



# The Torah Times Weekly

40 - B'midbar

Num 22:2 - 25:9

July 4, 2014

Join Mrs. Noah, Hannah, and many of their friends as they use their imaginations to explore the Torah and the awesome stories and lessons waiting to be found.

## Part 1 Mrs. Noah's Attic

**Continued from last week:** Miss B jokingly asked Zak if he had brought back a snake from the wilderness – for Max.

Zak's imagination suddenly went wild and he thought he felt something moving under his shirt. **"A SNAKE?"** he squealed as he checked his shirt. **"We didn't see any snakes!"**

Mrs. Noah looked surprised. **"Hmm ... I thought you had gone to see the plague of the serpents,"** she mumbled.

**"A lot is happening this week, Mrs. Noah,"** Moogy informed her, as he poked his head over an old scroll he found in the corner.

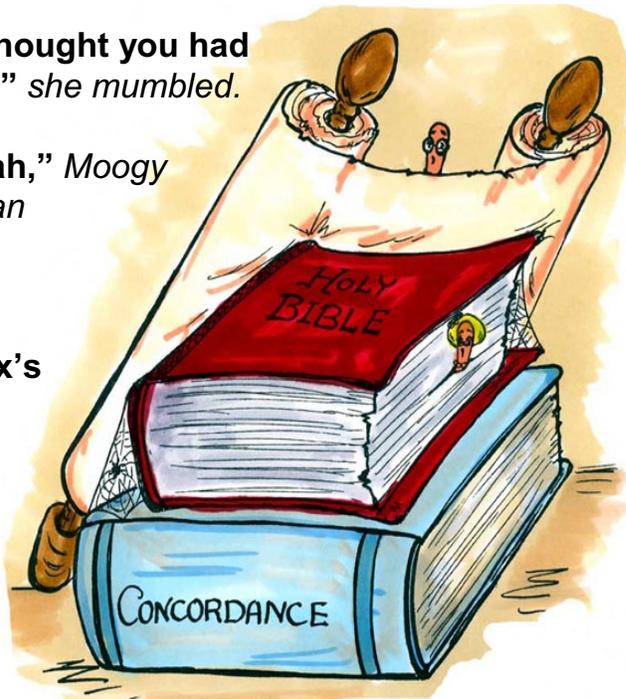
Just then, Mrs. Noah's eyes got really big. **"Oh, my!"** she exclaimed. **"I forgot! Max's mother called! I forgot what she said, but ... I think that it was important!"**

Hannah gasped. **"Max's MOM called?"**

**"Hmm. Now, what did she say? I was busy when she called so I didn't ..."** Mrs. Noah tried to recall – but shook her head sadly.

Hannah jumped up and down with excitement. **"OK. But can we go check his house?"** she begged.

Mrs. Noah hesitated. **"There's a lot of construction going on over where the**



tornado did so much damage ....”

“We’ll be **REALLY** careful,” *Hannah* promised.

“Well – take your jackets. It looks like rain,” *Mrs. Noah* insisted.

So, *Hannah*, *Zak* and *Cecil* (with *Moogy* tucked in *Hannah*’s pocket) hurried to see if *Max*’s house was even there!

As they ran down the hill toward where *Max*’s damaged house was, they could see lots of people still building and fixing up the old houses that had been hit.

“It’s not as sad – when you see them building and making things all new,” *Hannah* noticed. “But, I sure miss *Max*. I wish he would call or ... something!”

As they got closer to *Max*’s house, *Hannah* noticed something new!. The house was still there AND there were new windows, a new roof and someone was building a new porch. But, there, stuck in the mail box, was a piece of paper – a PINK piece of paper. (*Hannah* LOVES pink!) *Hannah* just HAD to see what it was.

She ran to the mail box and peeked at the paper, wet and ripped. It had her name on it! It was from *Max*! “How ...?” she mumbled. Then, she ran to *Zak* – *Moogy* still in her pocket. “Look! It’s a letter from *Max* – for ME!” she cried.

*Hannah* tried to read it, but it was so torn and the words were smudged. “I don’t think I can figure out what he said!” she complained.



“It is too difficult for me to read it here,” *Moogy* said as he looked at the wrinkled paper.

“Let’s go see if *Mrs. Noah* can help. But – don’t run too fast!” *Moogy* warned. “Remember, I am rather fragile!”

As they ran up on the porch, *Mrs. Noah* was setting all of the camping equipment out – ready to pack in the car.

“On, *Hannah*!” she exclaimed, “I remembered what *Max*’s mom said!”

*Hannah* sadly held up the pink letter, torn and smudged. “We found this in ....”

“That’s what she told me!” *Mrs. Noah* recalled. “They came home the other

day, but were only there for a short time when they realized Max was NOT in the car! They had left him in one of the parks. They left quickly to go back to find him! She left a letter that he had written for you, stuck in the mail box.”

*Hannah couldn't believe what Mrs. Noah had just told her. “THEY LOST HIM?” she cried. “They lost MAX?”*

*Mrs. Noah put her arm around Hannah. “They went right back, Hannah. They'll find him. He's a puppet – he'll be fine.”*

*“Yeah,” Zak added. “We're not people. I was in that box where you found me for a long time – and I'm fine.”*

*“And,” Moogy interjected, “the tornado revealed the fact that Zak had been forgotten – abandoned – in the attic. Difficult as it was, Zak might still be there if the tornado had not damaged the house.”*

*“There's one more thing,” Mrs. Noah said as she sat down at the table, now full of camping gear. “Max's mom is still sick. They need to go away for a while.”*

*Hannah gasped.*

*“They were wondering if Max could stay here with us,” Mrs. Noah told them. “What do you think? I know you guys fight a lot ....”*

*Hannah ran to Mrs. Noah and gave her a big hug. “That would be great! We kinda miss him – pain that he is! It was more fun with him to fight with!”*

*Hannah looked strangely at Mrs. Noah as she moved the camping gear and they all sat around the table. Hannah got some lemonade as Mrs. Noah tried to read Max's letter to them. “I see some words here, but can't make anything that makes sense.”*



*Zak finished his lemonade and asked, “You have the camping gear out. Are*

you planning a trip?" he wondered.

**"Well, just in case...."** Just then, the phone rang. Mrs. Noah spoke softly as Hannah got some more lemonade. When she hung up, she said, **"That was Max's dad."**

Hannah jumped up and down and shouted, **"They found Max! Yay! Where did they find him?"** But, as she looked at the expression on Mrs. Noah's face, she knew something was *VERY* wrong.

**"No, Hannah. Max's dad said that his mom broke her leg, and they had to go to the hospital. They stopped their search for him,"** Mrs. Noah told them sadly.

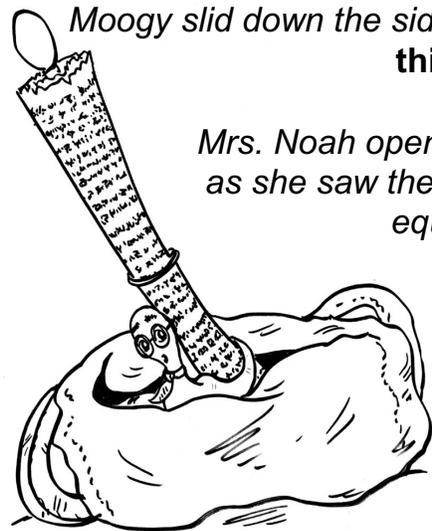
Hannah gasped and tears sprung up in her eyes. **"You mean ... that ... Max is all alone ... in a big national park – LOST – with no food and no place to stay? He must be sooo scared!"** she cried.

Mrs. Noah started collecting the glasses off the table – Hannah helped. As she walked across the kitchen, to the back porch door, she said, **"I thought maybe ...."**

**"We have to go rescue him!"** Hannah shouted as she sat down at the table and put her head in her hands. **"We can't just leave him there!"** she sobbed.

Zak and Cecil stood next to her, very still. **"Right! We HAVE to go look for him!"** Zak insisted.

Moogy slid down the side of his scroll, sitting near the table. **I do believe that this is a time for action, Mrs. Noah,"** he quickly urged.



Mrs. Noah opened the door to the porch. **"Way cool!"** Hannah said, as she saw the gear that Mrs. Noah had pulled out all of the camping equipment she had collected – for an emergency. There was a tent, along with sleeping bags, lanterns, and even a box with cooking and food supplies.

**"I was thinking that the national park is not THAT far away,"** she told them, **"and we could use the opportunity to try out this equipment, that Mike Clayton suggested we should have on hand."**

Everyone got busy getting their clothes, boots, and toothbrushes together. Zak carried the tent, and Hannah got the sleeping bags. Mrs. Noah put the boxes of supplies in the trunk. Miss B climbed into Hannah's pocket, and Cecil hopped into the back seat.

Moogy got into Max's green backpack that he had left behind. "I'll bring my traveling Torah scroll so we can read the Torah Scriptures for this week while we drive," he told them.

So, they all got in the car, and away they went – to rescue Max!

"Wat's dis 'bout snakes?" Cecil asked, as he ran up Zak's arm and jumped onto the back of the seat (They don't make car seats for mice).

"The Isra'elites were given a BUNCH of snakes," Moogy informed them as he read from his scroll. "And, Zak, they did not have any fun!" [Num 21:6]

Miss B recalled the story. "That's right. They went into the wilderness of Zin. After the awful rock thing, where Moshe and Aharon got into so much trouble, they had to go a different way 'cause Edom wouldn't let them pass through their land." [Num 20:12 &18]

"Edom paid for that ... later," Moogy stuttered, as he almost fell off the seat when Mrs. Noah hit a bump. "They then went from Kadesh to Mount Hor."

"That's where Aharon died and was taken to sleep with his ancestors," Mrs. Noah explained. "YHWH told Moshe to take Aharon's priestly garments and give them to his son, El'azar." [Num 20:27-28]



"I read here that the people felt quite badly when Aharon died. They wept for 30 days," Moogy told them. [Num 20:29]

"It wasn't long," Hannah recalled, "until they started complaining about being out in the wilderness with no water but with food they hated – manna. But, this time they spoke against Moshe AND Abba YHWH!"

"I remember! That's when Yah brought the snakes!" Zak exclaimed. "There were so many, they were biting people – and all who were bitten – died!"

**“That was an attempt to help them grow in faith – to listen and do just what YHWH said – to save their lives,”** *Moogy added. [Num 21:6]*

**“So – they didn’t trust him – again,”** *Zak commented.*

**“They have already won several battles. I wonder when they are going to finally realize that Yah is on their side and WANTS to bless them!”** *Hannah sat back and closed her eyes as they drove along the winding road up into the mountains.*

**“Hey! Let’s imagine! Let’s think about all those people who didn’t trust Yah! AND, snakes – little fiery snakes!”** *Zak suggested enthusiastically.*

**“How about I tell you a story,”** *Mrs. Noah proposed, as she drove along the narrow road toward the campground. “Cecil asked me to explain the Exodus to him.”*

*Hannah smiled. She loved Mrs. Noah’s stories.*

## Part 2 Mrs. Noah’s Story

**“Once upon a time,”** *Mrs. Noah began,* **“there was a little puppy named Charlie. Charlie wasn’t listening to his mom and got lost in the wilderness (that’s a place that is far, far from home). He was VERY scared.**

**It wasn’t long till he got hungry. The sun was very hot, and he got VERY thirsty!**

**Suddenly, as he came over a small hill, he saw a whole bunch of people and animals walking down a dry river bed!**

**He ran as fast as he could to catch them, wagging his tail behind him.**

**He saw a little boy and went right up to him. ‘Boy, am I glad I found you!’** Charlie barked. **‘Why are you out here in this wilderness?’**

**The little boy looked at him with sad eyes. ‘We were slaves – in a land far, far away.’**

**‘What’s a slave?’** the puppy asked.

**‘A slave is someone who is owned by someone**



*else – and has to work all the time! Even the kids! They all have to do just what they are told. They can't go to their own school or play at the park!' the boy told Charlie.*

*A little girl walked up and sat next to Charlie. 'They gave us food, but no ice cream or cookies,' she said sadly as she put her hand on his head. 'My mommy cried all the time,' she told him.*

*'My mommy cried, too,' the boy told him. 'But we prayed, and this powerful Angel came and said He would save us! He said His name was Abba Gibbor. I think it means Almighty Daddy.'*

*The little girl smiled. 'He said that He knew our grandparents. He said He would take us to a cool place to live where we wouldn't be slaves anymore.'*

*Charlie climbed up on her lap and licked her face. 'Then how did you get out here?' the puppy asked.*

*'But, when we finally got out of town, the King sent some bad guys to get us back! It was VERY scary!' the boy exclaimed.*

*The little girl began to cry. 'We ran as fast as we could – but we came right up to a big river. We had NO place to go!'*

*'It was soooooo cool! The Angel, Abba Gibbor, blew real hard and pushed the water back so we had a road to walk on – right across the water!' the little boy told him.*

*'But, when we got to the other side, the water fell back down and covered up the bad guys that were trying to get us to go back and be slaves again,' the boy told Charlie.*

*The little girl brushed away her tears. 'But soon, my daddy got upset 'cause there was no water to drink. People started yelling. Abba Gibbor was very sad. He gave them water – but, He wasn't happy.'*

*'Then,' the boy told Charlie, 'a bunch of men got together and wanted to go back where we came from – to be slaves again!'*

*'That made Abba Gabbor very unhappy! So, He stopped. He said, 'OK! This is what I'm gonna do ...' and He gave us a contract – a special agreement. We all had to make a promise!' the girl told Charlie.*

*'A promise?' Charlie asked.*

*'Uh, huh,' the girl told him. 'We had to promise to trust Him and do just what He said – FOREVER!'*



*'Are your families and the other people keeping the promise?'* the puppy barked.

*'NOPE.'* The girl said. She was sad. *'Our parents keep getting into trouble. Some of the people didn't trust Him to give us water – and they got mad. So, He gave us a whole lake! Then, they got upset and wanted some meat. Abba Gibbor gave us a whole BUNCH of birds – we had a big barbeque.'*

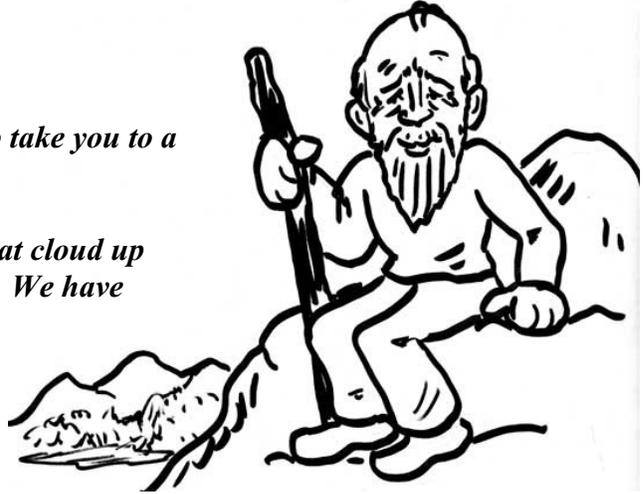
*'Now,'* the boy told Charlie, *'the same men who keep getting mad don't like the food that we've been eating – food Abba Gibbor gave us.'*

*'He almost left us!'* the girl cried.

*'Wow!'* the puppy barked. *'Is He still going to take you to a cool place?'*

The girl looked around. *'I think so. He put that cloud up there – the one with the light in it – to guide us. We have been following it for a long time.'*

Charlie saw a man, carrying a big, fat stick, leave the group of people and start walking up a big mountain. *'Who's that?'* he asked.



*'That's the man who talks to Abba Gibbor. I wonder where he is going?'* the boy told him.

*'Let's go, too!'* the girl suggested.

So the three new friends began following the man with the fat stick – up, up, up – a great big mountain.

They climbed, and they climbed. They puffed and they panted. Charlie even slipped on a rock and almost fell back down the mountain!

Finally, they got to the top! Do you know what they saw? **EVERYTHING!** They saw rivers and streams and beautiful hills – covered with flowers and fruit trees! It was wonderful!

The man with the fat stick saw them and told them to come and sit with him. He was old, and he was tired, too.

*'That is the land you are going to,'* he said. *'As far as you can see – that is your new home.'*

*'Aren't you coming?'* the girl asked the man.

*'No,'* he said sadly. *'But I am happy to see the land Abba promised to give us – forever.'*

The little girl gasped. *'It's really big – and beautiful!'* She thought she could see so far – that she could see forever!

*'It's time for you to go,'* the man told them. *'The land is waiting for you.'*

So, Charlie and the little girl and boy ran down the mountain to their new home."

### Part 3 Driving With Mrs. Noah

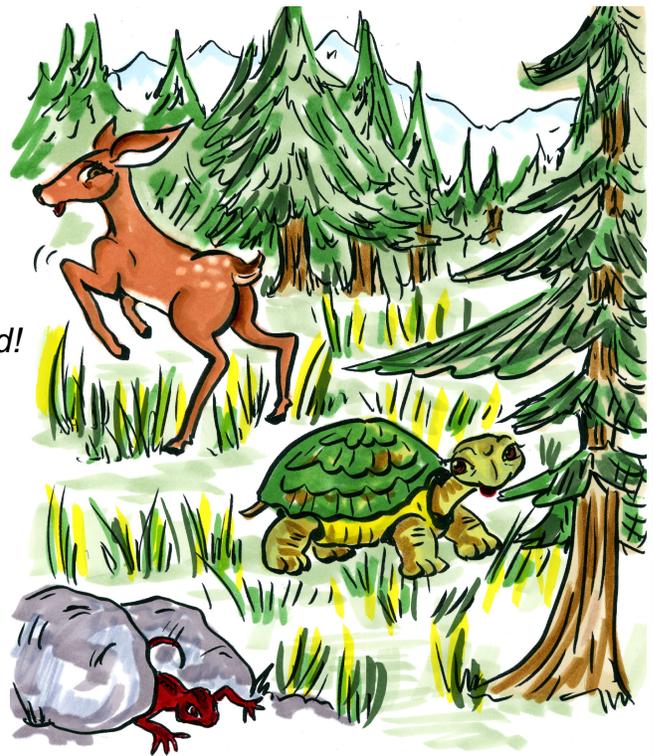
*"Dat waz a dood torry," Cecil told Mrs. Noah.*

Hannah smiled. **"The boy was right. Abba Gibbor means Almighty Daddy,"** she told them. **"YHWH is the Almighty's name."**

*Suddenly, Mrs. Noah slammed on the brakes! Hannah and Zak were startled as the car began swerving across the road!*

*Cecil flew across the car and toppled onto the floor. The green backpack, with Moogy and his scroll inside, slipped off the back of the seat and landed on Zak's head!*

*Hannah gasped as she saw a deer run right in front of the car, leap past a red lizard and jump over a huge turtle – then disappear into the thick forest!*



**"That deer was COOOOOL!"** Zak exclaimed, rubbing his head as he checked to make sure Moogy and Miss B were all right. **"Sure hope we see her again."**

*"How-jue no it's a dirl?"* Cecil asked, as he climbed back onto the seat – where he HAD been sitting before the car swerved.

**"Awww!"** Hannah answered. **"That's easy. The deer didn't have any antlers. You know – the little branches on its head!"**

**“LOOK!”** Zak cried.

Mrs. Noah smiled as they came to the entrance to the park where Max was last seen. **“This is it! But,”** she added, **“we have a lot to do before it gets dark, and I think a storm is moving in. Let’s get the camp set up before you go wandering off.”**

They found a spot near the river and they all piled out of the car. She asked Zak to help her lay out the tent and told Hannah to get the sleeping bags.

Miss B was tucked safely in Hannah’s pocket as she set the sleeping bags down and set up a table. Mrs. Noah and Zak put up the tent.

While everyone was busy, Moogy pulled out the little scroll he had tucked into the backpack. **“Hey! The story this week has a talking donkey in it!”** he exclaimed.

Miss B peeked over to read with him. **“Who are these guys: Ba’laam and Ba’lak?”**

**“That’s a good story; an Angel even lets the donkey talk!”** Moogy told him.

**“You could read it while we finish setting up camp,”** Mrs. Noah suggested. She set a water jug on the table. **“Here, Zak. Would you cut up these lemons for me?”** she asked.

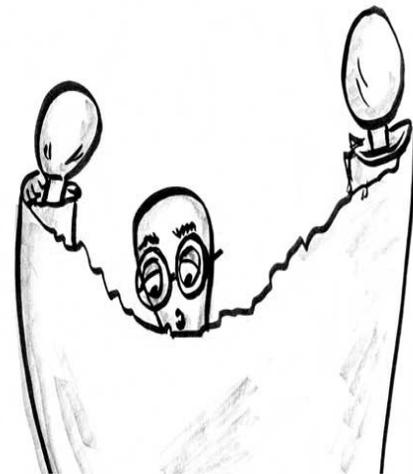
So, Moogy began telling them the story. **“There was a bad king. His name was King Ba’lak. He was VERY unhappy that the Isra’elites were coming across his land.”**

**“I remember! He found a man called Ba’laam. The Scripture says, ‘He was a sorcerer from his kinfolk,’ ”** Hannah told them. **“That means it ran in his family.”**

**“Watz a sor sir-her?”** Cecil wondered.

Mrs. Noah thought for a minute. **“Sorcerers are like witches. They get information from the demons and the evil that is around us.”**

**“King Ba’lak wanted Ba’laam to put a curse on Isra’el as they came near his**



land,” *Moogy told them. [Num 22:6]*

“Yes,” *Mrs. Noah agreed as she got some ice out of the cooler. “And Ba’laam actually told King Ba’lak what was going to happen to Ba’lak’s own people – in the end times – before the Messiah comes again.”*

“He did?” *Zak was surprised, but kept on cutting lemons.*

“Yes. **HOWEVER**, Abba YHWH wouldn’t let him put any curses on the Isra’elites – Yah’s people – but made him put a blessing on them instead,” *Mrs. Noah told them. [Num 22:12]*

“You said a donkey talked in this story. What did it say?” *Zak asked.*

“Ba’laam was on his way to curse Israel,” *Moogy reported, “riding his faithful donkey. On the way, YHWH was so angry with Ba’laam, He sent an Angel to kill him. The donkey saw the Angel – but Ba’laam couldn’t see him at all.” [Num 22:21-22]*



“Da don-tee sawd da Ain-jo?” *Cecil gasped.*

“Yes, she did,” *Miss B responded. “And, the donkey tried to protect Ba’laam from getting killed. But Ba’laam kicked her and treated her badly.” [Num 22:23]*

“That’s terrible,” *Hannah grumbled.*

“Finally, the Angel must have felt sorry for the donkey, so He let her speak,” *Mrs. Noah explained.*

“What’d she say?” *Zak demanded.*

*Moogy read it so it would be right. “She said, ‘What have I done to you that you have struck me these 3 times?’ ” [Num 22:28]*

“She went on to say, ‘Am I not the donkey on which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I ever been accustomed to do so to you?’ Then the Angel, holding a large sword, showed himself to Ba’laam!” *[Num 22:30]*

**“Cooooo! I bet that scared him,”** Hannah giggled.

Zak finished putting the food away. **“What did the Angel tell him?”**

**“The Angel told Ba’laam, ‘You can only speak the words that I tell you,’ ”**  
Moogy explained. [Num 22:35]

Hannah looked around the camp. **“Our camp is almost set up – and no rain yet ... can we pleeezzzee take a quick look for Max now?”** she begged.

Mrs. Noah looked at the pile of things to be unpacked and set up. Then she smiled. **“OK. But don’t be too long; there’s still a lot to do before dark.”**

Hannah and Zak ran quickly to check the campsites to see if they could find something – ANYTHING – that might give them a clue as to where Max might be.



They looked at each campsite, then started down a path going into the woods. Suddenly, Hannah shouted, **“Look at this!”**

Zak hurried to see. **“It’s just an old fence post,”** he complained.

**“No! Look!”** she demanded.

Zak looked closely at the old fence post. **“It looks like somebody carved something into the post! What’s a DAX?”**

**“Not DAX, dummy – that’s MAX!”** she cried. **“See? That’s not a D – it’s the Hebrew letter, mem! And there’s the A, and an X – carved right into the post!”**

**“And,”** Zak exclaimed as he looked on the other side of the old post, **“it looks like he carved, ‘is here,’ on this side!”**

They both dashed back to their campsite, as quickly as they could, to tell Mrs. Noah they had found news of Max.

Mrs. Noah had sandwiches made and was pouring some lemonade when they got to the tent.

**“Mrs. Noah ... Mrs. Noah! We found ... a message ...”** Hannah panted, **“that**

**Max left for us!” she cried.**

**“Oh, my!” Mrs. Noah exclaimed. “How do you know it was from Max?”**

**“He carved his name in an old post – and he used the Hebrew letter ‘mem’ for the M in his name!” Hannah said and then quickly reached for a sandwich. “And, on the other side of the post, it said, ‘is here’. Max is here!” Zak reported.**

**“Well, I’ll be!” Mrs. Noah expressed as she handed Hannah a glass of lemonade. “It’ll be dark soon, and it still looks like thunder clouds are coming in. You can look for Max tomorrow,” she told them.**

*Hannah was disappointed, but finished her sandwich, gulped down the lemonade, and began putting the leftover food away. “Poor Max. He’s hungry, alone, and probably very scared.”*

**“Oh, my!” Mrs. Noah cried, as she lifted up the lantern. “I forgot to get the matches to light the lantern and build a fire! All I have is this little flashlight! I think there’s a bigger one, but there isn’t enough light to find it!”**

*Then the rain came. The wind blew. It began to get cold. “We need to find some matches!” Zak exclaimed.*

**“Mike Clayton advised us to have a fire starter – and I haven’t gotten one yet!” Mrs. Noah moaned. “I’m afraid I am not very prepared.”**

*Hannah peeked out of the tent. “Maybe we can find someone who will help us!”*

*But, as she looked around, it was VERY dark! Hannah gulped. “I ... I ... I don’t see ANYBODY!” Just then, she saw a flicker of light out in the woods. “Maybe they might give us ...”*



**“If you go out there, a b – b – bear might eat you!” Zak stuttered, while she shivered in the cold tent.**

**“I’m a puppet!” Hannah reminded him. “And, I have my armor on! The armor of faith is like a bubble that protects us – and, bears don’t even eat**

puppets.” She looked at Mrs. Noah, who seemed worried. “I’ll be careful,” Hannah promised. “We need a fire ... I’m getting cold, too!” [Eph 6:10]

Just then, a tail slipped out of the bottom of Zak’s shirt! He squealed as he saw Cecil jumped down to the floor. “Cecil! Don’t scare me like that!” he

demanded. “I thought you were a spider or a snake – or creepy something! You gotta STOP doing that!”

Everyone started laughing – except Zak. He was just very embarrassed.

“Wait – I’ll go, too!” he called to Hannah, as she slipped into the darkness.

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Ba'laam wants to curse Israel. Who did he beat? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who is in control of curses? \_\_\_\_\_



Who is watching Israel as they camp in the wilderness? \_\_\_\_\_ Finish this picture.