

***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

***THE MEN OF GIBEON /  
WHEN THE SUN STOOD STILL***

*by*

*Chris Thorpe*

*& people from Coromandel Baptist Church*

*Illustrated by Muriel Auty*

*Website: [www.corobaptist.org.au](http://www.corobaptist.org.au)*

*The following pages may be copied  
if they are unchanged, acknowledged and not used for profit*



**JOSHUA 9:1 – 10:27**  
**THE MEN OF GIBEON /**  
**WHEN THE SUN STOOD STILL**  
File no. 42

**When the Gibeonites saw the cities  
of Jericho and Ai destroyed,  
they were afraid.**



**They put on old clothes  
and worn out sandals,  
packed dry and mouldy bread  
and went to Gilgal to find Joshua.**

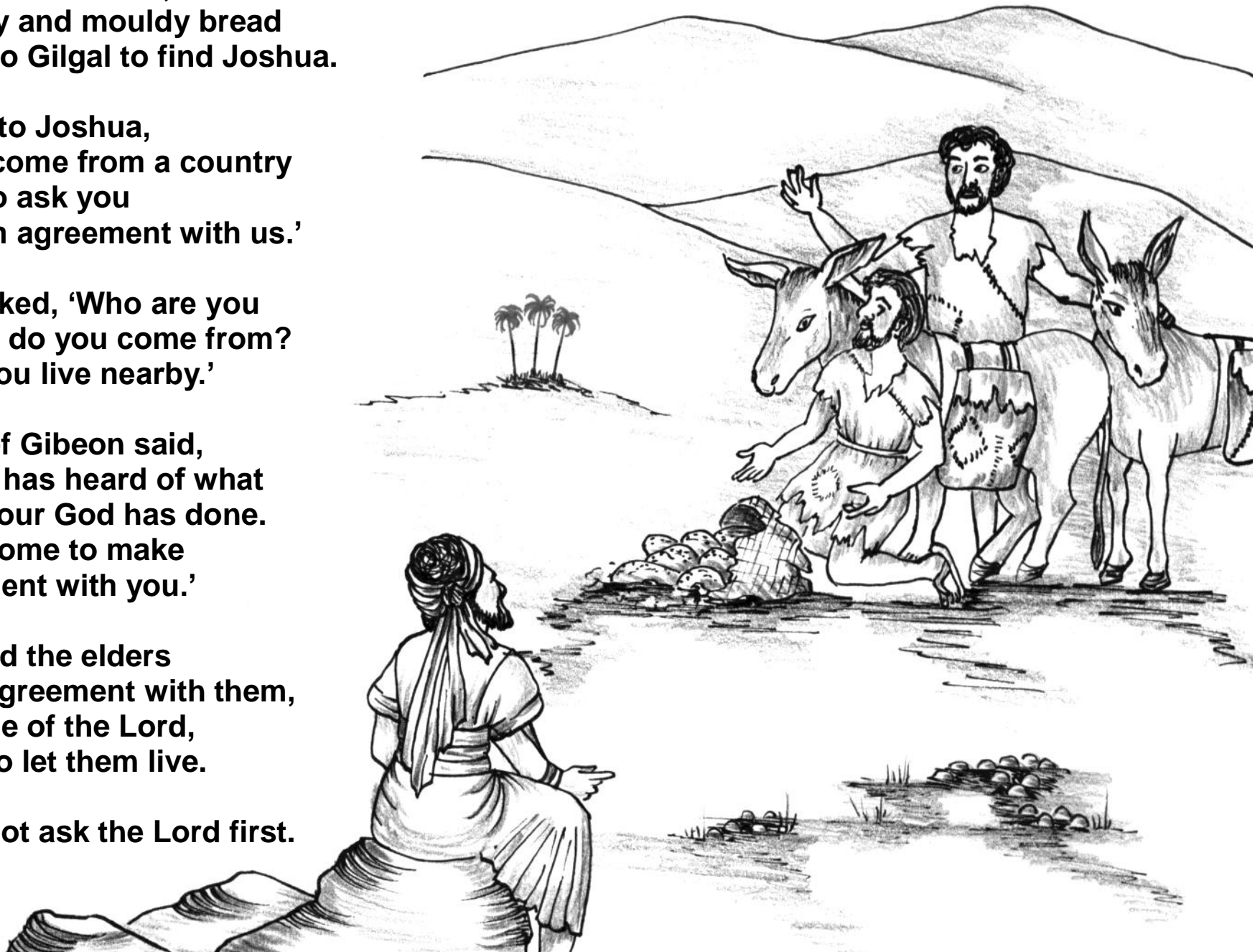
**They said to Joshua,  
‘We have come from a country  
far away to ask you  
to make an agreement with us.’**

**Joshua asked, ‘Who are you  
and where do you come from?  
Perhaps you live nearby.’**

**The men of Gibeon said,  
‘Everyone has heard of what  
the Lord your God has done.  
We have come to make  
an agreement with you.’**

**Joshua and the elders  
made an agreement with them,  
in the name of the Lord,  
agreeing to let them live.**

**They did not ask the Lord first.**



**Three days later Joshua heard that the Gibeonites actually lived nearby.**

**So he and his men went to their city and asked them, 'Why did you tell us lies?'**

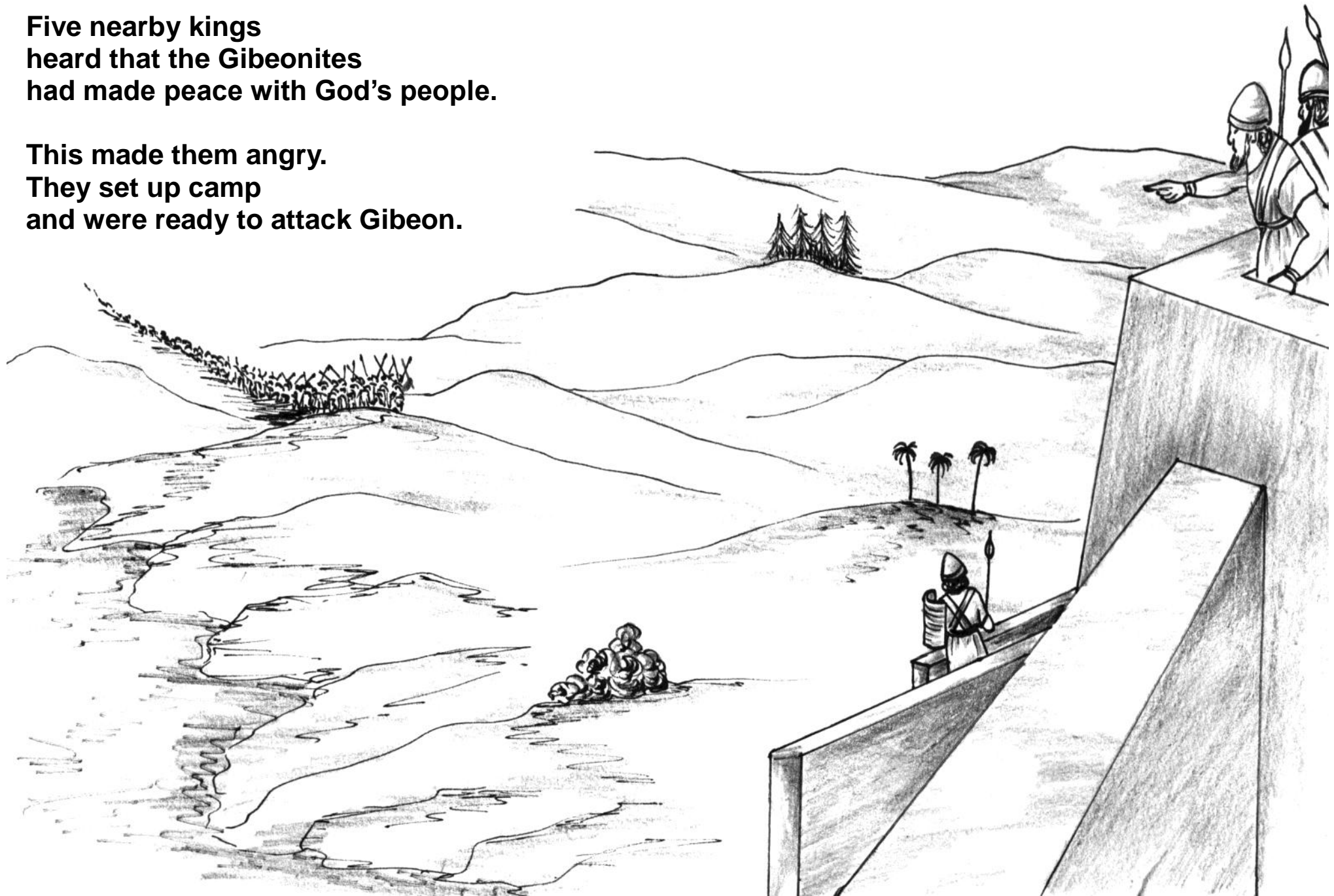
**They said, 'We lied because we were afraid. We heard that God told Moses that He would give you this land and destroy everyone in it. Do to us what you think is right.'**

**Joshua kept his word and did not kill them. He made them slaves to cut firewood and carry water for God's people and for the altar of the Lord.**

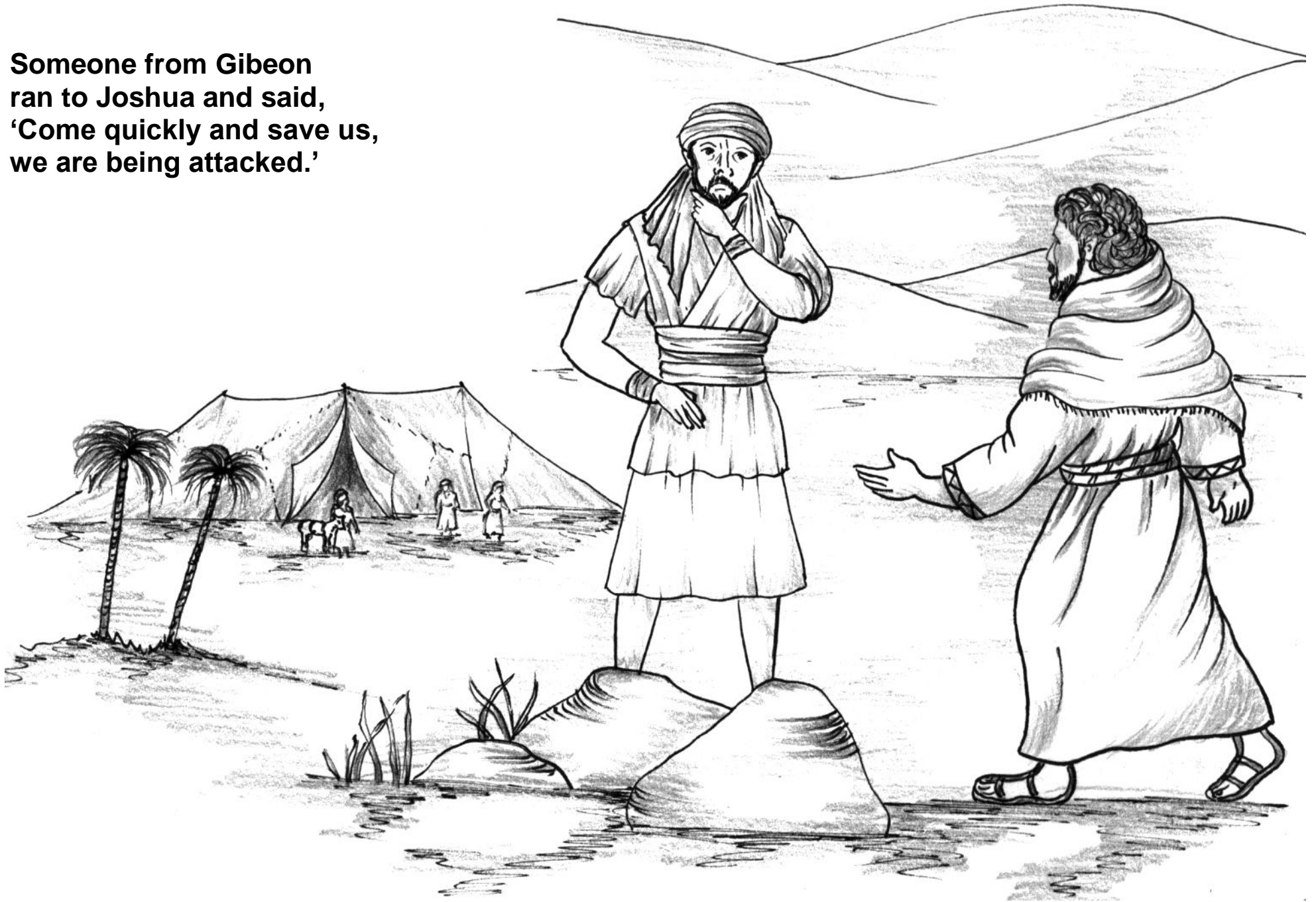


**Five nearby kings  
heard that the Gibeonites  
had made peace with God's people.**

**This made them angry.  
They set up camp  
and were ready to attack Gibeon.**



**Someone from Gibeon  
ran to Joshua and said,  
'Come quickly and save us,  
we are being attacked.'**

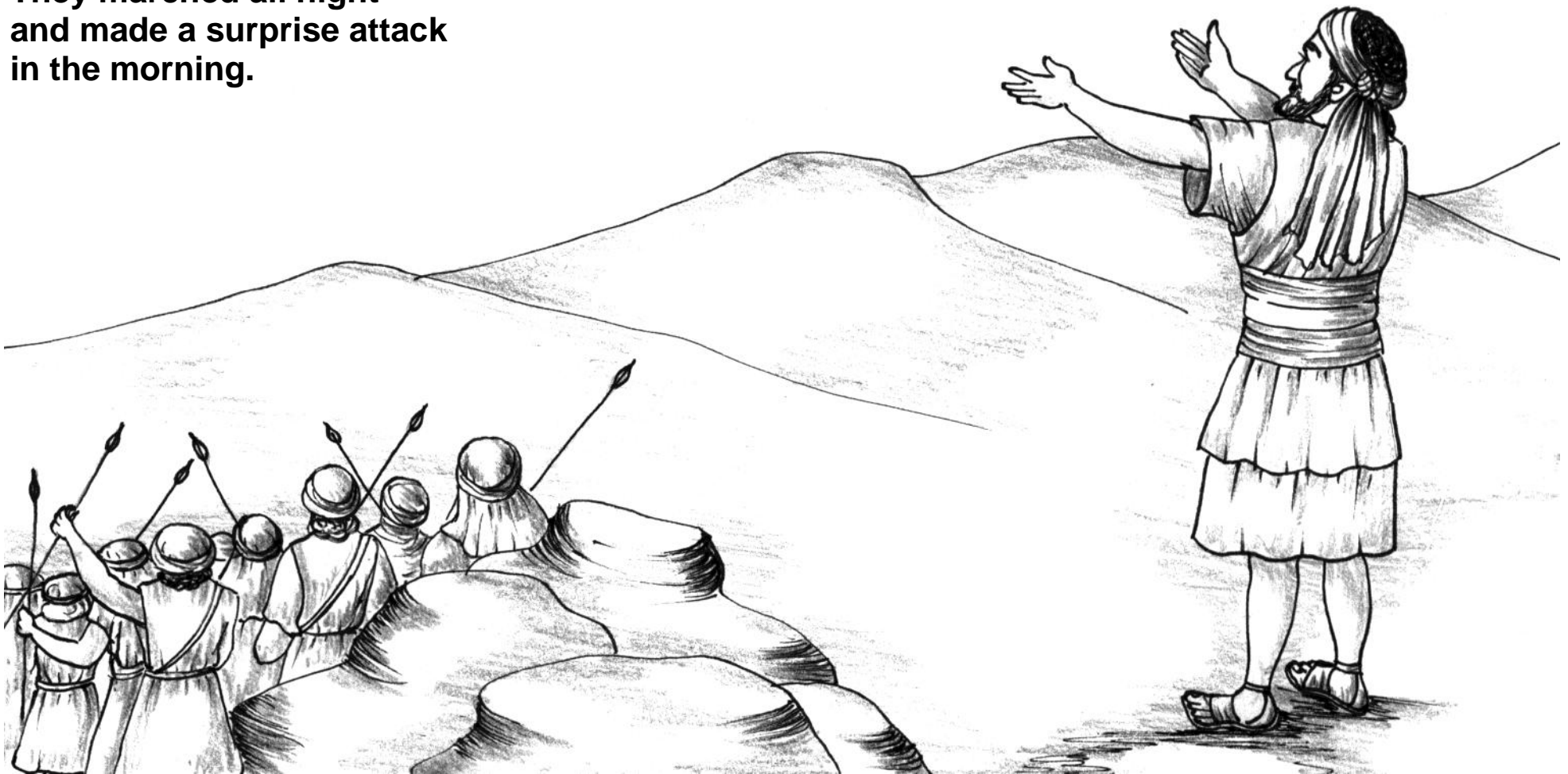




**Straight away Joshua and his men  
went to help them.**

**The Lord said,  
'Don't be afraid of these kings.  
I will help you defeat them.'**

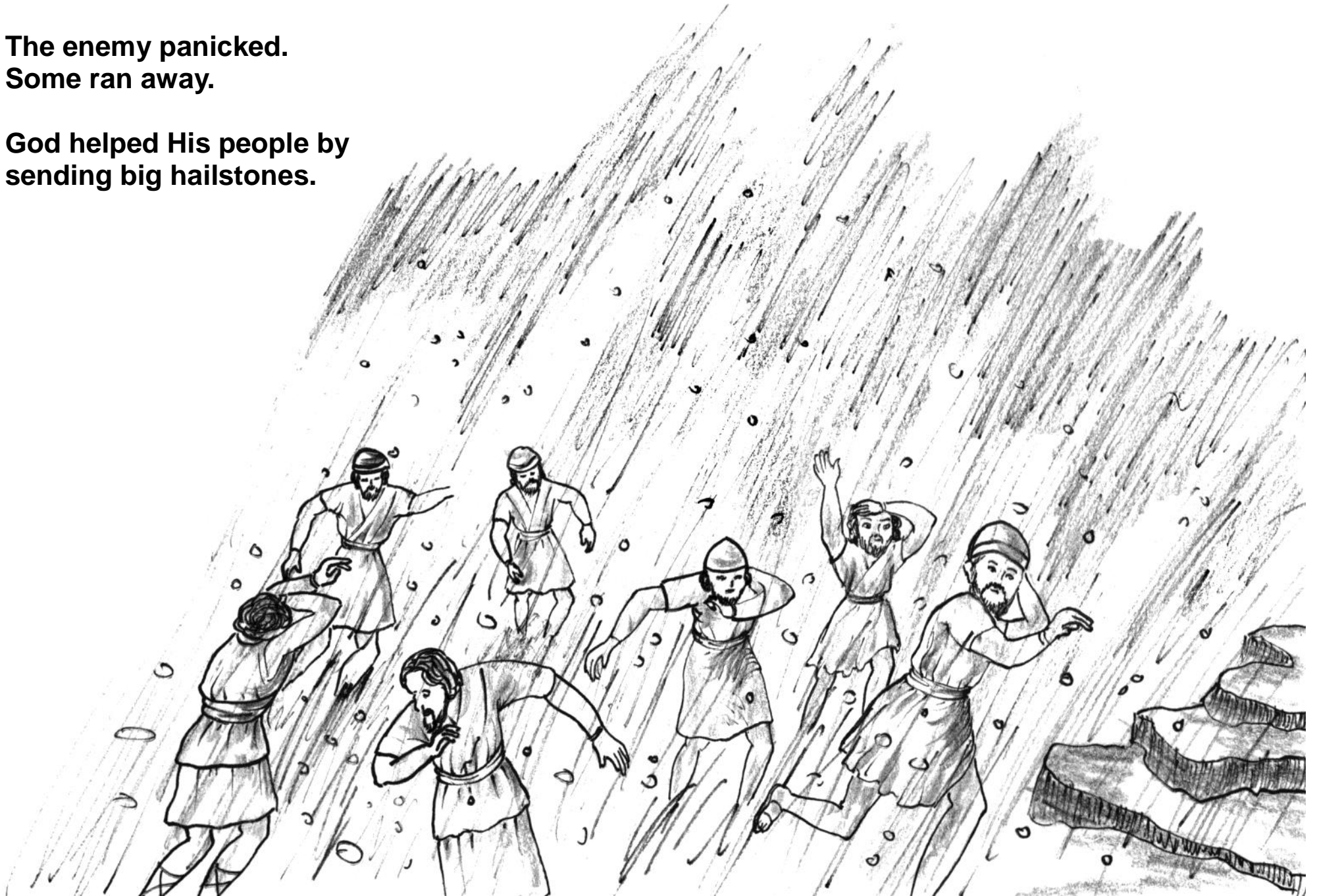
**They marched all night  
and made a surprise attack  
in the morning.**



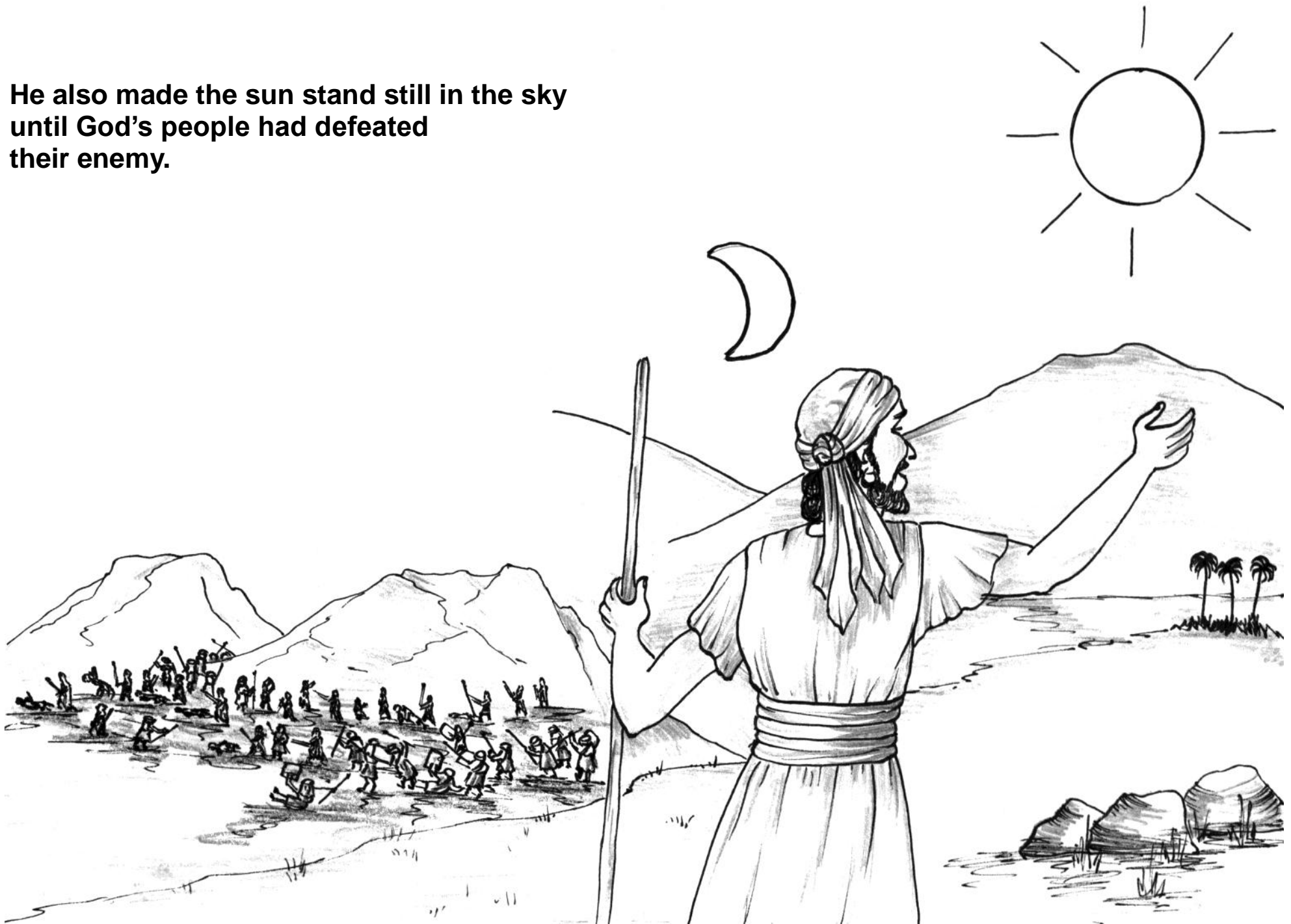


**The enemy panicked.  
Some ran away.**

**God helped His people by  
sending big hailstones.**



**He also made the sun stand still in the sky  
until God's people had defeated  
their enemy.**



***God's people had made a mistake  
by letting the Gibeonites  
live among them,  
but God used their mistake  
and continued to give them  
the land He had promised them.***