1. There They Come Again

"Flee! We must flee! There they come again!" Full of fear the people ran away. Mothers snatched up their children and ran away too. Soon there was no one in sight; everyone was in hiding. Many of the people hid in caves. No wonder they hid, for the strange soldiers were back. The soldiers stole everything.

And what they could not steal, they destroyed,

or, burned with fire.

In the distance there was smoke; it was rising above the fields, above the beautiful golden fields of wheat.

The enemy soldiers started those fires.
They did it on purpose; they did not want the people to grind up their wheat and make flour.
The enemy soldiers did not want the people to make any more bread.
And if there was no bread to eat, the people would starve to death.

After a while the soldiers went away again.
The people went back to their homes, but the fields were bare and black.
In some places smoke was still rising.

The Midianites and their friends caused all the pain and sadness. The Midianites were terrible people.

