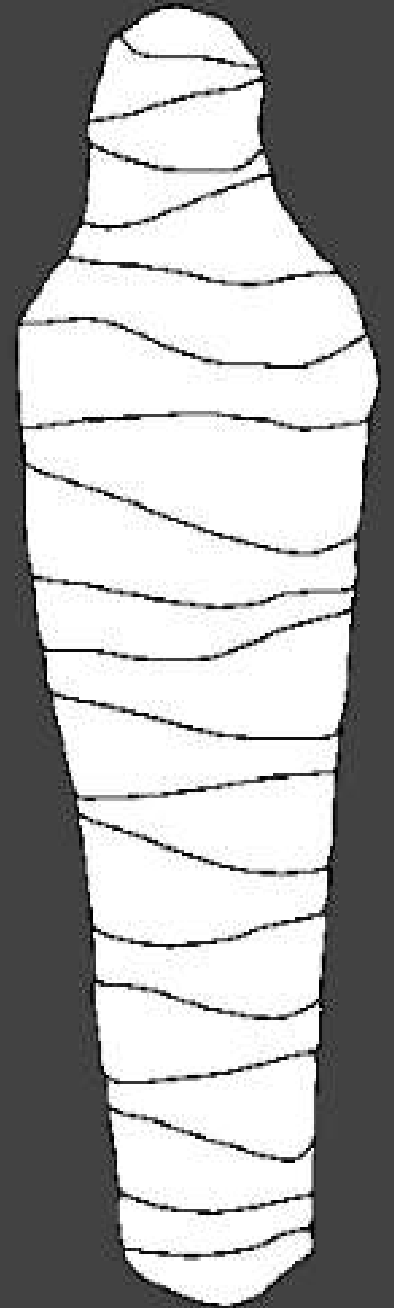
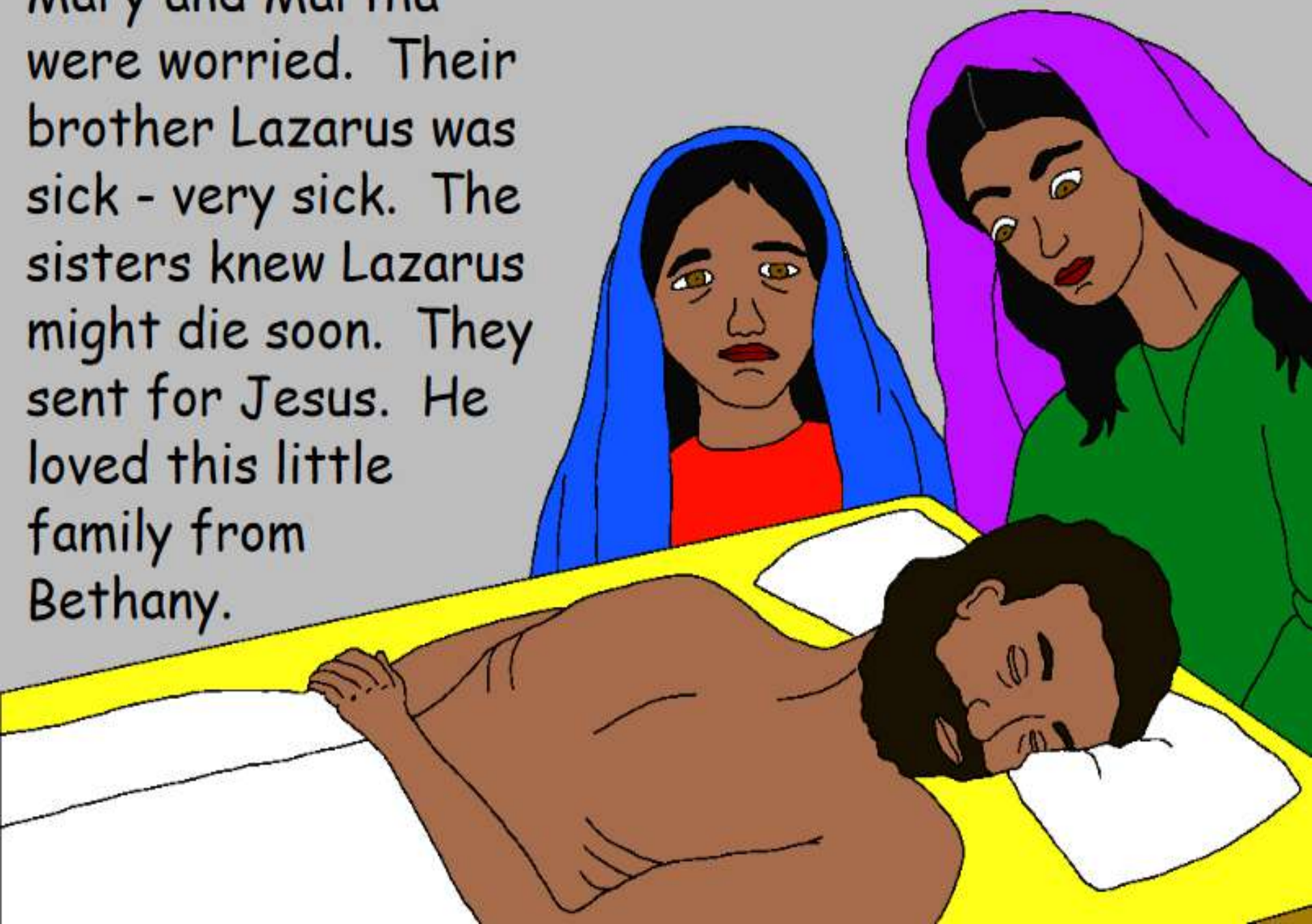


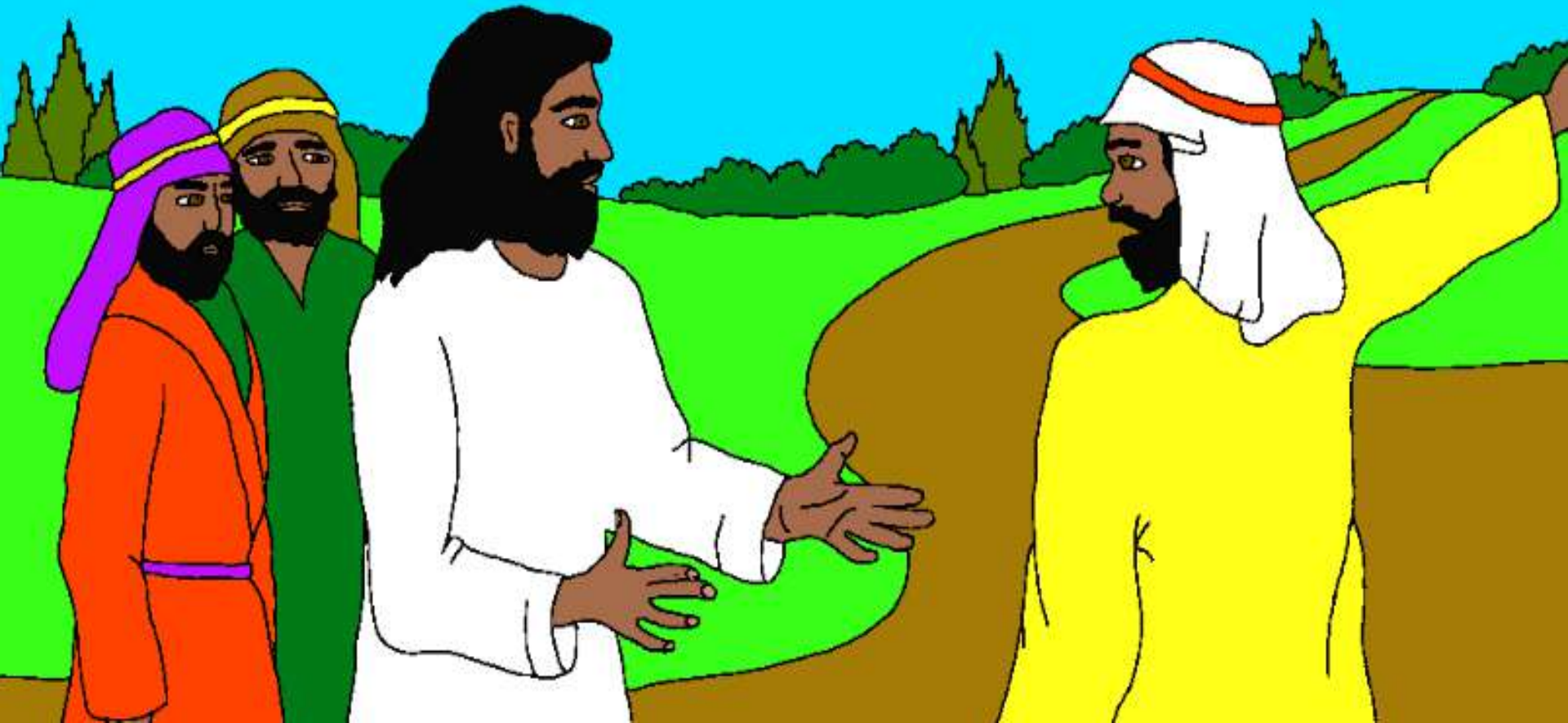
JESUS  
AND  
LAZARUS



Mary and Martha were worried. Their brother Lazarus was sick - very sick. The sisters knew Lazarus might die soon. They sent for Jesus. He loved this little family from Bethany.



When Jesus heard about Lazarus He told His disciples, "This sickness will not end in death." Although Jesus was many miles away, He knew exactly what was going to happen to Lazarus.

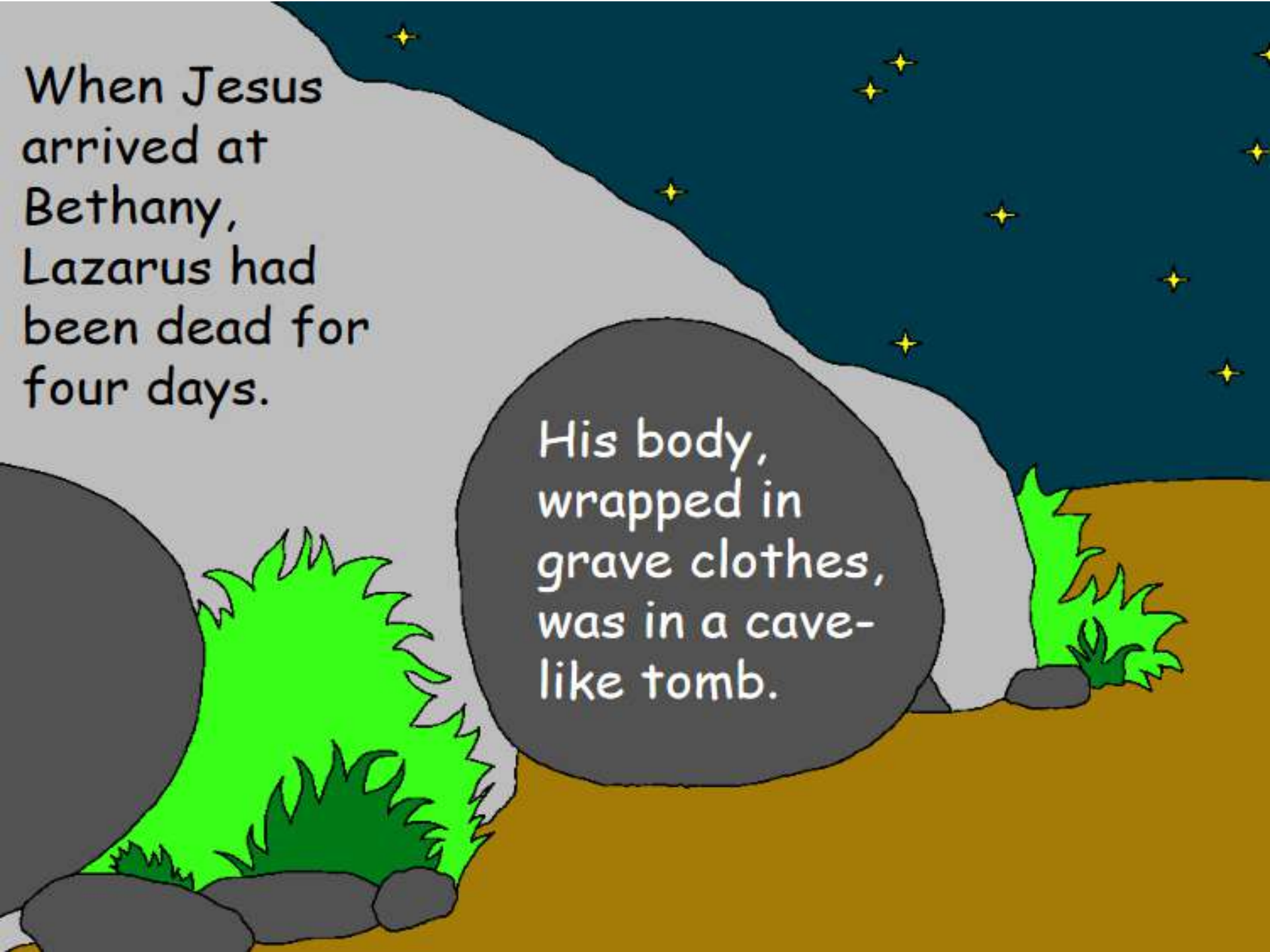


Jesus waited two days before leaving for Bethany. Then He said something which puzzled His disciples.

"Lazarus is dead. I'm glad I was

not there so you may believe." What did these strange words mean? What was Jesus planning to do?



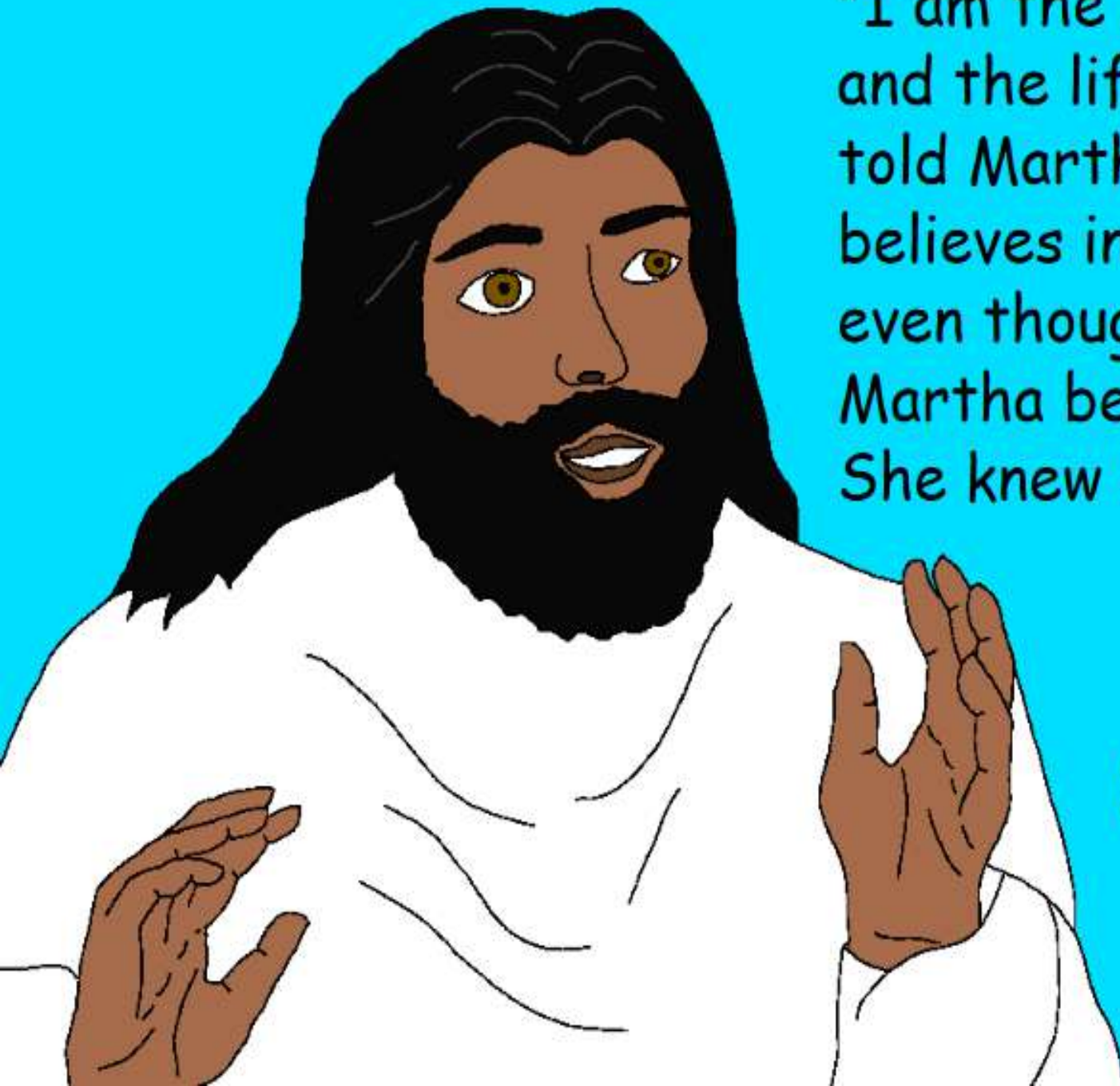


When Jesus  
arrived at  
Bethany,  
Lazarus had  
been dead for  
four days.

His body,  
wrapped in  
grave clothes,  
was in a cave-  
like tomb.

Martha went to meet Jesus. "Your brother will rise again," Jesus said. "I know - in the resurrection at the last day," Martha replied. She thought she had to wait until the end of time to see Lazarus again. But Jesus meant something different.





"I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus told Martha. "He who believes in Me will live even though he dies." Martha believed Jesus. She knew He was the Son of God. But how could He help Lazarus?

Everybody was sad because Lazarus had died. His sister Mary was crying. So were her friends who tried to comfort her. Jesus cried too.





Jesus went with the people to the tomb. A large stone lay across the doorway.



"Take away the stone,"  
Jesus commanded.

"Lord," Martha  
answered, "by this time  
there is a  
stench,  
for he  
has been  
dead  
four  
days."

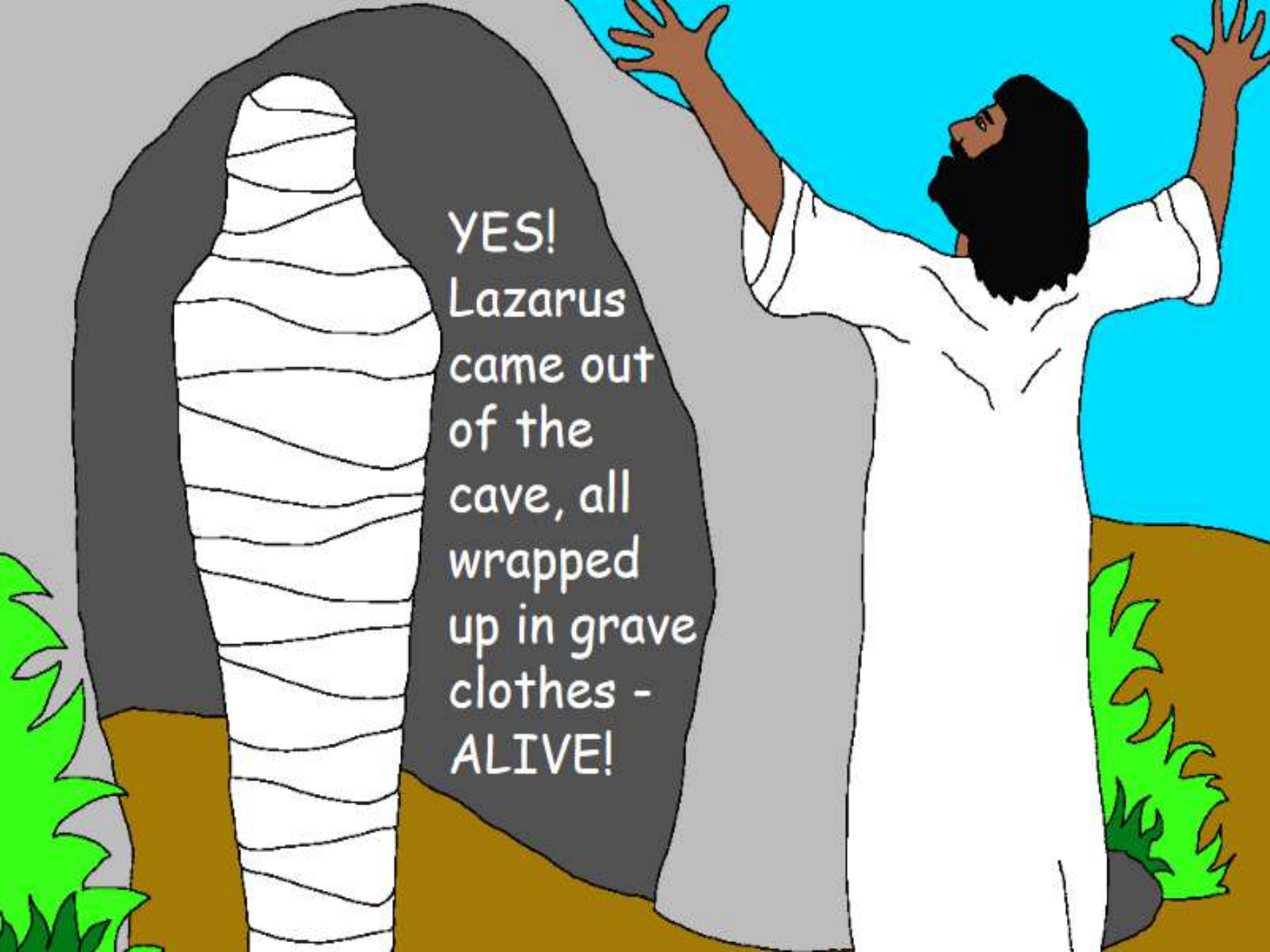


At Jesus' command the men took away the stone. Then Jesus prayed to His heavenly Father. Jesus was about to perform a miracle so great that people would know God sent Him.



"Lazarus!" Jesus shouted. "Come out!" The people must have stared at the cave in amazement. Could Jesus make a dead man live?



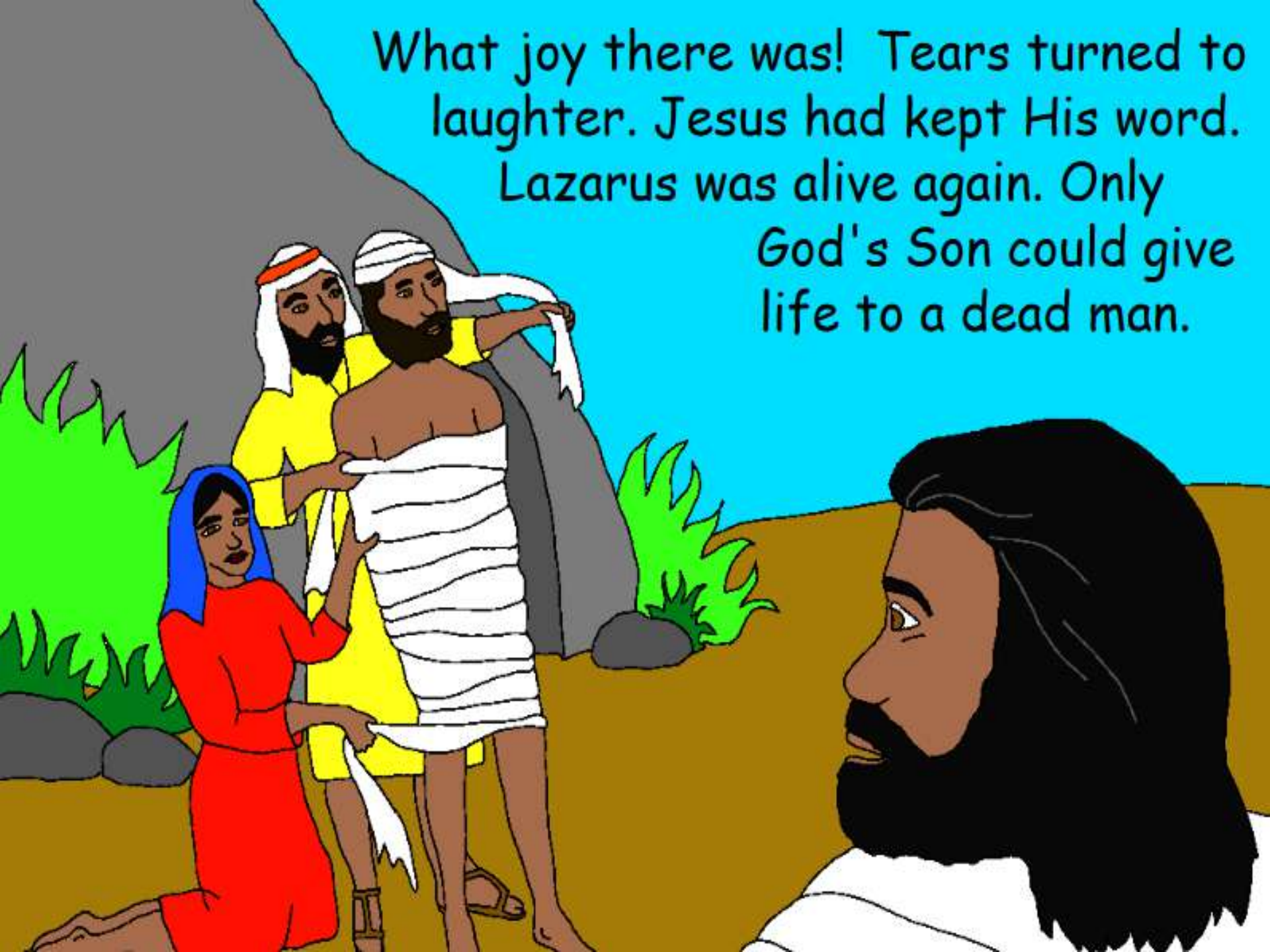


YES!  
Lazarus  
came out  
of the  
cave, all  
wrapped  
up in grave  
clothes -  
ALIVE!

"Loose him," Jesus said. "Let him go."



What joy there was! Tears turned to laughter. Jesus had kept His word. Lazarus was alive again. Only God's Son could give life to a dead man.



Many people who saw this miracle believed in Jesus. But some others reported Him to His enemies - the temple leaders. Jealously they plotted to kill Jesus. When Jesus knew this He went away for awhile.





# JESUS AND ZACCHEUS



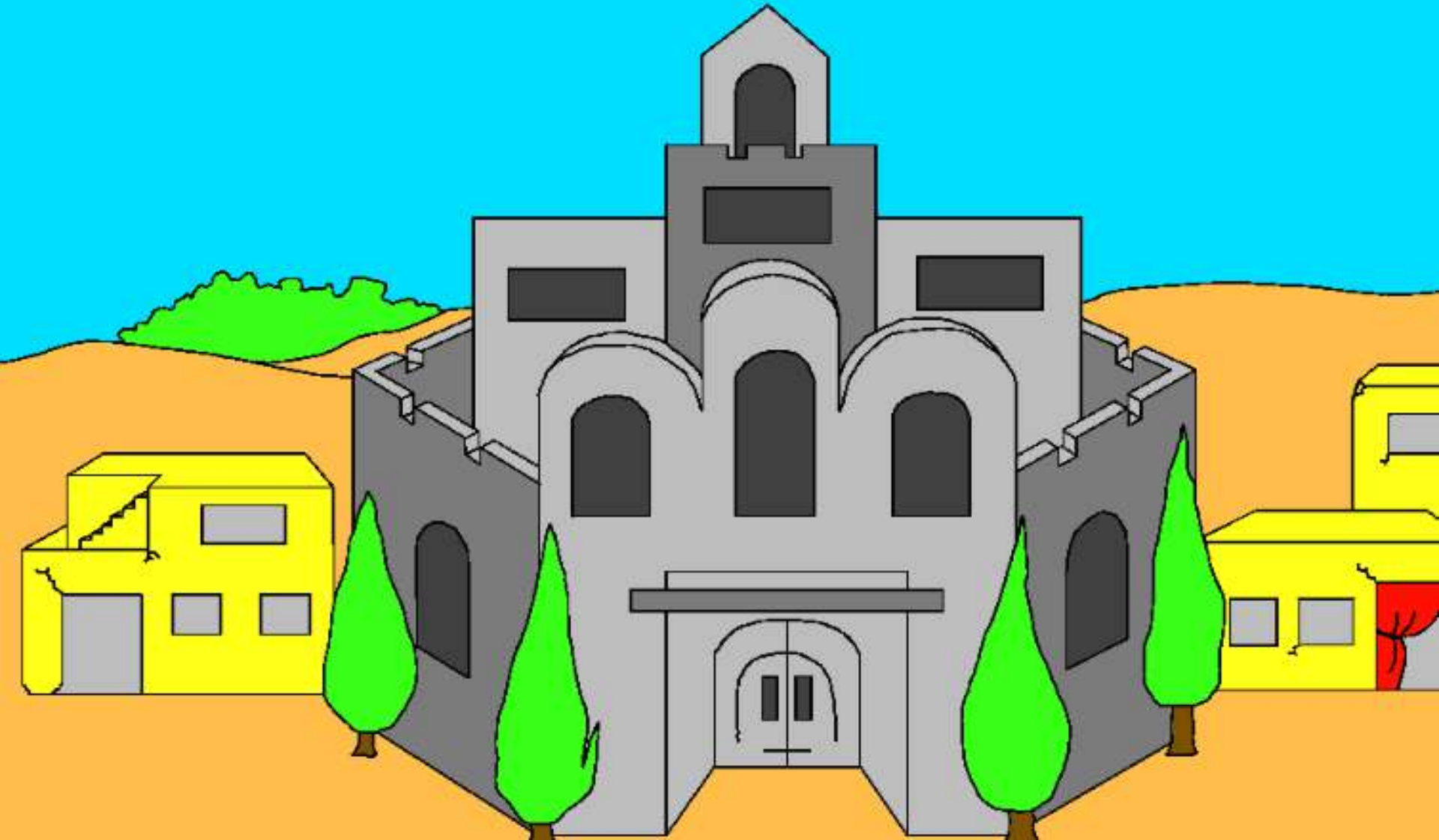


One day, Jesus passed through Jericho. This city had been destroyed by Joshua long ago. Now it was rebuilt and many people lived there. Among them was a man named Zaccheus.



Probably the other people in Jericho did not like Zaccheus very much because he collected tax money from them. Zaccheus sent some of the money to the government - but kept a lot for himself.

Being a tax collector made Zaccheus very rich. His house may have been the **BIGGEST** and the **BEST** in the block.

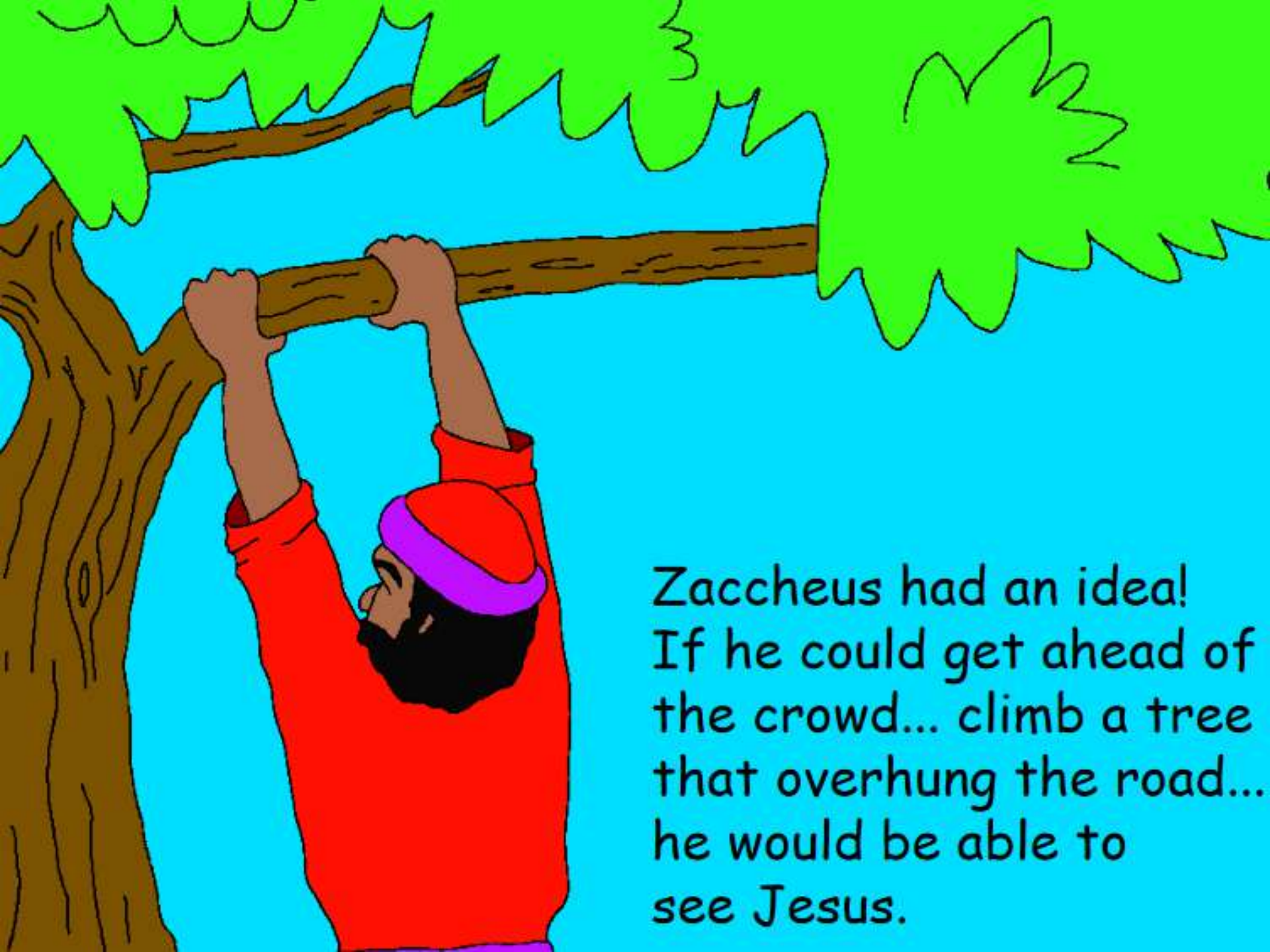


But he was also very short - not short of money, but short of height. Zaccheus had never grown as tall as other people.





When Zaccheus heard that Jesus was in Jericho, the little tax collector wanted to see the Man from Nazareth Who claimed to be God's Son. But the



Zaccheus had an idea!  
If he could get ahead of  
the crowd... climb a tree  
that overhung the road...  
he would be able to  
see Jesus.

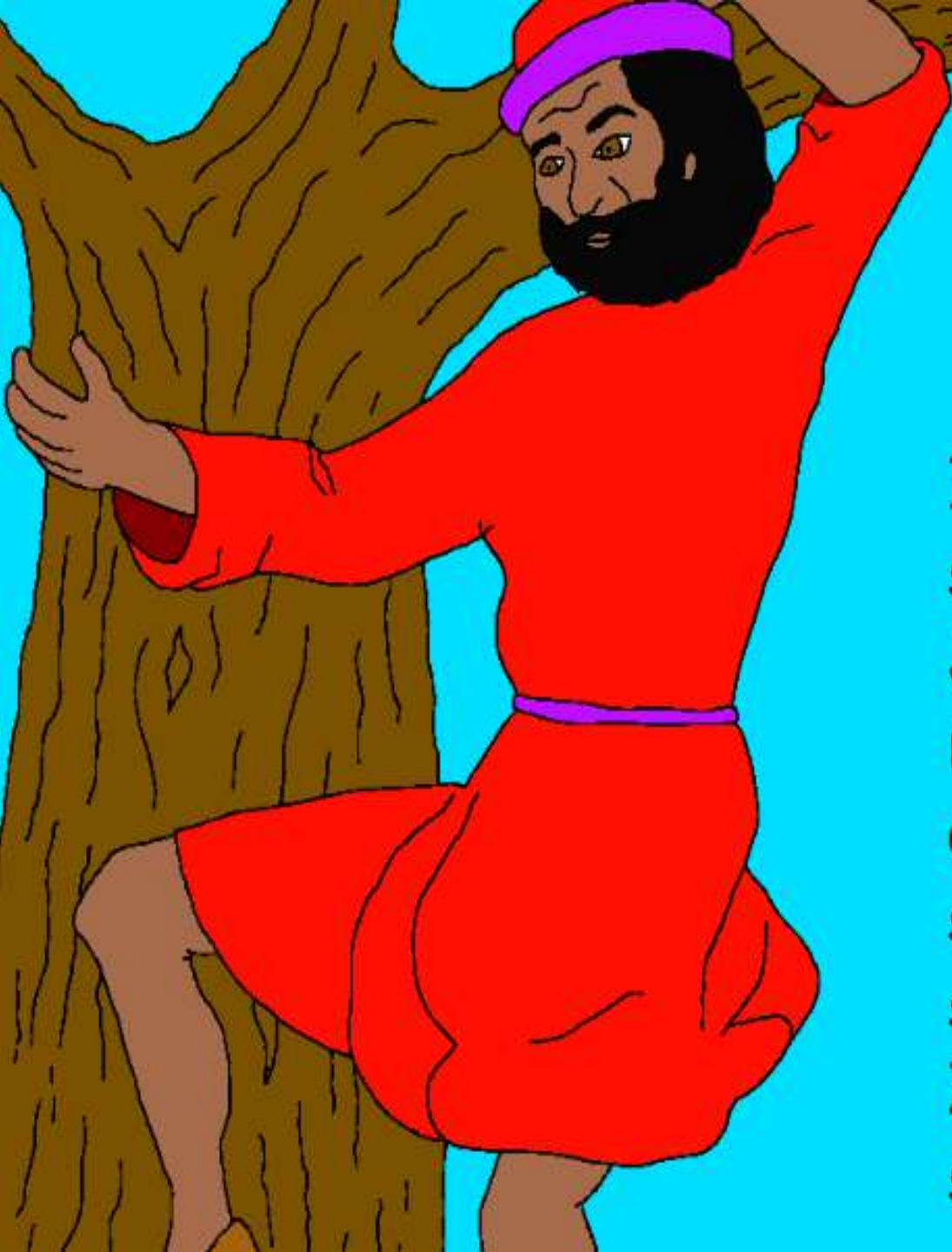


Climbing up a sycamore tree, Zaccheus found a comfortable fork in the branches and settled down to wait for Jesus. "I'll have a good view," he may have thought. "I will see Him without being seen."



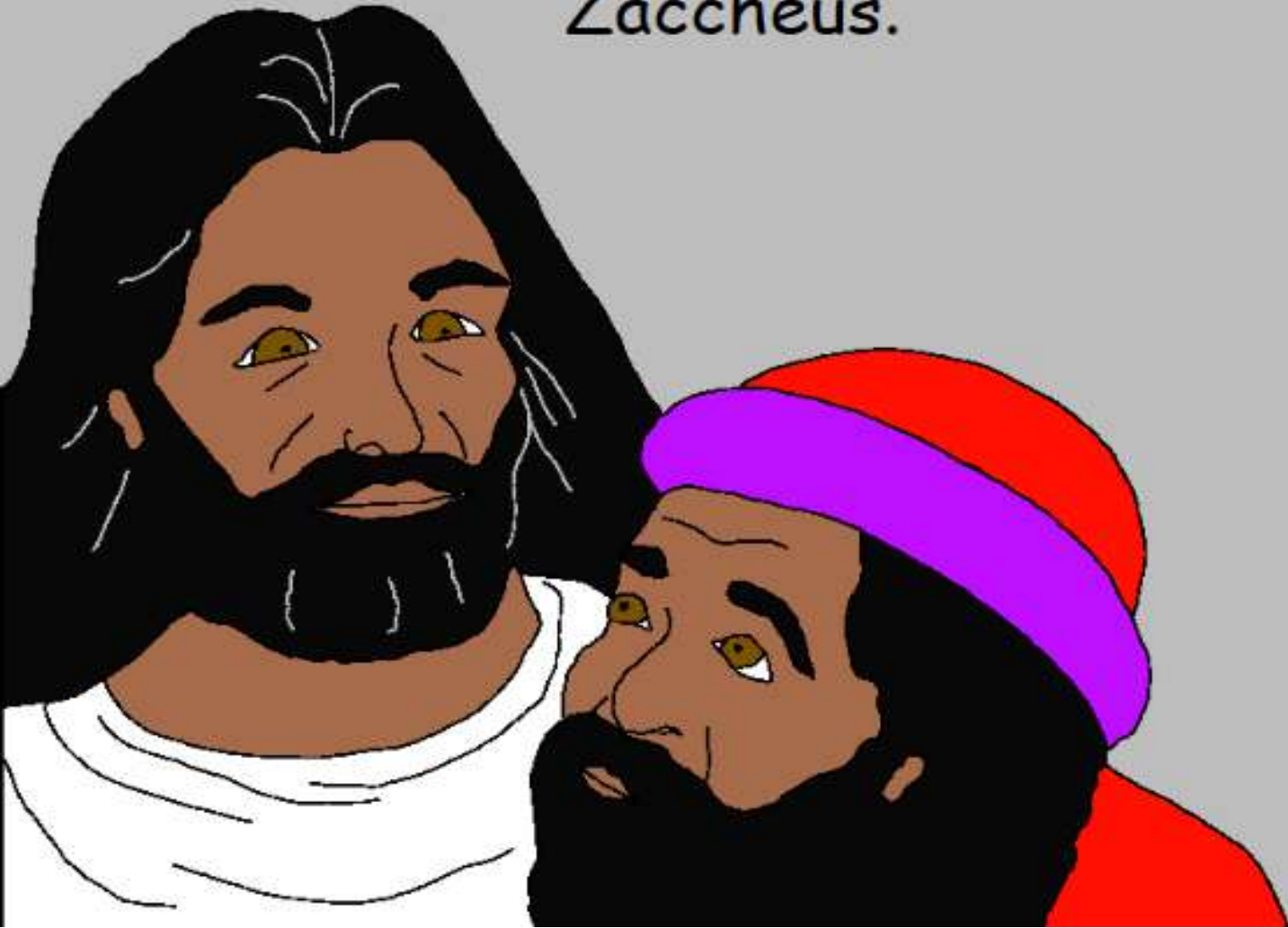
"Zaccheus, hurry and come down." The little tax collector could not believe his ears. Jesus stood under the tree. Jesus was looking at him. Jesus was calling him!





If Zaccheus was surprised to hear Jesus call him, he must have been amazed when Jesus said, "Today I must stay at your house." Zaccheus came down so fast he almost fell.

Zaccheus was thrilled that Jesus would visit his house. But the people didn't like it. They complained that Jesus should not visit a sinner like Zaccheus.





Jesus brought a whole new life to Zaccheus. Zaccheus said, "Lord, I give half my goods to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I will give back four times as much."

Jesus was pleased at Zaccheus' new life. He loves to see people turn from sin and do what is right.

Jesus said, "The Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

That day in Jericho, Jesus found Zaccheus!

