

OUT OF FEAR FOR THEIR LIVES, THE CHRISTIANS MET IN SECRET TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD READ AND TO SING PRAISES.

> JESUS SAID, "IF ANY MAN WOULD BE MY DISCIPLE, HE MUST TAKE UP HIS CROSS AND FOLLOW ME." THAT MEANS WE SHOULD CARRY OUR CROSSES TO THE HILL OF CRUCIFIXION IF WE ARE CALLED UPON TO DO SO. NOW PSALM 22 TELLS US...

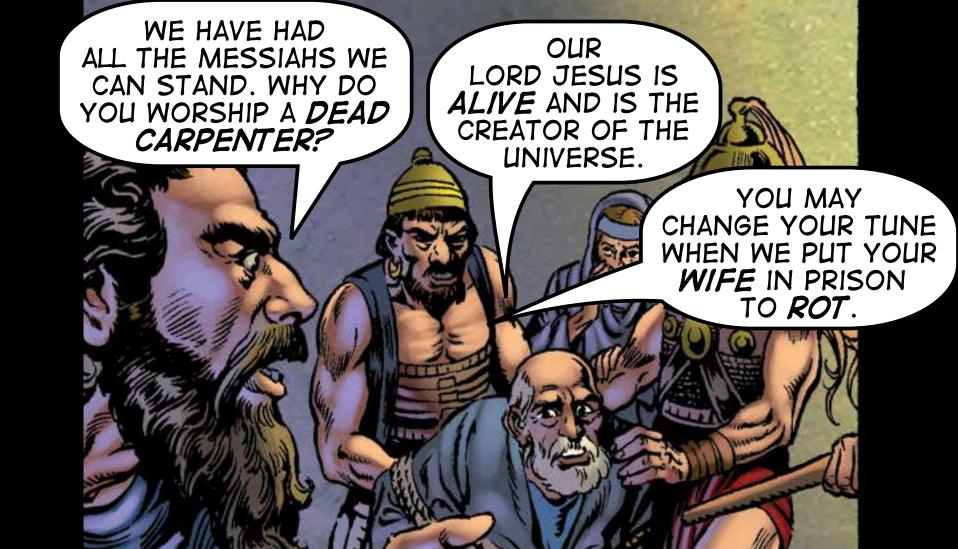
DEAR FRIENDS, OUR LORD SUFFERED THAT HE MIGHT TAKE AWAY OUR SINS. IT IS NO WONDER THAT WE TOO MIGHT HAVE TO SUFFER FOR HIM. DON'T BE AMAZED AT THE PERSECUTION WE ARE EXPERIENCING.

GOD HELP US. IT'S THE KILLER, **SAUL**.

STAY WHERE YOU ARE! THIS FOREIGN RELIGION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. YOU BLASPHEME OUR FATHERS AND OUR NATION. YOU ARE FOOLS! YOU WILL EITHER RECANT OR DIE.

GRAB THEIR LEADER. WE WILL MAKE AN **EXAMPLE** OF HIM.

I RATIONAL COLUMN





MATTHEW 16:24; MARK 8:34; ACTS 9:1-2 HERE IS ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR CHRIST LOVERS.

> WE KNEW THIS MIGHT HAPPEN WHEN WE BECAME CHRISTIANS.

IT IS THAT PHARISEE NAMED SAUL. HE BREATHES OUT HATE AND SLAUGHTER.

SAUL

IS TOO

FULL OF

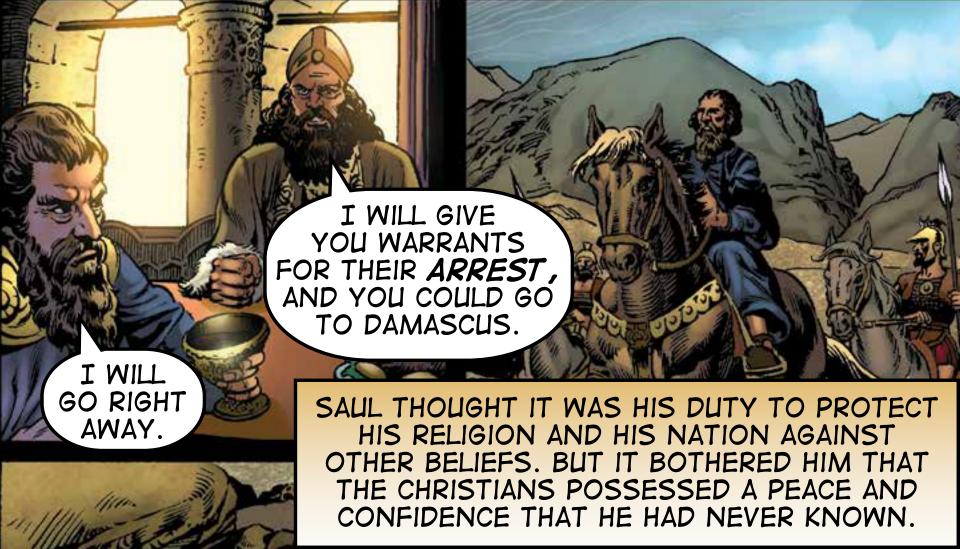
HATE.

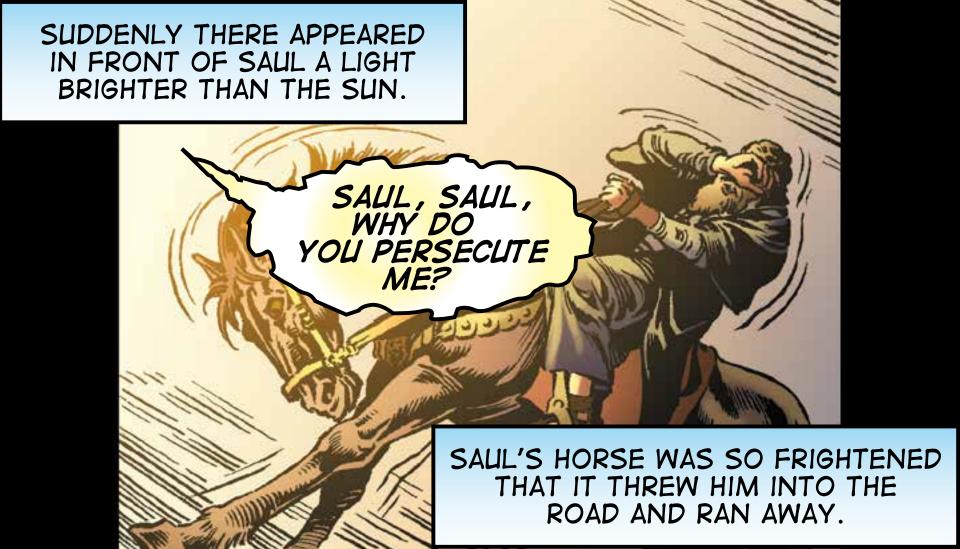
YES, WE MUST **PRAY** FOR HIM. PRAY THAT GOD WOULD SOFTEN HIS HEART AND CAUSE HIM TO SEE THE **TRUTH**.

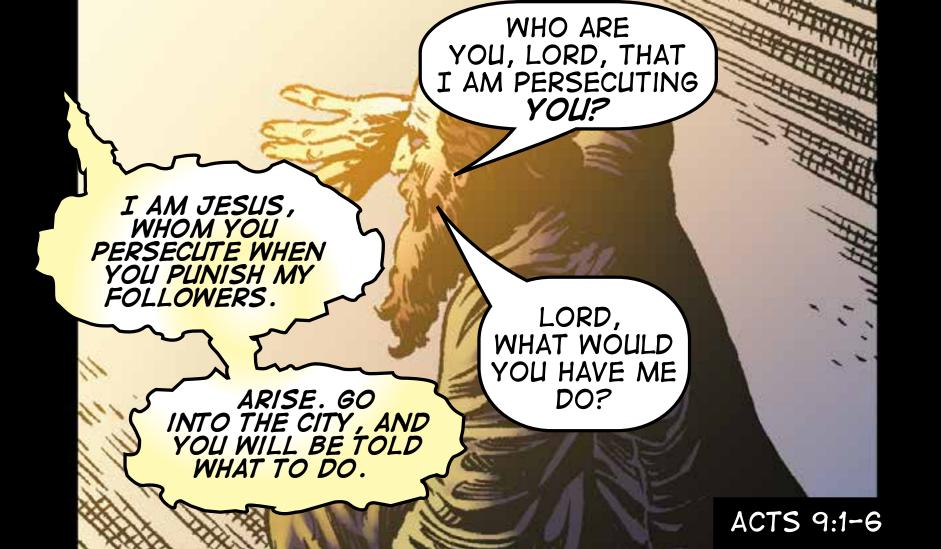
> REMEMBER, SOME OF US WERE DOUBTERS AT FIRST.

WELL, SAUL, I THINK YOU HAVE ABOUT SWEPT JERUSALEM CLEAN OF THIS SECT OF JESUS FOLLOWERS.

NO, THE **MORE** WE KILL AND IMPRISON, THE MORE THEY *INCREASE*. THEY HAVE SCATTERED TO OTHER CITIES. THE SYNAGOGUES UP IN DAMASCUS ARE FULL OF THEM.

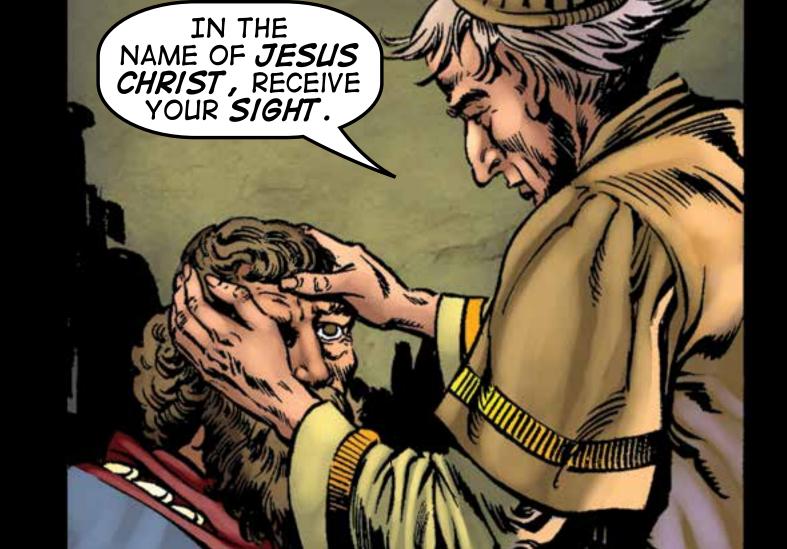


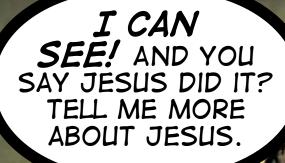












SO ANANIAS OPENED THE HOLY SCRIPTURES AND SHOWED SAUL THE PROPHECIES OF JESUS.

YES, I HAVE BEEN SUCH A FOOL. IT WAS ALL THERE IN THE SCRIPTURE ALL THE TIME. I WAS BLINDED BY MY RELIGIOUS ZEAL. I WANT TO BE BAPTIZED AND BECOME A FOLLOWER OF JESUS.

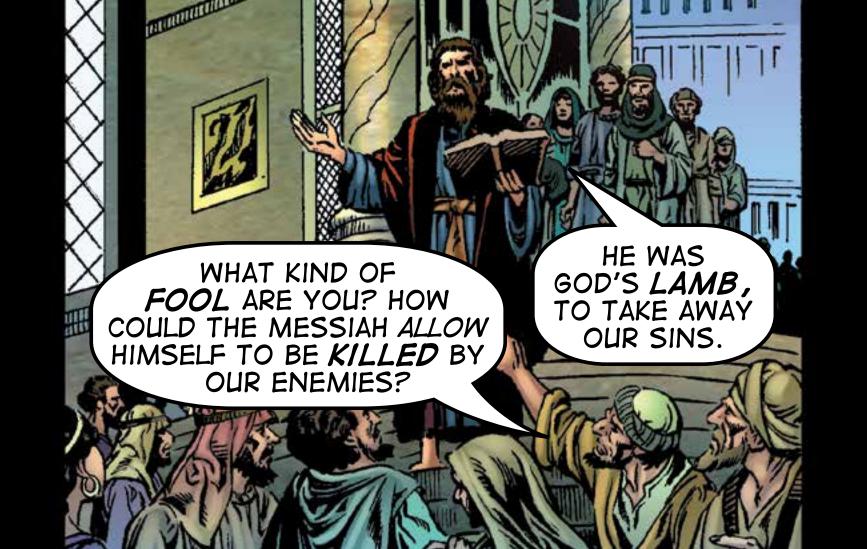
GOD CHANGED SAUL'S NAME TO PAUL.

ACTS 9:7-19

SAUL, NOW PAUL, WAS A NEW MAN WITH A NEW MESSAGE. HE NO LONGER WANTED TO KILL CHRISTIANS. HE WANTED TO PERSUADE OTHERS TO BELIEVE ON JESUS CHRIST.

BUT THE GREATEST PROOF IS THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD.

I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR DOUBT. I, TOO, DID NOT BELIEVE, BUT I TELL YOU, JESUS OF NAZARETH FULFILLED ALL THE ANCIENT PROPHECIES CONCERNING OUR MESSIAH.



GOD WAS ALSO REACHING OUT TO THE GENTILES. THERE WAS A ROMAN SOLDIER WHO SOUGHT GOD IN PRAYER.

> GOD, I KNOW YOU ARE ONE, THE CREATOR OF ALL MEN. THE RELIGION OF MY PEOPLE IS *CORRUPT* AND IT DOES NOT GIVE PEACE. SHOW ME YOUR WAY AND I WILL WALK IN IT.

WHO? WHAT? WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

> YOUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN HEARD. I HAVE BEEN SENT BY GOD. SEND MEN TO JOPPA TO THE HOUSE OF A TANNER NAMED **SIMON**. YOU WILL FIND IT DOWN BY THE SEASHORE. ASK FOR A MAN NAMED PETER. HE WILL COME HERE AND TELL YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD.

GOD HAS MADE **PEACE** THROUGH THE BLOOD OF HIS CROSS. PETER, OUR MASTER IS A VERY RELIGIOUS MAN, A GOOD MAN, BUT HE IS TROUBLED ABOUT MANY THINGS. HE PRAYS ALL THE TIME AND GIVES MONEY TO THE POOR, BUT HE IS NOT AT PEACE WITH GOD.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

I WILL EXPLAIN IT TO YOUR CAPTAIN.



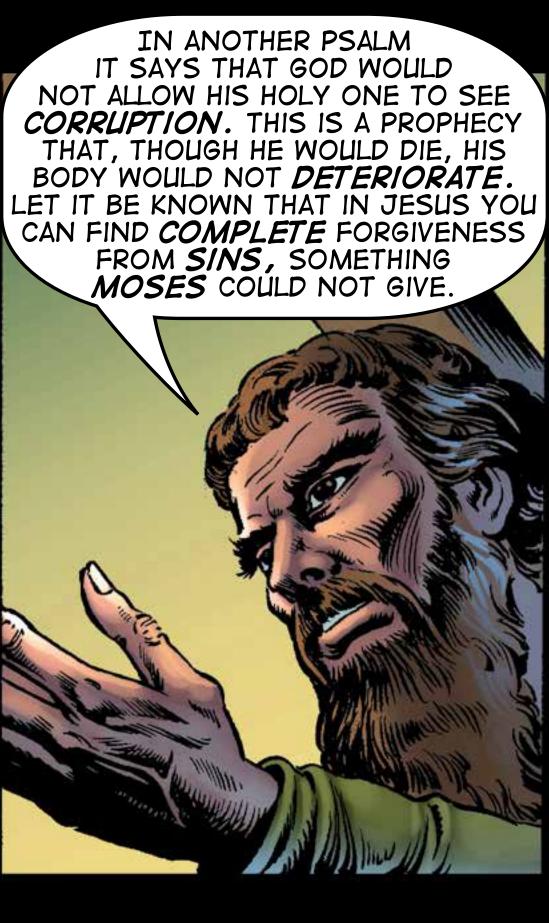
STAND UP. DO NOT SHOW REVERENCE TO ME. I AM A MAN JUST LIKE YOU. CALL EVERYONE TOGETHER AND I WILL TELL YOU THE GOOD NEWS. THIS IS A GREAT DAY. GOD HAS SENT PETER, ONE OF JESUS' DISCIPLES, TO TELL US ABOUT JESUS.

ACTS 9:20-22, 10:1-27, 38-41

YES, I WALKED WITH JESUS FOR THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS. I SAW HIM CRUCIFIED, AND I SAW HIM AFTER HE HAD RISEN FROM THE DEAD. THERE WERE **500** OF US GATHERED TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE TO HEAR HIM PREACH AFTER HIS RESURRECTION. HE **ATE** WITH US AND WE **TOUCHED** HIM. HE TAUGHT US TO **LOVE** OUR ENEMIES AND TO **PRAY** FOR THOSE THAT PERSECUTE US. HE SENT HIS SPIRIT... CAPTAIN CORNELIUS AND HIS WHOLE HOUSE BELIEVED THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AND WERE ALL BAPTIZED THAT SAME DAY. PAUL WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE IN ANTIOCH AND PREACHED TO THE JEWS ON THE SABBATH DAY.

YOU KNOW ME. I PERSECUTED THE CHRISTIANS UNTO DEATH, BUT JESUS APPEARED UNTO ME IN A BLINDING LIGHT, AND WITH A VOICE LIKE THUNDER TOLD ME TO **PREACH** HIS WORD. I HAVE SEARCHED THE SCRIPTURE CONCERNING MESSIAH AND FOUND THAT JESUS FULFILLED **ALL** THE PROPHECIES.

GOD SAID THAT HE WOULD RAISE UP A SON OF DAVID TO BE A **SAVIOR** UNTO ISRAEL, AND THAT THE LEADERS IN JERUSALEM WOULD **CONDEMN** HIM TO DIE. IT IS WRITTEN IN THE SECOND PSALM, "THOU ART MY SON, THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE."



GOD SENT JESUS TO BE A LIGHT TO THE **GENTILES**, THE SAVIOR OF ALL NATIONS.

> YOU BLASPHEME! JESUS WAS NOT A LEGITIMATE SON. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT HIS MOTHER WAS WITH CHILD LONG BEFORE SHE MARRIED.

GENTILES ARE GENTILES ARE UNCLEAN. THEY CANNOT BE PARTAKERS OF THE FAITH OF THE JEWS.

PSALM 2:7, 16:10, ACTS 2:27, 10:47, 13:33-35

YOU COULD BE **STONED** TO DEATH FOR YOUR **HERESY**. SINCE YOU **REJECT** THE GOOD NEWS OF ETERNAL LIFE, WE WILL TAKE OUR MESSAGE TO THE **GENTILES**, JUST AS THE PROPHETS DECLARED.

WHEN IT WAS CLEAR TO PAUL THAT THE JEWS AS A NATION WOULD CONTINUE TO REJECT CHRIST, HE CONCENTRATED HIS EFFORTS ON THE GENTILES -NATIONS OTHER THAN ISRAEL.

> MANY GENTILES BELIEVED THE GOSPEL AND CONTINUED IN THE GRACE OF GOD.

A STANDER MAN SHE STAND STAND

PAUL,

BAPTIZE

ME!

PRAISE BE

TO GOD AND

HIS SON JESUS.

SALVATION HAS

COME TO THE

GENTILES!

TELL

US MORE

OF THE

PROPHECIES

CONCERNING

JESUS.

THE JEWS WERE ANGERED AND DROVE PAUL AND BARNABAS OUT OF THE CITY, THREATENING THEM WITH DEATH IF THEY RETURNED. SO PAUL AND BARNABAS WENT TO ASIA AND CARRIED THE GOOD NEWS TO EVERYONE THEY MET.

BARNABAS, IF I FALL, KEEP RUNNING. DON'T STOP.



BUT GOD PERFORMED A MIRACLE AND RAISED PAUL UP.

PAUL, I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

NOT YET, GOD SHOWED ME MANY THINGS THAT I WOULD HAVE TO SUFFER FOR HIS NAME, AND WE HAVE ONLY **BEGUN.** LET US GO **BACK** INTO THE CITY.

AT PHILIPPI OF MACEDONIA, PAUL AND SILAS WERE BEATEN WITH 39 STRIPES AND THEN JAILED. IN SPITE OF THEIR SUFFERING, THEIR HEARTS WERE FULL OF JOY, AND AT MIDNIGHT THEY SANG PRAISES TO GOD. THOU ART WORTHY O LORD TO RECEIVE GLORY AND HONOR AND PRAISE...



IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS PAUL WAS BEATEN WITH A ROD THREE DIFFERENT TIMES. YET HE CONTINUED TO PREACH JESUS.

ACTS 14:19-20, 16:23-25; 2 CORINTHIANS 11:24-25; REVELATION 4:11 AS PAUL TRAVELED FROM PLACE TO PLACE PREACHING, THREE DIFFERENT TIMES THE SHIP ON WHICH HE WAS TRAVELING SANK.



ONE TIME HE DRIFTED IN THE SEA FOR A DAY AND A NIGHT BEFORE A PASSING SHIP PICKED HIM UP.



BUT HE WENT ON PREACHING. PAUL SUFFERED SICKNESS, COLD, HEAT, HUNGER, AND ALL MANNER OF DISCOMFORT AS HE TRAVELED THE WORLD TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS.



PAUL WENT FROM CITY TO CITY WARNING AGAINST IDOLATRY AND TELLING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.

PRAISE

GOD!

YOU HAVE TURNED TO GOD FROM YOUR *IDOLS*, AND GOD HAS JUSTIFIED YOU BY FAITH WITHOUT ANY CONTRIBUTION FROM THE LAW. YOU ARE NOW A MEMBER OF HIS BODY, AND YOU BELONG TO THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD. 1 CORINTHIANS 10:14, 12:12-13, 18; 2 CORINTHIANS 11:25; GALATIANS 2:6; EPHESIANS 2:19

> THIS STUFF NEVER GAVE ME PEACE.

WHEN THE PEOPLE TURNED TO GOD, THEY LEFT THEIR IDOLS AND CHARMS. THEY THREW EVERYTHING THAT HAD TO DO WITH THEIR RELIGION OR THEIR SIN INTO THE FIRE. WITHIN TWENTY YEARS, THERE WERE BELIEVERS ALL OVER THE KNOWN WORLD WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. JESUS HAD WARNED THE DISCIPLES, "THEN SHALL THEY DELIVER YOU UP TO BE AFFLICTED, AND SHALL KILL YOU: AND YE SHALL BE HATED OF ALL NATIONS FOR MY NAME'S SAKE. AND THEN SHALL MANY BE OFFENDED, AND SHALL BETRAY ONE ANOTHER, AND SHALL HATE ONE ANOTHER. AND MANY FALSE PROPHETS SHALL RISE, AND SHALL DECEIVE MANY."

> FATHER, DON'T PUNISH THEM FOR WHAT THEY ARE DOING TO US.

LORD JESUS, RECEIVE MY *SPIRIT!*

WHEN THOSE WHO HAD SEEN CHRIST WERE OLD AND THE CHURCH HAD SPREAD ALL OVER THE ROMAN EMPIRE, THE ROMANS BEGAN TO SEEK OUT THE CHRISTIANS AND PERSECUTE THEM UNTO DEATH. IF THE BELIEVERS WOULD NOT DENY CHRIST, THEY WOULD PUT THEM IN THE ARENA, AND THE PEOPLE WOULD WATCH AS THE LIONS AND TIGERS TORE THEM TO PIECES.

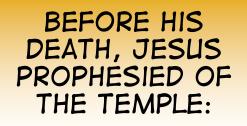


SOMETIMES THE CHRISTIANS WERE HACKED TO DEATH BY THE ROMAN GLADIATORS. THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED THAT THE BELIEVERS WOULD NOT RENOUNCE THEIR FAITH. THEY WERE READY TO DIE FOR JESUS.

JASON, I WILL SEE YOU IN PARADISE.

MATTHEW 24:9-11

NO!



DO YOU SEE THIS TEMPLE? I TELL YOU IT WILL BE DESTROYED AND NOT ONE STONE WILL BE LEFT STANDING UPON ANOTHER.

FORTY YEARS LATER, IN 70 A.D., THE ROMANS CAME AND DESTROYED THE CITY AND THE TEMPLE. WHEN THE WOOD INSIDE THE TEMPLE BURNT, THE GOLD OF THE TEMPLE MELTED AND RAN DOWN INTO THE CRACKS BETWEEN THE STONES IN THE FLOOR AND THE FOUNDATION. AS THE ROMANS TRIED TO RECOVER THE GOLD, THEY FOUND IT NECESSARY TO REMOVE EVERY STONE. JESUS' PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED. THE JEWS IN JERUSALEM AND ISRAEL THAT SURVIVED THE WAR FLED TO THE GENTILE NATIONS, WHERE MANY OF THEIR DESCENDANTS LIVE UNTIL THIS DAY.

WE'LL GO TO MY BROTHER'S HOUSE IN SYRIA.

THE CHRISTIAN JEWS ALSO FLED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE THEY PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, AND THE CHURCH GREW.

WHEREVER THEY FLED, THERE WERE ALREADY CHRISTIANS THERE TO WELCOME THEM.

WE HAD

NO PLACE

TO GO.

WE HEARD OF THE HORRIBLE THINGS IN JERUSALEM. OF COURSE YOU CAN STAY WITH US.

MATTHEW 24:2; LUKE 19:43-44

THE APOSTLES OF JESUS CONTINUED TO PREACH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST UNTIL THEIR DEATHS. ONE BY ONE THEY WERE PUT TO DEATH. THEY ALL DIED BRAVELY, KNOWING THAT THEY HAD A BETTER HOME IN HEAVEN.



OTHERS WERE DISEMBOWELED WHILE ALIVE AND CUT INTO PIECES.



PETER WAS CRUCIFIED UPSIDE DOWN.

JOHN 21:18; ACT<u>S 12:2</u>

SOME WERE SLOWLY BOILED IN OIL.

> I'M GOING TO A BETTER PLACE. MAY GOD FORGIVE YOU.

I AM NOT WORTHY TO DIE AS YOU DIED, LORD.

THEY ALL DIED IN FAITH, WITH ASSURANCE THAT THEY HAD A NEW BODY AND A BETTER HOME WAITING. SIXTY YEARS AFTER JESUS' RESURRECTION, JOHN WAS THE ONLY APOSTLE LEFT. HE WAS EXILED TO A ROCKY ISLAND CALLED PATMOS. THE SPIRIT CAUGHT JOHN UP TO HEAVEN WHERE GOD SHOWED HIM THE FUTURE.

> JOHN, I WILL SHOW YOU THE THINGS THAT ARE GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE. WRITE DOWN WHAT YOU SEE AND PUT IT IN A BOOK AND SEND IT TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF

WHEN THIS AGE IS NEAR THE END, JESUS WILL COME BACK AND OPEN THE GRAVES OF ALL THOSE WHO BELIEVE ON HIM. THEY, WITH ALL THE LIVING BELIEVERS, WILL RISE UP TO MEET JESUS IN THE AIR AND WILL REMAIN WITH HIM FOREVER.

> IN THE END OF DAYS, GOD WILL VISIT THE EARTH WITH TERRIBLE CALAMITIES. FIRE WILL FALL AND THERE WILL BE OTHER PLAGUES THAT WILL DESTROY MOST OF THE PEOPLE LIVING ON THE EARTH.

A MAN WILL COME WHO WILL CLAIM TO BE THE MESSIAH, AND HE WILL DECEIVE MANY PEOPLE. HE WILL CAUSE PEOPLE TO SHOW THEIR LOYALTY TO HIM AND HIS GOVERNMENT BY RECEIVING A MARK IN THEIR FOREHEADS OR ON THE BACK OF THEIR RIGHT HANDS.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:14, 4:16-17; 2 THESSALONIANS 2:3-4; REVELATION 1:9, 11, 8:1-13, 9:18, 13:16, 20:4

THOSE WHO DO NOT RECEIVE THE MARK WILL BE KILLED BY DECAPITATION. IT WILL BE A TIME OF GREAT SUFFERING FOR THOSE WHO ARE LEFT ON THE EARTH.

AS PROPHESIED, JESUS WILL RETURN AGAIN DURING THE END TIMES.

HE WILL COME IN ALL HIS GLORY AND POWER AND NOT AS A MORTAL MAN. HEAVEN WILL OPEN AND HE WILL DESCEND RIDING ON THE BACK OF A WHITE HORSE.

HE WILL SHINE LIKE THE SUN AND ON HIS HEAD HE WILL WEAR MANY CROWNS. IN HIS HAND HE WILL HOLD SEVEN STARS AND OUT OF HIS MOUTH WILL COME THE SWORD OF TRUTH. HE WILL CONFRONT SATAN AND CAST HIM INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE WHERE HE WILL BE ETERNALLY TORMENTED AND NEVER TEMPT MAN AGAIN. JESUS WILL ALSO CAST DEATH, HIS LAST FOE, INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE AND THE WORLD WILL BE MADE NEW.



GOD WILL GATHER ALL THOSE WHO BELIEVED ON HIS SON AND GIVE THEM ETERNAL LIFE ON A NEW EARTH. GOD WILL WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH, SORROW, CRYING OR PAIN, FOR THE FORMER THINGS WILL BE PASSED AWAY. JESUS WILL REIGN AS KING AND SAVIOR OVER HIS RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE IN A WORLD FREE FROM SIN AND DEATH.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:16; REVELATION 1:16, 19:11-21, 20:10-15, 21:1-4



THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST HAS BEEN PREACHED FOR 2,000 YEARS. JESUS PREDICTED THAT HIS KINGDOM MESSAGE WOULD SPREAD AROUND THE WHOLE WORLD UNTIL EVERY NATION, TRIBE, AND FAMILY GROUP HAD HEARD THE GOOD NEWS.



THERE IS JUST ONE GOD AND HE HAS ONLY ONE SON. THERE IS JUST ONE FAITH AND ONE HOLY BOOK. THERE IS JUST ONE WAY TO ENTER PARADISE AFTER THIS LIFE. JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE, AS MANY PEOPLE OF ALL NATIONS HAVE FOUND.

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST IS DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD IN THAT IT IS NOT SPREAD BY CONSTRAINT OR INTIMIDATION. JESUS TAUGHT HIS FOLLOWERS TO LOVE THEIR ENEMIES AND TO BE FILLED WITH JOY AND SINGING. TODAY, PEOPLE OF EVERY NATIONALITY AND LANGUAGE REJOICE IN FORGIVENESS AND ETERNAL LIFE.

JOHN 3:16, 14:6

HOWEVER, IT HAS BEEN NEARLY 2,000 YEARS SINCE JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD, AND THERE ARE STILL SOME WHO HAVE NOT HEARD THE GOOD NEWS. SOMEONE MUST TELL THEM.

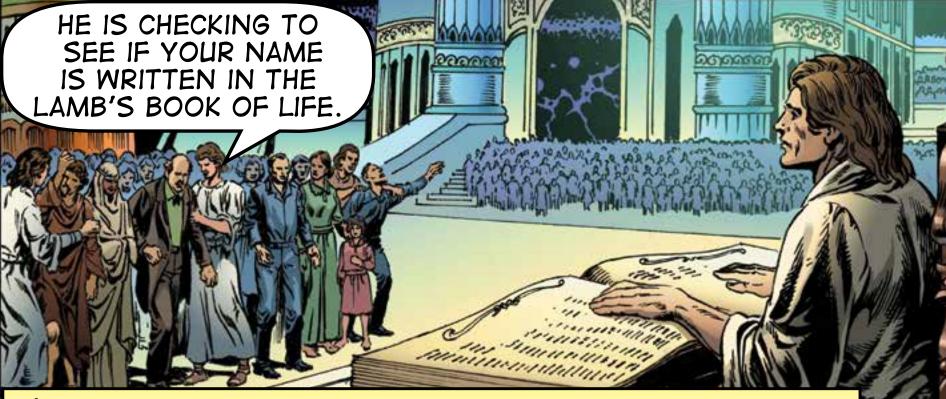
A MODERN STORY OF JUDGMENT TO COME



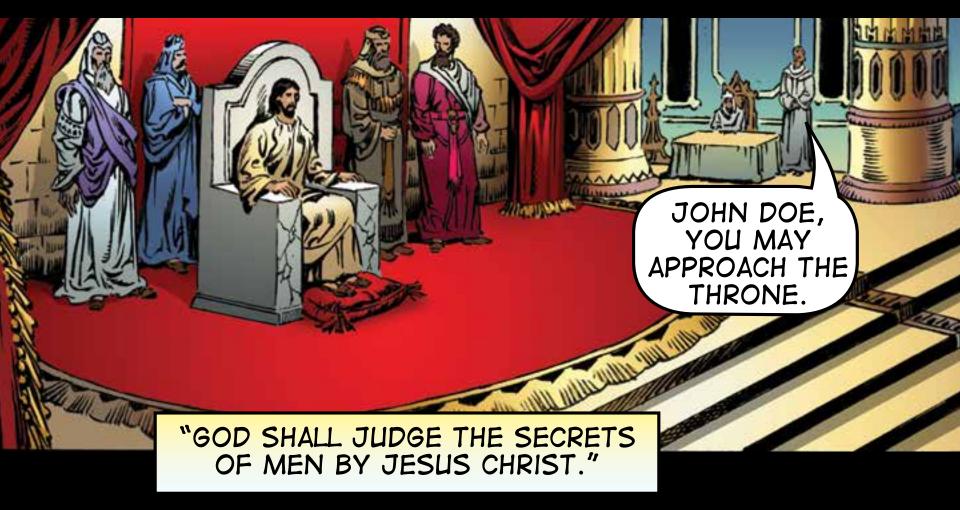




HEBREWS 9:27



"AND I SAW THE DEAD, SMALL AND GREAT, STAND BEFORE GOD; AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED: AND ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED, WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE: AND THE DEAD WERE JUDGED OUT OF THOSE THINGS WHICH WERE WRITTEN IN THE BOOKS, ACCORDING TO THEIR WORKS."

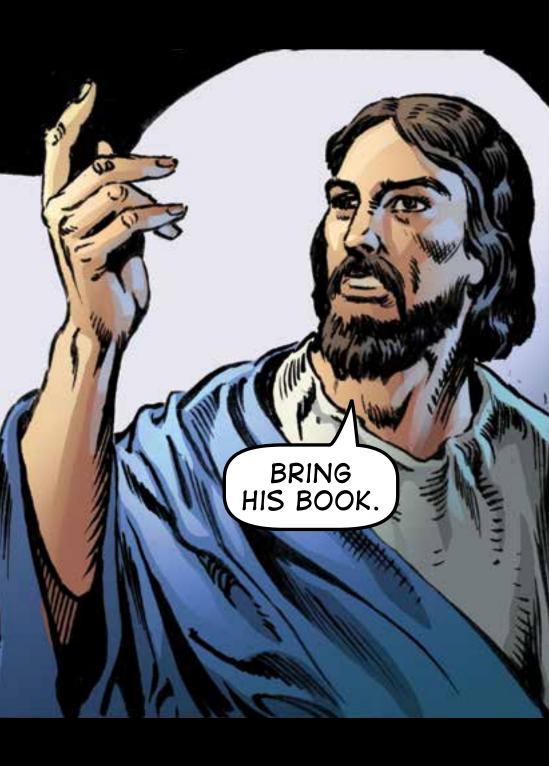


JOHN DOE, THIS IS YOUR DAY IN COURT. YOU ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING COMMITTED A GREAT NUMBER OF SINS. HOW DO YOU PLEAD?

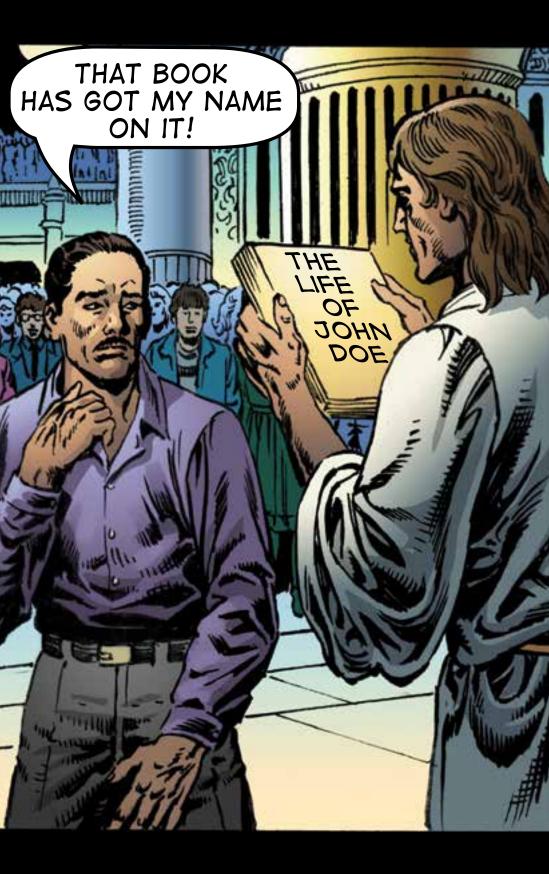
WELL, I COMMITTED A FEW LITTLE SINS, BUT I HAVE BEEN A GOOD MAN; ASK ANYONE WHO KNEW ME.

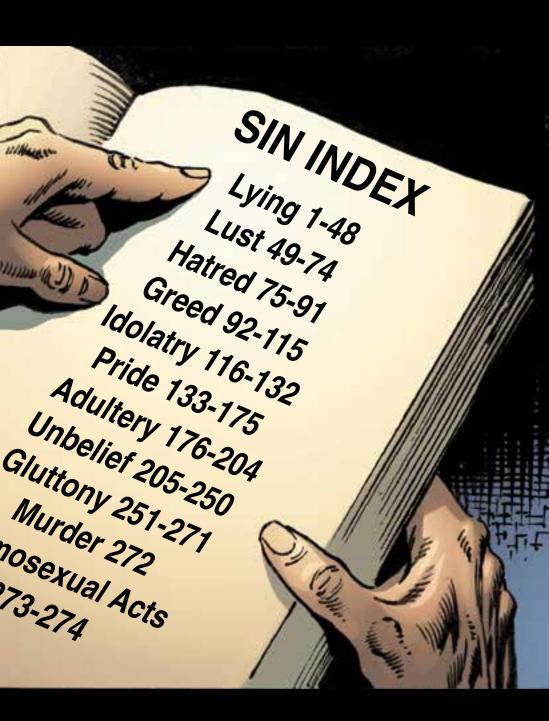
EVERY WORD AND EVERY DEED HAS BEEN RECORDED, EVEN YOUR MOST SECRET SINS.

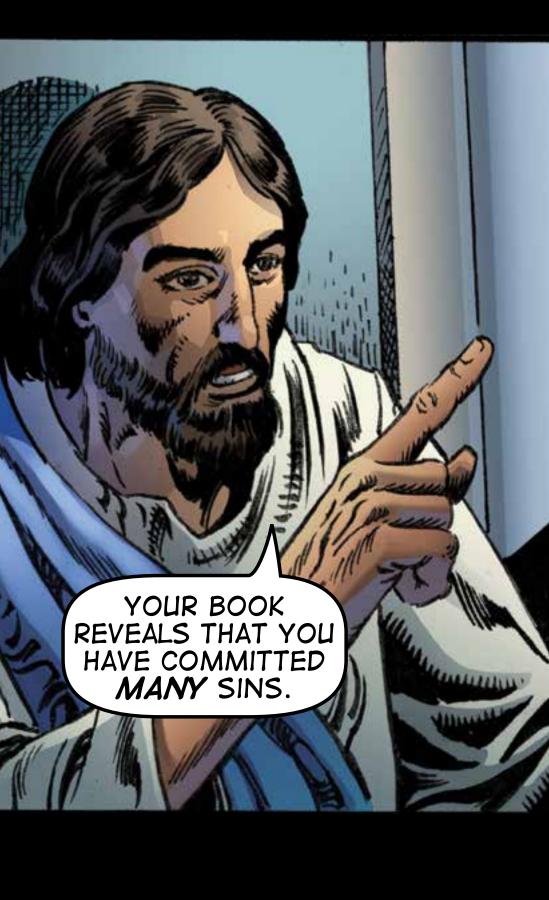
ROMANS 2:6; REVELATION 20:12





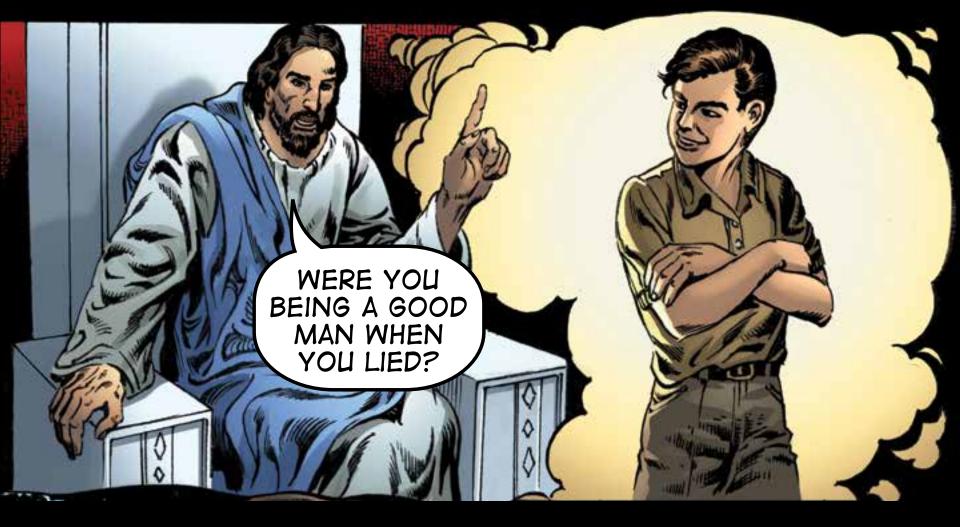








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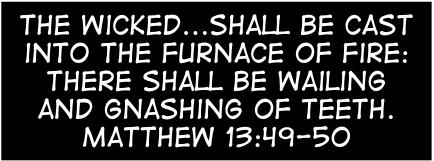
BUT I DIDN'T COMMIT ANY BAD SINS. I WAS A RELIGIOUS MAN.

STILL MAKING EXCUSES. ALL SINS ARE BAD SINS. DEPART FROM ME, ALL WHO COMMIT SINS: I NEVER KNEW YOU.



I'M SORRY. IT IS TOO LATE TO CALL ON GOD NOW.





THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

"JESUS SAID UNTO HER, I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE: HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE:"

> IT HAS BEEN A GOOD LIFE. I AM GOING TO SEE MY SAVIOR. KEEP ON LOVING JESUS. I WILL SEE YOU IN HEAVEN.





"BECAUSE HE HATH APPOINTED A DAY, IN THE WHICH HE WILL JUDGE THE WORLD IN RIGHTEOUS-NESS BY THAT MAN WHOM HE HATH ORDAINED;

> WHEREOF HE HATH GIVEN ASSURANCE UNTO ALL MEN, IN THAT HE HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD."

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ACTS 17:31

Our desire is that after reading Good and Evil® you will be motivated to read the entire Bible and that it will come alive to you. Make it a daily habit to read a portion of the Bible and then pray that God will help you understand and apply it.

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