

# Kids' Chronicle

## Moses tells people to keep commandments

BY JOE SARNICOLA

"My people," said Moses, as he looked around. Hundreds of people from children and elders to priests and leaders had gathered to hear what Moses had to say. Moses had told everyone to come and hear him, because he had a message from God.

"People of Israel, hear the good news from the Lord. We were once captives in Egypt. Since God freed us we have been searching for a place that might become our home. Well, I can tell you this. There is such a place, and we are almost there. God wants us to take possession of it and it will belong to us."

When Moses said this, the people cheered. Although the young men and women and the children never had to live as slaves in Egypt, there were many other people who did. And even to those who had been wandering, they had heard the stories of Egypt and the hard work the Israelites had to do there. A land that would be their own was good news indeed.

"But God has asked us to do something in return for our new homeland. We must observe his laws. We should not try to take away any laws that God has given to us, nor should we add any new ones of our own making. Remember how God destroyed those



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

who chose to follow the pagan god Baal. God will keep his promises to us, and he expects us to keep our promises to him.

"If we obey God, if we keep all of his commandments," Moses continued, "all the nations on earth will see the wisdom and intelligence that God has blessed us with. There are nations who have their own gods, but which of them has a God

that loves them? Which of them has a God that answers if the people call his name in prayer? And which nation has laws as holy and as just as ours?"

An old man who had been with Moses from the days of Egypt stood and said, "Tell us of our new country."

"It is across the Jordan River," Moses answered. "Although I will not see it, when you reach it and live in it, even after many years, God will show you his mercy. He will never leave you, and he will never forget the promises he made to our fathers."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:  
Deuteronomy 4

## Q&A

1. What did God want the Israelites to do?
2. What happened to the followers of Baal?

## Bible Accent

Even though the Israelites were used as slaves in Egypt, the Pharaoh was afraid they might one day rebel against him, so he commanded his soldiers to kill all their newborn babies. In order to spare his life, the mother of Moses set her son adrift on the river in a basket, hoping someone would find him. The person who found him was Pharaoh's own daughter, and she raised him as her own son.

When he grew up, Moses killed an Egyptian who was beating an Israelite, so he hid in the desert. There God spoke to him from a burning bush and told him to return and ask Pharaoh to free the Israelites. Pharaoh refused until God sent seven plagues against Egypt. Moses led his people through the wilderness for the next 40 years until they reached the country God promised would be theirs, Canaan, the land of milk and honey.

## St. John Eudes

Isaac Eudes was a farmer in Normandy, France, in the late 1700s. Isaac and his wife had no children in the first two years of their marriage. After the couple made a pilgrimage to a shrine of Mary, their first child, John was born to them. When John was 14, he attended a Jesuit school. Although his parents hoped he would manage their farm, John became a priest instead. John ministered to people who were sick or dying, especially those who had been afflicted with the plague. In his goal to train priests, John established seminaries in the cities of Lisieux and Rouen. He also wrote a book called *The Devotion to the Adorable Heart of Jesus*, which included a Mass and Office for the Sacred Heart, and which was adopted by many other churches. We honor John on Aug. 19.

## Puzzle

Make a check in the correct column. "OT" means the book is from the Old Testament, and "NT" means it is from the New Testament. Answers on page 5.

1. Genesis	OT	NT	6. 1 Chronicles	OT	NT
2. Acts	OT	NT	7. Revelation	OT	NT
3. Joshua	OT	NT	8. Ezekiel	OT	NT
4. Jude	OT	NT	9. Job	OT	NT
5. 1 Corinthians	OT	NT	10. Romans	OT	NT

## Bible Trivia

What is the first book listed in the Old Testament that is named after a person?

Send Answer to: *Catholic Courier Bible Trivia*, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Please include your name, address and school name. All entries must be received by Aug. 31, 2000. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner for last month's question was Erica Laduca, a student at Holy Cross School, Rochester. In answer to What do we call the union of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit?, she wrote The Union of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit is called the Trinity.

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