

David and Jonathan

*(A story based on
1 Samuel 18:1-9, 19:1-10, 20:1-42)*

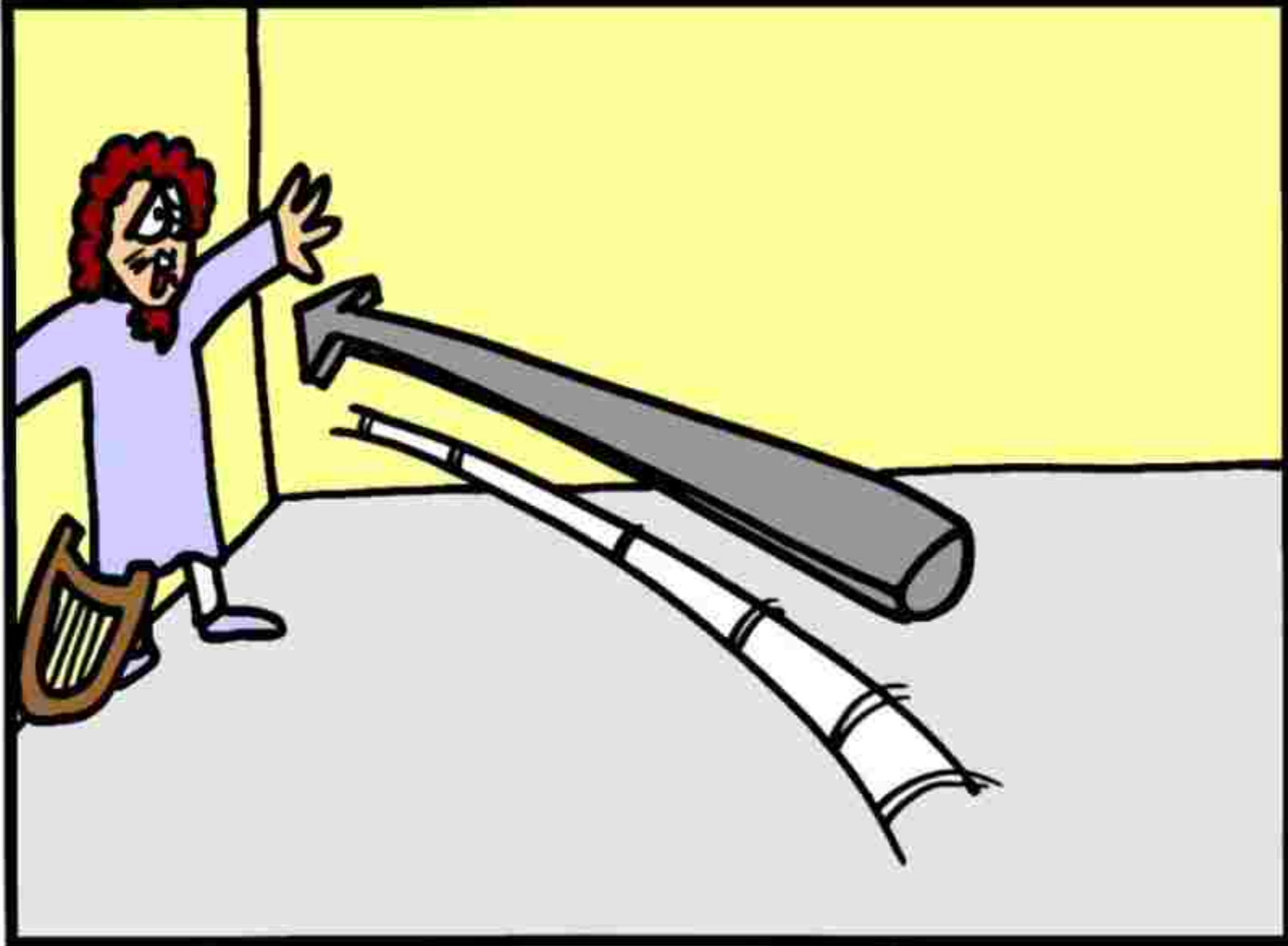
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David became best of friends with King Saul's son Jonathan. They made a promise that they would always be good to each other. King Saul put David in charge of the army and he always behaved himself wisely.



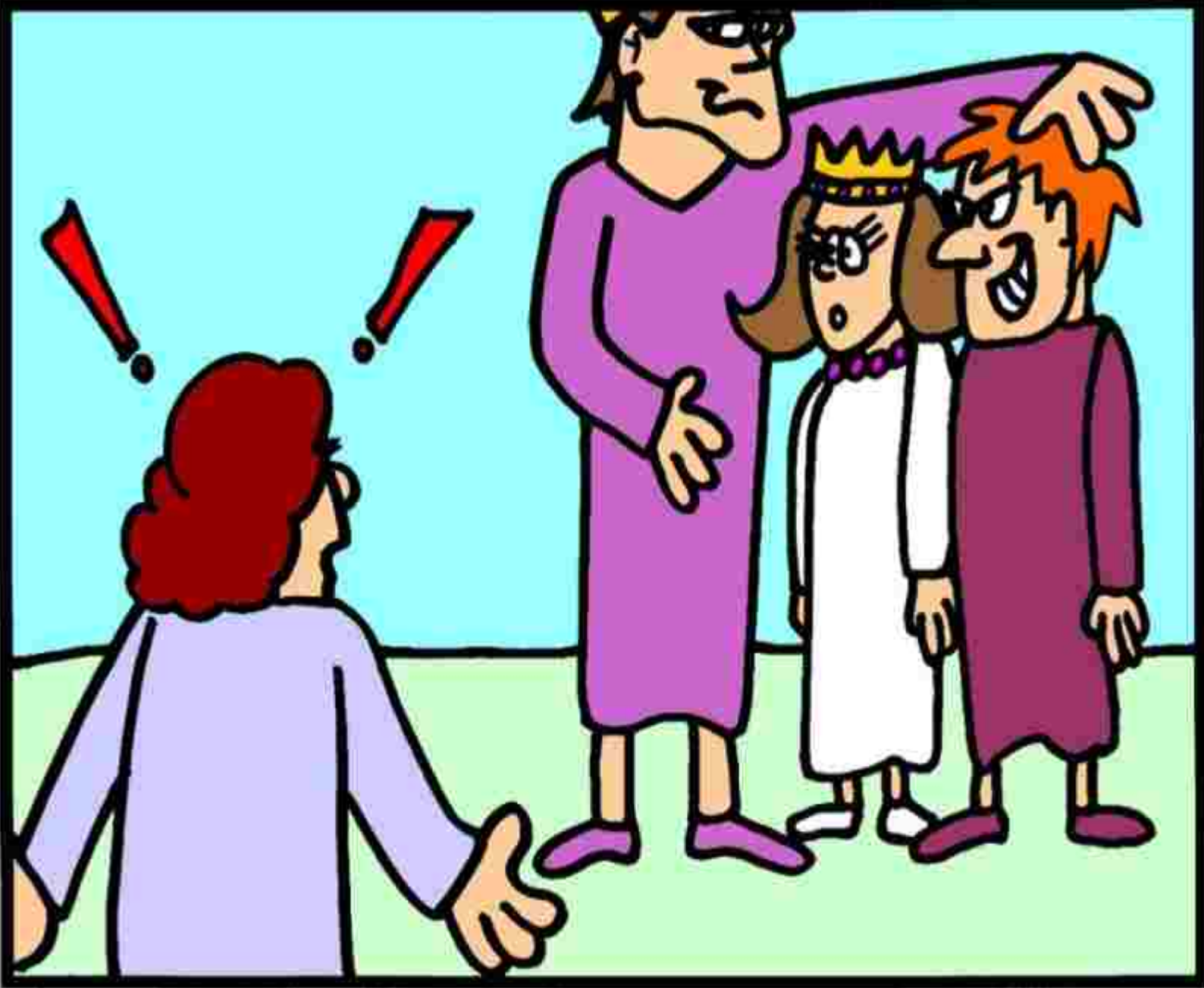
One day when King Saul and David returned from a battle, the women came to meet them with dancing and singing. "Saul has killed thousands and David ten thousands," they sang. King Saul was very jealous of David.



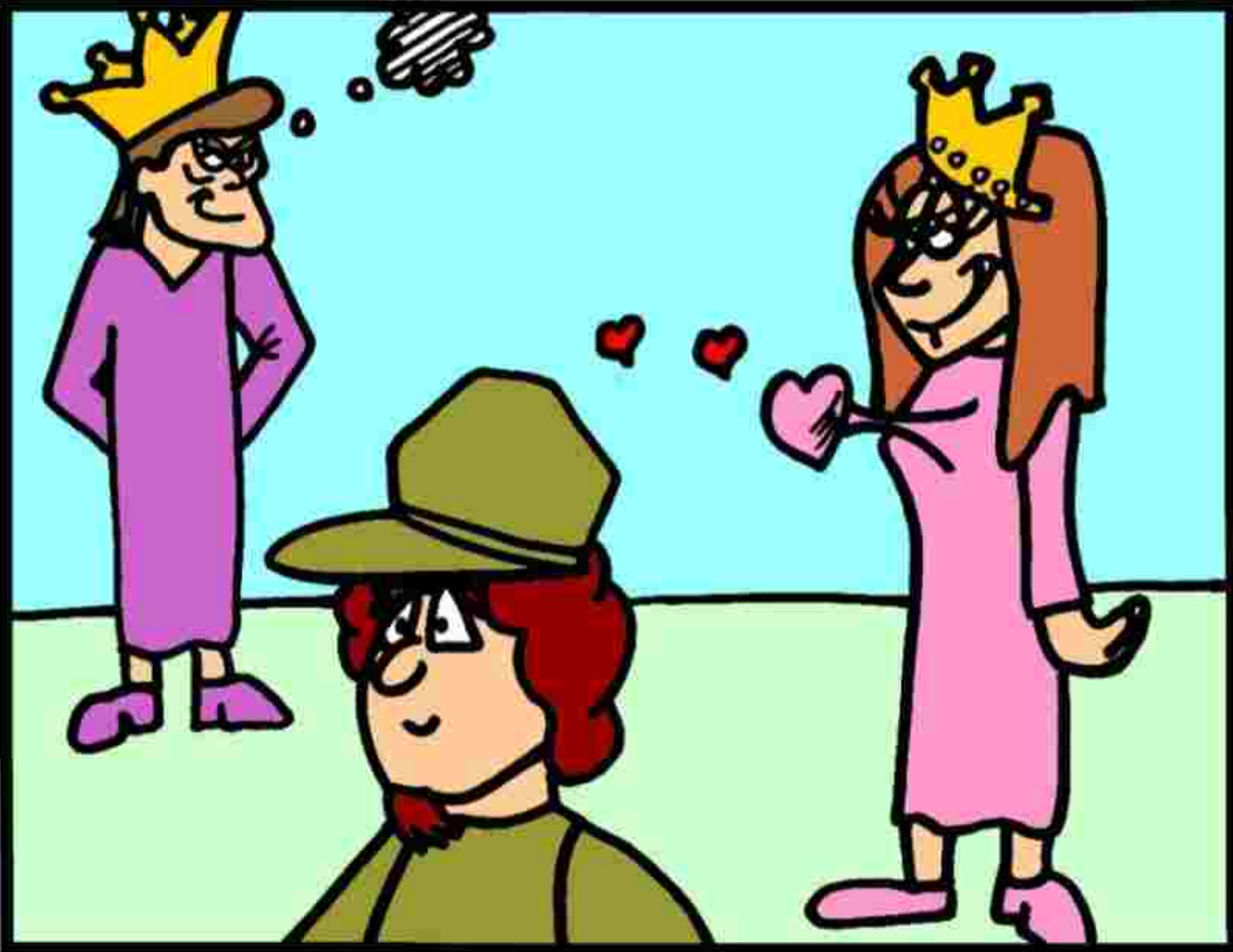
The next day an evil spirit came on King Saul. David played his harp just like he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand and he threw it at David to pin him to the wall. But David escaped from him twice and got out of there.



King Saul wouldn't let David be with him anymore. He took away David's job of being the boss of the army and made him the boss of just 1,000 men. Even still David behaved himself wisely and all the people loved him.



King Saul had promised that David could marry Princess Merab his oldest daughter but when it came wedding time, King Saul gave her to another man to marry.



Saul's younger daughter Princess Michal secretly loved David. "Now is my chance to see David be killed," schemed King Saul. "Young David, I don't want you to pay a dowry, I want you to kill one hundred Philistines."



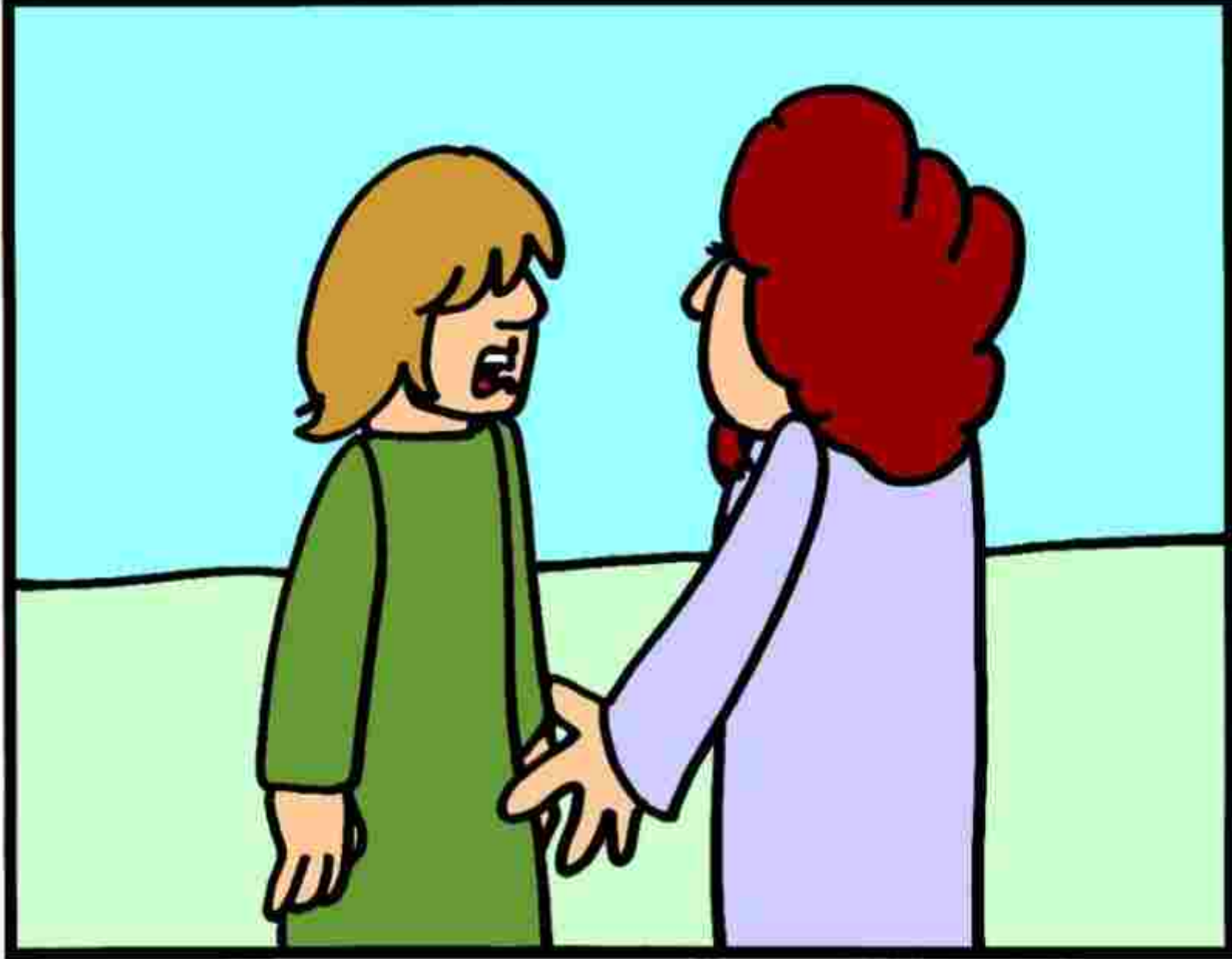
Saul's plan failed. David killed the one hundred Philistines and he married Michal. Everyone loved David and King Saul was more afraid than ever.



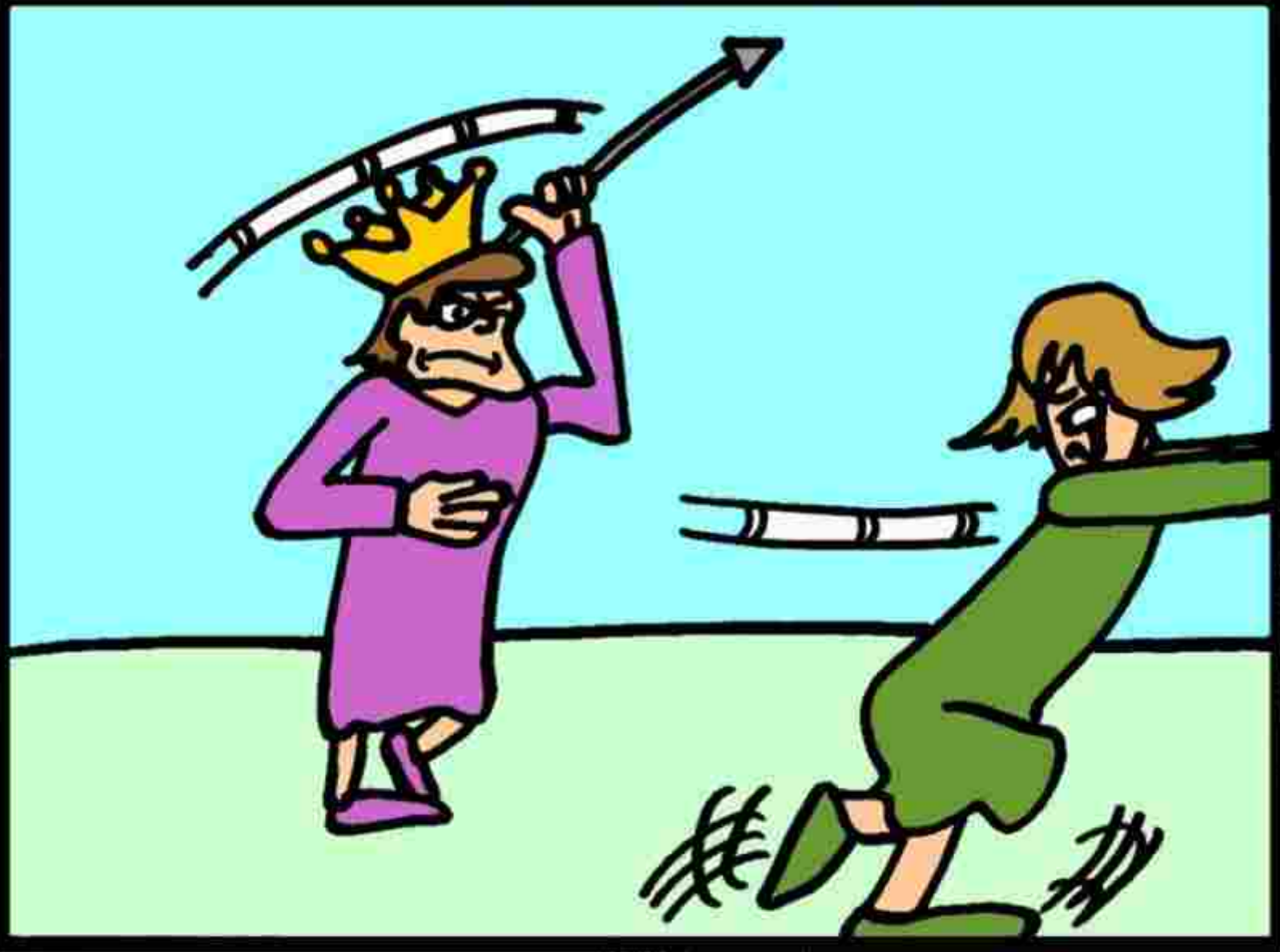
Jonathan convinced his dad King Saul to let David be with their family again. One day while David played his harp Saul threw the spear at him and this time it stuck in the wall.



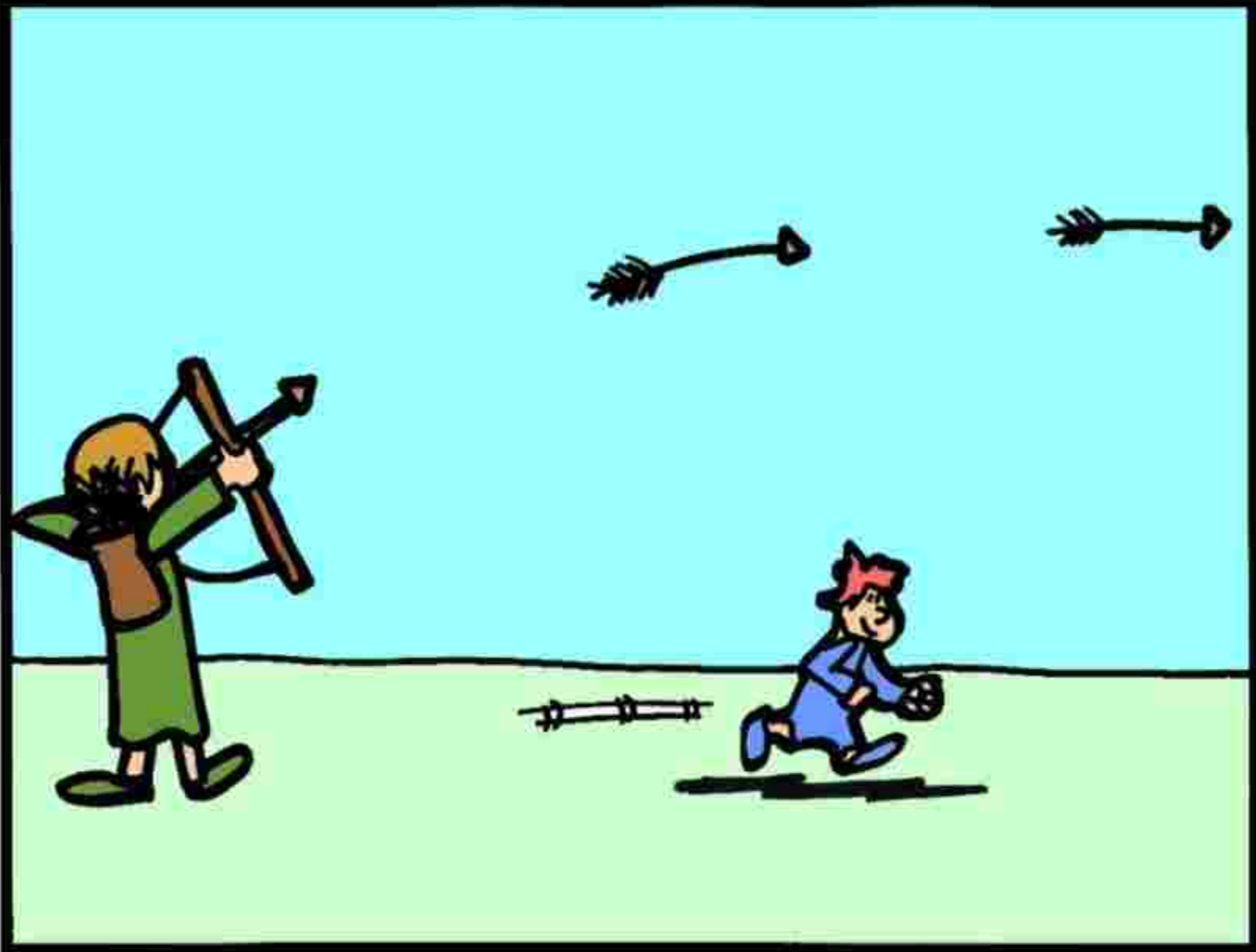
That night Princess Michal helped David to escape. She let him down through a window and then she made a dummy, put it in his bed and covered it with a blanket.



Secretly David met with Jonathan. They made a plan to prove for sure that King Saul was trying to Kill David. David hid in the field for three days instead of eating his meals with King Saul.



The first day that David was absent King Saul did not say anything. But the second day King Saul was so angry at Jonathan for being friends with David that he threw his spear at Jonathan. He tried to kill his own son!



On the third day Jonathan went into the field where David was hiding. He shot arrows and a young boy ran to find them. Jonathan yelled to the boy, "Isn't the arrow farther past you? Hurry, don't stay there!"



This was a secret message to David meaning that he would have to go away and run for his life. Jonathan sent the boy to the city. Then David came out of his hiding place. David and Jonathan hugged and wept with each other.



Lord, help me to give the best of myself to my friends, so I will have wonderful memories that will cheer my heart for a lifetime.