



ACTS
COLORING BIBLE
EVERY VERSE CHPTS 23 TO 28

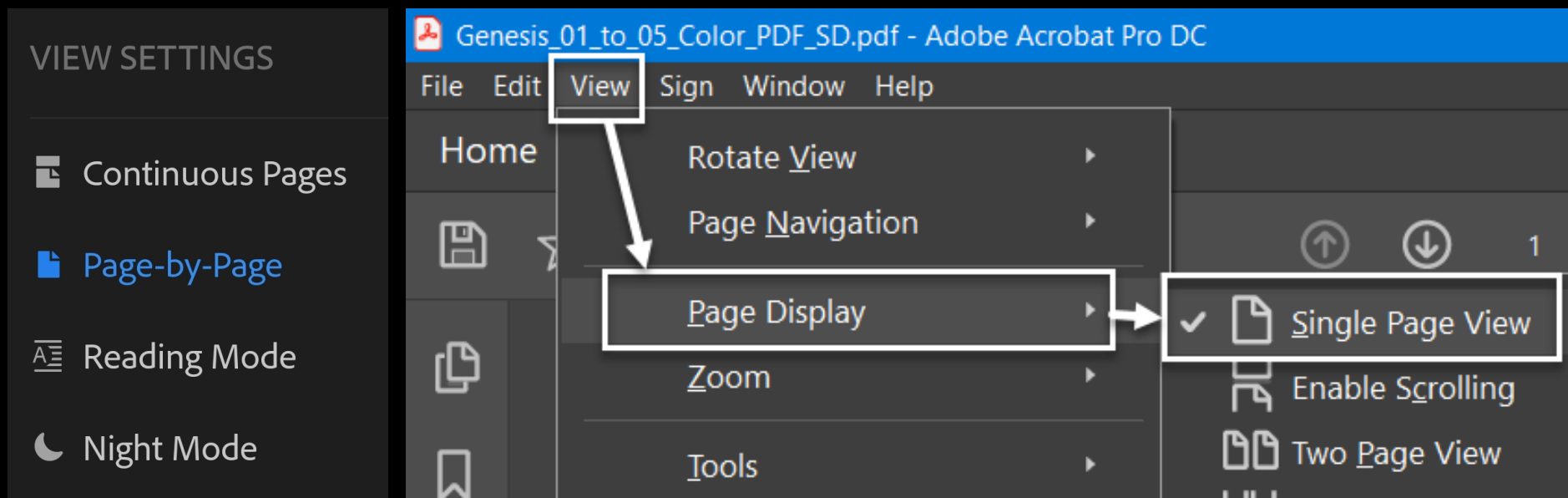
HD - ENGLISH

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Book Of Acts Coloring Bible

Every Verse - **Acts - Chapters 23 to 28**

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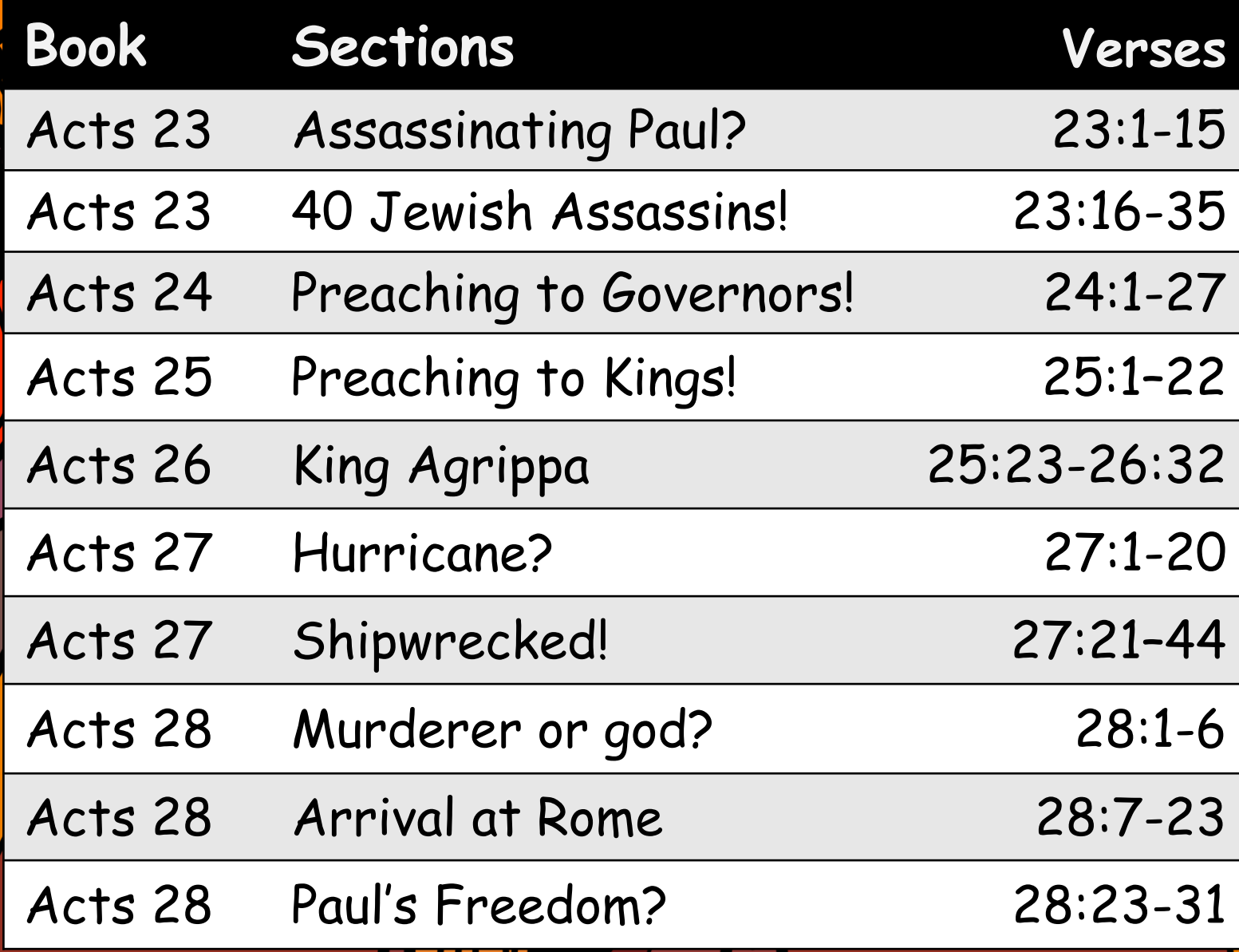
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Assassinating Paul? Acts 23:1-15

Background:

Paul has been arrested by the Romans and is being cross-examined by the Jewish priests. But, will he escape from the band of assassins?



Acts 23:1

Paul, looking steadfastly at the council, said, "Brothers, I have lived before God in all good conscience until today."



Acts 23:2

The high priest, Ananias, commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth.



Acts 23:3

Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! Do you sit to judge me according to the law, and command me to be struck contrary to the law?"



Acts 23:4

Those who stood by said, "Do you malign God's high priest?"



Acts 23:5

Paul said, "I didn't know, brothers, that he was high priest. For it is written, 'You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.' "



Acts 23:6

But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, "Men and brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. Concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged!"

When he had said this, an argument arose between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the crowd was divided.

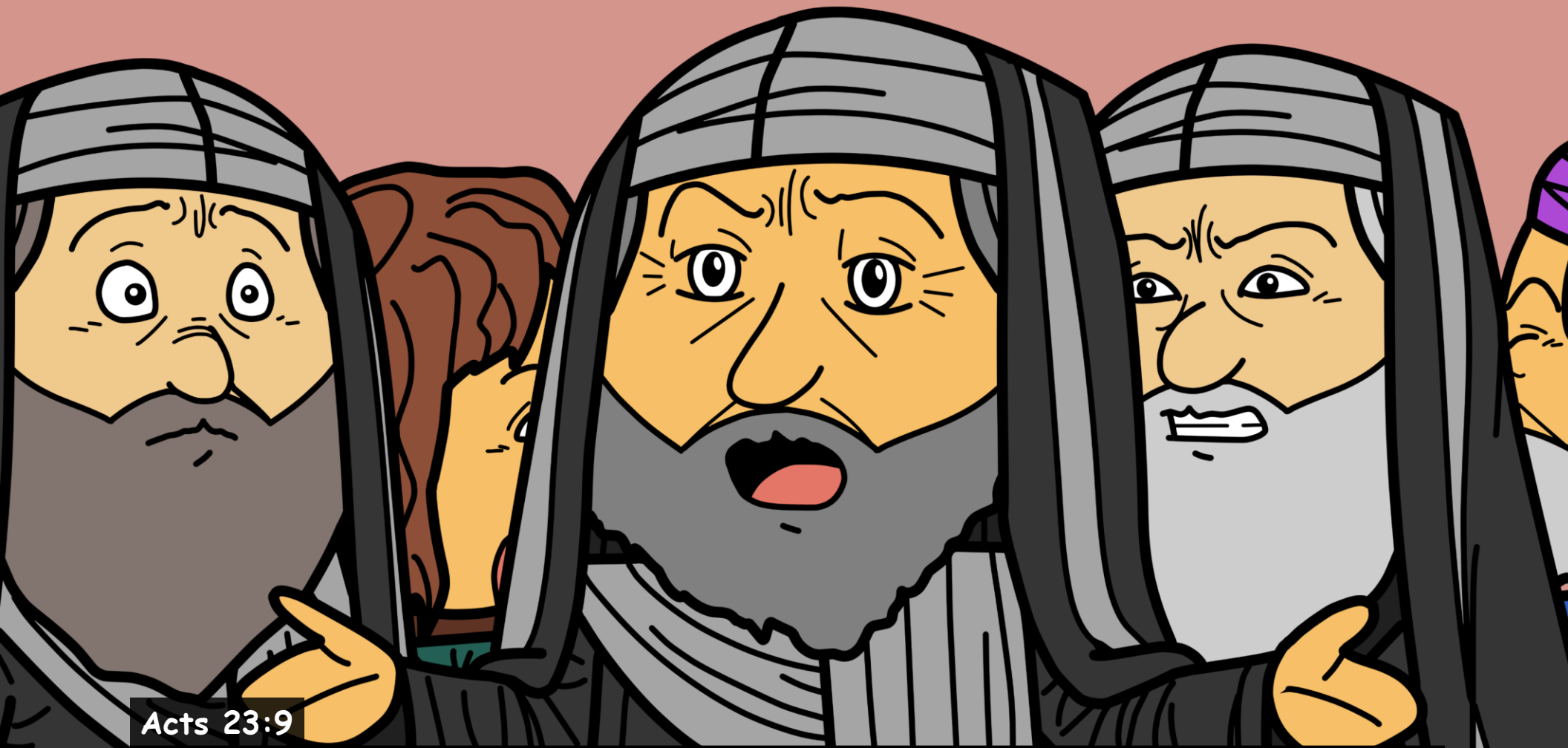
Acts 23:7





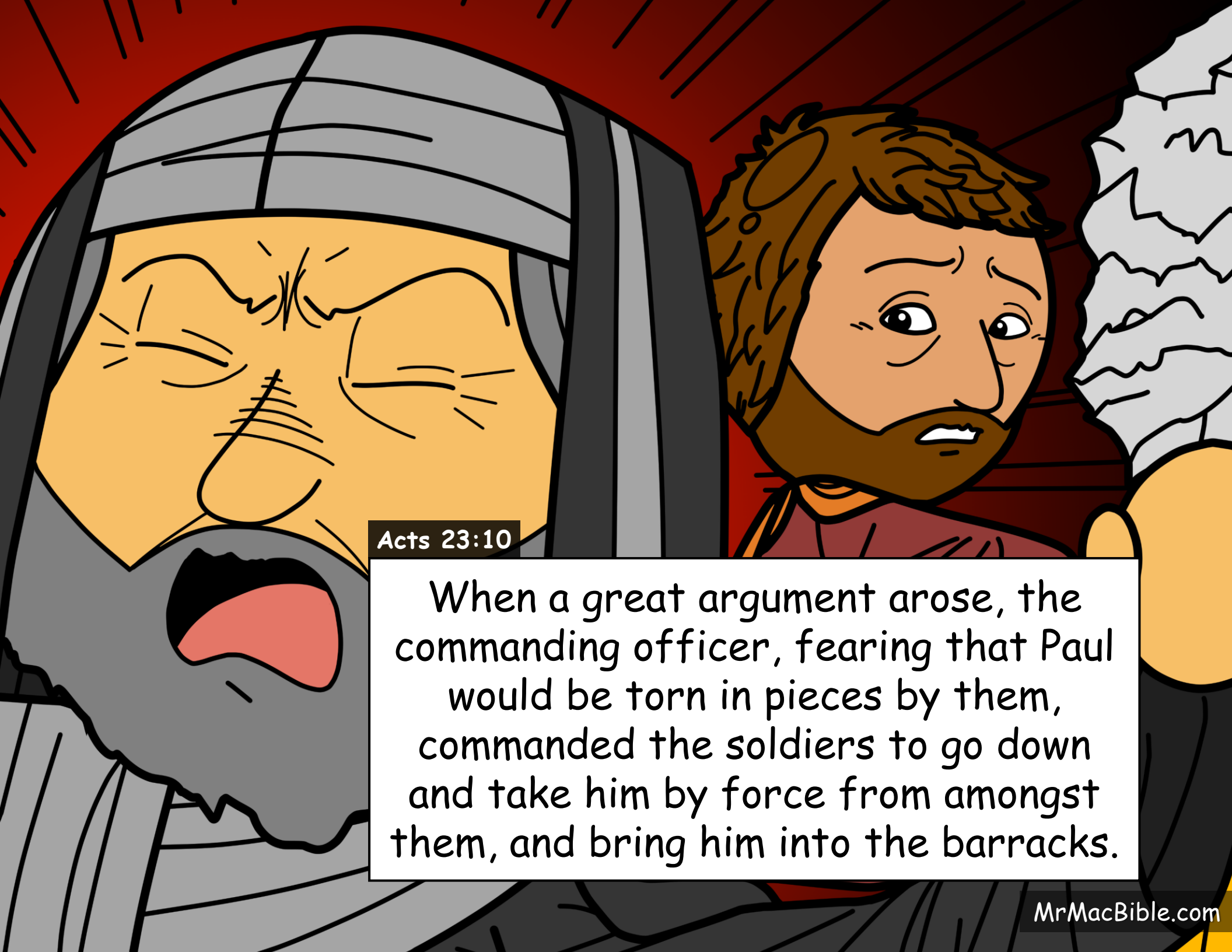
Acts 23:8

For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit; but the Pharisees confess all of these.



Acts 23:9

A great clamour arose, and some of the scribes of the Pharisees' part stood up, and contended, saying, "We find no evil in this man. But if a spirit or angel has spoken to him, let's not fight against God!"



Acts 23:10

When a great argument arose, the commanding officer, fearing that Paul would be torn in pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and take him by force from amongst them, and bring him into the barracks.

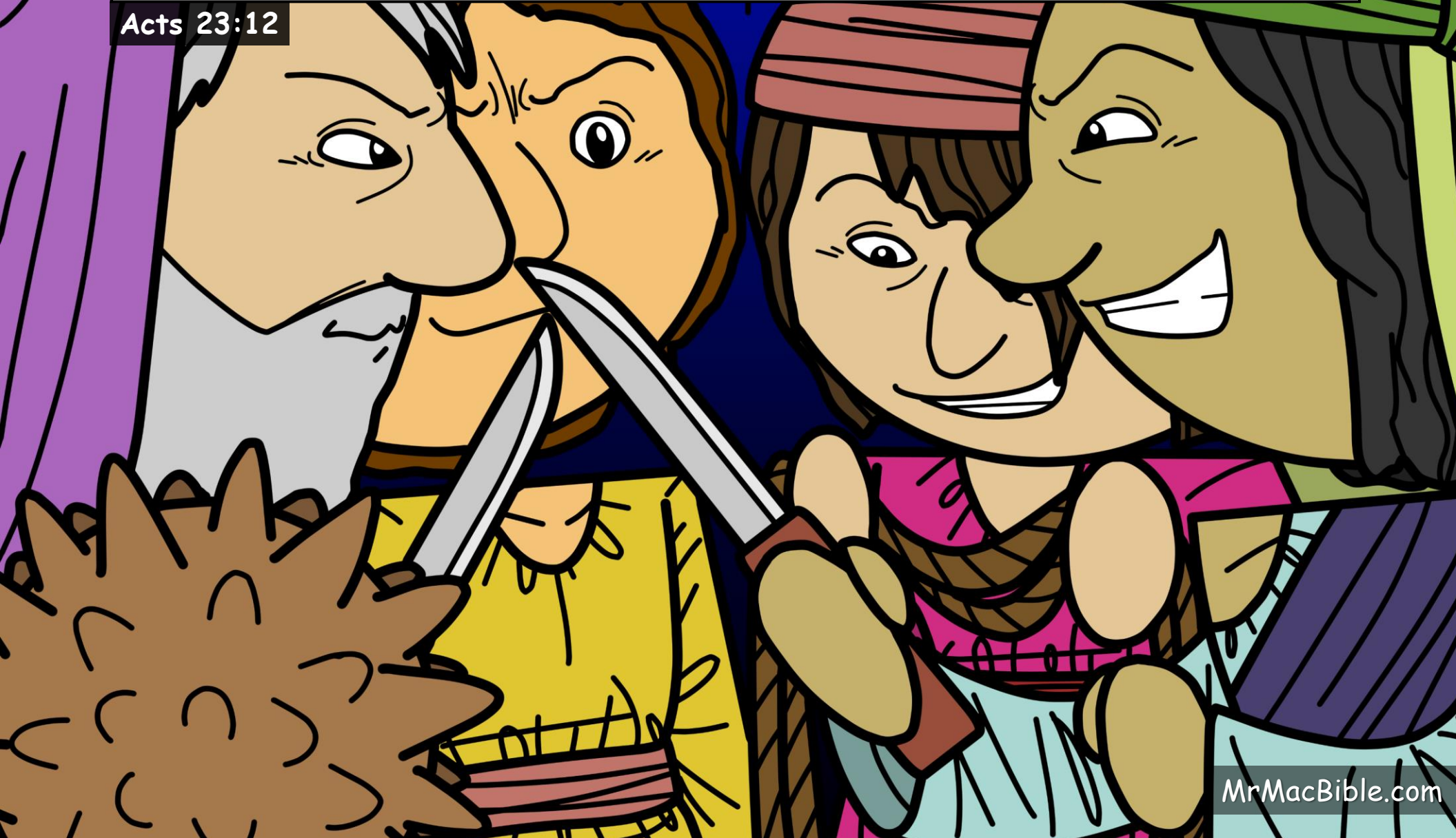
The following night, the Lord stood by him and said, "Cheer up, Paul, for as you have testified about me at Jerusalem, so you must testify also at Rome."

Acts 23:11



When it was day, some of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Paul.

Acts 23:12



There were more than forty people
who had made this conspiracy.

Acts 23:13





Acts 23:14

They came to the chief priests and the elders, and said, "We have bound ourselves under a great curse to taste nothing until we have killed Paul."



Acts 23:15

"Now therefore, you with the council inform the commanding officer that he should bring him down to you tomorrow, as though you were going to judge his case more exactly. We are ready to kill him before he comes near."

40 Jewish Assassins!

Acts 23:16-35

Background:

Paul is locked in a Roman military jail near Jerusalem. Meanwhile, 40 Jewish assassins have laid a trap to capture and kill Paul in the morning, and Paul knows nothing about it... yet!



Acts 23:16

But Paul's sister's son heard they were lying in wait, and he came and entered into the barracks and told Paul.

Paul summoned one of the centurions, and said, "Bring this young man to the commanding officer, for he has something to tell him."

Acts 23:17





Acts 23:18

So he took him, and brought him to the commanding officer, and said, "Paul, the prisoner, summoned me and asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to tell you."




Acts 23:19

The commanding officer took him by the hand, and going aside, asked him privately, "What is it that you have to tell me?"



Acts 23:20

He said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though intending to enquire somewhat more accurately concerning him."



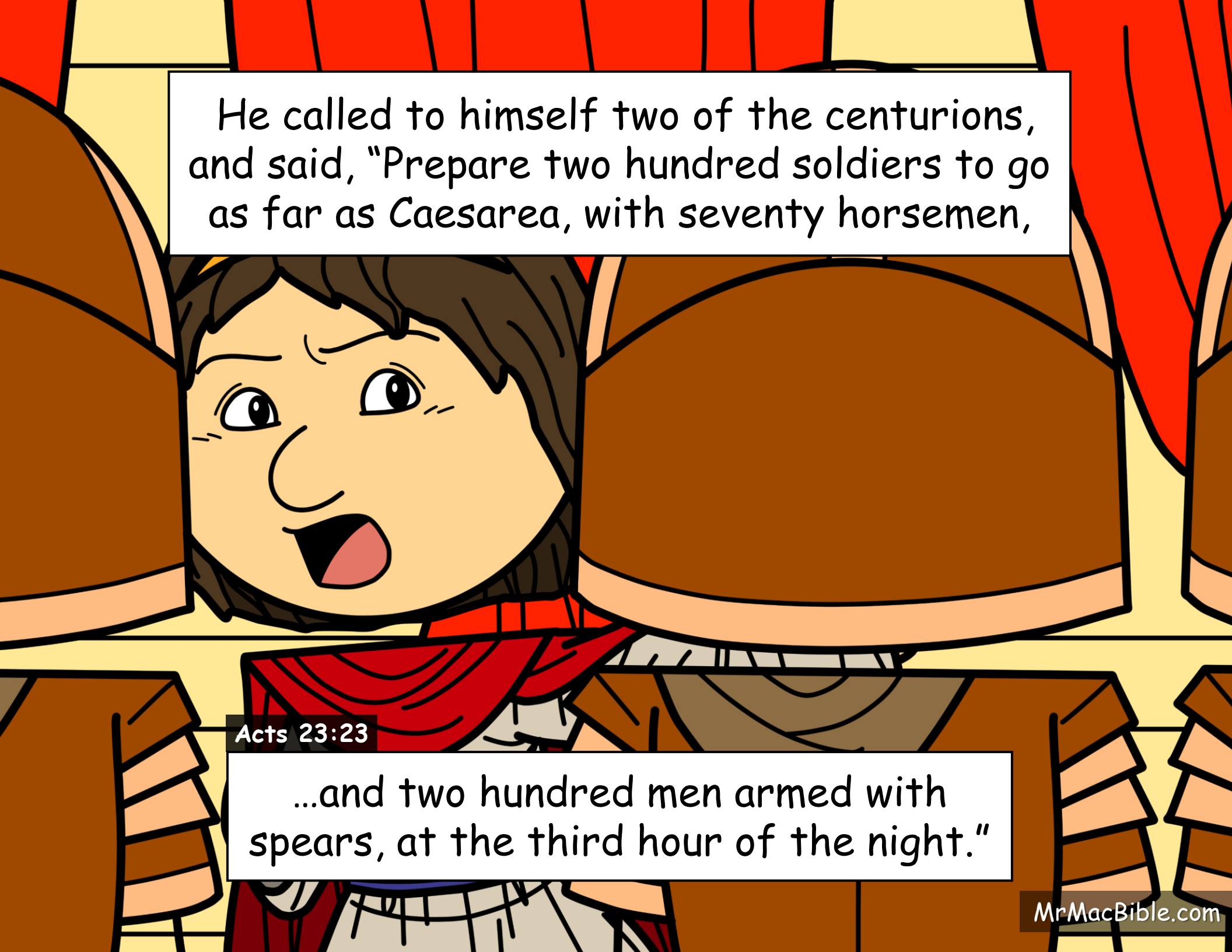
Acts 23:21

"Therefore don't yield to them, for more than forty men lie in wait for him, who have bound themselves under a curse to neither eat nor drink until they have killed him. Now they are ready, looking for the promise from you."



Acts 23:22

So the commanding officer let the young man go, charging him, "Tell no one that you have revealed these things to me."



He called to himself two of the centurions,
and said, "Prepare two hundred soldiers to go
as far as Caesarea, with seventy horsemen,

Acts 23:23

...and two hundred men armed with
spears, at the third hour of the night."

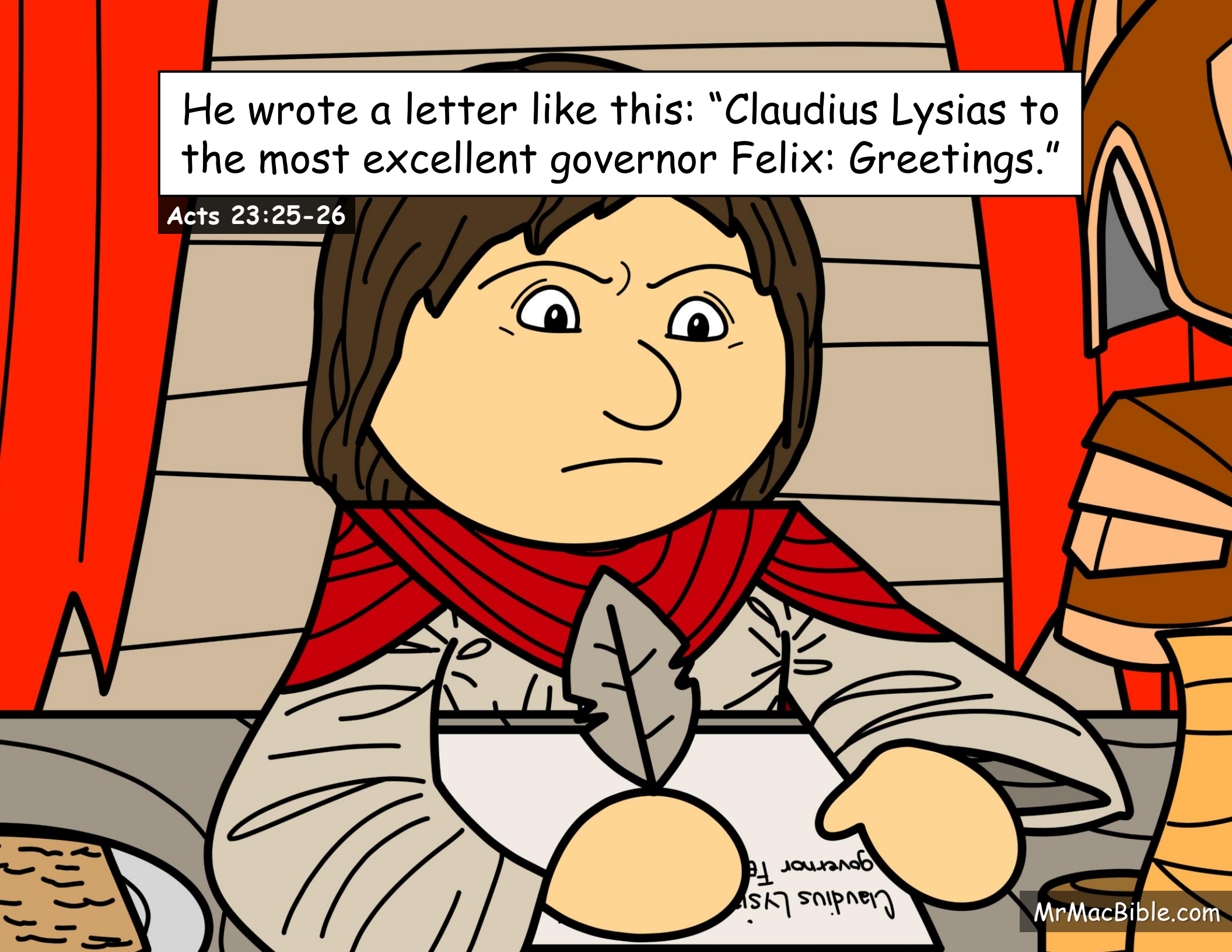


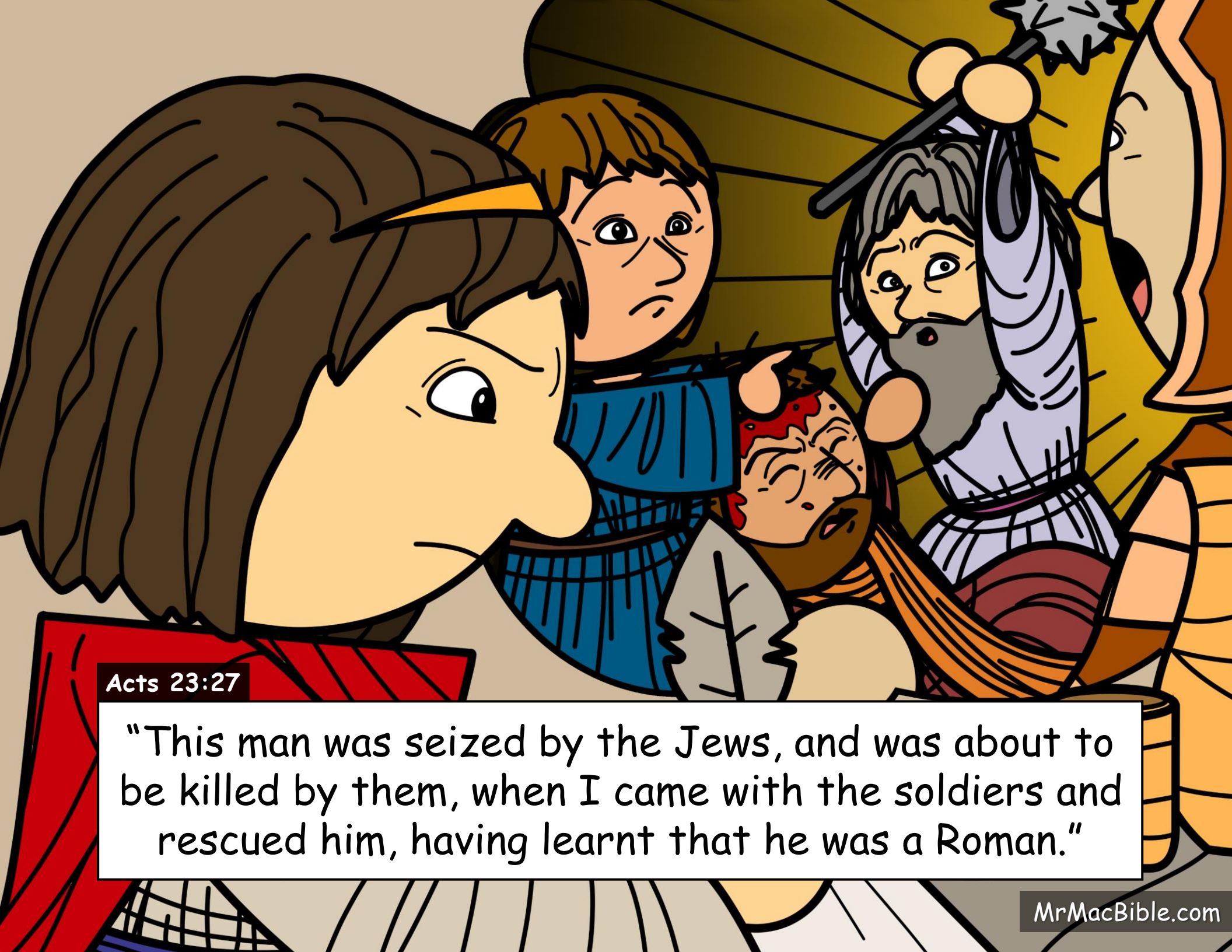
Acts 23:24

He asked them to provide animals, that they might set Paul on one, and bring him safely to Felix the governor.

He wrote a letter like this: "Claudius Lysias to the most excellent governor Felix: Greetings."

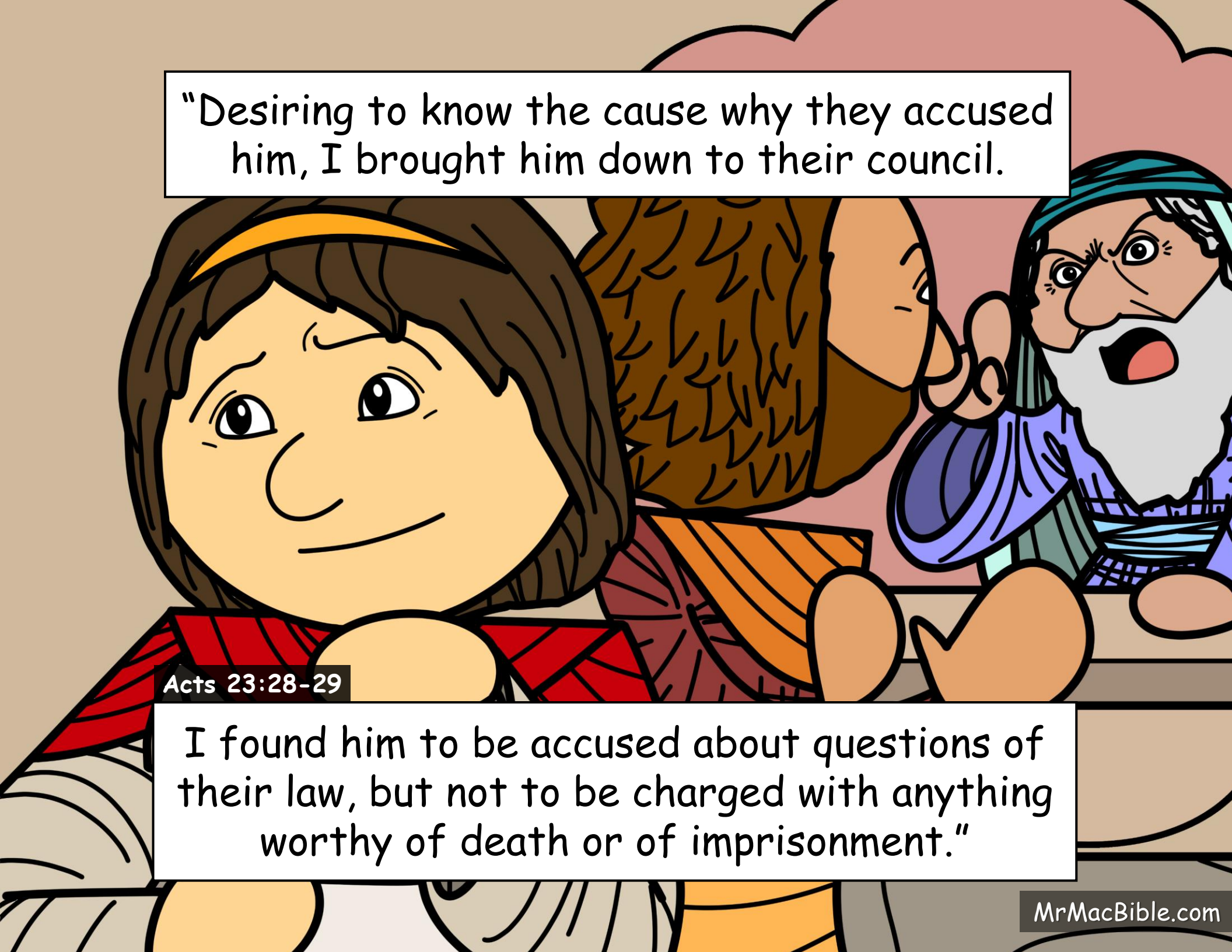
Acts 23:25-26





Acts 23:27

“This man was seized by the Jews, and was about to be killed by them, when I came with the soldiers and rescued him, having learnt that he was a Roman.”



"Desiring to know the cause why they accused him, I brought him down to their council.

Acts 23:28-29

I found him to be accused about questions of their law, but not to be charged with anything worthy of death or of imprisonment."



Acts 23:30

"When I was told that the Jews lay in wait for the man, I sent him to you immediately, charging his accusers also to bring their accusations against him before you. Farewell."



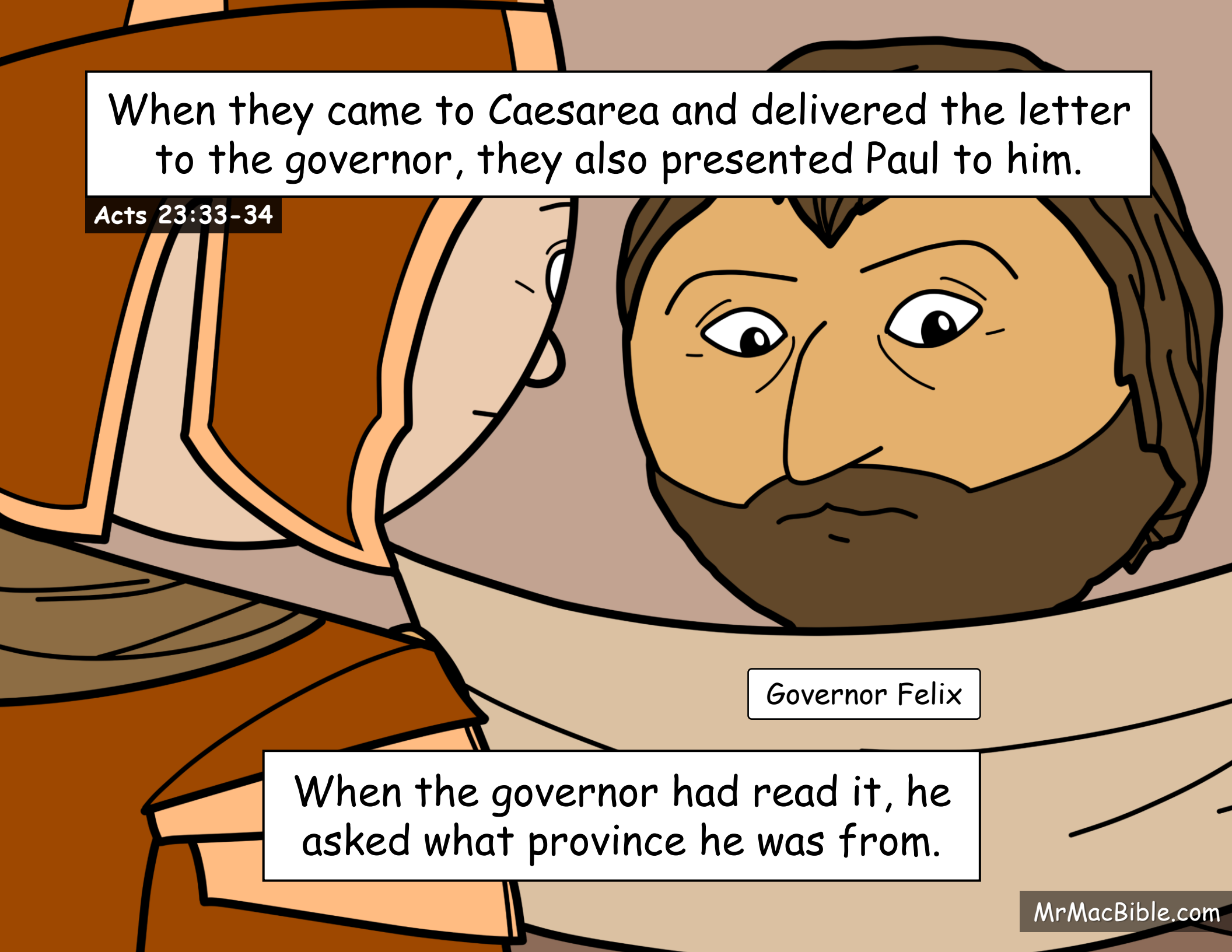
Acts 23:31

So the soldiers, carrying out their orders, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipatris.



Acts 23:32

But on the next day they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the barracks.



When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him.

Acts 23:33-34

Governor Felix

When the governor had read it, he asked what province he was from.



Acts 23:34

When he understood that he was from Cilicia, he said, "I will hear you fully when your accusers also arrive."



Felix

Paul

Acts 23:35

He commanded that he be kept in Herod's palace.

THINK ABOUT IT...

Why does God allow Paul to be arrested by the Romans and to spend so much time in prison?

Is it to protect him? Or to use him in a special way?

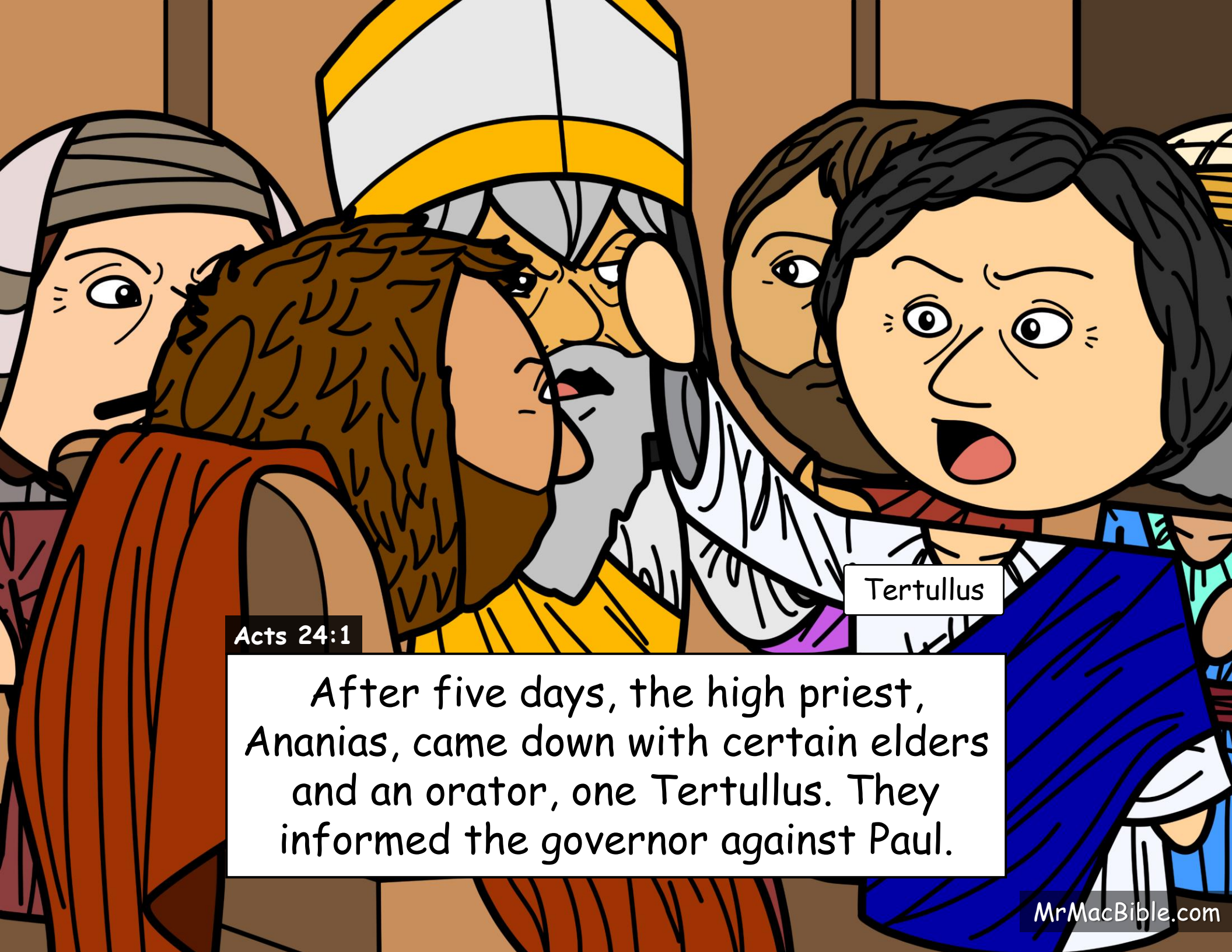


Preaching to Governors!

Acts 24:1-28

Background:


After an 80-mile horseback ride from the Roman barracks in Jerusalem - all the way to Herod's Palace in Caesarea, Paul is now under house-arrest waiting for his first trial with the Roman Governor Felix.



Acts 24:1

After five days, the high priest, Ananias, came down with certain elders and an orator, one Tertullus. They informed the governor against Paul.

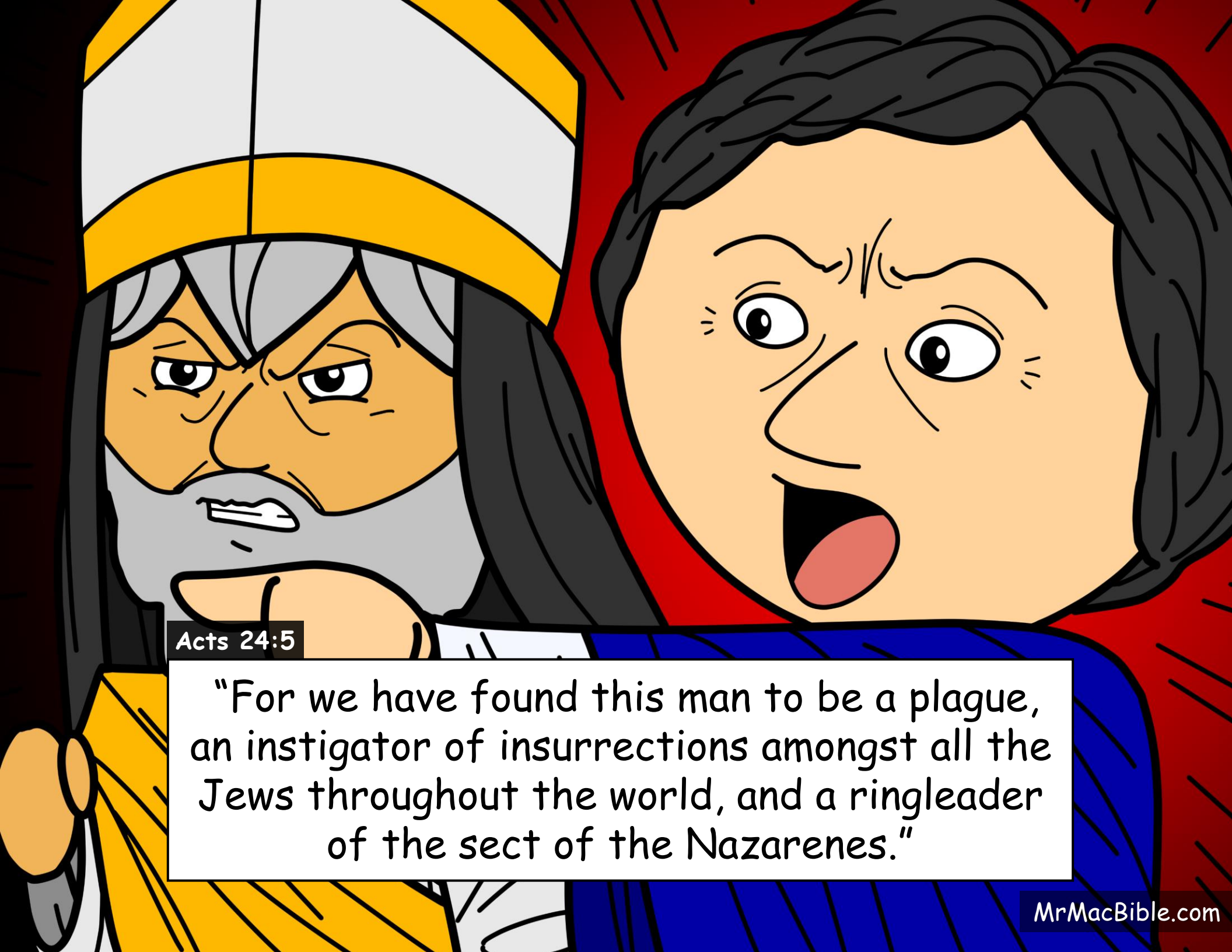
Tertullus



When he was called, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, "Seeing that by you we enjoy much peace,

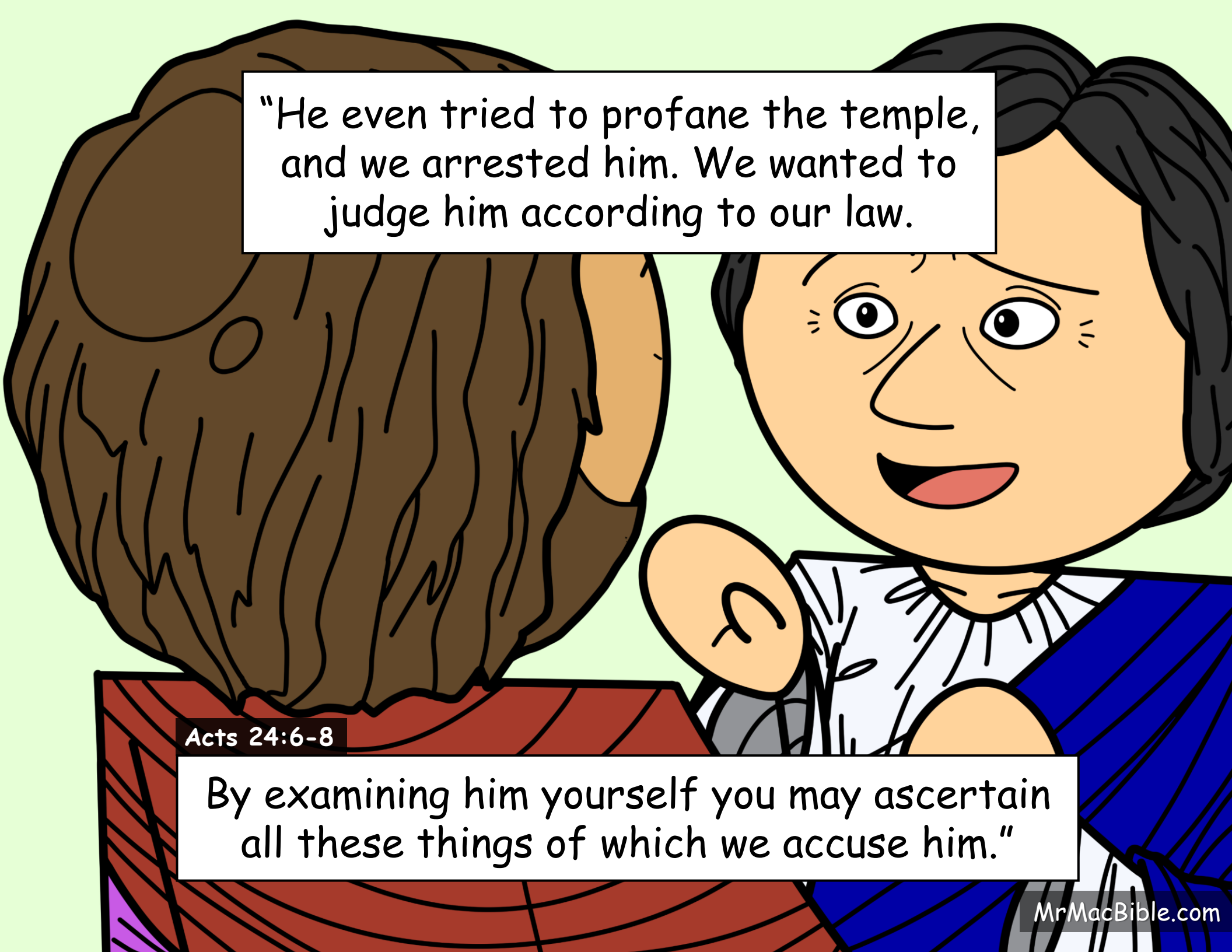
Acts 24:2-4

...and that prosperity is coming to this nation by your foresight, we accept it in all ways and in all places, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness. But that I don't delay you, I entreat you to bear with us and hear a few words."



Acts 24:5

"For we have found this man to be a plague, an instigator of insurrections amongst all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes."



"He even tried to profane the temple,
and we arrested him. We wanted to
judge him according to our law.

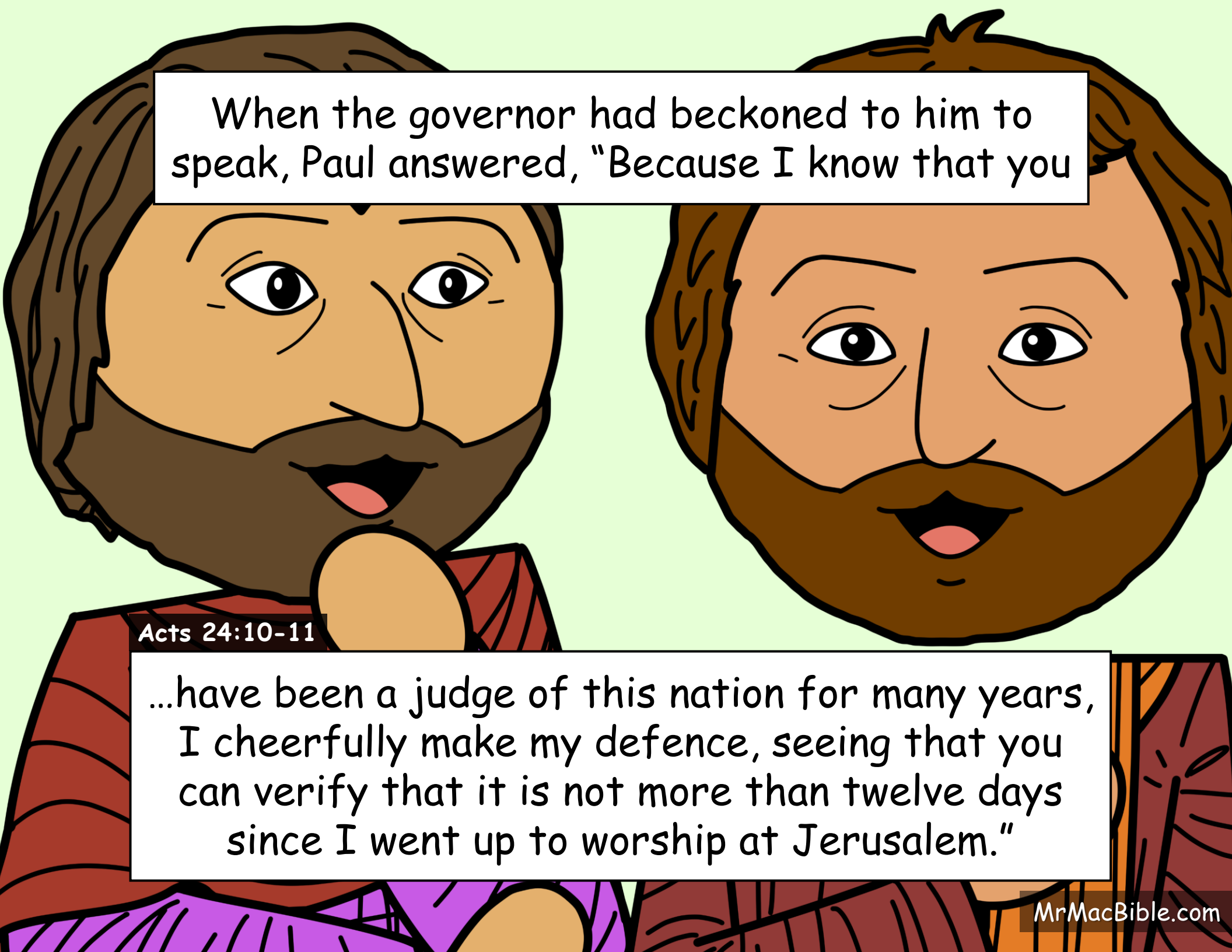
Acts 24:6-8

By examining him yourself you may ascertain
all these things of which we accuse him."



Acts 24:9

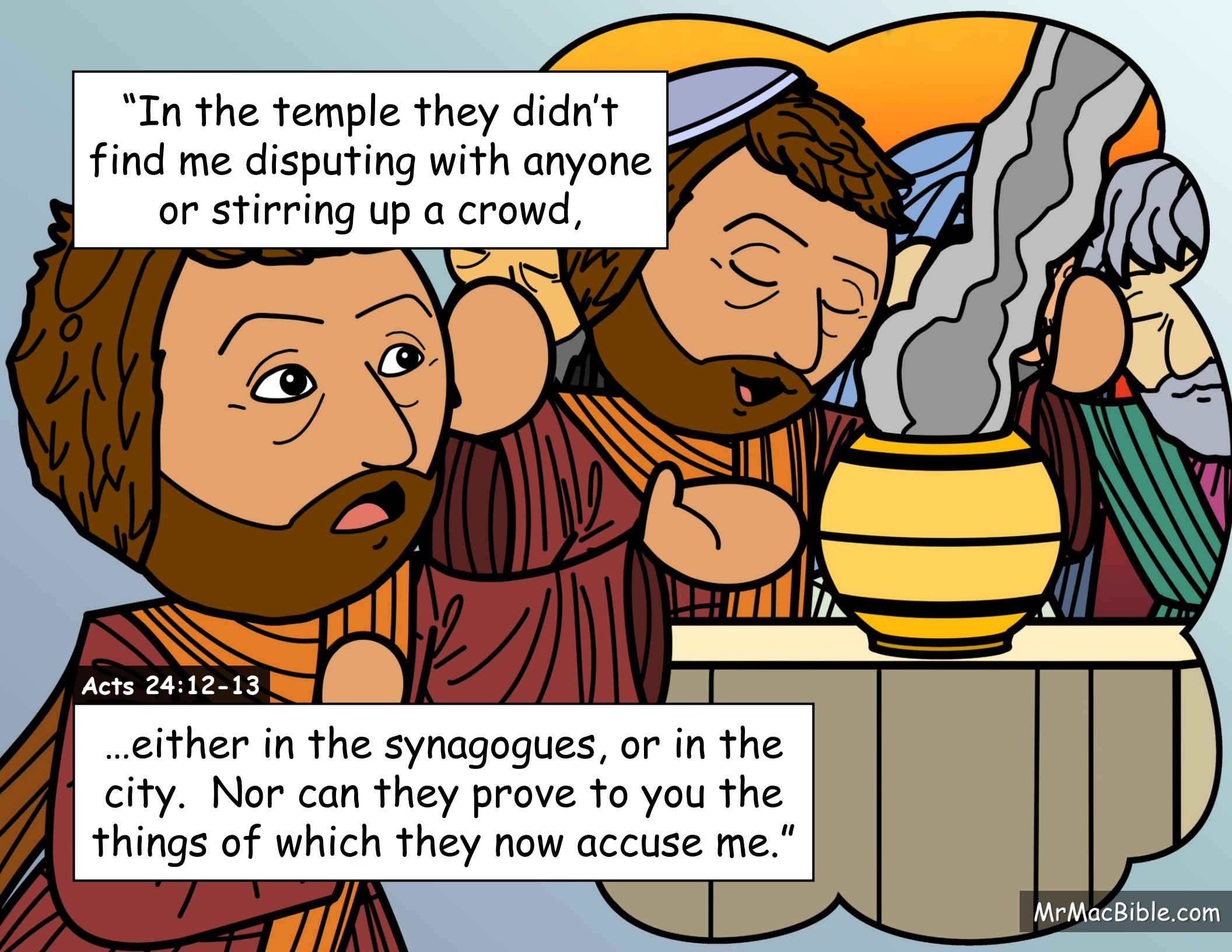
The Jews also joined in the attack, affirming that these things were so.



When the governor had beckoned to him to speak, Paul answered, "Because I know that you

Acts 24:10-11

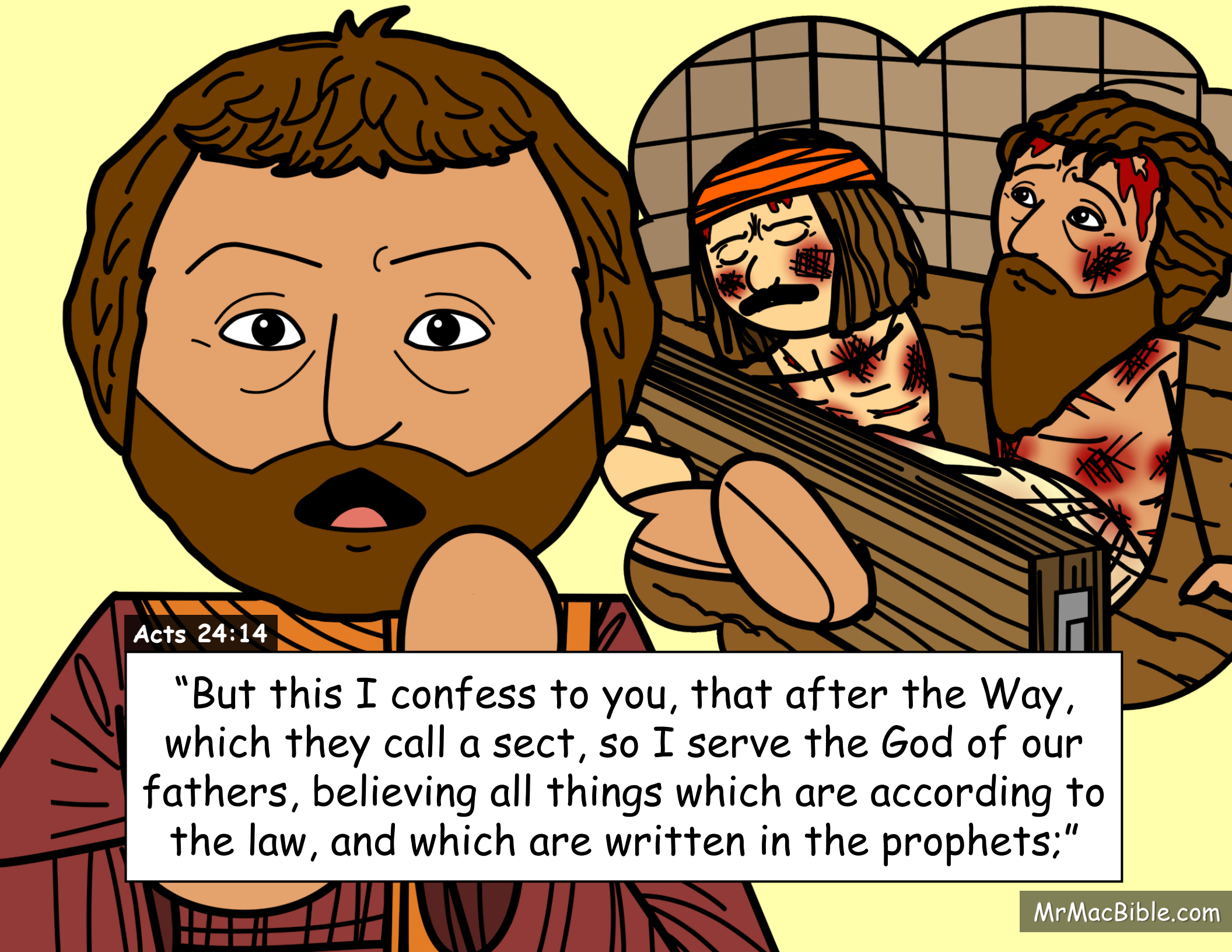
...have been a judge of this nation for many years, I cheerfully make my defence, seeing that you can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship at Jerusalem."



"In the temple they didn't find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd,

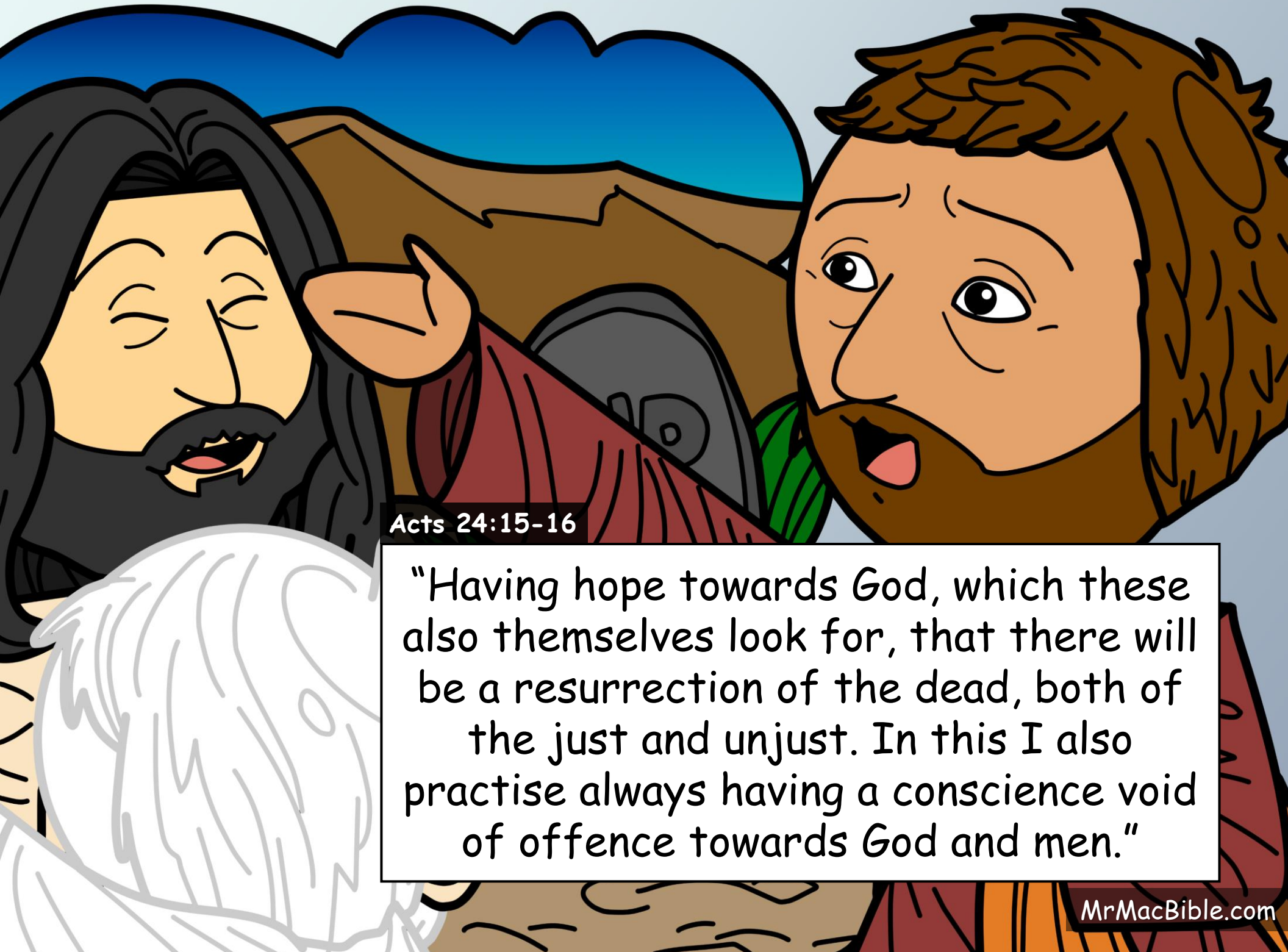
Acts 24:12-13

...either in the synagogues, or in the city. Nor can they prove to you the things of which they now accuse me."




Acts 24:14

“But this I confess to you, that after the Way, which they call a sect, so I serve the God of our fathers, believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets;”



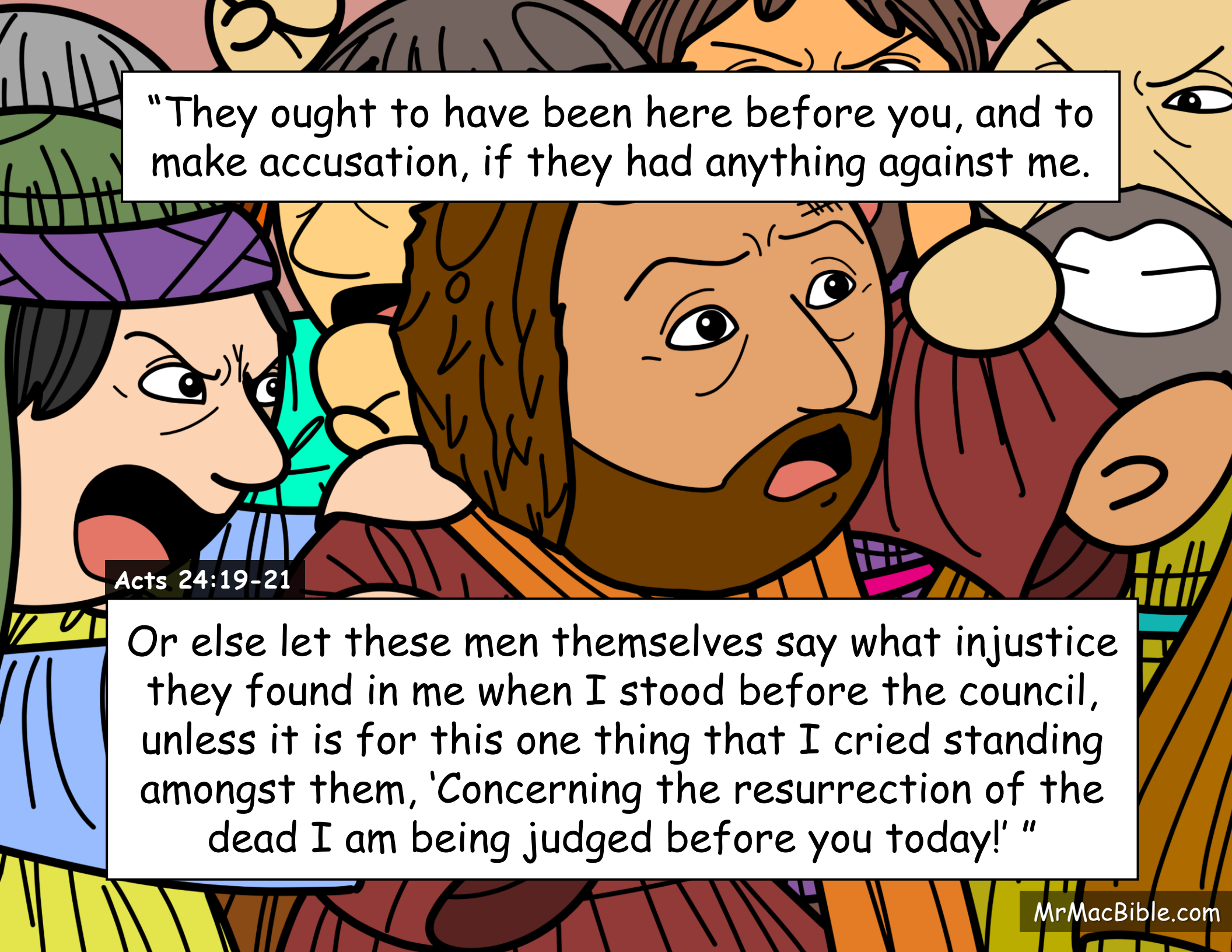
Acts 24:15-16

"Having hope towards God, which these also themselves look for, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. In this I also practise always having a conscience void of offence towards God and men."



Acts 24:17-18

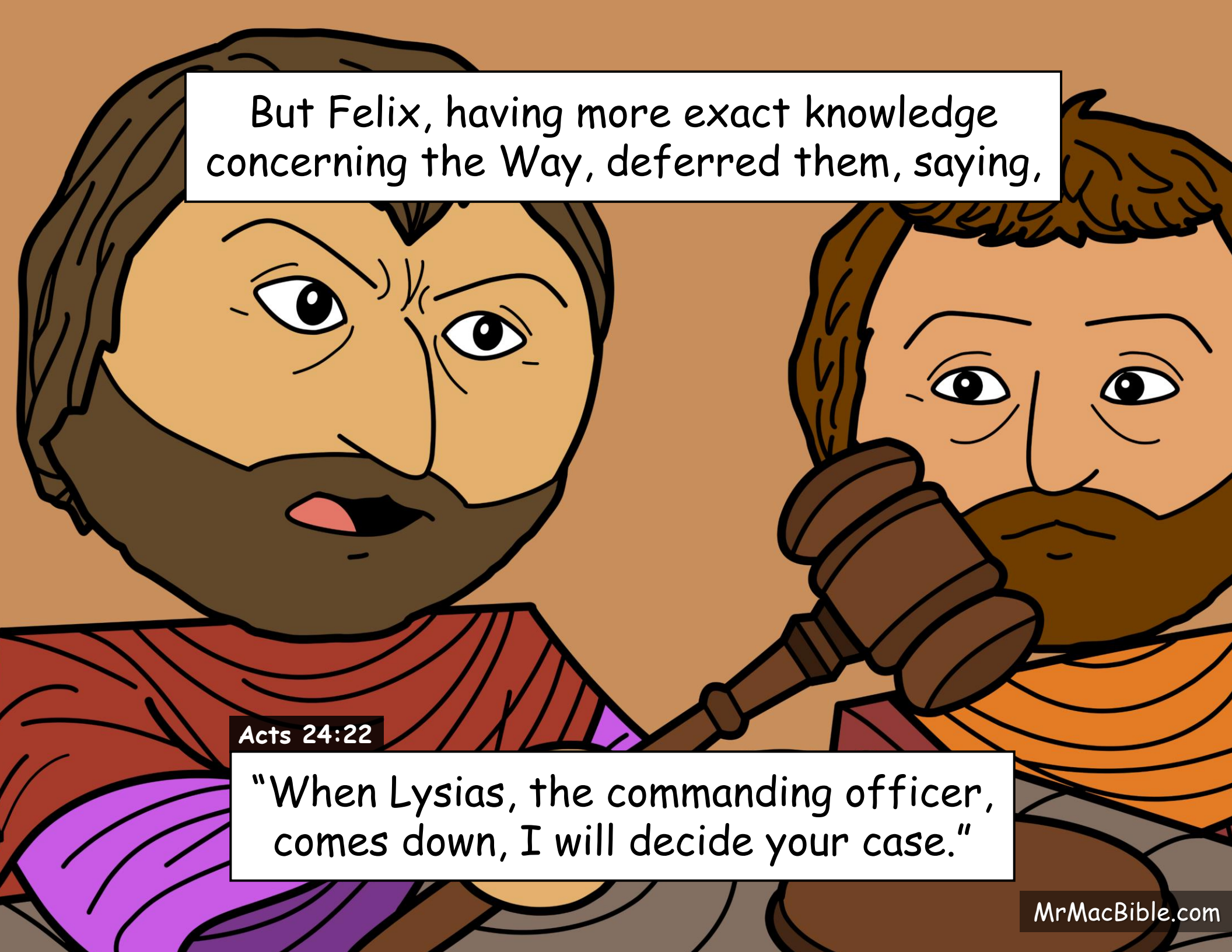
"Now after some years, I came to bring gifts for the needy to my nation, and offerings; amid which certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, not with a mob, nor with turmoil."



"They ought to have been here before you, and to make accusation, if they had anything against me.

Acts 24:19-21

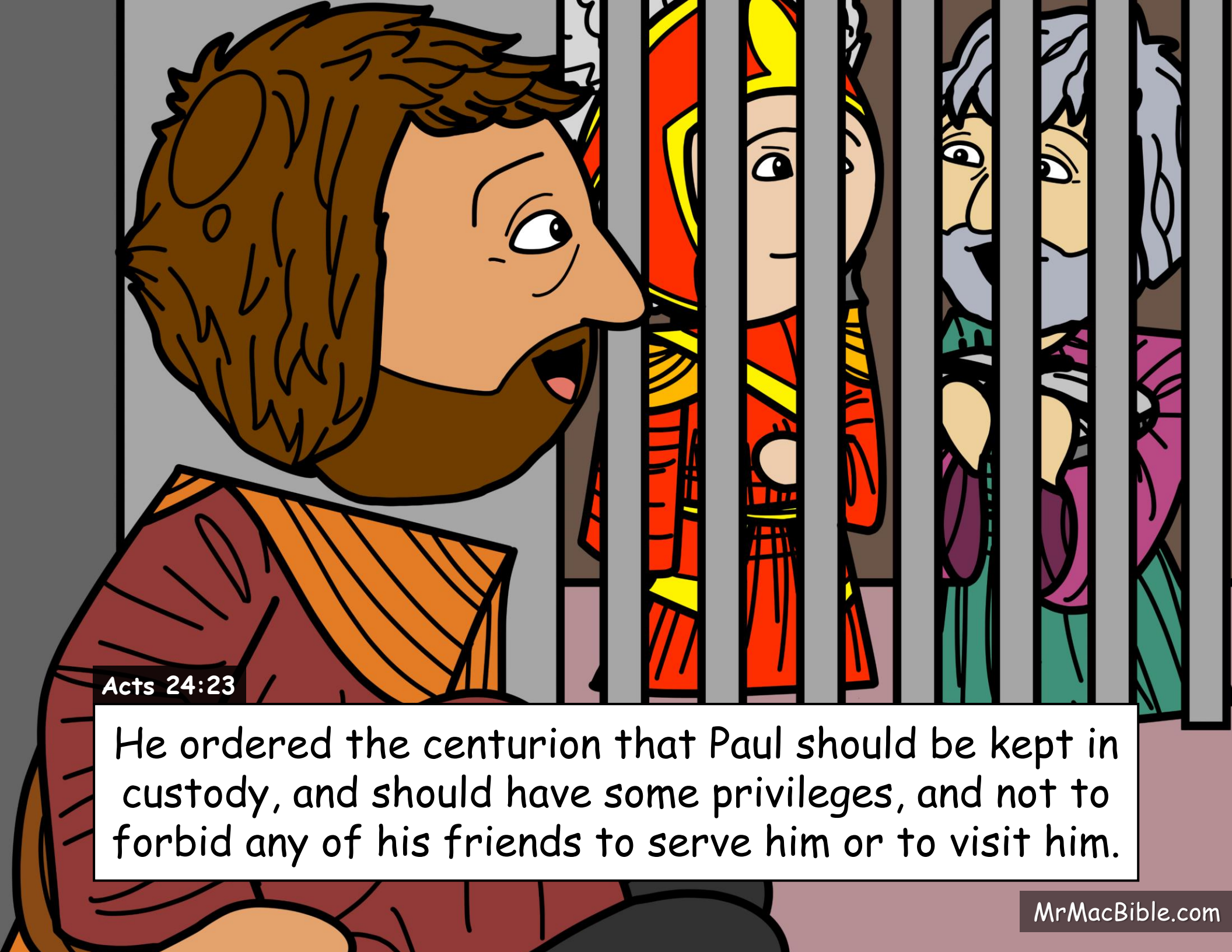
Or else let these men themselves say what injustice they found in me when I stood before the council, unless it is for this one thing that I cried standing amongst them, 'Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged before you today!'



But Felix, having more exact knowledge concerning the Way, deferred them, saying,

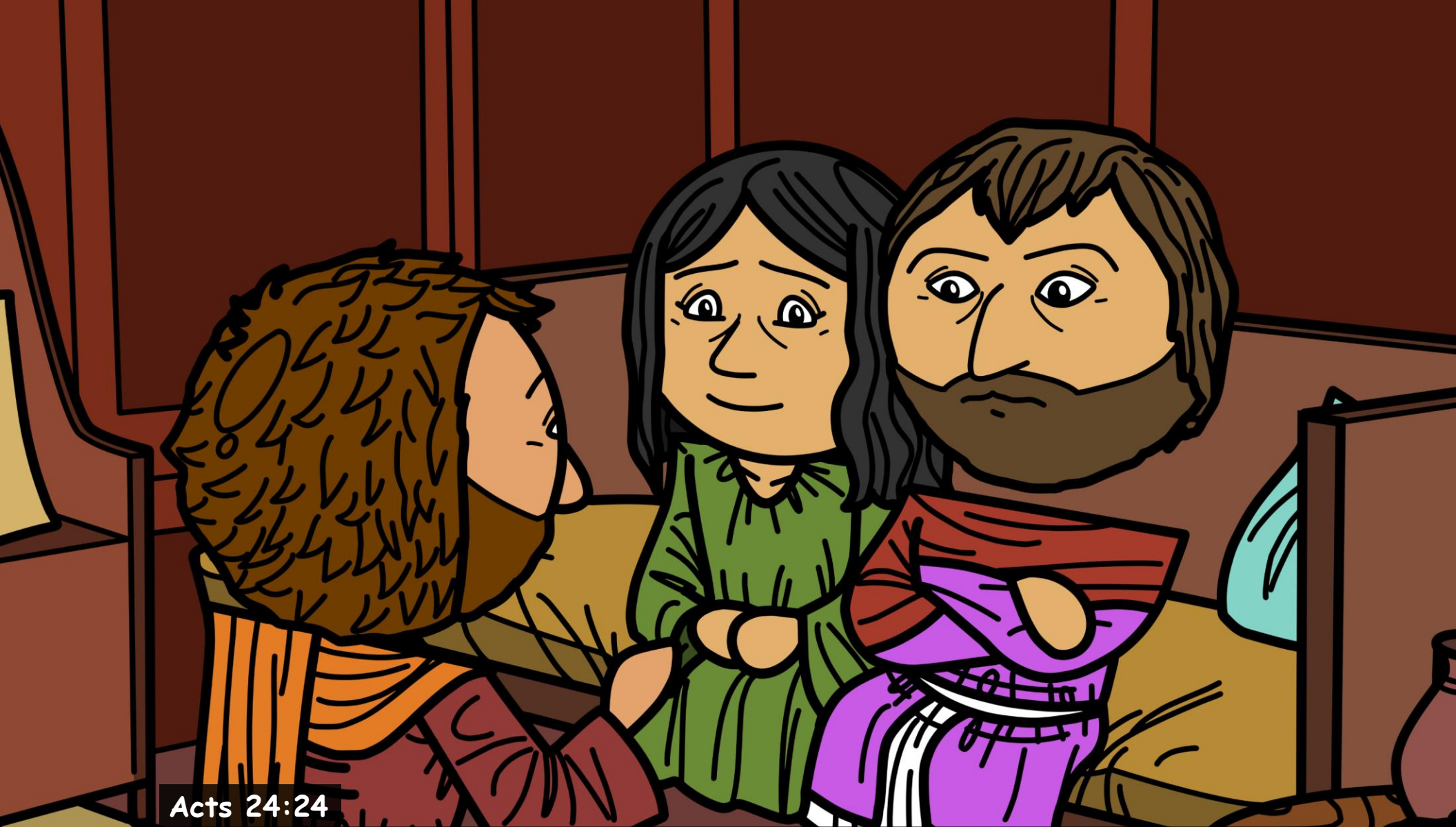
Acts 24:22

"When Lysias, the commanding officer, comes down, I will decide your case."



Acts 24:23

He ordered the centurion that Paul should be kept in custody, and should have some privileges, and not to forbid any of his friends to serve him or to visit him.



Acts 24:24

But after some days, Felix came with Drusilla, his wife, who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus.



???

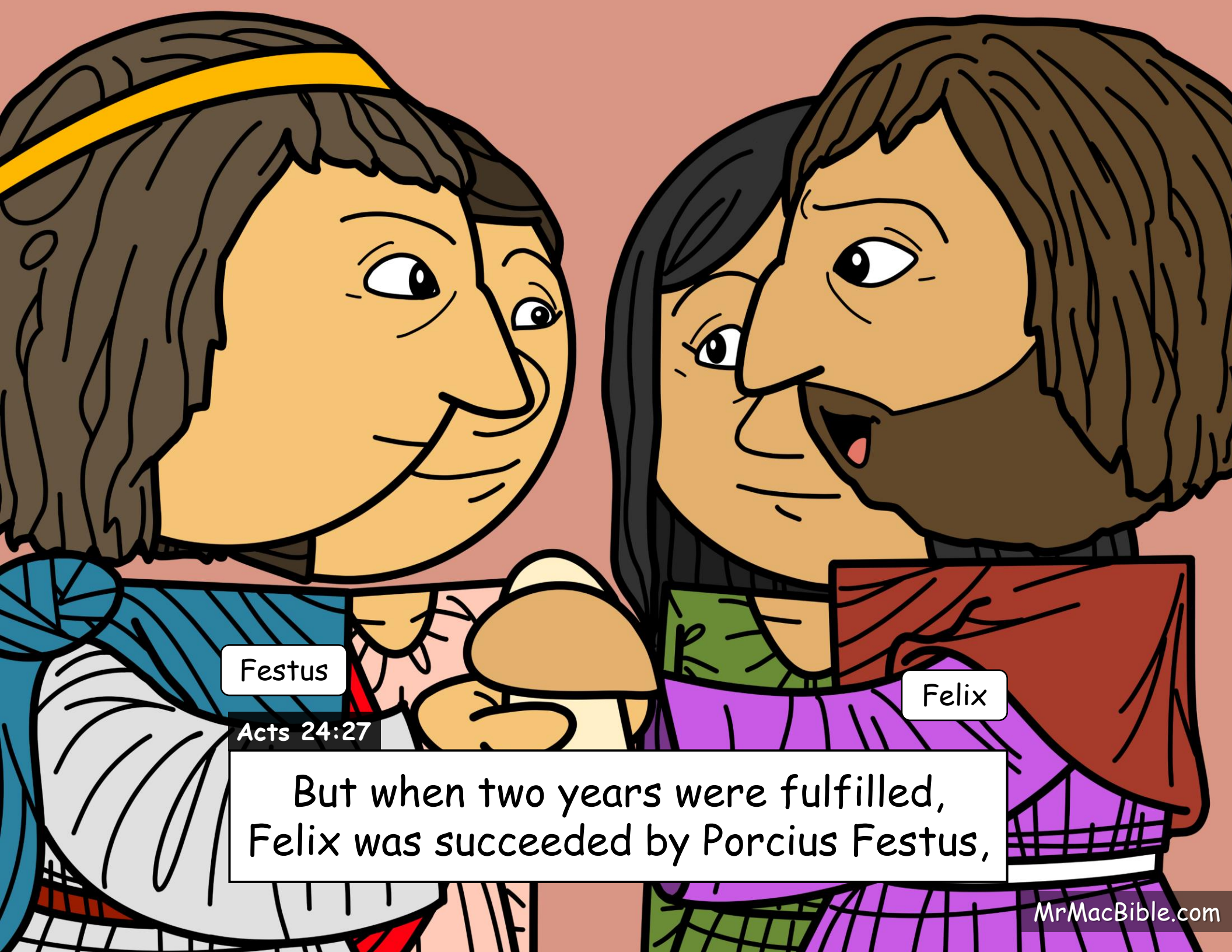
Acts 24:25

As he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgement to come, Felix was terrified, and answered, "Go your way for this time, and when it is convenient for me, I will summon you."



Acts 24:26

Meanwhile, he also hoped that money would be given to him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore also he sent for him more often and talked with him.



Festus

Felix

Acts 24:27

But when two years were fulfilled, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus,



Acts 24:27

...and desiring to gain favour with the Jews, Felix left Paul in bonds.

THINK ABOUT IT...

If you could talk to a king for
5 minutes about your faith,
what would you say?



Preaching to Kings!

Acts 25:1-22

Background:

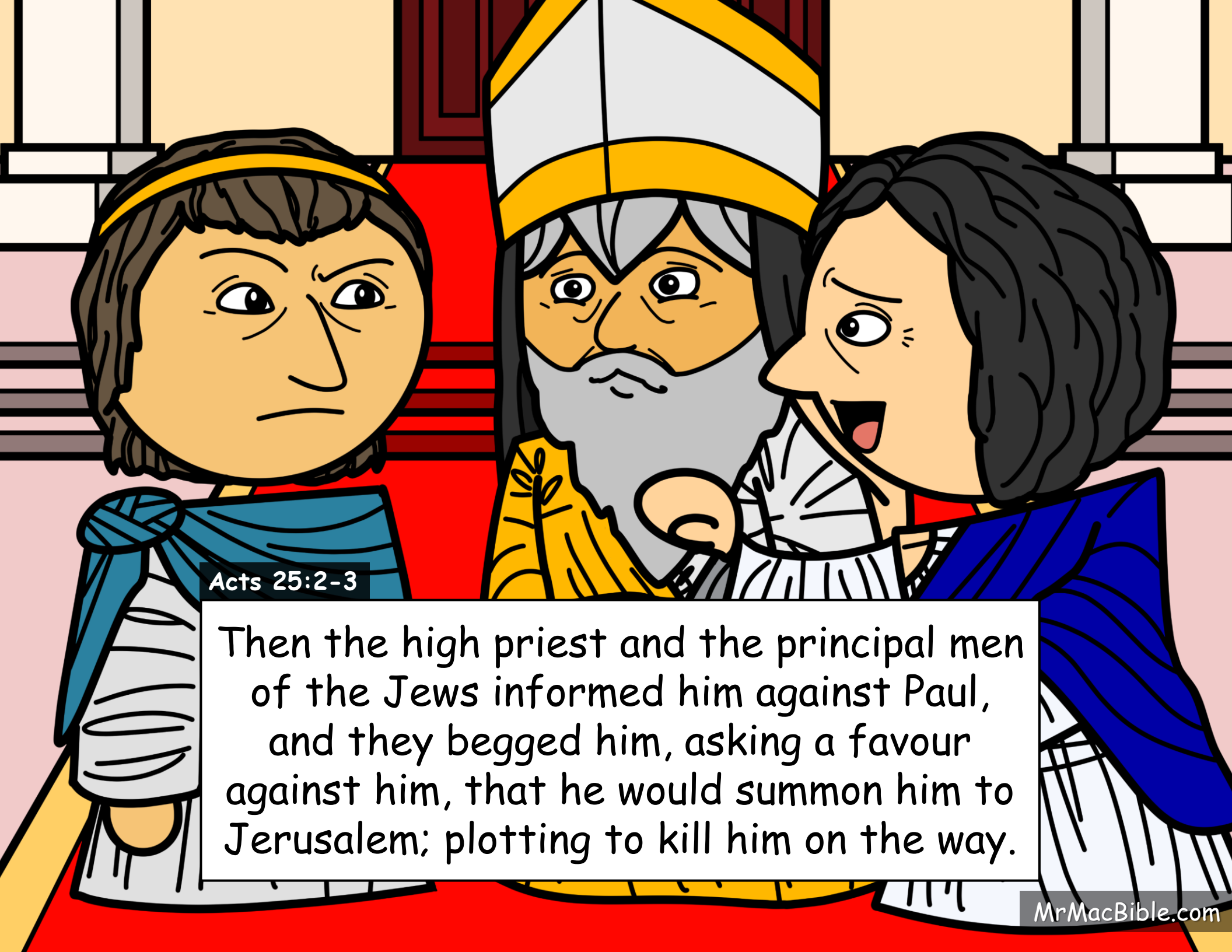
Paul has been a prisoner under house-arrest at the palace of Herod for over two years! Paul knows what he needs to do... time to go to Rome!



Festus arrives in his chariot


Acts 25:1

Festus therefore, having come into the province, after three days went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea.



Acts 25:2-3

Then the high priest and the principal men of the Jews informed him against Paul, and they begged him, asking a favour against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem; plotting to kill him on the way.



Festus leaving in his chariot

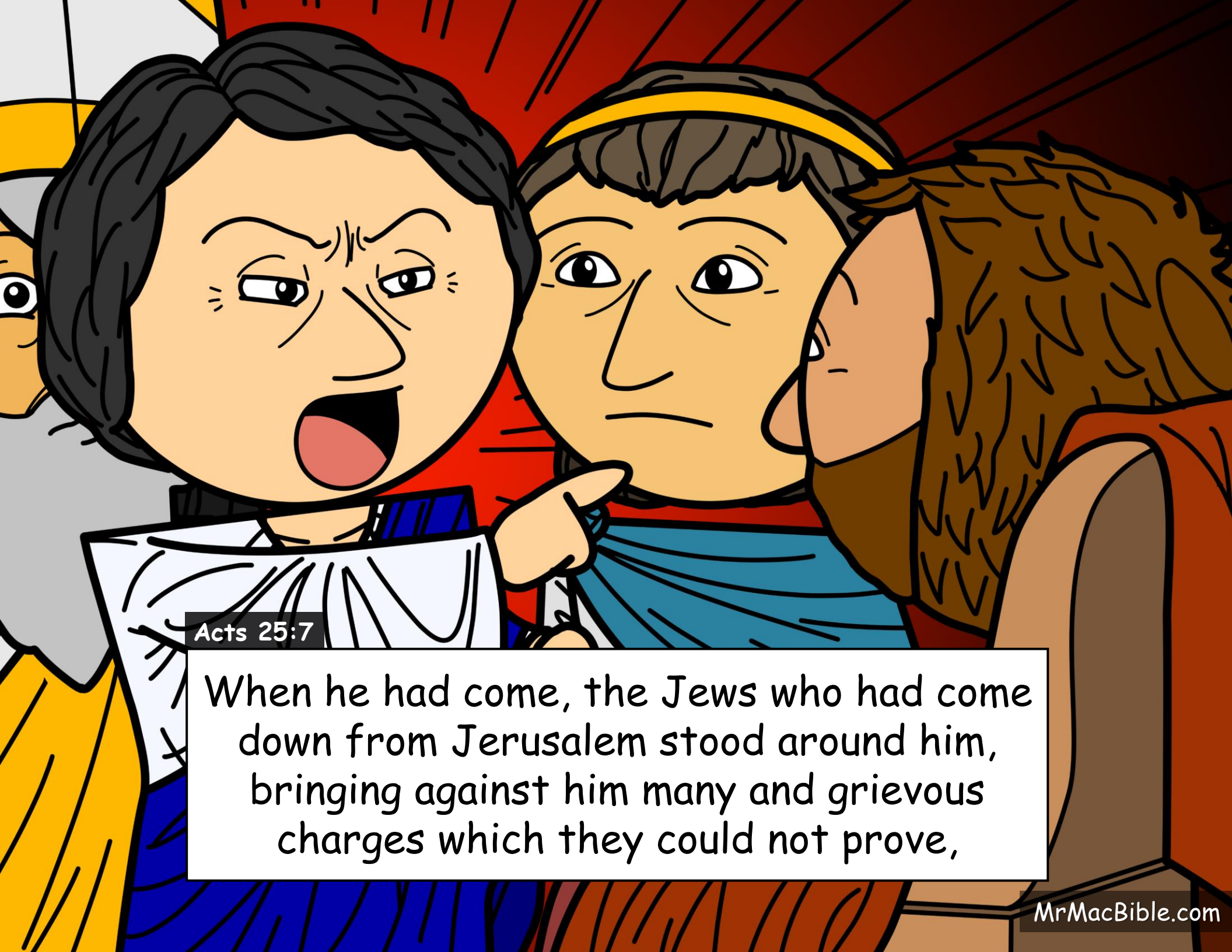
Acts 25:4-5

However Festus answered that Paul should be kept in custody at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to depart shortly. "Let them therefore", he said, "that are in power amongst you go down with me, and if there is anything wrong in the man, let them accuse him."



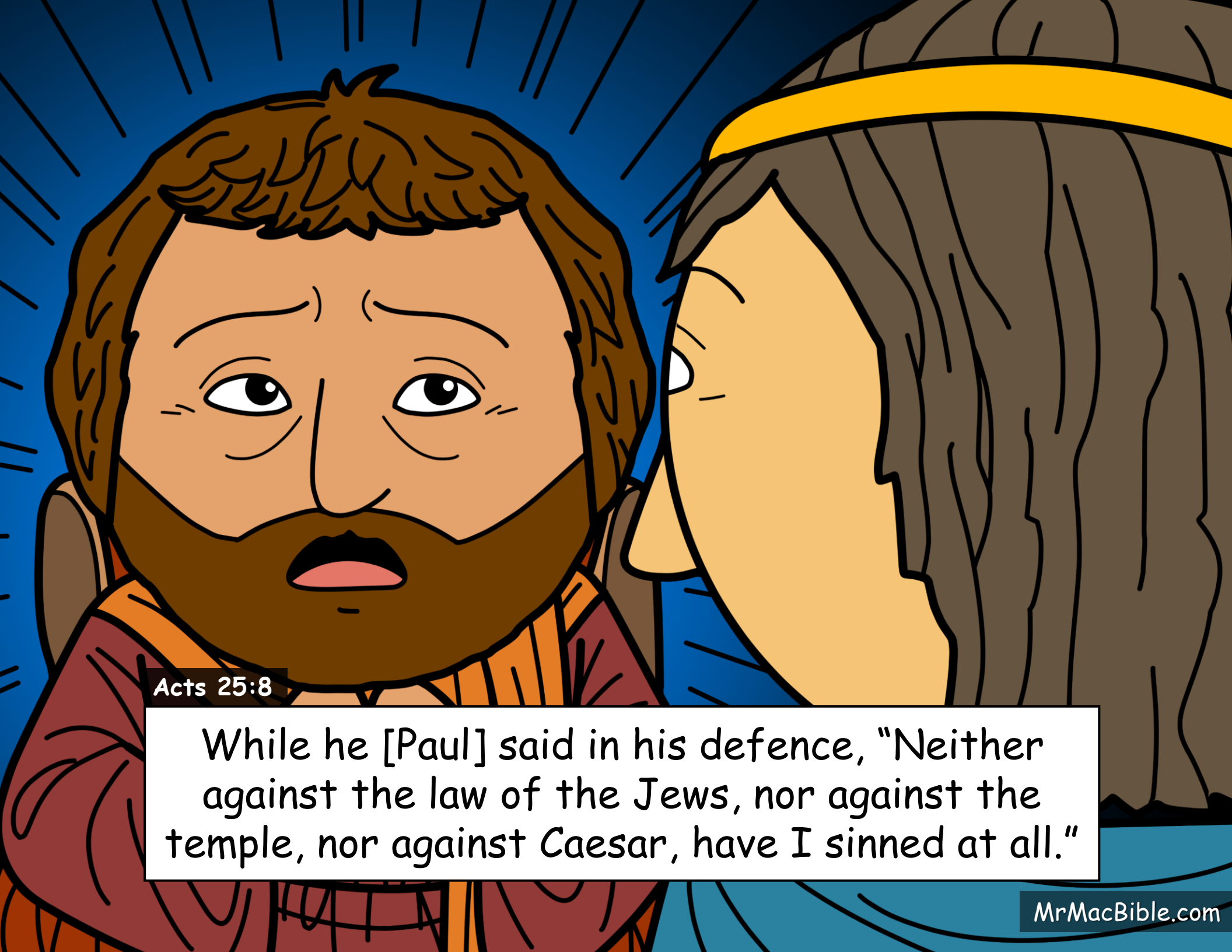
Acts 25:6

When he had stayed amongst them more than ten days, he went down to Caesarea, and on the next day he sat on the judgement seat, and commanded Paul to be brought.



Acts 25:7

When he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing against him many and grievous charges which they could not prove,



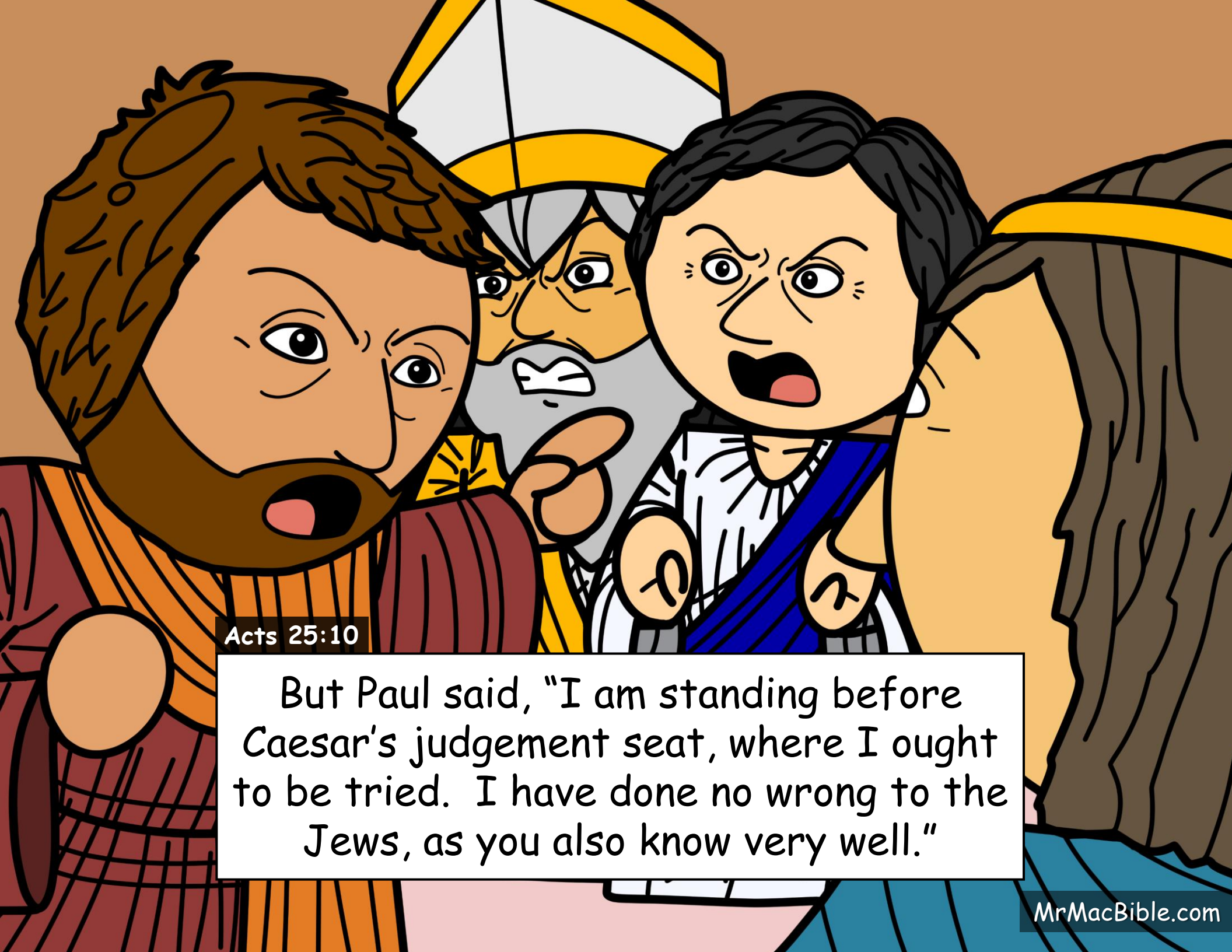
Acts 25:8

While he [Paul] said in his defence, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I sinned at all."



Acts 25:9

But Festus, desiring to gain favour with the Jews, answered Paul and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem, and be judged by me there concerning these things?"



Acts 25:10

But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's judgement seat, where I ought to be tried. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also know very well."



Acts 25:11

"For if I have done wrong and have committed anything worthy of death, I don't refuse to die; but if none of those things is true that they accuse me of, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar!"




Acts 25:12

Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you shall go."



Acts 25:13


Now when some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea, and greeted Festus.



Acts 25:14-15

As he stayed there many days, Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying...

"There is a certain man left a prisoner by Felix; about whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, asking for a sentence against him."

A cartoon illustration depicting a scene from the Bible. On the left, a man with a surprised expression, wide eyes, and an open mouth is shown. He has dark hair and is wearing a yellow headband. On the right, a woman with long, dark, wavy hair is shown from the back, looking towards the man. The background is a simple, stylized interior with vertical lines. In the bottom right corner, there is a small logo for MrMacBible.com.


Acts 25:16

"I answered them that it is not the custom of the Romans to give up any man to destruction before the accused has met the accusers face to face and has had opportunity to make his defence concerning the matter laid against him."



Acts 25:17

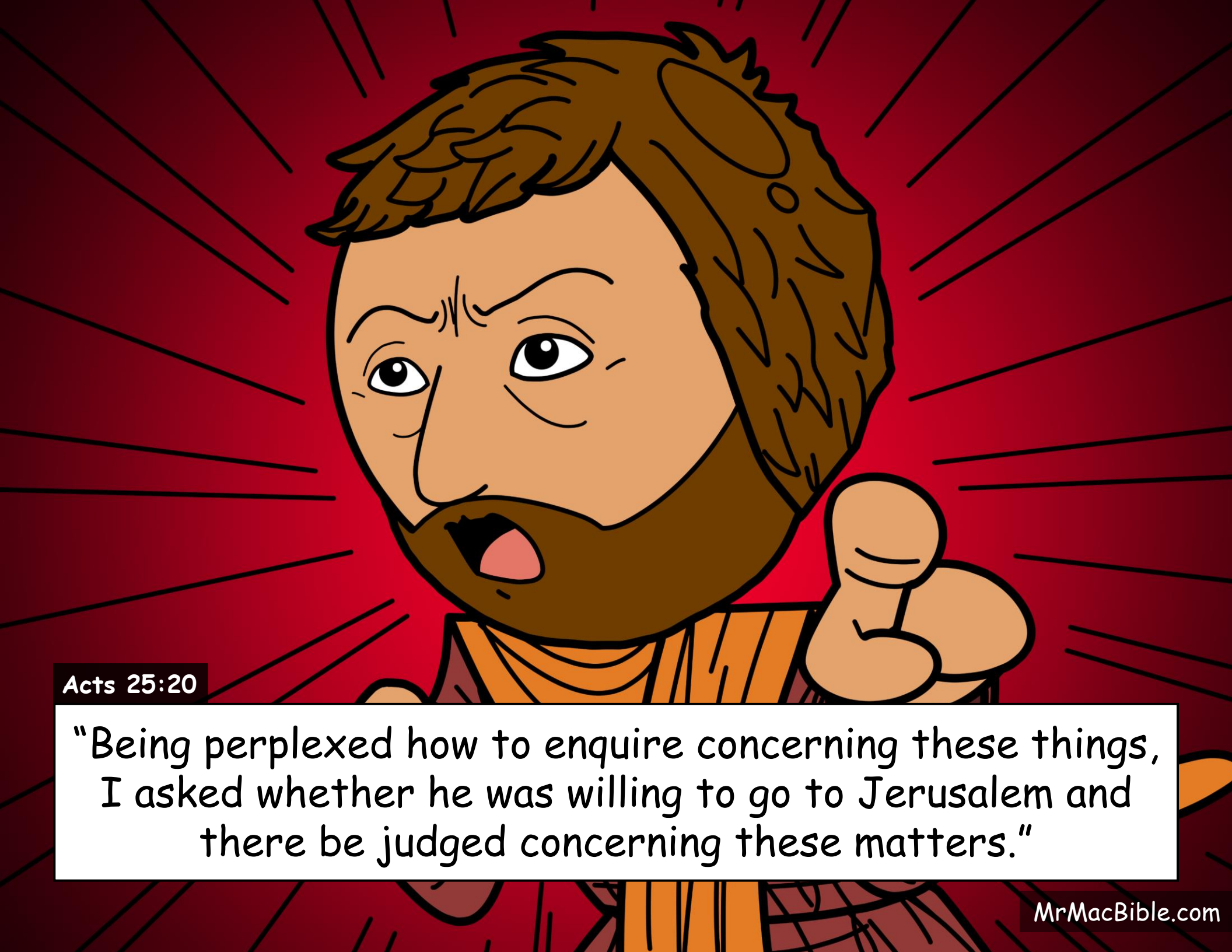
“When therefore they had come together here, I didn't delay, but on the next day sat on the judgement seat and commanded the man to be brought.”



"When the accusers stood up, they brought no charges against him of such things as I supposed;

Acts 25:18-19

...but had certain questions against him about their own religion, and about one Jesus, who was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive."




Acts 25:20

"Being perplexed how to enquire concerning these things, I asked whether he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there be judged concerning these matters."



Acts 25:21

"But when Paul had appealed to be kept for the decision of the emperor, I commanded him to be kept until I could send him to Caesar."




Agrippa said to Festus, "I also would like to hear the man myself."

Acts 25:22

"Tomorrow," he said, "you shall hear him."

THINK ABOUT IT...

**Do you know anyone with the
faith and courage to take the
gospel of Jesus to foreign
leaders?...maybe you?**



King Agrippa

Acts 25:23-26:32

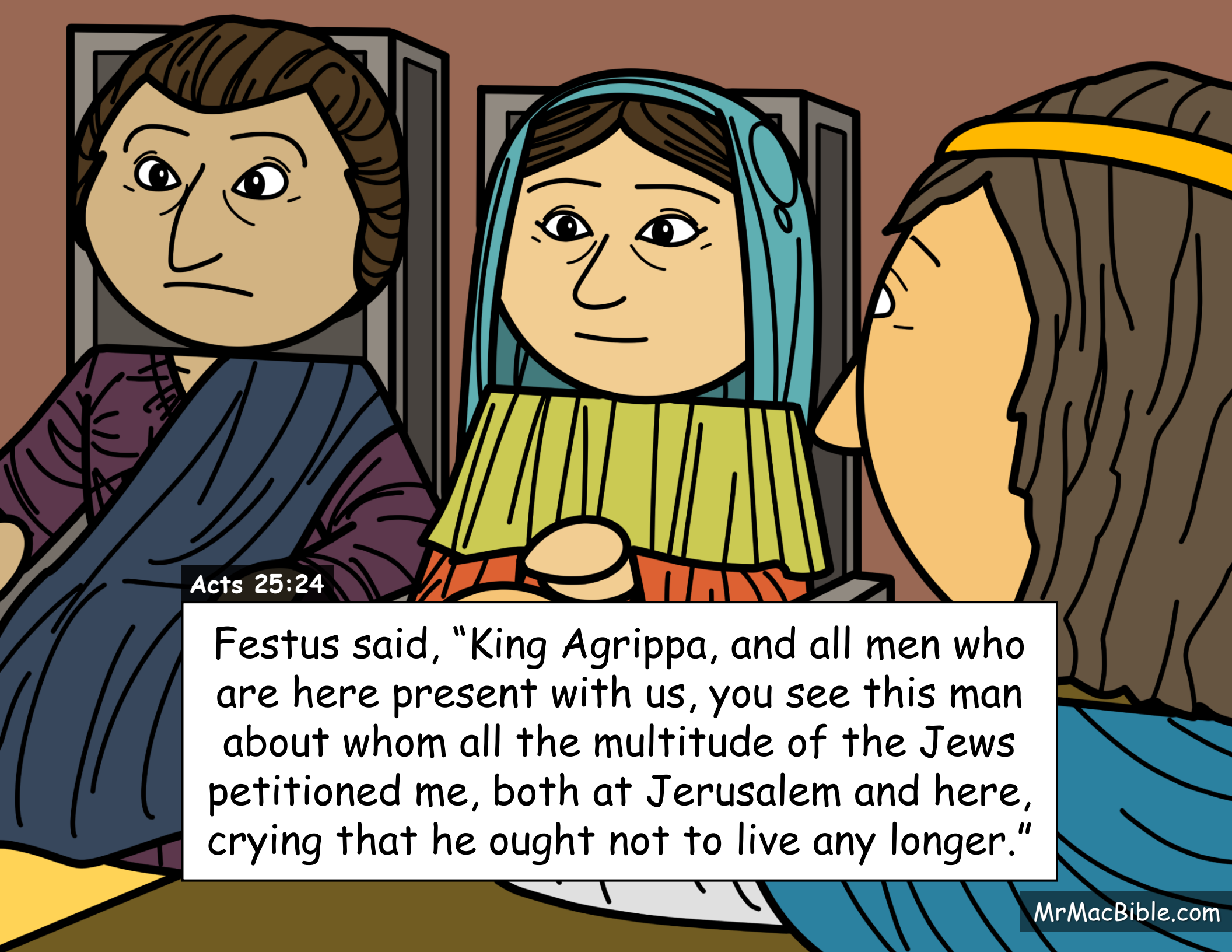
Background:

As a prisoner, Paul is brought before the political leaders of Rome and Jerusalem to tell his story... can you imagine doing that?!



Acts 25:23

So on the next day, when Agrippa and Bernice had come with great pomp, and they had entered into the place of hearing with the commanding officers and the principal men of the city, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought in.



Acts 25:24

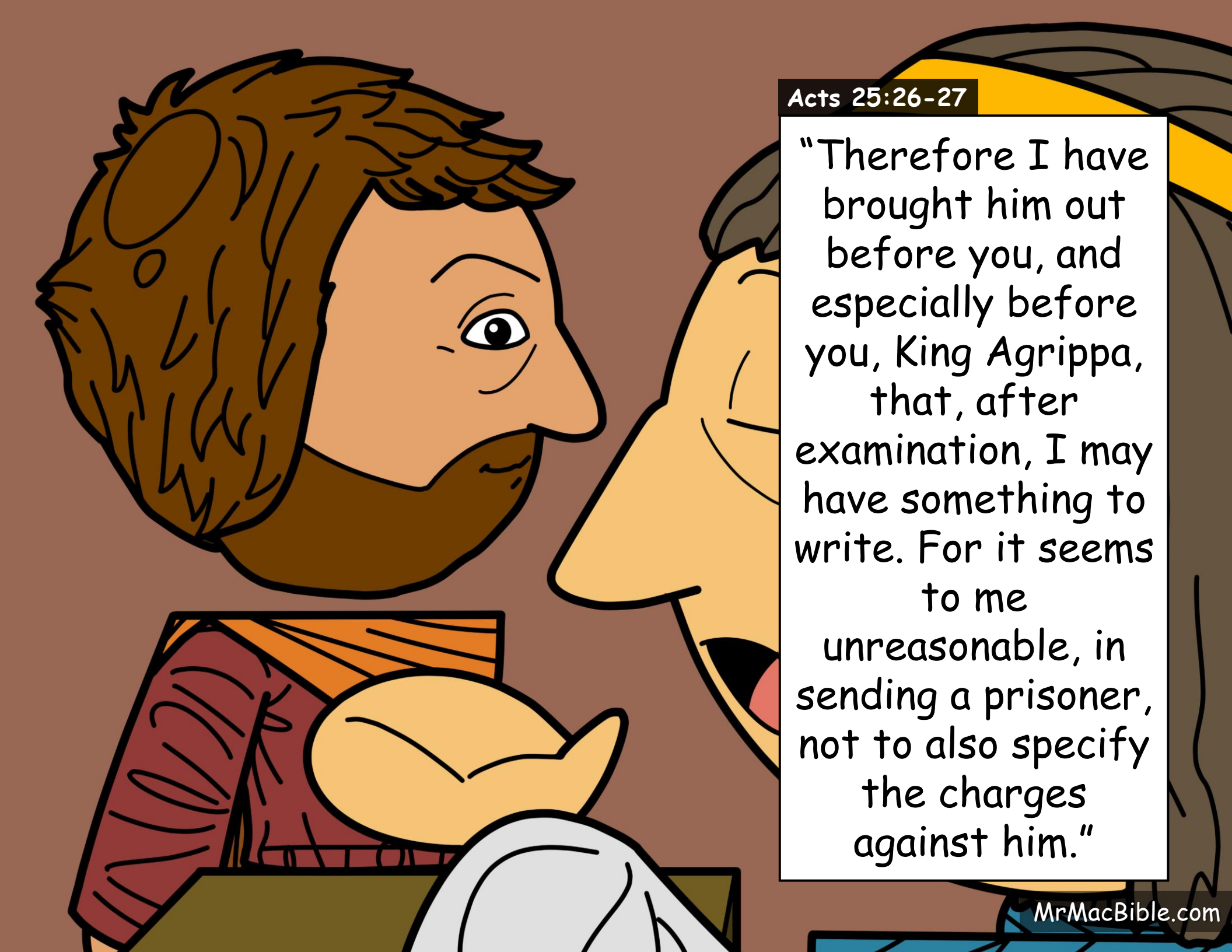
Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all men who are here present with us, you see this man about whom all the multitude of the Jews petitioned me, both at Jerusalem and here, crying that he ought not to live any longer."



Acts 25:25

Festus remembering Paul's appeal to Caesar

"But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and as he himself appealed to the emperor I determined to send him, of whom I have no certain thing to write to my lord."




Acts 25:26-27

"Therefore I have brought him out before you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, that, after examination, I may have something to write. For it seems to me unreasonable, in sending a prisoner, not to also specify the charges against him."



Acts 26:1

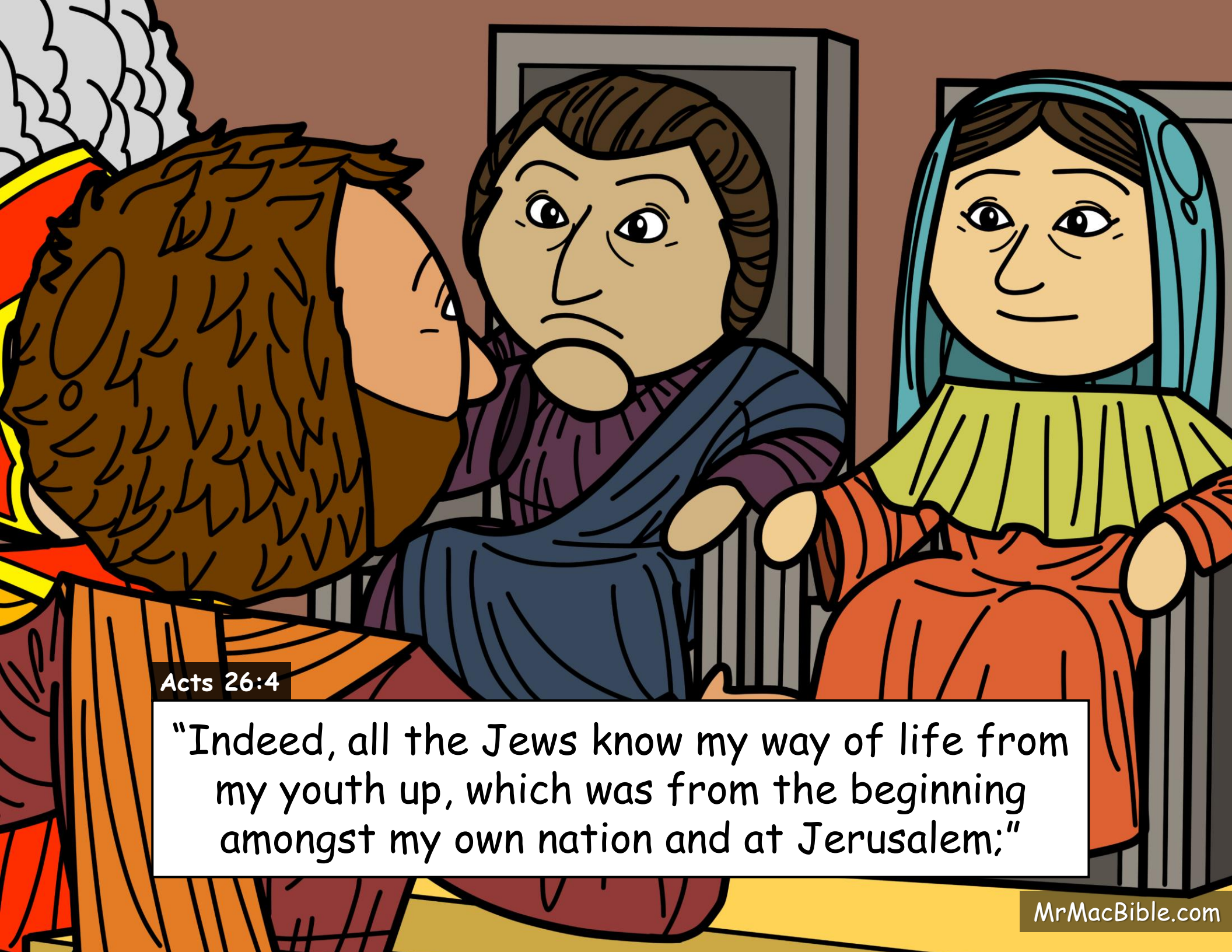
Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand, and made his defence.



"I think myself happy, King Agrippa, that I am to make my defence before you today concerning all the things that I am accused by the Jews,

Acts 26:2-3

...especially because you are expert in all customs and questions which are amongst the Jews. Therefore I beg you to hear me patiently."



Acts 26:4

"Indeed, all the Jews know my way of life from my youth up, which was from the beginning amongst my own nation and at Jerusalem;"



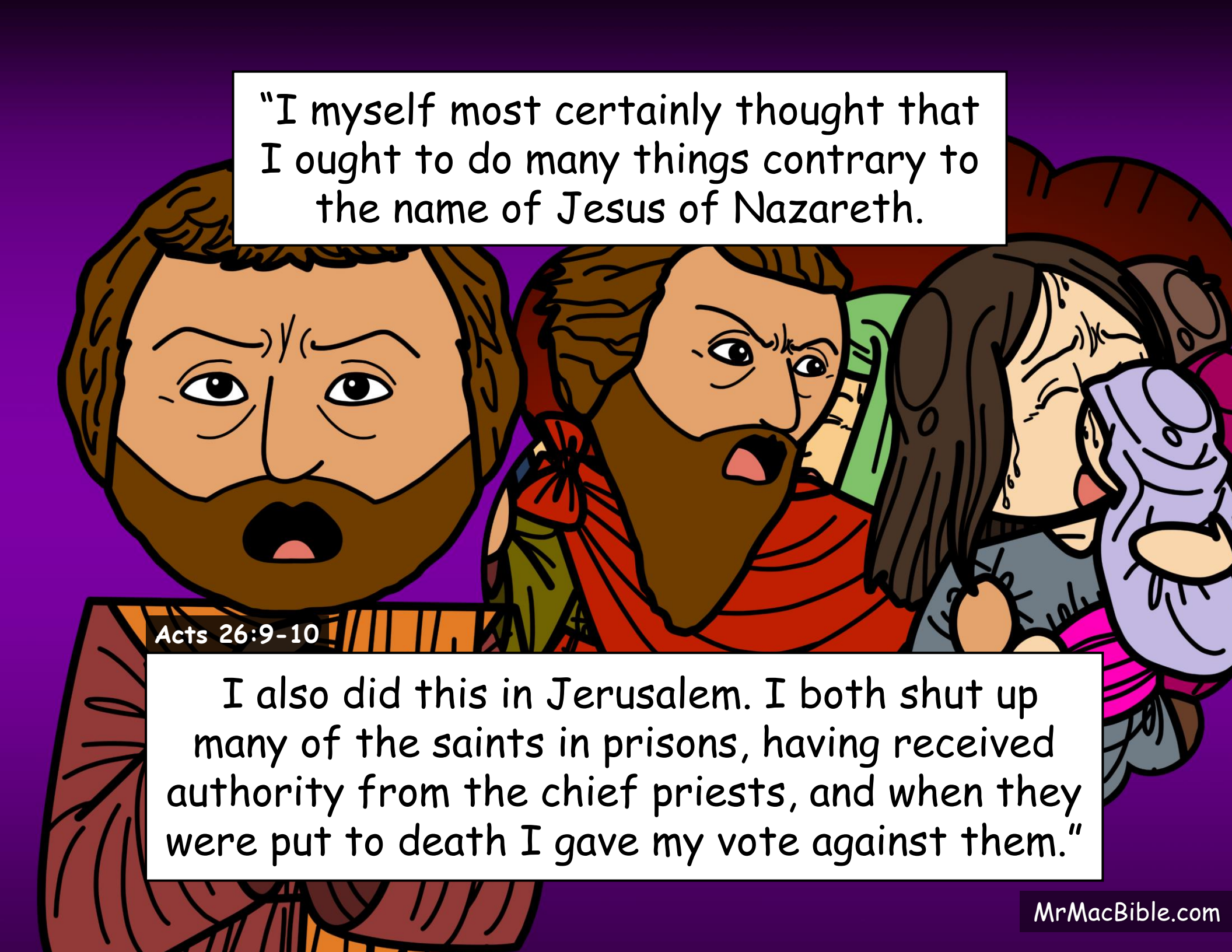
Acts 26:5

"Having known me from the first, if they are willing to testify, that after the strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee."



Acts 25:6-8

"Now I stand here to be judged for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers, which our twelve tribes, earnestly serving night and day, hope to attain. Concerning this hope I am accused by the Jews, King Agrippa! Why is it judged incredible with you, if God does raise the dead?"



"I myself most certainly thought that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

Acts 26:9-10

I also did this in Jerusalem. I both shut up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, and when they were put to death I gave my vote against them."



Acts 26:11

"Punishing them often in all the synagogues, I tried to make them blaspheme. Being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted them even to foreign cities."



Acts 26:12

"Whereupon as I travelled to Damascus with the authority and commission from the chief priests,



Acts 26:13

At noon, O king, I saw on the way a light from the sky, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who travelled with me."



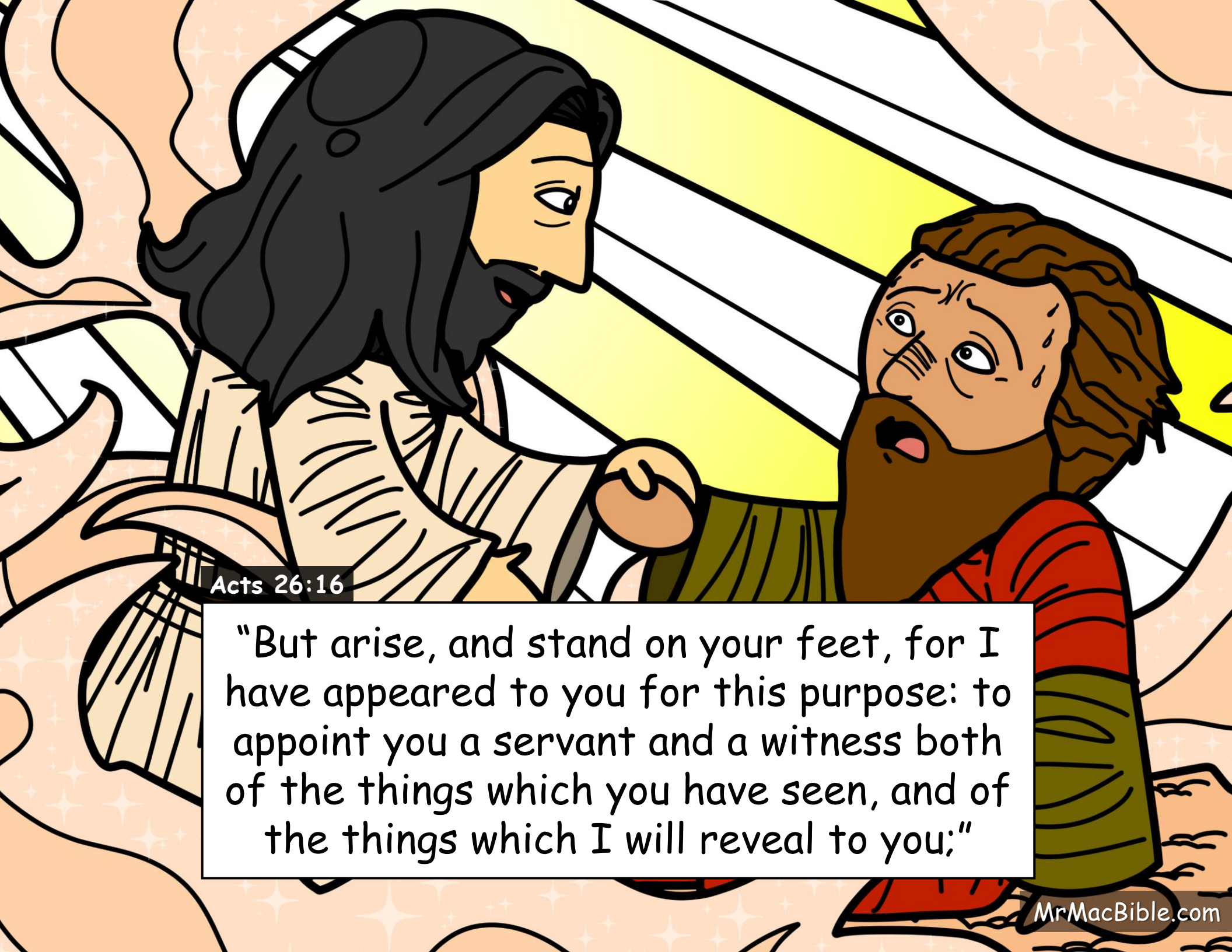
Acts 26:14

"When we had all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' "



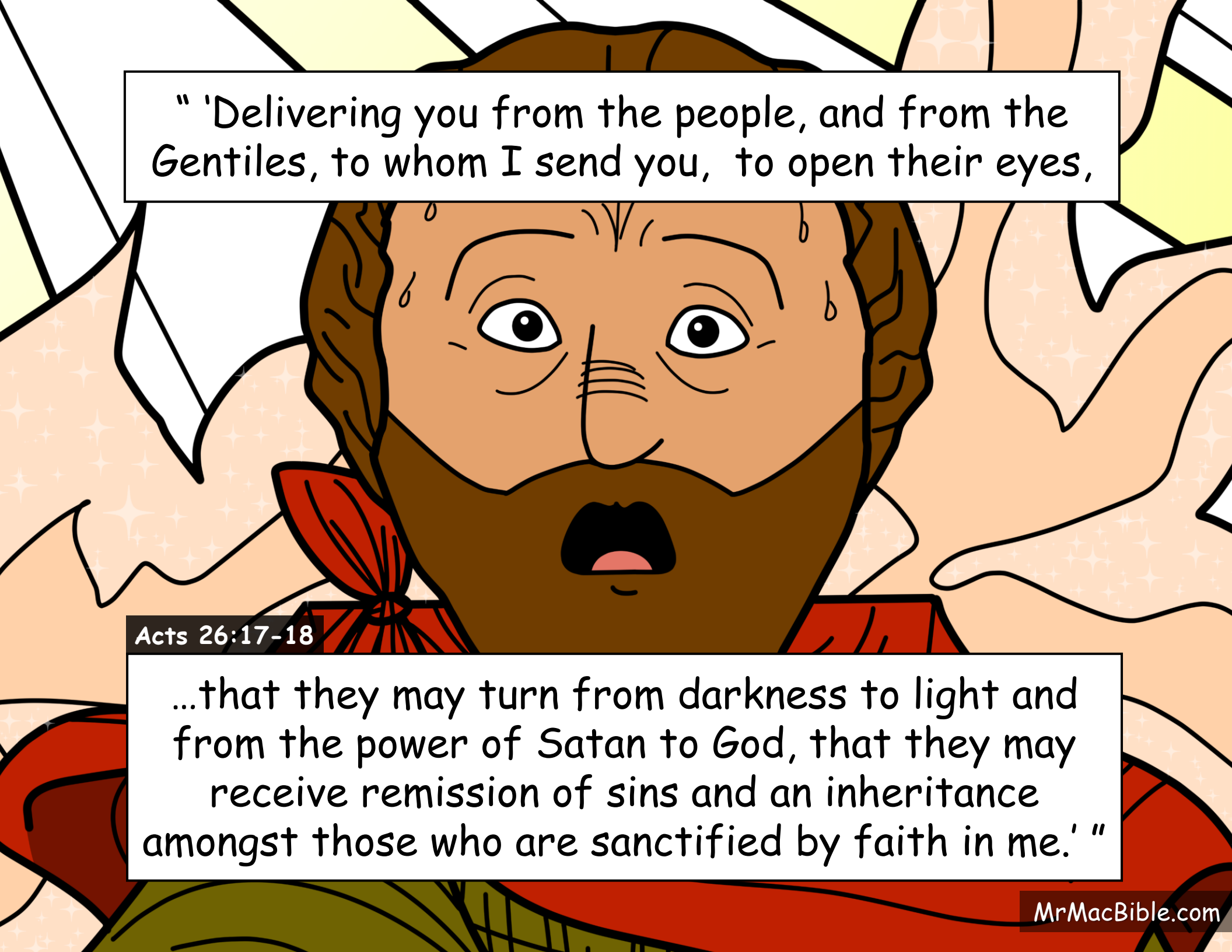
Acts 26:15

"I said, 'Who are you, Lord?'
He said, 'I am Jesus, whom
you are persecuting.' "



Acts 26:16


"But arise, and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose: to appoint you a servant and a witness both of the things which you have seen, and of the things which I will reveal to you;"



" 'Delivering you from the people, and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you, to open their eyes,

Acts 26:17-18

...that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance amongst those who are sanctified by faith in me.' "



"Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to...

Acts 26:19-20

...them of Damascus, at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of repentance."



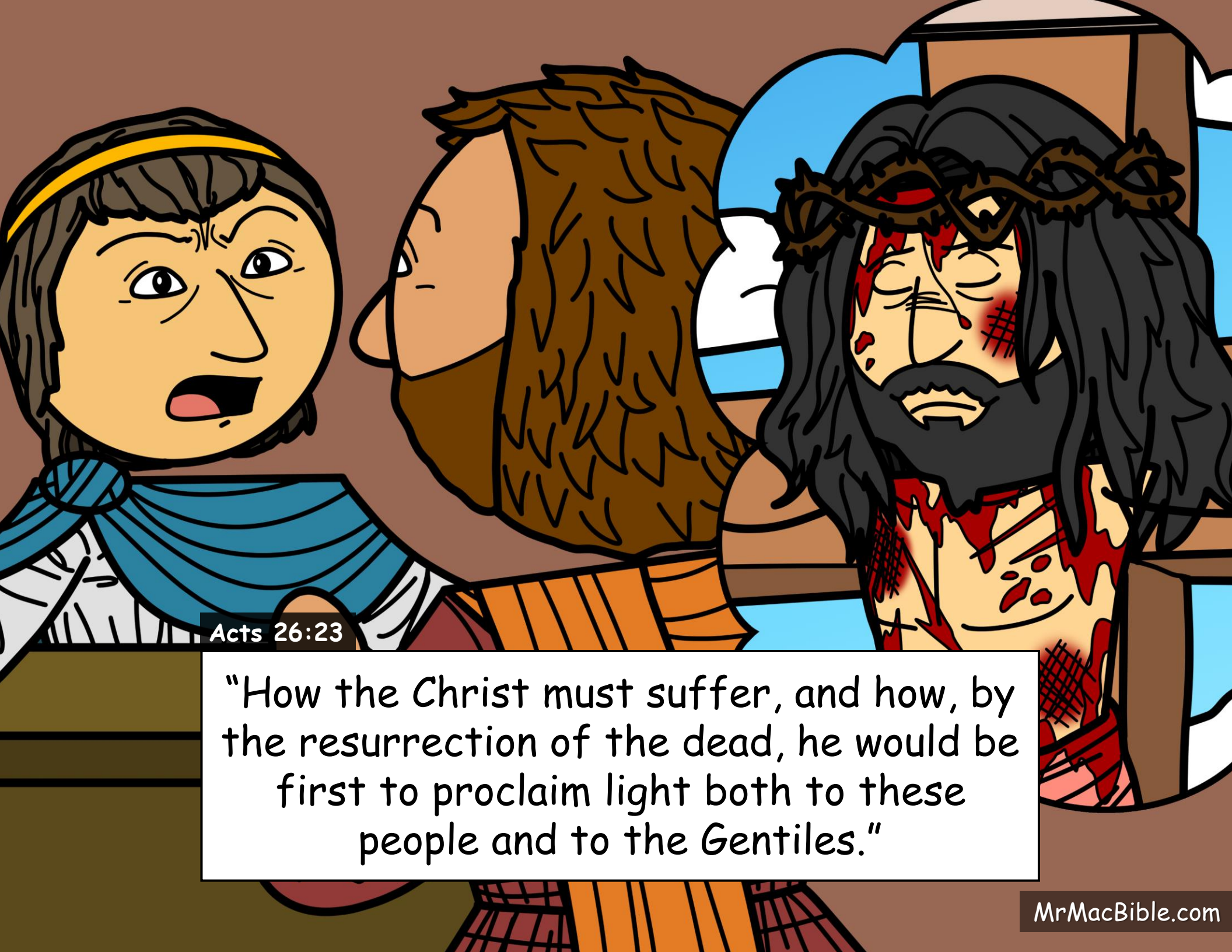
Acts 26:21

"For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me."



Acts 26:22

"Having therefore obtained the help that is from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would happen,"



Acts 26:23

"How the Christ must suffer, and how, by the resurrection of the dead, he would be first to proclaim light both to these people and to the Gentiles."



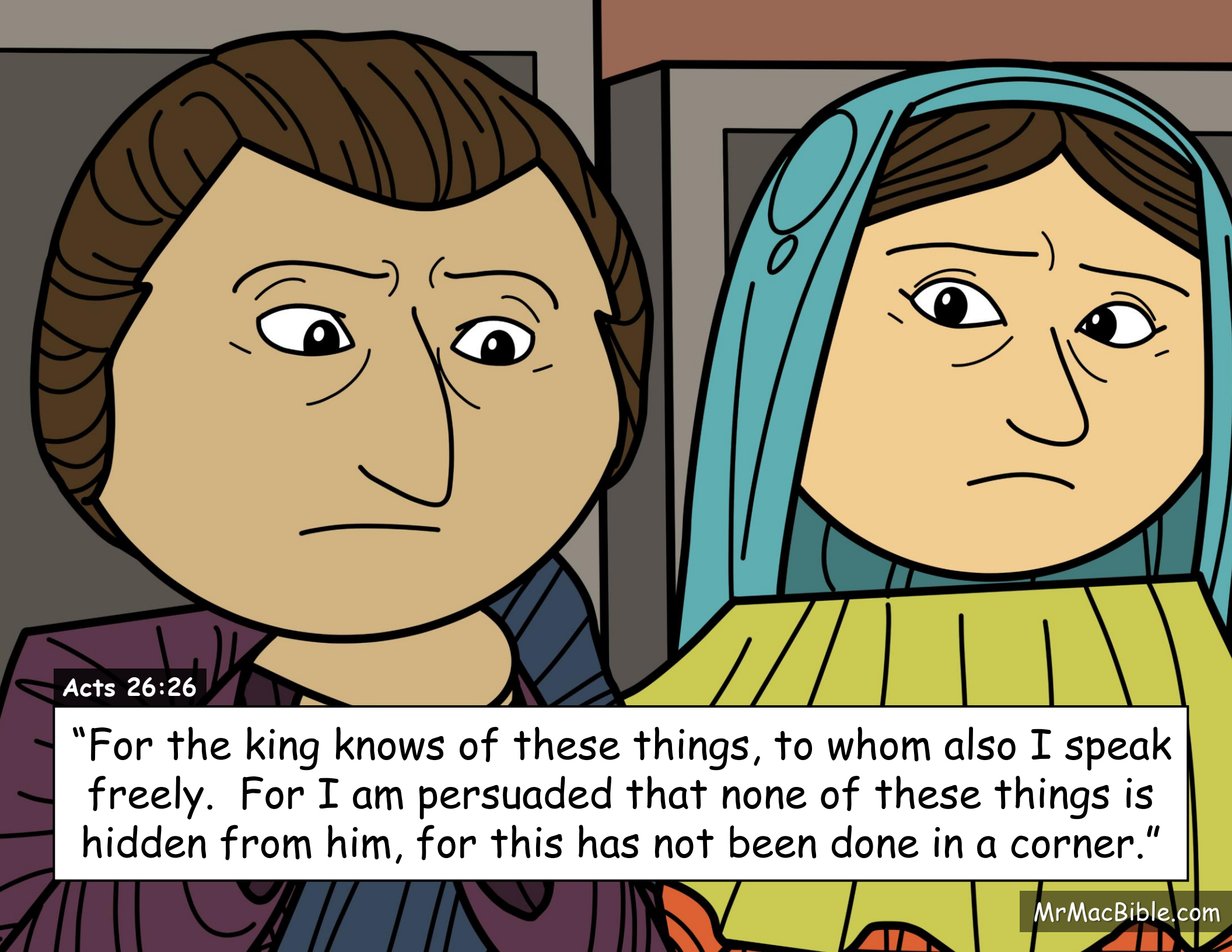
Acts 26:24

As he thus made his defence, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are crazy! Your great learning is driving you insane!"



Acts 26:25

But he said, "I am not crazy, most excellent Festus, but boldly declare words of truth and reasonableness."



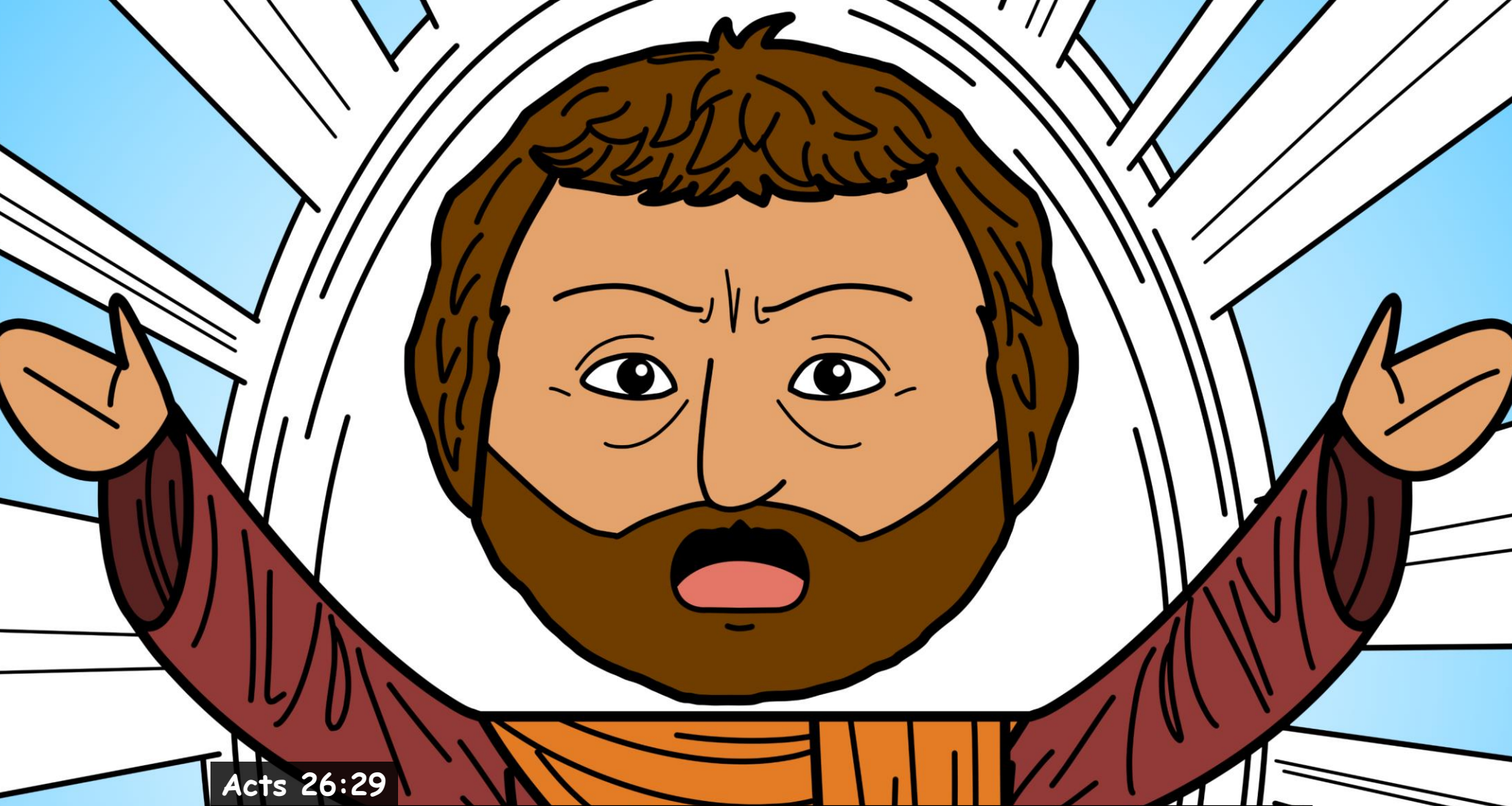
Acts 26:26

"For the king knows of these things, to whom also I speak freely. For I am persuaded that none of these things is hidden from him, for this has not been done in a corner."



Acts 26:27-28

"King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe." Agrippa said to Paul, "With a little persuasion are you trying to make me a Christian?"



Acts 26:29

Paul said, "I pray to God, that whether with little or with much, not only you, but also all that hear me today, might become such as I am, except for these bonds."



Acts 26:30

The king rose up with the governor, and Bernice, and those who sat with them.



Acts 26:31-32

When they had withdrawn, they spoke to one another, saying, "This man does nothing worthy of death or of bonds." Agrippa said to Festus, "This man might have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

THINK ABOUT IT...

**Has anyone ever called you
'CRAZY' or 'INSANE' or
'STUPID' because you believe
in Jesus and his resurrection?**

If not, then why not?



Hurricane?

Acts 27:1-20

Background:

Paul's request to be sent to the courtrooms of Caesar Nero in Rome has been granted by Festus... but, now Paul begins the dangerous journey across the Great Mediterranean Sea!



Acts 27:1

When it was determined that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners to a centurion named Julius, of the Augustan band.



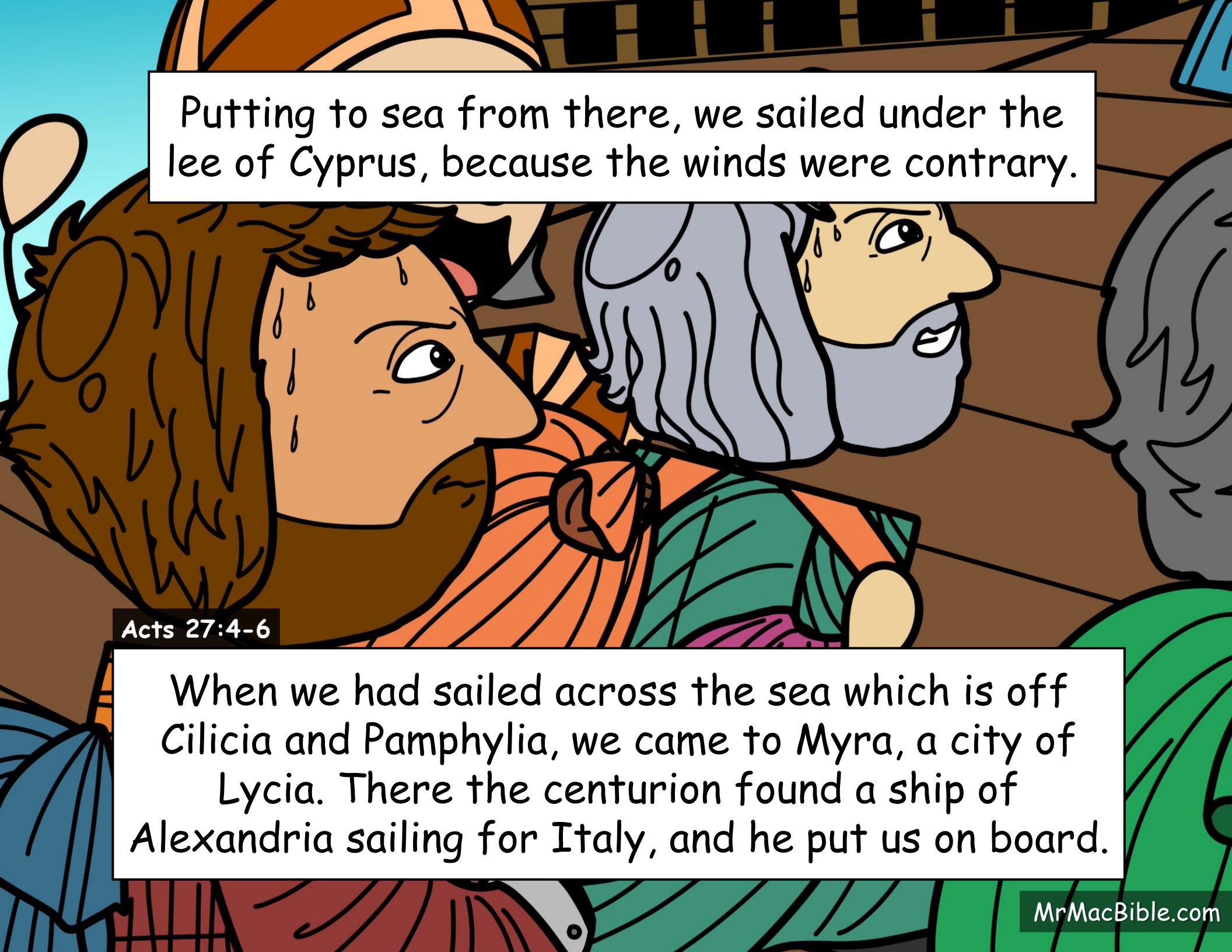
Acts 27:2

Embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to places on the coast of Asia, we put to sea, Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.



Acts 27:3

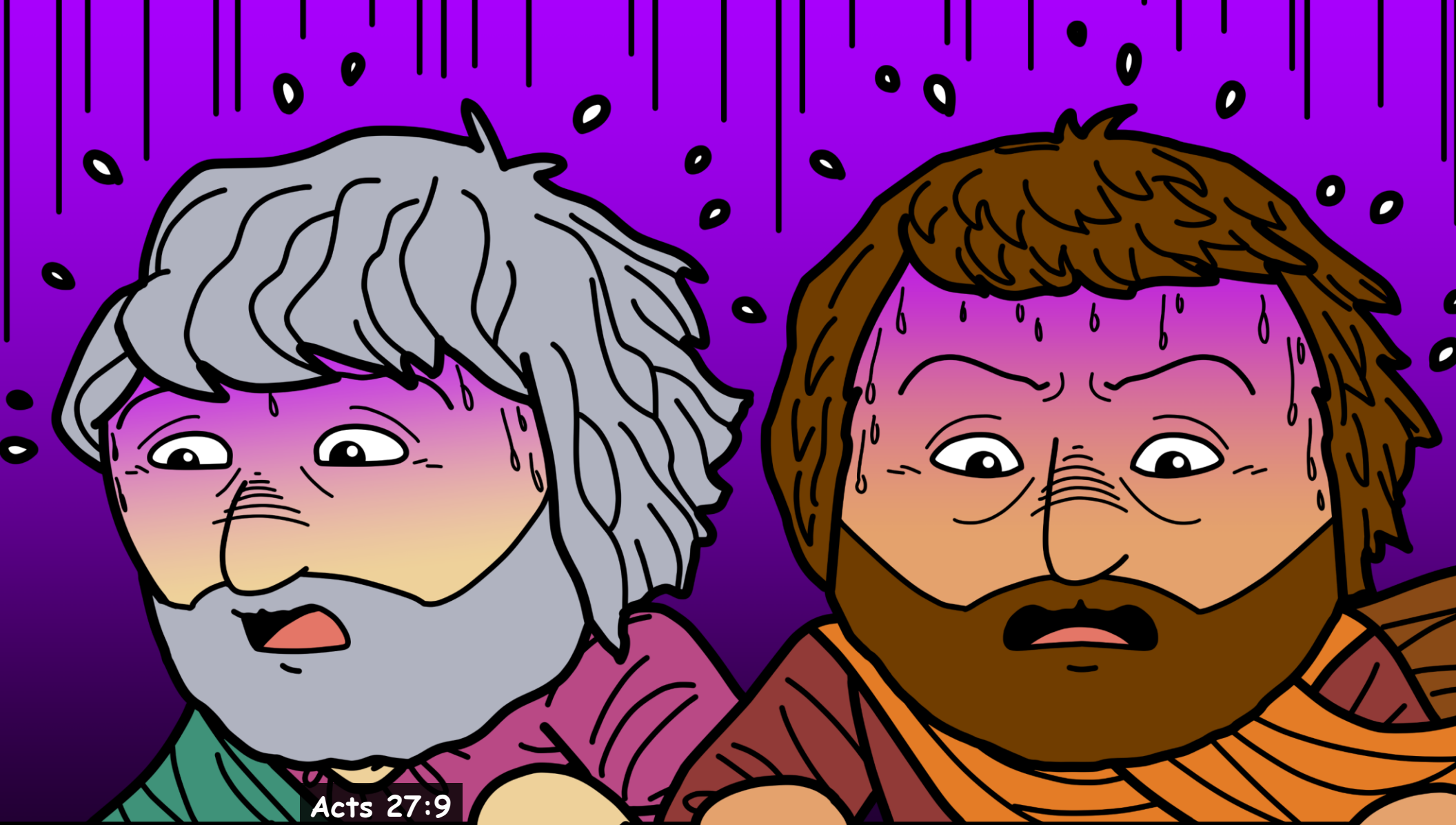
The next day, we touched at Sidon. Julius treated Paul kindly, and gave him permission to go to his friends and refresh himself.



Putting to sea from there, we sailed under the lee of Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.

Acts 27:4-6

When we had sailed across the sea which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia. There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing for Italy, and he put us on board.



Acts 27:9

When much time had passed and the voyage was now dangerous, because the Fast had now already gone by,

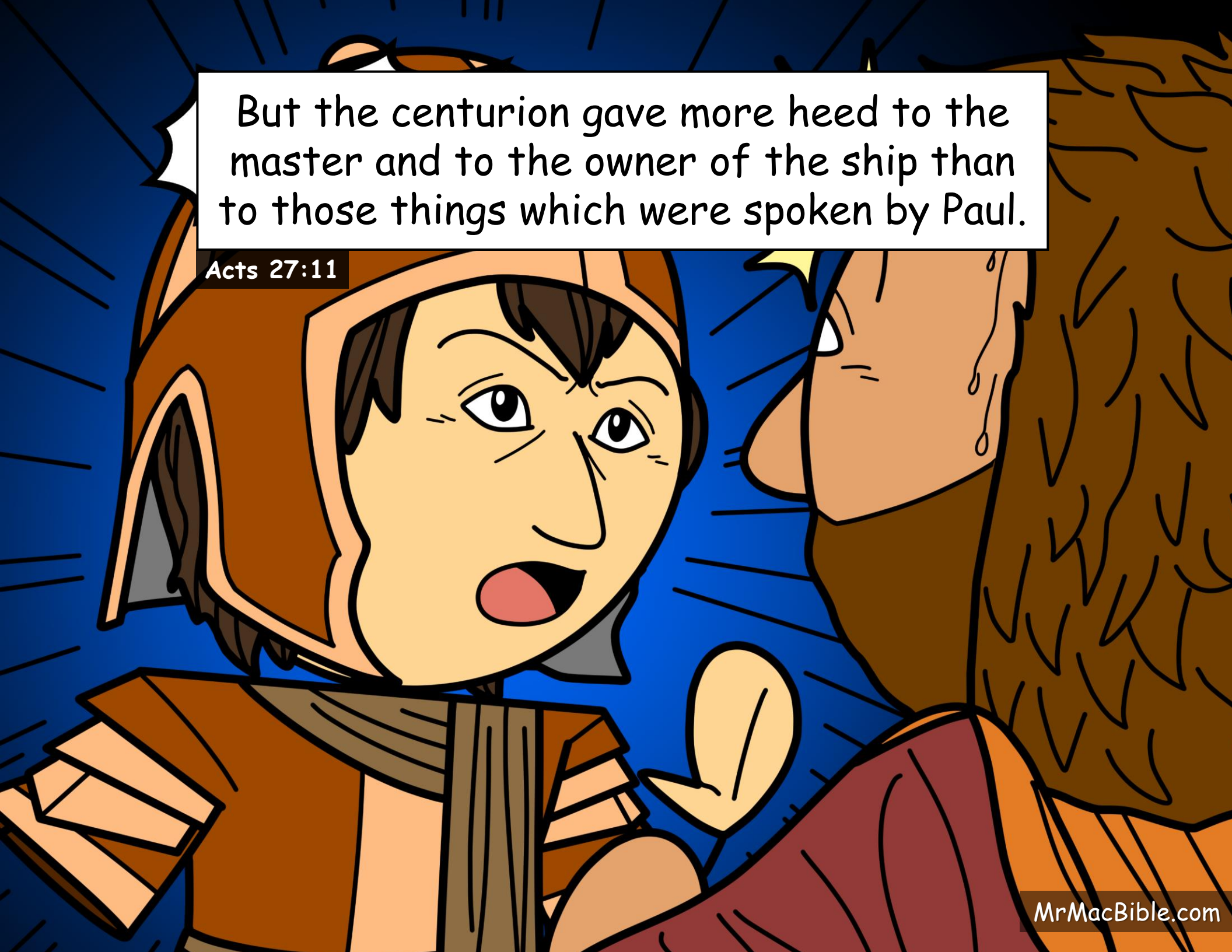


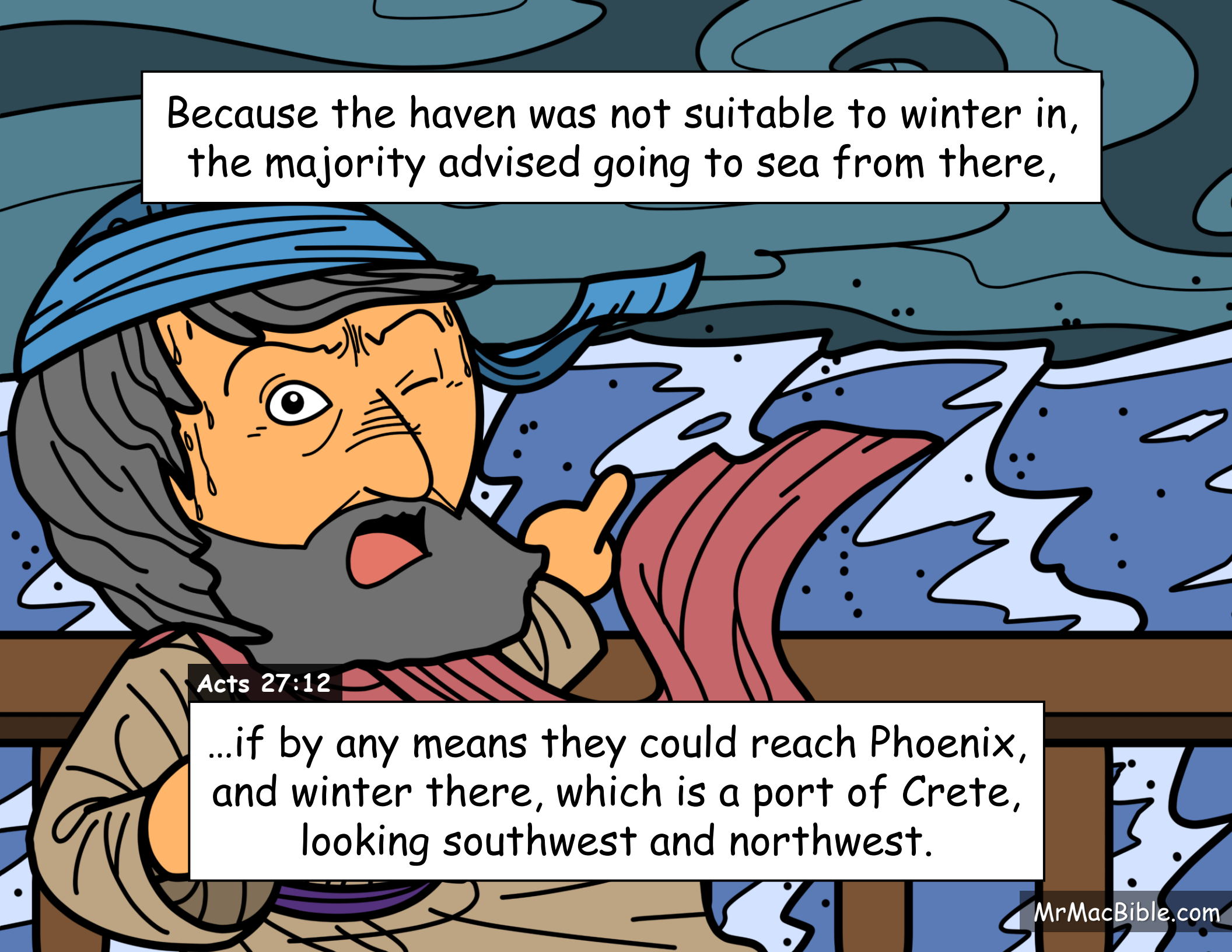
Acts 27:10

Paul admonished them and said to them, "Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives."

But the centurion gave more heed to the master and to the owner of the ship than to those things which were spoken by Paul.

Acts 27:11





Because the haven was not suitable to winter in,
the majority advised going to sea from there,

Acts 27:12

...if by any means they could reach Phoenix,
and winter there, which is a port of Crete,
looking southwest and northwest.

When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to shore.

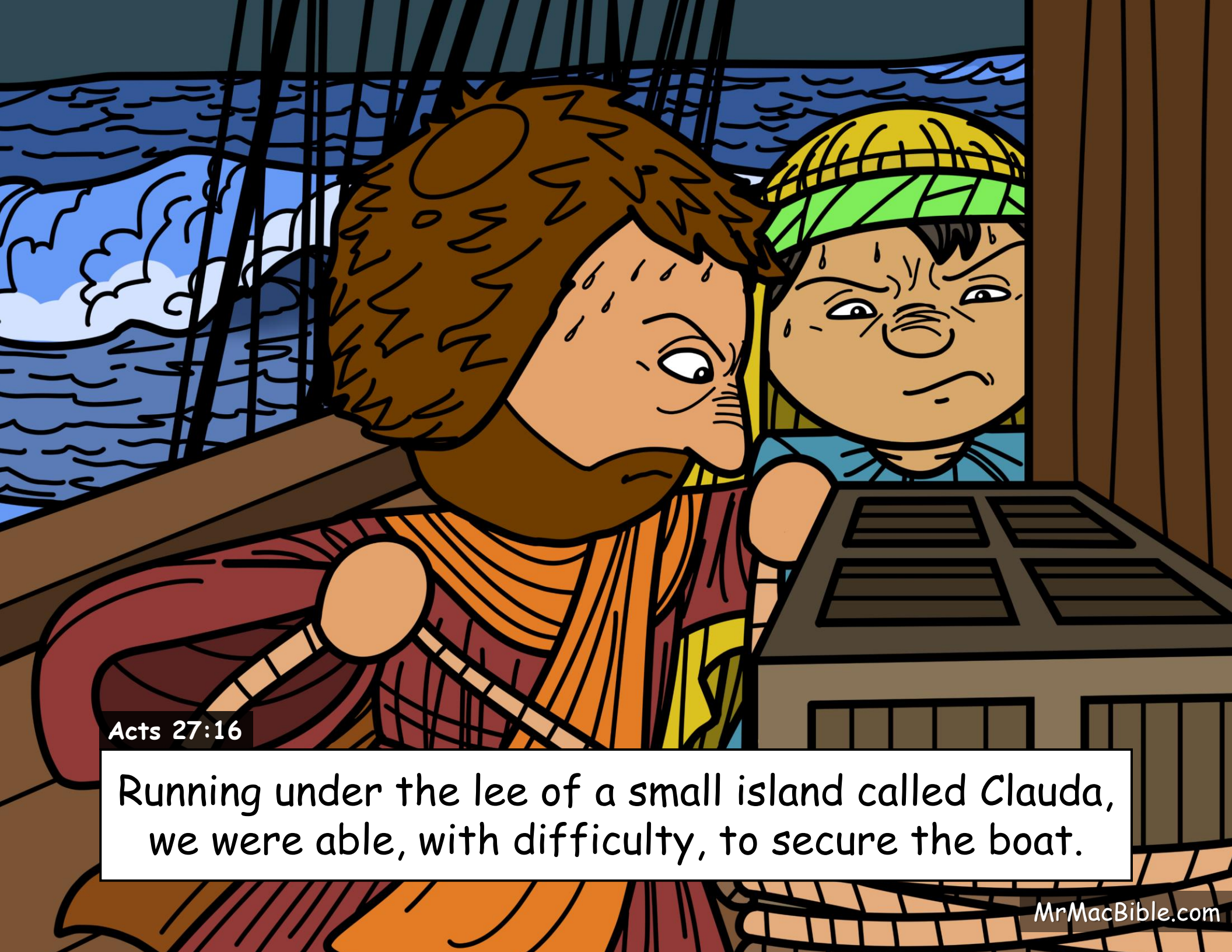
Acts 27:13





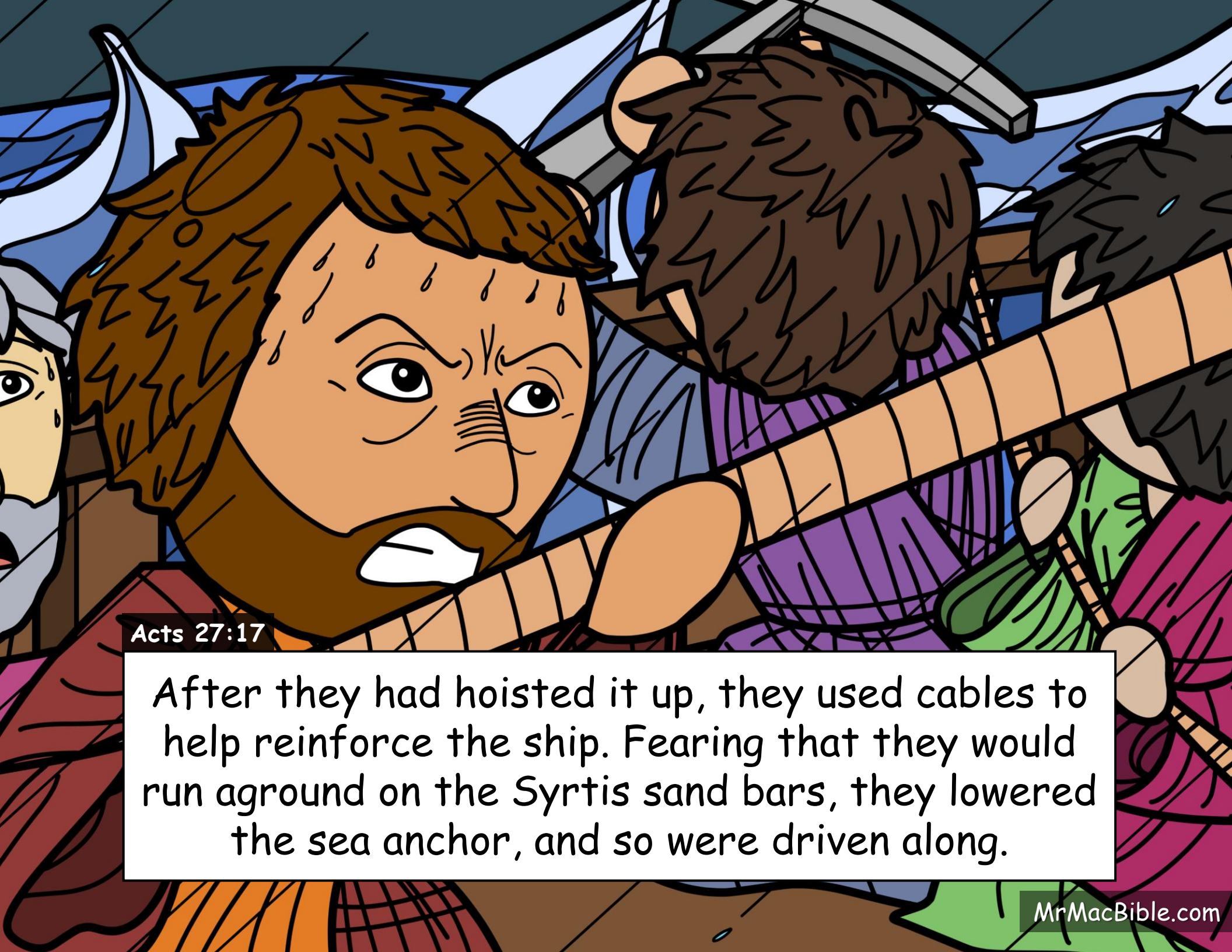
Acts 27:14-15

But before long, a stormy wind beat down from shore, which is called Euroclydon. When the ship was caught and couldn't face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along.



Acts 27:16

Running under the lee of a small island called Clauda, we were able, with difficulty, to secure the boat.



Acts 27:17

After they had hoisted it up, they used cables to help reinforce the ship. Fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis sand bars, they lowered the sea anchor, and so were driven along.



Acts 27:18

As we laboured exceedingly with the storm, the next day they began to throw things overboard.

On the third day, they threw out the ship's tackle with their own hands.

Acts 27:19



When neither sun nor stars shone on us for many days, and no small storm pressed on us, all hope that we would be saved was now taken away.

Acts 27:20



THINK ABOUT IT...

Have you ever been in such a difficult storm or personal problem that you gave up all hope of being saved?



Shipwrecked!

Acts 27:21-44

Background:

Paul and Luke are still prisoners on a ship trying to get to Rome for Paul's trial with the Emperor Caesar Nero. But the storm at sea is about to sink the ship!



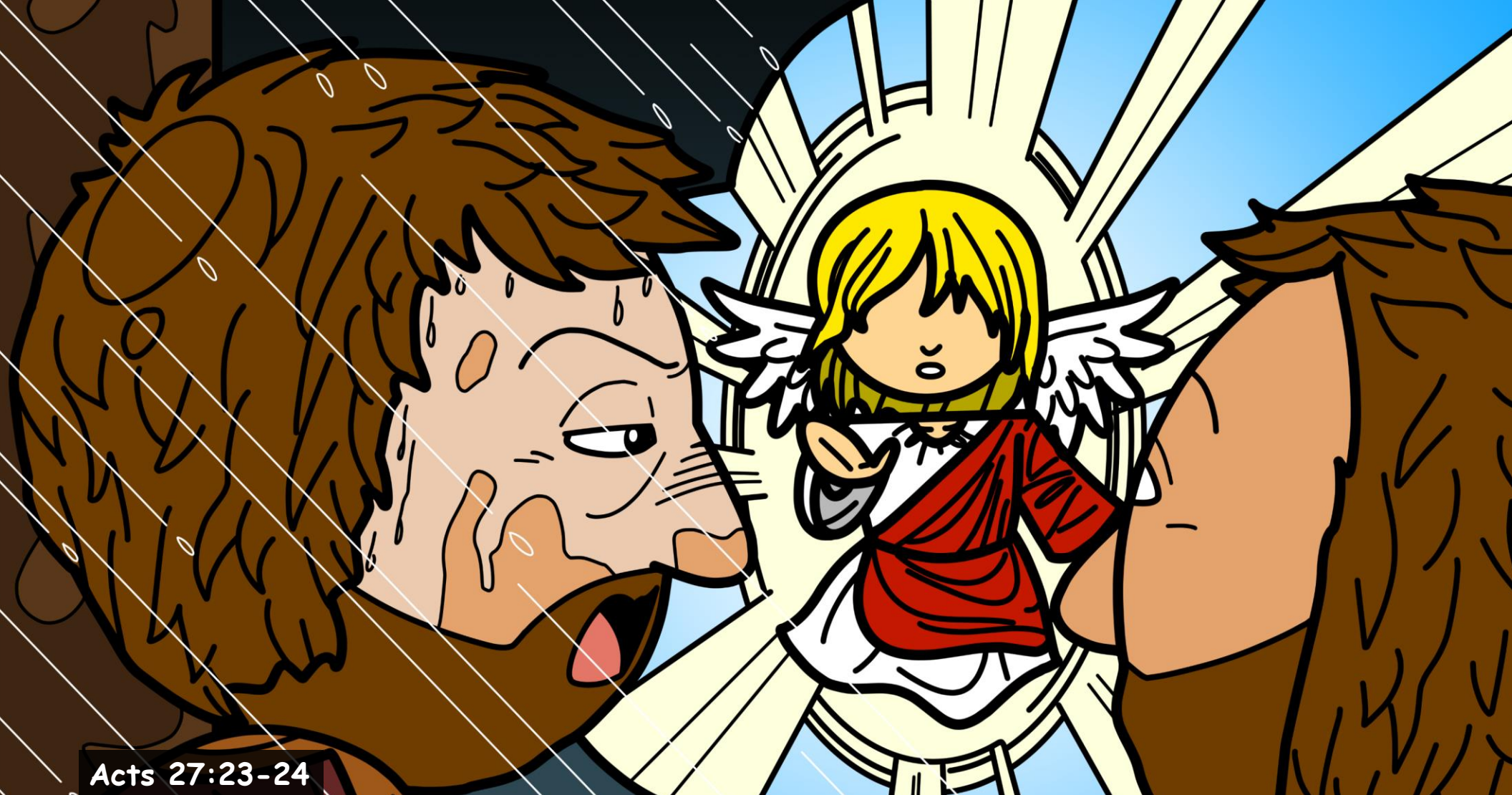
Acts 27:21

When they had been long without food, Paul stood up in the middle of them, and said, "Sirs, you should have listened to me, and not have set sail from Crete and have gotten this injury and loss."



Acts 27:22

"Now I exhort you to cheer up, for there will be no loss of life amongst you, but only of the ship."



Acts 27:23-24

"For there stood by me this night an angel, belonging to the God whose I am and whom I serve, saying, 'Don't be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar. Behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.'"



Acts 27:25-26

"Therefore, sirs, cheer up! For I believe God, that it will be just as it has been spoken to me. But we must run aground on a certain island."



Acts 27:27

But when the fourteenth night had come, as we were driven back and forth in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors surmised that they were drawing near to some land.

They took soundings, and found twenty fathoms. After a little while, they took soundings again, and found fifteen fathoms.

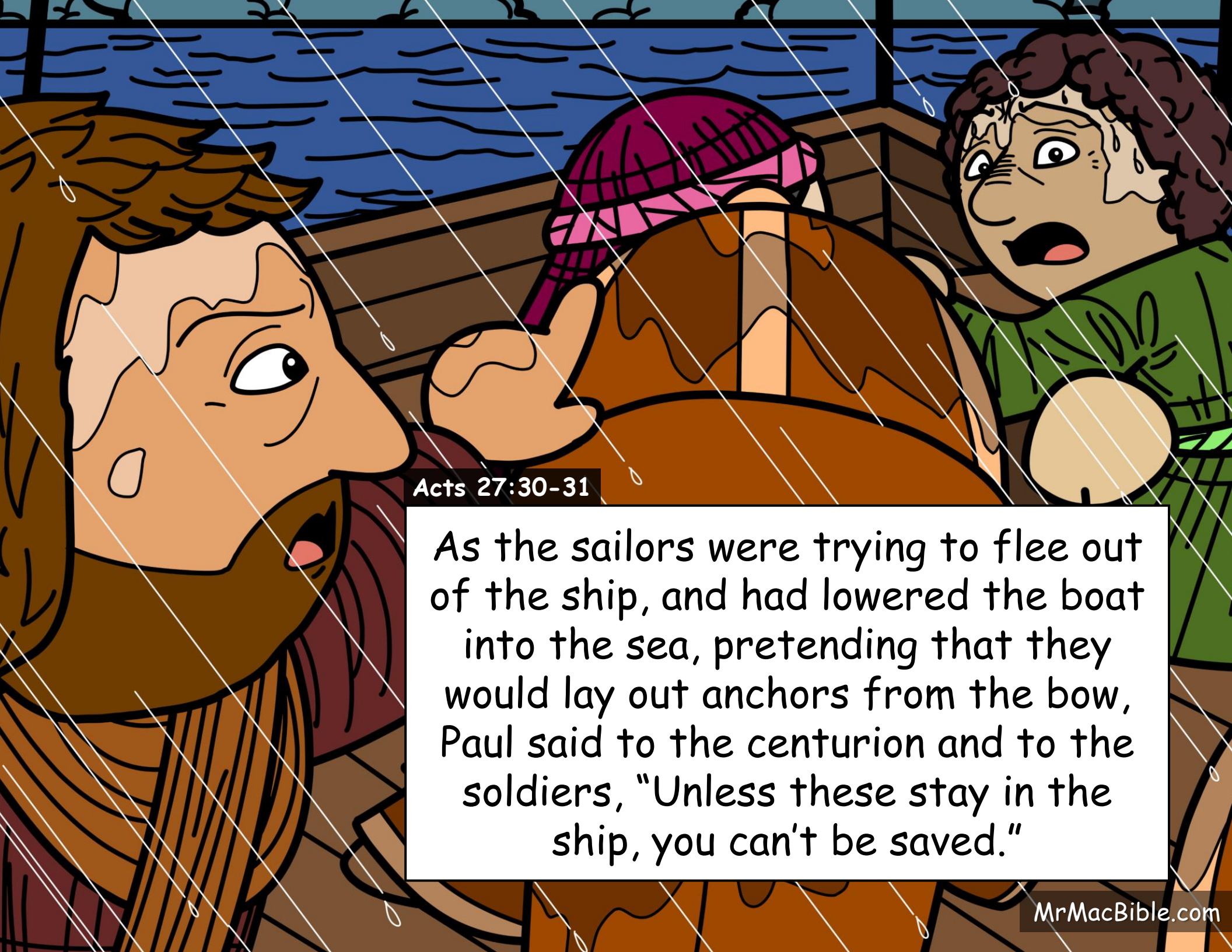
Acts 27:28





Acts 27:29

Fearing that we would run aground on rocky ground, they let go four anchors from the stern, and wished for daylight.



Acts 27:30-31

As the sailors were trying to flee out of the ship, and had lowered the boat into the sea, pretending that they would lay out anchors from the bow, Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, "Unless these stay in the ship, you can't be saved."



Acts 27:32

Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the boat, and let it fall off.



Acts 27:33-34

While the day was coming on, Paul begged them all to take some food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you wait and continue fasting, having taken nothing. Therefore I beg you to take some food; for this is for your safety; for not a hair will perish from any of your heads."



Acts 27:35-37

When he had said this, and had taken bread, he gave thanks to God in the presence of all, then he broke it and began to eat. Then they all cheered up, and they also took food. In all, we were two hundred and seventy-six souls on the ship.



Acts 27:38

When they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.

A cartoon illustration of a stormy sea. The sky is dark blue with white rain falling diagonally. Large, stylized white clouds are visible. In the center, a large sound effect 'SWOOOOOSSSSSSHHHH' is written in a bubbly, white font with black outlines. Below the sound effect, there is a strip of brown land with green bushes. The foreground shows blue water with white waves and rain falling into it.

SWOOOOOSSSSSSHHHH

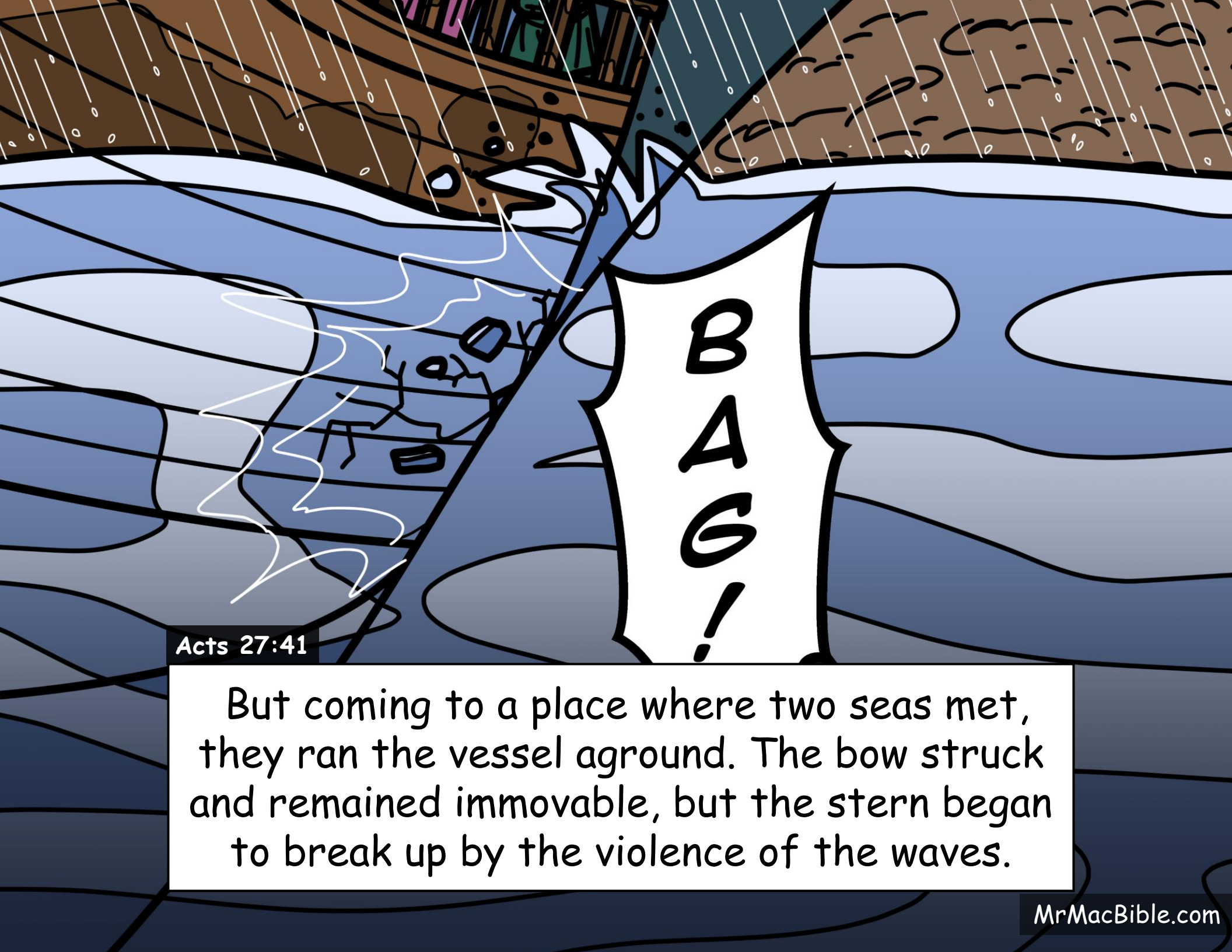
Acts 27:39

When it was day, they didn't recognise the land, but they noticed a certain bay with a beach, and they decided to try to drive the ship onto it.



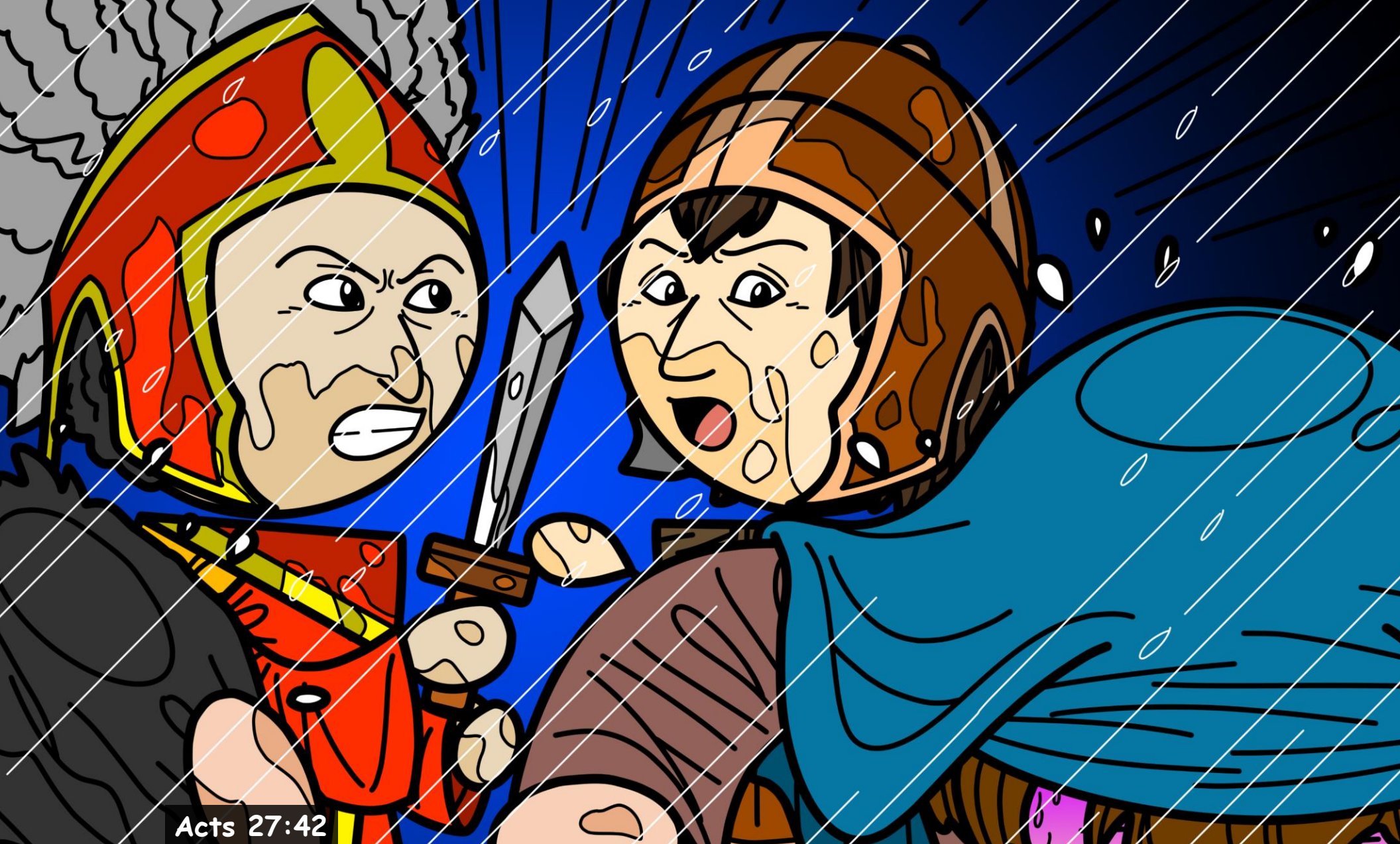
Acts 27:40

Casting off the anchors, they left them in the sea, at the same time untying the rudder ropes. Hoisting up the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach.



Acts 27:41

But coming to a place where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground. The bow struck and remained immovable, but the stern began to break up by the violence of the waves.




Acts 27:42

The soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim out and escape.



Acts 27:43


But the centurion, desiring to save Paul, stopped them from their purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should throw themselves overboard first to go towards the land;



And the rest should follow, some on planks,
and some on other things from the ship.

Acts 27:44

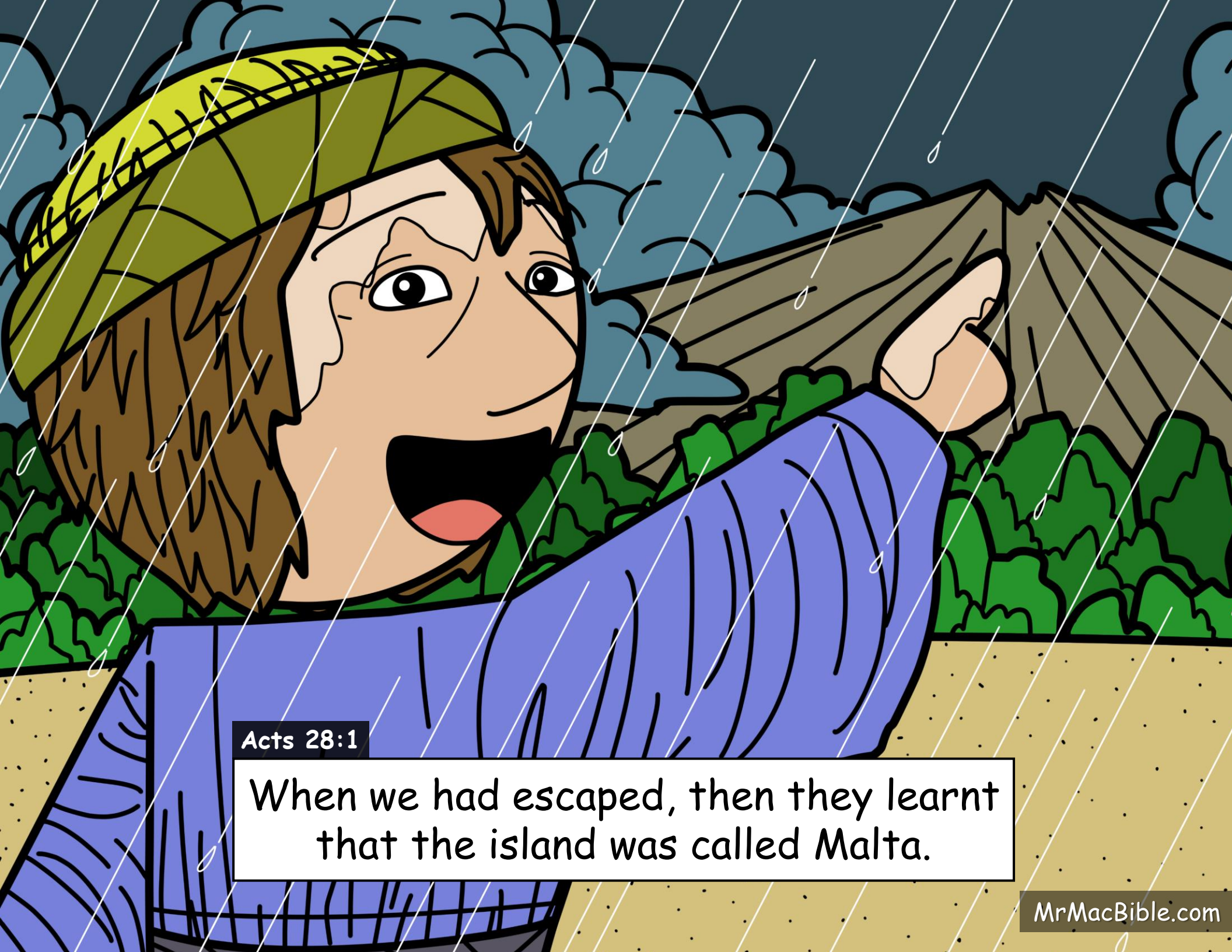
So they all escaped safely to the land.



Paul has been traveling through stormy seas for weeks as a prisoner on his way to Rome, only to be shipwrecked on the Island of Malta.

Background:

**Murderer or god?
Acts 28:1-6**



Acts 28:1

When we had escaped, then they learnt that the island was called Malta.



Chief Publius of Malta


Acts 28:2

The natives showed us uncommon kindness; for they kindled a fire and received us all, because of the present rain and because of the cold.



Acts 28:3

But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand.



Acts 28:4

When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped from the sea, yet Justice has not allowed to live."



Acts 28:5

However he shook off the creature into the fire, and wasn't harmed.



Acts 28:6

But they expected that he would have swollen or fallen down dead suddenly,

But when they watched for a long time and saw nothing bad happen to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

Acts 28:6



THINK ABOUT IT...

Do you think God has ever saved you (or someone close to you) from great danger?

Tell us the story:



Arrival at Rome

Acts 28:7-23

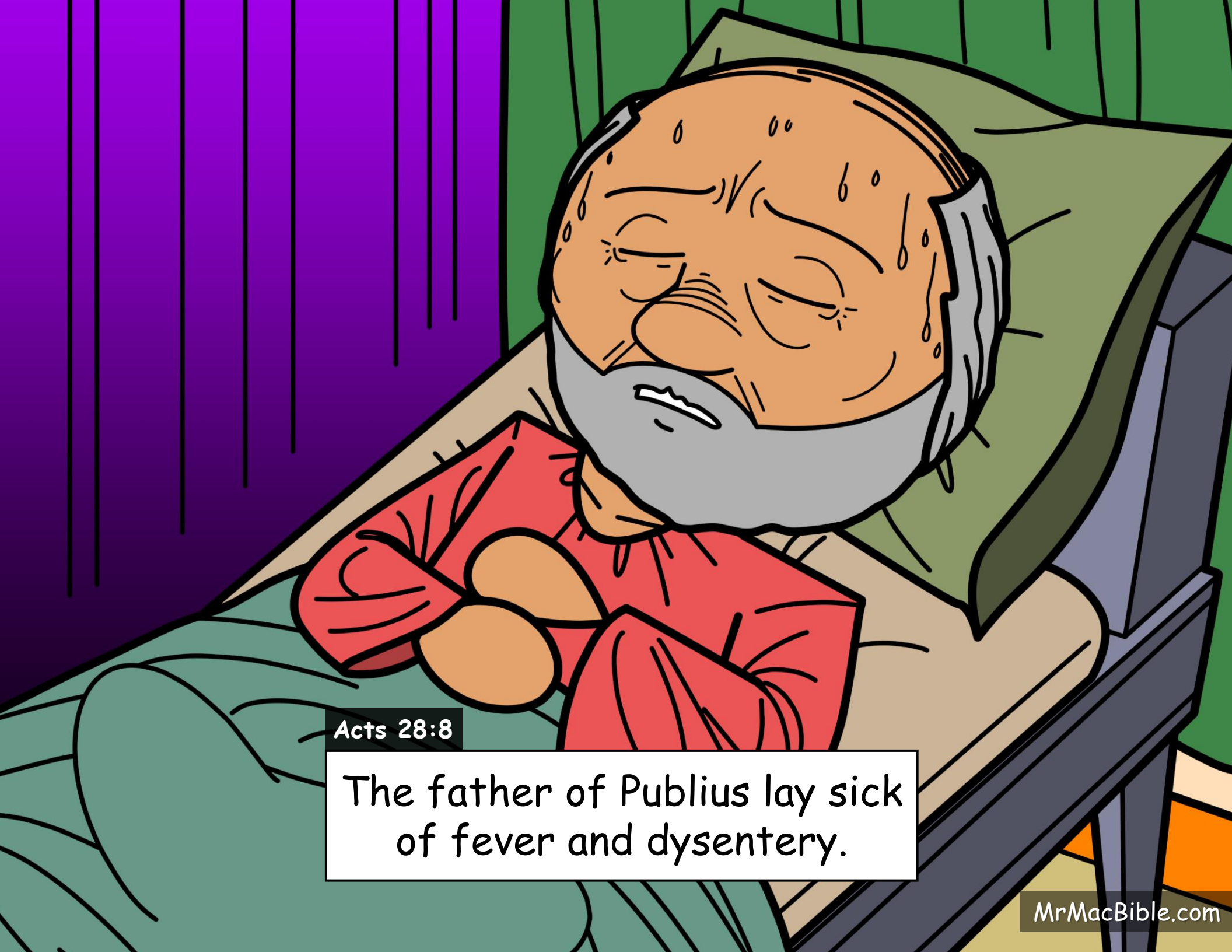
Background:

Paul and Luke are temporarily stranded on the island of Malta on their way to Rome. But God continues to show his power as Paul shares the hope of salvation in Jesus!



Acts 28:7

Now in the neighbourhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us, and courteously entertained us for three days.



Acts 28:8

The father of Publius lay sick of fever and dysentery.



Acts 28:8

Paul entered in to him, prayed, and laying his hands on him, healed him.

Then when this was done, the rest also who had diseases in the island came and were cured.

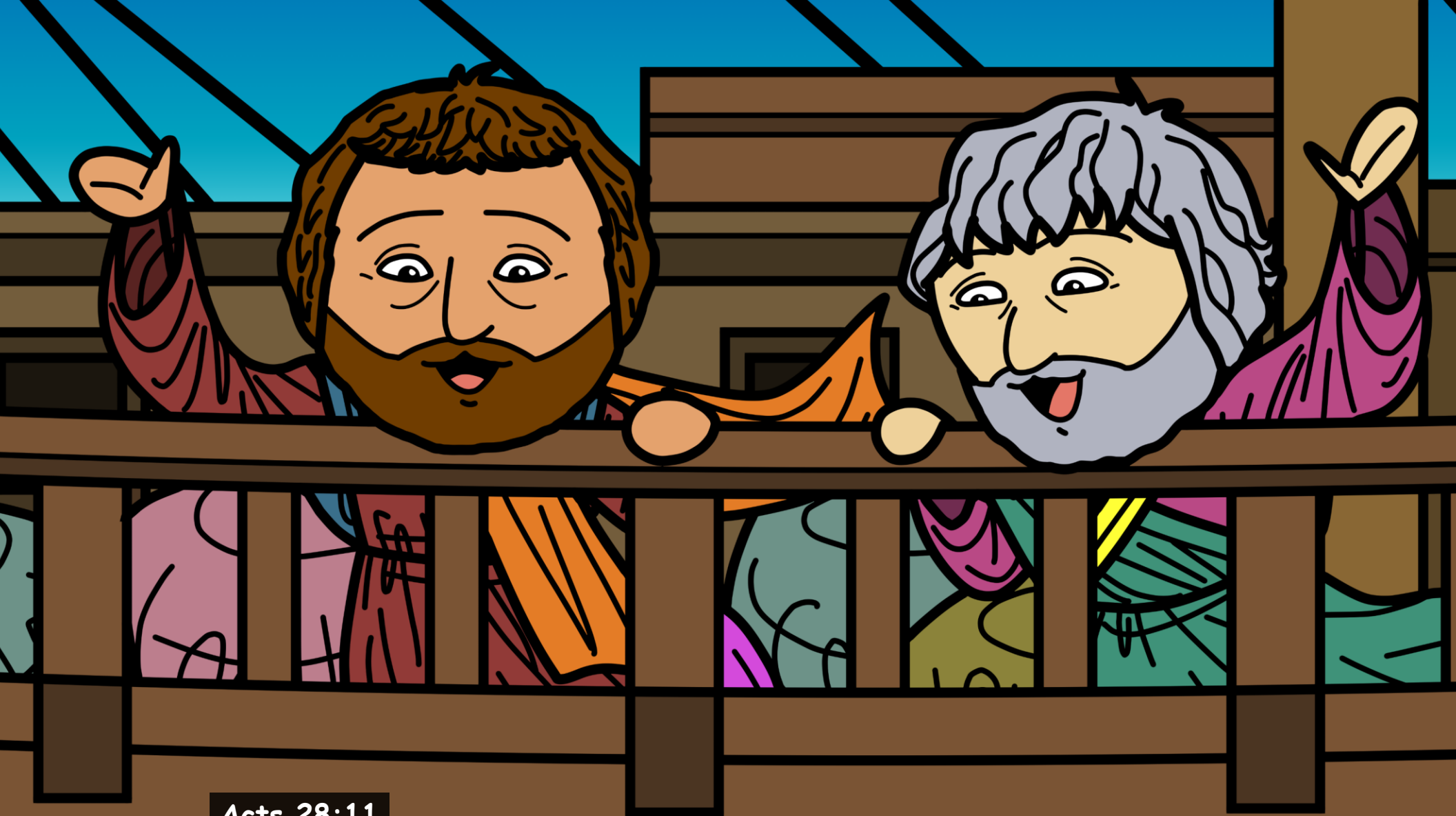
Acts 28:9





Acts 28:10

They also honoured us with many honours, and when we sailed, they put on board the things that we needed.



Acts 28:11

After three months, we set sail in a ship of Alexandria which had wintered in the island, whose sign was "The Twin Brothers."

Touching at Syracuse, we stayed there three days. From there we circled around and arrived at Rhegium.

Acts 28:12





Acts 28:13-14

After one day, a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli, where we found brothers, and were entreated to stay with them for seven days.



Acts 28:15

So we came
to Rome.
From there
the brothers,
when they
heard of us,
came to meet
us as far as
The Market
of Appius and
The Three
Taverns.

When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

Acts 28:15



When we entered into Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was allowed to stay by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

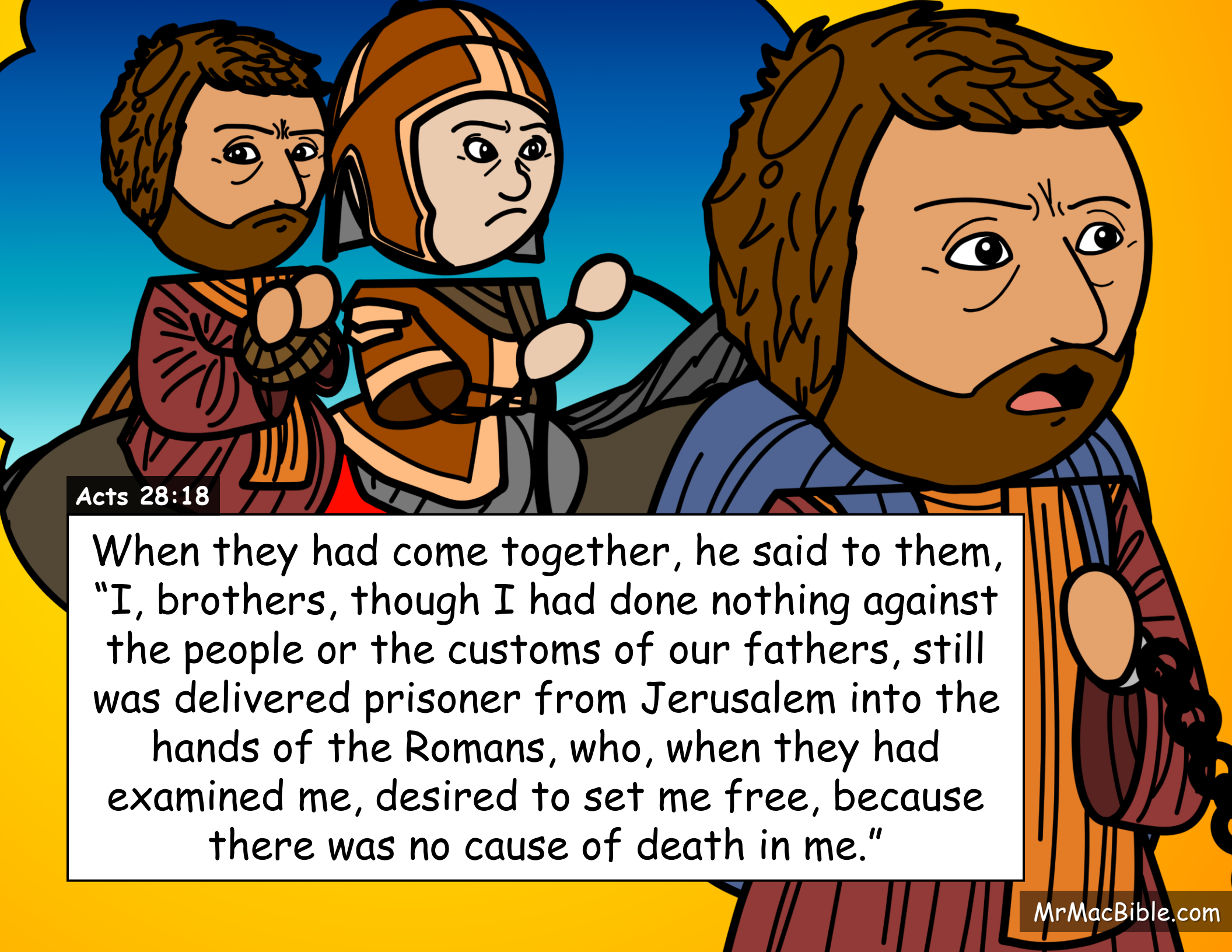
Acts 28:16



After three days Paul called together those who were the leaders of the Jews.

Acts 28:17





Acts 28:18

When they had come together, he said to them, "I, brothers, though I had done nothing against the people or the customs of our fathers, still was delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans, who, when they had examined me, desired to set me free, because there was no cause of death in me."



Acts 28:19

"But when the Jews spoke against it, I was constrained to appeal to Caesar, not that I had anything about which to accuse my nation."

"For this cause therefore I asked to see you and to speak with you. For because of the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain."

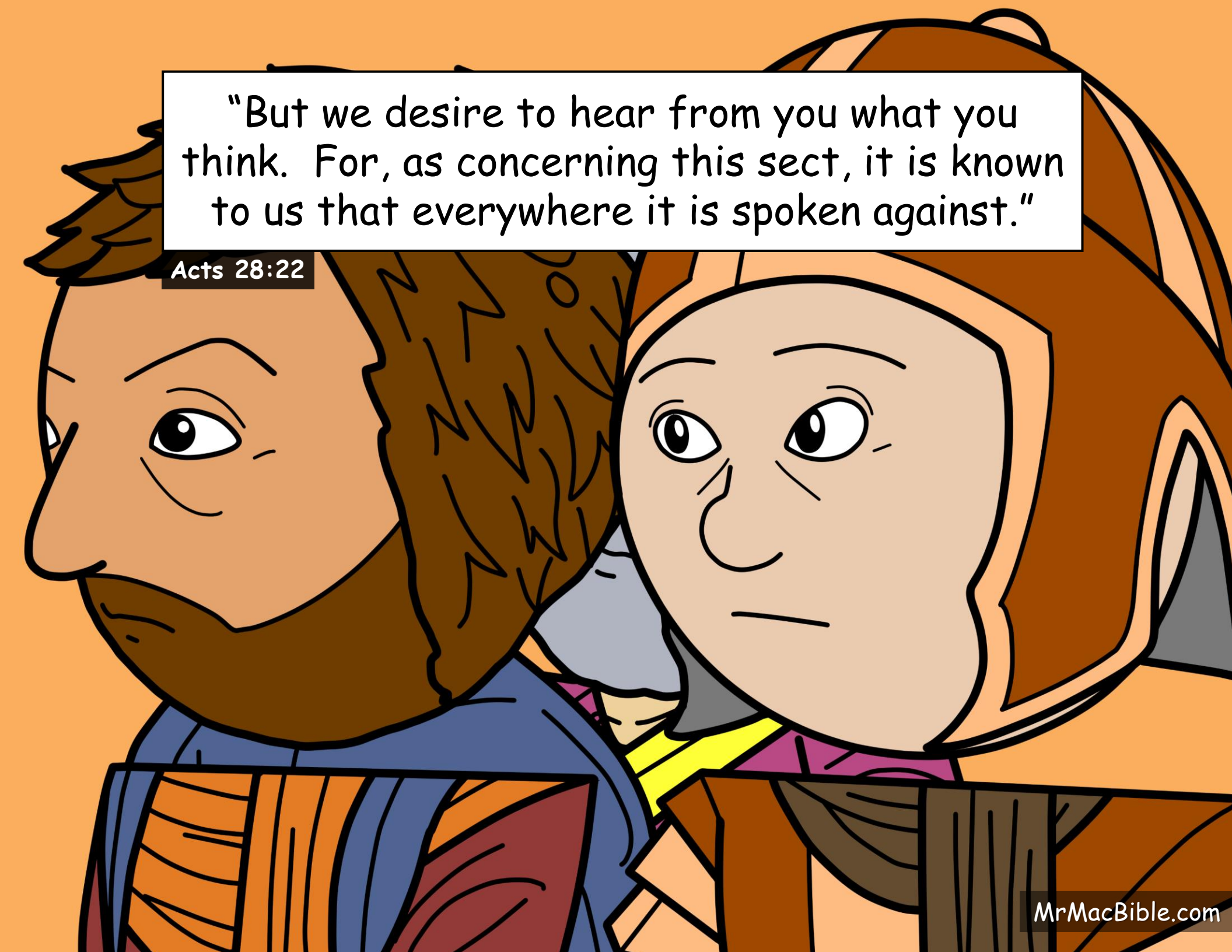
Acts 28:20





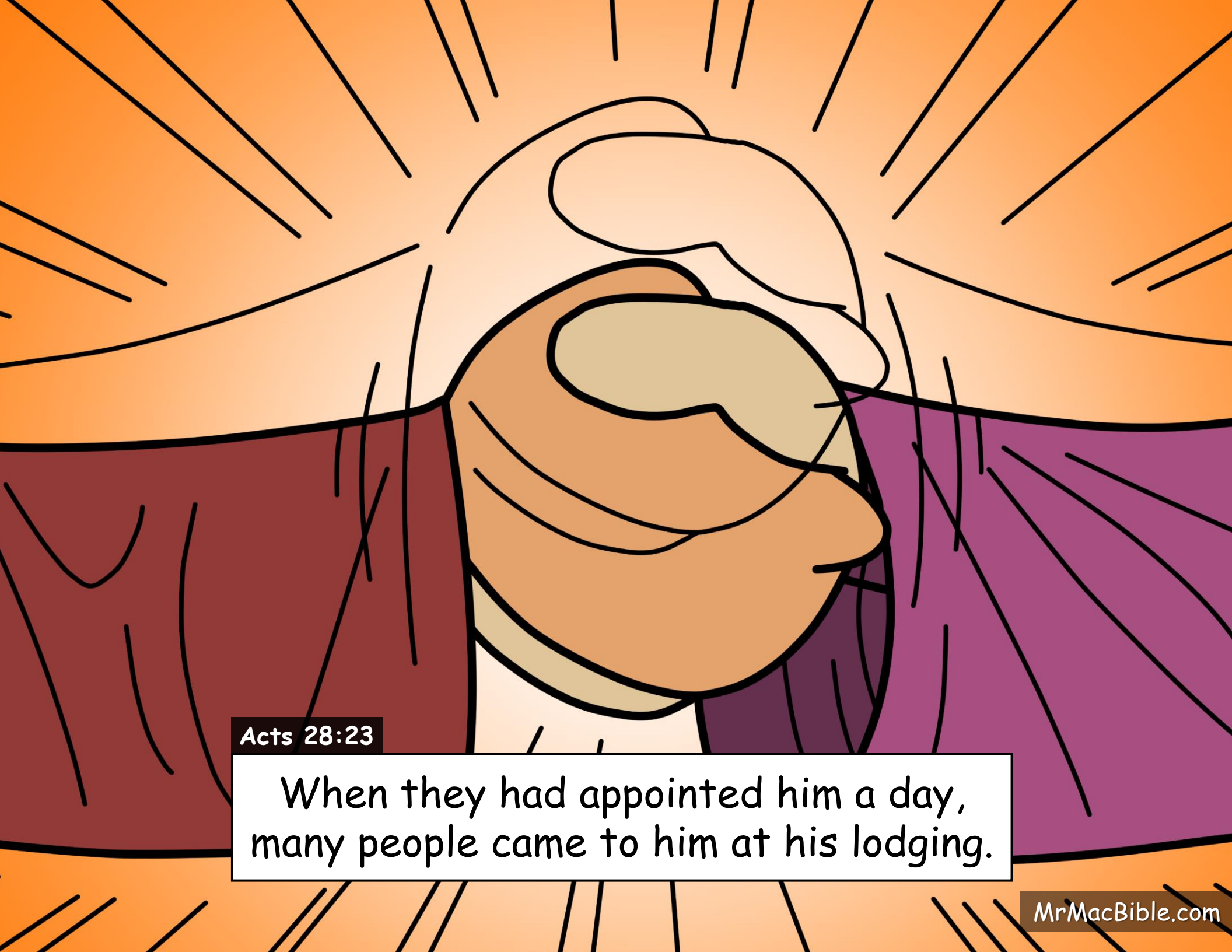
Acts 28:21

They said to him, "We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor did any of the brothers come here and report or speak any evil of you."



"But we desire to hear from you what you think. For, as concerning this sect, it is known to us that everywhere it is spoken against."

Acts 28:22



Acts 28:23

When they had appointed him a day,
many people came to him at his lodging.

THINK ABOUT IT...

If you had to share one or two Bible stories about Jesus to a small group of people who are not believers, which stories would you tell?



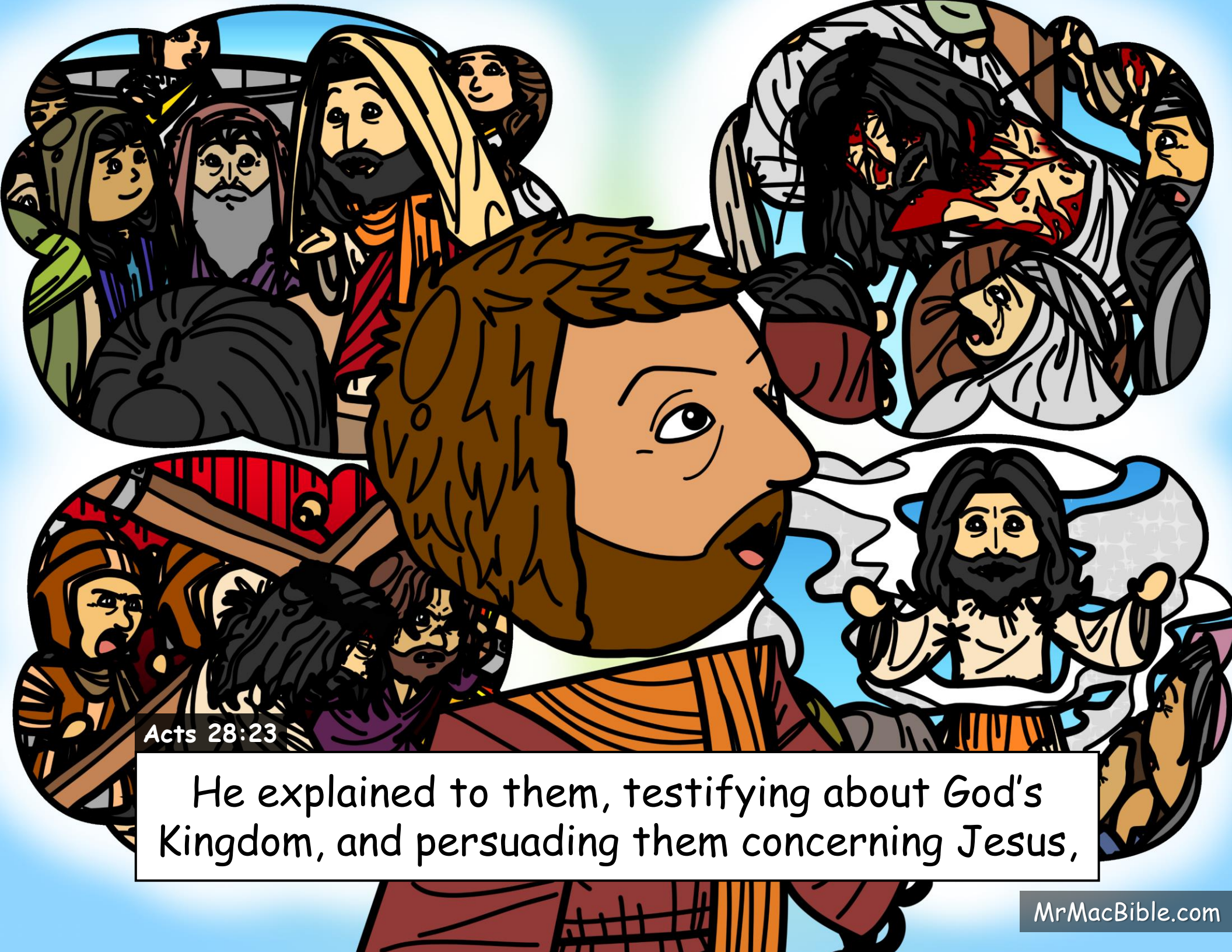
Caesar Nero

Paul's Freedom? Acts 28:23-31

Background:

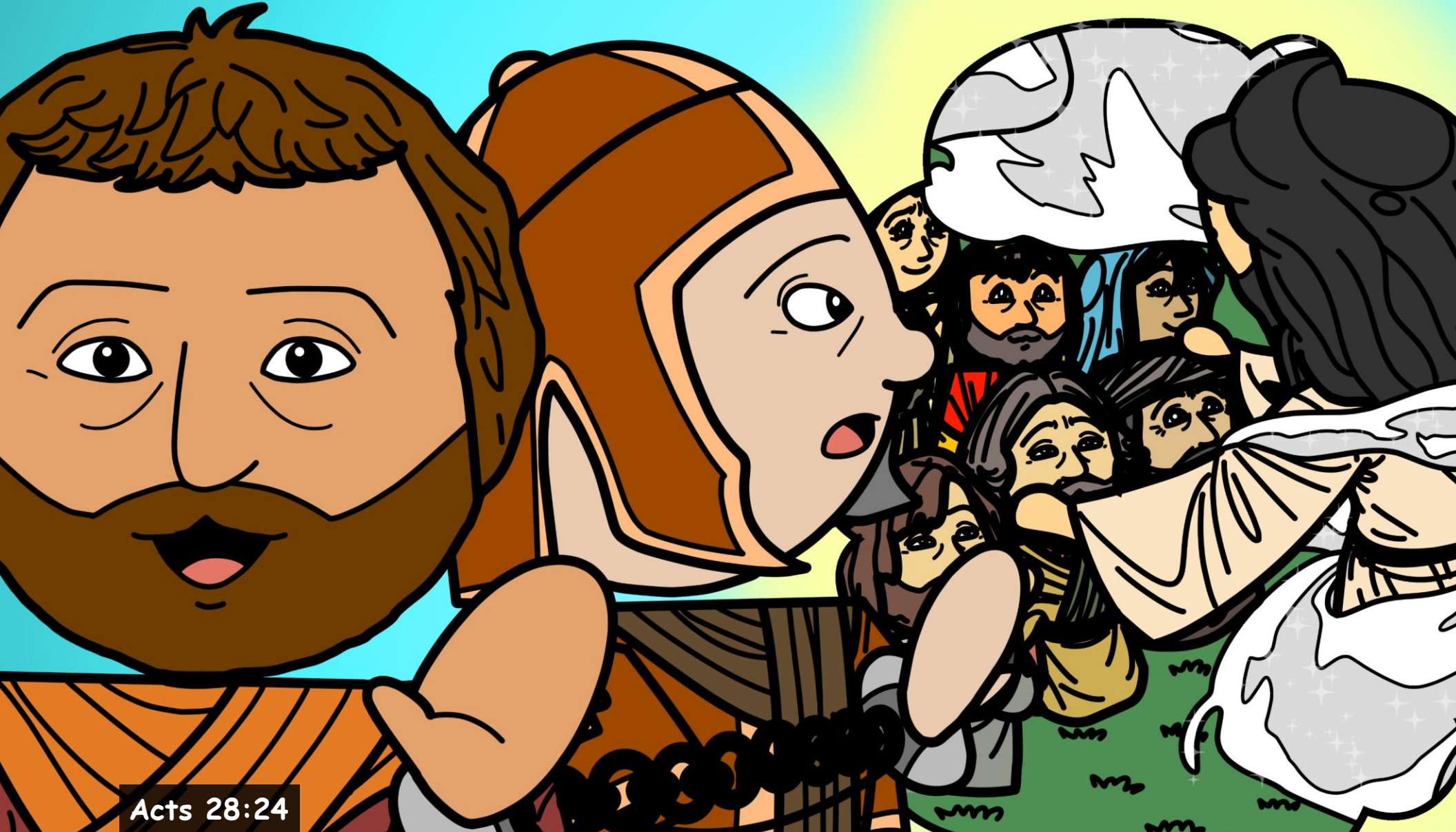
Caesar Nero will let Paul go free... for now.

Paul and Luke are sharing the gospel to the people of Rome while Paul waits for his court appearing before Caesar Nero.



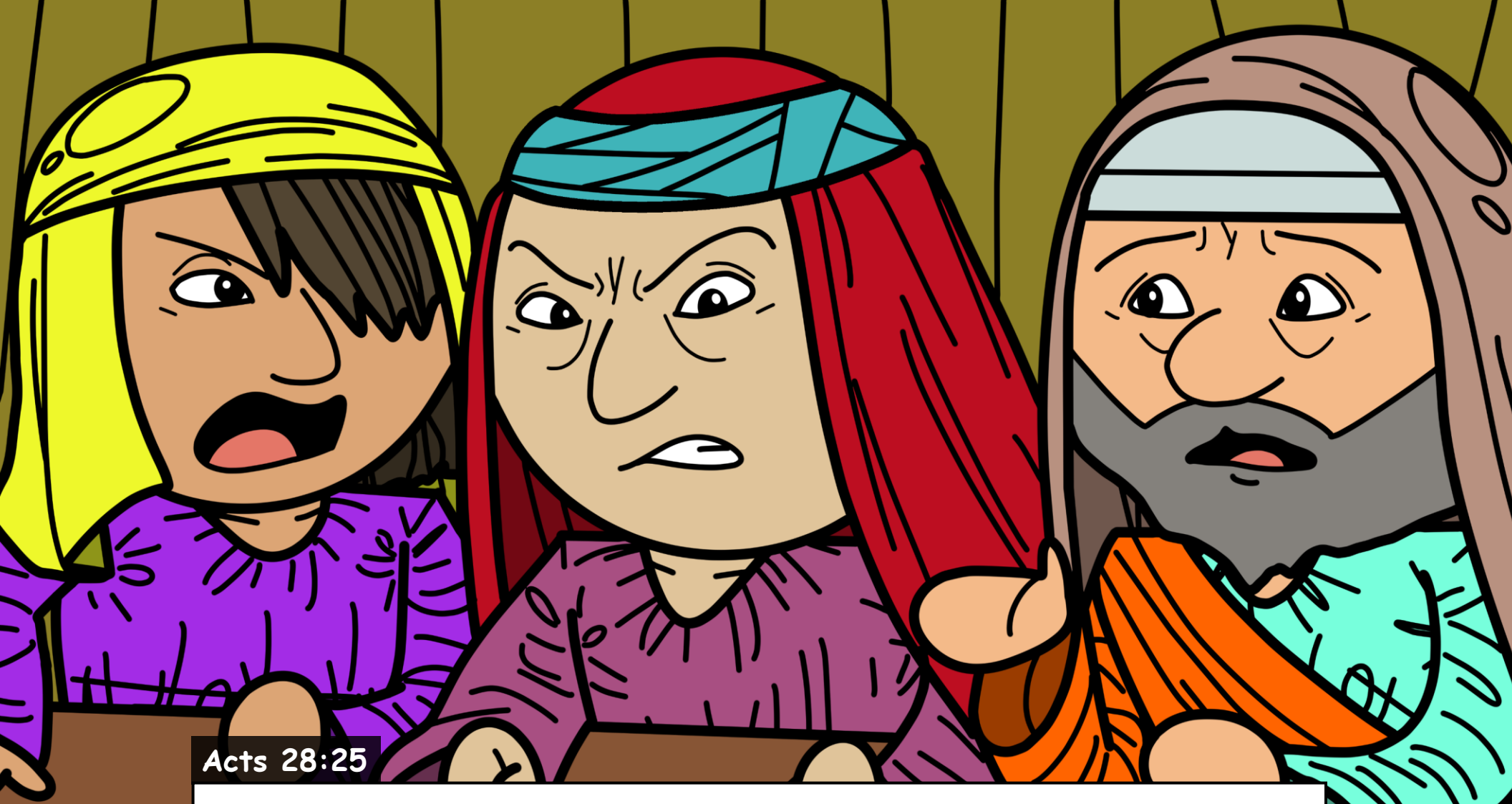
Acts 28:23

He explained to them, testifying about God's Kingdom, and persuading them concerning Jesus,



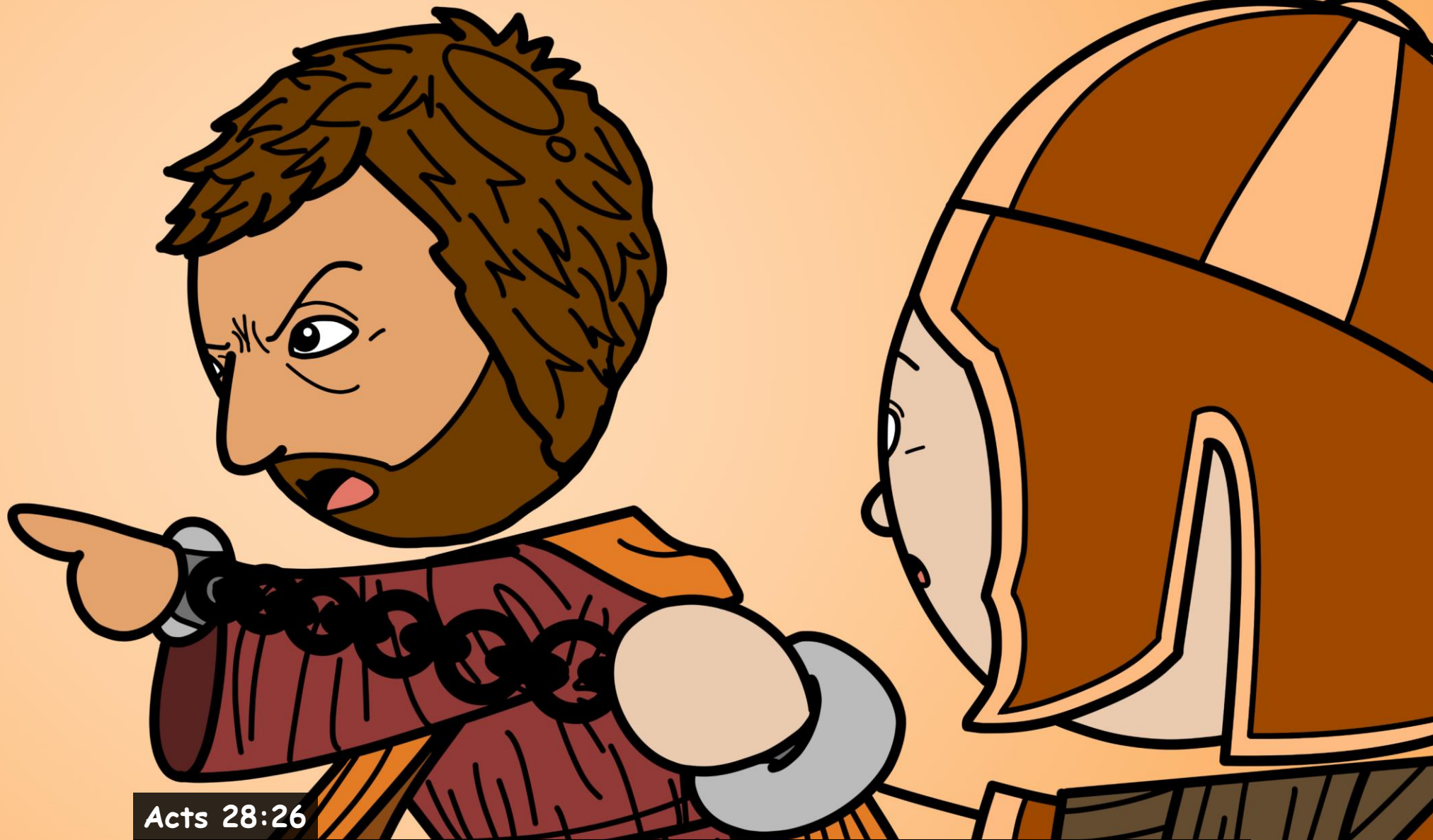
Acts 28:24

Both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning until evening. Some believed the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved.




Acts 28:25

When they didn't agree amongst themselves, they departed after Paul had spoken one word, "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, saying,



Acts 28:26

'Go to this people and say, in hearing, you will hear, but will in no way understand. In seeing, you will see, but will in no way perceive.'



"For this people's heart has grown callous.
Their ears are dull of hearing.

Acts 28:27

Their eyes they have closed. Lest they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and would turn again, then I would heal them.' "



Acts 28:28

"Be it known therefore to you, that the salvation of God is sent to the nations, and they will listen."



Acts 28:29

When he had said these words, the Jews departed, having a great dispute amongst themselves.

Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house and received all who were coming to him,

Acts 28:30





Acts 28:31

Preaching God's Kingdom, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.



After his arrival in Rome, Paul continued to teach, preach, and write more New Testament letters.



But within 3 years, Paul is sentenced to death in the Roman courts by Caesar Nero.

BIBLE: Acts 23:1-9

1 Paul, looking steadfastly at the council, said, "Brothers, I have lived before God in all good conscience until today."

2 The high priest, Ananias, commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth.

3 Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! Do you sit to judge me according to the law, and command me to be struck contrary to the law?"

4 Those who stood by said, "Do you malign God's high priest?"

5 Paul said, "I didn't know, brothers, that he was high priest. For it is written, 'You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.' "

But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the

...council,

"Men and brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees.

Concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged!"

7 When he had said this, an argument arose between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the crowd was divided.

8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit; but the Pharisees confess all of these.

9 A great clamour arose, and some of the scribes of the Pharisees' part stood up, and contended, saying,

"We find no evil in this man. But if a spirit or angel has spoken to him, let's not fight against God!"

Acts 23:10-15

10 When a great argument arose, the commanding officer, fearing that Paul would be torn in pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and take him by force from amongst them, and bring him into the barracks.

11 The following night, the Lord stood by him and said,

“Cheer up, Paul, for as you have testified about me at Jerusalem, so you must testify also at Rome.”

12 When it was day, some of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Paul.

13 There were more than forty people who had made this conspiracy.

14 They came to the chief priests and the elders, and said, “We have bound ourselves under a great curse to taste nothing until we have killed Paul.

15 Now therefore, you with the council inform the commanding officer that he should bring him down to you tomorrow, as though you were going to judge his case more exactly.

We are ready to kill him before he comes near.”



Acts 23:16-24

16 But Paul's sister's son heard they were lying in wait, and he came and entered into the barracks and told Paul. 17 Paul summoned one of the centurions, and said, "Bring this young man to the commanding officer, for he has something to tell him."

18 So he took him, and brought him to the commanding officer, and said, "Paul, the prisoner, summoned me and asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to tell you."

19 The commanding officer took him by the hand, and going aside, asked him privately, "What is it that you have to tell me?"

20 He said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though intending to enquire somewhat more

... accurately concerning him.

21 Therefore don't yield to them, for more than forty men lie in wait for him, who have bound themselves under a curse to neither eat nor drink until they have killed him. Now they are ready, looking for the promise from you."

22 So the commanding officer let the young man go, charging him, "Tell no one that you have revealed these things to me."

23 He called to himself two of the centurions, and said, "Prepare two hundred soldiers to go as far as Caesarea, with seventy horsemen, and two hundred men armed with spears, at the third hour of the night."

24 He asked them to provide animals, that they might set Paul on one, and bring him safely to Felix the governor.

Acts 23:25-24:1

He wrote a letter like this:

26 "Claudius Lysias to the most excellent governor Felix: Greetings.

27 "This man was seized by the Jews, and was about to be killed by them, when I came with the soldiers and rescued him, having learnt that he was a Roman.

28 Desiring to know the cause why they accused him, I brought him down to their council.

29 I found him to be accused about questions of their law, but not to be charged with anything worthy of death or of imprisonment.

30 When I was told that the Jews lay in wait for the man, I sent him to you immediately, charging his accusers also to bring their accusations against him before you. Farewell."

31 So the soldiers, carrying out their orders, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipatris.

32 But on the next day they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the barracks.

33 When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him.

34 When the governor had read it, he asked what province he was from. When he understood that he was from Cilicia, he said,

35 "I will hear you fully when your accusers also arrive." He commanded that he be kept in Herod's palace.

24:1 After five days, the high priest, Ananias, came down with certain elders and an orator, one Tertullus. They informed the governor against Paul.

Acts 24:2-14 When he was called, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, "Seeing that by you we enjoy much peace, and that prosperity is coming to this nation by your foresight, 3 we accept it in all ways and in all places, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness.

4 But that I don't delay you, I entreat you to bear with us and hear a few words. 5 For we have found this man to be a plague, an instigator of insurrections amongst all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.

6 He even tried to profane the temple, and we arrested him. We wanted to judge him according to our law. By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him."

9 The Jews also joined in the

...attack, affirming that these things were so.

10 When the governor had beckoned to him to speak, Paul answered, "Because I know that you have been a judge of this nation for many years, I cheerfully make my defence, 11 seeing that you can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship at Jerusalem.

12 In the temple they didn't find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the synagogues, or in the city.

13 Nor can they prove to you the things of which they now accuse me.

14 But this I confess to you, that after the Way, which they call a sect, so I serve the God of our fathers, believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets;

Acts 24:15-25 ...Having hope towards God, which these also themselves look for, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

16 In this I also practise always having a conscience void of offence towards God and men.

17 Now after some years, I came to bring gifts for the needy to my nation, and offerings; 18 amid which certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, not with a mob, nor with turmoil.

19 They ought to have been here before you, and to make accusation, if they had anything against me.

20 Or else let these men themselves say what injustice they found in me when I stood before the council, 21 unless it is for this one thing that I cried standing amongst them, 'Concerning the resurrection

...of the dead I am being judged before you today!' "

22 But Felix, having more exact knowledge concerning the Way, deferred them, saying, "When Lysias, the commanding officer, comes down, I will decide your case."

23 He ordered the centurion that Paul should be kept in custody, and should have some privileges, and not to forbid any of his friends to serve him or to visit him.

24 But after some days, Felix came with Drusilla, his wife, who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus.

25 As he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgement to come, Felix was terrified, and answered, "Go your way for this time, and when it is convenient for me, I will summon you."

Acts 24:26-25:9 Meanwhile, he also hoped that money would be given to him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore also he sent for him more often and talked with him.

27 But when two years were fulfilled, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and desiring to gain favour with the Jews, Felix left Paul in bonds.

25:1 Festus therefore, having come into the province, after three days went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea.

2 Then the high priest and the principal men of the Jews informed him against Paul, and they begged him, 3 asking a favour against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem; plotting to kill him on the way.

4 However Festus answered that

...Paul should be kept in custody at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to depart shortly.

5 "Let them therefore", he said, "that are in power amongst you go down with me, and if there is anything wrong in the man, let them accuse him."

6 When he had stayed amongst them more than ten days, he went down to Caesarea, and on the next day he sat on the judgement seat, and commanded Paul to be brought.

7 When he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing against him many and grievous charges which they could not prove, 8 while he said in his defence, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I sinned at all."

9 But Festus, desiring to gain favour with the Jews, answered Paul

Acts 25:9-19 ...and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem, and be judged by me there concerning these things?"

10 But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's judgement seat, where I ought to be tried. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also know very well.

11 For if I have done wrong and have committed anything worthy of death, I don't refuse to die; but if none of those things is true that they accuse me of, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar!"

12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you shall go."

13 Now when some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea, and greeted Festus.

14 As he stayed there many days,

...Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, "There is a certain man left a prisoner by Felix; 15 about whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, asking for a sentence against him.

16 I answered them that it is not the custom of the Romans to give up any man to destruction before the accused has met the accusers face to face and has had opportunity to make his defence concerning the matter laid against him.

17 When therefore they had come together here, I didn't delay, but on the next day sat on the judgement seat and commanded the man to be brought.

18 When the accusers stood up, they brought no charges against him of such things as I supposed; 19 but had certain questions against him about their own religion, and about

Acts 25:19-27 ...one Jesus, who was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive.

20 Being perplexed how to enquire concerning these things, I asked whether he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there be judged concerning these matters.

21 But when Paul had appealed to be kept for the decision of the emperor, I commanded him to be kept until I could send him to Caesar."

22 Agrippa said to Festus, "I also would like to hear the man myself." "Tomorrow," he said, "you shall hear him."

23 So on the next day, when Agrippa and Bernice had come with great pomp, and they had entered into the place of hearing with the commanding officers and the principal men of the city, at the

... command of Festus, Paul was brought in.

24 Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all men who are here present with us, you see this man about whom all the multitude of the Jews petitioned me, both at Jerusalem and here, crying that he ought not to live any longer.

25 But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and as he himself appealed to the emperor I determined to send him,

26 of whom I have no certain thing to write to my lord. Therefore I have brought him out before you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, that, after examination, I may have something to write.

27 For it seems to me unreasonable, in sending a prisoner, not to also specify the charges against him."

Acts 26:1-12 Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak for yourself."

Then Paul stretched out his hand, and made his defence. 2 "I think myself happy, King Agrippa, that I am to make my defence before you today concerning all the things that I am accused by the Jews,

3 especially because you are expert in all customs and questions which are amongst the Jews. Therefore I beg you to hear me patiently.

4 "Indeed, all the Jews know my way of life from my youth up, which was from the beginning amongst my own nation and at Jerusalem;

5 having known me from the first, if they are willing to testify, that after the strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

6 Now I stand here to be judged for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers, 7 which our

...twelve tribes, earnestly serving night and day, hope to attain. Concerning this hope I am accused by the Jews, King Agrippa!

8 Why is it judged incredible with you, if God does raise the dead?

9 "I myself most certainly thought that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10 I also did this in Jerusalem. I both shut up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, and when they were put to death I gave my vote against them.

11 Punishing them often in all the synagogues, I tried to make them blaspheme. Being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted them even to foreign cities.

12 "Whereupon as I travelled to Damascus with the authority and

Acts 26:12-23 ...commission from the chief priests, 13 at noon, O king, I saw on the way a light from the sky, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who travelled with me.

14 When we had all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

15 "I said, 'Who are you, Lord?'

"He said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 16 But arise, and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose: to appoint you a servant and a witness both of the things which you have seen, and of the things which I will reveal to you;

17 delivering you from the people, and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you, 18 to open their eyes,

...that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance amongst those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

19 "Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to them of Damascus, at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of repentance.

21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.

22 Having therefore obtained the help that is from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would happen, 23 how the Christ must suffer, and how, by the resurrection of the dead, he would be first to

Acts 26:23-27:2 ...proclaim light both to these people and to the Gentiles."

24 As he thus made his defence, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are crazy! Your great learning is driving you insane!"

25 But he said, "I am not crazy, most excellent Festus, but boldly declare words of truth and reasonableness.

26 For the king knows of these things, to whom also I speak freely. For I am persuaded that none of these things is hidden from him, for this has not been done in a corner.

27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe."

28 Agrippa said to Paul, "With a little persuasion are you trying to make me a Christian?"

29 Paul said, "I pray to God, that

...whether with little or with much, not only you, but also all that hear me today, might become such as I am, except for these bonds."

30 The king rose up with the governor, and Bernice, and those who sat with them.

31 When they had withdrawn, they spoke to one another, saying, "This man does nothing worthy of death or of bonds."

32 Agrippa said to Festus, "This man might have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

27:1 When it was determined that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners to a centurion named Julius, of the Augustan band.

2 Embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to places on the coast of Asia, we put to sea, Aristarchus,

Acts 27:2-13 ...Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.

3 The next day, we touched at Sidon. Julius treated Paul kindly, and gave him permission to go to his friends and refresh himself.

4 Putting to sea from there, we sailed under the lee of Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.

5 When we had sailed across the sea which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia. 6 There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing for Italy, and he put us on board.

7 When we had sailed slowly many days, and had come with difficulty opposite Cnidus, the wind not allowing us further, we sailed under the lee of Crete, opposite Salmone.

8 With difficulty sailing along it we came to a certain place called Fair Havens, near the city of Lasea.

9 When much time had passed and the voyage was now dangerous, because the Fast had now already gone by, Paul admonished them 10 and said to them, "Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives."

11 But the centurion gave more heed to the master and to the owner of the ship than to those things which were spoken by Paul.

12 Because the haven was not suitable to winter in, the majority advised going to sea from there, if by any means they could reach Phoenix, and winter there, which is a port of Crete, looking southwest and northwest.

13 When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to shore.

Acts 27:14-25 But before long, a stormy wind beat down from shore, which is called Euroclydon.

15 When the ship was caught and couldn't face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along.

16 Running under the lee of a small island called Clauda, we were able, with difficulty, to secure the boat.

17 After they had hoisted it up, they used cables to help reinforce the ship. Fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis sand bars, they lowered the sea anchor, and so were driven along.

18 As we laboured exceedingly with the storm, the next day they began to throw things overboard.

19 On the third day, they threw out the ship's tackle with their own hands.

20 When neither sun nor stars

...shone on us for many days, and no small storm pressed on us, all hope that we would be saved was now taken away.

21 When they had been long without food, Paul stood up in the middle of them, and said, "Sirs, you should have listened to me, and not have set sail from Crete and have gotten this injury and loss.

22 Now I exhort you to cheer up, for there will be no loss of life amongst you, but only of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night an angel, belonging to the God whose I am and whom I serve, 24 saying, 'Don't be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar. Behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.'

25 Therefore, sirs, cheer up! For I believe God, that it will be just as it has been spoken to me.

Acts 27:26-38 "But we must run aground on a certain island."

27 But when the fourteenth night had come, as we were driven back and forth in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors surmised that they were drawing near to some land.

28 They took soundings, and found twenty fathoms. After a little while, they took soundings again, and found fifteen fathoms.

29 Fearing that we would run aground on rocky ground, they let go four anchors from the stern, and wished for daylight.

30 As the sailors were trying to flee out of the ship, and had lowered the boat into the sea, pretending that they would lay out anchors from the bow, 31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, "Unless these stay in the ship, you

...can't be saved."

32 Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the boat, and let it fall off.

33 While the day was coming on, Paul begged them all to take some food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you wait and continue fasting, having taken nothing.

34 Therefore I beg you to take some food; for this is for your safety; for not a hair will perish from any of your heads."

35 When he had said this, and had taken bread, he gave thanks to God in the presence of all, then he broke it and began to eat.

36 Then they all cheered up, and they also took food. 37 In all, we were two hundred and seventy-six souls on the ship.

38 When they had eaten enough,

Acts 27:38-28:4 ...they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.

39 When it was day, they didn't recognise the land, but they noticed a certain bay with a beach, and they decided to try to drive the ship onto it.

40 Casting off the anchors, they left them in the sea, at the same time untying the rudder ropes. Hoisting up the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach.

41 But coming to a place where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground. The bow struck and remained immovable, but the stern began to break up by the violence of the waves.

42 The soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim out and escape.

43 But the centurion, desiring to

...save Paul, stopped them from their purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should throw themselves overboard first to go towards the land;

44 and the rest should follow, some on planks, and some on other things from the ship. So they all escaped safely to the land.

28:1 When we had escaped, then they learnt that the island was called Malta.

2 The natives showed us uncommon kindness; for they kindled a fire and received us all, because of the present rain and because of the cold.

3 But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand.

4 When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they

Acts 28:4-14 ...said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped from the sea, yet Justice has not allowed to live."

5 However he shook off the creature into the fire, and wasn't harmed.

6 But they expected that he would have swollen or fallen down dead suddenly, but when they watched for a long time and saw nothing bad happen to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

7 Now in the neighbourhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us, and courteously entertained us for three days.

8 The father of Publius lay sick of fever and dysentery. Paul entered in to him, prayed, and laying his hands

...on him, healed him.

9 Then when this was done, the rest also who had diseases in the island came and were cured.

10 They also honoured us with many honours, and when we sailed, they put on board the things that we needed.

11 After three months, we set sail in a ship of Alexandria which had wintered in the island, whose sign was "The Twin Brothers."

12 Touching at Syracuse, we stayed there three days.

13 From there we circled around and arrived at Rhegium. After one day, a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli,

14 where we found brothers, and were entreated to stay with them for seven days.

So we came to Rome.

Acts 28:15-23 From there the brothers, when they heard of us, came to meet us as far as The Market of Appius and The Three Taverns. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

16 When we entered into Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was allowed to stay by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

17 After three days Paul called together those who were the leaders of the Jews. When they had come together, he said to them, "I, brothers, though I had done nothing against the people or the customs of our fathers, still was delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans, 18 who, when they had examined me, desired to set me free, because there was no cause of death in me.

19 But when the Jews spoke against

...it, I was constrained to appeal to Caesar, not that I had anything about which to accuse my nation.

20 For this cause therefore I asked to see you and to speak with you. For because of the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain."

21 They said to him, "We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor did any of the brothers come here and report or speak any evil of you.

22 But we desire to hear from you what you think. For, as concerning this sect, it is known to us that everywhere it is spoken against."

23 When they had appointed him a day, many people came to him at his lodging. He explained to them, testifying about God's Kingdom, and persuading them concerning Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning

Acts 28:24-31 ...until evening.

24 Some believed the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved.

25 When they didn't agree amongst themselves, they departed after Paul had spoken one word, "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers,

26 saying, 'Go to this people and say, in hearing, you will hear, but will in no way understand. In seeing, you will see, but will in no way perceive.

27 For this people's heart has grown callous. Their ears are dull of hearing. Their eyes they have closed.

Lest they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and would turn again, then I would heal them.'

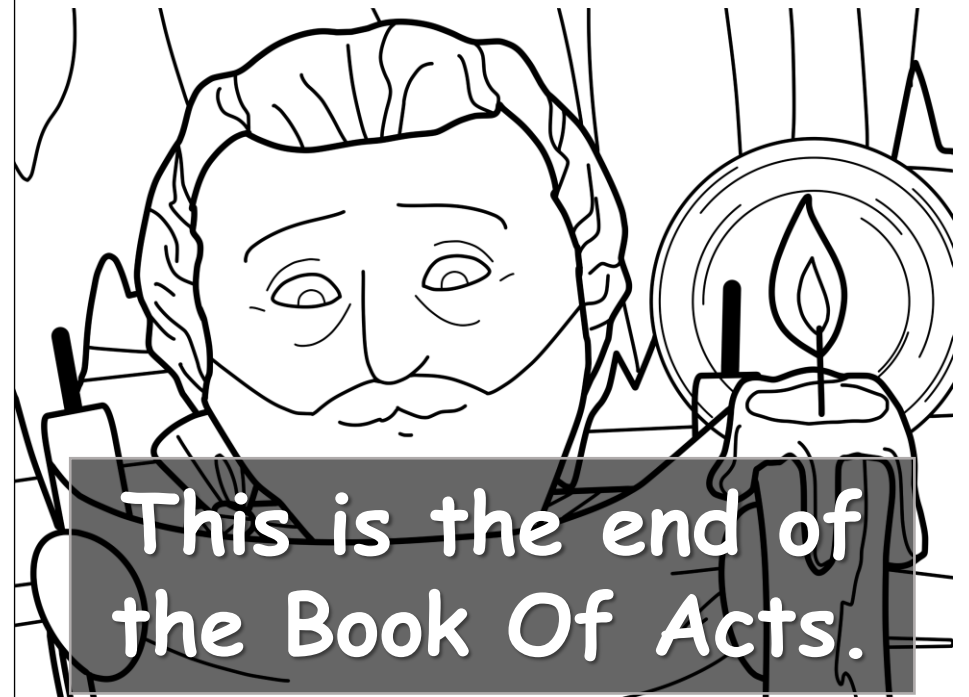
28 "Be it known therefore to you, that the salvation of God is sent to

...the nations, and they will listen."

29 When he had said these words, the Jews departed, having a great dispute amongst themselves.

30 Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house and received all who were coming to him,

31 preaching God's Kingdom, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.



**This is the end of
the Book Of Acts.**

Learn more about Paul's message by reading his letter to the ROMANS!

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called
To be an apostle, set apart for the
Good News of God, which he promised
before through his prophets in the
Holy Scriptures, concerning his Son,
who was born of the offspring of David
according to the flesh, who was declared
to be the Son of God with power according
to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection
from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
received grace and

