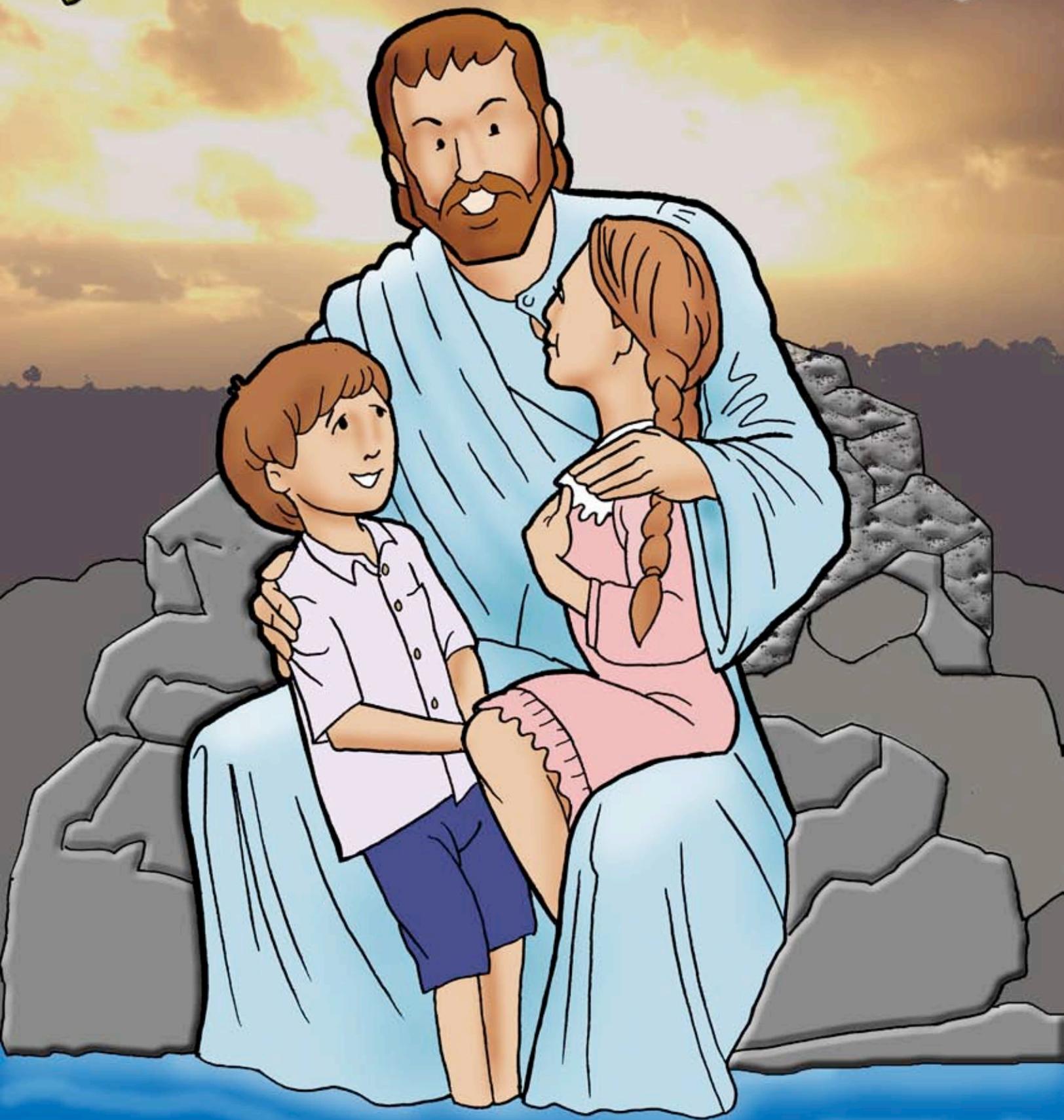


JESUS LOVES ME

By Nancy Cunningham

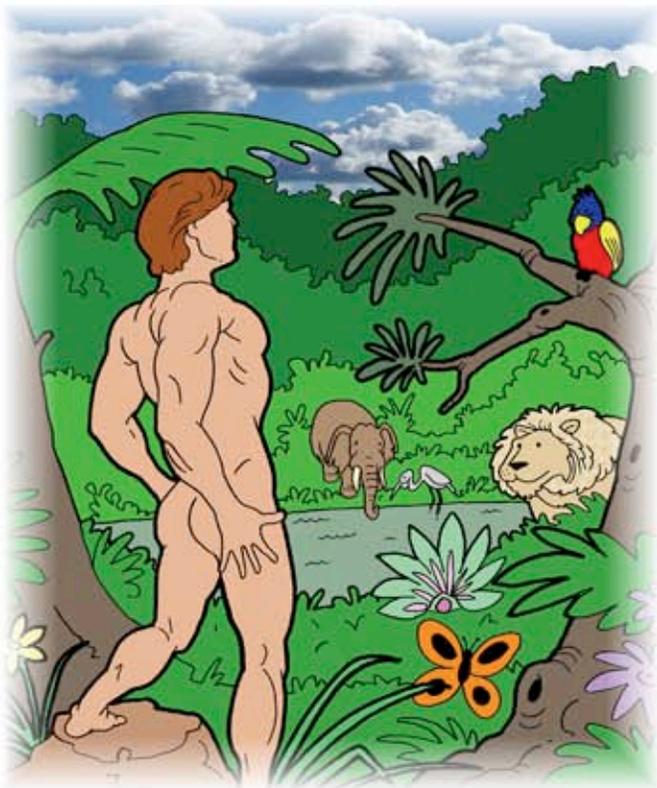
Illustrated By Ian Coate & Jackie Gonsalis



I AM A SINNER

The very first words in God's book the Bible say, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

God made the whole world and all the things in it out of nothing! God is the only One strong enough to make something out of nothing!

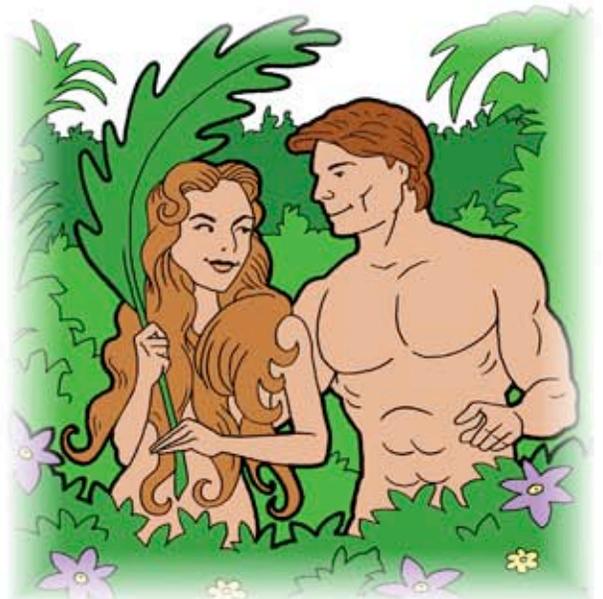


God filled the world with good things. He made the plants and trees, the sun, moon and stars, the water and dry land. He filled the waters with fish and the skies with colourful birds. Next, God filled the earth with animals of every size, shape and colour!

Finally, God made Adam, the first man.

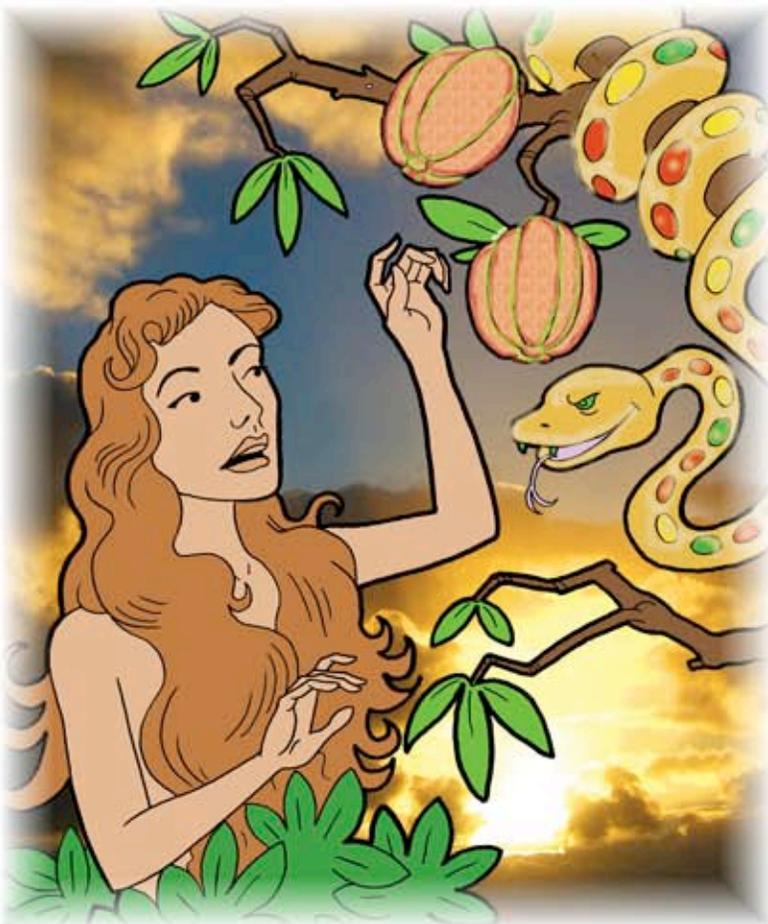
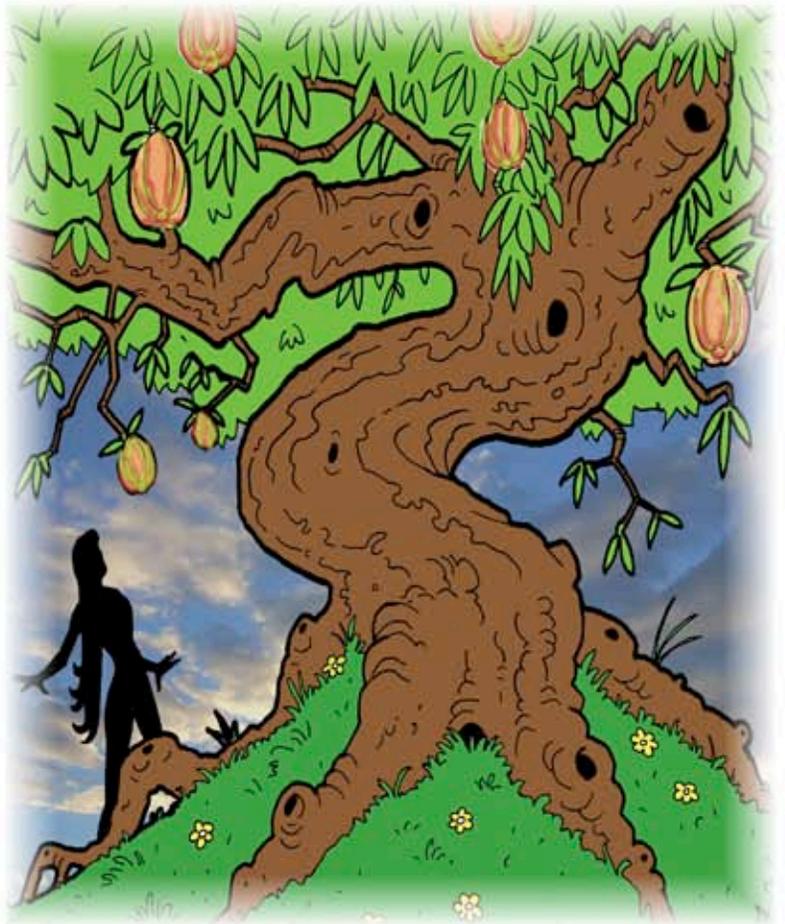
But God found that it was not good for the man to be alone. And so from the rib of the man God created the first woman, Eve.

Adam and Eve lived a happy life in the Garden of Eden. Each day God came to the garden and talked with them.



God told Adam and Eve they could eat the fruit from any tree in the garden except for one. They could not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

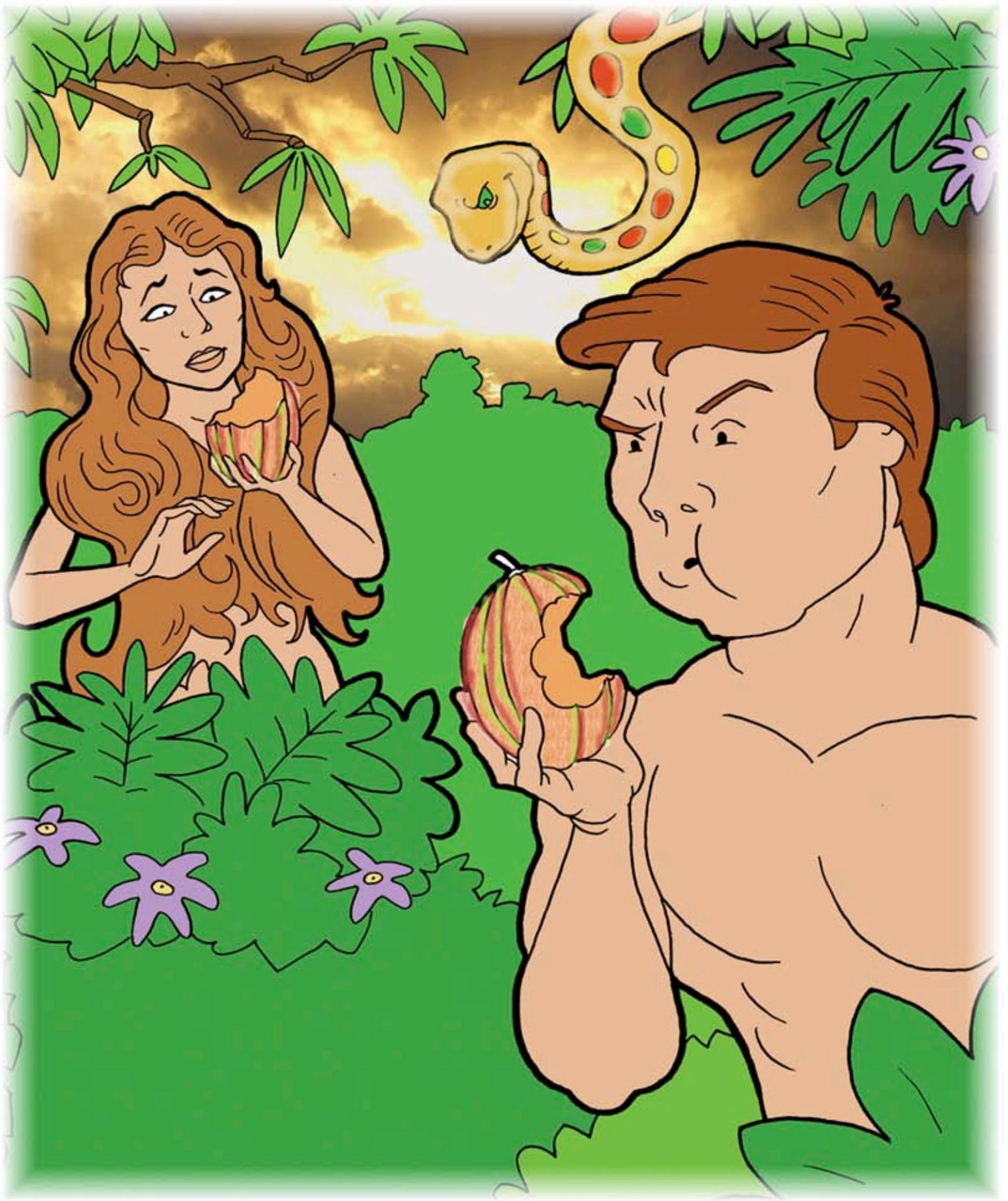
God said if they ate that fruit they would die.



One day, along came a serpent, who was really Satan.

The serpent talked to Eve. He told her she should eat the fruit, even though God had said not to.

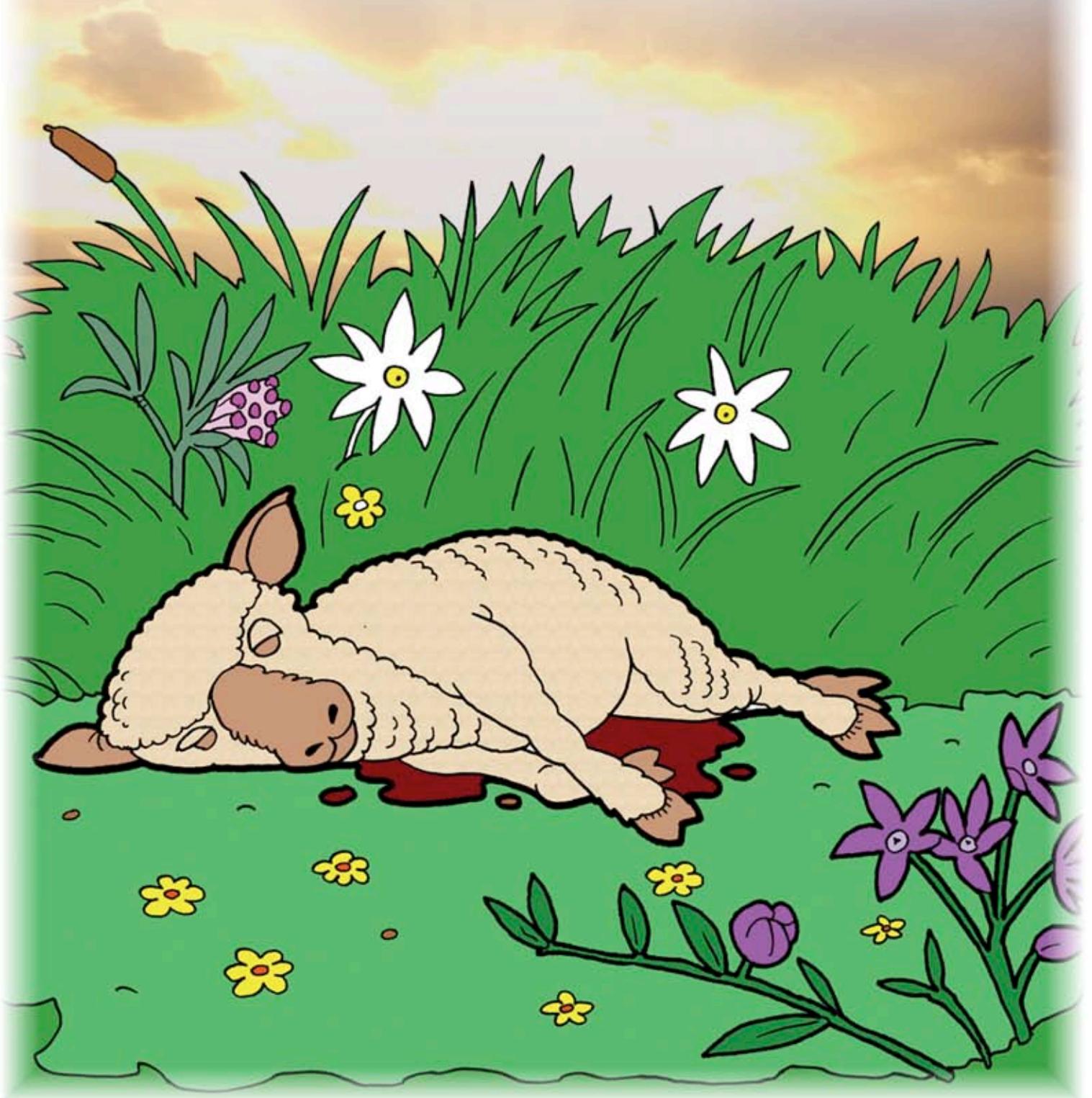
Eve listened to the serpent. She picked the fruit from the tree and then...she ate it!

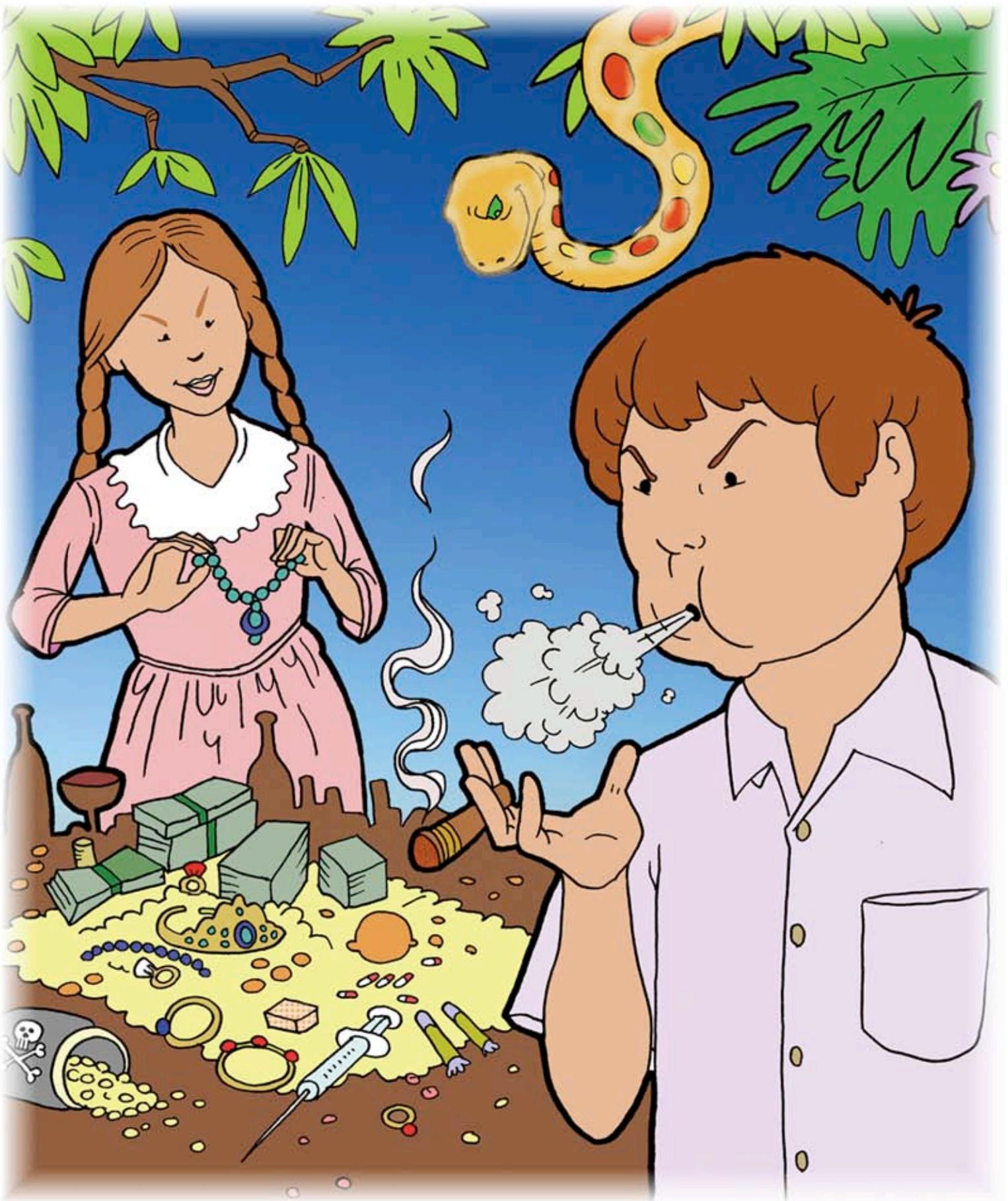


Eve gave the fruit to Adam and he also took a big bite of it.
Adam and Eve had disobeyed God.
They had sinned!

The Bible says that sin leads to death. But because God loved Adam and Eve He brought a lamb to die in their place. The lamb did not sin. The lamb did not deserve to die.

God also promised Adam and Eve that He would send a Saviour to pay for the sins of the entire world, so that any one who believes in Him could be saved from their sin.





You see, Adam and Eve are not the only sinners! The Bible says "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God." Rom 3:23. That means that you and I are also sinners. We all think, say and do things that God tells us not to do. We all disobey God.

Just like Adam and Eve, you deserve to die for your sin. But because God loves you so much He sent Jesus Christ to die in your place.

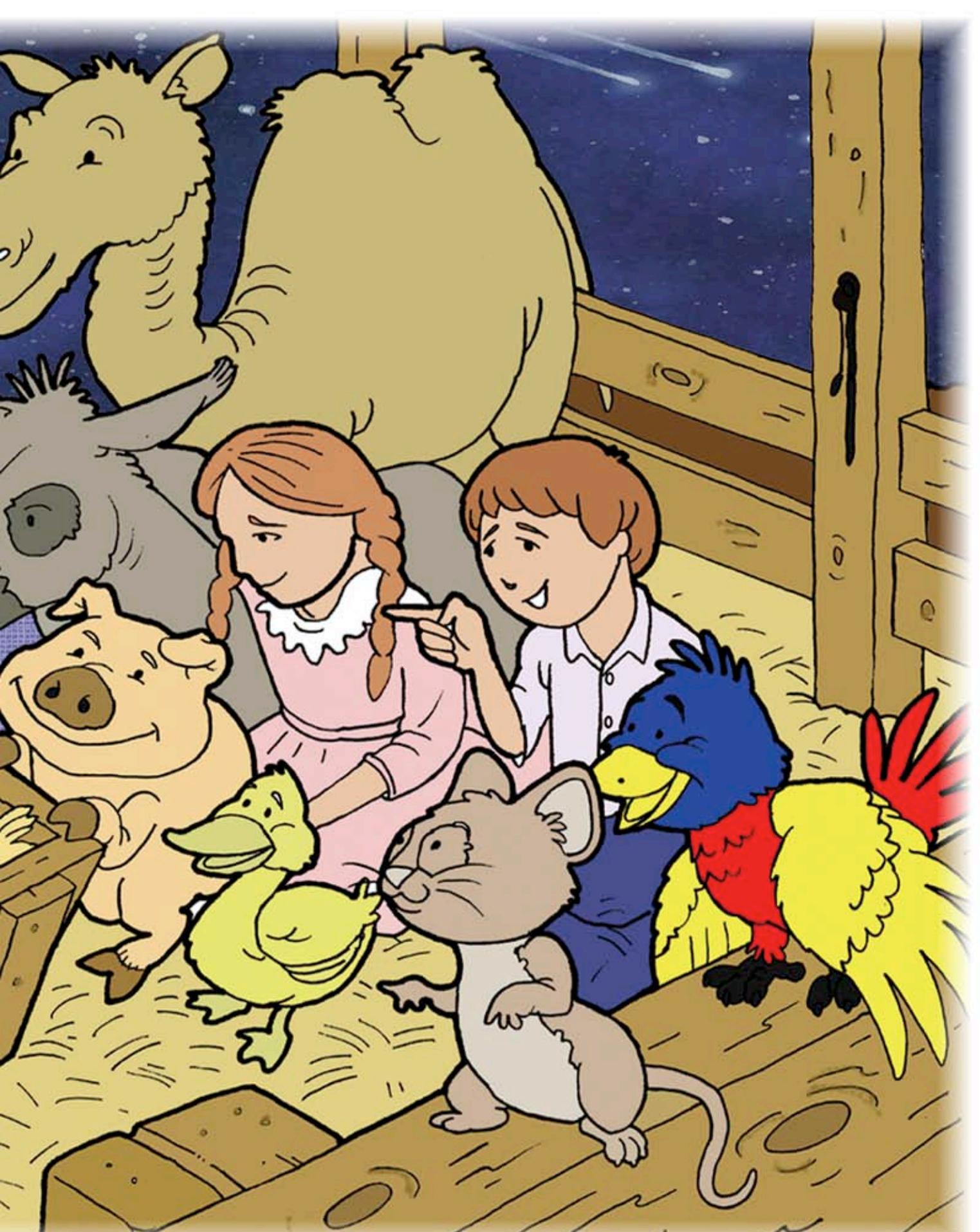
Jesus Christ did not sin. Jesus Christ did not deserve to die. He died on the cross to pay for your sin. Jesus Christ is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. He is the Saviour that God promised to send. The Bible says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved!" "saved!" Acts 16:31

Turn the page and see the wonderful story of how Jesus came to this world to save you!





JESUS CAME FOR ME! God sent His only Son, Jesus, into the world as a baby in a stable. He came for a very important reason. He came to save you from the death of sin.

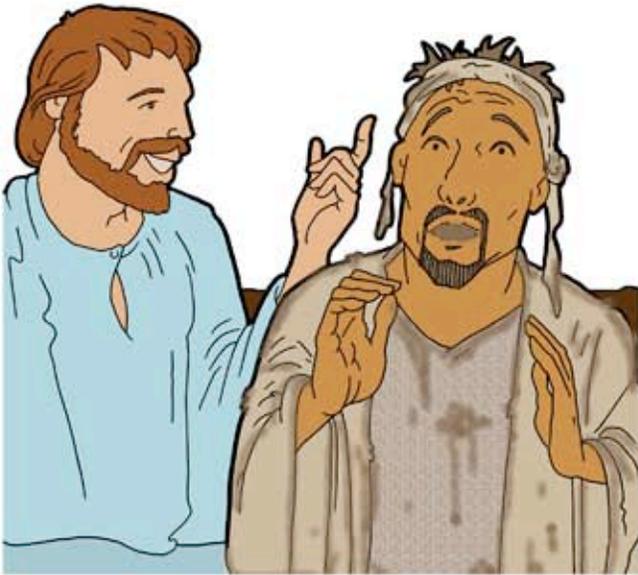
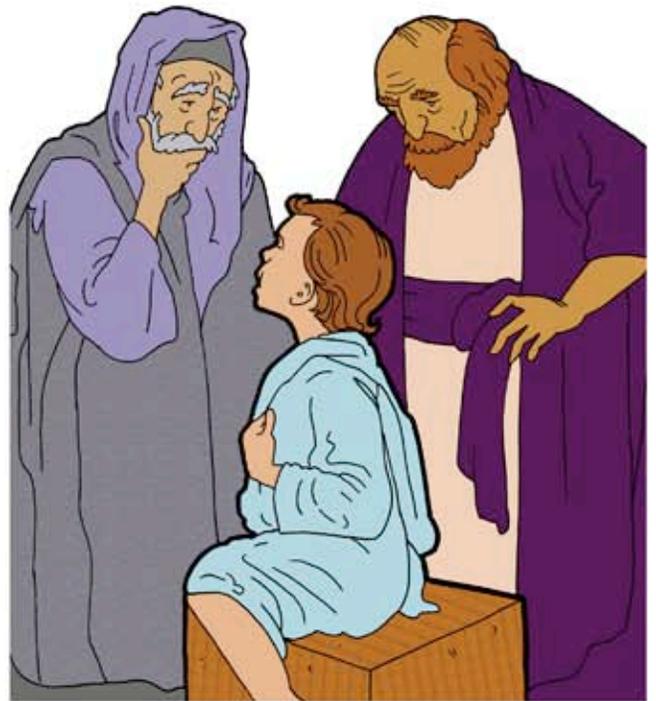


The Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His very own Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

Jesus grew bigger and taller just like you.

He grew in wisdom, strength, and in favour with both man and God.

Even as a young boy Jesus loved to learn God's Word. They were all amazed at how much He loved God.



Jesus grew up to be a man, He was the only man that ever lived in this world without sin.

He never disobeyed God. Jesus was kind to all people. He helped the poor and was a friend to lonely sinners.

Because Jesus was the Son of God He had the power to do miracles.

He healed blind people so that they could see and made crippled people walk again!



One day a little boy gave Jesus his lunch. It was 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes.

Jesus thanked God for the lunch and then multiplied it into baskets and baskets of food.

There was enough to feed thousands of hungry people.



A sad father named Jairus came to Jesus because his little girl had died.

Jesus went to the little girl and healed her. She lived again! Jesus loved the daughter of Jairus.



Jesus loves you too! He loves you just the way you are.

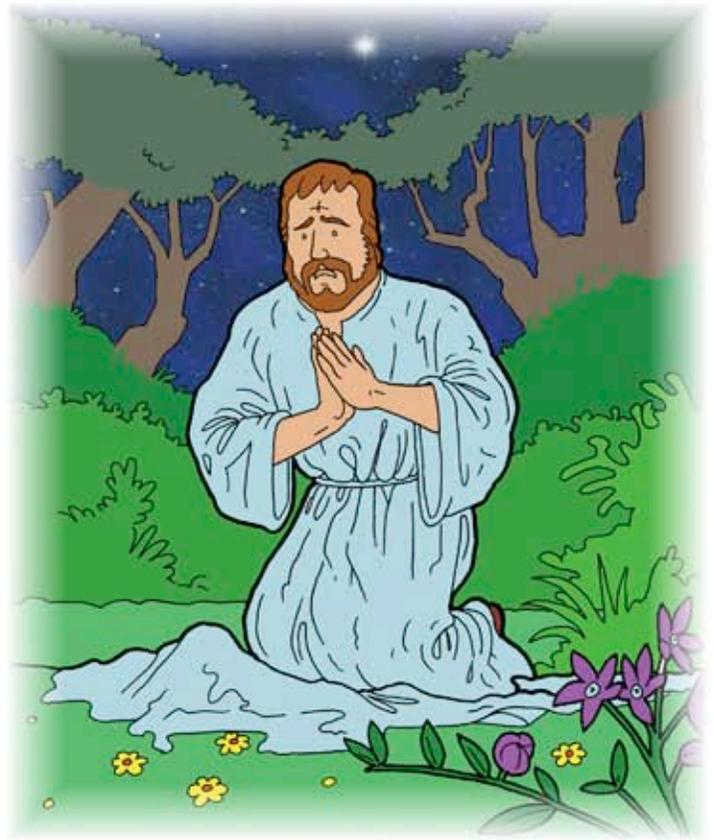
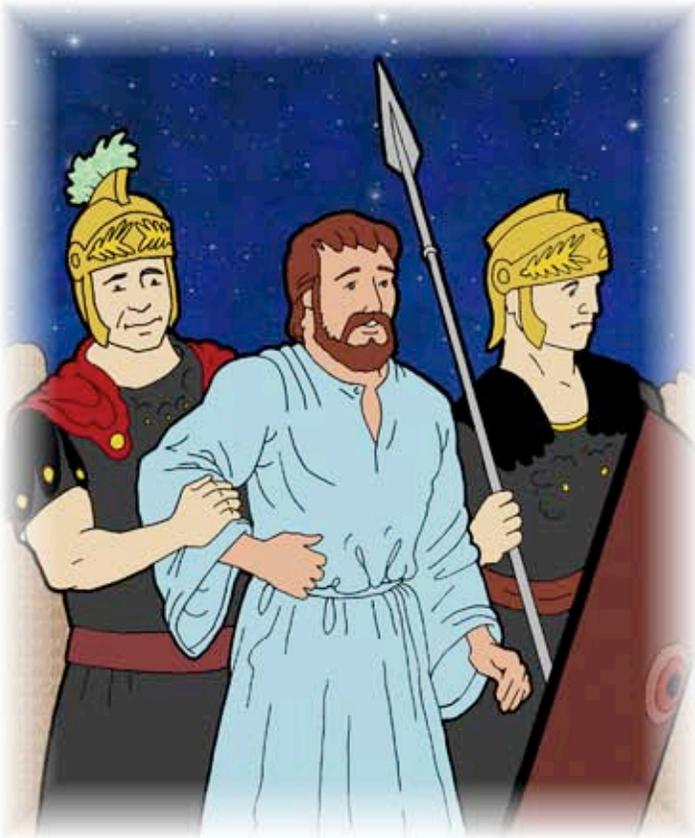


He loves you when you are good, and when you are bad, when you are happy and when you are sad. Jesus loves you all the time!

JESUS DIED FOR ME

Even though Jesus loved all people there were some bad men that hated Him.

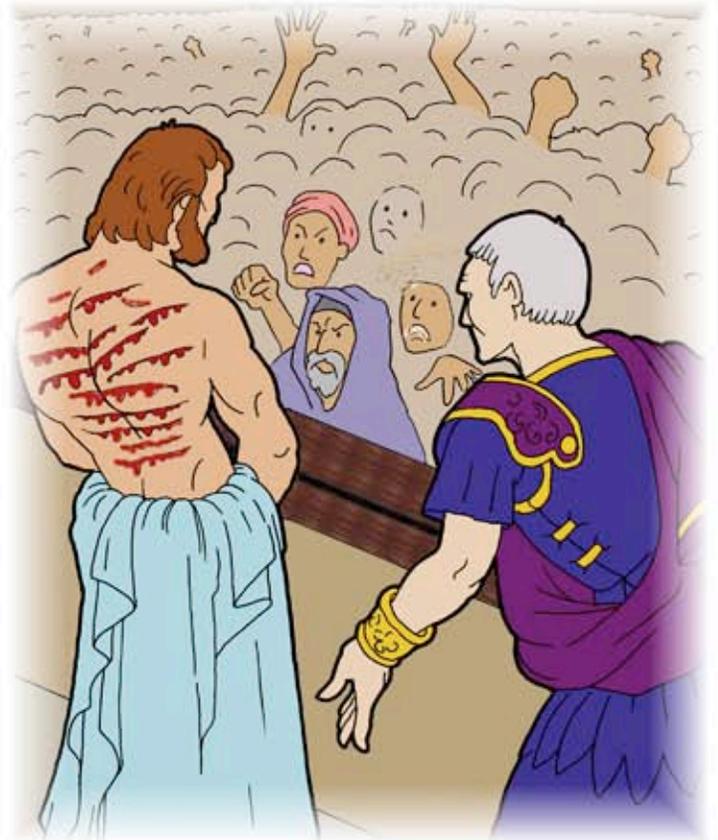
One night Jesus went to a garden outside the city to pray to God.

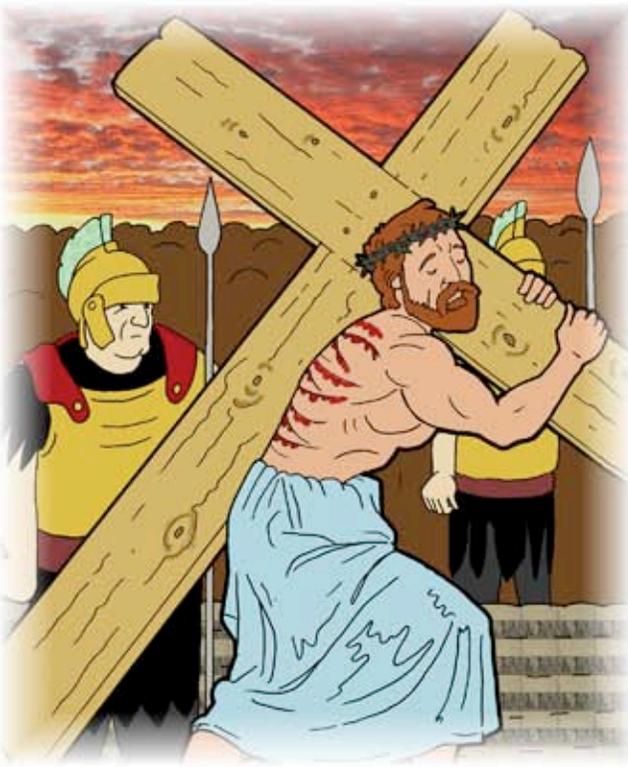


While He was in the garden praying, soldiers came and arrested Jesus.

They whipped Him, beat Him and treated Him like a criminal. All the people shouted, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!".

They wanted this perfect, loving man to be put to death.

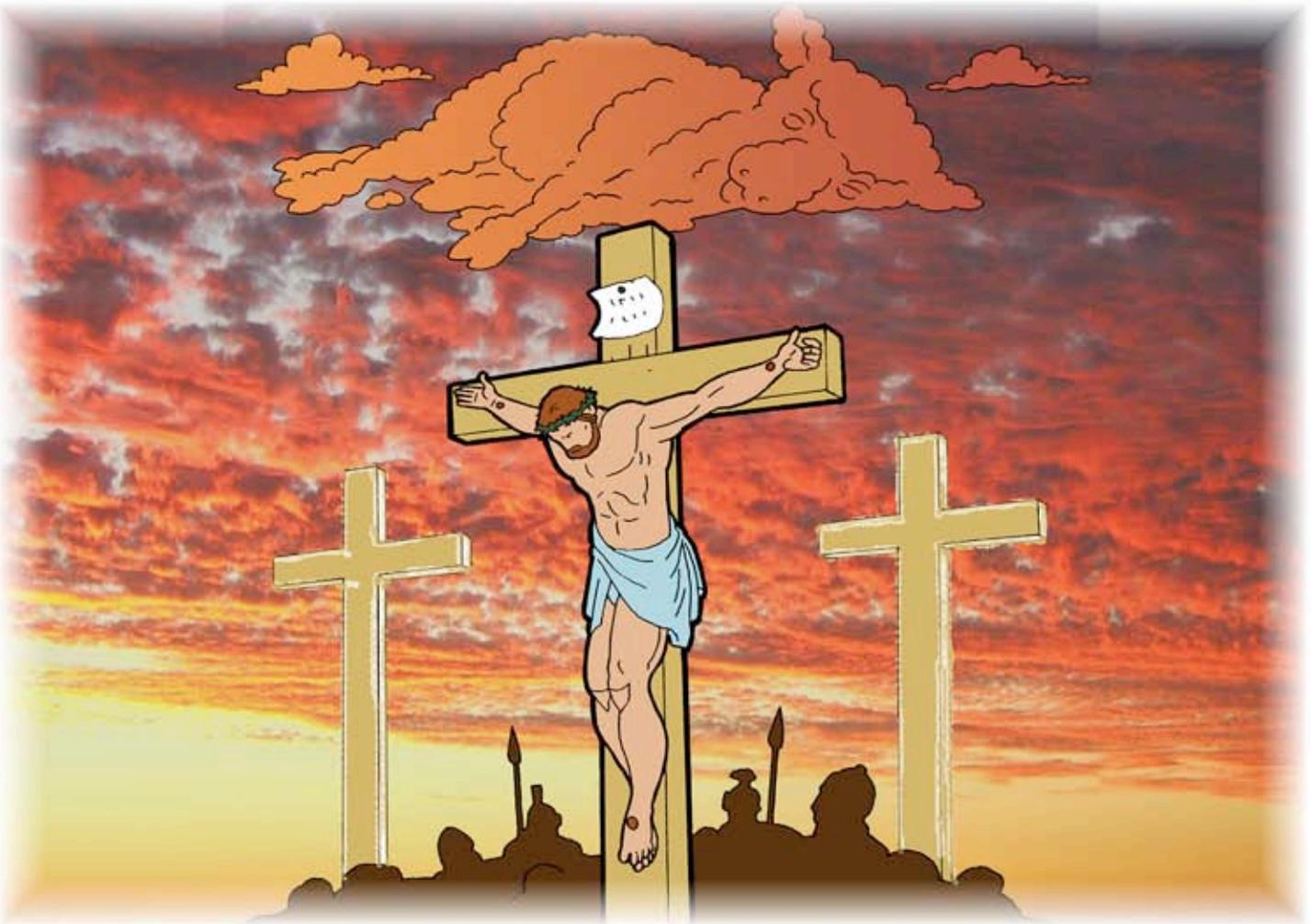




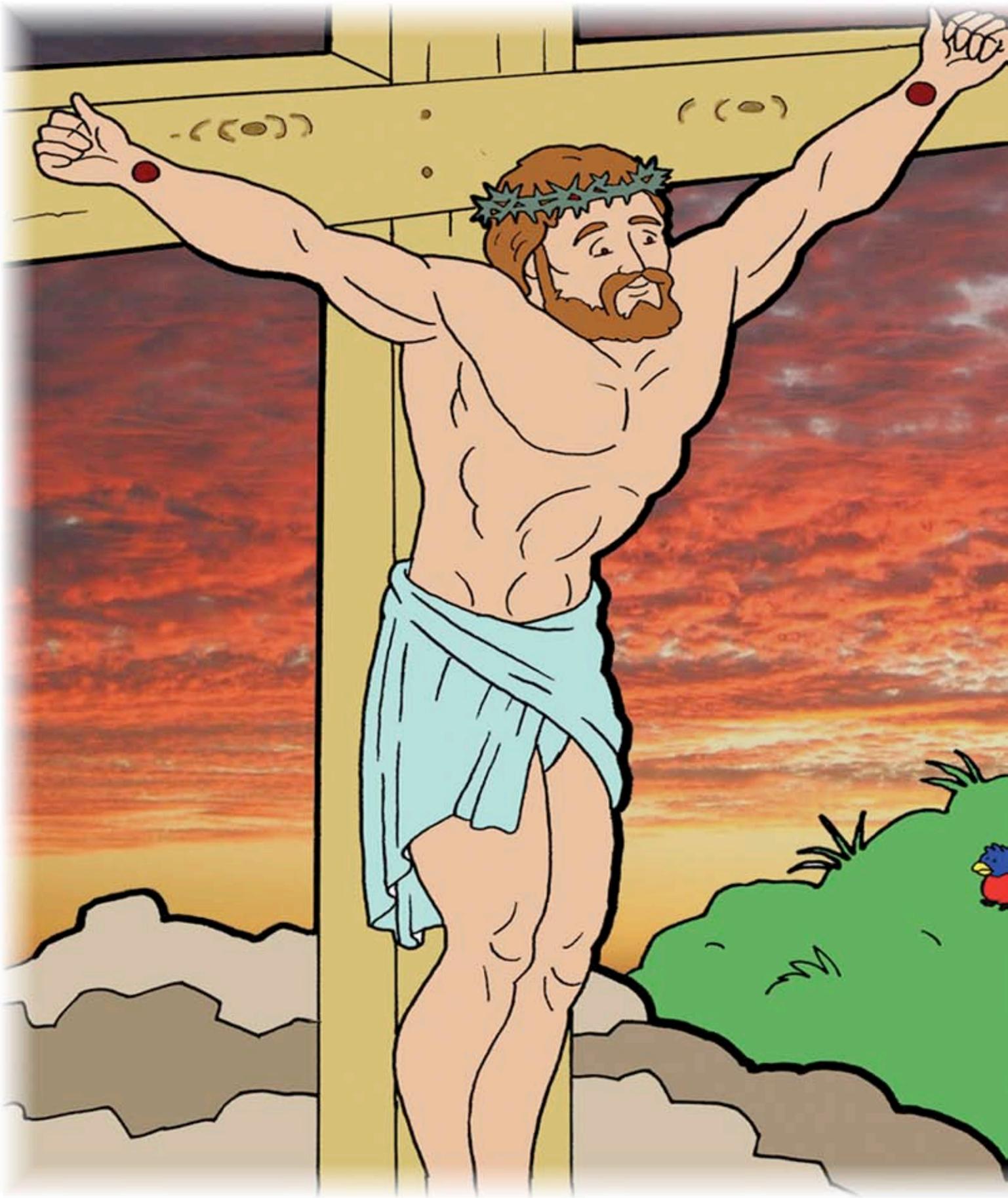
They made Jesus carry a heavy cross on his back and walk to a place called Golgatha.

There they took Jesus, God's only Son, and they hung Him on the cross.

They put nails through His hands and feet. They put a crown of thorns on His head.



But Jesus did not hang on the cross because He had to - He hung there because He wanted to. He knew it was the only way He could save you from your sin!



Remember, Jesus Christ did not deserve to die. He dies on the cross in your place. The Bible says, "God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom 5:8.



If you believe in Jesus as your Saviour, your sins are forgiven, and you will live with Him forever in Heaven!

JESUS LIVES FOR ME!



After Jesus died on the cross they put his dead body in a tomb. Guards watched over the tomb where His body lay.

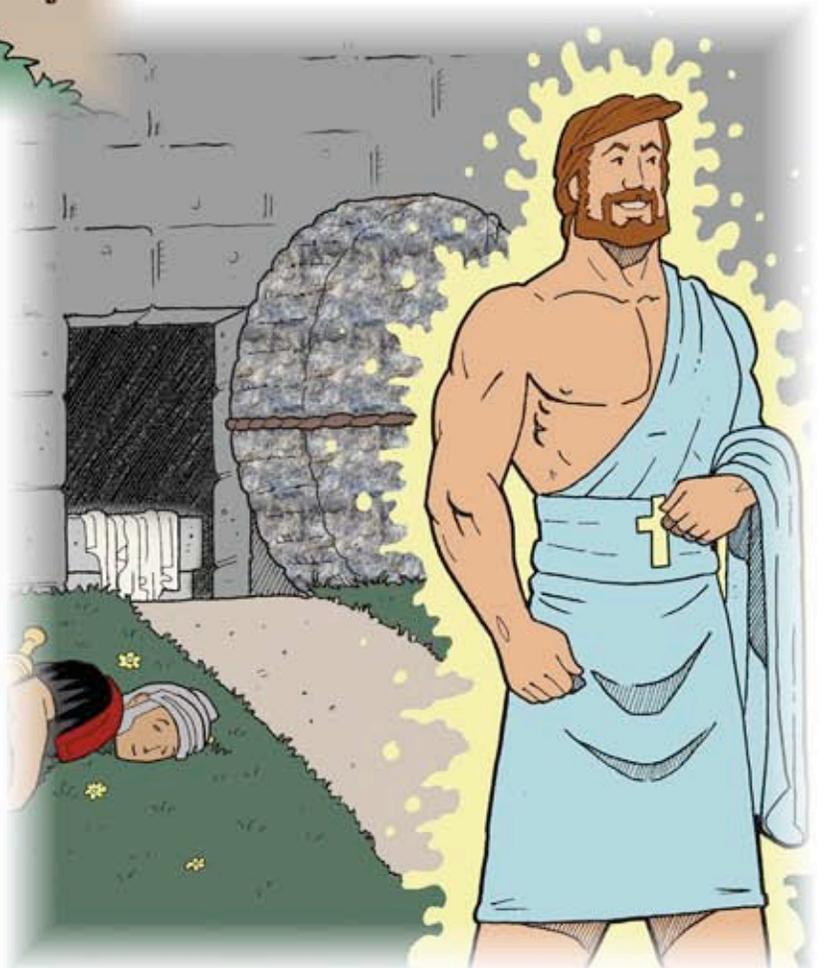
His friends wept because they missed the man who was so kind and loving to them.

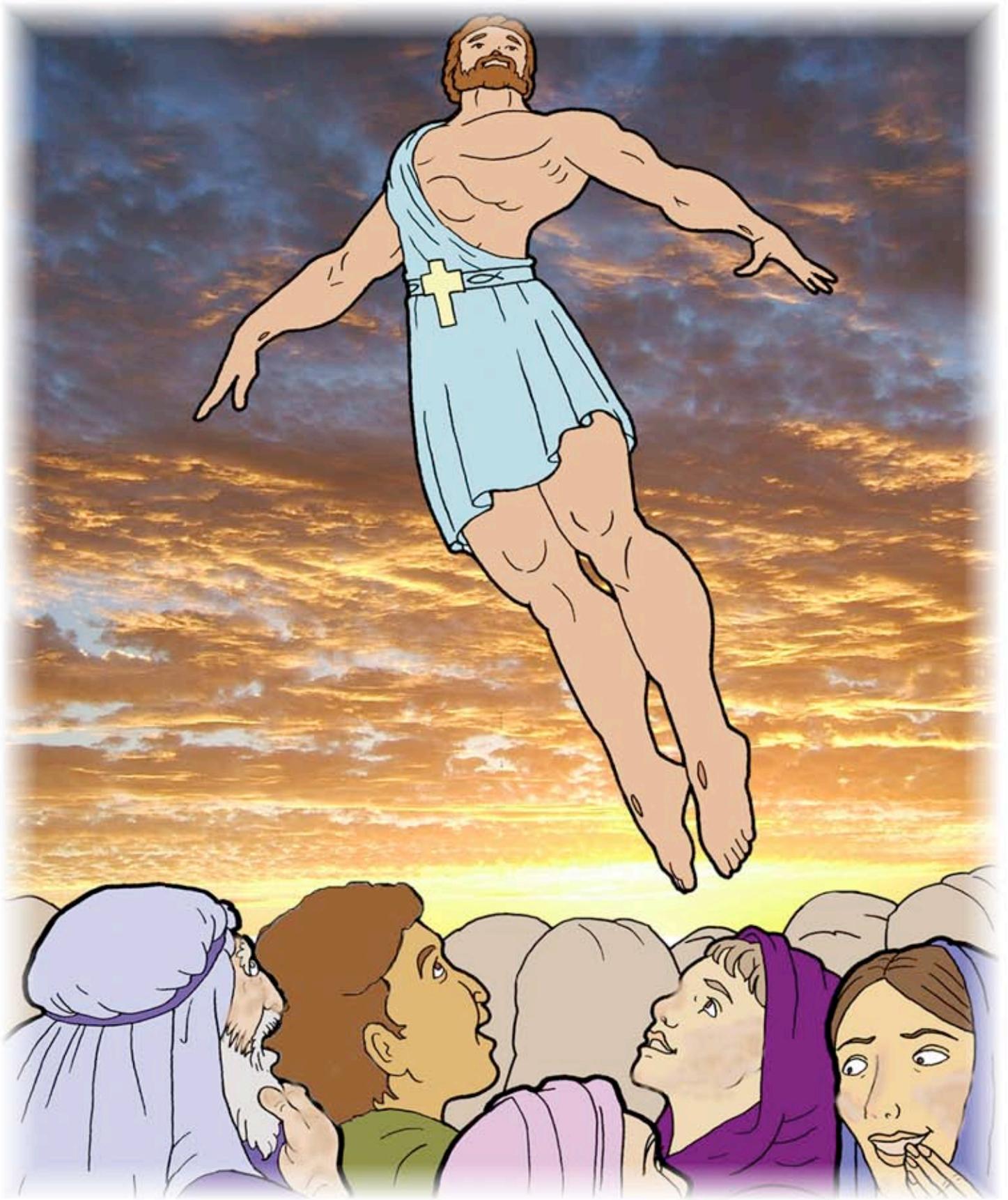
Jesus stayed in the tomb for 3 days and 3 nights. But then, an amazing thing happened...

On the morning of the third day the stone rolled away from the tomb. Jesus Christ rose from the dead and walked out of the tomb alive!

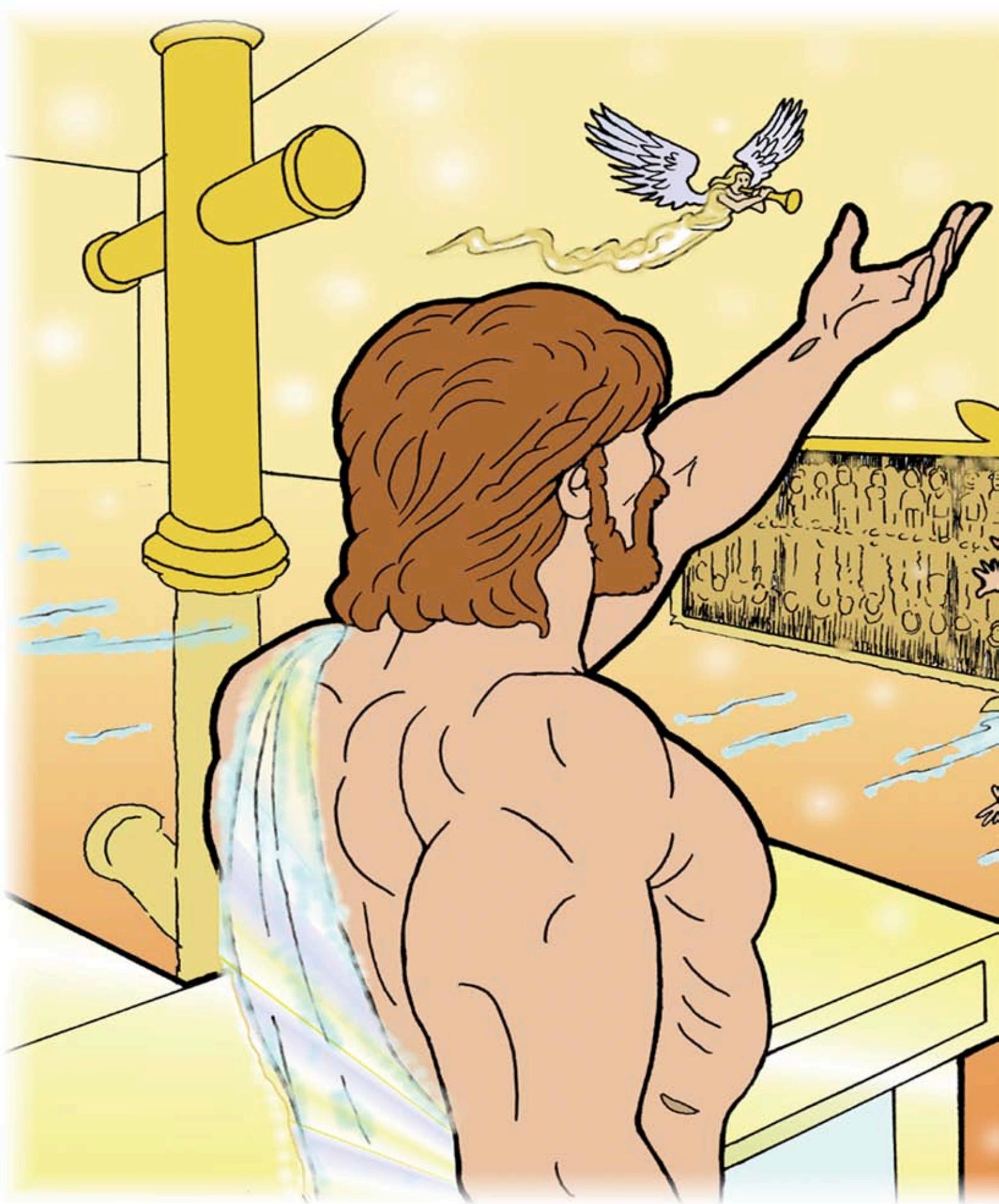
Because Jesus is the Son of God He was stronger than death. He rose and lives again!

Jesus visited his friends and told them to spread the good news....He was alive!





One day as Jesus was talking with his friends He was lifted up into a cloud and taken to Heaven. What do you think Jesus is doing right now? Let's turn the page and find out.



Right now, Jesus Christ is in Heaven waiting for you! Before Jesus left this earth He made a promise to all who would believe in Him. He said, "I go to prepare a place for you...so that where I am you may be also." John 14:2,3.



Today, Jesus is building a beautiful home in Heaven for all those who believe in Him. I hope that you believe in Jesus Christ as your Saviour. If you do, you will live with Him forever and ever in that perfect place called Heaven! How happy you will be!



This book has taught you some very good news about Jesus' love for you. Isn't it fun to share good news with other people? God wants you to share the good news of Jesus Christ with your family and friends.

Go and tell the world what Jesus has done for you!

This book is produced to teach children the wonderful love the Lord Jesus Christ has for them. All Scripture quoted is from the New American Standard version of the Bible.

The contents may be photocopied or distributed without permission from the author as long as no cost is charged and the 'Basic Training Bible Ministries' name is used.

Written by Nancy Cunningham. Illustrated by Ian Coate.
Coloured by Jackie Gonsolis
Distributed free of charge by Basic Training Bible Ministries.

BASIC TRAINING BIBLE MINISTRIES, P.O.BOX 21773, HOT SPRINGS,
AR, 71903, USA.

