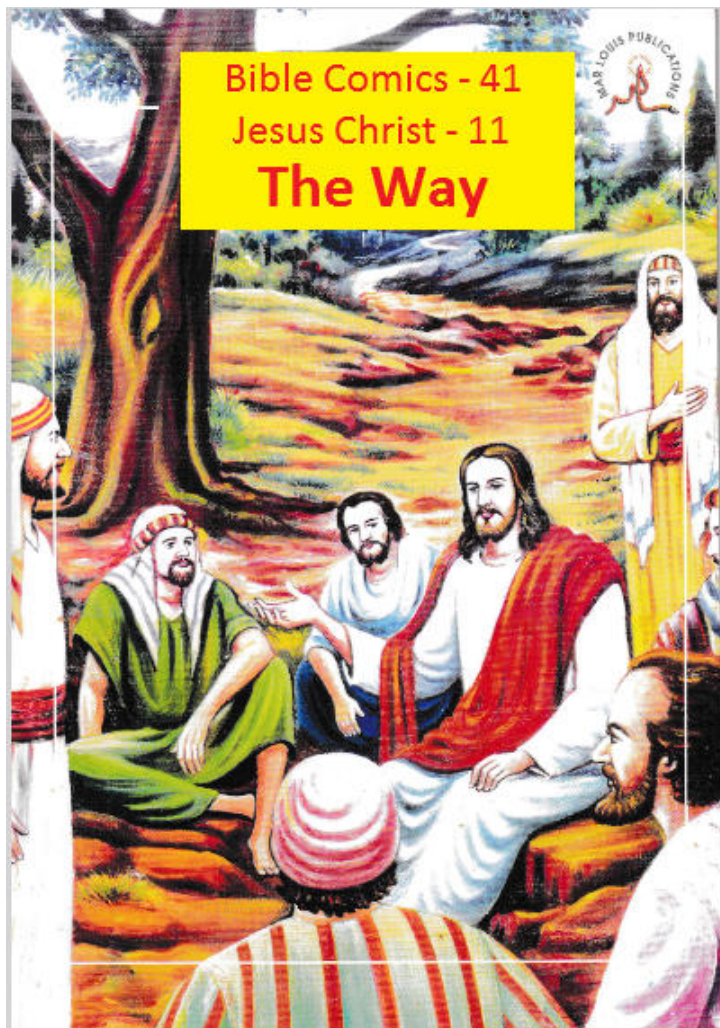


Bible Comics - 41  
Jesus Christ - 11  
**The Way**



# THE WAY

All the three synoptic gospels have reported that Jesus, towards the end of his public ministry, travelled to Jerusalem with the firm conviction that he was marching towards his death. The fourth gospel on the other hand has narrated several journeys of Jesus to Jerusalem. Nevertheless, John depicts the whole earthly life of Jesus as a journey that starts with his coming down from the Father and returning to Him.

Jesus came into this world in order to lead us to our Father in heaven.

As the earthly life of Jesus, our life too is a pilgrimage to the Father's house and Jesus is the one who shows us the way. However, Jesus is not just a travel guide; he himself is the Way. That is why the present story is entitled "The Way". Here we depict Jesus' journey to Jerusalem and his teaching about discipleship conveyed mainly through parables. Most of the episodes and stories narrated here answer the question; "What shall I do to inherit eternal life"?

Jesus is the prince of peace. He came to reconcile humanity with God and human beings among themselves. However, his presence provokes division. Those who reject Jesus and his teachings will reject also his disciples. Those who persecute him will persecute his followers as well. That is why Jesus said that he came to bring sword, not peace.

The disciples of Jesus should do good to all without expecting any reward or recognition. He taught that it is a grave sin to live in luxury when the neighbours go hungry and starve to death. If



one wishes to participate in the heavenly banquets one should invite the poor and the crippled to the feasts and banquets one celebrates today. Only those who forgive the others can expect to be forgiven by God.

The parable of the prodigal son depicts God's immense love and man's need of repentance. The one who acknowledges one's sinfulness and asks for mercy will experience God's forgiving love, whereas those who boast of their piety and despise others will find it difficult to come to salvation. All that we are and all that we have are

God's gratuitous gifts for which we should always be thankful. The episode of the ten lepers demonstrates that not being thankful is a grave sin. It is by loving God with all our hearts and doing good to the neighbours with all our resources that we should express our gratitude to God. The example of the blind man shows that those who cry aloud to Christ will not be put to shame. Bartimaeus who prayed aloud for sight and when healed, followed Jesus is a model for all of us.

Bible Comics – 41

Jesus Christ – 11

# The Way

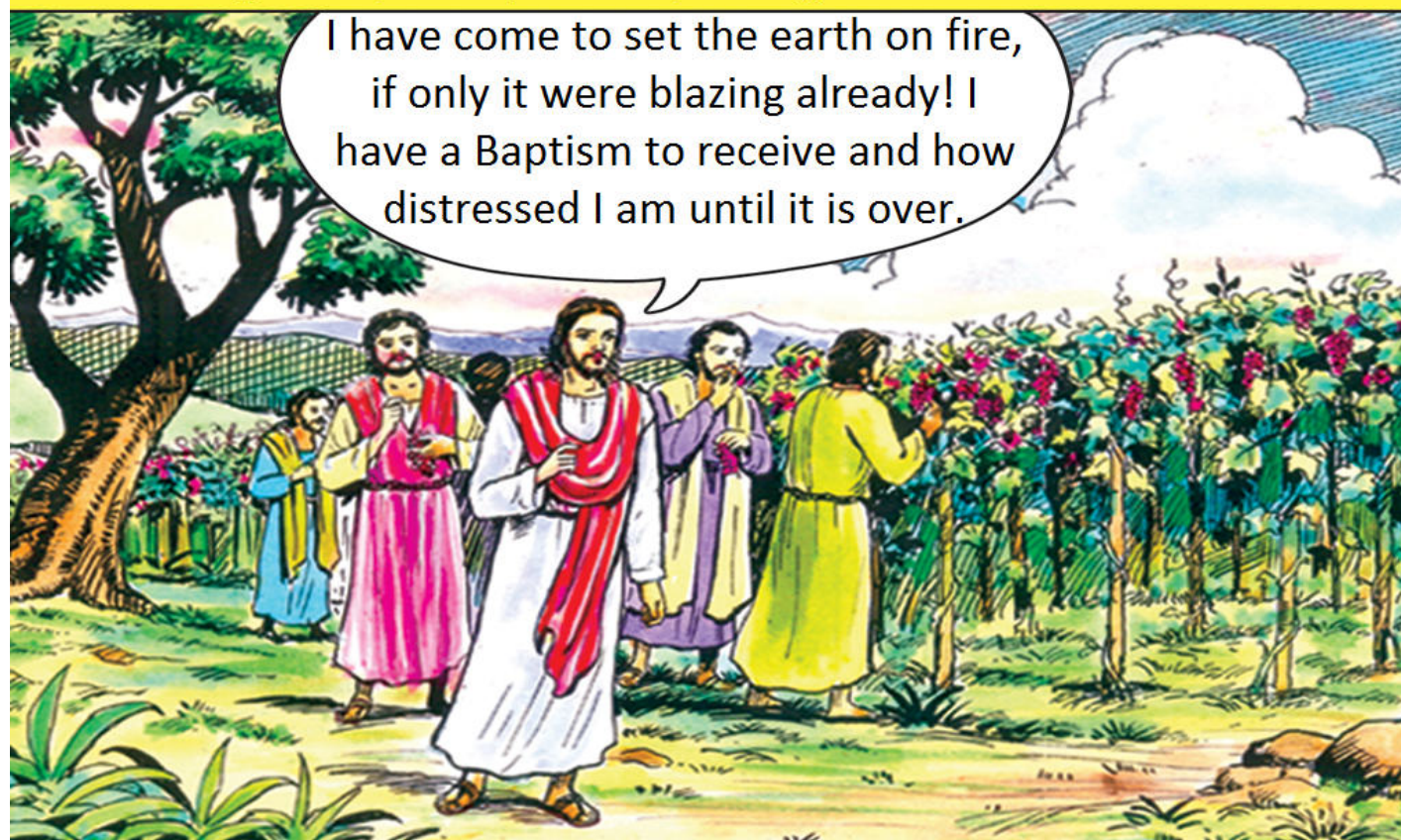
Script

Rev. Dr. Michael Karimattam

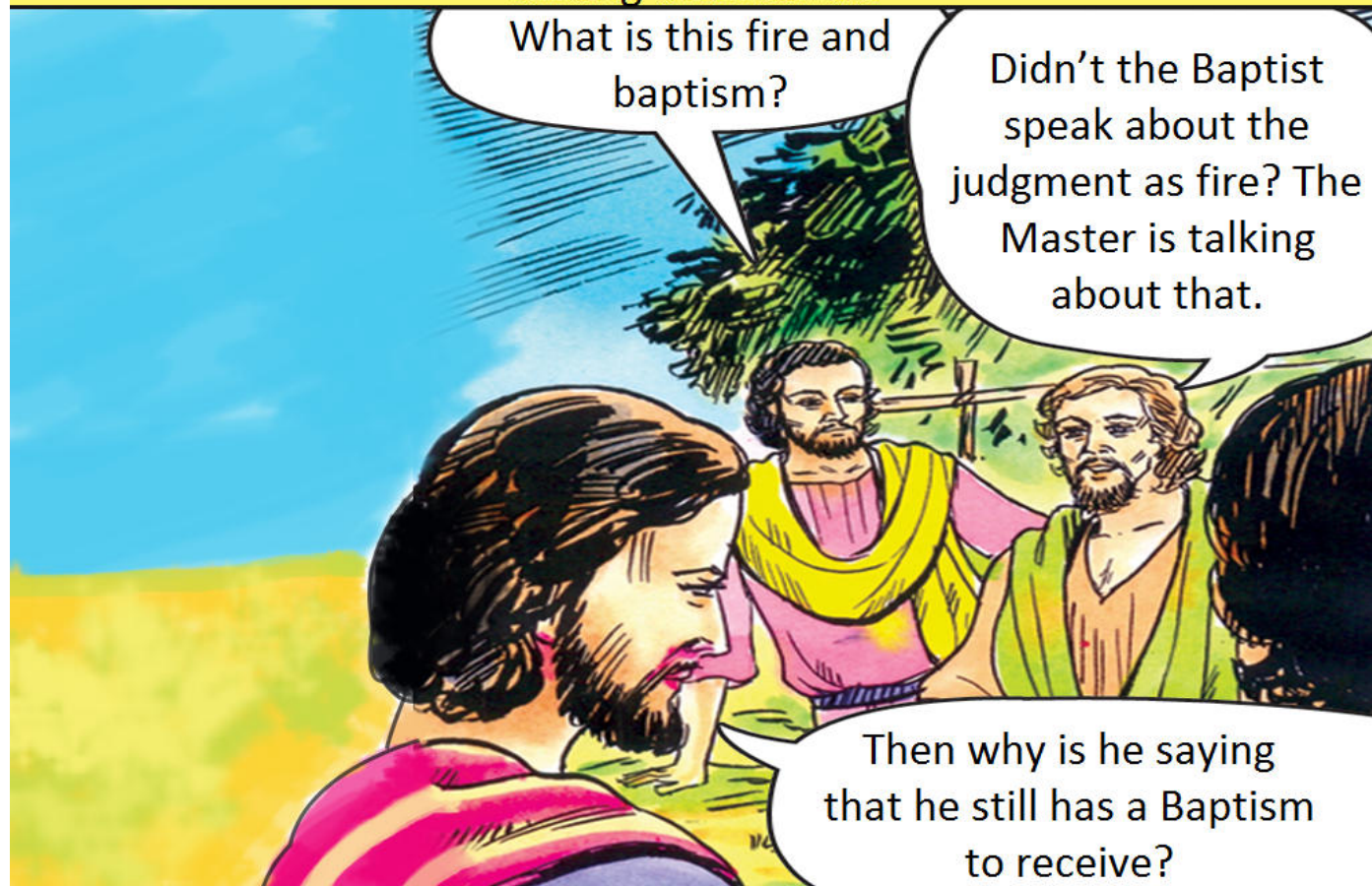
Illustration

Devassy \* Benny

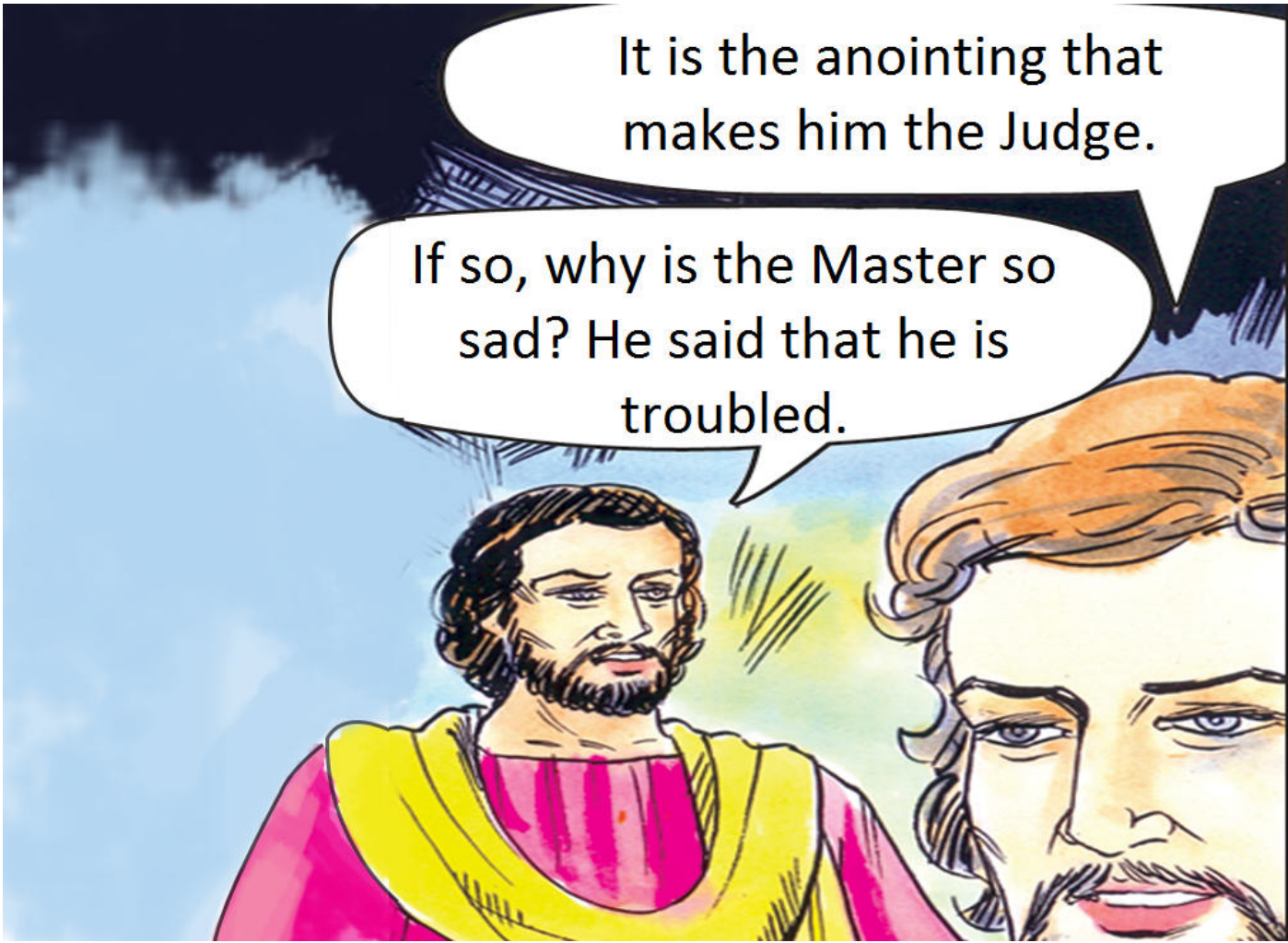
In spite of the many miracles Jesus performed, people refused to believe in him. As opposition mounted, Jesus concentrated more on teaching the Apostles, while speaking to the others in Parables.



The disciples did not understand what Jesus said. They discussed among themselves.






A comic book illustration featuring two characters. On the left, a man with dark, wavy hair and a beard, wearing a pink robe with a yellow sash, looks slightly to the right. On the right, a close-up of another man's face with light brown, wavy hair and a mustache, looking towards the left. A large speech bubble originates from the man on the right, containing two lines of text. The background is a simple blue sky with white clouds.

It is the anointing that  
makes him the Judge.

If so, why is the Master so  
sad? He said that he is  
troubled.

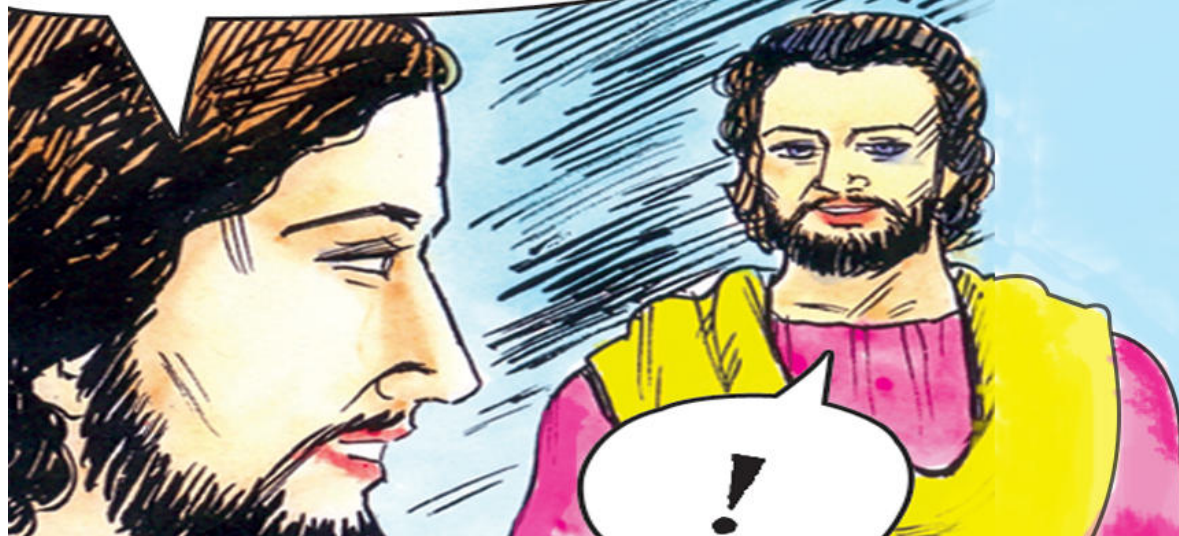


The royal anointing will  
be difficult because of  
the many enemies.


I think the Master is talking  
about the fire of love that should  
consume the whole world.

Isn't fire the sign of God's  
presence as on Mount Sinai?

So, he wants the whole  
world to know the  
love of God.







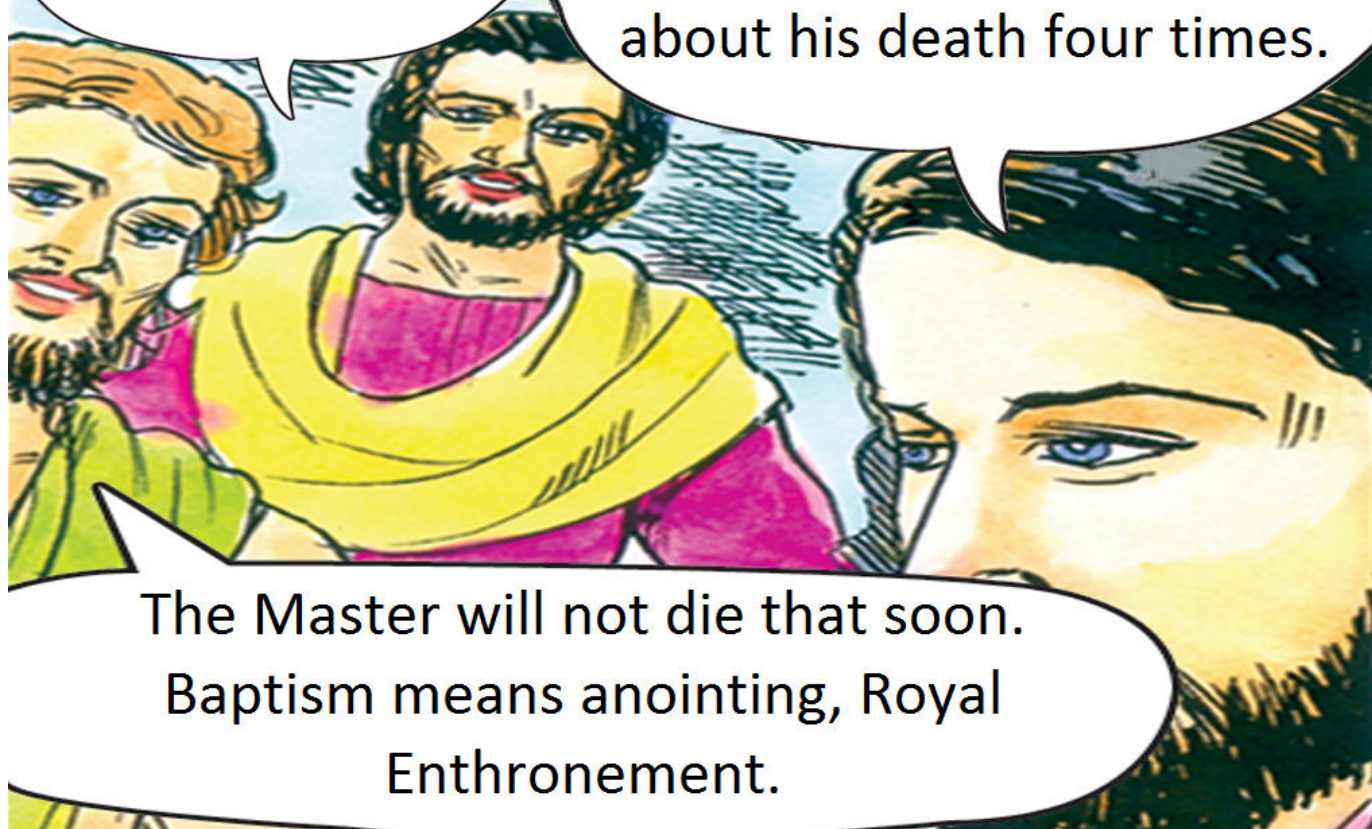
Still, what is this Baptism?

There was a Baptism in Jordan. The next one, I can't even think of it.

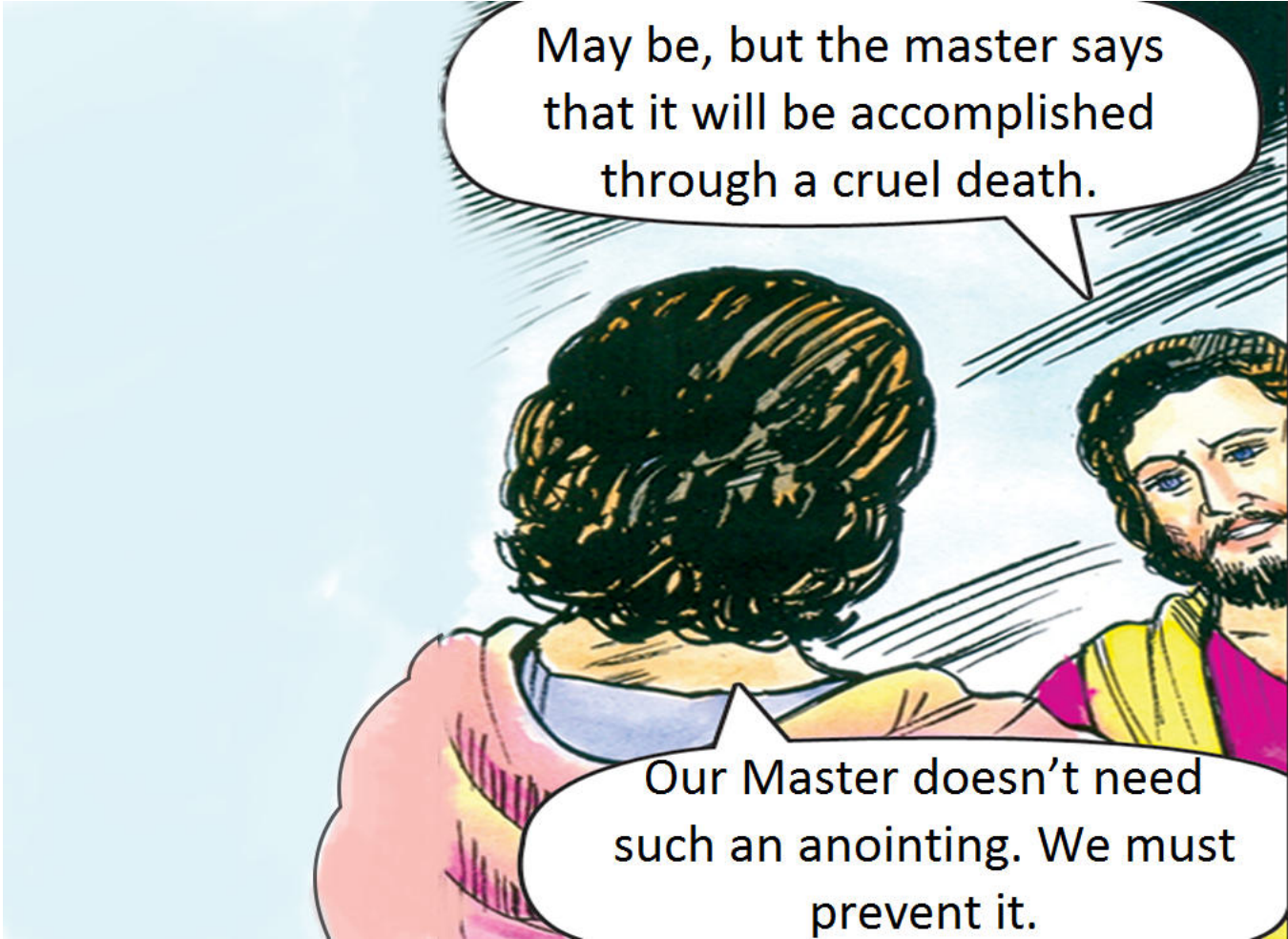
?

What is it  
John? Tell us.

During the past two months  
the Master has spoken  
about his death four times.



The Master will not die that soon.  
Baptism means anointing, Royal  
Enthronement.



May be, but the master says  
that it will be accomplished  
through a cruel death.

Our Master doesn't need  
such an anointing. We must  
prevent it.

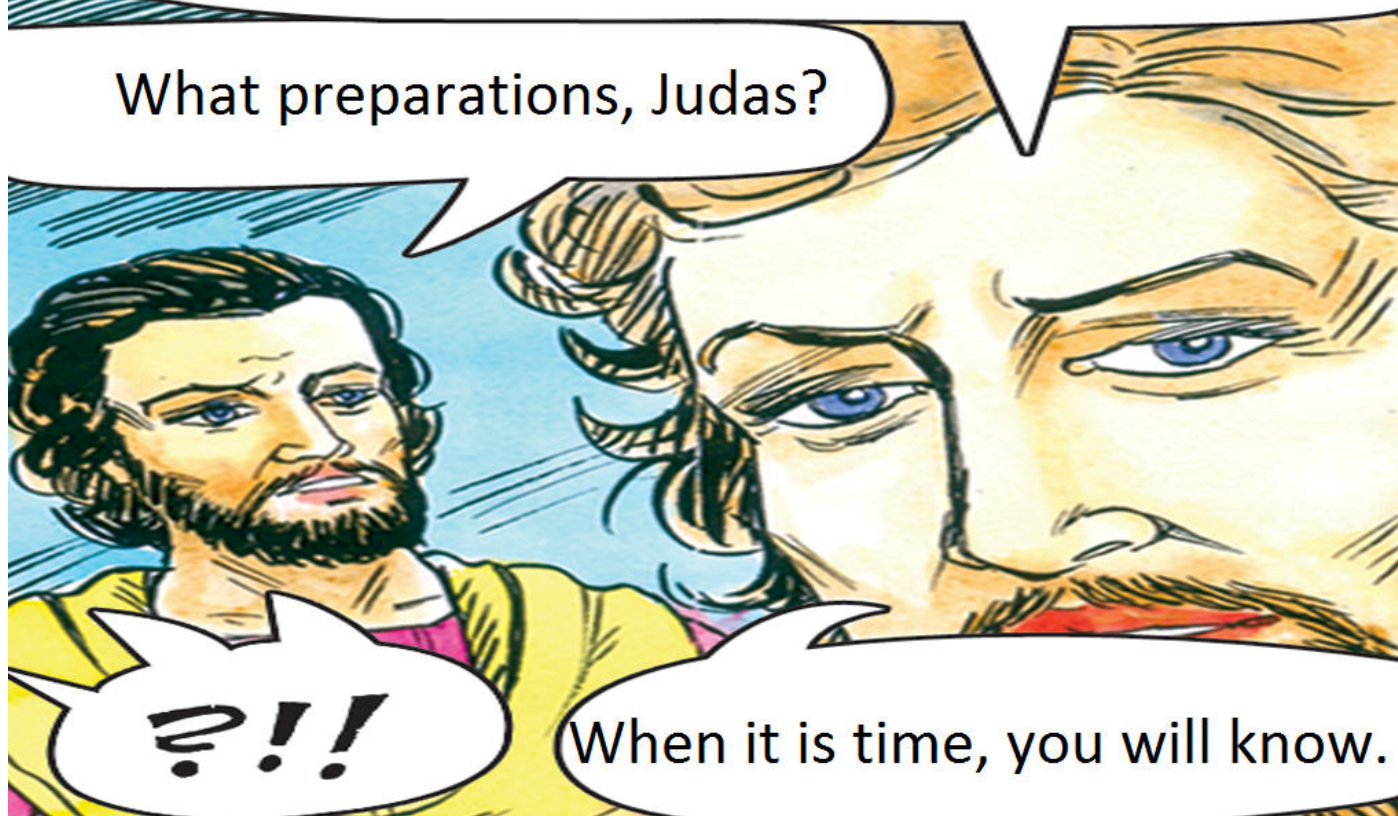


No one can prevent it. The preparations are almost over.

What preparations, Judas?

?!?

When it is time, you will know.



Do you suppose  
that I am here to  
bring peace?

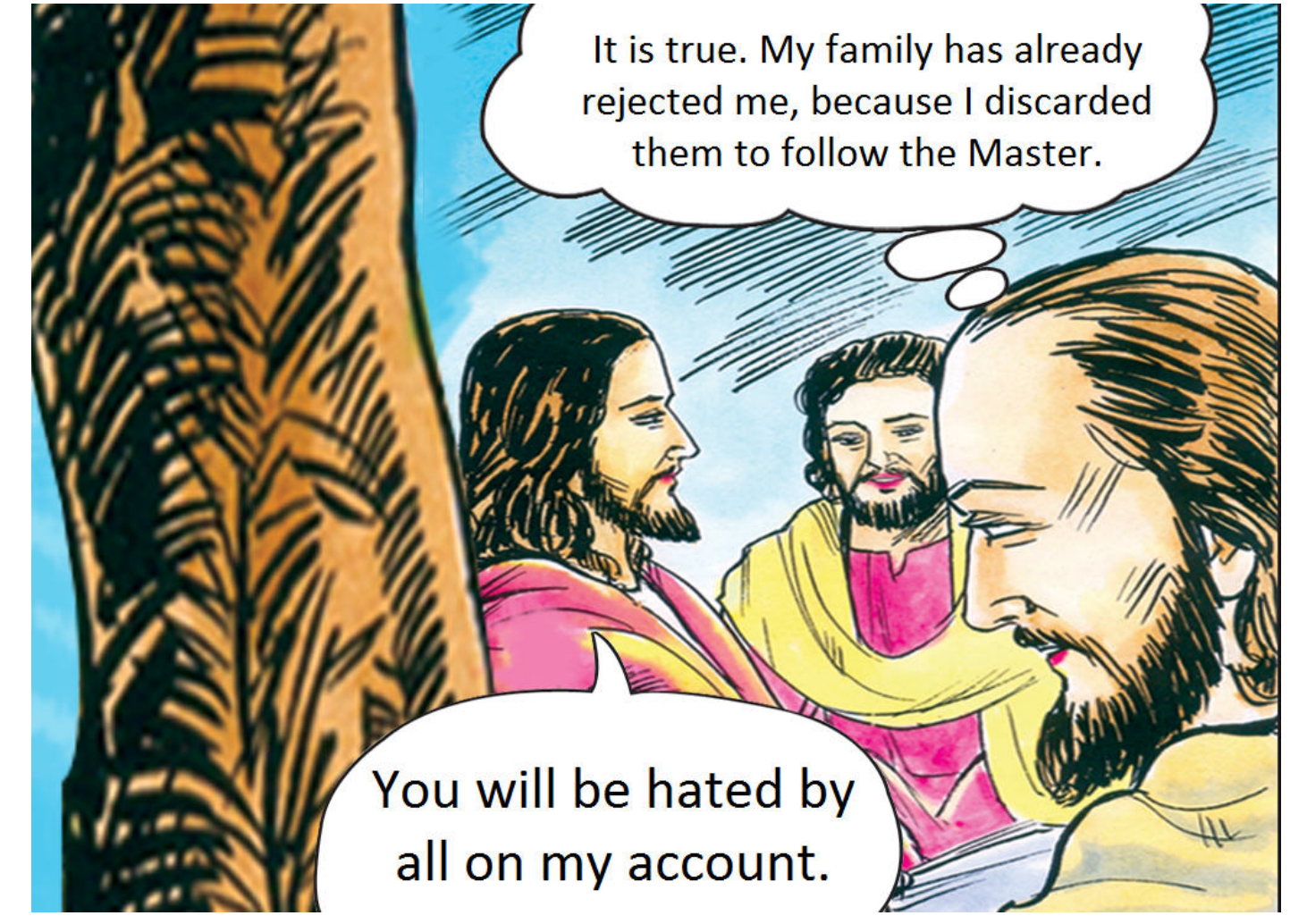
Surely Master, only  
you can give peace to  
the world.





No, not peace, but division.  
Even families will be divided  
because of me.





It is true. My family has already rejected me, because I discarded them to follow the Master.

You will be hated by all on my account.



You will be betrayed by your own parents and friends. They will bring you before kings and rulers because of my name.



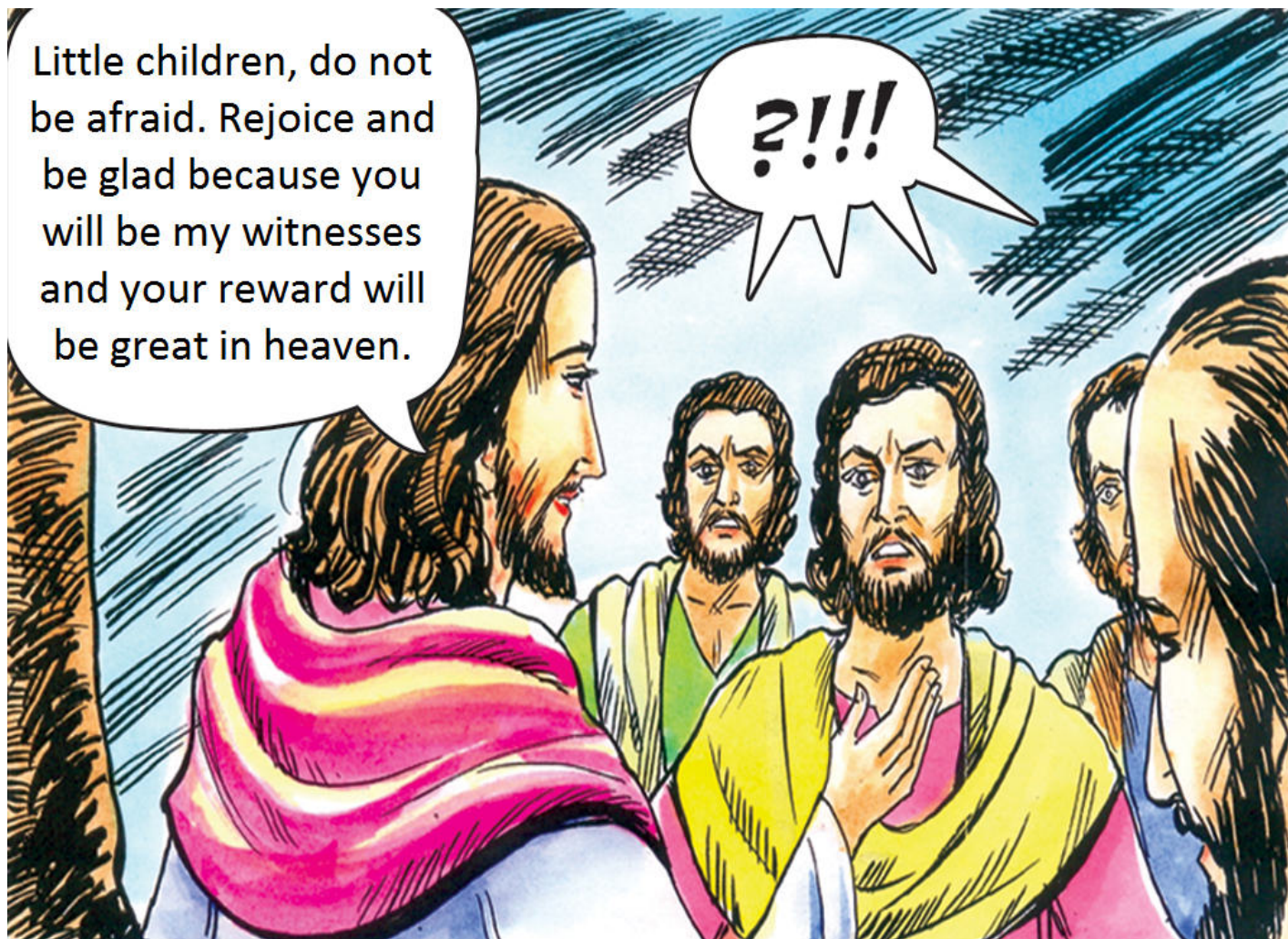


Then you do not worry about what to say, because the Holy Spirit will speak through you.



Little children, do not be afraid. Rejoice and be glad because you will be my witnesses and your reward will be great in heaven.

?!!!





One day a Pharisee invited Jesus for dinner.

There is no place set aside for any one. Whoever comes first gets the first seat.

This is my place.

2!!!!

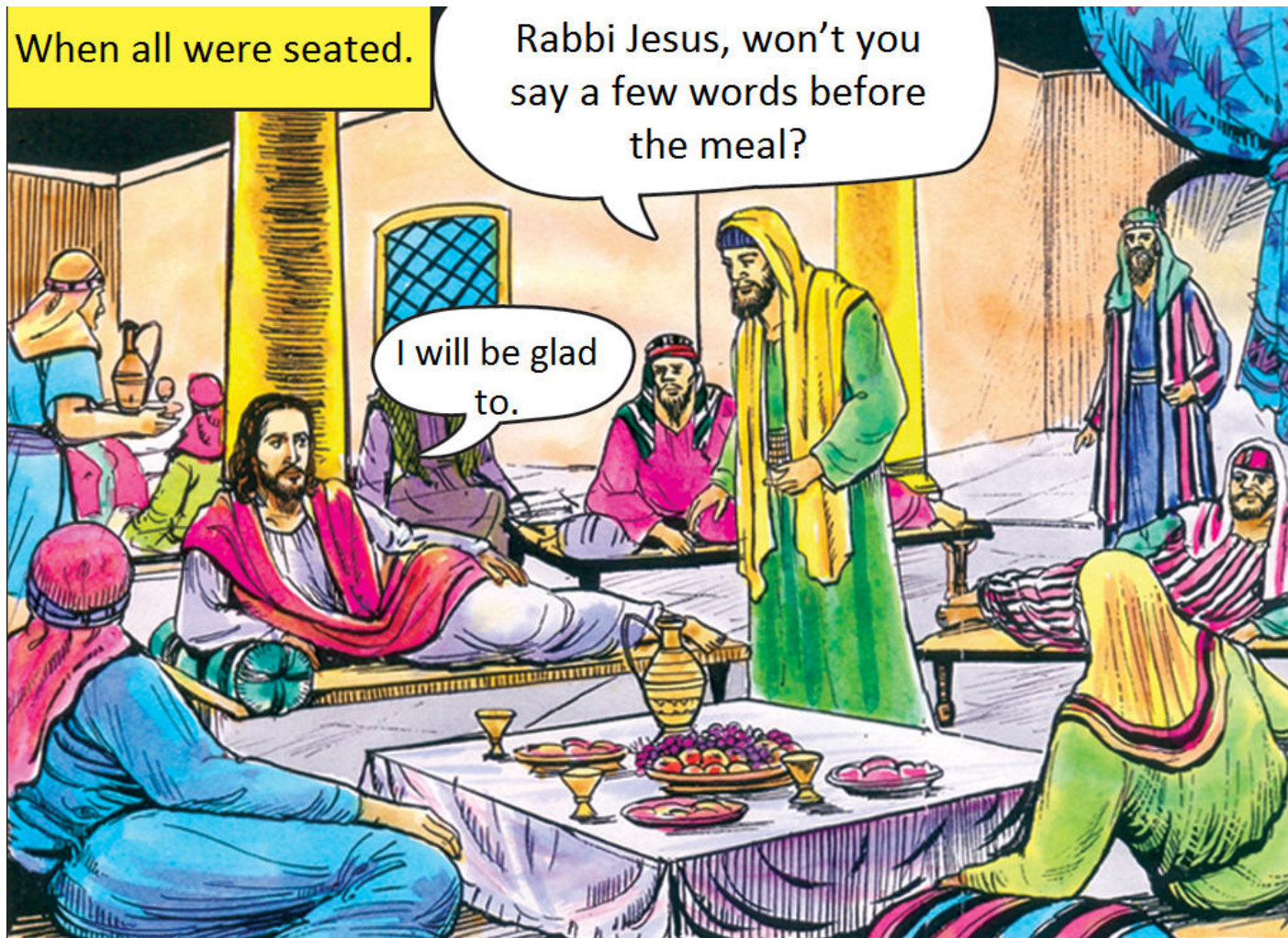




When all were seated.

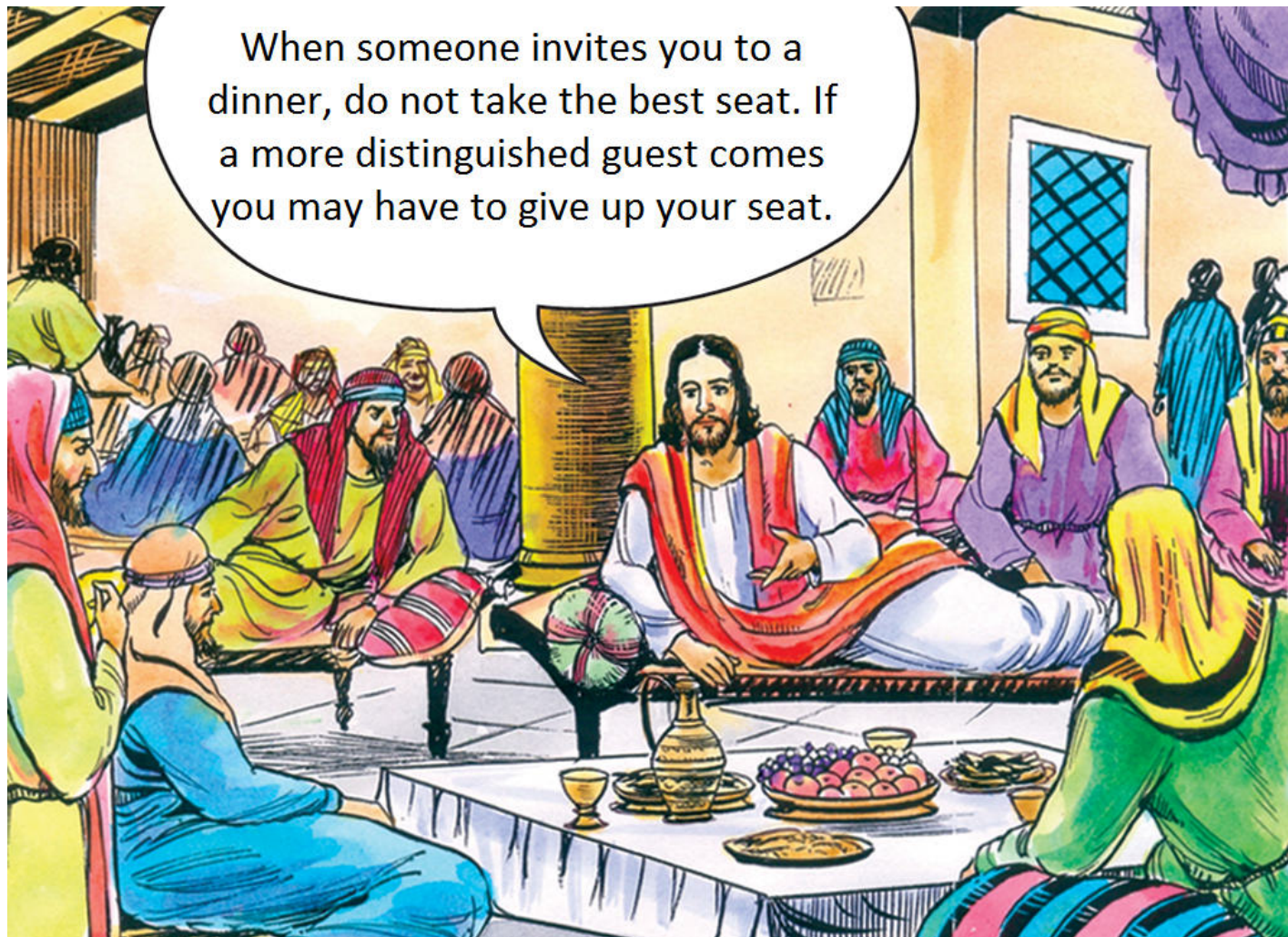
Rabbi Jesus, won't you  
say a few words before  
the meal?

I will be glad  
to.





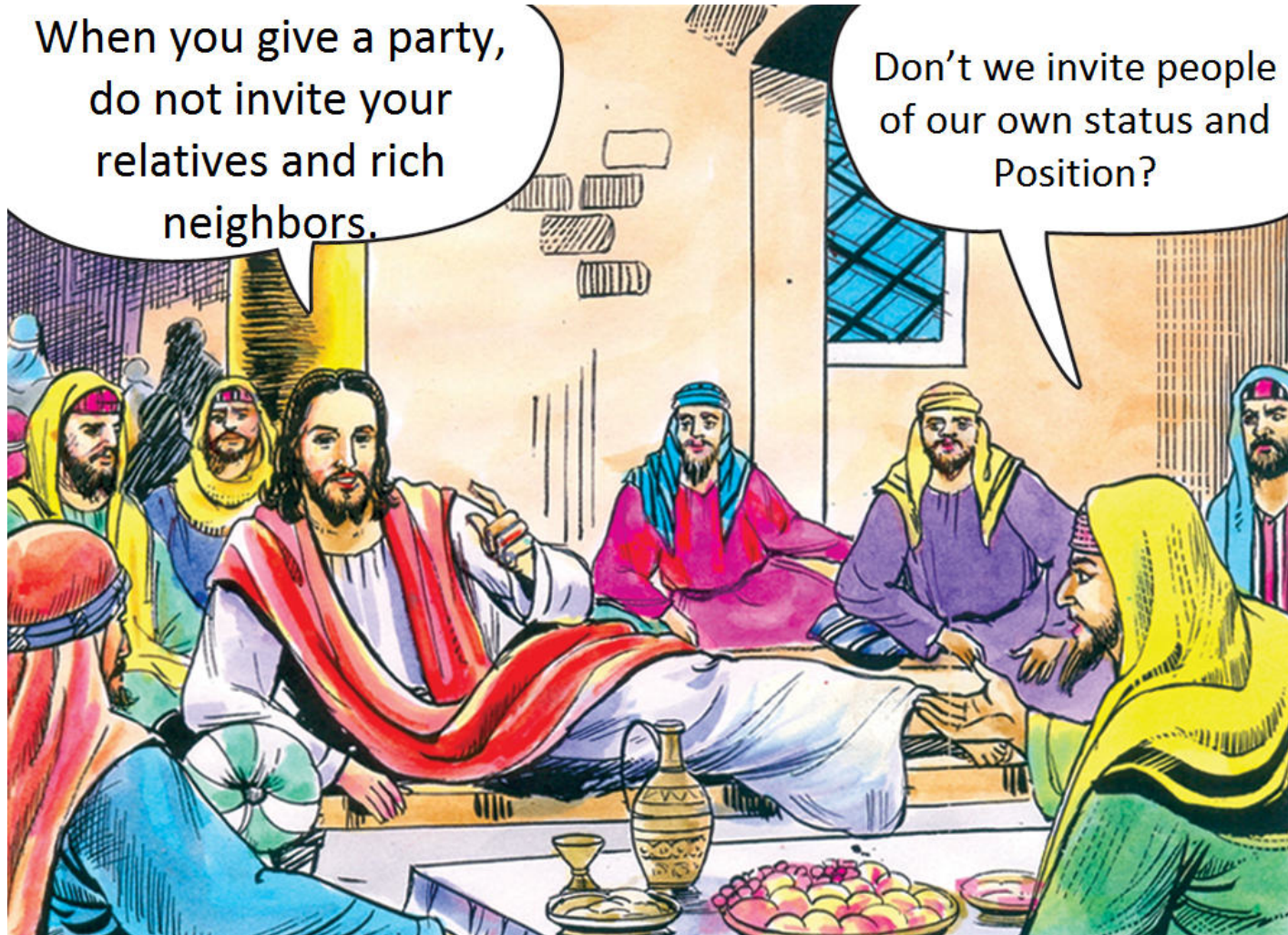
When someone invites you to a dinner, do not take the best seat. If a more distinguished guest comes you may have to give up your seat.



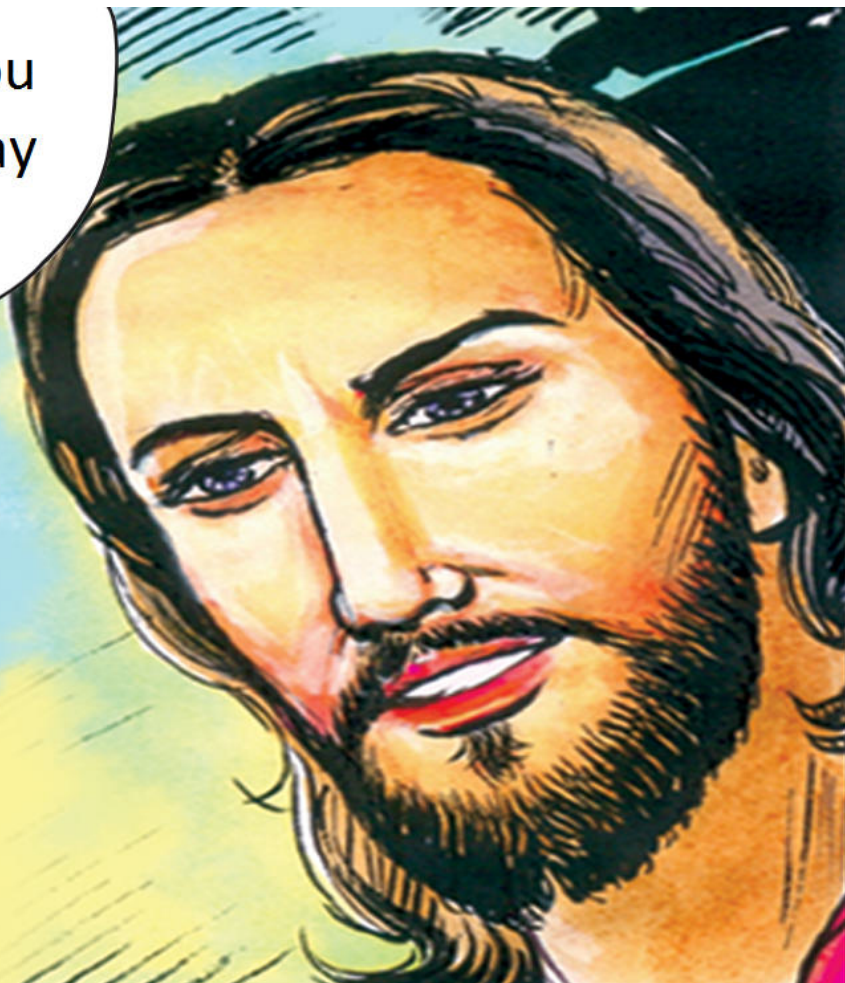


When you give a party,  
do not invite your  
relatives and rich  
neighbors.

Don't we invite people  
of our own status and  
Position?



They will invite you  
in return and repay  
your courtesy.





Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind.

What? Invite the beggars to dine at home?



No decent person will take part in that dinner.



Then you will be rewarded, when the righteous rise again.

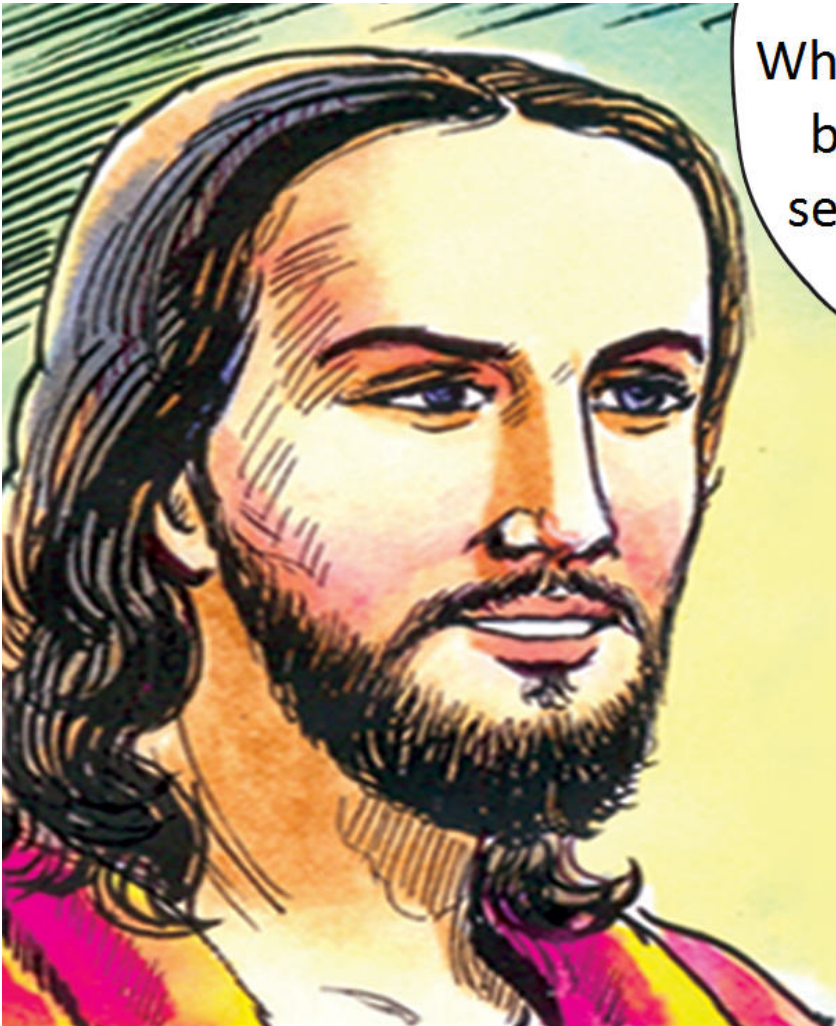
Happy the one who will be at the feast in the Kingdom of God.



There was a man  
who gave a great  
banquet.







When it was time for the banquet, he sent his servants to those who had been invited.

My Master's dinner  
is ready, Please do  
come.

I have bought a piece of  
land and I must go and  
see it. Please accept my  
apologies.





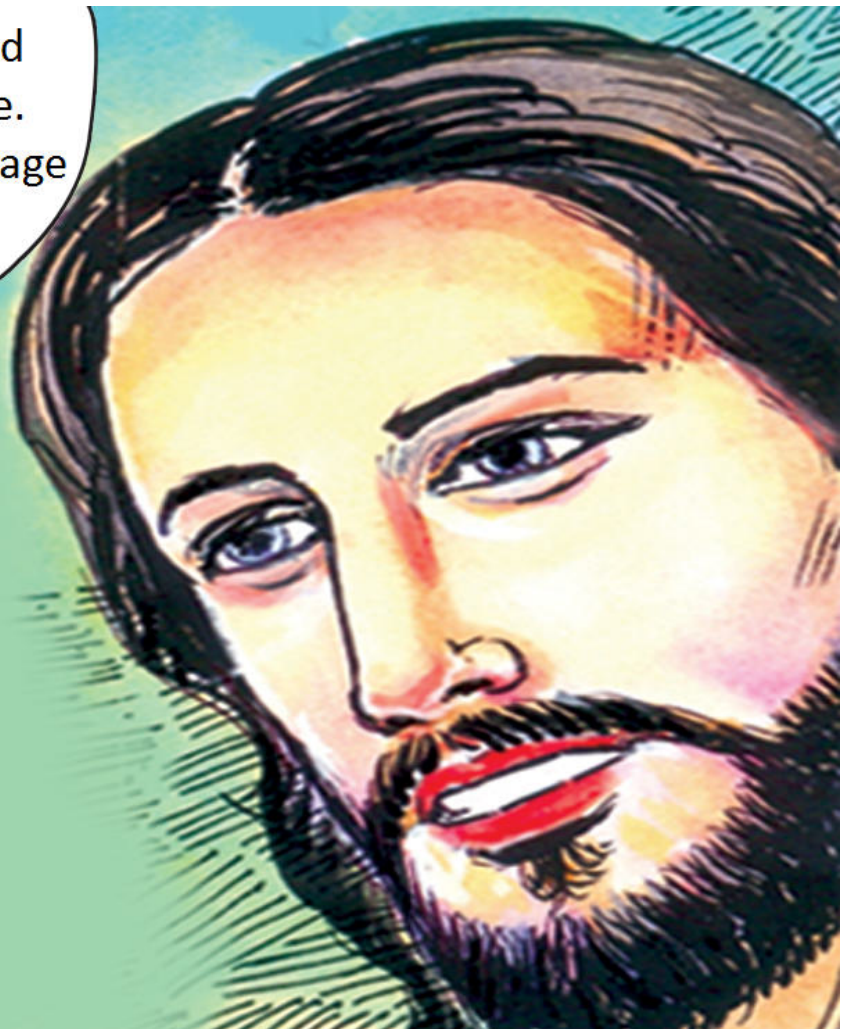
Another one.

Please come, the feast is ready.

Please accept my apologies.  
I just got married and so I  
can't come.



All those who were invited  
found excuses not to come.  
Then the householder in a rage  
said to his servant.





Go out quickly into the streets and  
alleys of the town and bring in here  
the poor, the crippled, the blind, and  
the lame.



Master, we have brought them all in.  
There is still room left.

Go to the country roads and  
lanes and make people to come  
in and fill my banquet hall.





Not one of those  
invited shall taste my  
Banquet.







Rabbi Jesus, are  
you saying these  
stories to insult us?

We had hoped that you  
would speak about the  
Kingdom of God with a little  
more dignity.

There was a  
rich man.





He used to dress in the most expensive clothes and feast magnificently every day.



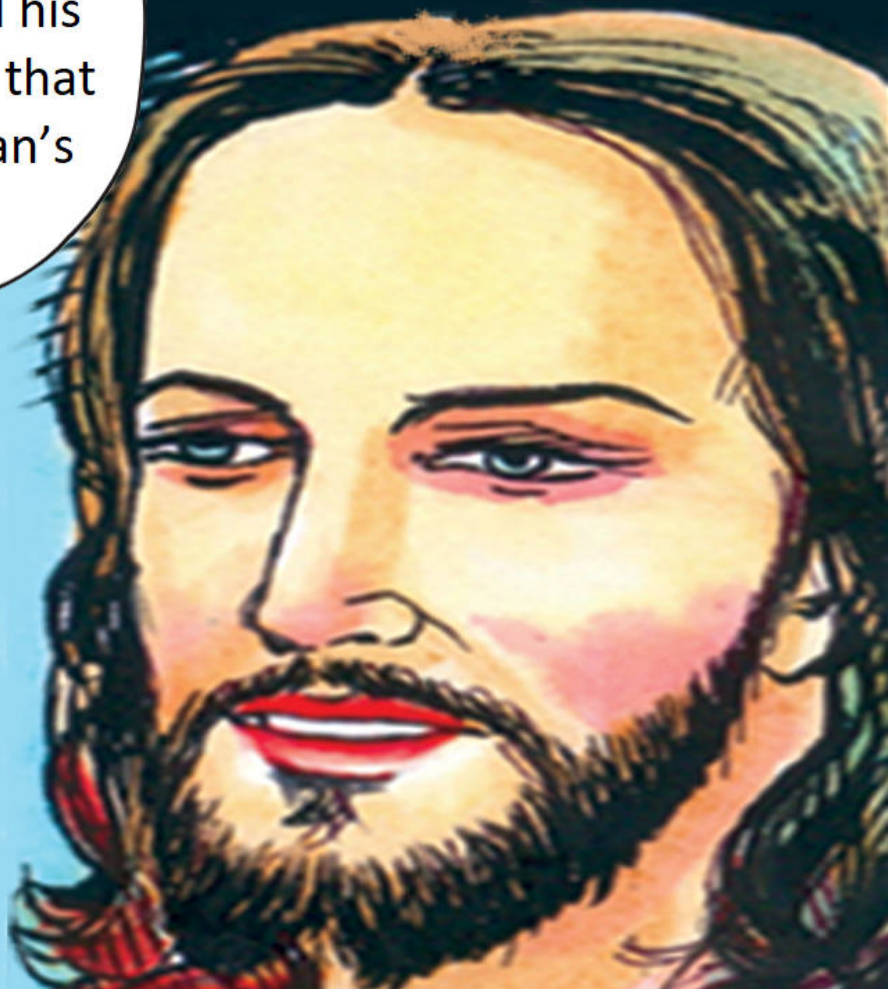
At his gate, there lay a poor man called Lazarus.







Lazarus longed to fill his stomach with scraps that fell from the rich man's table but...

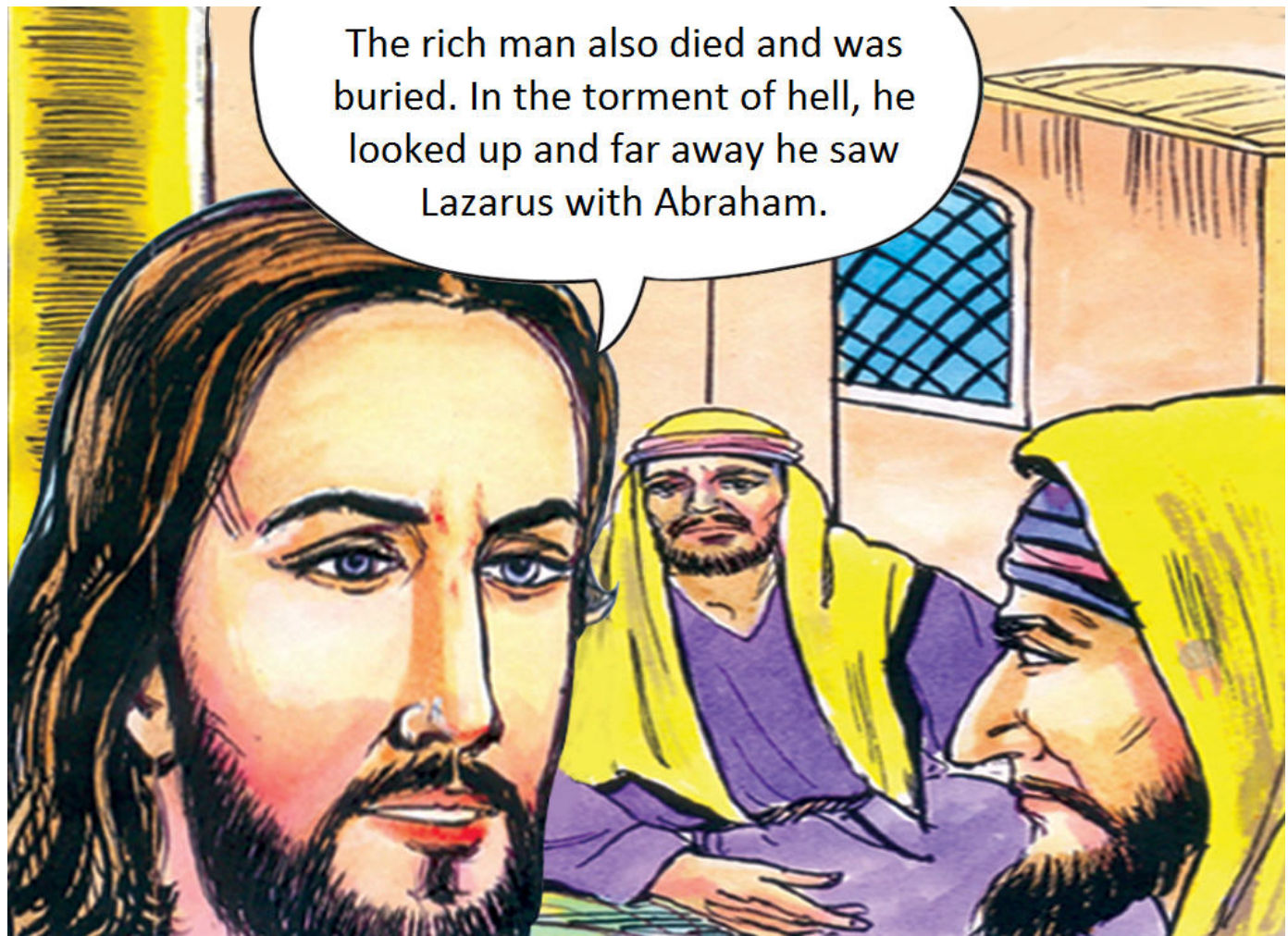




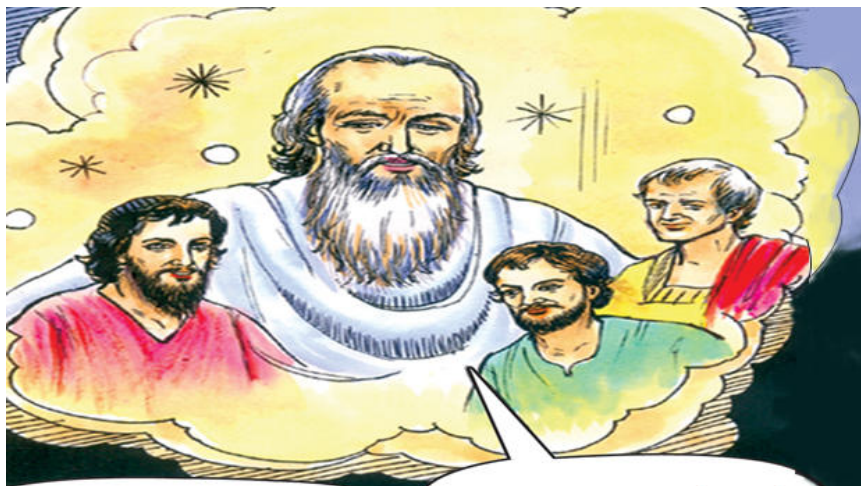
The poor man died and  
was carried away by the  
angels to the bosom of  
Abraham.



The rich man also died and was buried. In the torment of hell, he looked up and far away he saw Lazarus with Abraham.







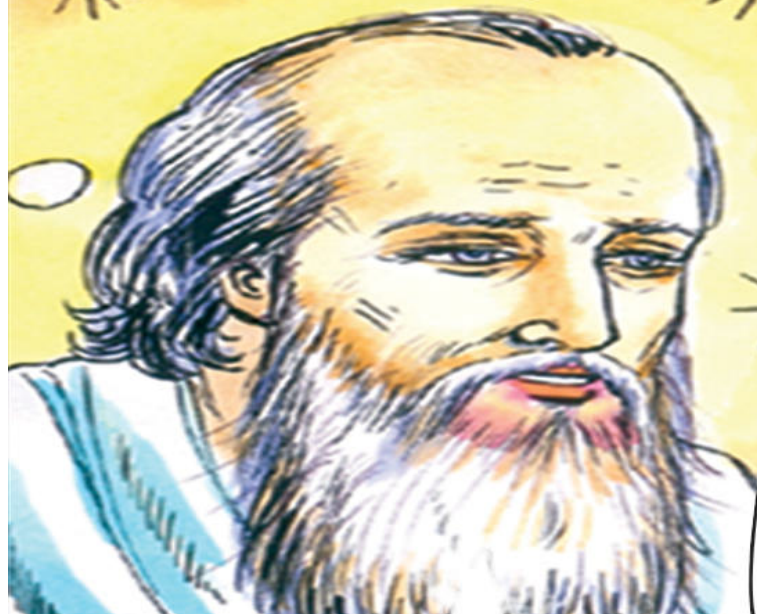
Father Abraham, pity me  
and send Lazarus to dip  
his finger in water and  
cool my tongue.

My son, remember the  
good life you had while  
Lazarus died of hunger  
at your gate.

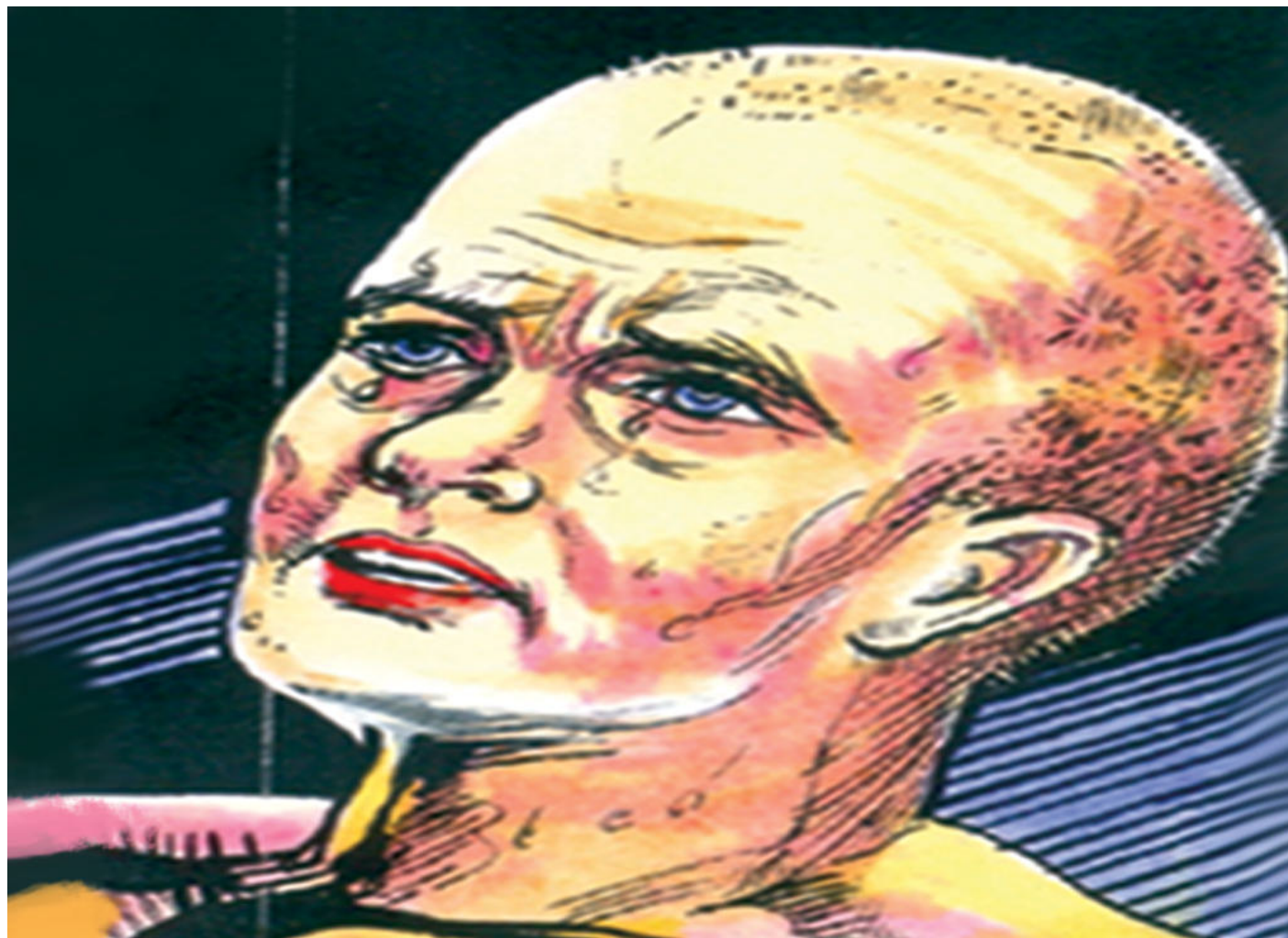




After receiving only bad things in life, today he enjoys while you suffer.



Besides there is a great gulf between us making it impossible for anyone to cross from one side to the other.

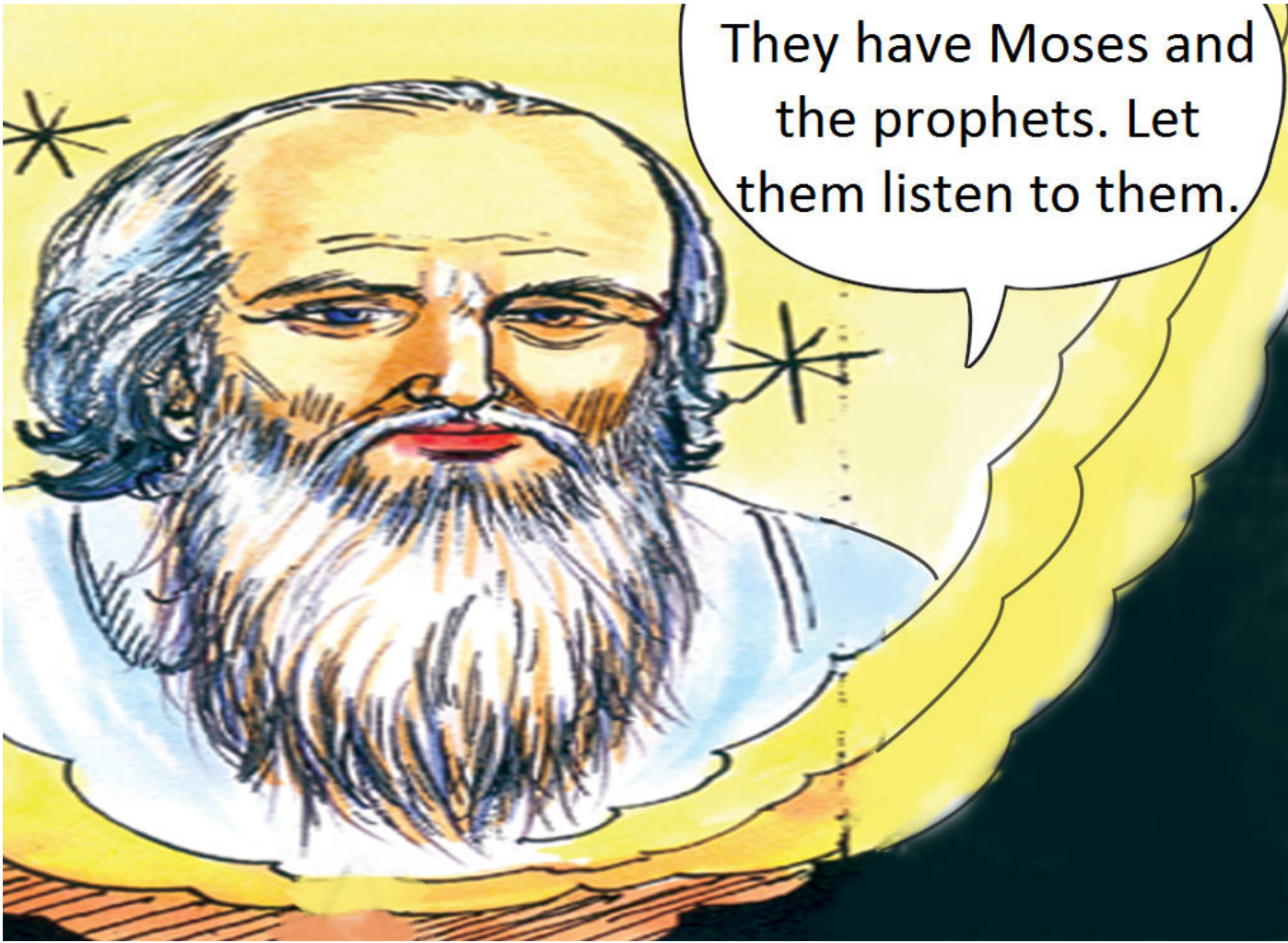




Father Abraham, I beg you to  
send Lazarus to my brothers  
to give them warning, so  
that they do not come to this  
place of torment.

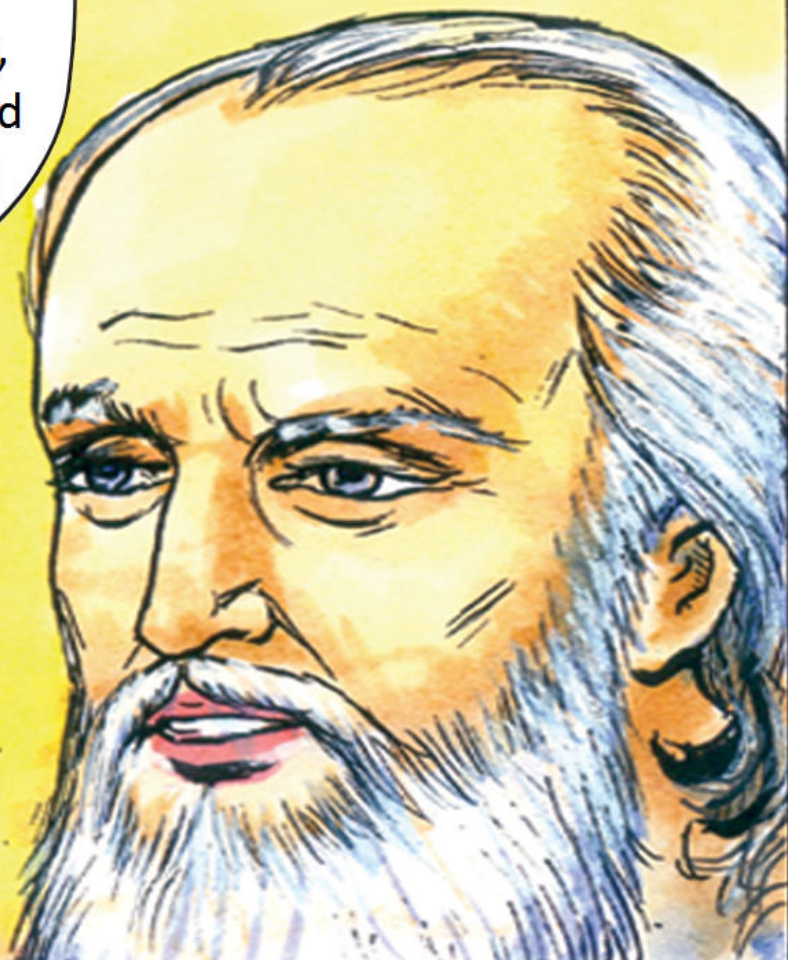






They have Moses and  
the prophets. Let  
them listen to them.

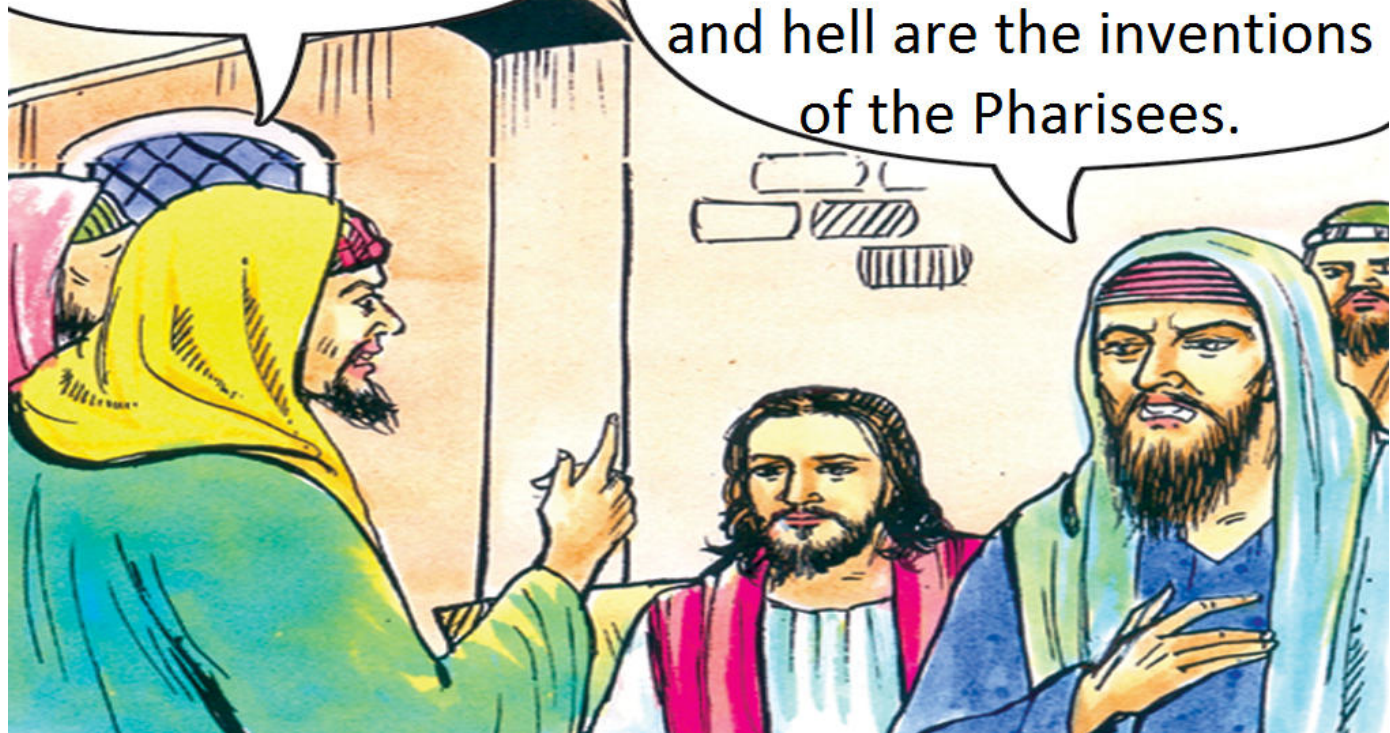
If they do not listen to  
Moses and the prophets,  
they will not be convinced  
even if someone should  
rise from the dead.





He is making up  
stories only to insult  
us.

We the Sadducees believe  
that everything will be over  
with the death. Heaven  
and hell are the inventions  
of the Pharisees.

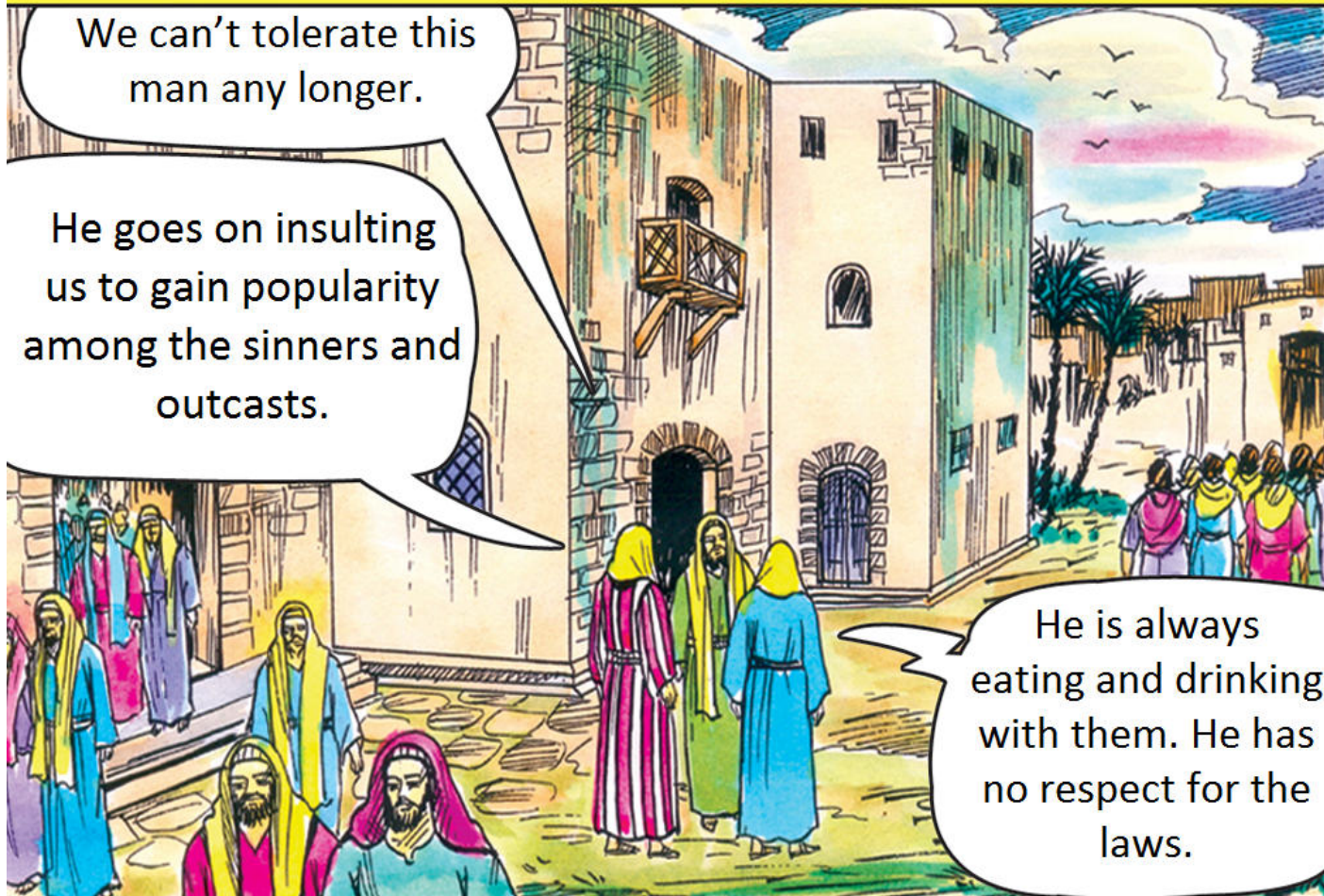


A discussion among the Pharisees as they left after the dinner.

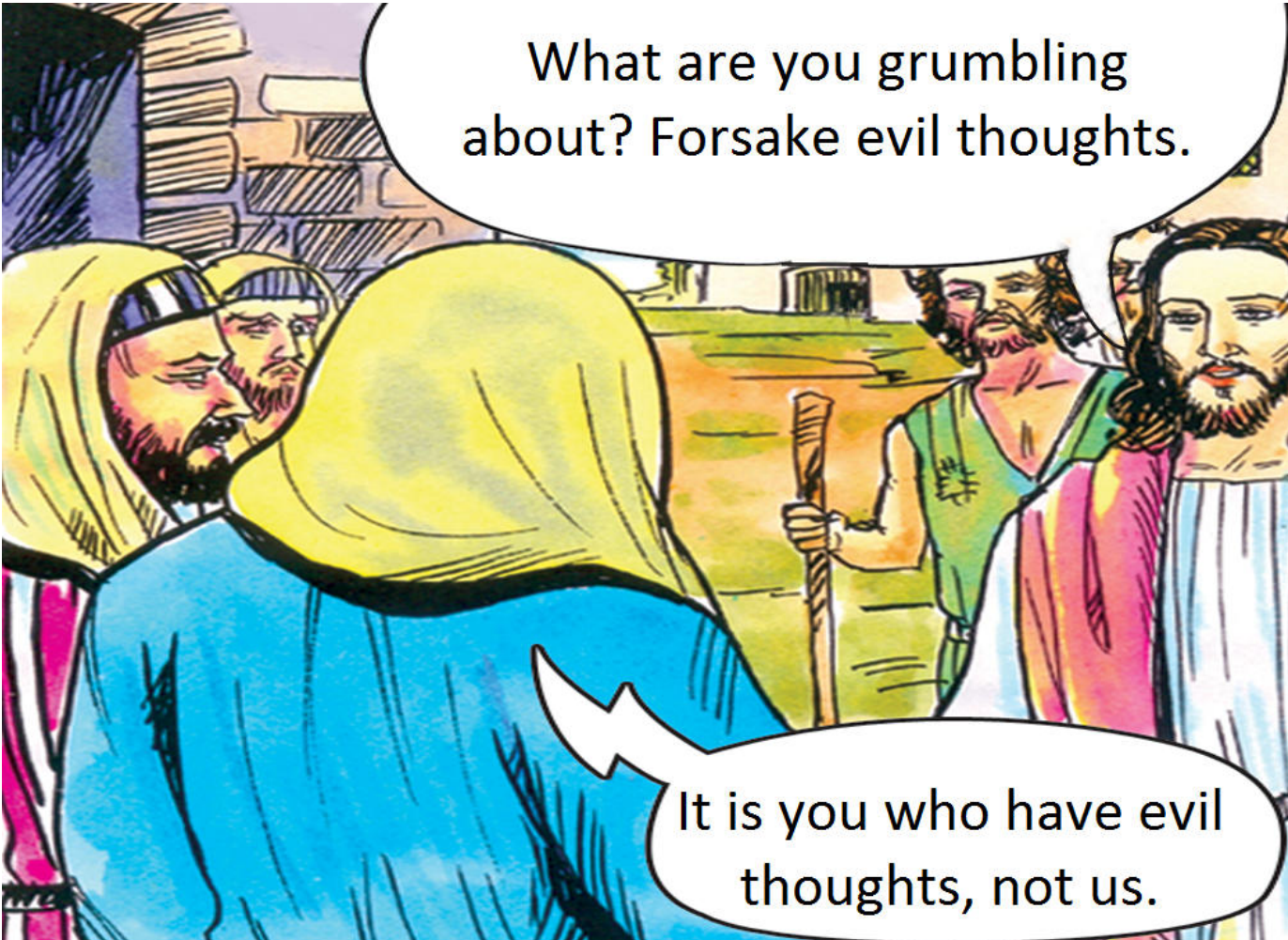
We can't tolerate this man any longer.

He goes on insulting us to gain popularity among the sinners and outcasts.

He is always eating and drinking with them. He has no respect for the laws.





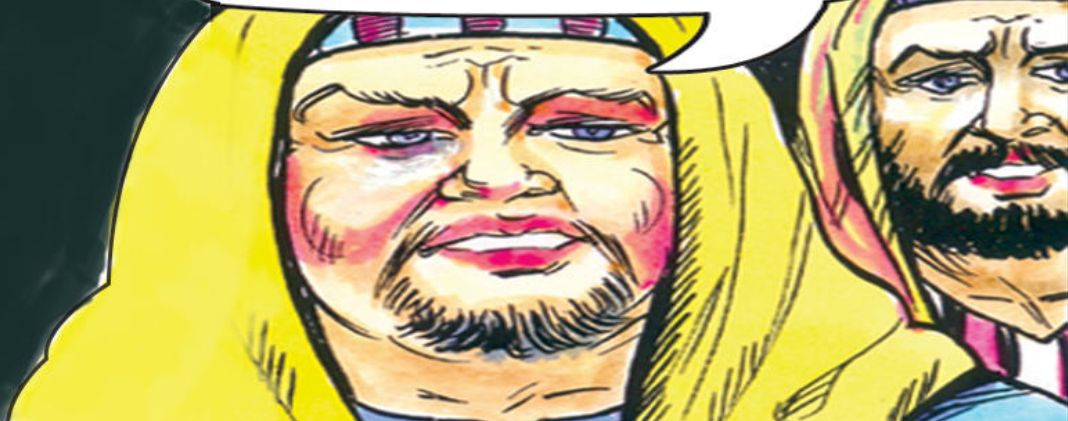


What are you grumbling about? Forsake evil thoughts.

It is you who have evil thoughts, not us.

You eat and drink with the outcasts and make them worse.

Prophets and teachers must teach the ways of God.

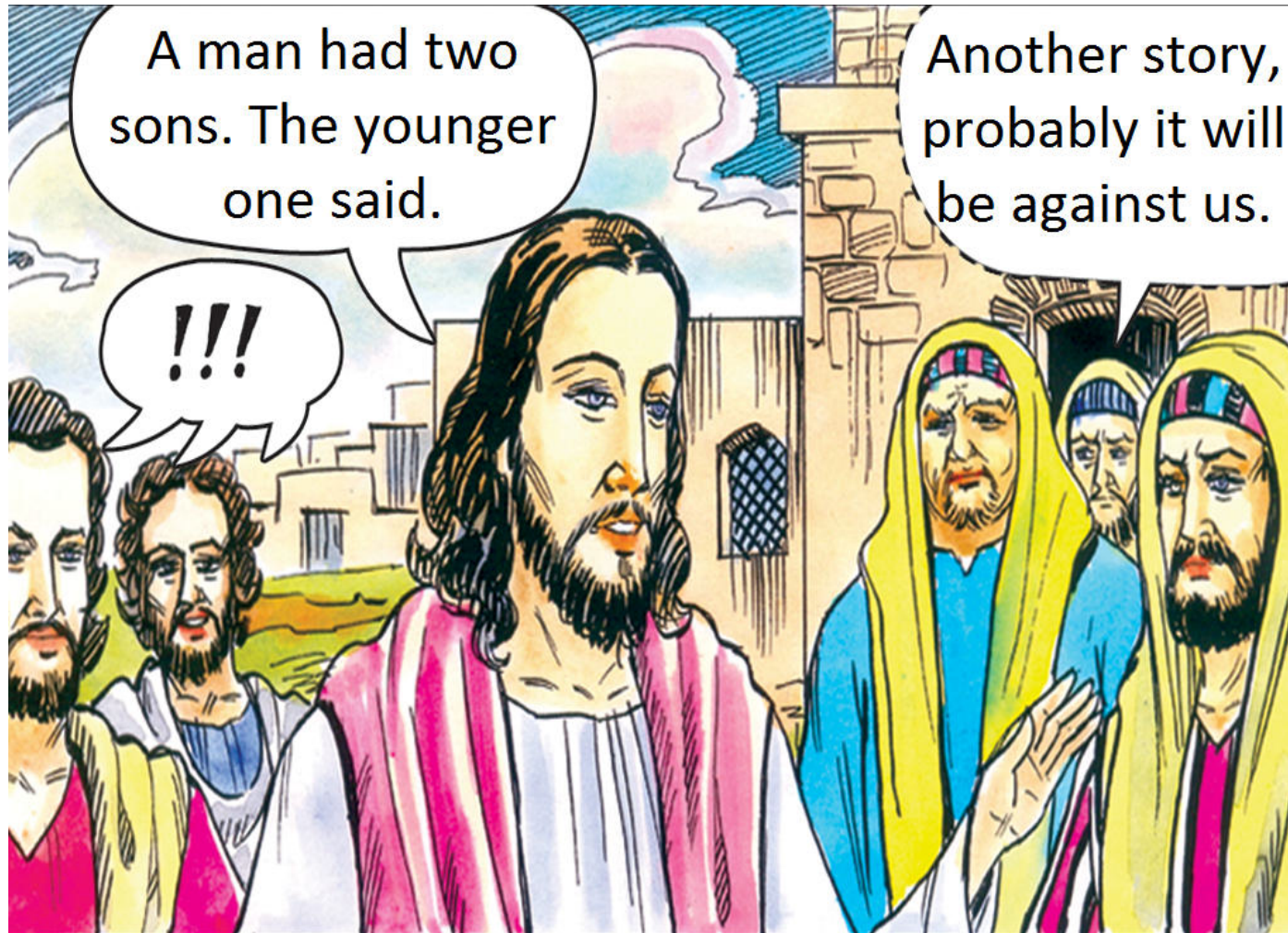





A man had two sons. The younger one said.

Another story, probably it will be against us.

!!!





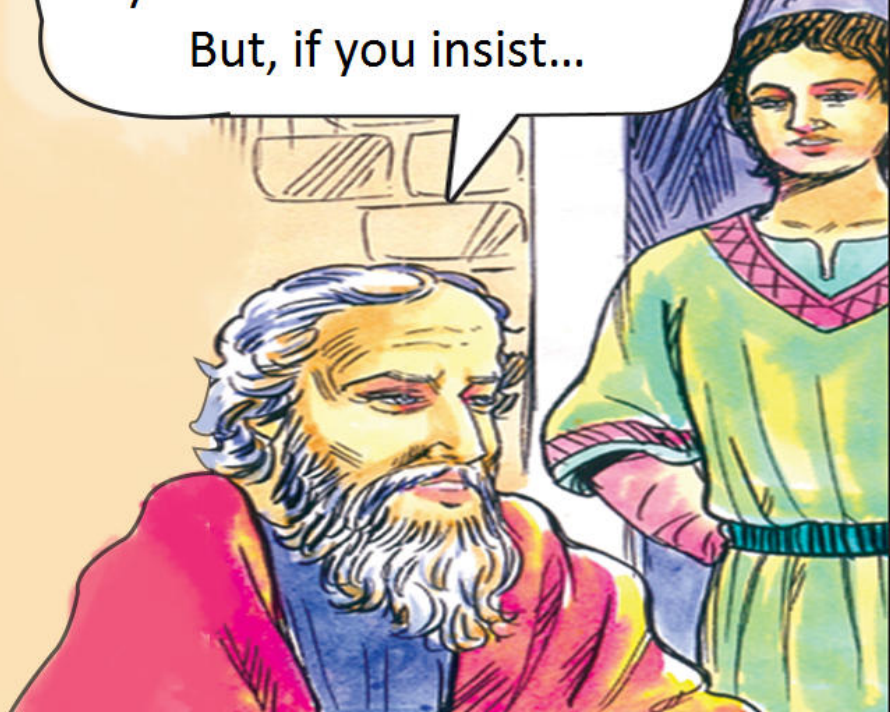
Father, I want my share  
of the estate now.

My son, why do you  
want the share now?  
What is lacking here?

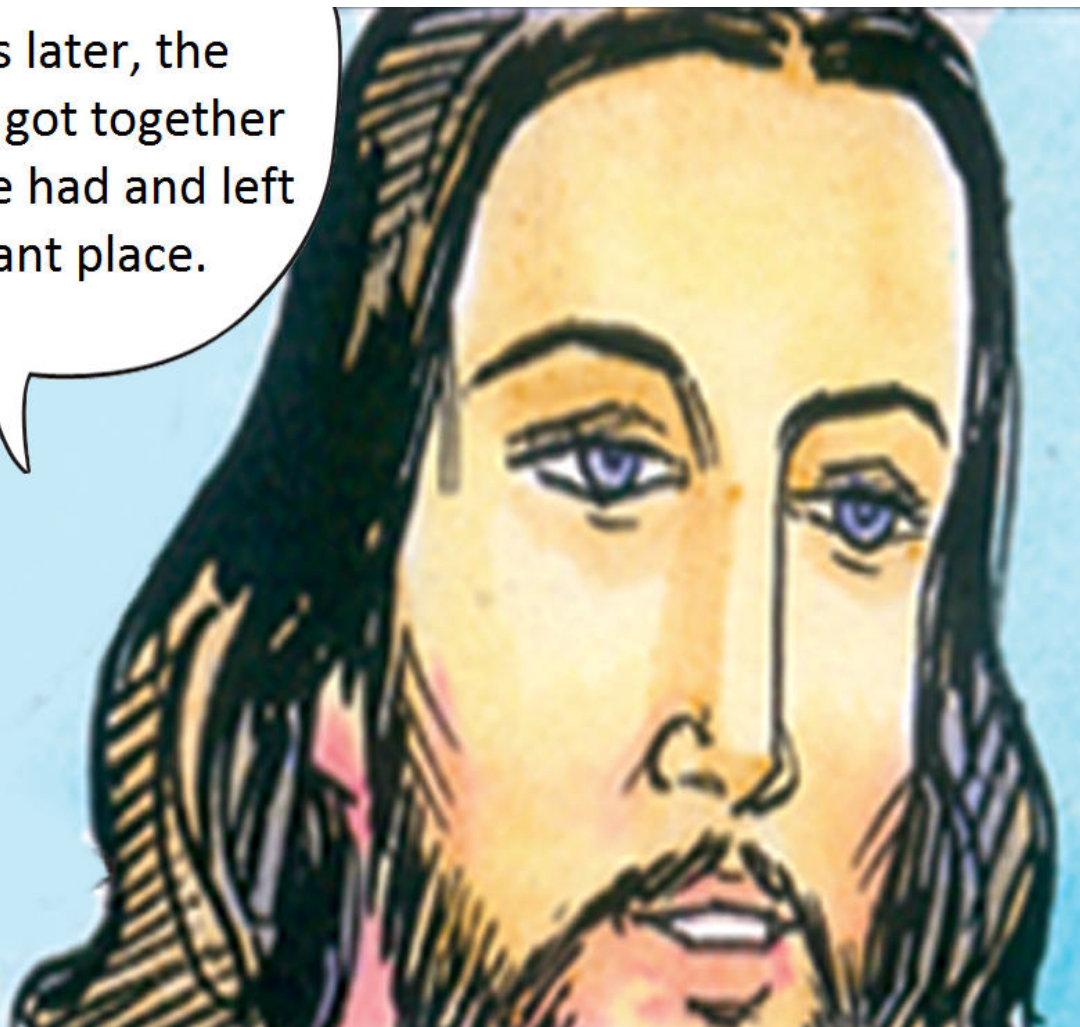


I have no time to argue.  
Give me my share.

Usually sons get their share  
only when the Father is dead.  
But, if you insist...



A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant place.






Tomorrow there will be fifty people  
for my feast. You must get someone  
who can really sing and dance. Here is  
500 denarii for today's.



It may cost a  
1000 denarii.



I am ready to pay  
even 2000, my feast  
must be superb.

!!



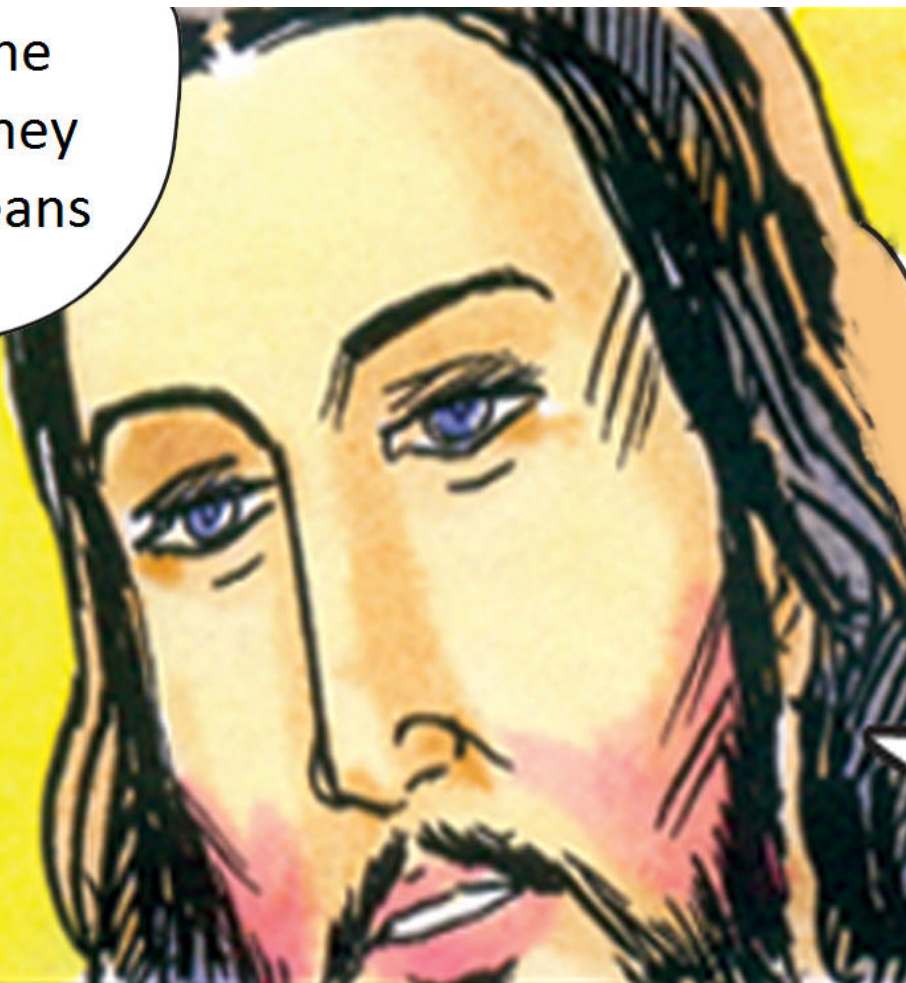
Samson, today's wine was  
exquisite.

We must find a  
Delilah for our  
Samson.



Tomorrow we will  
have a fine dinner.

Before long, he  
ran out of money  
and had no means  
of living.





Friend, would you please  
give me two denarii?

I told you. I have  
no money.

I am so hungry. Buy me  
at least a piece of bread.

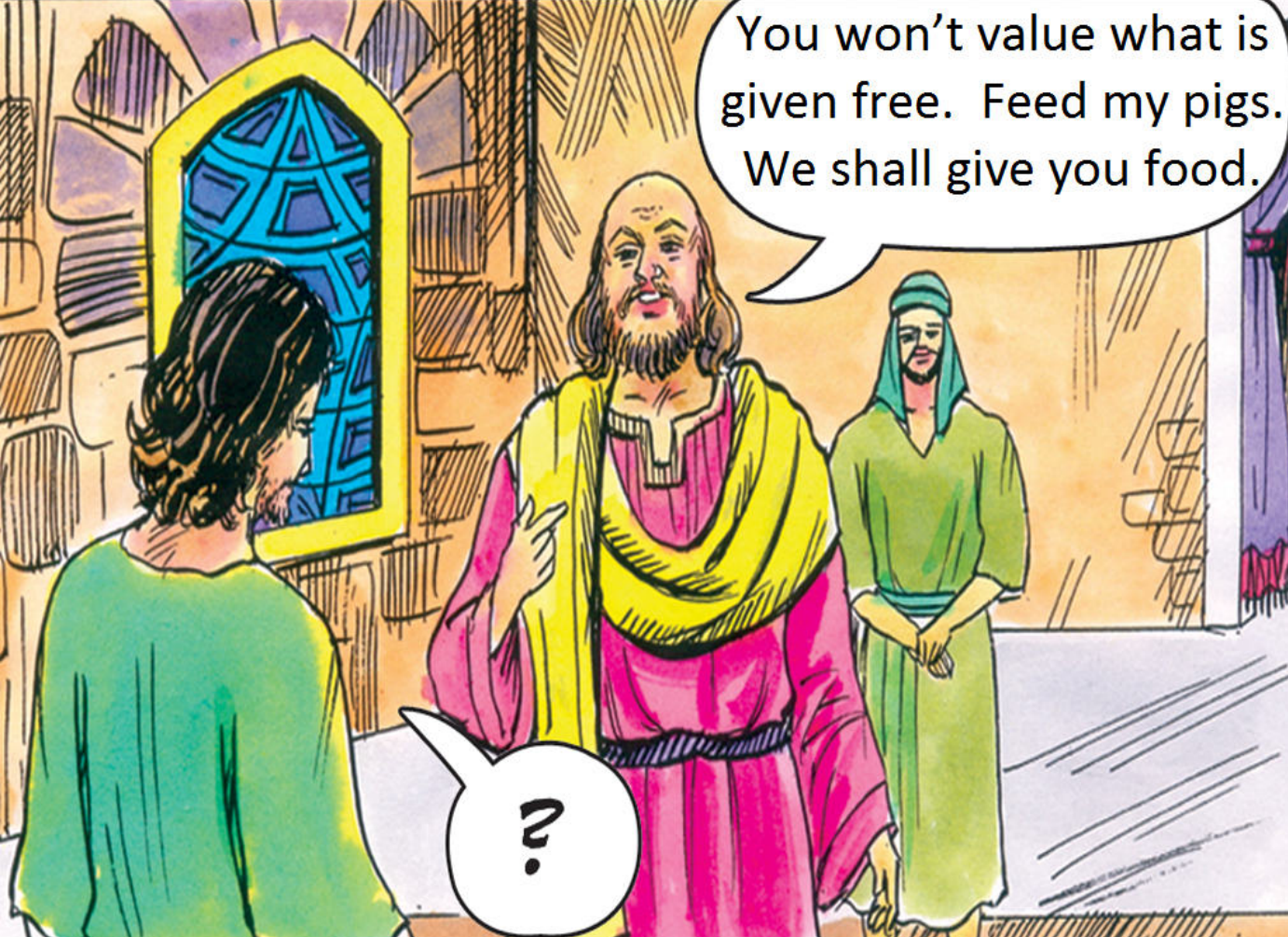




Come to my house.  
I shall talk with my  
Father.

!?





You won't value what is given free. Feed my pigs.  
We shall give you food.

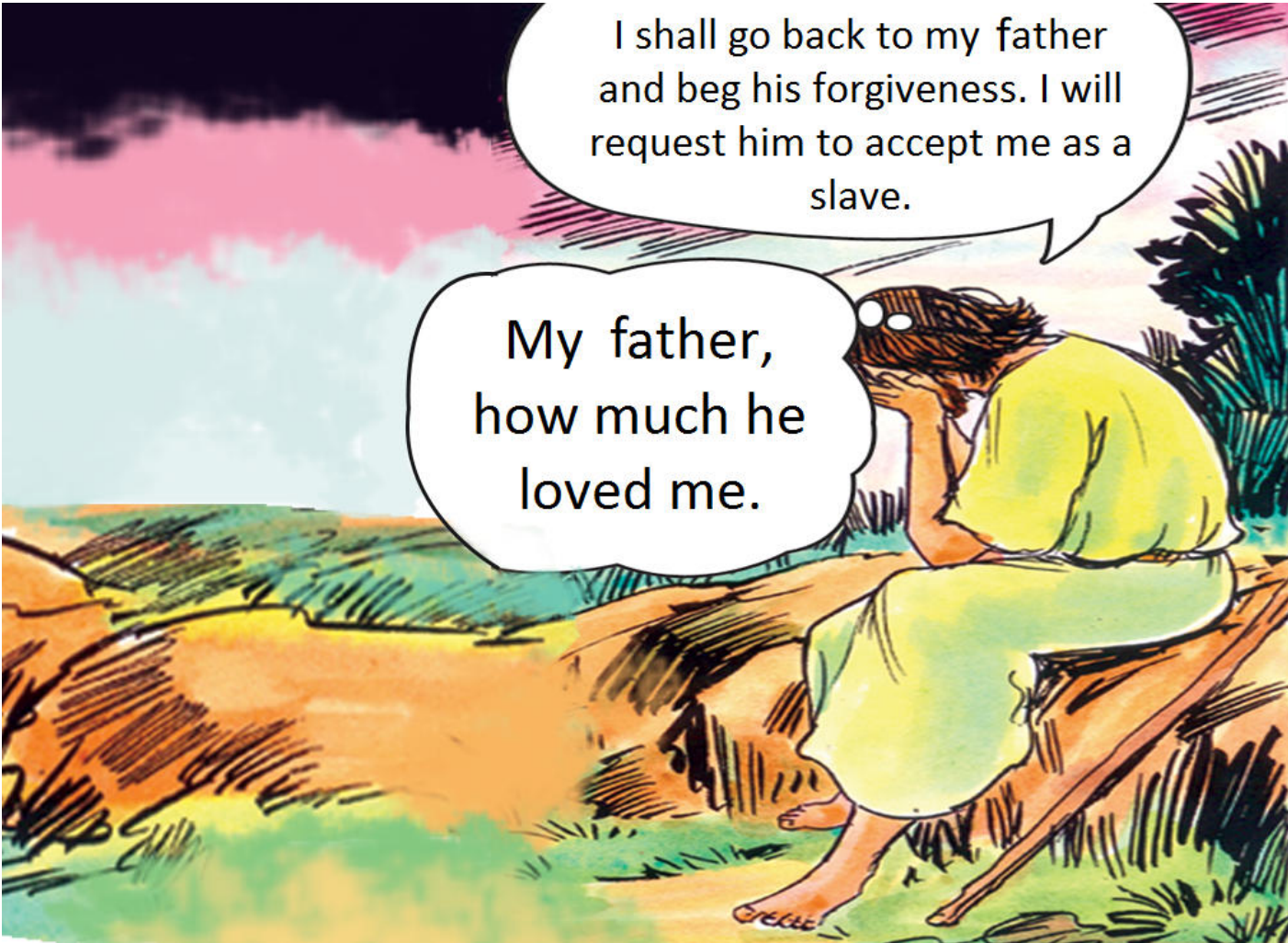
?





What a life! I have become worse than a pig.

In my father's house the servants have more than enough food. Here I am dying of hunger among the pigs.



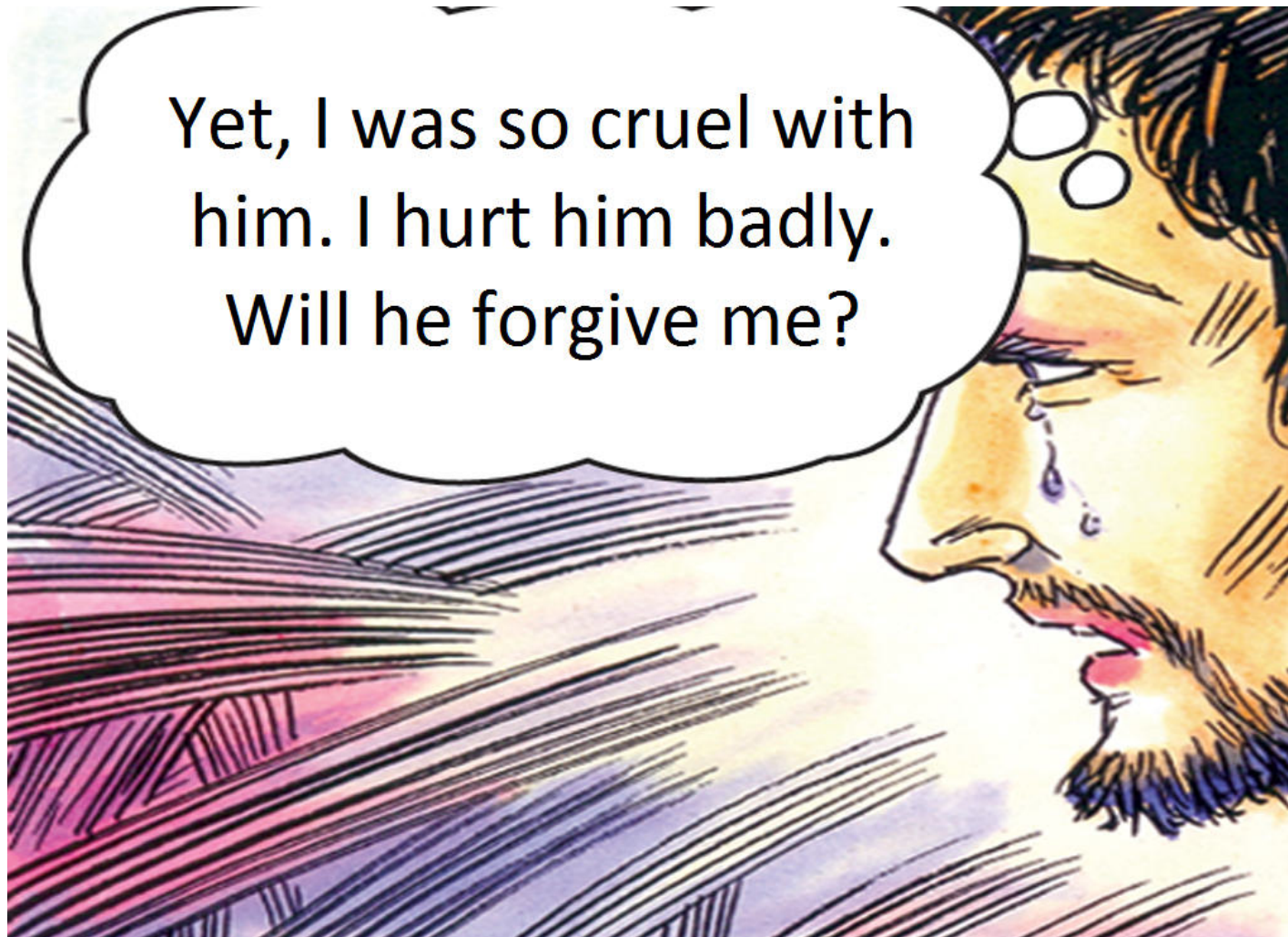
I shall go back to my father  
and beg his forgiveness. I will  
request him to accept me as a  
slave.

My father,  
how much he  
loved me.



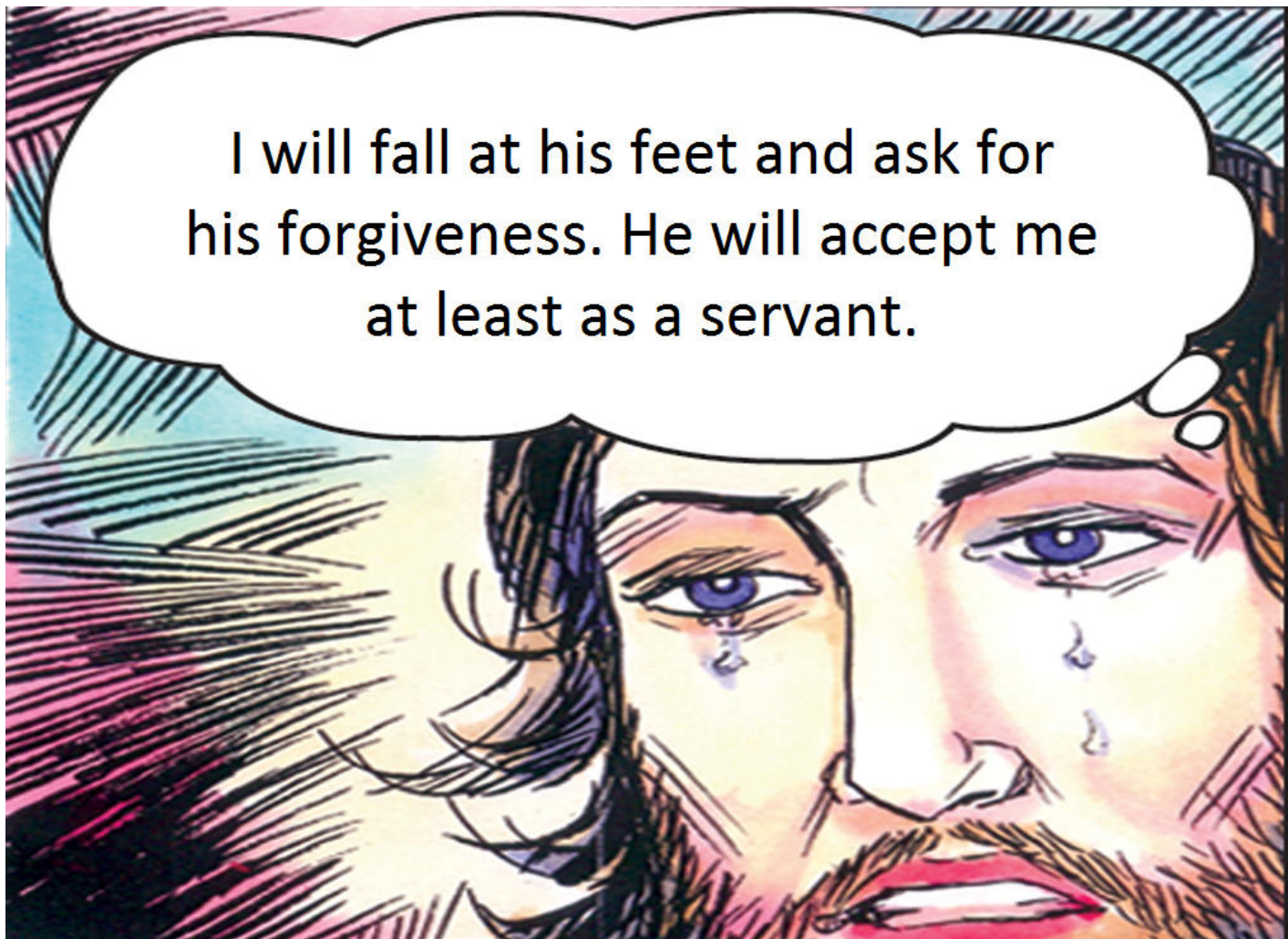


Yet, I was so cruel with  
him. I hurt him badly.  
Will he forgive me?





I will fall at his feet and ask for  
his forgiveness. He will accept me  
at least as a servant.



I shall begin a new life.  
Lord my God, inspire my  
father to be kind to me.



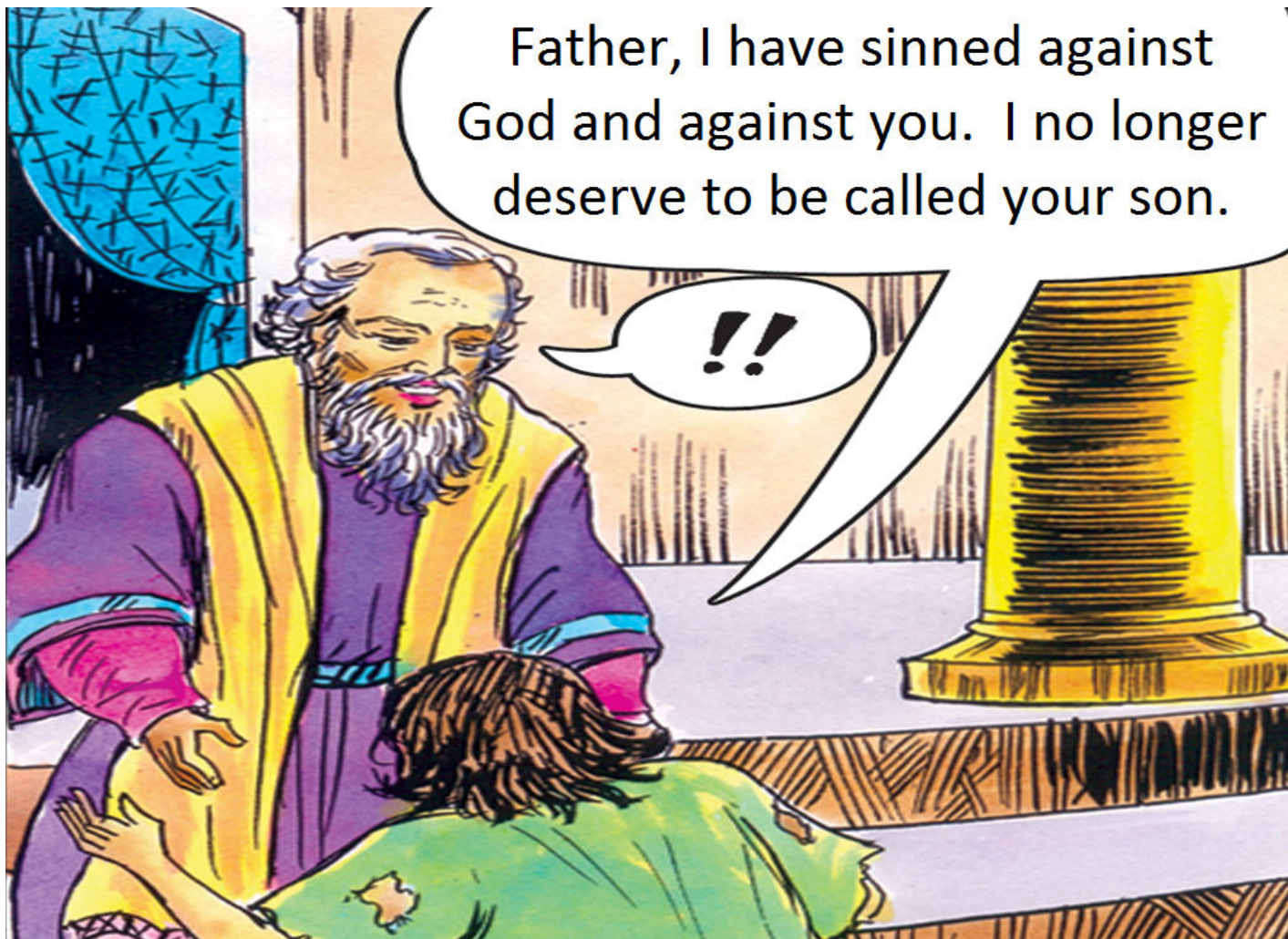


So long since my son left. I  
wonder how he is doing. Hope  
he didn't get sick....  
Isn't that my son?



Father, I have sinned against  
God and against you. I no longer  
deserve to be called your son.

!!





My son! You came  
back. I was so worried  
about you.

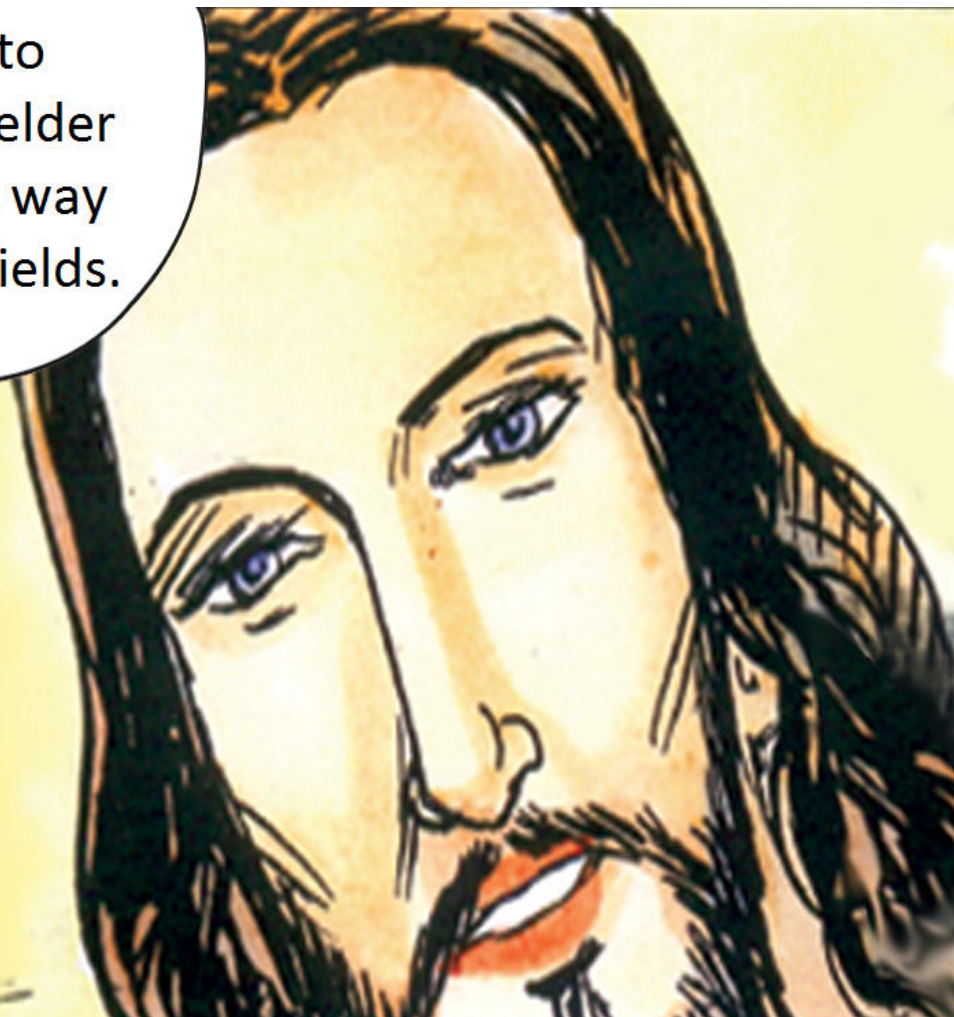



Quick! Dress him in the best  
rob. Give him a ring and  
sandals. Kill the fattened calf.





They began to celebrate. The elder son was on his way back from the fields.





What is all this  
noise about?

Your brother has  
come back. The  
master is waiting  
for you.

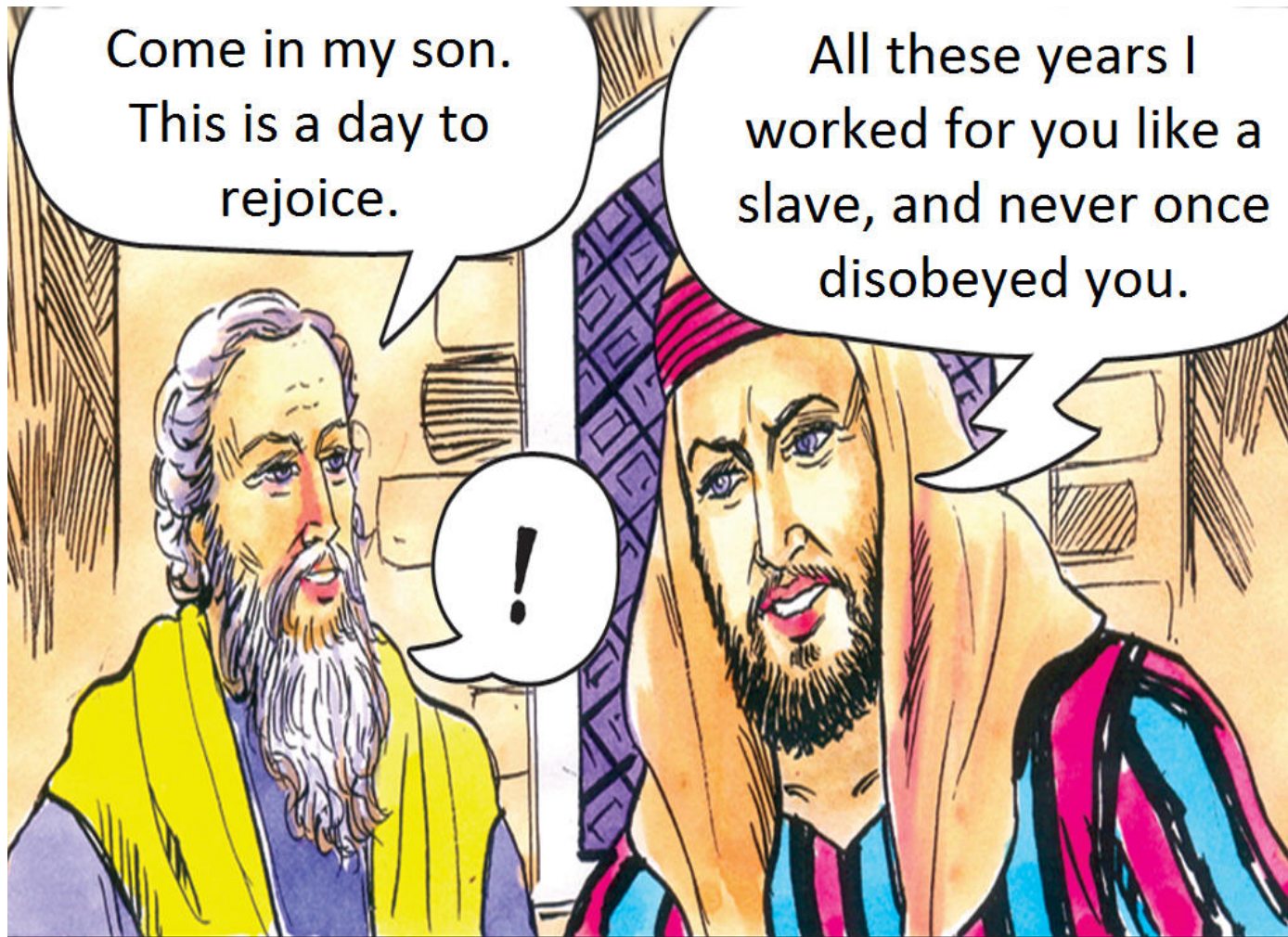
Tell him not to  
wait for me. I  
am not going to  
enter the house  
where that  
rascal is.



Come in my son.  
This is a day to  
rejoice.

All these years I  
worked for you like a  
slave, and never once  
disobeyed you.

!



What have you given  
me? Not even a goat  
to celebrate with my  
friends.





But this son of yours wasted all  
your property on Harlots and  
when he comes back you kill the  
calf we had been fattening.

My son, you are  
always with  
me. All I have  
is yours.



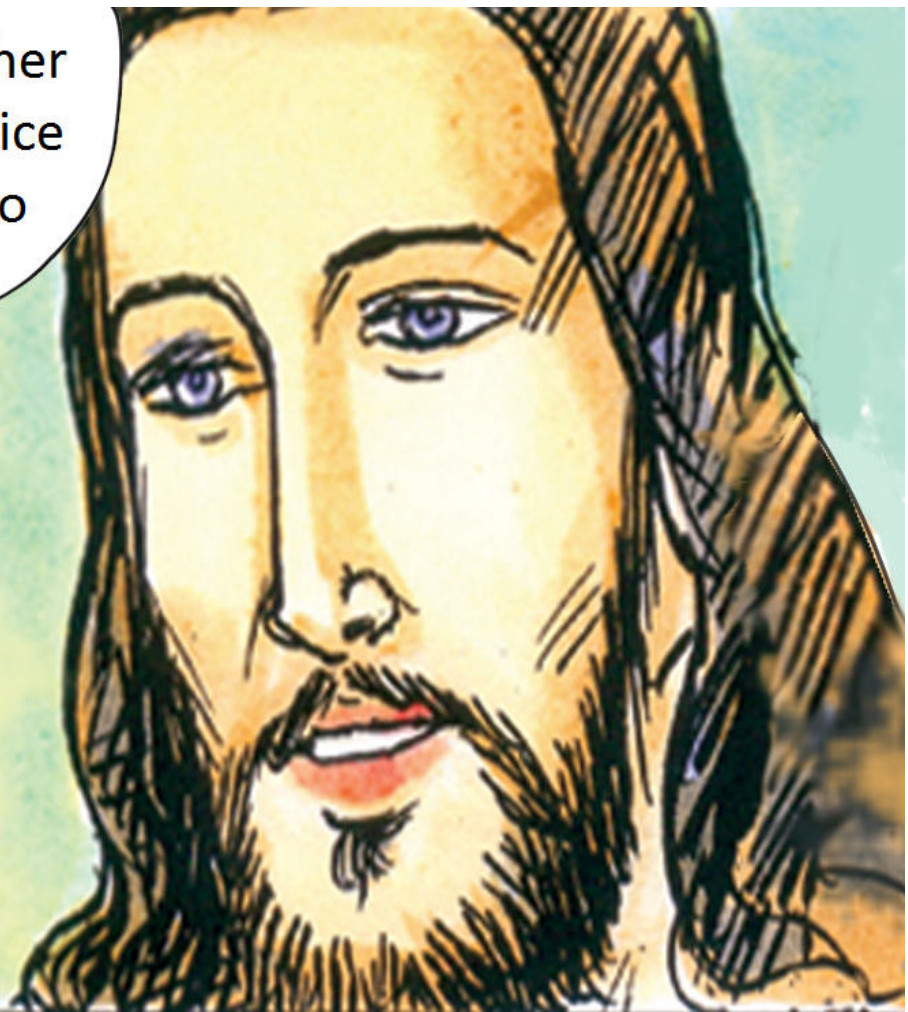
We have to  
celebrate and be  
happy because your  
brother was lost and  
he is found. He was  
dead and has come  
back to life.

!





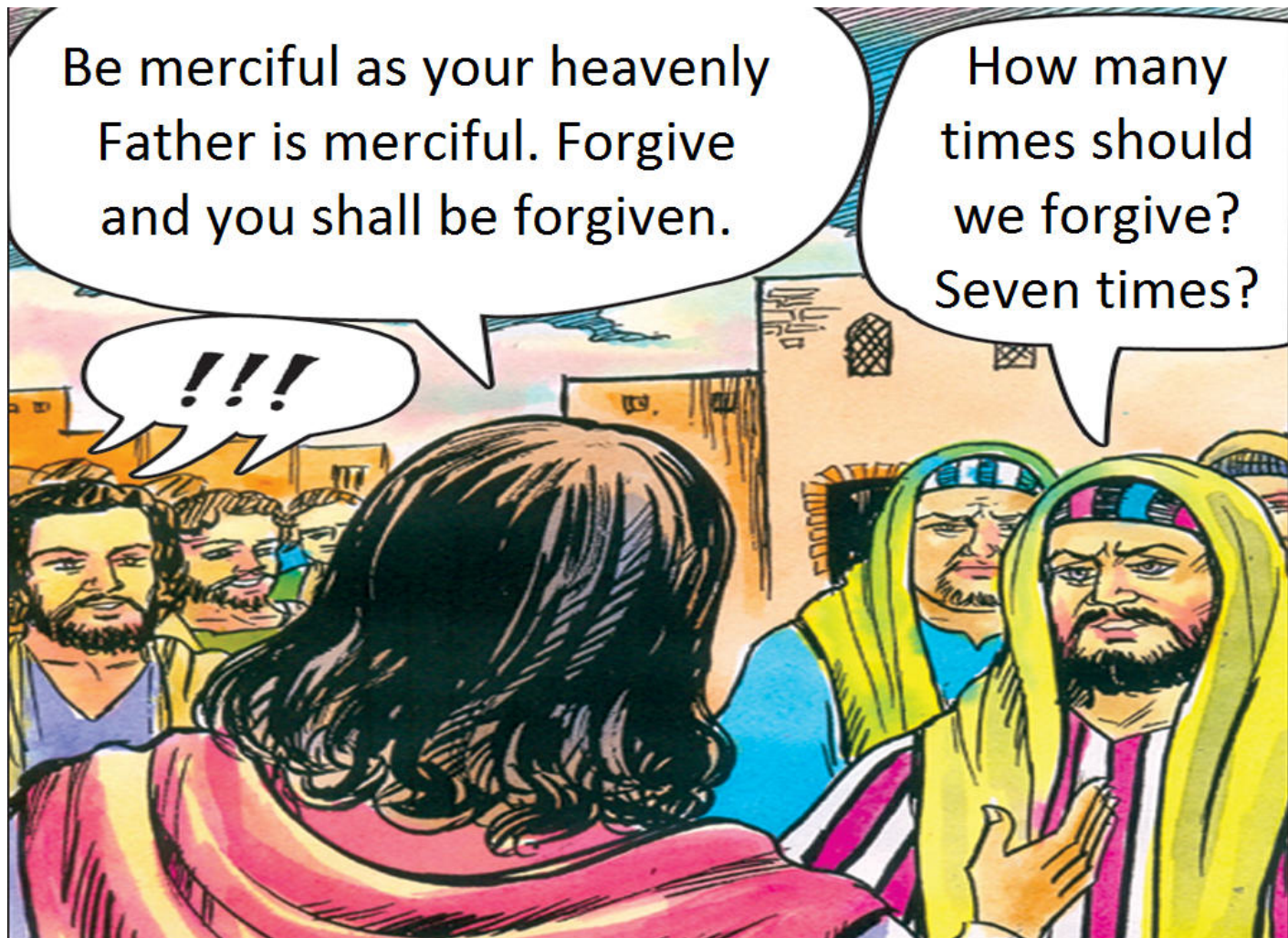
Know that the Father  
in heaven will rejoice  
over a sinner who  
repents.



Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful. Forgive and you shall be forgiven.

How many times should we forgive? Seven times?

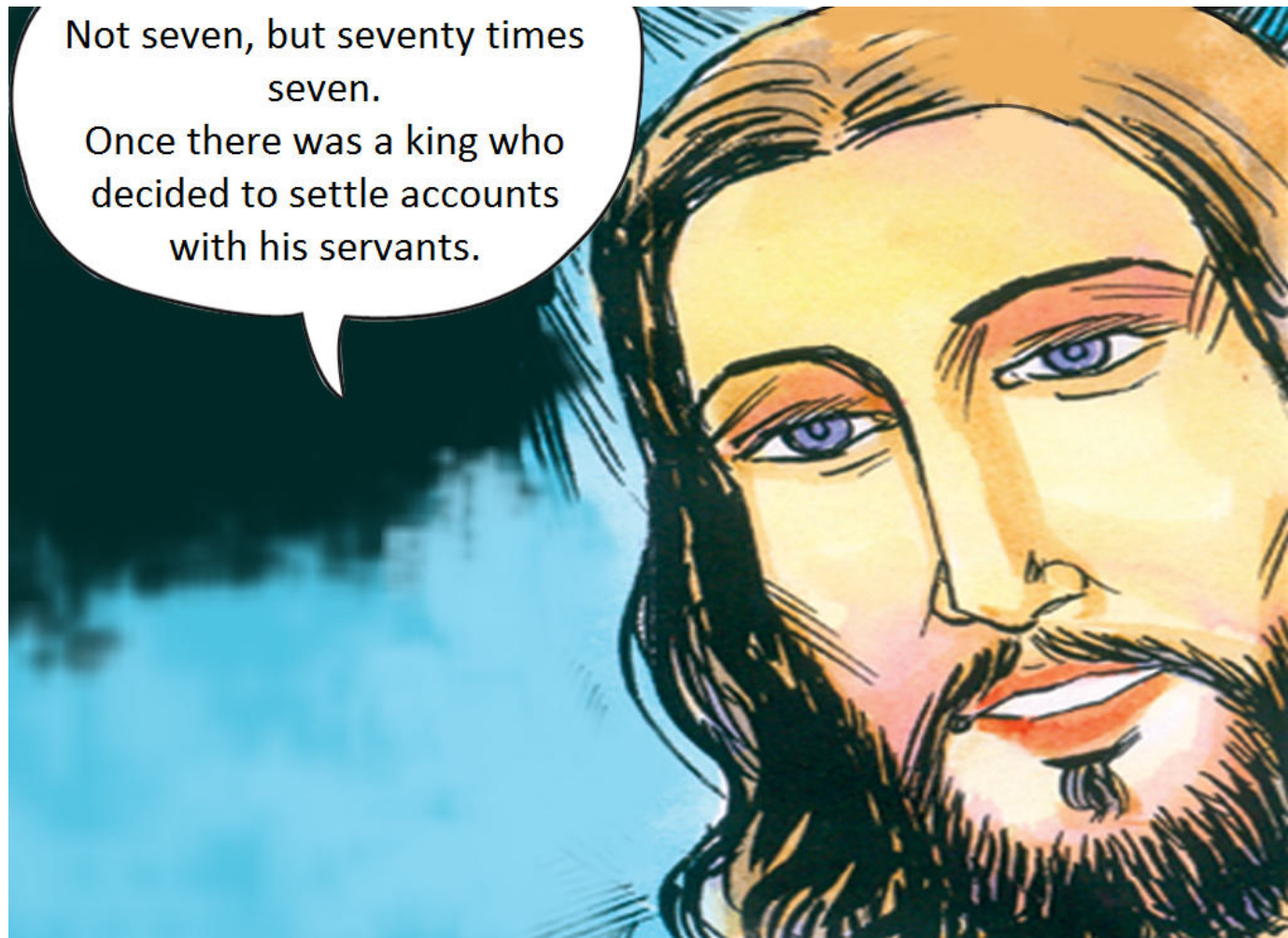
!!!





Not seven, but seventy times  
seven.

Once there was a king who  
decided to settle accounts  
with his servants.



Eliphaz owes ten thousand Talents.

Confiscate his property.

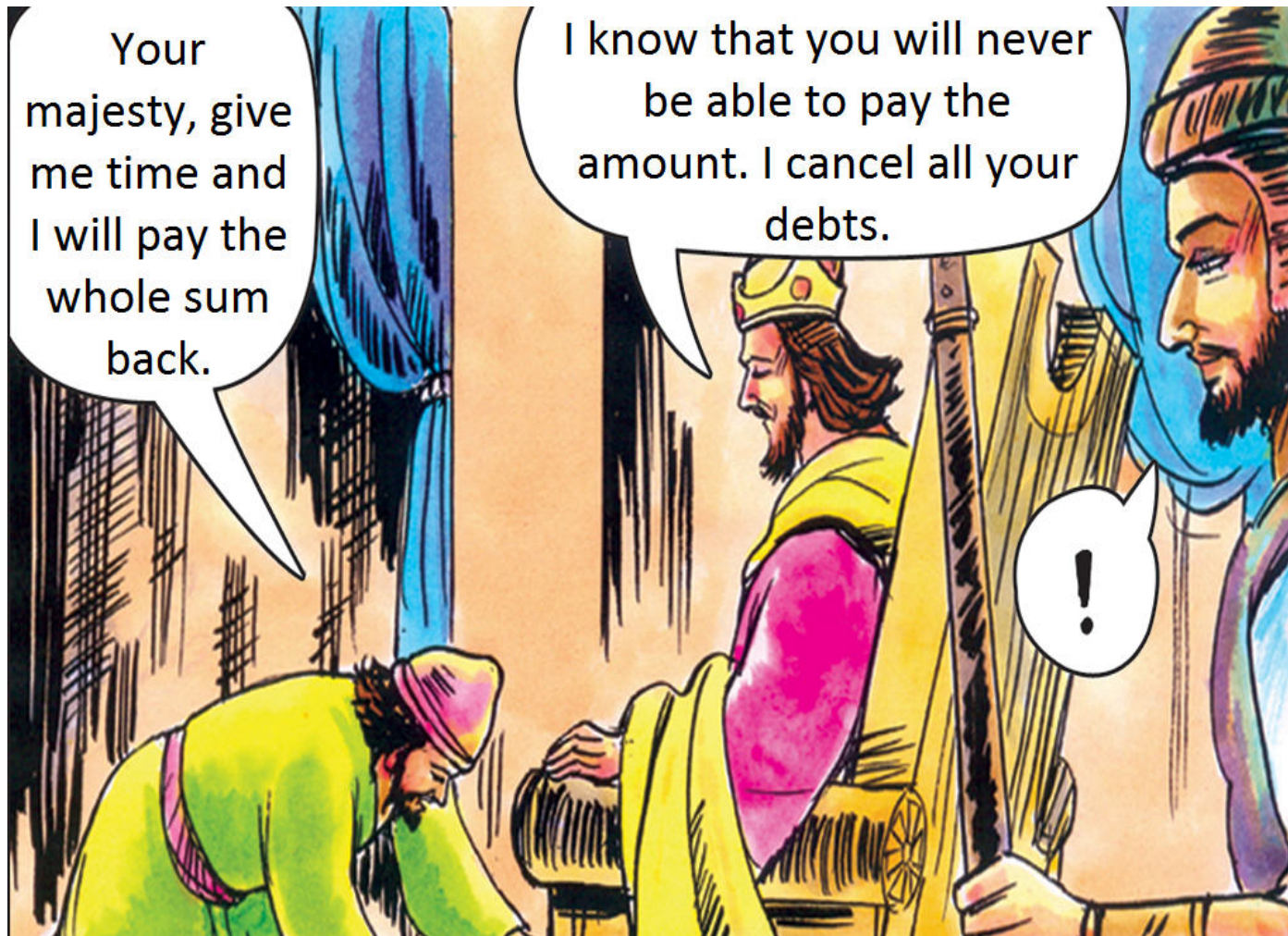




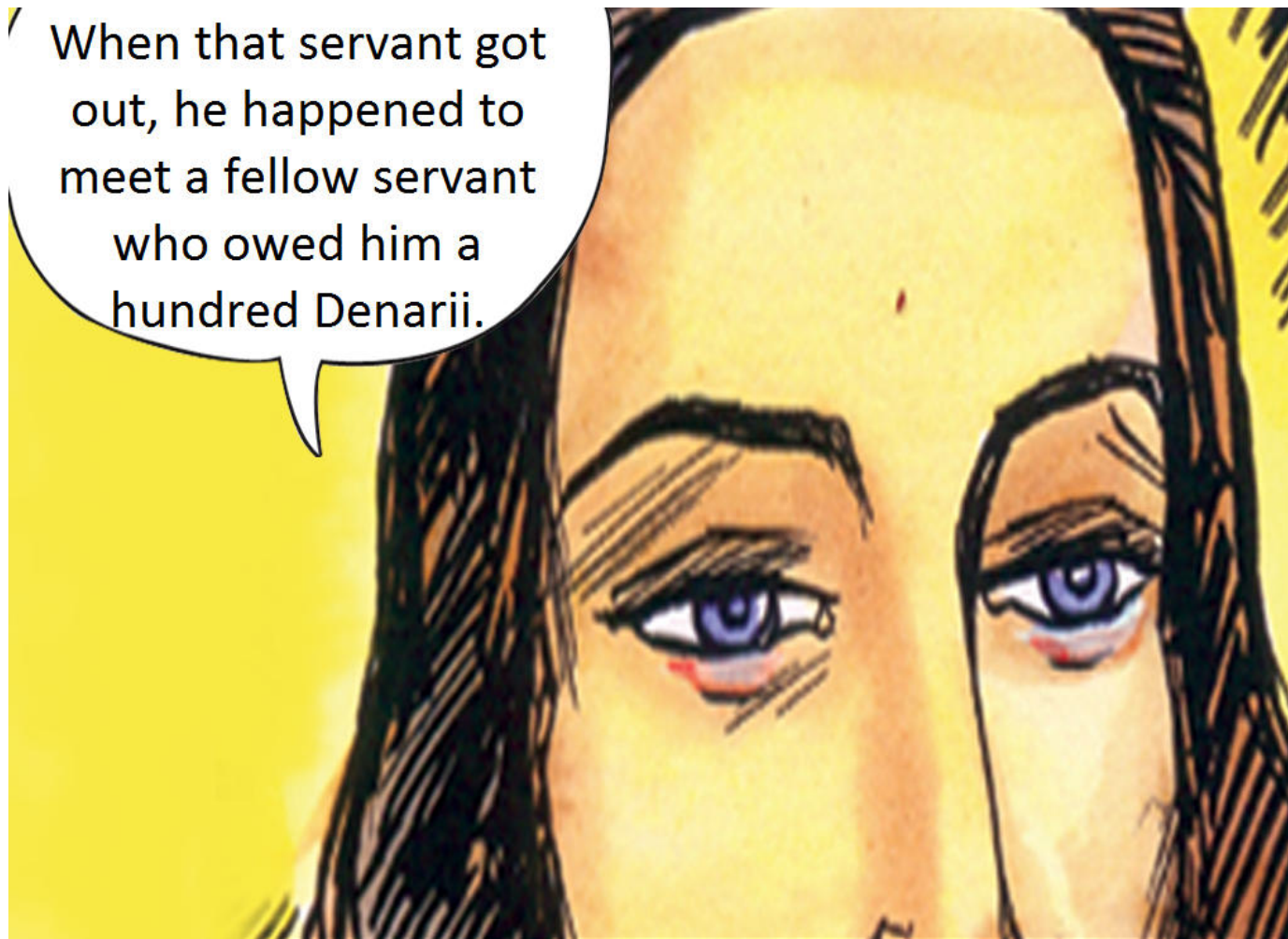
Your  
majesty, give  
me time and  
I will pay the  
whole sum  
back.

I know that you will never  
be able to pay the  
amount. I cancel all your  
debts.

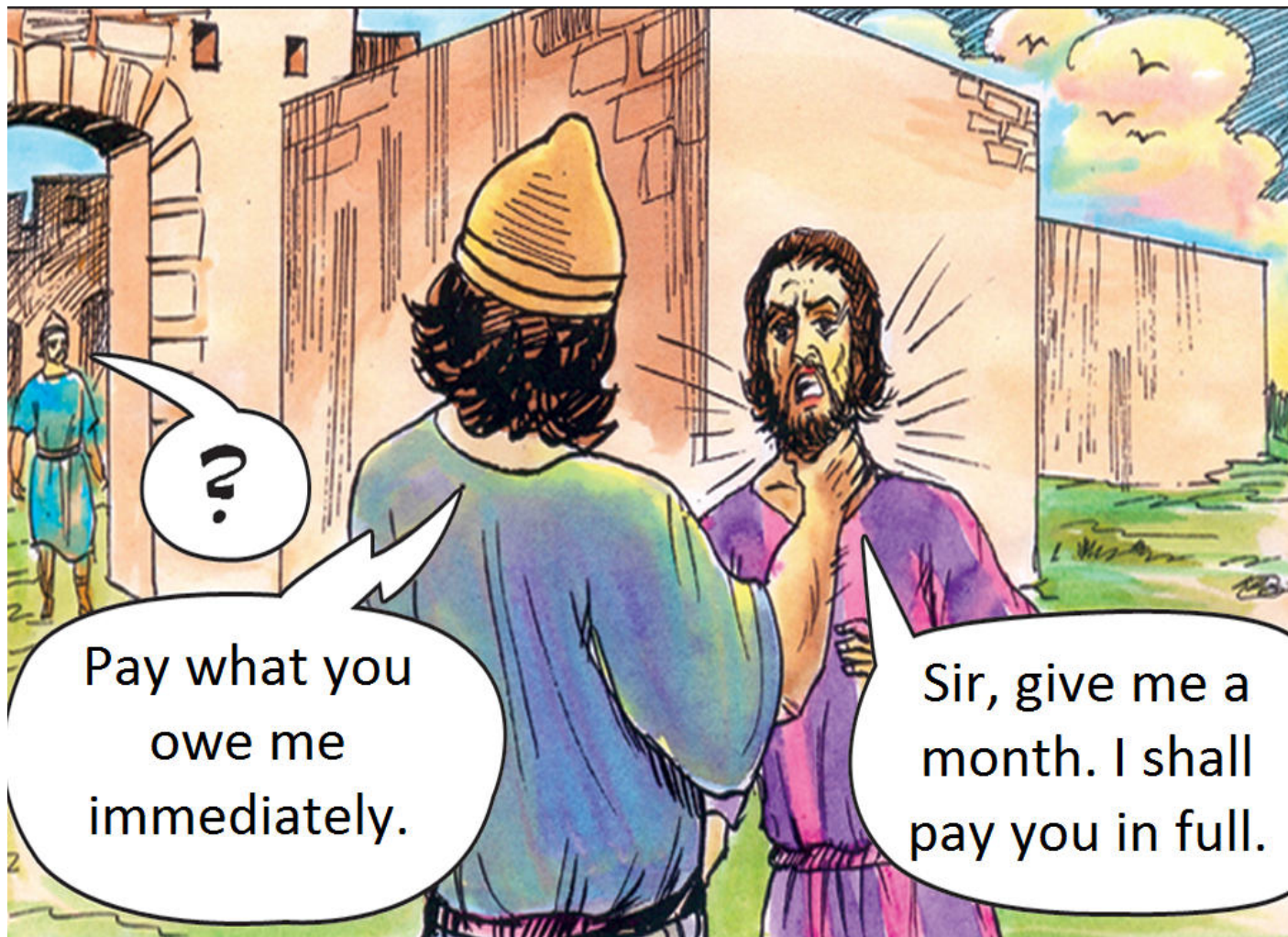
!



When that servant got out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him a hundred Denarii.







?

Pay what you  
owe me  
immediately.

Sir, give me a  
month. I shall  
pay you in full.

Your Majesty, a great injustice  
was done today.



What is it?



Eliphas arrested a man who owed him a hundred Denarii, and sold his wife and children as slaves.

Bring him here.

You wicked servant, I cancelled all your debts when you pleaded. Were you not bound to have pity on your friend as I had pity on you?





Guards! Throw him in the  
dungeon and torture him  
until he pays all his debts.



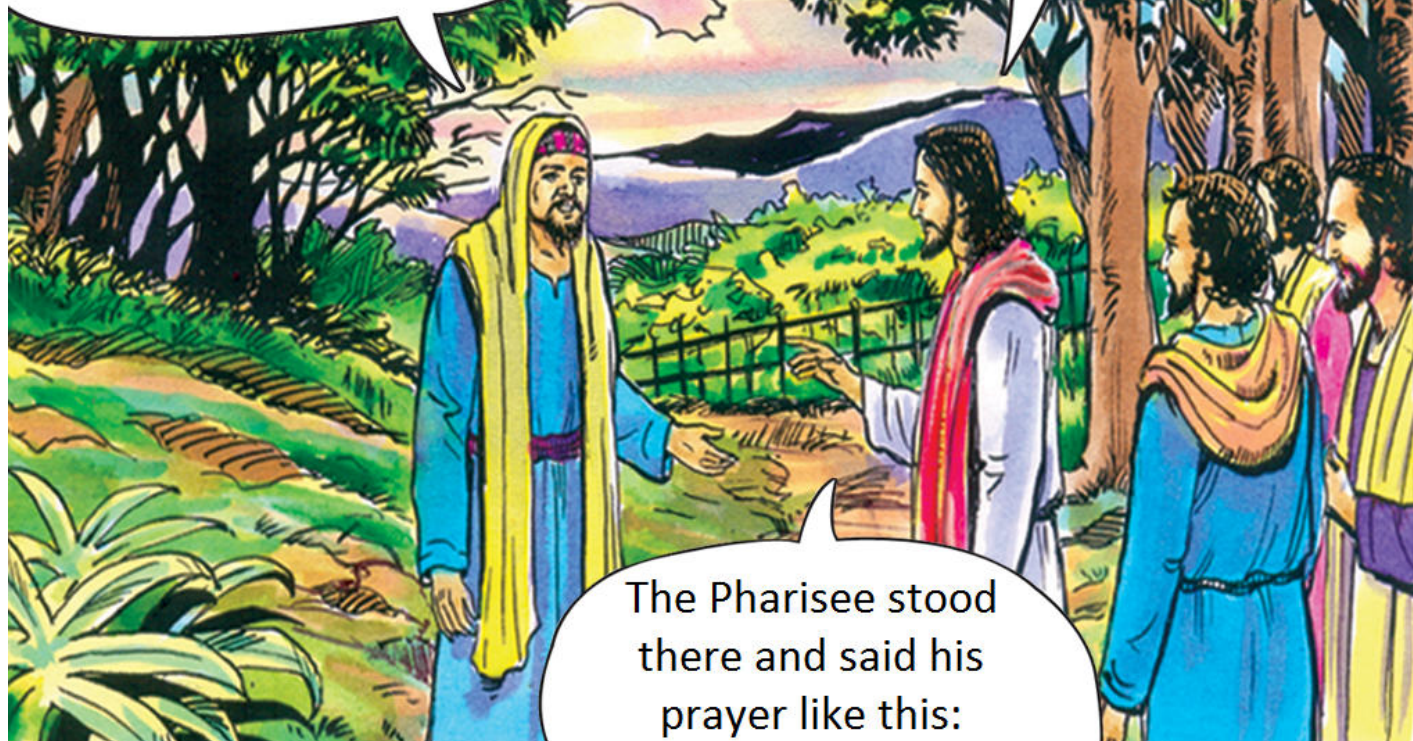
My heavenly Father will deal with  
you like this if you do not forgive  
your brother from your heart.





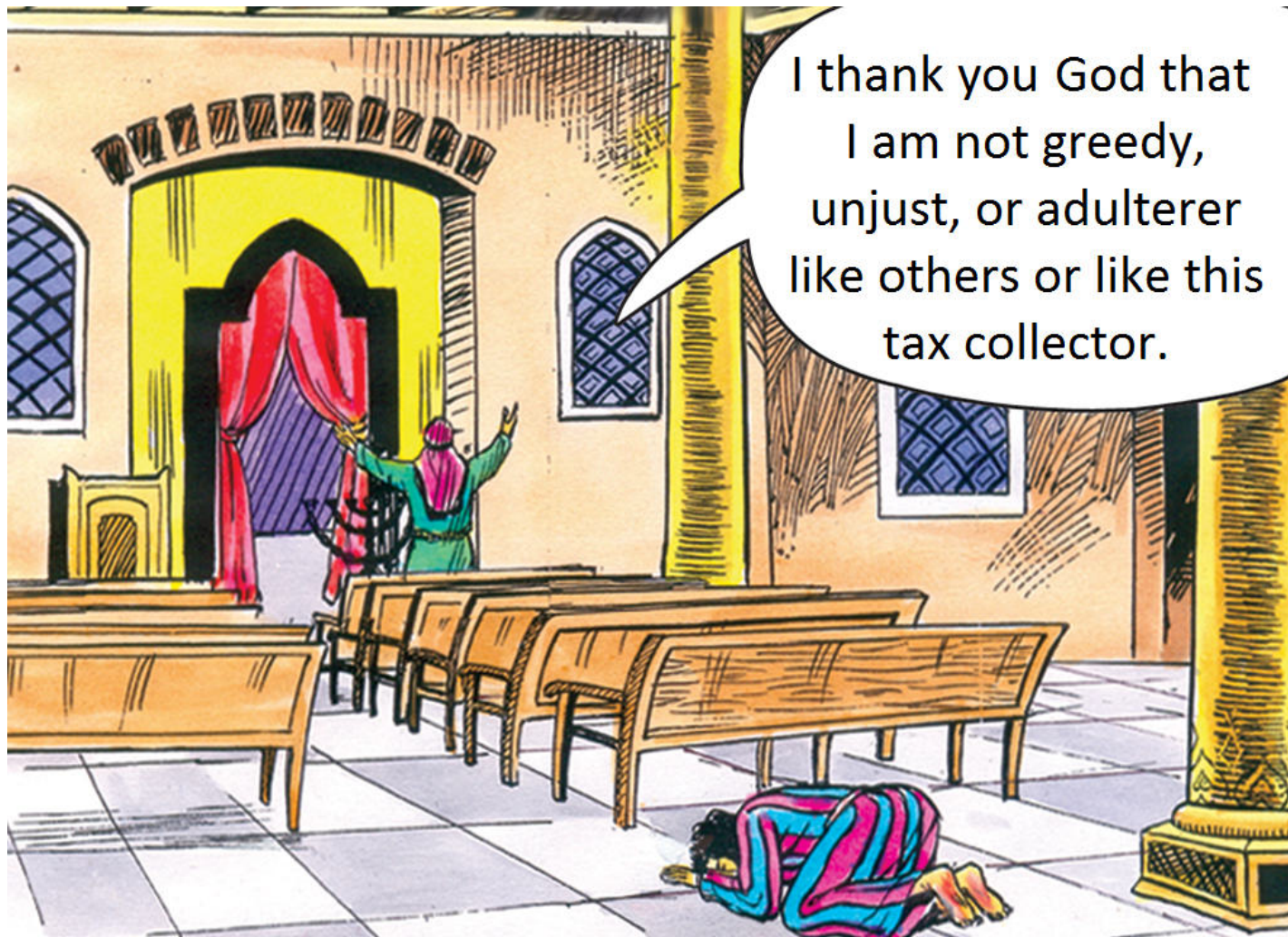
The rabbis of Israel teach that sins will be forgiven through prayer and penance.

Two men went up to pray. One, a Pharisee, the other a tax collector.



The Pharisee stood there and said his prayer like this:

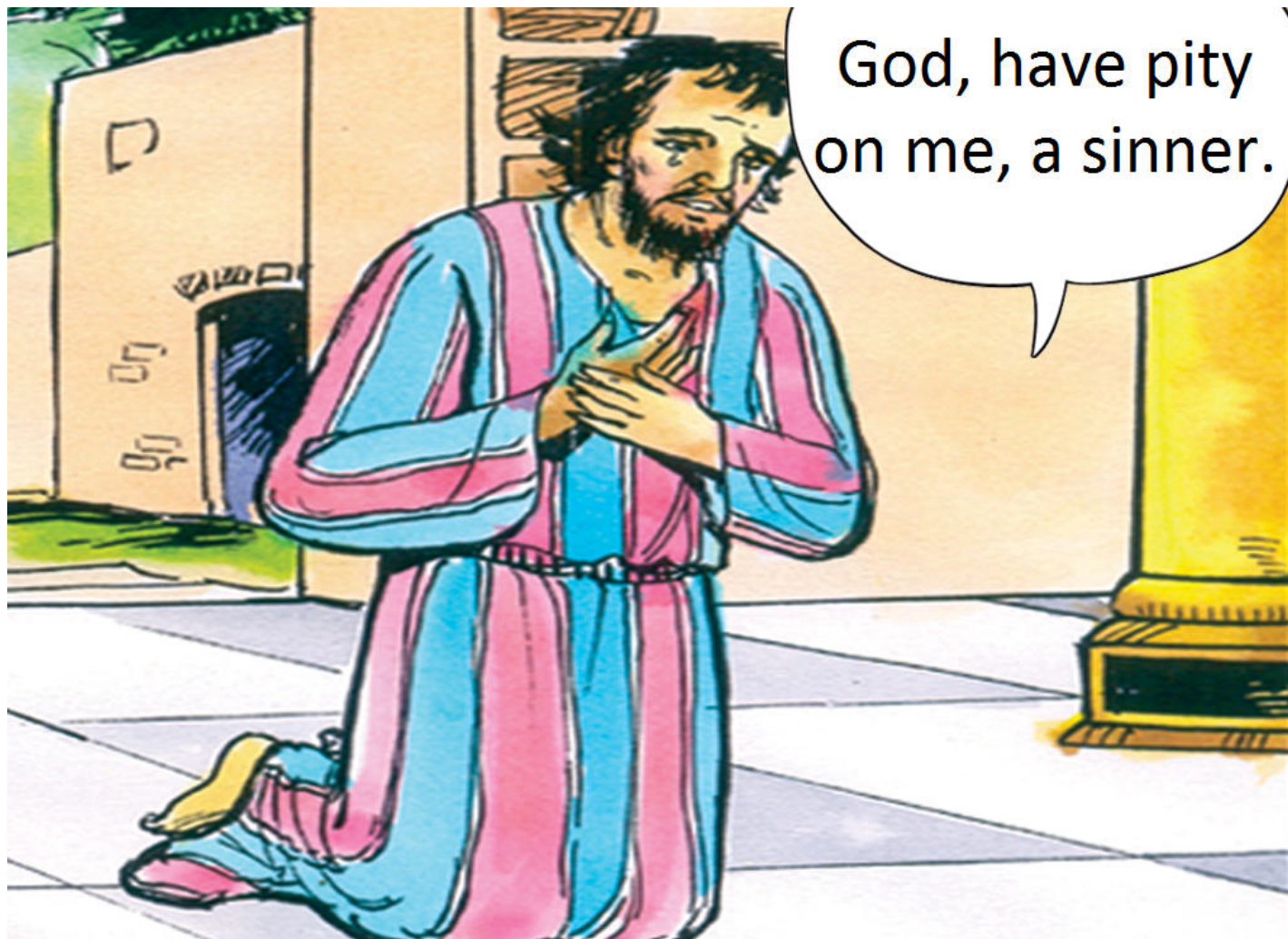
I thank you God that  
I am not greedy,  
unjust, or adulterer  
like others or like this  
tax collector.





I fast twice a week. I  
give a tenth of all my  
income.

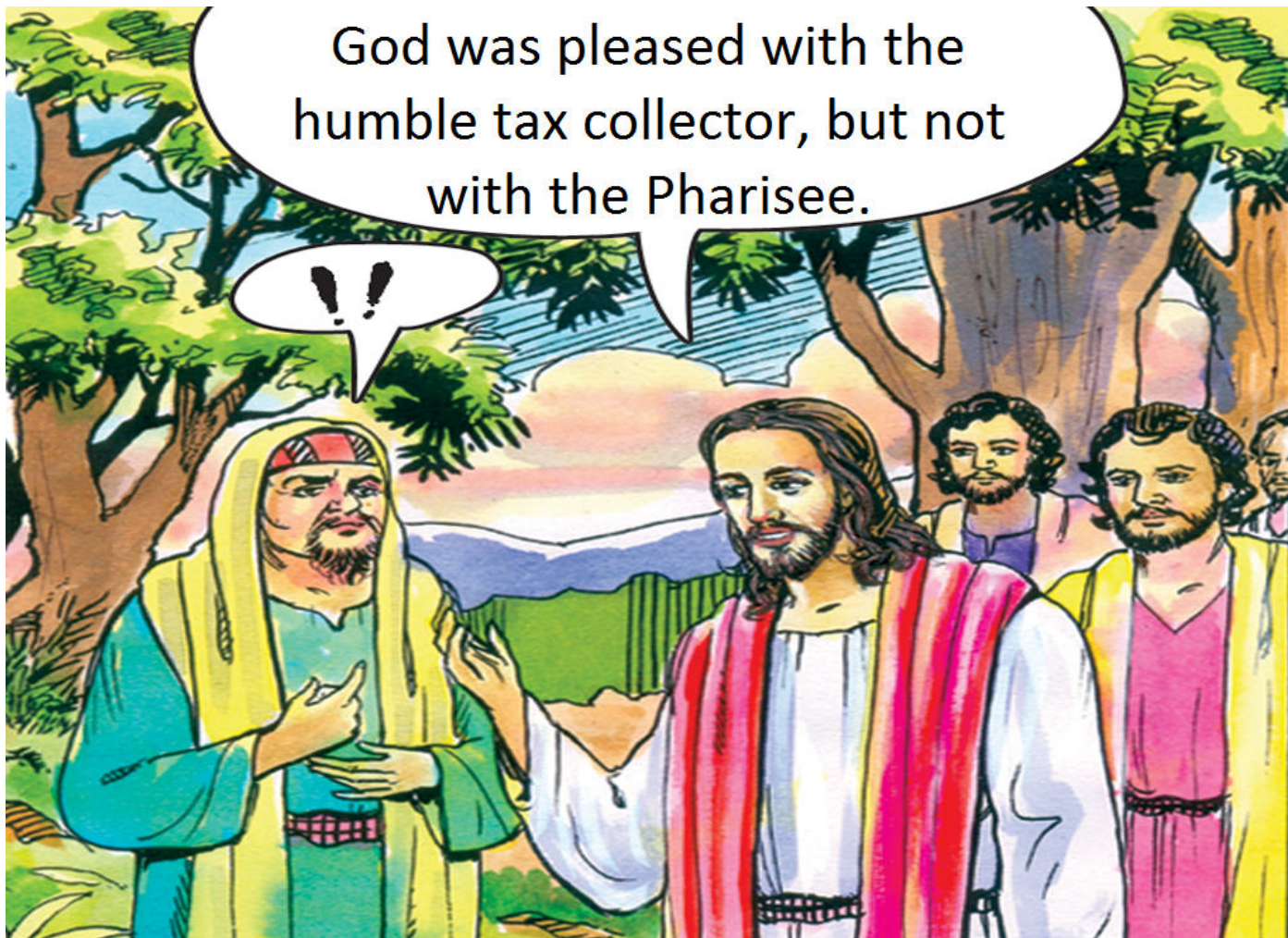






God was pleased with the  
humble tax collector, but not  
with the Pharisee.

!!





Everyone who exalts himself  
will be humbled, but  
everyone who humbles  
himself will be exalted.

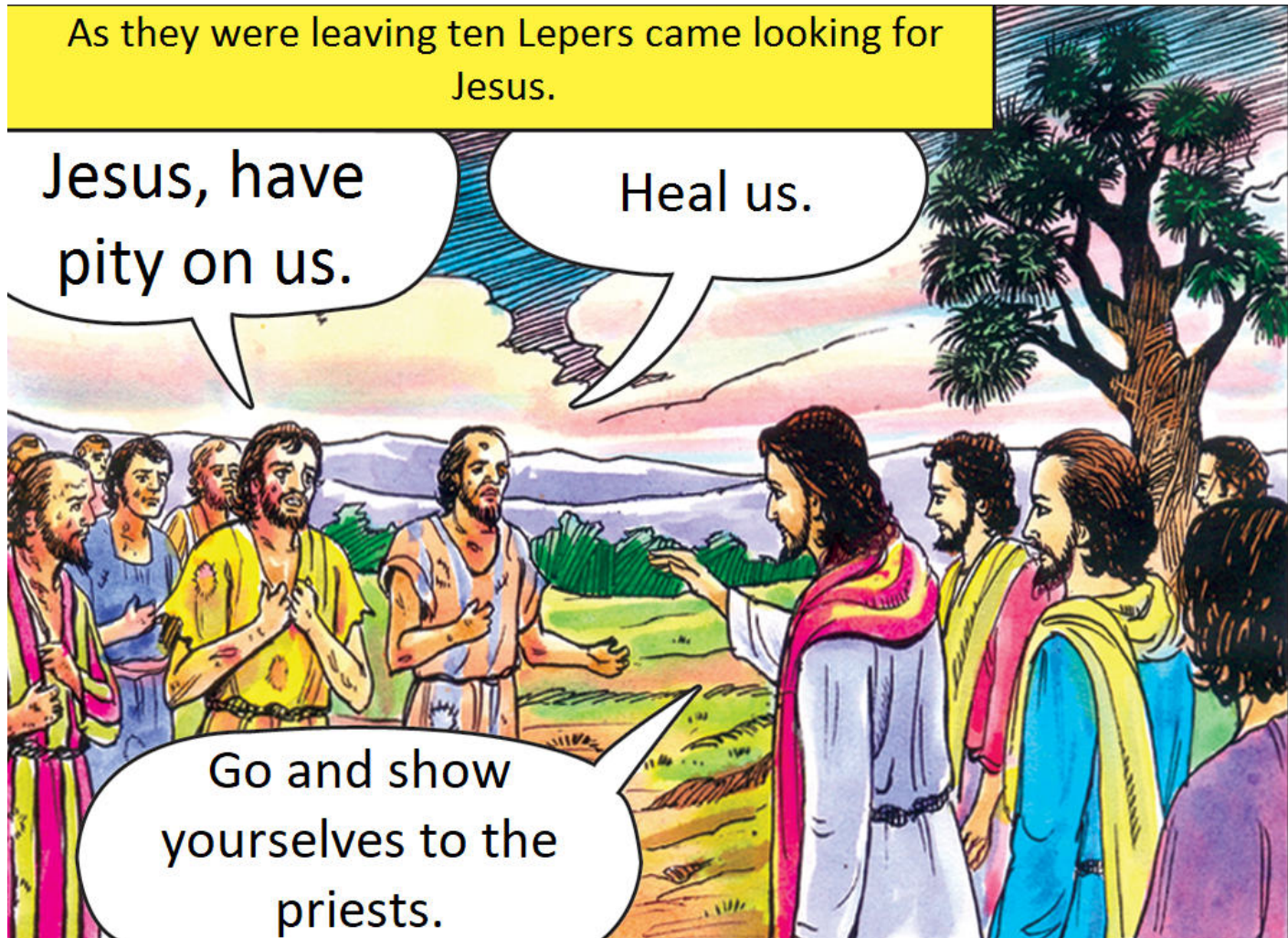


As they were leaving ten Lepers came looking for Jesus.

Jesus, have  
pity on us.

Heal us.

Go and show  
yourselves to the  
priests.




On the way

Miracle! I am  
healed.

We all are healed. Let  
us hurry to the priest  
and get certificates.

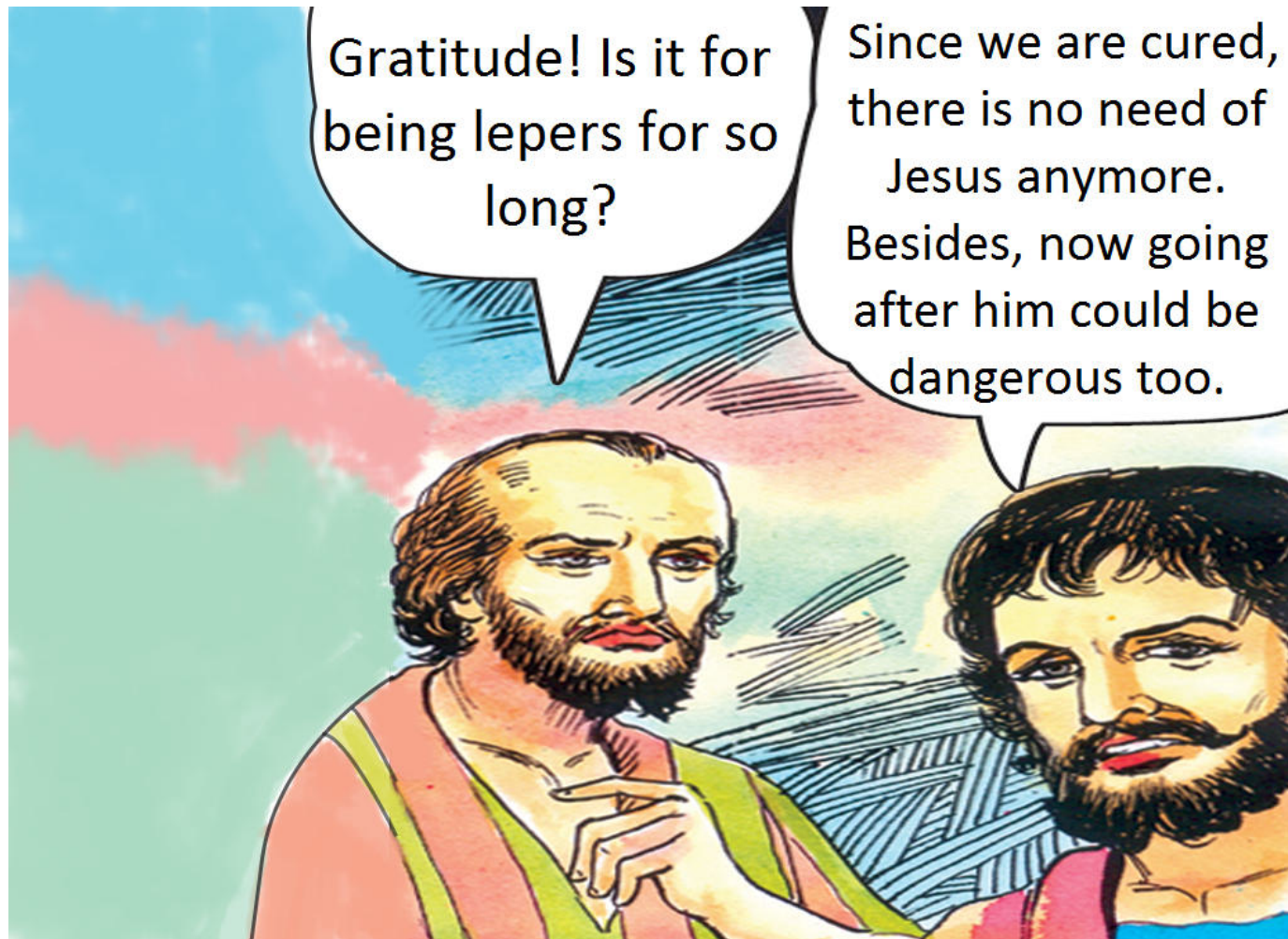
Shouldn't we go back to  
Jesus to express our  
gratitude?





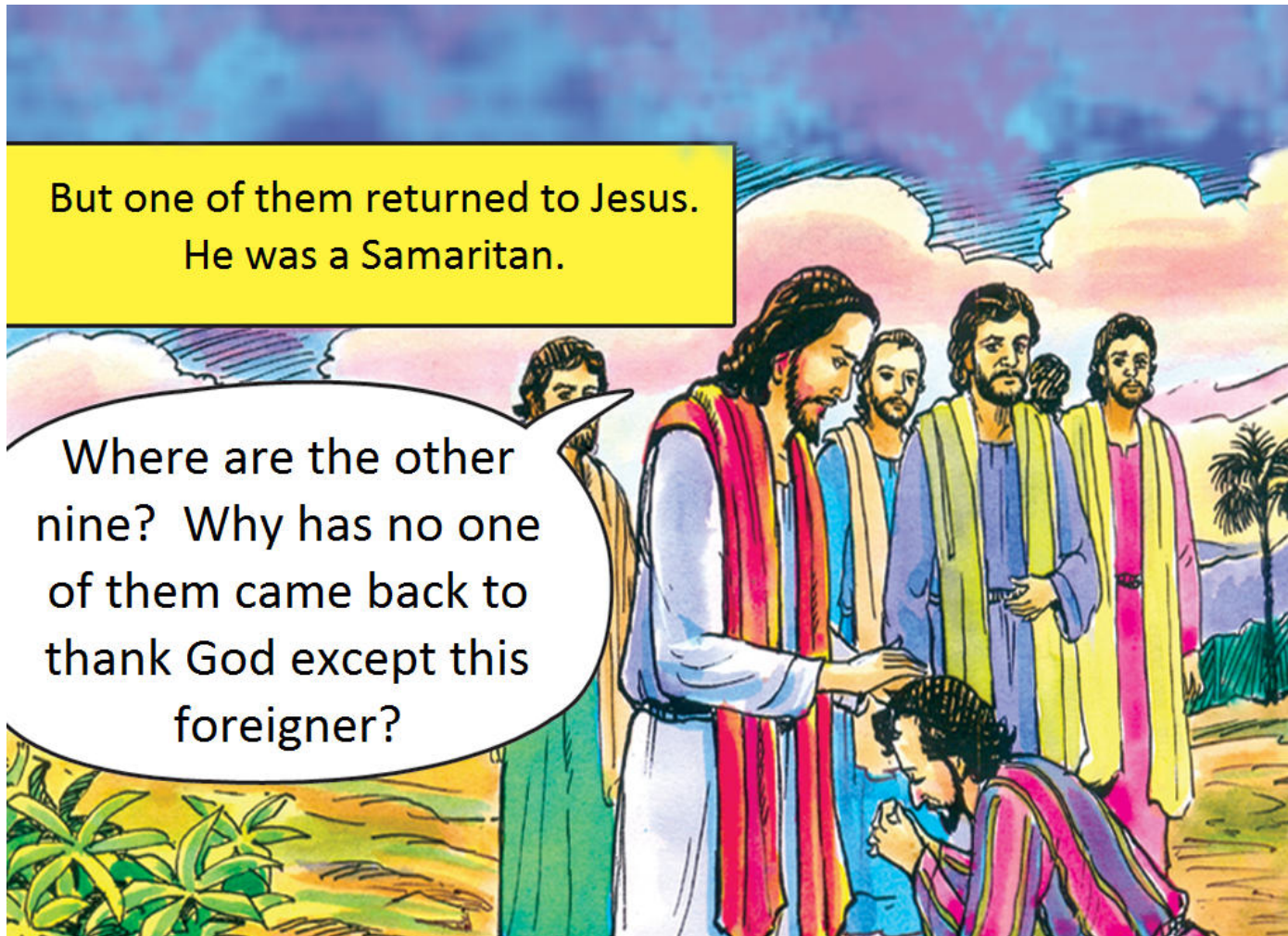
Gratitude! Is it for  
being lepers for so  
long?

Since we are cured,  
there is no need of  
Jesus anymore.  
Besides, now going  
after him could be  
dangerous too.



But one of them returned to Jesus.  
He was a Samaritan.

Where are the other  
nine? Why has no one  
of them came back to  
thank God except this  
foreigner?

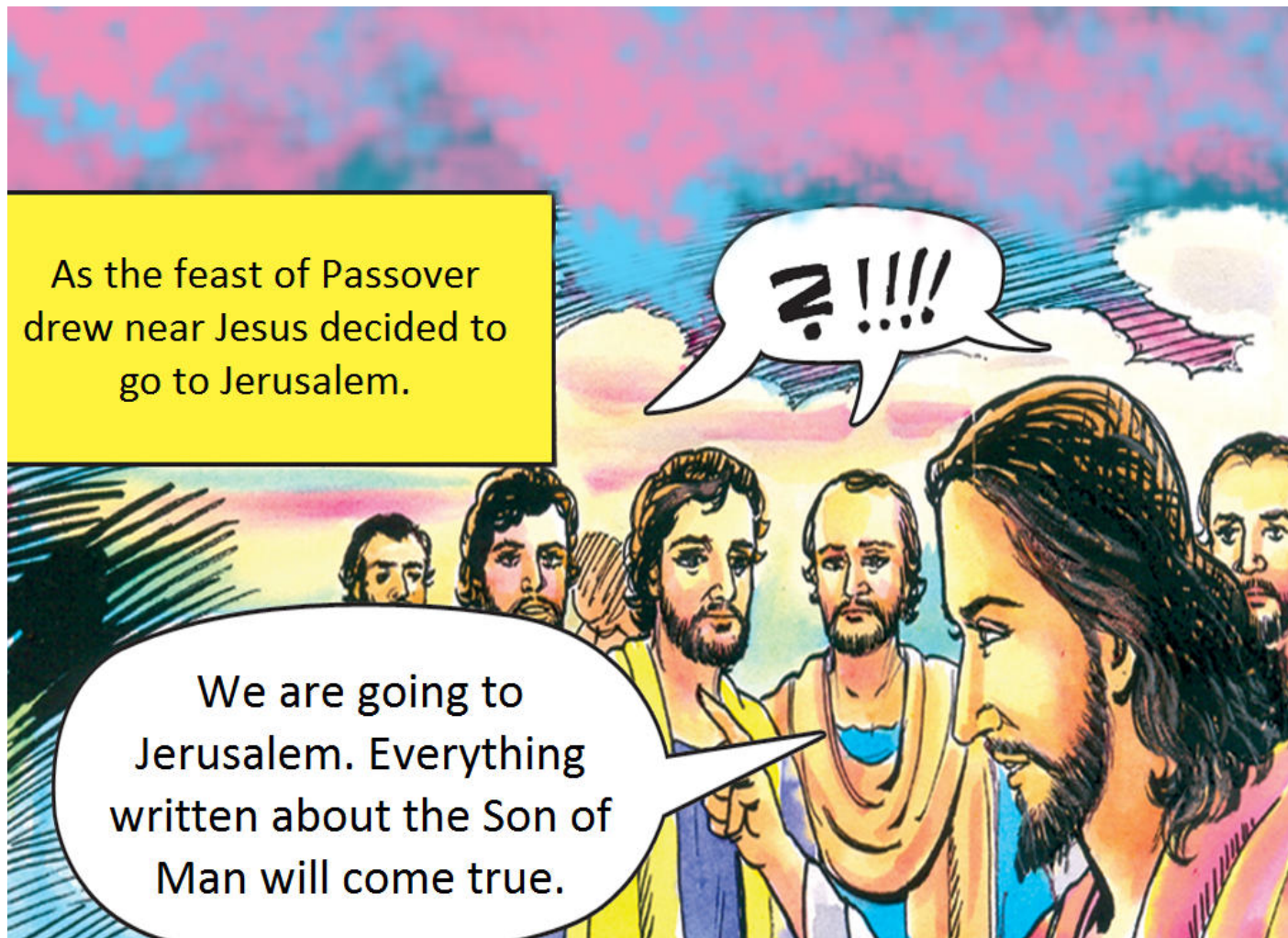




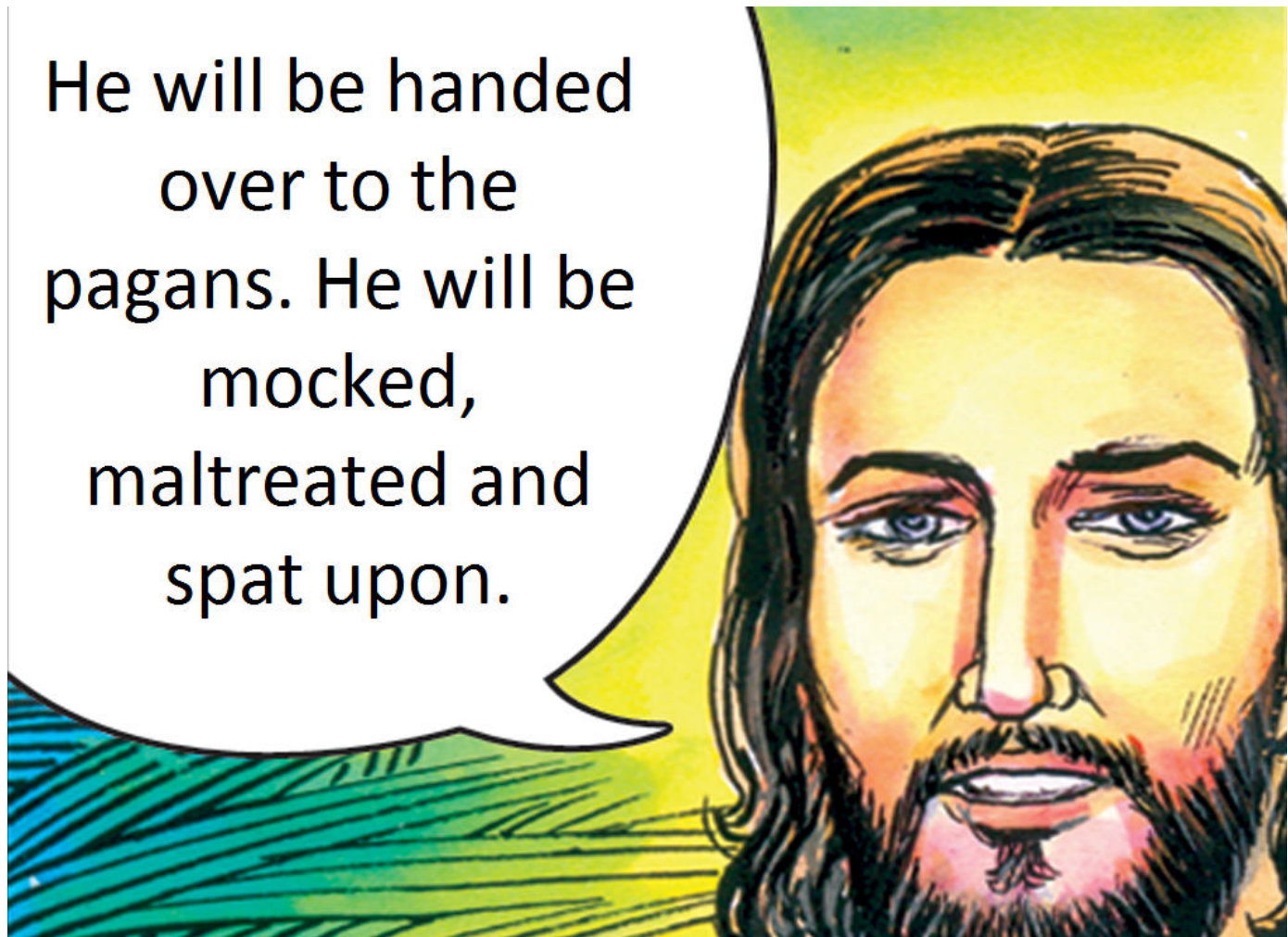
As the feast of Passover drew near Jesus decided to go to Jerusalem.

?!!!!

We are going to Jerusalem. Everything written about the Son of Man will come true.

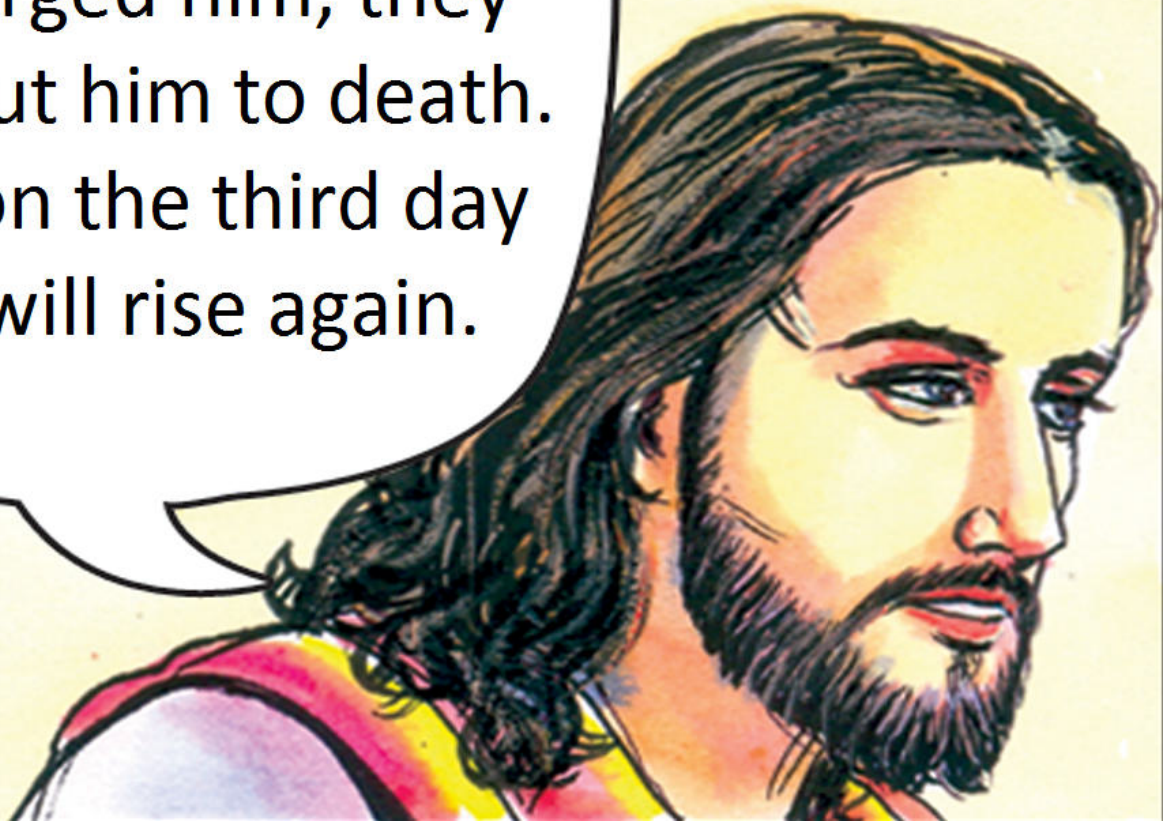


He will be handed  
over to the  
pagans. He will be  
mocked,  
maltreated and  
spat upon.





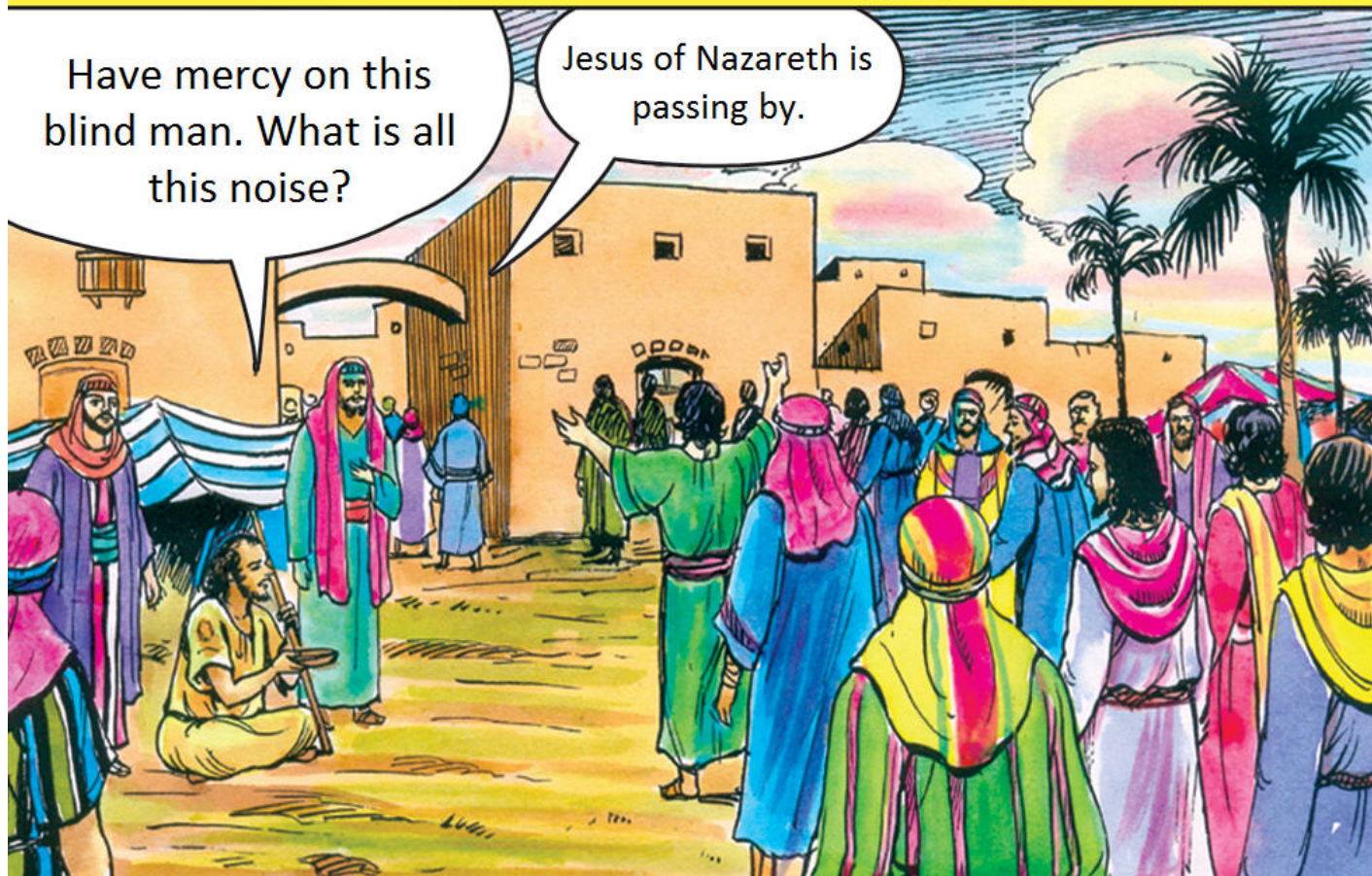
When they have  
scourged him, they  
will put him to death.  
But on the third day  
he will rise again.



As they reached Jericho, there was a blind man called Bartimeus who sat at the road side begging.

Have mercy on this blind man. What is all this noise?

Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.





Jesus, Son of  
David, have pity on  
me!

Keep quiet! Don't  
disturb the Master.



Son of David, have  
mercy on me!

Bring him  
here.



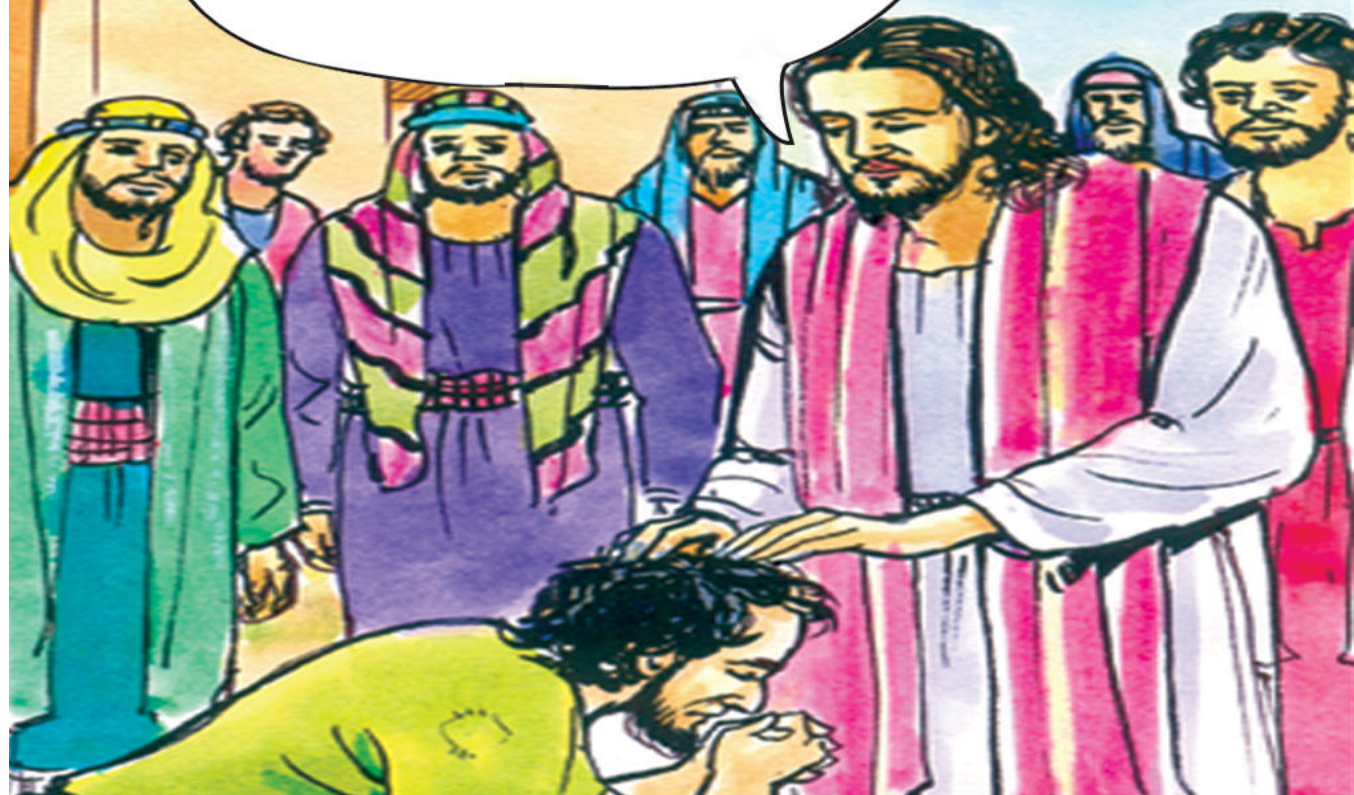


What you want  
me to do for you?

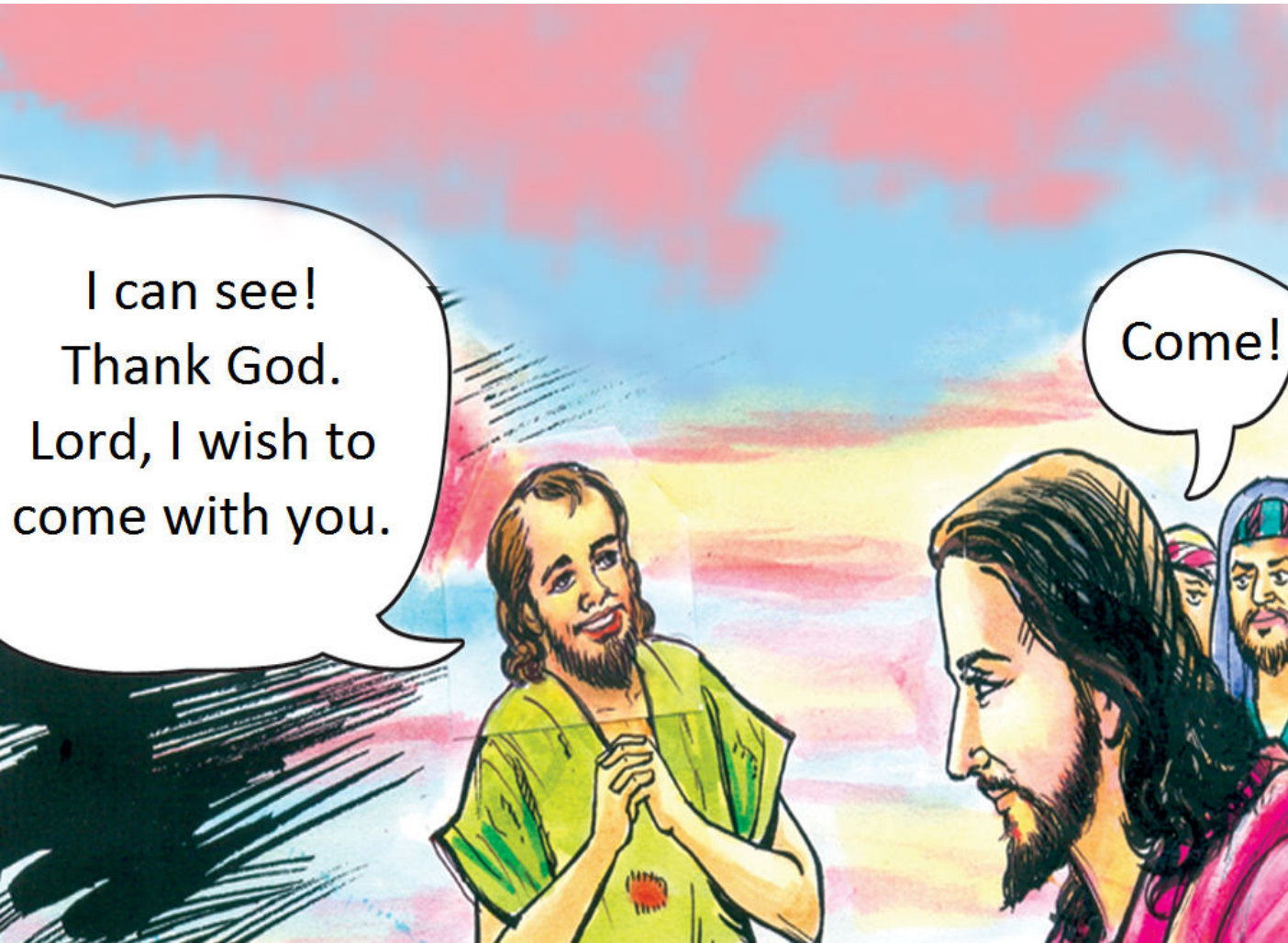
Lord, let me see  
again.



Receive your sight. Your  
faith has saved you.







I can see!  
Thank God.  
Lord, I wish to  
come with you.

Come!

The journey of Jesus approaches its end. Acceptance for the outcasts - life for the dead - royal entry into Jerusalem.

Next Story

Son of David



# Questions

1. What was the Baptism Jesus was going to receive?
2. Jesus came to bring sword, not peace. Explain.
3. Whom should we invite to our banquets?
4. Why did the rich man go to hell?
5. The prodigal son and his brother are symbols, explain.
6. What lesson do you get from the parable of the unforgiving servant?
7. God was not pleased with the Pharisee's prayer. Why?
8. How should we express our gratitude to God?
9. What lesson does Bartimaeus teach us?
10. We are pilgrims on earth. Explain.

Memorize: **“One who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted”** (Luke 14, 11)

# 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