

Kids' Chronicle

King David makes Jerusalem his capital

JOE SARNICOLA

Representatives of the twelve tribes of Israel went with many of the Israeli people to the city of Hebron to find David. The huge crowd gathered around David's home waiting for him to come to his door.

Finally, David came out. He stood before the people and asked, "To what do I owe the honor of the presence of such a great assembly?"

One of the tribal elders said, "You have always been a faithful leader of our people even when Saul was still king. The Lord said through his prophets that you would be the leader of our nation. We are here today to ask you to become the king of all Israel."

"It would be an honor to serve my God and my people," David said.

The people rejoiced and a celebration began. The elders dressed in their finest robes and read from the Scriptures at David's coronation. He was anointed with oil as a sign of God's blessing. Dancing and music filled the city streets and every household. Israel had a new king, a king who had been chosen by God himself.

When he was made king of Israel, David was 30 years old.

David and the Israelites had some enemies known as the Jebusites. The Jebusites lived in the City of Jerusalem.

"David is a weak king," they taunted. "His army could not defeat a city of blind

and crippled men."

So David and his army attacked Jerusalem and easily captured it. Because of this victory, the Israelites called Jerusalem "the City of David." David ordered a more beautiful city to be built on the site where the Jebusites had once lived. David and the people of Israel knew that God was with them.

King Hiram, from the land of Tyre, sent a caravan of building materials to David. Hiram thought a king as great as David should have a palace to live in. He sent wood and carpenters, stone and stone masons, and many workers. The construction began immediately as the Lord continued to bless the reign of David. Not only did God show favor to David as king, but David's family prospered also, and he had healthy sons and daughters.

One day, however, David received a message from his spies that the Philistines wanted to attack Jerusalem.



Illustration by Kathy Welsh

"What should I do, Lord?" David asked.

"Defend yourself and I will be with you," God told him.

The Israelites attacked the Philistine army and the Lord led them to an easy victory. Their enemy fled in terror.

READ MORE ABOUT IT: 2 Samuel 5

Q&A

1. Why did the people visit David?
2. What was the name of the "City of David?"

Bible Accent

The City of Jerusalem was an unimportant city in a desert region until David ruled his kingdom from there after conquering the Jebusites.

Jerusalem was on the boundary that separated Northern Israel from Southern Israel. David's son, Solomon, who became king after David died, enlarged the city to include more of the surrounding territory. He erected buildings for political use and he built a magnificent temple for worship.

About 75 years before the birth of Christ, the Romans conquered Jerusalem. The Romans named Herod as King of Judea, and Jerusalem continued to be a city of major importance. The Romans were not able to hold the city against growing resentment by the Israelites. The city was destroyed by war less than forty years after the death of Christ.

Jerusalem was rebuilt and is now an important city to the Christian, Jewish and Muslim religions.



St. James Gangala

James Gangala lived in Italy in the fifteenth century.

He became a Franciscan monk who was an expert in matters of the law. He spent many hours each day praying, studying, and preaching. He did not like to sleep too many hours during the night because he believed it was more important for him to be doing God's work. He traveled across Europe preaching the Gospel, and he was an outspoken critic of cruelty and war.

Because of some of his opinions, he eventually became the subject of an inquisition. He appealed to the religious leaders in Rome, who were successful in having the inquisition dropped. James spent the rest of his life in Italy as he continued to pray, study, and preach. We remember him on November 28.



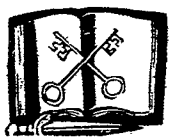
Bible Trivia

What city is the birthplace of David? (Luke 2:4)

Send your answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by Dec. 14, 1995. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

Last month's winner was Tegan Serianni a student at St. Monica's School in Rochester. She correctly identified Moses and Aaron as brothers.



Puzzle

Find the people and places which were part of the first Christmas story. Words may run in any direction. Answers on page 10.

- manger
- shepherds
- angel
- wise men
- Mary
- Jesus
- inn
- Bethlehem
- David
- star
- Herod

W	I	S	E	M	E	N	S	R
A	G	M	U	R	Y	T	H	E
W	A	X	A	S	A	K	E	G
C	N	O	T	R	E	E	P	N
B	G	O	L	M	Y	J	H	A
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M
R	L	U	S	H	D	E	R	T
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L	U	N	N	A	W	O	S	R
E	G	D	I	V	A	D	T	O

HEY KIDS...Do any of you have a Christmas prayer - in words or drawings - you'd like to share with our readers? Send your prayers (up to 50 words, and/or drawings on 8 1/2" x 11" paper) to: Kids' Chronicle, Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, by Dec. 8. We'll publish as many as possible in our Dec. 21 issue.



★ ★ ★ ★ MOVIE ★ TRIVIA ★ ★ ★ ★

WIN ONE YEAR OF RENTALS FROM



RULES: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MIDNIGHT, December 4, 1995. Random drawing of correct entries to be held December 5 by Catholic Courier Representatives. Entries must be returned by mail to: Catholic Courier, Movie Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, NY 14624-1899. Winner will be notified by mail. Prize is one year of Wegmans Video Rentals, membership is free and is required. Prize is not exchangeable for cash or other merchandise.

Question: In **While You Were Sleeping**, Lucy goes to Peter's apartment to feed the cat. She runs into Peter's brother while there and names the cat. What does she name the cat?

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Last month's winner: **Marcell Keiffer** of Horseheads correctly identified **Attack of the Killer Tomatoes** as the horror movie featuring attacking tomatoes.

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