

POWER BIBLE

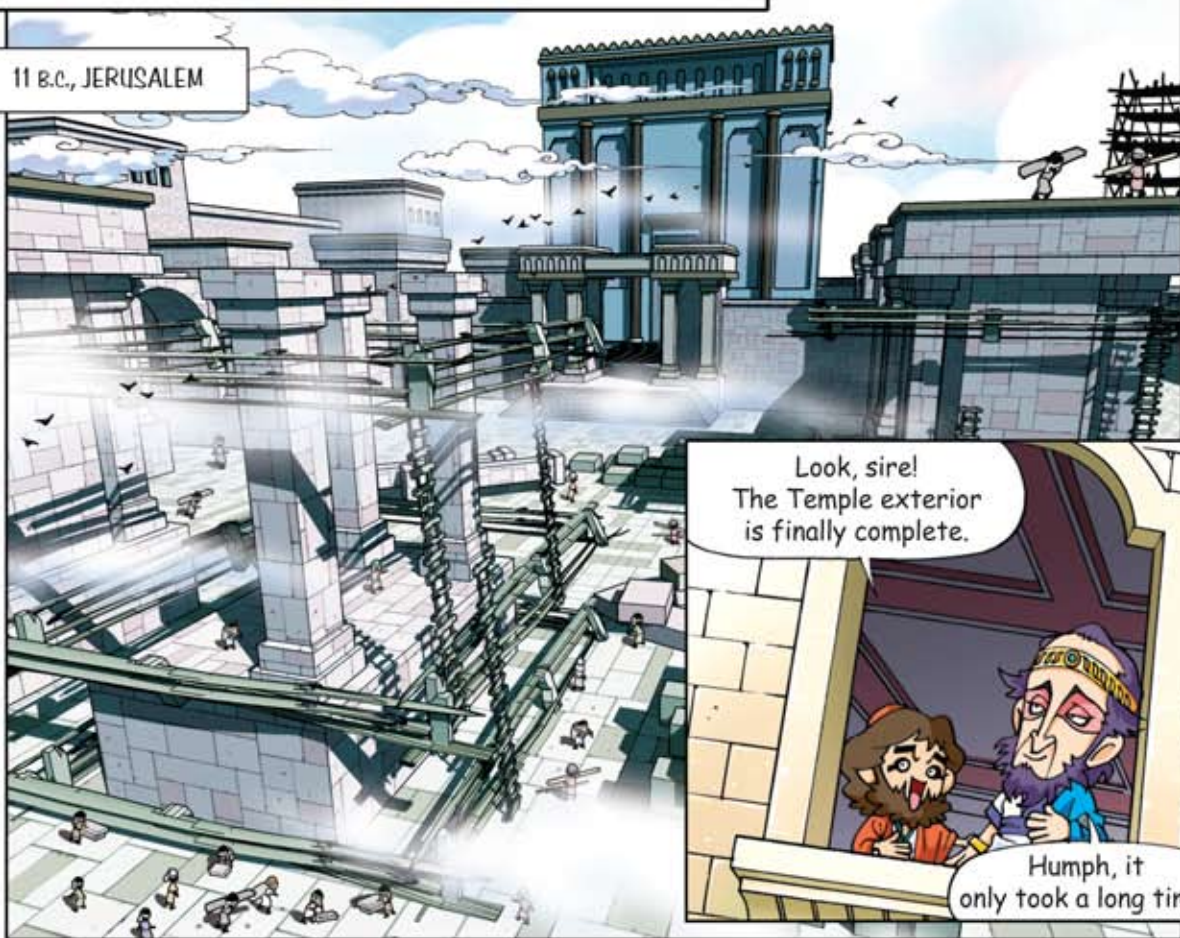
BIRTH OF JESUS



1. A Star Above Bethlehem

(Matthew 1:1 – Matthew 2:23) (Luke 1:1 – Luke 2:52)

11 B.C., JERUSALEM



Look, sire!
The Temple exterior
is finally complete.

Humph, it
only took a long time.

Even the great Temple of Solomon
will not compare to the Temple
that you will build.

How long will it take
for the interior
to be complete?

Once my great Temple
is complete, the people will
surely respect me.

Well... Perhaps
about 50 years?





ABOUT 400 YEARS HAD PASSED SINCE THE PROPHETS PROPHESIED ABOUT THE COMING MESSIAH AND THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL. DURING THAT TIME, ISRAEL WAS RULED OVER BY PERSIA, AND THEN BY MACEDONIA.

Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.

Isaiah

But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.

Micah

Jeremiah

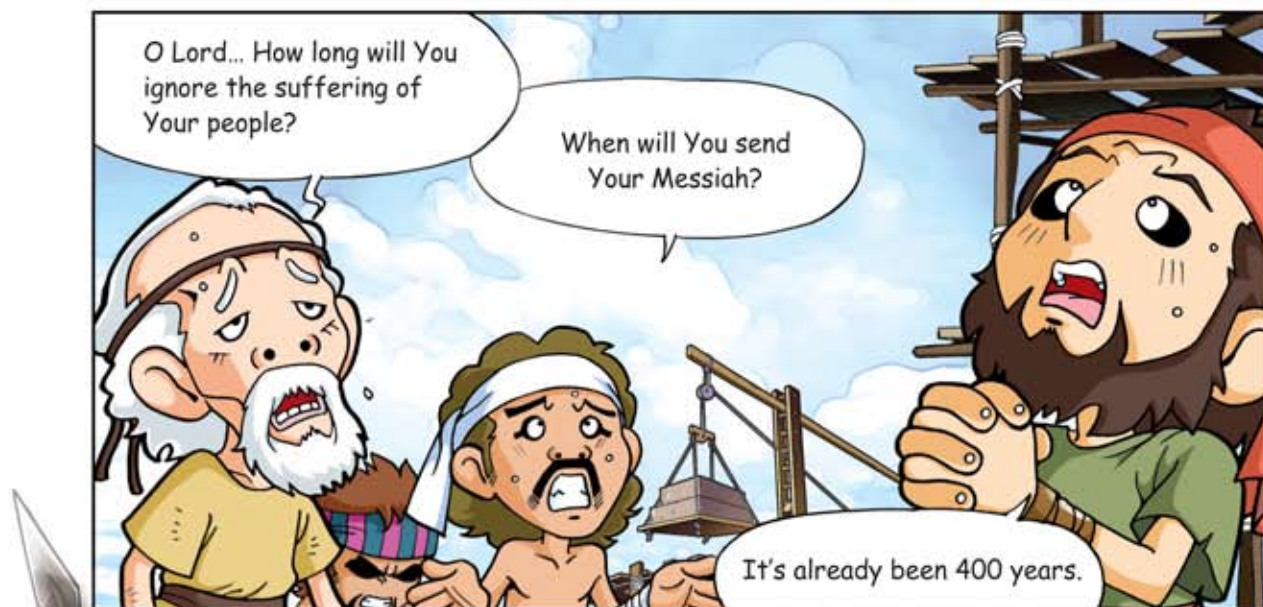
Behold, the days are coming, When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as King and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land.

NOW, THE ISRAELITES SUFFERED UNDER THE RULE OF THE ROMANS.

Everyone, line up! I have your wages for today!







*JUDAH MACCABEE: He led the Maccabean revolt against the Seleucid Empire and its King Antiochus IV Epiphanes



About 5 B.C.

God has never broken a promise before.
He will send us the Messiah for sure.

I wish I could see Him
before I die.



Whose turn is it
to perform the
priestly duties?

Maybe Zacharias?



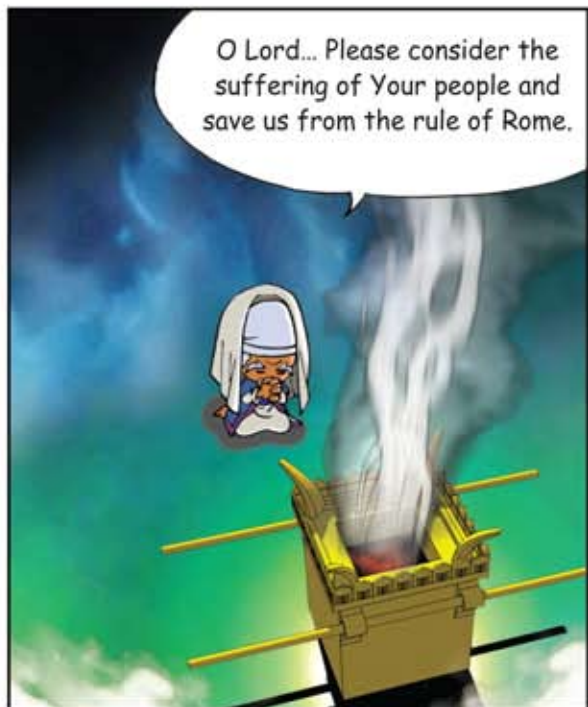
That man is a true and
upright Levite.

It's too bad
that he doesn't have
any children.

Truly...



Everyone, please gather!
It is time to pick who will
burn the incense!





God has heard your prayer. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

He will go as a forerunner before Him, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

But angel Gabriel...

My wife Elizabeth and I are both too old to have children.

Oh, no, you didn't believe God's word. So you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place.



Hey! Zacharias is coming out!

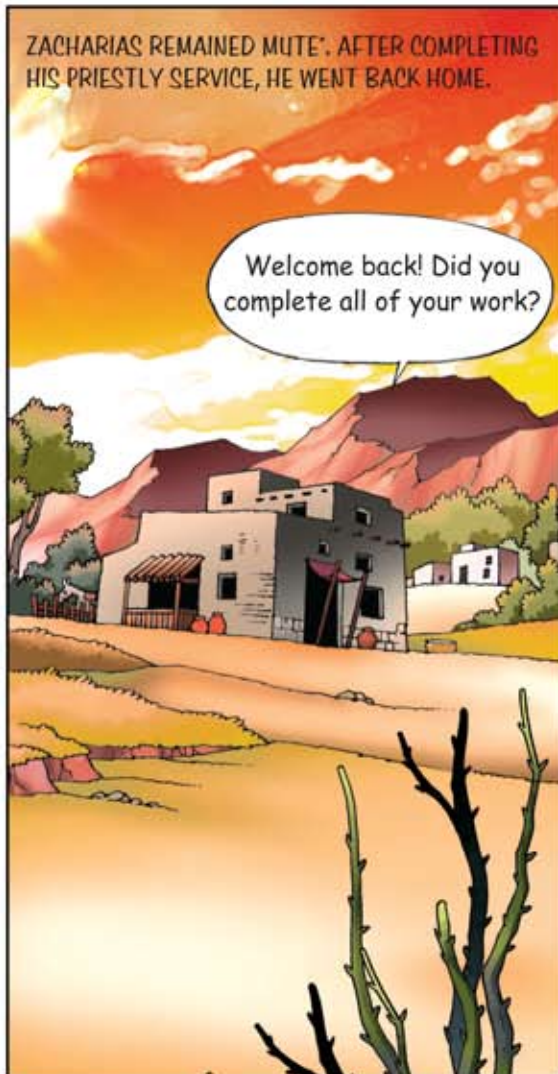
Zacharias, what took so long?

We thought you fell asleep in there!



What happened? Why can't he speak?





*MUTE: a person who cannot speak





Mary!
Greetings,
favored one!



Do not be
afraid. I have
been sent by
God.

My Lord...

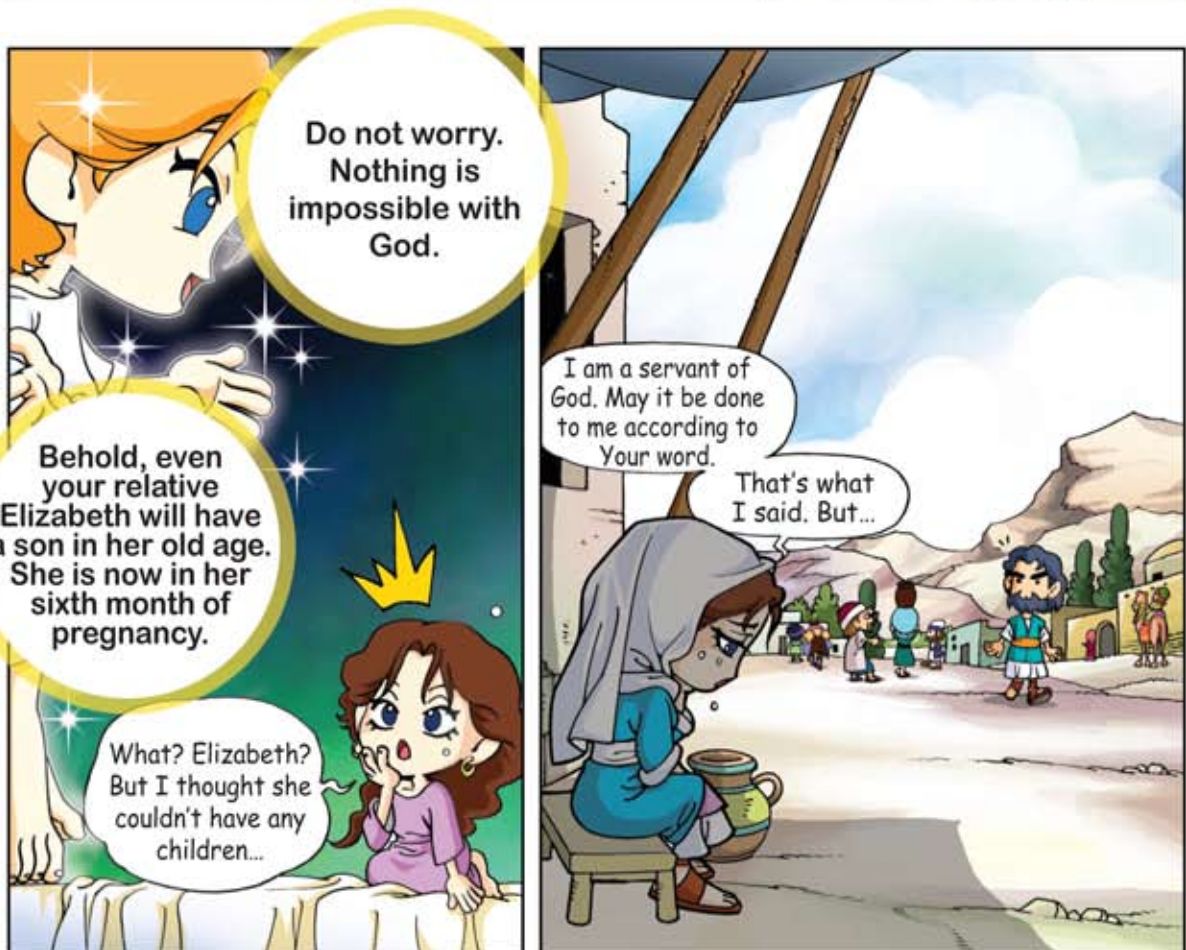
kneel



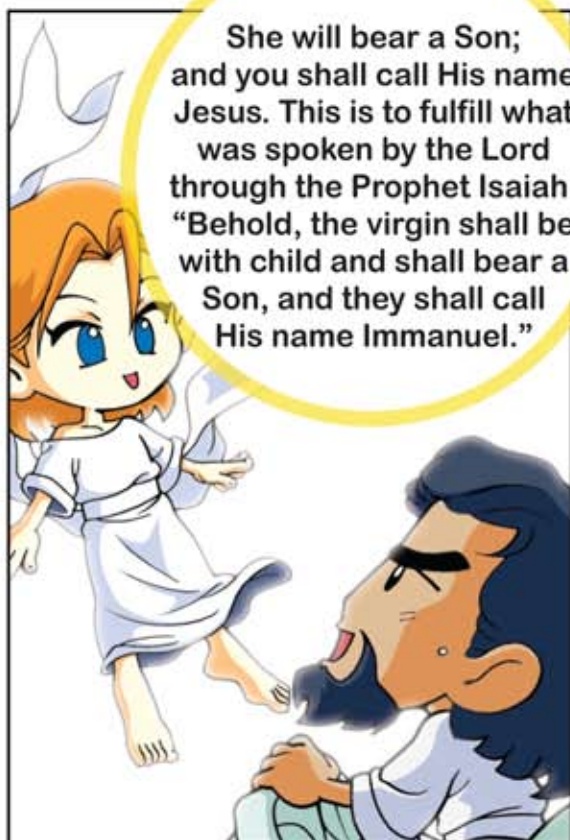
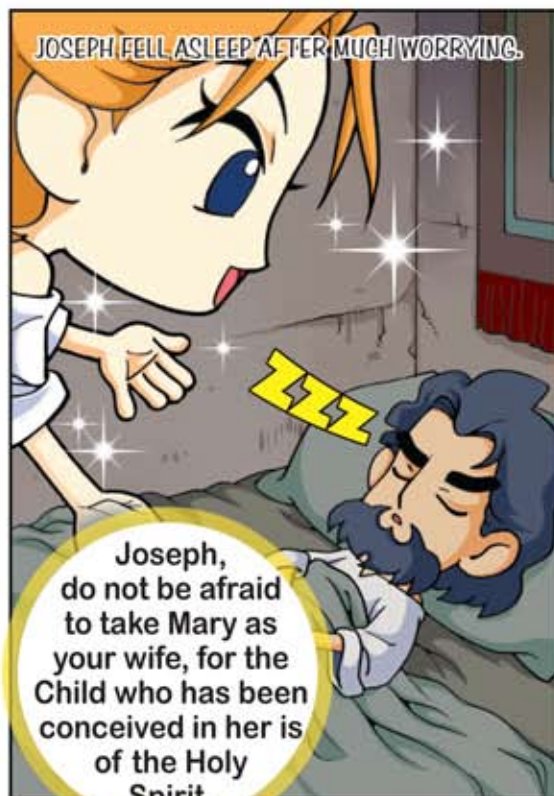
You will
become pregnant
and have a son,
and you shall name
Him Jesus.

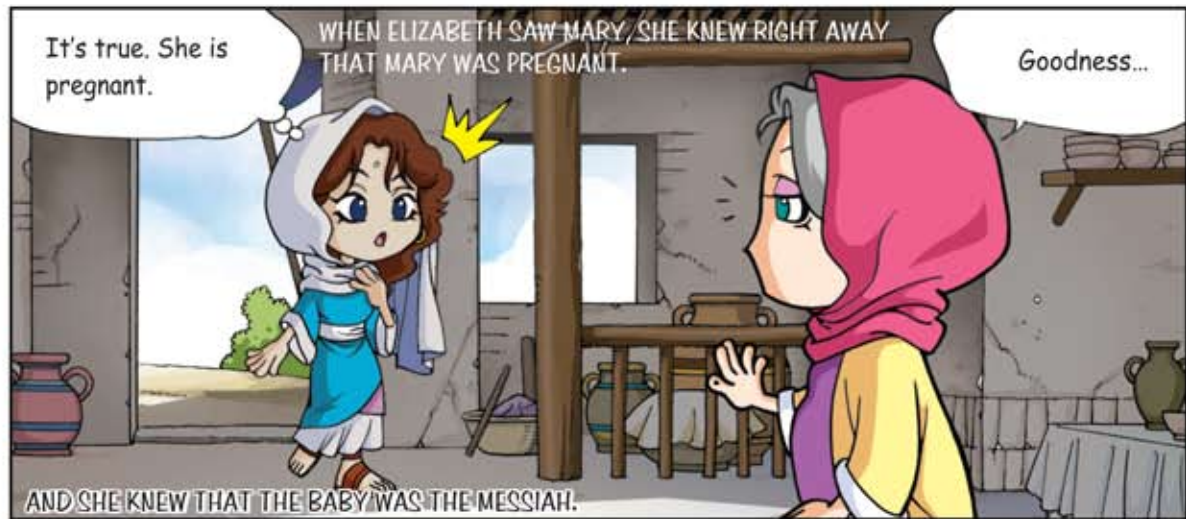


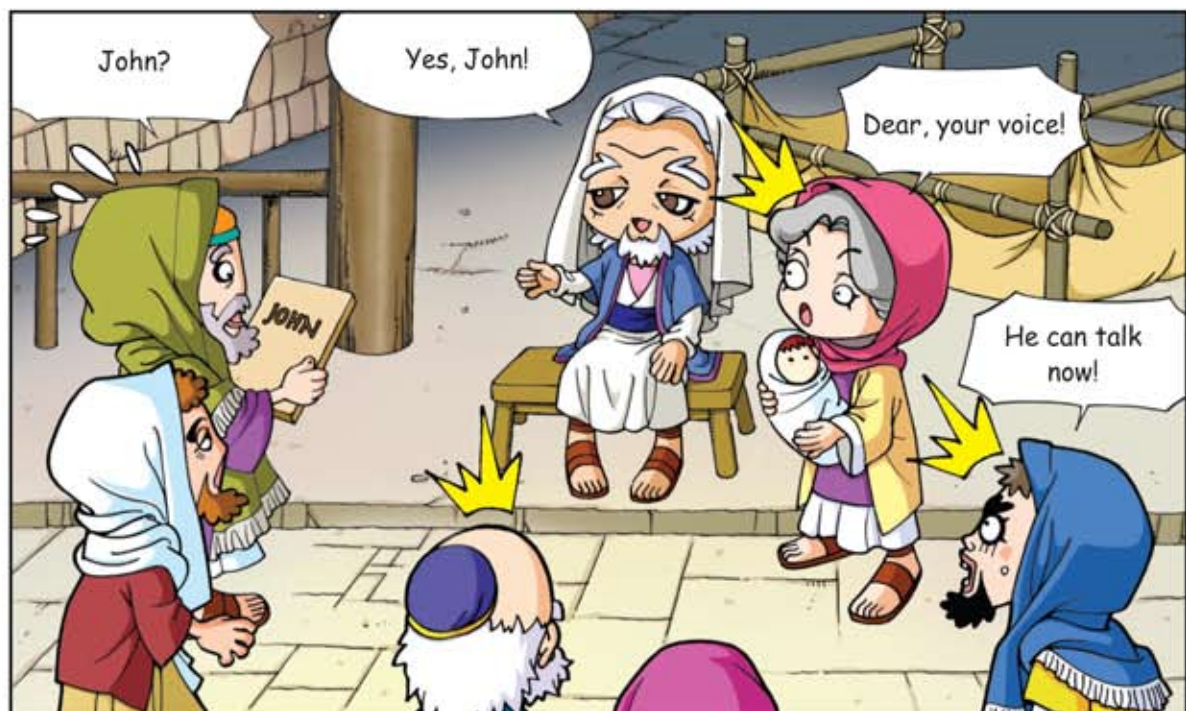
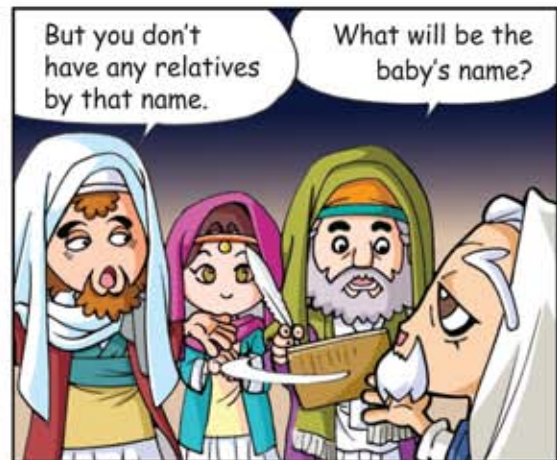
The power
of the Most
High will be
with you.











ZACHARIAS' MOUTH WAS OPENED,
AND HE PRAISED GOD.



Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people, And has raised up a horn of salvation for us, In the house of David His servant—
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; For you will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways; To give to His people the knowledge of salvation, By the forgiveness of their sins.

What is Zacharias saying...?

I think he is speaking prophecies from the Book of Psalms.

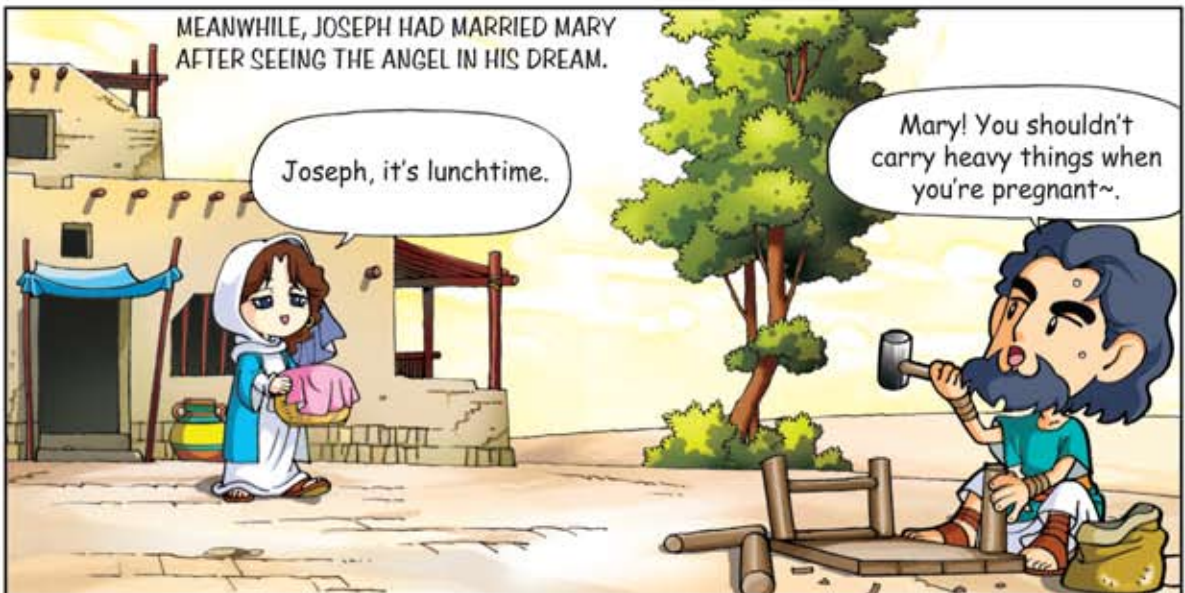
And Malachi and Jeremiah, too.



MEANWHILE, JOSEPH HAD MARRIED MARY AFTER SEEING THE ANGEL IN HIS DREAM.

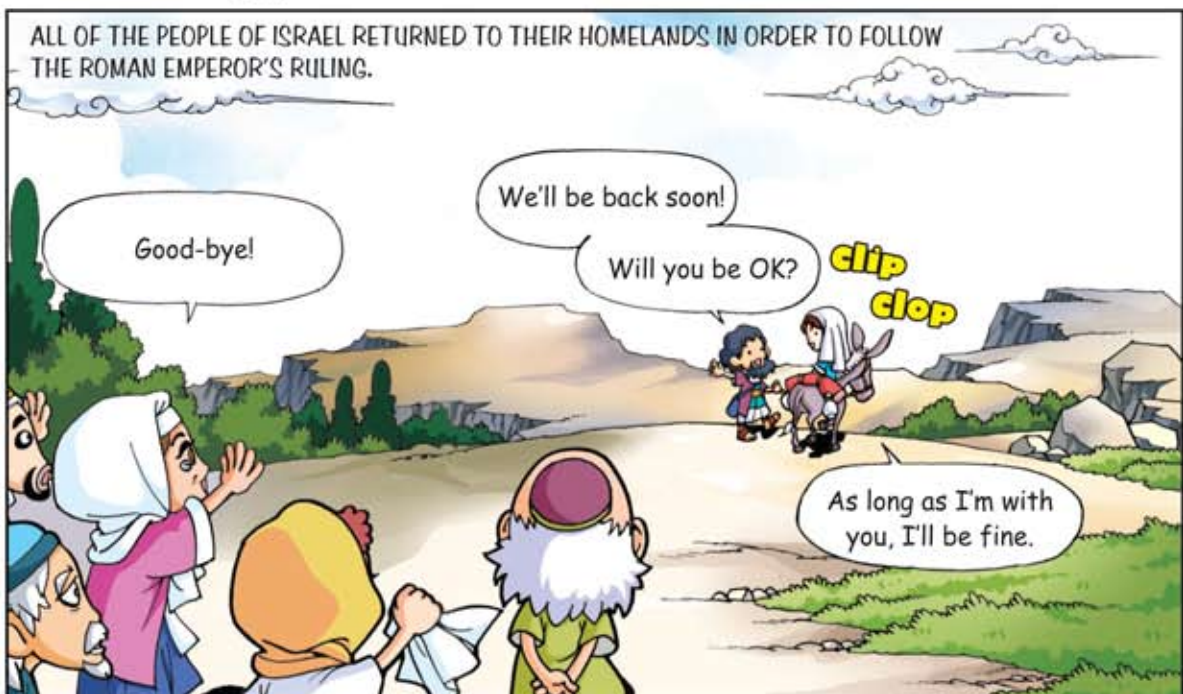
Joseph, it's lunchtime.

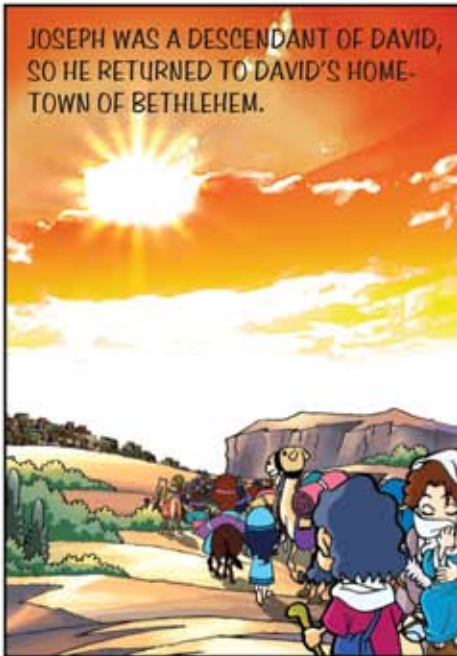
Mary! You shouldn't carry heavy things when you're pregnant~.





*CENSUS: a count of all people in the land











*JESUS: means "Yahweh saves." Implies that he is the Savior



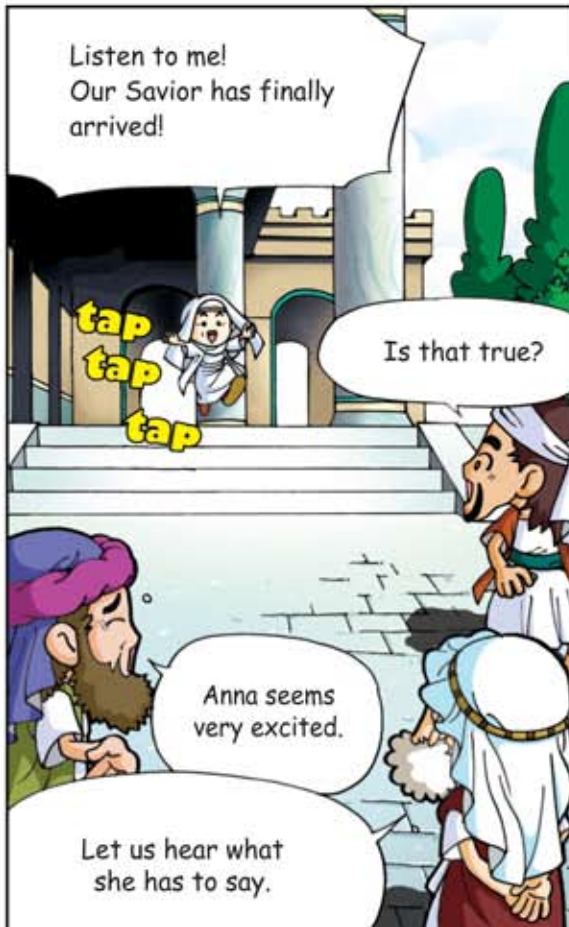


Oh!



Lord... Thank You. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, as You had promised to me. Now, I can die in peace.

Goodness...!



Listen to me! Our Savior has finally arrived!

Is that true?

Anna seems very excited.

Let us hear what she has to say.



This child is a light of revelation and a glory of Israel. He is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel.

At a certain time, a sword will pierce even your own soul.



AT THAT TIME, THREE WISE MEN FROM THE EAST WERE HEADING TOWARD JUDEA.



We are getting closer to the star!



ONE DAY, A NEW STAR THAT HAD NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE APPEARED IN THE SKY. THE WISE MEN BELIEVED THAT THIS STAR WAS A SIGNAL OF THE BIRTH OF A GREAT KING.

The star that we follow is leading us to Jerusalem.

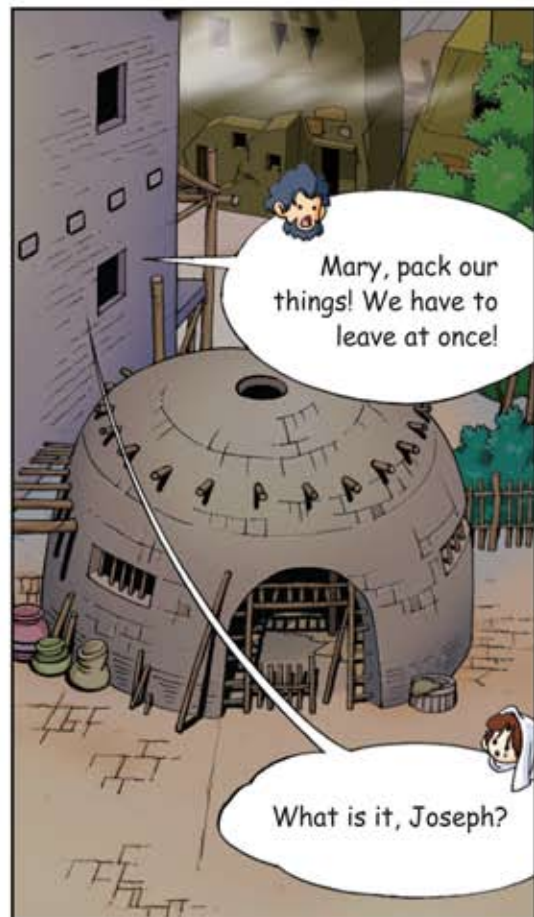
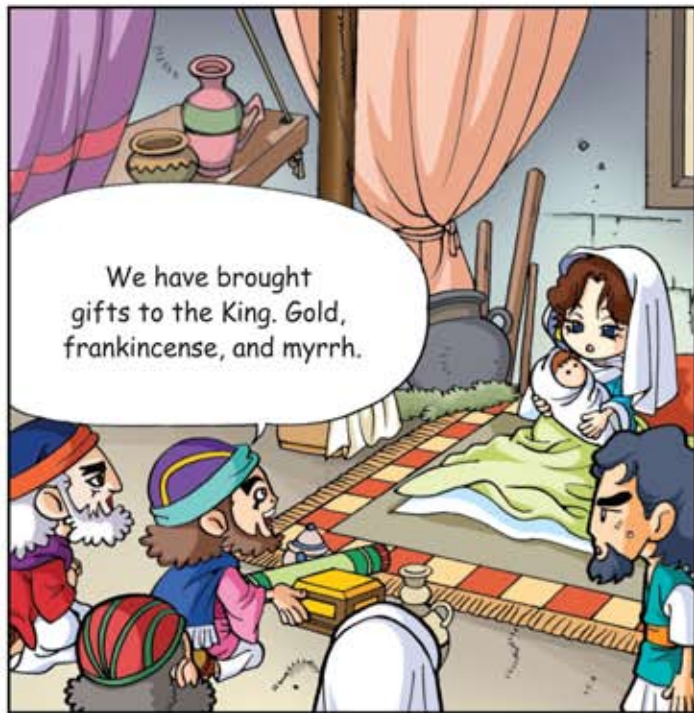
Jerusalem is the ancient capital of King David, the great King of Israel.

Let's go and find the King.

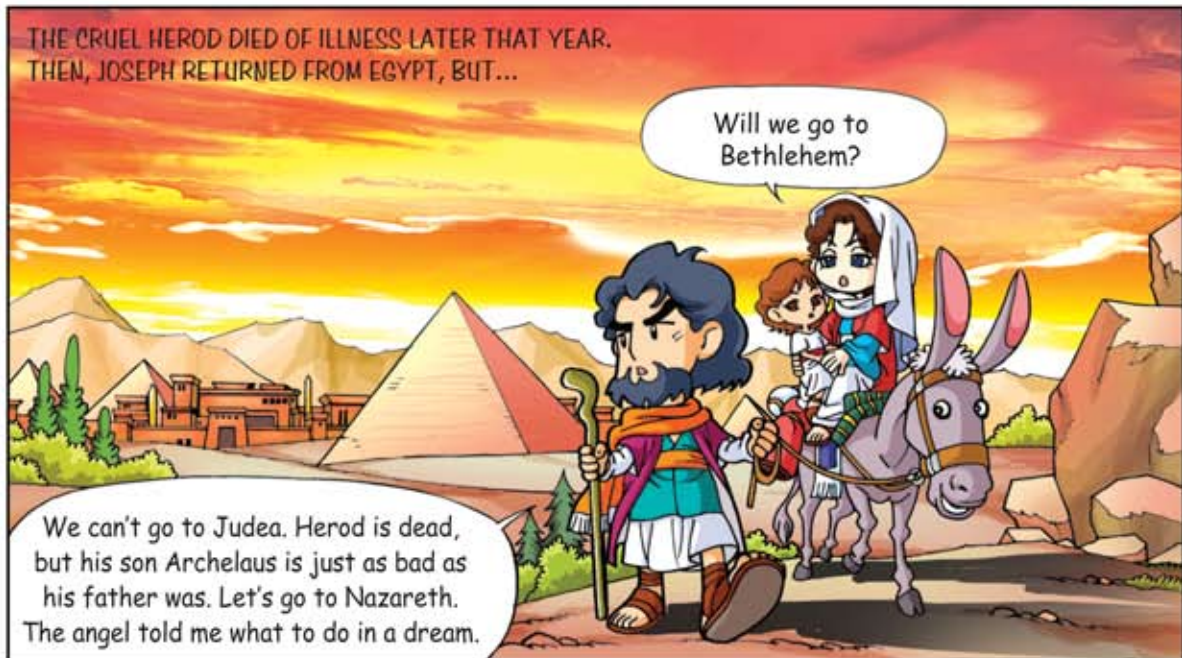
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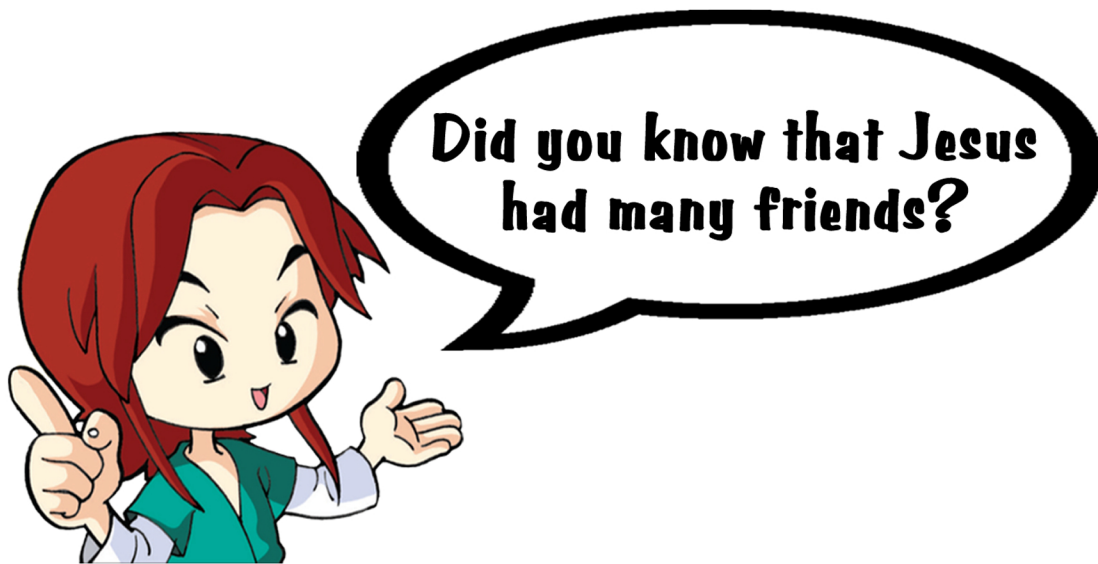






HEY KIDS!

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