Bible for Children

presents

THE MAN OF FIRE

Written by: Edward Hughes

Illustrated by: Lazarus

Adapted by: E. Frischbutter

Story 24 of 60

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Bible for Children, *PO Box 3, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2G1 Canada*

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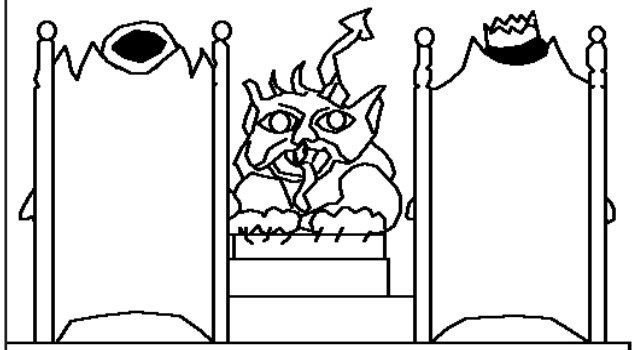
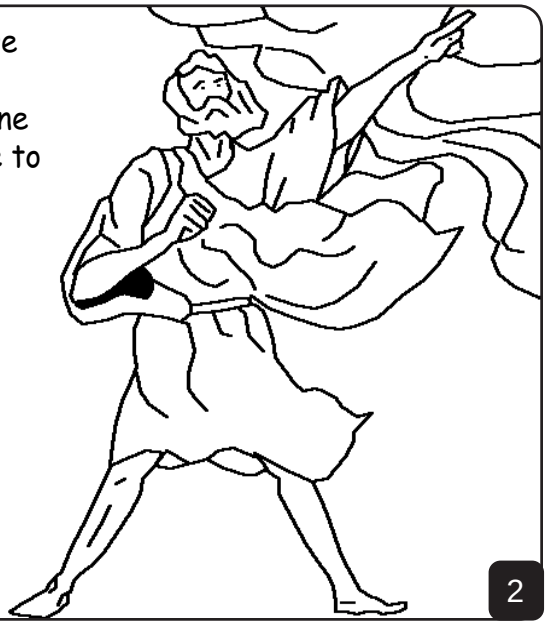
English

Everything looked bad for Israel. The king and queen hated God. What a bad example! Soon the people also hated God and worshiped false gods. Did anybody love God?



1

Yes, there were a few faithful worshipers. One day, God spoke to one of them, named Elijah.



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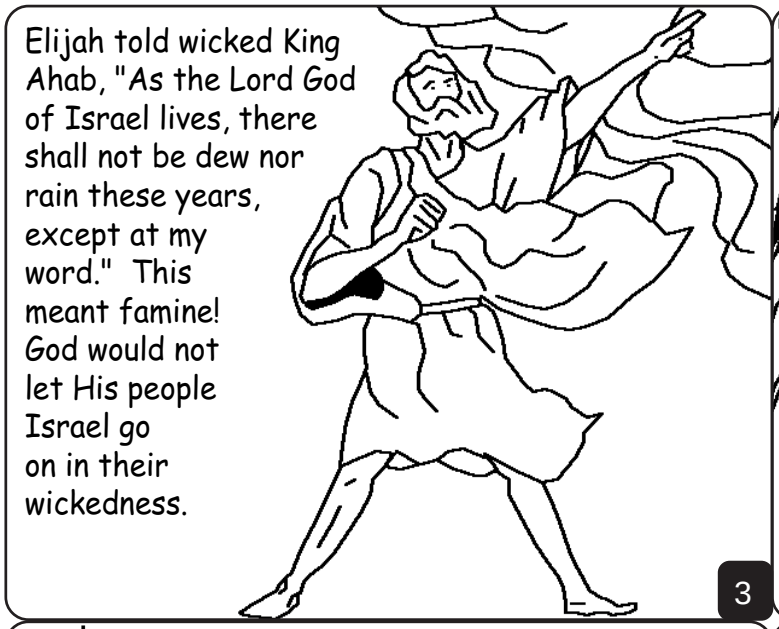
Elijah told wicked King Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word." This meant famine! God would not let His people Israel go on in their wickedness.
3

After warning the king, God sent Elijah to a quiet place in the country.
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There, by a brook, Elijah waited. God sent ravens to feed him. They brought bread and meat, morning and evening. And Elijah drank from the brook.
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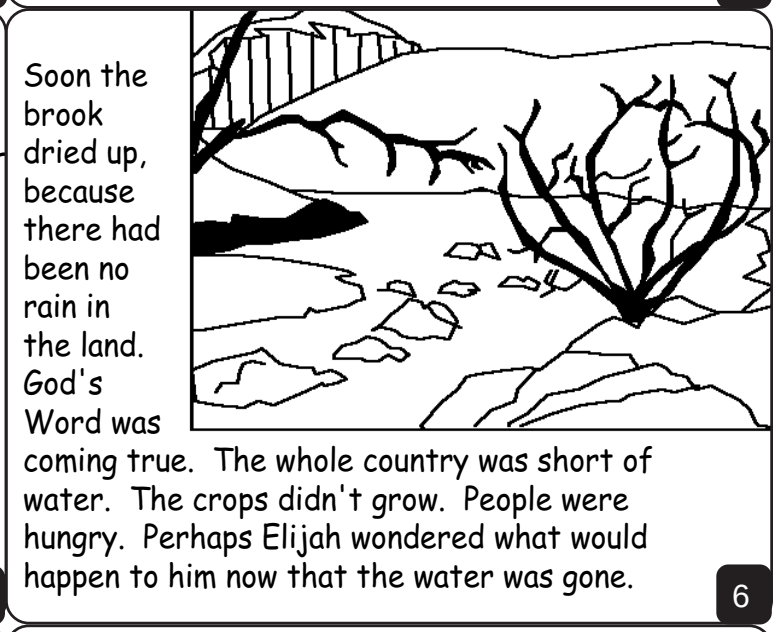
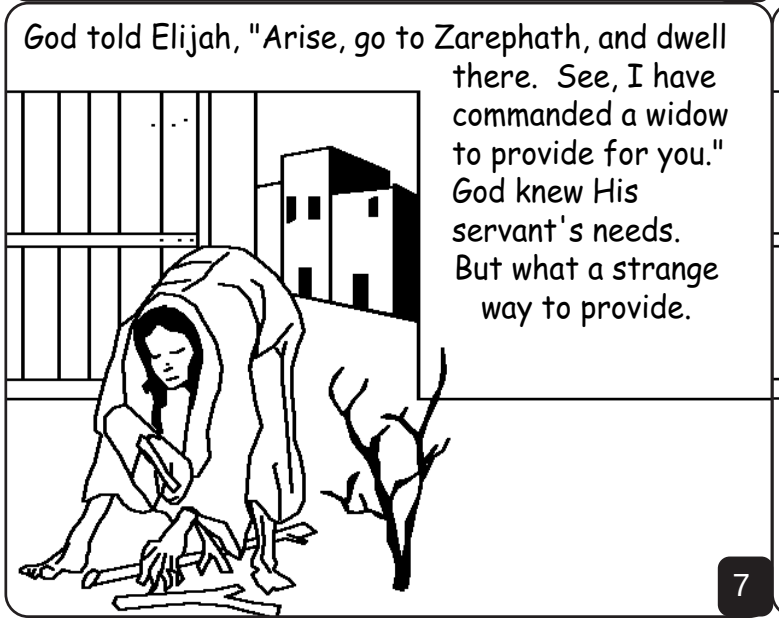

Soon the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. God's Word was coming true. The whole country was short of water. The crops didn't grow. People were hungry. Perhaps Elijah wondered what would happen to him now that the water was gone.
6


God told Elijah, "Arise, go to Zarephath, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow to provide for you." God knew His servant's needs. But what a strange way to provide.
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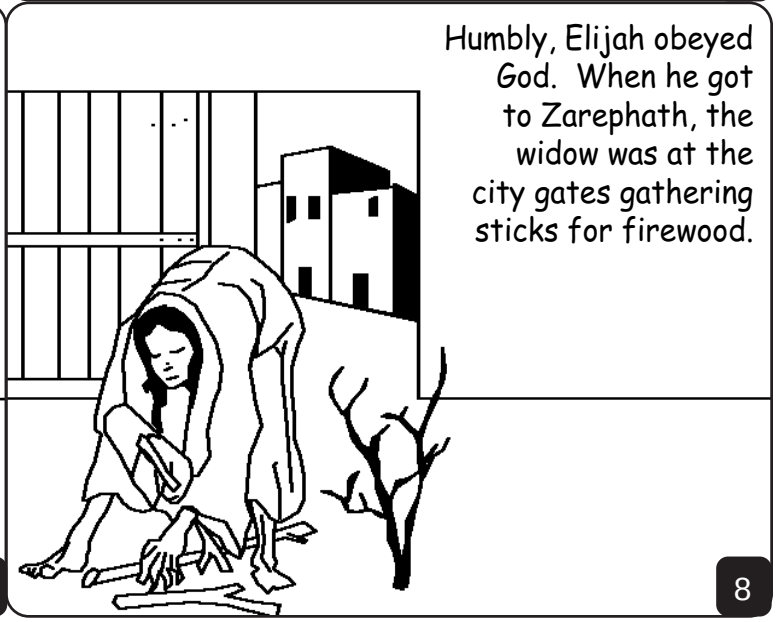
Humbly, Elijah obeyed God. When he got to Zarephath, the widow was at the city gates gathering sticks for firewood.
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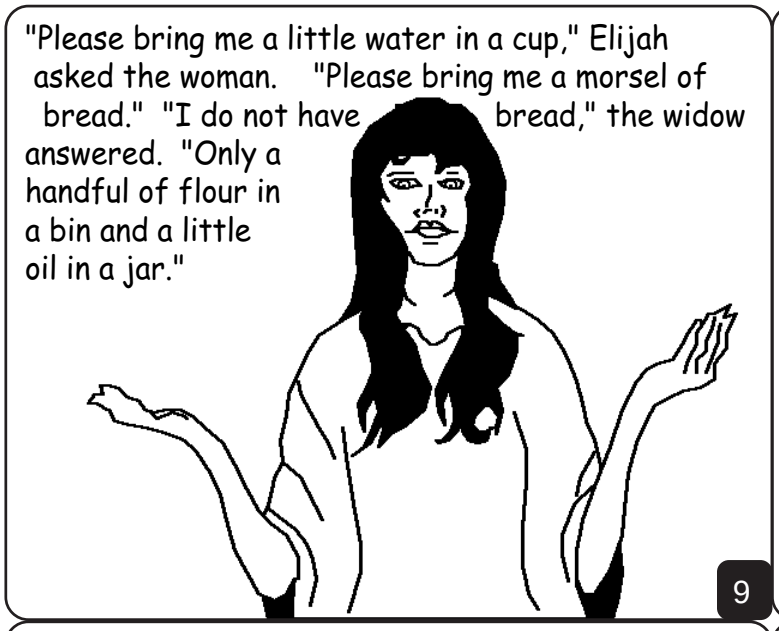
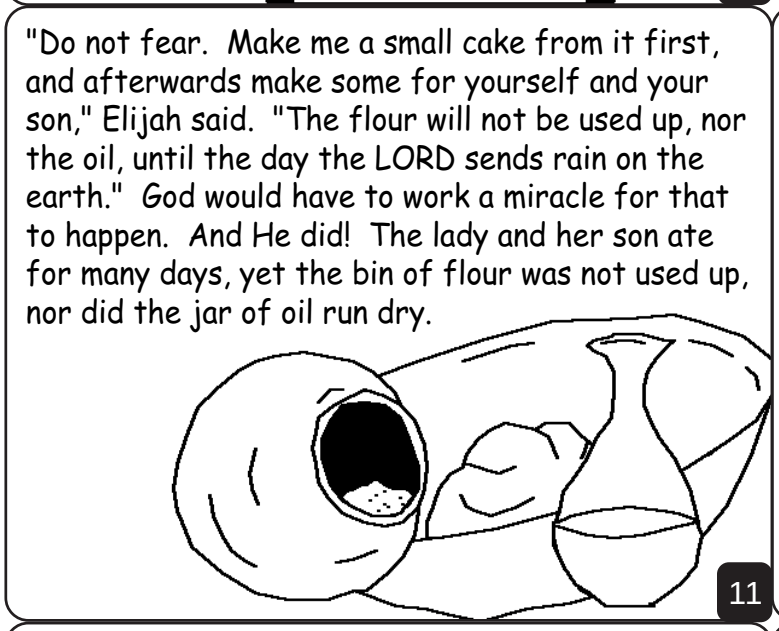
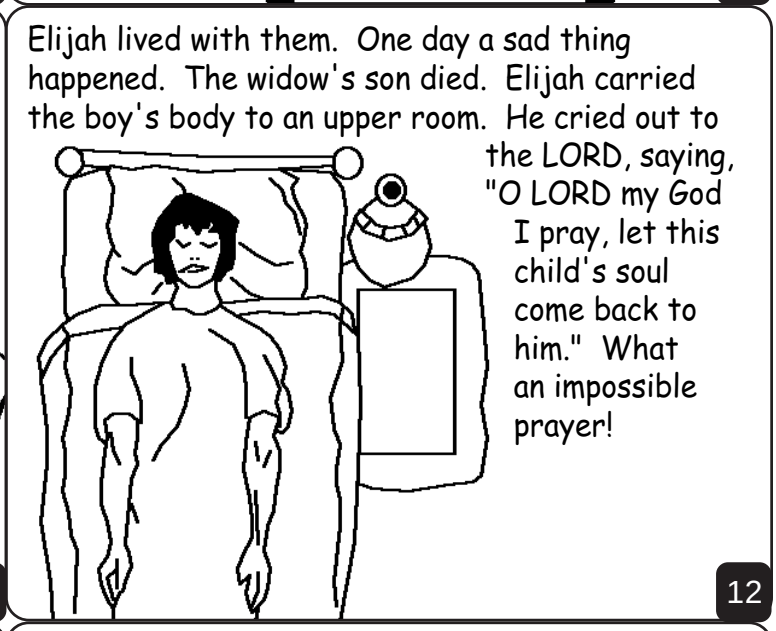
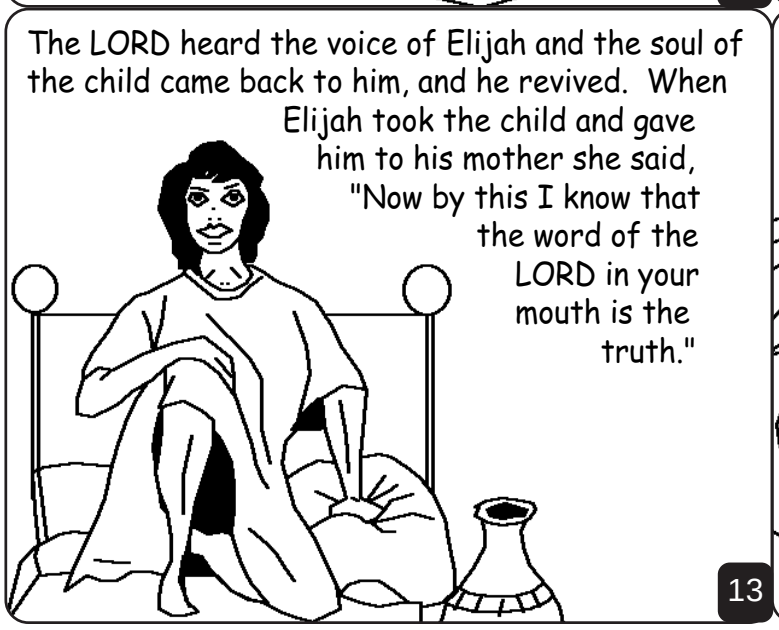
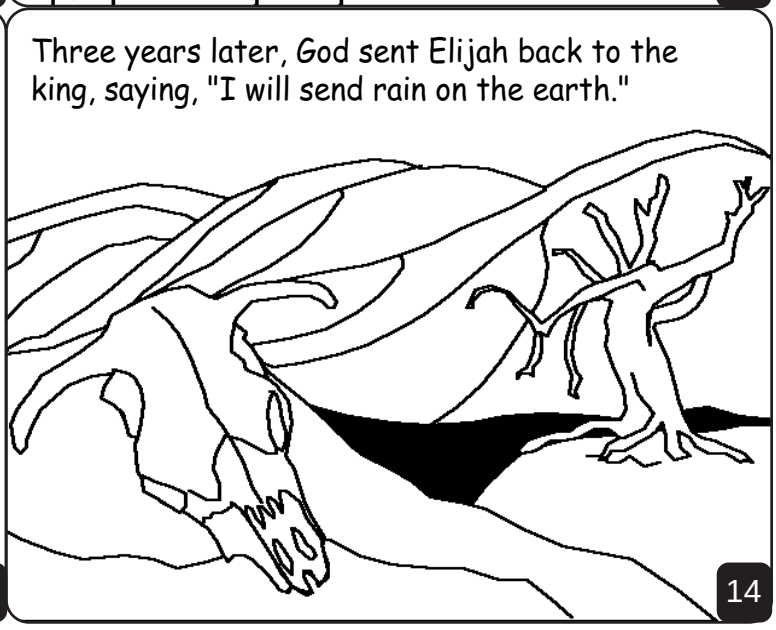

"Please bring me a little water in a cup," Elijah asked the woman. "Please bring me a morsel of bread." "I do not have bread," the widow answered. "Only a handful of flour in a bin and a little oil in a jar."
9

Sadly, the lady told the prophet that when this was finished, she and her son would starve to death.
10

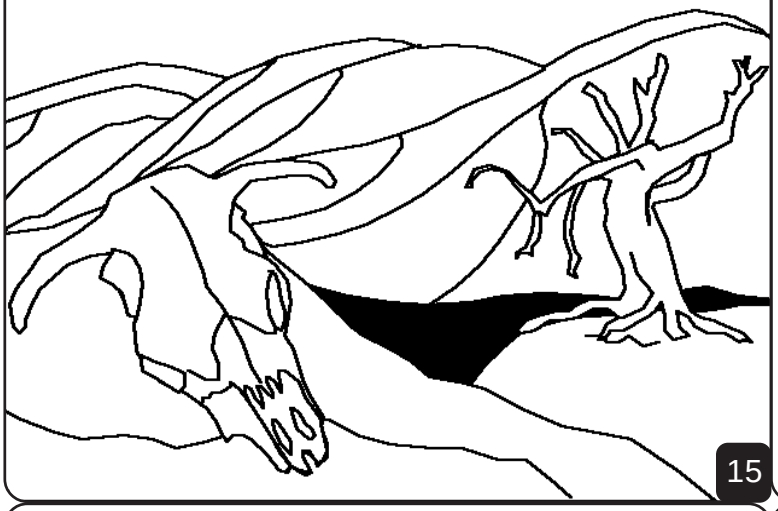

"Do not fear. Make me a small cake from it first, and afterwards make some for yourself and your son," Elijah said. "The flour will not be used up, nor the oil, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth." God would have to work a miracle for that to happen. And He did! The lady and her son ate for many days, yet the bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry.
11


Elijah lived with them. One day a sad thing happened. The widow's son died. Elijah carried the boy's body to an upper room. He cried out to the LORD, saying, "O LORD my God I pray, let this child's soul come back to him." What an impossible prayer!
12


The LORD heard the voice of Elijah and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. When Elijah took the child and gave him to his mother she said, "Now by this I know that the word of the LORD in your mouth is the truth."
13


Three years later, God sent Elijah back to the king, saying, "I will send rain on the earth."
14

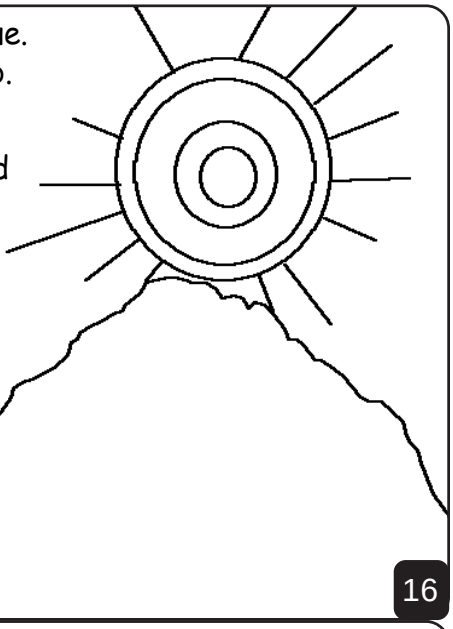
Go to Ahab? His wife Jezebel had already murdered a hundred prophets of God.



15

But Elijah didn't argue. He went to King Ahab.

When the two men met, Elijah challenged Ahab to gather all Israel and the 850 false prophets. In a place called Mount Carmel, Elijah spoke to the people. "If the LORD is God, follow Him."



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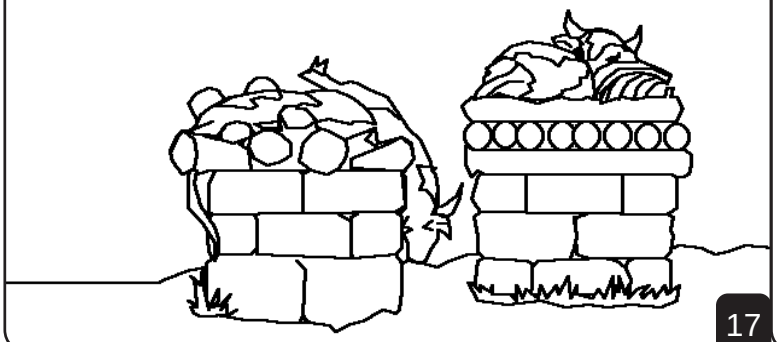
Elijah had two bulls prepared as sacrifices. But no fire was to be used to light them. "You call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD," he said. "And the God Who answers by fire, He is God." "It is well spoken," the people answered.



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From morning to evening the false prophets called upon their false gods. They leaped and danced and cut themselves with knives until they bled. But no fire came.

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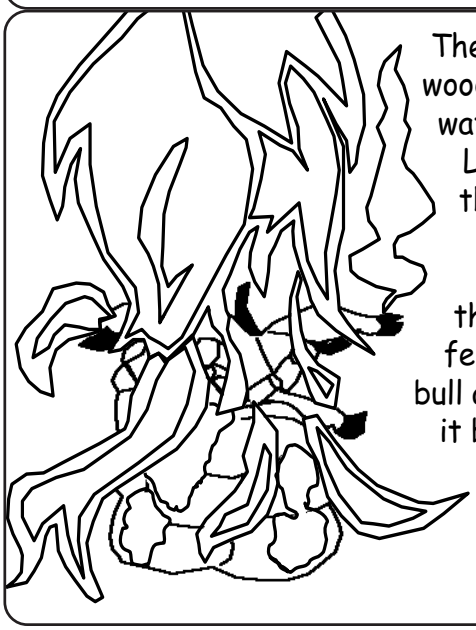
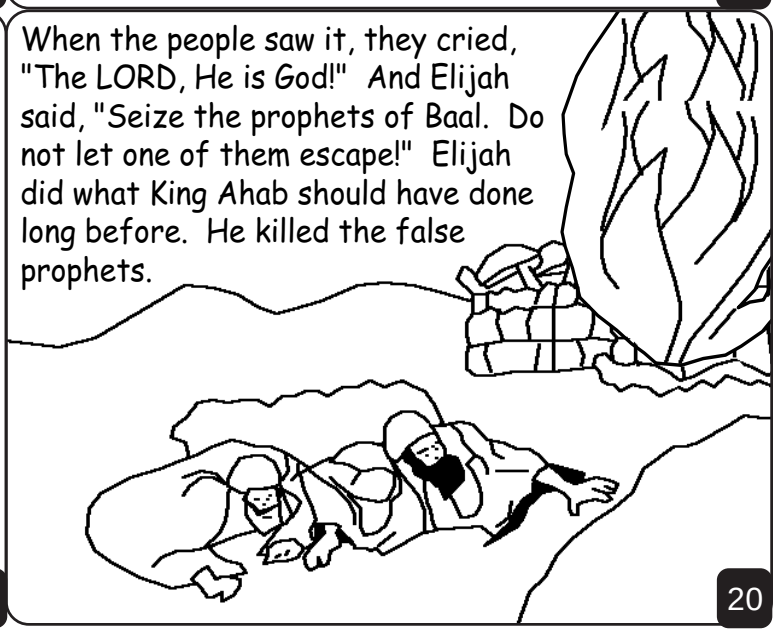


Then Elijah soaked the wood and sacrifice with water, and prayed. "O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God..." Then the fire of the LORD fell. It burned up the bull and the wood. Then it burned up the stone altar!

19

When the people saw it, they cried, "The LORD, He is God!" And Elijah said, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Do not let one of them escape!" Elijah did what King Ahab should have done long before. He killed the false prophets.



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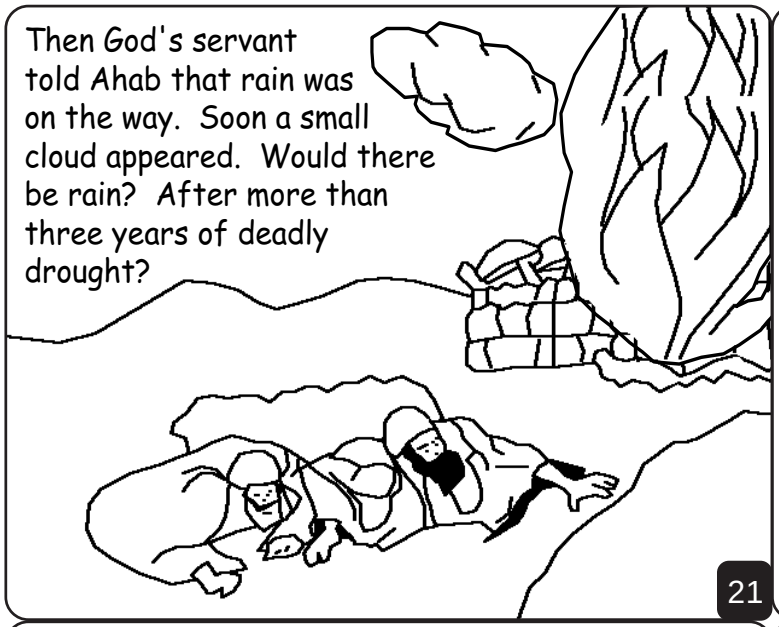

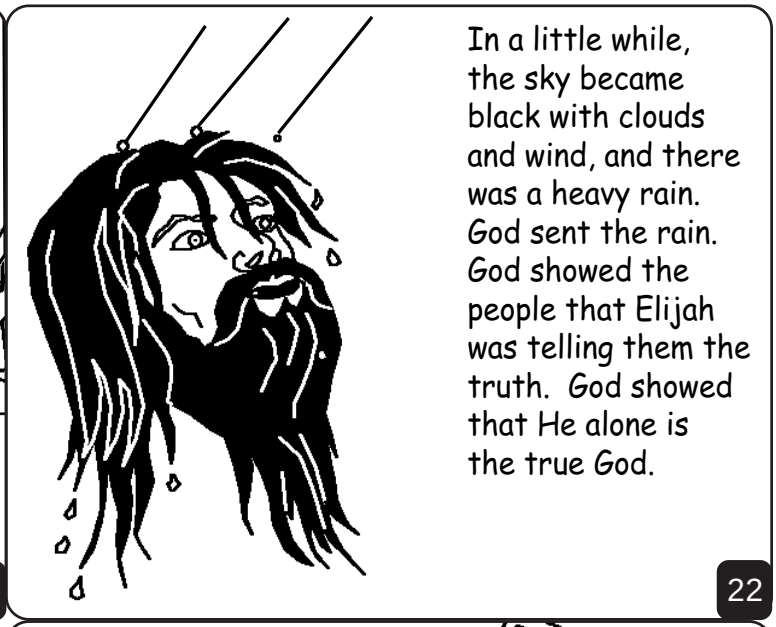

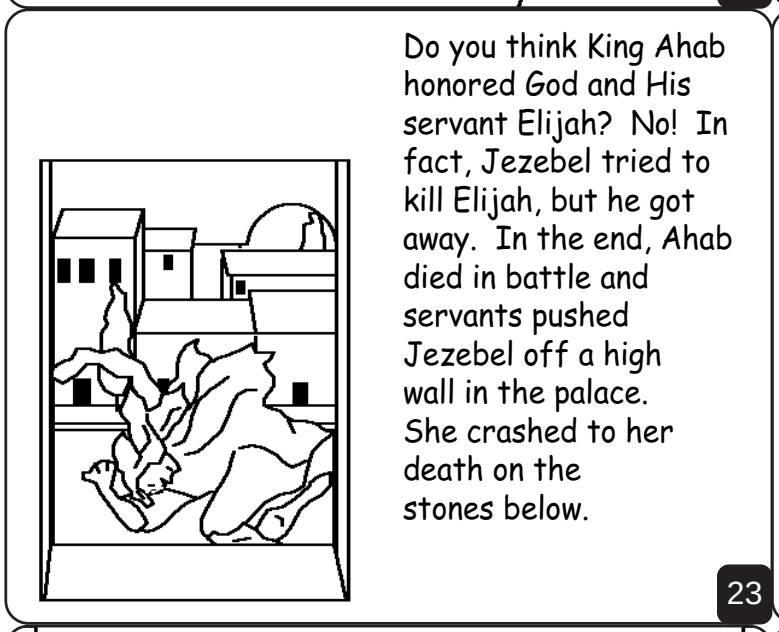

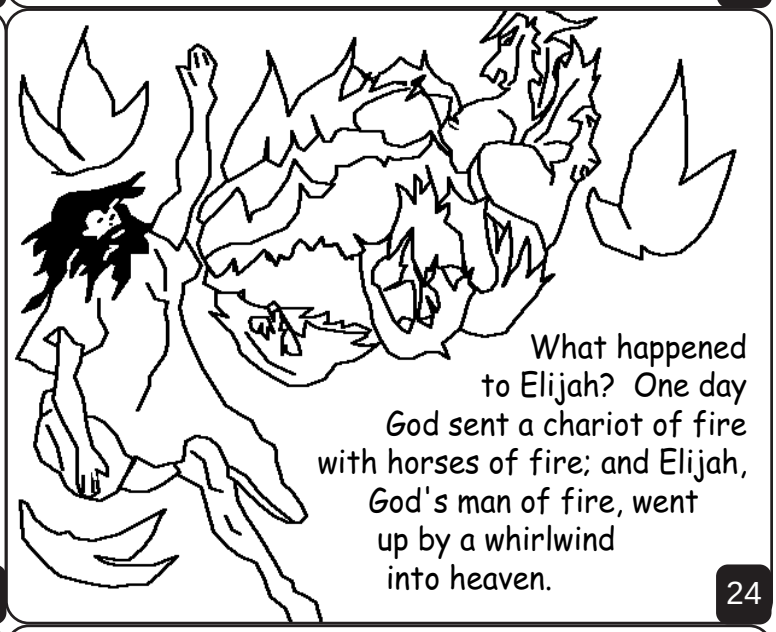

The Man of Fire

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

1 Kings 17-19; 2 Kings 2

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."
Psalm 119:130

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The penalty for sin is death.
God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and pay our penalty.
Jesus came alive and went back to Heaven!
Now God can forgive our sins.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God: Dear God, I believe Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so I can have new life now, and then be with You forever. Help me live for You as Your child. Amen. John 3:16

Read the Bible and talk to God every day!