

State of Israel Map Study

A map study of the State of Israel seems an appropriate accompaniment to this literature unit with its setting in first century Israel. Knowledge of Israel's geography is essential for all students of the Bible. Our brief study will summarize the history and geography of the modern State of Israel. The children will also label the various geographic sites from the story of *Joel: A Boy of Galilee* on their maps. We have also included four coloring pages that highlight the topography, flora, and fauna of four biomes of Israel: 1) Mediterranean coastal plain; 2) central highlands; 3) Negev desert; and 4) Eilat coral reef. Take time to show the children some of the beautiful photos and power points of Israel that are available on the Internet.

Tools:

Classroom:	world wall map	globe	map of Israel or the Middle East		
Each student:	State of Israel blank map	black pens	colored pencils	rulers	pencil

Map Legend:

Countries

State of Israel (label at the top of the map)
Syria
Lebanon
Egypt
Jordan

Territories

Golan Heights (controlled by Israel)
West Bank (under Israeli military occupation)
Gaza Strip (controlled by Palestinians)

Bodies of Water

Mediterranean Sea
Sea of Galilee
Jordan River
Dead Sea (lowest place on the Earth's surface)
Gulf of Aqaba

Physical Features

Mt. Meron (highest peak in Israel)
Negev
Jordan Rift Valley

Cities

Jerusalem (capital)
Tel Aviv
Nazareth
Bethlehem

First Century Cities

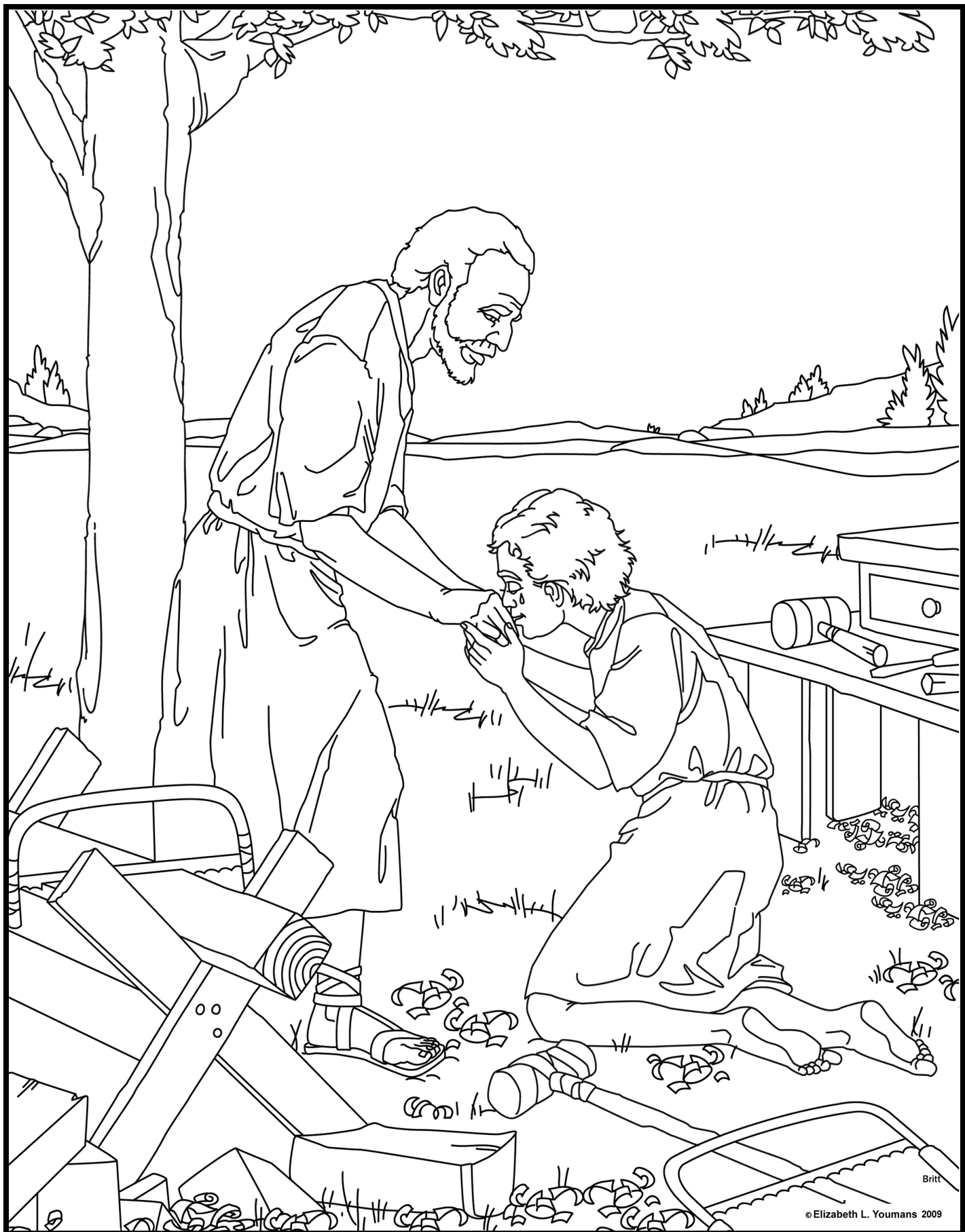
Capernaum
Bethany

Map Standard:

Label all names on horizontal lines drawn lightly with a pencil and a ruler to the area, body of water, or city being identified. Erase all lines after labeling is completed.

1. Block print labels with a black pen using capital letters only.
2. Abbreviations:

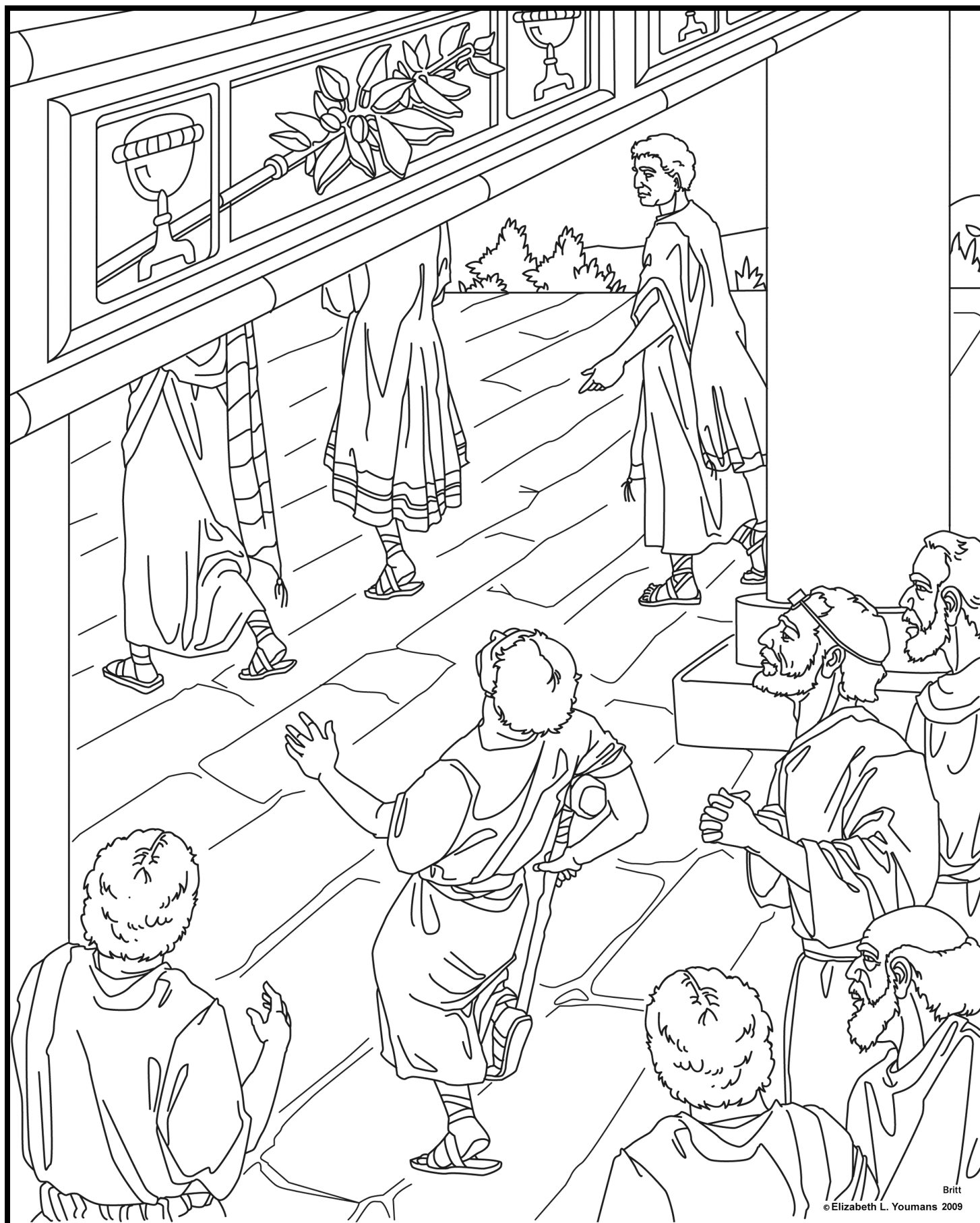
O. – ocean	R. – river	L. – lake	MTN. – mountain
N. – north	S. – south	E. – east	W. – west
3. With a blue colored pencil, outline all shorelines of bodies of water approximately 1/8 inch thick. (Do not color the whole body of water blue, just outline its shoreline.)
4. With contrasting colored pencils, outline the inside borders of countries approximately 1/8 inch thick. (Do not color inside the whole country, just around its borders.)
5. Block print your name in the lower right-hand corner of the map.



“You have a real friend now, Joel.”

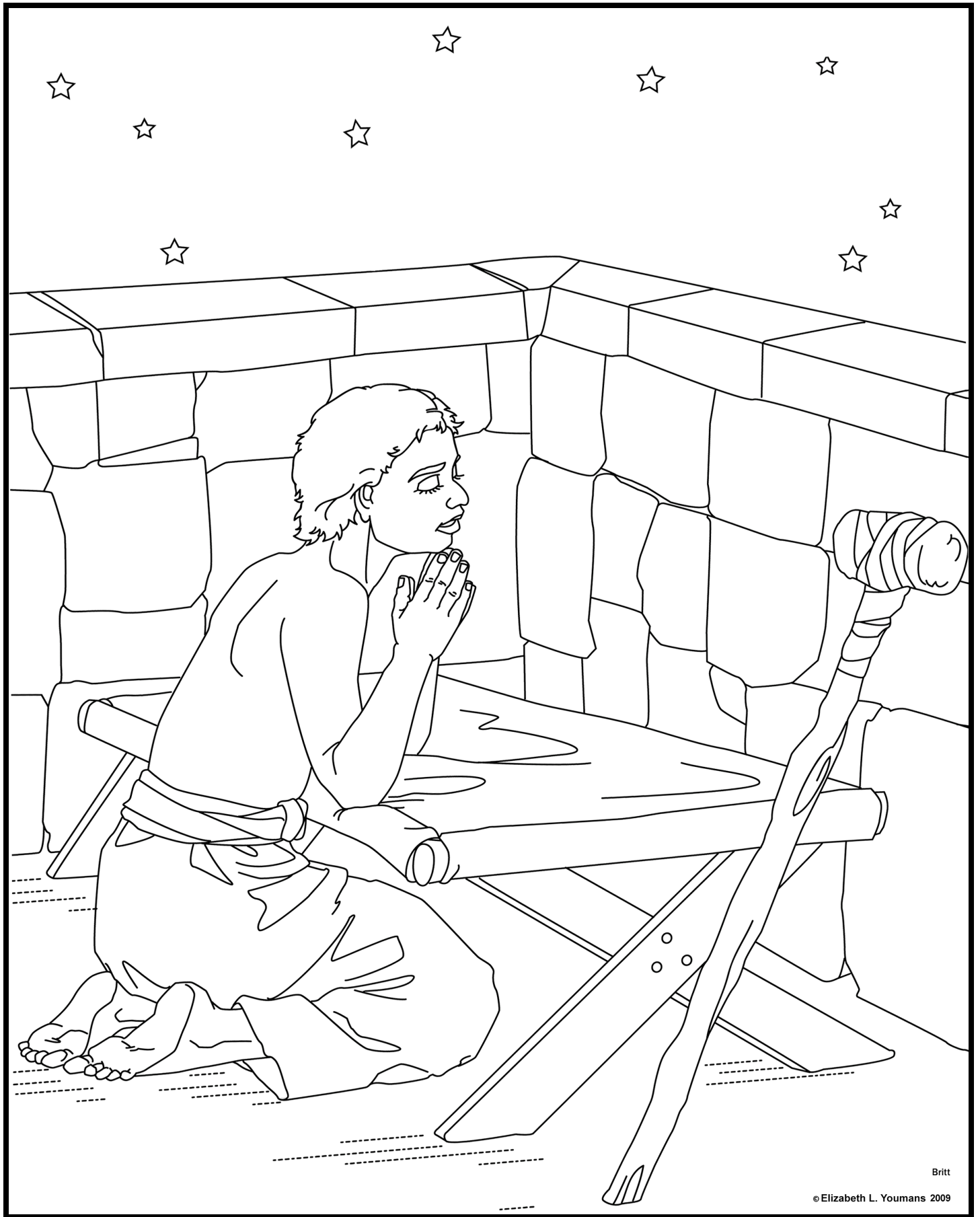


Oh the joy of being carried along without pain or effort!



Britt
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The lintel carving on the synagogue speaks of God's care.



Britt

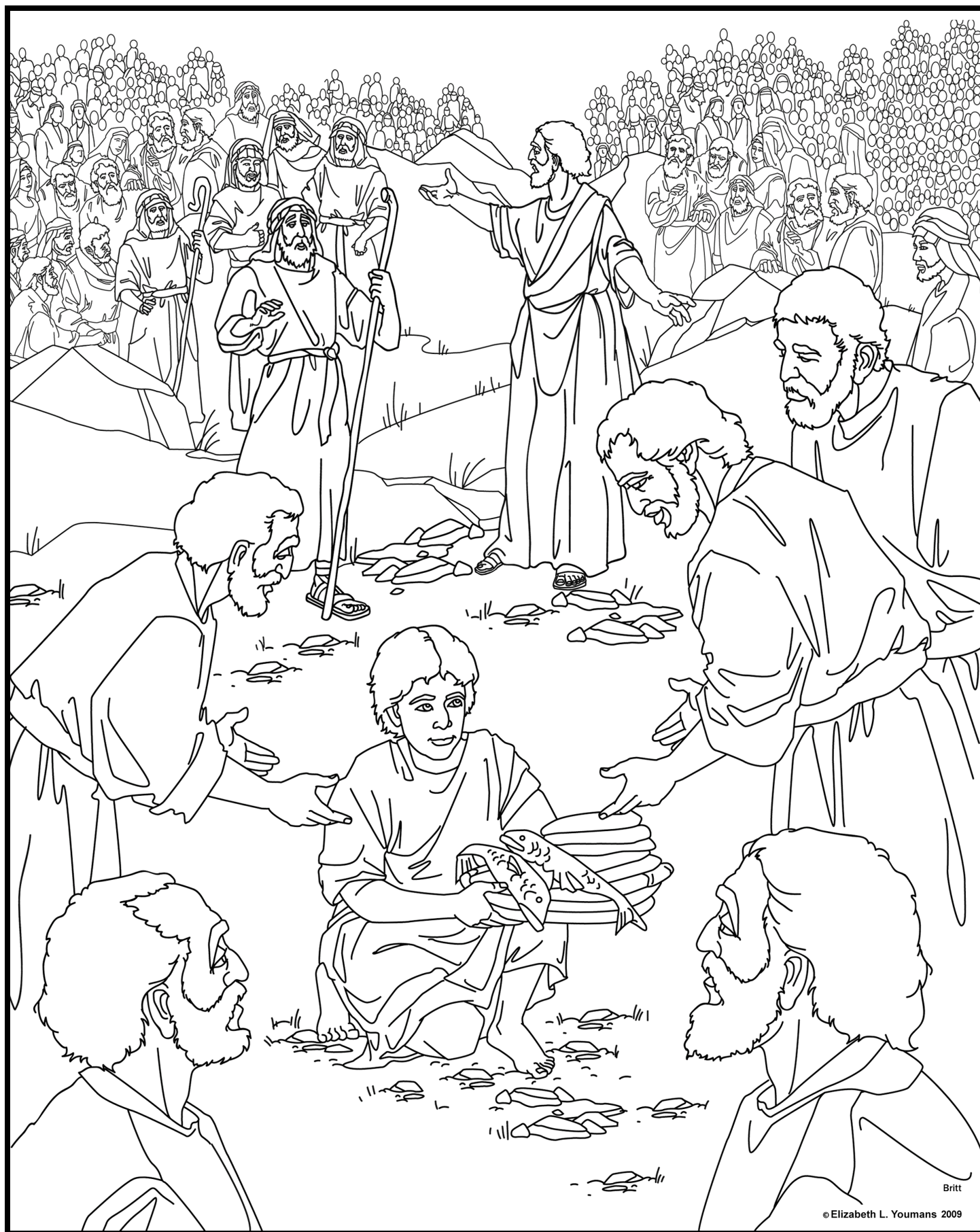
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“Father, forgive all my sins and bless my enemy Rehum.”



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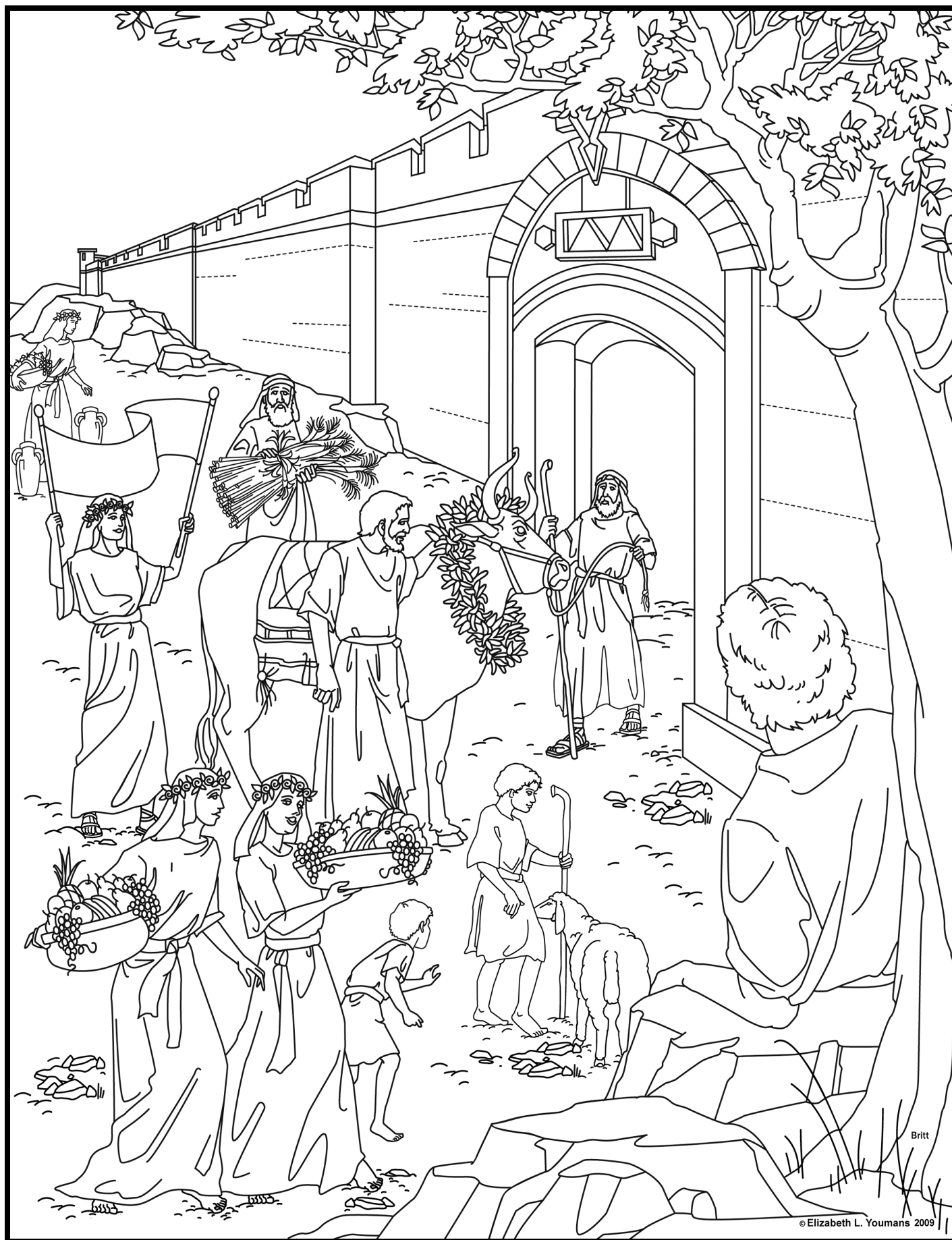
Joel met Jesus with an unspoken prayer in his pleading face.



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Joel offered his lunch of barley cakes and dried fish.

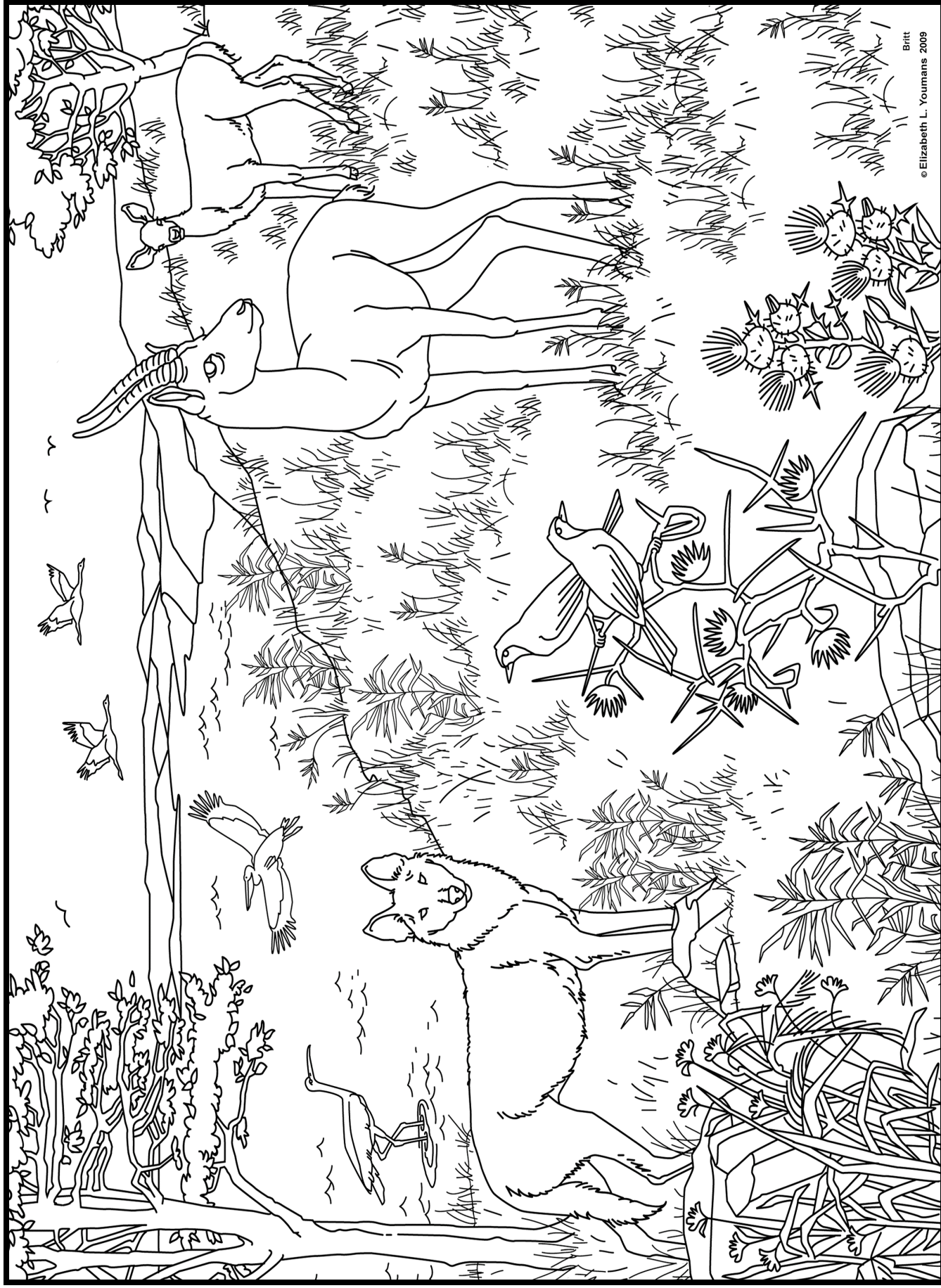


Jews came from everywhere to celebrate Pentecost in Jerusalem.



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Israeli Coastal Plains Biome



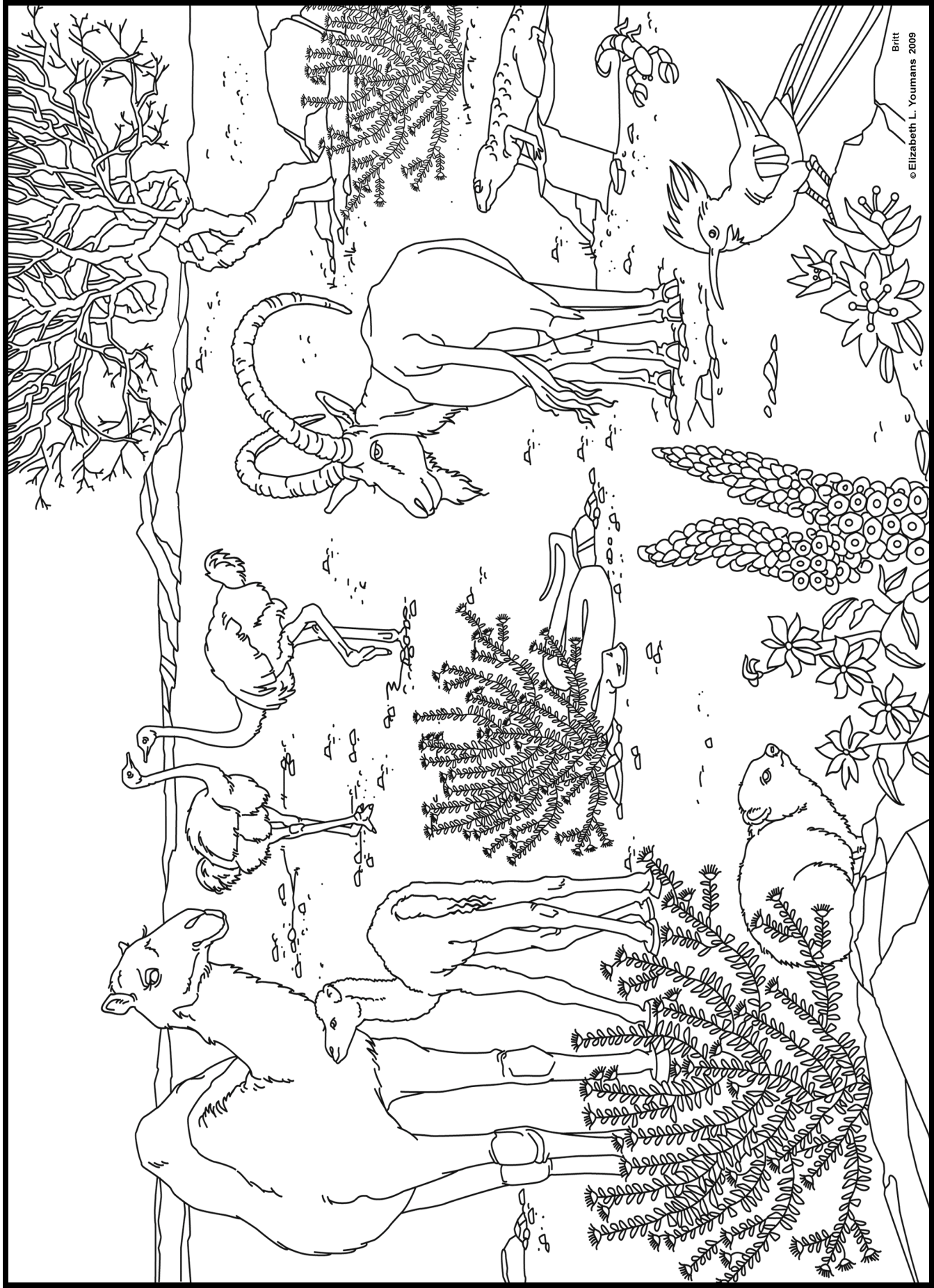
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Galilean Hill Country Biome



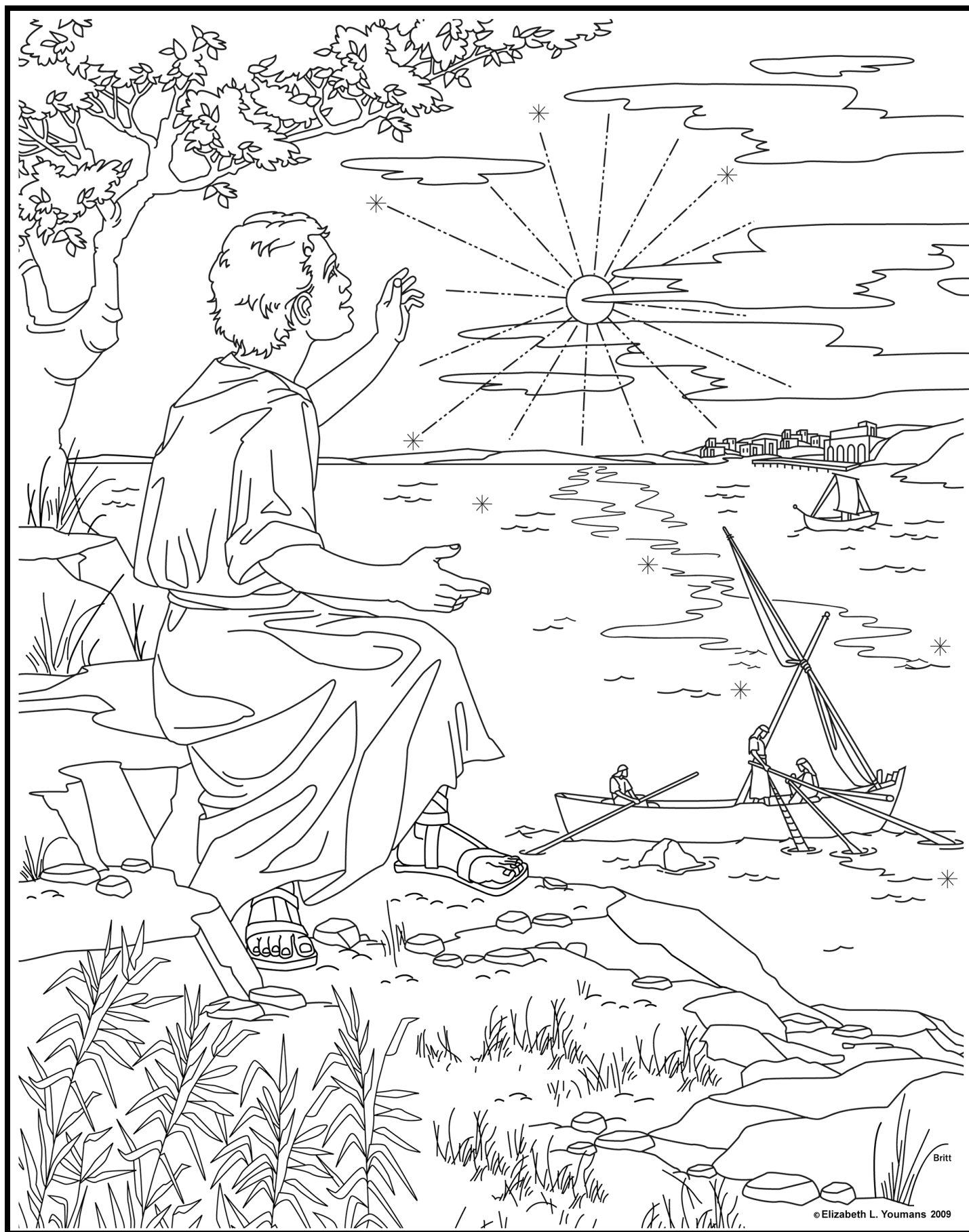
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Eilat Coral Reef Biome



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Negev Desert Biome



Joel heard the Master's voice say, "Go preach the Gospel."