

A Young Man's Alphabet

by Anjun

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based on King David's Psalm 34

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How can a young man keep his way pure?

~Ezra

At all times I will bless the Lord, and praise Him continually with my mouth.



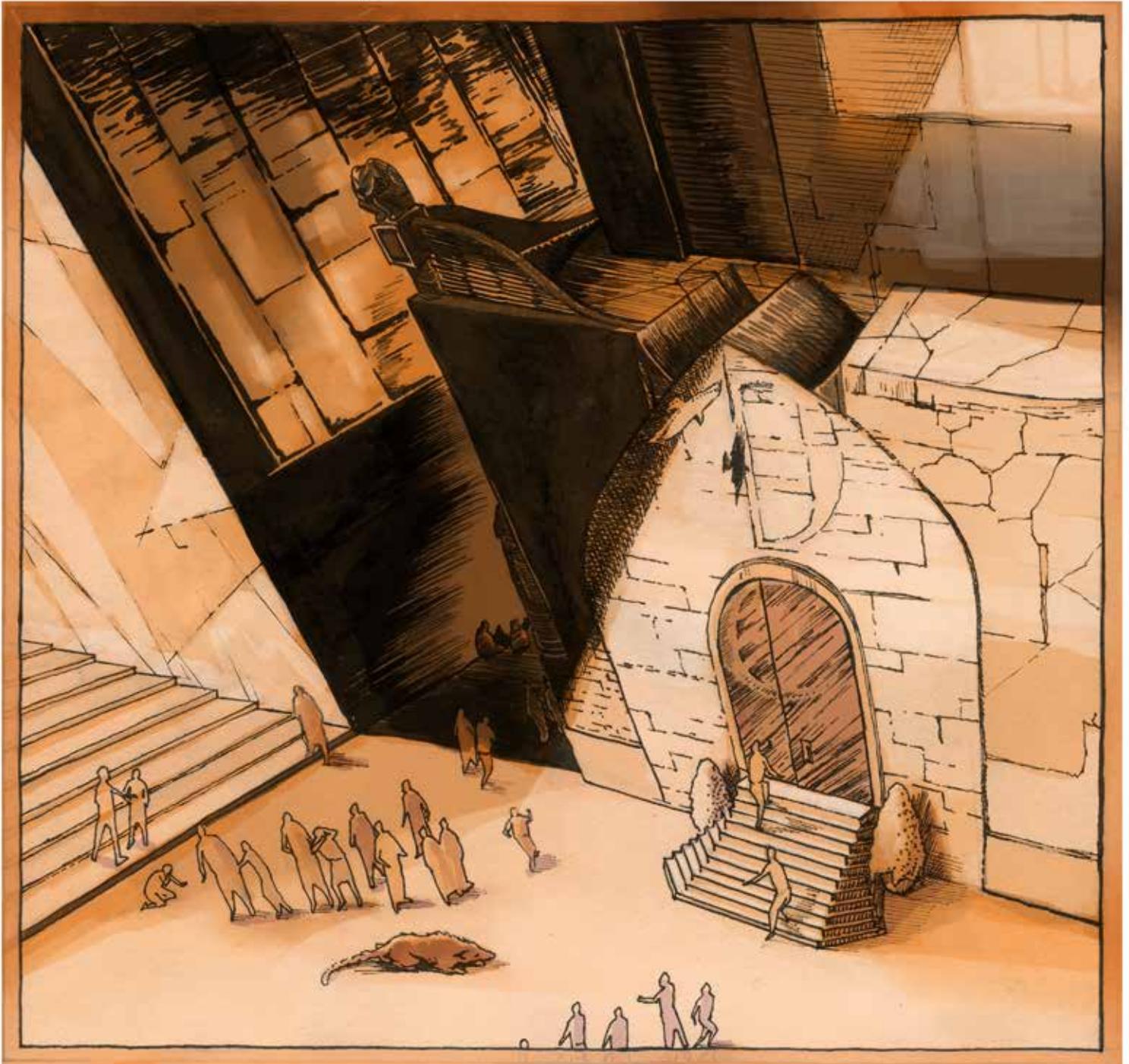
Boast in the Lord, my soul! The humble will be glad when they hear it!



Come magnify the Lord with me! Let's exalt His Name together.



Deliverance from all my fears: this is what the Lord answered when I sought him.



Even my face is radiant when I look to Him. I will never be ashamed.



From many troubles, I, a poor man cried, and the Lord saved me from them all.



God's angel encamps around those who fear the Lord, and delivers them.



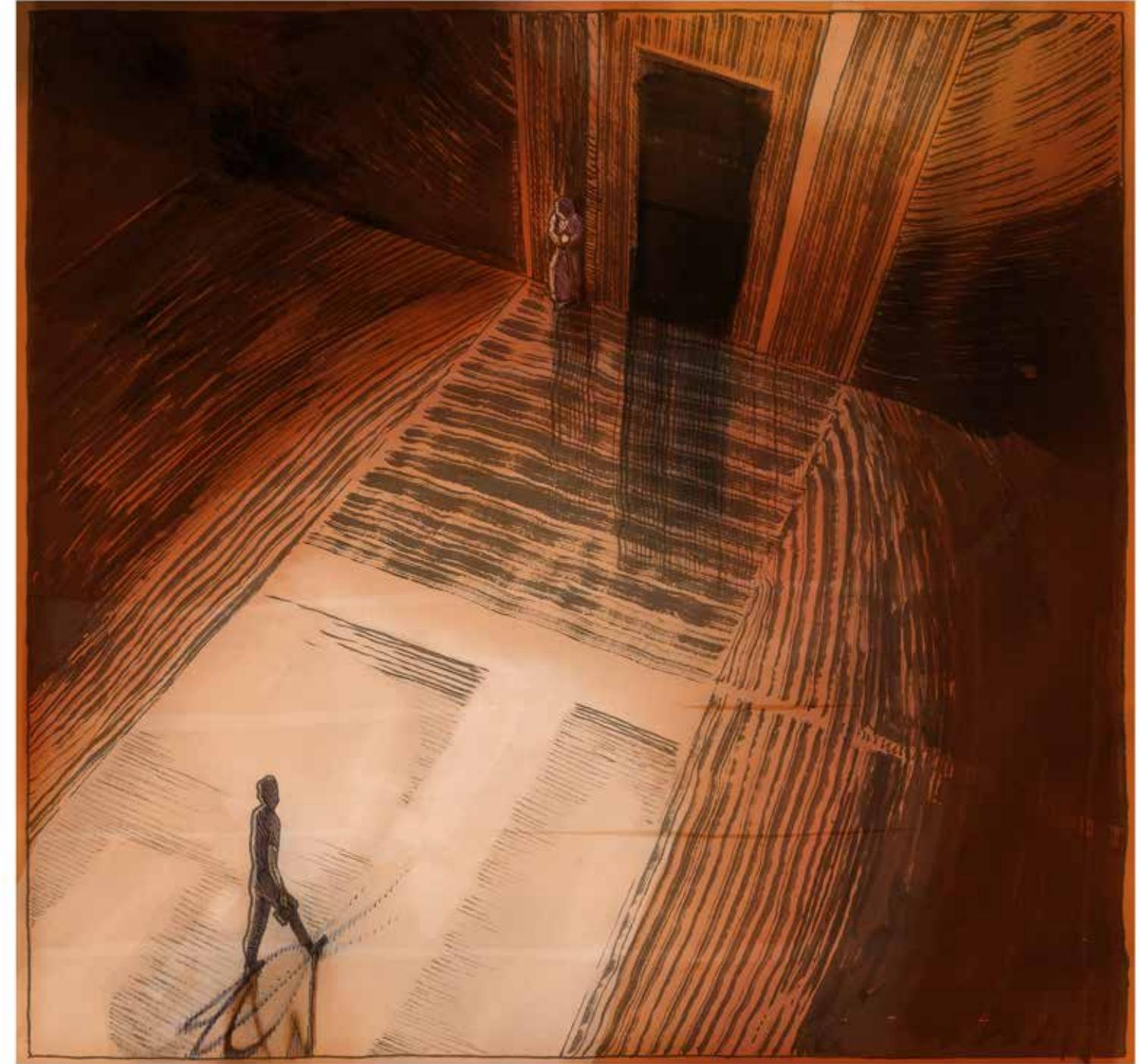
Ho! Taste and see that the Lord is good!



In Him, the Blessed have refuge.



Just fear the Lord, you Saint! He lacks in nothing



Know that lions suffer want and hunger; but we who fear the Lord lack no good thing.



Little children, come, and I will teach you how to fear the Lord.



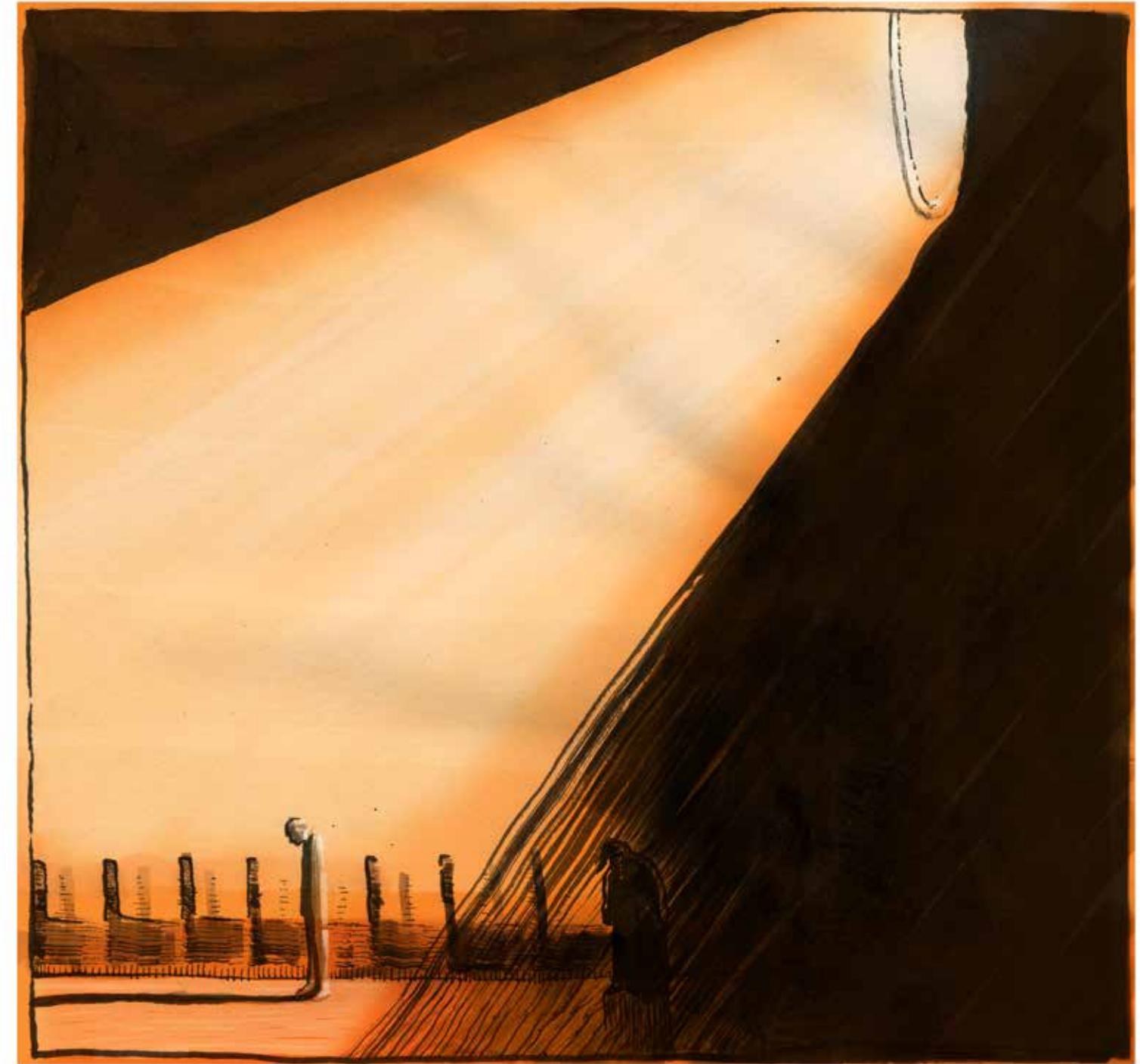
Many, many good days: who does not desire such? Well then...



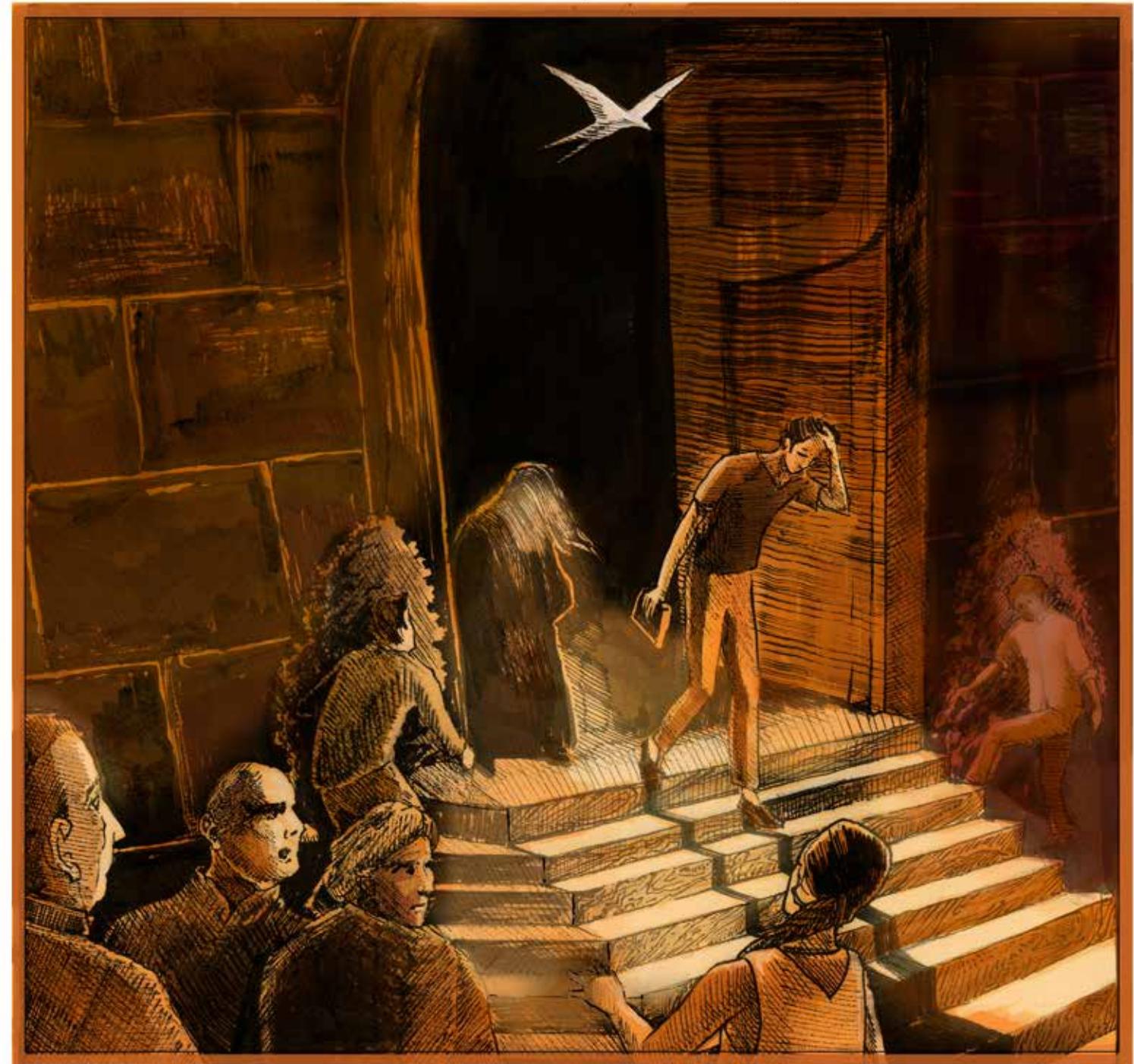
No evil should be found on your tongue.



Open your mouth to speak, but shut your lips to all deceit.



Pursue peace! Turn away from evil and do good.



Quick are the eyes and ears of the Lord to see the righteous and hear their cry. He will...



...remove the memory of those who do evil in the earth, turning His face against them.



Savior of the righteous! The Lord hears their cry for help, and delivers them out of trouble.



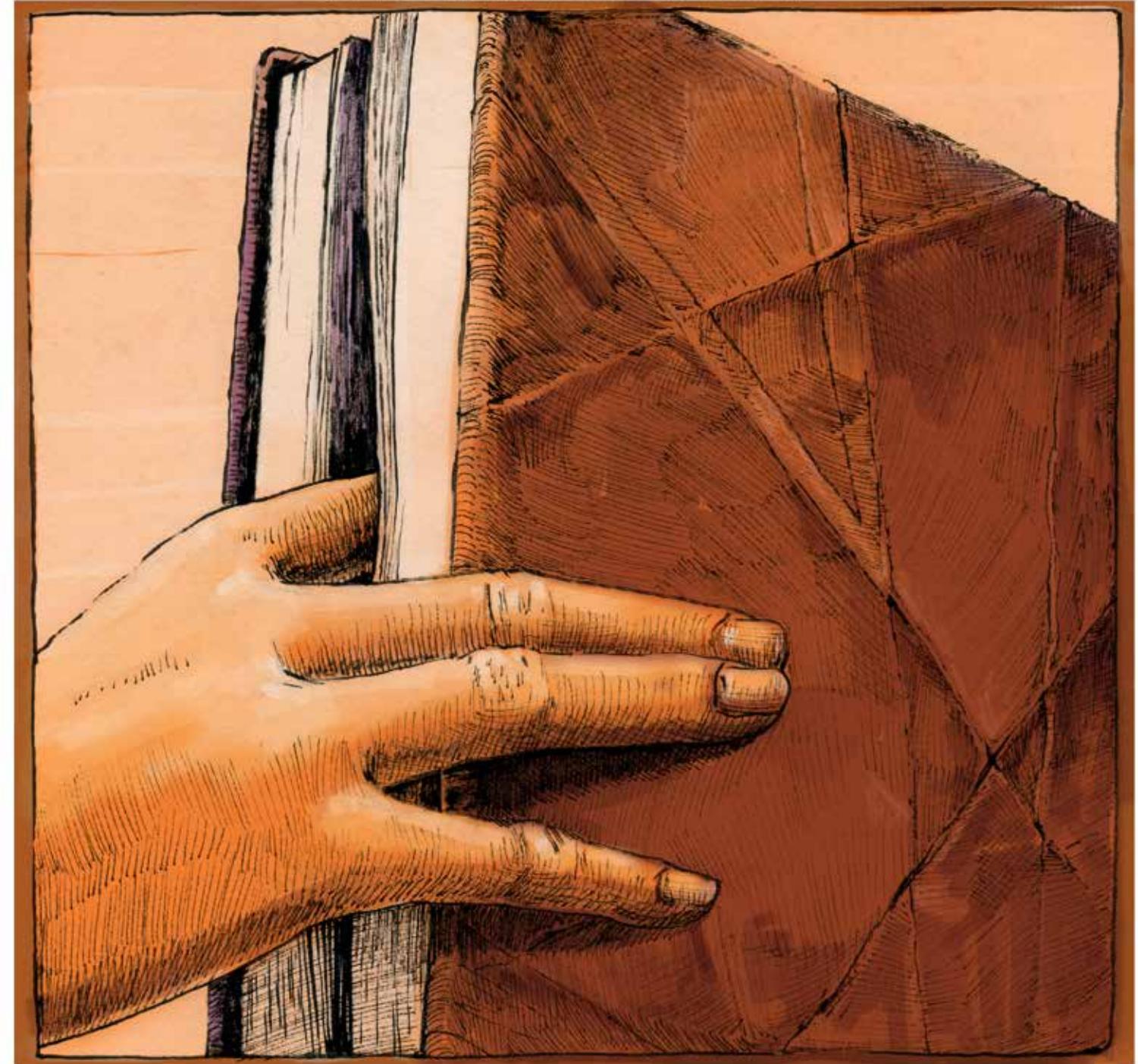
The Lord is near the brokenhearted, and He saves the crushed in spirit.



Untold are the afflictions from which the Lord delivers the righteous.



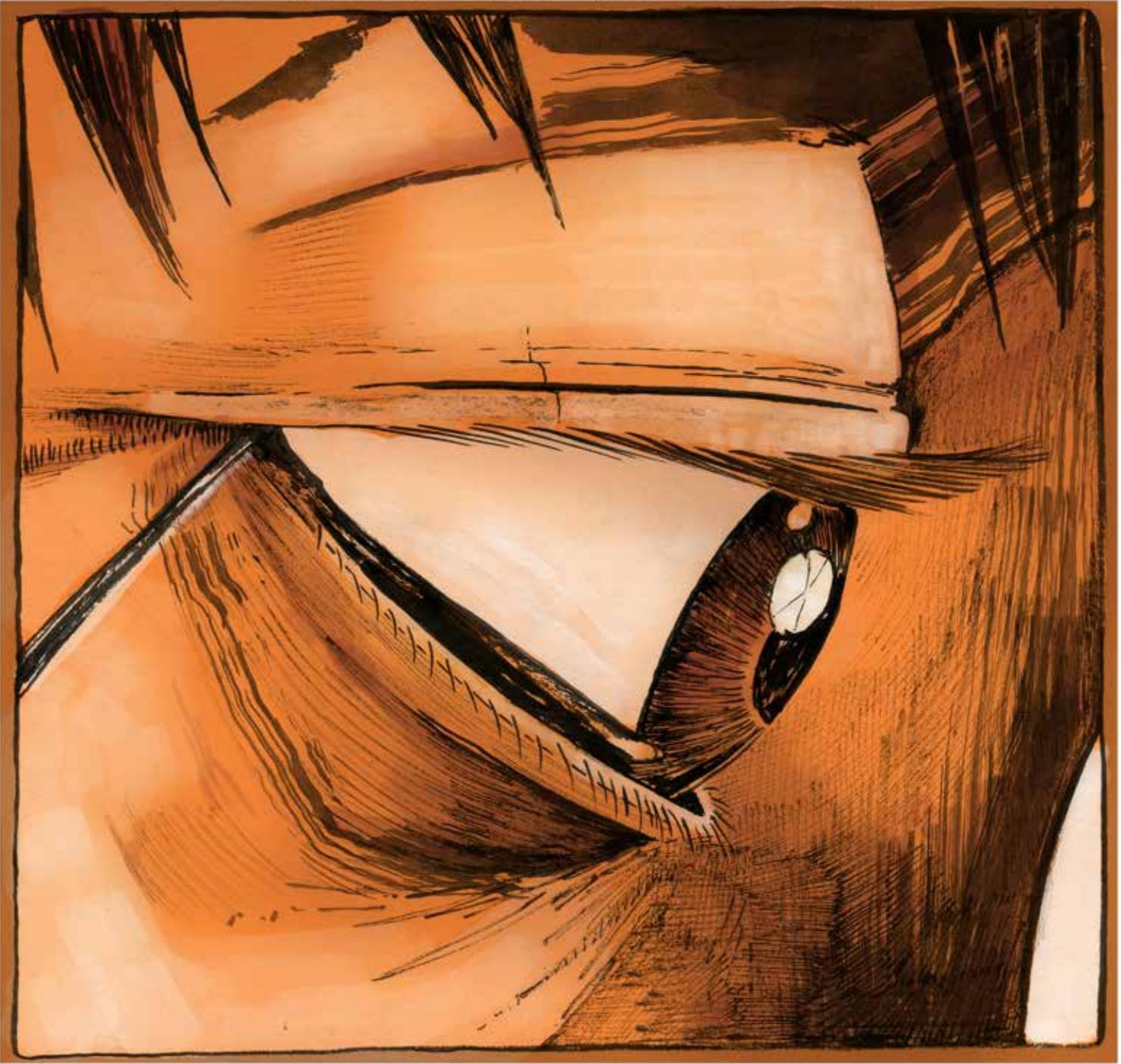
Verily, not one of their bones will be broken.



Wicked people will be slain by their afflictions...



X: Guilty! Those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

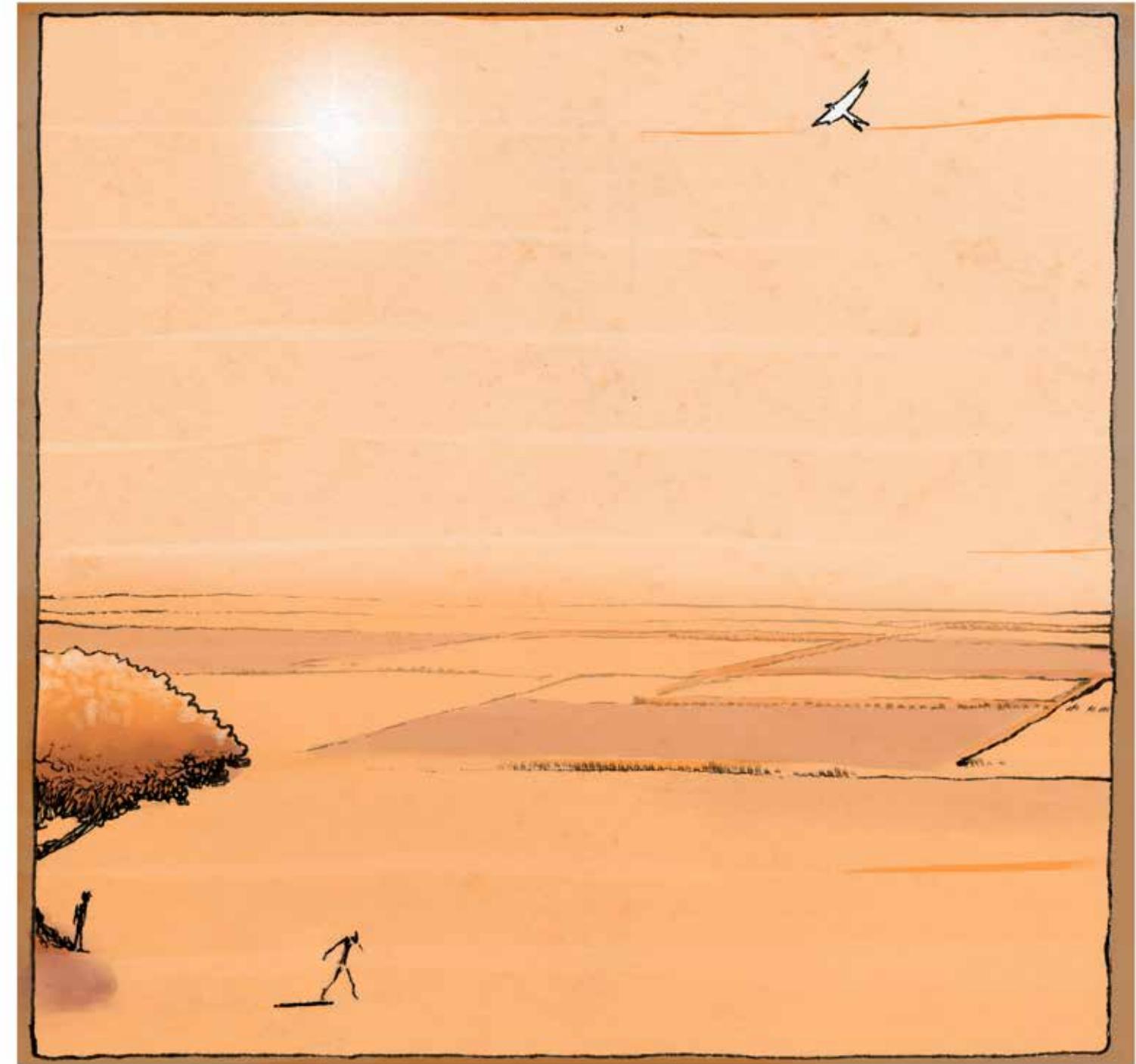


Yes! There is redemption for the servants of the Lord!

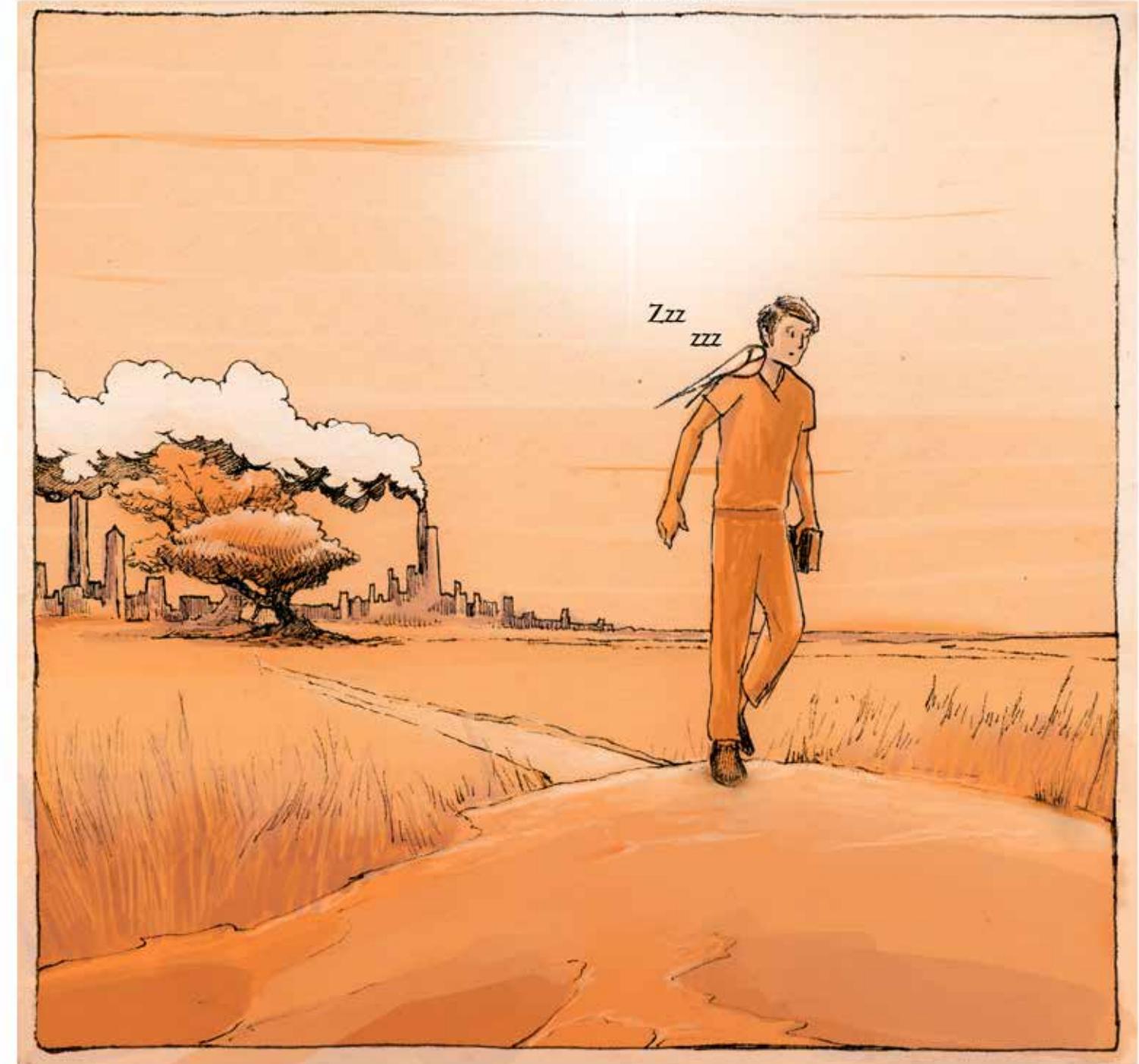




Noone will be condemned...



...who takes refuge in Ḥim.



Psalm 34

English Standard Version (ESV)

Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
 his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- 2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
 let the humble hear and be glad.
- 3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
 and let us exalt his name together!
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me
 and delivered me from all my fears.
- 5 Those who look to him are radiant,
 and their faces shall never be ashamed.
- 6 This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him
 and saved him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps
 around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- 8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
 Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
- 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,
 for those who fear him have no lack!
- 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger;
 but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
- 11 Come, O children, listen to me;
 I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

- 12 What man is there who desires life
and loves many days, that he may see good?
- 13 Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.
- 14 Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous
and his ears toward their cry.
- 16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to cut off the memory of them from the earth. 17 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
- 18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.
- 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.
- 20 He keeps all his bones;
not one of them is broken.
- 21 Affliction will slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
- 22 The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Author's Note

Psalm 34 is an acrostic psalm, each verse beginning with a consecutive letter of the Hebrew aleph-bet. These illustrations are part of Project119, a collaborative, creative response in Scripture, for those who "love God's Law" with the goal of meditating upon all day long, and through seeking to get understanding by it.

It is several stories at once. It is David's story, and the story of his relationship with his own children as they were growing up. It is our story, should we dare to let God's word meditate upon our lives, and make of us His living stones.

Hol' fast and see that the Lord is good!

