

Bible for Children
presents

FORTY
YEARS



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Illustrated by: Janie Forest

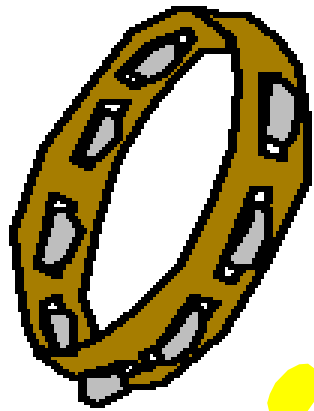
Adapted by: Lyn Doerksen

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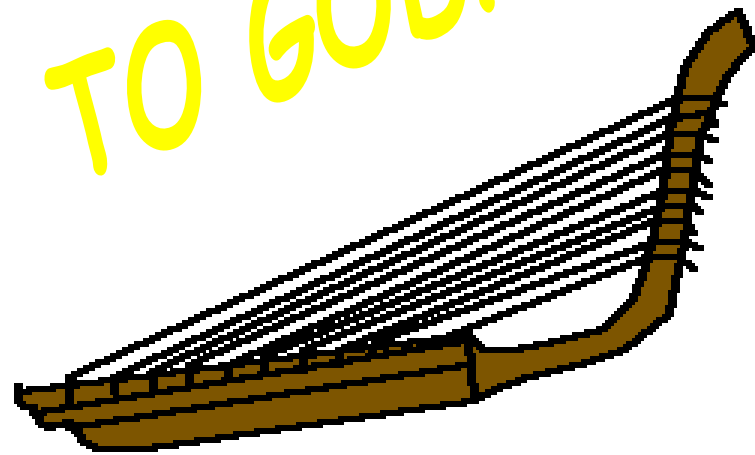
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When God rescued the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses led the people in worship. He made up a song of praise. "I will sing unto the LORD for He has triumphed gloriously." Moses sang of all the great things God had done for Israel.


HALLELUJAH!
GLORY TO GOD!

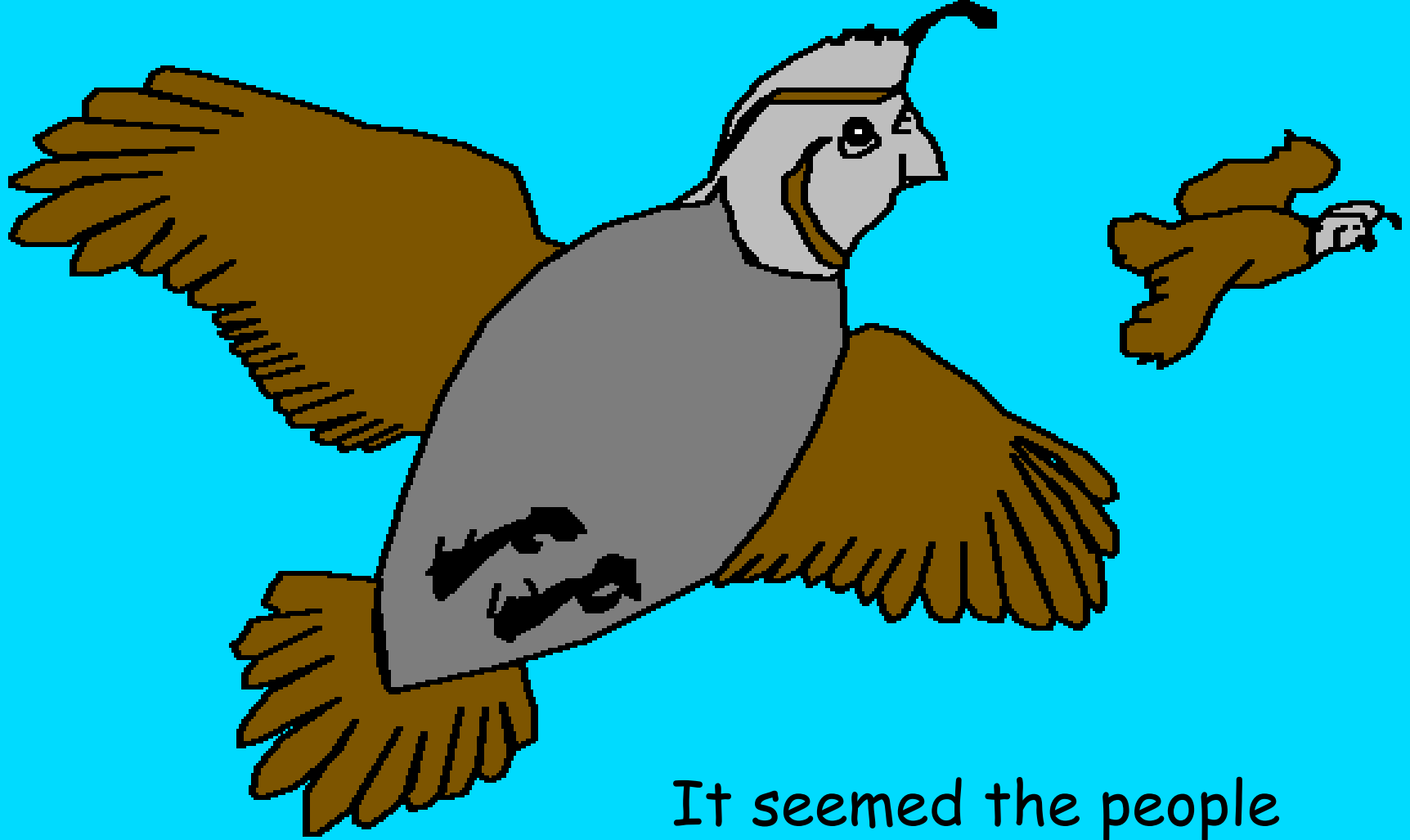




After three days in the desert the thirsty people found a pool. But they could not drink the bitter water. Instead of praying, the people complained.

God was very kind.
He made the water
good to drink.





It seemed the people complained about everything. "We had food in Egypt. In the desert we will die of hunger," they cried. That evening God sent birds called quails. The people caught them easily.

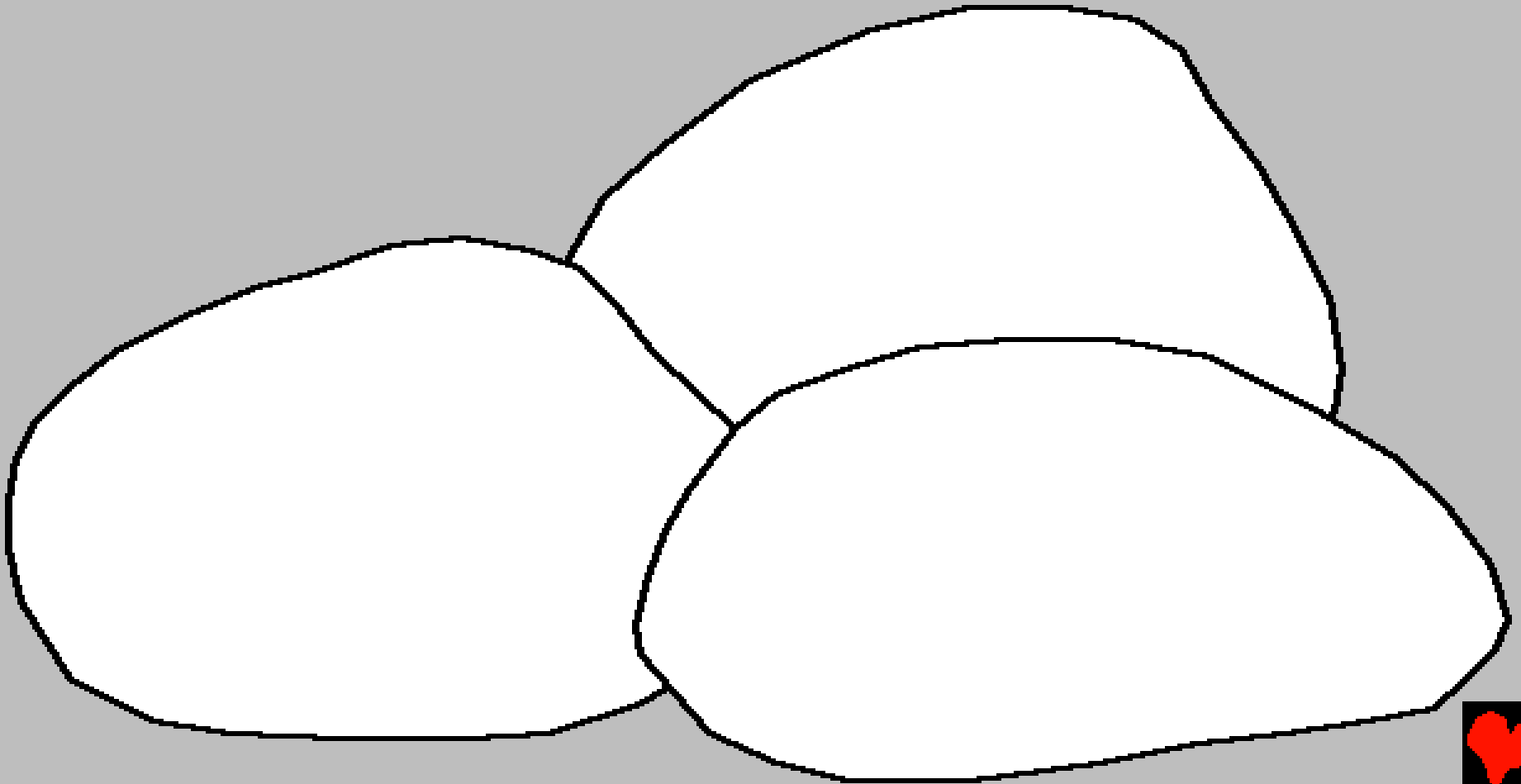


The next morning
God sent manna.
It was a kind of
bread that tasted
like honey wafers.

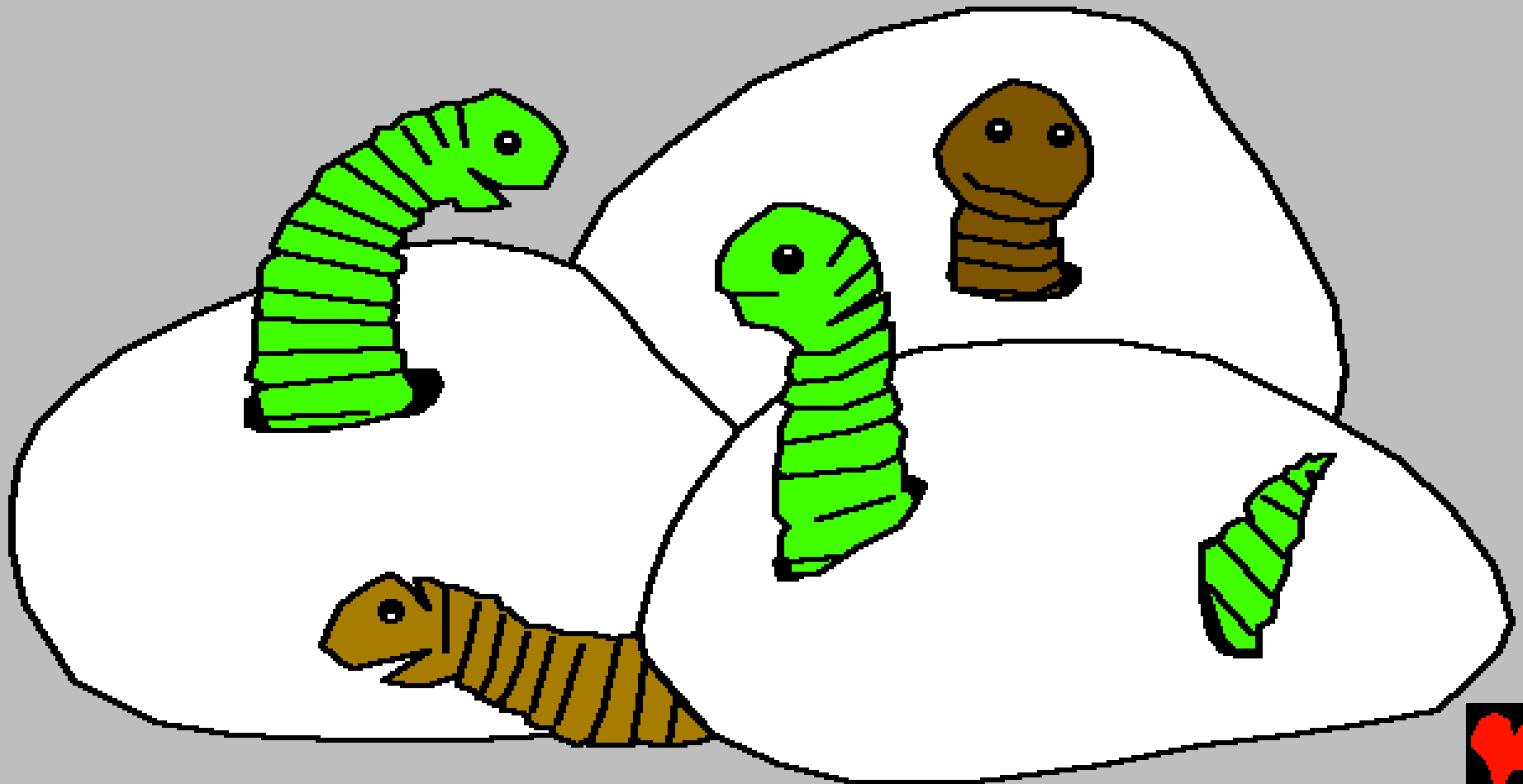
Each morning
manna lay on the
ground ready to
be gathered. In
this way God fed
His people in the
desert.



They were to trust God every day for new food.
But some people gathered extra manna, even though
God said it would rot overnight.

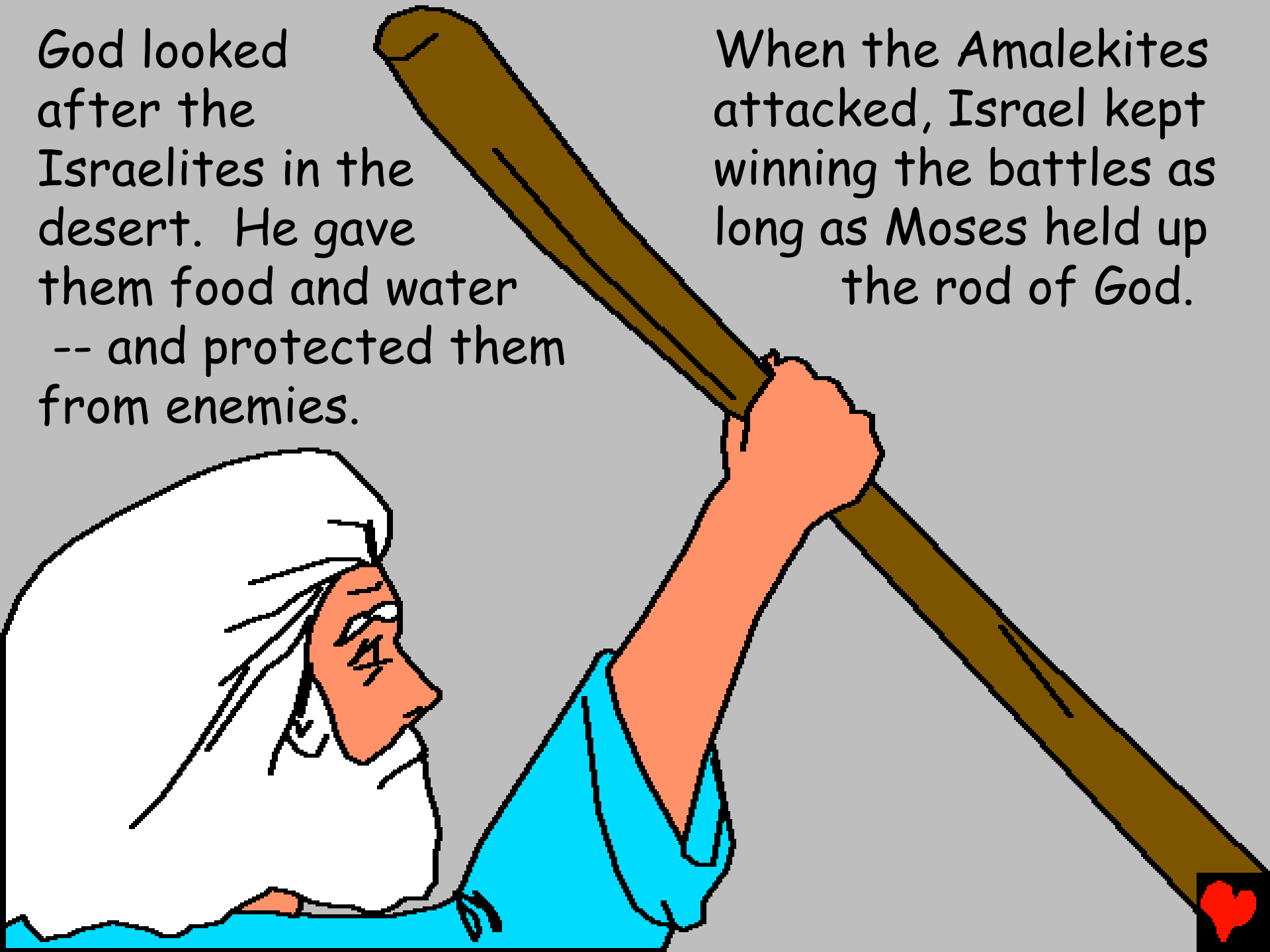


Sure enough, yesterday's manna was full of maggots -- except on Sabbath day. On that special seventh day the people rested and ate yesterday's manna.



God looked after the Israelites in the desert. He gave them food and water -- and protected them from enemies.

When the Amalekites attacked, Israel kept winning the battles as long as Moses held up the rod of God.





God said to the Israelites, "If you obey My voice you will be My special people." "All God says, we will do," the people told Moses. They came to the foot of Mount Sinai and waited while Moses went to meet God.





Moses was with God on the mountain for forty days. God wrote the Ten Commandments on two slabs of stone. He told Moses how He wanted His people to live.



1. "You shall have no other gods before Me."
2. "Do not make or bow down to images."
3. "Do not take the LORD's name in vain."

4. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."
5. "Honor your father and your mother."



6. "You shall not murder."

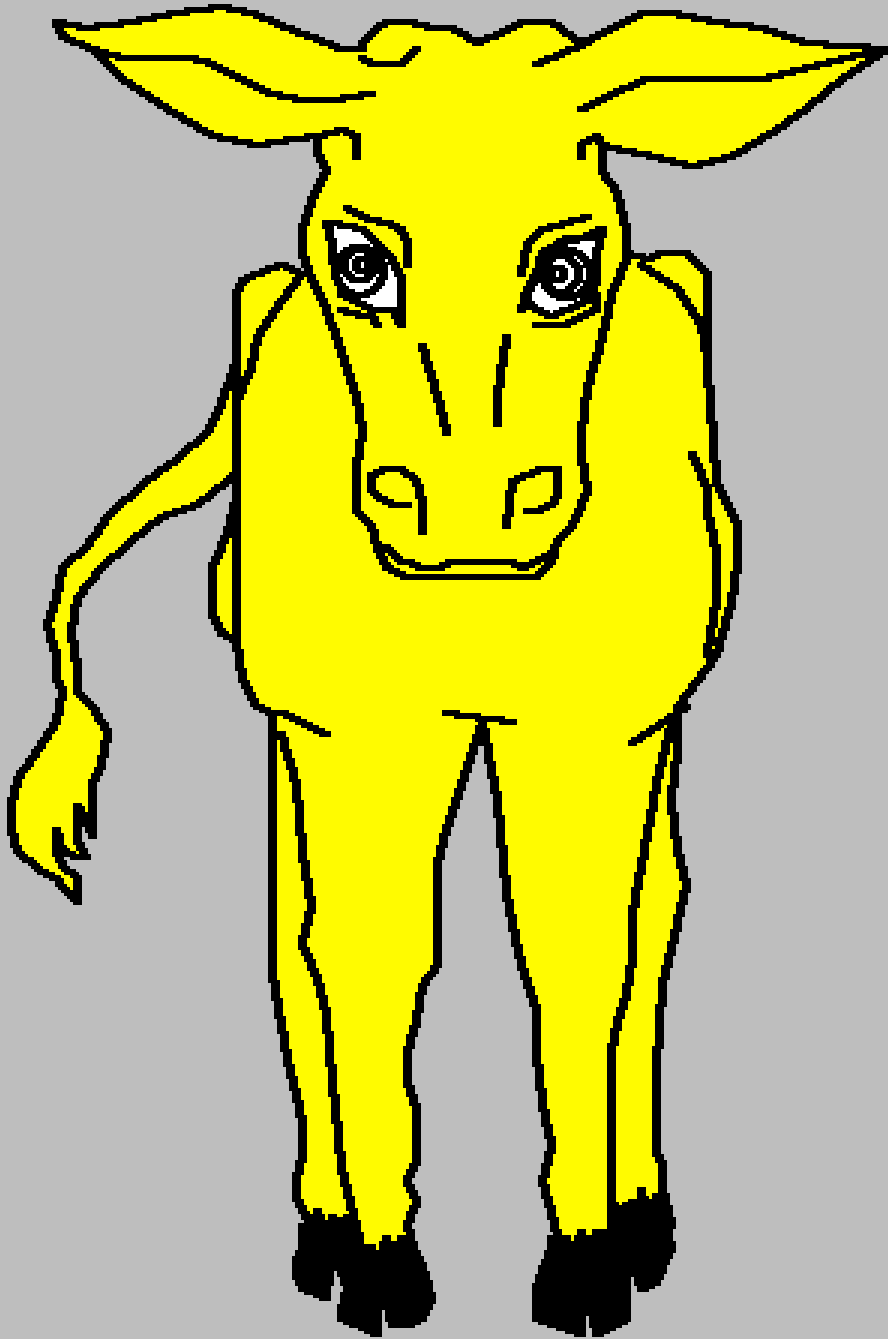
7. "You shall not commit adultery."

8. "You shall not steal."

9. "You shall not tell lies."

10. "You shall not covet."





While Moses was with God on Mount Sinai the Israelites did something dreadful. They ordered Aaron to make a golden calf -- and they worshiped that instead of God. God was very angry. So was Moses.

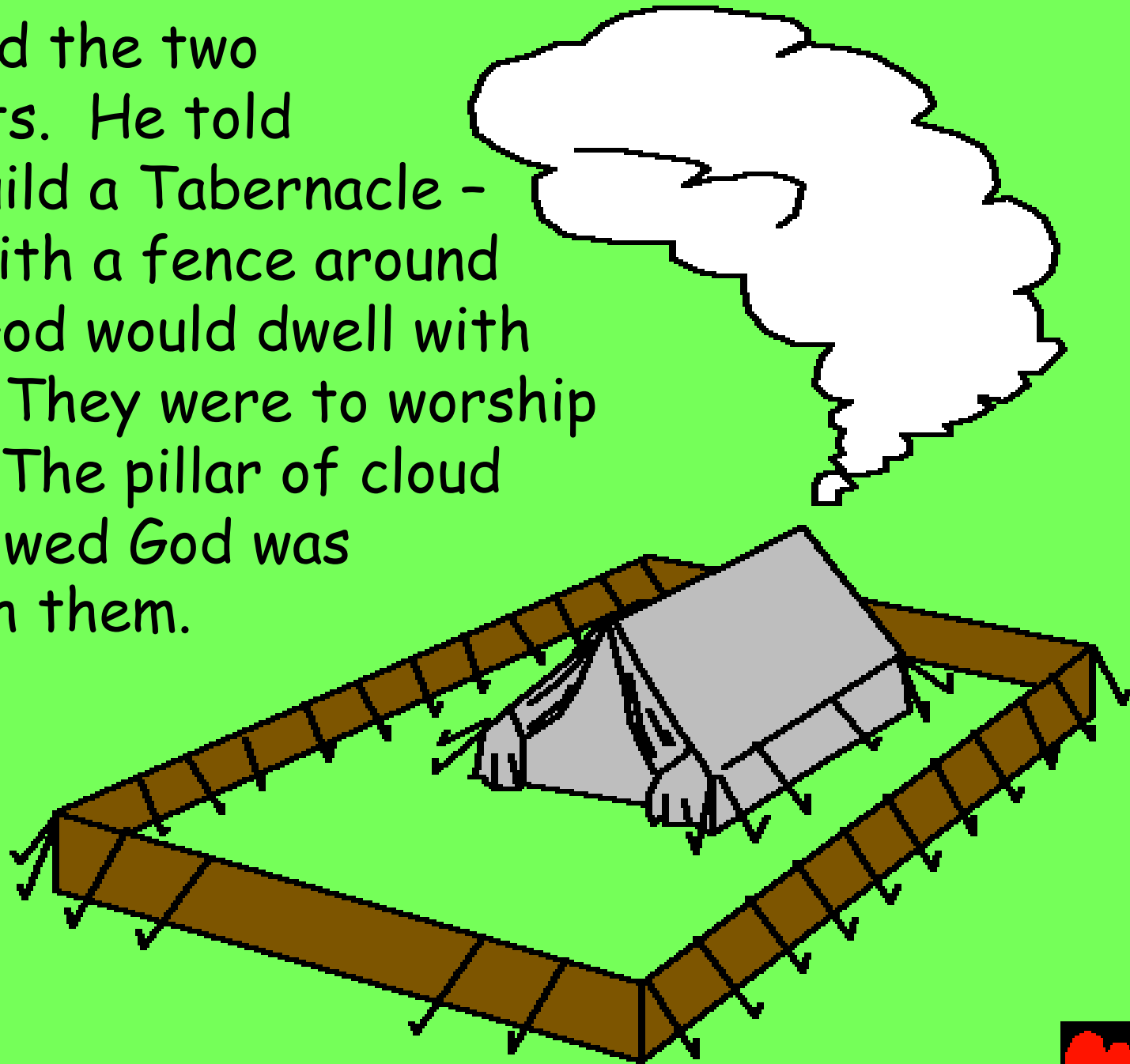




When Moses saw the calf and the people dancing, he smashed the stone tablets on the ground. Angrily Moses destroyed the golden idol. The wicked men who worshiped it were killed.



God replaced the two stone tablets. He told Moses to build a Tabernacle - a big tent with a fence around it - where God would dwell with His people. They were to worship God there. The pillar of cloud and fire showed God was present with them.



As they neared Canaan, Moses sent twelve spies to see the land God promised to His people. The spies all agreed it was beautiful! But only two, Joshua and Caleb, believed they could conquer the land with God's help.



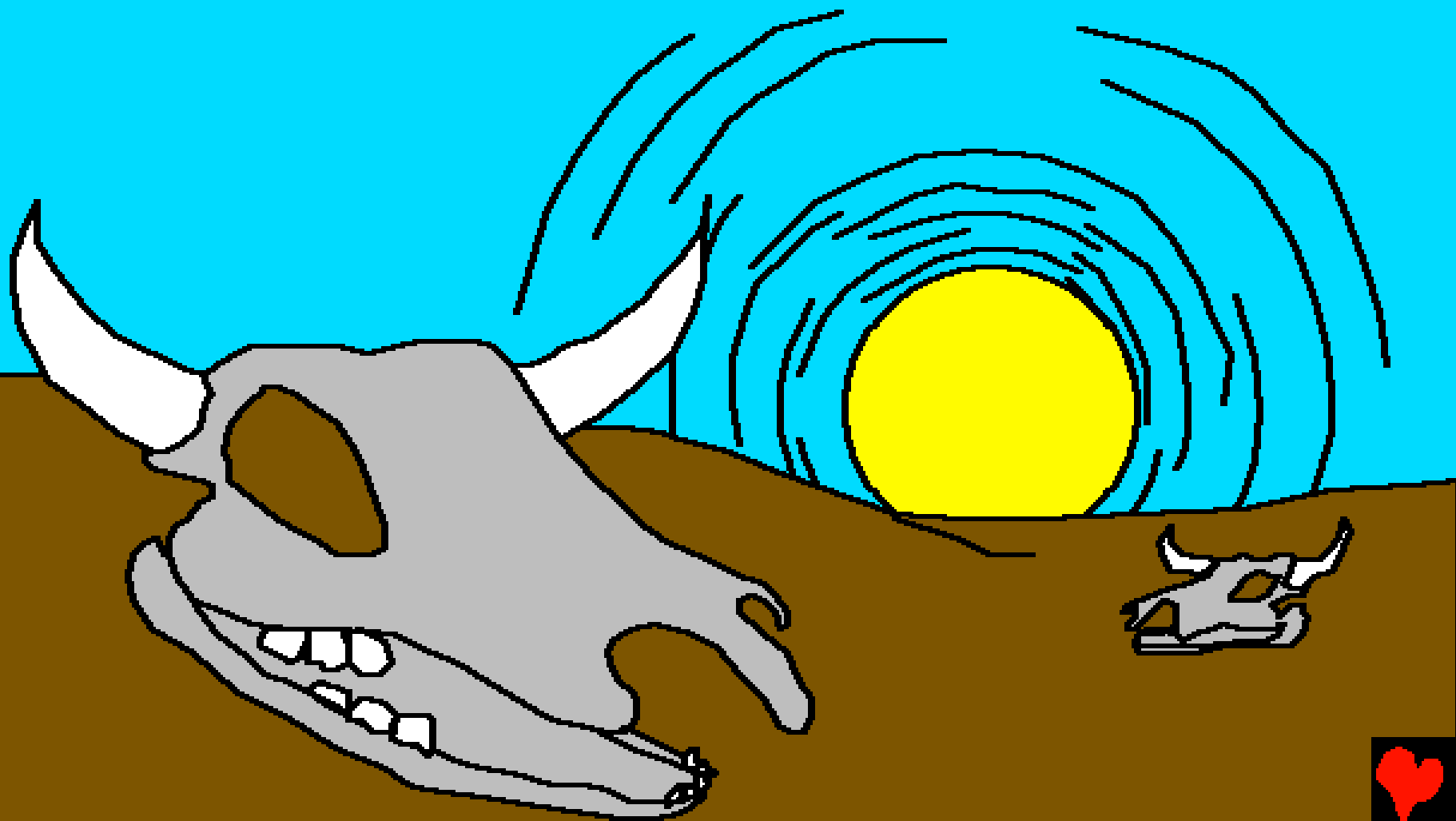
The other ten spies were afraid of the strong cities and giants in the land.

"We can't take the land," they moaned.

They forgot the great things God had done to free them from Egypt.



The people followed the ten unbelieving spies. They cried and prepared to go back to Egypt. They even tried to kill Moses!



God saved Moses' life. Then He told the people,
"For forty years you will wander in the wilderness.
Only Caleb, Joshua, and your children will
live to enter the land
that you despised."



Forty Years

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Exodus 15 to Numbers 14

"The entrance of Your Words 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

