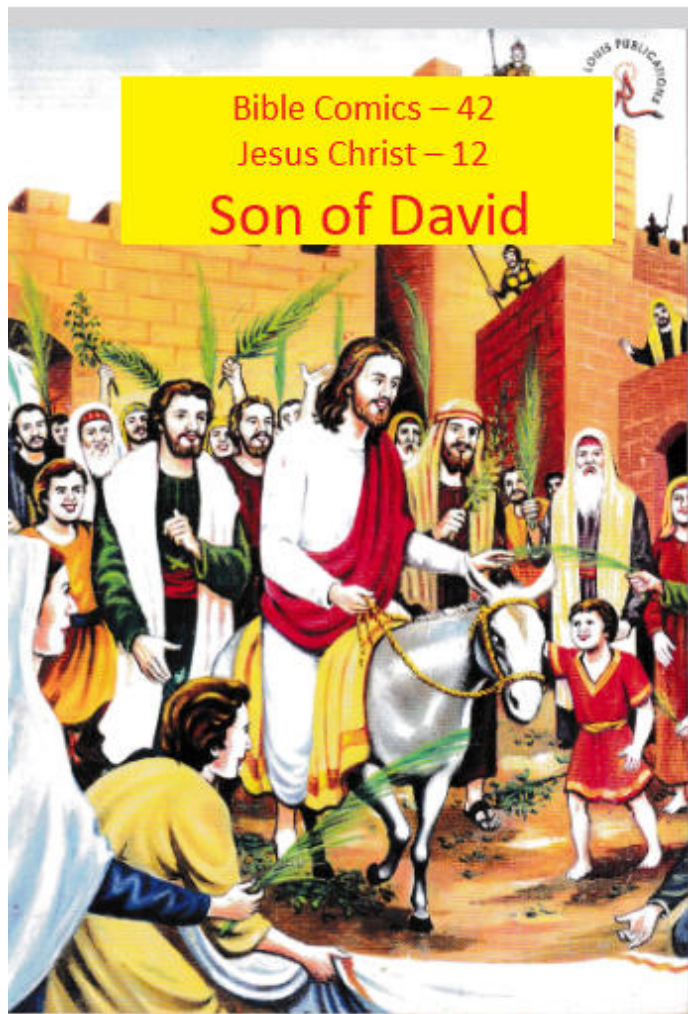


Bible Comics – 42
Jesus Christ – 12
Son of David



SON OF DAVID

David was the greatest king who ever ruled Israel. After the Babylonian captivity Israel did not have a king. However, they firmly believed that God would send them a Messiah, a king from the descendants of David. He would liberate them from their political bondage and re-establish the kingdom of David. When the people called Jesus “Christ”, and the “Son of David”, they expressed their belief that he was the expected king. Even the disciples entertained such a belief. But, the works of Jesus so far did

not correspond to the expectations of the people. When they tried to make him king at Capernaum he evaded; when the apostles confessed him to be the Christ, he strictly commanded them not to make it public. From the very beginning of the public ministry, he rejected worldly kingship and glory as a diabolic temptation.

However, at the end of his journey, Jesus himself took initiative for a royal entry into Jerusalem. When the people shouted Hosanna to the Son of David, a jubilant acclamation for the

king, he apparently encouraged them. This triumphal entry, mounted on a donkey, marked the fulfillment of a prophecy concerning the future king (Zech 9,9). It is noteworthy that those who accompanied him and acclaimed him were not soldiers and generals but only the poor pilgrims from Galilee. Thus, a closer look at the events would reveal that Jesus neither changed his attitude nor fulfilled the popular expectations concerning the Messiah King. The whole episode points to a kingship that does not belong to this world.

The solemn entry into Jerusalem was a symbolic action that foreshadowed Jesus' entry into heaven through death and resurrection. His victory was not over any political enemy but over sin and death, the true enemies of humanity. Jesus interpreted the anointing at Bethany as the preparation for his burial. In fact, the kingship of Jesus was established through his death and resurrection.

The cleansing of the temple provided Jesus an occasion to call attention to the true meaning of the temple. Those who desecrated the Jerusalem

temple by turning it into a market place would destroy the true temple, his body, but God would raise it up again.

Jesus came to Jerusalem to proclaim the Good News and to call its inhabitants to repentance, but they were not willing to listen. Hence his preaching and teaching took the form of controversies and denunciations. Through symbolic actions, parables and predictions he announced that God's judgment was impending on the impenitent people. Those who

entertained the dreams of a glorious Son of David failed to recognize in him the Messiah.

The fate of Jerusalem and of the Jewish leadership should be a warning to us all. When we confess Jesus as the Son of David and king, we must realize that his kingship is established on truth and Justice, on brotherhood and love. Jesus demands that we live according to these values of his kingdom.

Bible Comics – 42

Jesus Christ – 12

Son of David

Script:

Rev. Dr. Michael Karimattam

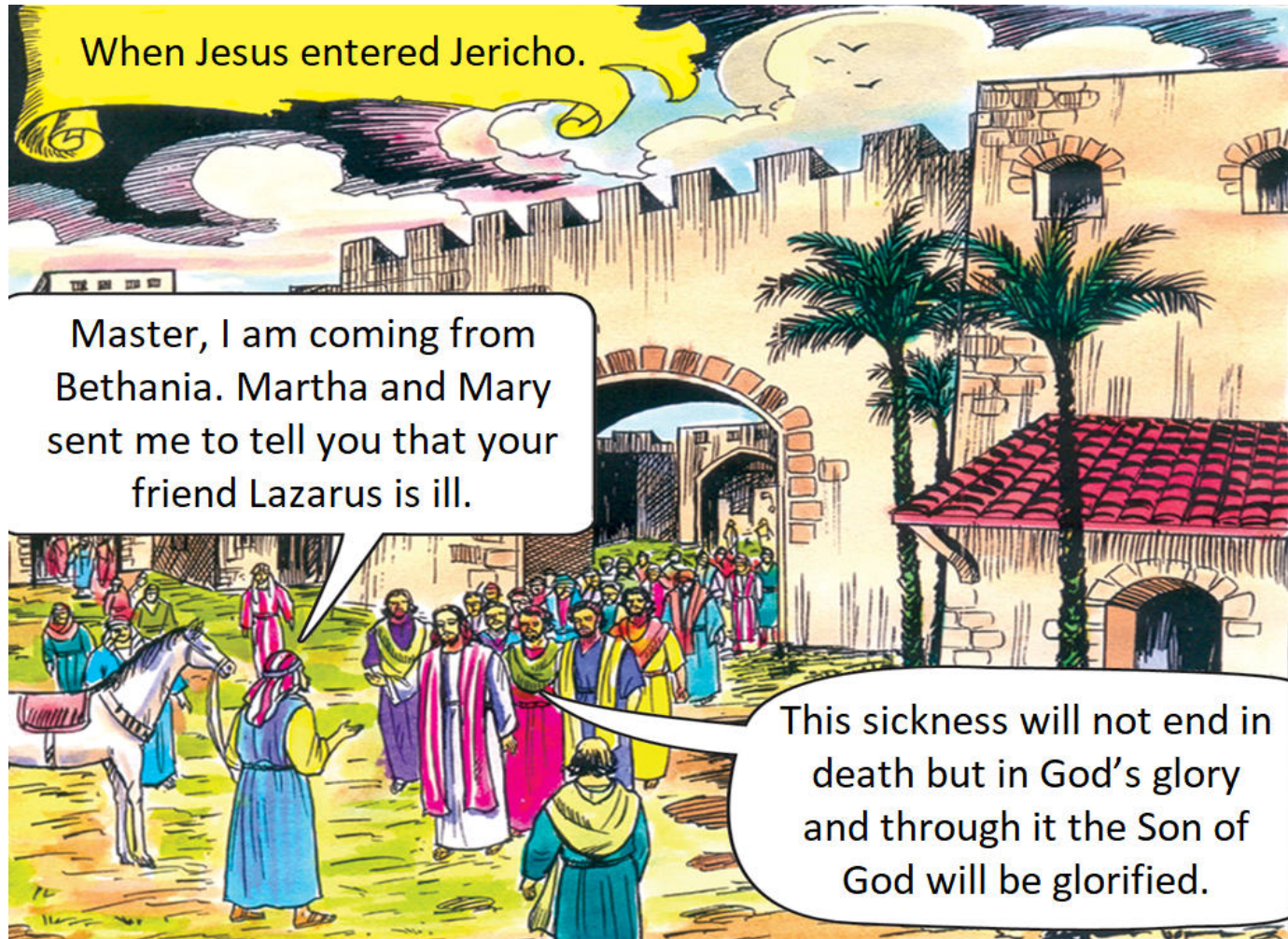
Illustration:

Devassy & Benny

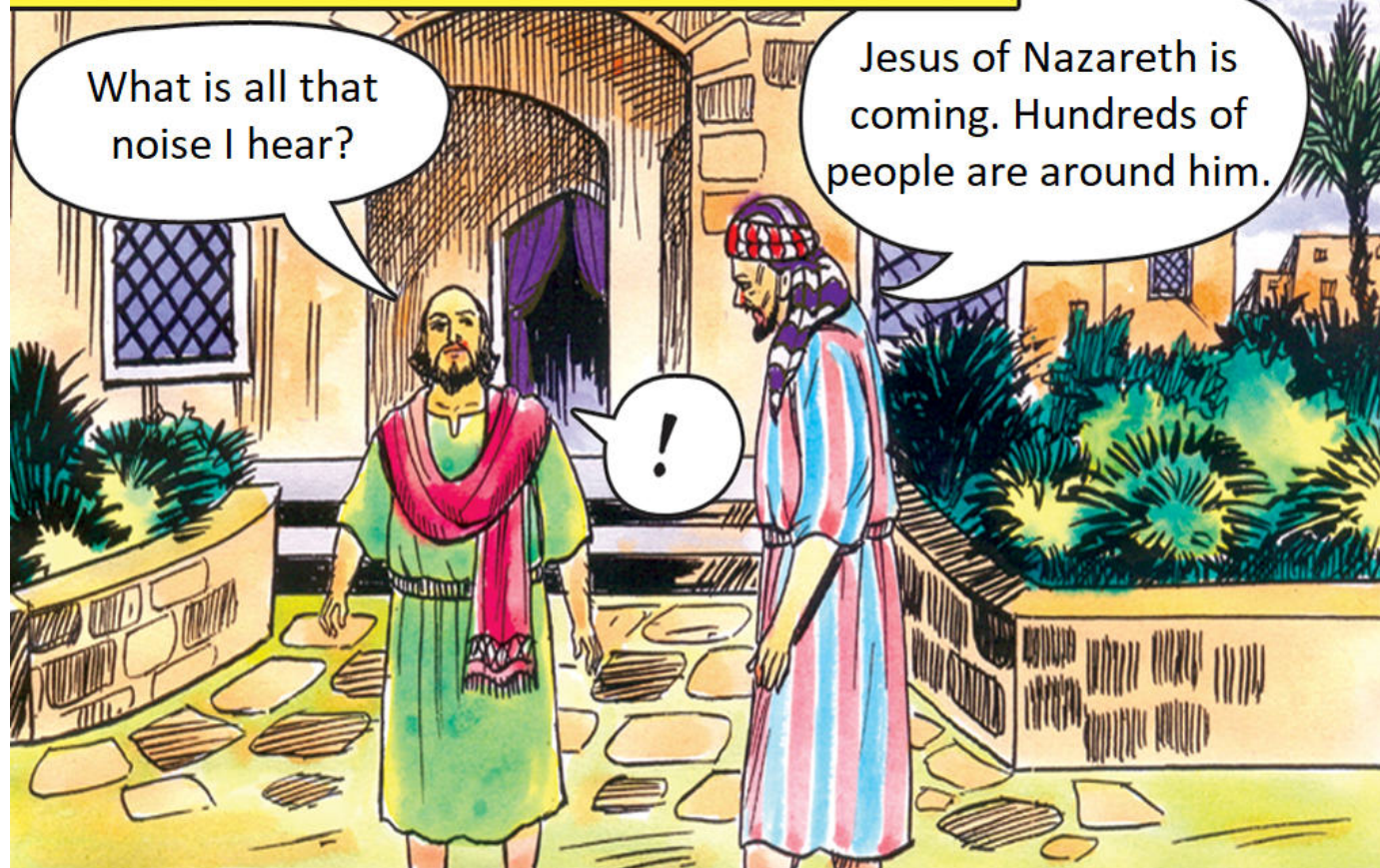
When Jesus entered Jericho.

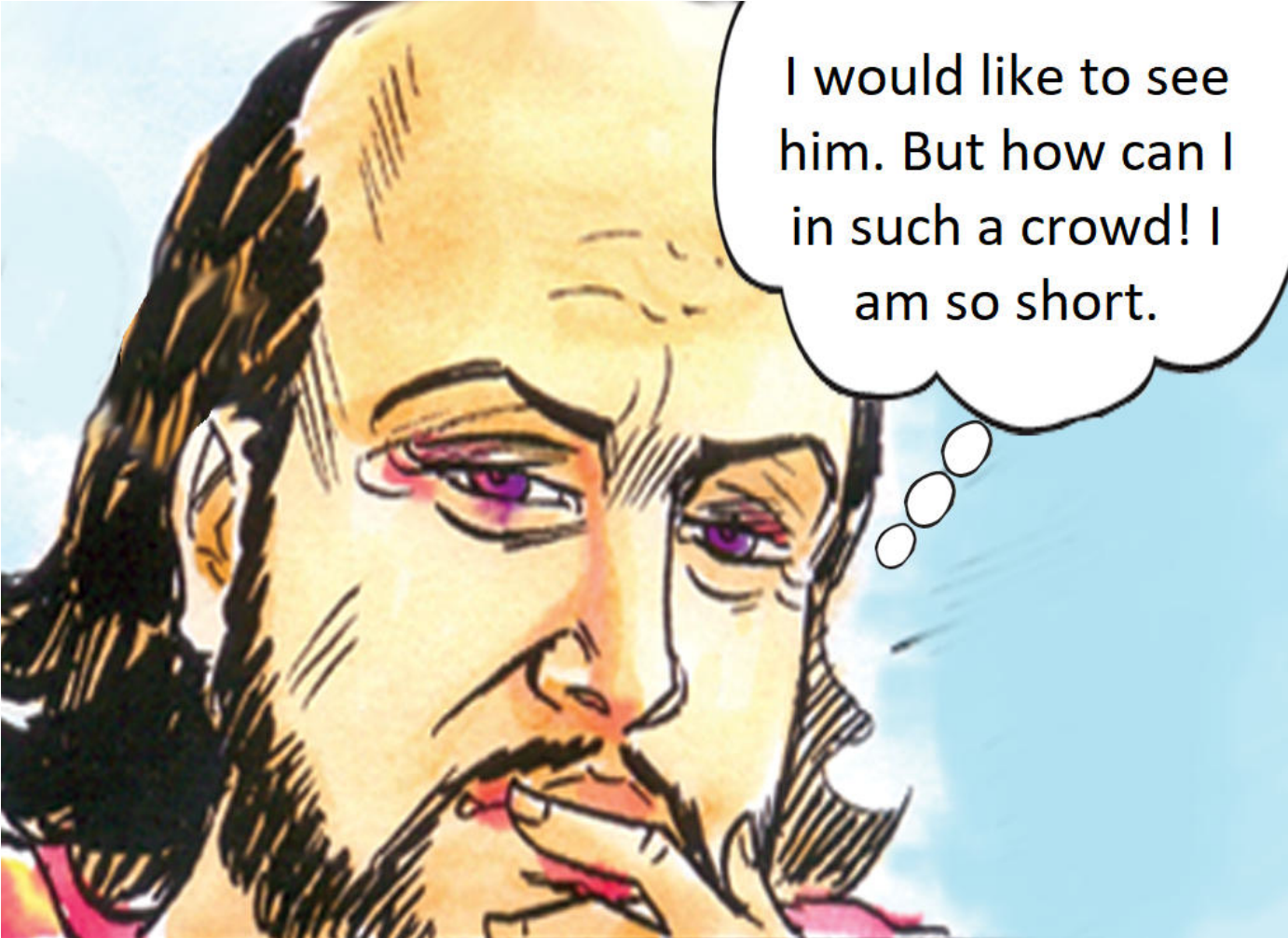
Master, I am coming from Bethania. Martha and Mary sent me to tell you that your friend Lazarus is ill.

This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory and through it the Son of God will be glorified.



In Jericho, there was a chief tax collector named Zacchaeus. He was very rich.





I would like to see
him. But how can I
in such a crowd! I
am so short.

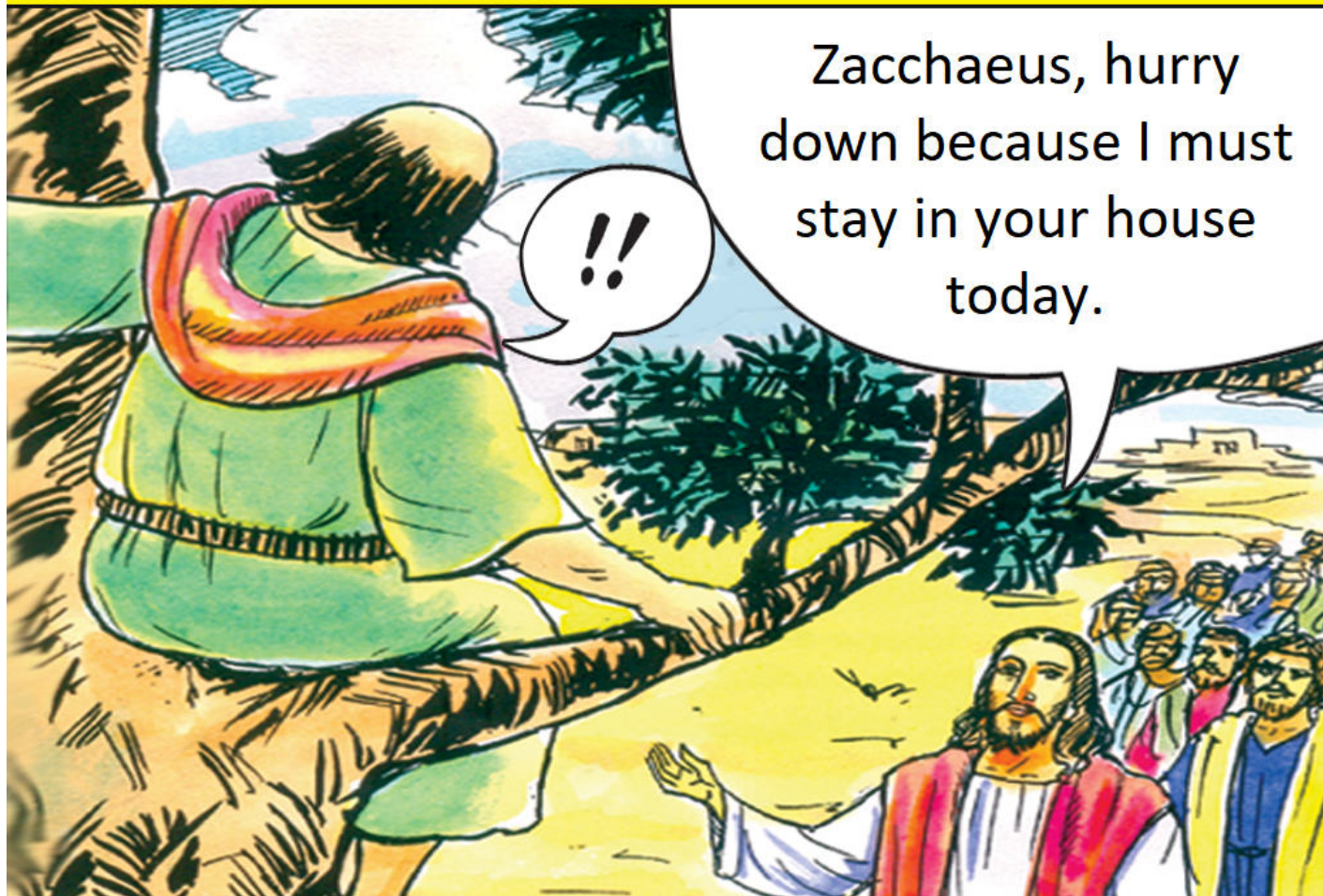
I better stay out of sight, or else I may get
beaten up.



I want to see Jesus without
anyone seeing me.



So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree. When Jesus came to that spot:



Is he going to the house
of that sinner?

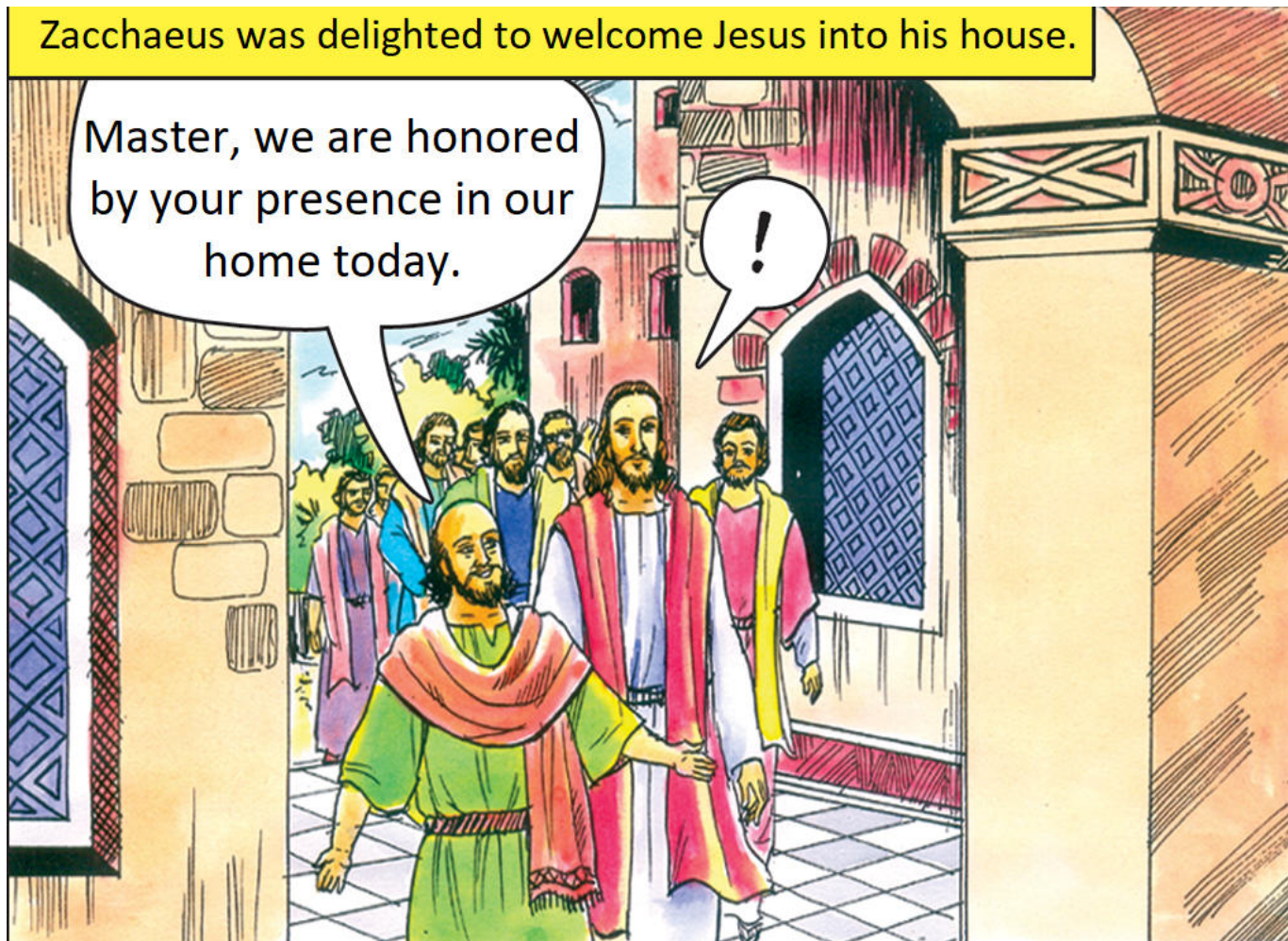
I thought that he would
behave a little more decently
once he left Galilee.



Zacchaeus was delighted to welcome Jesus into his house.

Master, we are honored
by your presence in our
home today.

!



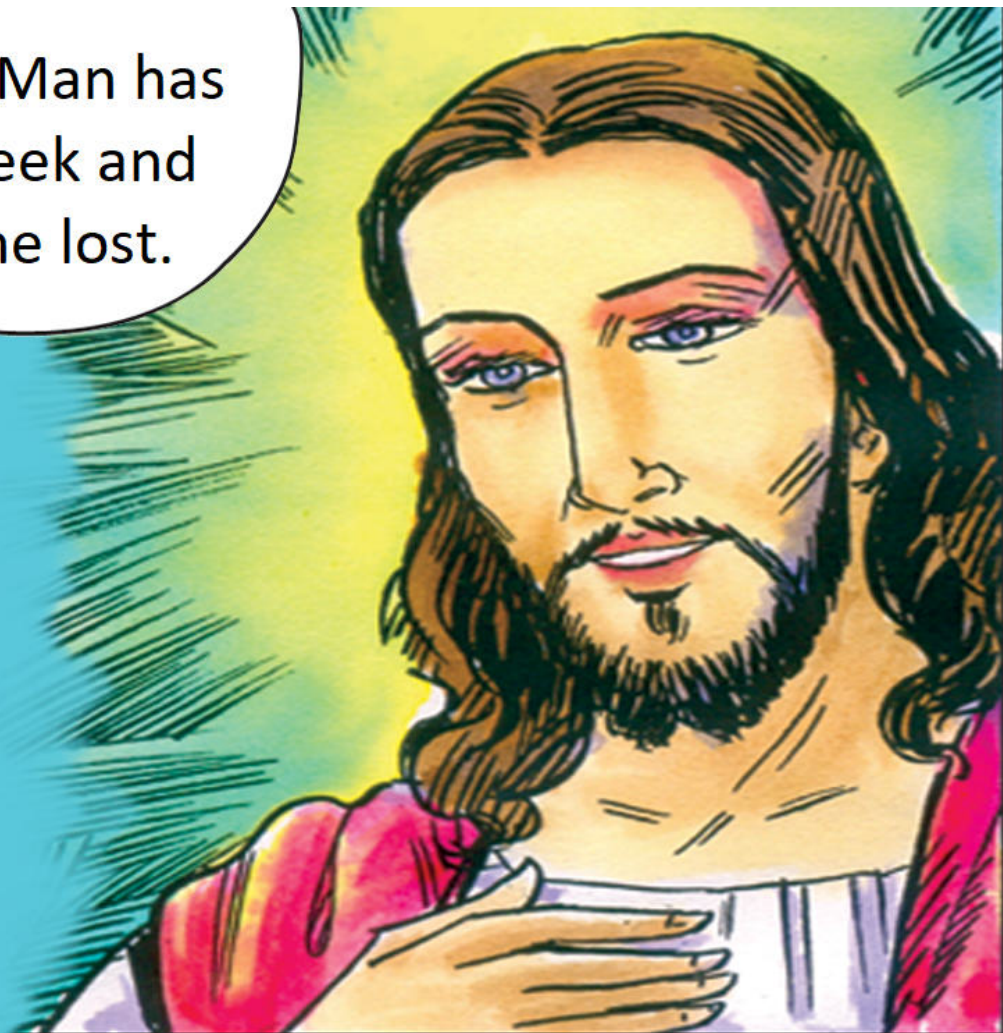
Zacchaeus prepared a dinner
for Jesus.

Master, I will give half of my
belongings to the poor and if I
have cheated anyone, I will
pay him back four times as
much.

Salvation has come
to this house today.
For this man also is
descendant of
Abraham.



The Son of Man has
come to seek and
to save the lost.

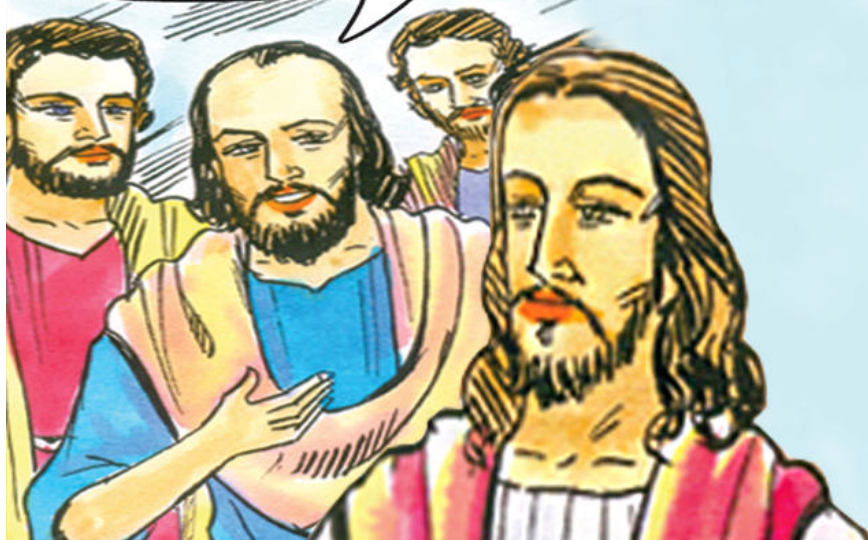


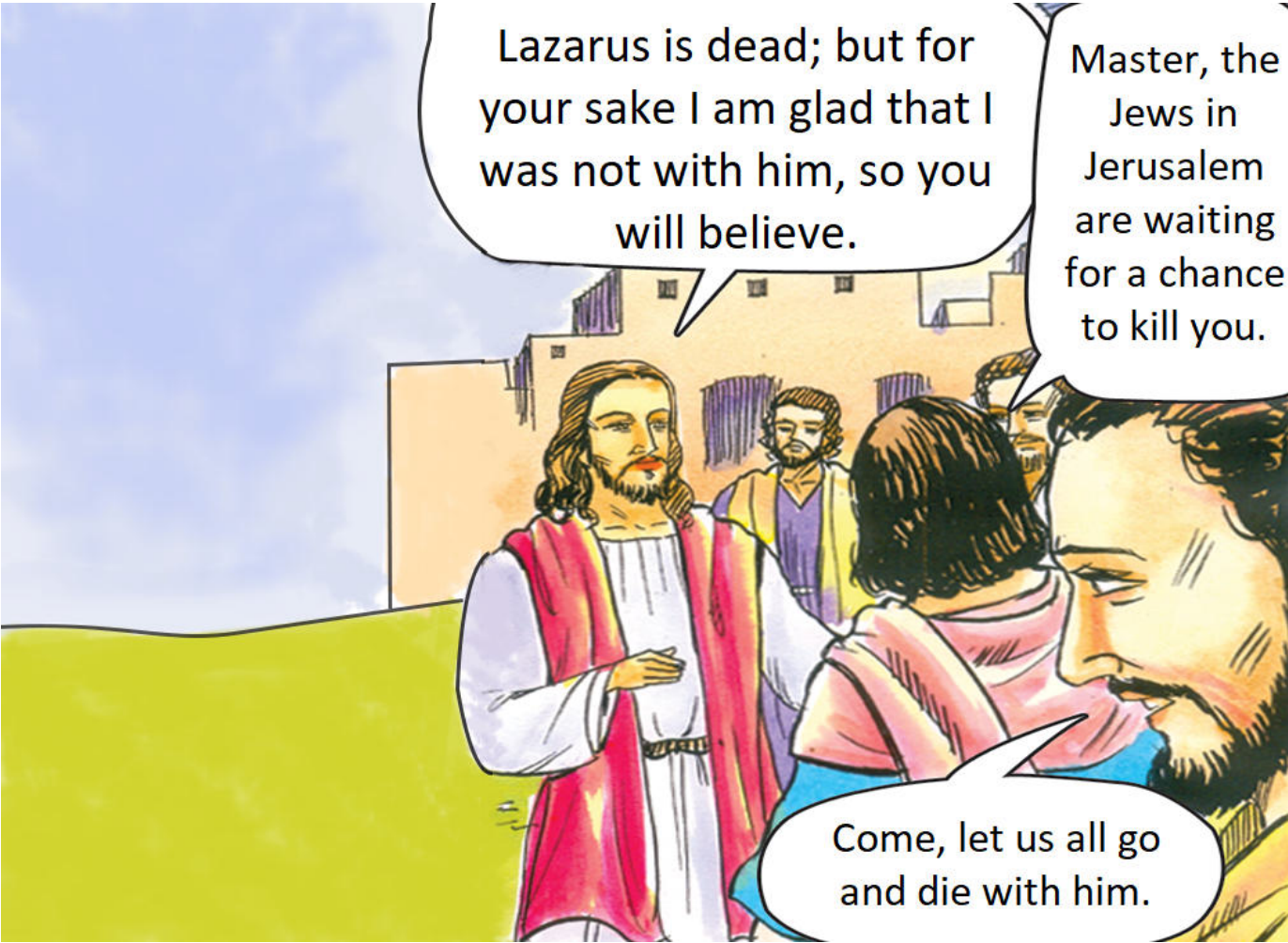


Jesus to his Apostles.

Our friend Lazarus is sleeping.
I shall go and wake him up.

Master, if he is sleeping,
he will get well.





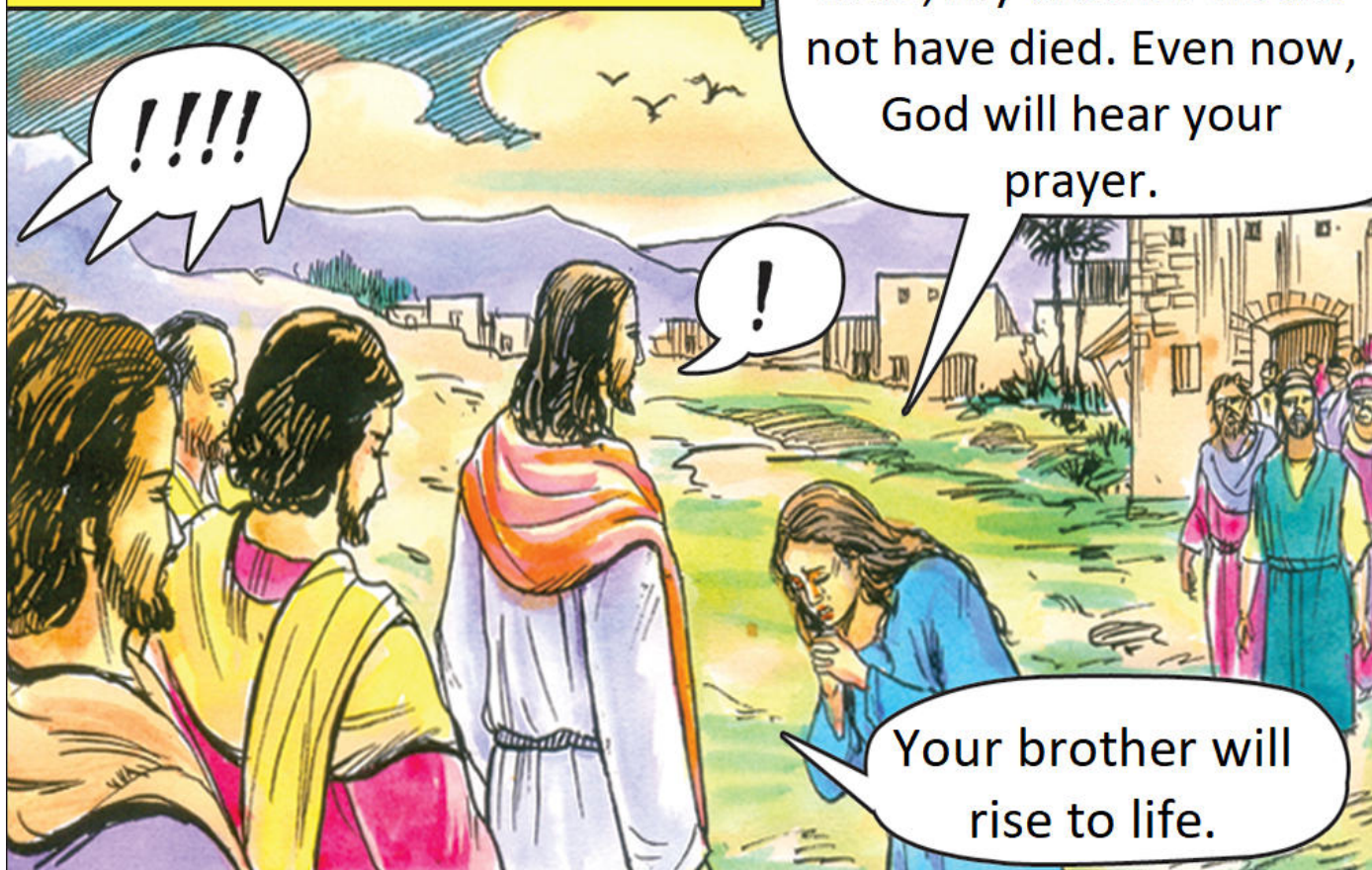
Lazarus is dead; but for
your sake I am glad that I
was not with him, so you
will believe.

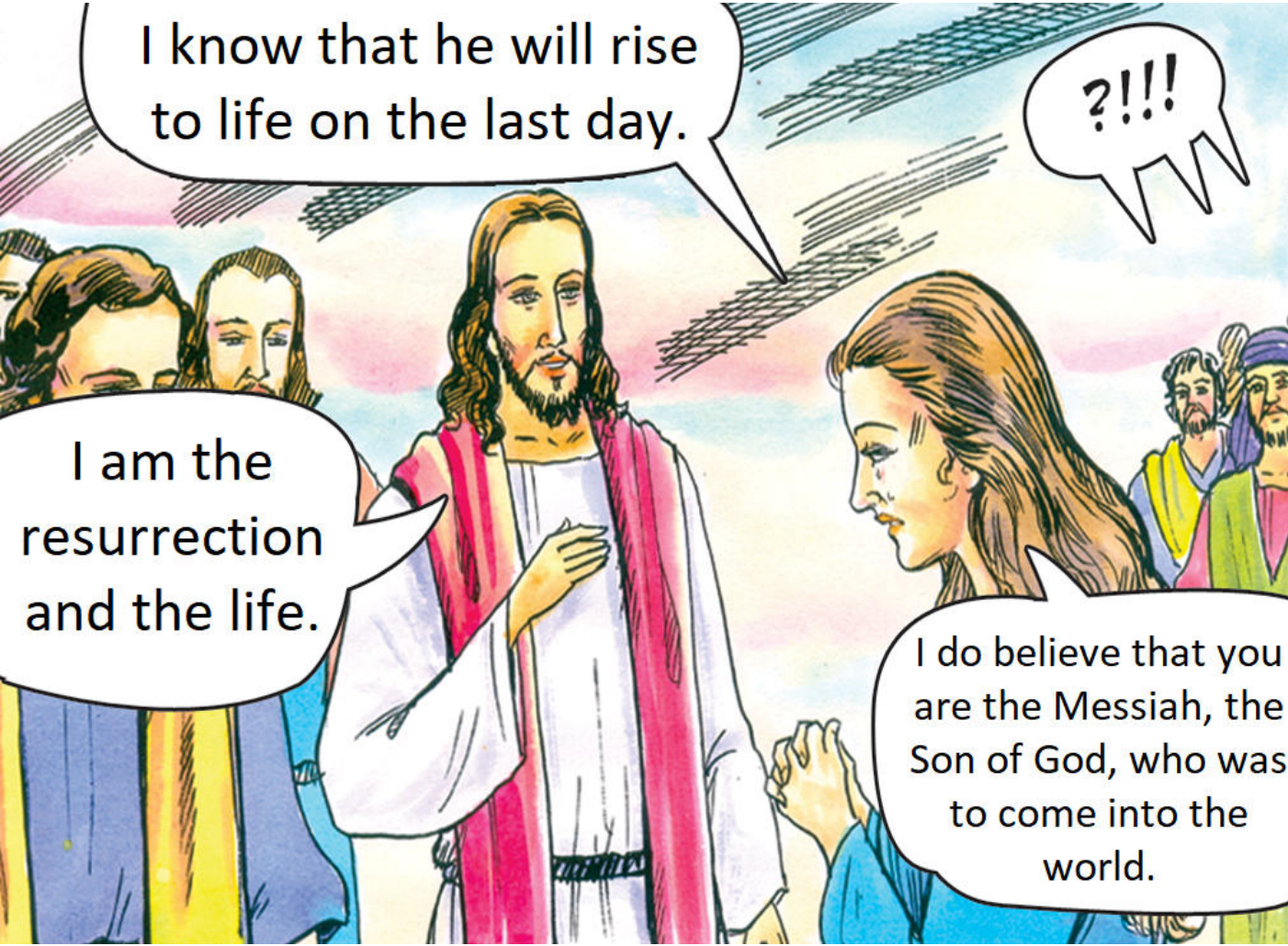
Master, the
Jews in
Jerusalem
are waiting
for a chance
to kill you.

Come, let us all go
and die with him.

When they reached Bethania,
Martha came out to receive Jesus.

Master, if you had been
here, my brother would
not have died. Even now,
God will hear your
prayer.





I know that he will rise
to life on the last day.

I am the
resurrection
and the life.

?!!!

I do believe that you
are the Messiah, the
Son of God, who was
to come into the
world.

Then Mary also came there.

Lord, how we prayed that
you would come...



Where have you buried
him?

See how much he loved
Lazarus!

Couldn't he who opened the
eyes of the blind, prevent
this death?

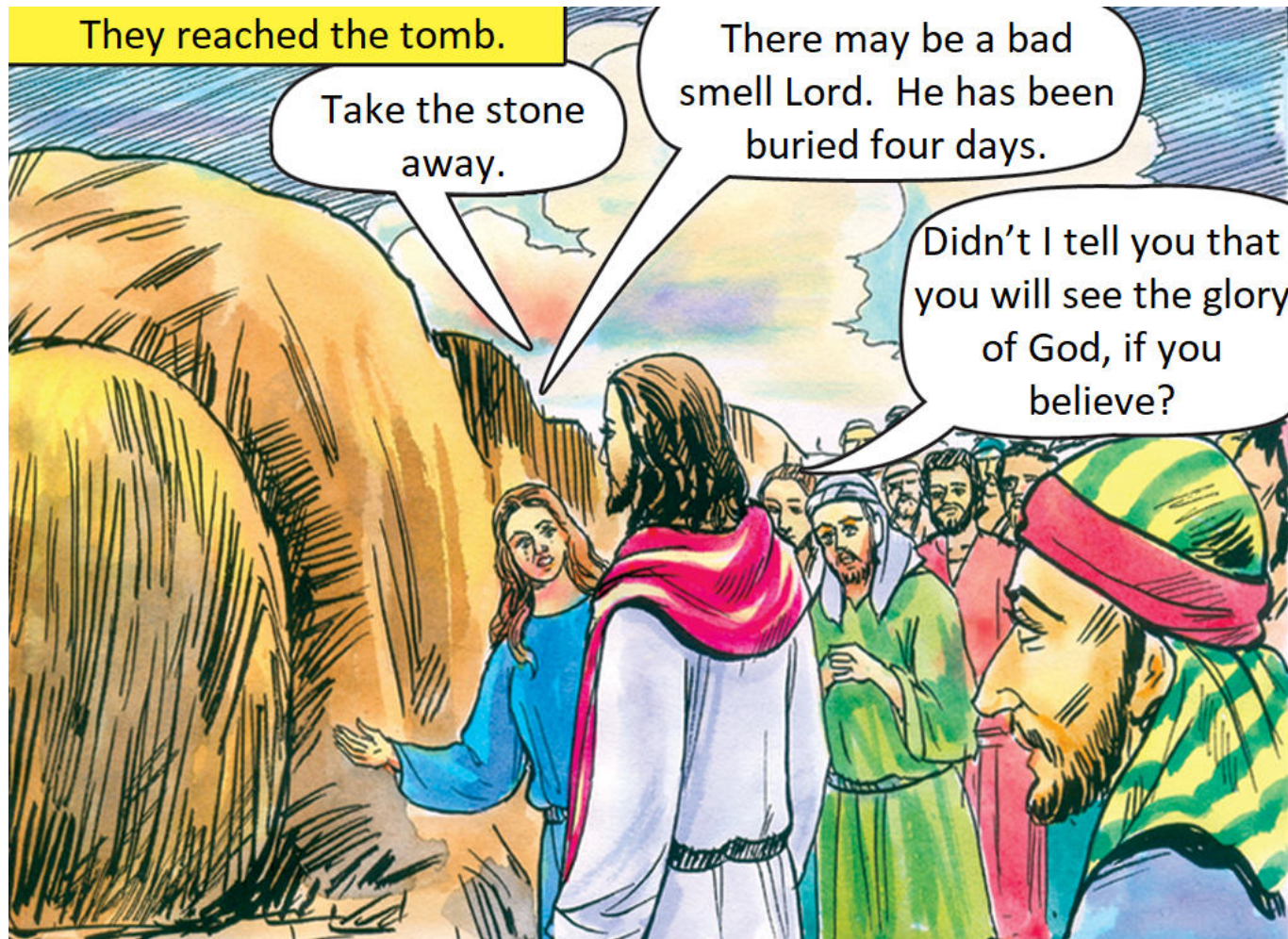


They reached the tomb.

Take the stone away.

There may be a bad smell Lord. He has been buried four days.

Didn't I tell you that you will see the glory of God, if you believe?

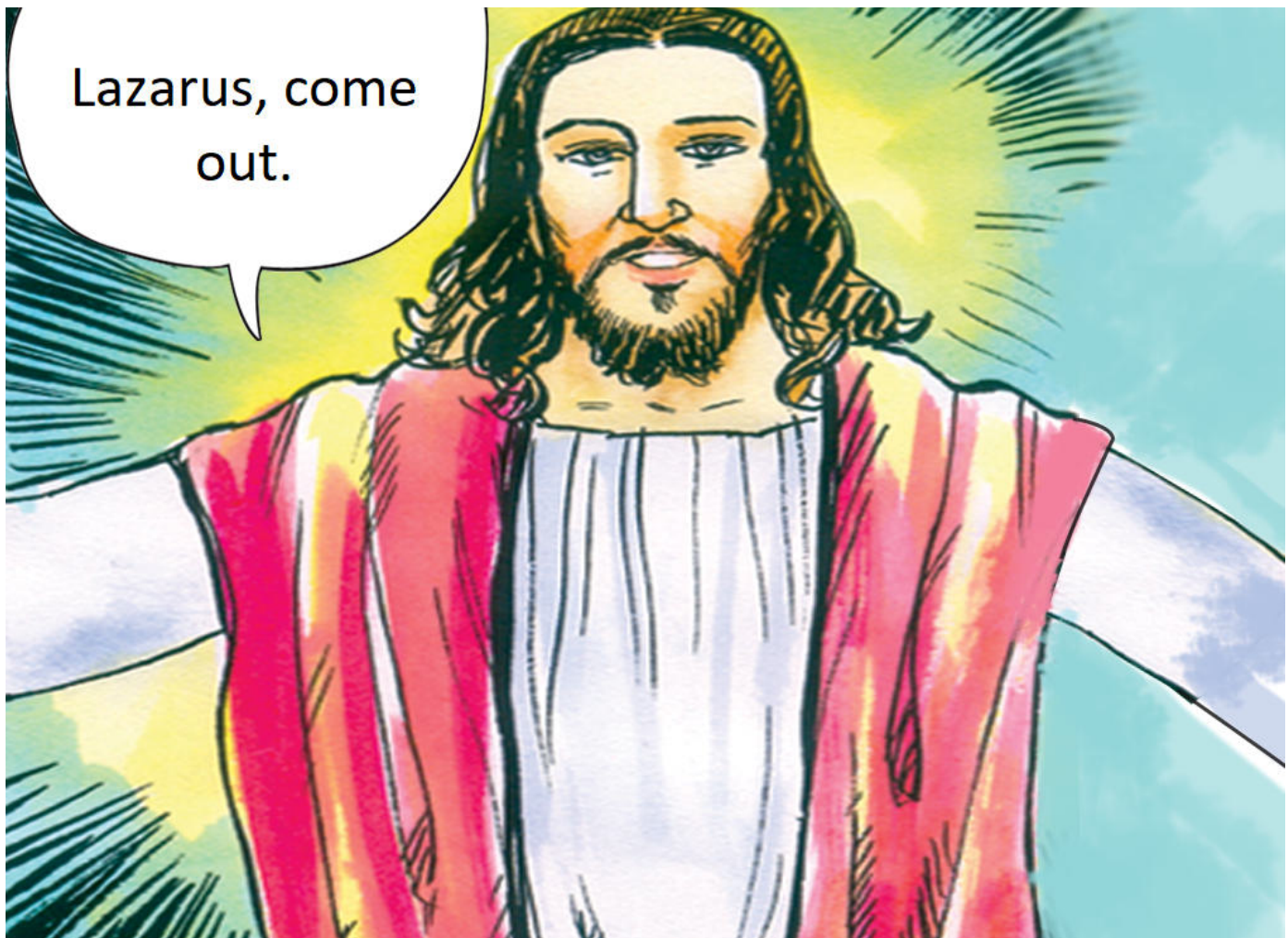



They removed the stone.

Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I know that you always hear me. But I speak for the sake of the people here, so that they may believe that it was you who sent me.



Lazarus, come
out.





Untie him and
let him go.

Praise the Lord.

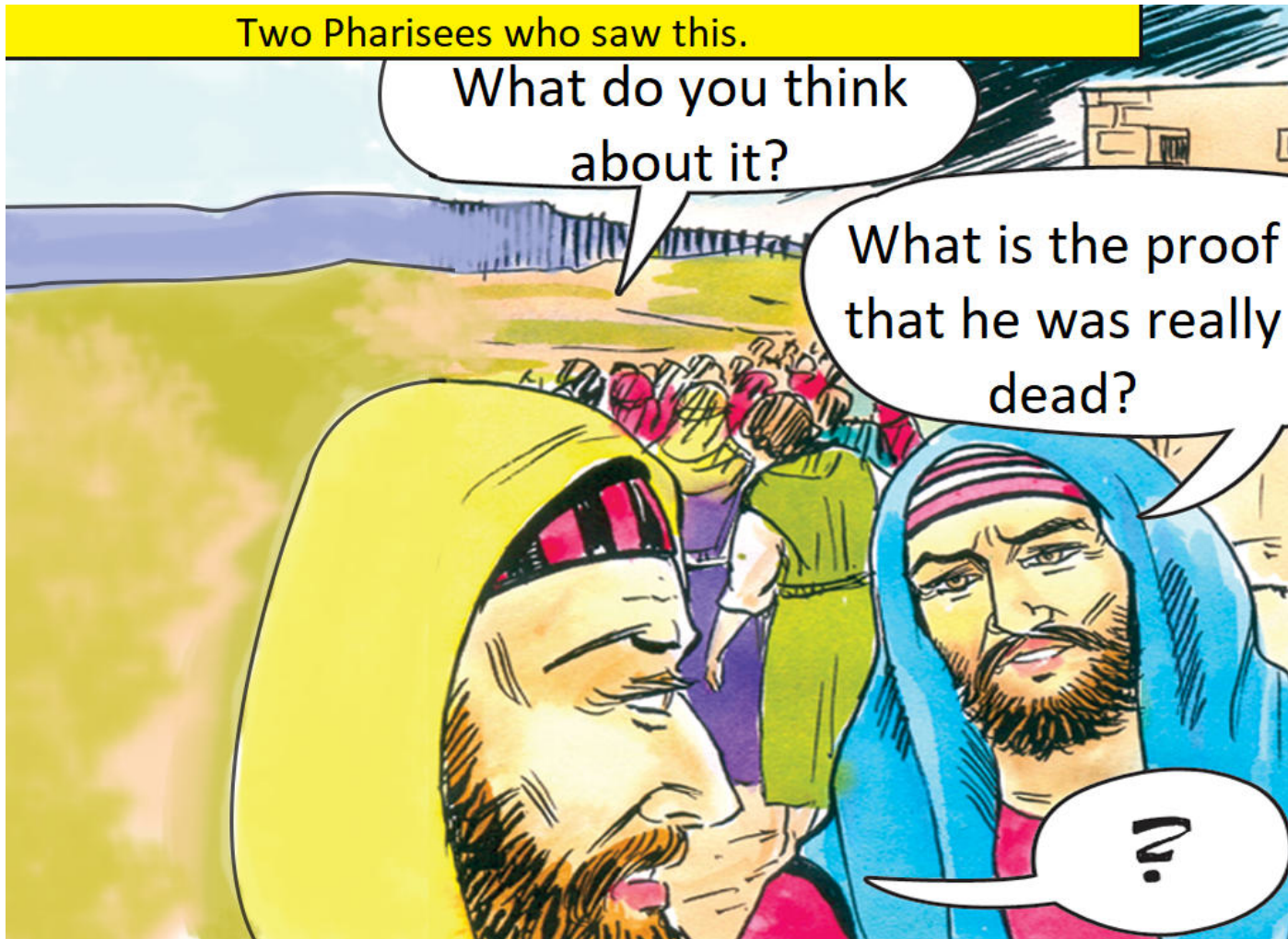
!!!!

Two Pharisees who saw this.

What do you think
about it?

What is the proof
that he was really
dead?

?



He must have died in the
tomb if he didn't die
before.

Can't be so sure,
anyway, we must
inform the High Priest.




The next day, they prepared a banquet. During the meal Mary took a bottle of very expensive perfume made of pure Nard and poured it on Jesus' head.

Why such a waste? This could have been sold for three hundred Denarii and the money given to the poor.

Leave her alone.





You have the poor with you
always, but not me.

!@*#

!!!?

She has anointed
me for my burial.



A Jewish leader named Nicodemus who was a Pharisee, came to talk with Jesus in private.

Rabbi, the holy Sanhendrin has decided against you. However, some of us know that you are a prophet sent by God.



No one could perform the signs you are doing unless God is with him.

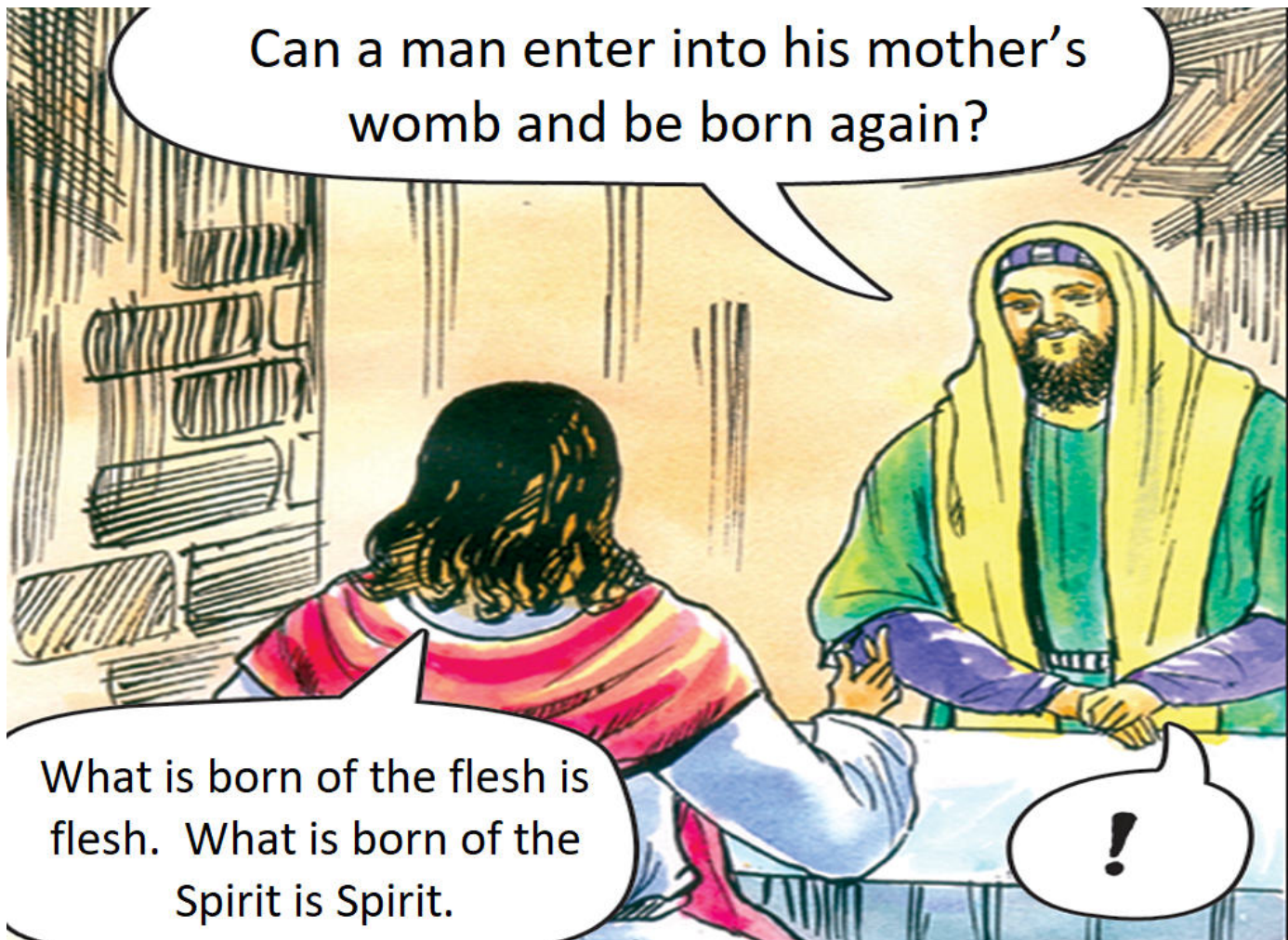
No one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again.



Can a man enter into his mother's womb and be born again?

What is born of the flesh is flesh. What is born of the Spirit is Spirit.

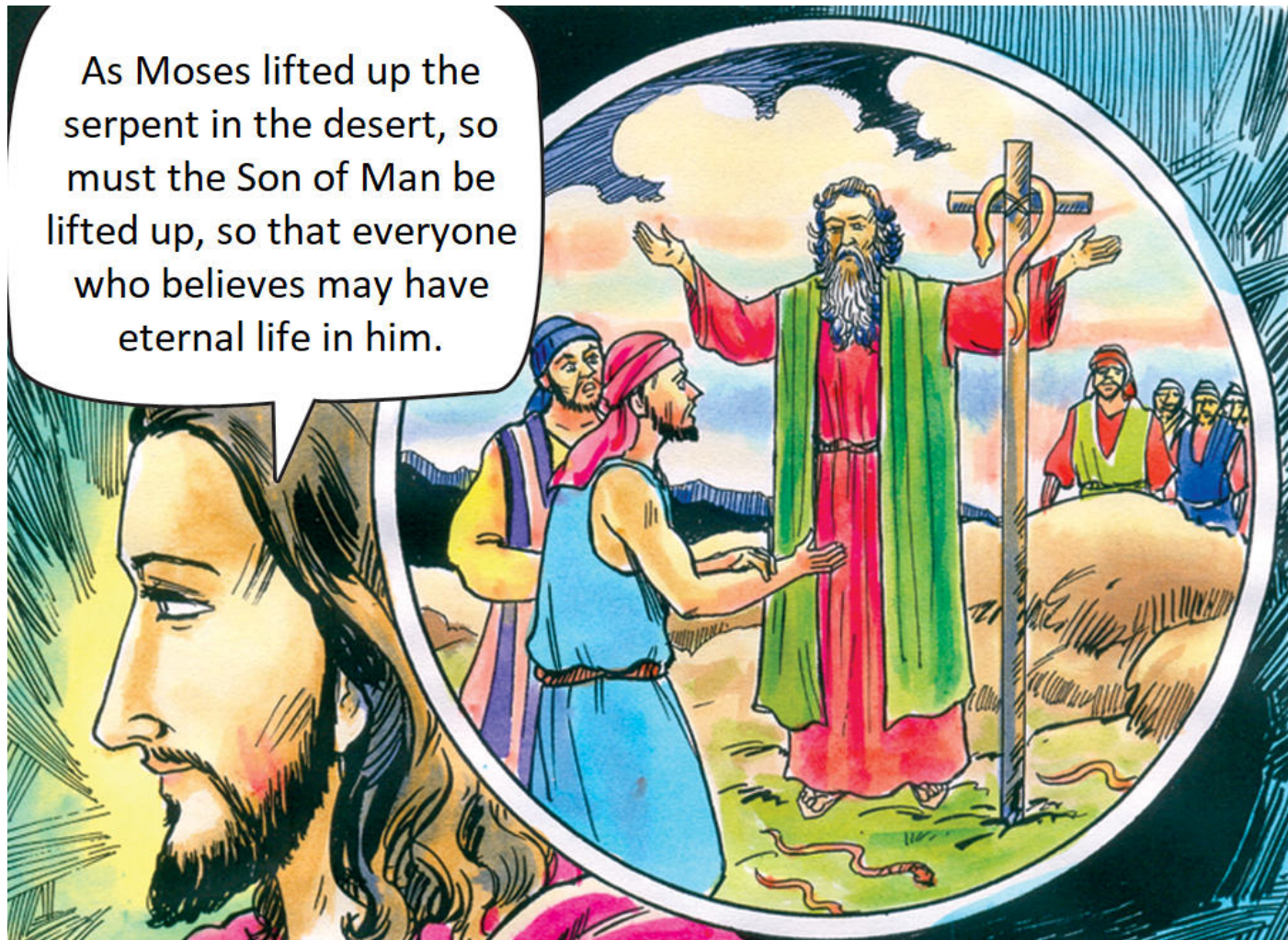
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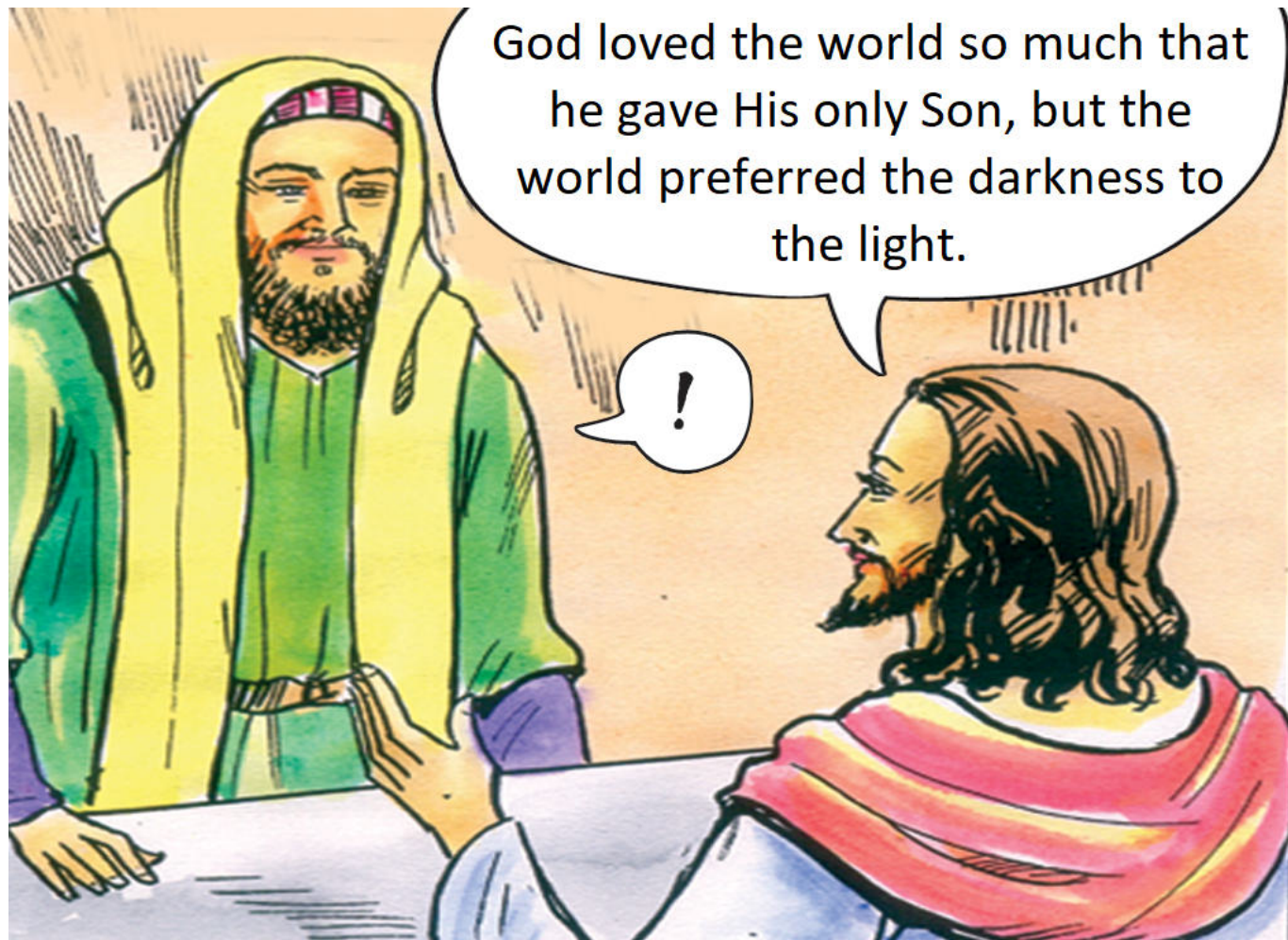


No one can enter the
Kingdom of God
unless he is born
of the Spirit.



As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.





While they were speaking
Judas came in.

Master, there is someone waiting to
see you.

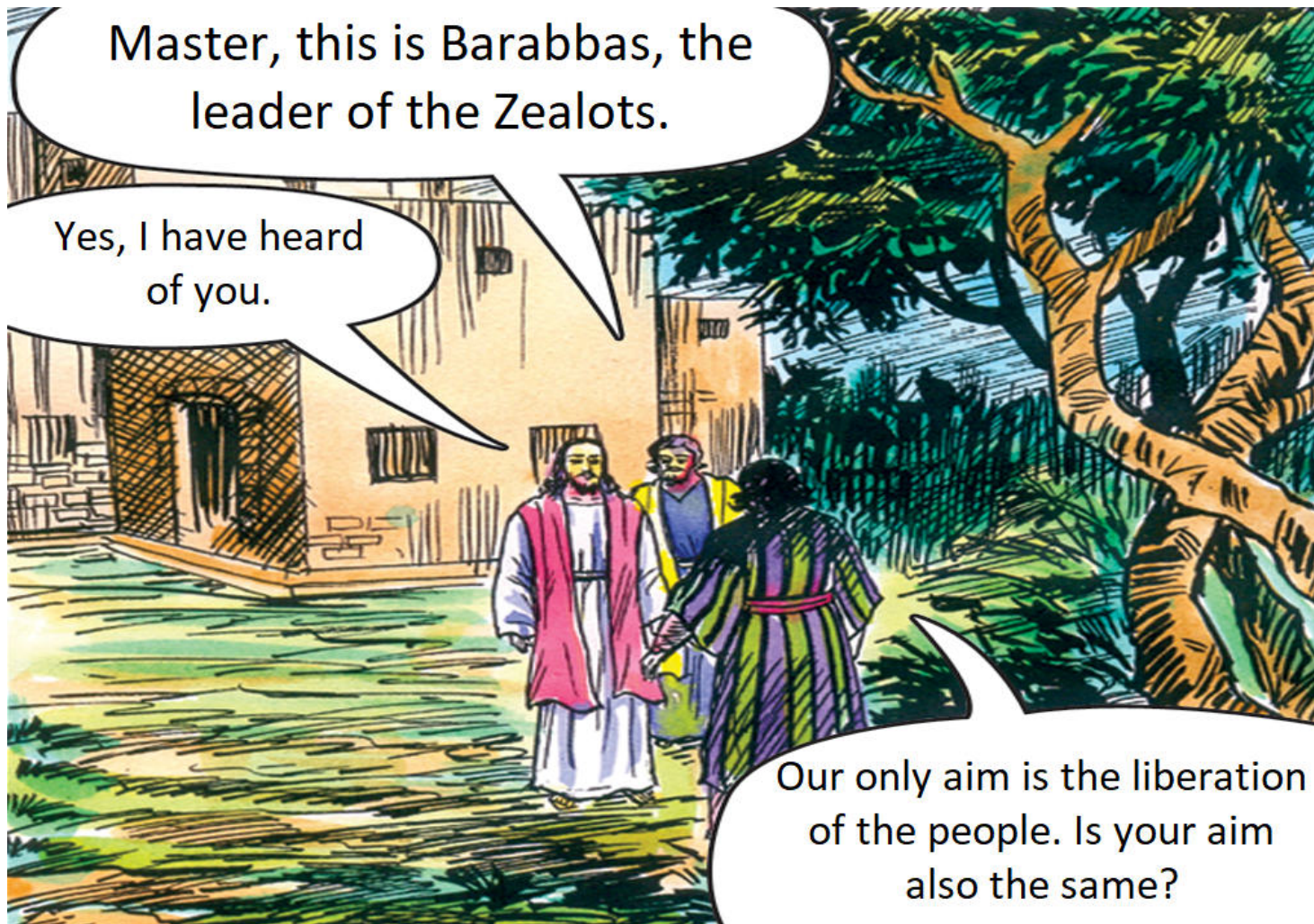
I shall come
out.



Master, this is Barabbas, the leader of the Zealots.

Yes, I have heard of you.

Our only aim is the liberation of the people. Is your aim also the same?



We have over Five Thousand
fighting men with us. There
are Thousands of
supporters.



You must be our leader.
Together we can drive the
Romans out of the Holy Land.

Love your enemies. Do good to
those who hate you.

?



You mean love the Romans?
The wicked pagans who
oppress and slaughter our
people?

Meet evil
with Good.

?!



The Romans will
understand only the
language of the
sword.



The New Jerusalem is not going to be built on sword. It will be a city of peace where the lamb and the lion will live together.

You can nurture that day dream and live in the fool's paradise while our people are being trampled upon by the Romans.



I have come to liberate the world from the slavery of sin. He who wishes to follow me must carry his cross.

This is the language of a coward. Hundreds of Jews are being crucified every day. We have to stop it.



Violence begets violence. What is needed is not murder, but victory over death.

Well, our ways part here. I have decided to give up my life for the liberation of Israel.

Let not that be by shedding innocent blood.

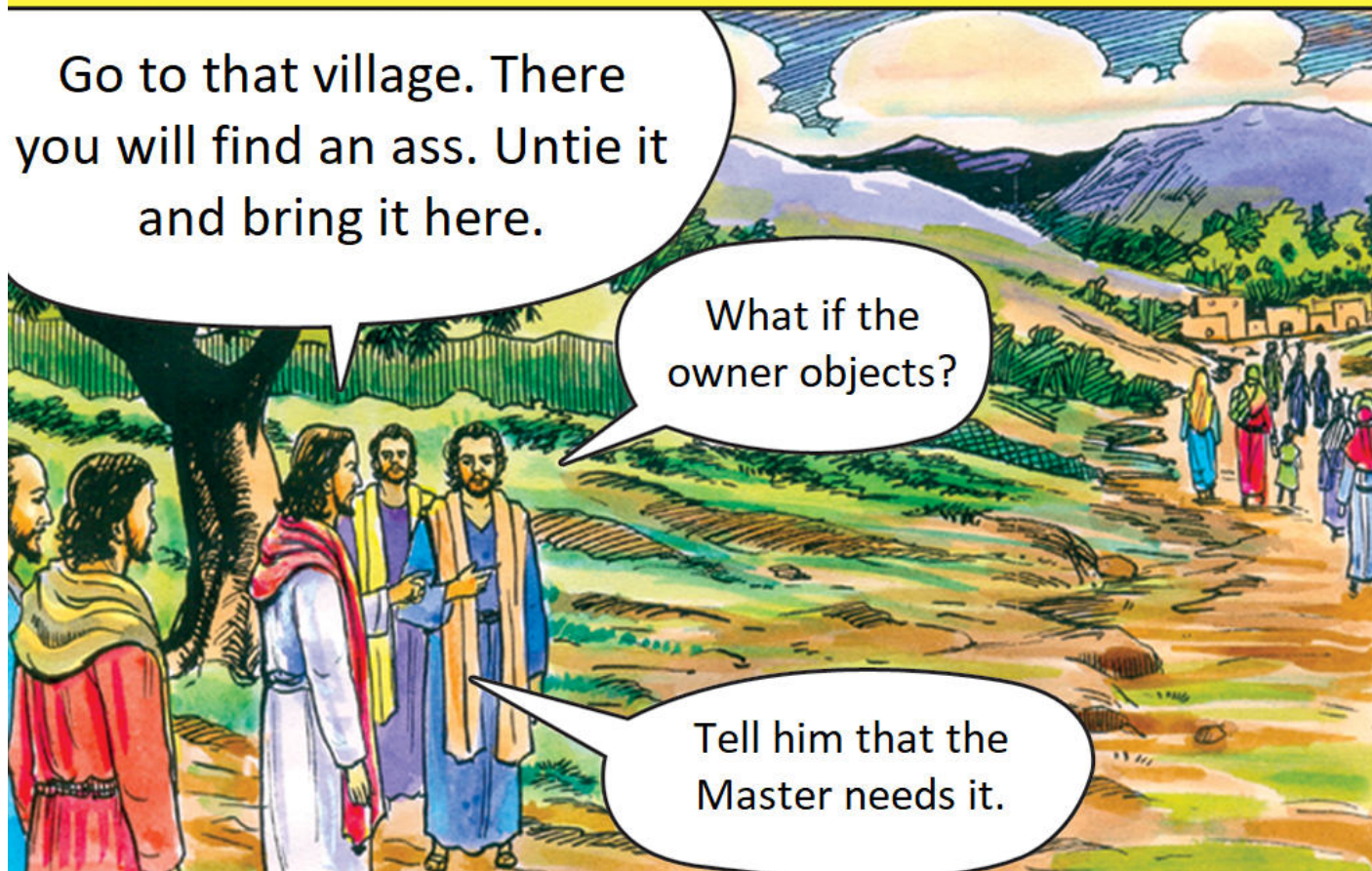


The next day Jesus went to Jerusalem with his disciples, as they came near Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives.

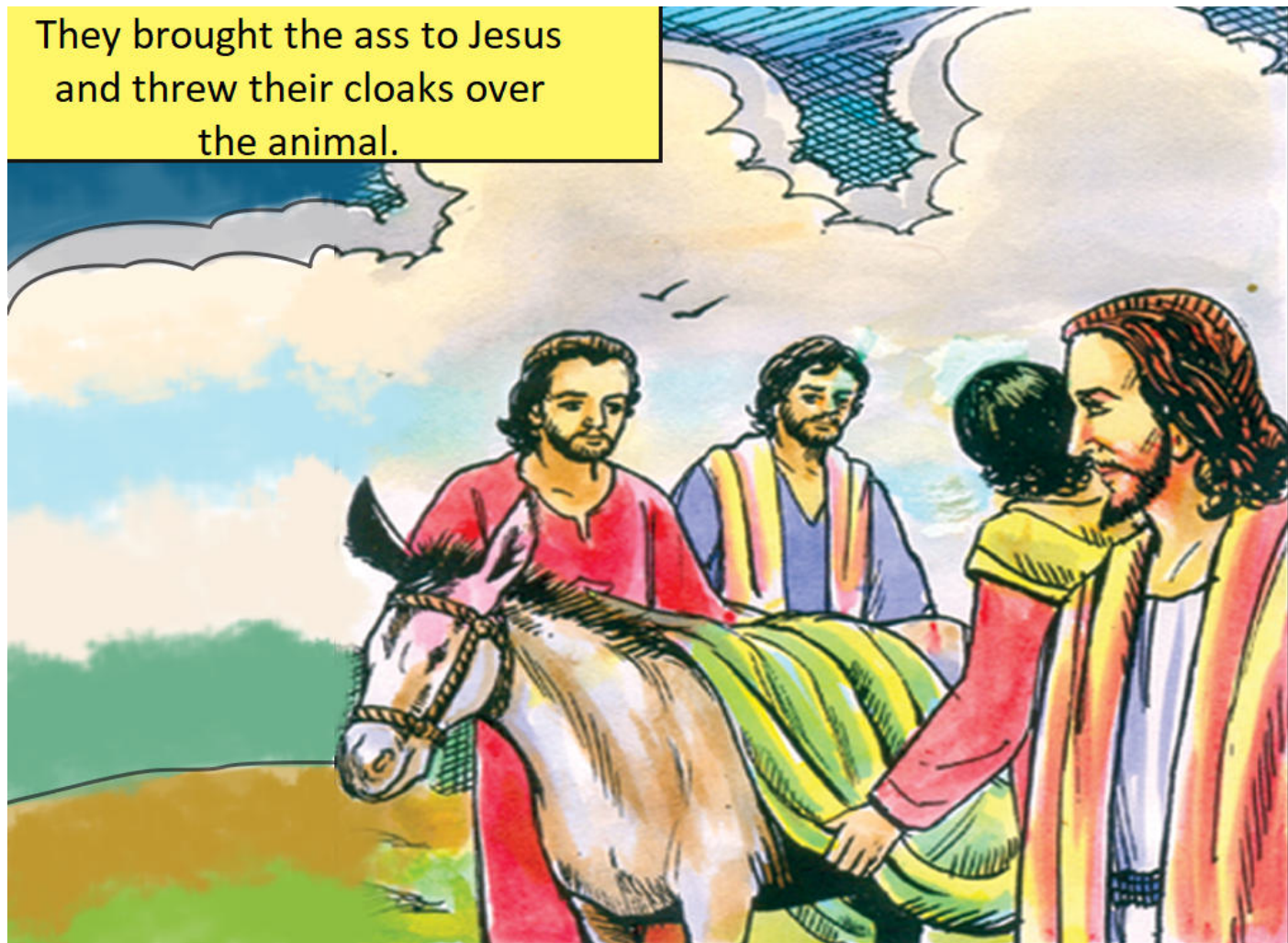
Go to that village. There you will find an ass. Untie it and bring it here.

What if the owner objects?

Tell him that the Master needs it.



They brought the ass to Jesus
and threw their cloaks over
the animal.



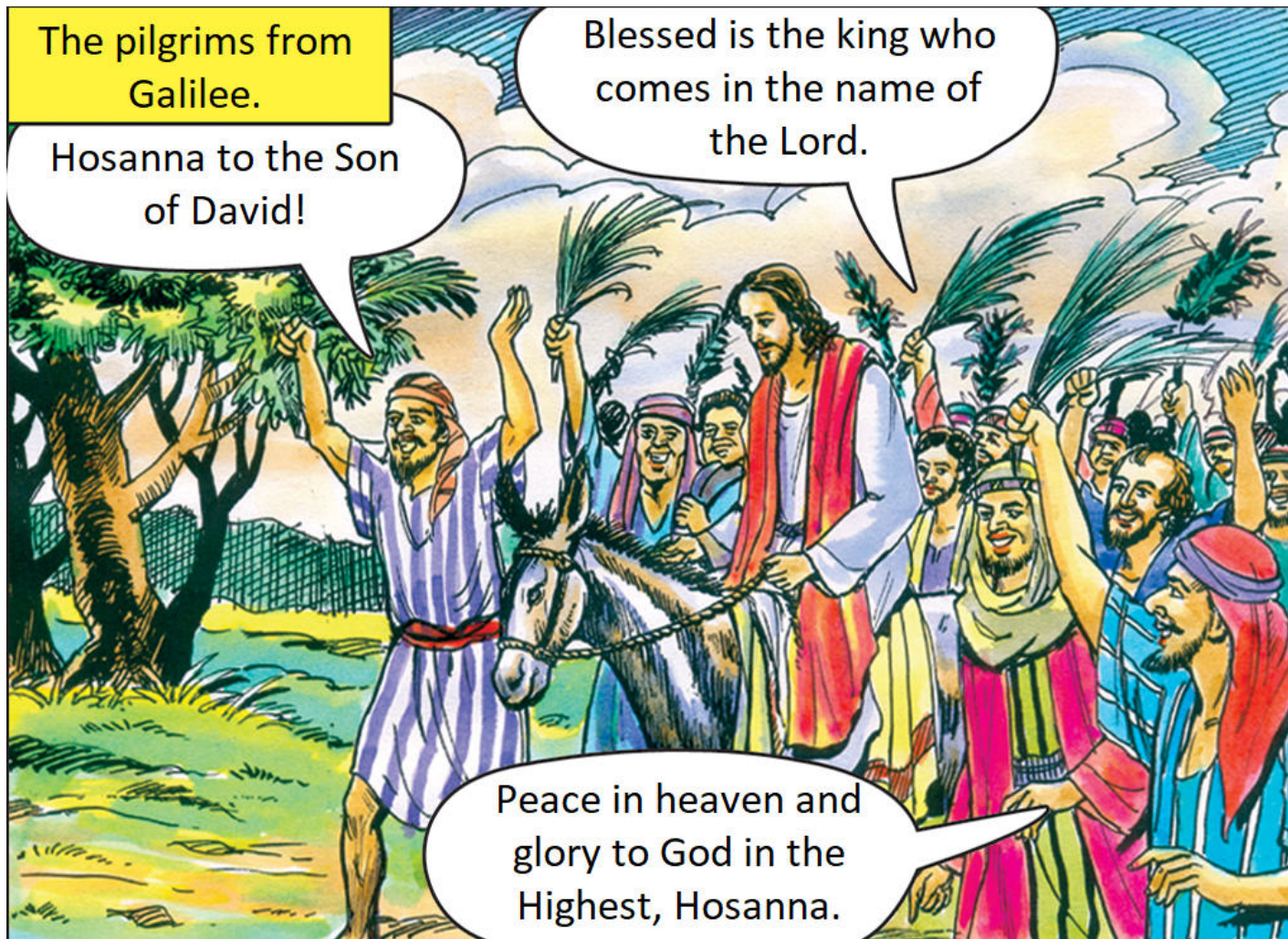


The pilgrims from
Galilee.

Hosanna to the Son
of David!

Blessed is the king who
comes in the name of
the Lord.

Peace in heaven and
glory to God in the
Highest, Hosanna.

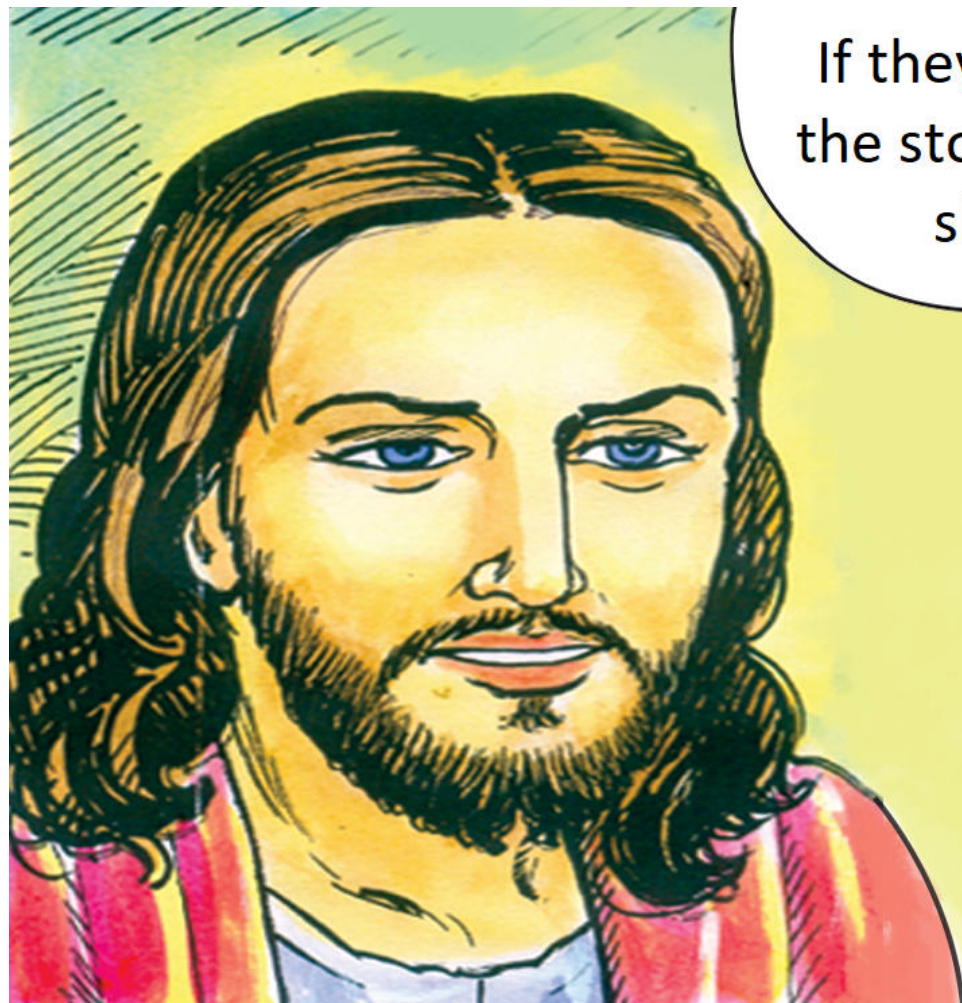


Then some of the Pharisees.

Master, ask your disciples
to keep quiet.

This is dangerous. The
Romans will consider it a
provocation.



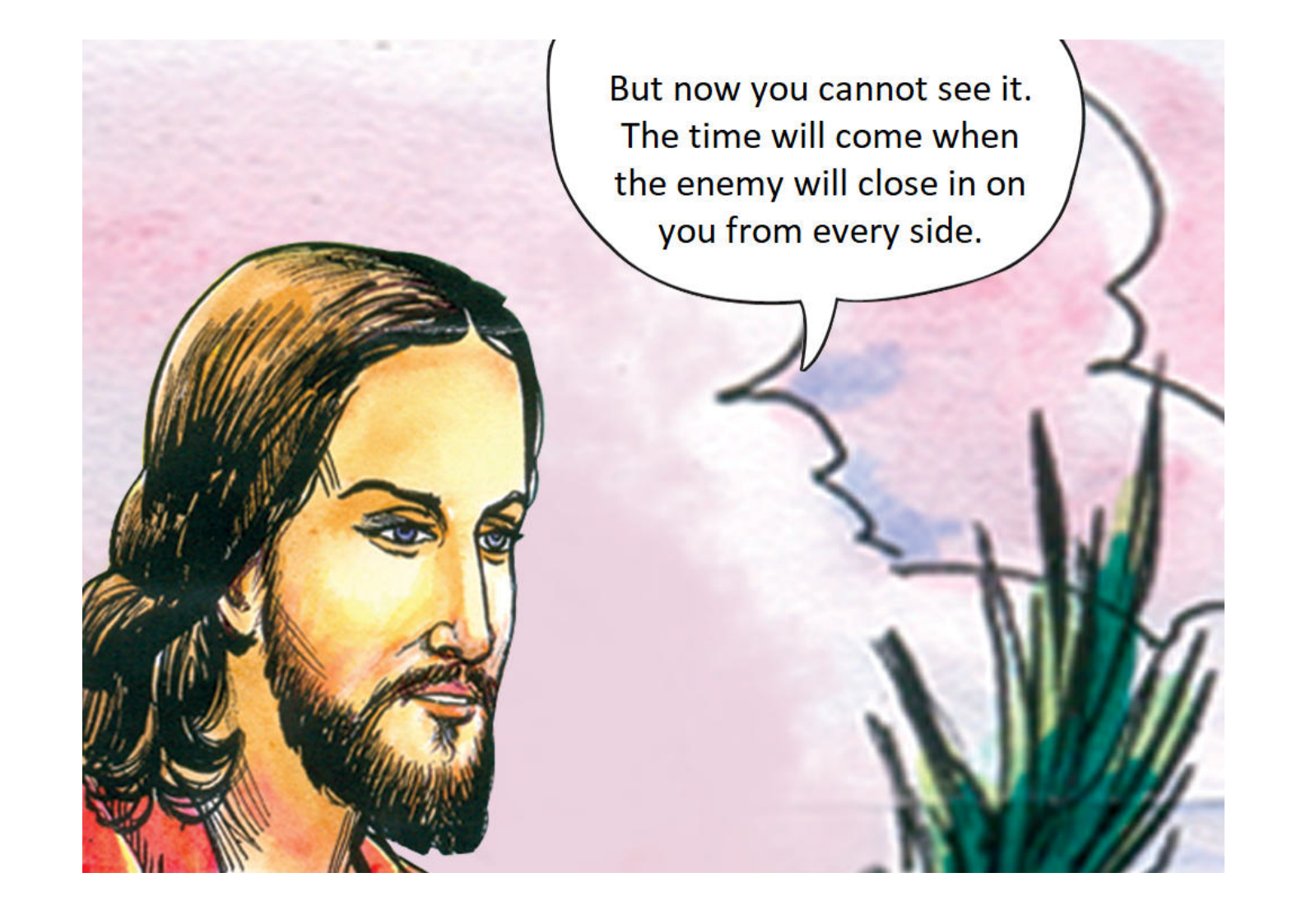


If they keep quiet,
the stones will start
shouting.

They reached the Mount of Olives.

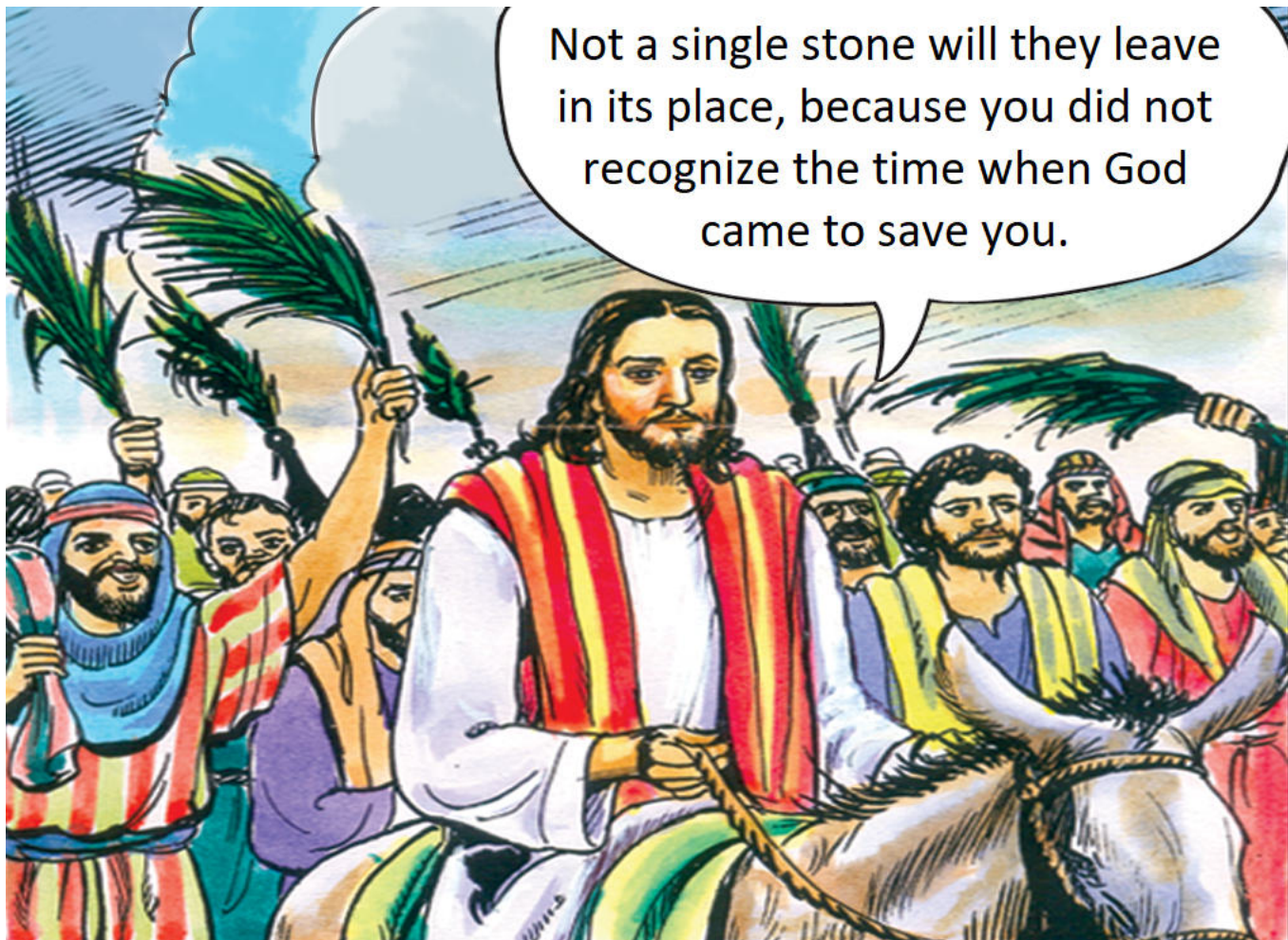
Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you
who kill the prophets, if
only you knew what is
needed for peace!





But now you cannot see it.
The time will come when
the enemy will close in on
you from every side.

Not a single stone will they leave
in its place, because you did not
recognize the time when God
came to save you.

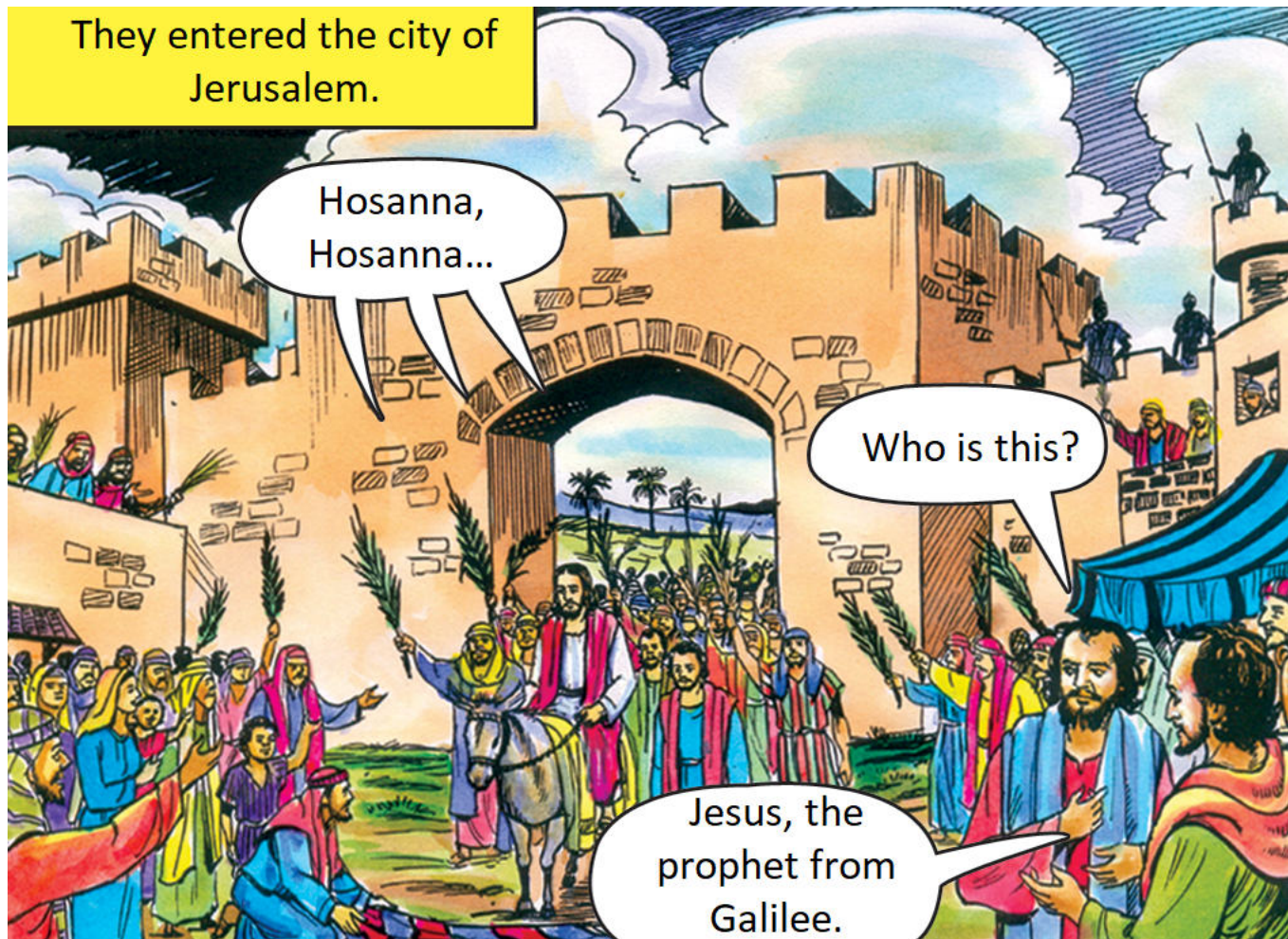


They entered the city of
Jerusalem.

Hosanna,
Hosanna...

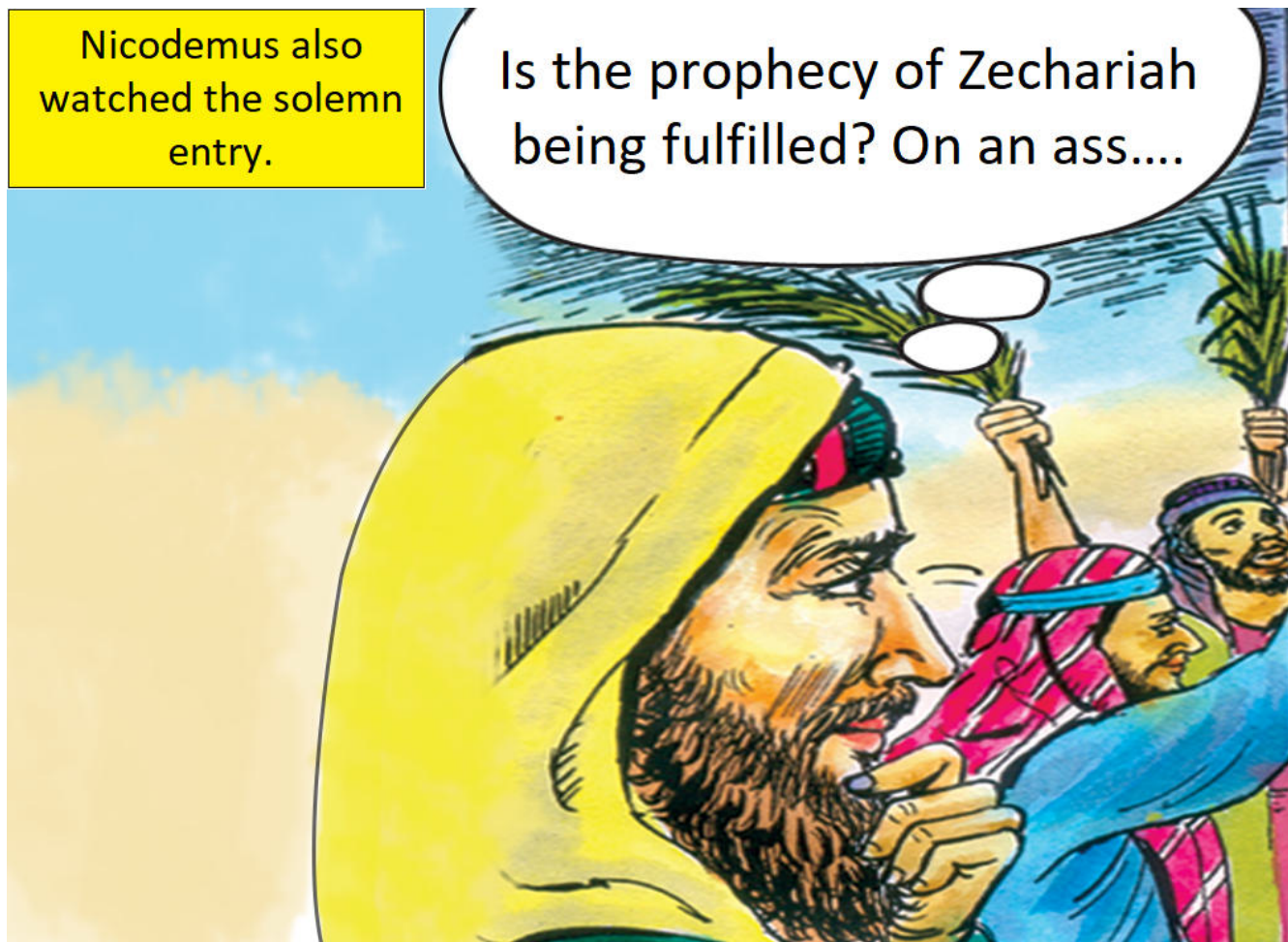
Who is this?

Jesus, the
prophet from
Galilee.



Nicodemus also
watched the solemn
entry.

Is the prophecy of Zechariah
being fulfilled? On an ass....



The zealots also were there.

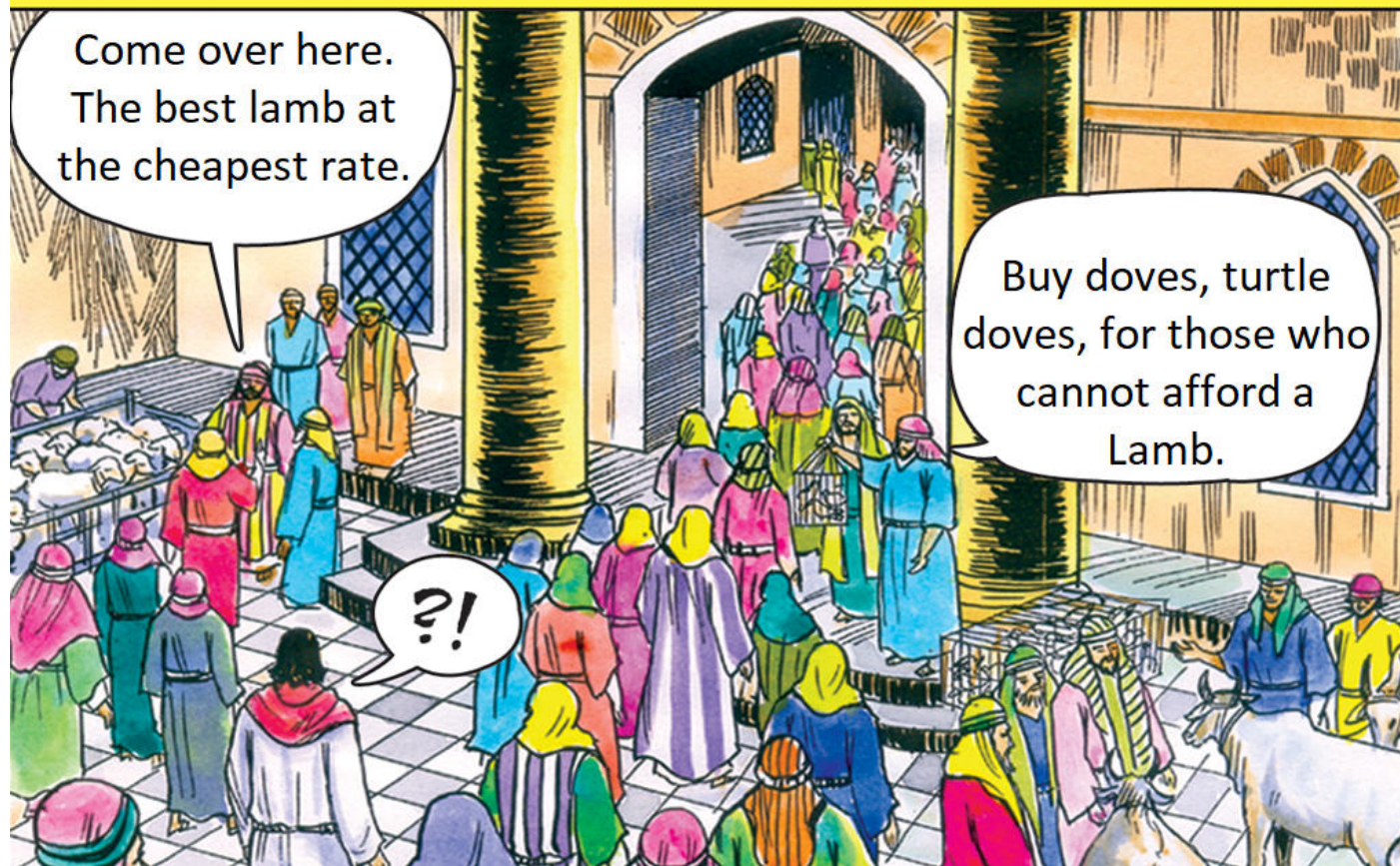
Is he trying to
fool us?

Yesterday, he refused the
leadership. Today royal entry
into Jerusalem.

This is the time...



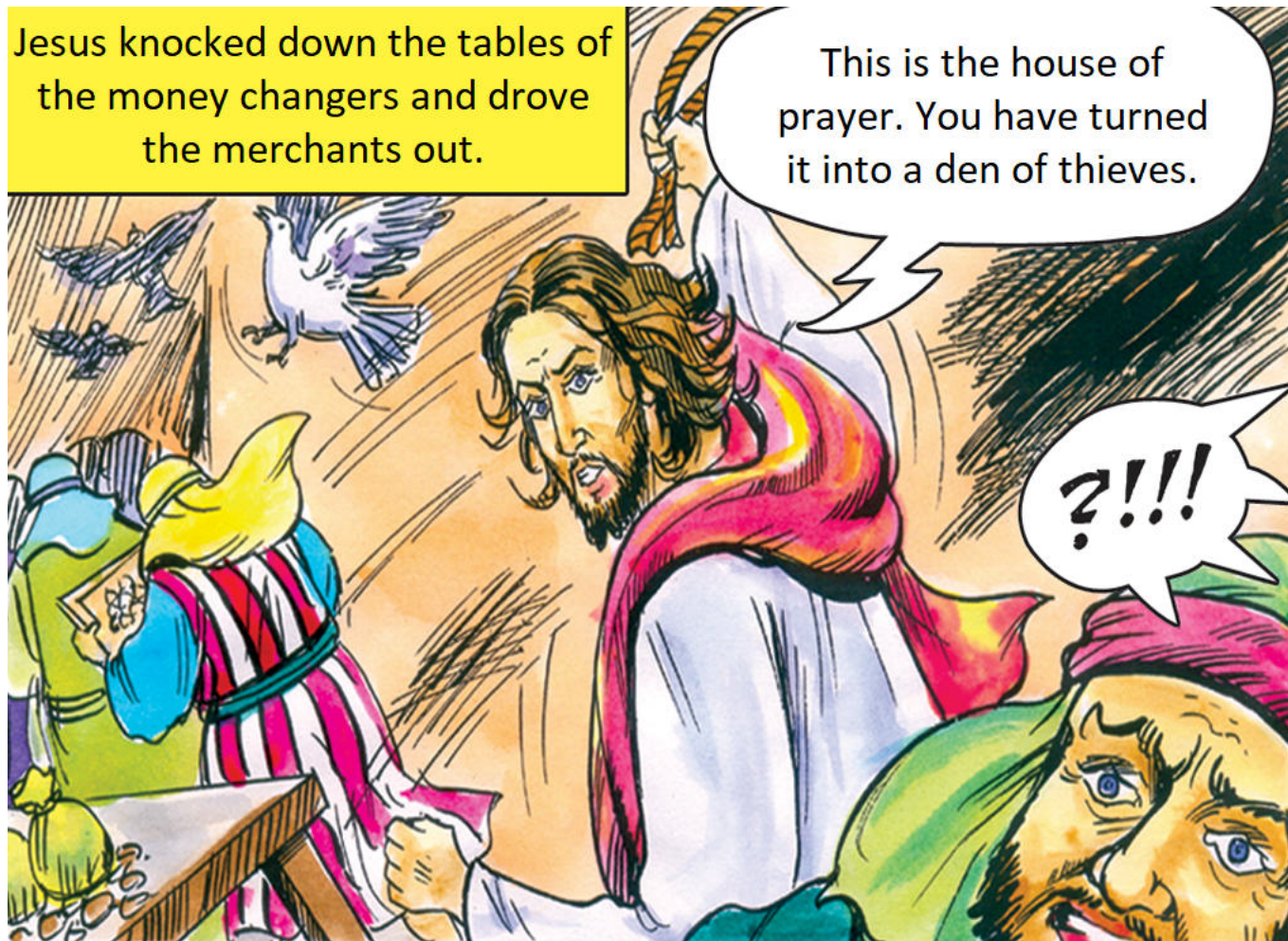
Jesus entered the Temple Yard. There were merchants and money changers in the area set aside for the gentiles.



Jesus knocked down the tables of the money changers and drove the merchants out.

This is the house of prayer. You have turned it into a den of thieves.

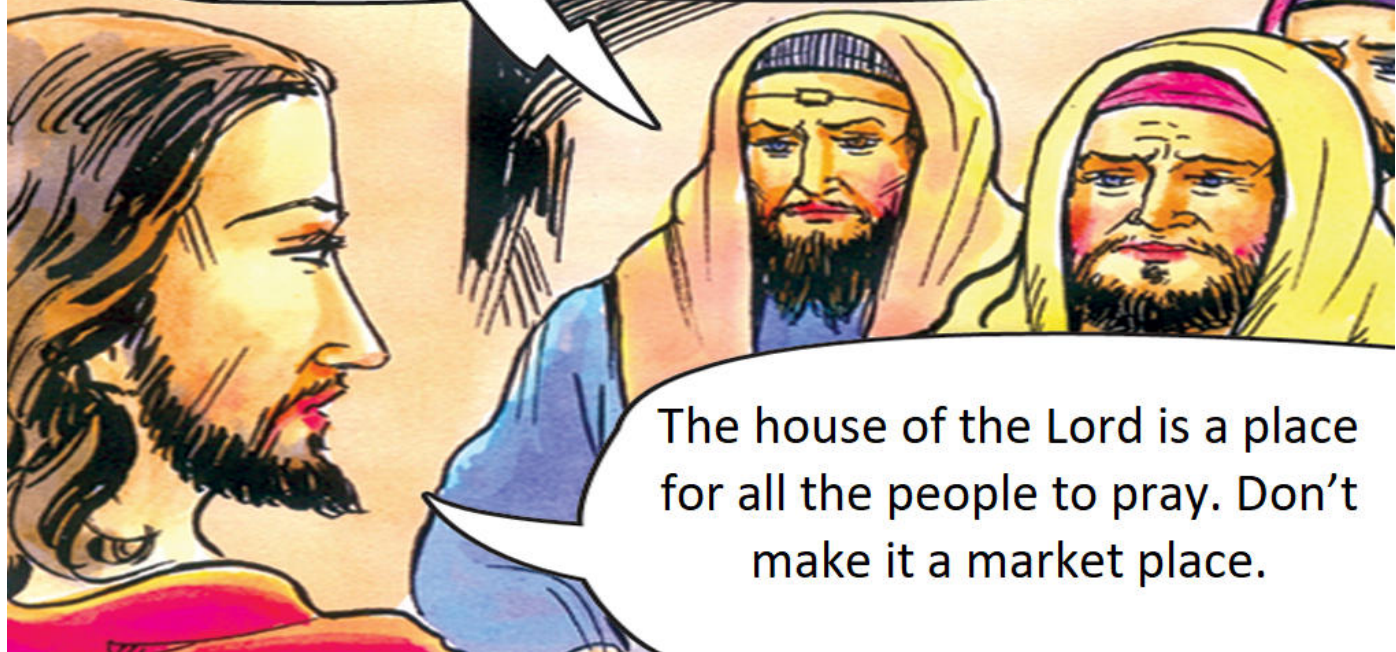
?!!!



Rabbi Jesus, we have been studying your teachings and activities. We are shocked by what you did today.

Are you against the Temple and the sacrifices?

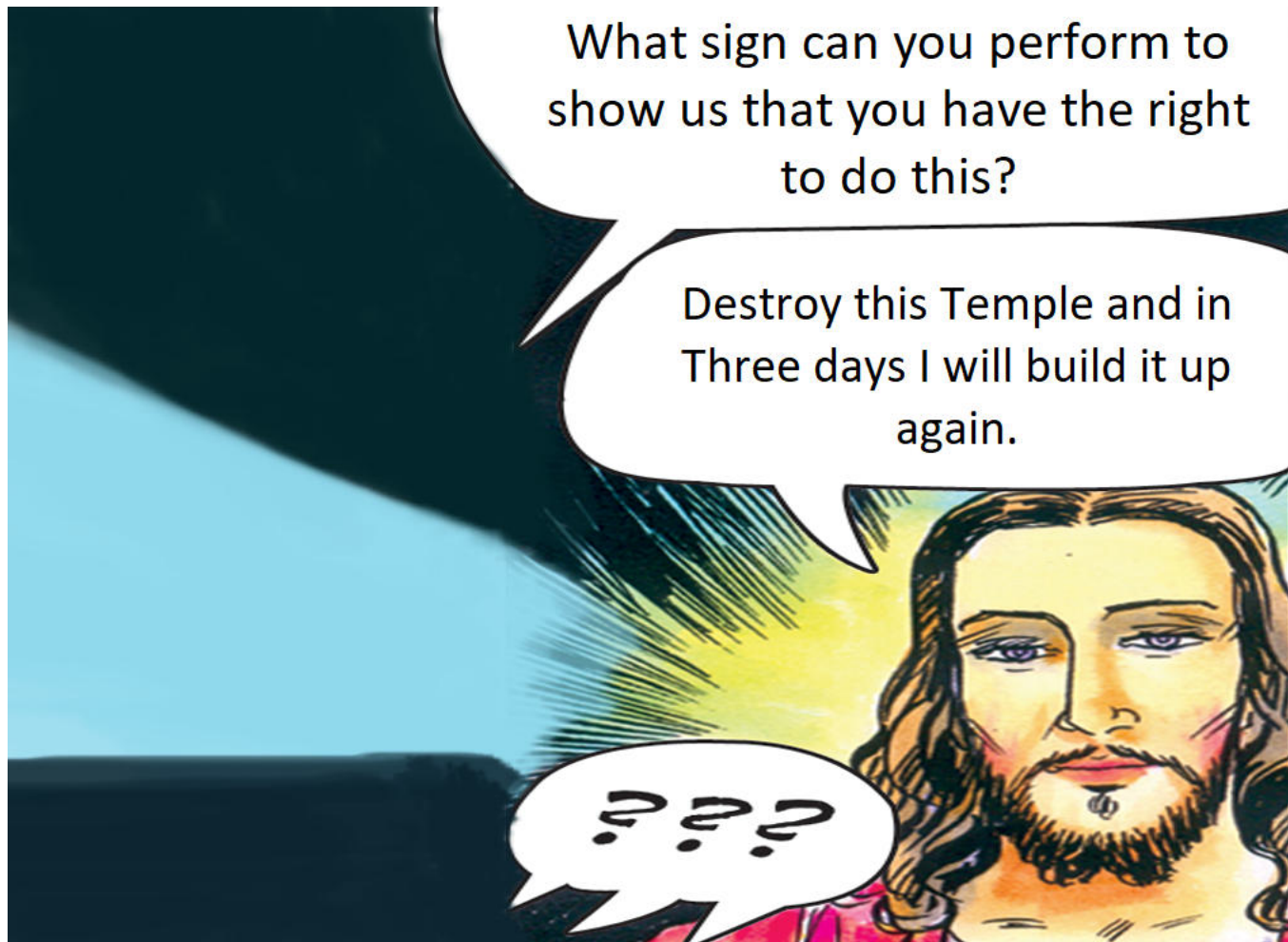
The house of the Lord is a place for all the people to pray. Don't make it a market place.



What sign can you perform to
show us that you have the right
to do this?

Destroy this Temple and in
Three days I will build it up
again.

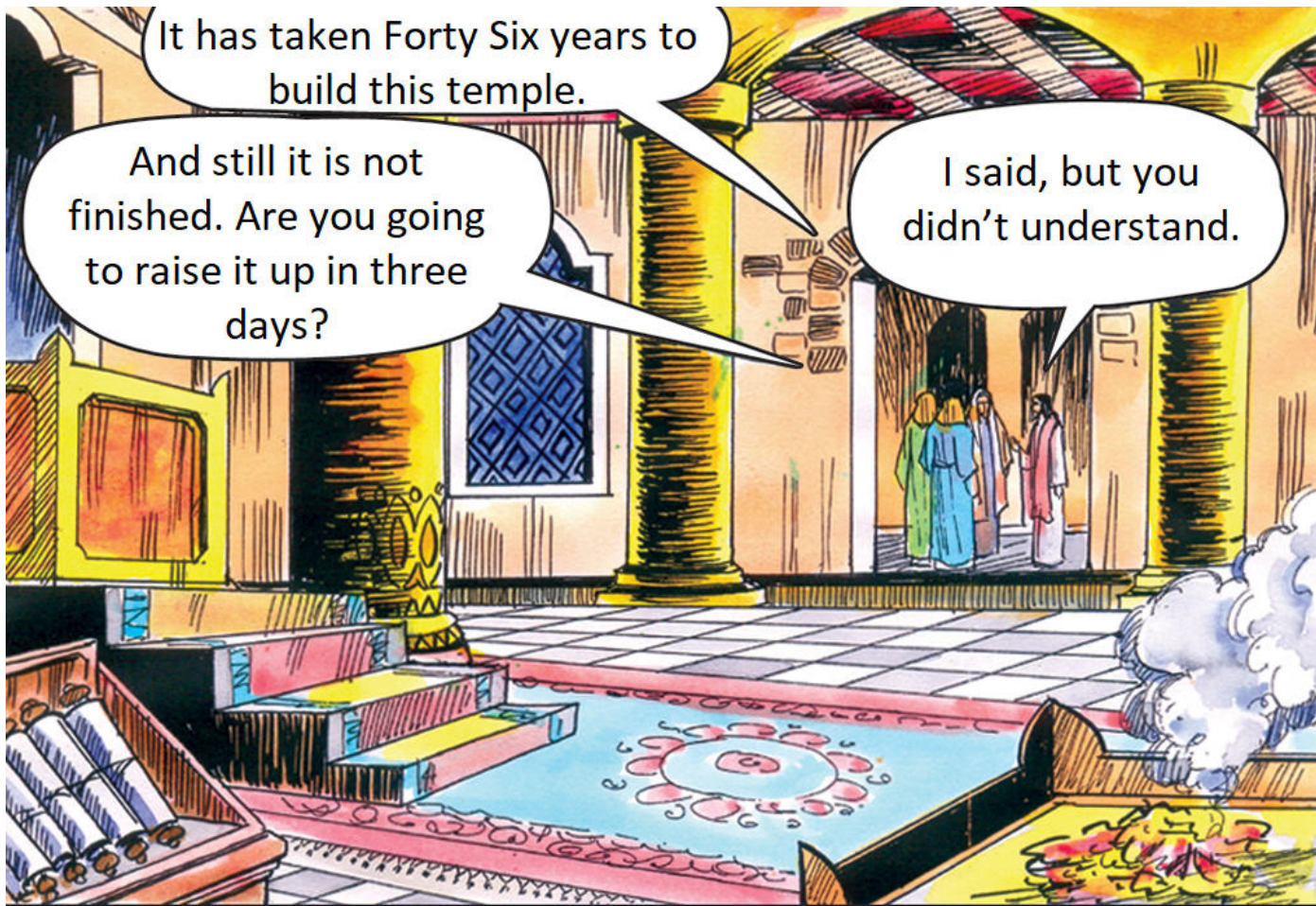
???



It has taken Forty Six years to
build this temple.

And still it is not
finished. Are you going
to raise it up in three
days?

I said, but you
didn't understand.



What right have
you got to these
things?

Who gave you the
authority?

Did John's
Baptism come
from God or from
man?



They thought and discussed.

If we say "from God", he will say why didn't you believe in him.

If we say "from man" this crowd will stone us because all consider him a prophet.



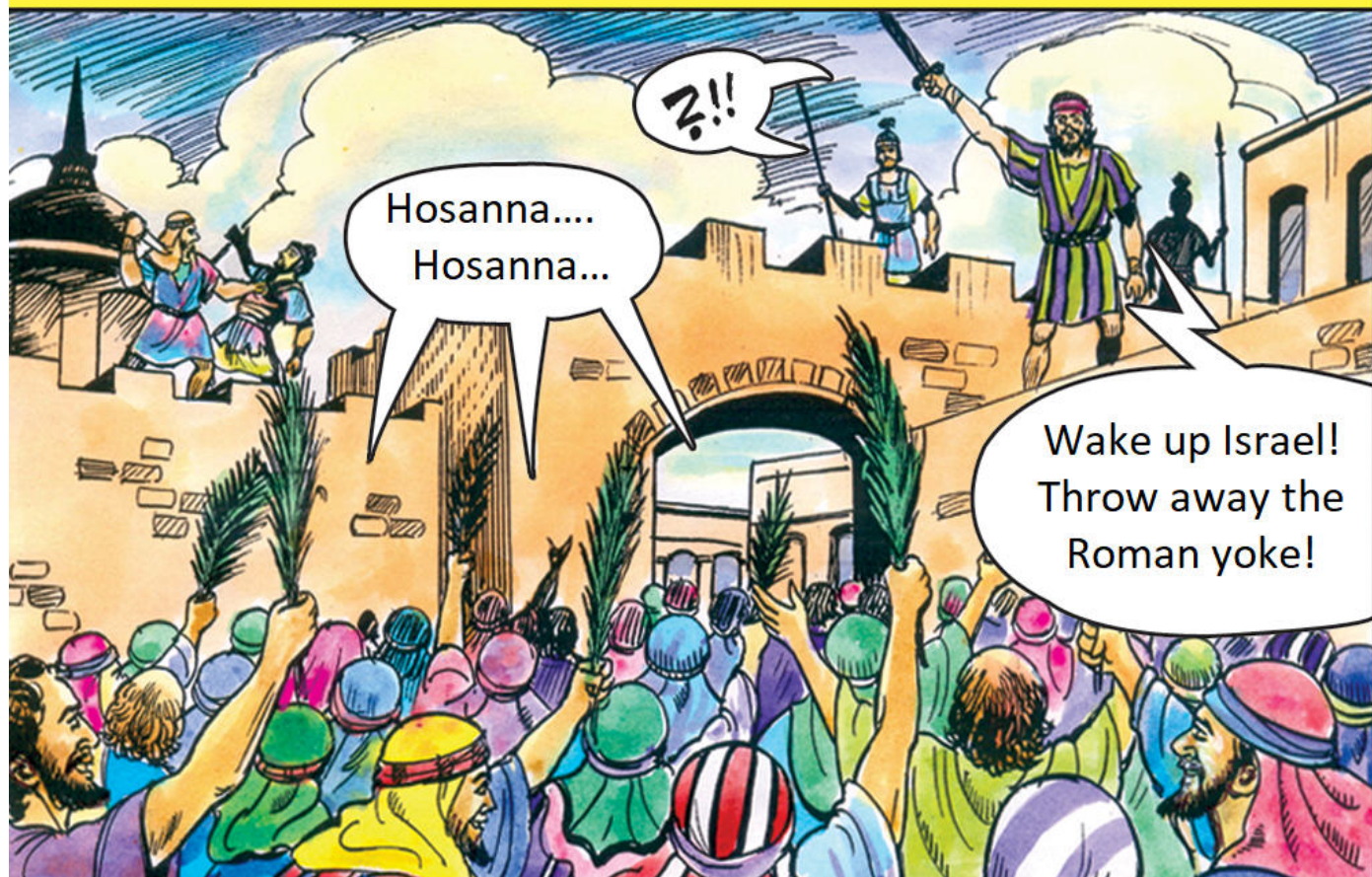


We can't say.

Then neither will I tell you
by what authority I do
these things.

!!!

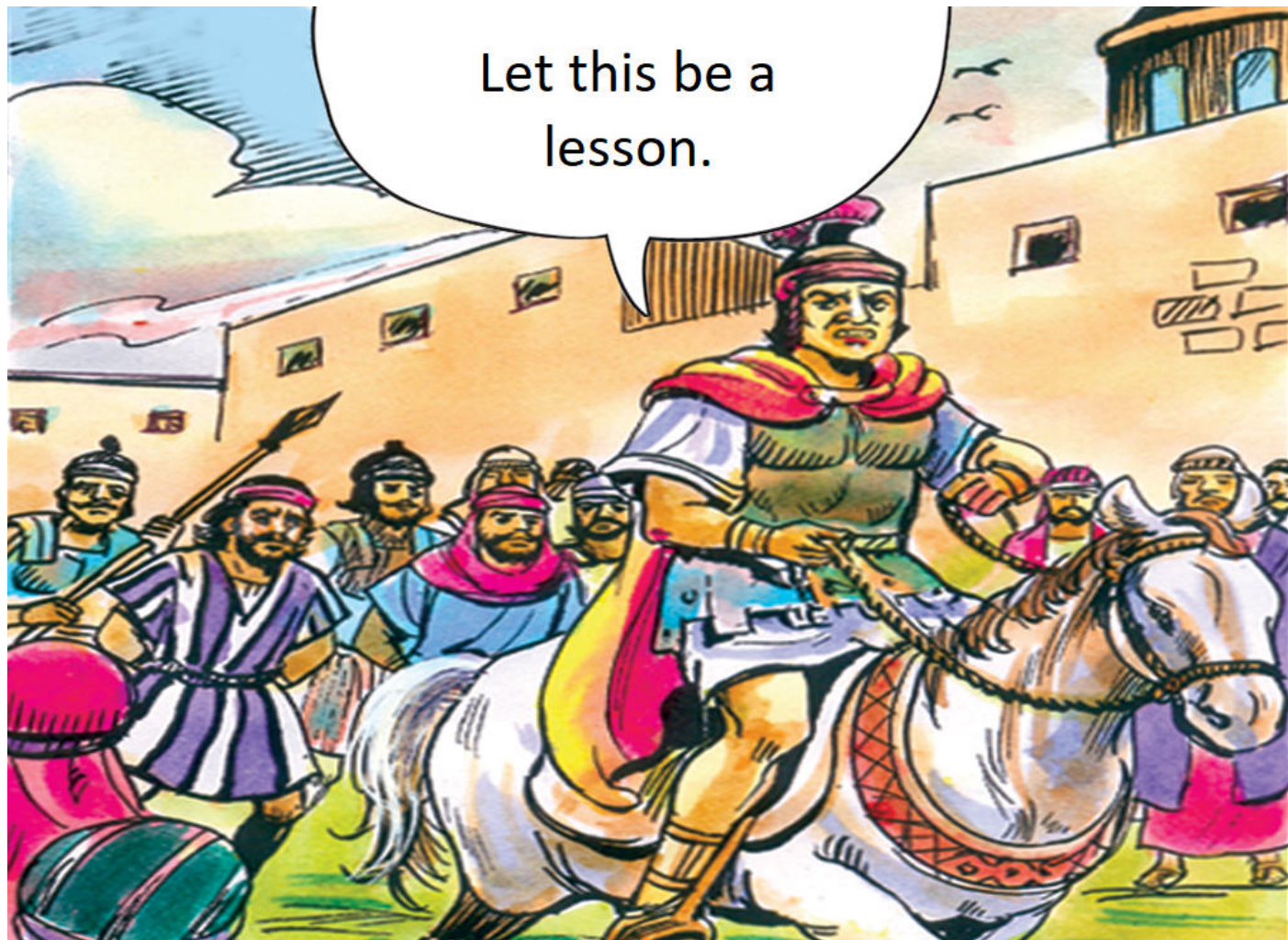
While the leaders were arguing with Jesus, outside in the Temple Yard.



The next moment.

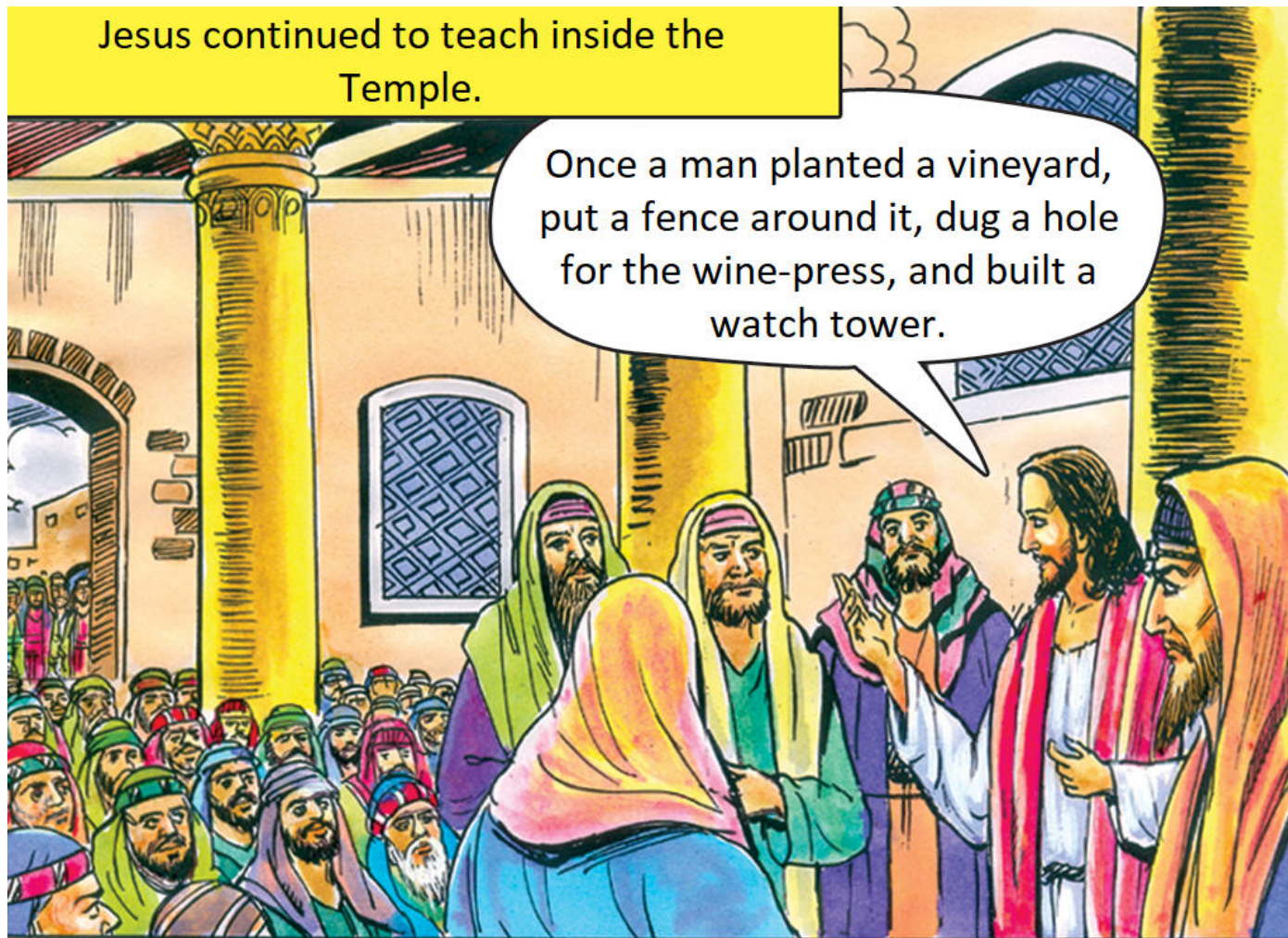


Let this be a
lesson.



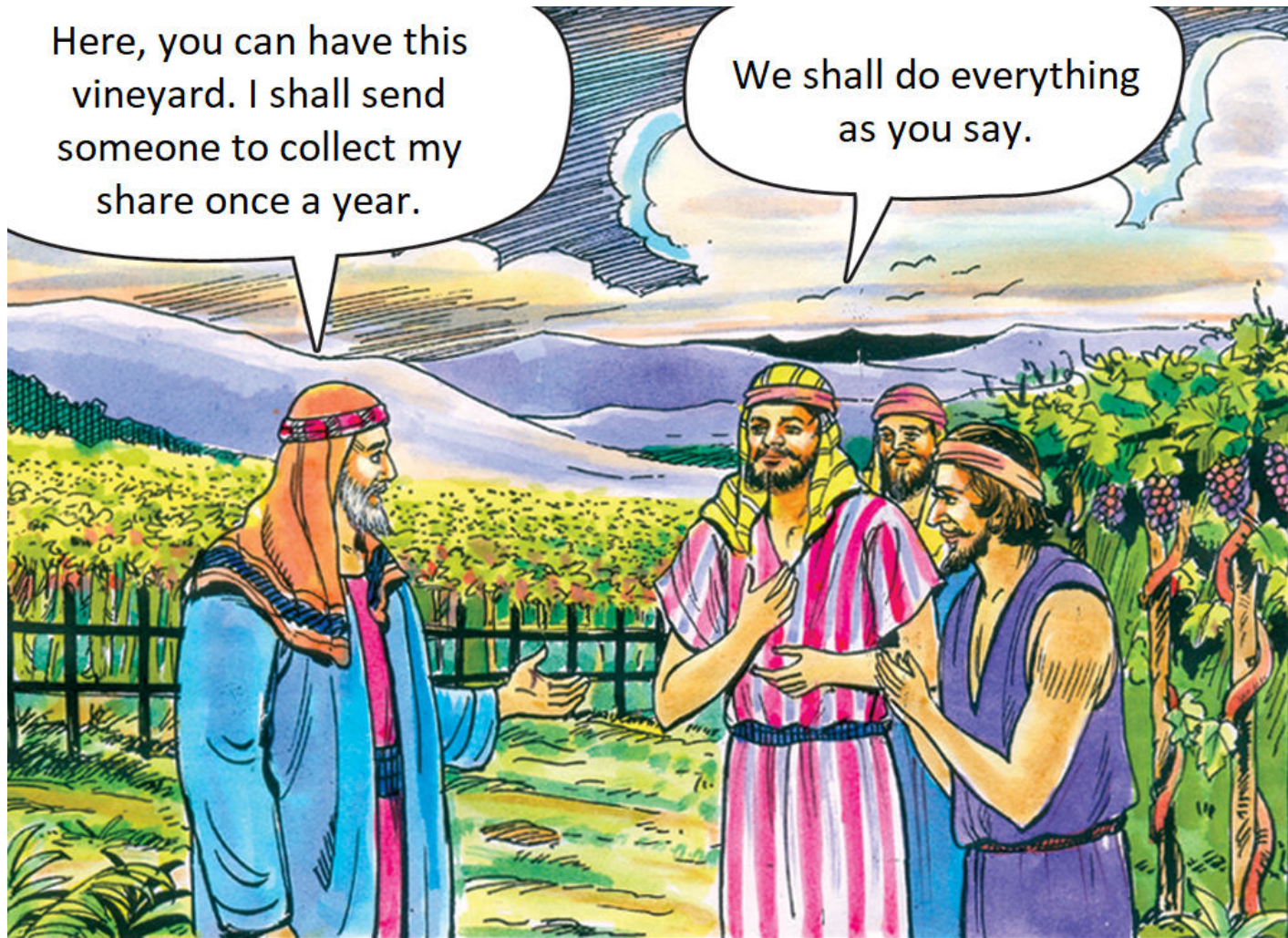
Jesus continued to teach inside the Temple.

Once a man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the wine-press, and built a watch tower.



Here, you can have this vineyard. I shall send someone to collect my share once a year.

We shall do everything as you say.



In time, he sent a
servant to the tenants
to collect his share.



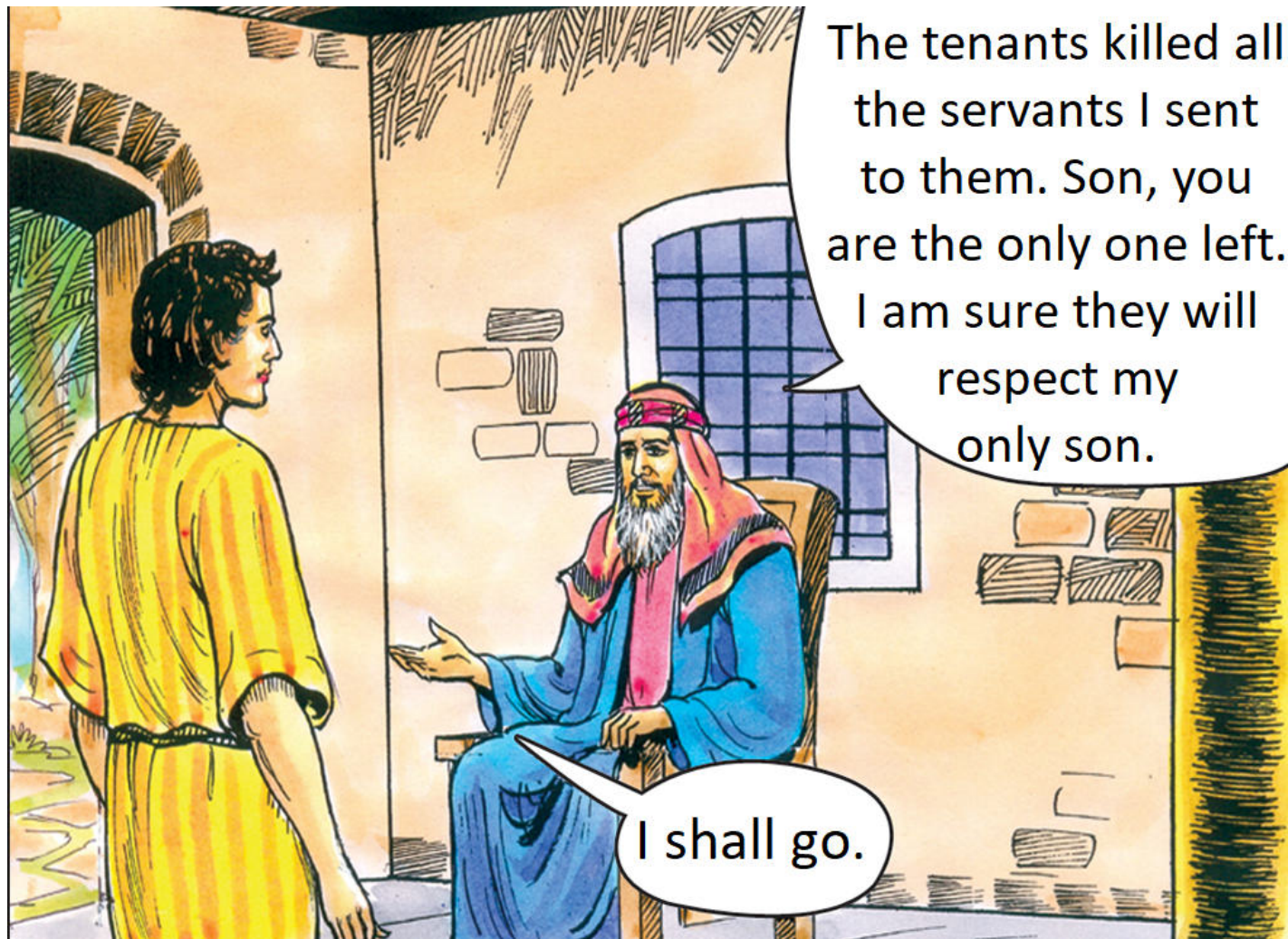
You want the share? Go
and tell your master to
mind his own business.



The owner sent a
number of people to
collect the share
but...







The tenants killed all the servants I sent to them. Son, you are the only one left. I am sure they will respect my only son.

I shall go.

There comes the
owner's only son.
He is the heir.

If we kill him, the
vineyard will be
ours.



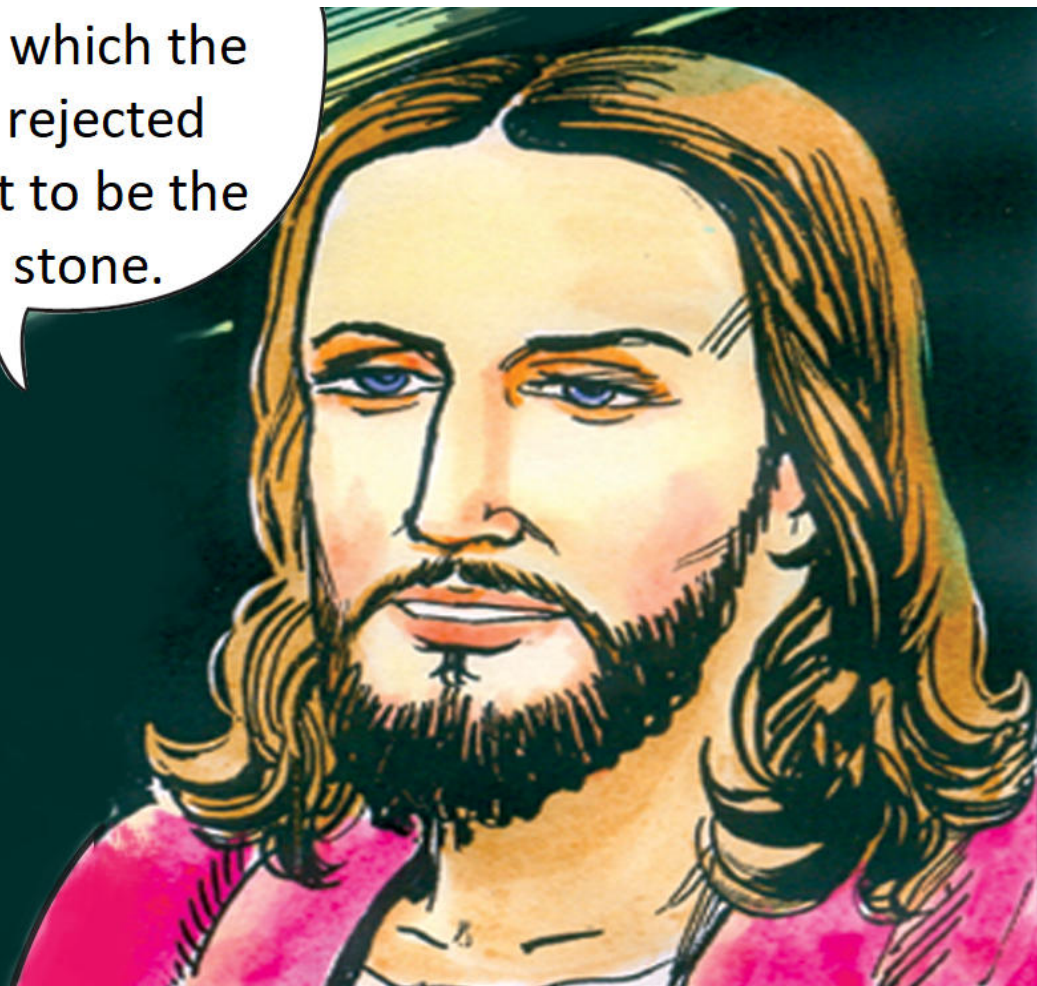


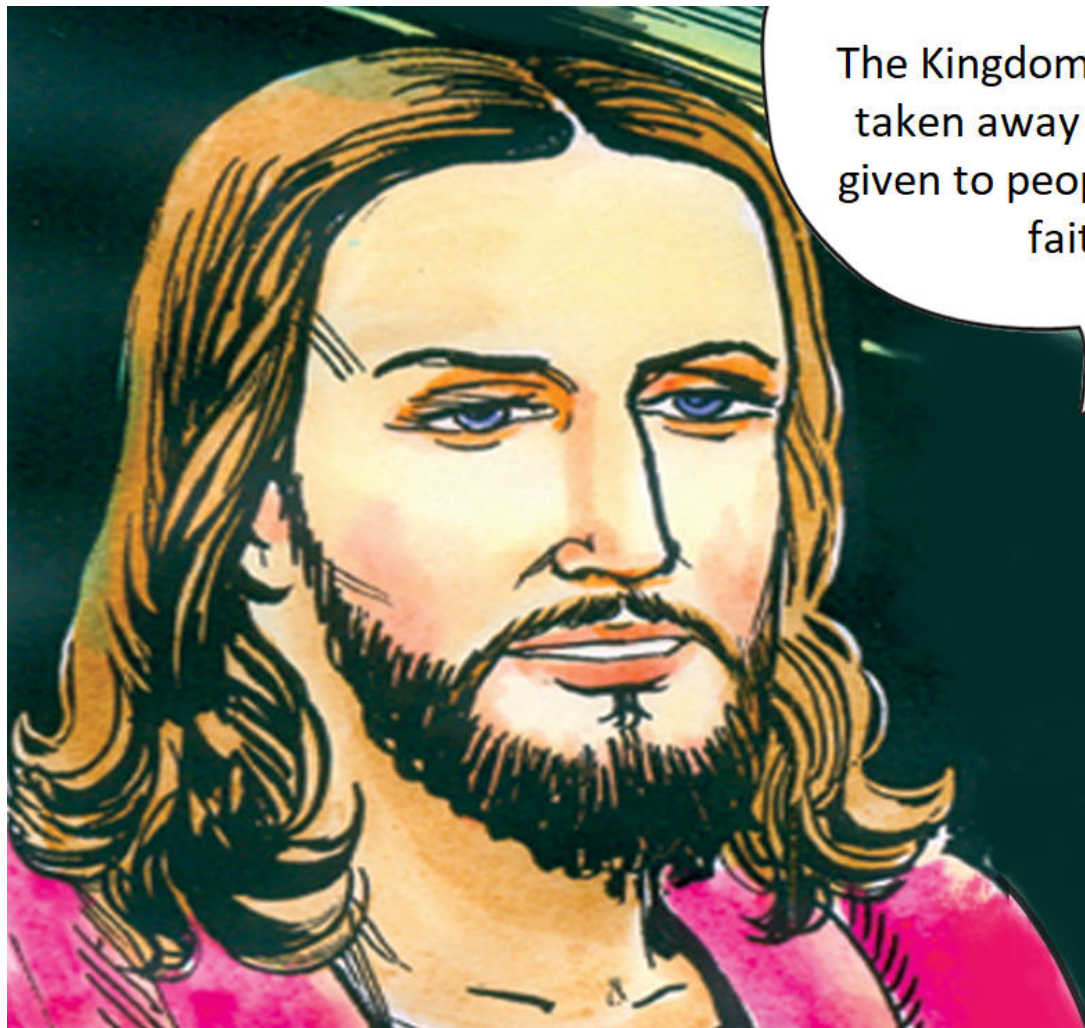
So, they killed the son
and threw his body out
of the vineyard. What
will the owner do now?

He will come and kill those
wicked ones and hand
over the vineyard to
faithful tenants.



The stone which the
builders rejected
turned out to be the
corner stone.





The Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to people who will be faithful.

Among the Pharisees and priests.

He was talking
about us!

Arrest him
immediately.

No! The people will
kill us if we touch
him now.



We must trap him
into saying something
that will pronounce
his own doom.

Let it be treason, and
then the Romans will
take over.



I have an idea. I
am sure it will
work.

They approached Jesus.

Master, we know
that you speak out
the truth without
any human
consideration.

What do you think,
is it lawful for us to
pay taxes to
Caesar?



Show me a coin with
which you pay.

They handed him a Denarius.

Whose face and inscription do you see here?

Caesar's.

Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.



As they withdrew humiliated, some of the Sadducees, who deny the resurrection of the dead, came to Jesus.

Master, Moses wrote this law for us: if a man dies leaving a wife without children, his brother must marry the widow to raise up children for him.

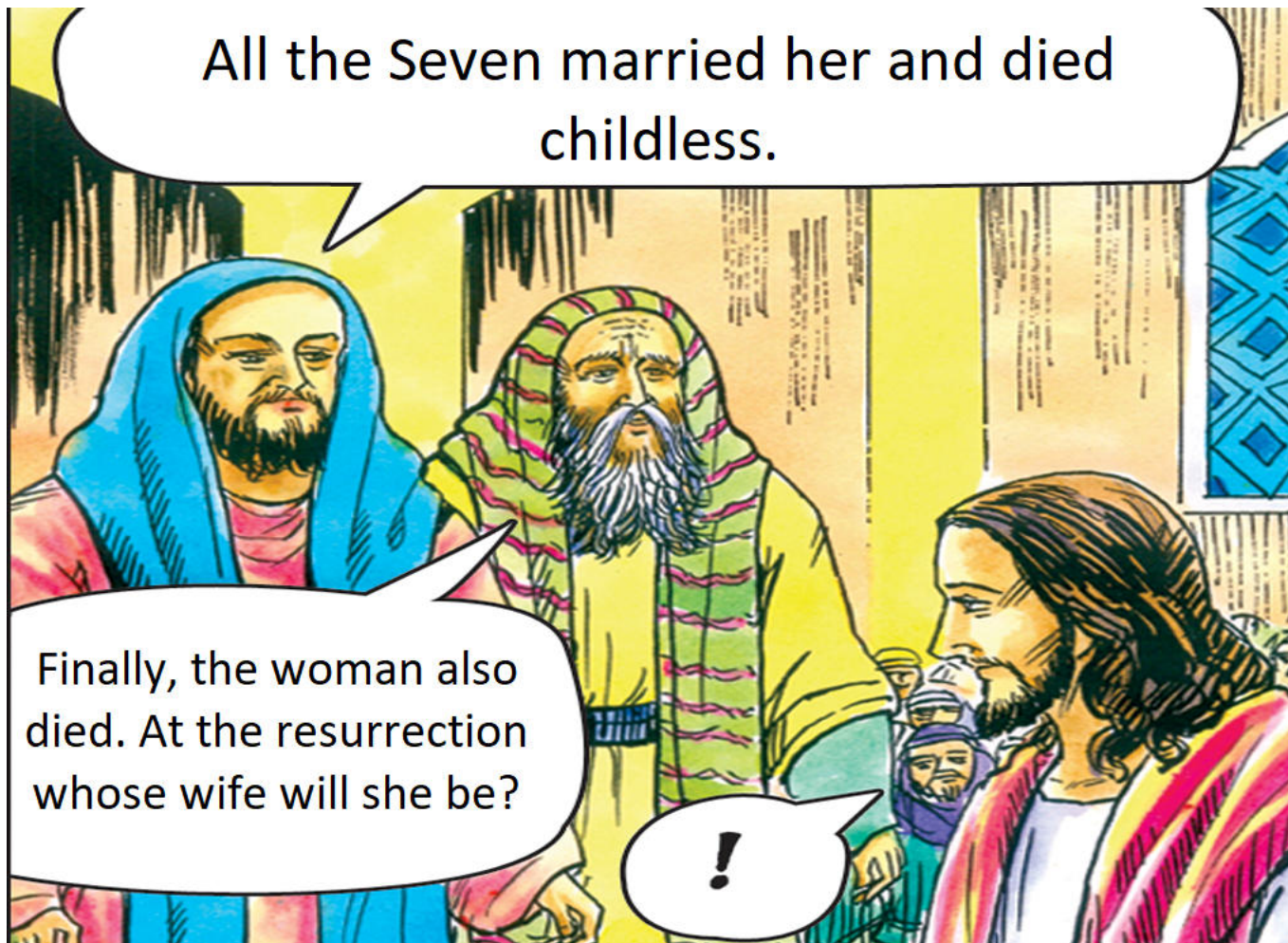
There were seven brothers. The first one got married and died childless.



All the Seven married her and died childless.

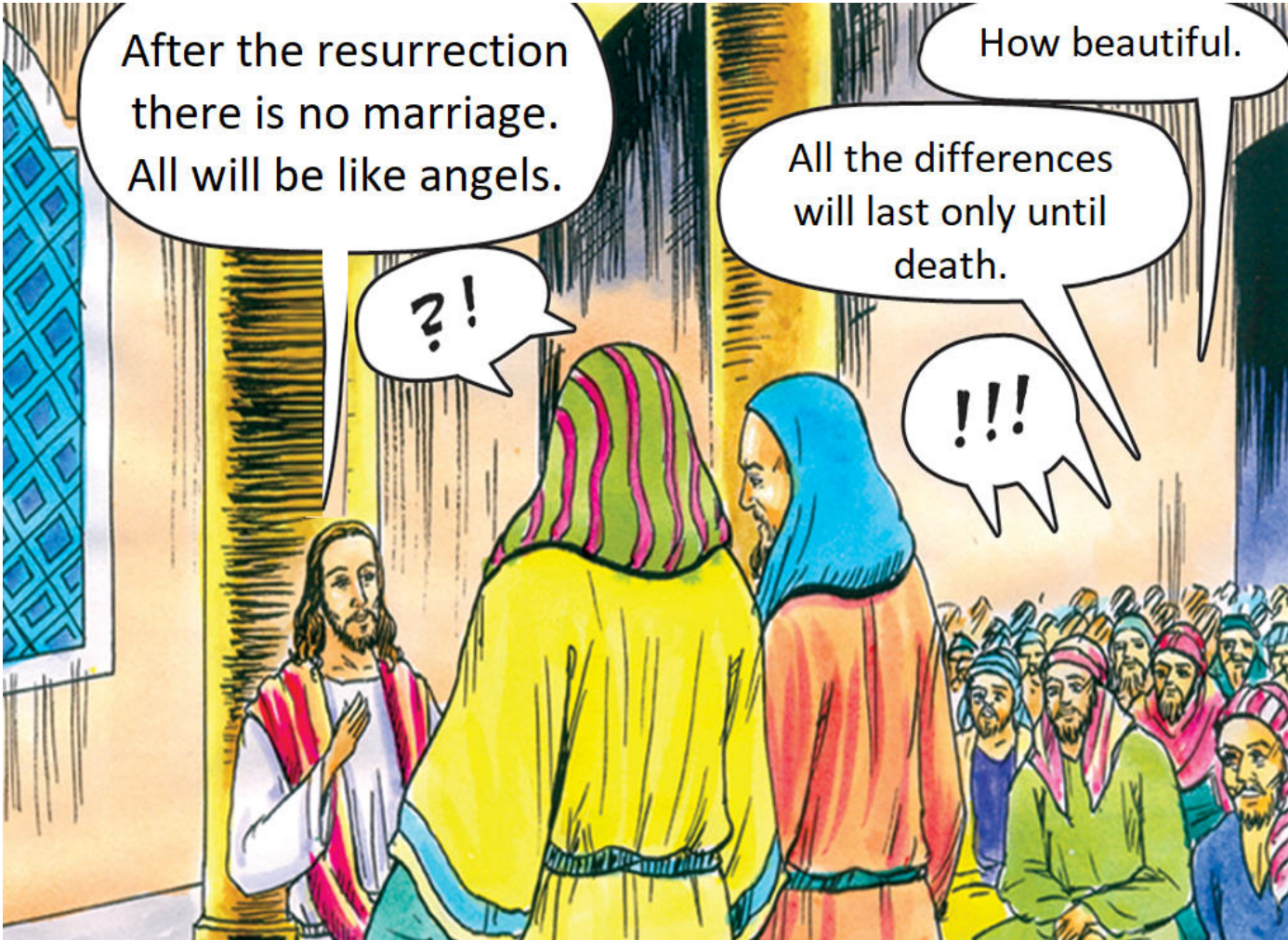
Finally, the woman also died. At the resurrection whose wife will she be?

!



You have been mistaken
because you understand
neither the scripture nor
the power of God!





After the resurrection
there is no marriage.
All will be like angels.

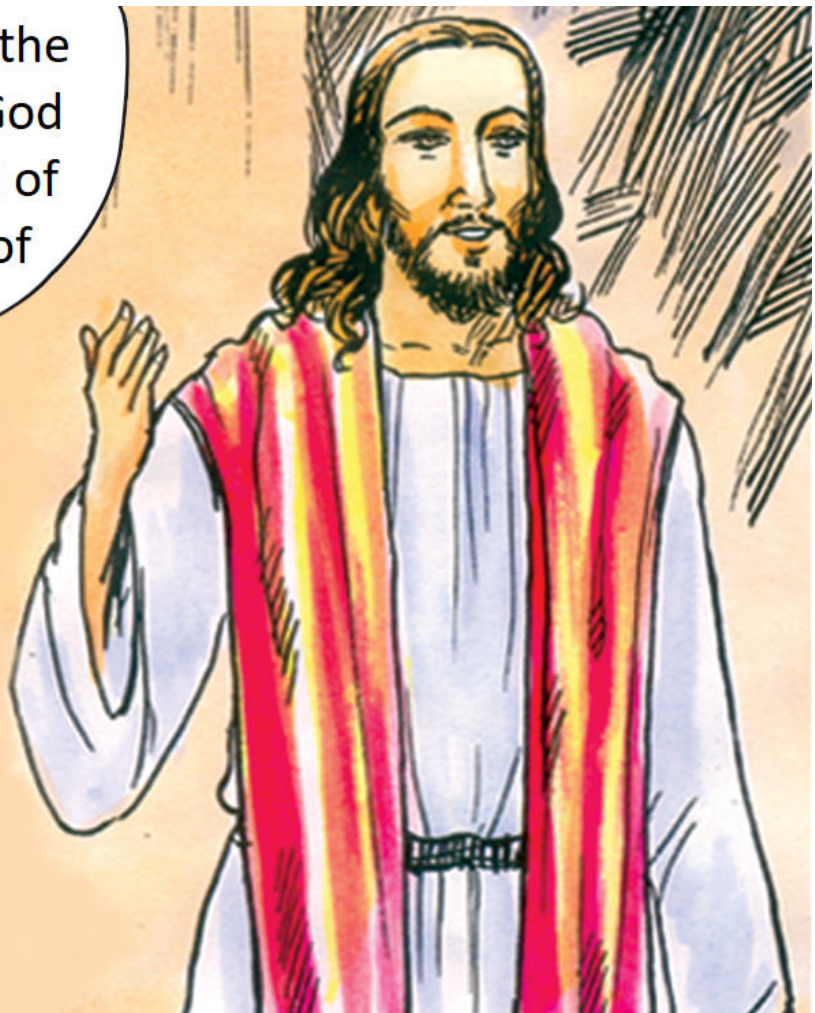
?!

How beautiful.

All the differences
will last only until
death.

!!!

Have you not read in the scripture, "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob"?





!!

God is the God of the living
not of the dead.

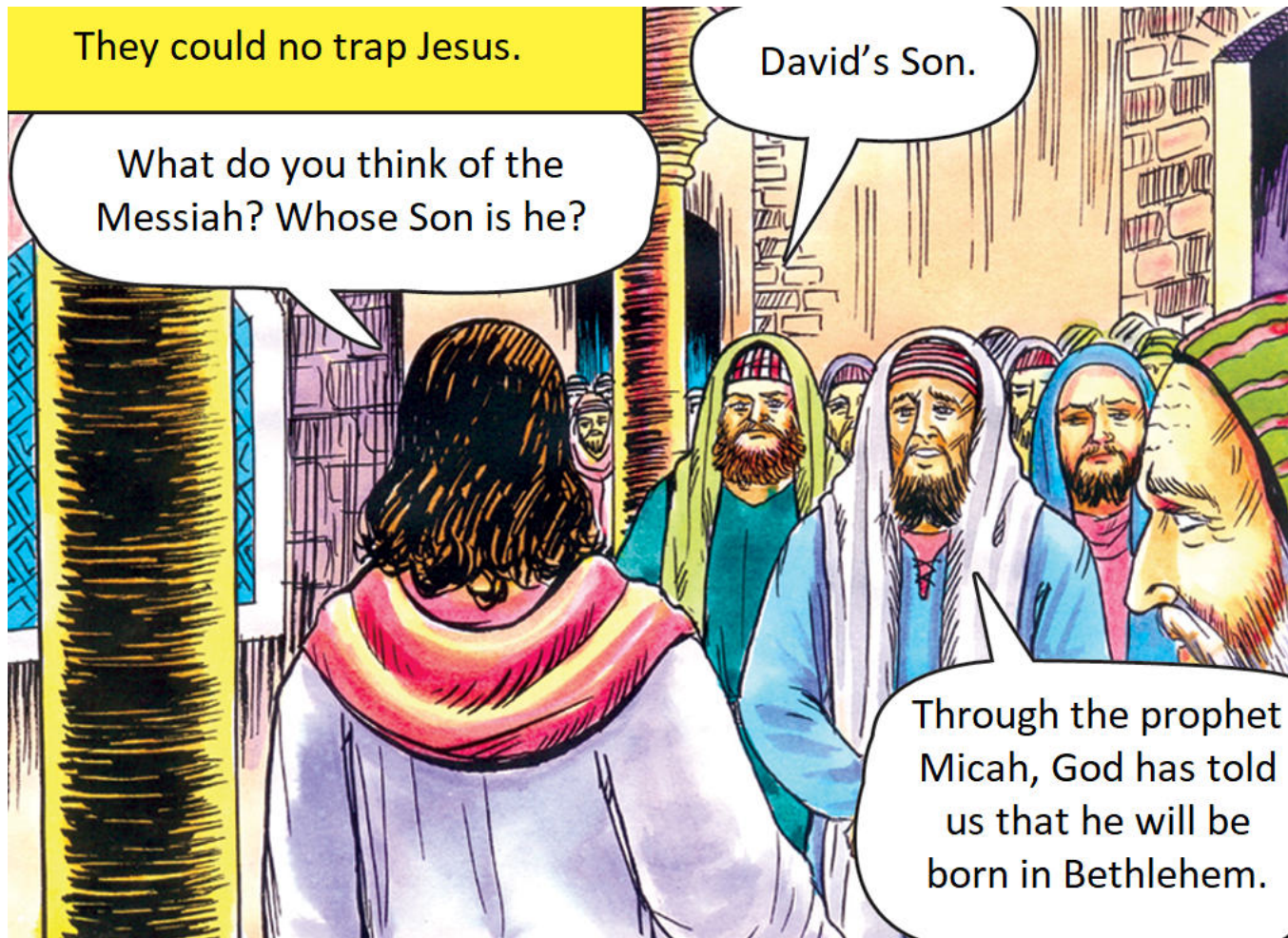
What wisdom? How
easily he silences our
"wise men".

They could not trap Jesus.

What do you think of the Messiah? Whose Son is he?

David's Son.

Through the prophet Micah, God has told us that he will be born in Bethlehem.



Then how could David call him "Lord"? It is written in the Psalms "The Lord said to my Lord...."

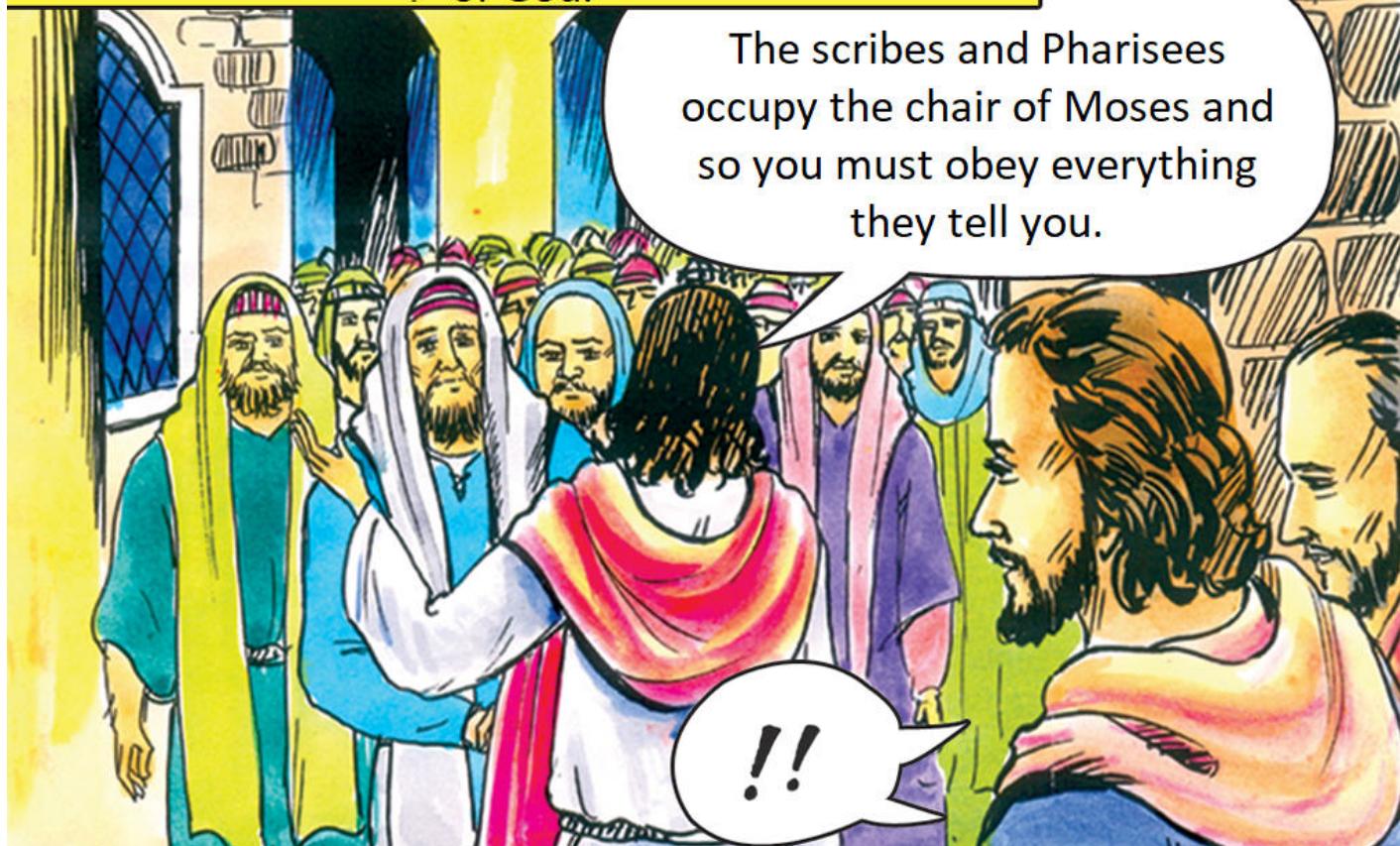




They were not ready to believe that the Messiah,
born as a descendant of David, is really the Son
of God.

The scribes and Pharisees
occupy the chair of Moses and
so you must obey everything
they tell you.

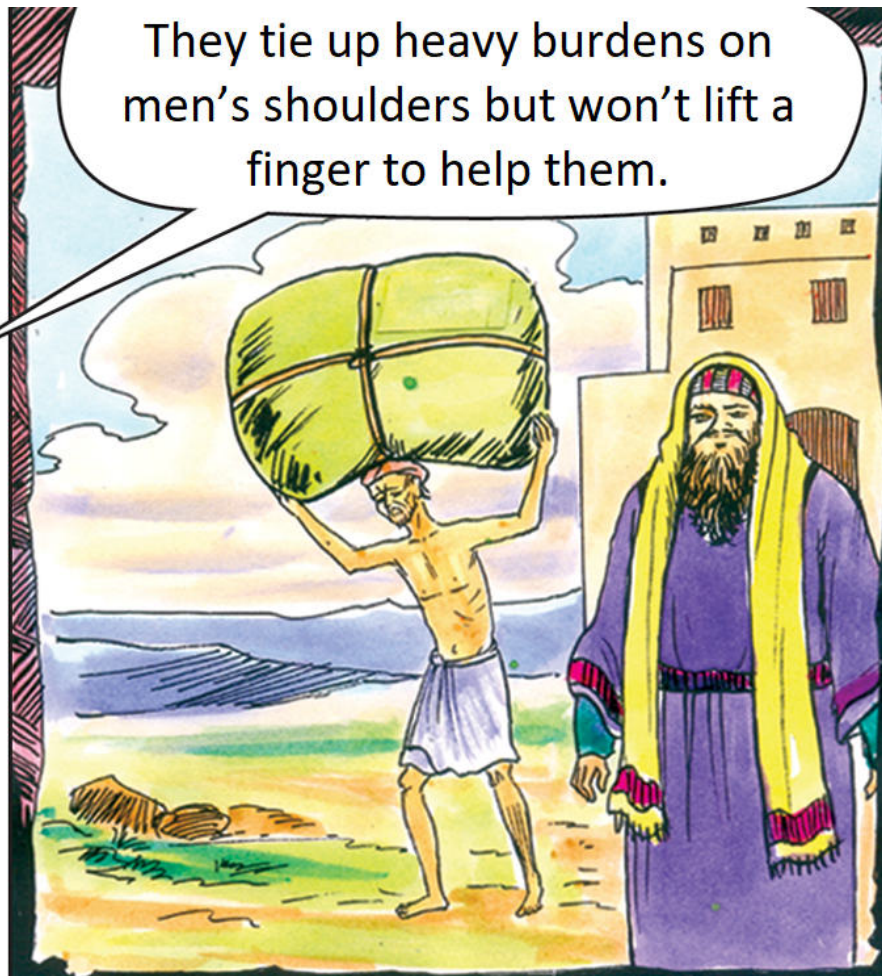
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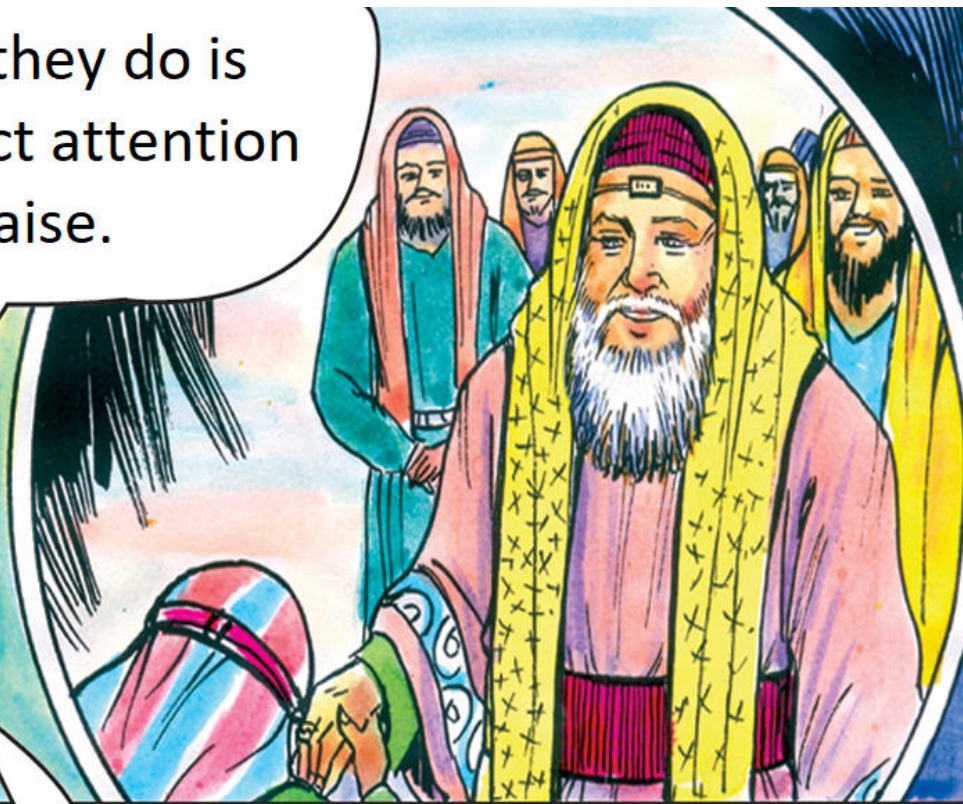
But, do not imitate
their actions
because they don't
practice what they
preach.



They tie up heavy burdens on
men's shoulders but won't lift a
finger to help them.



Everything they do is
done to attract attention
and praise.



Look, how broad their head bands and how long
their tassels with the scripture verses. All over they
like to be addressed as "Rabbi" and Father.

You must not be
like them. You are
all brothers,
children of the
same Father.



Only those who are authorized by
the Sanhedrin are teaching here.

You may not know that teaching the
Sacred Law is more important than
giving physical life.



Alas for you Scribes and
Pharisees, you hypocrites!



You make fine tombs for the
murdered prophets and
decorate the monuments of
the martyrs.

That is to respect
them.

We are doing
penance for the
sins of our
ancestors.



Go on then, and finish off what your ancestors
started. I am sending you prophets and
Apostles.



You will persecute and kill some of them. You will be responsible for the blood of the innocent men.



The leaders could not do anything against Jesus because of the crowd. The powers of darkness array their forces against the Light that came into the world. Treachery and hypocrisy on the one side; love and self-surrender on the other side.

Next Story

Bread of Life



Questions

1. What did Jesus say when he heard that Lazarus was ill?
2. When did salvation come to Zachaeus' home?
3. What was Martha's confession regarding the identity of Jesus?
4. What was the interpretation Jesus gave to the anointing at Bethania?
5. Explain the meaning of being "born again".
6. "The Son of Man is to be raised up". Explain.
7. Name the prophet who foretold about the king mounted on a donkey.
8. Why was Jerusalem destroyed?
9. What lesson does Jesus teach us through the parable of the vineyard?
10. What did the Jews expect from the Son of David?

Memorize: **"I am the resurrection and the life"** (John 11, 25)

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