

Bible for Children
presents

SAMUEL,
GOD'S BOY -
SERVANT



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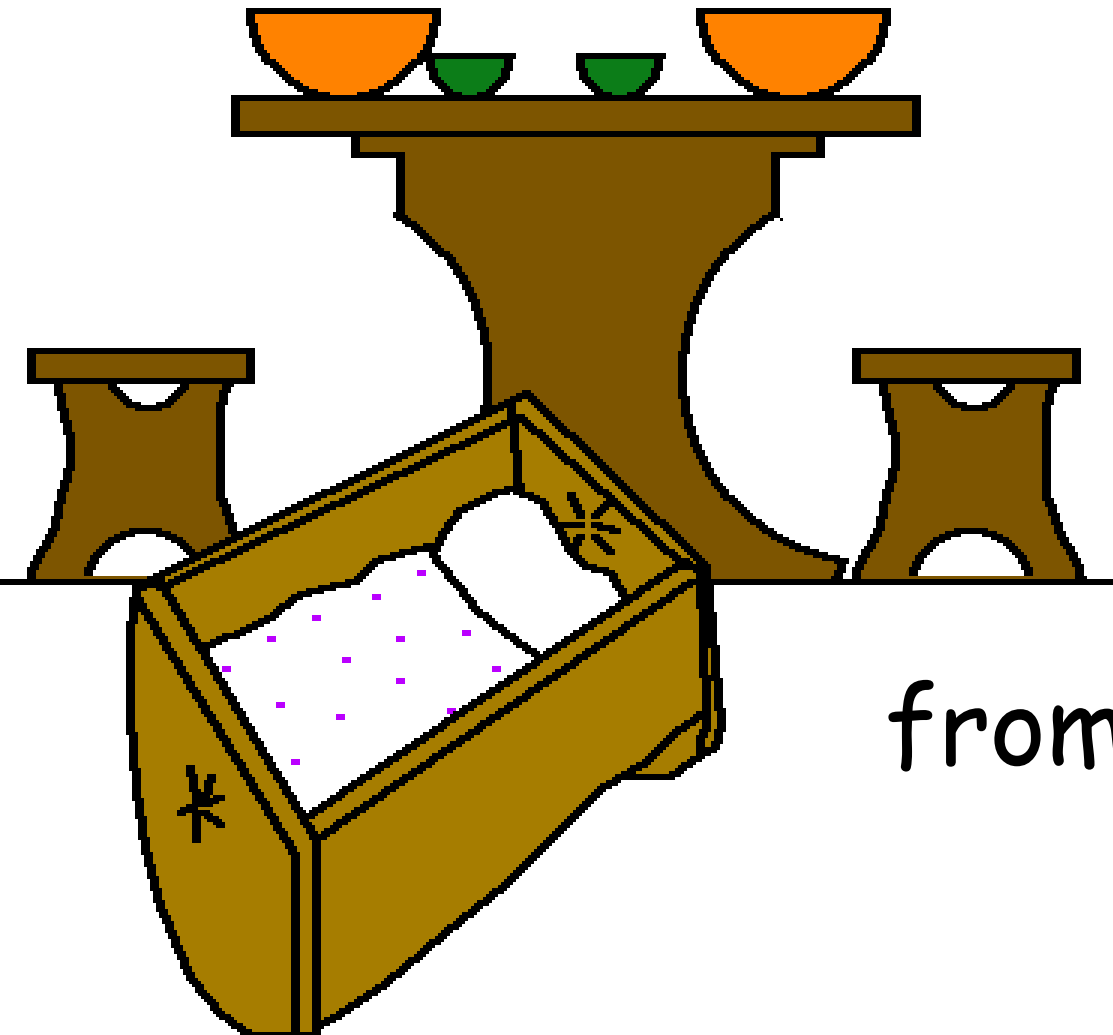
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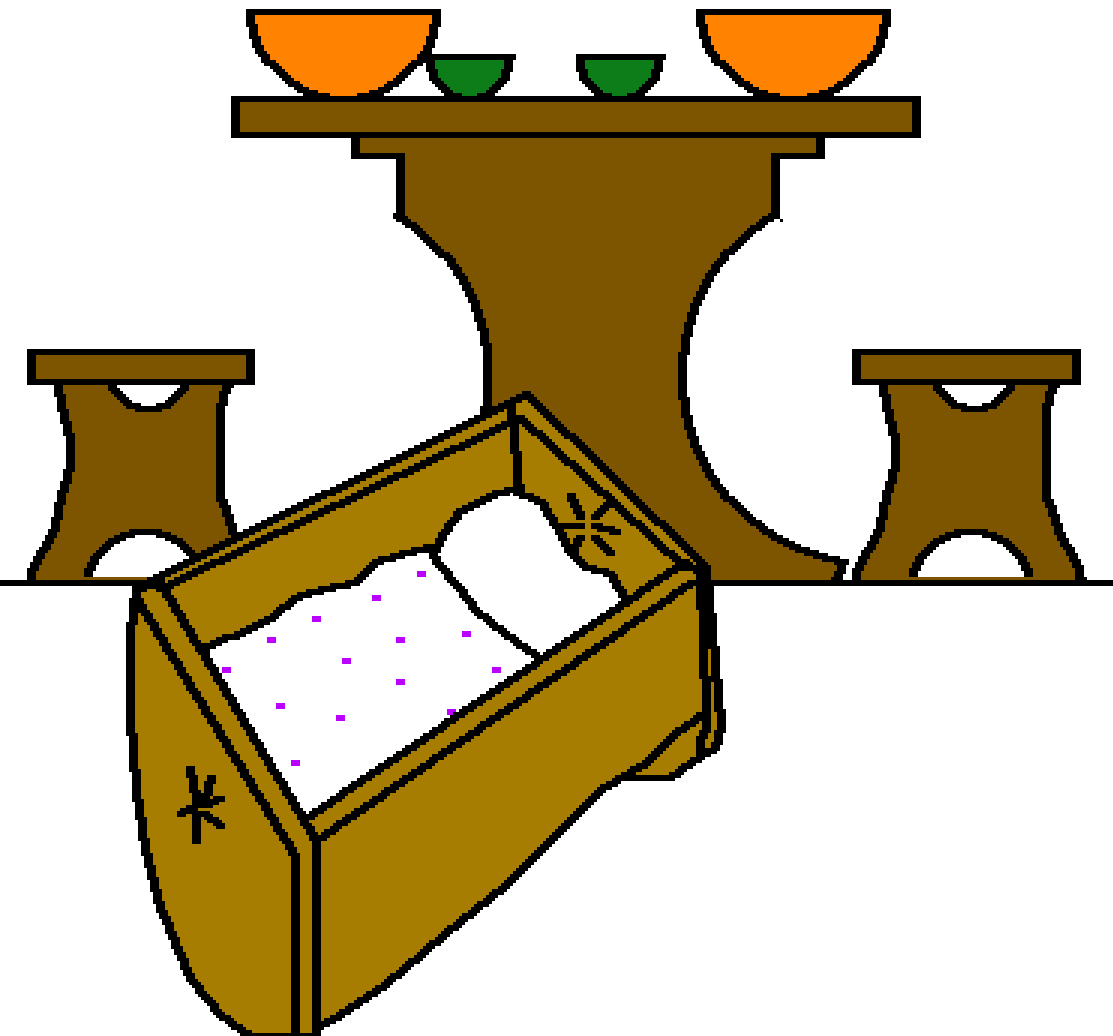
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Hannah was a good woman, married to Elkanah, a good man. They both worshipped God and showed kindness to others. But something was missing from Hannah's life.



She wanted to have a baby. Oh,
how she wanted a baby! She waited
and prayed and
hoped and
waited some
more. No
baby came!





Every year,
Hannah went
to worship at
God's tabernacle.
One year she
promised God that if
He let her have a
son, she would give
the boy to be God's
servant forever.



Old Eli the
priest saw
Hannah
praying.



He thought
Hannah was
drunk with wine
because her lips
moved but
no sound
came.



Eli scolded
Hannah!



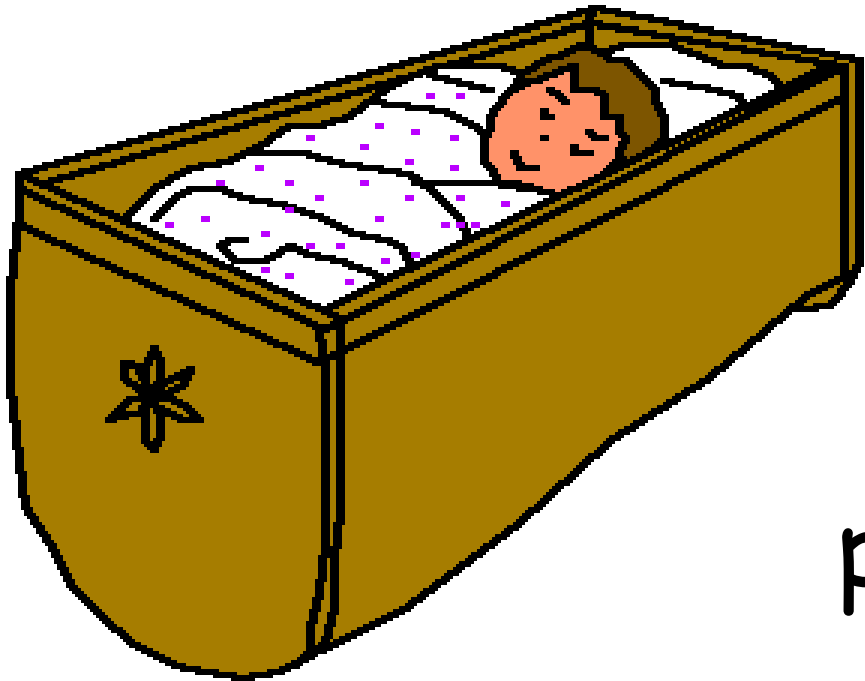
But Hannah
told Eli about
her prayer for
a child and her
promise to God.
"Go in peace,"
Eli answered.

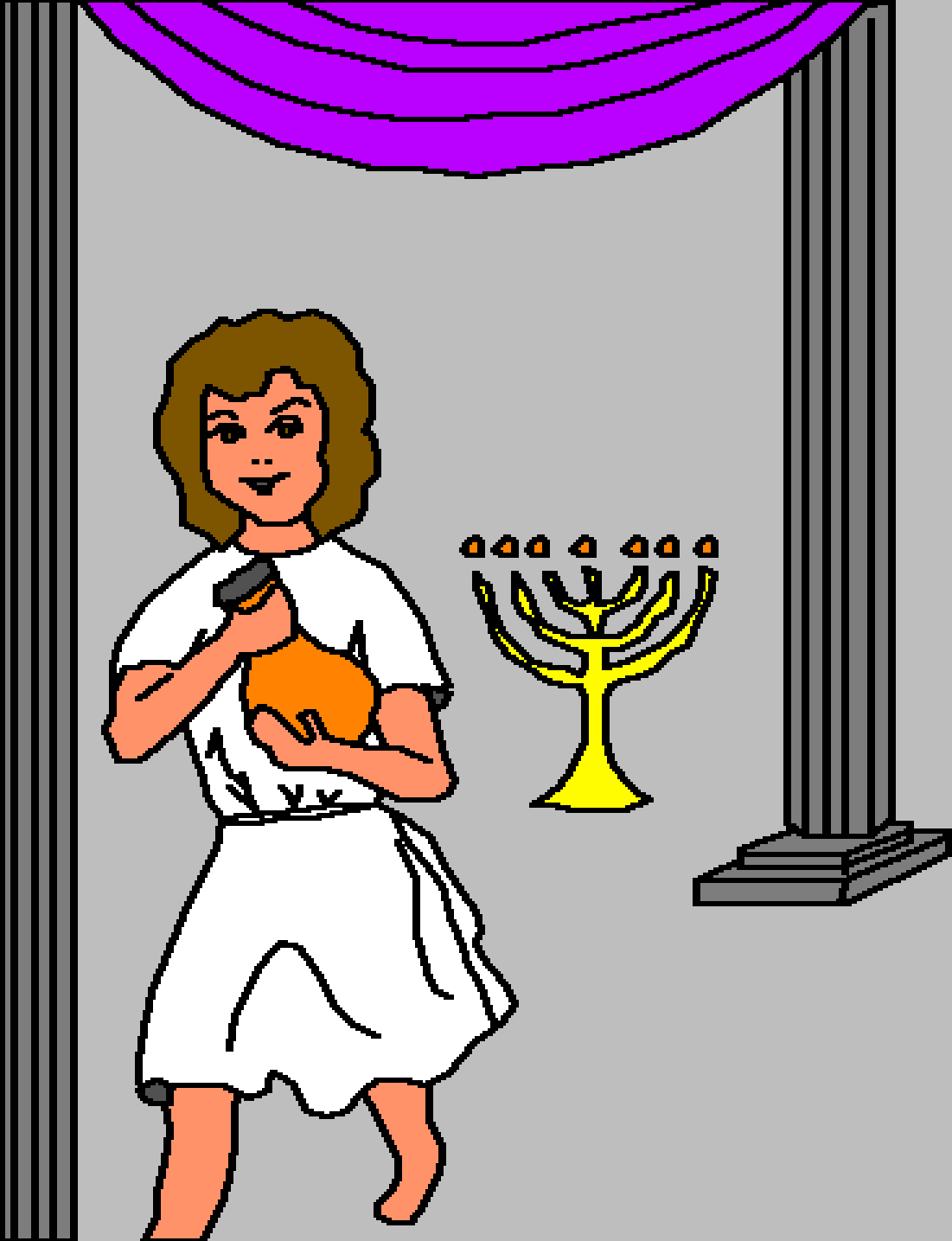


"And
the God of
Israel grant
your petition
which you have
asked of Him."
Eli's words gave
Hannah hope.



Soon great joy filled Hannah's heart. "The LORD remembered her" and answered her prayer. She and Elkanah had a little boy who was named Samuel (which means "Heard by God"). But would Hannah remember the LORD and her promise to Him?





Hannah
stopped
going to the
tabernacle
each year.
Oh, dear!
Had she
broken
her promise
to God?





No, Hannah was waiting until Samuel was old enough to live at the tabernacle and help Eli in God's service. Then she brought him to the tabernacle.





God honored
Hannah's
great
faithfulness.
After Samuel,
God gave her
three more
sons and two
daughters.





Every year,
Hannah
went to the
tabernacle to
worship God
- and to bring
a new robe
she made
for Samuel.



Samuel was not Eli's
only helper. Eli's sons,
Hophni and Phinehas,
also worked
there.



But they dishonored God
by doing wicked things,
and would not change
even when
their father
Eli begged
them.



Eli should have fired
them from working
in the tabernacle.

But he
didn't.





One night,
Samuel heard
a voice call
him. The boy
thought it was
Eli calling.
"Here I am,"
he said.





"I did not call," Eli replied. This happened three times. Then Eli knew God wanted to speak to Samuel.





Eli told Samuel, "If He calls you, you must say, 'Speak LORD, for Your servant hears.'"

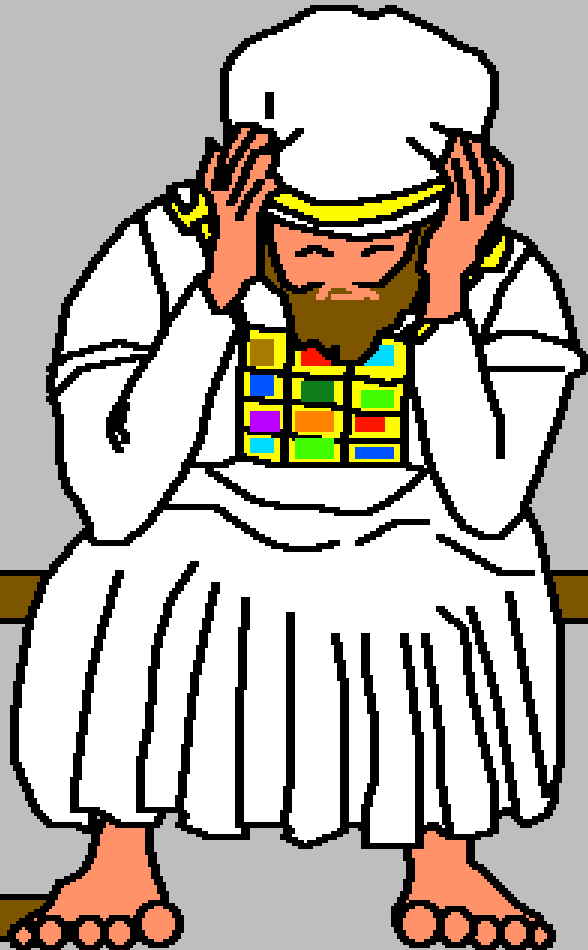




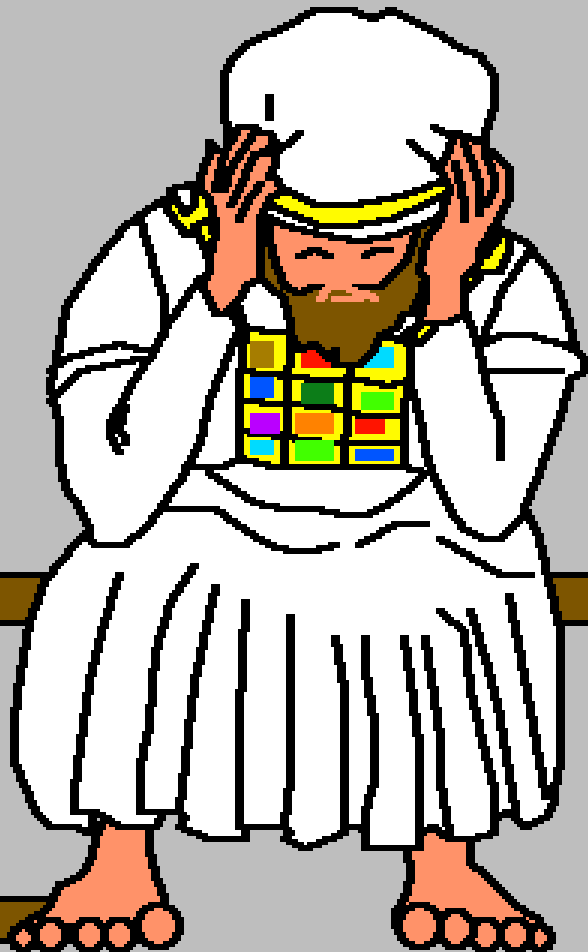
And God did
call again,
and gave
Samuel
a very
important
message.



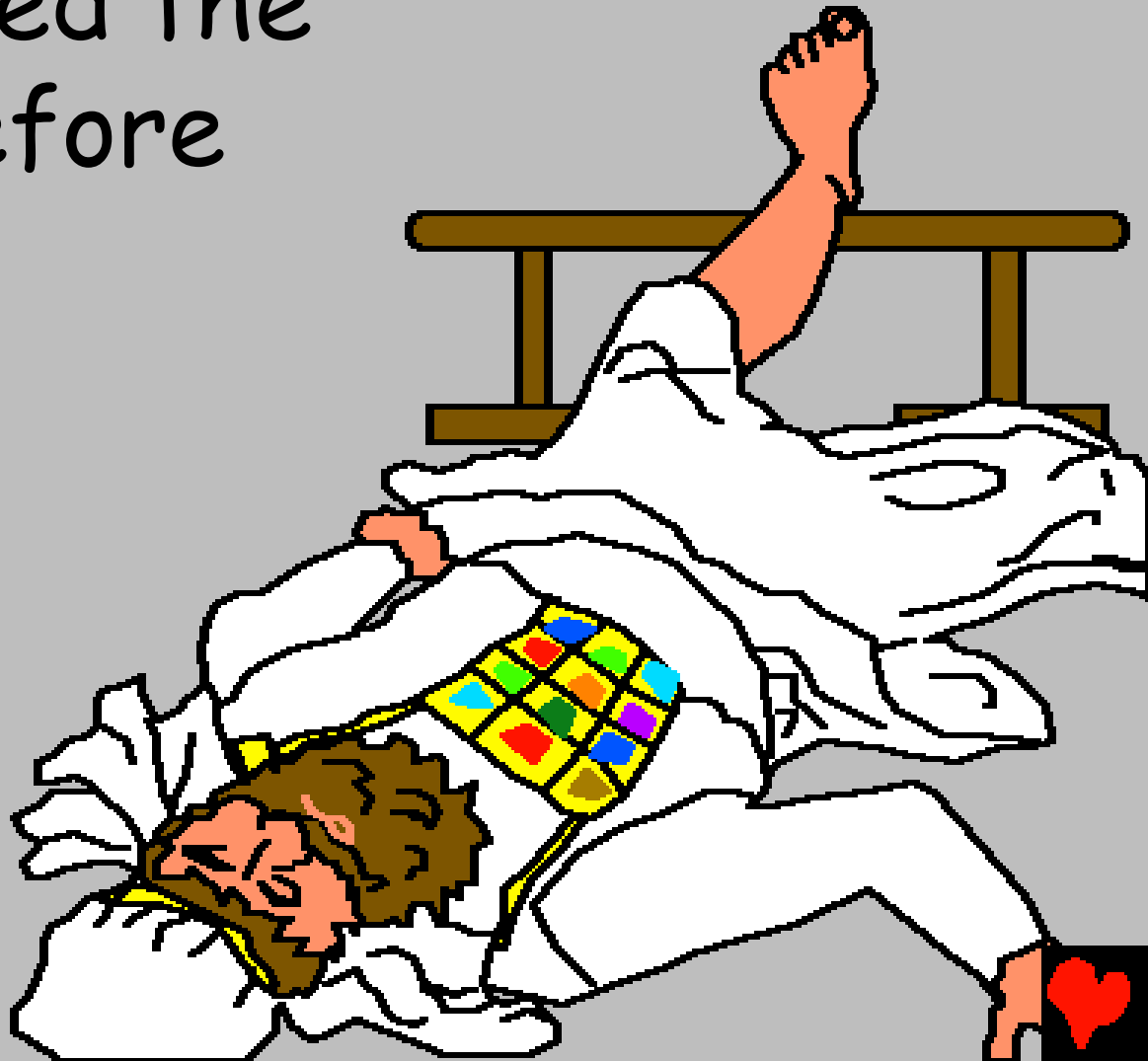
In the morning Eli called Samuel.
"What is the thing that the LORD
has said to you?" he asked.
Young Samuel told
him everything.



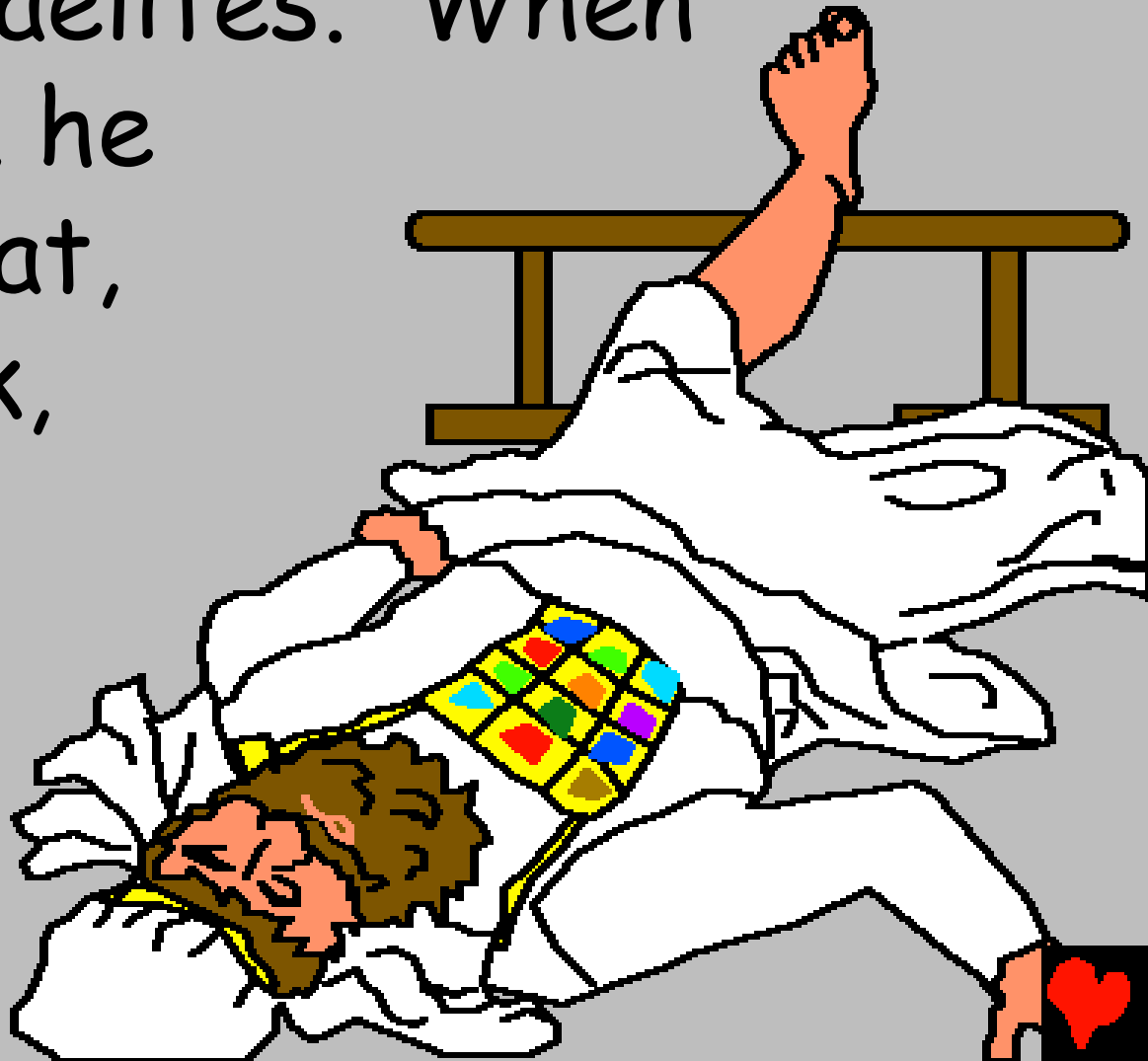
It was a terrible message - God was going to destroy Eli's whole family because Hophni and Phinehas were so wicked.



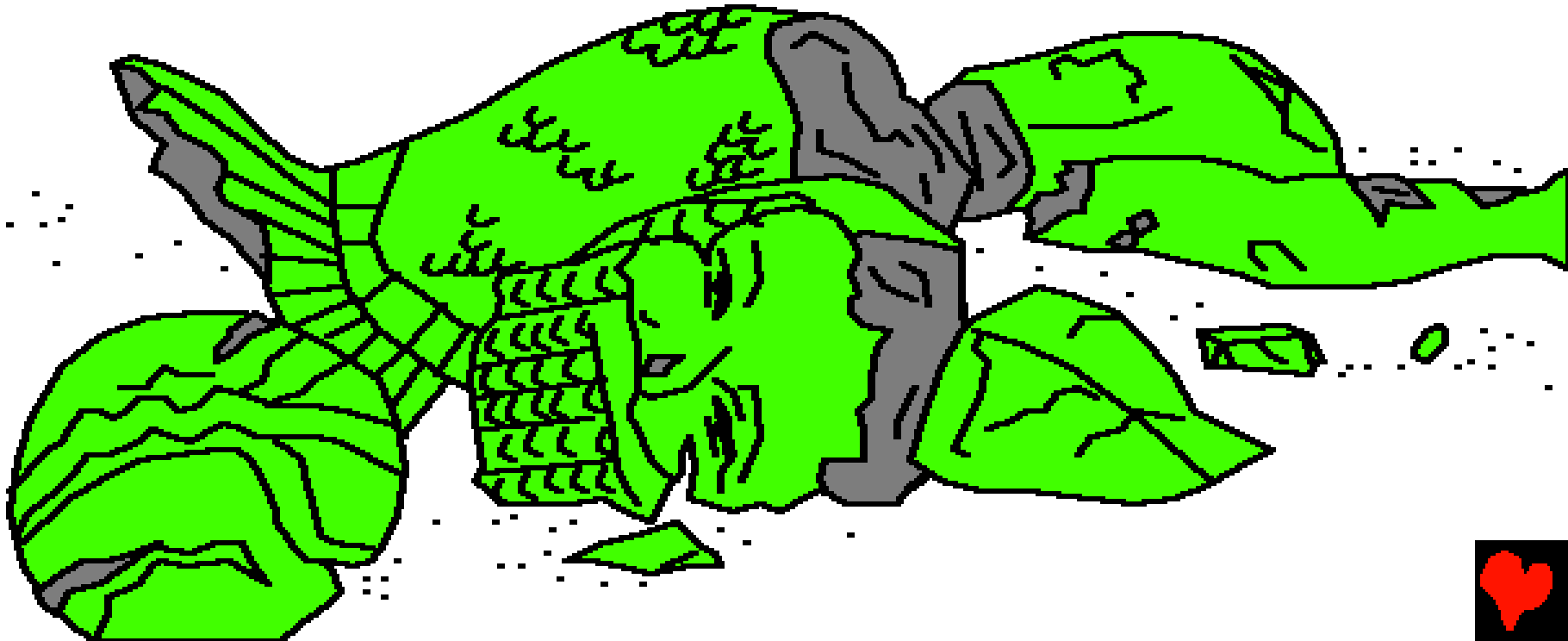
God's warning came true. During a war with the Philistines, Eli's two evil sons led the Ark of God before Israel's army.



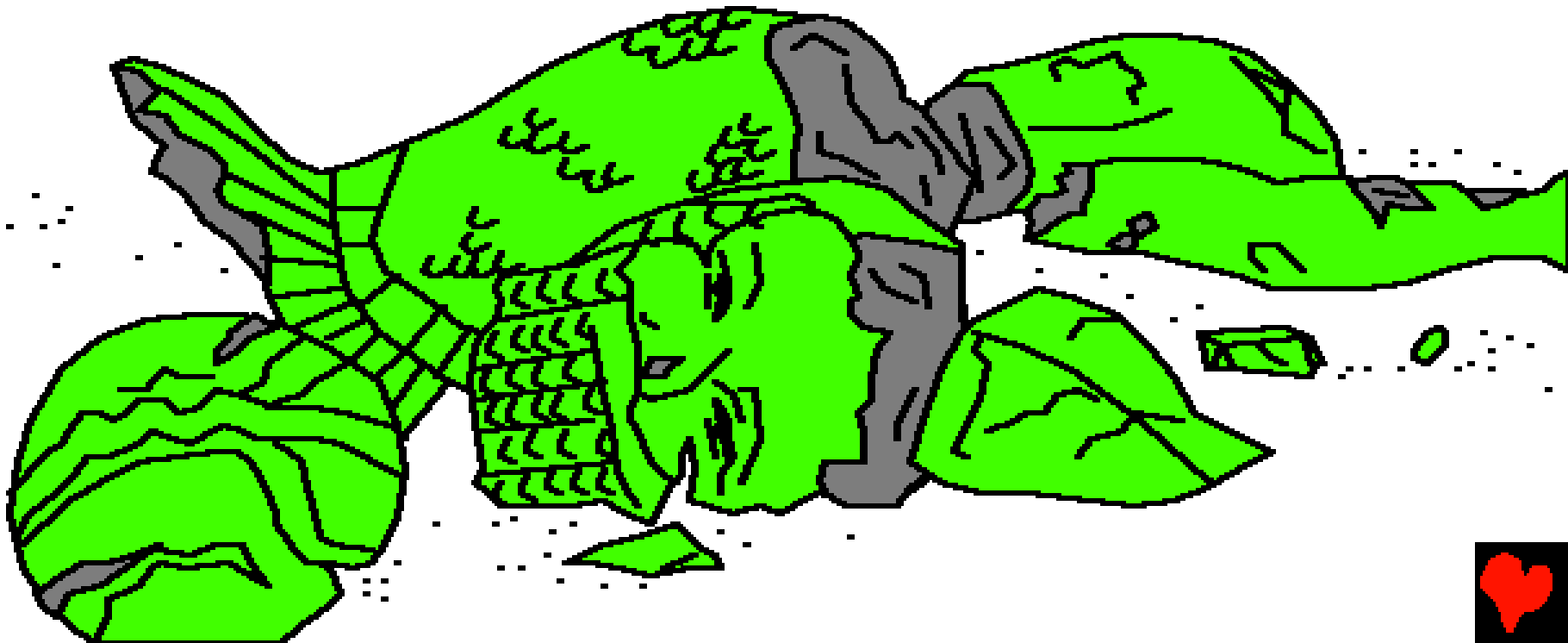
The enemy captured the Ark and killed Hophni and Phinehas along with many Israelites. When Eli heard this, he fell off his seat, broke his neck, and died the same day.

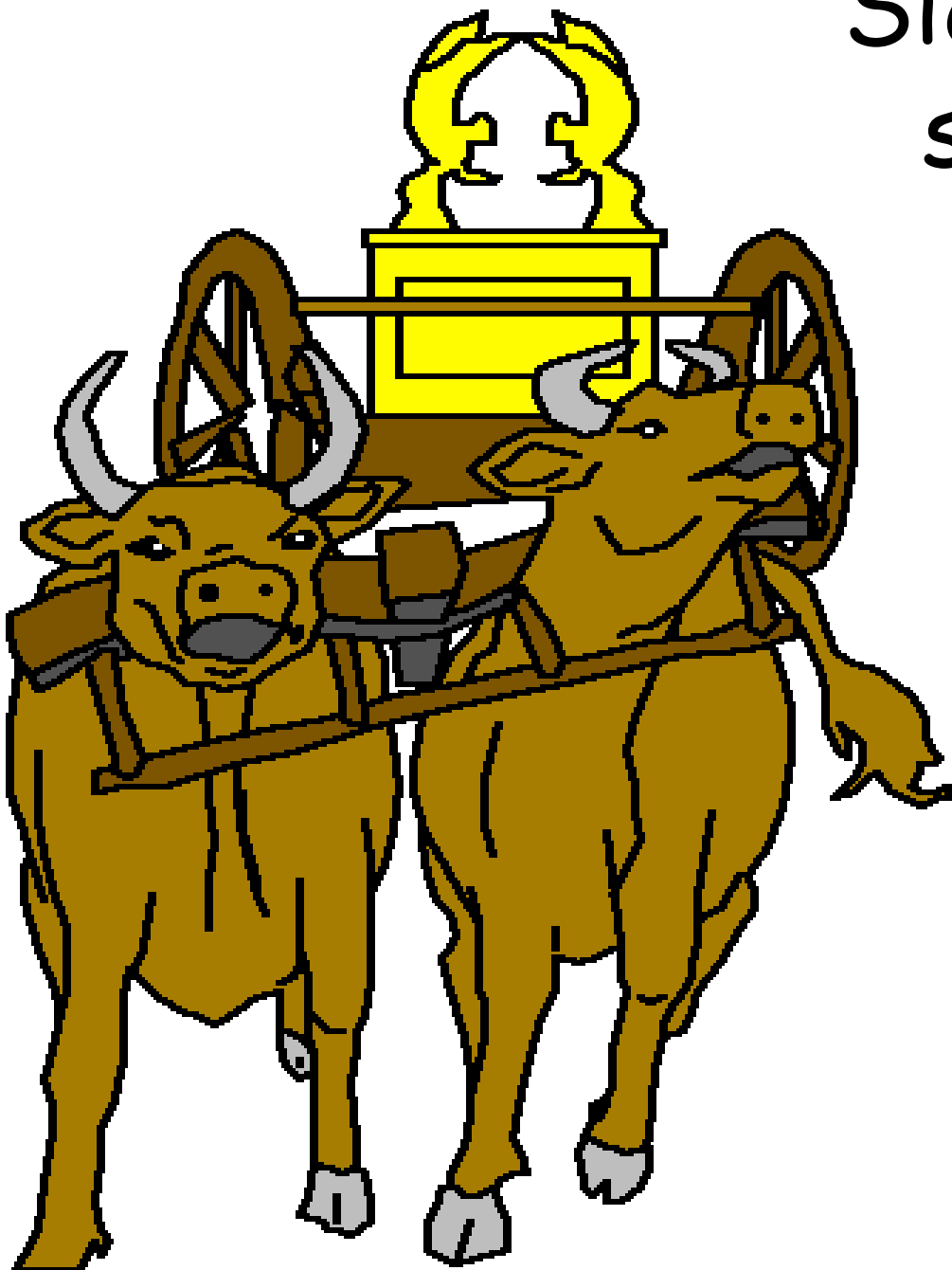


The Ark of God brought trouble to the Philistines. They put it in the temple of Dagon, their false god. In the morning, the idol Dagon had fallen on its face.



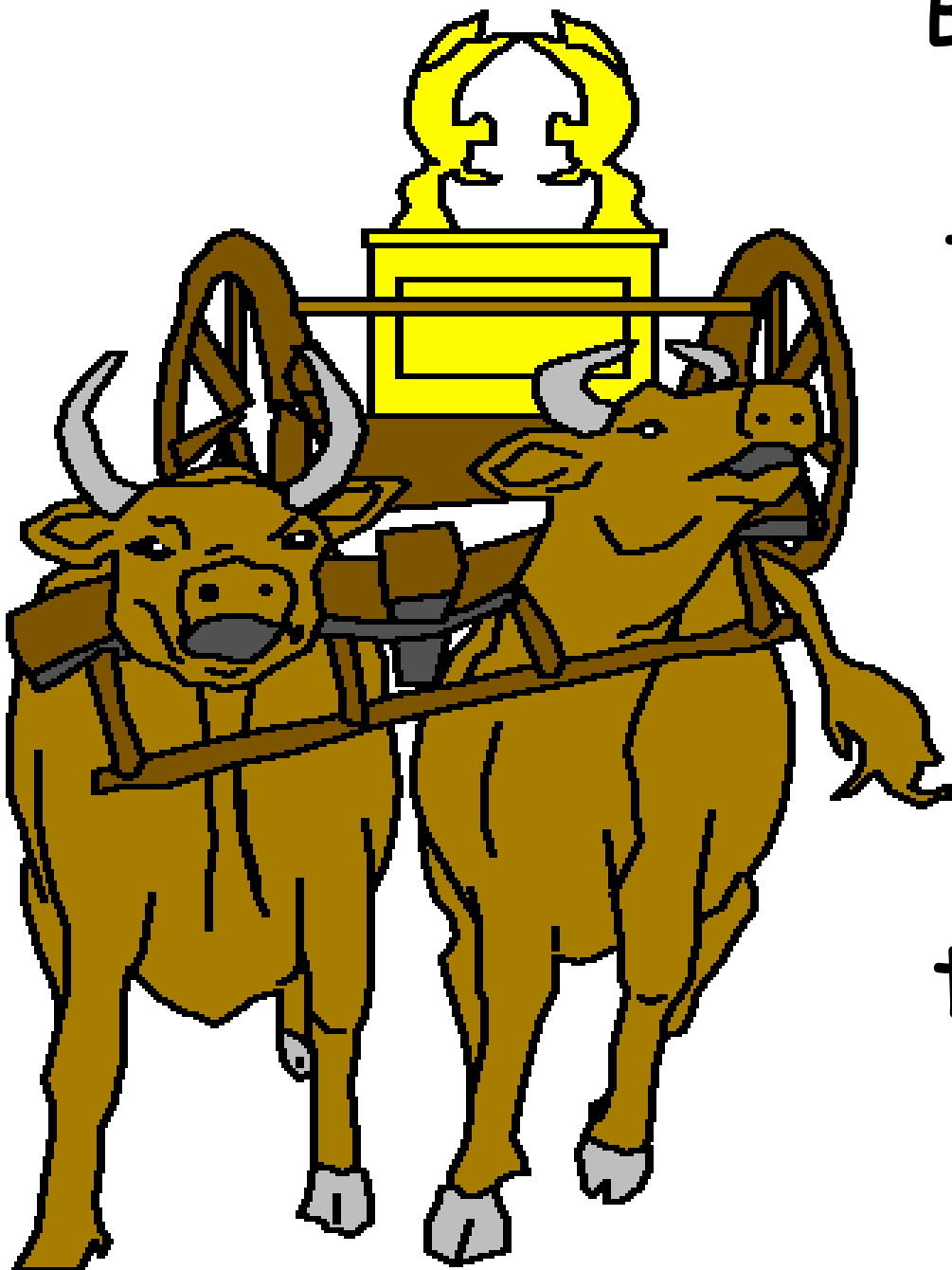
The Philistines lifted Dagon up - but next morning he was down again. This time Dagon was broken in pieces.





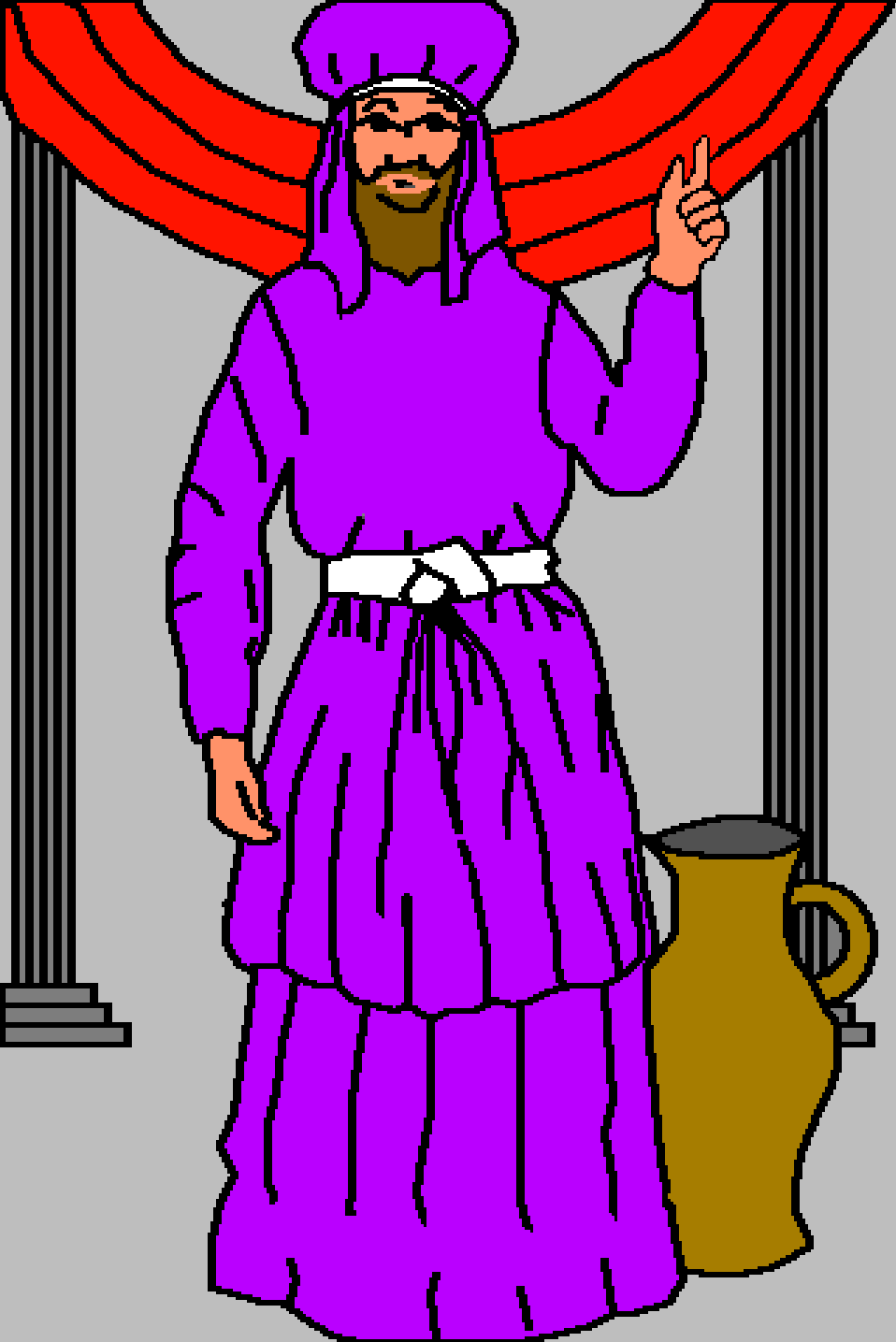
Sickness and death spread among the Philistines. To see if God was punishing them, the Philistines had two cows pull a cart with the Ark aboard.





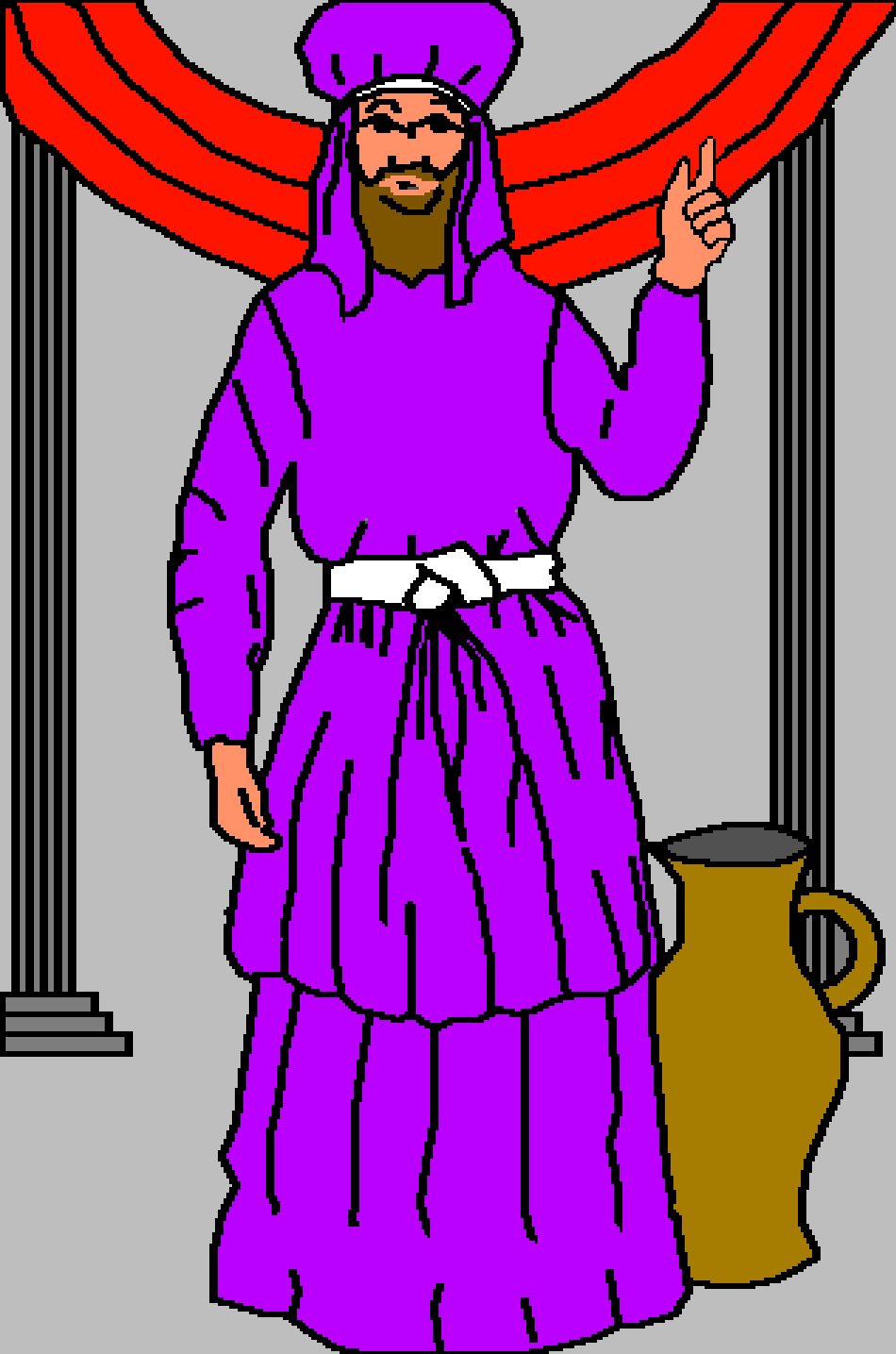
But they kept the cows' calves. "If the cows go up to Israel, and leave their calves, we will know God has done it," they said. And the cows went up!





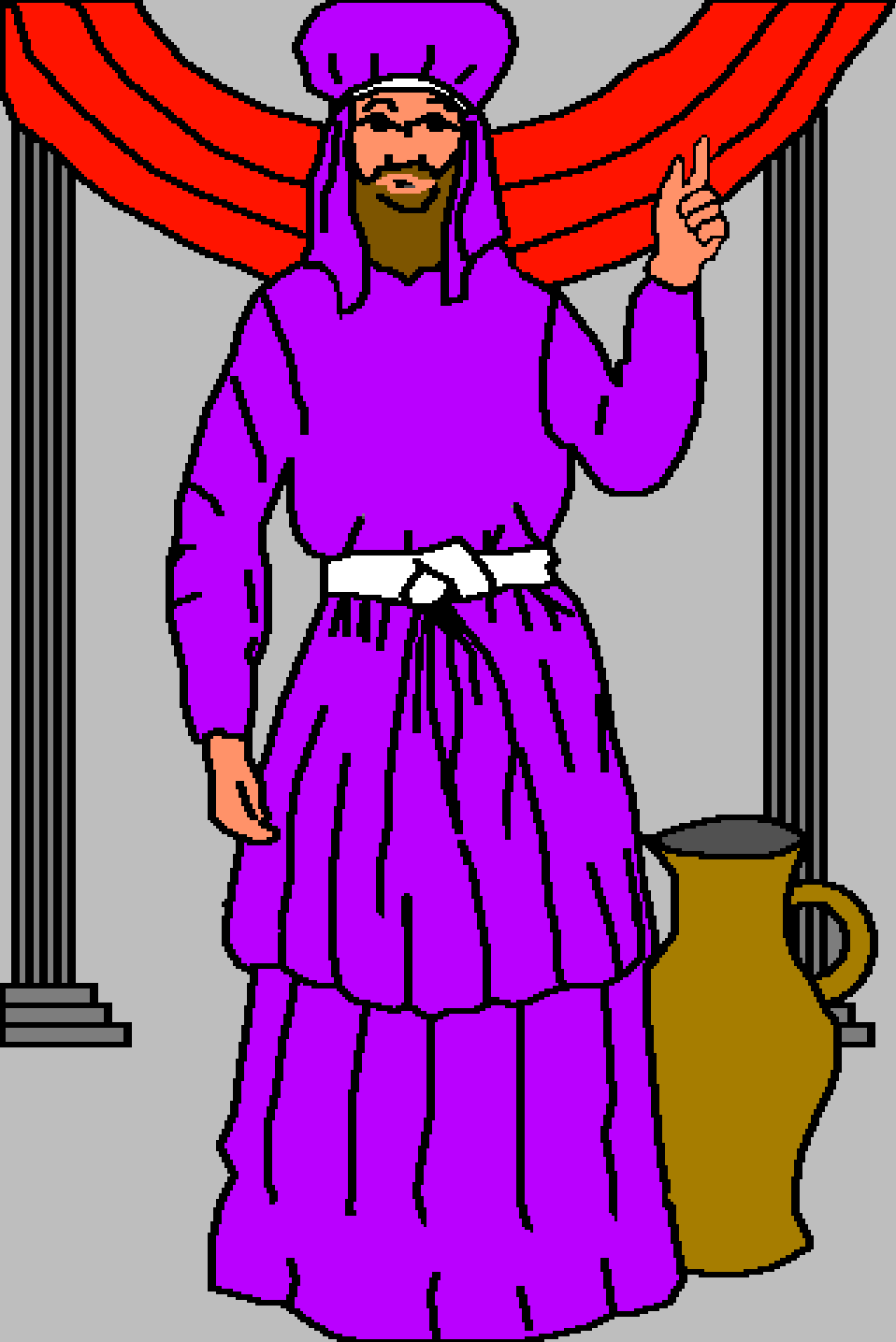
Then Samuel,
who was now a
grown man,
spoke to all
the people
of Israel.





"If you return to the LORD with all your heart ... He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines."





The people obeyed God's faithful prophet. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.



Samuel, God's Boy-Servant

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

1 Samuel 1-7

"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

