

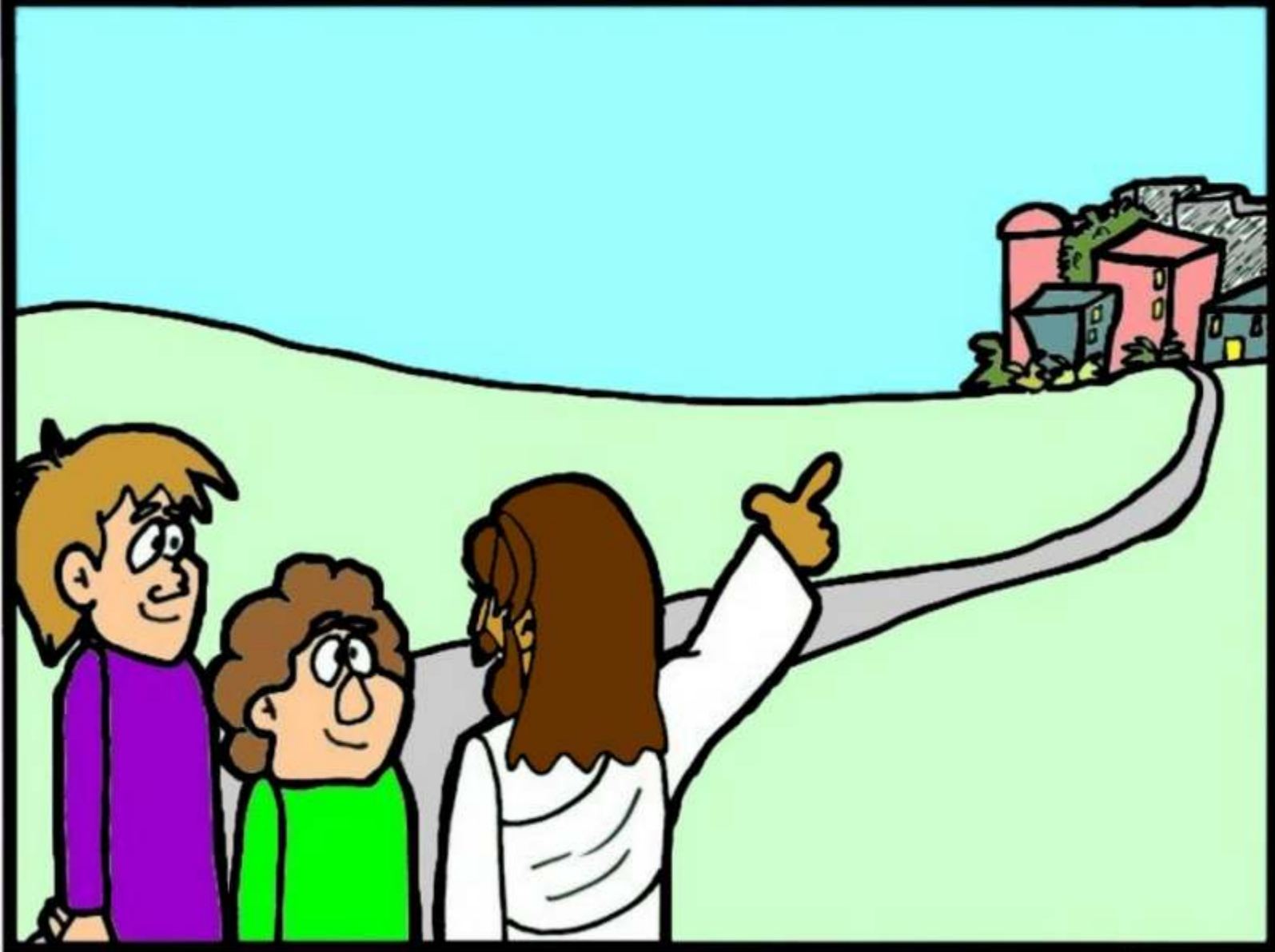
Triumphal Entry of Jesus

(Based on John 11:55-12:1, 12:9-19,
Mark 11:1-11, Matthew 21:1-11, 14-17,
Luke 19:29-44)

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Six days before Passover Jesus came to visit Mary, Martha and Lazarus, who he had raised from the dead. Many came not just to see Jesus, but also because they wanted to see Lazarus. The boss priests made a plan to kill Lazarus too.



The next day Jesus sent two disciples into the village to get a donkey and her young colt. “No one has sat on the young donkey yet. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you taking the donkey?’ say ‘The Lord needs it,’ and they will let you take it.”



Sure enough the owners came, "Why are you untying the donkey?" they asked. "The Lord needs it," answered the disciples. "Okay, take him," answered the owners.



The disciples put their clothes onto the donkey's back and Jesus sat on the little donkey.



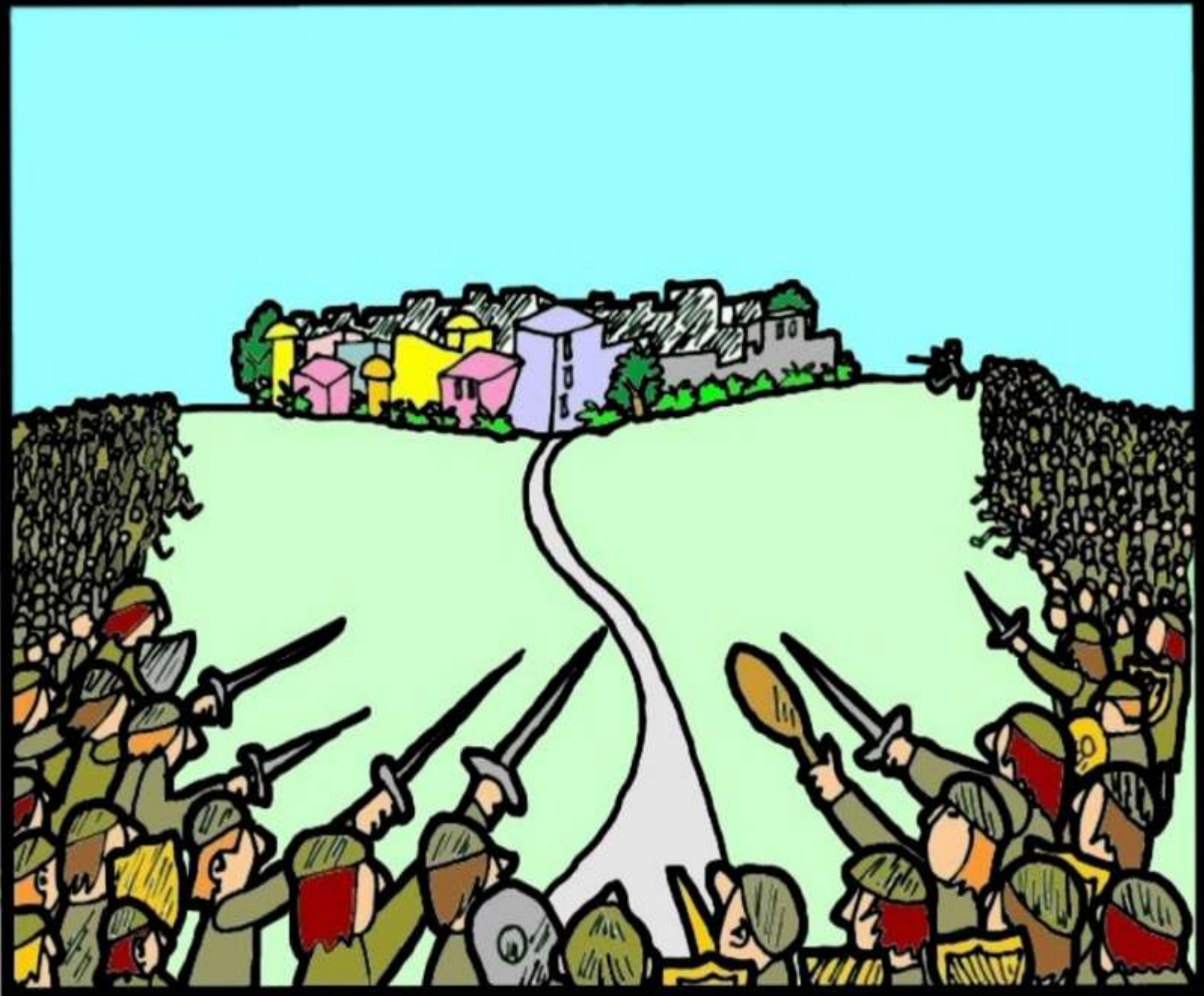
The crowds laid branches from trees and their clothes on the pathway in front of the donkey. Everyone became very happy. They shouted, "Blessed is the King that comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven, glory in the highest!"



"Tell your followers to shut up!" said the phony Pharisees. Jesus answered, "If these people shut up the stones will start shouting."



When Jesus came close to the city of Jerusalem he started to weep. "Oh, if only you knew today the things that belong to your peace, but now you can't see them.



The days are coming when your enemies will surround you. They'll kill you and your little ones. They won't leave one stone on top of another because you didn't know the time when God was visiting you.”



Jesus went into the temple. The blind and crippled came to him and he healed them. The boss priests were not happy but they were especially cranky when they saw little children shouting for Jesus, "Hosanna to the Son of David."



"Don't you hear what these little kids are saying?" they snarled. "Yes, I do hear them," answered Jesus. "Didn't you ever read in the Bible that out of the mouths of babies and little children comes perfect praise?" Jesus returned to stay with Mary, Martha and Lazarus.



Lord, help me to praise you
with all my heart, mind and
strength.