

# ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

## ***OLD TESTAMENT BOOK 4***

# ***CONQUERING AND LIVING IN THE PROMISED LAND***

*by  
Chris Thorpe  
& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

*Website: [www.corobaptist.org.au](http://www.corobaptist.org.au)*

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# ***TWO SPIES VISIT JERICHO***

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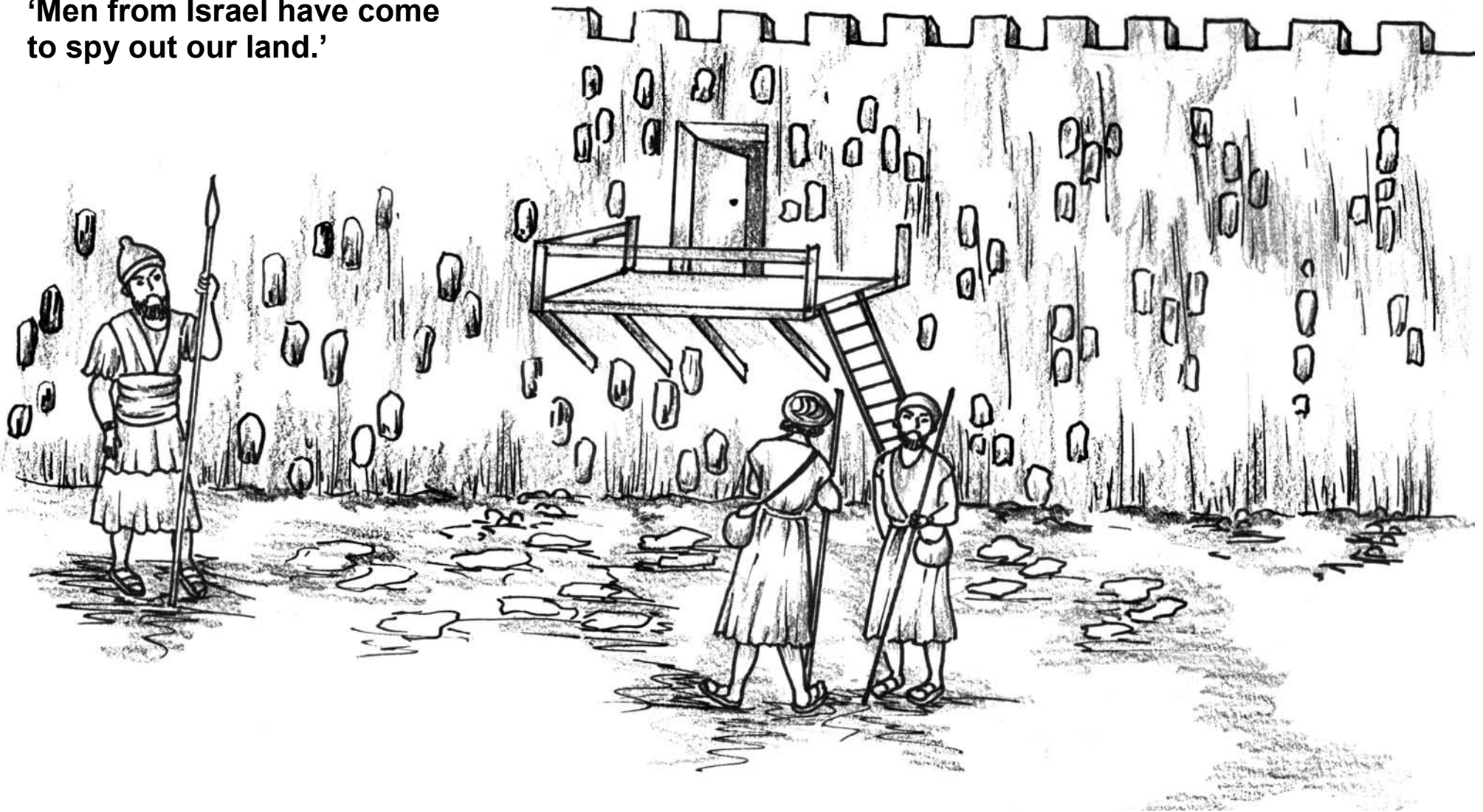
**JOSHUA 2: 1–24**  
**TWO SPIES VISIT JERICO**  
File no. 38

**While God's people were getting ready  
to go into the land God promised them,  
Joshua secretly said to two men,  
'Go across the river and spy out the land.  
Go into Jericho and see what it is like.'**



**The two men walked into Jericho and went to Rahab's house.**

**Someone saw them and went to the king saying, 'Men from Israel have come to spy out our land.'**

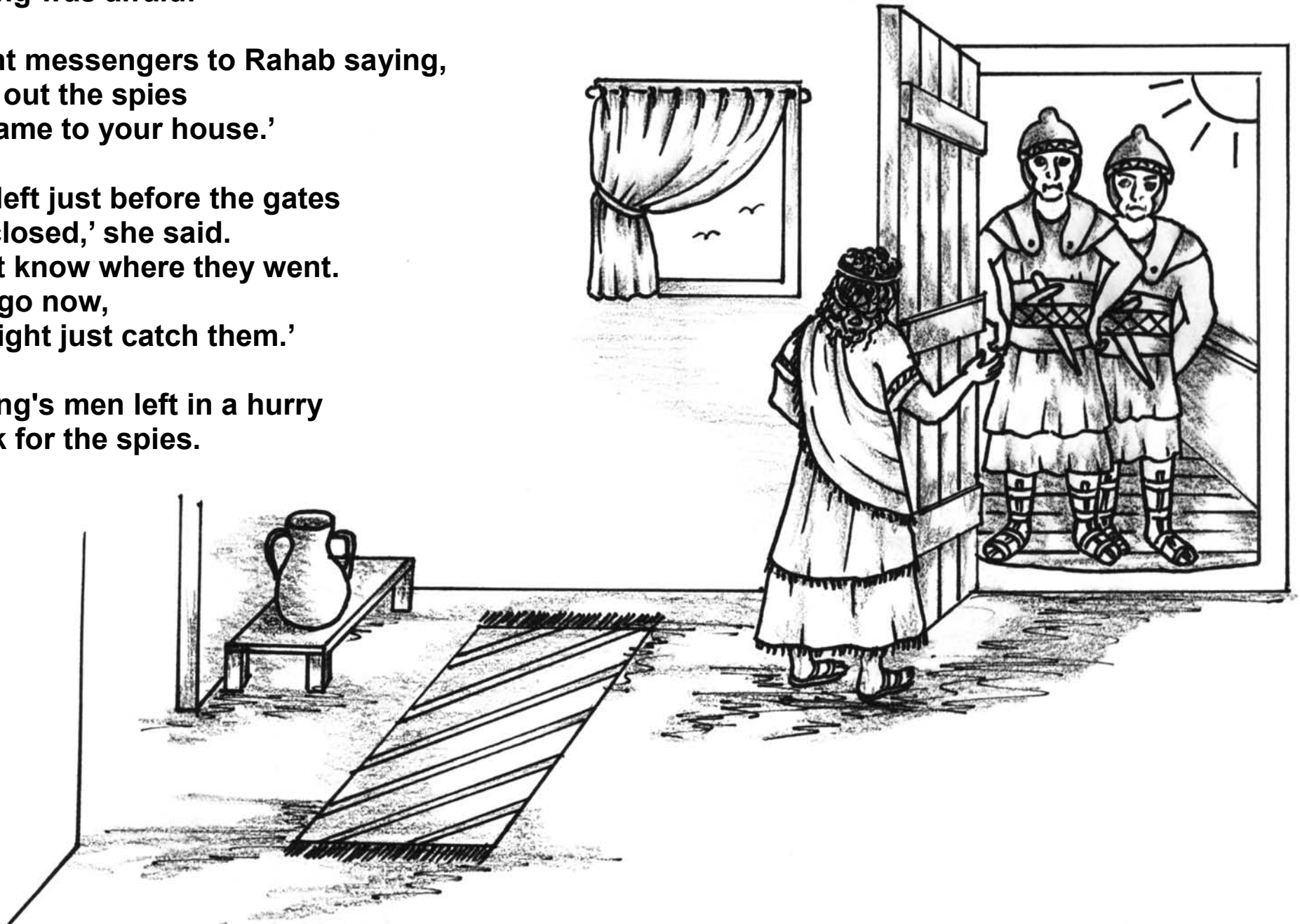


**The king was afraid!**

**He sent messengers to Rahab saying,  
'Bring out the spies  
who came to your house.'**

**'They left just before the gates  
were closed,' she said.  
'I don't know where they went.  
If you go now,  
you might just catch them.'**

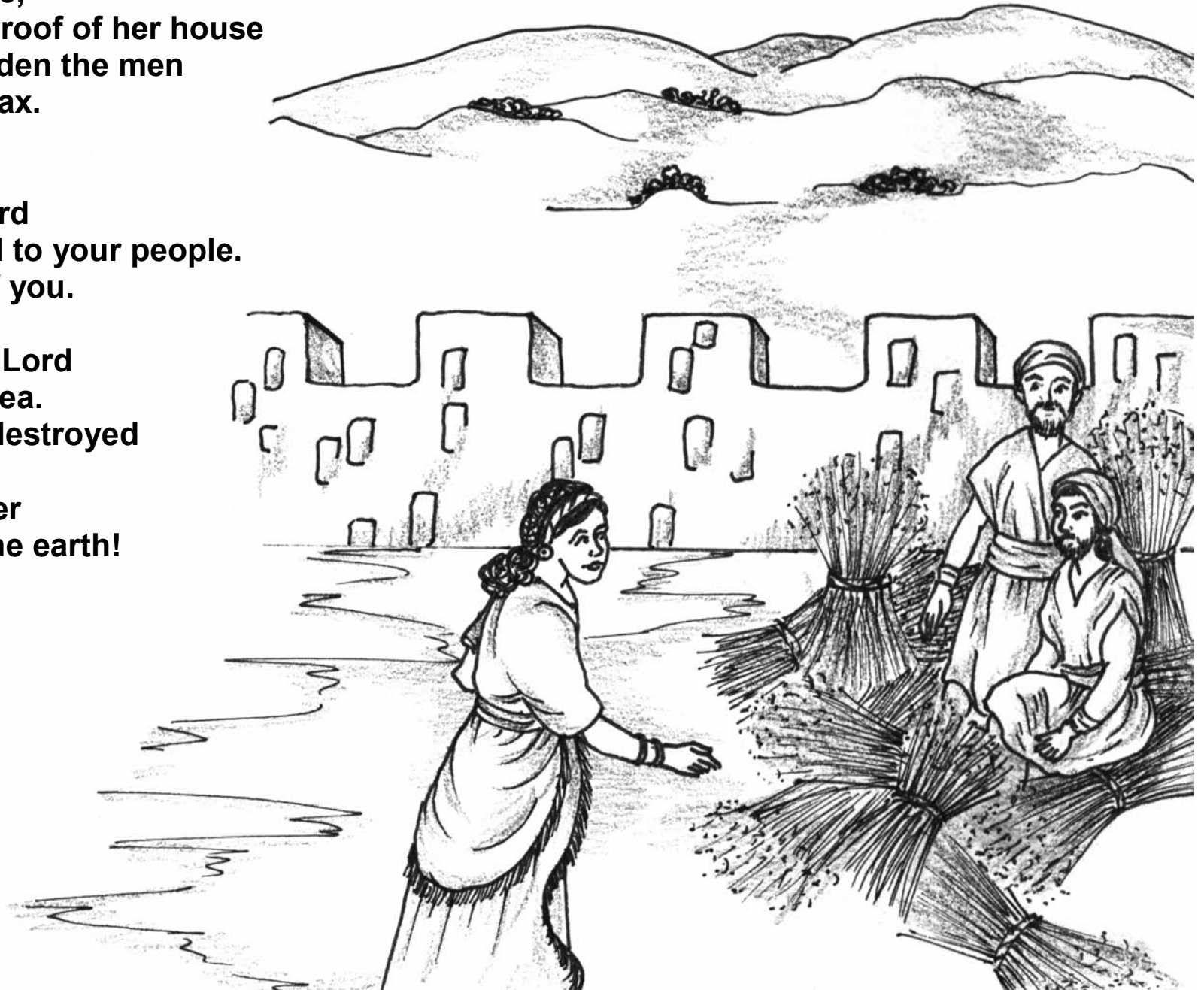
**The king's men left in a hurry  
to look for the spies.**



**After they had gone,  
Rahab went to the roof of her house  
where she had hidden the men  
under the drying flax.**

**She said to them,  
'I know that the Lord  
has given this land to your people.  
We are all afraid of you.**

**'We heard that the Lord  
dried up the Red Sea.  
We heard that He destroyed  
your enemies.  
Your God rules over  
the heavens and the earth!**

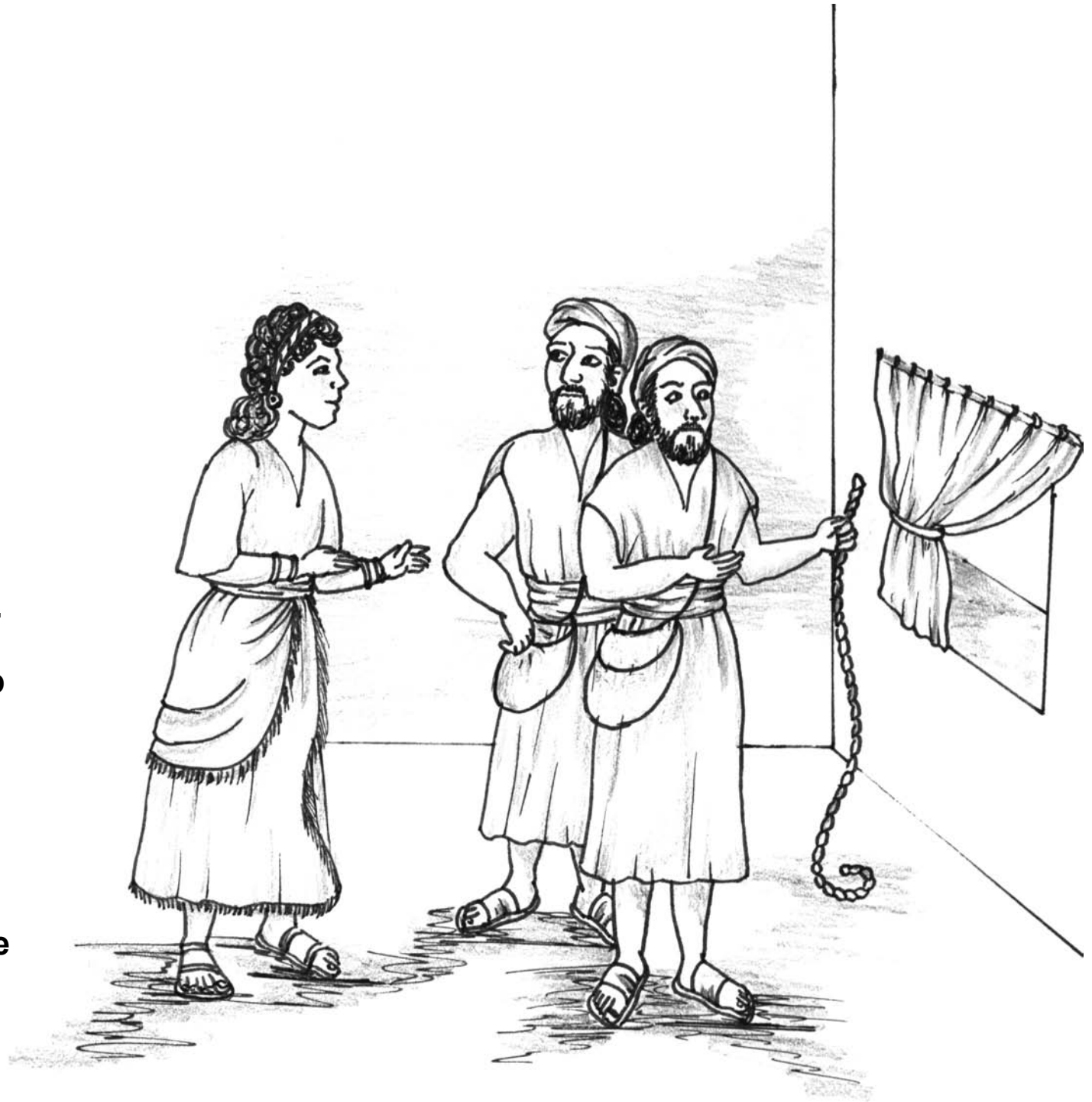


**‘Make me a promise  
before the Lord,  
that you will be  
kind to my family  
as I have been kind to you.’**

**The two spies answered,  
‘When the Lord gives us  
this land we will help you.’**

**‘This is what  
you will need to do:  
Bring your family into your  
house and stay inside.  
Don’t tell anyone our plans.  
This red cord,  
which you are using to help  
us escape,  
tie it in your window.’**

**‘When we come back  
and see the red cord  
in your window,  
we will know you have done  
what we asked you to do.  
You and your family  
will be saved.’**





**Rahab's house was  
high up on the wall of the city.  
She let the spies out  
through her window  
using a rope  
and they escaped.**

**She said,  
'Go to the hills.  
Stay there for three days.  
By then the king's men  
will have stopped looking for you.  
You will be safe  
to go to your people.'**

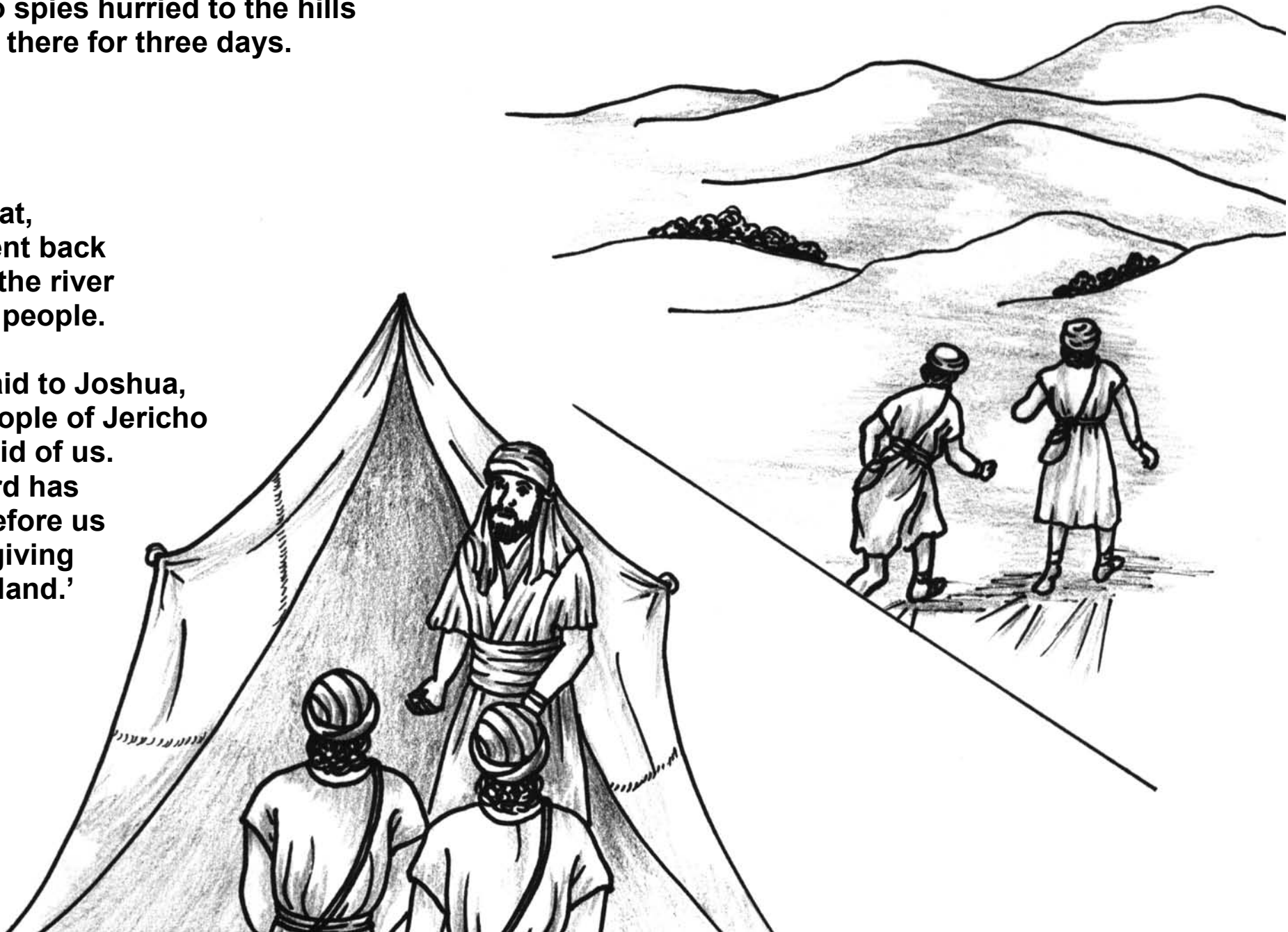
**When the spies had gone  
Rahab did as the spies asked  
and tied the red cord  
in her window.**



**The two spies hurried to the hills  
and hid there for three days.**

**After that,  
they went back  
across the river  
to their people.**

**They said to Joshua,  
'The people of Jericho  
are afraid of us.  
The Lord has  
gone before us  
and is giving  
us this land.'**





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## ***CROSSING THE JORDAN***

*by*

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**JOSHUA 3:1 – 5:1**

Joshua 3:9–12

## **CROSSING THE JORDAN**

File no. 39

**Down by the River Jordan, God's people were waiting.  
They had washed and made themselves  
holy for the Lord.**

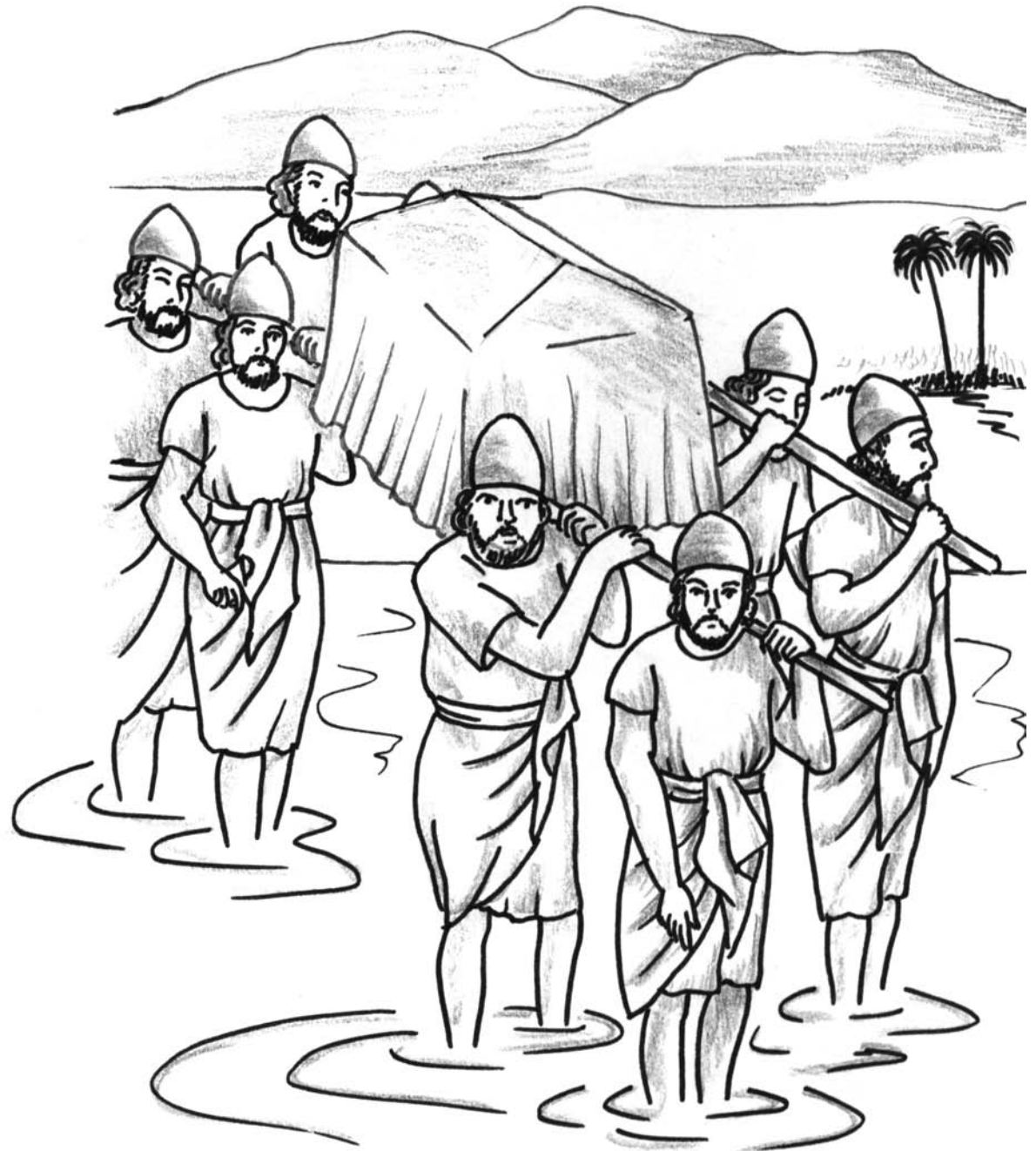
**The Lord said to Joshua,  
'Today I am going to show My people  
that I am with you,  
just as I was with Moses.'**



**Then Joshua said to the people,  
'The Lord is with you  
and He will drive out your enemies.  
The priests will carry  
God's covenant box into the water.  
Follow it,  
and you will know the way to go.'**

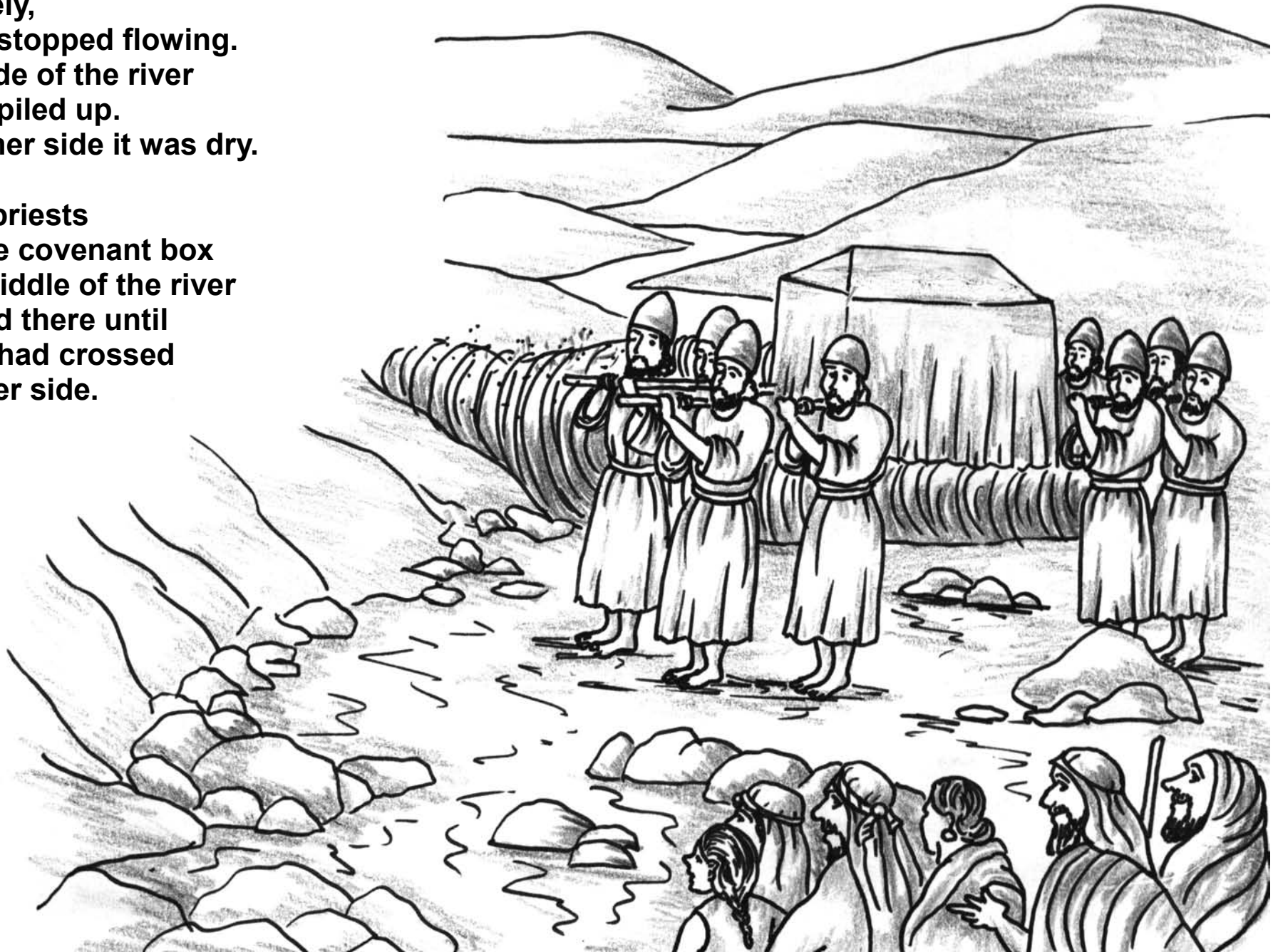
**The river was deep and wide,  
because it was in flood.**

**However, the priests  
picked up the covenant box  
and walked into the water,  
just as the Lord had told them to do.**



Immediately,  
the water stopped flowing.  
On one side of the river  
the water piled up.  
On the other side it was dry.

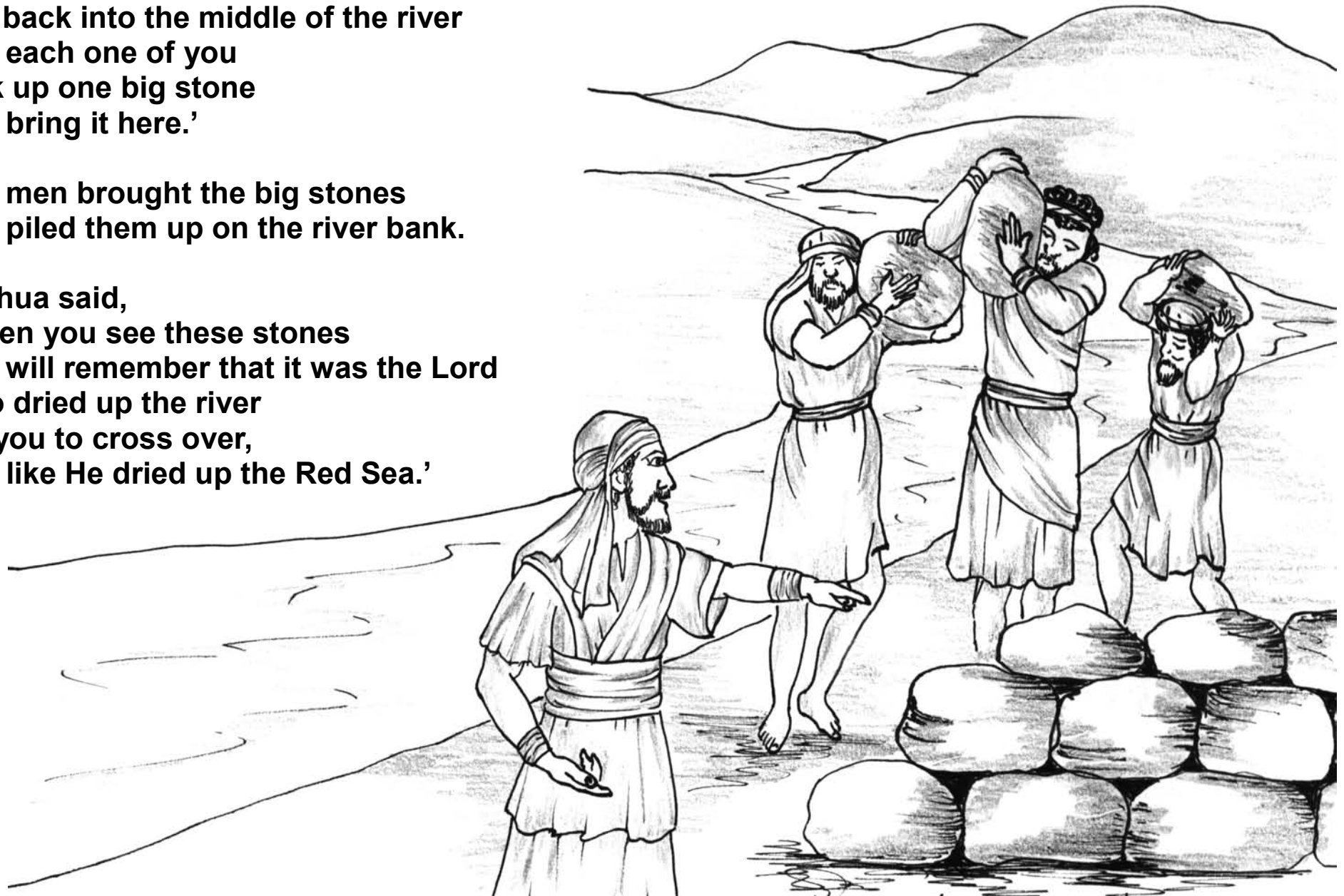
Then the priests  
carried the covenant box  
into the middle of the river  
and stayed there until  
everyone had crossed  
to the other side.



**Joshua said to twelve strong men,  
one from each tribe,  
'Go back into the middle of the river  
and each one of you  
pick up one big stone  
and bring it here.'**

**The men brought the big stones  
and piled them up on the river bank.**

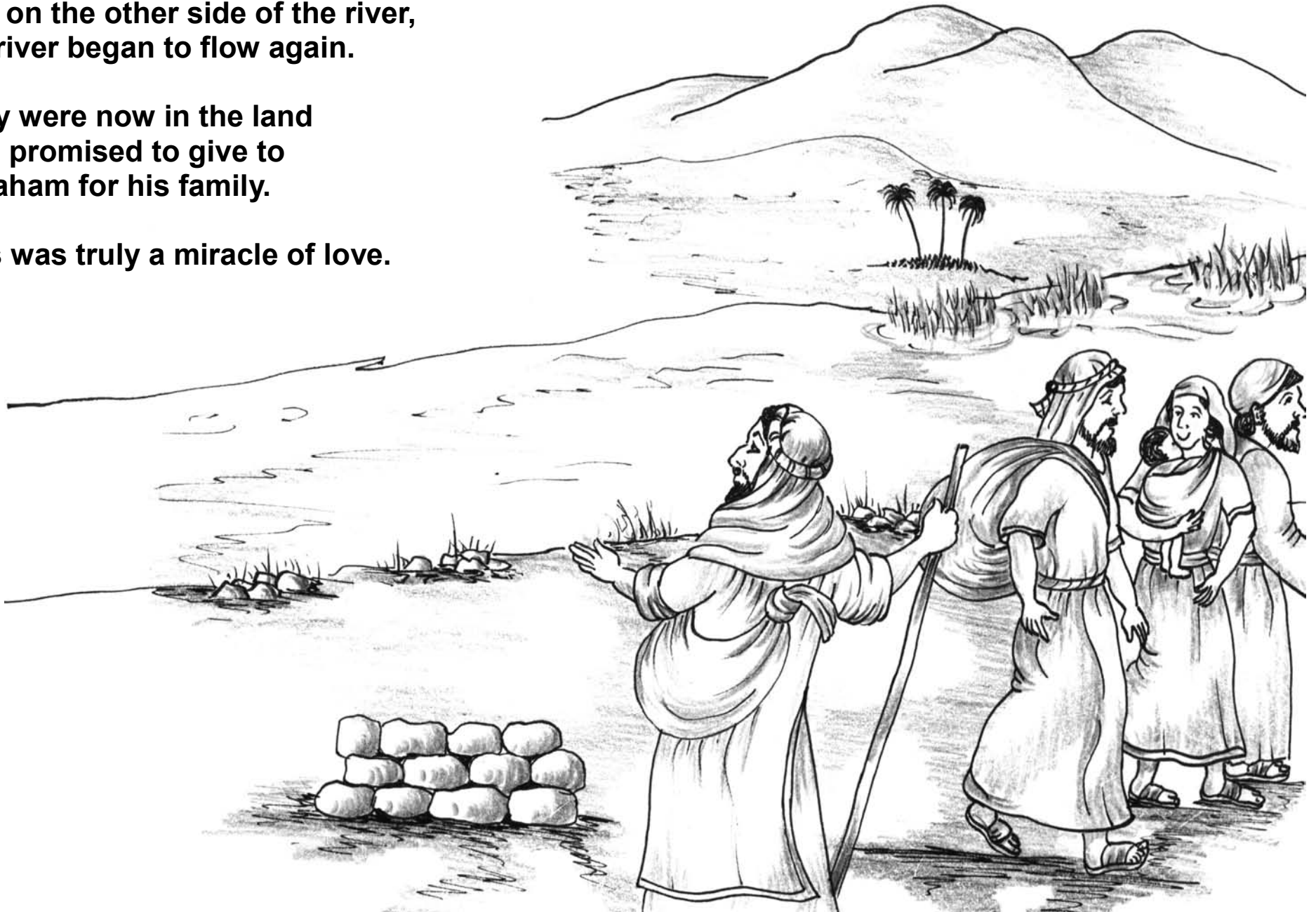
**Joshua said,  
'When you see these stones  
you will remember that it was the Lord  
who dried up the river  
for you to cross over,  
just like He dried up the Red Sea.'**



**Once everyone  
was on the other side of the river,  
the river began to flow again.**

**They were now in the land  
God promised to give to  
Abraham for his family.**

**This was truly a miracle of love.**



***Just as Joshua led God's people (Israel)  
into their land,  
so Jesus is leading us.***

***He didn't just go through a river.  
He went through death  
and was made alive again.***

***We are alive with Him,  
and He has a place for us  
with all His people.***



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# ***THE WALLS OF JERICHO***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

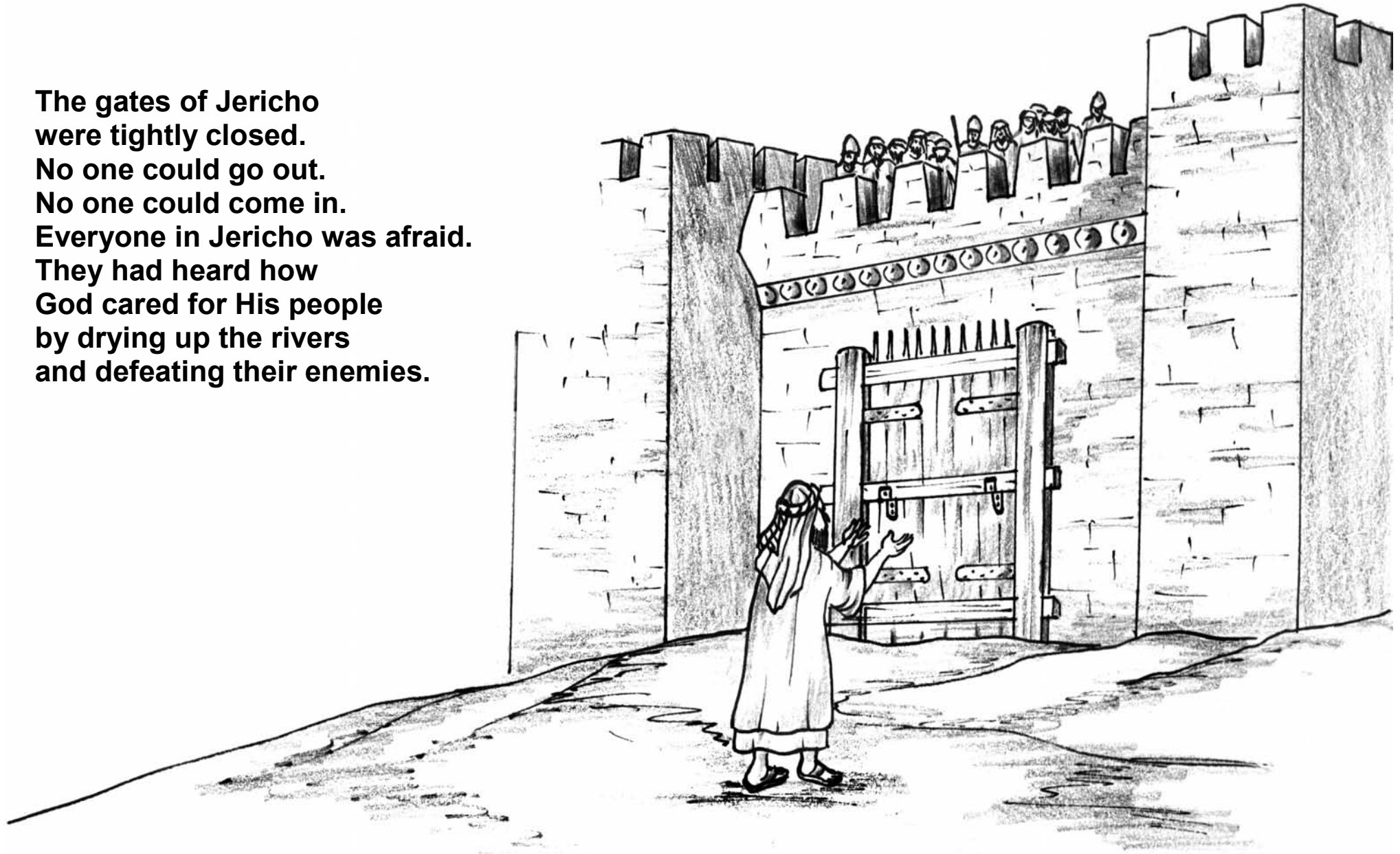
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**JOSHUA 5:13 – 6:27**  
**THE WALLS OF JERICHO**  
File no. 40

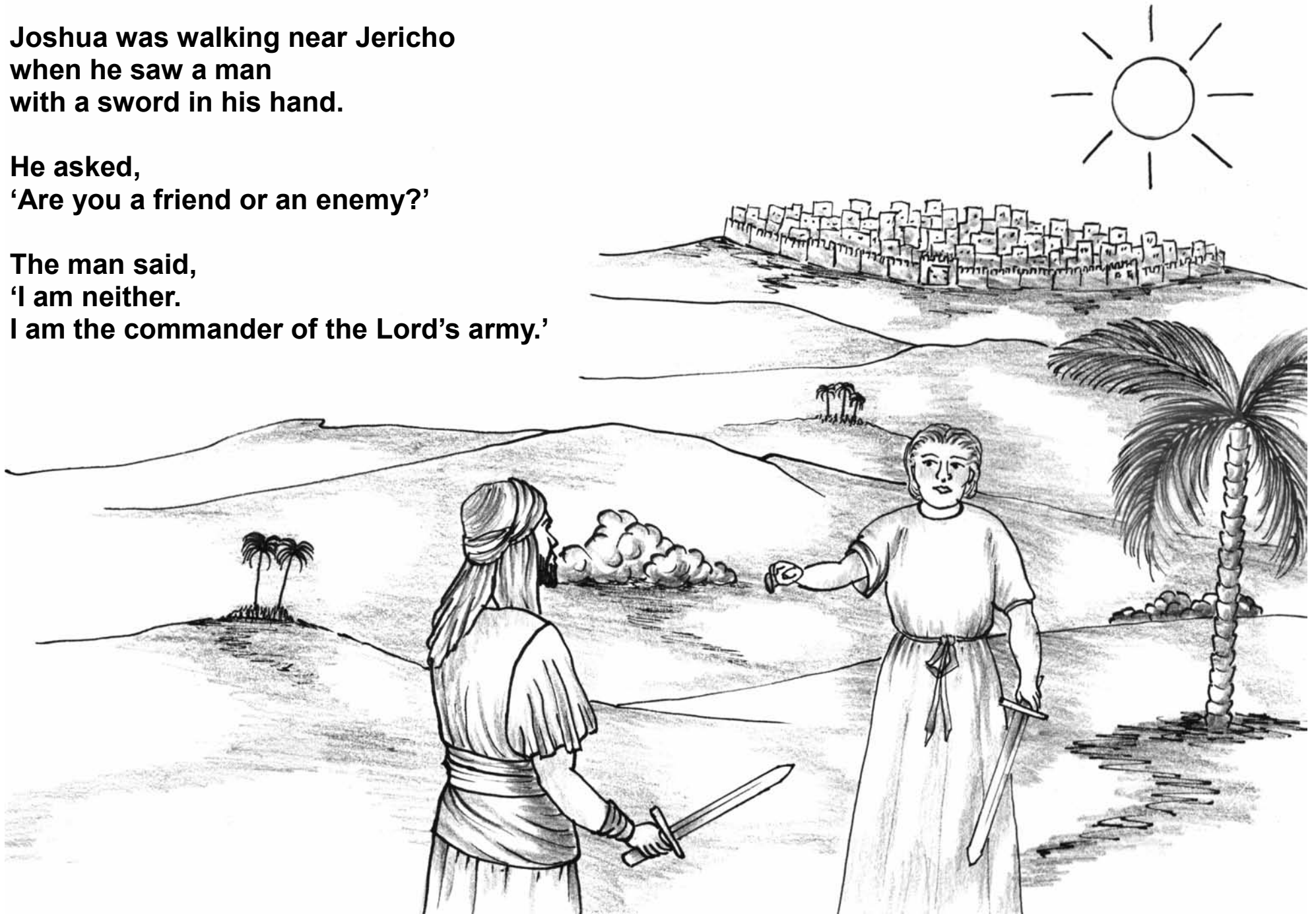
**The gates of Jericho  
were tightly closed.  
No one could go out.  
No one could come in.  
Everyone in Jericho was afraid.  
They had heard how  
God cared for His people  
by drying up the rivers  
and defeating their enemies.**



**Joshua was walking near Jericho  
when he saw a man  
with a sword in his hand.**

**He asked,  
'Are you a friend or an enemy?'**

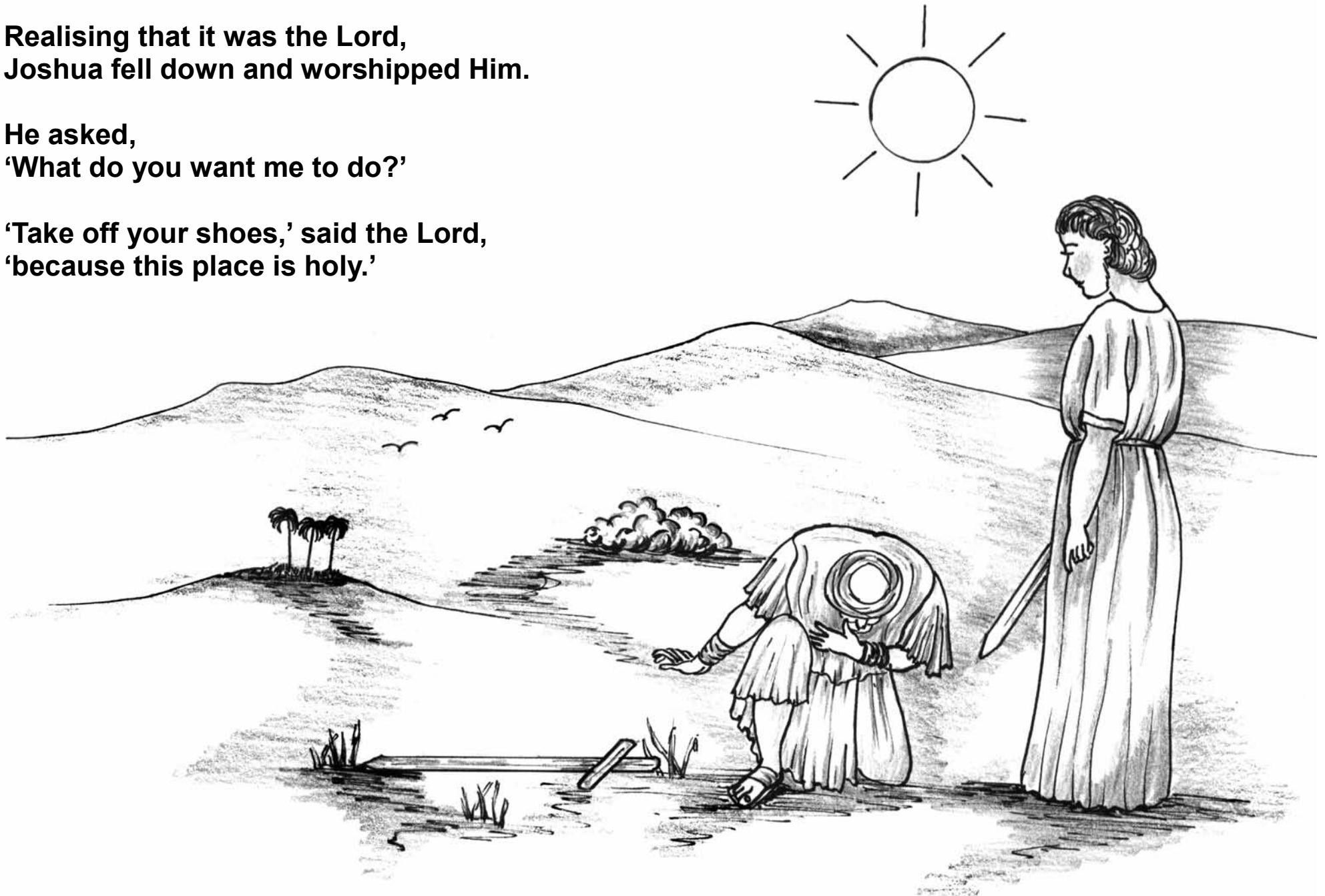
**The man said,  
'I am neither.  
I am the commander of the Lord's army.'**



**Realising that it was the Lord,  
Joshua fell down and worshipped Him.**

**He asked,  
'What do you want me to do?'**

**'Take off your shoes,' said the Lord,  
'because this place is holy.'**



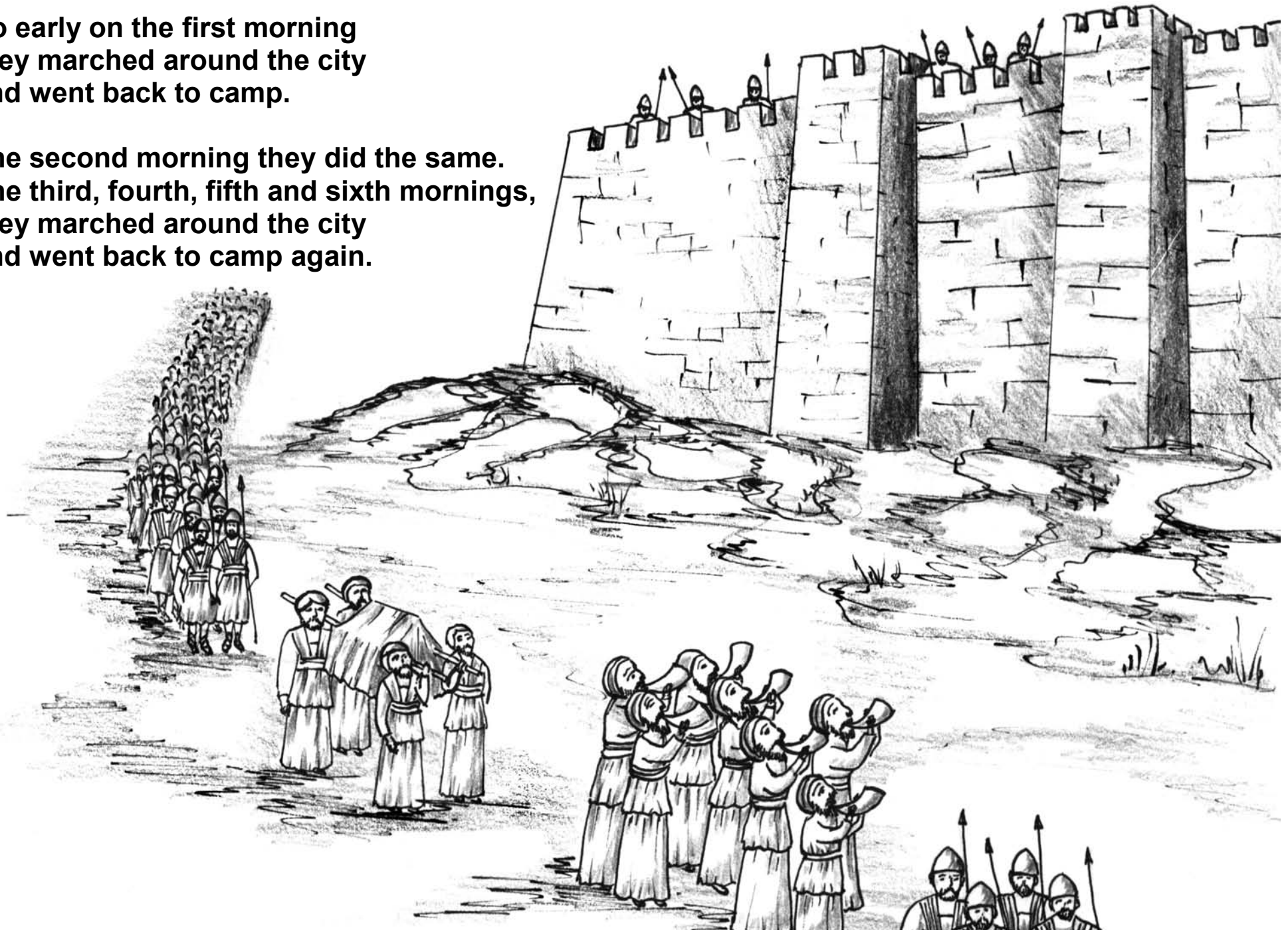
**'I have given Jericho,  
its king and soldiers to you.  
March around the city in this order:  
soldiers in front,  
followed by the priests,  
blowing their rams' horn trumpets,  
then the priests carrying  
God's covenant box,  
and last of all, the soldiers.'**

**'For the next six days,  
march around the city once.  
On the seventh day  
march around the city seven times.  
Tell everyone to keep very quiet.  
When you've finished marching  
give the signal for everyone to shout.'**



**So early on the first morning  
they marched around the city  
and went back to camp.**

**The second morning they did the same.  
The third, fourth, fifth and sixth mornings,  
they marched around the city  
and went back to camp again.**





**On the seventh morning  
they got up really early  
and marched around the city once,  
twice, three times.  
Four, five, six and seven times.**

**Then the priests gave a  
long, loud blow of their trumpets  
and Joshua called out,  
'Shout!  
The Lord has given you this city!'**

**The people shouted,  
and the walls came tumbling down.  
The soldiers ran in  
and defeated the city.**



**Joshua said to the two spies,  
'Go into Rahab's house  
and bring her and her family out to safety.'**

**The spies saw the red cord in her window.  
She had done what they told her to do,  
so they rescued Rahab and her family.**

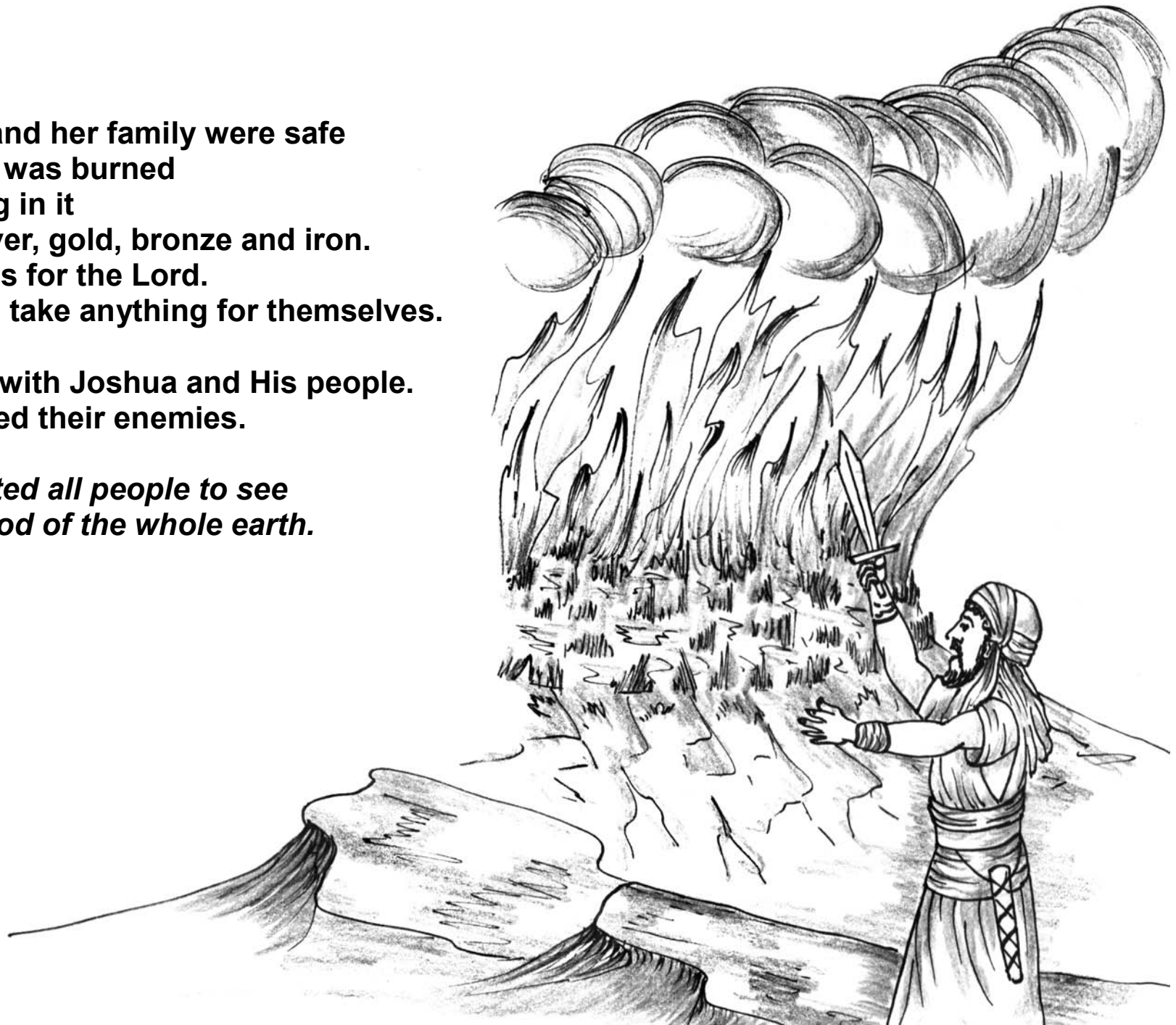




**When Rahab and her family were safe  
the whole city was burned  
and everything in it  
except the silver, gold, bronze and iron.  
Everything was for the Lord.  
No one was to take anything for themselves.**

**The Lord was with Joshua and His people.  
He had defeated their enemies.**

***The Lord wanted all people to see  
that He was God of the whole earth.***





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## ***ACHAN'S SIN***

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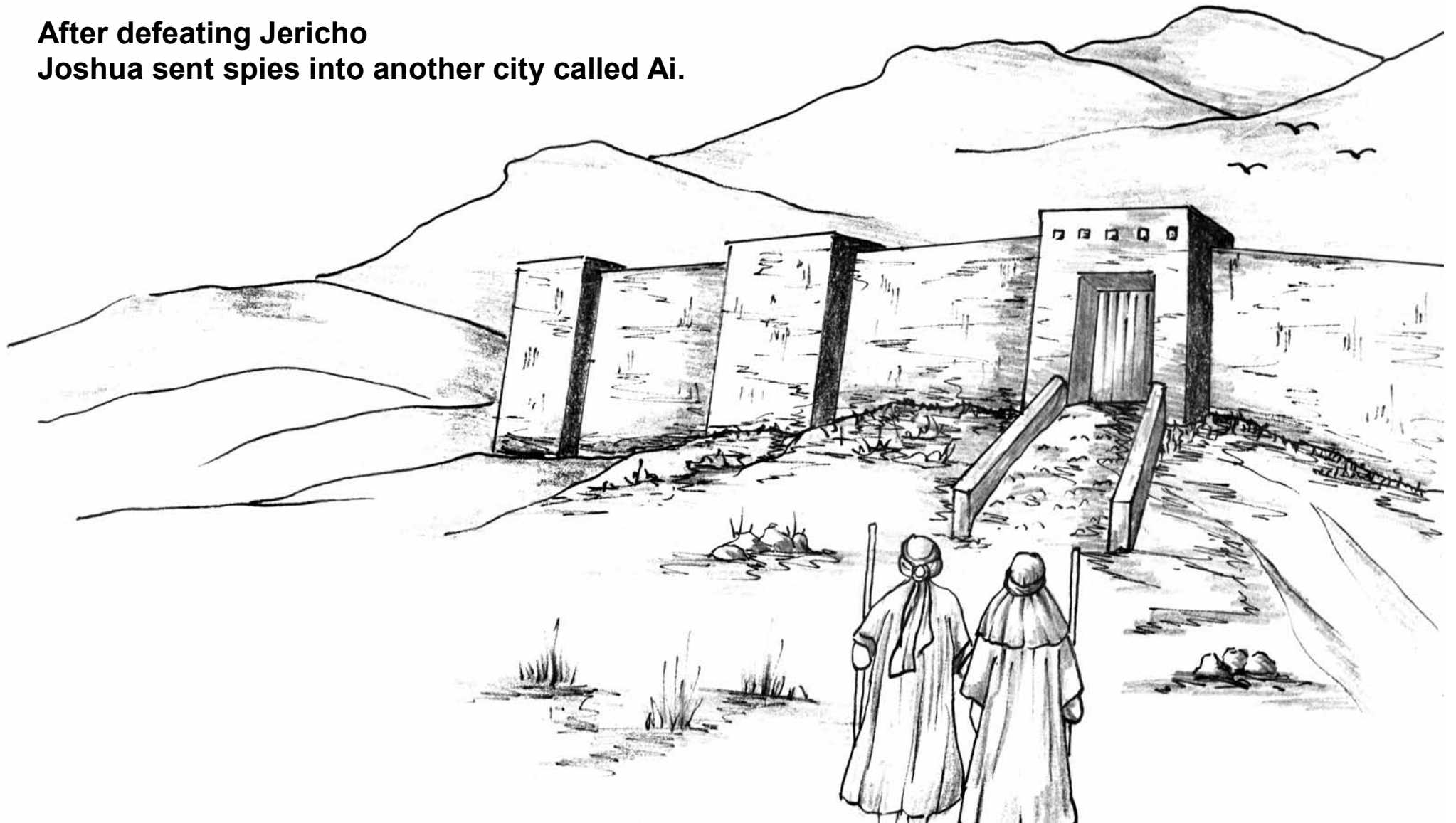
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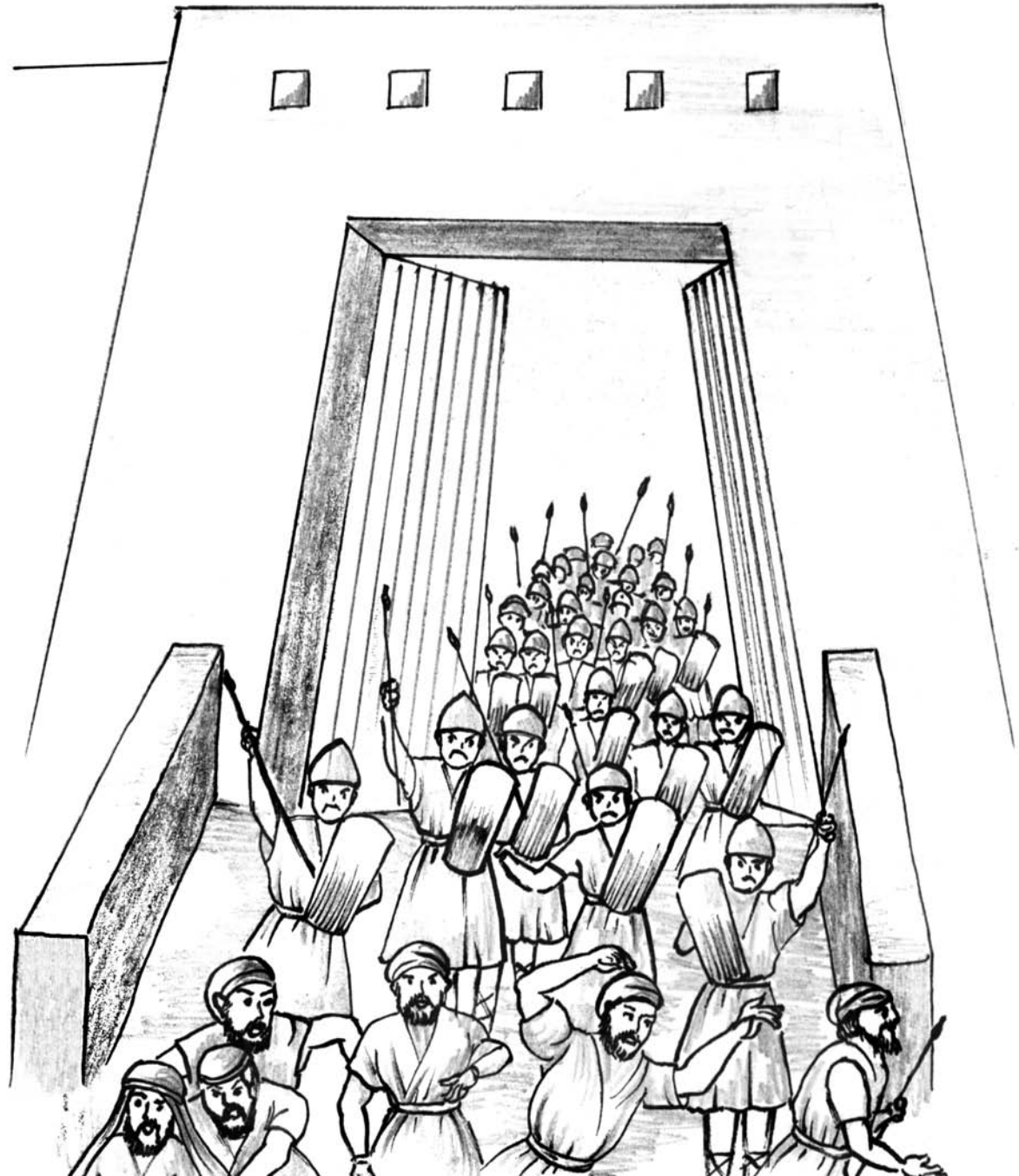
**JOSHUA 7:1 – 8:31**  
**ACHAN'S SIN**  
File no. 41

**After defeating Jericho**  
**Joshua sent spies into another city called Ai.**



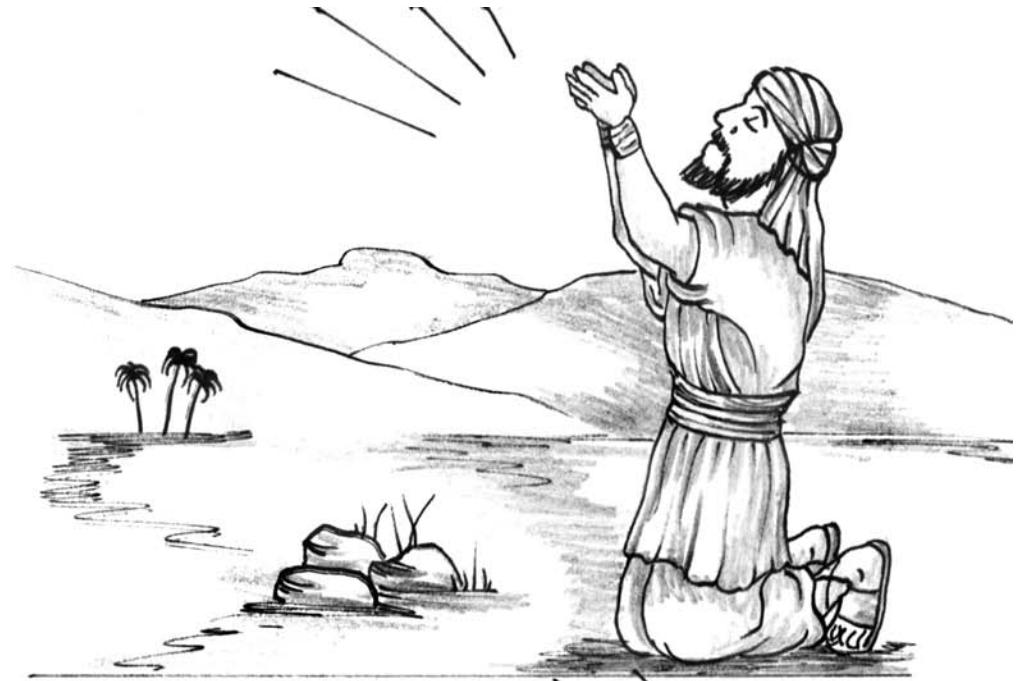
The spies came back saying,  
'Ai is only a little city.  
There's no need  
to send all of our soldiers to fight.'

So Joshua only sent 3000 soldiers  
to fight against Ai.  
But when the soldiers of Ai  
came out to fight,  
God's people ran away,  
and some of them were killed.



**This troubled Joshua.  
He fell down before the Lord  
and said,  
'Lord God, you brought us here,  
and now the enemy has defeated us.  
Everyone will hear about it  
and will not believe that  
You are the God  
of the heavens and the earth.  
What are You going to do?'**

**The Lord said to Joshua,  
'Stand up.  
My people have sinned.  
They have taken things from Jericho  
which I told them to destroy.  
They have stolen from Me.  
That is why they have lost this battle.  
Tell everyone to get ready  
and come before Me tomorrow.'**



Early the next morning  
Joshua brought each family before the Lord.  
The Lord showed him  
that Achan was the thief.

Joshua said to Achan,  
'Tell the Lord what you have done.'

Achan said,  
'It is true.  
I have sinned against the Lord.  
When I was in Jericho I saw  
a beautiful coat,  
and some silver and gold.  
I wanted them.  
I took them and buried them  
in the ground under my tent.'



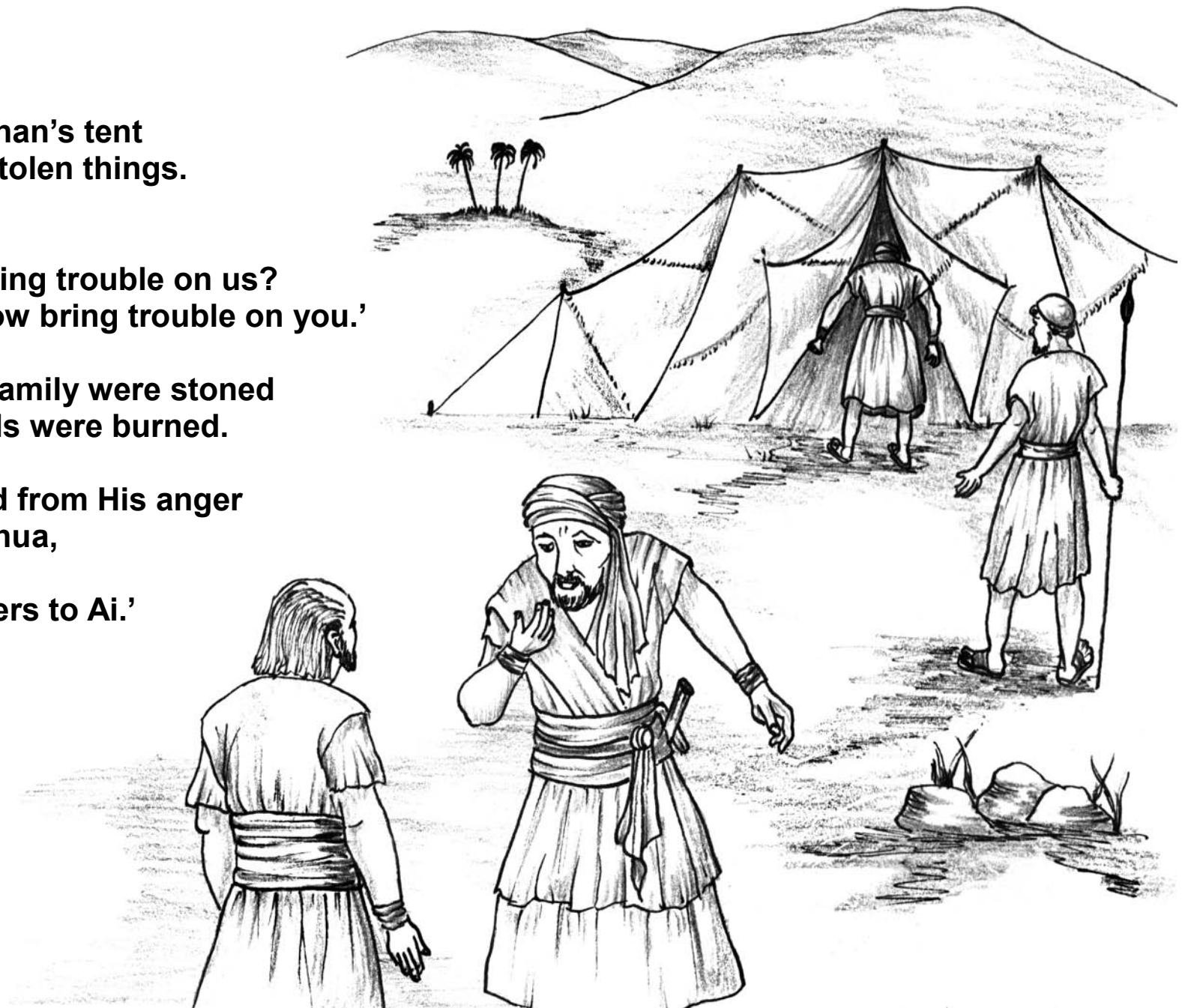


**Men went to Achan's tent  
and found the stolen things.**

**Joshua said,  
'Why did you bring trouble on us?  
The Lord will now bring trouble on you.'**

**Achan and his family were stoned  
and all his goods were burned.**

**God then turned from His anger  
and said to Joshua,  
'Don't be afraid.  
Take your soldiers to Ai.'**



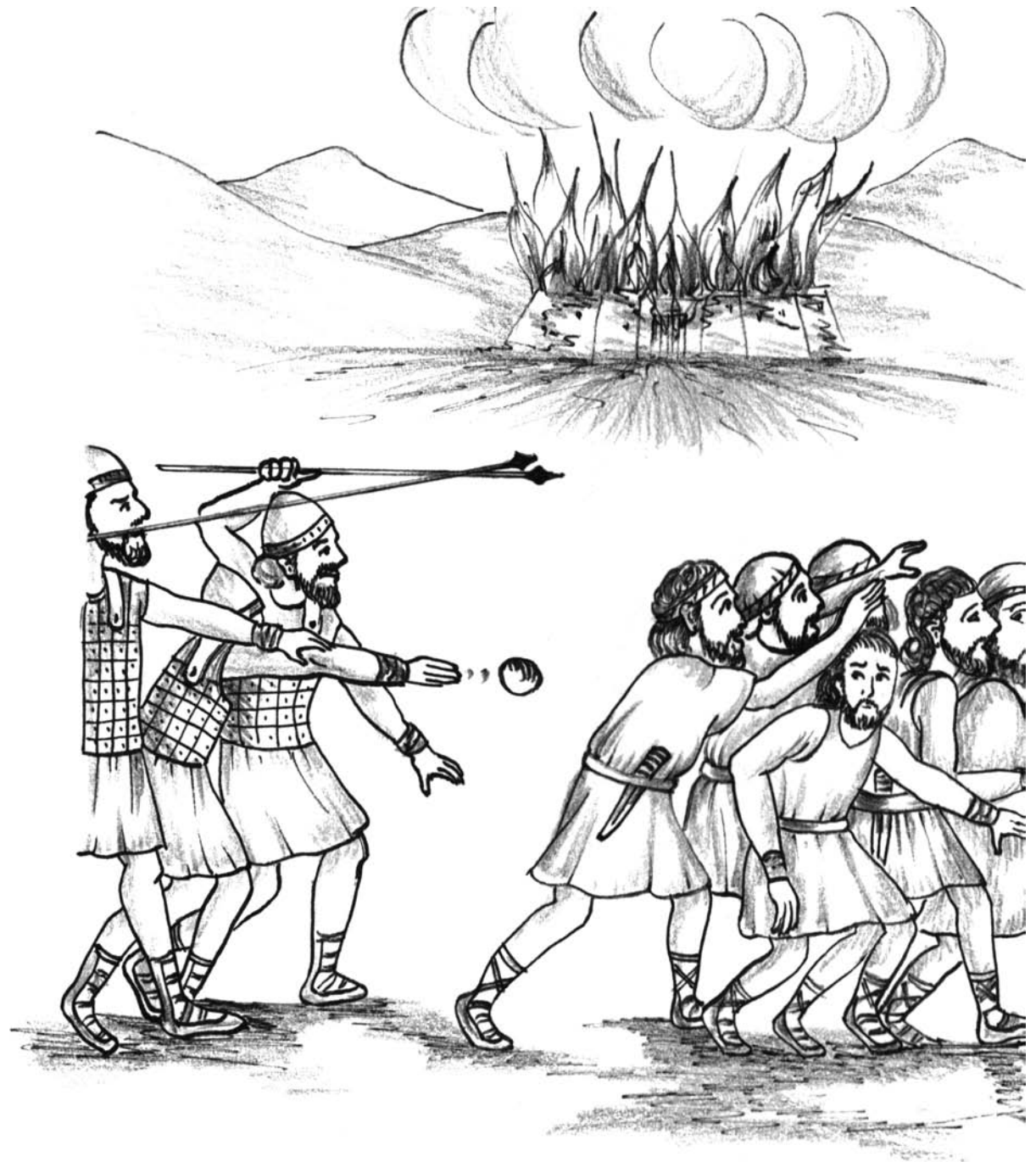
**That night,  
some of Joshua's men hid  
around and behind the city,  
just as God had told them to do.**

**When Joshua's other soldiers  
came in the morning,  
the soldiers of Ai chased them.**

**Joshua's men ran away  
just like they did before.  
This time it was  
to bring their enemy out of the city.**

**Then the men who had been hiding  
went into Ai and set it on fire.**

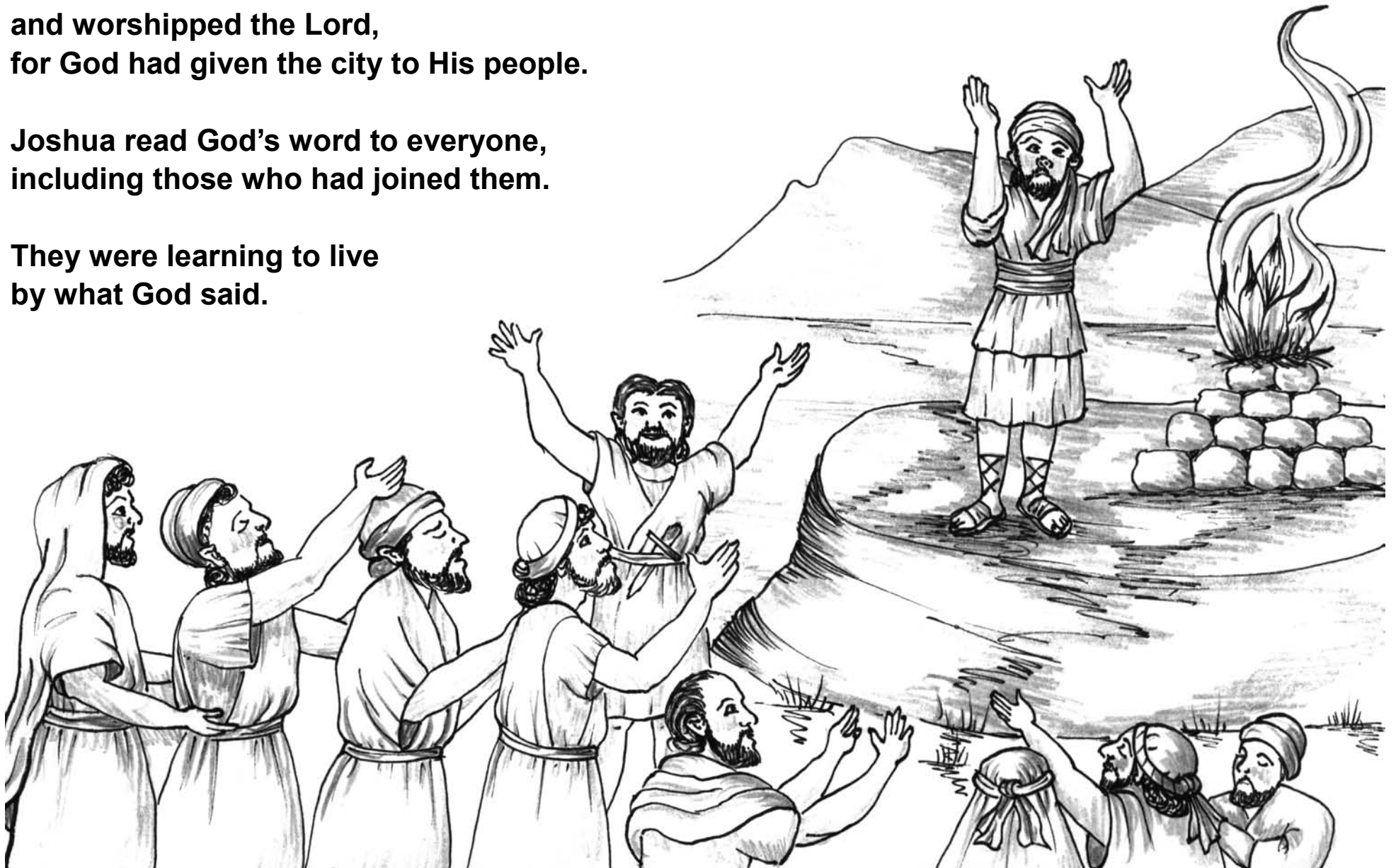
**The soldiers of Ai looked back  
and saw that their city  
was on fire.  
They were surrounded  
and defeated.**



**Joshua and his men went back to Gilgal,  
built an altar  
and worshipped the Lord,  
for God had given the city to His people.**

**Joshua read God's word to everyone,  
including those who had joined them.**

**They were learning to live  
by what God said.**





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***THE MEN OF GIBEON /  
WHEN THE SUN STOOD STILL***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

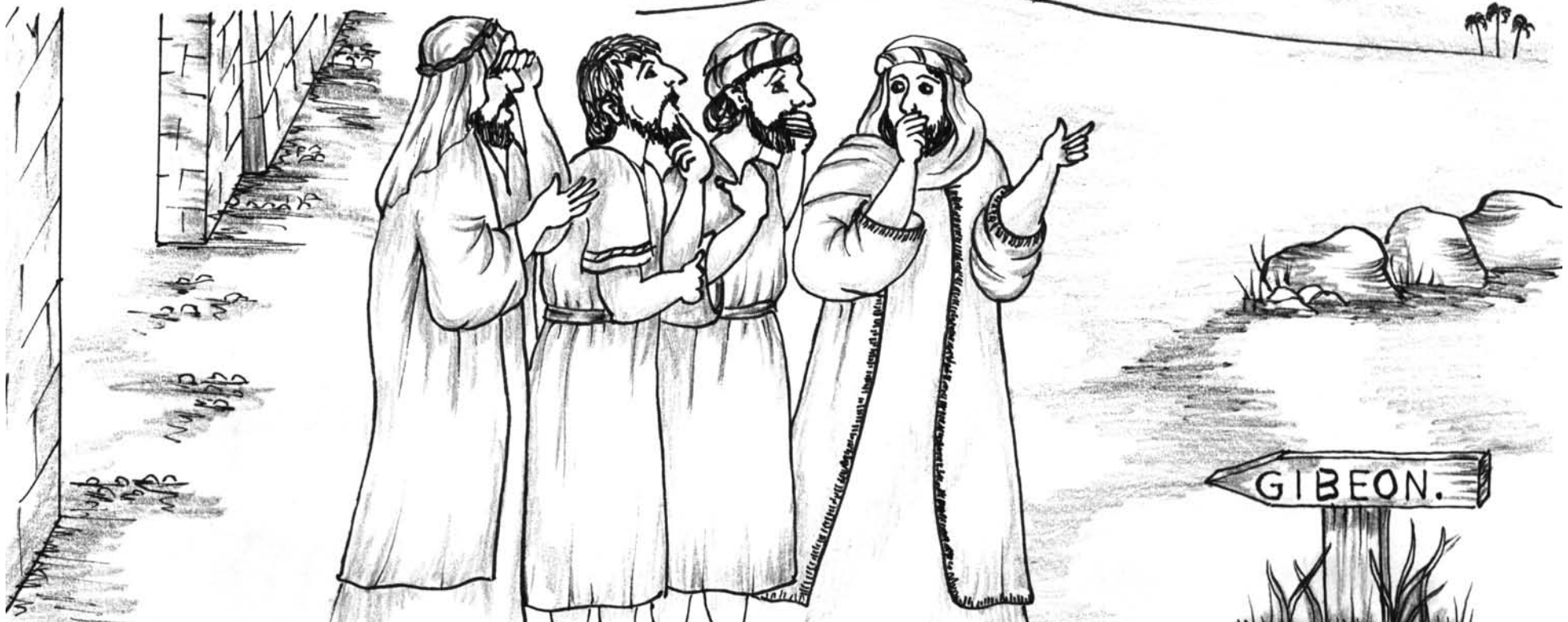
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**JOSHUA 9:1 – 10:27**  
**THE MEN OF GIBEON /**  
**WHEN THE SUN STOOD STILL**  
File no. 42

**When the Gibeonites saw the cities  
of Jericho and Ai destroyed,  
they were afraid.**



**They put on old clothes  
and worn out sandals,  
packed dry and mouldy bread  
and went to Gilgal to find Joshua.**

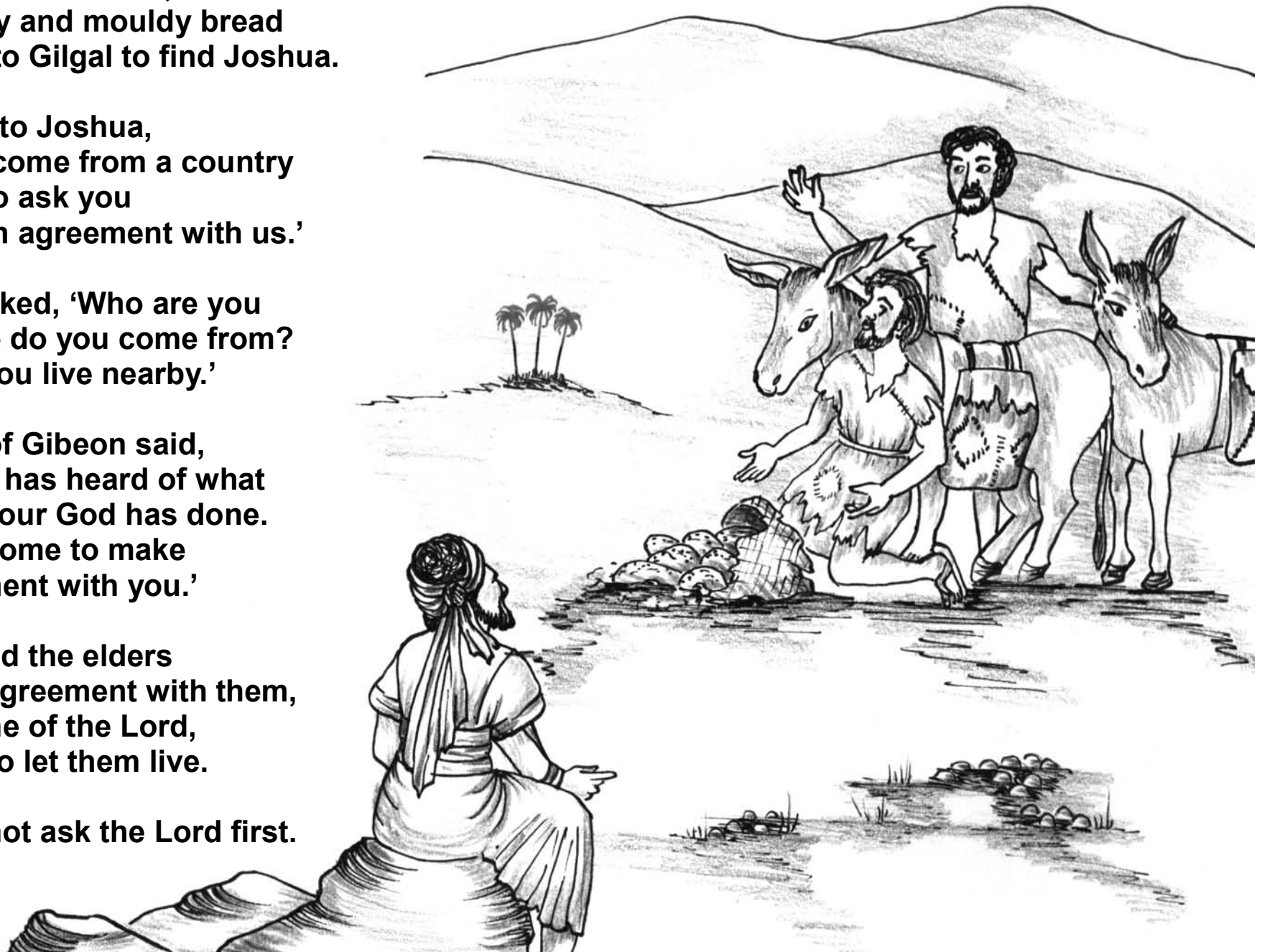
**They said to Joshua,  
'We have come from a country  
far away to ask you  
to make an agreement with us.'**

**Joshua asked, 'Who are you  
and where do you come from?  
Perhaps you live nearby.'**

**The men of Gibeon said,  
'Everyone has heard of what  
the Lord your God has done.  
We have come to make  
an agreement with you.'**

**Joshua and the elders  
made an agreement with them,  
in the name of the Lord,  
agreeing to let them live.**

**They did not ask the Lord first.**



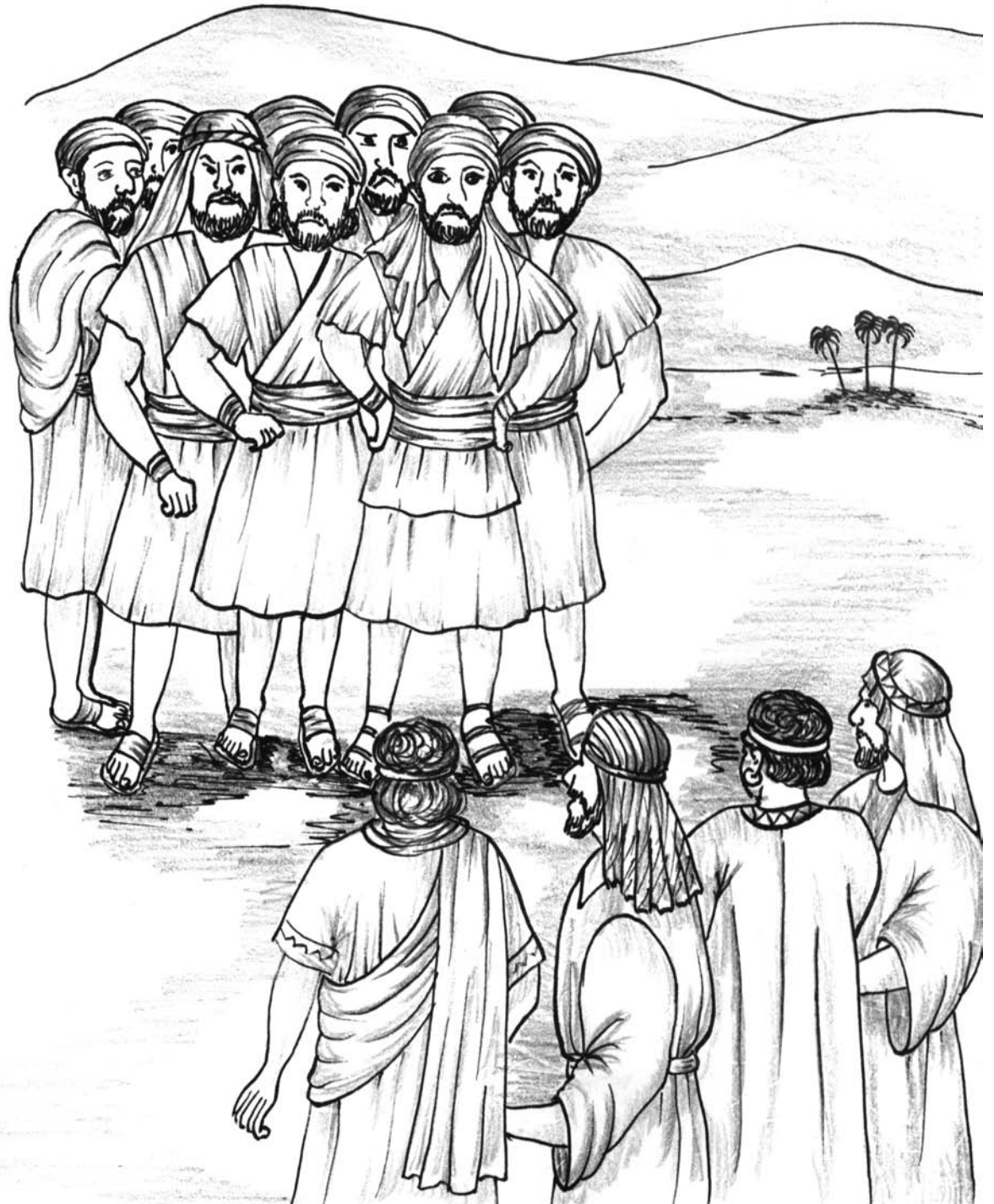


**Three days later Joshua heard that the Gibeonites actually lived nearby.**

**So he and his men went to their city and asked them, 'Why did you tell us lies?'**

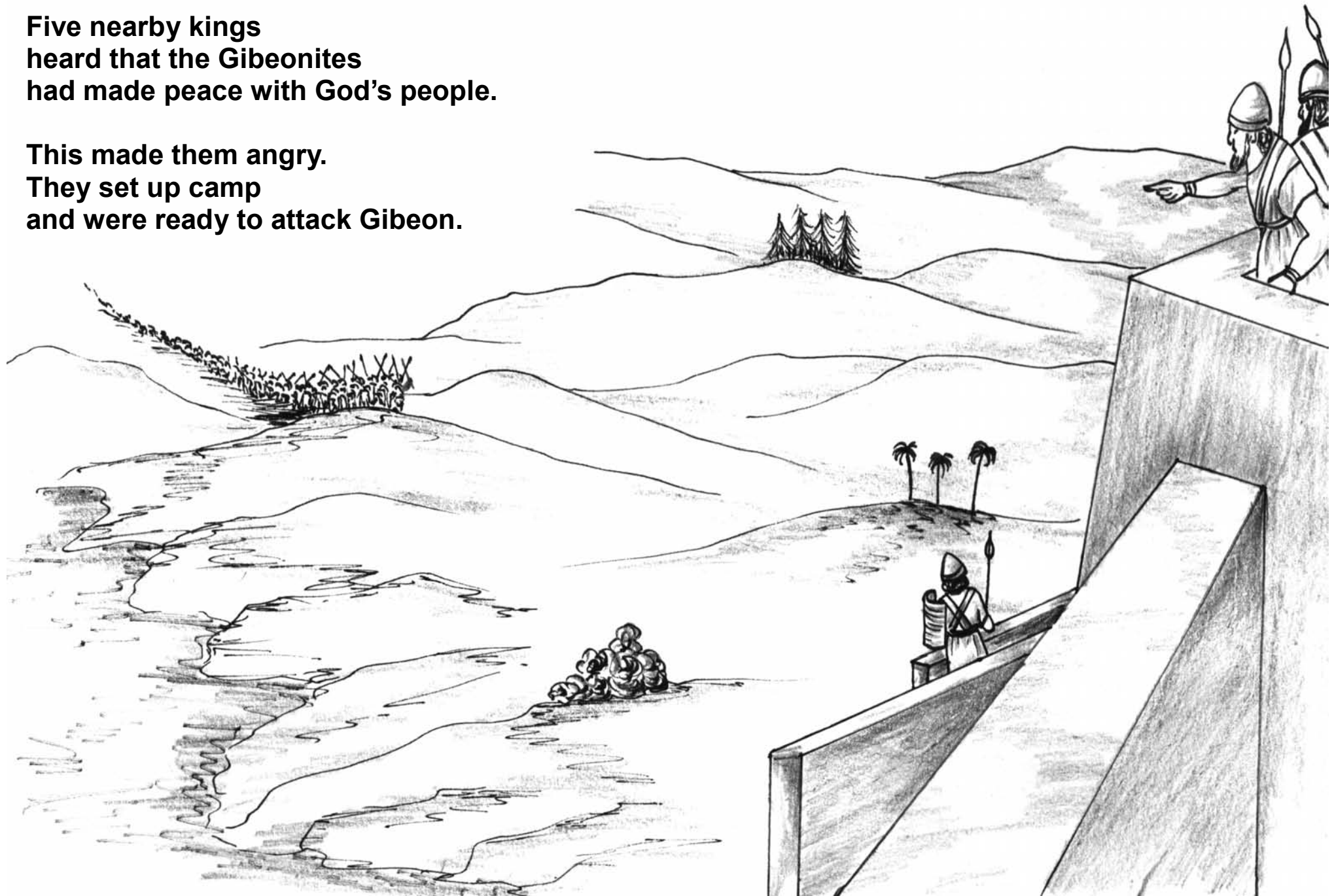
**They said, 'We lied because we were afraid. We heard that God told Moses that He would give you this land and destroy everyone in it. Do to us what you think is right.'**

**Joshua kept his word and did not kill them. He made them slaves to cut firewood and carry water for God's people and for the altar of the Lord.**

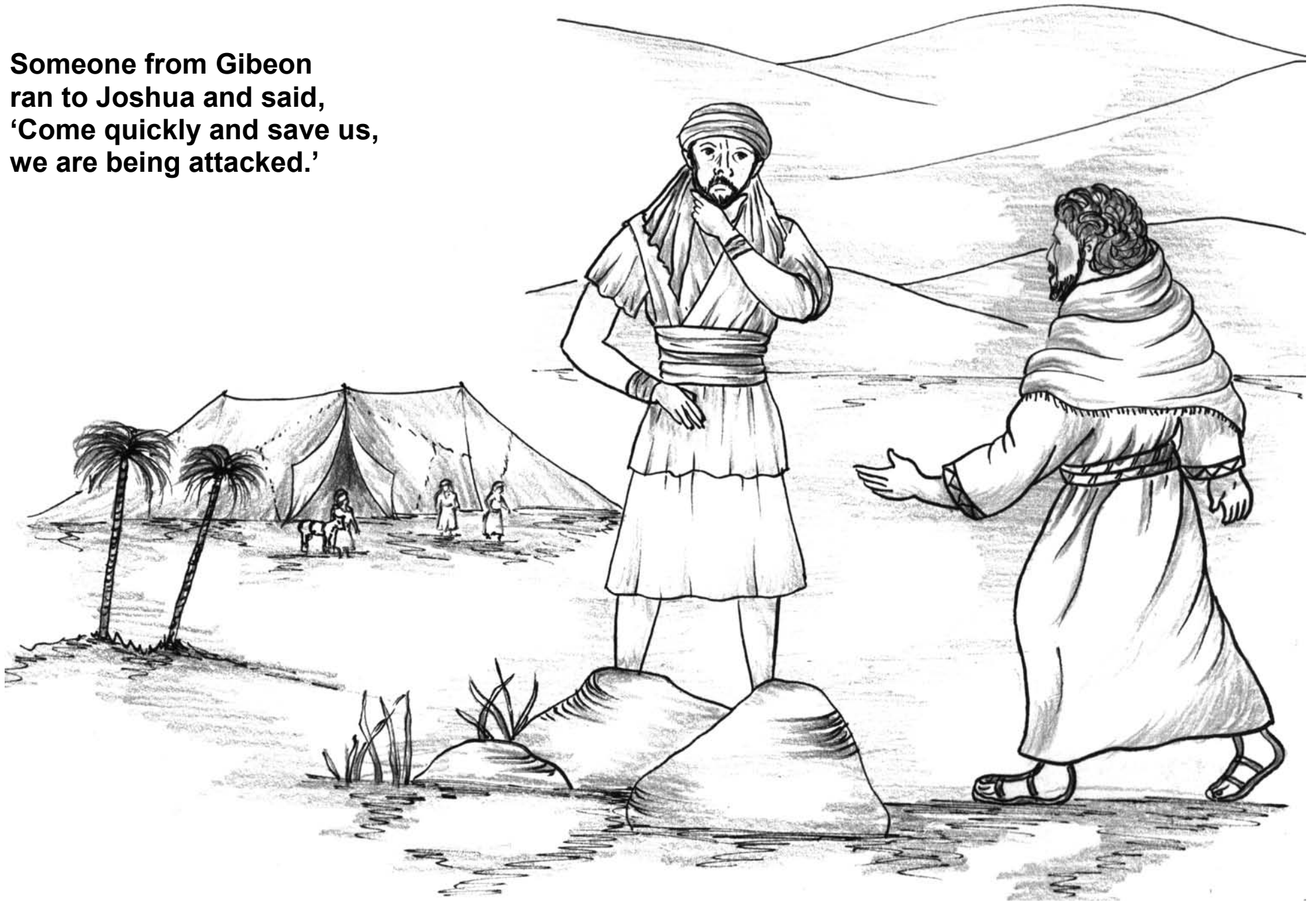


**Five nearby kings  
heard that the Gibeonites  
had made peace with God's people.**

**This made them angry.  
They set up camp  
and were ready to attack Gibeon.**



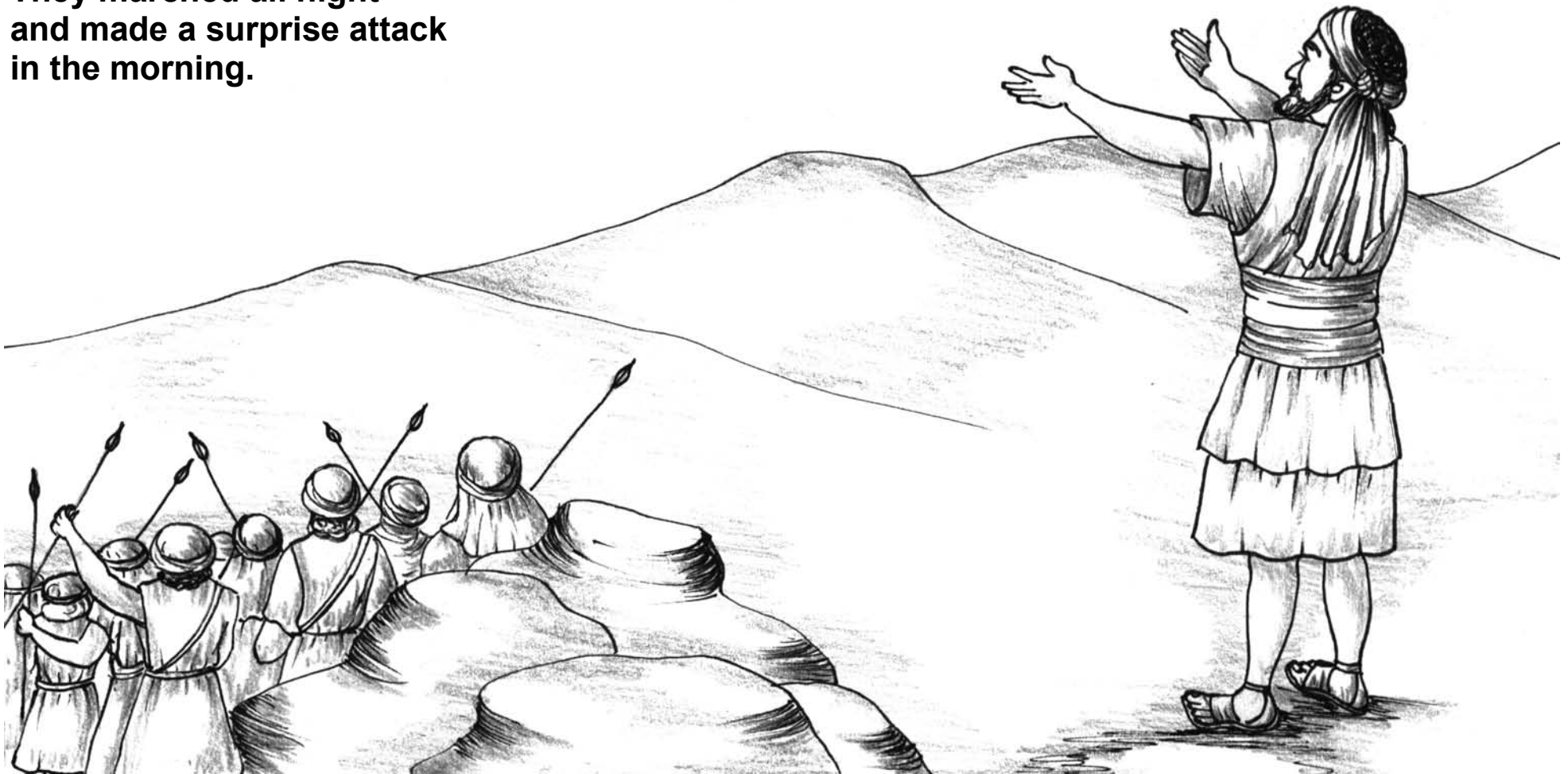
**Someone from Gibeon  
ran to Joshua and said,  
'Come quickly and save us,  
we are being attacked.'**



**Straight away Joshua and his men  
went to help them.**

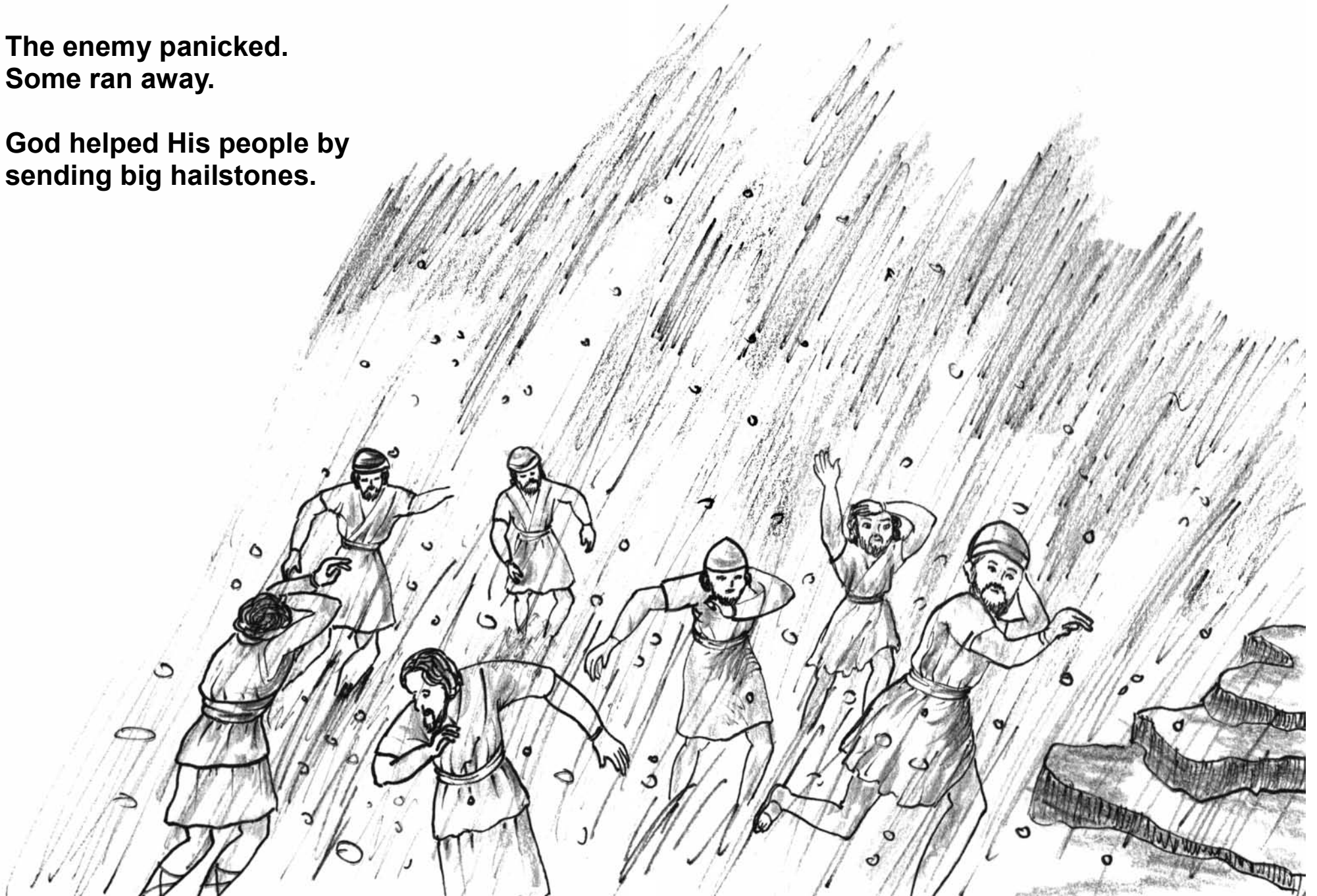
**The Lord said,  
'Don't be afraid of these kings.  
I will help you defeat them.'**

**They marched all night  
and made a surprise attack  
in the morning.**



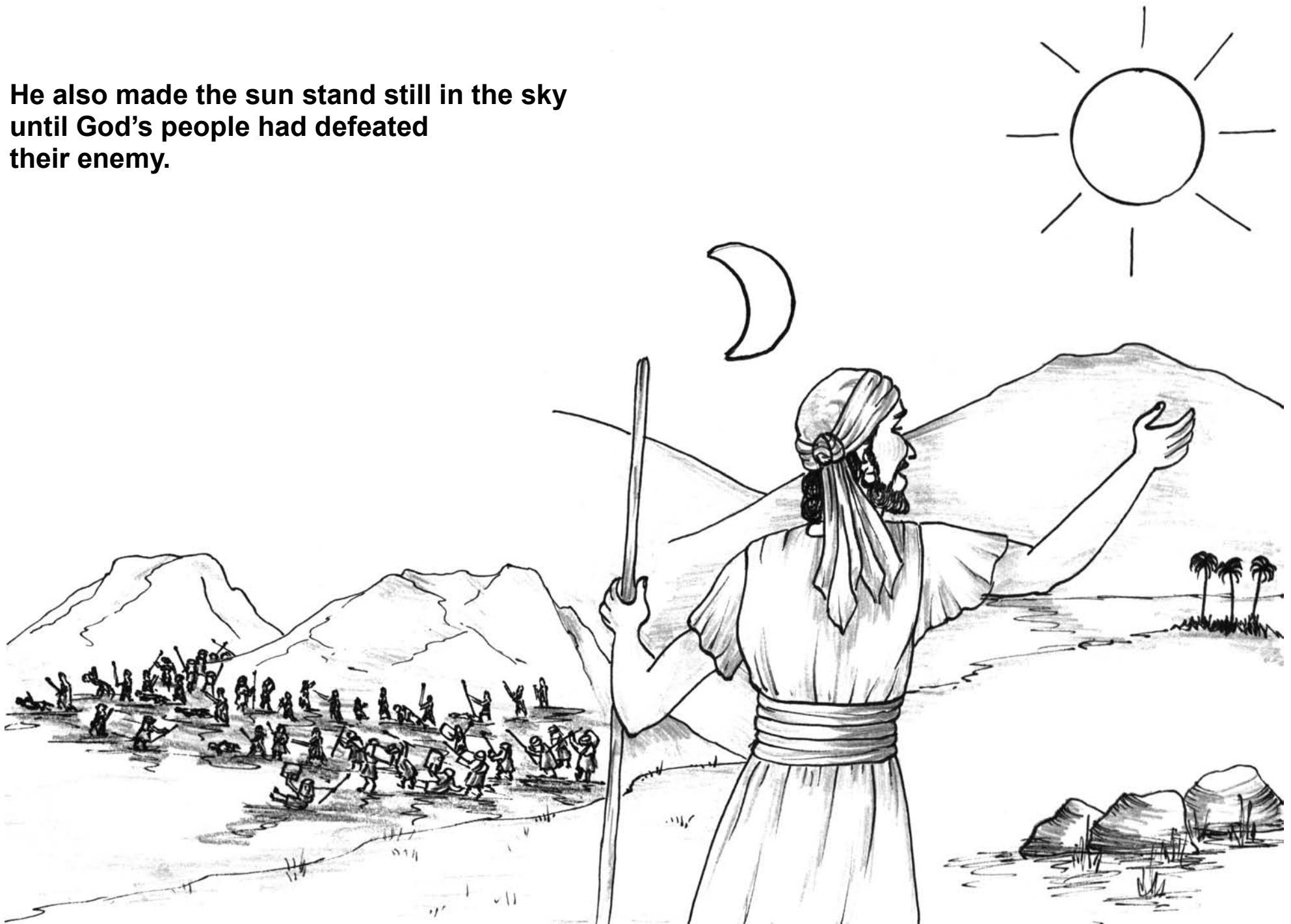
**The enemy panicked.  
Some ran away.**

**God helped His people by  
sending big hailstones.**





**He also made the sun stand still in the sky  
until God's people had defeated  
their enemy.**



***God's people had made a mistake  
by letting the Gibeonites  
live among them,  
but God used their mistake  
and continued to give them  
the land He had promised them.***





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***POSSESSING THE LAND / CITIES OF REFUGE***

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**JOSHUA 13:1–7; 14:6–14; 17:14–18; 20:1–9**

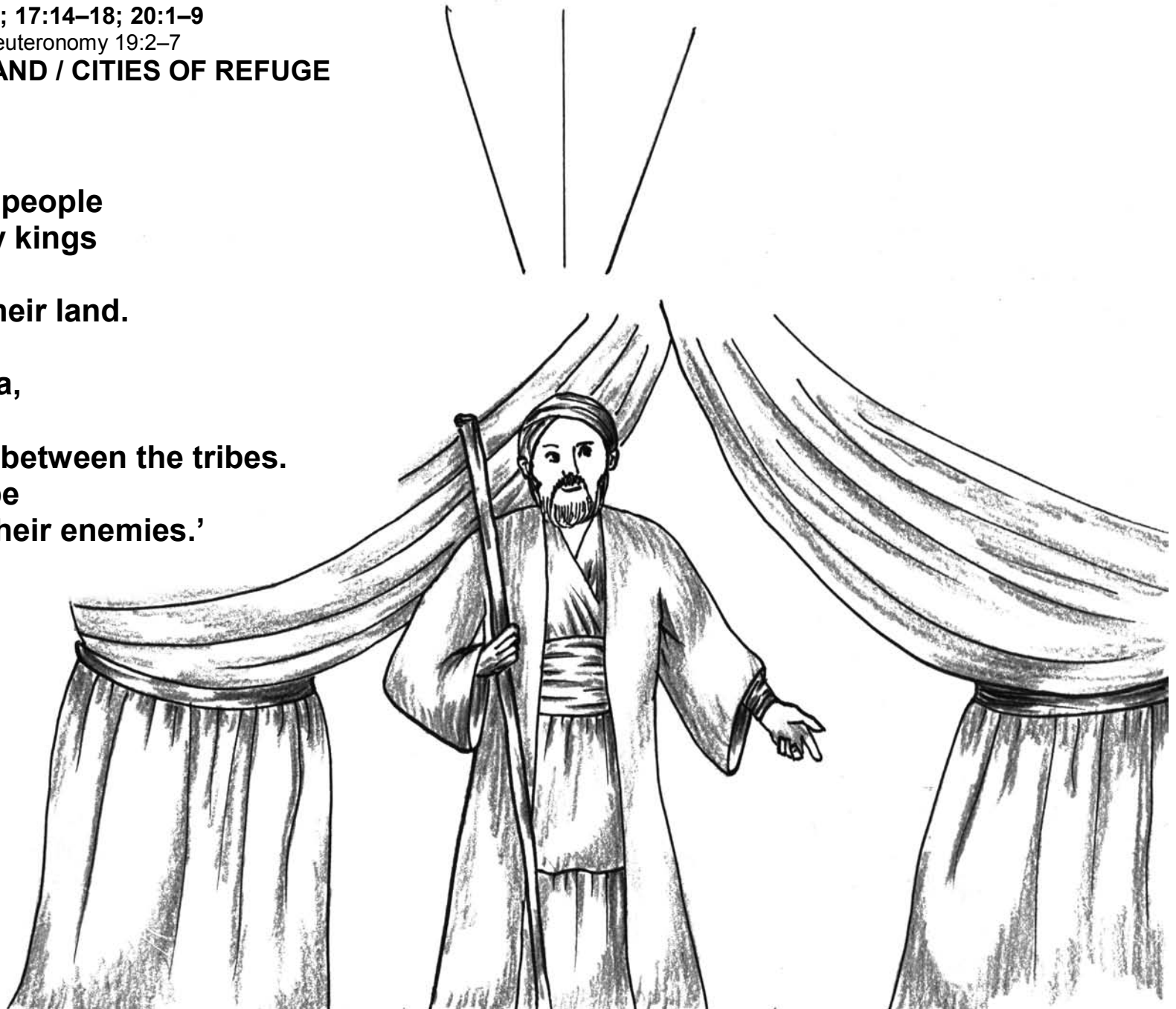
Numbers 35:1–15, 22–29; Deuteronomy 19:2–7

**POSSESSING THE LAND / CITIES OF REFUGE**

File no. 43

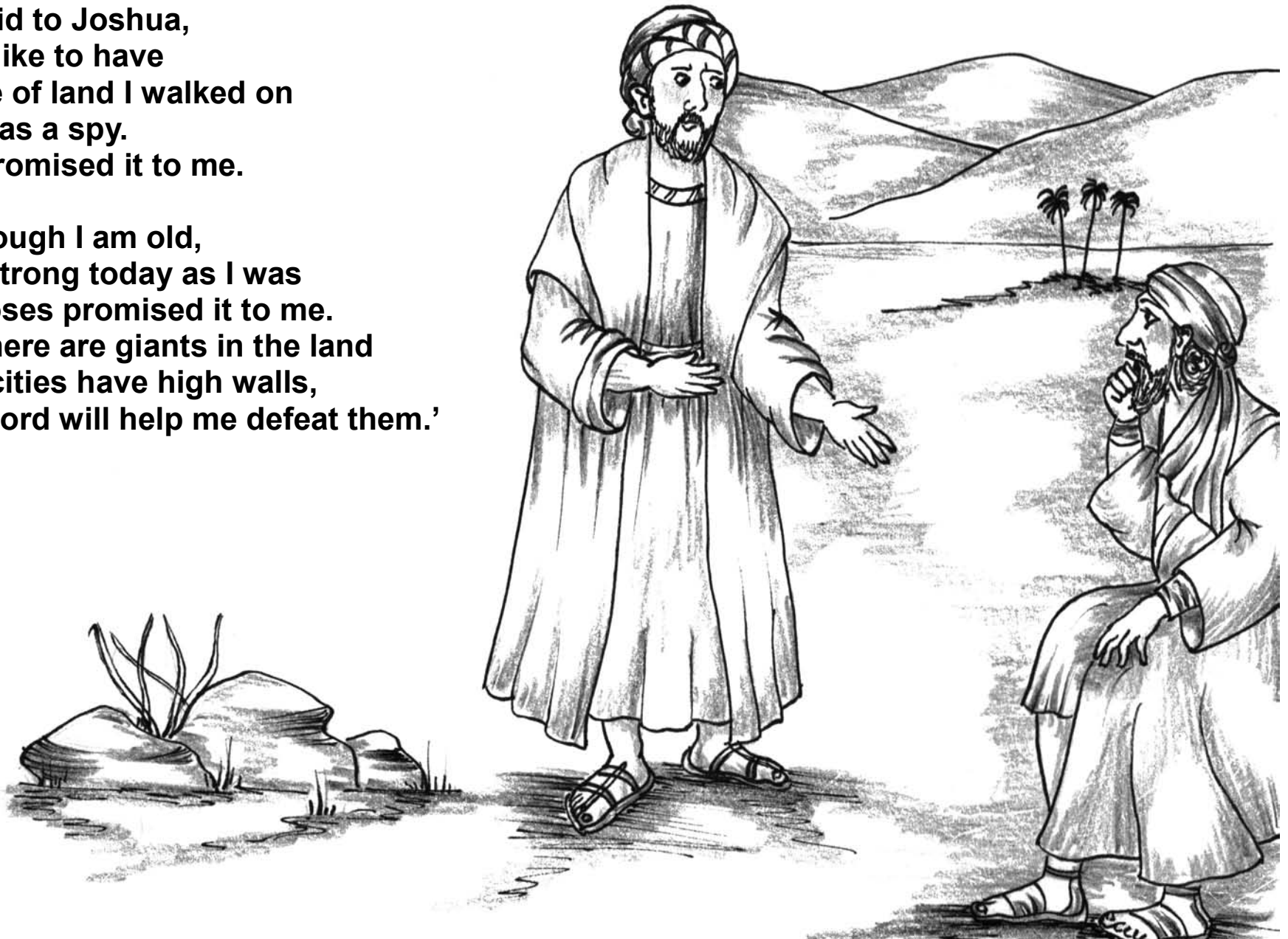
**Joshua and God's people  
had defeated many kings  
in just a few years.  
Now they owned their land.**

**God said to Joshua,  
'You are old now.  
Divide up the land between the tribes.  
I will help each tribe  
defeat the rest of their enemies.'**

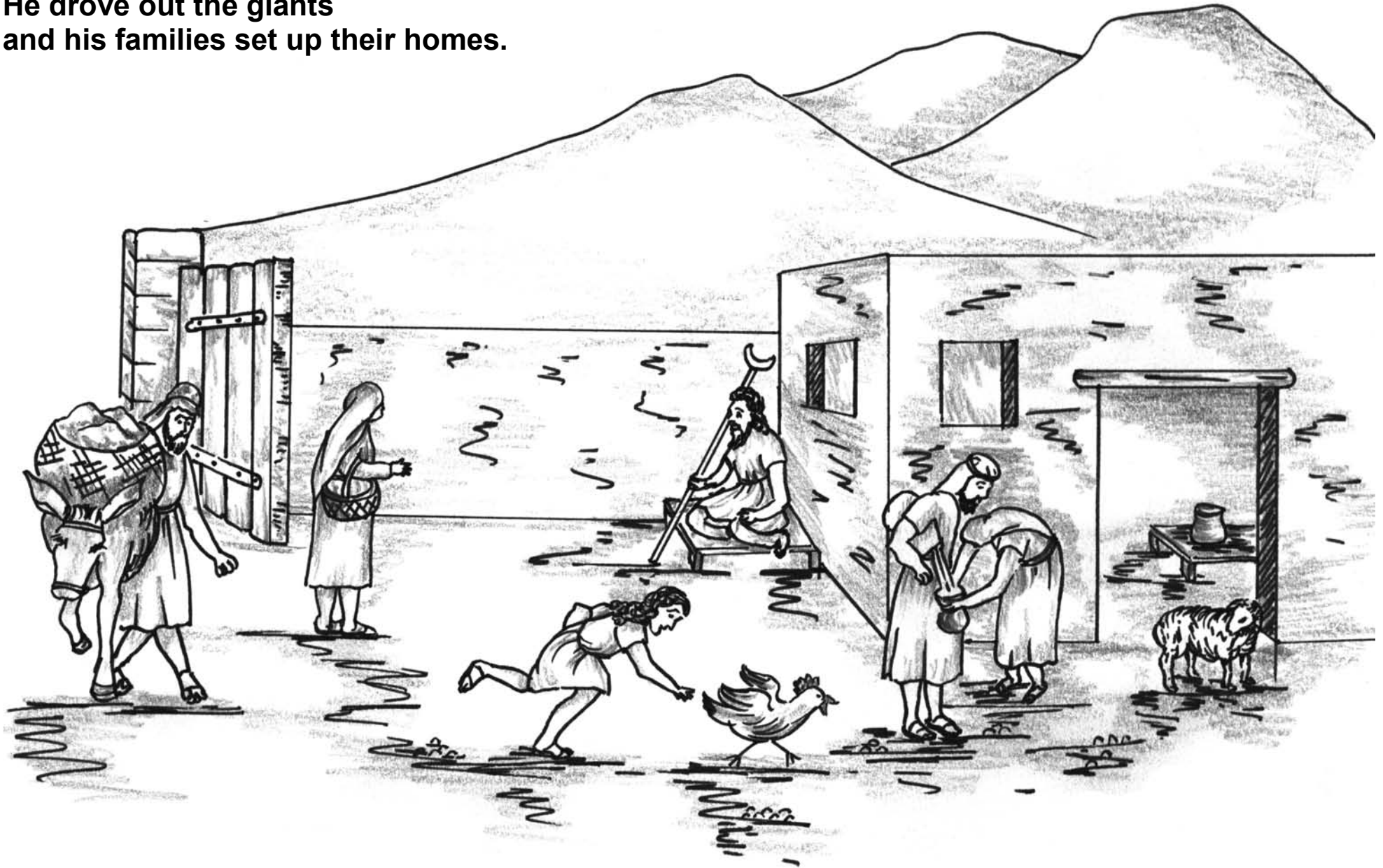


**Caleb said to Joshua,  
'I would like to have  
the piece of land I walked on  
when I was a spy.  
Moses promised it to me.**

**'Even though I am old,  
I am as strong today as I was  
when Moses promised it to me.  
I know there are giants in the land  
and the cities have high walls,  
but the Lord will help me defeat them.'**



**Caleb was given the land he asked for.  
He drove out the giants  
and his families set up their homes.**



**The leaders of two other tribes  
asked Joshua,  
'Why have you given us  
only one piece of land?  
God has blessed us  
and made us into a big family.  
We need more land.'**

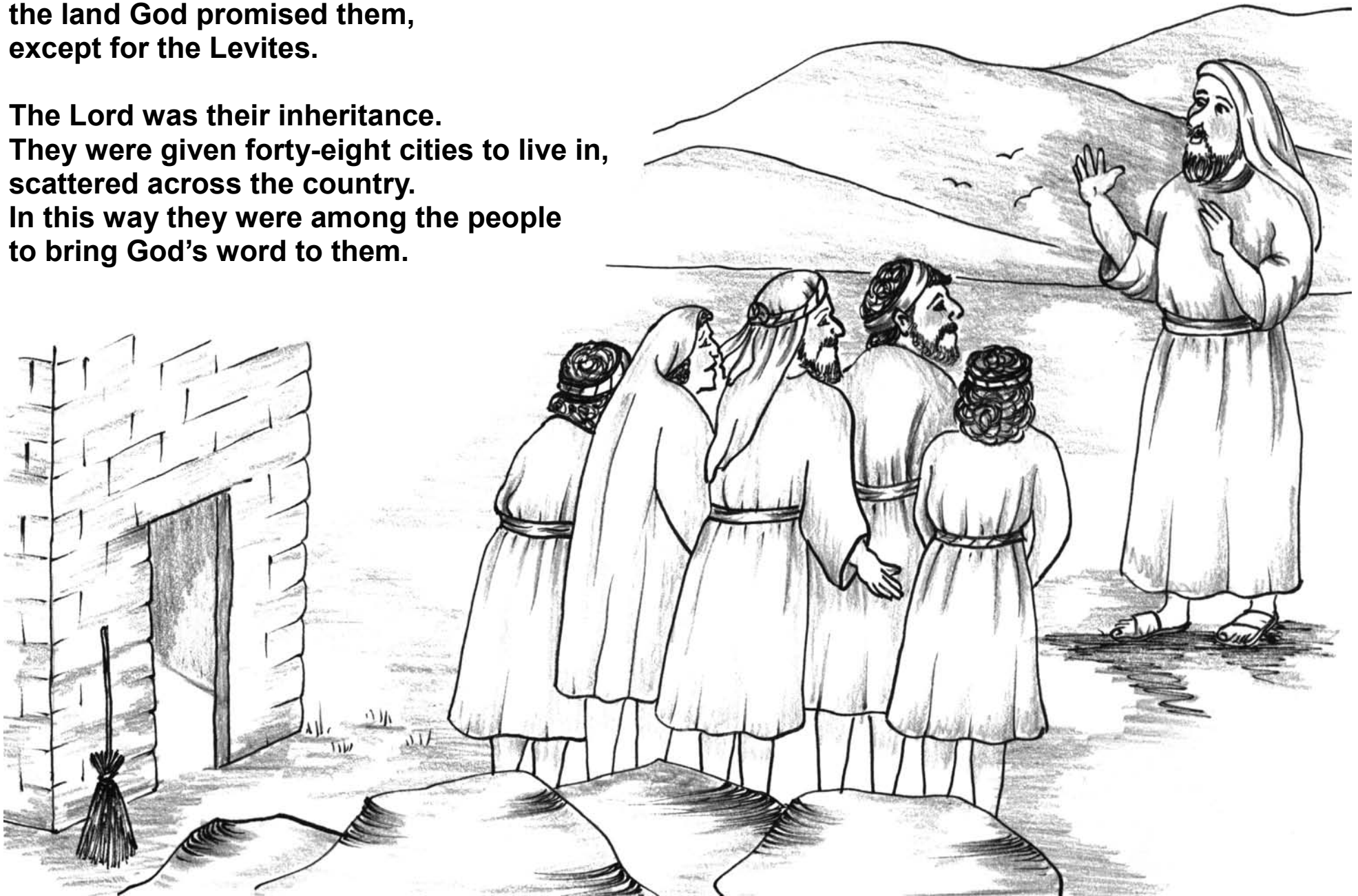
**Joshua replied,  
'Yes, you are a big family.  
You can have the hill country.  
It is full of trees,  
but you are strong  
and there is a lot of you  
to clear the land.'**

**'Don't be afraid of the people  
you have seen in the cities.  
They look strong  
with their iron chariots,  
but you will defeat them.'**



**All the tribes had now been given the land God promised them, except for the Levites.**

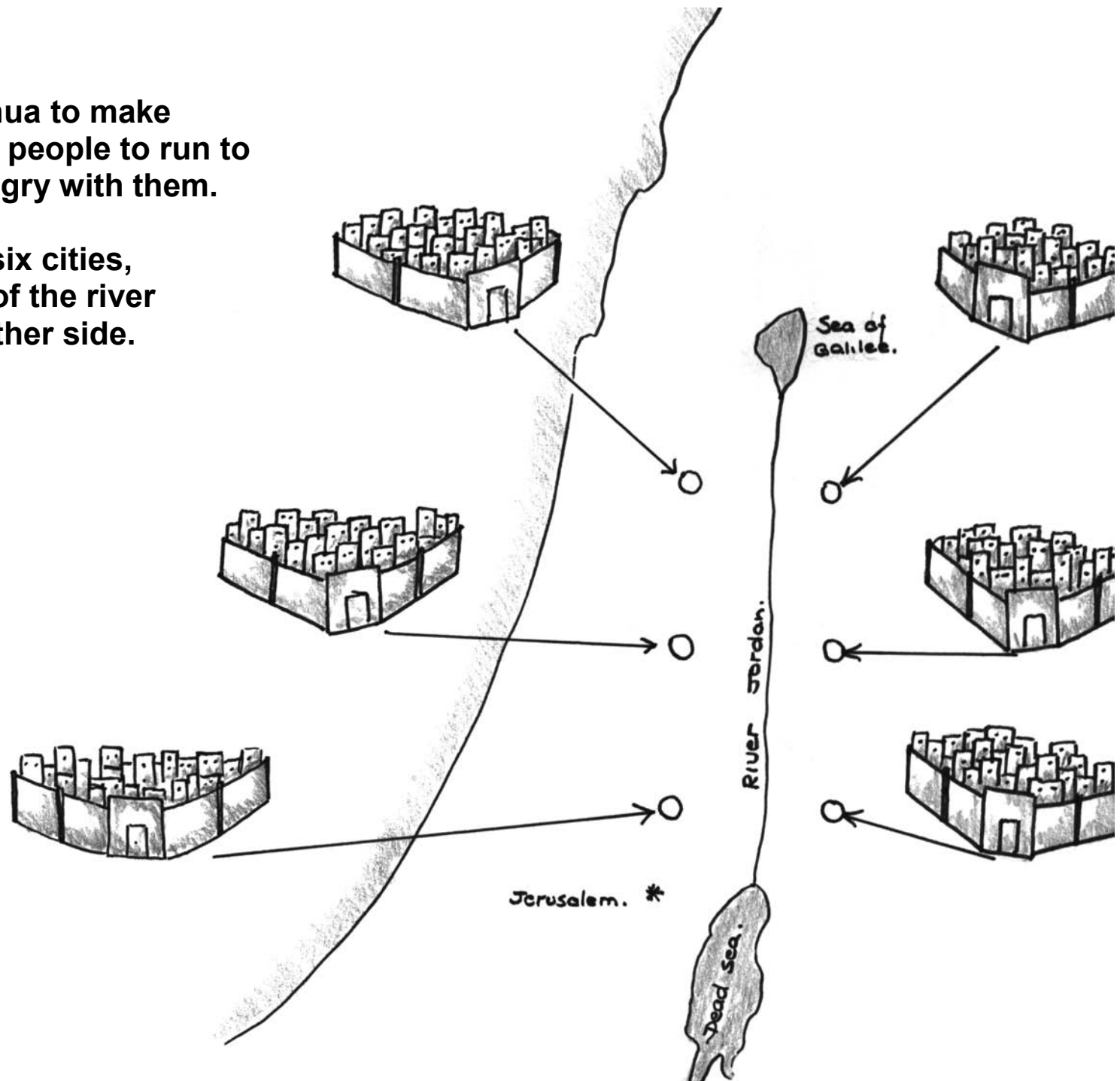
**The Lord was their inheritance. They were given forty-eight cities to live in, scattered across the country. In this way they were among the people to bring God's word to them.**





God also told Joshua to make safe places for His people to run to if someone was angry with them.

So Joshua chose six cities, three on one side of the river and three on the other side. They were called 'cities of refuge'.

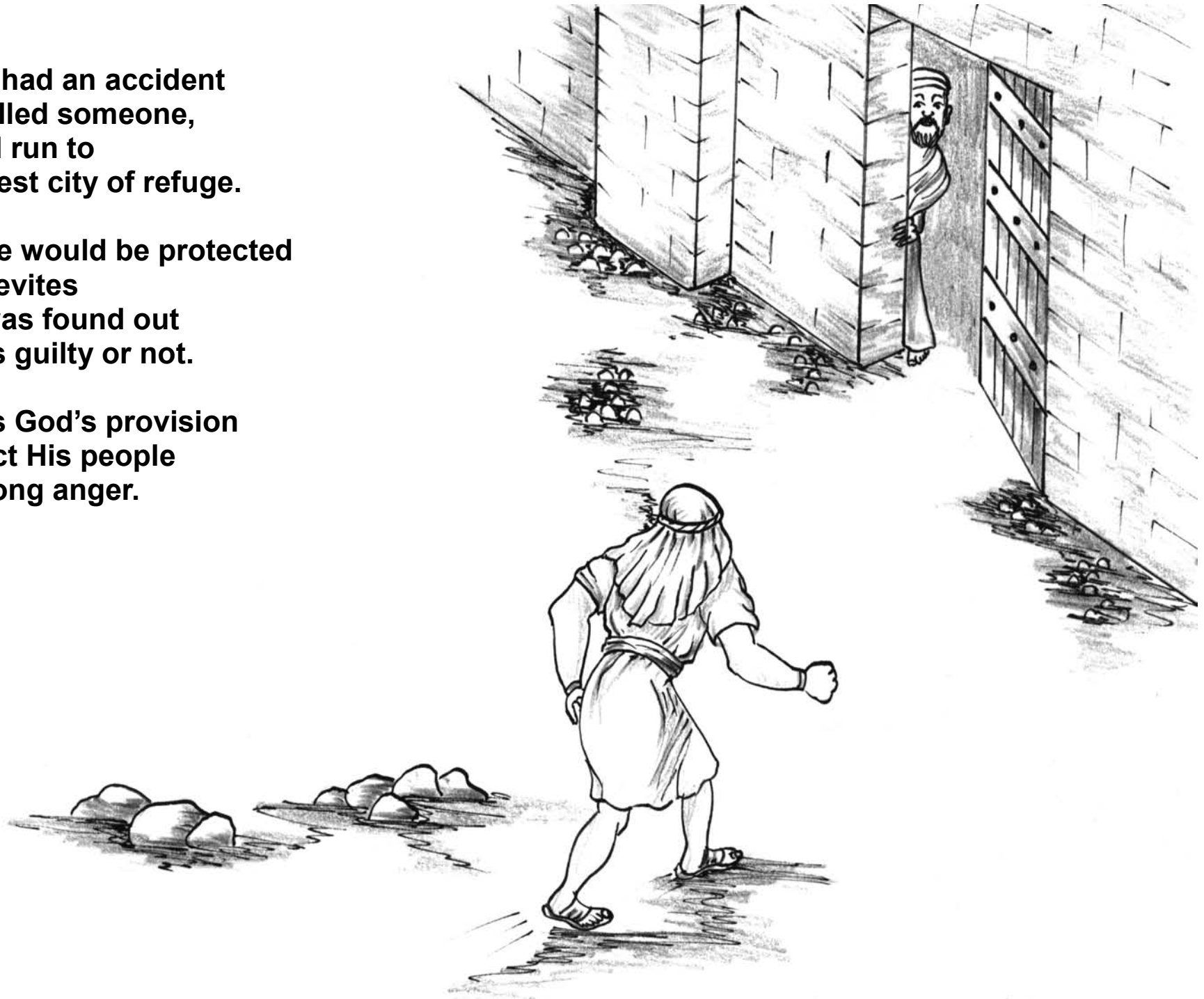




**If a man had an accident  
which killed someone,  
he could run to  
the nearest city of refuge.**

**There, he would be protected  
by the Levites  
until it was found out  
if he was guilty or not.**

**This was God's provision  
to protect His people  
from wrong anger.**



***In this story  
of God bringing His people  
to the land He promised them,  
God was showing everyone  
His plan to have a family  
where they would live with Him.***

***God has done this  
through Jesus Christ.  
He is gathering a family  
of His people  
and bringing them to  
live with Him forever.***

***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

***THE PEOPLE FORGOT THEIR PROMISE /  
DEBORAH AND BARAK***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

*Website: [www.corobaptist.org.au](http://www.corobaptist.org.au)*

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**JUDGES 2:7 – 3:11; 4:1 – 5:3**

Judges 5:4–31

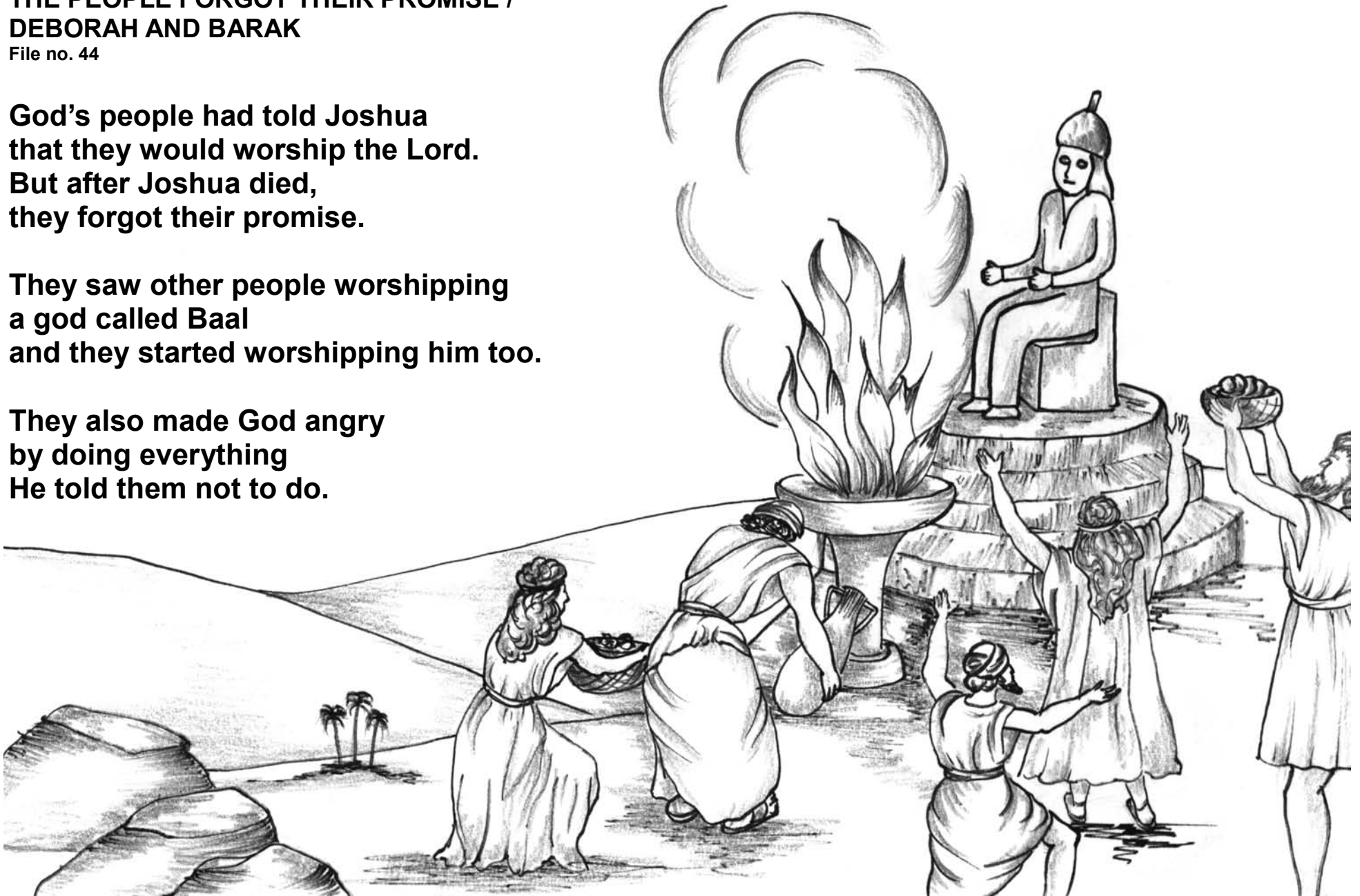
**THE PEOPLE FORGOT THEIR PROMISE /  
DEBORAH AND BARAK**

File no. 44

**God's people had told Joshua  
that they would worship the Lord.  
But after Joshua died,  
they forgot their promise.**

**They saw other people worshipping  
a god called Baal  
and they started worshipping him too.**

**They also made God angry  
by doing everything  
He told them not to do.**



**God let robbers come  
and steal their possessions.  
They were left weak and poor.**

**Then one day  
God's people remembered God  
and cried out to Him.**

**He gave them a judge  
to save them.**



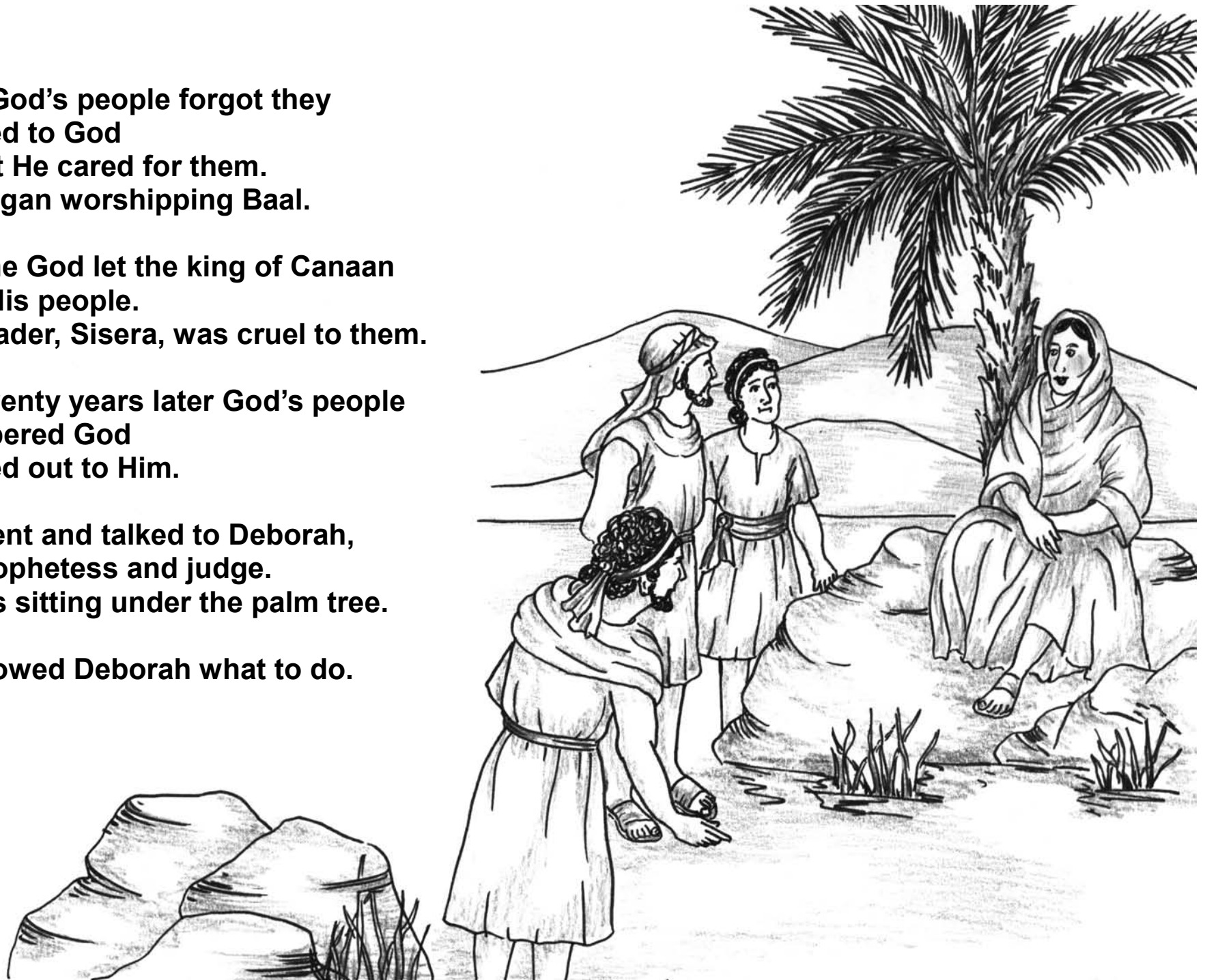
**Again, God's people forgot they  
belonged to God  
and that He cared for them.  
They began worshipping Baal.**

**This time God let the king of Canaan  
defeat His people.  
Their leader, Sisera, was cruel to them.**

**Then twenty years later God's people  
remembered God  
and cried out to Him.**

**They went and talked to Deborah,  
their prophetess and judge.  
She was sitting under the palm tree.**

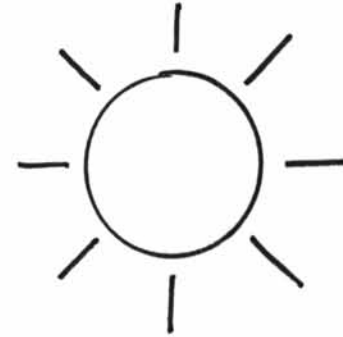
**God showed Deborah what to do.**



**Deborah said to Barak,  
'The Lord says to you,  
"Get an army ready for battle at Mount Tabor.  
He is going to bring Sisera, your enemy, to you.  
He is going to help you defeat him."'**

**Barak was ready to obey God,  
but he would not go unless Deborah went with him.**

**So Barak took his soldiers  
and waited at Mount Tabor.**





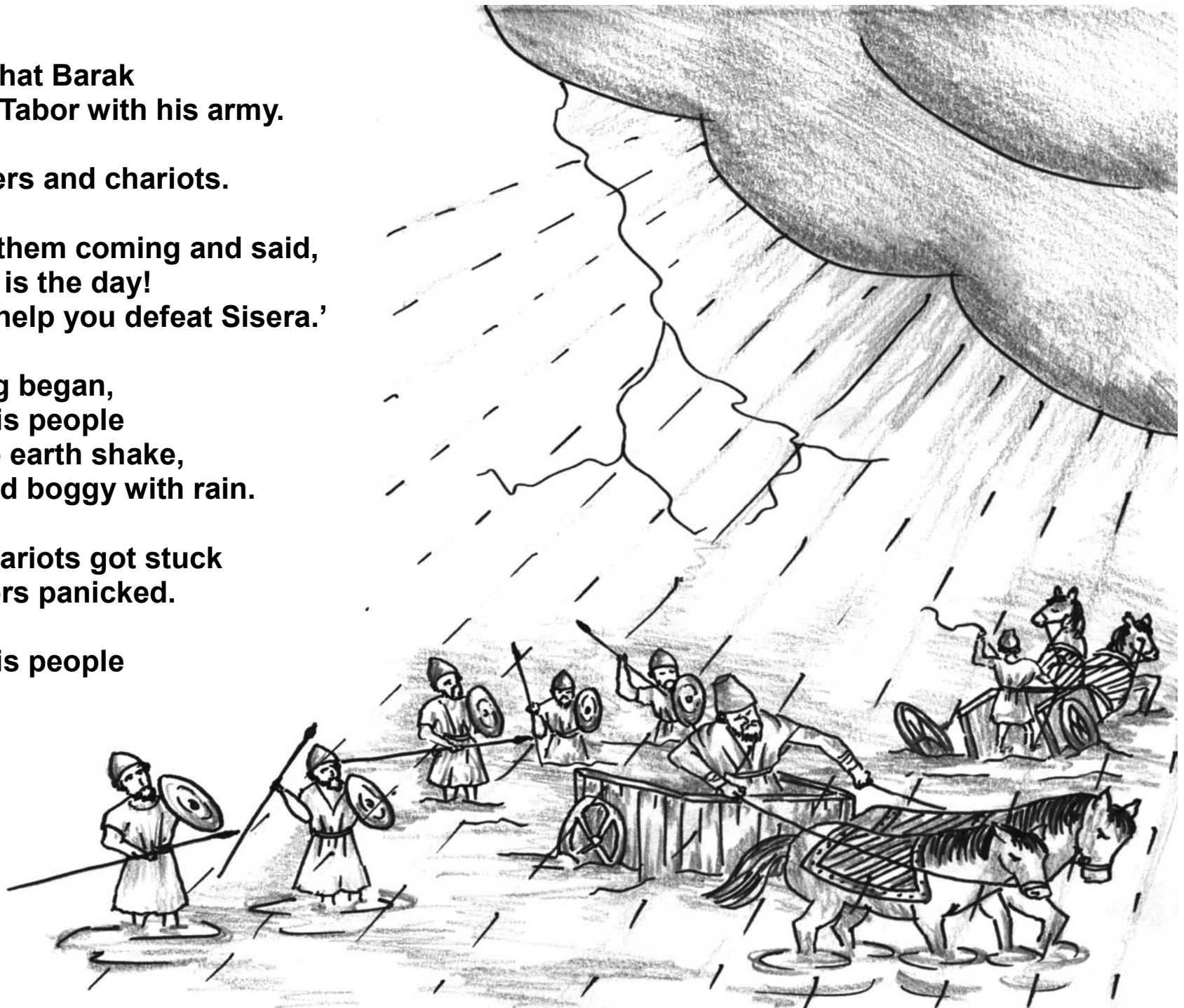
**Sisera heard that Barak  
was at Mount Tabor with his army.  
He came  
with his soldiers and chariots.**

**Deborah saw them coming and said,  
'Barak! Today is the day!  
The Lord will help you defeat Sisera.'**

**As the fighting began,  
God helped His people  
by making the earth shake,  
and the ground boggy with rain.**

**The enemy chariots got stuck  
and the soldiers panicked.**

**God helped His people  
defeat them.**



**But Sisera jumped out of his chariot  
and ran away.  
He ran and ran as far as he could.**

**Then he saw a lady called Jael  
standing by her tent saying,  
'Come and rest here.'**

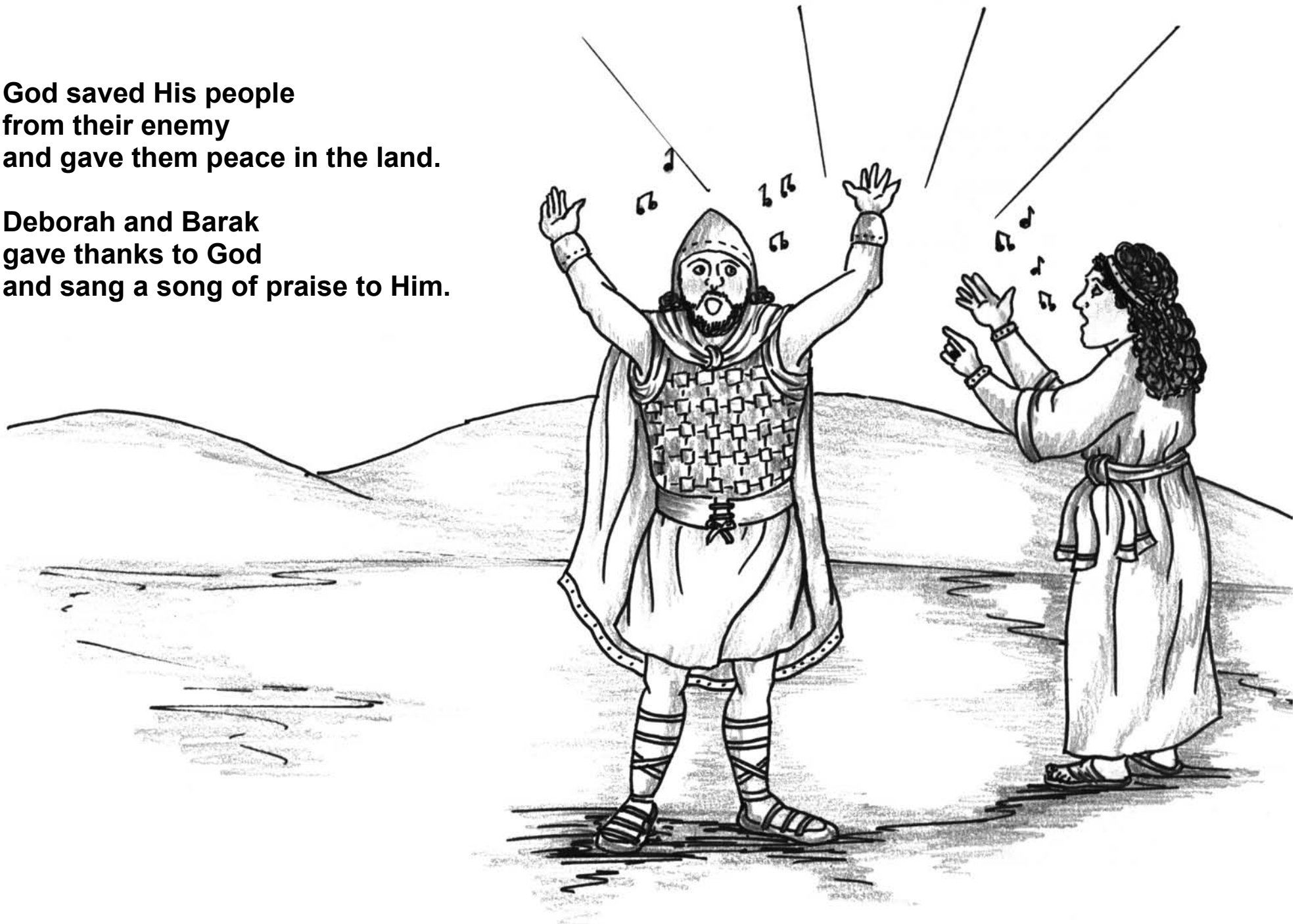
**Sisera was exhausted.  
He went into her tent and said,  
'Watch the door.  
Don't let anyone know I'm here.'**

**He lay down and went to sleep.  
But while he slept, Jael killed him.**



**God saved His people  
from their enemy  
and gave them peace in the land.**

**Deborah and Barak  
gave thanks to God  
and sang a song of praise to Him.**





## ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

# ***GOD CHOOSES GIDEON***

*by*  
*Chris Thorpe*  
*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

*Website: [www.corobaptist.org.au](http://www.corobaptist.org.au)*

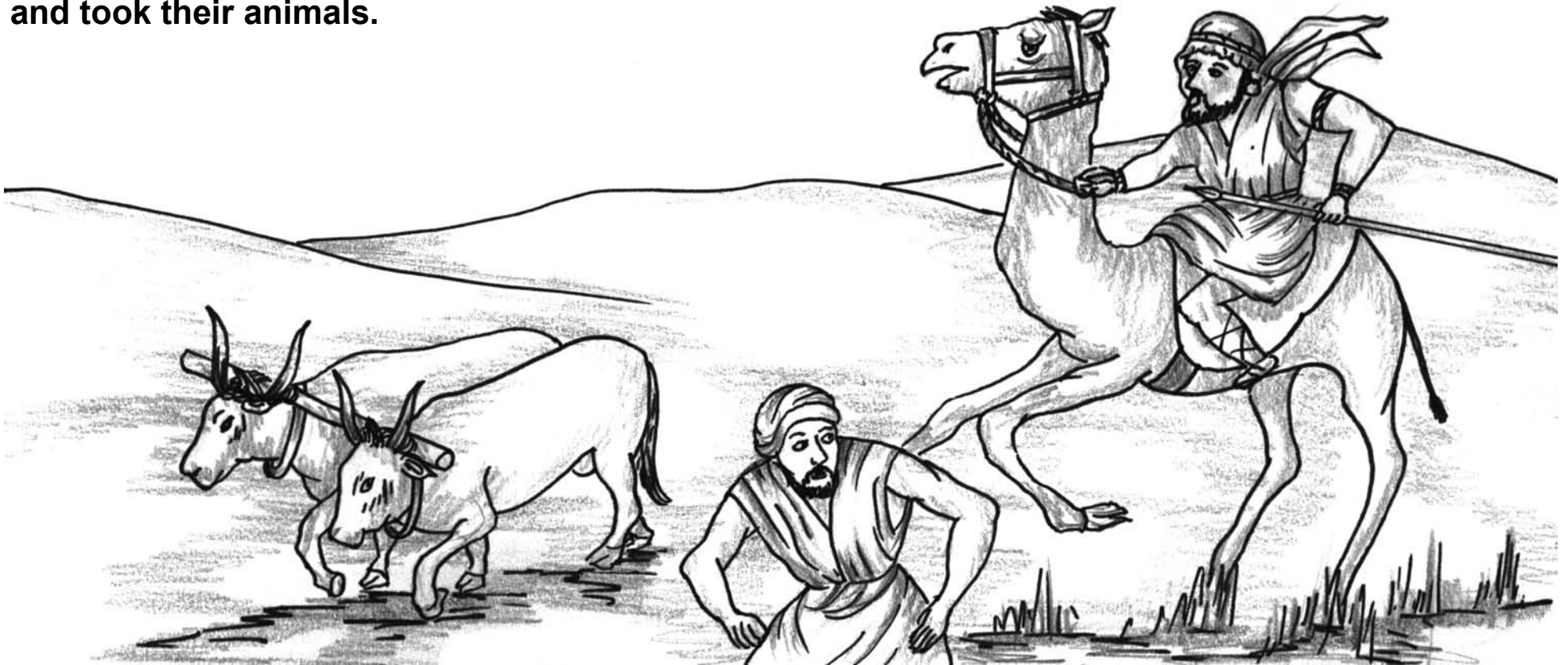
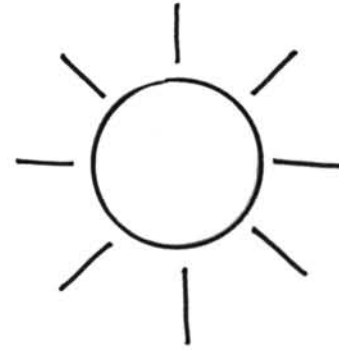
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**JUDGES 6:1-34**  
**GOD CHOOSES GIDEON**  
File no. 45

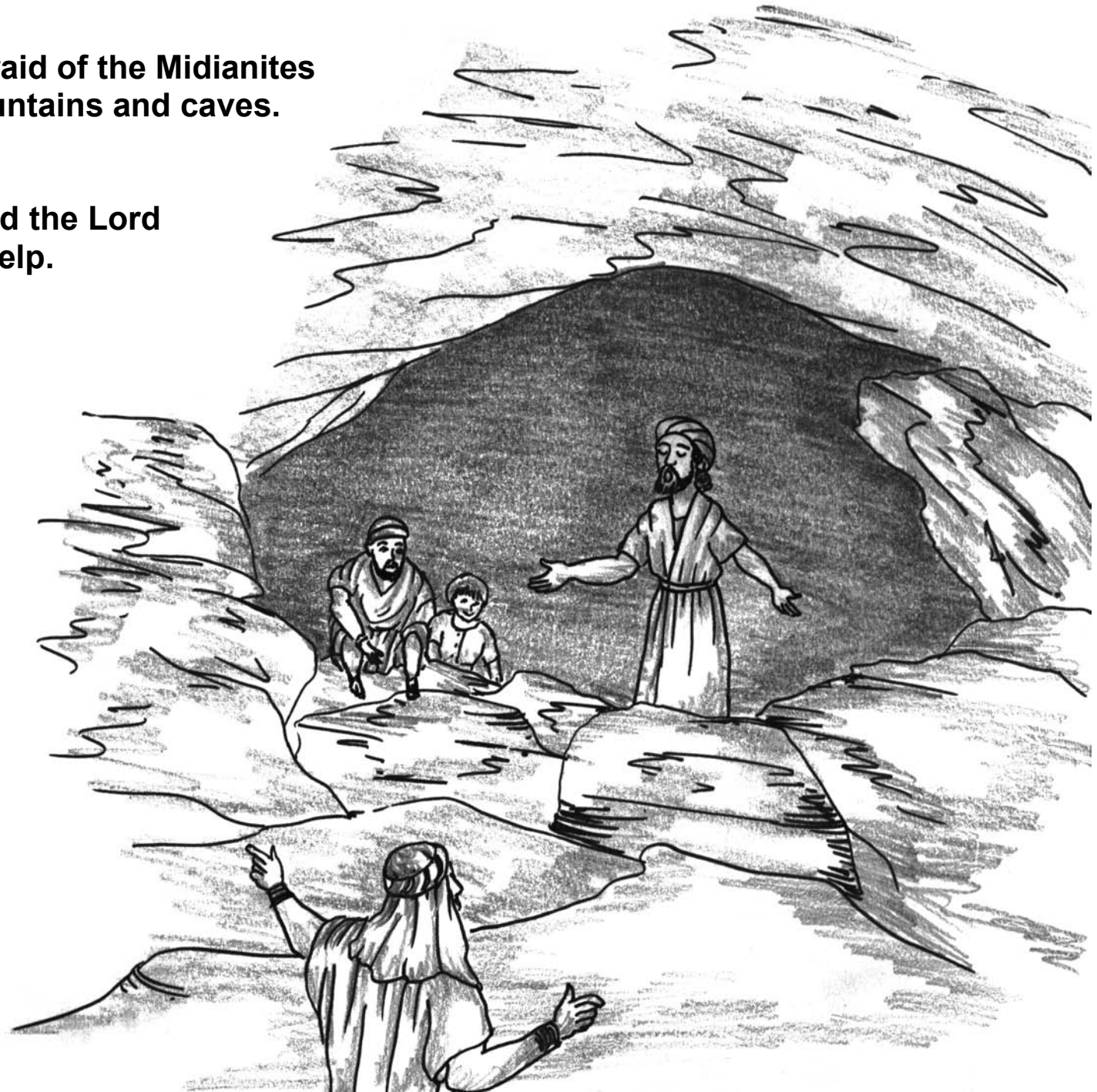
**God's people kept turning away from God  
to worship the false god, Baal.**

**This time, God let the Midianites rule over them.  
They destroyed their crops  
and took their animals.**



**God's people were afraid of the Midianites  
so they hid in the mountains and caves.**

**Then they remembered the Lord  
and cried to Him for help.**





**One day, while Gideon was secretly working with his wheat, an angel of the Lord came to him.**

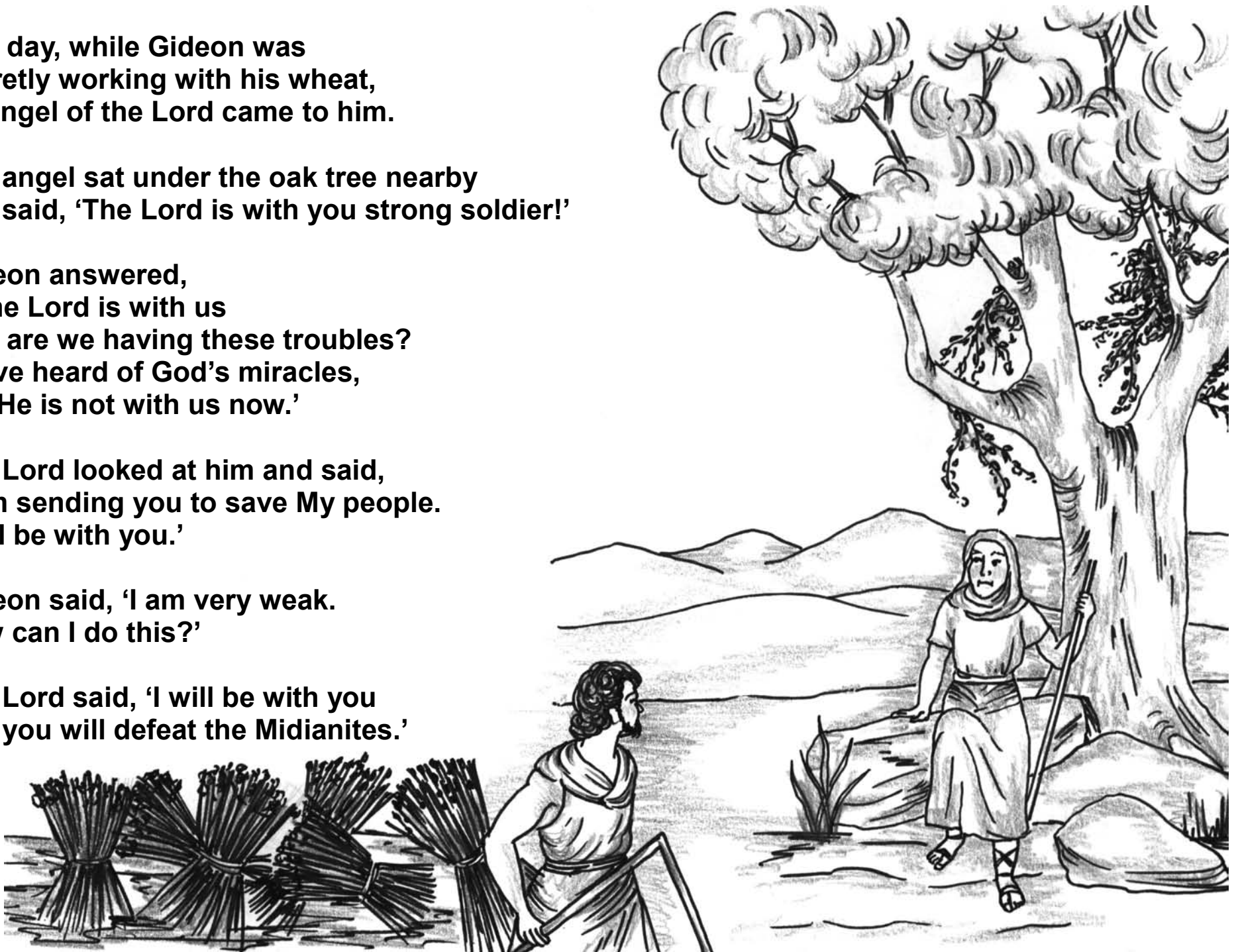
**The angel sat under the oak tree nearby and said, 'The Lord is with you strong soldier!'**

**Gideon answered,  
'If the Lord is with us  
why are we having these troubles?  
I have heard of God's miracles,  
but He is not with us now.'**

**The Lord looked at him and said,  
'I am sending you to save My people.  
I will be with you.'**

**Gideon said, 'I am very weak.  
How can I do this?'**

**The Lord said, 'I will be with you  
and you will defeat the Midianites.'**



**Gideon said,  
'If you are pleased with me,  
show me that it really is you  
who is asking me to help.  
Wait for me here  
and I will bring you a gift.'**

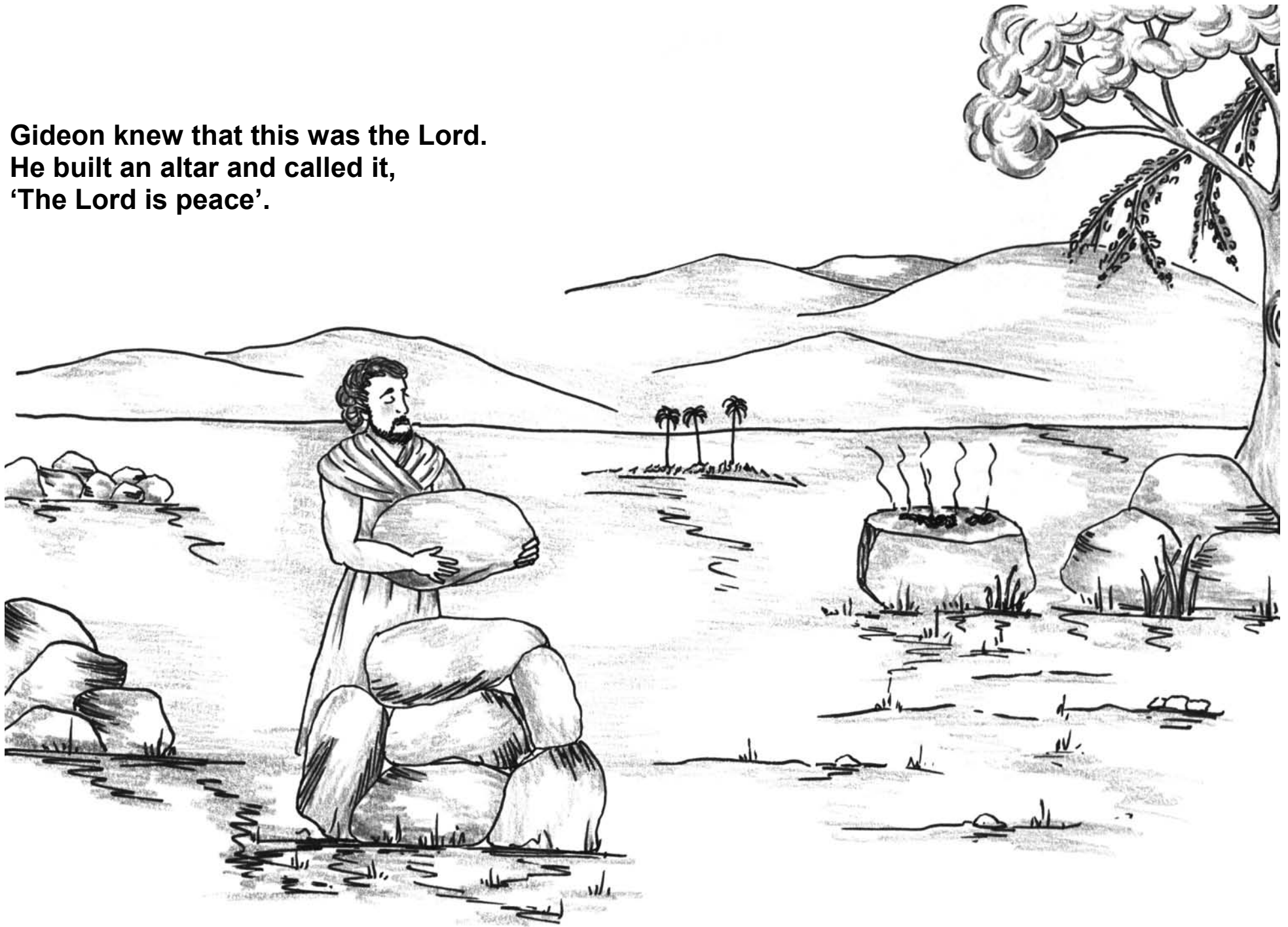
**Gideon brought back  
his gift of meat and bread  
and gave it to his visitor.**

**The angel told him  
to put the meat and bread  
on the rock.**

**That is what Gideon did.  
The angel touched it with the  
end of his stick.  
Fire came up from the rock  
and burned the food.  
Then the angel disappeared.**

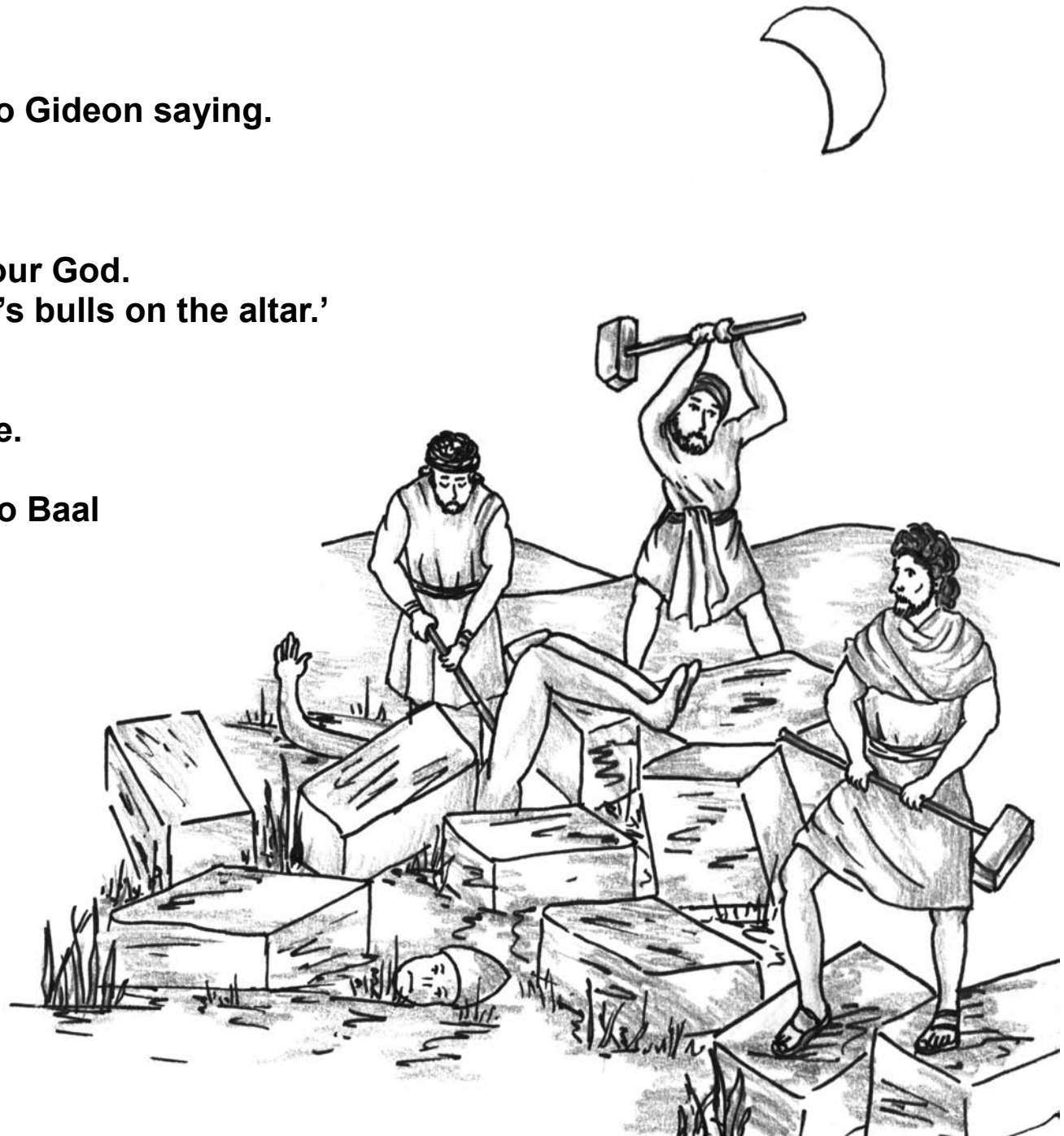


**Gideon knew that this was the Lord.  
He built an altar and called it,  
'The Lord is peace'.**



**That night the Lord spoke to Gideon saying.  
'Go and pull down  
your father's altar to Baal  
and the idol beside it.  
Build an altar to the Lord your God.  
Sacrifice one of your father's bulls on the altar.'**

**Gideon was afraid  
so he waited until night time.  
With ten of his servants  
they pulled down the altar to Baal  
and the idol.  
Then he built an altar  
and sacrificed to the Lord.**



The next morning  
when the people got up and saw  
what Gideon had done they were angry.  
They wanted to kill Gideon.

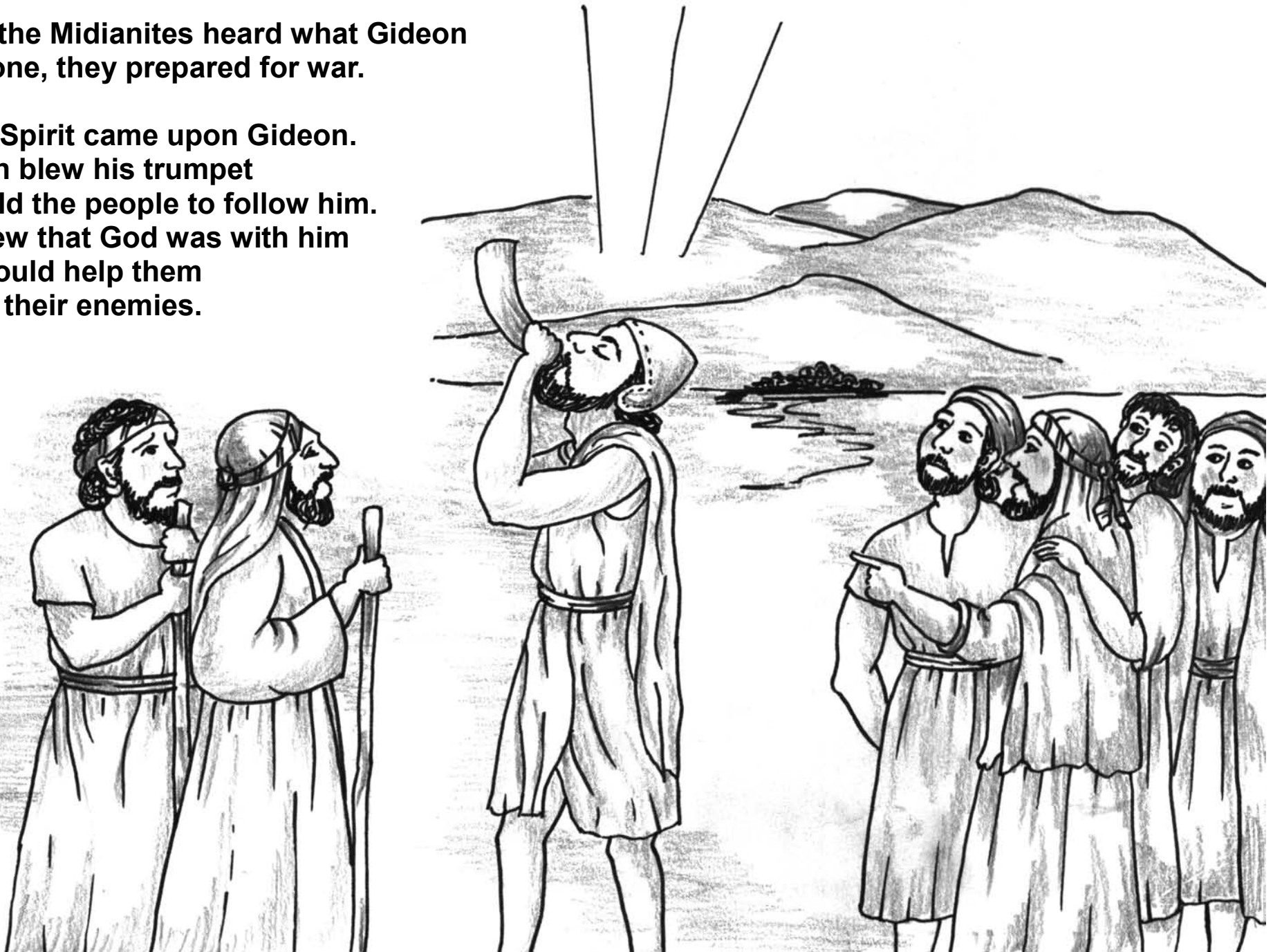
But Gideon's father said,  
'If Baal is a god,  
let him fight for himself.'





**When the Midianites heard what Gideon had done, they prepared for war.**

**God's Spirit came upon Gideon.  
Gideon blew his trumpet  
and told the people to follow him.  
He knew that God was with him  
and would help them  
defeat their enemies.**



***Bible Stories for Young Children***

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***GIDEON PREPARES FOR WAR /  
HOW GIDEON WON***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

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**JUDGES 6:33 – 8:28**

**GIDEON PREPARES FOR WAR / HOW GIDEON WON**

File no. 46

**Gideon wanted to be sure that God was going to help him defeat their enemy.**

**So he asked God to show him a sign.  
'Tonight I am going to put out  
a sheepskin on the ground.  
Please let the dew fall on the wool  
and not on the ground.  
Then I will know that You will be with me'**

**In the morning  
Gideon found the sheepskin was wet  
and the ground was dry.**

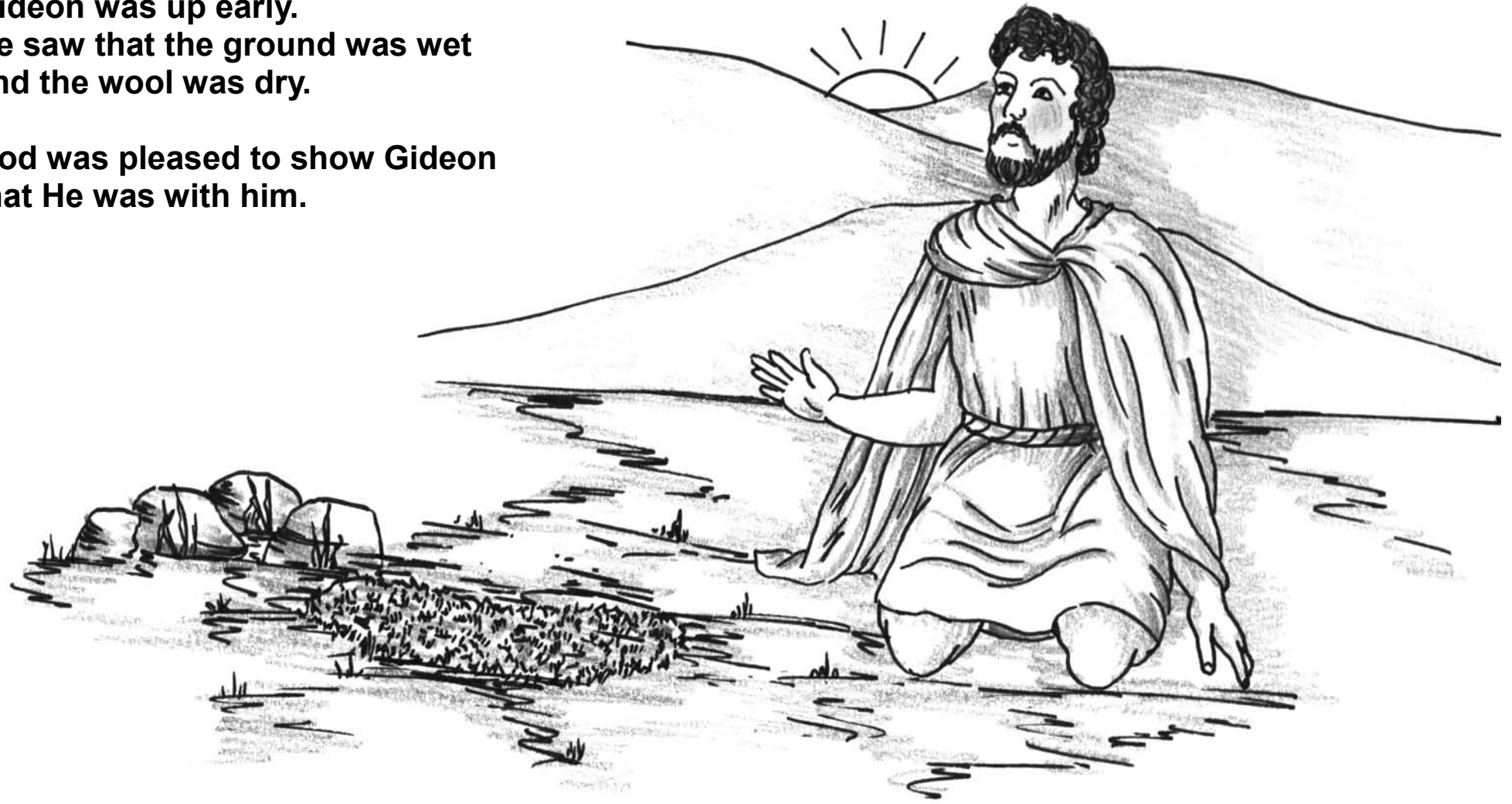
**'Please don't be angry,' said Gideon.  
'I want to do the test again  
but this time when I put out the sheepskin  
let the wool be dry  
and the ground wet.'**





**The next morning  
Gideon was up early.  
He saw that the ground was wet  
and the wool was dry.**

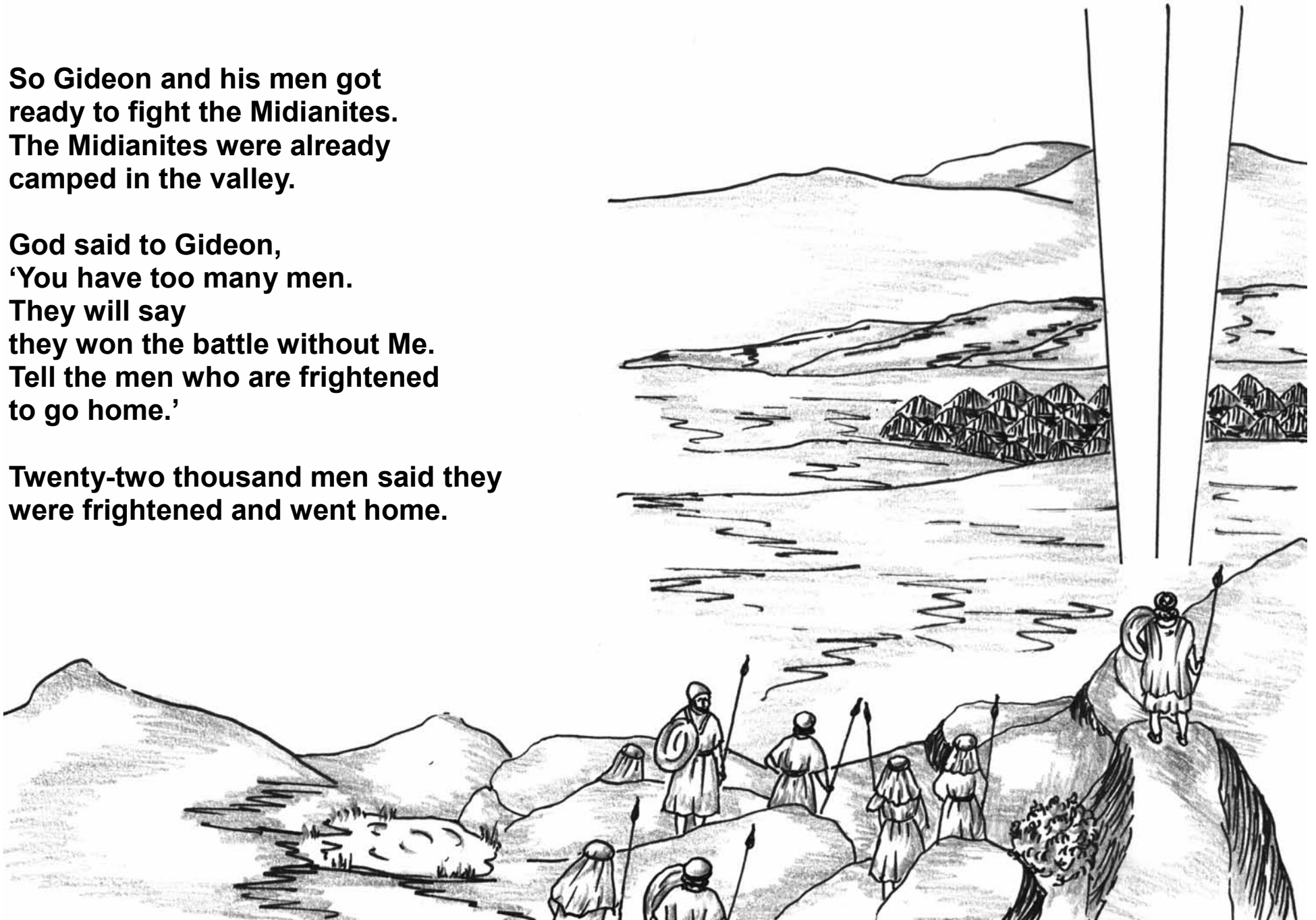
**God was pleased to show Gideon  
that He was with him.**



**So Gideon and his men got ready to fight the Midianites. The Midianites were already camped in the valley.**

**God said to Gideon,  
'You have too many men.  
They will say  
they won the battle without Me.  
Tell the men who are frightened  
to go home.'**

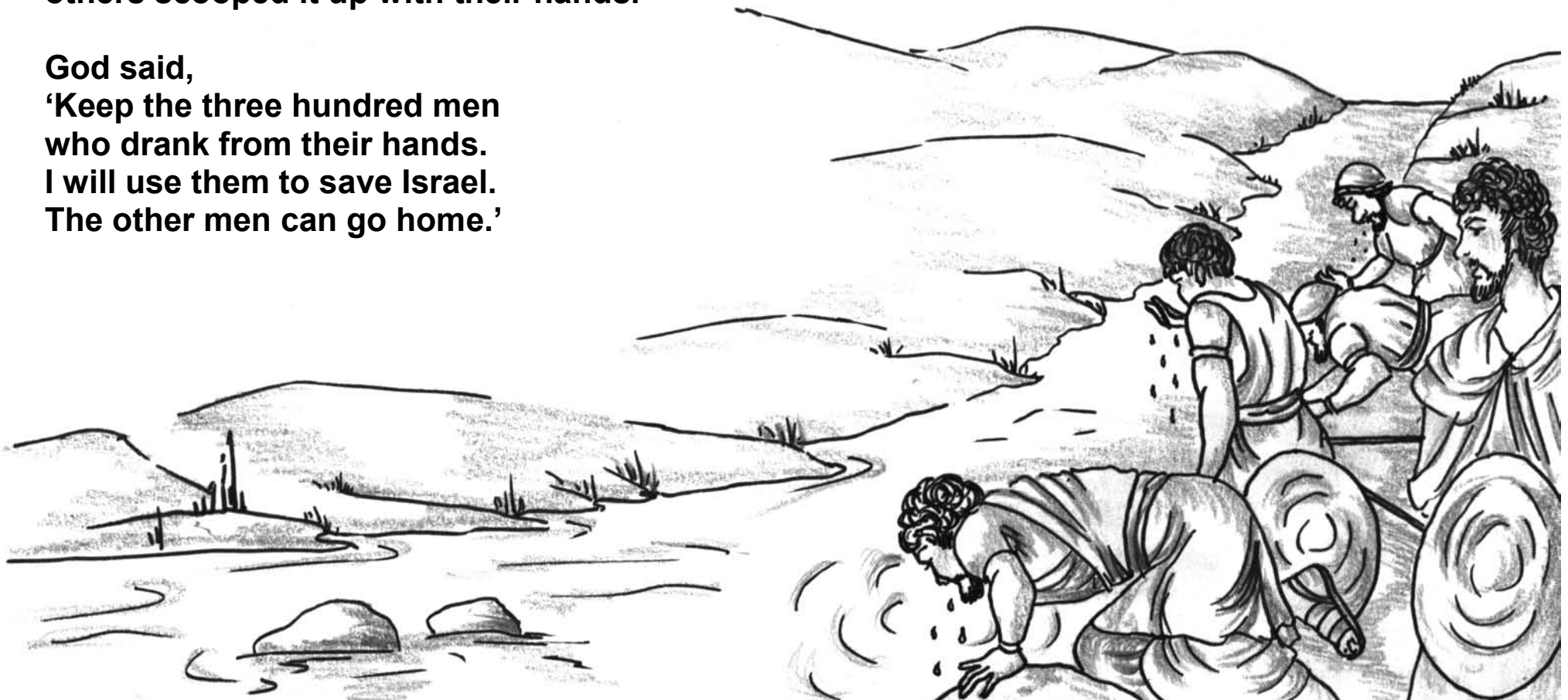
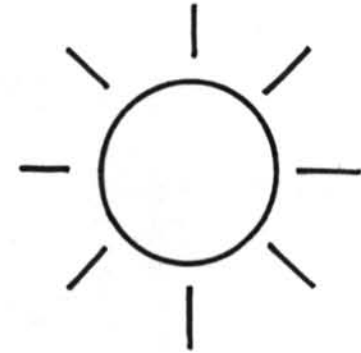
**Twenty-two thousand men said they were frightened and went home.**



**God said to Gideon,  
'You still have too many men.  
Take the men down to the water  
and I will tell you who to keep.'**

**The men had a drink.  
Some put their mouths to the water  
others scooped it up with their hands.**

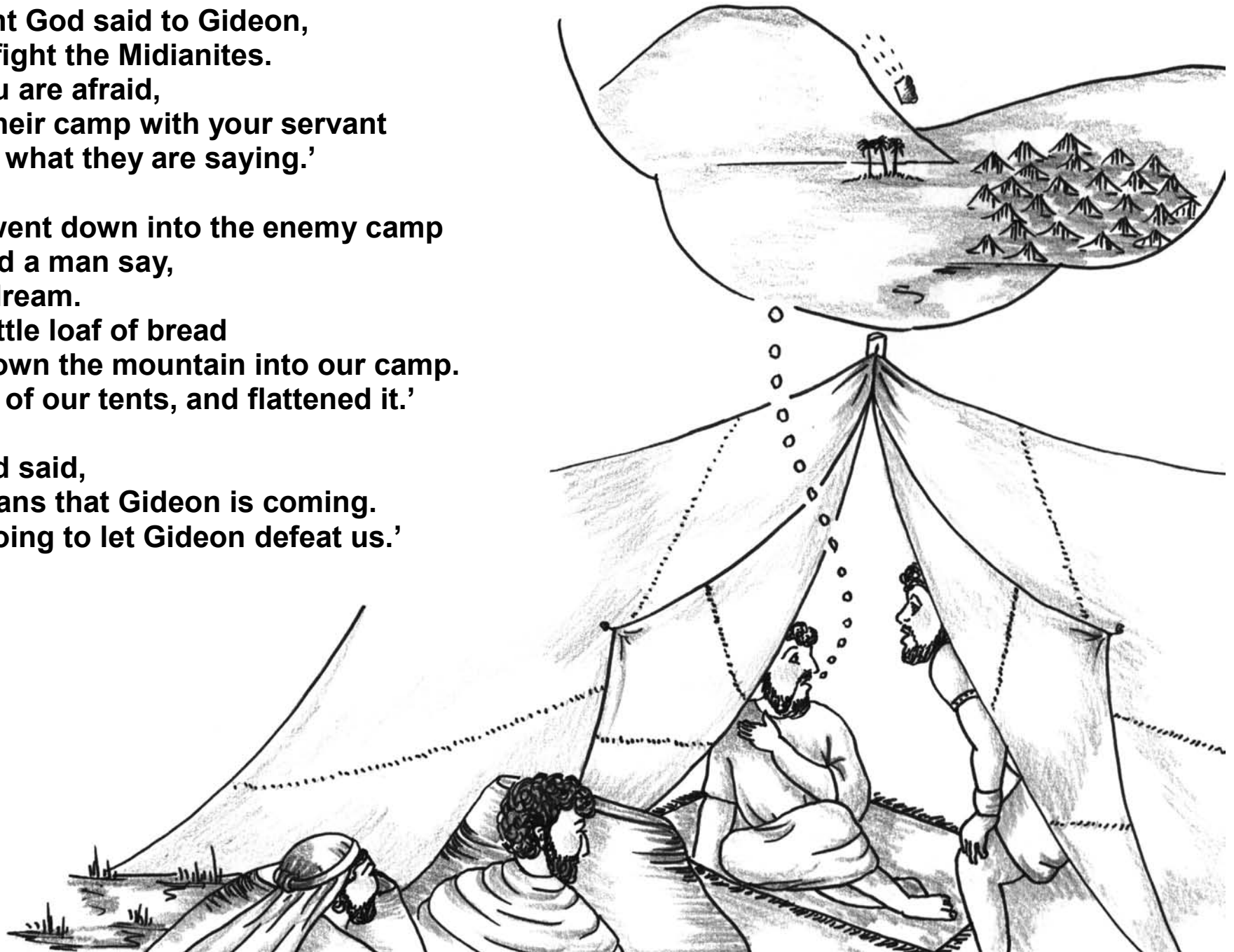
**God said,  
'Keep the three hundred men  
who drank from their hands.  
I will use them to save Israel.  
The other men can go home.'**



**That night God said to Gideon,  
'Go and fight the Midianites.  
But if you are afraid,  
go into their camp with your servant  
and hear what they are saying.'**

**Gideon went down into the enemy camp  
and heard a man say,  
'I had a dream.  
I saw a little loaf of bread  
rolling down the mountain into our camp.  
It hit one of our tents, and flattened it.'**

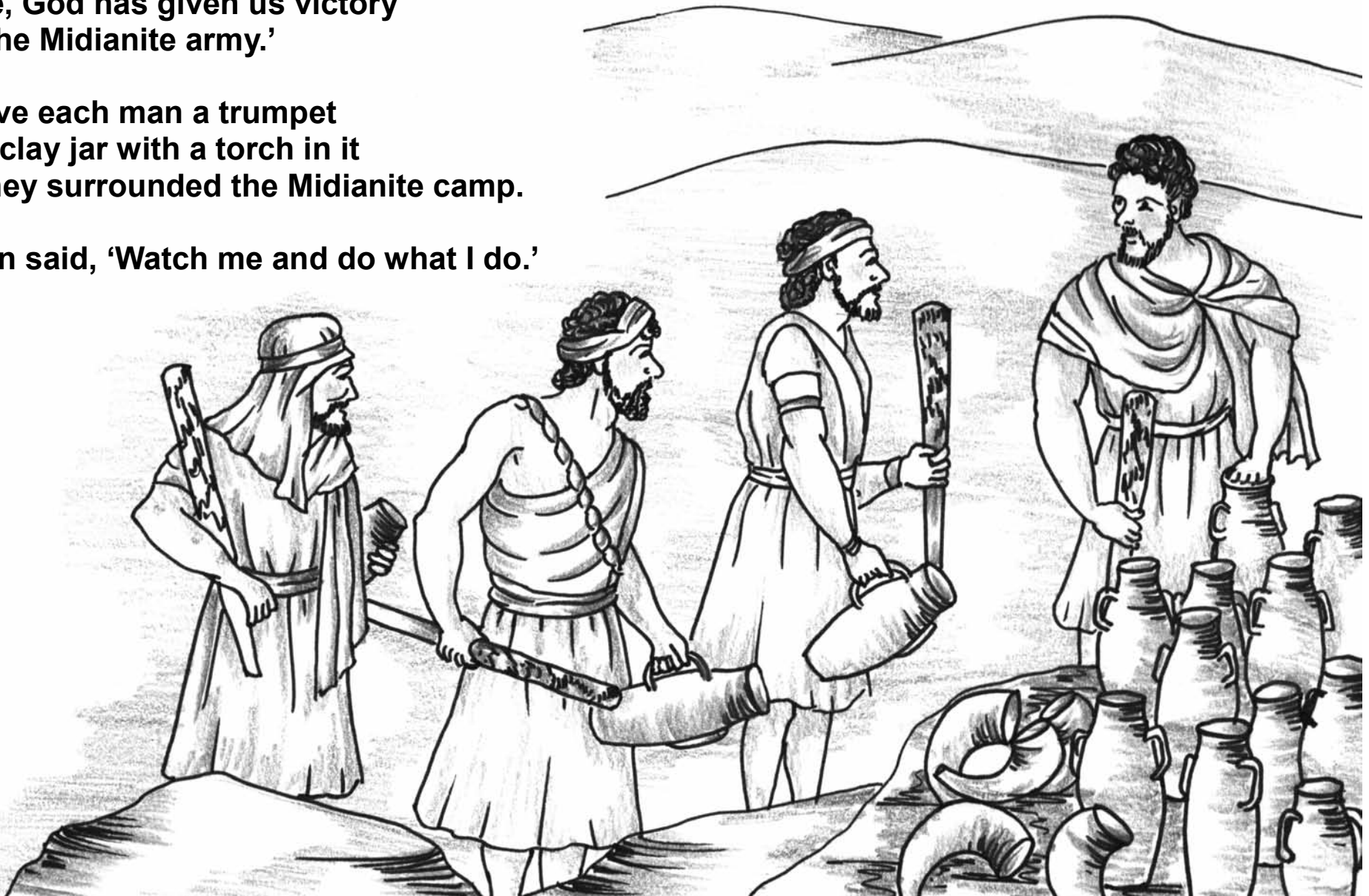
**His friend said,  
'That means that Gideon is coming.  
God is going to let Gideon defeat us.'**



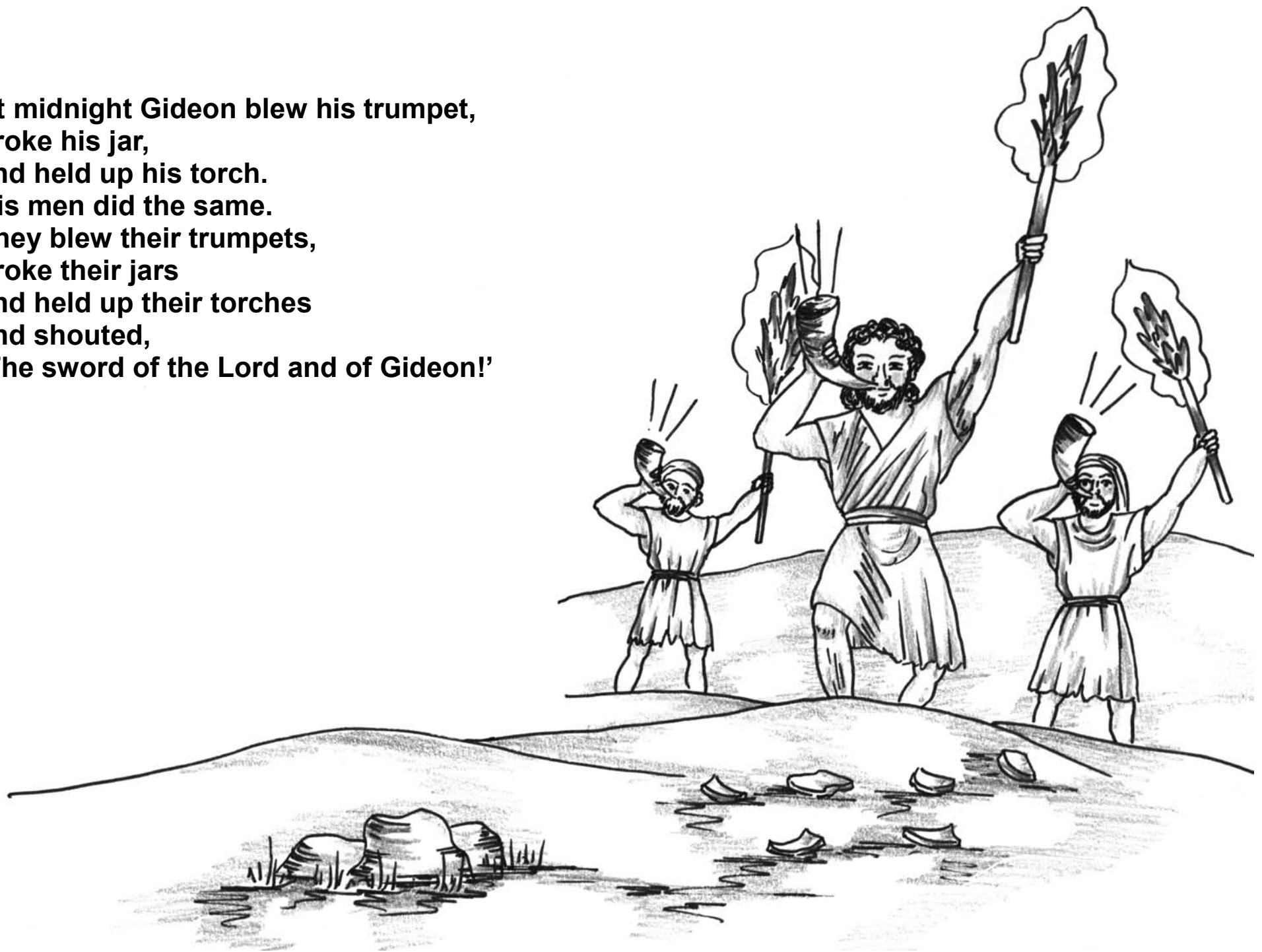
**When Gideon heard this  
he worshipped the Lord,  
then hurried back to his men and said,  
'Come, God has given us victory  
over the Midianite army.'**

**He gave each man a trumpet  
and a clay jar with a torch in it  
and they surrounded the Midianite camp.**

**Gideon said, 'Watch me and do what I do.'**



**At midnight Gideon blew his trumpet,  
broke his jar,  
and held up his torch.  
His men did the same.  
They blew their trumpets,  
broke their jars  
and held up their torches  
and shouted,  
'The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!'**



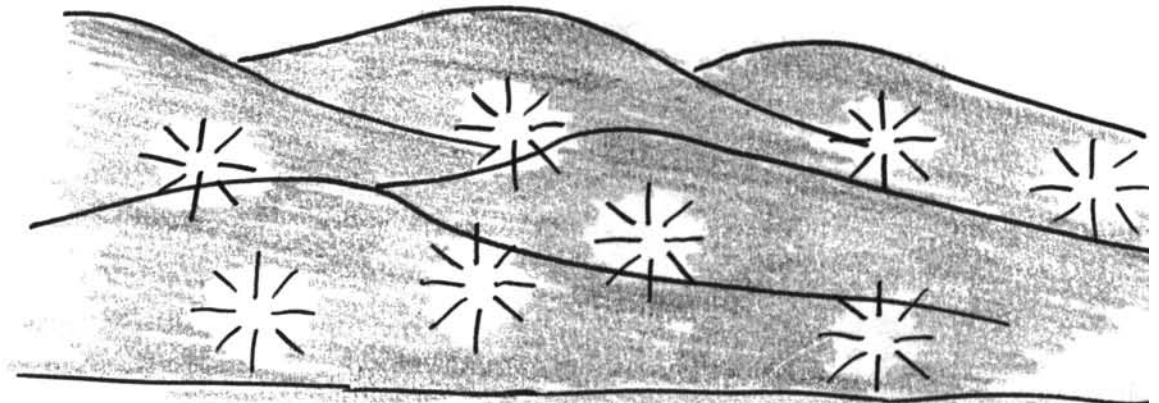


**The noise woke the Midianites  
and they saw the flashing lights.  
They were afraid and ran away  
and fought each other as they ran.**

**Gideon's men went after them.  
God saved Israel,  
as He said He would.**

**The people wanted Gideon  
to rule over them.**

**But Gideon said,  
'No, the Lord will rule over you.'**







***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

***A BABY PROMISED BY GOD /  
SAMSON FIGHTS THE PHILISTINES***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

*Website: [www.corobaptist.org.au](http://www.corobaptist.org.au)*

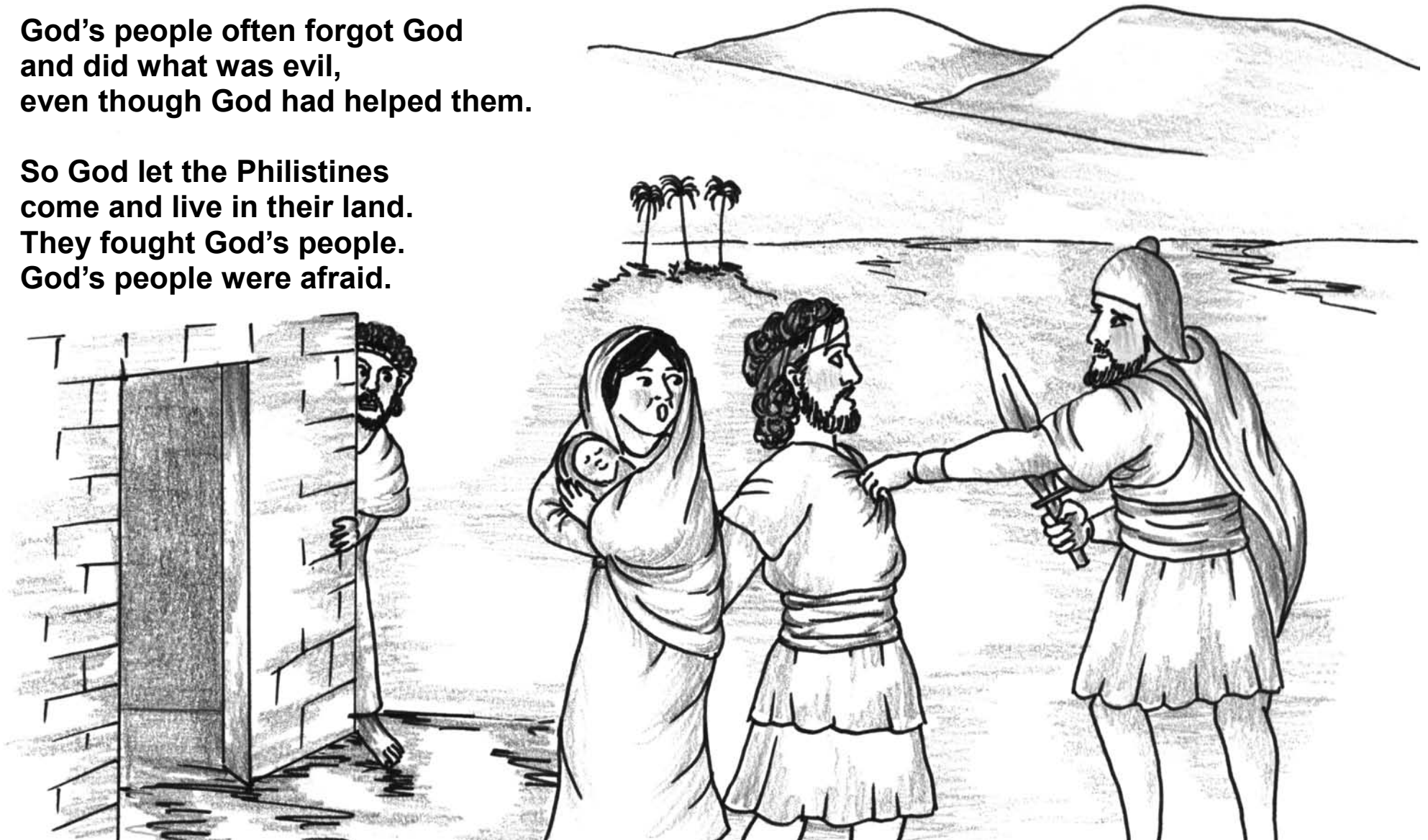
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**JUDGES 13:1 – 14:7,20; 15:9–20**  
**A BABY PROMISED BY GOD /**  
**SAMSON FIGHTS THE PHILISTINES**  
File no. 47

**God's people often forgot God  
and did what was evil,  
even though God had helped them.**

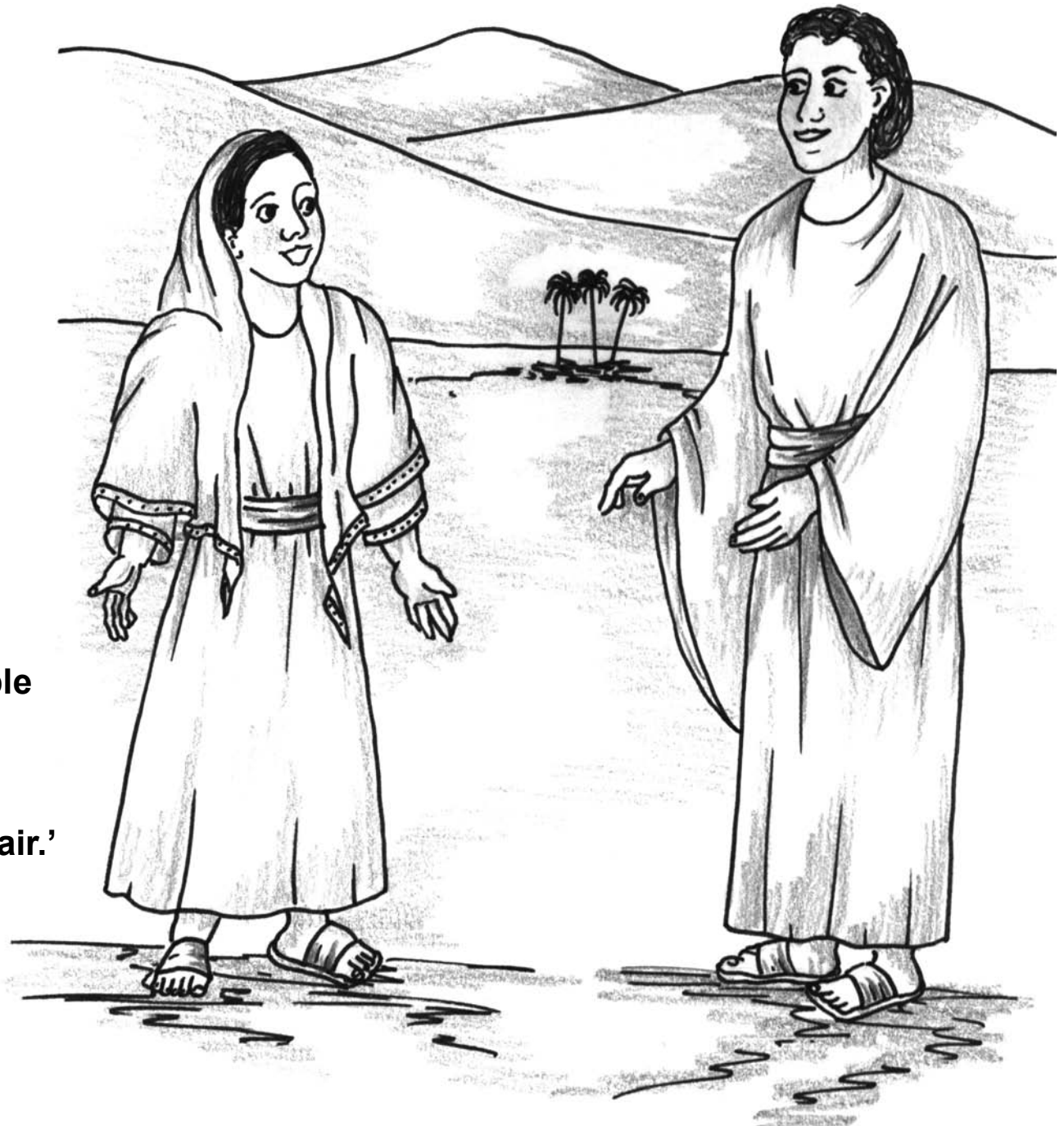
**So God let the Philistines  
come and live in their land.  
They fought God's people.  
God's people were afraid.**



**Manoah, one of God's people,  
and his wife lived in Israel.**

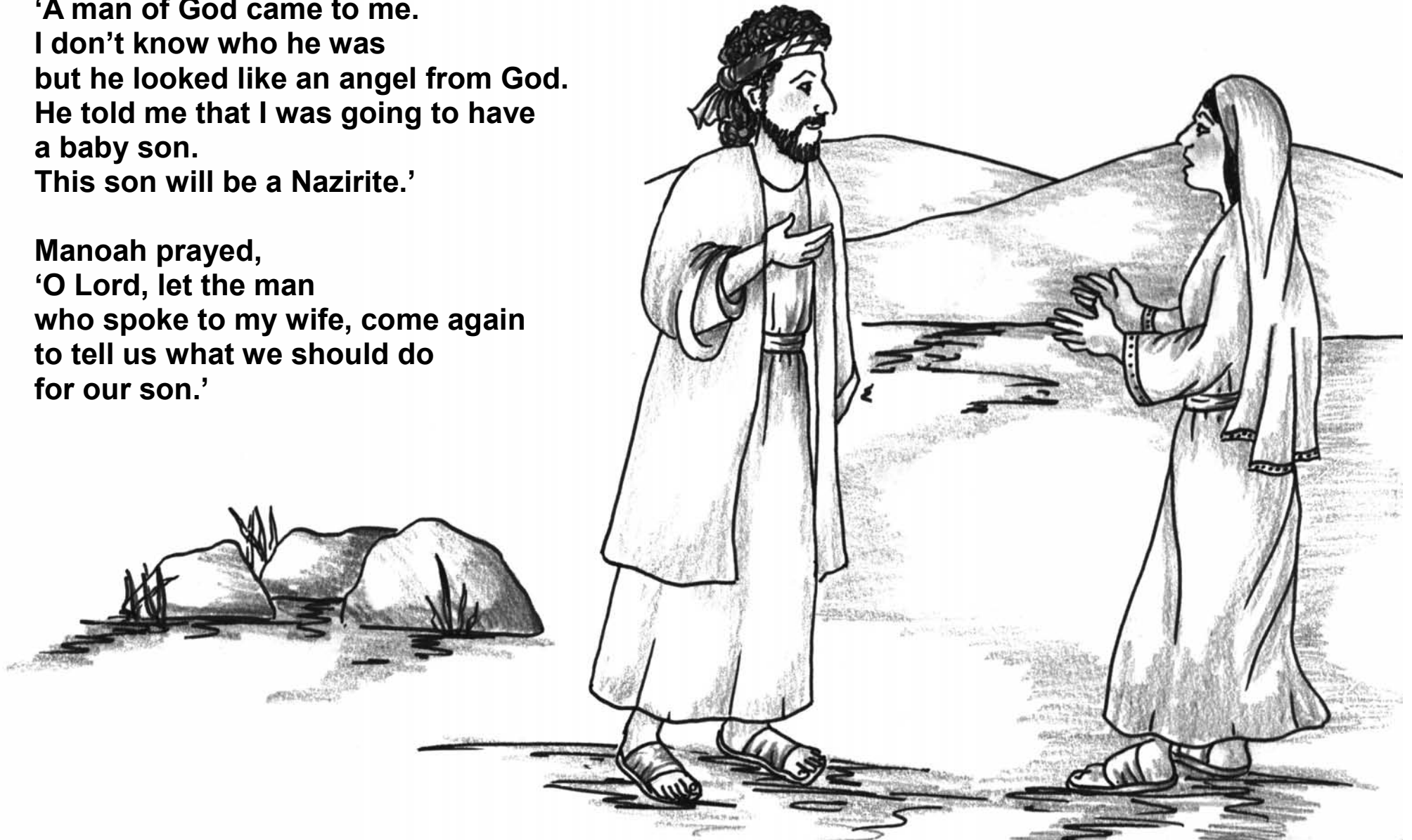
**One day the angel of the Lord  
came to Manoah's wife  
and said,  
'You have not been able  
to have a baby.  
But now you are going to have  
a baby son.**

**'Your baby son will be for God.  
He will be set apart for God  
from the day he is born.  
He will begin to save God's people  
from the Philistines.  
So you should not drink wine  
or eat food that is unclean.  
You must never cut your son's hair.'**



When the angel had gone  
Manoah's wife found her husband  
and said,  
'A man of God came to me.  
I don't know who he was  
but he looked like an angel from God.  
He told me that I was going to have  
a baby son.  
This son will be a Nazirite.'

Manoah prayed,  
'O Lord, let the man  
who spoke to my wife, come again  
to tell us what we should do  
for our son.'



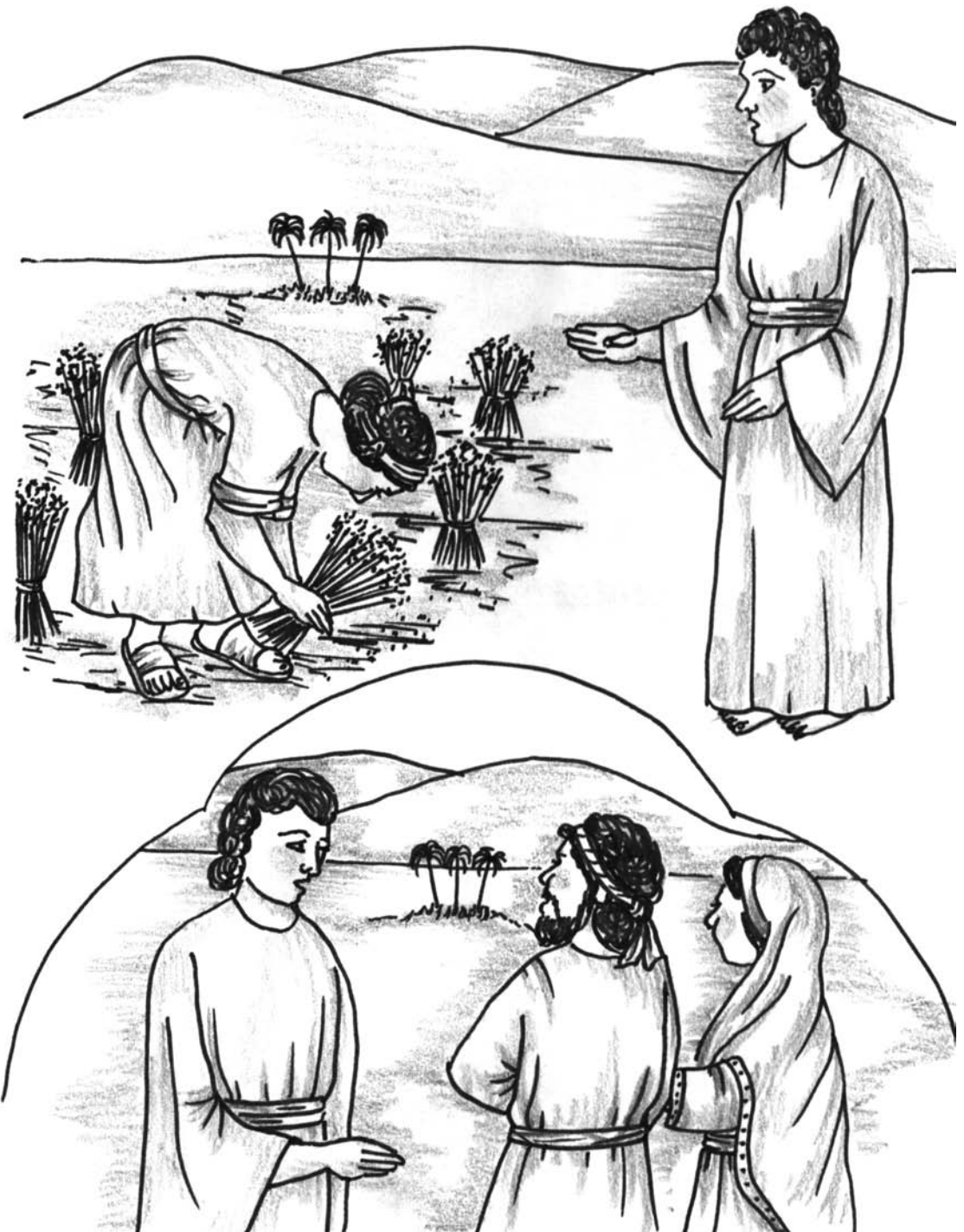
**Manoah's wife was in the field,  
and the angel came to her again.  
She ran to get her husband  
and they went back to the angel.**

**'Are you the man who told my wife  
that she will have a baby son?'  
asked Manoah.**

**'I am,' said the angel.**

**Manoah said,  
'What do we teach our son?'**

**The angel said,  
'He will be a Nazirite,  
a child especially prepared  
for God's will.  
He will save God's people  
from the Philistines.  
His hair is not to be cut.'**

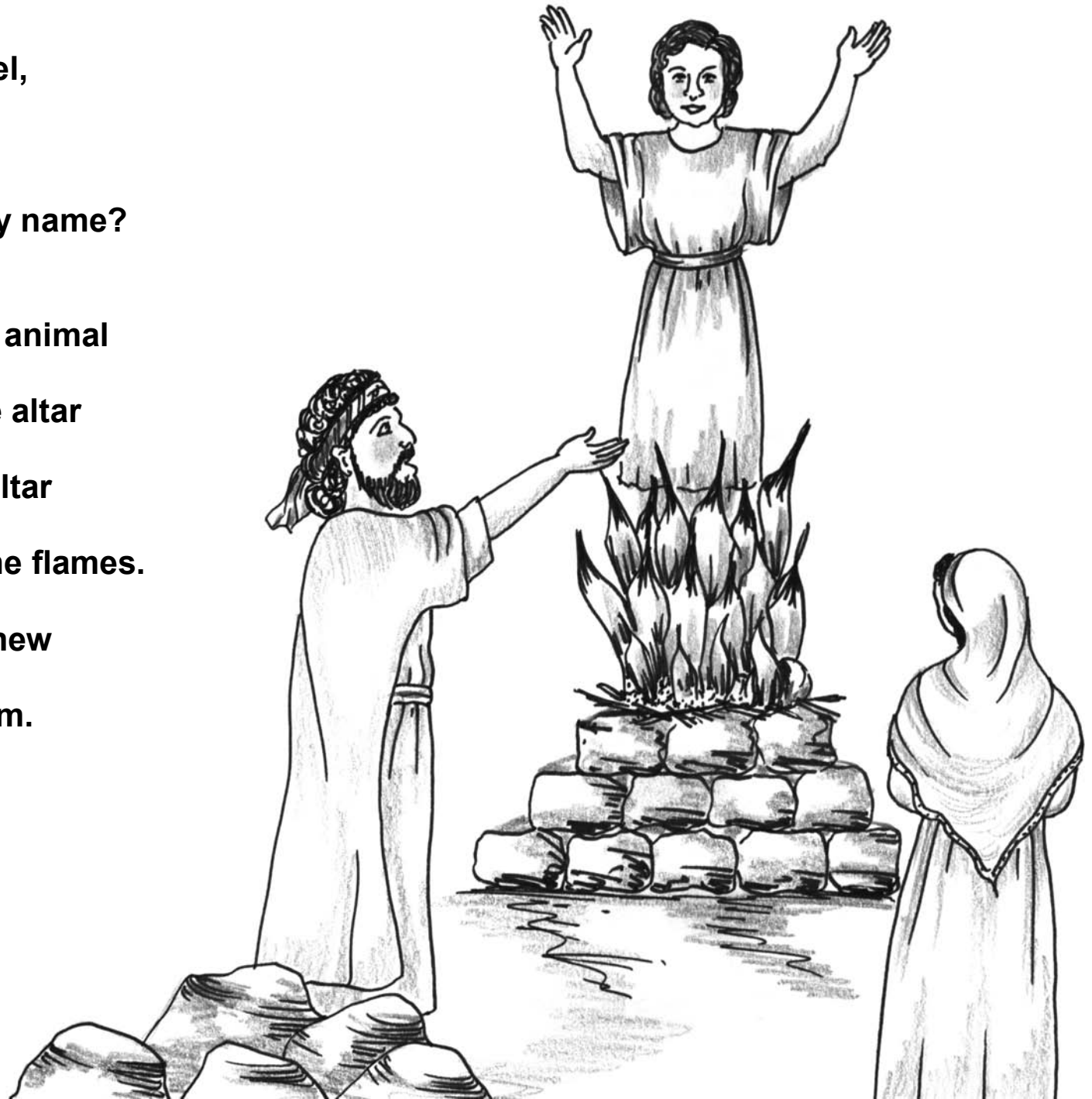


**Manoah asked the angel,  
'What is your name?'**

**The angel said,  
'Why do you ask me my name?  
It is too wonderful.'**

**So Manoah got a small animal  
and some grain  
and he offered it on the altar  
to the Lord.  
Fire went up from the altar  
and the angel  
went up to heaven in the flames.**

**Manoah and his wife knew  
that it was God  
who had spoken to them.**

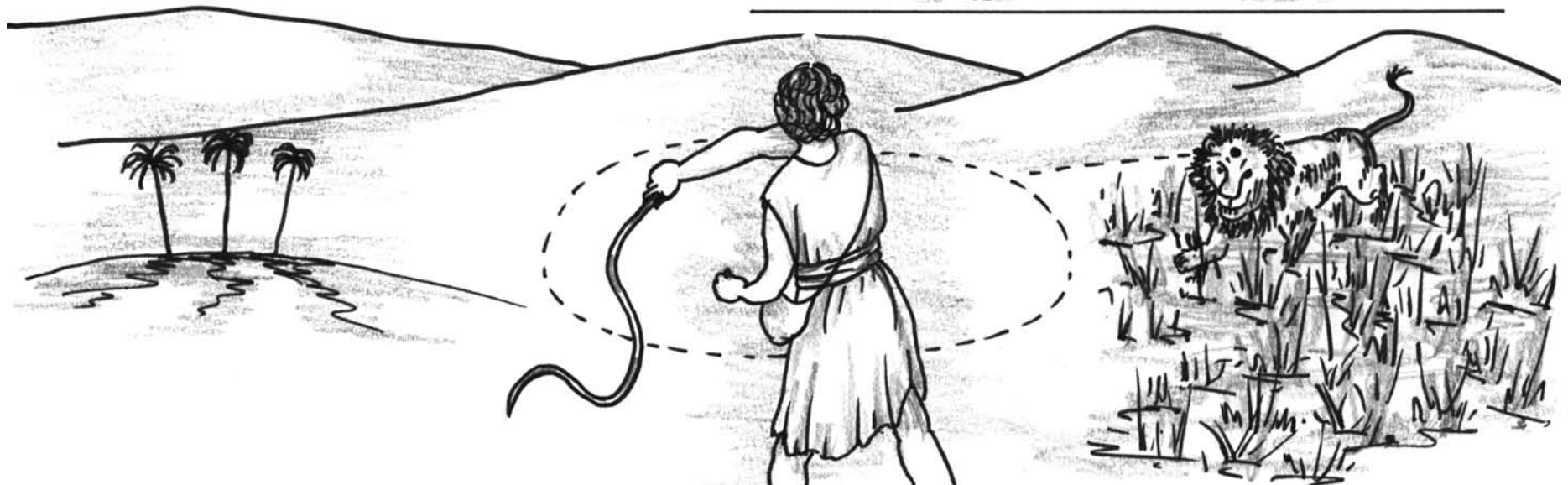




**When the baby was born  
they called him Samson.**

**Samson grew  
and God gave him amazing strength.  
One day he killed a lion.  
Another time the Philistines  
came to get him and  
God gave him strength to defeat them.**

**So the Lord gave His people Samson  
to be a judge  
and to defeat their enemies.**





***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

***SAMSON AND DELILAH /  
SAMSON'S DEATH***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

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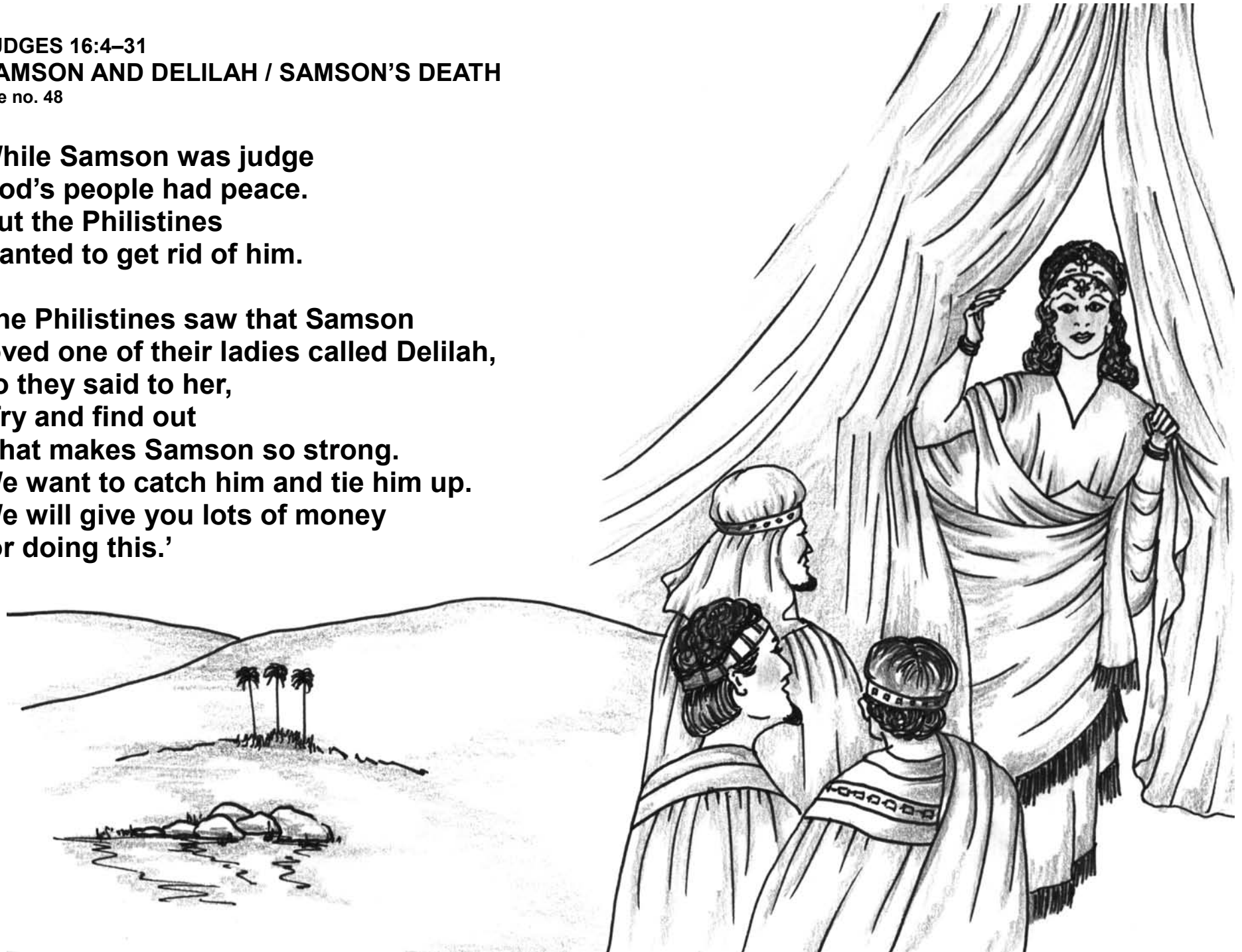
**JUDGES 16:4–31**

**SAMSON AND DELILAH / SAMSON'S DEATH**

File no. 48

**While Samson was judge  
God's people had peace.  
But the Philistines  
wanted to get rid of him.**

**The Philistines saw that Samson  
loved one of their ladies called Delilah,  
so they said to her,  
'Try and find out  
what makes Samson so strong.  
We want to catch him and tie him up.  
We will give you lots of money  
for doing this.'**



**So Delilah asked Samson,  
'Why are you so strong?  
Is there a way you can be tied up  
so you can't do anything?'**

**Samson said,  
'If I am bound up  
with seven new bowstrings  
I will be weak like everyone else.'**



**Delilah bound Samson  
with seven new bowstrings then said,  
'Samson the Philistines are after you.'**

**Samson got up  
and broke the bowstrings.  
He had kept the secret of the strength  
God had given him.**

**Delilah said to Samson,  
'You lied and made fun of me.  
How can you be tied up?'**



**Samson said, 'If you bind me in new ropes then I will be weak like everyone else.'**

**So Delilah tied Samson up with the new ropes and said, 'Samson, the Philistines are after you.'**

**Samson broke the ropes as if they were thin cotton.**



**Delilah said to Samson,  
'You have made me look silly  
with your lies.  
Tell me, how can you be tied up?'**

**Samson said,  
'If my long hair is woven in a loom  
and tied with a pin,  
I will be weak like everyone else.'**

**So when Samson was asleep  
Delilah wove his hair in her loom  
and said,  
'Samson, the Philistines are after you.'**

**Samson woke up  
and pulled away the pin and loom.**

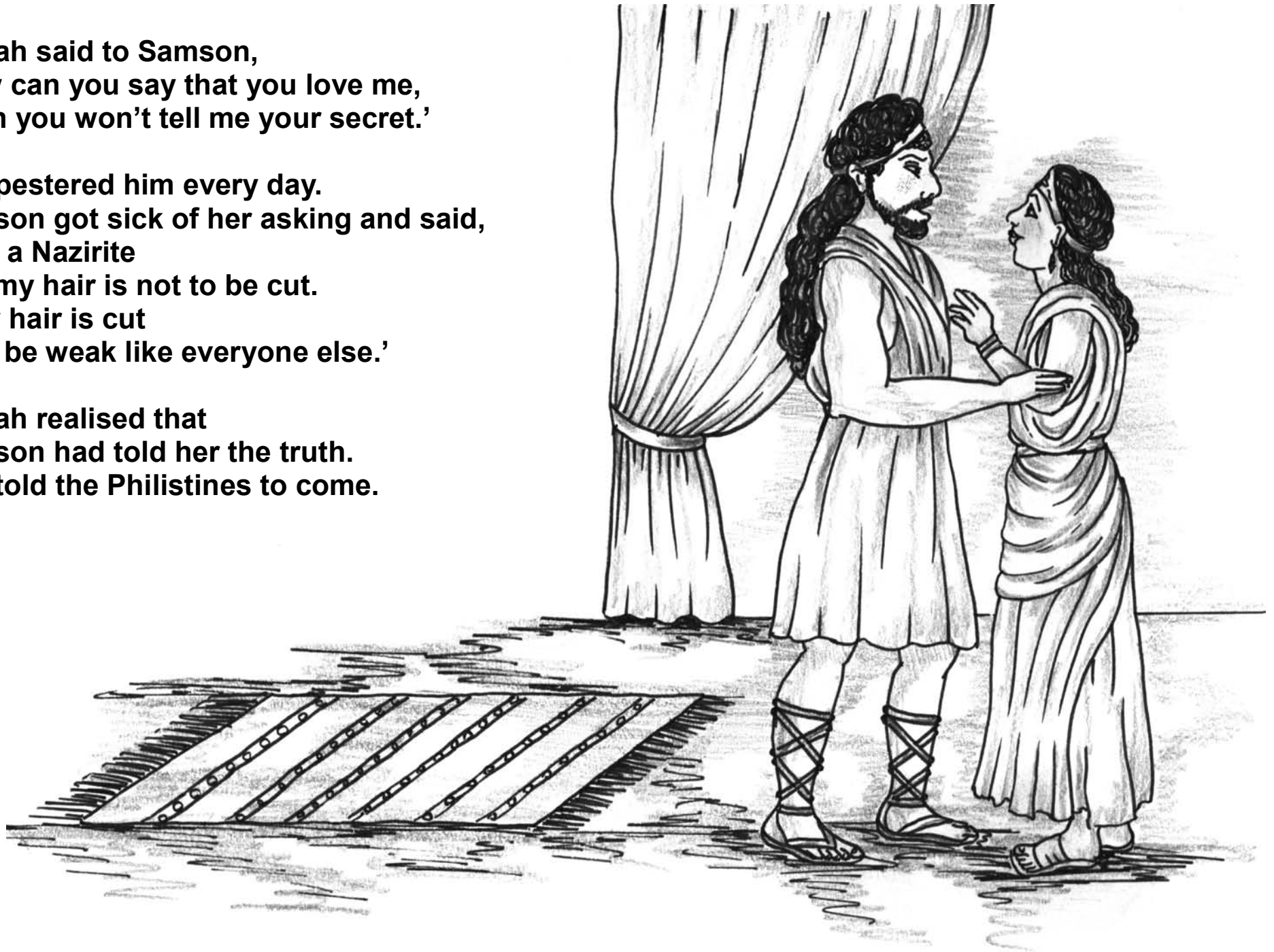




**Delilah said to Samson,  
'How can you say that you love me,  
when you won't tell me your secret.'**

**She pestered him every day.  
Samson got sick of her asking and said,  
'I am a Nazirite  
and my hair is not to be cut.  
If my hair is cut  
I will be weak like everyone else.'**

**Delilah realised that  
Samson had told her the truth.  
She told the Philistines to come.**

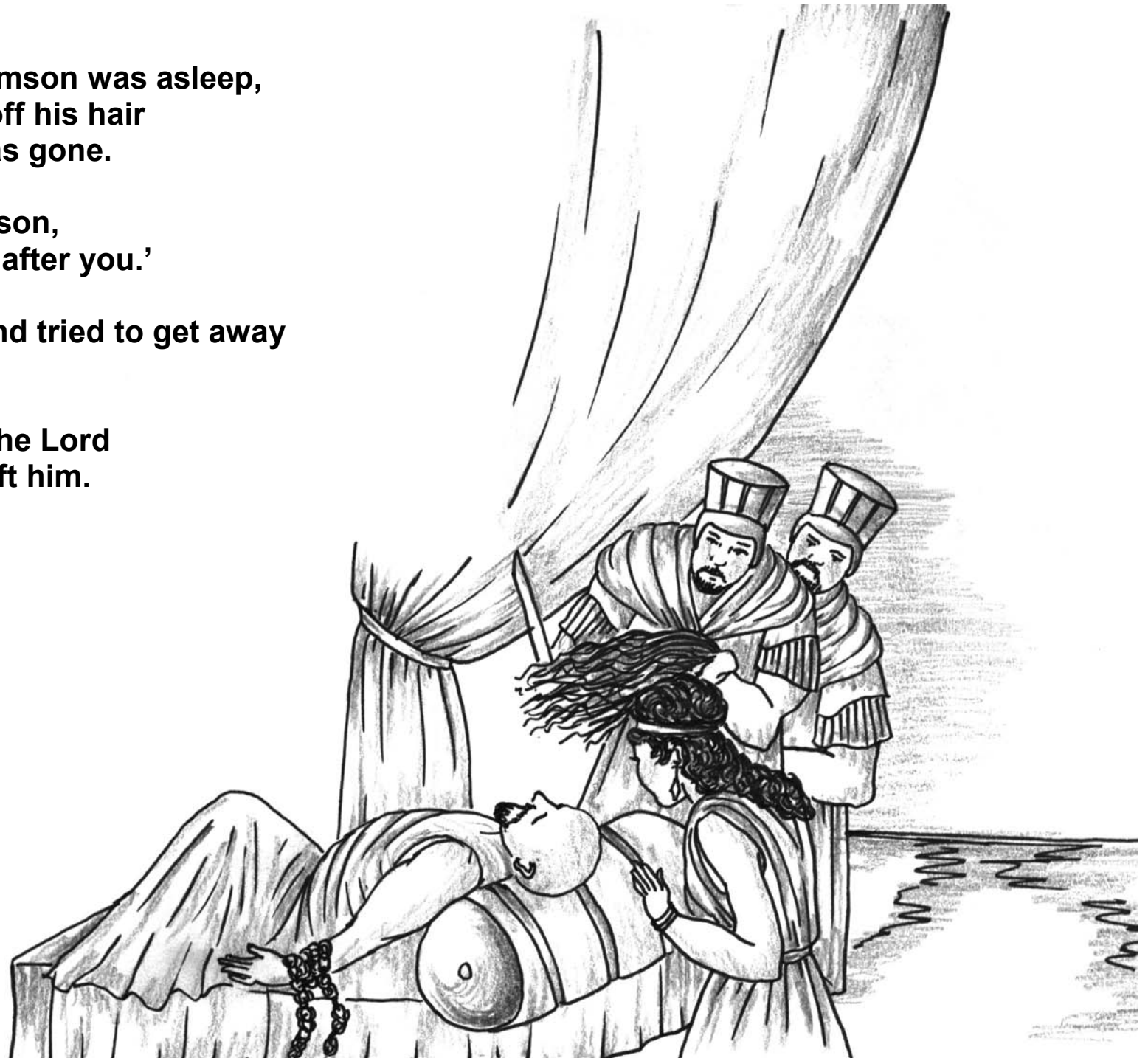




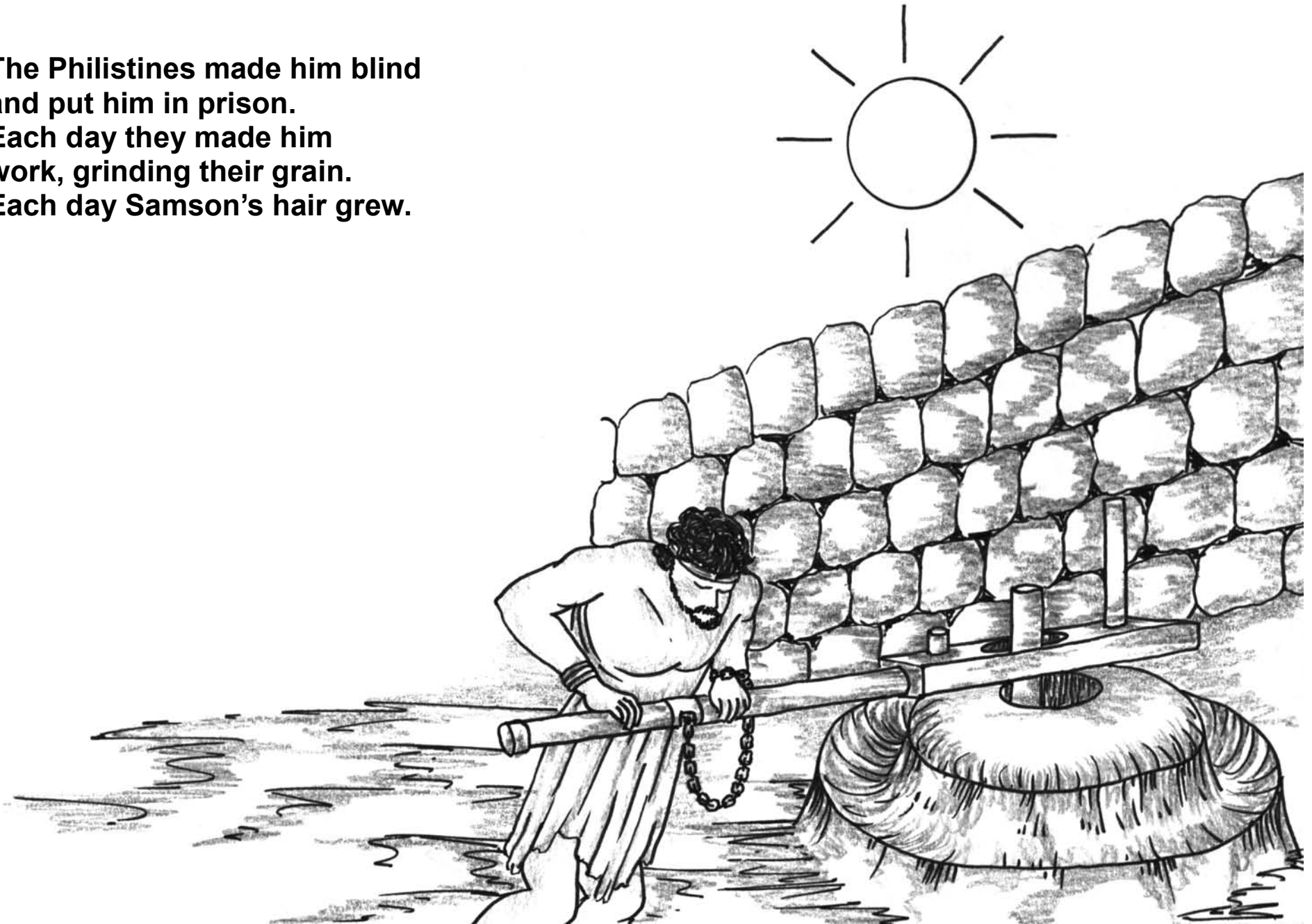
**That night when Samson was asleep,  
the Philistines cut off his hair  
and his strength was gone.**

**Delilah said to Samson,  
'The Philistines are after you.'**

**Samson woke up and tried to get away  
like he did before.  
But he was weak.  
He had disobeyed the Lord  
and the Lord had left him.**



**The Philistines made him blind  
and put him in prison.  
Each day they made him  
work, grinding their grain.  
Each day Samson's hair grew.**



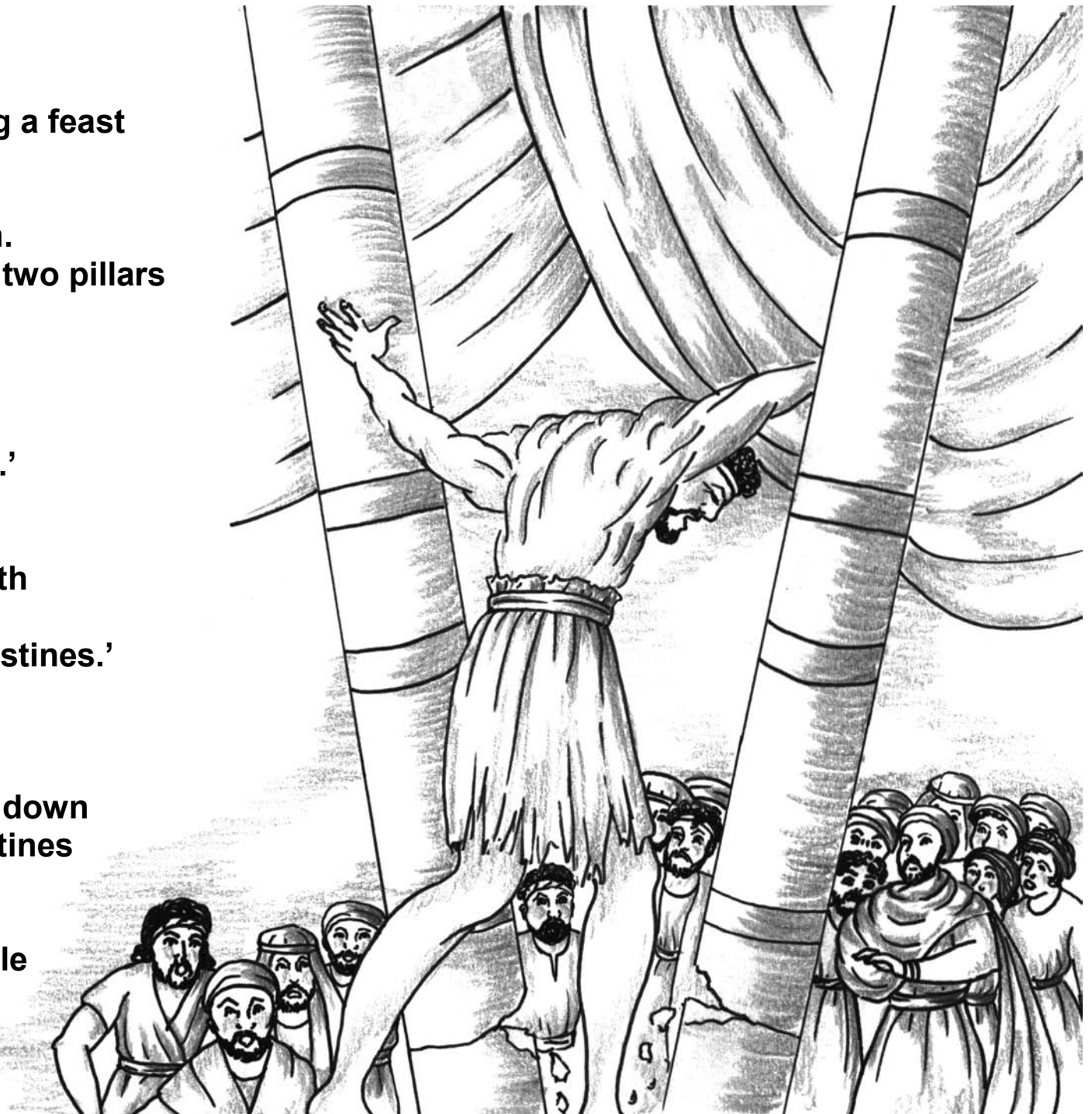
**Then one day  
the Philistines were having a feast  
to their god, Dagon.  
They brought Samson out  
so they could laugh at him.  
They put him between the two pillars  
that held up the house.**

**Samson said,  
'Let me feel the pillars  
so I can lean against them.'**

**Then he prayed,  
'Lord God, give me strength  
just one more time.  
Let me die with these Philistines.'**

**Samson put his hands  
on the pillars and pushed.  
The house came crashing down  
killing thousands of Philistines  
and himself.**

**God again saved His people  
from their enemies.**





# ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

## ***RUTH***

*by*  
*Chris Thorpe*  
*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

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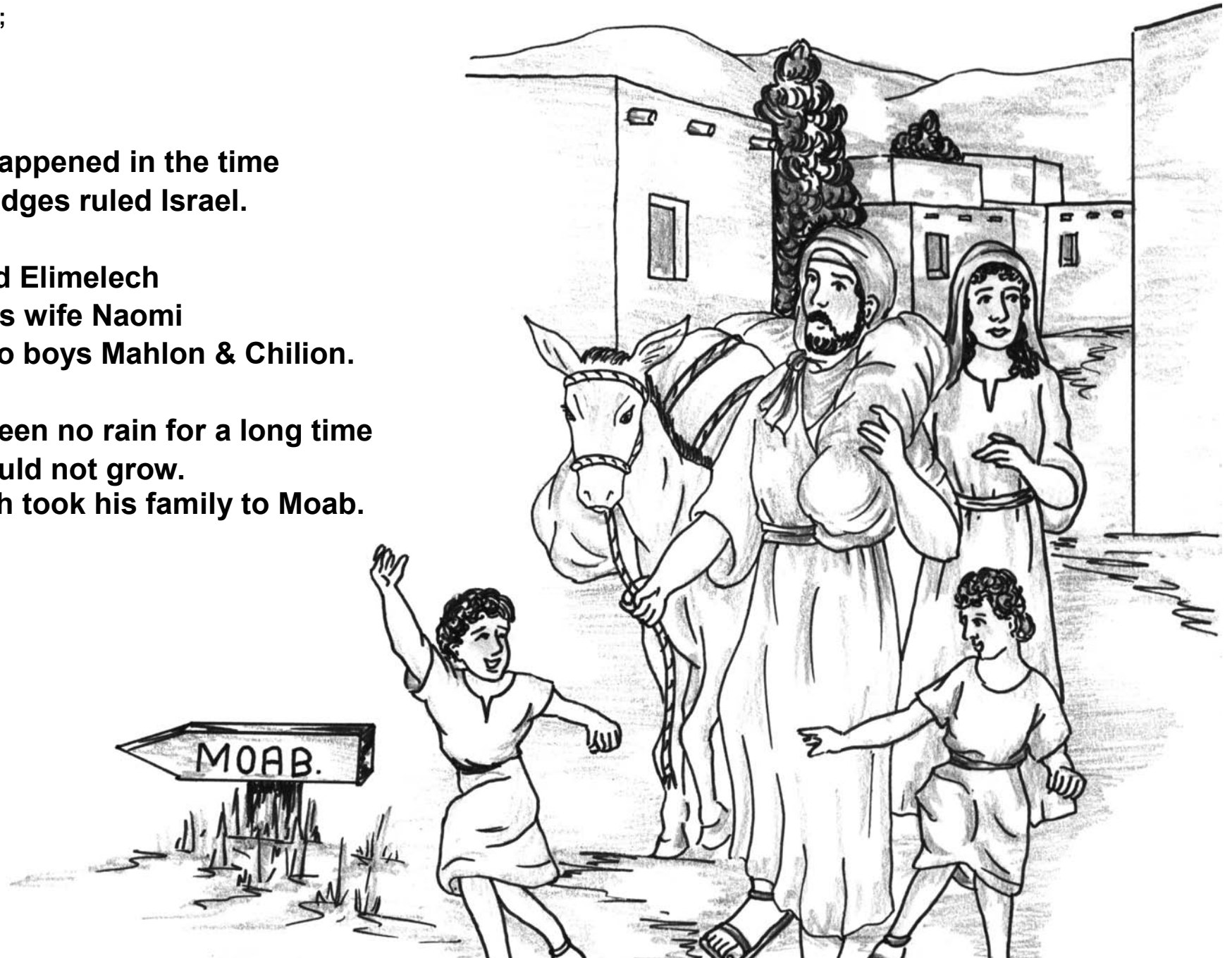


**RUTH 1:1 – 4:22;**  
Leviticus 19:9,10  
**RUTH**  
File no. 49

**This story happened in the time  
when the Judges ruled Israel.**

**A man called Elimelech  
lived with his wife Naomi  
and their two boys Mahlon & Chilion.**

**There had been no rain for a long time  
and food could not grow.  
So Elimelech took his family to Moab.**





**After some time Elimelech died.  
Mahlon and Chilion grew up  
and they married Orpah and Ruth.**

**Ten years later  
both Mahlon and Chilion died.  
Naomi was alone in a strange land  
with her son's wives.**

**Then Naomi heard  
that the Lord had sent rain  
to His people in Israel  
and there was plenty of food.**

**Naomi decided to go back  
to her home in Bethlehem.  
Orpah and Ruth said  
they would go with her.**

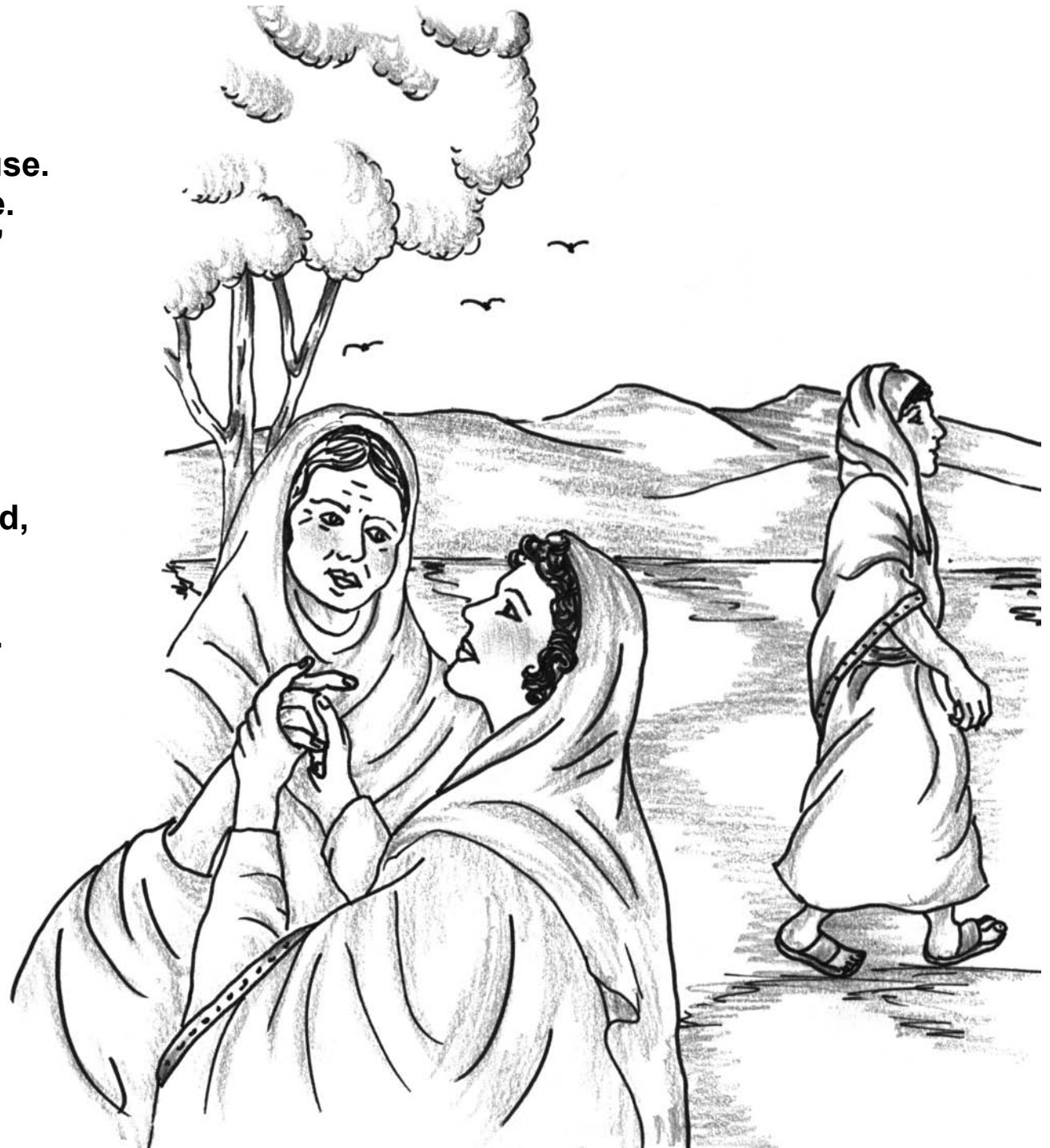


**On their way Naomi said to  
Orpah and Ruth,  
'Go back to your mother's house.  
You have been very kind to me.  
I trust God will be kind to you.'**

**Naomi kissed Orpah and Ruth  
and they began to cry.  
Orpah said goodbye  
and went home.**

**Ruth held on to Naomi and said,  
'Don't ask me to leave you!  
Every place you go, I will go.  
Your people will be my people.  
Your God will be my God.  
May the Lord punish me  
if I don't keep this promise.'**

**Then they went on to Israel.**



**From Naomi's home in Bethlehem  
Ruth went to the fields  
to gather grain.  
She did not know  
that the field she went to  
belonged to Boaz  
and that he was related to Naomi.**

**Boaz saw Ruth and he asked,  
'Who is this lady?'**

**Boaz's men said,  
'She is the one  
who came back with Naomi.'**

**So Boaz said to his men,  
'Leave extra grain for Ruth.'**



**Then he said to Ruth,  
'Stay in my field  
and you will be safe.  
I have heard  
what you have done  
for Naomi.  
The Lord will reward you.'**



**At the end of the day  
Ruth took lots of barley  
home to Naomi.**

**Naomi was surprised at how much  
she had gathered and asked,  
‘Which field did you work in?’**

**Ruth replied, ‘It was Boaz’s field!’**

**Naomi saw that God  
was looking after them.**





**When harvesting was finished  
Naomi told Ruth to go to Boaz  
with a special request.**

**Ruth went to him and said,  
'I am your servant.  
You are a close relative  
and can save Naomi's family  
by marrying me.'**

**Boaz said,  
'God bless you Ruth.  
Don't be afraid I will do  
what you have asked.  
Everyone knows  
that you are a good lady.'**



**Boaz married Ruth.  
God gave them a son  
and they called him Obed.**

**Naomi's friends praised the Lord  
for His kindness to Naomi.**

