

Online Bible for Children  
presents

SAMUEL, GOD'S  
BOY - SERVANT



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The Bible text in this story is from:

The New King James Version

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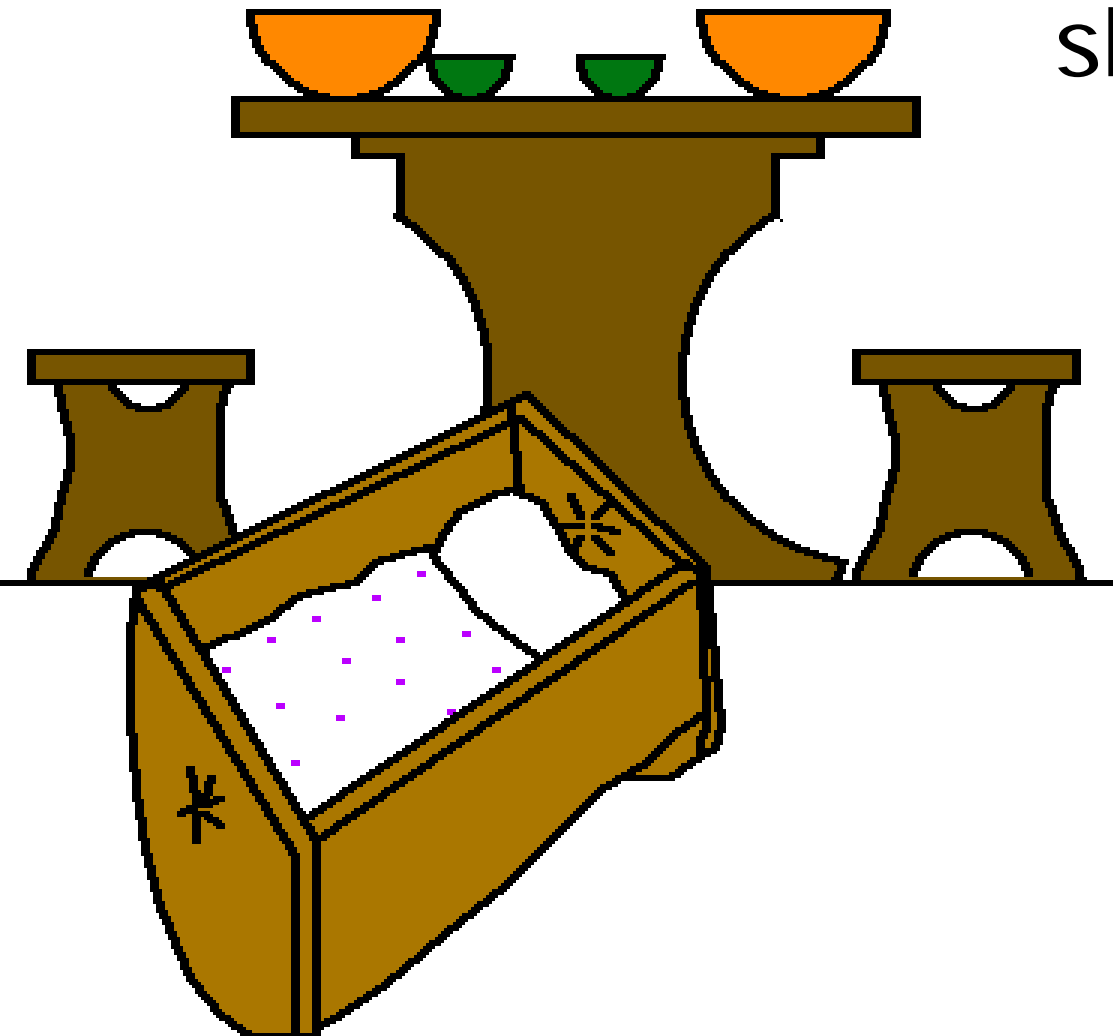
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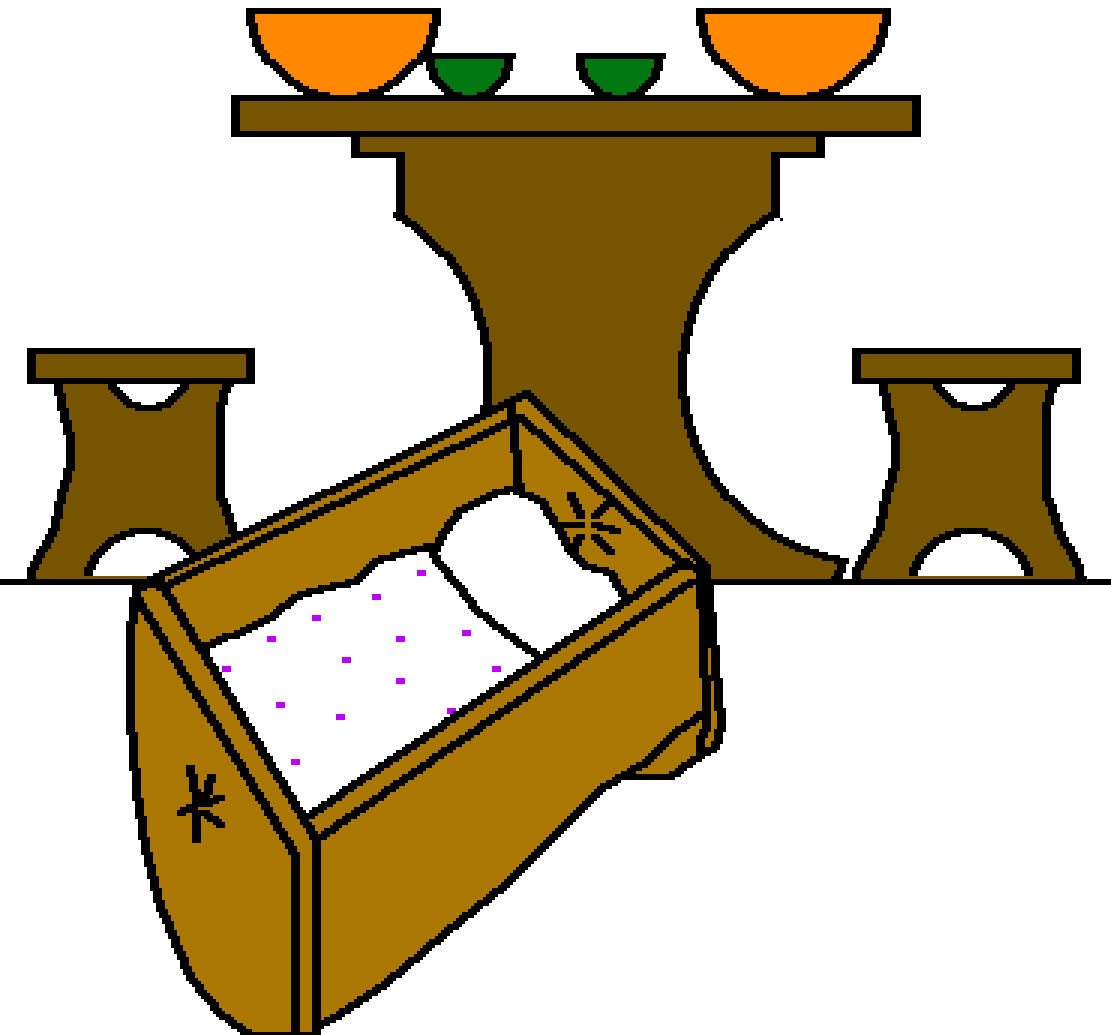
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Hannah was a good woman, married to Elkanah, a good man. They both worshipped God and showed kindness to others. But something was missing from Hannah's life.



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 temple. 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.



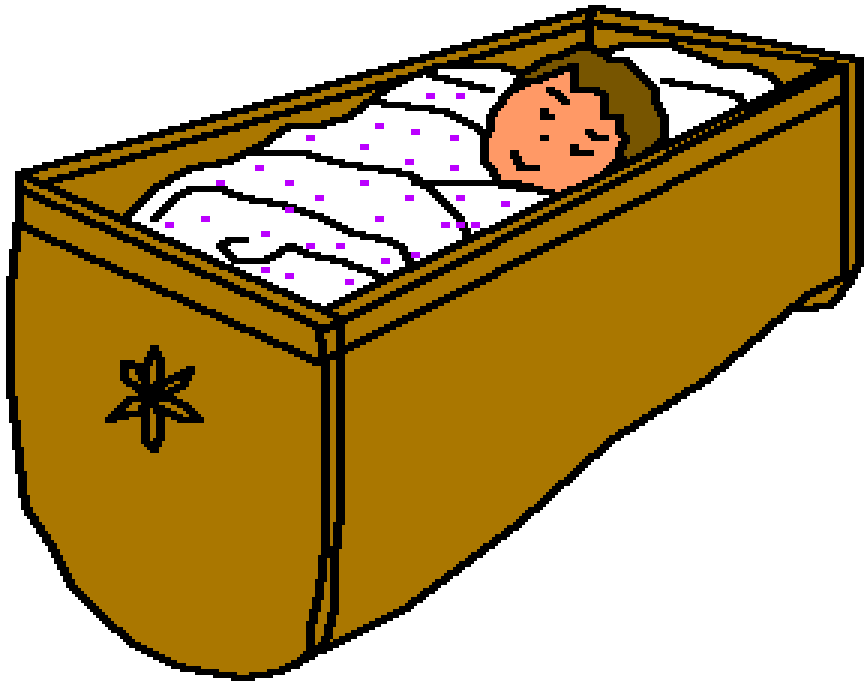




"Go in peace,"  
Eli answered.  
"And the God  
of Israel  
grant your  
petition which  
you have  
asked of  
Him." Eli's  
words gave  
Hannah hope.



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 temple  
each year.  
Oh, dear!  
Had she  
broken her  
promise to  
God?





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





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





Every year,  
Hannah  
went to the  
temple 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 temple.

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.'"

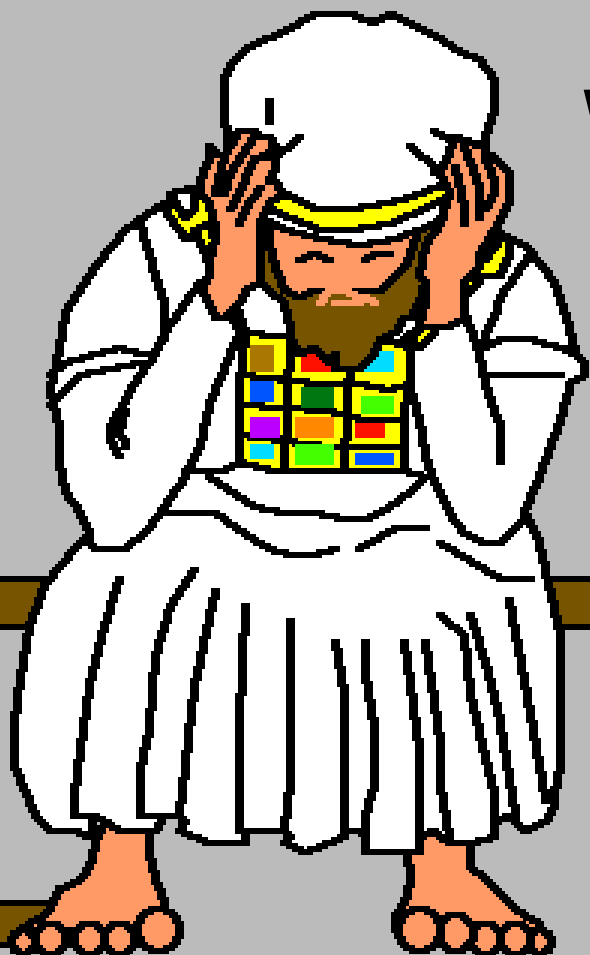




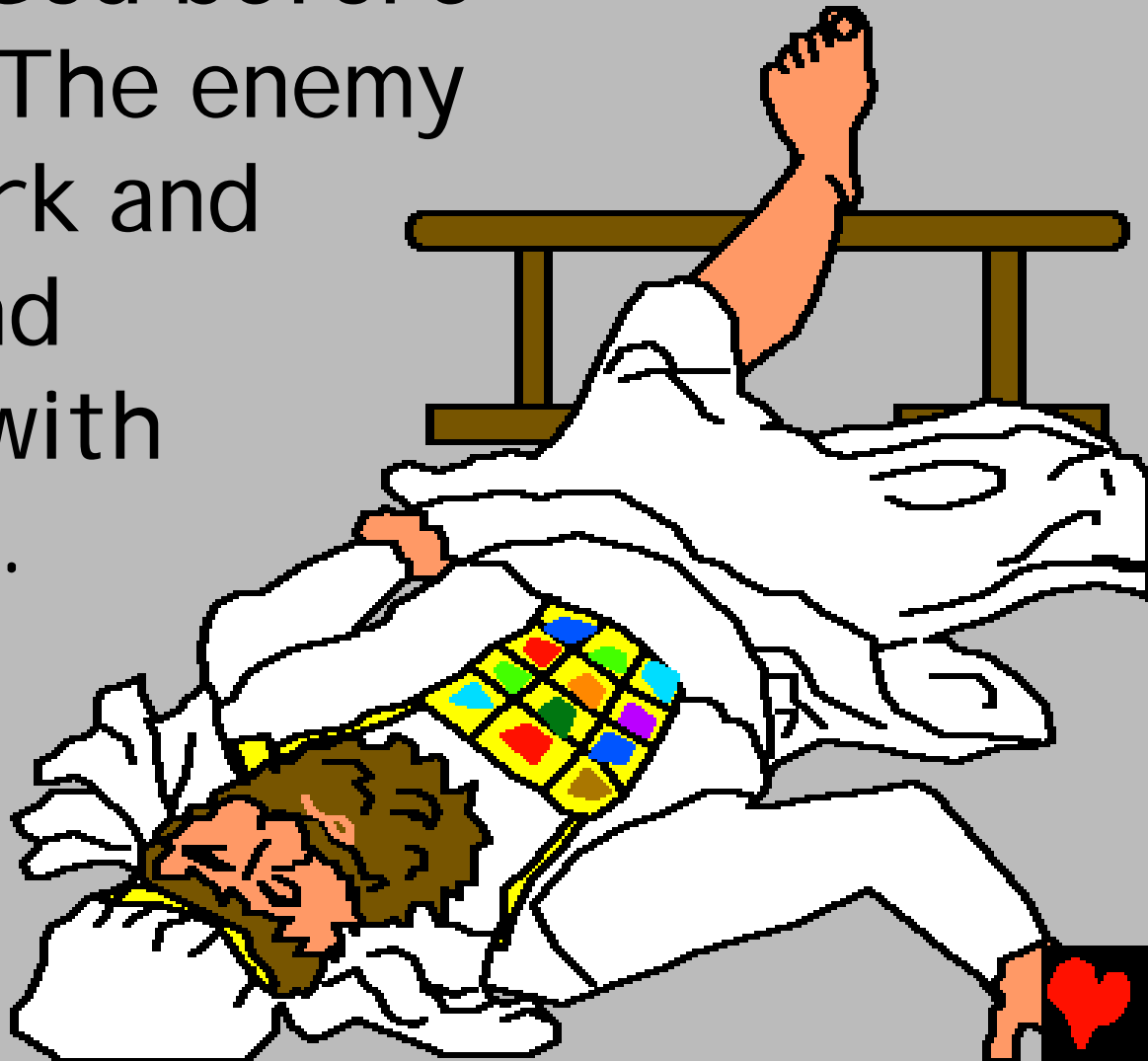
Eli told Samuel,  
"If He calls you,  
you must say,  
'Speak LORD,  
for Your  
servant hears.'"  
And God did call  
again, and gave  
Samuel a very  
important  
message.



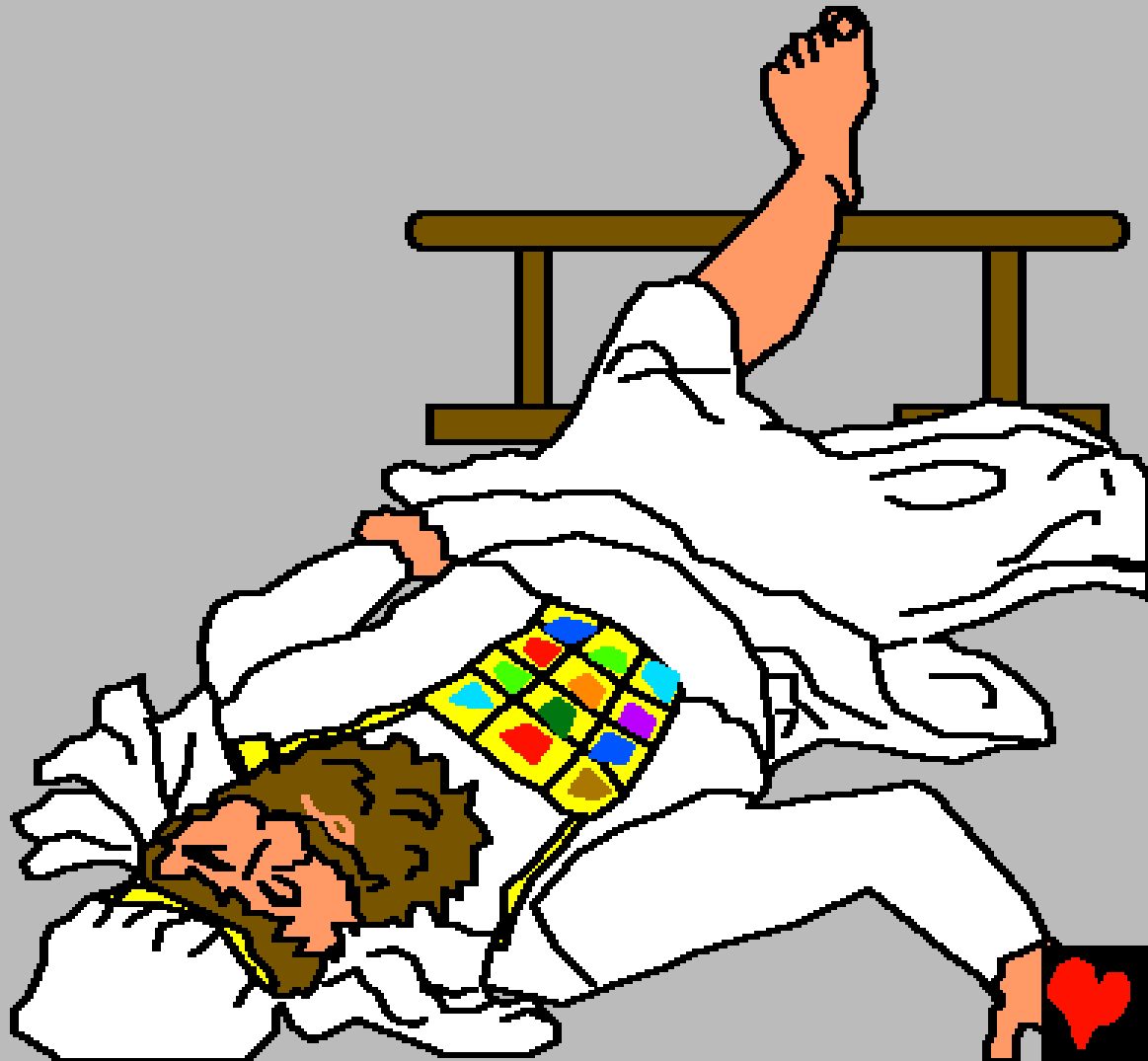
In the morning Eli called Samuel.  
"What is the thing that the Lord has  
said to you?" he asked. Young Samuel  
told him everything. It  
was a terrible message -  
God was going to  
destroy Eli's whole  
family because  
Hophni and  
Phinehas were  
so wicked.



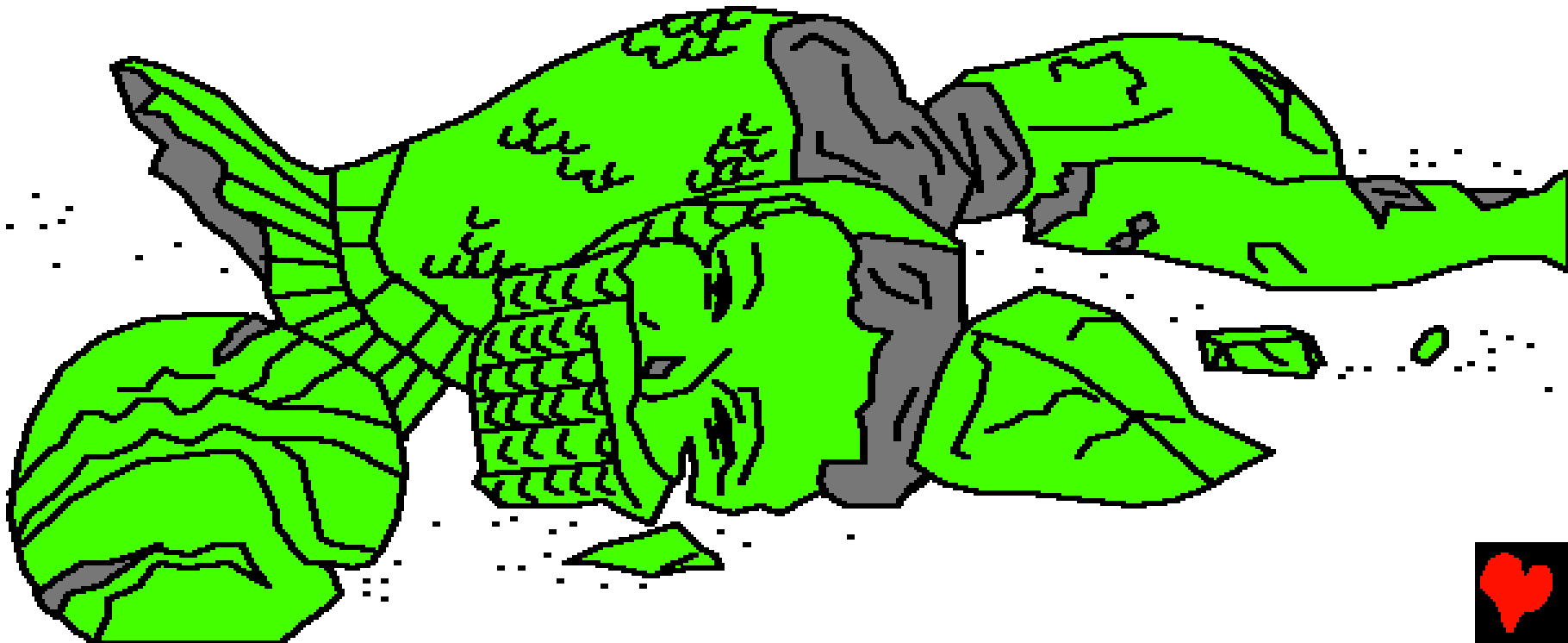
God's warning came true. During a war with the Philistines, Eli's two evil sons led the Ark of God before Israel's army. The enemy captured the Ark and killed Hophni and Phinehas along with many Israelites.



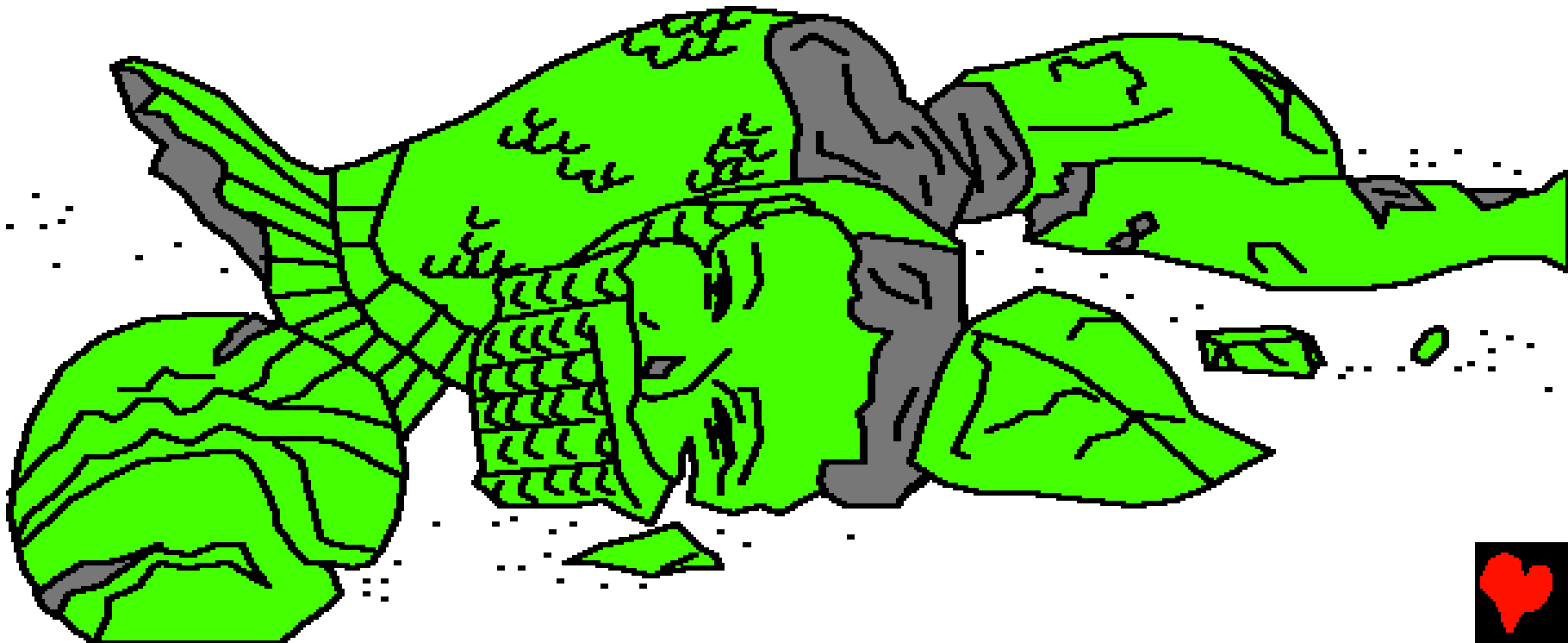
When Eli heard this, he fell off his seat, broke his neck, and died the same day.



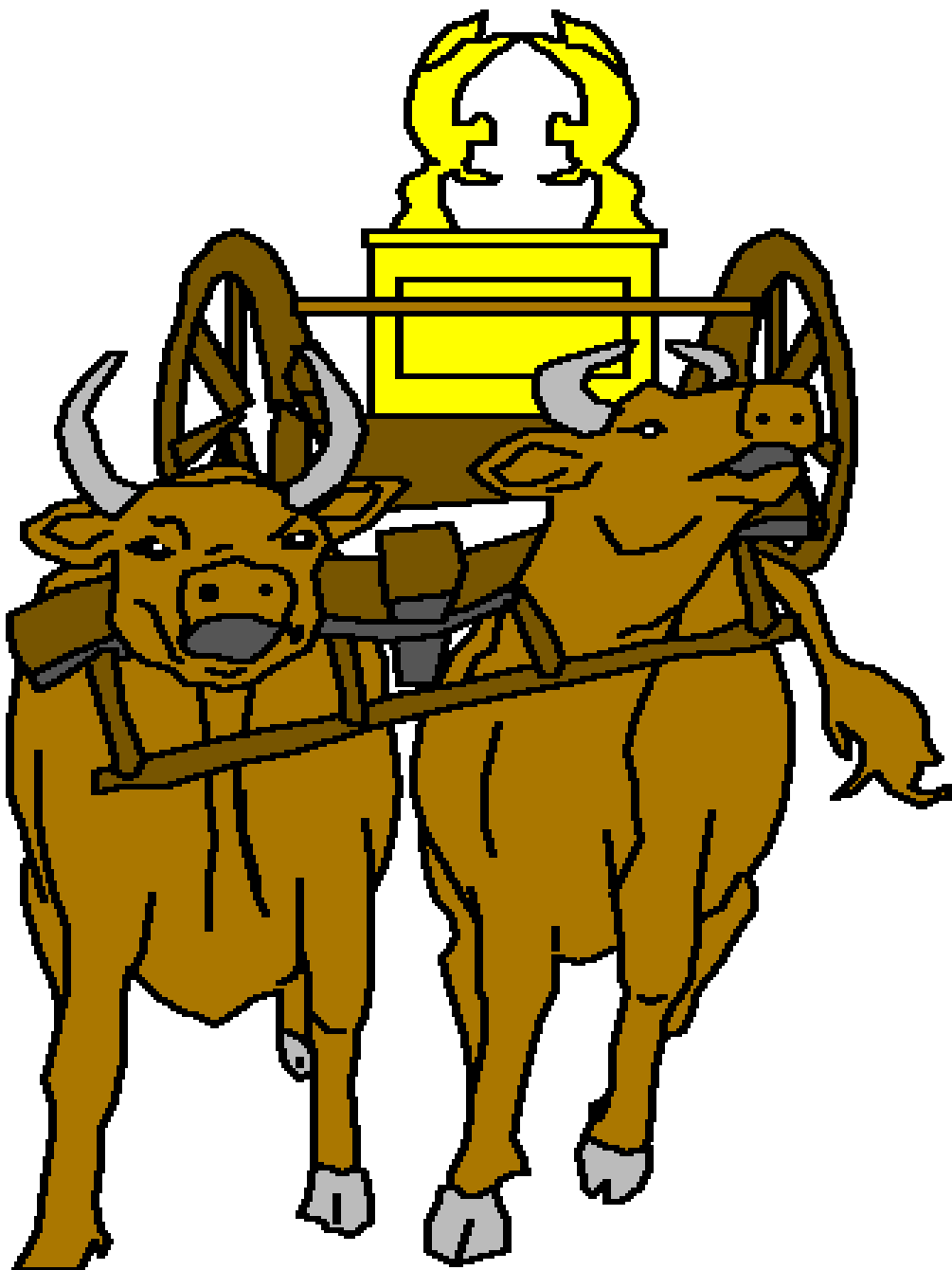
The Ark of God brought trouble to the Philistines. They put it in the temple of Dagon, their false god.



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.

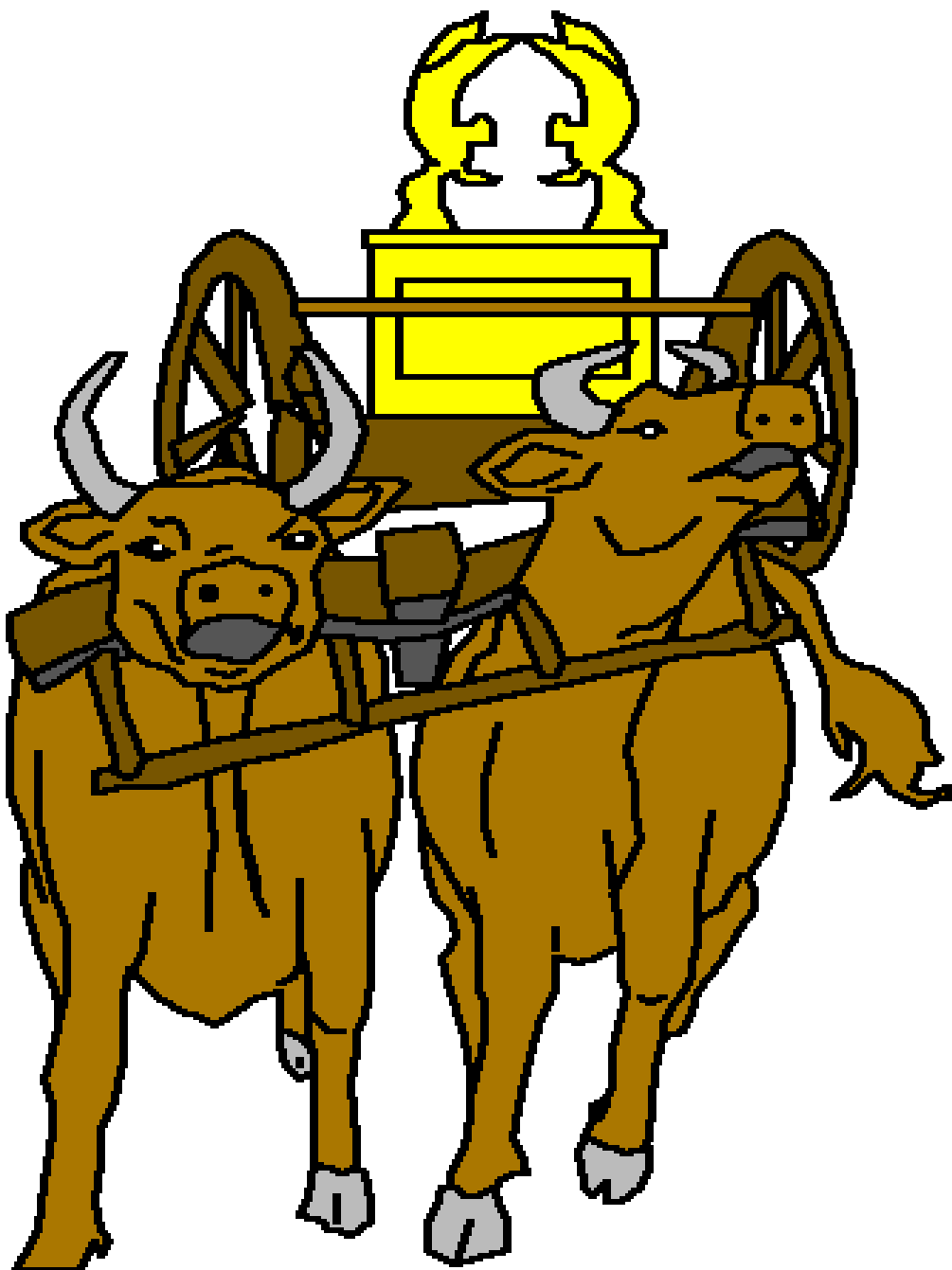






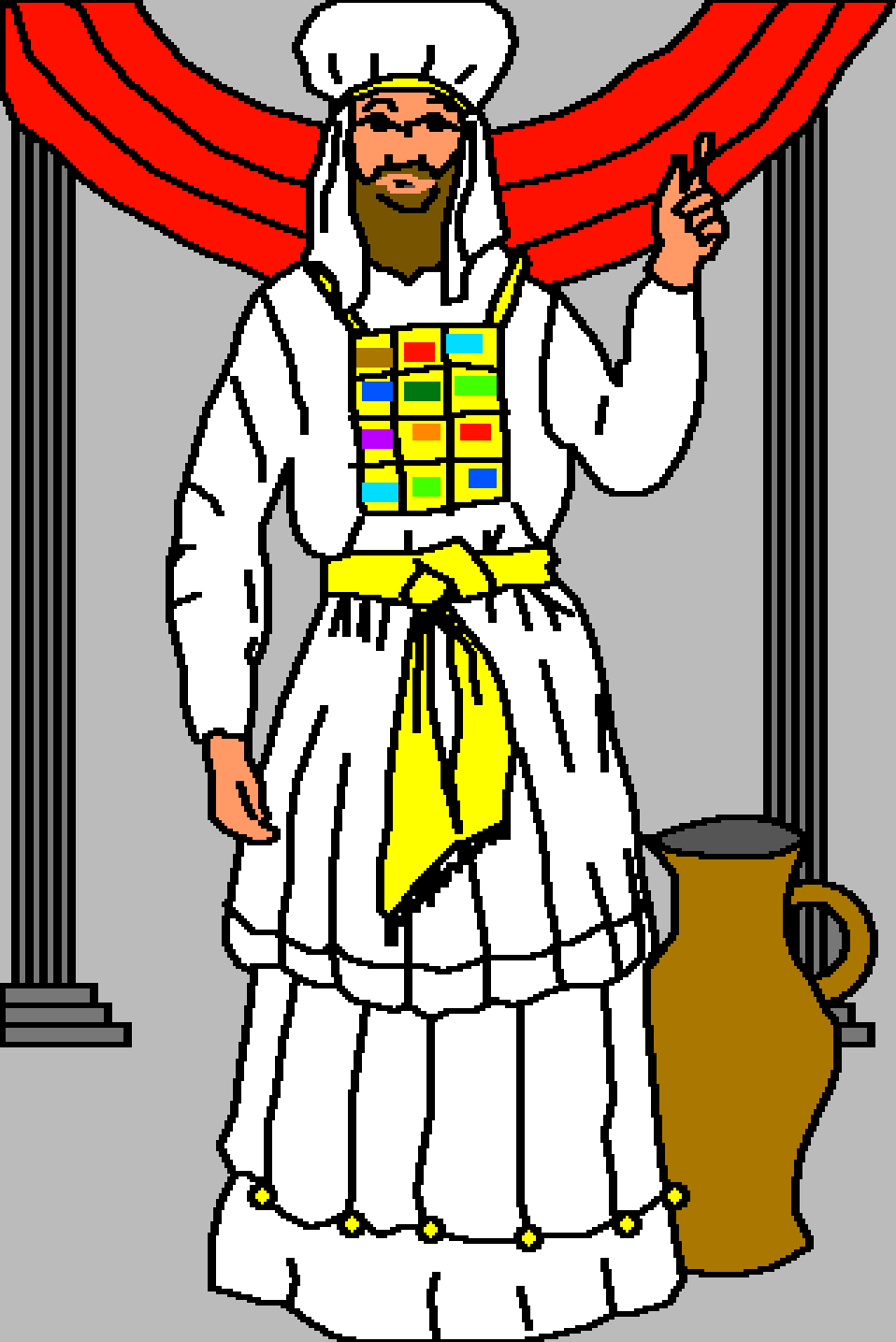
Sickness and death spread among the Philistines. To see if God was punishing them, the Philistines had two cows pull a cart with the Ark aboard.





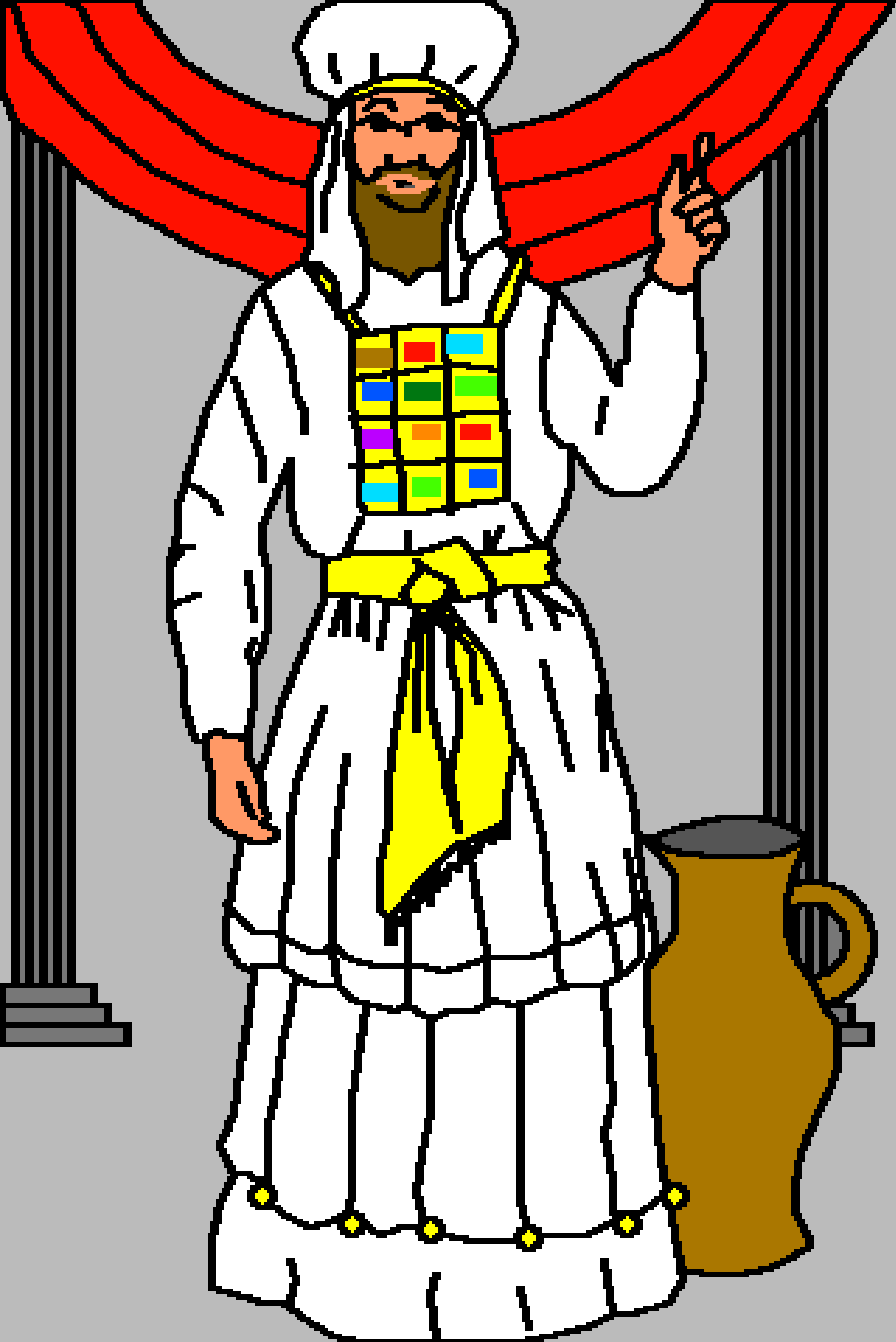
But they kept the cows' calves. "If the cows go up to Israel, and leave their calves, we will know God has done it," they said. And the cows went up!





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

