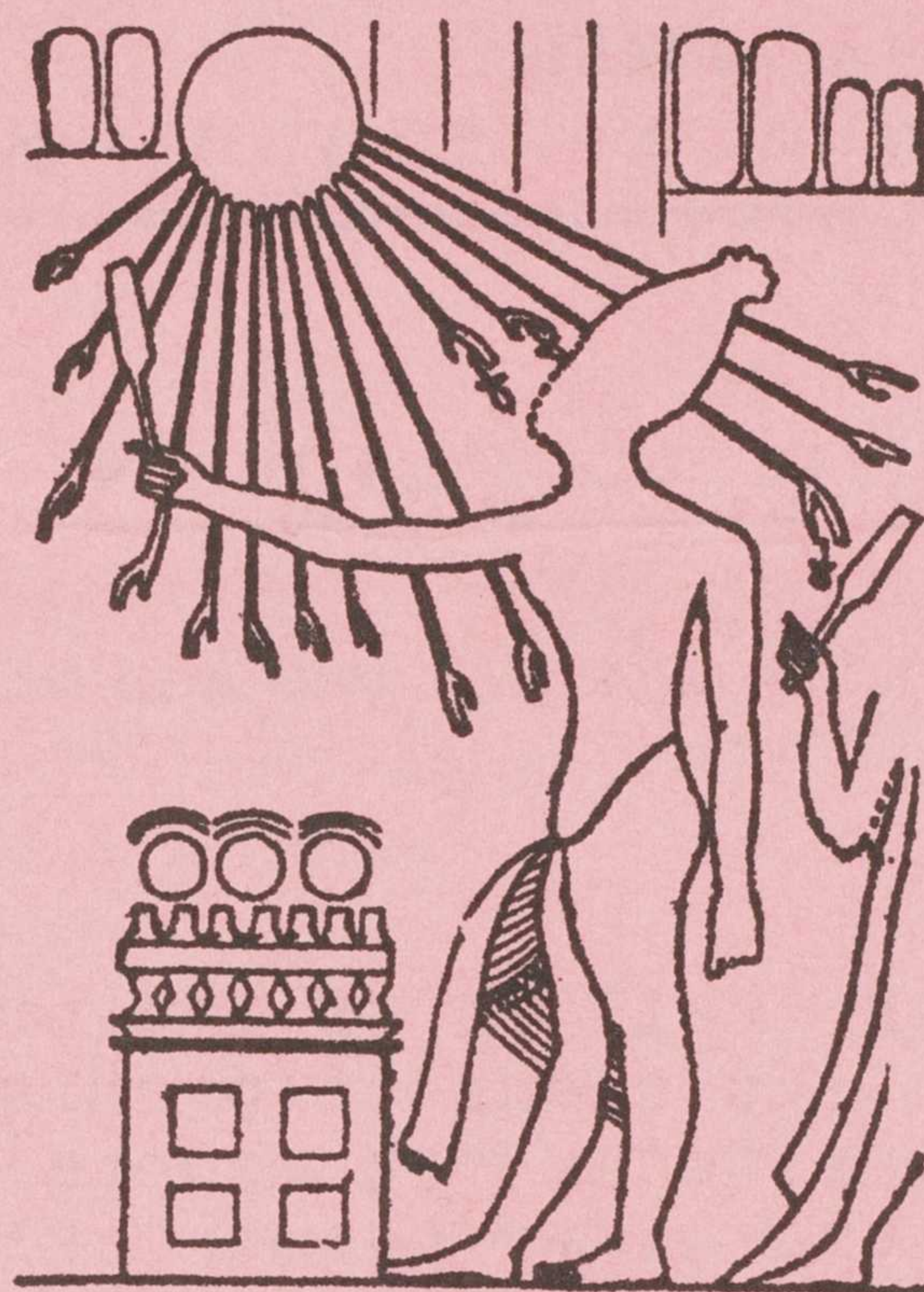


Explaining Isaiah 59:1

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not short-
end, that it cannot save; neither his
ear heavy, that it cannot hear."



The Egyptian sculptor, as shown in our woodcut above, makes use of the same bold figure as the Hebrew Poet-Prophet, Isaiah.

He gives in his painting to his 'god', the sun, a hand at the end of every ray of light, and thus tells us that his ['god's] power is felt where-ever his light shines.

The same figure was also made use of by the Persians in their flattery of their kings; and one of them, Artaxerxes the son of Xerxes I, was styled LONG-ARMED, or Longimanus, because his sway reached over so much of Asia and Africa.

This sculpture-work was probably made in his reign. It represents Thannyras, the son of Inarus, whom Artaxerxes had made satrap of Egypt, worshipping the sun as his 'god', in disregard of the religion of his nation, but in obedience to the wishes of the Persians, who had broken the statues of the Egyptian 'gods', and who wished to force their religion upon the Egyptians.

Isaiah tells the people...It was not because Jehovah was unable to save them that they were exposed to such severe judgments and visited with such calamities [See 59:4 "For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue muttereth wickedness"] That they were not to blame Him---[ie: Jehovah.]

This general Bible principle is stated by Isaiah in order to prevent what commonly occurs when men and nations suffer much---A disposition to throw the blame on God!

It was for their sins they were exposed to these judgments...Read Isaiah 59:2-8. The Prophet proceeds to specify the sins in detail, with a view to bring them to conviction and to repentance.