

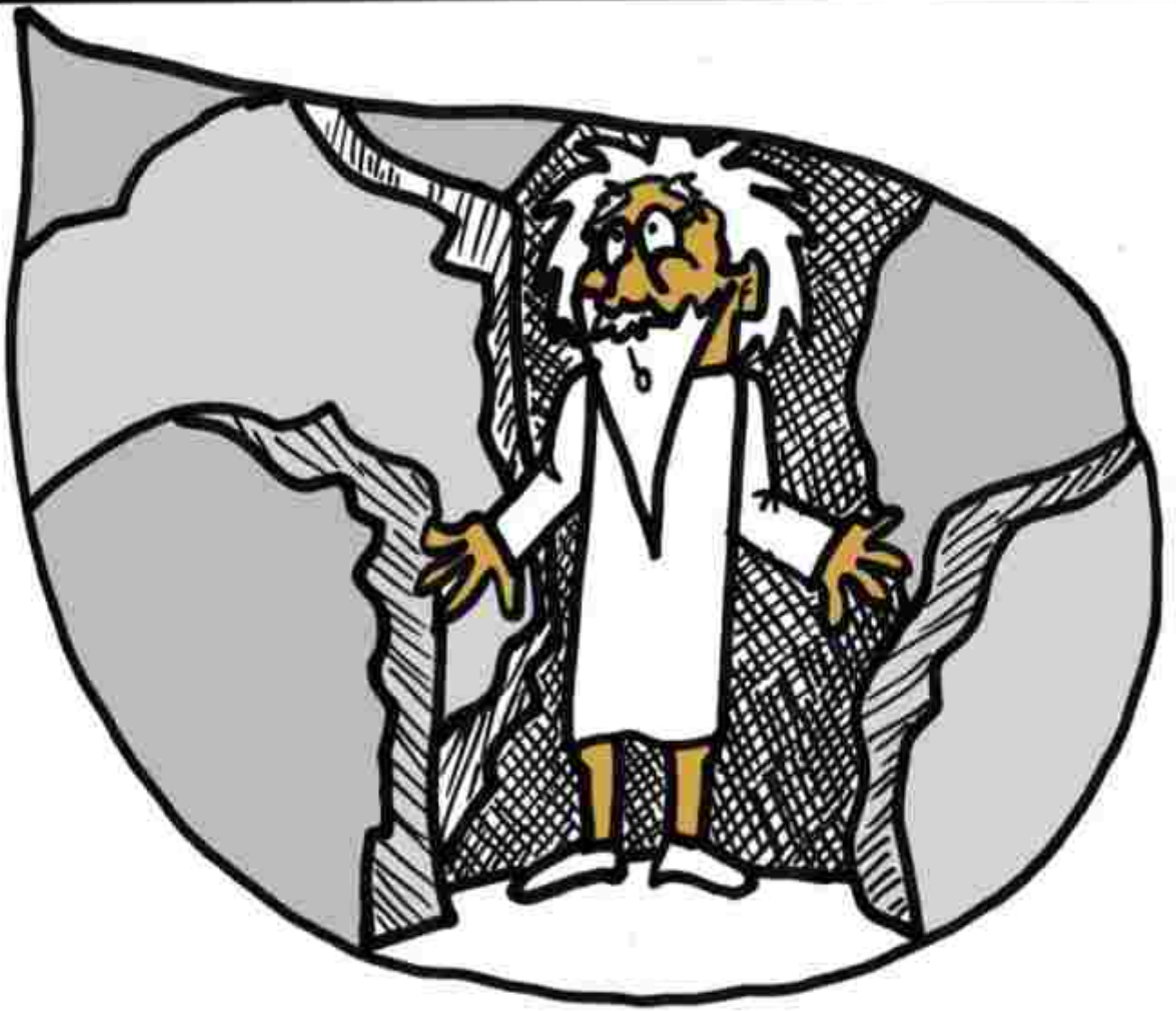
Moses Sees the Back of God

(Based on Exodus 33:12-34:35)

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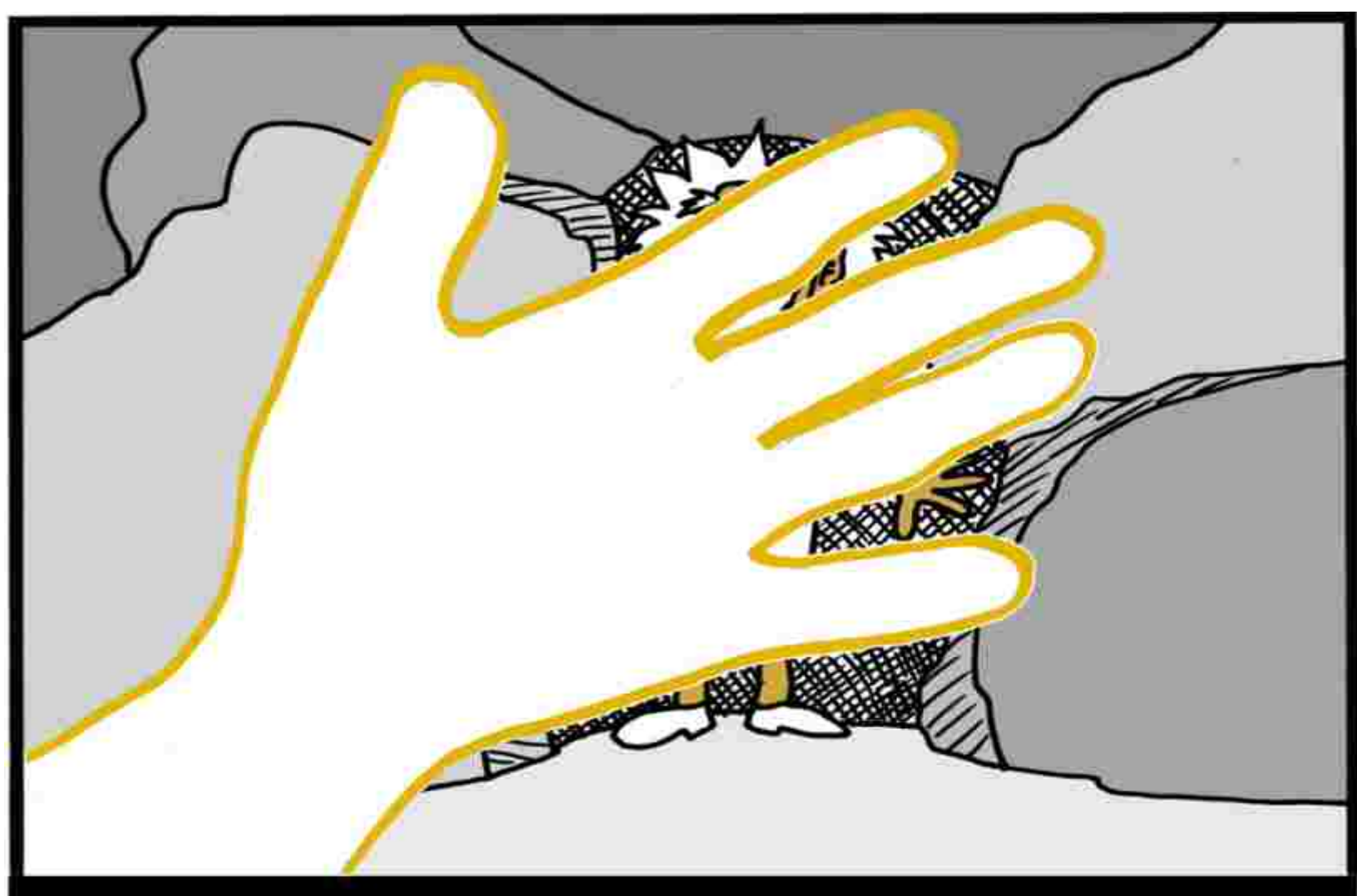
Moses prayed, “Lord, show me your way so that I can know you.” God answered, “My presence shall go with you.” Moses said, “Lord, if your presence does not go with me, don't take us there. Lord, please show me your glory.”



The Lord answered, “I will make all my goodness pass before you. You cannot see my face, for no man can see me, and live. There is a place by me, and you shall stand upon a rock.



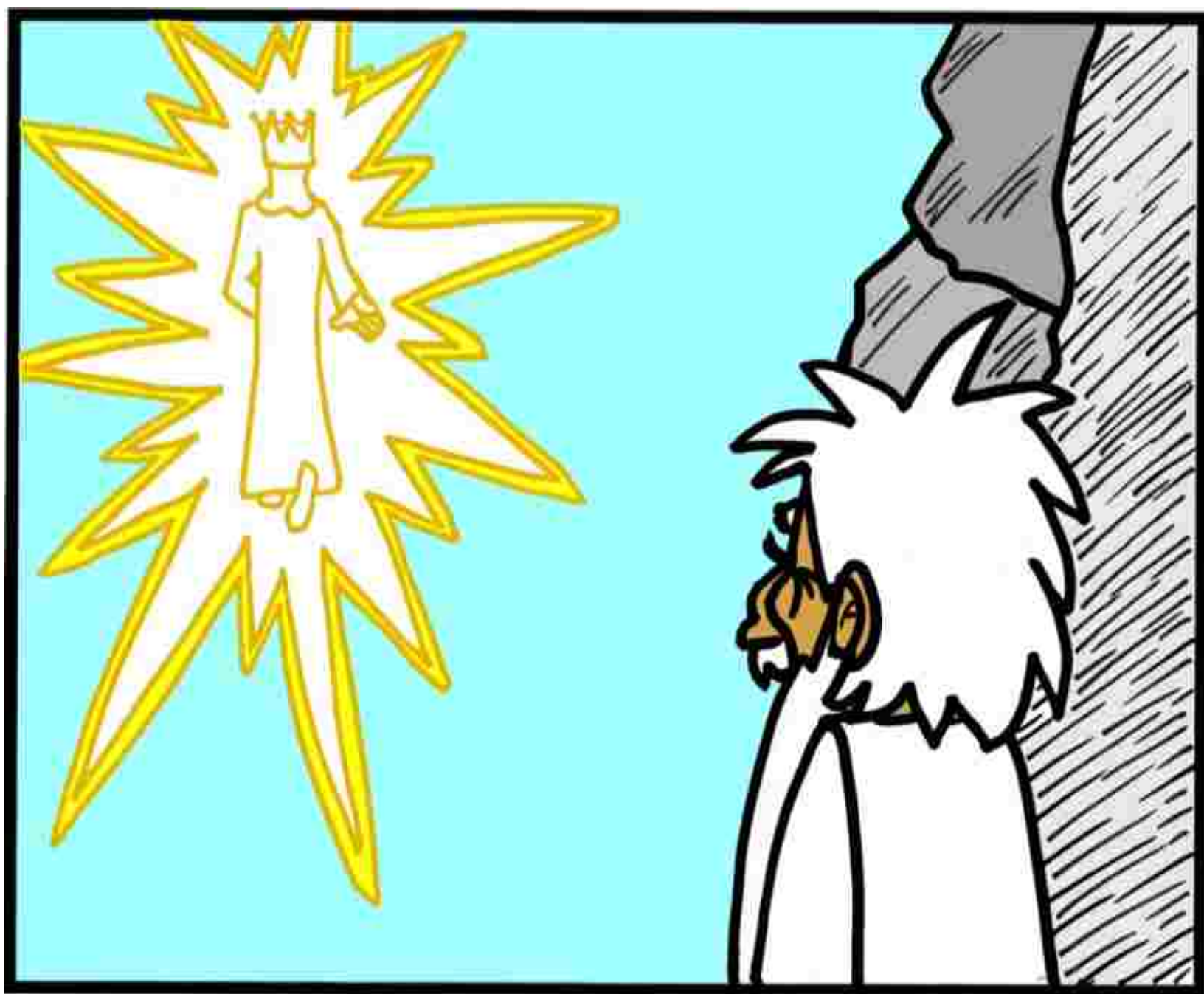
The LORD said to Moses, “Cut two slabs of stone like the first ones which you broke. I will write on these slabs the words which were on the first ones. Come up the mountain in the morning.”



The next morning the LORD came down and passed in front of Moses just like he said he would. The Lord put Moses into a split place in the rock, and he covered Moses with his hand while his glory passed by. “I am the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and full of goodness and truth.”



The Lord continued, “I forgive sins, but people who keep on doing bad things will keep their sins and pass them on to their kids and their grandchildren and even their great grandchildren.”



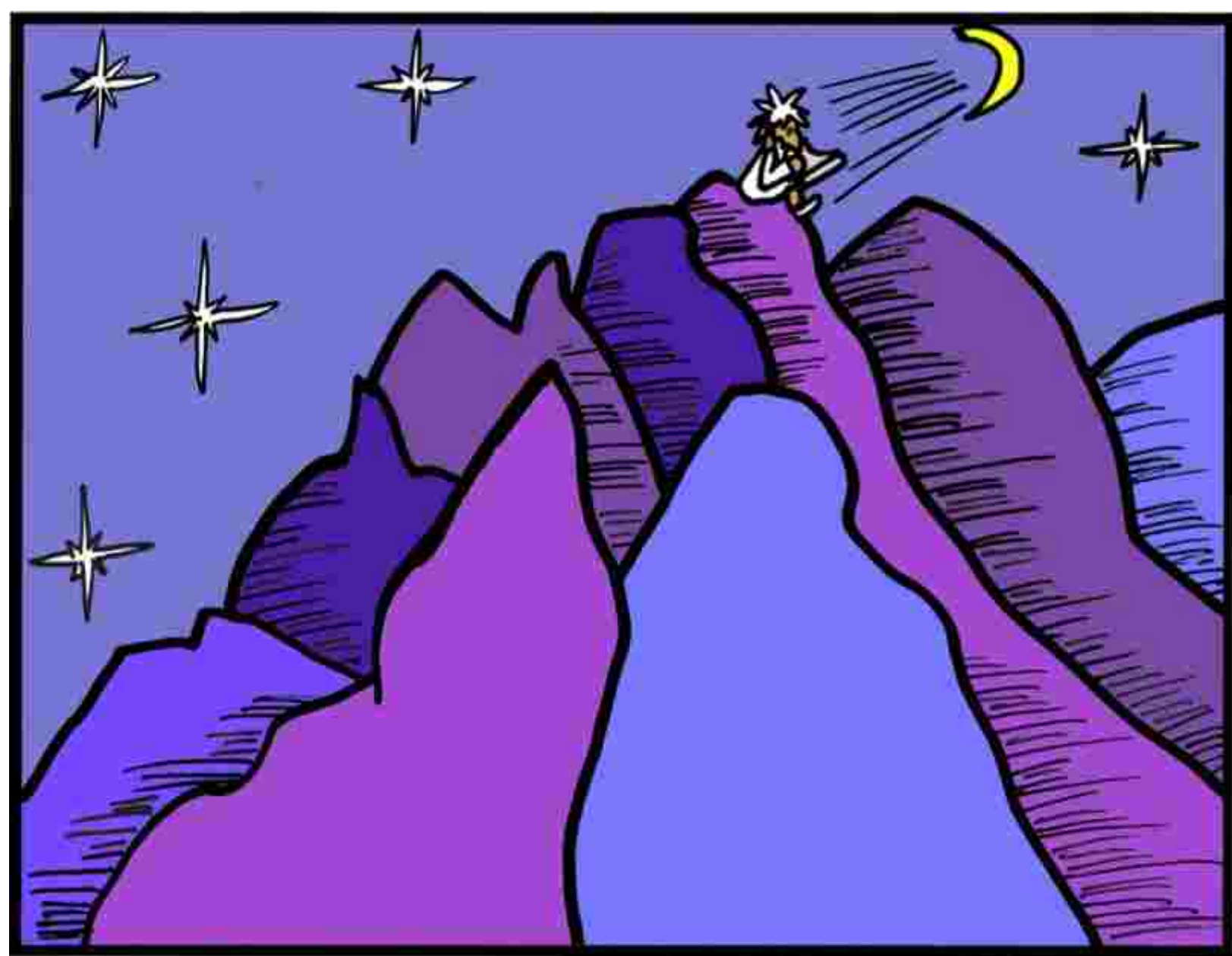
Then the Lord took away his hand, and Moses saw the back parts of God but he did not see his face.



Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped and he said, “Lord, please come with us and forgive our sins.”



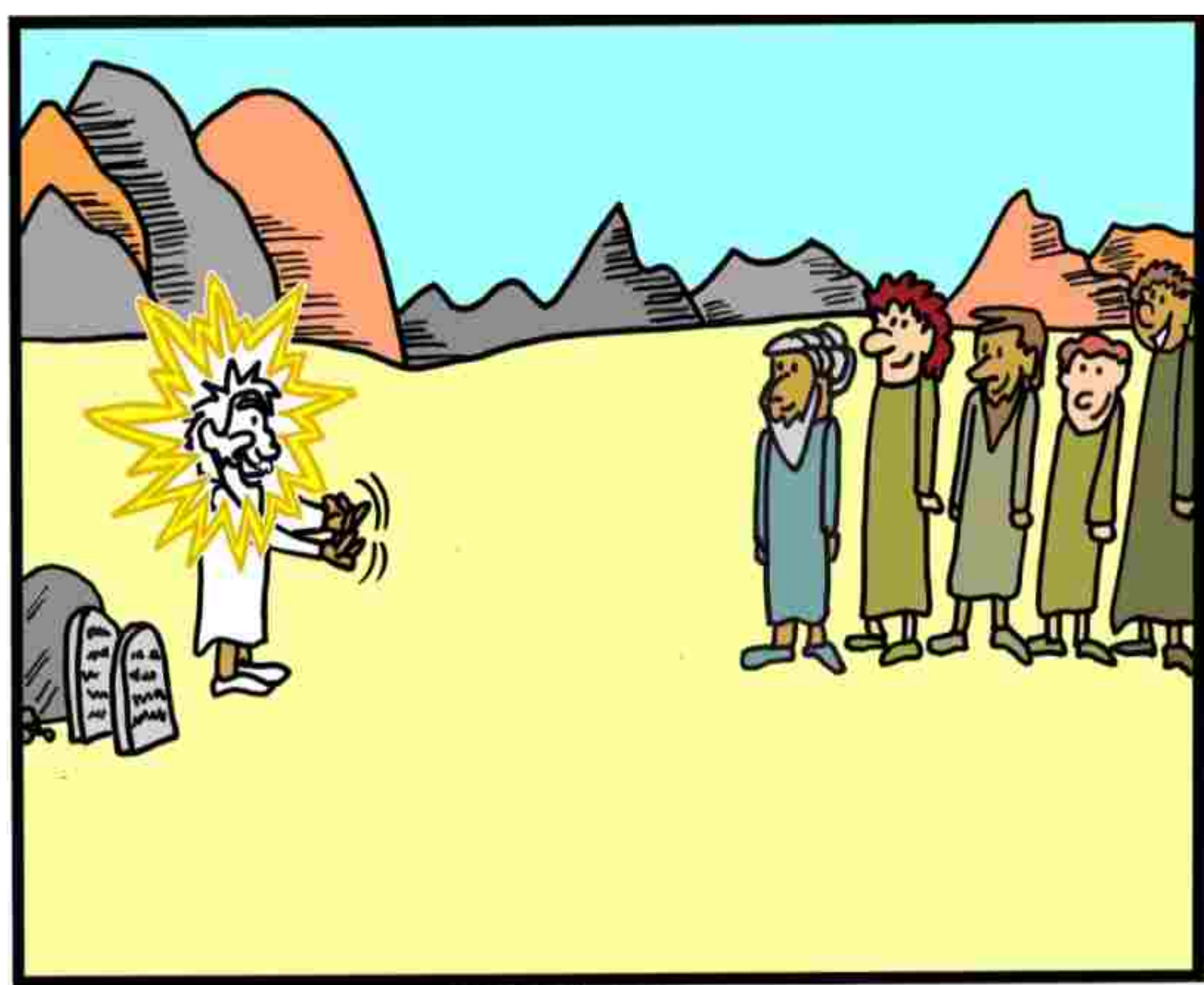
God said he would do great miracles for the people of Israel and that he would drive out the people who were in the promised land. “Break down their altars and their idol statues. Don't marry those people and don't worship their idol gods.”



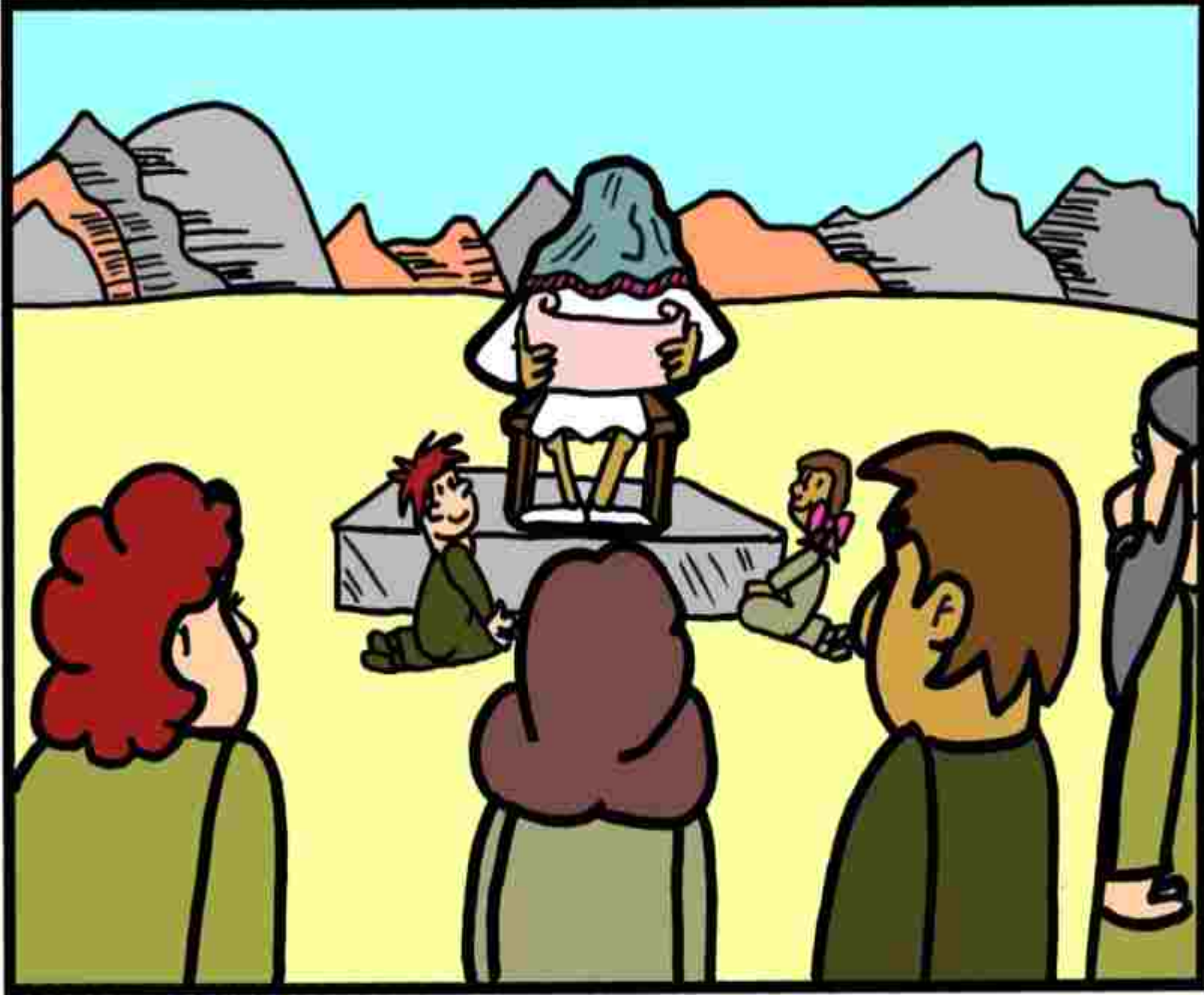
The Lord gave Moses many more commandments for the people of Israel and told him to write them down. Moses was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights. He did not eat bread, nor drink water.



When Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two stone slabs in his hands he did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with God. When Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses with the shining face, they were afraid to come near him.



“Come back! Come back”, said Moses. Aaron and all the rulers of the people returned unto him and Moses talked with them.



Moses put a veil on his face and afterward all the people of Israel came near to him and he gave them the Lord's commandments.



But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off. When he came out he would tell the people of Israel whatever God told him to say and the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. Then Moses would put the veil on again.



Lord, just like Moses prayed, be with me where ever I go. I don't want to go anywhere if you are not there with me.