



CHAPTER 2

ABRAHAM

THERE WAS ONE MAN NAMED ABRAHAM WHO DID NOT BELIEVE THAT STATUES WERE REALLY GODS. HE KNEW THAT GOD WAS THE CREATOR AND COULD NOT BE WORSHIPED THROUGH IDOLS.



GOD SPOKE TO HIM, SAYING,
"ABRAHAM, LEAVE THIS CITY OF
IDOLATRY. LEAVE ALL YOUR FAMILY
AND COUNTRY BEHIND, AND I
WILL SHOW YOU WHERE TO GO. I
WILL MAKE YOU THE FATHER OF
A GREAT NATION. I WILL BLESS
THOSE THAT BLESS YOU AND I
WILL CURSE THOSE THAT CURSE
YOU. IN YOU ALL THE NATIONS OF
THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED."



COULD ABRAHAM BE THE
PROMISED CHILD WHO WOULD
DESTROY SIN AND DEATH?

APPROXIMATELY 1921 B.C.



ABRAHAM KNEW THAT THE VOICE HE HEARD WAS THE VOICE OF GOD, SO HE OBEYED, NOT KNOWING WHERE HE WAS GOING. HE KNEW THAT HE WAS LEAVING THE IDOLATRY BEHIND AND WAS FOLLOWING THE LIVING GOD. THAT WAS ENOUGH FOR ABRAHAM. BUT HE TOOK HIS NEPHEW LOT WITH HIM.

ABRAHAM'S JOURNEY TOOK HIM DOWN INTO THE LAND OF CANAAN, WHERE HAM'S SON SETTLED. TODAY, IT IS CALLED PALESTINE. THERE GOD SPOKE TO HIM:



ABRAHAM, WALK THROUGH THIS LAND FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER. I AM GOING TO GIVE ALL THIS LAND OF CANAAN TO YOUR FUTURE CHILDREN. I WILL MAKE YOU TO HAVE SO MANY CHILDREN THAT THEY CANNOT BE COUNTED. THEY WILL MULTIPLY LIKE THE DUST OF THE EARTH.



SARAH,
GOD TOLD ME
THAT YOU ARE
GOING TO HAVE
CHILDREN AFTER
ALL THESE
YEARS.

GOD
SAID YOU
WOULD.

YOU KNOW
THAT I HAVE
NEVER BEEN ABLE
TO HAVE A CHILD,
AND NOW I AM PAST
CHILDBEARING AGE.
HOW CAN I HAVE
CHILDREN?

GENESIS 12:1-3, 13:14-17

AS ABRAHAM TRAVELED THROUGH THE LAND, OCCASIONALLY HE STOPPED AND OFFERED A BLOOD SACRIFICE TO GOD. LIKE ABEL, HE MADE THE SACRIFICE BY FAITH, KNOWING THAT HE WAS A SINNER, DESERVING OF DEATH.

THE SACRIFICE OF A LAMB COULD NOT TAKE AWAY HIS SIN, BUT WHEN GOD SAW ABRAHAM'S FAITH, GOD COVERED ABRAHAM'S SIN.






TEN YEARS LATER.

ABRAHAM,
TEN YEARS AGO
YOU SAID GOD TOLD YOU
THAT I WOULD BEAR YOUR
CHILD. I AM NOW 75 AND YOU
ARE 85. WE GROW OLDER,
BUT STILL NO CHILD. SOON
YOU WILL BE TOO OLD TO
PRODUCE A CHILD. ARE
YOU SURE YOU HEARD
FROM GOD?

I KNOW IT WAS GOD WHO SPOKE TO ME, BUT I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY HE WAITS SO LONG. HE SAID I WOULD BE THE FATHER OF A GREAT NATION, BUT ALL I HAVE IS AN OLD BODY, AN OLD WIFE THAT CANNOT HAVE CHILDREN, AND A GREAT BIG FLOCK OF SHEEP.



A man with a long white beard and a blue robe is shown in a state of distress. He is looking down with his right hand pressed against his forehead. The background is a dark blue with diagonal lines, suggesting a night sky or a dark interior. Three speech bubbles are present: a yellow one at the top, a white one in the middle, and another yellow one at the bottom.

**FEAR NOT
ABRAHAM, I AM YOUR
PROTECTION AND YOUR
GREAT REWARD.**

**WHAT REWARD
WILL YOU GIVE
ME, SINCE I HAVE
NO CHILD?**

**YOU AND
SARAH WILL
HAVE A
CHILD.**



**COME, ABRAHAM,
LOOK AT THE STARS
AND SEE IF YOU CAN COUNT
THEM. LIKE THE STARS YOUR
CHILDREN WILL BE SO MANY
THAT THEY CANNOT
BE COUNTED.**

**I BELIEVE
IT WILL COME TO
PASS AS YOU
SAY.**

**SINCE YOU BELIEVE ME,
I AM GOING TO COUNT YOUR FAITH
AS IF IT WERE RIGHTEOUSNESS.
KNOW OF A CERTAINTY THAT YOUR CHILDREN
WILL BE STRANGERS IN A LAND THAT IS NOT
THEIRS. AFTER THEY HAVE SUFFERED AS
SLAVES FOR 400 YEARS, I WILL PUNISH
THAT NATION, AND YOUR CHILDREN WILL
LEAVE THERE WITH GREAT WEALTH.
THEN THEY WILL COME BACK HERE
AND INHABIT THIS LAND.**



WHERE IS THE PROMISE OF A CHILD? I GROW OLDER BY THE DAY. SOON YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PRODUCE SEED. ABRAHAM, I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU CHILDREN.



THE CUSTOM
OF THE LAND IS
THAT MY SERVANT
GIRL CAN HAVE A
CHILD FOR ME.



ABRAHAM,
DON'T YOU SEE THIS
IS OUR LAST CHANCE TO
HAVE A CHILD? BEFORE IT IS
TOO LATE, YOU MUST TAKE HER
AND PRODUCE A CHILD. IT WILL
BE YOUR SEED. IT IS GOD'S
WILL. HOW ELSE WILL YOU
EVER BE THE FATHER OF
A GREAT NATION?





IT IS
THE ONLY
WAY.

ABRAHAM DID NOT PRAY
TO GOD. HE FORGOT THE
PROMISE OF GOD AND OBEYED
THE VOICE OF HIS WIFE.

GENESIS 16:1-4


SEVERAL
MONTHS
LATER.

I AM
GOING TO HAVE
ABRAHAM'S
CHILD.



WHEN HAGAR KNEW THAT
SHE CARRIED ABRAHAM'S
CHILD, SHE BECAME PROUD
AND DESPISED SARAH.
SARAH GREW UNHAPPY
WITH JEALOUSY.


SARAH MADE HAGAR WORK HARD AND TREATED HER UNKINDLY. GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR A MAN TO HAVE TWO WIVES OR TO HAVE CHILDREN THROUGH A CONCUBINE.



WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED WITH THE WATER, YOU CAN SPLIT THE FIREWOOD.

HAGAR MADE PLANS TO RUN AWAY.

HAGAR RAN AWAY FROM SARAH AND FLED INTO THE WILDERNESS. WHEN SHE GREW TIRED AND COULD GO NO FARTHER, SHE COLLAPSED IN EXHAUSTION. GOD SAW HAGAR IN HER DISTRESS AND SPOKE TO HER.



HAGAR, RETURN TO SARAH AND SUBMIT TO HER. YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE A SON AND YOU WILL NAME HIM ISHMAEL, WHICH MEANS "GOD HEARS."



**FROM HIM
WILL COME MANY
CHILDREN, MORE THAN CAN
BE NUMBERED. ISHMAEL
WILL BE A WILD MAN. HE
WILL ALWAYS BE FIGHTING
EVERYBODY AND EVERYBODY
WILL BE FIGHTING HIM. HE WILL
ALWAYS LIVE CLOSE TO
ALL HIS BROTHERS.**



HAGAR RETURNED HOME AND
IN TIME THE CHILD WAS BORN.

GOD TOLD ME
THAT SINCE THIS CHILD
IS ABRAHAM'S, HE WOULD
BE THE FATHER OF
MANY NATIONS.

ISHMAEL LATER BECAME THE
FATHER OF ALL ARABIC NATIONS.

GENESIS 16:4-16

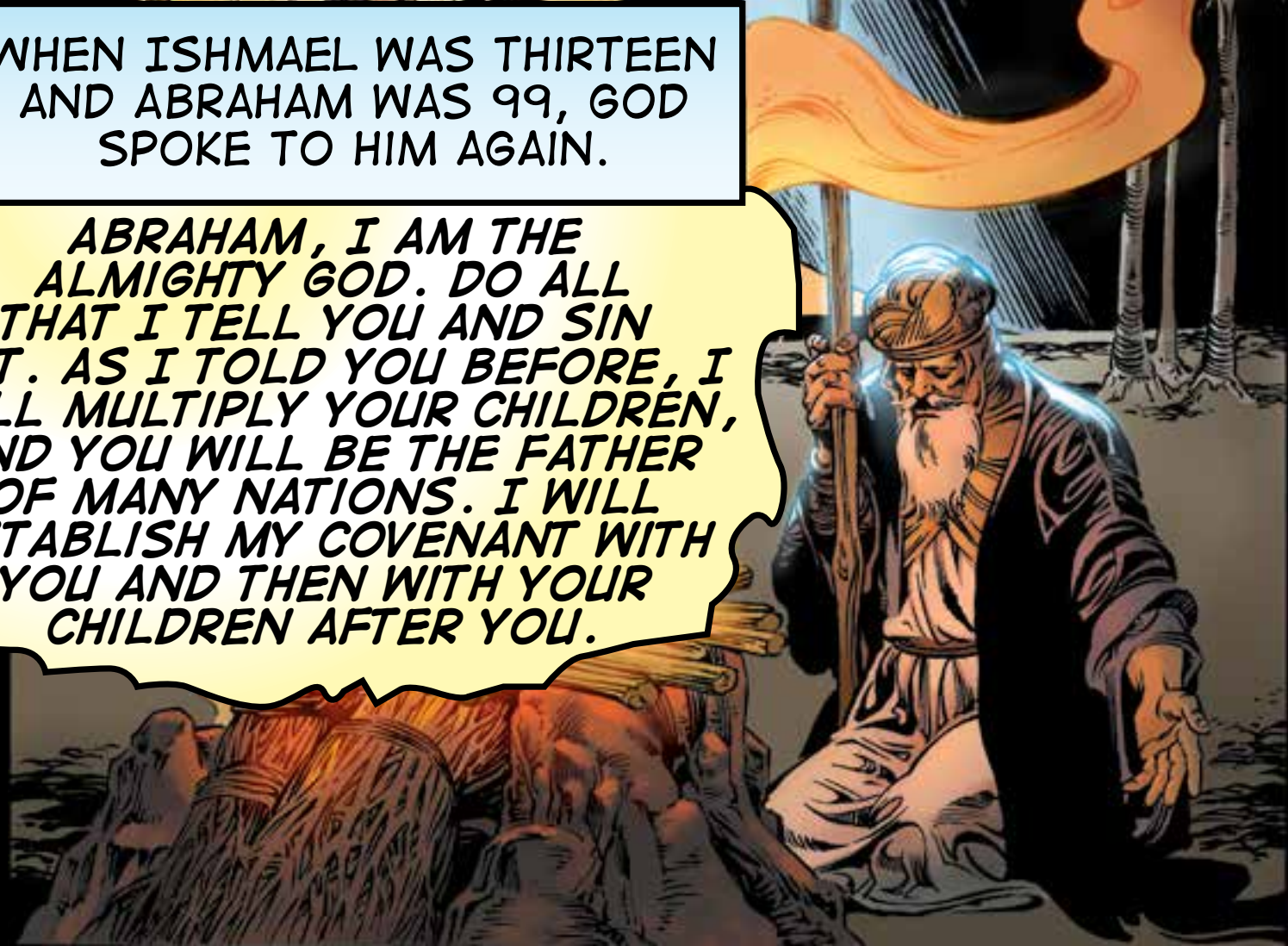
ABRAHAM WAS 86 YEARS OLD WHEN ISHMAEL WAS BORN. NOT LONG AFTER ISHMAEL'S BIRTH, ABRAHAM GREW TOO OLD TO PRODUCE CHILDREN. WOULD ISHMAEL BE THE CHILD GOD PROMISED ABRAHAM? BUT GOD SAID THE CHILD WOULD COME THROUGH SARAH AND ABRAHAM.

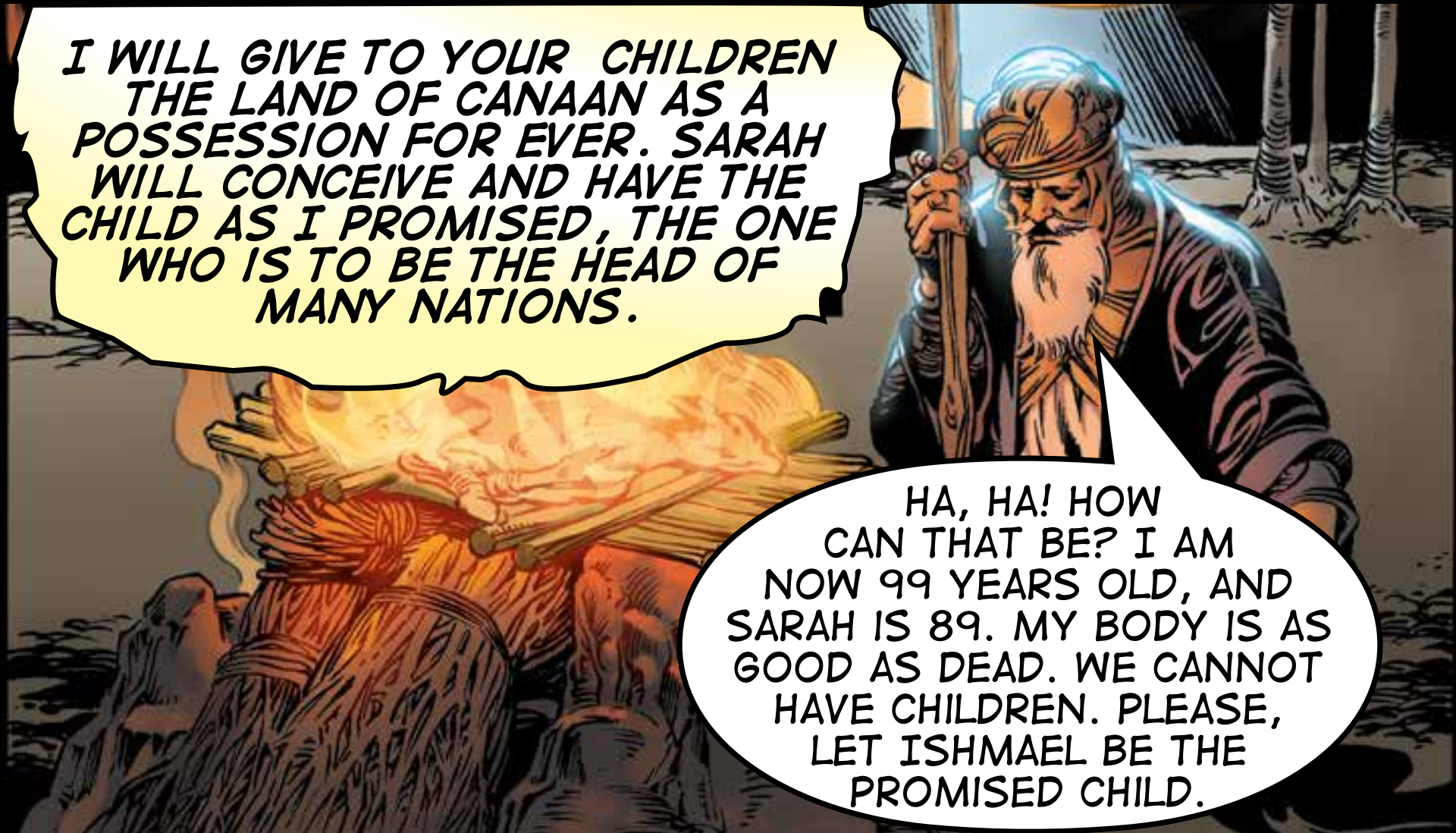


HOW CAN GOD FULFILL HIS PROMISE IF BOTH ABRAHAM AND SARAH ARE TOO OLD TO PRODUCE CHILDREN?

WHEN ISHMAEL WAS THIRTEEN
AND ABRAHAM WAS 99, GOD
SPOKE TO HIM AGAIN.

*ABRAHAM, I AM THE
ALMIGHTY GOD. DO ALL
THAT I TELL YOU AND SIN
NOT. AS I TOLD YOU BEFORE, I
WILL MULTIPLY YOUR CHILDREN,
AND YOU WILL BE THE FATHER
OF MANY NATIONS. I WILL
ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH
YOU AND THEN WITH YOUR
CHILDREN AFTER YOU.*





**I WILL GIVE TO YOUR CHILDREN
THE LAND OF CANAAN AS A
POSSESSION FOR EVER. SARAH
WILL CONCEIVE AND HAVE THE
CHILD AS I PROMISED, THE ONE
WHO IS TO BE THE HEAD OF
MANY NATIONS.**

**HA, HA! HOW
CAN THAT BE? I AM
NOW 99 YEARS OLD, AND
SARAH IS 89. MY BODY IS AS
GOOD AS DEAD. WE CANNOT
HAVE CHILDREN. PLEASE,
LET ISHMAEL BE THE
PROMISED CHILD.**

NO, AS I SAID FROM THE BEGINNING, YOU AND SARAH WILL HAVE A CHILD OF YOUR OWN, FROM YOUR OWN BODIES. THE PROMISE OF BLESSING WILL BE PASSED ON THROUGH HIM, NOT ISHMAEL. IN ONE YEAR, SARAH WILL GIVE BIRTH TO A MALE CHILD.



IS IT POSSIBLE? ...YES! THE GOD WHO CREATED THE HUMAN BODY CAN SURELY TAKE TWO OLD, DEAD BODIES AND MAKE THEM FERTILE AGAIN. ...SURE. GOD CAN DO IT!





A FEW DAYS LATER, THREE MEN APPEARED FROM OUT OF THE DESERT. THEY DID NOT LOOK AS IF THEY HAD TRAVELED FAR, NOR DID THEY APPEAR TO BE LOCAL. THEY WERE STRONG, CONFIDENT, AND AGELESS.

ABRAHAM WATCHED THEM APPROACH AND KNEW THEY WERE DIFFERENT, BUT WHAT HE DIDN'T KNOW IS THAT HIS VISITORS WERE NOT FROM THIS WORLD.



TWO OF THEM WERE RIGHTEOUS ANGELS, AND THE THIRD WAS GOD HIMSELF, APPEARING IN ANGELIC FORM SO HE COULD TALK TO ABRAHAM. ABRAHAM WENT OUT TO MEET THEM.



ABRAHAM,
YOUR WIFE
SARAH WILL
HAVE A SON.

HE, HE, HE

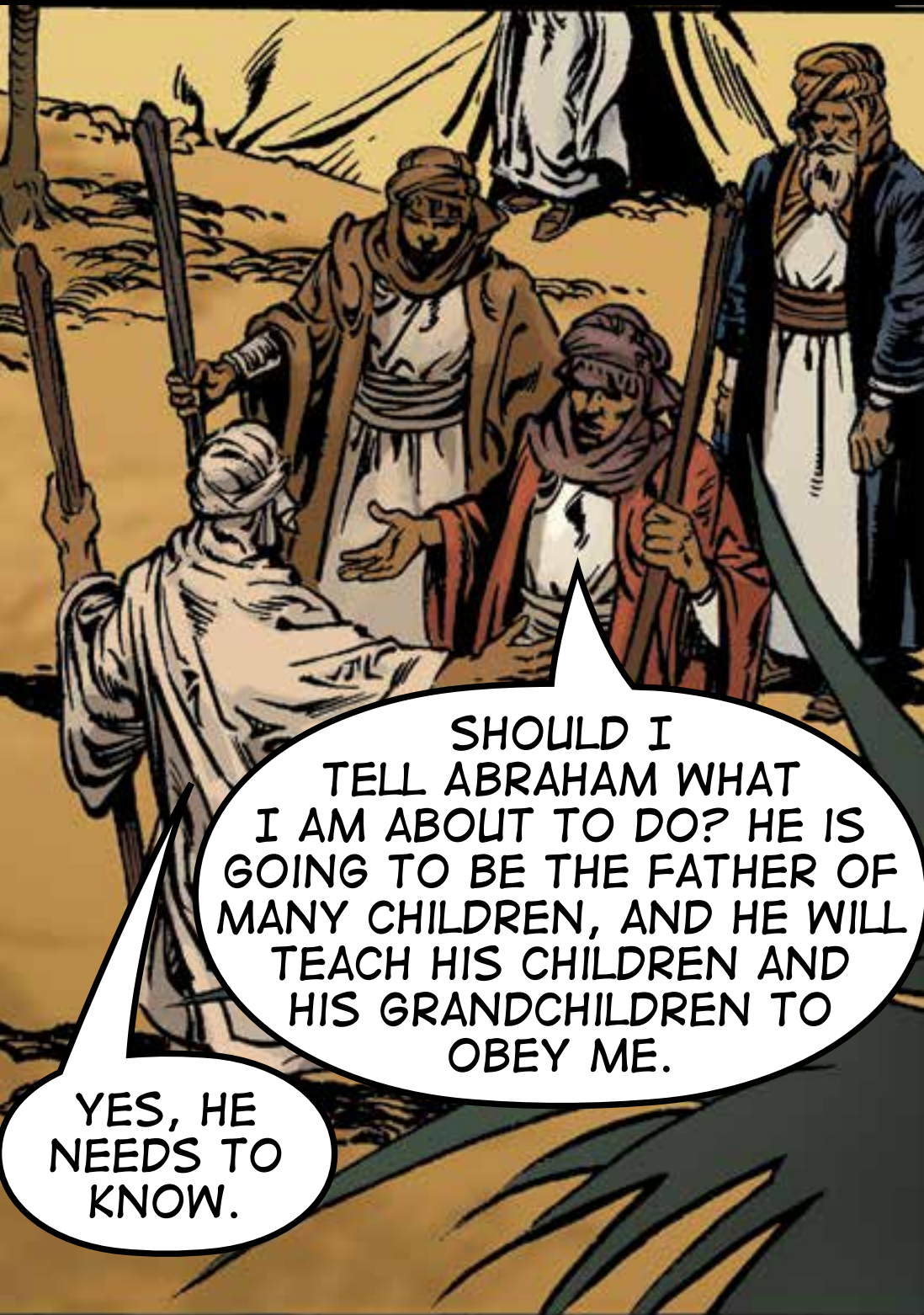
AS OLD
AS I AM, AND
ABRAHAM EVEN
OLDER, COULD I HAVE
PLEASURE AGAIN?



WHY DOES SARAH LAUGH
WHEN GOD SAYS SHE WILL
HAVE A CHILD?


I DIDN'T
LAUGH.

YOU DID INDEED
LAUGH. YOU DON'T BELIEVE.
IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR GOD?
I WILL COME AGAIN WHEN THE TIME
IS RIGHT FOR YOU TO CONCEIVE, AND
YOU WILL HAVE A CHILD.



SHOULD I
TELL ABRAHAM WHAT
I AM ABOUT TO DO? HE IS
GOING TO BE THE FATHER OF
MANY CHILDREN, AND HE WILL
TEACH HIS CHILDREN AND
HIS GRANDCHILDREN TO
OBEY ME.

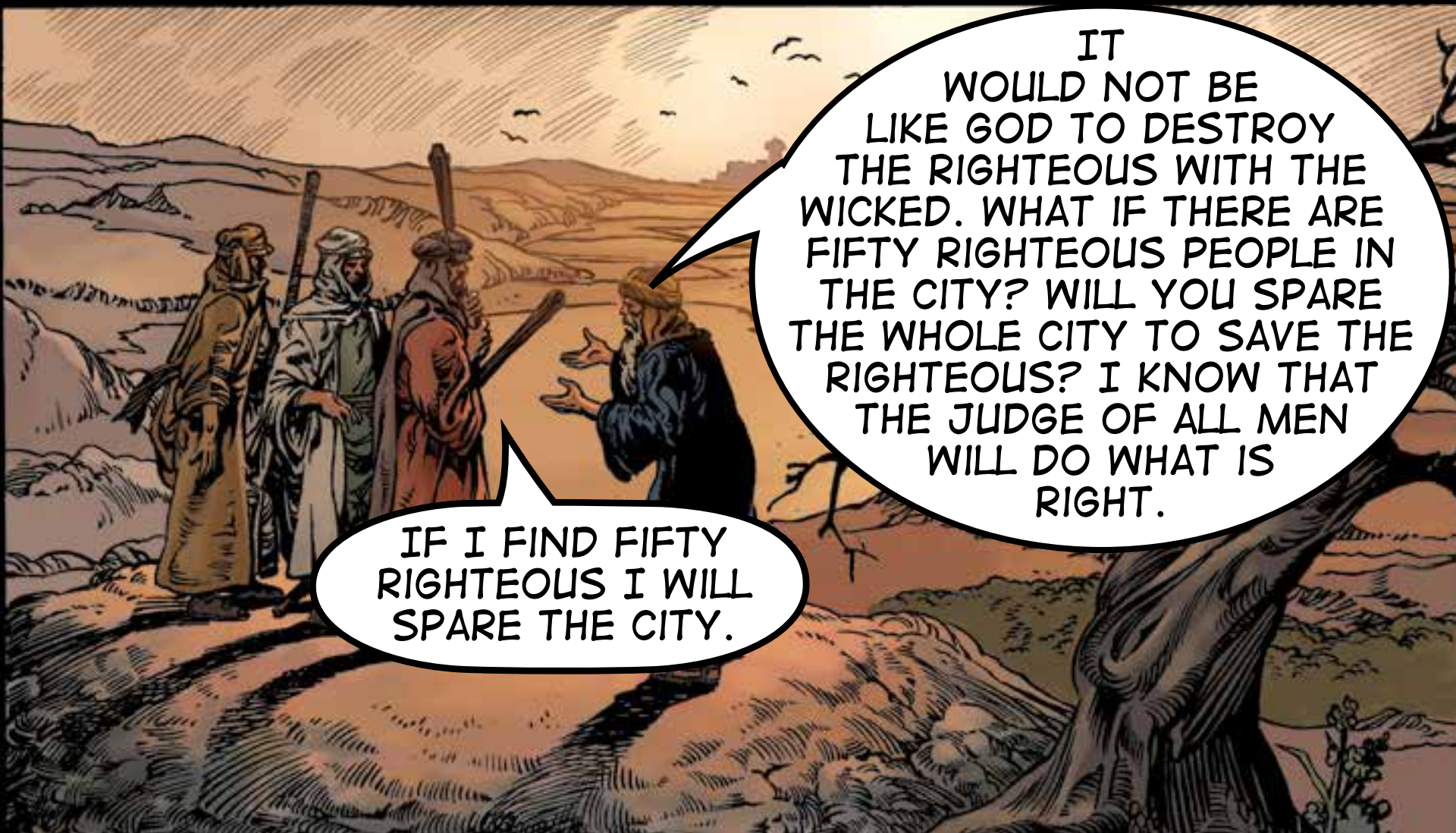
YES, HE
NEEDS TO
KNOW.



THE SIN
OF SODOM AND
GOMORRAH HAS
GROWN VERY BAD.
I WILL DESTROY
EVERY SOUL IN
BOTH CITIES: MEN,
WOMEN, AND
CHILDREN.


BUT MY
NEPHEW
LOT AND HIS
FAMILY LIVE
THERE!

GENESIS 18:10-22



IT
WOULD NOT BE
LIKE GOD TO DESTROY
THE RIGHTEOUS WITH THE
WICKED. WHAT IF THERE ARE
FIFTY RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE IN
THE CITY? WILL YOU SPARE
THE WHOLE CITY TO SAVE THE
RIGHTEOUS? I KNOW THAT
THE JUDGE OF ALL MEN
WILL DO WHAT IS
RIGHT.

IF I FIND FIFTY
RIGHTEOUS I WILL
SPARE THE CITY.



I AM JUST DIRT,
NOT WORTHY TO SPEAK TO GOD,
BUT WHAT IF THERE ARE ONLY FORTY-FIVE
RIGHTEOUS? WOULD YOU DESTROY
ALL FOR LACK OF FIVE?

IF THERE
BE 45 I WILL NOT
DESTROY IT.

I WILL
NOT DESTROY IT
IF THERE ARE FORTY
RIGHTEOUS.

WHAT IF
THERE ARE ONLY
FORTY FOUND?




DON'T
BE ANGRY
WITH ME. WHAT
IF THERE ARE
THIRTY?

I WILL
NOT DESTROY IT
FOR THIRTY.

I WILL NOT
DESTROY THE
WICKED CITY IF
THERE ARE TWENTY
RIGHTEOUS
IN IT.

WHAT
IF THERE ARE
TWENTY?



PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY.
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I WILL ASK YOU.
WHAT IF THERE ARE ONLY TEN RIGHTEOUS
PEOPLE IN THE CITY? WILL YOU
DESTROY IT STILL?

NO, IF I
CAN FIND TEN
RIGHTEOUS SOULS, I
WILL NOT DESTROY
THE CITY.

IF YOU
CAN'T FIND TEN,
WILL YOU PLEASE
WARN MY NEPHEW
LOT?


WE WILL VISIT
HIM TONIGHT.

THE TWO ANGELS WENT INTO THE CITY THAT EVENING AND WALKED BY LOT'S HOUSE.




THIS IS PERVERTED, WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.

NOW I SEE WHY GOD IS GOING TO DESTROY EVERYONE, EVEN THE CHILDREN AND ANIMALS.



HEY, YOU STRANGERS, YOU CAN'T STAY IN THE STREET TONIGHT; IT ISN'T SAFE. COME INTO MY HOUSE FOR THE NIGHT.

HEY! THEY ARE KINDA *CLUTE*. WE WILL TELL THE GUYS ABOUT THEM.



LOT, SEND
THOSE MEN OUT
TO US SO WE
CAN HAVE SEX WITH
THEM!

GO AWAY;
YOU CAN'T
DO THIS EVIL
THING.

WHO DOES
HE THINK HE
IS, SO HIGH AND
MIGHTY? BIGOTED
HYPOCRITE.



HATE
MONGER!

WE WILL
BREAK THE
DOOR DOWN
AND DO WORSE
TO YOU, YOU
FOREIGNER.

YEAH,
WE DON'T WANT
YOUR DAUGHTERS;
WE WANT THE
*BEAUTIFUL
MEN!*



THE LORD
GOD MAKE YOU
BLIND.


WHERE
ARE THEY?



WHO
TURNED
OUT THE
LIGHTS?

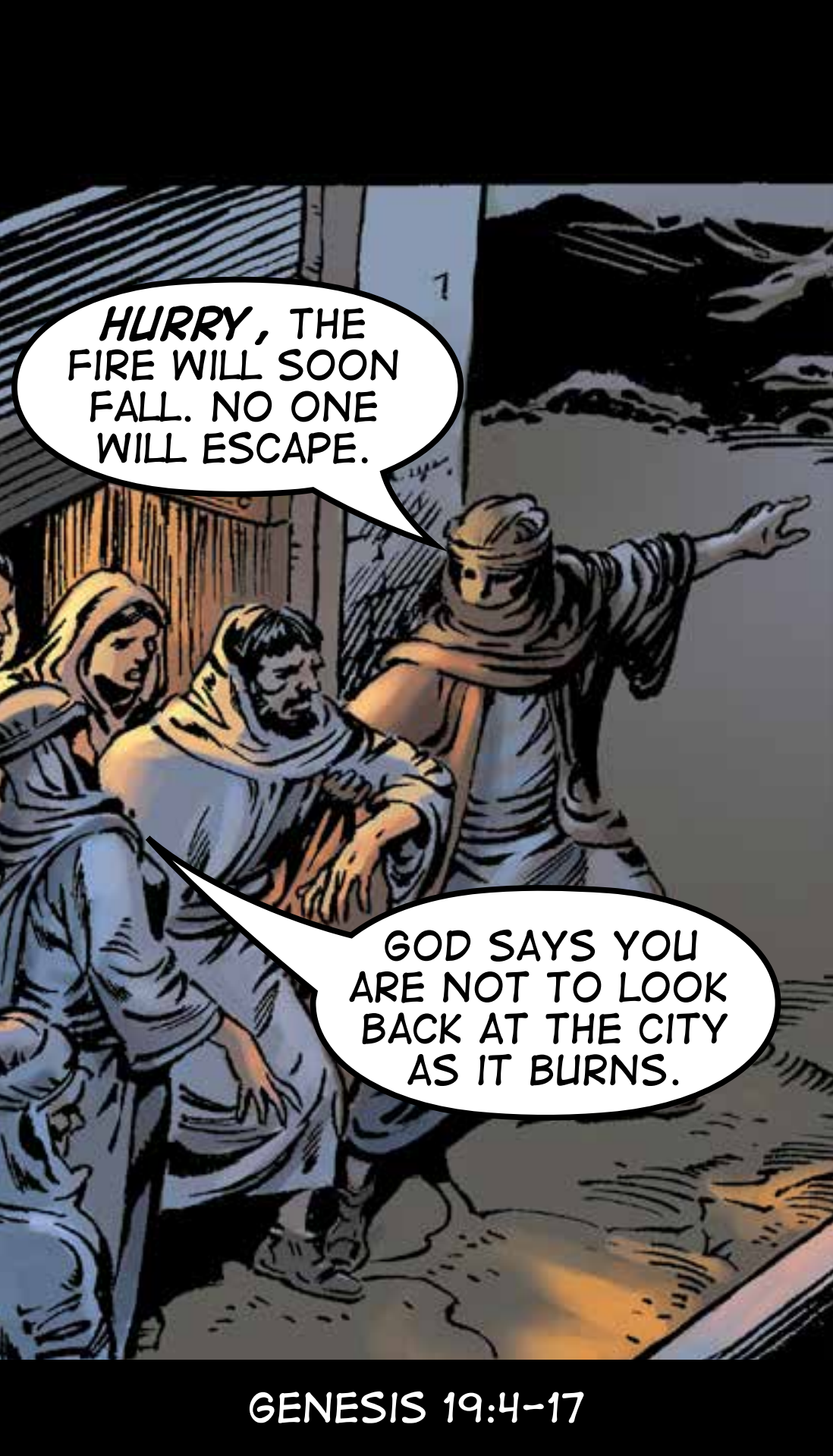
I CAN'T
SEE! WHAT
HAPPENED?

WHAT
KIND OF
POWER IS
THIS?



YOU MUST LEAVE THE
CITY TOMORROW MORNING.
WARN WHOM YOU WILL. GOD
IS RIGHTEOUS AND WILL NO
LONGER TOLERATE
THIS SIN.

TOMORROW,
GOD IS GOING TO
RAIN DOWN FIRE FROM
HEAVEN ON THIS PLACE.
EVERYONE IN SODOM
AND GOMORRAH
WILL DIE.



**HURRY, THE
FIRE WILL SOON
FALL. NO ONE
WILL ESCAPE.**

**GOD SAYS YOU
ARE NOT TO LOOK
BACK AT THE CITY
AS IT BURNS.**



**DON'T
LOOK
BACK!**

EEEK!



OH NO!
FATHER, MOTHER
DISOBEYED GOD.
SHE HAS TURNED
INTO SALT.

**DON'T
LOOK! KEEP
GOING!**


EVERY LIVING THING IN SODOM AND GOMORRAH DIED THAT DAY. GOD IS RIGHTEOUS AND HE HATES SIN, ESPECIALLY PERVERTED SEX, MEN WITH MEN AND WOMEN WITH WOMEN. SEXUAL SINS INVOLVING CHILDREN ARE THE WORST OF ALL. GOD HAD PROMISED TO NEVER DESTROY THE WORLD WITH WATER, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT FIRE.



THE NEXT TIME IT WILL BE BY FIRE. THE PENALTY OF ANY SIN IS DEATH: PHYSICAL DEATH AND ETERNAL DEATH IN THE LAKE OF FIRE. BY THE GRACE OF GOD, LOT WAS SAVED FROM THE JUDGMENT OF GOD. HIS WIFE DID NOT BELIEVE GOD WAS SERIOUS WHEN HE WARNED THEM NOT TO LOOK BACK.



THE PENALTY FOR ALL SIN IS ALWAYS DEATH, NO EXCEPTIONS.



I AM SO GLAD GOD WAS GRACIOUS TO YOU. LOT, YOU COULD HAVE DIED IN THAT CITY. GOD HATES SIN AND WICKEDNESS. YOU MUST STAY AWAY FROM THAT KIND OF PEOPLE.

WE WERE SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR WIFE. WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?

WE WILL MANAGE SOMEHOW.

LOT WENT OFF WITH HIS TWO DAUGHTERS AND GOD CONTINUED TO BLESS ABRAHAM.

GENESIS 19:24-26; LEVITICUS 18:22; ROMANS 1:23-32, 6:23; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11; REVELATION 21:8

GOD HAD PROMISED THAT SARAH WOULD HAVE A CHILD. ABRAHAM AND SARAH BEGAN TO FEEL AN AWAKENING OF LONG FORGOTTEN DESIRES.



ABRAHAM,
WHAT HAS COME
OVER YOU? IT HAS
BEEN YEARS SINCE
YOU LOOKED AT
ME... THAT WAY.



IT WAS A MIRACLE! SOON,
EVERYONE KNEW THAT
SARAH WAS WITH CHILD!

AS GOD SAID, WE WILL
CALL HIM ISAAC. HE WILL
BE THE FATHER OF A
GREAT NATION.



YES, WHEN GOD
TOLD US I WOULD
BEAR A CHILD, IT MADE
ME LAUGH. WHO WOULD
HAVE BELIEVED THAT IN
MY OLD AGE I WOULD BE
NURSING MY VERY
OWN CHILD?

GOD KEPT HIS PROMISE.
HE ALWAYS DOES.

ISHMAEL, ABRAHAM'S SON BY HAGAR, WAS NOW FOURTEEN YEARS OLD, AND HE HATED THE NEW BABY.



THE LITTLE
FOOL MOCKS ME.
I WILL NOT HAVE
THAT EGYPTIAN IN
THE SAME HOUSE
WITH MY
ISAAC.

CAST OUT THE SERVANT
WOMAN AND HER SON. THEY WILL
NOT RECEIVE ANY INHERITANCE
WITH ISAAC, THE CHILD OF
PROMISE.



GOD SPOKE TO ABRAHAM AND
SAID, "SARAH IS RIGHT. SEND
HAGAR AND ISHMAEL AWAY.
ISHMAEL WILL NOT BE HEIR WITH
ISAAC. BUT DON'T LET IT GRIEVE
YOU; I WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM...


...AND BECAUSE
ISHMAEL IS YOUR
SON, I WILL MAKE A
GREAT NATION COME
FROM HIM ALSO.
BUT THE PROMISED
DELIVERER, THE ONE
WHO WILL DEFEAT
SATAN, WILL COME
THROUGH ISAAC,
NOT ISHMAEL."



ISHMAEL GREW UP TO BECOME
THE FATHER OF ALL THE ARABIC
PEOPLE, WHILE ISAAC GREW UP
TO BECOME THE HEAD OF ALL
THE JEWISH PEOPLE. ARABS
AND JEWS ARE HALF BROTHERS.

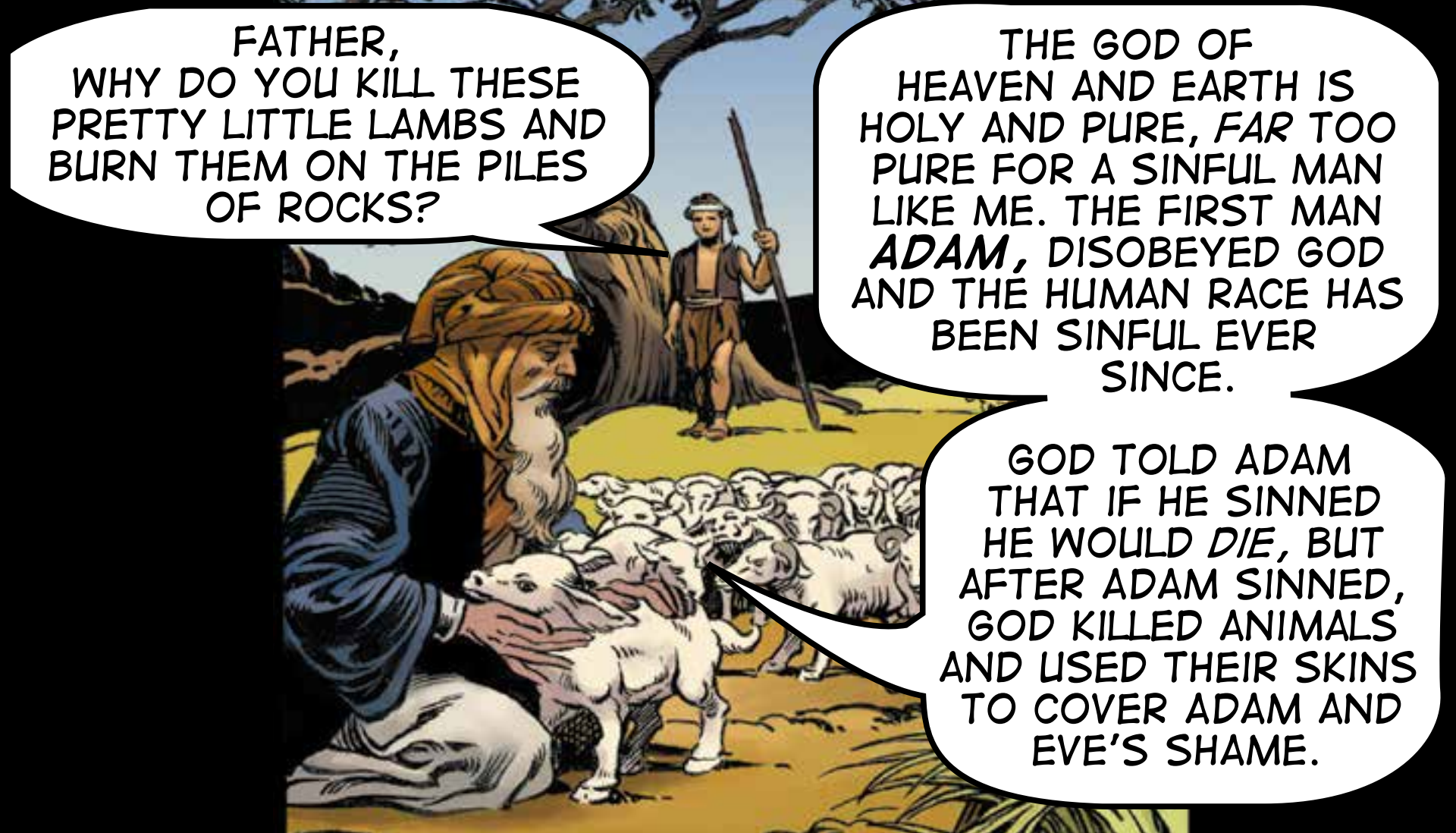
GENESIS 21:1-3, 9-14

*THE NAME ISAAC MEANS LAUGHTER.



YOU'RE A
MIRACLE CHILD. WILL
YOU DELIVER THE WORLD
FROM SIN?

ABRAHAM LOVED
HIS SON ISAAC,
AND THEY BECAME
INSEPARABLE.



FATHER,
WHY DO YOU KILL THESE
PRETTY LITTLE LAMBS AND
BURN THEM ON THE PILES
OF ROCKS?

THE GOD OF
HEAVEN AND EARTH IS
HOLY AND PURE, FAR TOO
PURE FOR A SINFUL MAN
LIKE ME. THE FIRST MAN
ADAM, DISOBEYED GOD
AND THE HUMAN RACE HAS
BEEN SINFUL EVER
SINCE.

GOD TOLD ADAM
THAT IF HE SINNED
HE WOULD *DIE*, BUT
AFTER ADAM SINNED,
GOD KILLED ANIMALS
AND USED THEIR SKINS
TO COVER ADAM AND
EVE'S SHAME.



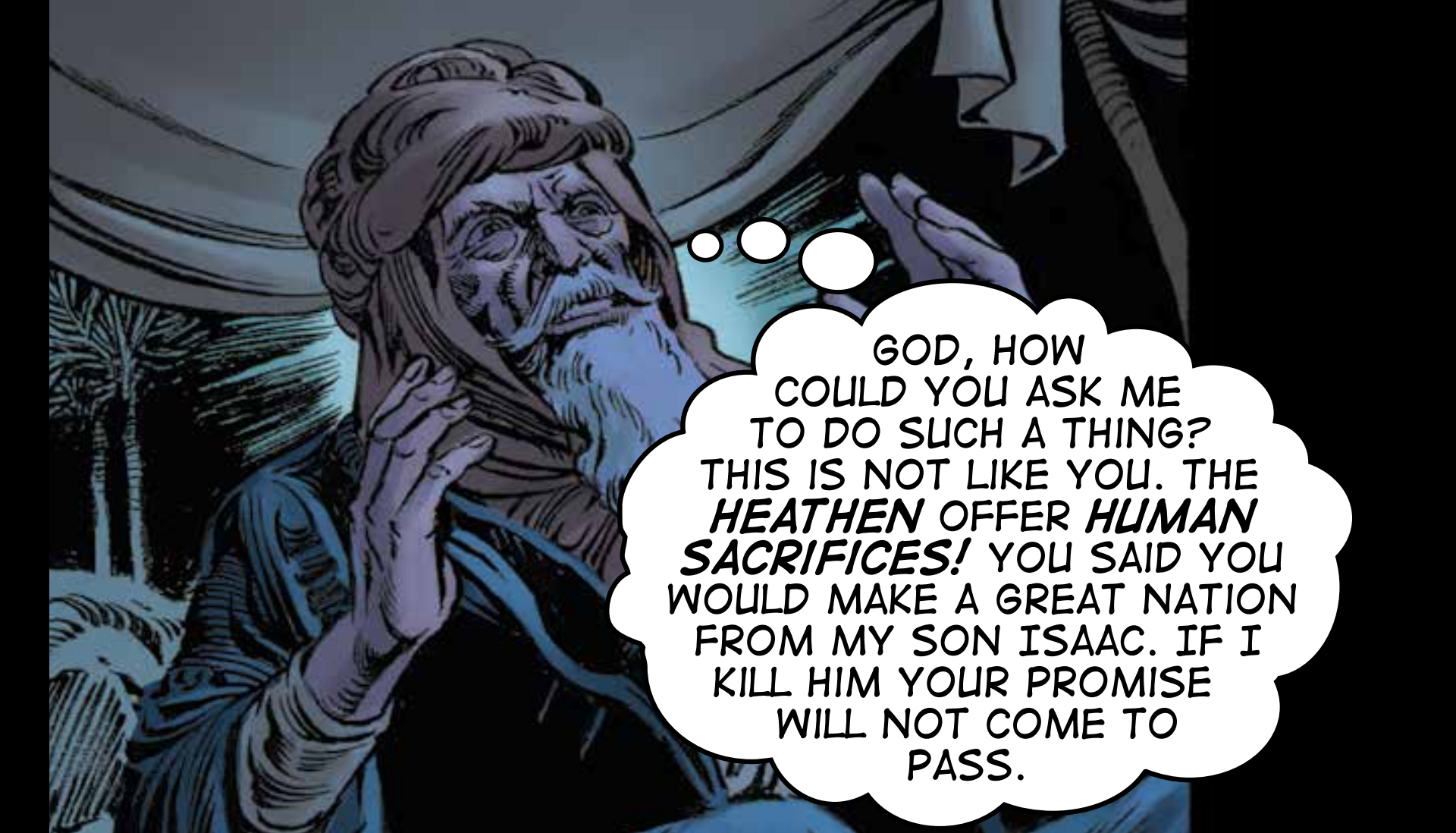
WHEN I KILL A LAMB AND
OFFER IT TO GOD, IT IS A
STATEMENT THAT I RECOGNIZE
MY **SINFULNESS** AND OFFER
THE INNOCENT LAMB TO DIE IN
MY PLACE.

ISAAC GREW STRONG AND LEARNED TO TRUST THE GOD OF HIS FATHER. ABRAHAM LOVED HIM DEARLY AND THEY OFTEN WENT TOGETHER TO WORSHIP AND OFFER SACRIFICES. THE LAMB WAS KILLED AND PLACED ON THE ALTAR WHERE IT WAS BURNT.



**ABRAHAM,
I WANT YOU TO TAKE
YOUR ONLY SON ISAAC,
WHOM YOU LOVE, AND
OFFER HIM AS A BURNT
OFFERING TO ME.**



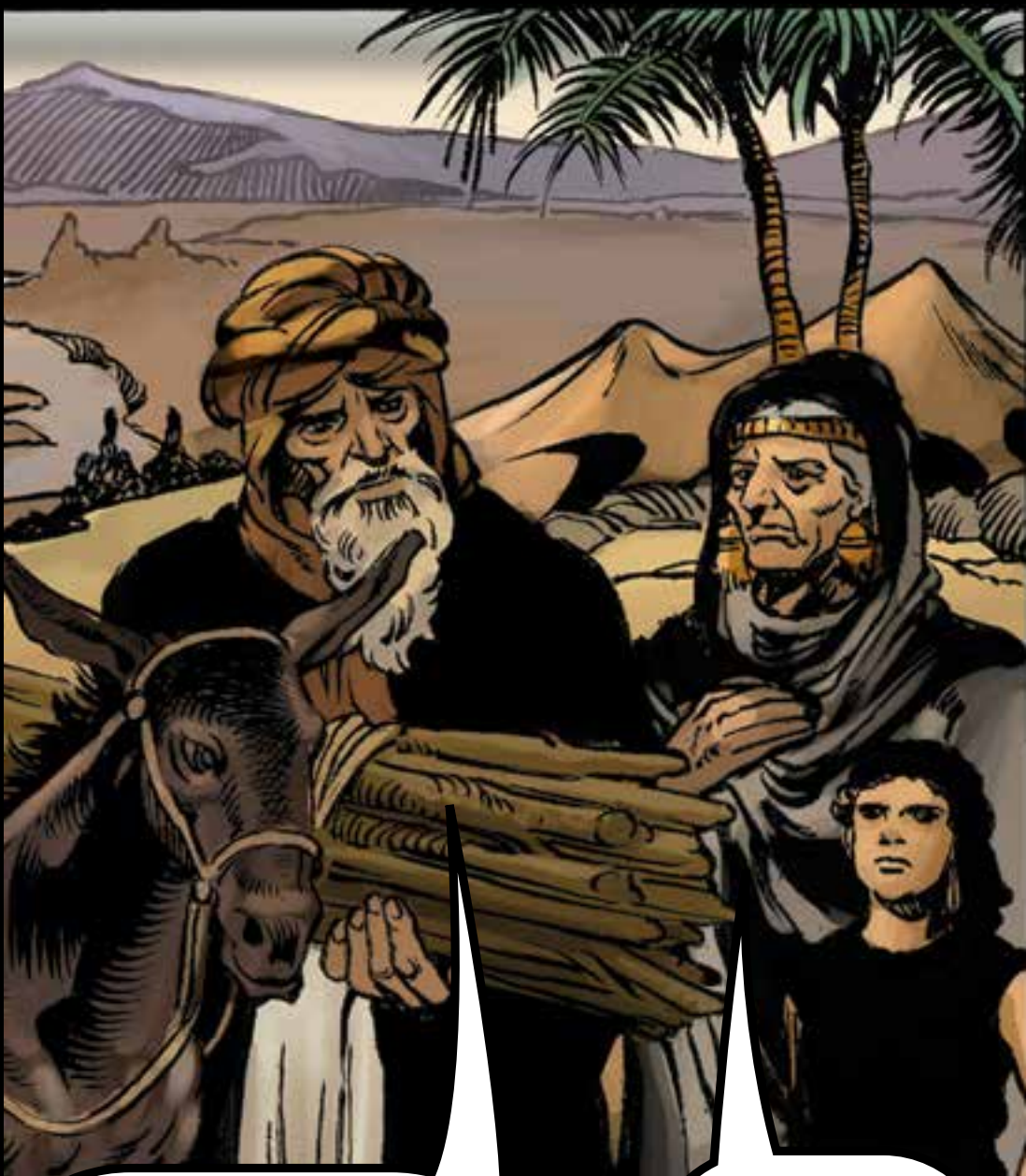


GOD, HOW
COULD YOU ASK ME
TO DO SUCH A THING?
THIS IS NOT LIKE YOU. THE
**HEATHEN OFFER HUMAN
SACRIFICES!** YOU SAID YOU
WOULD MAKE A GREAT NATION
FROM MY SON ISAAC. IF I
KILL HIM YOUR PROMISE
WILL NOT COME TO
PASS.



...BUT YOU ARE
GOD. I DO NOT
UNDERSTAND,
BUT I WILL
OBEY YOU.


GENESIS 22:2; ROMANS 5:12



IT IS A
THREE-DAY
JOURNEY, SO WE
WILL BE GONE
ABOUT A WEEK.


DO TAKE
CARE; I
WILL PRAY
FOR MY
TWO MEN.

THREE DAYS LATER...




FATHER,
THERE IS THE
MOUNTAIN.
WE WILL BE
THERE BEFORE
NIGHTFALL.

YES, WE WILL
GO AND WORSHIP
AND RETURN
AGAIN.



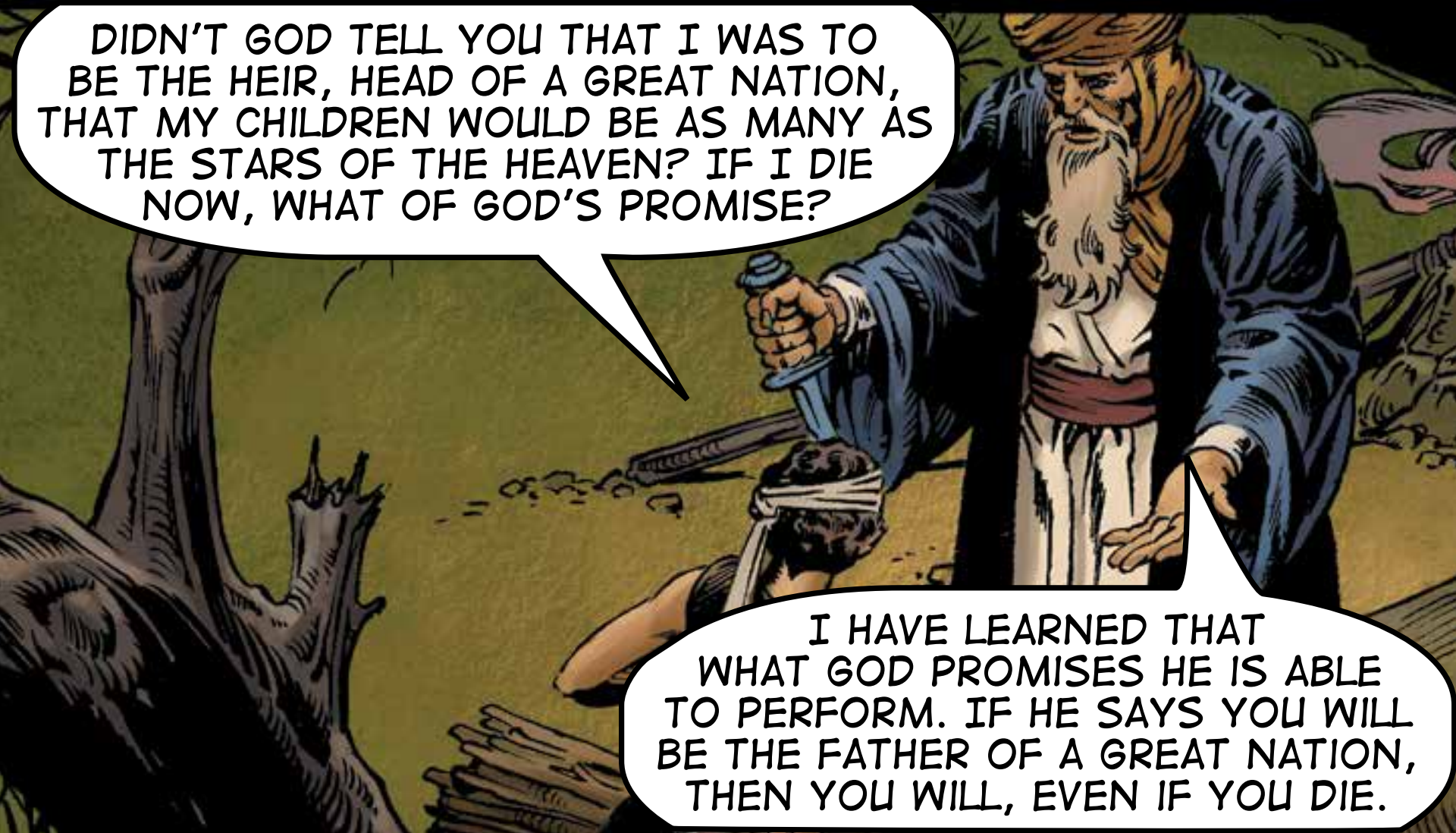
FATHER, WE BROUGHT THE WOOD,
AND YOU HAVE BUILT THE ALTAR,
BUT WHERE IS THE SACRIFICE?

ISAAC, YOU REMEMBER HOW
I TOLD YOU OF GOD SPEAKING TO
ME AND CAUSING YOUR MOTHER AND
ME TO HAVE A CHILD IN OUR OLD AGE?
WELL, HE SPOKE TO ME AGAIN.




THIS TIME
HE SAID I AM
TO OFFER YOU
AS A BURNT
OFFERING.

ME?
FATHER,
ARE YOU
SURE?



DIDN'T GOD TELL YOU THAT I WAS TO BE THE HEIR, HEAD OF A GREAT NATION, THAT MY CHILDREN WOULD BE AS MANY AS THE STARS OF THE HEAVEN? IF I DIE NOW, WHAT OF GOD'S PROMISE?

I HAVE LEARNED THAT WHAT GOD PROMISES HE IS ABLE TO PERFORM. IF HE SAYS YOU WILL BE THE FATHER OF A GREAT NATION, THEN YOU WILL, EVEN IF YOU DIE.



BUT
HOW COULD
IT BE IF I
AM DEAD?

I DON'T
KNOW, UNLESS HE
RAISES YOU FROM
THE DEAD.

FATHER, WE
MUST OBEY
GOD NO
MATTER WHAT.

GENESIS 22:3-9


THOUGH ABRAHAM
KNEW THAT HE
WAS OBEYING
GOD, IT MUST
HAVE MADE
HIS HEART SAD
AND HIS HANDS
TREMBLE AS
HE FOLLOWED
THE NORMAL
PROCEDURES
OF OFFERING A
BURNT OFFERING.



HE TIED HIS SON'S HANDS AND FEET AND
LAID HIM ON THE ALTAR. THE NEXT STEP WAS
TO PLUNGE THE KNIFE INTO HIS THROAT.

WITH A PRAYER OF FAITH TO GOD, ABRAHAM LIFTED THE KNIFE. AS HE WAS ABOUT TO PLUNGE DOWNWARD, SUDDENLY HE HEARD A VOICE FROM HEAVEN:




A comic book panel featuring a close-up of a hand holding a sword. The hand is rendered in a detailed, shaded style, with the fingers gripping the hilt. The sword's blade is visible, extending upwards. In the background, the face of a man with a beard and a turban is partially visible, looking towards the viewer with a serious expression. The background is filled with diagonal hatching lines. A yellow speech bubble is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the panel.

**ABRAHAM!
ABRAHAM!
DON'T HARM
THE CHILD.**



**NOW I KNOW THAT
YOU TRUST ME, SINCE
YOU WERE WILLING TO
OBEY, EVEN TO THE POINT
OF GIVING ME YOUR
ONLY SON.**

WHEN ABRAHAM LOOKED
UP, HE SAW A RAM
CAUGHT IN A THICKET.



FATHER,
LOOK! GOD
PROVIDED
A RAM TO
TAKE MY
PLACE!

ABRAHAM, BECAUSE YOU HAVE DONE THIS THING IN NOT WITHHOLDING YOUR ONLY SON, I WILL BLESS YOU AND MULTIPLY YOUR CHILDREN AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN, AND YOUR CHILDREN SHALL TAKE THIS LAND AND DESTROY YOUR ENEMIES. ALSO, THROUGH ONE OF YOUR CHILDREN, YET TO BE BORN, ALL NATIONS OF THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED.



FATHER, HE IS A MERCIFUL GOD, JUST LIKE YOU SAID!

GENESIS 22:9-18; HEBREWS 11:17-19

ABRAHAM HAD TWO SONS, ISHMAEL AND ISAAC.
ISAAC WAS THE SON CHOSEN BY GOD TO
CARRY ON THE PROMISE MADE TO ABRAHAM.
ISAAC HAD A SON NAMED JACOB, WHOSE
NAME WAS LATER CHANGED TO ISRAEL.
JACOB HAD 12 SONS WHO, IN TIME, WENT
WITH THEIR FAMILIES DOWN TO EGYPT WHERE
THEY EVENTUALLY BECAME SLAVES (1706 B.C.).



GENESIS 21:5, 13, 24:67, 25:12-18, 21-26, 29:23-30

JACOB'S TWELVE SONS
BECAME THE TWELVE
TRIBES OF ISRAEL.

ISHMAEL HAD TWELVE
PRINCES AND BECAME
THE ARABIC PEOPLE.



ISHMAEL

ABRAHAM

ISAAC
1896 B.C.

JACOB
1836 B.C.



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