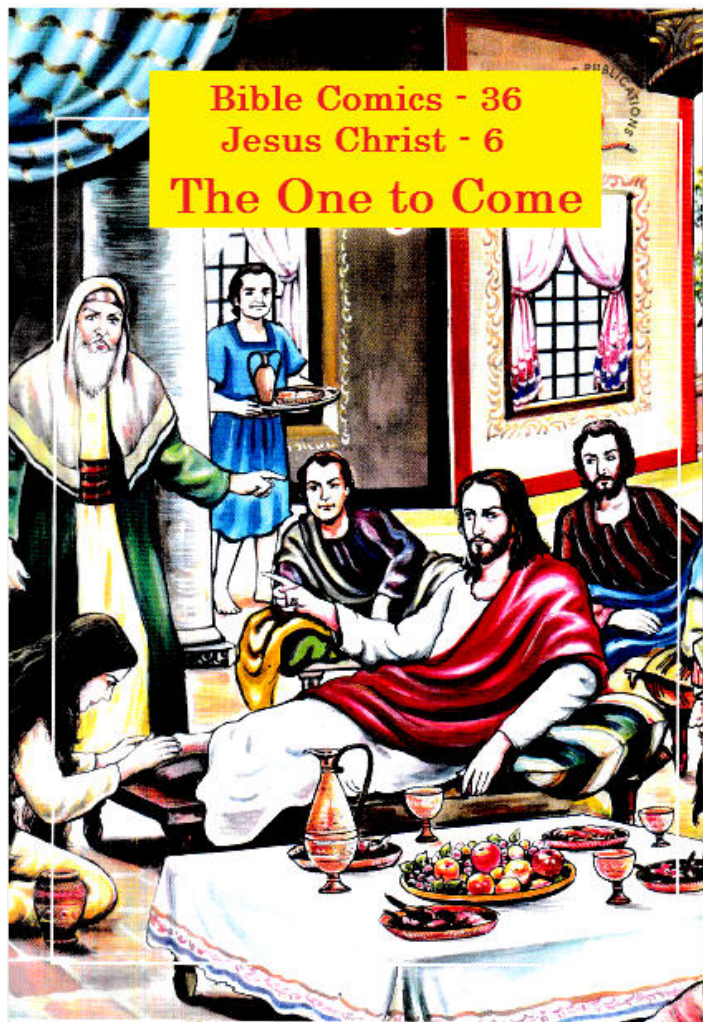


**Bible Comics - 36**  
**Jesus Christ - 6**  
**The One to Come**



## **THE ONE TO COME**

The people of Israel believed that God would send them a Redeemer. For centuries they waited for him in constant prayer and ardent expectation, basing their hopes on the Old Testament prophecies. However, opinions differed as to the nature and activity of this awaited Redeemer. Many believed that a king from the descendants of David would come and establish an empire with Jerusalem as its capital. This king was called the Christ, meaning the one who received the

royal anointing. Others waited for a prophet like Moses to come and liberate them from foreign domination. Still others expected that the great prophet Elijah himself would come to call the people to repentance, after which God would come to judge the world with fire.

John the Baptist had depicted the One to Come as the judge. Obviously he was referring to Jesus of Nazareth. But, Jesus' preaching and healing ministry did not exactly correspond to John's proclamations. Jesus was offering forgiveness and salvation to all, and repeatedly

saying that he had come not to judge and to condemn, but to liberate and to save. Hence it was not quite clear if Jesus was the One to Come.

Jesus did not fulfill all the expectations of the people. He was neither a political leader nor a mighty warrior. He called people to conversion and unconditional obedience to the will of God, manifested through his preaching. But the Jewish leaders, refusing to be converted, rejected him and plotted against him. At this juncture, Jesus chose the twelve apostles who were to be the foundation stones of the church that was to be the

true Israel. This was a turning point in the history of salvation and the decision was an extremely serious one. Jesus spent long time in prayer before making the decision.

Accompanied by the apostles, Jesus explained to the people the nature of the Kingdom of God and the conditions for entering it. God is offering his liberating love gratuitously and each one should accept it unconditionally. In response to God's love, everyone should love his neighbor, even the enemies. Love should become manifest in helping those in need without expecting

anything in return, in forgiving offences and in being merciful to all.

Jesus' words and deeds are his credentials, and each one is called upon to make a decision for himself by accepting or rejecting Jesus as the One to Come. The good news proclaimed to the poor has become manifest as health to the sick, forgiveness to sinners, acceptance to the outcasts, and life to the dead. Those who accept Jesus will have eternal life and will be raised from the dead on the last day, never to die again.

The poor and the simple rejoiced at this message and received Jesus whole-heartedly, whereas the rich and the powerful as well as the religious leaders did not understand or accept him. Persisting in their ignorance they continued to search for ways and means to eliminate him. Only those who are aware of their own sinfulness can welcome the Redeemer. Only the poor and the simple can accept Jesus as the Savior.



BIBLE COMICS – 36  
JESUS CHRIST - 6

# THE ONE TO COME

SCRIPT

REV. DR. MICHAEL KARIMATTAM

ILLUSTRATION

DEVASSY & BENNY

In spite of the growing opposition from the Jewish leaders, Jesus' reputation spread even outside Palestine. Everyday more and more people followed him. The disciples of the Baptist at the prison.

Master, all the people are following Jesus.

Apparently, everybody has forgotten you.



Didn't I tell you that you  
are to follow him? He  
must grow and I must  
diminish.



But Jesus doesn't act  
and preach the way  
you told us.

You spoke more of  
the one coming with  
fire and winnowing  
fan in His hand.

But he  
speaks only  
of love and  
mercy.

!



He invites the Gentiles and tax collectors  
and even prostitutes to follow him.

Compared to yours, His words aren't  
sharp at all. Once in a while He  
criticizes the religious leaders but says  
nothing against the Gentiles.



If you are not  
convinced, go and ask  
him. Tell him that I  
sent you.



Jesus went up to a hill with his disciples and spent the whole night alone in prayer.



Master seems to be  
rather disturbed today.

All our leaders are against  
him. It is heard that they  
are building up a  
conspiracy against him.

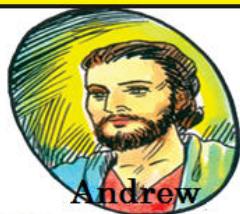


We won't allow  
anyone to touch our  
master.

Looks like the  
Master is  
about to make  
a serious  
decision.



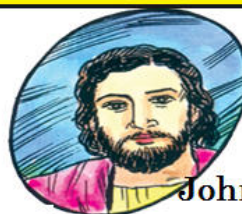
In the morning Jesus summoned his disciples and appointed Twelve of them to be his apostles.



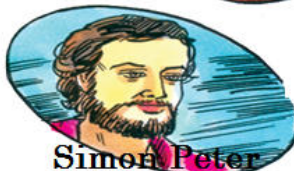
Andrew



Jacob



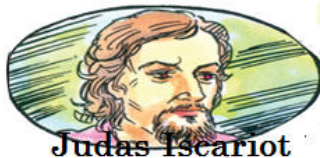
John



Simon Peter



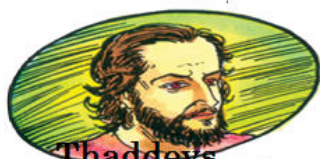
Philip



Judas Iscariot



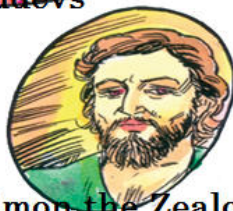
Bartholomen



Thaddeus



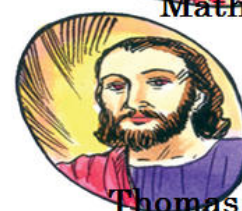
Matthew



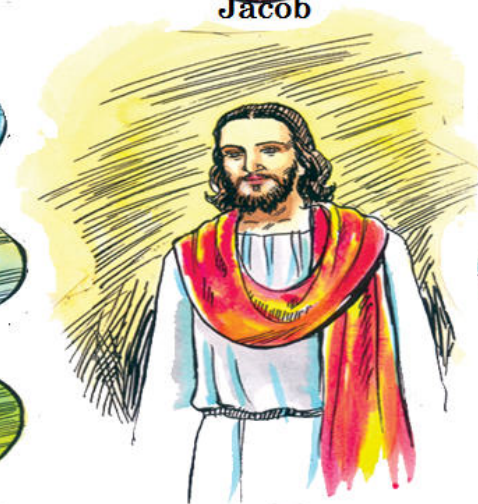
Simon the Zealot



Jacob



Thomas



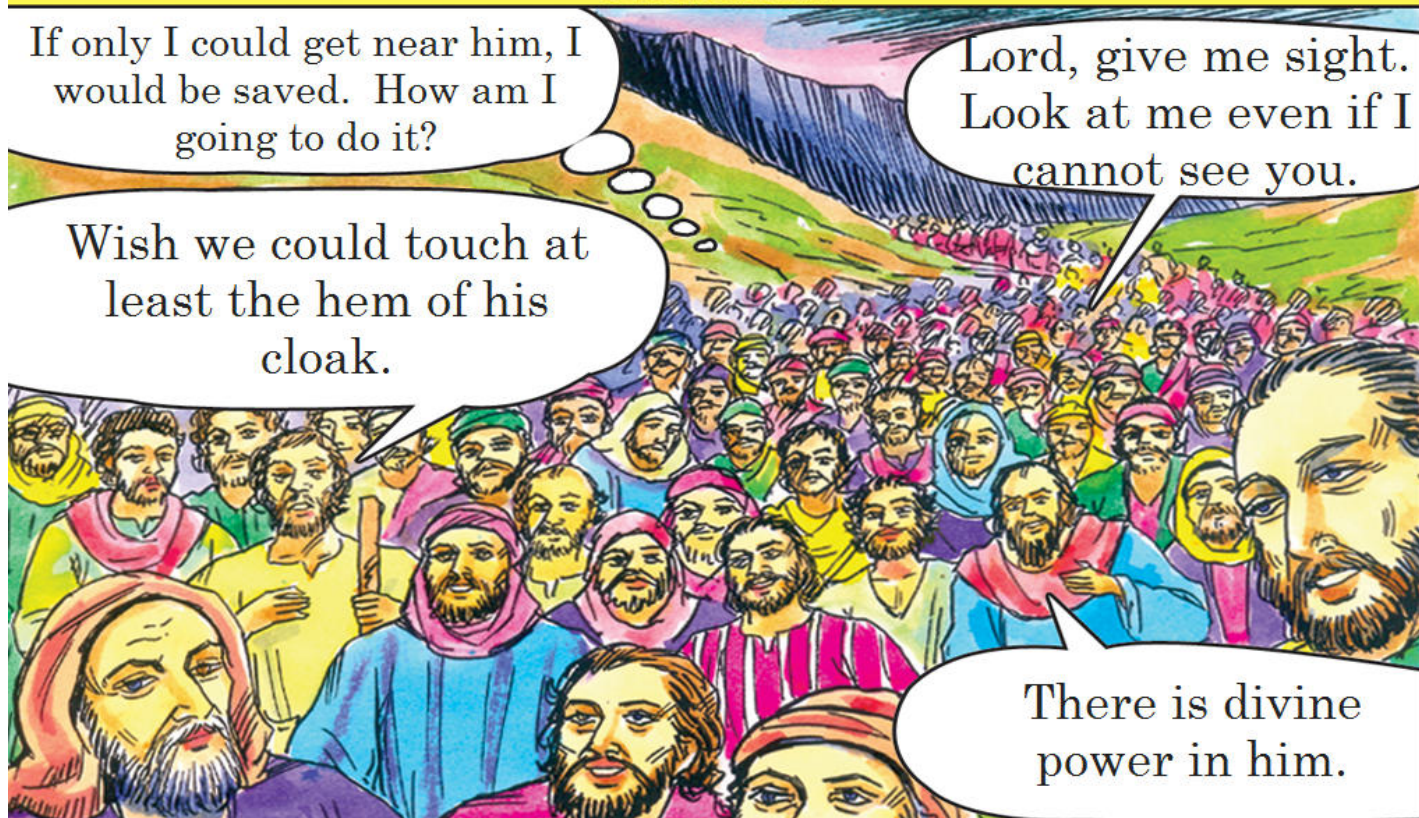
A big crowd gathered at the foot of the hill to listen to the words of Jesus and to be cured of their diseases. Among them were gentiles from Tyre and Sidon and Jewish leaders from Jerusalem.

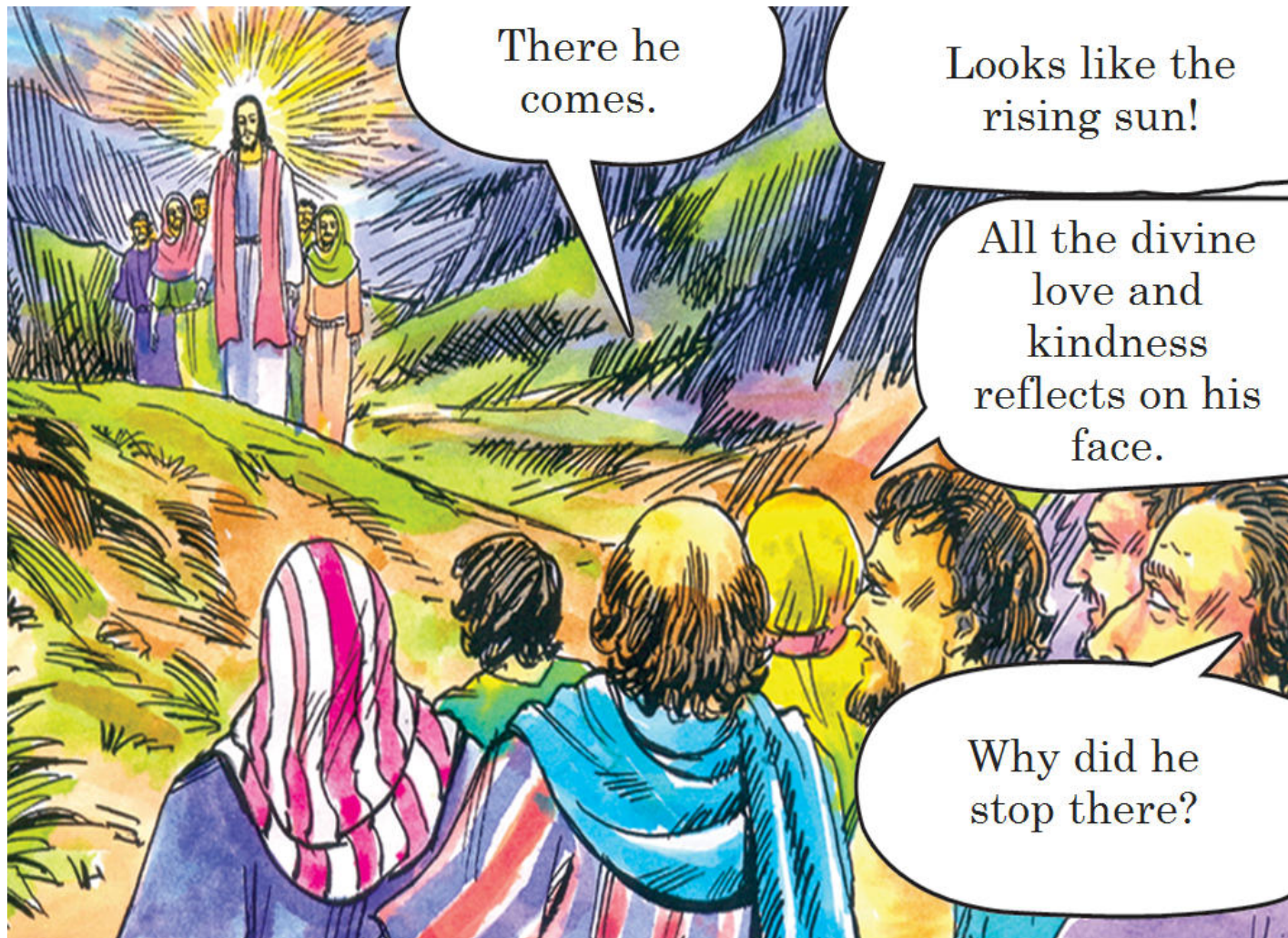
If only I could get near him, I would be saved. How am I going to do it?

Lord, give me sight. Look at me even if I cannot see you.

Wish we could touch at least the hem of his cloak.

There is divine power in him.





There he comes.

Looks like the rising sun!

All the divine love and kindness reflects on his face.

Why did he stop there?

Jesus sat on a rock and invited the people to come to him.

Happy are you who are poor.

What is he saying?  
We were taught that poverty is a curse.

Be quiet. Isn't that voice coming from heaven itself?



Yours is the kingdom  
of God.





Happy are you who  
are hungry now,  
you shall be  
satisfied.

Happy are you  
who weep now,  
you shall laugh.





Happy the merciful; they shall have mercy shown to them.



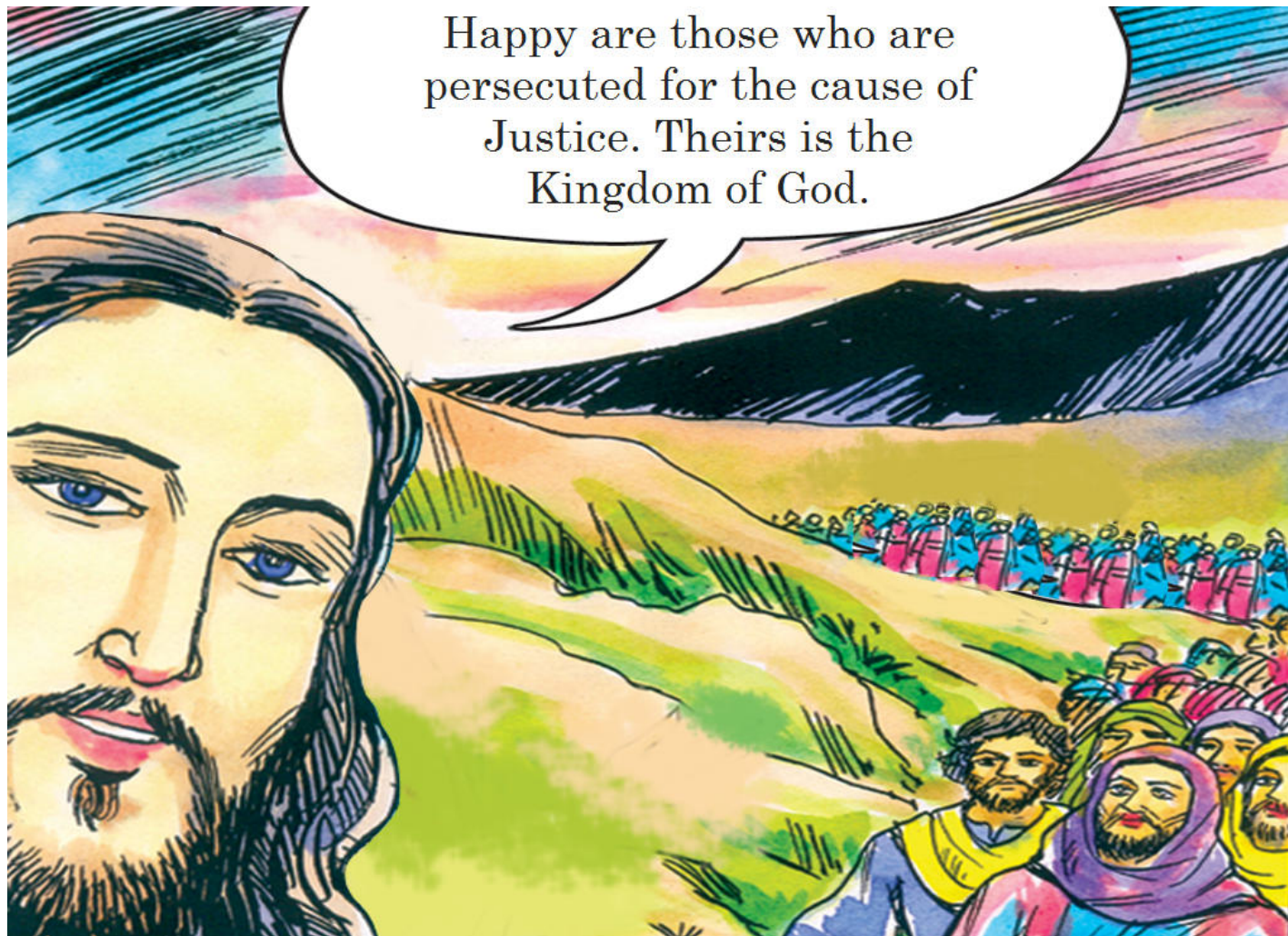
Happy the pure in heart, they shall see God.



Happy the peacemakers,  
they shall be called the  
sons of God.



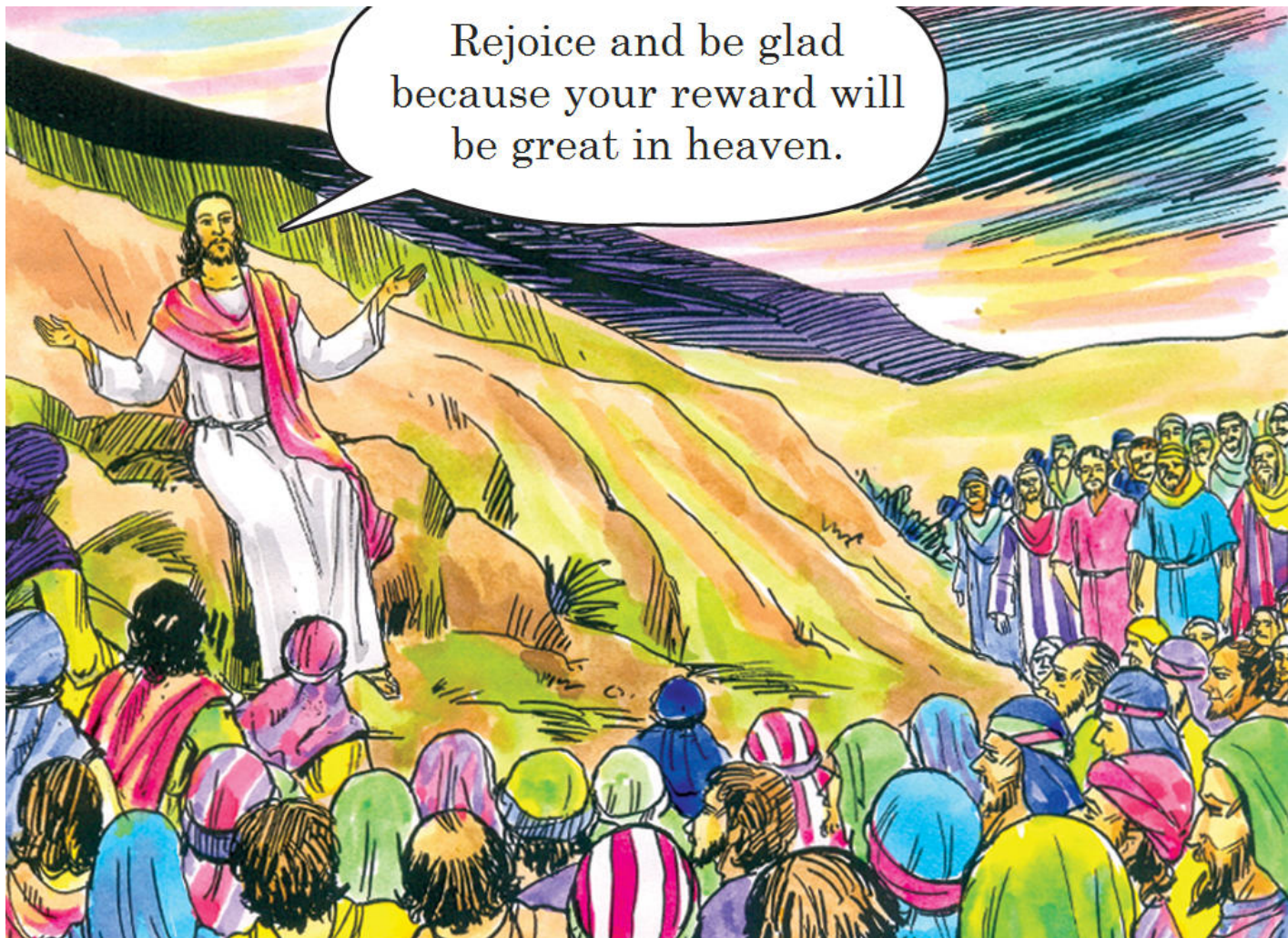
Happy are those who are  
persecuted for the cause of  
Justice. Theirs is the  
Kingdom of God.

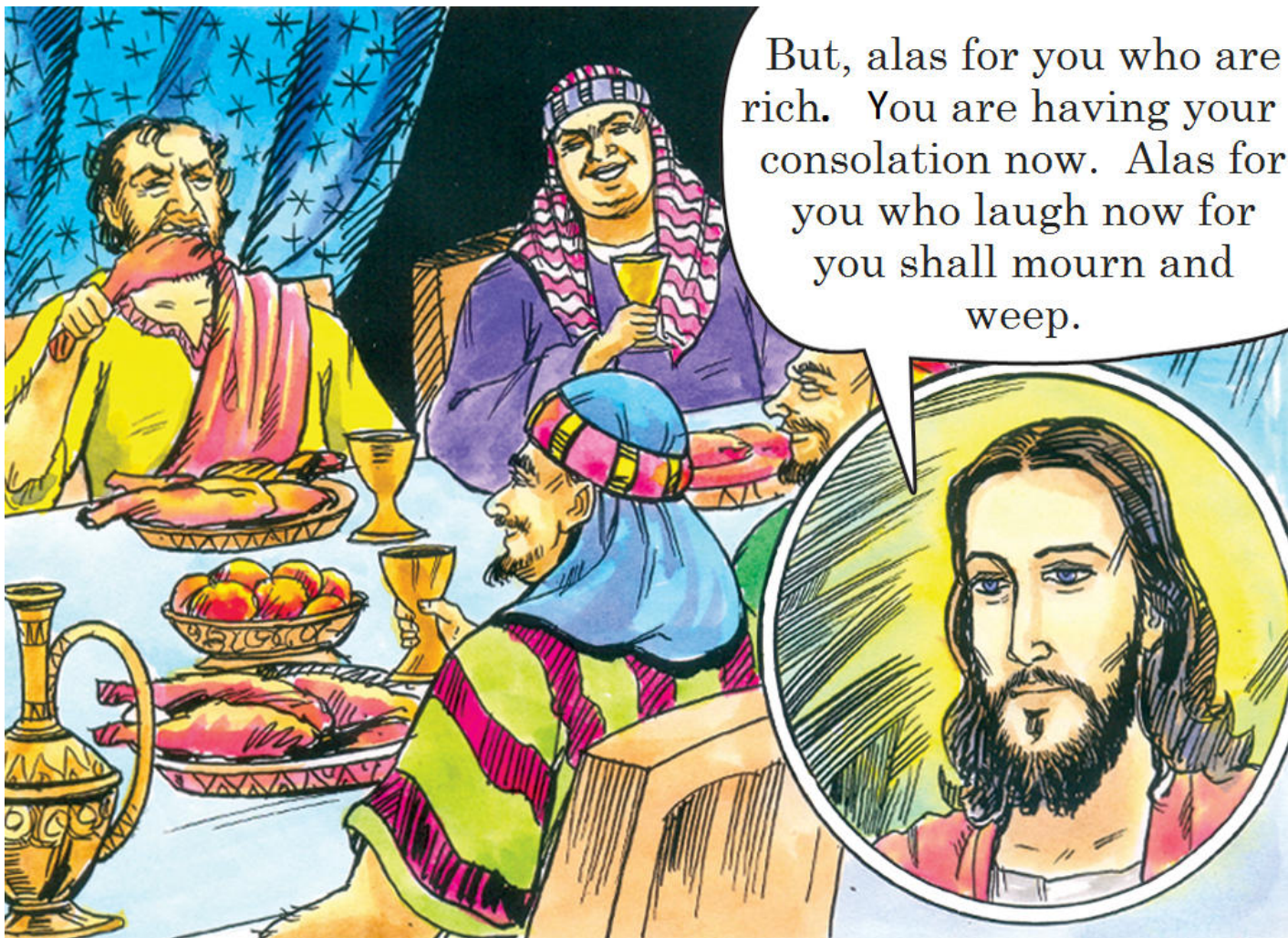


Rejoice when the  
people abuse you  
and persecute you  
and drive you out  
on my account.

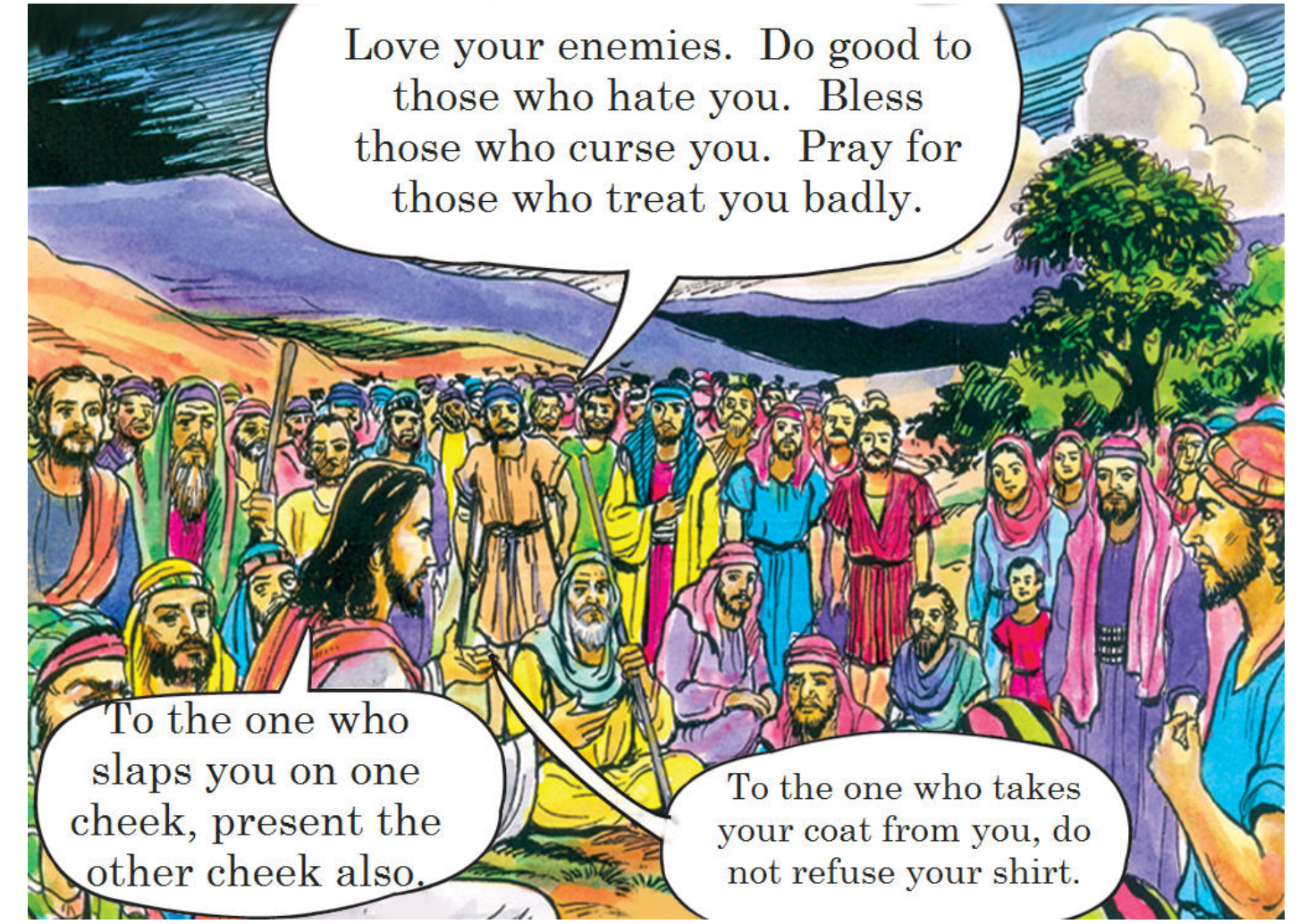


Rejoice and be glad  
because your reward will  
be great in heaven.





But, alas for you who are rich. You are having your consolation now. Alas for you who laugh now for you shall mourn and weep.



Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly.


To the one who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek also.

To the one who takes your coat from you, do not refuse your shirt.





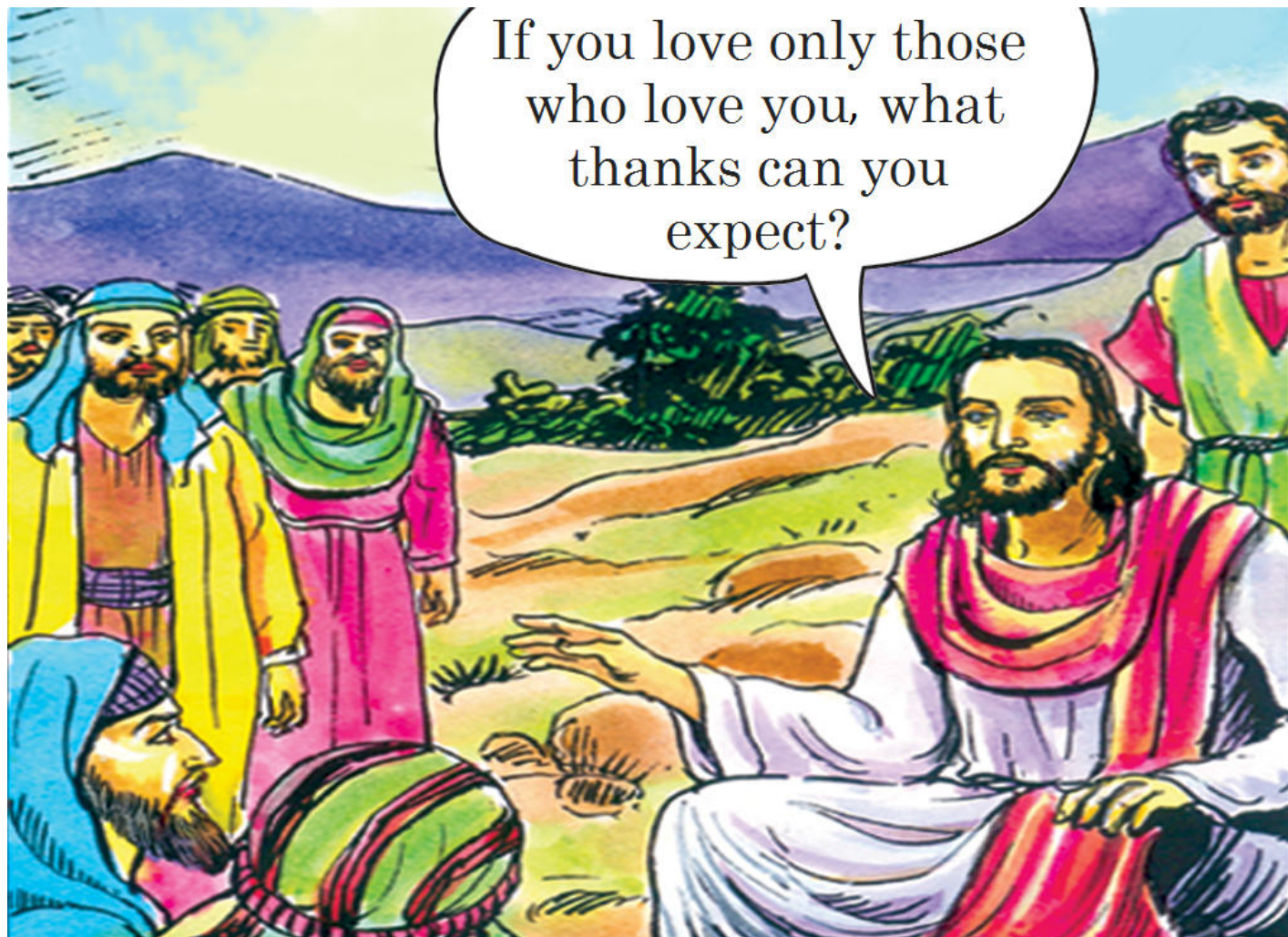
Treat others as you  
would like them to treat  
you.



Give without counting the  
return. You shall have a  
great reward in heaven.



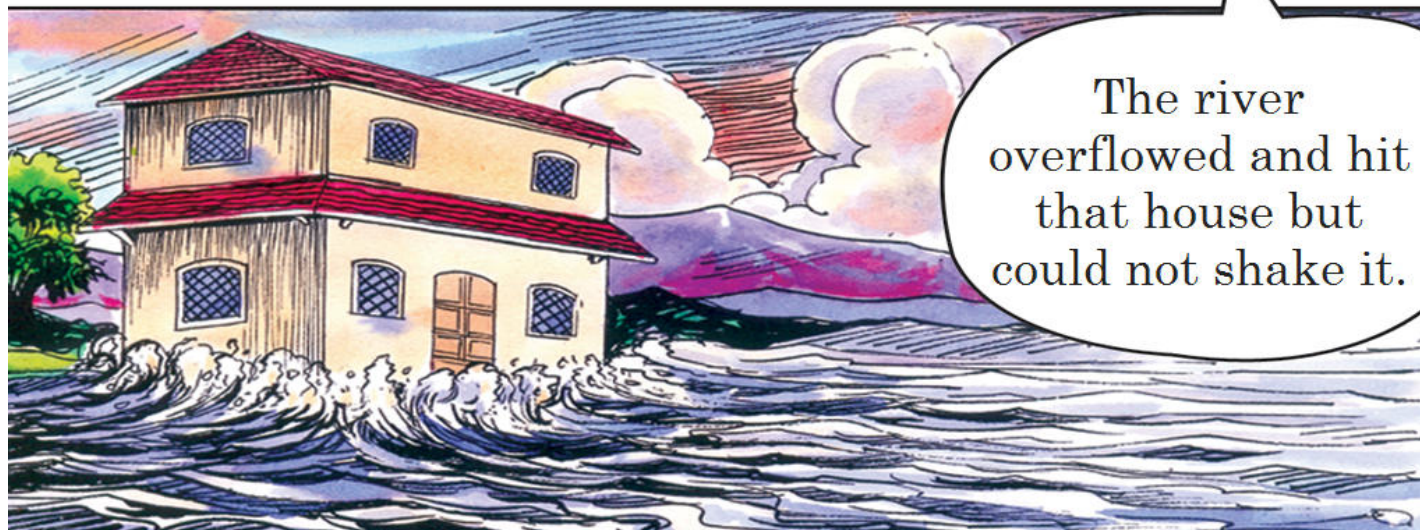
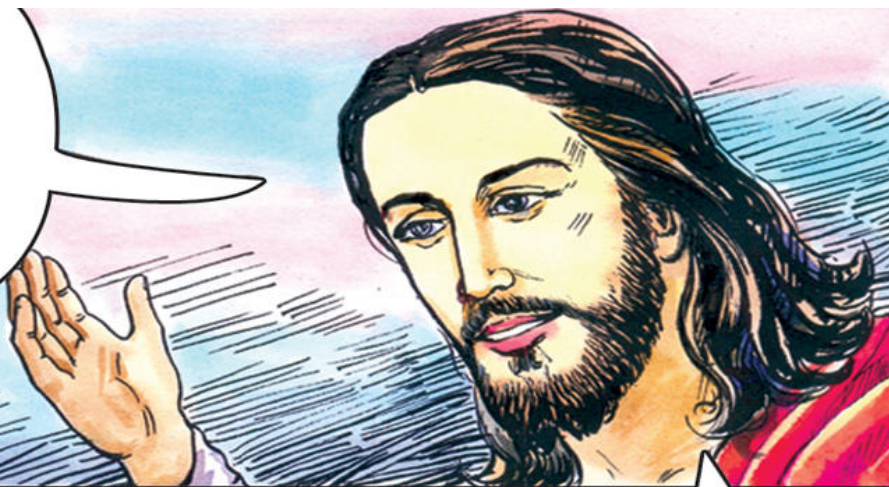
If you love only those  
who love you, what  
thanks can you  
expect?



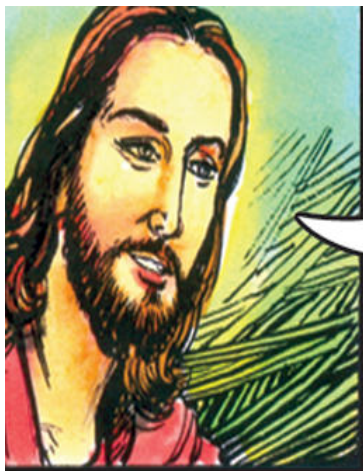
Be compassionate as your  
father in heaven is  
compassionate.



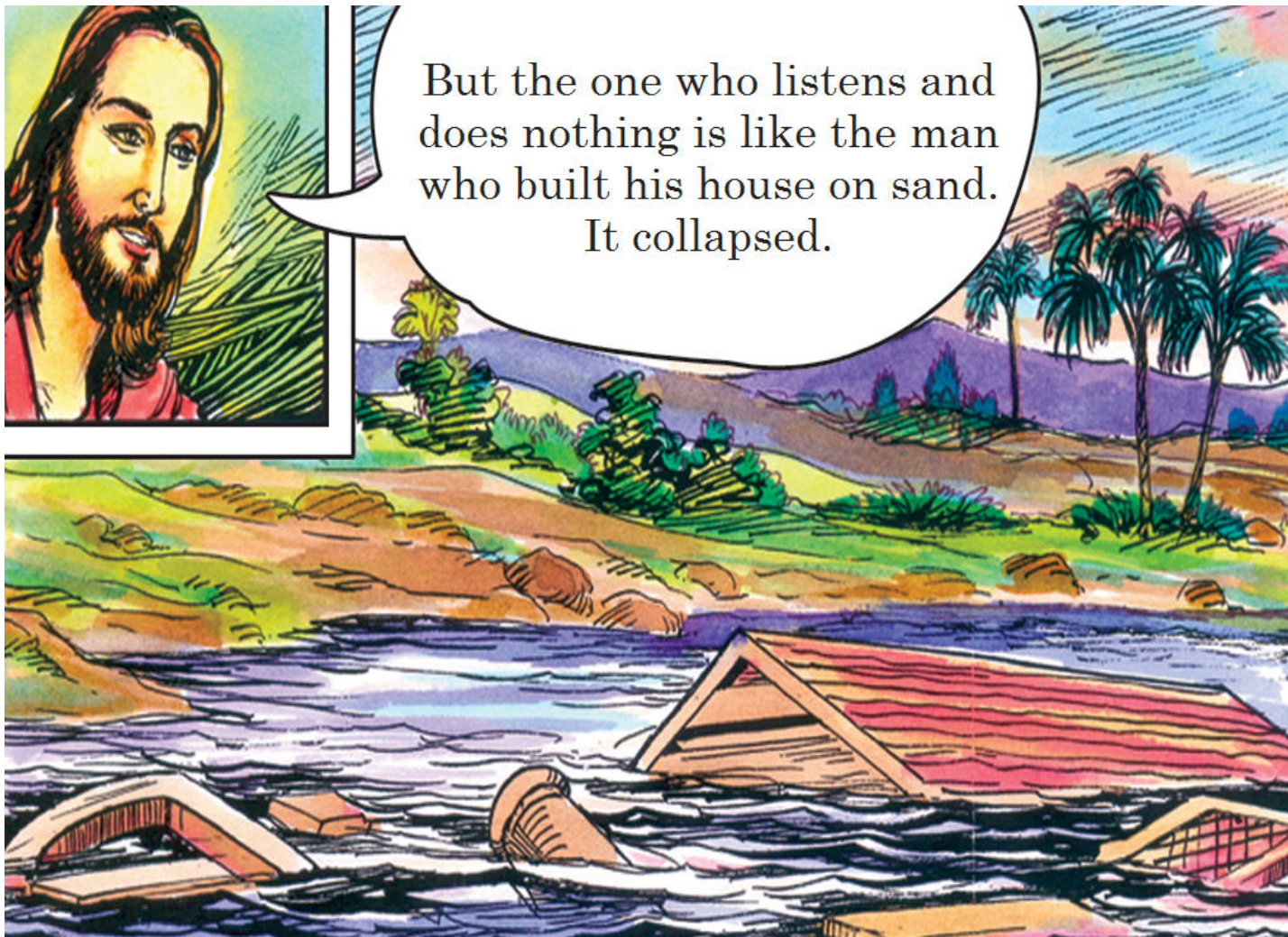
Everyone who lives  
according to my  
word is like a man  
who built his house  
on a rock.



The river  
overflowed and hit  
that house but  
could not shake it.



But the one who listens and  
does nothing is like the man  
who built his house on sand.  
It collapsed.



When Jesus ended  
his talk.

How well  
he speaks!

Nobody ever  
taught us about  
God like this.

Certainly,  
this is the  
word of God.

Only God can  
promise the  
kingdom of  
heaven to the  
poor.



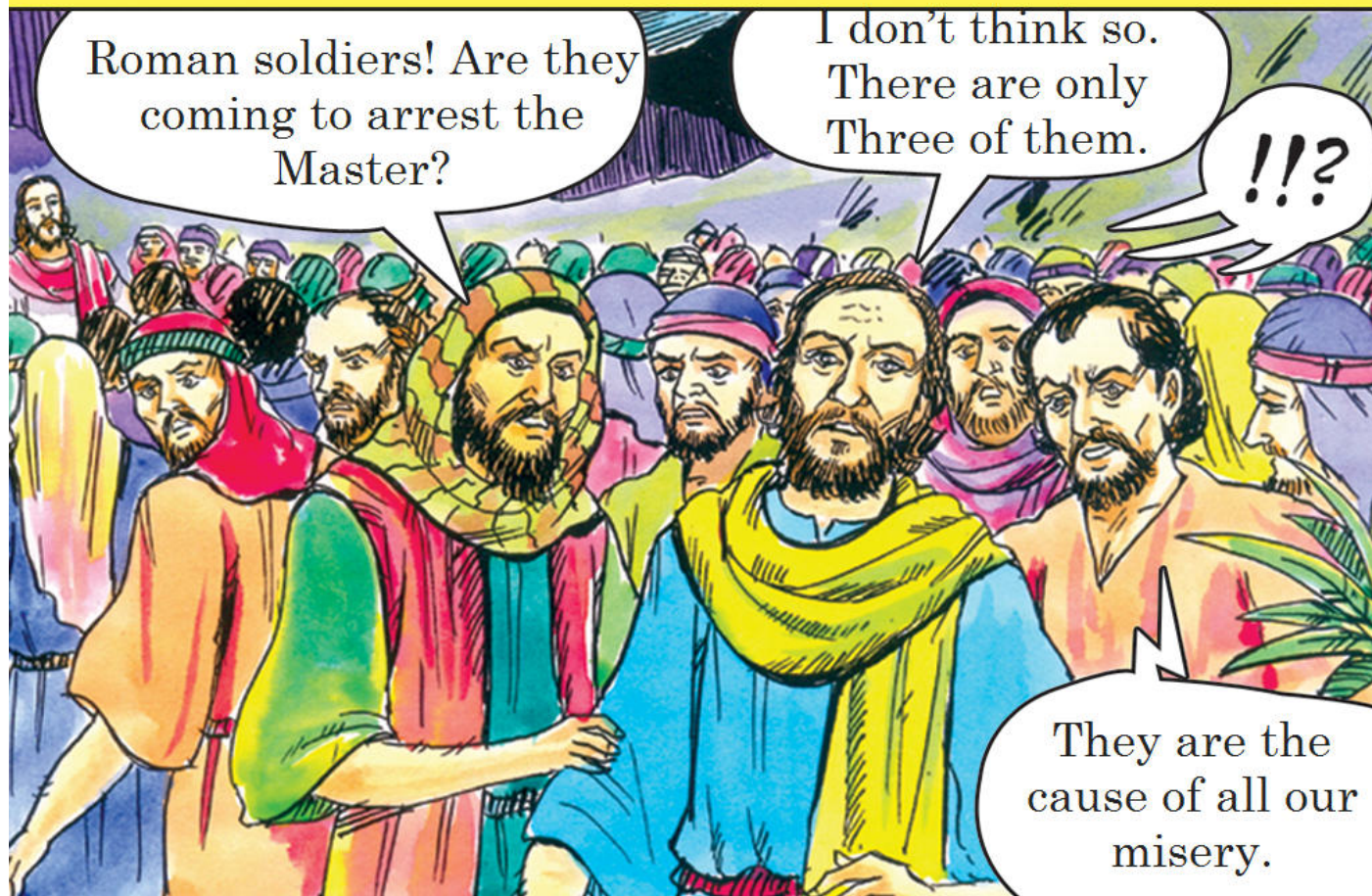
Jesus cured the sick among them.


Thanks be to God. I do  
not need this stick  
anymore.

I was blind.  
Now I can see.  
Praise and glory  
to you O Lord.



# A Roman Centurion came up to Jesus.



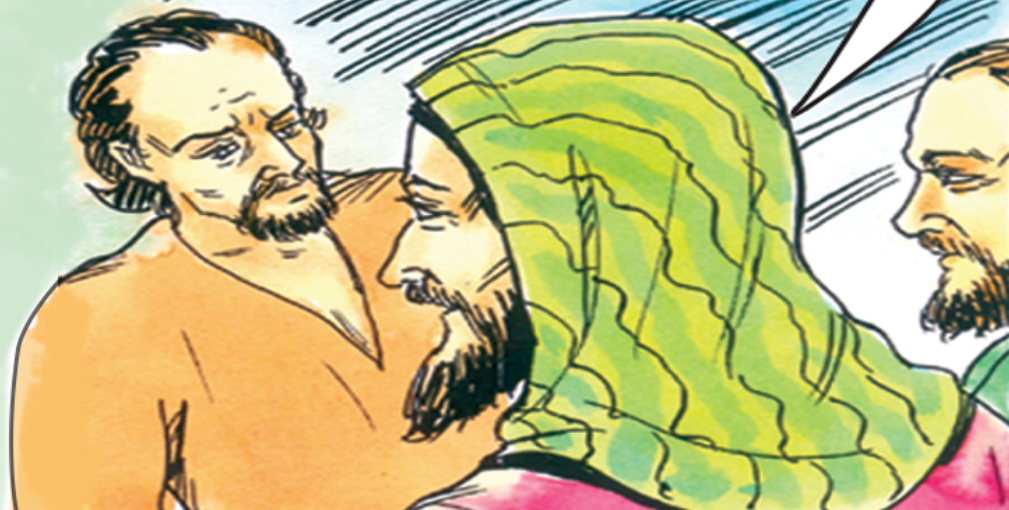


They are our enemies. Let us  
finish them off.

Did you forget what master said?  
Love your enemies.

How can we love them? They treat us like slaves.

Didn't he say to pray for those who persecute us?



Jesus came to the Centurion.

!!!?

Sir, as a Roman soldier  
I have no right... Still I  
have come begging for  
mercy.

There are no  
boundaries for  
God's love.  
Tell me what  
do you want?



I have a servant who is more like a son to me. He is mortally ill. Be kind enough to cure him.



I shall come to your house.



Lord, I am  
not worthy  
to have you  
under my  
roof.



Just say the word and my servant will be cured.

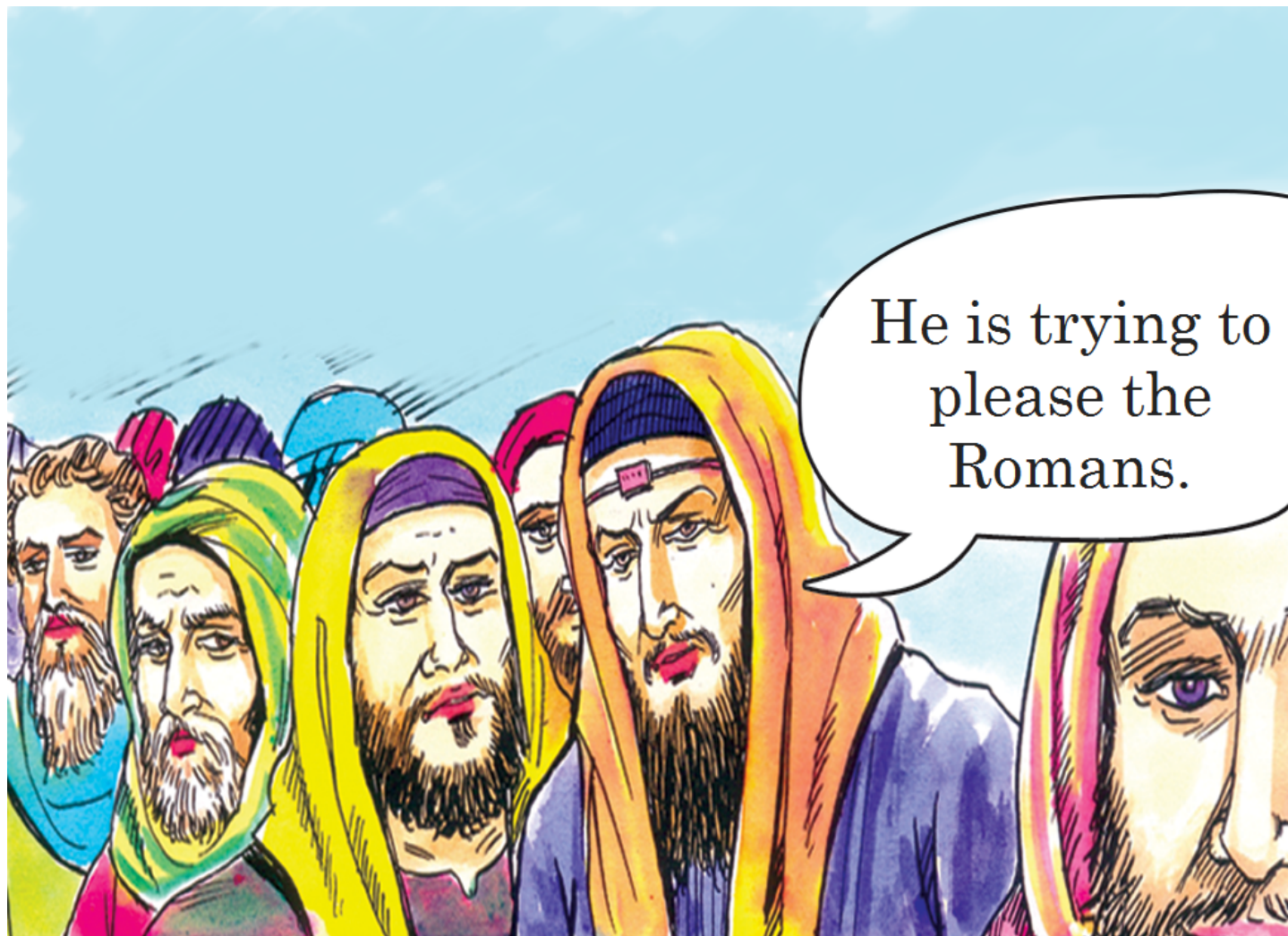
Go in peace. Your faith has healed your servant.



When the Centurion left.

Did you hear what that gentile soldier said? Not even in Israel, have I found faith like this.





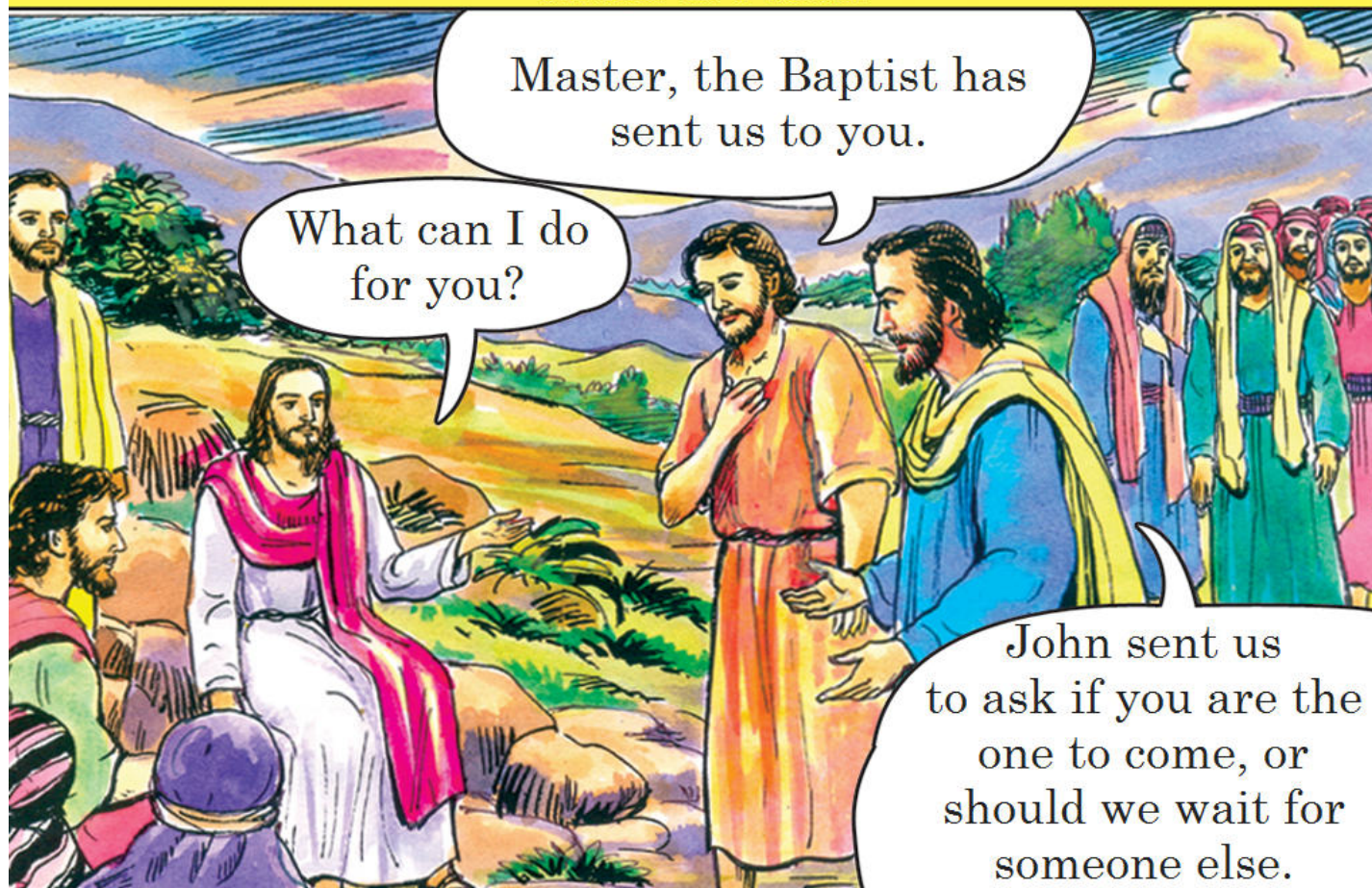
He is trying to  
please the  
Romans.

He prefers the  
Romans to the  
Israelites.

God shows no  
partiality.



The Disciples of the Baptist were among those who came to listen to Jesus.



You go and tell John what you  
have seen and heard; the blind  
see, deaf hear.

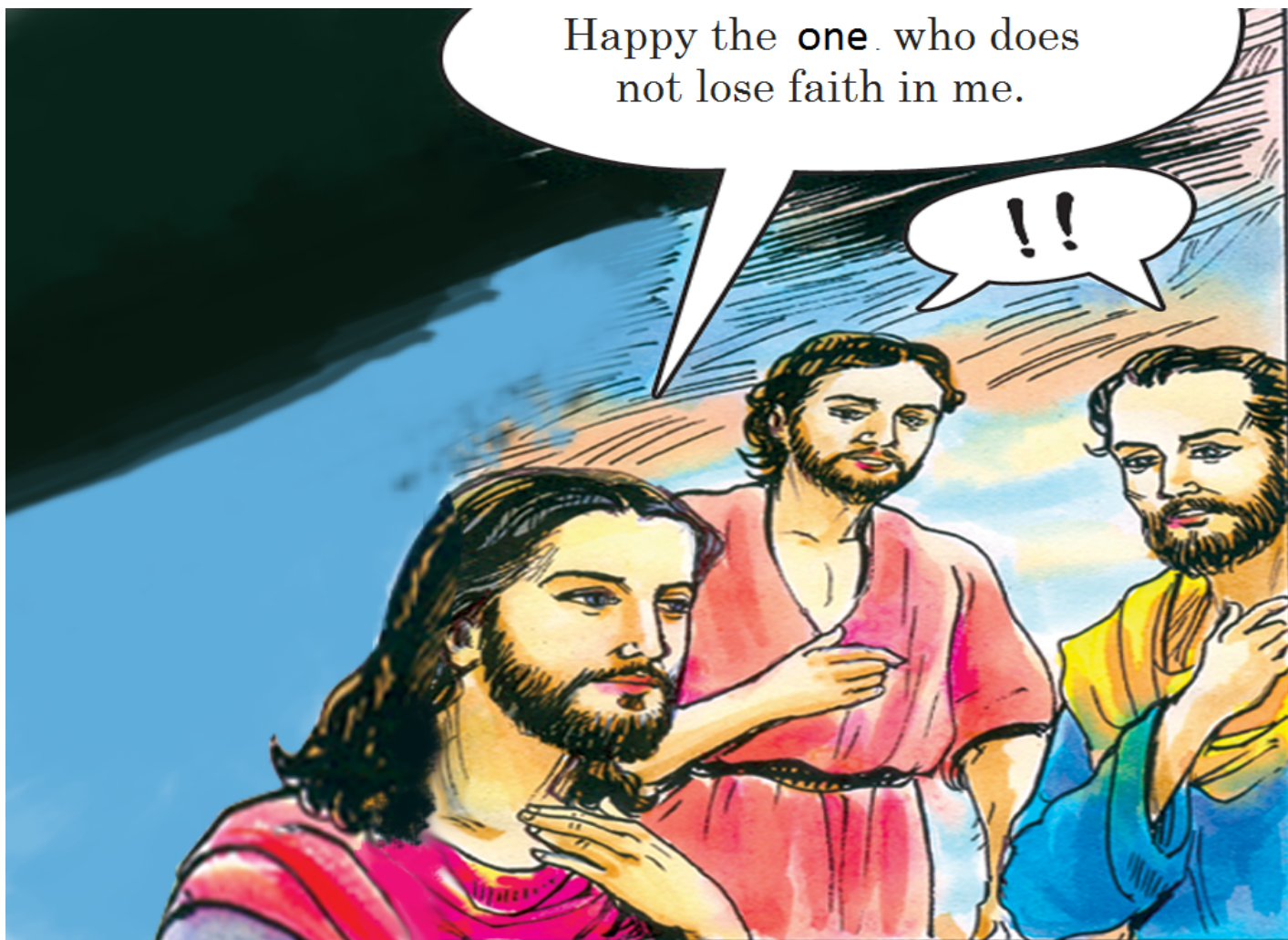


The lame walk, lepers are  
cleansed, and the dead are  
raised to life; the good news is  
proclaimed to the poor.



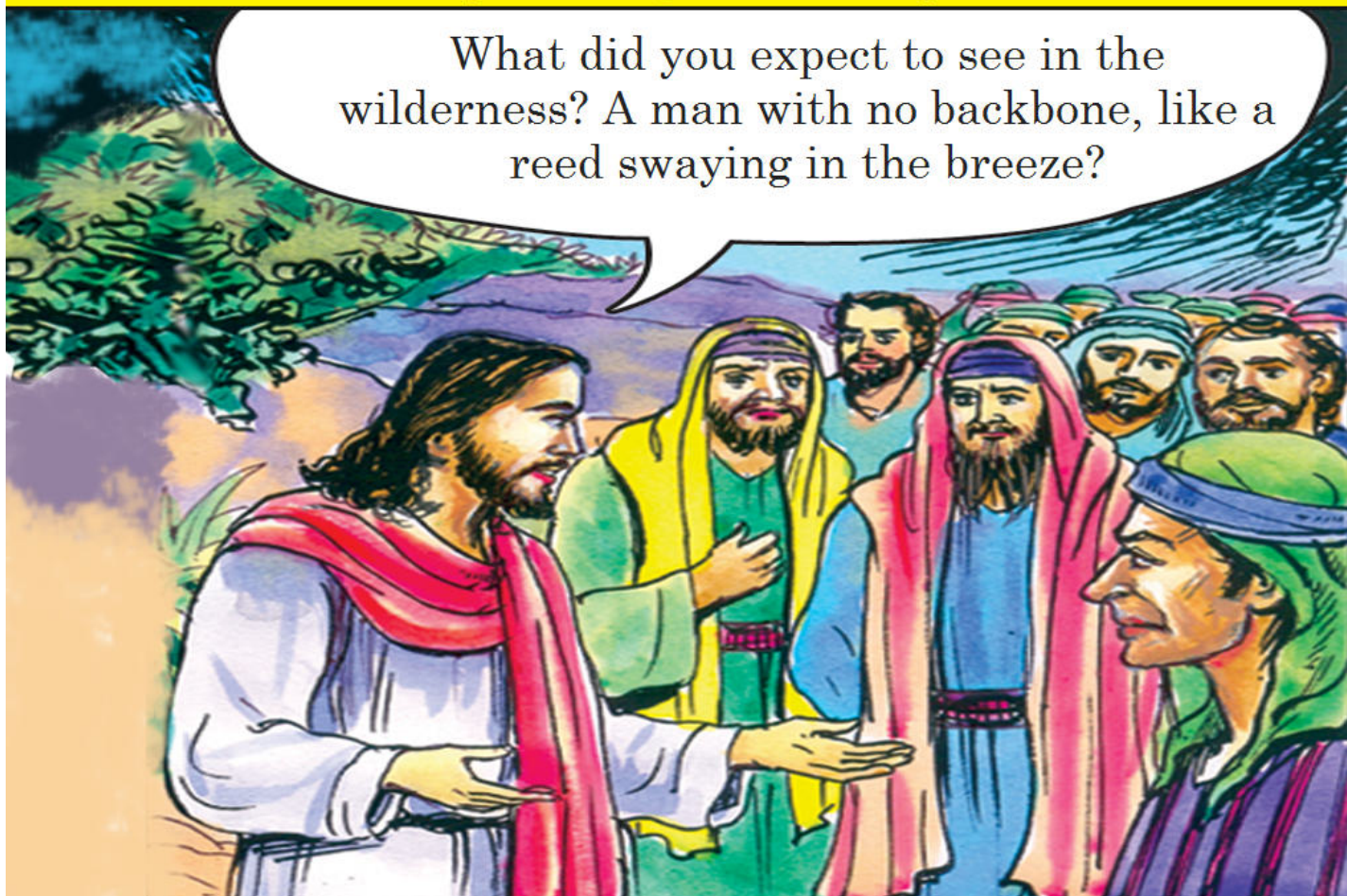
Happy the **one** who does  
not lose faith in me.

!!



When John's disciples had gone Jesus spoke about John.

What did you expect to see in the wilderness? A man with no backbone, like a reed swaying in the breeze?



Or a man dressed in fine  
clothes?

Such people are in  
palaces.





Then, what did you go out to see? A Prophet?



It is about him that the  
scripture says: “I will  
send my messenger  
before you to prepare  
the way.”



I tell you, of all the children born of women, there is no one greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he is.

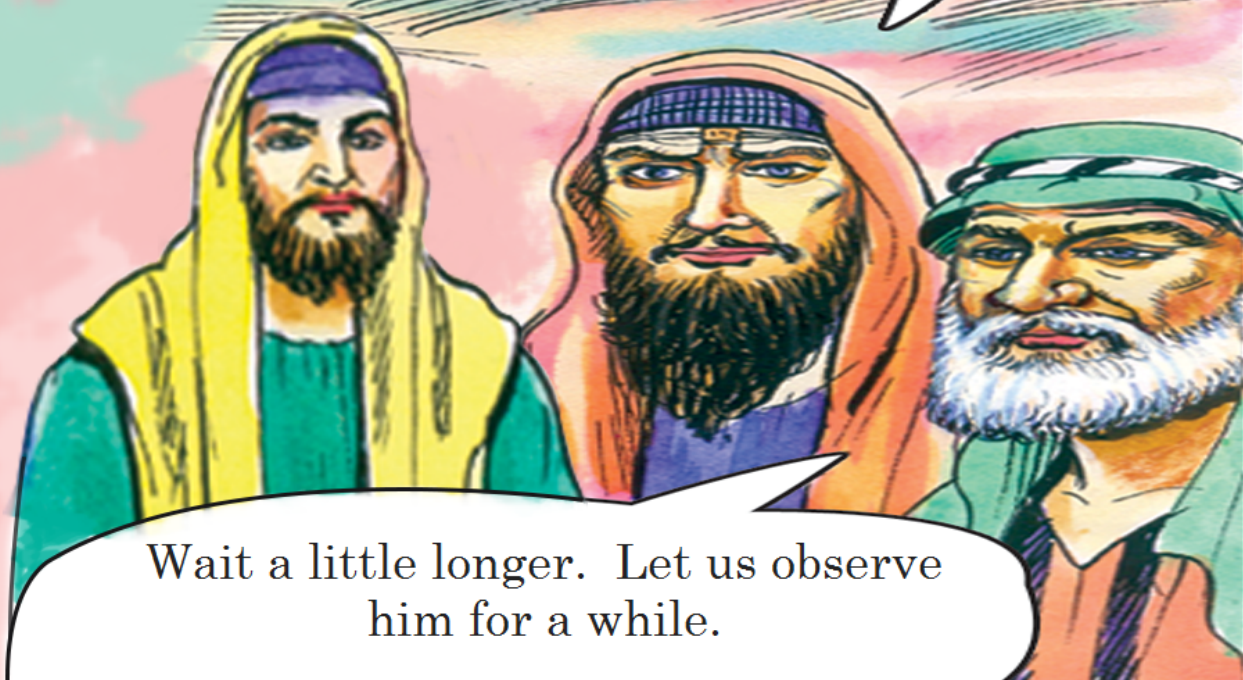
2!!



A conversation among the Pharisees.

Who does he think  
that he is?

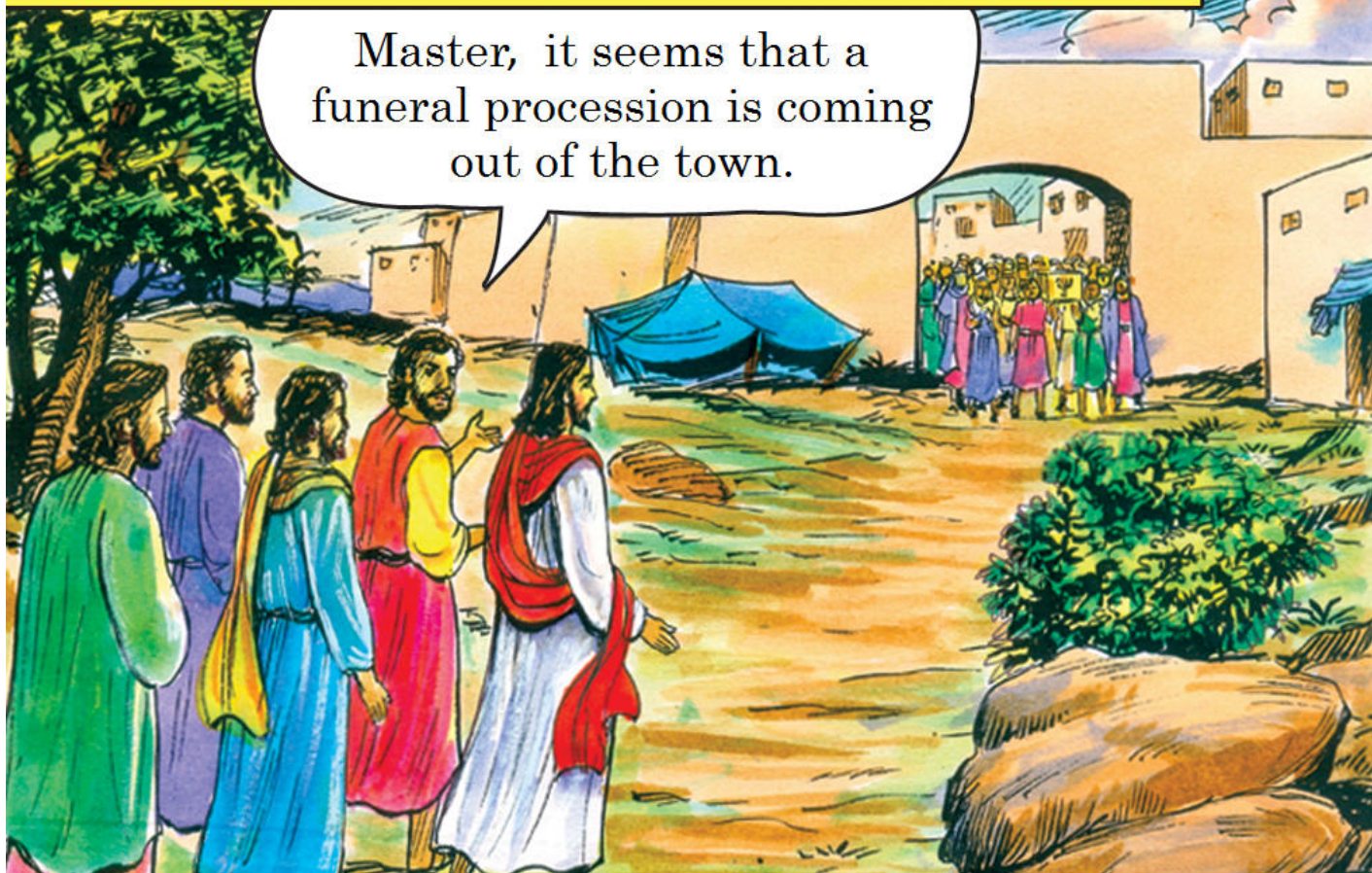
Let us ask him.  
We can invite him  
for dinner.



Wait a little longer. Let us observe  
him for a while.

Jesus and the disciples reached a town called Nain.

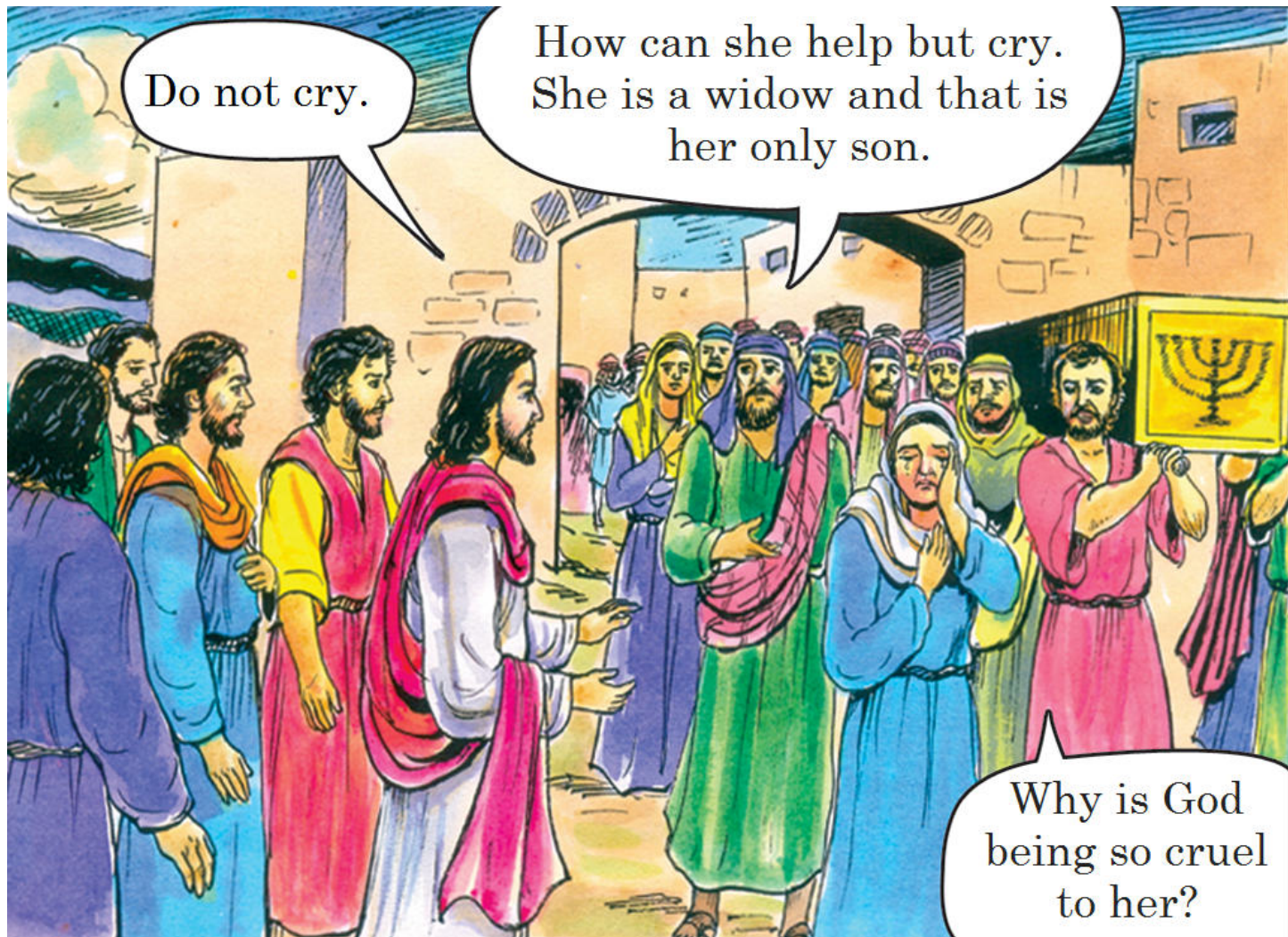
Master, it seems that a funeral procession is coming out of the town.



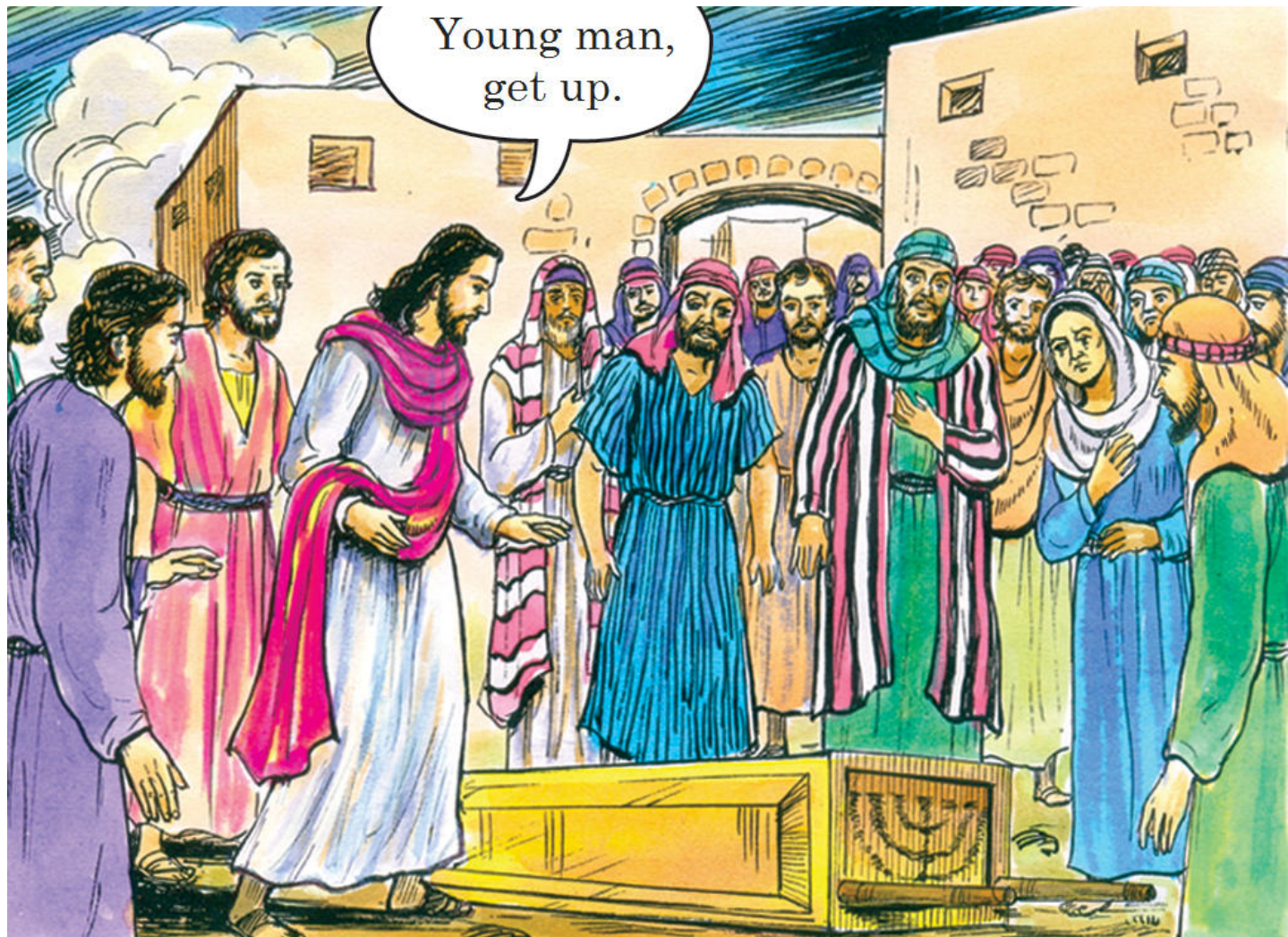
Do not cry.

How can she help but cry.  
She is a widow and that is  
her only son.

Why is God  
being so cruel  
to her?



Young man,  
get up.



Miracle! A great  
prophet has appeared  
among us.

A prophet like  
Elijah! God has  
visited his people.



Praise and glory to God  
who is kind and merciful.

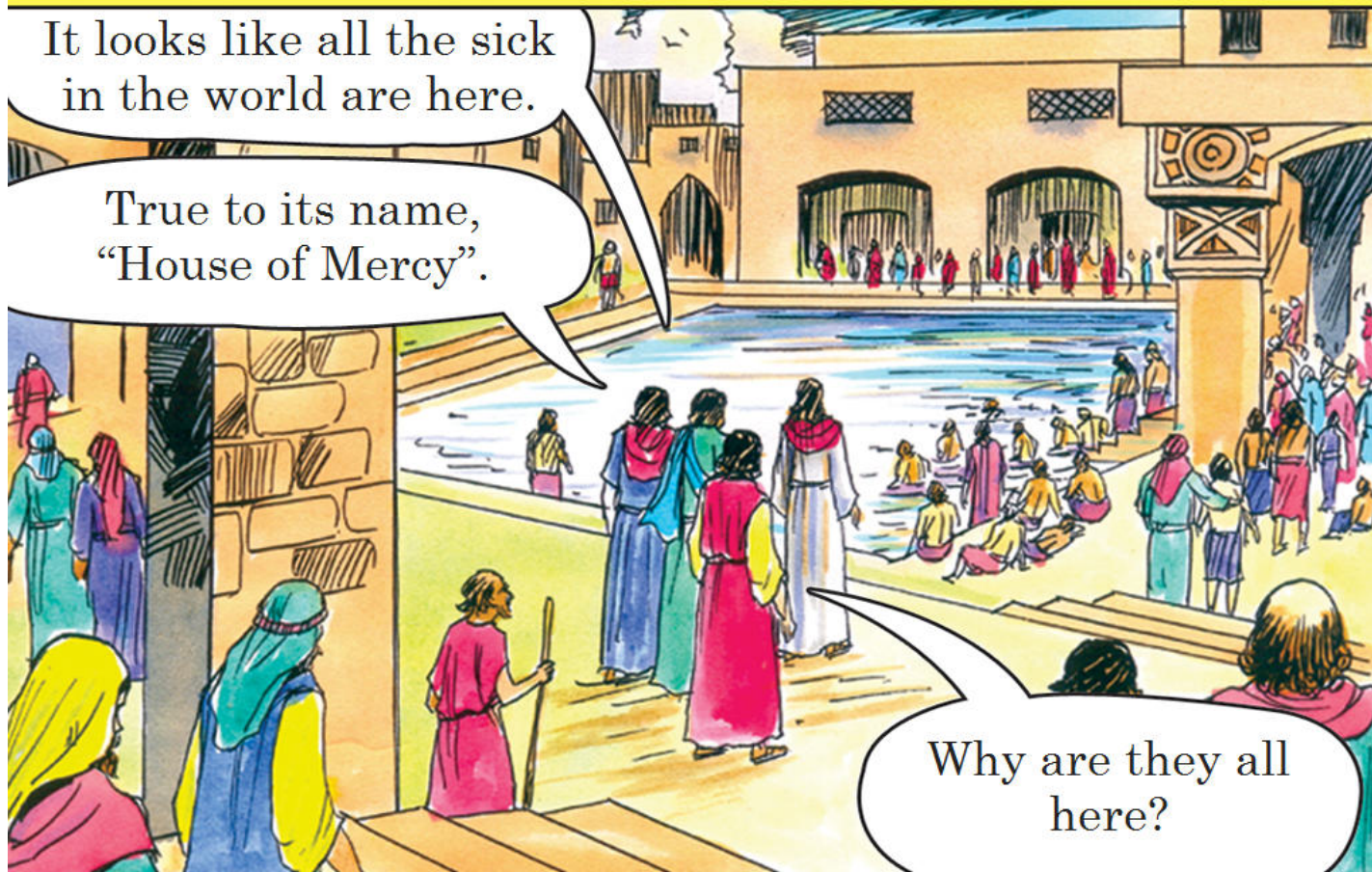


Jesus went to Jerusalem with his disciples. They came to the pool of Bethesda.

It looks like all the sick in the world are here.

True to its name, "House of Mercy".

Why are they all here?



Once in a while an angel comes down and stirs the water. Whoever gets into it first is cured.

What about those who cannot jump in?



Somebody will have to  
carry them.

So, only those who are  
able to walk or have  
someone to help them can  
get well.

Look, there is a  
paralytic.

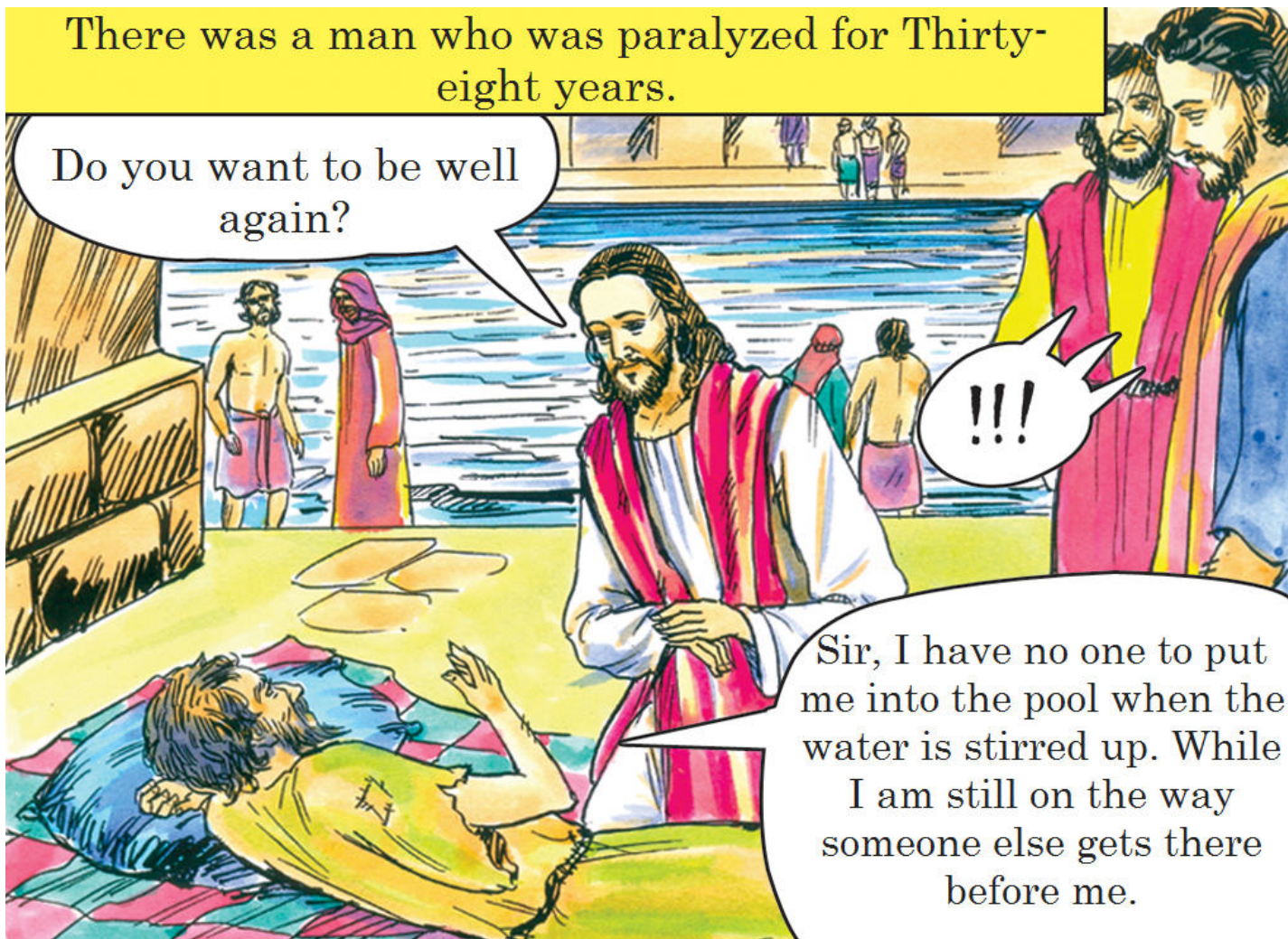


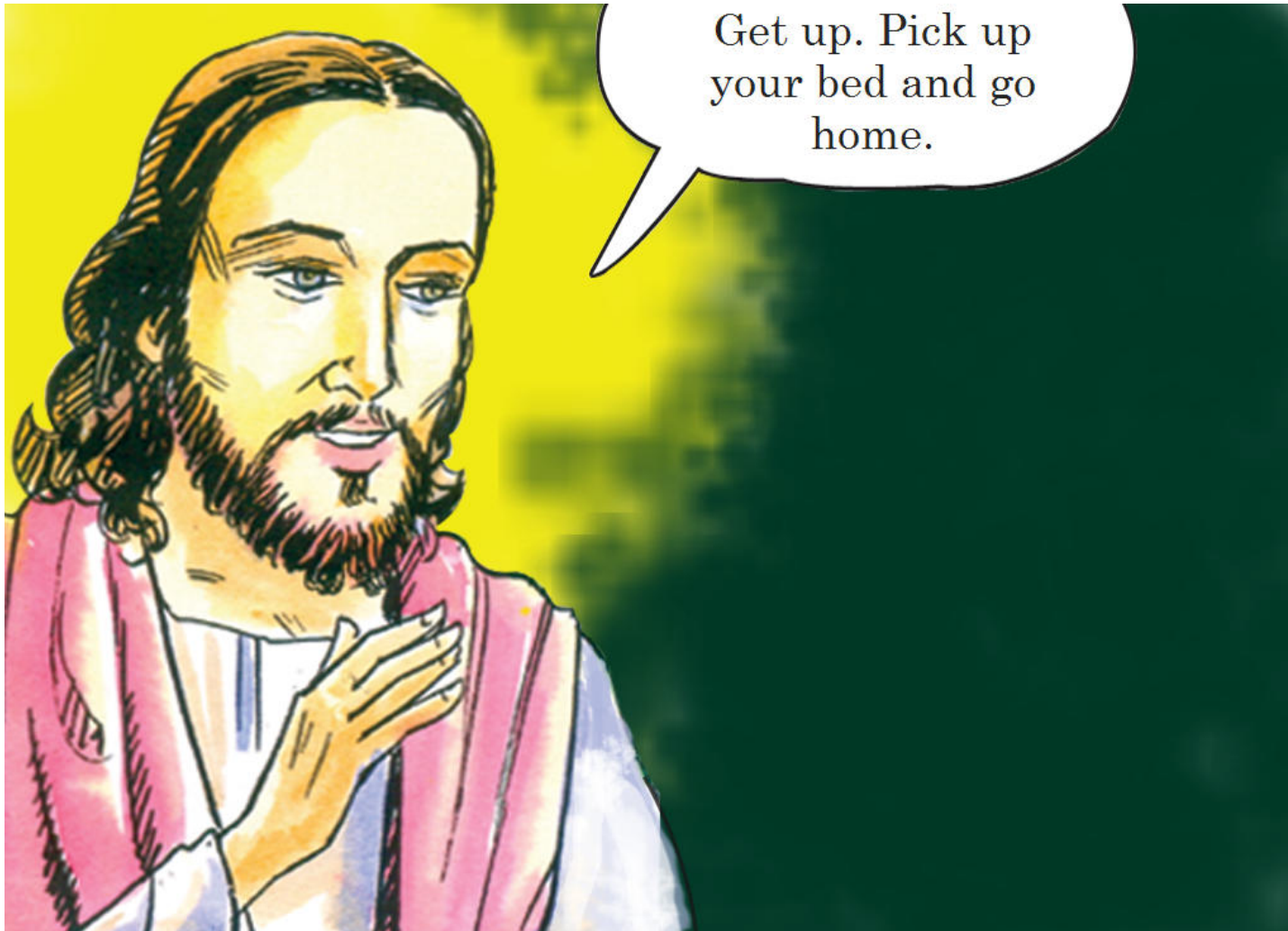
There was a man who was paralyzed for Thirty-eight years.

Do you want to be well again?

!!!

Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up. While I am still on the way someone else gets there before me.





Get up. Pick up  
your bed and go  
home.

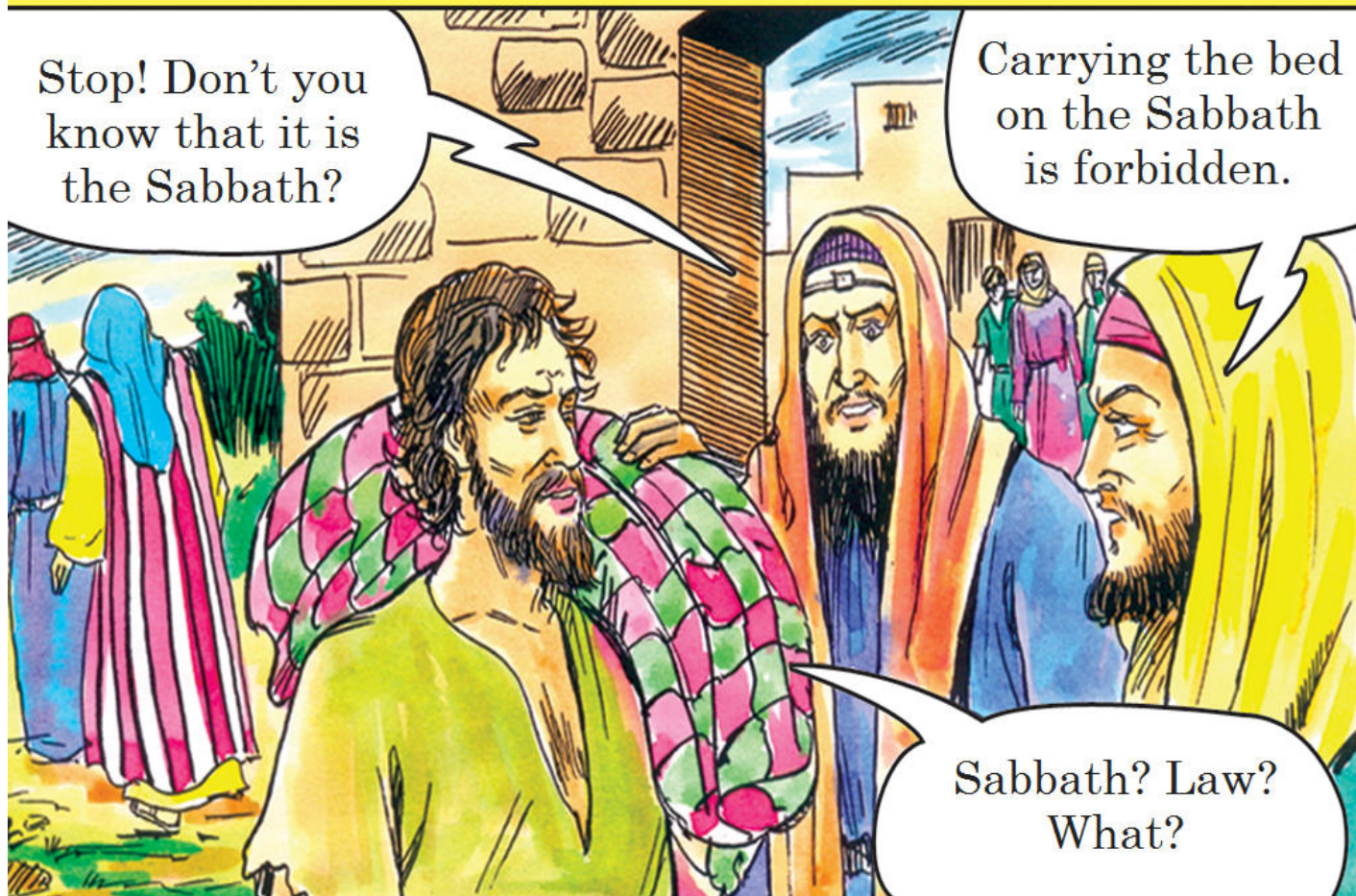


The Pharisees stopped the man carrying sleeping mat on the Sabbath.

Stop! Don't you know that it is the Sabbath?

Carrying the bed on the Sabbath is forbidden.


Sabbath? Law?  
What?




I have been lying there for  
Thirty-eight years. Where  
were you then?



And now when I begin to walk, you  
come with the law!




Who made you  
well.



The one who  
told me to  
carry my bed.

Well, who is  
he?



The Lord  
sent Him to  
cure me  
because I  
have  
nobody.

Stop your  
preaching  
and tell us  
His name.

I don't know.

After a while Jesus met him in the Temple.

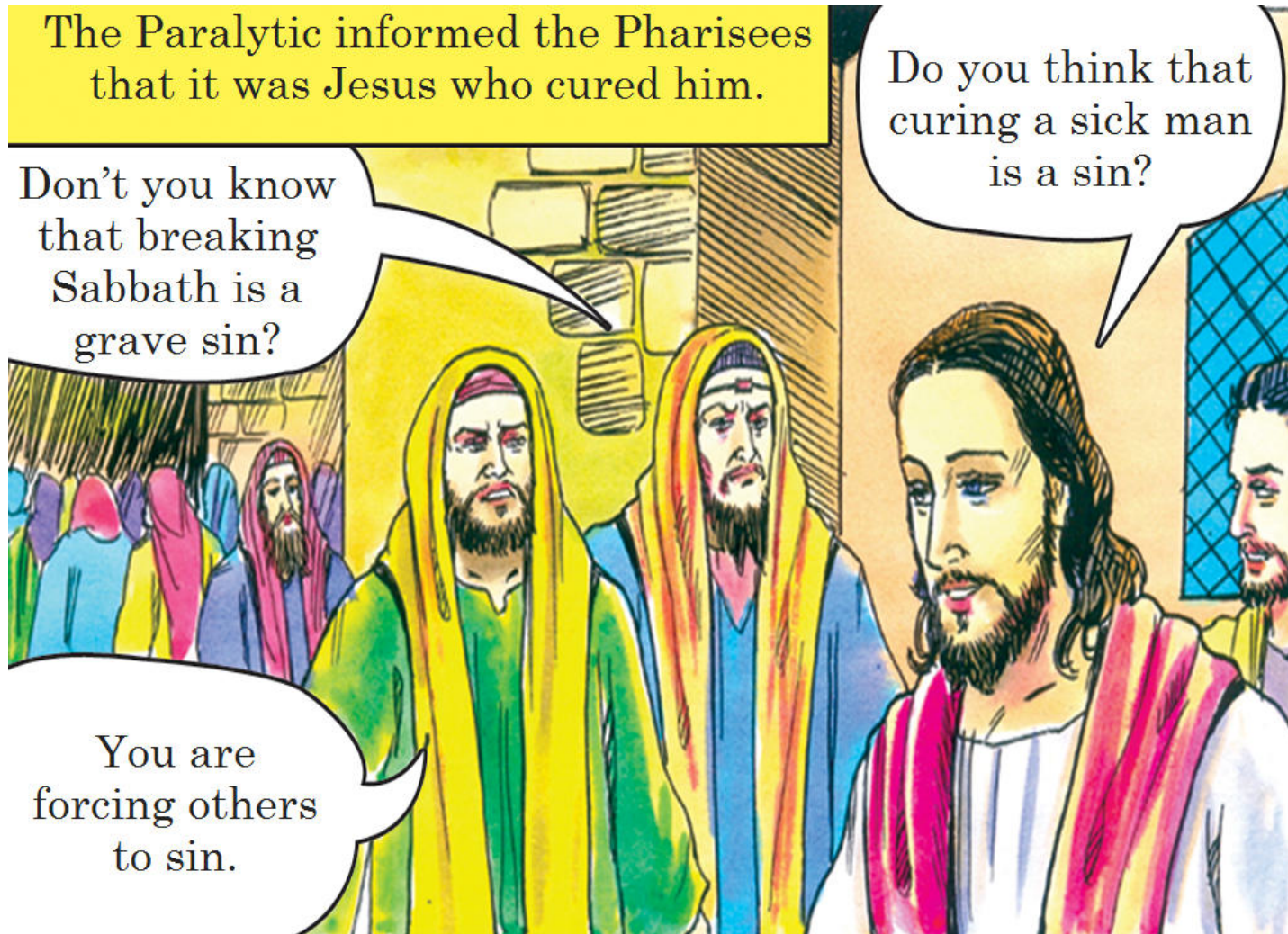


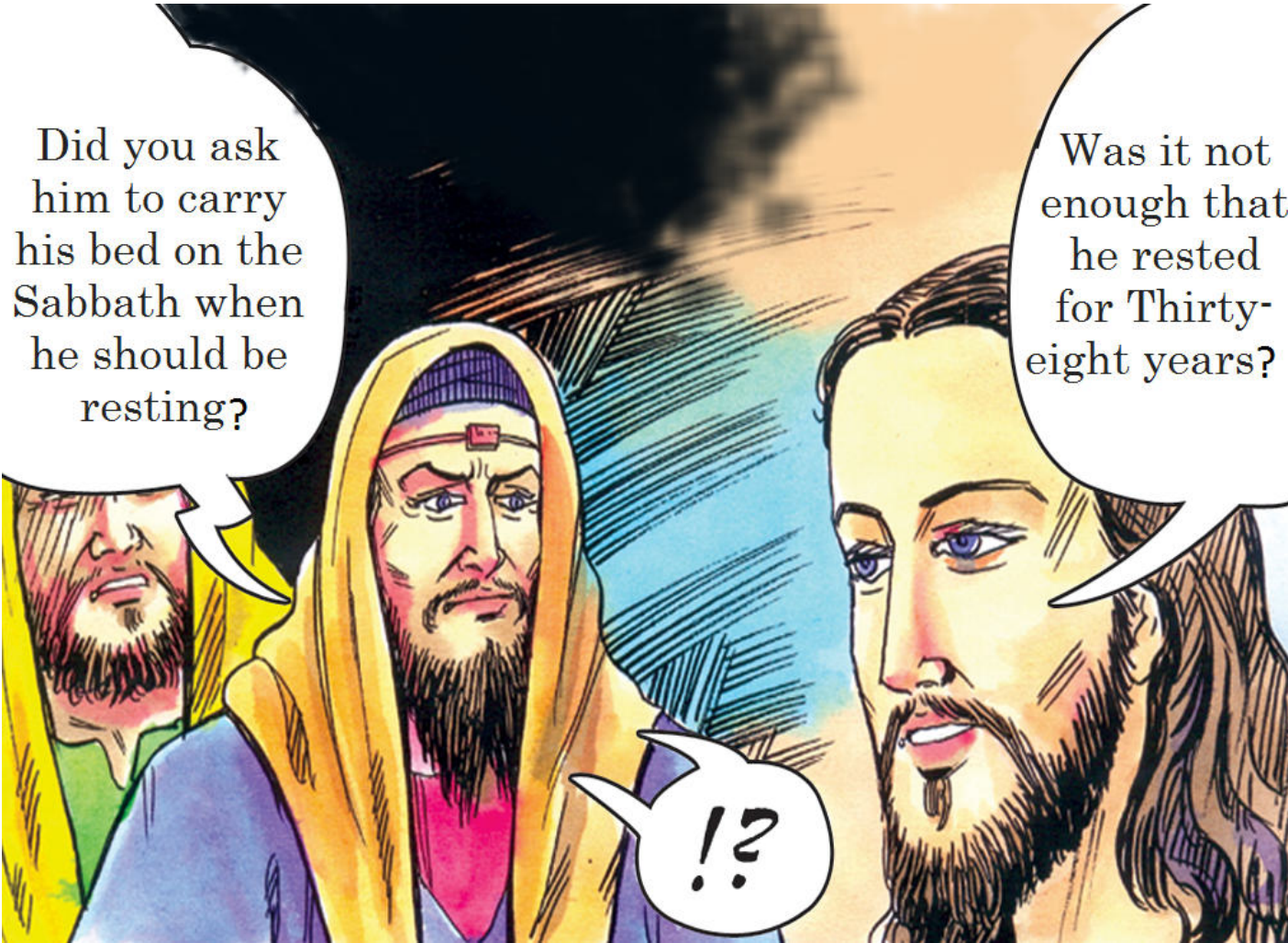
The Paralytic informed the Pharisees that it was Jesus who cured him.

Don't you know that breaking Sabbath is a grave sin?

Do you think that curing a sick man is a sin?

You are forcing others to sin.

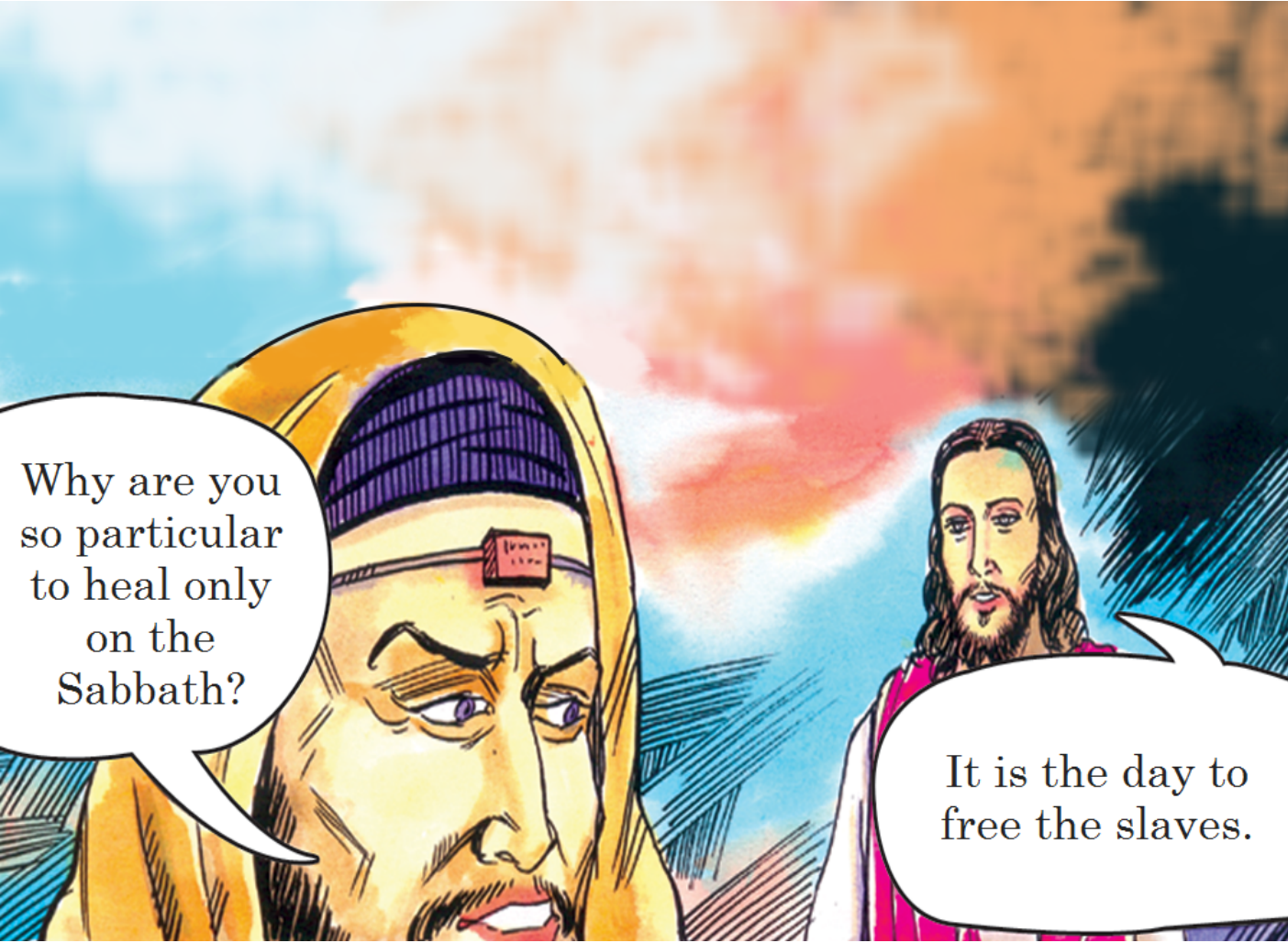




Did you ask  
him to carry  
his bed on the  
Sabbath when  
he should be  
resting?

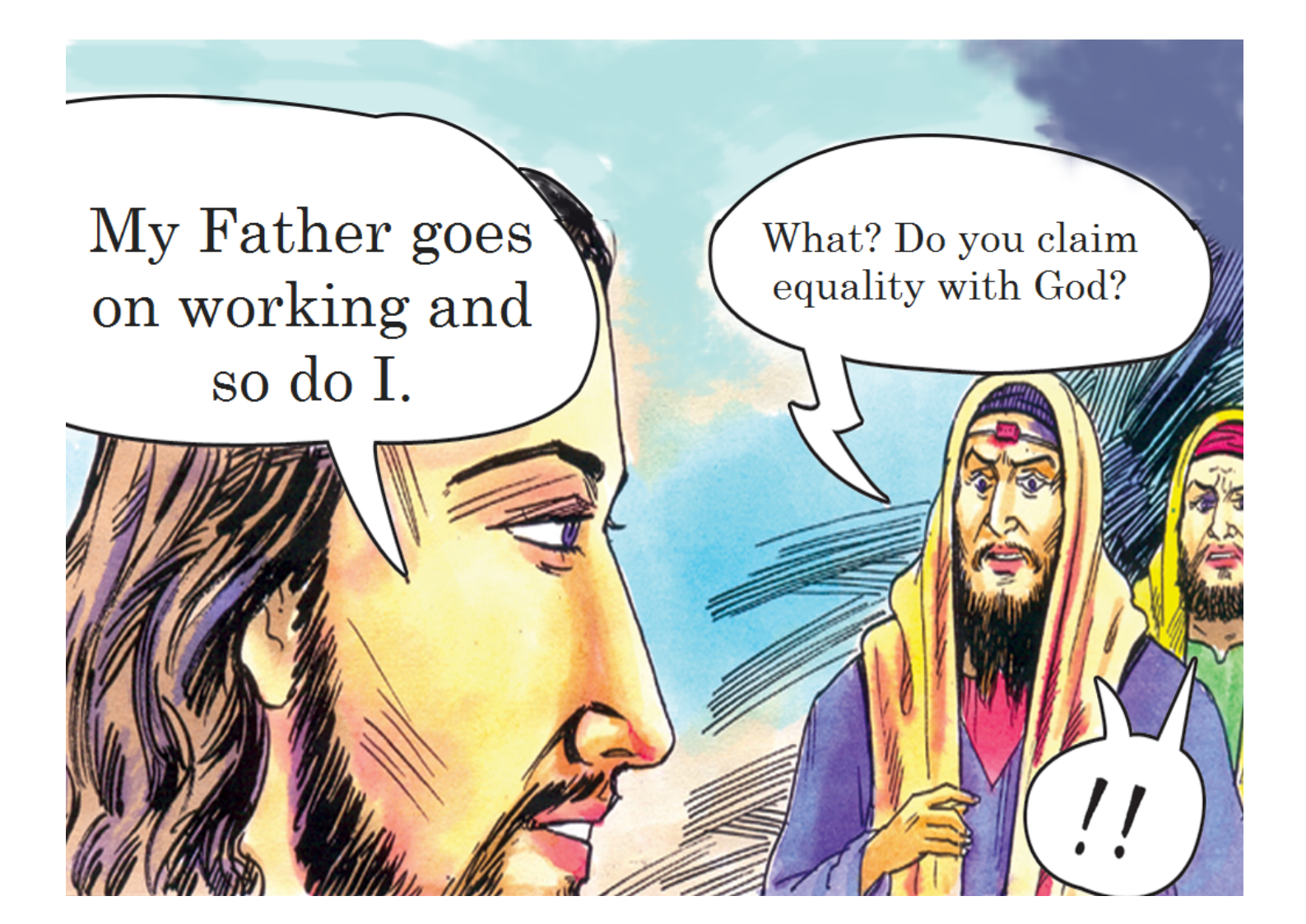
Was it not  
enough that  
he rested  
for Thirty-  
eight years?

!?



Why are you  
so particular  
to heal only  
on the  
Sabbath?

It is the day to  
free the slaves.

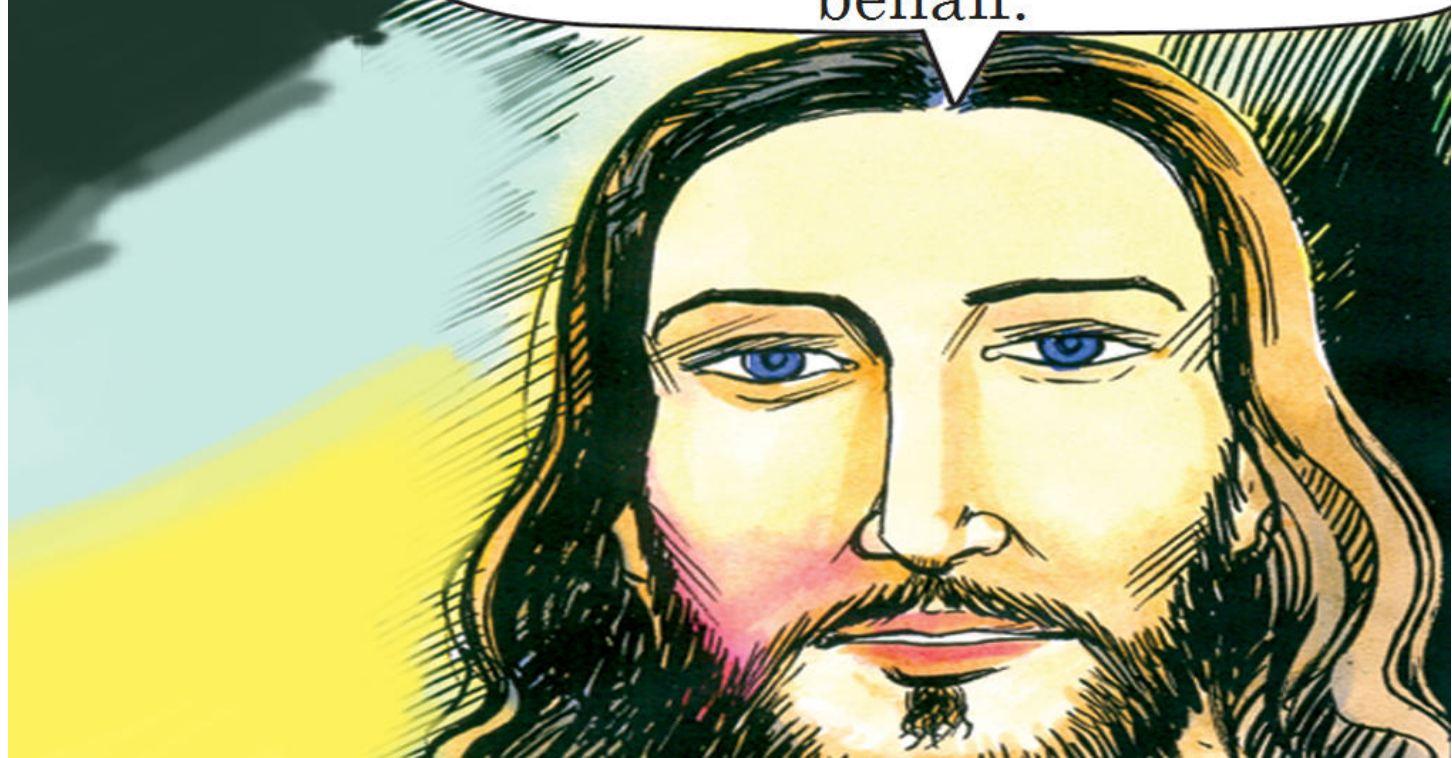


My Father goes  
on working and  
so do I.

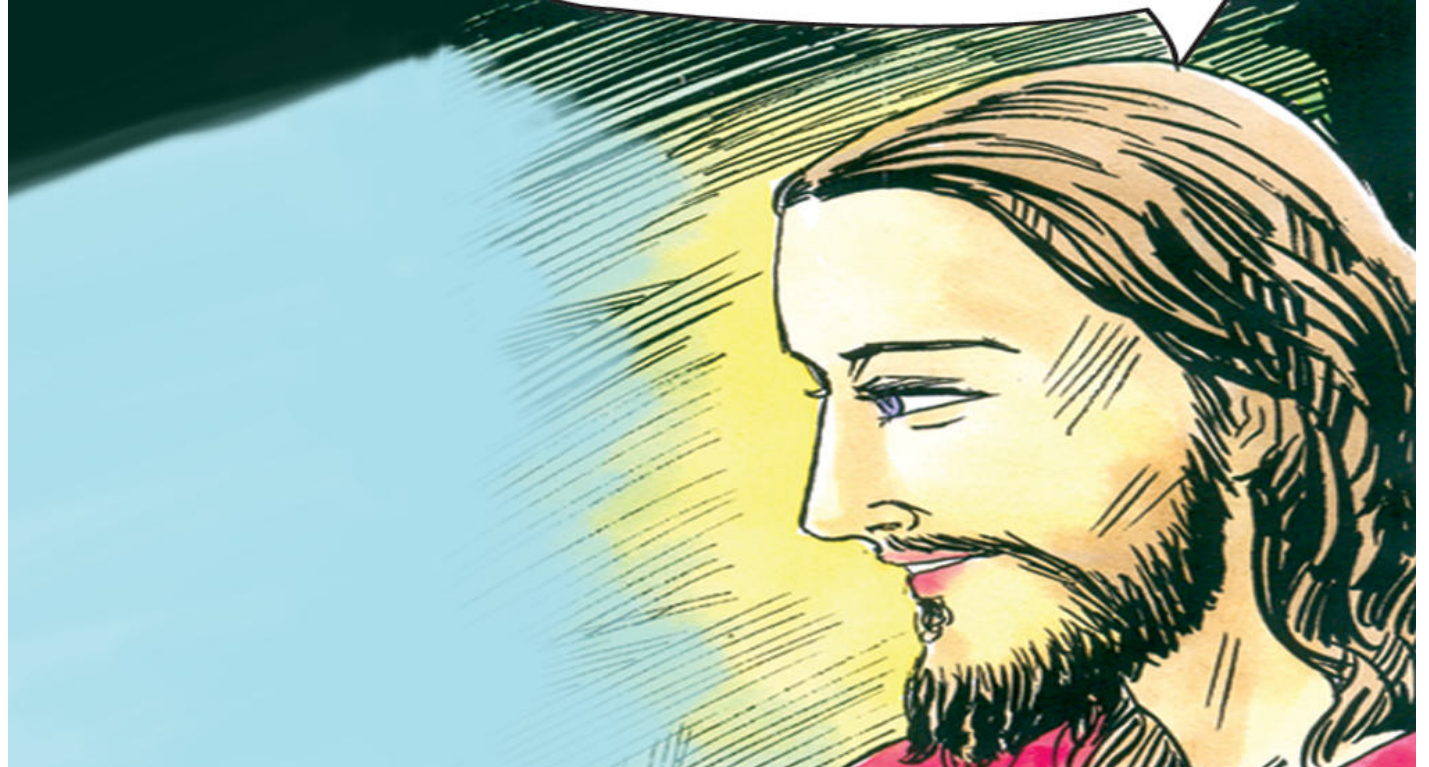
What? Do you claim  
equality with God?

!!

I do nothing on my own. I do the work entrusted to me by my Father. They testify on my behalf.

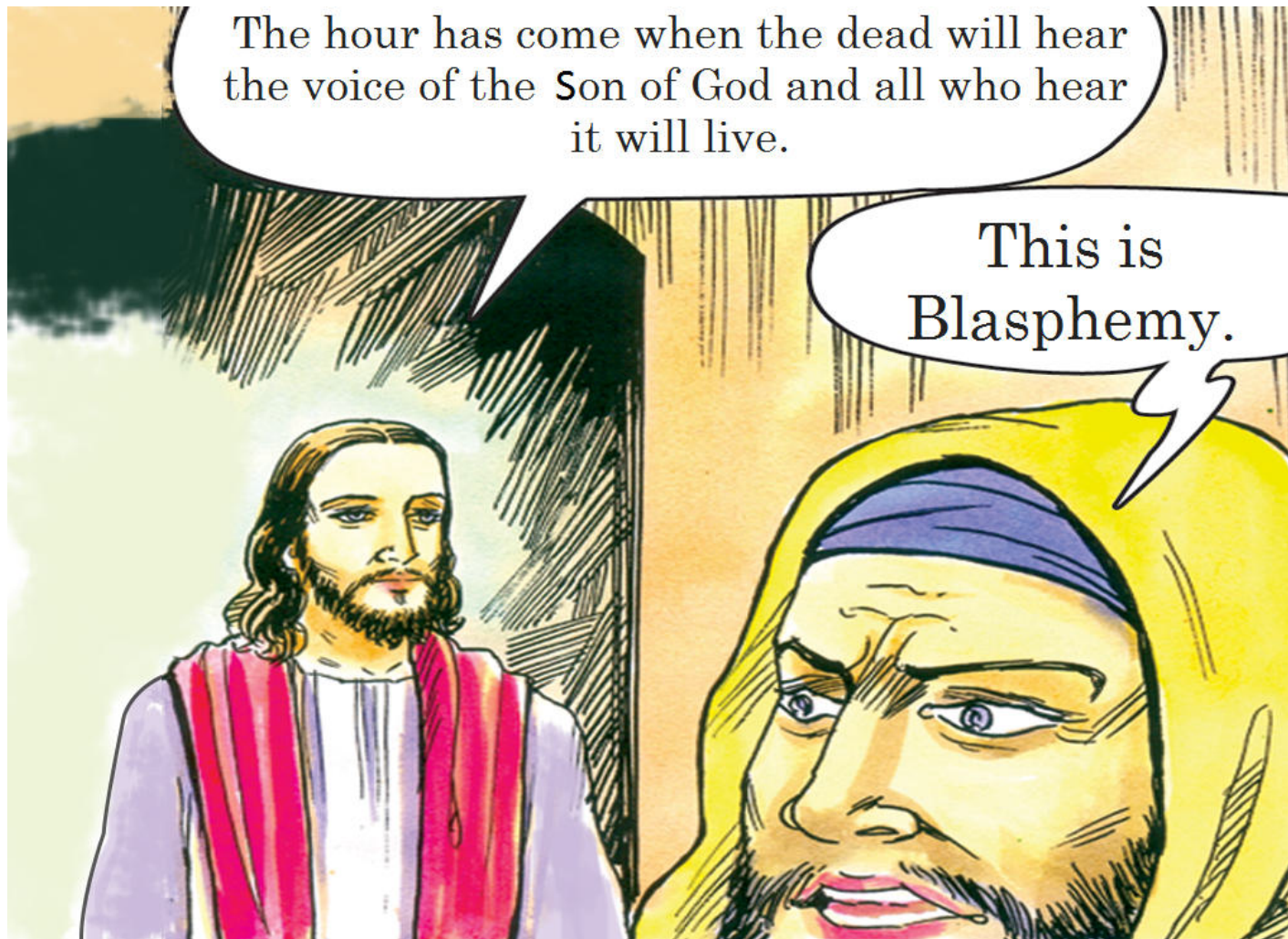


As the Father raises the  
dead and gives them life,  
so the Son gives life to  
anyone He chooses.

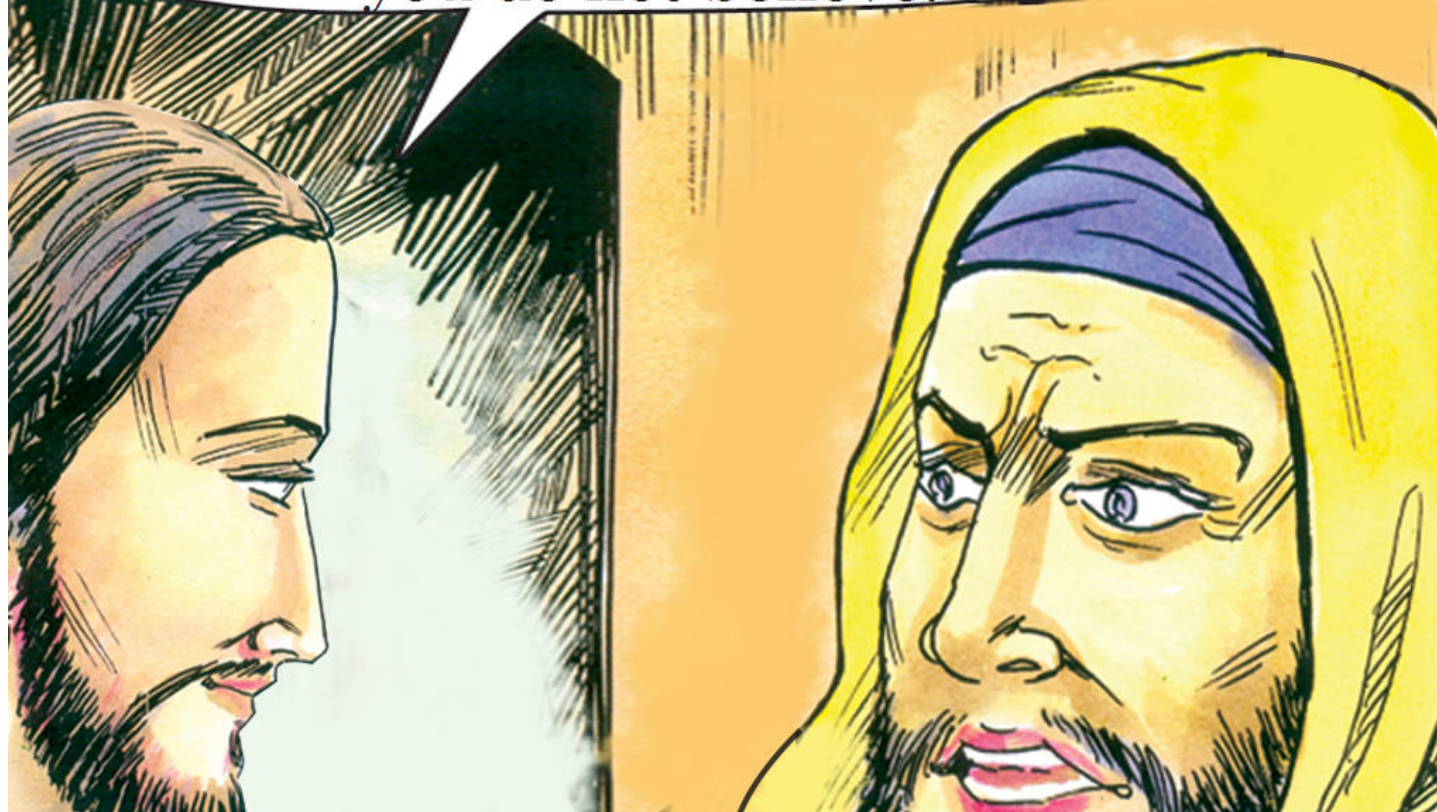


The hour has come when the dead will hear  
the voice of the Son of God and all who hear  
it will live.

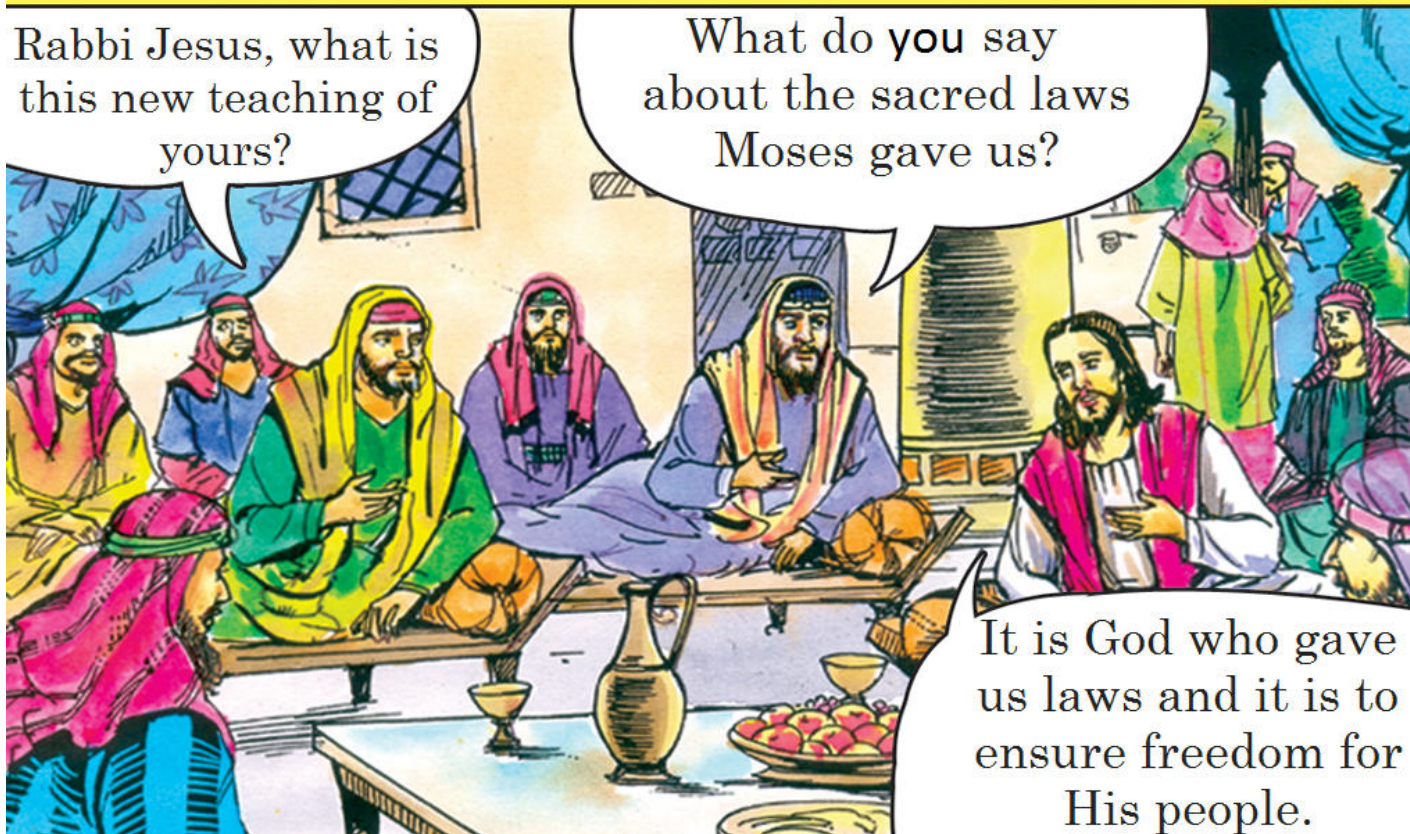
This is  
Blasphemy.



Have you not studied the  
scripture? They testify to me. But  
you do not believe.



The Jewish authority looked into ways to kill Jesus. When Jesus got back to Galilee, Simon the Pharisee invited him for a dinner.



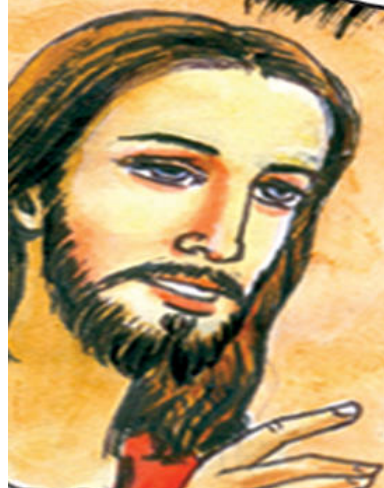
You are right,  
what do you say  
about fasting?

John came. He  
neither ate bread  
nor drank wine.  
You said that he  
was mad.



I eat and drink. Then you say  
that I am glutton and  
drunkard.

We didn't say that. Why  
are your disciples not  
fasting and doing  
penance?



As long as the bridegroom is with  
them, his attendance would  
not fast.

When the bridegroom is taken  
away, they will fast.



Nobody puts new wine into the  
old wineskins.

True.



Fresh skins for the new wine.

But don't you know that  
old wine is better?

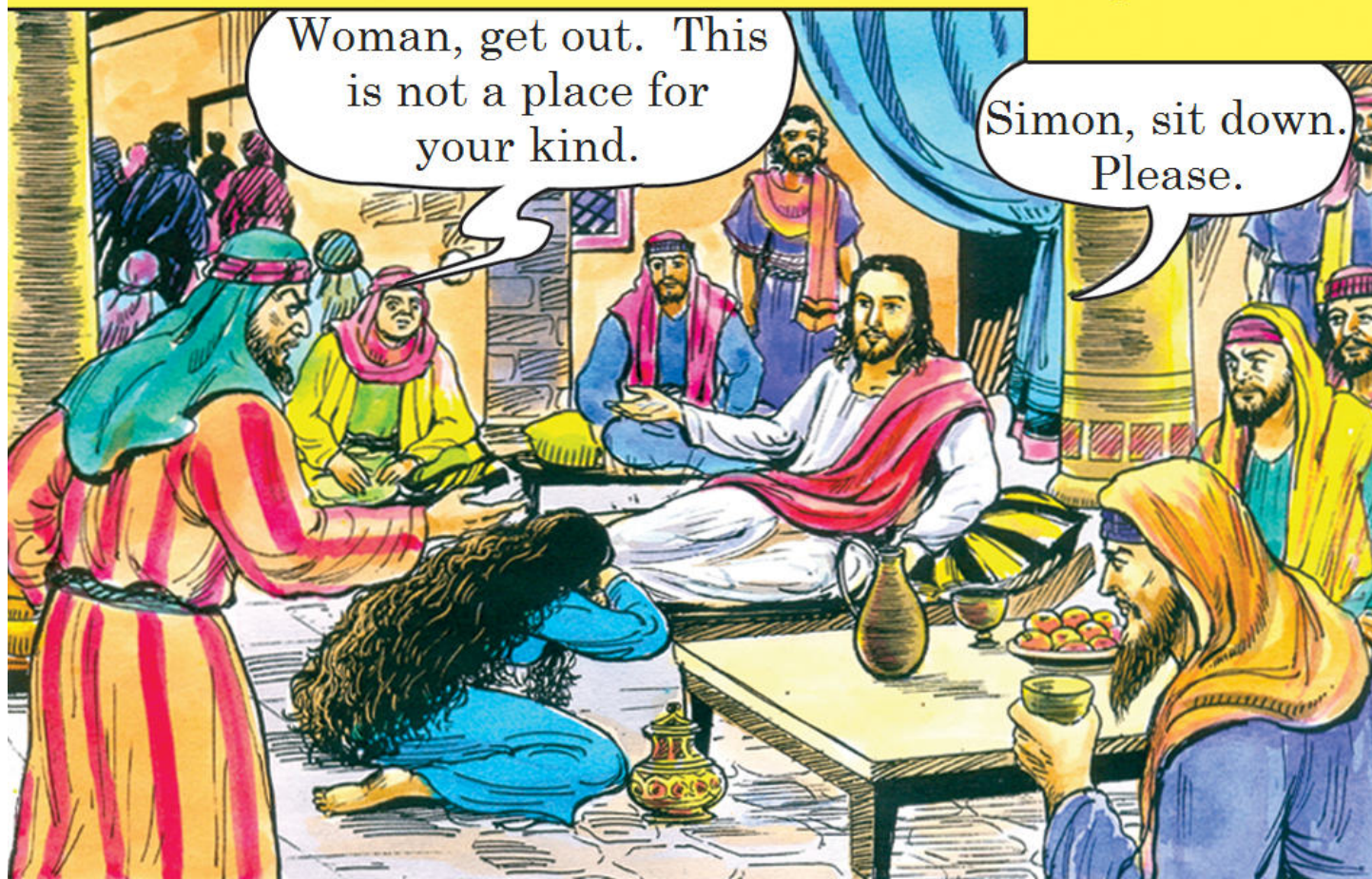


The wine served here is fifteen years old.

It is difficult for one used to the old to like the new. To understand the new law, you need a new heart.



While they were talking a woman of bad reputation walked in. She knelt at the feet of Jesus and wept.

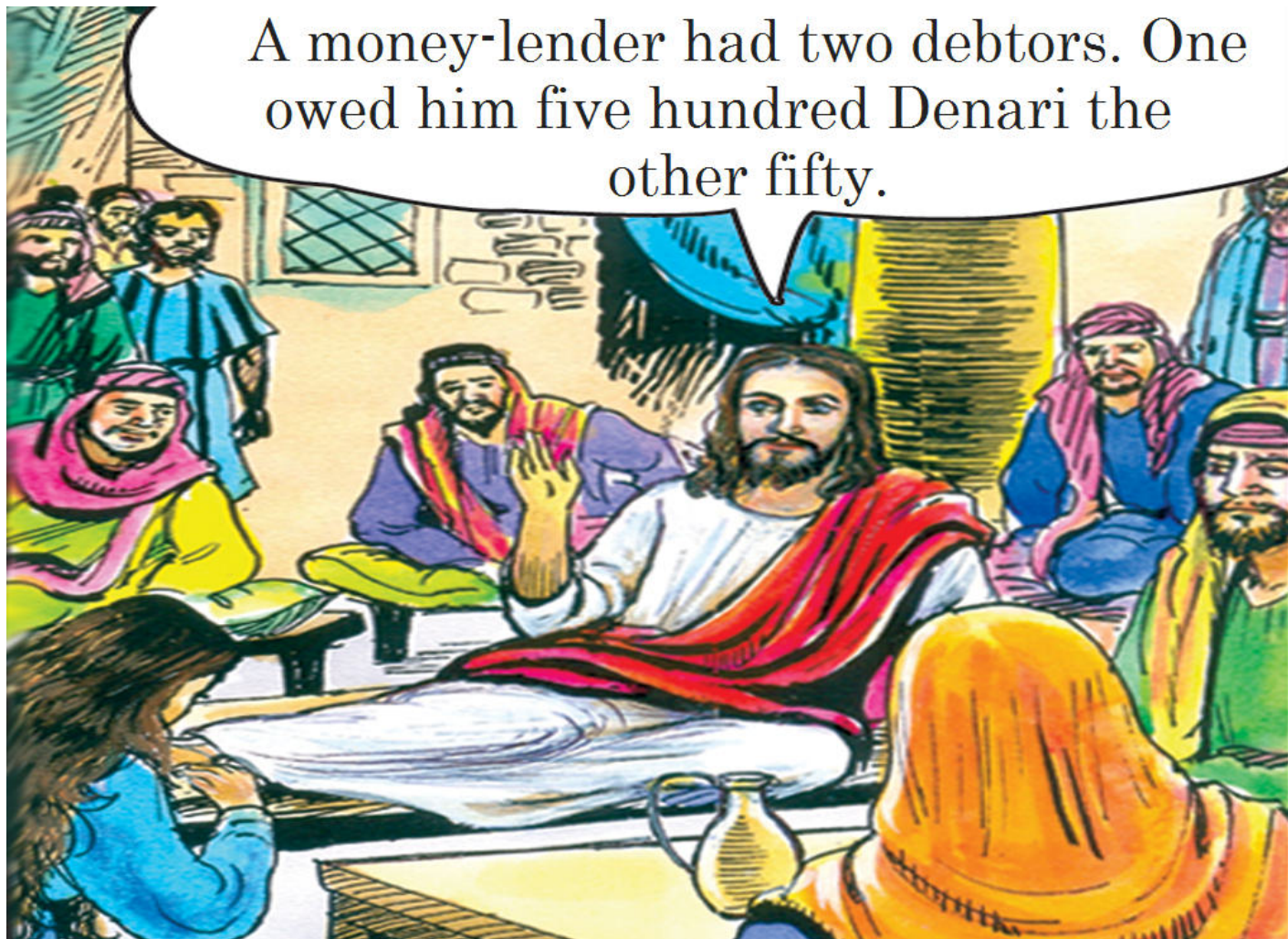


Sir, don't you know who  
she is?

Simon, I have something  
to say to you.



A money-lender had two debtors. One owed him five hundred Denari the other fifty.

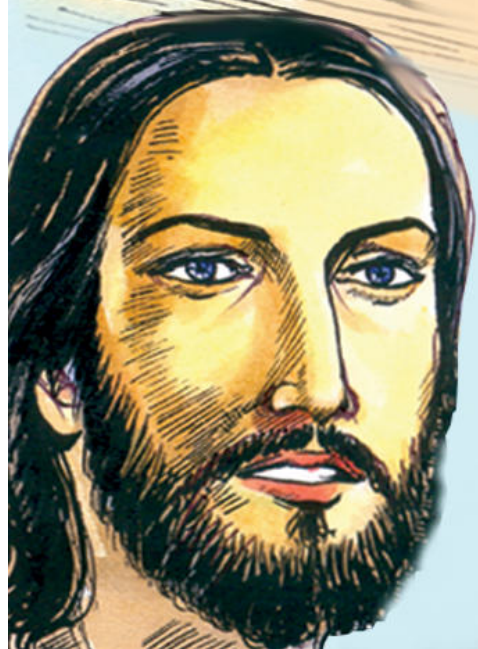


They both were unable to pay. So He  
pardoned them both. Which of them will  
love him more?

The one who was pardoned  
more, I suppose.



Right. See this woman. I came to your house and  
you poured no water on my feet. But she has  
washed my feet with her tears.



You did not give me a kiss of welcome. You did not anoint my head with oil. She has anointed my feet with oil and covered them with kisses.



I tell you that her many  
sins are forgiven. See how  
great her love is.

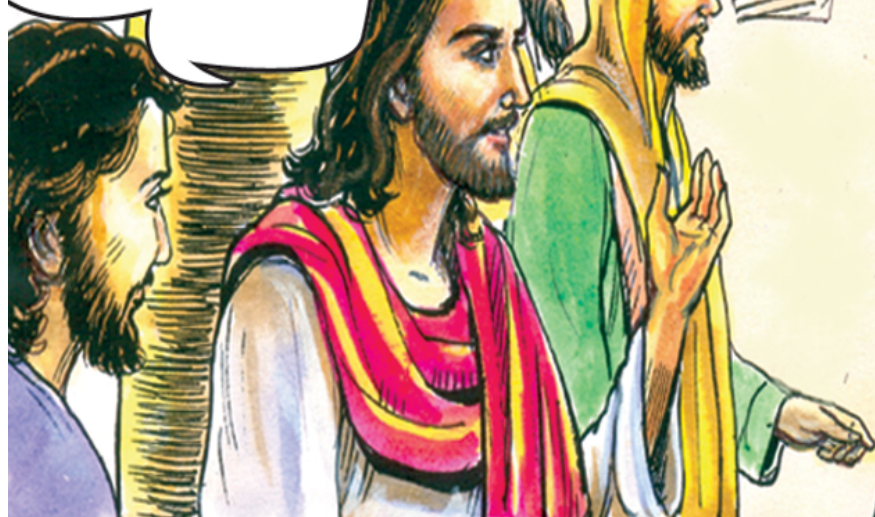
!!!



My daughter,  
your sins are  
forgiven. Go in  
peace.



One who is  
forgiven little  
shows little  
love.



Who is this man that he  
even forgives sins!

The Jewish leaders closed their hearts against Jesus. In the midst of opposition Jesus continued to proclaim the Good News. He revealed himself to those who were ready to Believe.

Next Story

# THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE

## Questions

1. Describe three forms of expectations among the Israelites concerning the One to Come.
2. What is the meaning of the word “apostle”?
3. Why did Jesus choose the Apostles?
4. What are the eight “Beatitudes”?
5. What touched you the most from the “Sermon on the Mount”?
6. What was the answer Jesus gave to the disciples of John?
7. What is the main difference between the ways of Jesus and that of the zealots?
8. What is the meaning of the name “Bethesda”?
9. What did the people say when Jesus raised the son of the widow in Nain?
10. To whom did Jesus compare those who obey His word?

Memorize: ***“Be merciful, even as your heavenly Father is merciful”***  
(Luke 6:36, 26)

# THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN COMICS

1. Cain and Abel
2. Abraham
3. Jacob
4. Joseph
5. Moses
6. Joshua
7. Samson
8. Ruth
9. Samuel
10. Saul
11. David
12. King David
13. Solomon
14. Elijah
15. Amos
16. Hosea
17. Micah

18. Isaiah
19. Jeremiah
20. Ezekiel
21. Zechariah
22. Jonah
23. Job
24. Tobit
25. Daniel
26. Susanna
27. Esther
28. Judith
29. Maccabeus
30. The Maccabees
31. A World Awaiting
32. Light of the world
33. The Herald
34. The Prophet
35. The Liberator

36. The One to come
37. The Lord of the Universe
38. Son of God
39. The Son of Man
40. In the shadow of the cross
41. The Way
42. Son of David
43. Bread of Life
44. The Redeemer
45. With us forever
46. Tongues of fire
47. Baptism in blood
48. The chosen vessel
49. Libation
50. Come, Lord Jesus
51. Woman