

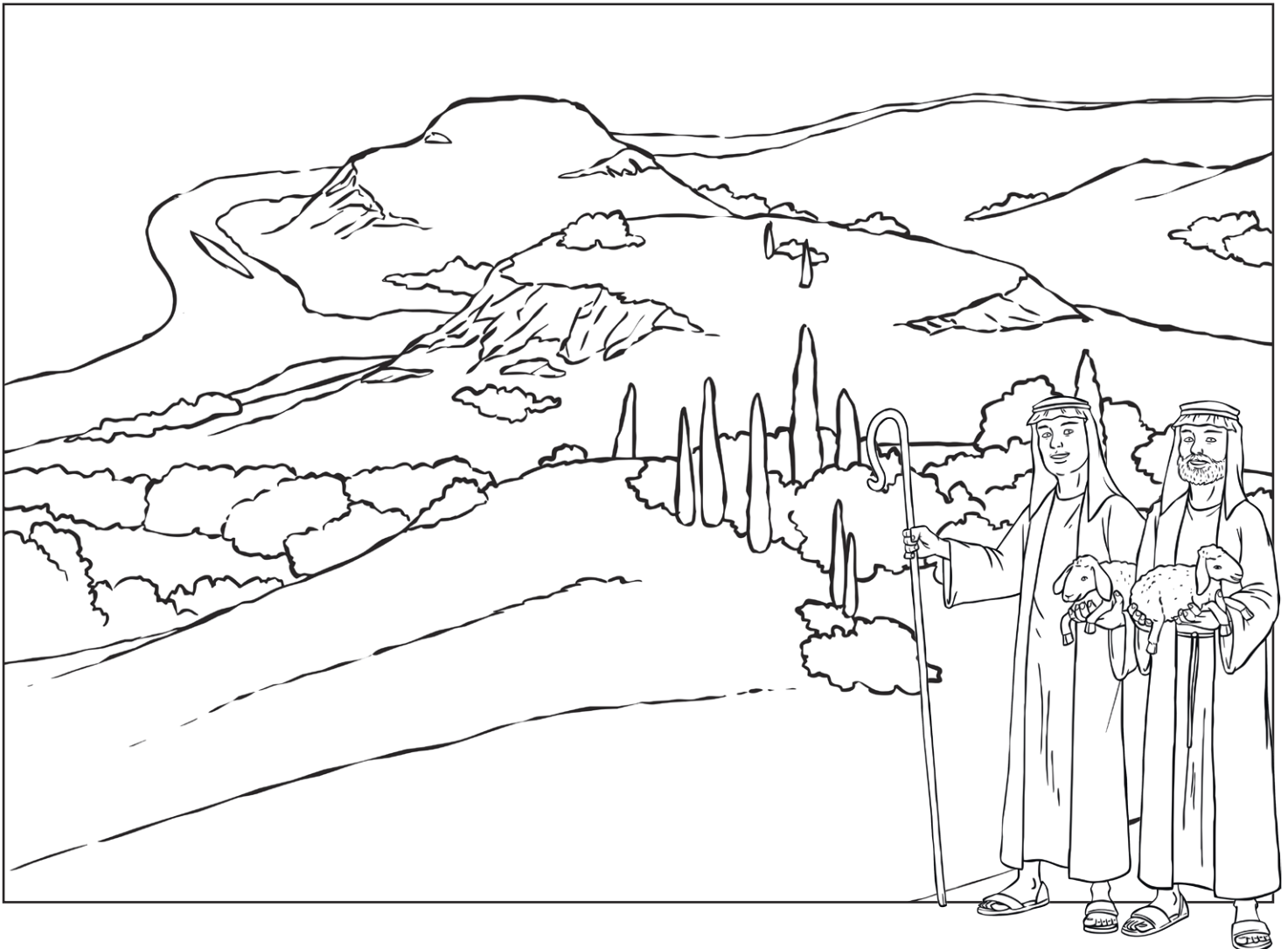
# Origins of the Roman Empire

Based on items that have been dug up from sites in Rome, it is believed that the first groups of people who lived there were shepherds and farmers. Shepherds and farmers chose to live in the area because it had good weather and a river nearby.

The first people lived there around the date 750BC. The first group of people to live in the area lived on Palatine Hill. Gradually over time, the village grew bigger and spread to other villages in the area to become a town. The town grew further and became a city ruled by kings. The last king, called Tarquin the Proud, was forced out in around 510BC. After this, Rome was a republic, which means it was ruled by people who were voted in.

The people who ruled Rome and made the laws were called senators. The Roman army, made up of groups of soldiers called legions, grew. In 45BC, Julius Caesar won a war and made himself Emperor of Rome. An emperor is a bit like a king.

## Palatine Hill:



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