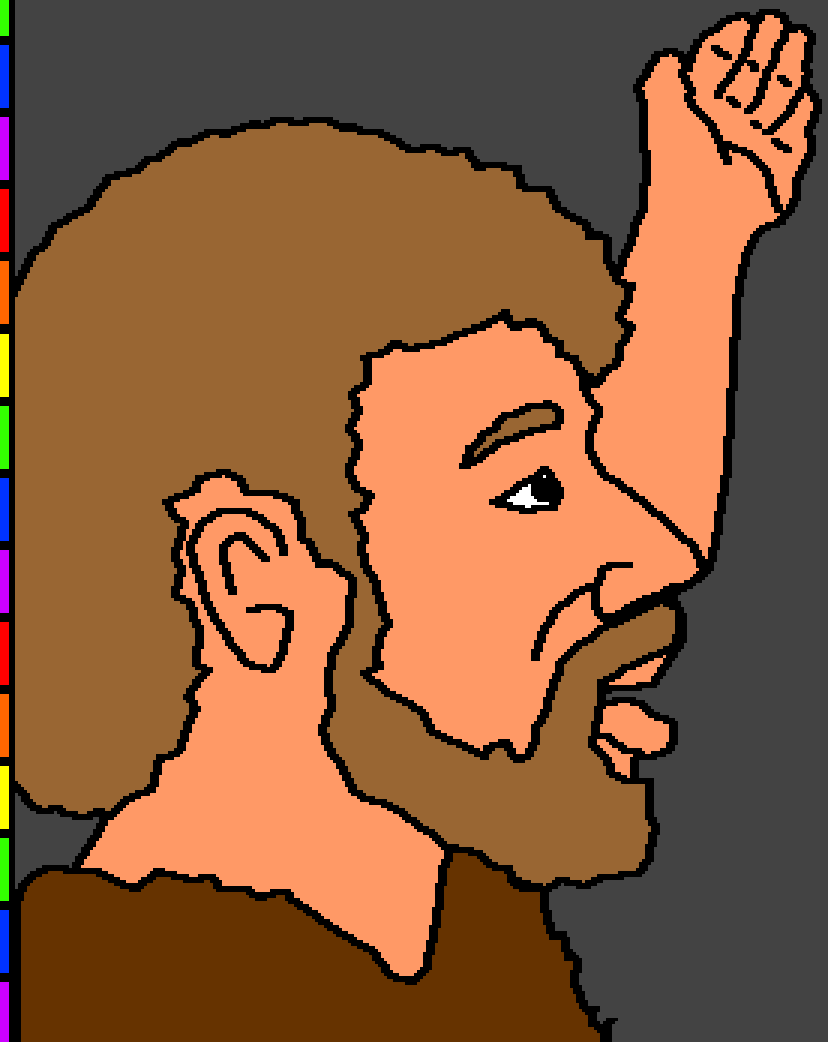
Bible for Children

presents



A MAN SENT FROM GOD

Written by: Edward Hughes

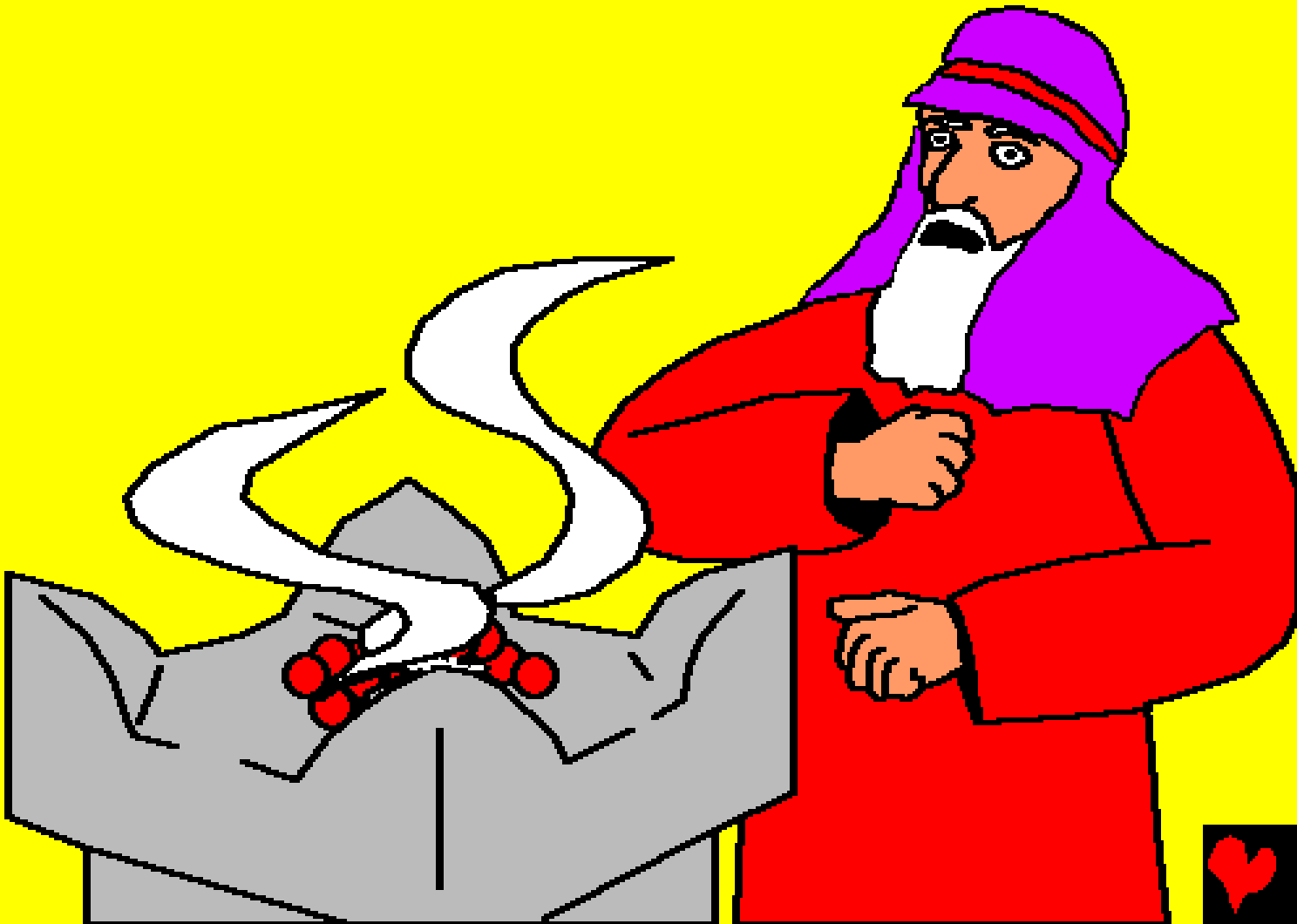
Illustrated by: Byron Unger and Lazarus

Adapted by: E. Frischbutter and Sarah S.

Produced by: Bible for Children
www.M1914.org

©2007 Bible for Children, Inc.
License: You have the right to copy or print this story,
as long as you do not sell it.

Inside God's temple one day, an old priest, named Zacharias, was burning incense. Outside, people prayed. Suddenly, Zacharias trembled.

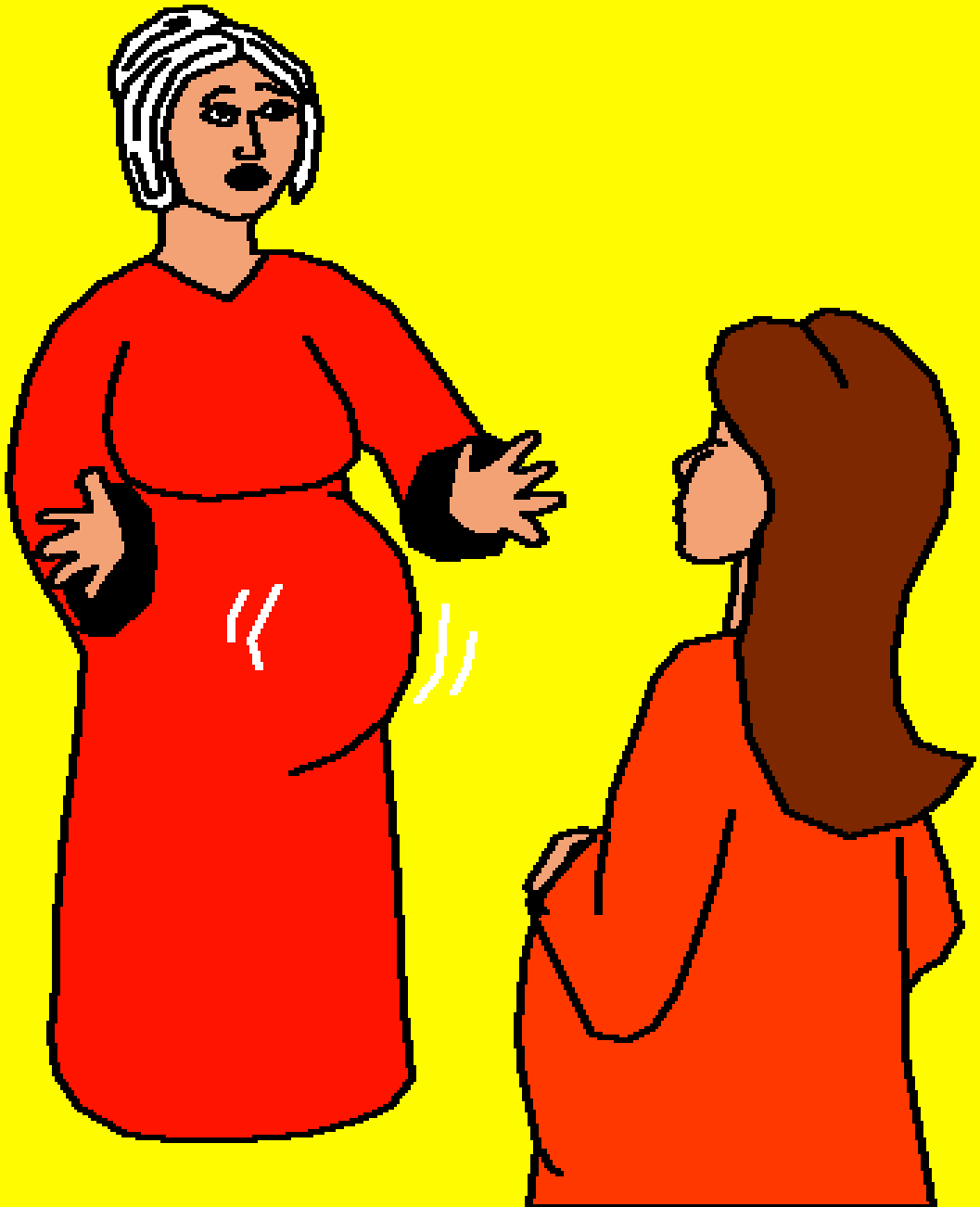


An angel had come. "Don't be afraid," he said. "God sent me. Your wife will have a son. Call him John. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit from birth. He will turn many people to God."

"Speak to us, Zacharias." The people outside were puzzled. They did not know that Gabriel the angel said Zacharias would be unable to talk until the baby's birth because he didn't believe the message from God. He thought his wife was too old to have a baby.

At home, Zacharias wrote all the angel told him. Elizabeth, his wife, was amazed. They had always prayed for a child. Could it happen now?

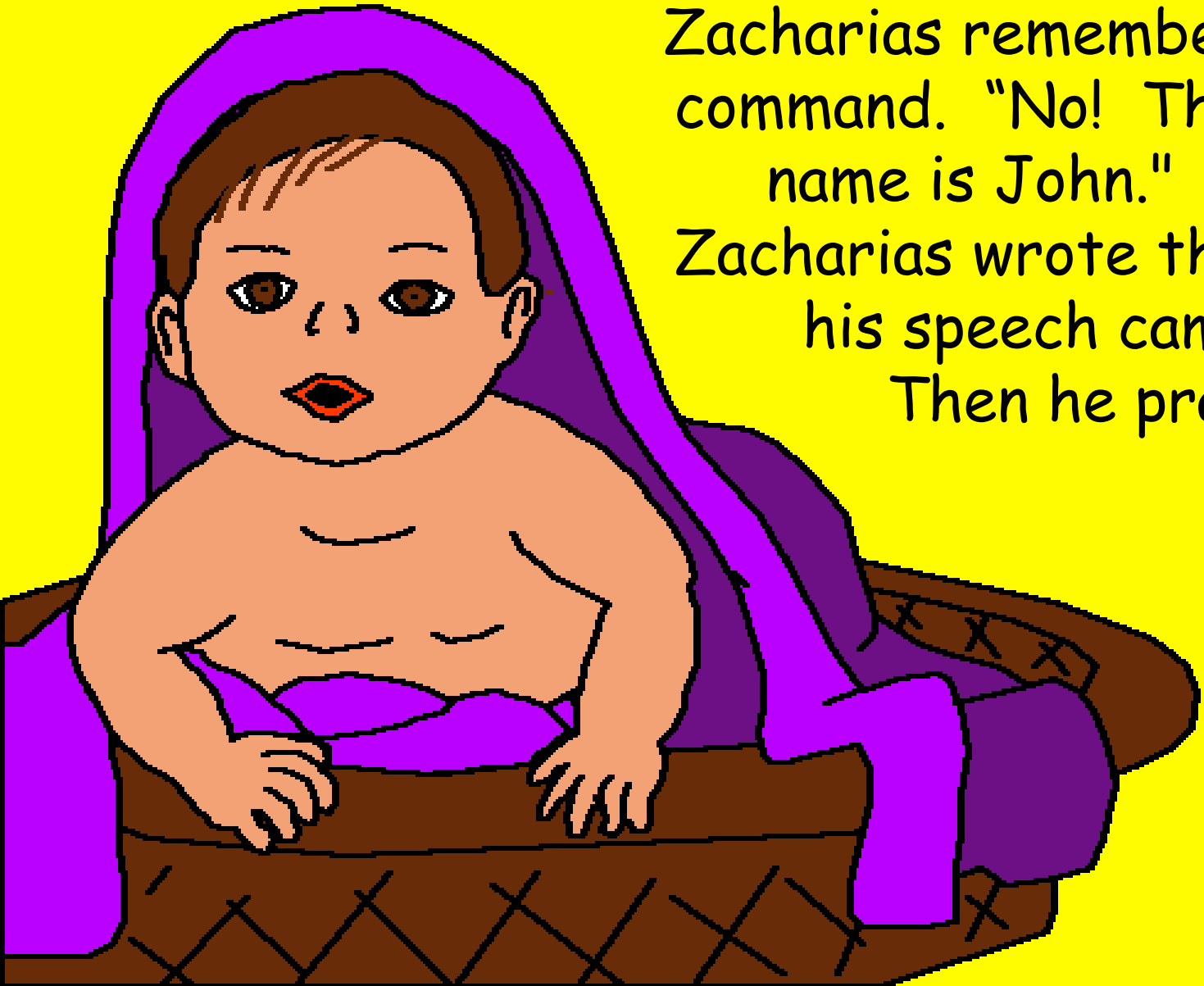
Soon Elizabeth knew a baby was coming. She praised God. One day, Elizabeth's cousin Mary visited. Mary was also expecting a baby.



When Mary arrived, Elizabeth felt her baby leap within her body. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She knew Mary's baby would be the Lord Jesus Christ. Together, the two women praised God with joy.

Elizabeth's baby was born as God promised. "Call him Zacharias, like his Dad," the other priests said.

Zacharias remembered God's command. "No! The baby's name is John." When Zacharias wrote those words, his speech came back. Then he praised God.



When John grew up he was like Elijah, the great man of God.
John told people God's Son was soon coming to bless them. Jewish leaders hated John because he said to them, "Repent! Stop sinning." They did not want to hear about their sins.

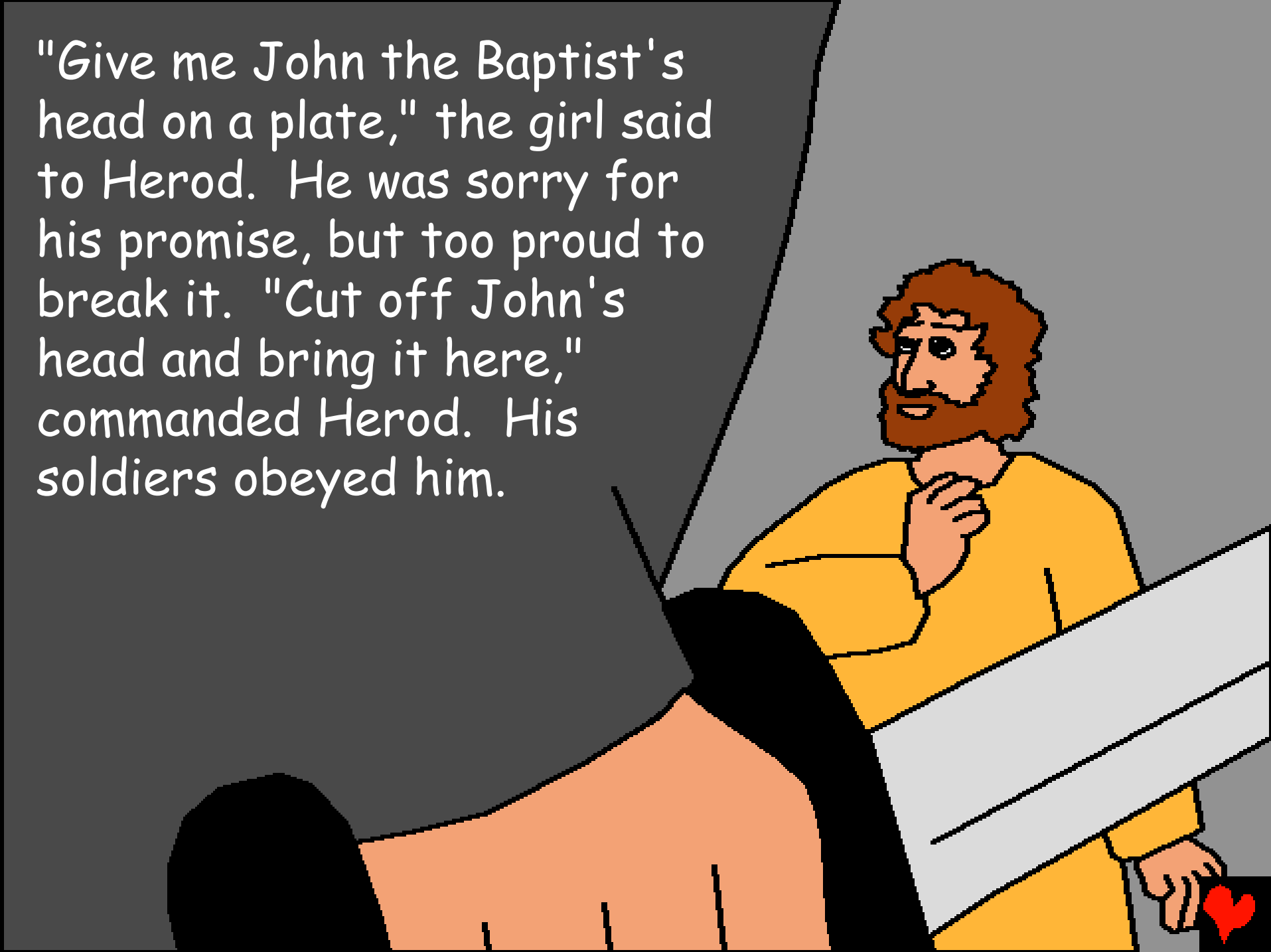
Others called him John the Baptist because he dipped people under water to show they were sorry for their sins. One day, Jesus came to John to be baptized.
"You should baptize me," John protested.
But Jesus said, "Let it be so."
And John baptized Him.

After Jesus' baptism, John saw the Holy Spirit come upon Jesus in the form of a dove. This was God's sign. John knew that Jesus was God's Son. John called Jesus the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.

John led many people to God. But Herod, the wicked ruler, threw John in prison. "It is a sin for you to have Herodias, your brother's wife, as your own," John told Herod. Herod knew this was true. He knew John was God's servant, a just and holy man. But he did not want to stop sinning. And John would not stop preaching against sin, even if it meant prison.

On his birthday Herod had a big party. The daughter of Herodias danced for him. This pleased Herod. "You can have anything you want," he promised. "Even half my kingdom."

"What shall I ask for?" the girl wondered. Her evil mother Herodias, who hated John, told her what to ask for! It was terrible!


"Give me John the Baptist's head on a plate," the girl said to Herod. He was sorry for his promise, but too proud to break it. "Cut off John's head and bring it here," commanded Herod. His soldiers obeyed him.

Sadly John's friends buried the body of God's brave and faithful servant. John's work for God was now finished. Perhaps they knew Jesus could comfort them in their sorrow.

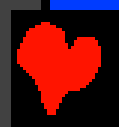
A Man Sent From God

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Mark 6; Luke 1, 3

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

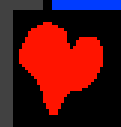


The End

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