

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

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

## ***OLD TESTAMENT BOOK 7***

# ***JOASH TO THE CAPTIVITY***

*by  
Chris Thorpe  
& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Kay Kammermann*

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

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# ***JOASH SAVED / JEHOIADA, FAITHFUL PRIEST***

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**2 KINGS 11:1–21**

2 Kings 8:16–18, 25, 26; 2 Chronicles 22: 10 — 23:21

**JOASH SAVED /  
JEHOIADA, FAITHFUL PRIEST**

File no. 82

**God's promise to David was  
that someone from his family  
would always be king.**

**However, when King Ahaziah  
was killed in battle,  
his mother, Athaliah,  
made herself queen.**

**It looked like God's promise  
would not come true.**



**Athaliah gave an order for  
all the king's children to be killed.**

**She was going to be queen and  
everyone made to worship Baal  
instead of God almighty.**

**However, the children's Aunty  
took baby Joash  
and hid him in the temple.  
She and her husband Jehoiada,  
the priest,  
looked after him there.**

**No one knew that Joash  
was being hidden in the temple,  
not even Athaliah.**

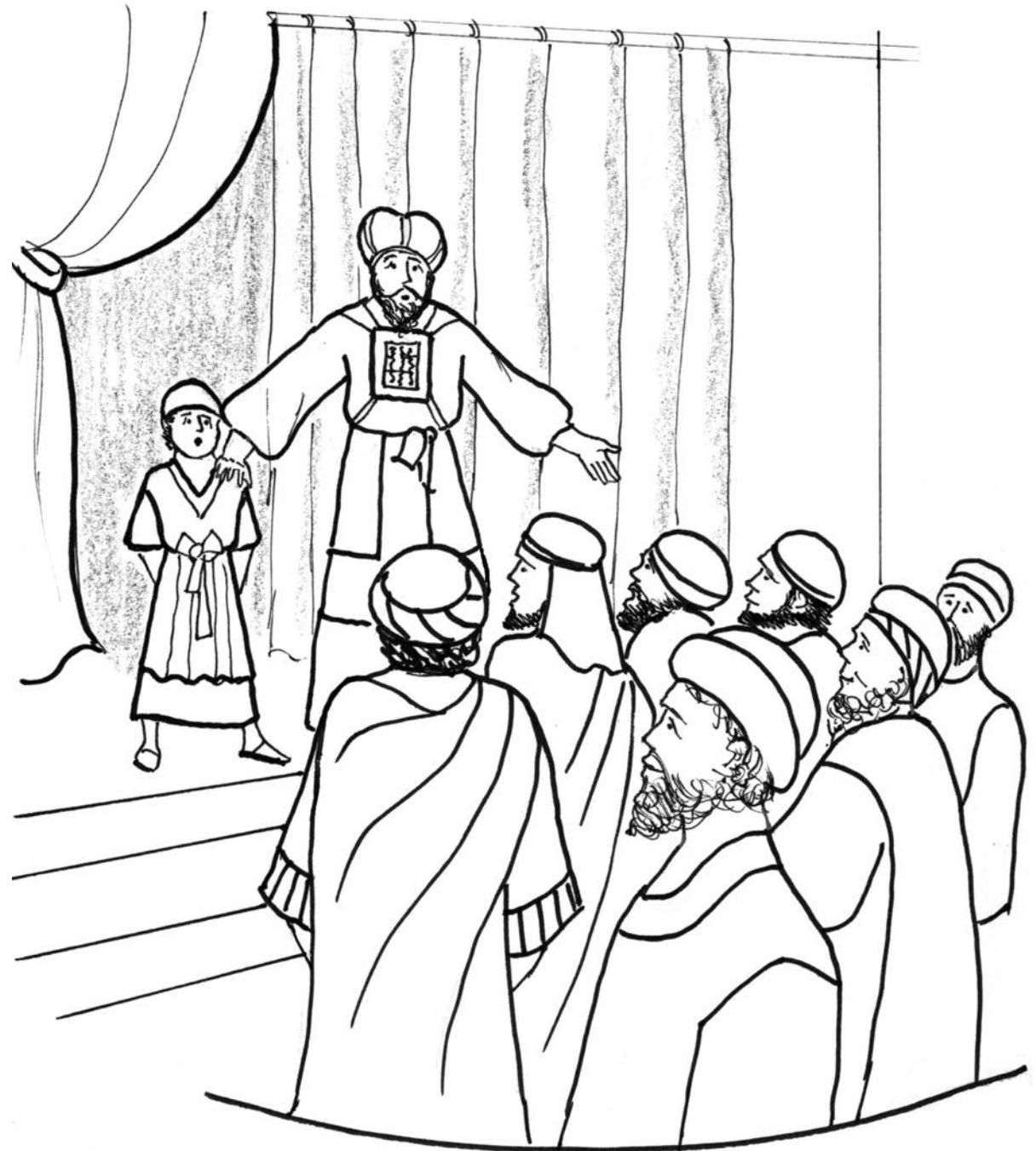


**When Joash was nearly seven years old, Jehoiada said, 'It is time for Joash to be king.'**

**He had the priests and leaders meet him in the temple. First, he made them promise to keep a secret. Then, he told them how he and his wife had been hiding one of the king's sons for the last six years.**

**The priests and leaders were so happy to hear this news. So Jehoiada brought Joash out and showed them.**

**He said,  
'Here is the king's son!  
Let him be king  
as the Lord promised David.**





**'This is what we will do.  
Some of you guard the king's house,  
some of you guard the gates  
and others of you protect Joash  
in God's house.  
Have a weapon on you  
ready to use.'**

**When everyone was ready,  
Jehoiada brought out Joash.**

**He put the crown on his head,  
gave him a copy of the  
Law of Moses  
and anointed him as king.**

**Everyone clapped their hands  
and shouted,  
'Long live the king!'**

**Then they started singing  
and the trumpeters played.  
They gave thanks to God  
for their king.**

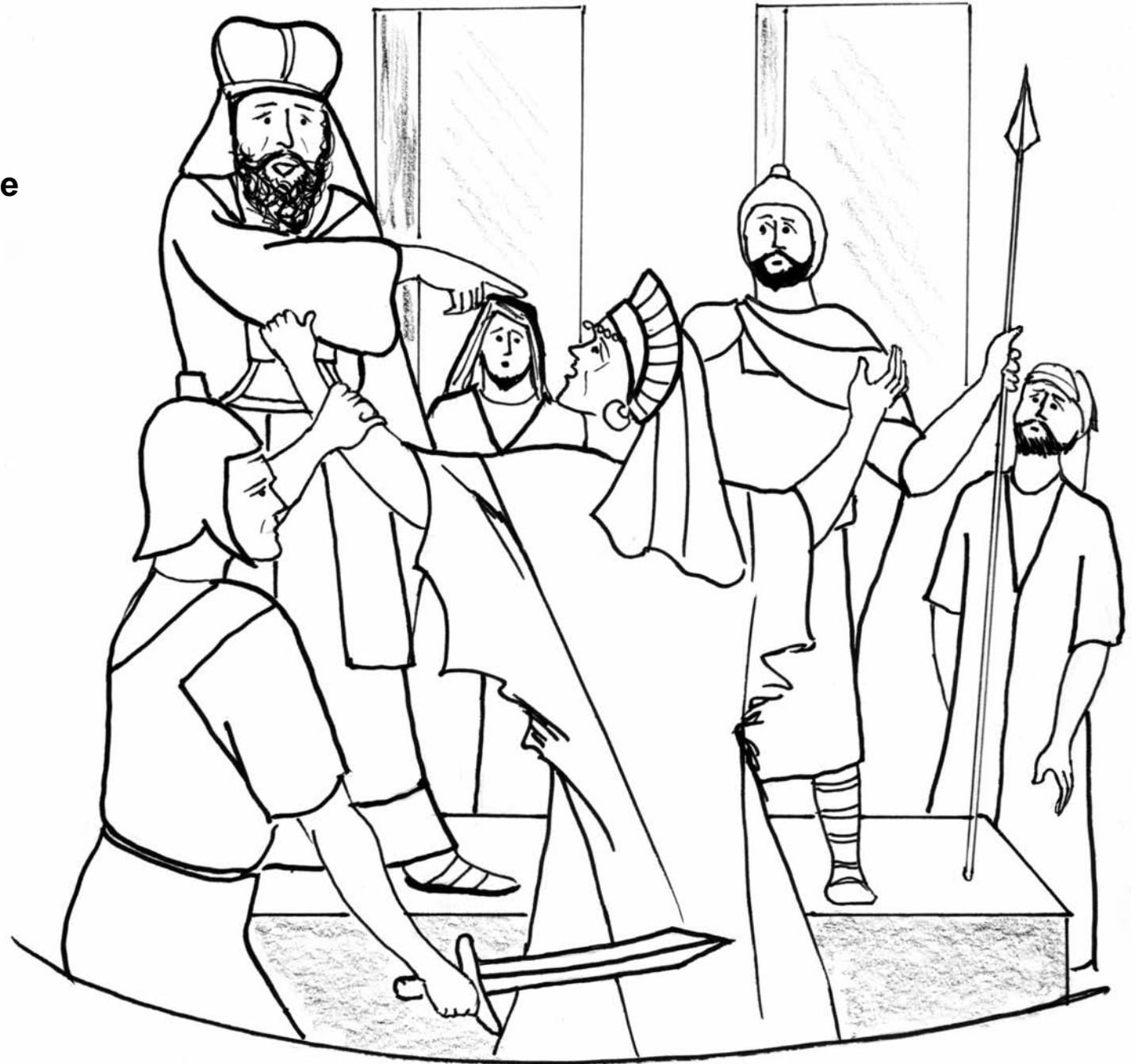


**Athaliah heard the noise  
and wondered  
what was going on.  
She rushed into the temple  
and saw Joash,  
the new king.**

**This made her so angry  
she tore her clothes  
and shouted,  
'Traitors! Traitors!'**

**Jehoiada commanded the  
soldiers to take her away  
and put her to death.**

**Then everyone said,  
'We will be God's people  
and only the  
Lord will be our God.'**



**Straight away everyone helped  
to pull down the temple of Baal  
and smash the idols.**



**Joash, one of David's family,  
was now king of God's people.  
God was keeping His promise.**

***Many years later,  
God's blessing would come  
to the whole world through  
another son of this family.  
That Son is Jesus.***

***God kept His promise  
and gave the world  
a Son of David to be King forever.***



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***JONAH THE UNWILLING PROPHET /  
JONAH PREACHES IN NINEVEH***

*by*

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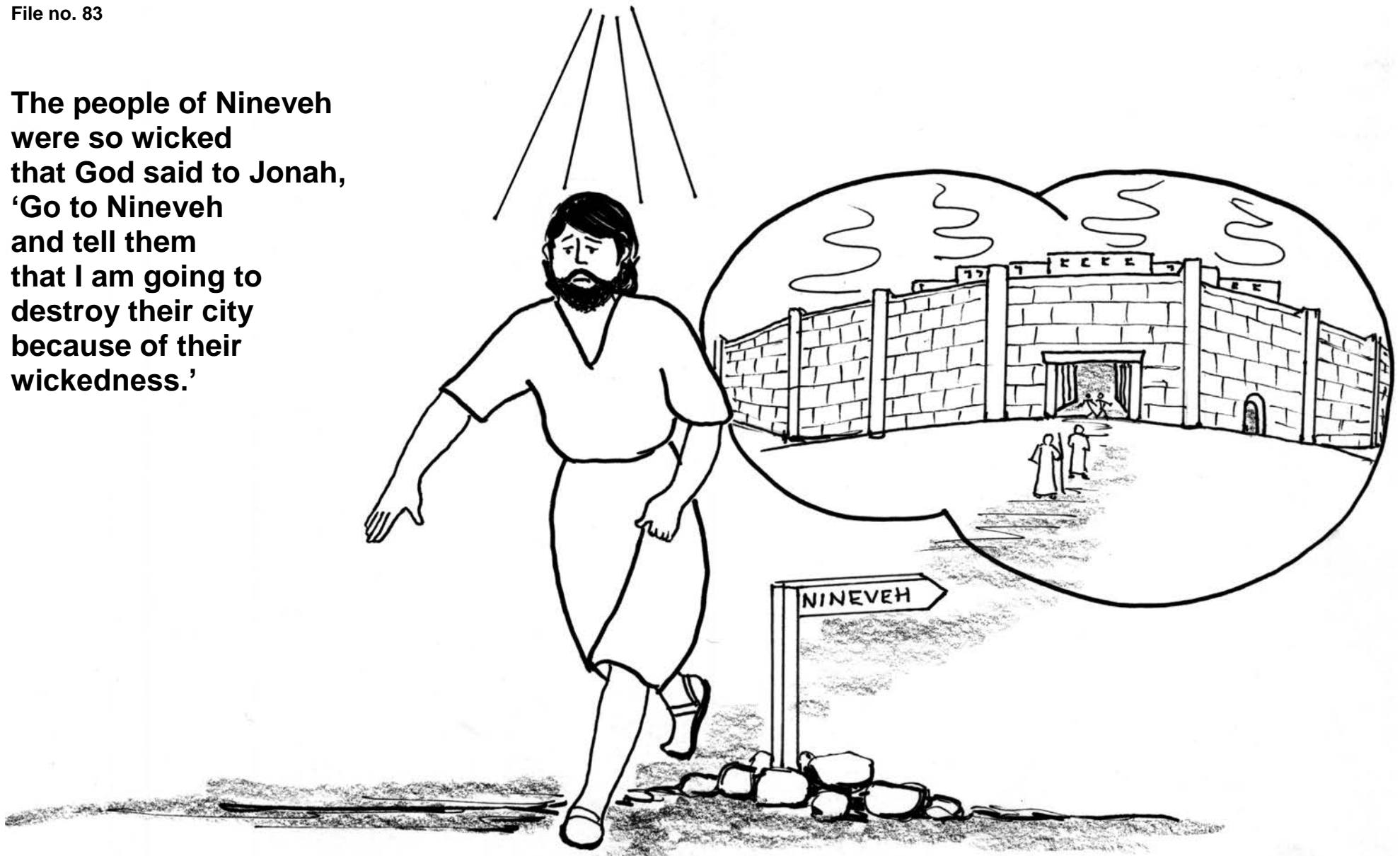
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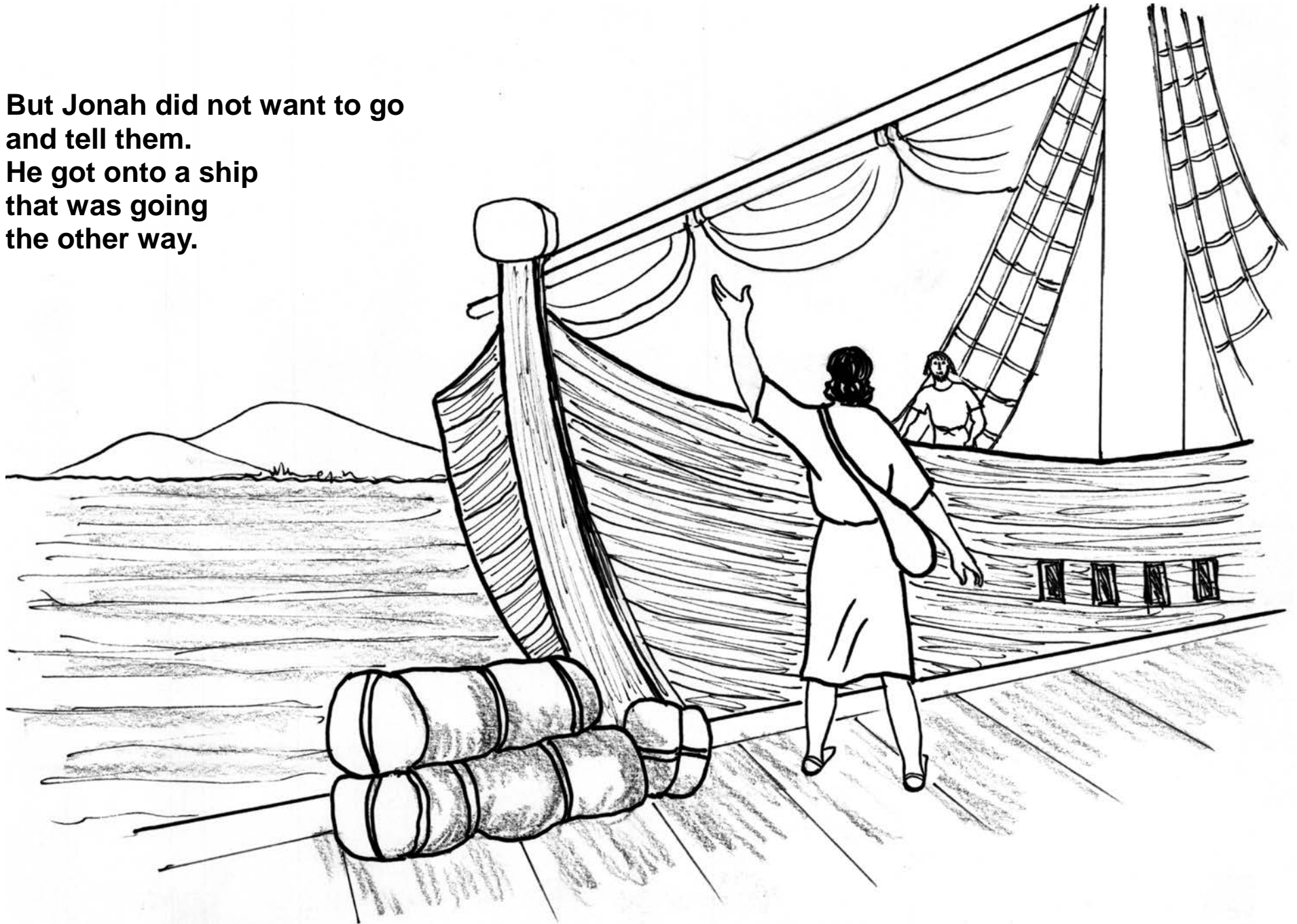
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**JONAH 1:1 – 4:11**  
**JONAH THE UNWILLING PROPHET /**  
**JONAH PREACHES IN NINEVEH**  
File no. 83

The people of Nineveh were so wicked that God said to Jonah, 'Go to Nineveh and tell them that I am going to destroy their city because of their wickedness.'

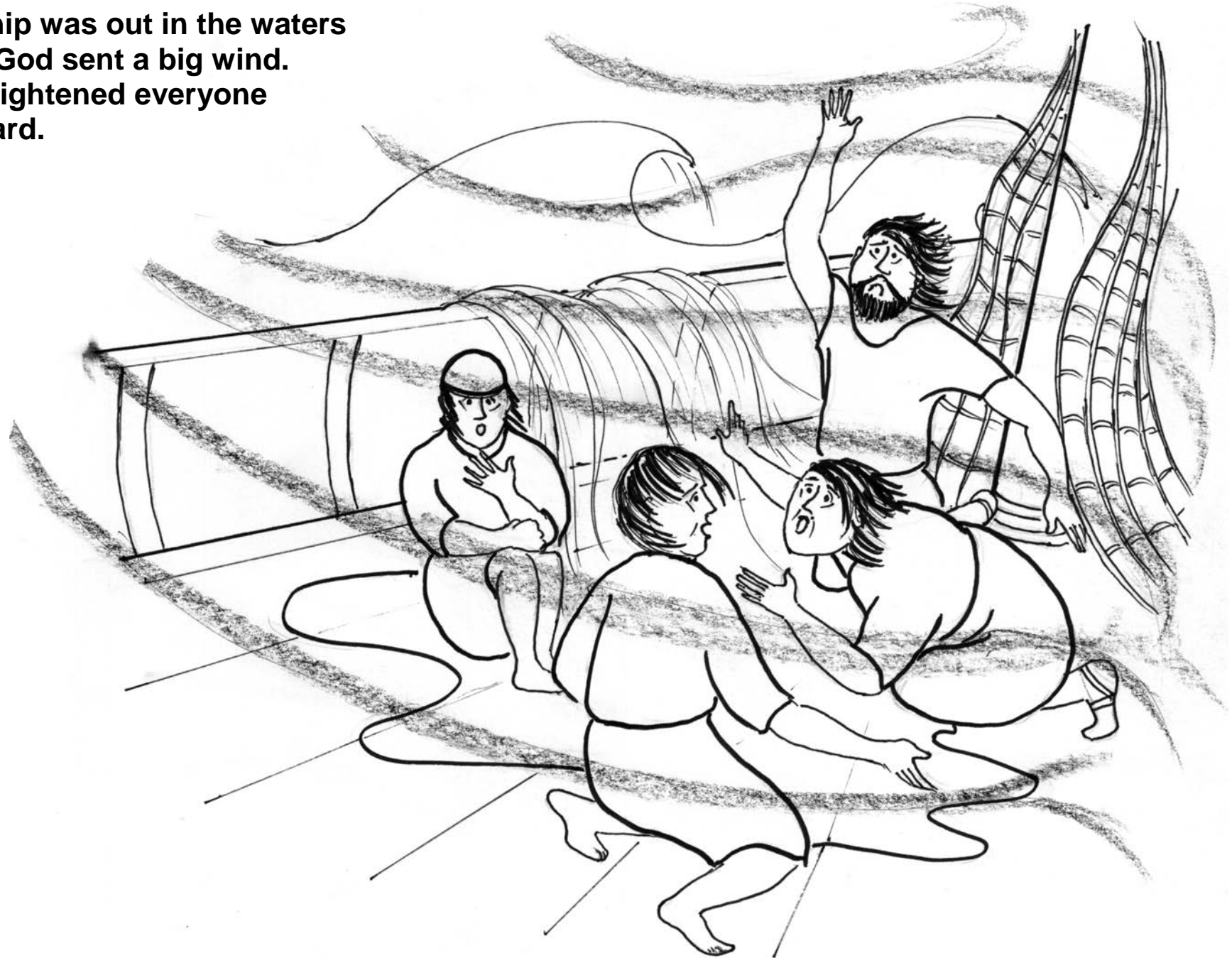


**But Jonah did not want to go  
and tell them.  
He got onto a ship  
that was going  
the other way.**





**The ship was out in the waters  
when God sent a big wind.  
This frightened everyone  
on board.**





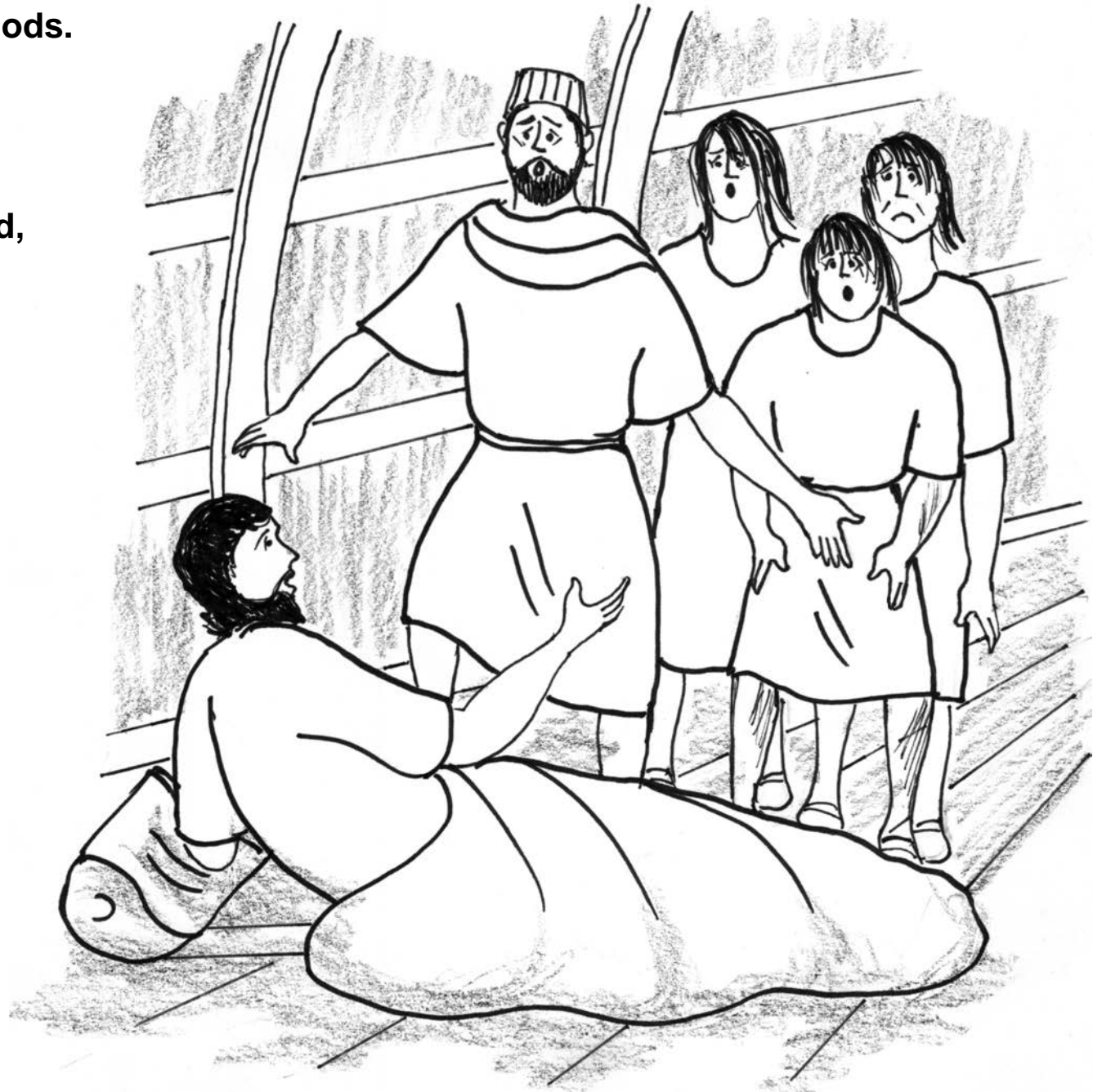
**The sailors cried out to their gods.  
but Jonah was not with them.  
He was fast asleep,  
down in the ship.**

**The captain woke him and said,  
'Why are you sleeping?  
Get up and pray to your god!  
Perhaps your god  
will listen to us.  
Perhaps he will save us!'**

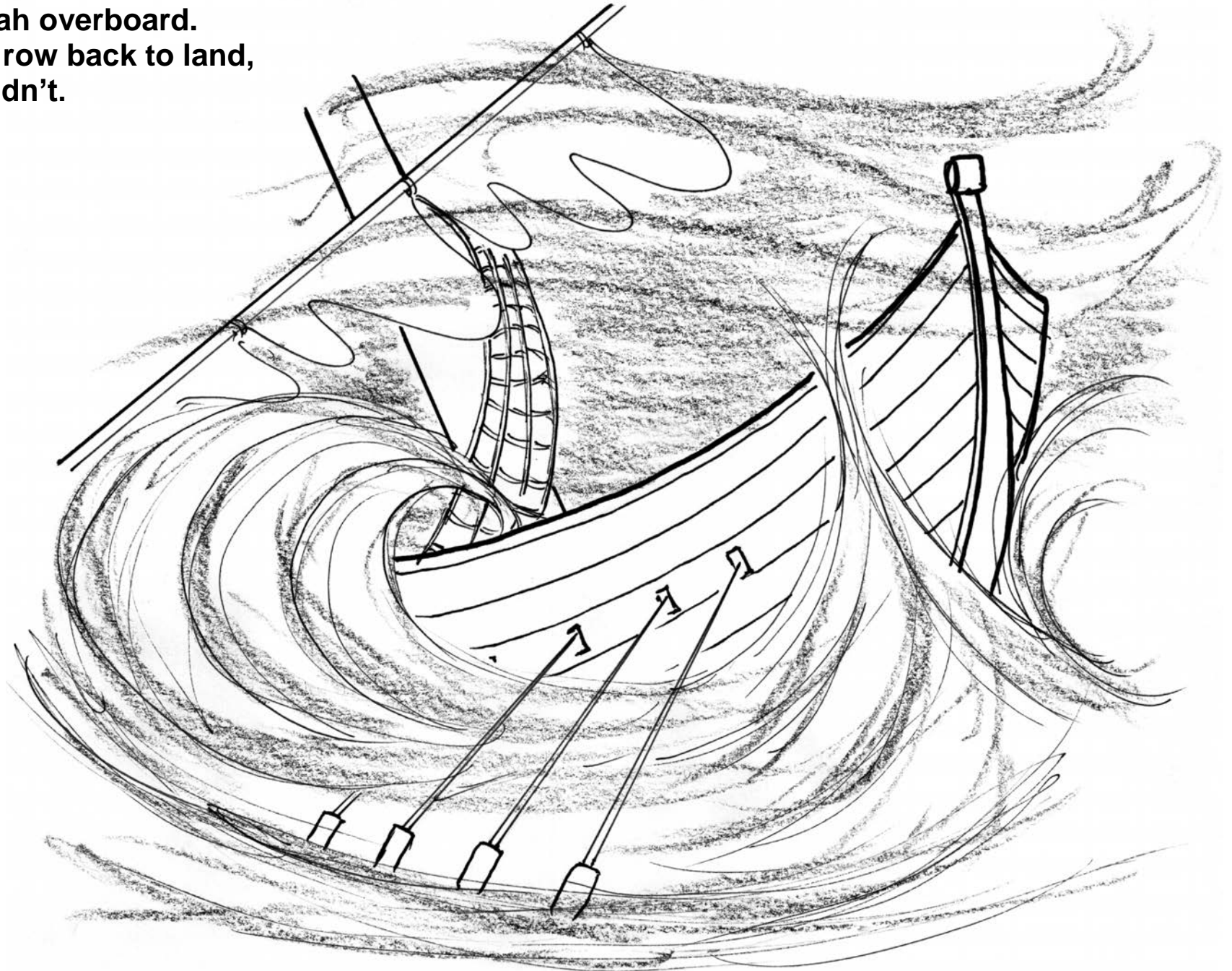
**Jonah said.  
'I believe in the God  
who made the  
sea and the land.'**

**When the sailors heard this  
they were frightened.**

**'Throw me into the sea  
and it will be calm,'  
said Jonah.  
'It is my fault  
that God has  
sent this storm.'**



**The men did not want  
to throw Jonah overboard.  
They tried to row back to land,  
but they couldn't.**

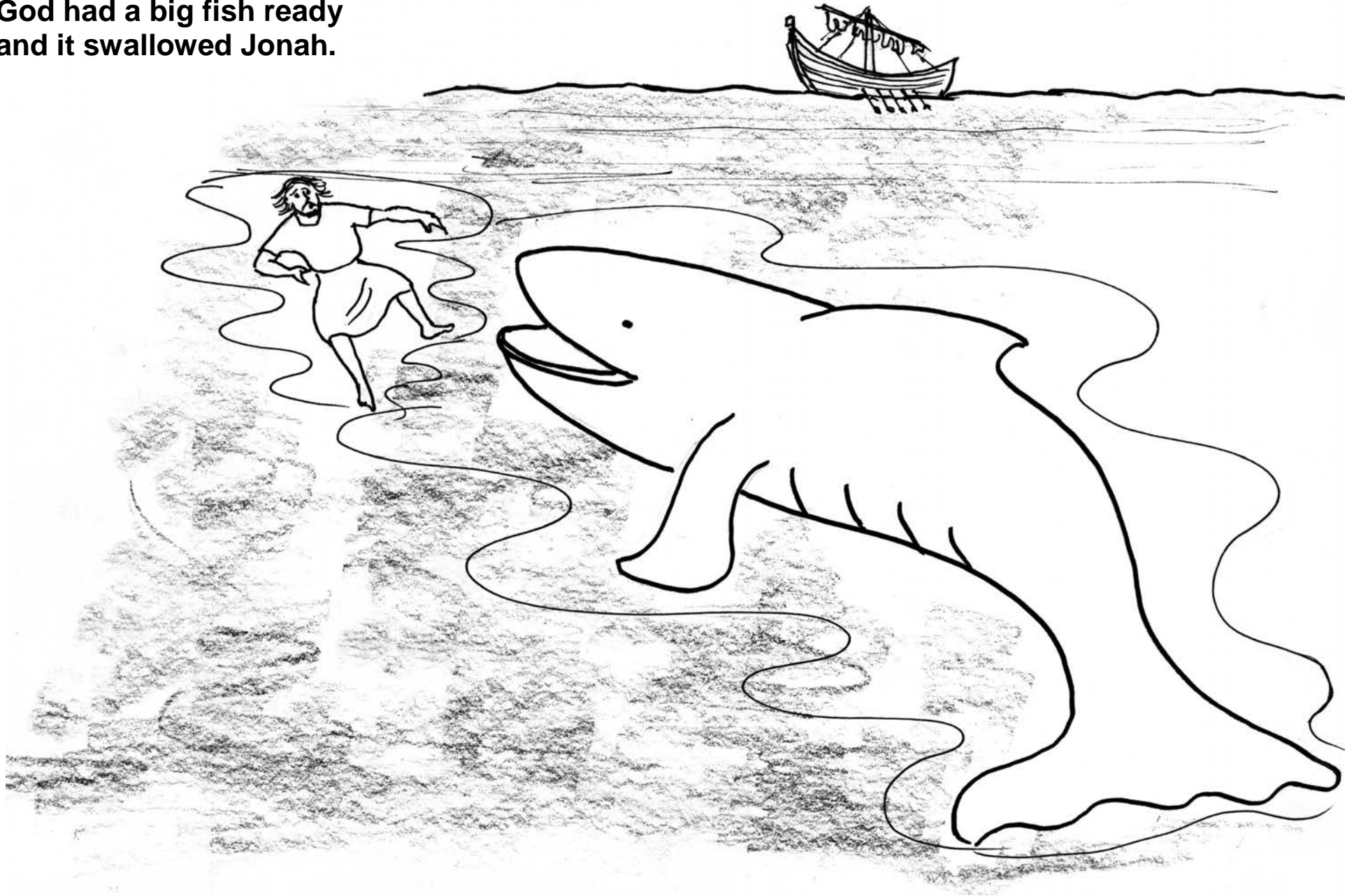


**They prayed,  
'God, please forgive us  
if Jonah dies.'**

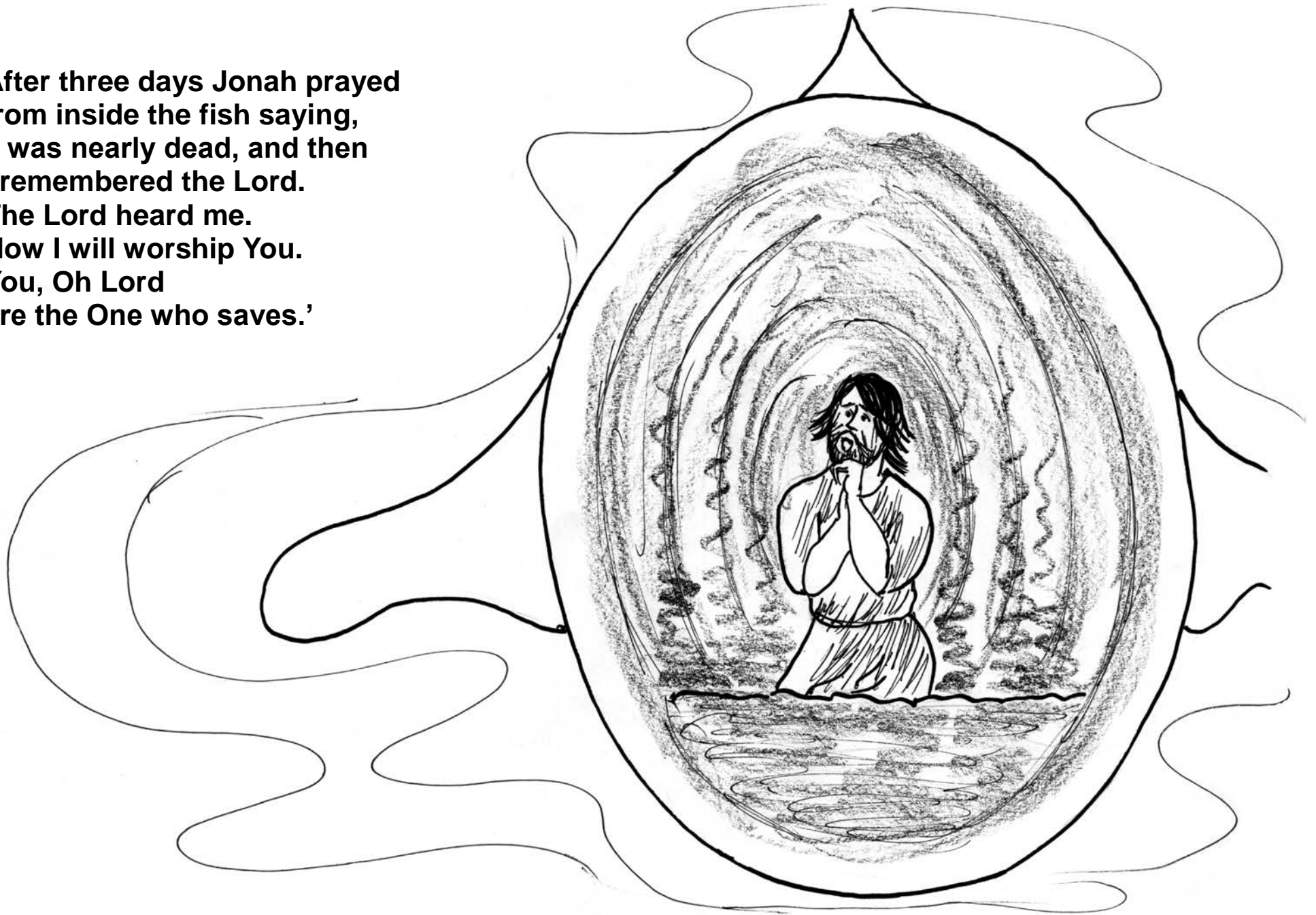
**They threw Jonah  
overboard  
and straight away  
the sea became calm.  
They knew it was the Lord  
who had done it  
and everyone was afraid.**



God had a big fish ready  
and it swallowed Jonah.



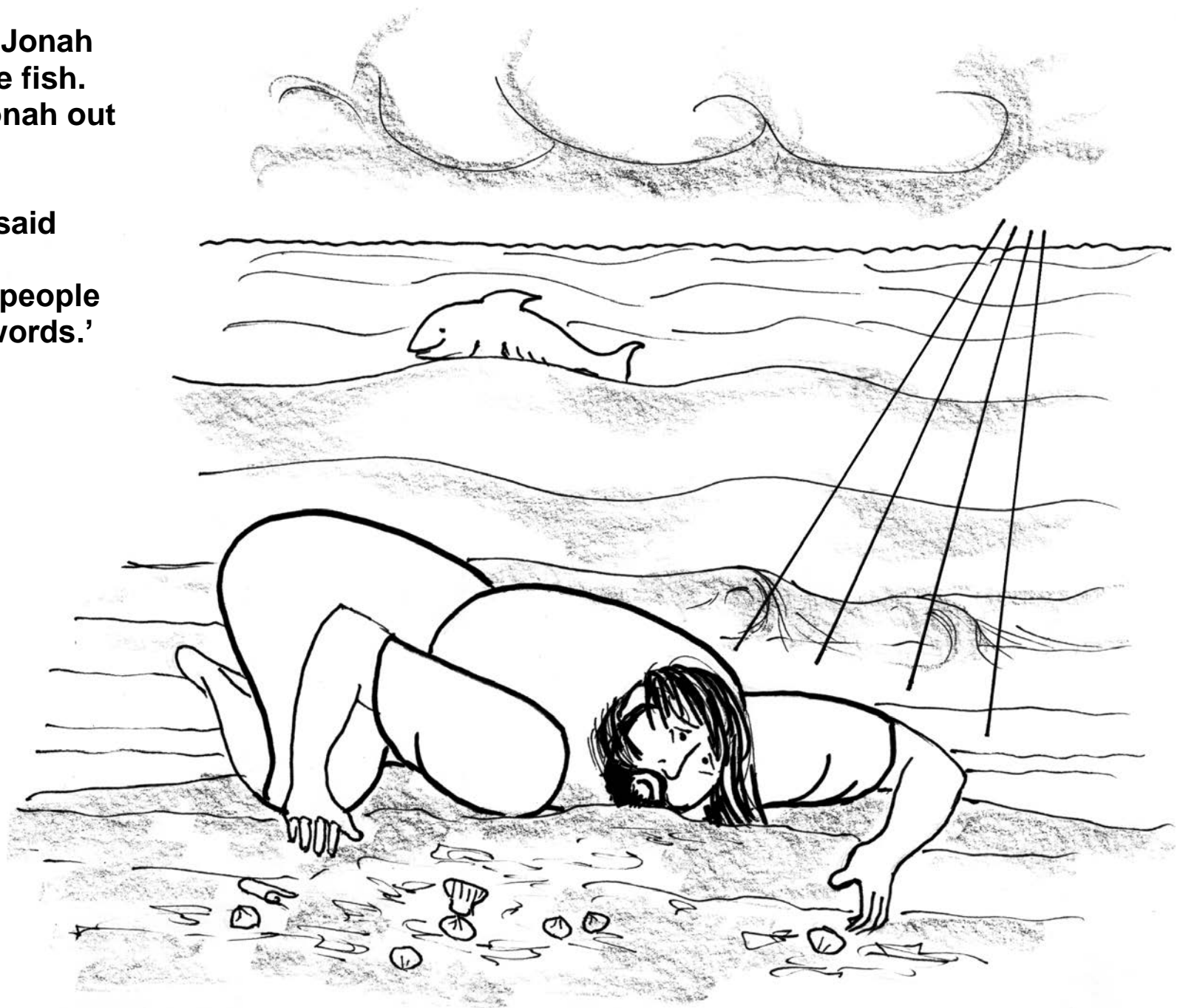
**After three days Jonah prayed  
from inside the fish saying,  
'I was nearly dead, and then  
I remembered the Lord.  
The Lord heard me.  
Now I will worship You.  
You, Oh Lord  
are the One who saves.'**





**The Lord heard Jonah  
and spoke to the fish.  
The fish spat Jonah out  
onto the beach.**

**Again the Lord said  
to Jonah,  
'Go and tell the people  
in Nineveh My words.'**

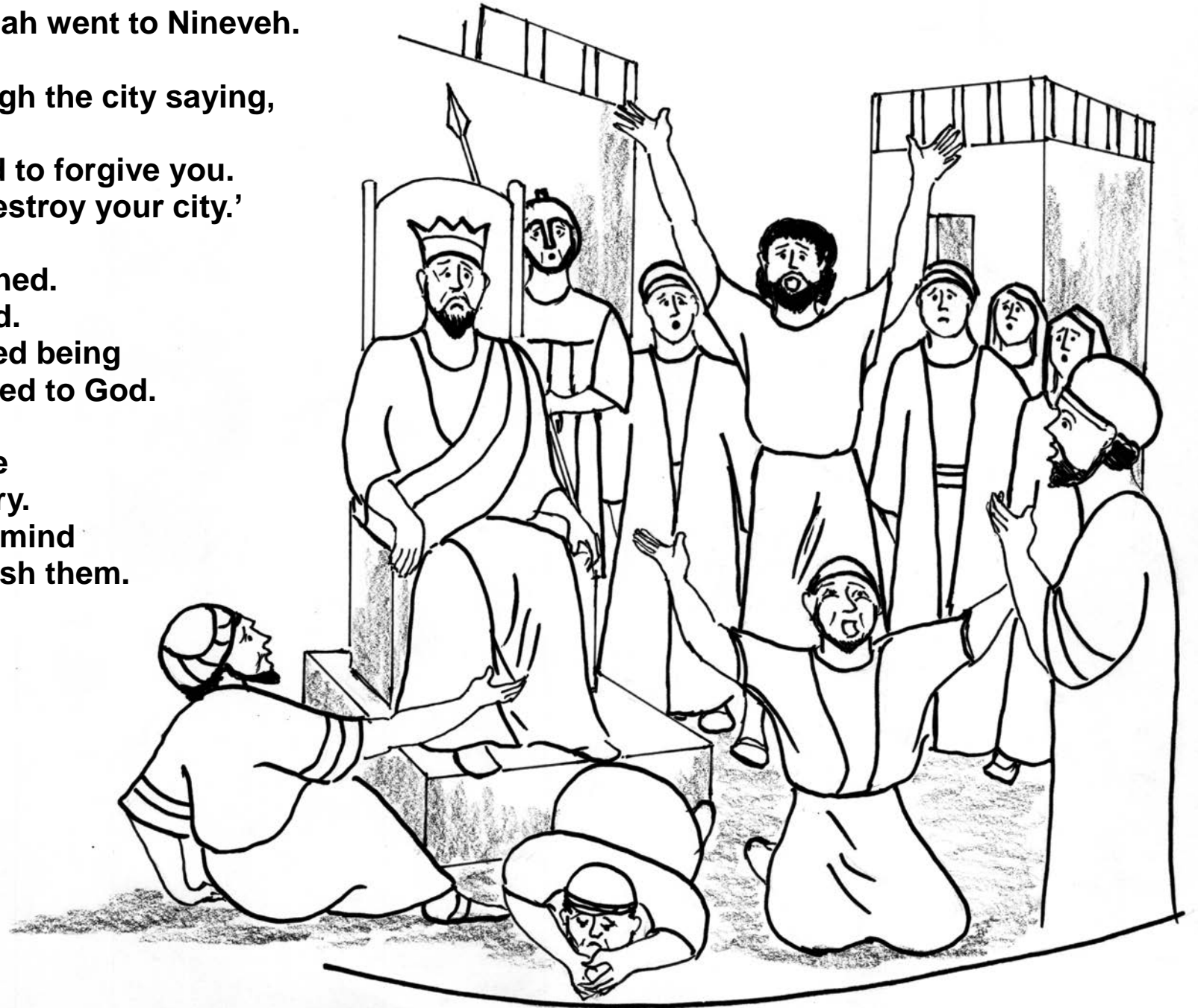


**Immediately Jonah went to Nineveh.**

**He walked through the city saying,  
'Stop doing evil  
and ask the Lord to forgive you.  
He is going to destroy your city.'**

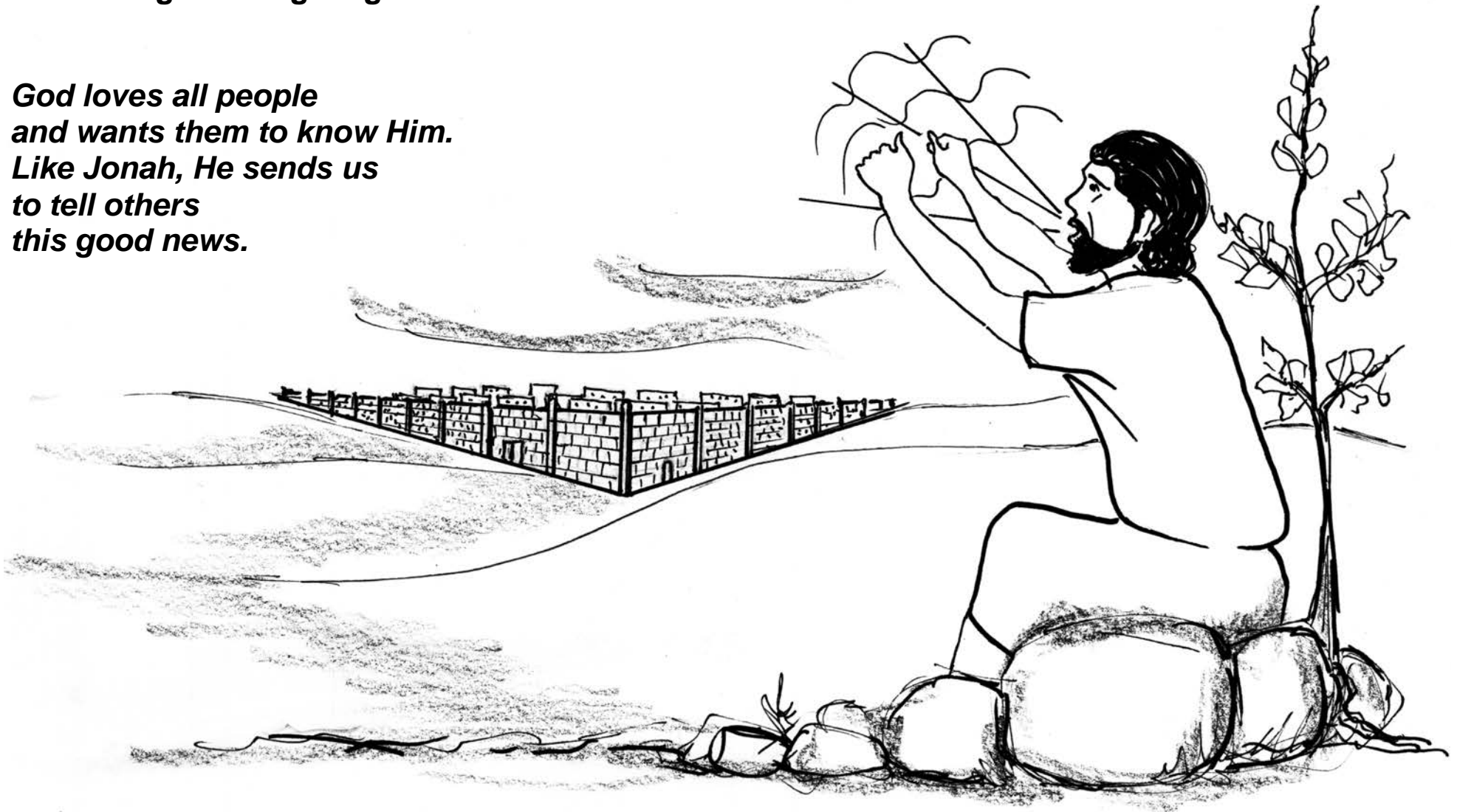
**The people listened.  
The king listened.  
Everyone stopped being  
wicked and prayed to God.**

**God saw that the  
people were sorry.  
He changed His mind  
and did not punish them.**



**Then Jonah was angry with God.  
He did not want God  
to forgive them.  
But Jonah could not stop  
God loving and forgiving the Ninevites.**

***God loves all people  
and wants them to know Him.  
Like Jonah, He sends us  
to tell others  
this good news.***





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# ***ISRAEL WOULD NOT LISTEN***

*by*

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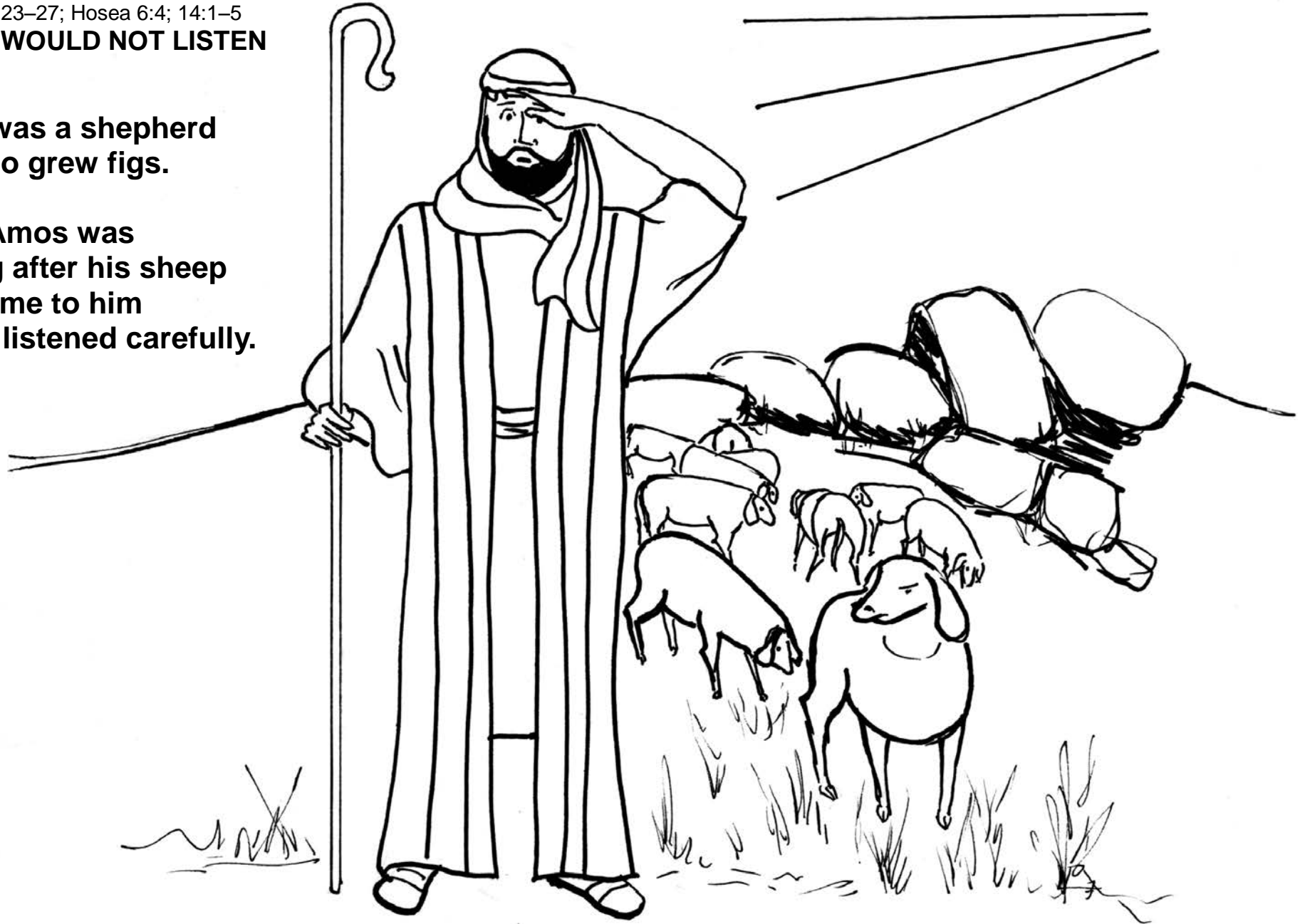
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**AMOS 1:1; Chs 4 — 8; 9:11–14**  
**2 Kings 14:23–27; Hosea 6:4; 14:1–5**  
**ISRAEL WOULD NOT LISTEN**  
File no. 84

**Amos was a shepherd  
and also grew figs.**

**While Amos was  
looking after his sheep  
God came to him  
and he listened carefully.**



**God said,  
'I love My people Israel,  
but they have  
turned away from Me.  
I blessed them  
so they would be a blessing  
in the whole world.**

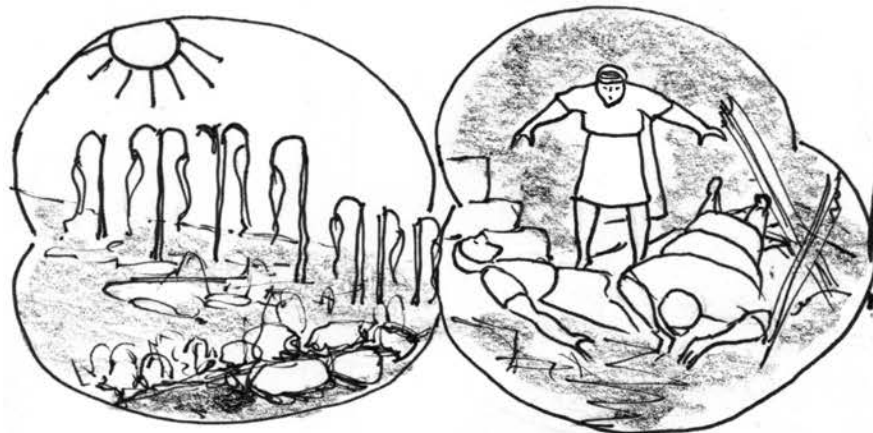
**'But what are they doing?  
They are trusting gods  
of wood and stone  
who cannot speak to them.**

**'Go and tell My people  
that I am a holy God.  
I am going to punish them  
for what they are doing.**



**'Tell them:  
I stopped the rain to see  
if you would come back to Me.  
You did not come back.  
I made your crops and gardens die.  
You did not come back.  
Some people died,  
and still you did not  
come back to Me.**

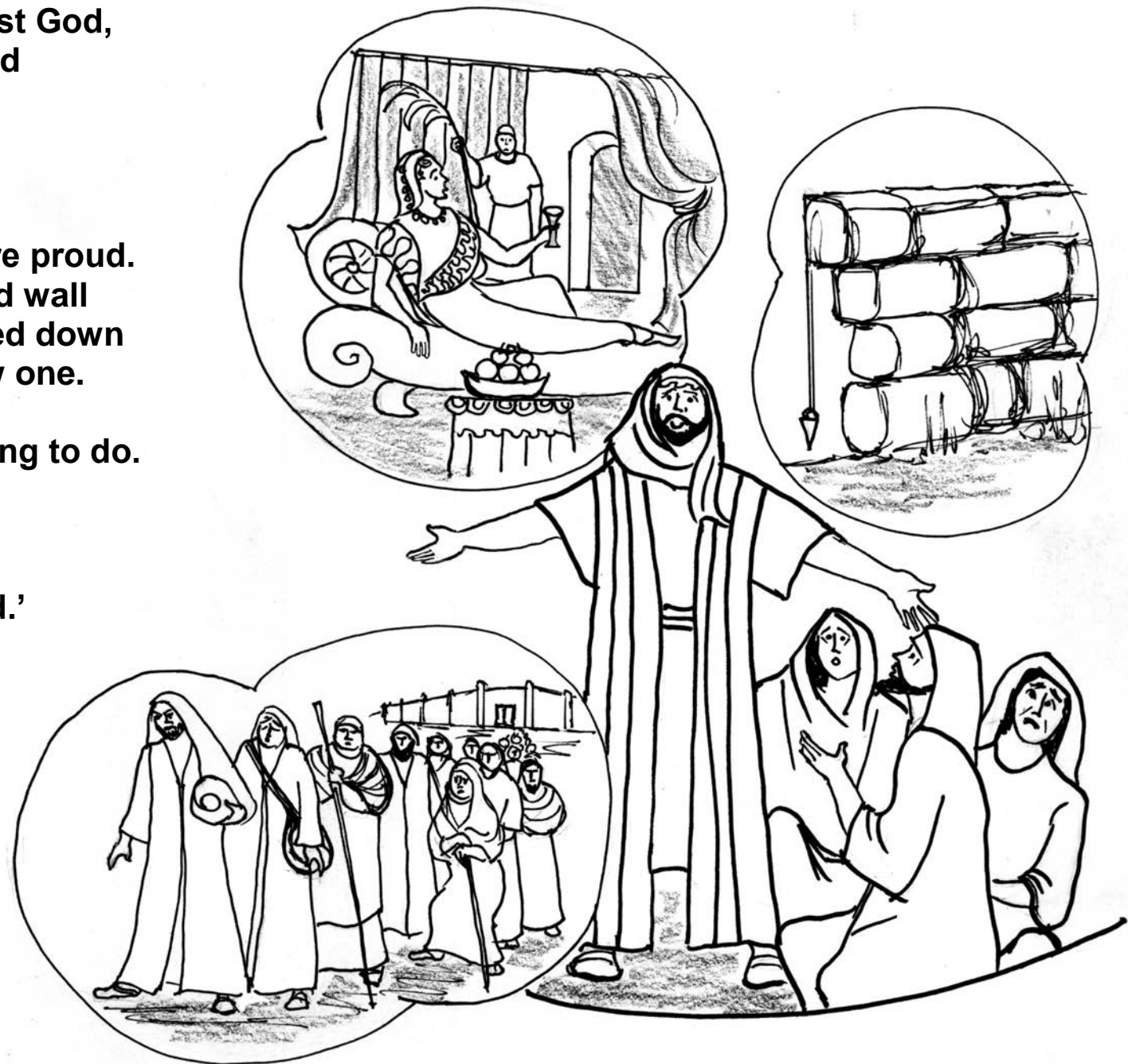
**'Get ready to meet God  
for He is coming to you.  
His name is the Lord God.  
Even now the Lord says,  
Come to Me and live.  
Do not go to your idols.**



**‘When you do not trust God,  
your houses, food and  
what you do  
are more important  
than what God says.**

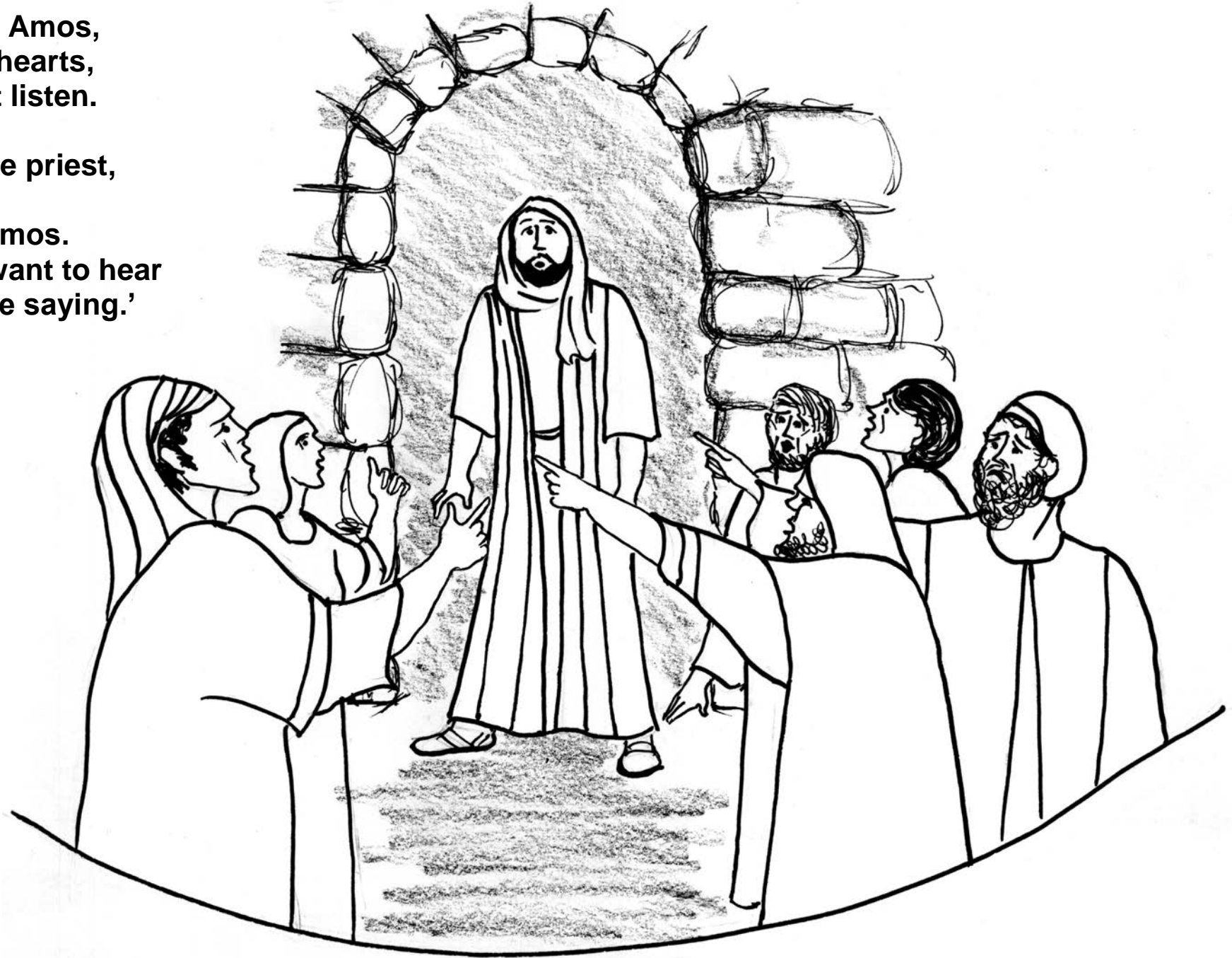
**‘God says that you are proud.  
You are like a crooked wall  
that needs to be pulled down  
before building a new one.**

**‘This is what I am going to do.  
I will send you away  
to another country.  
However,  
I will still be your God.’**



**Israel heard Amos,  
but in their hearts,  
they did not listen.**

**Amaziah, the priest,  
said to him,  
'Go home Amos.  
We do not want to hear  
what you are saying.'**

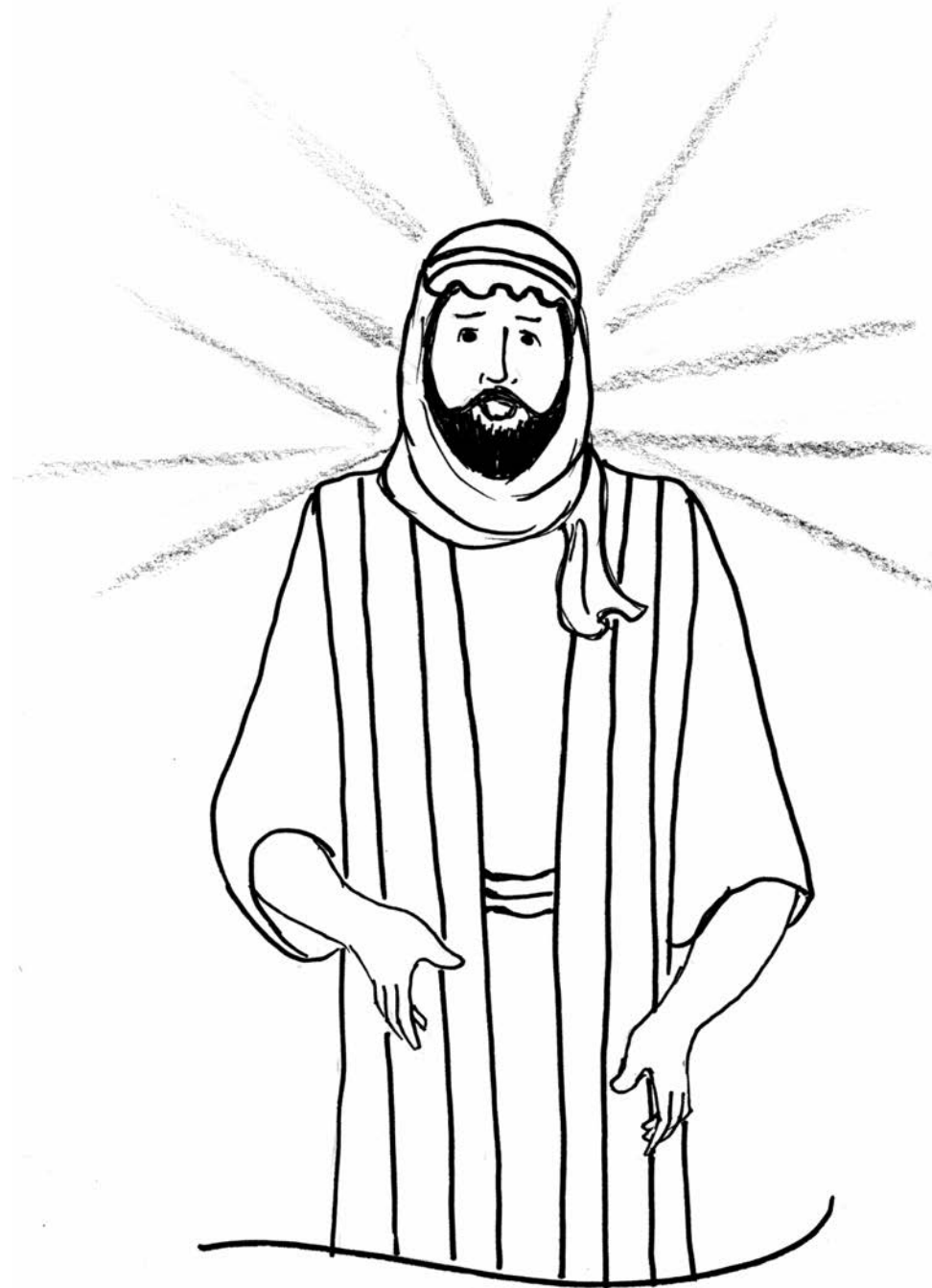


**Amos kept on saying,  
'Come to the Lord and live.'**

**God not only told Amos  
that He was going to  
punish Israel,  
but that a King would come  
who would lead Israel  
to truly love Him.**

**Then God would bless His people.  
Other nations would also  
come and worship God.**

***God fulfilled this promise  
when He sent Jesus  
to turn us from our sins.***







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## ***GOD'S MESSENGER, ISAIAH***

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**ISAIAH 6:1–13**

Isaiah 1:1–23; 2:5–9; 9:6,7

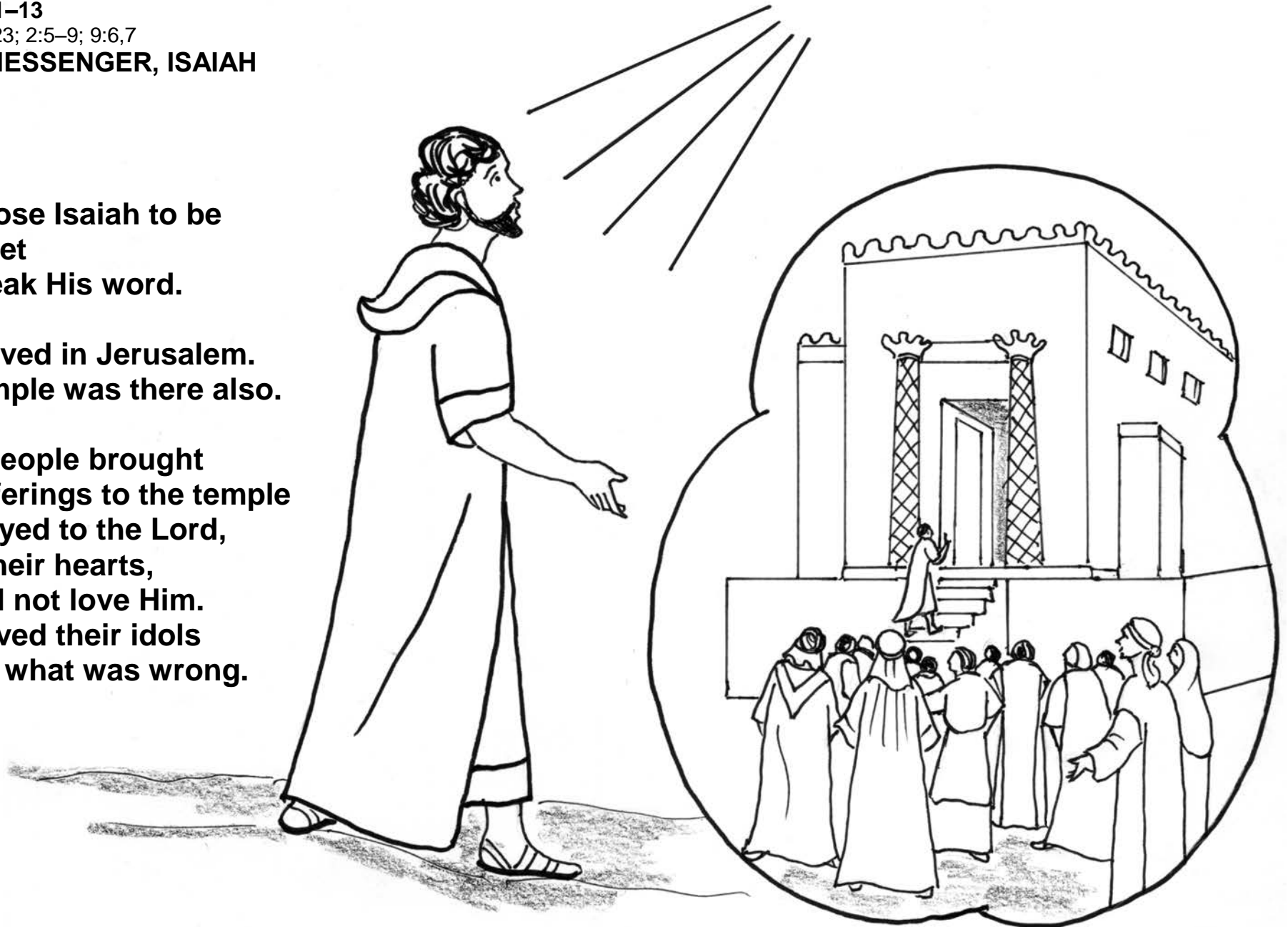
**GOD'S MESSENGER, ISAIAH**

File no. 85

**God chose Isaiah to be  
a prophet  
and speak His word.**

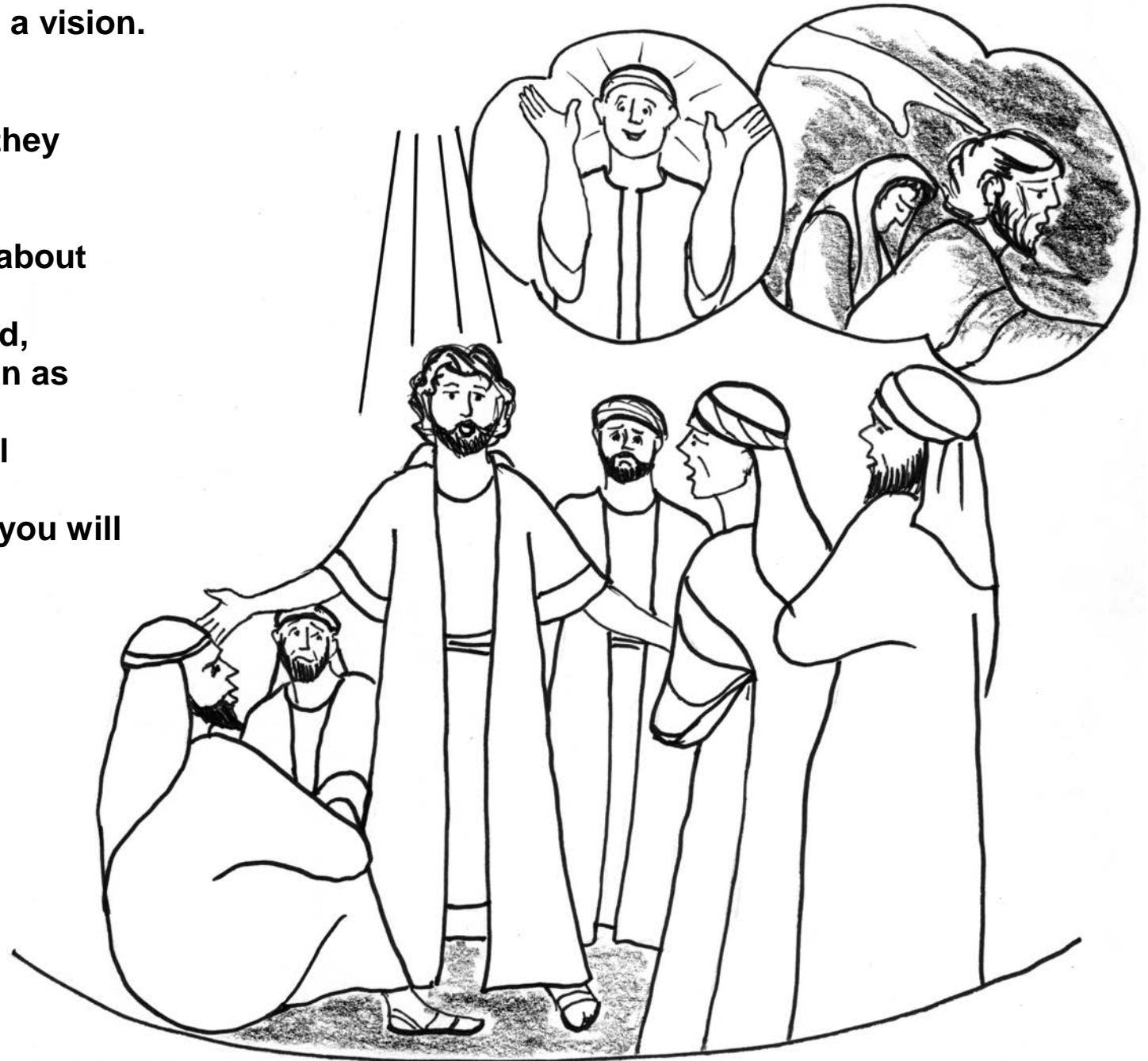
**Isaiah lived in Jerusalem.  
The Temple was there also.**

**God's people brought  
their offerings to the temple  
and prayed to the Lord,  
but in their hearts,  
they did not love Him.  
They loved their idols  
and did what was wrong.**



**God spoke to Isaiah in a vision.**

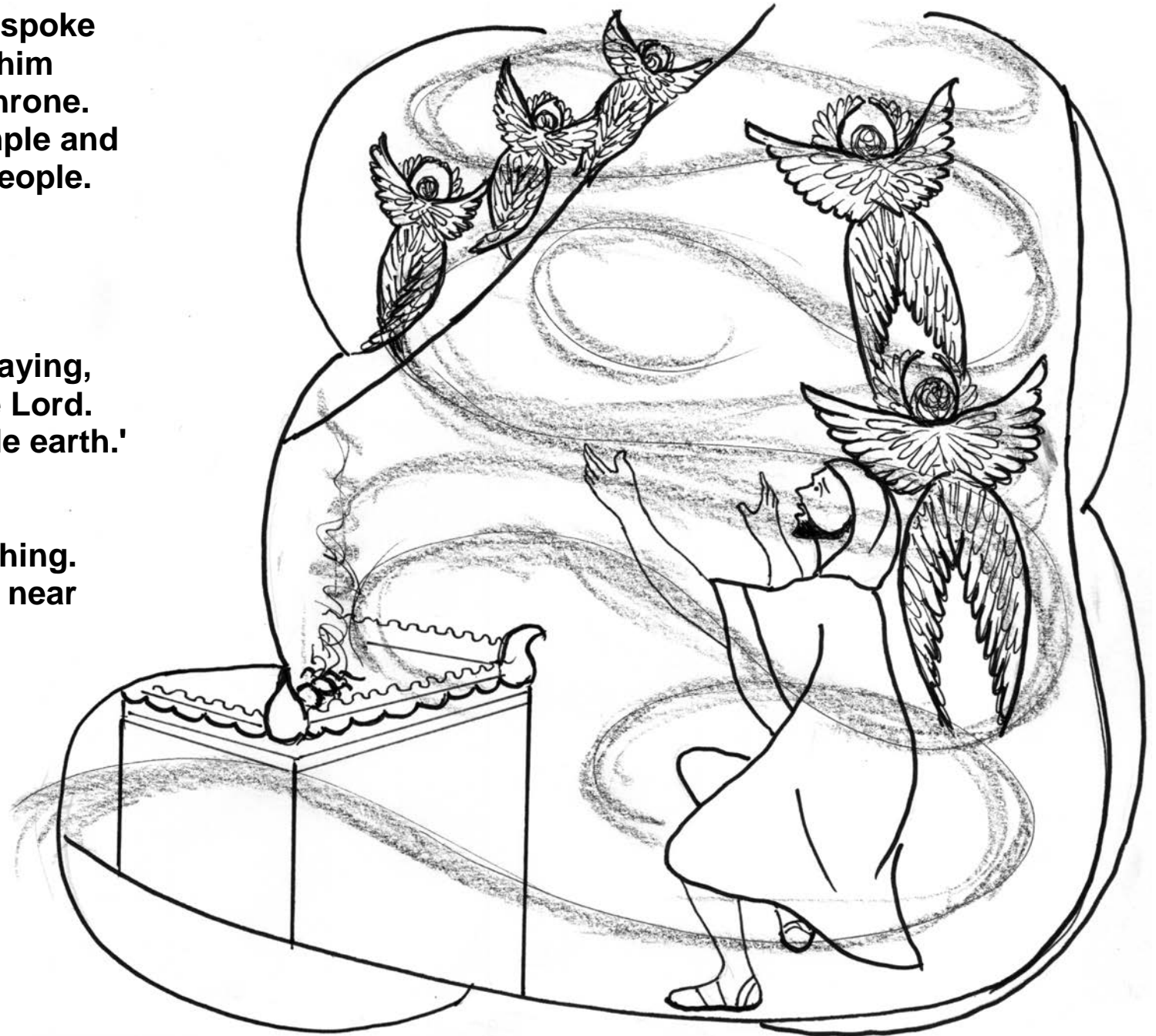
**He said,  
'I am their Father, but they  
Do not know Me.  
Say to them,  
"Come and let us talk about  
what you are doing.  
Your sins are bright red,  
but you can be as clean as  
white wool.  
If you obey Me you will  
be blessed.  
If you do not obey Me you will  
be destroyed."**



**In another vision God spoke to Isaiah and showed him the Lord sitting on a throne. His robe filled the Temple and God was among His people.**

**Around the throne angels with six wings, known as seraphs, called to each other, saying, 'Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord. His glory fills the whole earth.'**

**The temple shook and smoke covered everything. Isaiah could not come near the Lord because of his sin.**

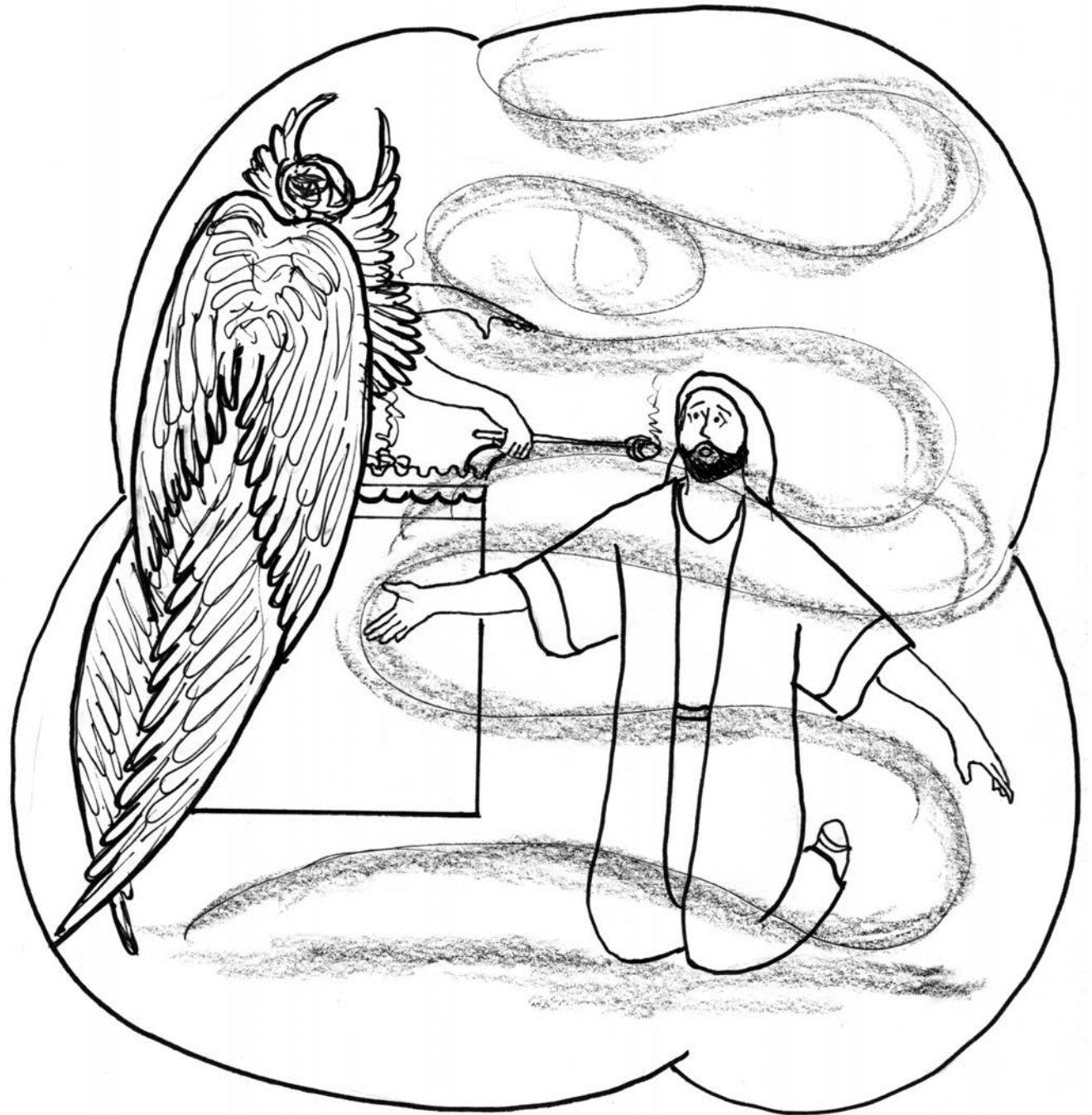


**'Oh, no!' he cried out.  
'I will be destroyed.  
I am unclean before God,  
and I live among people  
who are not clean before God,  
and I have seen the Lord.'**

**A seraph went to the altar,  
took a burning coal,  
and touched Isaiah's mouth.**

**He said,  
'Your sin has been  
taken away.'**

**God made Isaiah clean.**



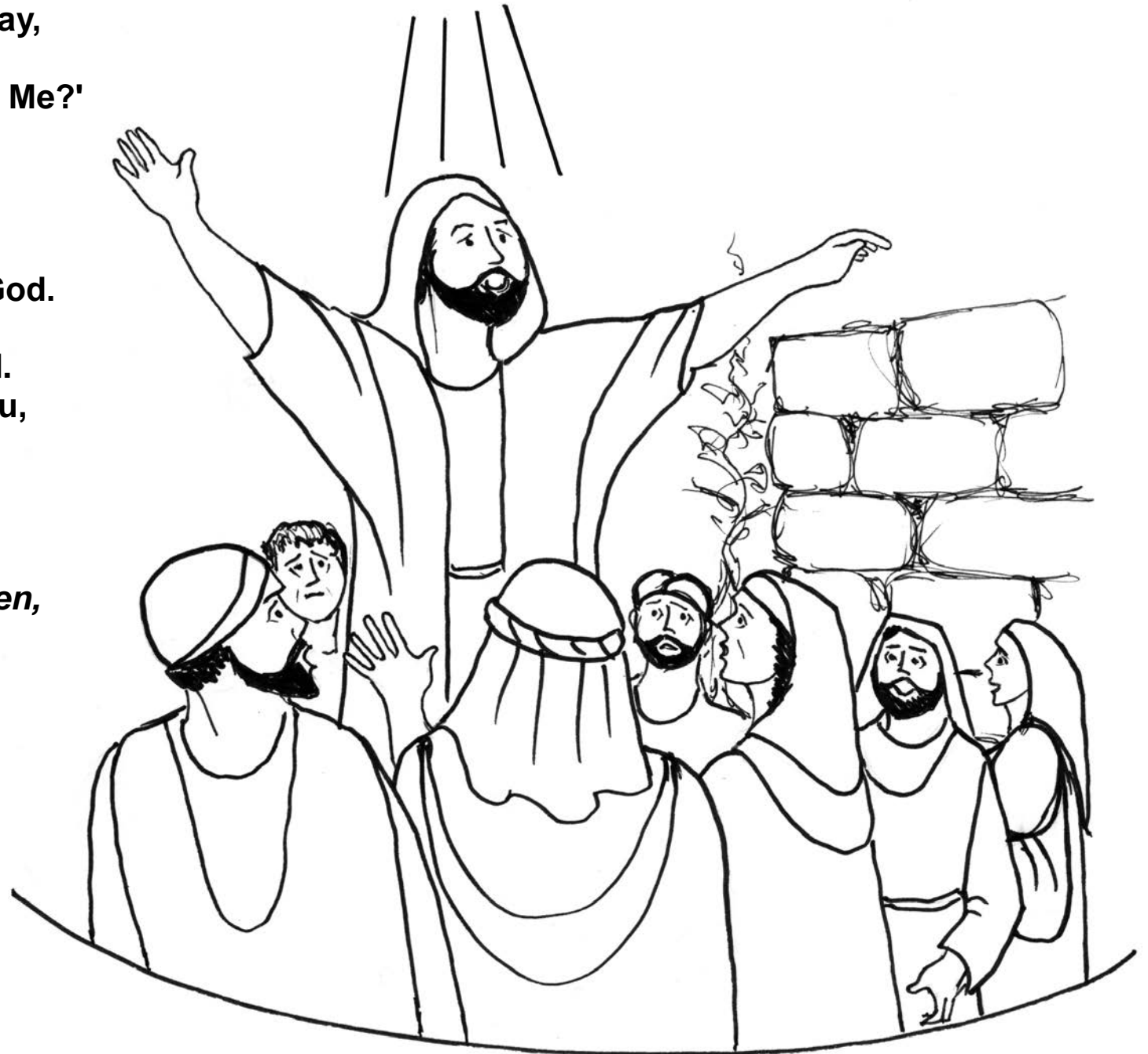
**Then Isaiah heard God say,  
'Who will go  
and tell My people about Me?'**

**Isaiah answered,  
'Here I am. Send me!'**

**'Go to My people,' said God.  
'Tell them My words.  
They will not understand.  
They will not listen to you,  
but keep on telling them  
My words.'**

***God loved His people then,  
and He loves them now.***

***Even when people  
will not listen,  
He sends someone to  
warn them.  
Perhaps someone  
will listen!***



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## ***A LETTER FOR HEZEKIAH***

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**2 KINGS 18:17 – 19:36**

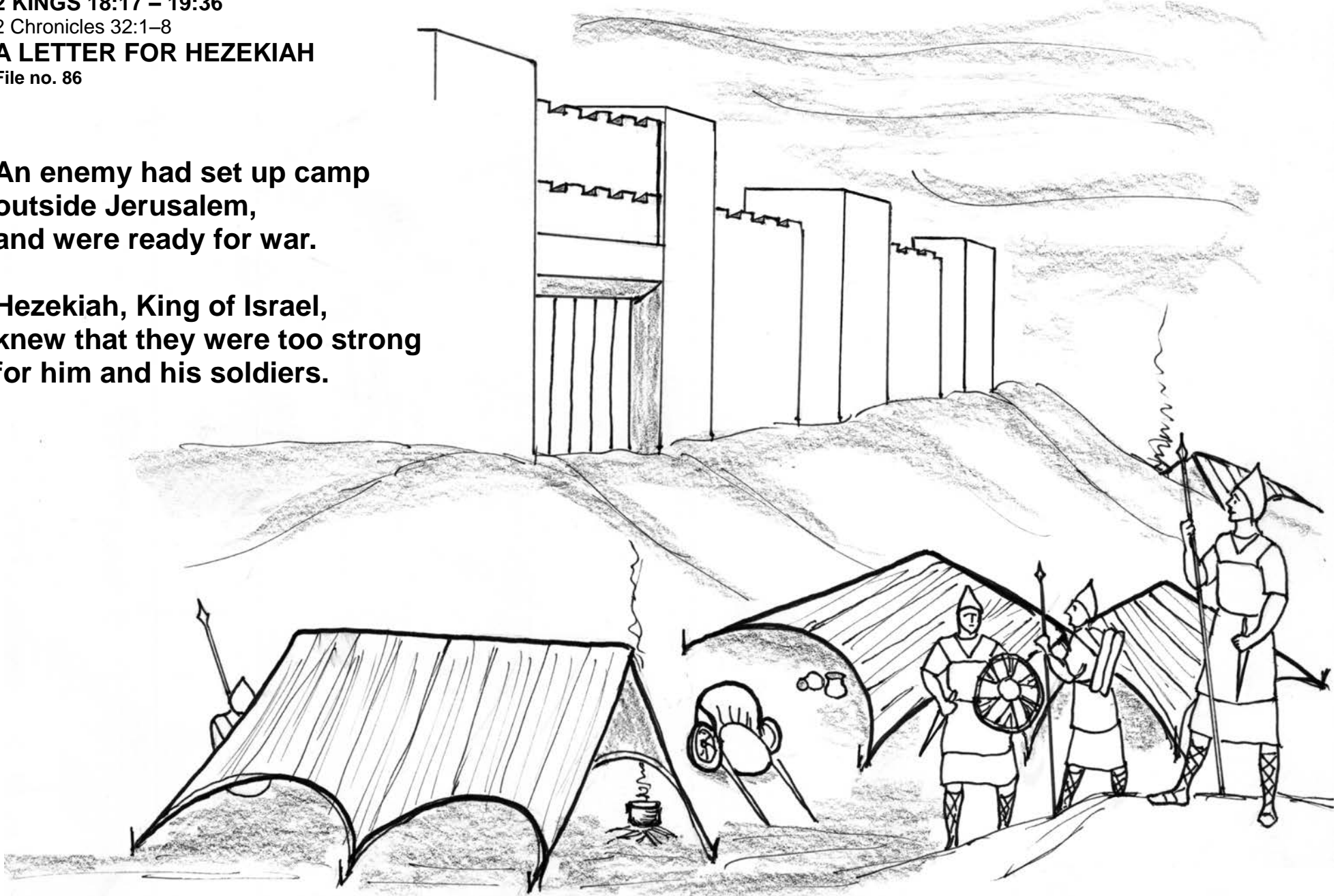
2 Chronicles 32:1–8

**A LETTER FOR HEZEKIAH**

File no. 86

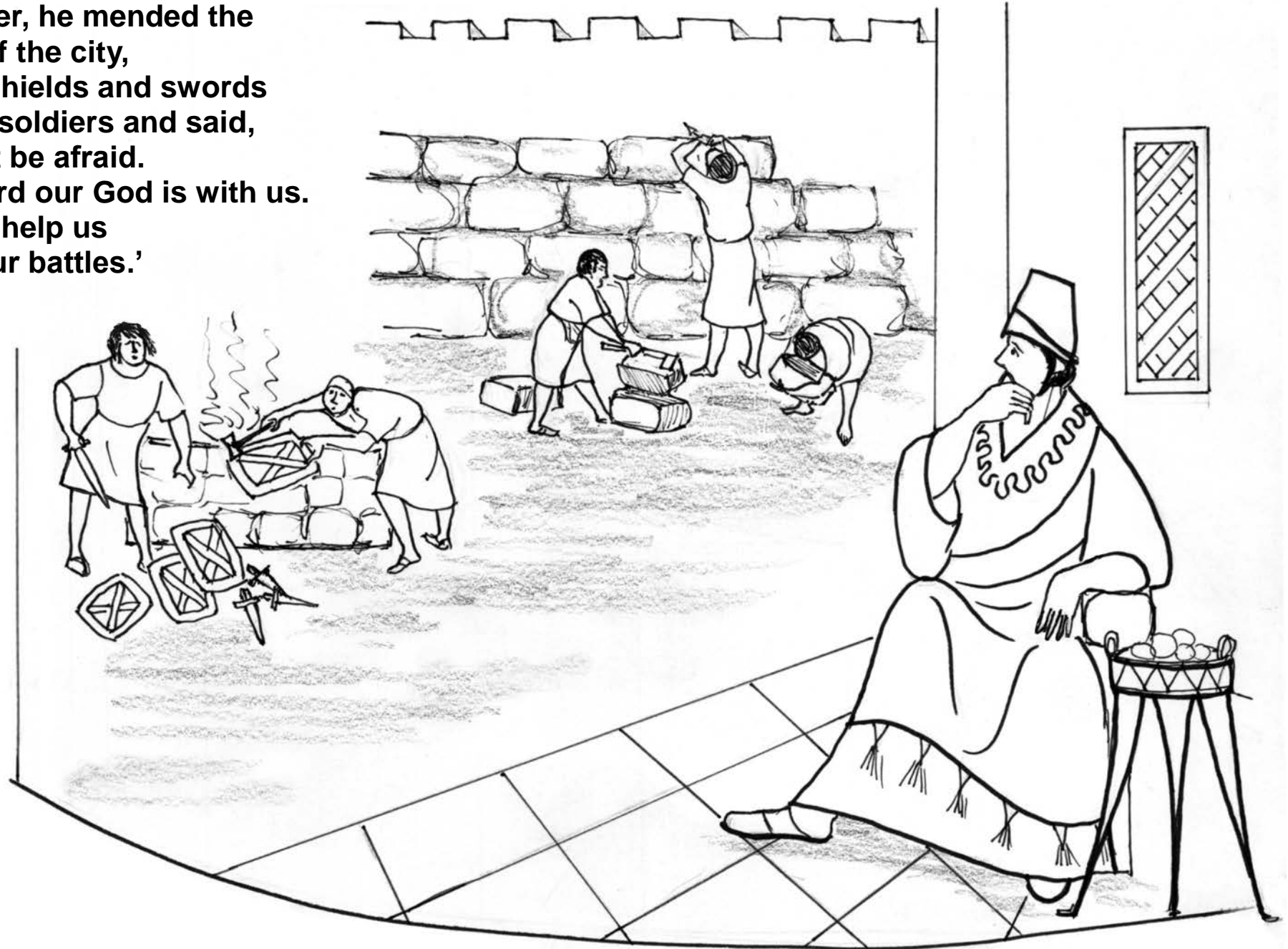
**An enemy had set up camp  
outside Jerusalem,  
and were ready for war.**

**Hezekiah, King of Israel,  
knew that they were too strong  
for him and his soldiers.**



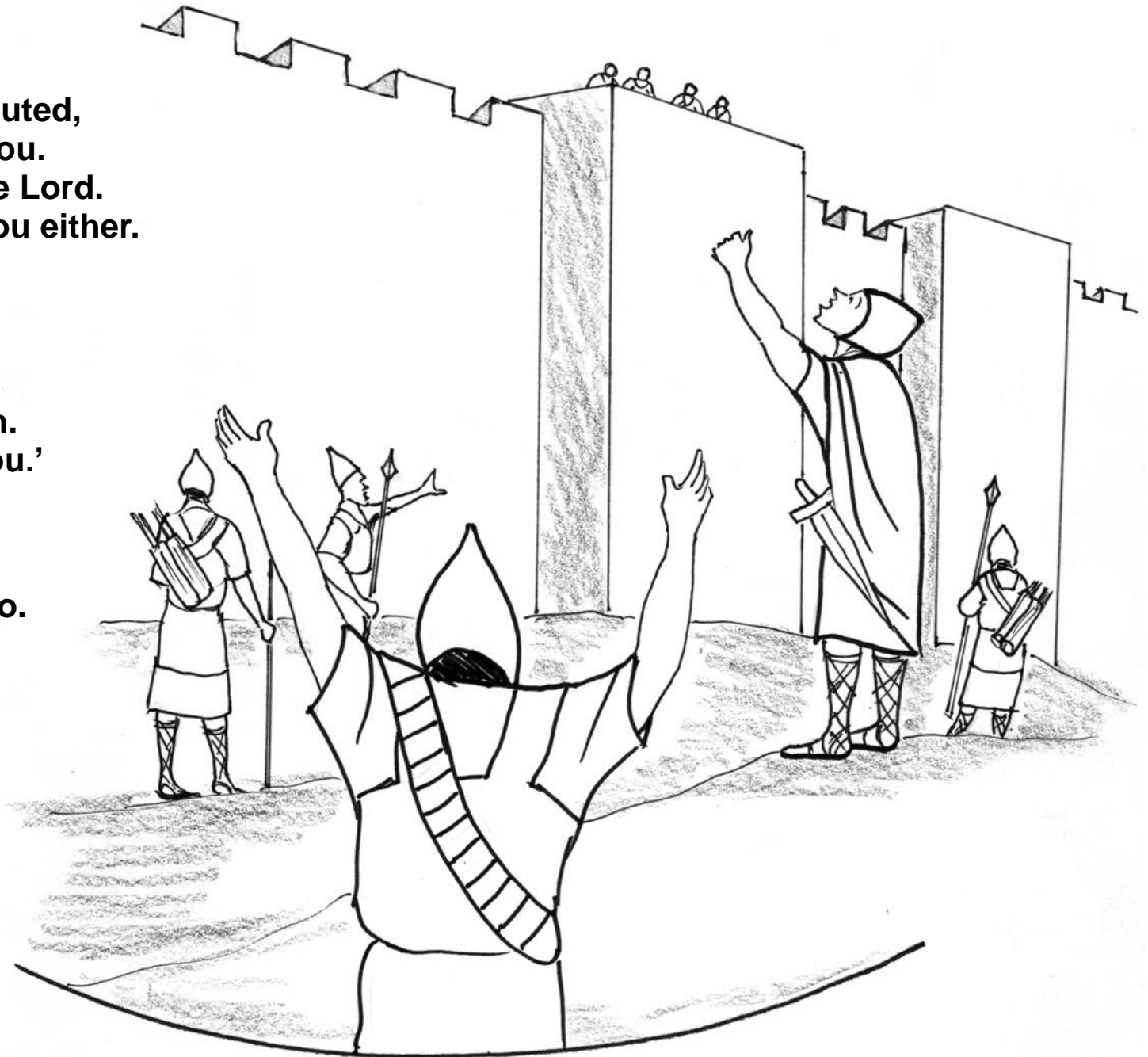


However, he mended the  
walls of the city,  
made shields and swords  
for his soldiers and said,  
'Do not be afraid.  
The Lord our God is with us.  
He will help us  
fight our battles.'



**Each day the enemy shouted,  
'Hezekiah cannot save you.  
He wants you to trust the Lord.  
The Lord will not save you either.  
Come out to me.  
I will take you to  
my beautiful land.  
You can live there.  
Do not listen to Hezekiah.  
The Lord cannot save you.'**

**The people in Jerusalem  
did not say a word.  
Hezekiah told them not to.**



**Hezekiah was troubled  
because the enemy was saying  
things against the Lord.**

**He tore his clothes  
and put on rough cloth  
to show how sad he was.**

**He sent a message to Isaiah  
the prophet saying,  
'Please ask God to help us.'**

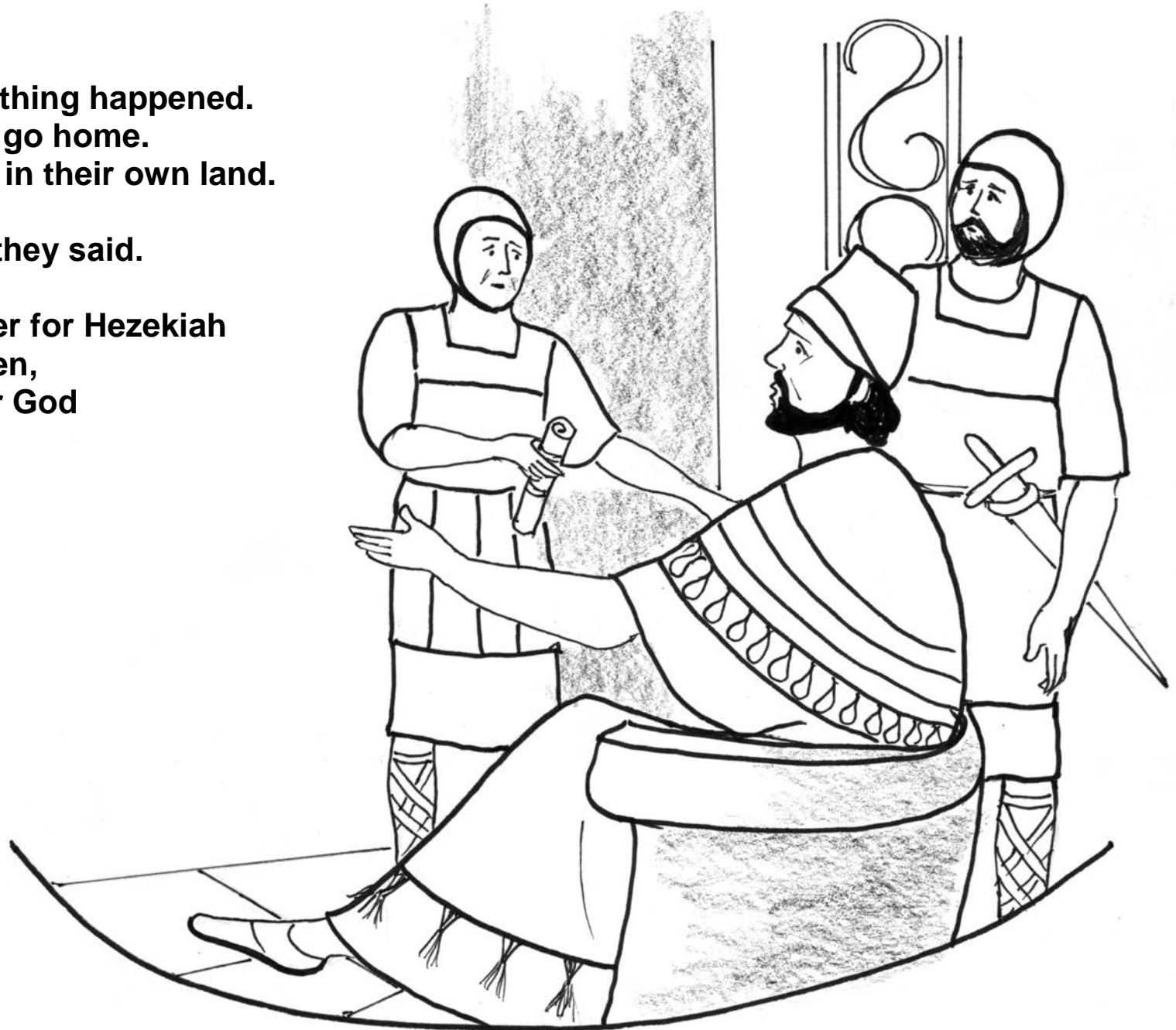
**Then he went to the Temple  
to pray to the Lord.**



**Then a surprising thing happened.  
The enemy had to go home.  
There was trouble in their own land.**

**‘We will be back,’ they said.**

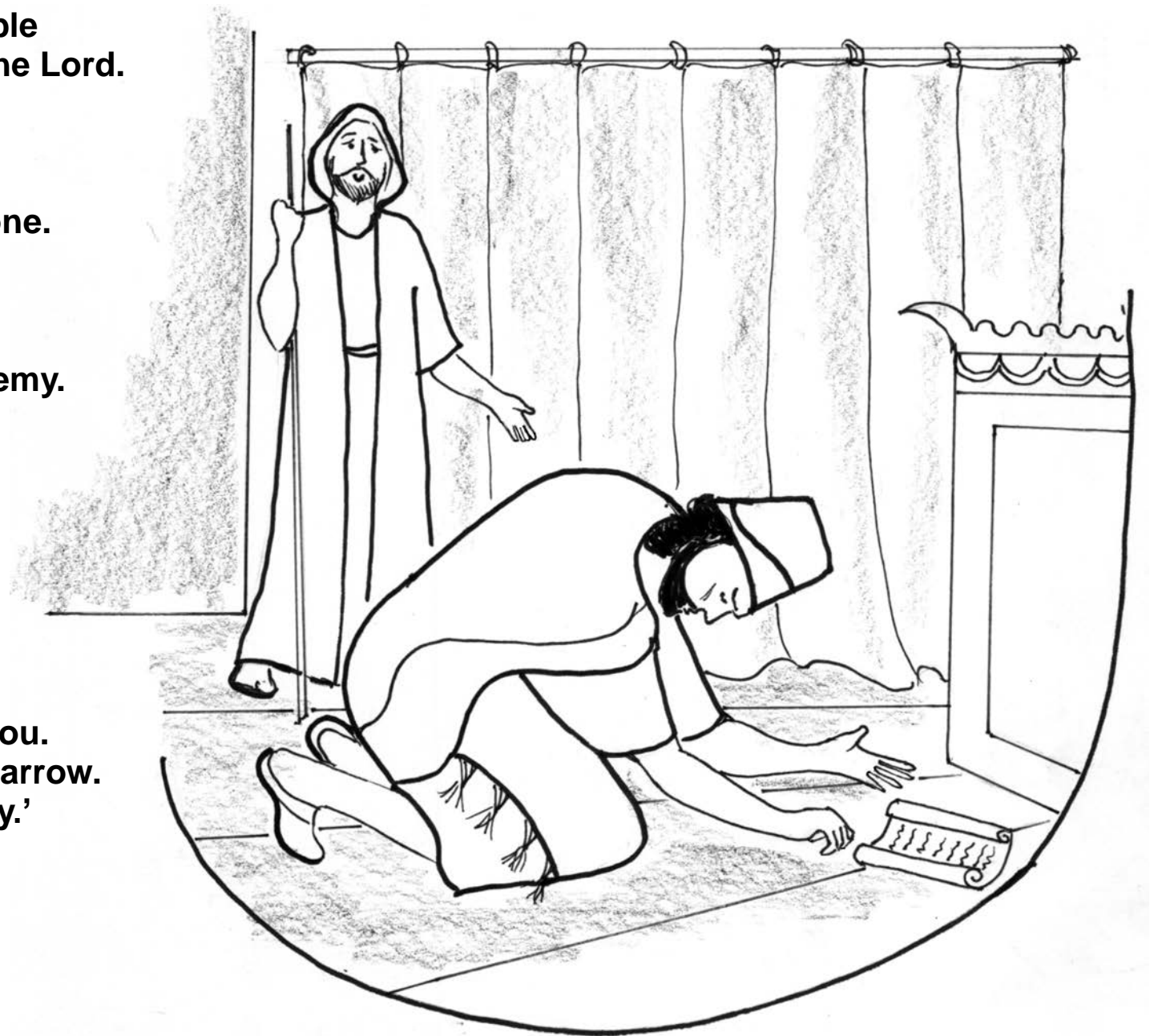
**But they left a letter for Hezekiah  
and in it was written,  
‘Do you think your God  
will save you?  
No, we will come  
and capture you.’**



**After reading the letter  
Hezekiah went to the temple  
and spread it out before the Lord.**

**He prayed:  
'Lord, God of Israel,  
you are the God of everyone.  
You made everything.  
The enemy thinks  
he is stronger than You.  
Lord save us from our enemy.  
Then everyone will know  
that only You are God.'**

**God told Isaiah  
to say to Hezekiah,  
'Do not be afraid.  
The Lord has  
heard your prayer.  
The enemy will not fight you.  
He will not even shoot an arrow.  
The Lord will save this city.'**

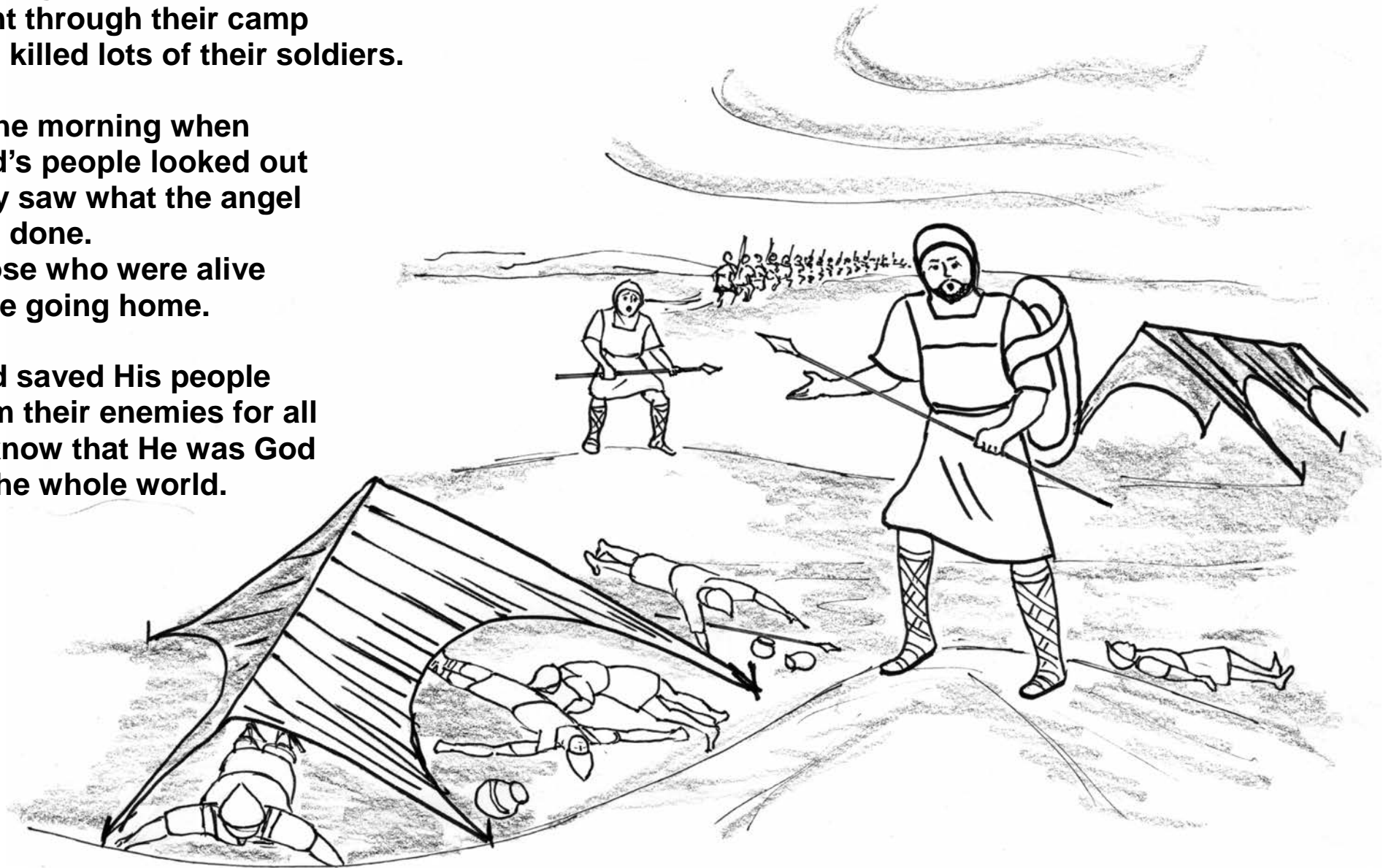


**When the enemy came back  
the angel of the Lord  
went through their camp  
and killed lots of their soldiers.**

**In the morning when  
God's people looked out  
they saw what the angel  
had done.**

**Those who were alive  
were going home.**

**God saved His people  
from their enemies for all  
to know that He was God  
of the whole world.**



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***JOSIAH'S GREAT WORK FOR GOD /  
THE BOOK FOUND IN THE TEMPLE***

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**2 KINGS 22:1 – 23:3, 21–23**

2 Chronicles 34:1 – 35:19; Deuteronomy 28:1–25

**JOSIAH'S GREAT WORK FOR GOD /  
THE BOOK FOUND IN THE TEMPLE**

File no. 87

**For a long time  
God had been saying  
to His people,  
'You have made Me angry.  
You have done what was wrong.  
Your enemies  
will take you away.'**

**Then Josiah became king.  
He was only eight years old,  
but he loved the Lord with  
all his heart.**





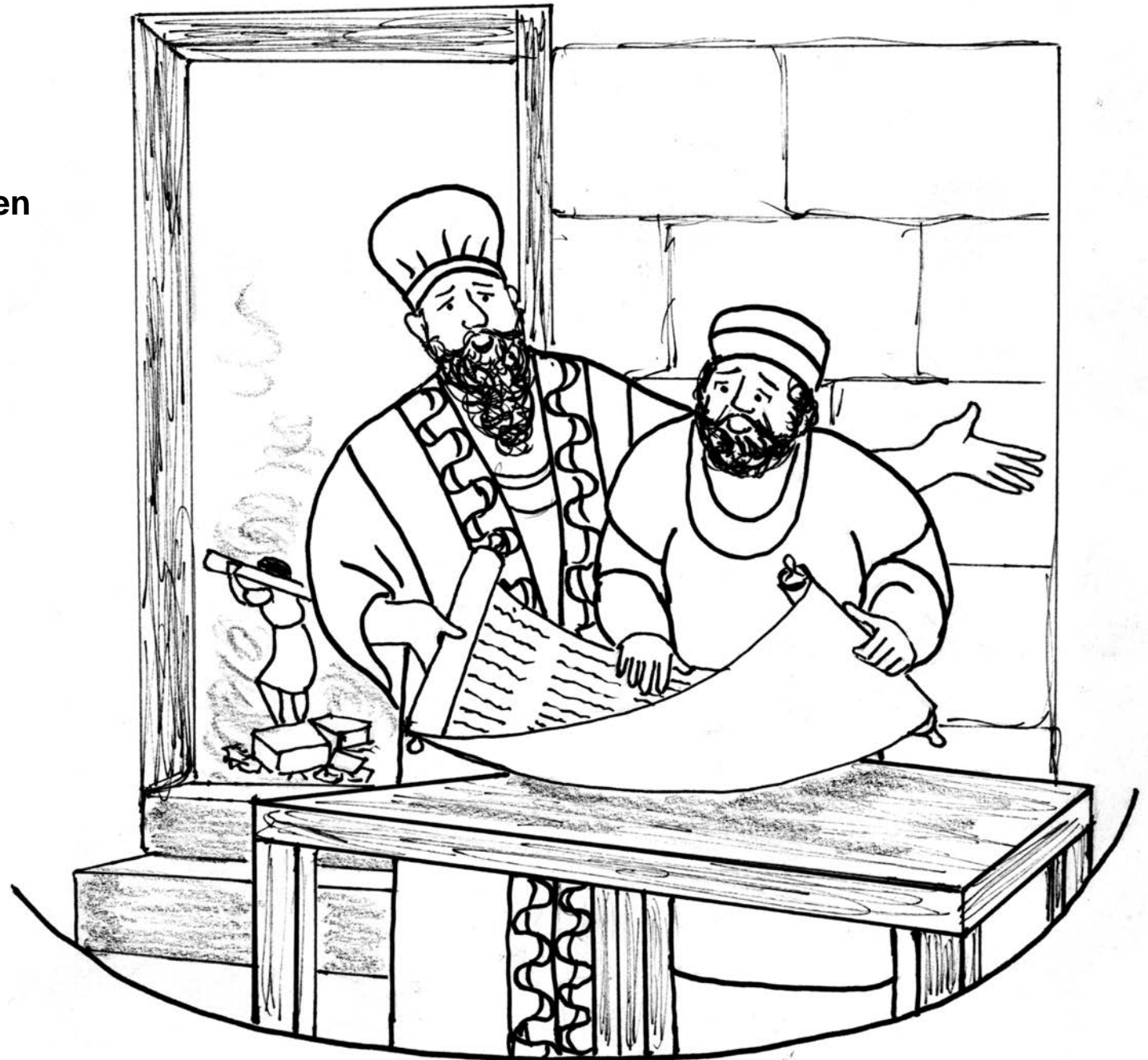
**He wanted the people to go to the temple and worship the Lord God, but God's house needed mending.**

**So he took out the idols, that should never have been there. He ground them to dust. Then he gave orders for God's house to be repaired.**



Hilkiah, the priest,  
went to watch the workmen  
mending the temple.  
He was looking around  
and found a book.  
It was the book of  
God's law.  
He had not read it.  
No one had read it  
for a long time.

'I must give this to  
the king,'  
thought Hilkiah.

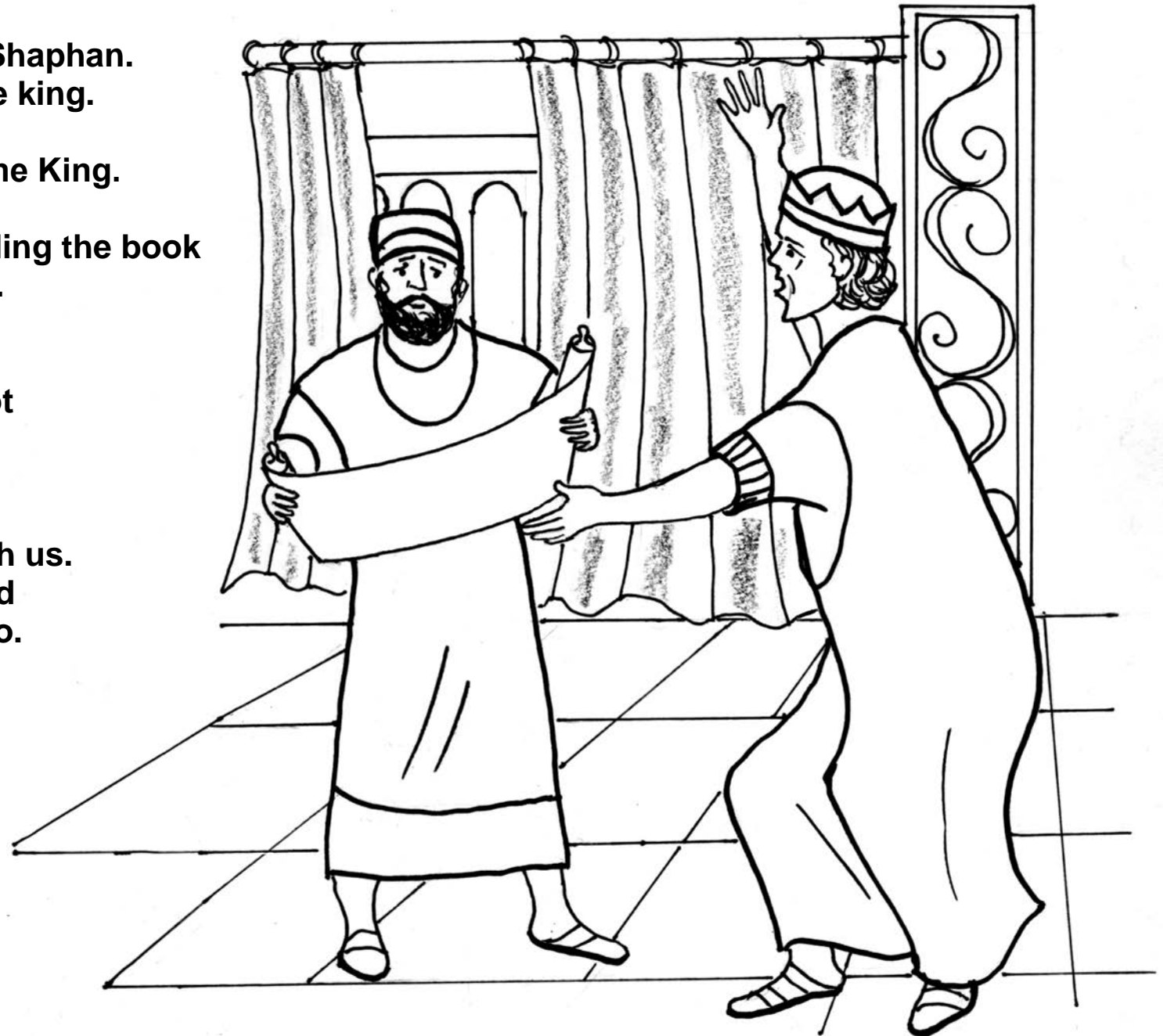


**He gave the book to Shaphan.  
Shaphan took it to the king.**

**‘Read it to me,’ said the King.**

**As Shaphan was reading the book  
Josiah became upset.**

**He said,  
‘Our ancestors did not  
obey the Lord.  
They did not do  
what the book said.  
God is very angry with us.  
Find out from the Lord  
what He is going to do.**



**Shaphan asked Hilkiah  
the priest,  
and Hilkiah asked  
the prophetess.**

**The prophetess answered:  
'This is what the Lord says;  
"My people have left Me.  
They have made Me  
very angry  
and I will punish them.  
Tell the king,  
that because he is sorry  
and has come to Me,  
he will not see  
the trouble  
I am going send."'**



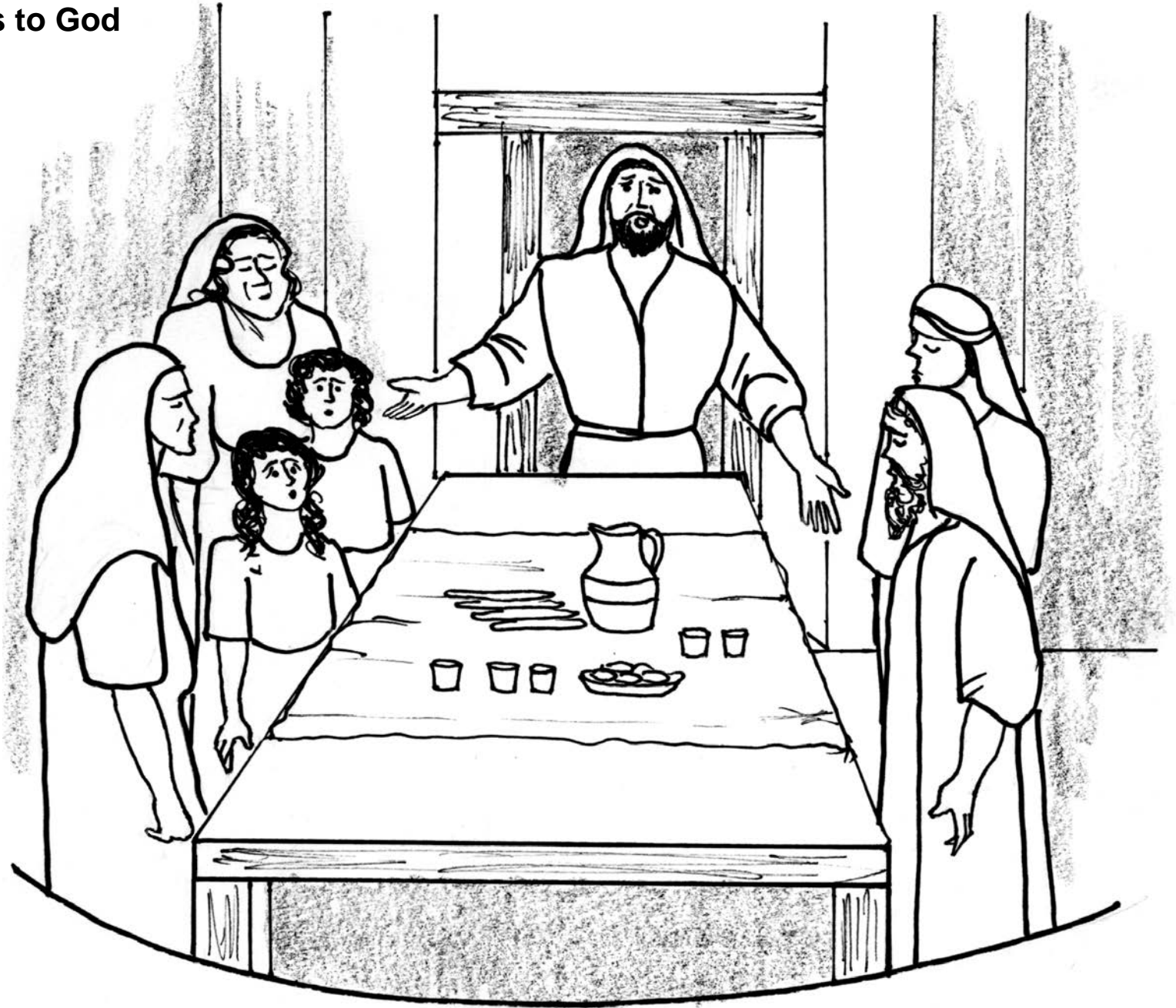
**Josiah called the people together  
and said,  
'I want to follow the Lord  
and obey His rules and laws.'**

**The people said that they  
also wanted to obey God.**



**Everyone gave thanks to God  
and celebrated the  
Passover feast.**

**This was the way  
God gave them  
to remember  
that He had  
saved them from  
slavery and death.**



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

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

## ***JEREMIAH THE PROPHET***

*by*

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**JEREMIAH 1:1 – 2:7; 12–13, (23, 27) 4:1, (2,) 5–7,14;  
25:1–12; 29:1, 3–14; 31:17, 20, 31–34; 39:9–14**  
Jeremiah 32:1–44; 2 Chronicles 34:33; 2 Kings 25:1–26

## **JEREMIAH THE PROPHET**

File no. 88

**God said to Jeremiah,  
'Before you were born,  
I chose you to do a special work.  
I chose you to be a prophet  
to many countries.'**

**Jeremiah said.  
'Lord, I cannot be a prophet.  
I do not know how to speak.  
I am only young.'**

**The Lord said,  
'Do not be afraid.  
I will give you the words to say.  
I will look after you  
and make your words come true.**

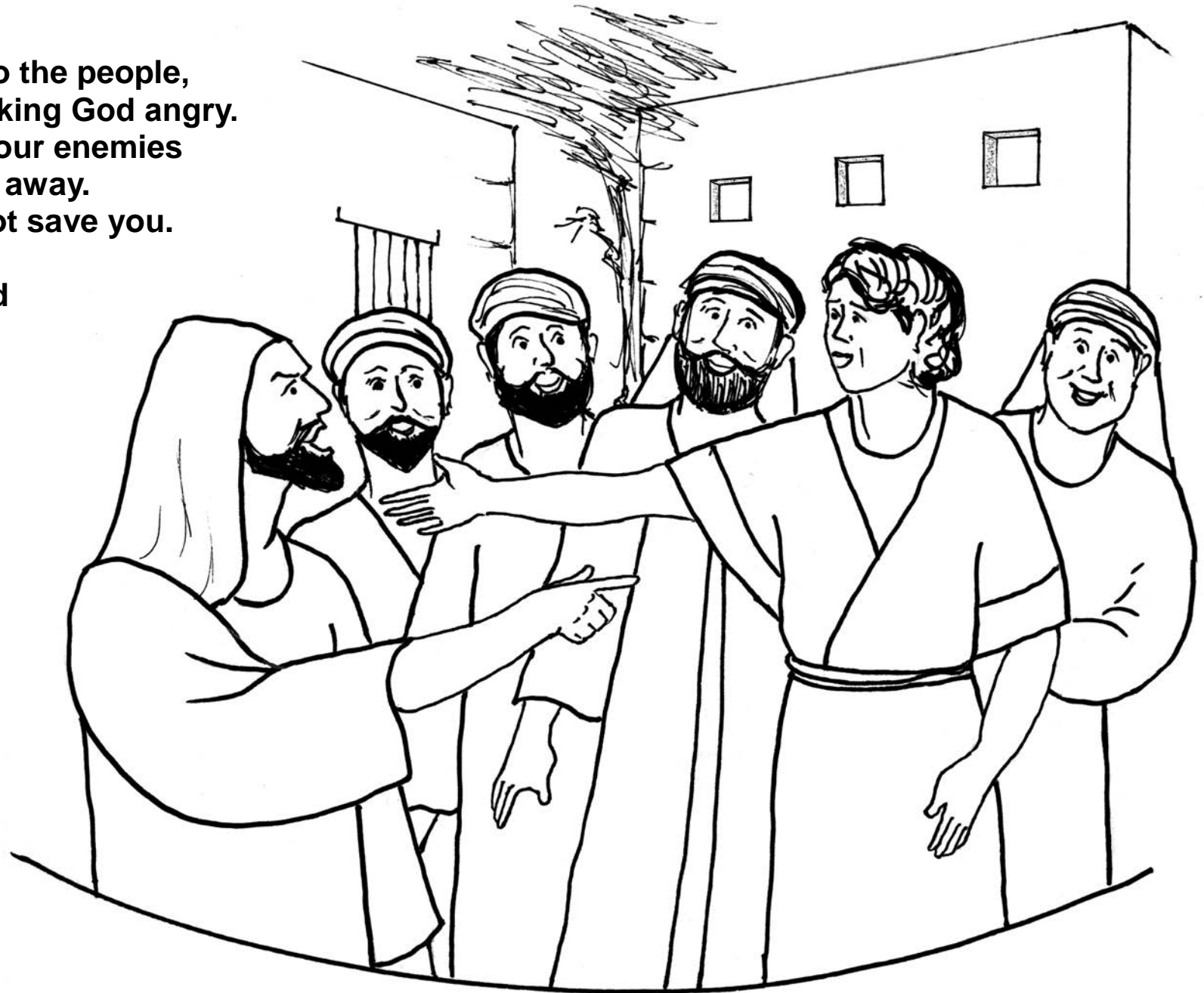
**'My people used to love Me.  
I looked after them,  
but now they trust  
gods of wood and stone.  
These gods cannot save them.'**





**So Jeremiah said to the people,  
'You have been making God angry.  
He is going to let your enemies  
come and take you away.  
This time He will not save you.**

**The people laughed  
at Jeremiah.  
They did not  
believe him.**



**This made Jeremiah very sad.**

**But he kept on saying to the people,  
'Throw away your idols  
and come back to the Lord.  
If you are truly sorry for your sin,  
God will change His mind  
and stop the enemy from coming.'**

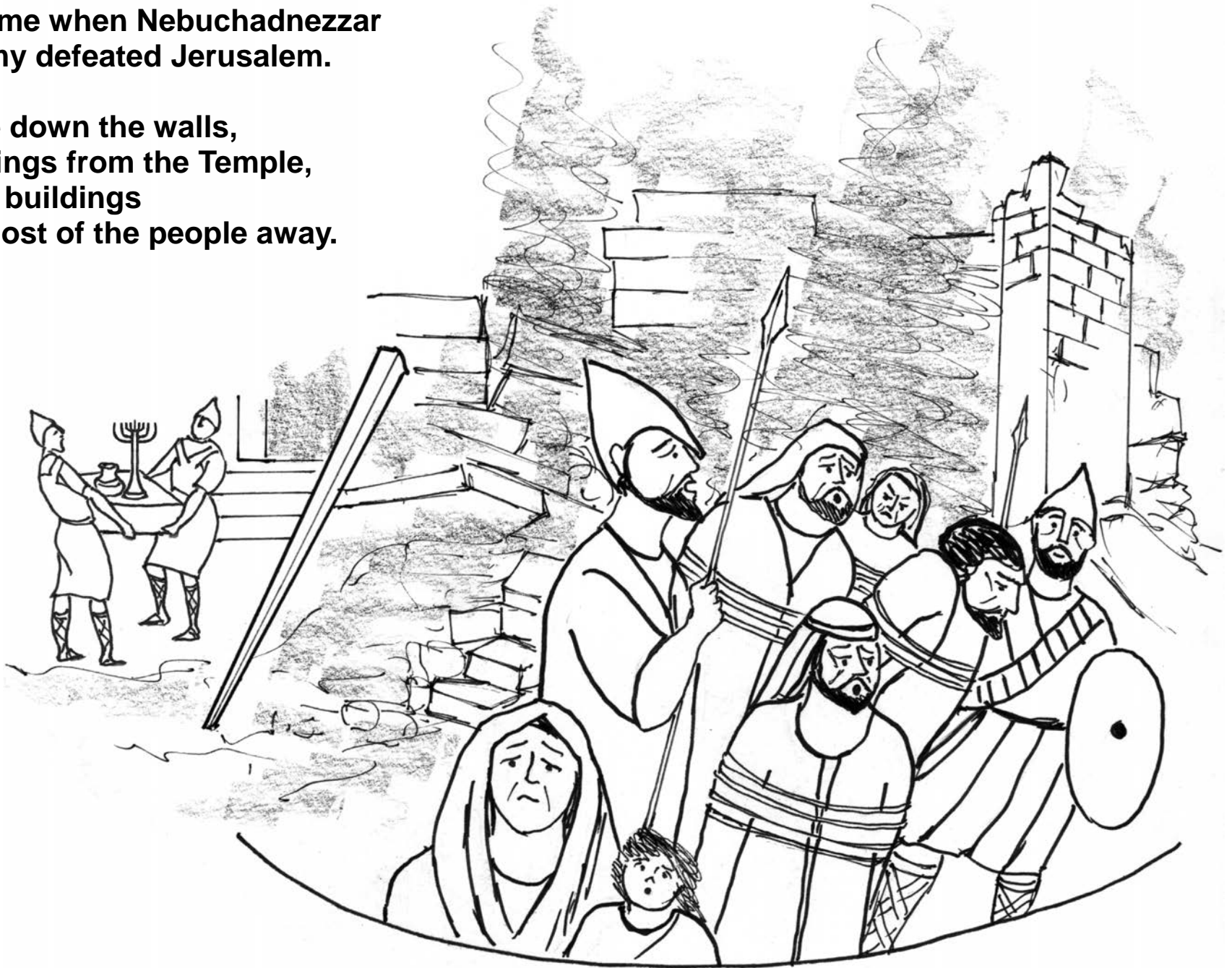
**The people were not sorry  
for what they were doing.**

**Then Jeremiah said,  
'When the enemy comes,  
go with them.  
You will be safe in Babylon.  
After you have been there  
for seventy years,  
God will bring you back  
to Jerusalem  
and you will know that He is God.'**



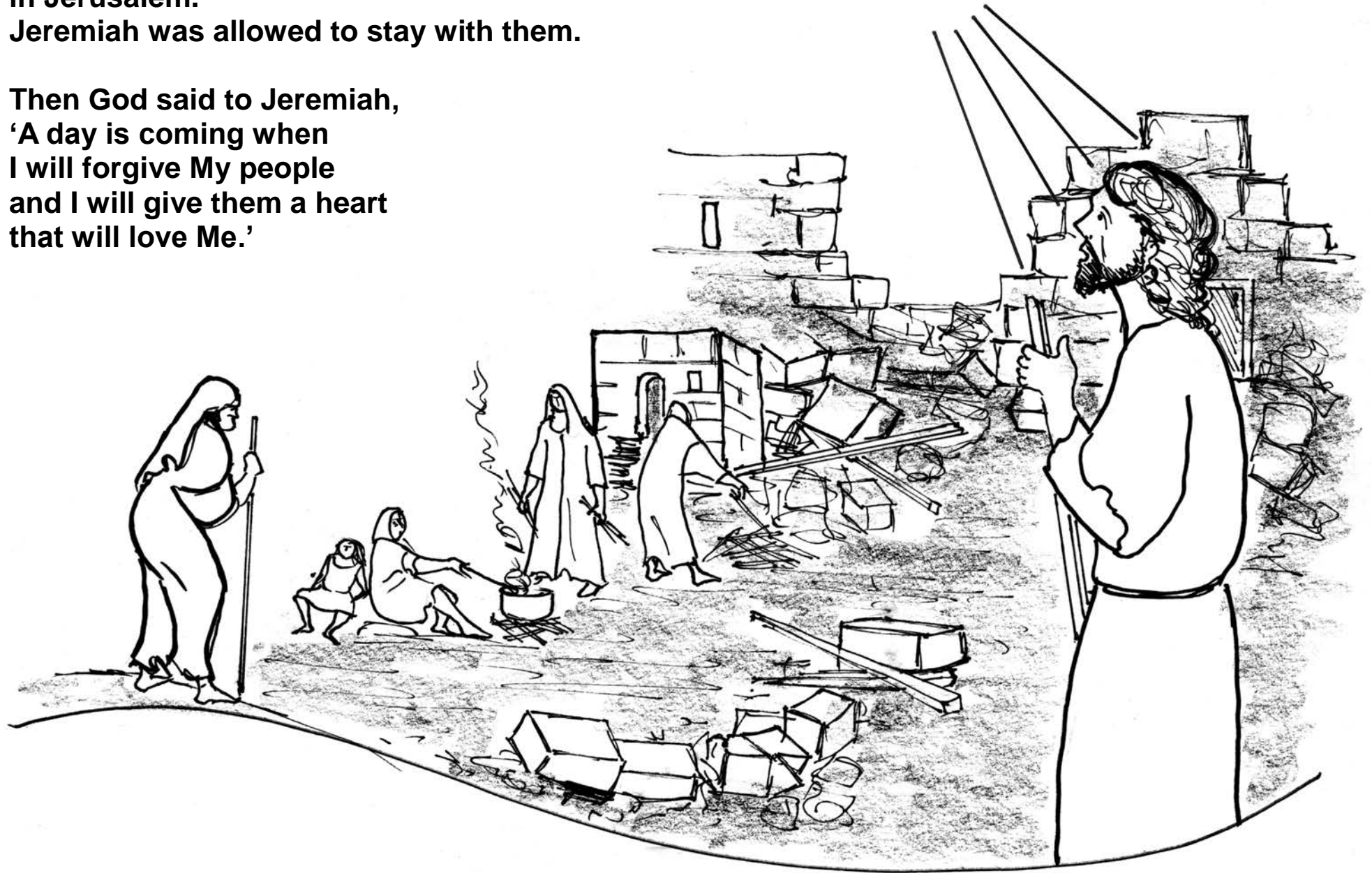
**The day came when Nebuchadnezzar and his army defeated Jerusalem.**

**They broke down the walls,  
took the things from the Temple,  
burned the buildings  
and took most of the people away.**



**Nebuchadnezzar left a few poor people  
in Jerusalem.  
Jeremiah was allowed to stay with them.**

**Then God said to Jeremiah,  
'A day is coming when  
I will forgive My people  
and I will give them a heart  
that will love Me.'**



***God never stopped telling His people  
that he would save them from their sins.***

***He was preparing them  
for the coming of His Son, Jesus,  
who would die for us all  
and teach us to love God  
with all our heart.***

***Lamentations 3:21–24  
The Lord's love never ends  
His mercies never stop.  
They are new every morning  
Lord, Your faithfulness is great.***