

My First
**BOOK OF
MORMON**
Stories



Retold by Deanna Draper Buck
Illustrated by Jerry Harston



For my husband, George,
and my children,
Jennifer, Richard, Sandra, Elizabeth,
Brian, David, Kimberly, and Rebecca



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This book belongs to:

Robert

Presented by:

Mom & Dad

Date:

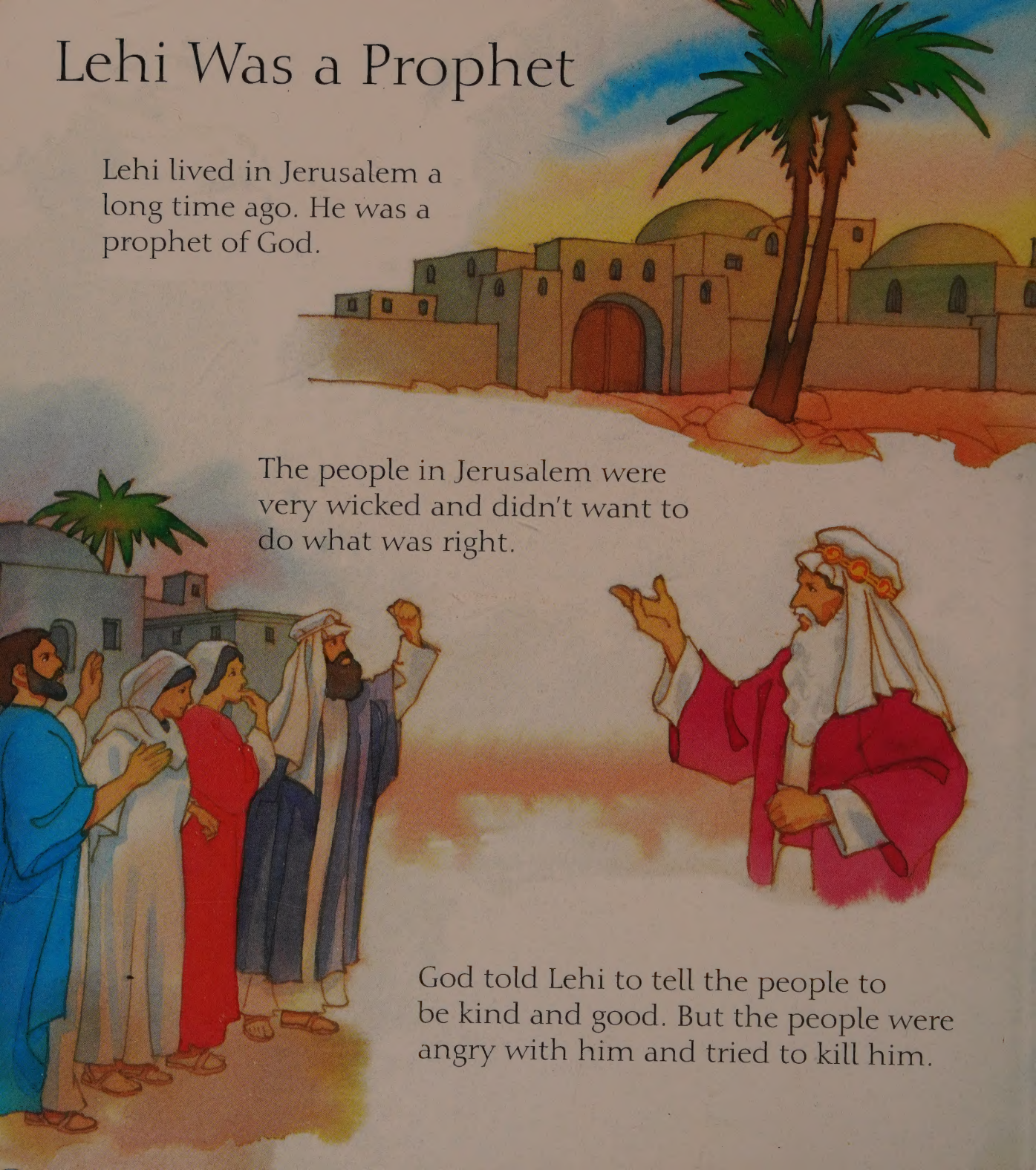
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Lehi Was a Prophet

Lehi lived in Jerusalem a long time ago. He was a prophet of God.

The people in Jerusalem were very wicked and didn't want to do what was right.

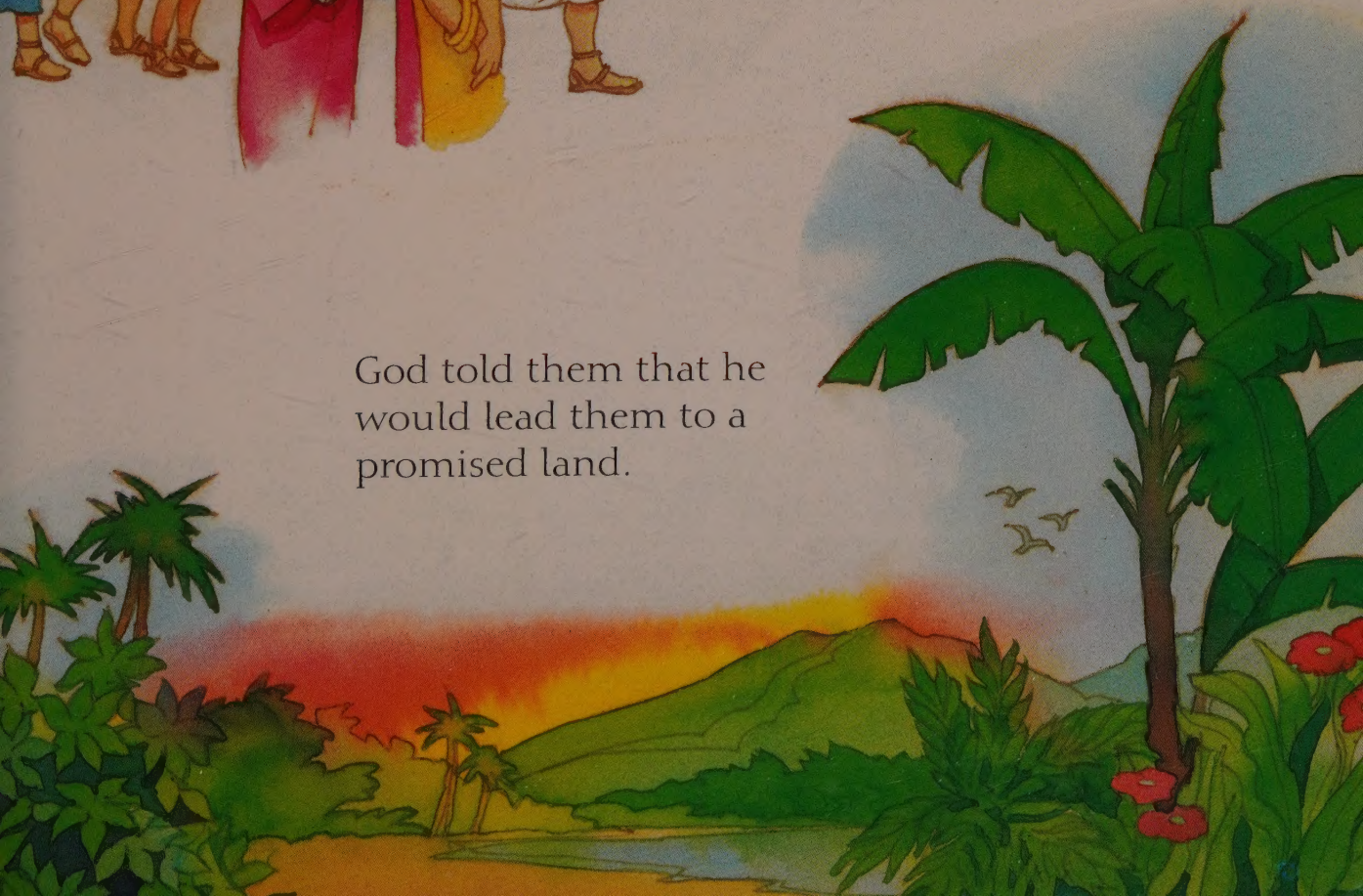
God told Lehi to tell the people to be kind and good. But the people were angry with him and tried to kill him.



So God told Lehi to take his wife and children and leave Jerusalem.

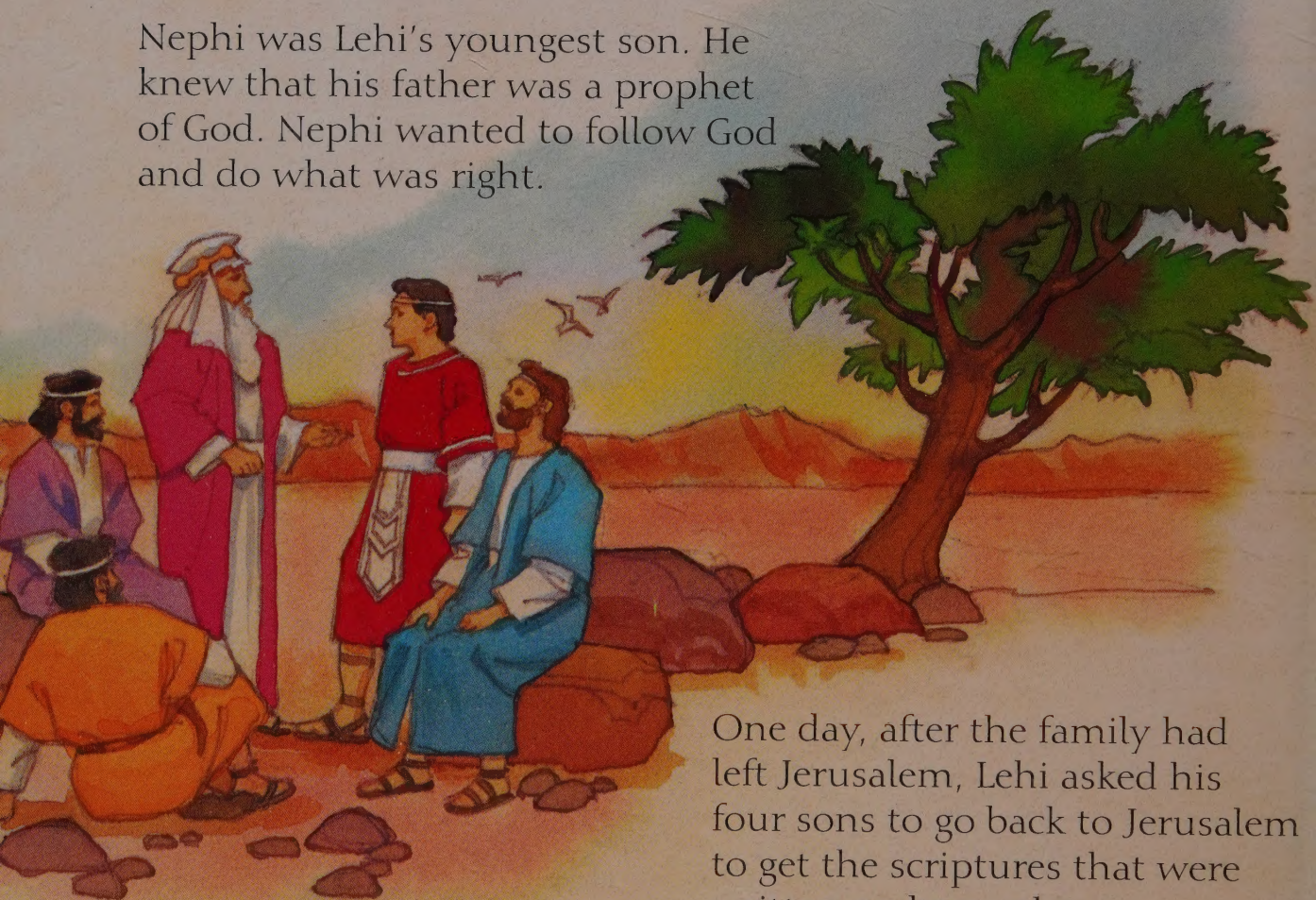


God told them that he would lead them to a promised land.



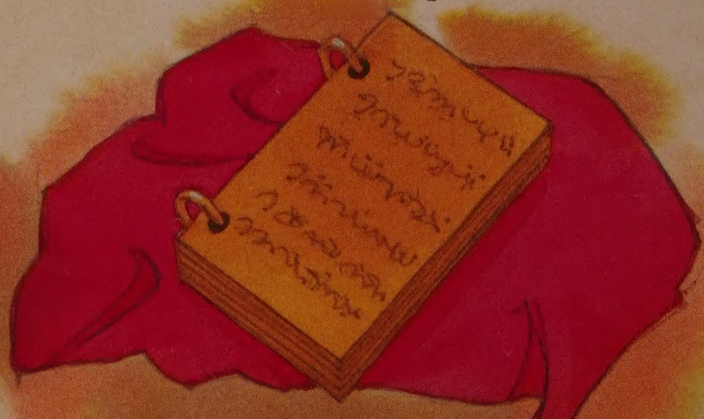
Nephi Had Faith

Nephi was Lehi's youngest son. He knew that his father was a prophet of God. Nephi wanted to follow God and do what was right.

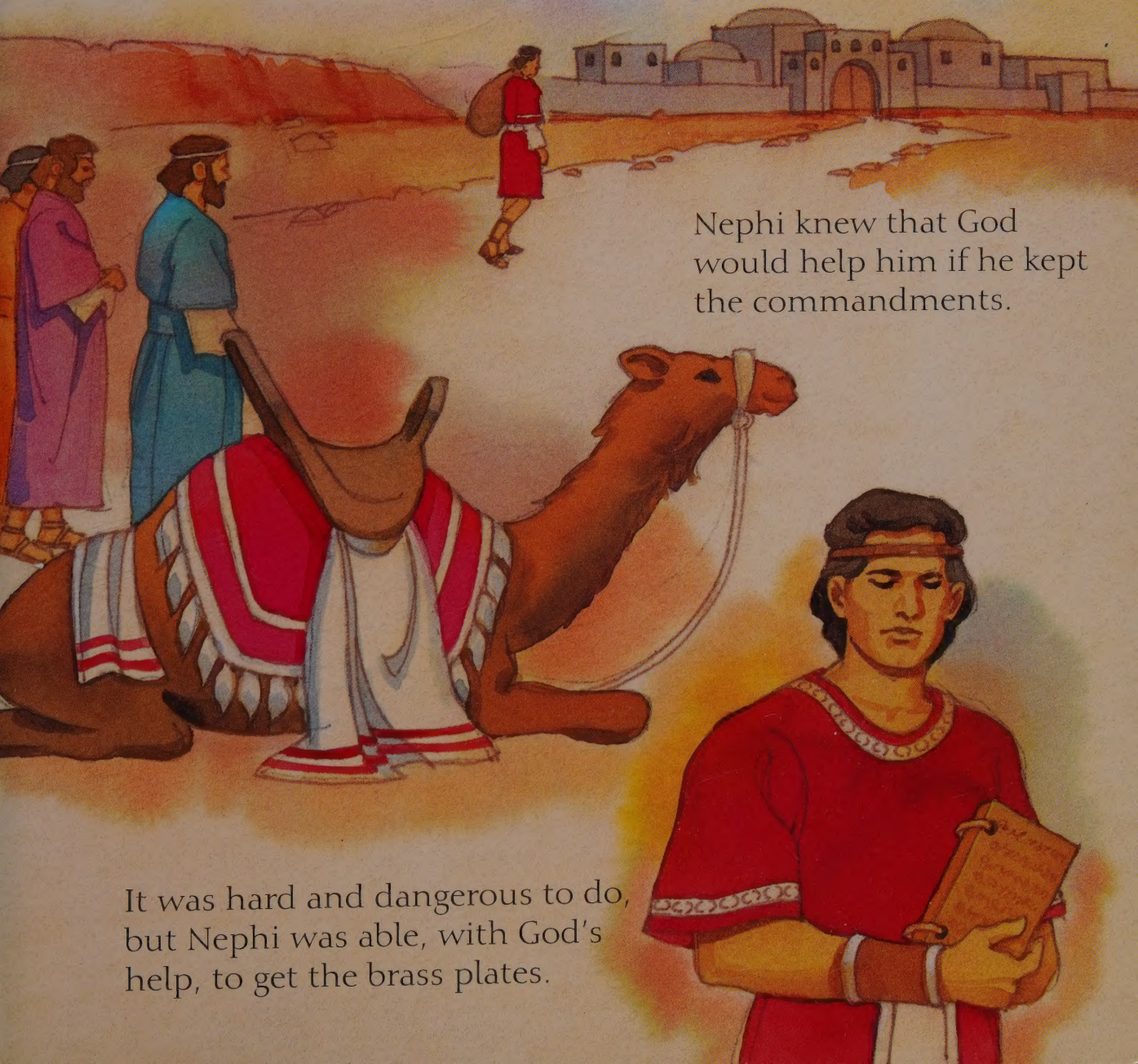


One day, after the family had left Jerusalem, Lehi asked his four sons to go back to Jerusalem to get the scriptures that were written on brass plates.

They would need to have the scriptures when they got to the Promised Land.



Nephi's brothers were afraid to go, so Nephi went alone.

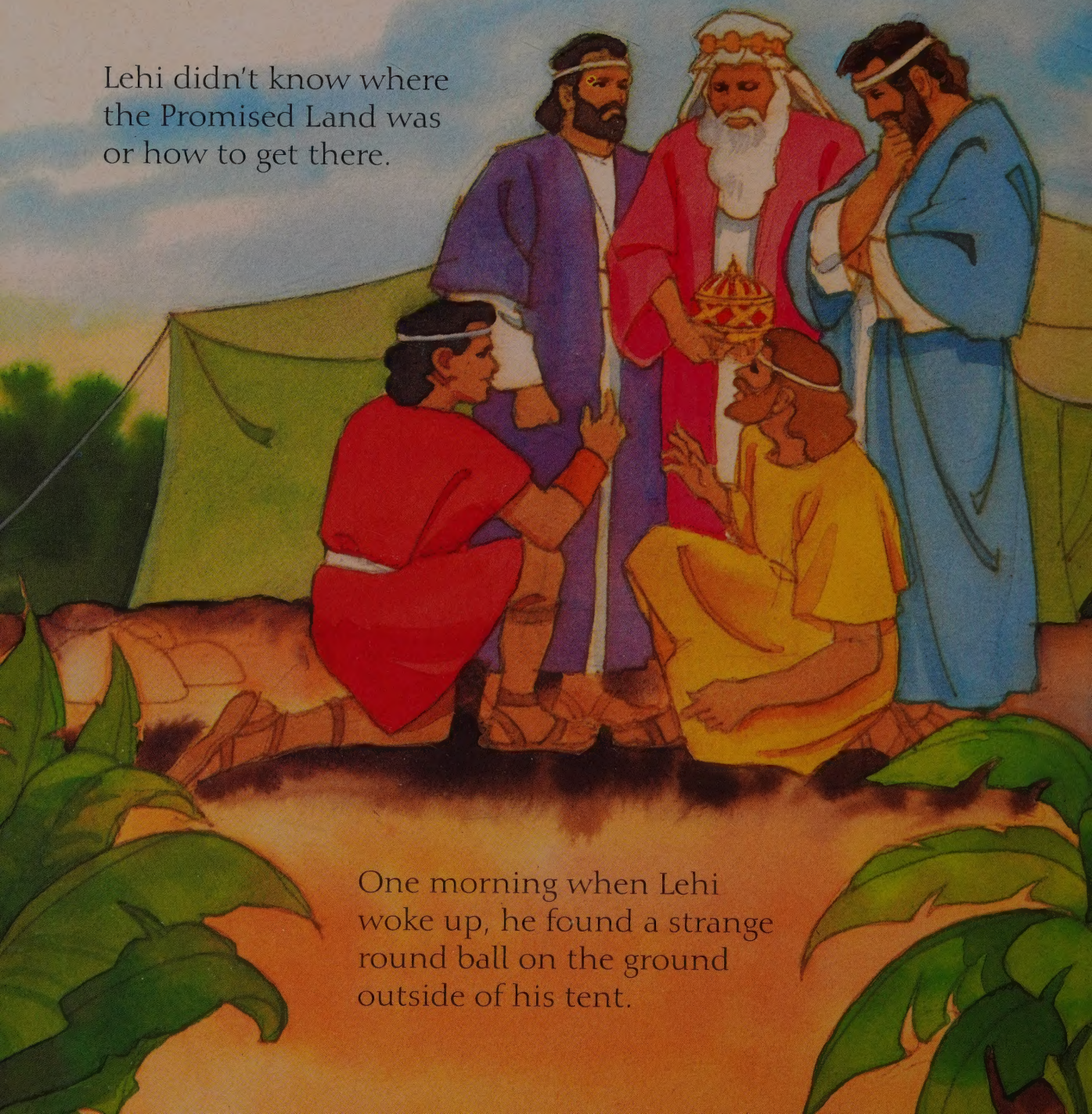


Nephi knew that God would help him if he kept the commandments.

It was hard and dangerous to do, but Nephi was able, with God's help, to get the brass plates.

The Liahona

Lehi didn't know where the Promised Land was or how to get there.



One morning when Lehi woke up, he found a strange round ball on the ground outside of his tent.

It was the Liahona. It acted like a compass and pointed where to go. But the Liahona only worked when everyone obeyed God.

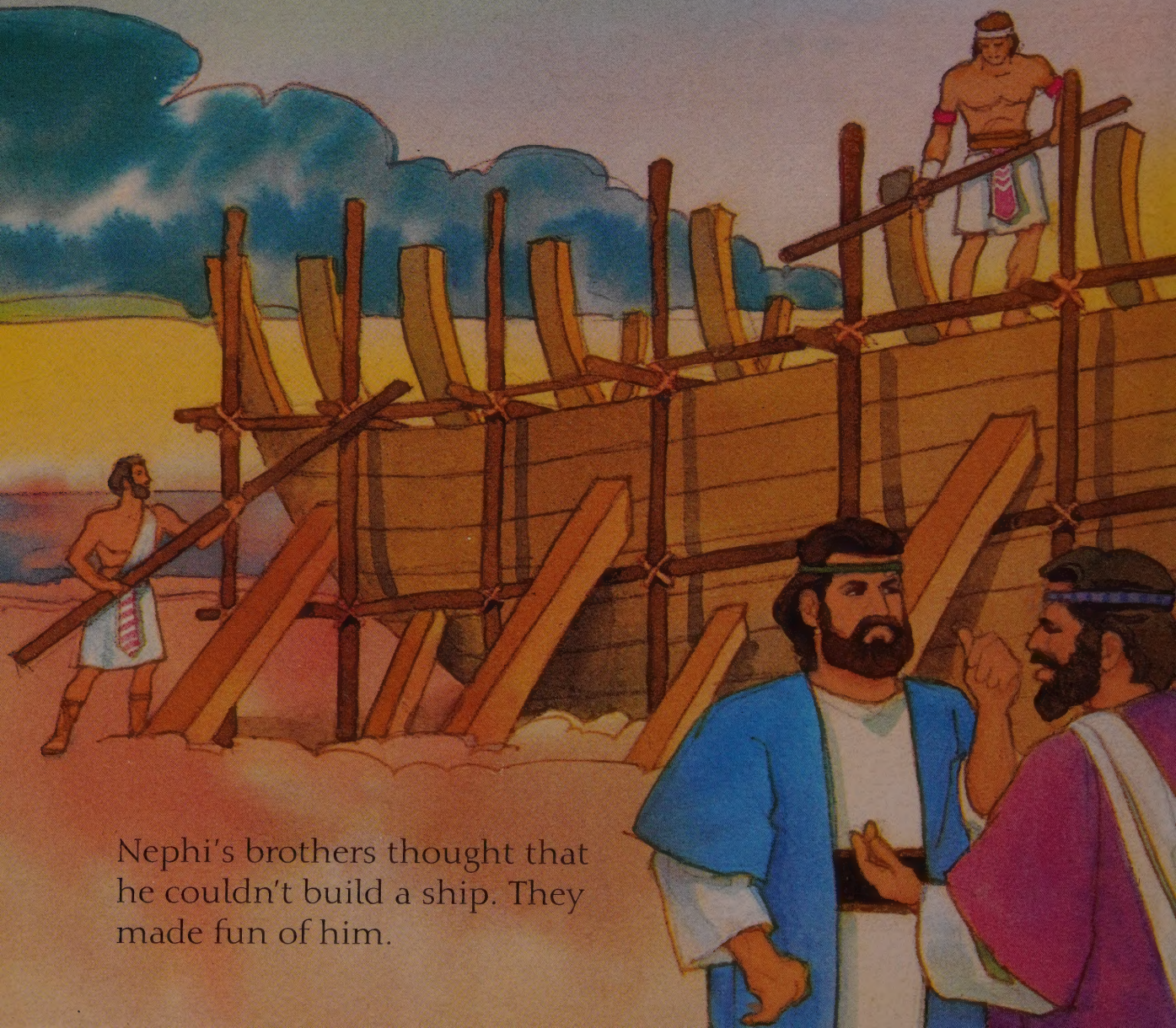


The Liahona showed Lehi's family and friends the way to the Promised Land.



Nephi Builds a Ship

After a long time in the wilderness, Lehi's group came to the sea. God told Nephi to build a ship big enough to carry the people across the sea.



Nephi's brothers thought that he couldn't build a ship. They made fun of him.

But God told Nephi how to build the ship and showed him where to find wood and how to make the tools he needed.



He built a sturdy ship, and the whole family sailed safely to a special land kept secret by Heavenly Father.

Enos

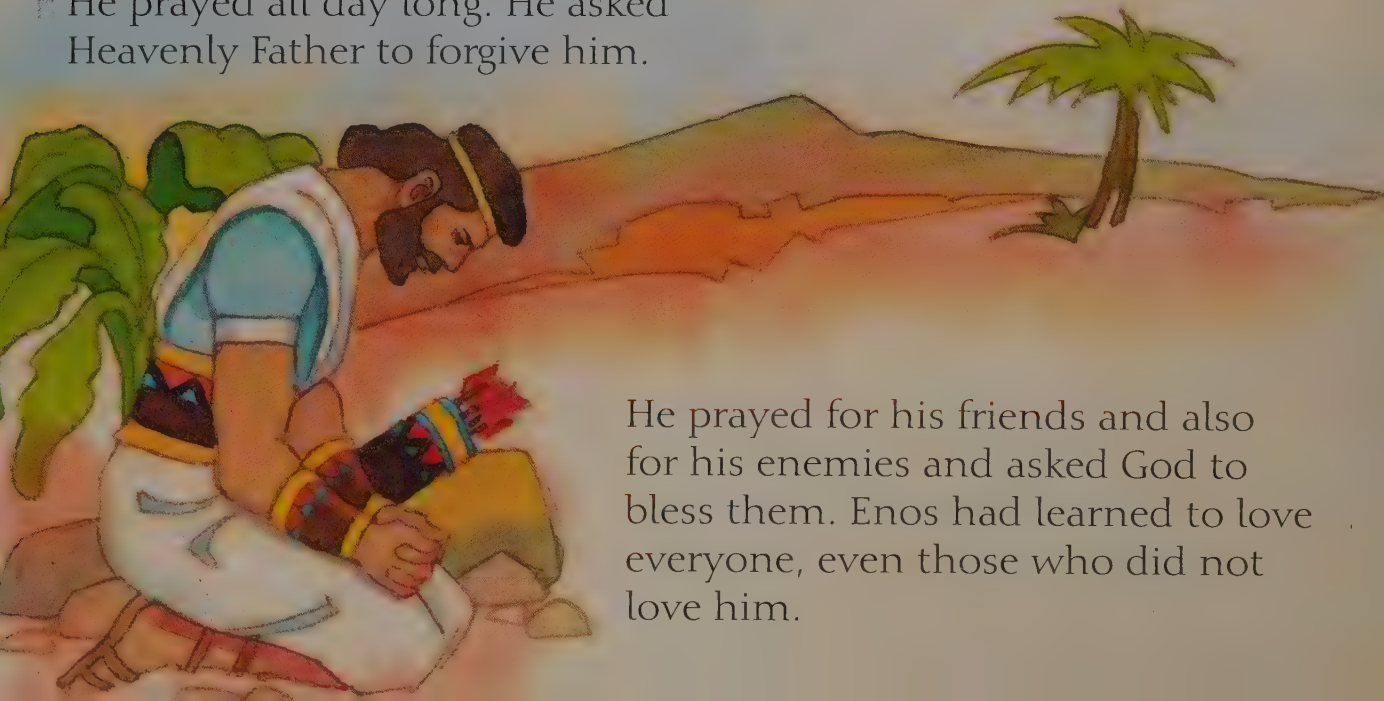
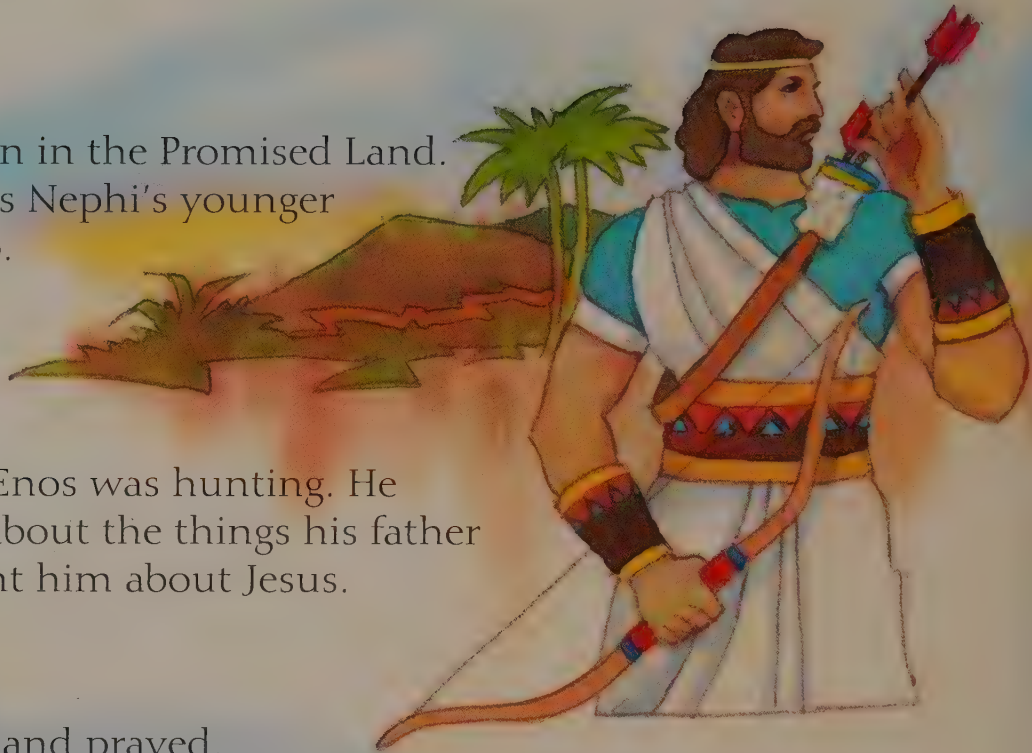
Enos was born in the Promised Land. His father was Nephi's younger brother Jacob.

One day Enos was hunting. He thought about the things his father had taught him about Jesus.

He knelt down and prayed.

He prayed all day long. He asked Heavenly Father to forgive him.

He prayed for his friends and also for his enemies and asked God to bless them. Enos had learned to love everyone, even those who did not love him.

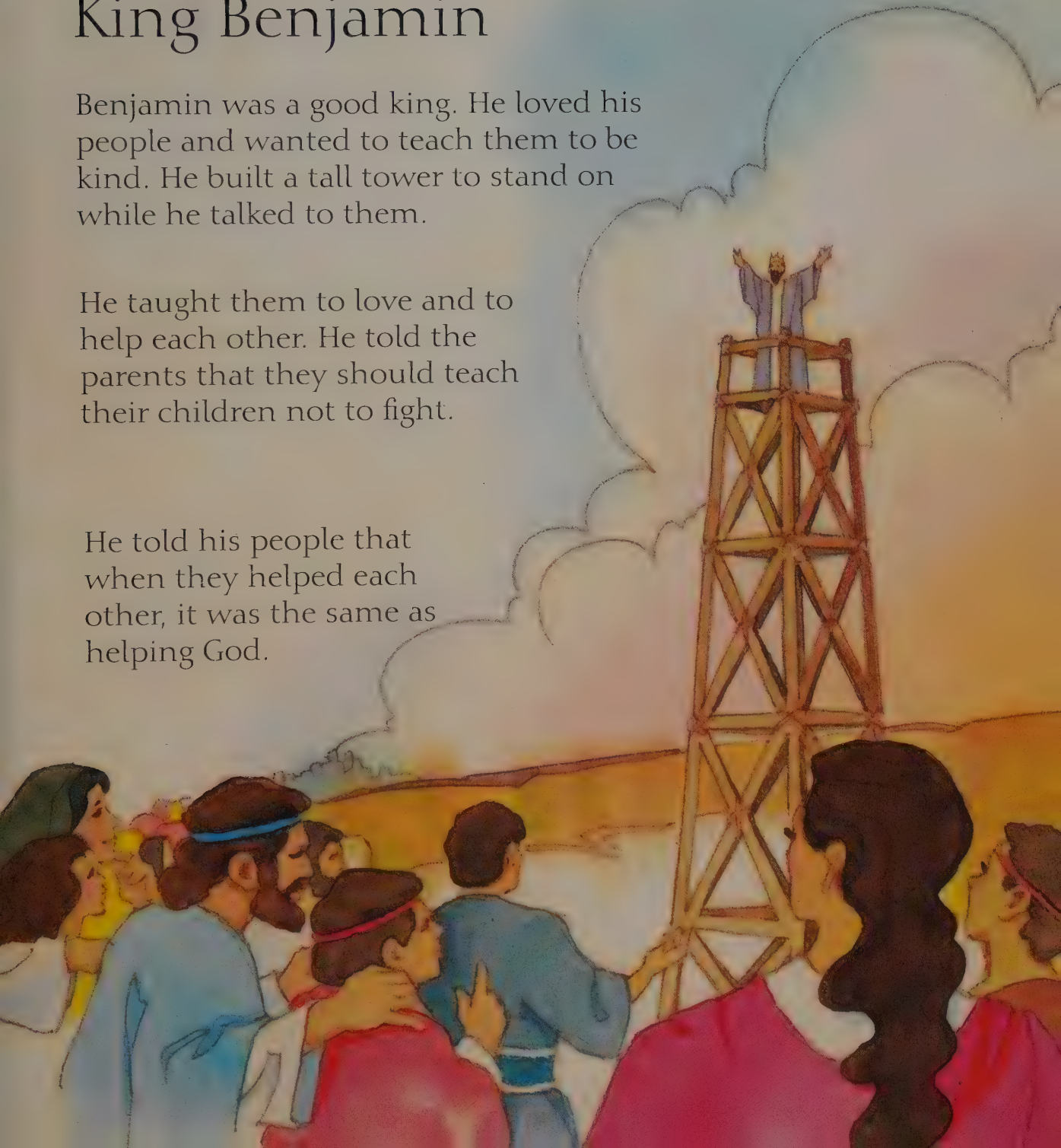


King Benjamin

Benjamin was a good king. He loved his people and wanted to teach them to be kind. He built a tall tower to stand on while he talked to them.

He taught them to love and to help each other. He told the parents that they should teach their children not to fight.

He told his people that when they helped each other, it was the same as helping God.

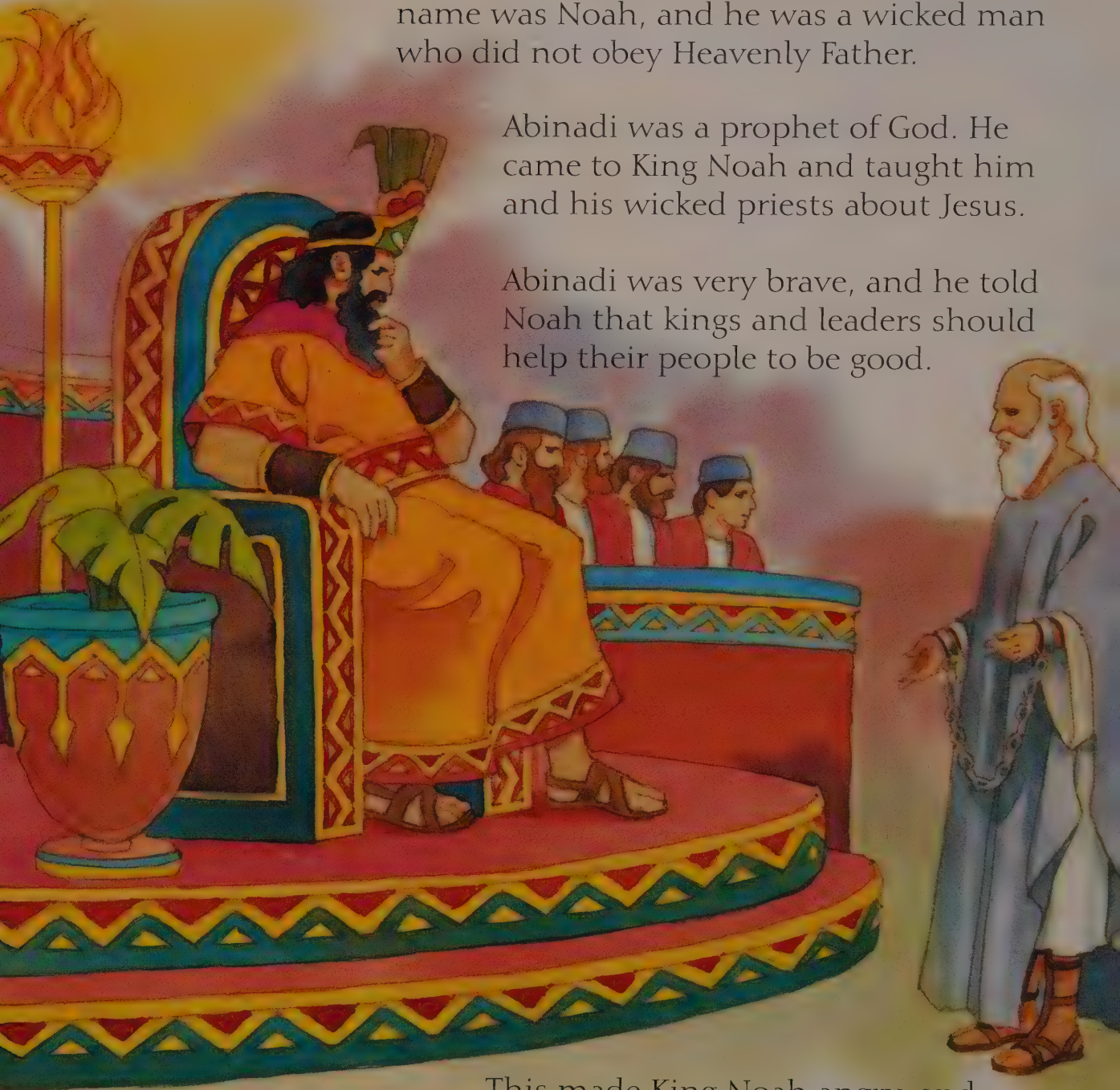


Abinadi

Later, the Nephites had another king. His name was Noah, and he was a wicked man who did not obey Heavenly Father.

Abinadi was a prophet of God. He came to King Noah and taught him and his wicked priests about Jesus.

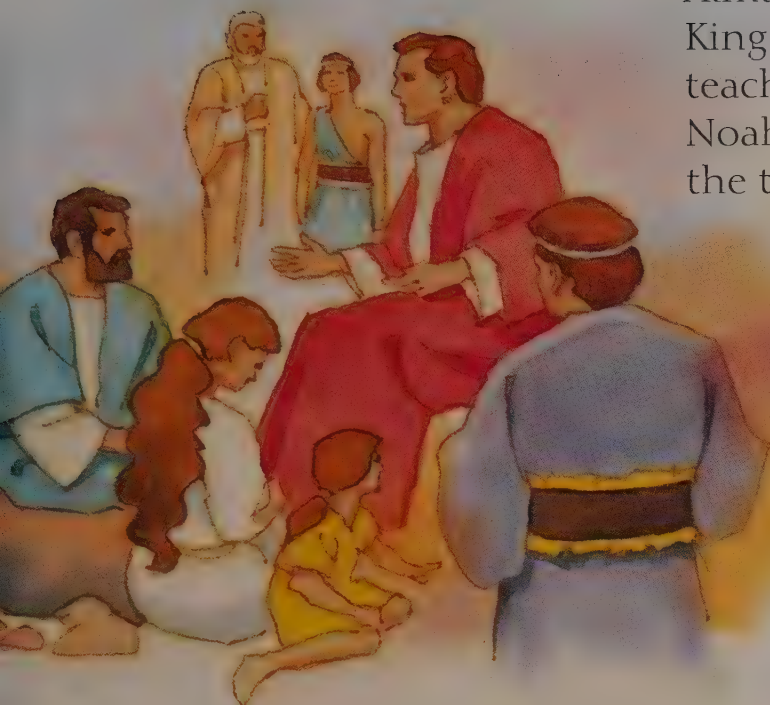
Abinadi was very brave, and he told Noah that kings and leaders should help their people to be good.



This made King Noah angry, and he had his guards kill Abinadi.

Alma

Alma was one of the priests of King Noah. Alma believed the teachings of Abinadi and left King Noah to go and teach the people the things that Abinadi taught.



Alma told the people to be kind and to share and to help each other. Some of the people were happy to learn about Jesus.

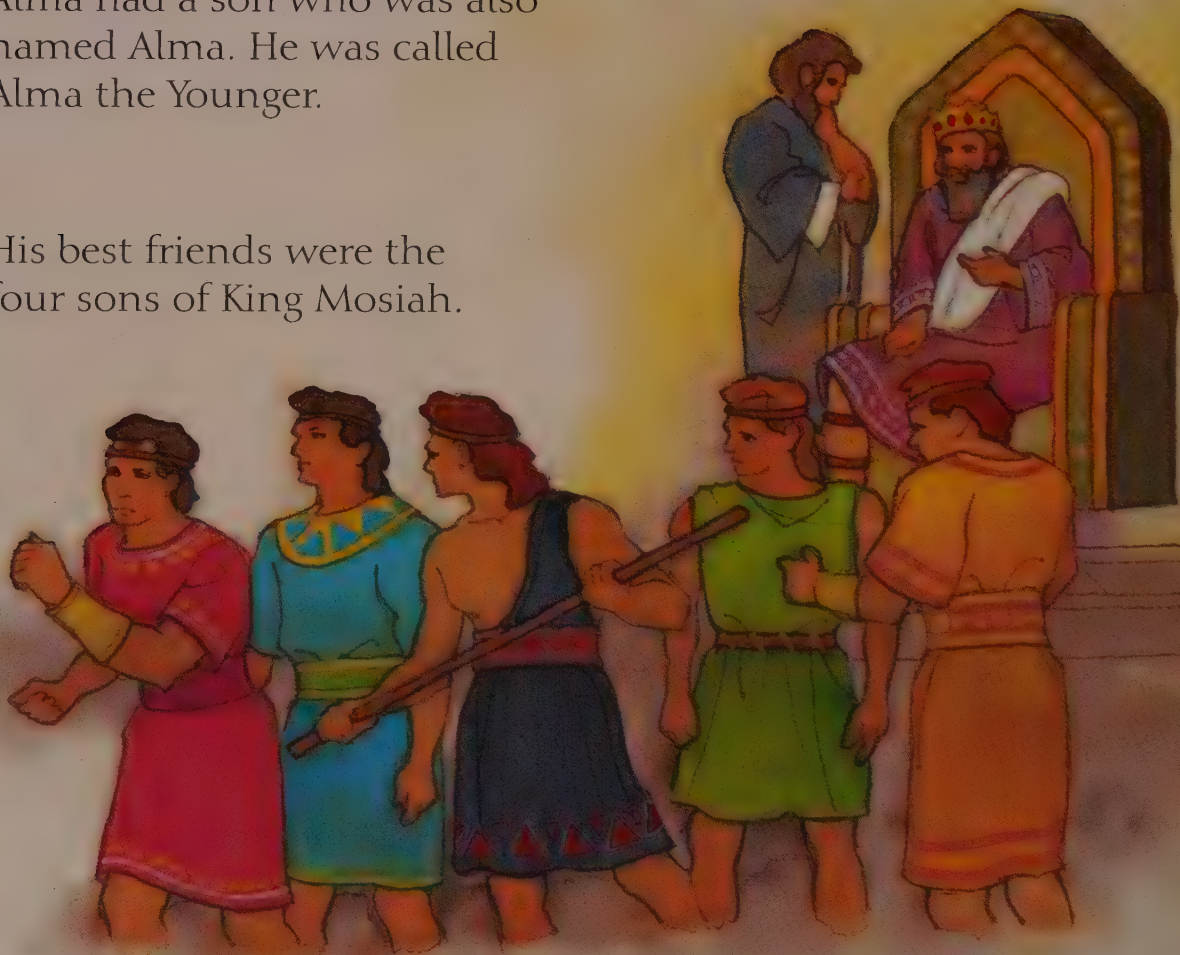
They wanted to be baptized so that they could be members of Christ's Church.



Alma the Younger and the Sons of King Mosiah

Alma had a son who was also
named Alma. He was called
Alma the Younger.

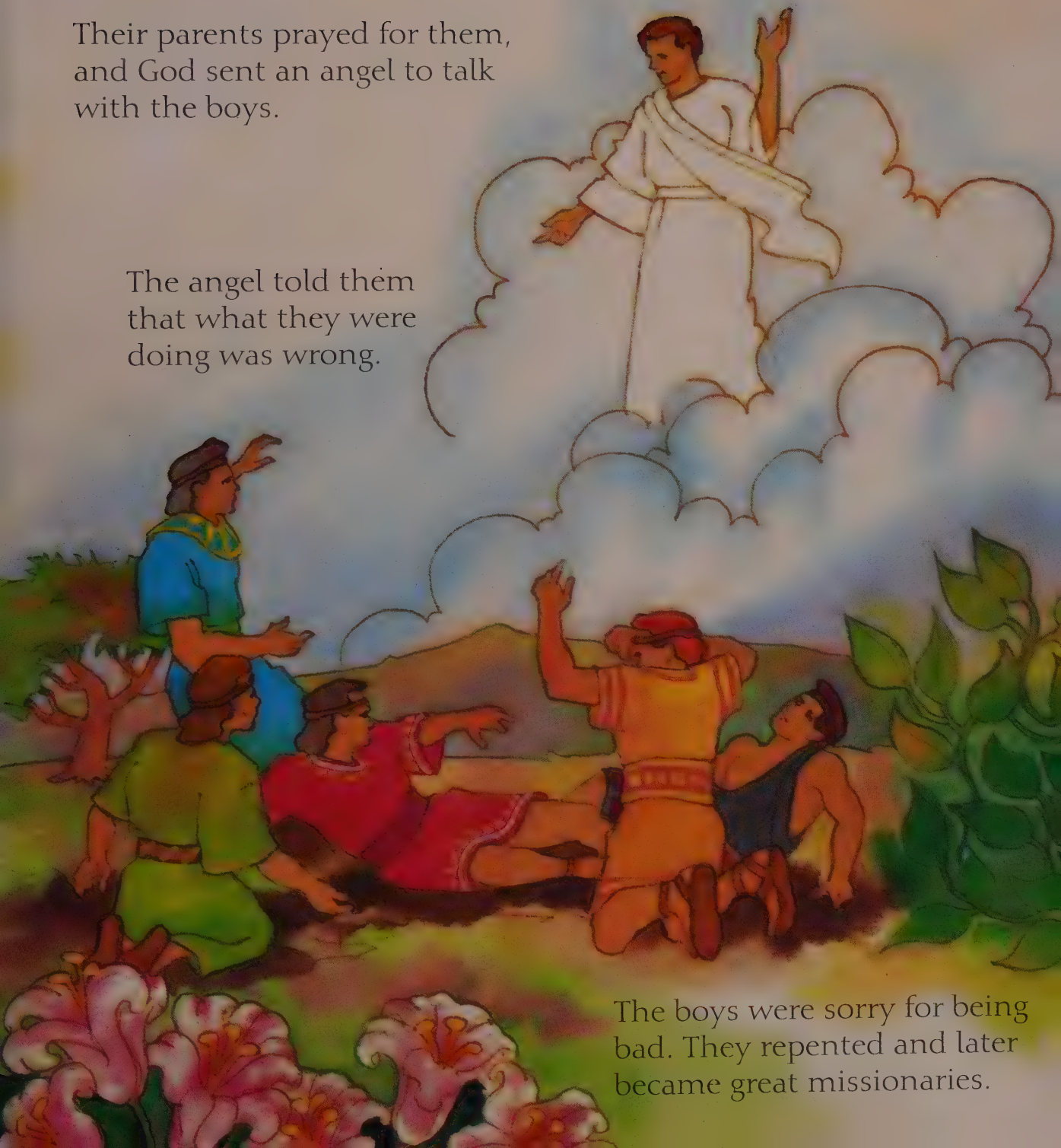
His best friends were the
four sons of King Mosiah.



These five boys didn't want to obey
their parents or Heavenly Father.
They caused a lot of trouble.

Their parents prayed for them,
and God sent an angel to talk
with the boys.

The angel told them
that what they were
doing was wrong.

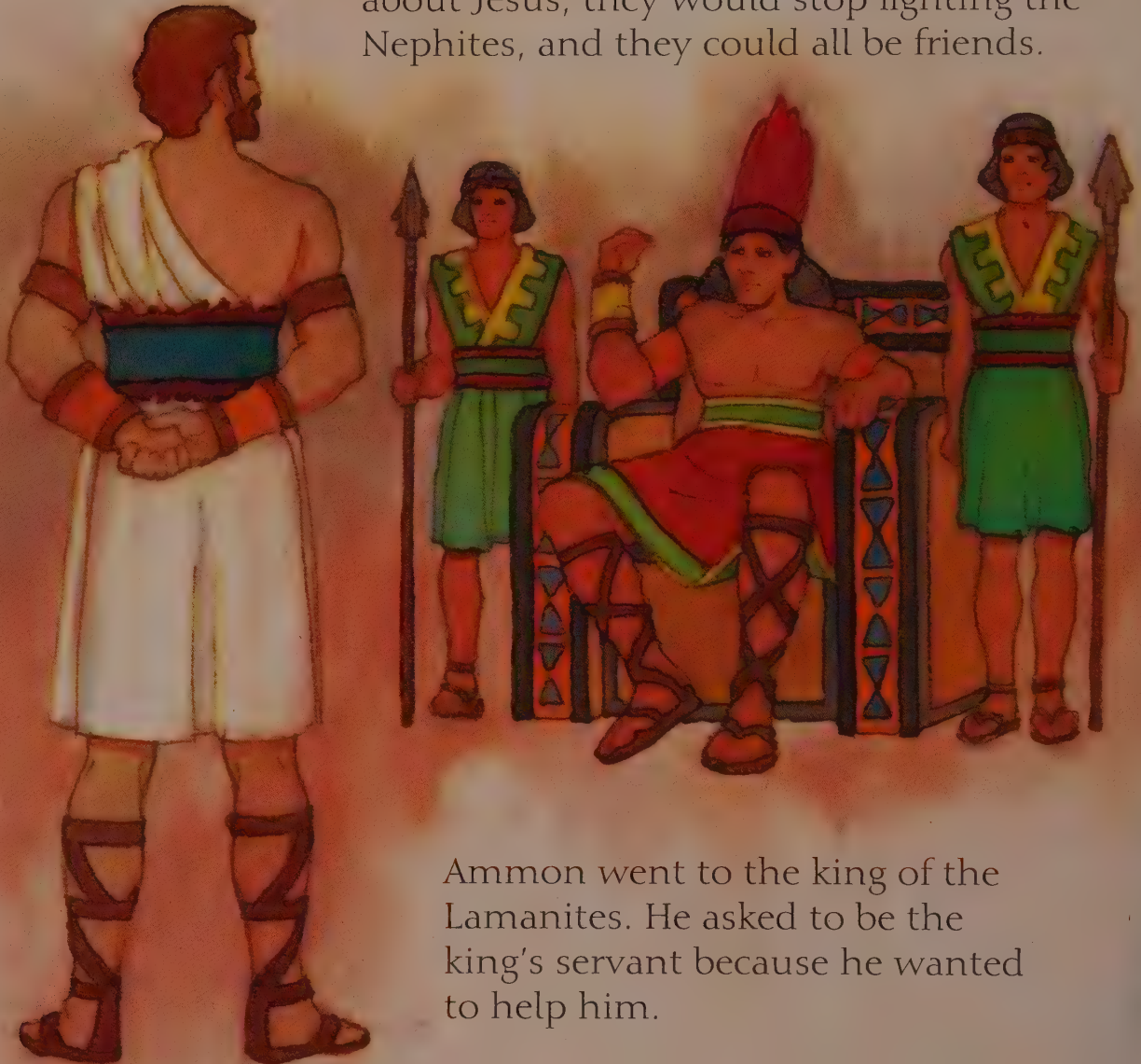


The boys were sorry for being
bad. They repented and later
became great missionaries.

Ammon the Missionary

Ammon was one of the sons of King Mosiah. After the angel talked to him, Ammon went on a mission to the Lamanites.

He knew that if the Lamanites learned about Jesus, they would stop fighting the Nephites, and they could all be friends.

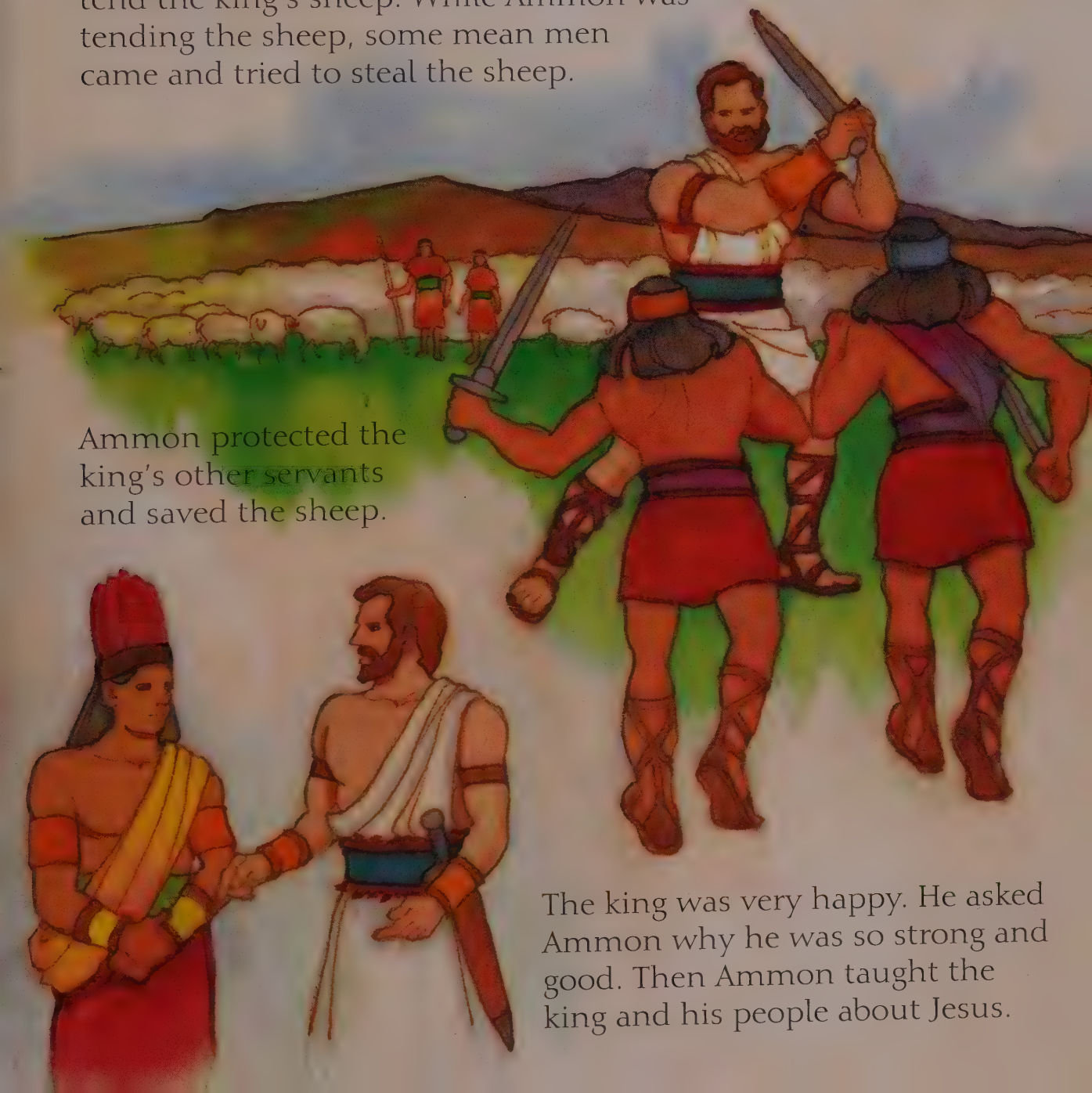


Ammon went to the king of the Lamanites. He asked to be the king's servant because he wanted to help him.

The king said that Ammon could help tend the king's sheep. While Ammon was tending the sheep, some mean men came and tried to steal the sheep.

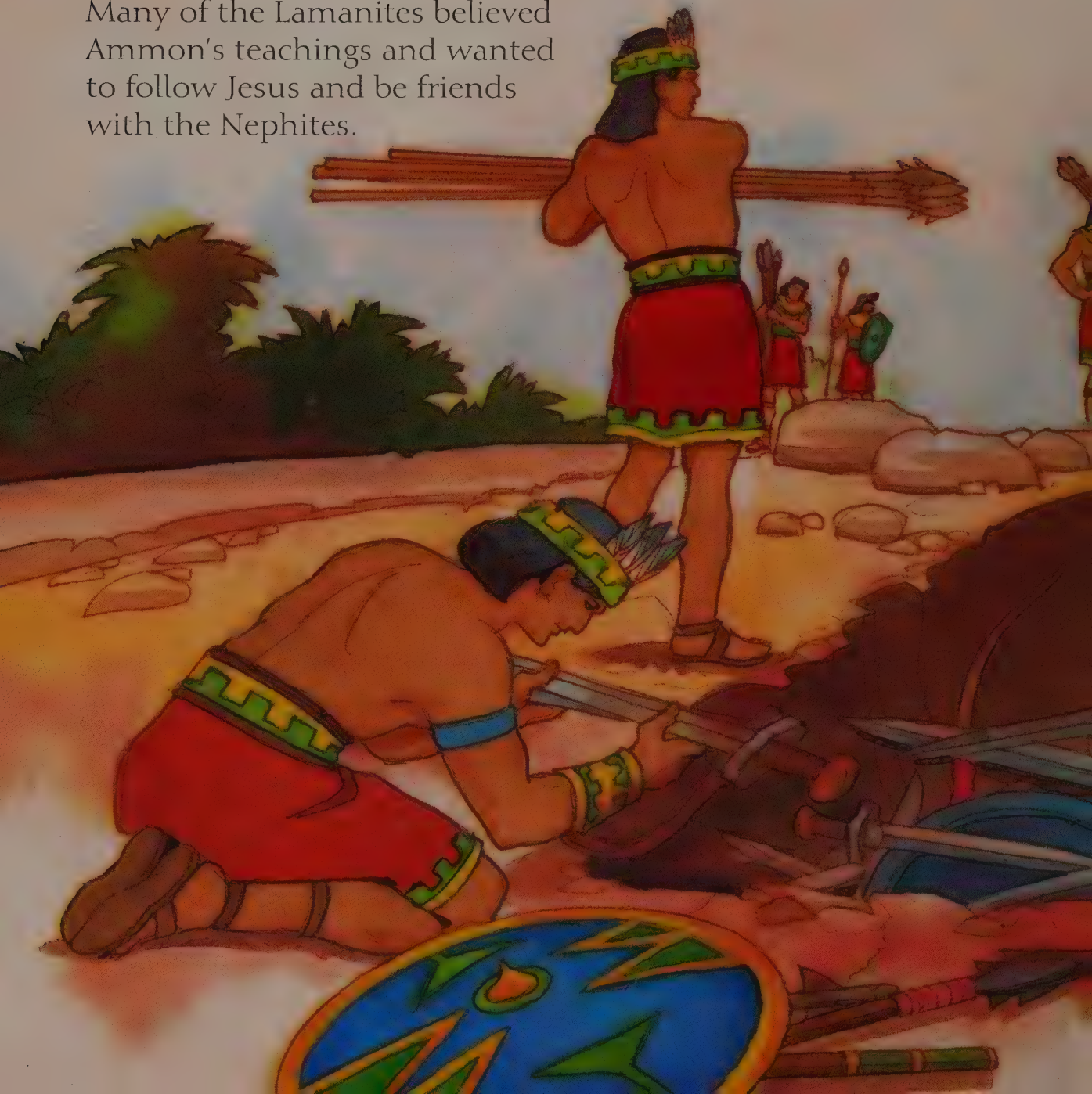
Ammon protected the king's other servants and saved the sheep.

The king was very happy. He asked Ammon why he was so strong and good. Then Ammon taught the king and his people about Jesus.



The People of Ammon

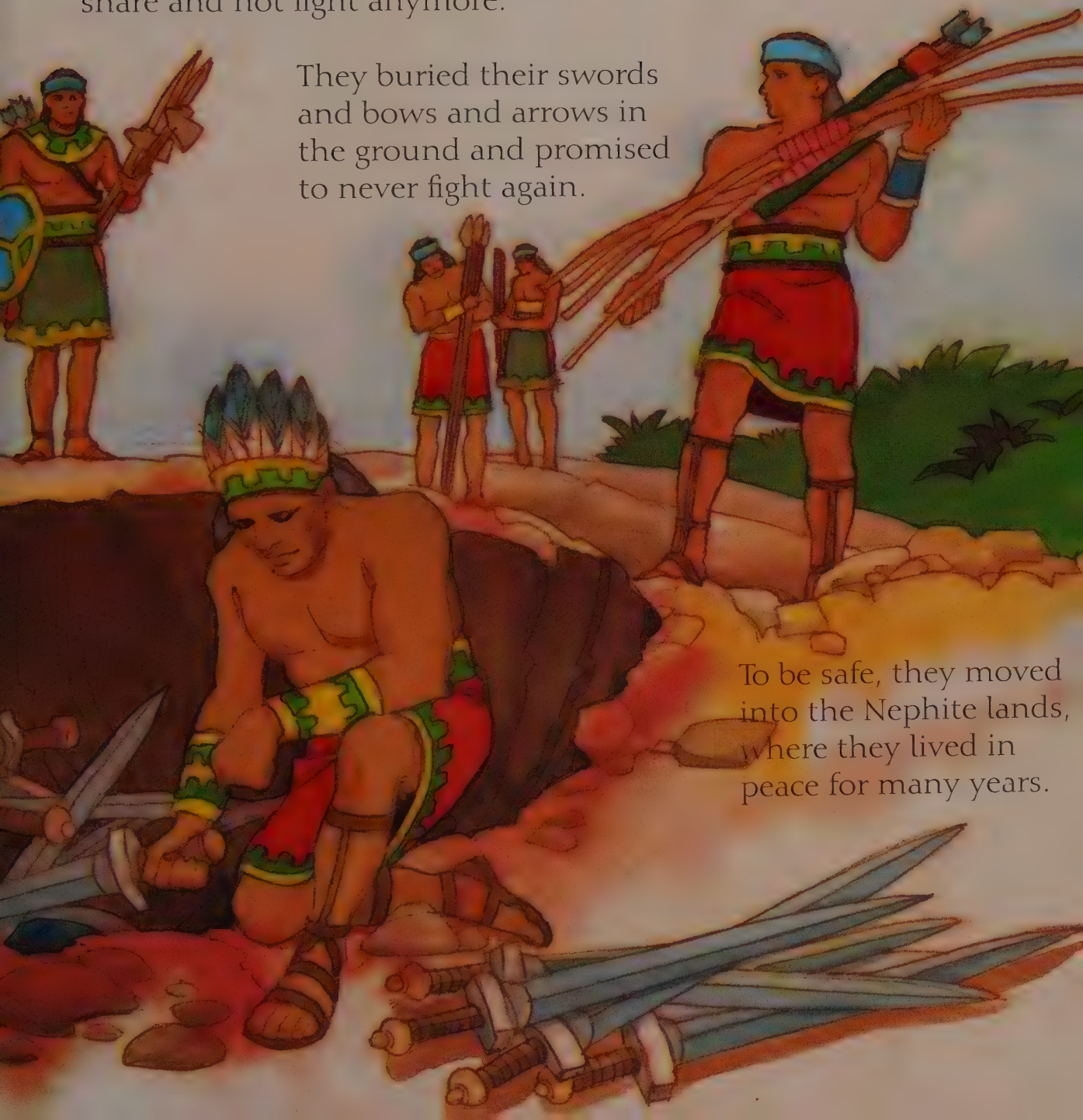
Many of the Lamanites believed Ammon's teachings and wanted to follow Jesus and be friends with the Nephites.



They learned that they should share and not fight anymore.

They buried their swords and bows and arrows in the ground and promised to never fight again.

To be safe, they moved into the Nephite lands, where they lived in peace for many years.



The Army of Helaman

Many of the Lamanites did not believe Ammon when he taught them about God, so they still wanted to fight the Nephites

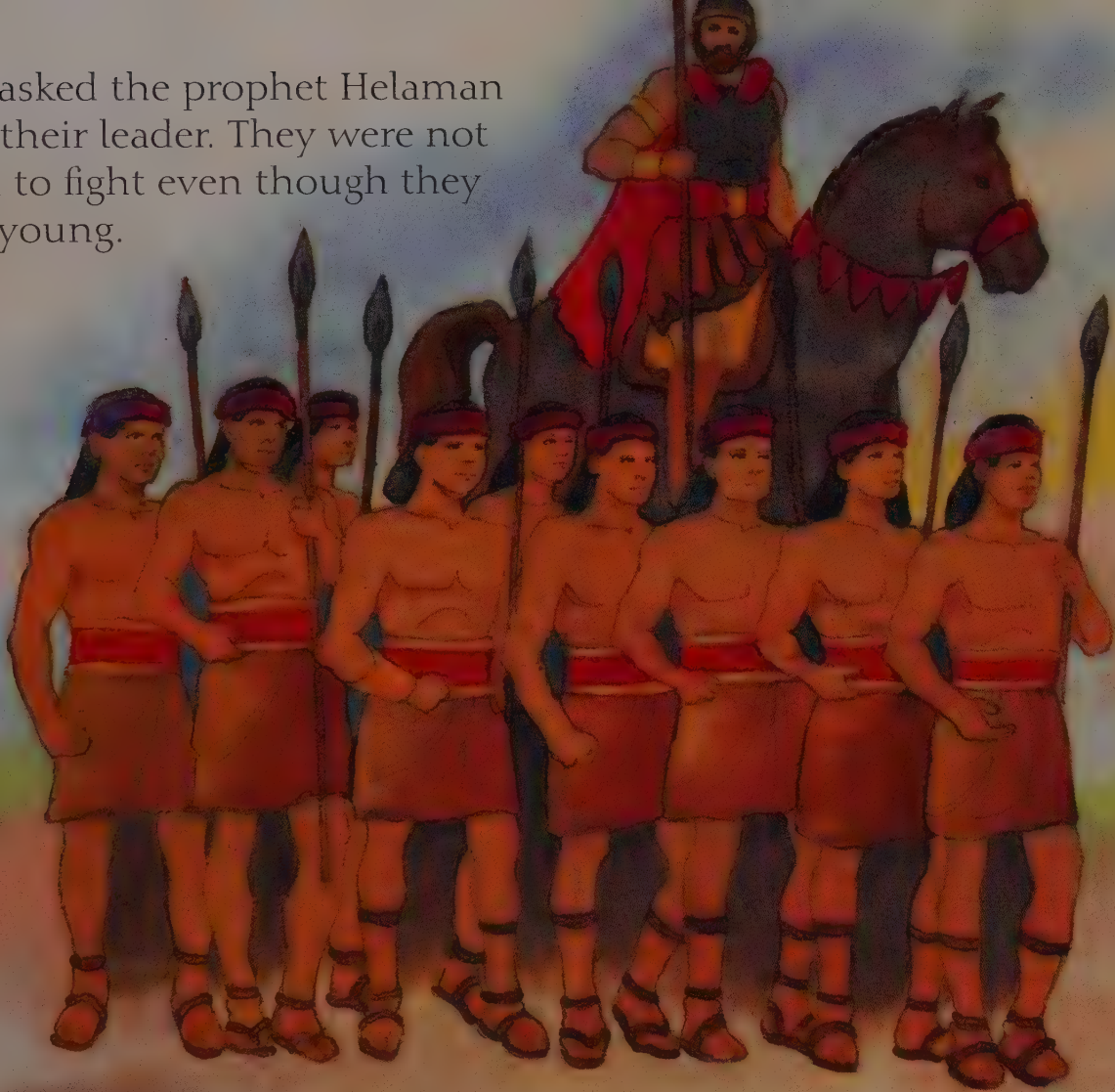


The Nephite soldiers needed more help. The grown-up boys of the good Lamanites said that they would help.

They were only babies when their parents promised never to fight again, so these young men had not made that promise.



They asked the prophet Helaman to be their leader. They were not afraid to fight even though they were young.



Their mothers had taught them to trust Jesus and promised them that if they would do what was right, God would protect them.

Samuel the Lamanite

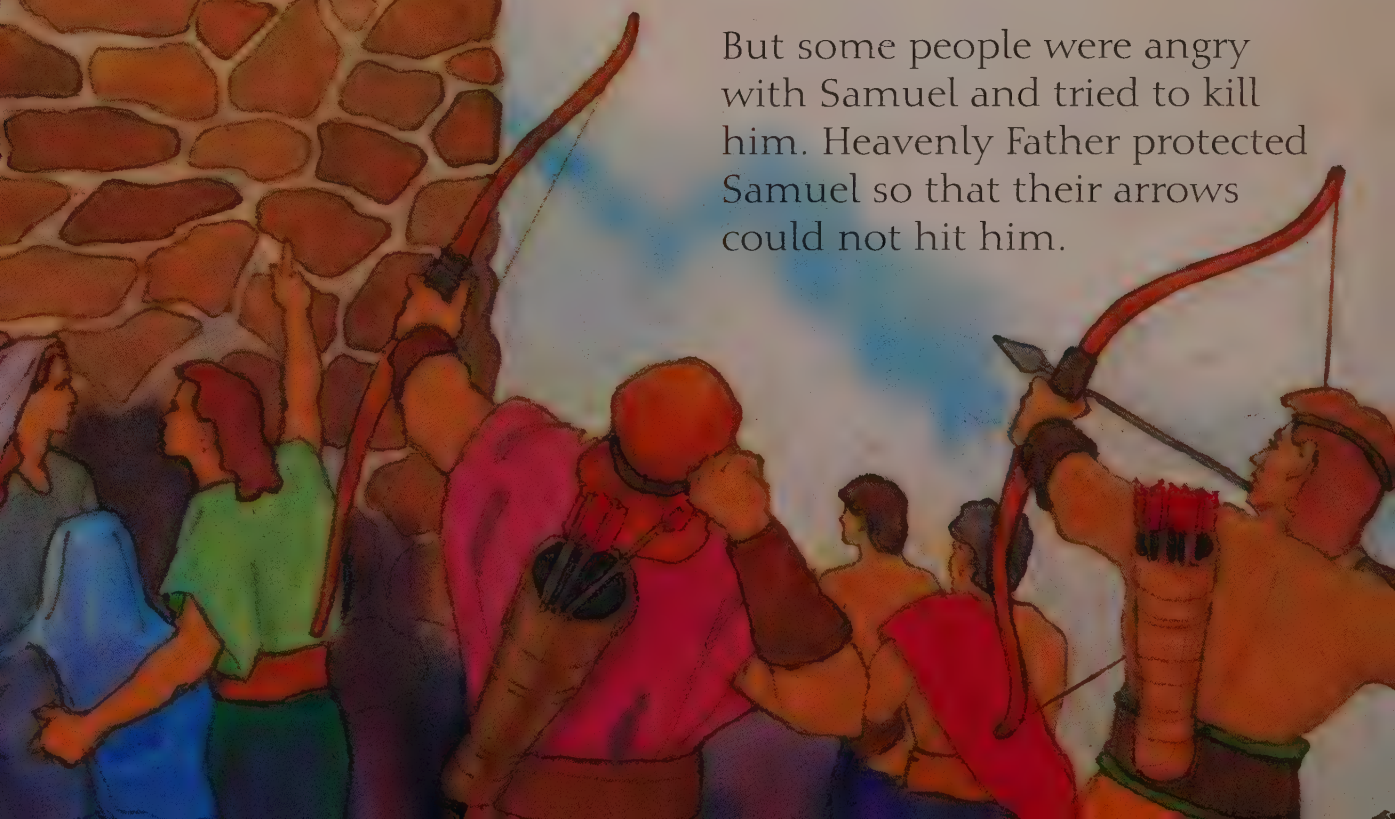


Samuel was a Lamanite and a prophet. He went to the Nephites and told them that Jesus was going to be born in just five more years.

He said that when Jesus was to be born, a new star would appear in the sky and there would be a day and a night and a day when it wouldn't get dark.

Some of the people believed him and were very happy that Jesus would soon be born.

But some people were angry with Samuel and tried to kill him. Heavenly Father protected Samuel so that their arrows could not hit him.



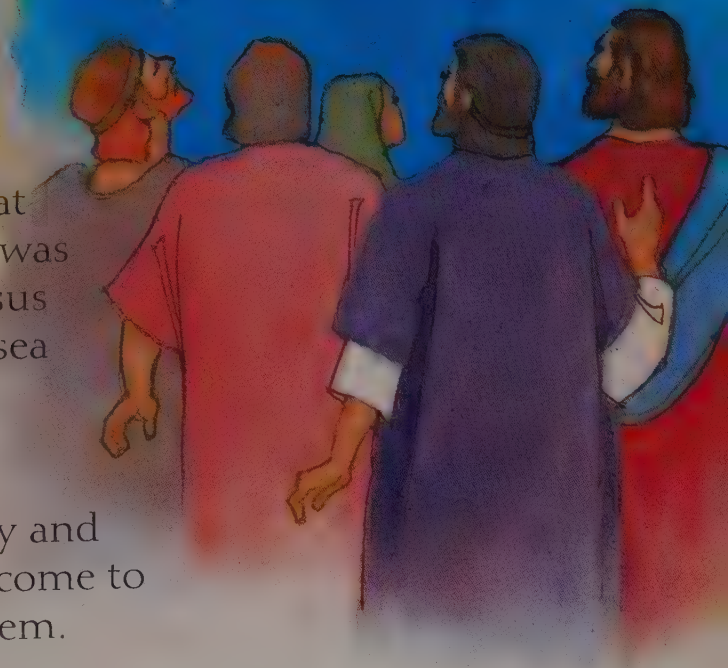
Jesus Is Born

Five years after Samuel taught the people from the city wall, the star that he promised appeared in the sky. Other great lights also appeared.



When the sun went down that night, it didn't get dark. That was how the people knew that Jesus had been born far across the sea in the land of Jerusalem.

Many people were very happy and hoped that Jesus would also come to the Promised Land to visit them.



Jesus Is Crucified

Thirty-three years after the signs of Jesus' birth were given, many people had forgotten about Jesus and were being cruel and wicked.



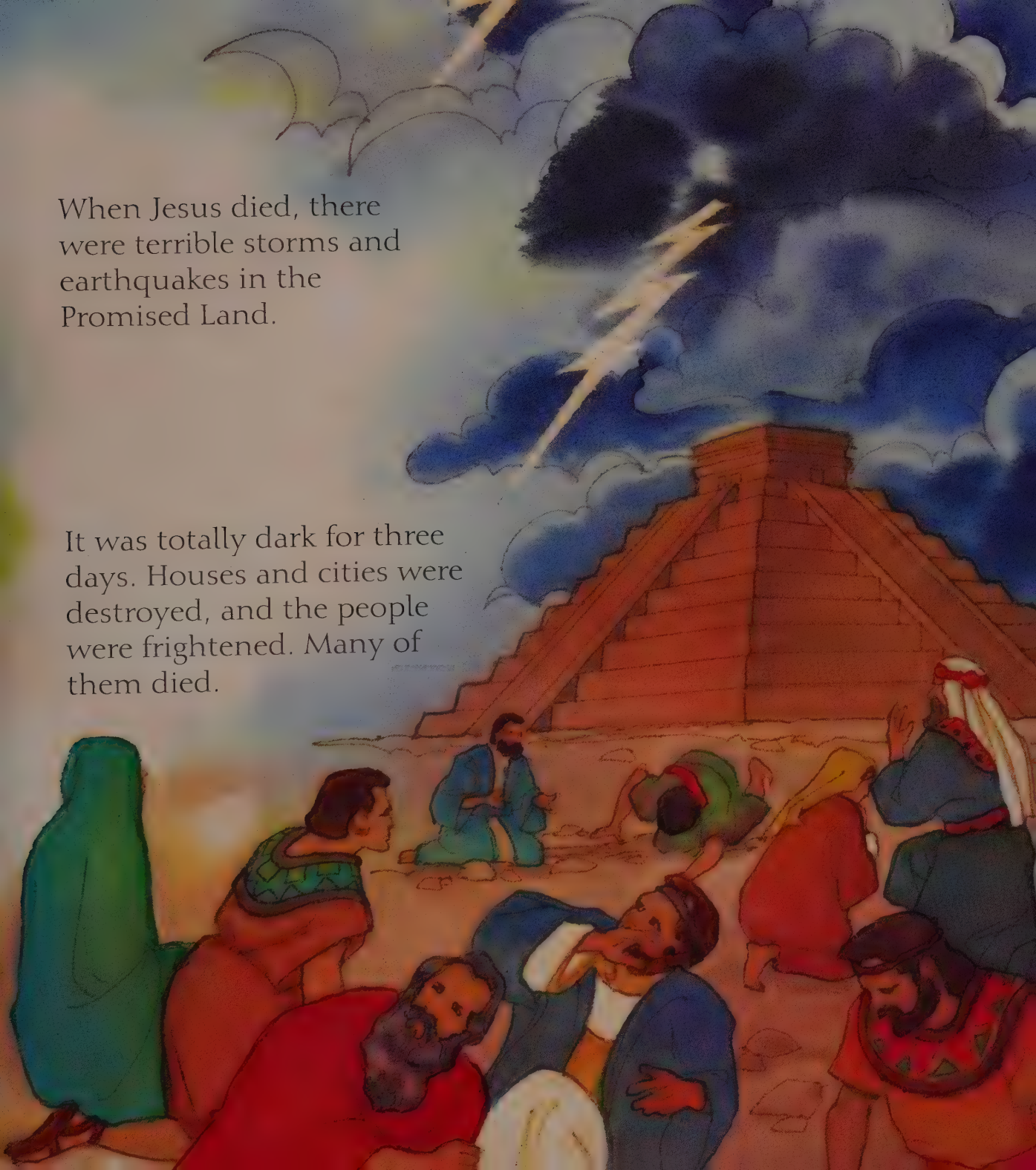
They had become selfish and would not share with or help other people.

The people in Jerusalem, far across the sea, were being wicked too. They were so wicked that they crucified Jesus.

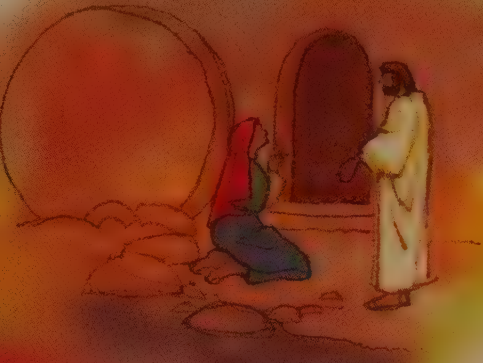


When Jesus died, there were terrible storms and earthquakes in the Promised Land.

It was totally dark for three days. Houses and cities were destroyed, and the people were frightened. Many of them died.

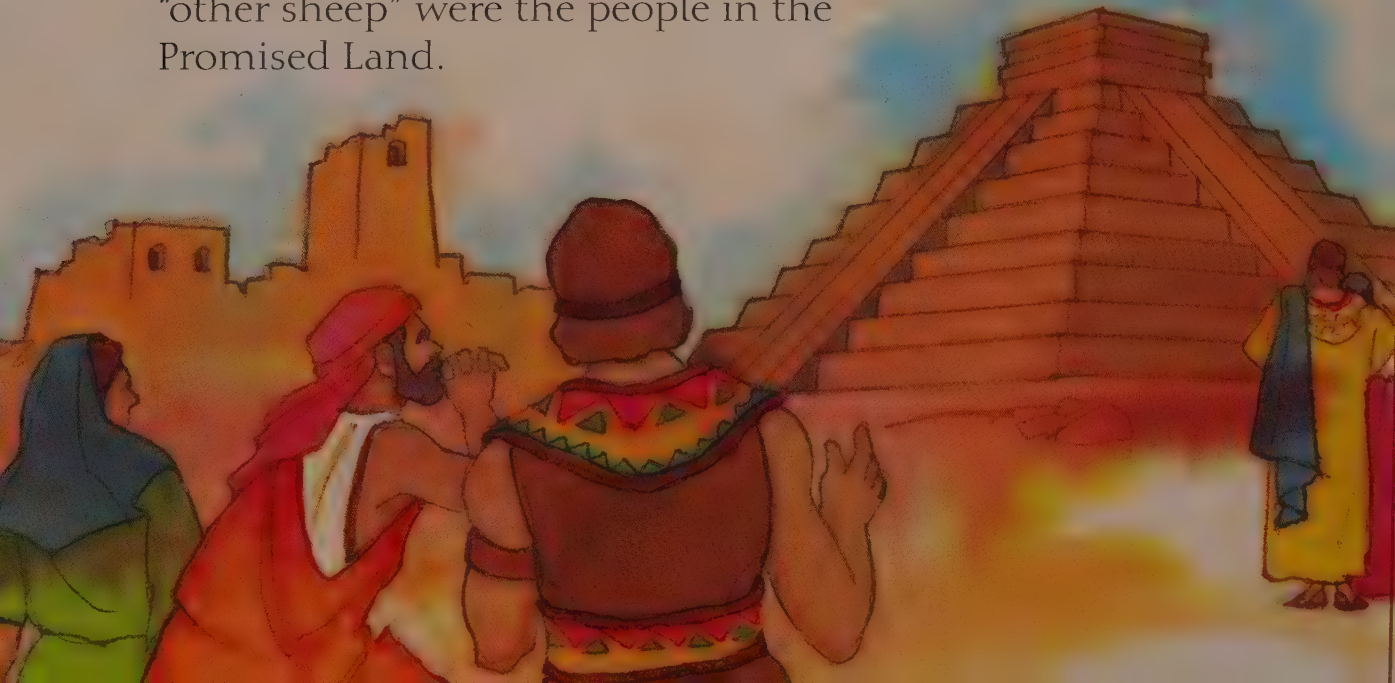


Jesus Visits the Promised Land



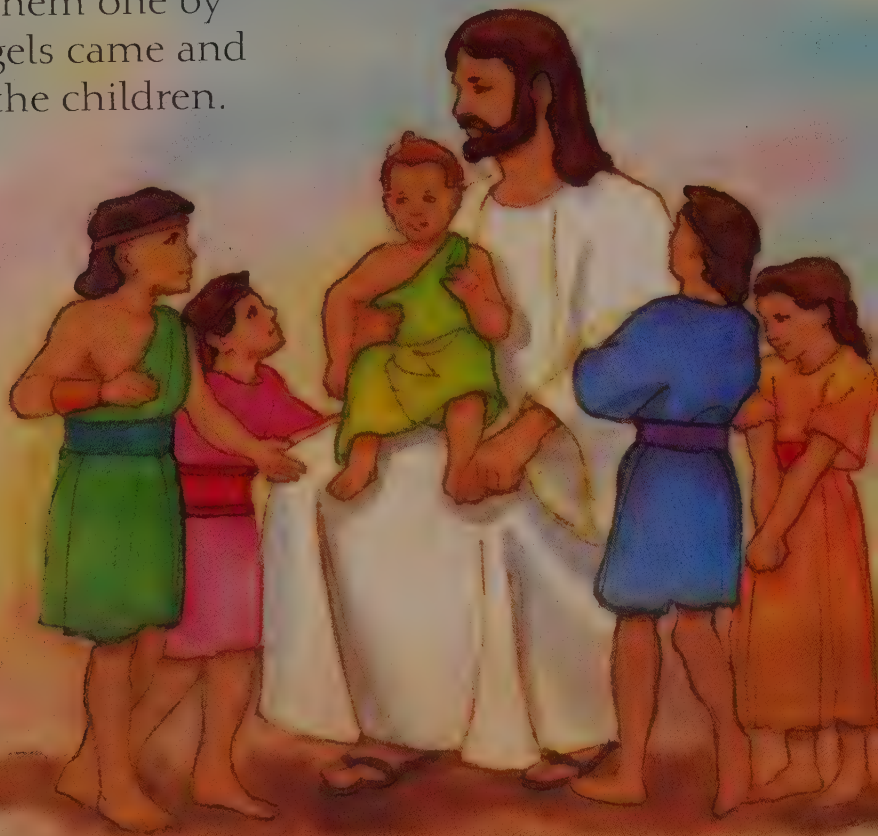
After the three days of darkness, Jesus was resurrected and came alive again in Jerusalem.

He visited his friends there. He told them that he had "other sheep" to visit. Those "other sheep" were the people in the Promised Land.



When Jesus came to the Promised Land, it made the people very happy. He showed himself to them and taught them his gospel.

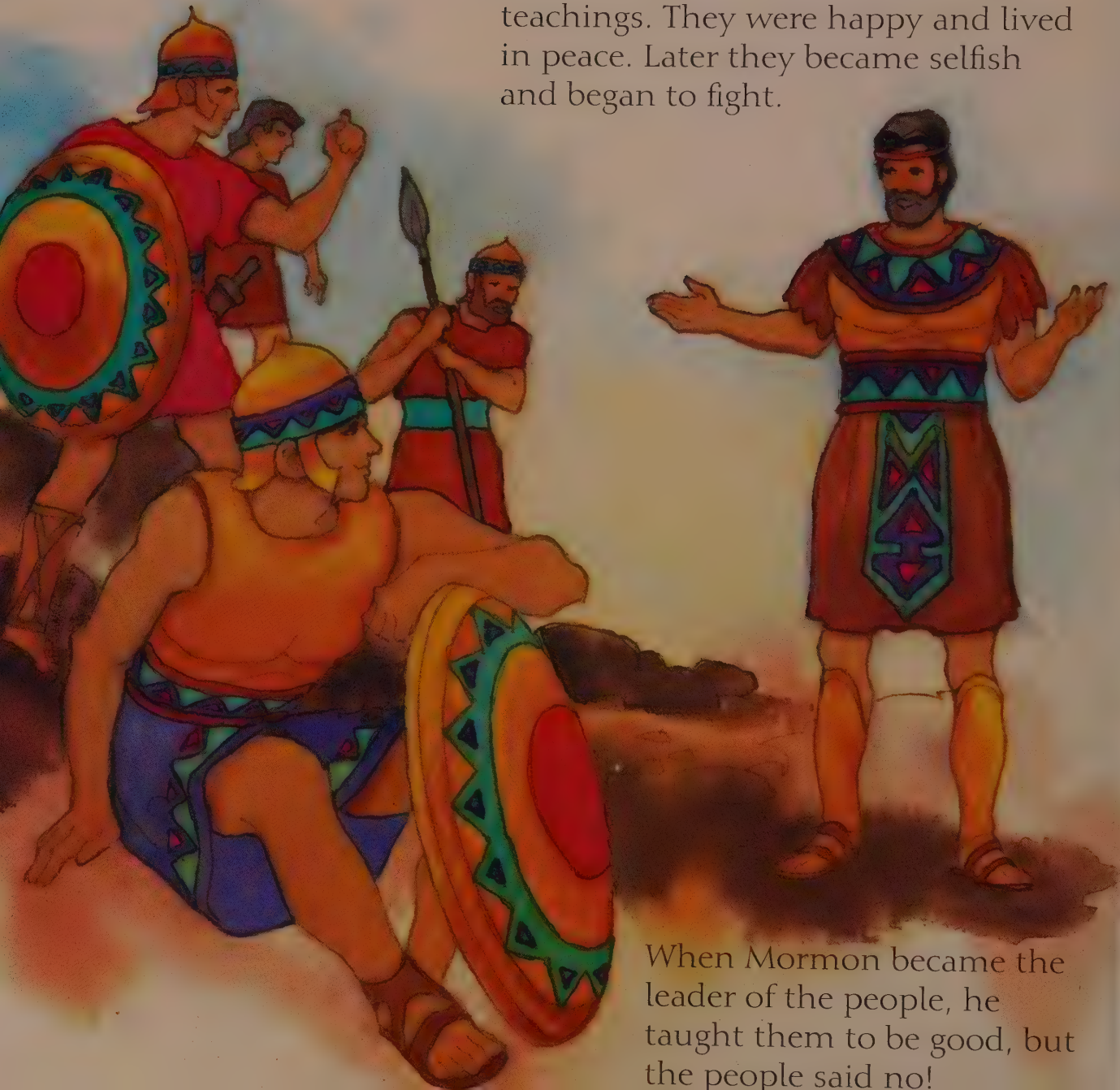
Jesus loved the little children and blessed them one by one. And angels came and also blessed the children.



Everyone was happy and promised to be kind and to love and help each other.

Mormon

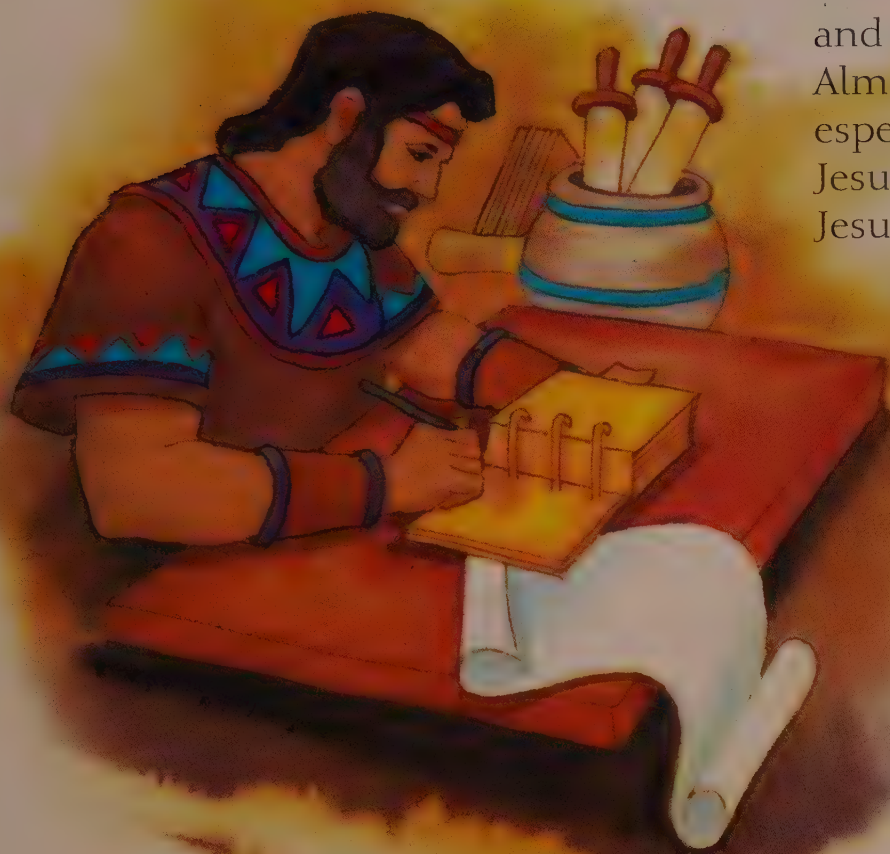
For the next two hundred years the people remembered Jesus and his teachings. They were happy and lived in peace. Later they became selfish and began to fight.



When Mormon became the leader of the people, he taught them to be good, but the people said no!

Mormon had been given all the books of the whole land. He read the books and then wrote the most important parts on a new set of golden plates.

He wrote about Lehi and Nephi and about Alma and Abinadi. He especially wrote about Jesus and how much Jesus loves us.



Then he gave the golden plates to his son, Moroni, and told him to take good care of them and keep them safe.

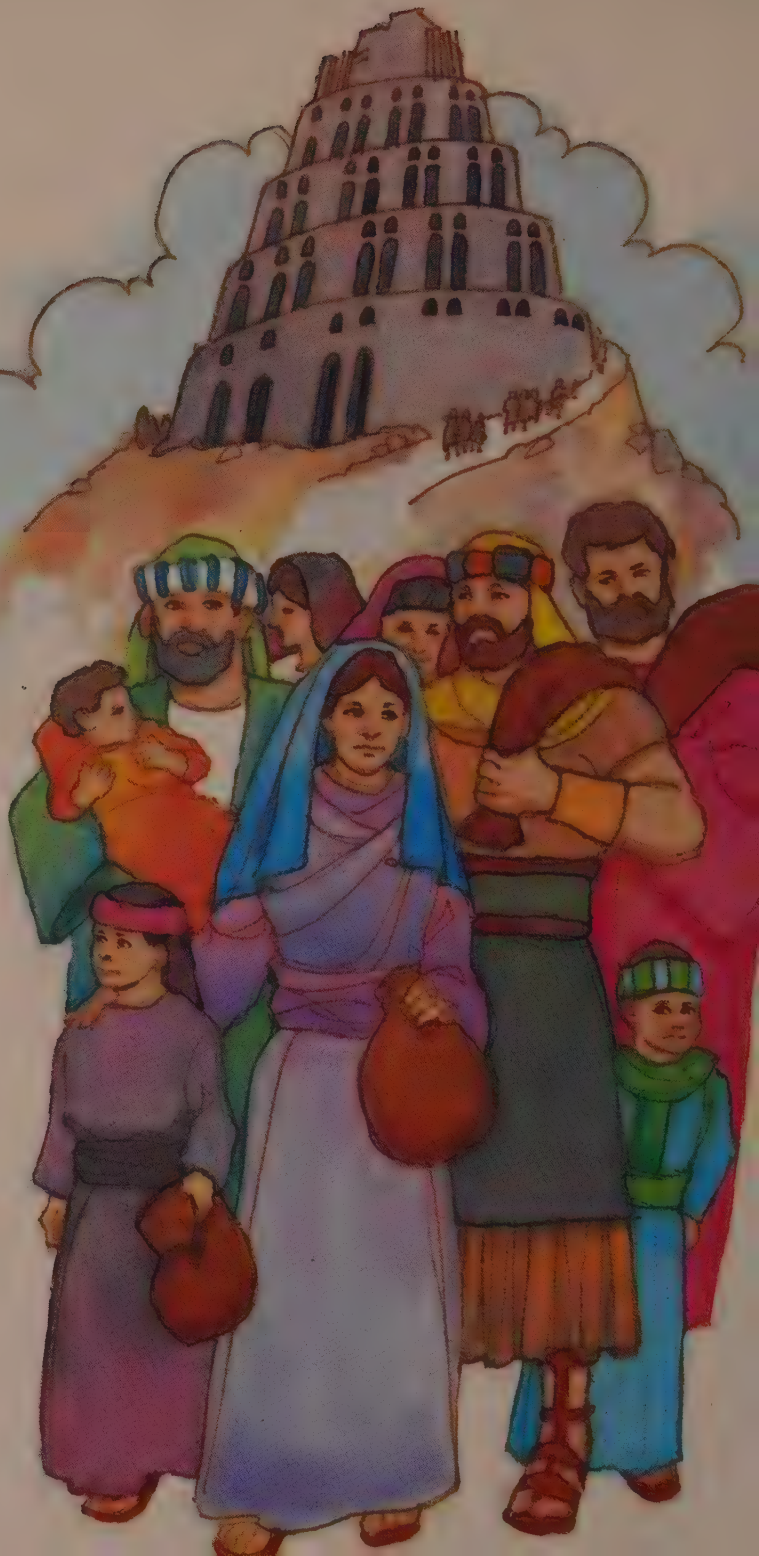
The Jaredites

Long, long ago, after Noah and his family and all of the animals got off the ark, the people started to build a tall tower.

They hoped it would be tall enough to reach to heaven. This made Heavenly Father unhappy with them, and he changed their language so they could not understand each other.

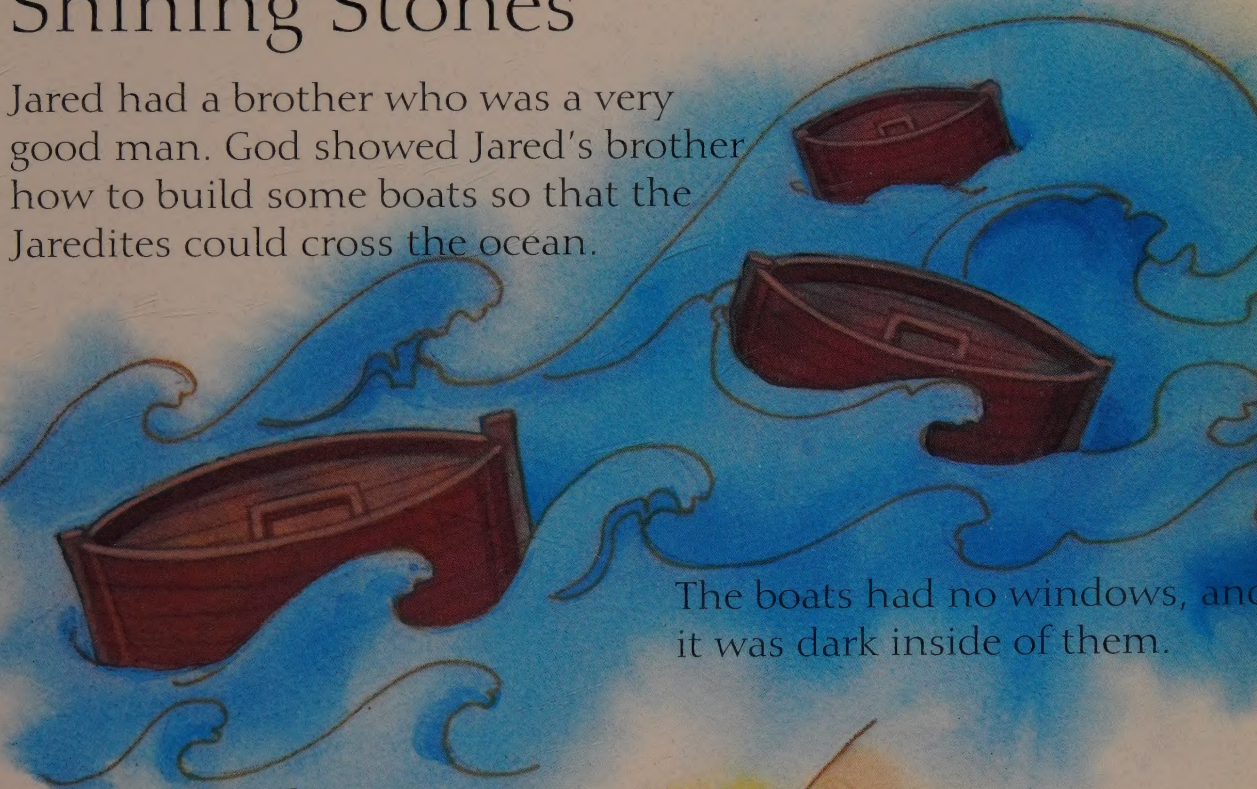
A man named Jared lived at this time. Jared and his family prayed to be able to still understand each other.

They were good people, and Heavenly Father told them he would lead them to a promised land. They traveled for many days. Finally they came to the sea.



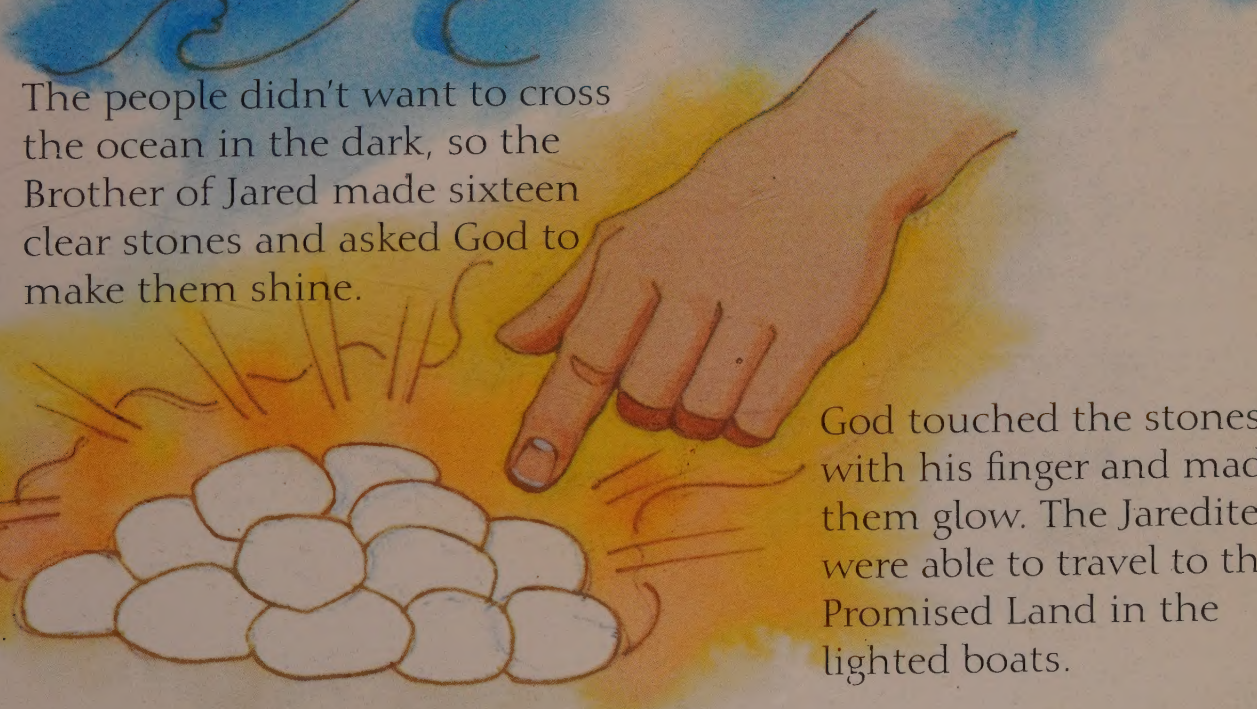
Shining Stones

Jared had a brother who was a very good man. God showed Jared's brother how to build some boats so that the Jaredites could cross the ocean.



The boats had no windows, and it was dark inside of them.

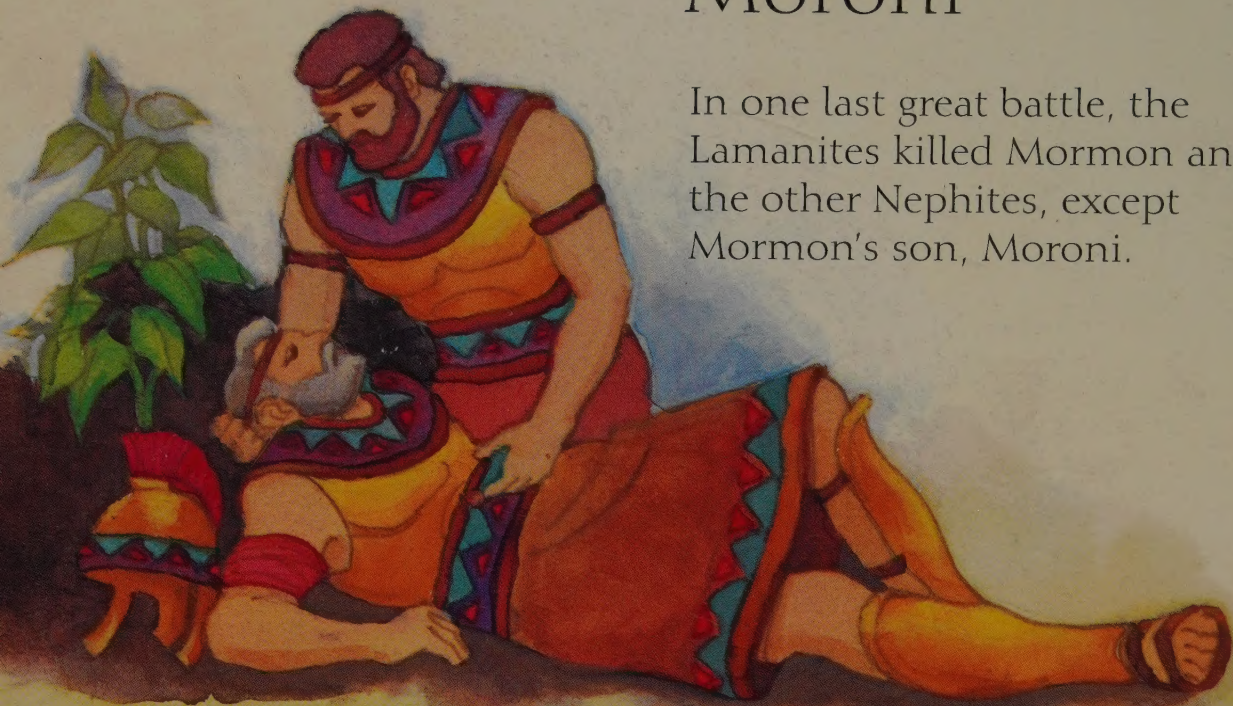
The people didn't want to cross the ocean in the dark, so the Brother of Jared made sixteen clear stones and asked God to make them shine.



God touched the stones with his finger and made them glow. The Jaredites were able to travel to the Promised Land in the lighted boats.

Moroni

In one last great battle, the Lamanites killed Mormon and all the other Nephites, except Mormon's son, Moroni.



Moroni took the golden plates that he and his father had written on and buried them in a hill called Cumorah.

Mormon and Moroni were the last prophets of the Nephite People.



Joseph Smith

Fourteen hundred years later, the Angel Moroni gave the golden plates to the Prophet Joseph Smith.



By the power of God, Joseph Smith translated the records into the Book of Mormon—a very precious book.





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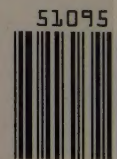
Delight yourself and your preschool child or grandchild with these simplified versions of favorite Book of Mormon stories. Author Deanna Buck retells the familiar events in “read aloud” language that entertains as it teaches. Enhanced by beautiful illustrations, *My First Book of Mormon Stories* will provide many special moments for you and your child. It is sure to become a family treasure.



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