The illustration depicts Saint George on the right, dressed in a purple and white tunic with a red sash, holding a long spear. He is looking up at a large green dragon on the left. The dragon has a red tongue and is breathing a stream of red fire. The background is a mix of green and grey tones, suggesting a rocky landscape.

# The Saint Who Fought the Dragon

The Story of  
Saint George

Written by  
Cornelia Mary Bilinsky

Illustrated by  
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Illustrated by Theresa Brandon

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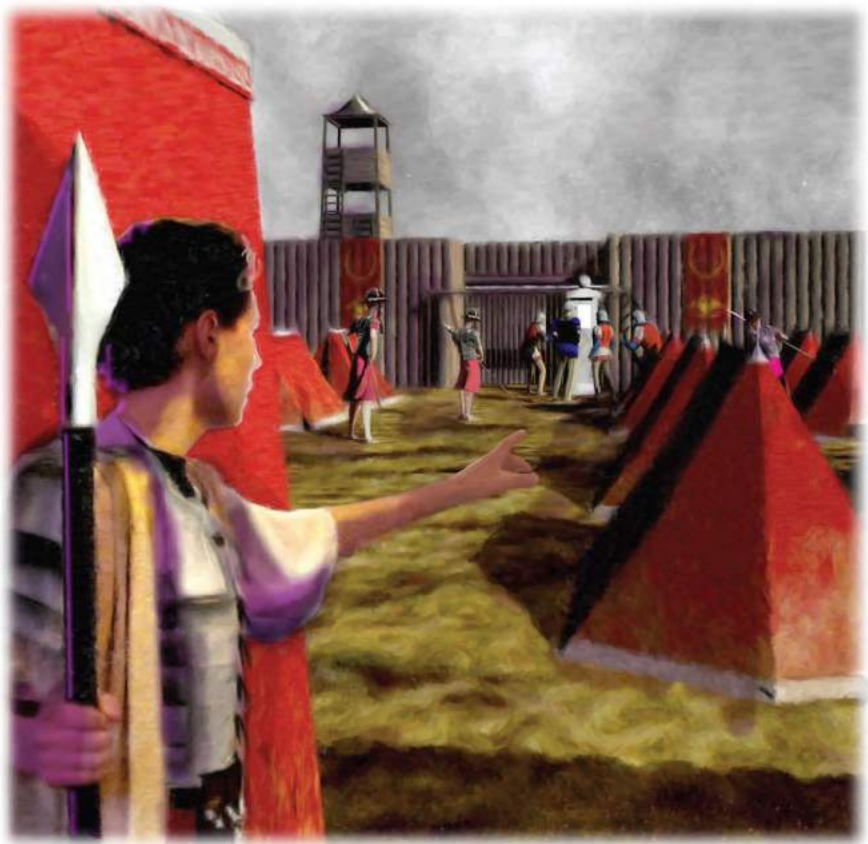


It was going to be an unusual day for a brave soldier, but George did not know it yet. He stood in his room, polishing his lance.

“Whatever work the emperor has for me today,” he mused, “I’ll be ready.”

On his way out, George touched the cross that hung around his neck. Quickly, he tucked it under his tunic. It was not safe for a soldier to wear a cross. What would happen if the emperor knew that George was a Christian? “If I keep my cross hidden,” thought George, “he’ll never know.”





Outside, soldiers were gathered around a tall pole, buzzing like bees.

“What’s happening?” George asked.

“The emperor has posted an order!” a soldier shouted, “It’s about the Christians!”

George turned pale. He thought of the cross he was wearing. Carefully, he read the order. It was worse than he had feared. The emperor was planning to destroy the Christians, and he expected George to help him! Reaching up, he tore down the poster and fled back to his room. George's heart began to pound. He had never disobeyed the emperor's orders. He fell to his knees and pressed his hands over his face.

"Oh, Lord, what should I do?" he prayed.

Many thoughts whirled in his head, and made him dizzy. George felt himself sinking into blackness, down, down, down.



