

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

***THE GOLDEN CALF /
MOSES PRAYS FOR HIS PEOPLE***

by

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EXODUS 32:1 – 34:29

Exodus 24:12–18; 25:8,9;

THE GOLDEN CALF /

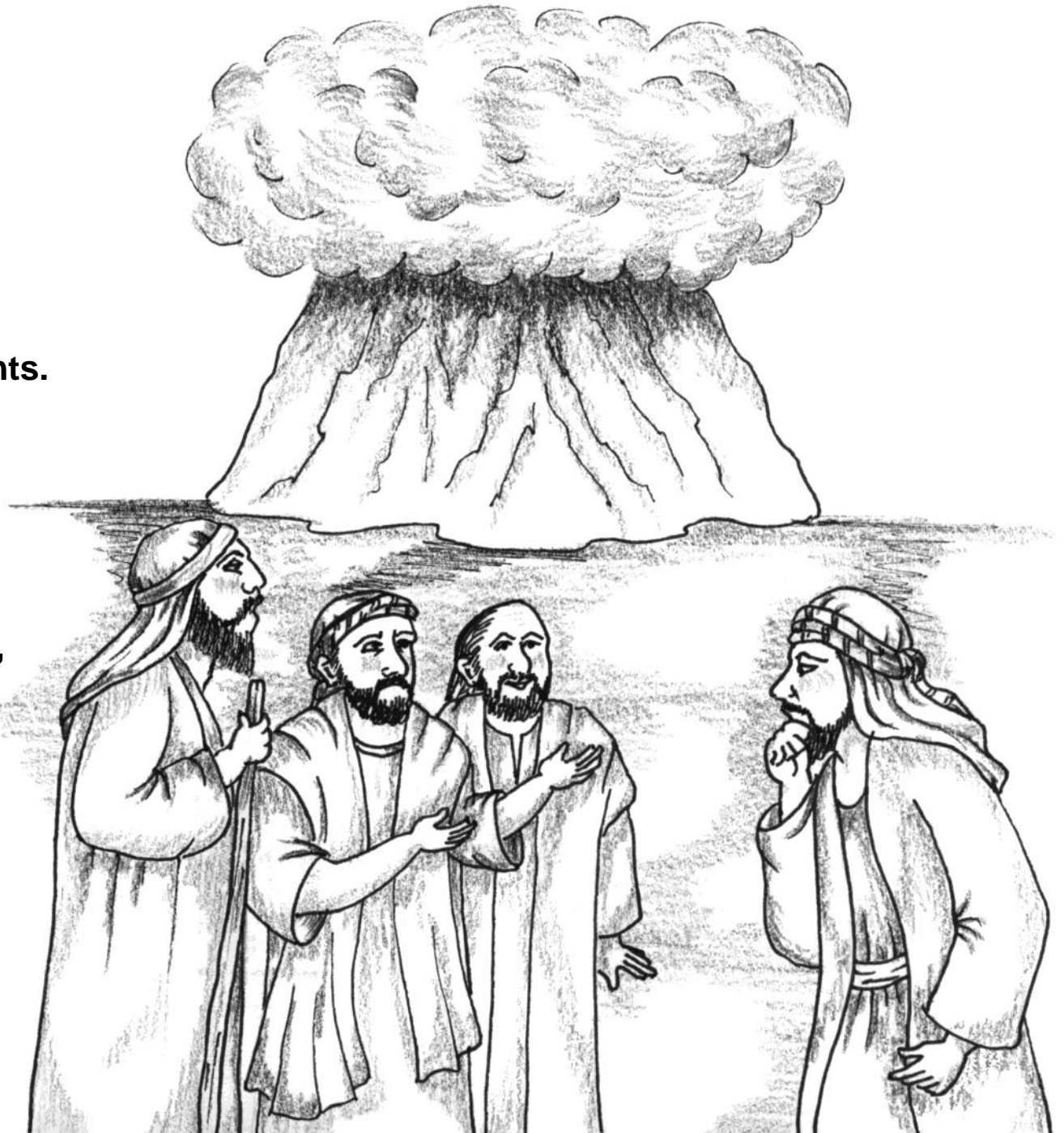
MOSES PRAYS FOR HIS PEOPLE

File no. 31

**Moses was on Mt Sinai
receiving the Ten Commandments.
He was hidden by God's cloud.**

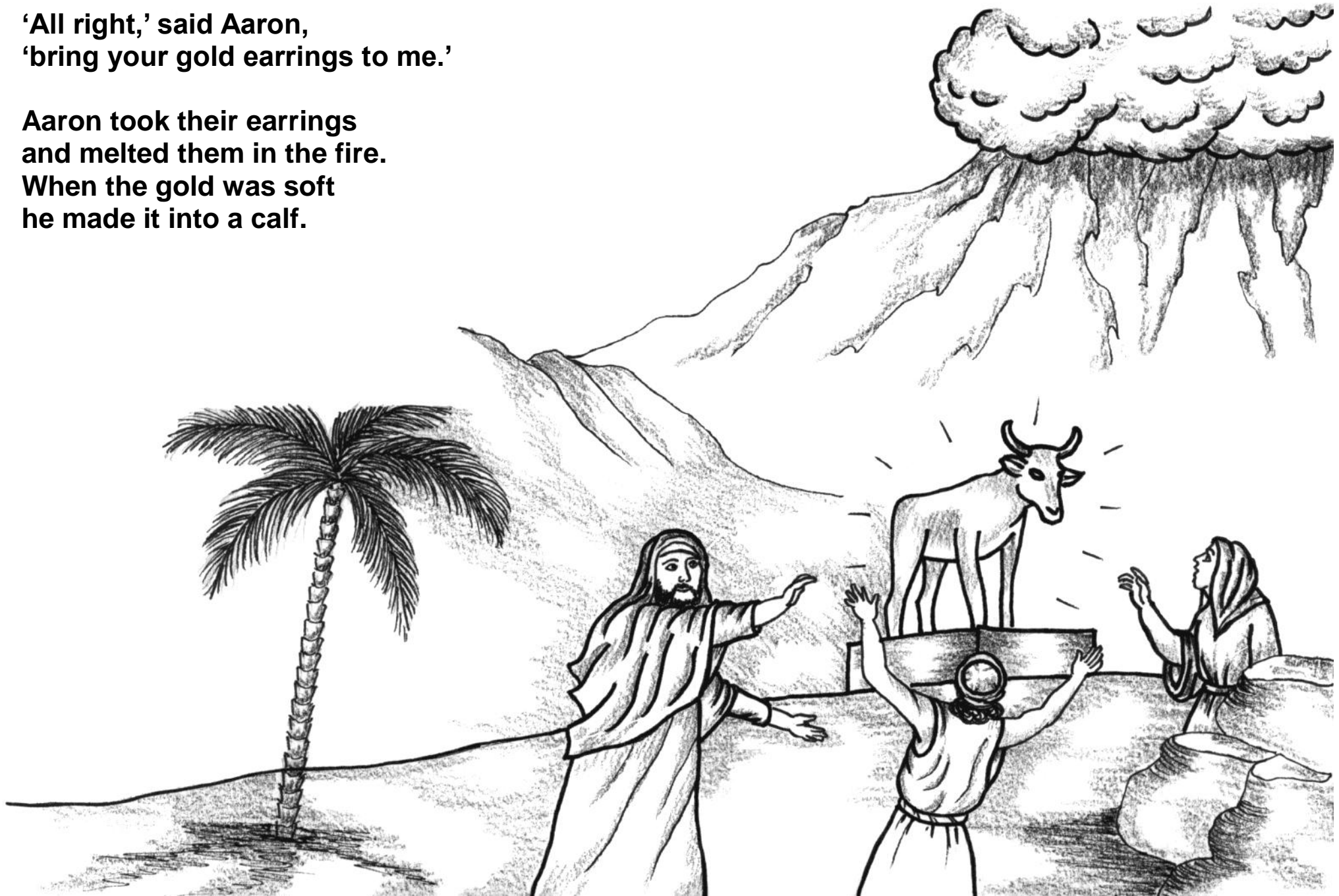
**Forty days went by
and Moses hadn't come back.**

**The people said to Aaron,
'Moses brought us out of Egypt,
but we don't know where he is.
You make us a god
to take us to our new land.'**



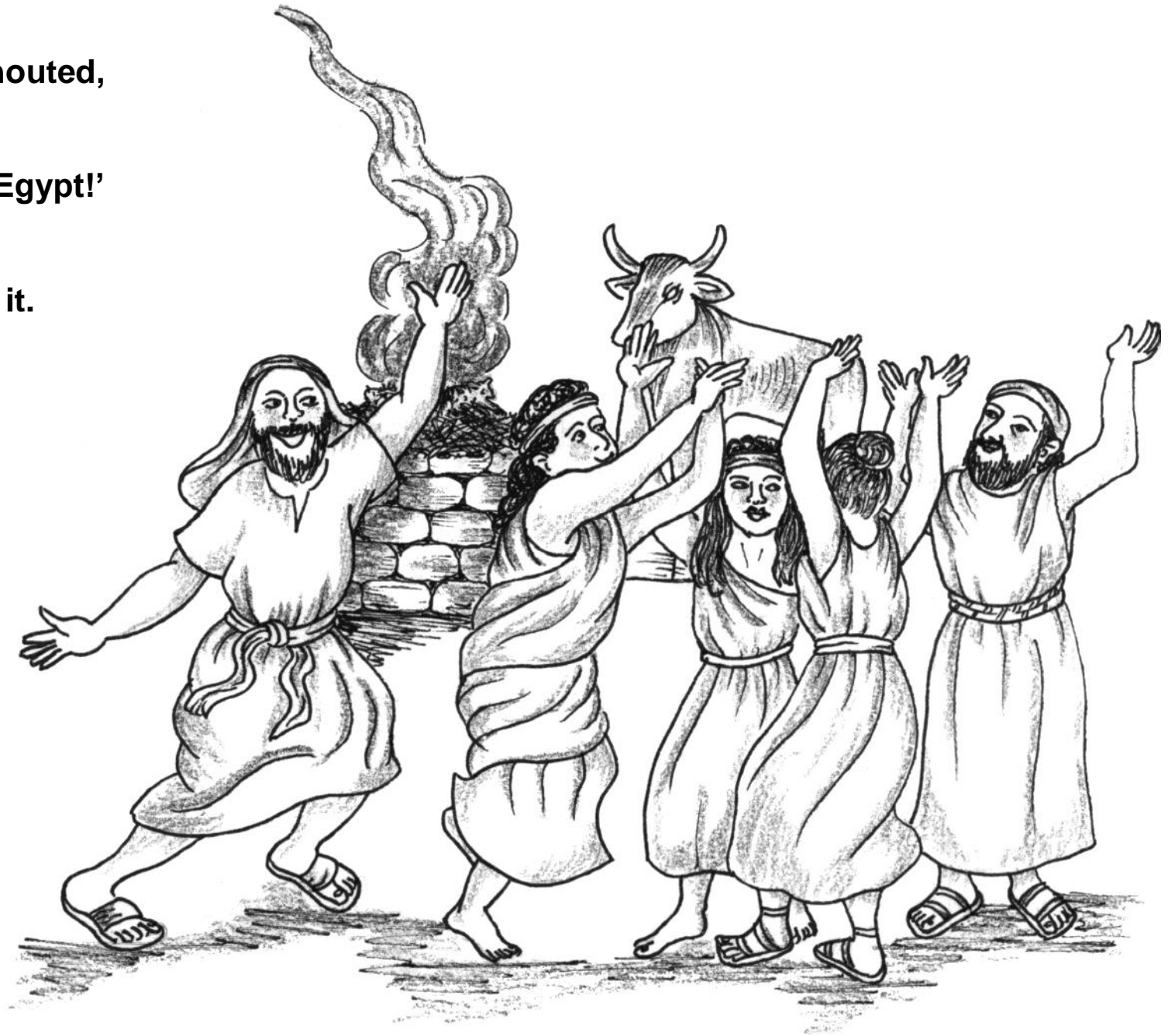
**‘All right,’ said Aaron,
‘bring your gold earrings to me.’**

**Aaron took their earrings
and melted them in the fire.
When the gold was soft
he made it into a calf.**



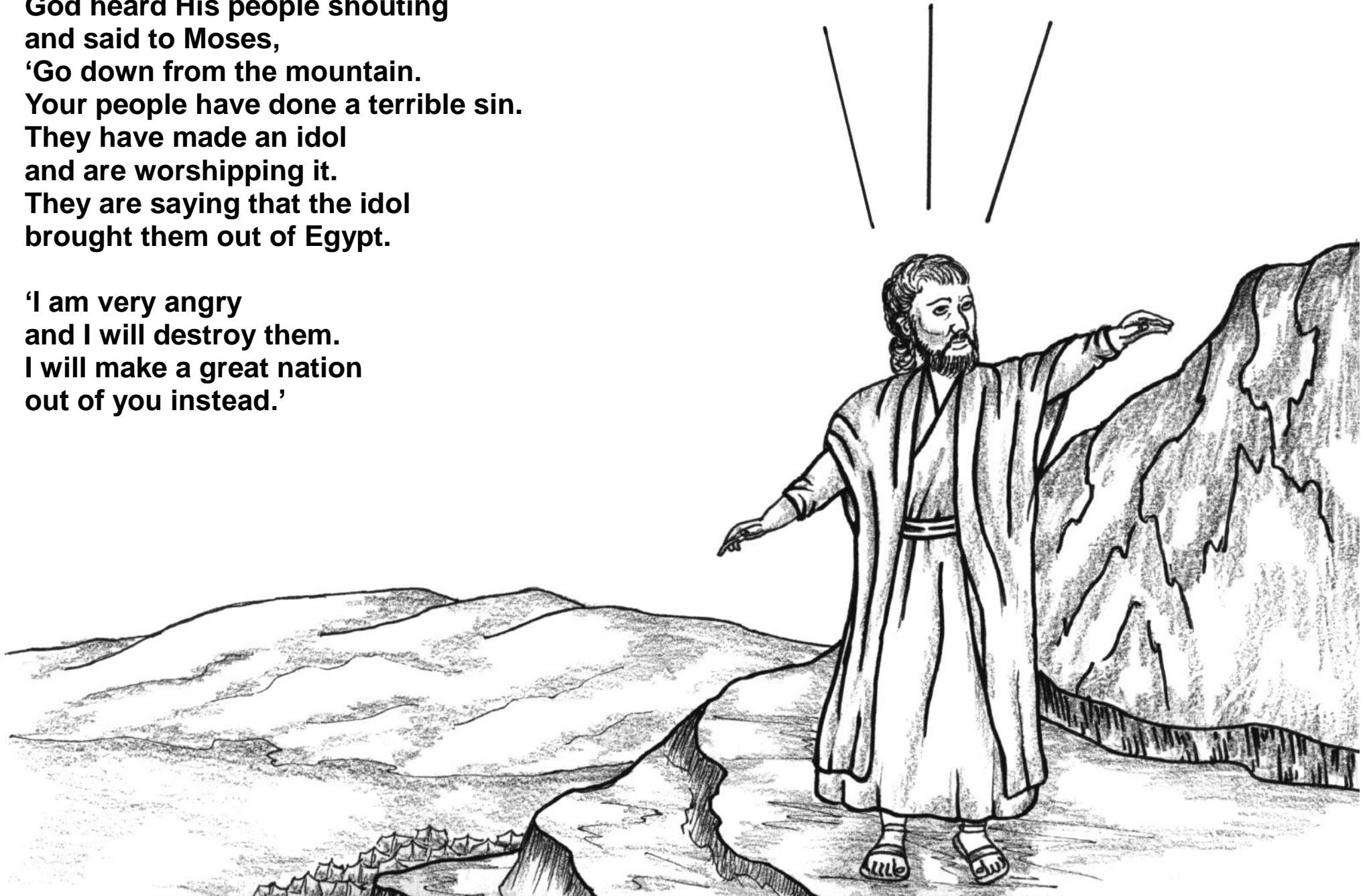
The people saw it and shouted,
'Look, Israel!
These are your gods
who brought you out of Egypt!'

Aaron built an altar
and they danced around it.



**God heard His people shouting
and said to Moses,
'Go down from the mountain.
Your people have done a terrible sin.
They have made an idol
and are worshipping it.
They are saying that the idol
brought them out of Egypt.**

**'I am very angry
and I will destroy them.
I will make a great nation
out of you instead.'**



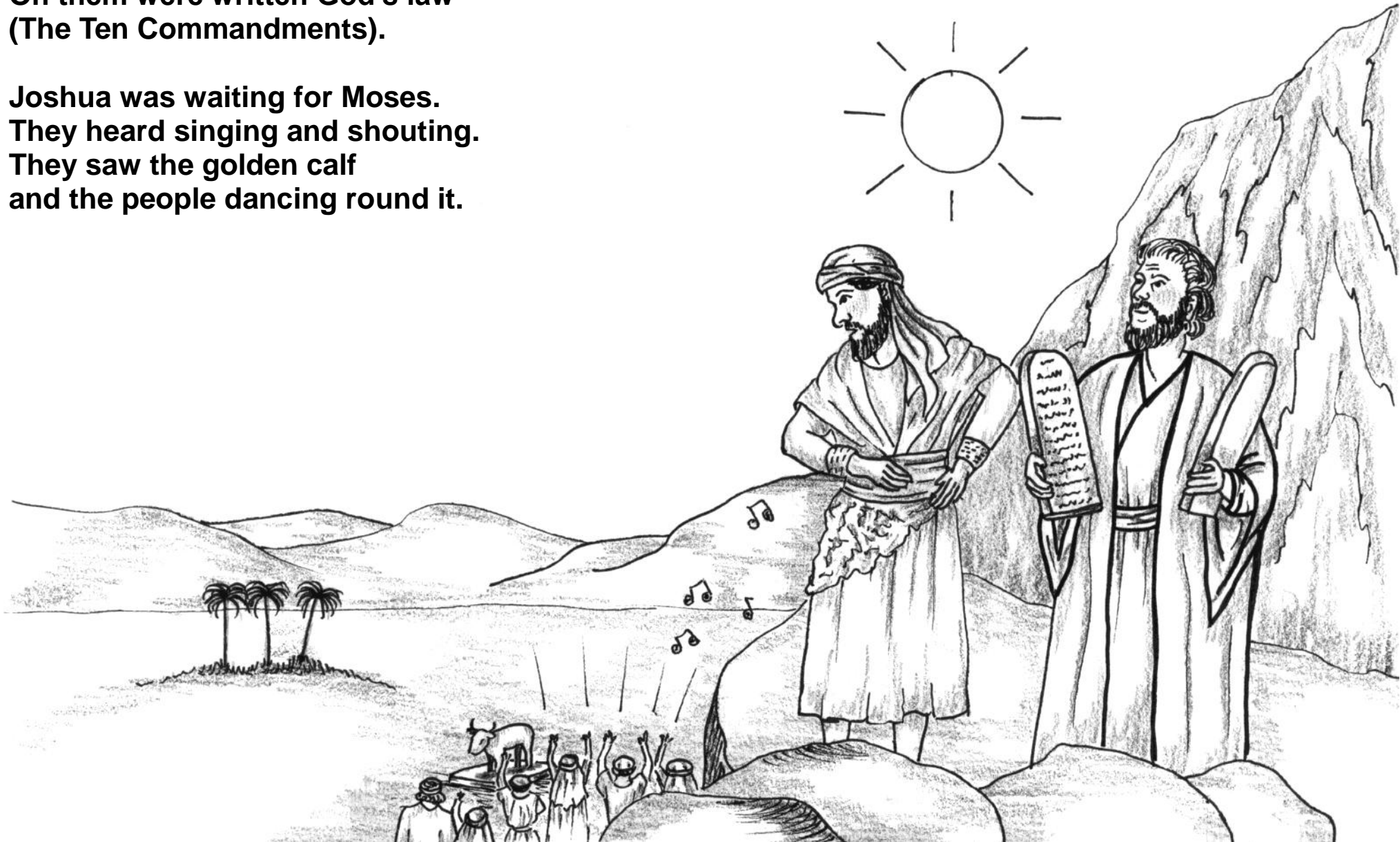
**Moses prayed saying,
'O Lord, don't destroy Your people.
You saved them.
You made a promise to Abraham,
Isaac and Jacob to give them
many children and this land, forever.'**

**The Lord listened to Moses
and changed His mind.**



**Moses went down from the mountain
carrying two slabs of stone.
On them were written God's law
(The Ten Commandments).**

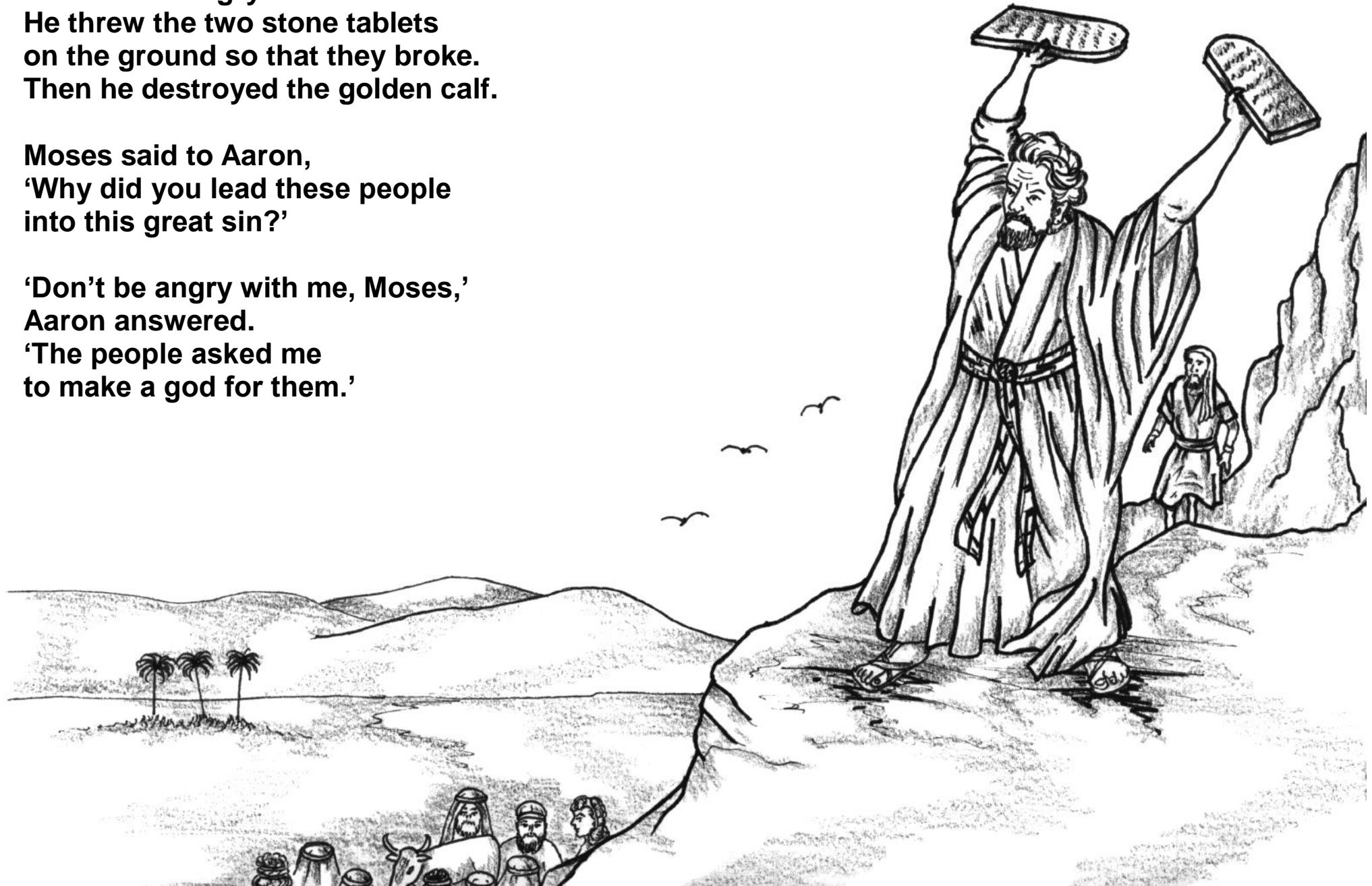
**Joshua was waiting for Moses.
They heard singing and shouting.
They saw the golden calf
and the people dancing round it.**



**Moses was angry.
He threw the two stone tablets
on the ground so that they broke.
Then he destroyed the golden calf.**

**Moses said to Aaron,
'Why did you lead these people
into this great sin?'**

**'Don't be angry with me, Moses,'
Aaron answered.
'The people asked me
to make a god for them.'**

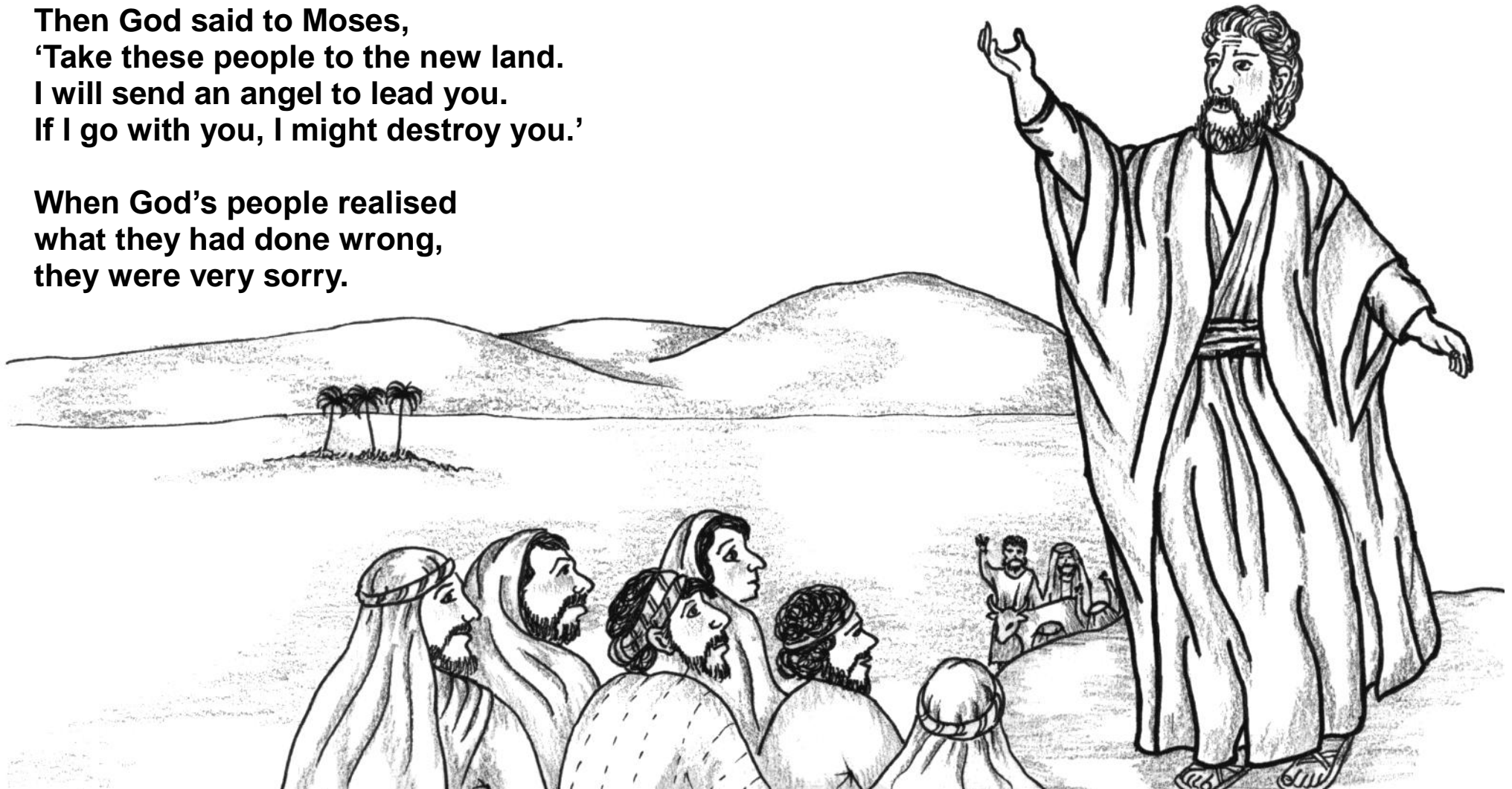


**Moses called out,
'Those who are on the Lord's side come to me.'**

**He told them to kill those who
were still worshipping the golden calf.**

**Then God said to Moses,
'Take these people to the new land.
I will send an angel to lead you.
If I go with you, I might destroy you.'**

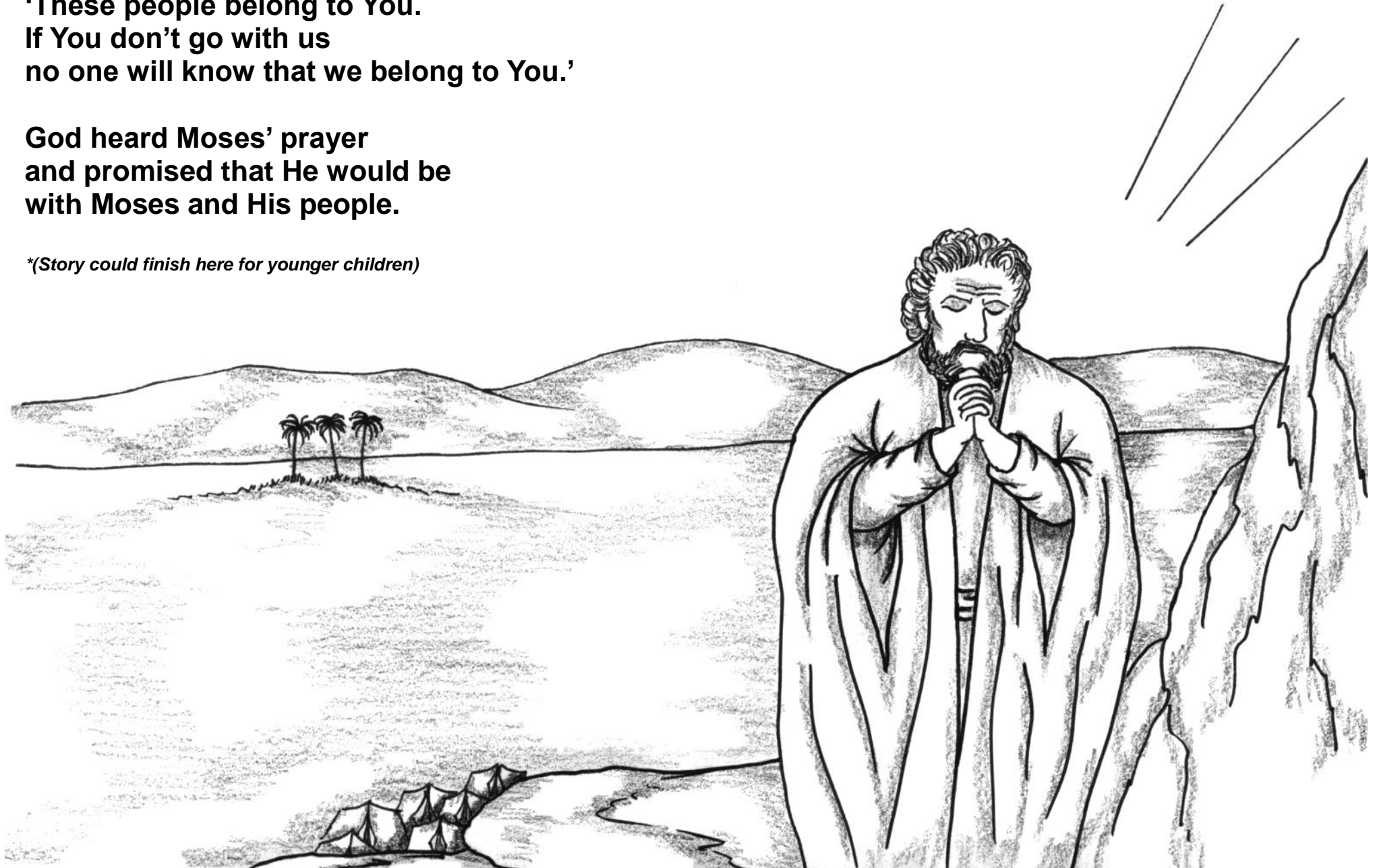
**When God's people realised
what they had done wrong,
they were very sorry.**



**Moses said to the Lord,
'These people belong to You.
If You don't go with us
no one will know that we belong to You.'**

**God heard Moses' prayer
and promised that He would be
with Moses and His people.**

**(Story could finish here for younger children)*



**Moses asked the Lord,
'Please show me Your glory.'**

**Moses returned to the mountain.
There he saw the back of God.
Moses was not allowed
to see God's face
or he would die.**

**He heard God say,
'The Lord, the Lord.
A God of mercy and grace,
who does not get angry quickly,
is faithful and has great love,
is kind to thousands of people,
who forgives sin and rebellion,
but will punish those
who are guilty.'**

**Moses bowed before the Lord
and said,
'Lord, Your people are stubborn.
Please forgive our evil and our sin
and take us as Your people.'**



**God said,
'Moses I am making a promise to you.
I will do miracles
that no-one has ever seen before.
Do what I am telling you today
and I will make your enemies
leave the land I am giving to you.
Don't make promises to them.
If you do,
they will take you away from Me
and give you trouble.
Worship only the Lord,
for I am a jealous God.'**

**Moses came down the mountain
carrying a new copy
of the Ten Commandments
and told the people
all that God had said.**

