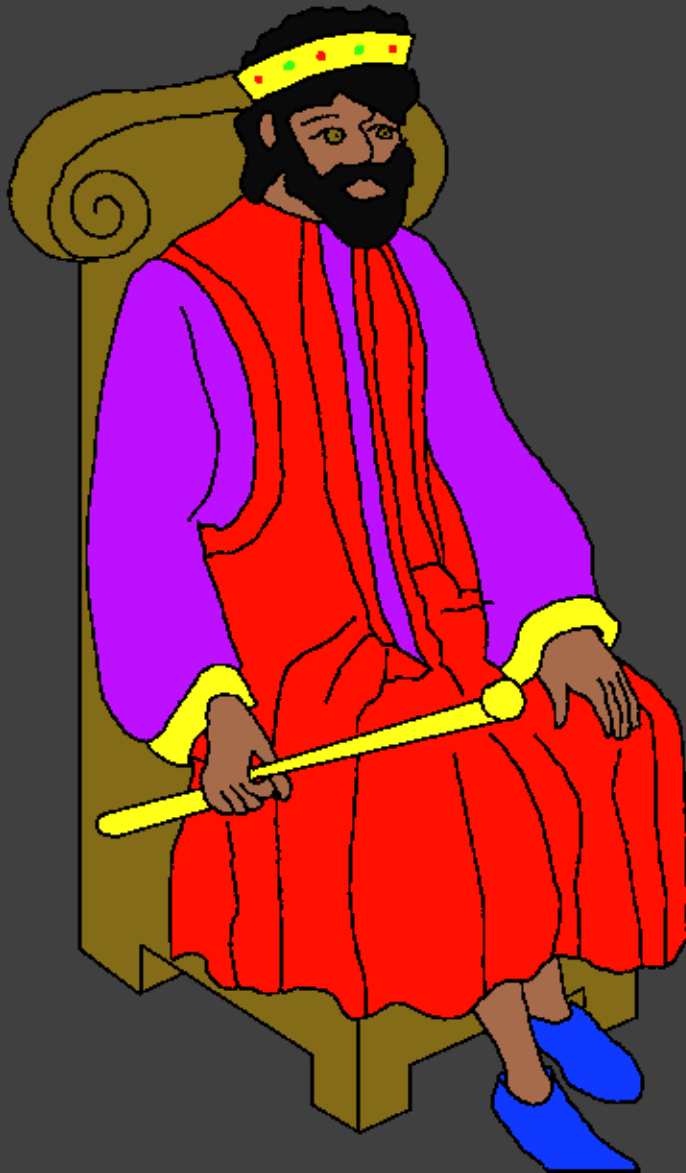


Bible for Children  
presents



WISE KING  
SOLOMON



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Produced by: Bible for Children  
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King David was a great man of God.  
During his rule, Israel had grown ten

times  
larger  
than  
King  
Saul's  
kingdom.



But now he could not rule any longer.  
David was old. And tired! And sick!

His  
life on  
earth  
was  
nearing  
its end.





One of  
David's many  
sons, Adonijah,  
told the people of  
Israel he would  
now be king.





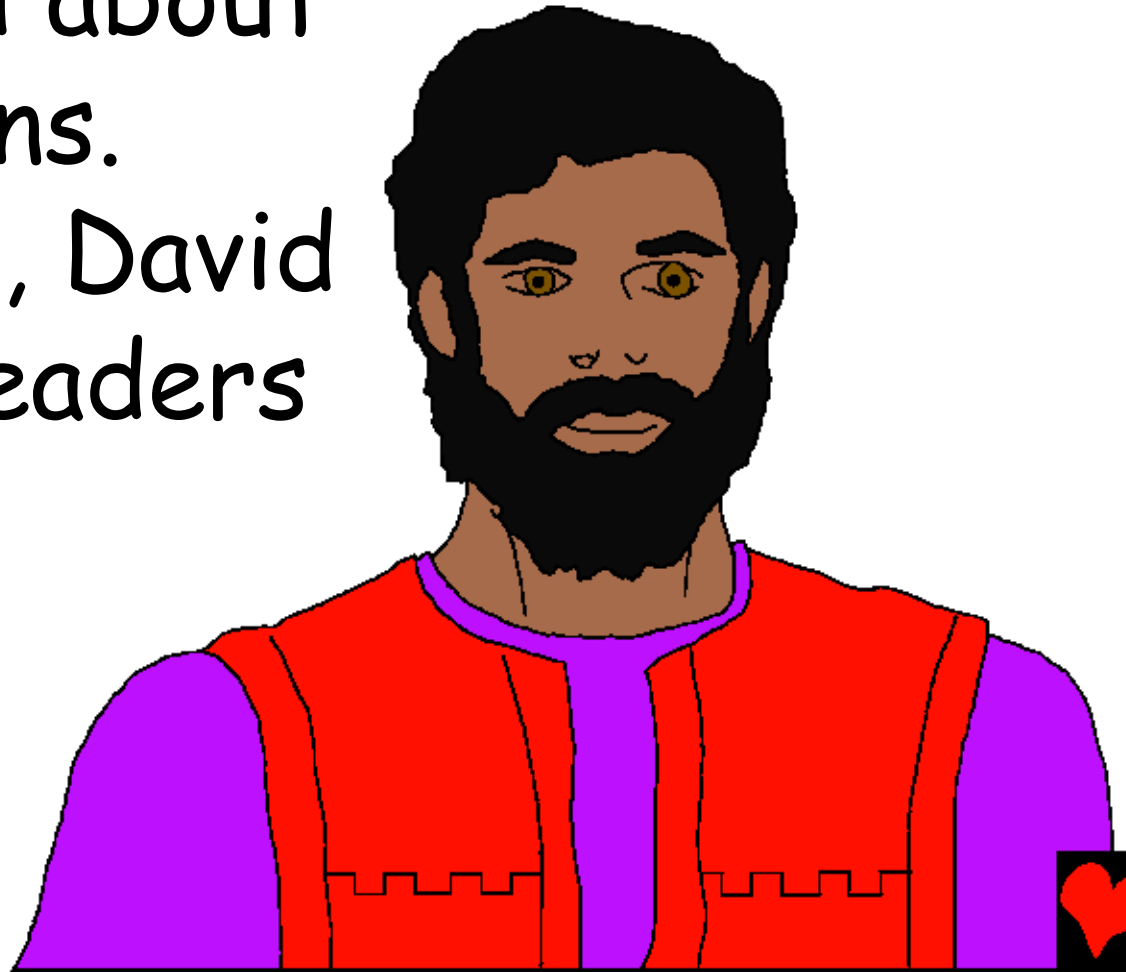
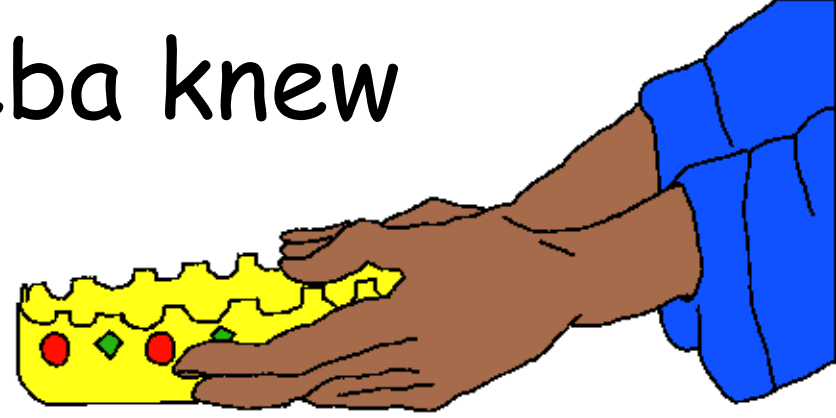
Although his name means "My Lord is God", Adonijah was not a good man. He tried to steal the throne, knowing David was too weak to resist him. But God had other plans!



David's wife Bathsheba knew her son Solomon should be king.

She told David about Adonijah's plans.

Sick as he was, David gathered his leaders together and publicly made Solomon king of Israel.

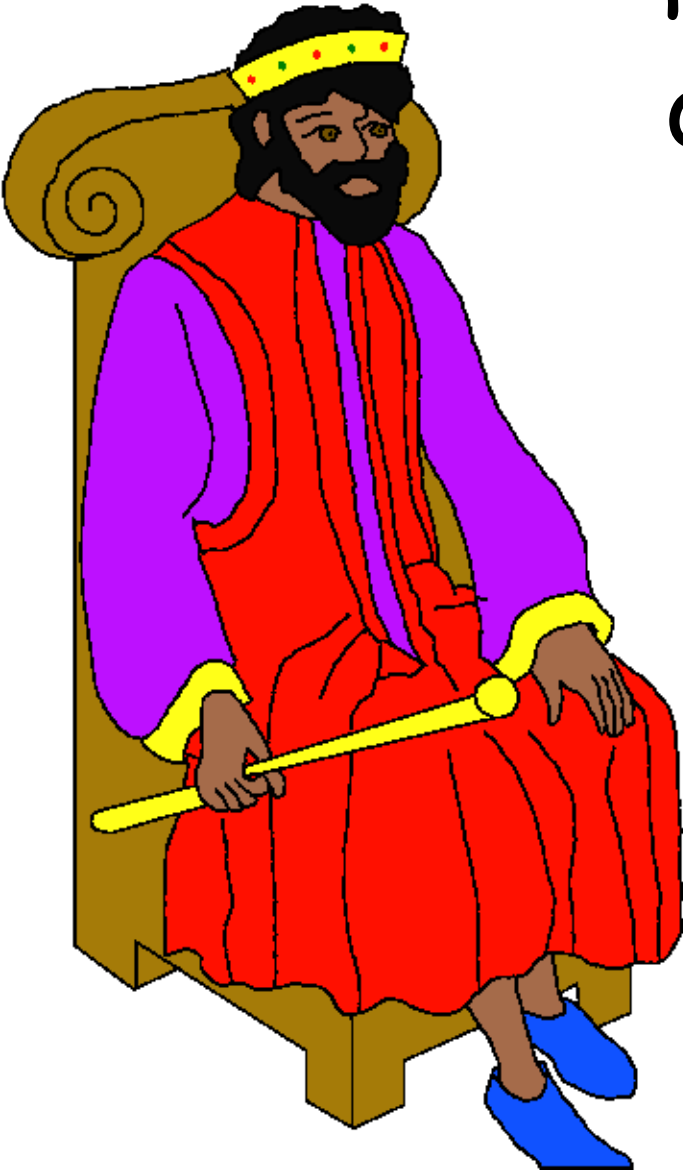


Solomon had no more trouble with Adonijah because the people of Israel believed David. David told them Solomon was the one God had chosen to be their king. Shortly afterwards, David died.

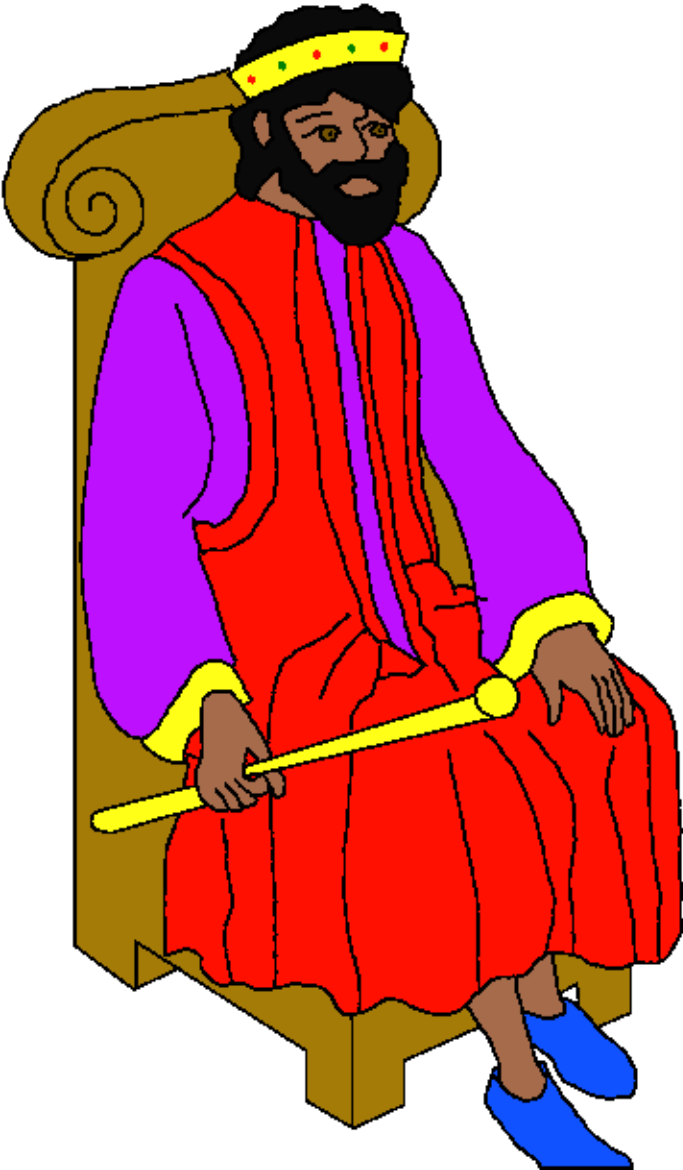




Before David died, he talked to Solomon about obeying God and being a good king. "Walk in God's ways, that you may prosper in all that you do," David told his son.



That was good advice!  
Then Solomon sat on  
the throne of his  
father, David, and his  
kingdom was firmly  
established.



One night, Solomon had a dream.  
In his dream, God  
appeared to  
him and  
said,  
"Ask!  
What  
shall I  
give  
you?"



What would you have asked for?  
Solomon asked for  
wisdom to be  
a good  
king.  
The  
young  
king's  
request  
pleased  
God.



Solomon got what he asked for -  
but God also  
promised  
him great  
riches  
and  
honor.



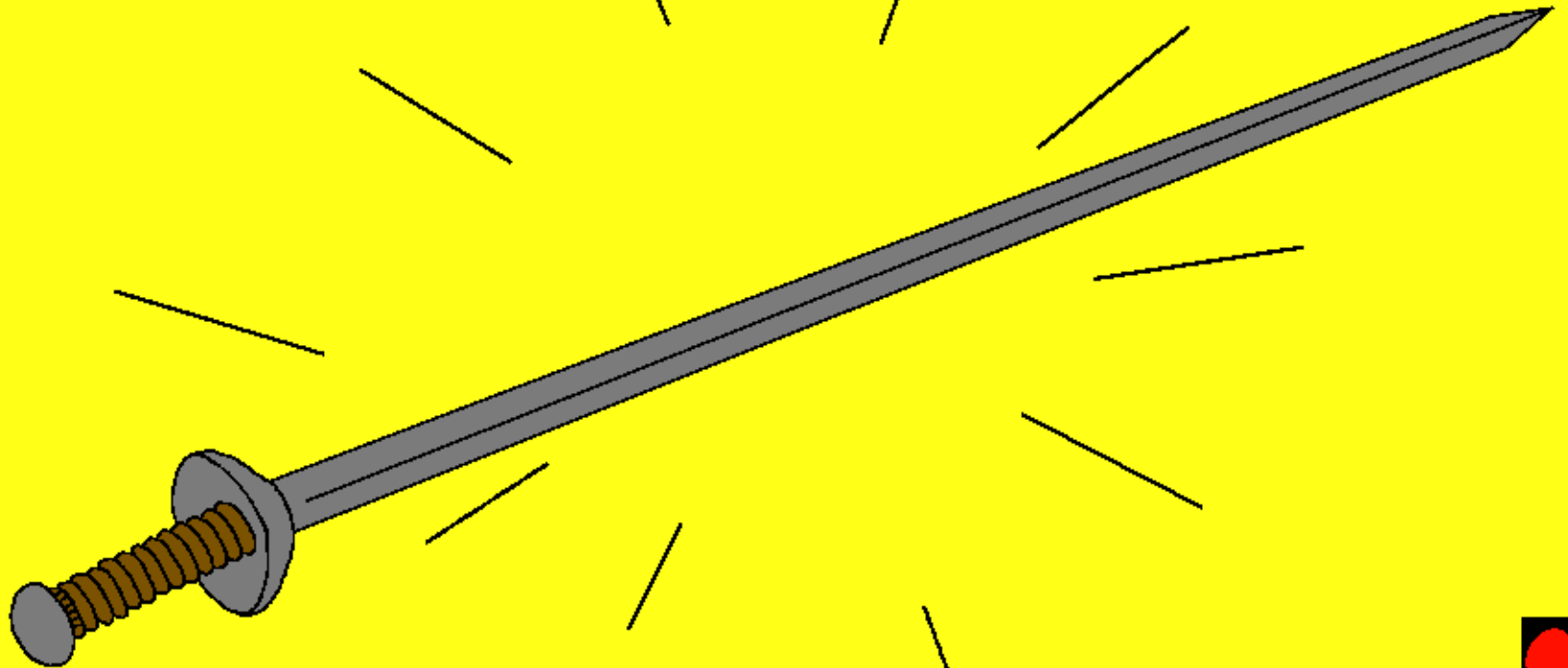
It did not take long for people to discover Solomon's wisdom. One day, two mothers came before him, with one baby. "This woman's son died in the night, and she switched her dead baby for my live one," one lady said.



"No! But the living one is MY son,  
and the dead one is your son,"  
the other lady said.  
How could the king  
tell which was the  
true mother?



Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword before the king. What do you think the king was planning to do with a sword?





And the king said, "Divide the living child in two and give half to one and half to the other."



Then the mother of the living baby said, "O my lord, give her the living child and by no means kill him."



But the other said,  
"Let him be neither  
mine nor yours, but  
divide him."

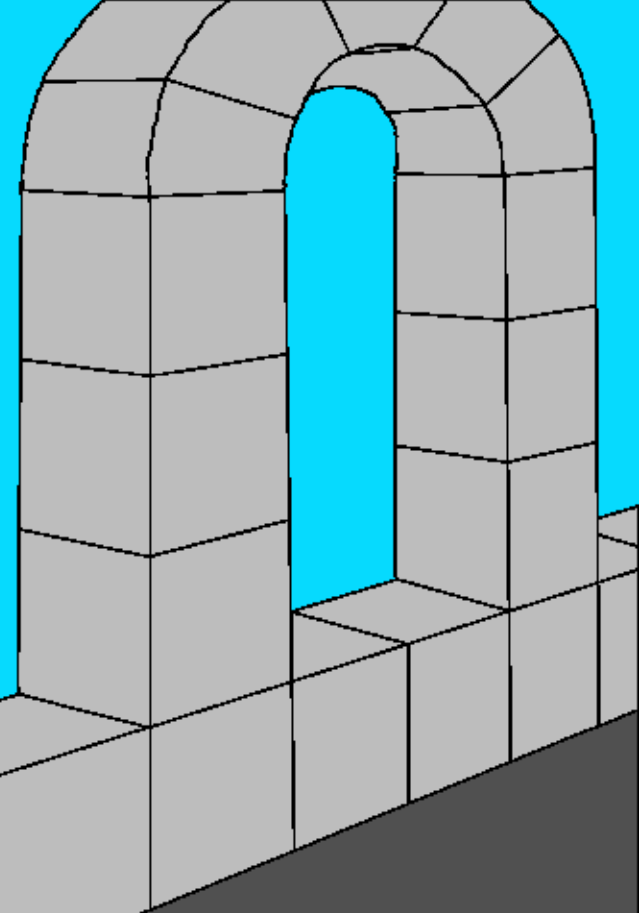
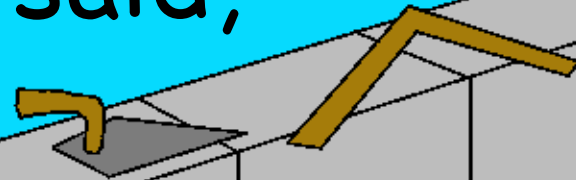
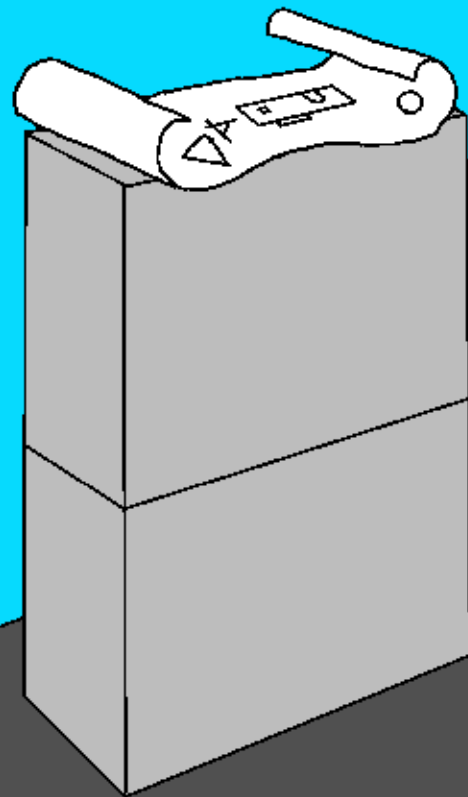




So the king said, "Give the first woman the living child. She is the mother." And all Israel heard of the judgment, and they greatly respected the king. They saw that the wisdom of God was in him.



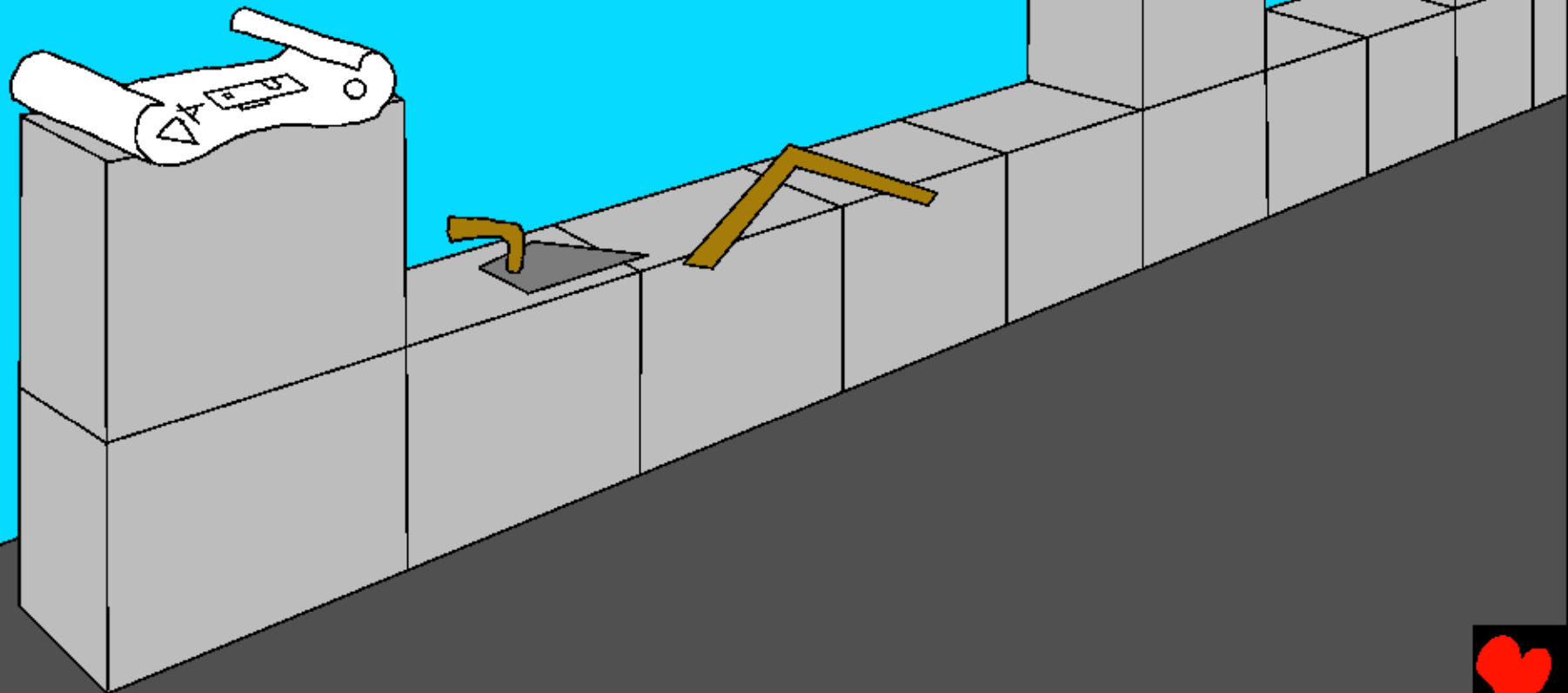
The people of Israel had no temple in which to worship God. When David planned to build one, God had said,



"Your son shall build the house for My Name."

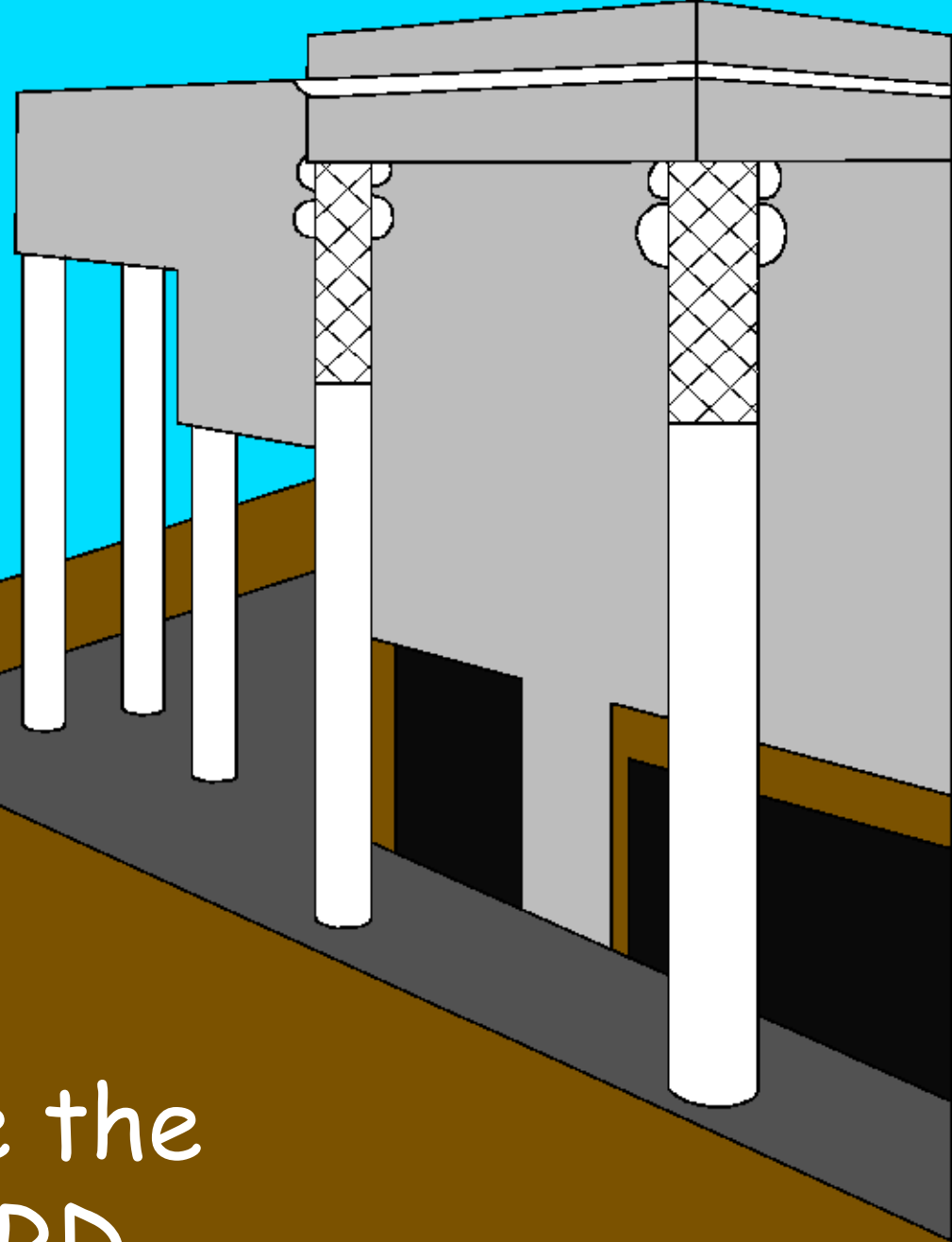


So Solomon began  
to build a wonderful  
temple at Jerusalem.



It took seven long years to build the temple. But the great day came when

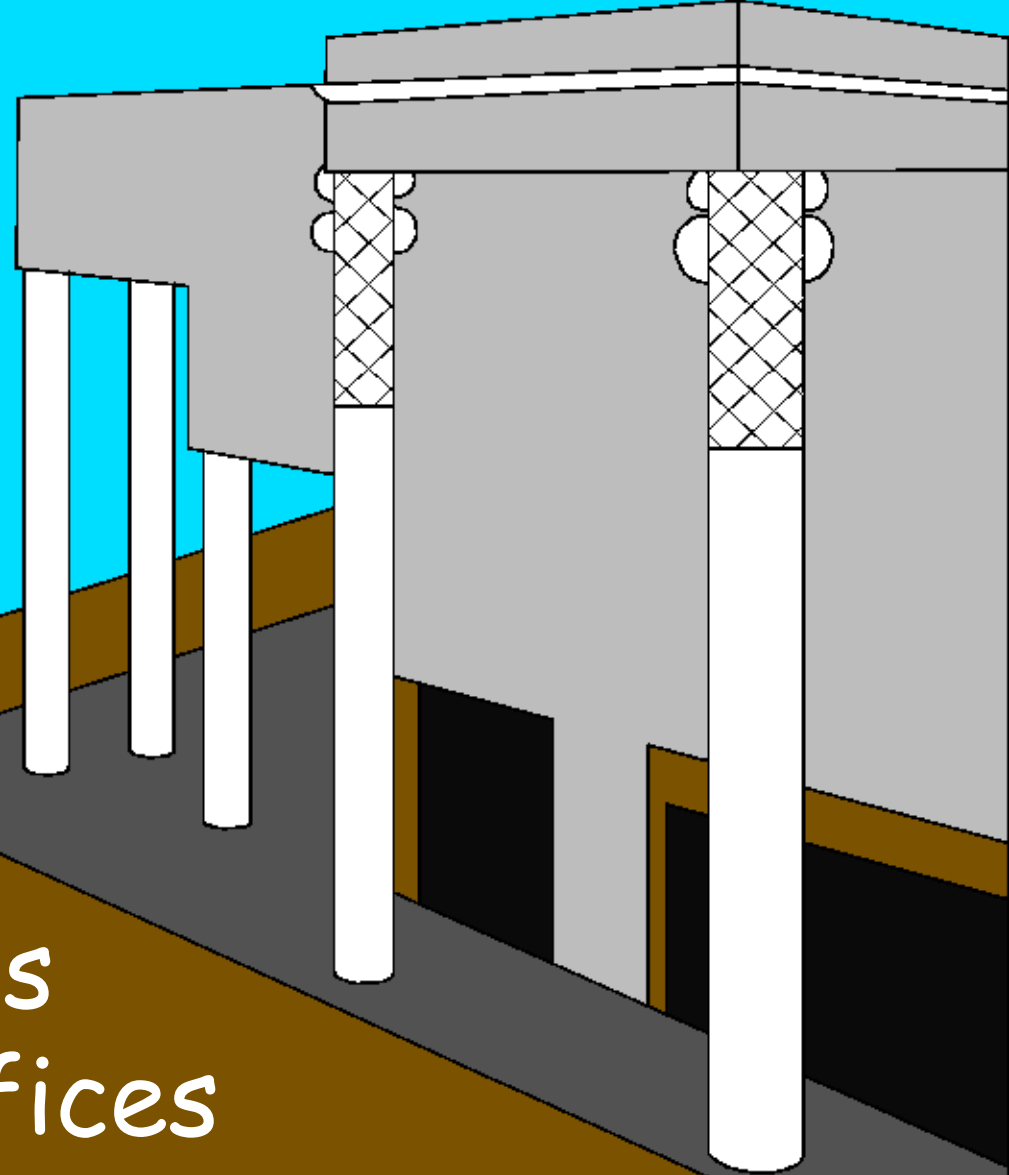
everybody gathered to hear Solomon dedicate the temple to the LORD.



After a  
wonderful  
prayer, the king  
and people  
gladly

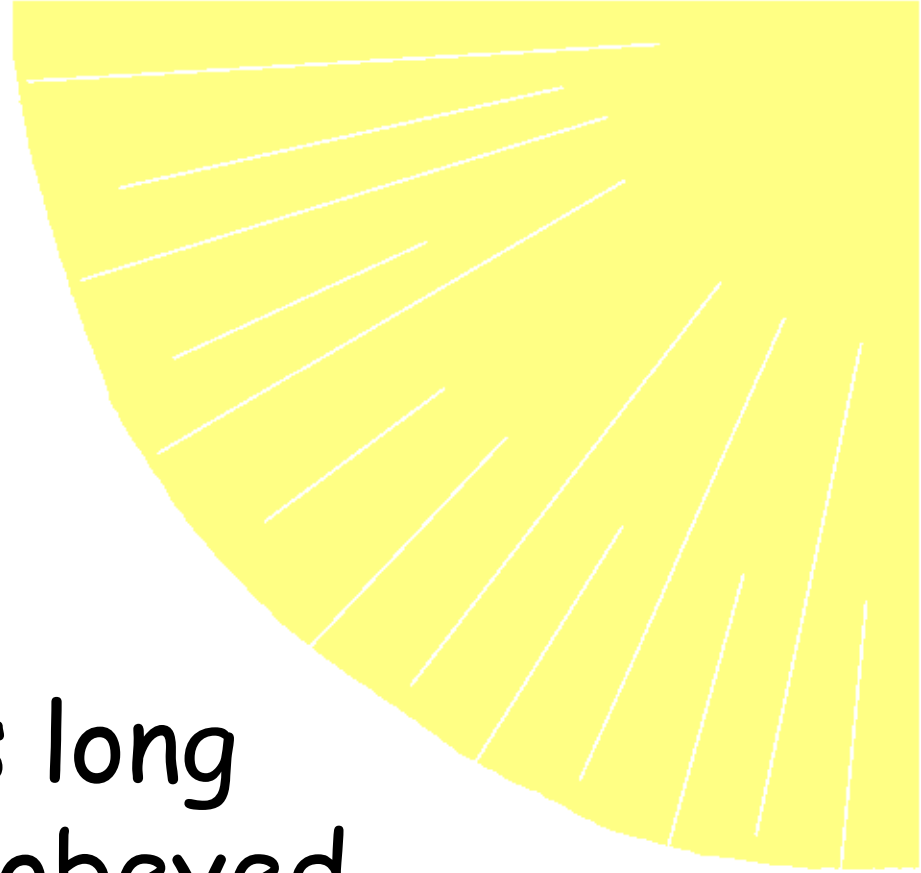


offered  
thousands  
of sacrifices  
and had a great  
feast for two weeks!





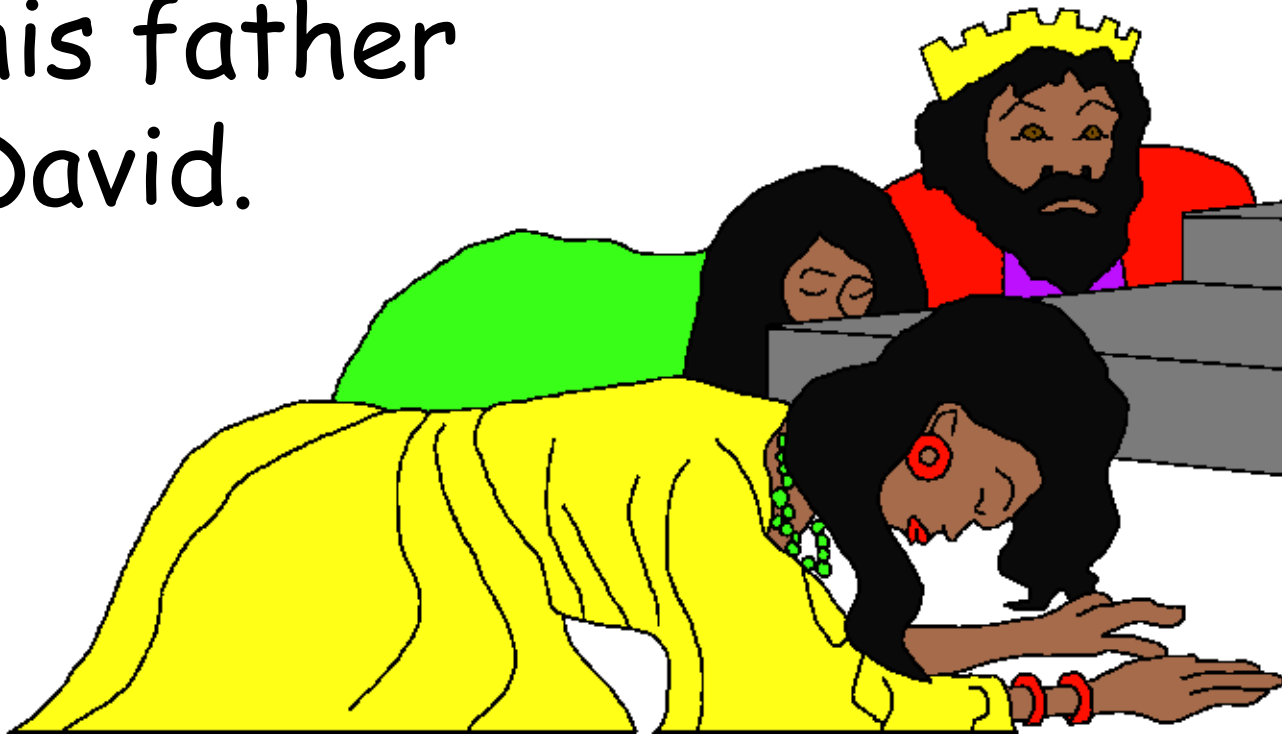
After this, God appeared again to Solomon and promised to bless him and Israel as long as they obeyed the LORD.



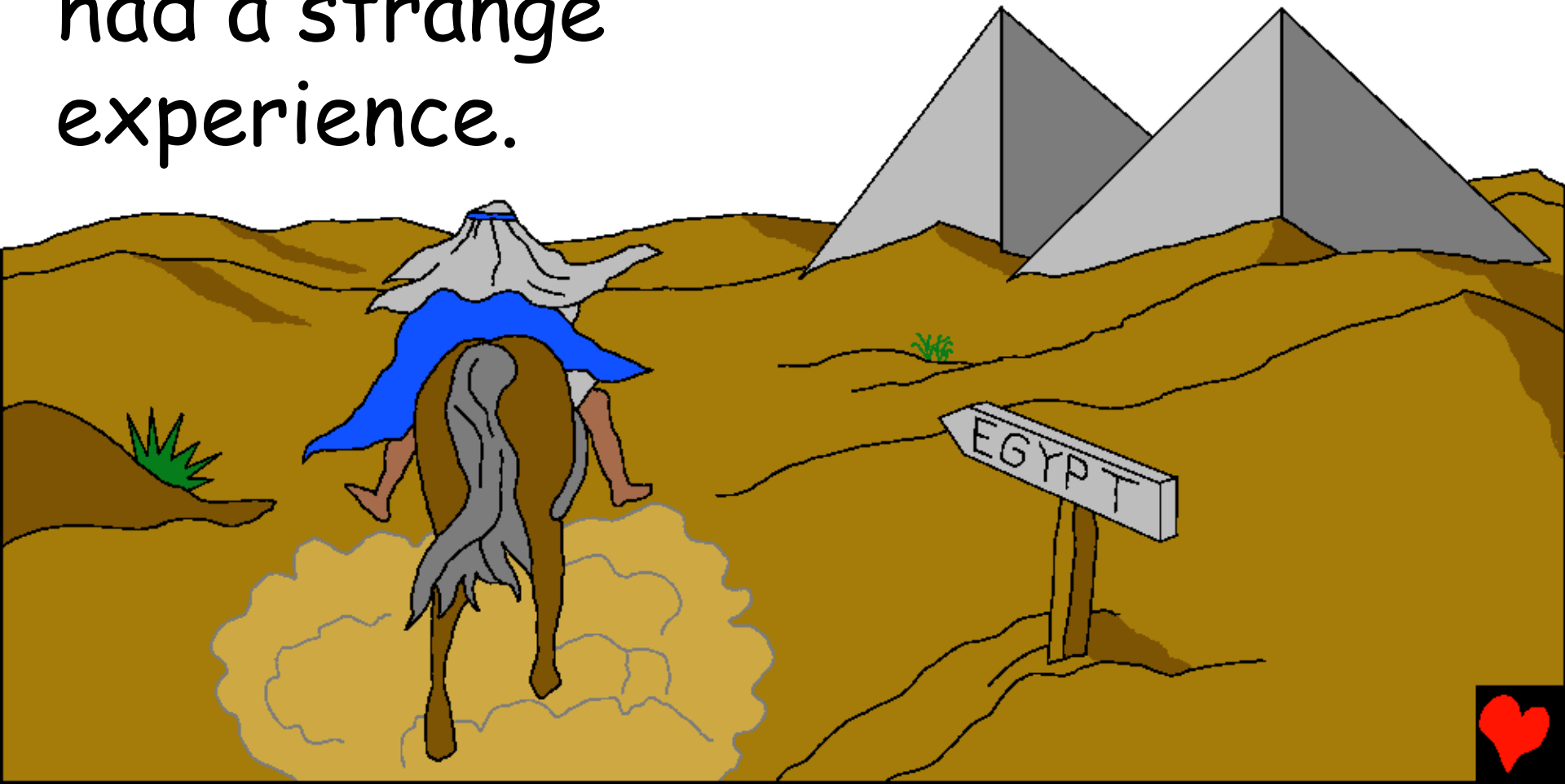
Sadly, neither Solomon nor the people of Israel obeyed God always. The king married many women whom God did not want him to marry.



His heathen wives turned his heart after idols; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.



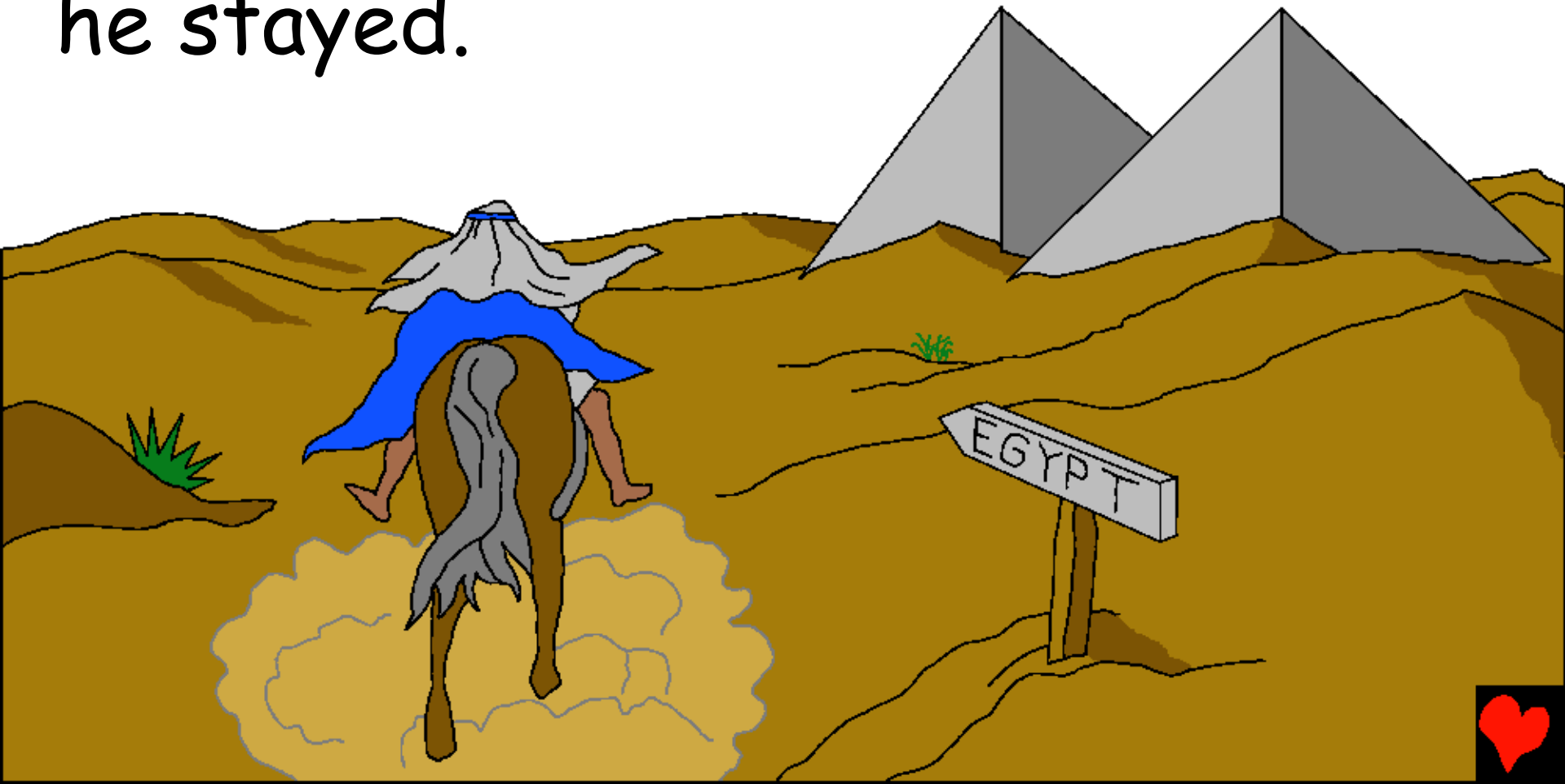
While Solomon wasted his chance to obey God, one of his officers named Jeroboam had a strange experience.

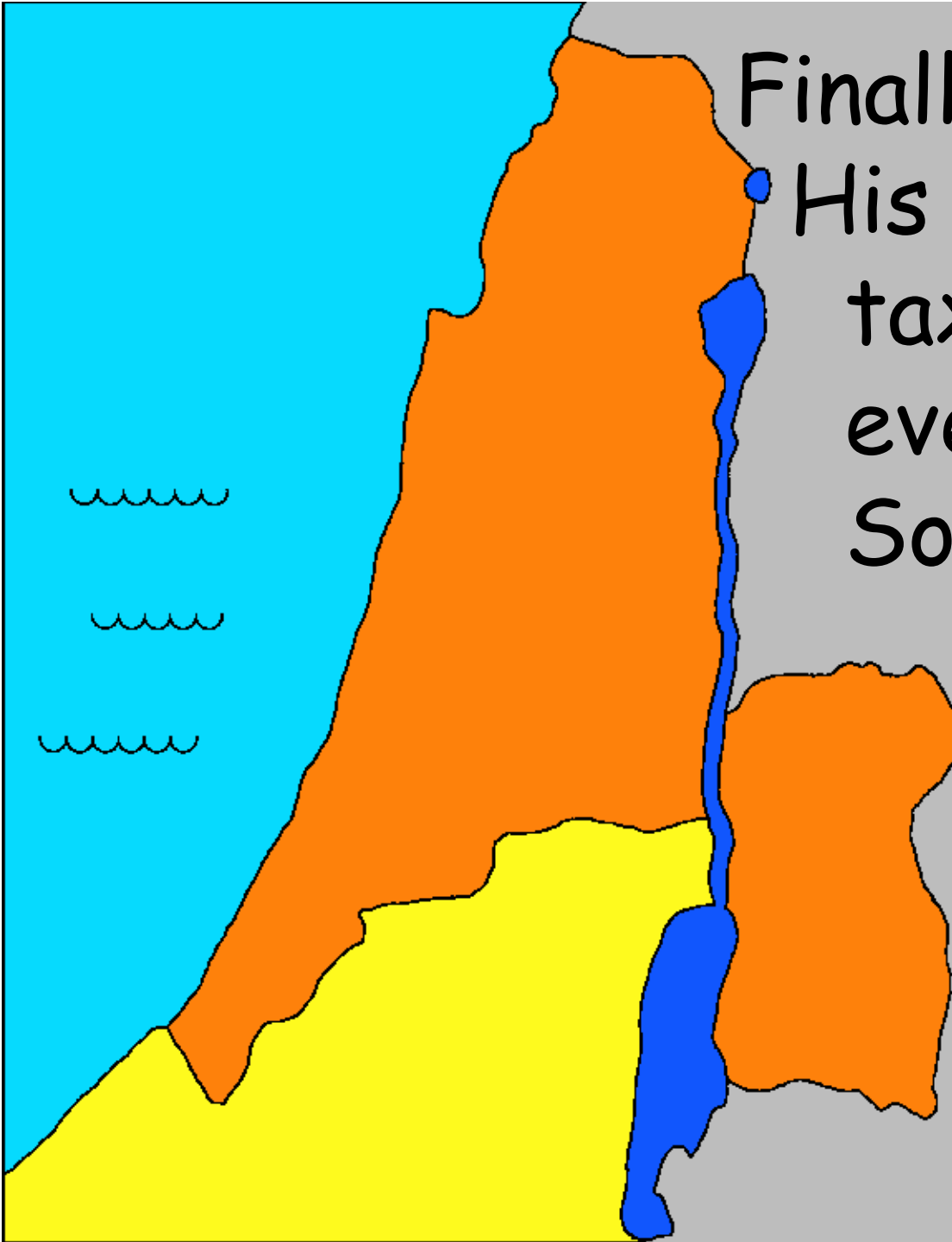


A prophet told him God would divide Solomon's kingdom and Jeroboam would rule over ten of the twelve tribes.



Jeroboam quickly escaped to Egypt. He knew Solomon would kill him if he stayed.





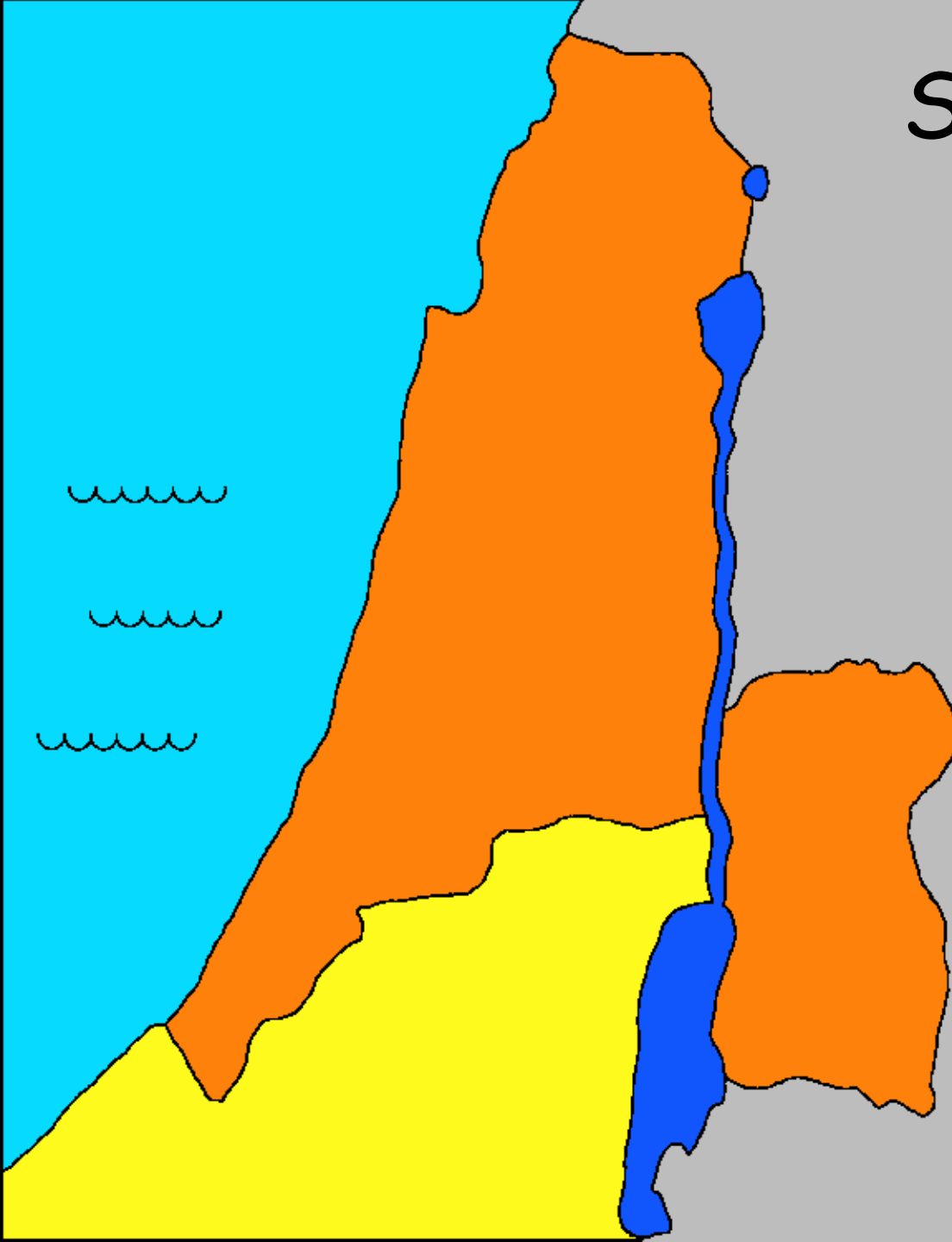
Finally Solomon died.

• His son, Rehoboam, taxed the people even worse than Solomon had done.

Ten tribes rebelled - and chose Jeroboam to be their leader.



Solomon's great kingdom was divided in two, just as God's prophet had said. God cannot bless disobedience!





# Wise King Solomon

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

1 Kings 1-12

"The entrance of Your Word gives light."

Psalm 119:130



The End



This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.



If you want to turn from your sins,  
say this to God:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me  
and now lives again. Please come into my  
life and forgive my sins, so that I can have  
new life now, and one day go to be with You  
forever. Help me to live for You as Your  
child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every  
day! John 3:16

