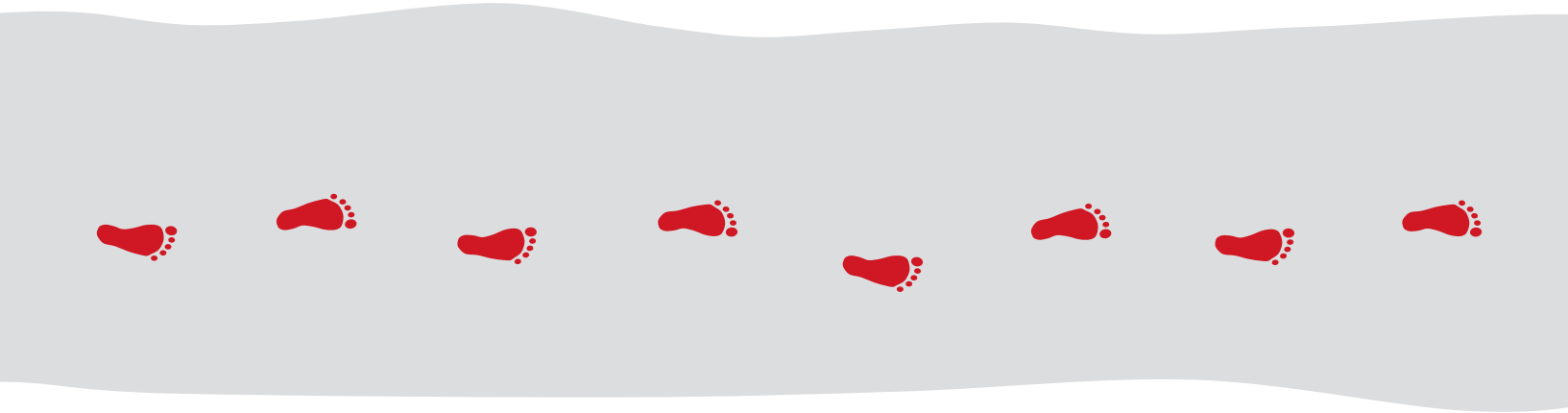




# David

Shepherd. Soldier. King





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*Illustrator's note: There is not absolute certainty about the location of some of the places in the Old Testament.*

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B A Ramsbottom



Illustrated by  
M H Philpott

## Where?

Can you find where these stories took place?

**?** Look on the story pages for the question mark ... and then look for the places on this map.

The Great Sea  
(Mediterranean Sea)

Map



See if you can find where David fought Goliath. It is shown on the map using this shape: ⊕

## Who was David?

David was the son of an old man called Jesse, and the great grandson of Ruth and Boaz. He was the youngest of eight brothers. He had a healthy and attractive rosy face, and he was extremely brave even as a boy.

He was an Israelite who was part of the tribe of Judah.

# Fact file

### DID YOU KNOW?

David means 'beloved', which simply means 'loved'

## David and the Lord Jesus

Jesus is often called the Son of David. This is because David was one of Jesus' forefathers many generations before. David was a *type* of Jesus—that means that David's life, in some measure, was like Jesus' life. David's poetry in the book of Psalms tells us about Jesus.

## Who was Saul?

Saul was Israel's very first king. When David became famous, Saul became very envious of him and wanted to kill him. Although Saul started off well, sadly he did not obey God, so God chose David to be king instead. Saul was killed in battle.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible calls David the 'son of Jesse' 19 times

These stories happened here

## History Timeline

Adam,  
Noah,  
Babel

Abraham,  
Moses,  
Joshua

Judges,  
David,  
Solomon

Kings of  
Israel and  
Judah

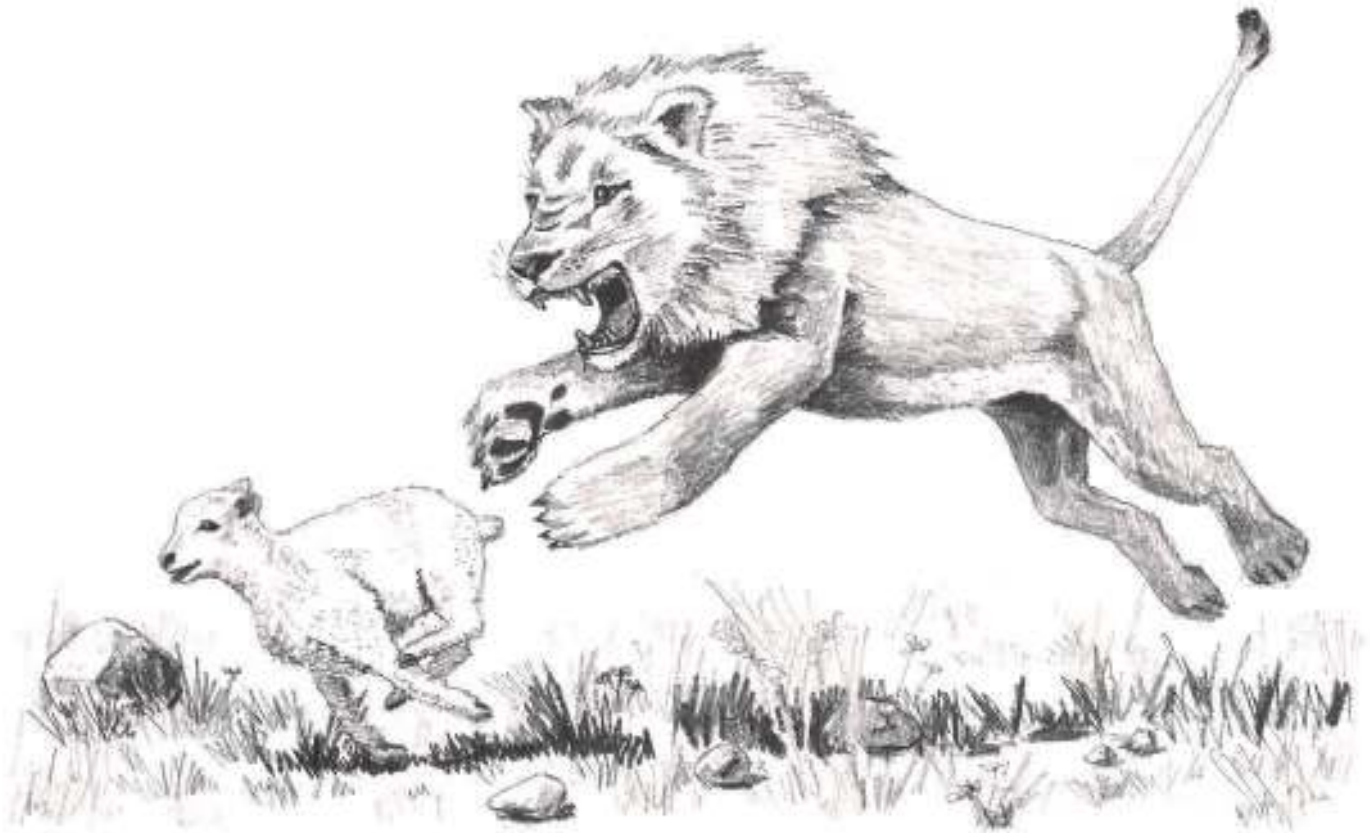
Daniel,  
Esther,  
Nehemiah

The Lord  
Jesus  
Christ

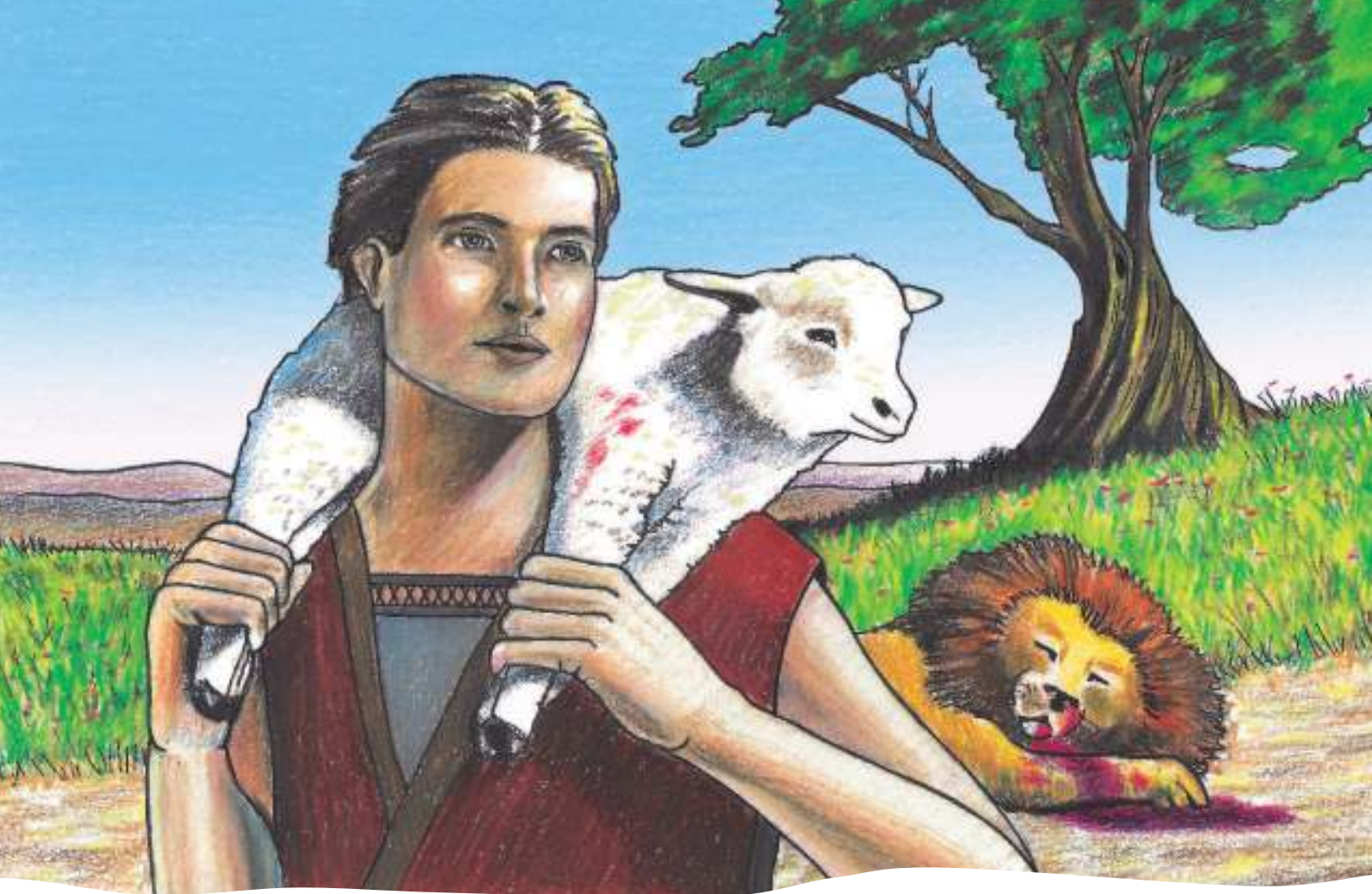
# David the Shepherd

Young David was a shepherd. Day by day he looked after his father's sheep in the fields around Bethlehem.

David must have been very brave. One day a fierce lion came and seized a lamb. What would David do?



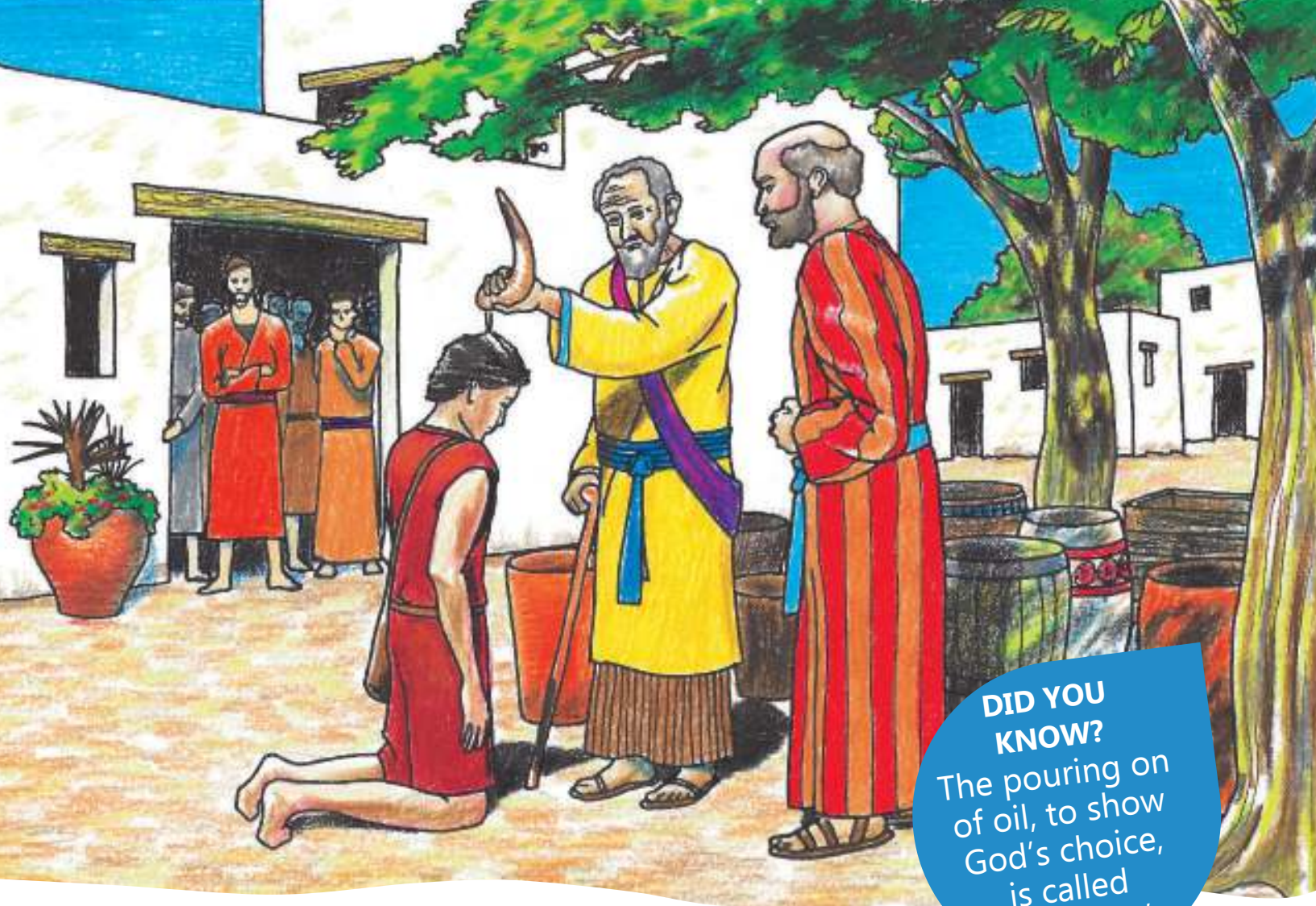
*On the map, can you find: **BETHLEHEM***



He asked God to help him, and he killed the lion, and let the little lamb go free. Another time he fought and killed a bear. He knew that God had helped him to do it.

But one day was different from any other day. That morning he went out as usual in the fields with his father's sheep. But now what is happening?





**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The pouring of oil, to show God's choice, is called 'anointing'

Someone is running, telling him he must go quickly back home. He must have wondered why. Whatever was the matter?

There was his father—and his seven brothers—and an old man he had never seen before. They were all looking very serious.

But now the old man is stepping forward. He is pouring oil on David's head. We wonder if he told him that one day he will be the King of Israel. It must have been a shock to young David. Me? the king?

The old man was Samuel, God's prophet. God had sent him to find a new king instead of the bad King Saul, who now was king. As soon as Samuel saw David, God said, "This is he!"

It was a long, long time before David did become king. He went back into the fields, still looking after his sheep. He must have thought, though, of what it would be like—to be a real king with a crown? But he knew that one day it would come to pass. When God says something is going to happen, we know it will. David knew that.

David used to think of the way he looked after his sheep and cared for them. And he thought: that is just how God looks after His people. They are His sheep.

Do you know the lovely little Psalm, "The LORD is my Shepherd: I shall not want"?

*You can read about this in 1 Samuel chapter 16, verses 1 to 13. Also Psalm 23.*

# Psalm 23

A Psalm of David

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

