

The Birth of Samson

(A story based on Judges 13)

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61-01



Once again the people of Israel did bad things so the Lord let the Philistine people be the bosses over them for forty years.



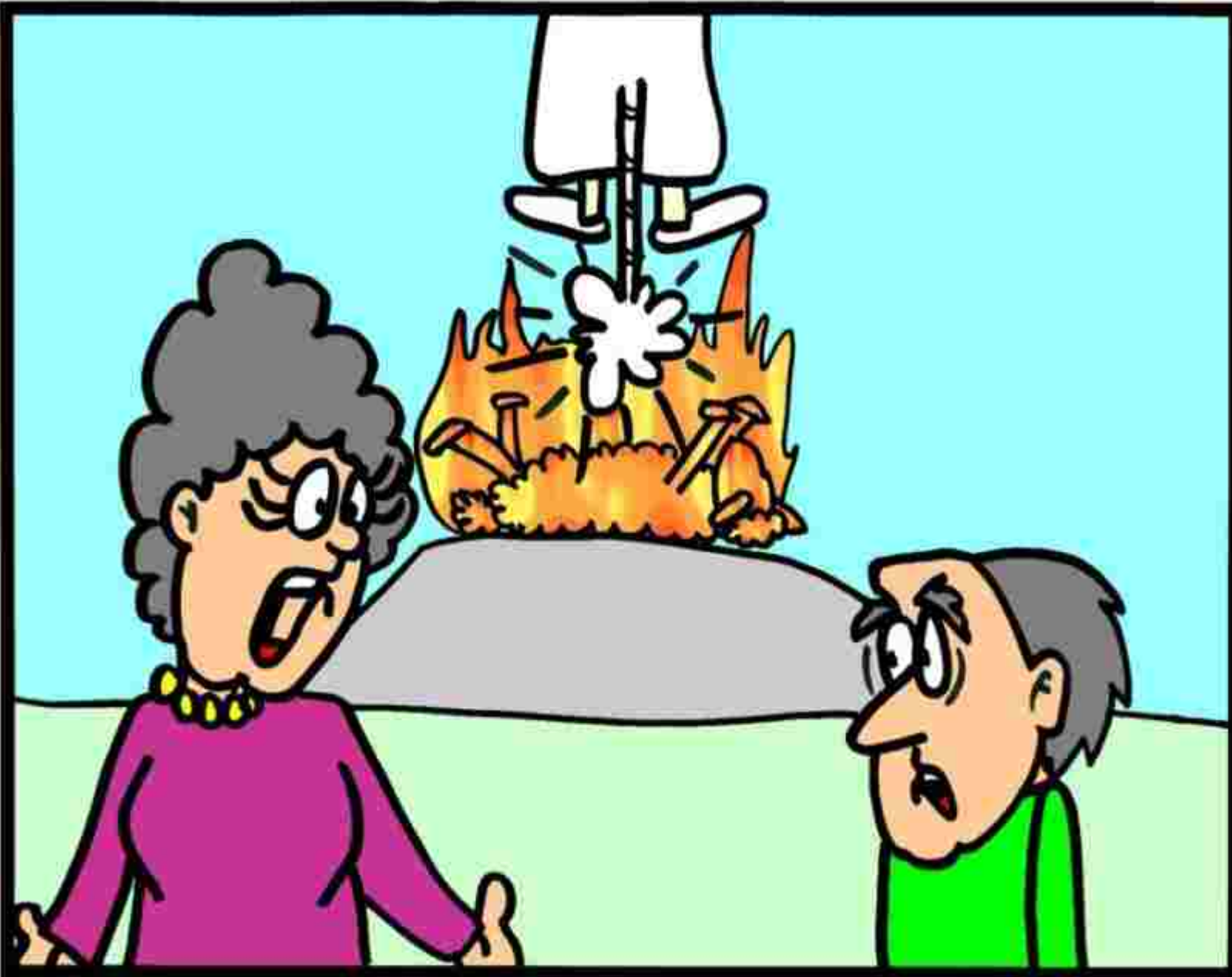
An angel appeared to a woman, who before that time was not able to have children. "You are going to have a baby boy," said the angel. "Do not drink any wine or alcoholic drink. The hair on his head will never be cut. He will begin to rescue the people of Israel from the Philistines."



The woman told her husband, named Manoah, about the visitor and his message. "Oh Lord," prayed Manoah. "Please send back that Man of God so we can ask him what we are supposed to do for the child."



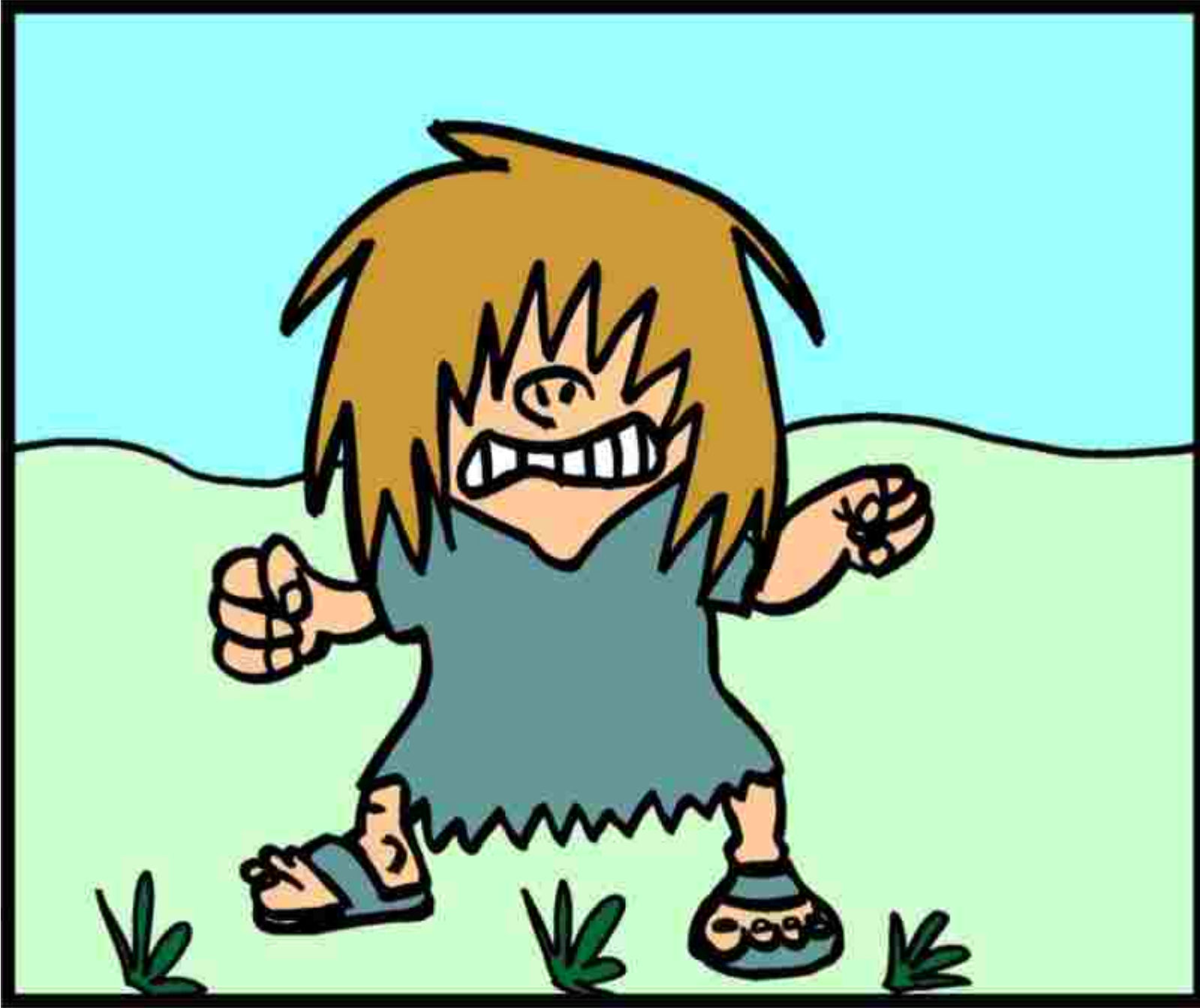
God listened to Manoah's prayer and one day shortly thereafter, the angel appeared to Manoah's wife. The woman ran to get her husband." Are you the one who talked to my wife before?" asked Manoah. "What kind of work will the boy do?" "Just tell your wife to be careful to do what I told her before," said the angel. 61-05



Manoah killed a goat, laid it on the rock and made a burnt offering to the Lord. While Manoah and his wife looked at the fire, suddenly the angel jumped into the fire and rose up to heaven in the flame.



"We're going to die! We're going die!" yelled Manoah. "We've just seen God!" "If God wanted to kill us he wouldn't have accepted our offering," said Mrs. Manoah, "and he wouldn't have told us about the baby, remember."



As promised, Manoah's wife became pregnant and had a little boy. They called him Samson and the Lord blessed him.



Lord, help me to do the special mission that you had planned for me before I was born.