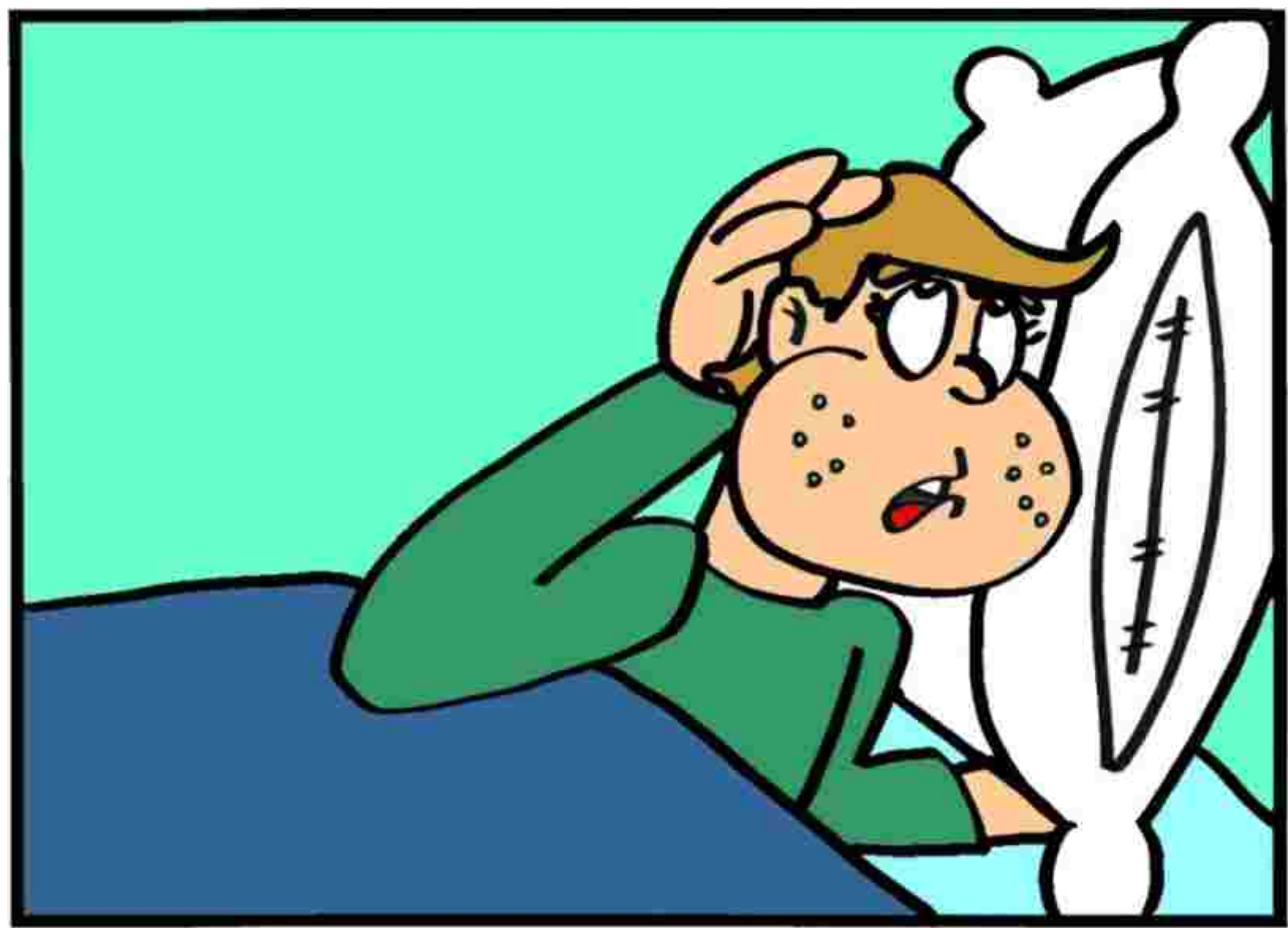


God Speaks to Samuel

(Based on 1 Samuel 3)

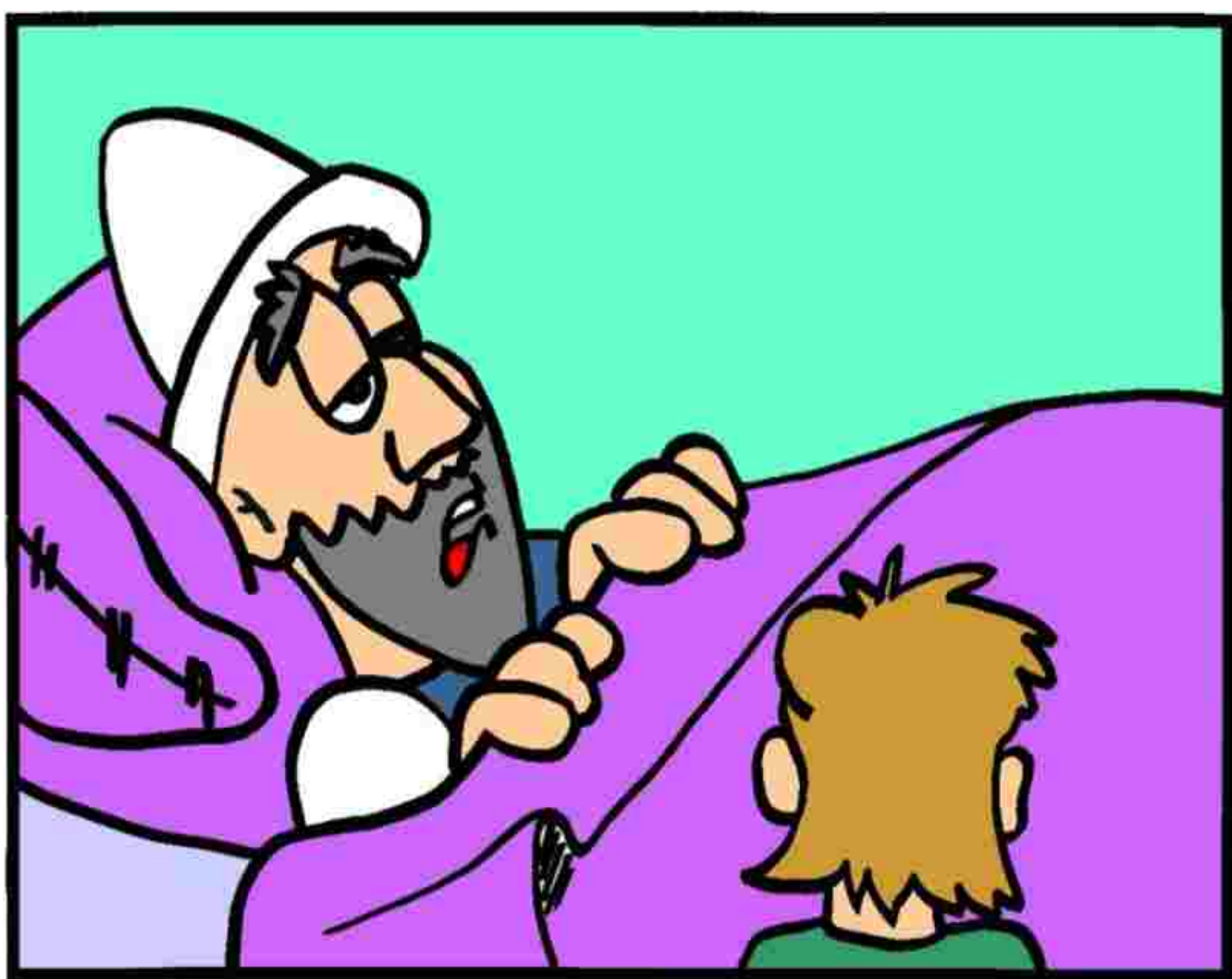
Copyright © 2013 Patricia Loranger



When Samuel was a boy the Lord hardly talked to anyone. One night when everyone was fast asleep God spoke. "Samuel," he said. Samuel thought it was old Eli calling him, so Samuel jumped out of his bed and ran to Eli's bed. "Here I am," he said.



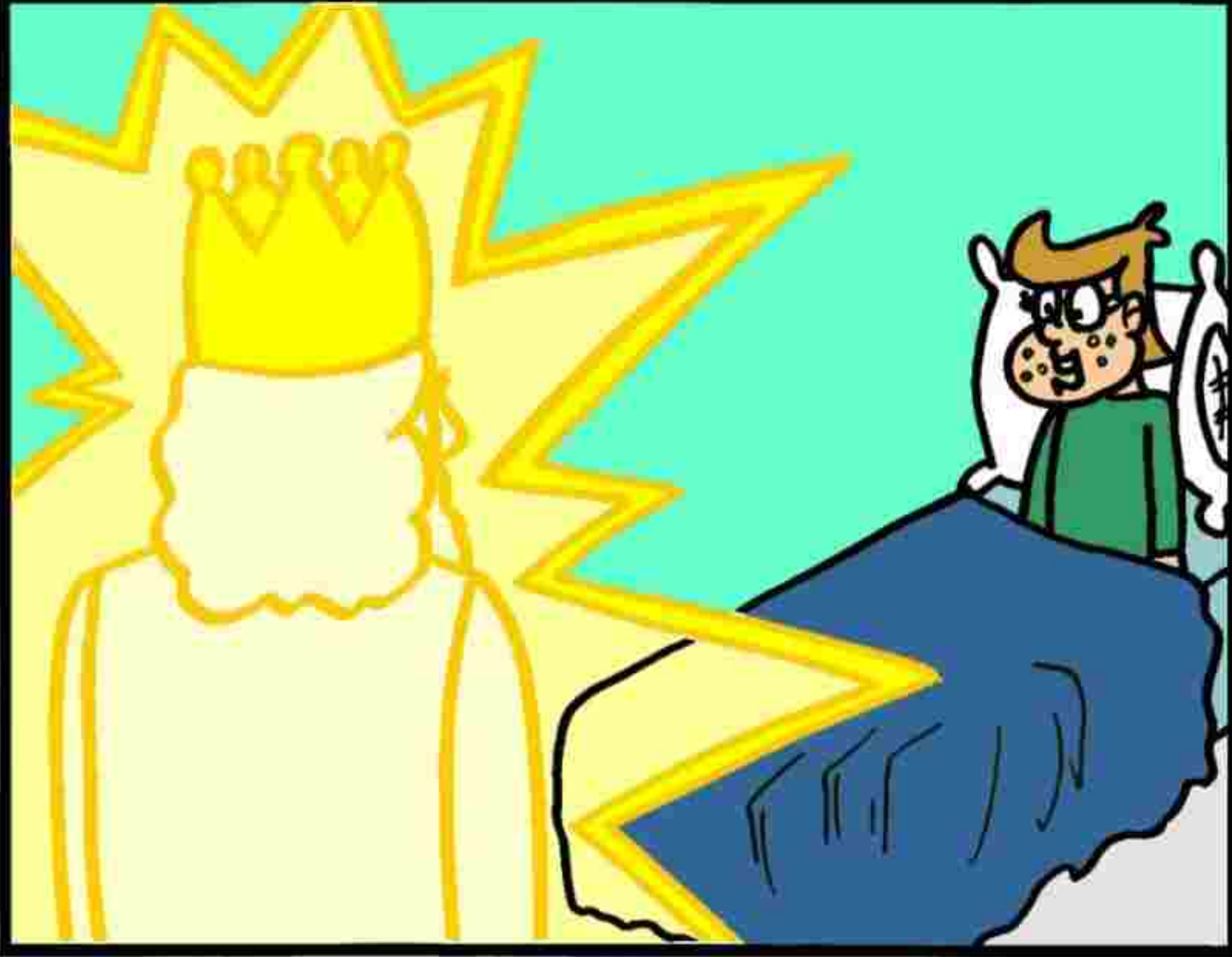
"I didn't call you, " moaned old Eli. "Go back to bed." As soon as Samuel was tucked back into his bed, the Lord called again, "Samuel."



"Here I am Eli," said Samuel. "You called for me?" "I didn't call for you! Go back to bed my son," ordered old Eli. Once again the moment Samuel lay on his bed, the Lord called again, "Samuel."



"Here I am Eli. You called for me," said Samuel the third time. "I think that God is talking to this kid," thought old Eli. "Samuel, go back to bed and next time he calls you say, 'Speak Lord, for your servant hears.'"



Samuel lay on his bed and the Lord came, stood and called, "Samuel! Samuel!" "Speak, for your servant hears," squeaked little Samuel.



"I am going to make everything happen that I told Eli I would do, because his sons made themselves evil and Eli didn't stop them from doing bad things. They won't be able to just bring an animal sacrifice to wipe away these sins!"



In the morning Samuel opened the doors of the house of the Lord. "What did the Lord tell you last night? If you hide anything from me, may God make it happen to you and even worse!" threatened old Eli.



Samuel mustered all his courage and told old Eli every single thing the Lord had said. After Eli heard the message, he said, "It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him."



Lord, help me to hear and obey when you talk to me. I know you still use kids in your kingdom.