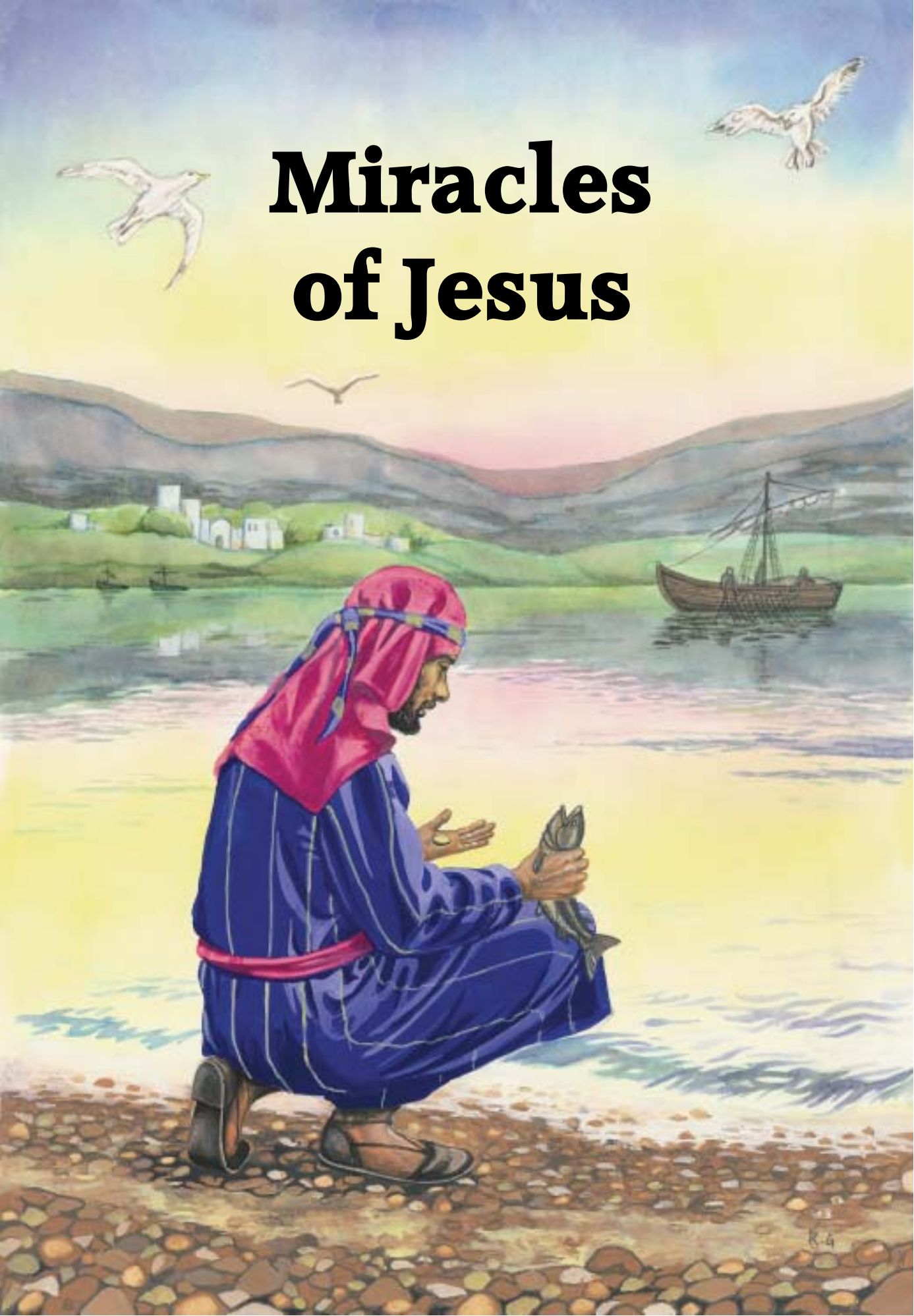


Miracles of Jesus



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The Blind Beggar

Outside the city of Jericho sat a poor man. His name was Bartimaeus. He was a beggar. He could not work. He was blind. How sad not to be able to see at all!

Day by day he begged for money from anyone who passed by. But this day was different. A procession was going along the road near to where Bartimaeus was sitting. It was Jesus, followed by a large number of people.

Poor Bartimaeus could not see anything that was happening, but he could hear men talking. They were saying that it was Jesus who was passing by.

Soon Jesus and His friends were passing the very spot where Bartimaeus sat.

“Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.”

Who was this that was crying out so loudly? It was the poor, blind beggar, Bartimaeus.

Poor Bartimaeus knew that this wonderful Saviour, Jesus, could help him. He knew too

that no one else could. So he called loudly to Jesus for help.

“Hold your peace! Be quiet!” cried the people round about. They thought that Jesus would not want to be bothered with a beggar.

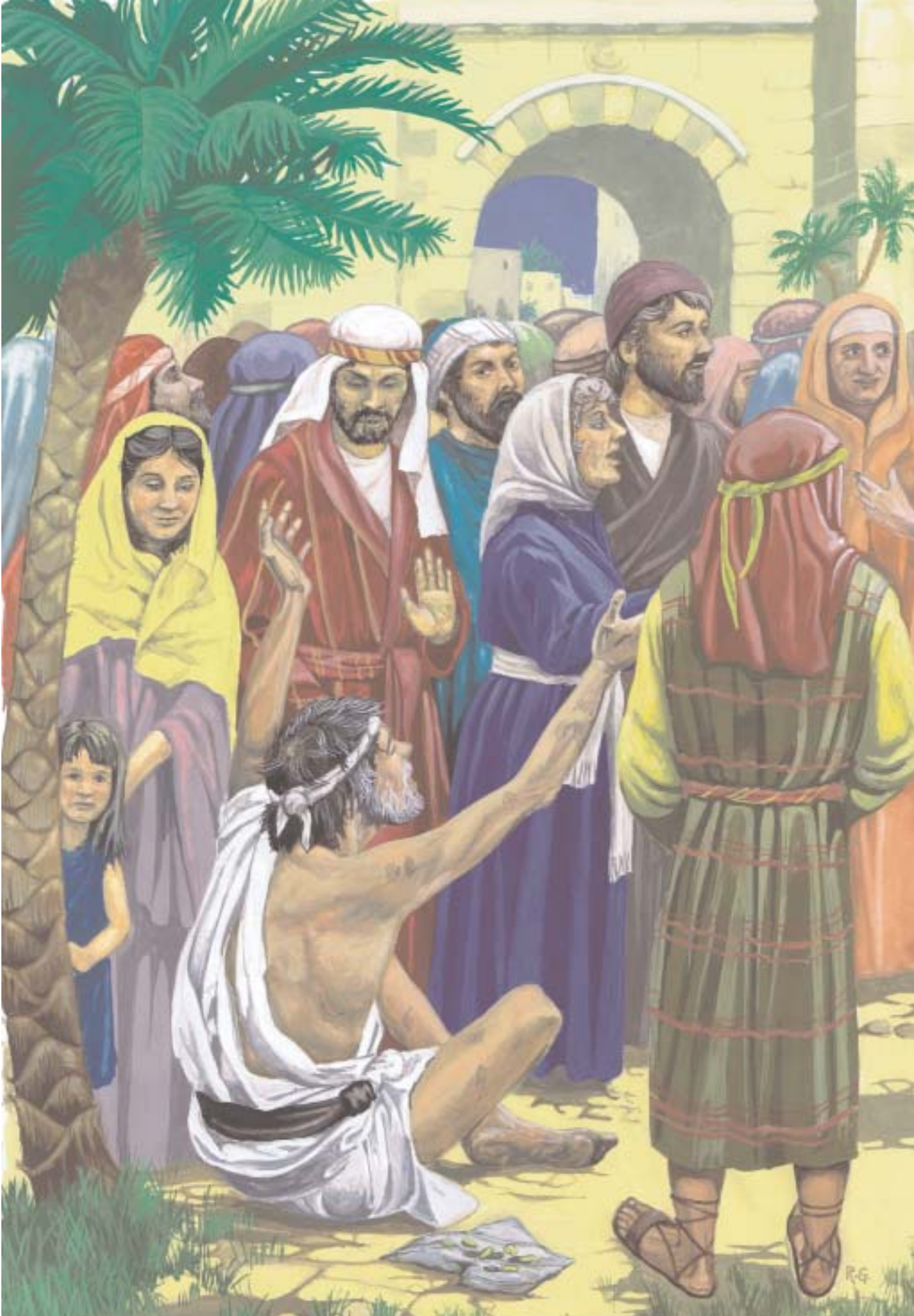
But do you know what the blind man did? He called for help to Jesus all the more! The others were not blind as he was. They did not feel their great need as he did.

And then a wonderful thing happened. Jesus, the Son of God, stood still. The beggar’s cry made Him stop. He told the people to call Bartimaeus to Him. And Bartimaeus was so glad to come.

Then Jesus spoke most kindly to the blind man. He asked him what he would really like Him to do for him.

There could be only one answer for there was one thing that Bartimaeus wanted more than anything else. He wanted to be able to see.

So Bartimaeus humbly asked the Lord Jesus. He said, “Lord, that I might receive my sight.” And Jesus in His great kindness and mercy did for him just what he wanted.



He made him see. What a wonderful thing took place that day!

So now the procession moved on—with an extra person joining in. Perhaps you can guess who it was? Yes, it was Bartimaeus. And, do you know, I think he would try to keep as close as possible to Jesus, who had done so much for him. Don't you? One thing we do know. As he went, he praised and blessed God. He was so thankful.

I wonder what you and I would answer should Jesus ask us what we would like Him to do for us more than anything else? Would it be to give us some wonderful present we have been longing for? Or would it be what we ask for in the little children's hymn?

“Let my sins be all forgiven,
Bless the friends I love so well;
Take me when I die to heaven,
Happy there with Thee to dwell.”

You can read this story in the Bible in Mark, chapter 10, verses 46 to 52.

The Stilling of the Storm

It was evening by the Sea of Galilee. The sea was calm. Jesus told His disciples to get into a little ship and sail across to the other side. I am sure they felt very pleased when they knew that Jesus was coming with them. As they set sail, other little ships were sailing by their side.

Many of you girls and boys will know the verse:

“A little ship was on the sea,
It was a pretty sight;
It sailed along so pleasantly,
And all was calm and bright.”

But now see what a change was taking place. The sky grew dark. A storm was coming. The wind began to blow. Soon it was so strong that the sea was blown into the ship. The poor disciples were terrified—though really they should not have been as Jesus was with them in the ship.

Now the ship was full of water. It seemed that it must surely sink.



And what was Jesus doing? He was at the back of the ship—asleep! He was not afraid of the wind and the waves.

The frightened disciples woke Him up. “Master,” they cried, “carest Thou not that we perish?”

Jesus stood up. Calmly He spoke to the wind and the sea. He said, “Peace, be still.” He told the storm to be quiet. And the wind and waves and storm did just what they were told to do. They obeyed. Everything obeys the Lord—wind, sea, fire, rain, snow—everything! “There was a great calm.”

The disciples were amazed. They knew Jesus was a real man, their Master and Friend. But they could see that He was more than just a man. He was also God.

“What kind of man is this?” they said to each other. “Even the wind and the sea obey His voice.”

Now the sea was calm again, the disciples soon arrived safely at the other side of the lake. How glad they must have been to reach the shore without harm!

I wonder if you ever have to pray to this

wonderful Person? He is now in heaven, but still hears the cries of His people to help them and to save them.

You can read this story in Mark, chapter 4, verses 35 to 41.



The Money in the Fish's Mouth

One day a few men came up to Simon Peter. They were collecting money for God's house, the temple. They asked Peter if his Master, Jesus, would pay.

"Yes," said Peter. "He will."

Now Peter really should not have said this for Jesus is God's Son, and God's Son does not have to pay for His Father's house.

Soon afterwards Peter came into the house where Jesus was. Now Jesus knows everything, and He knew all that Peter had been doing and saying; and He knows all we say or do.

This time it was Jesus who asked a question. "What do you think, Simon? Do kings collect money from their own children, or from the people in their country?"

Simon Peter knew the answer to this. It was easy. He answered straight away. It was from the people. Kings would never collect from their own children.

"Then," answered Jesus, "the children are

free.”

So Peter learned what he should have known before. He should have been more careful. Jesus was no ordinary person. He was the Son of God. God’s Son did not need to pay the money for His Father’s house.

But then Jesus spoke very gently and kindly. He said that they must not offend those men who were asking for the money. Then He told Peter to do a strange thing. He told him to go fishing and when he caught the first fish, to look in its mouth.

So Simon Peter went. He was used to fishing. Soon a fish was caught, and what do you think was in its mouth? A piece of money exactly enough to pay the temple money for both the Lord Jesus and Peter.

How did the fish come to have the money in its mouth? Did it swallow it? We do not know. But we do know that all creatures obey the Lord. The ravens took meat for Elijah. The lions did not bite Daniel. The snake did not hurt Paul. It was the Lord who saw that the money was there in the fish’s mouth.



So Peter caught the fish, and the fish contained the money, and in this wonderful way the need was supplied and the temple money paid. Whatever the Lord's people need, for body or soul, He will supply. There is a beautiful verse:

“My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

You can read this story in Matthew, chapter 17, verses 24 to 27.

