



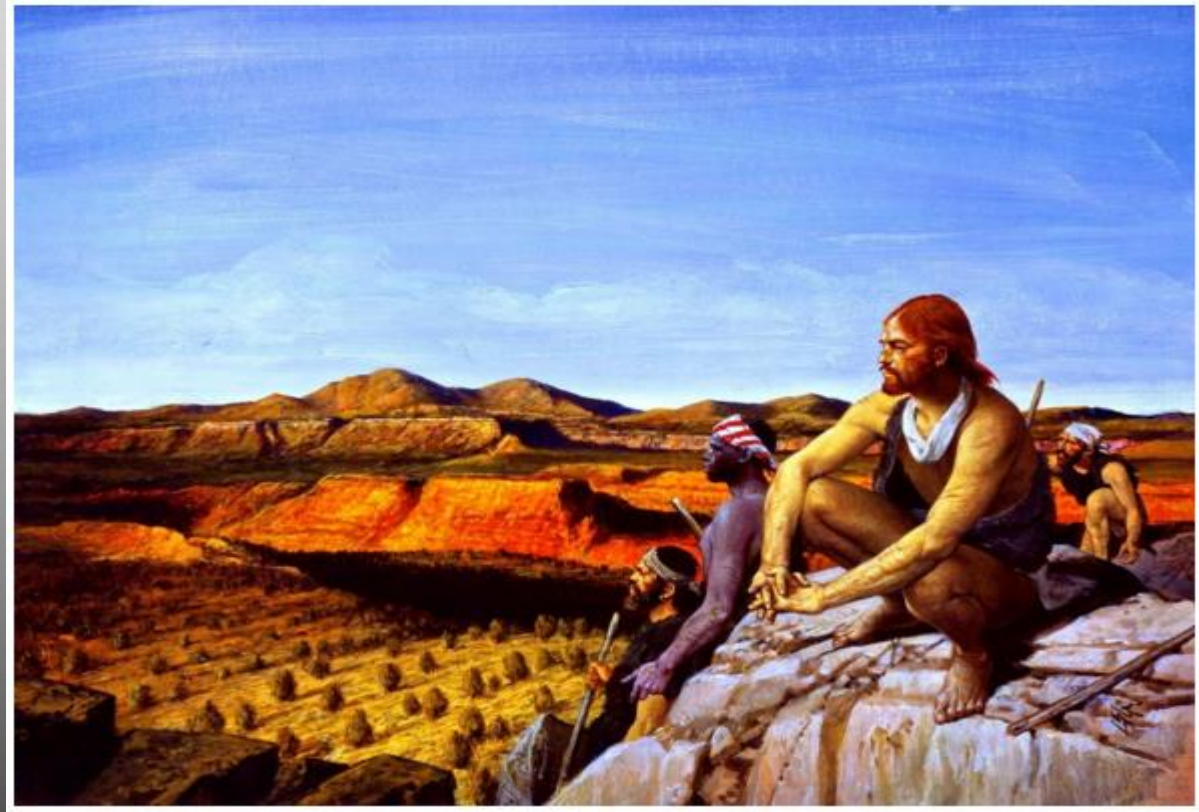
# ÁLVAR NÚÑEZ CABEZA DE VACA

SPANISH CONQUISTADOR

# THE MISSION BEGINS

- IN 1527 ÁLVAR NÚÑEZ CABEZA DE VACA JOINED A LARGE EXPEDITION OF SPANIARDS LOOKING FOR THE 7 CITIES OF GOLD. THEY WERE THE FIRST EUROPEANS TO ENTER WHAT IS NOW TEXAS. THE CONQUISTADORS HOPED TO CONQUER THE AREA BETWEEN FLORIDA AND MEXICO, BUT THEY FAILED WHEN A STORM DROVE HIS GROUP ONTO AN ISLAND NEAR WHAT IS TODAY GALVESTON. CABEZA DE VACA NAMED THE ISLAND MALHADO, WHICH IS SPANISH FOR “THE ISLE OF MISFORTUNE.” THE CASTAWAYS WERE MET BY THE KARANKAWA PEOPLE WHO LIVED ON THE COAST. THE KARANKAWA HELPED THE SPANISH. THEY BUILT FIRES AND BROUGHT FISH AND ROOTS FOR THE SPANISH TO EAT.

# WHAT WAS IT LIKE?







- DE VACA JOURNEY IN TEXAS HAD MANY TRIBULATIONS. DE VACA AND HIS COMPANIONS WITNESSED STARVATION, ENSLAVEMENT, ANY DEATH.
- MOST OF THE SPANISH COMPANIONS SOON DIED FROM DISEASE AND COLD. DISEASE KILLED MANY OF THE KARANKAWA, TOO. CABEZA DE VACA SURVIVED WITH THE HELP OF THE KARANKAWA. HE SETTLED ON A SMALL ISLAND AND BECAME A TRADER. FOR SOME YEARS, HE SURVIVED BY TRADING GOODS WITH PEOPLE LIVING ON THE MAINLAND.
- IN THE END CABEZA DE VACA DID NOT FIND GOLD BUT SHARED HIS AMAZING STORY WITH THE SPANISH PEOPLE.