

Community Christian School
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Dear Gilbert Morris,

I'd like to thank you for writing the book The Terrible Beast of Zor. It was an encouraging book, one that made me whisper to myself in excitement. I love how you included the many details of the characters and how your words created their faces and how those words were able to make me understand your characters more efficiently.

Your book spoke to me in the sense that there is always hope for even the most wretched person—the thief, the mocker, the drug dealer, and in your story, the spoiled brat. It really made me think and look at life differently. Whenever I used to see those kinds of people pictured on television or in newspapers, it made me think that they were just stupid troublesome people who had no hope for their lives. I always viewed those kinds of people as individuals who were evil and wretched that their lives could never be turned around. But after reading your book, and after seeing how Prince Alex's life was made new, it made me think differently about those kinds of people and how there is still hope for them and how with the help of God anything is possible.

It made me think of how we're like jars formed in the hands of God. He molds us just the way he wants to and guides our shape with His hands as we go by in life. Then once He's crafted us completely, He sets us on a table with all his other finished products. I thought of those kinds of people as people who get bumped off of the table, and how the bumpers were their weakness like selfishness and self pity, and how people acquire cracks in their frame as a result of it. All the cracks do is just keep getting larger and larger and soon their frame begins to crumble. But then God our wonderful crafter hears the crash and comes over to the tale to see this masterpiece cracked and lying on the ground begging to be repaired. So He, in His majesty, picks up that piece of pottery and places it back onto his wheel. Then he takes some clay and fixes the cracks that were growing larger, so there healed. I thought that's kind of like those people's lives, they have no hope when there just lying cracked and motionless on the ground, when their life's a mess, but then God in His uncanny molding ability, restores their life and completely turns it around by applying some extra clay to mend the crack. In your story you used the Seven Sleepers as the extra clay, you created them to be used by Goel to turn Alexander's life around and give him a new life, a life way better than the old.

Your book caused me to think and I wanted share that with you. Again, I thank you for writing this book and changing my way of thinking, I thank you also for the encouragement you instilled in it. I hope you keep writing more books so I can keep growing in my thinking.

Sincerely,

Trevor Kleinmeyer