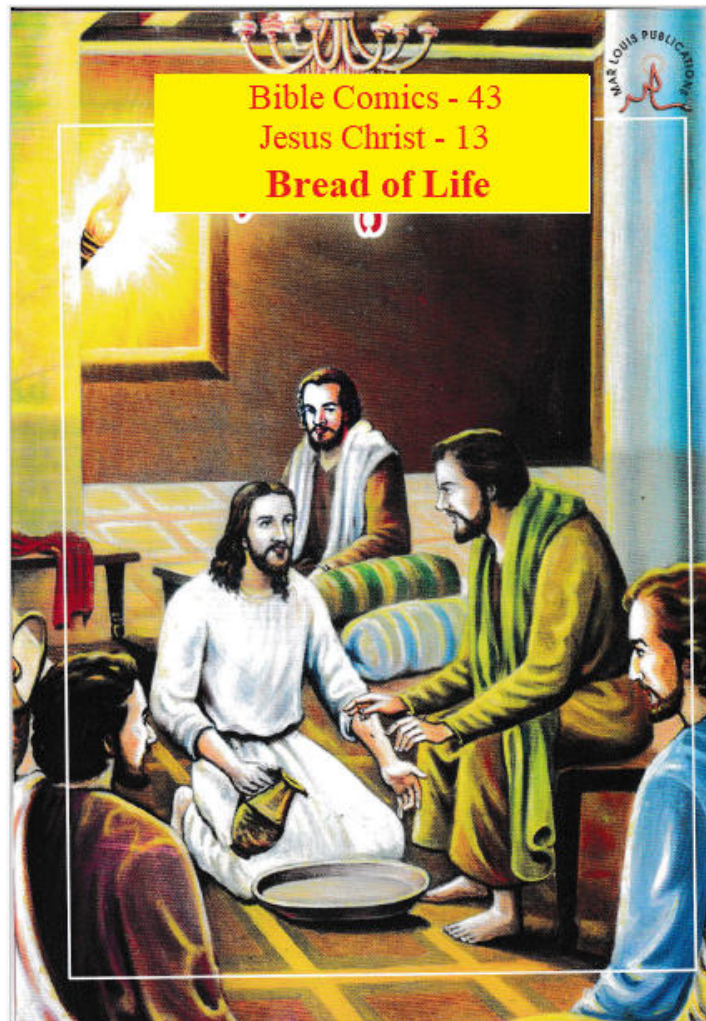


Bible Comics - 43
Jesus Christ - 13
Bread of Life



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BREAD OF LIFE

The hungry need bread. Even though Jesus refused to turn stones into bread to satisfy his own hunger, twice he multiplied the bread and fed the hungry crowds. However, the hunger of the soul for spiritual food and eternal life is infinitely greater than the physical hunger. When Jesus was tempted to produce bread by a miracle, he responded that man does not live

on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Jesus himself is the Word of God that satisfies man's hunger for life. He was born in the town of Bethlehem which means house of bread. This enhances Jesus' statement that he came into this world to give us life in its fullness. At Capernaum he had declared that his body is the bread of life, but it was at the last supper that he gave his body and blood

under the symbols of bread and wine as food and drink for eternal life.

By celebrating the last supper in the context of the Jewish feast of Passover, Jesus gave a new meaning to it. During the feast of Passover, the Israelites celebrated the liberation from the slavery in Egypt and the covenant with which Yahweh made them “the people of God”. It was the blood of the Passover lamb that saved them from the angel of death. By giving his own body and blood as

food and drink, Jesus himself became the paschal lamb that liberates the whole world from the slavery of sin and death. The last supper of Jesus is the new Passover that celebrates the new covenant by which we are made the children of God and heirs of his Kingdom. It is this covenantal sacrifice that is being celebrated at every Mass.

It was after giving an example of humble service and selfless love that Jesus established the new Covenant. In order to be able to

participate in the new covenant and to receive the bread of life one should obey the commandment of love. Only by loving our fellow human beings, especially the poor and the weak, can we express our love of God. Such a love will be the criterion by which we will be judged at the end.

God has entrusted each one of us with various gifts. The parable of the talents teaches us that we must develop these gifts to the maximum and use them in the service of our

neighbours. Our lives and all our faculties and capabilities are God's gratuitous gifts for which we will be called to account. As we do not know when God will call us, we should always be prepared as the wise virgins who waited for the bridegroom with oil in stock to light their lamps. The lazy and the selfish will not be able to participate in the banquet of eternal life. The warning given to Peter reminds us of the need of constant prayer and watchfulness.

Bible Comics – 43

Jesus Christ – 13

Bread of Life

Script

Rev. Dr. Michale Karimattam

Illustration

Devassy & Benny.

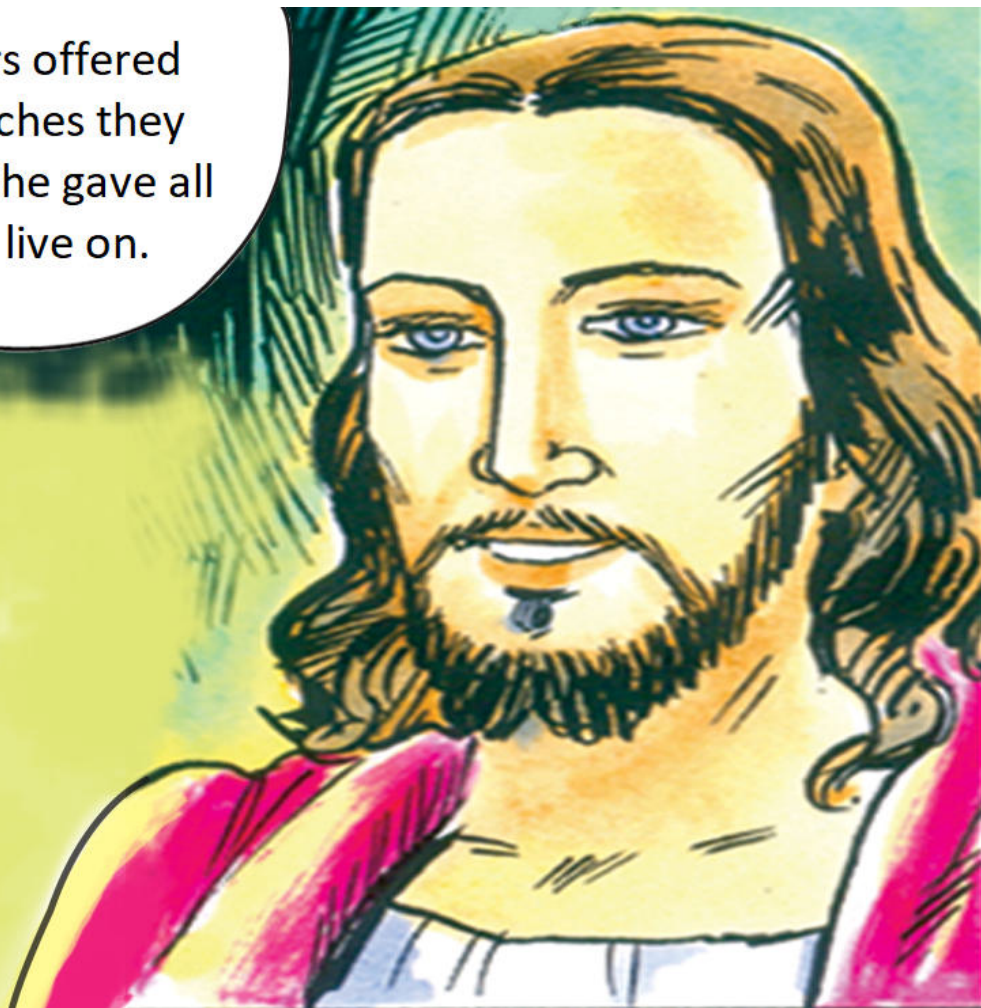
During the day Jesus taught in the Temple; at night he stayed on the Mount of Olives outside the city. One day:

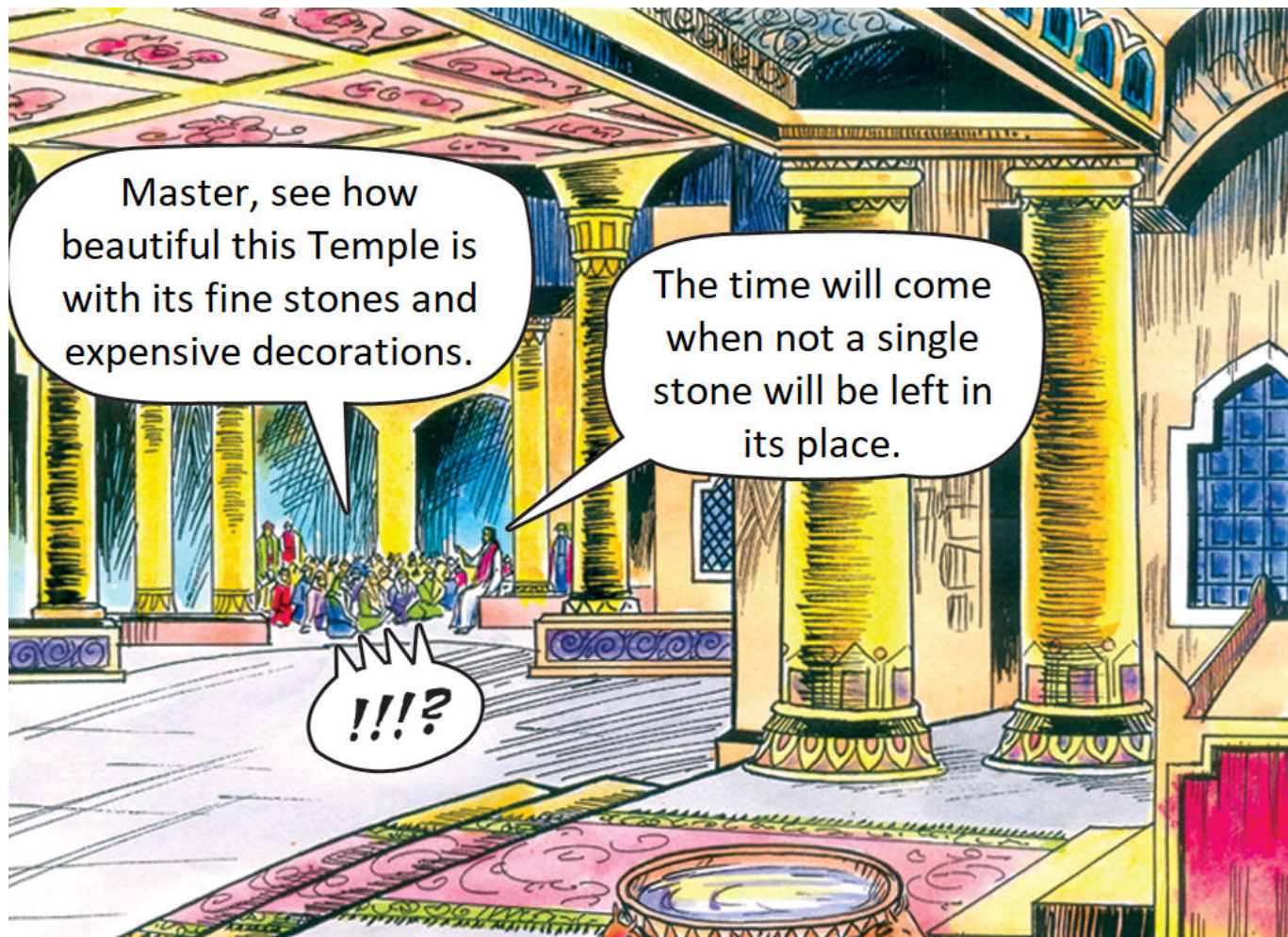
Look that poor widow has put in more than all the others.

She just put in two little copper coins.



All the others offered
from their riches they
could spare. She gave all
she had to live on.





Master, see how beautiful this Temple is with its fine stones and expensive decorations.

The time will come when not a single stone will be left in its place.

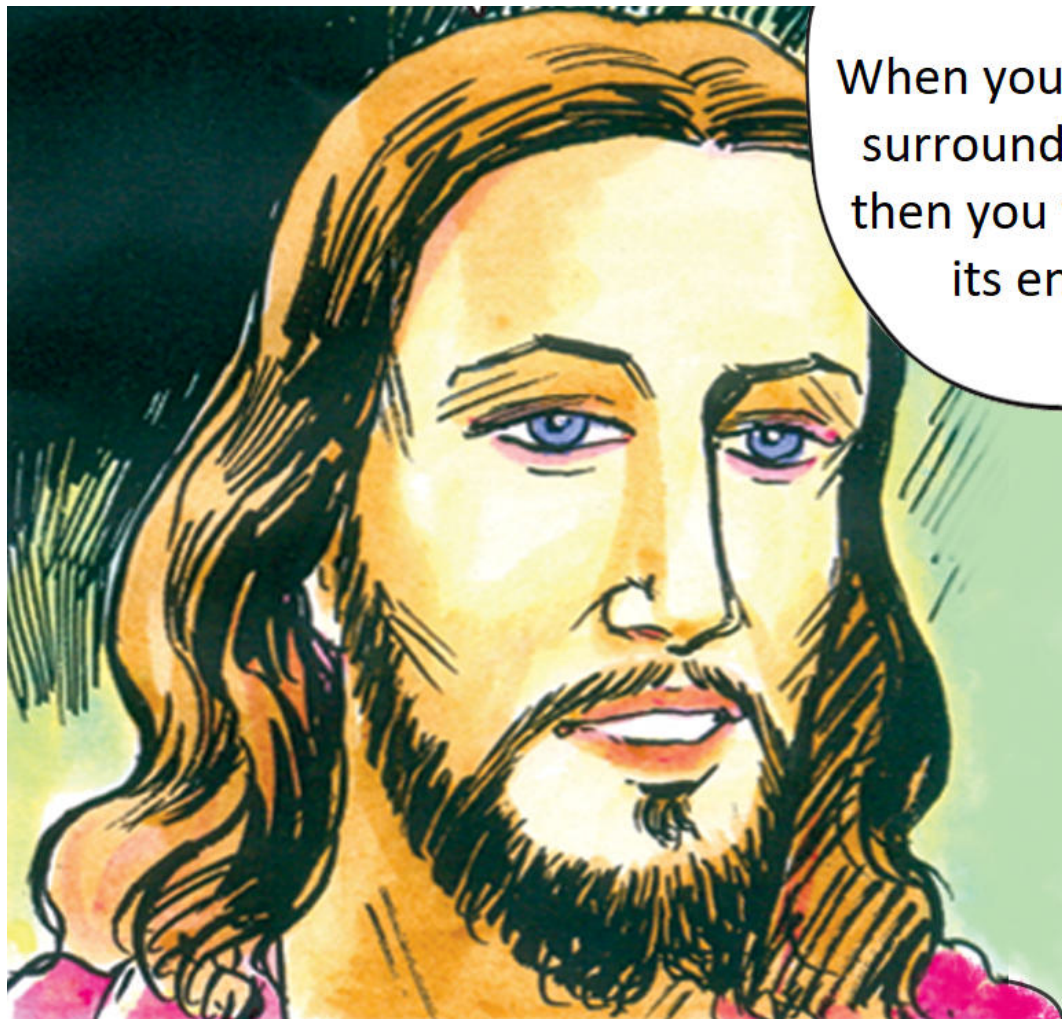
!!!?

When will this be? Will there be any sign to show that the time has come.

Be on your guard. Many will come claiming to be the Messiah.

?!!

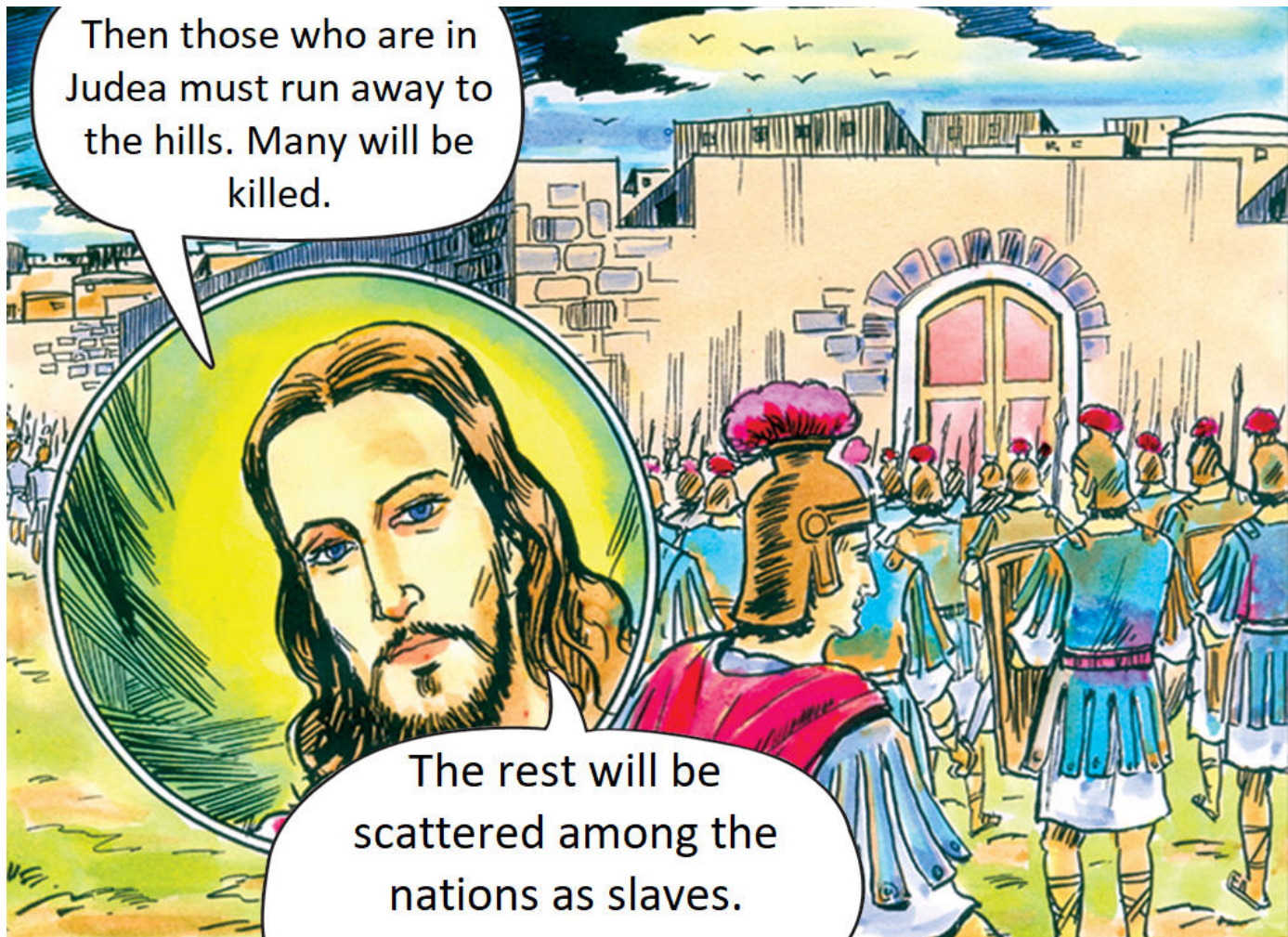


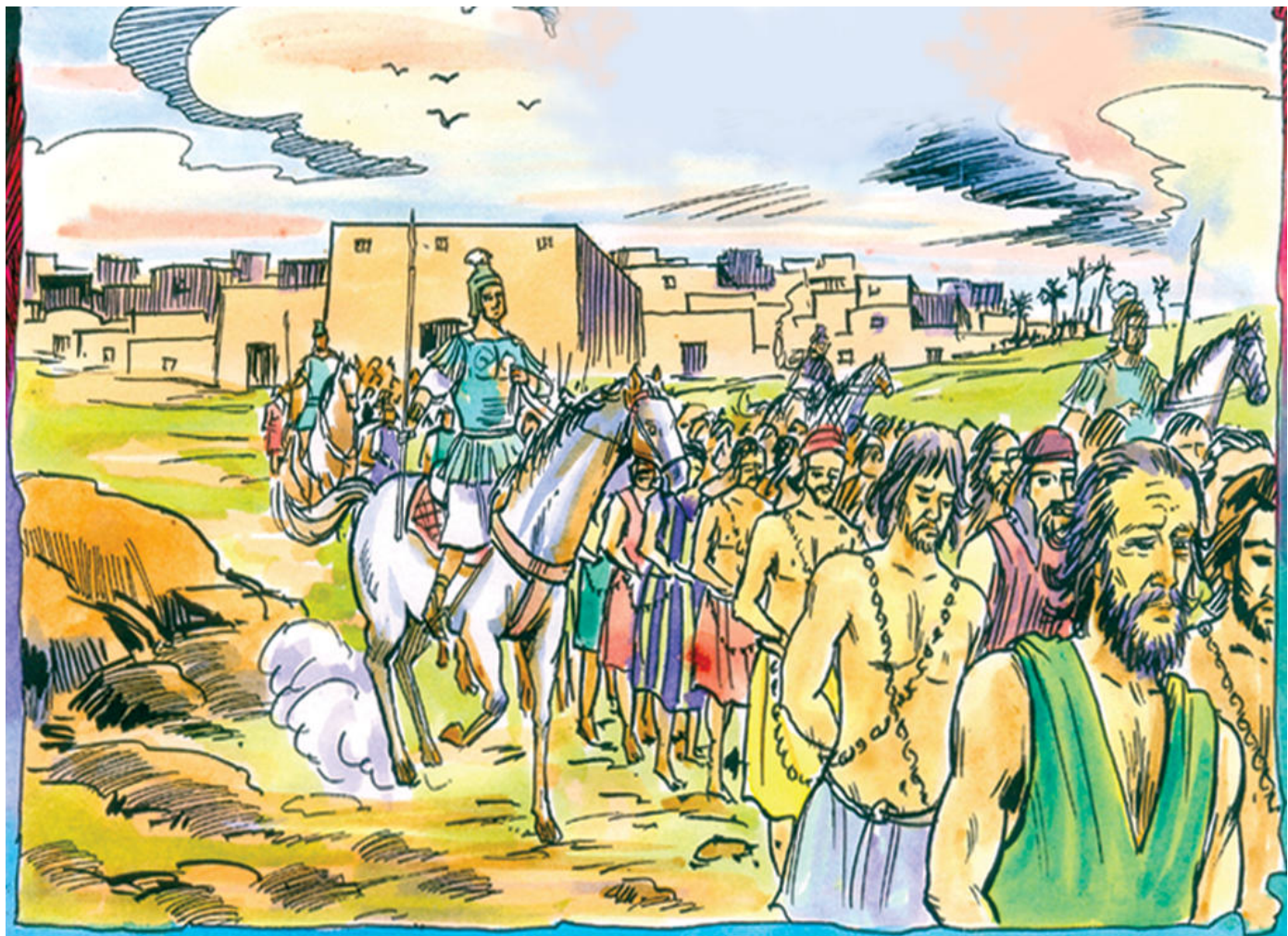


When you see Jerusalem
surrounded by armies,
then you will know that
its end is near.

Then those who are in Judea must run away to the hills. Many will be killed.

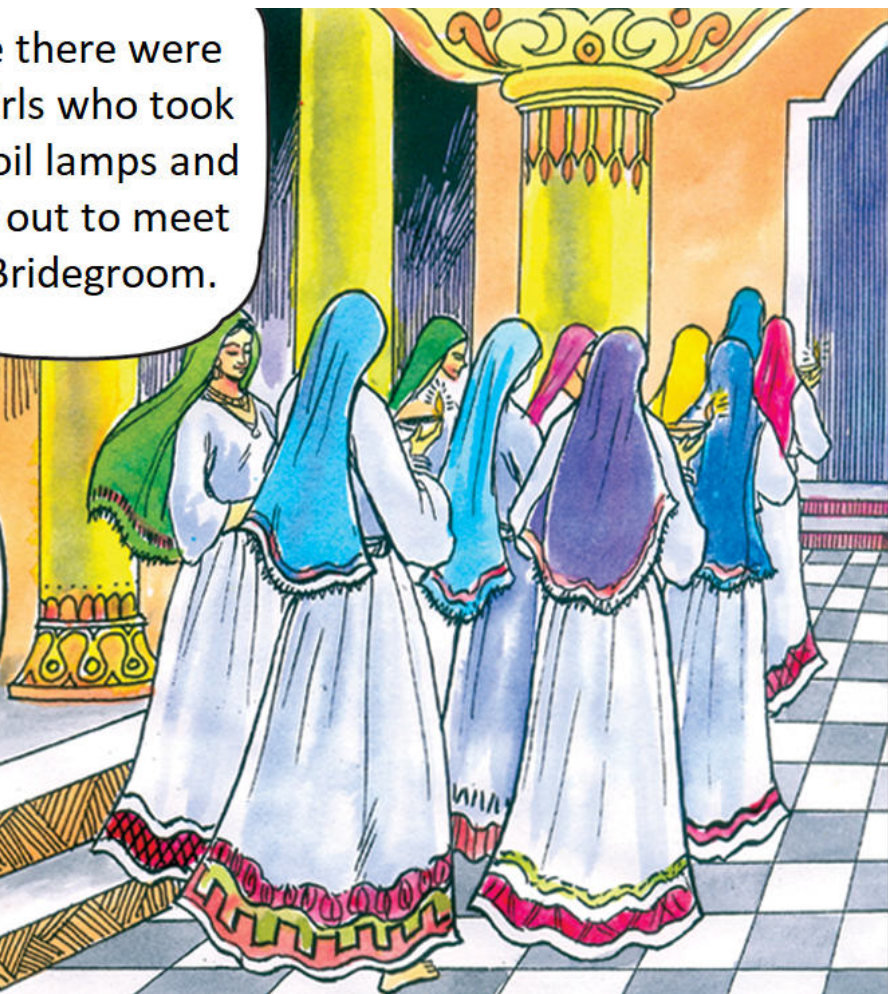
The rest will be scattered among the nations as slaves.





Always be
prepared, for you
do not know
when the Son of
Man will come.

Once there were
ten girls who took
their oil lamps and
went out to meet
the Bridegroom.



Five of them were
wise and took
extra oil for their
lamps.





The bridegroom was late in coming. So the girls fell asleep at midnight.



Here is the
bridegroom come
and meet him.



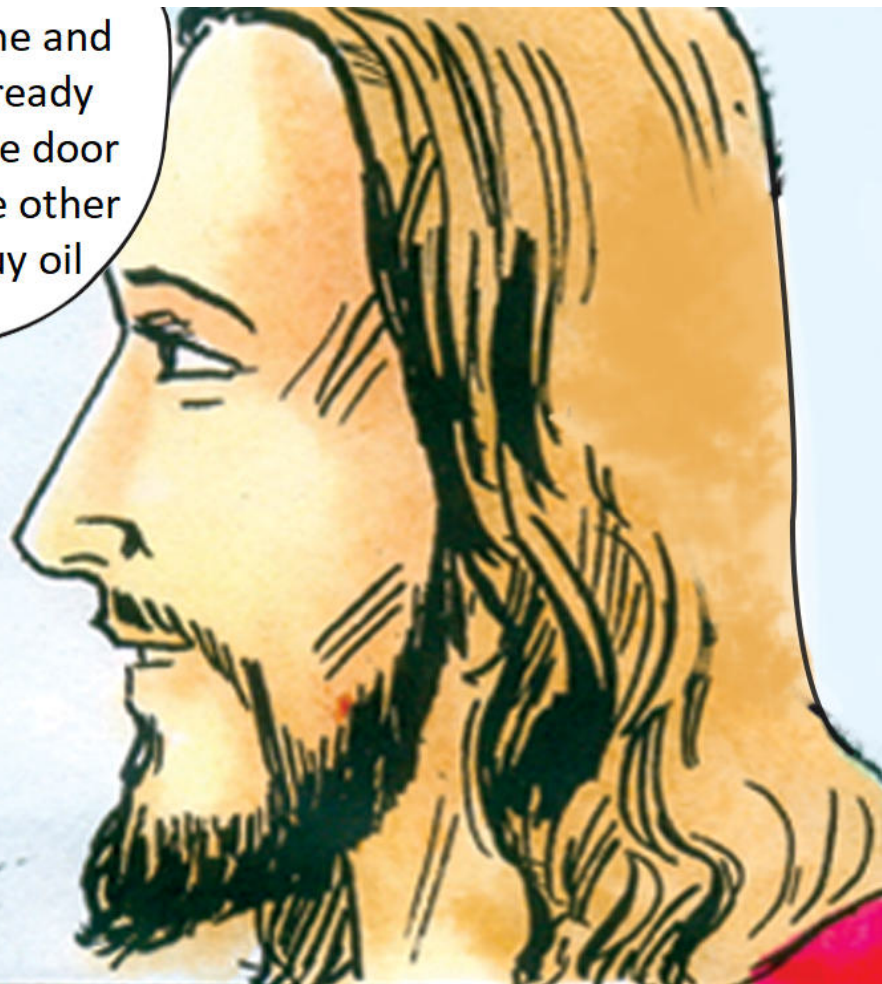
My lamp is going out.
Please give me some of
your oil.

There isn't enough for both of
us. Go and buy some for
yourself






The bridegroom came and
the five who were ready
went in with him. The door
was closed. Later the other
girls who had to buy oil
arrived.



Lord, let us in.

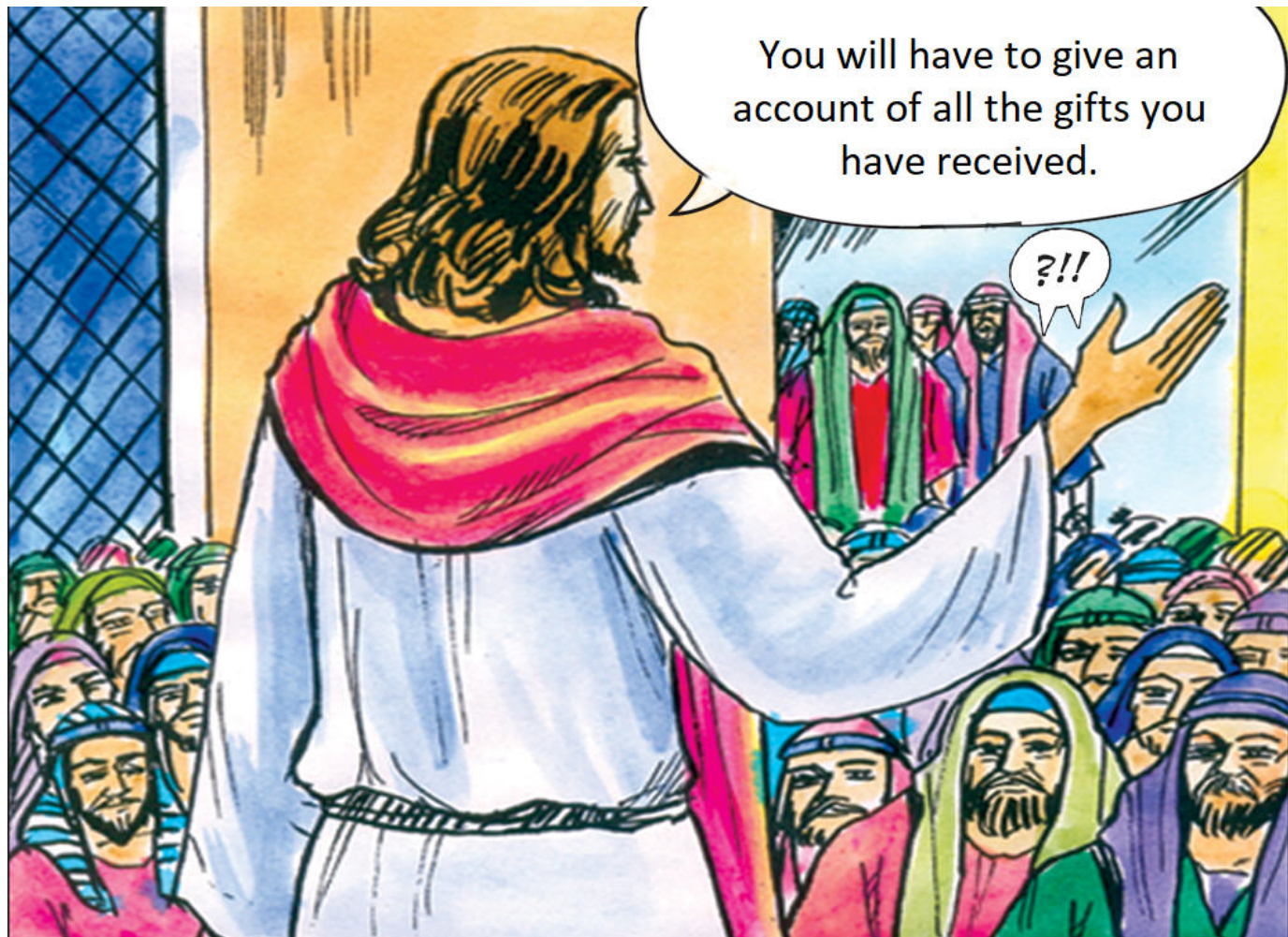
I do not
know you.



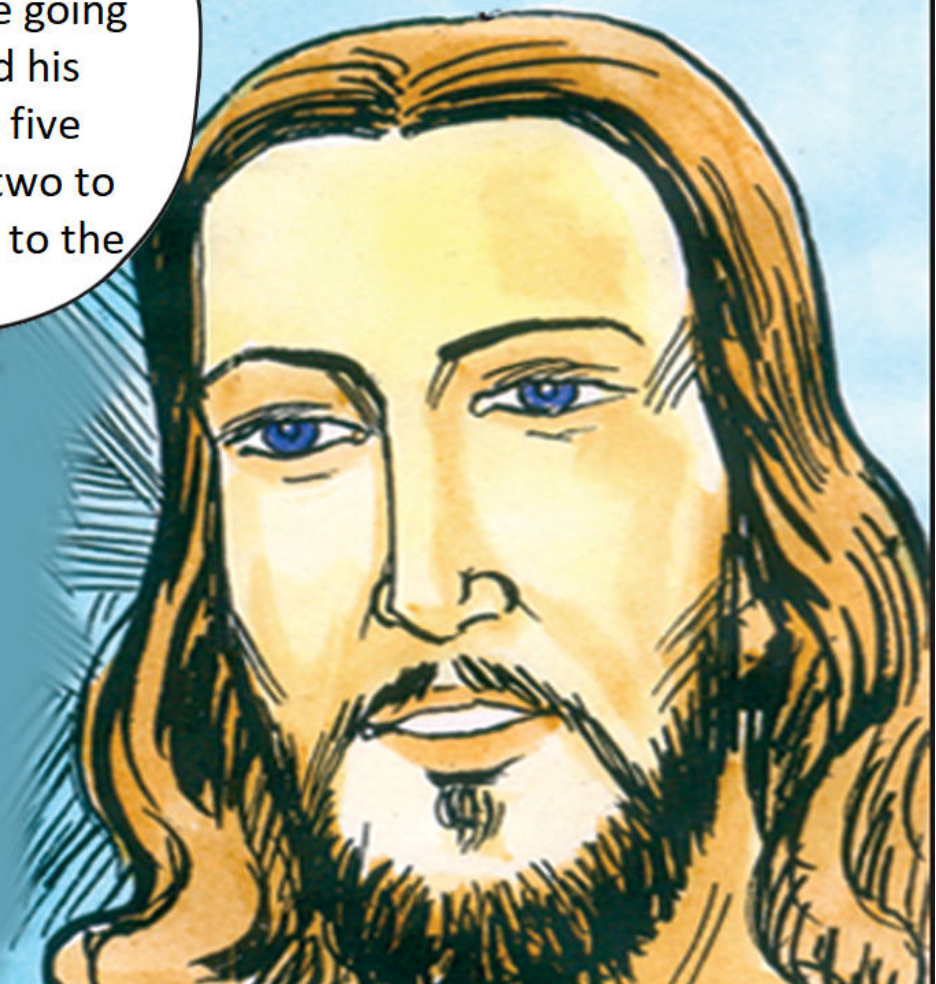
A cartoon illustration of Jesus with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a white robe with a pink sash, standing and gesturing with his right hand towards a crowd. The crowd consists of many people seen from behind, wearing various colored head coverings like blue, green, pink, and purple. The background shows a simple building with a doorway. A large speech bubble originates from Jesus, and a smaller one with three exclamation marks is near the crowd.

The kingdom of God is like this. Be on alert. Do not let your hearts be weakened by drunkenness, greed, and gluttony. Be prepared with prayer.

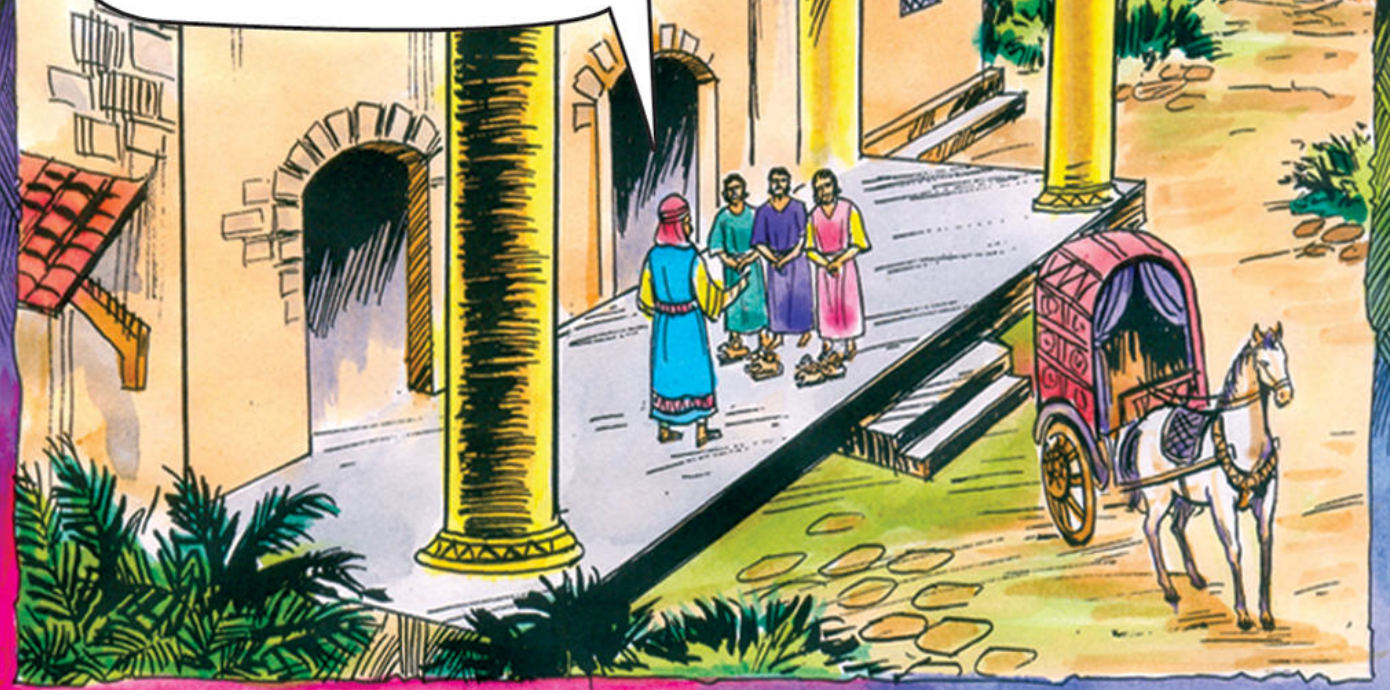
!!!



A certain man before going on a journey called his servants and gave five talents to the first, two to the second, and one to the third.



I am entrusting my wealth to you. Do what you think is the best. I shall return shortly.



After a long time
the master
returned.



Master, with the five talents I did business and earned five more.

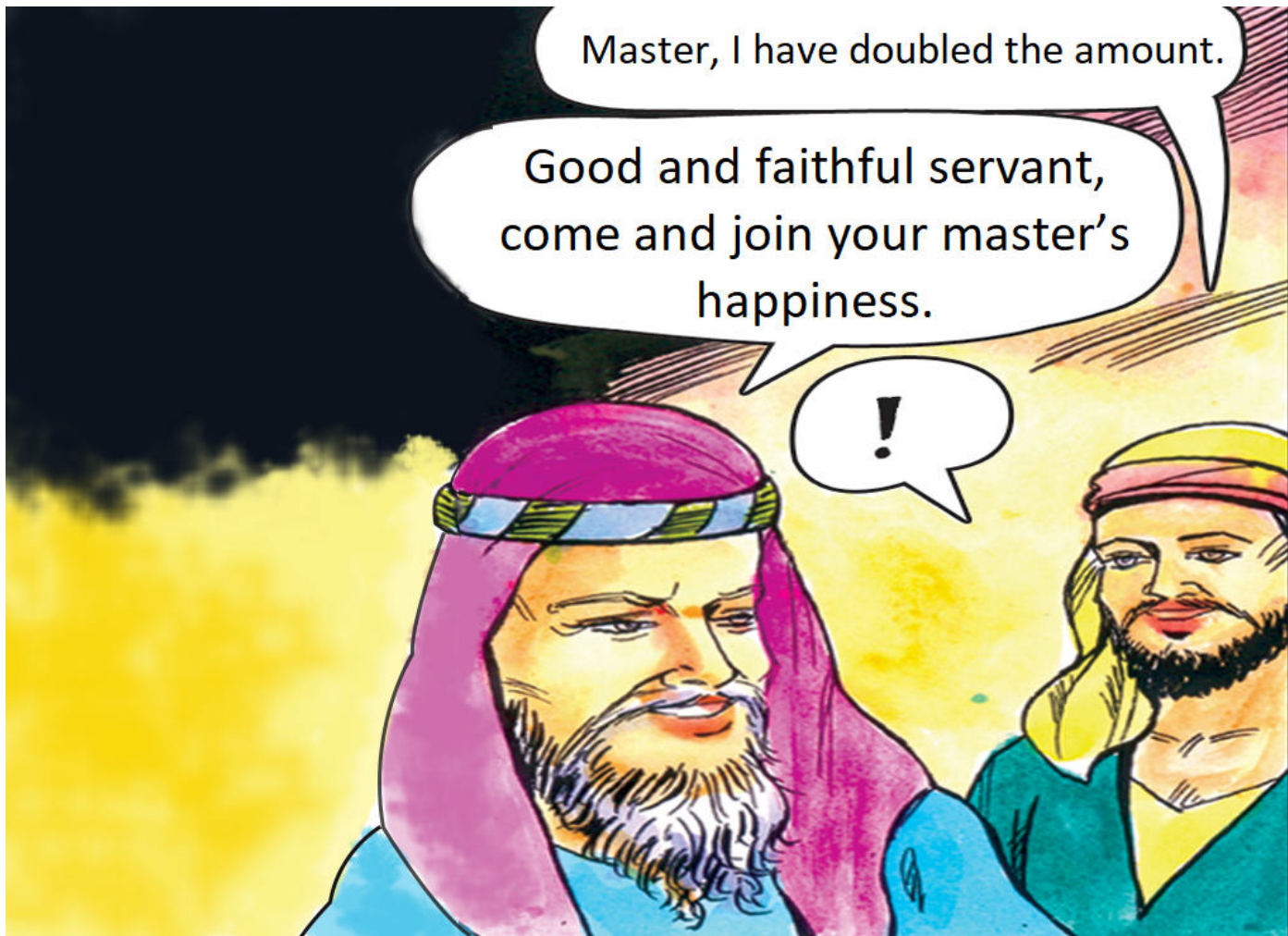
Good and faithful servant, you proved to be faithful in small things. I will entrust you with greater. Come and join in your master's happiness.



Master, I have doubled the amount.

Good and faithful servant,
come and join your master's
happiness.

!



Master, I had heard that you were a hard man, and so I was afraid. I hid your talent in the ground. Here it is.

Throw this wicked and lazy servant into the dungeon.

?



The Kingdom of God is like this. In it there is no room for the lazy.



The Son of Man will come in his glory and sit on His royal throne.





Come, you that are blessed
by my Father come, and
possess the Kingdom that has
been prepared for you since
the creation of the world.



Because I was hungry and you gave me food... I was sick and you took care of me...

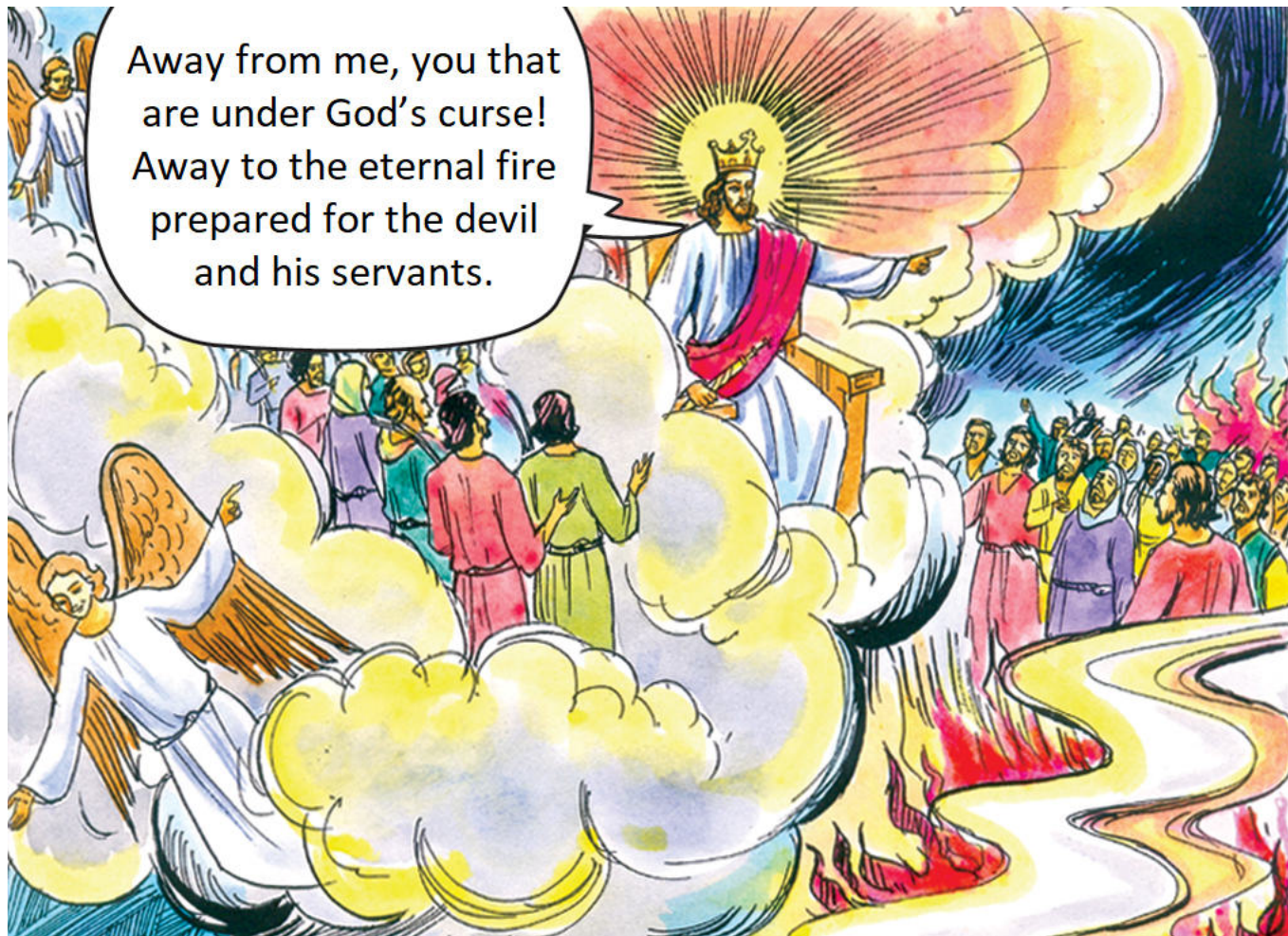
Lord, when did we ever do this?



Whenever you did this to the least of my
brothers, you did it for me.



Away from me, you that
are under God's curse!
Away to the eternal fire
prepared for the devil
and his servants.



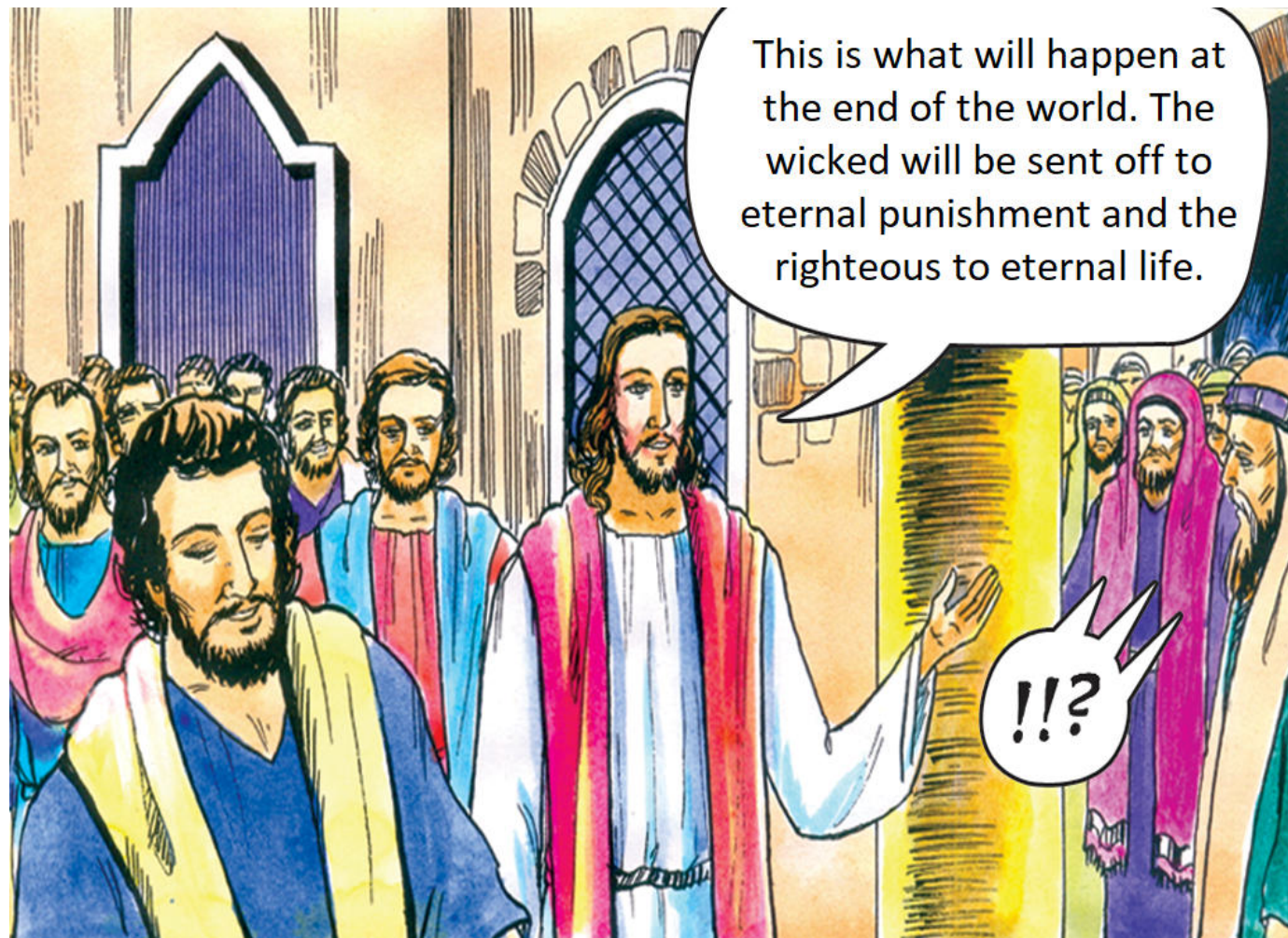
I was hungry, but you
never gave me food...
I was sick, but you did
not care for me...





When you neglected to do this to the least of my brothers you neglected to do it for me.

Lord, when did we ever refuse you help?



This is what will happen at the end of the world. The wicked will be sent off to eternal punishment and the righteous to eternal life.

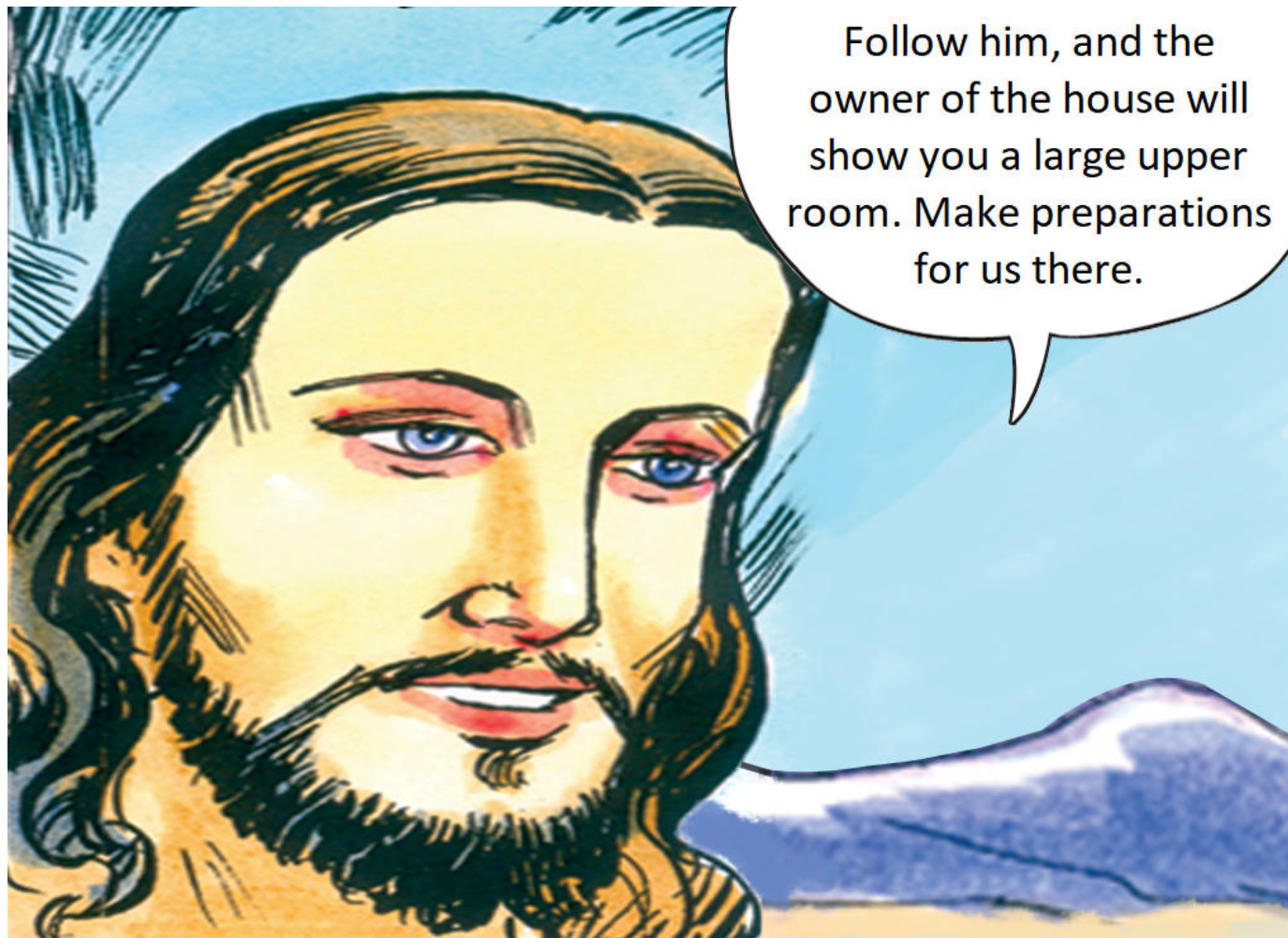
!!?

On the eve of Passover.

Master, where are we going to have our Passover meal?

Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water.





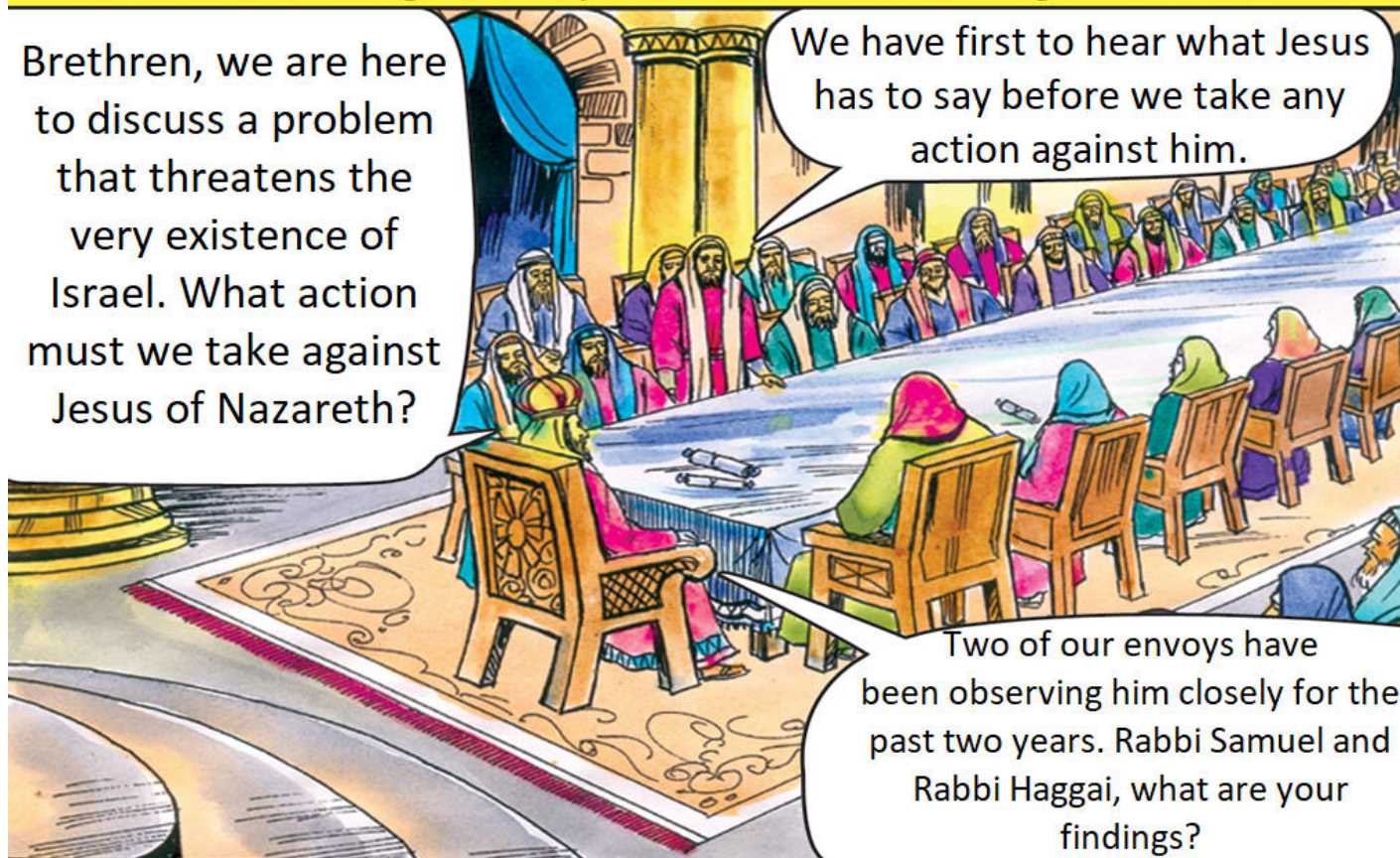
Follow him, and the owner of the house will show you a large upper room. Make preparations for us there.

At the same time there was a meeting of the Sanhedrin, the supreme ruling council of the Jews, consisting of seventy members. Caiaphas, the acting High Priest, presided over the meeting.

Brethren, we are here to discuss a problem that threatens the very existence of Israel. What action must we take against Jesus of Nazareth?

We have first to hear what Jesus has to say before we take any action against him.

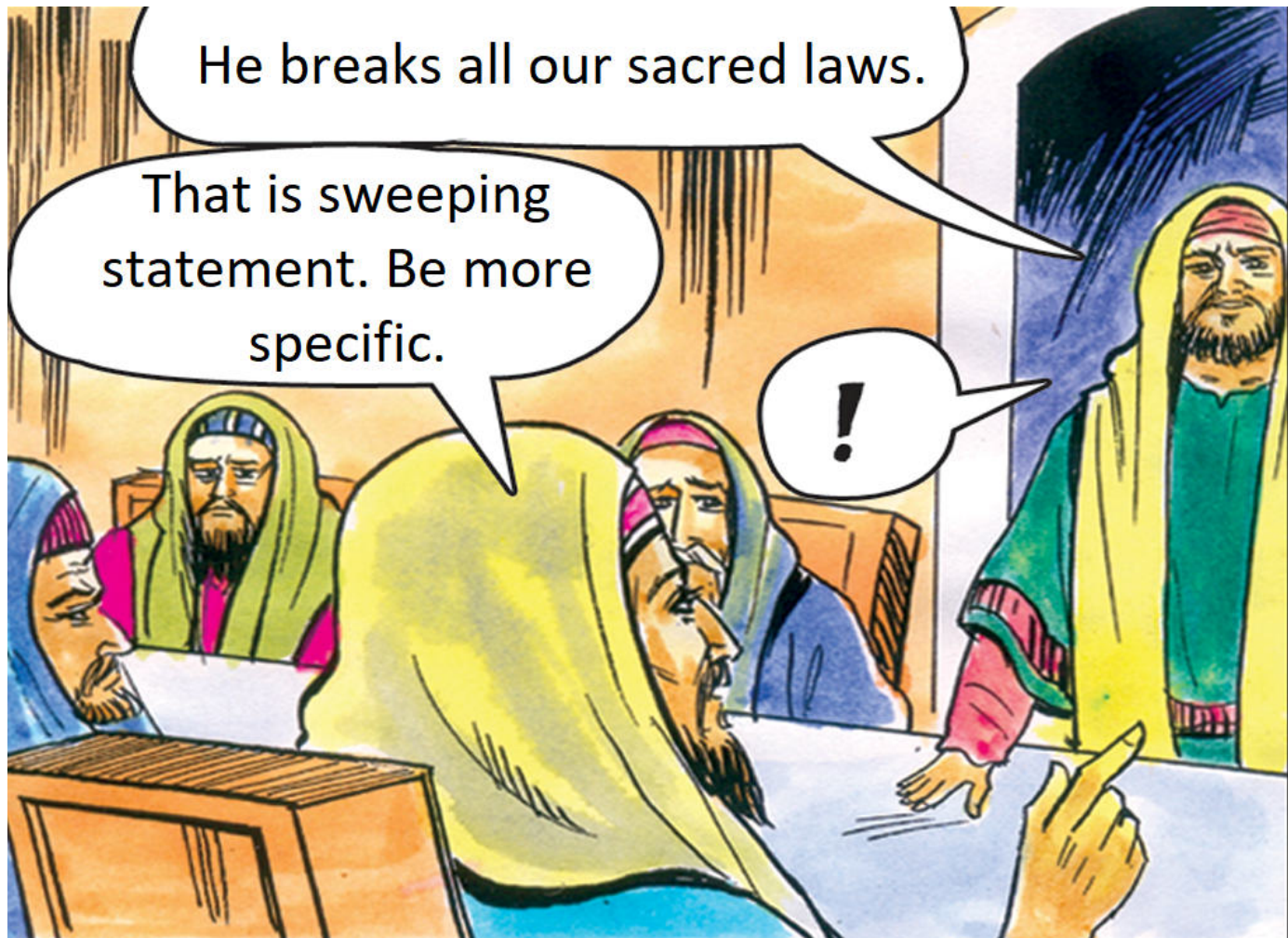
Two of our envoys have been observing him closely for the past two years. Rabbi Samuel and Rabbi Haggai, what are your findings?



He breaks all our sacred laws.

That is sweeping statement. Be more specific.

!



He heals the sick
on the Sabbath.



Aren't we allowed to
do good on the
Sabbath? He heals
the sick with just a
word.

He despises our law
of cleanliness.

He eats with the tax
collectors and embraces the
lepers. He has women, even
prostitutes, as followers.



He is undermining the very foundation of our morality. The accursed Gentiles and Samaritans are his favorites.


He claims to be the Messiah. A good number of people believe it also.

Aren't we all awaiting the Messiah to come to liberate us?





Do you mean that this
carpenter from Nazareth
is the Messiah?



The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem, of the royal family.

Why do we expect the Messiah will come in glory? What if God sends a humble Messiah?

!

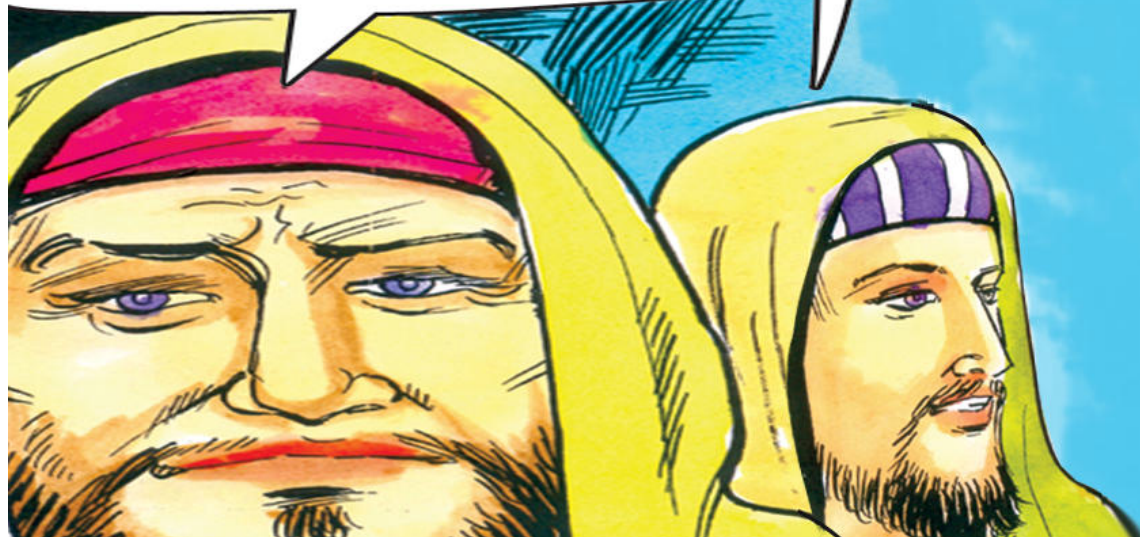
We live in comfort and dream of a kingly
Messiah. We have lost touch with the
people.

The people, who used to be so
docile and respectful, despise
us now.



We are to be blamed for it. What do we do
for the people? Get their money and put
heavy loads of the law on them.

He helps them
experience the love and
mercy of God.



We are to be blamed for it. What do we do for the people? Get their money and put heavy loads of the law on them.

He helps them experience the love and mercy of God.



I warn you, if we let
him go on like this, all
the people will follow
him.





The next step will be
revolt against the
Romans. That will
mark the
end of Israel.

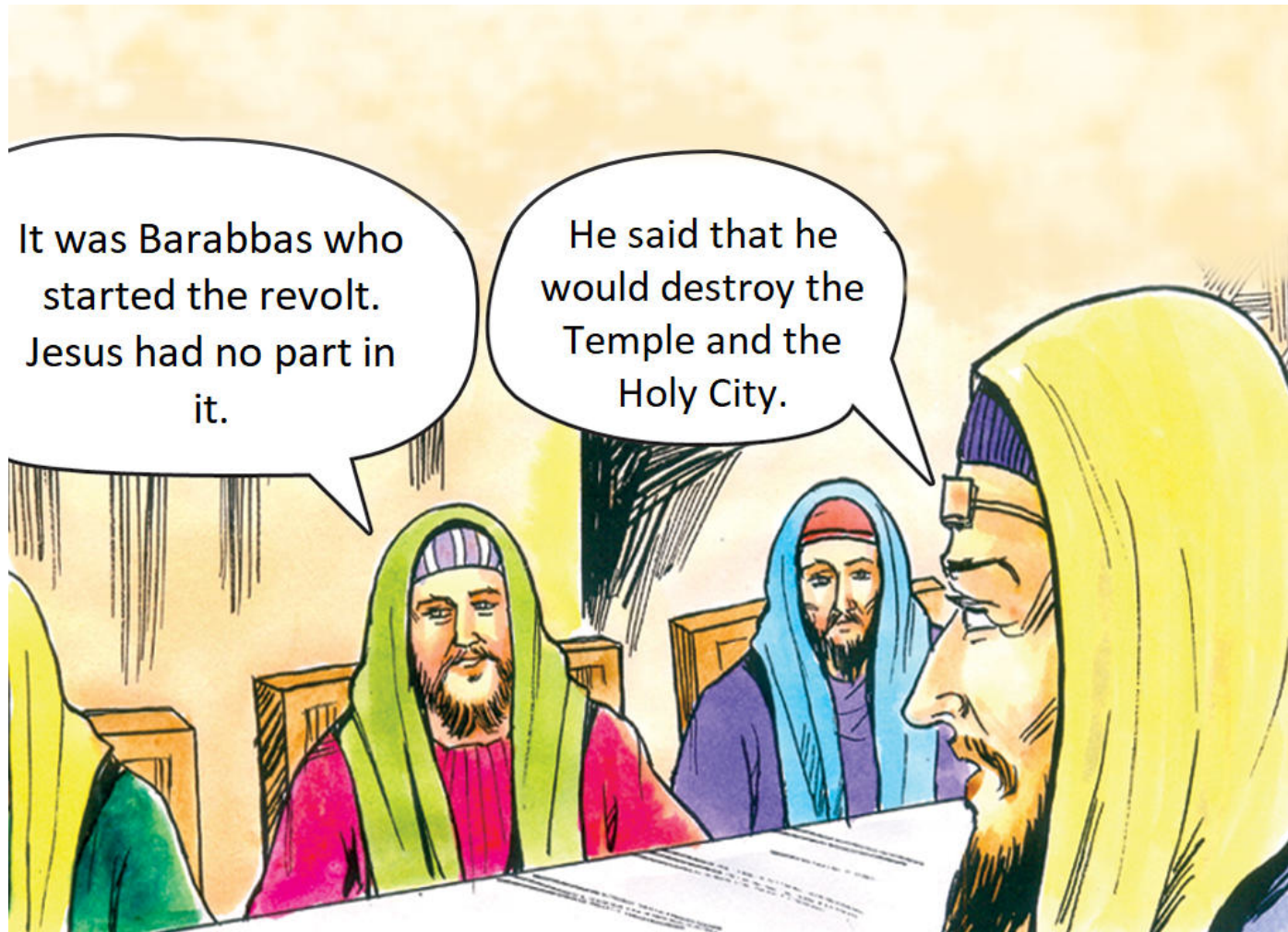
He is not a
revolutionary. He will
not support a revolt.

Wasn't the royal entry
into Jerusalem the
beginning of
revolution?



It was Barabbas who
started the revolt.
Jesus had no part in
it.

He said that he
would destroy the
Temple and the
Holy City.

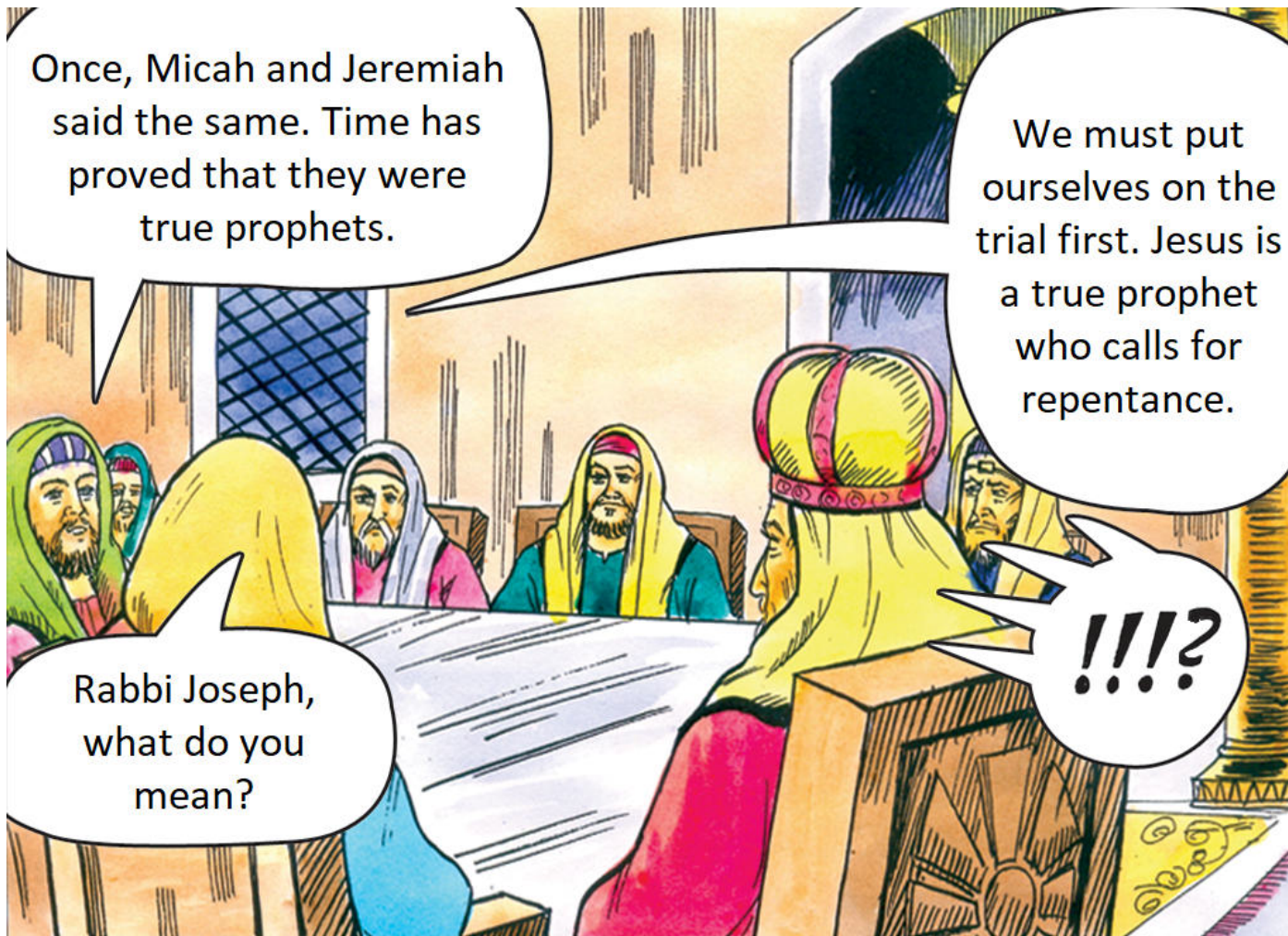


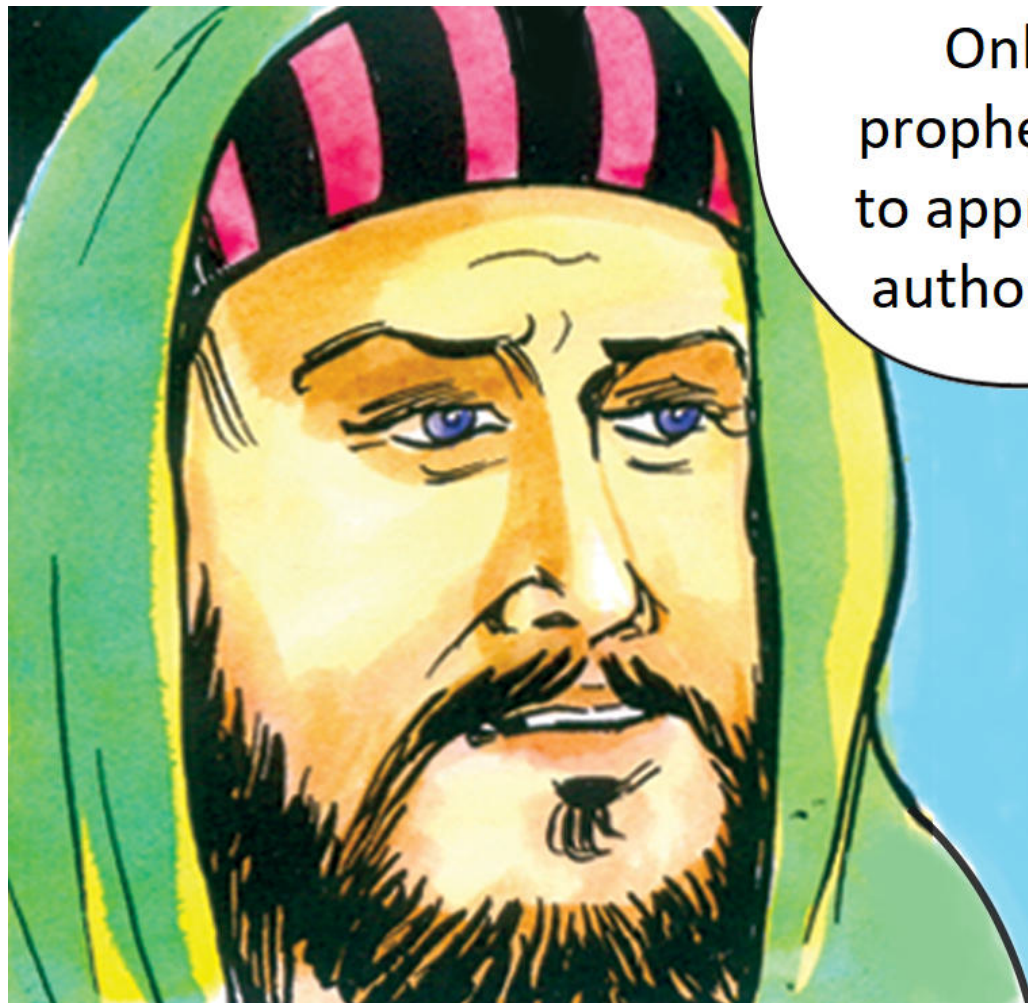
Once, Micah and Jeremiah
said the same. Time has
proved that they were
true prophets.

We must put
ourselves on the
trial first. Jesus is
a true prophet
who calls for
repentance.

Rabbi Joseph,
what do you
mean?

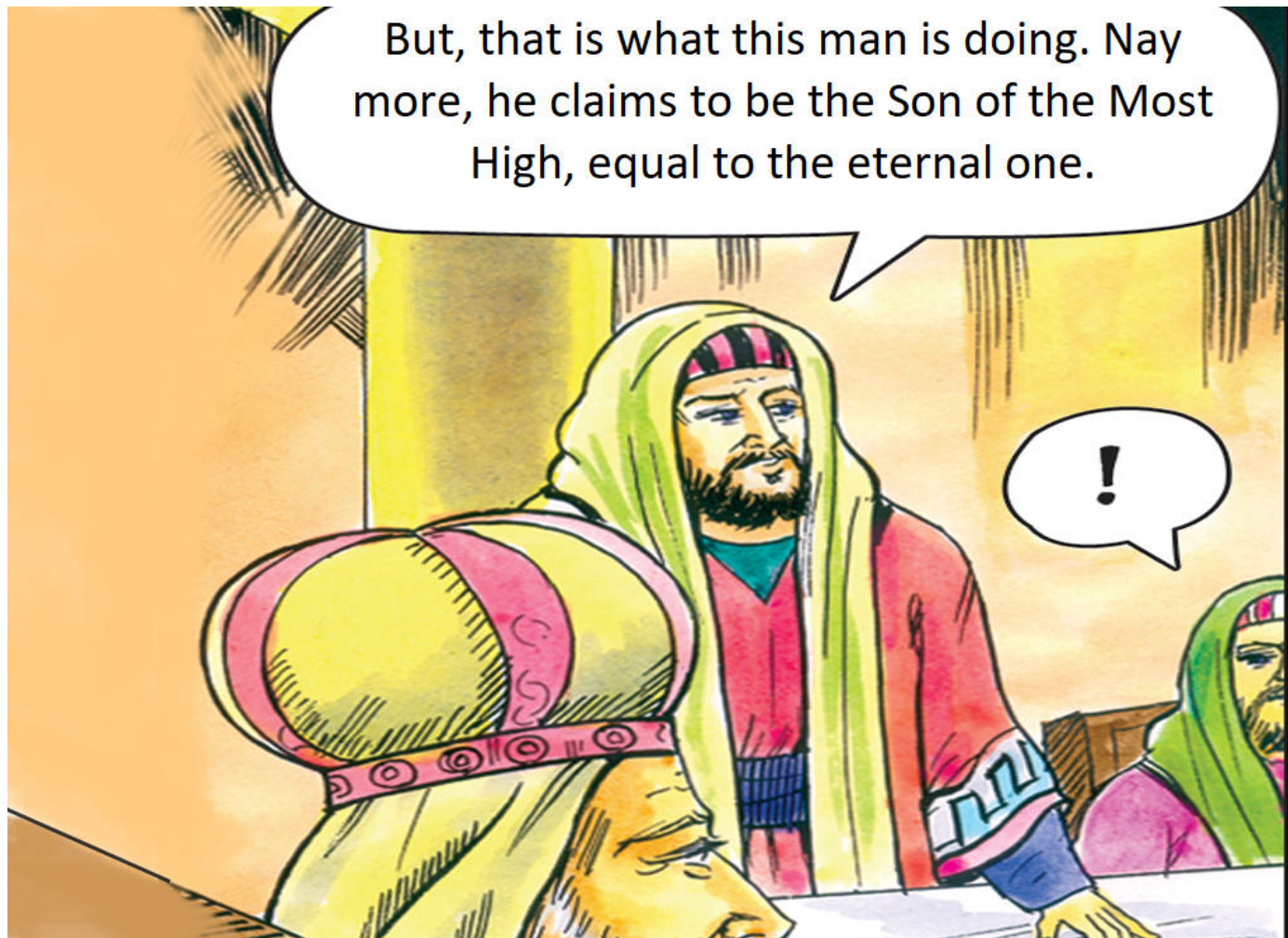
!!!?





Only a false prophet would try to appropriate the authority of God.

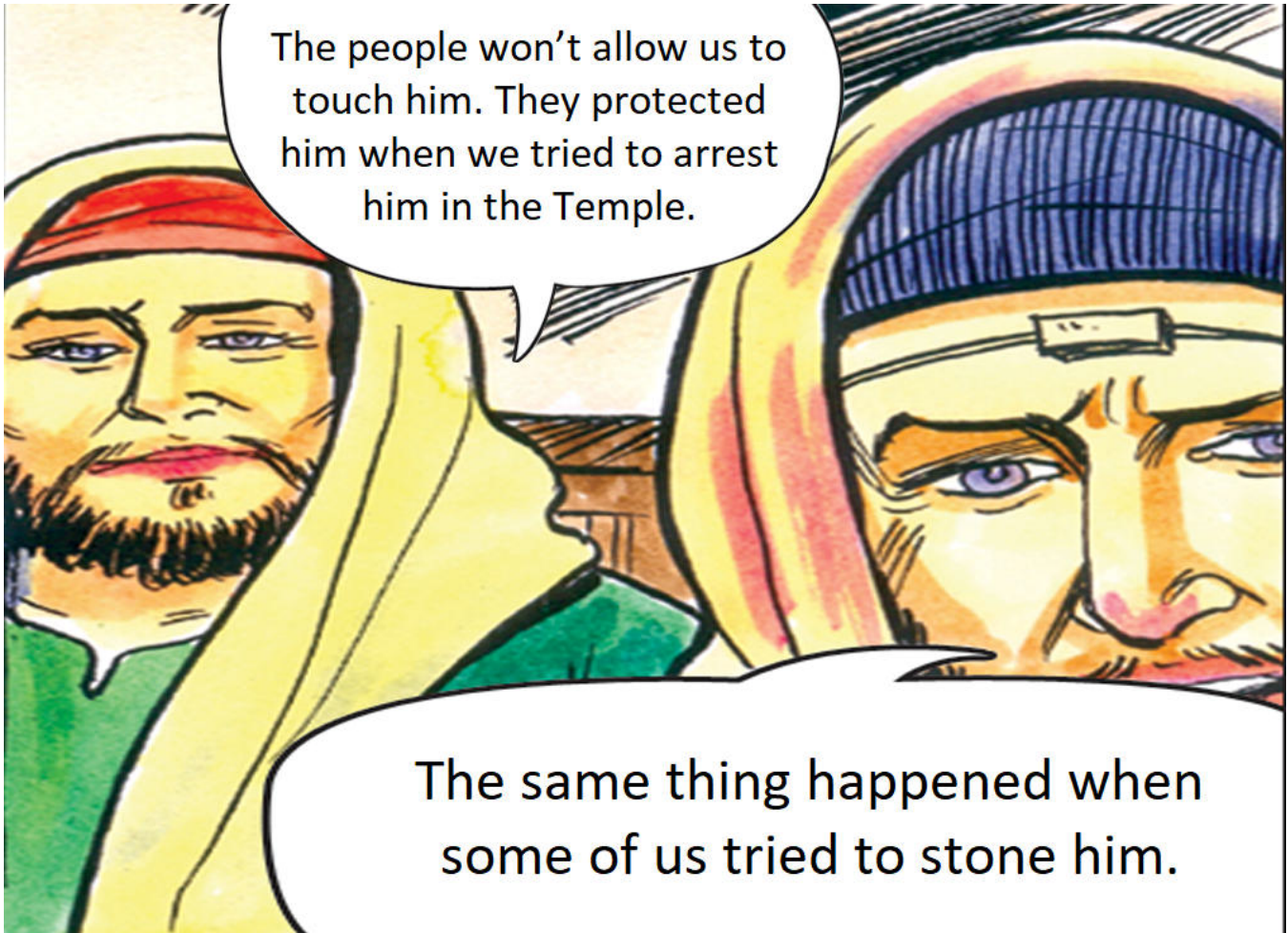
But, that is what this man is doing. Nay more, he claims to be the Son of the Most High, equal to the eternal one.



He is a false Prophet, leading people astray. Moses has commanded to stone false prophets to death.

It is better that this man dies, rather than the whole nation perish by apostasy and Roman invasion.





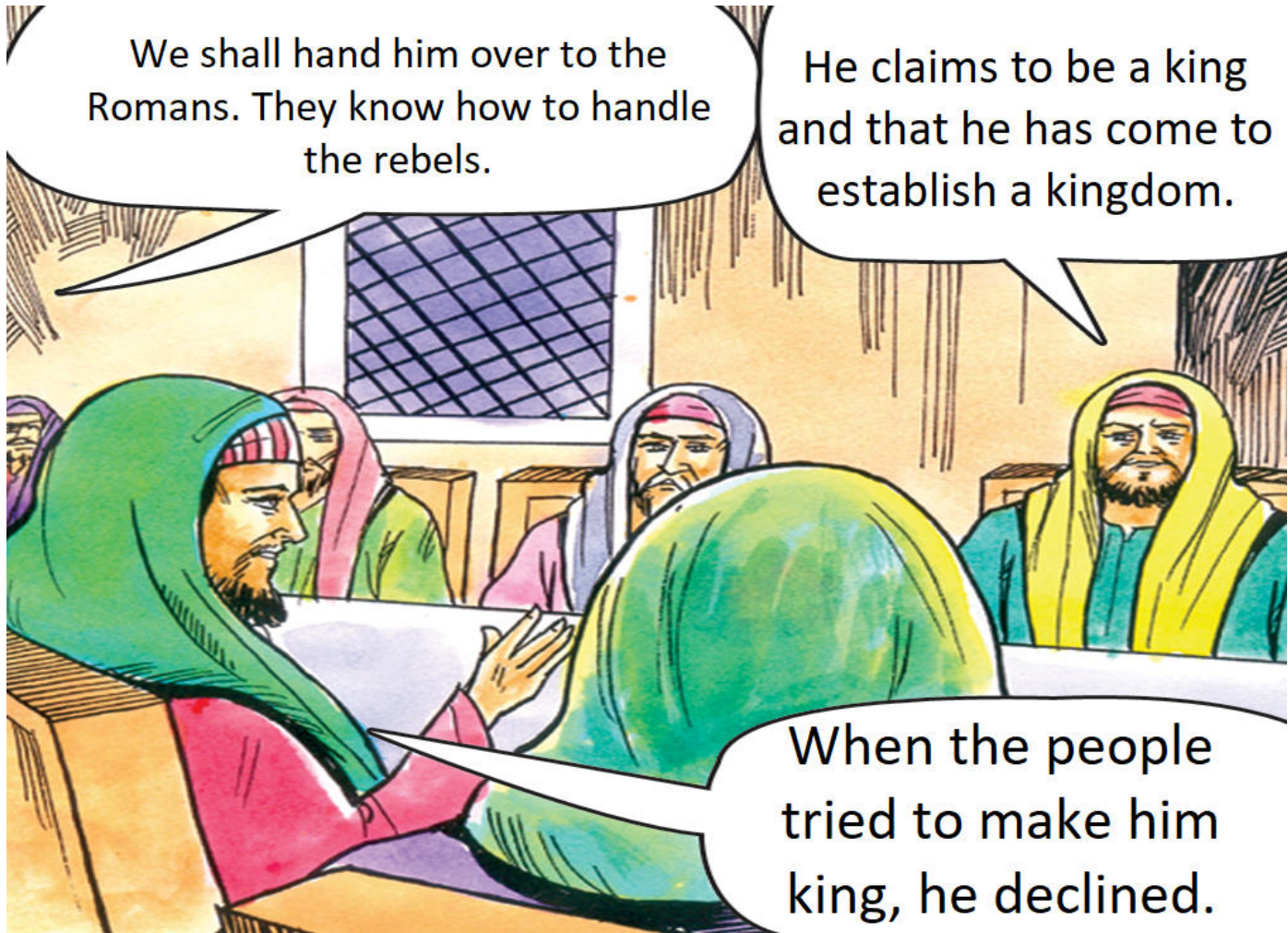
The people won't allow us to touch him. They protected him when we tried to arrest him in the Temple.

The same thing happened when some of us tried to stone him.

We shall hand him over to the Romans. They know how to handle the rebels.

He claims to be a king and that he has come to establish a kingdom.

When the people tried to make him king, he declined.



Then why did he
engineer a royal
entry into
Jerusalem?



After the Passover,
let us invite him for a
discussion.

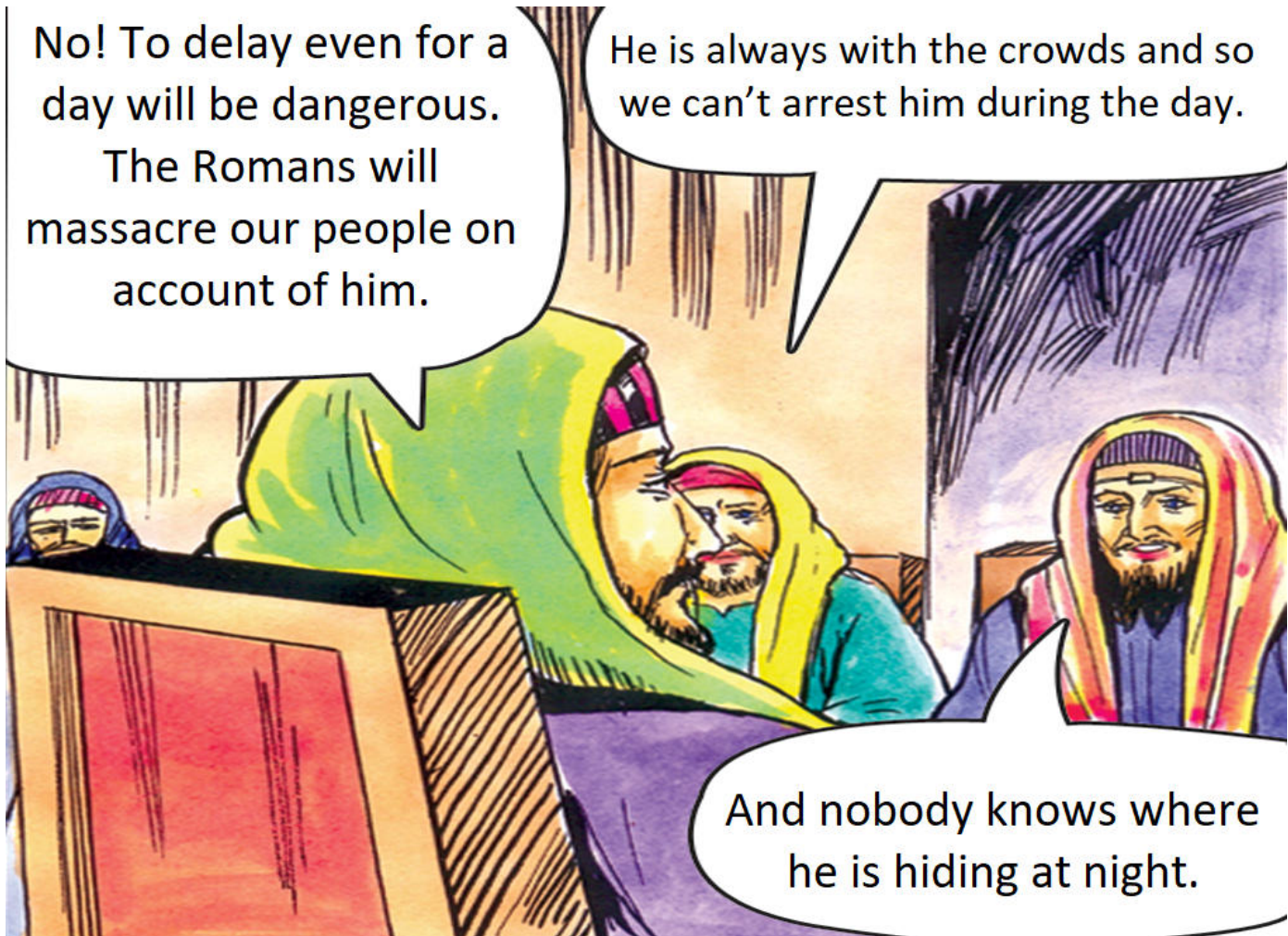


No! To delay even for a day will be dangerous.

The Romans will massacre our people on account of him.

He is always with the crowds and so we can't arrest him during the day.

And nobody knows where he is hiding at night.



I know someone who will help us to find him.

Then make arrangements to have him taken tonight. Tomorrow he shall appear before the council.

!!!



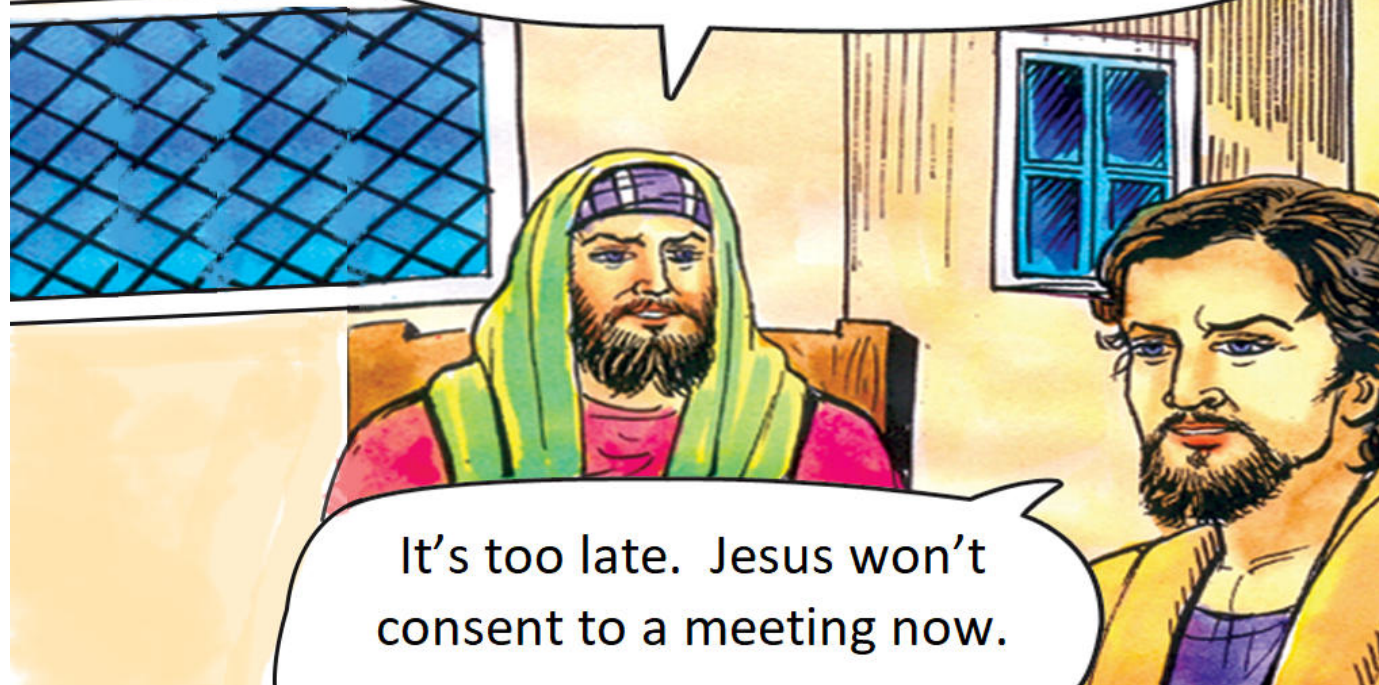


We mustn't close our
hearts to the voice of
God.

Rabbi Phinehas met with Judas Iscariot.

What we discussed the other day is all settled. Not only the High Priest but the whole Sanhedrin is ready to meet Jesus.

It's too late. Jesus won't consent to a meeting now.



Why not? If Jesus can prove himself to be the Messiah, the Sanhedrin will proclaim him King. Then we can free Barabbas and drive the Romans out.

I am not too sure about it. Aren't all the leaders against the Master?



No, he has a number of supporters. Only a few oppose him. We can persuade them also.

What if Jesus not ready for such a meeting?



We must force him. He must be brought to the High Priest tonight.

Why at night?



Tomorrow, early in morning
the Sanhedrin will meet.
They will hear what Jesus has
to say and make the
decision.



Is he the Christ, no
one can do anything
to him.

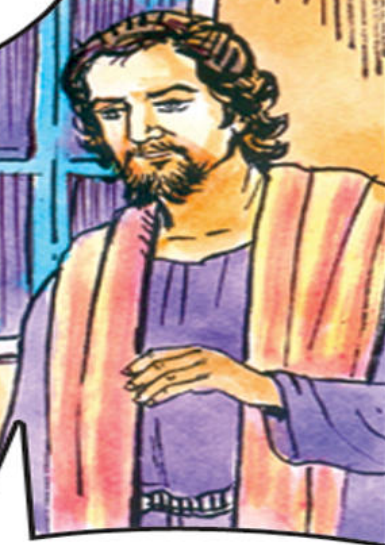
We saw that
already many
times.



But, if he is a false prophet, you will save Israel from a big disaster.



Anyway, you will be doing a great service to the people of Israel. When all is over you shall be rightly rewarded.



I shall come tonight.

When it was time, Jesus celebrated the Passover with the Apostles.

I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.



Until now the Passover was to
remember the liberation of our
Fathers from the
slavery in Egypt.



But, this is a new Passover
that marks the passing from
the slavery to the freedom of
life everlasting.



Jesus rose from the table, took off his outer garment, tied a towel around his waist and washed the disciples' feet.

Lord are you going to wash my feet? No, I cannot let you do that.

??!!

If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.



Then Lord has not only
my feet, but my hands
and head as well.

One who has taken a bath
is clean all over and needs
to wash only his feet.



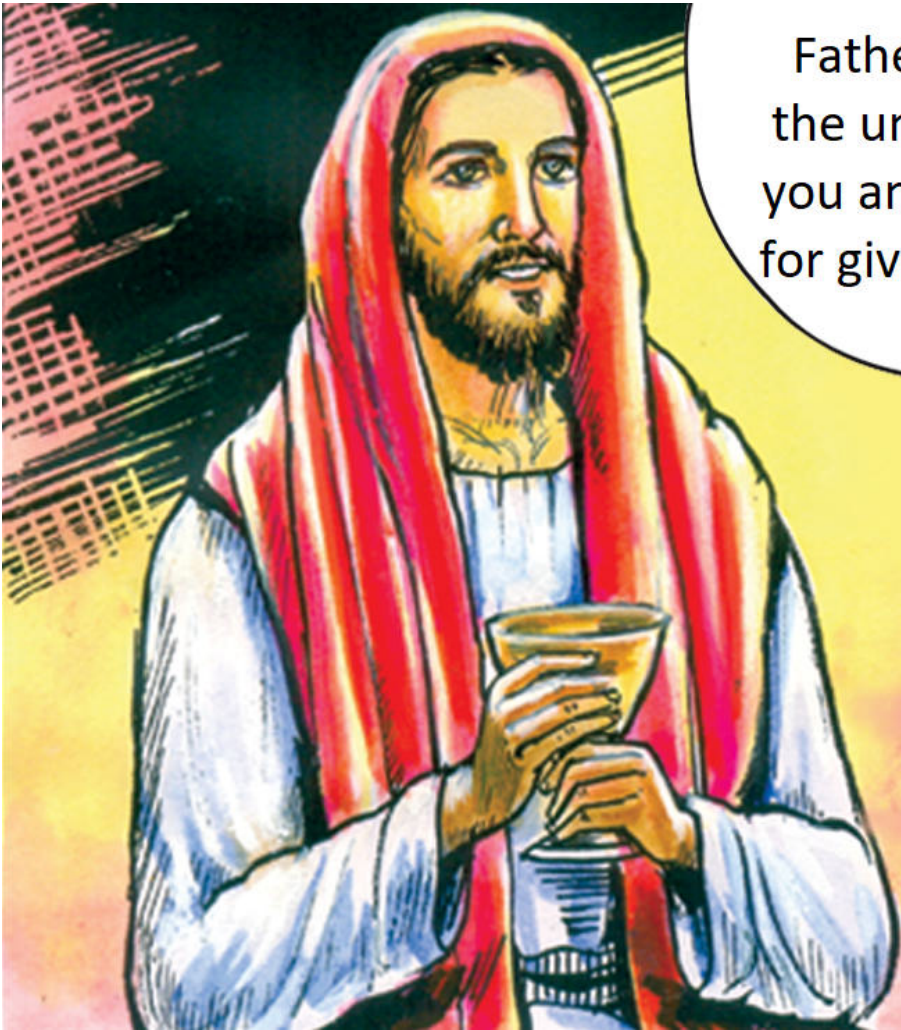


You too are clean
though not all of
you.

After washing their feet.

I have set an example for you. As I, your Master, and teacher washed your feet, you must wash each other's feet as well.





Father, the creator of
the universe, we praise
you and give you thanks
for giving us this wine to
drink.

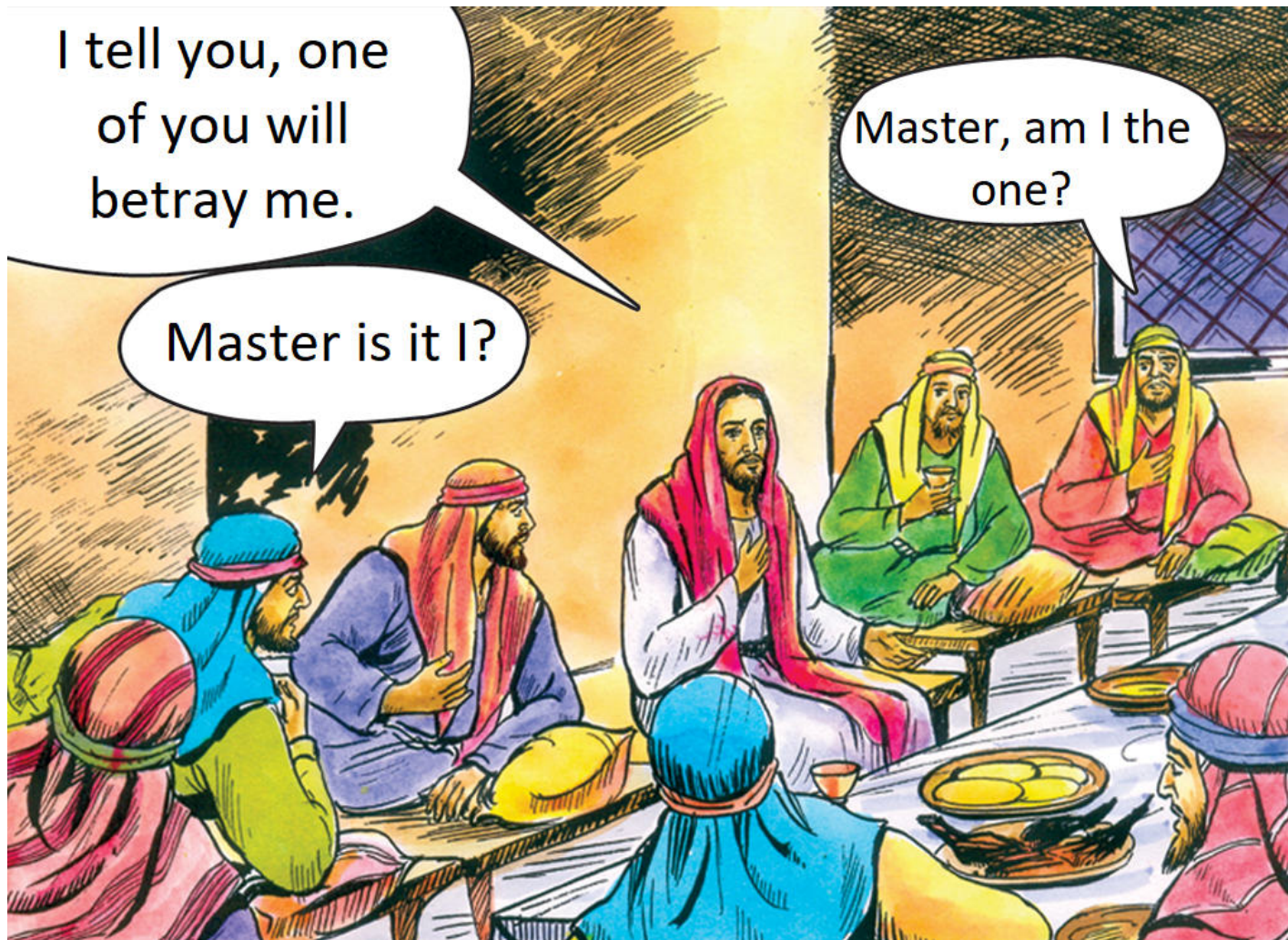
Take this and share among yourselves. I shall not drink the wine until the Kingdom of God comes.



I tell you, one
of you will
betray me.

Master is it I?

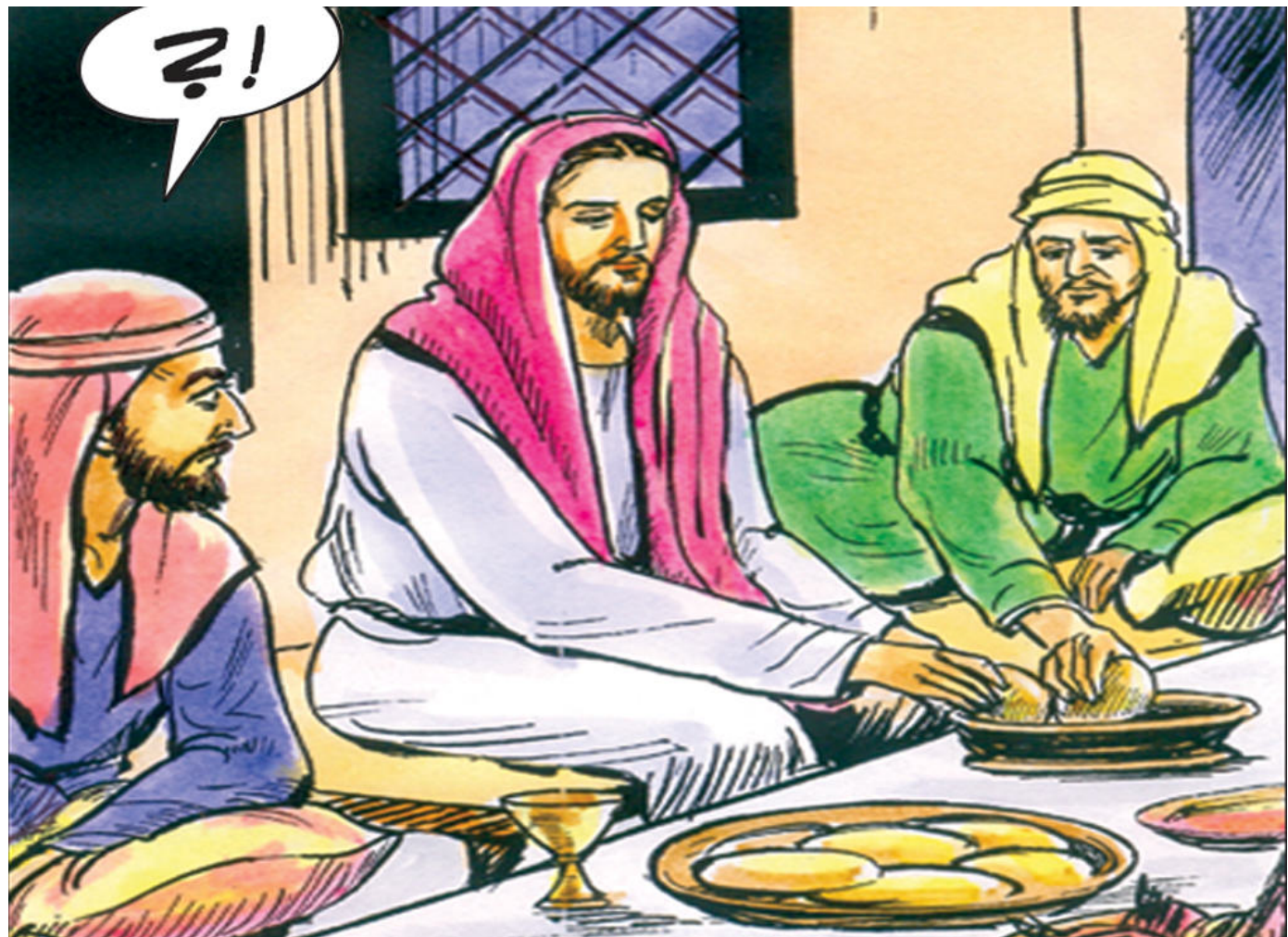
Master, am I the
one?



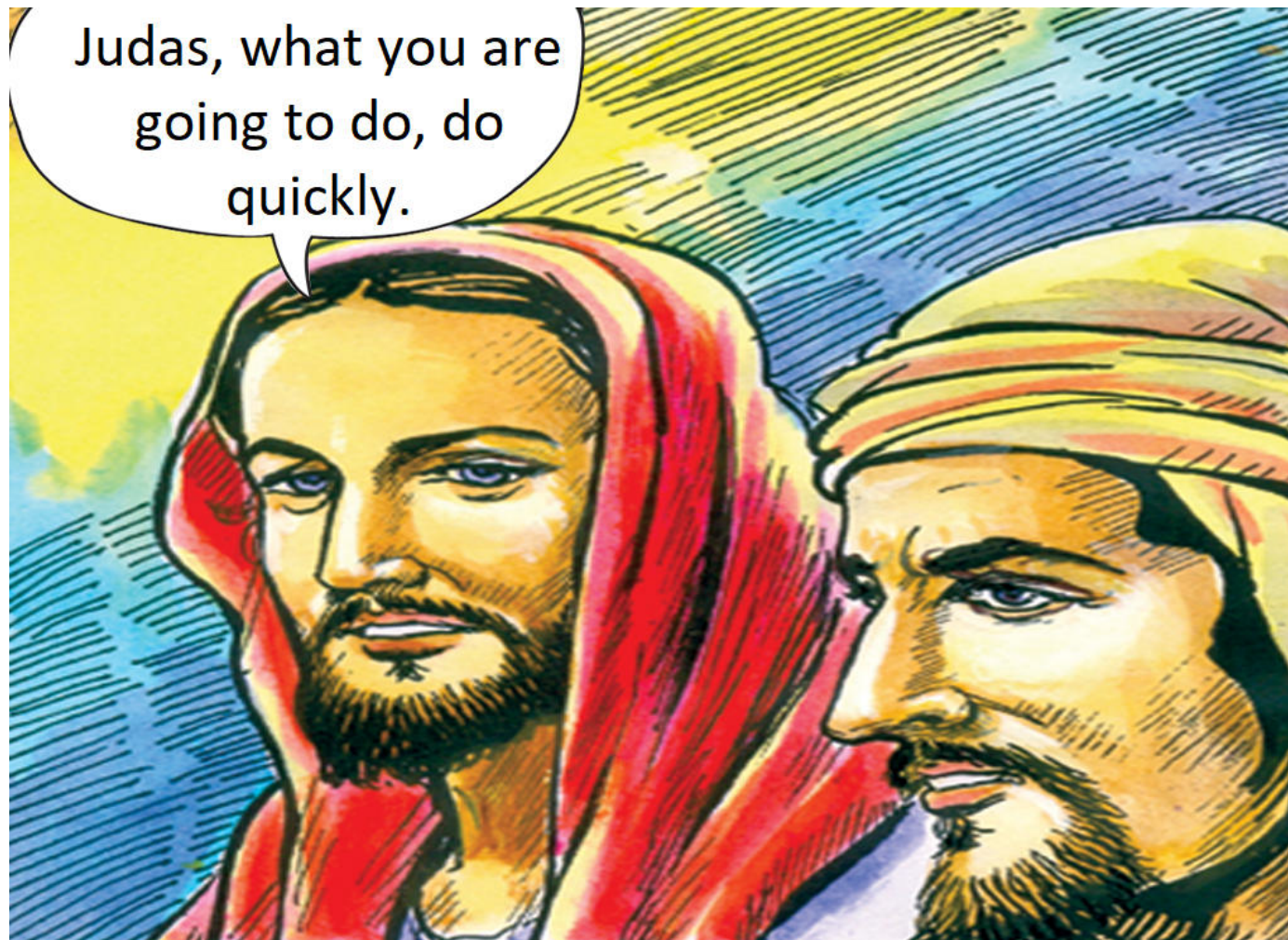
Who is it Lord?


It is the one who dips
the bread in the
sauce with me.





Judas, what you are
going to do, do
quickly.





Where is he
going in this
darkness?

May be the
Master asked him
to buy something
or to give alms.

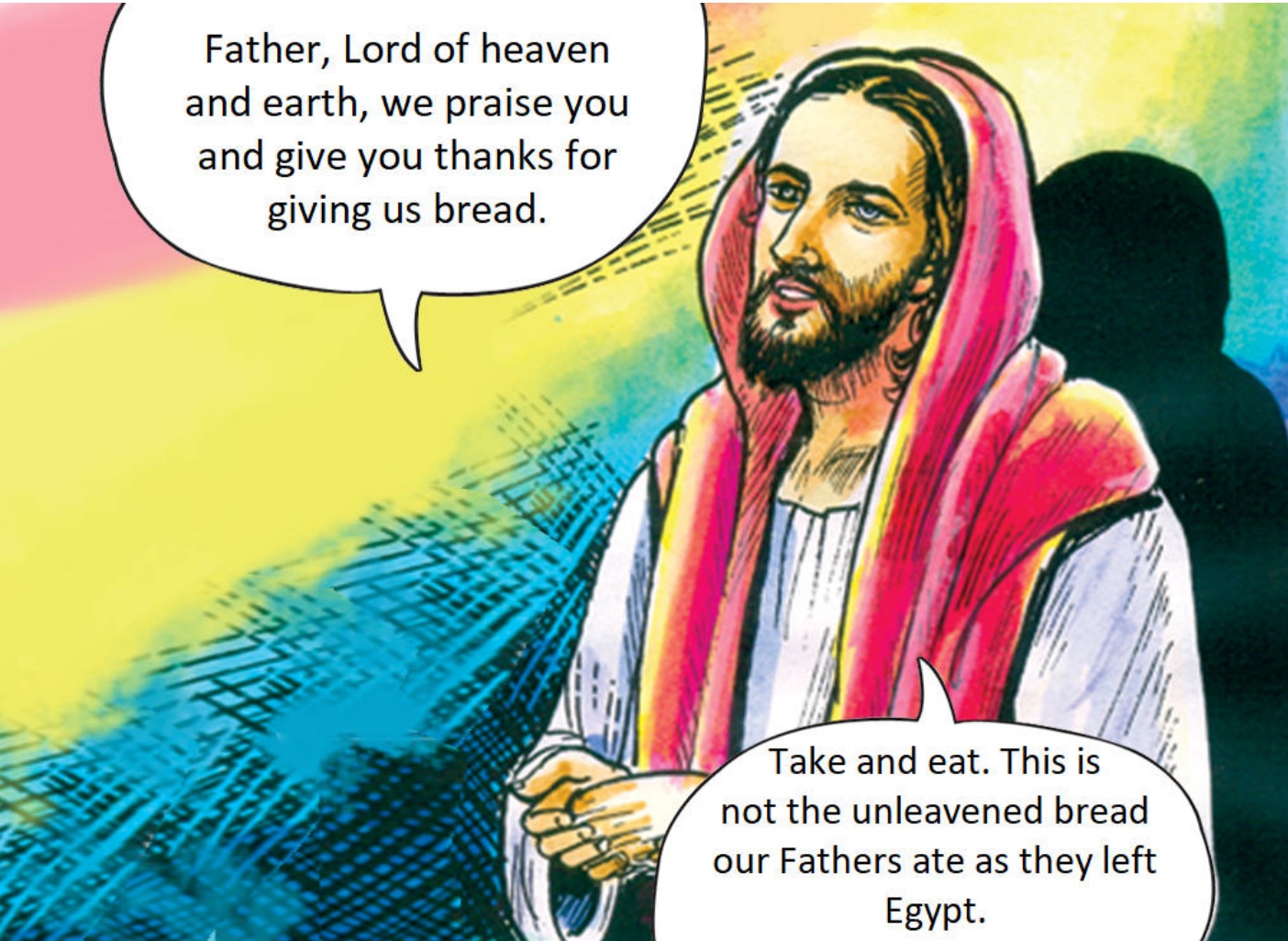
After Judas left.

Now the Son of Man has been glorified. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer.



I give you a new
commandment.
Love one another as I have
loved you.





Father, Lord of heaven
and earth, we praise you
and give you thanks for
giving us bread.

Take and eat. This is
not the unleavened bread
our Fathers ate as they left
Egypt.

This is my body which
is given for you.







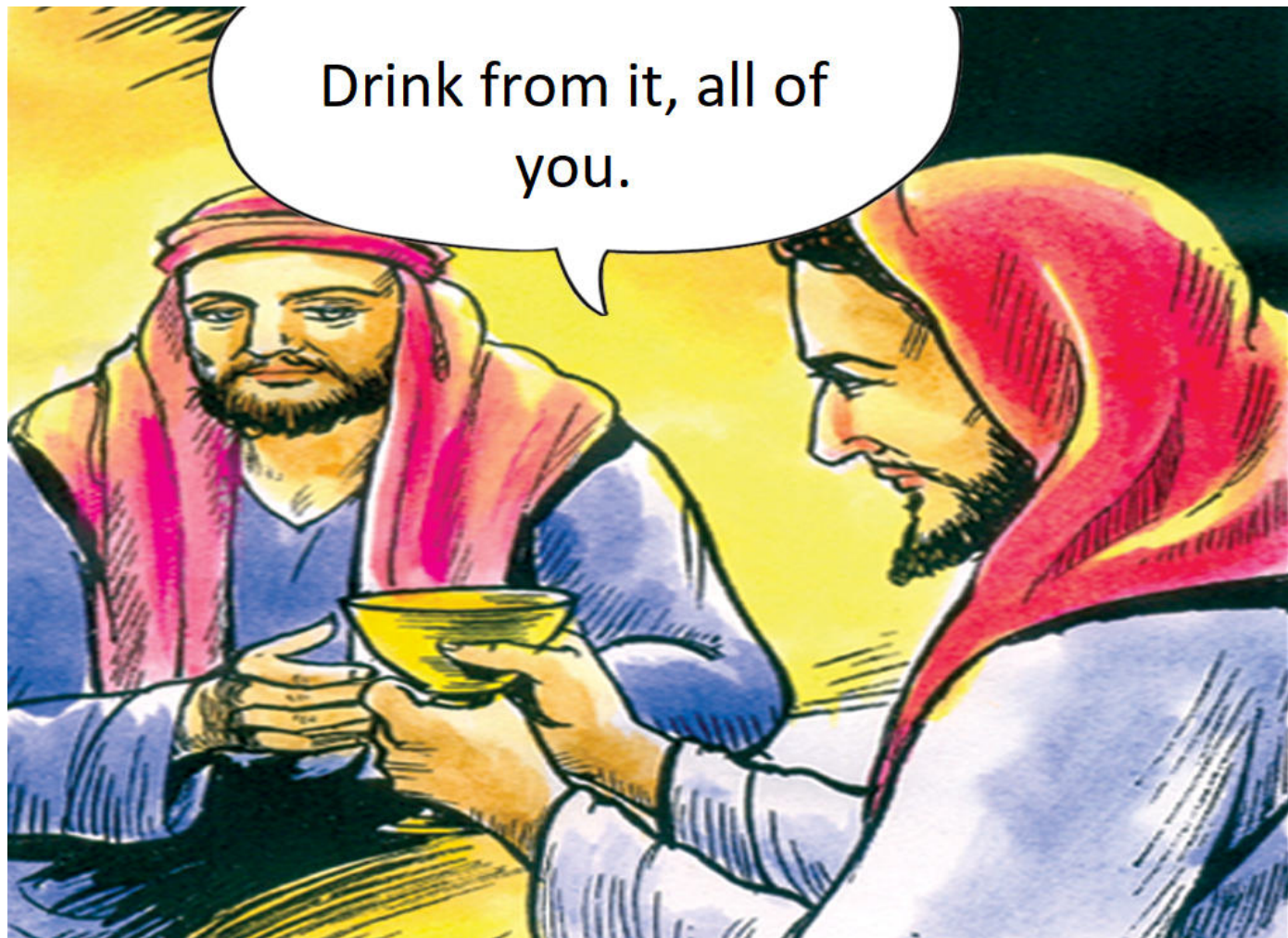
Do this in memory
of me.

After the supper he took the cup said the blessing and gave to them.

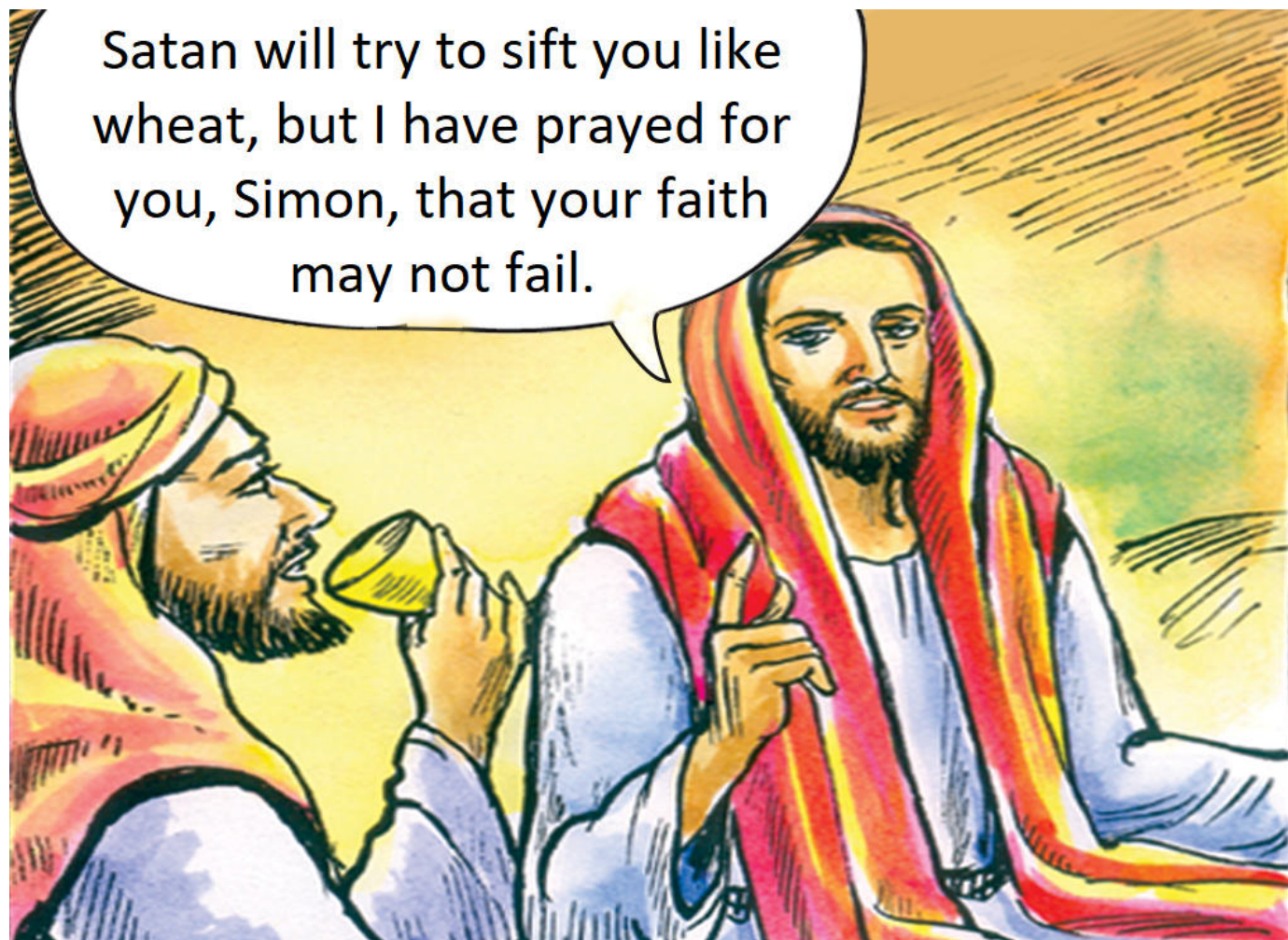
This cup is the New Covenant sealed with my blood which is poured out for you.



Drink from it, all of
you.



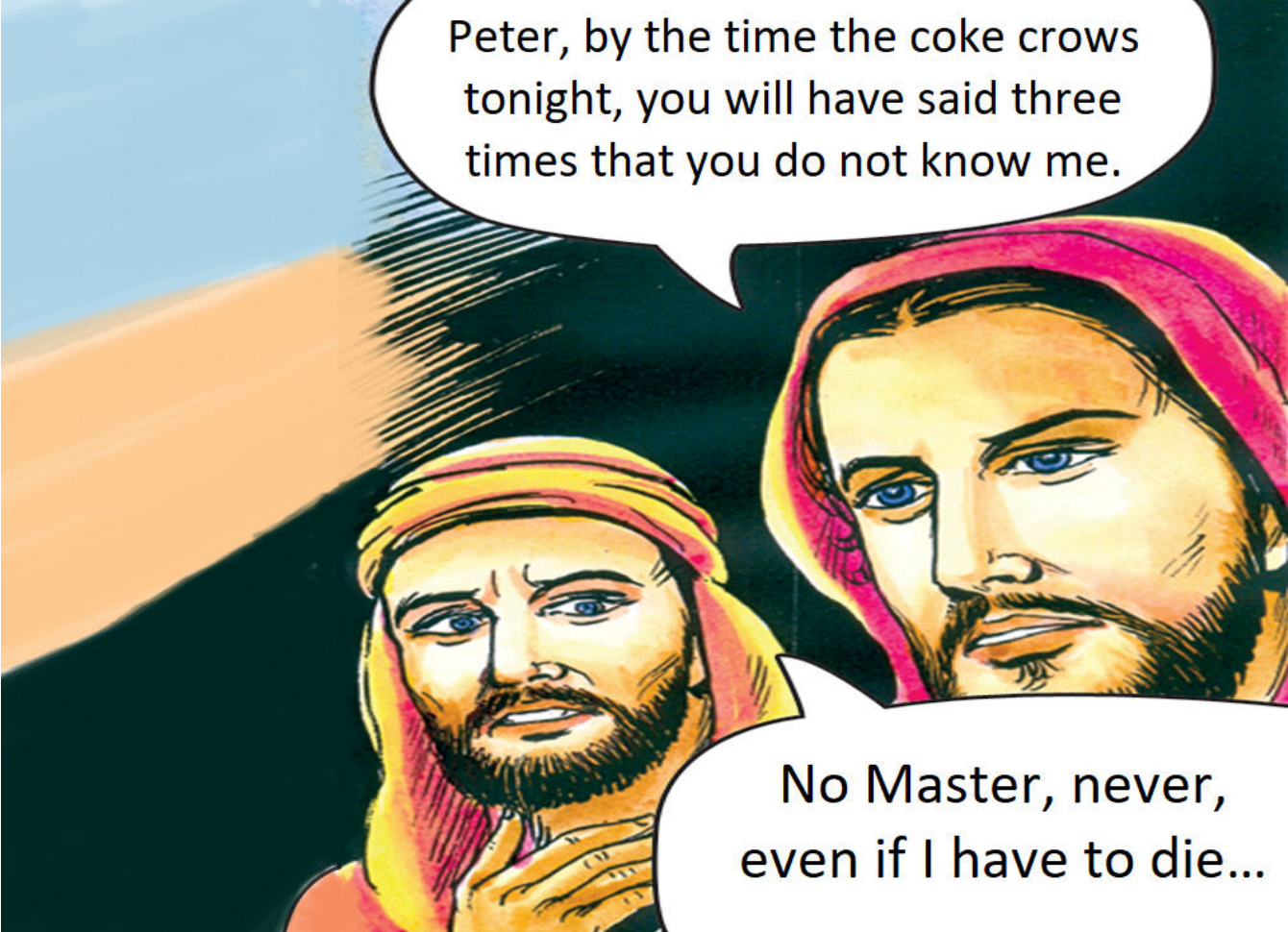
Satan will try to sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail.



Once you have recovered you must strengthen your brothers.

Master, I am even ready to go to prison with you.





Peter, by the time the cock crows tonight, you will have said three times that you do not know me.

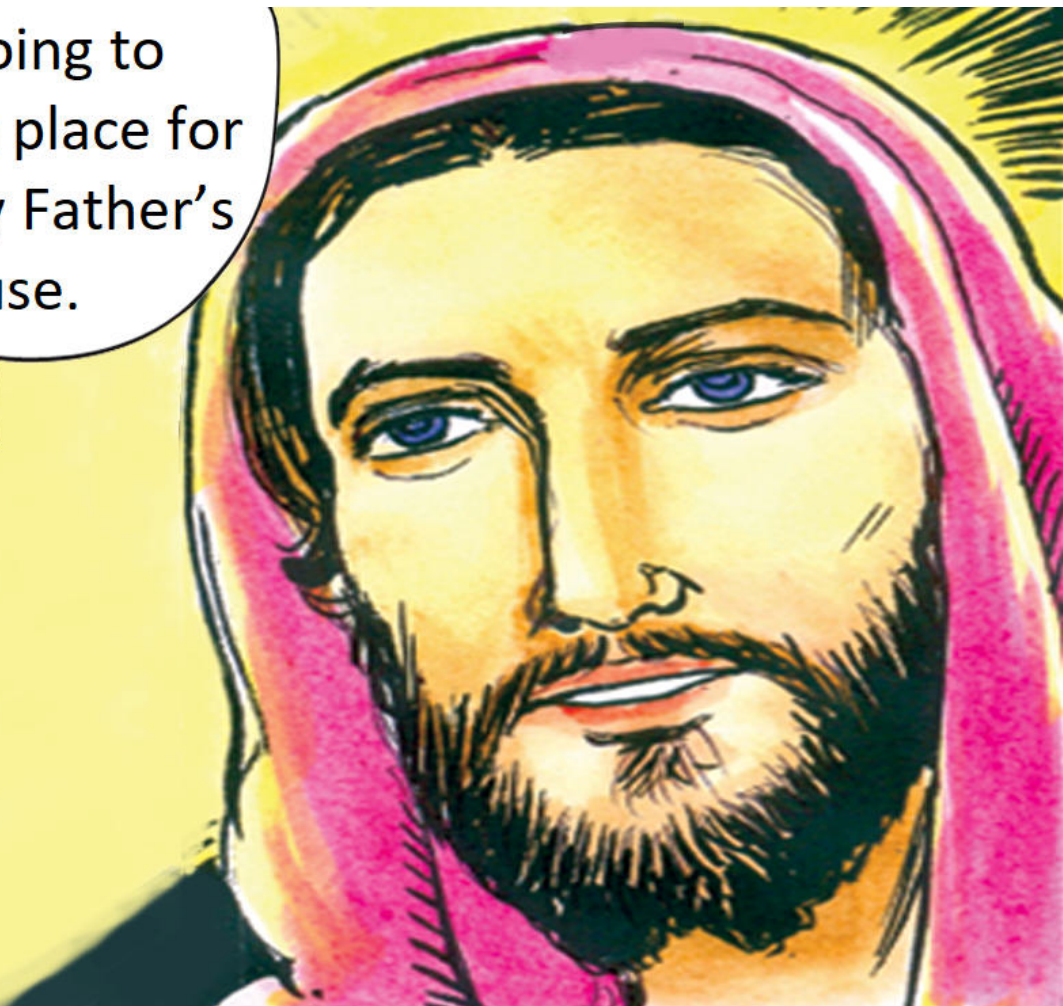
No Master, never, even if I have to die...

Tonight, all of you will
desert me. But, I am not
alone. The one who sent
me is with me.

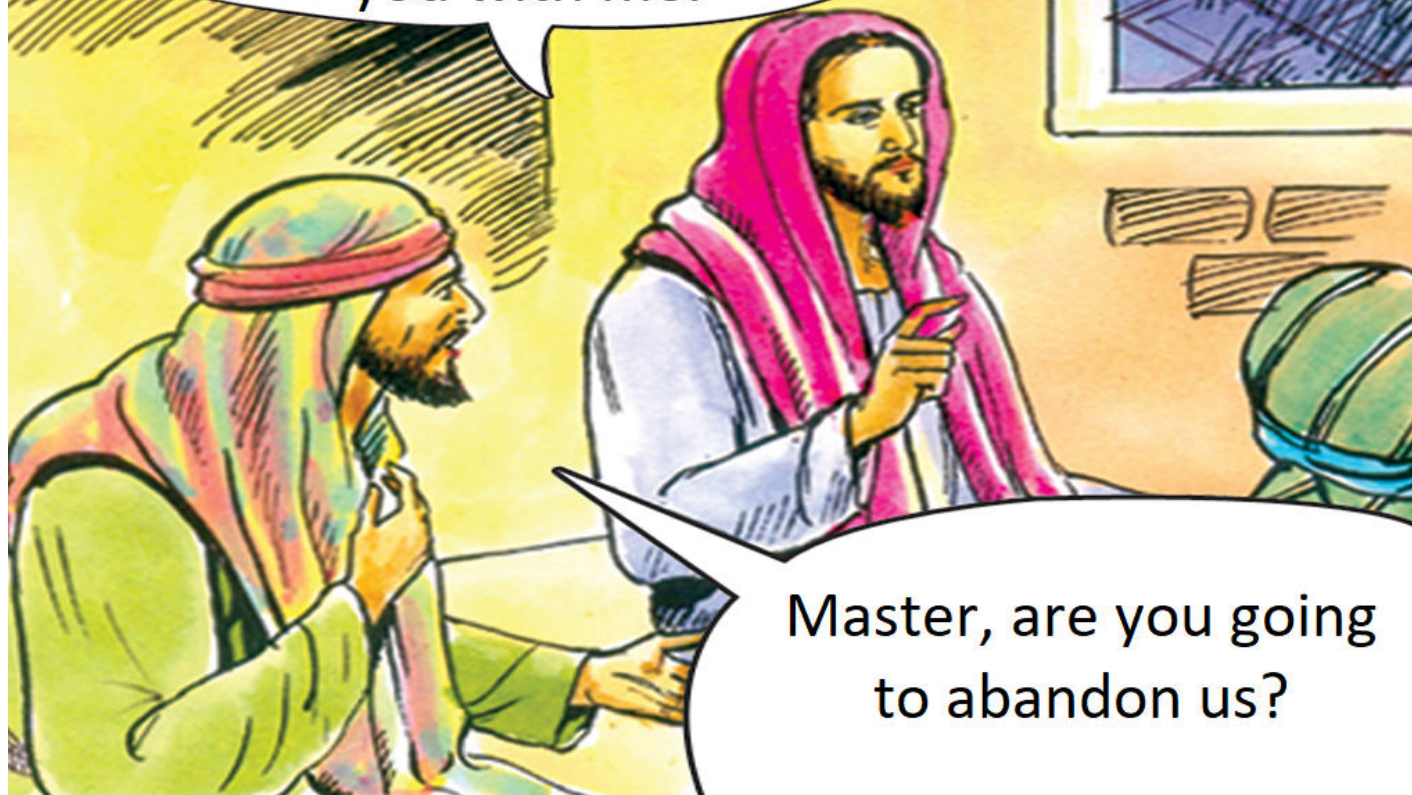
Lord, we have left
everything to follow
you. We shall never
leave you.



I am going to
prepare a place for
you in my Father's
house.



After I have prepared a place
for you, I shall return to take
you with me.

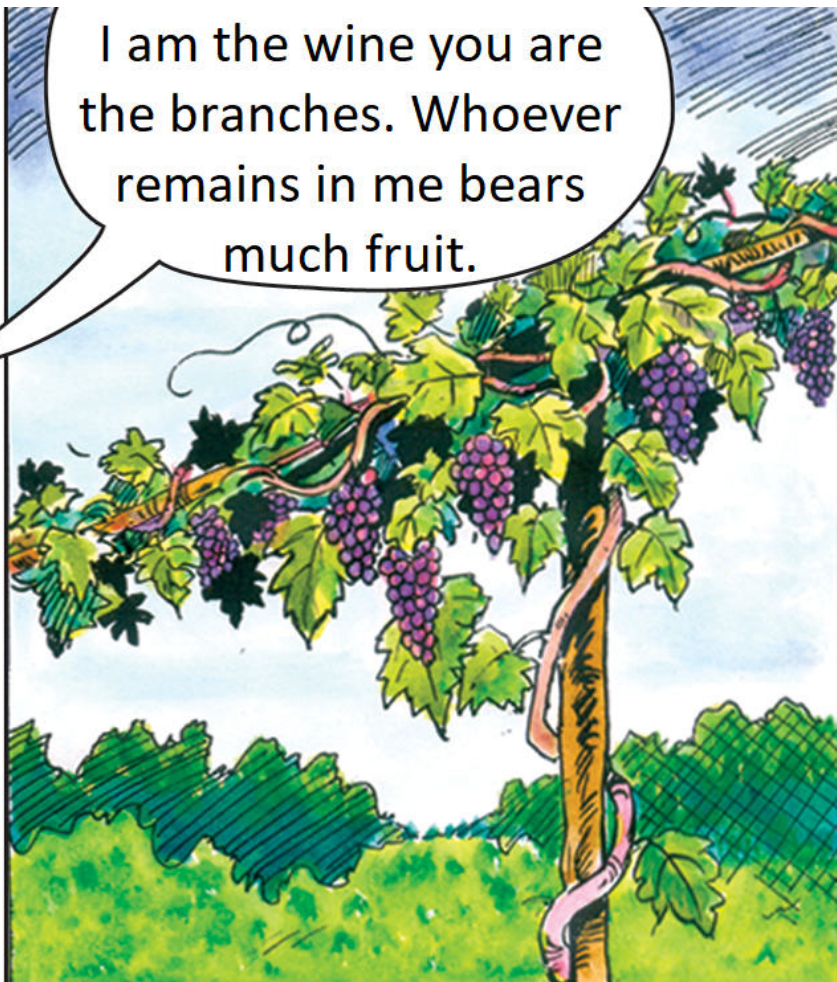


Master, are you going
to abandon us?

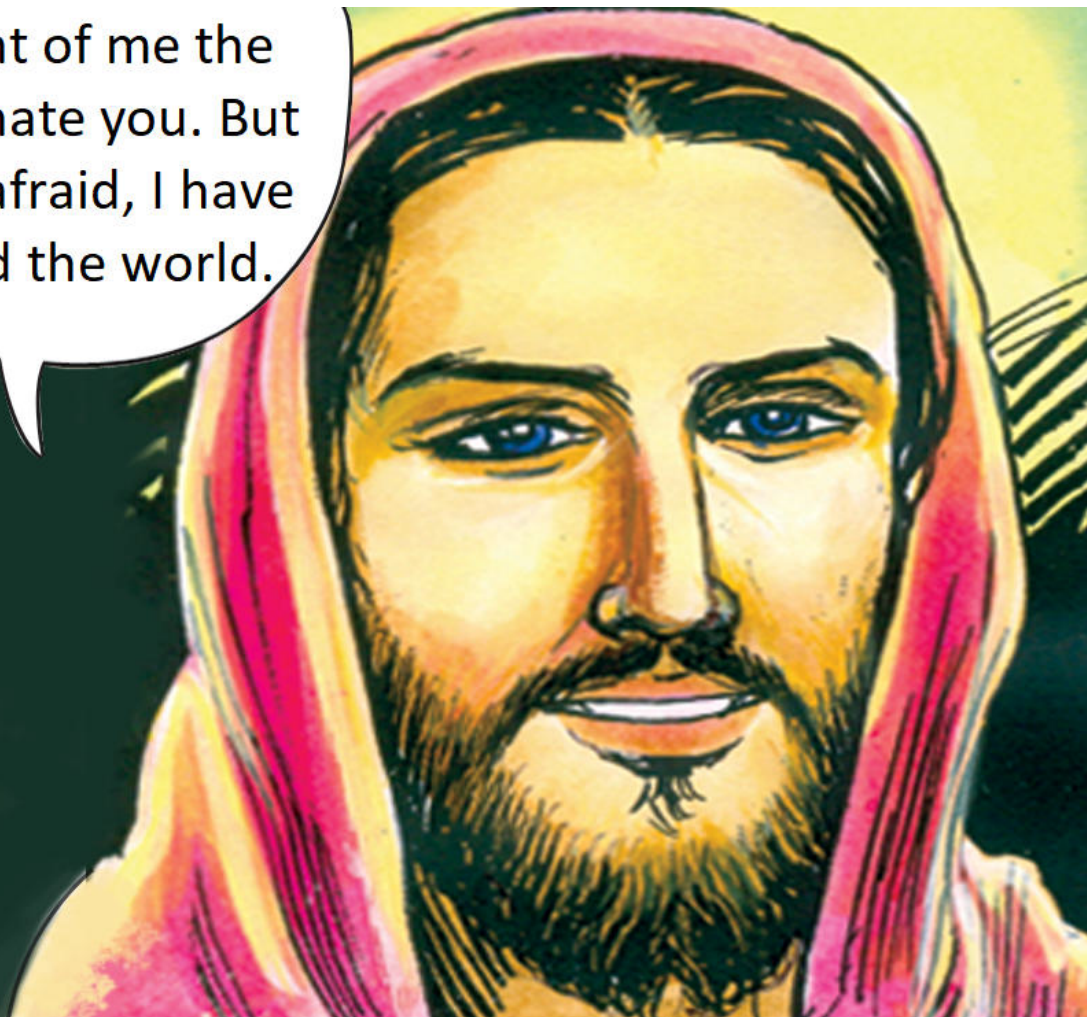
He will lead you to
the fullness of truth.
I am the way, the
truth and the life.



I am the wine you are
the branches. Whoever
remains in me bears
much fruit.



On account of me the world will hate you. But do not be afraid, I have conquered the world.

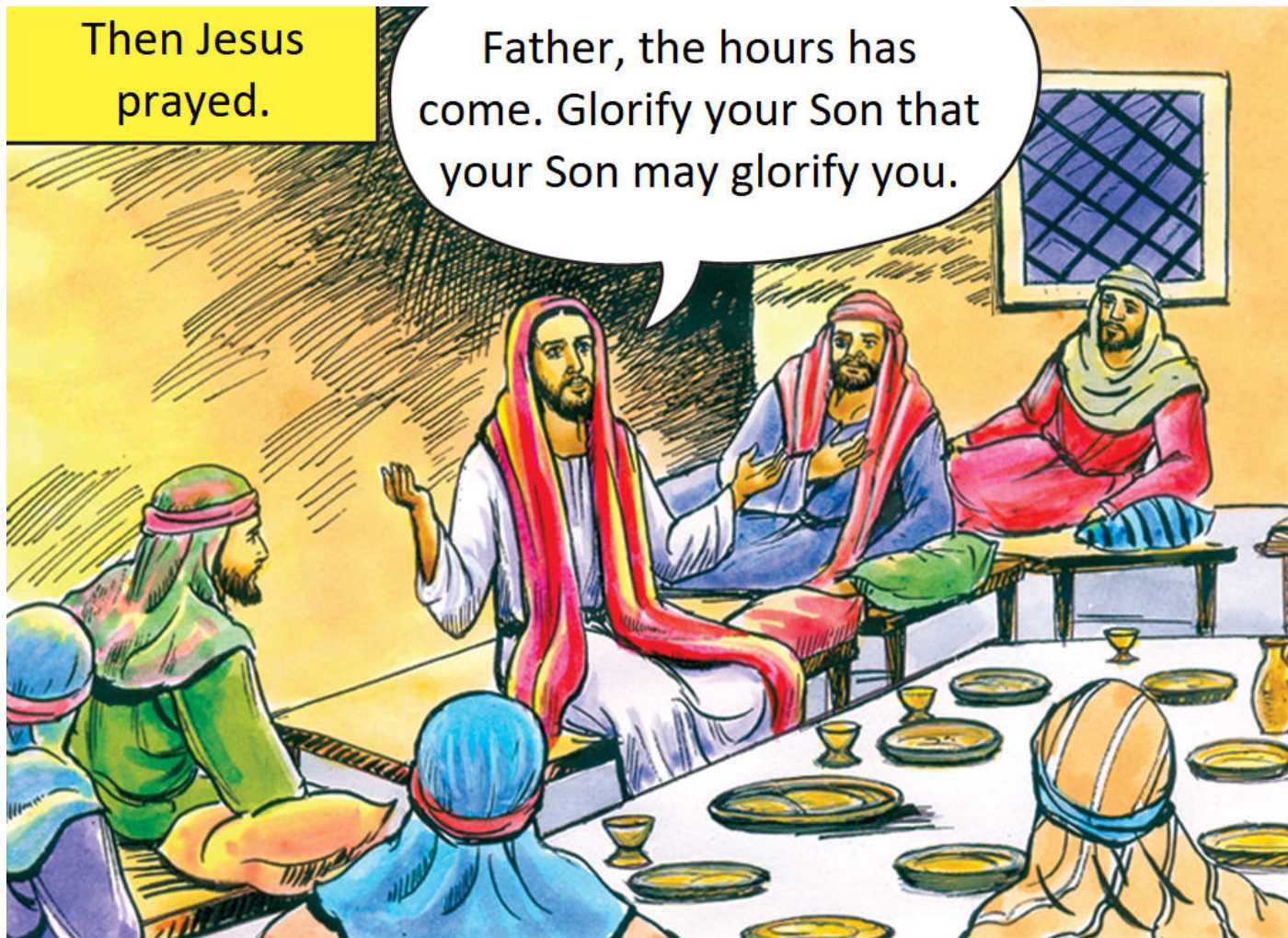


I give you my peace
which no one can take
away from you.



Then Jesus
prayed.

Father, the hours has
come. Glorify your Son that
your Son may glorify you.



When Jesus finished the prayer, they stood up and sang praise to God.

Halleluiah, Halleluiah.
Sing praise to God, sing
Praise. He is good. His
mercy endures forever.



After the Hymn of praise.

Come let us
go.



The innocent condemned.

Next Story

The Redeemer

Questions

1. Why did Jesus praise the poor widow?
2. What do you learn from the parable of the ten virgins?
3. Name the three things that, Jesus said, would weaken our mind.
4. What do you learn from the parable of the talents?
5. What is the criterion for the last judgment?
6. What is the significance of the Jewish Passover feast?
7. Why was a traitor needed to arrest Jesus?
8. What did Jesus teach by washing the feet of his disciples?
9. What is the new commandment of Jesus?
10. Jesus is “the bread of life”. Explain.

Memories: **“Love one another just as I have loved you”** (John 13, 34)

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