

THE EVIL GOD

Marcion of Sinope

85 AD - 160 AD



written & illustrated by desire grover

MARCION OF SINOPE WAS DESPISED BY MANY IN THE EARLY CHURCH! ONE OF THE EARLIEST CHURCH FATHERS TO WRITE AGAINST MARCION'S TEACHINGS WAS **JUSTIN MARTYR**.

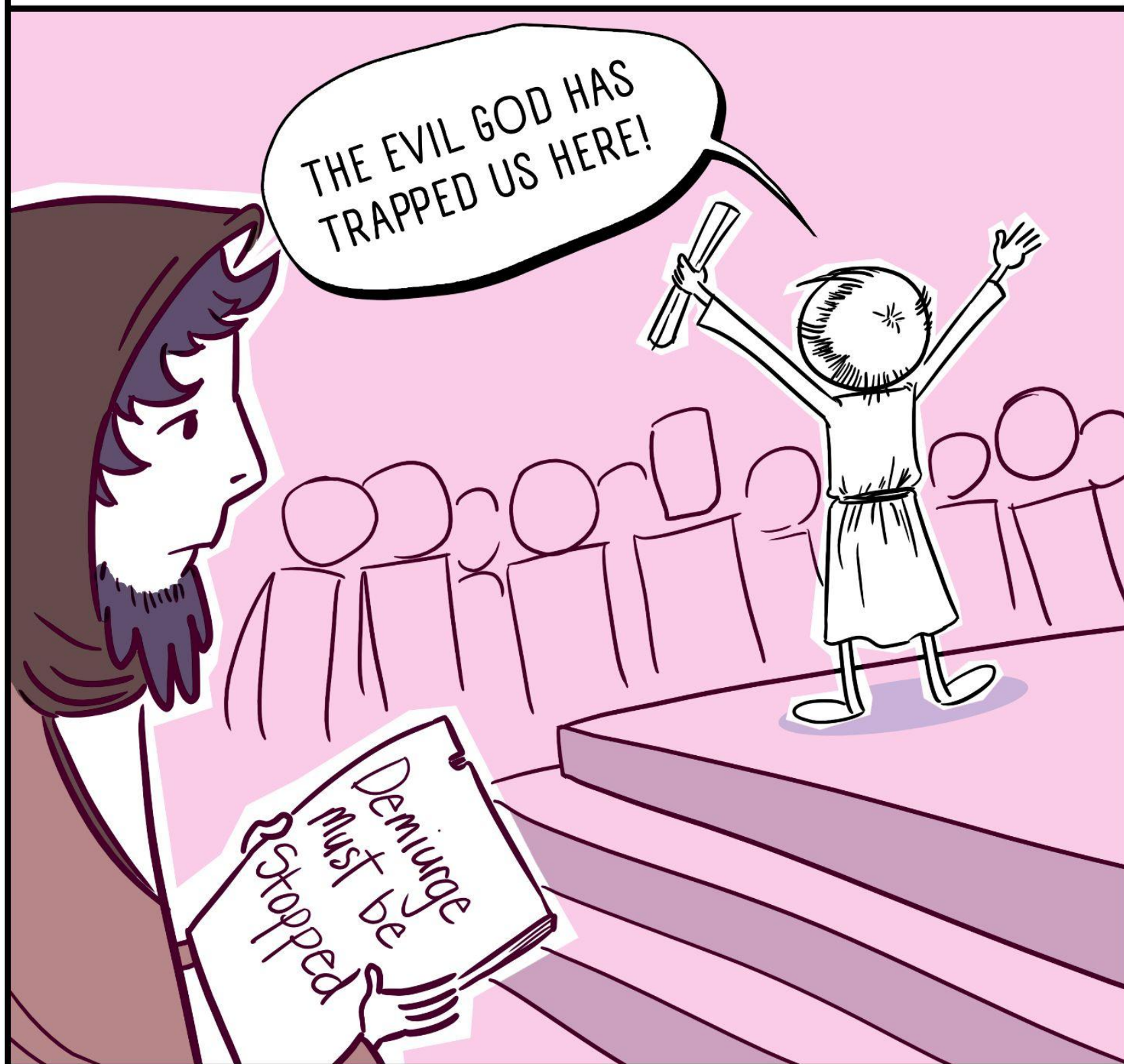


**JUSTIN WROTE OF MARCION: "AND HE, BY THE AID OF THE DEVILS,
HAS CAUSED MANY OF EVERY NATION TO SPEAK BLASPHEMIES, AND
TO DENY THAT GOD IS THE MAKER OF THIS UNIVERSE."**



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MARCION WAS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY A **CHRISTIAN Gnostic** NAMED **CERDO** WHO TAUGHT THAT THE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT* WAS AN **EVIL GOD*** (THE DEMIURGE) WHO HAD TRAPPED HUMANITY IN AN EVIL WORLD!



HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS A **GOOD GOD** WHO WAS ABLE TO **FREE HUMANITY** FROM THIS EVIL GOD'S WORLD. IT WAS THIS GOOD GOD THAT **JESUS** TAUGHT TO HUMANITY.



AS A RESULT, **MARCION** TOTALLY REJECTED THE HEBREW BIBLE (O.T.) AND CREATED A COLLECTION OF SCRIPTURES REFERRED TO AS HIS **APOSTOLIKON**.



THE APOSTOLIKON CONTAINED A SHORTER VERSION OF LUKE AND 10 EPISTLES OF PAUL (GALATIANS, 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS, ROMANS, 1 & 2 THESSALONIANS, EPHESIANS, COLOSSIANS, PHILIPPIANS, AND PHILEMON.)



SOME SCHOLARS BELIEVE THAT THE TEACHINGS OF **MARCION** AND THE INFLUENCE OF **GNOSTIC CHRISTIANS** CAUSED THE CHURCH TO FINALIZE AN OFFICIAL **CANON OF SCRIPTURE** WHICH WOULD BECOME KNOWN AS THE BIBLE.



WHAT MADE **MARCION** EVEN MORE PROBLEMATIC FOR THE **EARLY CHURCH** WAS THE FACT THAT HE WAS INDEPENDENTLY WEALTHY AS A SHIP BUILDER AND TRAVELED FREELY THROUGHOUT **ASIA MINOR**, SPREADING HIS BELIEFS.



HIS **WEALTH** ALSO MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO COLLECT **EPISTLES**
AND GOSPELS AS WELL AS EDIT THEM ACCORDING TO HIS LIKING.

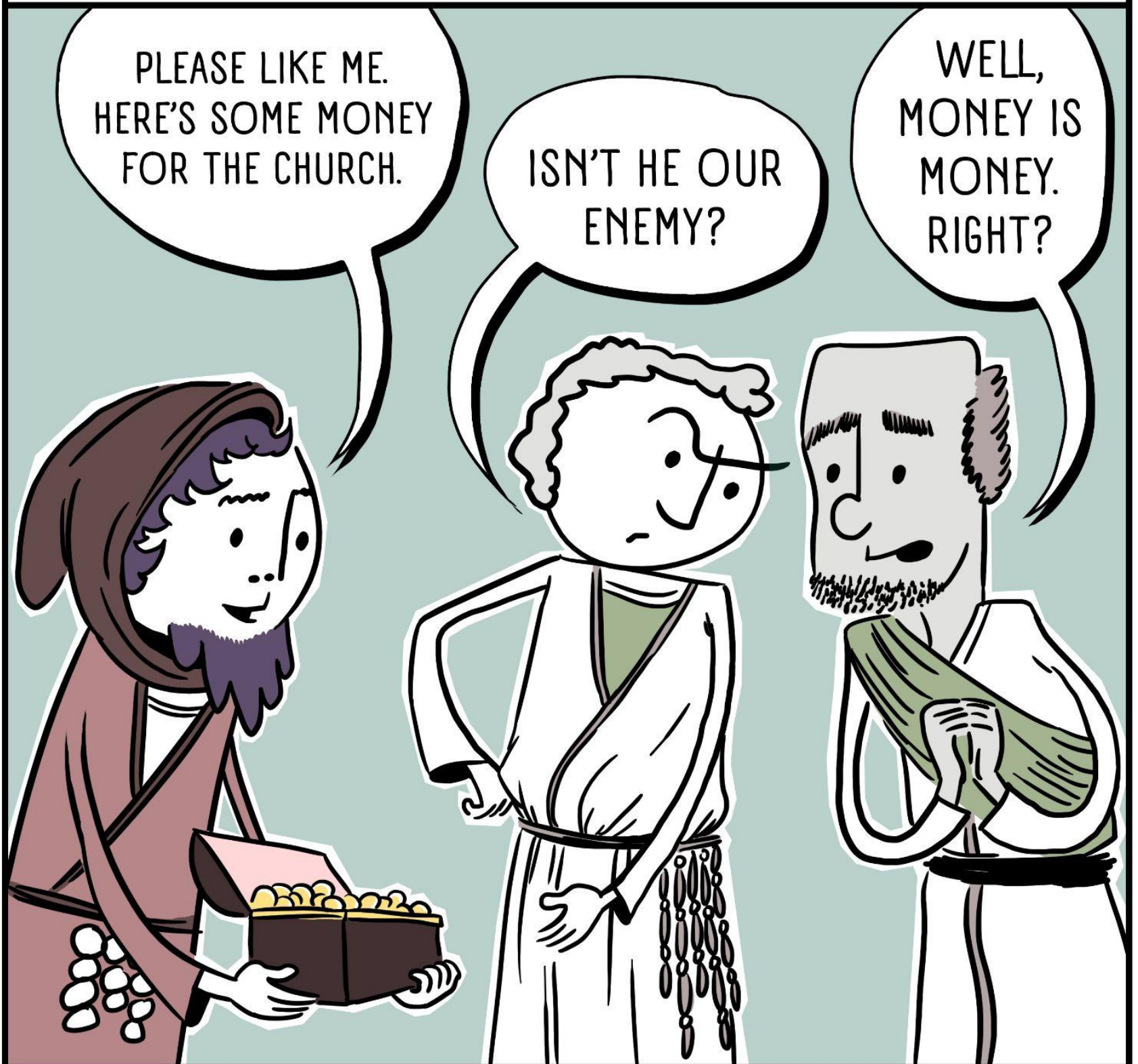


HE ALSO GAVE **MONEY** TO THE **EARLY CHURCH**, COMPLICATING THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

PLEASE LIKE ME.
HERE'S SOME MONEY
FOR THE CHURCH.

ISN'T HE OUR
ENEMY?

WELL,
MONEY IS
MONEY.
RIGHT?



FINALLY, **MARCION** TRIED TO MAKE HIS CASE TO THE CHURCH IN **ROME IN 144** BUT THEY **REJECTED HIS TEACHINGS** OUTRIGHT AND OFFICIALLY **EXCOMMUNICATED** HIM FROM THE CHURCH FOREVER.





HIS TEACHINGS WOULD FALL INTO OBSCURITY AS THE CHURCH
CONTINUED TO SPEAK AGAINST HIS BELIEFS!

:: SUPPORTIVE FACTS ::

***Melito of Sardis** was the first to use the phrase “**Old Covenant**” while writing a list of books in the **Hebrew Scriptures**. The word “Covenant” (Greek: Diatheke) was later translated as “**Testament**” (Latin: Testamentum) by **Jerome of Stridon** in the **Latin Vulgate**.

*The “**Evil God**” is a heavenly figure referred to as the **Demiurge in Gnostic** religious sects. The Demiurge was the **Creator** of the “physical” world, where human souls exist trapped. The Demiurge is also understood to be the “**Chief Archon**” with lower archons obeying its desires.

While Gnostics viewed the Demiurge as a malevolent being, **Platonists** saw the Demiurge as a good and benevolent Creator who shaped “**eternal**” forms from matter. The Platonist Demiurge aimed to shape a physical world that reflected perfection, although the matter used was imperfect.

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