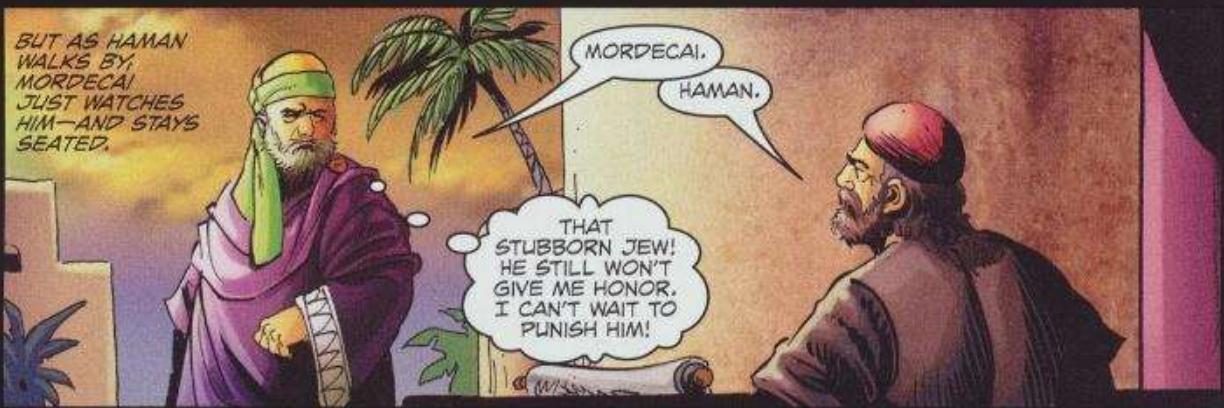


HAMAN LEAVES HIS MONARCHS' PRESENCE IN A GREAT MOOD. THE HONOR AND THE WINE HE HAS BEEN GIVEN MAKE HIM VERY HAPPY—UNTIL HE LEAVES THE PALACE.



THAT SAME NIGHT, THE KING CAN'T SLEEP.

I'LL HAVE A SERVANT READ ME THE PUBLIC RECORDS. THAT WILL PUT ME TO SLEEP.

THE SCRIBE READS TO THE KING UNTIL THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING. WHEN THE READING REACHES THE STORY OF MORDECAI, THE KING INTERRUPTS.

STOP! WHAT REWARD DID MORDECAI RECEIVE FOR SAVING MY LIFE?

NONE, MY LORD.

WELL, THAT'S NOT GOOD. I REALLY OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM.

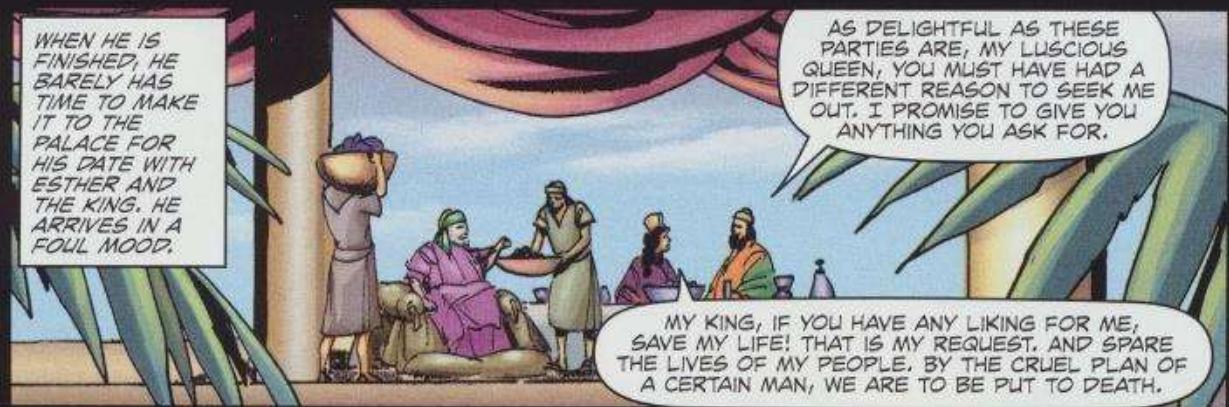
AT THAT MOMENT, HAMAN ENTERS THE COURT TO REQUEST MORDECAI'S HANGING.

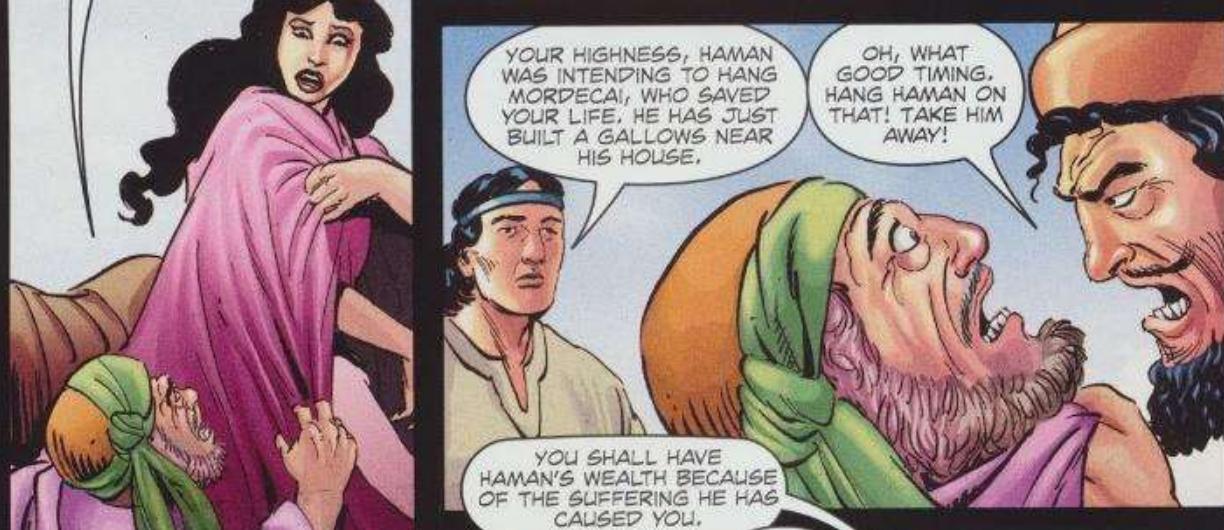
AH, HAMAN, YOU'RE JUST THE PERSON I NEED TO SEE. IF I WANTED TO HONOR YOU FOR PLEASING ME, WHAT WOULD YOU PREFER I DO?

OH! WELL, I'D WANT TO WEAR ONE OF YOUR ROBES—AND RIDE YOUR HORSE! THEN HAVE ONE OF YOUR NOBLES LEAD ME THROUGH THE CITY TELLING EVERYONE, "THE KING RESPECTS THIS MAN!"

I KNEW YOU'D HAVE A GREAT SUGGESTION! GET THE ROBE, AND GET THE HORSE. DO EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAID—FOR THAT JEW MORDECAI WHO WORKS AT MY GATES.

MORDECAI! BUT I— YES, SIRE.





BUT ESTHER KNOWS THIS IS NOT ENOUGH.

IF I HAVE PLEASED YOU, I BEG YOU TO TAKE BACK THE ORDER HAMAN SENT TO KILL ALL THE JEWS.

I WISH I COULD. BUT ACCORDING TO PERSIAN LAW, NO ONE—NOT EVEN THE KING—CAN CANCEL AN ORDER THAT HAS BEEN SEALED WITH THE KING'S RING.

BUT I CAN SEND A NEW ORDER!

THE ORDER IS WRITTEN AND RUSHED TO GOVERNORS THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE.

LISTEN—THE KING SAYS THE JEWS MAY CARRY WEAPONS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND THAT MORDECAI, A JEW, HAS BEEN MADE PRIME MINISTER.

AH! THE KING IS ON THE SIDE OF THE JEWS! WE'D BETTER BE TOO.

MAYBE I SHOULD BECOME JEWISH.

HAMAN CAST LOTS—PURIM—to destroy us, but instead we have been saved from our enemy. I've written an order that every year all Jews must celebrate this day. There should be much rejoicing and giving of gifts. It will be called THE FEAST OF PURIM.

ON THE 13TH DAY OF THE 12TH MONTH, THE JEWS THROUGHOUT THE PERSIAN EMPIRE GATHER TOGETHER TO DEFEND THEMSELVES. WITH THE HELP OF THE KING'S GOVERNORS, THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL. AND AT THE PALACE ...

JEWISH PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD STILL CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF PURIM.

The Captives Return

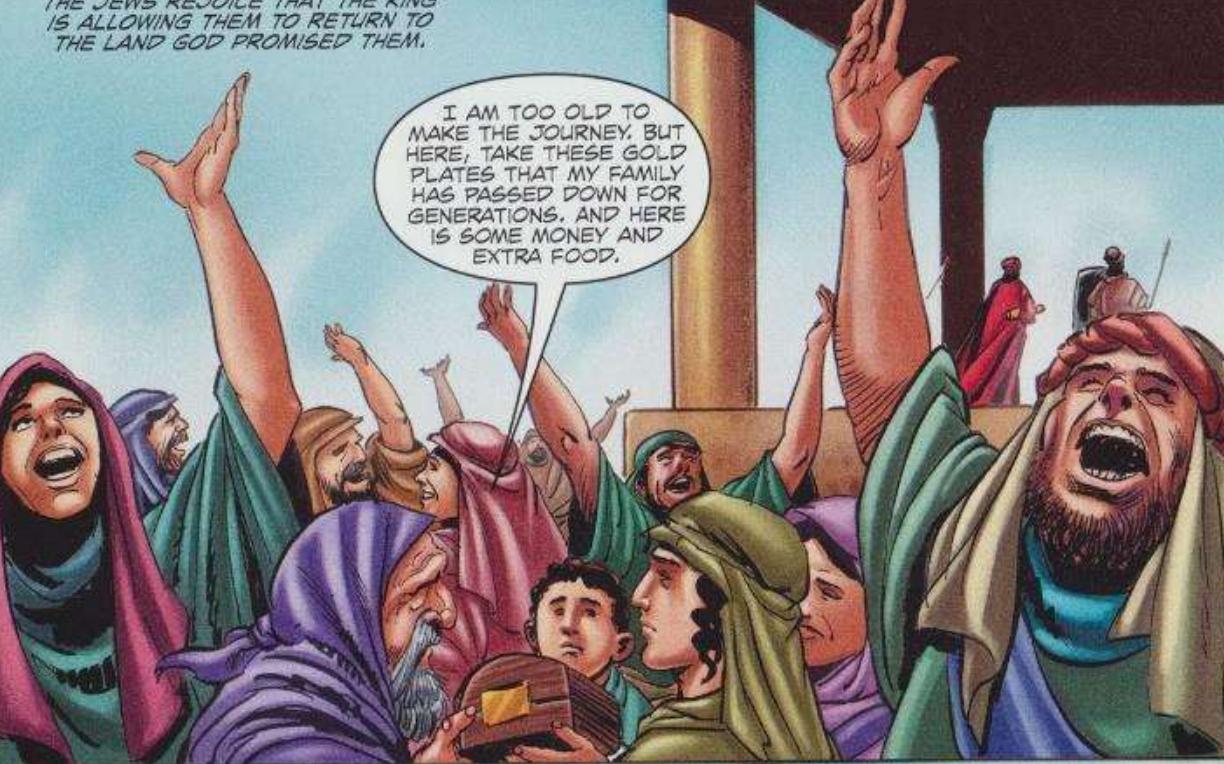
BASED ON EZRA 1-3; ISAIAH 45

EVEN AFTER MANY YEARS LIVING IN EXILE IN BABYLON AND PERSIA, THE JEWS STILL DREAM OF RETURNING TO THEIR HOMELAND, JUDAH. THE DIFFERENT PERSIAN KINGS HAVE MOSTLY TREATED THE JEWS WELL. WHEN KING CYRUS TAKES THE THRONE, ONE OF HIS FIRST ACTS IS TO ISSUE A DECREE.

THESE ARE THE WORDS OF KING CYRUS: "THE GOD OF ISRAEL COMMANDS THAT A HOUSE BE BUILT FOR HIM IN JERUSALEM. ANY OF HIS PEOPLE WHO WANT TO DO SO MAY RETURN."

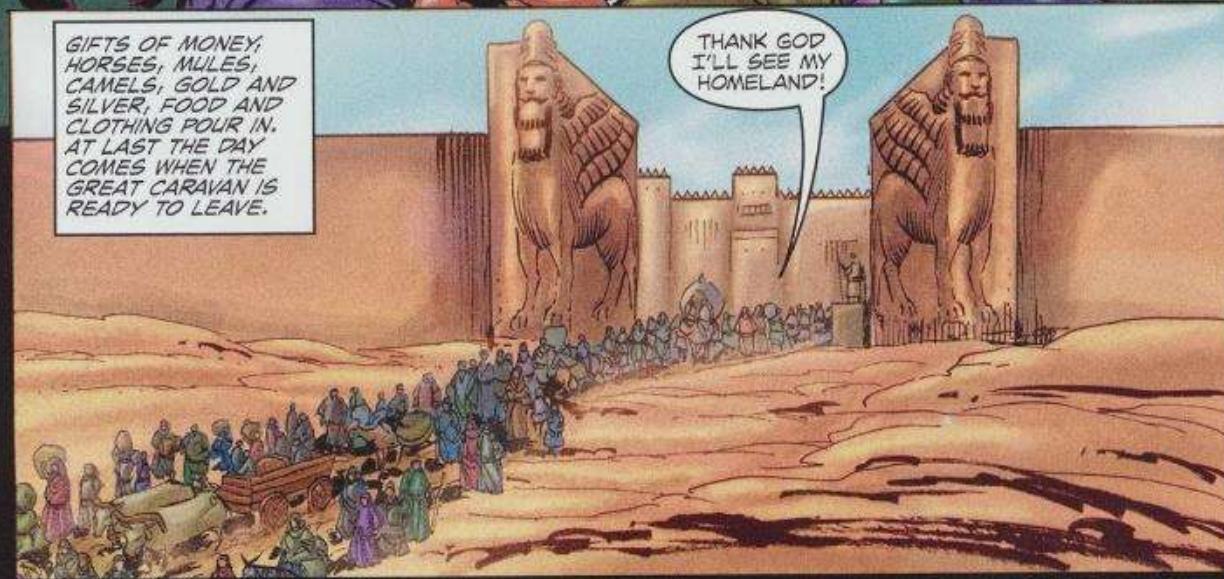


THE JEWS REJOICE THAT THE KING IS ALLOWING THEM TO RETURN TO THE LAND GOD PROMISED THEM.



GIFTS OF MONEY, HORSES, MULES, CAMELS, GOLD AND SILVER, FOOD AND CLOTHING POUR IN. AT LAST THE DAY COMES WHEN THE GREAT CARAVAN IS READY TO LEAVE.

THANK GOD I'LL SEE MY HOMELAND!



ON THE LONG ROAD HOME, THE JEWS FOLLOW THE SAME ROUTE THAT ABRAHAM, THE FATHER OF THE JEWISH NATION, TRAVELED 1,500 YEARS BEFORE WHEN HE OBEYED GOD'S COMMAND TO LEAVE UR AND MAKE A NEW NATION IN PALESTINE.

WHEN WE LEFT JERUSALEM, IT WAS IN FLAMES. I WONDER WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE NOW.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE RUINED CITY, THEY ARE BROKENHEARTED WHEN THEY WALK THROUGH THE RUBBLE OF JERUSALEM.

SOLOMON'S BEAUTIFUL TEMPLE STOOD OVER THERE.

WITH THE LORD'S HELP, IT WILL BE REBUILT.

OUR FAMILY BUILT THIS HOME WITH THEIR OWN HANDS. LOOK AT IT. NOW—IT'S A HOME FOR WILD DOGS.

MAYBE WE SHOULD NOT HAVE COME BACK. MAYBE ...

OUR FOREFATHERS BUILT MUCH OF THIS CITY. WE'LL REBUILD IT! JERUSALEM WILL RISE AGAIN—YOU'LL SEE!

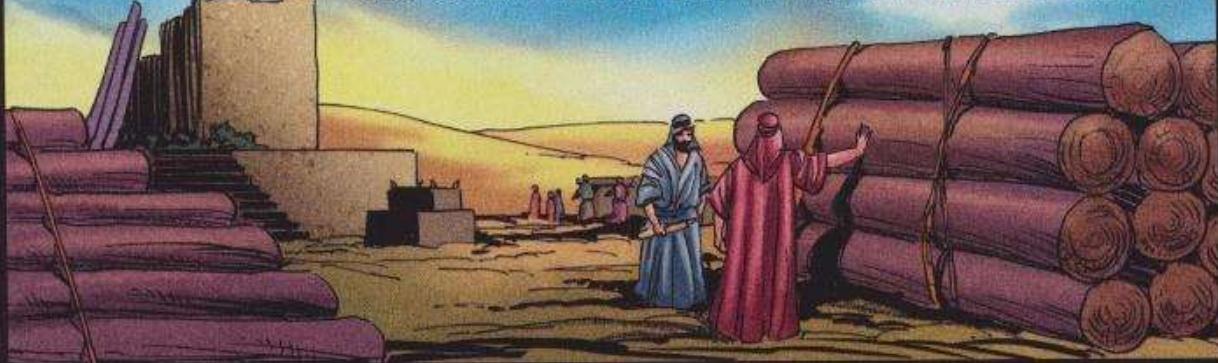
ALTHOUGH THE CITY OF JERUSALEM IS IN RUINS, THE JEWS WHO HAVE RETURNED FROM CAPTIVITY IN BABYLON SET TO WORK TO REBUILD IT. JESHUA AND ZERUBBABEL START BY REBUILDING THE ALTAR ON ITS OLD SPOT IN FRONT OF THE TEMPLE.



IN THE MIDST OF THE RUINS, THE JEWISH PEOPLE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS.



NEXT THEY SET ABOUT REBUILDING THE TEMPLE. THEY APPOINT LEVITES TO SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION. THEY SEND TO SIDON FOR THE BEST CEDAR LOGS, JUST LIKE SOLOMON USED WHEN HE BUILT THE TEMPLE ORIGINALLY.



WHEN THE FOUNDATION OF THE TEMPLE IS IN PLACE, THE HIGH PRIEST LEADS THE PEOPLE IN A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND REJOICING.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD. HIS FAITHFUL LOVE LASTS FOREVER.

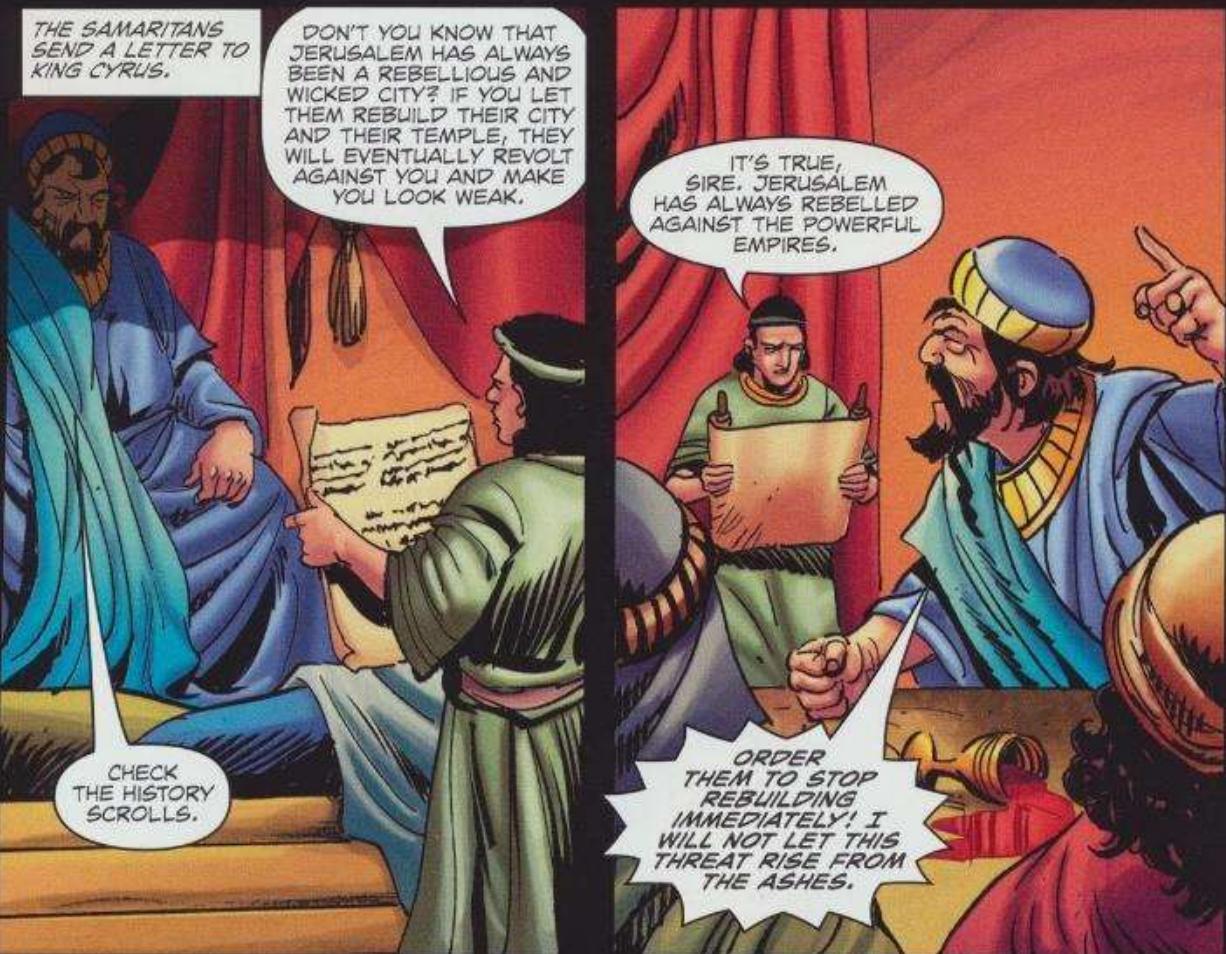


THE NOISE FROM THEIR CELEBRATION IS SO GREAT THAT IT CAN BE HEARD FROM MILES AWAY.

Temple Troubles

BASED ON EZRA 4-6;
HAGGAI; ZECHARIAH

BUT THE SOUND OF THE JEWS' REJOICING
BRINGS TROUBLE. THE SAMARITANS WHO
LIVE NEAR JERUSALEM COME WITH A
REQUEST TO HELP BUILD THE TEMPLE.



FORCED TO OBEY, THE JEWS TURN TO WORK ON THEIR HOMES AND GARDENS. SEVERAL YEARS PASS. CYRUS DIES, AND NEW KINGS COME TO THE THRONE OF PERSIA, BUT STILL THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM IS NOT COMPLETED.

HAGGAI

ONE DAY, HAGGAI, ONE OF THE PROPHETS IN JERUSALEM, RECEIVES A WORD FROM THE LORD. HE IMMEDIATELY GOES TO ZERUBBABEL AND JESHUA.

THE LORD WAS WONDERING: WHY HAVE YOU FINISHED BUILDING YOUR HOUSES, WHILE GOD'S HOUSE IS STILL IN RUINS?

ZERUBBABEL TRIES TO DEFEND HIMSELF.

WE WERE FOLLOWING THE LAW OF PERSIA. WE HAVE TOO MANY ENEMIES WHO DON'T WANT US TO REBUILD THE TEMPLE.

GOD SAYS, "DO NOT BE AFRAID OF YOUR ENEMIES. FINISH MY TEMPLE, FOR I AM WITH YOU."

WITH HAGGAI'S PROPHETIC ENCOURAGEMENT, THE JEWS RESUME WORK ON THE TEMPLE.

BUT THE GOVERNORS IN THE AREA ARE CONCERNED BY THE SUDDEN REBUILDING.

WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO BUILD THIS FORTRESS?

IT'S NOT A FORTRESS, IT'S THE TEMPLE TO OUR GOD THAT WAS DESTROYED BY THE BABYLONIANS MANY YEARS AGO. AND KING CYRUS HIMSELF GAVE US PERMISSION TO REBUILD IT—HE EVEN PAID FOR IT OUT OF THE ROYAL TREASURY.

WE'LL SEE IF THAT'S TRUE.

EVERYONE IS AGAINST US. WE'LL NEVER FINISH THE TEMPLE.

BUT ZECHARIAH, ANOTHER PROPHET AMONG THE RETURNED EXILES, COMES TO ZERUBBABEL WITH AN ENCOURAGING WORD.

EVEN IF YOUR OWN STRENGTH FAILS YOU, DO NOT LOSE HOPE. THE TEMPLE WILL NOT BE REBUILT BY STRENGTH OR POWER, BUT BY THE LORD'S HOLY SPIRIT.

WHEN THE GOVERNORS RETURN, THEY COME WITH GOOD NEWS FOR THE JEWS IN JERUSALEM.

IT TURNS OUT THE PERSIANS REALLY DID MAKE A LAW THAT YOU COULD REBUILD YOUR TEMPLE, AND PERSIAN LAW CANNOT BE CHANGED. THE NEW KING EVEN SAID THAT HE WOULD PAY FOR ALL THE SUPPLIES YOU NEED.

THANK YOU, LORD, FOR FULFILLING YOUR PROMISE!

AT LAST, THE NEW TEMPLE OF GOD IS FINISHED. WITH THANKFUL HEARTS, THE PEOPLE OFFER THEIR SACRIFICES AND PRAYERS TO GOD. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN GENERATIONS, THEY CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER FESTIVAL IN THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM.

Enter Ezra

BASED ON EZRA 7-10

THE JEWS HAVE NOW BEEN BACK IN JERUSALEM FOR 80 YEARS. EVEN THOUGH THE NEW TEMPLE IS FINISHED, THE CITY—AND MORE IMPORTANT, THEIR WORSHIP—STILL HAS NOT BEEN REPAIRED.

ONE DAY, A FINE PROCESSION APPROACHES THE CITY. THE JEWS SWARM THE ROAD TO MEET THIS RICH PARADE.

WHO ARE YOU?

I AM EZRA, A PRIEST WHO SERVED THE LORD IN BABYLON. THE GOOD HAND OF THE LORD WAS UPON ME, AND SO KING ARTAXERXES HAS GIVEN ME AUTHORITY IN JERUSALEM.

YOU HAVE BEEN TOO LONG WITHOUT SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP. YOU MAY HAVE REBUILT THE TEMPLE, BUT NOW WE MUST REBUILD THE PURITY OF WORSHIP AND GOD'S LAW.

I WILL. REMEMBER, WE MUST BE HOLY BECAUSE OUR GOD IS HOLY.

YOU ARE RIGHT. WE HAVE NOT WORSHIPPED GOD LIKE WE SHOULD. HELP US RENEW OUR FAITH IN GOD!

UNDER EZRA, JERUSALEM GROWS IN SIZE AND SPIRITUAL STRENGTH, BUT THE CITY IS STILL WITHOUT WALLS AND SURROUNDED BY HOSTILE NEIGHBORS.

Wall Warriors

BASED ON NEHEMIAH



THE JEWISH EXILES WHO HAVE RETURNED FROM PERSIA TO JERUSALEM HAVE FINALLY SETTLED IN THEIR OLD CITY. THEY'VE BUILT HOUSES AND NEIGHBORHOODS FOR THEMSELVES; THEY'VE REBUILT THE TEMPLE TO MATCH ITS FORMER GLORY, AND UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF EZRA, THEY'VE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD. BUT THEY HAVE NOT YET HAD THE CHANCE TO REBUILD THE OLD WALLS.

THAT NIGHT, WHILE THE CITY SLEEPS, A STRANGER AND HIS GUARDS RIDE AROUND JERUSALEM. THE STRANGER EXAMINES THE WALLS.



THE CITY COULD BE WIPEP OUT IN ONE QUICK ATTACK.

YOU'RE RIGHT, NEHEMIAH. BUT IT MUST HAVE BEEN A GREAT FORTRESS AT ONE TIME. THESE WALLS ARE AS THICK AS ANY WE HAVE IN PERSIA.

THE NEXT DAY NEHEMIAH CALLS ON THE PRIESTS AND RULERS OF THE CITY.

I HAVE EXAMINED THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM. THEY ARE JUST HEAPS OF BROKEN STONE. THE CITY IS DEFENSELESS.

YOU'RE
RIGHT, BUT
WHY—

WHY HAVE I
COME? BECAUSE
I, TOO, AM A JEW. AND
WHILE I WAS SERVING THE
KING OF PERSIA AS HIS CUP-
BEARER, I LEARNED THAT
JERUSALEM WAS WITHOUT
ANY DEFENSE. I PRAYED TO
GOD, AND THE KING GAVE ME
PERMISSION TO COME AND
BUILD UP THE WALLS.
ARE YOU WITH ME?

WE ARE!
WE'LL GET
STARTED RIGHT
AWAY.

THE WORK BEGINS. EVERY ABLE-
BODIED MAN AND BOY DOES HIS
PART. THE WOMEN HELP ...

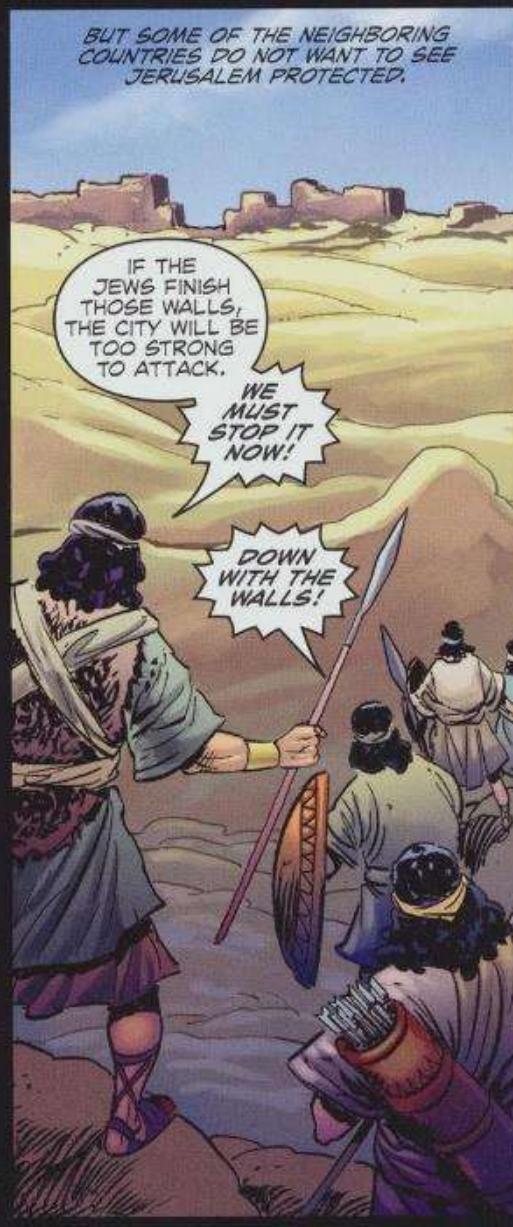
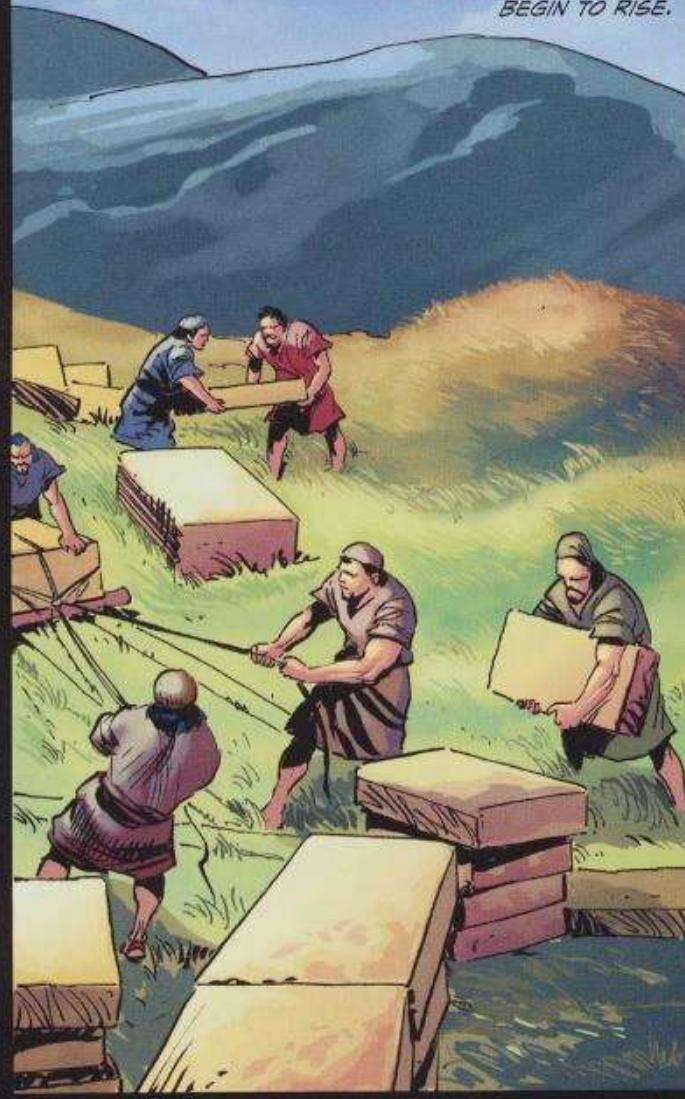
... AND SLOWLY THE WALLS
BEGIN TO RISE.

BUT SOME OF THE NEIGHBORING
COUNTRIES DO NOT WANT TO SEE
JERUSALEM PROTECTED.

IF THE
JEWISH
FAMILY
FINISH
THOSE WALLS,
THE CITY WILL BE
TOO STRONG
TO ATTACK.

WE
MUST
STOP IT
NOW!

DOWN
WITH THE
WALLS!



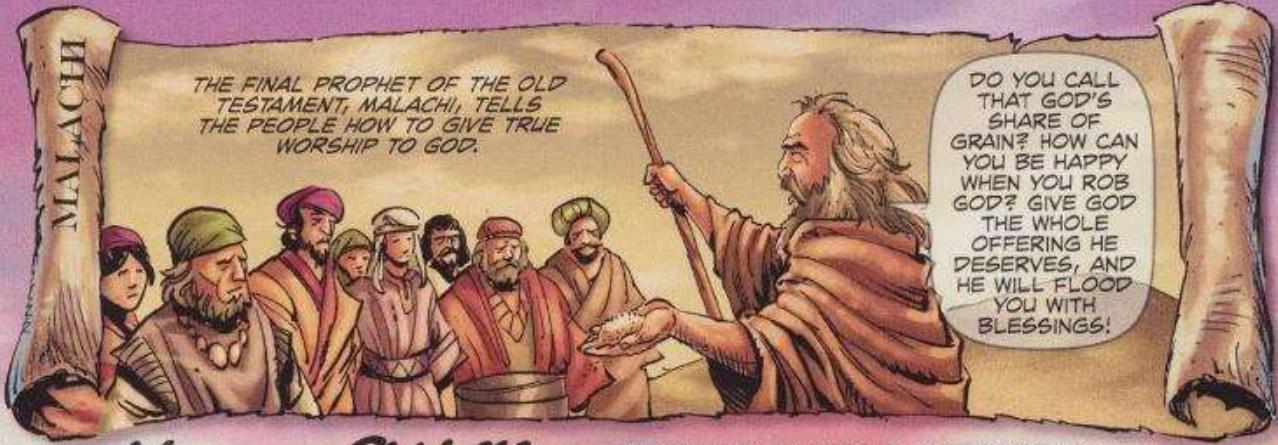
BUT WHILE THE ENEMIES OF JERUSALEM PLAN TO TAKE THE CITY, NEHEMIAH PREPARES TO DEFEND IT.

WE DON'T HAVE AN ARMY—ONLY OURSELVES. FROM NOW ON, YOU MUST HOLD YOUR HAMMER IN ONE HAND AND A SWORD IN THE OTHER. AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE, WE MUST BE ABLE TO DEFEND OUR CITY. DON'T EVEN TAKE A WATER BREAK WITHOUT YOUR WEAPON.



THE ENEMY APPROACHES—BUT TO THEIR SURPRISE ARMED WORKERS RISE UP, THEIR SPEARS RAISED AND THEIR BOWS PULLED.

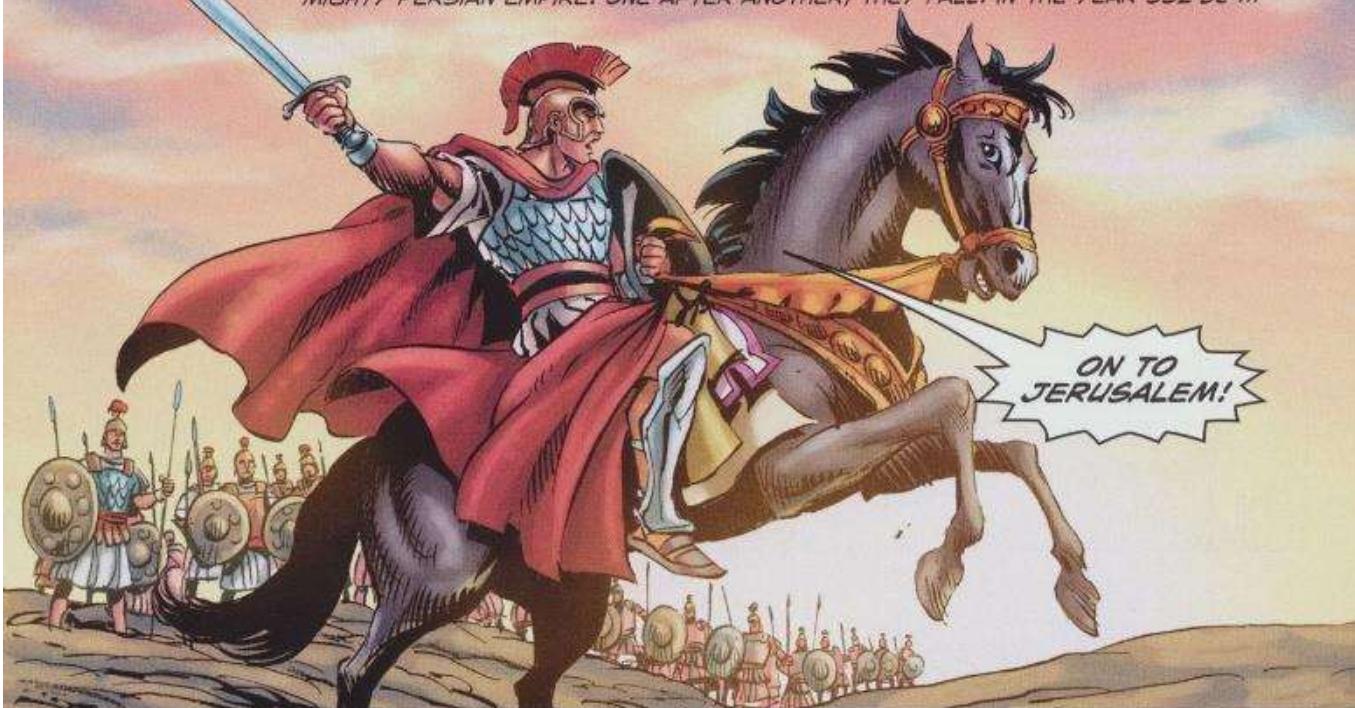




Years of Waiting

BETWEEN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW TESTAMENT

THE LAND OF JUDAH IS STILL UNDER THE RULE OF THE PERSIANS WHEN ALEXANDER, THE YOUNG KING OF MACEDONIA, SETS OUT TO CONQUER THE WORLD. RIDING HIS FAMOUS HORSE, BUCHEPHALUS, HE LEADS HIS ARMY AGAINST THE COUNTRIES OF THE MIGHTY PERSIAN EMPIRE. ONE AFTER ANOTHER, THEY FALL. IN THE YEAR 332 BC ...



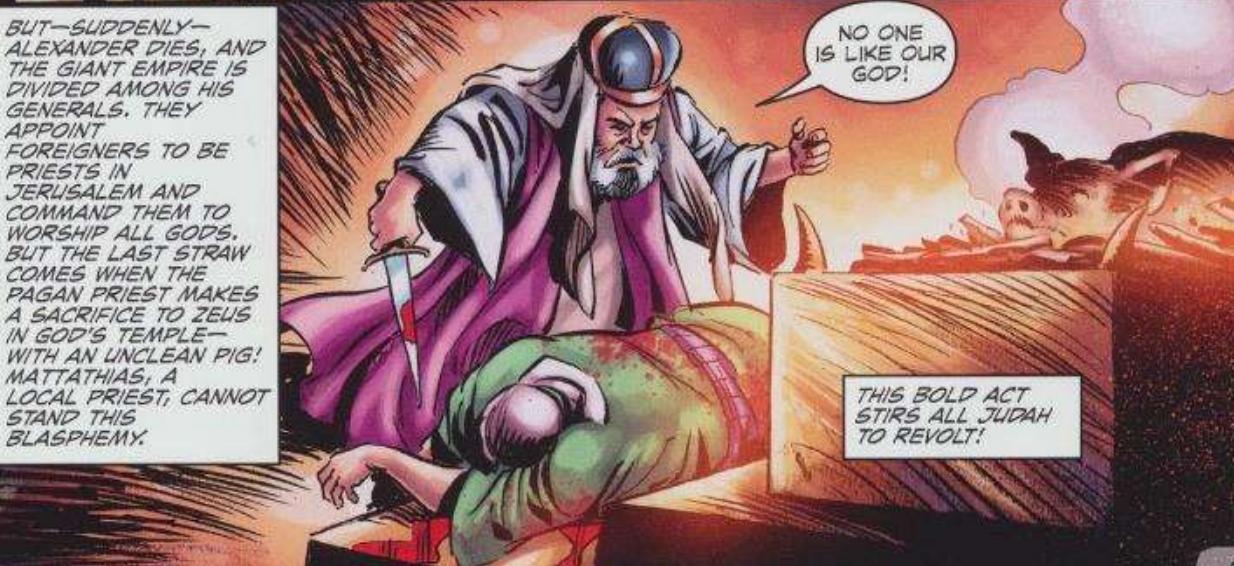
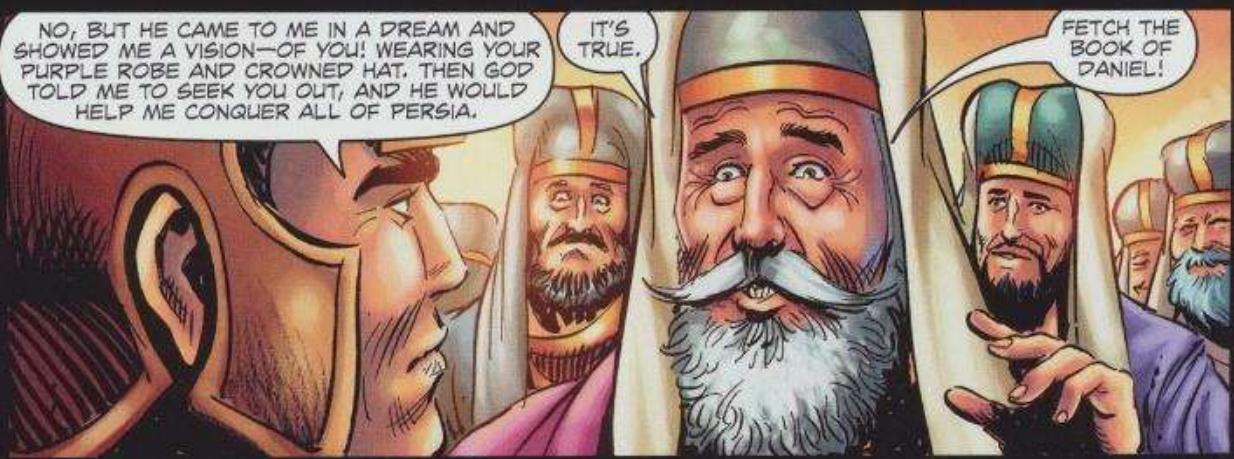
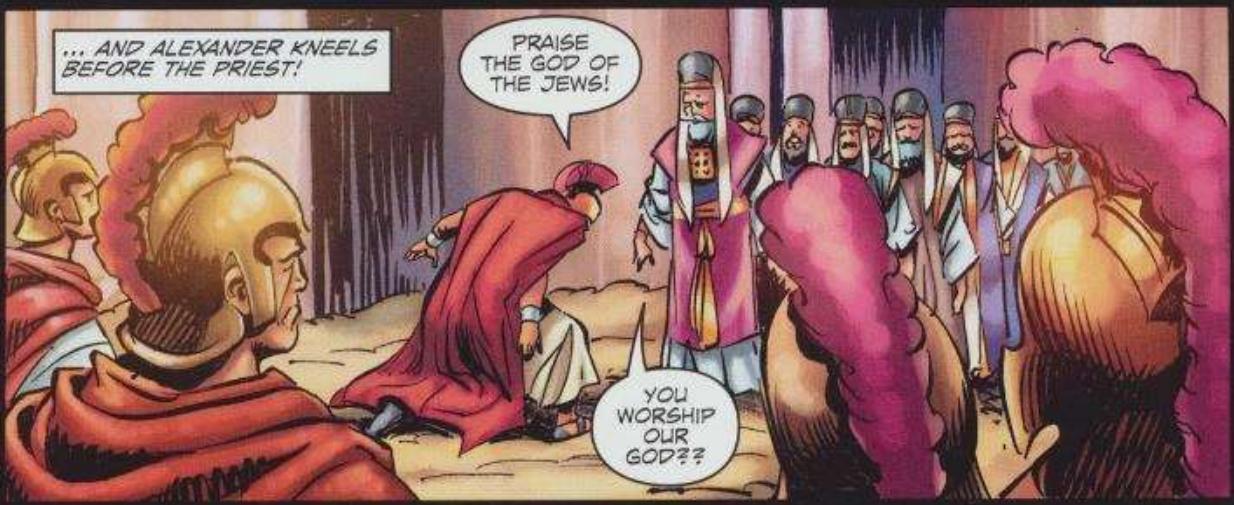
WHEN THE HIGH PRIEST IN JERUSALEM HEARS THAT THEY ARE THE NEXT STOP IN ALEXANDER'S CONQUERING JOURNEY, HE PRAYS TO GOD IN DESPERATION. AND GOD GIVES HIM A DREAM.

PUT ON YOUR FORMAL ROBES. WE ARE TO MEET ALEXANDER OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM.

BUT HE'LL BE ABLE TO KILL ALL OF US IF WE DON'T EVEN HIDE BEHIND THE CITY WALLS!

BUT EVERYONE OBEYS THE HIGH PRIEST. ON THE DAY ALEXANDER ARRIVES, ALL THE PRIESTS OF ISRAEL STAND TO GREET HIM. THE HIGH PRIEST WEARS HIS PURPLE ROBE AND OFFICIAL HAT.

ALEXANDER DISMOUNTS AND WALKS SLOWLY TOWARD THE HIGH PRIEST. EVERYONE WATCHES HIM IN TERROR ...



IN THE WILDERNESS, MATTATHIAS AND HIS SONS PLAN THEIR STRATEGY.

HOW CAN WE FIGHT THE WHOLE SELEUCID ARMY?

WE MUST FIGHT DIRTY—IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP THE TEMPLE CLEAN.

THE FAITHFUL JEWS FOLLOW JUDAH MACCABEE'S ORDERS. THEIR SMALL FORCE IS ABLE TO CATCH THE LARGER ARMY BY SURPRISE AND DRIVE OFF THE FOREIGN PEOPLE WHO DON'T WORSHIP THE TRUE GOD.

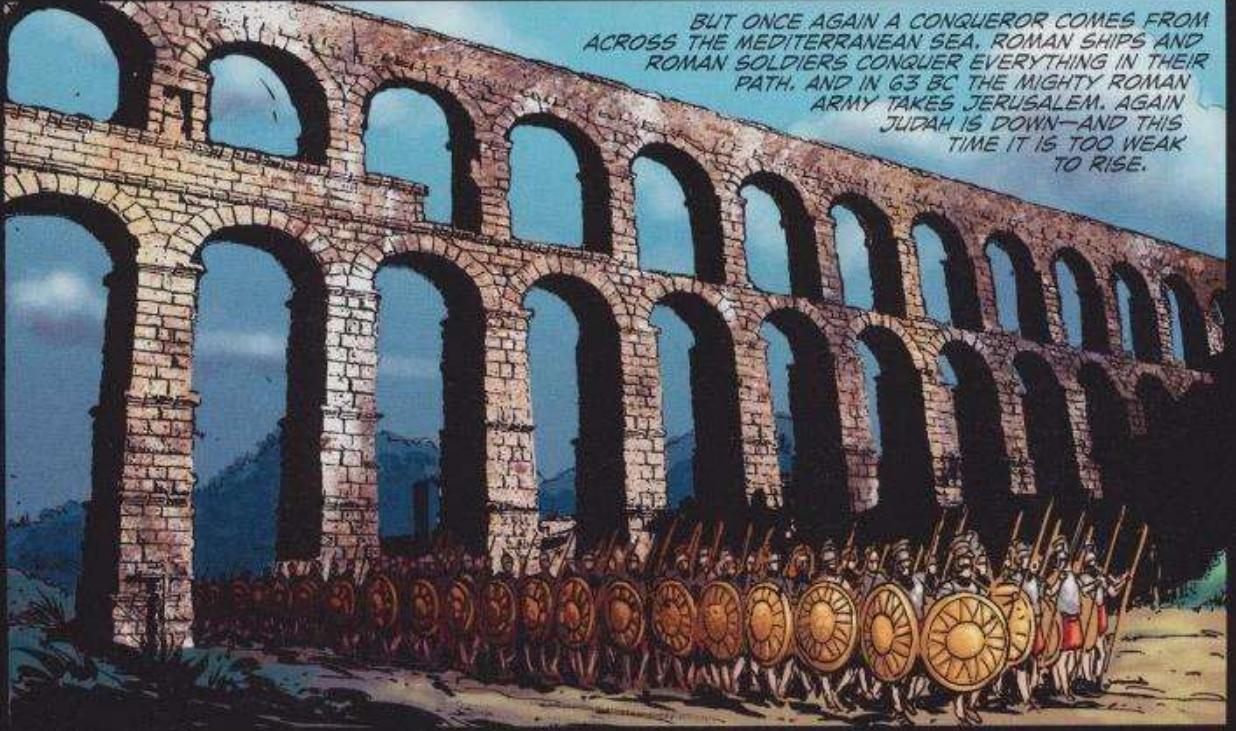
JUDAH FALLS ON US LIKE A HAMMER!

THE ETERNAL FLAME IS ALMOST OUT OF OIL! AND IT WILL TAKE US EIGHT DAYS TO PURIFY MORE OIL FOR IT. WE ONLY HAVE ENOUGH TO LAST THE REST OF THE DAY.

NOW WE CAN CLEANSE AND REDEDICATE OUR HOLY TEMPLE!

BUT THE LIGHT FOR THE ETERNAL FLAME KEEPS BURNING ... AND BURNING ... AND BURNING ... FOR EIGHT DAYS AND NIGHTS—LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE MORE OIL!

THE TEMPLE IS PURIFIED, AND FOR 100 GLORIOUS YEARS, JUDAH IS FREE!



BUT ONCE AGAIN A CONQUEROR COMES FROM ACROSS THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA. ROMAN SHIPS AND ROMAN SOLDIERS CONQUER EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH. AND IN 63 BC THE MIGHTY ROMAN ARMY TAKES JERUSALEM. AGAIN JUDAH IS DOWN—AND THIS TIME IT IS TOO WEAK TO RISE.

A FEW YEARS LATER, HEROD BECOMES A GOVERNOR IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE. A JEW BY BACKGROUND, HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO RULE OVER HIS PEOPLE. HE GOES TO ROME TO APPEAL THEIR SENATE FOR A PROMOTION.



IF YOU MAKE ME RULER OF THE JEWS, I WILL ENSURE THAT THEY NEVER REVOLT AGAINST YOU.



THE ROMANS LIKE HIS PROMISES AND VOTE TO MAKE HEROD THE KING OF THE JEWS.

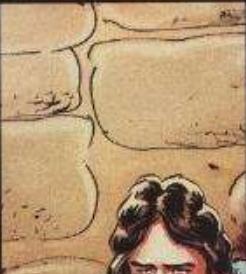


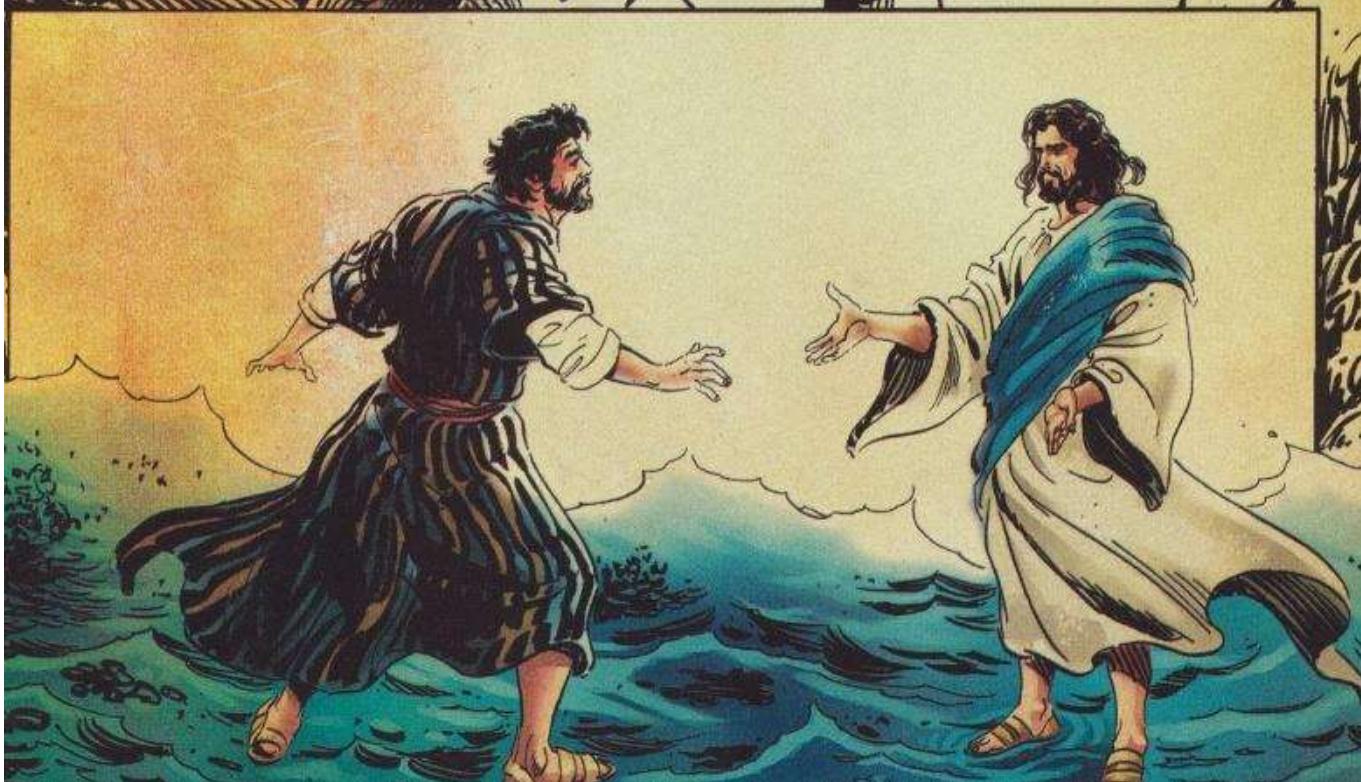
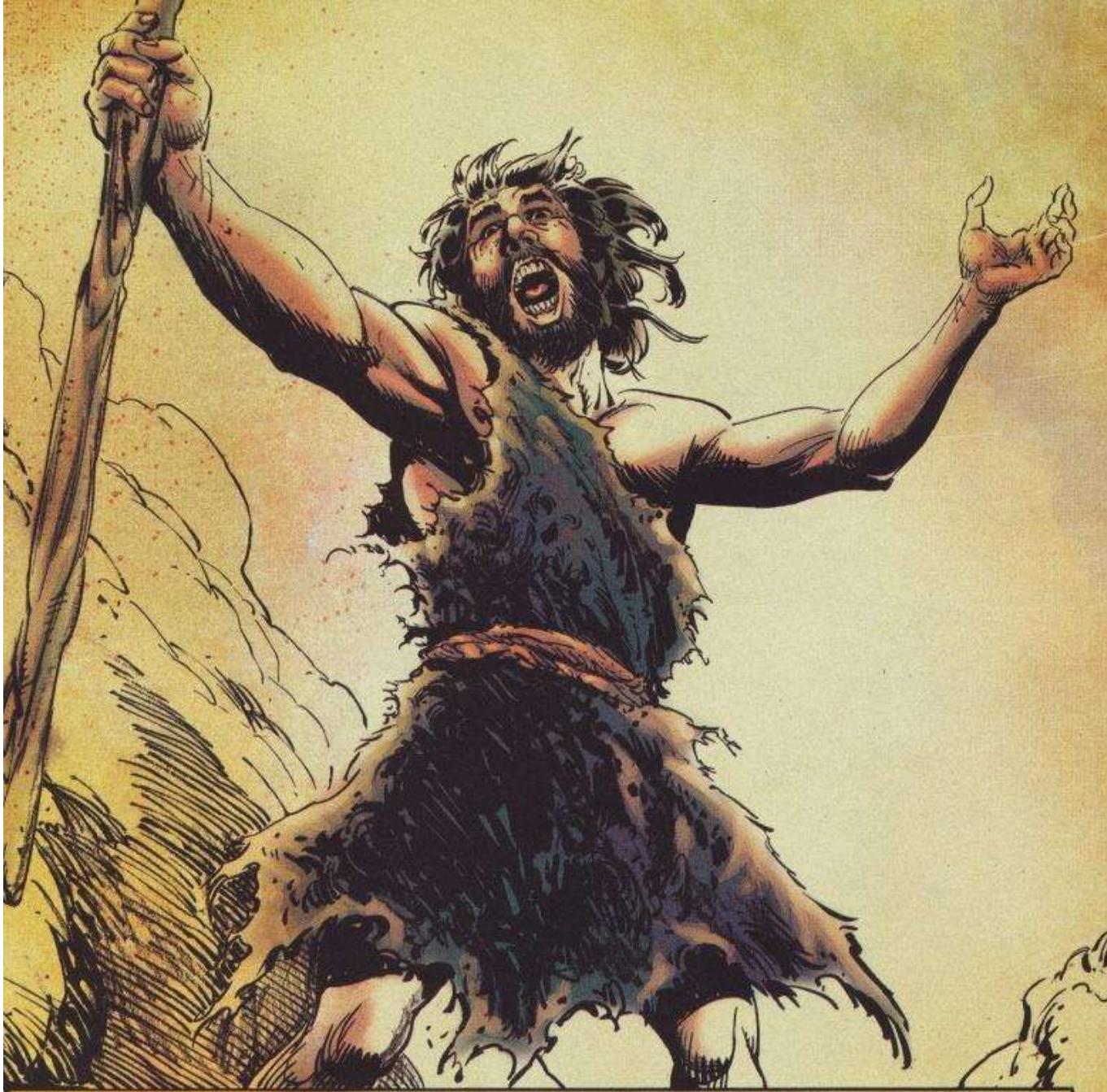
THOUGH HE'S A CRUEL MAN BY NATURE, HEROD IS ALSO A CRAFTY POLITICIAN. HE TRIES TO WIN THE JEWISH PEOPLE'S FAVOR BY BUILDING THEM A NEW AND MORE BEAUTIFUL TEMPLE. BUT THEY DESPISE HIM. BITTERLY, THE JEWS CRY OUT: "WHEN WILL GOD SEND THE DELIVERER THE PROPHETS PROMISED WOULD COME?"

BUT GOD WAS SILENT UNTIL ...



THE NEW TESTAMENT

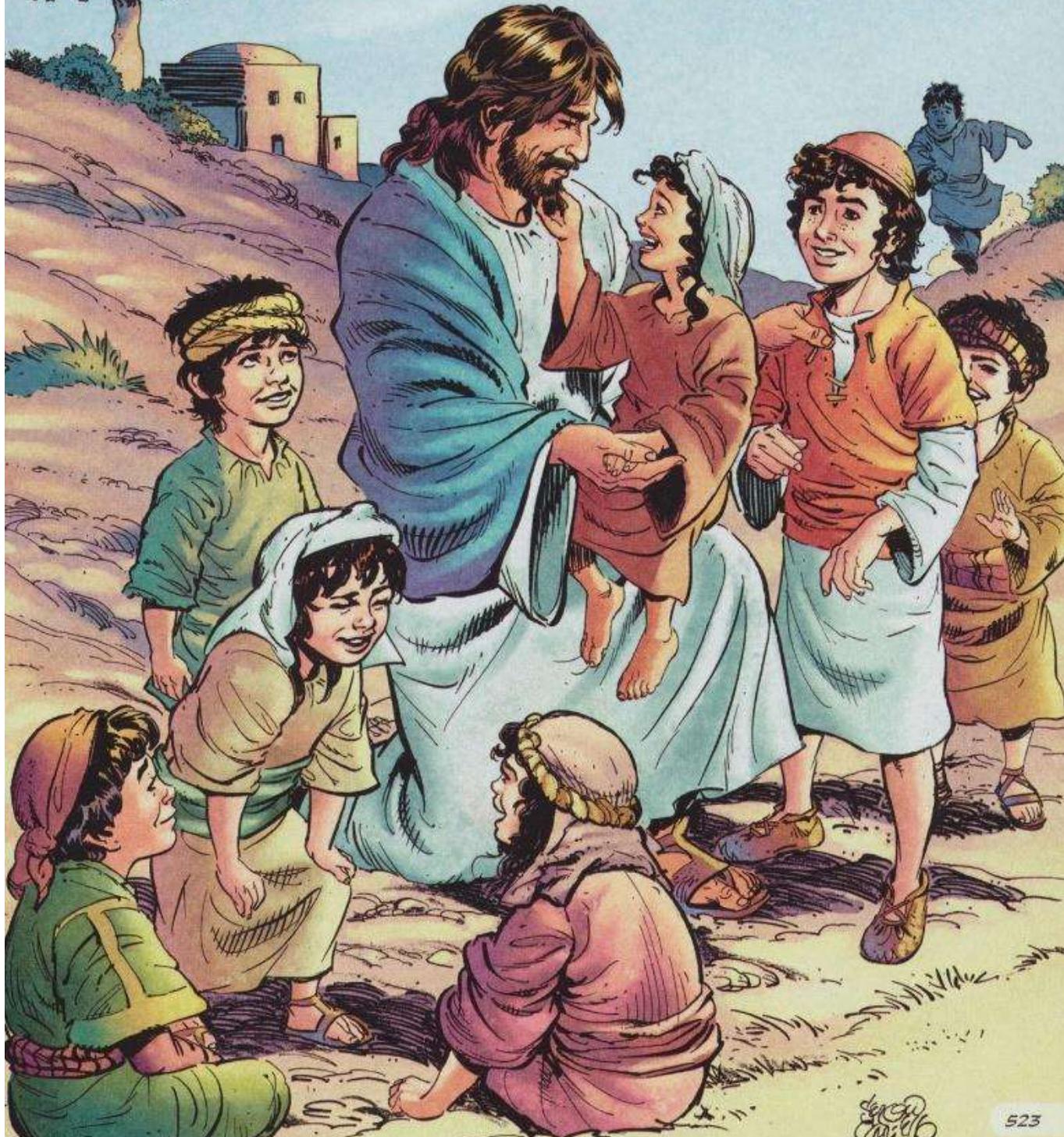




The Life of Jesus

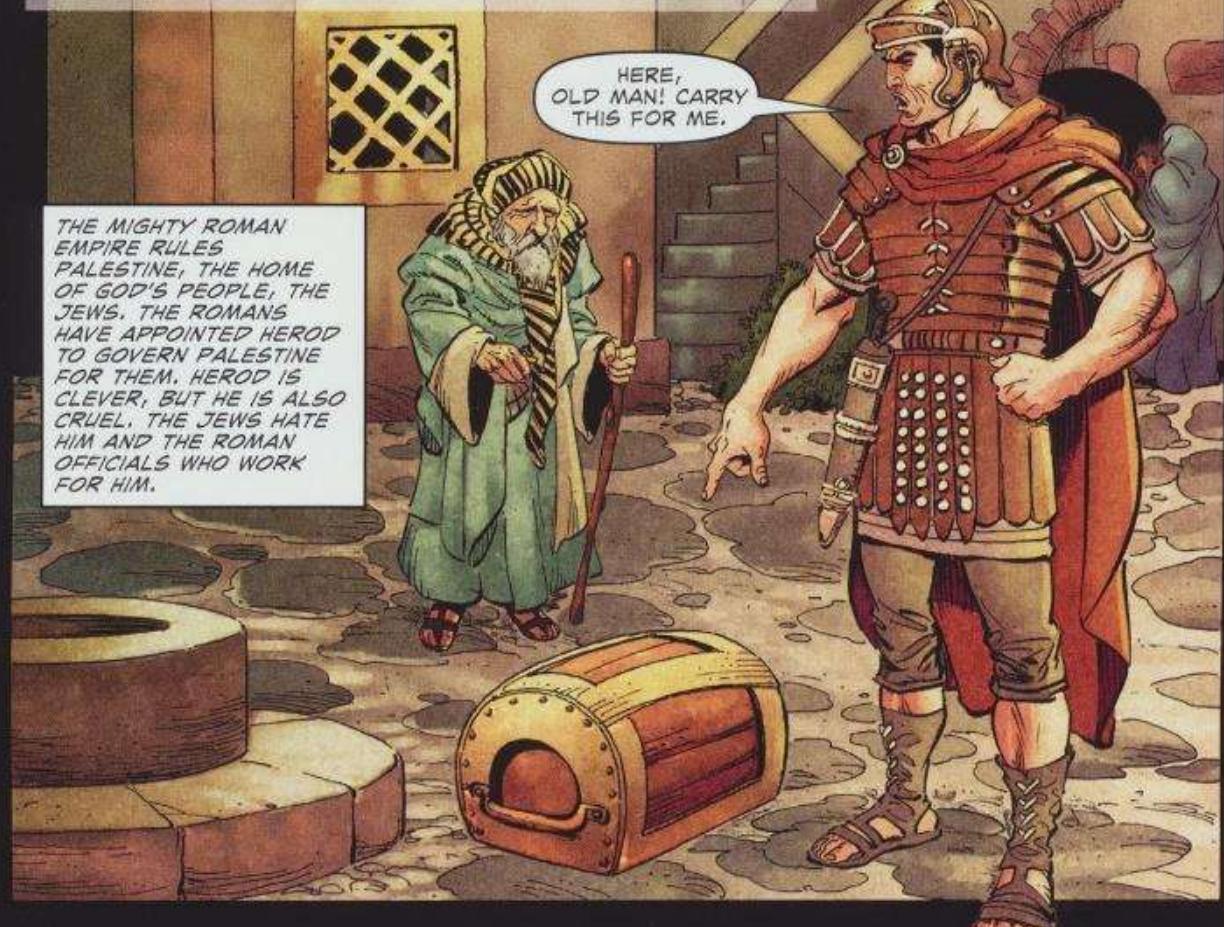
BASED ON MATTHEW; MARK; LUKE; AND JOHN

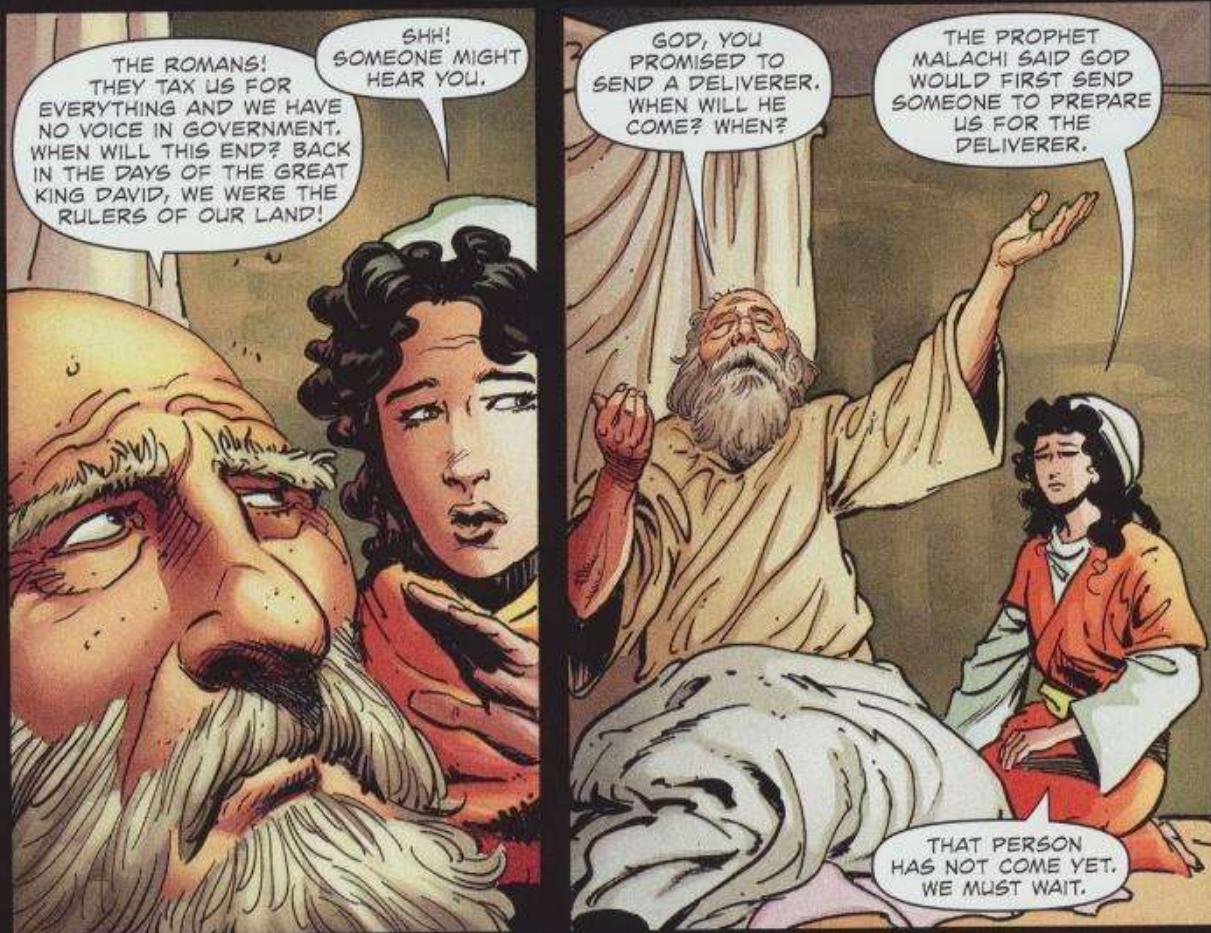
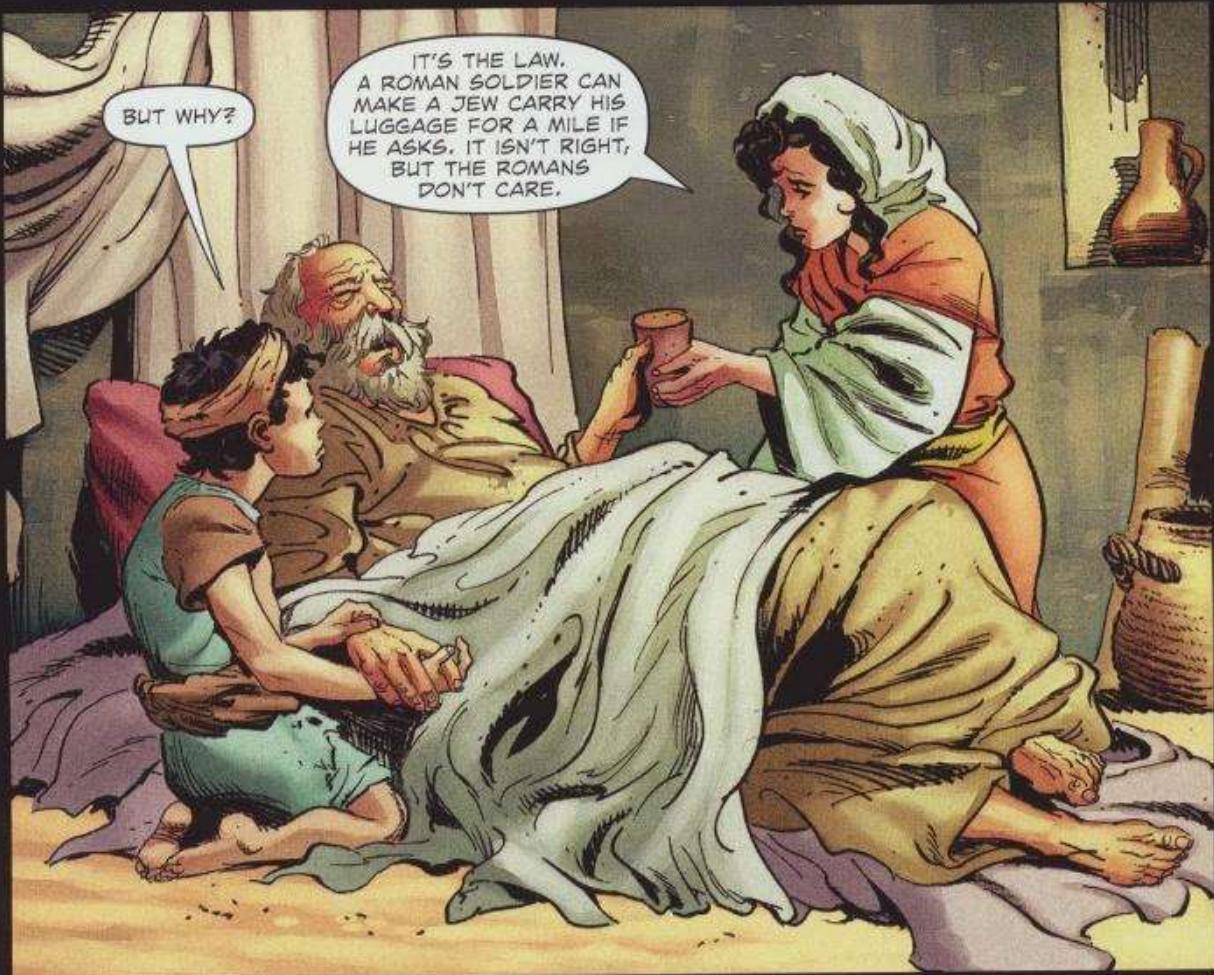
THOUGH MANY PEOPLE WITNESSED THE LIFE AND MIRACLES OF JESUS, ONLY FOUR WROTE AUTHENTIC STORIES ABOUT HIS TIME ON EARTH. THOSE MEN'S WRITINGS MAKE UP THE FIRST FOUR BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT—CALLED GOSPELS BECAUSE THEY SHARE THE "GOOD NEWS" OF JESUS CHRIST. EACH BOOK IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT, BUT TOGETHER THEY TELL ONE COMPLETE STORY OF JESUS' LIFE ON EARTH.



When in Rome ...

BASED ON MATTHEW 5:41

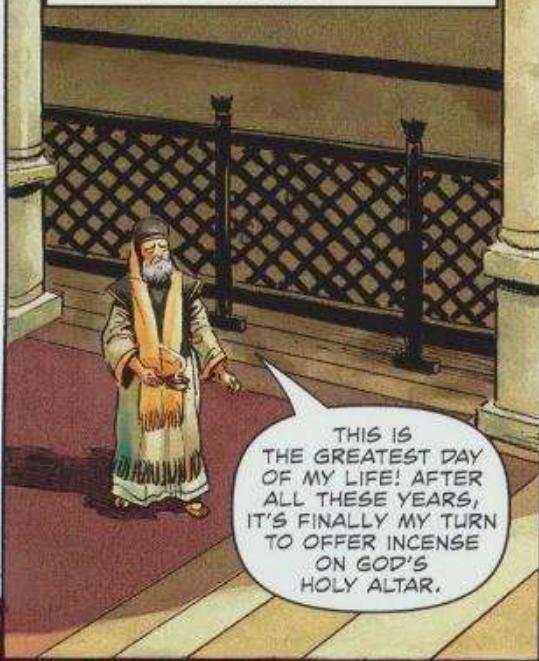




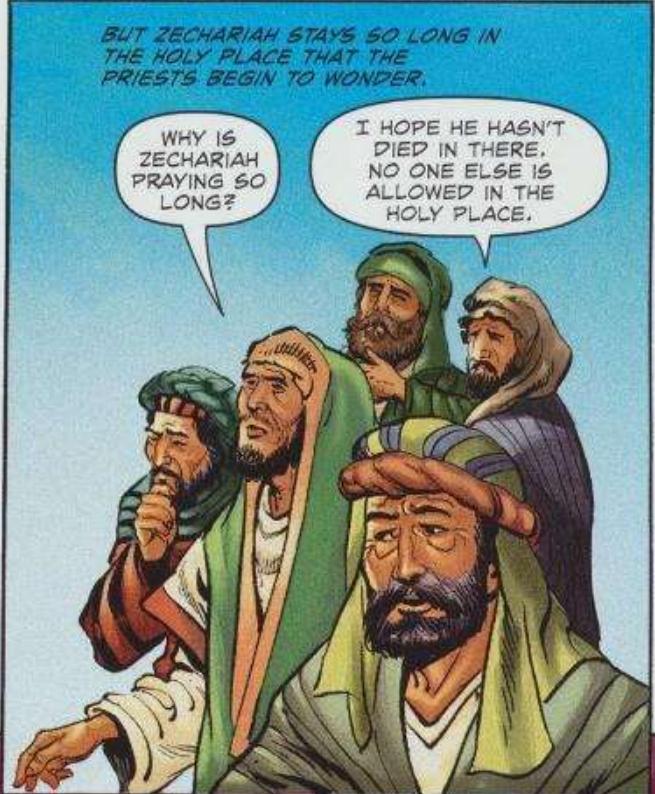
Angel Promises

BASED ON LUKE 1:5-56

AS JEWS IN JERUSALEM GATHER IN THE TEMPLE FOR PRAYER, AN OLD PRIEST NAMED ZECHARIAH ENTERS THE HOLY PLACE TO MAKE AN OFFERING OF INCENSE.



BUT ZECHARIAH STAYS SO LONG IN THE HOLY PLACE THAT THE PRIESTS BEGIN TO WONDER.



MEANWHILE, THE FEARSOME ANGEL GABRIEL HAS APPEARED TO ZECHARIAH IN THE TEMPLE.

DO NOT BE AFRAID. YOU AND ELIZABETH WILL HAVE A SON. GOD WILL MAKE HIM MIGHTY AND FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.

BUT WE'RE TOO OLD TO HAVE A BABY!

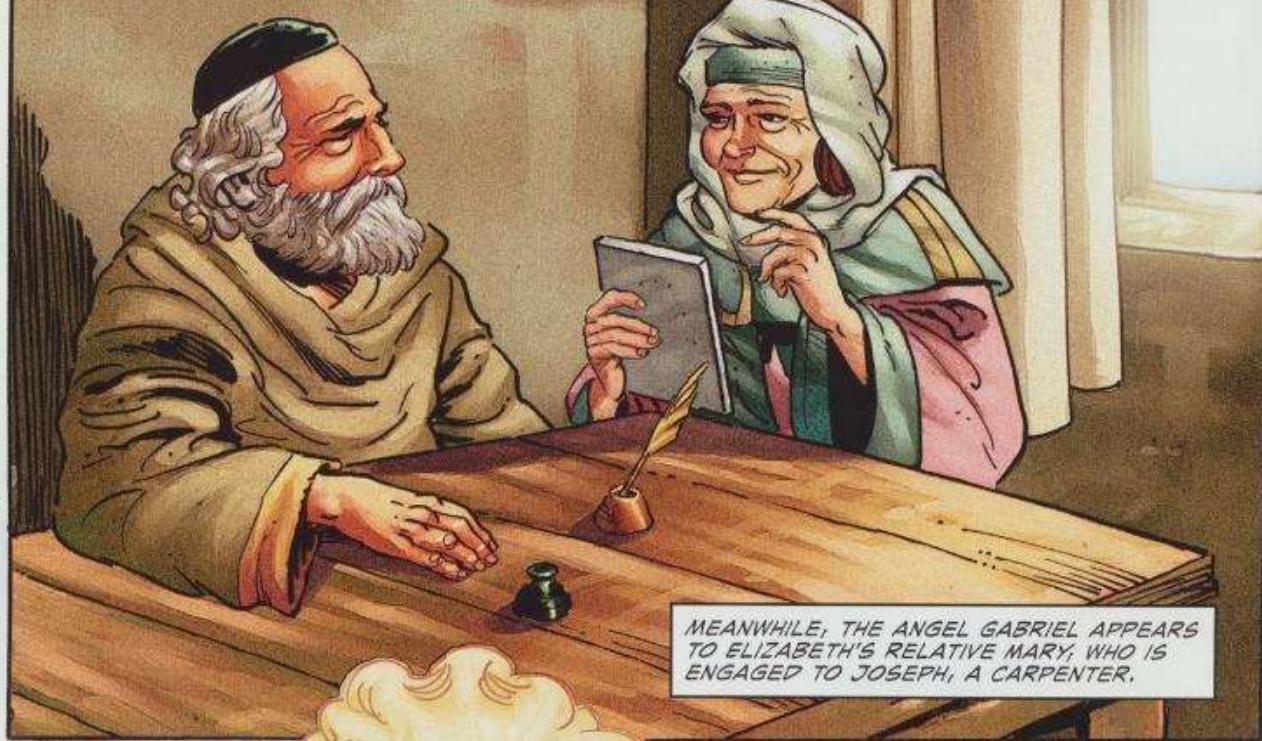
HIS NAME WILL BE JOHN, AND HE WILL PREPARE THE PEOPLE FOR GOD'S DELIVERER.

BECAUSE YOU DON'T BELIEVE, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TALK UNTIL THE BABY IS BORN.

AT LAST ZECHARIAH COMES OUT AND FACES THE PEOPLE. BUT HE CANNOT SPEAK! NO WORDS COME FROM HIS MOUTH.



OVERJOYED BY THE GREAT NEWS THAT THEY WILL HAVE A BABY, ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH GET READY FOR THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON.



MEANWHILE, THE ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARS TO ELIZABETH'S RELATIVE MARY, WHO IS ENGAGED TO JOSEPH, A CARPENTER.

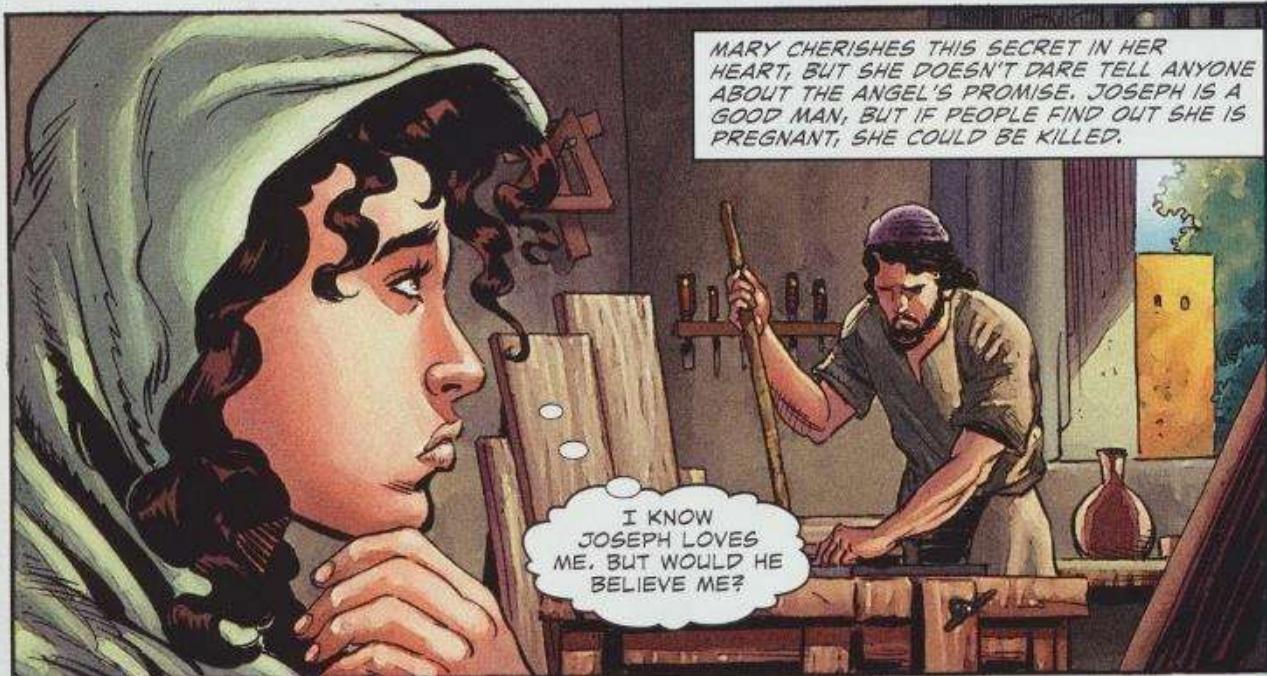


GREETINGS!
YOU ARE HIGHLY HONORED!

WHAT?
WHO ARE
YOU?

DO NOT BE
AFRAID, MARY. GOD HAS
CHOSEN YOU TO BE THE MOTHER
OF HIS SON. HIS NAME WILL BE
JESUS, AND HE WILL RULE
A KINGDOM THAT WILL
NEVER END.

I AM THE
LORD'S SERVANT.
I WILL DO WHATEVER
HE ASKS.



Birth of a Prophet

BASED ON LUKE 1:57-80

FINALLY THE TIME COMES FOR ELIZABETH TO HAVE HER BABY. FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS COME TO SEE THE LITTLE BOY.

I'M SURE THEY WILL NAME THE BABY ZECHARIAH, AFTER HIS FATHER.

NO, THE BABY'S NAME IS JOHN.

THAT'S ODD. YOU DON'T HAVE ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY NAMED JOHN. LET'S ASK ZECHARIAH.

ZECHARIAH HAS BEEN SILENT FOR MONTHS. HE MOTIONS FOR A TABLET TO WRITE ON.

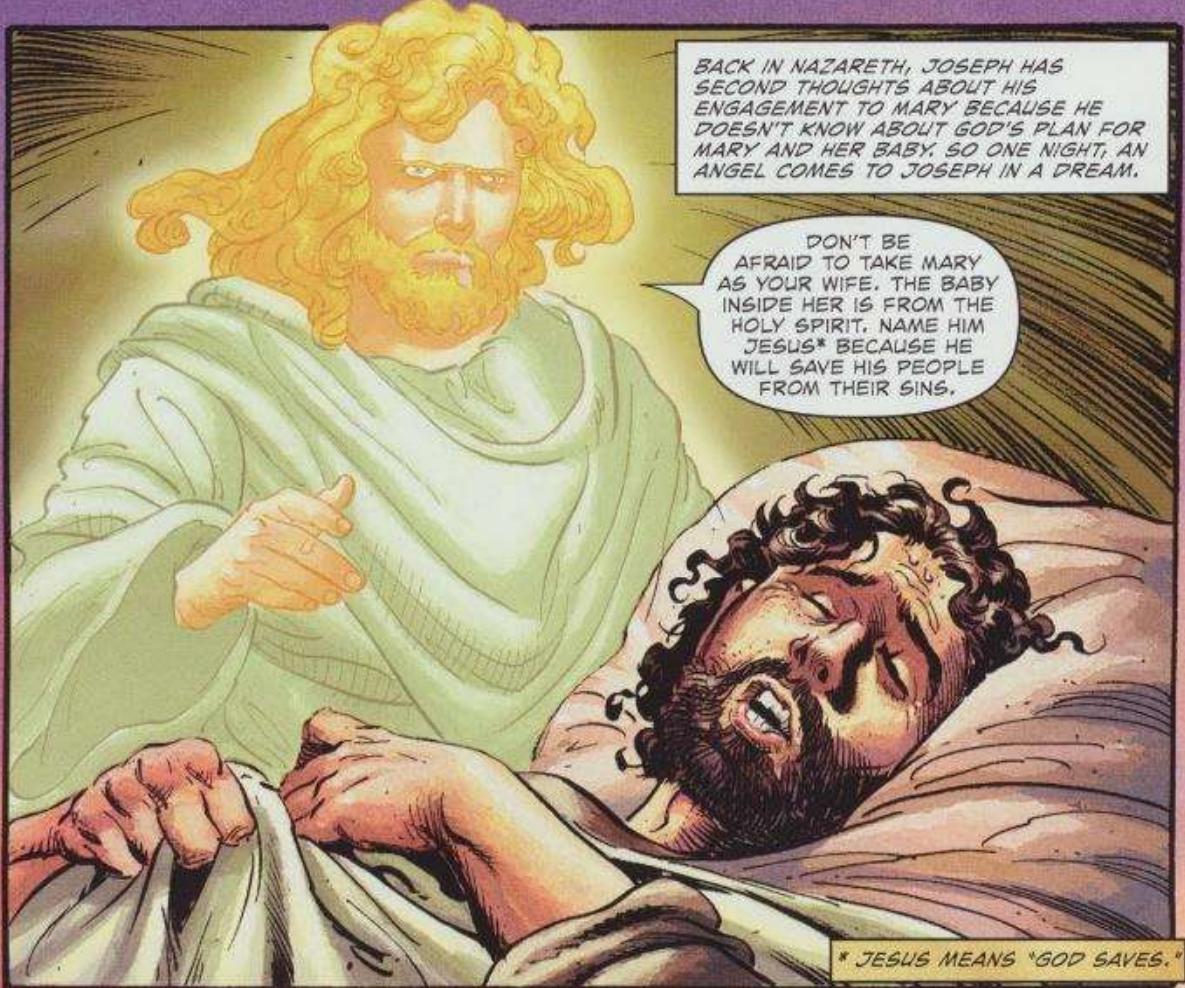
HIS NAME IS JOHN.



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, ZECHARIAH IS ABLE TO SPEAK AGAIN. HIS FIRST WORDS ARE A SONG OF WORSHIP TO THE LORD.

GIVE PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL. HE HAS COME TO SET HIS PEOPLE FREE. HE HAS BEEN KIND TO HIS PEOPLE. AND YOU, MY CHILD, WILL BE CALLED A PROPHET OF THE MOST HIGH GOD.





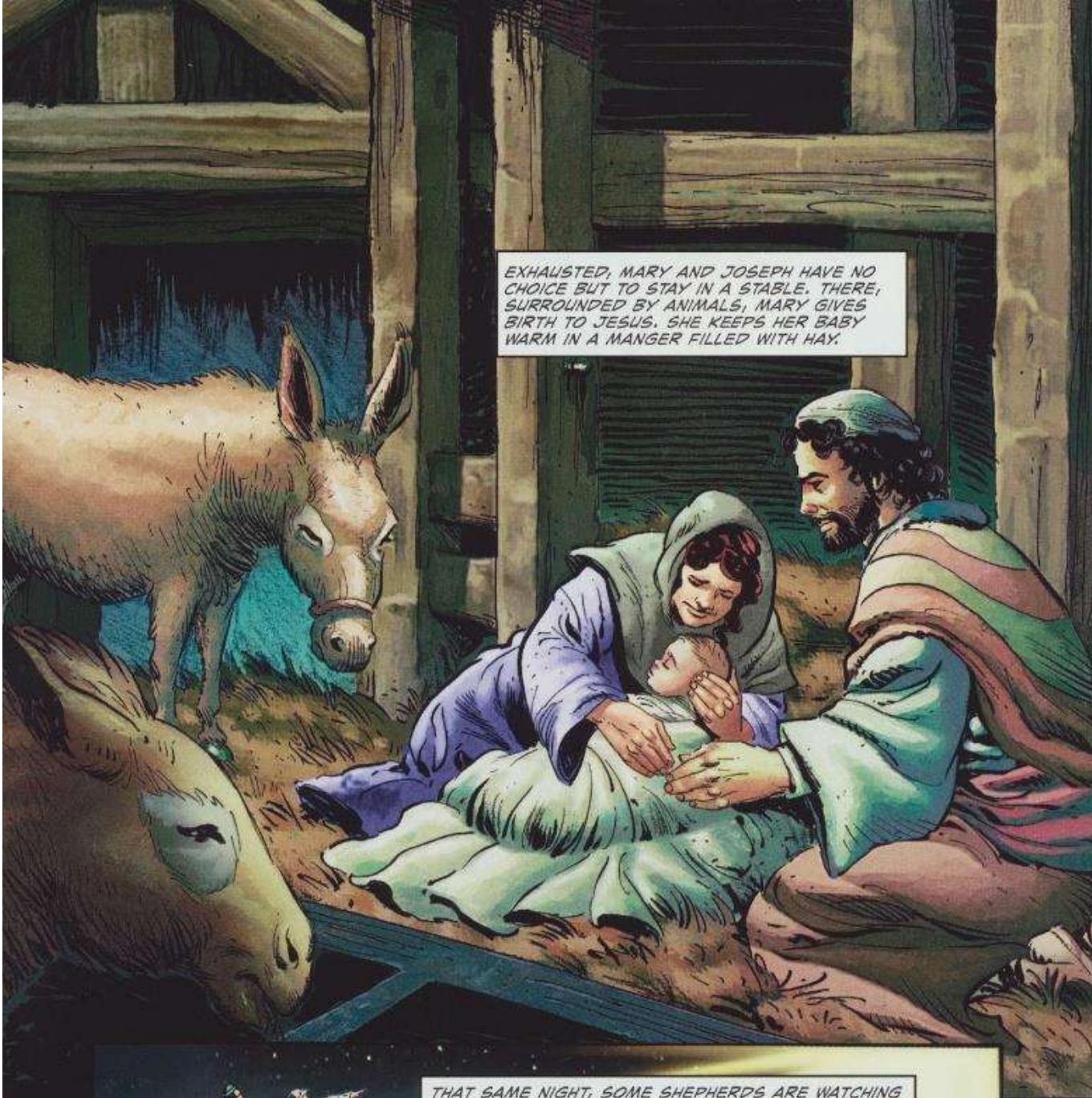
Birth of a Savior

BASED ON MATTHEW 1:18-2:11; LUKE 2:1-20

JOSEPH BELIEVES THE ANGEL AND MARRIES MARY, EVEN THOUGH HER PREGNANCY SEEMS SHAMEFUL TO OTHERS. ONE DAY THE NEWS COMES THAT THE ROMAN EMPEROR, CAESAR AUGUSTUS, WANTS TO HAVE A CENSUS. EVERYONE MUST GO TO HIS HOMETOWN TO BE COUNTED, EVEN THOUGH MARY'S BABY IS DUE ANY DAY NOW. JOSEPH AND MARY HAVE TO GO FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM.

WE'VE TRAVELED A LONG WAY. MY WIFE IS VERY TIRED. WE NEED A PLACE TO STAY.

I'M SORRY, BUT BETHLEHEM IS CROWDED BECAUSE OF THE CENSUS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY MORE EMPTY ROOMS.



EXHAUSTED, MARY AND JOSEPH HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO STAY IN A STABLE. THERE, SURROUNDED BY ANIMALS, MARY GIVES BIRTH TO JESUS. SHE KEEPS HER BABY WARM IN A MANGER FILLED WITH HAY.



SUDDENLY THE SKY IS FILLED WITH A CHOIR OF ANGELS SINGING PRAISE TO GOD.



GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND PEACE TO PEOPLE ON EARTH!



THE ANGELS LEAVE AND ONCE AGAIN DARKNESS FALLS UPON THE HILLS.



WE MUST SEE THE CHILD OF GOD FOR OURSELVES.

LET'S GO TO BETHLEHEM.



THE SHEPHERDS HURRY OFF TO BETHLEHEM.

THE CROWDED TOWN OF BETHLEHEM SLEEPS. LOVINGLY, MARY HAS WRAPPED HER BABY IN STRIPS OF CLOTH AND PUT HIM IN A MANGER. THAT'S WHERE THE SHEPHERDS FIND HIM.



IN A LAND FAR TO THE EAST, WISE MEN SEE SOMETHING STRANGE IN THE SKY.

THAT NEW STAR IS BRIGHTER THAN ALL THE REST. IT MUST HAVE SPECIAL MEANING.

IT'S A SIGN THAT THE KING OF THE JEWS HAS BEEN BORN.

LET US GO TO JERUSALEM AND FIND THIS KING.

AFTER MONTHS OF TRAVEL, THE WISE MEN REACH JERUSALEM.

WE HAVE
COME TO WORSHIP
THE BABY KING OF THE
JEW'S. WHERE CAN
WE FIND HIM?

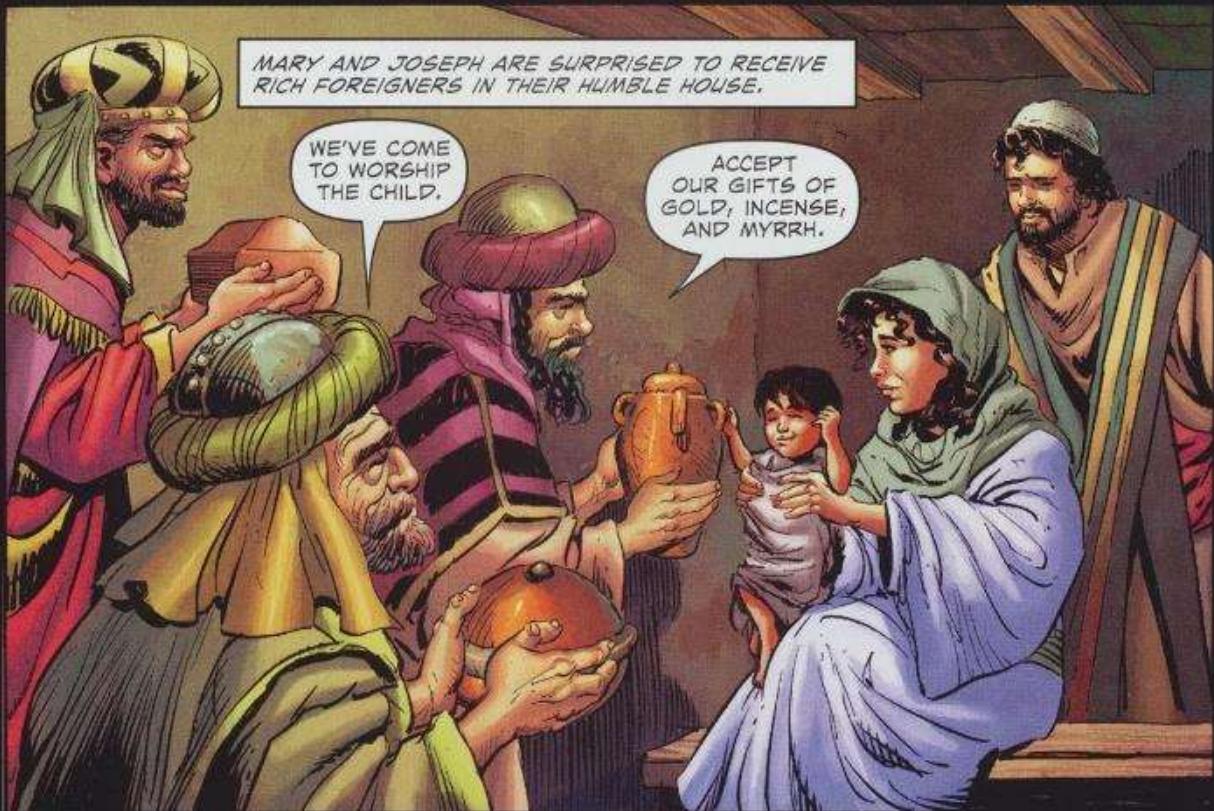
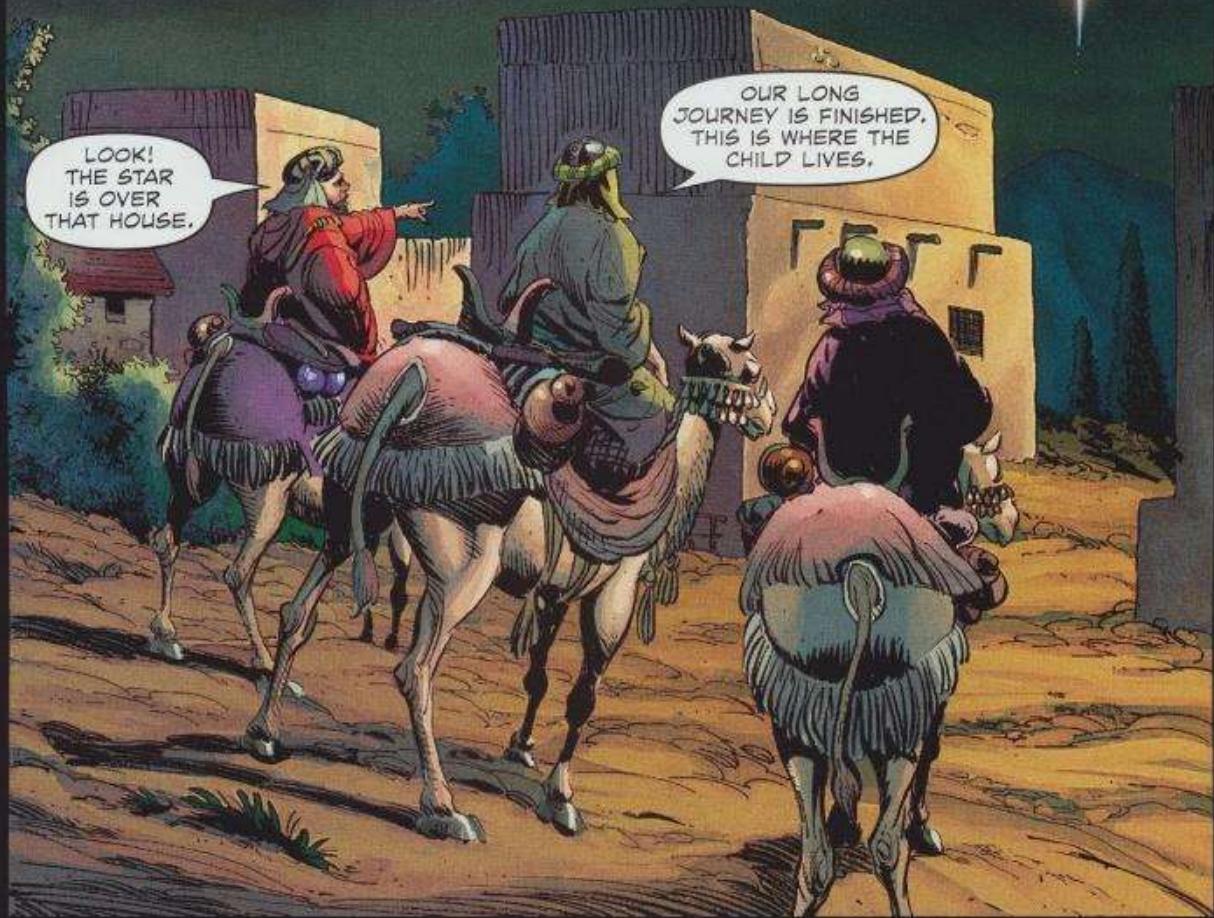
YOU MUST BE
MISTAKEN. NO KING
HAS BEEN BORN
HERE RECENTLY.

WHEN THE WISE MEN INQUIRE AT THE
PALACE, KING HEROD—WHO HAS
COMMITTED MORE THAN ONE MURDER
TO PROTECT HIS THRONE—
IMMEDIATELY COMES UP WITH A PLAN.

LOOK FOR THE
CHILD IN BETHLEHEM.
WHEN YOU FIND HIM,
COME BACK AND TELL ME
WHERE HE IS. OF COURSE,
I WANT TO WORSHIP
HIM TOO.

AND WHEN I
FIND THAT CHILD,
I'LL KILL HIM. NO
ONE IS GOING TO BE
KING OF THE JEW'S
EXCEPT ME!

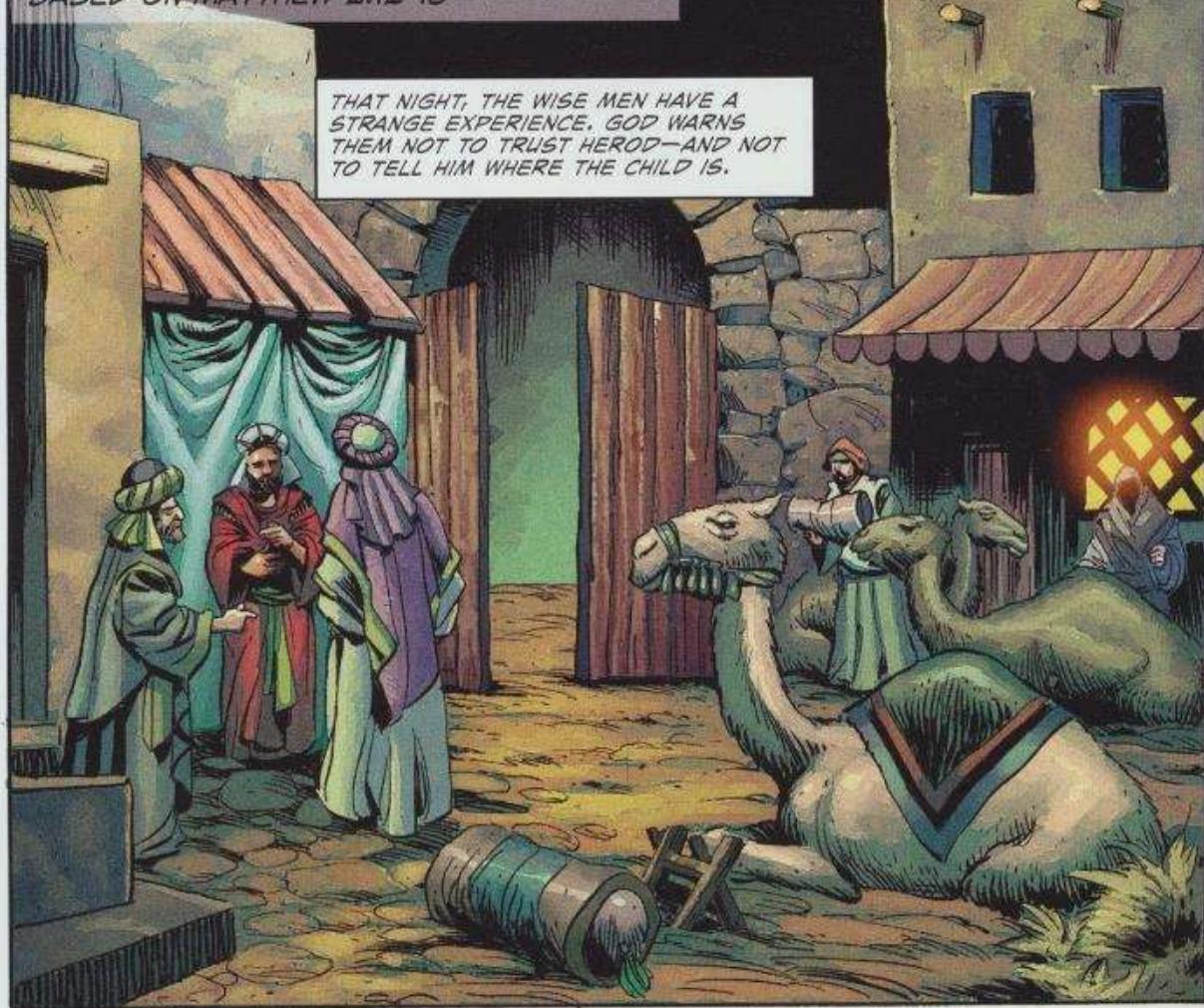
FOLLOWING HEROD'S INSTRUCTIONS, THE WISE MEN TRAVEL FROM JERUSALEM TO BETHLEHEM. THE STAR THEY HAD SEEN IN THE EAST CONTINUES TO GUIDE THEM.



Flight in the Night

BASED ON MATTHEW 2:12-18

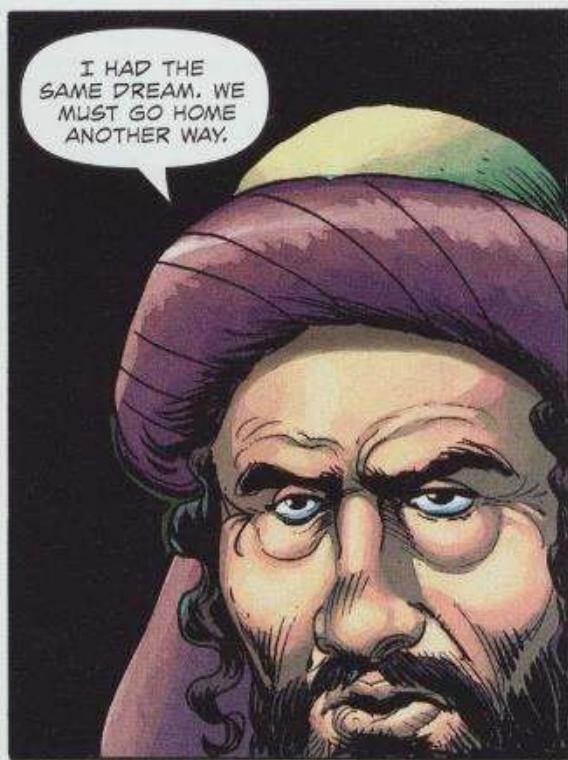
THAT NIGHT, THE WISE MEN HAVE A STRANGE EXPERIENCE. GOD WARNS THEM NOT TO TRUST HEROD—AND NOT TO TELL HIM WHERE THE CHILD IS.



I HAD A DREAM—

SO DID I!
GOD WARNED US
NOT TO GO BACK TO
JERUSALEM.

I HAD THE
SAME DREAM. WE
MUST GO HOME
ANOTHER WAY.



AFTER THE WISE MEN LEAVE, JOSEPH HAS ANOTHER DREAM.

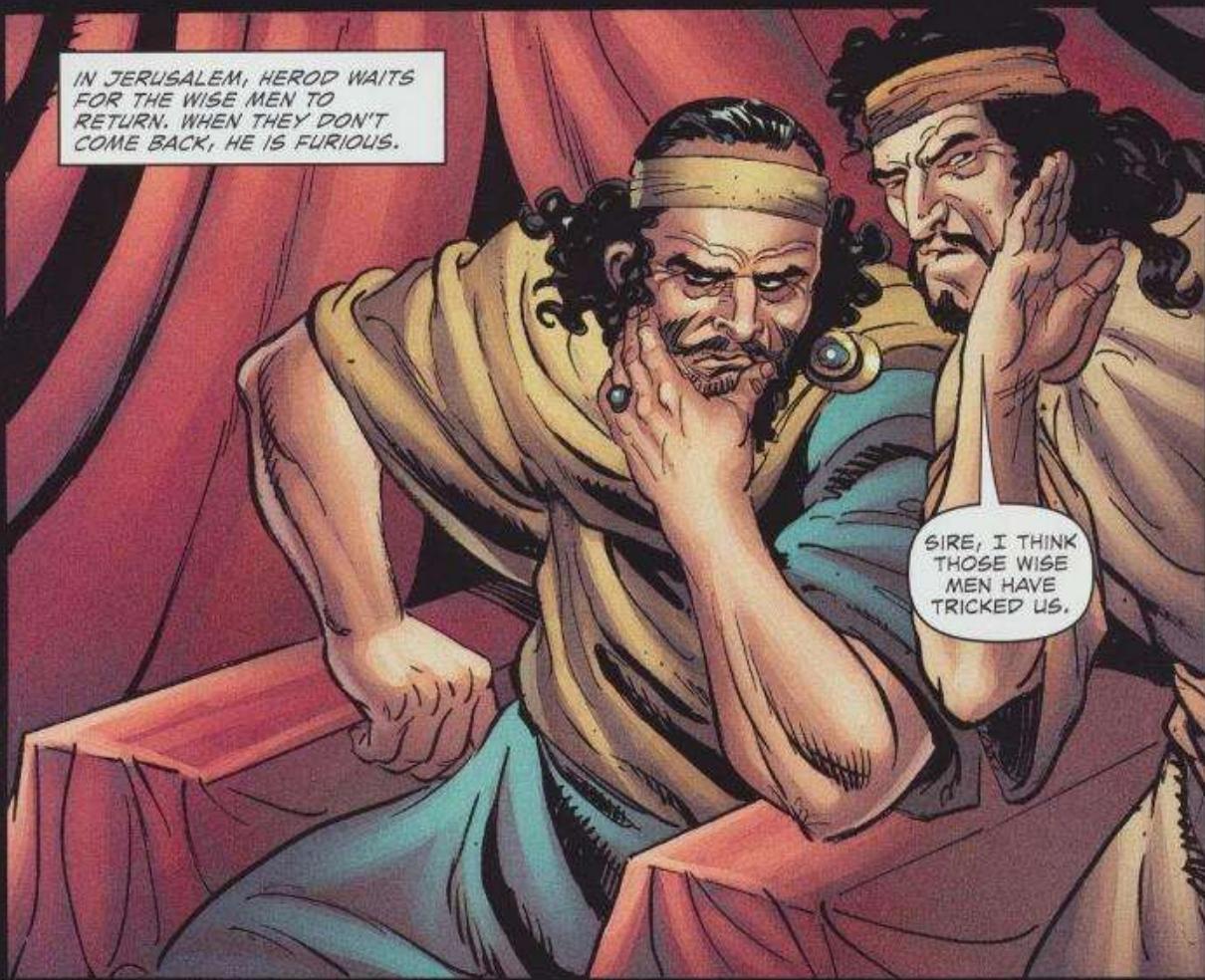
ESCAPE TO EGYPT! STAY THERE UNTIL I TELL YOU TO COME BACK. HEROD WANTS TO KILL JESUS.



JOSEPH GETS UP QUICKLY AND PREPARES TO GO. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, JOSEPH, MARY, AND JESUS FLEE TO EGYPT.



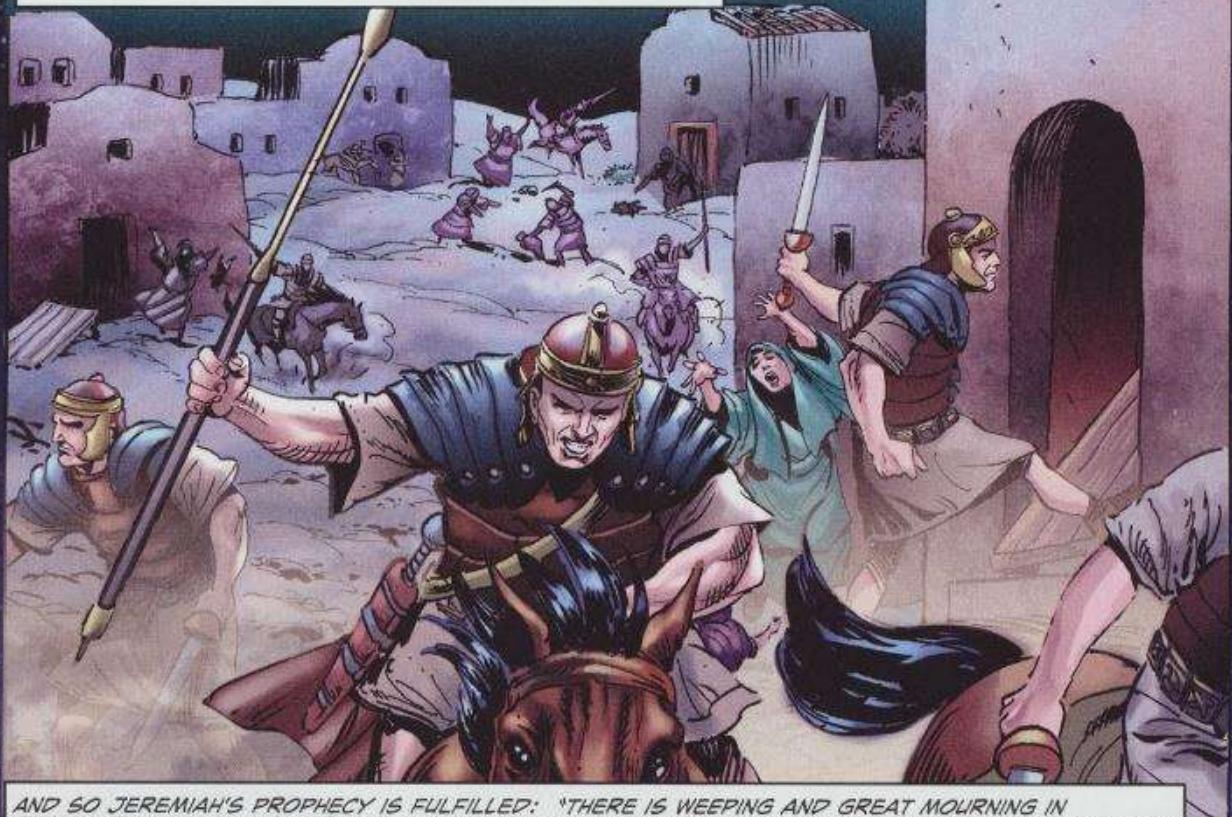
IN JERUSALEM, HEROD WAITS FOR THE WISE MEN TO RETURN. WHEN THEY DON'T COME BACK, HE IS FURIOUS.



THAT CHILD WILL NEVER LIVE TO TAKE MY THRONE! TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T ESCAPE, I'LL KILL EVERY BOY IN BETHLEHEM TWO YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER. I ALONE AM KING.



THAT VERY NIGHT, HEROD'S SOLDIERS DESCEND ON BETHLEHEM AND BRUTALLY CARRY OUT THEIR EVIL ERRAND.



AND SO JEREMIAH'S PROPHECY IS FULFILLED: "THERE IS WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING IN RAMAH. RACHEL WEEPS FOR HER CHILDREN AND WILL NOT BE COMFORTED, FOR THEY ARE NO MORE."



BUT JOSEPH AND MARY ARE ALREADY SAFELY ON THEIR WAY TO EGYPT, WHERE THEY'LL SPEND THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS RAISING THEIR NEW BABY, THE SAVIOR OF THE WHOLE WORLD.

A Boy in the Temple

BASED ON MATTHEW 2:19-23; LUKE 2:39-52

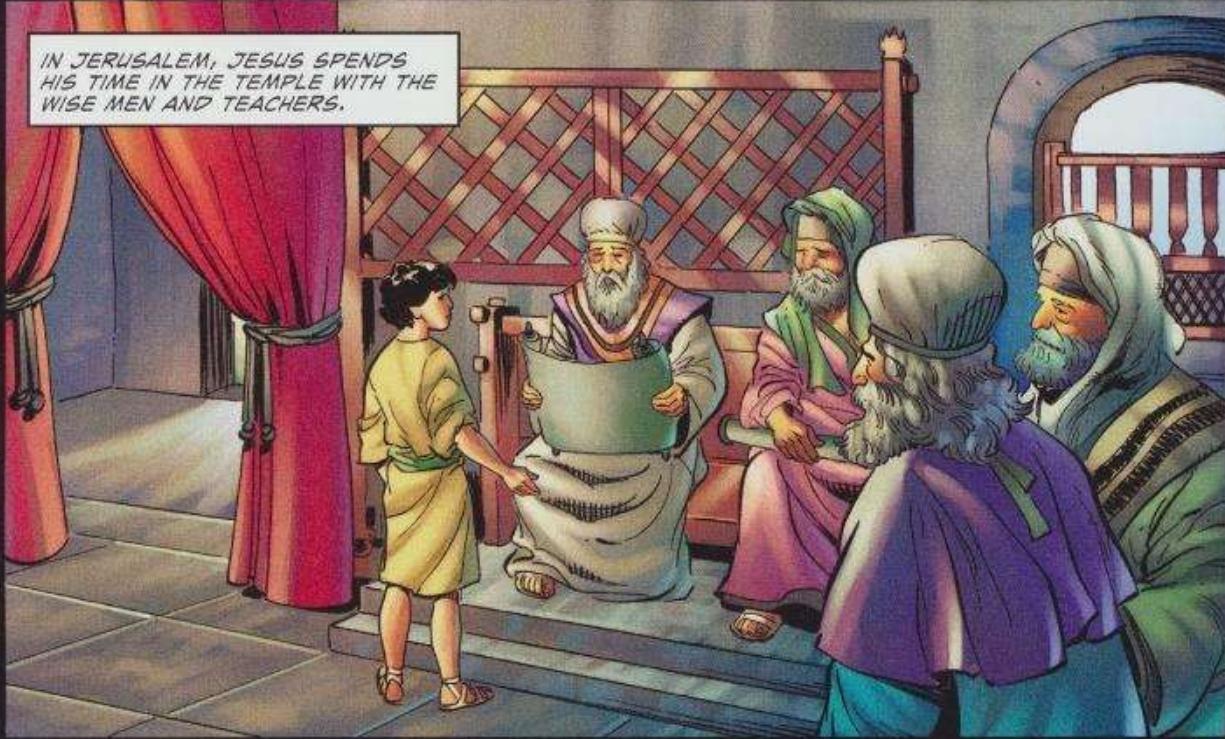


JOSEPH TAKES THE FAMILY BACK TO NAZARETH, WHERE HE SETS UP HIS CARPENTER SHOP. JESUS GROWS UP STRONG AND WISE AND FILLED WITH GOD'S GRACE. EACH SPRING, MARY AND JOSEPH TRAVEL TO JERUSALEM TO ATTEND THE PASSOVER FEAST. THEY THANK GOD FOR DELIVERING HIS PEOPLE FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO.

ONE YEAR, WHEN JESUS IS 12, THE FAMILY GOES TO THE FEAST AS USUAL.



IN JERUSALEM, JESUS SPENDS HIS TIME IN THE TEMPLE WITH THE WISE MEN AND TEACHERS.

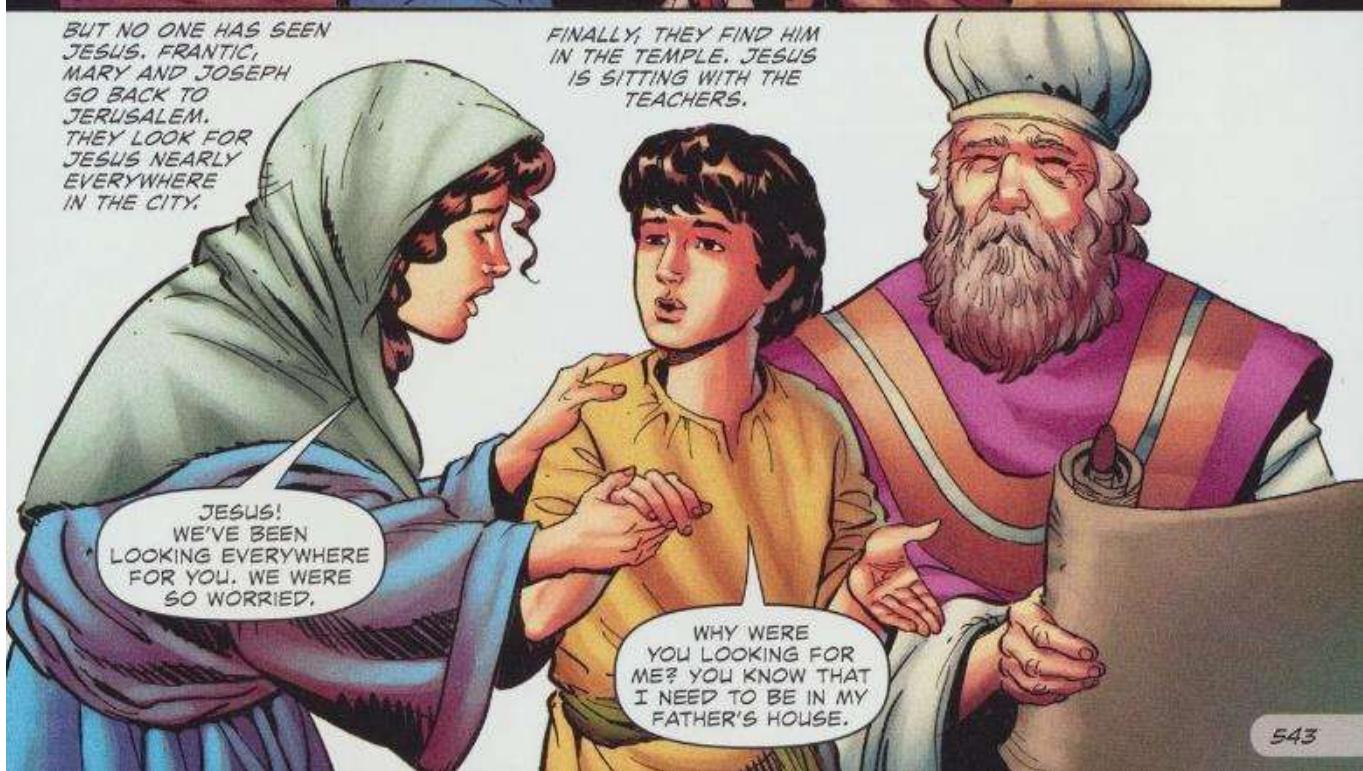


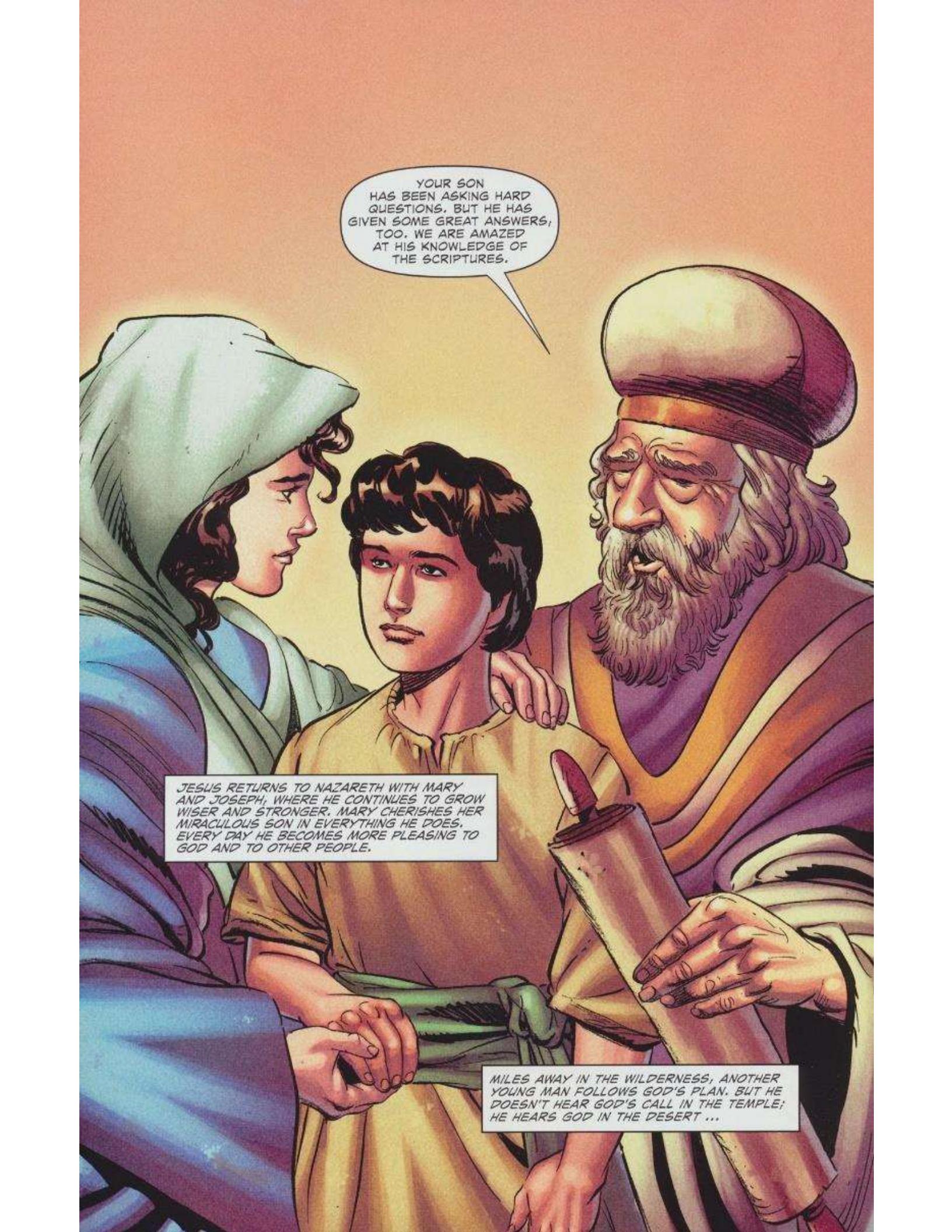
AFTER THE FEAST IS OVER, MARY AND JOSEPH SET OUT FOR HOME. THAT NIGHT WHEN THEY MAKE CAMP ...



BUT NO ONE HAS SEEN JESUS. FRANTIC, MARY AND JOSEPH GO BACK TO JERUSALEM. THEY LOOK FOR JESUS NEARLY EVERYWHERE IN THE CITY.

FINALLY, THEY FIND HIM IN THE TEMPLE. JESUS IS SITTING WITH THE TEACHERS.





YOUR SON
HAS BEEN ASKING HARD
QUESTIONS, BUT HE HAS
GIVEN SOME GREAT ANSWERS,
TOO. WE ARE AMAZED
AT HIS KNOWLEDGE OF
THE SCRIPTURES.

JESUS RETURNS TO NAZARETH WITH MARY
AND JOSEPH, WHERE HE CONTINUES TO GROW
WISER AND STRONGER. MARY CHERISHES HER
MIRACULOUS SON IN EVERYTHING HE DOES,
EVERY DAY HE BECOMES MORE PLEASING TO
GOD AND TO OTHER PEOPLE.

MILES AWAY IN THE WILDERNESS, ANOTHER
YOUNG MAN FOLLOWS GOD'S PLAN. BUT HE
DOESN'T HEAR GOD'S CALL IN THE TEMPLE;
HE HEARS GOD IN THE DESERT ...

Baptized

BASED ON LUKE 3;
MATTHEW 3

JOHN, THE SON OF ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH, GROWS UP WITH GOD'S CALL ON HIS HEART. AS AN ADULT, HE MEDITATES IN THE DESERT, AND THERE HE HEARS GOD CALLING HIM. HE BEGINS PREACHING FORCEFULLY ALL AROUND THE JORDAN RIVER.

STOP SINNING!
BE BAPTIZED!
GOD'S KINGDOM IS
VERY NEAR.

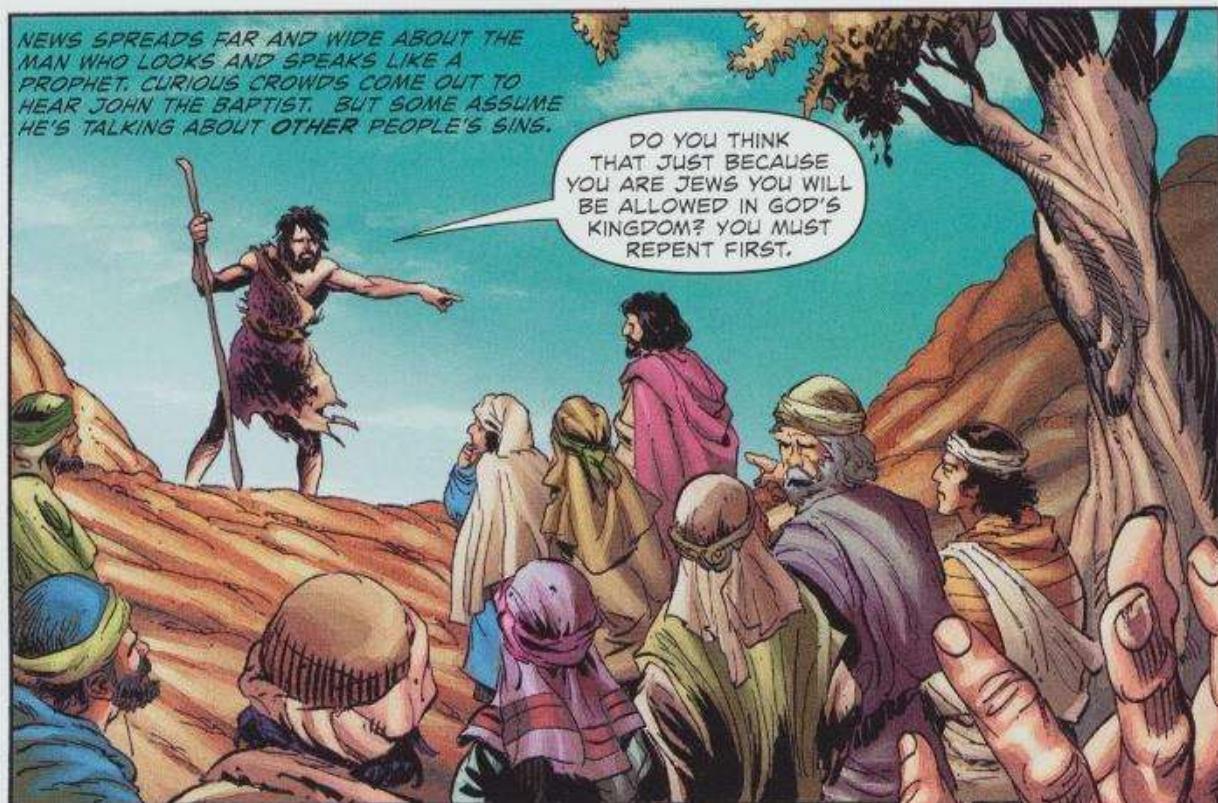
DRESSED IN CAMEL HAIR AND EATING NOTHING BUT LOCUSTS AND WHATEVER HONEY HE CAN SCROUNGE FROM WILD BEES, JOHN DOESN'T HAVE A LOT OF PATIENCE FOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN LUXURY AND IGNORE GOD.

JOHN REMINDS PEOPLE WHAT THE SCRIPTURES SAY IN THE BOOK OF ISAIAH:

A MESSENGER IS CALLING OUT FROM THE DESERT, "PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD." SOON ALL OF YOU WILL SEE GOD'S SALVATION WITH YOUR OWN EYES.

NEWS SPREADS FAR AND WIDE ABOUT THE MAN WHO LOOKS AND SPEAKS LIKE A PROPHET. CURIOUS CROWDS COME OUT TO HEAR JOHN THE BAPTIST. BUT SOME ASSUME HE'S TALKING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S SINS.

DO YOU THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE JEWS YOU WILL BE ALLOWED IN GOD'S KINGDOM? YOU MUST REPENT FIRST.



IF YOU HAVE EXTRA CLOTHES, SHARE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS NONE, IF YOU HAVE EXTRA FOOD, GIVE IT AWAY.

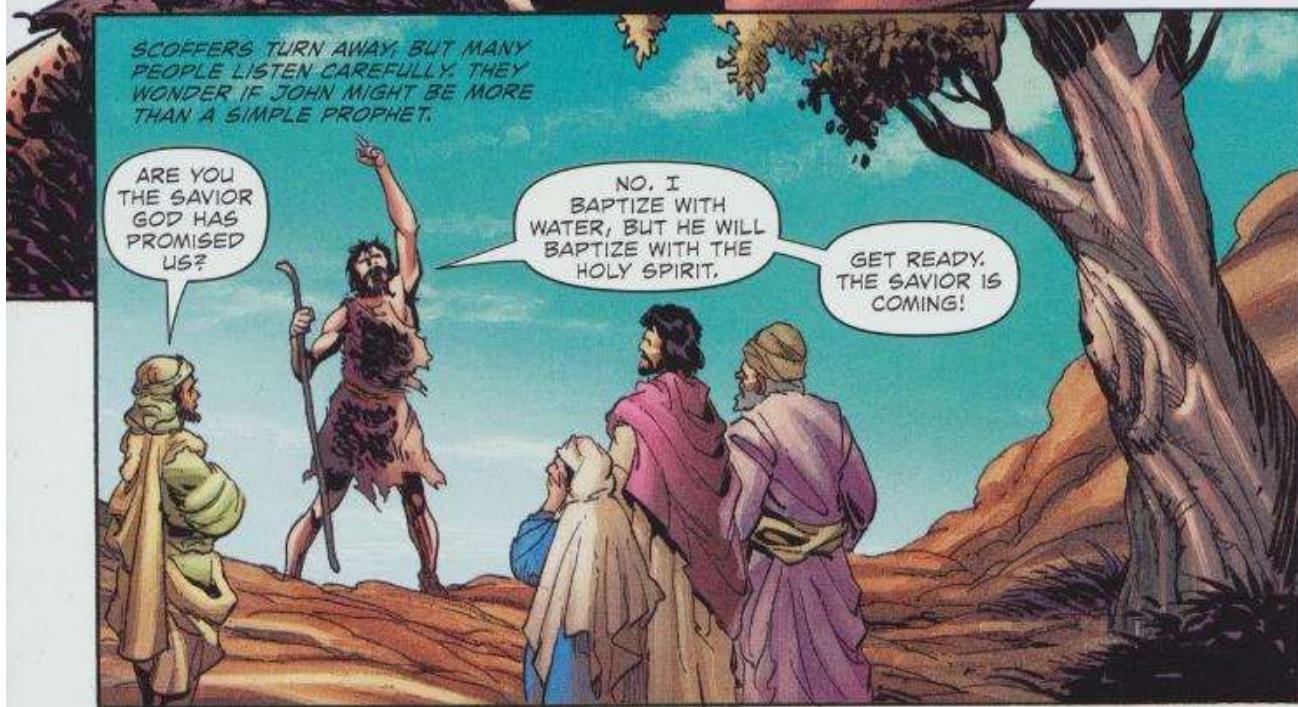


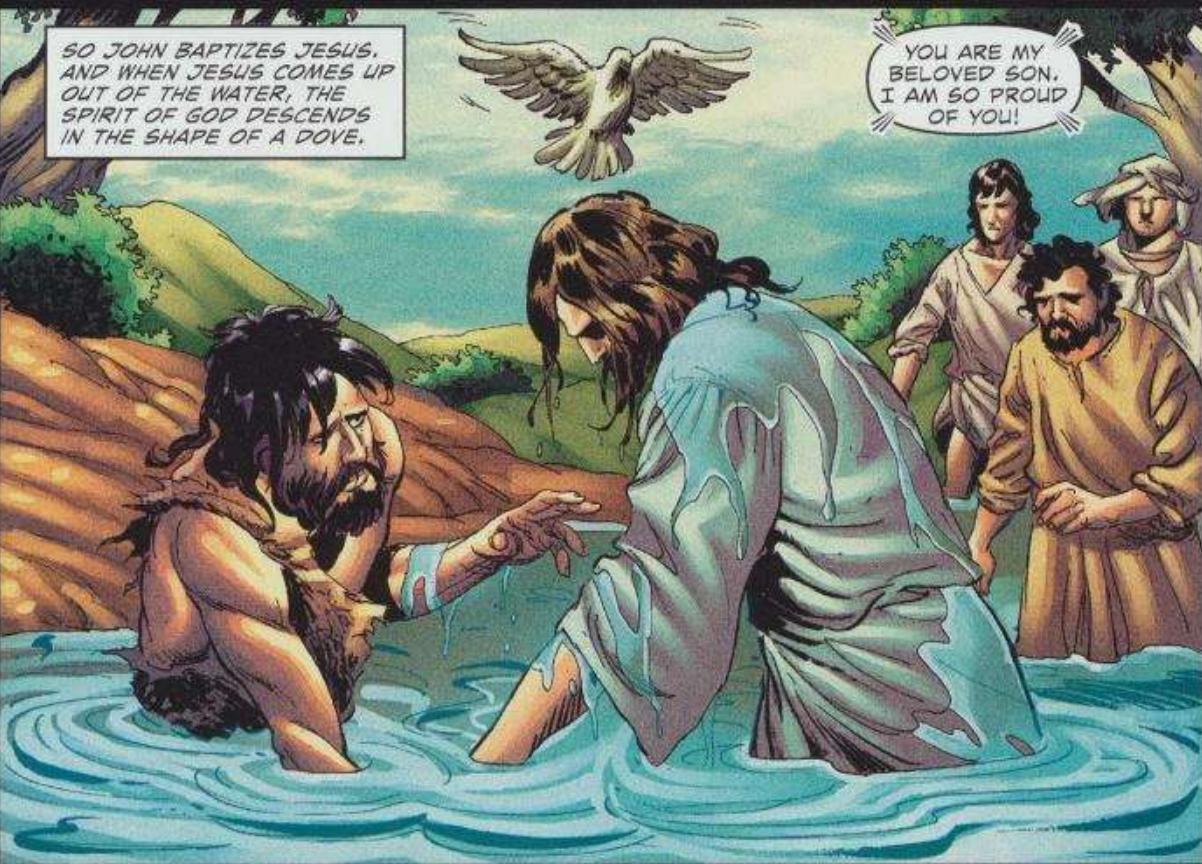
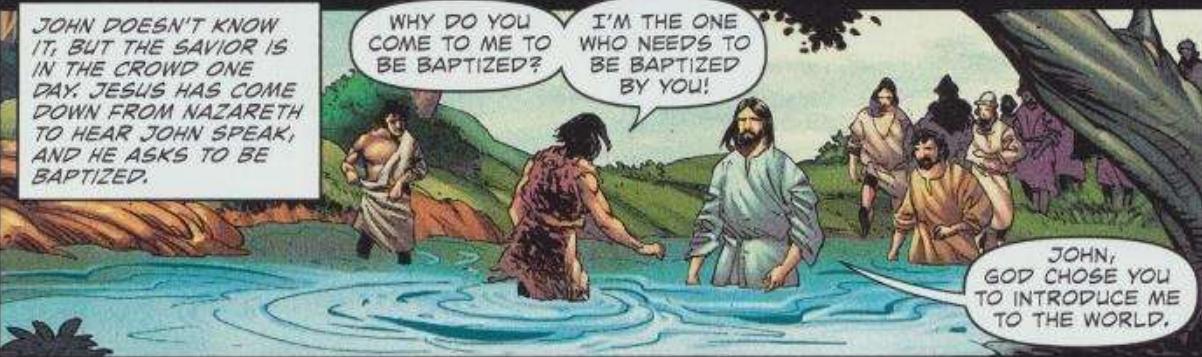
SCOFFERS TURN AWAY, BUT MANY PEOPLE LISTEN CAREFULLY. THEY WONDER IF JOHN MIGHT BE MORE THAN A SIMPLE PROPHET.

ARE YOU THE SAVIOR GOD HAS PROMISED US?

NO, I BAPTIZE WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

GET READY. THE SAVIOR IS COMING!





Tempted in the Desert

BASED ON LUKE 4:1-13; MATTHEW 4:1-11;
JOHN 1:35-51

THE DEVIL DOESN'T WANT JESUS TO DO GOD'S WORK. HE TRIES TO TEMPT JESUS TO MISUSE HIS POWER.

IF YOU REALLY ARE THE SON OF GOD, TURN THESE STONES INTO BREAD.

SCRIPTURE SAYS, "MAN DOESN'T LIVE ONLY ON BREAD, BUT ON THE WORD OF GOD."



THE DEVIL DOESN'T GIVE UP EASILY. SO HE TRIES AGAIN, OFFERING JESUS SOMETHING BIGGER THAN FOOD. THE DEVIL LEADS JESUS TO A HIGH PLACE, IN AN INSTANT HE DISPLAYS ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD FOR JESUS TO SEE.

I WILL GIVE YOU ALL THESE KINGDOMS. YOU COULD BE FAMOUS AND POWERFUL. IF YOU WORSHIP ME, IT WILL ALL BE YOURS.

SCRIPTURE SAYS, "WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD. HE IS THE ONLY ONE YOU SHOULD SERVE."

STILL THE DEVIL DOES NOT GIVE UP. NEXT THE DEVIL LEADS JESUS TO JERUSALEM. JESUS STANDS ON THE HIGHEST PART OF THE TEMPLE.

IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, THROW YOURSELF DOWN FROM HERE. SCRIPTURE SAYS, "THE LORD WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU."



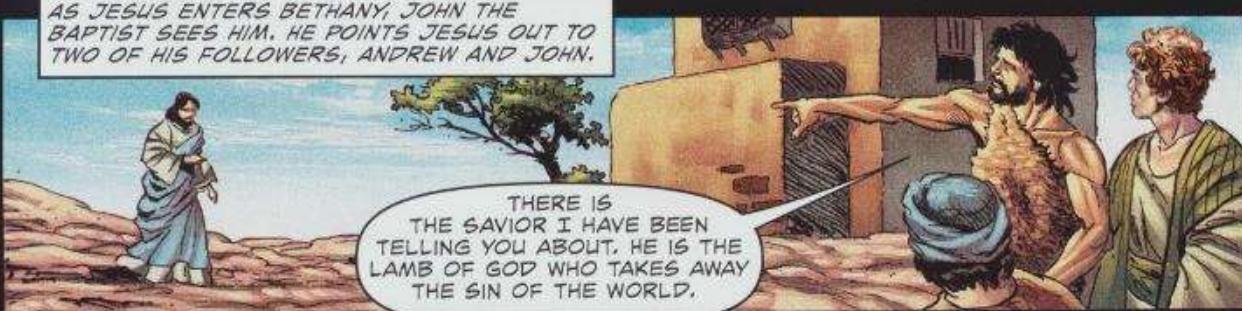
SCRIPTURE SAYS, "DO NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST."



FINALLY, THE DEVIL GIVES UP AND LEAVES JESUS ALONE. ANGELS COME TO FEED AND TAKE CARE OF HIM, NOW THAT HE HAS RESISTED THE DEVIL'S TEMPTATIONS. REFRESHED, JESUS LEAVES THE WILDERNESS AND GOES TO BETHANY BEYOND THE JORDAN RIVER.



AS JESUS ENTERS BETHANY, JOHN THE BAPTIST SEES HIM. HE POINTS JESUS OUT TO TWO OF HIS FOLLOWERS, ANDREW AND JOHN.



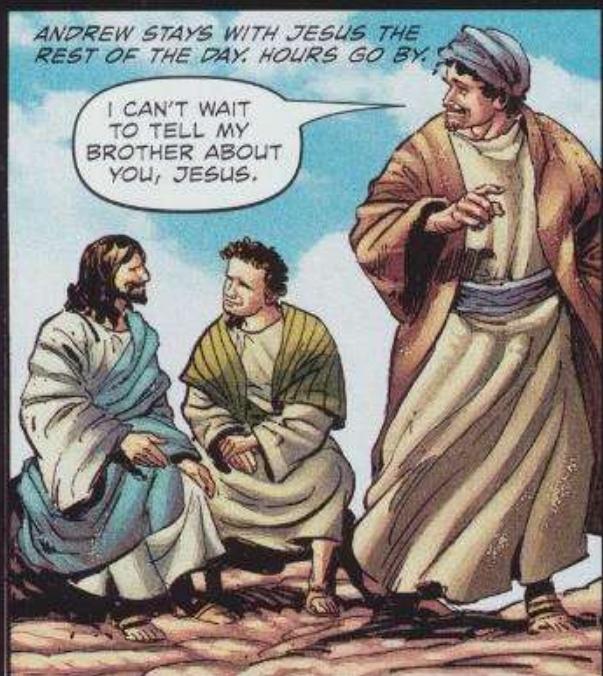
THERE IS THE SAVIOR I HAVE BEEN TELLING YOU ABOUT. HE IS THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD.

ANDREW AND JOHN QUICKLY FOLLOW JESUS.



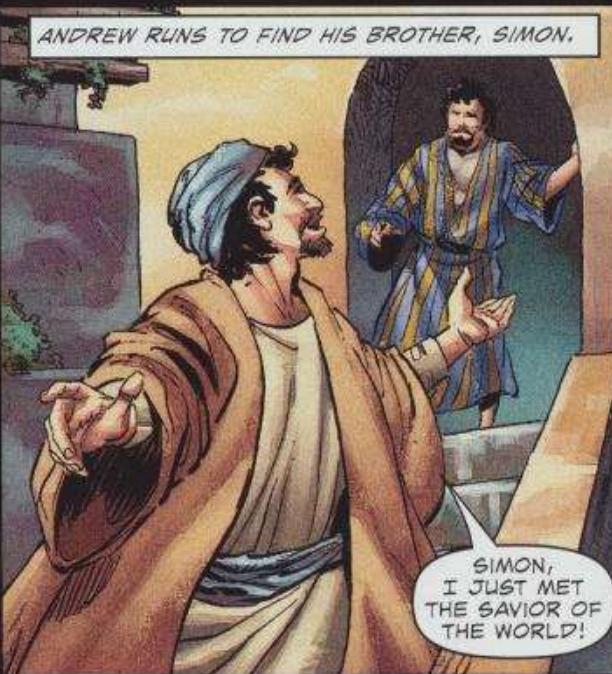
ANDREW STAYS WITH JESUS THE REST OF THE DAY. HOURS GO BY.

I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL MY BROTHER ABOUT YOU, JESUS.



ANDREW RUNS TO FIND HIS BROTHER, SIMON.

SIMON, I JUST MET THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!



SIMON FOLLOWS ANDREW BACK THROUGH THE STREETS OF BETHANY.

THIS IS SIMON, MY BROTHER.

YES, YOU ARE SIMON, BUT FROM NOW ON YOUR NICKNAME IS "PETER,"* BECAUSE YOU WILL BE THE ROCK I BUILD MY CHURCH ON.

* PETER MEANS "ROCK" IN GREEK.

THE NEXT DAY JESUS GOES NORTH TO GALILEE. HE INVITES ANOTHER YOUNG MAN, PHILIP, TO BE HIS DISCIPLE.

PHILIP ACCEPTS JESUS' INVITATION. LIKE ANDREW, HE WANTS TO SHARE HIS GOOD NEWS, SO HE HURRIES TO TELL A FRIEND.

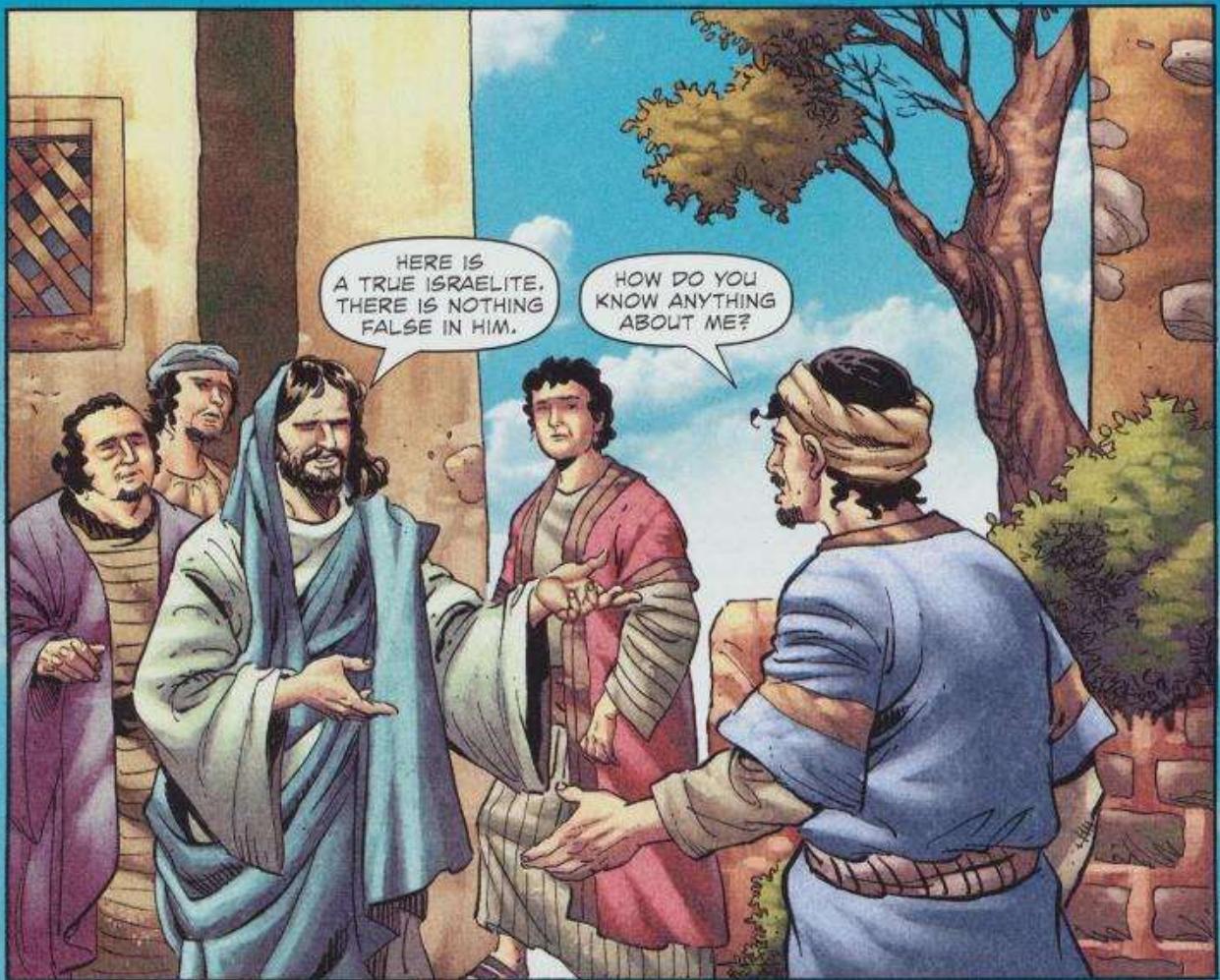
NATHANAEL, COME WITH ME! I HAVE FOUND THE SAVIOR! HE IS JESUS OF NAZARETH.

NAZARETH? CAN ANYTHING GOOD COME FROM THAT TOWN?

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, PEOPLE WOULD GIVE UP EVERYTHING THEY HAVE TO FOLLOW HIM.

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

NATHANAEL SEES JESUS, BUT HE STILL DOESN'T BELIEVE. THEN JESUS SPEAKS ...

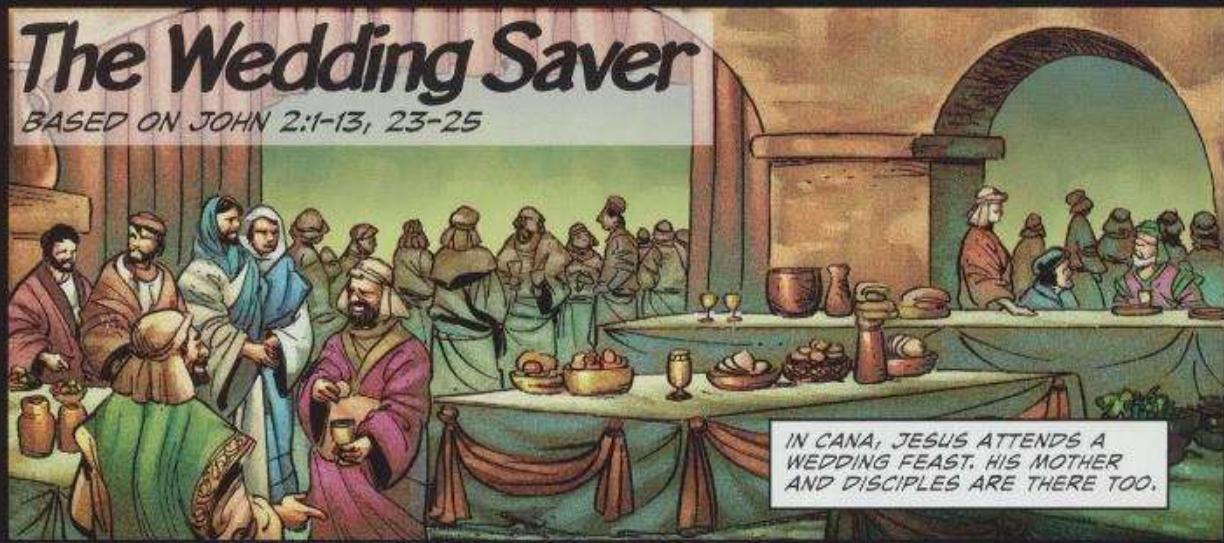


JESUS PROMISES NATHANAEL THAT HE WILL SEE GREATER THINGS
THAN SIMPLE FIG TREE VISIONS. HE WILL SEE THE HEAVENS OPEN
AND ANGELS COMING DOWN TO EARTH.

KNOWING HE'S FOUND THE SAVIOR, NATHANAEL JOINS JESUS AND HIS
FRIENDS AS THEY TRAVEL NORTH TO GALILEE, TO THE CITY OF CANA.

The Wedding Saver

BASED ON JOHN 2:1-13, 23-25

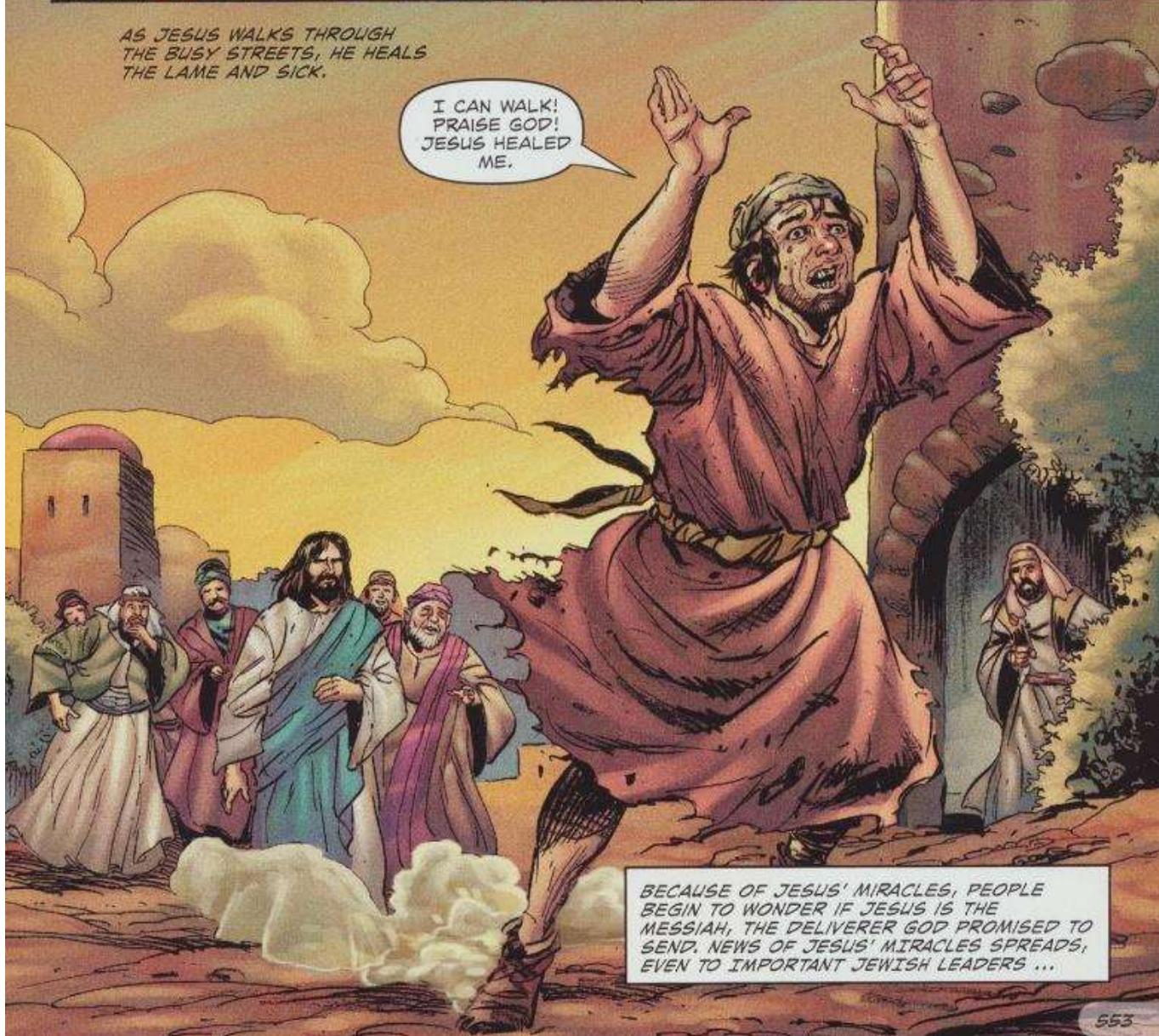
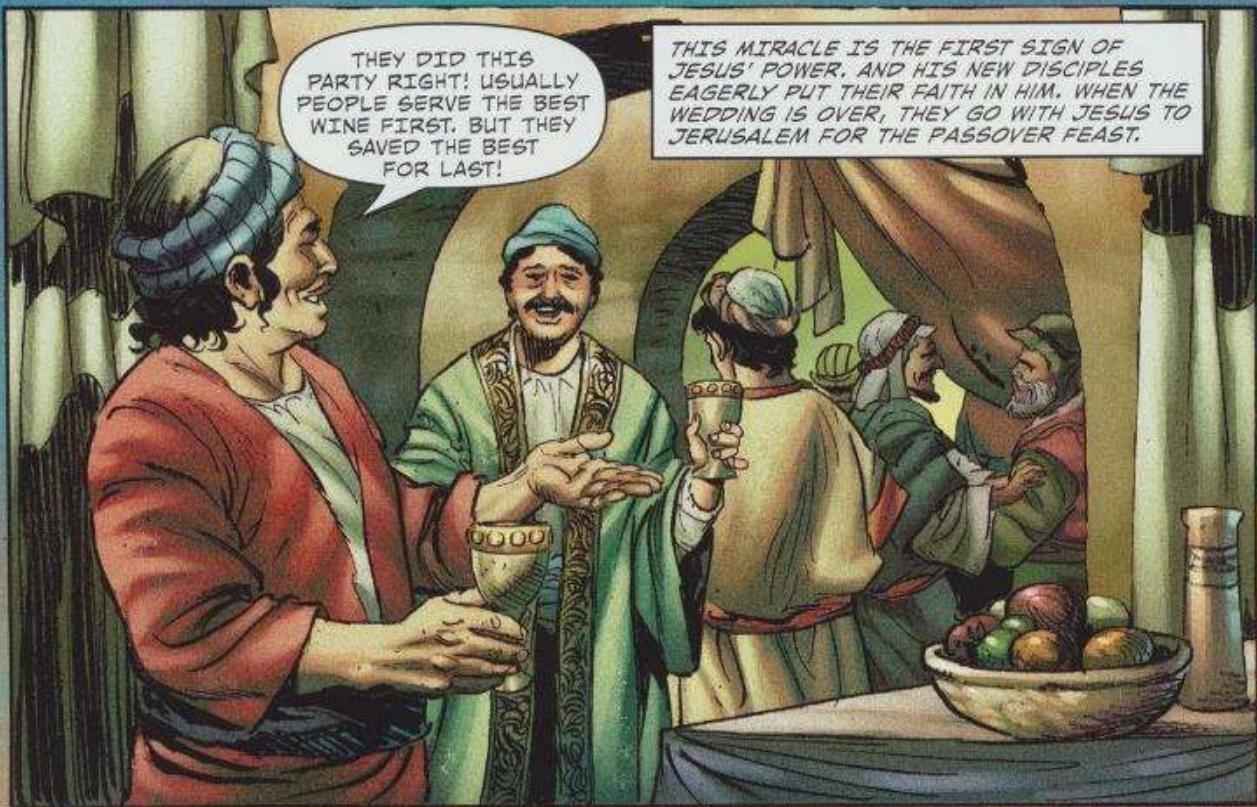


IN CANA, JESUS ATTENDS A WEDDING FEAST. HIS MOTHER AND DISCIPLES ARE THERE TOO.

FOR DAYS, THE CELEBRATION IS LOUD AND JOYOUS. BUT THEN THEY RUN OUT OF WINE. BEFORE THE GUESTS CAN NOTICE, MARY TURNS TO HER SON TO FIX THE PROBLEM. AND BEFORE JESUS CAN SAY NO, MARY INSTRUCTS THE SERVANTS:



THEN JESUS ORDERS THE SERVANTS TO POUR SOME FOR THE HEAD WAITER TO TASTE. CONFUSED, THEY OBEY.



Born Twice?

BASED ON JOHN 3

NICODEMUS, A JUDGE OF THE JEWISH SUPREME COURT, HAS SOME QUESTIONS FOR THIS MIRACLE WORKER, AND HE WANTS TO ASK THEM PRIVATELY. "IS JESUS THE SAVIOR WHO WILL OVERTHROW THE ROMANS?" "WHAT DOES A PERSON HAVE TO DO TO ENTER GOD'S KINGDOM?" SO ONE NIGHT HE SECRETLY GOES TO WHERE JESUS IS STAYING. BUT BEFORE HE CAN EVEN ASK HIS QUESTIONS, JESUS SPEAKS.

NO ONE CAN ENTER GOD'S KINGDOM WITHOUT BEING BORN AGAIN.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HOW CAN I BE BORN AGAIN WHEN I AM ALREADY SO OLD?

YOU WERE BORN ONCE FROM HUMAN PARENTS. NOW YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN BY GOD'S SPIRIT. THEN YOU CAN LIVE IN HIS KINGDOM.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.



YOU CAN'T SEE THE WIND, BUT YOU CAN SEE WHAT IT DOES. YOU CAN'T SEE THE SPIRIT OF GOD, BUT YOU CAN TELL BY THE WAY PEOPLE LIVE IF THEY HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN.

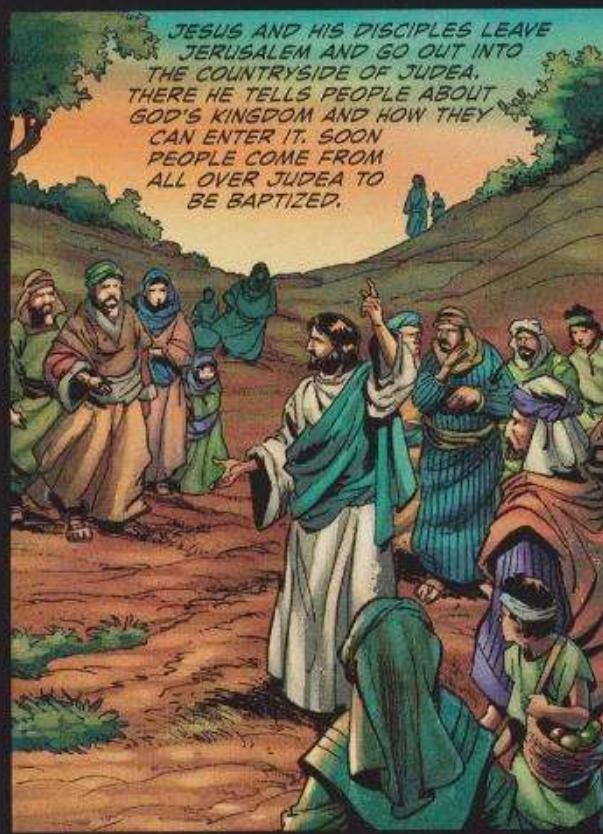
YOU'LL SEE FROM THEIR LIVES IF THEY HAVE THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN THEIR HEARTS.



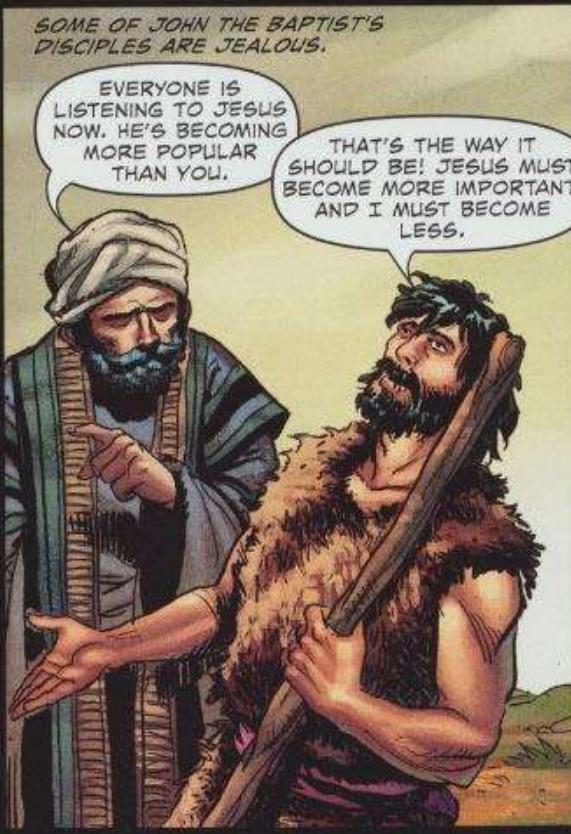
JUST LIKE MOSES LIFTED UP A BRONZE SNAKE IN THE DESERT, THE SON OF MAN MUST BE LIFTED UP SO THAT EVERYONE MAY LIVE FOREVER.

DON'T YOU SEE? GOD LOVES THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE SENT ME. ANYONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE. I HAVE COME TO SAVE THE WORLD!

NICODEMUS GOES BACK OUT INTO THE NIGHT ... WITH MORE QUESTIONS THAN HE STARTED WITH.



JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES LEAVE JERUSALEM AND GO OUT INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE OF JUDEA. THERE HE TELLS PEOPLE ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM AND HOW THEY CAN ENTER IT. SOON PEOPLE COME FROM ALL OVER JUDEA TO BE BAPTIZED.



SOME OF JOHN THE BAPTIST'S DISCIPLES ARE JEALOUS.

EVERYONE IS LISTENING TO JESUS NOW. HE'S BECOMING MORE POPULAR THAN YOU.

THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE! JESUS MUST BECOME MORE IMPORTANT, AND I MUST BECOME LESS.

Living Water

BASED ON JOHN 4; LUKE 4:14-28

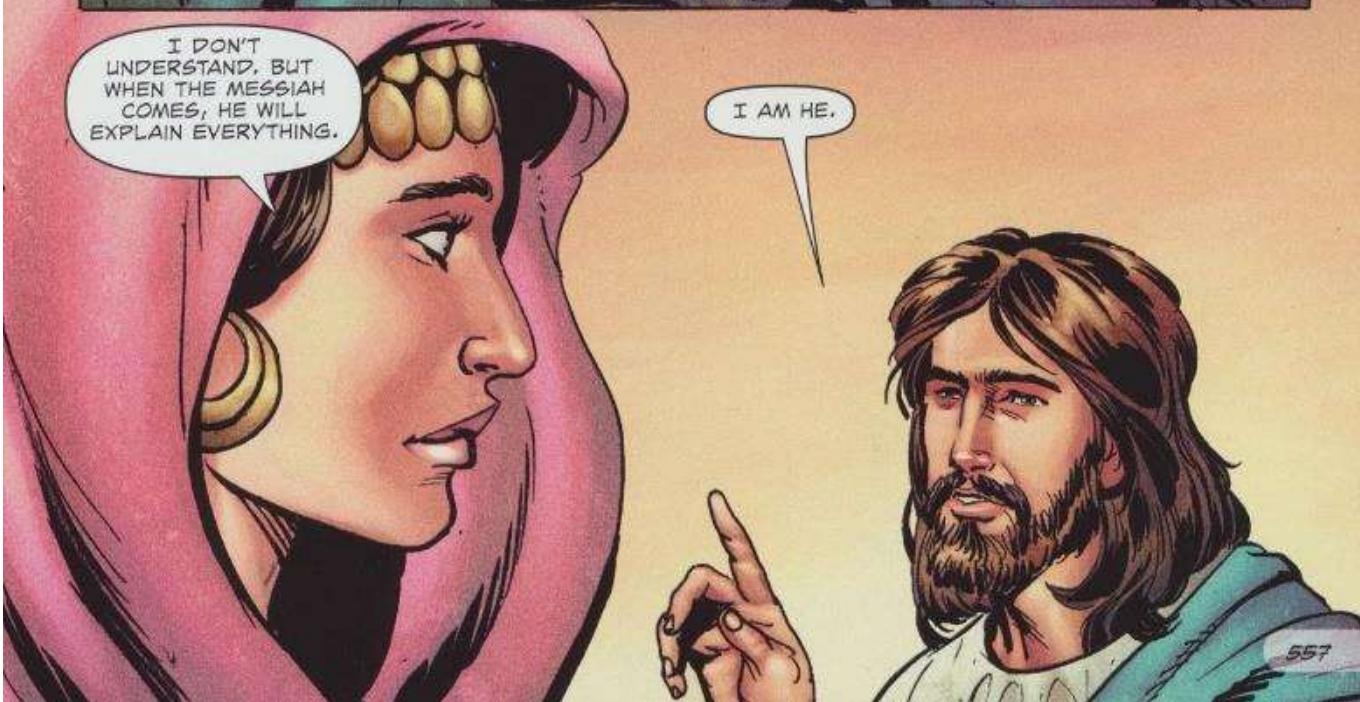
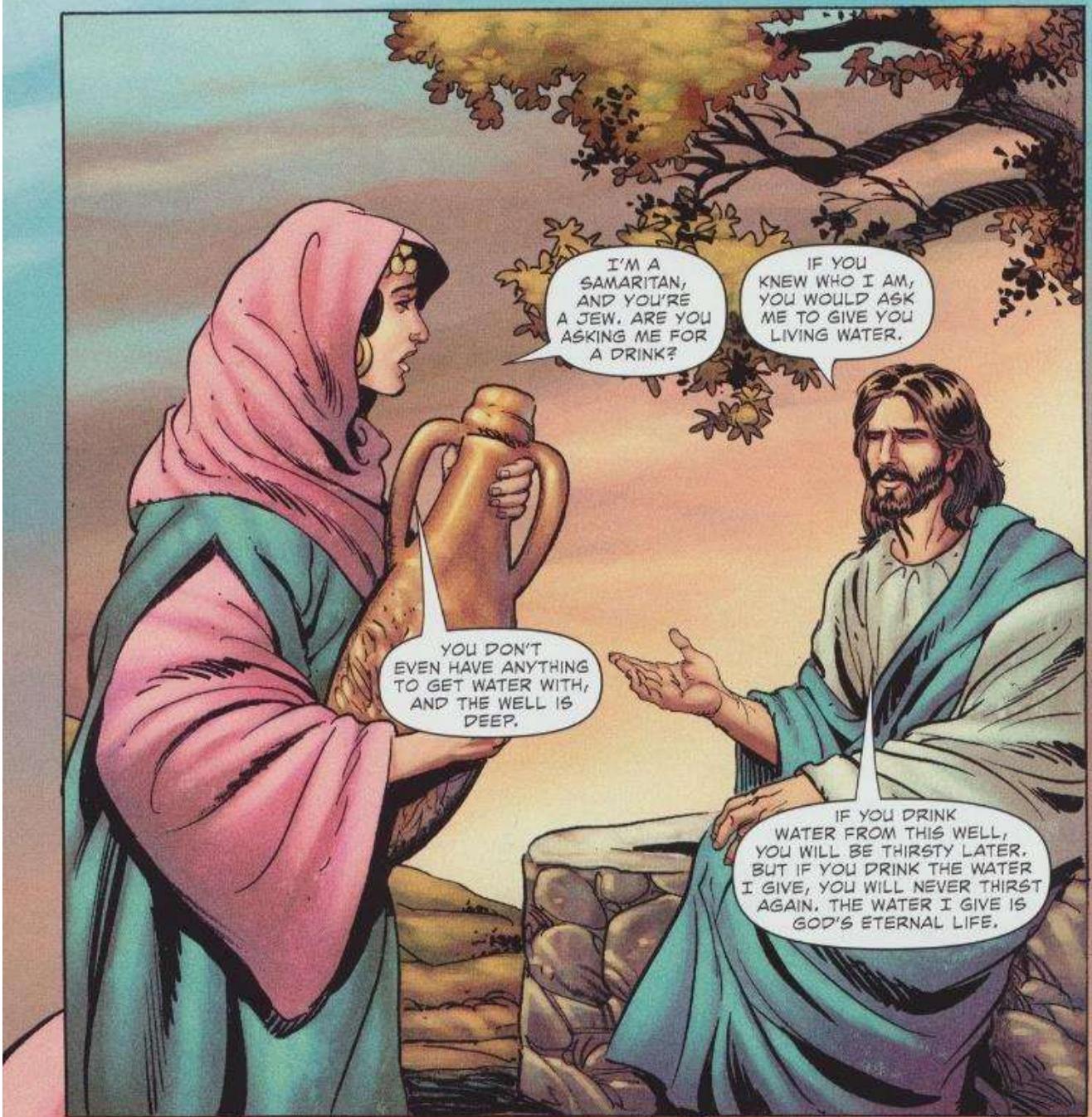
JESUS DECIDES TO GO FROM JUDEA TO GALILEE. ON THE WAY, HE PASSES THROUGH SAMARIA. AS HE AND HIS DISCIPLES APPROACH A WELL, JESUS SITS DOWN TO REST. HIS DISCIPLES GO INTO TOWN TO FIND FOOD.

I HOPE
NONE OF THESE
SAMARITANS CAUSES
ANY TROUBLE!

WILL
YOU GIVE ME
A DRINK?

HE'S A
JEW, AND I'M A
SAMARITAN. DOESN'T
HE KNOW HE IS NOT
SUPPOSED TO
TALK TO ME?

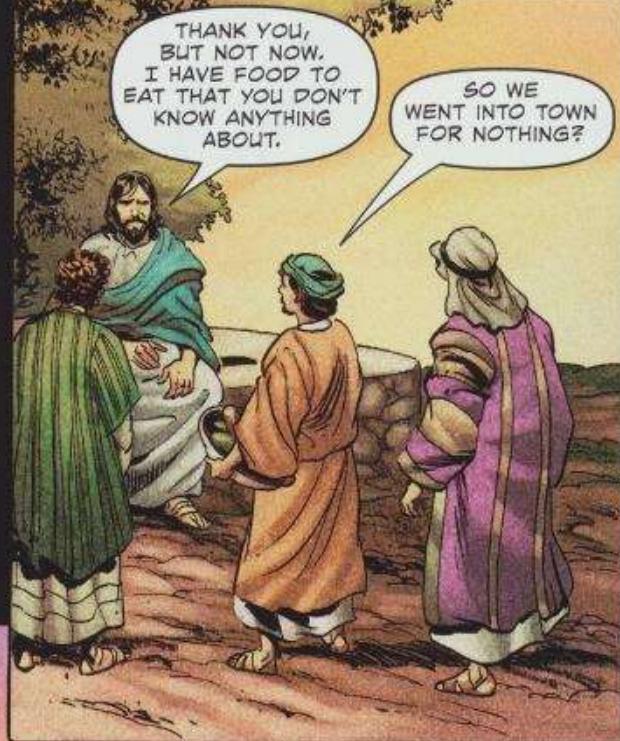
JEWS AND SAMARITANS HAVE BEEN BITTER
ENEMIES FOR MORE THAN 500 YEARS.
WHEN JESUS ASKS A SAMARITAN WOMAN
FOR A DRINK OF WATER, SHE IS SHOCKED.



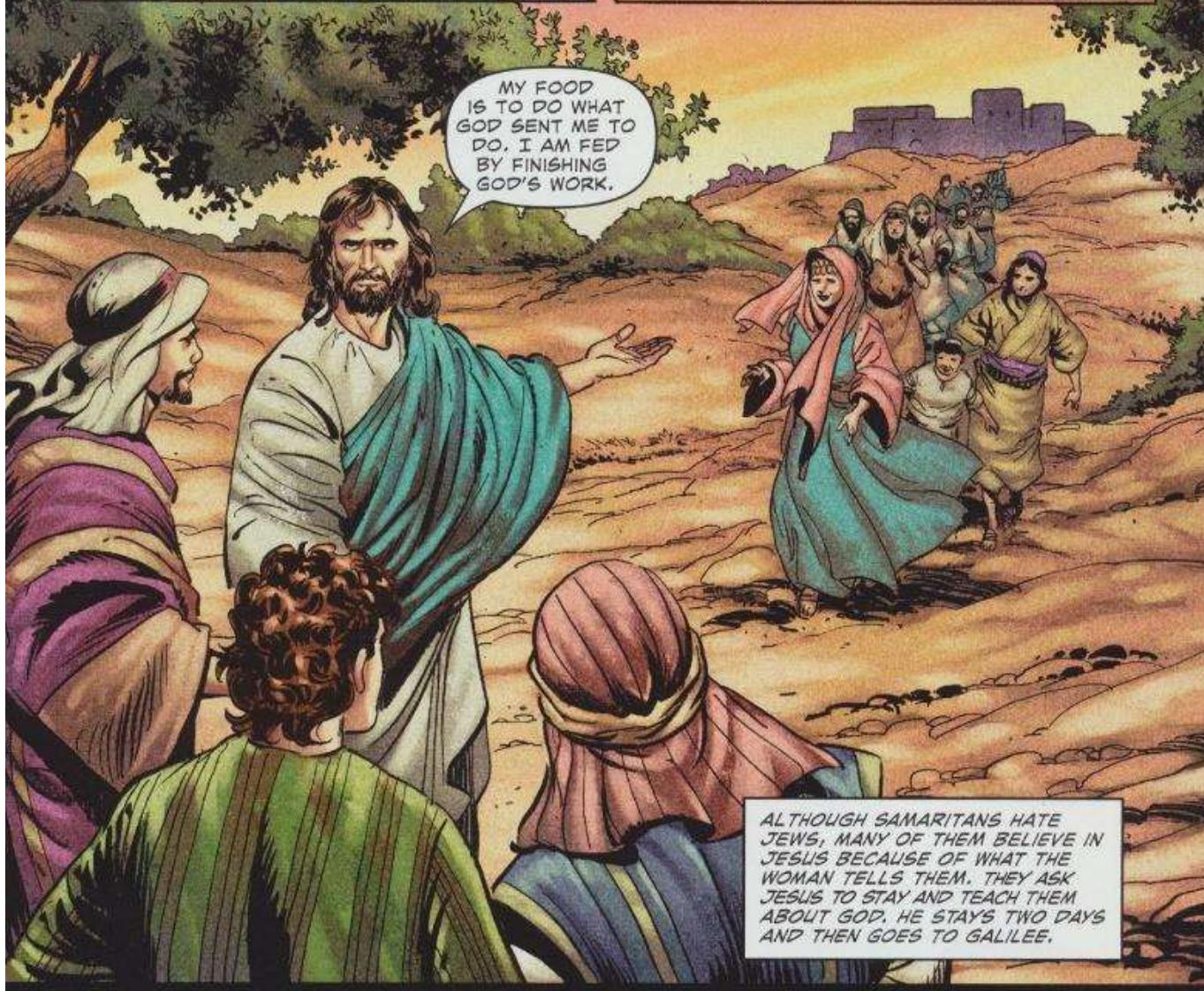
WHEN JESUS TELLS HER THAT HE IS THE SAVIOR FROM GOD, SHE BELIEVES HIM AND RUNS TO TOWN TO TELL THE GOOD NEWS.



WHILE THE WOMAN IS IN TOWN, JESUS' DISCIPLES RETURN WITH FOOD FOR HIM TO EAT.



MY FOOD IS TO DO WHAT GOD SENT ME TO DO. I AM FED BY FINISHING GOD'S WORK.



ON THE SABBATH IN HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH, JESUS GOES TO THE SYNAGOGUE. HE READS FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH, WHICH TELLS ABOUT THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH, THE SAVIOR GOD PROMISED TO SEND.

TODAY THIS PASSAGE HAS COME TRUE.

YOU! THE MESSIAH? YOU'RE JUST THE SON OF JOSEPH THE CARPENTER.

WHAT I'M TELLING YOU IS TRUE, BUT YOU WON'T LISTEN BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHO I AM.

KILL HIM!

RUN HIM OUT OF TOWN!

THE CROWD REJECTS JESUS AND CHASES HIM OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE. THEY WANT TO THROW HIM OFF A CLIFF AT THE EDGE OF TOWN. BUT JESUS CALMLY WALKS RIGHT THROUGH THE CROWD AND GOES ON HIS WAY.

Up on the Roof

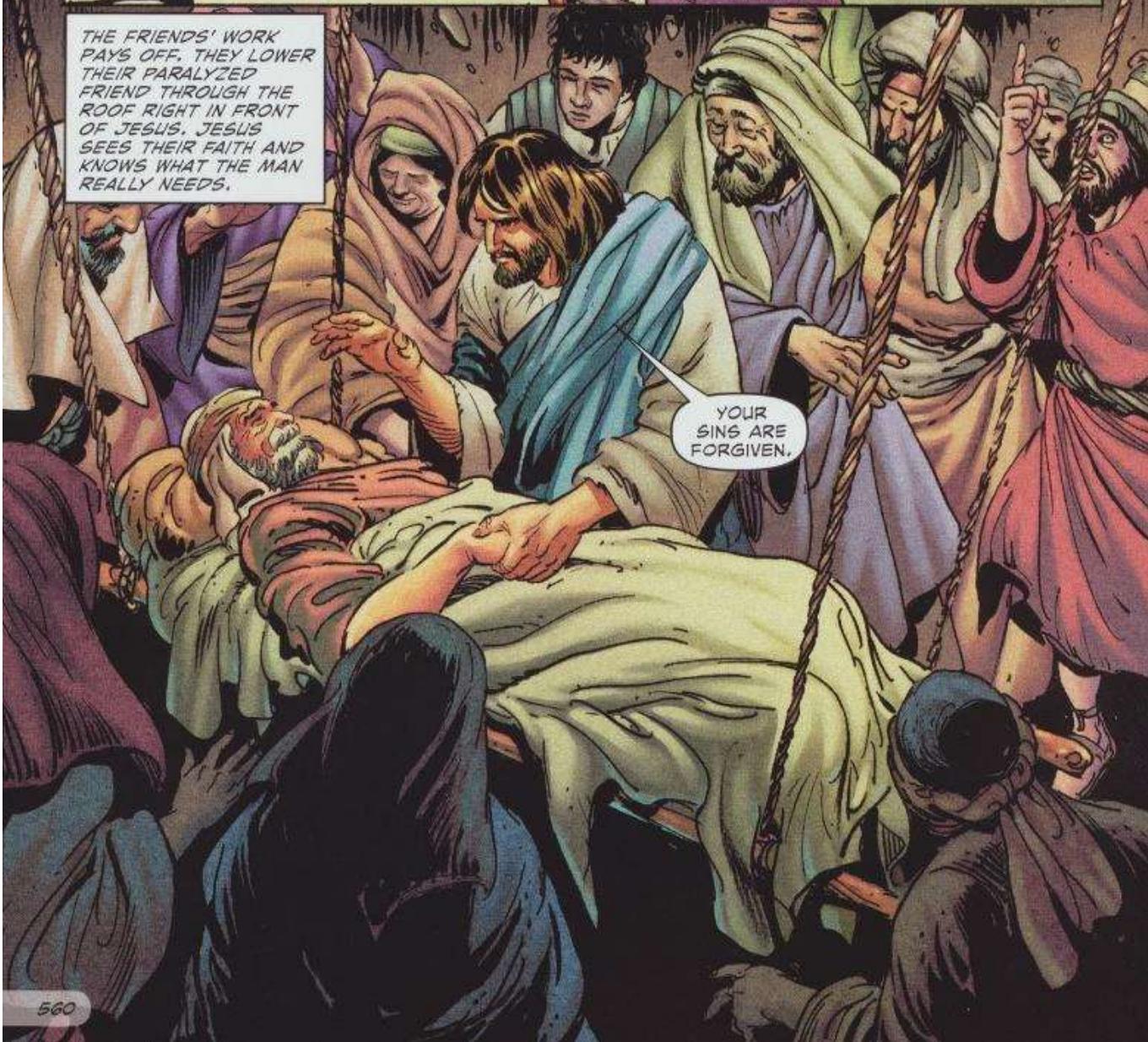
BASED ON MARK 2:1-12

JESUS CONTINUES HEALING PEOPLE—EVEN THOSE STRUCK WITH LEPROSY! AS A RESULT, EVERYWHERE JESUS GOES, CROWDS FOLLOW HIM, HOPING TO SEE MORE MIRACLES. ONE DAY IN CAPERNAUM, SO MANY PEOPLE PACK INTO A HOUSE THAT NO ONE ELSE CAN SQUEEZE IN. FOUR MEN BRING THEIR CRIPPLED FRIEND TO SEE JESUS. HE IS PARALYZED AND CAN'T WALK. WHEN THEY CAN'T GET IN THROUGH THE DOOR, THEY GO UP TO THE ROOF.



THE FRIENDS' WORK PAYS OFF. THEY LOWER THEIR PARALYZED FRIEND THROUGH THE ROOF RIGHT IN FRONT OF JESUS. JESUS SEES THEIR FAITH AND KNOWS WHAT THE MAN REALLY NEEDS.

YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.



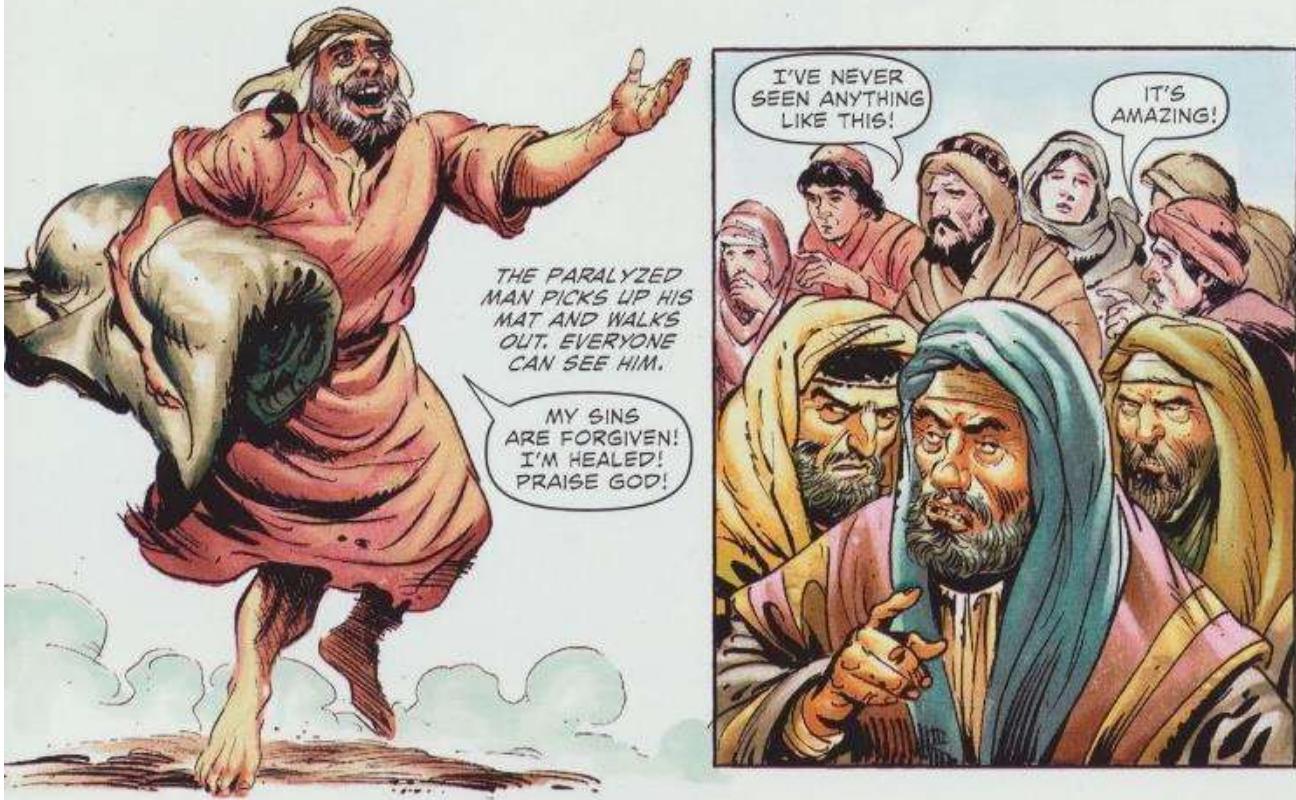
THE PEOPLE ARE AMAZED, BUT SOME OF THE LEADERS, THE PHARISEES, ARE ANGRY AT WHAT JESUS SAYS.



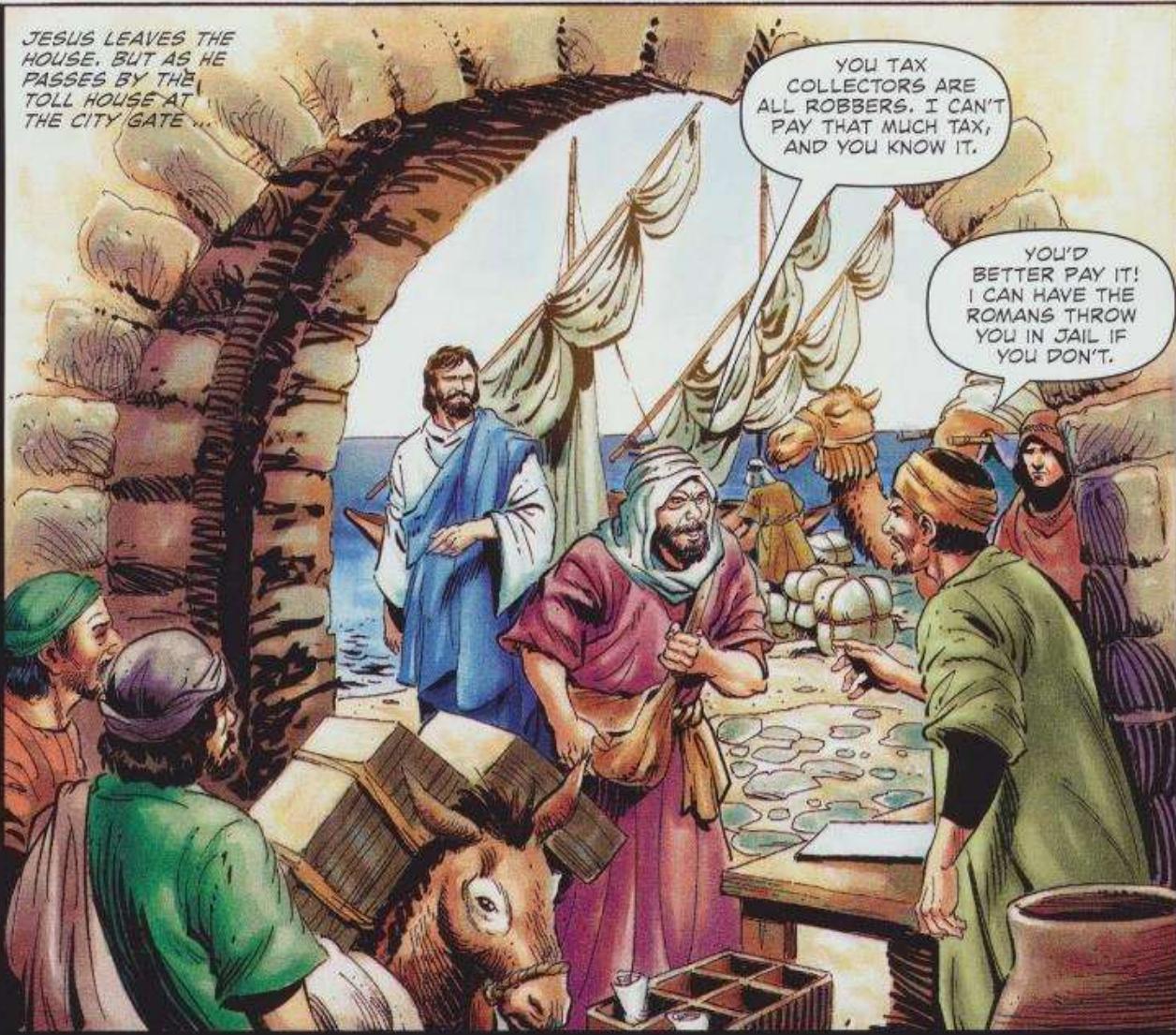
JESUS KNOWS WHAT THE PHARISEES ARE THINKING.

WHICH IS HARDER TO DO? FORGIVE A MAN'S SINS OR HEAL A MAN'S LEGS?

TO PROVE I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS, I WILL ALSO HEAL THIS MAN'S LEGS. STAND UP, PICK UP YOUR MAT, AND GO HOME.



JESUS LEAVES THE HOUSE. BUT AS HE PASSES BY THE TOLL HOUSE AT THE CITY GATE...

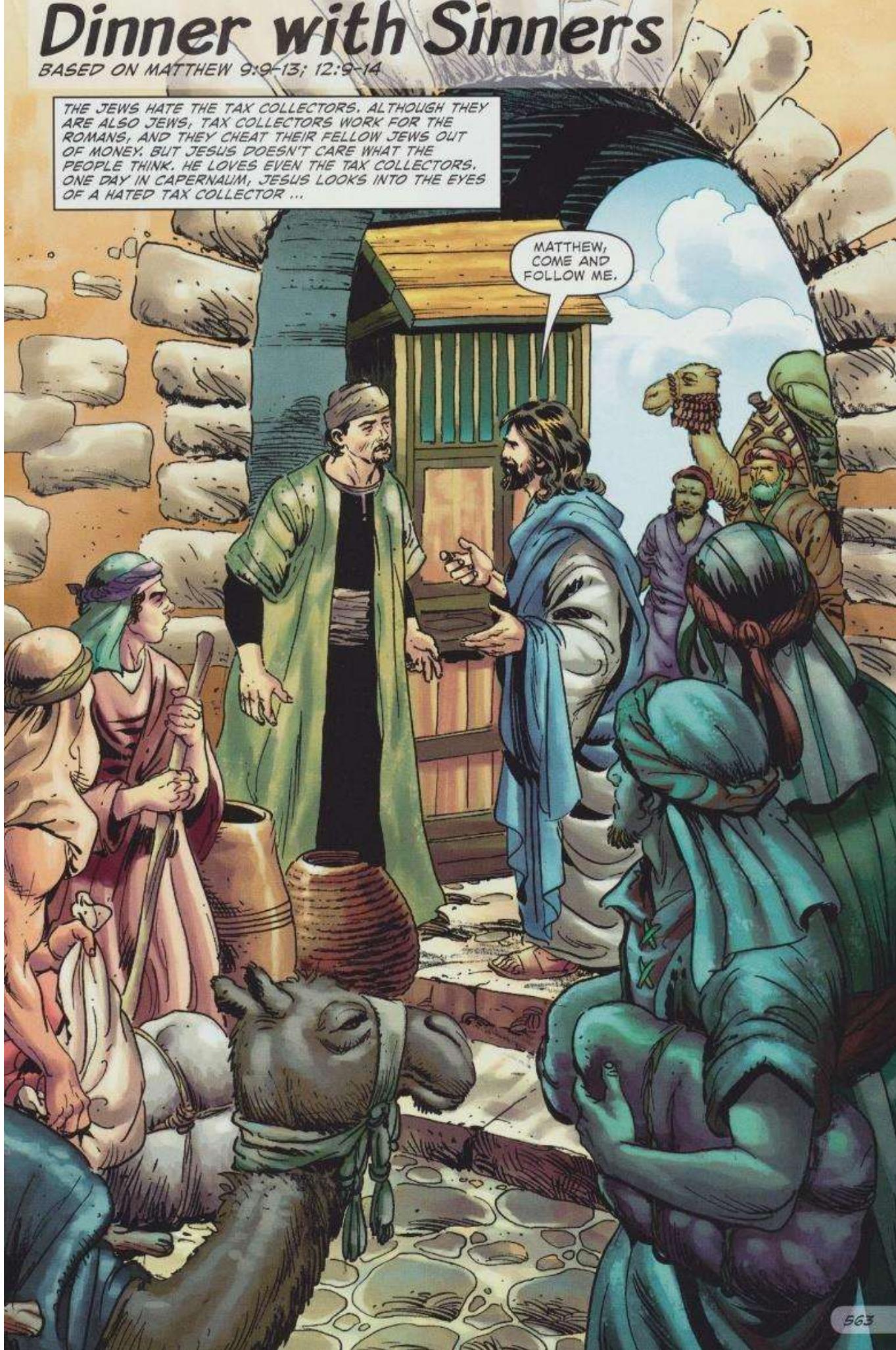


Dinner with Sinners

BASED ON MATTHEW 9:9-13; 12:9-14

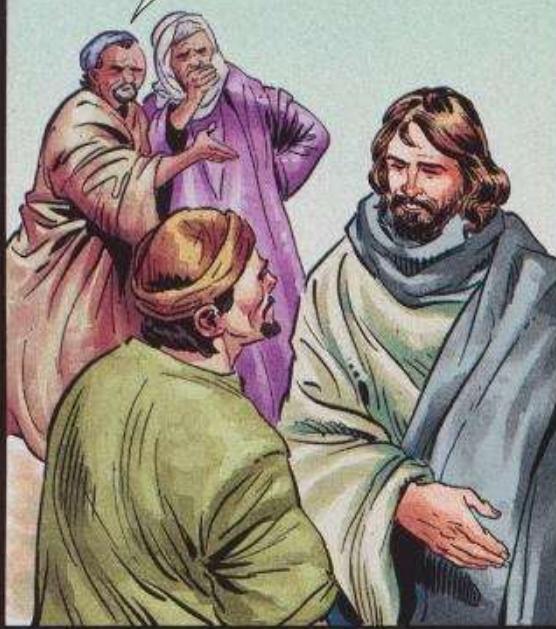
THE JEWS HATE THE TAX COLLECTORS. ALTHOUGH THEY ARE ALSO JEWS, TAX COLLECTORS WORK FOR THE ROMANS, AND THEY CHEAT THEIR FELLOW JEWS OUT OF MONEY. BUT JESUS DOESN'T CARE WHAT THE PEOPLE THINK. HE LOVES EVEN THE TAX COLLECTORS. ONE DAY IN CAPERNAUM, JESUS LOOKS INTO THE EYES OF A HATED TAX COLLECTOR ...

MATTHEW,
COME AND
FOLLOW ME.



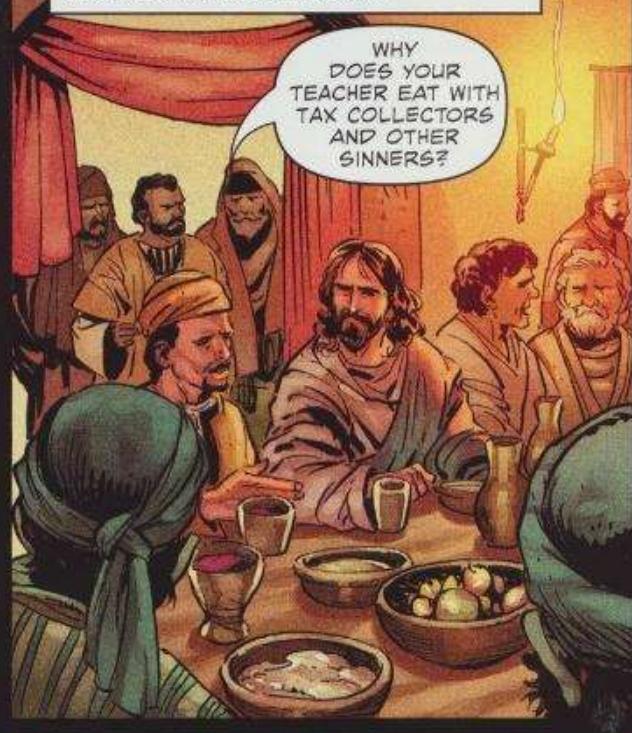
IMMEDIATELY MATTHEW GIVES UP HIS PROSPEROUS—BUT CORRUPT—JOB AND FOLLOWS JESUS.

NO GOOD JEW EVER WANTED MATTHEW FOR A FRIEND.

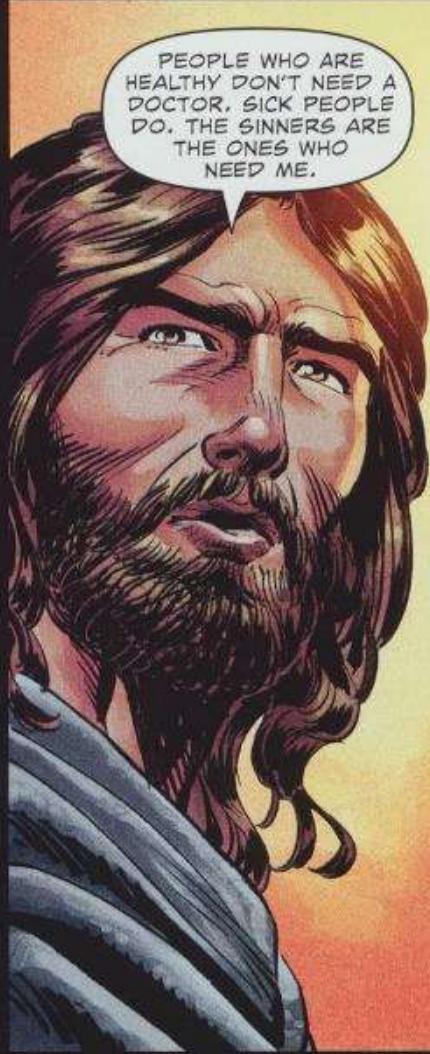


MATTHEW THROWS A DINNER PARTY TO HONOR JESUS. OTHER TAX COLLECTORS COME TO DINNER TOO. THE PHARISEES SEETHE WITH DISAPPROVAL.

WHY DOES YOUR TEACHER EAT WITH TAX COLLECTORS AND OTHER SINNERS?

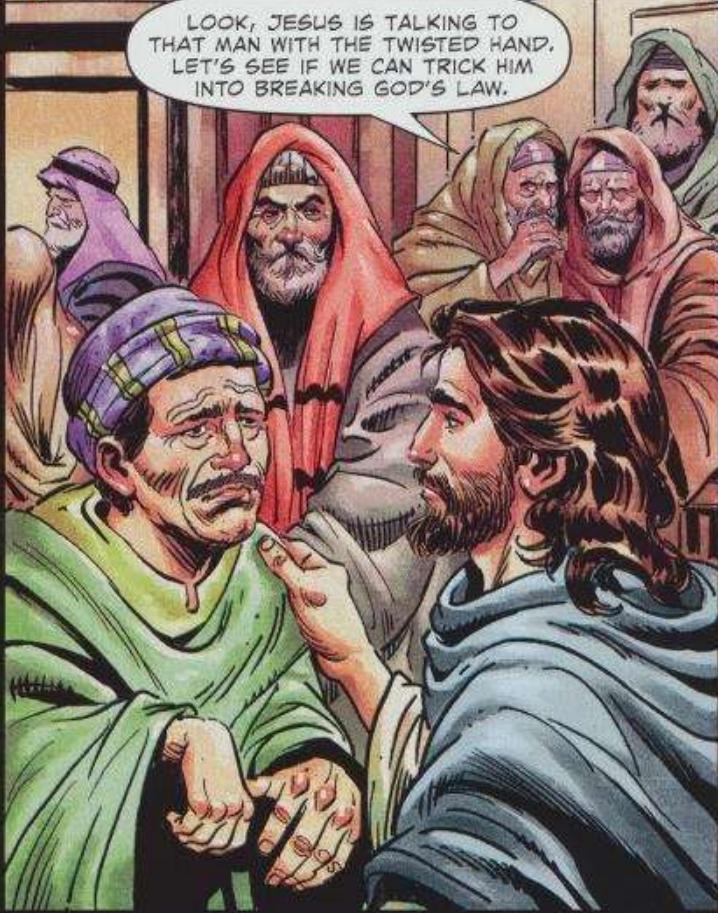


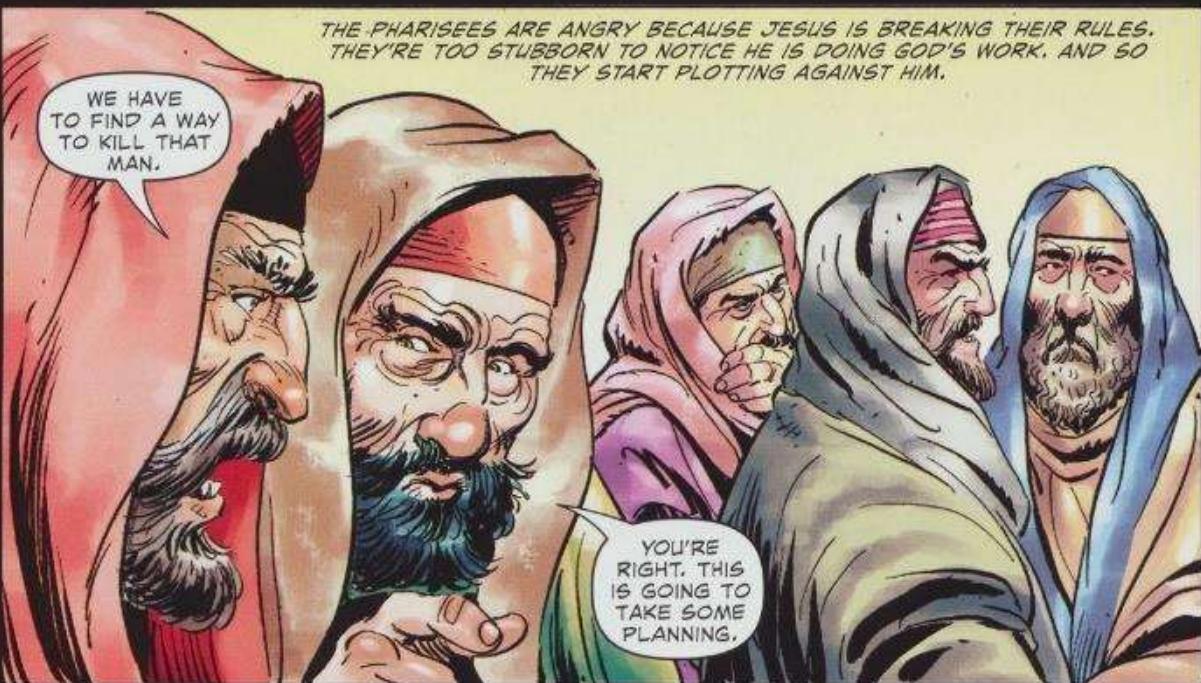
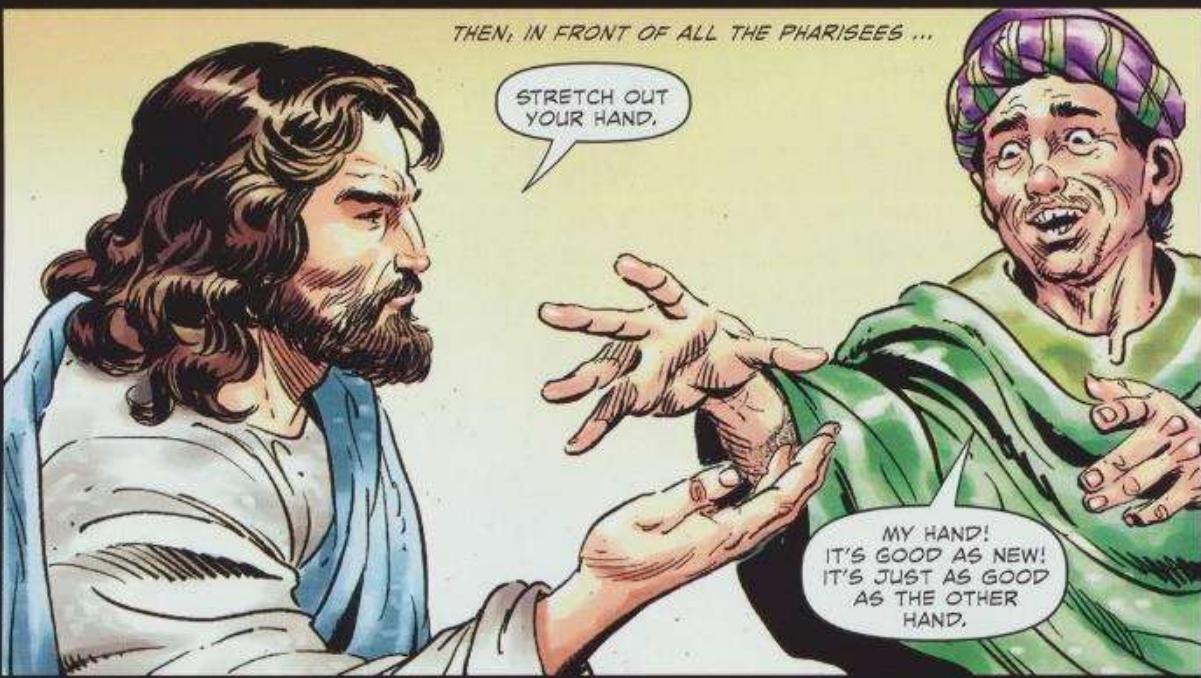
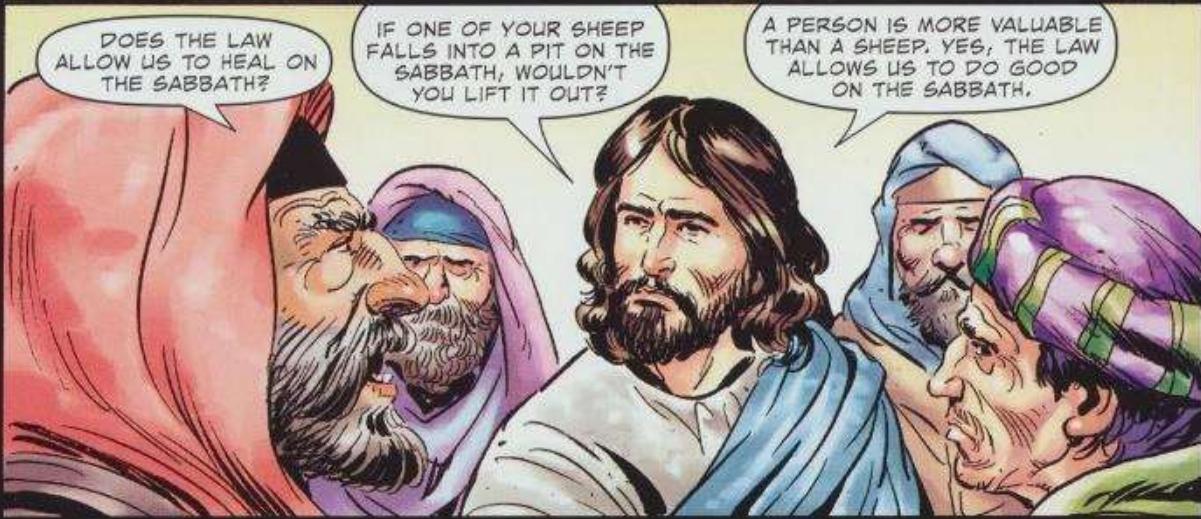
PEOPLE WHO ARE HEALTHY DON'T NEED A DOCTOR. SICK PEOPLE DO. THE SINNERS ARE THE ONES WHO NEED ME.



THE PHARISEES DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, BUT THEY GET EVEN ANGRIER AT JESUS AND START LOOKING FOR WAYS TO CRITICIZE HIM IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE. ONE SABBATH DAY IN THE SYNAGOGUE ...

LOOK, JESUS IS TALKING TO THAT MAN WITH THE TWISTED HAND. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN TRICK HIM INTO BREAKING GOD'S LAW.

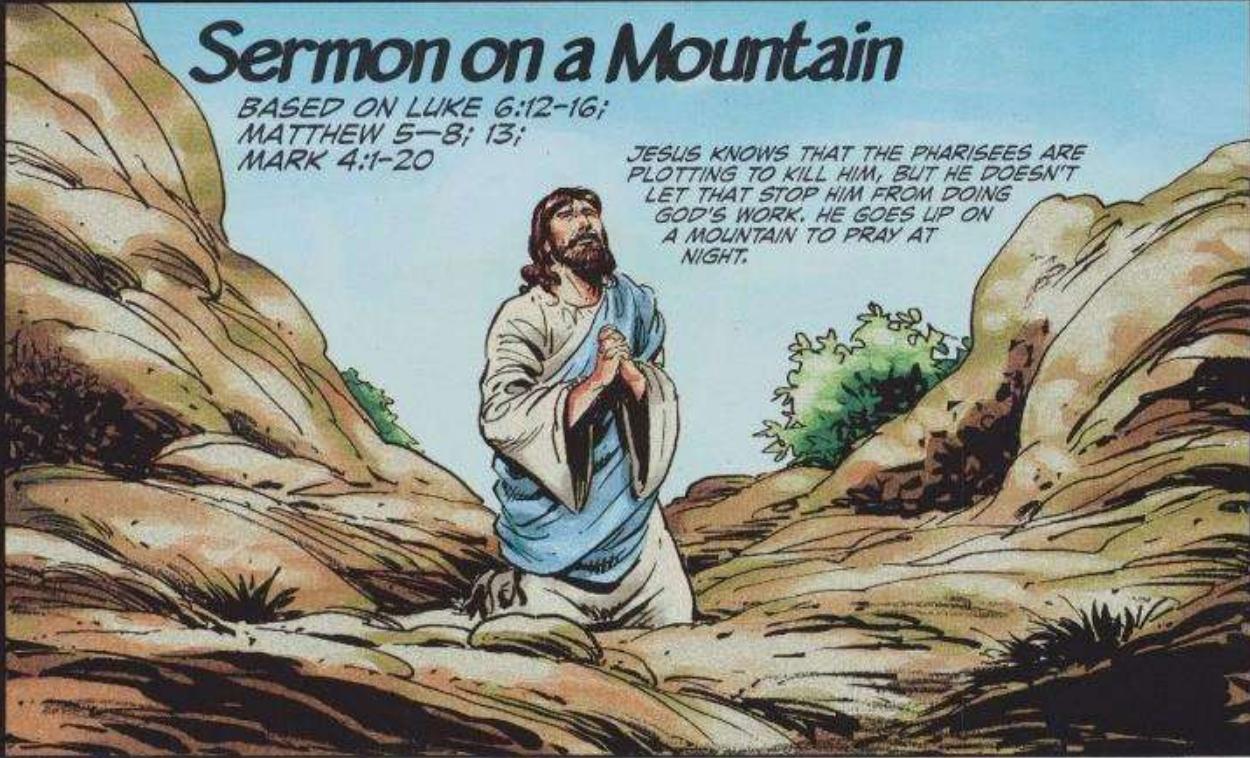




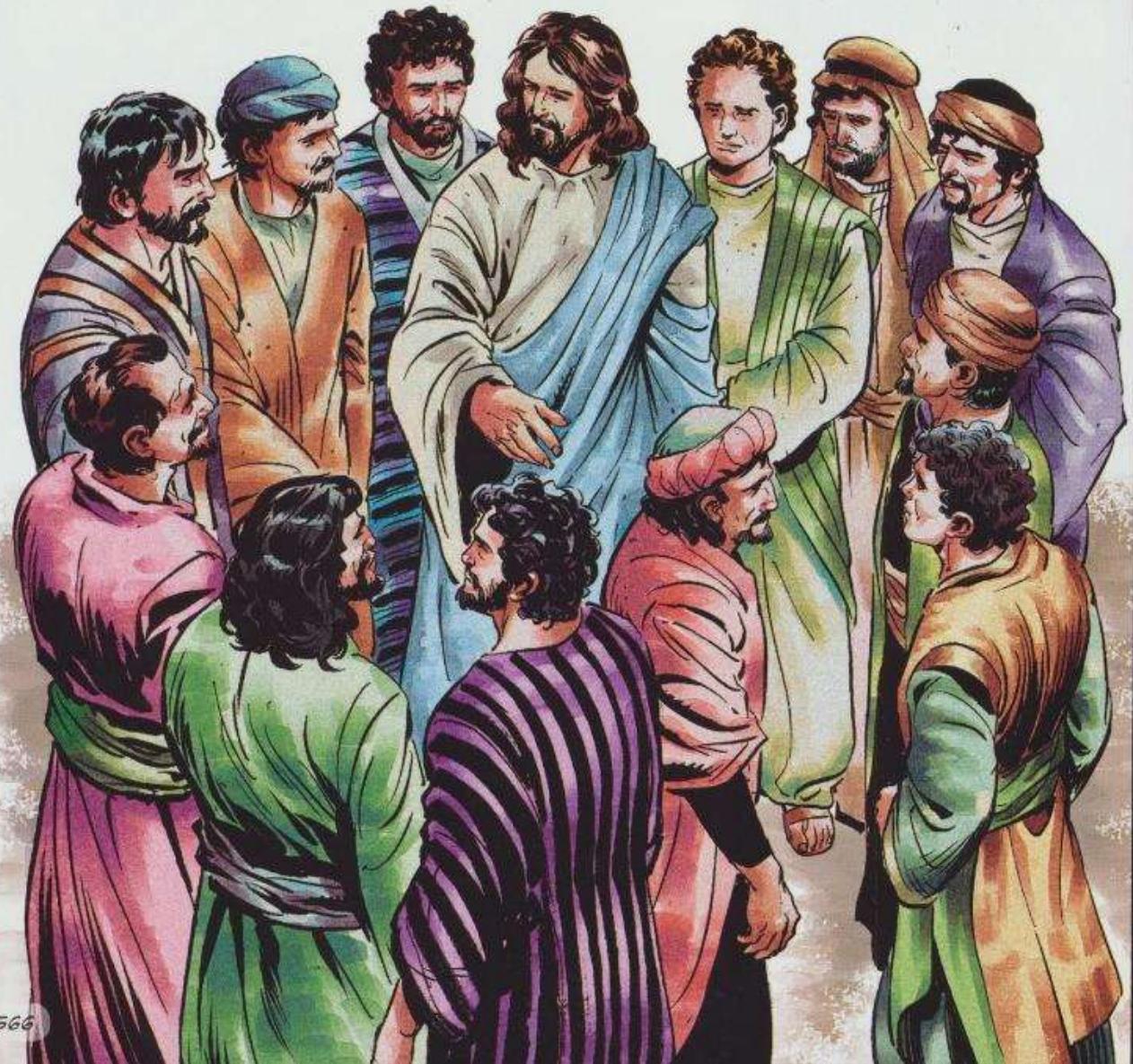
Sermon on a Mountain

BASED ON LUKE 6:12-16;
MATTHEW 5-8; 13;
MARK 4:1-20

JESUS KNOWS THAT THE PHARISEES ARE PLOTTING TO KILL HIM, BUT HE DOESN'T LET THAT STOP HIM FROM DOING GOD'S WORK. HE GOES UP ON A MOUNTAIN TO PRAY AT NIGHT.



IN THE MORNING, JESUS NAMES 12 MEN TO BE FULL-TIME HELPERS IN GOD'S WORK: SIMON PETER, ANDREW, JAMES, JOHN, PHILIP, NATHANAEL BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW, THOMAS, JAMES THE SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDEUS, SIMON THE ZEALOT, AND JUDAS ISCARIOT.



WHEN JESUS AND HIS 12 APOSTLES COME DOWN THE MOUNTAIN, THEY MEET A CROWD WAITING TO HEAR JESUS SPEAK. HE TELLS THEM WHAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE, WITH EXAMPLES OF HOW TO LIVE LIKE GOD WANTS.

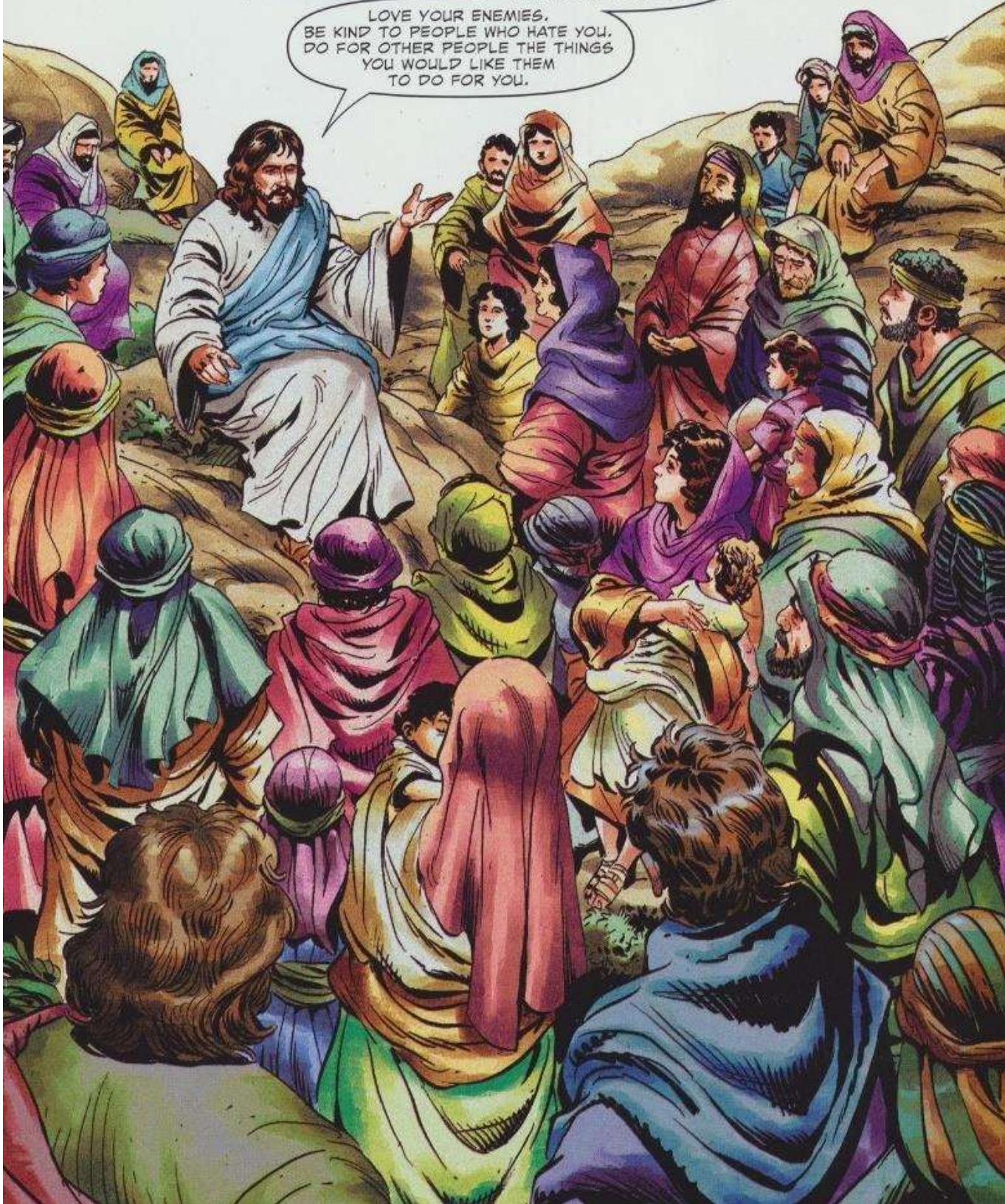
BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY AND THIRSTY FOR WHAT IS RIGHT. THEY WILL BE FILLED.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO SHOW MERCY. THEY WILL BE SHOWN MERCY.

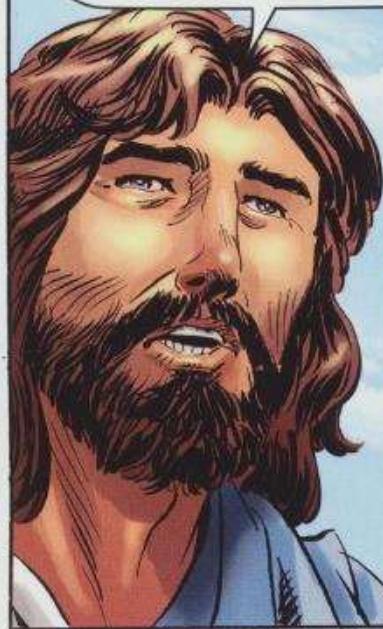
BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE HEARTS ARE PURE. THEY WILL SEE GOD.

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. PEOPLE DON'T HIDE A LAMP UNDER A BOWL. THEY PUT IT OUT FOR EVERYONE TO SEE.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES. BE KIND TO PEOPLE WHO HATE YOU. DO FOR OTHER PEOPLE THE THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO DO FOR YOU.



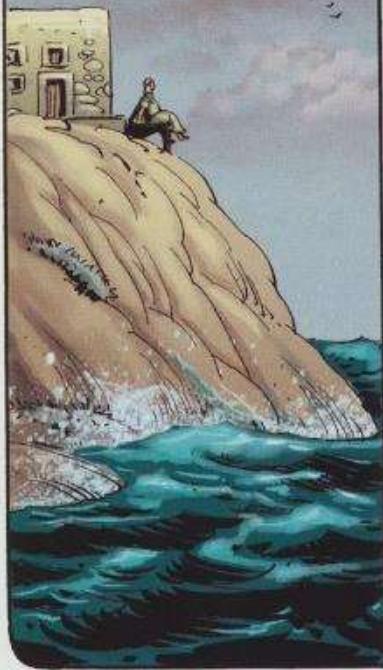
YOU WHO BELIEVE IN ME ARE LIKE SALT THAT GIVES FOOD ITS FLAVOR. YOU ARE A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS, HELPING OTHERS TO SEE OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.



DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT YOU WILL EAT OR DRINK. LOOK AT THE BIRDS; THEY DON'T PLANT CROPS OR SHOP FOR FOOD, BUT YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER STILL FEEDS THEM. YOU ARE WORTH SO MUCH MORE THAN SPARROWS! GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOUR NEEDS. DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW; TOMORROW CAN WORRY ABOUT ITSELF.



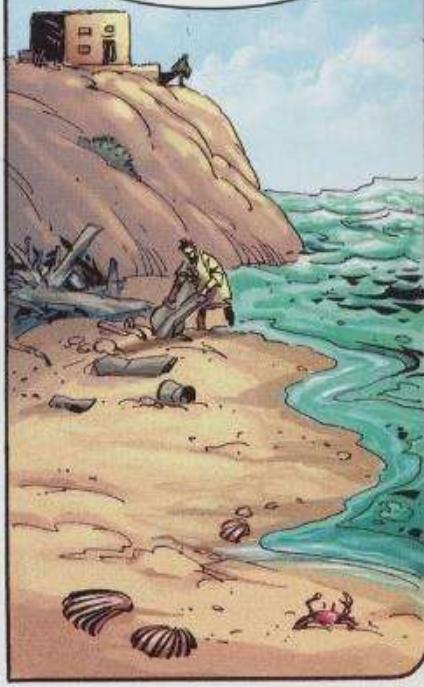
IF YOU HEAR MY WORDS AND FOLLOW THEM, YOU'LL BE LIKE THE WISE MAN WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE ROCK.



A STORM CAME, BEATING AT HIS HOUSE WITH RAIN, FLOODS, AND WIND. BUT HIS HOUSE DID NOT FALL BECAUSE IT HAD A SOLID FOUNDATION BUILT ON A ROCK.



ANYONE WHO HEARS MY WORDS BUT DOESN'T FOLLOW THEM IS LIKE A FOOLISH MAN, WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE SAND. THAT SAME STORM LEFT HIS HOUSE IN RUINS.

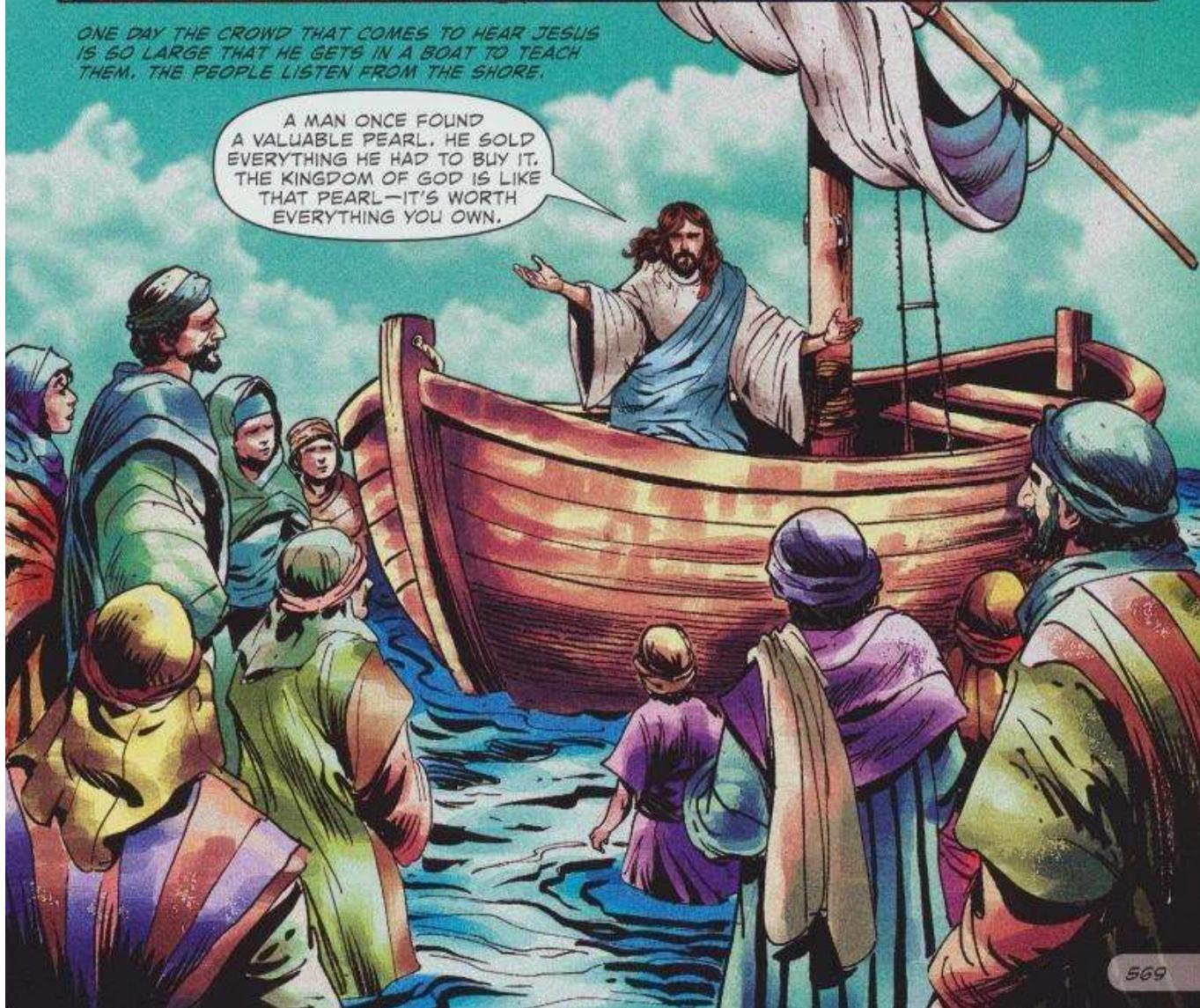


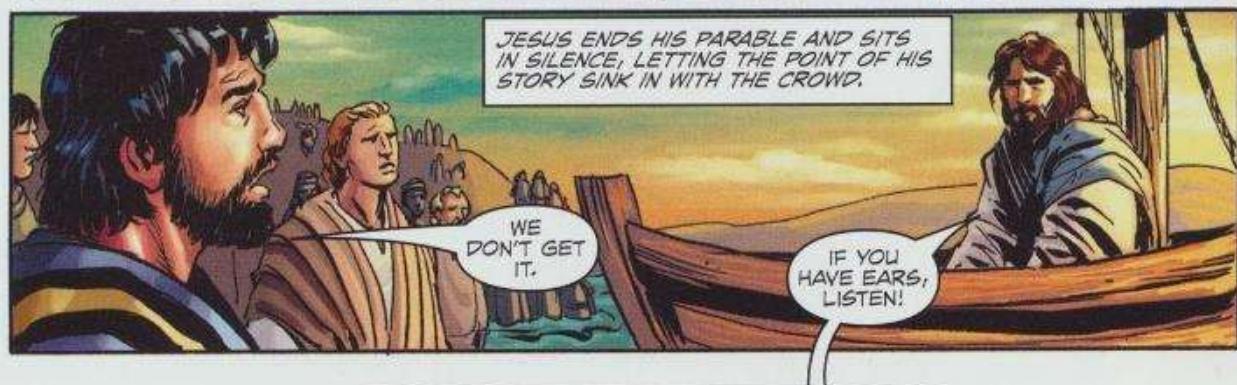
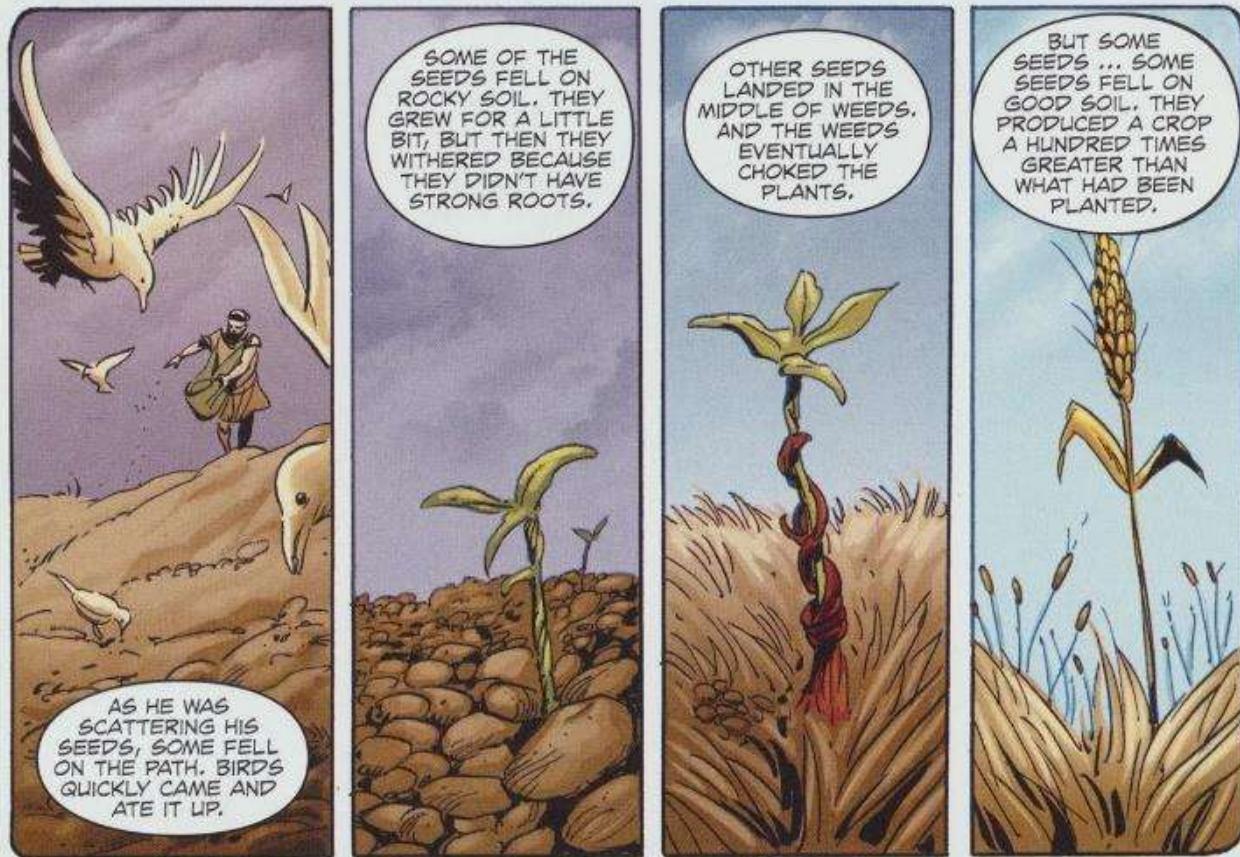
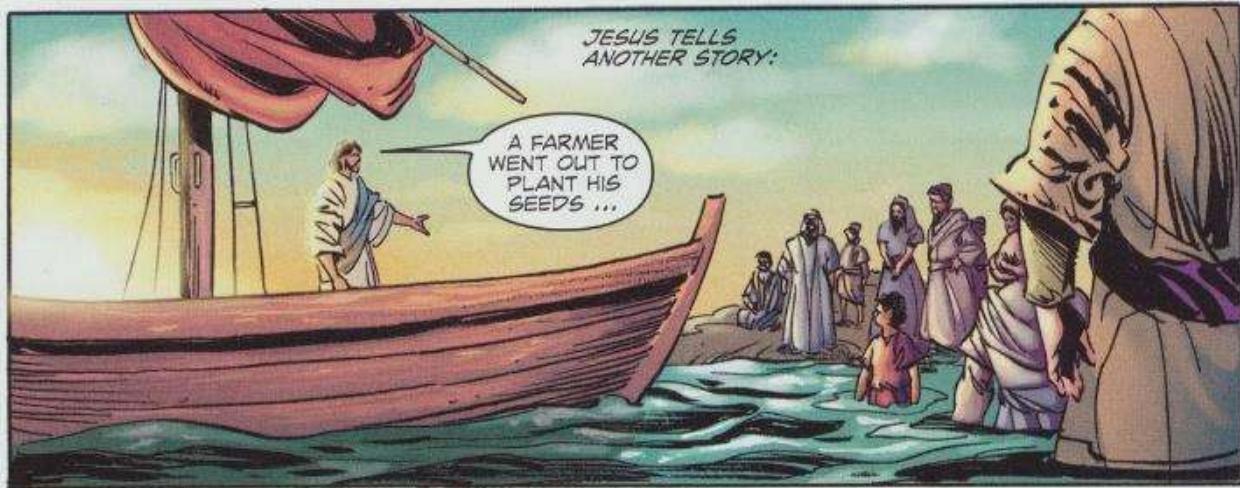
AFTER THE SERMON, JESUS TAKES HIS DISCIPLES BACK TO CAPERNAUM. AN OFFICER IN THE ROMAN ARMY STOPS THEM IN THE STREET.



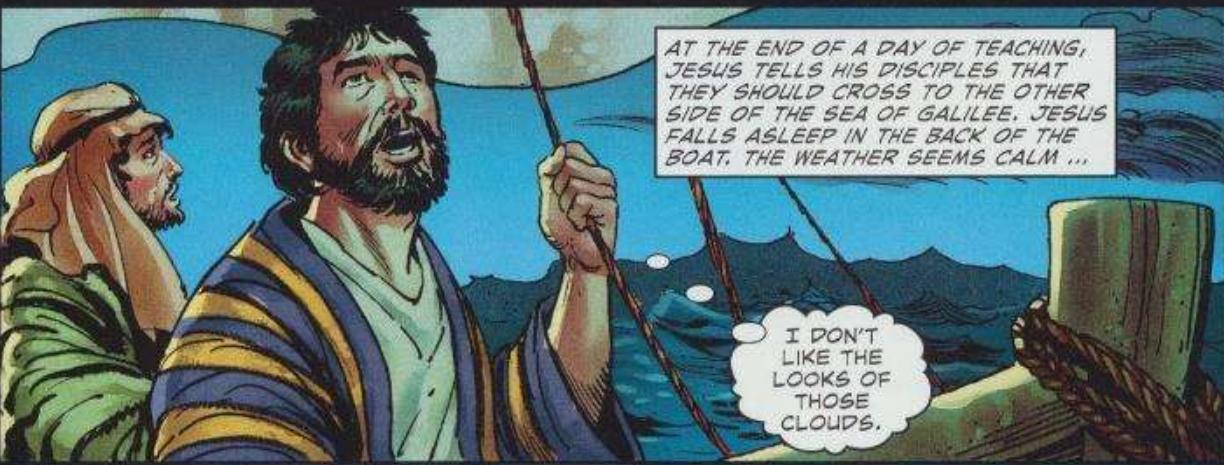
ONE DAY THE CROWD THAT COMES TO HEAR JESUS IS SO LARGE THAT HE GETS IN A BOAT TO TEACH THEM. THE PEOPLE LISTEN FROM THE SHORE.

A MAN ONCE FOUND A VALUABLE PEARL. HE SOLD EVERYTHING HE HAD TO BUY IT. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE THAT PEARL—IT'S WORTH EVERYTHING YOU OWN.





THE SEEDS ARE MY MESSAGE ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD. IF PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND MY MESSAGE, THE DEVIL SWOOPS DOWN LIKE THE BIRD AND DEVOURS MY WORDS BEFORE THEY CAN GROW. THE ROCKY SOIL IS THOSE PEOPLE WHO HEAR MY WORDS BUT STOP FOLLOWING ME BECAUSE IT IS TOO HARD. THE THORNS AND WEEDS ARE LIKE THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE THAT CHOKE OFF PEOPLE'S HOPE IN ME. BUT THE GOOD SOIL REPRESENTS PEOPLE WHO HEAR MY WORDS, UNDERSTAND THEM, AND FOLLOW MY WAYS.



Storm at Sea

BASED ON MARK 4:35-5:24

SUDDENLY, A VIOLENT STORM SWEEPS ACROSS THE SEA! JESUS KEEPS ON SLEEPING, BUT THE DISCIPLES ARE TERRIFIED.



GIANT WAVES POUR OVER THE SIDES OF THE BOAT. THE DISCIPLES CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP THE WATER.



SOMEHOW,
JESUS HAS
REMAINED
ASLEEP
THROUGH THE
COMMOTION.

MASTER!
DON'T YOU CARE
THAT WE'RE GOING
TO DROWN?

WITHOUT A WORD TO THE DISCIPLES,
JESUS STANDS UP AND REACHES HIS
HAND OUT TO THE STORM.

QUIET!
BE STILL!

INSTANTLY THE WIND DIES DOWN
AND THE SEA IS COMPLETELY CALM.

WHY
ARE YOU SO
AFRAID?

IS YOUR
FAITH IN ME
STILL SO WEAK?

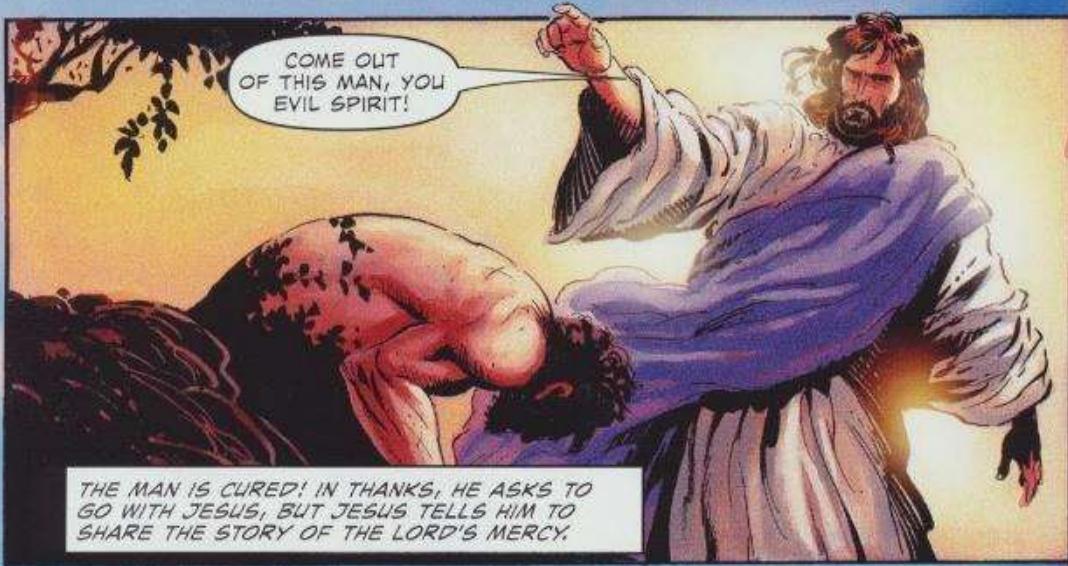
EVEN THE
WIND AND THE
WAVES OBEY
HIM!

WHEN THE BOAT REACHES SHORE, A MAN
POSSESSED BY THOUSANDS OF EVIL
SPIRITS RUNS OUT TO MEET JESUS.

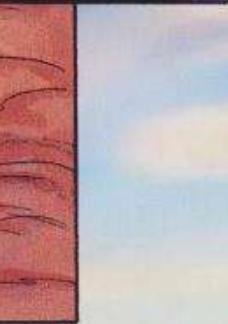
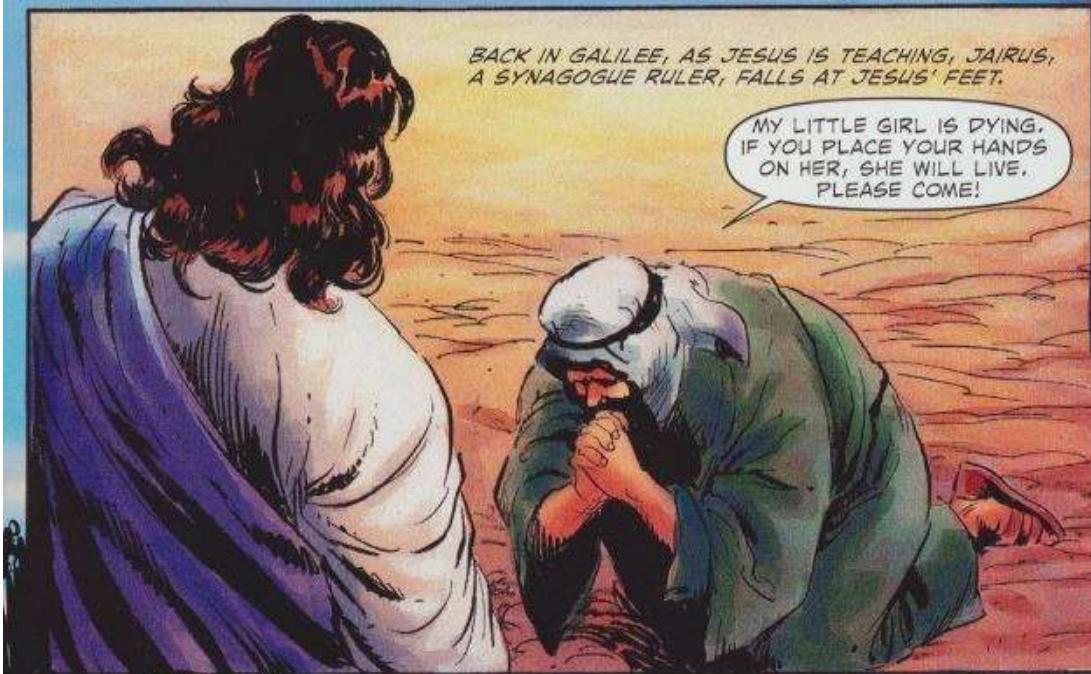
BE CAREFUL!

NO ONE CAN
KEEP HIM TIED UP
ANYMORE, NOT EVEN
WITH CHAINS.

WHAT DO YOU
WANT WITH ME,
SON OF THE
MOST HIGH GOD?



THE DEMONS ARE CAST OUT INTO A NEARBY HERD OF PIGS. THE NEWLY POSSESSED PIGS RUN OFF A CLIFF AND DROWN.



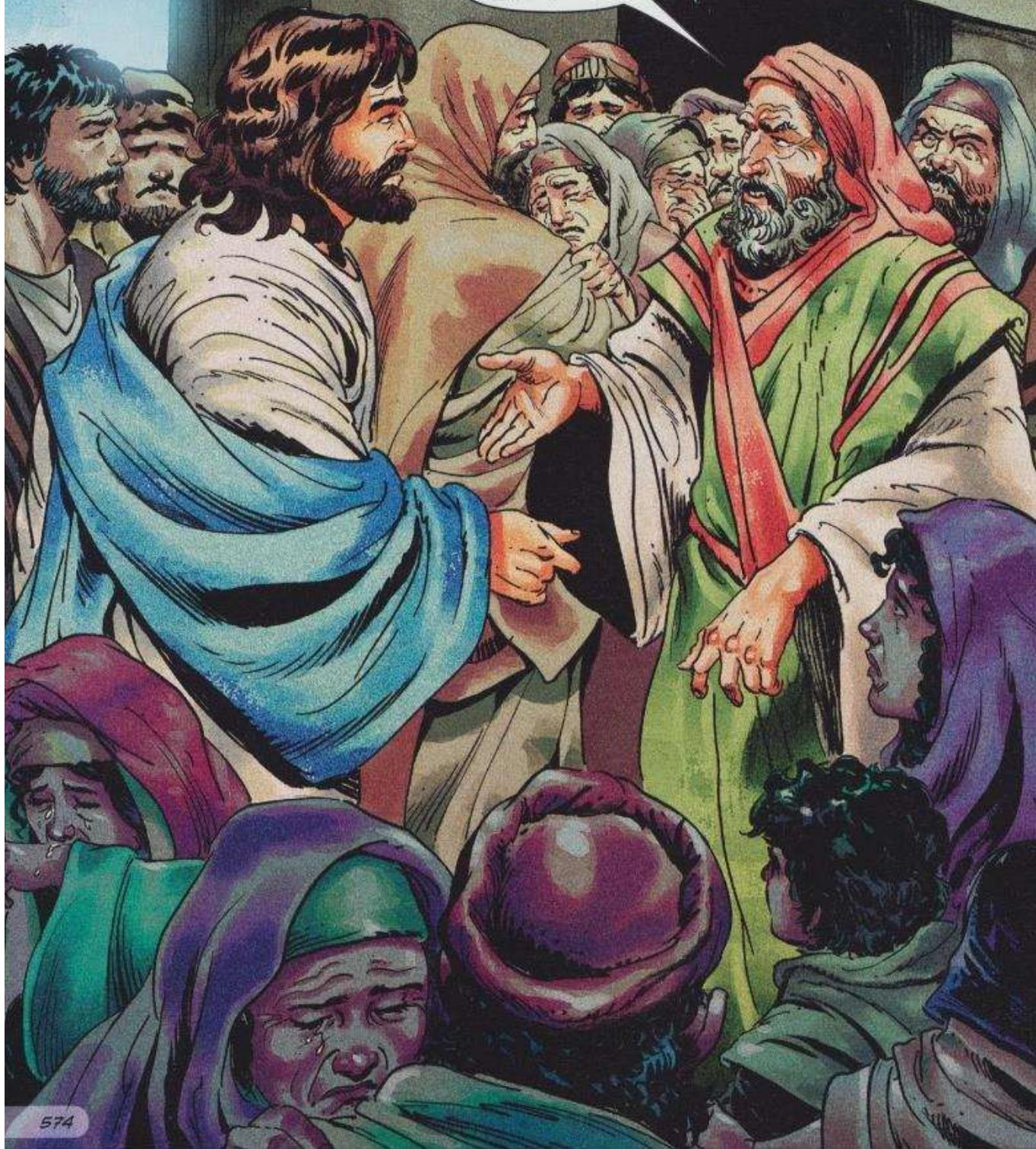
A Death in the Family

BASED ON MARK 5:38-6:29; MATTHEW 10; 14:1-12

WHEN JESUS GETS TO JAIRUS'S HOUSE, HE FINDS A CROWD OF PEOPLE WEEPING BECAUSE THE LITTLE GIRL IS DEAD.

WHY
ARE YOU CRYING?
THE LITTLE GIRL IS
JUST ASLEEP.

ASLEEP! ARE
YOU JOKING—OR
JUST STUPID? THE
CHILD IS DEAD.



JESUS MAKES EVERYONE GO OUTSIDE EXCEPT FOR THE GIRL'S PARENTS AND HIS DISCIPLES. THEN HE TAKES THE GIRL'S HAND.

LITTLE GIRL! GET UP!

THE GIRL IMMEDIATELY COMES BACK TO LIFE. JESUS TELLS HER PARENTS TO GIVE HER SOMETHING TO EAT.

JAIRUS IS AN IMPORTANT MAN, SO NEWS ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER SPREADS QUICKLY. AS JESUS TRAVELS AROUND PREACHING AND HEALING, HE BECOMES EVEN MORE FAMOUS AND POPULAR. BUT JESUS IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE MANY PEOPLE WHO STILL HAVE NOT HEARD HIS MESSAGE.

THE PEOPLE ARE LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD.

I WANT YOU TO GO OUT IN PAIRS TO PREACH GOOD NEWS AND HEAL THE SICK.

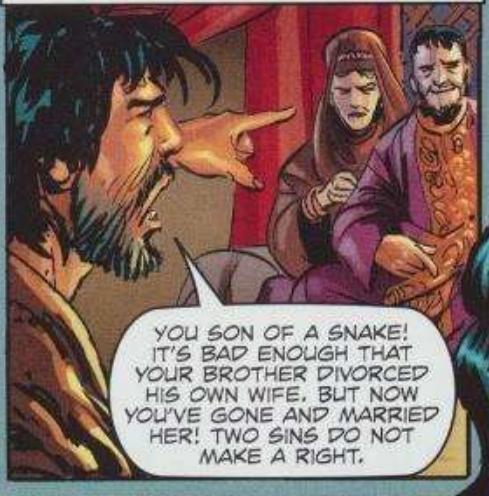
IT'S DANGEROUS OUT THERE, SO YOU'LL NEED TO BE AS SMART AS SNAKES, BUT AS INNOCENT AS DOVES.

AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT TO SAY. THE SPIRIT OF GOD WILL SPEAK THROUGH YOU.

WHILE JESUS' DISCIPLES ARE OUT SPREADING HIS MESSAGE, JOHN THE BAPTIST IS BUSY ACCUSING THE KING OF BREAKING GOD'S LAW. AS USUAL, JOHN DOESN'T WORRY ABOUT BEING POLITE.

HEROD DOESN'T WANT TO KILL JOHN—IN FACT, HE THINKS JOHN'S SPEECHES ARE AMUSING, EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HALF OF THEM. BUT HEROD'S WIFE IS FURIOUS, AND SHE FORCES HEROD TO PUT JOHN IN PRISON FOR HIS DISRESPECT.

THIS IS STILL NOT ENOUGH FOR HEROD'S NEW WIFE. SHE AND HER DAUGHTER SALOME HATCH AN EVIL PLAN. ONE NIGHT, WHEN ALL OF HEROD'S OFFICIALS AND GENERALS COME FOR A FEAST, SALOME PROVIDES THE ENTERTAINMENT.



YOU SON OF A SNAKE! IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT YOUR BROTHER DIVORCED HIS OWN WIFE. BUT NOW YOU'VE GONE AND MARRIED HER! TWO SINS DO NOT MAKE A RIGHT.



HEROD'S STEPDAUGHTER IS A WONDERFUL DANCER!

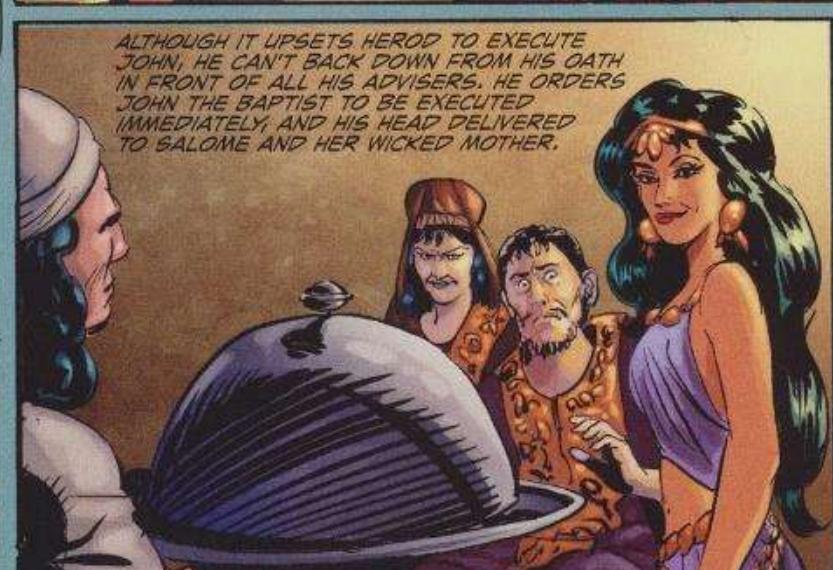
AND SHE'S SMART, TOO.



SALOME! THANK YOU FOR ADDING TO OUR FESTIVITIES. ASK ME FOR ANYTHING YOU WANT, AND I WILL GIVE IT TO YOU, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS.



THANK YOU, MY LORD. WHAT I WOULD LIKE MOST IS ... THE HEAD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, SERVED TO ME ON A PLATTER.

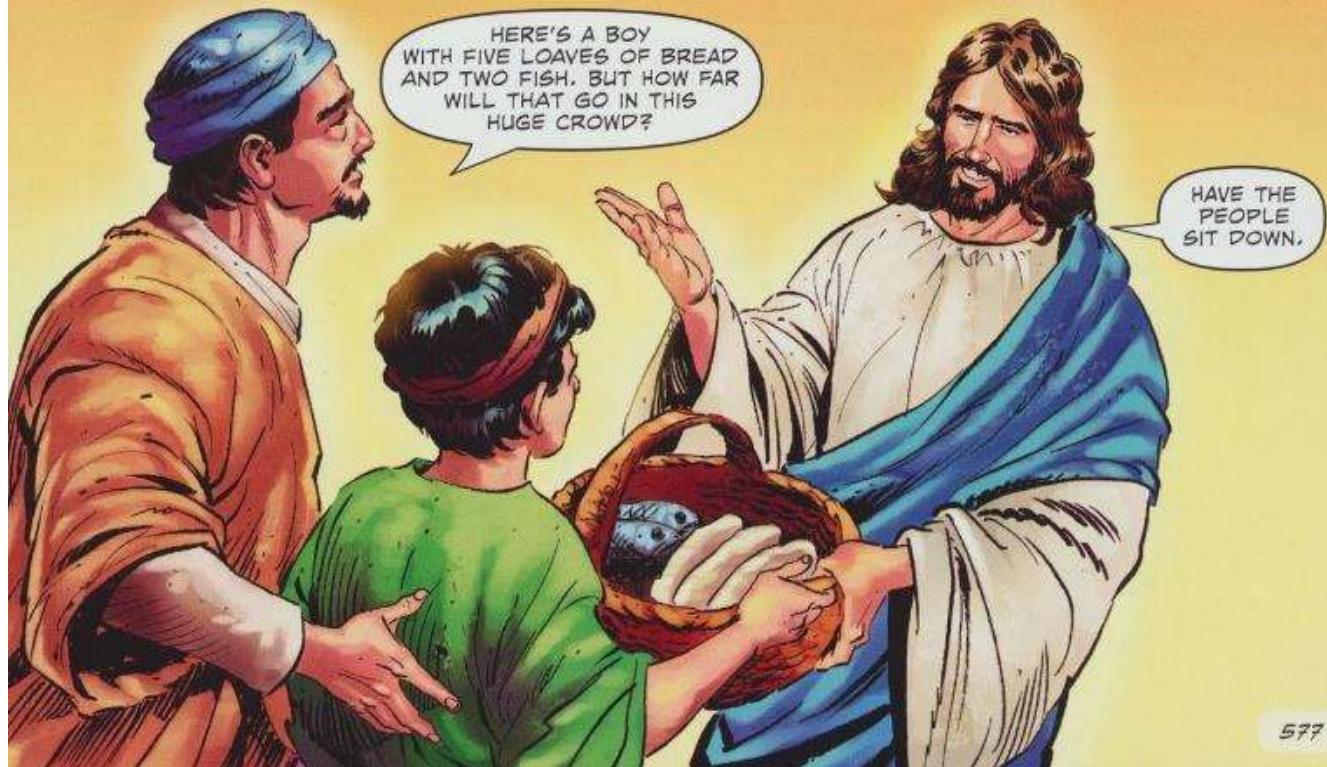
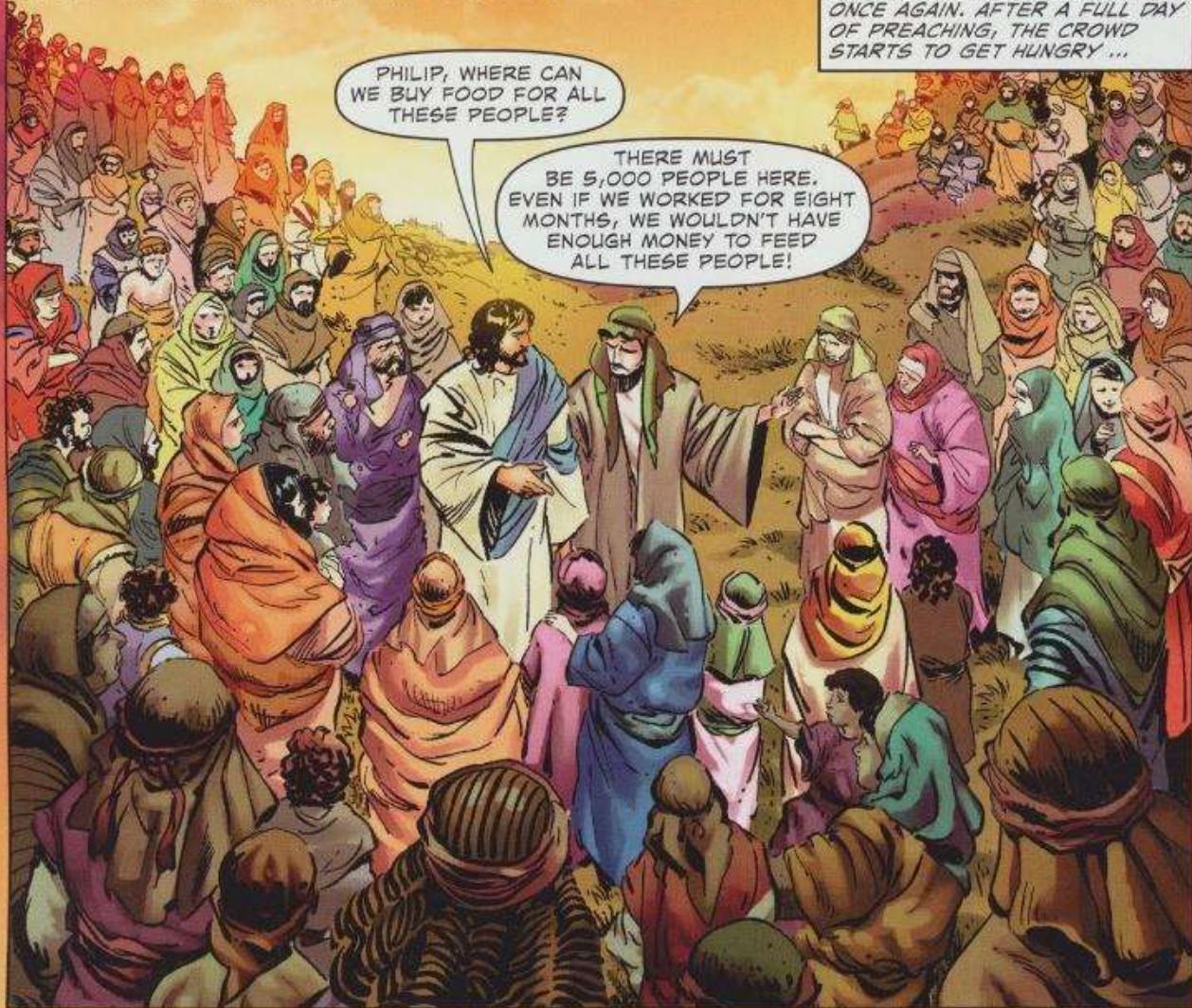


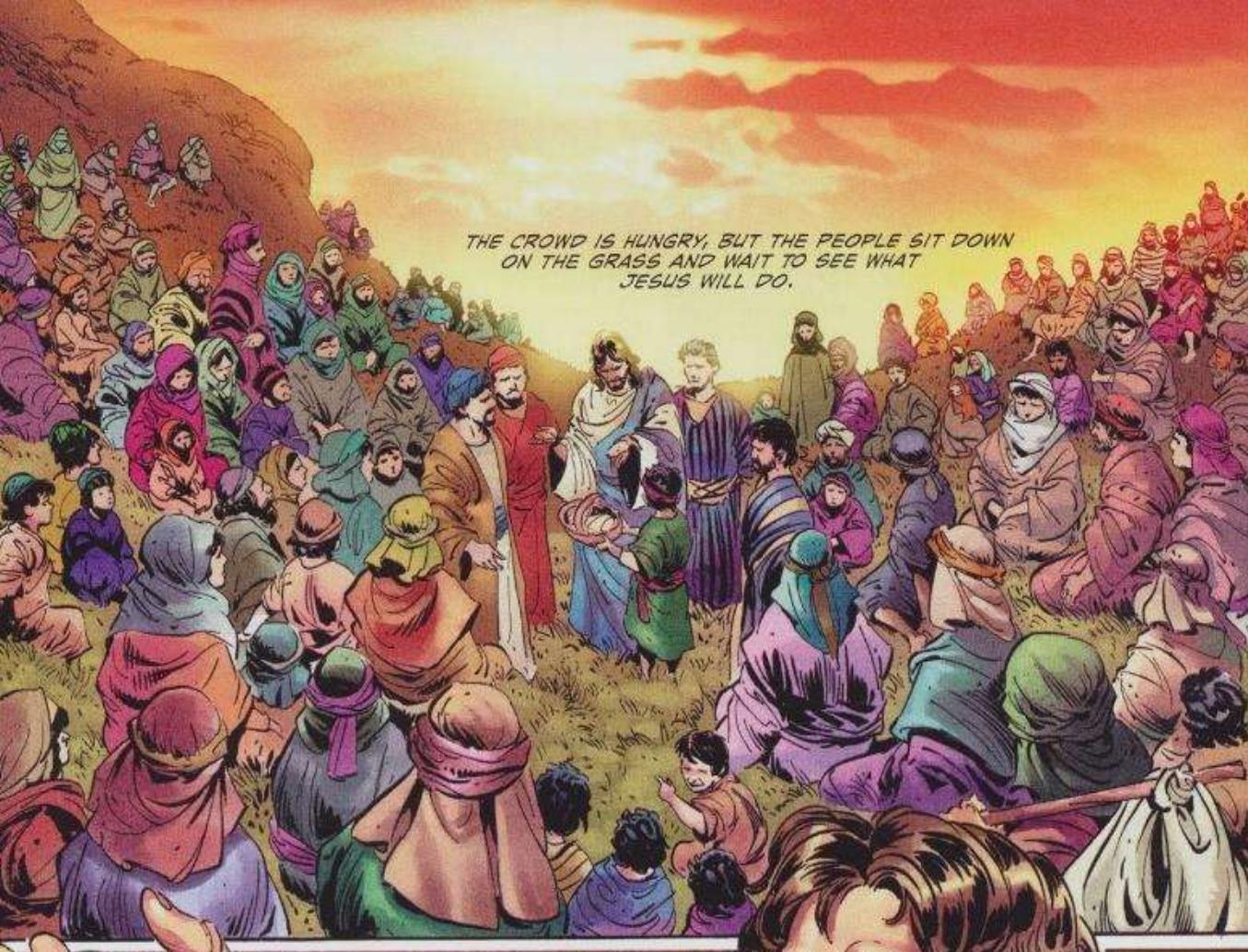
ALTHOUGH IT UPSETS HEROD TO EXECUTE JOHN, HE CAN'T BACK DOWN FROM HIS OATH IN FRONT OF ALL HIS ADVISERS. HE ORDERS JOHN THE BAPTIST TO BE EXECUTED IMMEDIATELY, AND HIS HEAD DELIVERED TO SALOME AND HER WICKED MOTHER.

A Hungry Crowd

BASED ON JOHN 6:1-14; MARK 6:30-44

THE DISCIPLES PREACH ALL AROUND GALILEE. WHEN THEY RETURN FROM THEIR TRIP, JESUS WANTS TO TAKE THEM TO A QUIET PLACE TO REST. BUT THE CROWDS FOLLOW HIM ONCE AGAIN. AFTER A FULL DAY OF PREACHING, THE CROWD STARTS TO GET HUNGRY ...

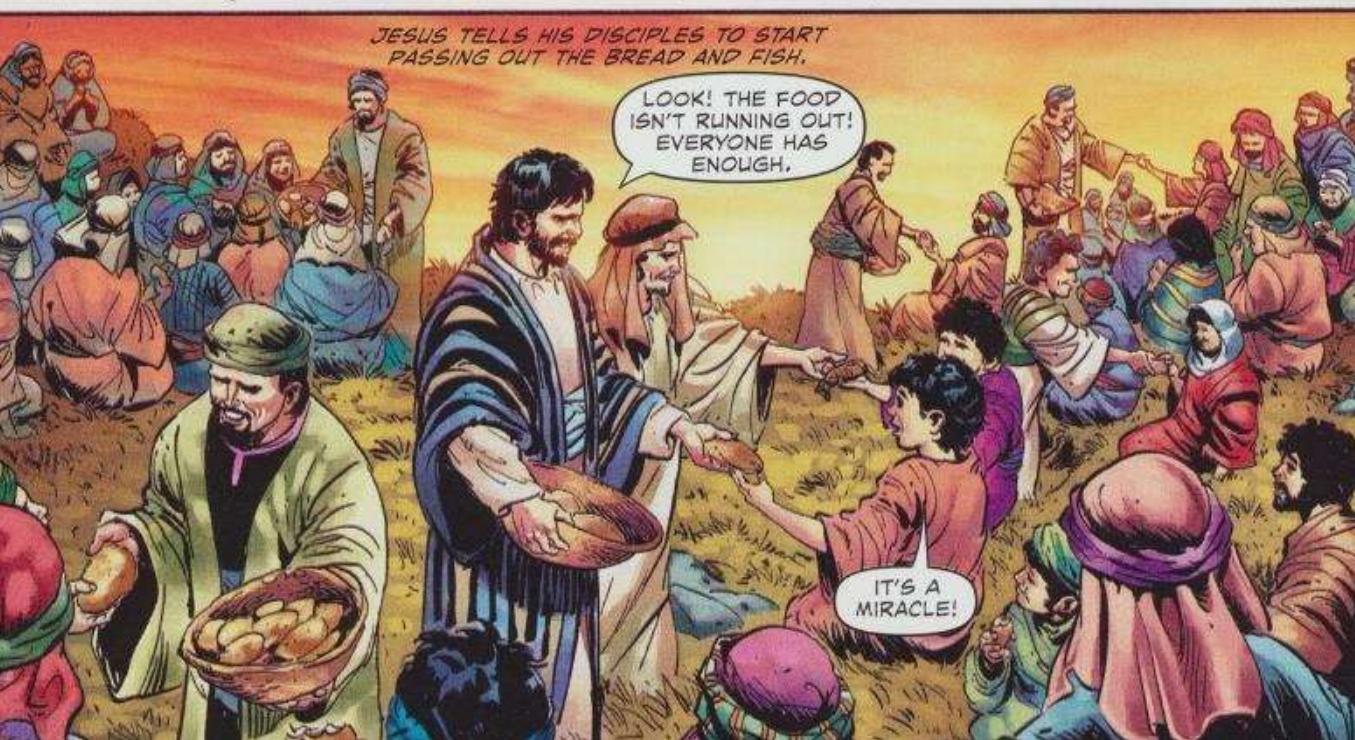




THE CROWD IS HUNGRY, BUT THE PEOPLE SIT DOWN ON THE GRASS AND WAIT TO SEE WHAT JESUS WILL DO.



FATHER,
THANK YOU FOR
THIS BREAD AND
FISH.



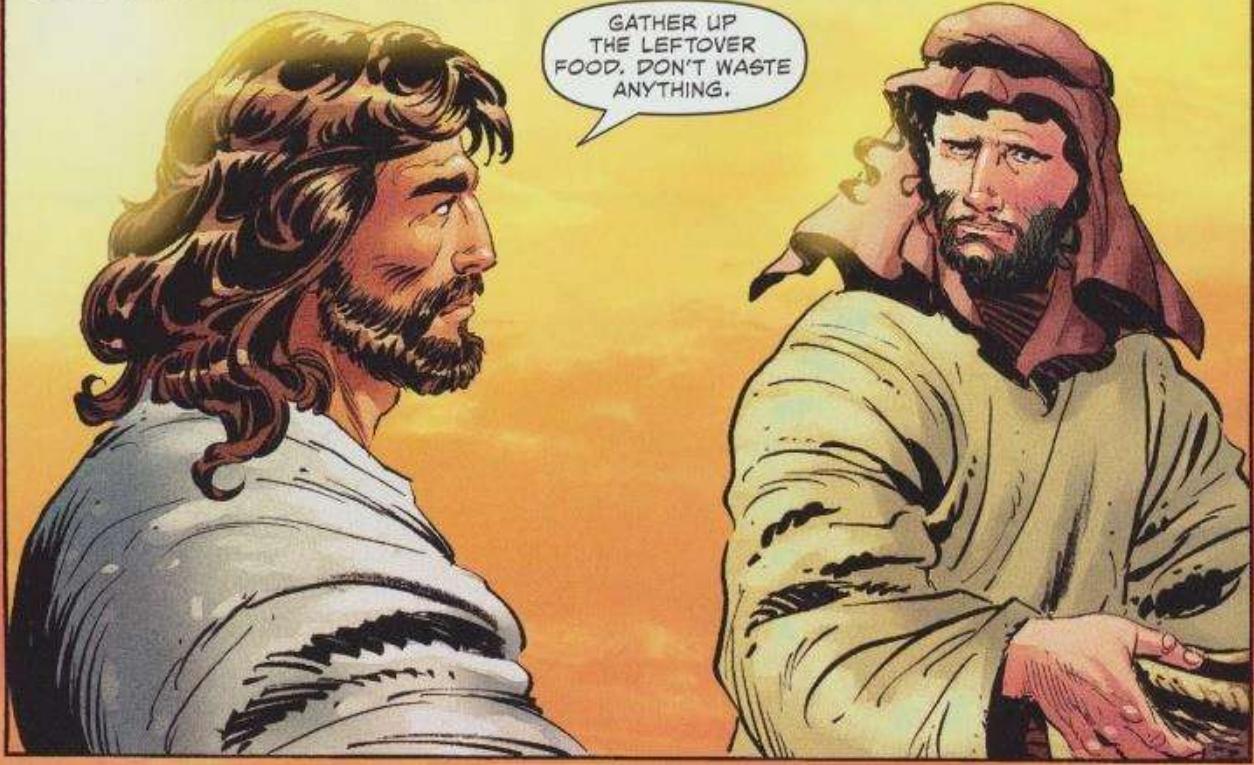
JESUS TELLS HIS DISCIPLES TO START PASSING OUT THE BREAD AND FISH.

LOOK! THE FOOD
ISN'T RUNNING OUT!
EVERYONE HAS
ENOUGH.

IT'S A
MIRACLE!

WHEN THE PEOPLE HAVE FINISHED EATING,
JESUS TURNS AGAIN TO HIS DISCIPLES.

GATHER UP
THE LEFTOVER
FOOD. DON'T WASTE
ANYTHING.



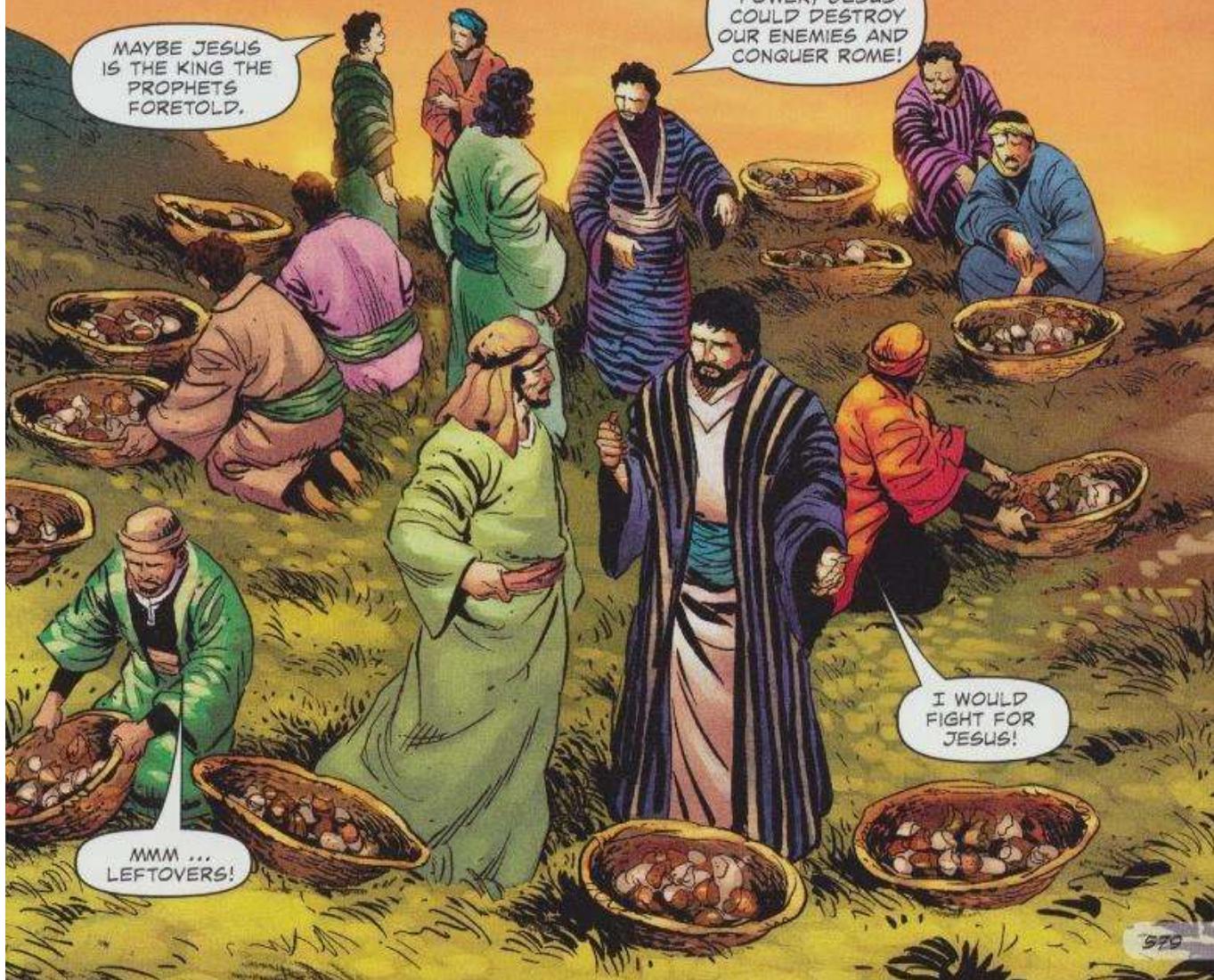
THE DISCIPLES GATHER 12 BASKETS OF LEFTOVER PIECES
OF BREAD AND FISH. THE PEOPLE ARE SO AMAZED, THEY
WONDER IF JESUS IS MORE THAN A REGULAR PROPHET.

MAYBE JESUS
IS THE KING THE
PROPHETS
FORETOLD.

WITH SUCH
POWER, JESUS
COULD DESTROY
OUR ENEMIES AND
CONQUER ROME!

MM...
LEFTOVERS!

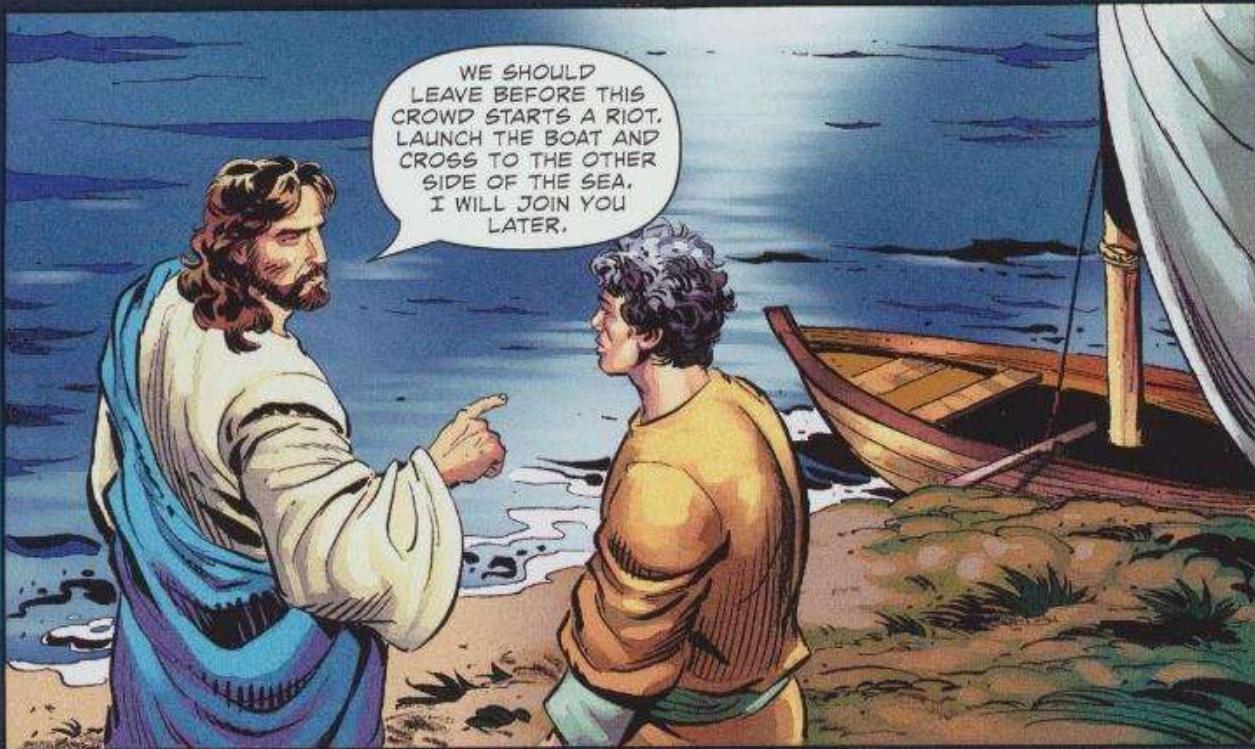
I WOULD
FIGHT FOR
JESUS!



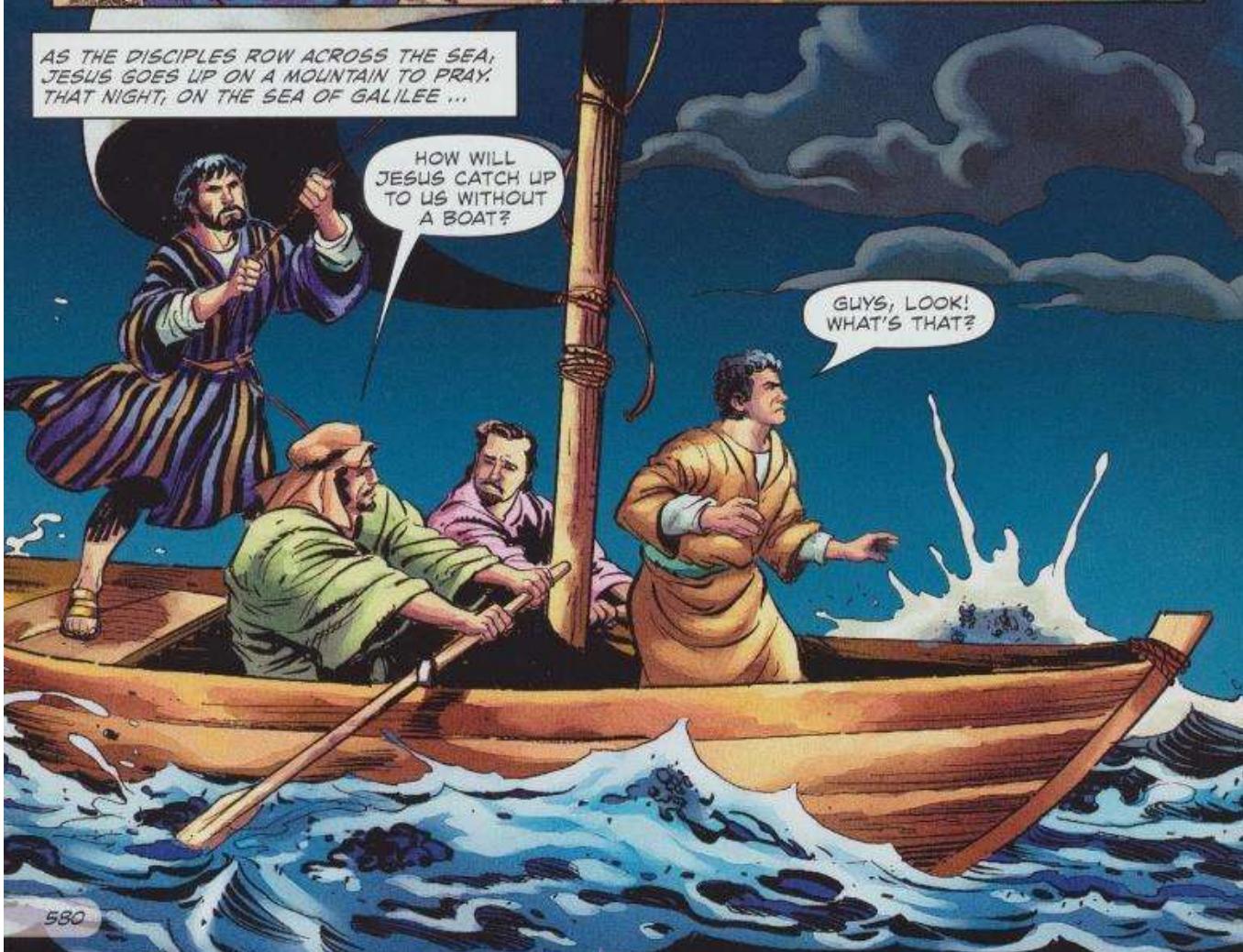
Walking on Water

BASED ON MATTHEW 14:22-33; JOHN 6:15-21; MARK 6:45-52

BUT GOD SENT JESUS TO BE THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD—NOT THE CONQUEROR OF ARMIES. WHEN JESUS SEES THAT THE CROWD WANTS TO FORCE HIM TO BE A KING, HE QUICKLY CALLS HIS DISCIPLES AWAY FROM THE CROWD.



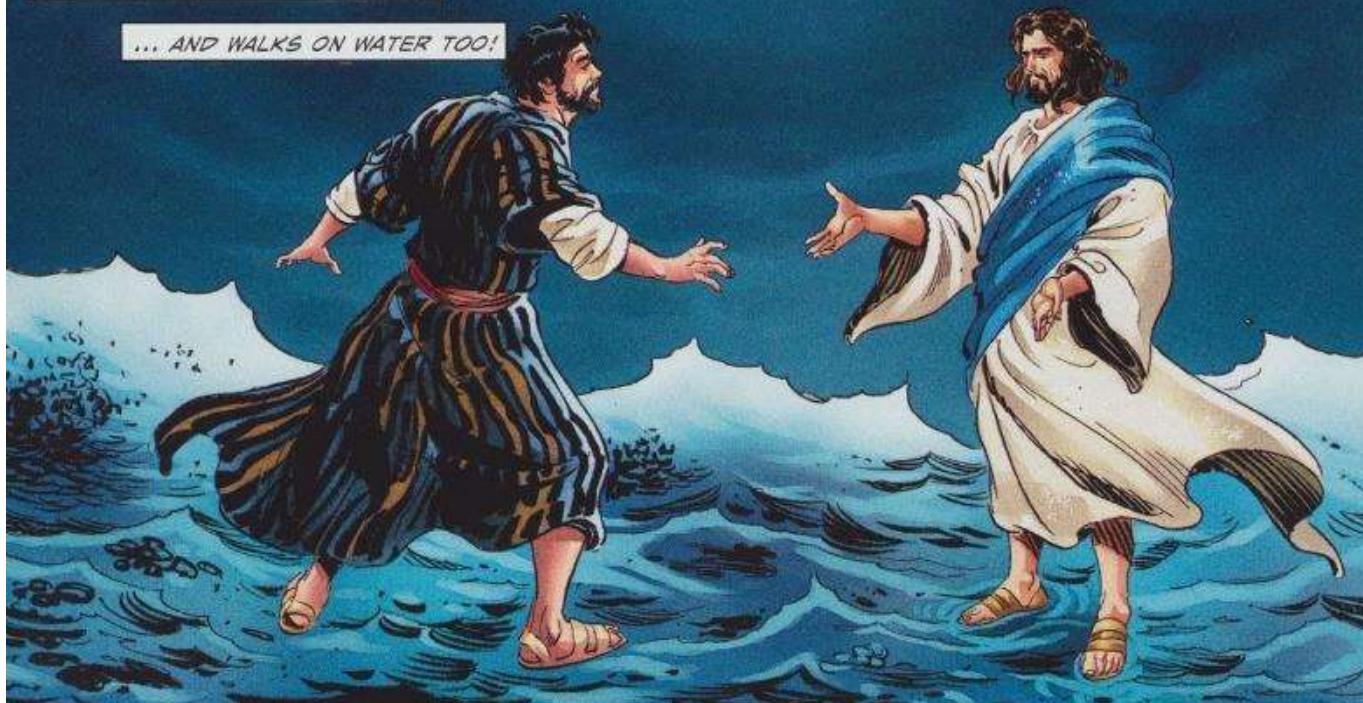
AS THE DISCIPLES ROW ACROSS THE SEA; JESUS GOES UP ON A MOUNTAIN TO PRAY. THAT NIGHT, ON THE SEA OF GALILEE ...





PETER IMMEDIATELY JUMPS OUT OF THE BOAT ...

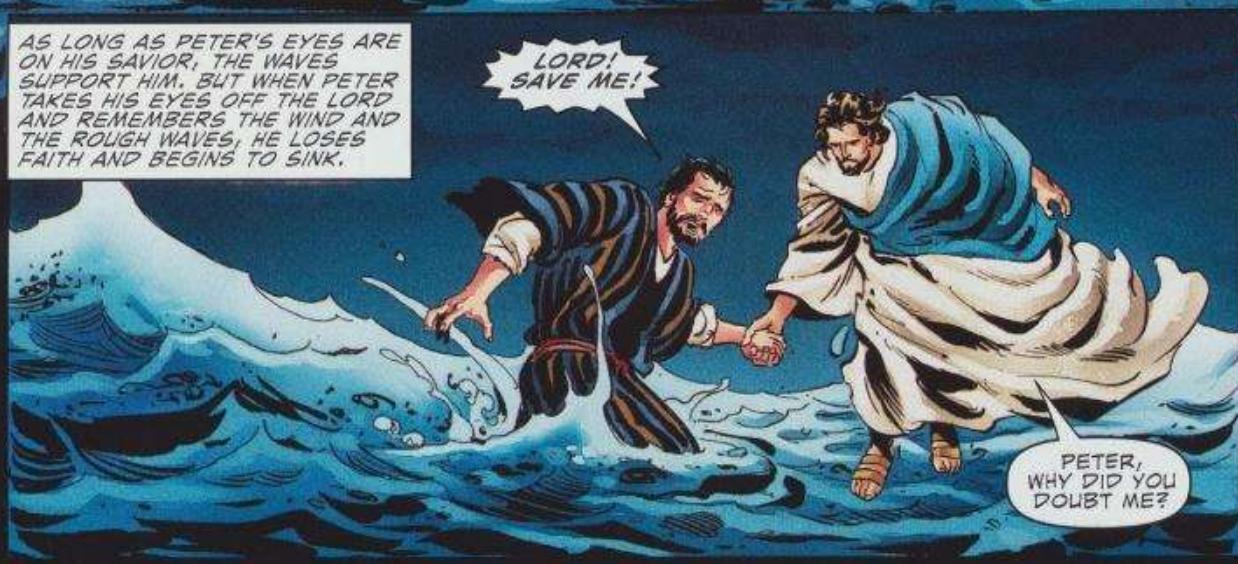
... AND WALKS ON WATER TOO!



AS LONG AS PETER'S EYES ARE ON HIS SAVIOR, THE WAVES SUPPORT HIM. BUT WHEN PETER TAKES HIS EYES OFF THE LORD AND REMEMBERS THE WIND AND THE ROUGH WAVES, HE LOSES FAITH AND BEGINS TO SINK.

LORD! SAVE ME!

PETER, WHY DID YOU DOUBT ME?



AFTER JESUS RESCUES PETER, THEY CLIMB INTO THE BOAT. THE WIND DIES DOWN.

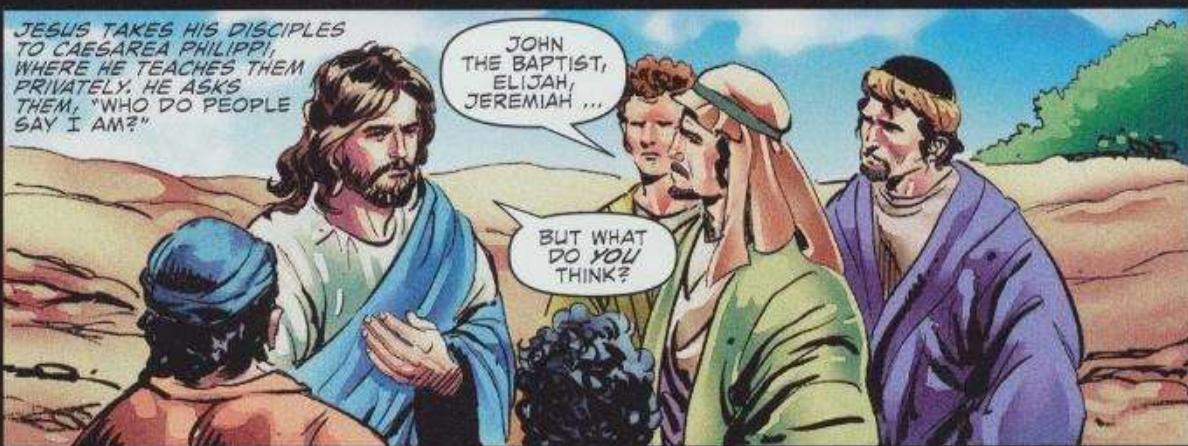
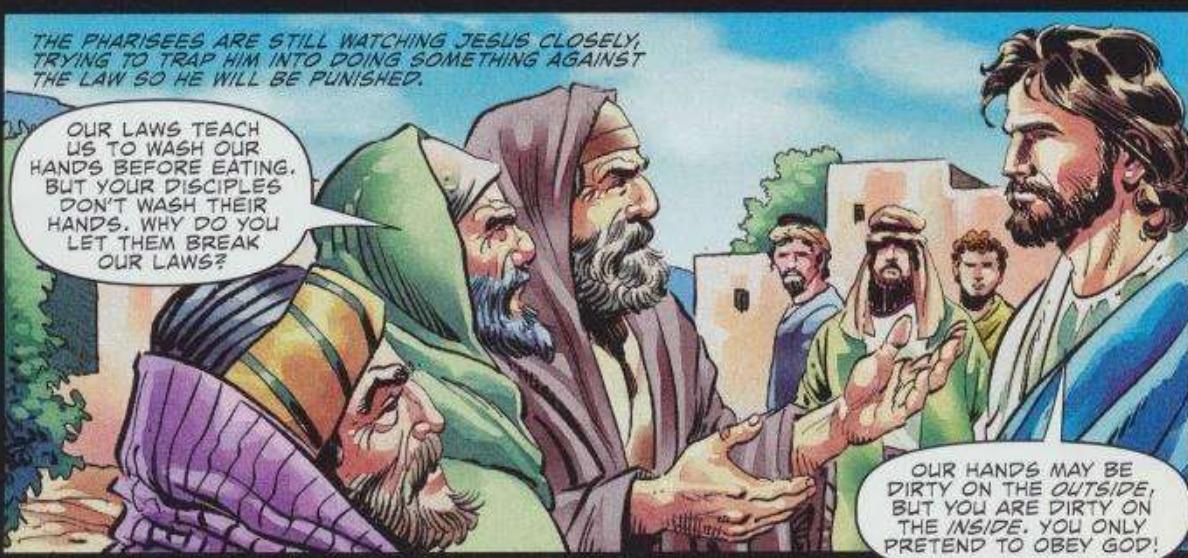
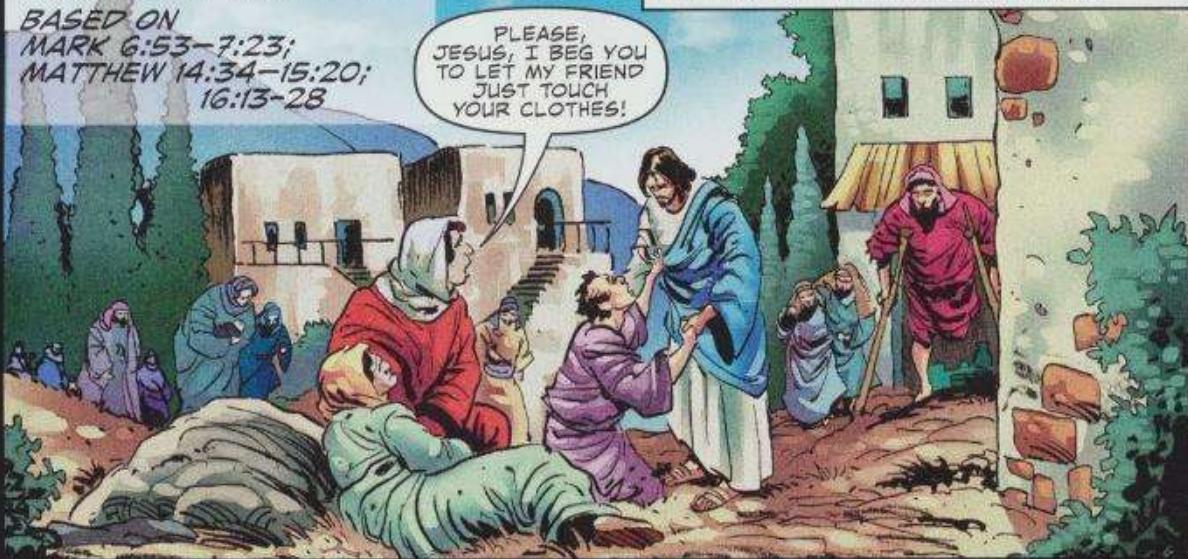
YOU REALLY ARE THE SON OF GOD!

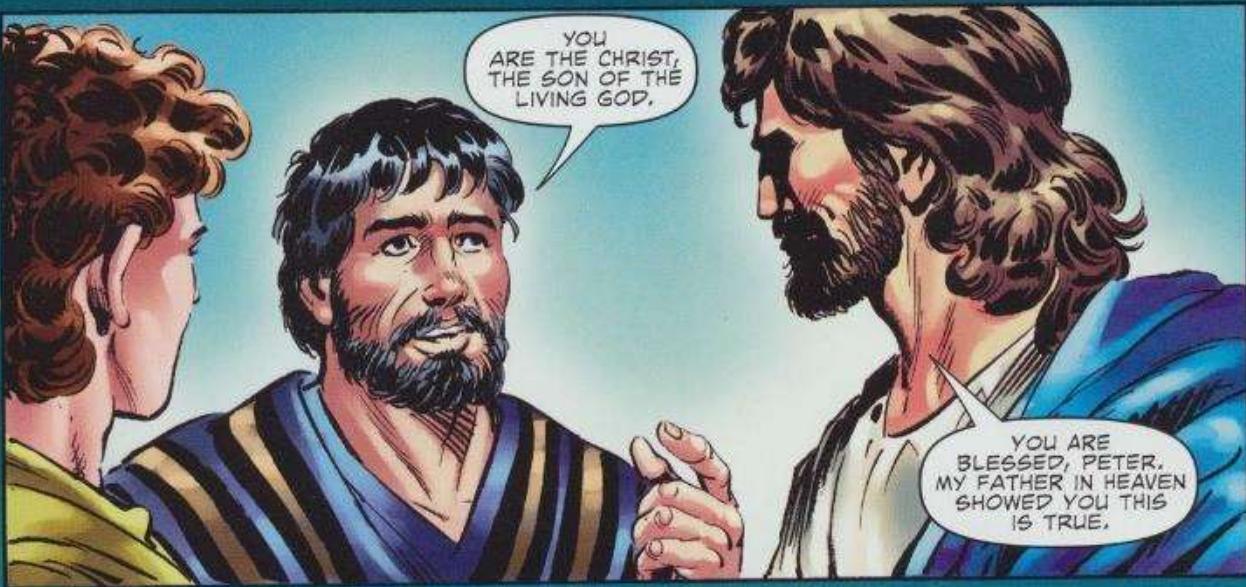


Who Am I?

BASED ON
MARK 6:53-7:23;
MATTHEW 14:34-15:20;
16:13-28

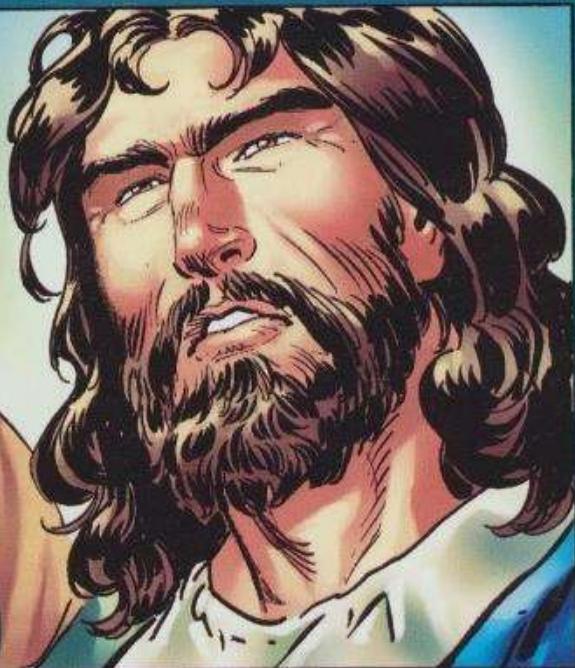
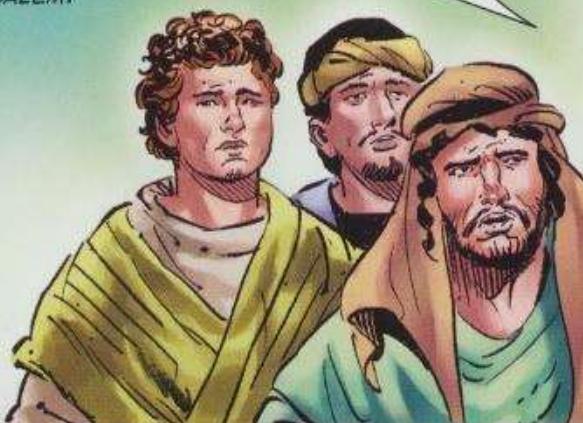
AT DAYBREAK, THE DISCIPLES TAKE THE BOAT TO SHORE. WHEN THE PEOPLE SEE JESUS, THEY BRING THEIR SICK FRIENDS TO HIM. EVERYONE WHO TOUCHES HIM IS HEALED.





NOW THAT THE
DISCIPLES REALLY
UNDERSTAND THAT
JESUS IS THE
MESSIAH, THE
SAVIOR THAT GOD
PROMISED TO SEND,
JESUS TELLS THEM
WHAT WILL HAPPEN
WHEN HE GOES TO
JERUSALEM.

THE PHARISEES
AND PRIESTS DON'T
BELIEVE I AM THE MESSIAH.
THEY WILL HAVE ME KILLED,
BUT IN THREE DAYS I WILL
RISE TO LIFE AGAIN.



PETER, YOU
DON'T UNDERSTAND
GOD'S PLAN FOR ME.
IF ANY OF YOU WANTS TO
FOLLOW ME, YOU MUST
BE READY TO SUFFER
THE WAY I WILL
SUFFER.

BUT THE DISCIPLES STILL
DO NOT UNDERSTAND ...

Mountain Vision

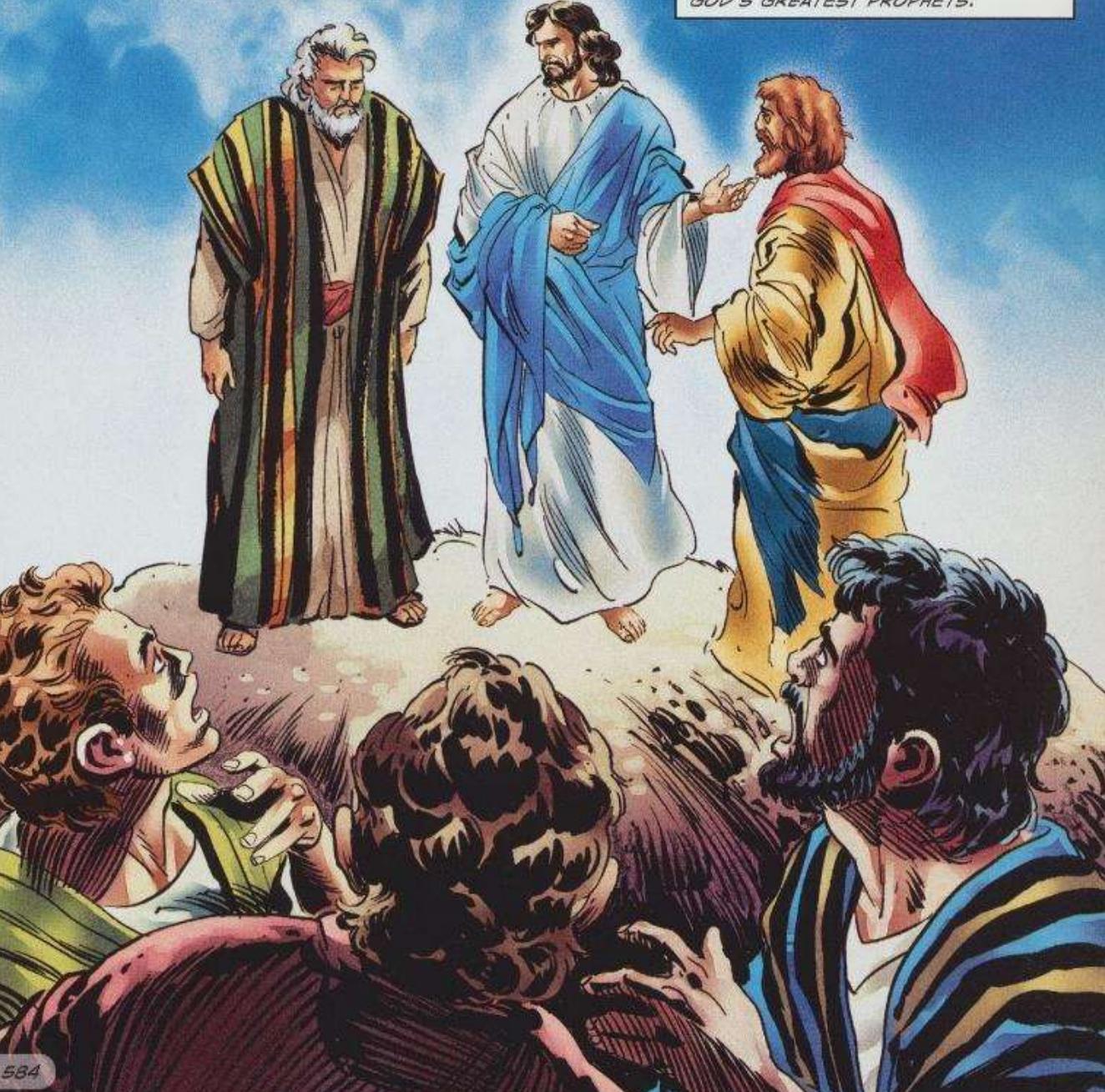
BASED ON MATTHEW 17:1-21; MARK 9:2-29

EVEN THOUGH JESUS CLAIMS THAT HE WILL BE KILLED, HIS DISCIPLES ARE SURE THAT HE CAN JUST USE HIS POWER TO SAVE HIMSELF. BUT JESUS WANTS THEM TO UNDERSTAND HIS TRUE MISSION. SO, A FEW DAYS LATER, JESUS SPEAKS TO PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN.

COME WITH ME UP ON THE MOUNTAIN.

WHY JUST US?

SUDDENLY, JESUS' FACE SHINES LIKE THE SUN, AND HIS CLOTHES BEGIN TO GLOW. AND STANDING WITH JESUS ARE ELIJAH AND MOSES, TWO OF GOD'S GREATEST PROPHETS.



IN SHOCK, PETER FALLS TO HIS KNEES AND CRIES OUT:

IT'S LUCKY WE'RE HERE!
WE CAN PITCH TENTS FOR
THE THREE OF YOU!

THIS IS MY
BELOVED SON! DO AS
HE SAYS.

PETER'S MOUTH HAD ALWAYS
MOVED FASTER THAN HIS BRAIN.
BUT BEFORE ANYONE CAN
REPLY, GOD SPEAKS
OUT OF THE BRIGHT
MIST AROUND
THEM.

TERRIFIED, PETER, JAMES, AND
JOHN FALL FACEDOWN TO THE
GROUND. WHEN JESUS TOUCHES
THEM COMFORTINGLY, THEY
LOOK UP AGAIN. JESUS IS NOW
THE ONLY ONE THERE.

GET UP,
DON'T BE
AFRAID.

JESUS
WARNS THE
DISCIPLES
NOT TO TELL
ANYONE
ABOUT WHAT
THEY HAVE
SEEN UNTIL
HE HAS BEEN
RAISED FROM
THE DEAD.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN, A
CROWD WAITS.

TEACHER, A SPIRIT
IS CONTROLLING MY SON.
I ASKED YOUR DISCIPLES TO
HELP, BUT THEY COULDN'T
HEAL HIM.

BRING
YOUR SON
TO ME.

THE FATHER OBEYS JESUS, BUT THE SPIRIT
TAKES CONTROL AND THROWS THE BOY TO
THE GROUND.

IF YOU CAN DO
ANYTHING, PLEASE
HELP US!

EVERYTHING
IS POSSIBLE FOR
THE PERSON WHO
BELIEVES.

EVIL SPIRIT THAT TAKES
OVER THIS BOY, I ORDER
YOU TO COME OUT
IMMEDIATELY!

I DO BELIEVE!
HELP ME WITH
MY UNBELIEF!

Tough Lessons

BASED ON MATTHEW 18; JOHN 7:11-8:59

THE SPIRIT SCREAMS AND SHAKES THE BOY. THEN IT LEAVES HIM. THE BOY IS SO STILL THAT PEOPLE THINK HE IS DEAD. BUT JESUS HELPS HIM UP.

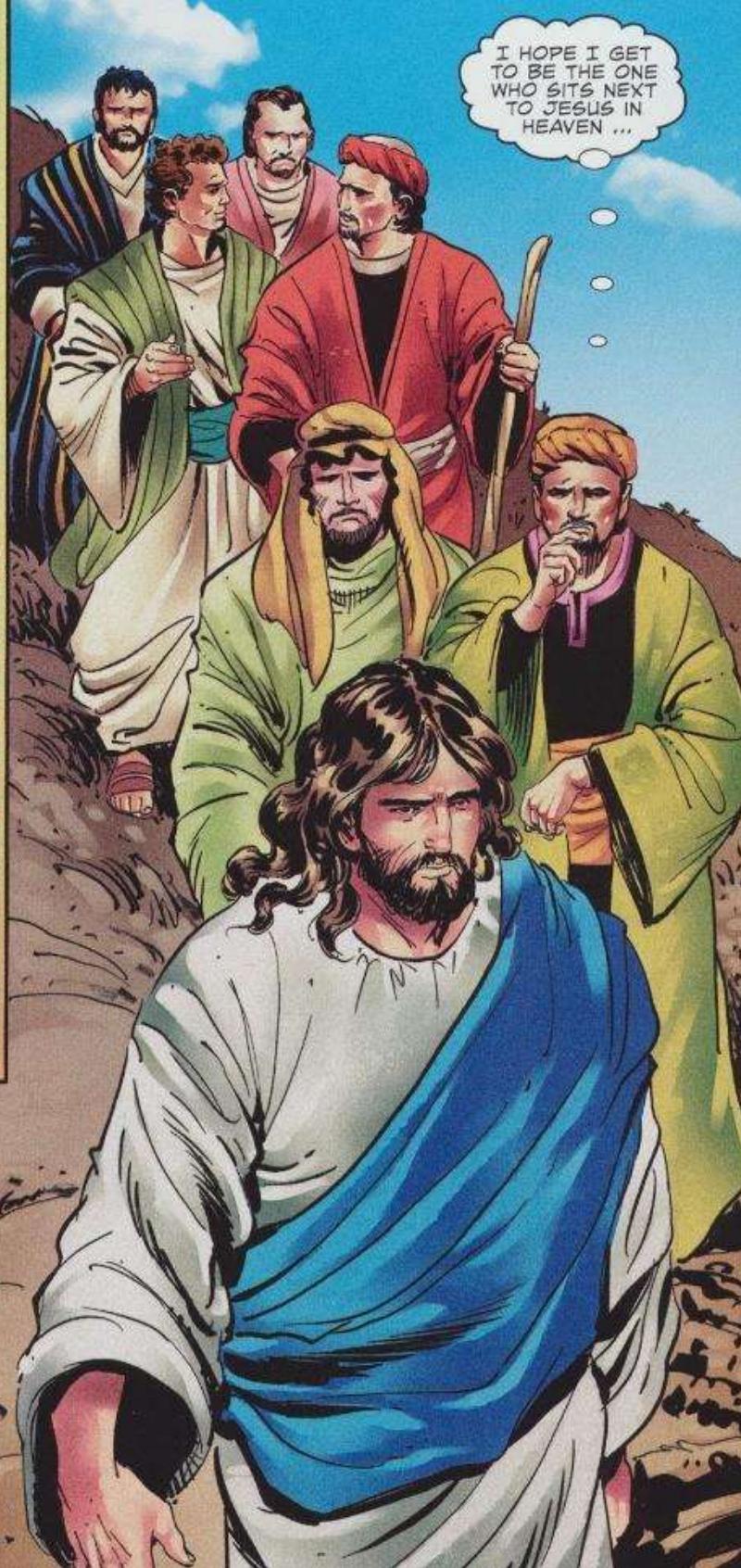
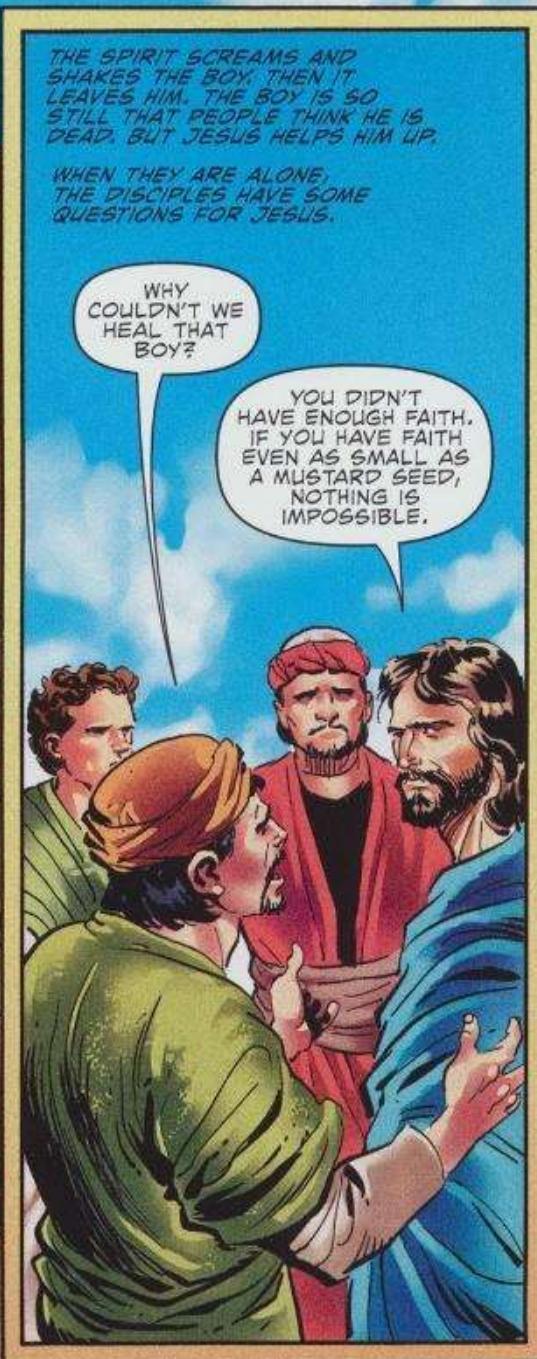
WHEN THEY ARE ALONE, THE DISCIPLES HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR JESUS.

WHY COULDN'T WE HEAL THAT BOY?

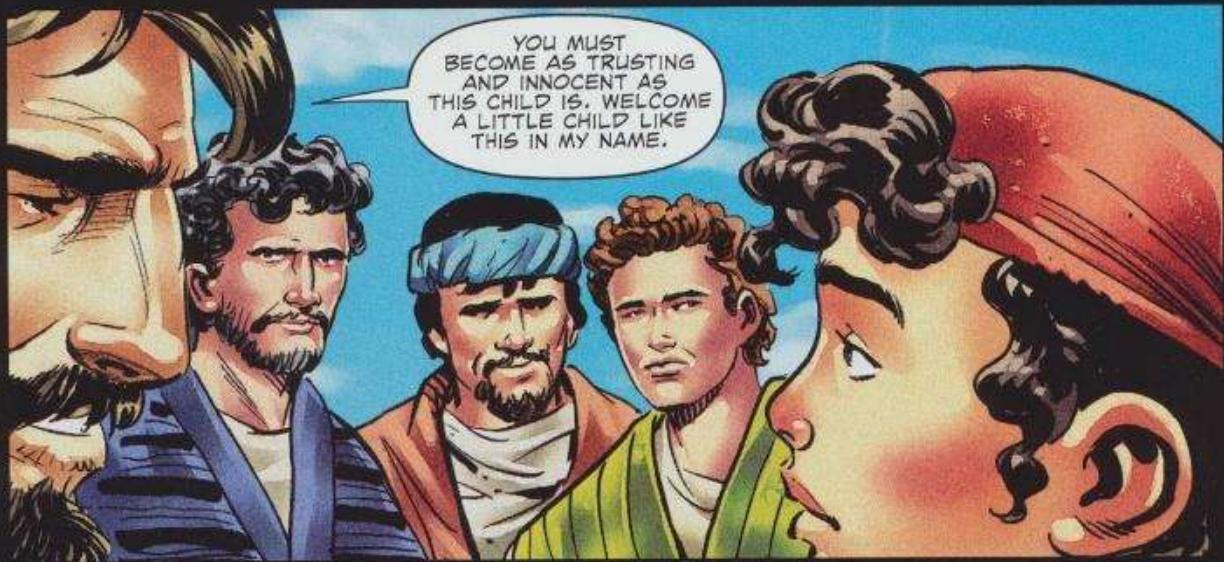
YOU DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH FAITH. IF YOU HAVE FAITH EVEN AS SMALL AS A MUSTARD SEED, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

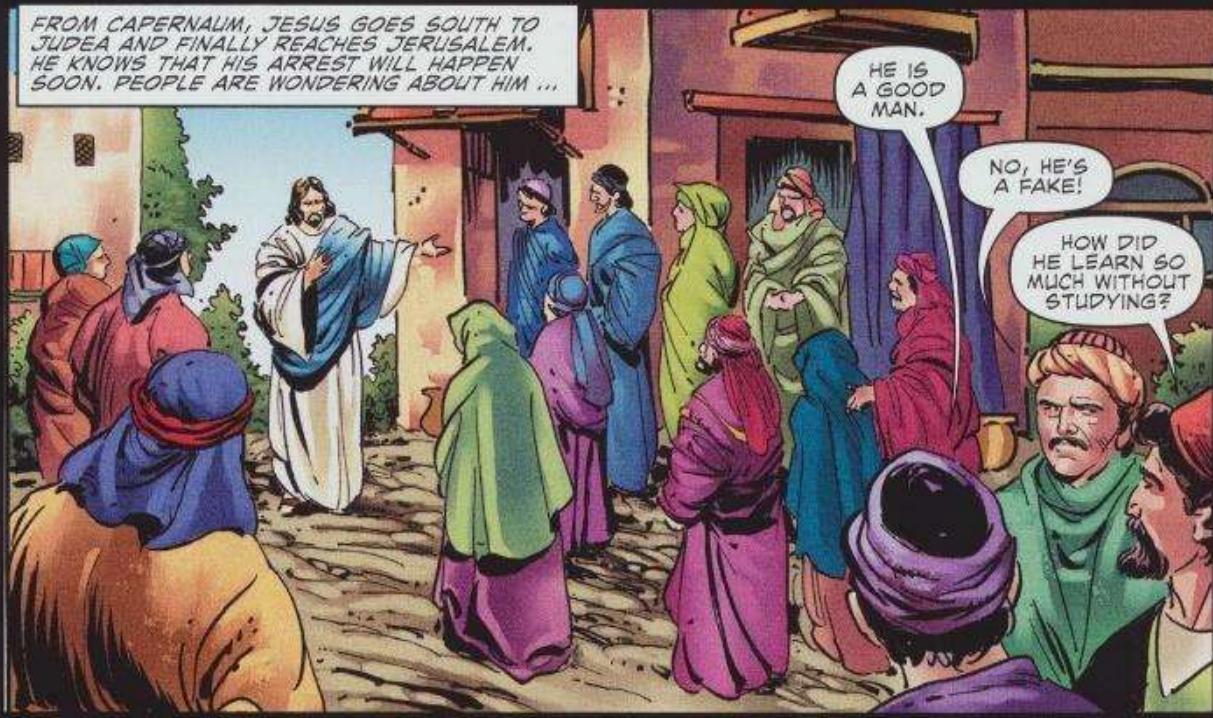
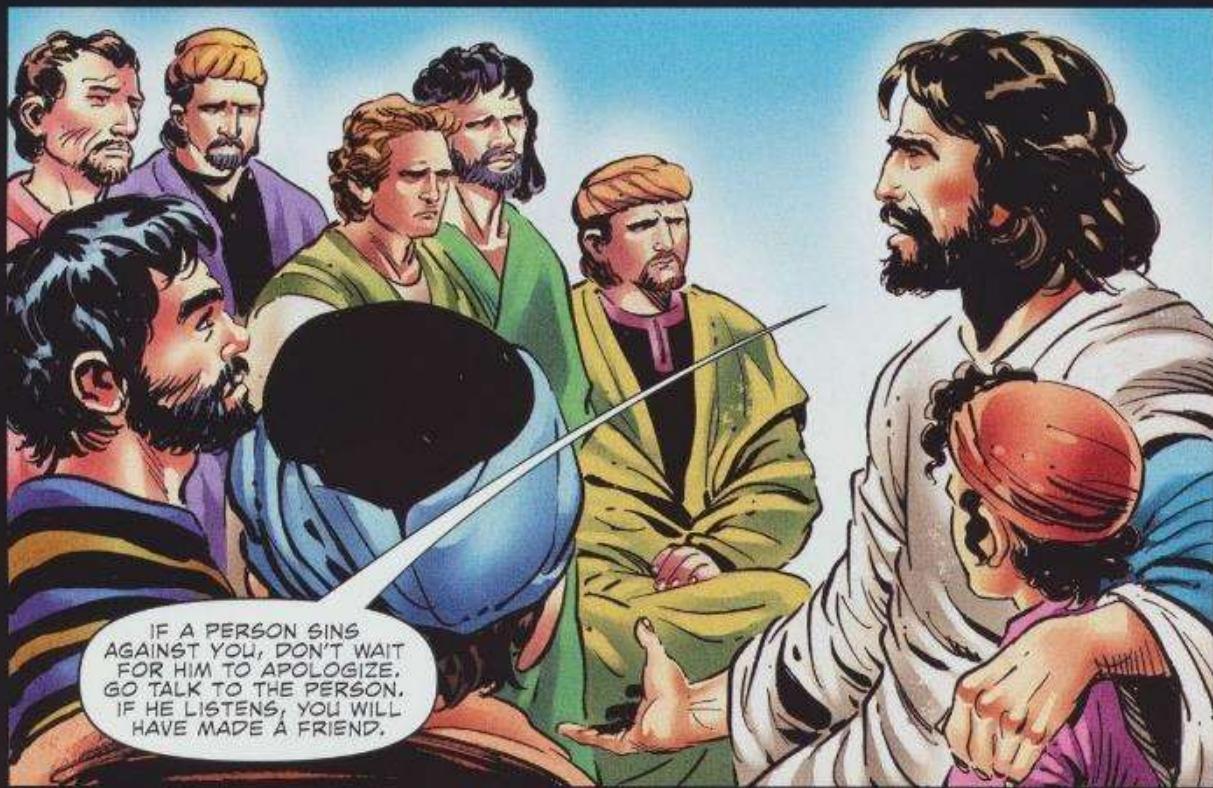
LATER, ON THEIR WAY TO CAPERNAUM, THE DISCIPLES ARGUE ABOUT WHICH OF THEM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ...

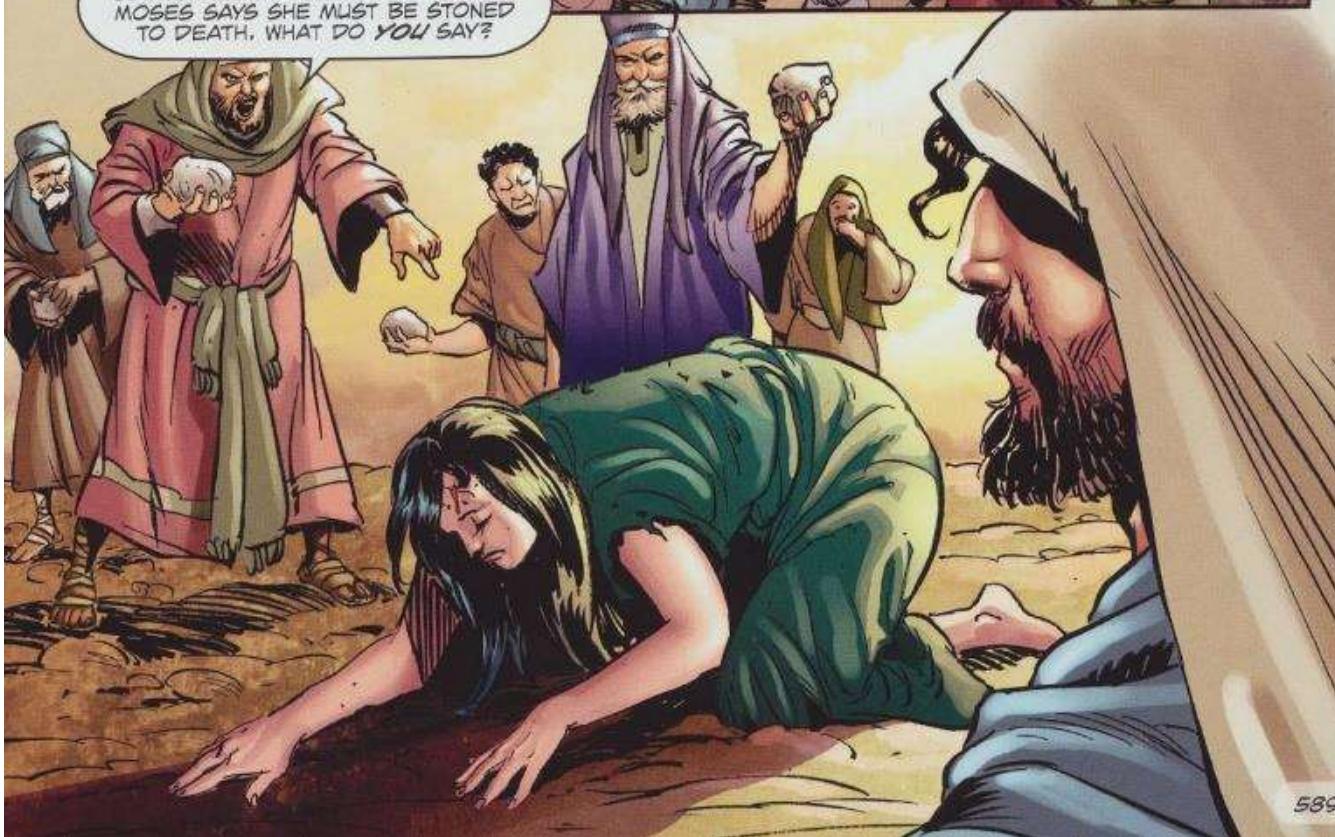
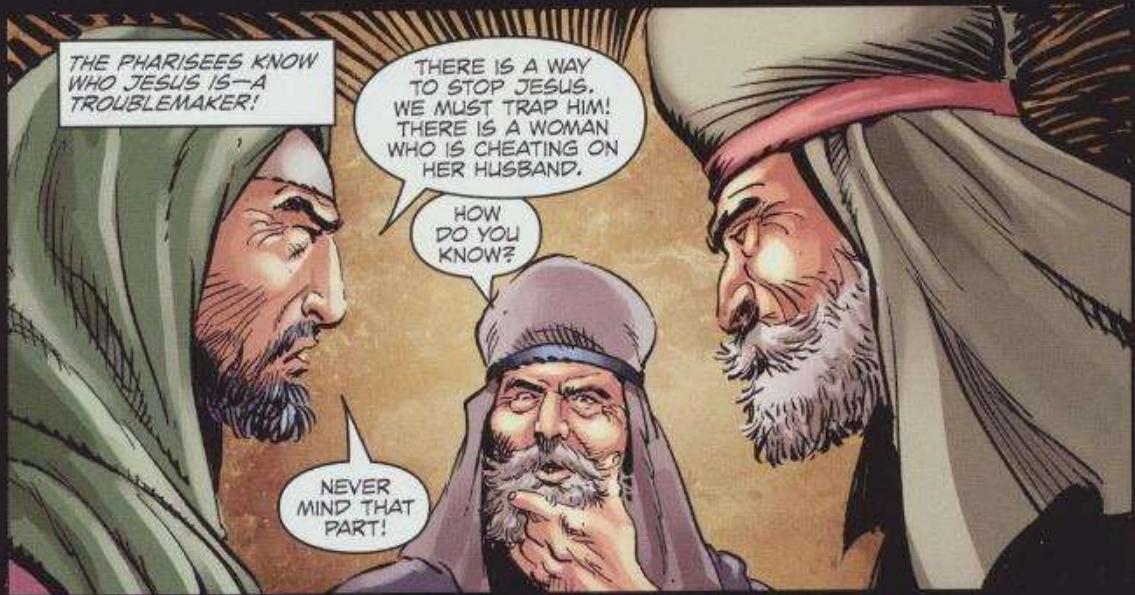
I HOPE I GET TO BE THE ONE WHO SITS NEXT TO JESUS IN HEAVEN ...



JESUS OVERHEARS THE DISCIPLES' QUARRELING AND REALIZES THAT THEY THINK HEAVEN WORKS THE SAME WAY AS EARTH. HE DECIDES THAT IT'S TIME FOR AN OBJECT LESSON. TO HELP HIS DISCIPLES UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD, JESUS CALLS A YOUNG BOY.







FOR A MOMENT, JESUS IGNORES THE PHARISEES' INTERRUPTION AND WRITES IN THE DIRT WITH HIS FINGER.



WELL???

WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER?



WHICHEVER OF YOU HAS NEVER SINNED, YOU MAY THROW THE FIRST STONE AT HER.



JESUS HAS CAUGHT THEM IN THEIR OWN TRAP—NONE OF THEM CAN PRETEND THEY'VE NEVER SINNED. ONE BY ONE, THE PHARISEES DROP THEIR STONES AND SLINK AWAY FROM THE CROWD.



WOMAN, WHO ACCUSES YOU OF A CRIME?

WELL ... NOBODY, I GUESS.



NOW THE PHARISEES AND PRIESTS WANT TO STOP JESUS EVEN MORE.

ANYONE WHO BELIEVES JESUS IS THE MESSIAH SHOULD BE KICKED OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE.

WE HAVE TO ARREST JESUS SOON, BEFORE MORE PEOPLE DECIDE HE'S THE SAVIOR.

JESUS IS TOO POPULAR TO ARREST. THE PRIESTS ARE AFRAID TO STIR UP TROUBLE WHILE THE CITY IS FILLED WITH PEOPLE ATTENDING THE FEAST. UNTIL ONE DAY ...

I COME TO BRING GLORY TO GOD. I WAS WITH GOD EVEN BEFORE THE DAYS OF ABRAHAM.

HOW DARE HE CLAIM TO KNOW GOD LIKE THAT!

STONE HIM! STONE HIM!

THE PHARISEES PICK UP STONES TO THROW AT JESUS, BUT HE SLIPS AWAY.

Faith at First Sight

BASED ON JOHN 9:1-10:21

LATER, JESUS MEETS A BLIND MAN BEGGING AT THE TEMPLE GATE. JESUS USES SPIT TO MAKE SOME MUD AND GENTLY PUTS IT ON THE MAN'S EYES.

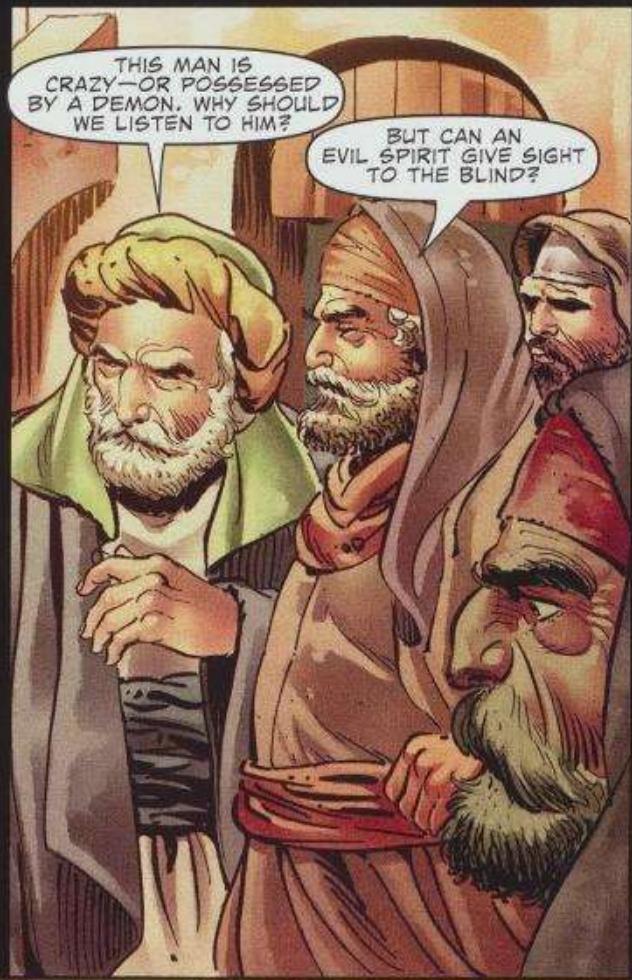
GO AND WASH OFF THE MUD. TRUST ME.

THE BLIND MAN OBEYS JESUS AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, HE CAN SEE! EVEN PEOPLE WHO KNOW HIM HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING HE IS THE SAME MAN WHO WAS BLIND.

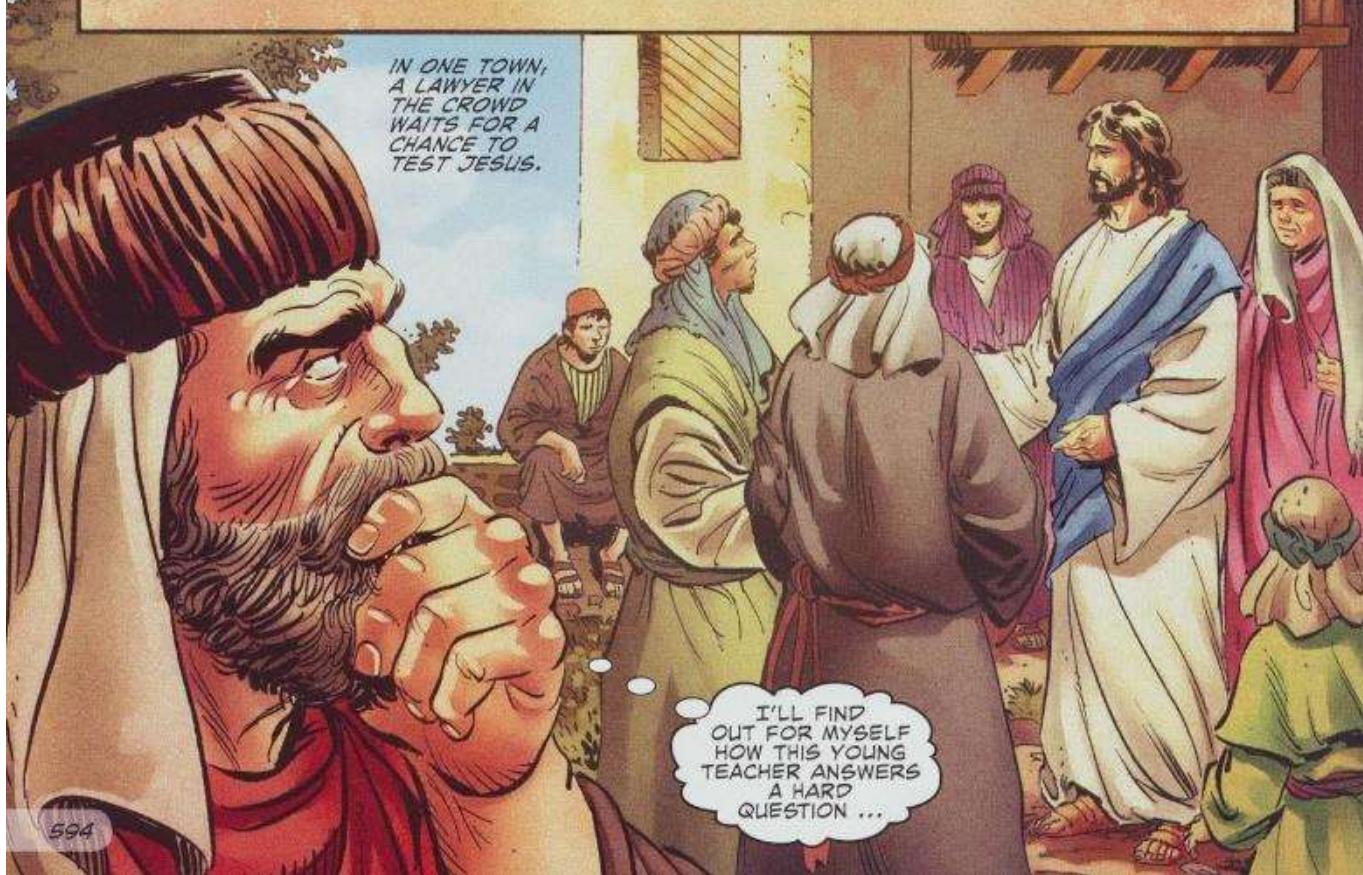
IS THIS THE SAME MAN WHO USED TO BEG OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE?

IT CAN'T BE. IT ONLY LOOKS LIKE HIM.





THE PHARISEES AND PRIESTS CAN'T STOP ARGUING. SOME OF THEM THINK JESUS IS WORKING WITH THE DEVIL. OTHERS SAY HE ISN'T, BUT THEY STILL REFUSE TO BELIEVE HE IS THE SON OF GOD. A FEW DAYS LATER, JESUS LEAVES JERUSALEM TO TEACH IN THE AREA AROUND THE CITY.



A Good Neighbor

BASED ON LUKE 10:25-37

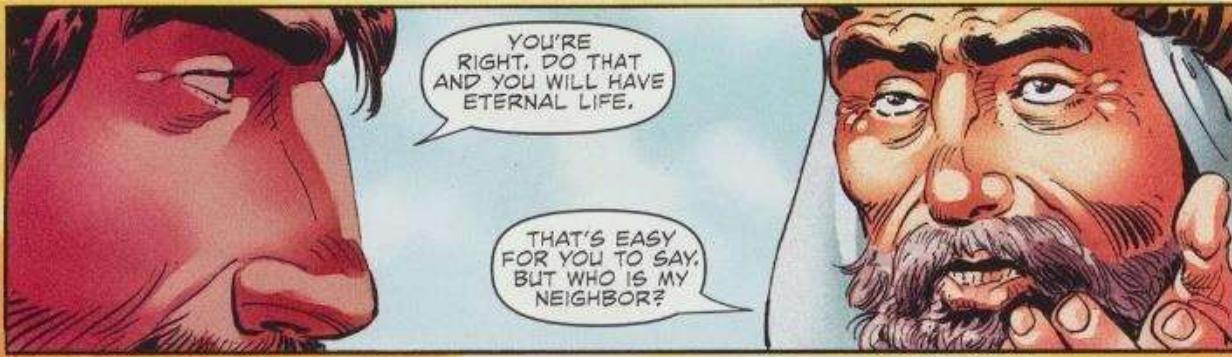
ONE DAY WHILE JESUS IS PREACHING, A LAWYER ASKS JESUS A QUESTION THAT HE THINKS HAS A COMPLICATED ANSWER.

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE?

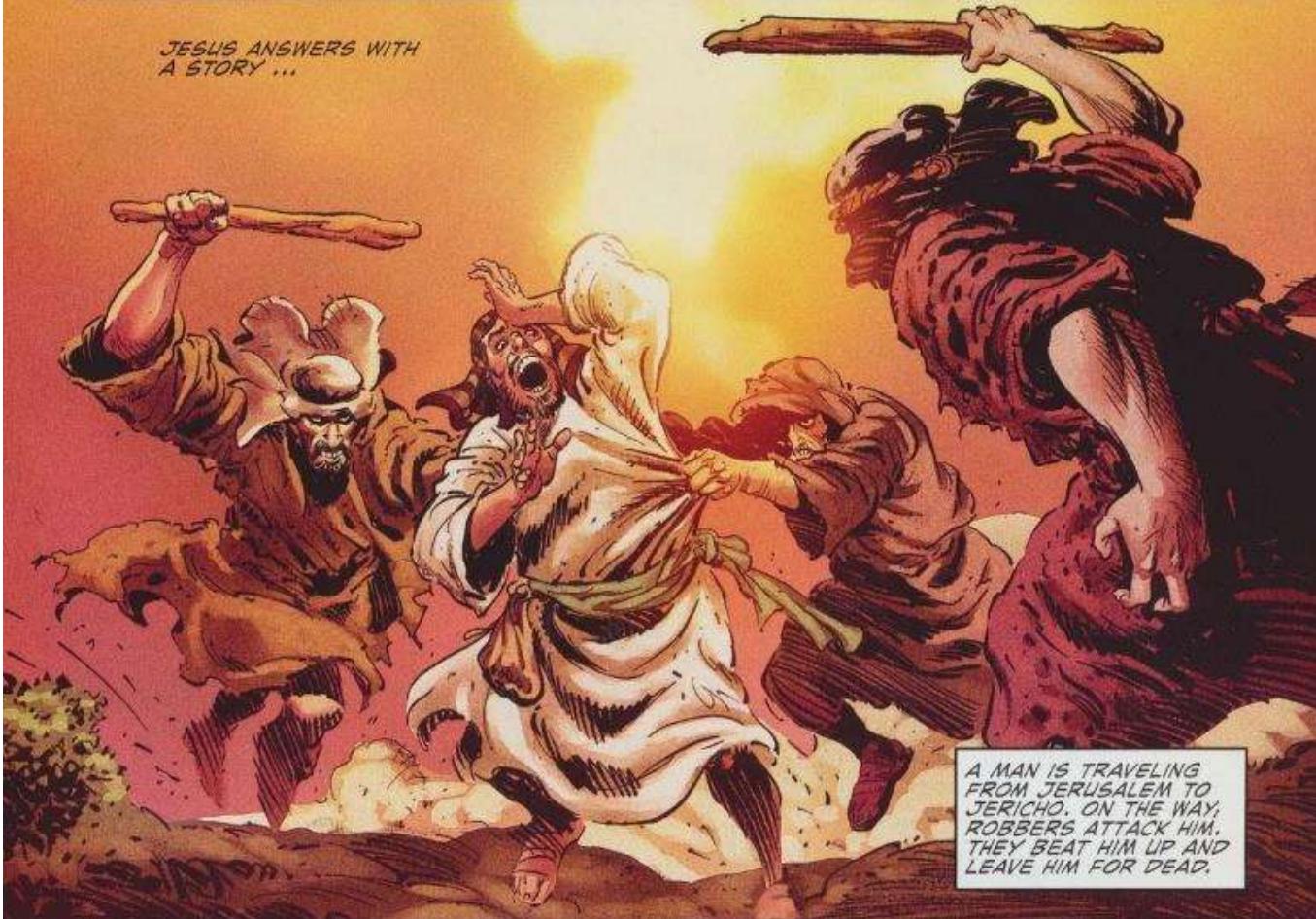
JESUS ANSWERS THE LAWYER'S QUESTION WITH ANOTHER QUESTION.

WELL, YOU ARE AN EXPERT IN GOD'S LAW. WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.



JESUS ANSWERS WITH
A STORY ...

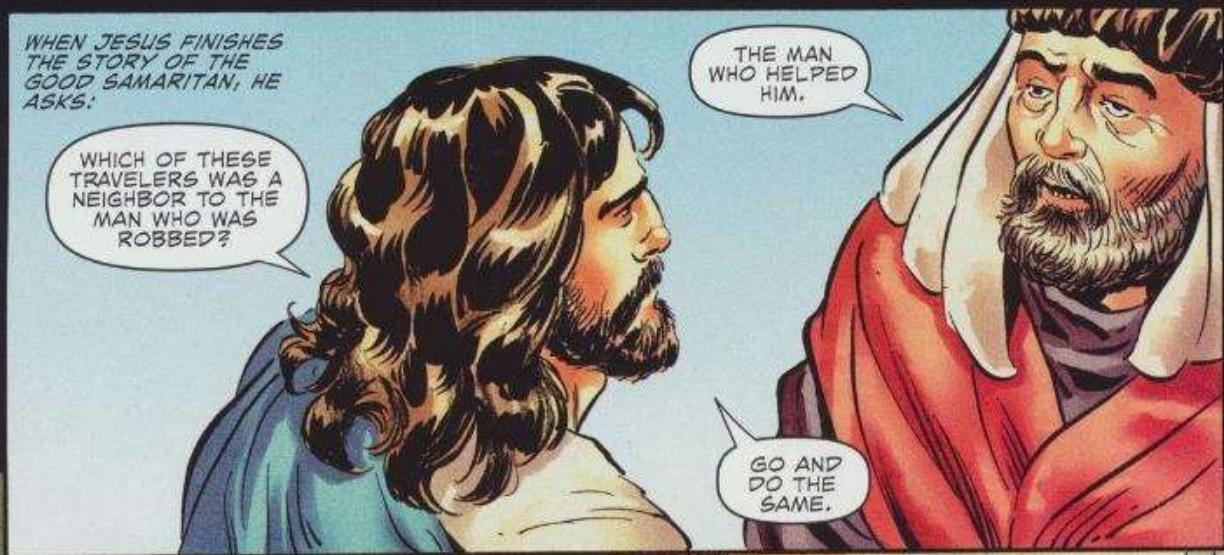


A PRIEST COMES DOWN THE ROAD. HE SEES THE WOUNDED MAN
AND FEARS THAT THE ROBBERS MIGHT STILL BE NEARBY ...



A LITTLE LATER A LEVITE, AN ASSISTANT TO THE PRIESTS, COMES
ALONG. BUT HE HAS IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO IN JERICHO ...

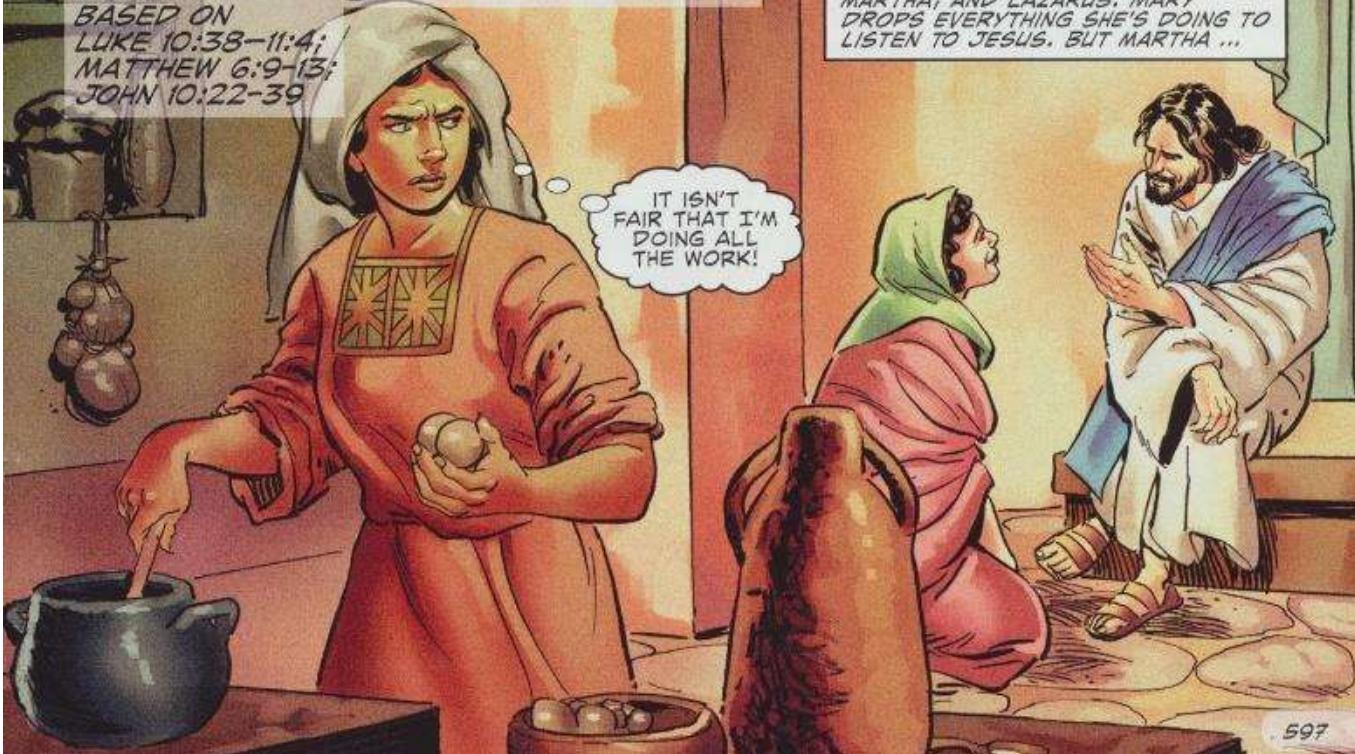




Praying Lessons

BASED ON
LUKE 10:38-11:4;
MATTHEW 6:9-13;
JOHN 10:22-39

JESUS CONTINUES ON HIS PREACHING TRIP. IN BETHANY, HE STOPS TO VISIT HIS FRIENDS MARY, MARTHA, AND LAZARUS. MARY DROPS EVERYTHING SHE'S DOING TO LISTEN TO JESUS. BUT MARTHA ...



FINALLY, MARTHA BECOMES SO UPSET THAT SHE COMPLAINS TO JESUS.



MARTHA TAKES JESUS' WORDS TO HEART. SOON HE JOINS HIS DISCIPLES FOR A TEACHING TRIP IN JUDEA.



DURING HIS TRAVELS, JESUS OFTEN STOPS TO PRAY. HIS DISCIPLES WITNESS THE POWER OF HIS PRAYERS AND WANT TO LEARN MORE.

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY.

WHEN YOU PRAY, SAY,

"OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, YOUR NAME IS HOLY.

LET YOUR KINGDOM COME.

HELP US FOLLOW YOUR PLAN ON EARTH,
LIKE IT HAPPENS IN HEAVEN.

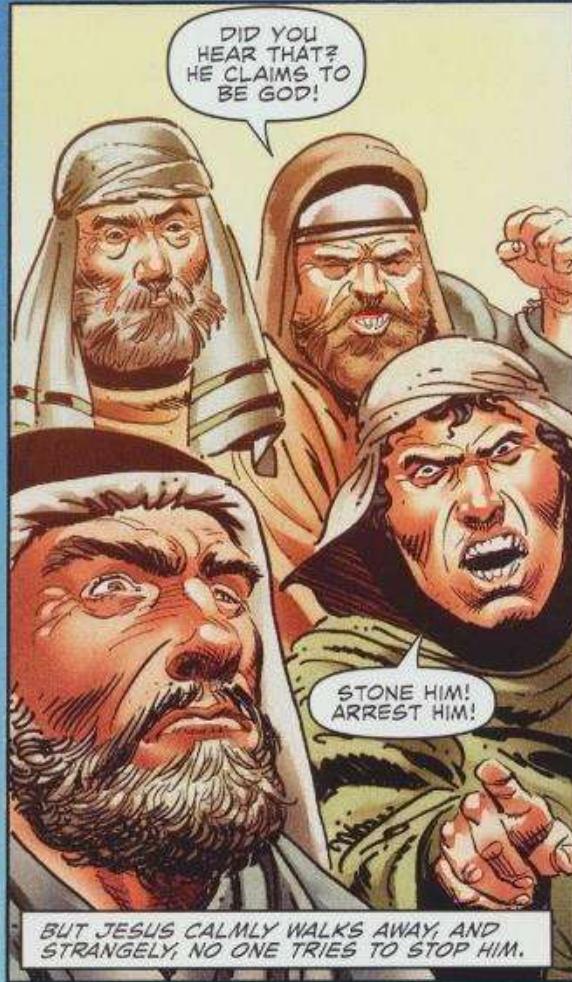
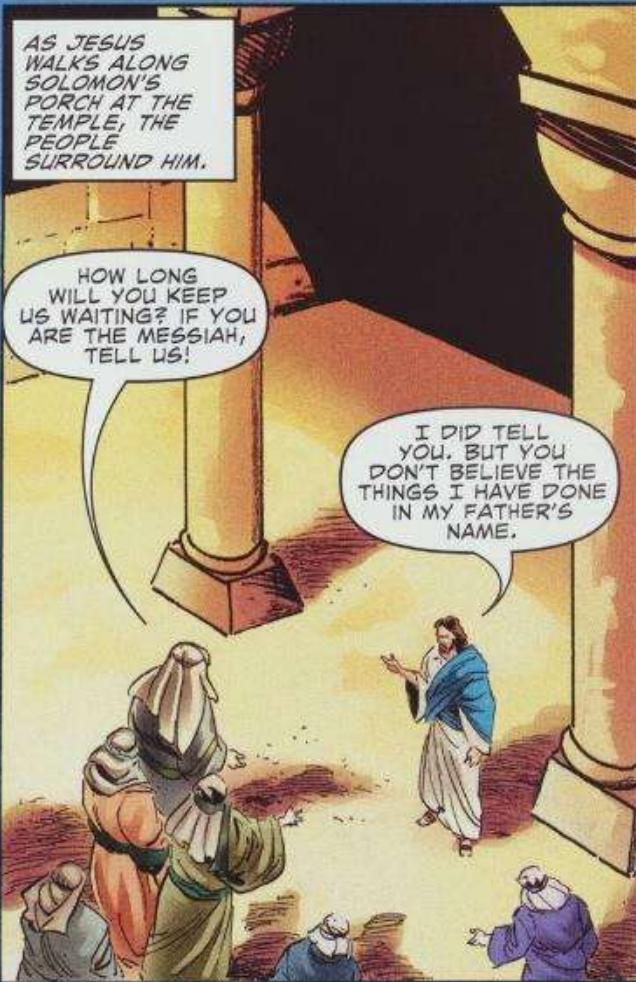
GIVE US THE FOOD WE NEED FOR TODAY.

FORGIVE OUR SINS, LIKE WE SHOULD.
FORGIVE PEOPLE WHO SIN AGAINST US.

PROTECT US FROM TEMPTATION.

AND KEEP US SAFE FROM THE DEVIL."

FOR A MOMENT, NO ONE SPEAKS. THEN SOFTLY THE DISCIPLES SAY "AMEN" TO THIS SIMPLE PRAYER. AFTER THIS, JESUS AND HIS FOLLOWERS CONTINUE TRAVELING THROUGH JUDEA PREACHING AND HEALING. BY THE TIME JESUS RETURNS TO JERUSALEM FOR A RELIGIOUS FEAST, THE CITY IS FILLED WITH PEOPLE, TALKING AND WONDERING ABOUT JESUS.



A Loving Father

BASED ON LUKE 15:11-32

JESUS LEAVES JERUSALEM AND CONTINUES TO PREACH. THE PHARISEES COMPLAIN BECAUSE HE SPENDS TIME WITH SINNERS. SO JESUS TELLS THEM A STORY ABOUT A MAN WITH TWO SONS. ONE DAY THE YOUNGER SON COMES TO THE FATHER ...

