

Kids' Chronicle

God is the good shepherd

By JOE SARNICOLA

People of Israel, listen to me. It is I, Ezekiel, one of your priests. The Lord spoke to me when I was in a quiet place praying. I must share with you what he said to me.

The God who made the heavens loves us as a shepherd loves his sheep. Sometimes sheep wander and need to be brought back into the safety of the shepherd's care. This is what God's message is for us today. We have wandered and he is calling us back to himself for our own safety.

If we have traveled far he will find us. His pastures are green and fertile and the streams there are fresh and cool. He wants us to enjoy the beauty of all he has created. He wants us to feel safe in the brightness of the meadow and the shadow of the mountain. He wants us to rest from our labors. And most of all, he wants to be with us.

Those of us who are hurt, he will heal. Those who are in need, he will care for. Those who are lost, he will find. And he will bring us together in peace.

"Drink my pure water," the Lord has said. "Eat the greenest grass until you are full. I will watch over you day and night."

The Lord will rescue us from the abuse of the world and the sorrow it sometimes brings. He will give us a king to rule over us in peace and jus-

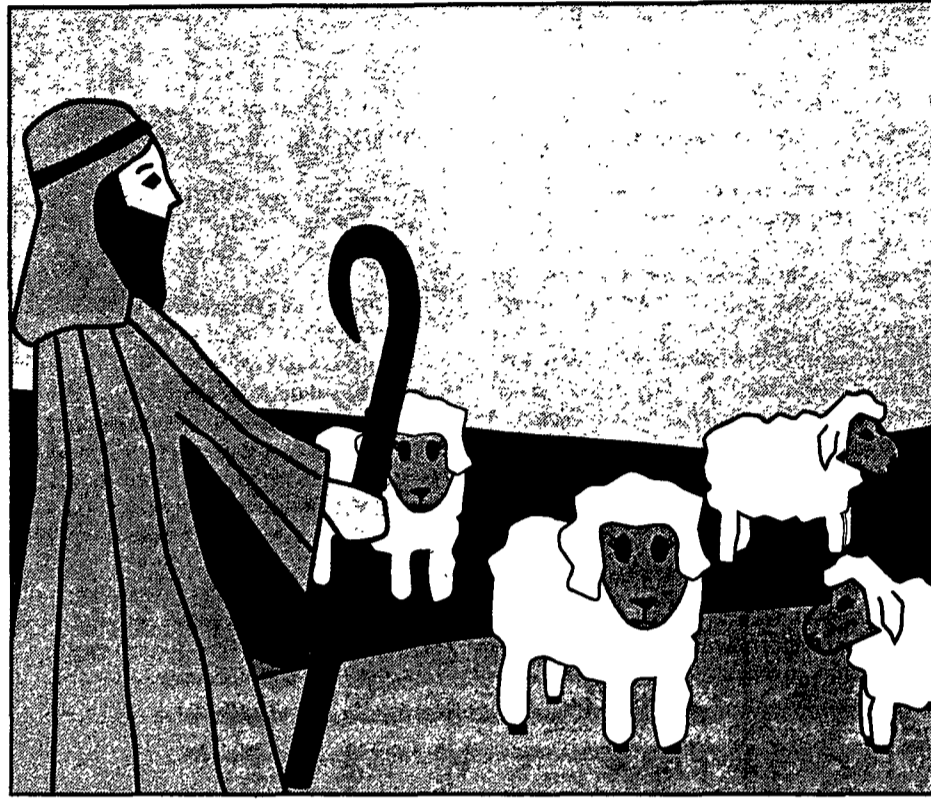


Illustration by Amy Sundstrom

He will remove any danger from us. We will be safe in the fields, in the forests, in his presence.

The Lord also declares, "I will pour out my blessings like warm rain on fruit bearing trees. My crops will yield a bountiful harvest. Hunger and thirst will not be known. I will set my people free from the bondage that has held them."

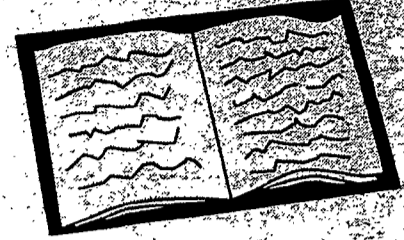
The Lord promises that we will no longer have enemies who wait in hiding to attack and destroy us. And we will no longer have to fear the rage of the hungry lion or bear. We will be at peace with them. We will be safe from all harm.

And because of this, the world will know that our God is the one true God, our Lord, our good shepherd. We are his flock, his people. He is our God.

Q&A

READ MORE ABOUT IT: Ezekiel 34

- 1. What are some of the blessings God promised us?
- 2. What will the world know because of God's goodness to us?



Bible Accent

The ancient Israelite scribes kept detailed records of their country's history. Archaeologists have also found many personal letters written long ago. The scribes' records and these letters tell us a great deal about the lifestyles and traditions of the Jewish people during both Old and New Testament times.

Mention of official written records occur in the Bible as early as the Book of Joshua. The Bible itself is a translation of some of those written records. Most of the common people were unable to read or write, but the scribes and teachers wrote about events of their time. As a result, we are still able to learn from them today.

St. Albert

St. Albert, also called Albert the Great, was born into a wealthy German family in 1206. A gifted scholar, he studied in Paris and went on to teach in several important German cities.

St. Albert became one of the most influential scientists and thinkers in Europe. He helped St. Thomas Aquinas to apply the rules of logic to religious studies. By the time he was 50, he was a religious advisor to the pope. He wrote and taught for the last 25 years of his life.

St. Albert is the patron saint of scientists. We honor him on Nov. 15.

Puzzle

Using your Bible as a guide, fill in the blanks. Answers can be found below.

Which books come before these books?

- 1. _____ Nehemiah
- 2. _____ Psalms
- 3. _____ Hosea
- 4. _____ Malachi

Which books come after these books?

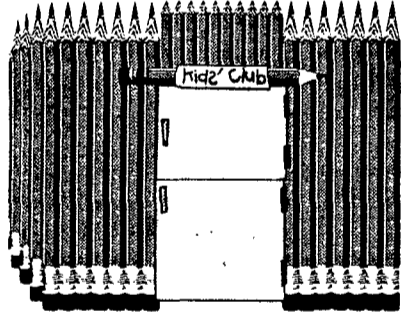
- 5. Genesis _____
- 6. Psalms _____
- 7. 1 Kings _____
- 8. Isaiah _____

Essay

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question:

How did Jesus show he was a good shepherd?

Send your essay - including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade - to **Catholic Courier**, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Deadline for entries is Dec. 12, 1996. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the saving



ings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

Last month's winner was **Meghan Hyatt**, a sixth-grade student at Mother of Sorrows School, Rochester. In response to the question **Why do you think the story of Cyrus is recorded in the Bible?** she wrote:

I think the story of Cyrus is recorded in the Bible to teach a lesson. Even though we go through hard times, God is always with us and here to help us. These words about Cyrus encourage us. If sometimes we fail, we should start over again. We should have faith in God, and never give up.

God willed that Cyrus would go forth and conquer nations. In that way, God would be known to man. It also shows how powerful God is and how much he wants us to love him. That is why I think Cyrus is recorded in the Bible.

THANKS TO OUR SAVINGS BOND DONOR

651 Plymouth Ave. N., Rochester, NY 14608

716-546-1740

Quality Sausage and Meat Products Since 1880



SCHOOL HOTLINE

716-381-9999

24 Hours Day • 7 Days Week



A community service sponsored by...

• Catholic Courier • The Catholic Shop •

• Kenny Roger's Roasters • Muzet •

• Floravanti Florists • Teacher's World •

• Greater Rochester Health Plan •

• Genesee Valley Parent News Magazine •

Supporting education & the Rochester community.
E-Mail us at PTHotline@aol.com

NARROFAST ATHLETIC CLUB

Rochester's Most Complete Athletic Business & Social Downtown Club

GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH
one month \$55.00

400 Andrews Street • Downtown Rochester

546-1000

Monday thru Friday 5:30 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm • Sunday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Kids' Answers:

- 1. Ezra
- 2. Job
- 3. Daniel
- 4. Zechariah
- 5. Exodus
- 6. Proverbs
- 7. 2 Kings
- 8. Jeremiah

For your **FREE** catalog on the **Blessings Nun Doll Collection** & religious products

Call: **1-800-838-7113**
Or send name and address to:

Blessings, Expressions of Faith
2907 Division, Unit 106
P.O. Box 606
St. Joseph, MI 49085-0606



0 11/14/96 14:47:01 73013 1111 2 111111