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Opening extract from

Bible Detective A Puzzle Search Book

Written by

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Illustrated by

Peter Kent

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To Roger P.K.



Remember to find the wily fox
in every scene!

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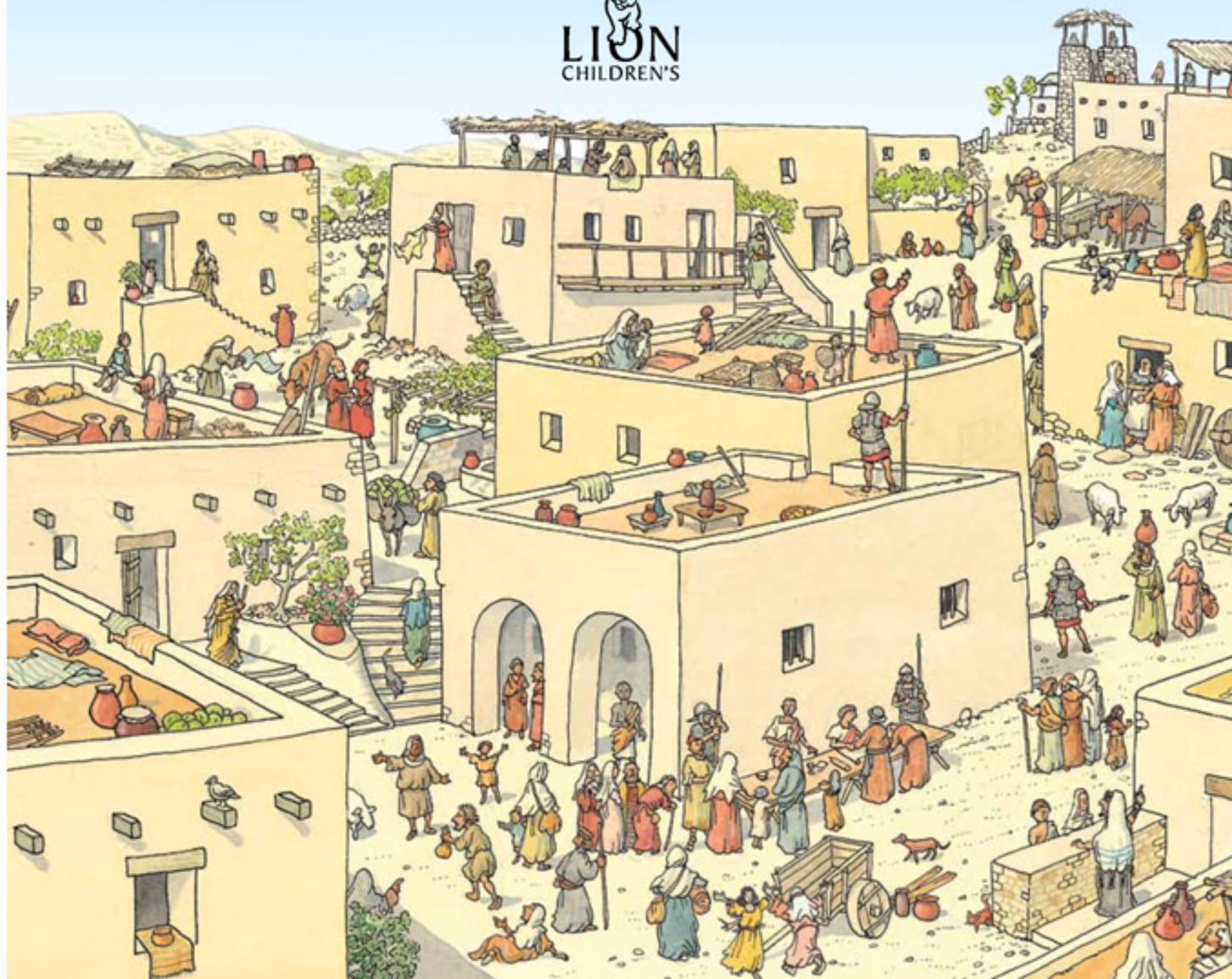
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BIBLE Detective

LION CHILDREN'S





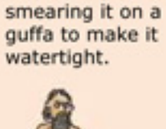
Genesis 6–9 / Perhaps third millennium BCE or earlier

Noah, the good herdsman

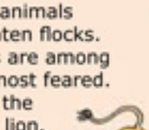
According to the Bible, God sent a flood because the world had grown wicked. This picture, based on finds from ancient Mesopotamia, shows Noah as a decent herdsman trying to take care of himself and his family.

The people around him are less kind: drunkenness, bullying, and violence are common.

People cross the river in skin boats, called guffas. Find one with animals in.



Men and women use long straws to share a vat of beer. Can you see them?



These soldiers wear leather helmets and woollen cloaks. Find 8.



In some places tar oozes to the surface. Spot Noah smearing it on a guffa to make it watertight.



Wild animals threaten flocks. Lions are among the most feared. Spot the male lion.



Only the wealthy have chariots. Spot a charioteer being unkind to the poor.



People use bows and arrows to hunt and kill deer. Find 3 hunters.



Boys splash and swim with floats made of animal skin. Spot a boy fishing.



The river is the main source of water. Find 2 of Noah's daughters-in-law doing laundry.



Noah's wife needs water to make bread. Spot her daughter-in-law bringing water from the river.



Olive trees are carefully tended, as the fruits are rich in delicious oil. Spot an olive press.



The Royal Game of Ur is a race game with a special game board. Find a game being played.



Farmers grow crops such as barley. How many reapers can you see?



Women grind grain at home with a very simple mill. Find Noah's wife at work.



Bronze-tipped weapons are the sharpest available. Spot an axe.





People keep goats, which are not fussy eaters and thrive on very little. Find Noah's 3 sons driving his flock.



Sheep graze on meadows by the river. It floods often. Find 5 riverside pools.



Genesis 12 / Second millennium BCE

Abraham's nomadic encampment

The story of the people of Israel, later known as the Jews, really begins with Abraham. According to the Bible, he believed God was telling him to leave the city life of Mesopotamia to make a new home in the land of Canaan.

He went with all of his household and lived as a nomad, leading his flocks to wherever there was pasture.

An altar like this was a place to burn offerings as a sacrifice to God. Find one in a grove of trees.



Spot a boy carrying his little brother.



Goatskin could be stitched into a wine container. Find 2 containers.



Wells had to be dug for precious water. Spot 2 women quarrelling over a well.



Women spun and wove the wool from their sheep. Spot a spinner and a weaver.

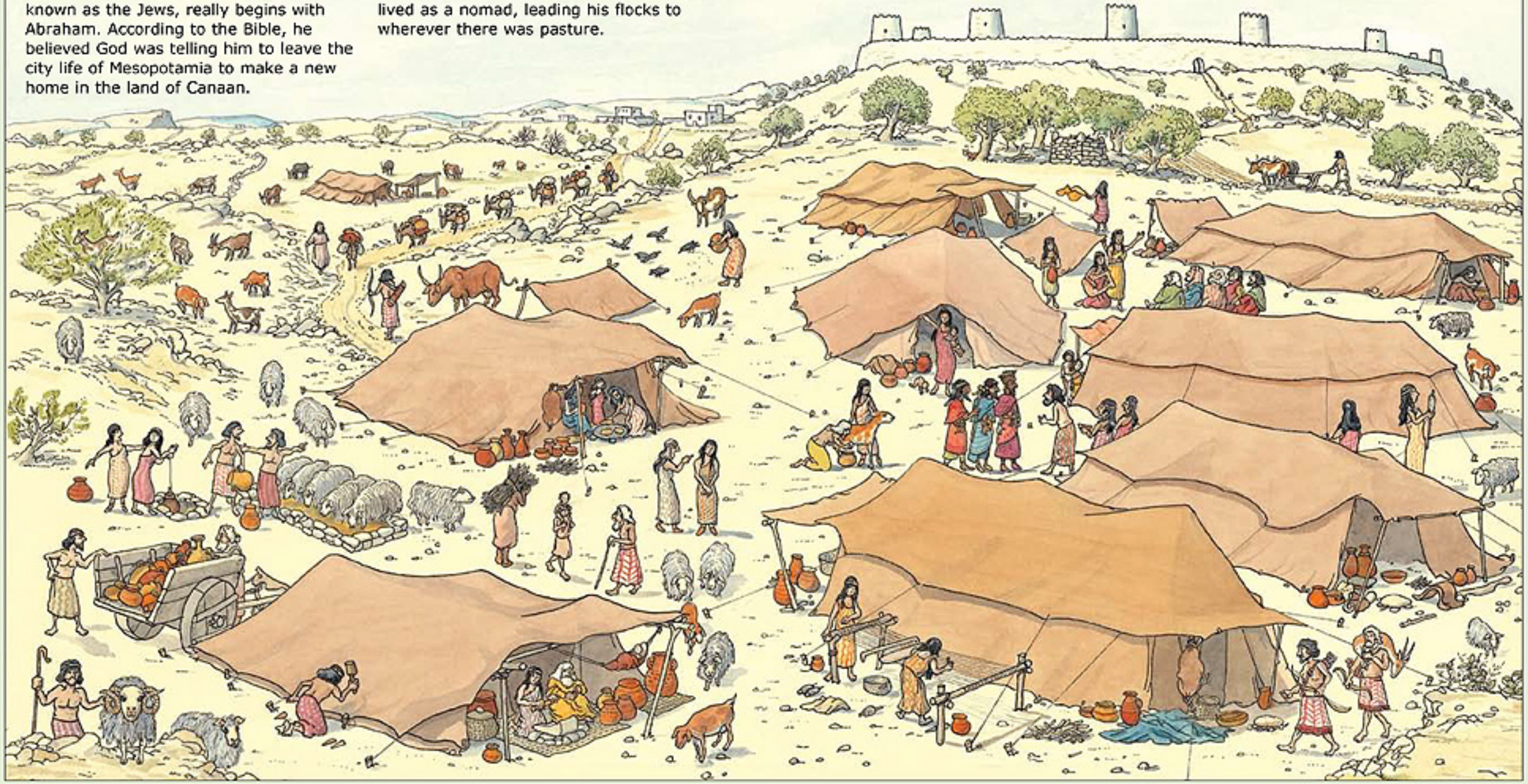


Stones were arranged within each campfire for cooking on. Find bread being baked on a stone.



It was a tradition to offer food and shelter to strangers. Find 3 people in foreign dress.

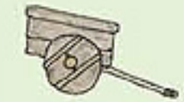




Men wore brightly patterned kilts. Can you see 5 kilts in this pattern?



Nomads traded with local Canaanites for goods they could not produce themselves, such as grain. Spot the Canaanite trading cart.



Look for a man milking a goat.



Find a servant girl being told off by her mistress.



Canaan was not a wilderness: the Canaanites lived there in walled cities. Can you see one?



Goats would feed in rough pasture. Spot one stuck in a thorn bush.



Look for a trader with his caravan. How many donkeys can you see in the caravan?



Spot a baby cradled in a hammock – a portable cradle.



Find 2 young men going hunting with a bow and arrow.



Find 2 girls: one playing the harp and one singing.





Slaves in Egypt

Abraham's son Isaac had two sons, Jacob and Esau. Jacob in turn had 12 sons, but his favourite was Joseph. Jealousy led the older brothers to sell Joseph as a slave. In Egypt, he rose to a high rank and, in a time of famine, forgave his family and invited them to leave Canaan for Egypt.

The land was fertile and, with irrigation, produced good crops. However, the time came when a new pharaoh made the people his slaves. They toiled in the brickfields making mud bricks for the pharaoh's grand building projects.

Bricks were made from mud packed into a mould and turned out. Find 5 men using a brick mould.



A device called a shaduf lifted water from the river into irrigation channels. Spot a shaduf.



The mud for bricks had to be mixed with chopped straw. Find 3 men carrying bundles of uncut straw.



Slave-drivers were cruel. Spot 2 whipping a slave.



Waterfowl are hunted. Spot 4 ducks.



Papyrus reeds had many uses. Find men gathering reeds.



Find a woman coiling a basket from reeds.



Roast lamb was meat for a feast. Spot a boy trying to catch a lamb.



Melons were a much-loved crop. Spot 2 children sharing a melon.



Extra grain from good harvests was stored in silos. Find 4.



Cattle could grow fat on the lush riverside grass. Find 9.



A high-ranking official would travel by chariot. How many guards are there making sure the way ahead is clear?



Tambourines were a popular musical instrument. Find 4 girls dancing.



A royal prince goes hunting. How many lions are fleeing?



A wealthy person might travel by barge. Spot a barge with the princess on.



The Egyptians had great respect for cats. Find 5.



Scribes kept a record of the amount of grain collected and stored. Find 2 at work.



Frogs can be a nuisance for those who live by the river. Spot 9.



Wild herbs, though sometimes bitter, were collected as food. Spot 3 girls foraging.

