



VOLUME 2

THE KINGSTONE

DEBIL

The Patriarchs



Jeff S. 5

THE KINGSTONE

BIBLE

VOLUME 2

THE PATRIARCHS



THE KINGSTONE
BIBLE

VOLUME 1 – THE BEGINNING

VOLUME 2 – THE PATRIARCHS

VOLUME 3 – THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

VOLUME 4 – THE JUDGES

VOLUME 5 – THE KINGS I

VOLUME 6 – THE KINGS II

VOLUME 7 – THE EXILE

VOLUME 8 – THE PROPHETS

VOLUME 9 – THE CHRIST

VOLUME 10 – THE APOSTLE

VOLUME 11 – THE LETTERS

VOLUME 12 – THE REVELATION





THE KINGSTONE BIBLE

VOLUME 2

WRITER: Art A. Ayris

EDITOR: Kelly J. Ayris

PENCILS: Jeff Slemons, Javier Saltares, Kyle Hotz

INKERS: Jeff Slemons, Chris Ivy, Jason Moore

COLORISTS: Joel Chua, Emily Kanalz, Mark McNabb

LETTERS: Zach Matheny

DESIGN: Ken Raney, Nate Butler, Zach Matheny

Published by Kingstone Comics
www.KingstoneMedia.com
Copyright © 2015

Printed in USA


KINGSTONE
COMICS

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photo copy, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by United States copyright law.

ABRAHAM · ISAAC · JACOB · JOSEPH

Approximately 2000 years after the Creation and subsequent Fall of Man and 400 years after the Flood, the world was lapsed into idolatry and wickedness. Ur, where Abraham and his family lived, was in Babylonia, a center of many false gods and goddesses. Nimrod, who exalted himself against God by building the Tower of Babel, was the chief deity. The more common name was Marduk, which became identical with Bel. The moon-god and moon-goddess practices of the region were steeped in immorality. Abraham was a righteous man, not an idolater, but one who believed in the one God who created and ruled the earth. Out of Ur God called Abraham to the land of Canaan. His name comes to use through the ages as not only the founder of the Hebrew nation but also as synonymous with great faith. God gave to Abraham three great promises:

- 1 – He and his descendants would inherit the land of Canaan
- 2 – His descendants would become a great nation
- 3 – Through him all nations would be blessed

The son of Abraham, Isaac, was a miraculous birth - born to his aged parents well after their childbearing years. Isaac served as the center point of one of the hardest tests of faith any man can endure – the sacrifice of a son. This Old Testament story stands out and serves as a foreshadowing of the future time when God would offer up His only son to death for the sin of mankind. His older brother Ishmael, born as a result of Abraham's temporary lapse in faith, became the father of the modern Arabic nations.

Jacob, the son of Isaac, became the founder of the Israelite nation and God changed his name to Israel to reflect that fact. His twelve sons became the twelve tribes of Israel. God confirmed to Jacob in dreams that the land of Canaan would belong to his descendants.

Joseph, the last Patriarch, serves as a testimony to the sovereignty of God in working out all things to our ultimate good and to His glory. Sharing dreams and visions given him by God only resulted in conflict with his family and Joseph being sold into slavery. Keeping his integrity and trust in God's purpose, even when falsely accused, landed Joseph in an Egyptian prison. But this prison only served as a launching pad for God to raise Joseph up as the second highest ruler in Egypt in a great deliverance that saved thousands of lives and preserved the Hebrew nation and the Messianic line.

The Patriarchs - a story of faith and a reminder of our great spiritual heritage.

Art A. Ayris
Publisher

TWO YEARS AFTER THE FLOOD,
NOAH'S SON SHEM FATHERED
A SON NAMED ARPHAXAD.

AND AFTER
ARPHAXAD, SHEM
LIVED 500 YEARS
AND FATHERED
OTHER SONS AND
DAUGHTERS.

EBER FATHERED
PELEG--AND DURING
THE LIFETIME OF
PELEG GOD DIVIDED
THE EARTH INTO
LANGUAGES AT THE
TOWER OF BABEL.

ARPHAXAD WAS
THE FATHER OF
SHELAH, WHO
WAS THE FATHER
OF EBER.

THE
HEBREWS ARE
CONSIDERED
TO BE THE
DESCENDANTS
OF EBER.

AFTER THE TOWER OF
BABEL, PELEG FATHERED
REU, WHO WAS THE FATHER
OF SERUG, WHO WAS THE
FATHER OF NAHOR, WHO
WAS THE FATHER OF TERAH.

TERAH FATHERED THREE SONS--
ABRAM, NAHOR AND HARAN.

ABRAM TOOK SARAI,
ONE OF HIS HALF-
SISTERS, AS HIS WIFE.

SOON AFTER, TERAH TOOK HIS SON
ABRAM, AND HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW,
SARAI, AND PREPARED TO LEAVE THE
PROSPEROUS MESOPOTAMIAN CITY OF UR.

HE ALSO TOOK HIS GRANDSON LOT,
WHOSE FATHER HARAN HAD DIED.

TERAH AND HIS FAMILY
TRAVELED NORTHWEST
ALONG THE EUPHRATES
RIVER TO HARAN.

FROM THERE IT WOULD BE EASIER TO TRAVEL INTO
CANAAN INSTEAD OF CROSSING THE GREAT DESERT
WITH ALL OF THE ANIMALS AND POSSESSIONS.



AFTER HIS FATHER DIED IN HARAN, GOD SPOKE TO ABRAM, MAKING A COVENANT, OR AGREEMENT, WITH HIM.

LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR PEOPLE AND THE HOUSEHOLD OF YOUR FATHER--AND GO TO THE LAND I WILL SHOW YOU.

THERE I WILL MAKE YOU INTO A GREAT NATION AND I WILL BLESS YOU.

I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT AND YOU WILL BE A BLESSING.



GOD MAKES AN INCREDIBLE PROMISE TO ABRAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS...

I WILL BLESS THOSE WHO BLESS YOU, AND WHOEVER CURSES YOU I WILL CURSE...



...AND ALL PEOPLE OF THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH YOU.



WE MUST RELOCATE OUR CAMP--FAR AWAY.

BUT UNCLE, WE HAVE MORE HERDS THAN WE HAVE EVER HAD--AND GROWING!

THAT I KNOW. OUR GOD, THE MOST HIGH, HAS BLESSED US.

BUT GOD HAS CLEARLY SPOKEN TO ME THAT WE MUST MOVE.

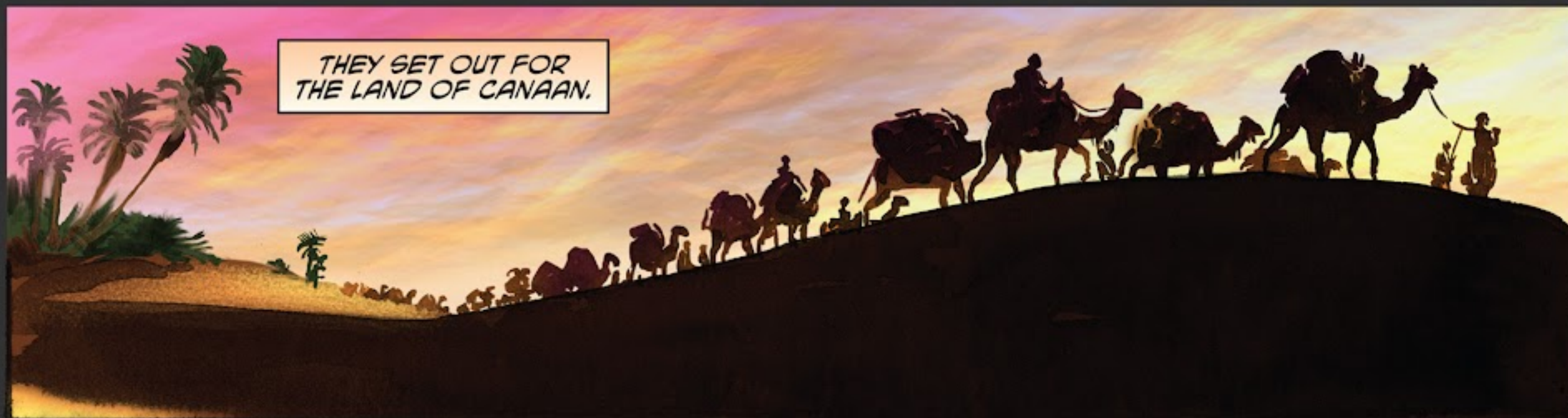


THE MOST HIGH HAS SPOKEN TO ME THAT HE... HE WILL BLESS THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH THROUGH ME.

GOD HAS SPOKEN--HE WILL CERTAINLY SHOW US THE WAY.



SO ABRAM LEFT HARAN
AS GOD HAD TOLD HIM.



THEY SET OUT FOR
THE LAND OF CANAAN.



WHILE HE WAS CAMPED AT THE
GREAT TREE OF MOREH HE HEARD
THE VOICE OF GOD SPEAK TO HIM...

THIS LAND
WHERE YOU STAND--
I WILL GIVE TO YOUR
OFFSPRING.

MY
OFFSPRING?

IT IS HERE THAT I HAVE HEARD
YOUR VOICE AND IT IS HERE
THAT I WILL BUILD AN ALTAR
TO YOU.





MY UNCLE--
THERE IS NOT ENOUGH
FOOD--I DON'T SEE
HOW WE CAN STAY
HERE AND LIVE.

GOD HAS
PROMISED ME THIS
LAND BUT WE MUST
BE ABLE TO FEED
OUR FLOCKS AND
FAMILIES.

WE WILL
RELOCATE TO
EGYPT UNTIL THE
FAMINE IS OVER AND
THEN WE CAN RETURN
TO THE NEGEV.

I HAVE HEARD
THAT THESE PEOPLE
ARE PAGANS--THEY DO
NOT WORSHIP THE TRUE
GOD. THEY WORSHIP
GODS FROM THEIR
GREAT RIVER.



THEY ARE AND
THEY DO--AND I
WORRY ABOUT MY
LIFE.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



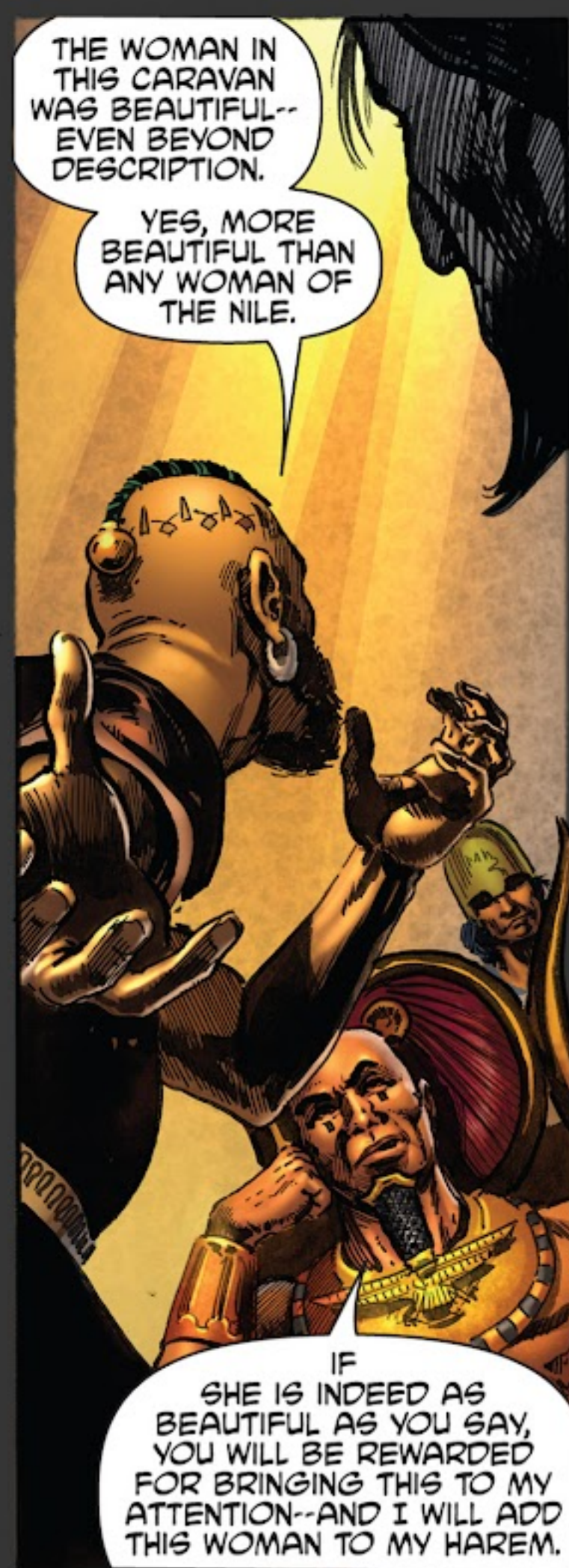
WHEN THE
EGYPTIANS
SEE HOW
BEAUTIFUL YOU
ARE MY LIFE WILL
MEAN NOTHING.
THEY WILL SEE
YOU ARE MY WIFE
AND KILL ME SO
THEY CAN HAVE
YOU.

DO THIS...
YOU MUST
SAY YOU ARE
MY SISTER SO
THAT IT WILL GO
WELL FOR MY
SAKE.



THEY
HAVE GREAT
WEALTH AMONG
THEM.

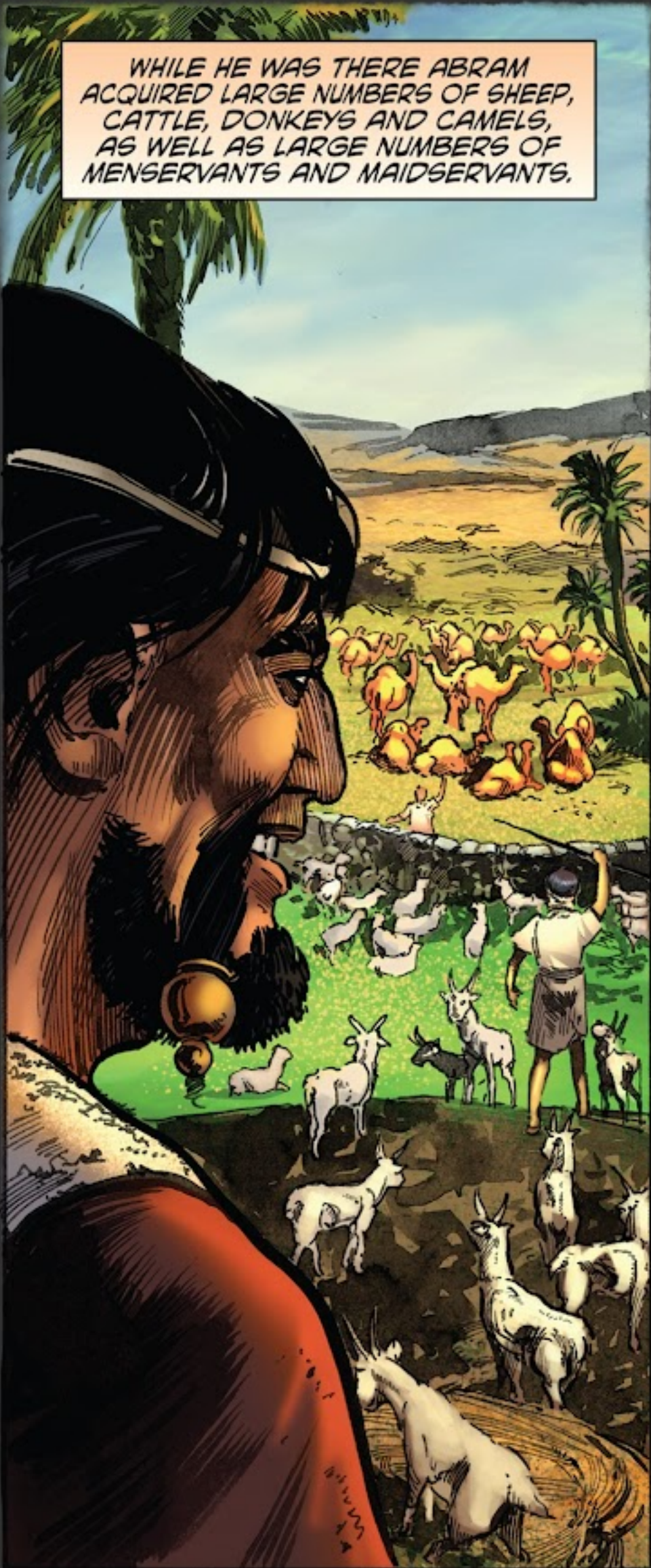
YES,
AND GREAT
BEAUTY...



THE WOMAN IN
THIS CARAVAN
WAS BEAUTIFUL--
EVEN BEYOND
DESCRIPTION.

YES, MORE
BEAUTIFUL THAN
ANY WOMAN OF
THE NILE.

IF
SHE IS INDEED AS
BEAUTIFUL AS YOU SAY,
YOU WILL BE REWARDED
FOR BRINGING THIS TO MY
ATTENTION--AND I WILL ADD
THIS WOMAN TO MY HAREM.









THERE WAS FREQUENT WAR BETWEEN THE GROUPS OF THE FERTILE CRESCENT AS EACH OF THE KINGS OF THE CITY STATES MANEUVERED FOR POWER AND WEALTH.



ONE OF THESE BATTLES FOUND THE CITIES OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH SACKED, INCLUDING THOSE LIVING IN THE AREA LIKE LOT AND HIS FAMILY.



LOOK, MY LORD. IT IS ONE OF THE HERDSMEN OF LOT RETURNING TO US.

WE WILL SEE WHAT HE NEEDS--I HOPE ALL IS WELL WITH MY NEPHEW.



THERE WAS A BATTLE. FOUR KINGS AGAINST FIVE. MANY FELL AT THE VALLEY OF SIDDIM IN THE TAR PITS. LOT AND ALL THAT HE HAS ARE NOW CAPTIVE.

GIVE HIM SOMETHING TO DRINK TO REFRESH HIM--THEN HE CAN SHOW US THE WAY.



GATHER NOW ALL OF OUR FIGHTING MEN--AT LAST COUNT THERE WERE 318. MAMRE THE AMORITE, ESCHOL AND ANER ARE ALLIED WITH ME. GO TO THEM AND HAVE THEM JOIN US.

WE MARCH NOW TO SAVE MY NEPHEW AND HIS FAMILY.

AS YOU SAY, MY LORD ABRAHAM.





BEHIND ME MY PEOPLE
BRING BREAD AND WINE
TO REFRESH YOU AFTER
YOUR GREAT
VICTORY.

BUT
I BRING MUCH
MORE... A BLESSING
FROM THE MOST
HIGH.



BLESSED BE ABRAM BY GOD
MOST HIGH, CREATOR OF
HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND
BLESSED BE GOD MOST
HIGH, WHO DELIVERED
YOUR ENEMIES INTO
YOUR HANDS.

AND TO YOU,
MELCHIZEDEK, PRIEST OF THE
MOST HIGH GOD, I WILL GIVE
A TENTH OF ALL THAT IS HERE.
I HONOR THE MOST HIGH FOR
GIVING ME THIS GREAT
VICTORY.

ABRAM, GIVE
ME THE PEOPLE BUT
KEEP ALL THE GOODS
FOR YOURSELF IN
HONOR OF YOUR
VICTORY.



THAT
I WILL NOT DO--
I HAVE MADE AN
OATH TO THE LORD
MOST HIGH.

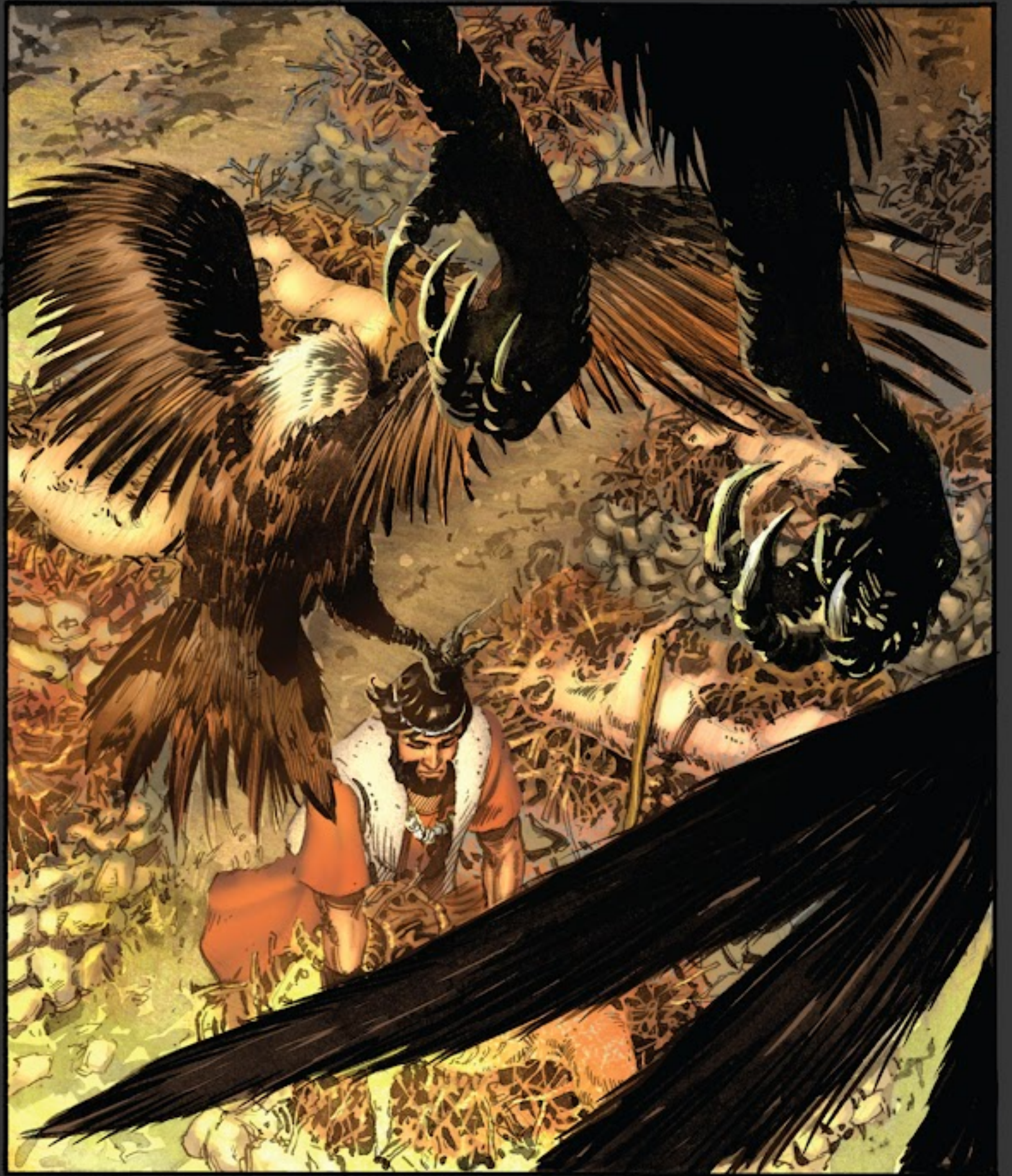
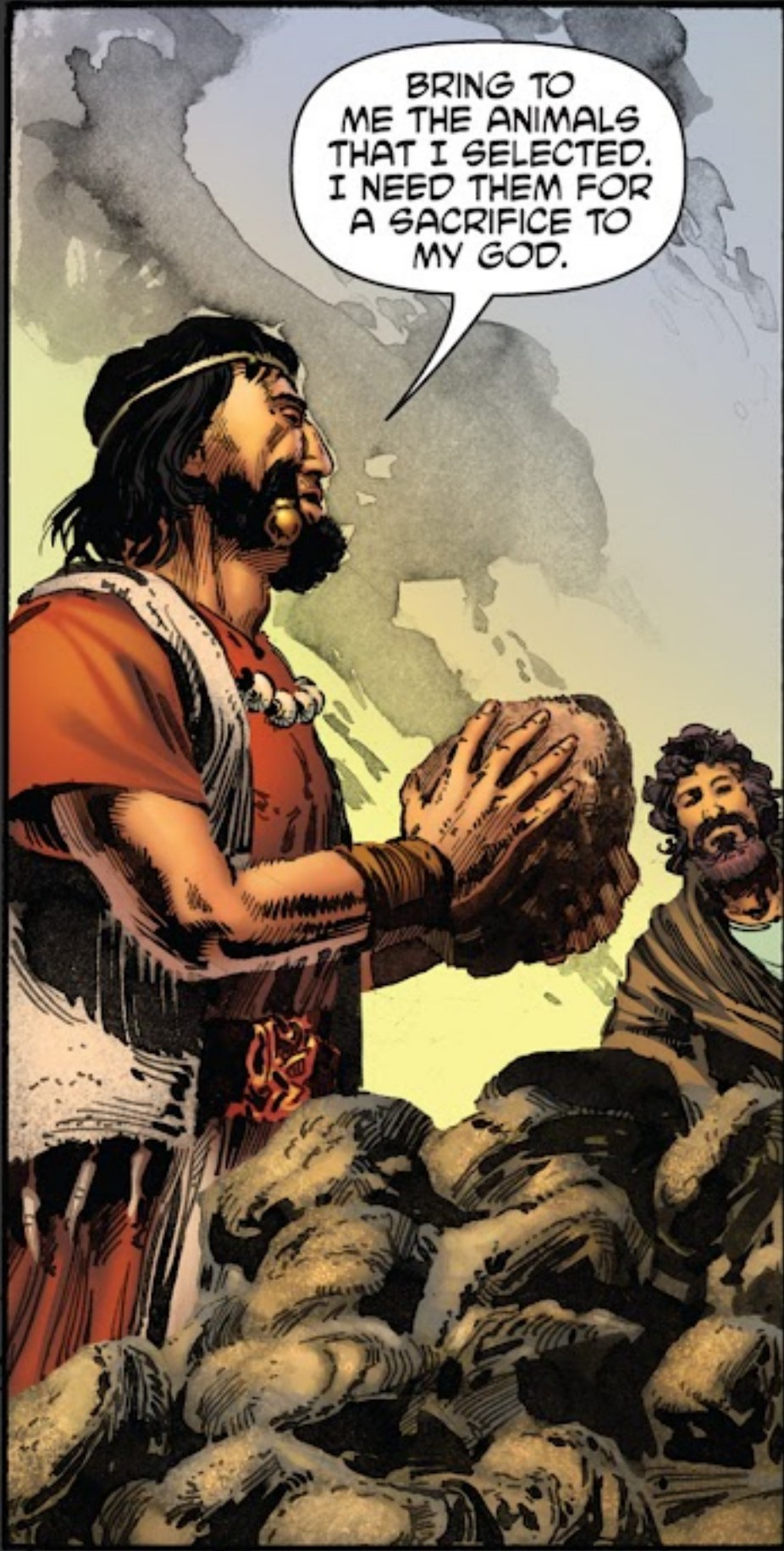
I WILL ACCEPT
NOTHING FROM YOU,
NOT EVEN THE THREAD
OR THE THONG OF A
SANDAL SO YOU CAN
NEVER SAY, "I MADE
ABRAM WEALTHY."


TO
THE MEN WHO PUT
THEIR HANDS AND MEN
WITH ME--ANER, ESCHOL
AND MAMRE--GIVE THEM
THEIR SHARE FROM
THE BATTLE.

AS FOR
ME--I TAKE
NOTHING FROM
YOUR HAND.









BUT I WILL
PUNISH THE NATION
WHERE THEY SERVE
AS SLAVES...

... AND
THEY WILL COME
OUT WITH GREAT
POSSESSIONS.

YOU, HOWEVER,
WILL GO TO YOUR
GRAVE IN PEACE AND
BE BURIED AT A
GOOD OLD AGE.

IN THE
FOURTH GENERATION
YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL
RETURN TO THIS LAND...
FOR THE SIN OF THE
AMORITES HAS NOT YET
REACHED ITS FULL
MEASURE.



I MAKE
A COVENANT
WITH YOU.

I WILL
GIVE TO YOUR
DESCENDANTS THIS LAND
FROM THE RIVER OF EGYPT TO
THE GREAT RIVER EUPHRATES
AND ALL THE LAND OF
THE PEOPLES WHO
LIVE THERE.





BUT SHE IS IN YOUR HANDS-- DO WHATEVER YOU THINK IS BEST.

YOU LAZY SERVANT--PREPARE THE MEAL AS I TOLD YOU THIS MORNING-- OR I WILL BRING OUT A WHIP TO REMIND YOU I AM YOUR MASTER!

YOU ARE WORTH NOTHING MORE THAN CARRYING A BABY THAT I WILL SOON TAKE AWAY FROM YOU AND YOU WILL NEVER HOLD THE CHILD AGAIN.





HAGAR, SERVANT OF YOUR MISTRESS SARAI, WHERE HAVE YOU COME FROM AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I AM RUNNING FROM MY MISTRESS AND HER HARSH TREATMENT OF ME.

GO BACK TO YOUR MISTRESS AND SUBMIT TO HER.

I WILL INCREASE YOUR DESCENDANTS SO MUCH THAT THEY WILL BE TOO NUMEROUS TO COUNT.



THE CHILD YOU NOW CARRY WILL BE CALLED ISHMAEL FOR THE LORD HAS HEARD YOUR MISERY.

HE WILL BE A WILD DONKEY OF A MAN; HIS HAND WILL BE AGAINST EVERYONE AND THEIR HAND WILL BE AGAINST HIM, AND HE WILL LIVE IN HOSTILITY AGAINST ALL HIS BROTHERS.

YOU ARE THE GOD WHO SEES ME.

I HAVE NOW SEEN THE ONE WHO SEES ME.



CONGRATULATIONS, MASTER ABRAM. YOU NOW HAVE A SON.

HIS NAME WILL BE ISHMAEL.



I AM GOD
ALMIGHTY, WALK
BEFORE ME AND
BE WITHOUT
BLAME.

I WILL
CONFIRM MY
COVENANT WITH
YOU AND GREATLY
INCREASE YOUR
NUMBERS.

YOUR NAME
WILL NO LONGER
BE ABRAM BUT WILL
BE ABRAHAM, FOR I
HAVE MADE YOU A
FATHER OF MANY
NATIONS.

I WILL MAKE
YOU VERY FRUITFUL;
I WILL MAKE NATIONS
OF YOU, AND KINGS
WILL COME FROM
YOU.

MY EVERLASTING
COVENANT IS WITH
YOU AND YOUR
DESCENDANTS
AFTER YOU.

THIS WHOLE
LAND OF CANAAN
WHERE YOU ARE NOW
AN ALIEN, I GIVE AS AN
EVERLASTING POSSESSION
TO YOU AND YOUR
DESCENDANTS AFTER
YOU, AND I WILL BE
THEIR GOD.

THIS IS MY
COVENANT WITH YOU AND
YOUR DESCENDANTS AFTER YOU...
EVERY MALE MUST BE CIRCUMCISED...
WHETHER BORN IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD
OR BOUGHT WITH YOUR
MONEY.

AND YOUR WIFE SARAI IS NO LONGER TO BE CALLED BY THAT NAME--BUT HER NAME WILL NOW BE SARAH.

I AM GOING TO BLESS HER AND GIVE YOU A SON BY HER. SHE WILL BE THE MOTHER OF NATIONS AND KINGS.

BUT MY COVENANT I WILL ESTABLISH WITH ISAAC, WHOM SARAH WILL BEAR TO YOU BY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR.

WILL A SON BE BORN TO A MAN WHO IS A HUNDRED YEARS OLD AND WIFE NINETY YEARS OF AGE?

BUT IF ONLY ISHMAEL WOULD LIVE UNDER YOUR BLESSING!

YES, BUT YOUR WIFE WILL BEAR A SON YOU ARE TO NAME ISAAC, AND I WILL ESTABLISH MY EVERLASTING COVENANT WITH HIM AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

I HAVE HEARD YOUR PRAYER FOR ISHMAEL AND WILL BLESS HIM... HE WILL BE THE FATHER OF TWELVE RULERS AND I WILL MAKE HIM INTO A GREAT NATION.

TODAY, IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S COMMAND, NOT ONLY ISHMAEL AND MYSELF, BUT EVERY MALE IN MY HOUSEHOLD MUST BE CIRCUMCISED--IN ACCORDANCE TO THE LORD'S COMMAND.





WHERE IS YOUR WIFE, SARAH?

THERE, IN THE TENT.

I WILL SURELY RETURN TO YOU ABOUT THIS TIME NEXT YEAR AND SARAH WILL HAVE A SON.



I AM WORN OUT AND MY HUSBAND IS OLD, NOW CAN I HAVE THIS PLEASURE?



WHY DID YOUR WIFE LAUGH AND SAY, "WILL I REALLY HAVE A CHILD?"

IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

I WILL RETURN AT THE APPOINTED TIME NEXT YEAR AND SARAH WILL HAVE A SON.



I DID NOT LAUGH.

YES, YOU DID LAUGH.



WE MUST BE GOING.

LET ME WALK WITH YOU A WHILE. I SEE THAT YOU ARE LOOKING TOWARD SODOM.











IS THERE ANYONE ELSE HERE--SONS-IN-LAW, SONS OR DAUGHTERS, ANYONE ELSE THAT BELONGS TO YOU?

THEY NEED TO BE TAKEN OUT OF HERE, BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO DESTROY THIS PLACE.



THE OUTCRY TO THE LORD AGAINST ITS PEOPLE IS SO GREAT THAT HE HAS SENT US TO DESTROY IT.

YES, THERE ARE TWO MEN PLEDGED TO BE MARRIED TO MY DAUGHTERS, I WILL GET THEM.



WHAT A WILD TALE, SURELY YOU HAVE HAD TOO MUCH WINE.

SURELY YOU ARE JOKING; SODOM IS ONE OF THE SAFEST AND MOST PROSPEROUS PLACES IN WHICH TO LIVE.



THE JUDGMENT OF GOD. HAR-HAR. THAT'S ONE I HAVEN'T HEARD BEFORE.

WHAT A JUDGMENTAL LUNATIC!



HURRY--IT IS ALMOST DAWN! TAKE YOUR WIFE AND DAUGHTERS OR YOU WILL BE SWEEPED AWAY IN THE JUDGMENT AND PUNISHMENT THAT IS ABOUT TO FALL.



WE CAN
LOSE NO MORE
TIME! DAWN IS
BREAKING.



HURRY!



FLEE FOR
YOUR LIVES AND
DON'T LOOK BACK.
DON'T STOP ANYWHERE
ON THE PLAIN. FLEE
TO THE MOUNTAINS
OR YOU WILL BE
DESTROYED.

YOU HAVE
SHOWN GREAT
KINDNESS IN SPARING
MY LIFE BUT WE CAN'T
MAKE THE MOUNTAINS;
THIS DISASTER WILL
OVERTAKE US AND
I WILL DIE.



THERE
IS A TOWN
NEAR ENOUGH
TO RUN TO, LET ME
FLEE TO IT AND MY
LIFE WILL BE
SPARED.

VERY WELL, WE
WILL GRANT THAT AS
WELL--BUT FLEE QUICKLY,
BECAUSE I CAN DO
NOTHING UNTIL YOU REACH IT.




HURRY
ILDITH AND
DAUGHTERS--WE
ARE ALMOST THERE!
WE CAN ESCAPE
GOD'S JUDGMENT
AS THE ANGELS
TOLD US.

WITHOUT FINDING EVEN TEN RIGHTEOUS
PEOPLE IN THE CITY THE LORD RAINED DOWN
DESTRUCTION AS HE HAD PROMISED.



GOD OVERTHREW THOSE CITIES AND
ALL WHO LIVED THERE--AND THE ENTIRE
PLAIN, INCLUDING THE VEGETATION.

GENESIS 19:24-25



"ILDITH--HURRY
AND COME
WITH US--DON'T
LOOK BACK!"

BUT LOT'S WIFE
LOOKED BACK
TOWARD SODOM--
AND BECAME A
PILLAR OF SALT.

WHEN GOD DESTROYED
THE CITIES OF THE PLAIN,
HE REMEMBERED ABRAHAM,
AND SAVED HIS NEPHEW LOT
OUT OF THE CATASTROPHE.

LOT DID NOT STAY IN THE CITY OF ZOAR
BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID OF THE PEOPLE.

PERHAPS HE WAS AFRAID THAT HE WOULD BE
BLAMED FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITIES OF THE
PLAINS, OR THAT MORE JUDGMENT WAS YET TO FALL.



THE IMMORALITY OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH
HAD SO CORRUPTED LOT'S DAUGHTERS
THAT THEY DEvised AN EVIL PLAN.

THERE
ARE NO OTHER
MEN AROUND
AND WE MUST
PRESERVE THE
FAMILY LINE.

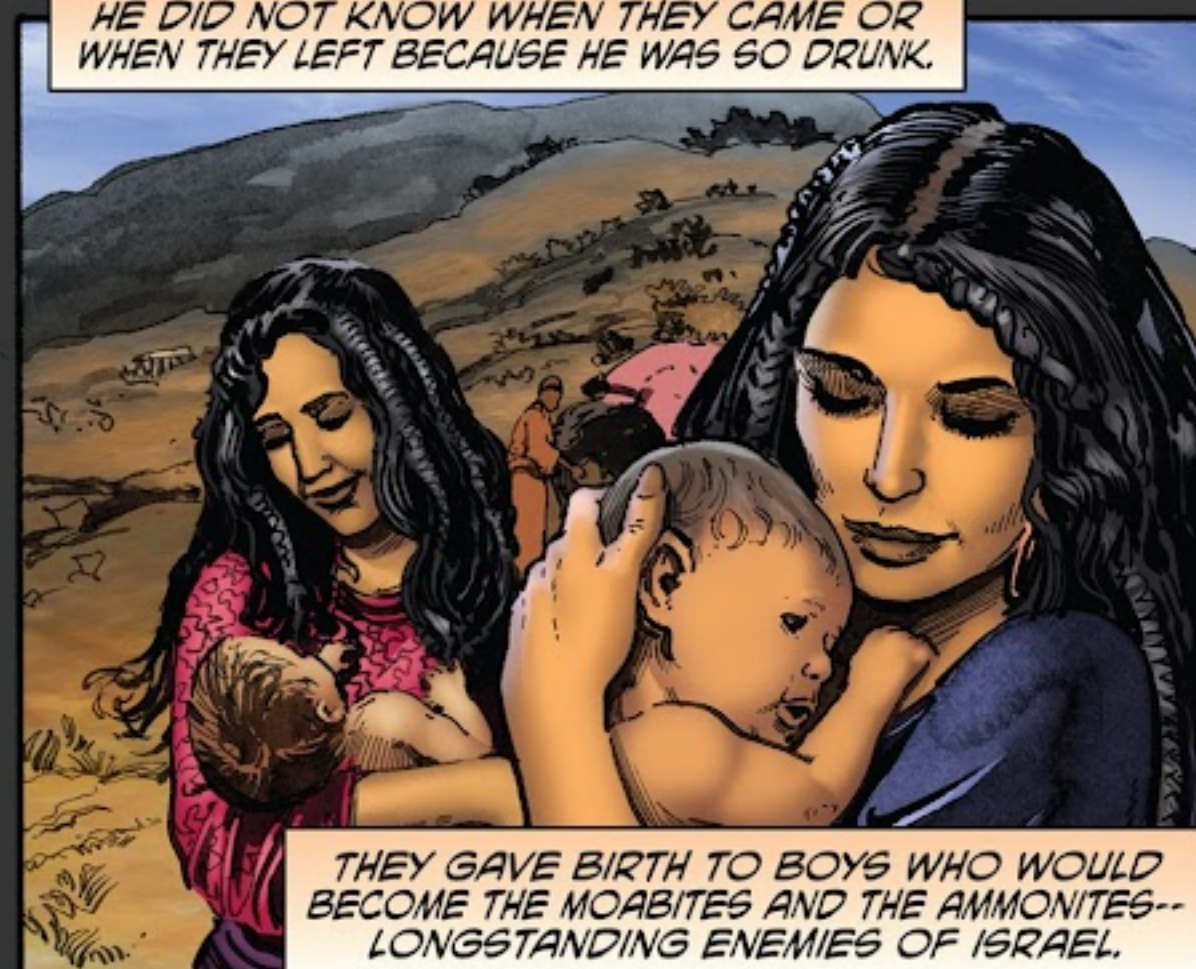
TONIGHT
LET US GET
FATHER DRUNK
AND I WILL GO
IN AND SLEEP
WITH HIM.



THE NEXT EVENING
THEY DID THE SAME
AND THE YOUNGER
DAUGHTER WENT
IN TO SLEEP
WITH HER FATHER.



HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN THEY CAME OR
WHEN THEY LEFT BECAUSE HE WAS SO DRUNK.



THEY GAVE BIRTH TO BOYS WHO WOULD
BECOME THE MOABITES AND THE AMMONITES--
LONGSTANDING ENEMIES OF ISRAEL.

MEANWHILE,
ABRAHAM
MOVED TO
ANOTHER
REGION...

THIS WOMAN
IS QUITE
BEAUTIFUL.

YES,
SHE IS MY
SISTER.

AGAIN, INSTEAD OF TRUSTING GOD,
ABRAHAM RESORTED TO DECEPTION
AS HE PASSED INTO THE LAND OF THE
PHILISTINES WHERE ABIMELECH WAS KING.

YOU WILL
BE DEAD BECAUSE
OF THE WOMAN YOU HAVE
TAKEN INTO YOUR HOUSE,
BECAUSE SHE IS A
MARRIED WOMAN.

YOU HAVE
DONE THIS WITH A
CLEAR CONSCIENCE BUT
RETURN HER--SHE IS A
PROPHET'S WIFE.

IF YOU
DO NOT, I WILL
KILL YOU.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO US?
HOW HAVE I WRONGED YOU
THAT YOU BROUGHT SUCH
GUILT UPON US?

I THOUGHT
THERE WAS NO
FEAR OF GOD HERE AND
THAT YOU WOULD
KILL ME.

AND SHE IS
MY SISTER--THE
DAUGHTER OF
MY FATHER.

TO YOU ABRAHAM, I PROVIDE
CATTLE, SHEEP AND SLAVES--
MY LAND IS BEFORE
YOU.

AND TO
YOU, HIS WIFE--
I AM GIVING YOUR
BROTHER A THOUSAND
SHEKELS OF SILVER
TO COVER THIS
OFFENSE.

NOW PRAY
FOR ME AND MY
HOUSE--FOR NONE IN MY
HOUSE HAS BEEN ABLE
TO CONCEIVE SINCE YOU
CAME HERE.



AND THE LORD DID FOR SARAH AS HE HAD PROMISED.



BUT AS THE PROMISED CHILD GREW--
SO DID TROUBLE IN THE CAMP.

EAT AND DRINK TO YOUR HEART'S
FULFILLMENT. MY SON ISAAC
NO LONGER DEPENDS ON
HIS MOTHER AND IS ABLE
TO EAT AND ENJOY
FOOD WITH US.

HIS SON!
WHAT ABOUT
HIS SON BY
ME?



WHAT KIND OF BOY ARE YOU?
YOU CAN'T EVEN RUN AND
HUNT YET. YOU ARE ONLY
GOOD TO HANG AROUND
THE TENTS WITH YOUR
MOTHER!



YOU WILL GET RID OF
THAT SLAVE WOMAN AND
HER SON! THEY HAVE
NO RIGHT OR SHARE IN
THE INHERITANCE WITH
OUR SON.

BUT HE IS
ALSO OF MY
LOINS...

NO!
NEVER
SHALL HE
SHARE WITH
OUR SON
ISAAC.

THE MATTER DISTRESSED ABRAHAM GREATLY SO HE SOUGHT
THE LORD FOR AN ANSWER TO THIS DIFFICULT QUESTION.

LET THE MATTER
NOT DISTRESS YOU--
BOTH THE BOY AND HIS
MOTHER WILL BE TAKEN
CARE OF.

IT WILL BE
THROUGH ISAAC THAT
YOUR OFFSPRING WILL
BE RECKONED.

AND I WILL ALSO
MAKE THE SON OF
YOUR MAIDSERVANT
INTO A GREAT NATION
BECAUSE HE IS YOUR
OFFSPRING.



THE NEXT MORNING
ABRAHAM SENT HAGAR AND
ISHMAEL OFF WITH SUPPLIES.



BUT THE JOURNEY THROUGH
THE DESERT BECAME TOO MUCH
AND THEY RAN OUT OF WATER.



GOD OF
ABRAHAM, HAVE
MERCY ON US BOTH--
I CANNOT BEAR
TO WATCH THE
BOY DIE.



FEAR NOT,
GOD HAS HEARD
THE BOY CRYING
AS HE LIES
THERE.
TAKE HIM
BY THE HAND
FOR I WILL MAKE
HIM INTO A GREAT
NATION.



THEN THE LORD OPENED THEIR EYES
TO A WELL NEARBY WHERE THEY
COULD FILL THEIR SKIN WITH WATER.

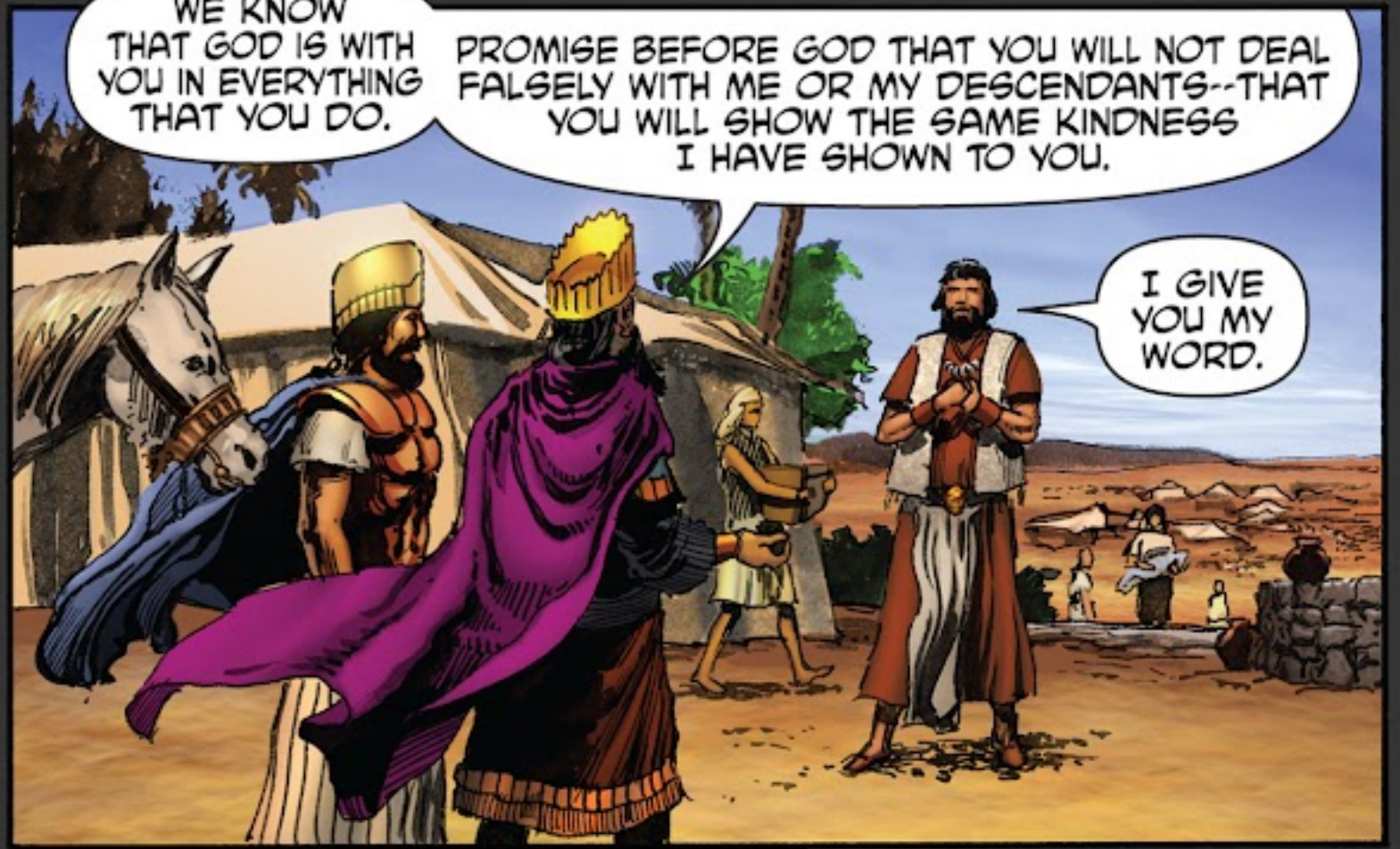


GOD WAS WITH THE
BOY AS HE GREW
UP AND HIS MOTHER
GOT A WIFE FOR
HIM FROM EGYPT.





THE KING OF THE LAND, ABIMELECH, AND HIS COMMANDER CAME TO MEET WITH ABRAHAM.



WE KNOW THAT GOD IS WITH YOU IN EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO.

PROMISE BEFORE GOD THAT YOU WILL NOT DEAL FALSELY WITH ME OR MY DESCENDANTS--THAT YOU WILL SHOW THE SAME KINDNESS I HAVE SHOWN TO YOU.

I GIVE YOU MY WORD.



OUR MASTER ABRAHAM SENDS WORD THAT YOUR SHEPHERDS HAVE SEIZED A WELL THAT ABRAHAM HAS DUG.

I AM JUST HEARING OF THIS--THE WELL WILL BELONG TO YOUR MASTER ABRAHAM. I WILL GO TO ABRAHAM MYSELF.



WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THESE EWE LAMBS STANDING HERE BY THEMSELVES?

THESE ARE FOR YOU--AS WITNESS THAT I DUG THIS WELL.



THERE SHALL ALWAYS BE PEACE BETWEEN YOUR FAMILY--AND MINE.



THE KING RETURNED TO THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES AND ABRAHAM PLANTED A TAMARISK TREE THERE IN BEERSHEBA.

AND HE BEGAN TO CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD--THE ETERNAL GOD.

AFTER THIS, GOD SOUGHT PROOF OF ABRAHAM'S READINESS TO OBEY.

ABRAHAM!

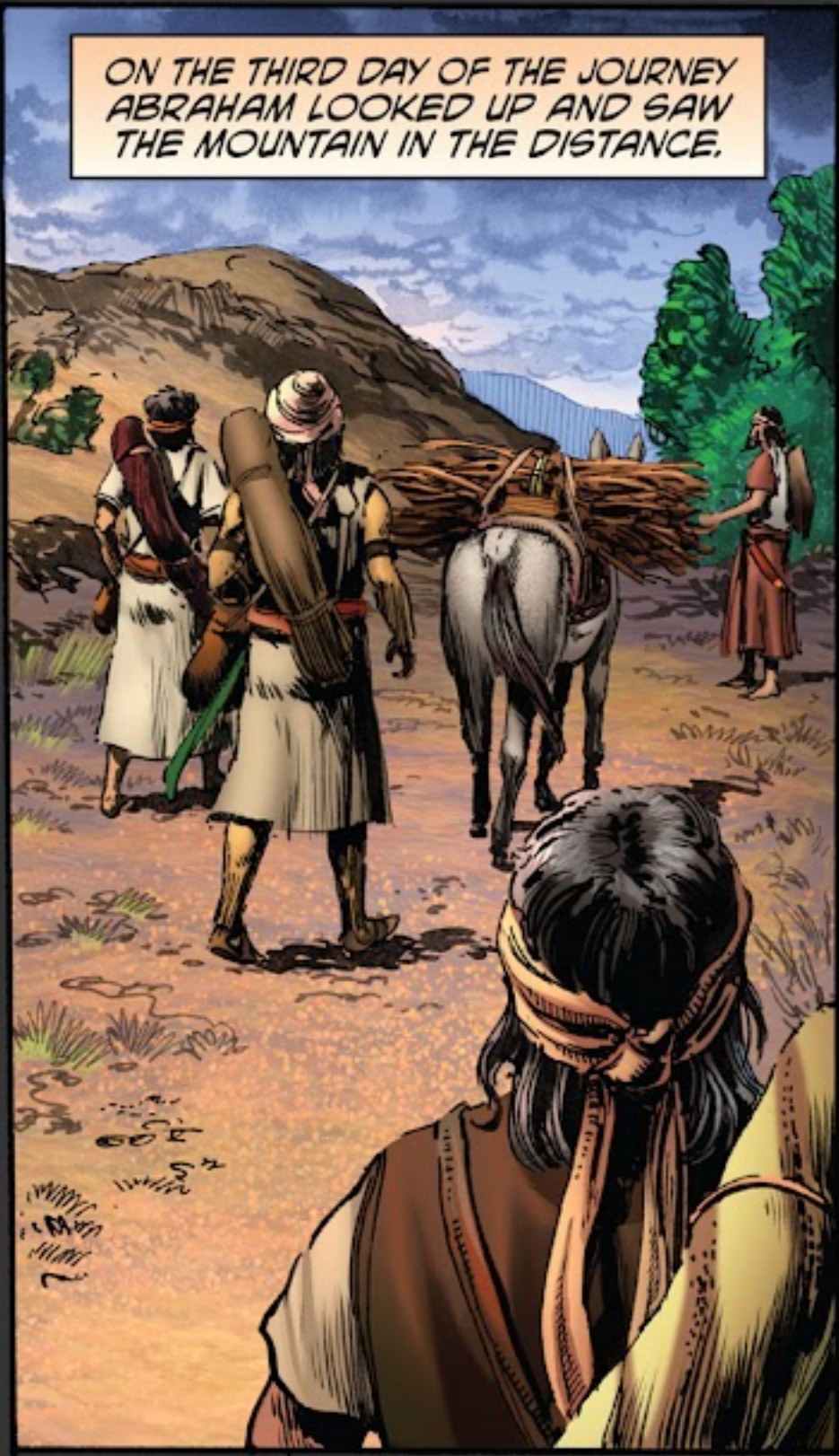
HERE I AM LORD.

TAKE YOUR ONLY SON ISAAC, WHOM YOU LOVE, AND GO TO THE REGION OF MORIAH.

THERE I WANT YOU TO SACRIFICE HIM AS A BURNT OFFERING ON ONE OF THE MOUNTAINS I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT.

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING ABRAHAM SADDLED HIS DONKEY AND TOOK WITH HIM TWO OF HIS SERVANTS AND HIS SON ISAAC.

AFTER ABRAHAM HAD GATHERED ENOUGH WOOD FOR THE BURNT OFFERING HE SET OUT FOR THE PLACE GOD HAD TOLD HIM ABOUT.



ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE JOURNEY ABRAHAM LOOKED UP AND SAW THE MOUNTAIN IN THE DISTANCE.



YOU BOTH STAY WITH THE DONKEY WHILE THE BOY AND I GO OVER THERE.

WE WILL GO AND WORSHIP-- THEN WE WILL COME BACK TO YOU.



ABRAHAM PLACED ON HIS SON ISAAC THE BUNDLE OF WOOD.



WHILE ABRAHAM HIMSELF CARRIED THE FIRE AND THE KNIFE.

FATHER?




YES, MY SON.

WE HAVE THE FIRE AND WOOD--BUT WHERE IS THE LAMB FOR THE BURNT OFFERING?

GOD HIMSELF WILL PROVIDE THE LAMB FOR THE BURNT OFFERING, MY SON.





... THEN ABRAHAM TOOK HIS
KNIFE TO SLAY HIS SON--THE
SON OF THE PROMISE.

ABRAHAM!

HERE
I AM.

DO NOT LAY
A HAND ON THE BOY
--FOR NOW I KNOW THAT
YOU FEAR GOD--BECAUSE
YOU DID NOT WITHHOLD
FROM ME YOUR
ONLY SON.



THE NAME OF
THIS PLACE SHALL
BE, "THE LORD WILL
PROVIDE."



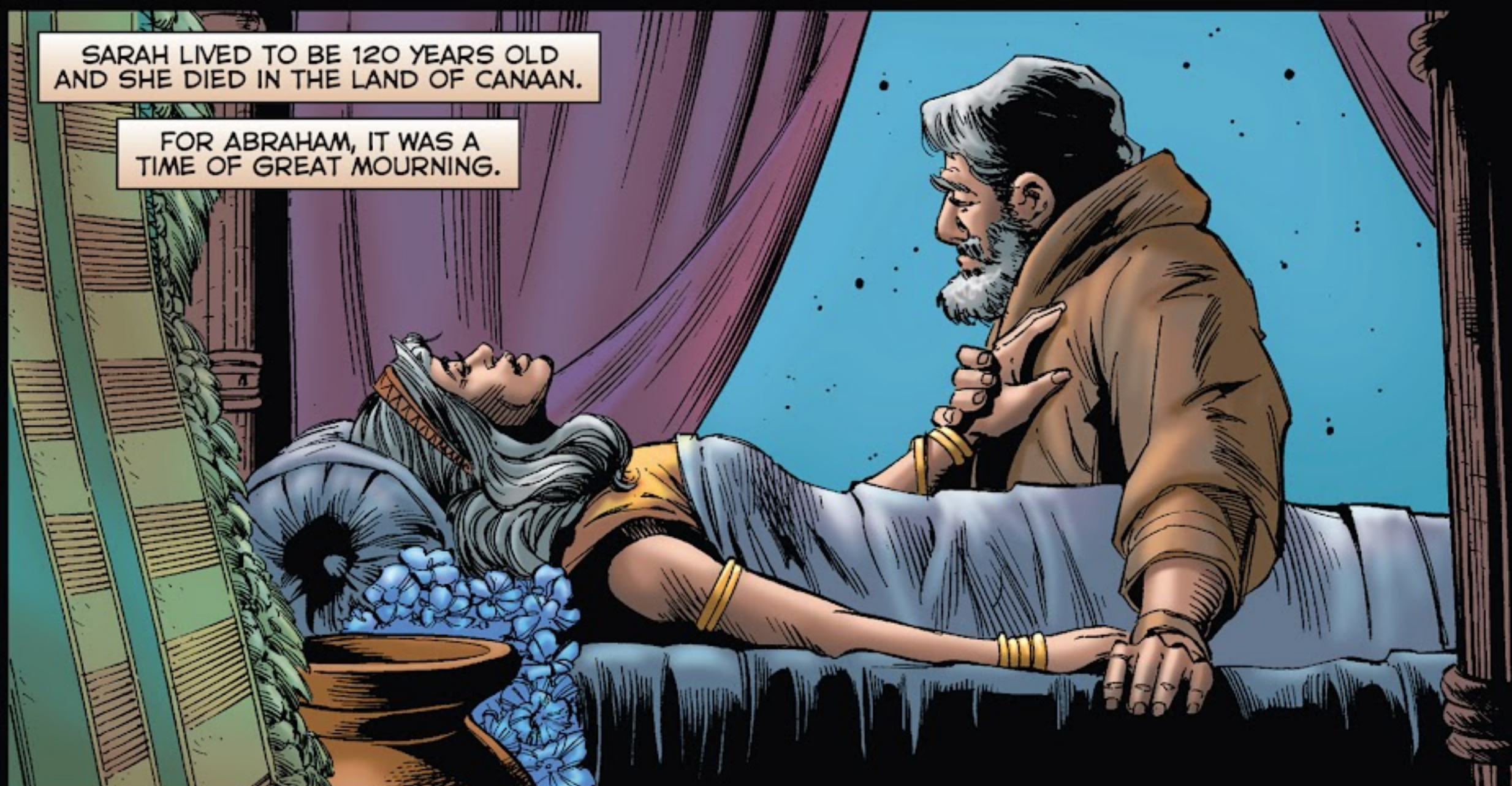
THEN ABRAHAM LOOKED
OVER AND SAW THE SACRIFICE
THAT GOD HAD PROVIDED.





SARAH LIVED TO BE 120 YEARS OLD
AND SHE DIED IN THE LAND OF CANAAN.

FOR ABRAHAM, IT WAS A
TIME OF GREAT MOURNING.



EVEN THOUGH GOD HAD PROMISED ABRAHAM
THAT HE AND HIS DESCENDANTS WOULD
EVENTUALLY POSSESS THE LAND OF CANAAN, HE
APPROACHED THE HITTITES LIVING IN HEBRON.

EVEN THOUGH
I AM A STRANGER
AMONG YOU, I SEEK
A PLACE TO BURY
MY DEAD.



YOU ARE A
GREAT PRINCE
AMONG US--
TAKE ANY OF
OUR CHOICEST
TOMBS.

WE
WILL NOT
REFUSE
YOU.

IF YOU ARE
WILLING, PLEASE
INTERCEDE WITH
EPHRON ABOUT THE
CAVE OF MACHPELAH AT
THE END OF HIS FIELD.
I WILL PAY FULL PRICE.

EPHRON CAME FORWARD...

MY LORD, I WILL GIVE YOU BOTH THE FIELD AND THE CAVE. YOU MAY BURY YOUR DEAD.

I WILL PAY THE FULL PRICE OF THE FIELD.

THE LAND IS WORTH 400 SILVER SHEKELS, BUT WHAT IS THAT BETWEEN US?

ABRAHAM PAID THE SUM AND THE PROPERTY WAS DEEDED TO HIM.

IT WAS THE FIRST PIECE OF LAND THAT ABRAHAM HAD IN THE PROMISED LAND--A PLACE TO BURY HIS WIFE.

ABRAHAM GRIEVED HIS BELOVED WIFE, SARAH. WITH HER HE HAD EXPERIENCED THE MIRACULOUS PROMISE OF GOD IN THE BIRTH OF ISAAC.



ELIEZER, MY MOST TRUSTED SERVANT, LISTEN CAREFULLY TO MY WORDS.

I AM NOW 130 YEARS AND WILL SOON BE GATHERED TO MY PEOPLE.

AND YET MY SON ISAAC HAS NO WIFE.



PLACE YOUR HAND UNDER MY THIGH AND PROMISE THAT YOU WILL NOT FIND A WIFE FOR ISAAC AMONG THE PEOPLE OF CANAAN.

RATHER GO BACK TO MY OWN COUNTRY AND MY OWN PEOPLE--AND THERE FIND A WIFE FOR MY SON.



I WILL TRAVEL THIS GREAT DISTANCE MY LORD, BUT WHAT IF THE WOMAN IS UNWILLING TO COME?

SHALL I TAKE YOUR SON BACK TO THIS COUNTRY?



NO. GOD PROMISED ON OATH TO GIVE ME AND MY DESCENDANTS THIS LAND. HE WILL SEND HIS ANGEL BEFORE YOU.

IF THE WOMAN IS UNWILLING TO COME THEN YOU ARE FREE FROM THIS OATH.

THE JOURNEY TO RETURN TO ABRAHAM'S HOME COUNTRY OF MESOPOTAMIA WAS A DISTANCE OF 450 MILES BUT THE SERVANT SET OUT, BELIEVING AND TRUSTING IN GOD'S DIRECTION AND PLAN.



GOD OF MY MASTER ABRAHAM, GRANT ME SUCCESS TODAY.



LET IT BE THAT WHEN I SAY TO A GIRL, "PLEASE LET DOWN YOUR JAR THAT I MIGHT HAVE A DRINK," THAT SHE REPLIES, "DRINK, AND I WILL ALSO WATER YOUR CAMELS."

THEN I WILL KNOW YOU HAVE SHOWN KINDNESS TO YOUR SERVANT ABRAHAM.



PLEASE... MAY I HAVE SOME WATER FROM YOUR JAR?





DRINK, MY LORD, AND I WILL DRAW WATER FOR YOUR CAMELS TOO.

GOD OF ABRAHAM, TRULY YOU HAVE ANSWERED OUR PRAYERS.



TELL ME, WHOSE DAUGHTER ARE YOU? IS THERE ROOM THAT WE MIGHT STAY AT YOUR FATHER'S HOUSE TONIGHT?



I AM THE DAUGHTER OF BETHUEL, THE SON OF MILCAH WHOM SHE BORE TO NAHOR.



PRAISE BE TO THE LORD-- THE GOD OF MY MASTER ABRAHAM.

YOU HAVE LED ME RIGHT TO THE HOUSE OF MY MASTER'S RELATIVES.

NAHOR WAS THE BROTHER OF ABRAHAM SO REBEKAH AND ISAAC WERE COUSINS.









I MUST BE ON MY WAY. THE JOURNEY IS LONG.

LET HER REMAIN TEN DAYS OR SO--THEN SHE MAY FREELY GO.



DO NOT DETAIN ME NOW THAT THE LORD HAS GIVEN ME SUCCESS.

WE WILL CALL THE GIRL AND ASK HER ABOUT IT.



ARE YOU READY TO GO SO SOON--BEFORE WE CAN ALL GIVE YOU OUR FAREWELLS?

I WILL GO WITH HIM... TO MY HUSBAND.

MAY YOU INCREASE TO THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS.

MAY YOUR OFFSPRING POSSESS THE GATES OF THEIR ENEMIES.



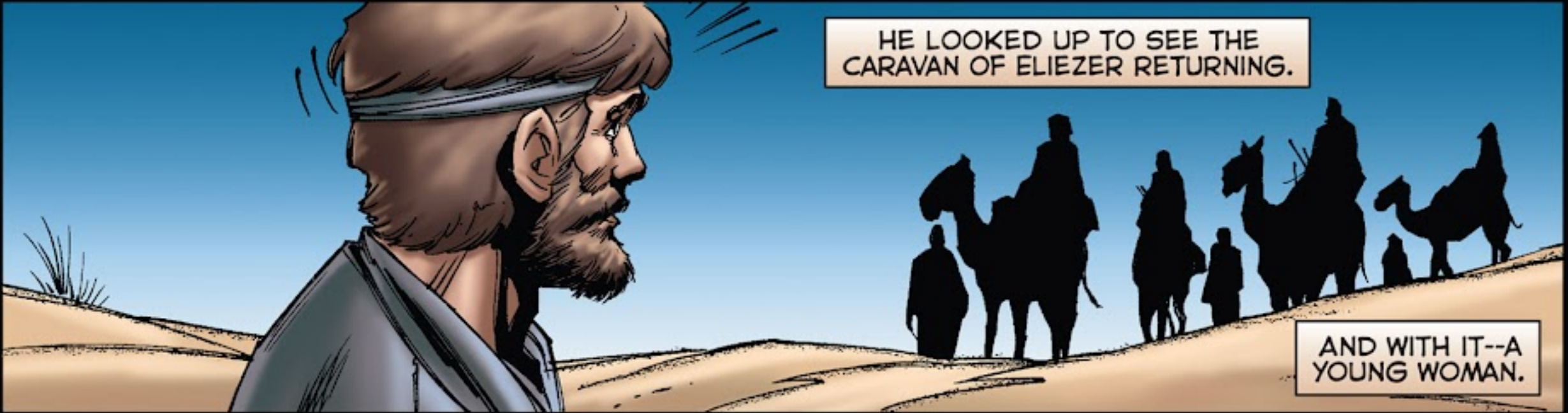
YOU WILL NOT BE ALONE. YOUR ATTENDANTS WILL ACCOMPANY YOU.



SO ELIEZER BEGAN THE RETURN TO HIS MASTER ABRAHAM--AND TO ISAAC.



ONE DAY ISAAC
WENT OUT INTO THE
FIELD TO MEDITATE.



HE LOOKED UP TO SEE THE
CARAVAN OF ELIEZER RETURNING.

AND WITH IT--A
YOUNG WOMAN.



BEHOLD
ISAAC, THE SON
OF MY MASTER
ABRAHAM.



REBEKAH COVERED HER
FACE WITH A VEIL...



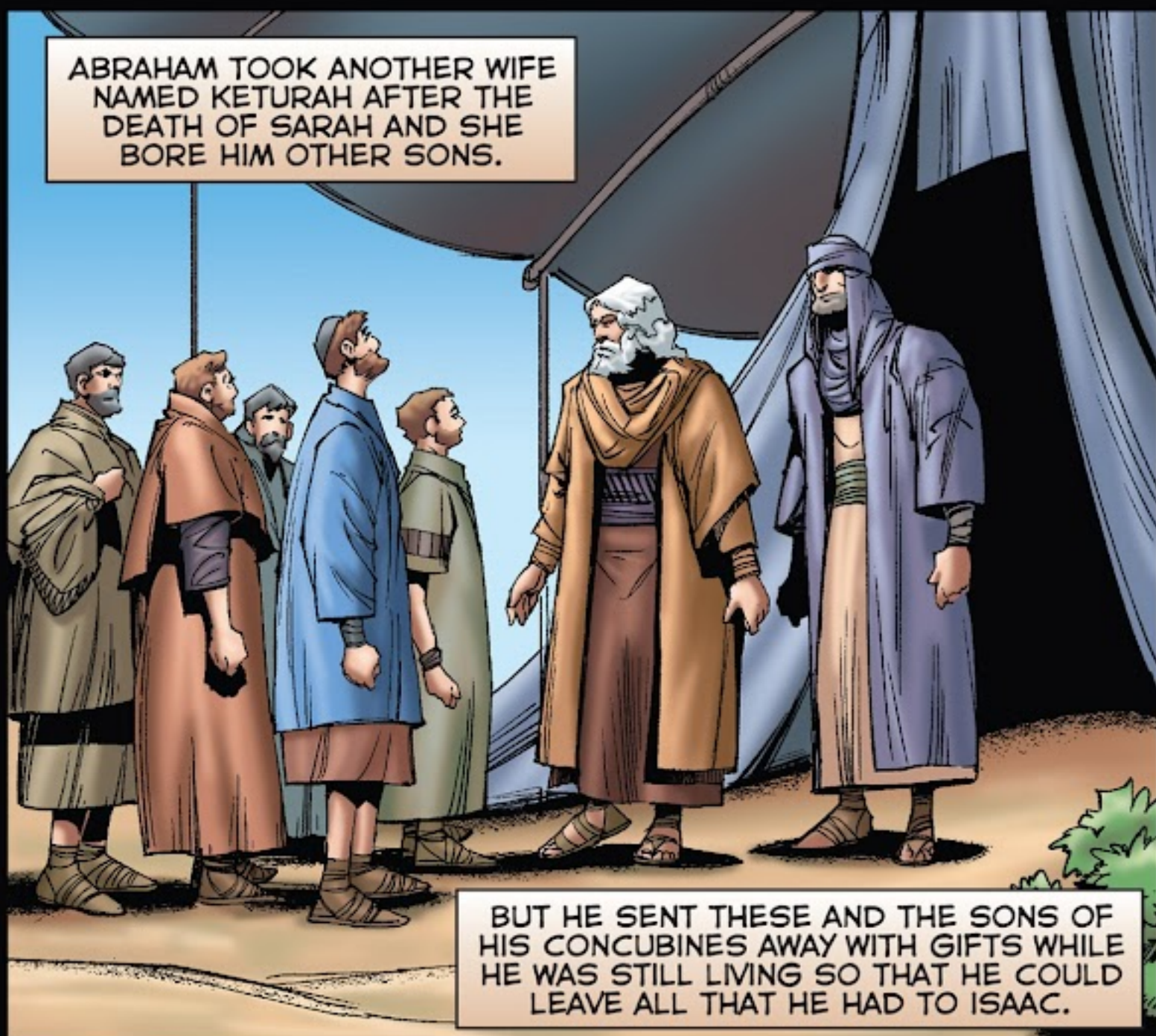
...AS ELIEZER RELAYED
TO ISAAC ALL THAT
GOD HAD DONE.



GOD'S PLAN FOR ISRAEL AND THE
LINE OF MESSIAH CONTINUED...

ISAAC LOVED REBEKAH
AND WAS GREATLY
COMFORTED AFTER THE
DEATH OF HIS MOTHER.

ABRAHAM TOOK ANOTHER WIFE NAMED KETURAH AFTER THE DEATH OF SARAH AND SHE BORE HIM OTHER SONS.

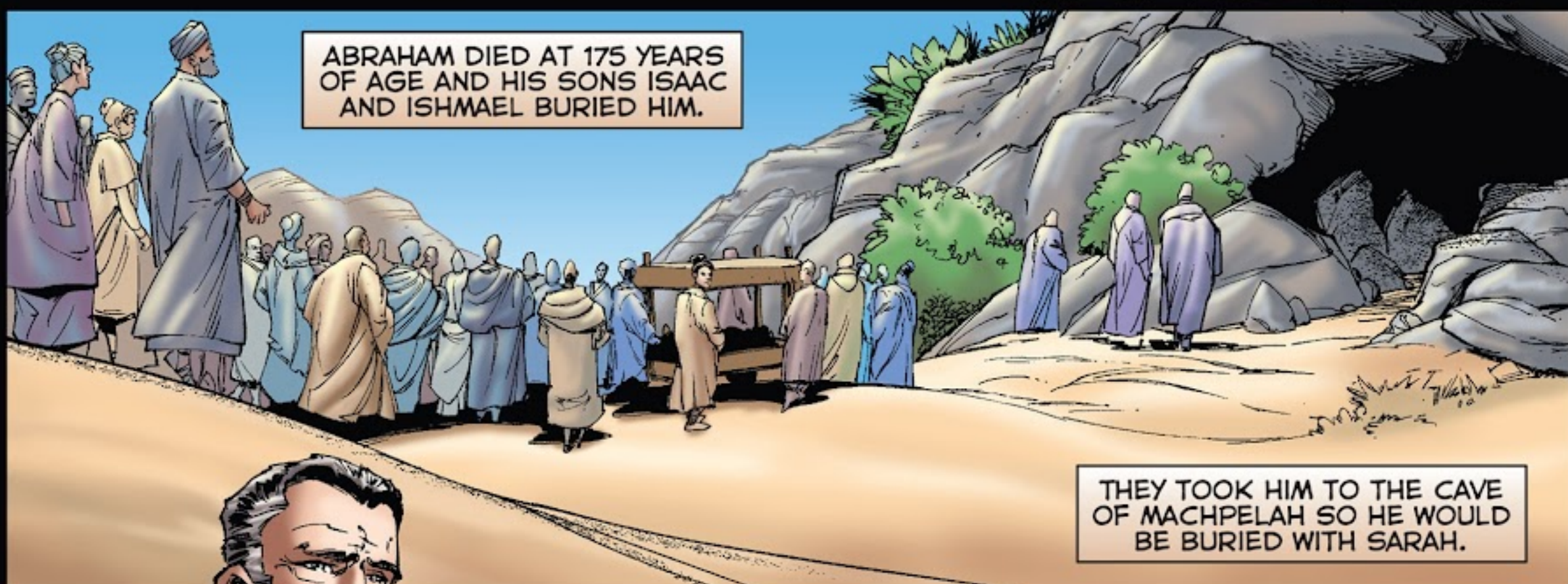


BUT HE SENT THESE AND THE SONS OF HIS CONCUBINES AWAY WITH GIFTS WHILE HE WAS STILL LIVING SO THAT HE COULD LEAVE ALL THAT HE HAD TO ISAAC.

ELIEZER!
OUR MASTER
ABRAHAM--HE--
HE IS DEAD!



ABRAHAM DIED AT 175 YEARS OF AGE AND HIS SONS ISAAC AND ISHMAEL BURIED HIM.



THEY TOOK HIM TO THE CAVE OF MACHPELAH SO HE WOULD BE BURIED WITH SARAH.



AS GOD HAD PROMISED ABRAHAM, ISHMAEL HAD 12 SONS WHO WERE TRIBAL RULERS.

THEY BECAME THE FOREBEARS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE OF TODAY.

AND GOD BLESSED ISAAC--AND WAS WITH HIM.



REBEKAH HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO HAVE CHILDREN BUT WHEN ISAAC PRAYED FOR HER SHE WAS ABLE TO CONCEIVE.

AS THE BABIES JOSTLED WITHIN HER, REBEKAH INQUIRED OF THE LORD...

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITHIN MY WOMB?

THERE ARE TWO NATIONS WITHIN YOUR WOMB AND TWO PEOPLES IN YOU WILL BE SEPARATED.

ONE WILL BE STRONGER THAN THE OTHER AND THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER.

THERE, YOUR FIRST SON HAS ARRIVED-- HE IS RED AND HAIRY!

HE IS TO BE NAMED ESAU.¹

¹ ESAU MAY MEAN HAIRY, BUT HE WAS ALSO CALLED EDM WHICH MEANS RED.

HIS BROTHER COMES NOW--AND IS HE IS GRASPING HIS BROTHER'S HEEL!

AND HE SHALL BE CALLED JACOB.²

² JACOB MEANS GRASPS THE HEEL, OR HE DECEIVES.



ESAU WAS A MAN OF THE OPEN COUNTRY AND A SKILLED HUNTER.

BUT JACOB PREFERRED QUIETNESS AND STAYING AMONG THE TENTS.



MY SON-- HOW I LOVE THE WILD GAME YOU BRING ME!



THOUGH ISAAC PREFERRED ESAU, REBEKAH LOVED JACOB AND HIS GENTLE SPIRIT.



LET ME HAVE SOME OF THAT RED STEW YOU ARE COOKING-- I AM STARVING!

WHAT GOOD IS A BIRTHRIGHT TO ME IF I DIE OF HUNGER!

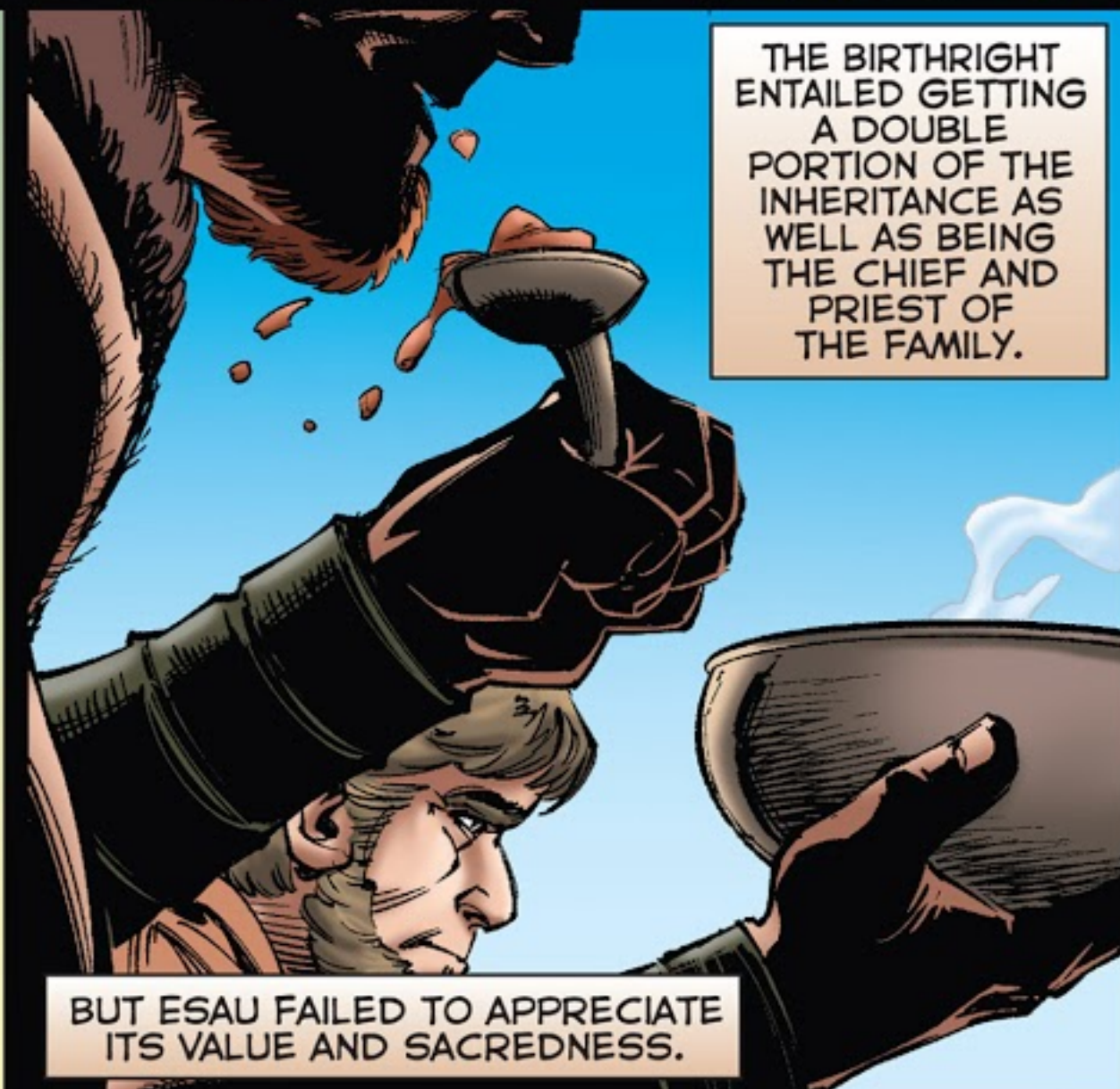


I WILL-- IF YOU WILL SELL ME YOUR BIRTHRIGHT.



SWEAR TO ME.

I SWEAR-- NOW FEED ME.



THE BIRTHRIGHT ENTAILED GETTING A DOUBLE PORTION OF THE INHERITANCE AS WELL AS BEING THE CHIEF AND PRIEST OF THE FAMILY.

BUT ESAU FAILED TO APPRECIATE ITS VALUE AND SACREDNESS.

WHEN A FAMINE STRUCK THE LAND ISAAC WENT TO AHIMELECH, THE KING OF THE PHILISTINES, AFTER BEING WARNED BY GOD NOT TO GO DOWN TO EGYPT.

STAY IN THIS LAND AND I WILL GIVE YOU ALL THAT I PROMISED YOUR FATHER ABRAHAM.

YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE AS NUMEROUS AS THE STARS AND ALL NATIONS ON THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH THEM.

AND THE WOMAN WITH YOU?

SHE IS MY SISTER-- AND TRAVELS WITH US.

ISAAC DID THE SAME THING HIS FATHER ABRAHAM DID. HE DID NOT TRUST GOD TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.

?!?

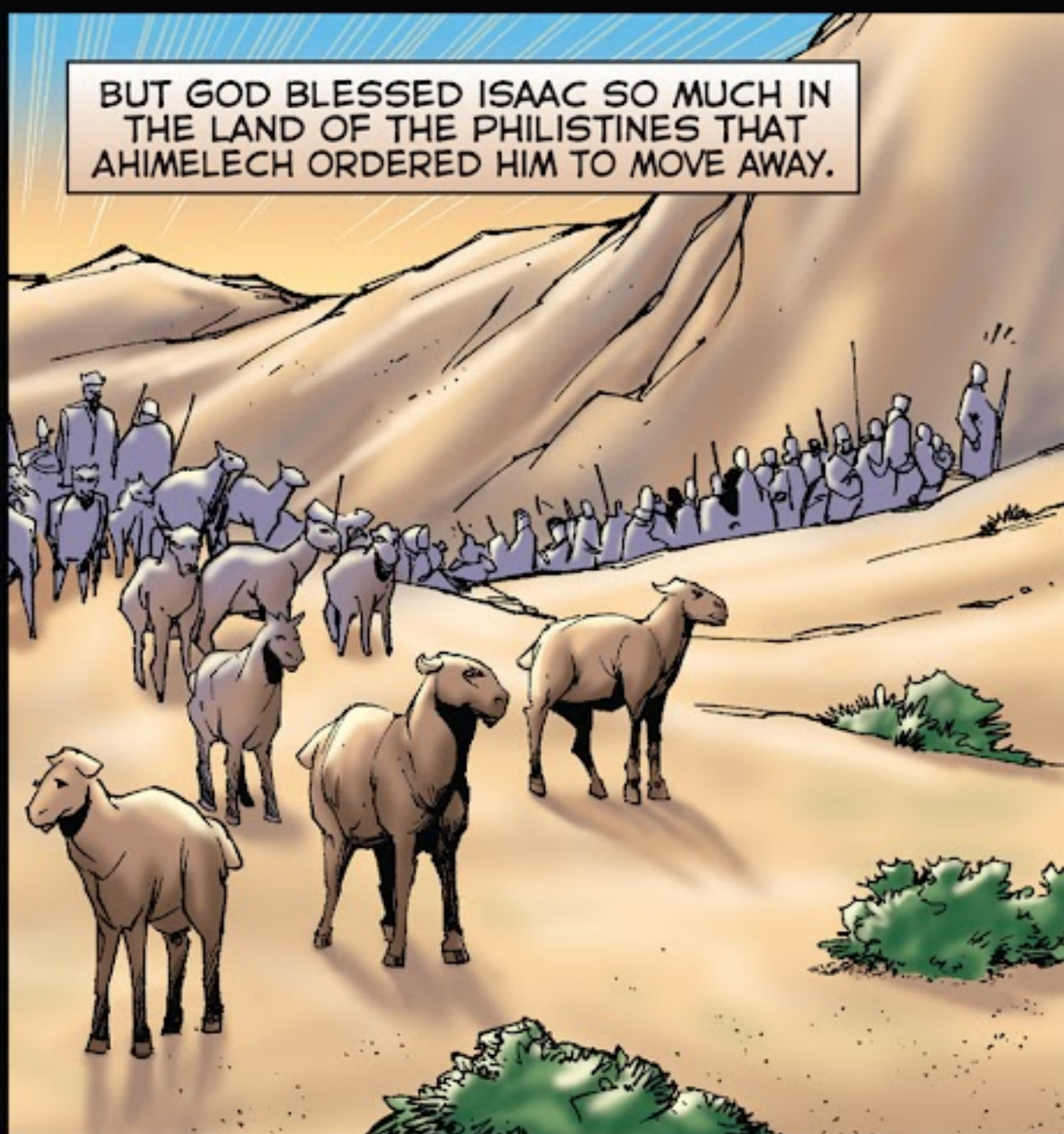
WHAT IS THIS YOU HAVE DONE?

ONE OF MY MEN MIGHT HAVE SLEPT WITH HER AND BROUGHT GUILT ON US.

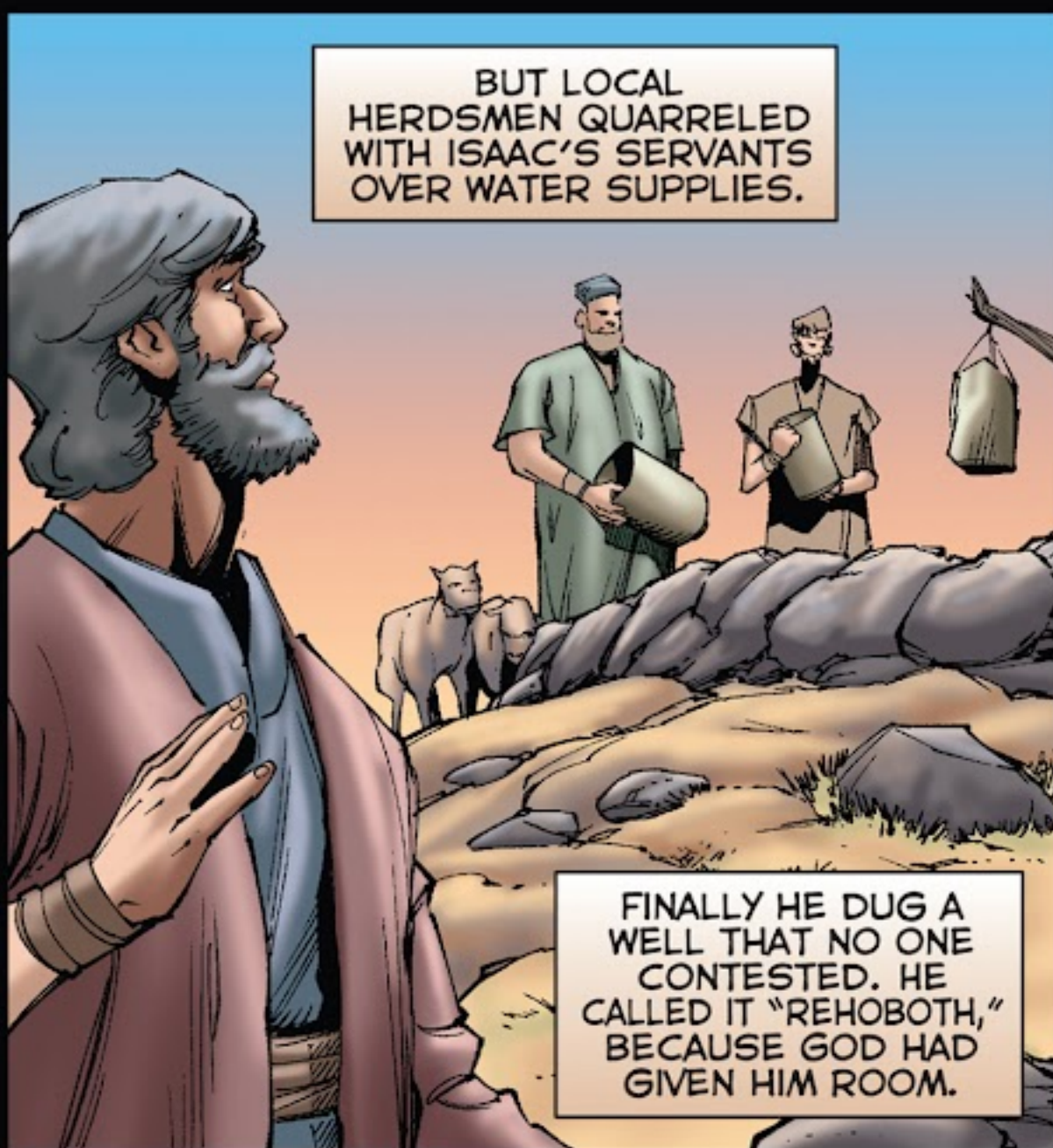
THIS WOMAN IS REALLY YOUR WIFE!

GIVE THIS DECREE THROUGHOUT THE LAND--NO ONE IS TO HARM ISAAC OR HIS WIFE. IF THEY DISOBEY THEY WILL PAY WITH THEIR LIFE.

BUT GOD BLESSED ISAAC SO MUCH IN THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES THAT AHIMELECH ORDERED HIM TO MOVE AWAY.



BUT LOCAL HERDSMEN QUARRELED WITH ISAAC'S SERVANTS OVER WATER SUPPLIES.



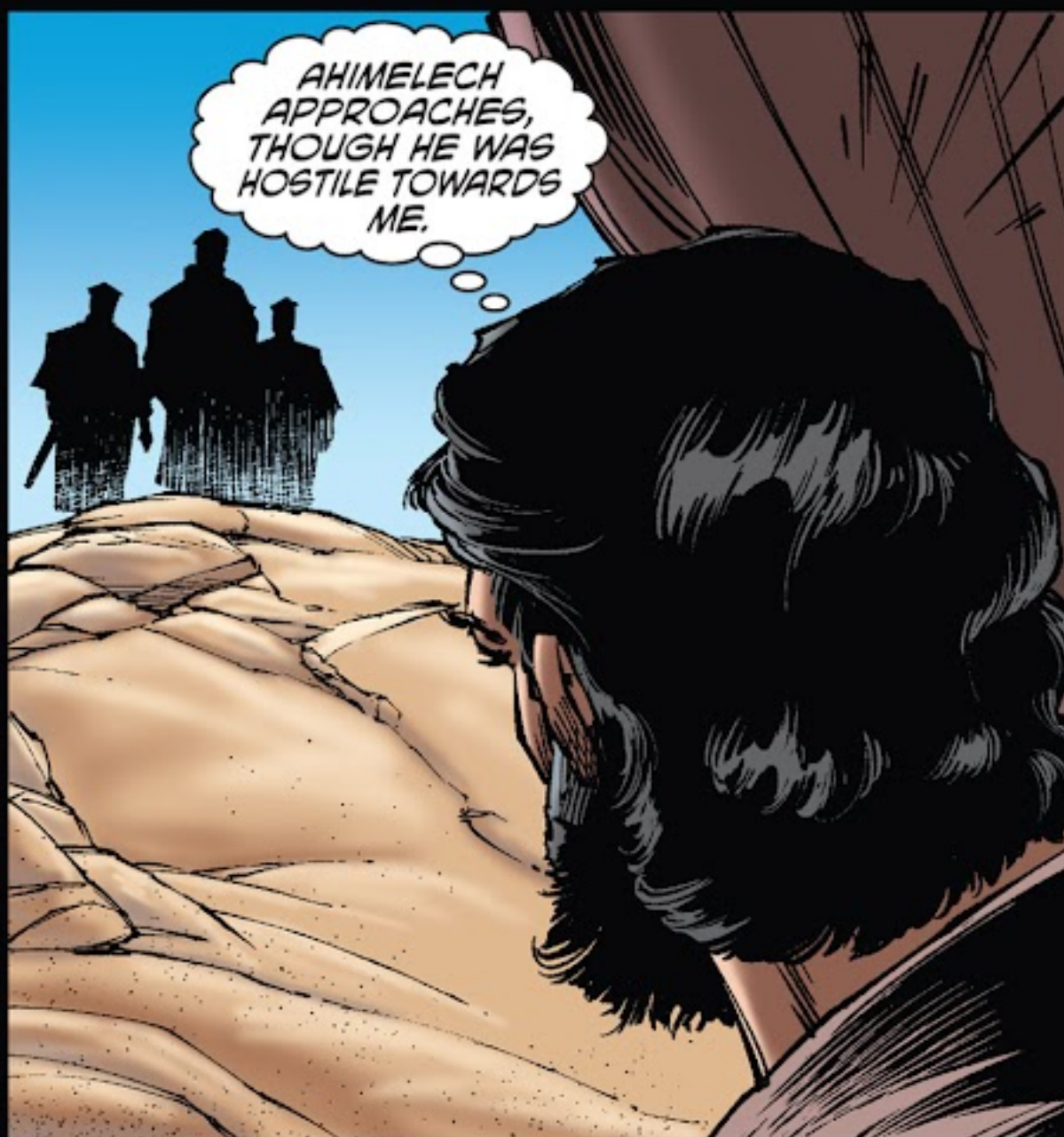
FINALLY HE DUG A WELL THAT NO ONE CONTESTED. HE CALLED IT "REHOBOTH," BECAUSE GOD HAD GIVEN HIM ROOM.

AGAIN, GOD SPOKE TO HIM AND REMINDED HIM TO NOT BE AFRAID--



--HE WAS WITH ISAAC AND WOULD GREATLY INCREASE HIS DESCENDANTS.

AHIMELECH APPROACHES, THOUGH HE WAS HOSTILE TOWARDS ME.



WE SAW THAT THE LORD WAS CLEARLY WITH YOU AND WERE AFRAID.

WE ALWAYS TREATED YOU WELL, SO LET US MAKE A PACT OF PEACE BETWEEN US.

WE WILL SWEAR A PLEDGE BETWEEN US.



ISAAC HAD PEACE WITH HIS NEIGHBORS BUT NOT IN HIS FAMILY.



ESAU REFUSED TO MARRY FROM HIS OWN PEOPLE, BUT INSTEAD TOOK TWO WIVES FROM THE PAGAN TRIBES NEARBY--A SOURCE OF GRIEF FOR ISAAC AND REBEKAH.



I AM OLD
AND MY EYESIGHT
IS WEAK. I DON'T
KNOW THE DAY OF
MY DEATH.

GET SOME
OF THE WILD GAME I
LOVE AND PREPARE IT
FOR ME --AND I WILL
GIVE YOU MY BLESSING
BEFORE I DIE.



I JUST HEARD YOUR
FATHER INSTRUCT ESAU
TO BRING HIM SOME WILD
GAME SO HE COULD
GIVE HIM HIS
BLESSING.

BRING
ME TWO GOATS
AND I WILL PREPARE
THEM JUST THE WAY
YOUR FATHER
LIKES.

THEN YOU
CAN TAKE IT TO
HIM AND GAIN
HIS BLESSING.



BUT ESAU IS
A HAIRY MAN AND
I HAVE SMOOTH
SKIN.

IF HE
TOUCHES ME HE
WILL CURSE ME
INSTEAD.

JUST DO
WHAT I SAY
AND LET THE
CURSE FALL
ON ME.



PUT
THESE ON--
YOUR BROTHER'S
BEST CLOTHES--
THEN YOU WILL
SMELL LIKE
ESAU.

THESE
GOATSKINS WILL
FEEL LIKE ESAU'S
ROUGH, HAIRY
ARMS.

WITH THESE,
AND THE TASTY
MEAL, HE WILL THINK
YOU ARE ESAU AND
GIVE YOU HIS
BLESSING.




MY
FATHER.

YES,
SON--WHO
IS IT?

ESAU--
YOUR FIRST
BORN. I HAVE
BROUGHT YOU
THE GAME YOU
LIKE SO I MIGHT
OBTAIN YOUR
BLESSING.

LET ME
TOUCH YOU--
SO THAT I KNOW
FOR SURE YOU
ARE ESAU.



IT SOUNDS LIKE
THE VOICE OF
JACOB BUT THE
HANDS ARE THOSE
OF ESAU.

ARE
YOU TRULY
ESAU?

YES,
I AM.



BRING ME
THE STEW
I LIKE.





I HAVE RETURNED WITH THE FRESH GAME YOU LIKE--I AM READY FOR YOUR BLESSING.

WHO ARE YOU?

YOUR SON. YOUR OLDEST SON, ESAU.

WHO THEN-- WHO CAME IN WITH GAME AND I ATE IT?!

I BLESSED HIM--AND INDEED HE WILL BE BLESSED.

BUT FATHER-- BLESS ME TOO!

IN DECEIT YOUR BROTHER CAME AND TOOK YOUR BLESSING.

ISN'T HE RIGHTLY CALLED "DECEIVER"?!

TWICE HE HAS DECEIVED ME--FIRST WITH THE BIRTHRIGHT AND NOW WITH THE BLESSING!

BLESS ME TOO... ISN'T THERE ONE BLESSING LEFT?

YOU... WILL LIVE FAR FROM HEAVEN'S DEW AND EARTH'S RICHNESS.

YOU WILL LIVE BY THE SWORD AND SERVE YOU BROTHER.

BUT... WHEN YOU GROW RESTLESS YOU WILL THROW OFF HIS YOKE.





IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE YOU CAN TAKE REFUGE.

MY BROTHER, LABAN, WILL SHOW YOU WHAT TO DO.



SO, THEY DON'T LIKE MY CANAANITE WIVES... PERHAPS I CAN MAKE UP FOR GIVING UP MY BIRTHRIGHT...

IN OBEDIENCE TO HIS FATHER, JACOB TRAVELED TOWARDS HARAN AND HIS MOTHER'S FAMILY.



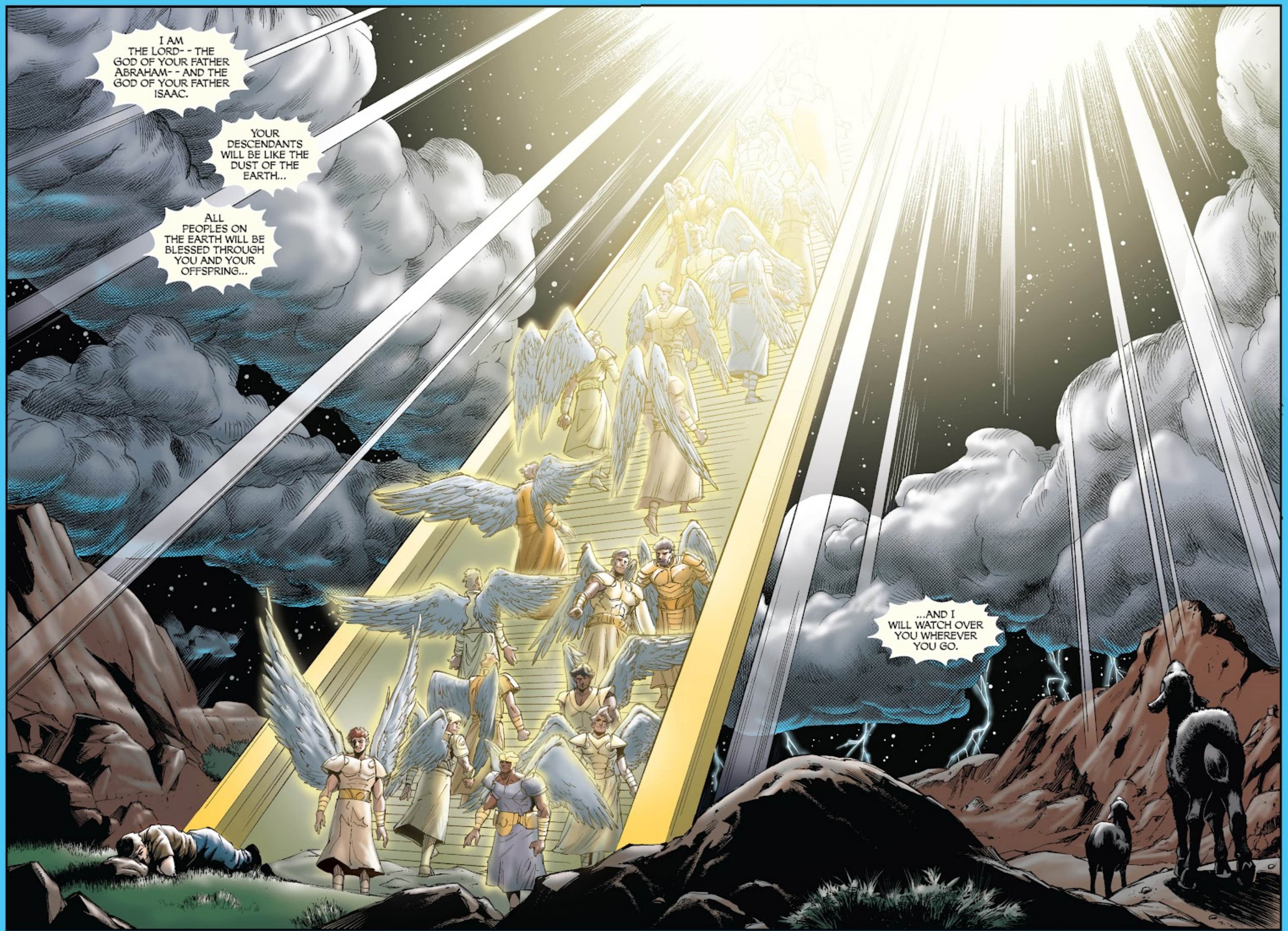
THERE HE SOUGHT REFUGE FROM HIS BROTHER ESAU, AND ALSO HOPED TO FIND A SUITABLE WIFE.



ESAU TOOK A THIRD WIFE, THIS ONE A DAUGHTER OF HIS UNCLE, ISHMAEL. HE MAY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PERSUADE HIS PARENTS TO MAKE A NEW WILL.

AT A CERTAIN PLACE JACOB STOPPED TO SLEEP, TAKING A STONE AS A PILLOW.





I AM
THE LORD-- THE
GOD OF YOUR FATHER
ABRAHAM-- AND THE
GOD OF YOUR FATHER
ISAAC.

YOUR
DESCENDANTS
WILL BE LIKE THE
DUST OF THE
EARTH...

ALL
PEOPLES ON
THE EARTH WILL BE
BLESSED THROUGH
YOU AND YOUR
OFFSPRING...

...AND I
WILL WATCH OVER
YOU WHEREVER
YOU GO.



PADDAN ARAM.

THE LAND OF
REBEKAH'S FAMILY.

FRIENDS--
WHERE ARE YOU
FROM?

WE
HAIL FROM
HARRAN.

THEN DO YOU
KNOW LABAN--NAHOR'S
GRANDSON?

YES,
WE KNOW
HIM.

DOES
HE FARE
WELL?

YES,
INDEED.
HERE
COMES HIS
DAUGHTER
RACHEL
NOW.

I AM A
RELATIVE--THE SON
OF YOUR FATHER'S
SISTER!

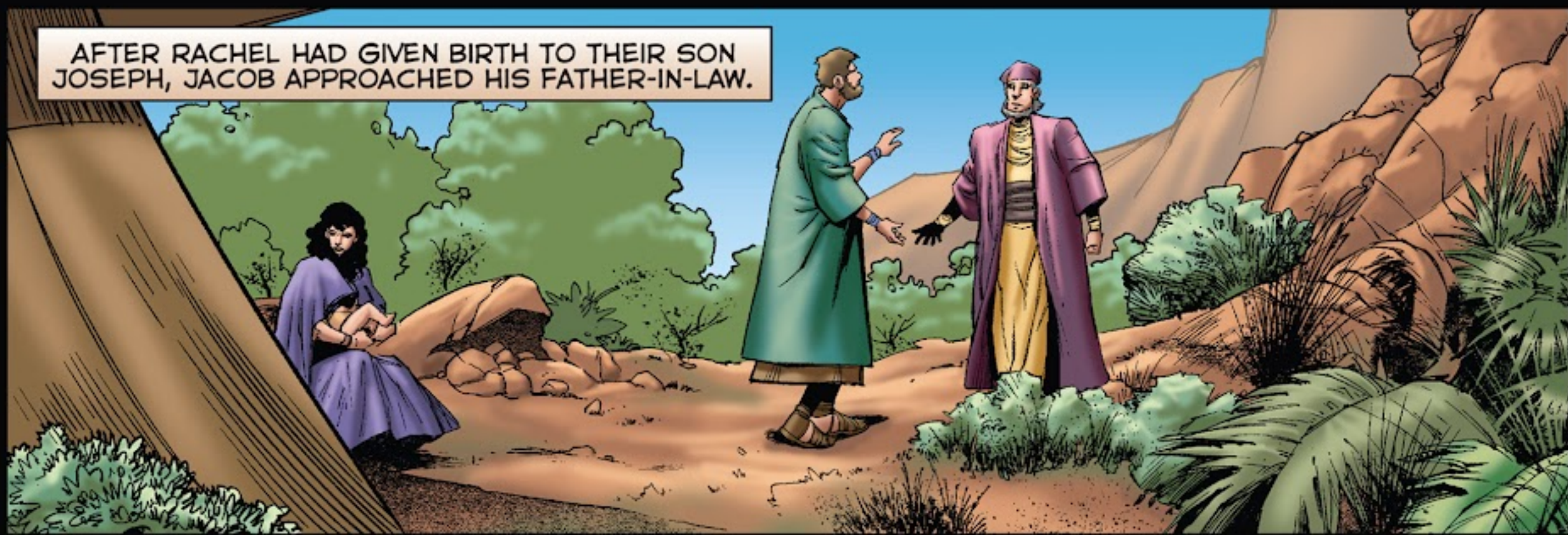
COME
WITH ME! MY
FATHER WILL BE
OVERJOYED!

FATHER! THE
SON OF YOUR
SISTER REBEKAH
HAS COME TO
US!





AFTER RACHEL HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO THEIR SON JOSEPH, JACOB APPROACHED HIS FATHER-IN-LAW.



GIVE ME MY WIVES, CHILDREN, AND ALL THAT I HAVE SO I MAY RETURN TO MY FAMILY.

I HAVE LEARNED THAT THE LORD HAS BLESSED ME BECAUSE OF YOU. PLEASE STAY-- AND NAME YOUR WAGES.



THE LITTLE YOU HAD HAS MULTIPLIED UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND CARE.

BUT NOW I AM READY TO DO SOMETHING FOR MY OWN HOUSEHOLD.

WHAT SHALL I GIVE YOU?



ONLY THIS. LET ME REMOVE ALL SPECKLED AND SPOTTED SHEEP AND GOATS, AS WELL AS ALL THE DARK-COLORED LAMBS.

THEY WILL BE MY WAGES AND IF ANYTHING ELSE IS FOUND IN MY FLOCKS WE WILL BOTH CONSIDER THEM STOLEN.

AGREED.

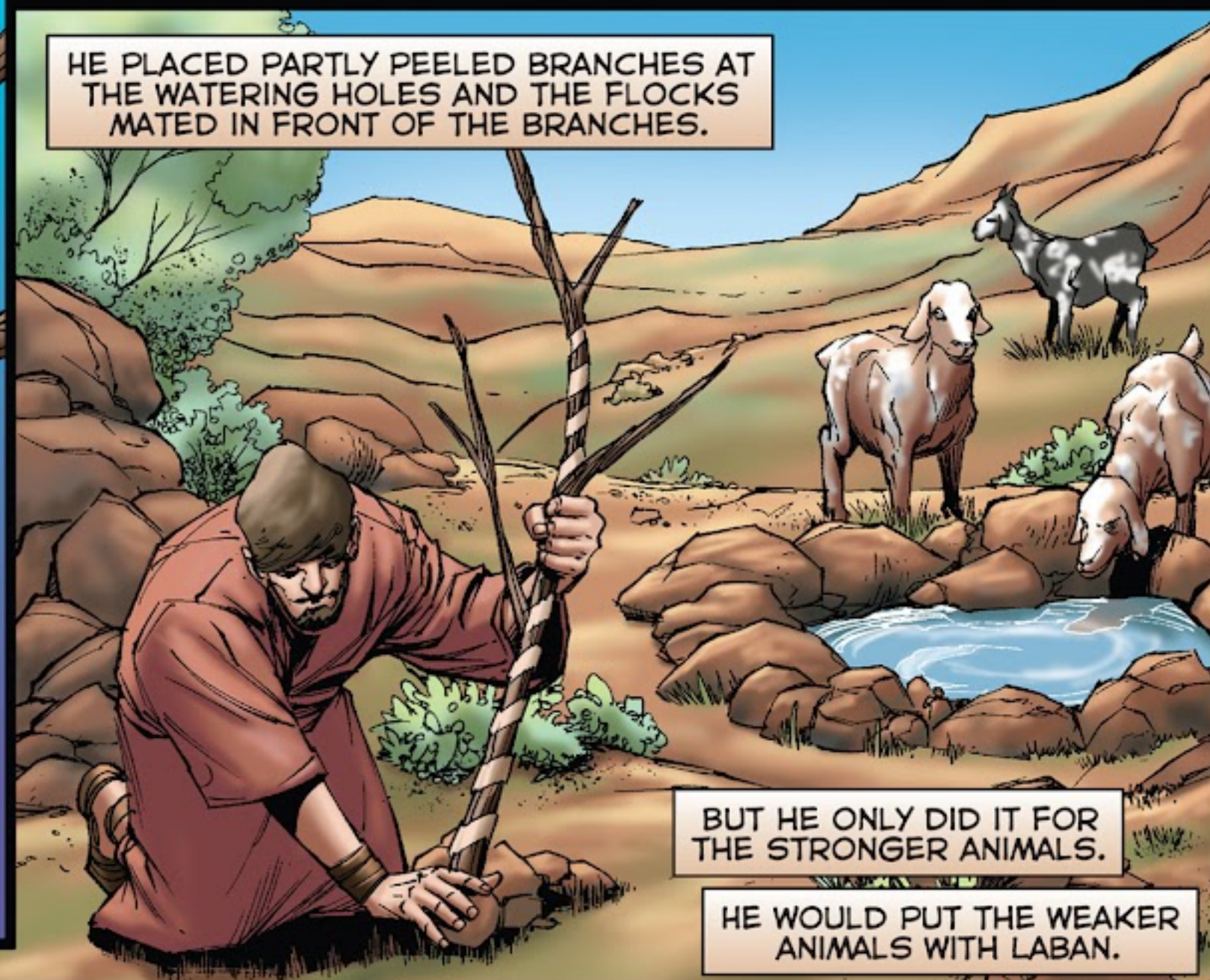


LABAN HAD HIS SONS REMOVE THESE ANIMALS FROM THE FLOCKS AND TAKE THEM THREE DAYS AWAY.





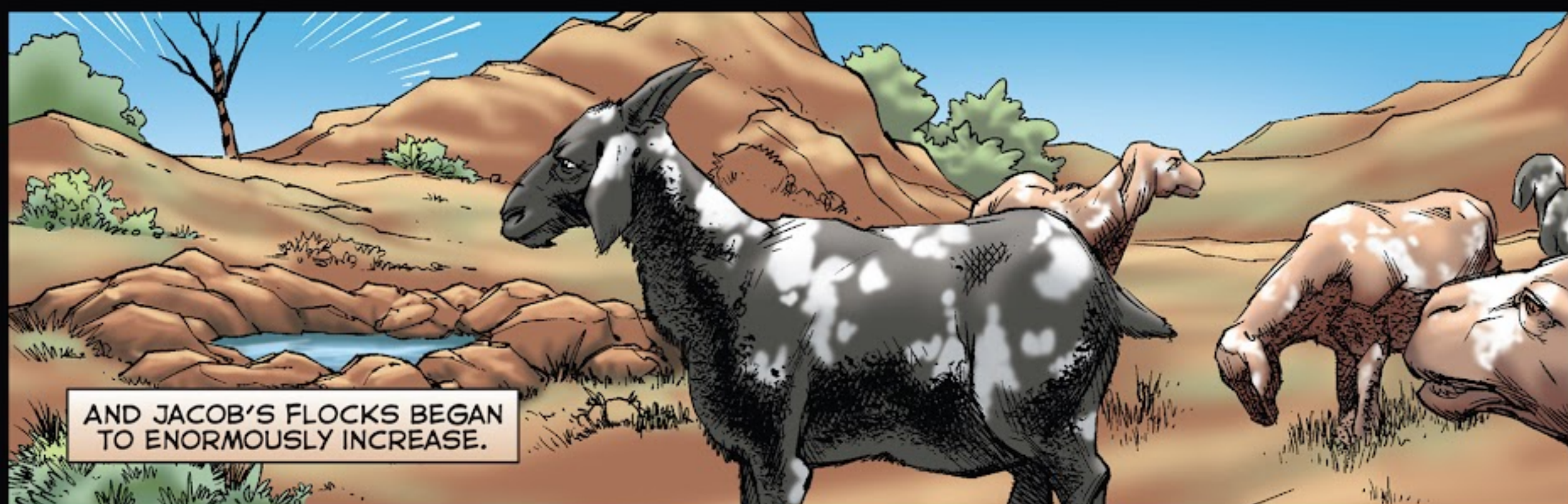
JACOB, HOWEVER,
HAD A PLAN.



HE PLACED PARTLY PEELED BRANCHES AT
THE WATERING HOLES AND THE FLOCKS
MATED IN FRONT OF THE BRANCHES.

BUT HE ONLY DID IT FOR
THE STRONGER ANIMALS.

HE WOULD PUT THE WEAKER
ANIMALS WITH LABAN.



AND JACOB'S FLOCKS BEGAN
TO ENORMOUSLY INCREASE.



HE GREW RICH IN FLOCKS,
CAMELS, DONKEYS AND SERVANTS.
HE PROSPERED GREATLY.

OUR SISTERS'
HUSBAND IS SOON
TO TAKE ALMOST ALL
THAT WOULD HAVE
BEEN OURS.

I WILL
DEAL WITH
IT.



THE ATTITUDE
OF YOUR FATHER
AND YOUR BROTHERS
TOWARDS ME HAS
CHANGED.



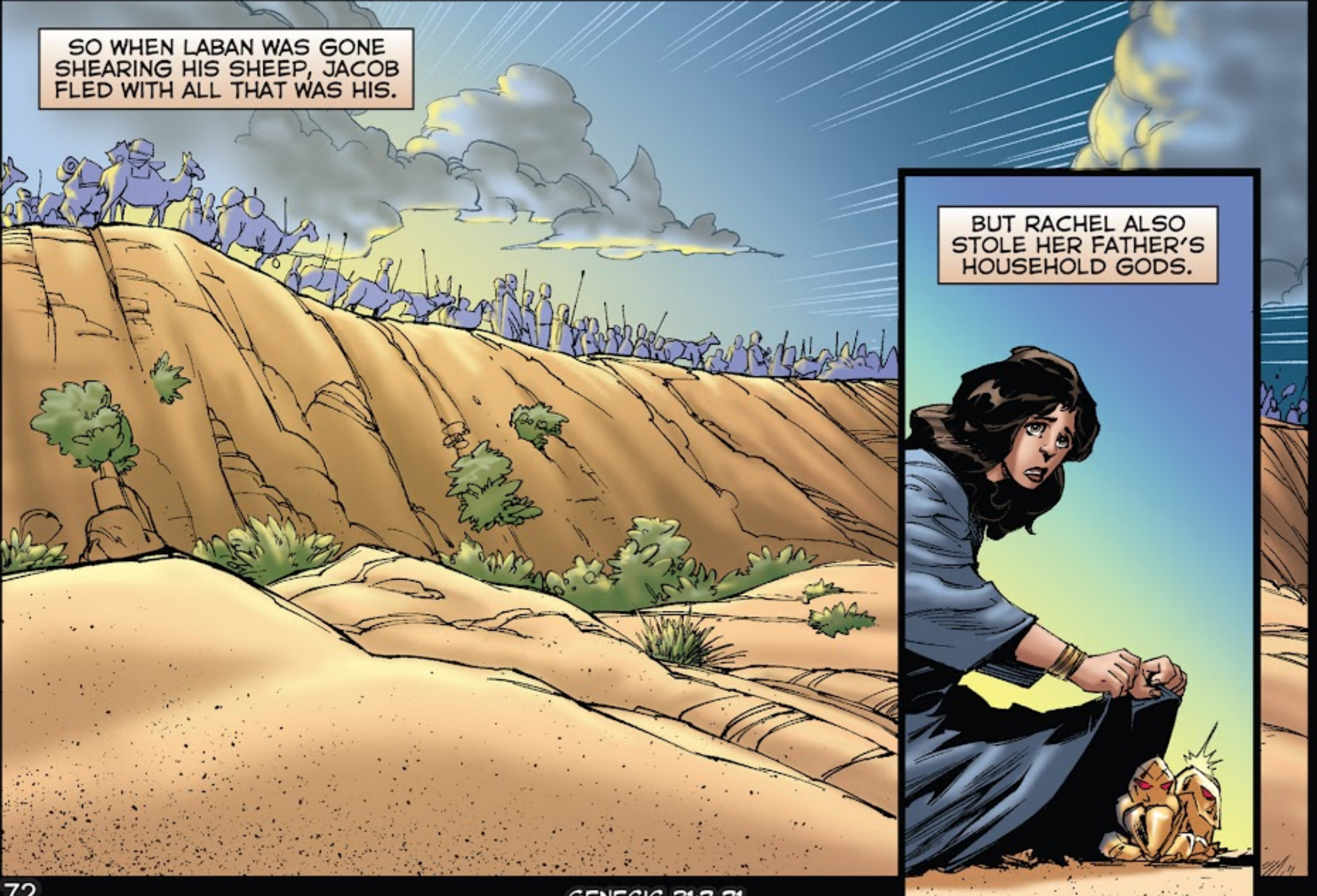
YOUR FATHER
HAS CHANGED MY
WAGES TEN TIMES YET
GOD HAS TAKEN FROM
HIS LIVESTOCK AND
ADDED TO MINE.

GOD HAS
SEEN ALL THAT
HE HAS DONE TO
ME. GOD WANTS
ME TO RETURN
TO MY NATIVE
LAND.



WE NO
LONGER HAVE AN
INHERITANCE HERE
AND ARE REGARDED
AS FOREIGNERS
OURSELVES.

WE ARE
WITH YOU, WHAT-
EVER GOD TELLS
YOU TO DO.



SO WHEN LABAN WAS GONE
SHEARING HIS SHEEP, JACOB
FLED WITH ALL THAT WAS HIS.

BUT RACHEL ALSO
STOLE HER FATHER'S
HOUSEHOLD GODS.





SO
WHERE ARE
THEY?

I
WILL FIND
THEM AND
PROVE MY
WORDS.



RACHEL HID
THE IDOLS AND
SAT ON THEM.

I AM
SORRY FATHER;
I CANNOT STAND IN
YOUR PRESENCE. THE
WAY OF WOMEN
IS UPON ME.



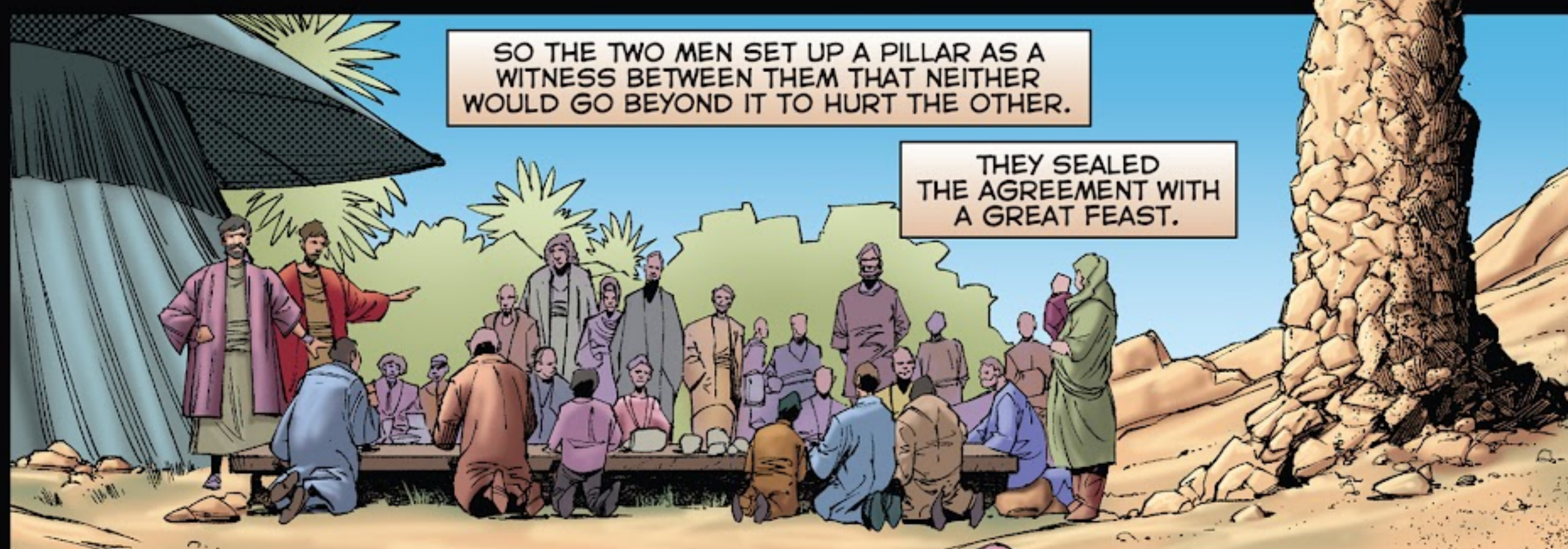
YOU HAVE
SEARCHED THROUGH
EVERYTHING I OWN--
HAVE YOU FOUND
WHAT YOU WERE
SEEKING?!

TWENTY YEARS
I HAVE BEEN WITH
YOU. WHEN YOUR ANIMALS
WERE TORN BY WILD BEASTS
I MYSELF TOOK THE LOSS--
AND NOW, LOOK HOW YOU
HAVE TREATED ME!

GOD
HAS SEEN
MY HARDSHIP
AND REBUKED
YOU!



THOUGH THE
WOMEN ARE MY
DAUGHTERS, AND THEIR
CHILDREN MY CHILDREN,
AND THE FLOCKS ARE MINE
AS WELL, LET THERE BE A
COVENANT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN US.



SO THE TWO MEN SET UP A PILLAR AS A
WITNESS BETWEEN THEM THAT NEITHER
WOULD GO BEYOND IT TO HURT THE OTHER.

THEY SEALED
THE AGREEMENT WITH
A GREAT FEAST.



THE NEXT MORNING
LABAN KISSED EACH
OF HIS GRAND-
CHILDREN GOODBYE
AND THEN RETURNED
TO HIS OWN HOME.



ONE NIGHT ON HIS JOURNEY HOME, JACOB SAW THE ANGELS OF GOD.

HE WAS REMINDED THAT GOD WAS WITH HIM AND CALLED THE PLACE **TWO CAMPS**.



GO AHEAD OF US. SPEAK TO MY MASTER AND BROTHER ESAU.

TELL HIM THAT I HAVE BEEN WITH OUR UNCLE LABAN AND HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH MANY GOODS: OXEN, DONKEYS, FLOCKS AND SERVANTS. I WISH TO FIND FAVOR IN HIS EYES.



A FEW DAYS LATER...

WE WENT TO YOUR BROTHER, ESAU; HOWEVER HE IS COMING NOW WITH 400 MEN.

THAT CANNOT BE GOOD...HELP ME NOW TO REORGANIZE INTO TWO CAMPS. WE WILL DIVIDE THE FLOCKS AND HERDS.



IF MY BROTHER ATTACKS ONE GROUP, MAYBE THE OTHER GROUP CAN ESCAPE.

MY GOD, REMEMBER YOU PROMISED THAT I WOULD PROSPER AND MY DESCENDANTS WOULD BE LIKE THE SAND OF THE SEA...



TOMORROW, TAKE A HERD OF GOATS, THEN SHEEP, THEN CAMELS, THEN COWS AND THEN DONKEYS. KEEP SOME SPACE BETWEEN YOURSELVES.

WHEN YOU COME TO ESAU YOU ARE TO SAY, "THESE BELONG TO YOUR SERVANT JACOB AND ARE A GIFT TO MY LORD ESAU. JACOB FOLLOWS BEHIND US."

JACOB SENT EVERYONE ACROSS THE STREAM AND HE WAS LEFT ALONE.



ALL THAT NIGHT JACOB WRESTLED WITH A MAN.

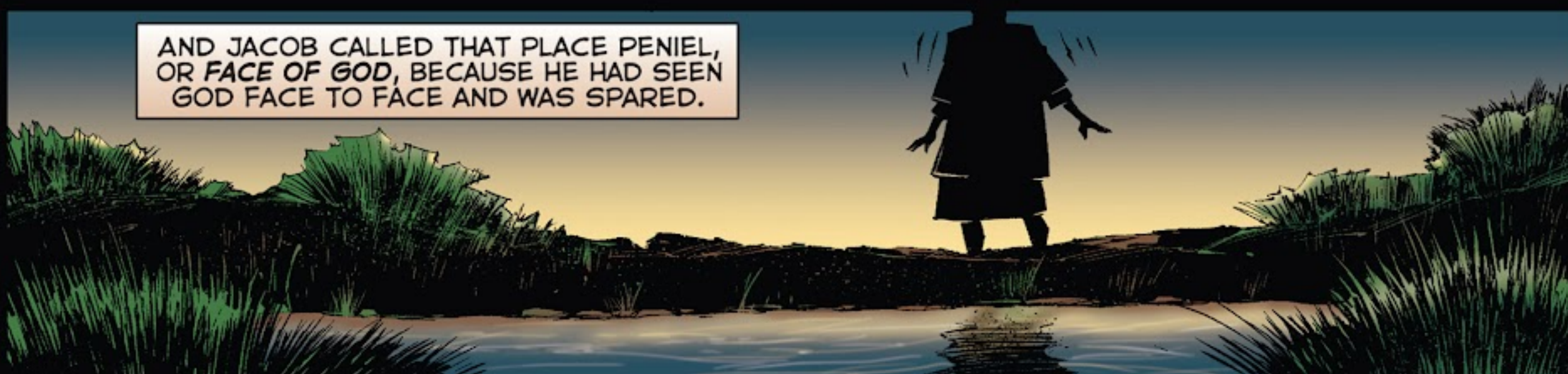
MANY BELIEVE THIS WAS A PRE-INCARNATE VISITATION OF JESUS CHRIST.



AT DAWN THE MAN TOUCHED JACOB'S HIP SO THE SOCKET CAME OUT OF PLACE.



AND JACOB CALLED THAT PLACE PENIEL, OR FACE OF GOD, BECAUSE HE HAD SEEN GOD FACE TO FACE AND WAS SPARED.







AND WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ALL THESE DROVES YOU SENT AHEAD?

WE LEFT ON BAD TERMS BUT NOW I SEEK YOUR FAVOR.



I DO NOT NEED THEM, BROTHER--I HAVE PLENTY MYSELF.

I INSIST! SEEING YOUR FACE IS LIKE SEEING THE FACE OF GOD.

YOU MUST TAKE THESE AS A PRESENT FROM ME.



IF YOU MUST, THEN I WILL TAKE THEM AS A GIFT FROM YOUR HANDS.

ONLY, WE MUST CONTINUE ON. I WILL ACCOMPANY YOU.

WE CANNOT.

THE CHILDREN ARE TENDER AND WE MUST MOVE AT A SLOW PACE BECAUSE OF THE NURSING LAMBS AND CALVES.



THEN SOME OF MY MEN WILL STAY BEHIND TO ACCOMPANY YOU.

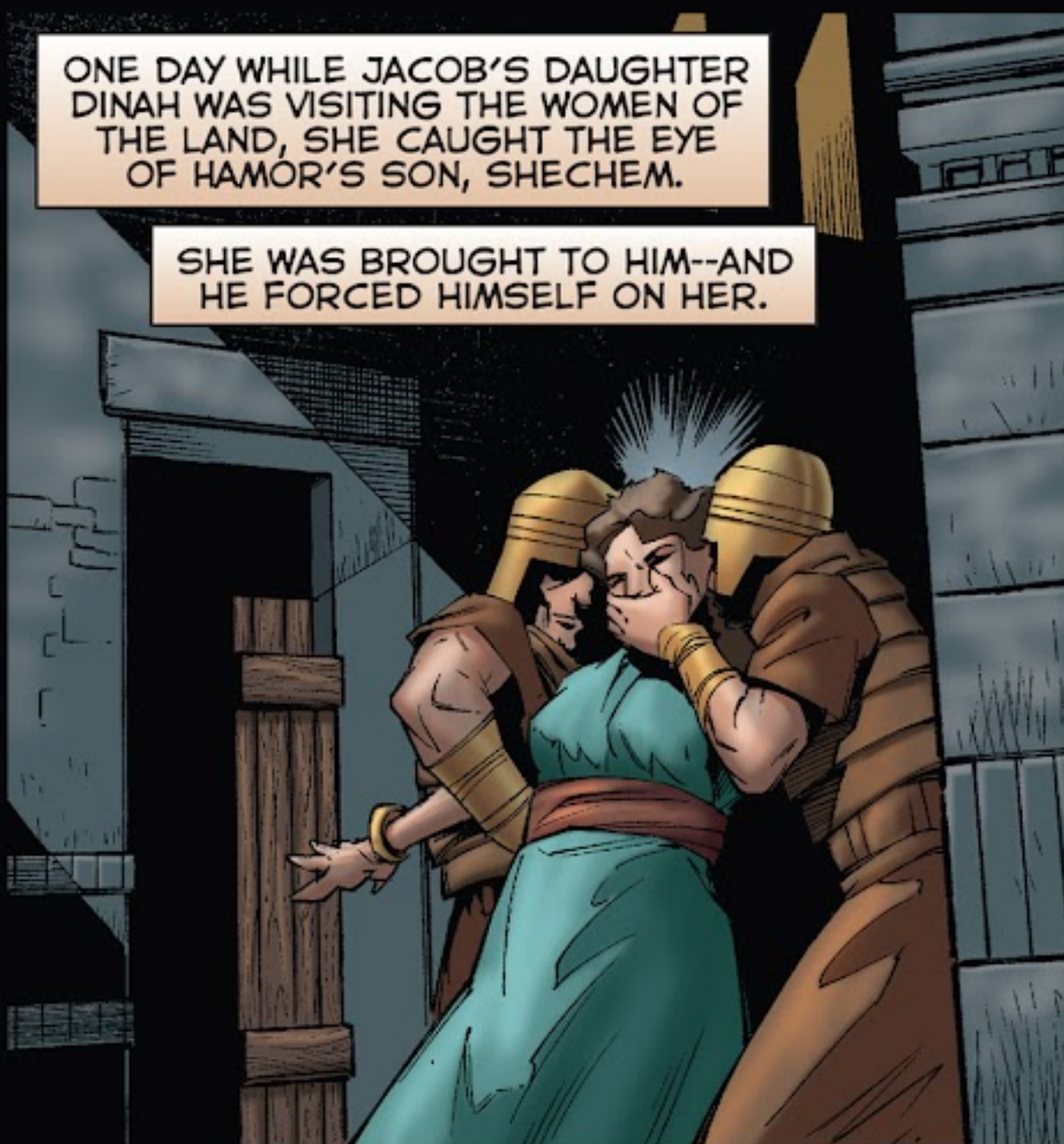
WHY? JUST LET ME FIND FAVOR WITH MY LORD.



IN CANAAN, JACOB PURCHASED A PIECE OF GROUND FROM THE SONS OF HAMOR.

ONE DAY WHILE JACOB'S DAUGHTER DINAH WAS VISITING THE WOMEN OF THE LAND, SHE CAUGHT THE EYE OF HAMOR'S SON, SHECHEM.

SHE WAS BROUGHT TO HIM--AND HE FORCED HIMSELF ON HER.



DINAH,
MY CHILD,
WHAT HAS
HAPPENED?!



MY
SON SHECHEM IS
CAPTIVATED WITH
YOUR DAUGHTER.
HE WANTS HER
FOR A WIFE.

HE
DEFILED
HER!

IT IS A
SHAMEFUL THING
THAT HE HAS
DONE.



BUT HIS
HEART IS SET
ON HER.

PLEASE...
STAY HERE AND
INTERMARRY
WITH US.



WE
CANNOT GIVE
OUR SISTER TO AN
UNCIRCUMCISED
MAN.

THE
MEN IN YOUR
TOWN MUST BE
CIRCUMCISED AS
WE ARE.





HAMOR AND HIS SON SHECHEM AGREED. THEY PERSUADED THE MEN OF THE TOWN TO BE CIRCUMCISED SO THEY COULD INTERMARRY WITH THE FAMILY OF JACOB.



THREE DAYS LATER SIMEON AND LEVI, DINAH'S BROTHERS, TOOK THEIR REVENGE.

WHILE THE MEN OF THE CITY WERE IN PAIN, RECOVERING, THEY ATTACKED--KILLING EVERY MALE IN THE CITY, INCLUDING HAMOR AND SHECHEM.

THEY TOOK THE REST AS PLUNDER.

WHAT IS THIS YOU HAVE DONE?!

WE ARE FEW IN NUMBER AND IF THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND JOIN TOGETHER AND ATTACK US OUR ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD WILL BE DESTROYED.

BUT HE TREATED OUR SISTER AS A PROSTITUTE.

THEY GOT WHAT THEY DESERVED.



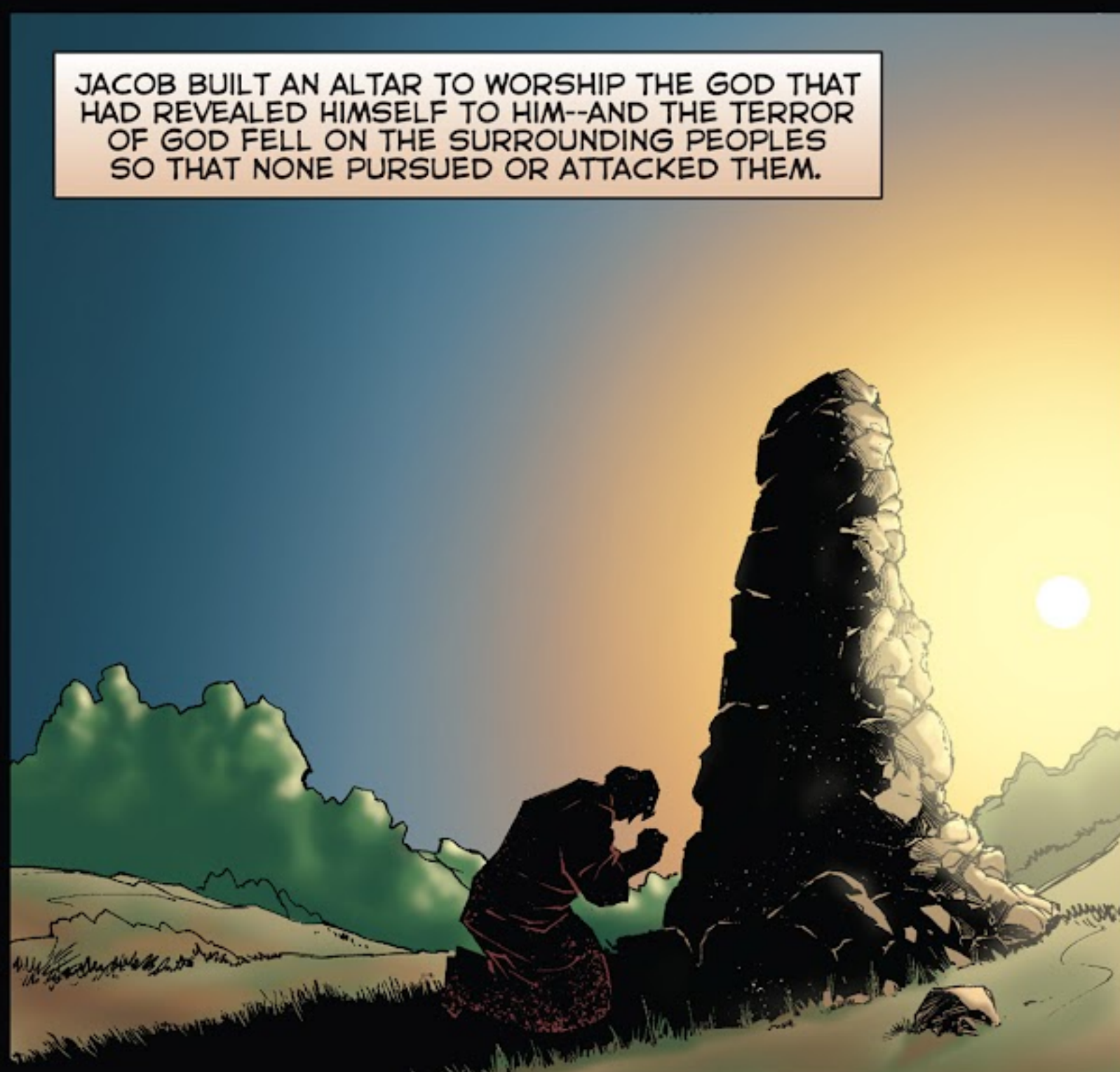


AT GOD'S LEADING, JACOB RETURNED TO BETHEL WHERE GOD HAD APPEARED TO HIM BEFORE HE MET HIS BROTHER ESAU.

WE MUST RID OURSELVES OF ALL FOREIGN GODS AND SANCTIFY OURSELVES BEFORE GOD.



ALL WHO WERE WITH HIM TURNED IN THEIR GOLD EARRINGS AND IDOLS, AND JACOB BURIED THESE AT BETHEL.



JACOB BUILT AN ALTAR TO WORSHIP THE GOD THAT HAD REVEALED HIMSELF TO HIM--AND THE TERROR OF GOD FELL ON THE SURROUNDING PEOPLES SO THAT NONE PURSUED OR ATTACKED THEM.



HE CALLED THE PLACE BETHEL (HOUSE OF GOD) BECAUSE GOD HAD SPOKEN TO HIM THERE.

AFTER LEAVING BETHEL, RACHEL BEGAN TO GIVE BIRTH. SHE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY AND DIED SOON AFTER THE BIRTH OF HER SON.



RACHEL HAD NAMED HIM BEN-ONI--SON OF MY TROUBLE.

BUT JACOB NAMED HIM BENJAMIN--SON OF MY RIGHT HAND.



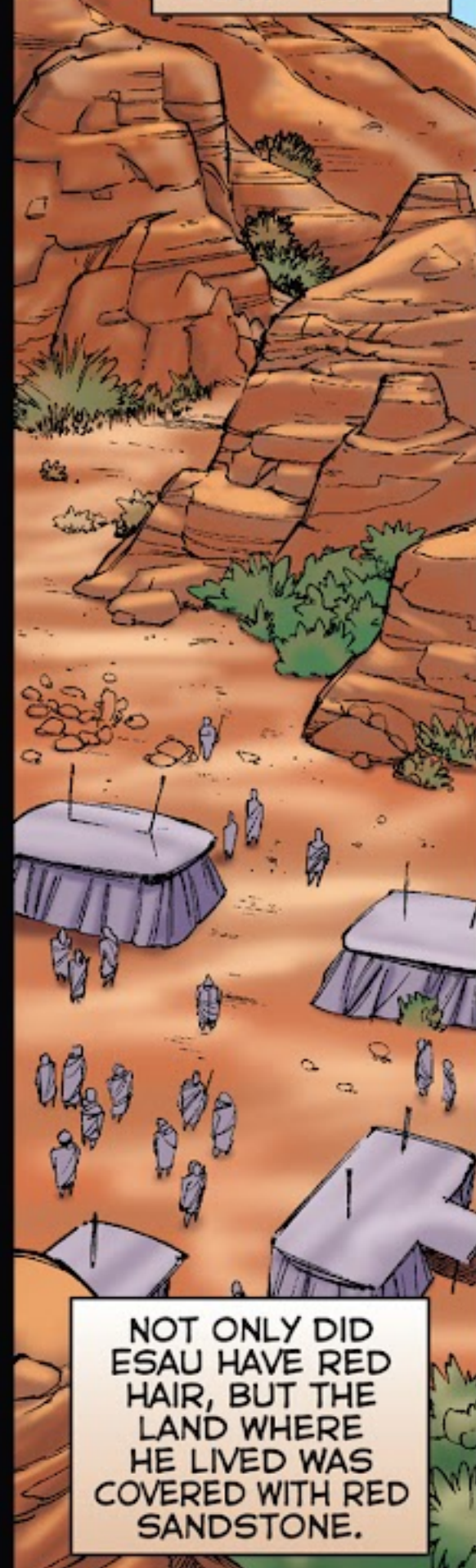
AFTER JACOB HAD RETURNED HOME TO CANAAN, HIS FATHER ISAAC DIED.

HIS SONS BURIED HIM IN THE CAVE WHERE HIS PARENTS WERE BURIED.



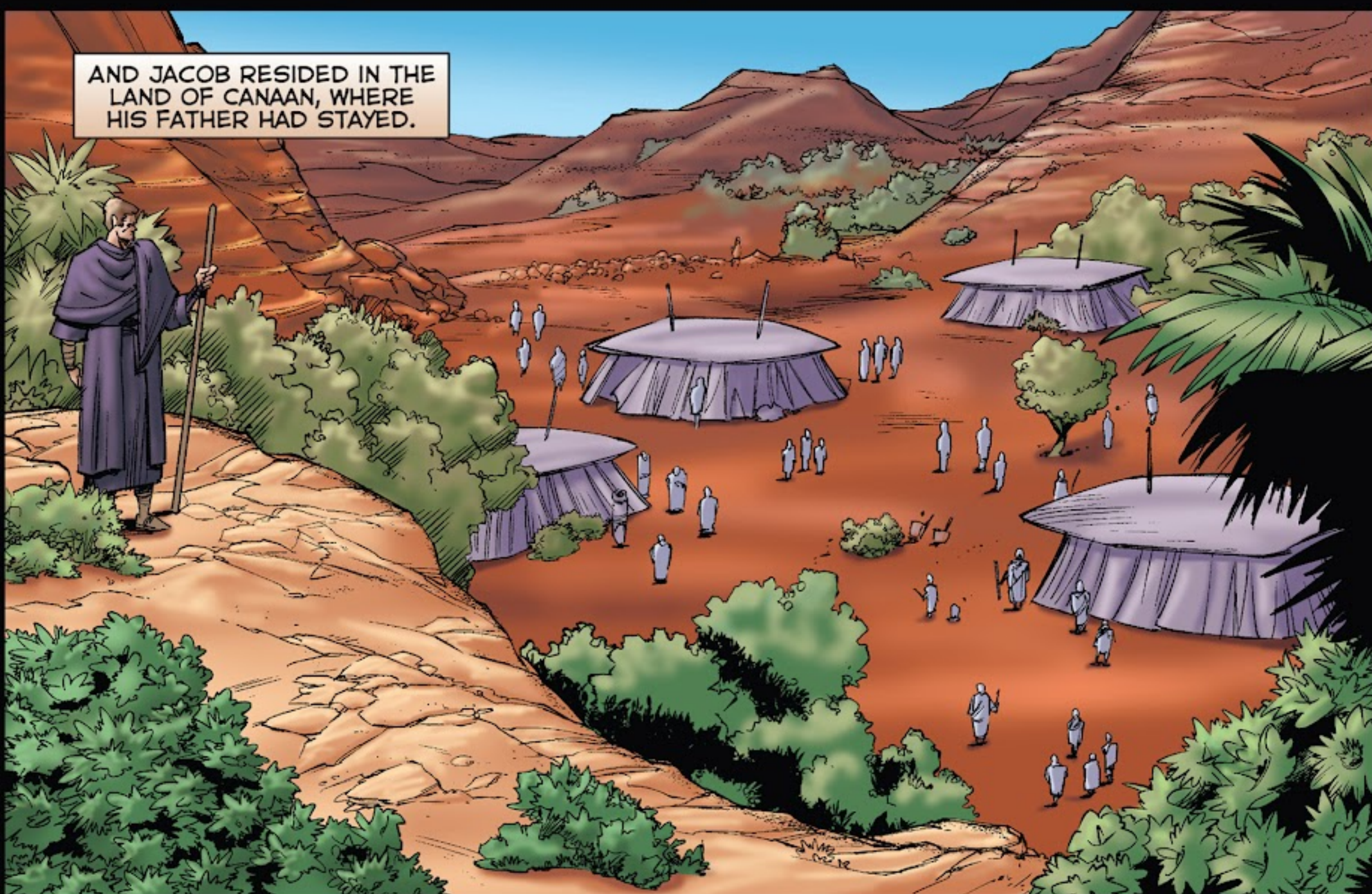
ESAU BECAME THE FATHER OF THE EDMITES.

THE WORD EDMOM COMES FROM THE WORD "RED".



NOT ONLY DID ESAU HAVE RED HAIR, BUT THE LAND WHERE HE LIVED WAS COVERED WITH RED SANDSTONE.

AND JACOB RESIDED IN THE LAND OF CANAAN, WHERE HIS FATHER HAD STAYED.



JOSEPH, JACOB'S SON THROUGH RACHEL, BROUGHT HIS FATHER A BAD REPORT ABOUT HIS BROTHERS AFTER TENDING THE FLOCKS WITH THEM.



BECAUSE JOSEPH HAD BEEN BORN TO HIM IN HIS OLD AGE, JACOB MADE THE BOY A RICHLY ORNAMENTED ROBE.

LOOK AT THAT, WOULD YOU? HE EVEN GETS HIS OWN SPECIAL COAT.



NO DOUBT WHICH OF US IS FATHER'S FAVORITE.

SORRY, SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE YOU WITH THAT BRIGHT ROBE ON.

FATHER'S LITTLE BOY NEEDS TO TOUGHEN UP.



GENESIS 37:1-5

BUT GOD GAVE JOSEPH A DREAM.



"I HAD A DREAM THAT WE WERE BINDING SHEAVES OF GRAIN. SUDDENLY MY SHEAF STOOD UPRIGHT AND YOUR SHEAVES BOWED DOWN TO IT."

SO YOU INTEND TO RULE OVER US?

DO YOU THINK YOU WILL HAVE AUTHORITY OVER US?

YOU DREAM WHILE WE WORK.

LISTEN, I HAD ANOTHER DREAM I NEED TO TELL YOU ABOUT.

WOULD YOUR MOTHER AND I AND YOUR BROTHERS ACTUALLY COME AND BOW DOWN BEFORE YOU?

WE TOLD YOU FATHER--ALL DREAMS AND NO WORK.

"THIS TIME THE SUN, MOON AND ELEVEN STARS WERE ALL BOWING BEFORE ME."

THOUGH HIS BROTHERS DISMISSED HIM OUT OF JEALOUSY, JACOB PONDERED WHAT MIGHT BE THE MEANING OF THIS.

GENESIS 37:6-11



YOUR BROTHERS ARE GRAZING OUR FLOCKS NEAR SHECHEM. GO AND SEE IF ALL IS WELL WITH THEM.



WELL, IF ISN'T THE DREAMER.

THE MULTI-COLORED PEACOCK IN PERSON.

HERE'S OUR OPPORTUNITY, LET'S KILL HIM NOW AND BE RID OF HIM. FATHER WILL NEVER KNOW.



NO, NOT HIS LIFE. LET'S JUST THROW HIM INTO THIS CISTERN.

FOR REUBEN PLANNED TO COME BACK LATER AND RESCUE THE BOY.



HEY, PULL HIM BACK OUT! WHAT WILL WE GAIN FROM KILLING OUR BROTHER?

LET'S SELL HIM TO THE ISHMAELITES INSTEAD!



TWENTY SHEKELS--THE CURRENT MARKET PRICE FOR A SLAVE.

HE'S ALL YOURS--MAY WE NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!



FAREWELL, DREAMER!

MAY ALL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!

HA HA HA!



JUDAH, WHERE IS THE BOY?



YOU MISSED IT. WE SOLD THE BRAT!

HERE'S THE PLAN...



WE FOUND THIS. EXAMINE IT AND SEE IF IT BELONGS TO JOSEPH.

AAIIYAH! MY SON'S ROBE! SOME FEROCIOUS BEAST HAS TORN HIM TO PIECES.

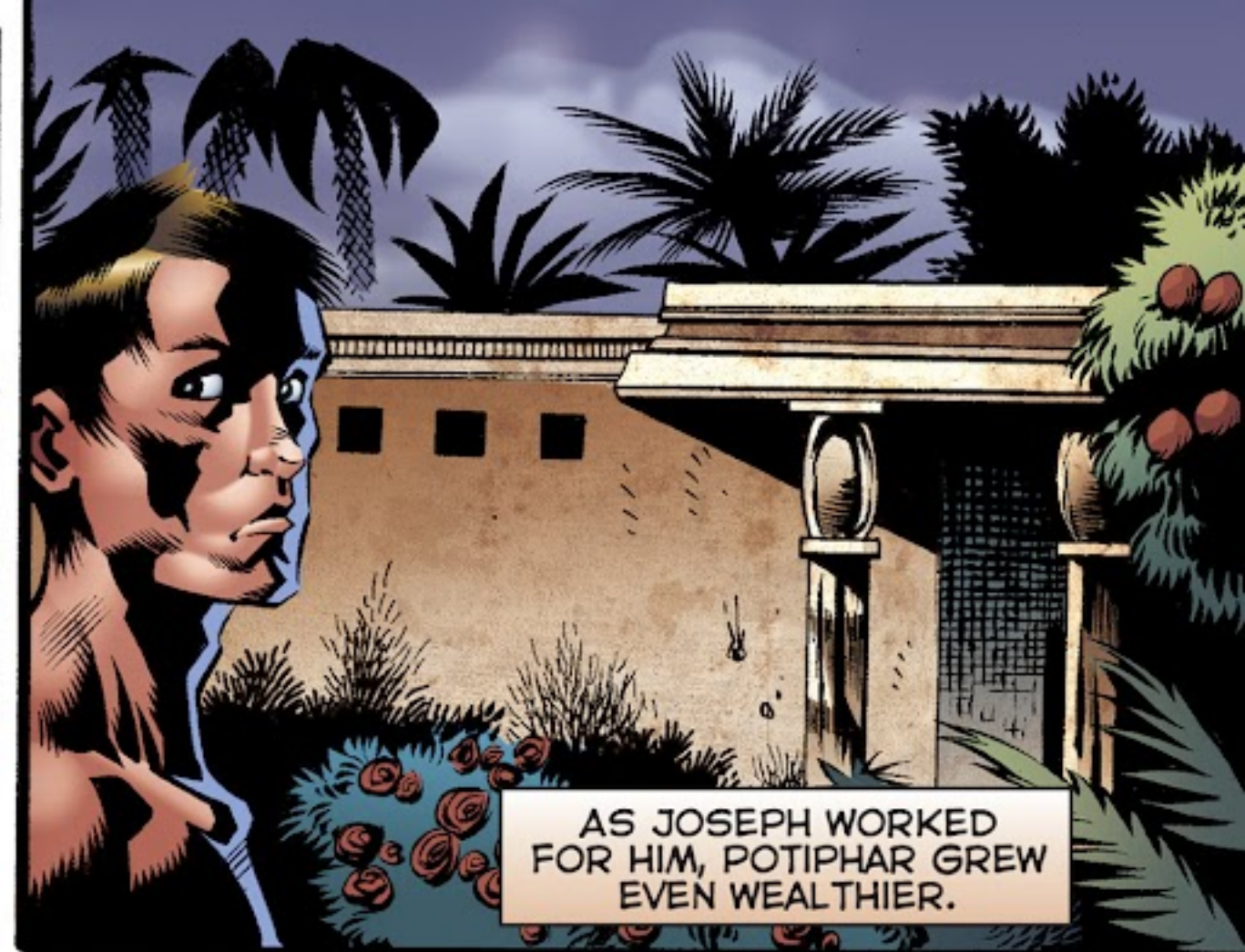


YOU STILL HAVE A HERITAGE OF MANY OFFSPRING.

NO! IN MOURNING WILL I GO DOWN TO THE GRAVE.



THE MIDIANITES SOLD JOSEPH TO A WEALTHY EGYPTIAN, POTIPHAR, WHO WAS CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD.



AS JOSEPH WORKED FOR HIM, POTIPHAR GREW EVEN WEALTHIER.



AND WHEN HE PUT JOSEPH IN CHARGE OF HIS ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD--HE PROSPERED EVEN MORE.



ONE DAY WHEN NONE OF THE HOUSEHOLD SERVANTS WERE INSIDE SHE SAW HER OPPORTUNITY...

NOW-- WE CAN DRINK OUR FILL OF LOVE! COME TO BED WITH ME.



HELP!
HELP!



THAT HEBREW YOU BROUGHT HERE TRIED TO MAKE SPORT OF ME-- HE LEFT WHEN I SCREAMED FOR HELP--BUT I WAS ABLE TO GET HIS CLOAK.

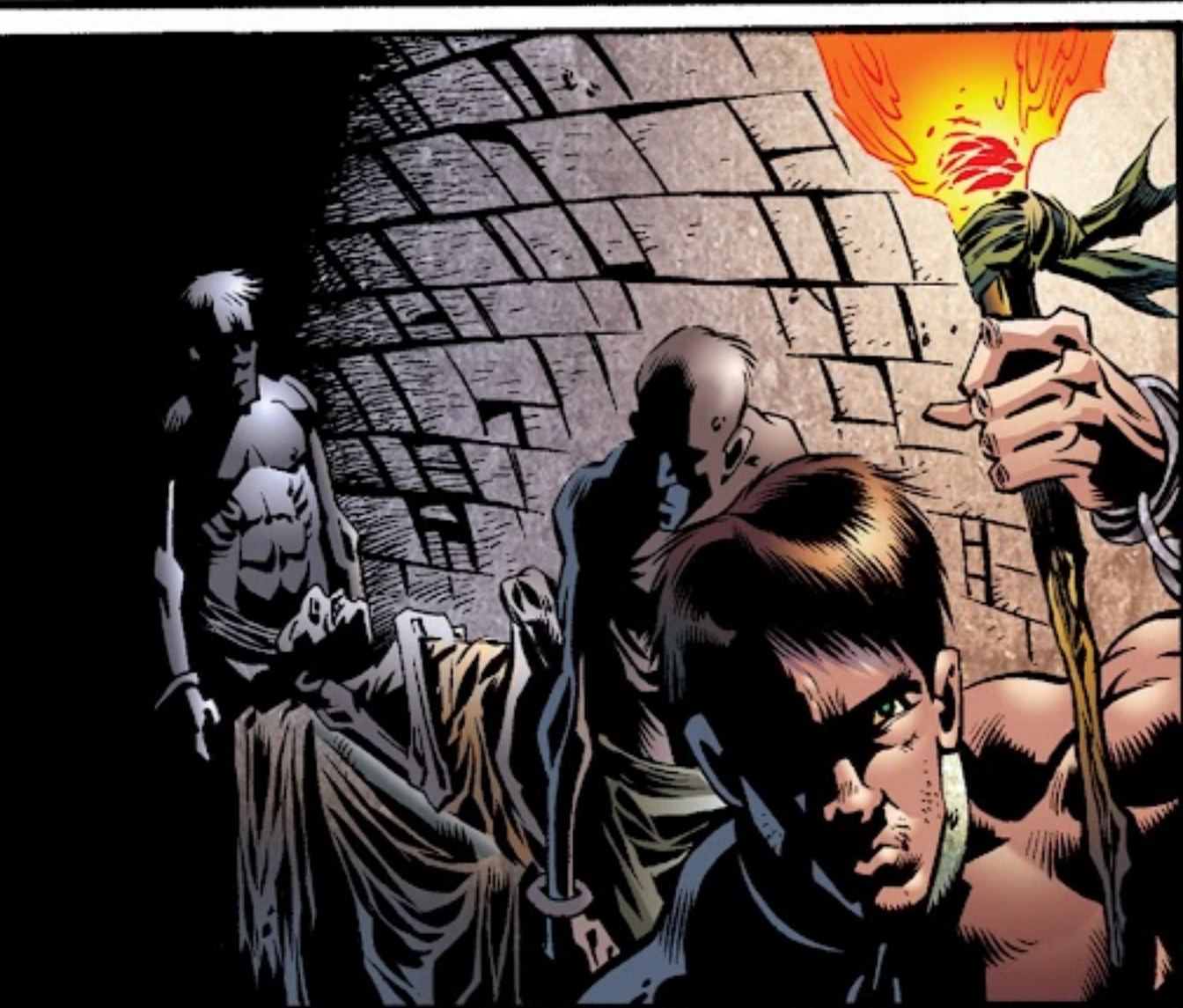


ONLY ONE PLACE IS FIT FOR HIM-- TAKE HIM TO THE ROYAL DUNGEON. NOW!





BUT EVEN IN PRISON--
GOD WAS WITH JOSEPH.



I CANNOT BELIEVE THE REPORT THAT
BROUGHT YOU HERE. YOU CARE FOR
THOSE IN NEED, YOU MAKE SURE THE
FOOD IS RATIONED FAIRLY, AND
DON'T KEEP ANY EXTRA
FOR YOURSELF.

I APPOINT
YOU STEWARD OF THIS
ENTIRE ROYAL PRISON.
YOU WILL NOW REPORT
ONLY TO ME.



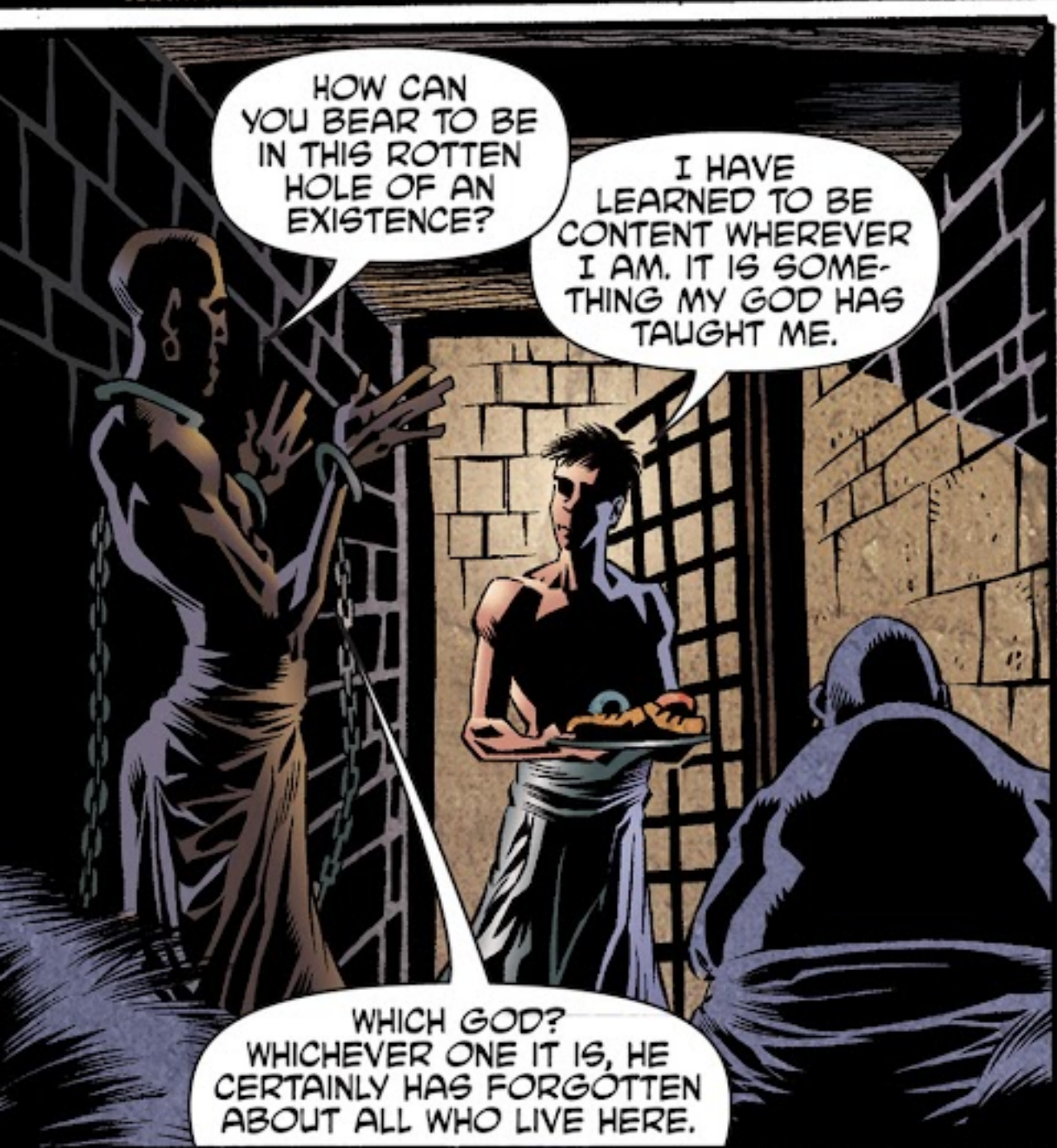
THE LORD GAVE
JOSEPH SUCCESS
WHEREVER HE WENT.



GENESIS 39:20-23



PHARAOH IS ANGRY AT THEIR INSOLENCE AND COMMANDS BOTH HIS ROYAL BAKER AND HIS ROYAL CUP BEARER TO THE DUNGEON.



HOW CAN YOU BEAR TO BE IN THIS ROTTEN HOLE OF AN EXISTENCE?

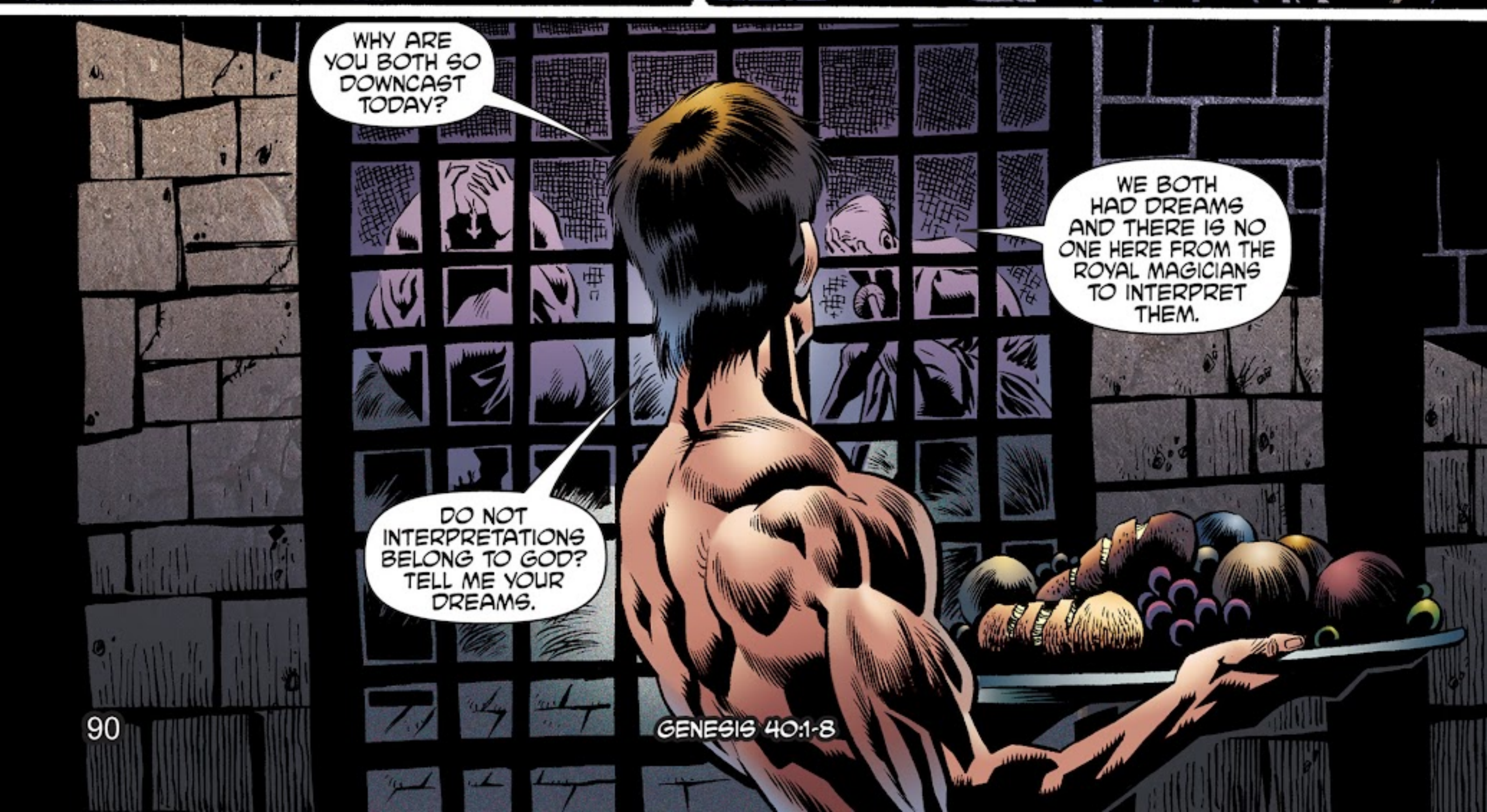
I HAVE LEARNED TO BE CONTENT WHEREVER I AM. IT IS SOMETHING MY GOD HAS TAUGHT ME.

WHICH GOD? WHICHEVER ONE IT IS, HE CERTAINLY HAS FORGOTTEN ABOUT ALL WHO LIVE HERE.



RRRRHHHHH!

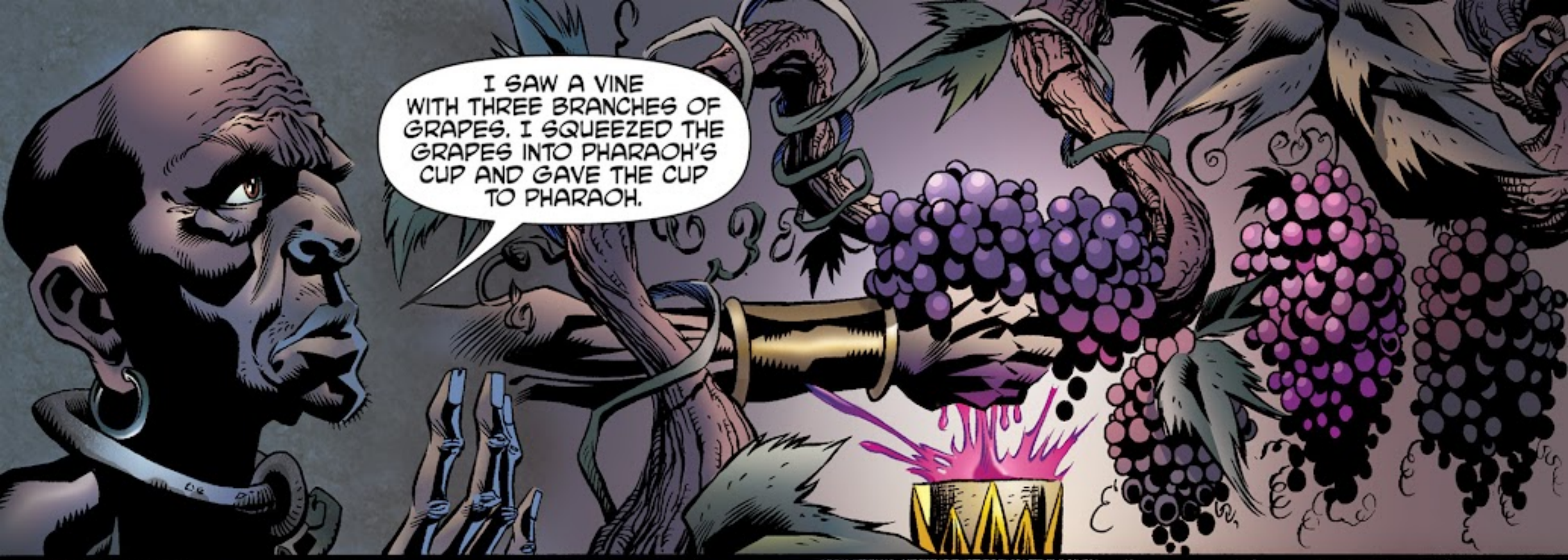
AAAAHHHHHHH!



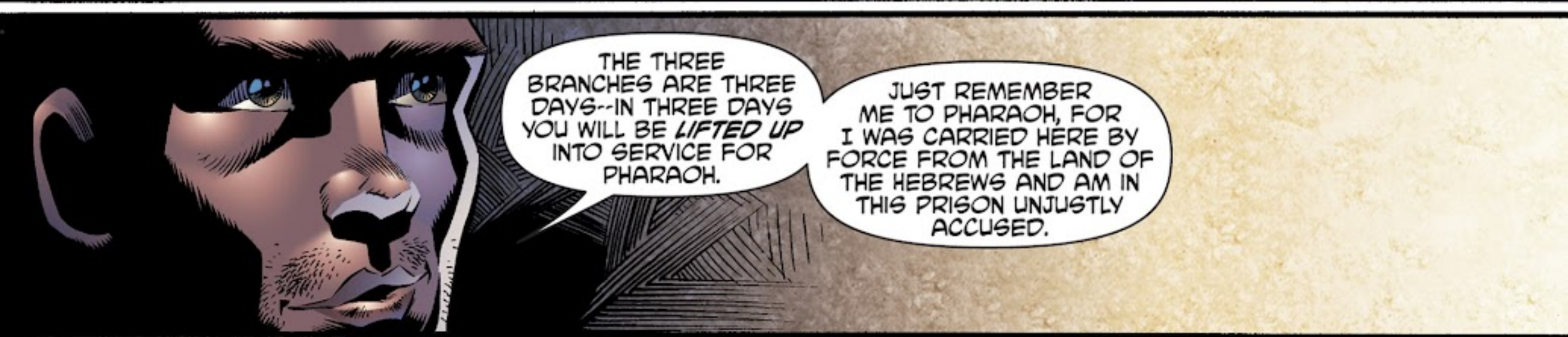
WHY ARE YOU BOTH SO DOWNCAST TODAY?

DO NOT INTERPRETATIONS BELONG TO GOD? TELL ME YOUR DREAMS.

WE BOTH HAD DREAMS AND THERE IS NO ONE HERE FROM THE ROYAL MAGICIANS TO INTERPRET THEM.



I SAW A VINE WITH THREE BRANCHES OF GRAPES. I SQUEEZED THE GRAPES INTO PHARAOH'S CUP AND GAVE THE CUP TO PHARAOH.



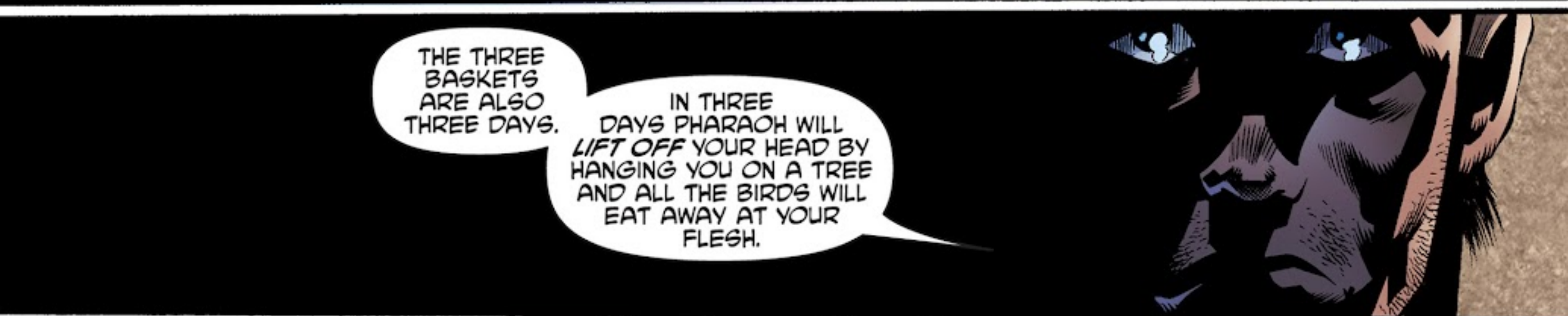
THE THREE BRANCHES ARE THREE DAYS--IN THREE DAYS YOU WILL BE *LIFTED UP* INTO SERVICE FOR PHARAOH.

JUST REMEMBER ME TO PHARAOH, FOR I WAS CARRIED HERE BY FORCE FROM THE LAND OF THE HEBREWS AND AM IN THIS PRISON UNJUSTLY ACCUSED.



IN MY DREAM THREE BASKETFULS OF BREAD WERE ON MY HEAD.

THE TOP BASKET HAD ALL KINDS OF BAKED GOODS BUT THE BIRDS WERE EATING THEM OUT OF THE BASKET ON MY HEAD.



THE THREE BASKETS ARE ALSO THREE DAYS.

IN THREE DAYS PHARAOH WILL *LIFT OFF* YOUR HEAD BY HANGING YOU ON A TREE AND ALL THE BIRDS WILL EAT AWAY AT YOUR FLESH.



JOSEPH'S INTERPRETATIONS CAME TRUE-- BUT THE CUP BEARER DID NOT REMEMBER JOSEPH WHEN HE RETURNED TO SERVICE.

TWO YEARS LATER.



BRING
EVERY MAGICIAN
AND WISE MAN INTO
MY PRESENCE--
NOW!



I HAD TWO
DREAMS LAST
NIGHT--INTERPRET
THEM BOTH
FOR ME.



IN MY DREAM I SAW SEVEN
HEALTHY, SLEEK COWS GRAZING
AMONG THE REEDS OF THE RIVER...



...BUT THEN SEVEN UGLY AND GAUNT
COWS CAME UP OUT OF THE NILE
AND ATE THE SEVEN HEALTHY COWS.

THEN I
WOKE UP.



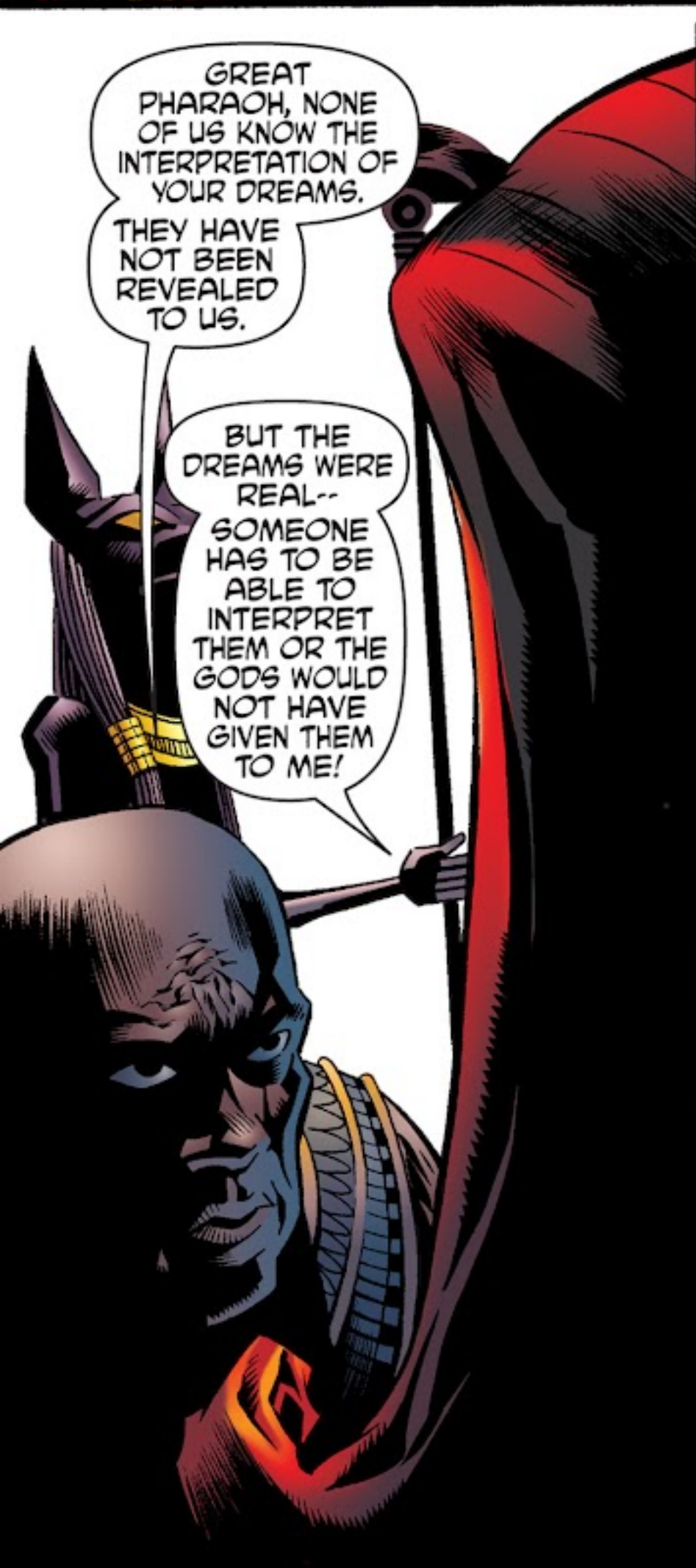
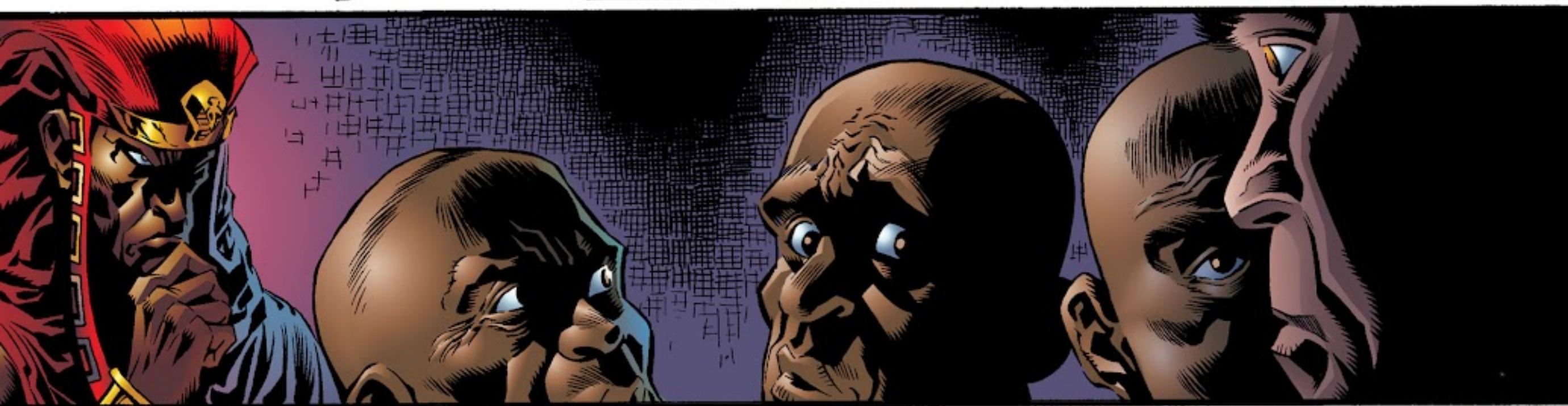


I HAD A
SECOND
DREAM.

I SAW SEVEN
HEALTHY
HEADS OF
GRAIN
GROWING ON
A SINGLE
STALK...



...THEN CAME SEVEN MORE
HEADS THAT WERE SCORCHED
BY THE EAST WIND AND THEY
SWALLOWED UP THE SEVEN
HEALTHY HEADS OF GRAIN.



GREAT
PHARAOH, NONE
OF US KNOW THE
INTERPRETATION OF
YOUR DREAMS.

THEY HAVE
NOT BEEN
REVEALED
TO US.

BUT THE
DREAMS WERE
REAL--
SOMEONE
HAS TO BE
ABLE TO
INTERPRET
THEM OR THE
GODS WOULD
NOT HAVE
GIVEN THEM
TO ME!



TODAY I AM
REMINDING OF
MY FAULTS!

WHEN I WAS
IMPRISONED A YOUNG
HEBREW INTERPRETED
MY DREAM AND THAT OF
THE CHIEF BAKER--AND
BOTH OF THEM
CAME TRUE.



THEN
BRING HIM
TO ME!



I AM TOLD
THAT YOU CAN
INTERPRET
DREAMS.

I CAN-
NOT. BUT GOD
CAN GIVE PHARAOH
THE ANSWER HE
WISHES FOR.

THE DREAMS
OF PHARAOH ARE
ONE AND THE SAME--
GOD HAS SHOWN YOU
WHAT HE IS ABOUT
TO DO.

THE
SEVEN HEALTHY
COWS REPRESENT
SEVEN GOOD YEARS
AND THE SEVEN GAUNT
COWS ARE SEVEN YEARS
OF FAMINE THAT ARE TO
FOLLOW. LIKEWISE WITH
THE SEVEN EARS
OF GRAIN.



BECAUSE
OF THIS FAMINE,
ALL THE ABUNDANCE
IN EGYPT WILL BE
FORGOTTEN AND
THE LAND WILL BE
RAVAGED.

APPOINT
A WISE AND
DISCERNING MAN
TO BE OVER ALL
THE LAND OF
EGYPT.

APPOINT
COMMISSIONERS
OVER THE LAND TO
COLLECT A FIFTH OF
THE HARVEST OVER
THE NEXT SEVEN
YEARS.

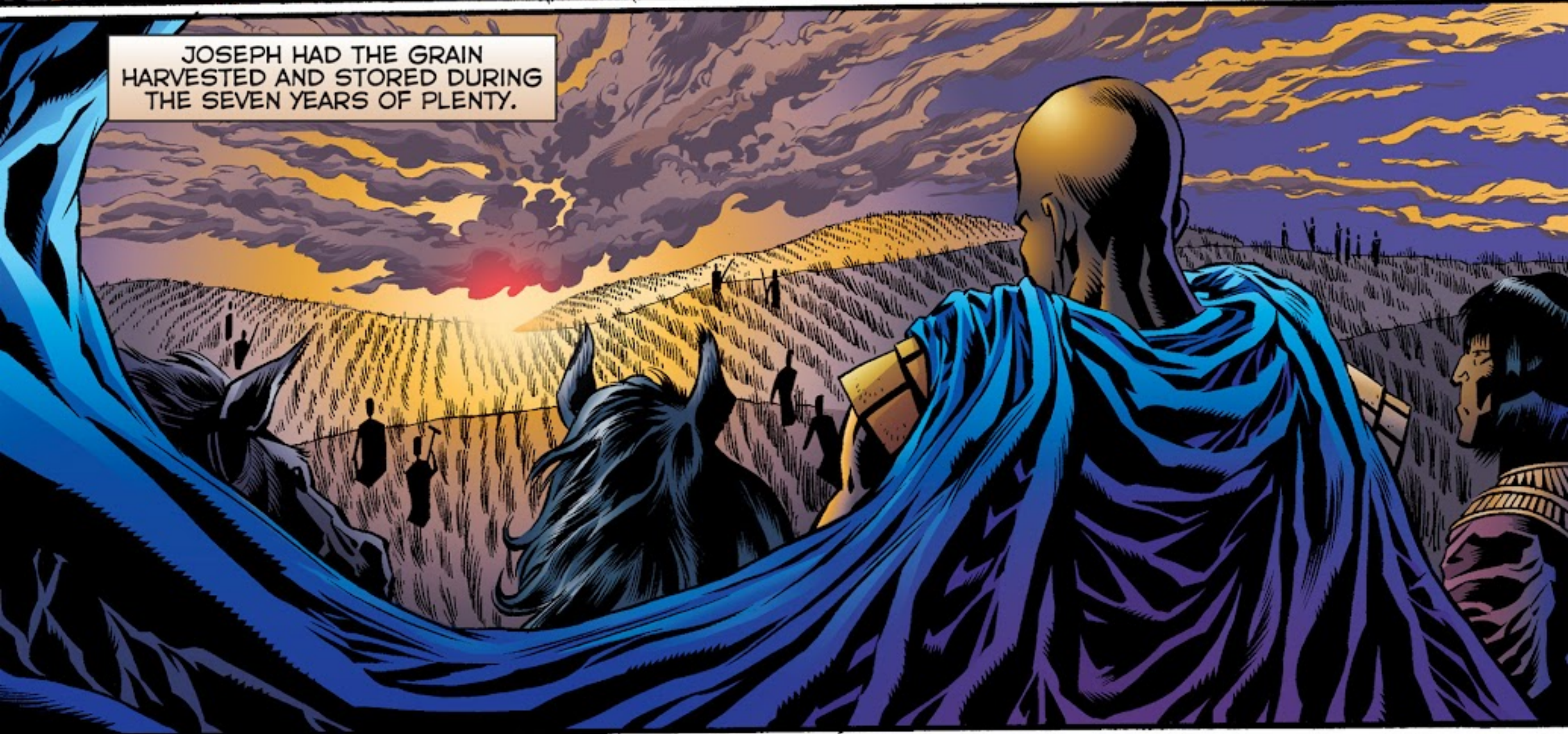




ONLY IN REGARDS
THE THRONE WILL I BE
GREATER THAN YOU.

YOU ARE HEREBY IN
CHARGE OF THE WHOLE
LAND OF EGYPT.

MAKE
WAY!



JOSEPH HAD THE GRAIN
HARVESTED AND STORED DURING
THE SEVEN YEARS OF PLENTY.



PHARAOH ALSO GAVE
JOSEPH AN EGYPTIAN WIFE.

JOSEPH NAMED THEIR SONS
MANASSEH ("FORGET") AND
EPHRAIM ("TWICE FRUITFUL").

GOD HAS
MADE ME
FRUITFUL IN THE
LAND OF MY
SUFFERING.







WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

WE HAVE COME FROM CANAAN TO BUY FOOD.

YOU ARE SPIES WHO HAVE COME TO SEE WHERE OUR LAND IS UNPROTECTED.

NO, WE ARE HONEST MEN AND NOT SPIES.



AND JOSEPH REMEMBERED HIS DREAMS.



NO--YOU HAVE COME TO SEARCH OUT OUR LAND.

NO, WE WERE TWELVE BROTHERS, THE SONS OF ONE MAN.

ONE IS NO LONGER ALIVE AND THE YOUNGEST IS WITH OUR FATHER.



YOU ARE SPIES AND THIS IS HOW I WILL TEST YOU.

YOU WILL NOT LEAVE EGYPT UNTIL YOUR YOUNGEST BROTHER COMES HERE. ONE BROTHER RETURNS WHILE THE REST REMAIN IN PRISON.



JAIL THEM!

GENESIS 42:6-17



AFTER THREE DAYS...

IF YOU DO THIS YOU WILL LIVE, FOR I FEAR GOD.

IF INDEED YOU ARE HONEST MEN, ONE OF YOU CAN STAY HERE WHILE THE REST RETURN WITH THE GRAIN.

BUT--YOU MUST BRING BACK YOUR YOUNGEST BROTHER SO YOUR WORDS ARE PROVED TRUE.



SURELY WE ARE SUFFERING FOR HOW WE TREATED OUR BROTHER.

WE ALL SAW HOW DISTRESSED HE WAS AND HOW HE PLEADED WITH US FOR HIS LIFE.

THIS IS WHY ALL THIS MISERY HAS COME UPON US.

I TOLD YOU TO NOT SIN AGAINST THE BOY--BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN! NOW, WE ARE ALL GIVING AN ACCOUNTING FOR HIS BLOOD.



HIS BROTHERS DIDN'T THINK HE COULD UNDERSTAND THEM AS HE HAD BEEN USING AN INTERPRETER--AND SO JOSEPH WAS OVERCOME AT THEIR WORDS.







THE LORD OF THE LAND SPOKE ROUGHLY TO US--HE SAID WE WERE SPIES.

HE SAID WE COULD RETURN BUT HE KEPT SIMEON AND SAID WE MUST BRING BENJAMIN BACK TO PROVE WE WERE NOT SPIES.



OH NO, MY SILVER IS ALSO STILL IN MY SACK.

MINE AS WELL!



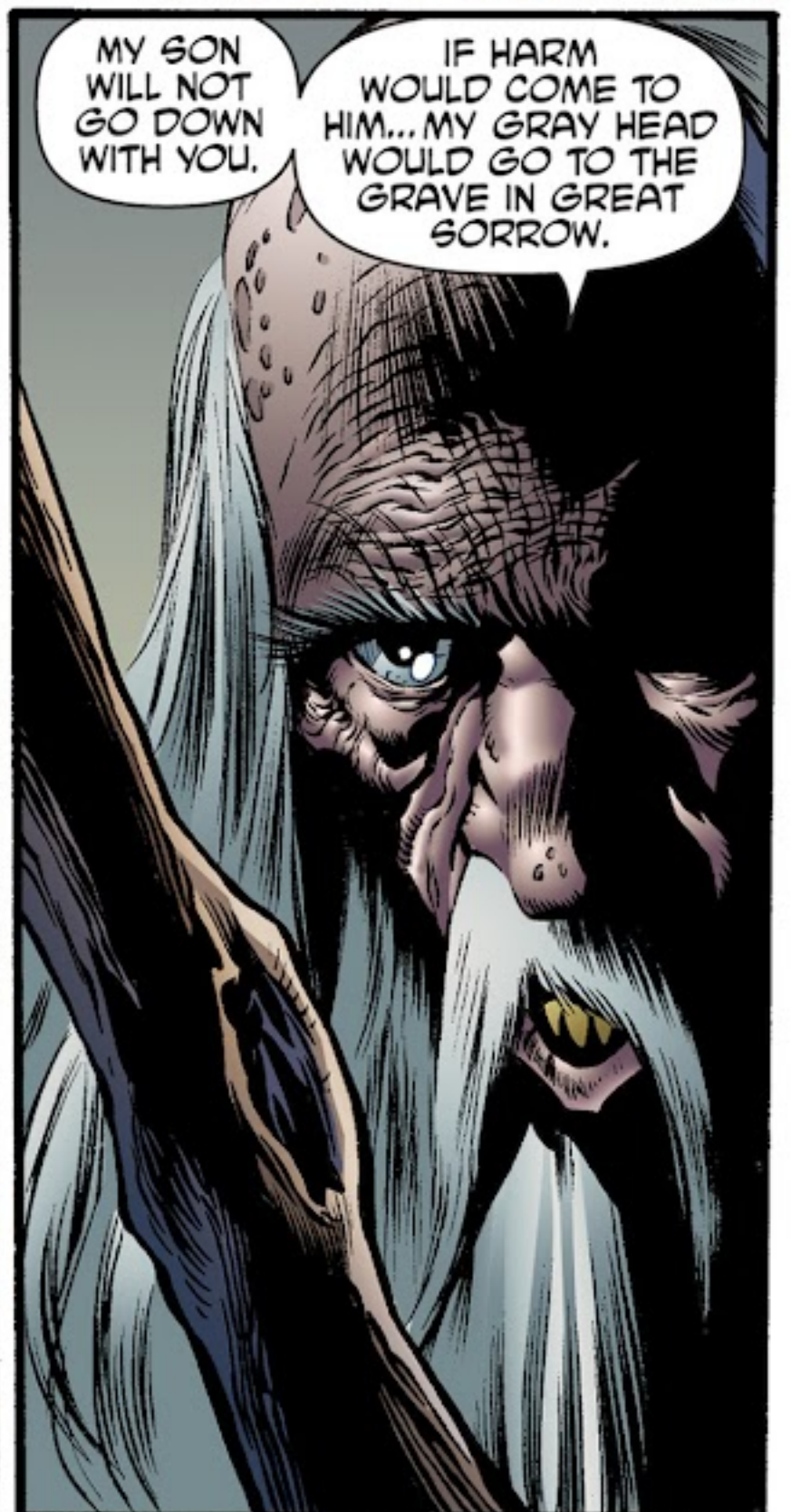
YOU HAVE DEPRIVED ME OF MY SONS--JOSEPH IS NO MORE AS WELL AS SIMEON. AND NOW YOU WANT TO TAKE BENJAMIN.

EVERYTHING IS AGAINST ME!



IF I DO NOT BRING BENJAMIN BACK SAFELY YOU CAN PUT MY OWN TWO SONS TO DEATH.

ENTRUST HIM TO ME AND I WILL BRING HIM BACK TO YOU.



MY SON WILL NOT GO DOWN WITH YOU.

IF HARM WOULD COME TO HIM...MY GRAY HEAD WOULD GO TO THE GRAVE IN GREAT SORROW.

MONTHS LATER...

MASTER,
TODAY WE HAVE
BAKED THE LAST BREAD.
ALL THE GRAIN YOUR
SONS BROUGHT FROM
EGYPT IS NOW
GONE.

YOU
NEED TO
RETURN AND
BUY MORE
FOOD.

WE CANNOT. WE
WERE WARNED THAT
WE WOULD NOT SEE
THE RULER OF THE
LAND UNLESS OUR
YOUNGEST BROTHER
WAS WITH US.

SEND THE
BOY ALONG AND
HOLD ME PERSONALLY
RESPONSIBLE. IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS I WILL BEAR THE
BLAME THE REST OF
MY LIFE.

IF WE HAD
NOT DELAYED WE
COULD HAVE COME
AND GONE TWO
TIMES.

AND WHY
DID YOU BRING
SUCH PAIN ON ME BY
TELLING THIS MAN
YOU HAD ANOTHER
BROTHER!

HE
QUESTIONED
US CLOSELY.

DO THIS. TAKE SOME OF THE BEST OF OUR
LAND--ALONG WITH RETURNING **DOUBLE**
THE AMOUNT OF THE MAN'S SILVER.

TAKE YOUR BROTHER AT ONCE--AND
IF I AM BEREAVED...I AM BEREAVED.



ZAPHENATH-
PANEAH WILL
SEE YOU
AT NOON.

HE IS
HAVING A MEAL
PREPARED FOR
YOU.



SURELY HE
HAS BROUGHT
US HERE TO KILL
US FOR STEALING
HIS SILVER.

OR
MAYBE GOD IS
GIVING US WHAT
WE DESERVE FOR
ABANDONING
JOSEPH...



PLEASE
SIR, WE FOUND
OUR SILVER BACK
IN OUR SACKS
WHEN WE LEFT
PREVIOUSLY.

WE ARE
AT A LOSS
OF HOW THAT
HAPPENED
AND HAVE
BROUGHT BACK
DOUBLE.



DON'T BE
AFRAID, YOUR
GOD GAVE
YOU THAT
TREASURE.

HERE
IS YOUR
BROTHER.

NOW WASH
FOR THE MEAL AND
WE WILL PROVIDE
FODDER FOR YOUR
DONKEYS.



AND
HOW IS YOUR
AGED FATHER
OF WHOM YOU
SPOKE?

OUR
FATHER, YOUR
SERVANT, IS
ALIVE AND
WELL.



AND IS THIS
THE YOUNGEST
BROTHER?

GOD BE
GRACIOUS
TO YOU MY
SON.



UNABLE TO CONTROL
HIMSELF JOSEPH LEFT...



...AND WEPT
IN HIS ROOM.



SERVE
THE MEAL.



BY CUSTOM IT WAS DETESTABLE FOR
EGYPTIANS TO EAT WITH HEBREWS.

THE BROTHERS WERE ASTONISHED TO BE
SEATED IN AGE ORDER AT THEIR OWN TABLE.



LOOK--
BENJAMIN'S
PORTION IS FIVE
TIMES BIGGER
THAN ANY OF
OURS!

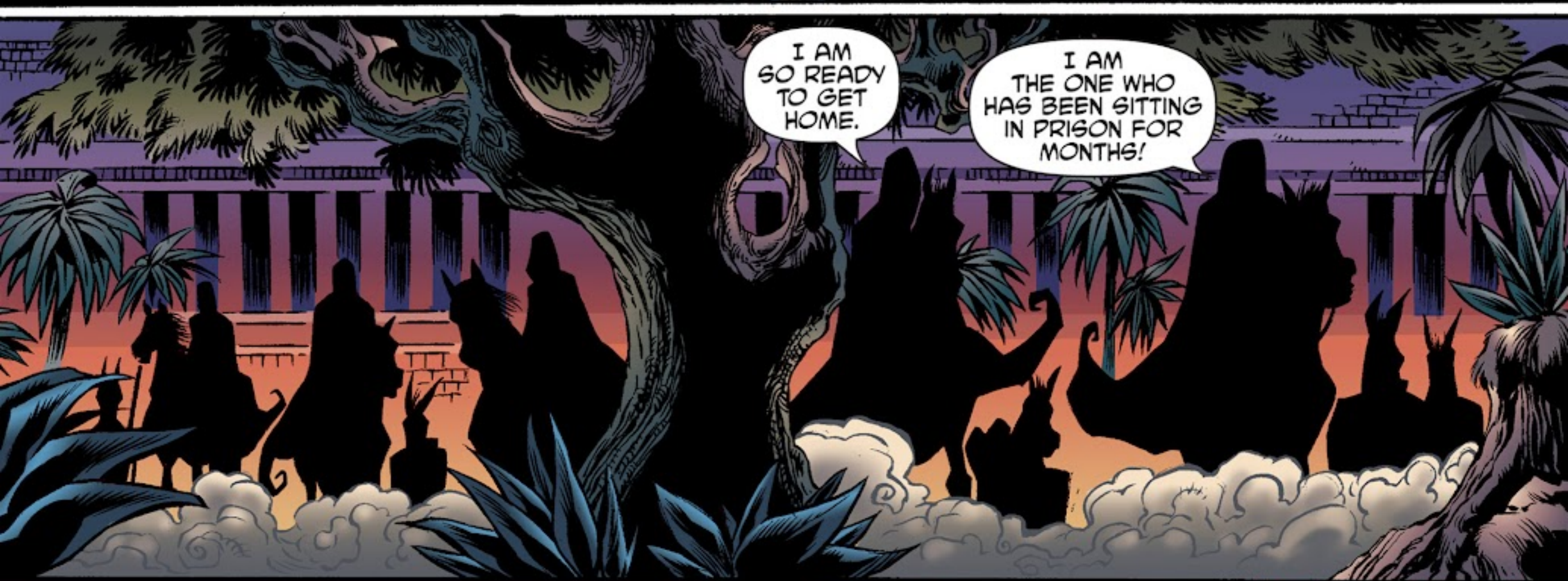
FILL EACH
OF THEIR SACKS
WITH AS MUCH FOOD
AS THEY CAN CARRY--
AND PUT THE SILVER
BACK IN.

IN THE
BAG OF THE
YOUNGEST PUT
MY SILVER
CUP.



I AM
SO READY
TO GET
HOME.

I AM
THE ONE WHO
HAS BEEN SITTING
IN PRISON FOR
MONTHS!



WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?

YOU HAVE TAKEN MY
MASTER'S CUP THAT
HE USES FOR
DIVINING.

FAR BE
IT FROM
US!

WHY WOULD
WE DO THIS--WE
EVEN RETURNED
THE SILVER WE
FOUND IN OUR
SACKS.

WHAT...





IF THE CUP IS FOUND IN ANY OF OUR SACKS THE ONE WHO HAS IT WILL DIE AND THE REST WILL BECOME YOUR SLAVES.

SEARCH THEIR BAGS.



THAT'S ALL BUT THE YOUNGEST.

SEARCH WELL.



SCRUNNCH
SCRUNNCH



YOU HAVE STOLEN FROM OUR LORD ZAPHENATH-PANEAH. YOU SHALL RETURN TO STAND BEFORE HIM.

GENEROSITY HAS BEEN MET WITH DECEIT.

THIS CAN'T BE... OUR FATHER WILL NOT ENDURE.



WHAT HAVE YOU DONE--DON'T YOU KNOW I CAN DISCOVER THINGS BY DIVINATION?

WHAT CAN WE SAY--HOW CAN WE PROVE OUR INNOCENCE?!



THOUGH YOU ARE EQUAL TO PHARAOH--PLEASE HEAR US.

YOU ASKED IF WE HAD A FATHER OR BROTHER.

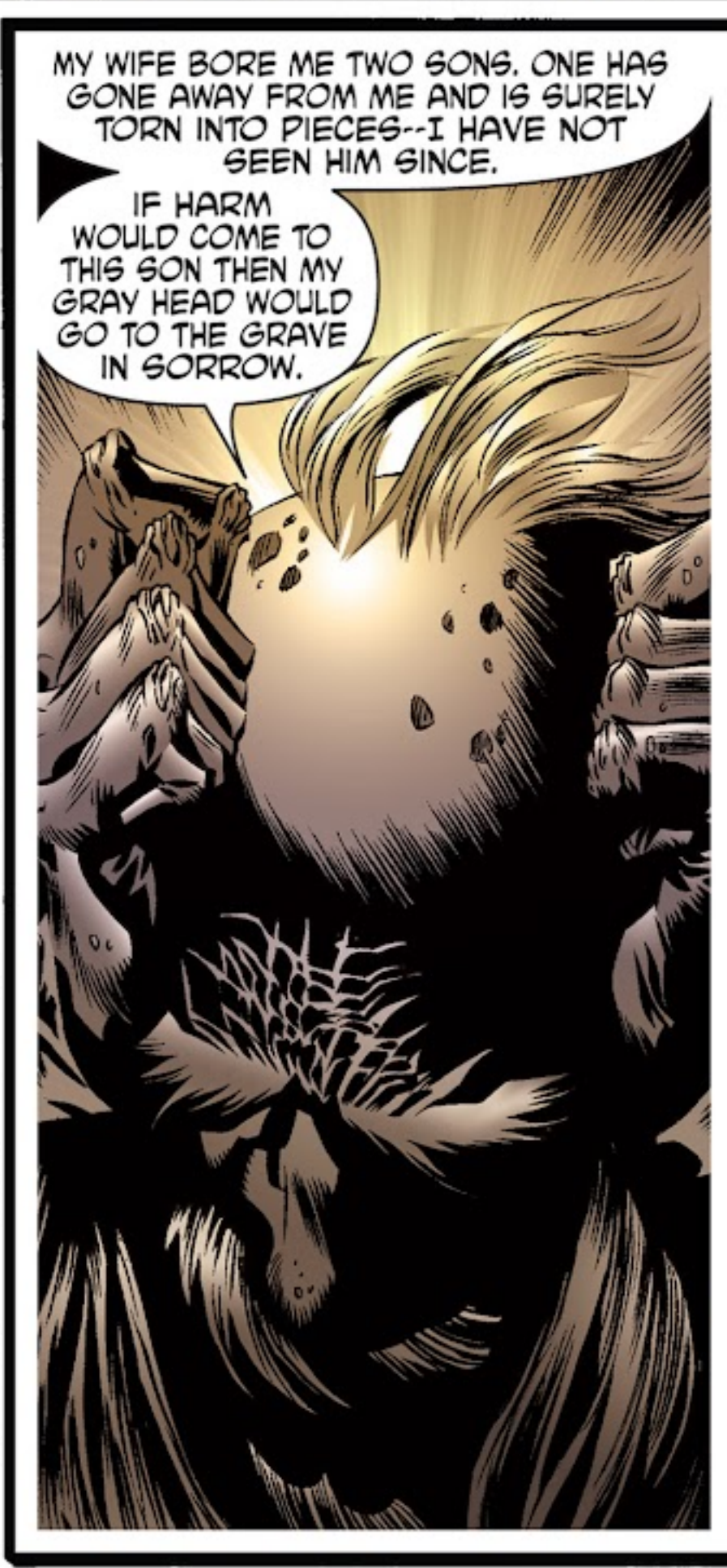


WE REPLIED, "WE HAVE AN AGED FATHER, AND THERE IS A SON BORN TO HIM IN HIS OLD AGE."

"HIS BROTHER IS DEAD, AND HE IS THE ONLY ONE OF HIS MOTHER'S SONS LEFT, AND HIS FATHER LOVES HIM."

YOU TOLD US NOT TO RETURN UNLESS WE HAD OUR BROTHER.

WHEN WE RAN OUT OF FOOD OUR FATHER SAID TO US...



MY WIFE BORE ME TWO SONS. ONE HAS GONE AWAY FROM ME AND IS SURELY TORN INTO PIECES--I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM SINCE.

IF HARM WOULD COME TO THIS SON THEN MY GRAY HEAD WOULD GO TO THE GRAVE IN SORROW.



YOUR SERVANT GUARANTEED THE BOY'S SAFETY.

LET ME REMAIN HERE AS YOUR SLAVE AND THE BOY RETURN TO HIS FATHER--I COULD NOT BEAR TO SEE THE MISERY THAT WOULD COME UPON MY FATHER.



EVERYONE--
LEAVE MY
PRESENCE!



YIIAAHH!!



I---I
A-MM YOUR
BROTHER
JOSEPH...
...THE
ONE YOU
SOLD INTO
SLAVERY.



IT
CAN'T
BE...

W-H-A-A-T...



DO NOT
BE ANGRY WITH
YOURSELVES OR
DISTRESSED.

IT WAS
NOT YOU WHO
SENT ME HERE--
BUT GOD.



WE HAVE
HAD TWO YEARS
OF FAMINE AND
THERE ARE FIVE
MORE YET TO
COME.

GOD
SENT ME AHEAD
TO PRESERVE FOR
YOU A REMNANT ON
EARTH IN A GREAT
DELIVERANCE.



YOU
MUST HURRY
BACK TO OUR
FATHER AND TELL
HIM THIS...

GOD HAS
MADE ME LORD
OVER ALL OF
EGYPT.



COME
BACK TO ME
AND I SHALL
PROVIDE FOR
YOU IN THE
LAND OF
GOSHEN.

YOU MUST
GO NOW WITH-
OUT DELAY AND
TELL OUR FATHER--
OTHERWISE YOU
WILL BECOME
DESTITUTE.



AND JOSEPH WEPT
OVER HIS BROTHERS.



PSTT
PSTT

I AM
PLEASED.

SEND FOR
ZAPHENATH-
PANEAH.



AN
AMAZING
STORY HAS
REACHED MY
EARS.

IT IS ALL
TRUE MY KING--
THE STORY OF HOW
I ARRIVED HERE TO
SERVE PHARAOH--AND
THE PURPOSES OF
THE GOD OF MY
FATHERS.



BRING BACK YOUR
FATHER AND THE
FAMILIES OF YOUR
BROTHERS.

TAKE CARTS
FOR THEIR WIVES
AND CHILDREN--THE
BEST OF THE LAND
OF EGYPT WILL
BE YOURS.



THESE TEN
DONKEYS CARRY
PROVISIONS FOR THE
JOURNEY, INCLUDING
NEW CLOTHING FOR
EACH OF YOU.

AND FOR
THE YOUNGEST
SON--FIVE SETS OF
CLOTHING--AND THREE
HUNDRED SHEKELS
OF SILVER.



AND DO
NOT QUARREL
ON THE WAY!



GENESIS 45:25-28




WE SHALL STOP
HERE IN BEERSHEBA.

I WILL WORSHIP HERE
AS MY FATHER ISAAC
ALSO WORSHIPPED.



JACOB!
JACOB!


HERE I
AM LORD.



DO NOT
BE AFRAID TO
GO DOWN TO
EGYPT--FOR
I WILL MAKE
YOU INTO A
GREAT NATION
THERE.

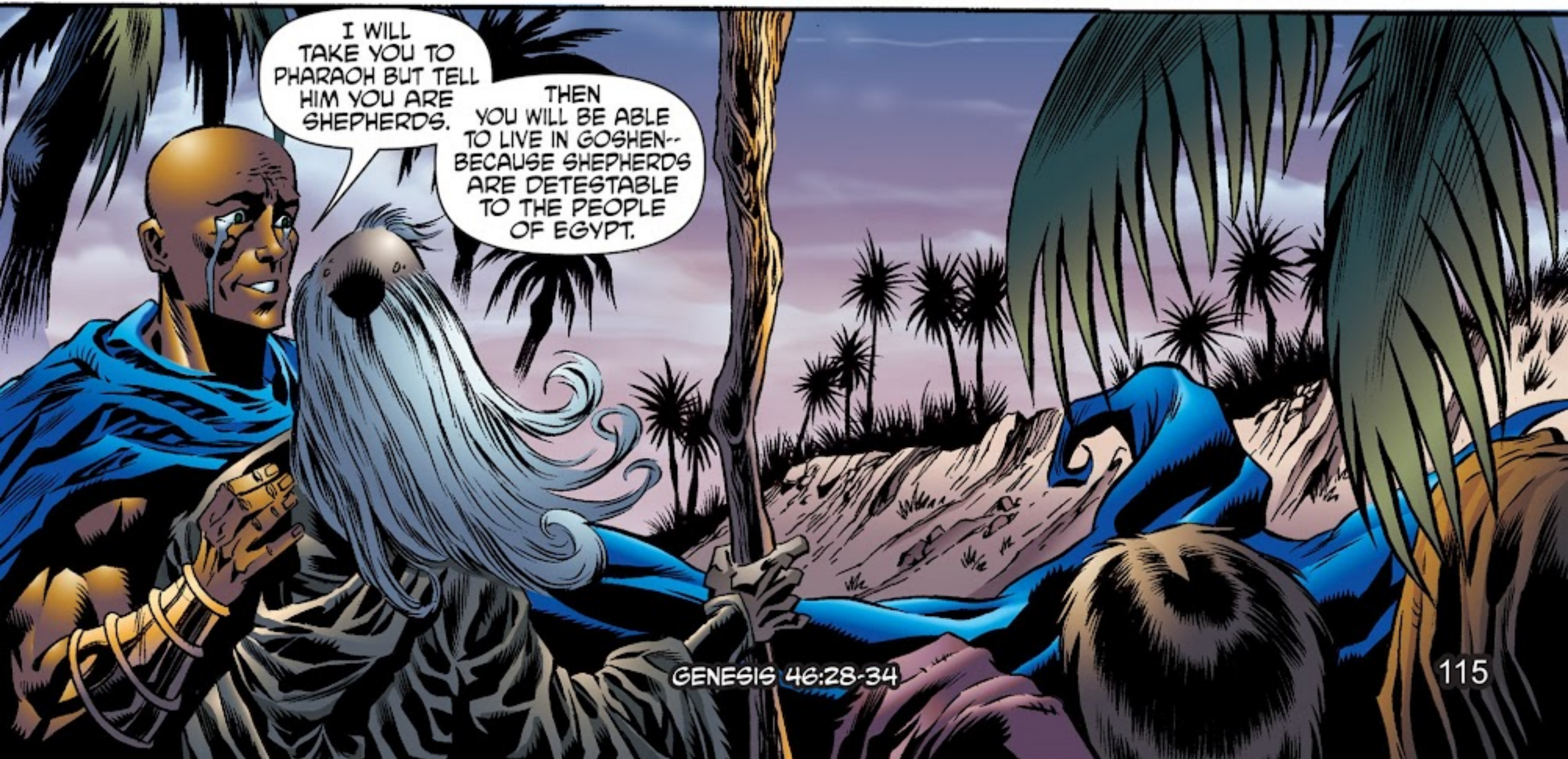
I WILL
GO DOWN
TO EGYPT
WITH YOU
AND SURELY
BRING YOU
BACK HERE
AGAIN.

AND
JOSEPH'S OWN
HAND WILL CLOSE
YOUR EYES.



JACOB LEFT
BEERSHEBA
WITH HIS SONS
AND THEIR
FAMILIES--
SEVENTY
PEOPLE
IN ALL.

AND HEADED
TO HIS NEW
TEMPORARY
HOME--IN
EGYPT.







AS THE FAMINE RAGED ON, JOSEPH COLLECTED ALL THE MONEY THAT WAS IN EGYPT AND CANAAN IN EXCHANGE FOR GRAIN.

THEN THE PEOPLE CAME TO HIM AGAIN.



WE NEED GRAIN--GIVE US FOOD. YOU ALREADY HAVE ALL OF OUR MONEY. WHY LET US DIE?

I WILL SELL YOU FOOD--IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR LIVESTOCK.



THE FOLLOWING YEAR...

YOU NOW HAVE ALL OUR MONEY AND ALL OUR LIVESTOCK.

NOW--PURCHASE OURSELVES AND OUR LAND IN EXCHANGE FOR FOOD.

HERE IS SEED FOR YOUR LAND. FROM NOW ON 1/5 BELONGS TO PHARAOH AND 4/5 YOU MAY KEEP.

YOU HAVE SAVED OUR LIVES.



BUT IN GOSHEN THE FAMILIES OF JACOB WERE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLIED GREATLY.



MY TIME IS DRAWING NEAR.

PROMISE ME THAT YOU WILL NOT BURY ME HERE IN EGYPT. LET ME REST WITH MY FATHERS.

I WILL DO AS YOU ASK MY FATHER.

GENESIS 47:13-31

117



YOUR FATHER IS ILL-- MAYBE NEAR DEATH.

QUICKLY, GATHER MY SONS AND THEY WILL GO WITH ME TO HIM.

YOUR SON JOSEPH IS HERE.

BRING HIM TO ME.



GOD ALMIGHTY APPEARED TO ME IN LUZ IN THE LAND OF CANAAN.

HE PROMISED TO MAKE ME FRUITFUL AND GIVE US THAT GOOD LAND AS AN EVERLASTING POSSESSION.

WHO ARE THESE?

THESE ARE THE SONS GOD HAS GIVEN ME.

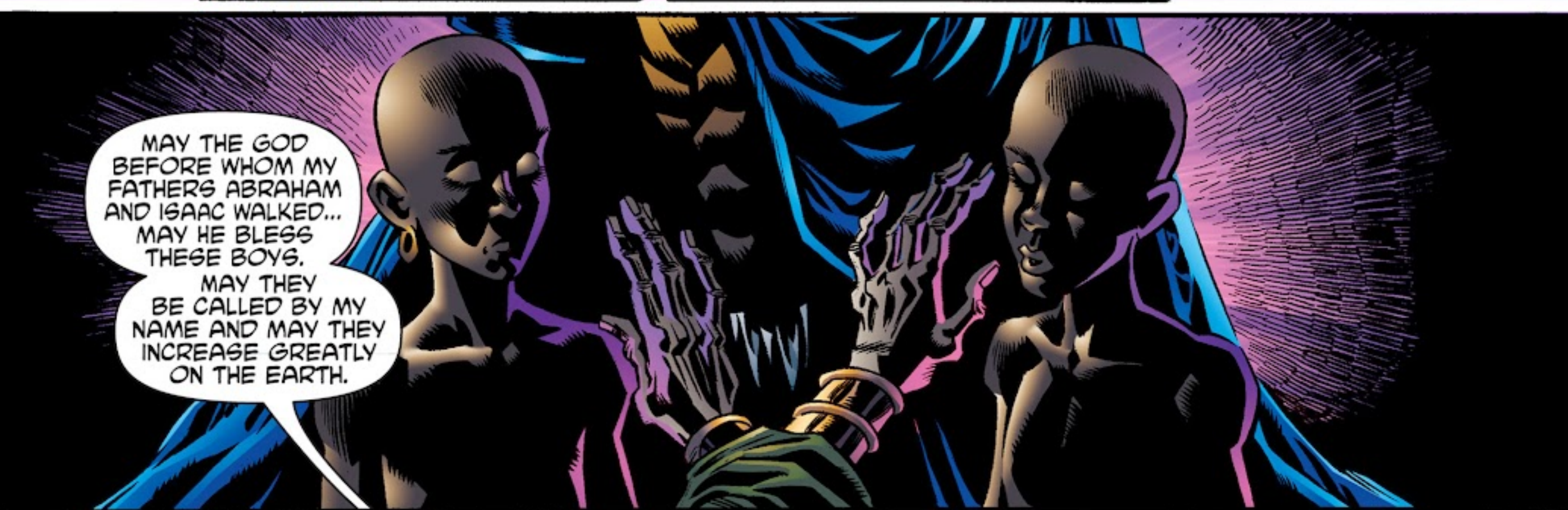
BRING THEM TO ME THAT I MAY BLESS THEM.

I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE YOU AGAIN--AND NOW GOD HAS ALLOWED ME TO SEE YOUR CHILDREN AS WELL.





HERE MY FATHER, BLESS BOTH ME AND MY CHILDREN.



MAY THE GOD BEFORE WHOM MY FATHERS ABRAHAM AND ISAAC WALKED... MAY HE BLESS THESE BOYS.

MAY THEY BE CALLED BY MY NAME AND MAY THEY INCREASE GREATLY ON THE EARTH.



NO, MY FATHER, YOU NEED TO PUT YOUR RIGHT HAND ON THE OLDEST.

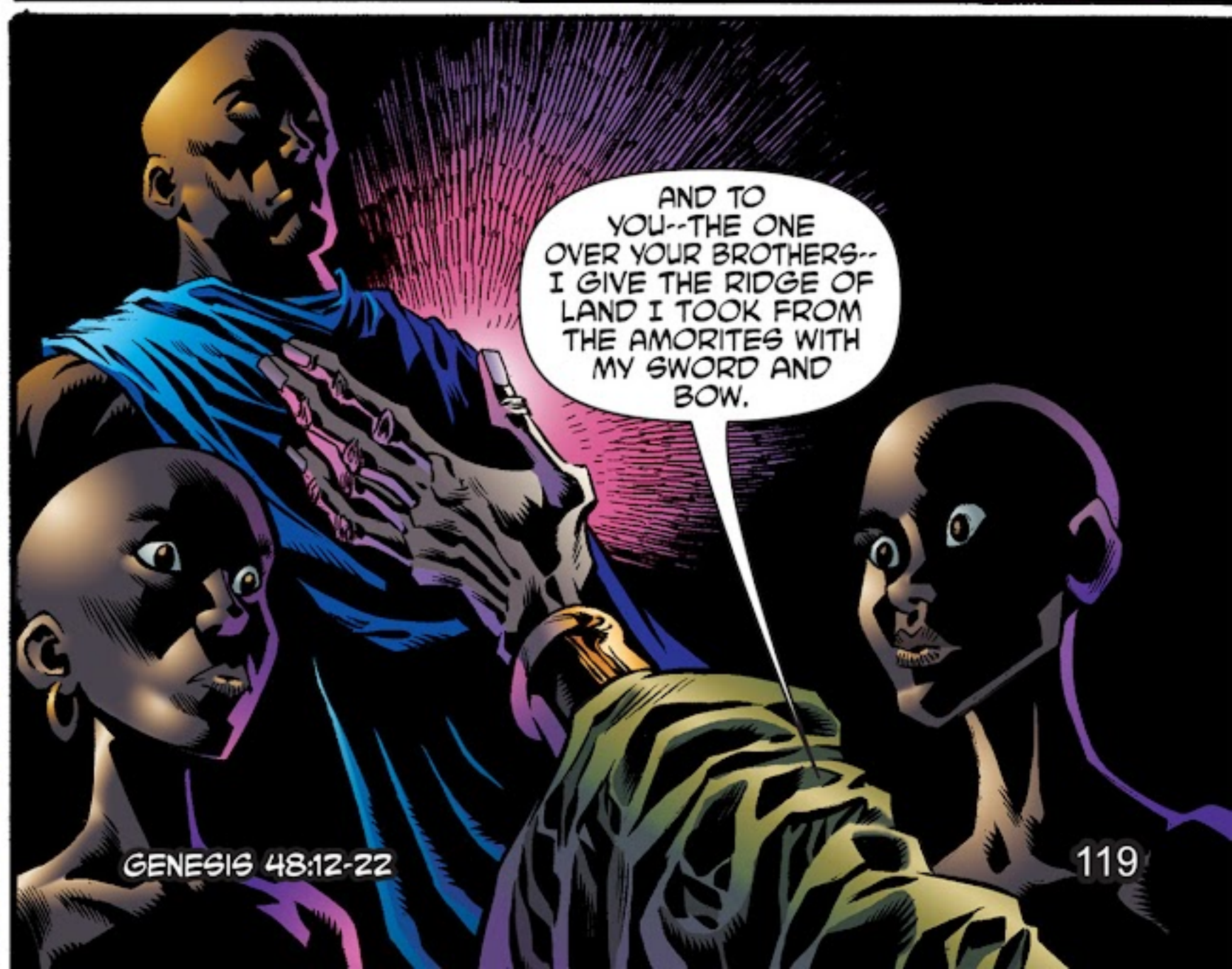
MY SON, I KNOW.

HE TOO WILL BECOME A PEOPLE AND BE GREAT.



BUT HIS BROTHER WILL BE GREATER THAN HE AND HIS DESCENDANTS WILL BECOME A GROUP OF NATIONS.

ISRAEL WILL PRONOUNCE THIS BLESSING--"MAY GOD MAKE YOU LIKE EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH".



AND TO YOU--THE ONE OVER YOUR BROTHERS-- I GIVE THE RIDGE OF LAND I TOOK FROM THE AMORITES WITH MY SWORD AND BOW.

REUBEN YOU ARE POWERFUL BUT YOU WILL NO LONGER EXCEL BECAUSE YOU WENT UP ON YOUR FATHER'S BED.

SIMEON AND LEVI USE WEAPONS OF VIOLENCE, CURSED BE THEIR ANGER. THEY WILL BE DISPERSED IN ISRAEL.

JUDAH, YOUR HAND WILL BE ON THE NECK OF YOUR ENEMIES AND THE SCEPTER WILL NOT PART FROM YOU.

ZEBULON WILL LIVE BY THE SEASHORE AND BE A HAVEN FOR SHIPS.

ISSACHAR IS A RAWBONED DONKEY AND WILL SUBMIT TO FORCED LABOR.

DAN WILL PROVIDE JUSTICE FOR HIS PEOPLE.

GAD WILL BE ATTACKED BY RAIDERS BUT WILL ATTACK IN RETURN.

ASHER'S FOOD WILL BE RICH--DELICACIES FIT FOR THE KING.

NAPHTALI IS A DOE THAT BEARS BEAUTIFUL FAWNS.

JOSEPH IS A FRUITFUL VINE THAT CLIMBS OVER A WALL. HIS BOW REMAINED STEADY BECAUSE OF THE HAND OF THE MIGHTY ONE OF JACOB.

BENJAMIN IS A RAVENOUS WOLF THAT DEVOURS ITS PREY.

BURY ME IN THE CAVE WHICH MY GRANDFATHER ABRAHAM BOUGHT FROM EPHRON THE HITTITE AND WHERE MY FATHER AND MOTHER ARE BURIED.

AND THERE I BURIED LEAH.



FATHER!
OH, MY
FATHER!



OUR PEOPLE
HAVE MOURNED
YOUR FATHER
SEVENTY DAYS.

YOU
MAY FULFILL
YOUR VOW.

THANK YOU FOR
THIS GREAT
RESPECT.
MY
FATHER MADE
ME SWEAR AN
OATH TO BURY
HIM
IN THE LAND OF
CANAAN WITH
HIS
ANCESTORS.



OUR FATHER
SAID TO SAY THIS
TO YOU--'I ASK
YOU TO FORGIVE
THE SINS AND
WRONGS THEY
COMMITTED
IN TREATING
YOU SO
BADLY.'



WE ARE
NOW YOUR
SLAVES.

AM I
IN THE PLACE
OF GOD?
YOU INTENDED
HARM BUT GOD
INTENDED
GOOD.
DO NOT
BE AFRAID. I
WILL PROVIDE
FOR BOTH YOU
AND YOUR
CHILDREN.



JOSEPH LIVED TO 110 YEARS OLD AND LIVED TO SEE HIS GREAT GREAT GRANDCHILDREN.



AND HE SPOKE THESE WORDS TO HIS SURVIVING BROTHERS...

THOUGH I AM ABOUT TO DIE, GOD WILL SURELY COME TO YOUR AID AND TAKE YOU TO THE LAND HE PROMISED ON OATH TO ABRAHAM.

AND WHEN HE DOES... YOU MUST CARRY MY BONES UP FROM THIS PLACE.



AND JOSEPH WAS EMBALMED AND BURIED IN EGYPT.



KINGSTONECOMICS.COM