



Old Testament Story

Lesson Overview

1. Video

Watch *The Old Testament told in only 5 minutes* (5min 39sec) at bit.ly/OT5min

2. Review the OT

Look for major themes in the stories of the Old Testament. Sequence pictures to get a broad overview, pp.1-13

New Church Concept God Speaks in the Word

In the letter the Word appears like common writing, in a style that is strange, and neither so sublime nor so brilliant as apparently are the writings of the day.... People who think in this way do not consider that Jehovah Himself, the God of heaven and earth, spoke the Word through Moses and the prophets, and that it must therefore be Divine truth itself, for what Jehovah Himself speaks can be nothing else. Nor do people consider that the Lord, who is the same as Jehovah, spoke the Word that is in the Gospels, much of it with His own mouth, which is the Holy Spirit. This is why, as He Himself says, there is Life in His words, that He is the Light which enlightens, and that He is the Truth. See *True Christian Religion* 189-190

FaithBuilder 3 | Lesson 1 | Old Testament Review

Introduction

The Bible consists of two testaments that present different views of God's relationship with the human race. The oldest documents (scrolls written between the 12th and 4th centuries BC) form the Old Testament. Newer documents (scrolls written between approx. 60 & 100 AD) form the New Testament.

The Writings say the earliest chapters of Genesis, the first book of the Old Testament, are allegorical and from the Ancient Word. The rest of the Old Testament is a historical narrative that starts with Abram in Genesis 11, and continues through the story of the growth, prosperity, collapse and finally the restoration of the Jewish nation.

Christians recognize Jesus in the New Testament as the Messiah promised in the Old Testament. Jesus is connected with the Old Testament through prophecies cited in the New Testament. In order to understand the importance of the two testaments and the differences between them, this study of the Gospel of John will start with a review of the major stories and themes of the Old Testament.

Watch a Video

Watch *The Old Testament told in only 5 minutes* at bit.ly/OT5min (5min 39sec). (Enter the bitly link in the web browser bar at the top of your screen.)

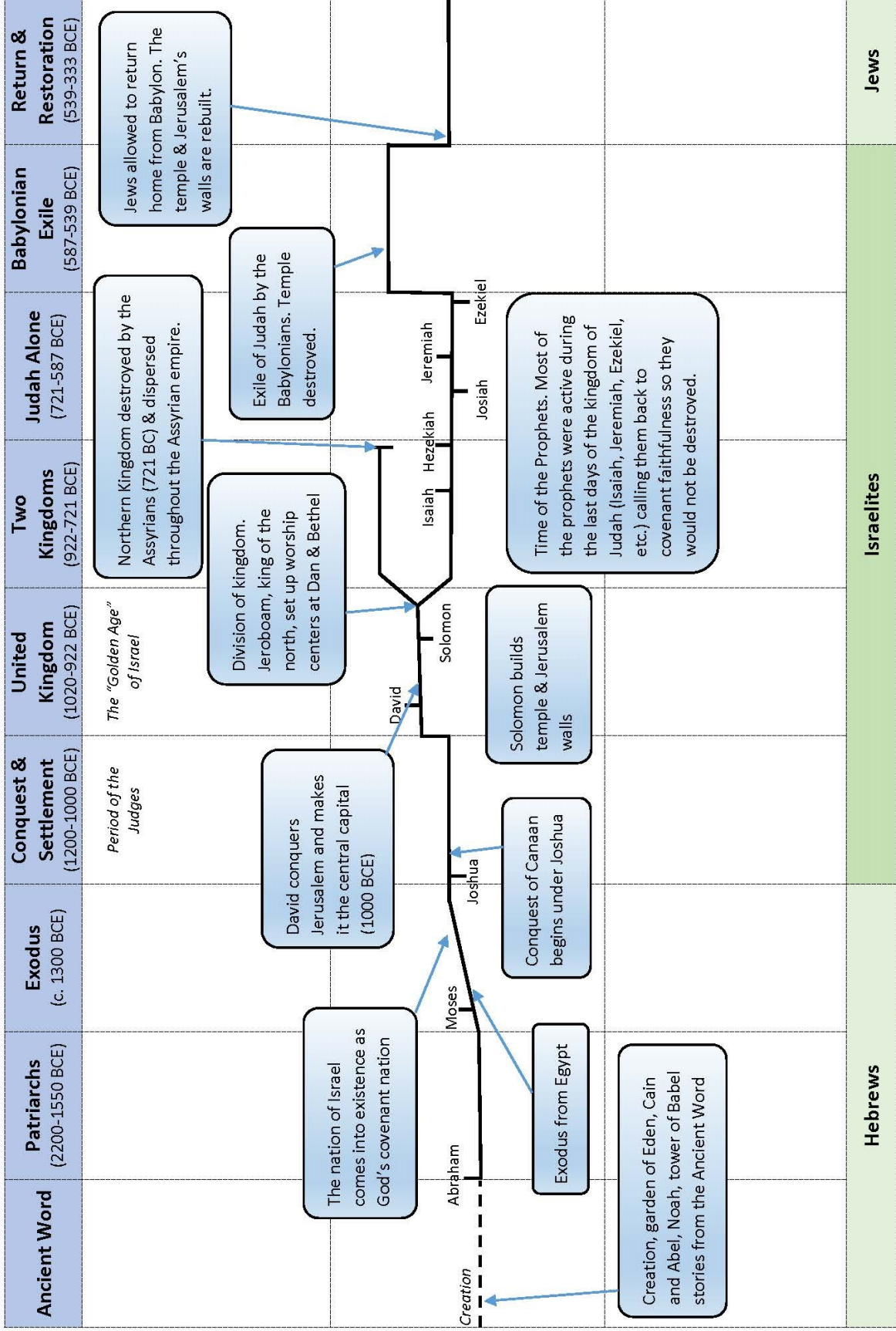
1. What stories in the Old Testament stand out in your mind?
2. Who are the main characters in the Old Testament?
3. How does the Old Testament end?
4. What is prophesied in the Old Testament?

Review the Old Testament

Give students copies of the *Timeline of the Old Testament* (p. 2) and the *Books of the Old Testament* (p. 3). Review both pages. If students have memorized the order of the books of the Old Testament, encourage them to recite the books in order.


1. A number of themes in the Old Testament come back again and again. Looking at the timeline, think of stories that illustrate the following themes: God's covenant with His chosen people (the children of Israel), keeping/obeying the covenant, enemies of the covenant (other nations, idolaters), covenant promise (inheriting the land of Canaan).
2. Hand out *The Old Testament in Pictures* (pp. 4-13). The pictures are provided in the order of the Old Testament. Copy the pictures, cut them apart and see if you can tell the story of the Old Testament by arranging them in order. If ordering all the pictures is too much, choose fewer pages to sequence.

Timeline of the Old Testament




Books of the Old Testament (New Church Canon)

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy



The five books of Moses or The Law

Joshua
Judges
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings



The history of Israel

Psalms

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi



The Prophets



Creation of the sun and moon



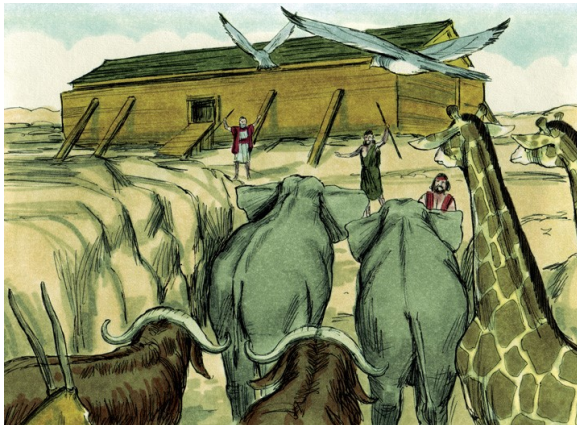
Adam and Eve eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil



Adam and Eve are sent out of the Garden of Eden



Cain and Abel



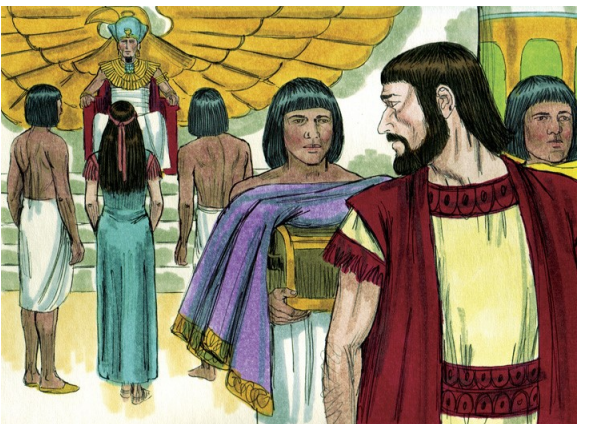
Noah builds an ark



The tower of Babel



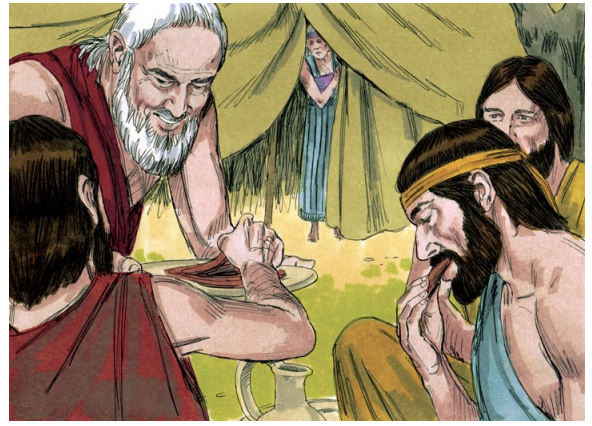
Abram is promised the land of Canaan



Abram pretends Sarai is his sister



Abram's descendants will be as the stars of heaven



Abram feeds three angels, Sarai laughs



Sacrifice of Isaac



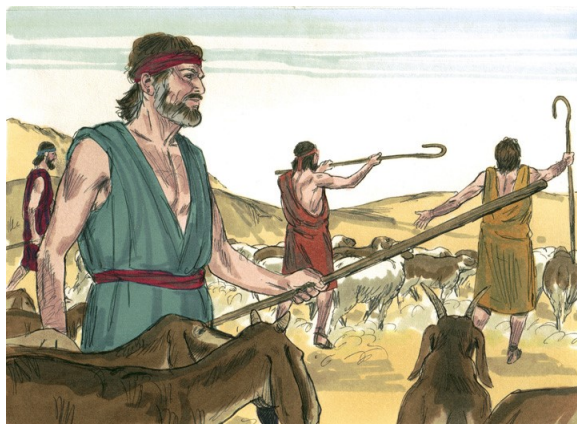
Esau sells his birthright to Jacob for stew



Jacob's dream



Jacob helps Rachel



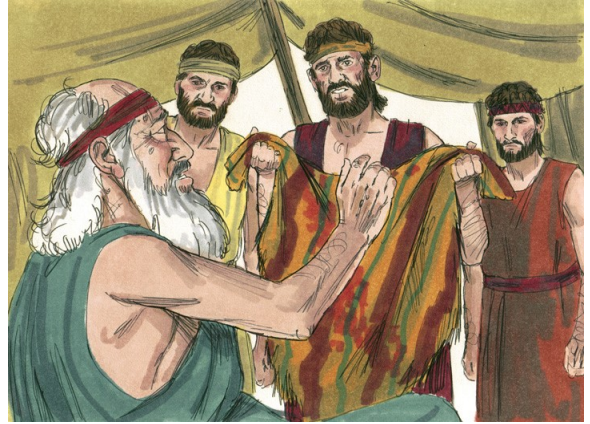
Jacob works for Laban and prospers



Jacob wrestles an angel



Joseph dreams



Jacob believes Joseph has died



Joseph flees from Potiphar's wife



Joseph is ruler over Egypt



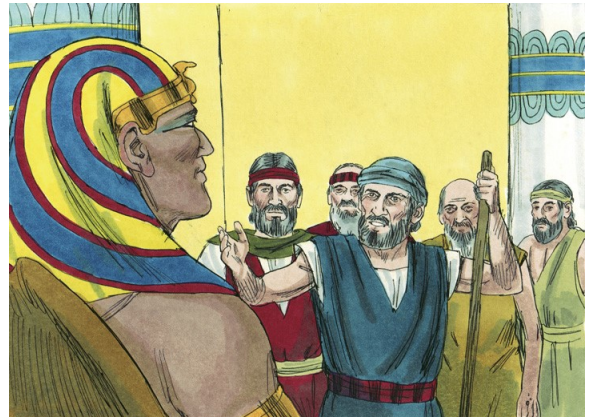
Joseph is taken to be buried



Pharaoh's daughter finds baby Moses



Moses sees a bush burning



Moses asks Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go



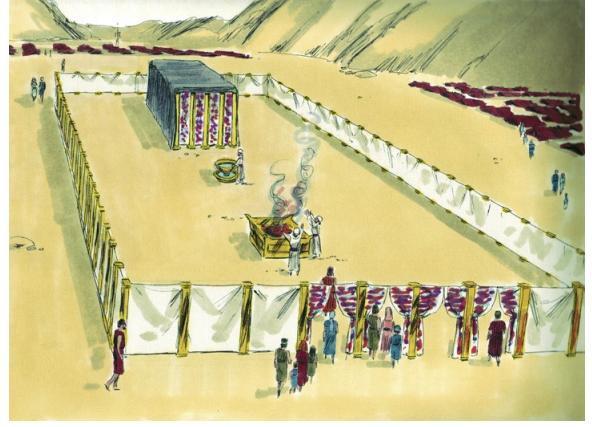
Establishing the Passover



The children of Israel cross the Red Sea



Mount Sinai, where Moses receives the 10 Commandments



Directions are given to build a Tabernacle of worship



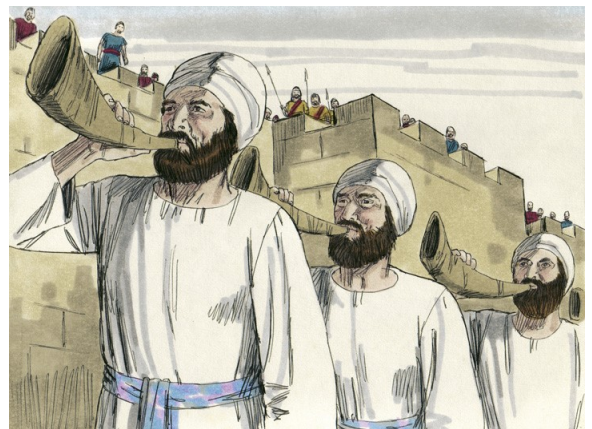
The children of Israel are impatient & make a golden calf



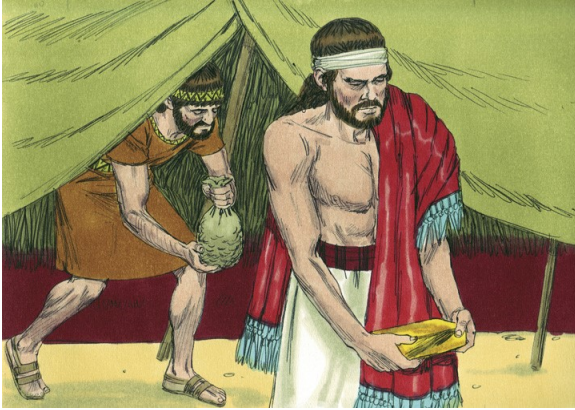
Rahab and the spies



The children of Israel cross the Jordan and enter Canaan



The battle of Jericho



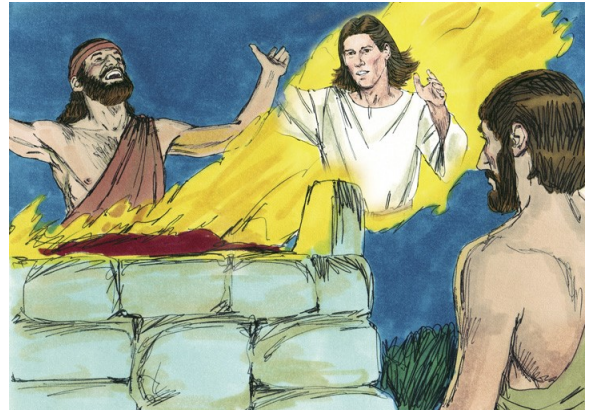
Achan's theft



Joshua renews the covenant at Shechem



Jael kills Sisera with a tent peg



An angel appears to Gideon



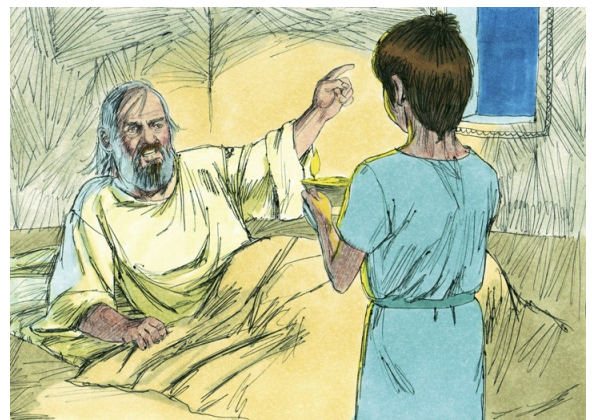
Gideon wins a battle with only 300 men



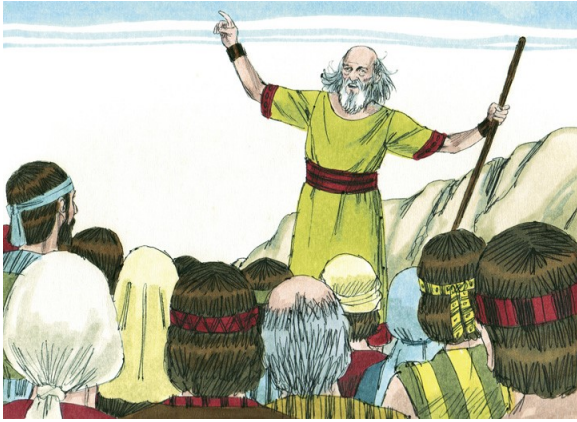
Samson poses a riddle



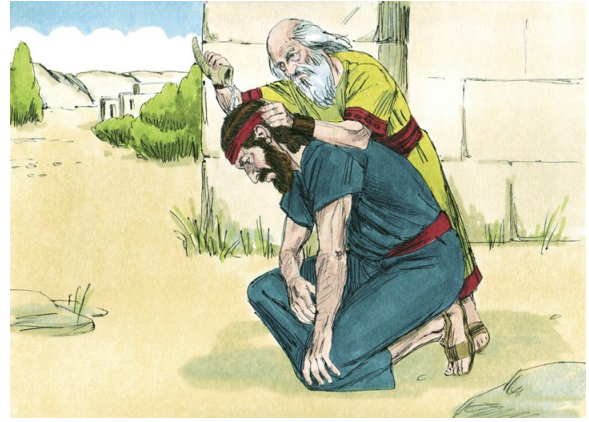
Samson kills the Philistines



Samuel thinks Eli has called him



The children of Israel beg Samuel for a king



Samuel anoints Saul king



Jesse brings David, Israel's second king, to Samuel



David fights Goliath of Gath



Saul throws a spear at David



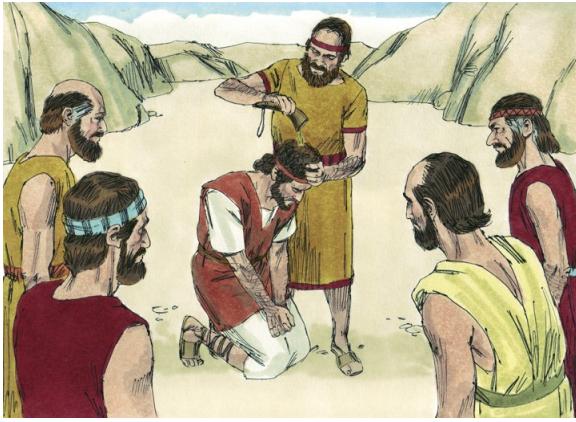
David's wife helps David escape from Saul



Jonathan, David's friend, warns him that it is not safe to stay



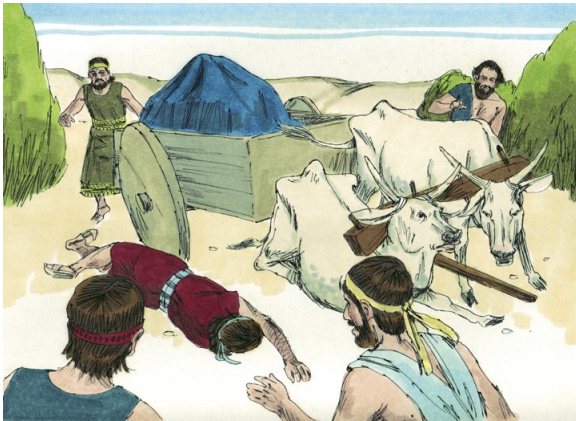
David could kill Saul but will not hurt the Lord's anointed



Saul dies and David is anointed king



As king, David brings the ark to Jerusalem, dancing before it



Uzzah tries to steady the ark and dies



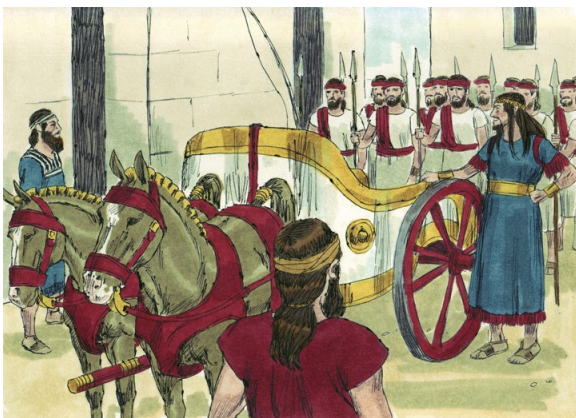
David sees Bathsheba bathing on her roof



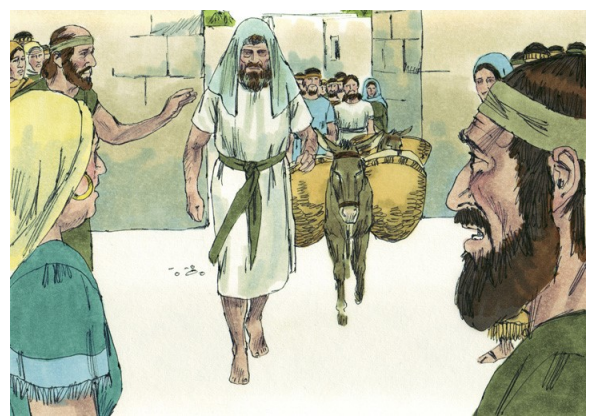
David sends Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, into the battle



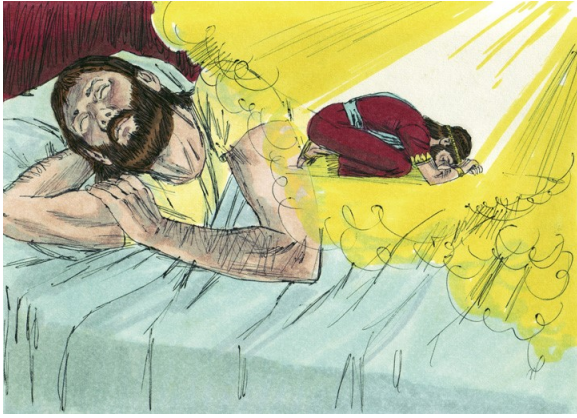
Nathan the prophet confronts David over Bathsheba & Uriah



David's son Absalom threatens David's reign



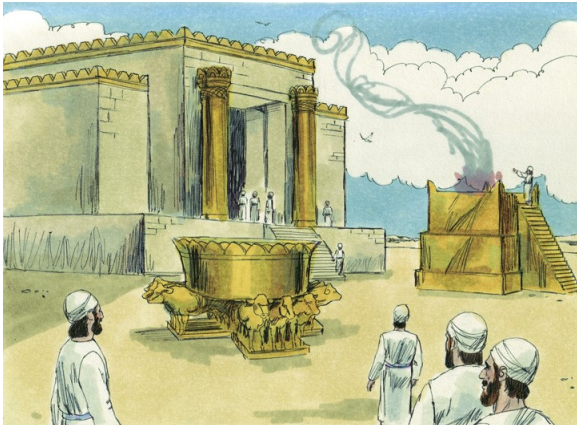
David leaves the city in shame and is mocked



The Lord appears to Solomon and he asks for wisdom



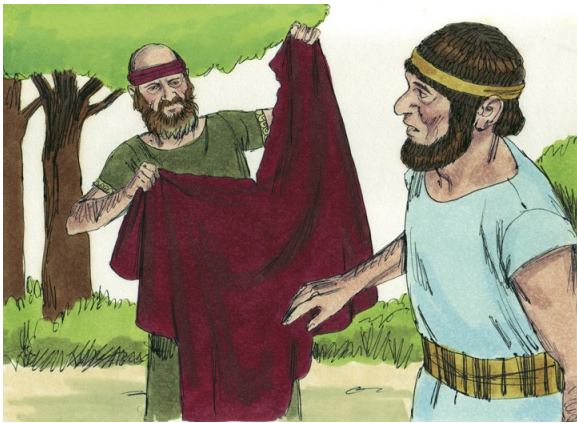
Two women test Solomon's wisdom over a baby



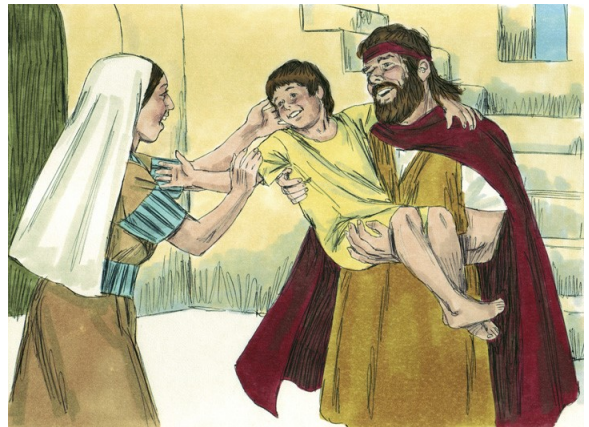
Solomon builds a temple for the Lord



Solomon's foreign wives lead him away from the Lord



Solomon's kingdom will be torn from him



Elijah heals the widow's son



Elijah challenges Ahab and the prophets of Baal



Elijah triumphs over the prophets of Baal



Ahab murders Naboth to get his vineyard



The Lord condemns Ahab through Elishah



Elishah goes to heaven in a whirlwind



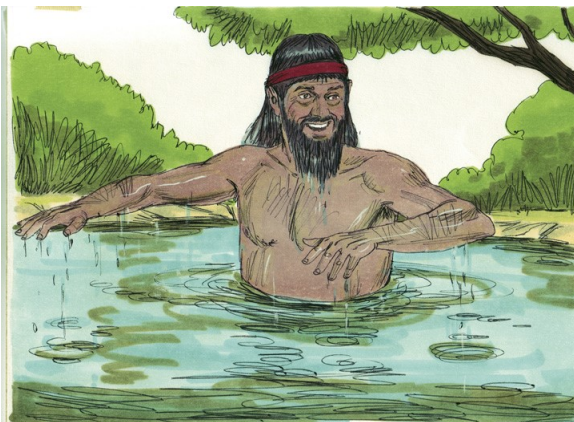
Elishah receives a double portion of Elishah's spirit



Elishah promises a Shunamite woman she will have a child



Elishah restores the Shunamite woman's son



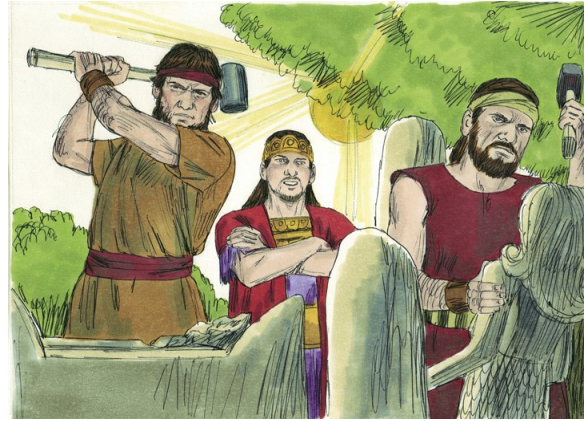
Naaman visits Elishah and is cured of his leprosy



Hilkiah finds the book of the law in the temple



King Josiah reads the book of the law, which had been lost



Josiah removes the high places and worships the Lord



Ezekiel has a vision of the son of man



Ezekiel sees a valley of dry bones



Captive in Babylon, Daniel is told to worship a statue of gold



Daniel and his friends are cast into a furnace and survive



A hand writing on the wall in Babylon



Daniel is cast into a den of lions and God saves him