

K is for King David

Do you like poetry? When I went to school we had to learn poems by heart and then recite them together as a class.

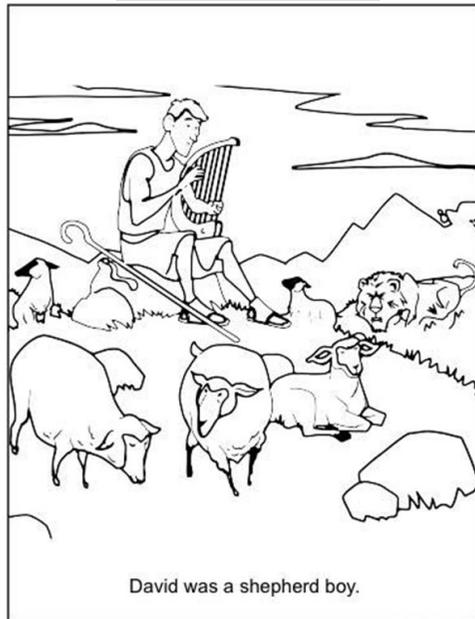
King David, who we read about in the Bible, wrote many poems. You can find them right in the middle of the Bible. They are called Psalms. Not all the Psalms are written by King David but many are. Some have been set to music and are sung as hymns in church today. Perhaps the most well known one is Psalm 23 which begins.. "The Lord is my shepherd".

As a young boy David looked after his father's sheep. One day a bear came along to attack the sheep. Another time a lion approached the sheep. David trusted God and was given the ability to kill these wild animals and keep the sheep safe. Animals were not the only things David fought against. In 1 Samuel 17 you can read

the exciting story of David challenging a giant.

King David knew that God cared for him just like he had cared for his father's sheep as a lad. So he wrote (in Psalm 23) "*even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will not be afraid*". One day we all have to face death but if we trust in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and ask him to forgive our sins we do not need to be afraid.

A picture to colour



David was a shepherd boy.

Market
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Insight

Autumn
2018

What a Summer!

The Summer of 2018 has been a scorcher and may even beat the 1976 record summer. Some like it hot some find the heat difficult. Someone asked a well suntanned neighbour if he was alright in the 30°C heat. With typical Liverpoolian humour he replied, "I'm just waiting for it to warm up a bit!" We are all different and many have rejoiced and even gone out and stood in the rain when it eventually came.

The rain was certainly a welcome sight and much needed by the crops, gardens and reservoirs.

Whilst we are able to adapt to a certain extent to the extremes of our climate, it does remind us that we are ultimately dependent on forces outside of ourselves to provide for us.

Some people refer to this as "Mother Nature", but as Christians we believe that God is in control. We have our responsibilities to conserve the planet's resources and to avoid polluting the environment, but it is God who sends the rain in its season.

Harvest time is a great reminder of our dependence upon God for our daily food. Yes, we are very grateful to our farmer friends around here for their hard work, but as the old hymn says:

"We plough the fields and scatter

*The good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered
By God's almighty hand."*



Let us not take for granted the blessings we enjoy day by day, but also let us not forget at this time of year to give particular thanks to God for the specific blessing of harvest time.

Our own Harvest Thanksgiving service will be on the morning of Sunday, 30th September. We will also remember those less well off by donating the items brought to the Oakham Food Bank (rutland.foodbank.org.uk). Do join with us for that and any other service.



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Insight

- Issued four times a year
- To keep you informed
- To stimulate thought
- To invite you to our events

Market Overton
Free Church

is an independently governed church and a member of the FIEC



Are you dressed properly?



After the heated debate about religious clothing, does the Bible tell Christians what to wear?

There is actually nothing about monks or nun's habits in the Bible, nor any mention of ministerial dog-collars or clerical outfits.

The Apostle Peter does tell Christian women that their beauty should not come from fine clothes, but inner character instead (1 Peter 3 verse 4). But later in the same letter he gives instruction to all Christians in these words: "All of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, because God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5 verse 5).

Do you remember Tony Blair's mantra, "Education, Education, Education"? Well he

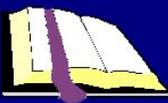
may have borrowed the format from Augustine, one of the great theologians of the early church, who said, "For those who would learn God's ways, humility is the first thing, humility is the second, humility is the third."

Sadly, too many of us are more likely to sing along with that 1980's hit, 'O Lord, it's hard to be humble when you're perfect in every way!'

As always, the Lord Jesus sets the standard. As the eternal Son of God he alone was perfect in every way and worthy of all honour and glory, yet "he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross" (Philippians 2 verse 8).

It is only as we yield our lives to the Saviour who suffered a humiliating death for us that we can truly practise the virtue of humility.

Peter Rush



Market Overton
Free Church

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Diary Dates:

Morning Worship - Every Sunday, 10.30am
MO Village Hall - suitable for all.
9 September: 23rd Anniversary Service
30 September: Harvest Thanksgiving

Evening Worship - Every Sunday 6.30pm except
All Age Service 4.30pm: 30 September, 28 October 25 November
Edmondthorpe Social Club

Midweek meeting - Most Thursdays, 7.30pm
MO Village Hall (but check website)

Coffee Hour - Friday, 10.30am:
14 September, 12 October, 9 November. MO Village Hall

Try this Quiz

How well do you know the Bible?

1. The Bible is divided into two parts the New Testament (NT) and the Old Testament (OT). True or False?
2. The NT was written to replace the OT. True or False?
3. The God described in the OT is different to the God described in the NT. True or False?
4. Jesus believed the OT. True or False?
5. The Bible is made up of 50 books written by many different people. True or False?
6. The central character of the Bible is Abraham, Moses, Elijah, or Jesus?

1. True
2. False - The Bible is one story of God's unfolding plan. The OT is the story of God's promise and the NT is the story of this promise being fulfilled. The Bible must be understood and read as one book.
3. False - God is the same throughout the whole of the Bible. He does not change. Both the OT and NT describe God as a "consuming fire" and also as a God of compassion.
4. True - There are over 100 quotations from the OT in the sayings of Jesus in Matthew, Mark, and Luke and 10% of all recorded words of Jesus are quotations from the OT.
5. False - The Bible contains 66 books written by some 40 human authors over a period of 1500 years. However, God the Holy Spirit so guided these writers that the Bible is also the word of God. So we could say that it is one book written by one author with one main subject.
6. Jesus is the central character of the Bible. The 4 gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John contain eye witness accounts of Jesus' life. And Jesus says of the OT scriptures "These are the Scriptures that testify about me". After his resurrection Jesus met two men walking to Emmaus and "Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself".

Well, how did you score? Maybe you've never read the Bible as an adult. Why not start? John's gospel in the NT is a good place to begin. You could join us on a Sunday morning when Peter Rush explains the message of the Bible to us or do a 7-week Christianity Explored course, which takes you through the Gospel of Mark.



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