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"Let my TEACHING fall like RAIN...like SHOWERS on YOUNG PLANTS." (Deuteronomy 32:2)



# Story: Solomon Becomes King

## Supplies Needed

You will need the following:

12 Sheets of Cardstock (8.5" x 11")
12 3 mil Laminating Film

## Directions

- Print pages 2-25 two-sided on cardstock. Laminate the pages.
- Hold up the pictures while you read the story.

Illustrations courtesy of Free Bible Images
https://www.freebibleimages.org/



***Hold up picture :***

Some time has passed and David has grown old and weak, so a young woman was brought in to care for him.  David had many sons by several wives, but he had promised Bathsheba that her son, Solomon, would be the next king.



***Hold up picture:***

However, another one of David's sons, Adonijah, thought he should be the next king. Adonijah was Absalom's younger brother and he was also very good looking. Do you think he learned from Absalom's mistakes? *(No)* Unfortunately, he did some of the same things as Absalom. He prepared chariots and fifty men to run ahead of him.


King David's palace
Jerusalem City Walls
Valley of Kidron
0
100m
Tower of Zoheleth
En-rogel

***Hold up picture:***

Joab, the commander of the army, and Abiathar, one of the priests, gave their support to Adonijah and followed him. But Zadok, the other priest, Nathan, the prophet, Benaiah, and David's mighty men [special guard] remained loyal to David.

Adonijah invited all the other princes, except Solomon, and all the royal officials of Judah to go with him to the Stone of Zoheleth near En Rogel to make sacrifices and have a grand feast. They were eating and drinking and they all said, "Long live King Adonijah!"



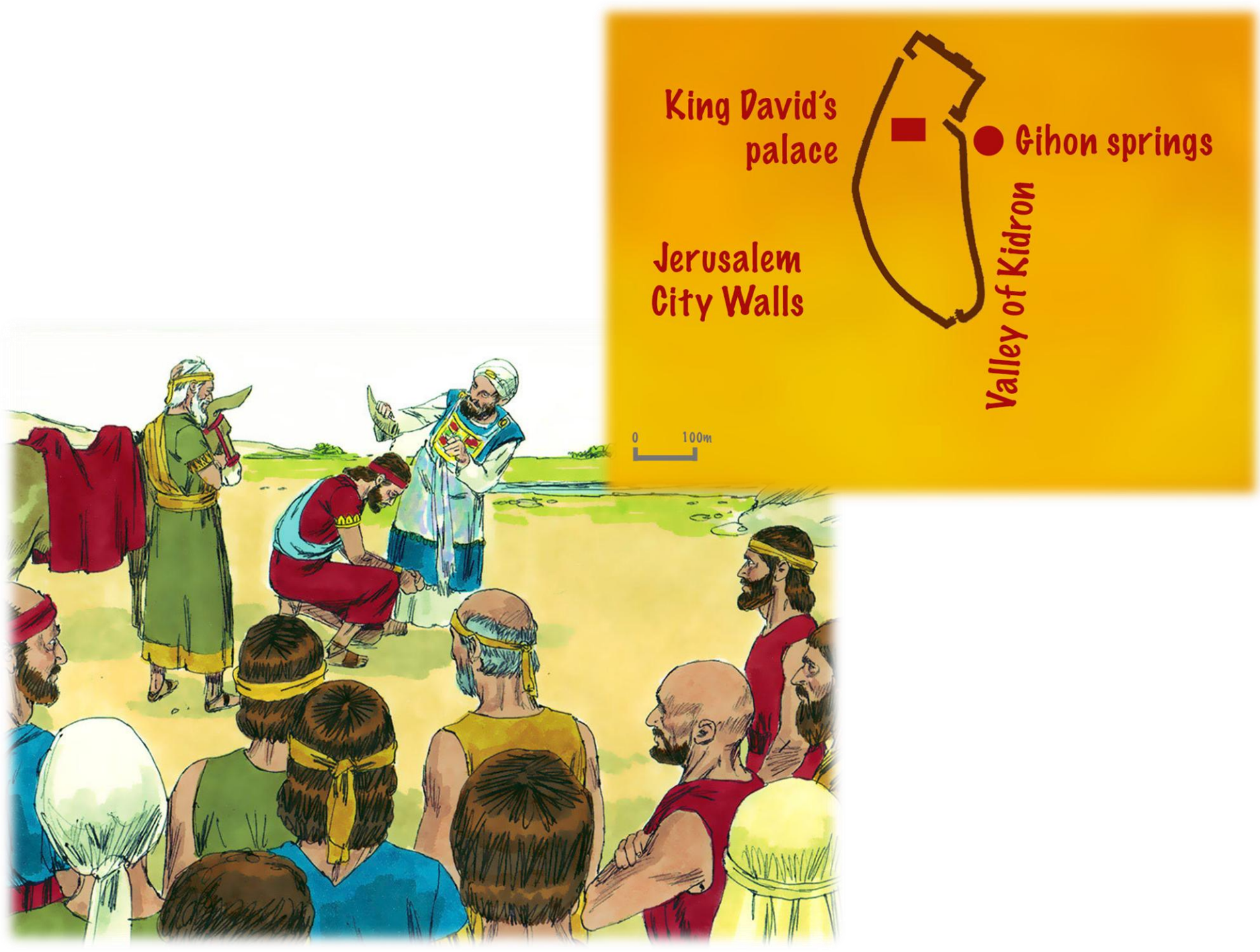
***Hold up picture:***

When the prophet Nathan found out about this rebellion, he went to Bathsheba and told her that her life and Solomon's life were threatened.  Nathan encouraged her to go to King David and ask, "Didn't you promise that Solomon would become king?  Why then has Adonijah made himself king?"



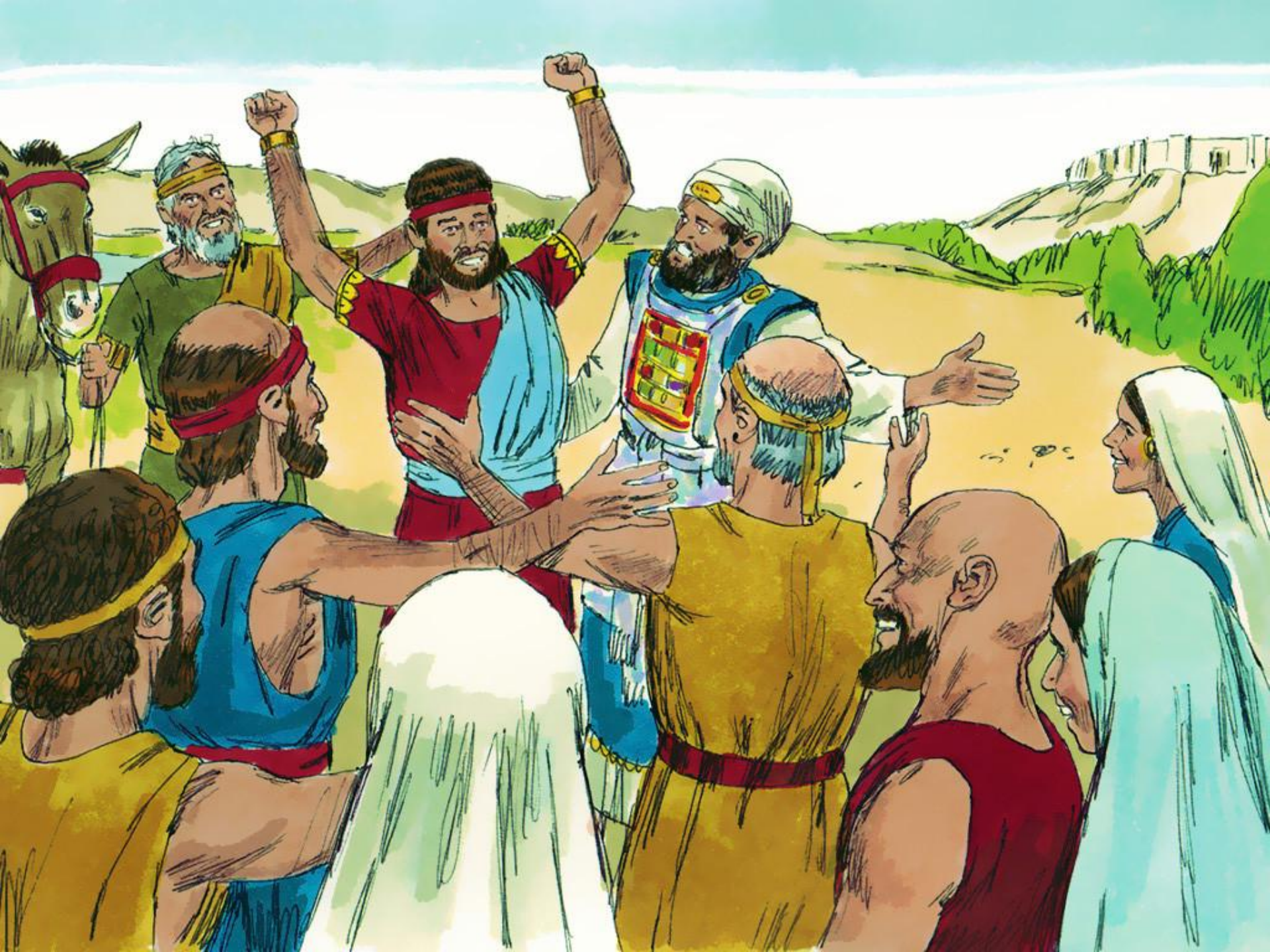
***Hold up picture:***

So Bathsheba went to see the aged king and bowed down before him. She told David that Adonijah had declared himself king and that Joab, Abiathar, and others were supporting him. She pleaded with David to let Israel know who he had chosen to be king. Nathan then came in to confirm David's wishes.


King David's palace
Gihon springs
Jerusalem City Walls
Valley of Kidron
0
100m

***Hold up picture:***

King David gathered Zadok, the priest, Nathan, the prophet, and Benaiah and told them to put Solomon on a donkey and take him to the springs at Gihon. When Solomon arrived at Gihon, Zadok the priest took a horn of sacred oil and anointed Solomon as king. Then they sounded the trumpet and everyone shouted, “Long live King Solomon!”



***Hold up picture:***

The people played flutes and celebrated so loudly that the ground shook. The noise could be heard further down the Kidron Valley where Adonijah and his rebels were finishing their feast. At first, Adonijah thought it must be good news.



***Hold up picture:***

But then, Abiathar's son, Jonathan, arrived to break the news that Zadok and Nathan had declared Solomon king. Solomon had taken his seat on the royal throne and officials were congratulating him. King David was praising God for allowing him to see his successor on the throne. All of Adonijah's guests were afraid and ran off.



***Hold up picture:***

Adonijah, in fear of Solomon, went and took hold of the horns of the altar and pleaded for his life. When Solomon heard about this he said, “If Adonijah shows himself to be worthy, not a hair of his head will be harmed; but if evil is found in him, he will die.”

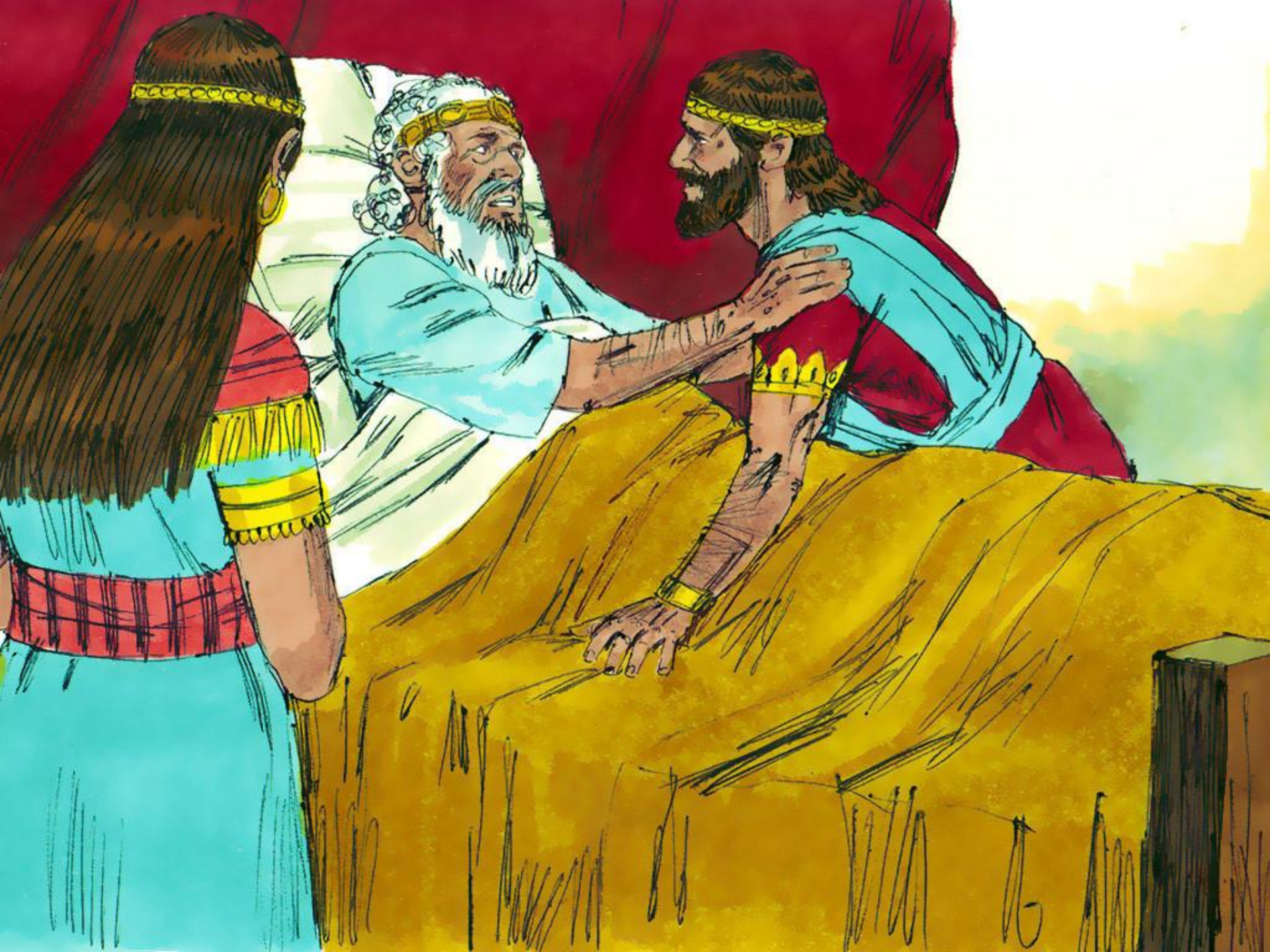
Do you think Solomon will kill Adonijah? *(Maybe…)*



***Hold up picture:***

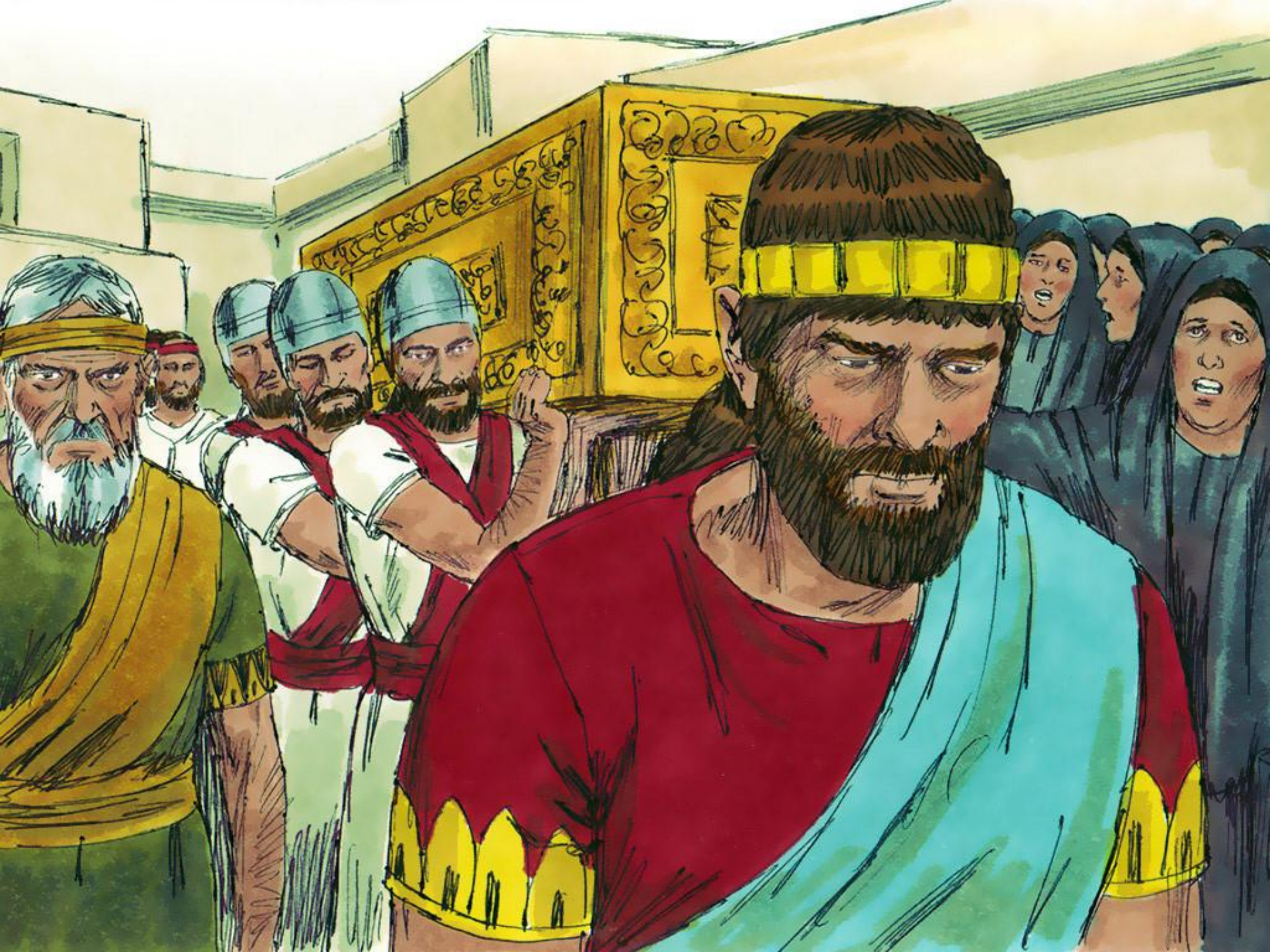
King Solomon sent men to bring Adonijah to him.  When Adonijah came in, he bowed down to King Solomon, and Solomon told him, “Go to your home.”

Later, Solomon would order Adonijah and Joab killed, and the priest Abiathar exiled (sent away); but he wouldn’t makes these commands until after David died.



***Hold up picture:***

When David was close to death, he told Solomon, “Be strong and obey God.  If you keep His laws, you will prosper.”  David reminded Solomon of the promise God had made him, “If you do what is right and are faithful with all your heart and soul, you will always have an heir on the throne of Israel.”



***Hold up picture:***

When David died, he was buried in Jerusalem. David had become king at age 30 and reigned for 40 years, so he was about 70 when he died. Solomon dealt with those who had supported Adonijah's rebellion and was firmly established as king.

What can we learn from this lesson? *(Answers might vary)* Sometimes we should learn from others mistakes, so we don't make the same mistake as them. Adonijah ended up losing his life, just like his brother Absalom because they were both jealous and greedy and wanted to be king. We should learn not to be jealous of others or to be greedy in wanting more than we have.