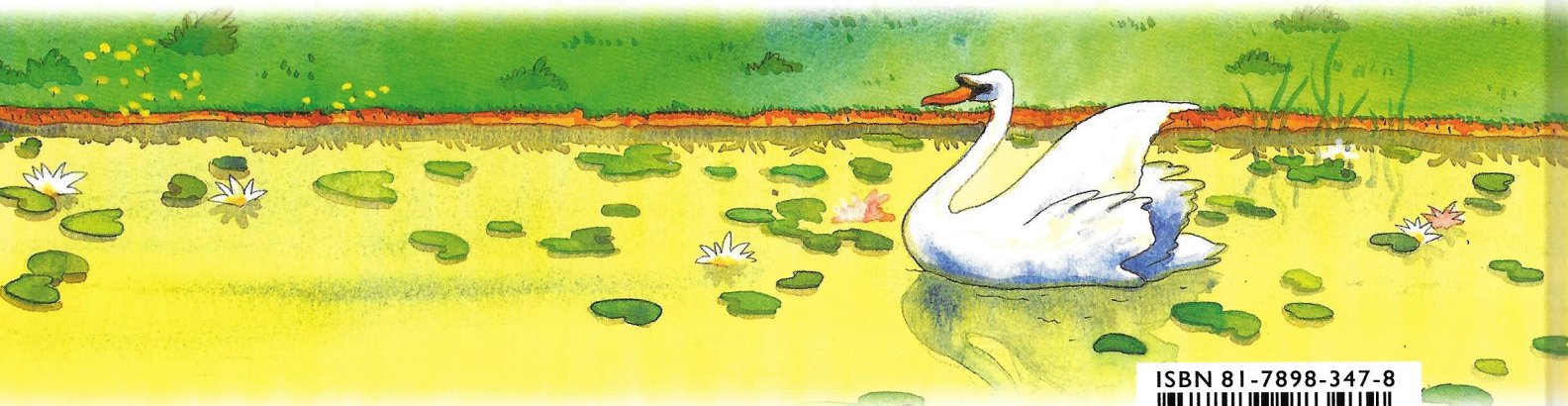


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More Quran Stories for Kids



SANIYASNAIN KHAN

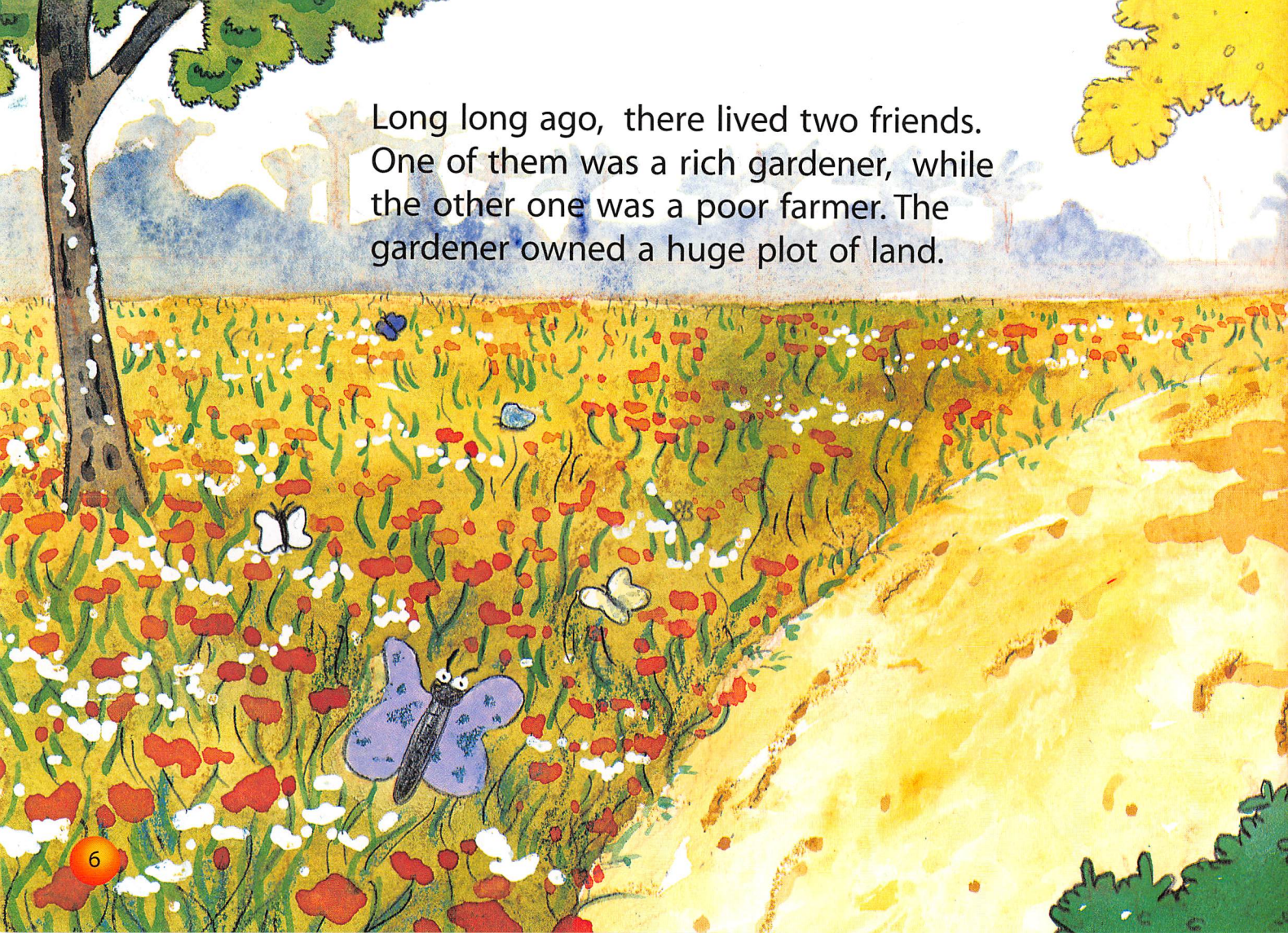
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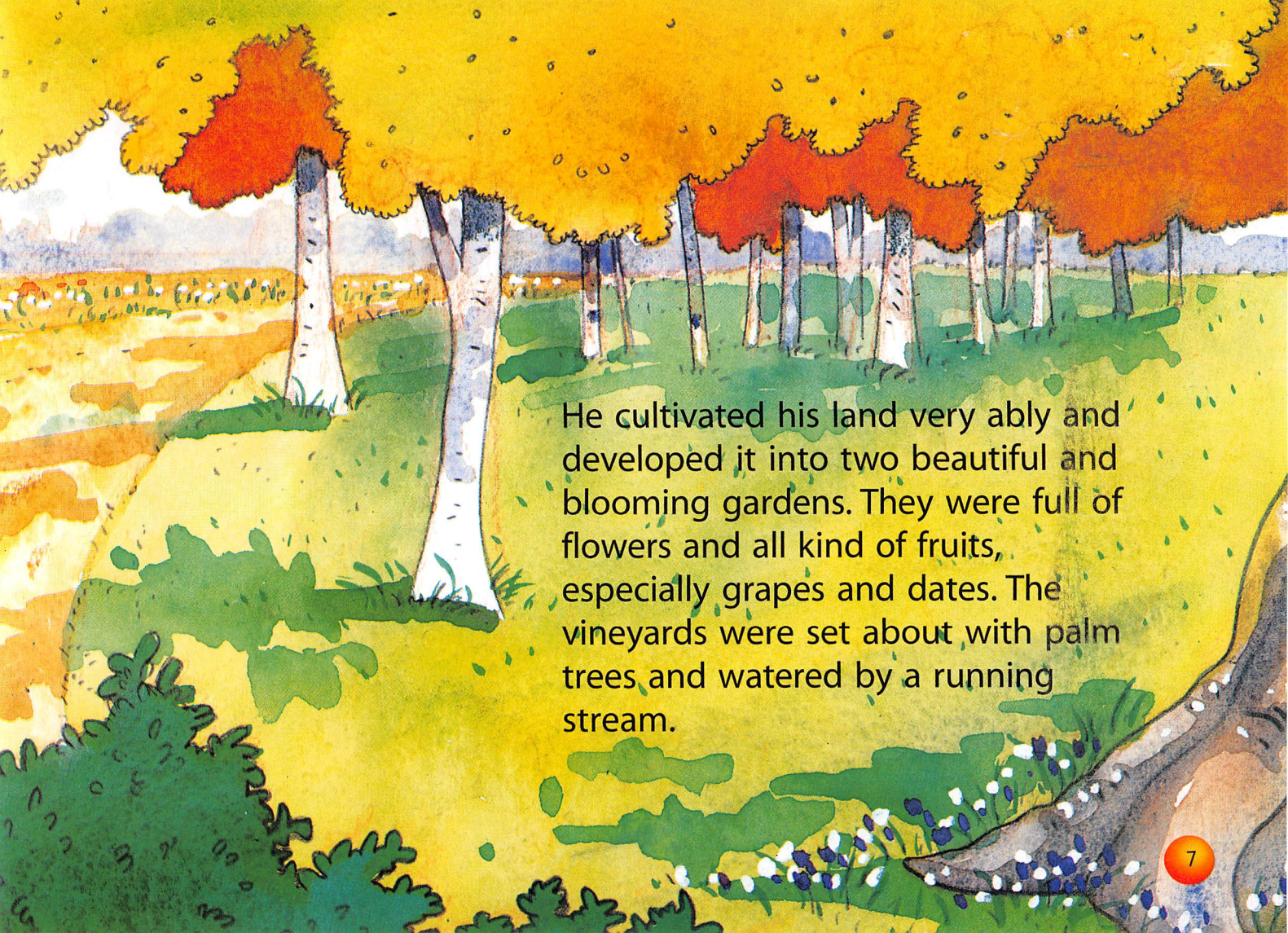
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The Story of Two Gardens



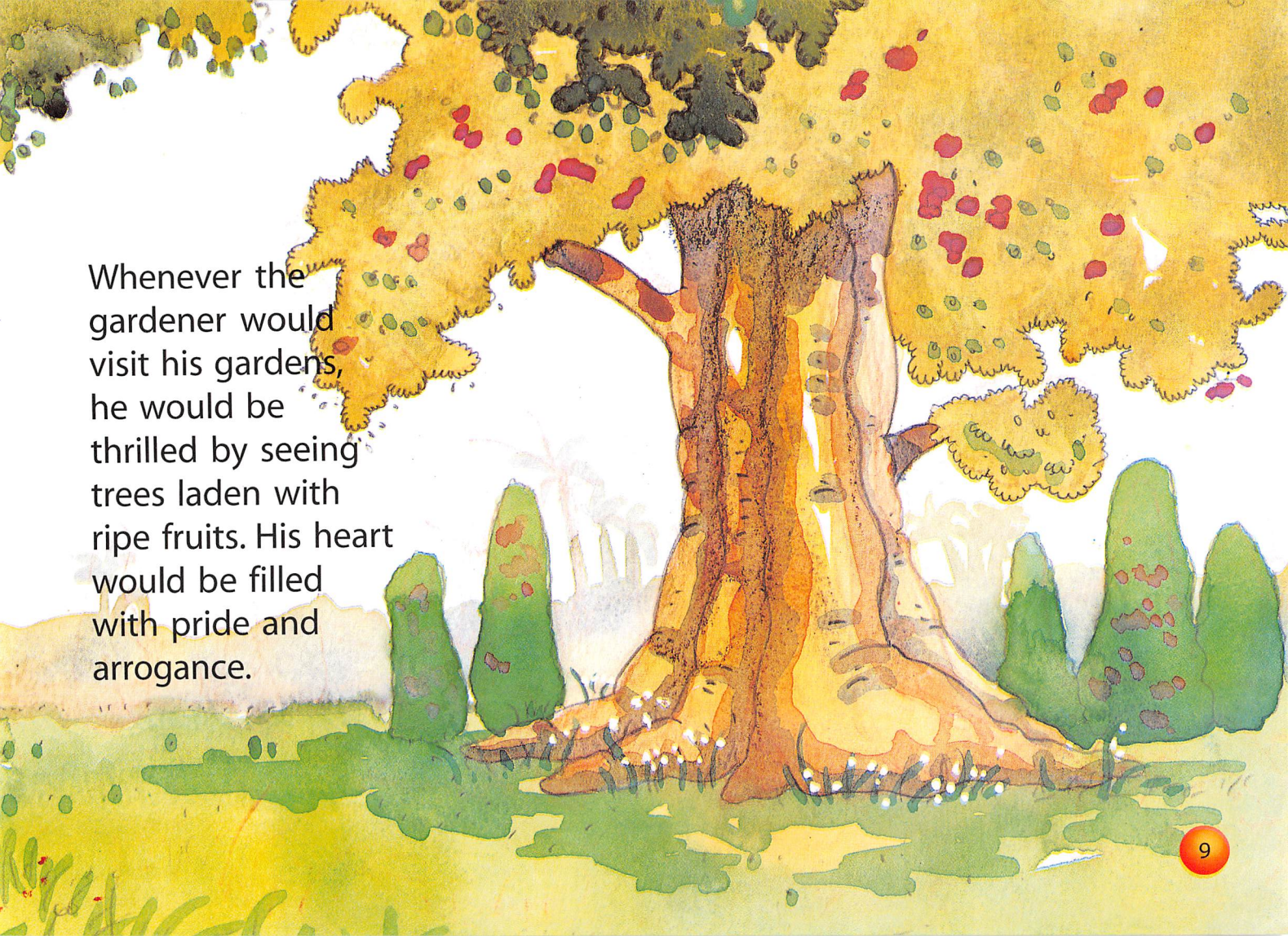
A vibrant watercolor illustration of a garden. A dirt path winds through a field of red and white flowers. Several butterflies are scattered throughout the scene, including a large purple one in the foreground and a white one near the path. A large tree with green leaves is on the left, and a yellow tree is on the right. The background shows a hazy landscape with blue mountains under a bright sky.

Long long ago, there lived two friends.
One of them was a rich gardener, while
the other one was a poor farmer. The
gardener owned a huge plot of land.

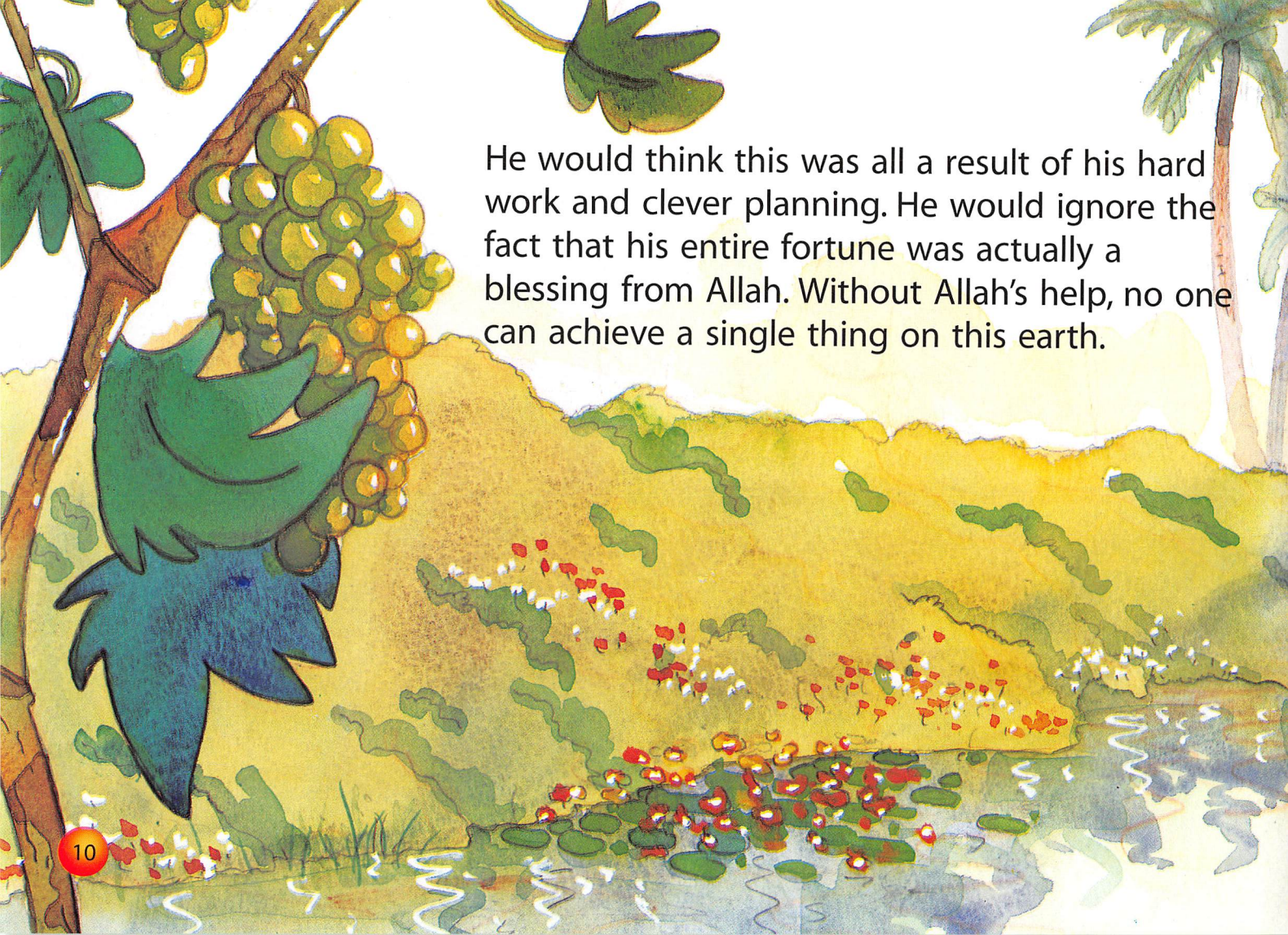
A watercolor illustration of a lush garden. In the foreground, there are green bushes and a stream with small white and blue flowers. A row of trees with white trunks and yellow and orange foliage stretches across the middle ground. The background shows a field with small white flowers and a distant landscape under a yellow sky.

He cultivated his land very ably and developed it into two beautiful and blooming gardens. They were full of flowers and all kind of fruits, especially grapes and dates. The vineyards were set about with palm trees and watered by a running stream.



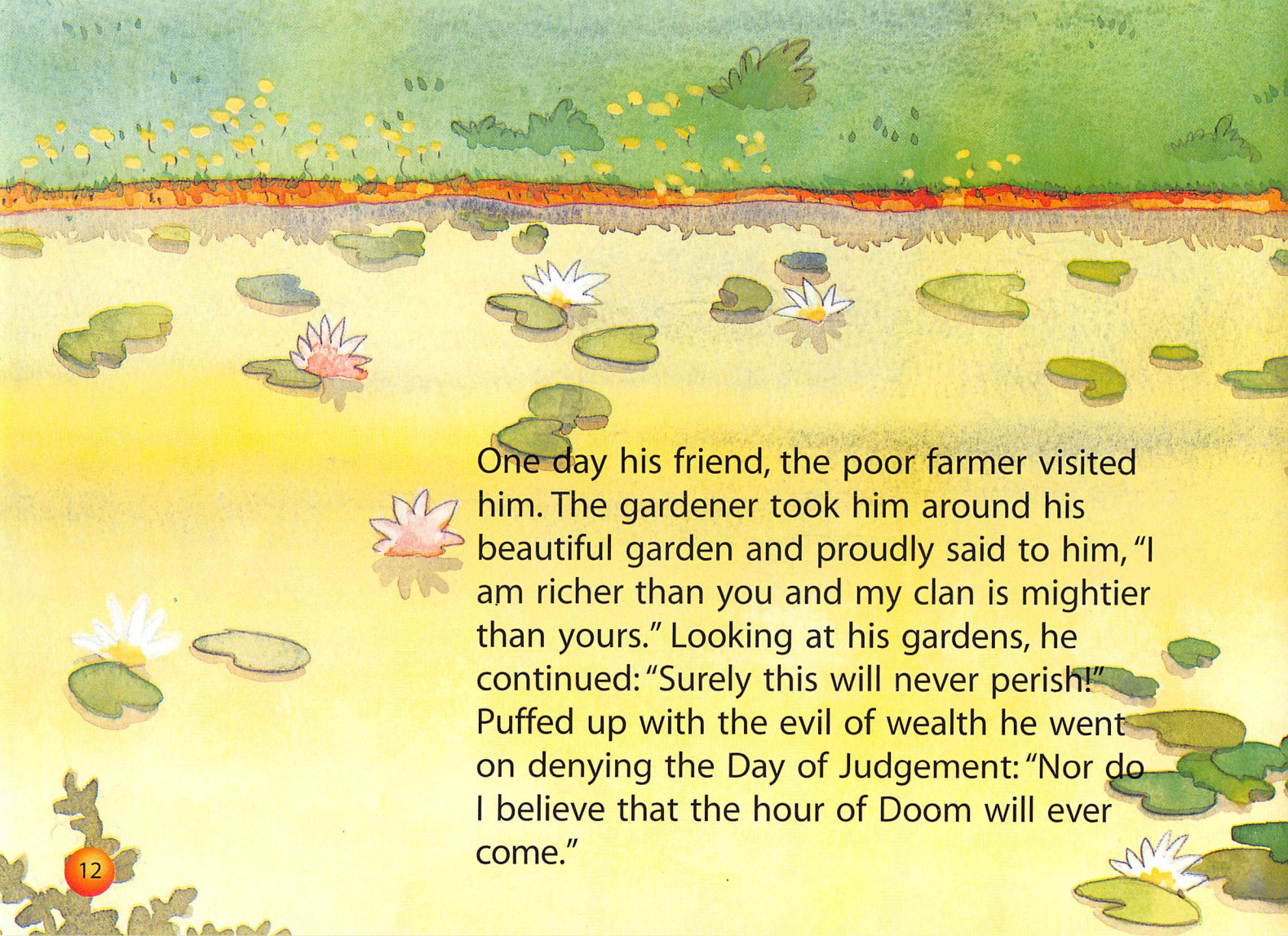


Whenever the gardener would visit his gardens, he would be thrilled by seeing trees laden with ripe fruits. His heart would be filled with pride and arrogance.

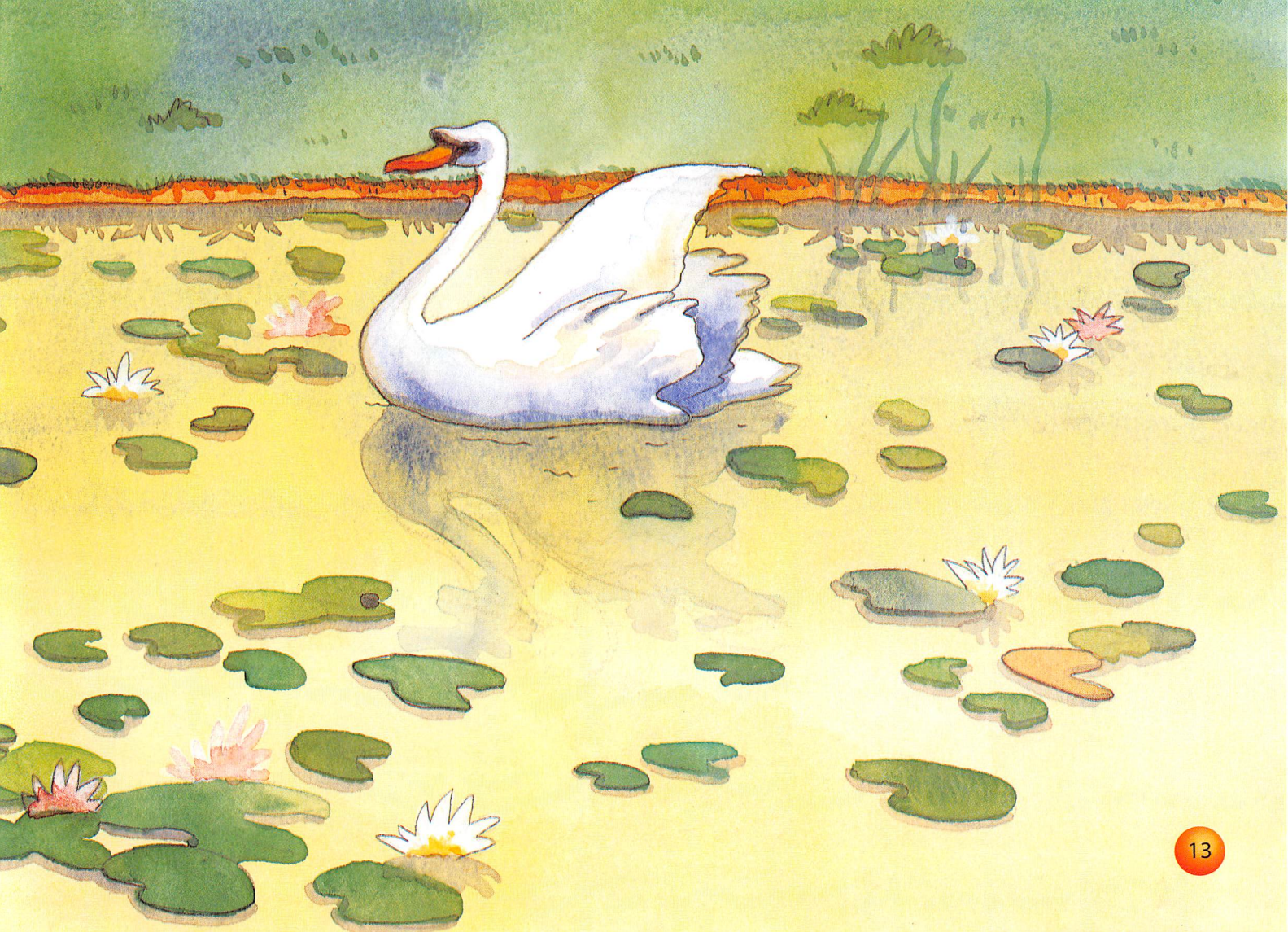


He would think this was all a result of his hard work and clever planning. He would ignore the fact that his entire fortune was actually a blessing from Allah. Without Allah's help, no one can achieve a single thing on this earth.





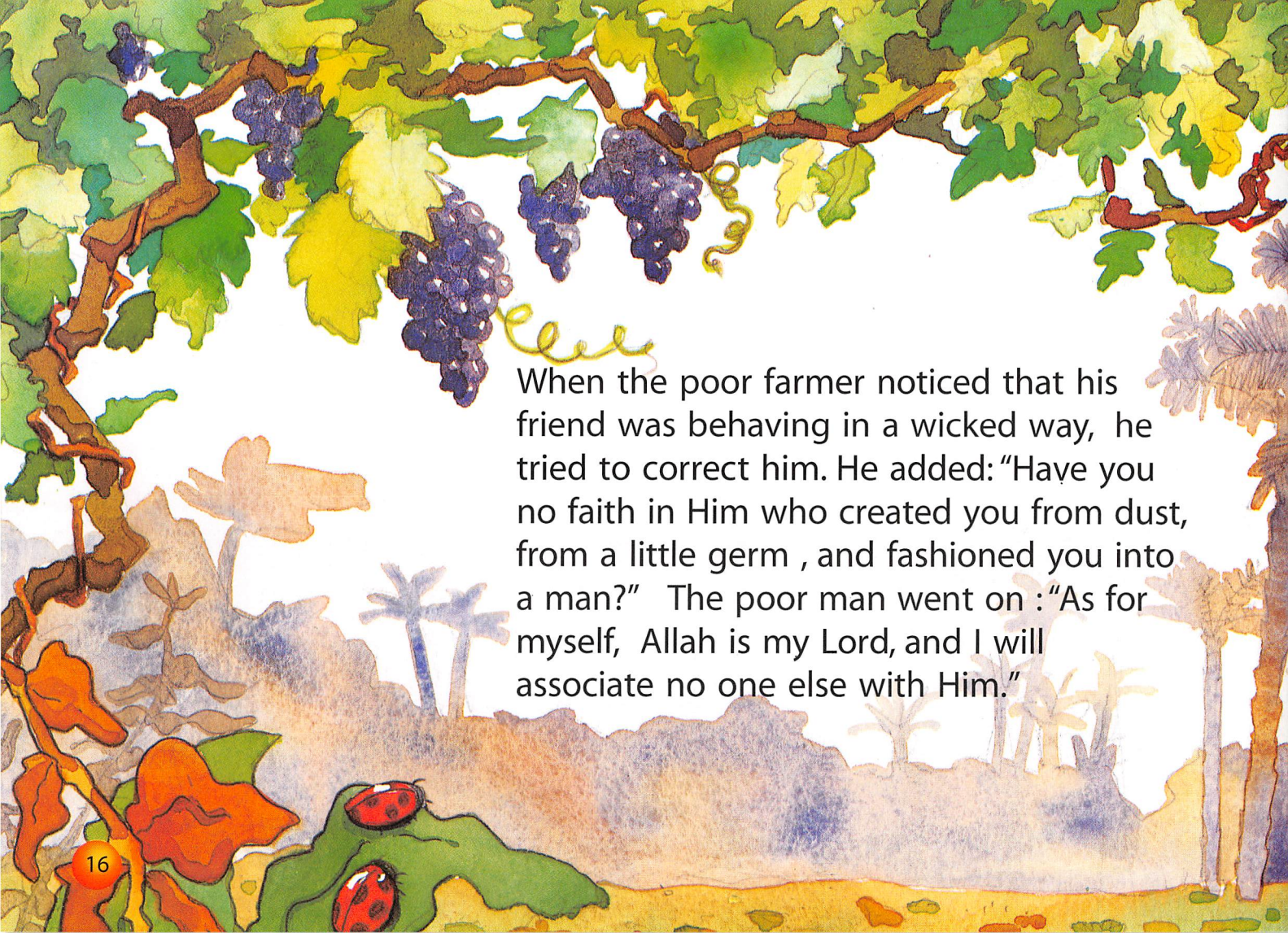
One day his friend, the poor farmer visited him. The gardener took him around his beautiful garden and proudly said to him, "I am richer than you and my clan is mightier than yours." Looking at his gardens, he continued: "Surely this will never perish!" Puffed up with the evil of wealth he went on denying the Day of Judgement: "Nor do I believe that the hour of Doom will ever come."





Then he added: "Even if I return to my Lord, I shall surely find a better place than this." Little did he realize that all this was wishful thinking.

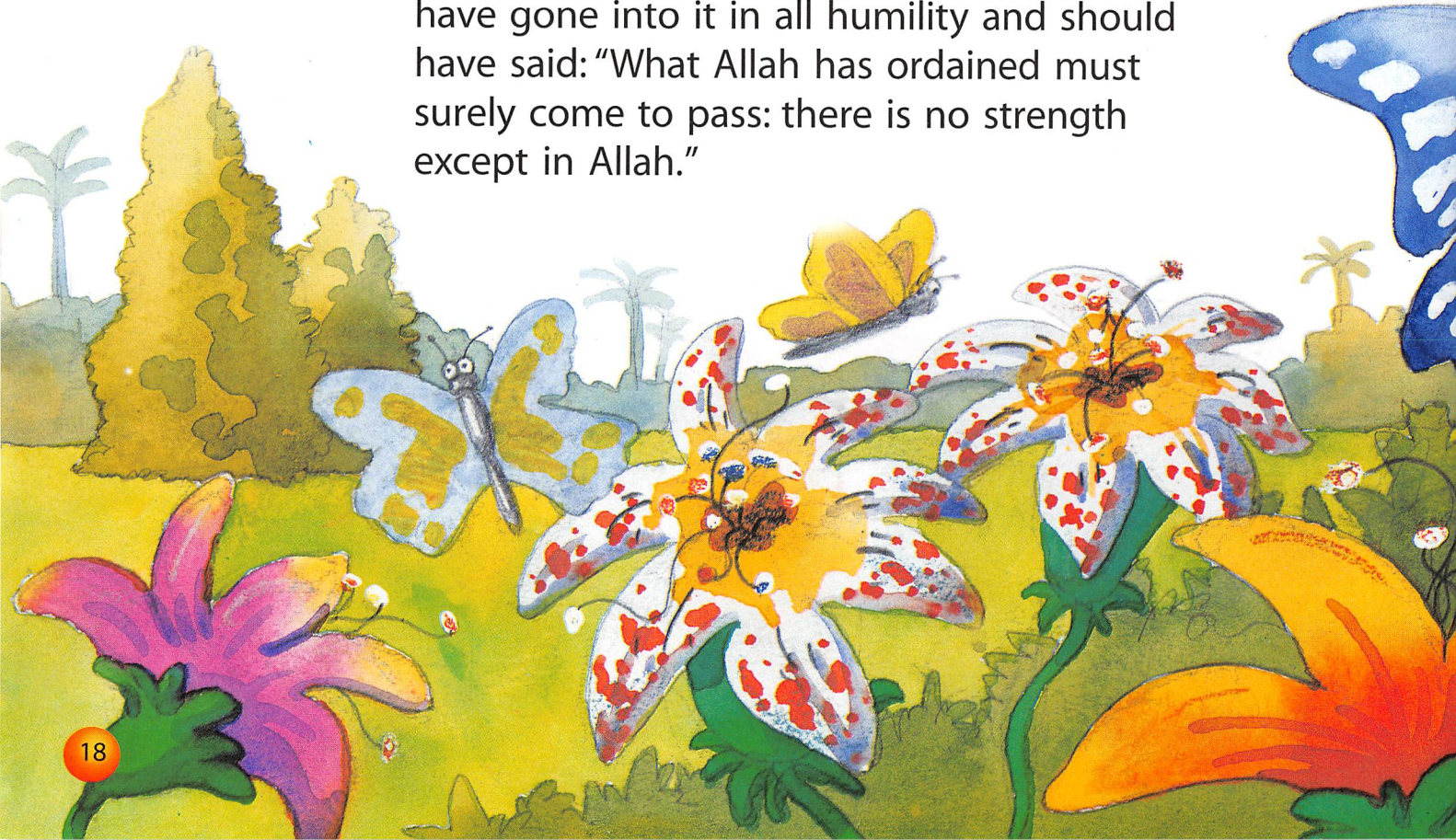




When the poor farmer noticed that his friend was behaving in a wicked way, he tried to correct him. He added: "Have you no faith in Him who created you from dust, from a little germ, and fashioned you into a man?" The poor man went on: "As for myself, Allah is my Lord, and I will associate no one else with Him."



He advised the gardener that instead of entering the garden proudly, he should have gone into it in all humility and should have said: "What Allah has ordained must surely come to pass: there is no strength except in Allah."

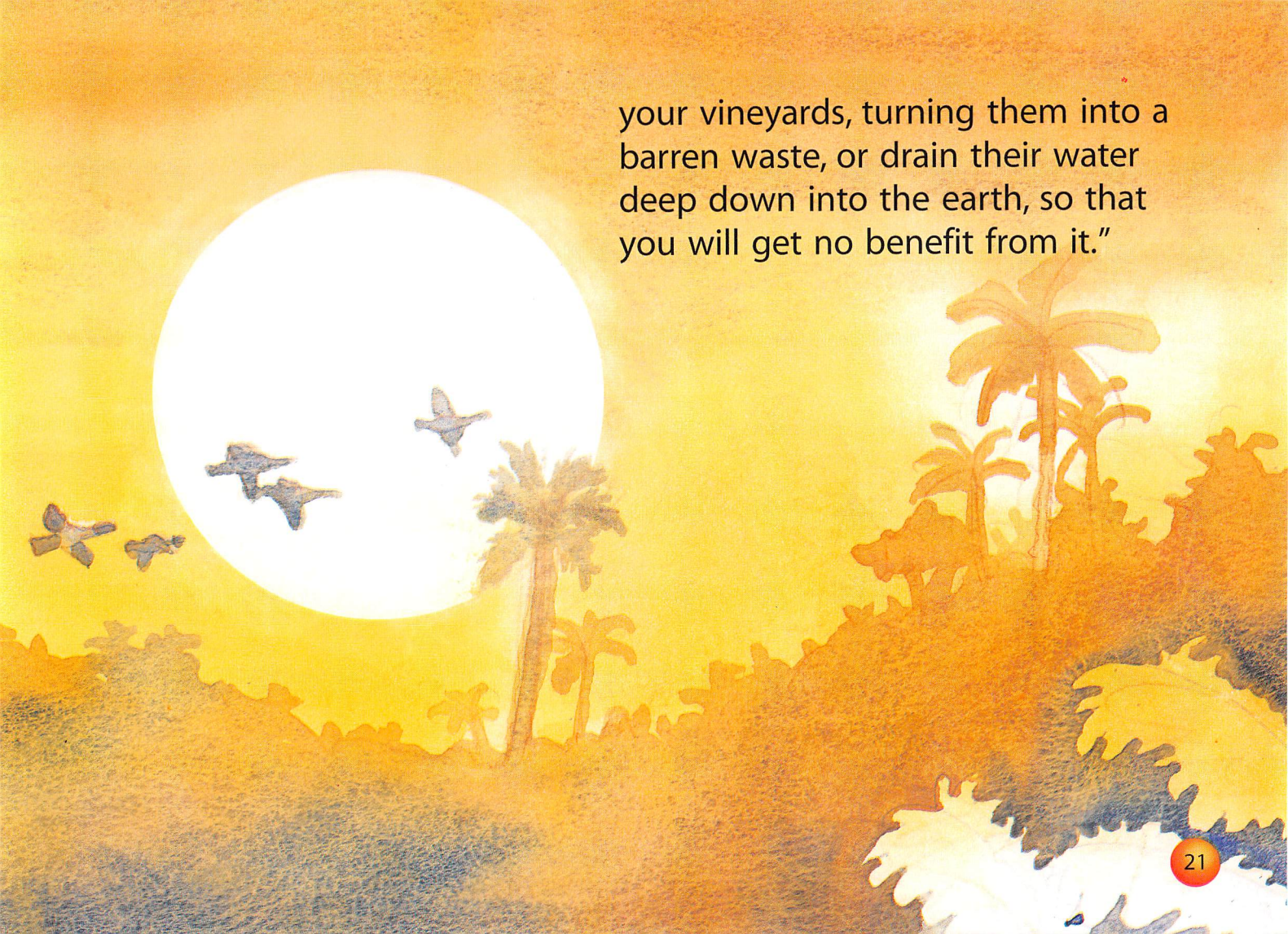




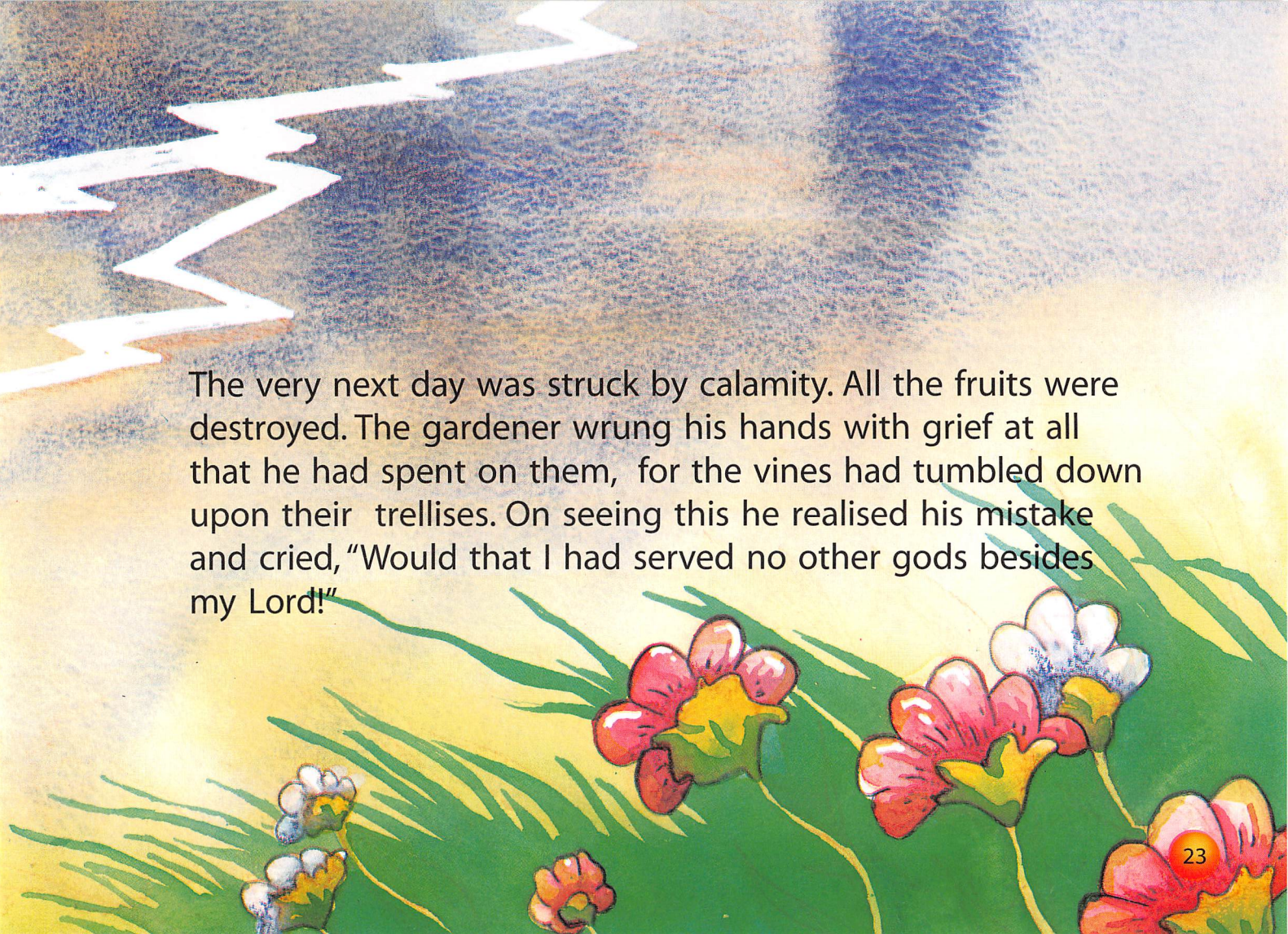
“Though you see me poorer than yourself and blessed with fewer children,” the farmer argued, “yet my Lord may give me a garden better than yours, and send down thunderbolts from heaven upon



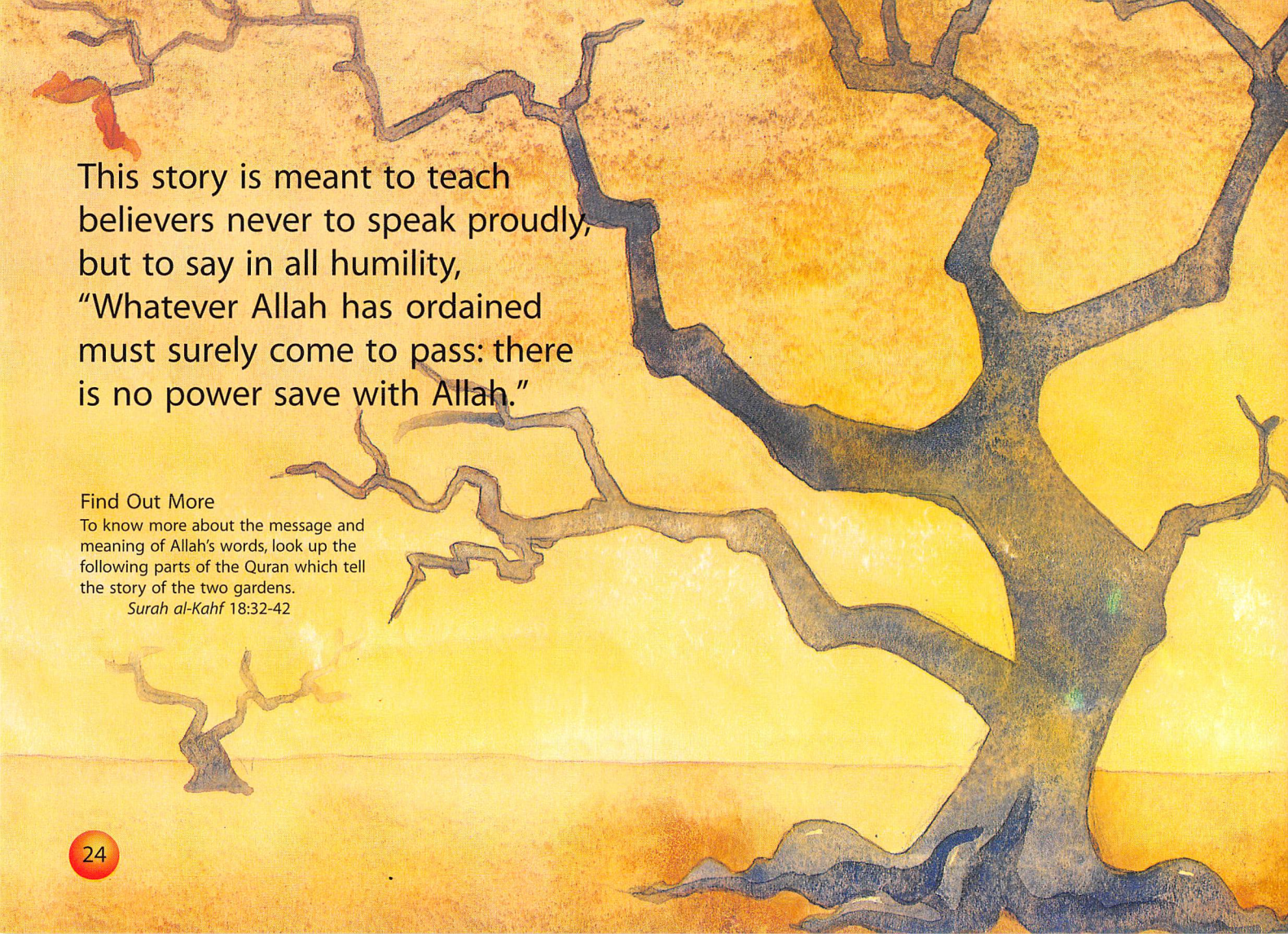
your vineyards, turning them into a barren waste, or drain their water deep down into the earth, so that you will get no benefit from it."







The very next day was struck by calamity. All the fruits were destroyed. The gardener wrung his hands with grief at all that he had spent on them, for the vines had tumbled down upon their trellises. On seeing this he realised his mistake and cried, "Would that I had served no other gods besides my Lord!"



This story is meant to teach believers never to speak proudly, but to say in all humility, "Whatever Allah has ordained must surely come to pass: there is no power save with Allah."

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the two gardens.

Surah al-Kahf 18:32-42

Allah Speaks to the Prophet Musa

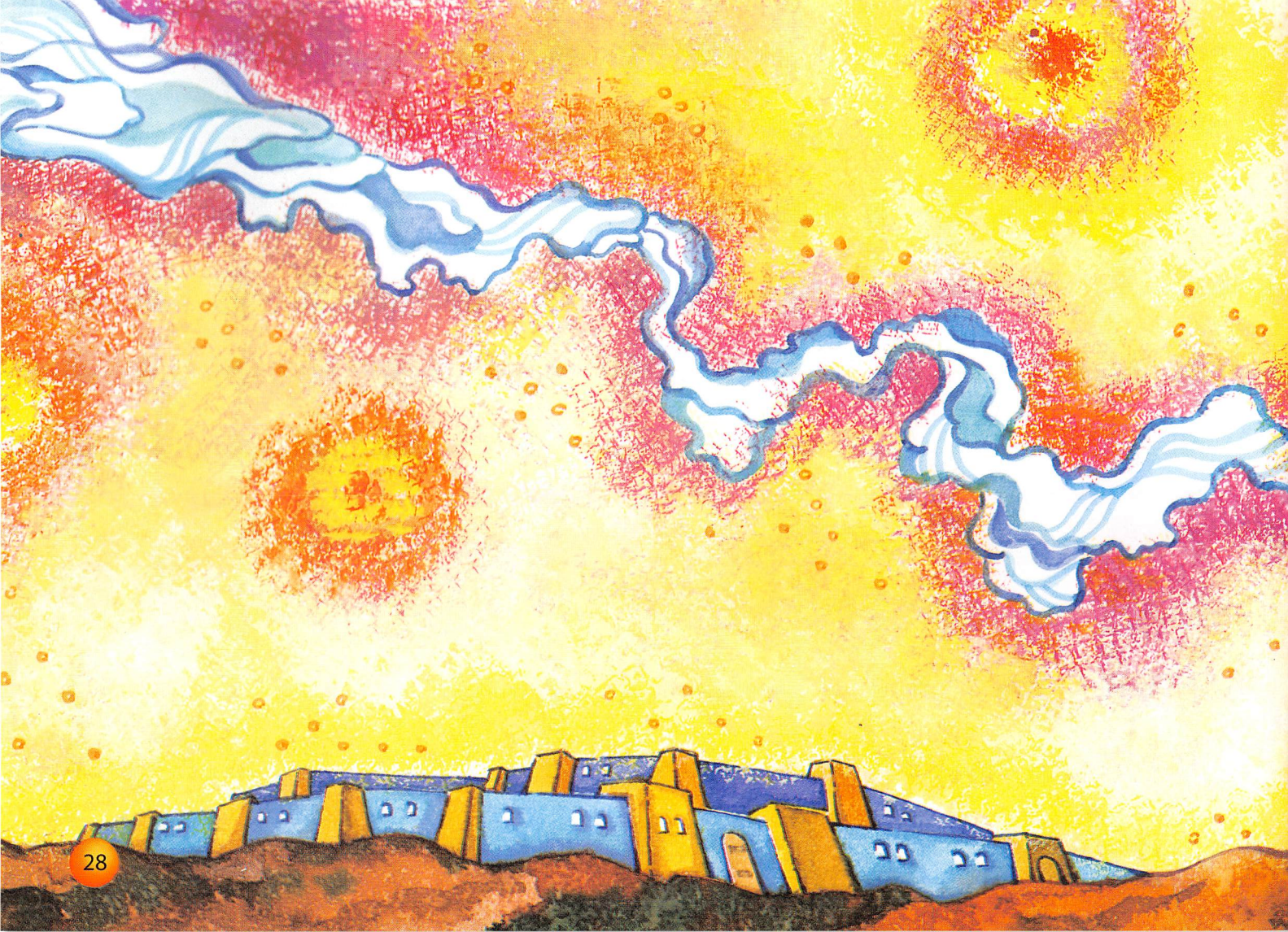
عليه
السلام



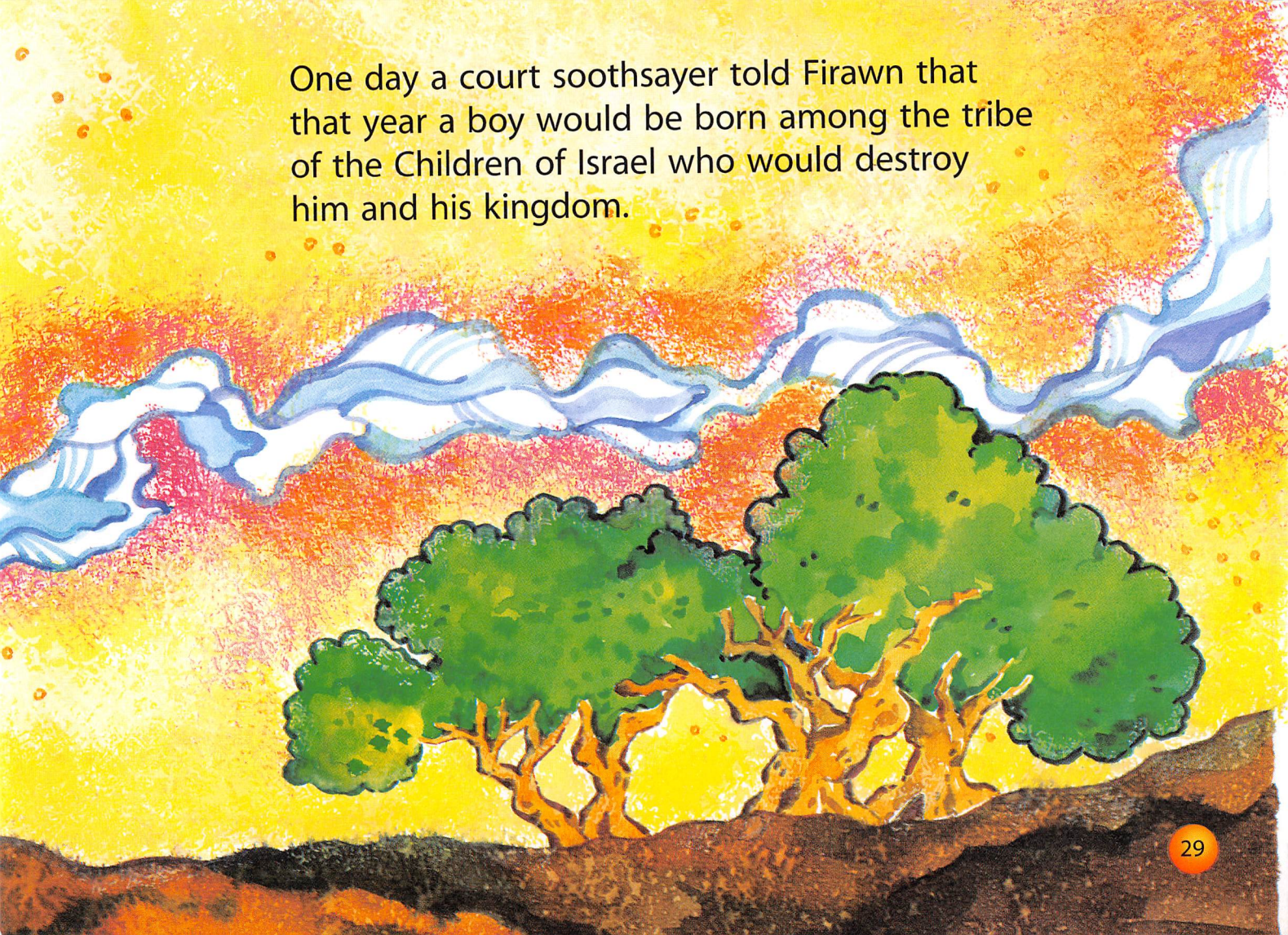
About 3000 years ago, Egypt
was ruled by a very cruel king
called Firawn or Pharaoh.



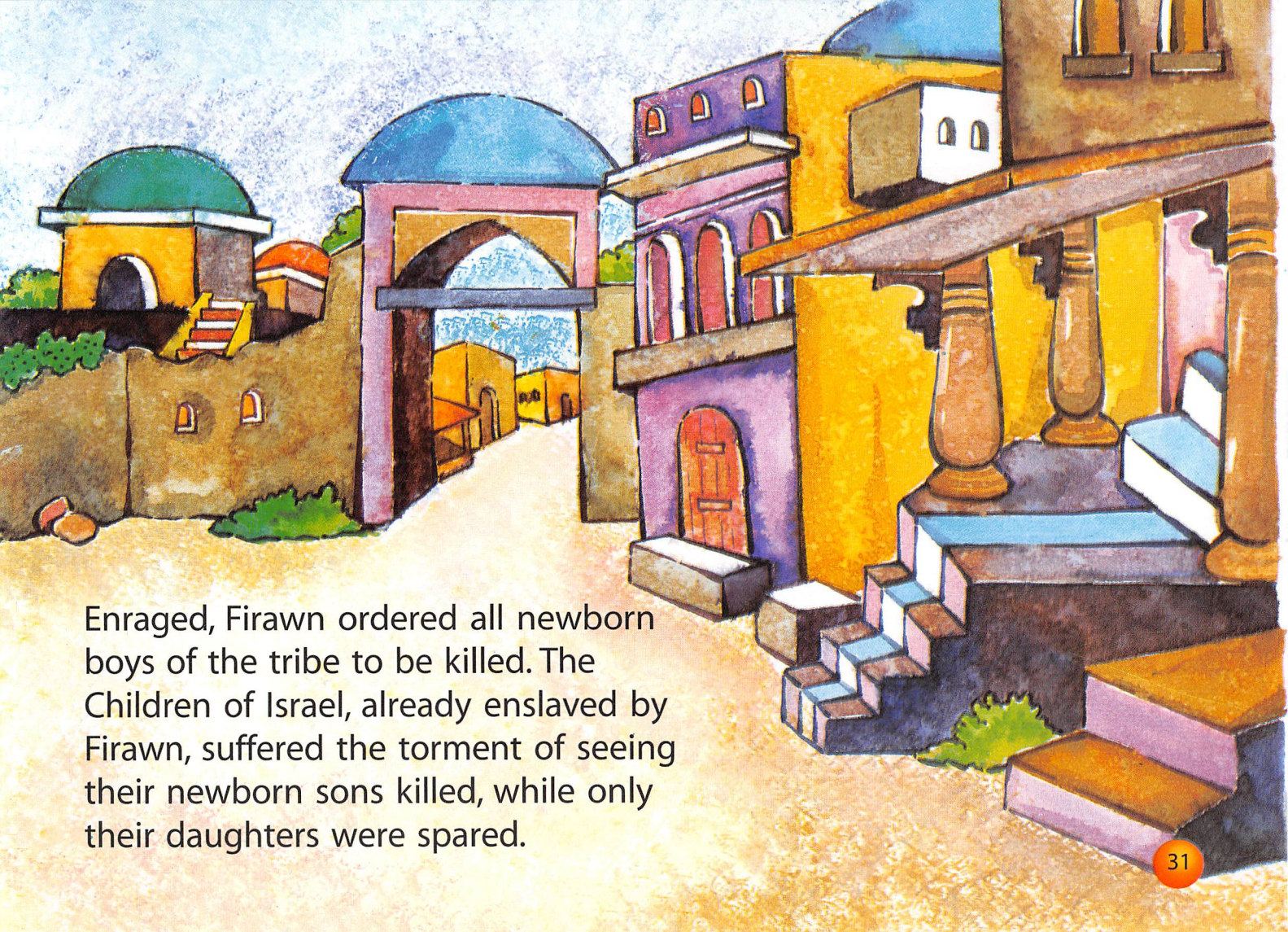




One day a court soothsayer told Firawn that that year a boy would be born among the tribe of the Children of Israel who would destroy him and his kingdom.







Enraged, Firawn ordered all newborn boys of the tribe to be killed. The Children of Israel, already enslaved by Firawn, suffered the torment of seeing their newborn sons killed, while only their daughters were spared.

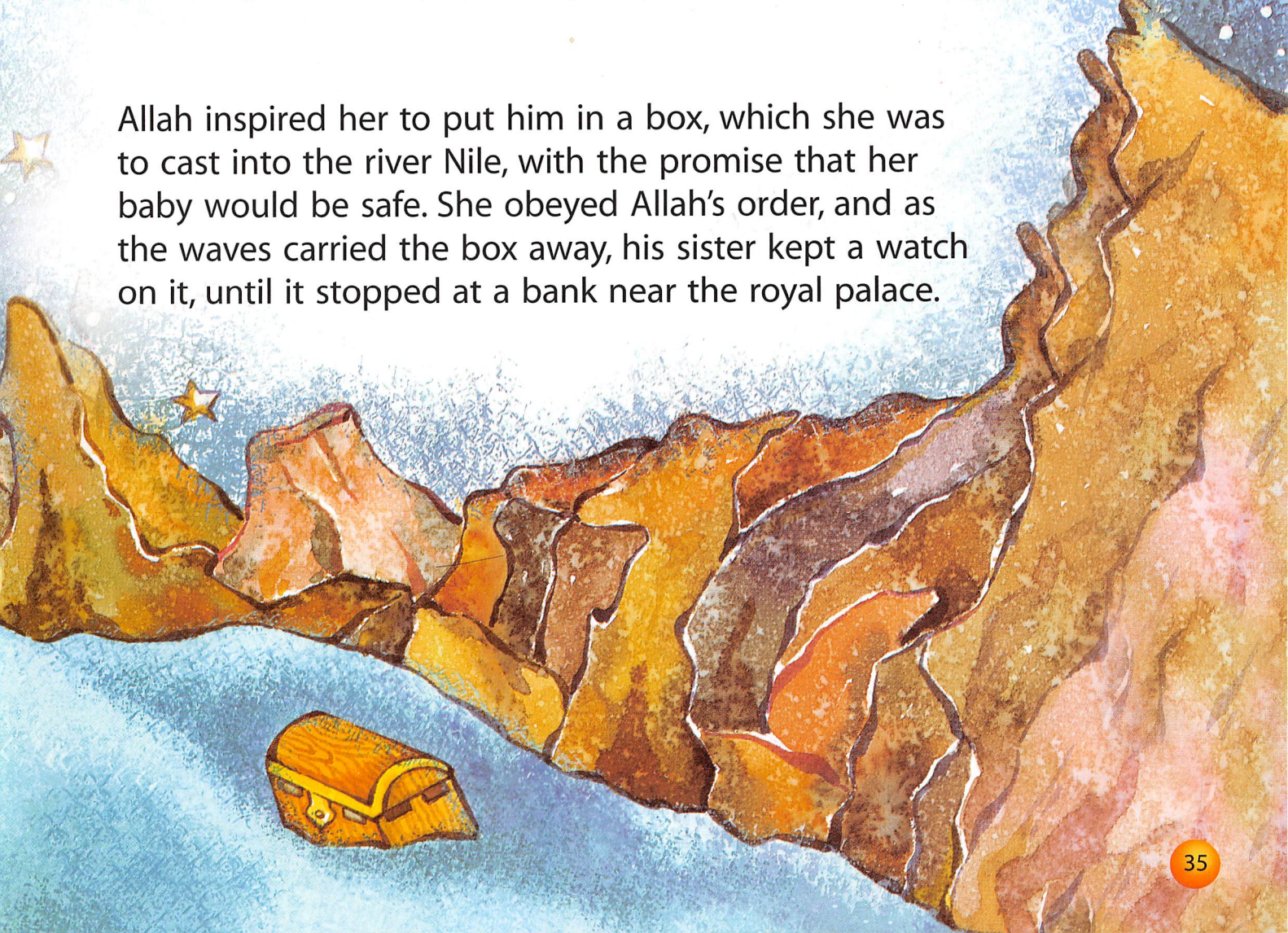


During these horrible times a pious woman, called Yukabid, of the Children of Israel, gave birth to a beautiful boy who was named Musa or Moses عليه السلام. She was told by Allah that this was a very special child who would one day become a great prophet.

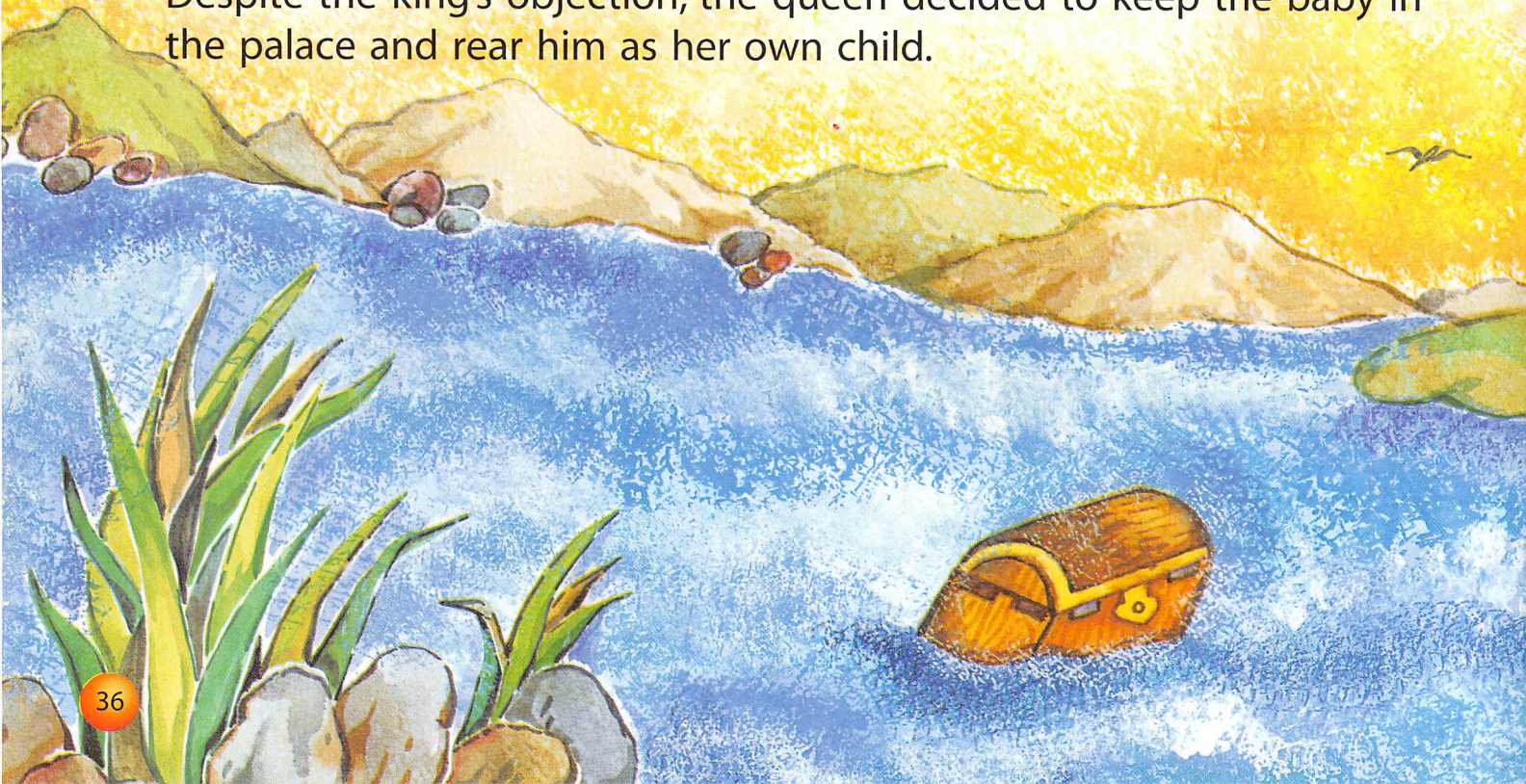




Allah inspired her to put him in a box, which she was to cast into the river Nile, with the promise that her baby would be safe. She obeyed Allah's order, and as the waves carried the box away, his sister kept a watch on it, until it stopped at a bank near the royal palace.

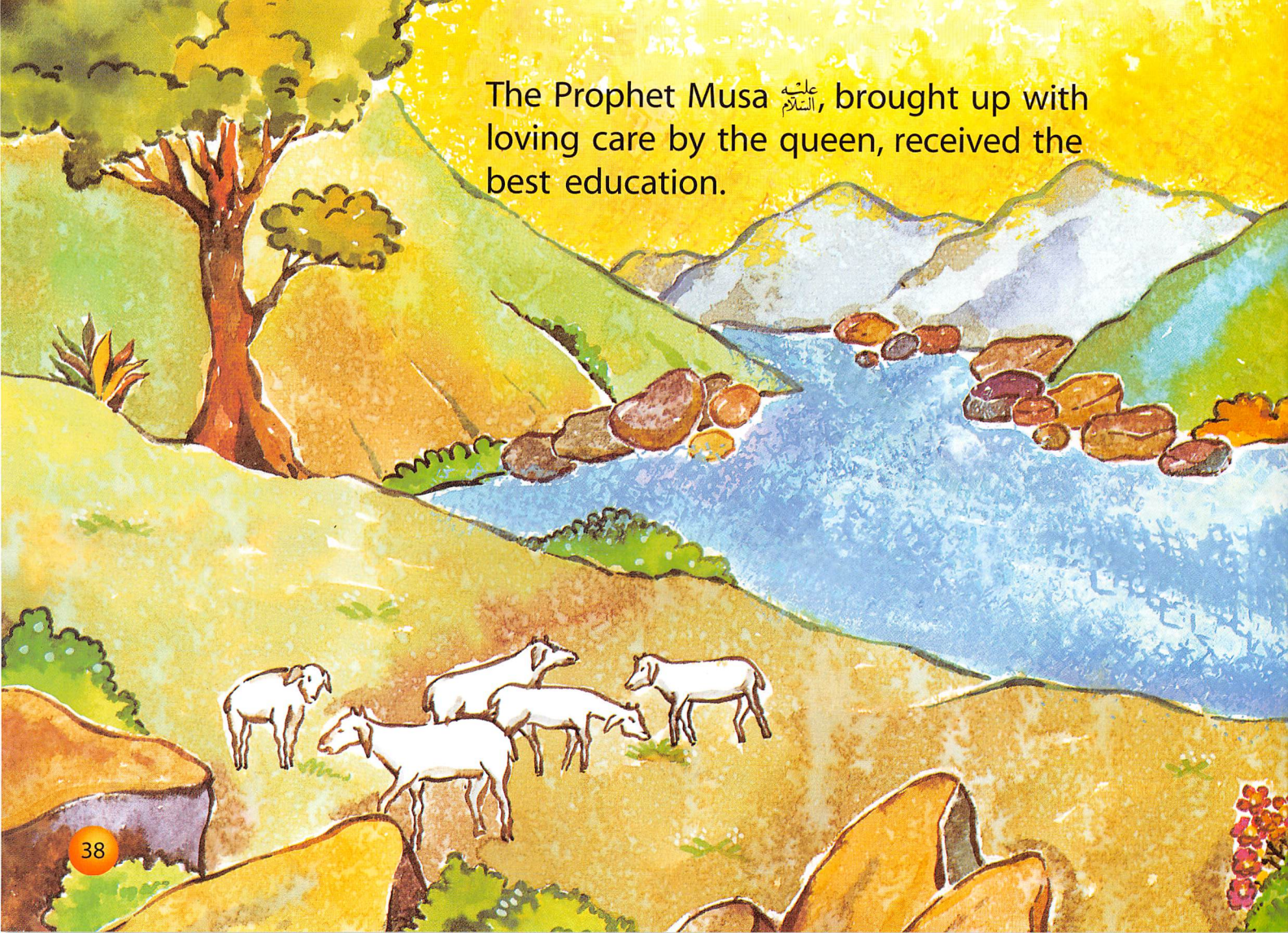


There it was picked up by a member of Firawn's household and brought to the queen. The queen was a loving, kind-hearted woman. When she saw the baby, her heart was touched and she exclaimed: "What a lovely child! Whoever sees him cannot but love him." Despite the king's objection, the queen decided to keep the baby in the palace and rear him as her own child.





The Prophet Musa عليه السلام, brought up with loving care by the queen, received the best education.



But because Musa عليه السلام accidentally killed someone, Firawn intended to slay him. Therefore, Musa عليه السلام quietly left the city and journeyed to Madyan, where he met the Prophet Shuayb عليه السلام and married his daughter.





After spending some years in the beautiful valley of Madyan, Musa عليه السلام returned with his family to Egypt. They travelled slowly towards Mount Sinai, passing through awesome landscapes of desert and rock.

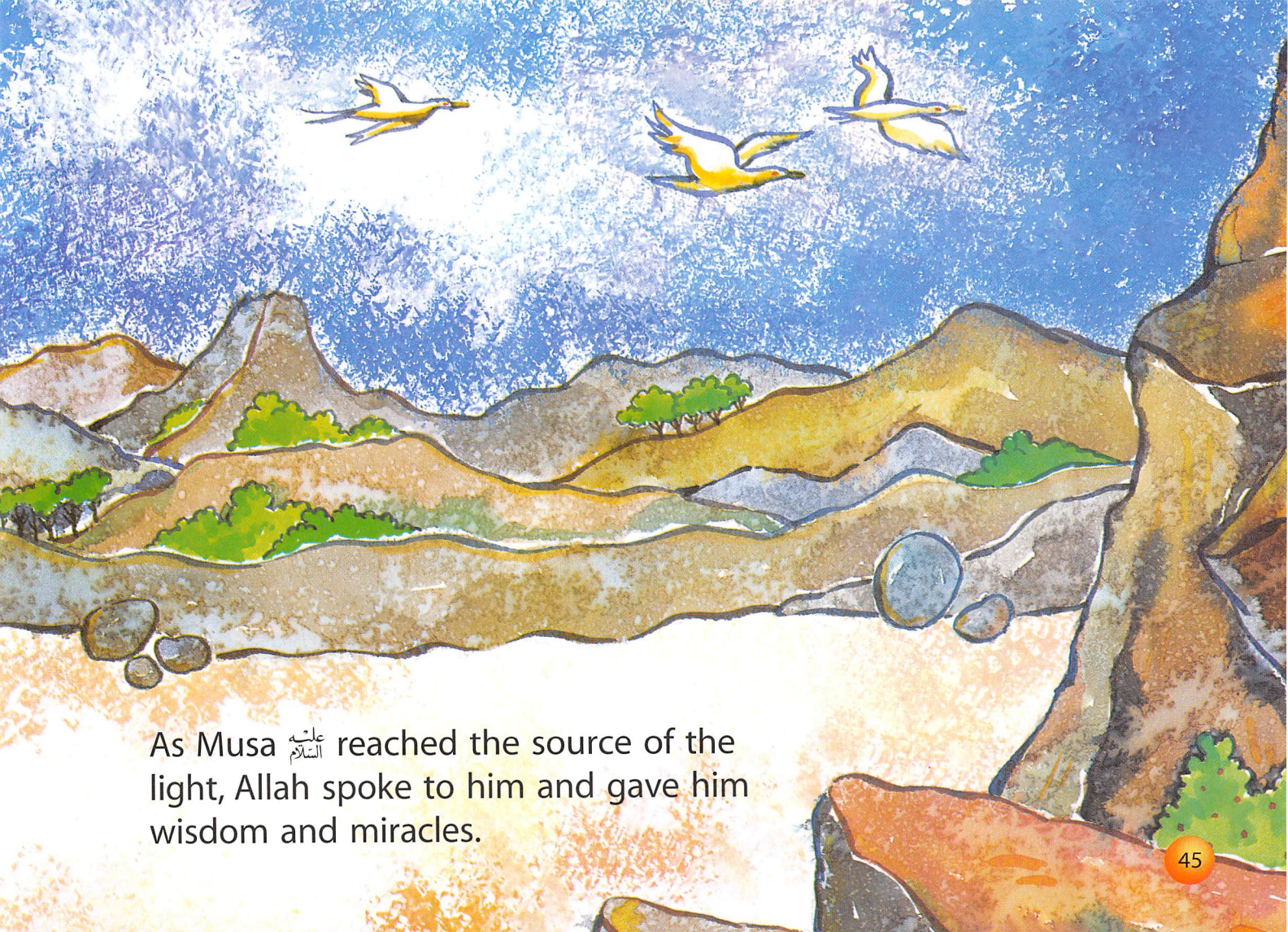




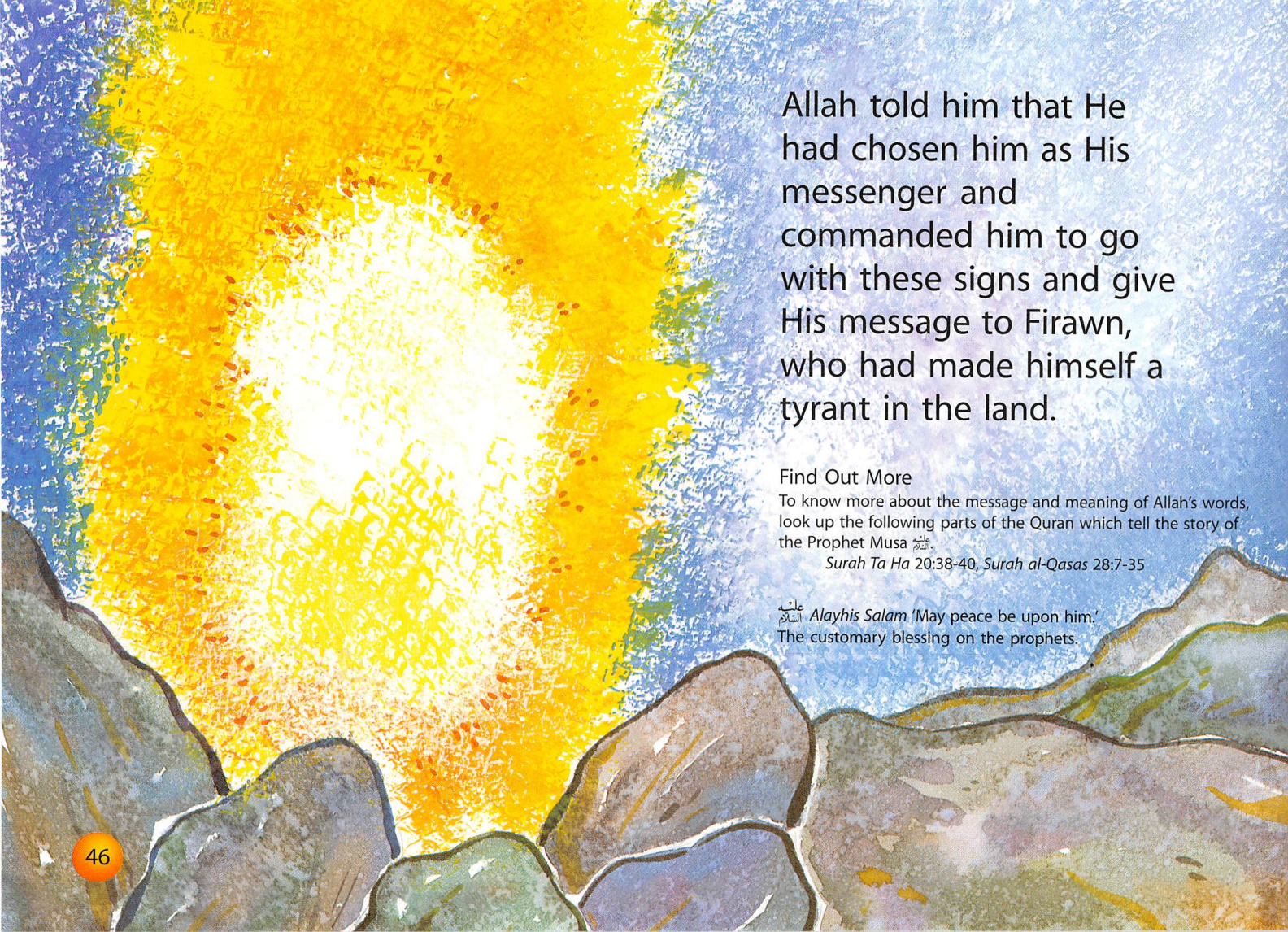


One cold winter evening, as it grew darker and a cool breeze began to blow, they seemed to have lost their way. Musa ^{عليه السلام} looked around and noticed a fire quite far away on the side of a mountain. He said: "Wait here! Look, I can see a fire in the distance. Perhaps I can find out where we are, or at least get a burning brand to warm ourselves with!"





As Musa عليه السلام reached the source of the light, Allah spoke to him and gave him wisdom and miracles.



Allah told him that He had chosen him as His messenger and commanded him to go with these signs and give His message to Firawn, who had made himself a tyrant in the land.

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Musa ﷺ.

Surah Ta Ha 20:38-40, Surah al-Qasas 28:7-35

ﷺ *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

The Wise Man and the Prophet Musa

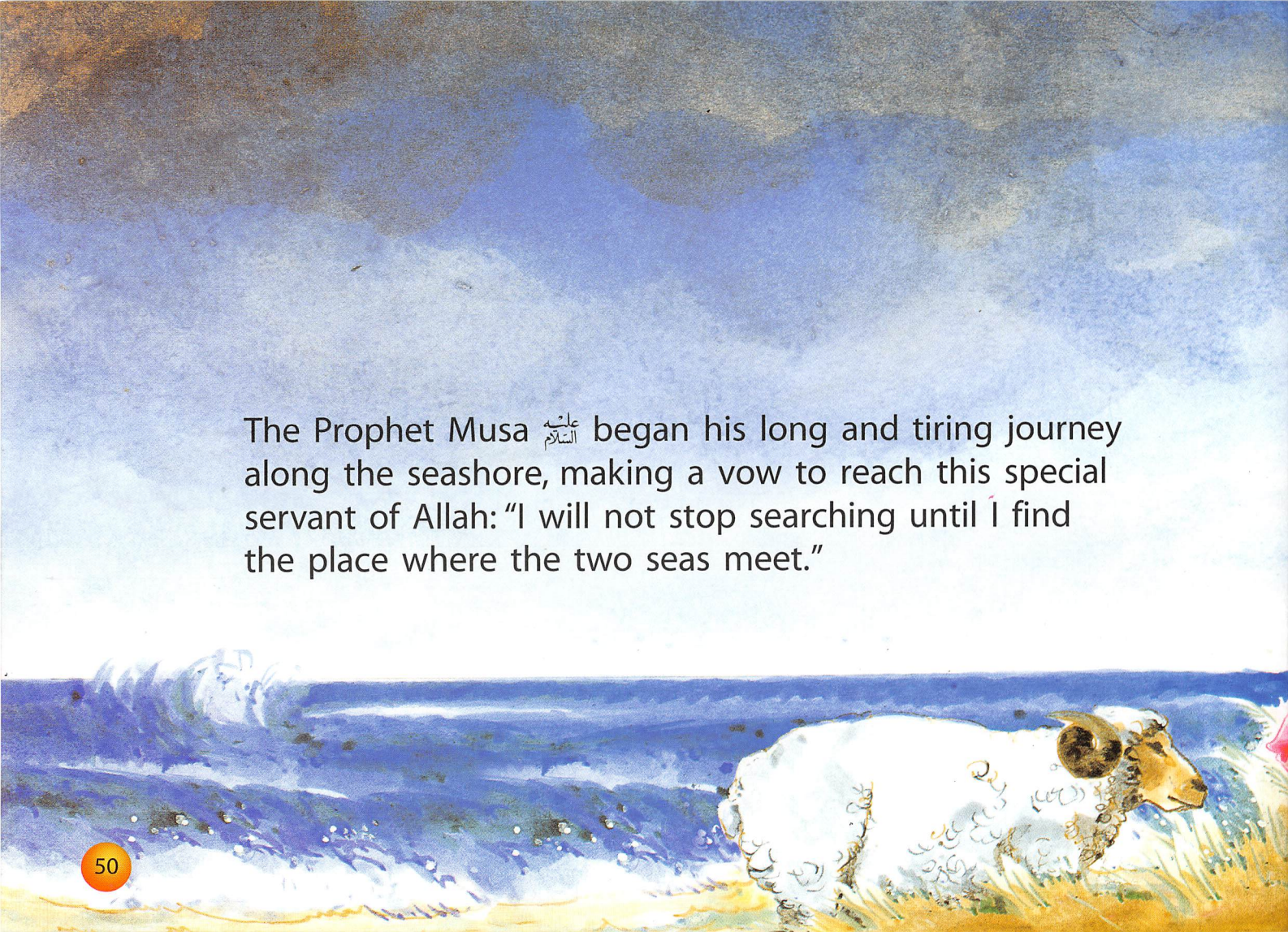
عليه
السلام







During the long journey to the Promised Land, the Prophet Musa عليه السلام learned many lessons. One of these was from al-Khidr (“the green one”). Probably an angel in the form of a man, al-Khidr had special knowledge and the power to make great changes in the affairs of the world.



The Prophet Musa عليه السلام began his long and tiring journey along the seashore, making a vow to reach this special servant of Allah: "I will not stop searching until I find the place where the two seas meet."

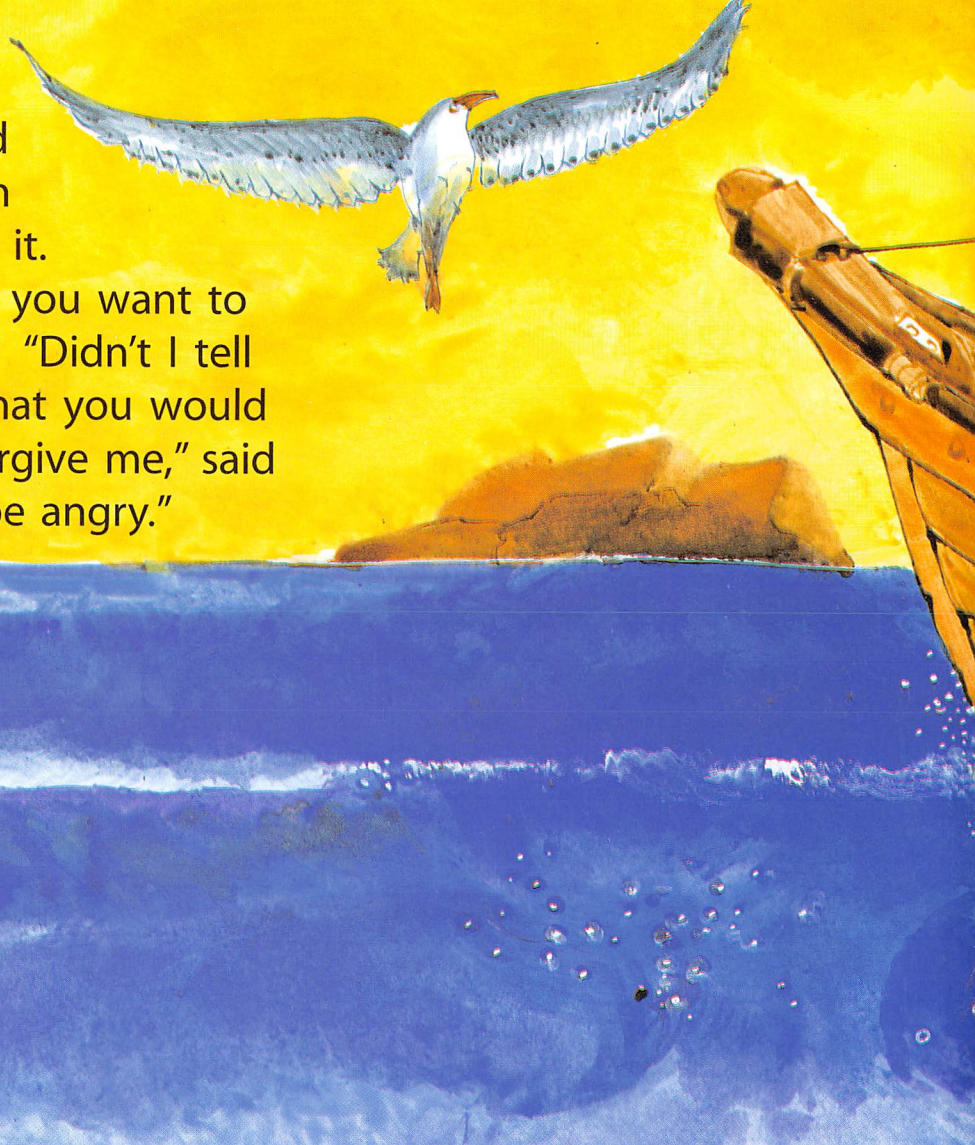


Musa عليه السلام set out with his young disciple, Yusha bin Nun. At a certain point the fish they were carrying to eat revived and slipped away into the sea. As predicted, this is where they found al-Khidr. "May I follow you, and be guided by your knowledge?" Musa عليه السلام asked al-Khidr. "Impossible!" said al-Khidr, "For how can you tolerate what is beyond your knowledge?" Musa عليه السلام replied: "If Allah will, you shall find me patient: I shall in no way cross you." Al-Khidr agreed but warned Musa عليه السلام not to question him about anything until he mentioned it himself.



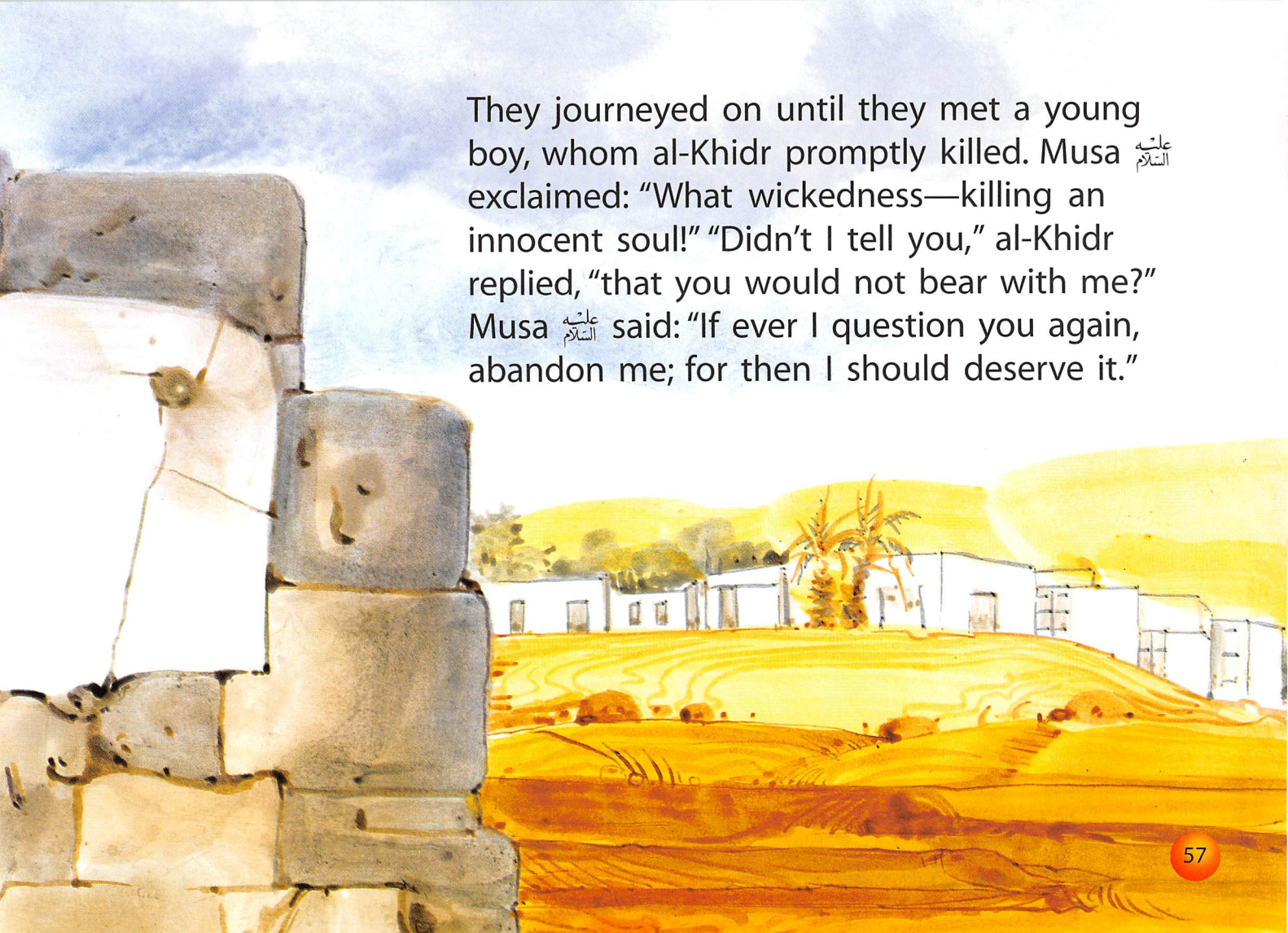
The two then embarked upon a ship, whereupon al-Khidr bored a hole in it.

Musa عليه السلام exclaimed: "Do you want to drown the passengers?" "Didn't I tell you," replied al-Khidr, "that you would not bear with me?" "Forgive me," said Musa عليه السلام. "Please don't be angry."



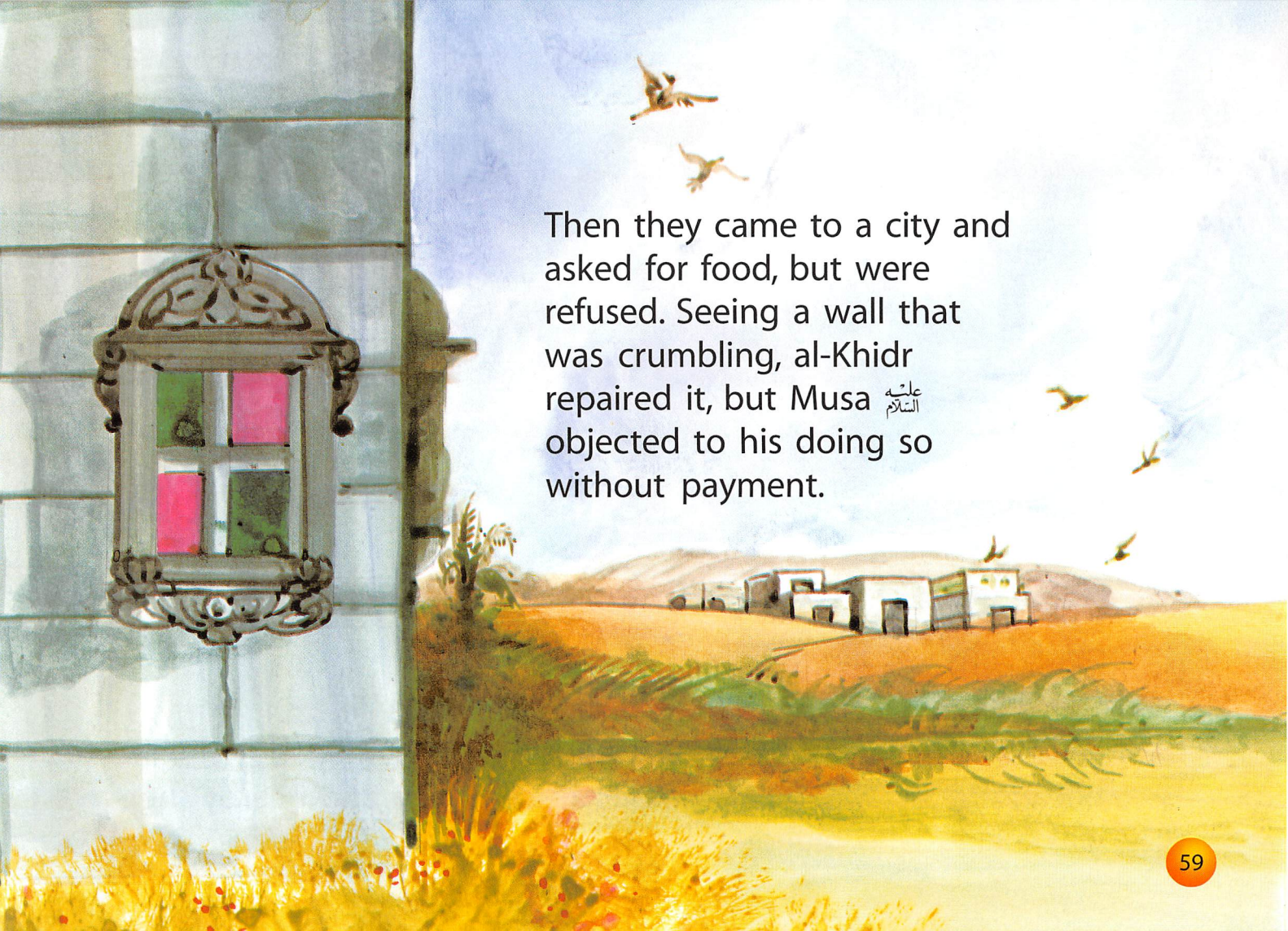






They journeyed on until they met a young boy, whom al-Khidr promptly killed. Musa ^{عليه السلام} exclaimed: “What wickedness—killing an innocent soul!” “Didn’t I tell you,” al-Khidr replied, “that you would not bear with me?” Musa ^{عليه السلام} said: “If ever I question you again, abandon me; for then I should deserve it.”





Then they came to a city and asked for food, but were refused. Seeing a wall that was crumbling, al-Khidr repaired it, but Musa عليه السلام objected to his doing so without payment.

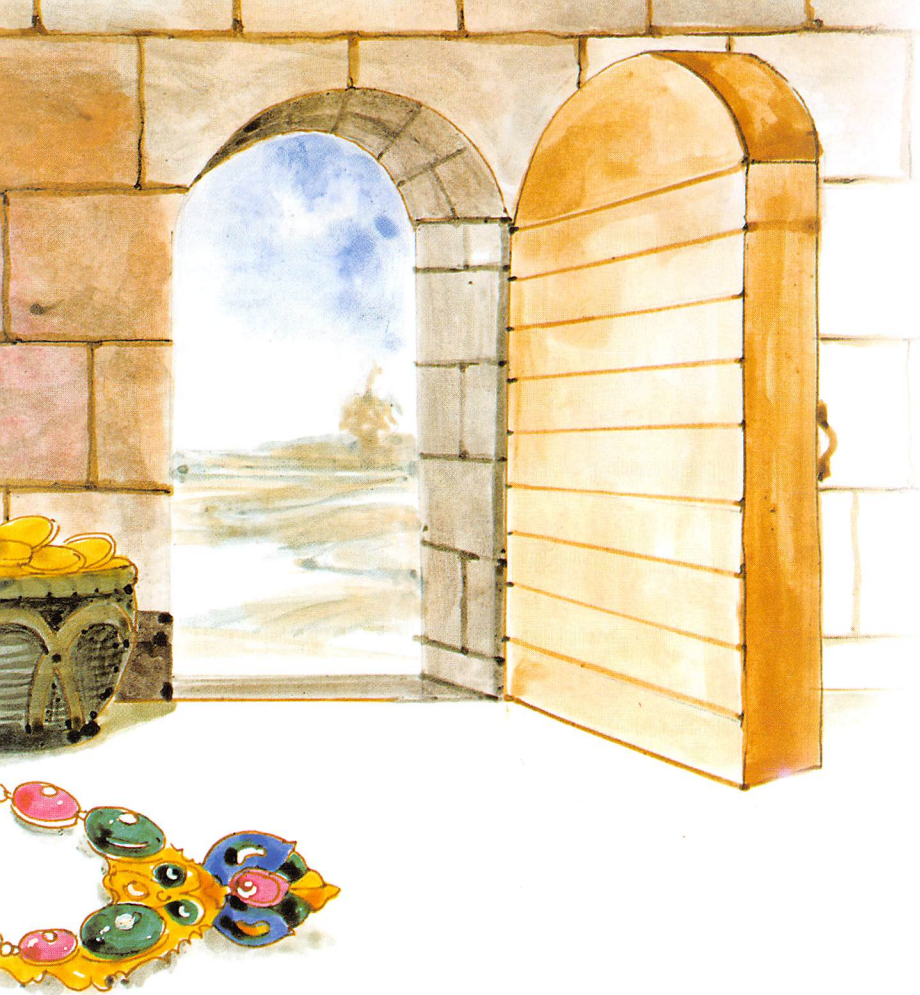


“Now we must part,” said al-Khidr. “But first I will explain my actions which seemed so dreadful to you. I damaged the ship because it belonged to some poor fishermen and nearby there was a king who plundered every vessel.”

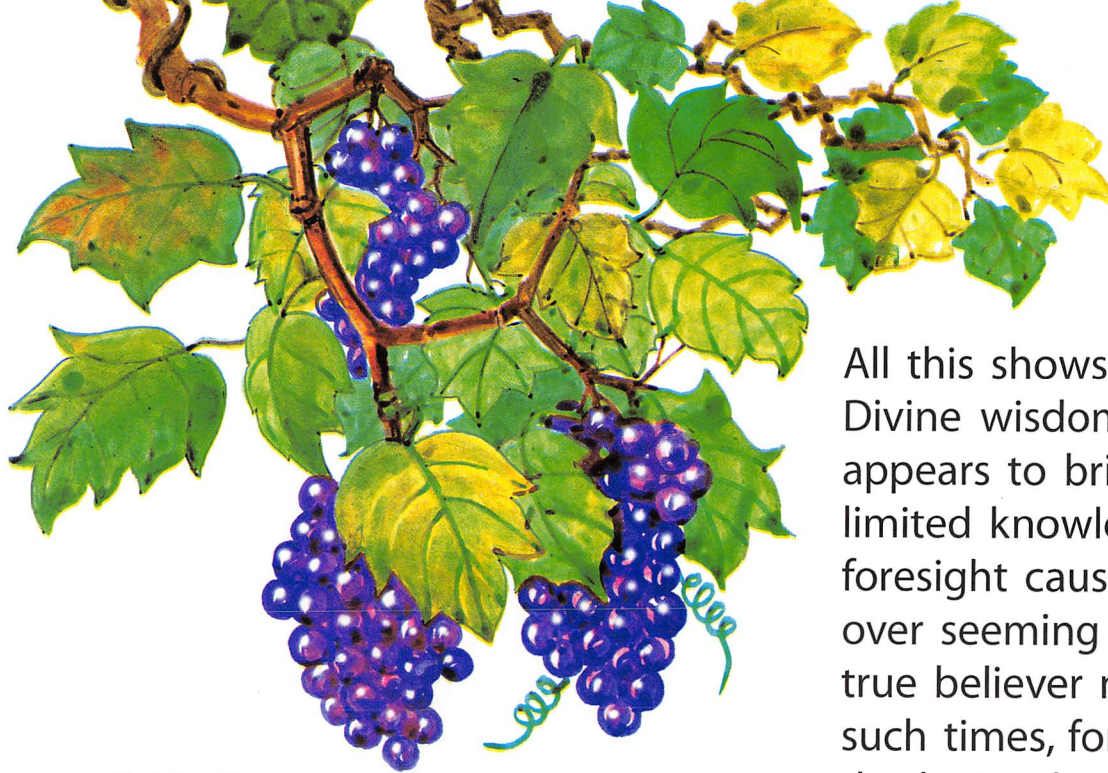


“As for the youth, he would only have distressed his believing parents with his wickedness and unbelief. We prayed that their Lord would replace him with a more righteous and filial son.





“The wall belonged to two orphans, sons of an honest man in the city. Beneath it their treasure lay buried. Your Lord decreed that they should dig it up when they grew to manhood. What I did was not by my will. That explains what you could not bear to watch with patience.”



Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Musa ﷺ and al-Khidr.

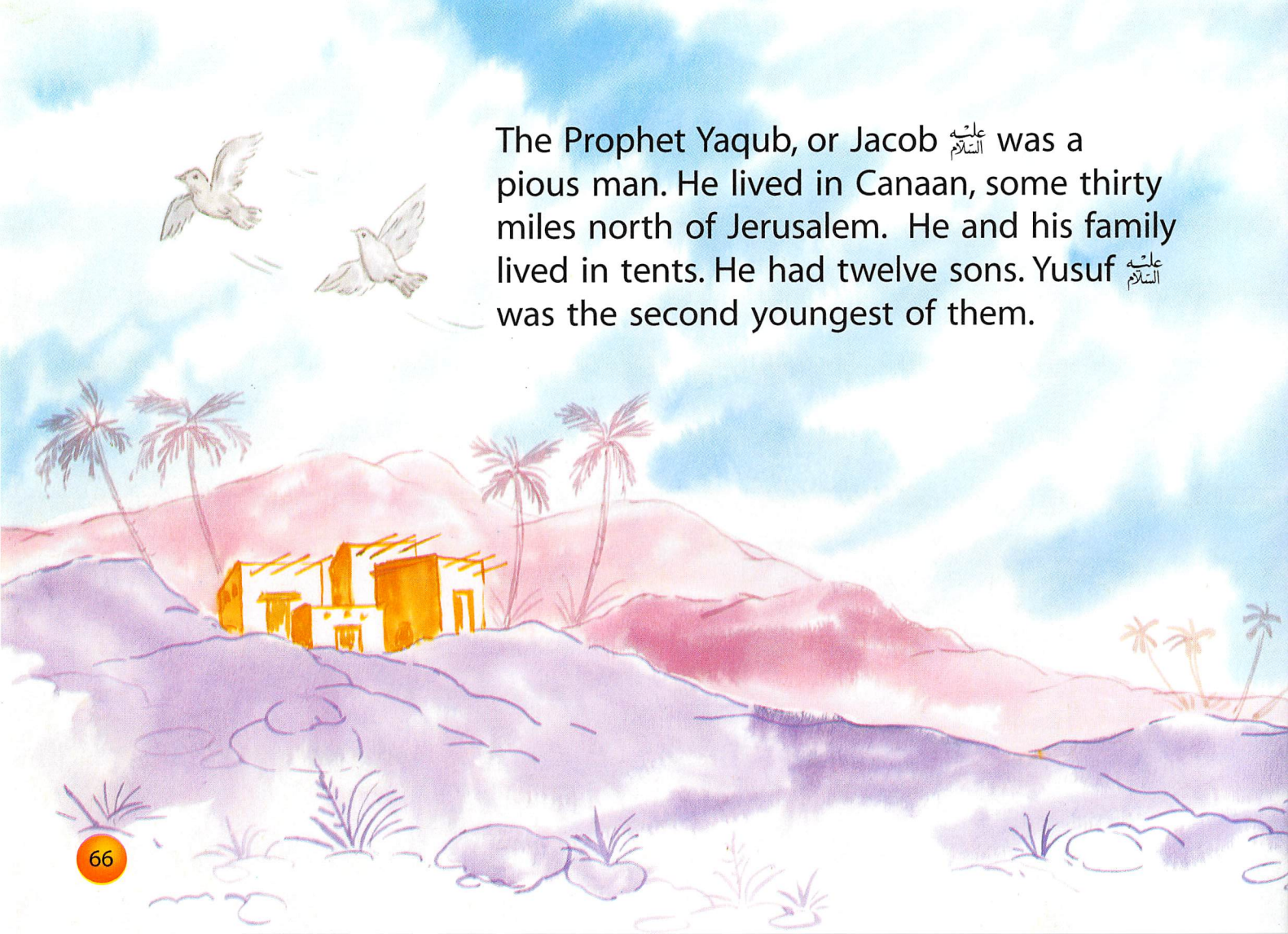
Surah al-Kahf 18:60-82

عليه
السلام *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

All this shows that the highest Divine wisdom sometimes appears to bring calamity. Man's limited knowledge and lack of foresight cause him to grieve over seeming tragedies. But the true believer never flinches at such times, for he knows that the loving hand of Allah unceasingly directs humanity toward the goal of the greatest good. This is the lesson of the story of al-Khidr.

The Pious Man And His Sons



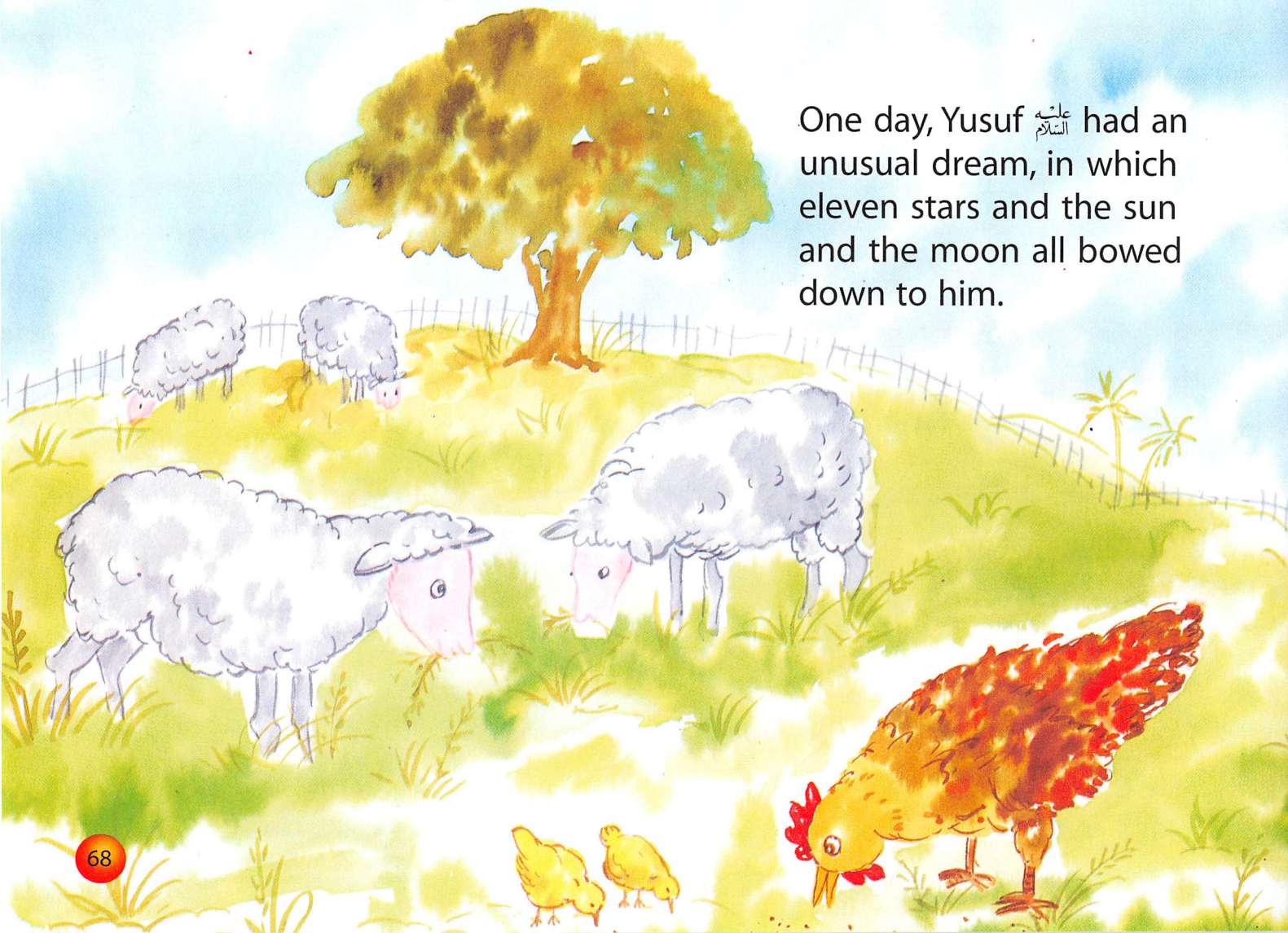
The illustration depicts a desert scene. In the foreground, there are several small, spiky plants and rocks. In the middle ground, a simple tent with a wooden frame and a thatched roof is pitched on a sandy dune. Several palm trees of varying heights are scattered around the tent. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains rendered in shades of pink and purple. The sky is a mix of light blue and white, with two white birds flying in the upper left quadrant. The overall style is that of a children's book illustration.

The Prophet Yaqub, or Jacob عليه السلام was a pious man. He lived in Canaan, some thirty miles north of Jerusalem. He and his family lived in tents. He had twelve sons. Yusuf عليه السلام was the second youngest of them.

A watercolor illustration of a tree with a large, flat, yellow canopy. The word "Canaan" is written in a grey, sans-serif font across the center of the canopy. The tree has a brown trunk and stands on a rocky, purple-hued ground. In the background, there are pinkish-red mountains and several palm trees under a blue sky with white clouds.

Canaan

One day, Yusuf عليه السلام had an unusual dream, in which eleven stars and the sun and the moon all bowed down to him.



When his father heard about this dream, he understood that great things lay in store for his young and best-loved son. For their part, being aware of their father's love for Yusuf عليه السلام, the ten big brothers became so resentful that they began to hate him.



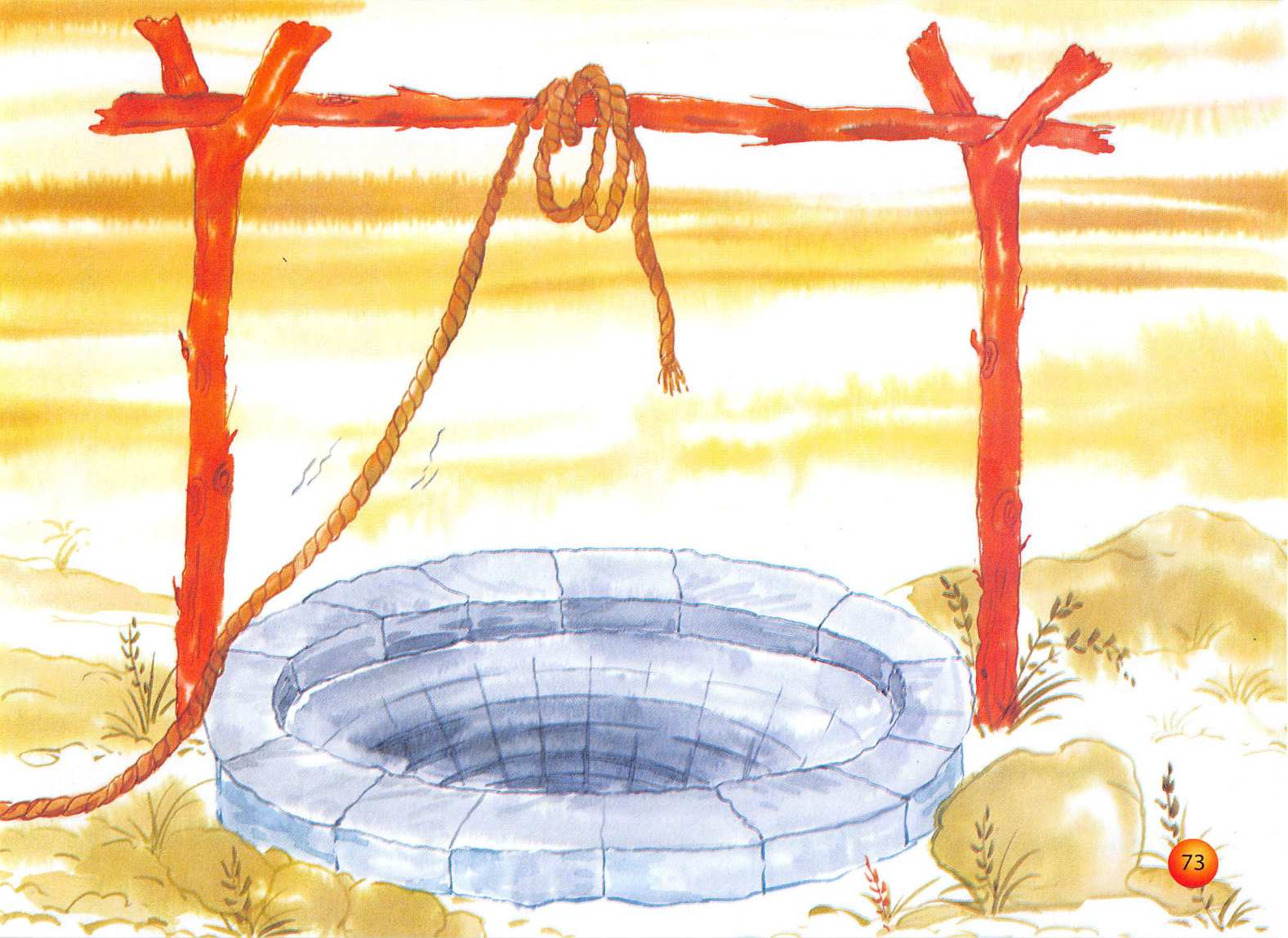
They would go off to look after the family's flocks, grumbling and muttering. They became so jealous of their father's love for this younger brother that they banded together and hatched a plot to kill him.

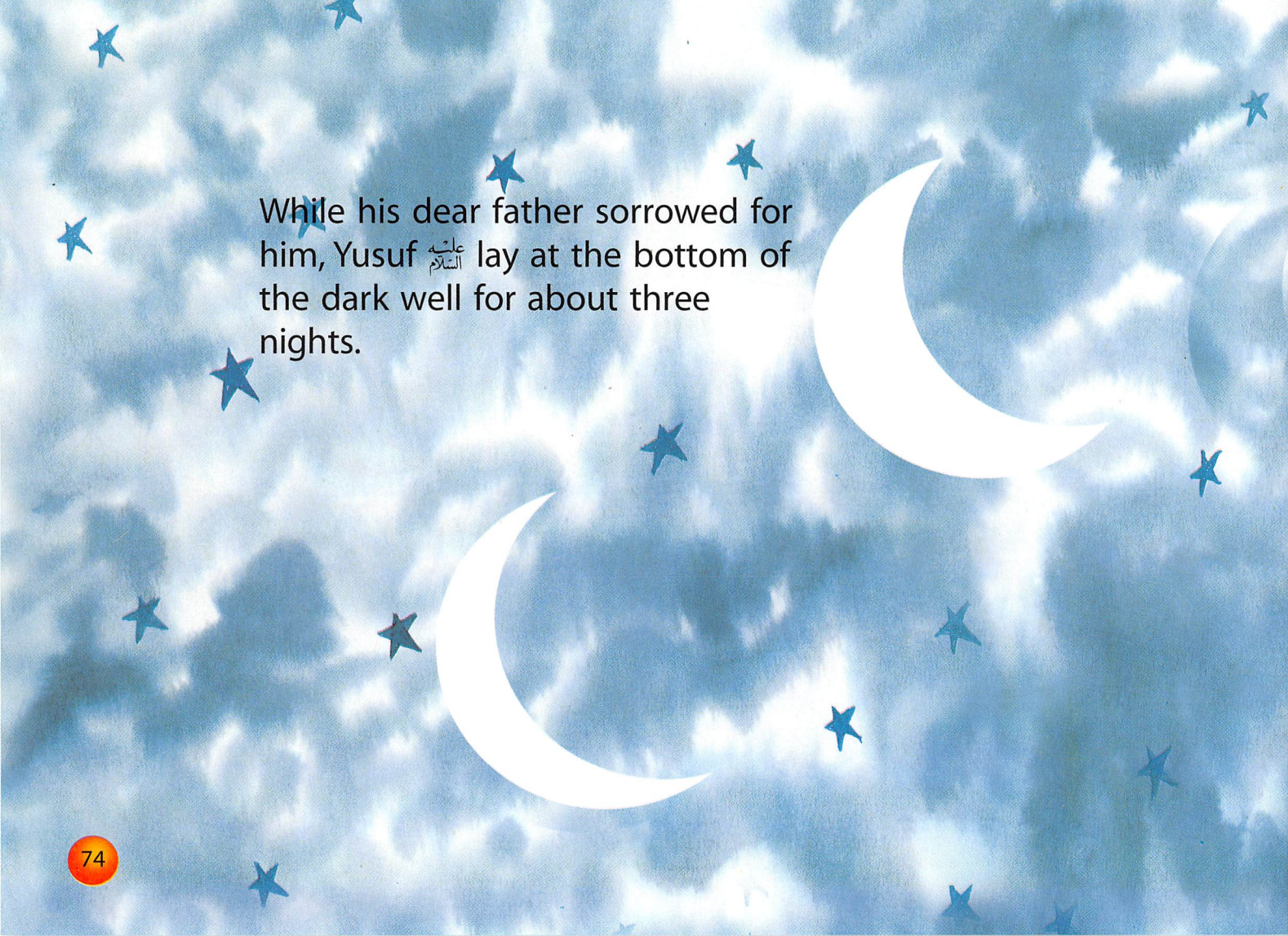




One day they took him with them pretending that they were going out for a picnic. Coming close to a well, they took him unaware, and seizing him from behind, they dragged him to the well and threw him down into it. Yusuf عليه السلام landed on the dry bottom of the well with a thud. There would be no climbing those slippery sides to escape. But he was a brave boy, and did not cry. His courage never failed him. He turned towards his Lord for help.



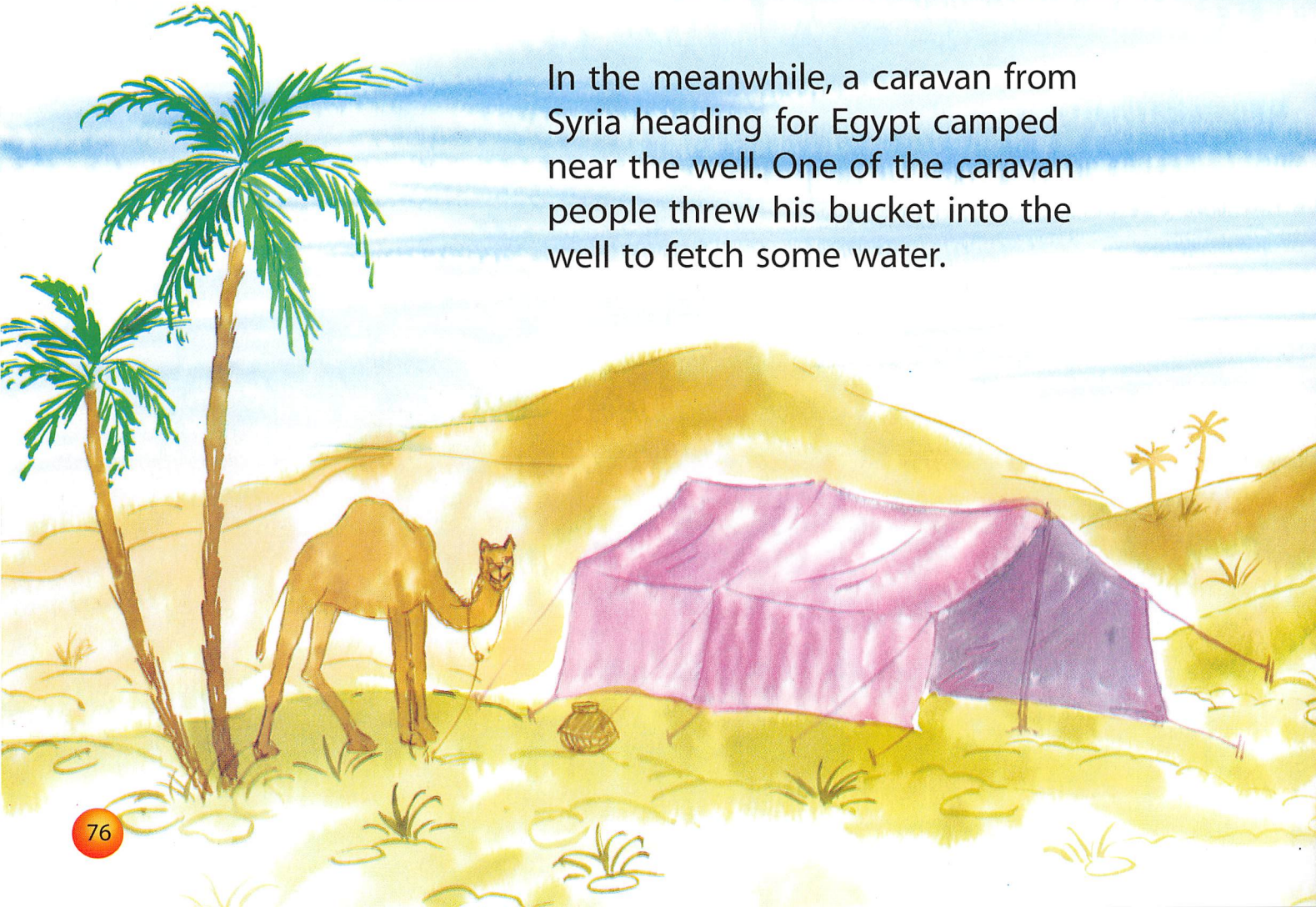




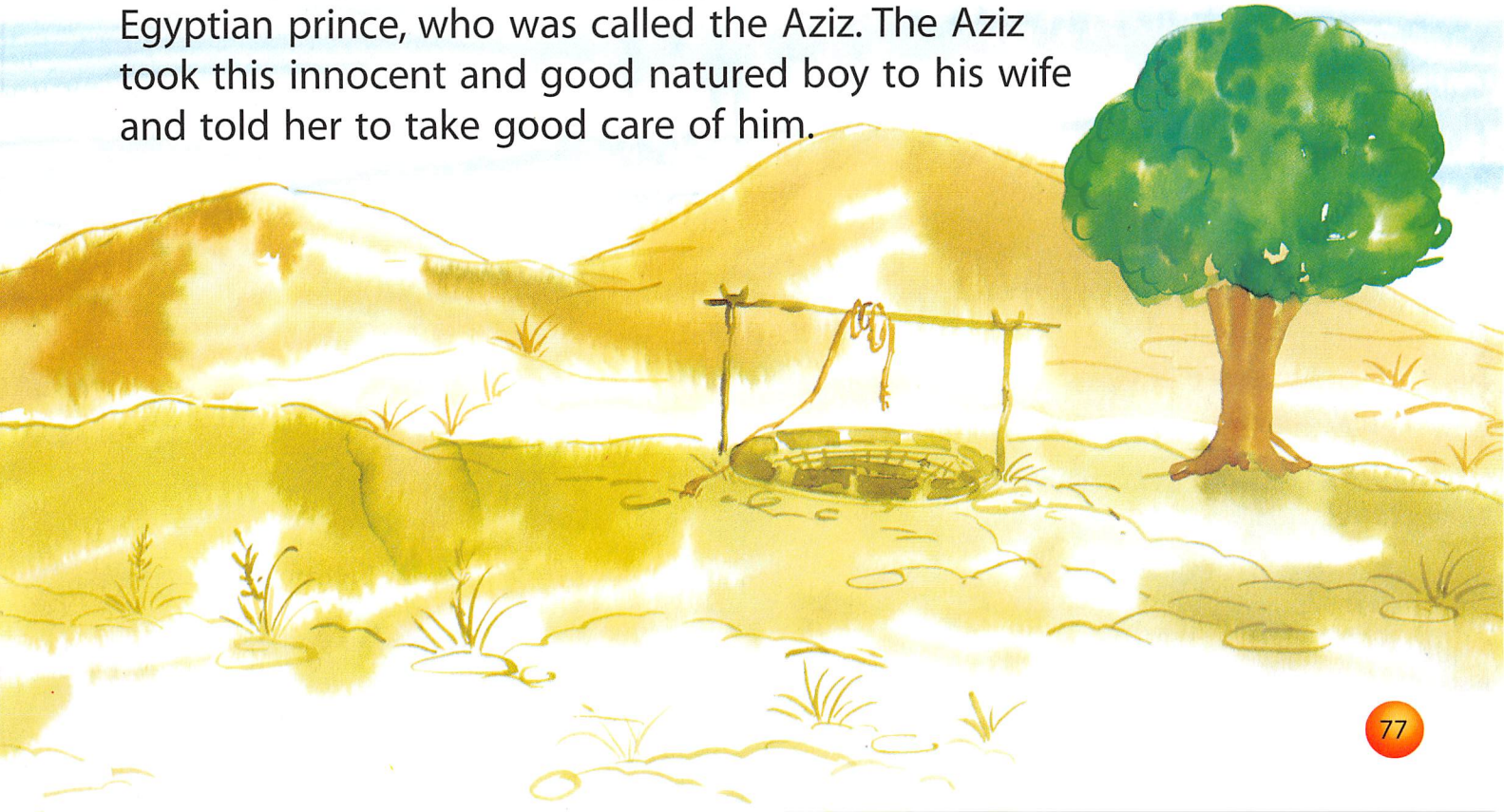
While his dear father sorrowed for him, Yusuf عليه السلام lay at the bottom of the dark well for about three nights.

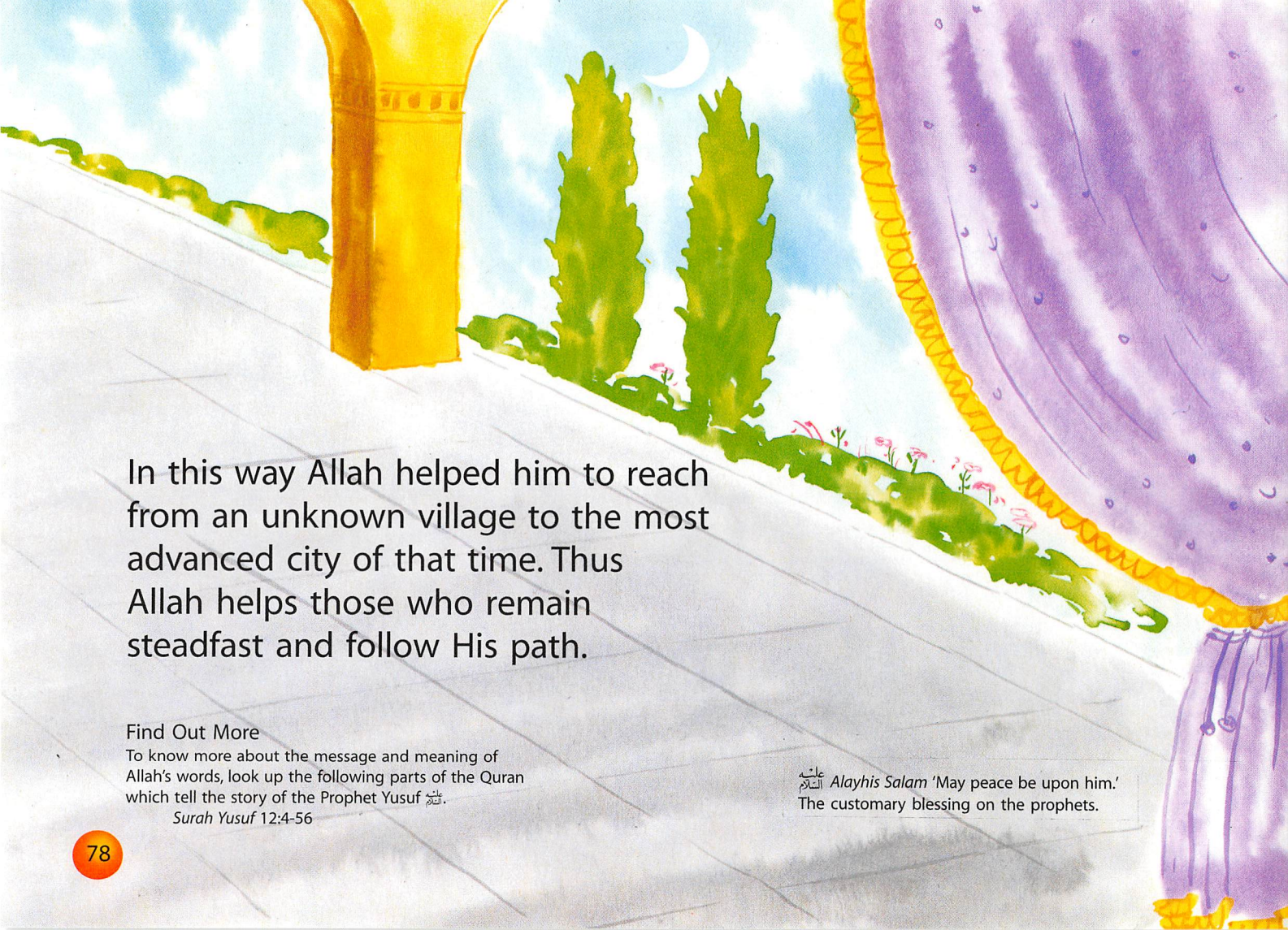


In the meanwhile, a caravan from Syria heading for Egypt camped near the well. One of the caravan people threw his bucket into the well to fetch some water.



But, to his surprise, when he pulled up his bucket, there was a good looking boy clinging to it. The caravan people took him to Egypt and sold him to an Egyptian prince, who was called the Aziz. The Aziz took this innocent and good natured boy to his wife and told her to take good care of him.





In this way Allah helped him to reach from an unknown village to the most advanced city of that time. Thus Allah helps those who remain steadfast and follow His path.

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام.

Surah Yusuf 12:4-56

عليه السلام *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

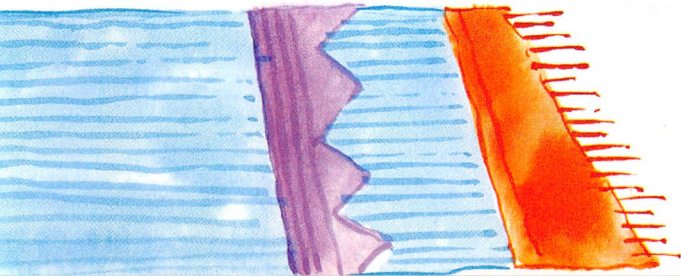
The Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام and the King's Dream



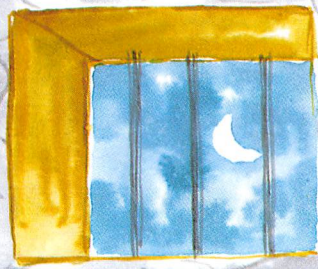
In the last story, *The Pious Man and His Sons*, we saw how Yusuf عليه السلام was thrown in a well by his brothers and ultimately brought to Egypt, where he was bought by a noble prince whose name was Aziz.



After some years, although Yusuf ^{عليه} السلام
was innocent, Aziz's wife imprisoned
the Prophet Yusuf ^{عليه} السلام.





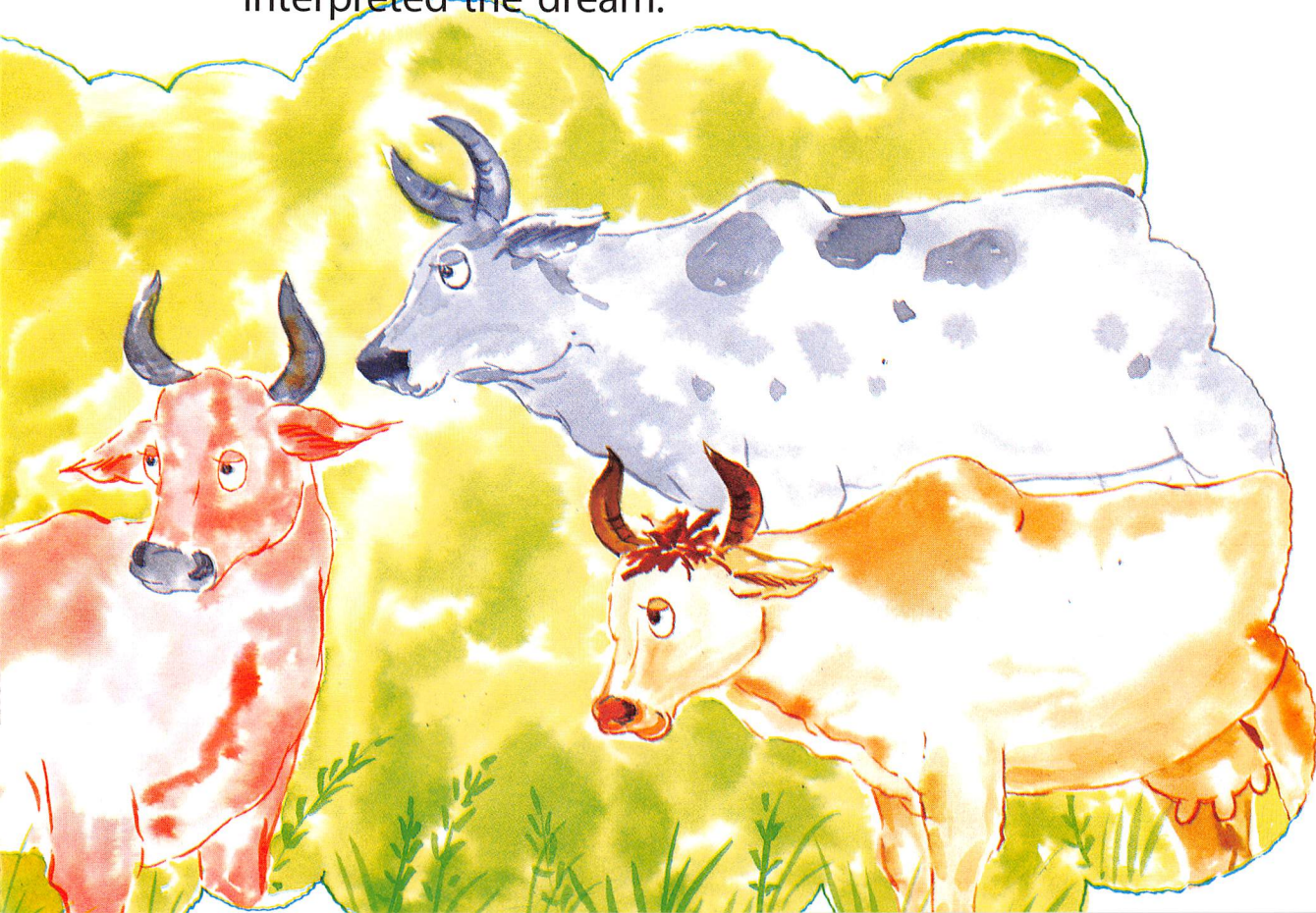


Prison opened another chapter in the life of the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام. Here he met two prisoners. They were servants in the royal court, who had displeased the king. Both of them had strange dreams, the meanings of which were correctly given by Yusuf عليه السلام. One of them, a cup bearer, was freed and taken back into the king's service.

One day the king dreamt that seven lean cows were eating up seven fat ones and seven green ears of corn were being replaced by seven dried-up ones.

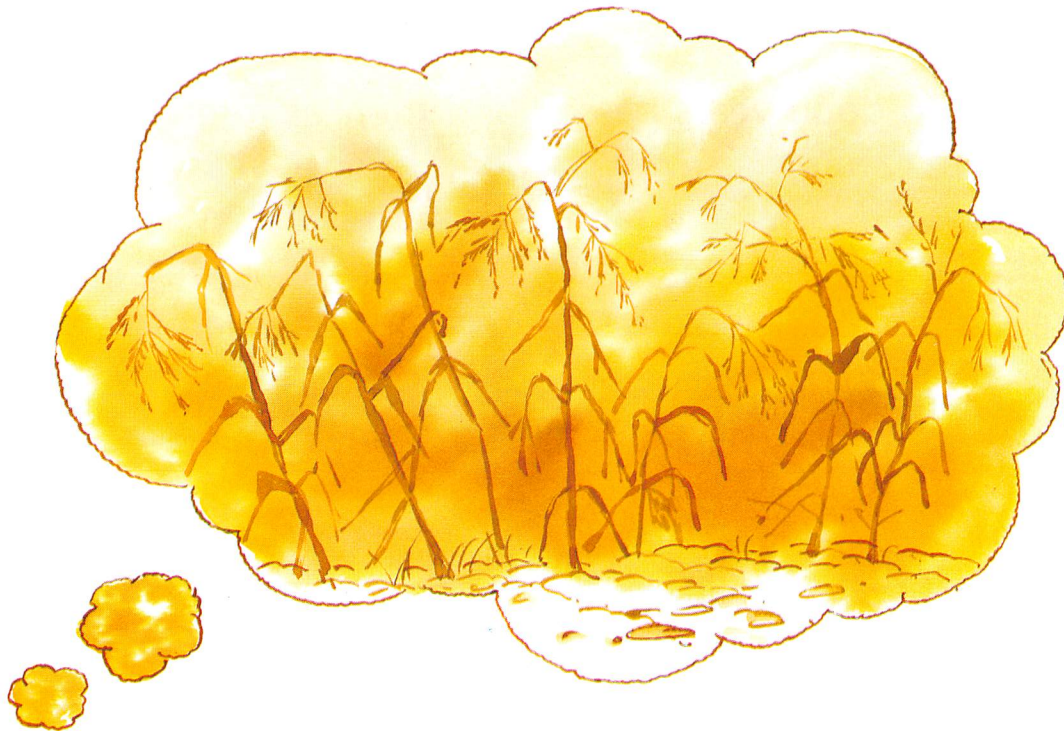


No one was able to say what this unusual dream meant. At that time, at the request of the cup bearer, Yusuf ^{عليه السلام} interpreted the dream.



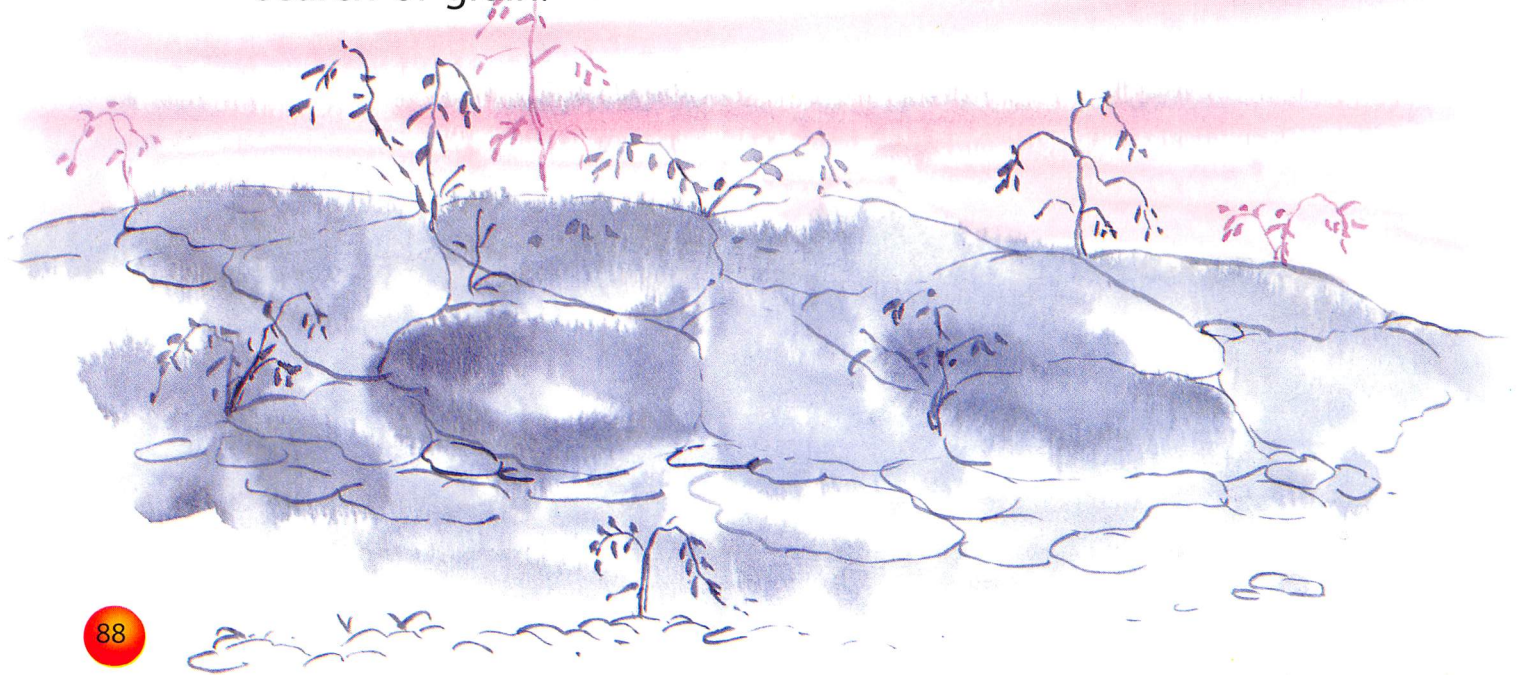
He explained that in the lands of Egypt there would be seven years of prosperity. But following these seven years of abundance, there would come seven years of dreadful famine.





The king greatly liked his explanation. There and then he appointed Yusuf عليه السلام to look after the granaries and made him responsible for providing enough grain to meet all needs during the foretold famine seven years later. Yusuf عليه السلام had become the most trusted minister of the King of Egypt.

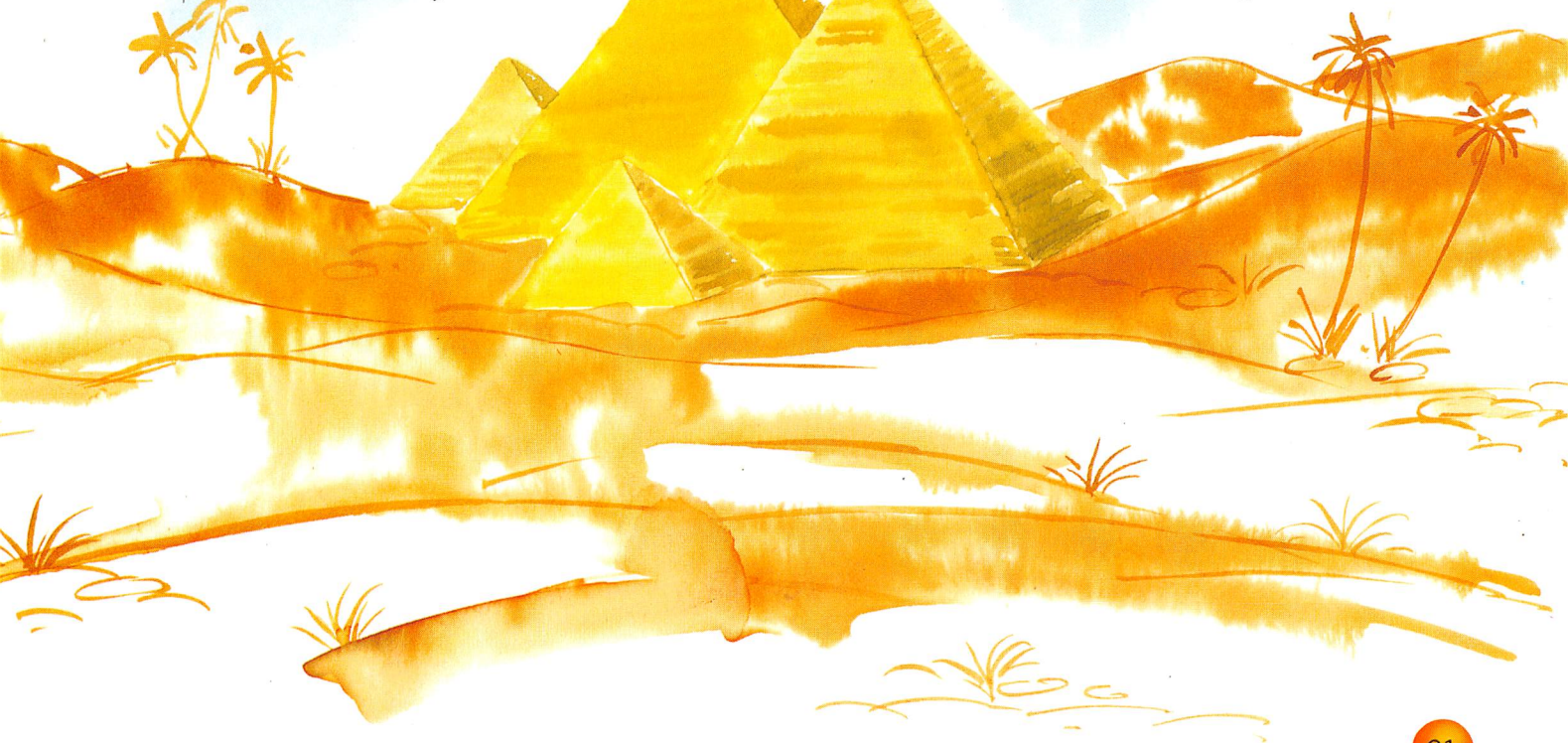
The seven good years passed and then, as foretold by Yusuf عليه السلام, there came the seven lean and hungry years, when no crops would grow and famine held the land in its grip. Back in the land of Canaan, Yaqub عليه السلام and his sons were hit by the famine too. Therefore, the ten sons travelled to Egypt in search of grain.








When they came to the chief of the storehouses in Egypt, Yusuf عليه السلام recognized them. However, they did not realize that this minister, from whom they had come to seek provisions, was their own brother Yusuf عليه السلام whom they had thrown into a dry well many years ago.





Yusuf عليه السلام received them honourably, and asked them about their family. Yusuf عليه السلام gave them an ample supply of grain and put their money back in their packs.

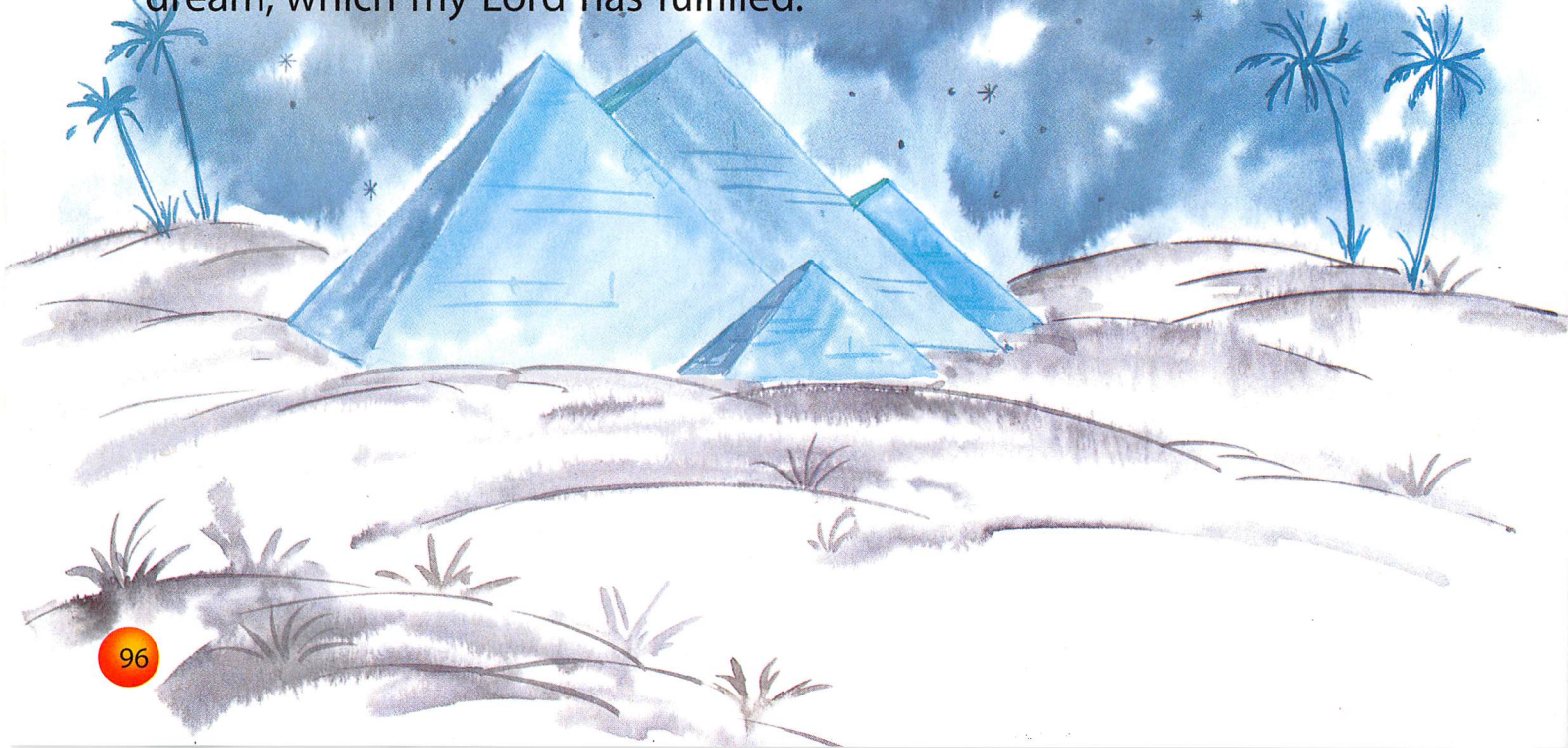


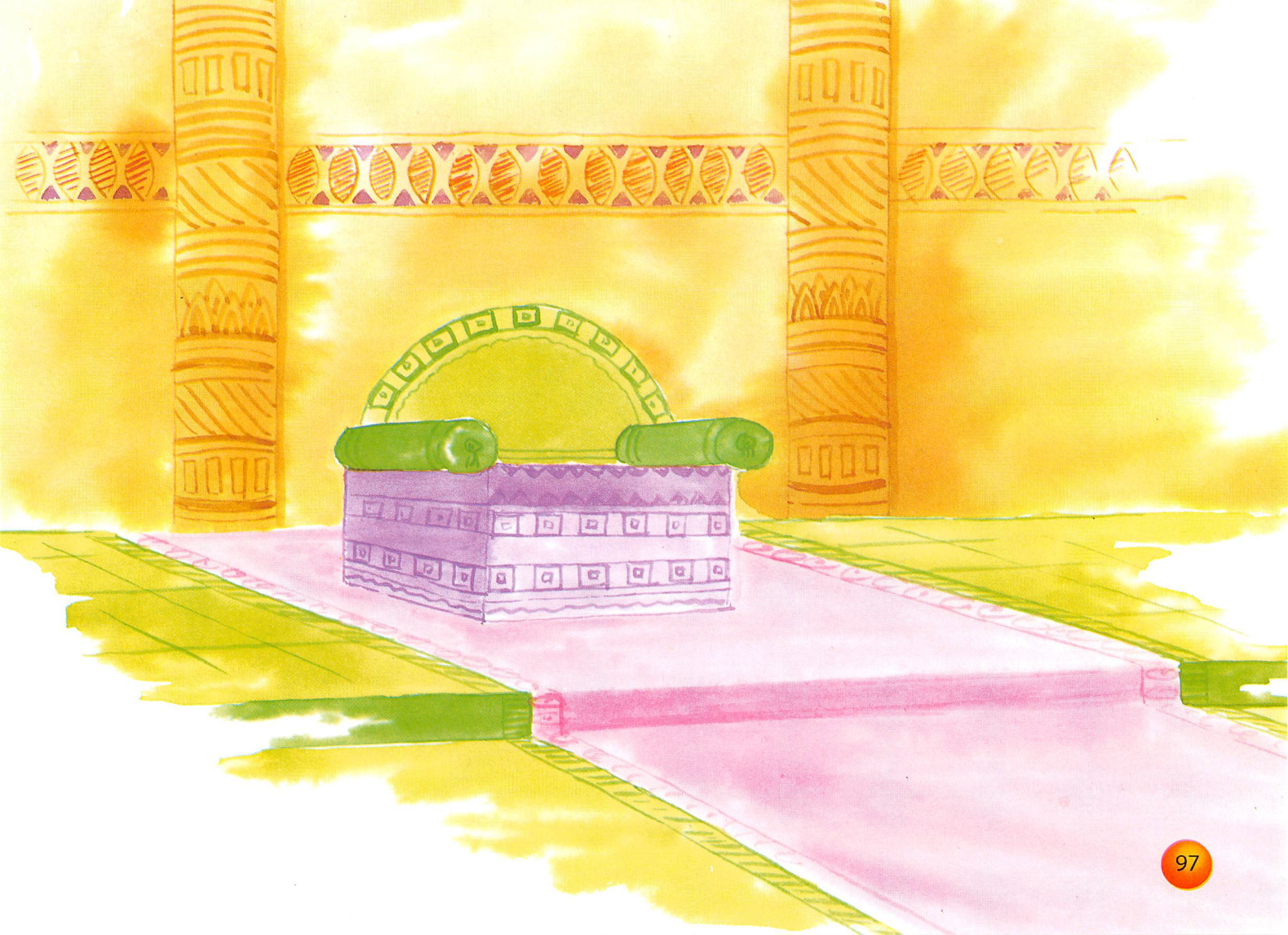
The brothers made further visits. Ultimately Yusuf عليه السلام revealed his identity to them and forgave them for their crime. He asked them to bring their aged parents. Finally the family was reunited and Yusuf عليه السلام embraced his parents and did them honour by making them sit on the throne, saying: "Welcome to Egypt, in safety if Allah wills!"





Seeing the splendour and high position of Yusuf عليه السلام, they all fell prostrate, as a mark of thanksgiving and awe. "This," Yusuf عليه السلام reminded his father, "is the meaning of my dream, which my Lord has fulfilled."





The dream that Yusuf عليه السلام had as a boy, of the sun, the moon and the eleven stars prostrating themselves before him, had at last come true.



Find Out More

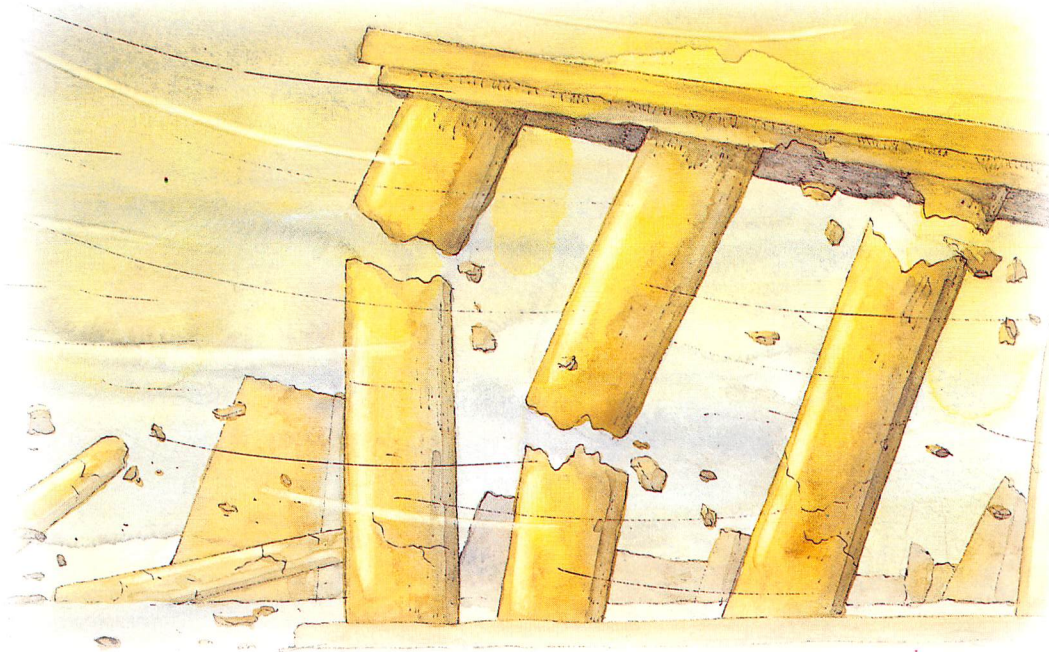
To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام.

Surah Yusuf 12:21-100

عليه السلام *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

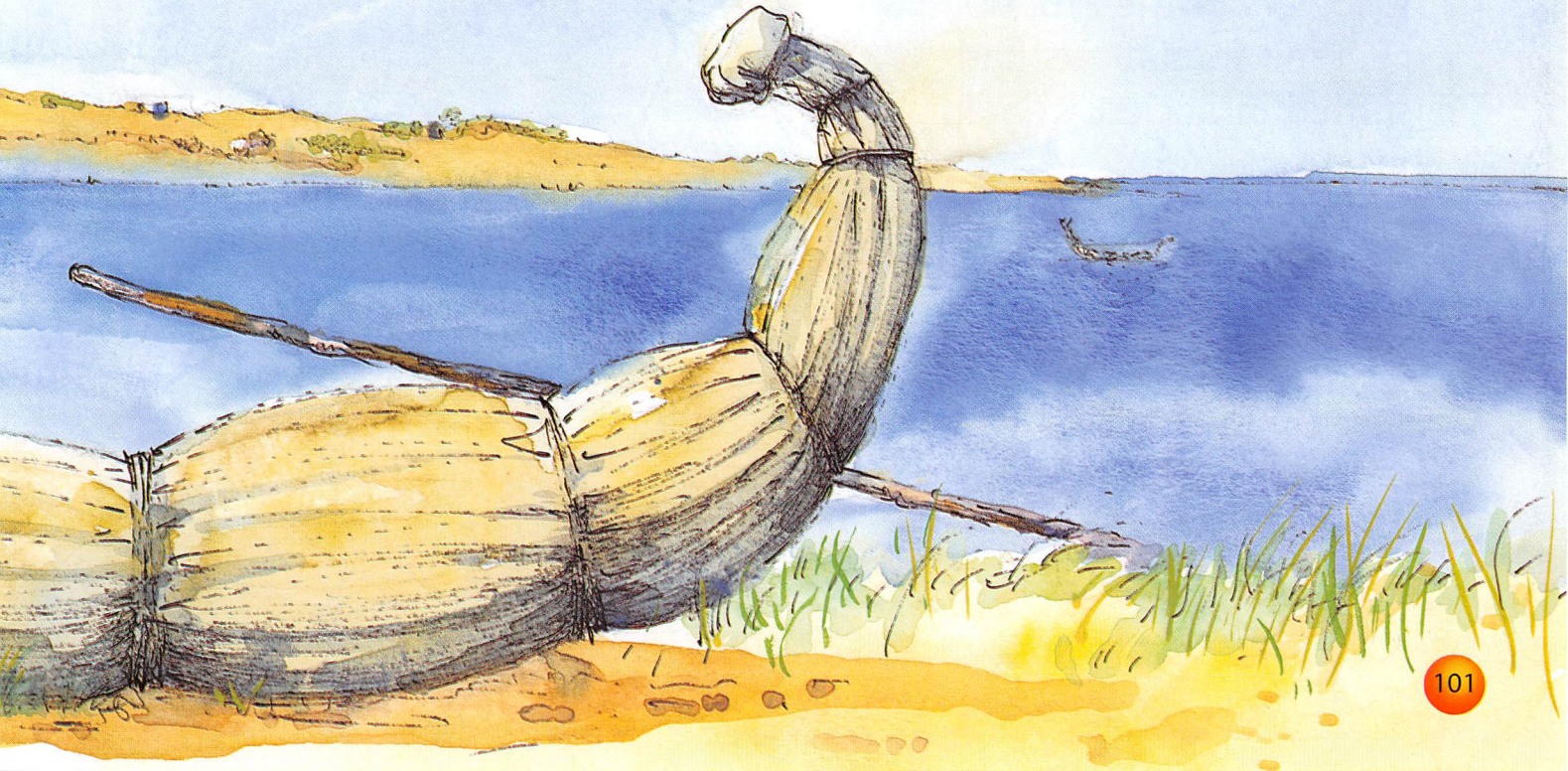
The Prophet Hud and the Storm

عليه
السلام

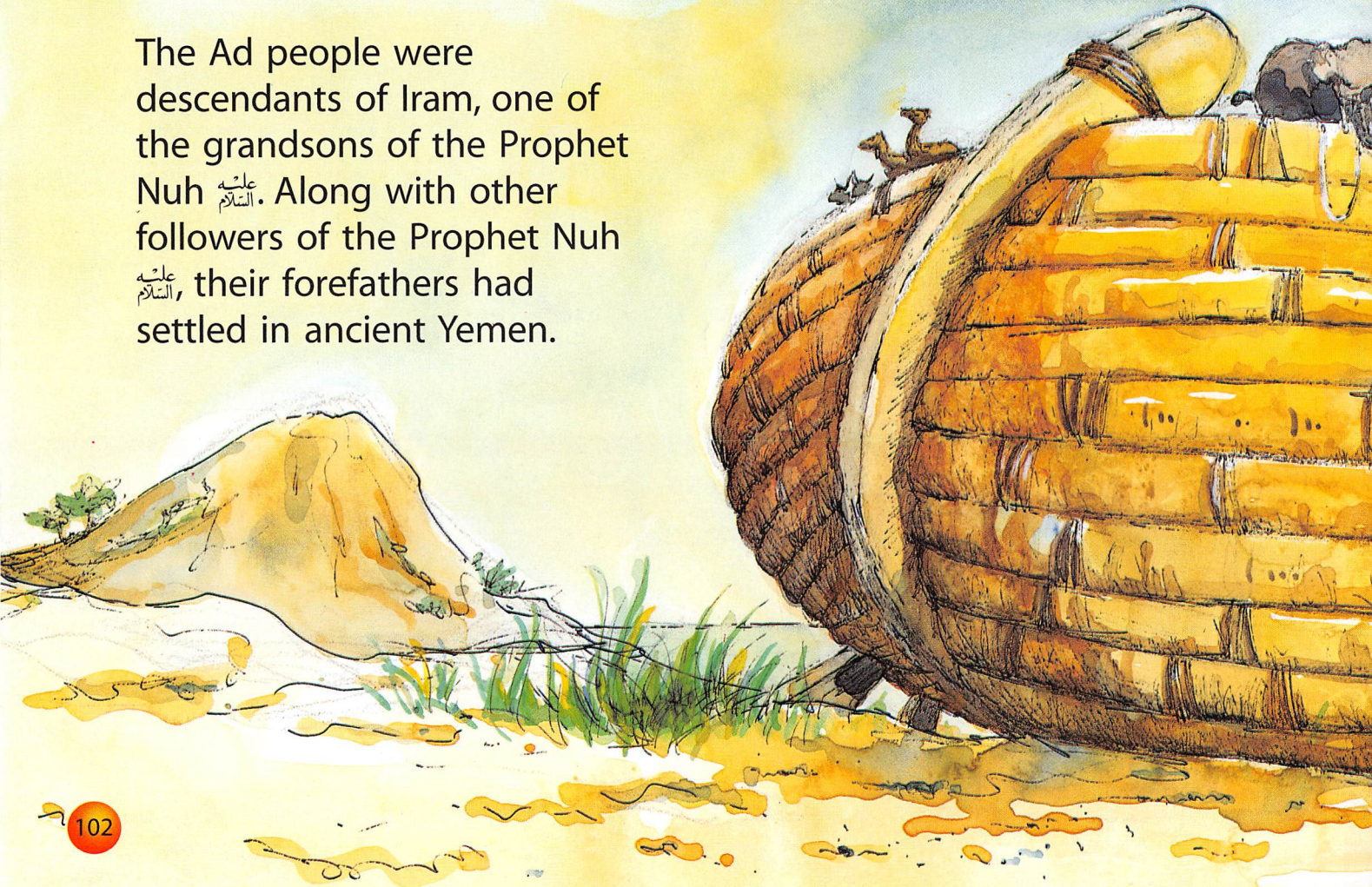




The Prophet Hud عليه السلام was one of the earliest prophets who was sent by Allah to the people of Ad. According to the commentators of the Quran, the Prophet Hud عليه السلام was the first person to speak Arabic. He is buried on a hillock in Hadramawt, where his tomb is still visited, about 90 miles north of Mukalla in Yemen.

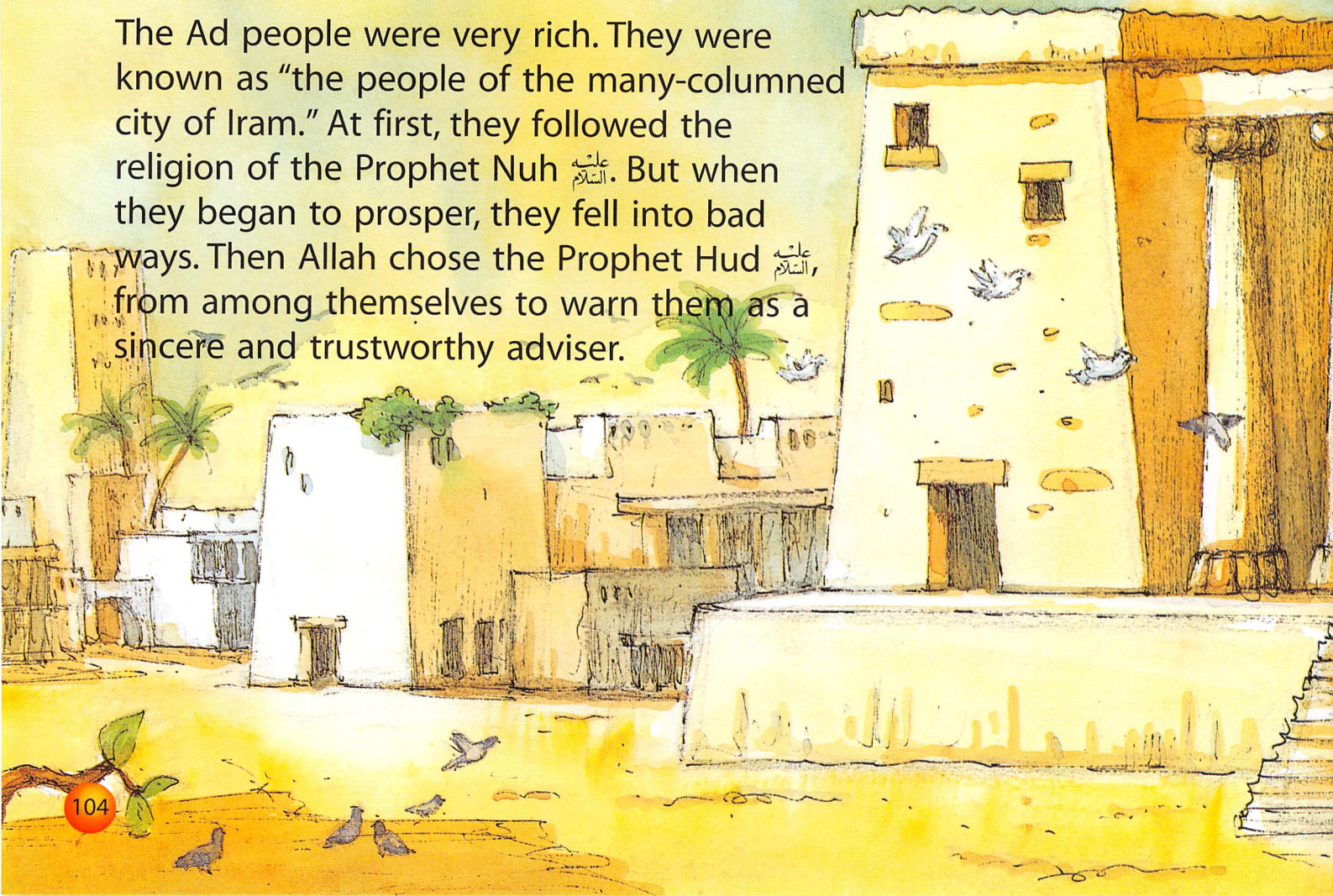


The Ad people were descendants of Iram, one of the grandsons of the Prophet Nuh عليه السلام. Along with other followers of the Prophet Nuh عليه السلام, their forefathers had settled in ancient Yemen.

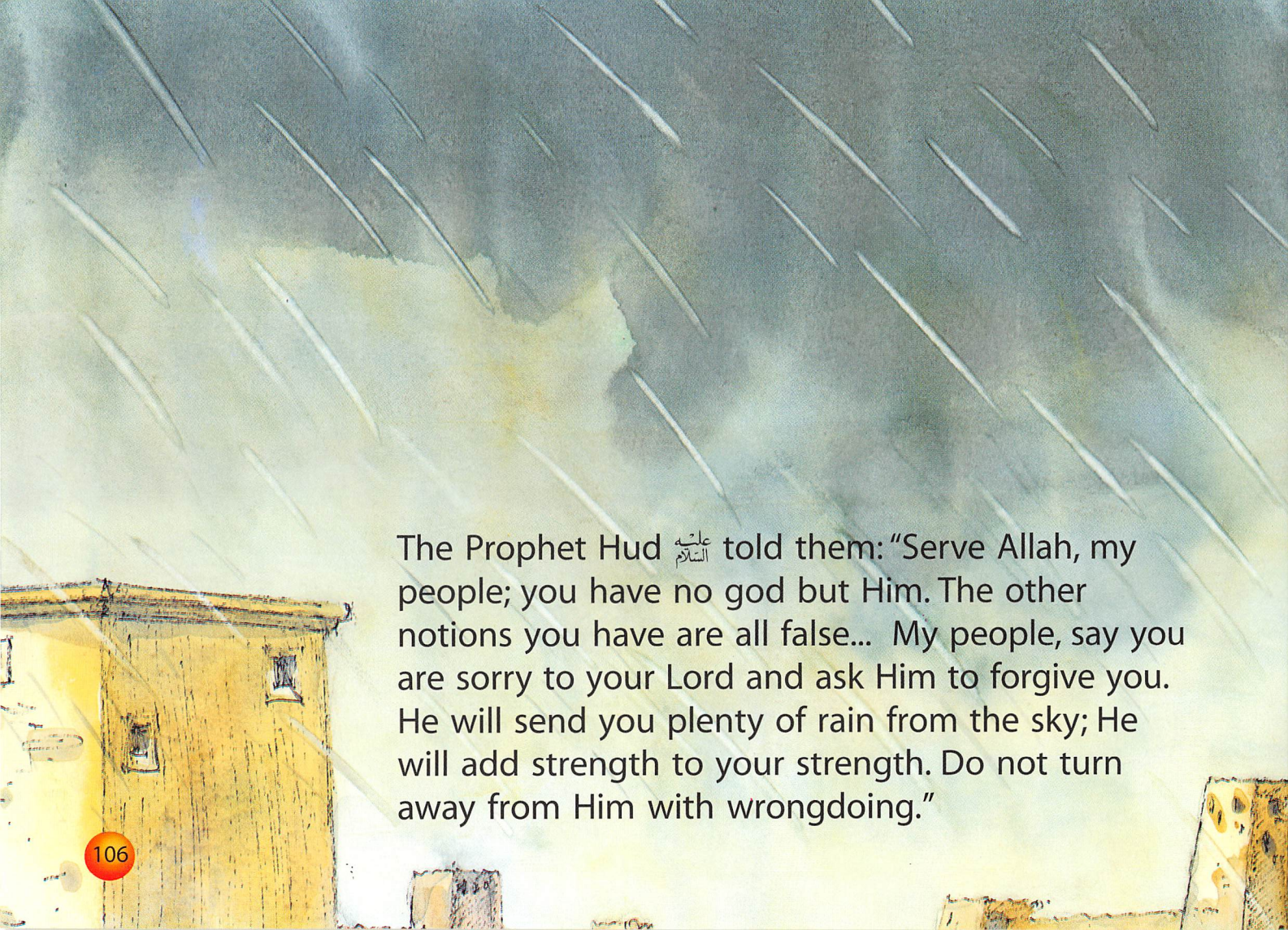




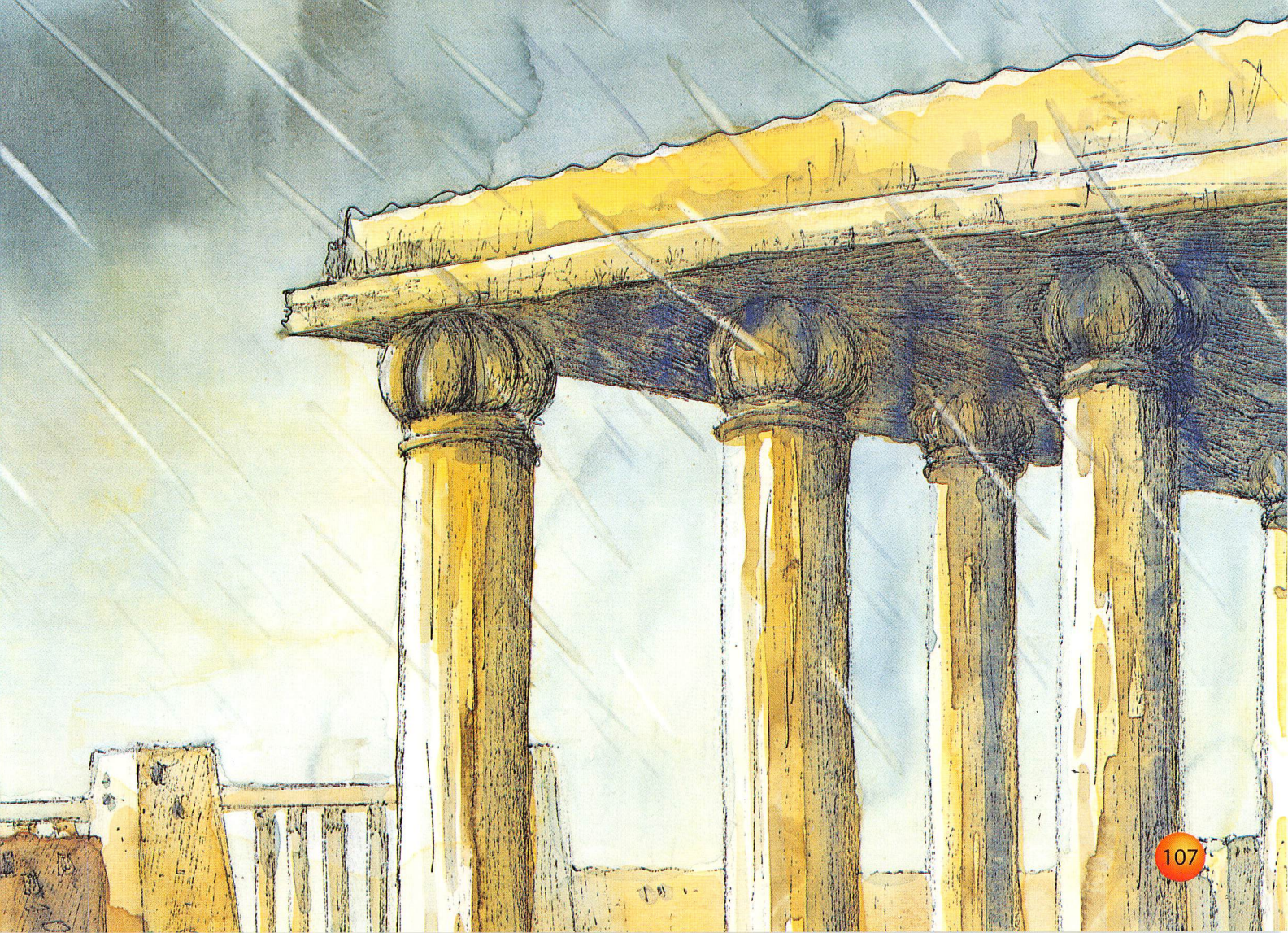
The Ad people were very rich. They were known as “the people of the many-columned city of Iram.” At first, they followed the religion of the Prophet Nuh عليه السلام. But when they began to prosper, they fell into bad ways. Then Allah chose the Prophet Hud عليه السلام, from among themselves to warn them as a sincere and trustworthy adviser.

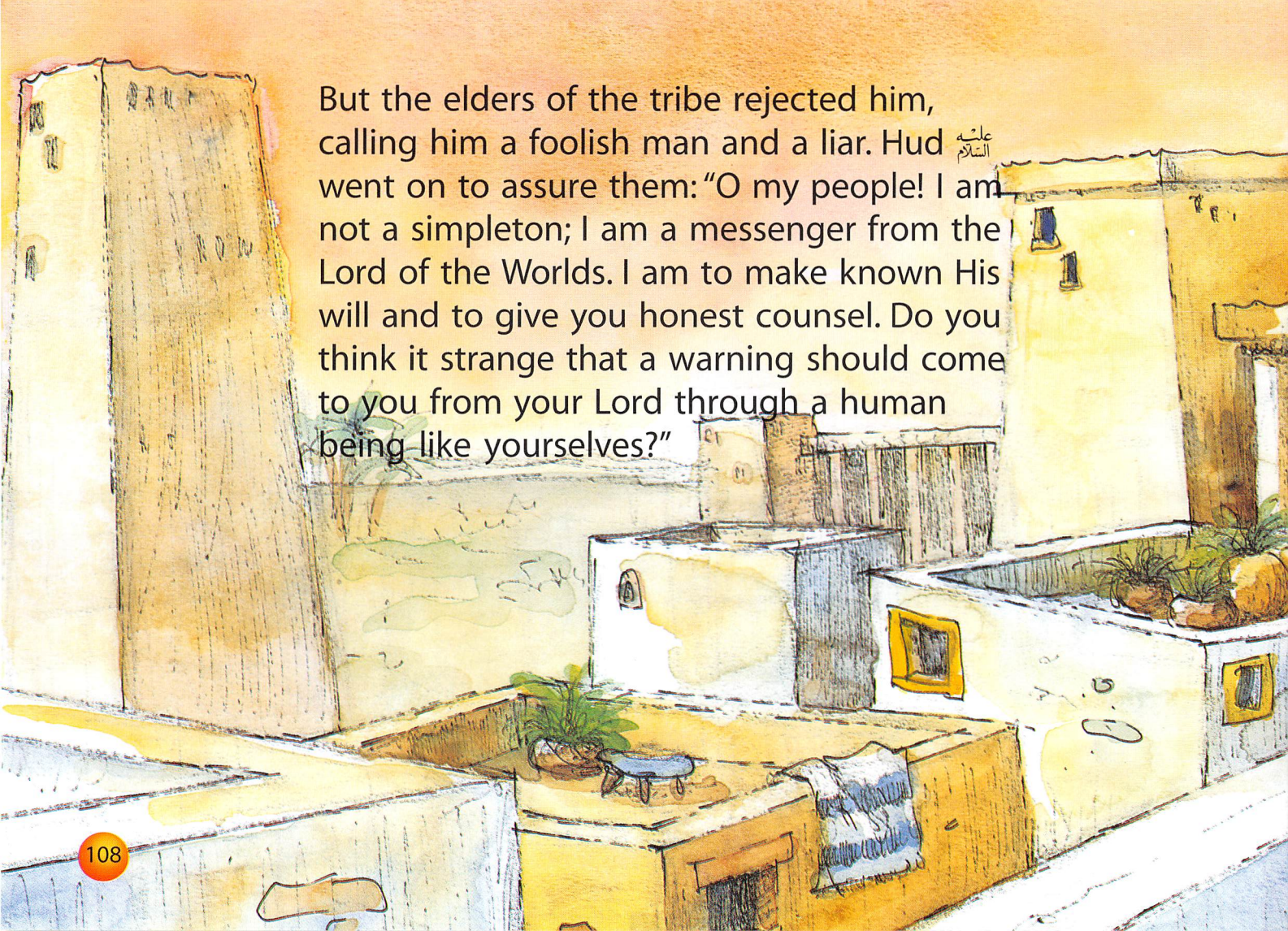






The Prophet Hud عليه السلام told them: "Serve Allah, my people; you have no god but Him. The other notions you have are all false... My people, say you are sorry to your Lord and ask Him to forgive you. He will send you plenty of rain from the sky; He will add strength to your strength. Do not turn away from Him with wrongdoing."



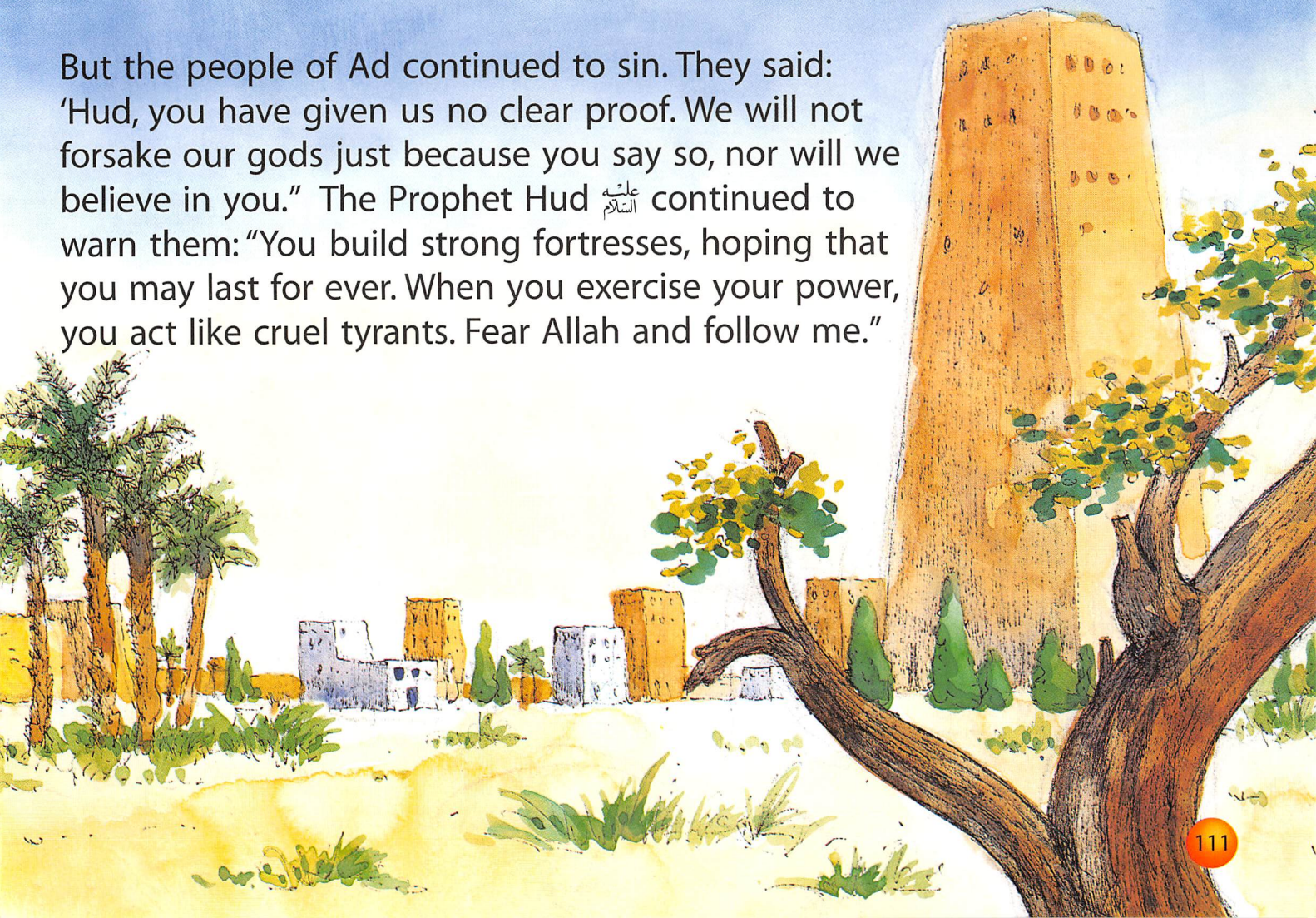


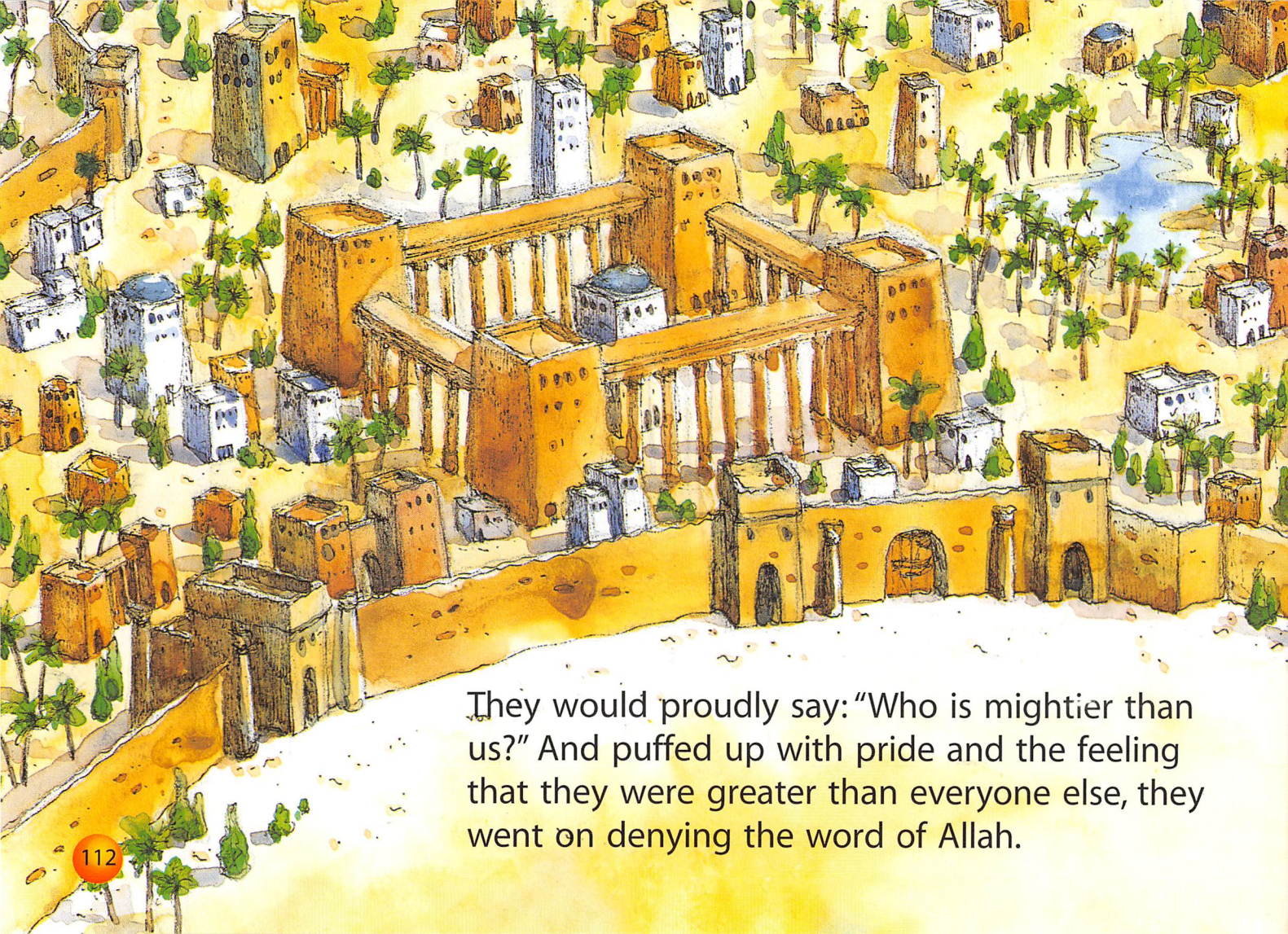
But the elders of the tribe rejected him, calling him a foolish man and a liar. Hud ^{عليه السلام} went on to assure them: "O my people! I am not a simpleton; I am a messenger from the Lord of the Worlds. I am to make known His will and to give you honest counsel. Do you think it strange that a warning should come to you from your Lord through a human being like yourselves?"





But the people of Ad continued to sin. They said: 'Hud, you have given us no clear proof. We will not forsake our gods just because you say so, nor will we believe in you.' The Prophet Hud عليه السلام continued to warn them: "You build strong fortresses, hoping that you may last for ever. When you exercise your power, you act like cruel tyrants. Fear Allah and follow me."

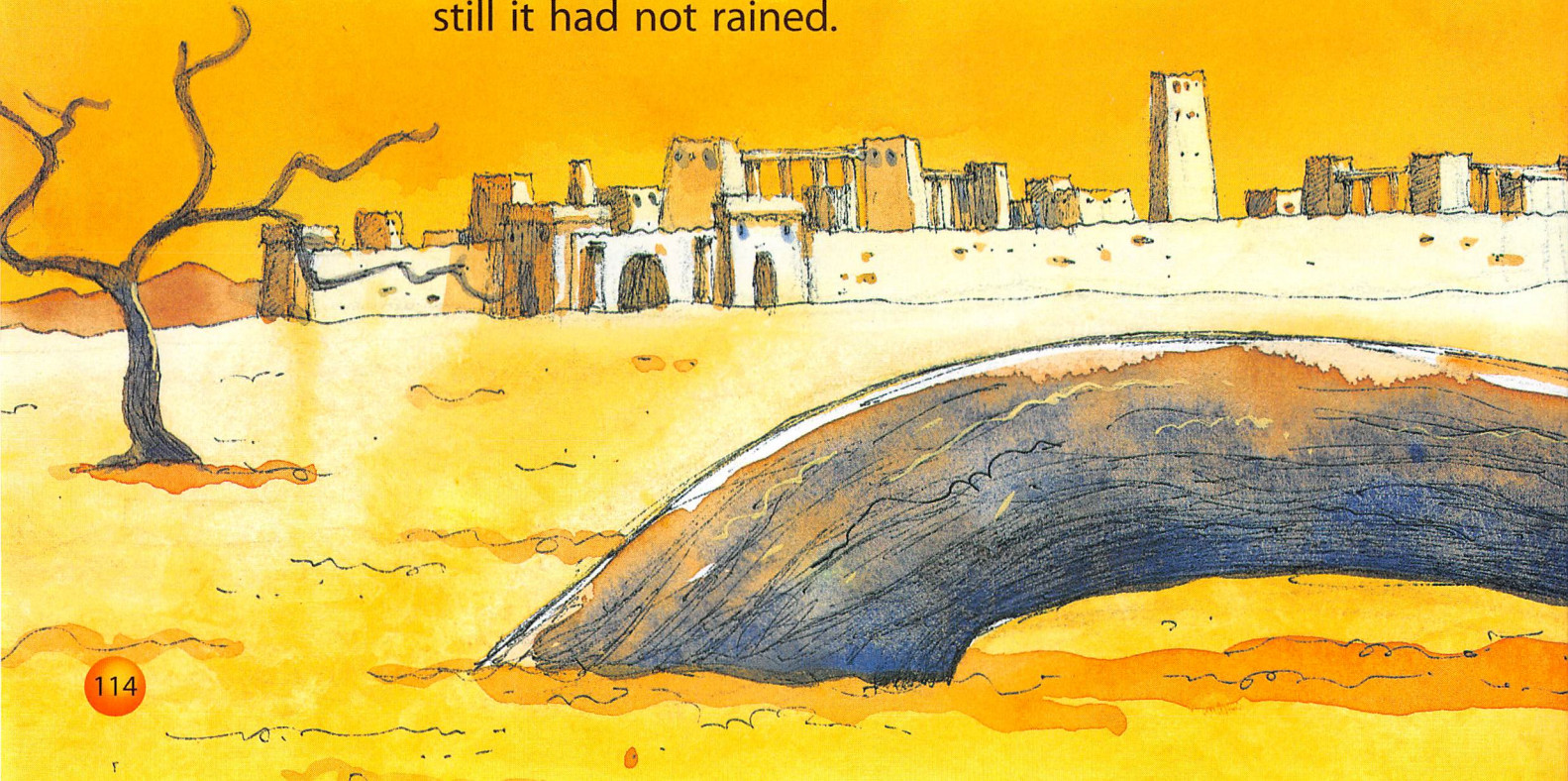




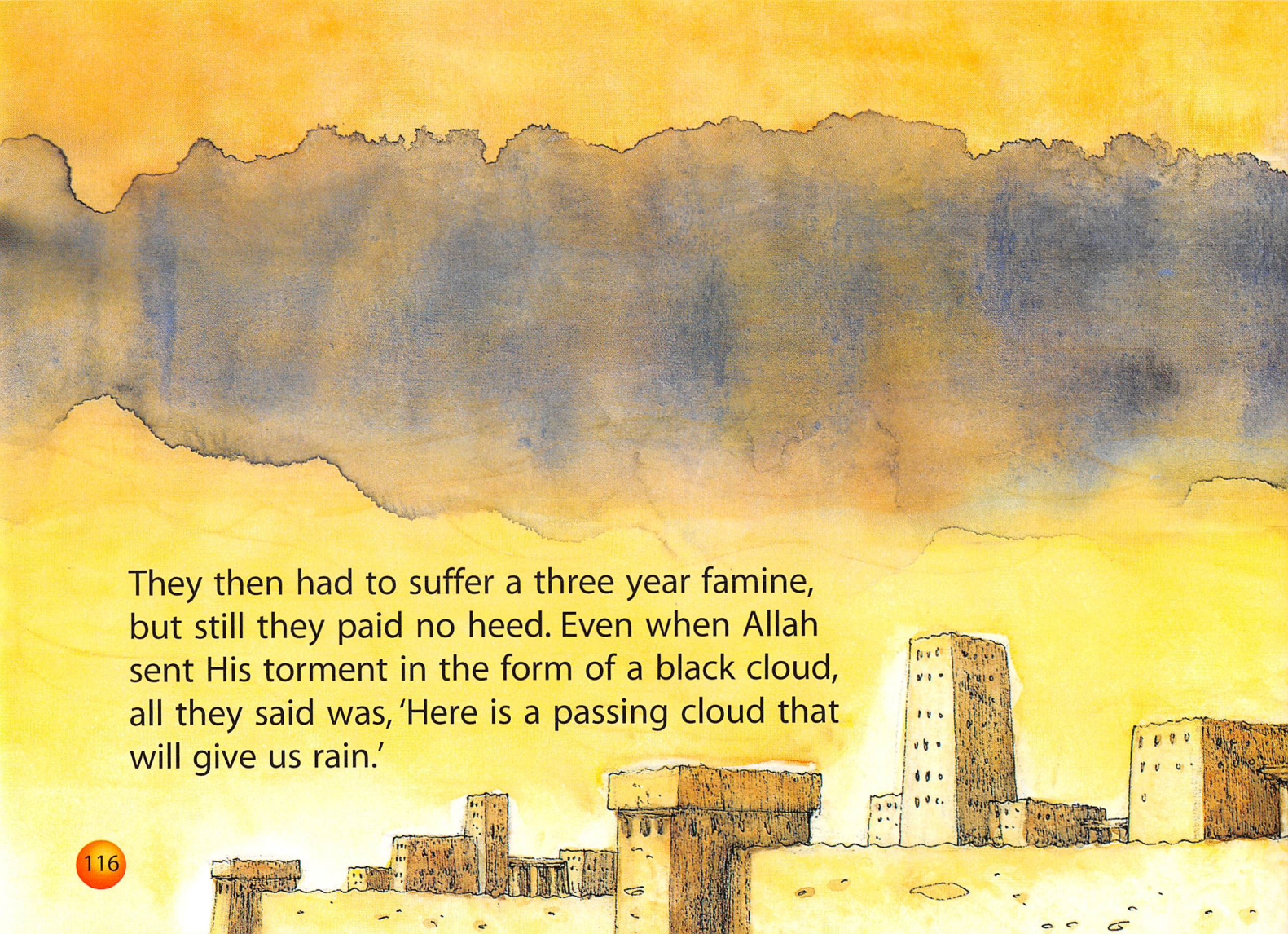
They would proudly say: "Who is mightier than us?" And puffed up with pride and the feeling that they were greater than everyone else, they went on denying the word of Allah.



As a result, Allah willed that a terrible drought befall the land. Plants and trees withered and died and the animals had no water to drink. Many months went by and still it had not rained.







They then had to suffer a three year famine, but still they paid no heed. Even when Allah sent His torment in the form of a black cloud, all they said was, 'Here is a passing cloud that will give us rain.'



Finally, a terrible blast of wind destroyed the wrongdoers and their land, and when morning came, there was nothing to be seen but their ruined houses. And so a howling and violent gale which Allah let loose on them for seven nights and eight days in a row destroyed them as though they had been the hollow trunks of palm-trees.



The lesson of the story is that one should not lose one's humility if one becomes successful. One should give all the credit for one's feats to the blessings of Allah. In not doing so, one's success could be ruined in the same way as the great homes of the people of Ad were destroyed by the great storm sent by Allah.

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Hud عليه السلام.

Surah al-Araf 7:65-72

Surah Hud 11:50-60

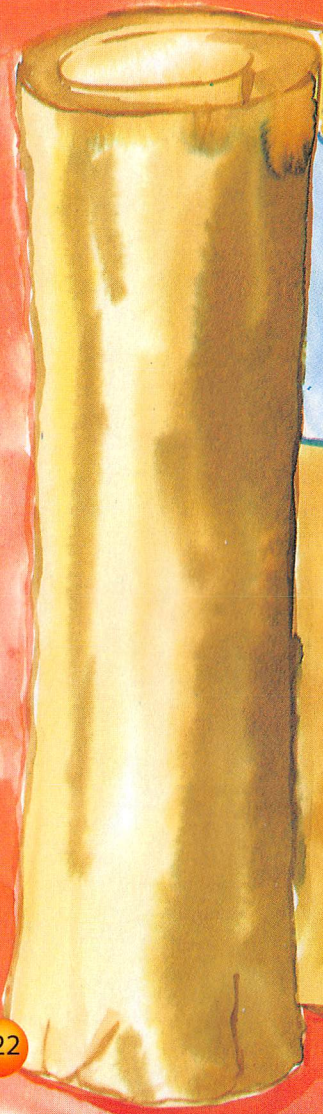
Surah ash-Shuara 26:123-140

Surah al-Ahqaf 46:21-25

عليه السلام *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

The Most Patient Man





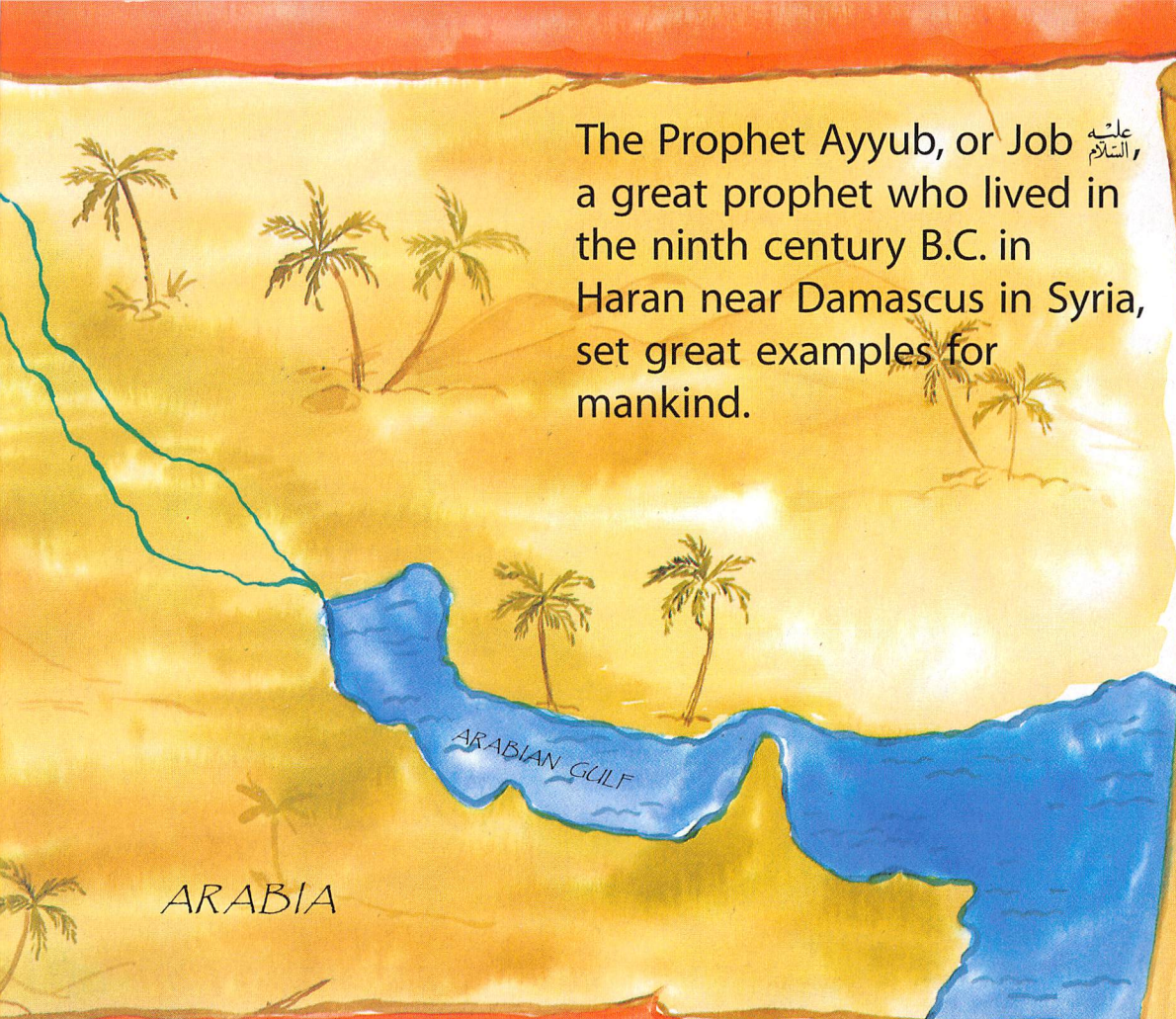
TURKEY

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

JERUSALEM

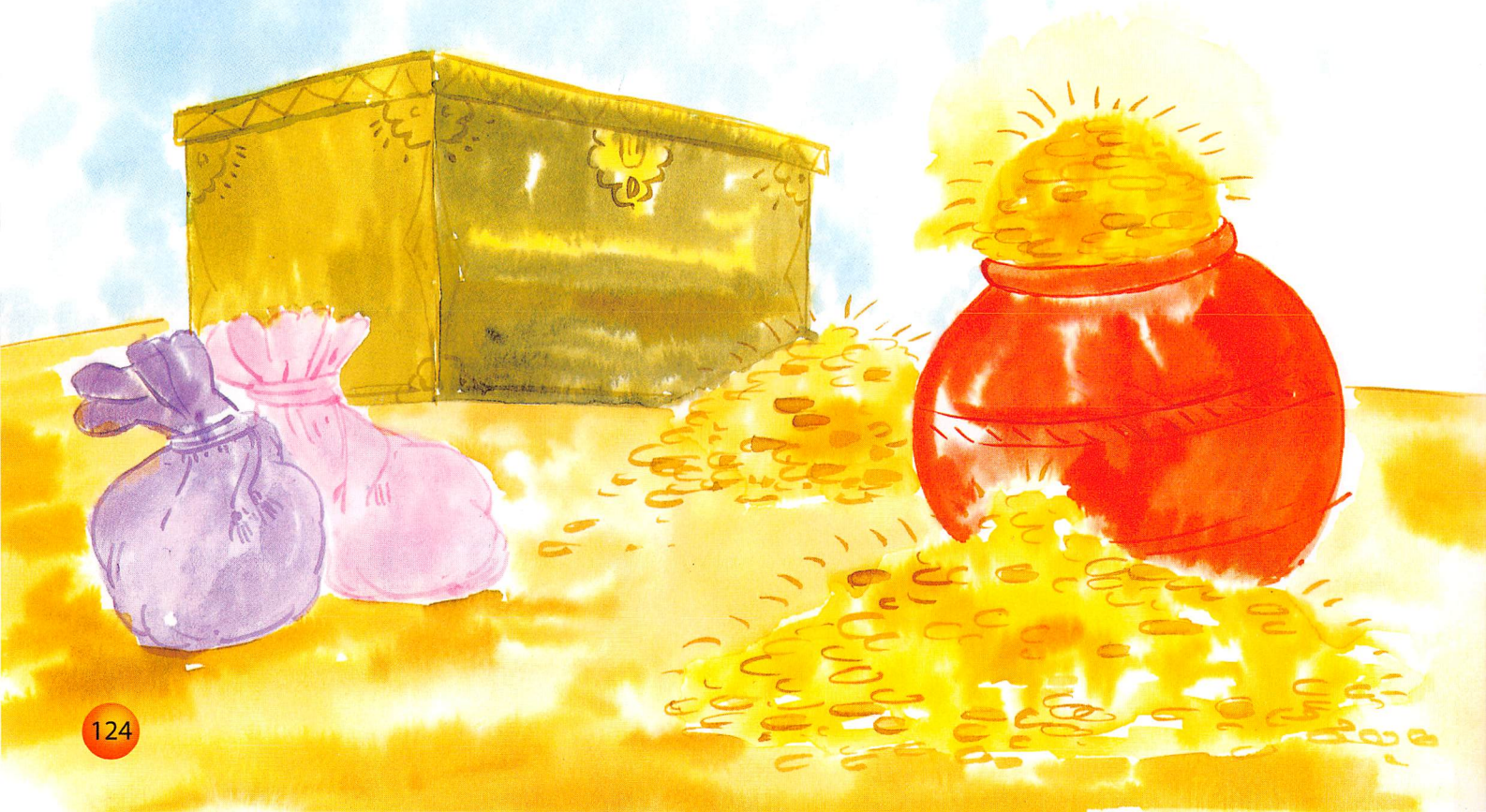
EGYPT


RED SEA

A hand-drawn map of the Arabian Gulf region. The map is set against a yellow background with several palm trees scattered across it. A blue river flows from the top left towards the center, where it meets a larger blue body of water labeled 'ARABIAN GULF'. The word 'ARABIA' is written in the bottom left corner of the map area. The entire map is framed by a red border. To the right of the map is a vertical, cylindrical object, possibly representing a scroll or a container, with a yellowish-gold color and a dark outline.


The Prophet Ayyub, or Job عليه
السلام,
a great prophet who lived in
the ninth century B.C. in
Haran near Damascus in Syria,
set great examples for
mankind.

Besides having great wisdom and compassion,
Ayyub عليه السلام was also a very rich man.

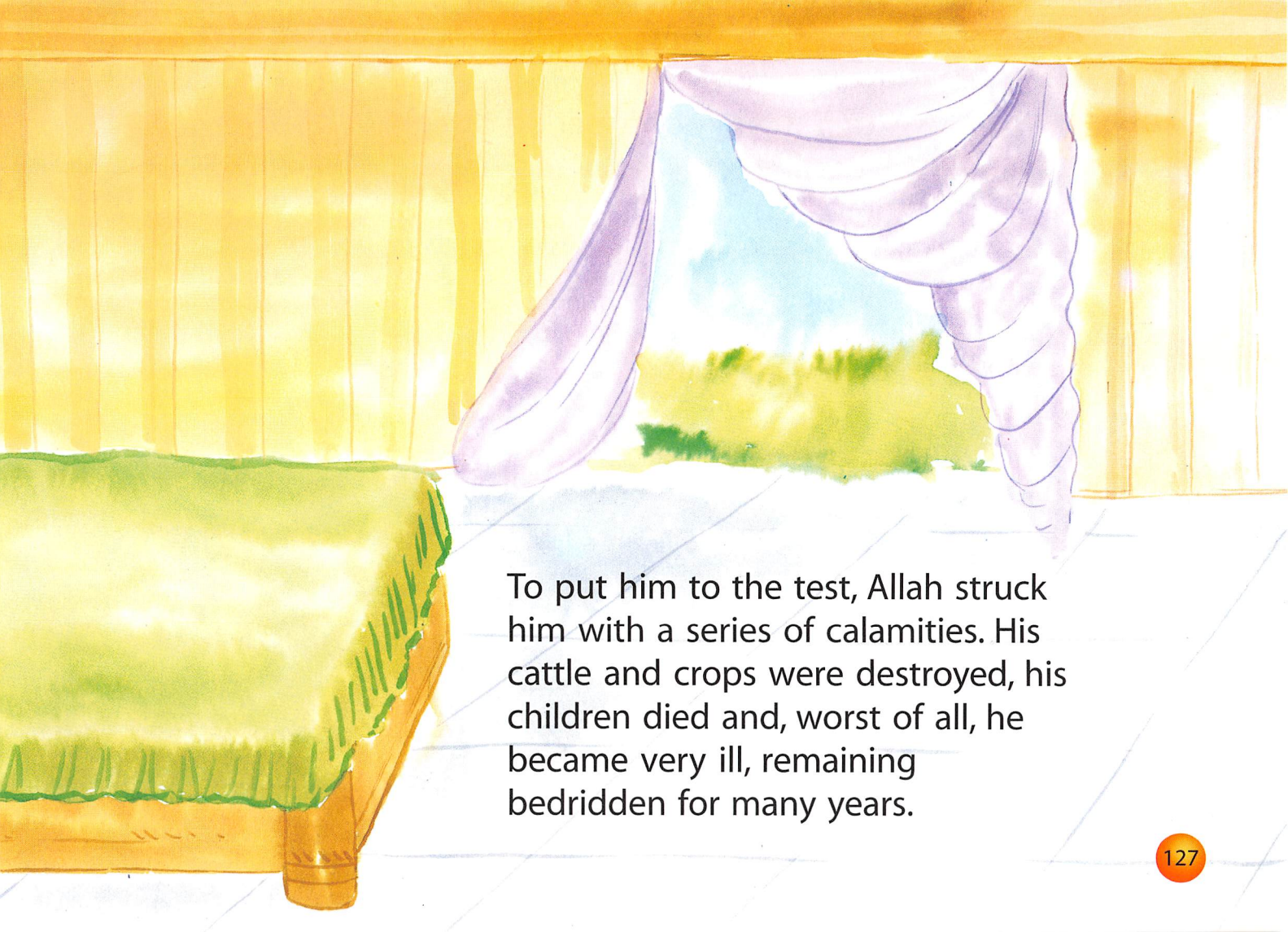




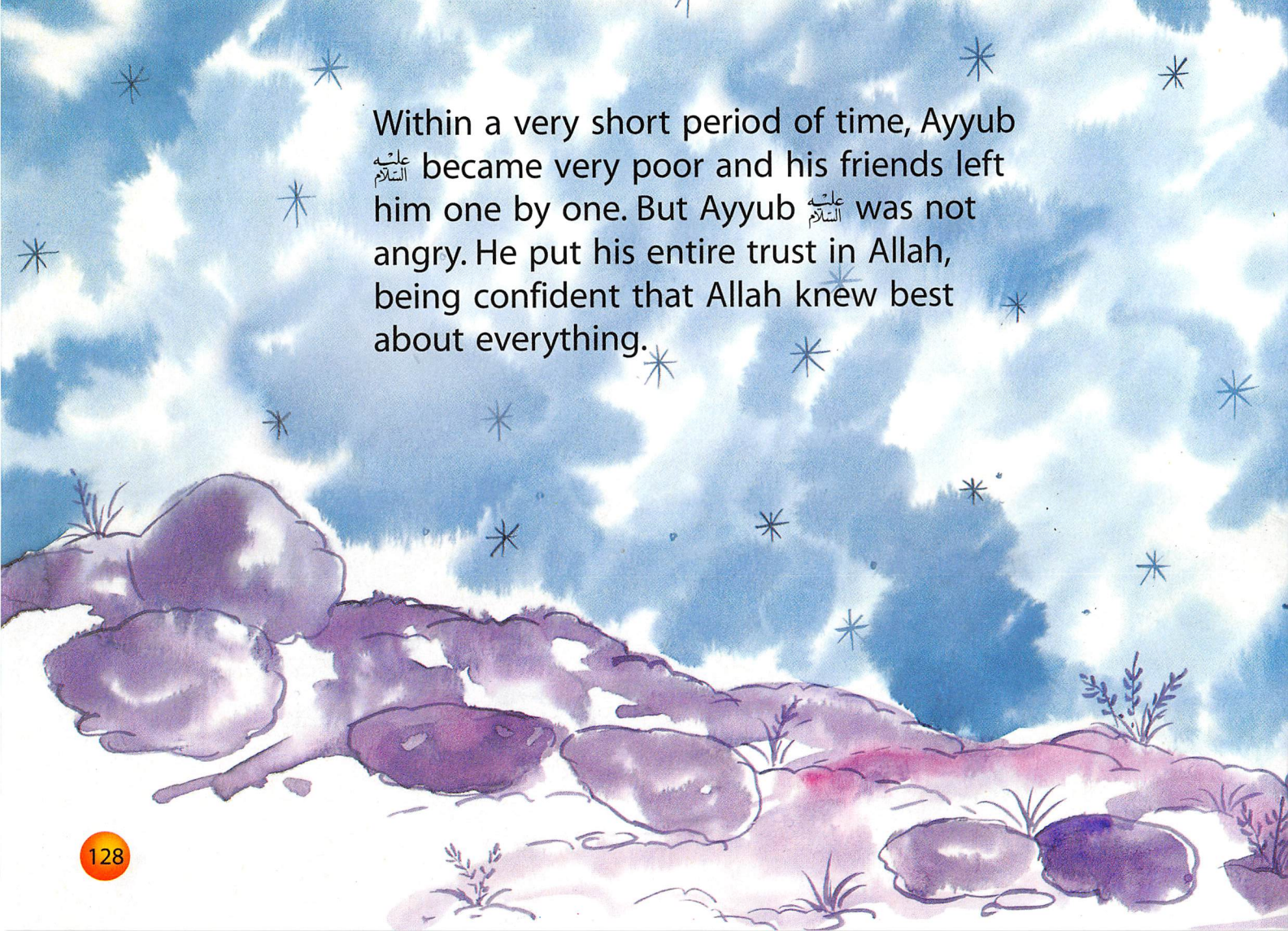
He had huge herds of cattle, vast fields, a large family and many friends. Yet, he remained an extremely steadfast and sincere servant of Allah, and was forever calling upon others to worship Him.



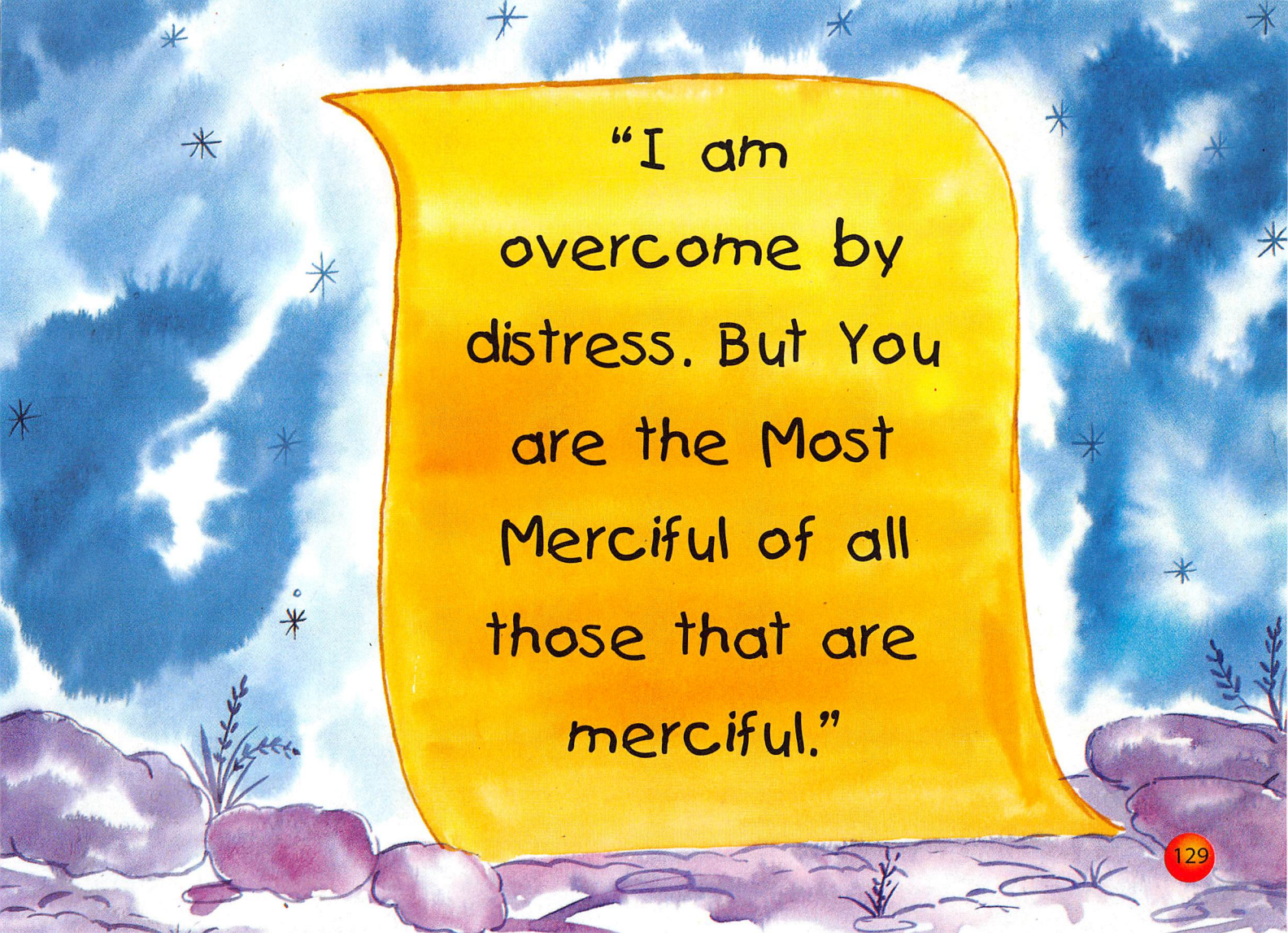
But Satan made people think that it was only because Ayyub عليه السلام was wealthy that he lived a good life, and that if his blessings were taken away, he would no longer be grateful to Allah.



To put him to the test, Allah struck him with a series of calamities. His cattle and crops were destroyed, his children died and, worst of all, he became very ill, remaining bedridden for many years.

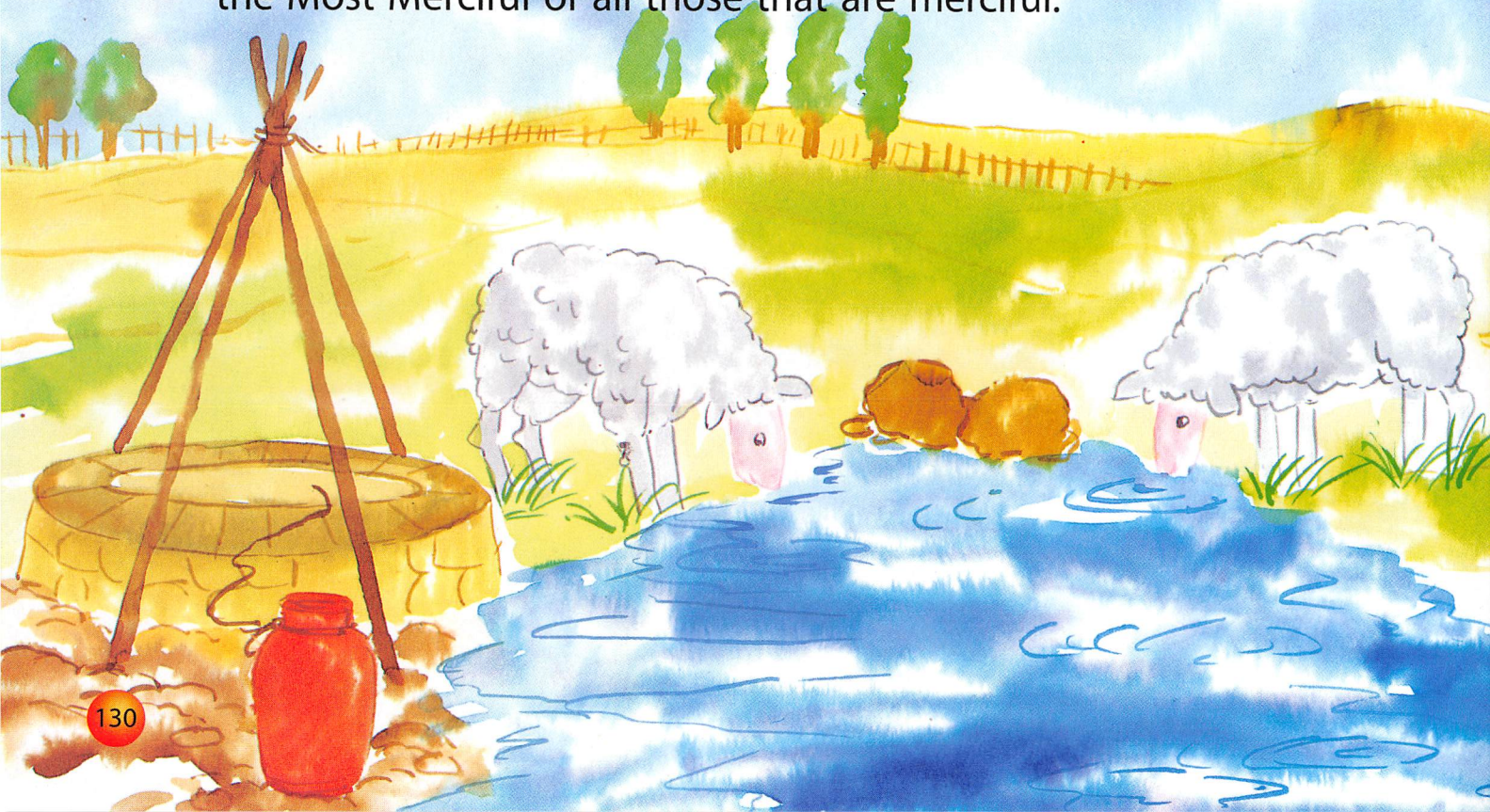


Within a very short period of time, Ayyub
عليه السلام became very poor and his friends left
him one by one. But Ayyub عليه السلام was not
angry. He put his entire trust in Allah,
being confident that Allah knew best
about everything.



“I am
overcome by
distress. But You
are the Most
Merciful of all
those that are
merciful.”

When his suffering and loneliness worsened and his sickness and pain became unbearable, Ayyub عليه السلام turned to Allah in humble prayer, crying: "I am overcome by distress. But You are the Most Merciful of all those that are merciful."

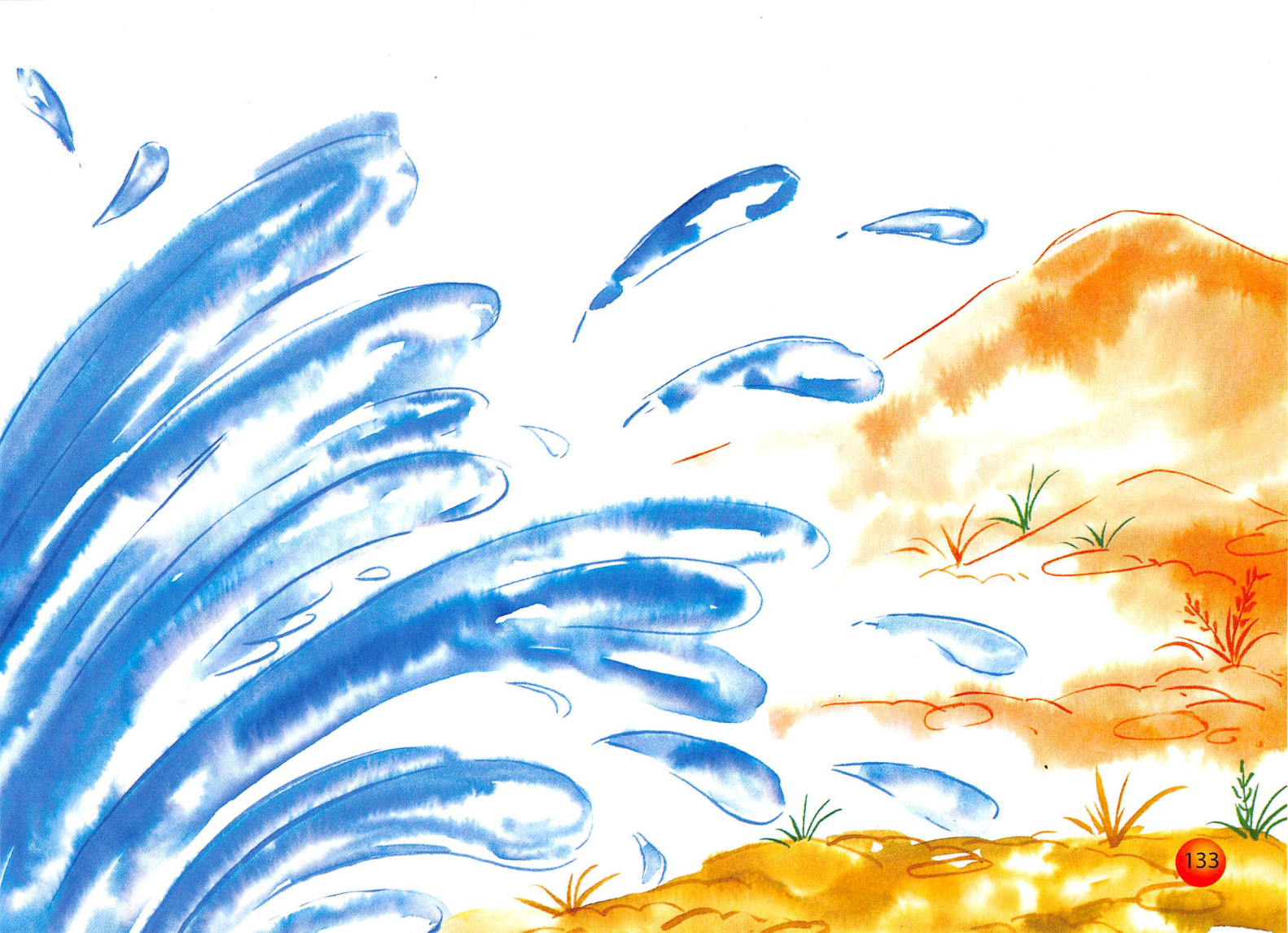


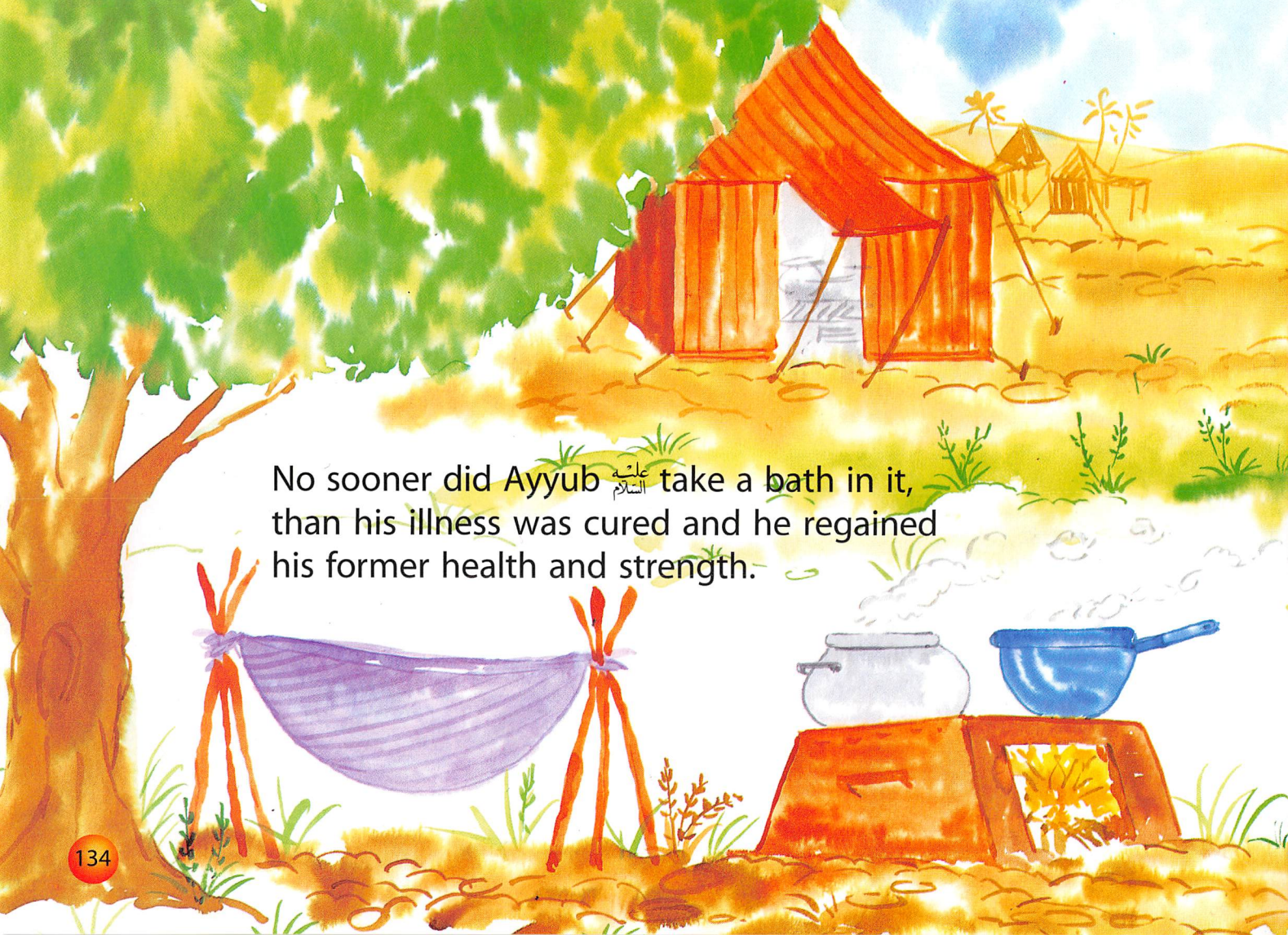
Allah heard his beautiful prayer, and put an end to his long and terrible hardship. He ordered Ayyub عليه السلام to strike the ground with his feet.



He did as commanded, and by a miracle,
a spring of fresh water gushed forth.







No sooner did Ayyub عليه السلام take a bath in it, than his illness was cured and he regained his former health and strength.



Because Ayyub عليه السلام had showed great patience throughout the worst of disasters, Allah not only rewarded him with great bounty in the Hereafter, but redoubled his former prosperity in this world. He had a new family of seven sons and three daughters. He lived to the ripe old age of 93 and saw four generations. He became so rich that it was said that “he was rained upon with locusts of gold.”

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Ayyub عليه السلام (Job).

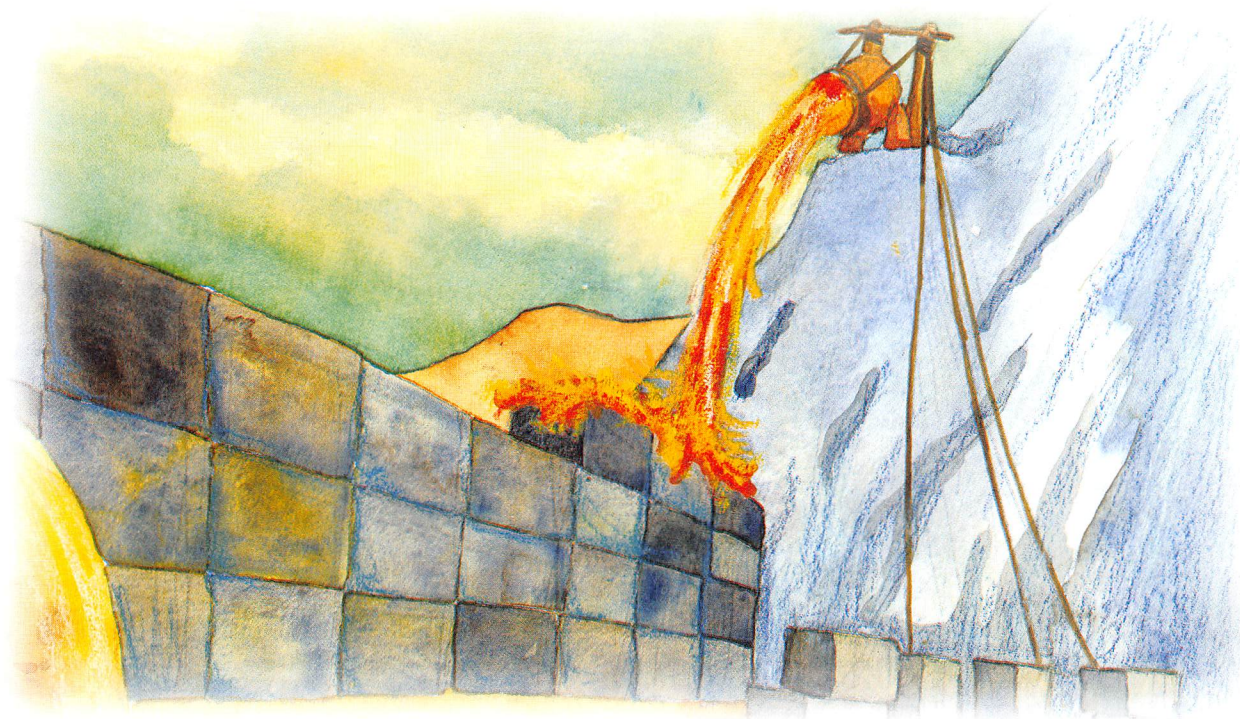
Surah Sad 38:41-44

Surah al-Anbiya 21:83-84

عليه السلام *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.



The Iron Wall



Long long ago, during the sixth century B.C. there was a magnificent king whose name was Dhul Qarnayn.







Black Sea

Caucasus Mountain range

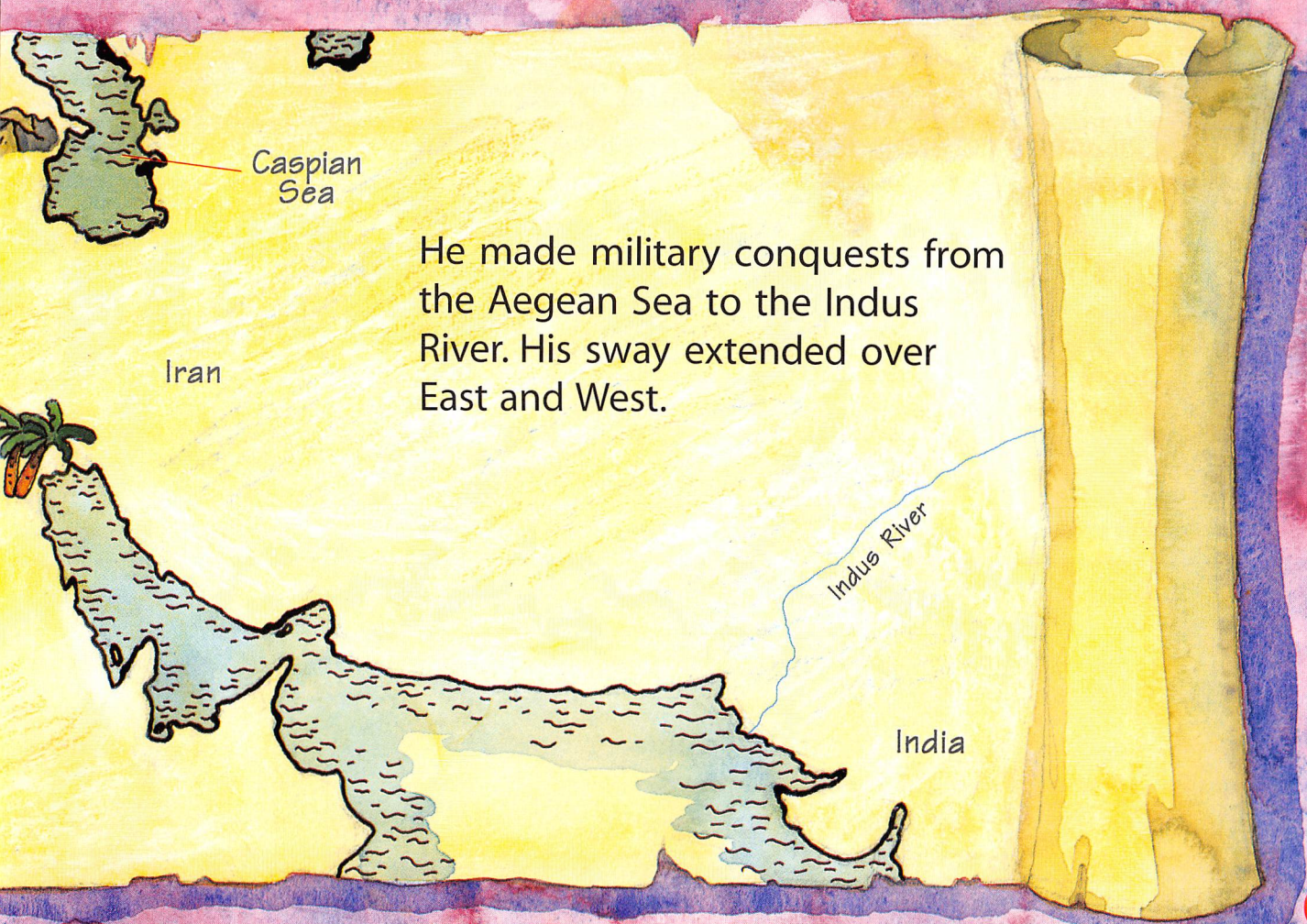
Turkey

Aegean Sea

Mediterranean Sea

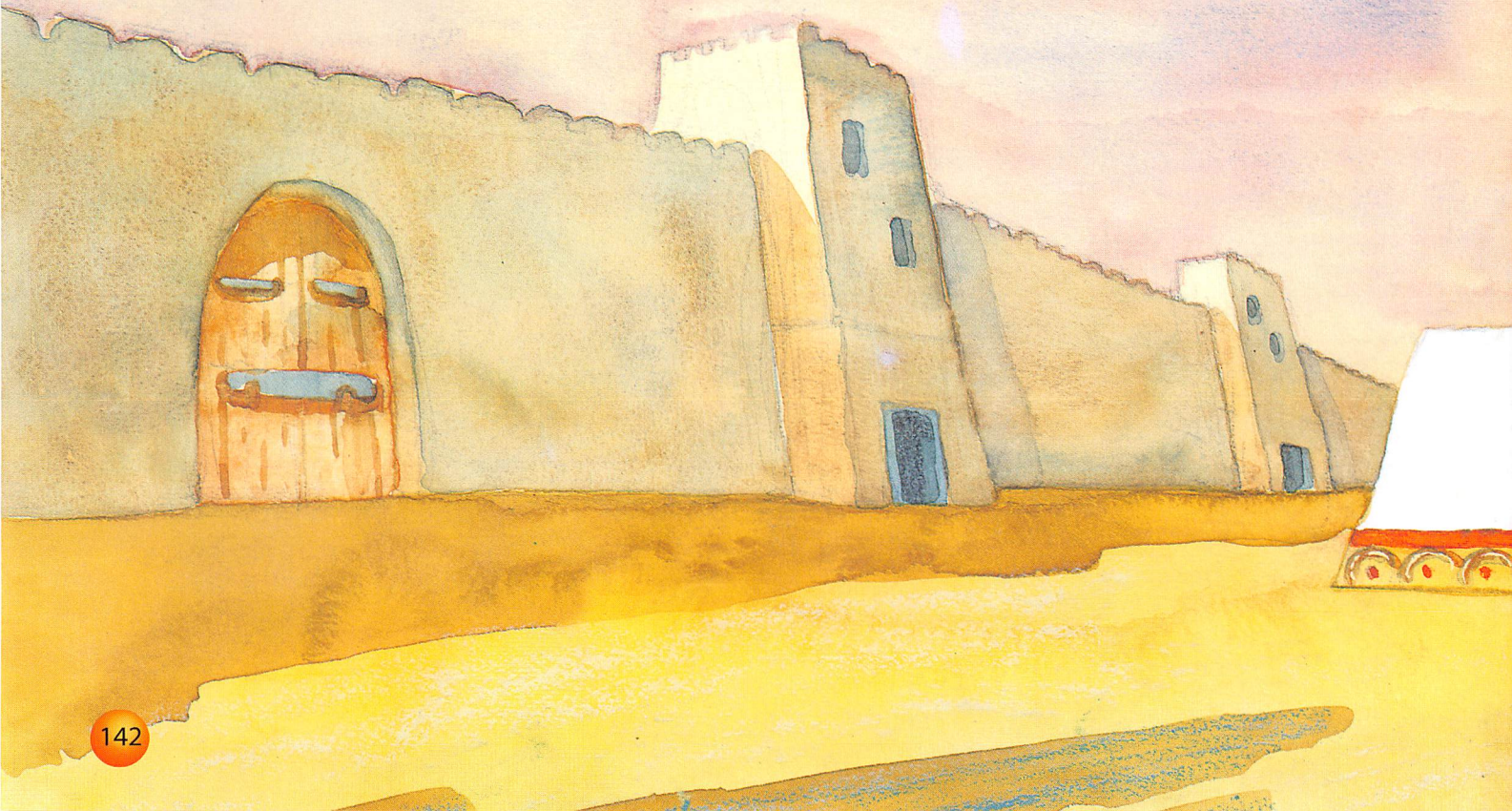
Egypt

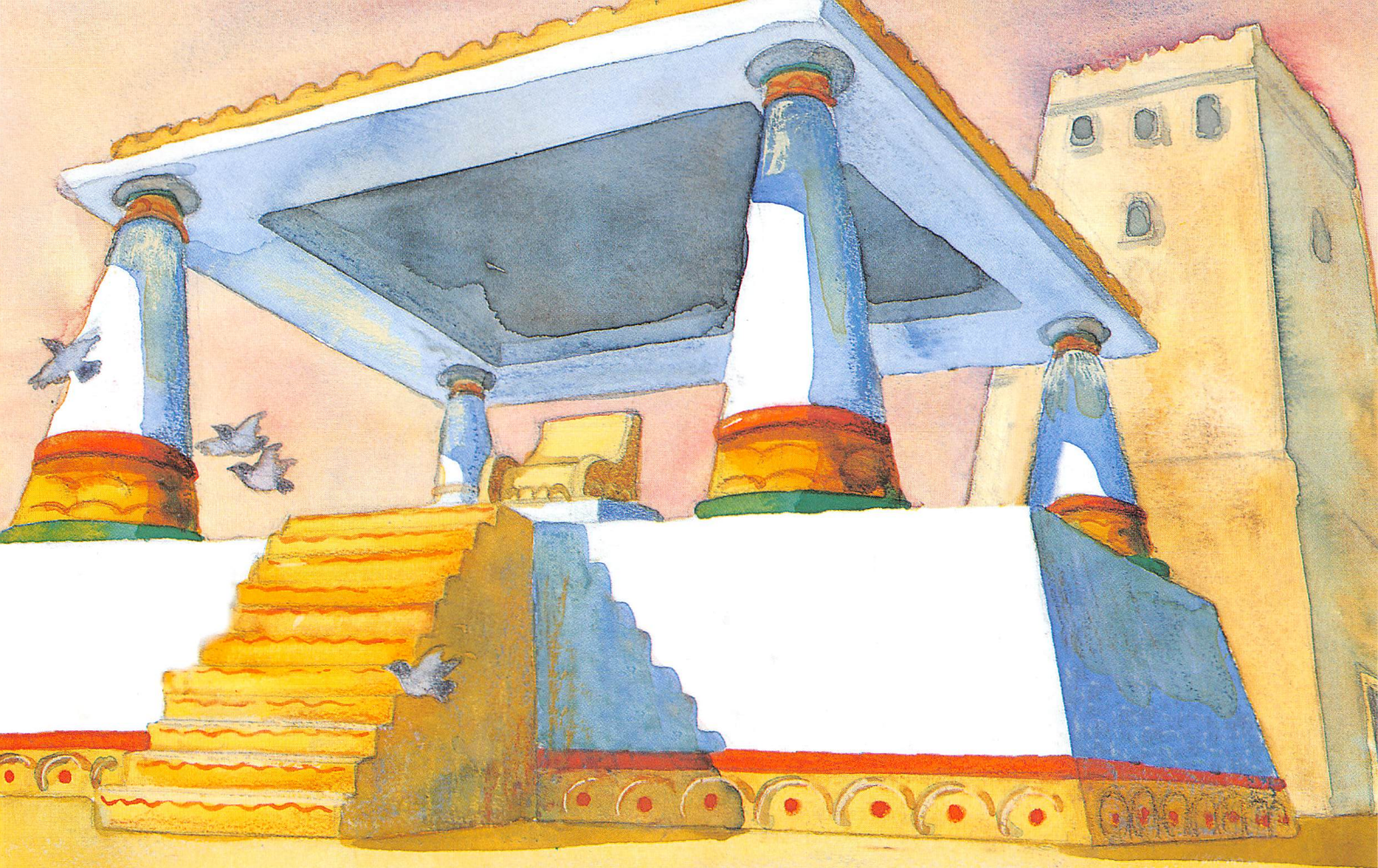
Arabia



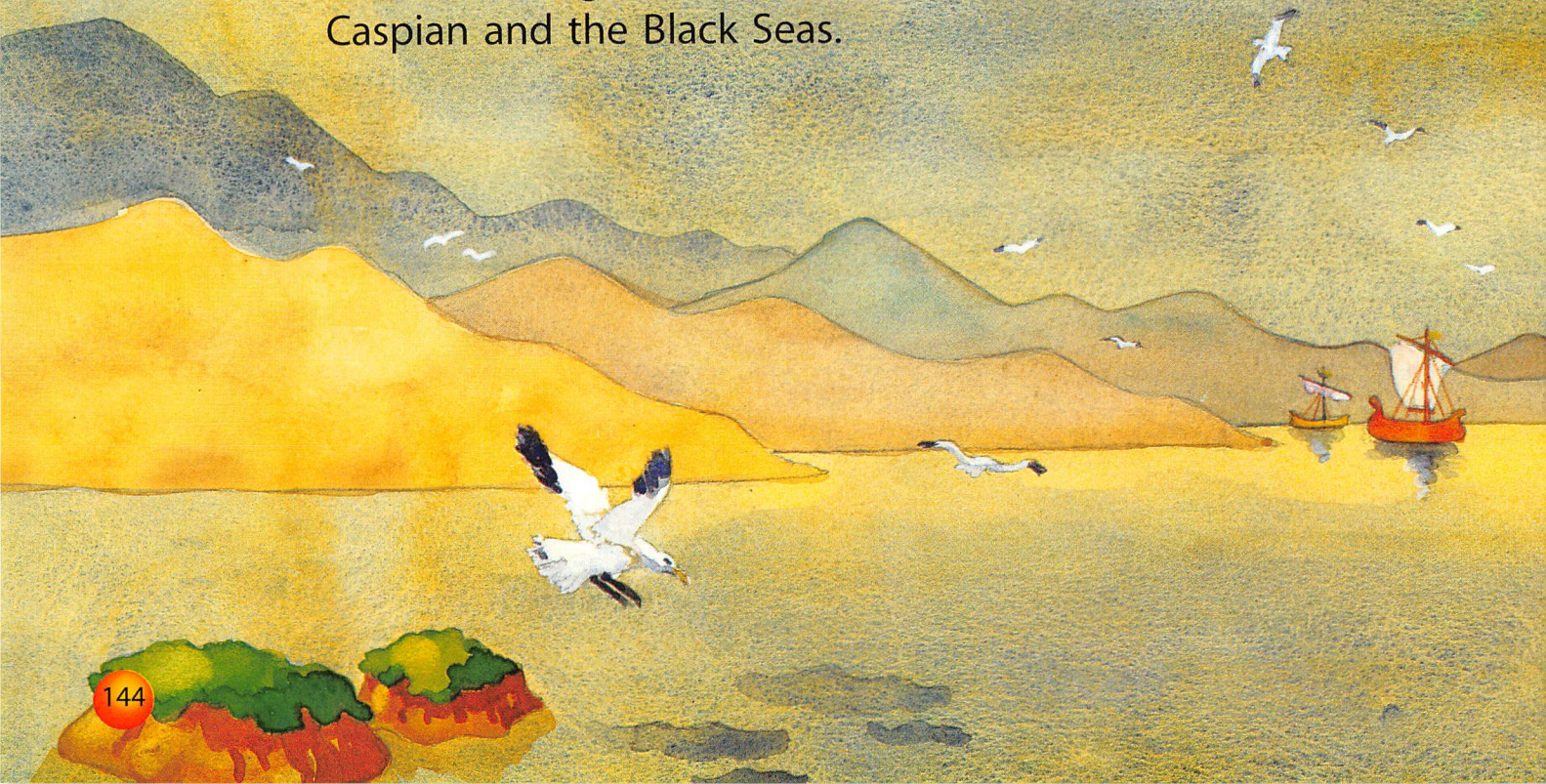
He made military conquests from the Aegean Sea to the Indus River. His sway extended over East and West.

He was just and righteous, protecting the weak and punishing the law-breakers.





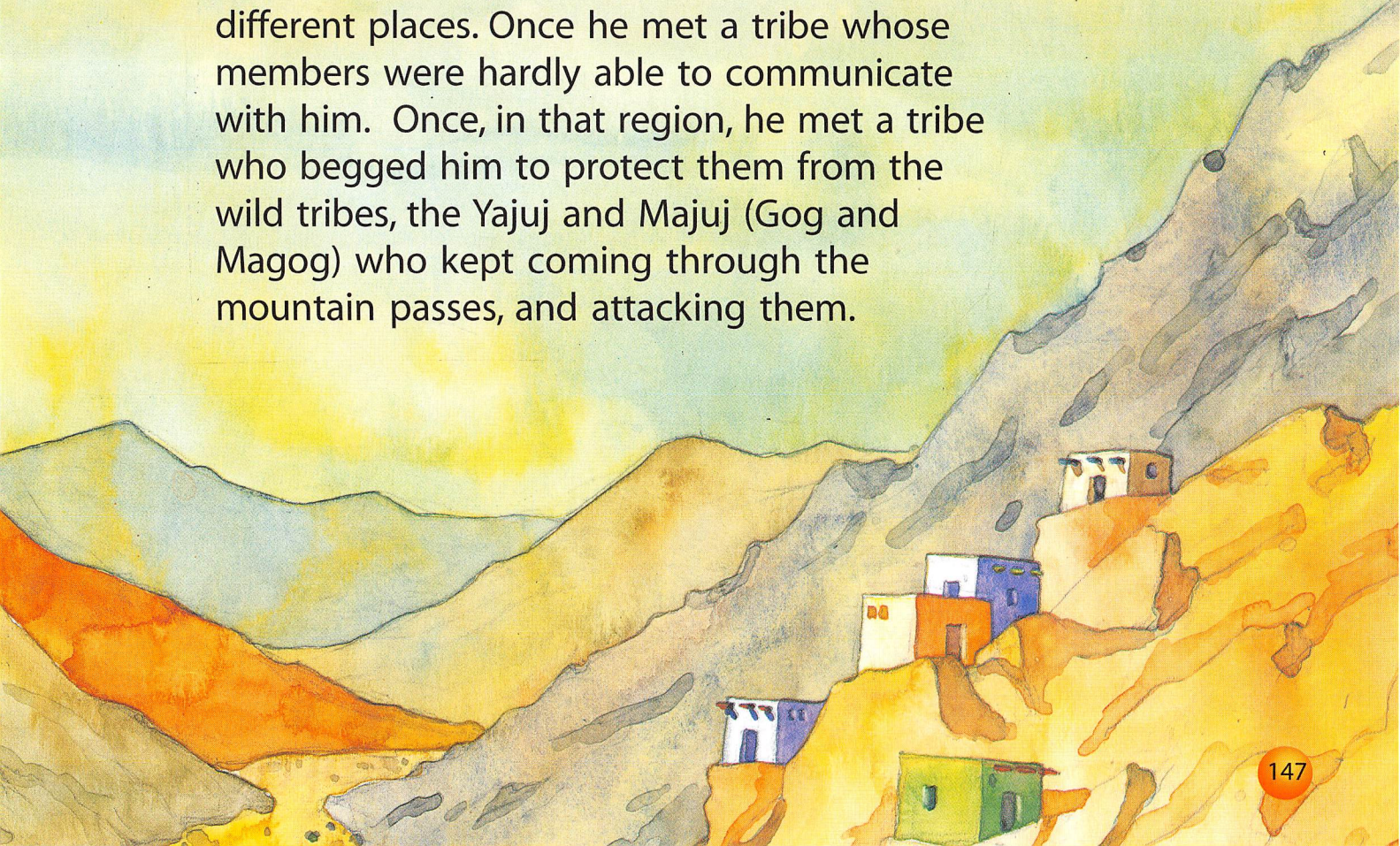
When Dhul Qarnayn took his armies to the north-east of Iran, he reached the Caucasus mountain range which runs between the Caspian and the Black Seas.







On these journeys he met different tribes in different places. Once he met a tribe whose members were hardly able to communicate with him. Once, in that region, he met a tribe who begged him to protect them from the wild tribes, the Yajuj and Majuj (Gog and Magog) who kept coming through the mountain passes, and attacking them.



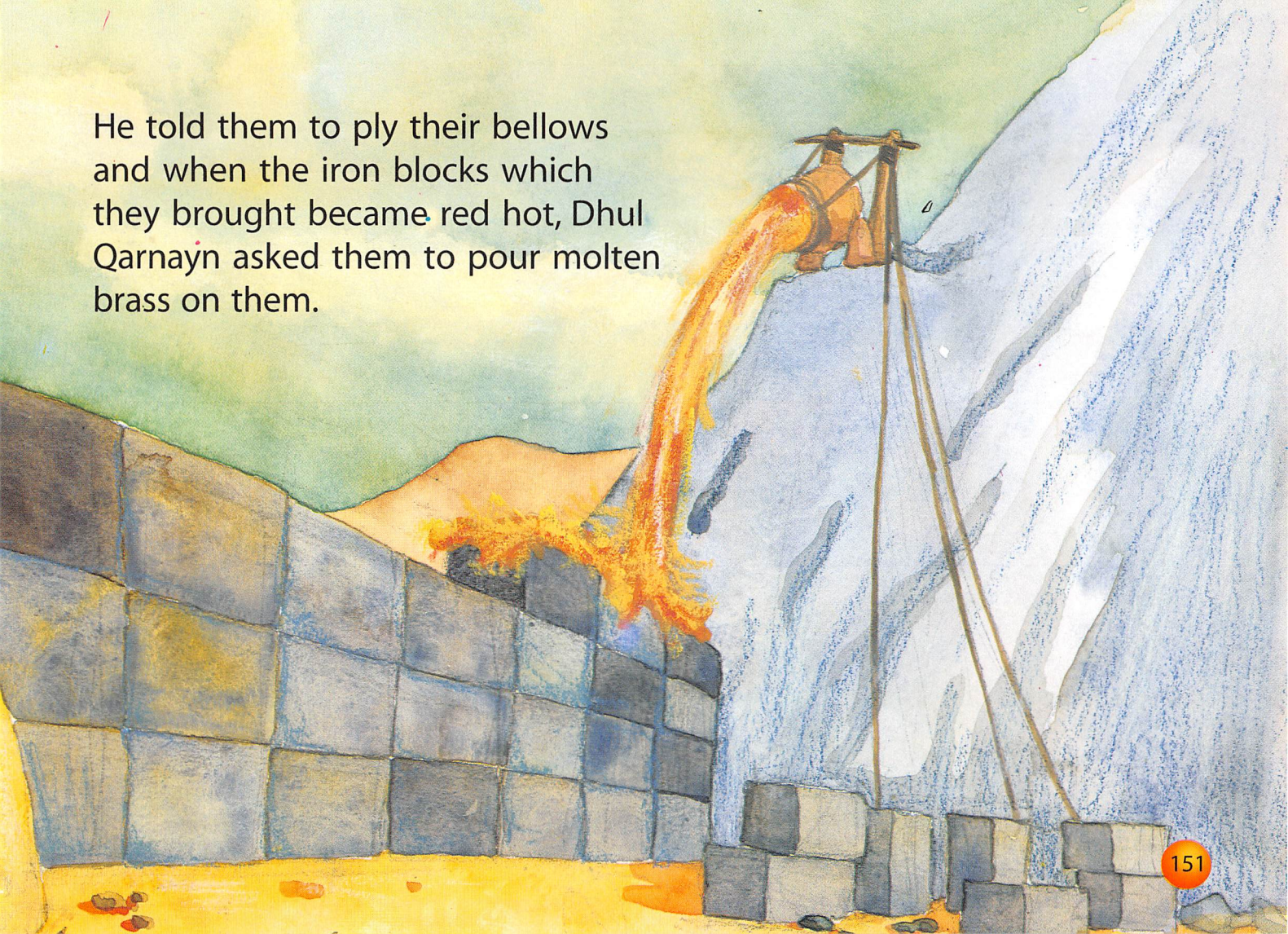


Dhul Qarnayn said, "Lend me a body of men,
and I will raise a wall between you and
them. Come, bring me blocks of iron."



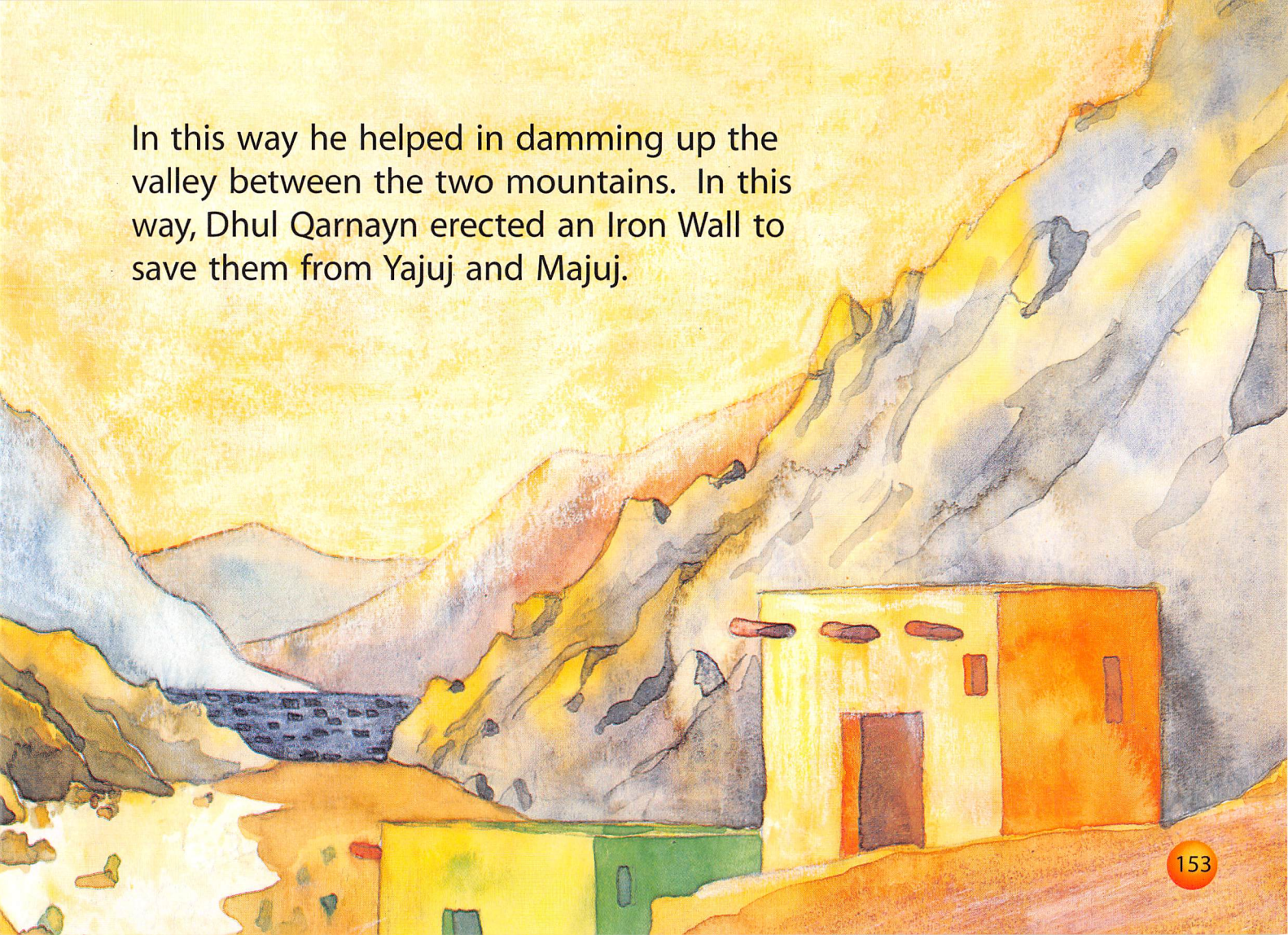


He told them to ply their bellows and when the iron blocks which they brought became red hot, Dhul Qarnayn asked them to pour molten brass on them.





In this way he helped in damming up the valley between the two mountains. In this way, Dhul Qarnayn erected an Iron Wall to save them from Yajuj and Majuj.





After conquering a major part of the then inhabited world and building an iron wall, Dhul Qarnayn lost none of his humility.

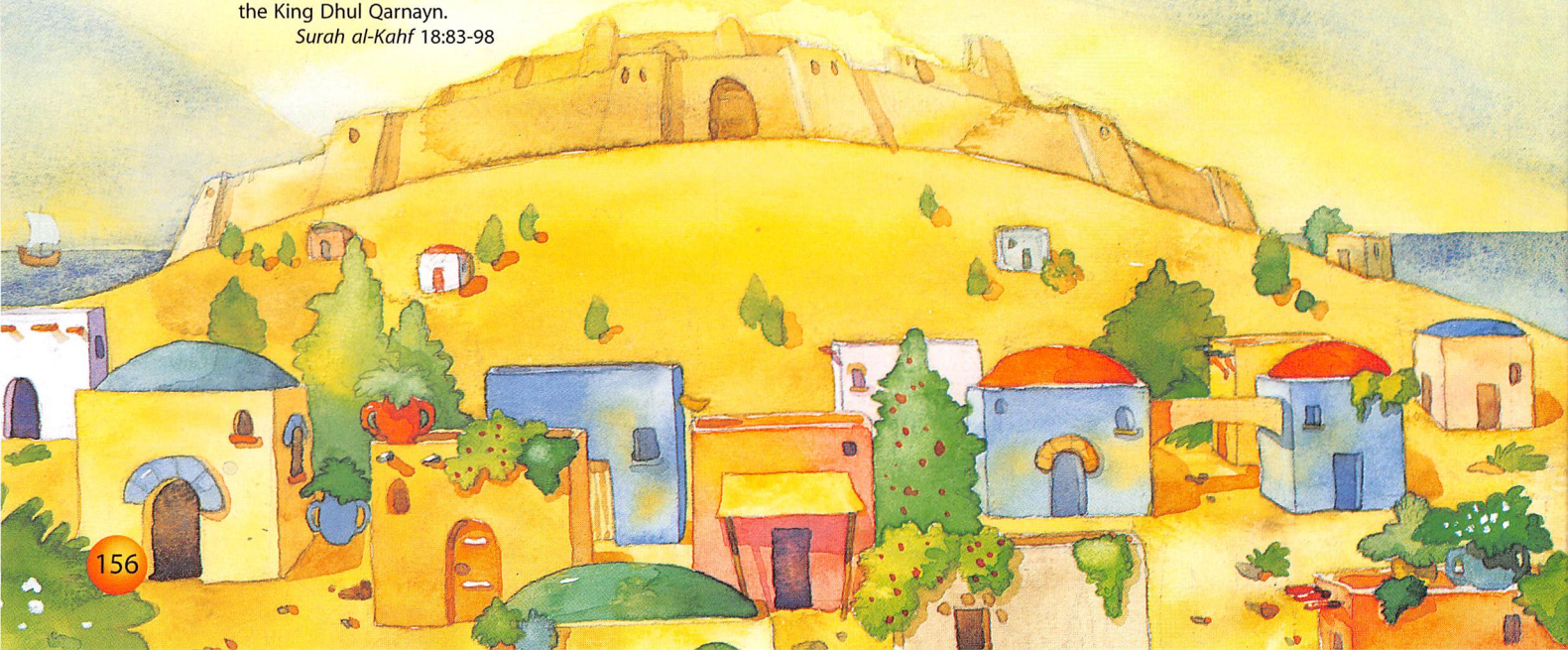


He gave the entire credit for these feats to the blessing of Allah. Of the iron wall he had built, he said:
"This is a blessing from my Lord. But when the promise of my Lord will come to pass, He will make it to dust. And the promise of my Lord is true."

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the King Dhul Qarnayn.

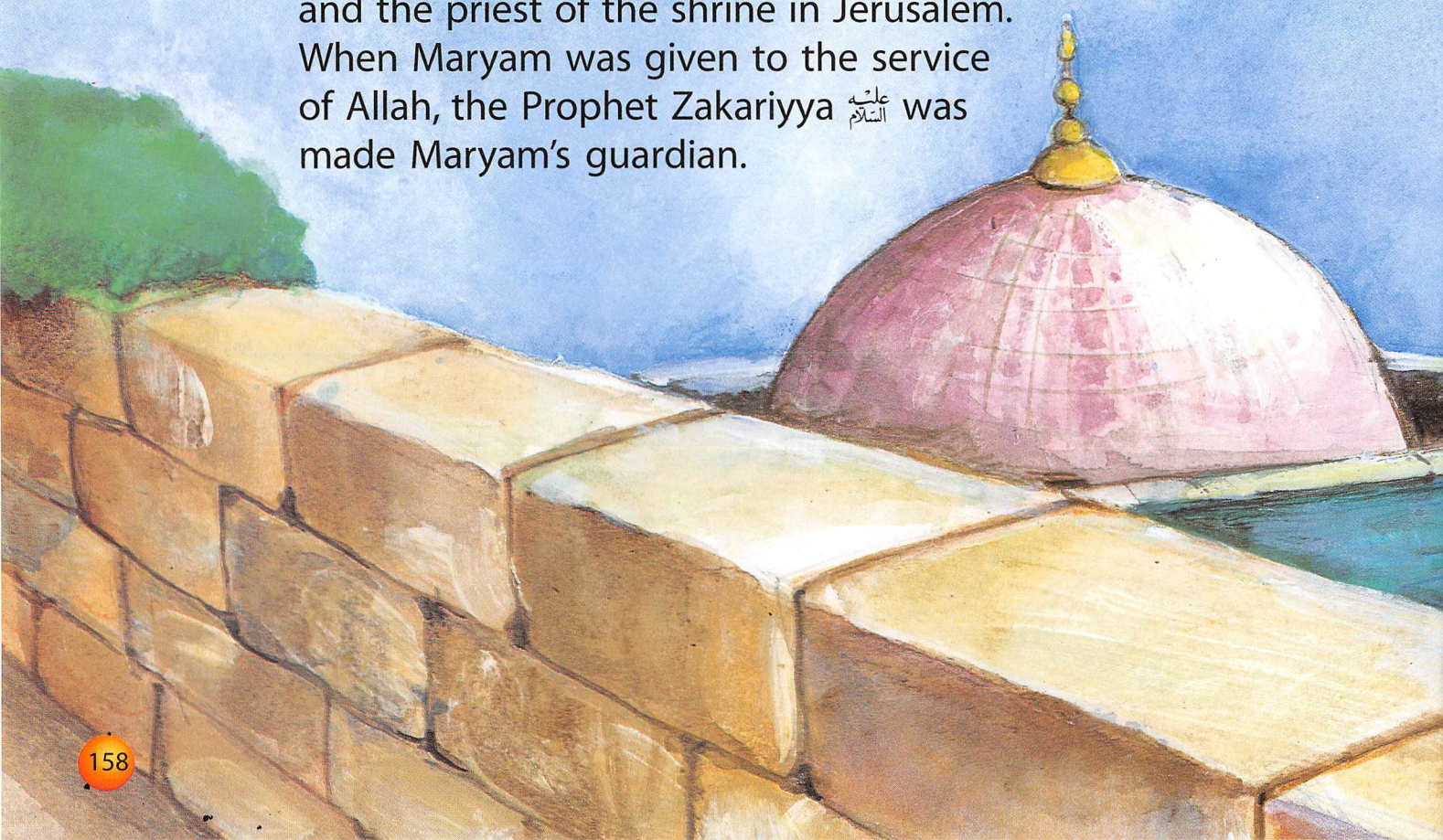
Surah al-Kahf 18:83-98



The Old Man's Prayer



The Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام was a noble man. He was an uncle of Maryam (Mary), and the priest of the shrine in Jerusalem. When Maryam was given to the service of Allah, the Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام was made Maryam's guardian.



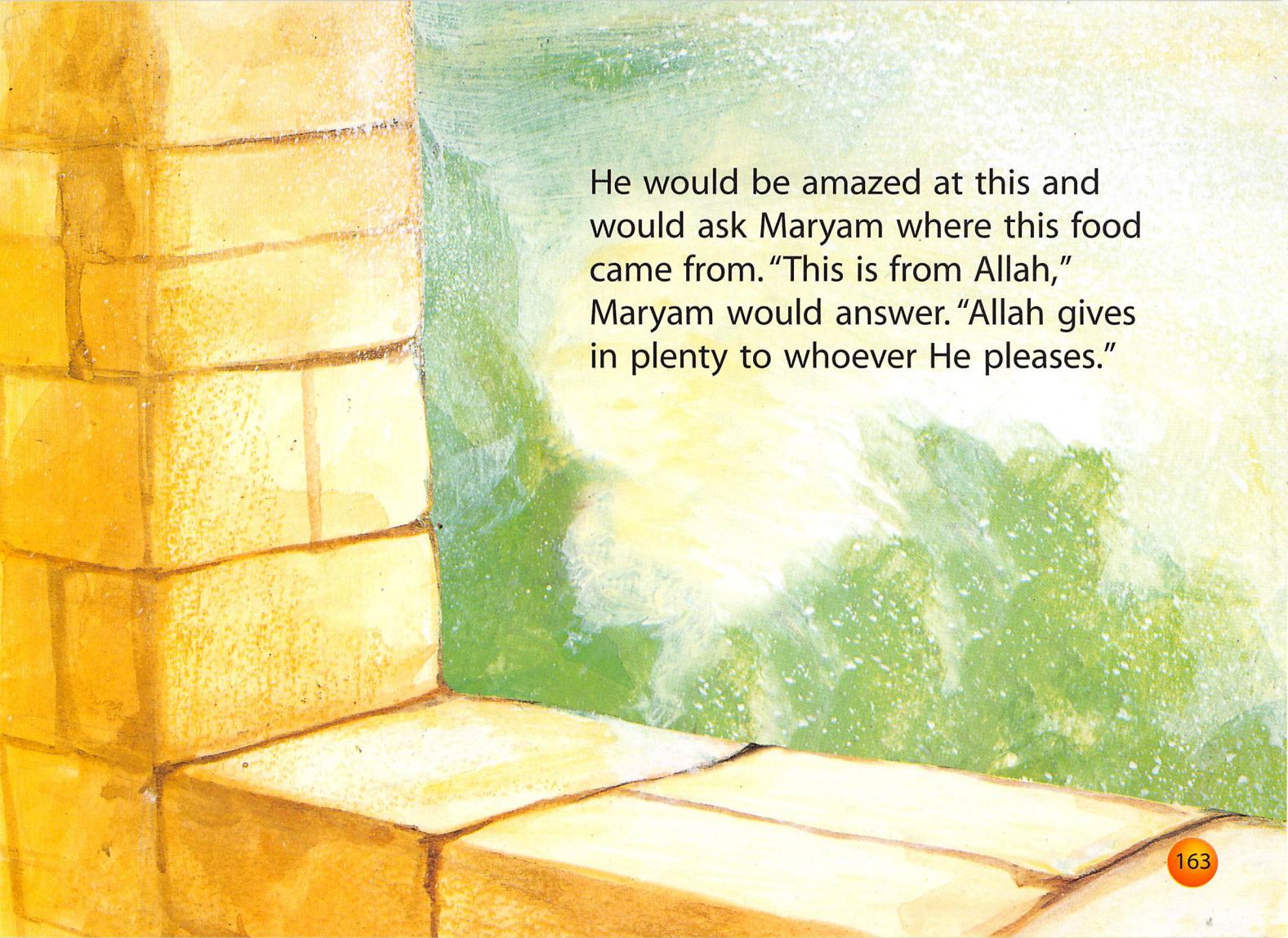




Whenever the Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام visited Maryam in her niche (*mihrab*) in the shrine, he would find that she had fresh food.





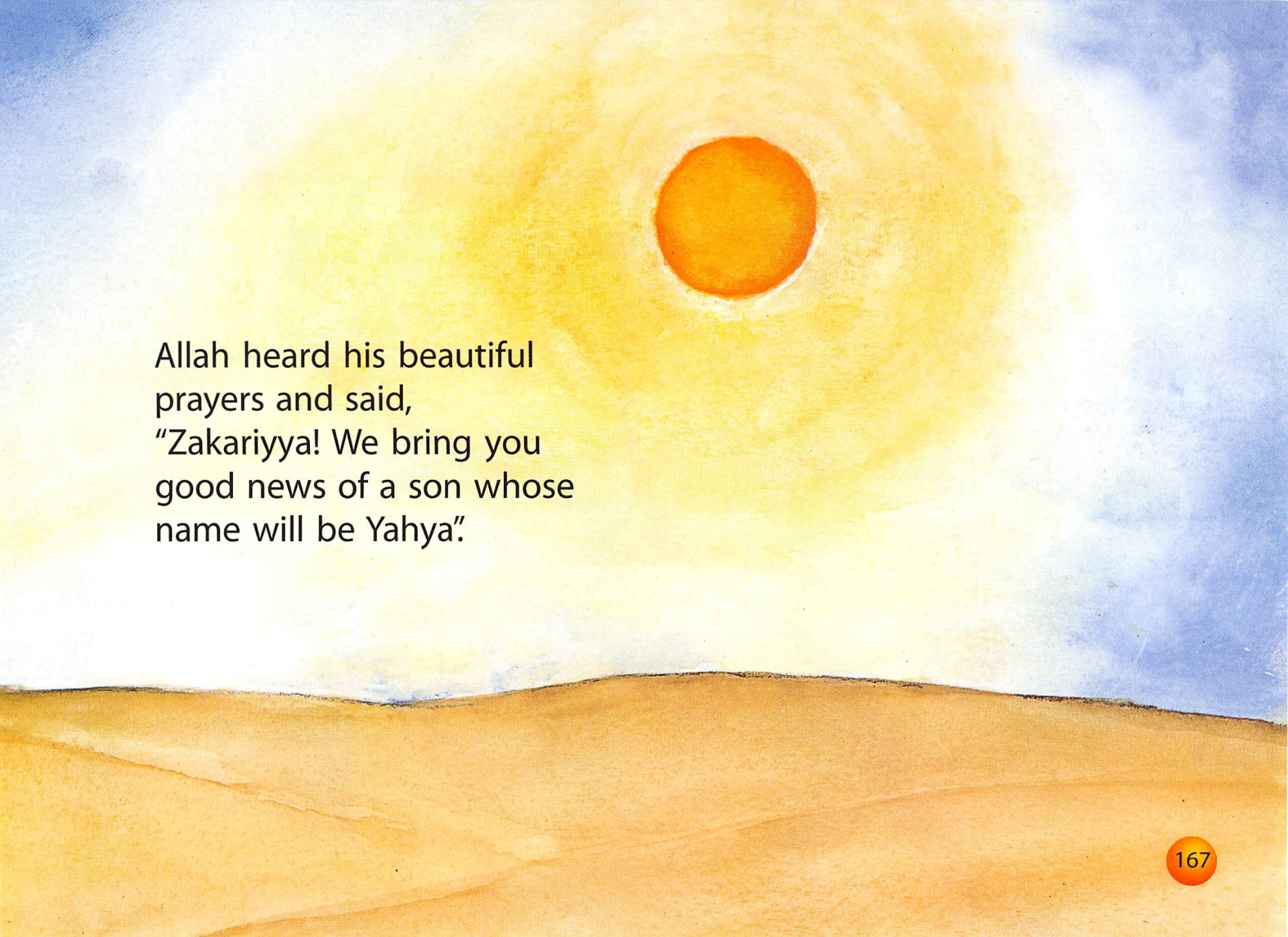
The background of the page is a painting. On the left, there is a corner of a wall made of large, yellowish-brown stone blocks with dark mortar lines. To the right of the wall is a window. The view through the window is a soft, painterly landscape with various shades of green, suggesting trees and foliage. The overall style is soft and textured, typical of a children's book illustration.

He would be amazed at this and would ask Maryam where this food came from. "This is from Allah," Maryam would answer. "Allah gives in plenty to whoever He pleases."

When the Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام reached old age and was still childless, he prayed to Allah for a son: "My bones are weak and my head is shining with grey hair. Yet, my Lord! I have never been disappointed in praying to You."

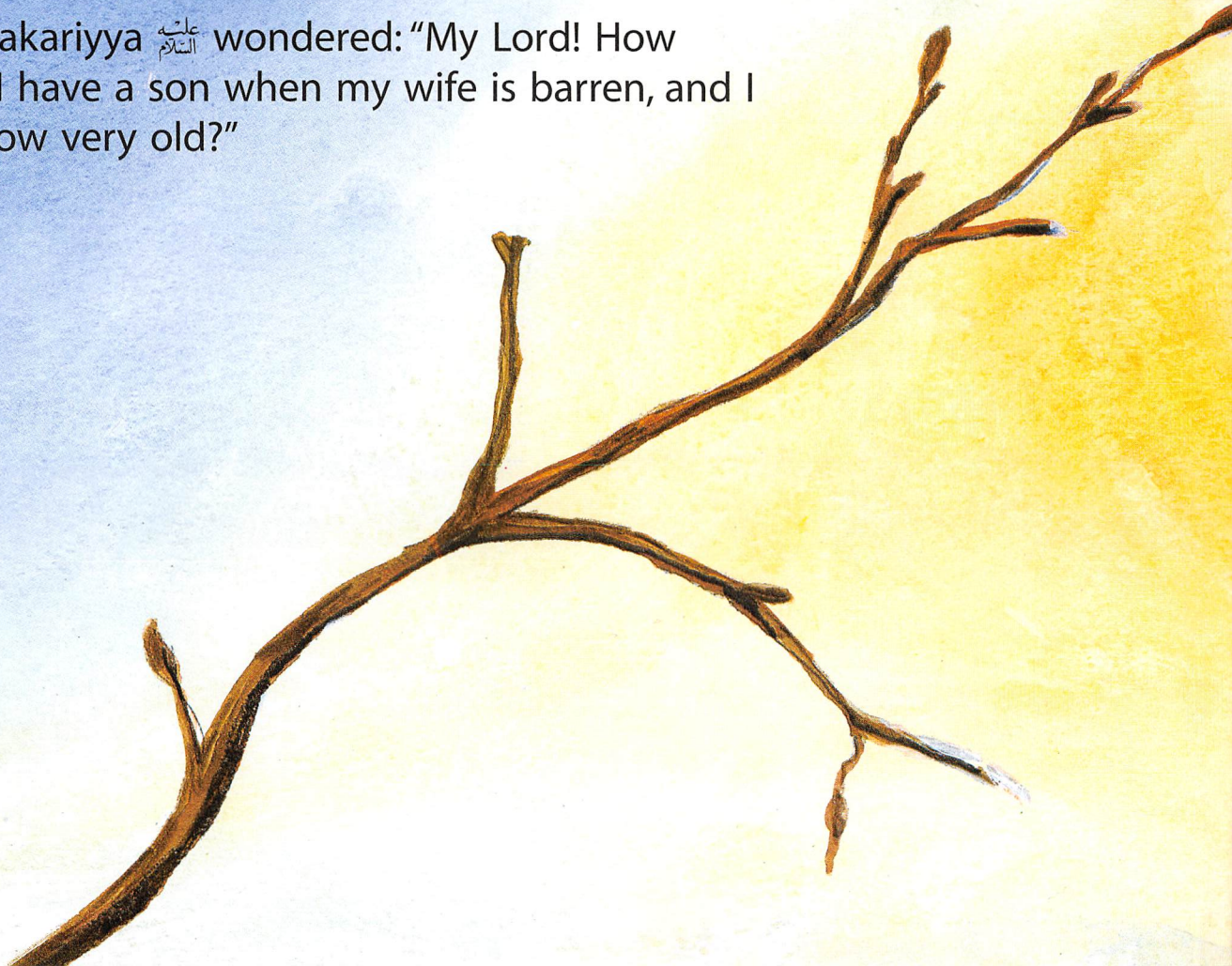


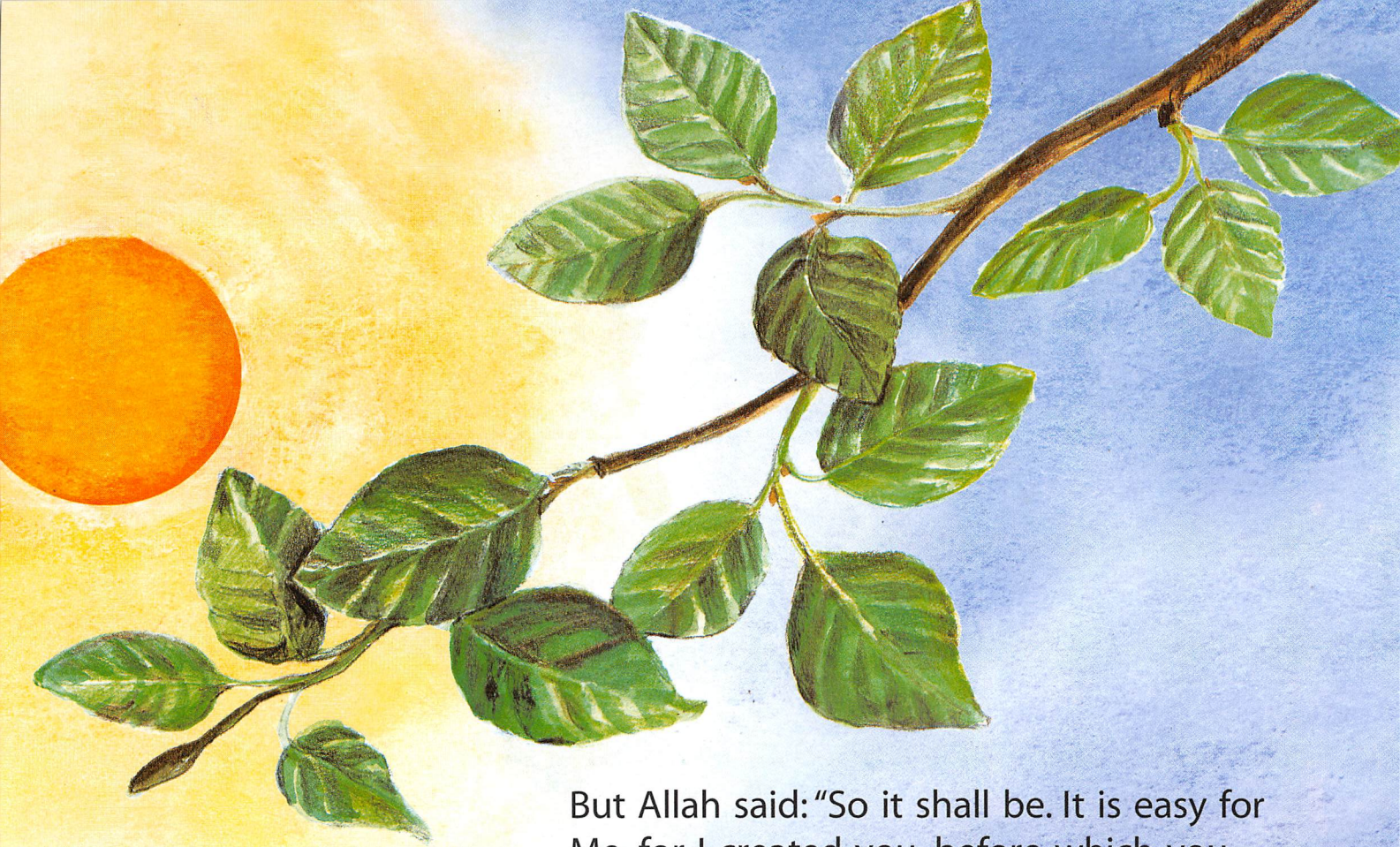


A watercolor illustration of a bright sun in a blue sky over a sandy landscape. The sun is a vibrant orange circle with a white outline, surrounded by a soft yellow glow. The sky is a mix of light and dark blue, and the ground is a warm, golden-brown color.

Allah heard his beautiful
prayers and said,
“Zakariyya! We bring you
good news of a son whose
name will be Yahya”

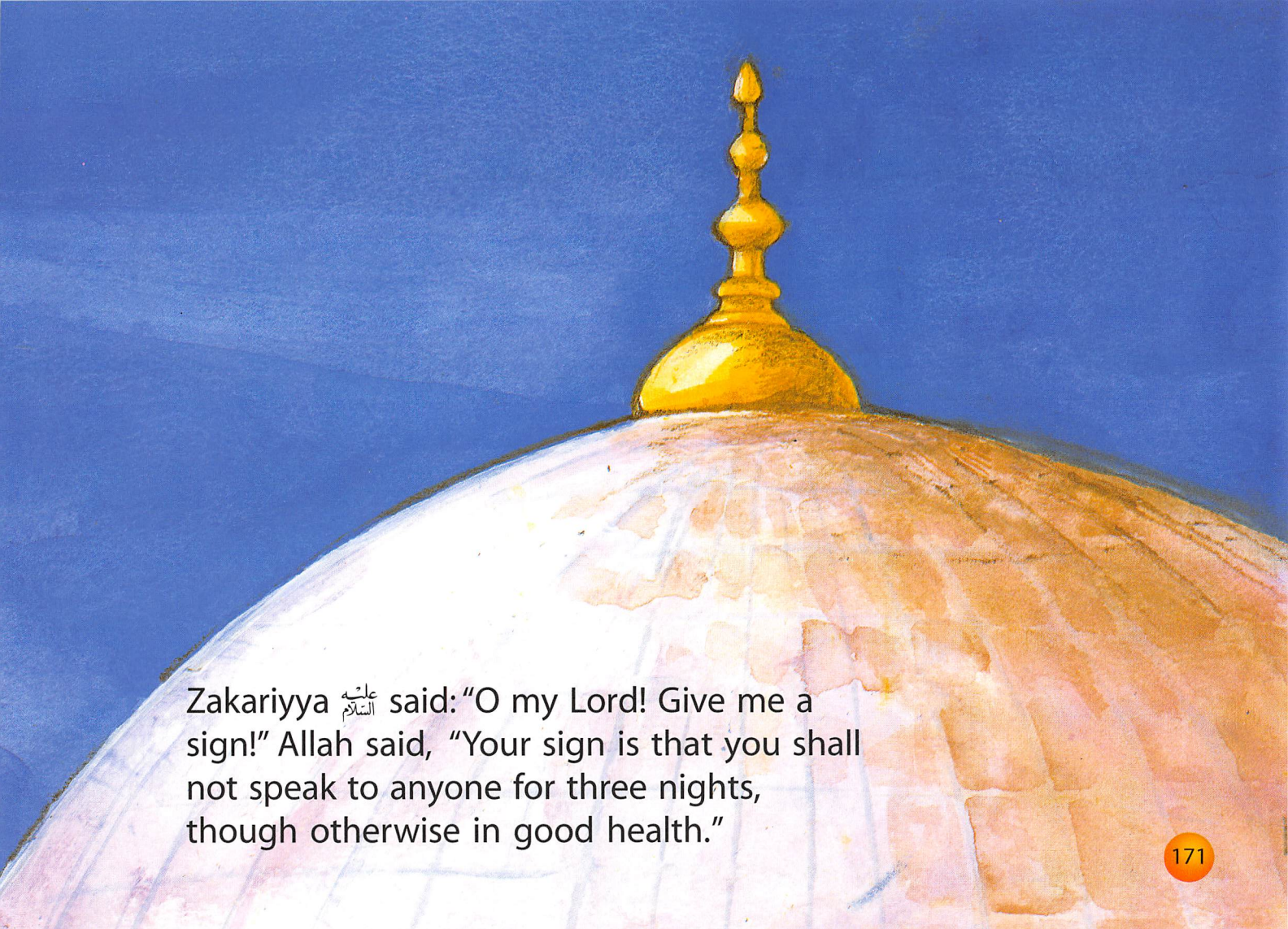
But Zakariyya عليه السلام wondered: "My Lord! How shall I have a son when my wife is barren, and I am now very old?"





But Allah said: "So it shall be. It is easy for Me, for I created you, before which you were nothing."



A painting of a golden dome with a finial against a blue sky. The dome is rendered in shades of gold and yellow, with a textured, mosaic-like appearance. The finial is a tall, slender, golden structure with several bulbous sections. The background is a deep blue sky with some lighter blue washes.

Zakariyya عليه السلام said: "O my Lord! Give me a sign!" Allah said, "Your sign is that you shall not speak to anyone for three nights, though otherwise in good health."

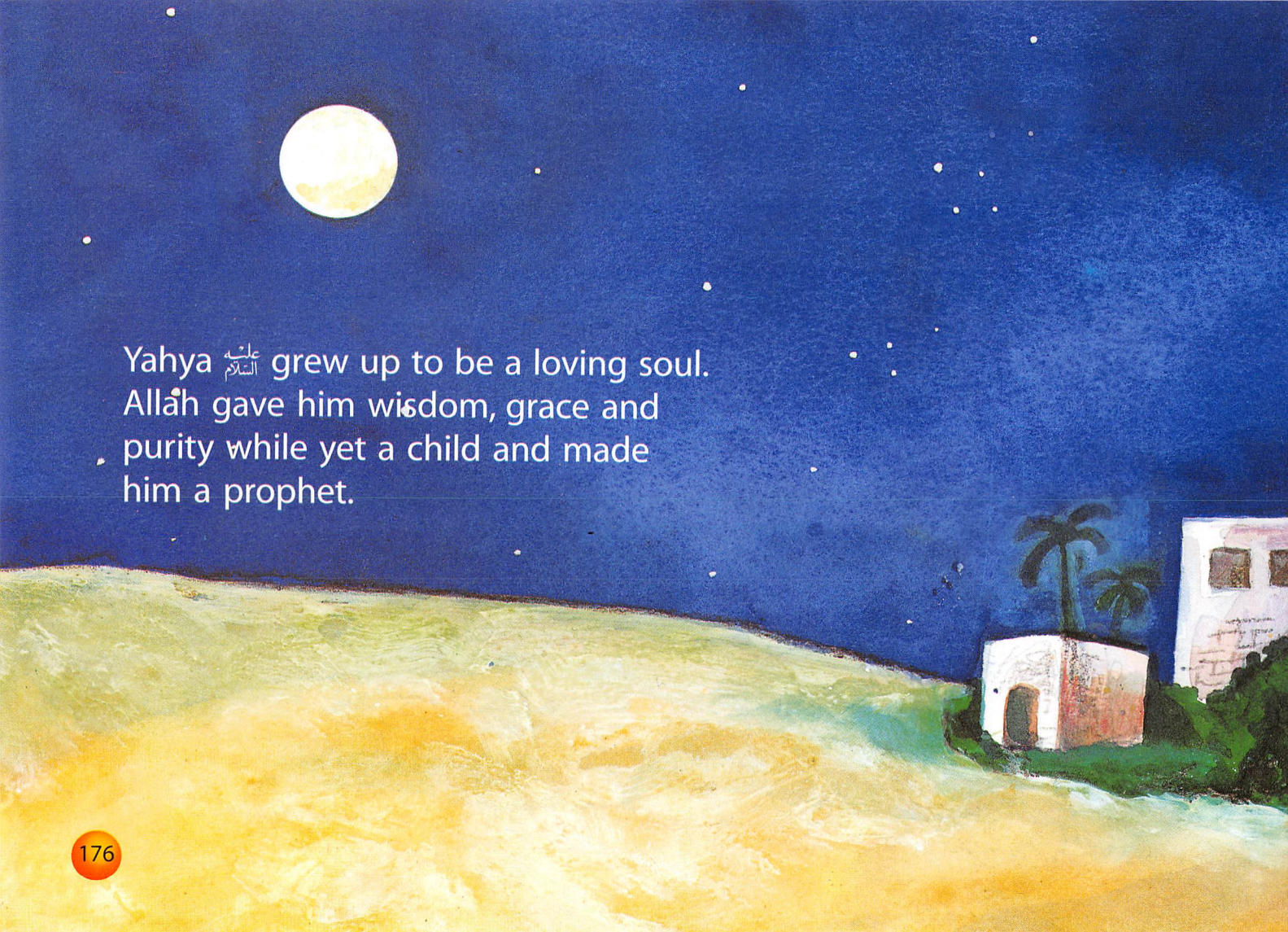
The Prophet Zakariyya عليه السلام was filled with joy and words of thanks came pouring from his lips. He came out of the shrine and exhorted his people to praise the Lord morning and evening.





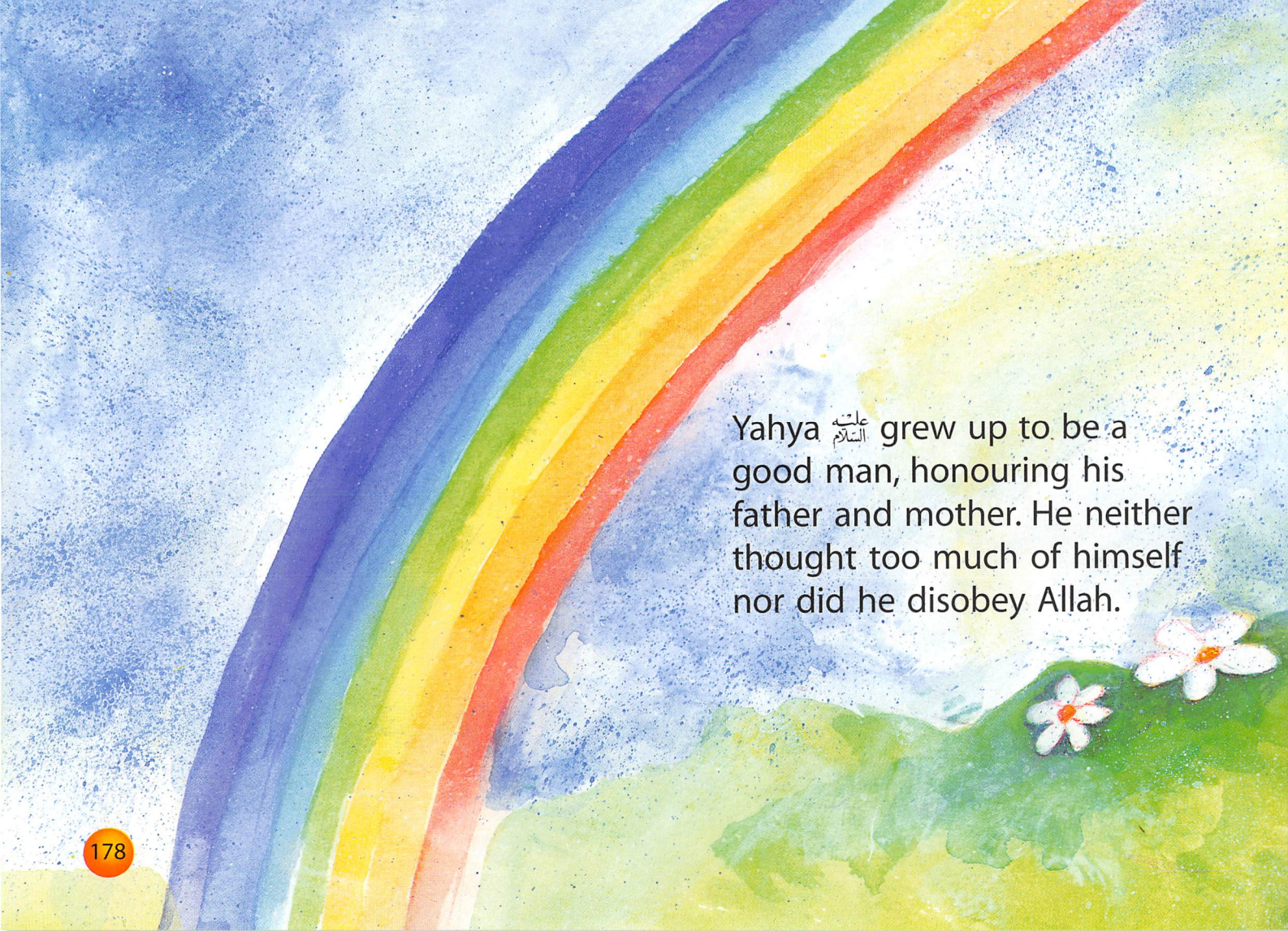


And so in his old age the Prophet
Zakariyya's prayers were answered and
he had a son whose name was Yahya
(John) عليه السلام.

A night scene with a full moon, stars, and a landscape with buildings and palm trees. The sky is a deep blue with a large, bright yellow full moon in the upper left and several small white stars scattered across it. The foreground is a yellowish-green field. In the lower right, there are two buildings: a small white one with a dark doorway and a larger white one with a window. Two palm trees are visible behind the buildings.

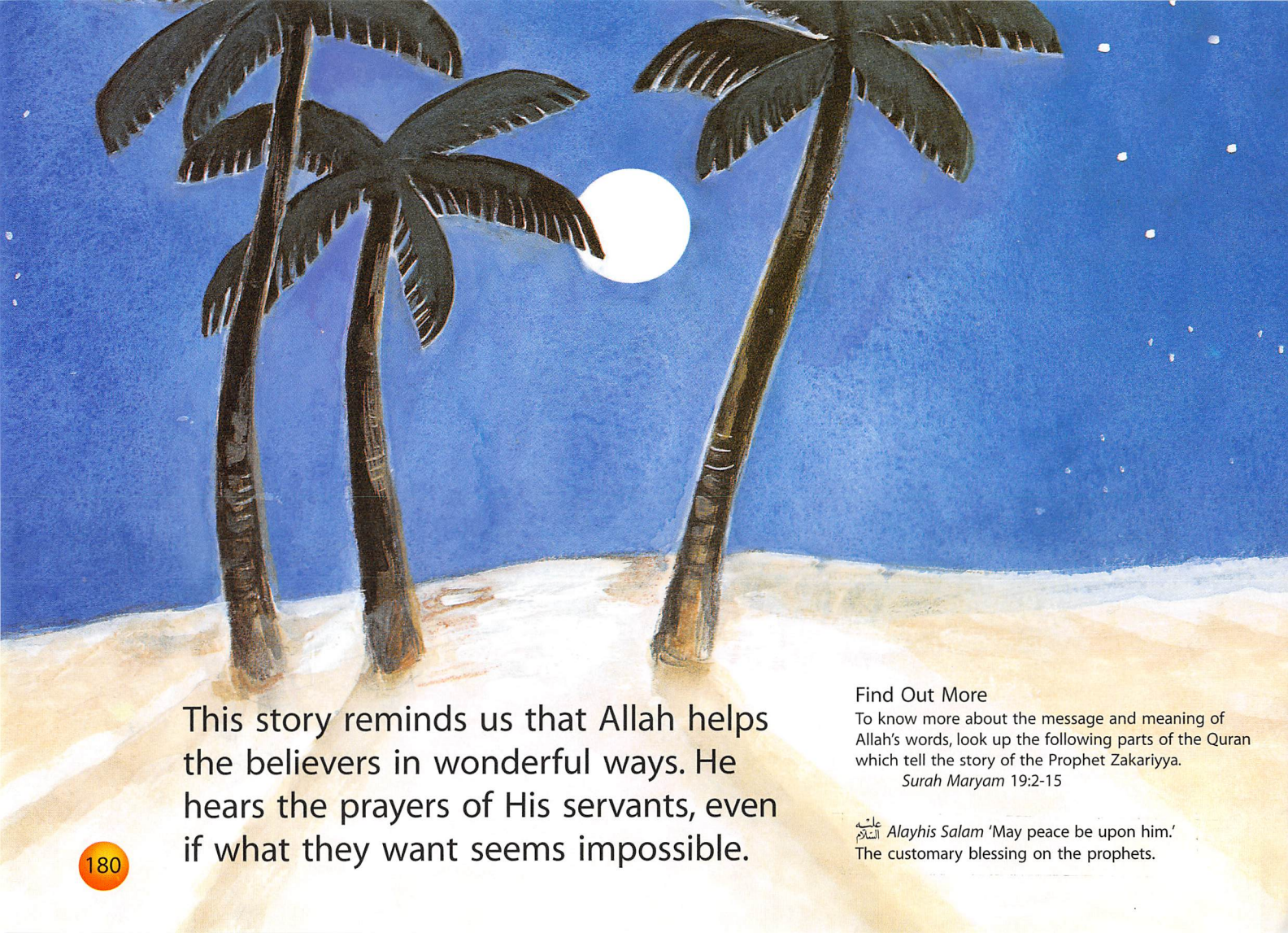
Yahya عليه السلام grew up to be a loving soul.
Allāh gave him wisdom, grace and
purity while yet a child and made
him a prophet.





Yahya عليه السلام grew up to be a good man, honouring his father and mother. He neither thought too much of himself nor did he disobey Allah.





This story reminds us that Allah helps the believers in wonderful ways. He hears the prayers of His servants, even if what they want seems impossible.

Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of the Prophet Zakariyya.

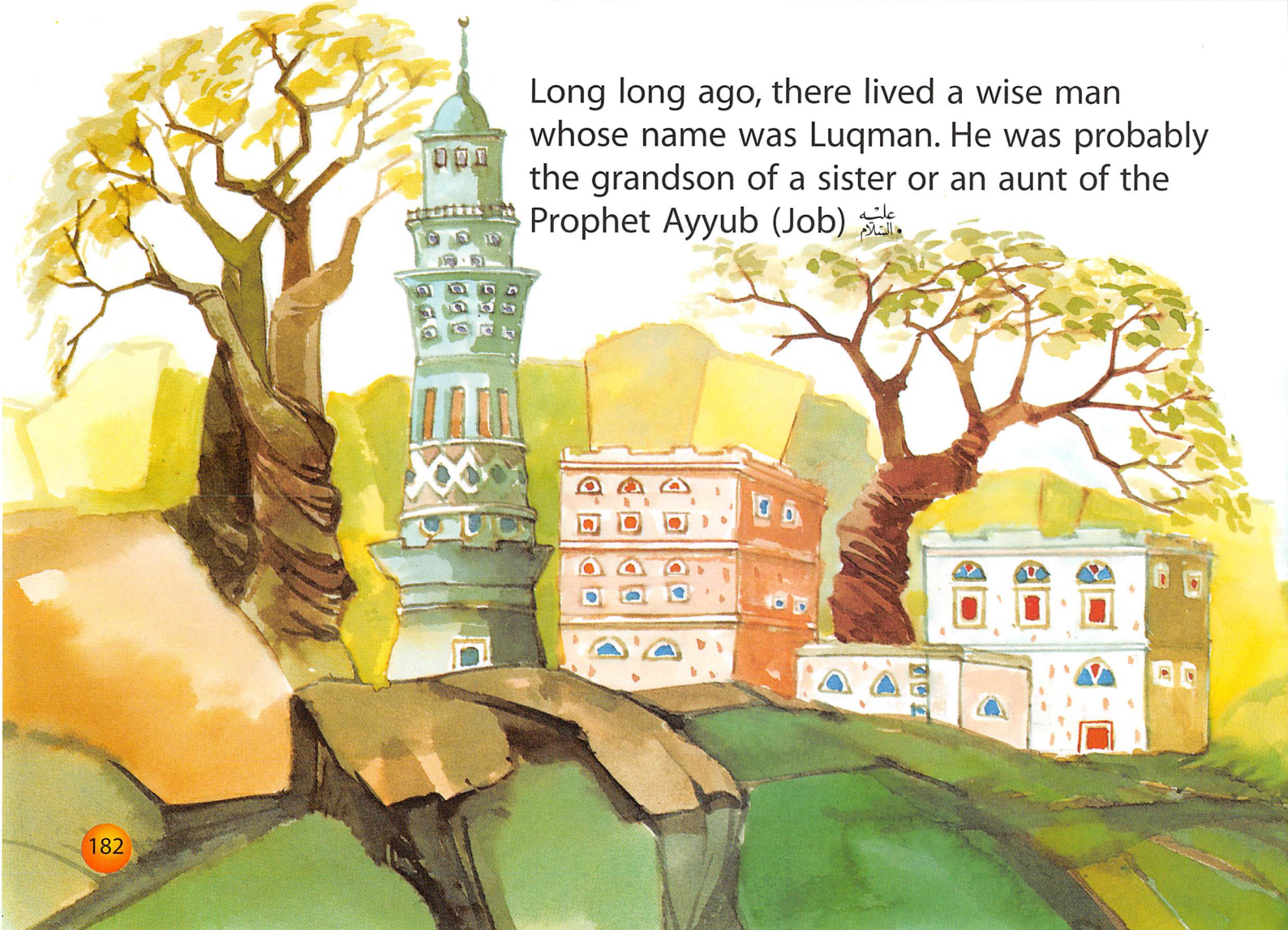
Surah Maryam 19:2-15

ﷺ *Alayhis Salam* 'May peace be upon him.'
The customary blessing on the prophets.

Luqman's Advice to His Son



Long long ago, there lived a wise man
whose name was Luqman. He was probably
the grandson of a sister or an aunt of the
Prophet Ayyub (Job) عليه
السلام





Allah gave him wisdom and asked him to be thankful to the Almighty, saying: "He that gives thanks to Allah has much to gain, but if anyone denies Allah's favours, then Allah is self-sufficient and glorious."



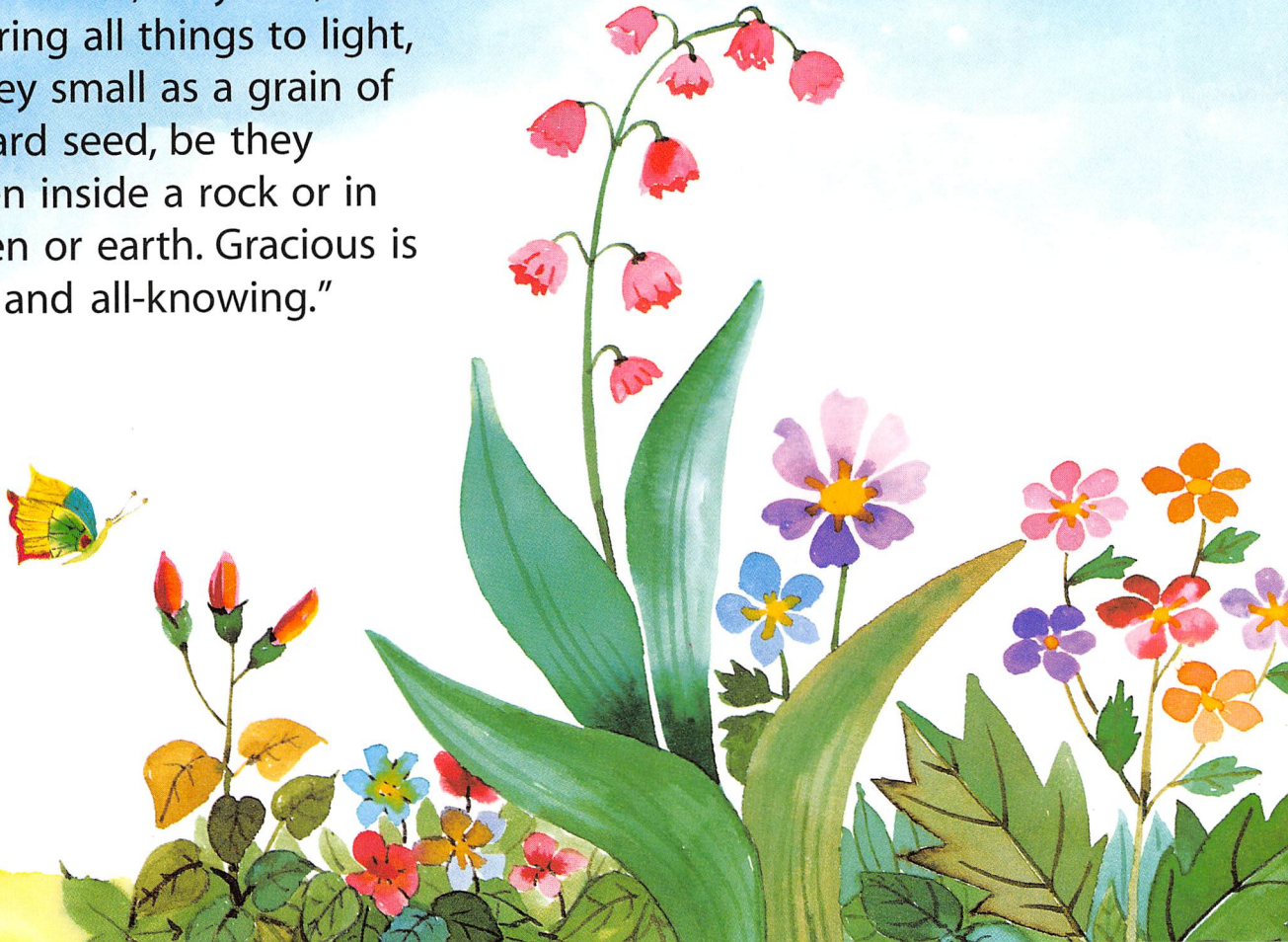




One day Luqman called his son and gave him some wise counsel. He said, "O my little son, serve no other deity besides Allah; for idolatry is an abominable sin."

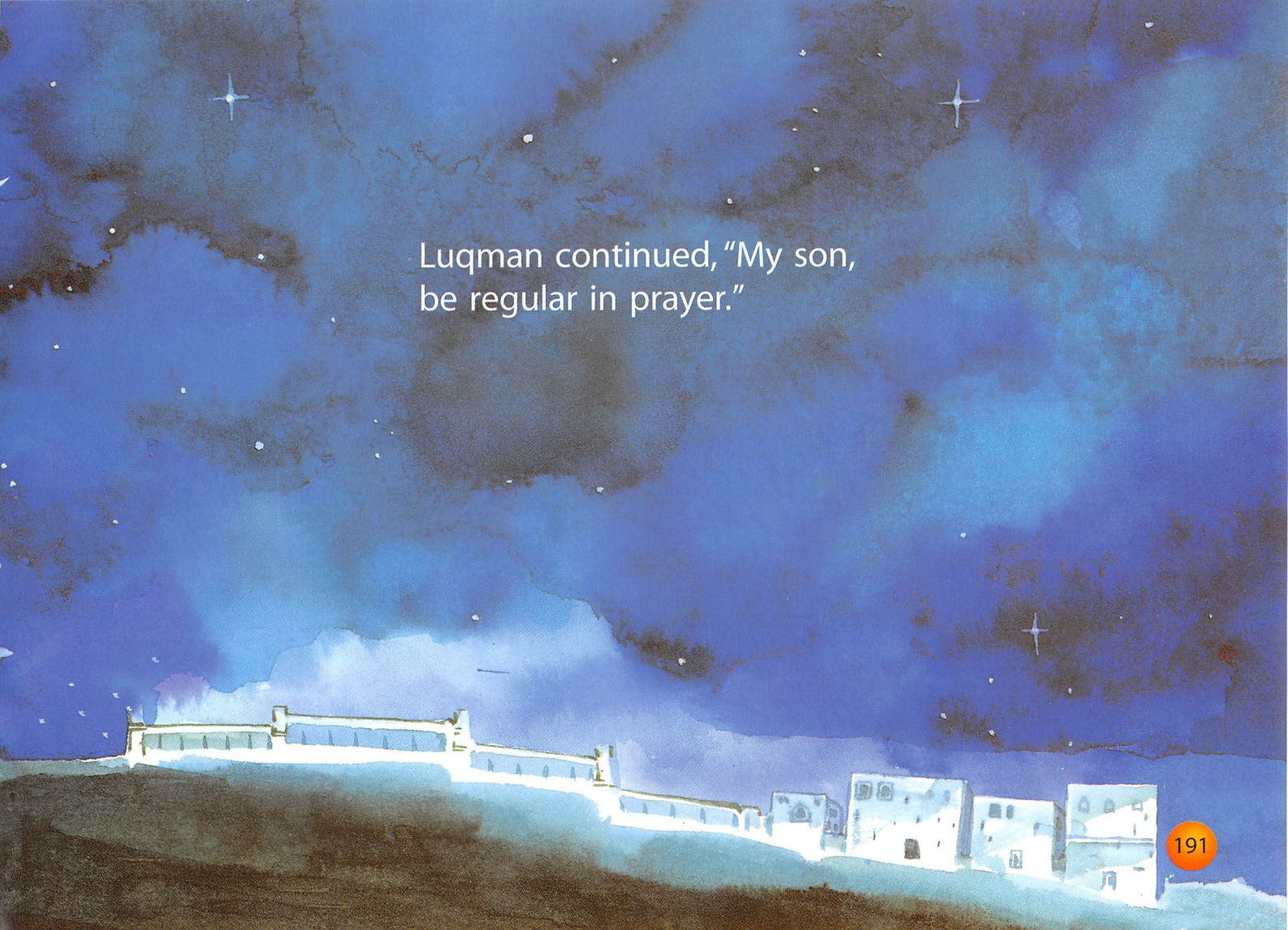


Luqman said, "My son, Allah will bring all things to light, be they small as a grain of mustard seed, be they hidden inside a rock or in heaven or earth. Gracious is Allah and all-knowing."










Lugman continued, "My son,
be regular in prayer."





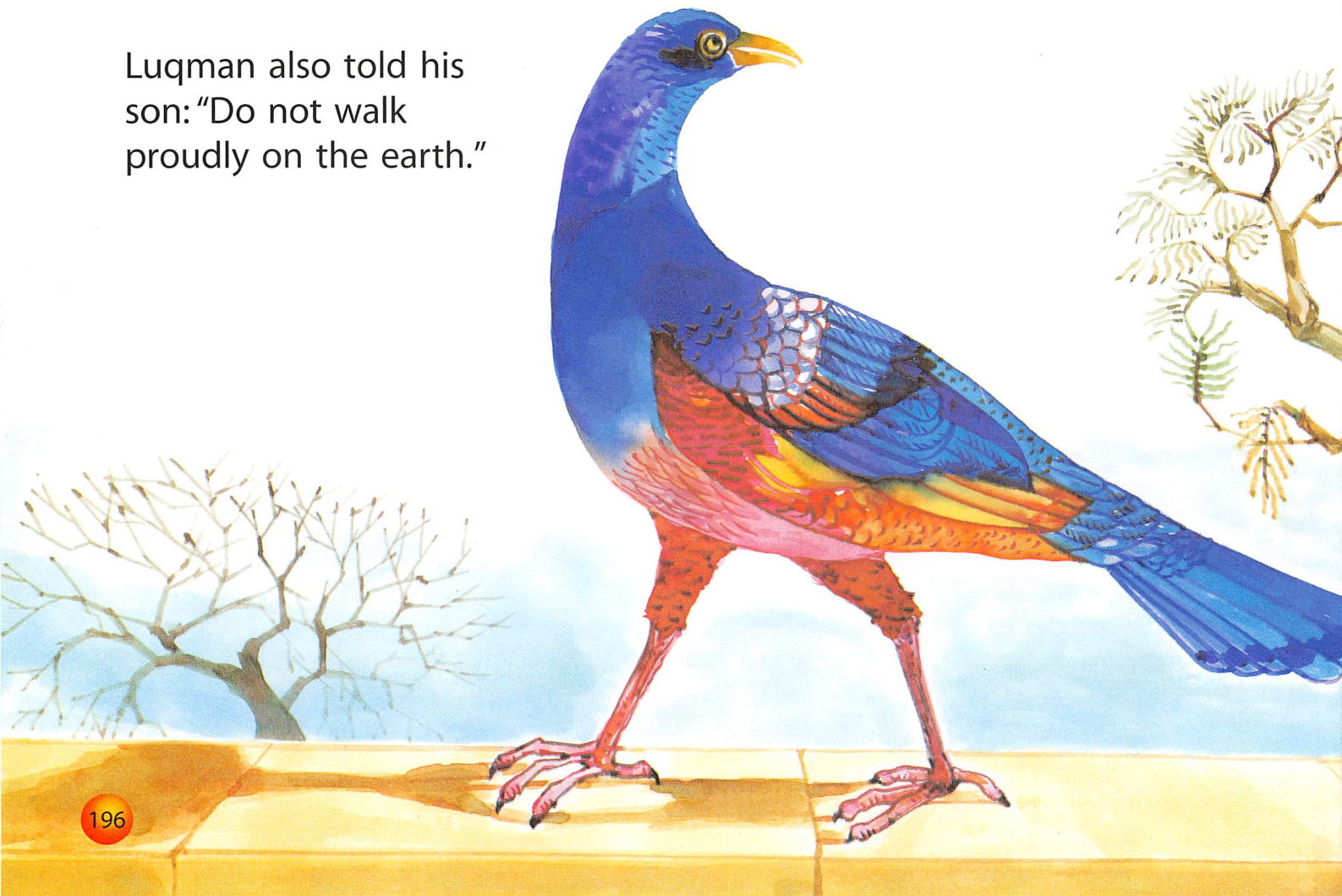
Lugman also advised him to speak out for justice and forbid evil. "Put up patiently with whatever happens to you", continued Lugman, "that is a duty for all."

A dramatic illustration of a lightning bolt striking a town at night. The lightning bolt is a bright, jagged white and blue streak descending from a dark, stormy sky. Below it, a town with several buildings is visible, some with windows glowing. The scene is filled with rain, depicted as white streaks falling from the sky. The overall mood is one of awe and divine power.

Luqman further advised
his son: "Do not treat
men with scorn."



Luqman also told his son: "Do not walk proudly on the earth."





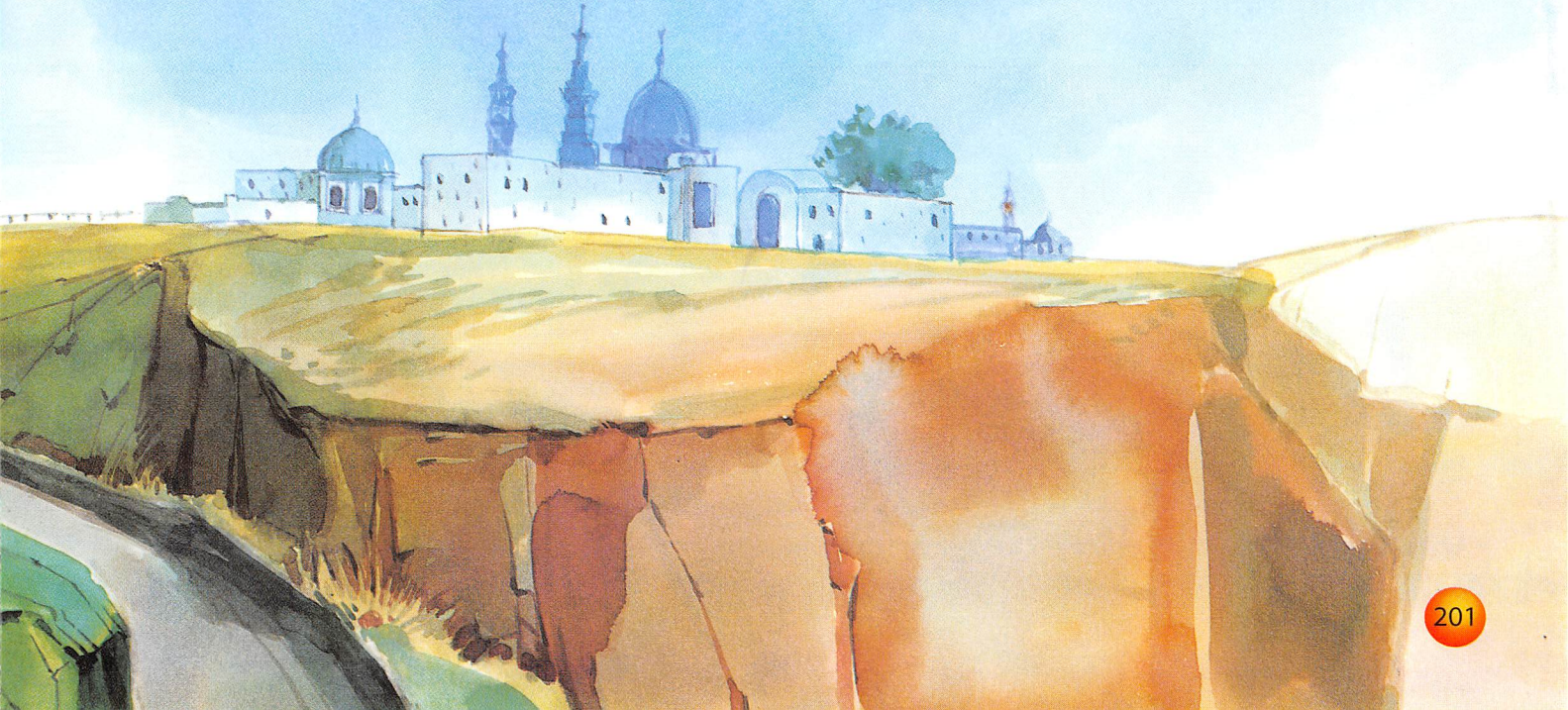
"God does not love the arrogant and the boastful." said Luqman. "Rather let your walk be modest."







The last advice which Luqman gave to his son was to be polite: "Keep your voice low. The harshest of voices is the braying of the ass."



Luqman's wise
advice to his son is
for all of us to follow
so that we may
become good
human beings.

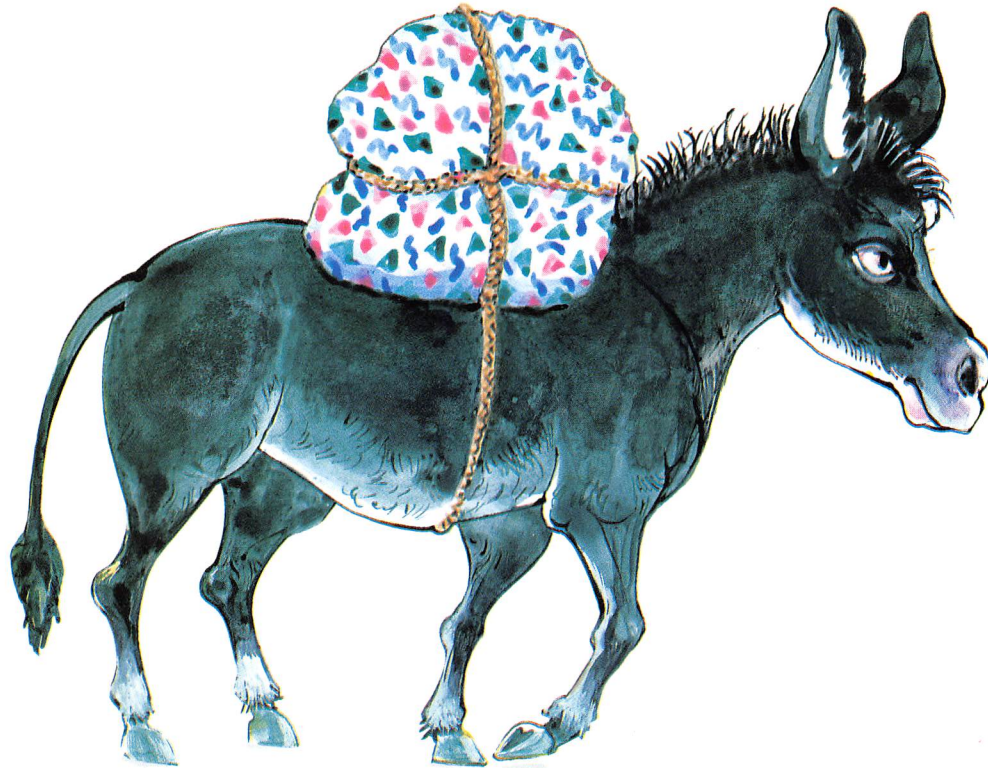


Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of Luqman.

Surah Luqman 31:12-19

Uzayr's Donkey

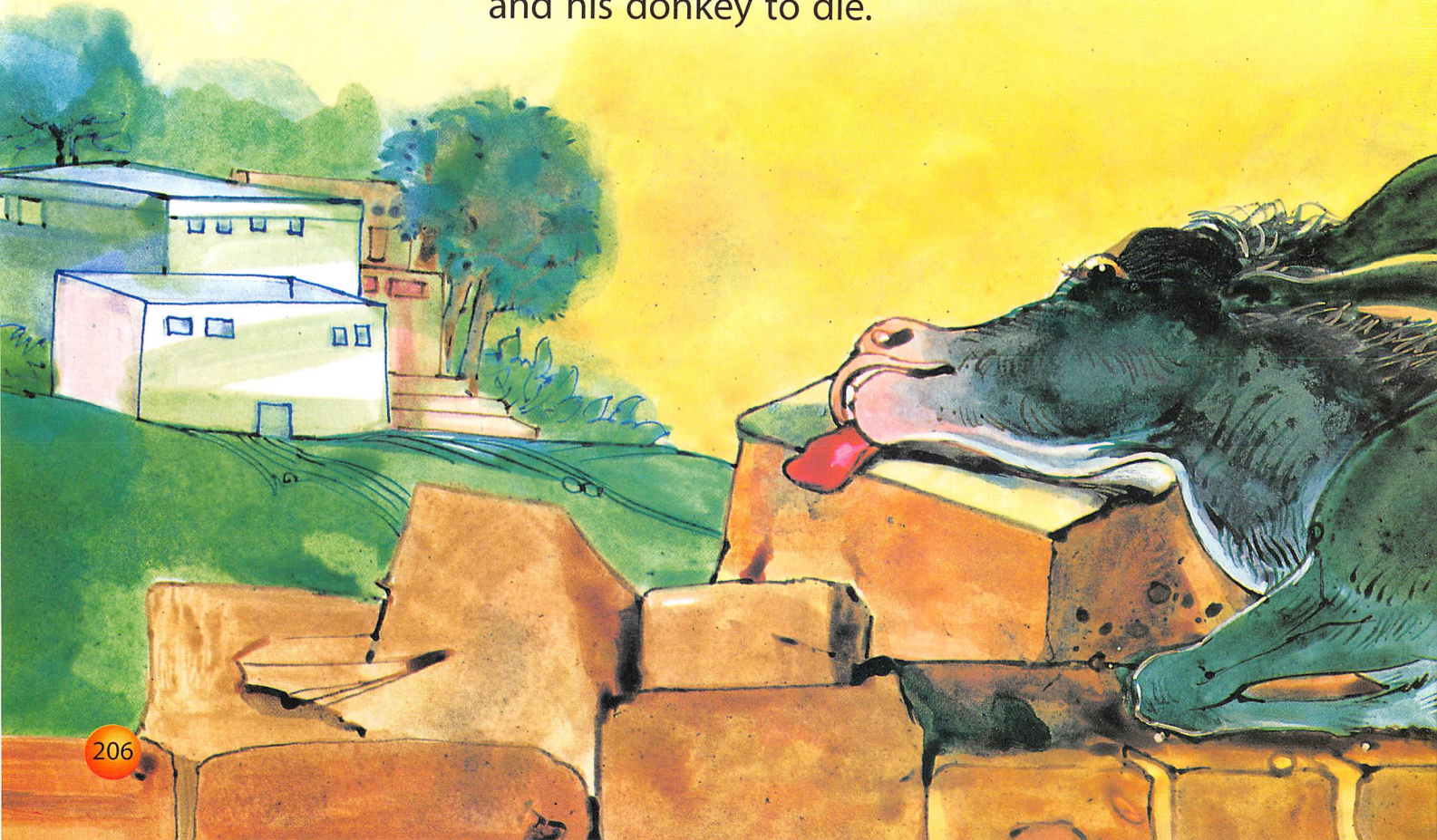


Uzayr, or Ezra, was a pious man. He had a donkey on which he used to travel far and wide. Once he was passing through a lonely city. The houses were all in ruins and no one lived there. "How can Allah give life to this city, now that it is dead," wondered Uzayr.





There and then Allah caused him
and his donkey to die.



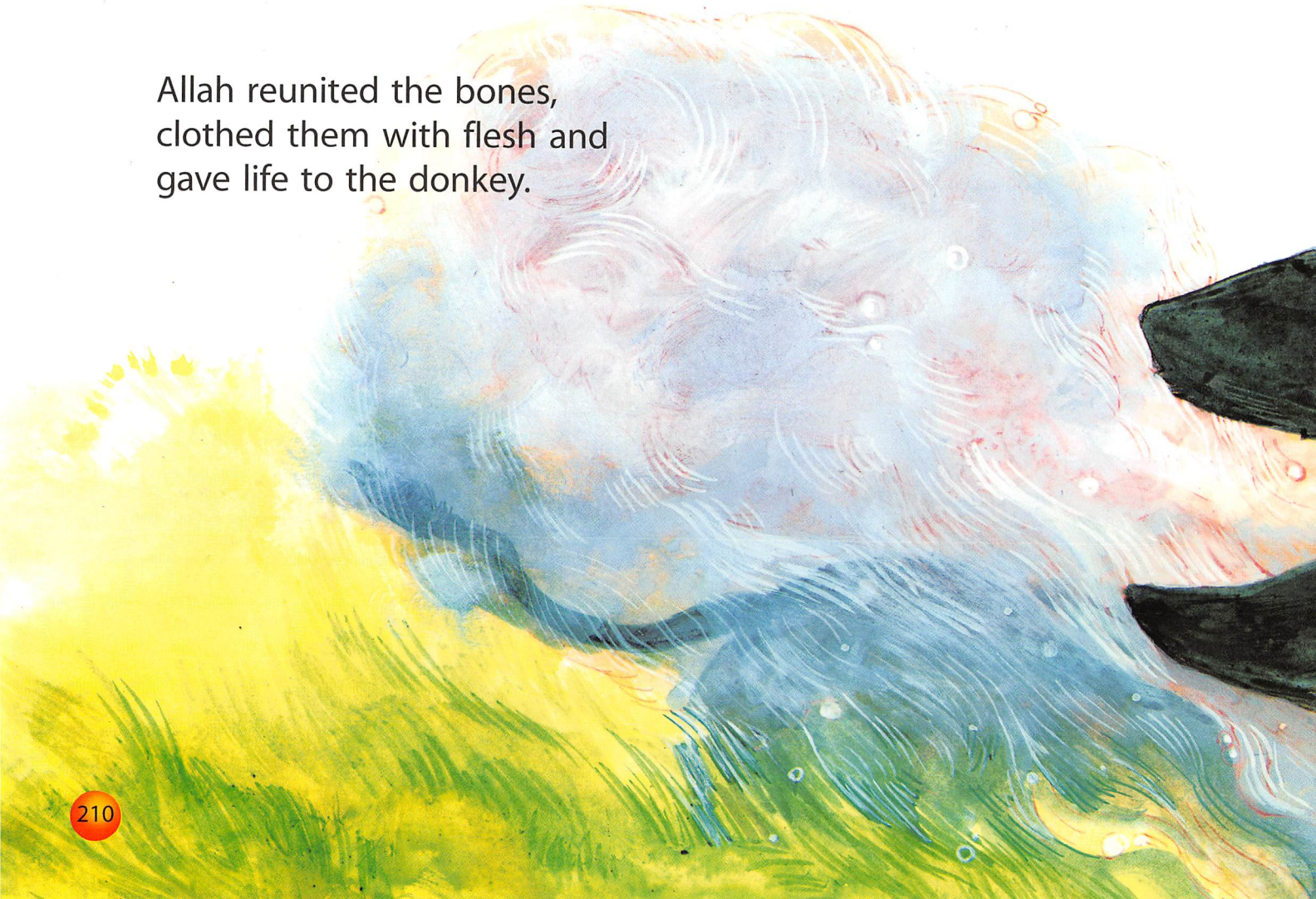


Allah brought Uzayr back to life after 100 years! But the donkey on which he had been travelling was reduced to bones.



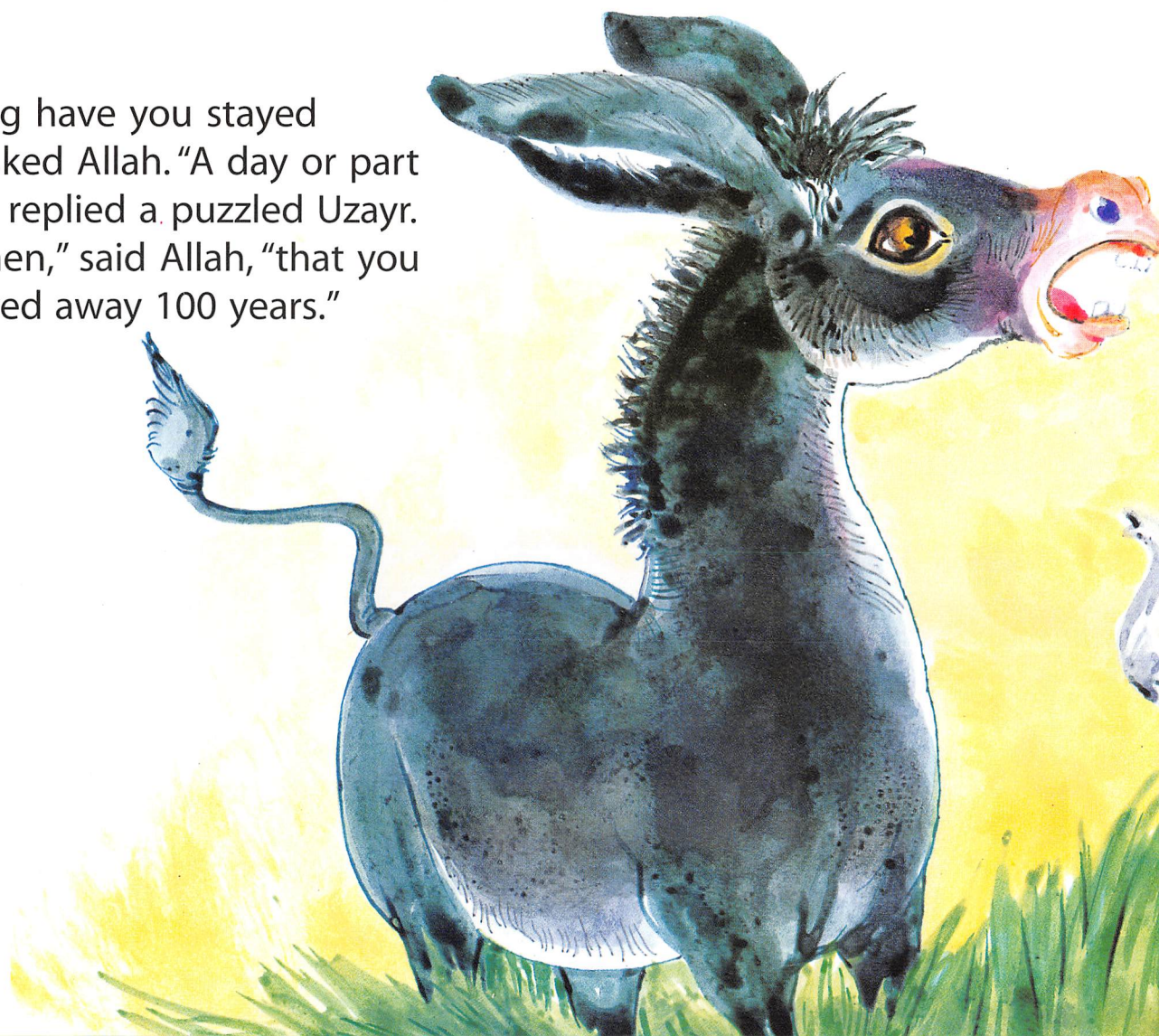


Allah reunited the bones,
clothed them with flesh and
gave life to the donkey.

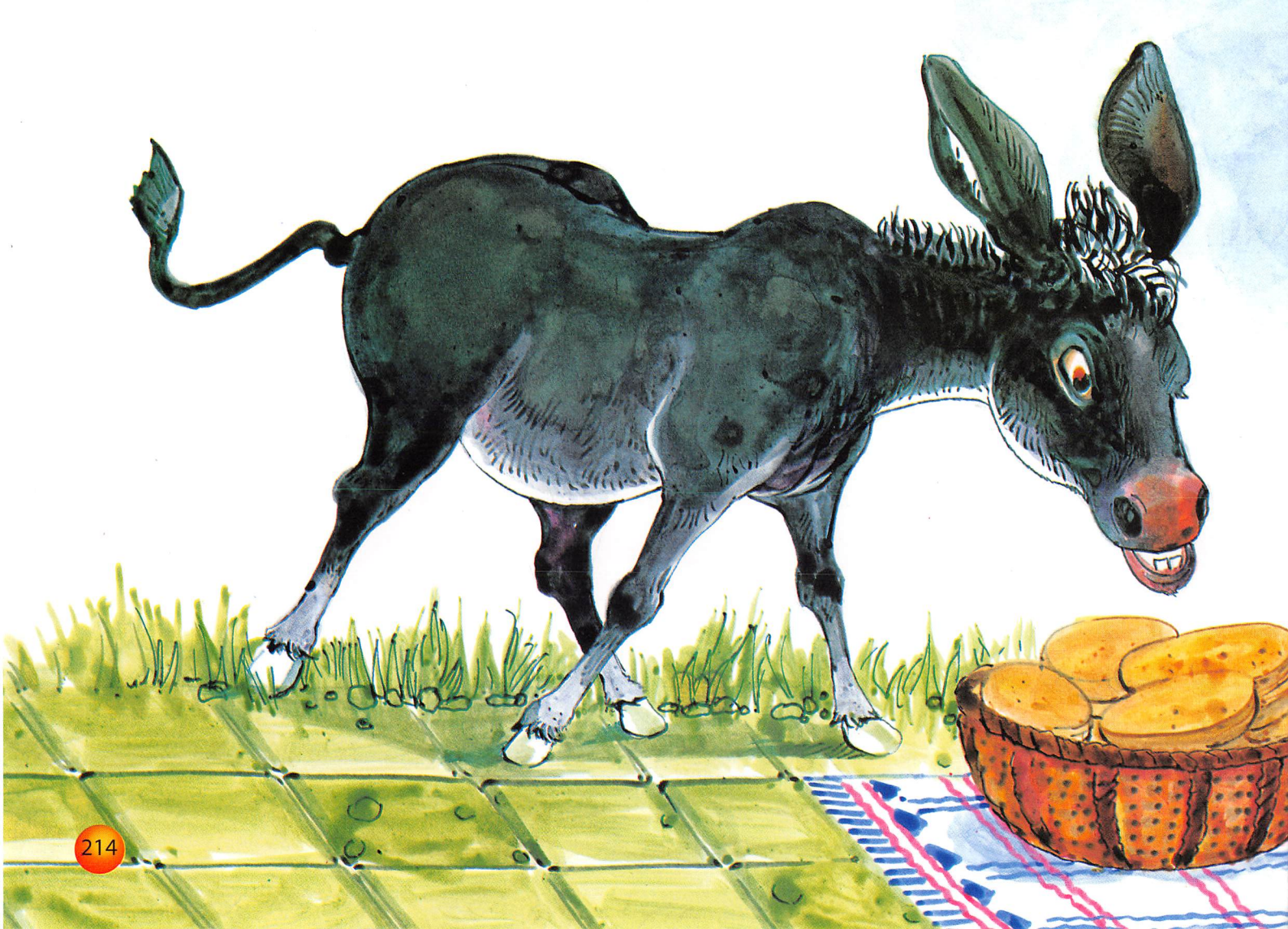


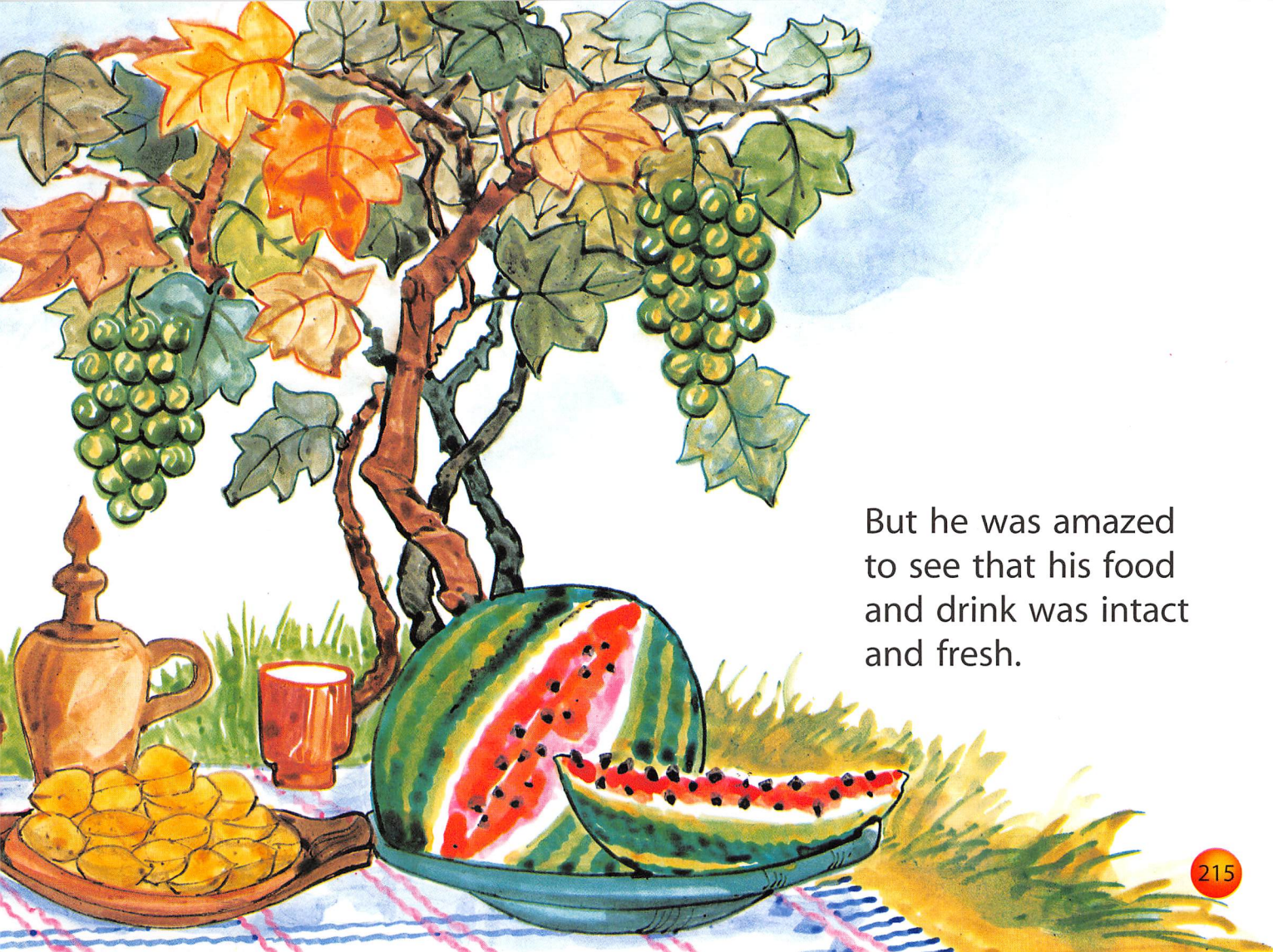


“How long have you stayed away?” asked Allah. “A day or part of a day,” replied a puzzled Uzayr. “Know, then,” said Allah, “that you have stayed away 100 years.”









But he was amazed to see that his food and drink was intact and fresh.

Seeing all this happening in front of his own eyes, Uzayr was struck dumb and exclaimed: "I know that Allah has power over all things." The story is told to reaffirm belief in the Hereafter and life after death.





Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran which tell the story of Uzayr and his donkey.

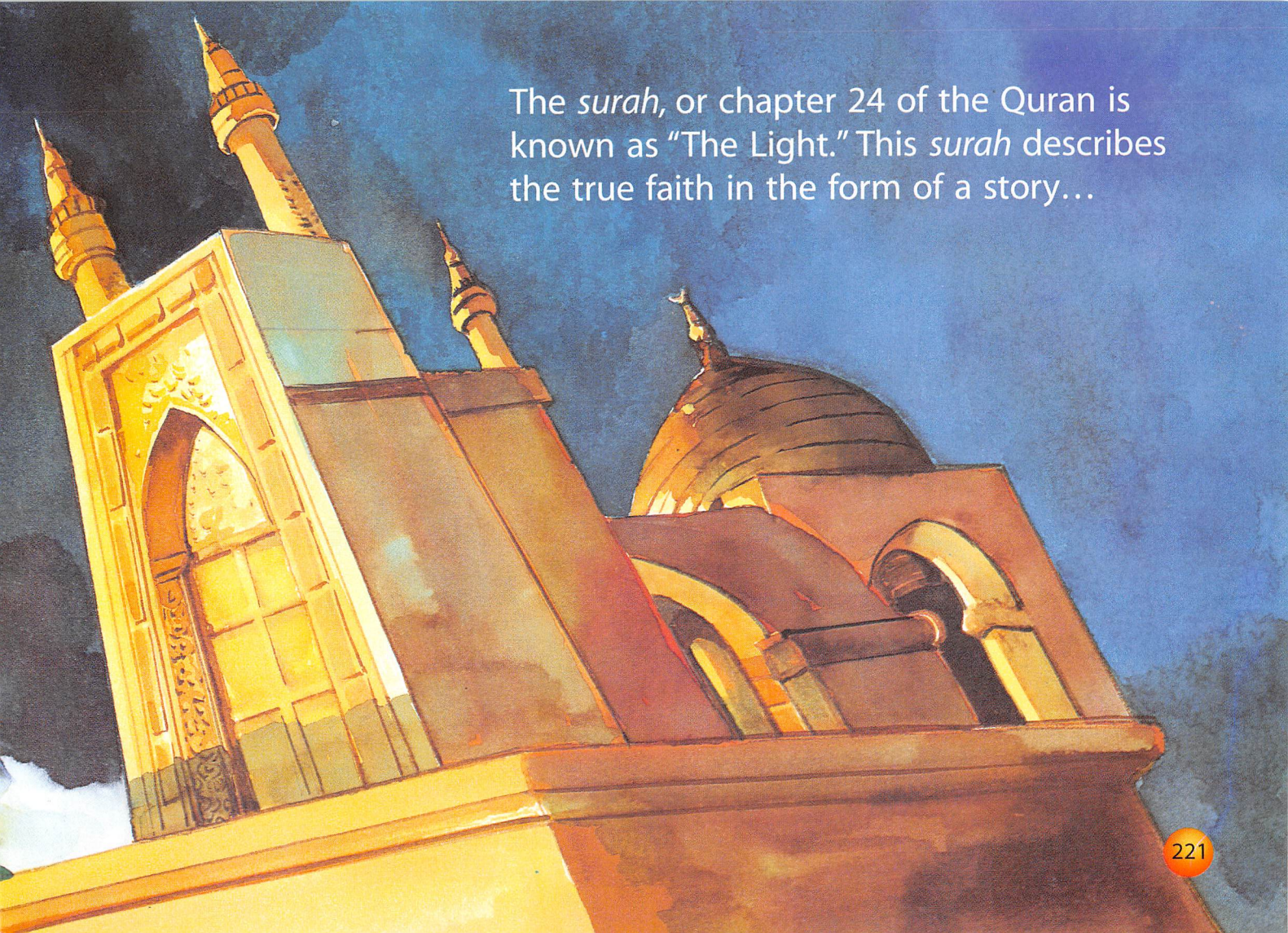
Surah al-Baqarah 2:259



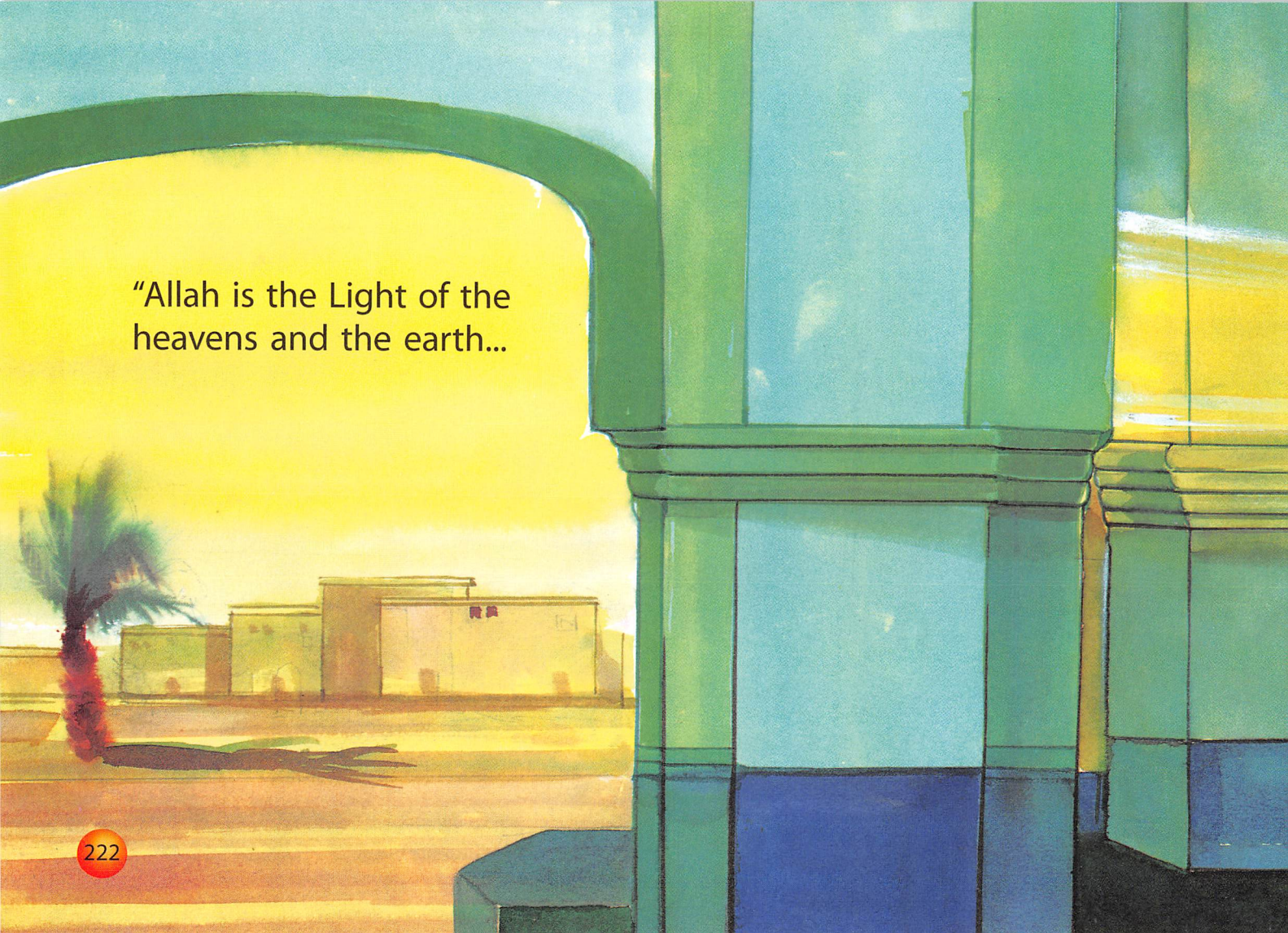
The Light of Allah





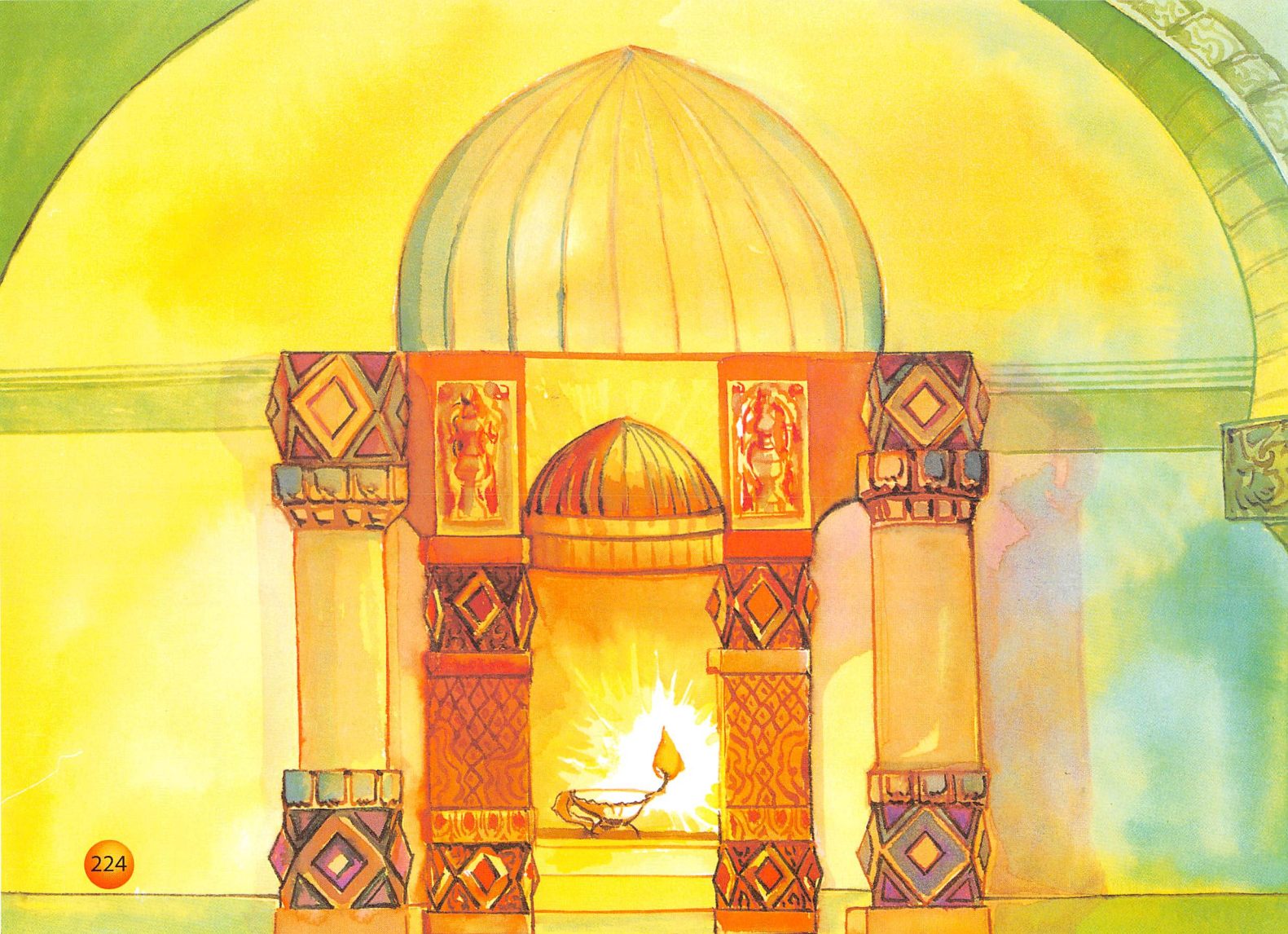
A stylized illustration of a mosque, likely the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, rendered in a painterly style. The building is primarily golden-yellow and brown, with a large, prominent dome. Several minarets with pointed tops are visible against a dark blue, textured sky. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the architectural details of the arches and the dome's structure.

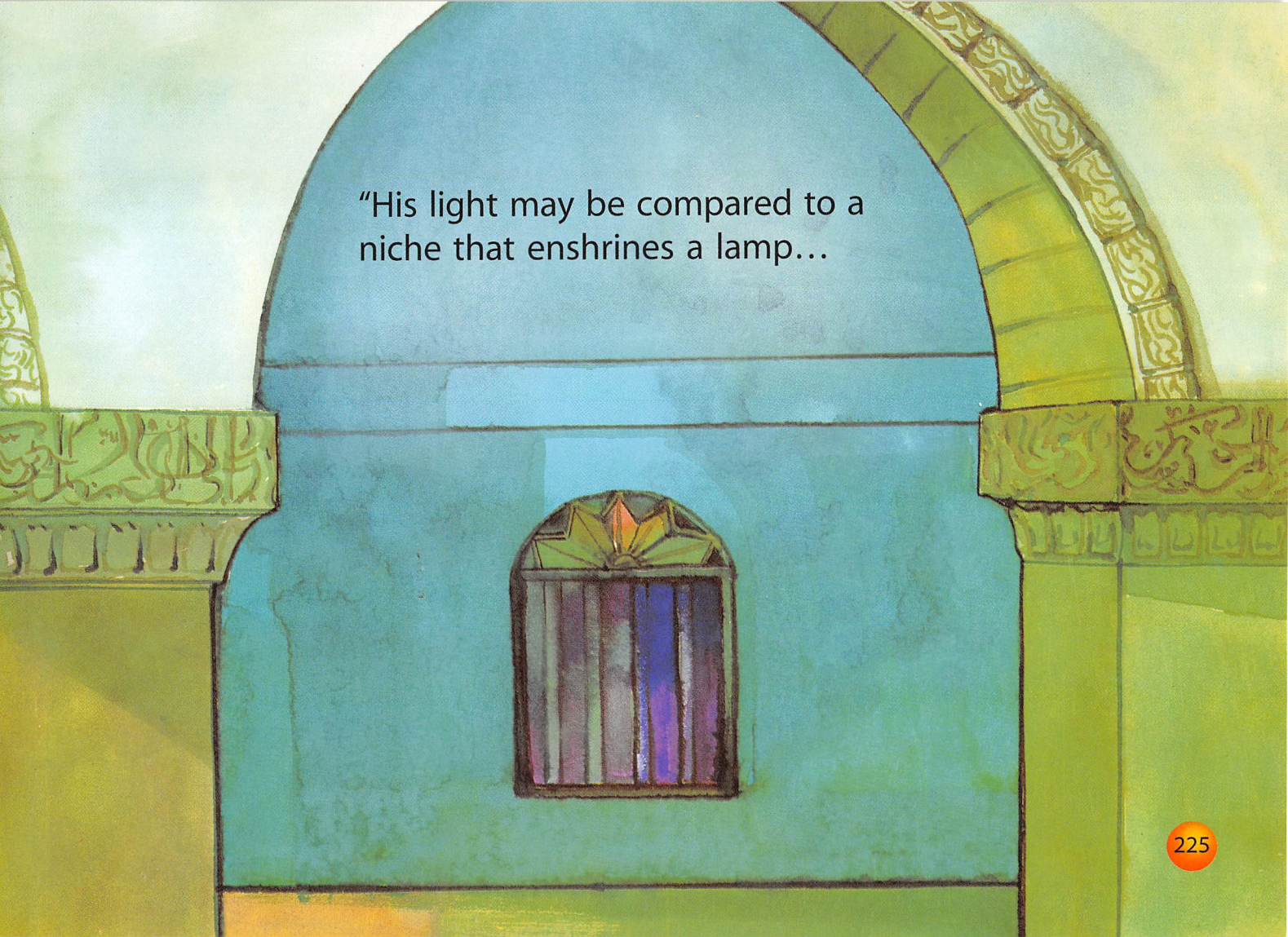
The *surah*, or chapter 24 of the Quran is known as "The Light." This *surah* describes the true faith in the form of a story...



"Allah is the Light of the
heavens and the earth..."





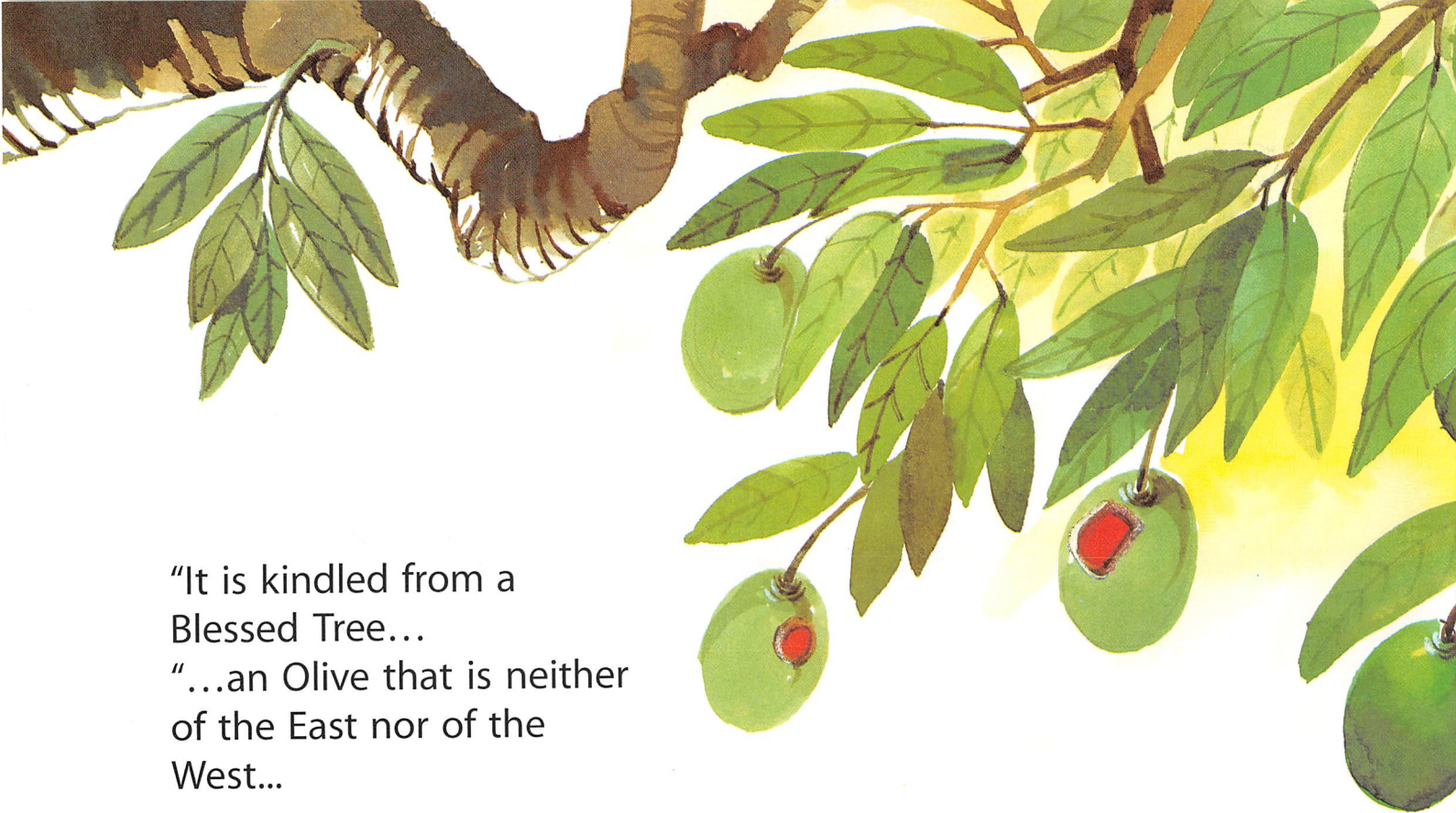


“His light may be compared to a niche that enshrines a lamp...”





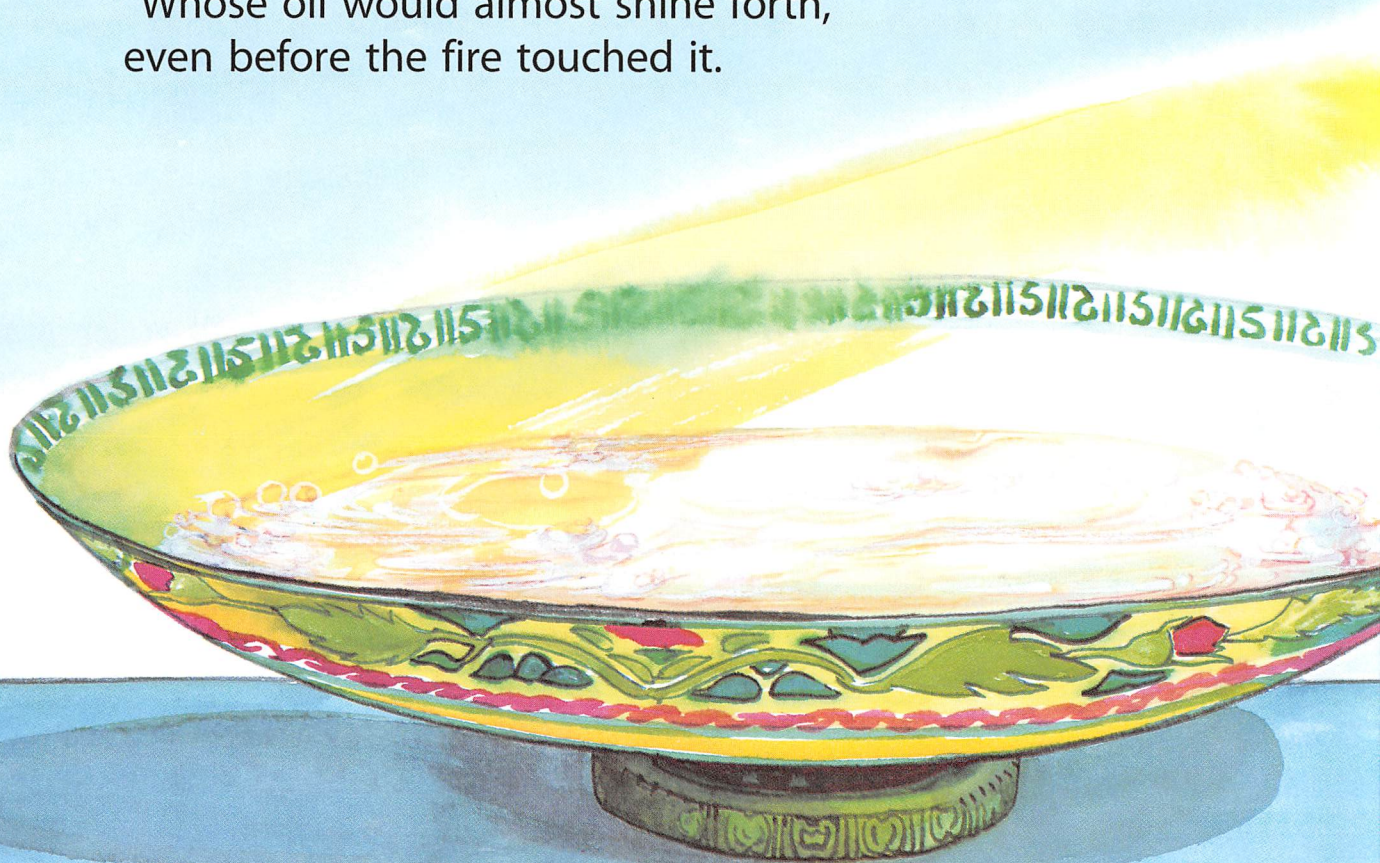
“...the lamp within a crystal
of star-like brilliance.

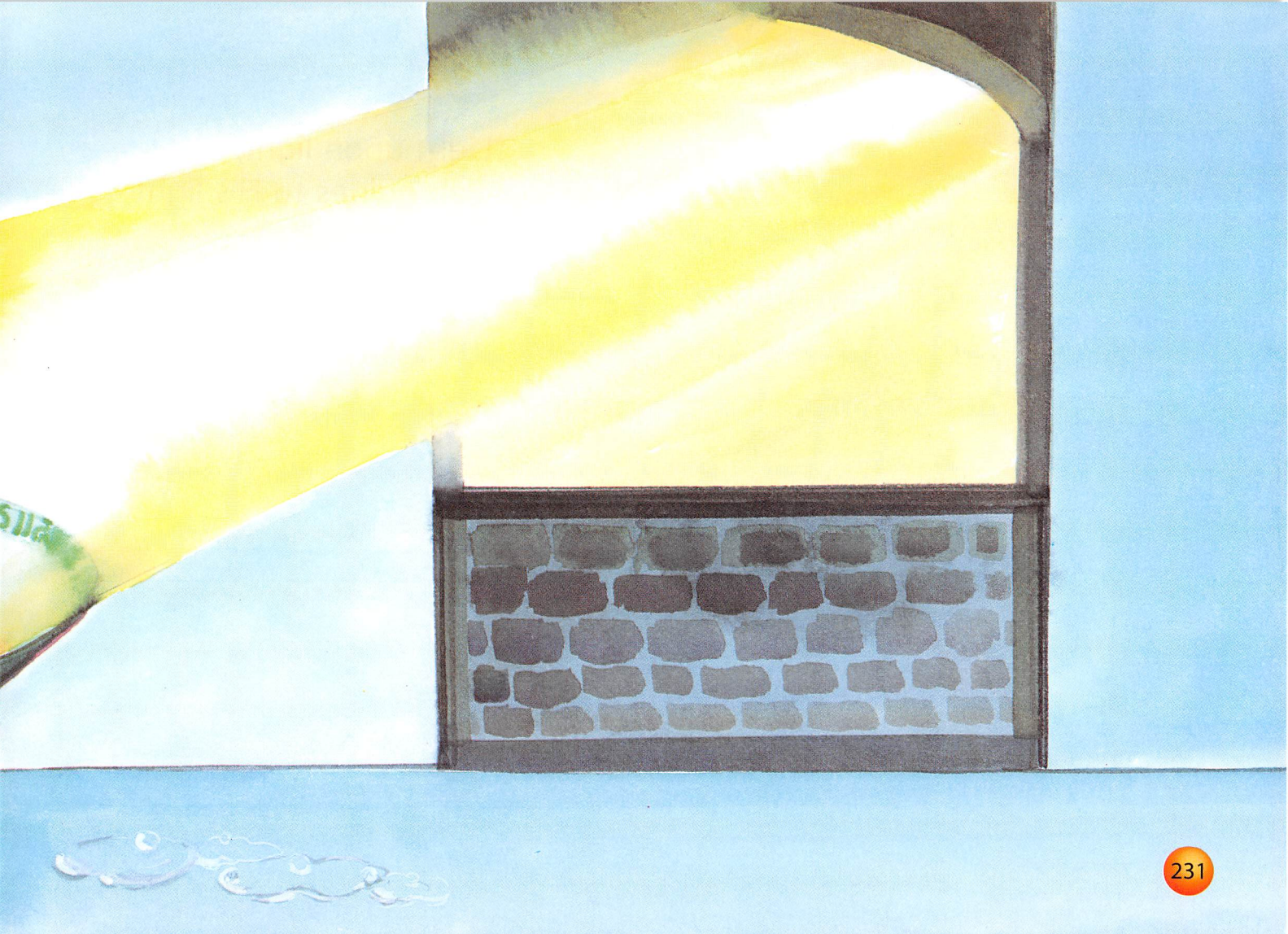


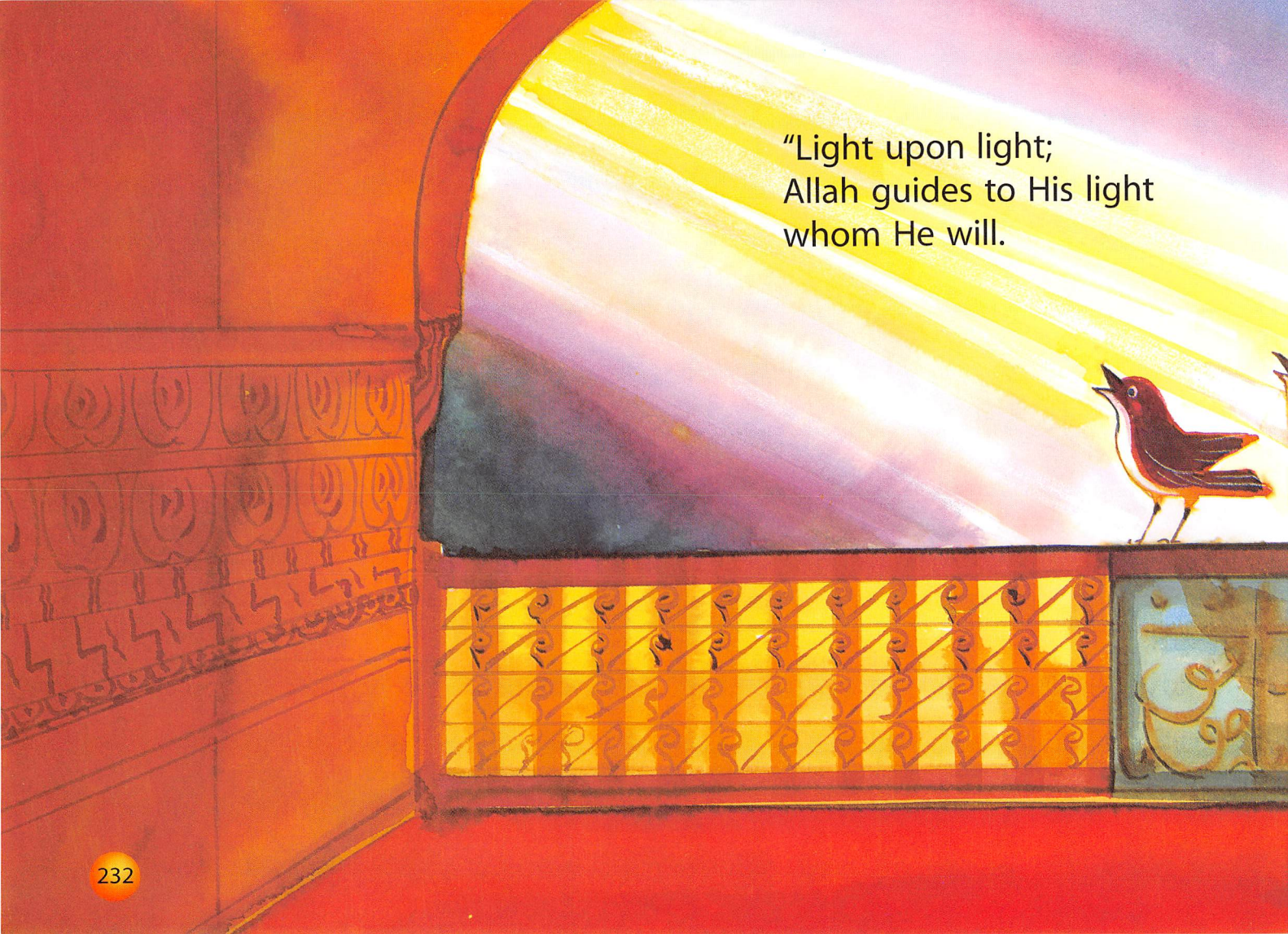
“It is kindled from a
Blessed Tree...
“...an Olive that is neither
of the East nor of the
West...”



“Whose oil would almost shine forth,
even before the fire touched it.



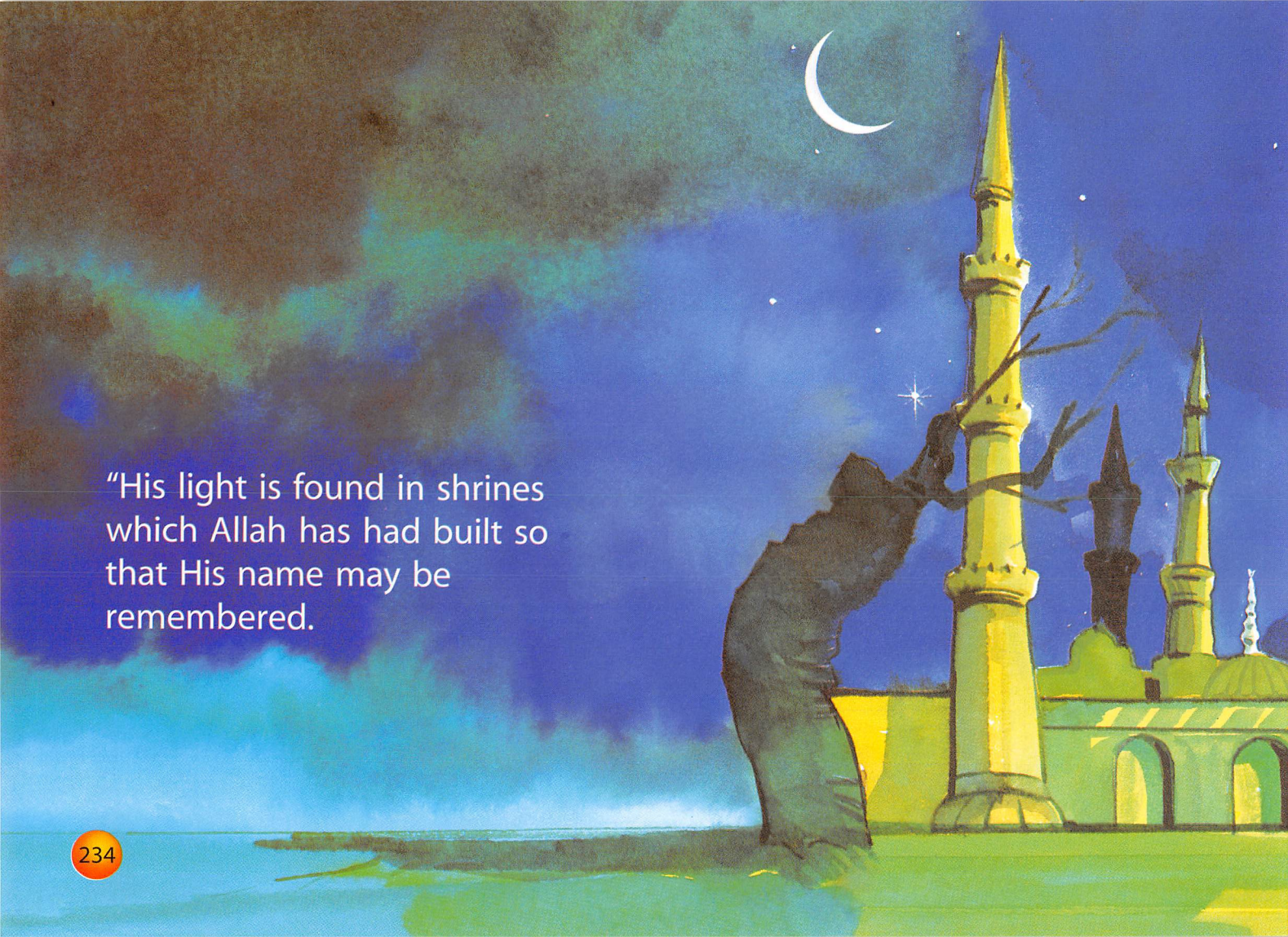




“Light upon light;
Allah guides to His light
whom He will.

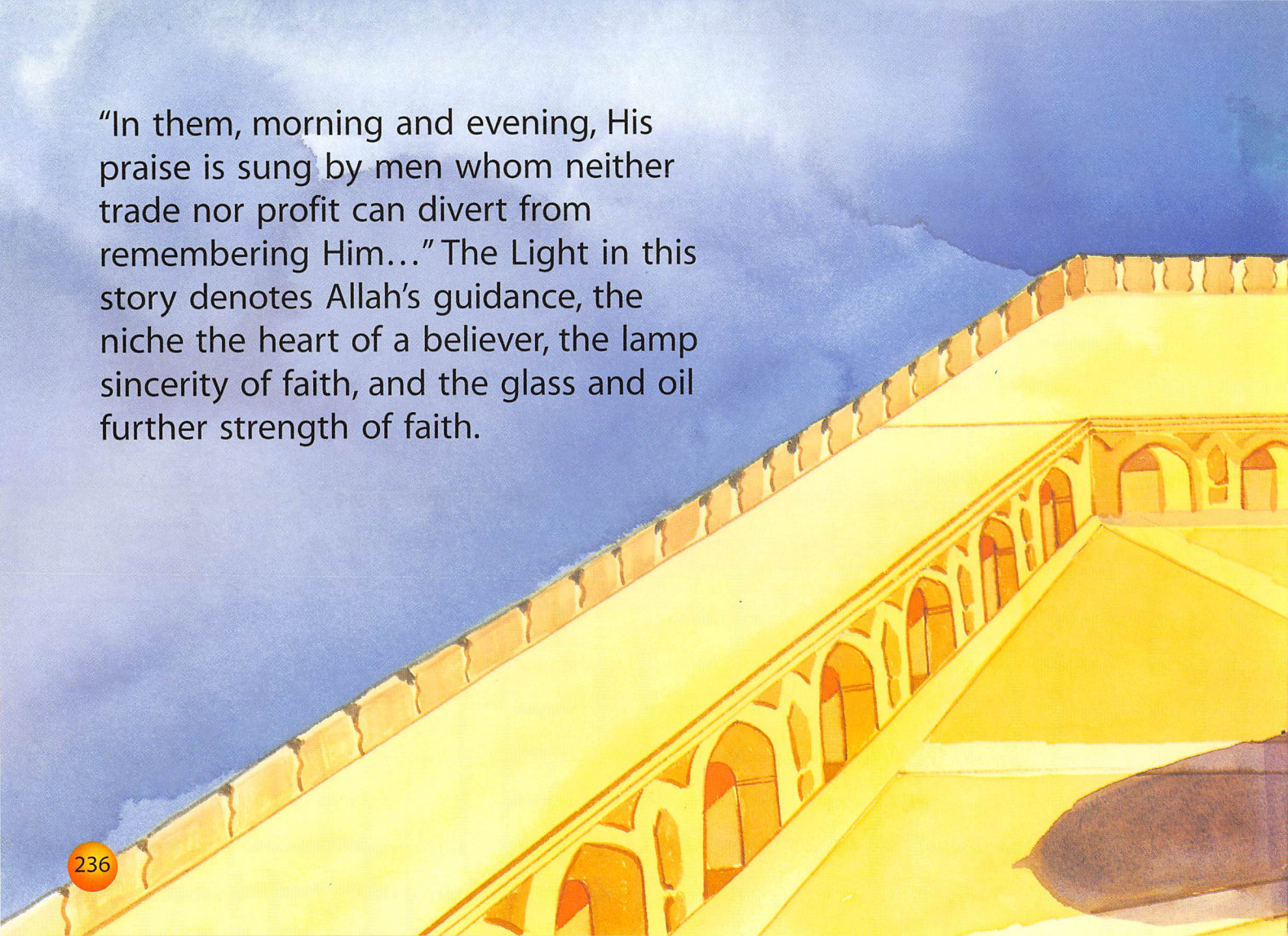


"His light is found in shrines
which Allah has had built so
that His name may be
remembered.



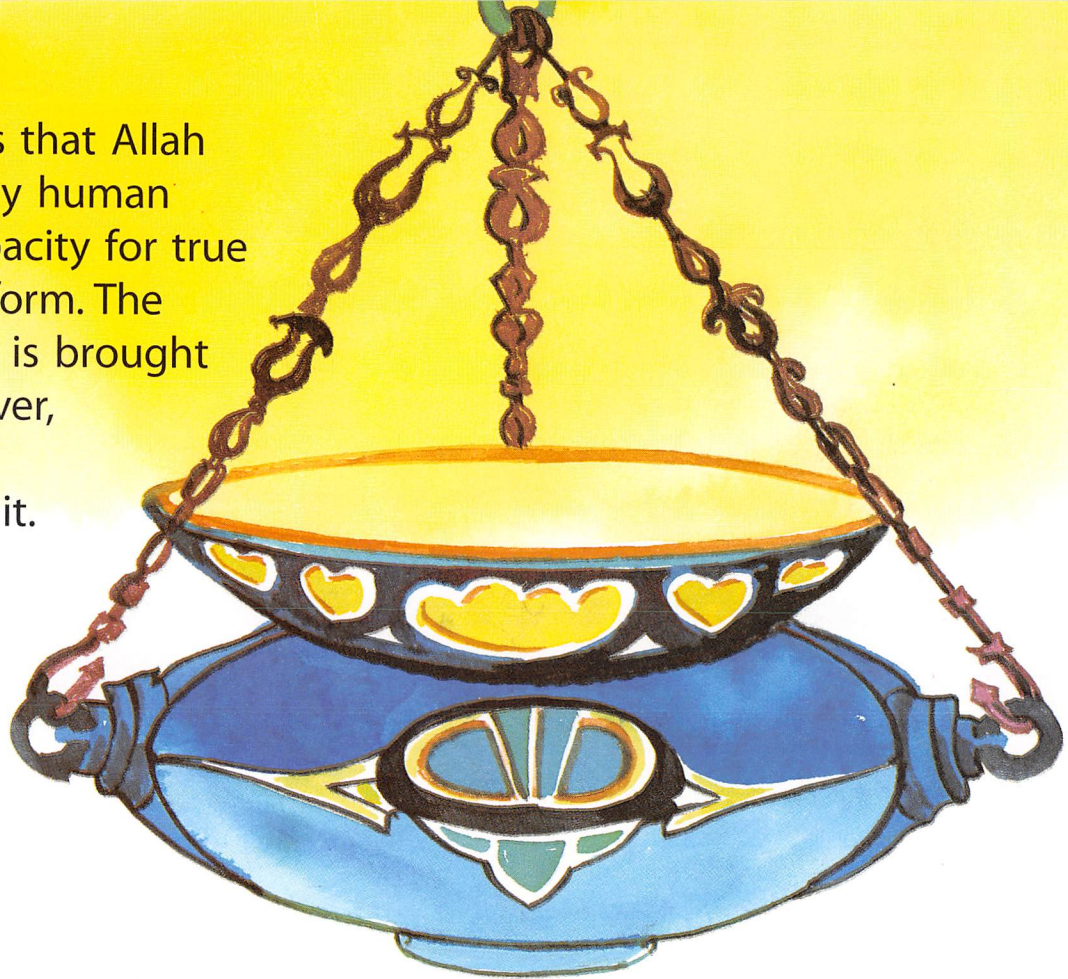


“In them, morning and evening, His praise is sung by men whom neither trade nor profit can divert from remembering Him...” The Light in this story denotes Allah’s guidance, the niche the heart of a believer, the lamp sincerity of faith, and the glass and oil further strength of faith.





The story suggests that Allah has endowed every human heart with the capacity for true faith in its purest form. The moment the Truth is brought closer to the believer, he or she will not hesitate to accept it.



Find Out More

To know more about the message and meaning of Allah's words, look up the following parts of the Quran.

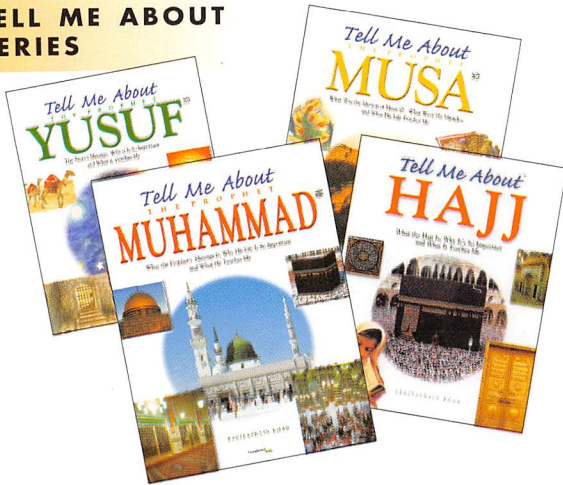
Surah al-Nur 24:35-37

Where to find the stories in the Quran

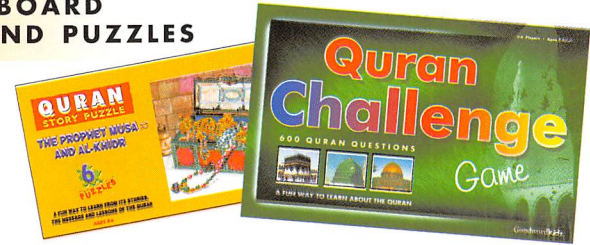


- 5 **The Story of Two Gardens** Surah al-Kahf 18:32-42
-
- 29 **Allah Speaks to the Prophet Musa** ﷺ Surah Ta Ha 20:38-40, Surah al-Qasas 28:7-35
-
- 47 **The Wise Man and the Prophet Musa** ﷺ Surah al-Kahf 18:60-82
-
- 65 **The Pious Man and His Son** Surah Yusuf 12:4-56
-
- 79 **The Prophet Yusuf** ﷺ **and the King's Dream** Surah Yusuf 12:21-100
-
- 99 **The Prophet Hud** ﷺ **and the Storm** Surah al-Araf 7:65-72, Surah Hud 11:50-60,
Surah ash-Shuara 26:123-140, Surah al-Ahqaf 46:21-25
-
- 121 **The Most Patient Man** Surah Sad 38:41-44, Surah al-Anbiya 21:83-84
-
- 137 **The Iron Wall** Surah al-Kahf 18:83-98
-
- 157 **The Old Man's Prayer** Surah Maryam 19:2-15
-
- 181 **Luqman's Advice to His Son** Surah Luqman 31:12
-
- 203 **Uzayr's Donkey** Surah al-Baqarah 2:259
-
- 219 **The Light of Allah** Surah al-Nur 24:35-37

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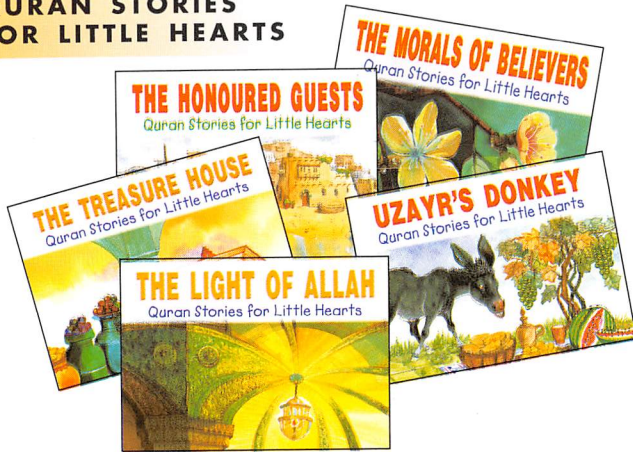
ISLAMIC BOARD GAMES AND PUZZLES



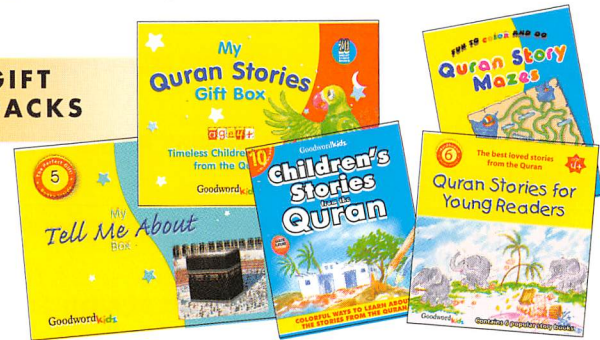
ISLAMIC STORIES FOR CHILDREN

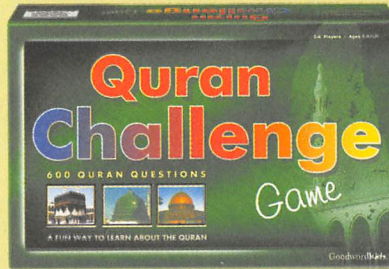


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