

BEN-HUR

Adapted from the fictional book by Lew Wallace.

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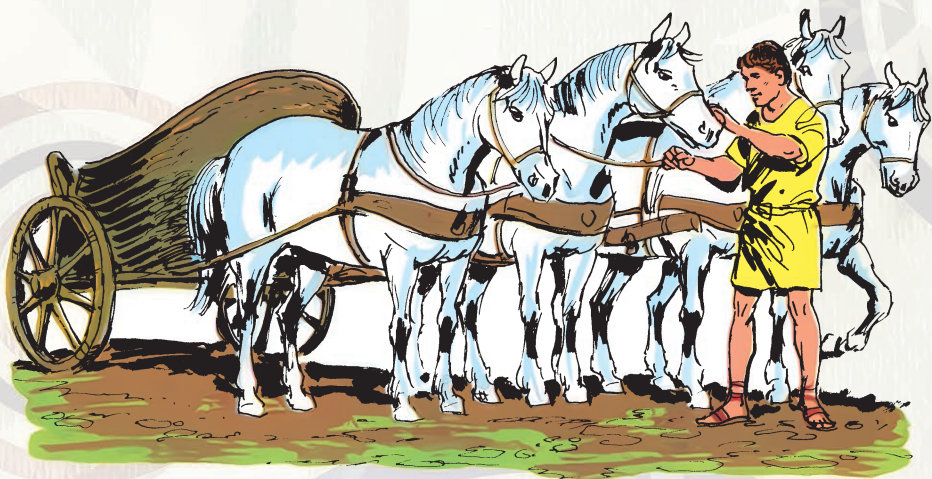
To carry out his plan of humbling his enemy, Messala, Ben-Hur, and Malluch visit the Sheik Ilderim in the Orchard of Palms.

Ho, Malluch! Are those the horses? What beauty! What strength and grace!

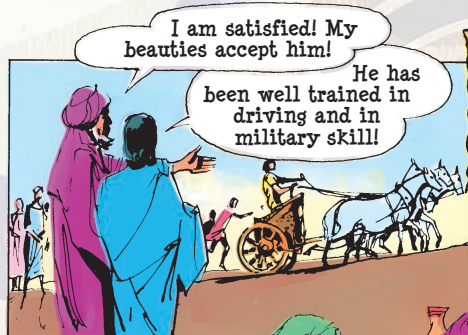
Aye! They are pure Arabian stock—as carefully tended as the sheik's own children!



The sheik greets them courteously and after hearing Ben-Hur's plan agrees to lend him his four prize horses—if the horses will let Ben-Hur handle them.



The sheik and Malluch watch . . .



That night, after they have eaten, another guest named Balthasar tells them how he and two others, many years ago, were led by a star to Bethlehem where they saw a new born babe . . .

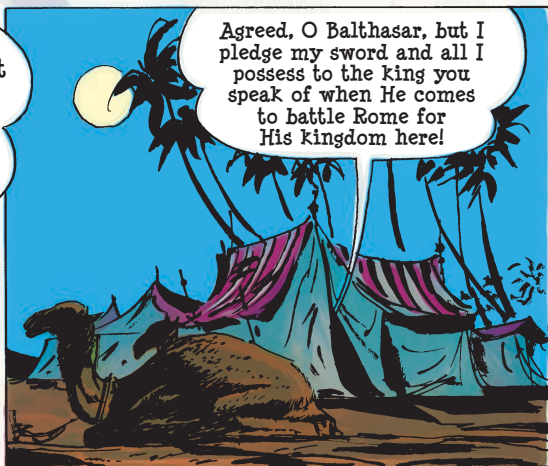
. . .Voices proclaimed that the child was to be the King and the Savior, but the child was hidden from Herod, and He who was to be King of the Jews has made no move to establish His kingdom.

God's people must throw off the Roman chains before the King can mount his throne! We must prepare for war!

There is a kingdom of earth and a kingdom above. We do not know of which He is to be king until he comes to possess His own. Battles, my young friend, Ben-Hur, are fought against evil by other means than the sword-and won!



Agreed, O Balthasar, but I pledge my sword and all I possess to the king you speak of when He comes to battle Rome for His kingdom here!



For the next three days, Ben-Hur spends all his waking hours with the horses. He feeds and waters them, harnesses and unharnesses them. He speaks to them by name so that the intelligent beasts get to know him and obey his every word and touch on their reins.

Ha! Son of Hur, they have accepted you as their brother!

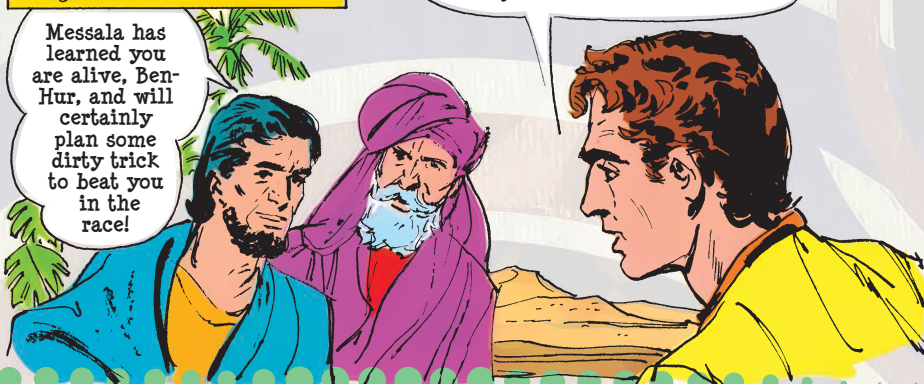
Aye, O Sheik, and like brothers we will humble that evil Roman, Messala, tomorrow!



The morning of the race, Malluch brings bad news ...

Messala has learned you are alive, Ben-Hur, and will certainly plan some dirty trick to beat you in the race!

It is good that he knows his opponent. It will make my victory more difficult for him!



continued next week



What if you made a resolution to get in shape but can't find the time to exercise?

First Aid: Make your resolution more specific. Keep track of your progress each week and set new goals if you need to.



What if you made a resolution to practice your music lesson every day, but you're already behind?

First Aid: Set aside a specific practice time each day when there's not usually much else happening. Even if you have to miss a day or two, keep to your schedule as often as you can.



What if you made a resolution to watch less TV, but then you got sick and had nothing else to do?

First Aid: Plan ahead how you will spend your time. Pick out the TV shows you really want to watch and some other fun things to do with your free time.



4

What if you made a resolution to obey the FIRST TIME Mom or Dad gave an order, but you were busy the first 16 times they asked you to take out the garbage?

First Aid: If you're serious about your resolution, set up a reward and penalty system with your parent. For example, you get a dime if you obey the first time, but lose a nickel each time an order needs to be repeated.



5

What if you made a resolution to keep your room clean, but yesterday the clutter swallowed your bed?

First Aid: It's easier to get started when you break a big job into several smaller ones. Do one job each day until things are in order.



6

What if you made a resolution to be nice to your sister, but she invited three friends over to help her drive you crazy?

First Aid: Think ahead and decide what you'll do to keep your cool in situations when your temper usually boils over.



Whatever resolutions you make, you don't have to give up trying just because you mess up a few times. And you don't have to try alone! If you ask God to help you, He will. Mark 9:23 says, "Everything is possible for one who believes."

Illustrated by Terry Sirrell

Tempted in the Desert

BASED ON LUKE 4:1-13

THE DEVIL DOESN'T WANT JESUS TO DO GOD'S WORK. HE TEMPTS JESUS TO MIS-USE HIS POWER.

IF YOU REALLY ARE THE SON OF GOD, TURN THESE STONES INTO BREAD.

SCRIPTURE SAYS, "MAN DOESN'T LIVE ONLY ON BREAD, BUT ON THE WORD OF GOD."



STILL THE DEVIL DOES NOT GIVE UP. NEXT THE DEVIL LEADS JESUS TO JERUSALEM. JESUS STANDS ON THE HIGHEST PART OF THE TEMPLE.

IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, THROW YOURSELF DOWN FROM HERE. SCRIPTURE SAYS, "THE LORD WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU."

SCRIPTURE SAYS, "DO NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST."



THE DEVIL DOESN'T GIVE UP EASILY. SO HE TRIES AGAIN, OFFERING JESUS SOMETHING BIGGER THAN FOOD. THE DEVIL LEADS JESUS TO A HIGH PLACE. IN AN INSTANT HE DISPLAYS ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD FOR JESUS TO SEE.

I WILL GIVE YOU ALL THESE KINGDOMS. YOU COULD BE FAMOUS AND POWERFUL. IF YOU WORSHIP ME, IT WILL BE YOURS.

SCRIPTURE SAYS, "WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD. HE IS THE ONLY ONE YOU SHOULD SERVE."



Pix Puzzle Page

HIDDEN IN MY HEART

Unscramble the hearts to find what is hidden in our hearts. Each heart has space for three letters—the rectangles are spaces between words.



Put the letters from the hearts in the boxes below to discover what is hidden in your heart (Hint: this week's memory verse).



Pause a minute

1. You're dreaming that you are a super hero. In your dream you caught a guy breaking into a garage down the street. He tried to give you 20 bucks to keep your mouth shut. But you remembered that God warns against stealing. You talk back, "Get a job! 'Cause it's wrong to steal, and it's better to work than take anyway." Then *poof* you wake up. **Read Psalm 119:11.**



Take a look back

3. How do you store up God's Word? When do you voice it? What three situations tempt you where voicing God's Word would help you not give in to sin?

key verse

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:11



Record your thoughts

4. Write a Word Warrant to arrest sin. List some temptations. Look in your Bible's concordance for verses to write next to each temptation so you can call out to fight for what's right. _____

Read more this week about how God's Word helps when you're tempted:

☐ Luke 4:1-13 ☐ 1 Corinthians 10:13 ☐ Psalm 119:9-16

**faith
forward**
in touch with God



Play it out

2. When Jesus talked back, it was in this good way. The devil tried to get Him to show off His power by turning stone into bread, but Jesus replied with Deuteronomy 8:3: "Man can't live by bread alone." So the devil tried again: "Worship me and I'll give you all kingdoms." "Only God is to be worshiped," Jesus firmly countered. See, Jesus called on the Word of God when tempted—and the devil's got no say in that. You can call on God's Word when you're faced with temptation, too.

