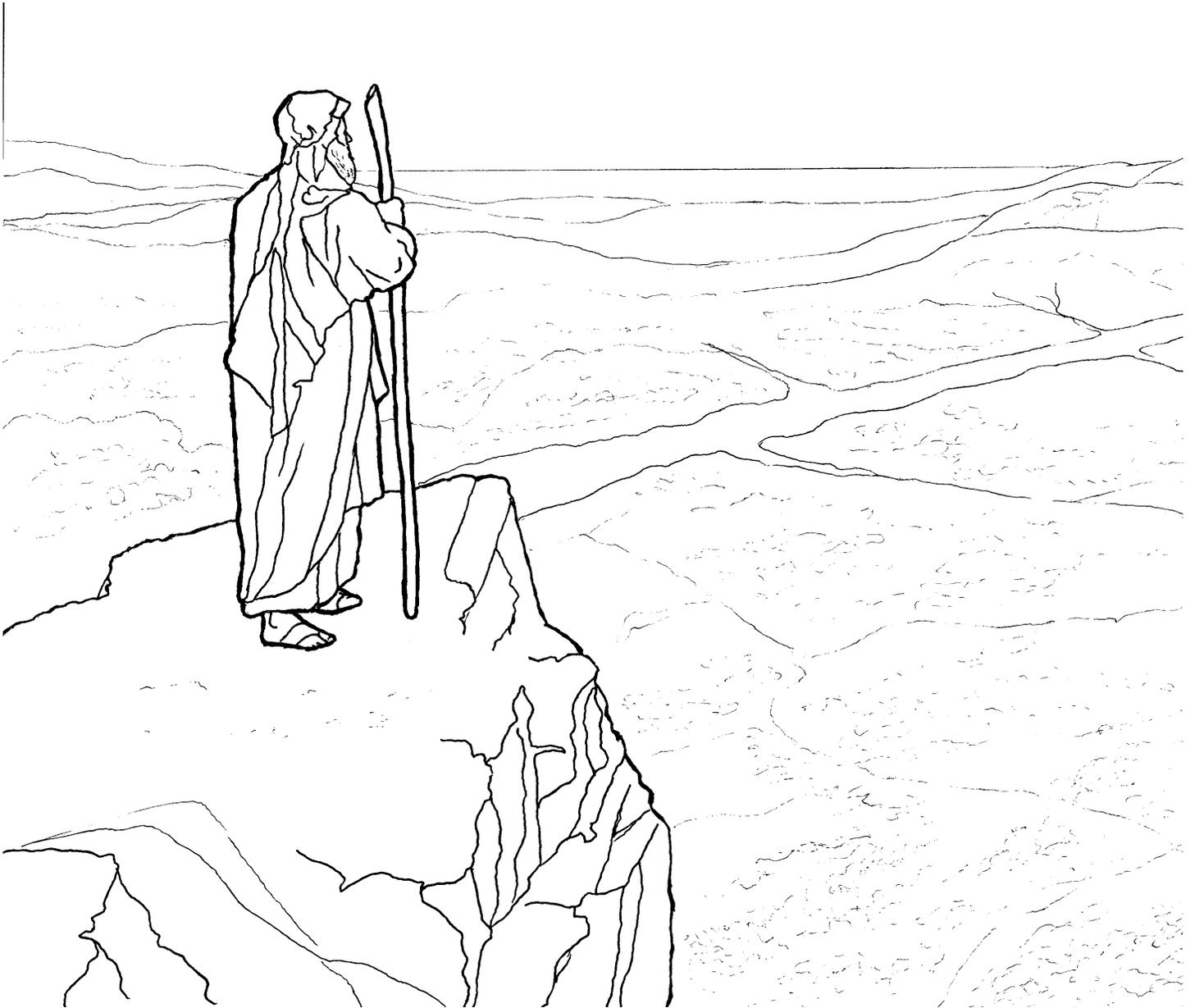


The Last Days of Moses

Numbers 20:1-13, 27:12-23; Deuteronomy 6-8, 18:15-18, 31-34



The Story

We have seen in the last stories how God took care of His chosen people as they journeyed to the promised land. He also did many miracles through His servant Moses.

Moses was a great leader and trusted God to help him, but there were times when his faith was weak. At one time the Children of Israel camped at a place where there was no water. God told Moses to strike a large rock with his rod and water came gushing out of it. Then many years later they needed water again and complained to Moses. This time God told Moses and Aaron to speak to the rock and water would come out of it. But Moses disobeyed God and hit the rock with his rod instead of speaking to it. Then God told Moses and Aaron that they would not be able to enter the promised land because they had disobeyed Him in front of all the people.

Moses asked God to appoint a new leader. God chose Joshua to lead the people into the promised land.

Moses lived for 120 years. For the first 40 years, he had been a prince in Egypt. He spent the next 40 years of his life tending sheep in the land of Midian near Mount Sinai. During the last 40 years of his life, he was the leader of the Children of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness.

Near the end of his life, Moses knew that he would soon die, so he called the people together. He reminded them of how God had taken care of them on their long journey to the promised land. He also told them again that the Savior would

come as God had promised. By believing in the promised Savior, they would someday enter the Promised Land of Heaven. He reminded them that as God's people they should obey His Commandments and live as His children. Finally, Moses told the people that they should not be afraid to conquer the land of Canaan because God would be with them.

The Lord told Moses to go to the top of Mount Nebo, and He would show him the land that He had promised Abraham and all his descendants. The Children of Israel were very sad as they watched their beloved leader climb the mountain where he would die.

After God showed Moses the beautiful land of Canaan, Moses died. God Himself buried Moses. No one knows where he was buried.

Many years later, Moses returned to this earth one more time. When Jesus took His disciples to a mountain to show them His glory before He died on the cross, Moses appeared on that mountain with the prophet Elijah.

Through the story of Moses, we can see how God takes care of His servants and uses them to accomplish His work. We can also learn how important it is not to change what God tells us to do in His Word. We pray that God would use us to do His work and that He would teach us to obey Him in all that we do.

Moses prepared God's people for his death.

Activity One - Choose the correct ending for each sentence by placing an X in the blank.

1. Moses could not enter Canaan
 - a. ___ because at one time he had disobeyed God.
 - b. ___ because it was too dangerous in Canaan.
 - c. ___ because he was too old.
2. God chose a new leader whose name was
 - a. ___ Eleazar
 - b. ___ Aaron
 - c. ___ Joshua
3. God told Moses to go to the top of
 - a. ___ Mt. Sinai
 - b. ___ Mt. Nebo
 - c. ___ Mt. Horeb
4. God showed Moses the land of
 - a. ___ Canaan
 - b. ___ Goshen
 - c. ___ Egypt
5. Moses told the people to
 - a. ___ go back to Egypt
 - b. ___ trust in the Lord
 - c. ___ mourn for him

God wants us to prepare for our death.

Activity Two - Place an X before all the statements that are true.

___ Moses spent the first 40 years of his life in Canaan.

___ God did many miracles through Moses.

___ God loved Moses even though Moses disobeyed Him.

_____ Moses told the people that a Savior would come.

_____ Joshua buried Moses on Mt. Nebo.

_____ Moses appeared to Jesus' disciples many years later.

_____ God wants His children to obey His Word.

Passages

Luke 11:28b - Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.

Deuteronomy 6:5 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Hymn - TLH 410 v. 1, 4

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless.
Guide us by Thy hand to our
fatherland.

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won.
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us,
Still support, control, protect us,
Till we safely stand in our fatherland.

Whom are we asking to lead us in this life?

When will "our rest be won"?

Where is our "fatherland"?

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Teach us to trust You in everything we do. Many times we want to do things our own way instead of Your way. Forgive us for not always listening to what You tell us to do in Your Word. Thank you for giving us pastors and teachers to be our leaders and to teach us about Jesus our Savior. In His name we pray.

Amen.