

BVI Artist Requirements

These standards, sizes, supplies will make our job at BVI much easier and allow us to spend our time more wisely, all the while creating a standard for other artists in the future.

Digital Art

- Individual pages need to be 9 ¼” x 12 ¼”. This allows for a ⅛” bleed around the entire image
- Spreads (two pages, should be 18 ¼” x 12 ¼”, which again, allows for the ⅛” bleed.
- Each illustration will need to line art provided in a separate layer so that it is easily reproducible in a grayscale environment—i.e. crisp outer lines, etc.
- Please convert graphic to CMYK. This will facilitate a truer reproduction of the color values in the professionally printed volume. Note: we have the capability to convert it to RGB for digital/web use
- When adding color, it would be very useful to add colors/textures in separate layers to facilitate using portions of the graphic in other applications.

Fine Art (watercolor, pastels, acrylic/oil paints and mixed media)

- We are asking that your paper size be no larger than 12” x 17”
- Please allow for a ¼” bleed around entire image (artwork).
- A ½ in. border around paper (not a bleed): we do not want art to the edges of the paper.

Black/White Line Art and Clip Art

- We are asking that your paper size be 11” x 14”.
- Your image should be no larger than 10” x 10”, the universal size of our clip art images.
- Digitally colored clip art should be submitted in CMYK format

Tools and Supplies

BVI recommends the entire line of Professional Prismacolor color pencils, markers and pastels, the Pantone Marker System, and Windsor and Newton watercolors, Dr. Martin’s Pigment Dyed inks and FW pigment dyed inks.

We realize that all artists have their favorite supplies. If you are working in color: watercolor, pastels, acrylic/oil paints, mixed media, there may be no need to change, *except your paper/image sizes*. But if you are working in pen and ink, it will be necessary to change to the supplies listed.

Color Artwork

For those of you working in color (watercolor, pastels, acrylic/oil paints and mixed media), there may be no need for you to change your supplies, except your paper/image sizes.

Please use **ONLY** use white paper. Off-white, ivory or colored papers is harder to scan.

Black/White Ink Artwork

We ask that you **ONLY** use the following products, (in order from most desirable to acceptable)

Pens

1. Rapidograph ink pens by Koh-I-noor
2. Staedtler Tech pens
3. Pigma Micron Pens

4. Copic Markers: these are different than the pens
5. Copic Ink pens: a brush type pen: excellent but can only be found at: www.bluelinepro.com also www.joekubert.com
6. Nexus Art pen by Kohi-noor: this is a great ball point type pen

Inks

1. Rapidograph ink by Koh-I-noor-black: (my favorite)
2. Rotring ink-black
3. FW-Artist Acrylic ink-black
4. Dr.Martins ink-black

Black ink **MUST** be opaque, lightfast and water resistant to waterproof, preferably pigment dyed.

Paper

Please do not use

1. Any type of Bristol board
2. Any type of drawing or sketch pad papers
3. Off-white or ivory and no colored papers
4. Nothing with a “tooth” to it, unless for pastels, watercolors or paintings

Submitting Your Work

By Mail

We prefer to have originals, so that we can scan them directly at BVI. If you are too far (out of state) to visit the office, then we ask that you ship your artwork. You may ship the originals or scanned artwork on a CD. Please pack your artwork with great care. We suggest laying it between two pieces of cardboard first, then placing into a box. Please **do not** send color photocopies of any kind. Send all artwork, originals or CD, insured via UPS only.

If you are sending your work on a CD, specifically for those of you, who are digitally coloring work for us, please follow the guidelines below.

Include

- Use CD-R's ONLY-no CD-RW's
- Cleaned B/W line art, as a .PSD file at 300 dpi
- Full color, layered art as a CMYK .PSD file at 300 dpi

You should have only two files for each image. **DO NOT SEND ANY EXTRA FILES.**

By Email

You may use email to help speed up the process of getting finished artwork approved. Please convert your artwork to a PDF and email to Dave Spangler (dave@biblevisuals.org). It will then be evaluated by the BVI staff, and you will be contacted about any changes to be made. If you have any questions please contact Dave by phone (717-859-1131) or email.

By FTP

If your finished approved files are too large to send via email, arrangements can be made to submit these using our Dropbox site. Protocols will be sent to you via email upon request.

Thank you for using these new standards for all artwork, and for being generous with your time and sharing your talents. Due to our continuing effort to improve the quality of the books BVI produces, we will periodically implement changes that create a higher standard for the art that is used.

BVI Tutorial for Colorization

Several artists have begun colorizing different volumes, each talented in his own way using different styles. While we encourage this individuality, we want each artist to meet standards necessary for BVI to maintain both quality and coherency within the project.

Guidelines

BVI has done extensive research for the accuracy of the characters and environment in each book, so we ask that you please follow the listed guidelines and do not change the art without expressed consent or request from BVI.

- **Cleaning:** Preliminary cleaning has been done prior to the artwork being sent to you but we may have missed something. Please feel free to
 - Remove page numbering at bottom of artwork using clone tool or eraser.
 - Delete any pre-existing screen printing which the initial cleaning process may have missed using white or black loaded in the paintbrush or the eraser tool.
 - After the process is complete you may need to manually smooth out some of the lines using brushes/eraser if persistent spots still remain.
 - Feel free to enhance any artwork that did not scan well, or that has weak lines. Each illustration needs to have crisp outer edges and solidly filled in solid areas so that they will reproduce well.
 - If you discover any mistakes such as 6 fingered hands or unevenly sized placed eyes, please contact us and we will work through the changes together..
 - Be sure that final illustration is submitted in CMYK mode. We have found that art prepared in RGB, then converted to CMYK may appear on the screen, but may lose the intended color when printed on a press.
- **Preparation:** should also be done before sending the artwork but if something has been missed, here is the standard used: The original artwork has been resized from 10"x14" to 9¼" x 12¼."
 - Canvas size is 9¼" x 12¼" (1/8" bleed on all sides)
 - Printed page will be trimmed to 9" x 12" when volume is professionally printed.
 - There might be two sets of guidelines, one to show the 1/8" bleed, one to show a 3/8" margin within the actual image.
 - The other set of guidelines is showing a ¼" margin with the actual image.
 - Please save files in PSD CMYK format.
 - We will add page numbers, text boxes (index volume #, catalog #, etc.), and copyright information to the illustrations, cover, or map.
 - When the back cover consists of a Bible Verse, we will prepare this.
 - Please do not add to the original inked artwork, unless instructed. If you feel something is needed, please contact us.
- **Color:**
 - We recommend that you use layers for each color. This allows ease of correction if necessary later on. You will probably want to keep the layer pallet open for ease in

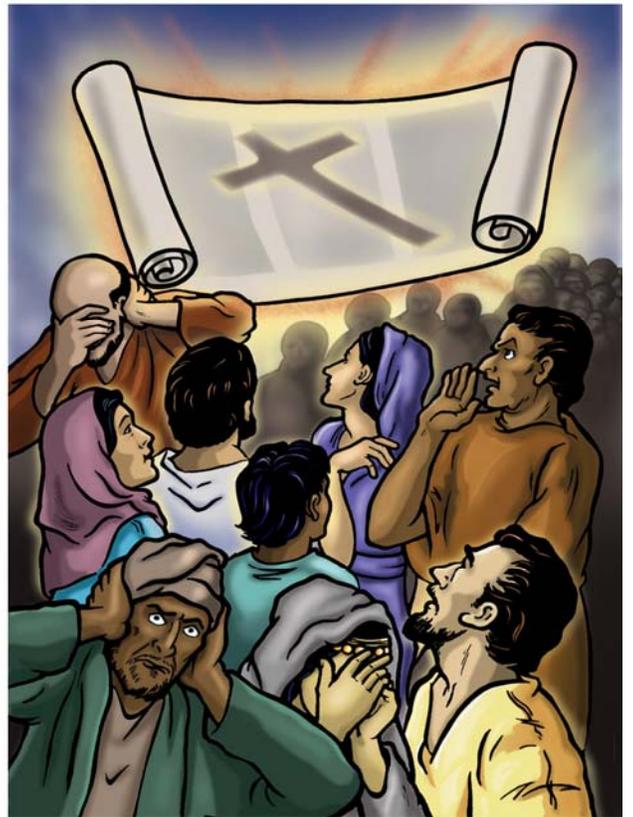
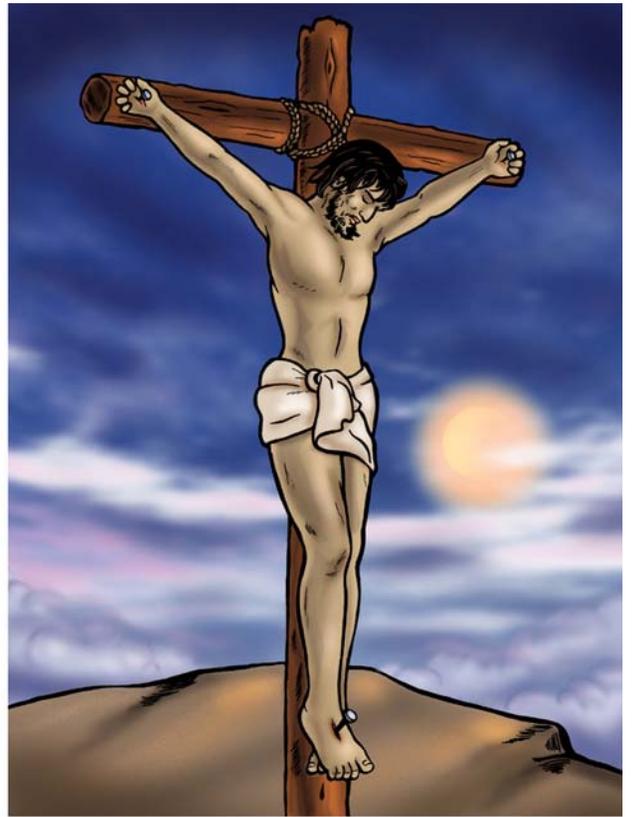
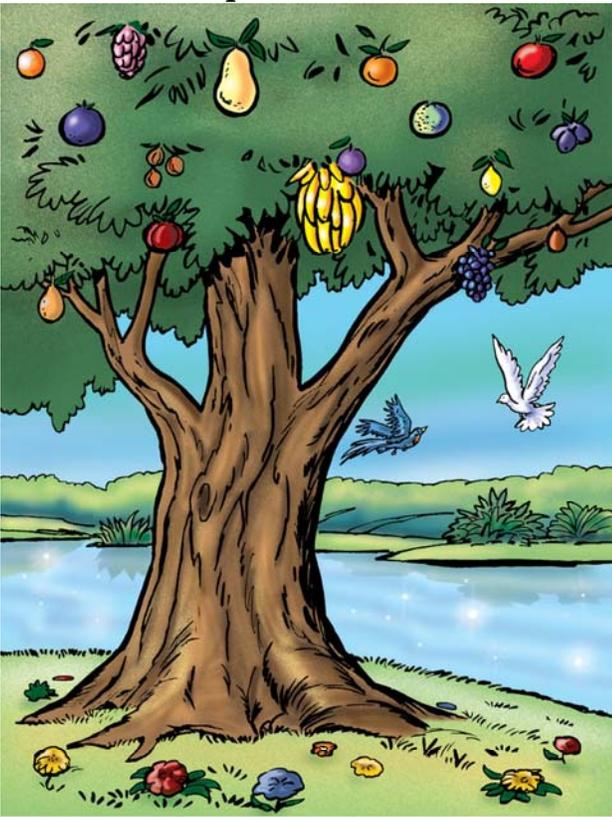
switching between layers. Open it by clicking on Window from the drop down file menu, then Layers

- Please use the colors from the pallet for Jesus' skin and clothing. This helps to give our illustrations of Jesus a uniform look throughout the 78 volumes. Do not change the colors in any way. Since the majority of the VBS series is *not* sold in the US, BVI has taken great caution in choosing colors for Jesus that would be accepted worldwide.
 - Also included are CMYK color values that have been approved for *other skin tones* for all other people in the artwork. The VB characters are normally Middle Eastern rather than Caucasian/Americans. Use these colors as base mixtures which may be subtly altered to give a variety of races where it may be appropriate.
 - As you are coloring, remember to think "biblical times." People did not have all the colors in their clothing that we use today. The colors were much more subtle. And certain colors were not worn by some people, (lower class or servants did not wear blues, purples and reds). Coloring is about giving an accurate depiction of the world that Jesus lived in rather than what "looks good."
 - When adding color be consistent! Each character needs to have the same color clothing/textures/ gradients/highlights/shadows for each page he/she appears on. Read the teaching text to make sure your images are accurate.
- **Shading:** Each image relies on one main light source. Choose an accurate light source based on the shading in the artwork provided, and make sure that your shading and highlights match that position. If there is more than one light source in an image, then determine which is the main (largest) source and begin there. Then move to the secondary (smaller) light source. An example: an overhead light source and a candle on a table. The overhead light source would be your main source for lighting the image and the candle would be your secondary (ambient) light source.
 - **Filters:** Adobe Photoshop is the program we use to digitally colorize the VB volumes. A wide variety of plug-ins are available for creating many useful textures and effects such as rocks, glass and drop shadows. We like to see these used sparingly to add depth to the images. ***Do not use too many filters in one image, and do not overuse the same filter within an image.*** Be careful to use textures which are accurate. If you use a rock texture, it should look like rock (ask another person for a 2nd opinion if you are not sure). **Images must be recognized from at least 15-20ft. away. High contrast is a must for recognition.** Use your artistic talents to create shading and details, rather than relying on the filters!

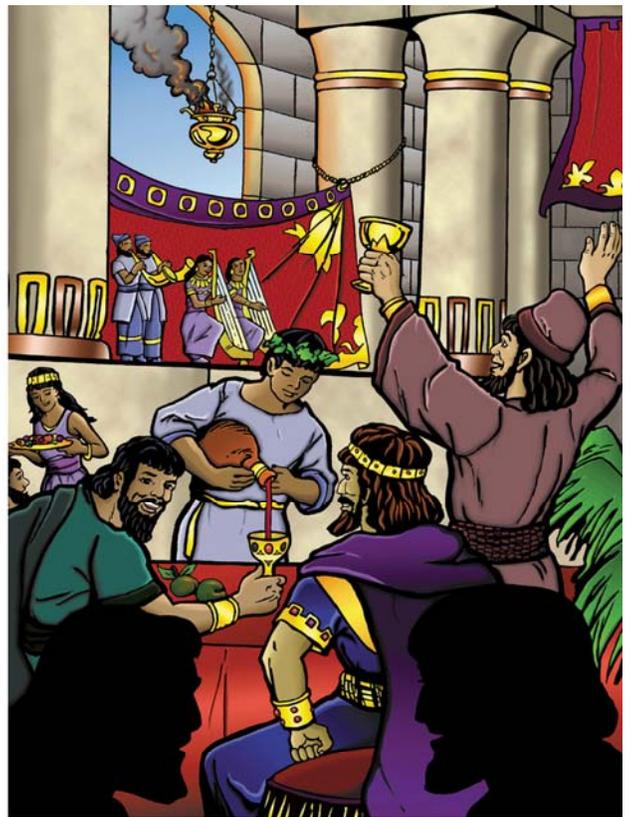
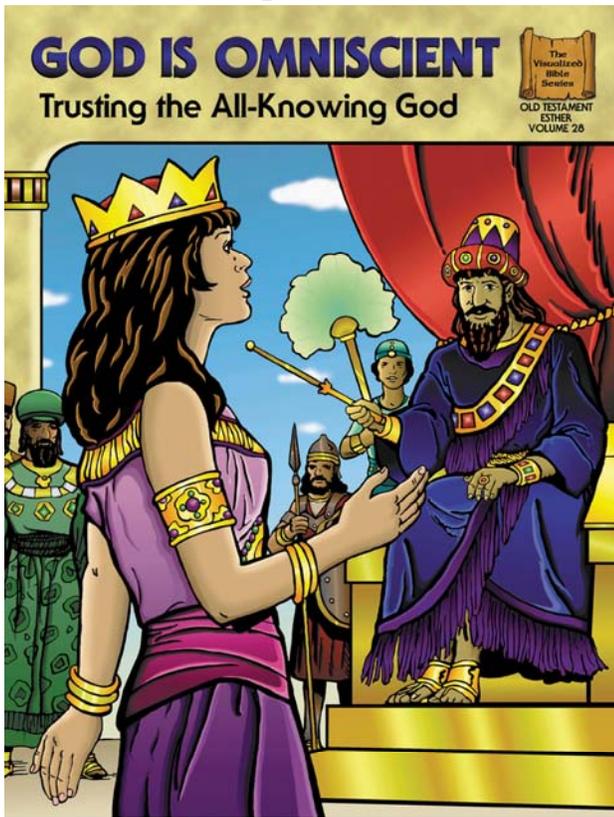
We suggest that if you do not own a Photoshop book, other than the manual, that you purchase one or ask us for assistance in obtaining one. Tutorials will help speed up your work and show you things that you didn't know you could do.

Taking a couple of hours to experiment with the software may prove quite beneficial. Use every brush, filter, layer style etc, mix and combine them to see how each function reacts. The key to success is often found in the proven pen and paper method. Write down what you did so that you can remember and repeat it.

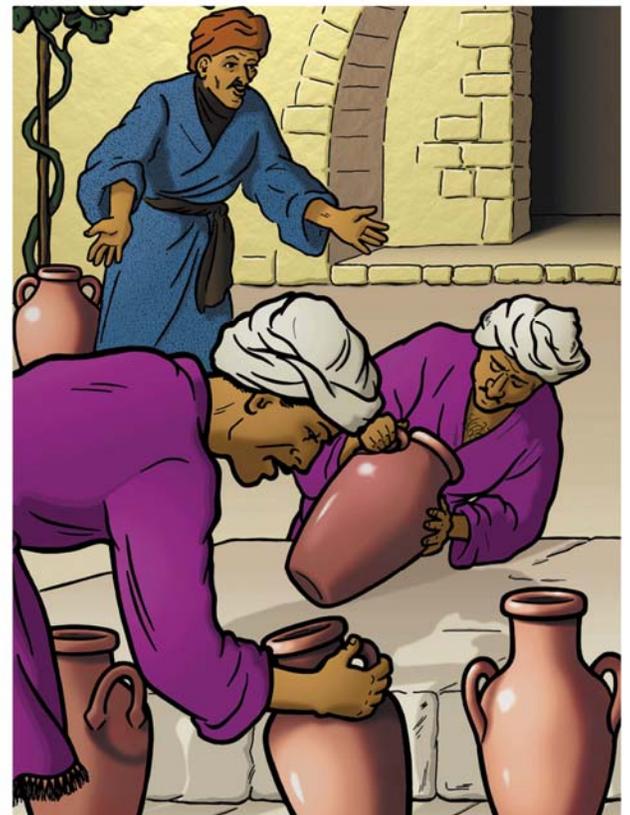
Ed Olson Samples:



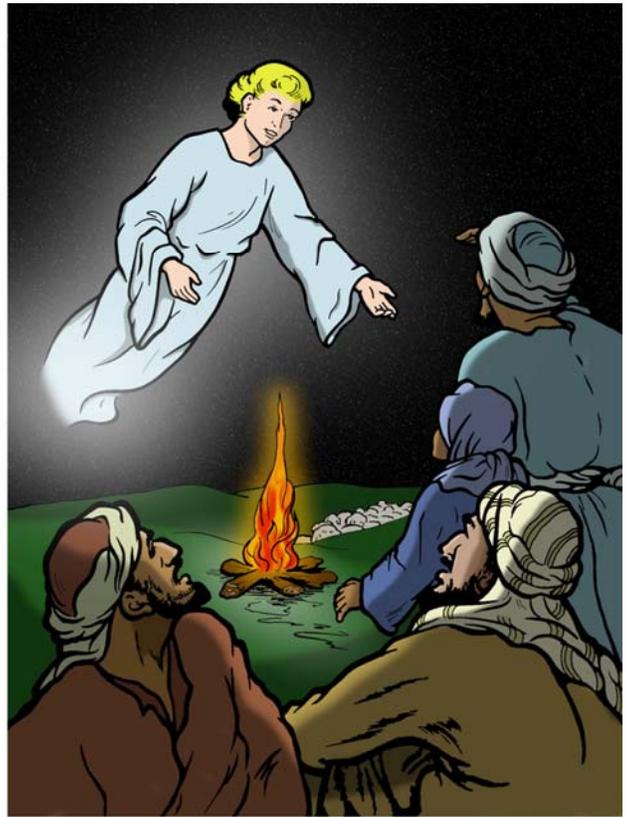
Sean Tweed Samples:



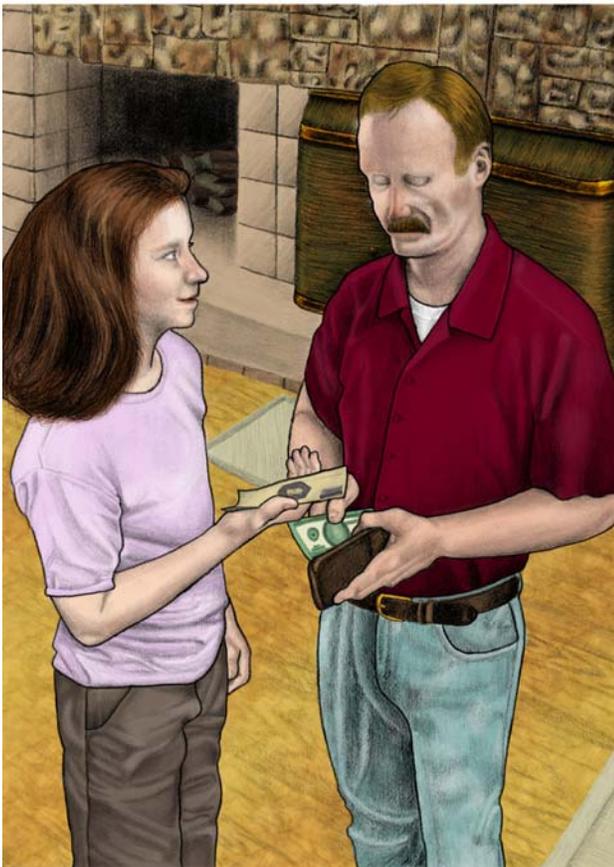
Josh Day Samples:



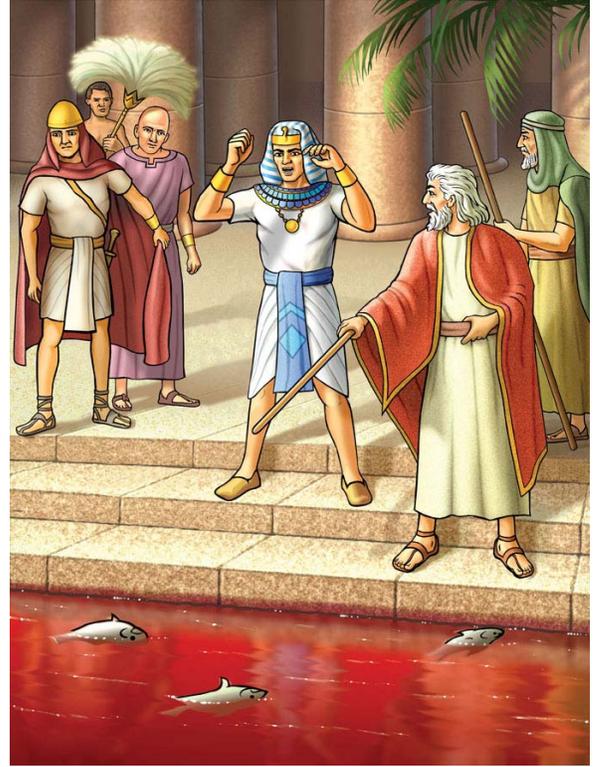
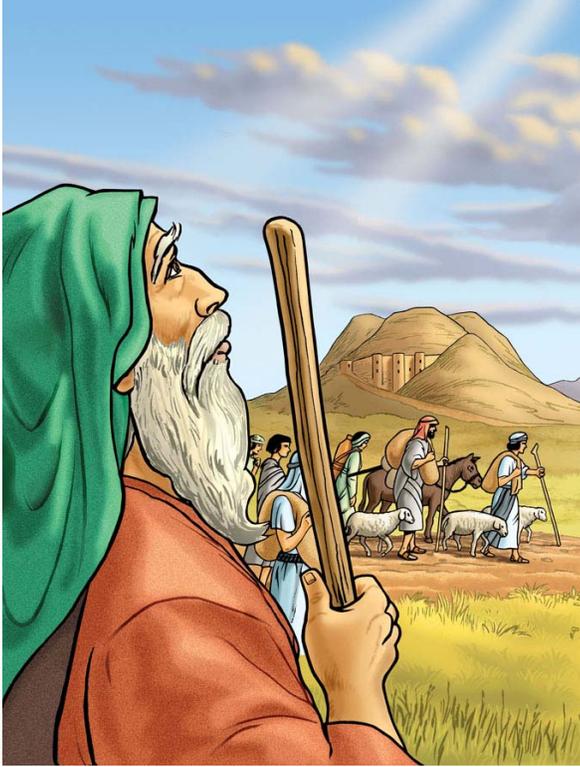
Jonathan Ober Samples:



Ian Brownlie Samples



Michael Lowry Samples



Yuko Willoughby Samples

