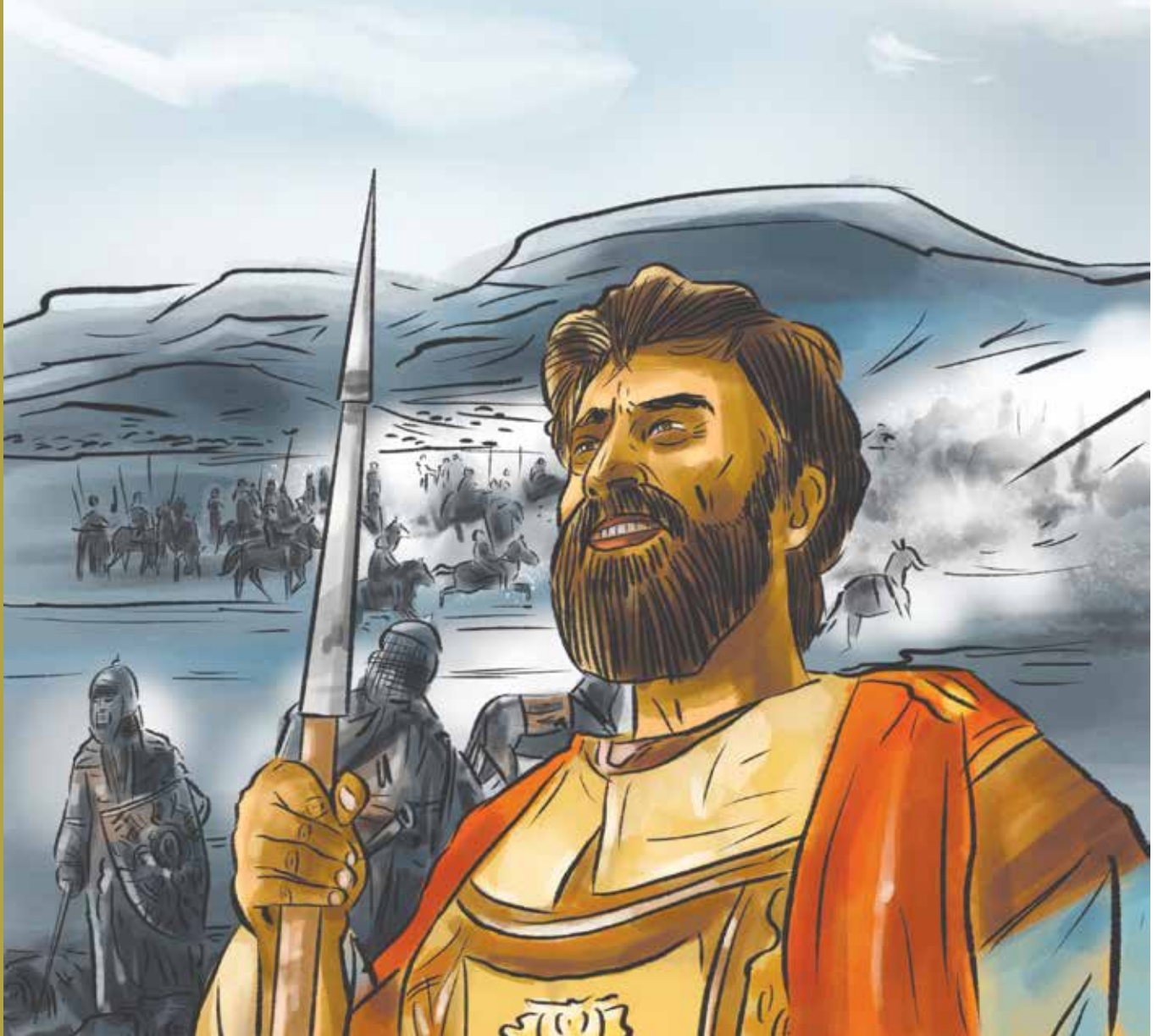


David, The Empire Builder



David succeeded Saul and united the twelve tribes to build a strong Israeli nation. He conquered Jerusalem and installed the Ark of the Covenant in his new capital.

King David subdued the Philistines and other arch enemies of Israel and extended the borders of his kingdom from the Egyptian border to the Euphrates. His efficiency ushered in an era of peace and prosperity for his people. Jerusalem became centre of the Jewish government and worship under his rule.



David's prime concern remained the Ark of Covenant installed at Kiriath-Jearim. He wanted to transfer this symbol of God's presence among His people to the new capital. The King himself led the joyous procession to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, where it was installed in a tent.

The king strongly desired to build a worthy dwelling for the Ark and sought the advice of Nathan, his trusted prophet and advisor. But the Lord told him through Nathan that he must first establish a dynasty of kings and his son, Solomon, would build the temple in Jerusalem.

David accepted the will of God and reigned in peace and joy. As God's true representative, he was responsible not only for the political unity but also the religious unity of the people of Israel.

When David installed the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem, his new capital, he sent an important message to his people by linking the presence of God to that of his monarchy. He made it known that the kings of Israel enjoyed a special relationship with God for the purpose of bringing peace, unity and prosperity to His chosen people.



Word of God

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the Lord's house." And now we are here, standing inside the gates of Jerusalem! Jerusalem is a city restored in beautiful order and harmony.

This is where the tribes come, the tribes of Israel, to give thanks to the Lord according to his command.

Here the kings of Israel sat to judge their people.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you prosper. May there be peace inside your walls and safety in your palaces."

For the sake of my relatives and friends I say to Jerusalem, "Peace be with you!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God I pray for your prosperity.

Insight



Francis Newton Souza, Artist

Francis Newton Souza, an artist of international fame was born at Saligao in 1924. He was expelled from Sir J.J. School of Art in Bombay for participating in the Quit India Movement. He, along with S.H. Raza, M.F. Husain and others founded the Progressive Artists' Group of Bombay. Souza was a rebel and non-conformist. His works included still life, landscapes and Christian themes, they are displayed in museums and private collections, all over the world.

Notes

**Know
Now**

BOOK: The Life of King David: How God Works through Ordinary Outcasts and Extraordinary Sinners by J S Park is a narrative retelling and fourth wall-breaking commentary of the most famous king in history. From unknown nobody to overnight celebrity, from champion of the people to a royal sinner: each chapter is wrapped in theology, philosophy, application, and the genre thrill of literary fiction. It's David's life as you've never heard it before.

my TASK this week

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Home

Listen to the musical renderings of Psalm 132 which David sang while bringing the Ark to Jerusalem. <https://bit.ly/2KkUCVU>