

Joseph and His Brothers

(Based on Gen 37:1-36)

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Of all his sons, Jacob loved Joseph the best. He made him a coat of many colours.



But Joseph's brothers hated him because he was daddy's favourite. They also hated him because Joseph used to tell his dad about the bad things they were doing when they were guarding the sheep.



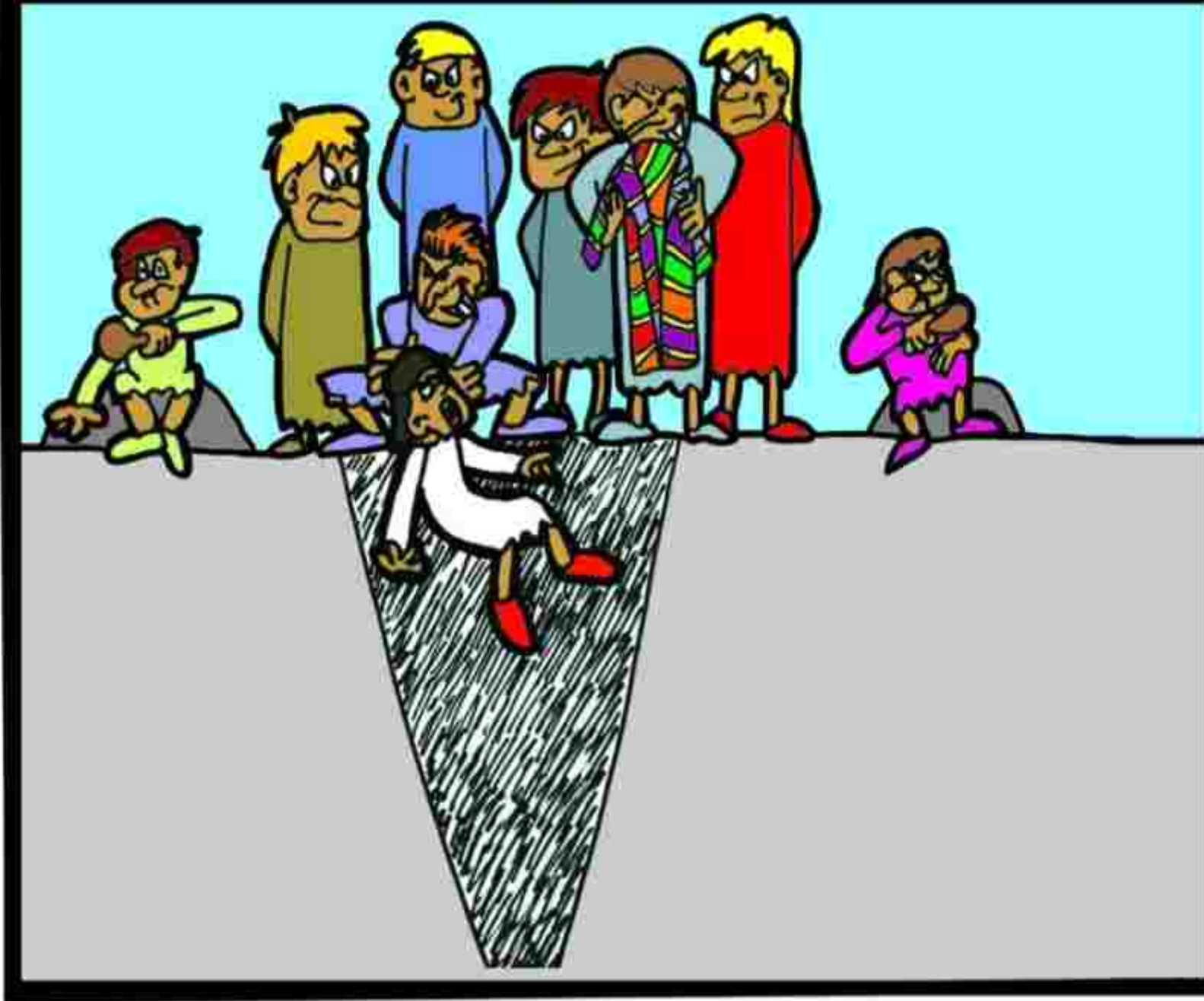
When Joseph was seventeen years old he said, "Brothers, I dreamed we were making bundles of straw, when suddenly my bundle of straw stood up and your bundles of straw bowed down to my bundle of straw."



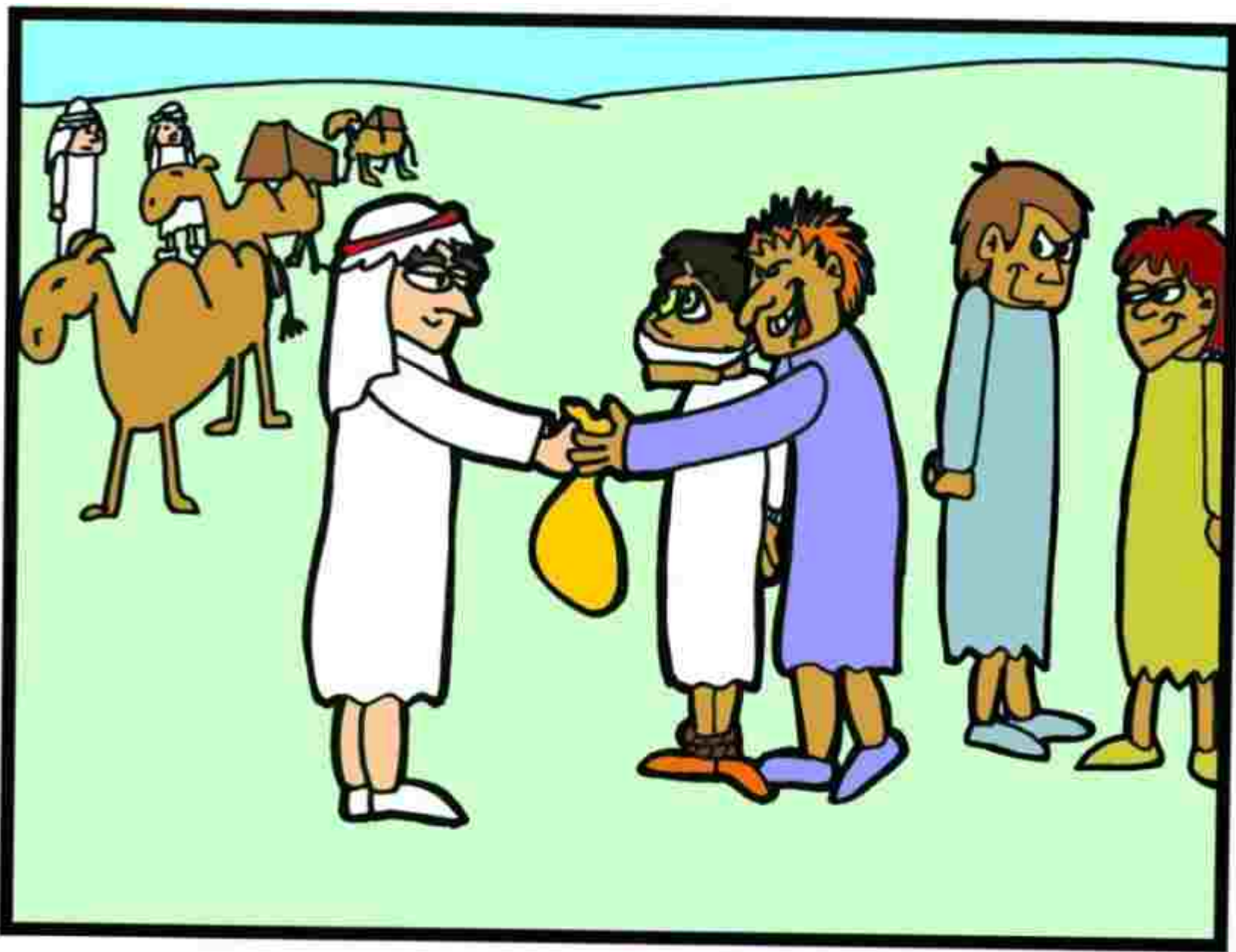
"Hey brothers!" said Joseph on another day. "I dreamed the sun and the moon and the eleven stars bowed down to me." "Will your mother and I and your brothers come and bow down before you?" asked Jacob. The brothers were very jealous of Joseph.



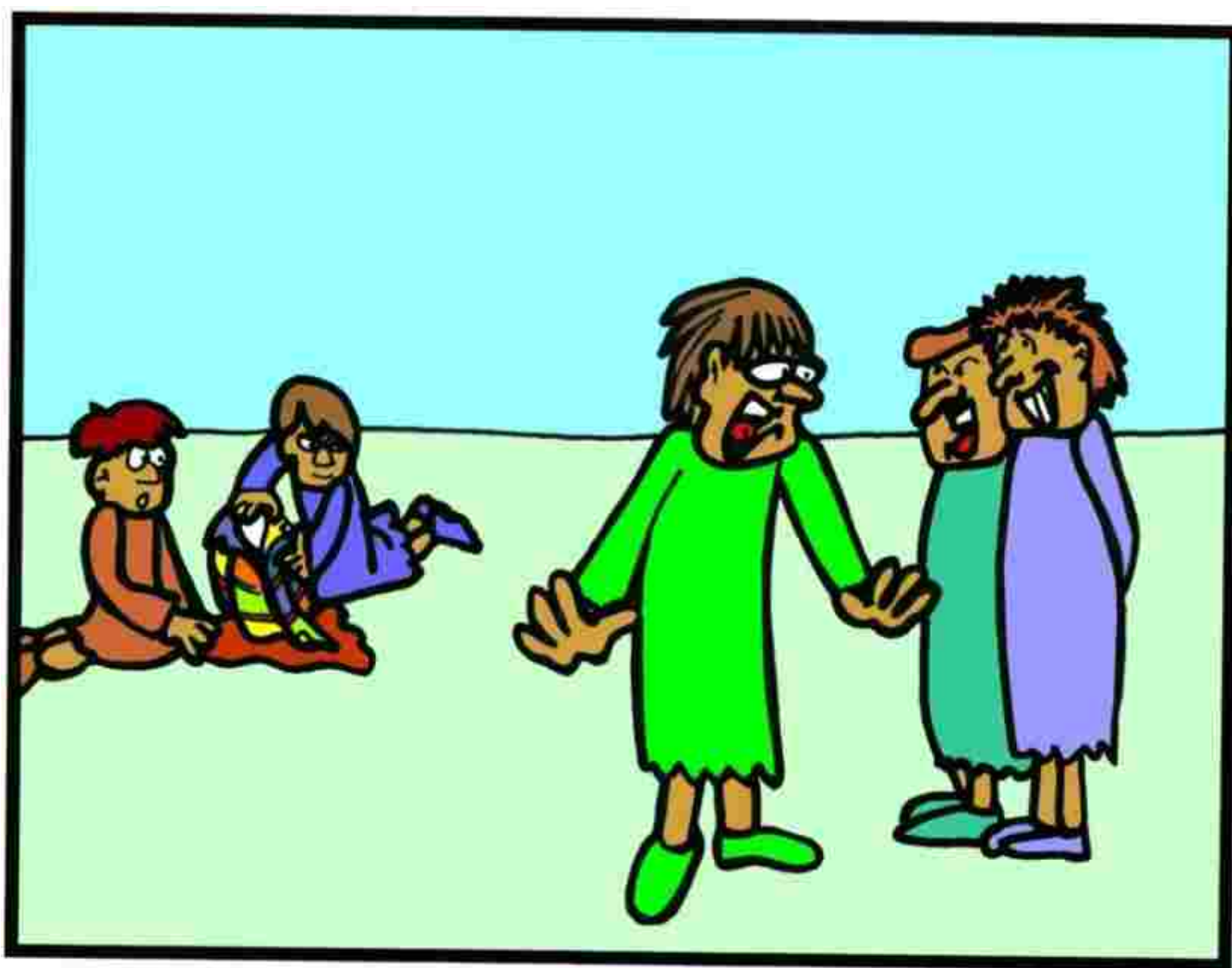
One day Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers. "Let's kill him!" said the brothers. Reuben the oldest said, "Don't kill him. Throw him in this pit." Reuben planned to rescue Joseph later.



The brothers ripped off the coat of many colours and threw Joseph into the deep pit. While Joseph cried for help, the brothers ignored him. They sat and ate their lunch.



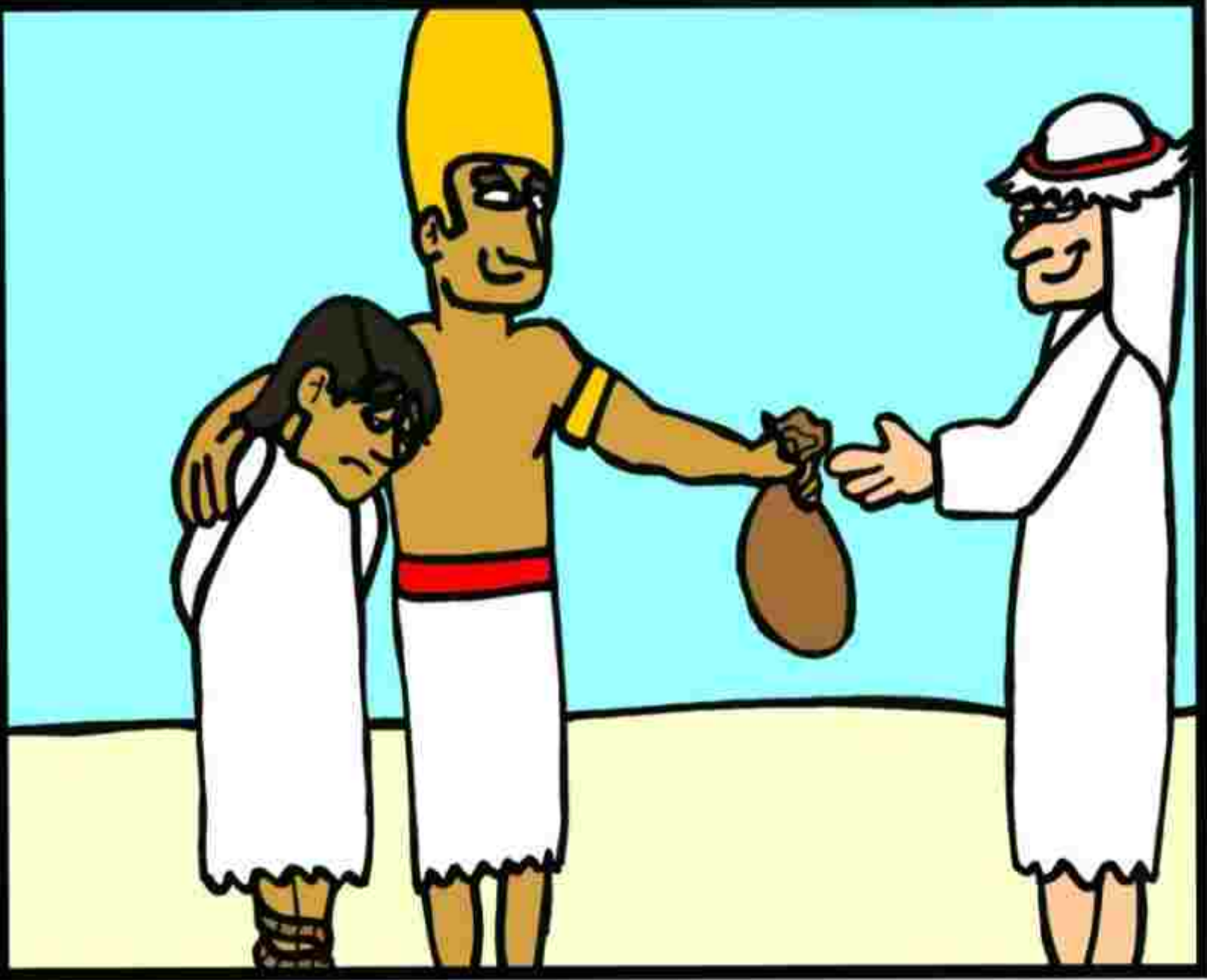
"Why don't we sell our brother as a slave and get some money from him?" suggested Judah. "It's better than killing him." They sold Joseph for twenty pieces of silver and the Ishmaelites took him to Egypt.



"Ahhhhhhh!!!!!" screamed Reuben when he learned what his brothers had done. The brothers took Joseph's coat of many colours and dipped it in goat blood. Then they brought it to their dad.



"A wild animal must have torn Joseph to bits," sobbed old Jacob. Jacob wept for many days and no one could comfort him.



Meanwhile, in Egypt Joseph was sold as a slave to a man named Potiphar. He was an officer in Pharaoh's army and the captain of the guard.



Lord, help me to always do the right thing and keep my trust in you no matter where life takes me.