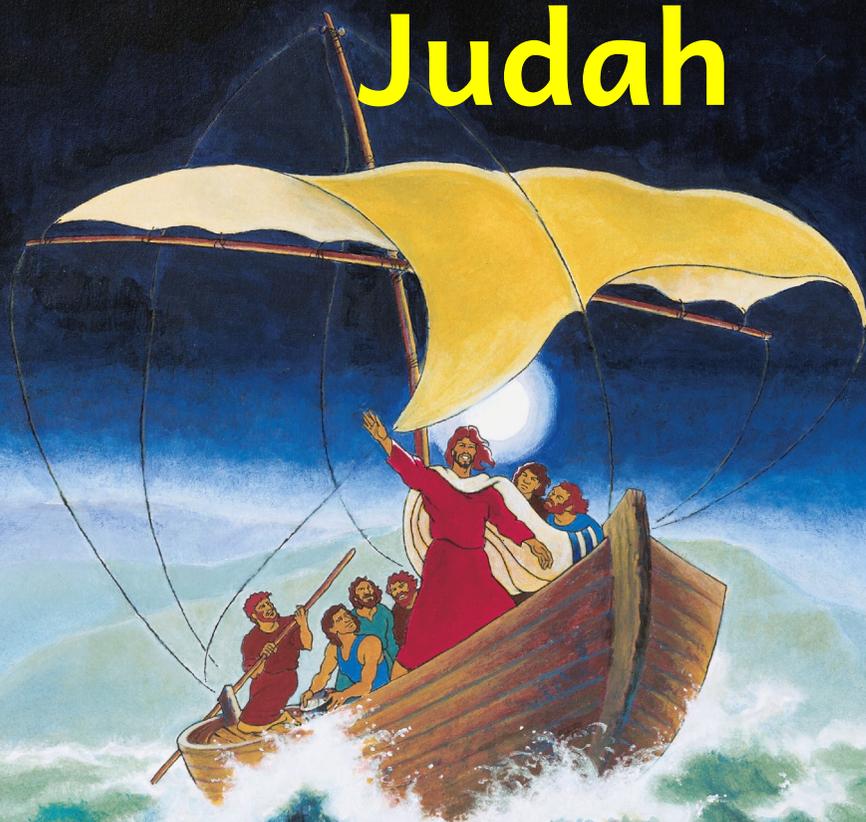


The Lion of Judah



The Story of Jesus the Messiah
According to the Gospel of Mark

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By:

The Lion of Judah

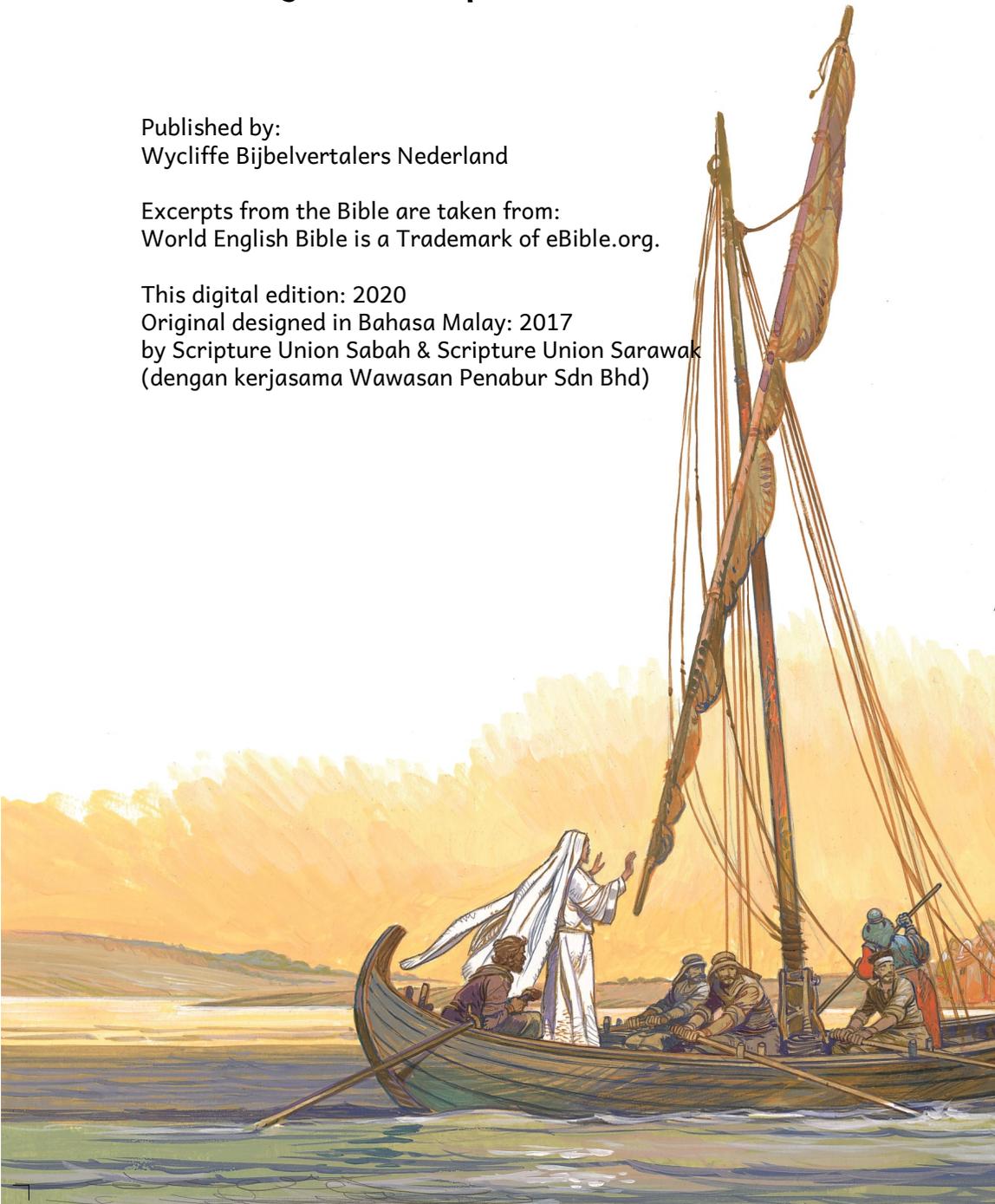
The Story of Jesus the Messiah

According to the Gospel of Mark

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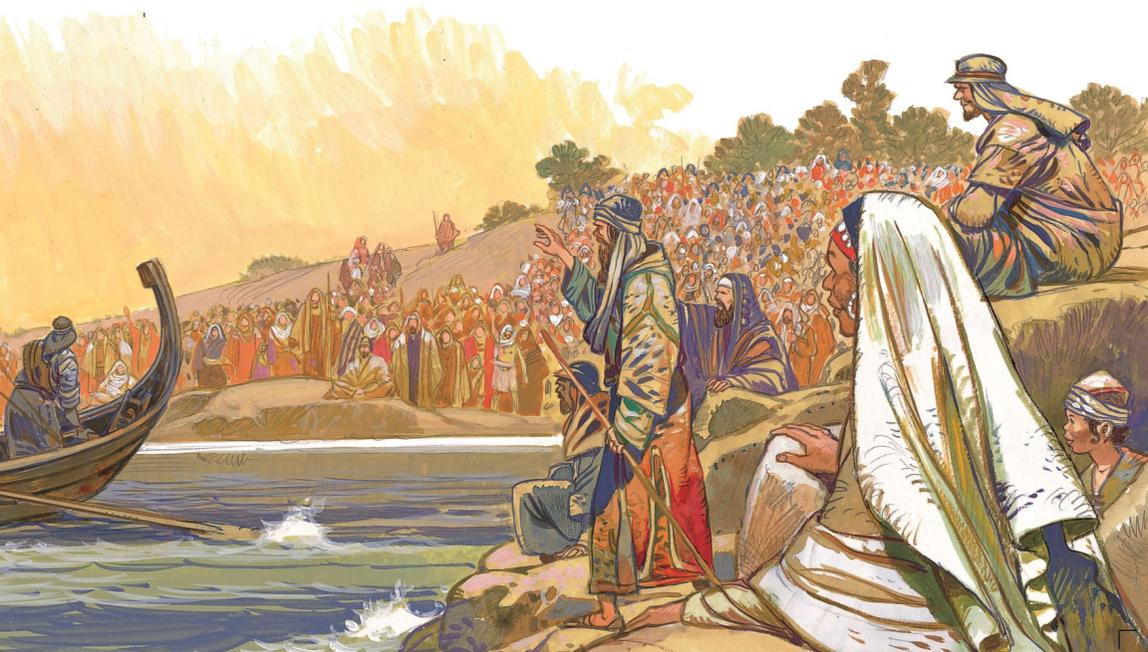
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Introduction

Shalom! In your hands is an amazing book, The Lion Of Judah, a story about Jesus the Messiah as recorded in the Gospel of Mark. This “The Lion Of Judah” comic is not just the illustrated Gospel of Mark, but is intended to attract readers to remain convinced and to believe that the Bible is the living Word of God. The words in this book can change the lives of all, whether it be children, adolescents, or adults!

“For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

“the Lord’s word endures forever.” (1 Peter 1:25)

Our prayer is that this book will help us to understand, remember, and apply the teachings of Jesus in our lives. Just as Jesus prayed to the Father for all of us, “Sanctify them in your truth. Your word is truth.”(John 17:17)

Why The Lion Of Judah?

Traditionally, a winged lion is a symbol of Mark because his gospel begins with John the Baptist, "the voice of one crying in the wilderness," (Mark 1:3), which is said to sound like a lion's roar. The lion is also a symbol of the royal kingdom, and Mark tells of Jesus' royal degree.

The “The Lion of Judah” is one of the titles for Jesus. The promise of God to him was fulfilled when Jacob blessed his fourth son, "Judah is a lion’s cub. The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs. The obedience of the peoples will be to him.”(Genesis 49:9a,10).

One day, when Jesus returns for the second time as Judge of the world, Revelation 5: 5 declares "Don't weep. Behold, the Lion who is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome: he who opens the book and its seven seals." "Worthy is the Lamb who has been killed to receive the power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and blessing!" (Revelation 5:12) : "and bought us for God with your blood out of every tribe, language, people, and nation, and made us kings and priests to our God; and we will reign on the earth."(Revelation 5: 9-10)

Mark is the first Gospel written between AD 60 and 70. It is written with some detail not recorded in the other three Gospels, and it moves quickly, like a great story, from one event to another.

Although many of Jesus' humanity is reflected in Mark's Gospel - such as his expressions of anger, sadness, and compassion - Mark's main purpose is to encourage Christians to recognize Jesus as the Son of God, the Savior (Messiah), and to help them stand firm in their faith in the face of persecution and other threats. He wants his readers to understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Mark the Evangelist is often mentioned in the book of Acts. In fact, we read that Mark accompanied Paul and Barnabas on several missions trips. Perhaps the spirit and courage of Mark and the apostles in the course of their mission, as well as the promptness, urgency, and humanity in their writings, further emphasized the use of winged lions as symbols of the Gospel of Mark.

Before You Get Started

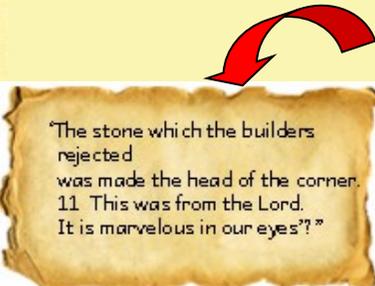


1. Begin by praying,

“Father in heaven, thank you for giving your only Son, Jesus. I'll start reading about him. Help me understand his words and feel his love as I read this book. Amen. “

2. True Biblical references

References to the verses at the top of the pages indicate the illustrated biblical passages. For example, Mark 9:21-26 means the gospel of Mark Chapter 9 Verses 21 to 26. On some pages you will find those verses in the form of a speech bubble with a white background.



3. Excerpts from the Old Testament

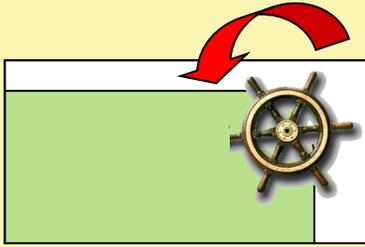
This is illustrated by an old paper background, which describes it as old verses. They usually have names of books, chapters and verses so you know they are Old Testament quotes.

4. Footnotes

Further notes or descriptions of a word or phrase. It is found at the bottom of the page with a small “n” superscript alphabet in a Bible verse.



3:12 Dua belas murid: Mereka dikenali sebagai rasul.

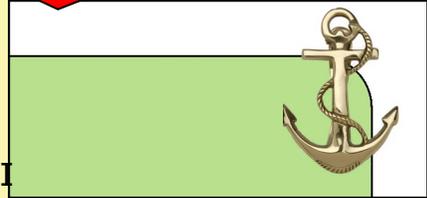


5. Way of Life

These are notes or explanations of a lesson or idea that can help you reflect and meditate on how the truth of the Word of God can be applied in your life.

6. Anchors of Faith

These are notes on the basis of the Christian faith, or apologetic arguments in defense of the Christian faith.

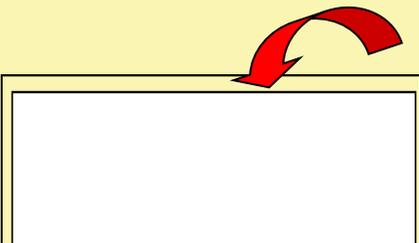


7. Road to Salvation

A summary of the teachings of the way of salvation is provided at the end of this book.

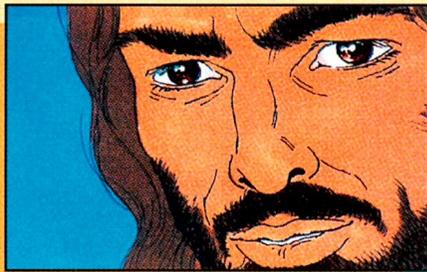
8. Repentance Prayer

An example of repentance prayer for confession (sin) and acceptance of Jesus as Friend and Savior is provided at the end of this book.

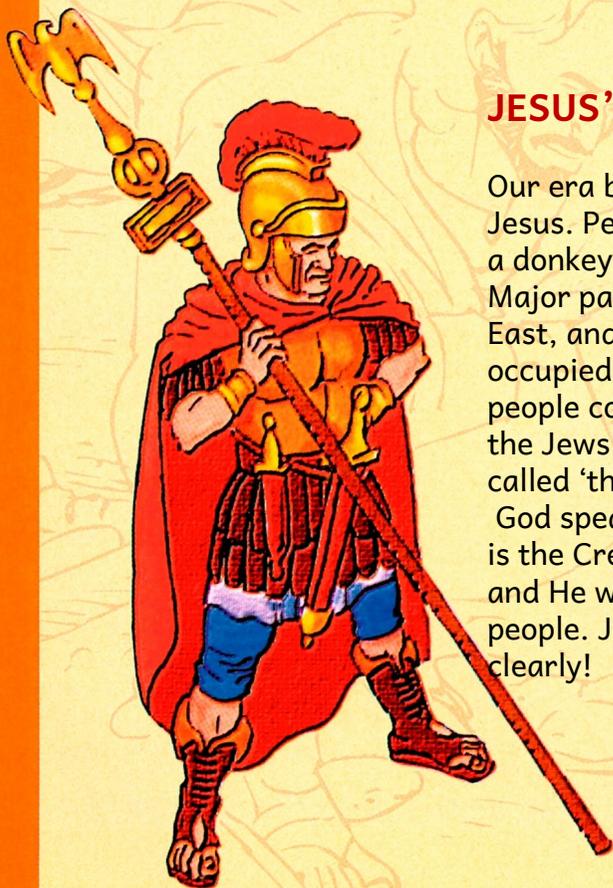


9. Contact Address

WHO IS JESUS MESSIAH?



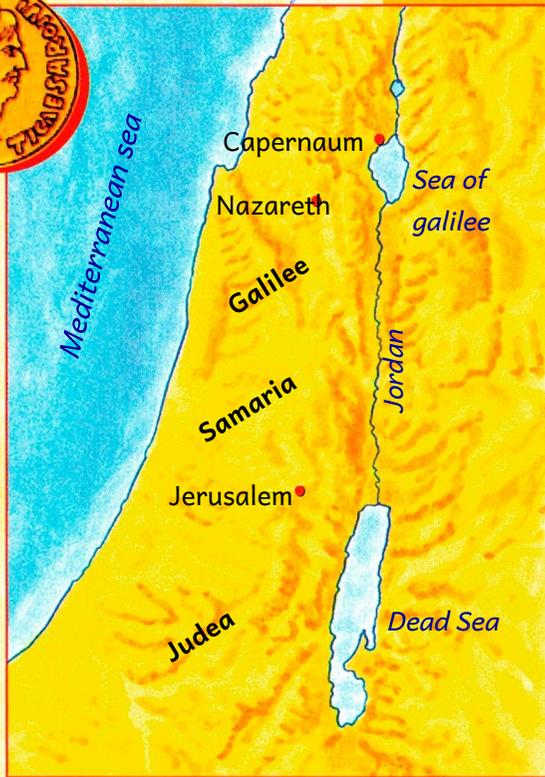
Jesus lived about 2,000 years ago in Israel. We call Him 'Jesus Messiah' or 'Jesus Christ'. It means that He is King. Yet, He is not just a King. Jesus is called 'the Son of God' and also 'the Son of Man'. This means that He belongs to God and to human beings. The history of Jesus' life is described in the Bible. It is the greatest story of all time.



JESUS' TIME

Our era begins with the birth of Jesus. People travelled on foot or on a donkey, camel, or on horseback. Major parts of Europe, the Middle East, and Northern Africa were occupied by the Roman Empire. Most people could not read or write, yet the Jews in Israel could. They were called 'the people of the Book'.

God speaks in the Book, the Bible. He is the Creator of all existing things and He wants to be friends with all people. Jesus showed that very clearly!



ISRAEL IN JESUS' TIME

Capital: Jerusalem.

Provinces: Galilee, Samaria, Judea.

Size: Approximately 28,000 km² (10,810 sq. miles).

Climate: Subtropical.

Politics: Since 63 BC (before Christ) the Romans have been in control in Israel.

Religion: Judaism. The Jews have a temple in Jerusalem. There are priests doing all kinds of work for the religion and there are teachers (such as the Pharisees) who must instruct the people from the Bible.

Languages: Hebrew (the language of the Jews), Greek (the internationally spoken language), Latin (the language of the Romans).

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The structure of the Gospel of Mark

| Focus | Servant | | | | The victim | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----|----|--------|----|
| Division | Servants of that servant | Servant's Sermons | Servant's words | The suffering of that slave | Servant's Service | 11 | 13 | 14 | 16 |
| Article | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 16 |
| Topics | The Son of Man on the Journey | | | | Son of Man on the Cross | | | | |
| The place | Galilee and Perea | | | | Dead Savior | | | | |
| Time frame | Around 3 years | Around 6 months | Year 29-33 AD | | Galilea and Perea | | | 8 days | |
| Author | John and Mark as told to him by Simon Peter | | | | | | | | |

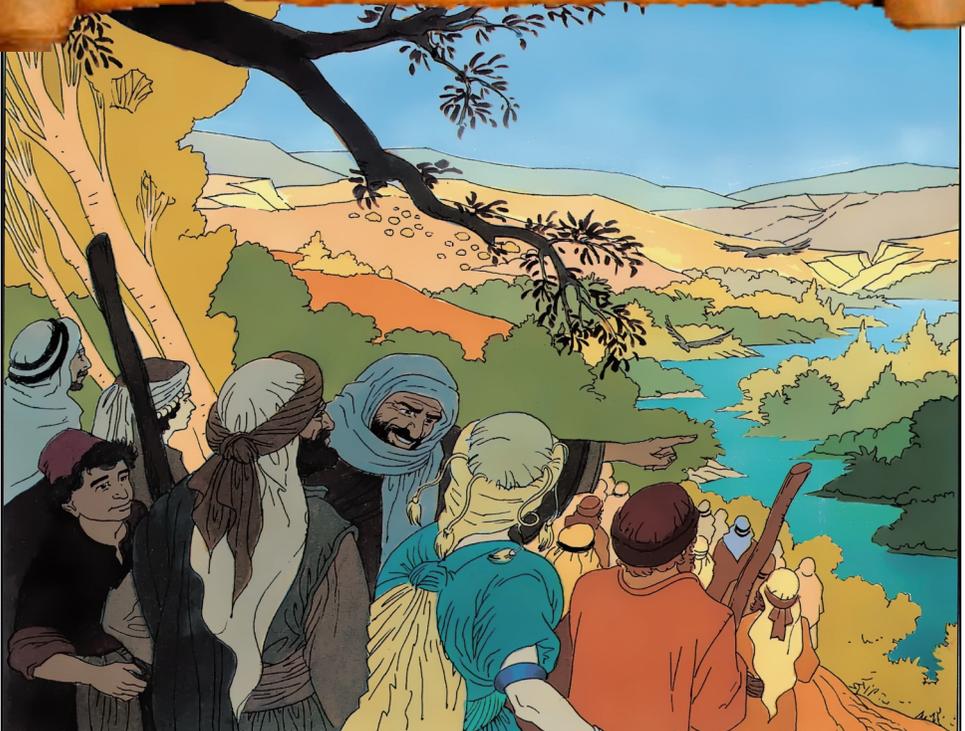
Chapter 1

John the Baptist

1 The beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the prophets,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you: 3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight!’ ”

4 John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching the baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. 5 All the country of Judea and all those of Jerusalem went out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan river, confessing their sins.





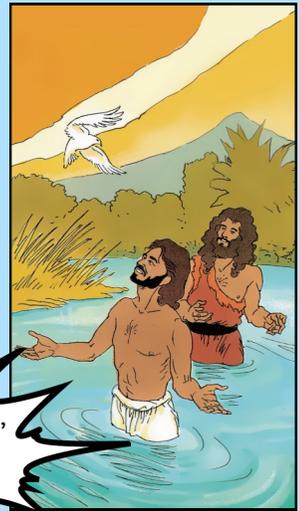
6 John was clothed with camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He preached, saying,

"After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and loosen. 8 I baptized you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

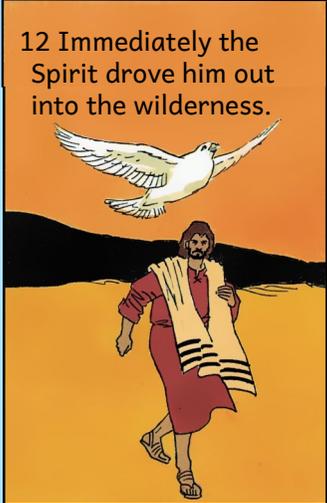
John Baptized Jesus



9 In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Immediately coming up from the water, he saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 A voice came out of the sky,



"You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."



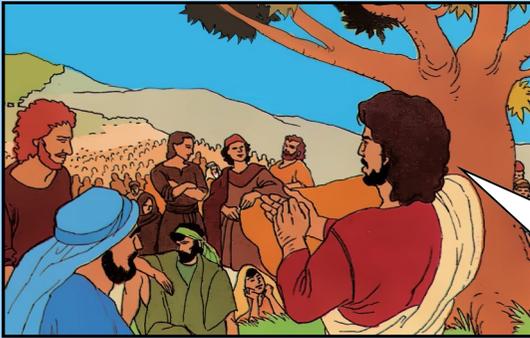
12 Immediately the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness.



13 He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals; and the angels were serving him.



The First Disciples Of Jesus



14 Now after John was taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the Good News of God's Kingdom,

15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and God's Kingdom is at hand! Repent, and believe in the Good News."

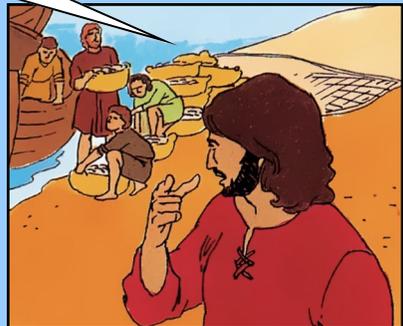
16 Passing along by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.



17 Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you into fishers for men."

18 Immediately they left their nets, and followed him.

19 Going on a little further from there, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat mending the nets. 20 Immediately he called them, and they left their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired servants, and went after him.



Against Temptation

Way of Life



Read Matthew 4:1-11.

What two words did Jesus say every time the Devil tempted Him? Every time Satan tempted Jesus, He answered, "It has been written." Jesus resisted the temptation by making the decision to obey God and do what God said in His Word. If you are tempted to do something wrong, you can also overcome the temptation. Make the decision to obey God and do what the Bible commands.

Jesus Casts Out Evil Spirits

21 They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath day he entered into the synagogue and taught. 22 They were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as having authority, and not as the scribes.



23 Immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,



24 saying, "Ha! What do we have to do with you, Jesus, you Nazarene? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God!"



25 Jesus rebuked him, saying,

"Be quiet, and come out of him!"



26 The unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying,

"What is this? A new teaching? For with authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him!"



28 The report of him went out immediately everywhere into all the region of Galilee and its surrounding area.

Jesus Heals Many

29 Immediately, when they had come out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. 31 He came and took her by the hand and raised her up. The fever left her immediately, and she served them.



32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by demons. 33 All the city was gathered together at the door. 34 He healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons. He didn't allow the demons to speak, because they knew him.

Jesus Teaches In Other Cities



35 Early in the morning, while it was still dark, he rose up and went out, and departed into a deserted place, and prayed there. 36 Simon and those who were with him searched for him. 37 They found him and told him,

"Everyone is looking for you."



38 He said to them,

"Let's go elsewhere into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because I came out for this reason."

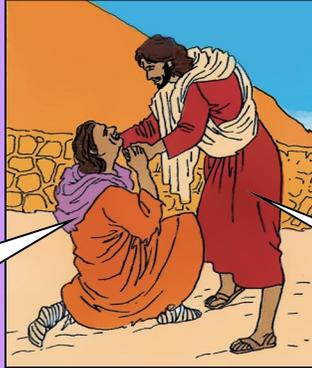


39 He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out demons.

Jesus Heals A Leper

40 A leper came to him, begging him, kneeling down to him, and saying to him,

“If you want to, you can make me clean.”



41 Being moved with compassion, he stretched out his hand, and touched him, and said to him,

“I want to. Be made clean.”

42 When he had said this, immediately the leprosy departed from him and he was made clean. 43 He strictly warned him and immediately sent him out, 44 and said to him,

“See that you say nothing to anybody, but go show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing the things which Moses commanded, for a testimony to them.”



45 But he went out, and began to proclaim it much, and to spread about the matter, so that Jesus could no more openly enter into a city, but was outside in desert places. People came to him from everywhere.

Reach Others

Way of Life



Leprosy is a skin disease. In ancient times, a leper is considered “unclean” and cannot worship God with others, and cannot even live in the city. So they are always isolated and no one wants to approach them.

Read Mark 1:40-42. Jesus showed that He cared for and loved the leper by touching and healing him. Think of some people you know who are lonely, isolated and without friends.

How can you show them that Jesus cares and loves them? Do you want to reach out to that person?

Son of God

Anchors of Faith



The phrase “Jesus is the Son of God” should not be confused with our common understanding of a father-son relationship. It should be viewed in the context of history and the Bible. The title “Son of God” that is used in the Bible does NOT mean that God has a wife and has a literal child. It is a heavenly title in a way that the SON is the same God as the Father is. (John 5:18-24).

The term “Son of God” refers to the special relationship with God that Jesus has. This special relationship begins with the miraculous birth of Jesus. The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy child to be born will be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:35). Jesus is the Son of God in the sense that He is the God of man (John 1:1,14).

The Jewish leaders understood the meaning of the phrase “Son of God”, which means that he has the same character as God. For them, this claim to be the same nature as God deserved a death sentence. The title “Son of God” means having the same nature as God, a special relationship that Jesus has with God the Father.

For the Strengthening of Our Faith

“Son of God” means having the same nature as God, a special relationship that Jesus has with God the Father. “Son of Man” means the anointed and promised Savior. Jesus the Son of God and Jesus the Son of Man are central to the Christian teaching in the divinity of Jesus:

- He has the power to forgive sins (Matthew 9:6);
- He is unique and comes from heaven (John 3:13);
- He is the Messiah, the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:13-17);
- He was killed and raised from the dead (Matthew 17:9,22,23; 20:18,19; 26:2; Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33,34; Luke 9:22; 18:31 -33);
- He gave His life to redeem mankind from the chains of sin (Matthew 20:28);
- All who believe in Him will have eternal life (John 3:14, 15);
- He also received worship (John 9:35-38).

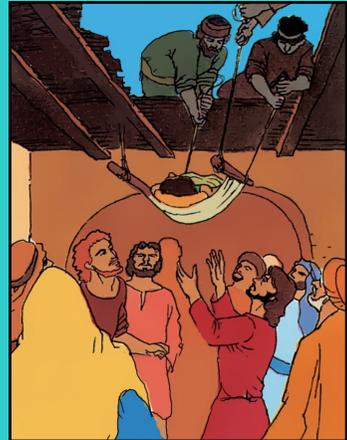
Chapter 2

Jesus Heals A Lame Man

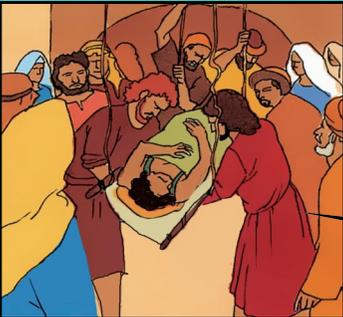


1 When he entered again into Capernaum after some days, it was heard that he was at home. 2 Immediately many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even around the door; and he spoke the word to them.

4 When they could not come near to him for the crowd, they removed the roof where he was. When they had broken it up, they let down the mat that the paralytic was lying on.



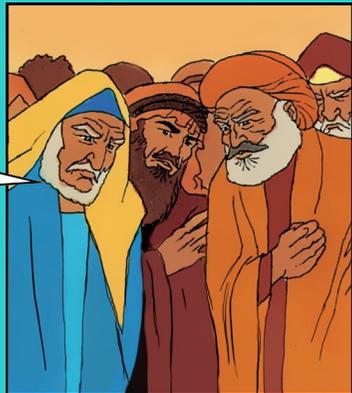
5 Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic,

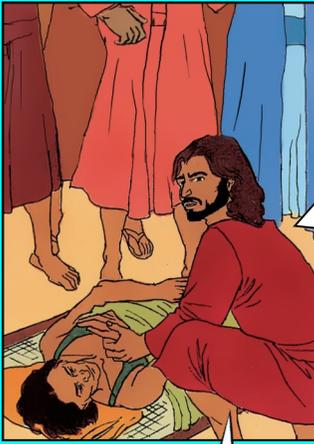


“Son, your sins are forgiven you.”

6 But there were some of the scribes sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,

7 “Why does this man speak blasphemies like that? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”





8 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, said to them,

“Why do you reason these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to tell the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven;’ or to say, ‘Arise, and take up your bed, and walk?’ 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”

he said to the paralytic

“I tell you, arise, take up your mat, and go to your house.”

12 He arose, and immediately took up the mat and went out in front of them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying,

“We never saw anything like this!”



The Son of Man

Anchors of Faith



This phrase is used by Jesus for himself.

This title is significant because it gives the meaning of the Messiah (Savior) as written in Daniel 7:13-14. When Jesus was asked if He was the Christ, He answered that He was the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty one and coming on the clouds of heaven (Matthew 26:64; Daniel 7:13). So Jesus is God.

Call Of Levi



13 He went out again by the seaside. All the multitude came to him, and he taught them. 14 As he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. He said to him, "Follow me." And he arose and followed him.

"Follow me."

15 He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners sat down with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many, and they followed him. 16 The scribes and the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples,



"Why is it that he eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?"



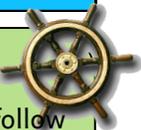
17 When Jesus heard it, he said to them,

"Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."



"Follow Me"

Way of Life



These two words, "Follow Me," are still Jesus' call to all people to follow Him and to be His disciples.

The first step for those who hear and decide to follow Jesus is to forsake sin and believe in Jesus.

Do you hear Him calling "Follow Me"?

Fasting

18 John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, and they came and asked him,

"Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples don't fast?"



19 Jesus said to them,

"Can the groomsmen fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they can't fast. 20 But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.

21 No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, or else the patch shrinks and the new tears away from the old, and a



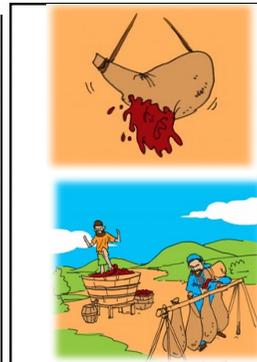
patch shrinks and the new tears away from the old, and a



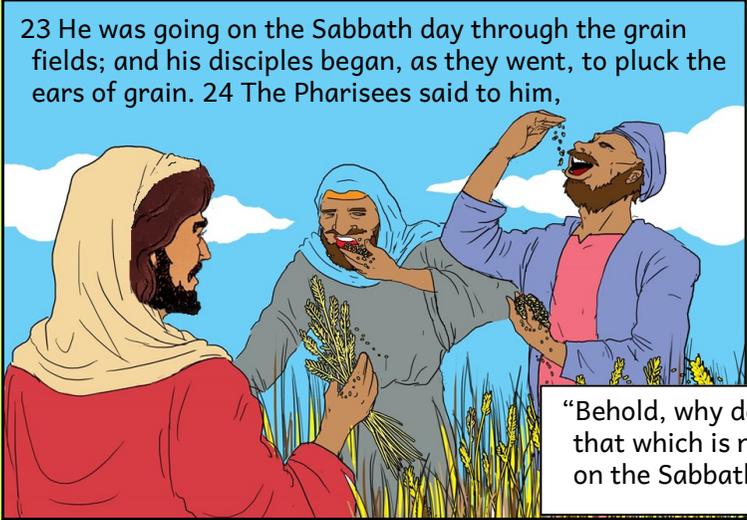
22 No one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst



the skins, and the wine pours out, and the skins will be destroyed; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins."



Jesus and the Sabbath



25 He said to them,

“Did you never read what David did when he had need and was hungry—he, and those who were with him? 26 How he entered into God’s house at the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the show bread, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests, and gave also to those who were with him?”

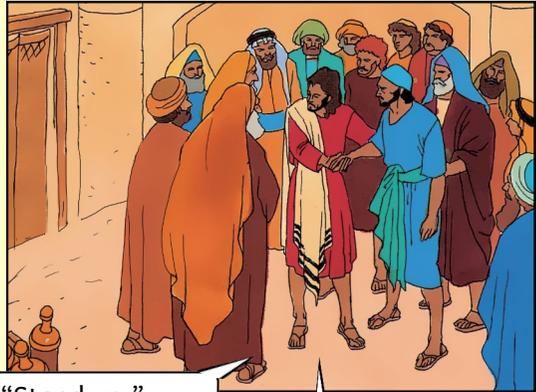


27 He said to them,

“The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 Therefore the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”

Chapter 3

1 He entered again into the synagogue, and there was a man there whose hand was withered. 2 They watched him, whether he would heal him on the Sabbath day, that they might accuse him. 3 He said to the man whose hand was withered,



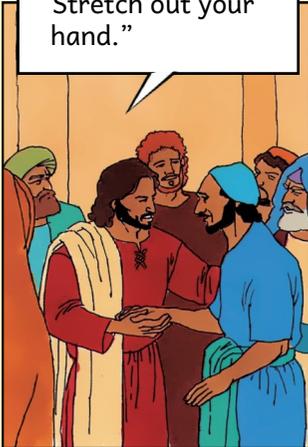
“Stand up.”

He said to them,

“Is it lawful on the Sabbath day to do good or to do harm? To save a life or to kill?”

But they were silent. 5 When he had looked around at them with anger, being grieved at the hardening of their hearts, he said to the man,

“Stretch out your hand.”



He stretched it out, and his hand was restored as healthy as the other.



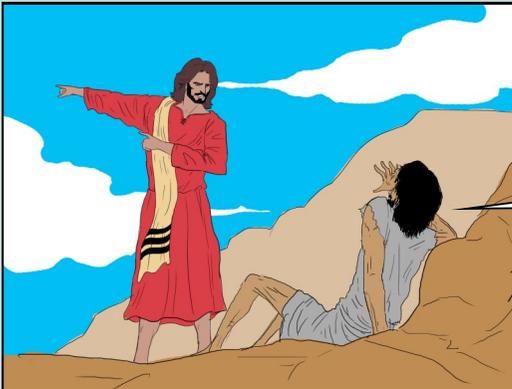
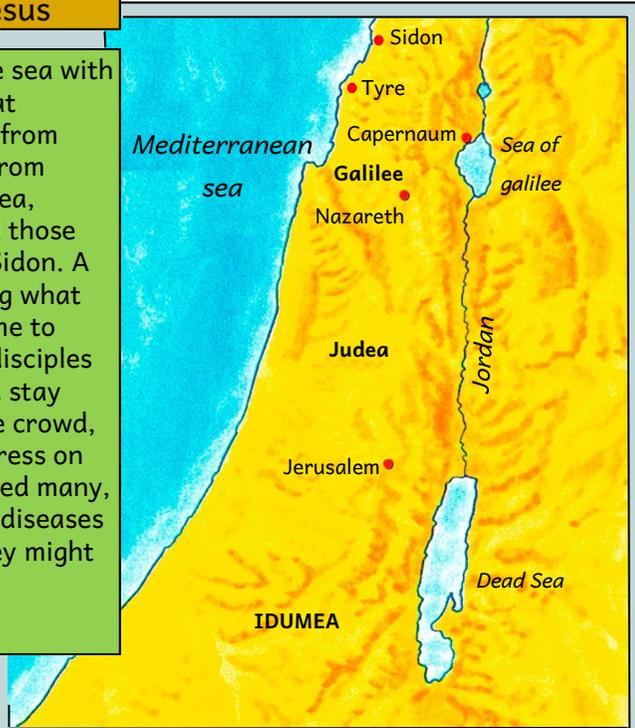
6 The Pharisees went out, and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.



Mark 3:7-12

Many Follow Jesus

7 Jesus withdrew to the sea with his disciples; and a great multitude followed him from Galilee, from Judea, 8 from Jerusalem, from Idumaea, beyond the Jordan, and those from around Tyre and Sidon. A great multitude, hearing what great things he did, came to him. 9 He spoke to his disciples that a little boat should stay near him because of the crowd, so that they wouldn't press on him. 10 For he had healed many, so that as many as had diseases pressed on him that they might touch him.



11 The unclean spirits, whenever they saw him, fell down before him and cried,

“You are the Son of God!”

12 He sternly warned them that they should not make him known.

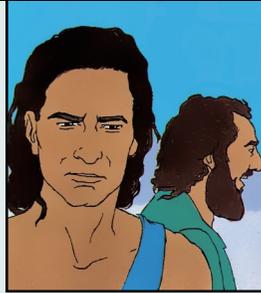
3:11 Evil Spirits: At that time, evil spirits or demons were considered to be the cause of many diseases, including mental illness. People who are controlled by evil spirits are considered “unclean” and are not allowed to eat or worship with others. People often got rid of people who are considered unclean, because they are worried that the disease will be “transmitted” to them. From this verse: evil spirits know that Jesus is the Son of God, and he has power over them. That is why evil spirits tremble in the face of Jesus, our almighty Lord!

Jesus Calls the Twelve Apostles

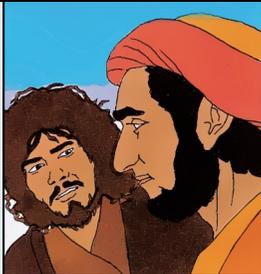
13 He went up into the mountain and called to himself those whom he wanted, and they went to him. 14 He appointed twelve, that they might be with him, and that he might send them out to preach 15 and to have authority to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:



16 Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); 17 James the son of Zebedee; and John, the brother of James, (whom he called Boanerges, which means, Sons of Thunder);



18 Andrew; Philip; Bartholomew; Matthew; Thomas; James, the son of Alphaeus; Thaddæus; Simon the Zealot; 19 and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.



3:14 The twelve: They are called apostles.

Jesus and Beelzebul

Then he came into a house. 20 The multitude came together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread. 21 When his friends heard it, they went out to seize him; for they said, "He is insane."



22 The scribes who came down from Jerusalem said,

"He has Beelzebul,"

23 He summoned them and said to them in parables,



"How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 If Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he can't stand, but has an end. 27 But no one can enter into the house of the strong man to

"By the prince of the demons he casts out the demons."

plunder unless he first binds the strong man; then he will plunder his house. 28 "Most certainly I tell you, all sins of the descendants of man will be forgiven, including their blasphemies with which they may blaspheme; 29 but whoever may blaspheme against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal

30 —because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."



Jesus And His Brothers

31 His mother and his brothers came, and standing outside, they sent to him, calling him. 32 A multitude was sitting around him, and they told him,

“Behold, your mother, your brothers, and your sisters are outside looking for you.”

33 He answered them,

“Who are my mother and my brothers?”

34 Looking around at those who sat around him, he said,

“Behold, my mother and my brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God is my brother, my sister, and mother.”



Jesus' brothers

Way of Life



We are Jesus' brothers if we believe in him. John 1:12 says, “He gives the right to become children of God to those who receive him, and believe in his name.”

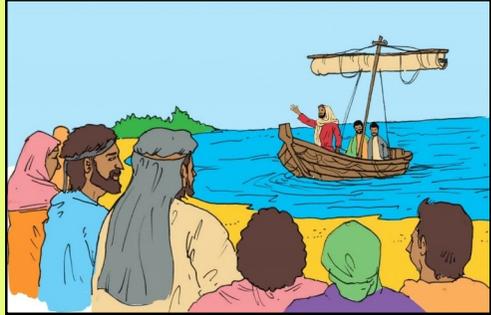
1. Do we really believe and know Jesus until we are entitled to be God's children?
2. How can we come to know Jesus properly?
3. Are we proud to be children of God and recognized by Jesus as His brothers, or are we ashamed of His name?

To become brothers of Jesus, we must be willing to become disciples who want to learn the Word of God and practice it, not just go to regular church activities. But invite Him to be present in our lives to teach us to know Him better. Jesus is not only our brother, but also our Lord.

Chapter 4

About A Sower

1 Again he began to teach by the seaside. A great multitude was gathered to him, so that he entered into a boat in the sea and sat down. All the multitude were on the land by the sea. 2 He taught them many things in parables, and told them in his teaching,



3 "Listen! Behold, the farmer went out to sow.

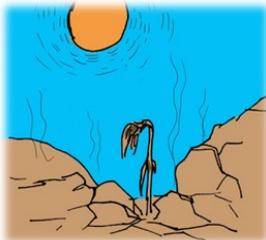


4 As he sowed, some seed fell by the road, and the birds came and devoured it.



5 Others fell on the rocky ground, where it had little soil, and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of soil.

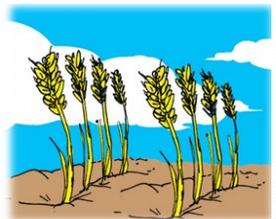
6 When the sun had risen, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.



7 Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.



8 Others fell into the good ground and yielded fruit, growing up and increasing. Some produced thirty times, some sixty times, and some one hundred times as much."



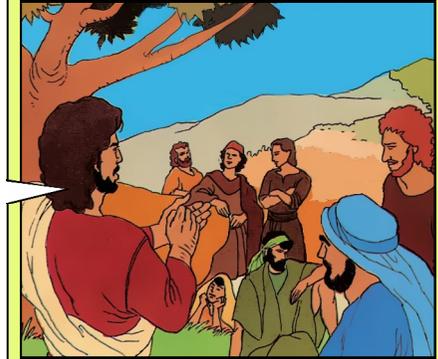
9 He said,

"Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear."

10 When he was alone, those who were around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. 11 He said to them,

“To you is given the mystery of God’s Kingdom, but to those who are outside, all things are done in parables,

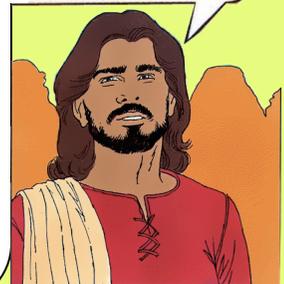
12 that ‘seeing they may see and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand, lest perhaps they should turn again, and their sins should be forgiven them.’



13 He said to them,

“Don’t you understand this parable? How will you understand all of the parables? 14 The farmer sows the word. 15 The ones by the road are the ones where the word is sown; and when they have heard, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them. 16 These in the same way are those who are sown on the rocky places, who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with joy. 17 They have no root in themselves, but are short-lived.

When oppression or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they stumble. 18 Others are those who are sown among the thorns. These are those who have heard the word, 19 and the cares of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 20 Those which were sown on the good ground are those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit, some thirty times, some sixty times, and some one hundred times.”



About A Lamp

21 He said to them,

“Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Isn't it put on a stand? 22 For there is nothing hidden except that it should be made known, neither was anything made secret but that it should come to light. 23 If any man has ears to hear, let him hear.”

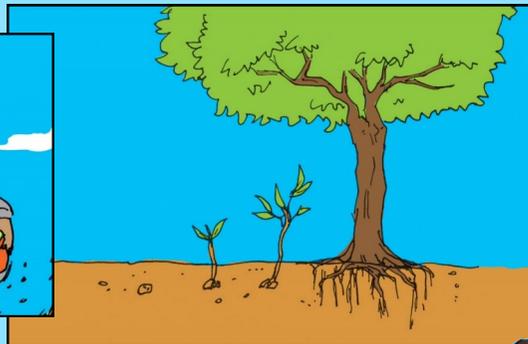


24 He said to them,

“Take heed what you hear. With whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you; and more will be given to you who hear. 25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; and he who doesn't have, even that which he has will be taken away from him.”



About A Growing Seed

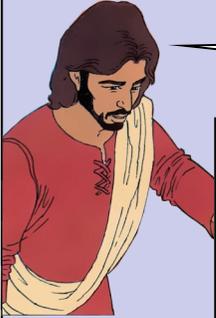


26 He said,

“God's Kingdom is as if a man should cast seed on the earth, 27 and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, though he doesn't know how. 28 For the earth bears fruit by itself: first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. 29 But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”



About Mustard Seeds

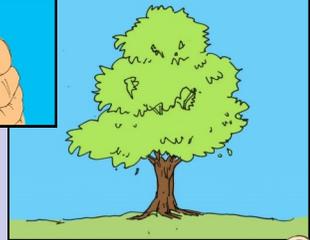
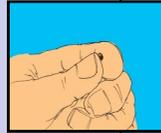


“How will we liken God’s Kingdom? Or with what

30 He said,

“How will we liken God’s Kingdom? Or with what parable will we illustrate it? 31 It’s like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, though it is less than all the seeds that are on the earth, 32 yet when it is sown, grows up and becomes greater than all the herbs, and puts out great branches, so that the birds of the sky can lodge under its shadow.”

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.
34 Without a parable he didn’t speak to them; but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.



The Kingdom of God

Anchors of Faith



Government can be a government ruled by a king. Thus, the Kingdom of God is a government established by God, it’s a government and sovereignty established in the human heart and soul, which will be perfected in the Last Days. Jesus spoke at length about the Kingdom of God, making it the theme of his message. He mentioned it over 110 times in the four Gospels. But Jesus did not teach with words only. He showed and taught many things about the Kingdom of God through his actions. In his teaching, Jesus revealed that he was the one that God had chosen to be the King, whom the Jews understood as “the Messiah”.

For those of us who believe in Jesus, our glory is in heaven (Philippians 3:20a). Jesus Christ declares that the Kingdom of God has come to those who repent (Matthew 4:17). Jesus Christ also states that one can only enter the Kingdom of God if he is born again (John 3:3-5). When Jesus returned to heaven, God placed Christ as the ruler of His kingdom (Ephesians 1:19-23) and at the Last Day He will restore the kingdom to God (1Cor. 15:24).

Jesus Calms The Storm

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them,

“Let’s go over to the other side.”



36 Leaving the multitude, they took him with them, even as he was, in the boat. Other small boats were also with him.



37 A big wind storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that the boat was already filled.

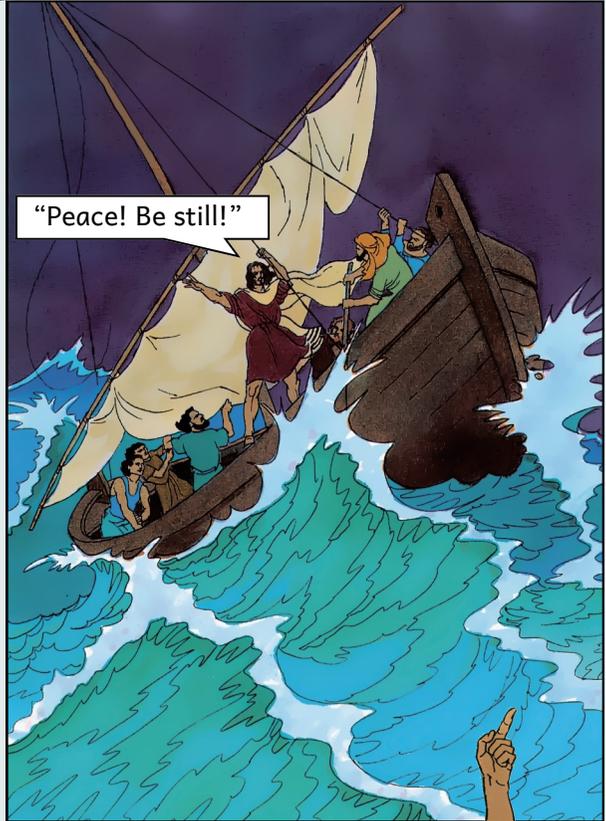


38 He himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and asked him,

“Teacher, don’t you care that we are dying?”



39 He awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea,



The wind ceased and there was a great calm.

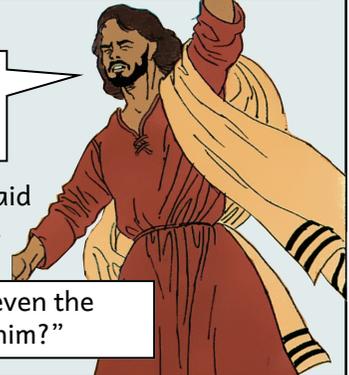


40 He said to them,

“Why are you so afraid? How is it that you have no faith?”

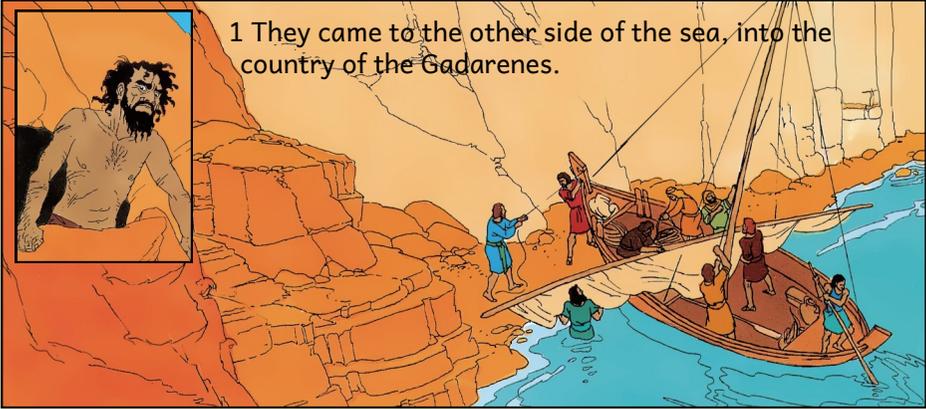
41 They were greatly afraid and said to one another,

“Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”



Chapter 5

Jesus Heals A Man Possessed By An Evil Spirit



1 They came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.



2 When he had come out of the boat, immediately a man with an unclean spirit met him out of the tombs. 3 He lived in the tombs. Nobody could bind him any more, not even with chains, 4 because he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him, and the fetters broken in pieces. Nobody had the strength to tame him. 5 Always, night and day, in the tombs and in the mountains, he was crying out, and cutting himself with stones.



6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and bowed down to him, 7 and crying out with a loud voice, he said,

“What have I to do with you, Jesus, you Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, don’t torment me.”



8 For he said to him,

“Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!”



9 He asked him,

“What is your name?”

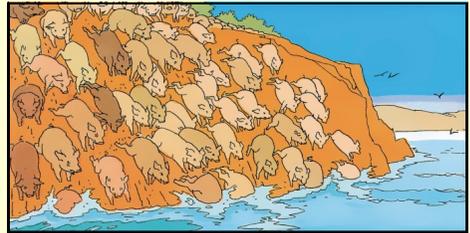
He said to him,

“My name is Legion, for we are many.”

10 He begged him much that he would not send them away out of the country. 11 Now on the mountainside there was a great herd of pigs feeding. 12 All the demons begged him, saying,

“Send us into the pigs, that we may enter into them.”

13 At once Jesus gave them permission. The unclean spirits came out and entered into the pigs. The herd of about two thousand rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and they were drowned in the sea.



14 Those who fed the pigs fled, and told it in the city and in the country.

The people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 They came to Jesus, and saw him who had been possessed by demons sitting, clothed, and in his right mind, even him who had the legion; and they were afraid. 16 Those who saw it declared to them what happened to him who was possessed by demons, and about the pigs. 17 They began to beg him to depart from their region.

18 As he was entering into the boat, he who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 He didn't allow him, but said to him,

“Go to your house, to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you and how he had mercy on you.”



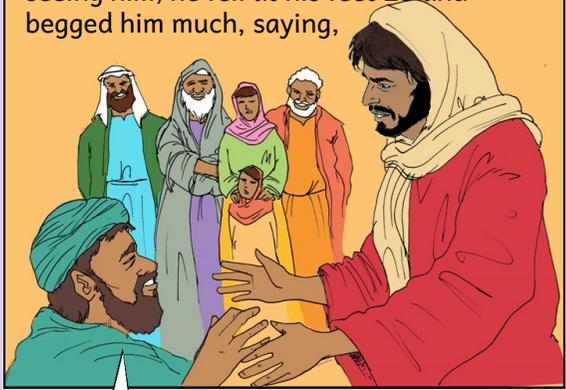
20 He went his way, and began to proclaim in Decapolis how Jesus had done great things for him, and everyone marveled.

Jesus Performs Miracles And Healings

21 When Jesus had crossed back over in the boat to the other side, a great multitude was gathered to him; and he was by the sea.



22 Behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, came; and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 and begged him much, saying,



“My little daughter is at the point of death. Please come and lay your hands on her, that she may be made healthy, and live.”

24 He went with him, and a great multitude followed him, and they pressed upon him on all sides. 25 A certain woman who had a discharge of blood for twelve years,

26 and had suffered many things by many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better, but rather grew worse, 27 having heard the things concerning Jesus, came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothes. 28 For she said,



“If I just touch his clothes, I will be made well.”

29 Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

5:28 “If I just touch his clothes, I will be made well.”: Something that woman heard about Jesus had awakened her faith and made her believe that Jesus could cure her illness.

30 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in himself that the power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked,



"Who touched my clothes?"

31 His disciples said to him, "You see the multitude pressing against you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'"

32 He looked around to see her who had done this thing.



33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had been done to her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. 34 He said to her,

"Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be cured of your disease."



35 While he was still speaking, people came from the synagogue ruler's house, saying,



"Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher any more?"

36 But Jesus, when he heard the message spoken, immediately said to the ruler of the synagogue,

"Don't be afraid, only believe."

37 He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. 38 He came to the synagogue ruler's house, and he saw an uproar, weeping, and great wailing.

5:38 Uproar: Families who are grieving usually pay a group of mourners during the burial ceremony. Before the body is taken to the burial ground, family, neighbors and paid mourners will wail in a loud voice. The burial usually occurs on the same day of the person's death.

Mark 5:39-43

39 When he had entered in, he said to them,

“Why do you make an uproar and weep? The child is not dead, but is asleep.”



40 They ridiculed him. But he, having put them all out, took the father of the child, her mother, and those who were with him, and went in where the child was lying.

41 Taking the child by the hand, he said to her,



“Talitha

which means, being interpreted, “Girl, I tell you, get up!”



42 Immediately the girl rose up and walked, for she was twelve years old. They were amazed with great amazement. 43 He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and commanded that something should be given to her to eat.

5:42 Rose up: The Gospels record three events in which Jesus raised the dead: Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:21-43), son of a widow in the city of Nain (Luke 7:11-17) and Lazarus (John 11:1-45). The greatest resurrection is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead (Mark 16:5-14). All stories show the divinity of Jesus who has power over death. He is the Lord who rules over life and death.

Chapter 6

Jesus Teaches In Nazareth

1 He went out from there. He came into his own country, and his disciples followed him. 2 When the Sabbath had come, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many hearing him were astonished, saying,



“Where did this man get these things?”

and,

“What is the wisdom that is given to this man, that such mighty works come about by his hands?”

3 Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James, Joses, Judah, and Simon?

Aren't his sisters here with us?”

So they were offended at him.

“A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his own relatives, and in his own house.”

5 He could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6 He marveled because of their unbelief.



6:3 Jesus' brothers: Not much is known about these brothers, except for James who saw the risen Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:7). He became the early church leader in Jerusalem (Acts 15:13; 21:18; Galatians 1:29). According to tradition, James was put to death around AD 70.

Jesus Sends Out His Twelve Disciples

He went around the villages teaching. 7 He called to himself the twelve, and began to send them out two by two; and he gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

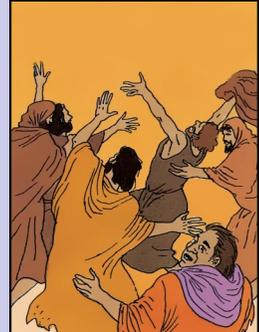


8 He commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a staff only: no bread, no wallet, no money in their purse, 9 but to wear sandals, and not put on two tunics.

10 He said to them,

“Wherever you enter into a house, stay there until you depart from there. 11 Whoever will not receive you nor hear you, as you depart from there, shake off the dust that is under your feet for a testimony against them. Assuredly, I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!”

12 They went out and preached that people should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed many with oil who were sick and healed them.

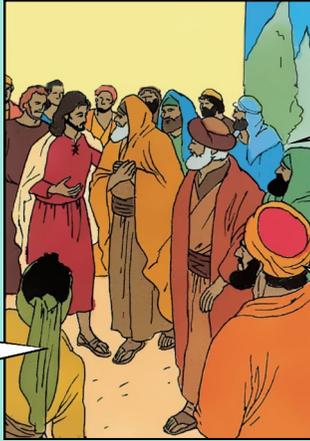


6:7 the twelve: Jesus' twelve disciples (called apostles, meaning the chosen and sent by a leader) were equal to the number of tribes of Israel. Jesus 30 empowered them to preach the gospel and drive out demons.

John Is Killed

14 King Herod heard this, for his name had become known, and he said,

“John the Baptizer has risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him.”



15 But others said,

“He is Elijah.”

Others said,

“He is a prophet, or like one of the prophets.”

16 But Herod, when he heard this, said,



“This is John, whom I beheaded. He has risen from the dead.”



17 For Herod himself had sent out and arrested John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, for he had married her. 18 For John had said to Herod,

“It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”

19 Herodias set herself against him and desired to kill him, but she couldn’t, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he did many things, and he heard him gladly.

21 Then a convenient day came when Herod on his birthday made a supper for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee.



22 When the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and those sitting with him. The king said to the young lady,

“Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.”

23 He swore to her,

“Whatever you ask of me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom.”



24 She went out and said to her mother,

“What shall I ask?”

She said,

“The head of John the Baptizer.”



25 She came in immediately with haste to the king and requested,

“I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptizer on a platter.”

26 The king was exceedingly sorry, but for the sake of his oaths and of his dinner guests, he didn't wish to refuse her. 27 Immediately the king sent out a soldier of his guard and commanded to bring John's head; and he went and beheaded him in the prison,



28 and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the young lady; and the young lady gave it to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard this, they came and took up his corpse and laid it in a tomb.

The validity of the Bible

anchors of Faith



The whole New Testament contains the true story about Jesus as originally recorded in the four Gospels. There is no historical evidence that the Bible story has been forged. Later on in history some false religious leaders tried to distort the teachings of the original Gospel. For example, one of these false gospels is the "Gospel of Barnabas". It is believed to have been written between 1500 and 1590 in Southern Europe, first discovered in the 1920s and first published and circulated in 1973.

Whenever you are challenged about the authenticity of the Bible, say: "In my experience and knowledge, the Bible is true and authentic."

If people stated that the Bible has been altered and forged, you may discuss topics as:

What original did you read?

What has changed or falsified?

Who changed it? Where has it changed?

When was it changed?

If you can prove it all, then I would like to consider the allegations of the Bible to be forged!

Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

30 The apostles gathered themselves together to Jesus, and they told him all things, whatever they had done, and whatever they had taught. 31 He said to them,



“Come away into a deserted place, and rest awhile.”



For there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat. 32 They went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33 They saw them going, and many recognized him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to him. 34

Jesus came out, saw a great multitude, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 35 When it was late in the day, his disciples came to him and said,

“This place is deserted, and it is late in the day. 36 Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread, for they have nothing to eat.”

37 But he answered them,

“You give them something to eat.”

They asked him,

“Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?”

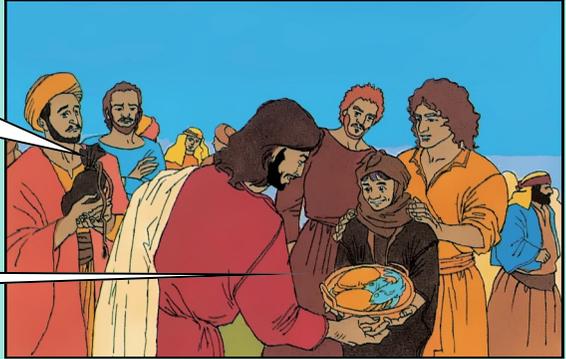


38 He said to them,

“How many loaves do you have? Go see.”

When they knew, they said,

“Five, and two fish.”



39 He commanded them that everyone should sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 They sat down in ranks, by hundreds and by fifties. 41 He took the five loaves and the two fish; and looking up to heaven, he blessed and broke the loaves, and he gave to his disciples to set before them, and he divided the two fish among them all.



42 They all ate and were filled. 43 They took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and also of the fish. 44 Those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

Jesus Walks On The Water



45 Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he himself sent the multitude away. 46 After he had taken leave of them, he went up the mountain to pray.



47 When evening had come, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 Seeing them distressed in rowing, for the wind was contrary to them, about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea; and he would have passed by them,

49 but they, when they saw him walking on the sea, supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out; 50 for they all saw him and were troubled. But he immediately spoke with them and said to them,

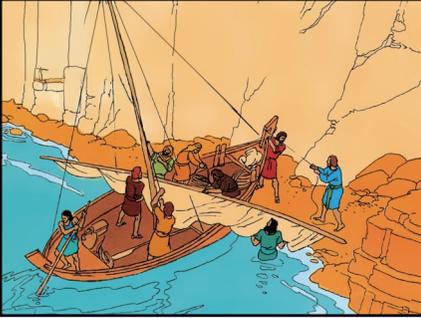
“Cheer up! It is I! Don’t be afraid.”

51 He got into the boat with them; and the wind ceased, and they were very amazed among themselves, and marveled; 52 for they hadn’t understood about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.



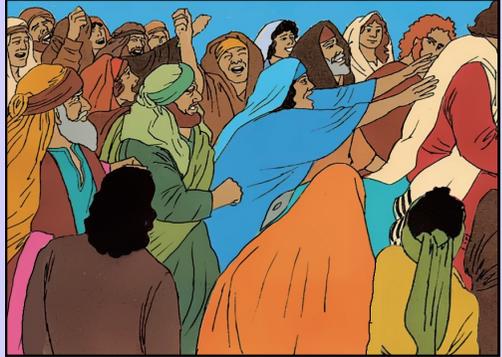
6:45 Bethsaida: A Jewish city located east of the Jordan River.

6:48 AM: Between three and six o'clock in the morning.



53 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. 54 When they had come out of the boat, immediately the people recognized him, 55 and ran around that whole region, and began to bring those who were sick on their mats to where they heard he was.

56 Wherever he entered—into villages, or into cities, or into the country—they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might just touch the fringe of his garment; and as many as touched him were made well.



“I’m Jesus. Do not be afraid.”

Way of life



There is so much fear and uncertainty in our world today. But whatever the storm is. Whatever the situation is. Whatever makes us panic. Whatever the pain, loss or anxiety is. When we feel like we are facing a storm at four in the morning. Remember that Jesus walked with us. He is not shaken by our circumstances.

And in those moments of weakness, we just need to know: “Cheer up! It’s I! Don’t be afraid.” In the chaos, we gain courage, because we can rest in Christ’s courage. Whenever we feel alone and in fear, Jesus says, “I am Jesus. Do not be scared.”

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you that I am never alone in all my struggles. I can hear Your voice more clearly than the sound of the wind and the waves. Fill me with your courage. Bless me with your peaceful presence. In your holy name I pray. Amen.

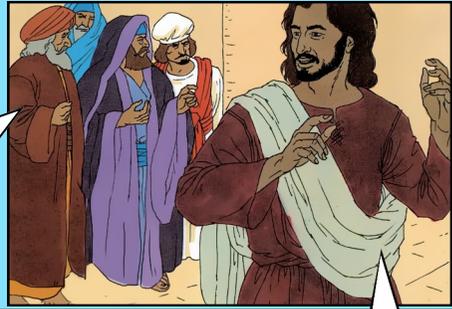
Chapter 7

The Traditions Of The Ancestors

1 Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered together to him, having come from Jerusalem. 2 Now when they saw some of his disciples eating bread with defiled, that is unwashed, hands, they found fault. 3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat unless they wash their hands and forearms, holding to the tradition of the elders. 4 They don't eat when they come from the marketplace unless they bathe themselves, and there are many other things which they have received to hold to: washings of cups, pitchers, bronze vessels, and couches.)

5 The Pharisees and the scribes asked him,

“Why don't your disciples walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with unwashed hands?”



6 He answered them,

“Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me.

7 They worship me in vain,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

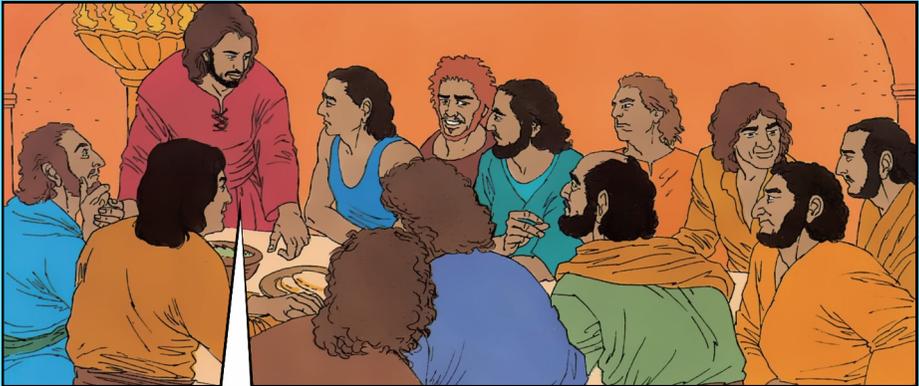
8 “For you set aside the commandment of God, and hold tightly to the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things.” 9 He said to them, “Full well do you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition. 10 For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother;’ and, ‘He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him be put to death.’ 11 But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban,” ’ that is to say, given to God, 12 “then you no longer allow him to do anything for his father or his mother, 13 making void the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down. You do many things like this.”

14 He called all the multitude to himself and said to them,

“Hear me, all of you, and understand. 15 There is nothing from outside of the man that going into him can defile him; but the things which proceed out of the man are those that defile the man. 16 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!”



17 When he had entered into a house away from the multitude, his disciples asked him about the parable. 18 He said to them,



“Are you also without understanding? Don’t you perceive that whatever goes into the man from outside can’t defile him, 19 because it doesn’t go into his heart, but into his stomach, then into the latrine, making all foods clean?”

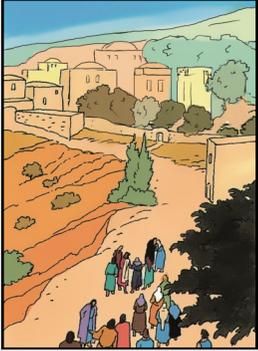
20 He said,

“That which proceeds out of the man, that defiles the man. 21 For from within, out of the hearts of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, sexual sins, murders, thefts, 22 covetings, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within and defile the man.”

Faith Of A Siro-Phoenician Woman



24 From there he arose and went away into the borders of Tyre and Sidon. He entered into a house and didn't want anyone to know it, but he couldn't escape notice.



25 For a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, having heard of him, came and fell down at his feet. 26 Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by race. She begged him that he would cast the demon out of her daughter. 27 But Jesus said to her,

“Let the children be filled first, for it is not appropriate to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

28 But she answered him,

“Yes, Lord. Yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”

29 He said to her,

“For this saying, go your way. The demon has gone out of your daughter.”



30 She went away to her house, and found the child having been laid on the bed, with the demon gone out.

Jesus Heals A Deaf and Mute Man

31 Again he departed from the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and came to the sea of Galilee through the middle of the region of Decapolis. 32 They brought to him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. They begged him to lay his hand on him.



33 He took him aside from the multitude privately and put his fingers into his ears; and he spat and touched his tongue. 34 Looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him,



“Ephphatha!”

that is, “Be opened!”



35 Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was released, and he spoke clearly. 36 He commanded them that they should tell no one, but the more he commanded them, so much the more widely they proclaimed it.



37 They were astonished beyond measure, saying,

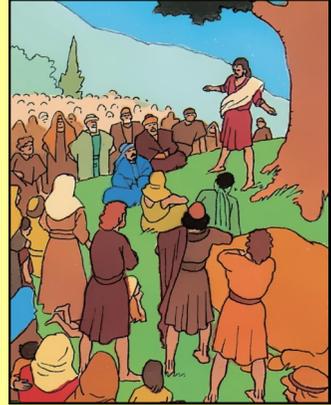
“He has done all things well. He makes even the deaf hear and the mute speak!”

Chapter 8

Jesus Feeds Four Thousand Peo-

1 In those days, when there was a very great multitude, and they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to himself and said to them,

2 “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have stayed with me now three days and have nothing to eat. 3 If I send them away fasting to their home, they will faint on the way, for some of them have come a long way.”

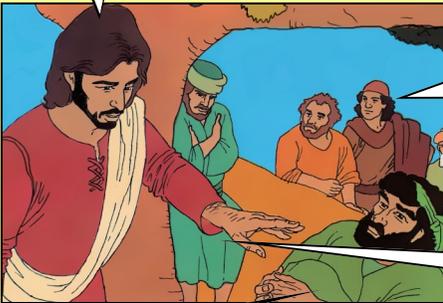


4 His disciples answered him,

“From where could one satisfy these people with bread here in a deserted place?”

5 He asked them,

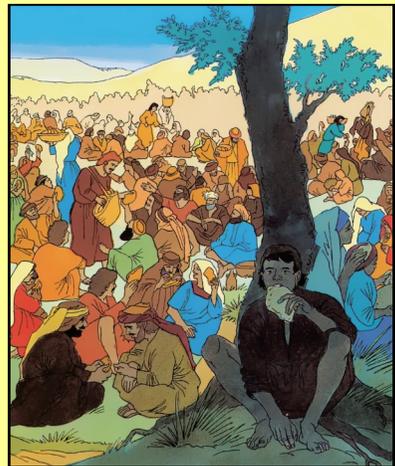
“How many loaves do you have?”

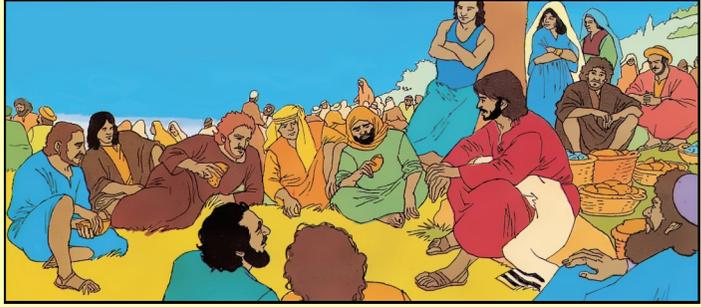


“Seven.”

They said,

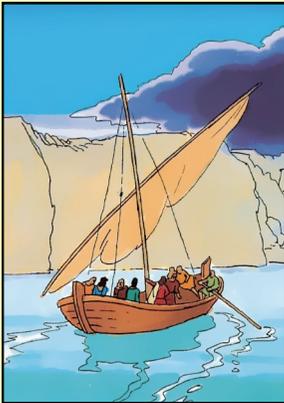
6 He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven loaves. Having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to serve, and they served the multitude. 7 They also had a few small fish. Having blessed them, he said to serve these also.



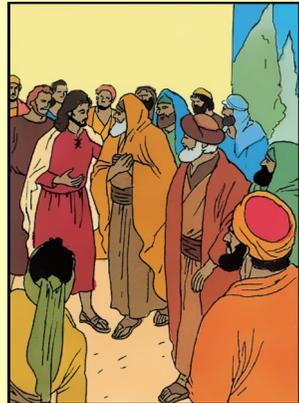


8 They ate and were filled. They took up seven baskets of broken pieces that were left over. 9 Those who had eaten were about four thousand. Then he sent them away.

10 Immediately he entered into the boat with his disciples and came into the region of Dalmanutha.



11 The Pharisees came out and began to question him, seeking from him a sign from heaven and testing him. 12 He sighed deeply in his spirit and said,

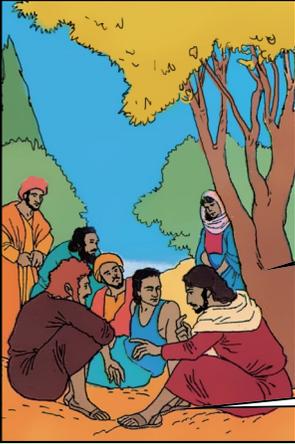


“Why does this generation seek a sign? Most certainly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation.”



13 He left them, and again entering into the boat, departed to the other side.

The Yeast Of The Pharisees And Of Herod



14 They forgot to take bread; and they didn't have more than one loaf in the boat with them. 15 He warned them, saying,

"Take heed: beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."

16 They reasoned with one another, saying,

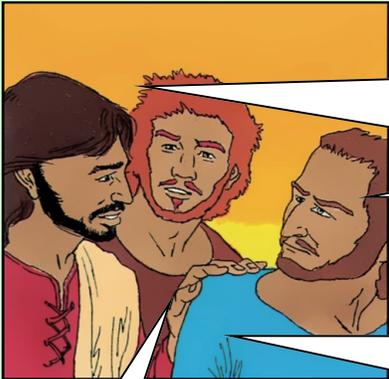
"It's because we have no bread."

17 Jesus, perceiving it, said to them,

"Why do you reason that it's because you have no bread? Don't you perceive yet or understand?"



18 Having eyes, don't you see? Having ears, don't you hear? Don't you remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves among the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?"



"Twelve." They told him,

20 "When the seven loaves fed the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?"

"Seven." They told him,

21 He asked them,

"Don't you understand yet?"

Jesus Heals A Blind Man

22 He came to Bethsaida. They brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. 23 He took hold of the blind man by the hand, and brought him out of the village.



When he had spat on his eyes, and laid his hands on him, he asked him

24 He looked up, and said,

if he saw anything.

"I see men, but I see them like walking trees."



25 Then again he laid his hands on his eyes. He looked intently, and was restored, and saw everyone clearly.



"Don't enter into the village, nor tell anyone in the village."

Peter's Confession

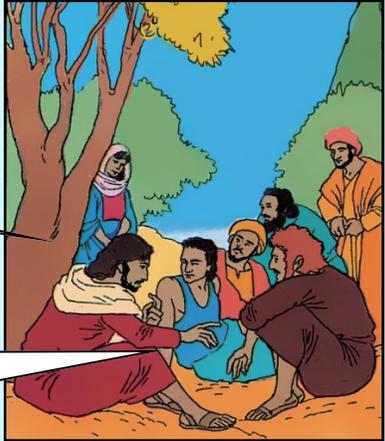


27 Jesus went out, with his disciples, into the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples,

“Who do men say that I am?”

28 They told him,

“John the Baptizer, and others say Elijah, but others, one of the prophets.”



29 He said to them,

“But who do you say that I am?”



Peter answered,

“You are the Christ.”

30 He commanded them that they should tell no one about him.



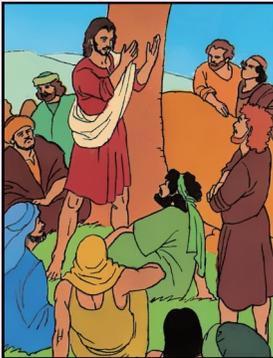
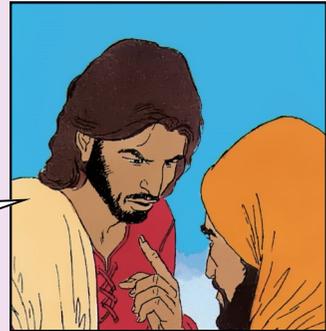
Jesus Talks About His Death



31 He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 He spoke to them openly. Peter took him and began to rebuke him. 33 But he, turning around and seeing his disciples, rebuked Peter, and said,

“Get behind me, Satan! For you have in mind not the things of God, but the things of men.”



34 He called the multitude to himself with his disciples and said to them,

“Whoever wants to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 35 For whoever

wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and the sake of the Good News will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? 37 For what will a man give in exchange for his life? 38 For whoever will be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man also will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Anchors of Faith



The Trinity doctrine that refers to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is often used by claiming that Christians worship 3 Gods. In fact, Christians have NEVER believed in 3 Gods. In fact, Christians reject that teaching!

As one of the world's monotheistic religions, the doctrine of the Christian Trinity is firmly rooted in the concept of the One God. But in the union of the Godhead, there are three personalities or perceptions. The opinion of some who claim we worship three Gods lays in Mathematics:

$$(1 + 1 + 1 = 3)$$

The way how God has revealed himself in the Holy scriptures is through these 3 persons of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You can read this in the Bible:

1. There is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Corinthians 8:4; 1 Tim 2:5; Galatians 3:20)
2. The Trinity consists of three Persons (Genesis 1:1, 1:26, 3:22, 11:7; Isaiah 6:8, 48:16, 61:1; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
3. Every member of the Trinity is God

Trinity is not a concept to be explained properly, but a relationship to be experienced with all humility. Only when we have believed in Jesus - through whom we have come to know God the Father, been adopted as His children, and given the Holy Spirit to be our Comforter - then we can truly understand the Trinity working in our lives. The Jesus we know as God is what enables a Christian to experience "the grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost" (2 Corinthians 13:14). People who don't believe in Jesus yet will never really understand this fact!

The Father is God

(John 6:27; Romans 1:7; 1 Peter 1:2)

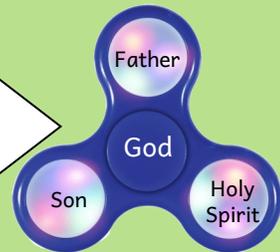
The Son is God

(John 1:1, 14; Romans 9:5; Hebrews 1:8)

The Holy Spirit is God

Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Romans 8:9;

John 14:16-17)



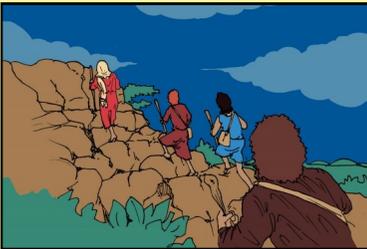
Chapter 9

1 He said to them,

“Most certainly I tell you, there are some standing here who will in no way taste death until they see God’s Kingdom come with power.”



Transfiguration

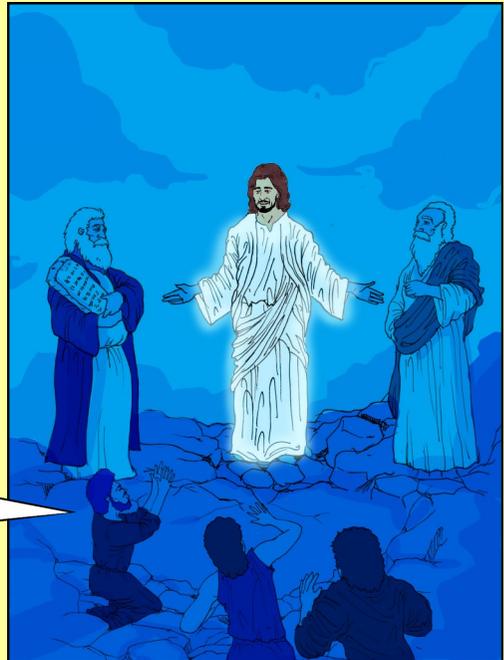


2 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, and brought them up onto a high mountain privately by themselves, and he was changed into another form in front of them.

3 His clothing became glistening, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. 4 Elijah and Moses appeared to them, and they were talking with Jesus. 5 Peter answered Jesus,

“Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let’s make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

6 For he didn’t know what to say, for they were very afraid.

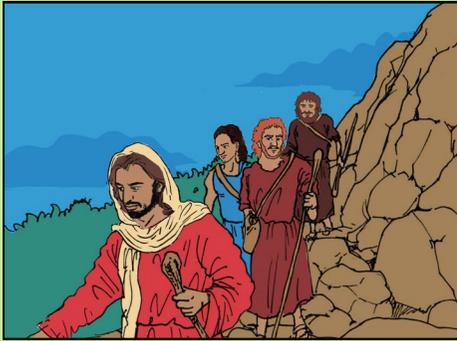


Mark 9:7-13

7 A cloud came, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud,



8 Suddenly looking around, they saw no one with them any more, except Jesus only.



9 As they were coming down from the mountain, he commanded them that they should tell no one what things they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10 They kept this saying to themselves, questioning what the “rising from the dead” meant.

11 They asked him, saying,

“Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”

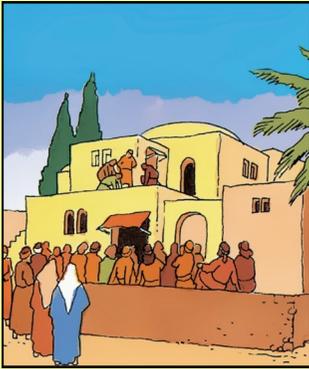
12 He said to them,

“Elijah indeed comes first, and restores all things. How is it written about the Son of Man,

that he should suffer many things and be despised? 13 But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they have also done to him whatever they wanted to, even as it is written about him.”



The Healing Of A Boy With A Deaf And Mute Spirit



14 Coming to the disciples, he saw a great multitude around them, and scribes questioning them. 15 Immediately all the multitude, when they saw him, were greatly amazed, and running to him, greeted him.

16 He asked the scribes,

“What are you asking them?”

17 One of the multitude answered,

“Teacher, I brought to you my son, who has a mute spirit; 18 and wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they weren’t able.”



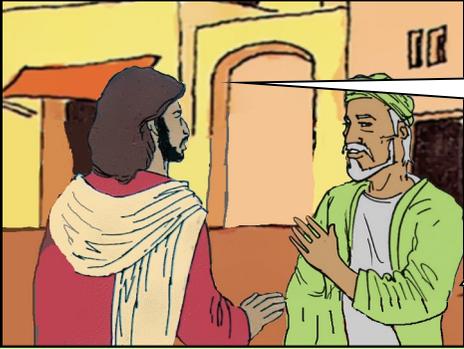
19 He answered him,

“Unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to me.”

20 They brought him to him, and when he saw him, immediately the spirit convulsed him and he fell on the ground, wallowing and foaming at the mouth.



Mark 9:21-26



21 He asked his father,
“How long has it been since this
has been happening to him?”

He said,

“From childhood. 22 Often it has
cast him both into the fire and
into the water to destroy him.
But if you can do anything, have
compassion on us and help us.”

23 Jesus said to him,

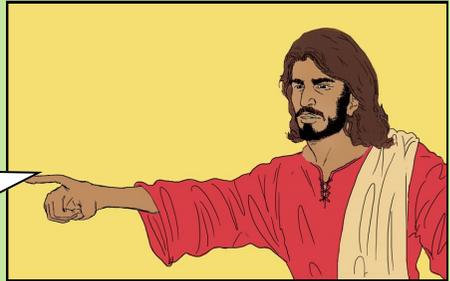
“If you can believe, all
things are possible to him
who believes.”

24 Immediately the
father of the child
cried out with tears,

“I believe. Help
my unbelief!”

25 When Jesus saw that a multitude
came running together, he rebuked
the unclean spirit, saying to him,

“You mute and deaf spirit, I
command you, come out of him,
and never enter him again!”



26 After crying out and convulsing
him greatly, it came out of him.



The boy became like one dead, so
much that most of them said,

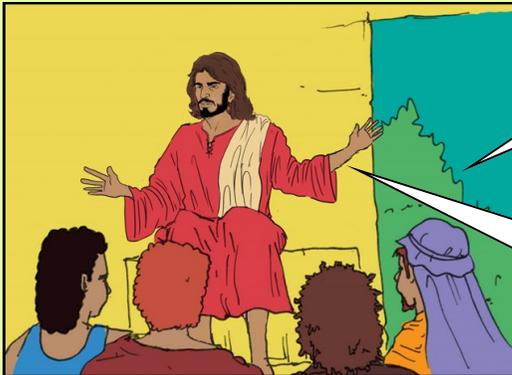
“He is dead.”



27 But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him up; and he arose.



28 When he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately,



“Why couldn’t we cast it out?”

29 He said to them,

“This kind can come out by nothing but by prayer and fasting.”

30 They went out from there and passed through Galilee. He didn’t want anyone to know it, 31 for he was teaching his disciples, and said to them,

“The Son of Man is being handed over to the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, on the third day he will rise again.”

32 But they didn’t understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

Who's The Greatest?



33 He came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them,

“What were you arguing among yourselves on the way?”

34 But they were silent, for they had disputed with one another on the way about who was the greatest.

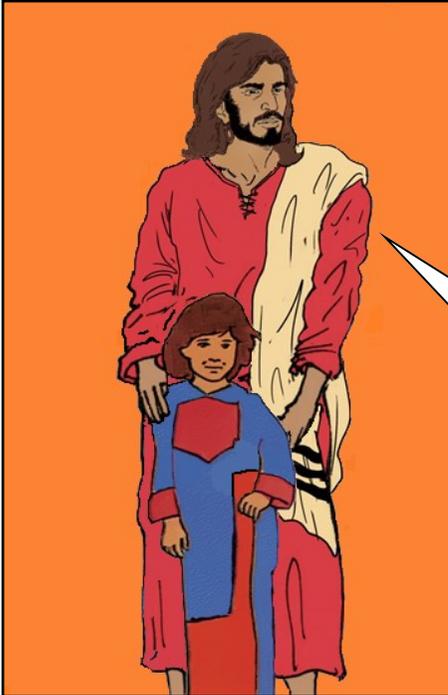
35 He sat down and called the twelve; and he said to them,

“If any man wants to be first, he shall be last of all, and servant of all.”



36 He took a little child and set him in the middle of them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them,

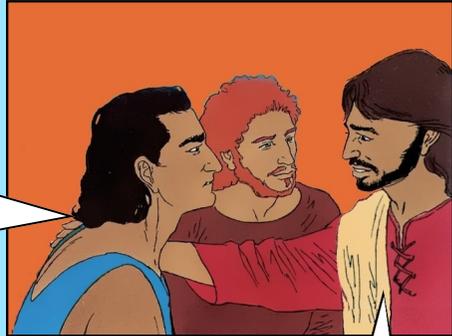
37 “Whoever receives one such little child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, doesn’t receive me, but him who sent me.”



Casting Out Evil Spirits

38 John said to him,

“Teacher, we saw someone who doesn’t follow us casting out demons in your name; and we forbade him, because he doesn’t follow us.”



39 But Jesus said,

“Don’t forbid him, for there is no one who will do a mighty work in my name and be able quickly to speak evil of me. 40 For whoever is not against us is on our side. 41 For whoever will give you a cup of water to drink in my name because you are Christ’s, most certainly I tell you, he will in no way lose his reward.”

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

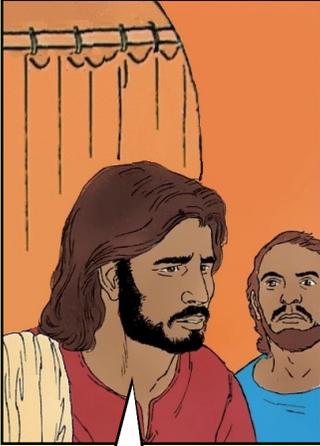
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
one holy, general, Christian Church,
the communion of the saints,

the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Causing Others To Sin



42 “Whoever will cause one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if he were thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around his neck. 43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having your two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire, 44 ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’

45 If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life lame, rather than having your two feet to be cast into Gehenna, into the fire that will never be quenched— 46 ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’

47 If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out. It is better for you to enter into God’s Kingdom with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Gehenna of fire, 48 ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’ 49 For everyone will be salted with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt.



50 Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, with what will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Chapter 10

Divorce

1 He arose from there and came into the borders of Judea and beyond the Jordan. Multitudes came together to him again. As he usually did, he was again teaching them.

2 Pharisees came to him testing him, and asked him,



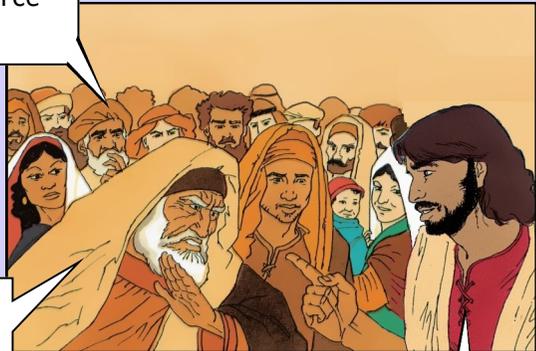
“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

3 He answered,

“What did Moses command you?”

4 They said,

“Moses allowed a certificate of divorce to be written, and to divorce her.”



5 But Jesus said to them,

“For your hardness of heart, he wrote you this commandment. 6 But from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female. 7 For this cause a man will leave his father and mother, and will join to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh, so that they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

10 In the house, his disciples asked him again about the same matter.

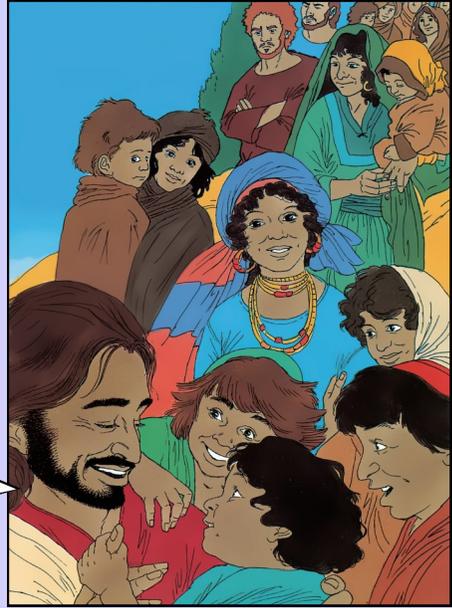
11 He said to them,

“Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. 12 If a woman herself divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Jesus Blesses The Children

13 They were bringing to him little children, that he should touch them, but the disciples rebuked those who were bringing them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation and said to them,

“Allow the little children to come to me! Don’t forbid them, for God’s Kingdom belongs to such as these. 15 Most certainly I tell you, whoever will not receive God’s Kingdom like a little child, he will in no way enter into it.”



16 He took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Young children

Way of life

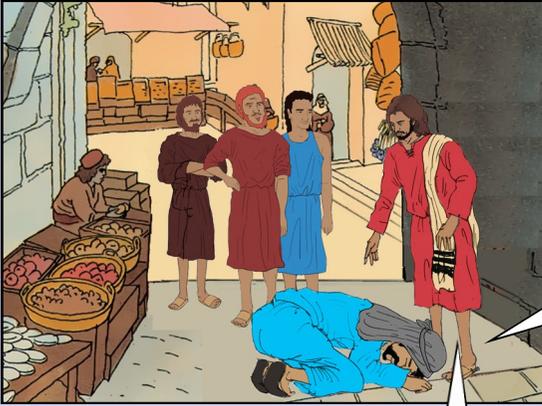


Have our children been taught about Jesus?

Why did Jesus tell the disciples to allow children to come to him? Because children need to know Jesus from a young age. Jesus' words are not old-fashioned. So when He said, “Allow the little children to come to Me,” this is also true for modern parents today. He told us today to bring our children to him; teaching them about Jesus and introducing them to Jesus before they are taken in by the world and other false values and teachings.

On the other hand, Jesus also states that the kingdom of God belongs to those who come to Him as children. This means we must come to Jesus with confidence and trust. When all else fails and we face a dead end, come to Jesus as a child. He cares, He understands and He will surely welcome and bless us, just as He supports and cares for little children who come to Him.

The Rich Man



17 As he was going out into the way, one ran to him, knelt before him, and asked him,

“Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”

18 Jesus said to him,

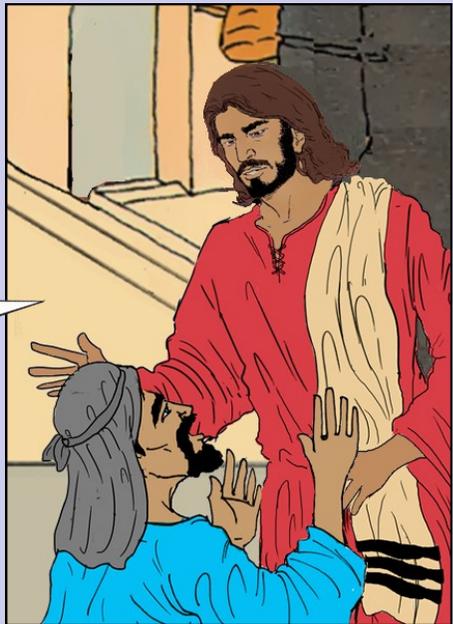
“Why do you call me good? No one is good except one—God. 19 You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not give false testimony,’ ‘Do not defraud,’ ‘Honor your father and mother.’ ”

20 He said to him,

“Teacher, I have observed all these things from my youth.”

21 Jesus looking at him loved him, and said to him,

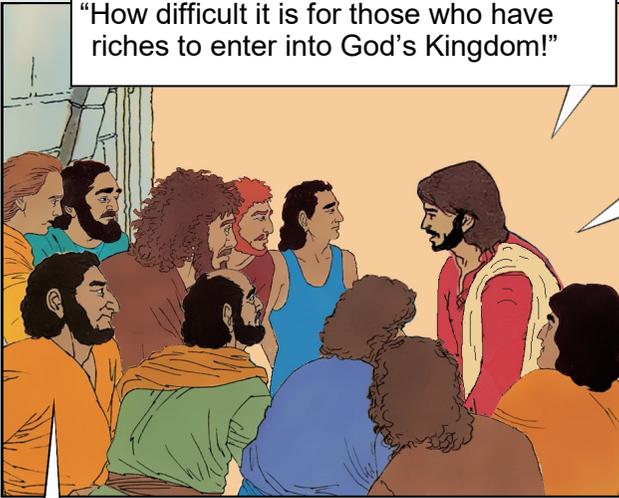
“One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me, taking up the cross.”



22 But his face fell at that saying, and he went away sorrowful, for he was one who had great possessions.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,

“How difficult it is for those who have riches to enter into God’s Kingdom!”



24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus answered again,

“Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter into God’s Kingdom! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for a rich man to enter into God’s Kingdom.”

26 They were exceedingly astonished, saying to him,

“Then who can be saved?”

27 Jesus, looking at them, said,

“With men it is impossible, but not with God, for all things are possible with God.”

28 Peter began to tell him,

“Behold, we have left all and have followed you.”

29 Jesus said,

“Most certainly I tell you, there is no one who has left house, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or land, for my sake, and for the sake of the Good News, 30 but he will receive one hundred times more now in this time: houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land, with persecutions; and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”



Jesus Tells More About His Death



32 They were on the way, going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus was going in front of them, and they were amazed; and those who followed were afraid. He again took the twelve, and began to tell them the things that were going to happen to him.



33 “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes. They will

condemn him to death, and will deliver him to the Gentiles. 34 They will mock him, spit on him, scourge him, and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.”

There is nothing impossible for God **Way of life**



The context of this statement is about human salvation. It is impossible for humans to save themselves for their own good. There is no law or religious teaching that can give eternal life. Doing good and collecting merit will not guarantee that people will enter the kingdom of God. Only the grace offered by God through Jesus can do that.

“Nothing is impossible for God” refers to the infinite and infinite power of God (Job 11:7-11, 37:23; Revelation 4:8). That doesn't mean that God can do anything including irrational or imperfect things. God cannot do things that are contrary to His nature, such as lying, disloyalty or denying Himself (Hebrews 6:18; 2 Timothy 2:13; Titus 1:2). Salvation is very possible for God. Do you also pray for the salvation of your family or friends? Believe that nothing is impossible for God. He will save them according to His plan and time.

The City of Jerusalem in Jesus' Time

Ben-Hinom Valley

Incinerator_x000D_
In this place, the fire never goes out.

Herod's Palace

Pontius Pilate's residence if he was
in Jerusalem.

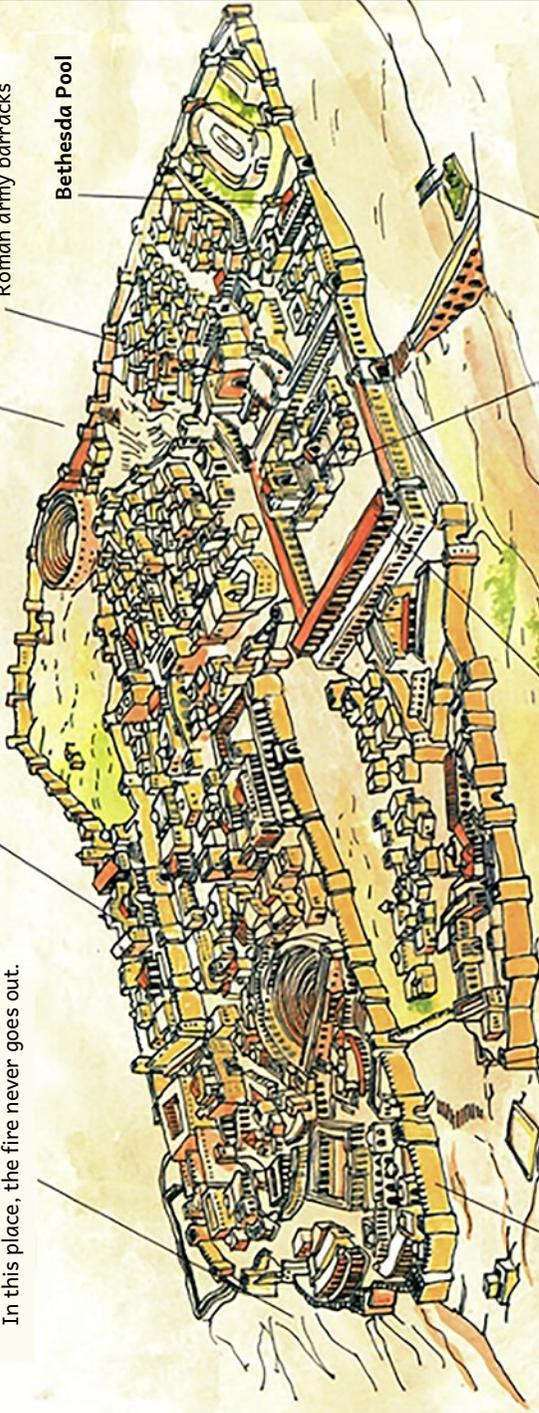
Crucifixion Place

Located outside the city.

Antonia Fortress

Roman army barracks

Bethesda Pool



The temple

Spire of the Temple

Where Satan tempted Jesus to jump into
the Kidron Valley.

Garden of Gethsemane

Located at the foot of the
Mount of Olives.

Siloam pond

City Walls

Request From James And John



35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came near to him, saying,

“Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we will ask.”

36 He said to them,

“What do you want me to do for you?”

37 They said to him,

“Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand and one at your left hand, in your glory.”

38 But Jesus said to them,

“You don’t know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized



“We are able.”

39 They said to him,

Jesus said to them,

“You shall indeed drink the cup that I drink, and you shall be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; 40 but to sit at my right hand and at my left hand is not mine to give, but for whom it has been prepared.”

41 When the ten heard it, they began to be indignant toward James and John. 42 Jesus summoned them and said to them,

“You know that they who are recognized as rulers over the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 But it shall not be so among you, but whoever wants to become great among you shall be your servant. 44 Whoever of you wants to become first among you shall be bondservant of all. 45 For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus Heals Bartimaeus

46 They came to Jericho. As he went out from Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, the son of Timaeus, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the road. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and say,

“Jesus, you son of David, have mercy on me!”



48 Many rebuked him, that he should be quiet, but he cried out much more,

“You son of David, have mercy on me!”

49 Jesus stood still and said, “Call him.”

“Cheer up! Get up. He is calling you!”

50 He, casting away his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.



51 Jesus asked him,

“What do you want me to do for you?”

The blind man said to him,

“Rabboni, that I may see again.”



52 Jesus said to him,

“Go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

Jesus' death

Anchors of Faith



The essence of the denial of the death, burial and Jesus' resurrection is because some religions believed that God would not allow His prophets to die in such a shameful way. However, it is important for us to know that before the 7th century no one doubted that Jesus died!

A. Historical Evidence

Thousands of manuscripts and historical records, some were Christians who believe in Christ who rose from the dead and some were not, tell the events of Jesus' death on the cross. Ancient historians include Lucian dari Samosata (The Death of Peregrine), Josephus (Jewish Antiquities), Cornelius Tacitus (The Annals), Talmud Sanhedrin and early Christians who used the cross as a symbol in the holy supper to commemorate the death of their Master.

B. Evidence from the Bible

Many eyewitnesses witnessed and confirmed Jesus' death on the cross on the day of His crucifixion (Mark 15:39-41). Mary, the mother of Jesus, was on that side of the cross when Jesus breathed out his last breath. Jesus' body was later demanded and buried by Joseph of Arimathea who appeared before Pontius Pilate (Mark 15:42-47). Even the chief priests and the Pharisees remembered Jesus' words about His death and resurrection, and they asked the Roman army to guard Jesus' tomb (Matthew 27:63-64).

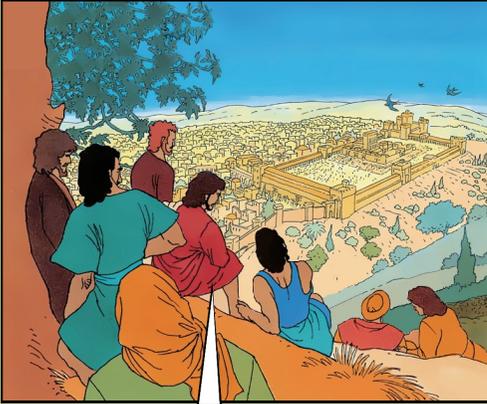
Jesus death on the cross is more than a story of a man dying on a cross. It is the core of christians faith. We believe that we deserve Gods punishment for sin, we can't earn our salvation by good works. We believe God is Holy and no evil can be close to him.

That's why God came to this earth in his person Jesus. Jesus died as a innocent lamb on the cross. He carried all the sin of all mankind. Gods eyes will look to our life's through Jesus. God will see us completely clean, because Jesus paid our debts of sin on the cross.

Whoever has different beliefs will try to find other explanations: Some believe Jesus fainted and did not die. Some believe that the disciples experienced a hallucination. Some believe his disciples stole the dead body and buried Jesus somewhere else and some believe that years later the myth started that Jesus was resurrected.

Chapter 11

Jesus Enters Jerusalem



1 When they came near to Jerusalem, to Bethsphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples 2 and said to them,

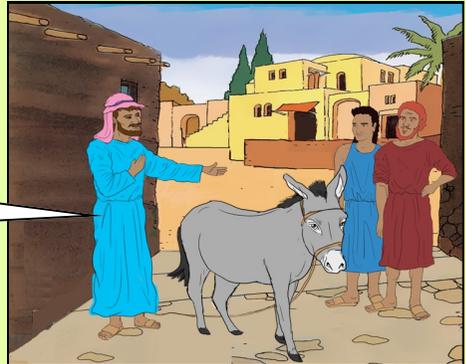
“Go your way into the village that is opposite you. Immediately as you enter into it, you will find a young donkey tied, on which no one has sat. Untie him and bring him. 3 If anyone asks you,

‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs him;’ and immediately he will send him back here.”

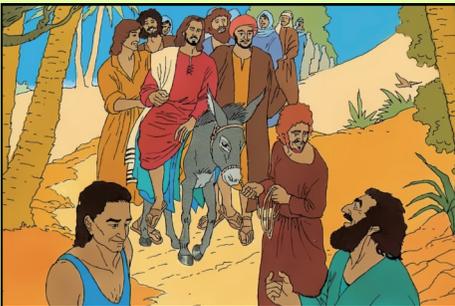
4 They went away, and found a young donkey tied at the door outside in the open street, and they untied him. 5 Some of those who stood there asked them,

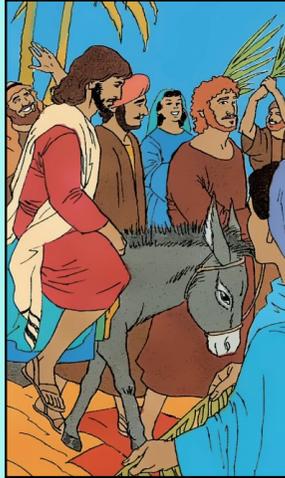
“What are you doing, untying the young donkey?”

6 They said to them just as Jesus had said, and they let them go.



7 They brought the young donkey to Jesus and threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it.



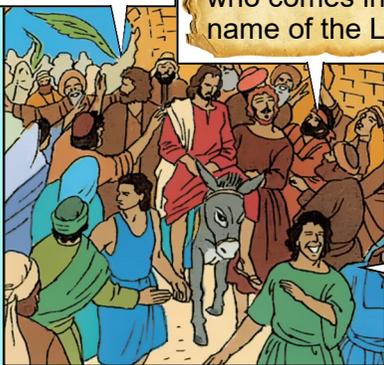


8 Many spread their garments on the way, and others were cutting down branches from the trees and spreading them on the road. 9 Those who went in front and those who followed cried out,

10 Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming in the name of the Lord!

“Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!



11 Jesus entered into the temple in Jerusalem. When he had looked around at everything, it being now evening, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.



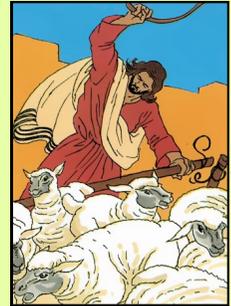
Jesus Clears The Temple

13 Seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came to see if perhaps he might find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 Jesus told it,



"May no one ever eat fruit from you again!"

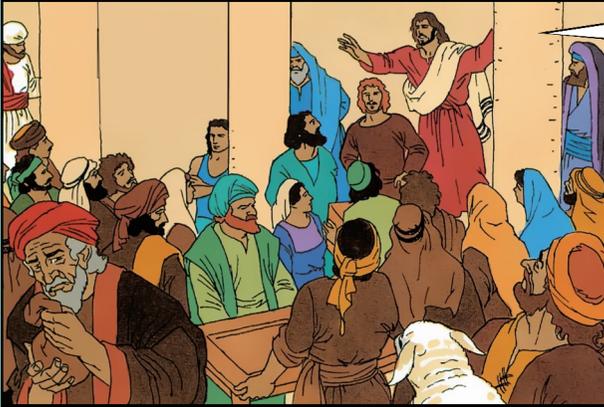
and his disciples heard it.



15 They came to Jerusalem, and Jesus entered into the temple and began to throw out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and overthrew the money changers' tables and the seats of those who sold the doves. 16 He would not allow anyone to carry a container through the temple.



17 He taught, saying to them,



“Isn’t it written,

‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’ (Isaia 56:7)

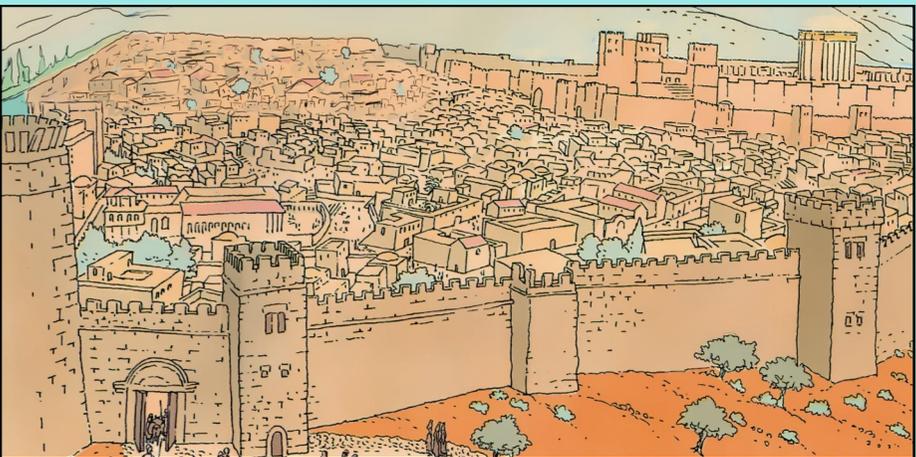
But you have made it a den of robbers!”



18 The chief priests and the scribes heard it, and sought how they might destroy him. For they feared him, because all the multitude was astonished at his teaching.



19 When evening came, he went out of the city.



Temple in the City of Jerusalem

Antonia Fortress
Roman army barracks

The temple
Inside is the Holy Place in the Most Holy of Holies.

Women's Court
This is where Jesus saw the poor widow who gave all she had into the offering

4 Closed Courts

One for firewood;_x000D_
one for oil, wine and salt;_x000D_
one for lepers who have recovered;_x000D_
and one for the holy people.

Outer
5m thick.

Beautiful Gate

Low Stone Wall

There is a warning here that Gentiles who cross the line will be killed.

Solomon's Porch

This is where the Jews tried to kill Jesus because He said, "I and the Father are one."

Area for Gentiles.

Area for Israelites (men)

Court of Priests

Only priests may enter this place. This is where animals are sacrificed on the altar.

Temple Tower

This is where Satan tempted Jesus to jump into the Kidron

Stone Stairs

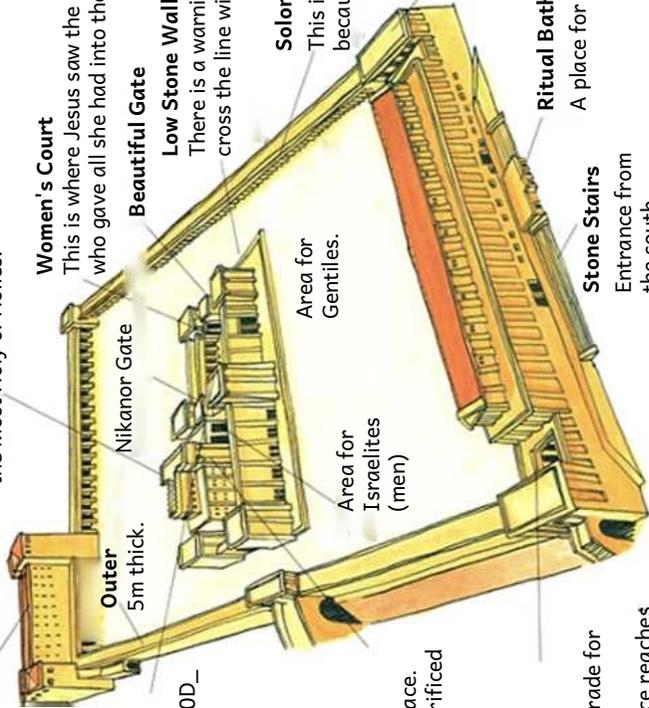
Entrance from the south.

Ritual Bath House

A place for cleansing ceremonies.

King's porch

A place of animal and bird trade for burnt offerings. Sometimes, this trading place reaches the Court of the Gentiles and makes it like a market.



Jesus Curses The Fig Tree



20 As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away from the roots. 21 Peter, remembering, said to him,

“Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered away.”

22 Jesus answered them,

“Have faith in God. 23 For most certainly I tell you, whoever may tell this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and doesn’t doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is happening, he shall have whatever he says.



24 Therefore I tell you, all things whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you have received them, and you shall have them. 25 Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions. 26 But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your transgressions.”

11:20 The fig tree: The fig tree usually bears fruit twice a year and its fruit can be used as food. The plant will usually drop all its leaves in the winter, but it begins to grow again in February, and its leaves will be laden heavy with fruit by April. Jesus' disappointment with the barren fig tree (Mark 11:13-14, 20-21) and then cursing it is to be understood as symbolic of Jesus' frustration with the fruitless spirituality of Israel.

The Power Of Jesus Is In Ques-

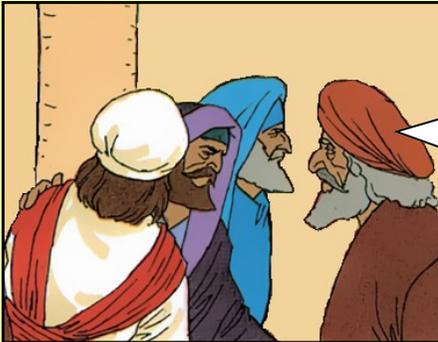
27 They came again to Jerusalem, and as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to him, 28 and they began saying to him,

“By what authority do you do these things? Or who gave you this authority to do these things?”



29 Jesus said to them,

“I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. 30 The baptism of John—was it from heaven, or from men? Answer me.”



31 They reasoned with themselves,

“If we should say, ‘From heaven;’ he will say, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ 32 If we should say, ‘From men’ ”

”—they feared the people, for all held John to really be a prophet.

33 They answered Jesus,



“We don’t know.”

Jesus said to them,

“Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

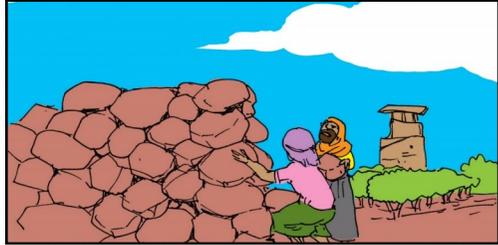
Chapter 12

About Tenants

1 He began to speak to them in parables.



“A man planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a pit for the wine press,



built a tower, rented it out to a farmer, and went into another country.



2 When it was time, he sent a servant to the farmer to get from the farmer his share of the fruit of the vineyard.



3 They took him, beat him, and sent him away empty. 4 Again, he sent another servant to them; and they threw stones at him,



wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully treated. 5 Again he sent another, and they killed him, and many others, beating some, and killing some.

6 Therefore still having one, his beloved son, he sent him last to them, saying,

‘They will respect my son.’



7 But those farmers said among themselves,

‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’

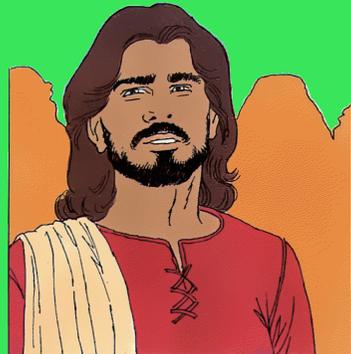


8 They took him, killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard. 9 What therefore will the lord of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the farmers, and will give the vineyard to others.



10 Haven’t you even read this Scripture:

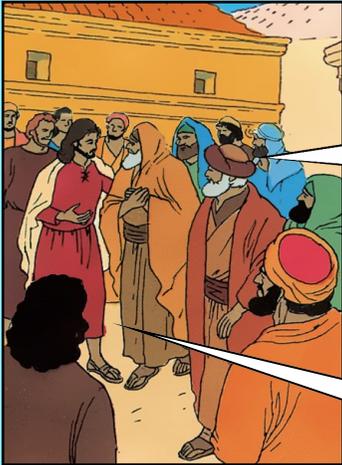
‘The stone which the builders rejected was made the head of the corner. 11 This was from the Lord. It is marvelous in our eyes?’”



12 They tried to seize him, but they feared the multitude; for they perceived that he spoke the parable against them. They left him and went away.

Paying Taxes To The Emperor

13 They sent some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to him, that they might trap him with words. 14 When they had come, they asked him,



“Teacher, we know that you are honest, and don’t defer to anyone; for you aren’t partial to anyone, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? 15 Shall we give, or shall we not give?”

But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them,

“Why do you test me? Bring me a denarius, that I may see it.”

16 They brought it. He said to them,

“Whose is this image and inscription?”



“Caesar’s.”

They said to him,



17 Jesus answered them,

“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

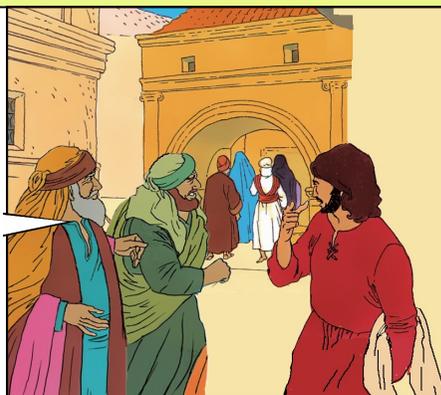
They marveled greatly at him.

12:15 Denarius: Silver coin with Emperor's picture. Its value is about the same as the daily wage of a laborer (Matthew 20: 2). The currency was also equivalent to the Greek dirham circulating among the Hellenists (Jews who were more Greek than Hebrew) at the time.

Marriage On The Day Of Resurrection

18 Some Sadducees, who say that there is no resurrection, came to him. They asked him, saying,

19 “Teacher, Moses wrote to us, ‘If a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife behind him, and leaves no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.’ 20 There were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and dying left no offspring. 21 The second took her, and died, leaving no children behind him. The third likewise; 22 and the seven took her and left no children. Last of all the woman also died. 23 In the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be of them? For the seven had her as a wife.”



24 Jesus answered them,



“Isn’t this because you are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God? 25 For when they will rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. 26 But about the dead, that they are raised, haven’t you read in the book of Moses about the Bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? 27 He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are therefore badly mistaken.”

12:18 Sadducees: A sect or group of religious leaders of Israel consisting mainly of priests. They base their teaching on the Holy Scriptures and reject all the later customary traditions (in contrast to the Pharisees who adhered to the Torah of Moses and the customs of the ancestors, who demanded absolute obedience to all laws and regulations). The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection or the existence of angels. This group was very open to Greek culture (Luke 20:27).

The Most Important Commandment

28 One of the scribes came and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him,

“Which commandment is the greatest of all?”



29 Jesus answered,

“The greatest is: ‘Hear, Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. 31 The second is like this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

32 The scribe said to him,



“Truly, teacher, you have said well that he is one, and there is none other but he; 33 and to love him with all the heart, with all the understanding, all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him,

“You are not far from God’s Kingdom.”

No one dared ask him any question after that.

The Relationship Between Jesus And David

35 Jesus responded, as he taught in the temple,



“How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? 36 For David himself said in the Holy Spirit,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies the
footstool of your feet.”’

37 Therefore David himself calls him Lord, so how can he be his son?”

The common people heard him gladly. 38 In his teaching he said to them,

“Beware of the scribes, who like to walk in long robes, and to get greetings in the marketplaces, 39 and to get the best seats in the synagogues and the best places at feasts, 40 those who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.”

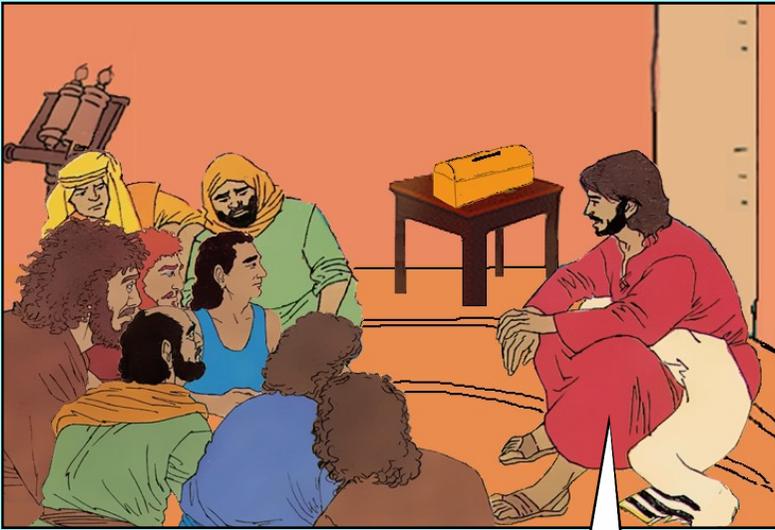
The Offering Of A Widow

41 Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and saw how the multitude cast money into the treasury. Many who were rich cast in much.



42 A poor widow came and she cast in two small brass coins, which equal a quadrans coin.

43 He called his disciples to himself and said to them,



“Most certainly I tell you, this poor widow gave more than all those who are giving into the treasury, 44 for they all gave out of their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, gave all that she had to live on.”

12:42 brass coins: Two pesos, one coin — the lowest currency (Greek: lepton). This means that the widow gave her everything she had. The presentation boxes are usually located in a special room for women in the Temple.

Chapter 13

Signs of the Last Days

1 As he went out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him,

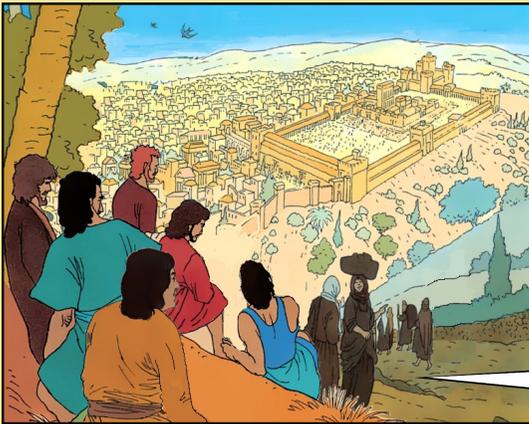
“Teacher, see what kind of stones and what kind of buildings!”

2 Jesus said to him,

“Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone on another, which will not be thrown down.”



3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately,



4 “Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are all about to be fulfilled?”

Last days

Anchors of Faith



The End Time is the second coming of Jesus marked by a great deal of chaos, suffering and destruction. But Jesus said, “In this world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). For Christians, we should not be easily offended or misled, not be fooled by various prophecies, evil deceptions that mislead people (2 Thessalonians 2), but we must remain firm in our faith, for Jesus will surely come again!

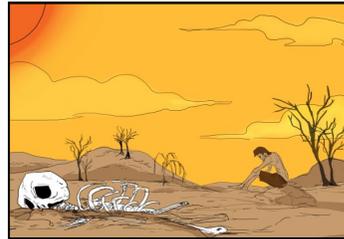
5 Jesus, answering, began to tell them,



“Be careful that no one leads you astray. 6 For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and will lead many astray.



7 “When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, don’t be troubled. For those must happen, but the end is not yet. 8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines and troubles. These things are the beginning of birth pains.



9 “But watch yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils. You will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony to them. 10 The Good News must first be preached to all the nations. 11 When they lead you away and deliver you up, don’t be anxious beforehand or premeditate what you will say, but say whatever will be given you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.



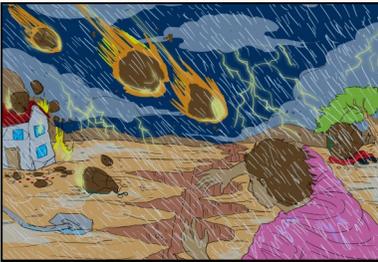
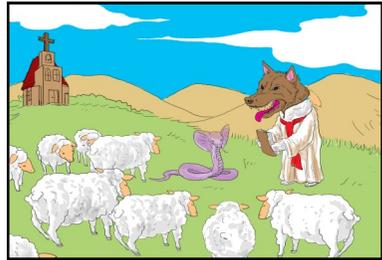
12 “Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child. Children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. 13 You will be hated by all men for my name’s sake, but he who endures to the end will be saved.



14 “But when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not” (let the reader understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, 15 and let him who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter in, to take anything out of his house. 16 Let him who is in the field not return back to take his cloak. 17 But woe to those who are with child

and to those who nurse babies in those days! 18 Pray that your flight won’t be in the winter. 19 For in those days there will be oppression, such as there has not been the like from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will be. 20 Unless the Lord had shortened the days, no flesh would have been saved; but for the sake of the chosen ones, whom he picked out, he shortened the days.

21 Then if anyone tells you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or, ‘Look, there!’ don’t believe it. 22 For false christs and false prophets will arise and will show signs and wonders, that they may lead astray, if possible, even the chosen ones. 23 But you watch.



“Behold, I have told you all things beforehand. 24 But in those days, after that oppression, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, 25 the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.

26 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.



27 Then he will send out his angels, and will gather together his chosen ones from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the sky.

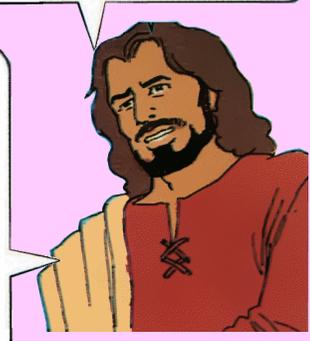


28 “Now from the fig tree, learn this parable. When the branch has now become tender and produces its leaves, you know that the summer is near; 29 even so you also, when you see these things coming to pass, know that it is near, at the doors. 30 Most certainly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things happen. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Day And Time Unknown

32 “But of that day or that hour no one knows—not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Watch, keep alert, and pray; for you don’t know when the time is.

34 “It is like a man traveling to another country, having left his house and given authority to his servants, and to each one



his work, and also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. 35 Watch therefore, for you don’t know when the lord of the house is coming—whether at evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning; 36 lest, coming suddenly, he might find you sleeping. 37 What I tell you, I tell all: Watch!”

Chapter 14

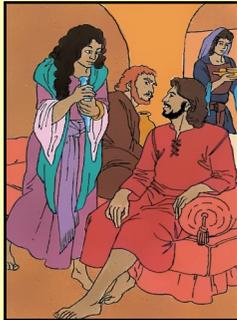
Jesus Is Anointed

1 It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might seize him by deception and kill him. 2 For they said,

“Not during the feast, because there might be a riot among the people.”



3 While he was at Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster jar of ointment of pure nard—very costly. She broke the jar and poured it over his head.



14: 3 Pure nard oil: Nard is a plant used to make perfume. In ancient times, perfumes were stored in closed jars, which could only be opened by breaking the neck. This perfume comes from India, which is why it's so



4 But there were some who were indignant among themselves, saying,

“Why has this ointment been wasted? 5 For this might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.”

So they grumbled against her.

“Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for me. 7 For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want to, you can do them good; but you will not always have me.



8 She has done what she could. She has anointed my body beforehand for the burying. 9 Most certainly I tell you, wherever this Good News may be preached throughout the whole world, that which this woman has done will also be spoken of for a memorial of her.”



10 Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went away to the chief priests, that he might deliver him to them. 11 They, when they heard it, were glad, and promised to give him money. He sought how he might conveniently deliver him.

The Last Supper

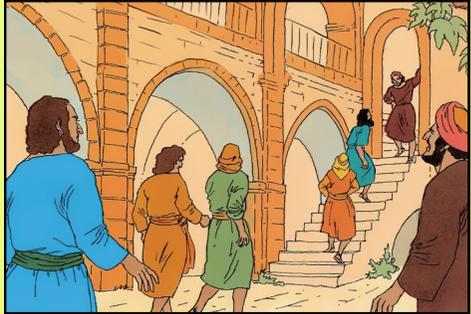


12 On the first day of unleavened bread, when they sacrificed the Passover, his disciples asked him,

“Where do you want us to go and prepare that you may eat the Passover?”

13 He sent two of his disciples and said to them,

“Go into the city, and there a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him, 14 and wherever he enters in, tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?” ’



15 He will himself show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Get ready for us there.”



16 His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found things as he had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.



17 When it was evening he came with the twelve. 18 As they sat and were eating, Jesus said,

“Most certainly I tell you, one of you will betray me—he who eats with me.”

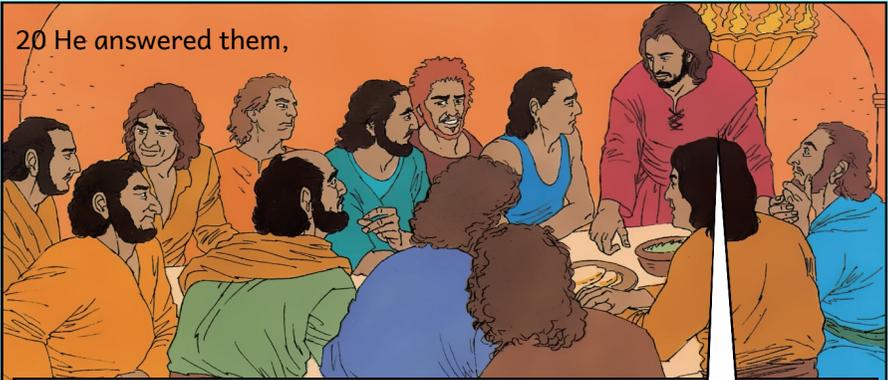
19 They began to be sorrowful, and to ask him one by one,

“Surely not I?”

And another said,

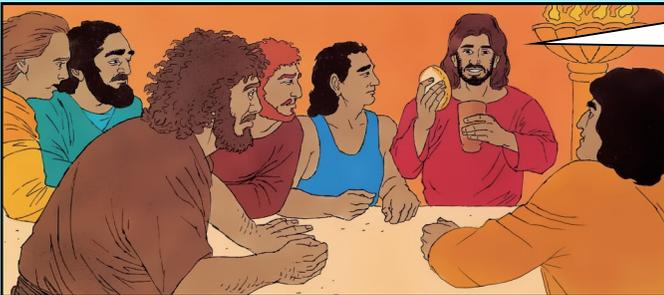
“Surely not I?”

20 He answered them,



“It is one of the twelve, he who dips with me in the dish. 21 For the Son of Man goes as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.”

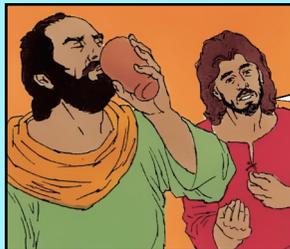
22 As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had blessed it, he broke it and gave to them, and said,



“Take, eat. This is my body.”



23 He took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave to them. They all drank of it. 24 He said to them,



“This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many. 25 Most certainly I tell you, I will no more drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in God’s Kingdom.”

26 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Peter Will Deny Jesus

27 Jesus said to them,

“All of you will be made to stumble because of me tonight, for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’

28 However, after I am raised up, I will go before you into Galilee.”



29 But Peter said to him,

“Although all will be offended, yet I will not.”

30 Jesus said to him,

“Most certainly I tell you that you today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.”



31 But he spoke all the more,

“If I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

They all said the same thing.

Denying Jesus

Way of Life



To deny means to disown, to disapprove, to refuse, to disobey what has been promised or to say. Are we tempted to deny Jesus in our Christian life? Are we tempted to not want, or to not dare claim to be disciples of Jesus when others laugh at us for being His disciples? The most serious denial is the denial of the heart, because that which is hidden in the person is what shows who he really is. God sees our heart, not hears what our tongue says.

Jesus In Gethsemane



32 They came to a place which was named Gethsemane. He said to his disciples,

“Sit here while I pray.”

33 He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be greatly troubled and distressed. 34 He said to them,

“My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.”

35 He went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass away from him. 36 He said,

“Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Please remove this cup from me. However, not what I desire, but what you desire.”



37 He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter,

“Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn't you watch one hour? 38 Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”



39 Again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.



40 Again he returned and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they didn't know what to answer him. 41 He came the third time and said to them,



“Sleep on now, and take your rest. It is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Arise! Let's get going. Behold, he who betrays me is at hand.”

Jesus Is Arrested



43 Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, came—and with him a multitude with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. 44 Now he who betrayed him had given them a sign, saying,

“Whomever I will kiss, that is he. Seize him, and lead him away safely.”



45 When he had come, immediately he came to him and said,

“Rabbi!

and kissed him.

46 They laid their hands on him and seized him.





47 But a certain one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

48 Jesus answered them,

“Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to seize me? 49 I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and you didn’t arrest me. But this is so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.”



50 They all left him, and fled.



51 A certain young man followed him, having a linen cloth thrown around himself over his naked body. The young men grabbed him, 52 but he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

Jesus Before The Religious Council

53 They led Jesus away to the high priest. All the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes came together with him.

54 Peter had followed him from a distance, until he came into the court of the high priest. He was sitting with the officers, and warming himself in the light of the fire.





55 Now the chief priests and the whole council sought witnesses against Jesus to put him to death, and found none. 56 For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony didn't agree with each other.

57 Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.' "



59 Even so, their testimony didn't agree.



60 The high priest stood up in the middle, and asked Jesus,

"Have you no answer? What is it which these testify against you?"

61 But he stayed quiet, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him,

"Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"



62 Jesus said,

“I am. You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of the sky.”

63 The high priest tore his clothes and said,

“What further need have we of witnesses? 64 You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?”



They all condemned him to be worthy of death. 65 Some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to beat him with fists, and to tell him,

The officers struck him with the palms of their hands.

“Prophesy!”

I am

Anchors of Faith



This phrase has a divine meaning, for the expression “I am” is used in the Old Testament as a confession of God when He declared Himself to Moses, “I AM” (Ex. 3:14).

When Jesus says “I am”, it is the same as saying “I am God”, because He uses one of the most sacred divine expressions in the Old Testament for Himself. He explicitly identifies himself as the Messiah.

He declared himself seated at the “right hand” of Almighty God, implying that he has the authority and power of God. He signals his “coming in the clouds” by asserting himself as the Judge of mankind in the future.

Peter Denies Jesus

66 As Peter was in the courtyard below, one of the maids of the high priest came, 67 and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said,

“You were also with the Nazarene, Jesus!”

68 But he denied it, saying,

“I neither know nor understand what you are saying.”

He went out on the porch, and the rooster crowed.



69 The maid saw him and began again to tell those who stood by,

“This is one of them.”

70 But he again denied it.

After a little while again those who stood by said to Peter,

“You truly are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it.”

71 But he began to curse and to swear,

“I don’t know this man of whom you speak!”



72 The rooster crowed the second time. Peter remembered the words that Jesus said to him,

“Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

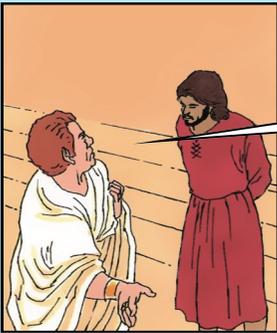
When he thought about that, he wept.



Chapter 15

Jesus Before Pilate

1 Immediately in the morning the chief priests, with the elders, scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation, bound Jesus, carried him away, and delivered him up to Pilate.



2 Pilate asked him,

“Are you the King of the Jews?”

He answered,

“So you say.”

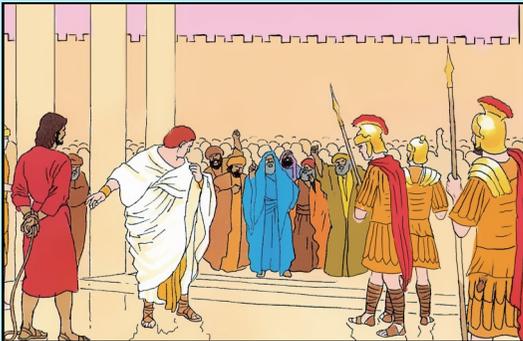
3 The chief priests accused him of many things.

4 Pilate again asked him,

“Have you no answer? See how many things they testify against you!”



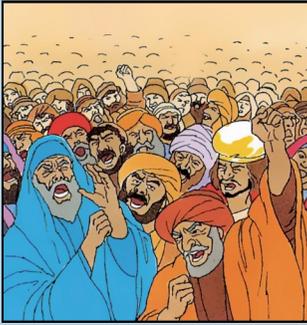
5 But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate marveled.



6 Now at the feast he used to release to them one prisoner, whomever they asked of him.

7 There was one called Barabbas, bound with his fellow insurgents, men who in the insurrection had committed murder.

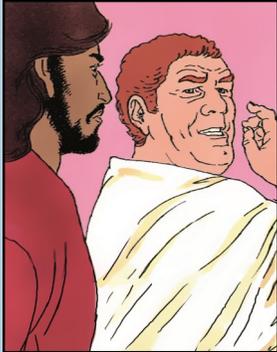
Mark 15:8-15



8 The multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do as he always did for them. 9 Pilate answered them, saying,



“Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”



10 For he perceived that for envy the chief priests had delivered him up. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the multitude, that he should release Barabbas to them instead. 12 Pilate again asked them,

“What then should I do to him whom you call the King of the Jews?”

13 They cried out again,

“Crucify him!”

14 Pilate said to them,

“Why, what evil has he done?”

But they cried out

“Crucify him!”



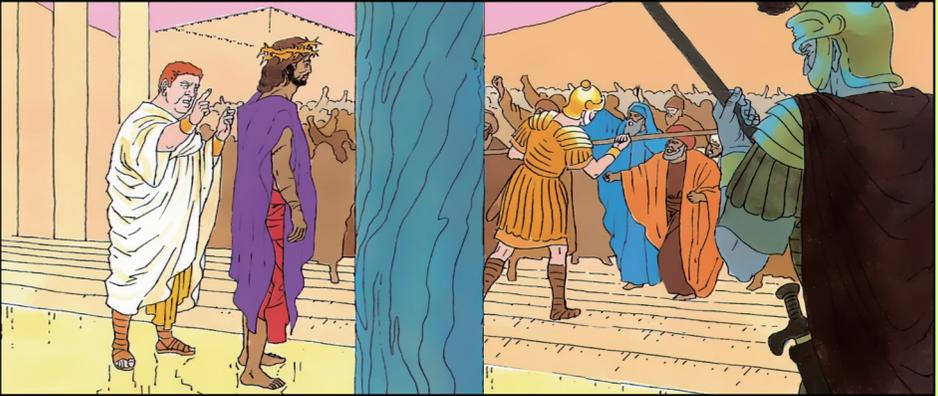
15 Pilate, wishing to please the multitude, released Barabbas to them, and handed over Jesus, when he had flogged him, to be crucified.



Jesus Is Mocked



16 The soldiers led him away within the court, which is the Praetorium; and they called together the whole cohort. 17 They clothed him with purple; and weaving a crown of thorns, they put it on him.



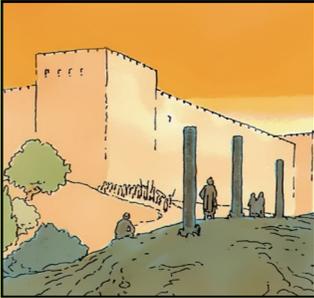
18 They began to salute him,

“Hail, King of the Jews!”

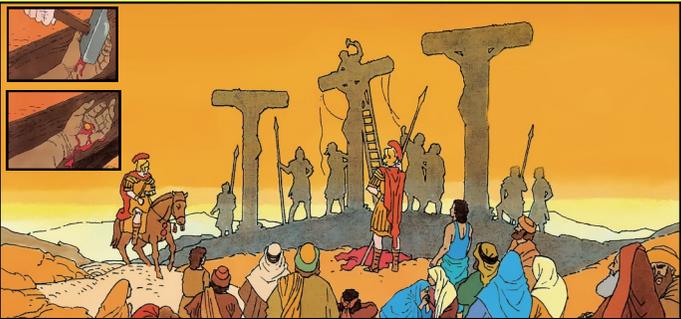
19 They struck his head with a reed and spat on him, and bowing their knees, did homage to him. 20 When they had mocked him, they took the purple cloak off him, and put his own garments on him. They led him out to crucify him.



Jesus Is Crucified

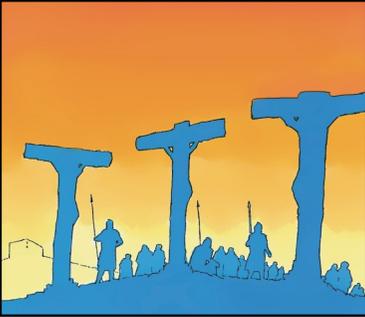


21 They compelled one passing by, coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to go with them that he might bear his cross. 22 They brought him to the place called Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, "The place of a skull."



23 They offered him wine mixed with myrrh to drink, but he didn't take it. 24 Crucifying him, they parted his garments among them, casting lots on them, what each should take. 25 It was the third hour when they crucified him. 26 The superscription of his accusation was written over him: "THE KING OF THE JEWS."





27 With him they crucified two robbers, one on his right hand, and one on his left.
28 The Scripture was fulfilled which says,

“He was counted with transgressors.”



29 Those who passed by blasphemed him, wagging their heads and saying,

“Ha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!”

31 Likewise, also the chief priests mocking among themselves with the scribes said,

“He saved others. He can’t save himself. 32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, that we may see and believe him.”

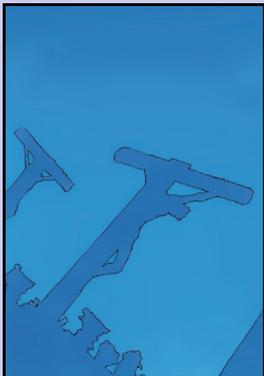


Those who were crucified with him also insulted him.

“If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!”

15:32b This quote is taken from the words of one of the criminals crucified with Jesus in Luke 23:39.

Jesus' Death



33 When the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 At the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying,

“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”

which is, being interpreted, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”



35 Some of those who stood by, when they heard it, said,

“Behold, he is calling Elijah.”



36 One ran, and filling a sponge full of vinegar, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying,



“Let him be. Let’s see whether Elijah comes to take him down.”



37 Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and gave up the spirit.





38 The veil of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom. 39 When the centurion, who stood by opposite him, saw that he cried out like this and breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"



40 There were also women watching from afar, among whom were both Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome; 41 who, when he was in Galilee, followed him and served him; and many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.



Jesus Is Buried

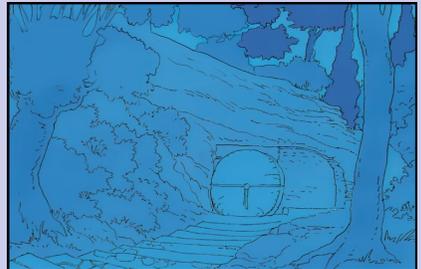
42 When evening had now come, because it was the Preparation Day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathaea, a prominent council member who also himself was looking for God's Kingdom, came. He boldly went in to Pilate, and asked for Jesus' body.



44 Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead long. 45 When he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. 46 He bought a linen cloth, and taking him down, wound him in the linen cloth and laid him in a tomb which had been cut out of a rock. He rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.



47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses, saw where he was laid.



Chapter 16

The Resurrection Of Jesus



1 When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint him. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 They were saying among themselves,

“Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?”



4 for it was very big. Looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back.

5 Entering into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. 6 He said to them,

“Don’t be amazed. You seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him! 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He goes before you into Galilee. There you will see him, as he said to you.’ ”



8 They went out, and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had come on them. They said nothing to anyone; for they were afraid.

Jesus' resurrection

Anchors of Faith



The birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus form the basis of the Christian faith. Claims that Jesus was not crucified but taken directly to heaven, or that His body was stolen, or that Jesus died like any other human being and did not rise up in any way is to deny Jesus' divinity. For Christians, the empty tomb of Jesus is proof that our Lord lives.

The empty tomb of Jesus

It's not easy to steal Jesus' body! A stone weighing as much as two tons was used to cover the opening of the tomb to prevent intruders from burglaries. The stone was lodged in a sloping ravine and when the body was laid in the tomb, the pegs were removed and the stone rolled over to close it. Archaeologists say the strength of 20 men would be needed to roll the stone away! But the cover was found to have been rolled away when Jesus' followers came to the tomb (Mark 16).

A Roman mattress (rope wrapped around a stone) was placed to prevent thieves from entering the tomb of Jesus. Sixteen guards were stationed to guard the tomb. The Roman officers were well-known for their discipline and would be sentenced to death if found asleep while on guard! So where is Jesus' body if He is not raised? No evidence of a body has been found in over 2,000 years!

For the Strengthening of Our Faith:

Jesus' resurrection proves to us that He is God (John 10:18), that His death is a payment for our sins which God has accepted (Romans 4:24-25). If He died and remained in death, then His sacrifice and faith would be in vain (1 Corinthians 15:16-19).

But the fact is: Christ was raised from the dead. His resurrection is evidence of His victory over death (1 Corinthians 15:24-34). This fact also declares that because of the resurrection of Christ, all who believe in Him will have victory over sin (1 Corinthians 15:50-58). They will no longer be in bondage to sin but will be set free (Romans 6:11). We are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (Romans 8:37)!

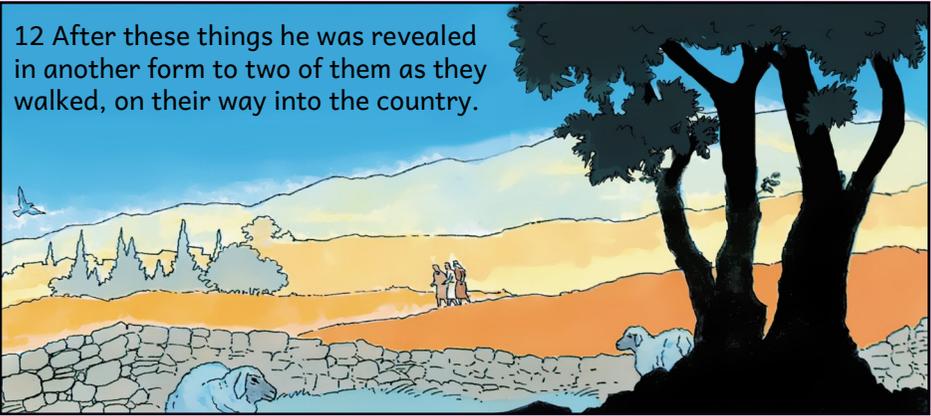
Jesus Appears To His Disciples

9 Now when he had risen early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons.



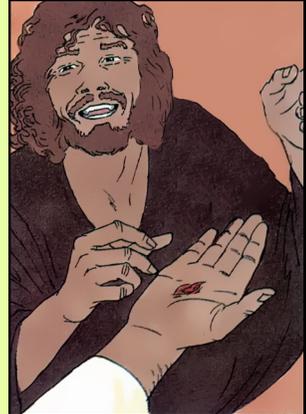
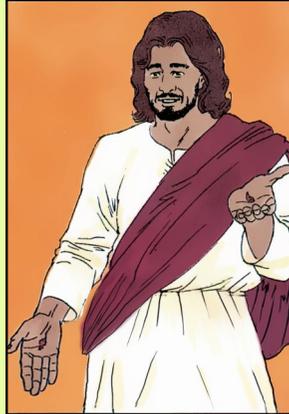
10 She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they disbelieved.

12 After these things he was revealed in another form to two of them as they walked, on their way into the country.



13 They went away and told it to the rest. They didn't believe them, either.

14 Afterward he was revealed to the eleven themselves as they sat at the table; and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they didn't believe those who had seen him after he had risen.



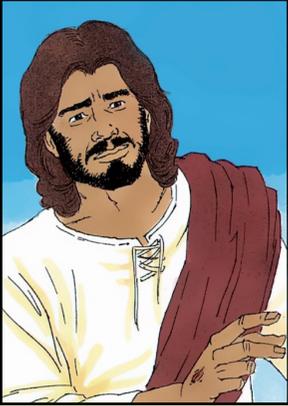
15 He said to them,



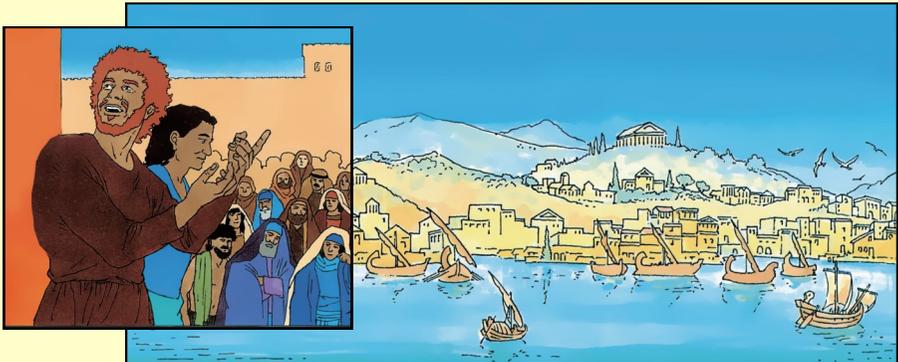
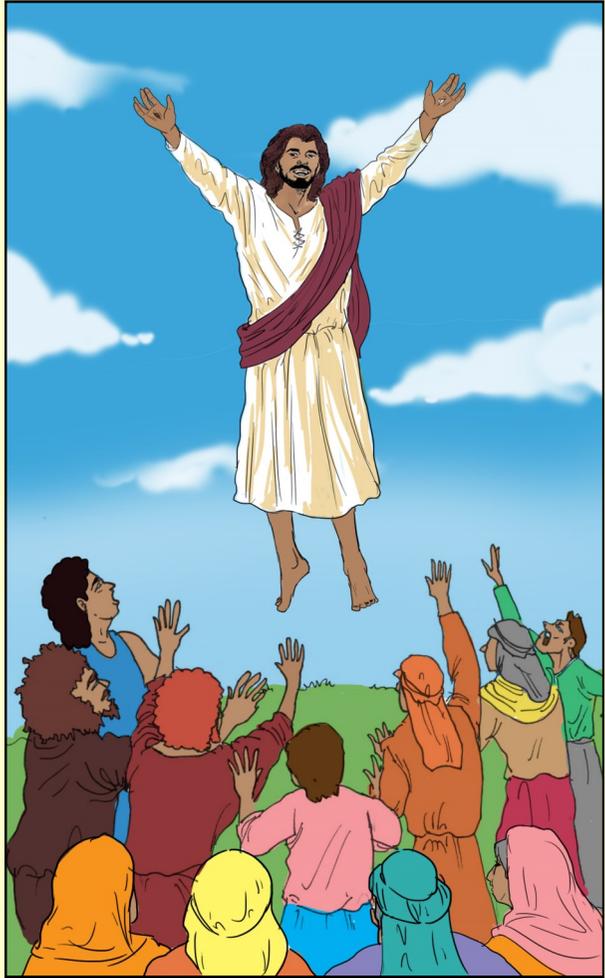
“Go into all the world and preach the Good News to the whole creation.



16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who disbelieves will be condemned. 17 These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new languages; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it will in no way hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”



19 So then the Lord, after he had spoken to them, was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 They went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that followed. Amen.

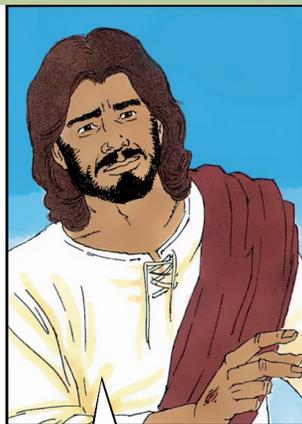


Epilogue

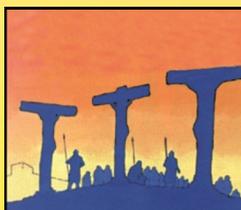
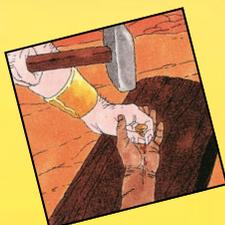
For forty days after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus appeared to many people. They see Him in many ways. He talks about matters related to the Kingdom of God.

“All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

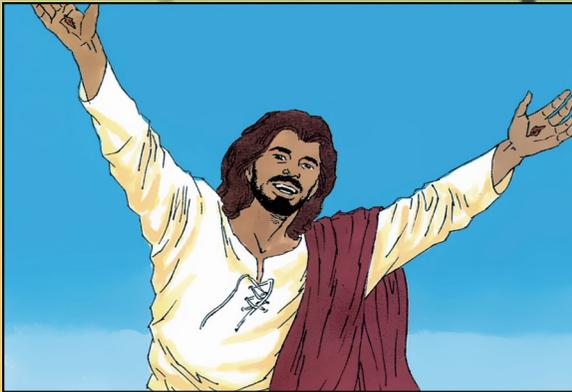


The message of God's salvation through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, continues to be transmitted and spread throughout the world, from the day of His resurrection, to the present day. The good news of Jesus' cross and his empty tomb tell us that Jesus is God.





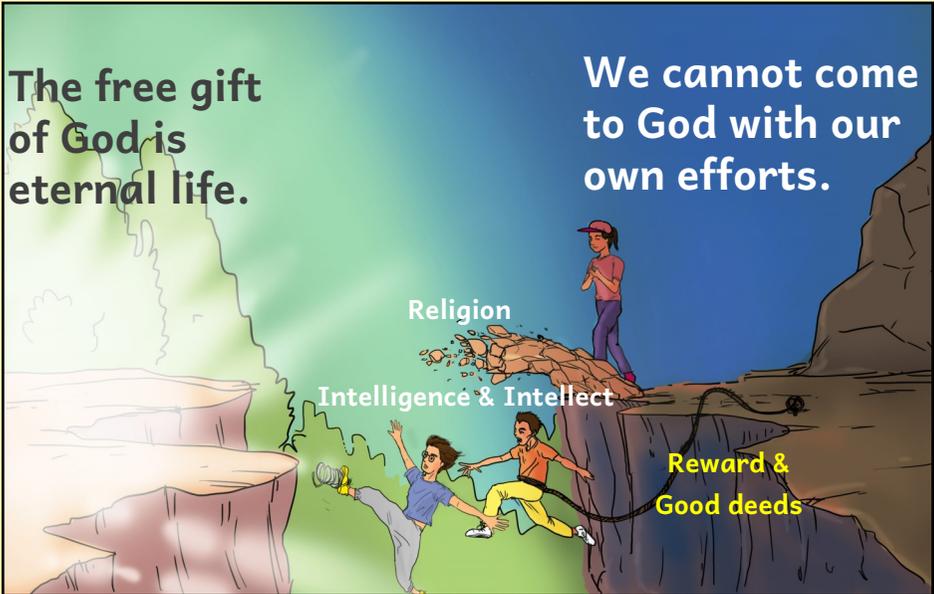
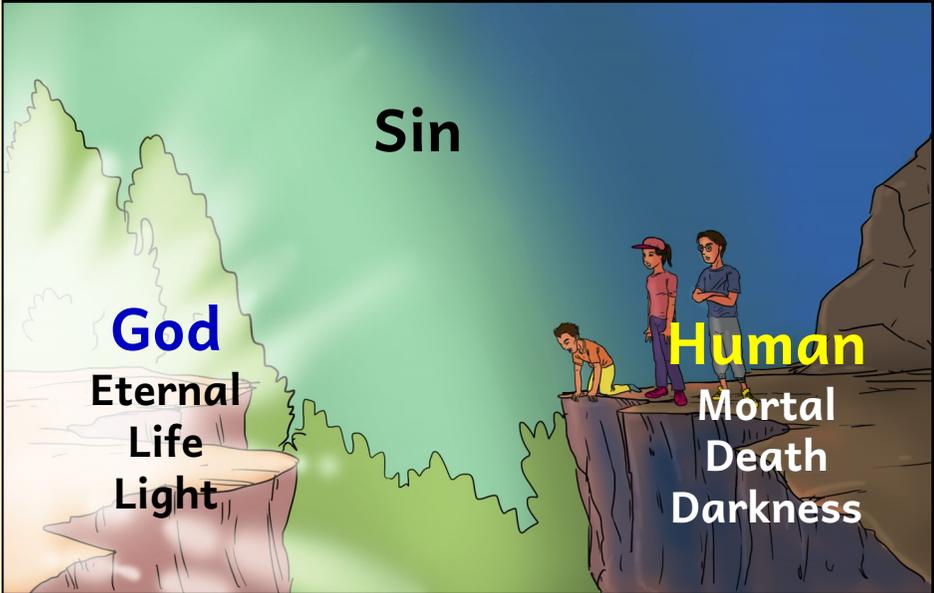
16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only born Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him.” (John 3:16-17)



Today, Jesus continues to call and invite you and me to come to Him. “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28) We simply need to open our hearts to Him, to trust Him, to confess and to repent of our sins, and to invite Him into our lives to become the Lord and King of our lives.

Do you hear him calling you?

Rescue Road



while we were yet
sinners, Christ
died for us
(Romans 5:8b)

There is therefore
now no condemnation
to those who are in
Christ Jesus
(Romans 8:1a)



John 14: 6

John 3:16

**Christ died, was buried for 3 days, and was
resurrected.**

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received:
that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day
according to the Scriptures,

(1 Corinthians 15: 3-4)

Salvation is a gift from God.

for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not
of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, that no one
would boast.

(Ephesians 2: 8-9)

Confess your sins and He will forgive you.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the
truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and
righteous to forgive us the sins and to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

(1 John 1: 8-9)

THE BIBLE

The story of Jesus is recorded in the Bible. No other book has been read, and is read, more often than the Bible. It is a book full of books. It took 1500 years to write all these books. The Bible was completed about 1900 years ago. It contains all kind of stories about how God is involved in people's lives. The story of Jesus shows most clearly Who God is.

THE HISTORY OF JESUS

The Bible contains 4 books that describe the life of Jesus. They are named after the authors. The authors all lived in the time of Jesus.

1. Matthew – a disciple of Jesus. He used to work as a tax collector. He describes especially how Jesus dealt with the people of Israel (the Jews).

2. Mark – was still a teenager when Jesus did His work He writes quite a bit about the miracles which Jesus performed.

3. Luke – was a medical doctor. He did not personally know Jesus. Luke describes how Jesus dealt with people.

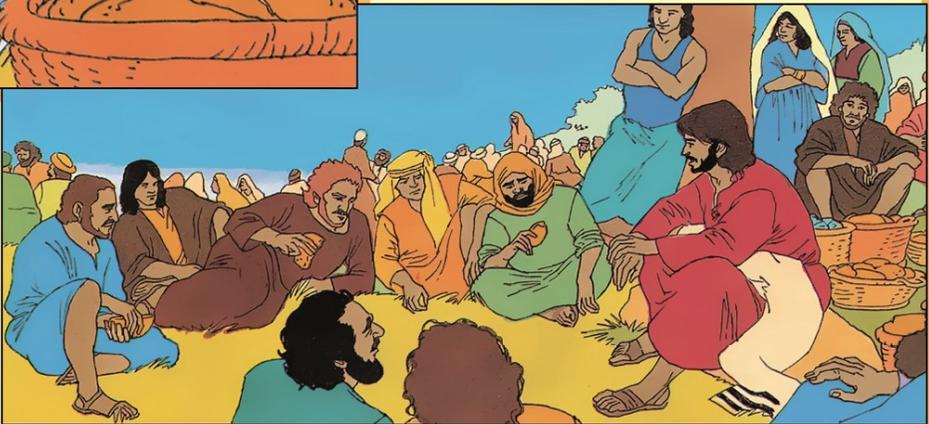
4. John – was also a follower of Jesus. He mainly shows Who Jesus is. Jesus is God, Who became man to free people from their sins.

JESUS' BIRTH

Jesus' mother, Mary, was not yet married when Jesus was conceived. She was still a virgin until after He was born. Yet God arranged it that Jesus could be born. This miracle had been announced in the books written long before Jesus' time. Jesus was not born as a hero or something special. He was born in a stable as there was no other room available.

JESUS' MIRACLES

Jesus performed many miracles. The Bible mentions more than 40 healings. By means of these miracles, Jesus showed God's power and love and that He wants to help people and make them happy.



JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Why did Jesus die? The explanation is given in the Bible.



All people do wrong things sometimes. Things which God does not approve of and which make Him angry or sad. They are called sin. All those sins may prevent people from being friends with God.

That is why Jesus came. Of His own free will Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for our sins. That punishment was death. Since Jesus died for us, we can become friends again with God. But we do need to be sorry about what we have done wrong.

Jesus rose from the dead. God made Him live again. By this God showed that He is more powerful than death.

Jesus now lives with God. And because He lives, He can always be our friend. He wants to help us live in a way that brings joy to God.

PRAYER

If you are sorry for the wrong things you have done and if you want to be friends with God, you could pray a prayer like this:

“Dear God, You love me.
You gave Jesus, Your only Son.
He died on a cross for all the wrong which I have done.
Please forgive me for what I have done wrong. I am sorry.
Thank you, that Jesus is on my side.
I always want to belong to you.
Will You please help me live the way You want me to live?
Will You always stay close to me?
Thank You for answering my prayer.
You do what You promised!”
Amen



Behold, the Lion who is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome. and bought us for God with your blood out of every tribe, language, people, and nation, and made us kings and priests to our God; and we will reign on the earth.

(Revelation 5:5a, 9b-10)

The Resurrection and Second Coming of Jesus

Forty days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, He was taken up to Heaven, and now sits at the right hand of God the Father. God has put everything under His feet. One day, He will return to this world — not as a Servant, but as King and Judge. He will judge all the living and the dead on “Judgement Day”. Those who believe in Jesus will be taken to Heaven to live with him. Those who disobey and deny Him will be cast into Hell.

JESUS AND YOU

The story of Jesus has an open end. Jesus became the Friend of a great many people, then and now. The world has changed. Many people do not travel on donkeys or on horseback but travel by car and airplane. But this makes no difference to Jesus. He can be just as near to us as when He walked about in Israel.

He may be invisible, but He is just as real. He wants to be a Friend for you today. You may listen to Him and you may love Him.

Do you want to know more about Jesus and about life with Him? Then you may do the following:

- 1. Start to read the Bible for yourself** (start for example by reading the part written by Luke).
- 2. Start to pray** (speaking with God and listening to Him – you don't need to use special words).
- 3. Talk to other people about Jesus and the Bible.** Jesus wants His followers to meet together and encourage each other as they learn more about Him.

To find out more about Jesus, the Bible, and fellowship with other Christians, contact comik.singa.yehuda@gmail.com or the address below:

PRAYER

For this cause I also,
having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus
which is among you and the love
which you have toward all the saints,
don't cease to give thanks for you,
making mention of you in my prayers,
that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory,
may give to you a spirit of wisdom
and revelation in the knowledge of him,
having the eyes of your hearts enlightened,
that you may know what is the hope of his calling,
and what are the riches of the glory
of his inheritance in the saints,
and what is the exceeding greatness of his power
toward us who believe, according to that working
of the strength of his might which he worked in Christ
when he raised him from the dead
and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all rule, authority, power, dominion,
and every name that is named,
not only in this age, but also in that which is to come.
He put all things in subjection under his feet,
and gave him to be head over all things for the assembly,
which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Amen.

(Ephesians 1: 15-23)

The Lion of Judah

This is the true story of Jesus Christ. He lived in Israel about 2,000 years ago. Everyone who met him was amazed and amazed. No one has ever done what He did. No one ever said the things that He said. Miracles and miracles continue everywhere Jesus is. He brings joy and happiness to all who want to hear Him. But suddenly it ended. His enemies killed him. But that is not an end. Read for yourself how that happened and the story of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world!

