GENESIS
DAWN OF THE AGE

THE FIRST FAMILY

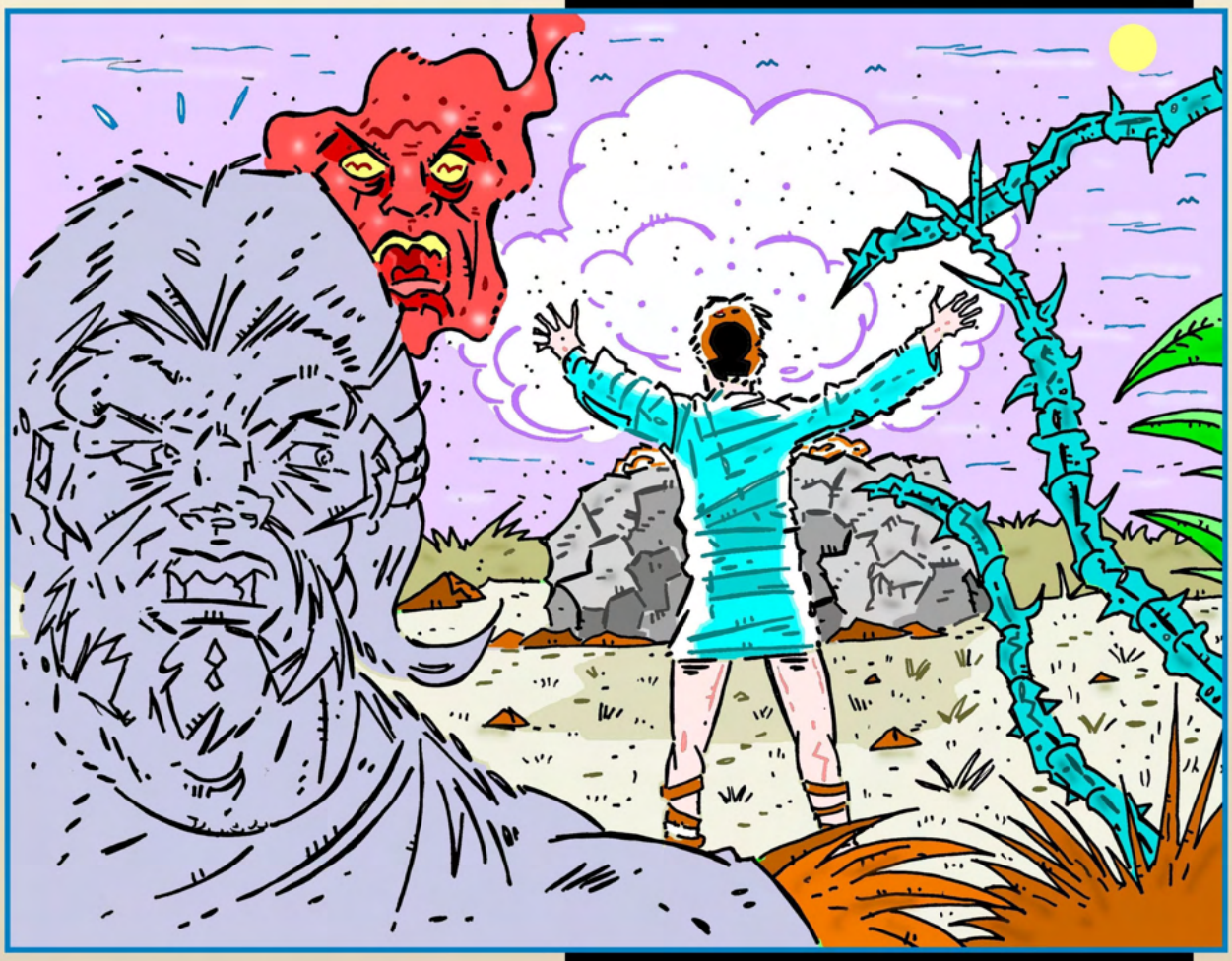
...And Adam knew Eve his wife intimately;
and she conceived, and gave birth to Cain...

CAIN AND ABEL

NOTE: The name "Cain" means "to acquire" while the name Abel signifies vanity, futility or emptiness.

GOD'S WAY...OR OUR WAY?

...And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto Yahweh. And Abel, he also brought of the first produced of his flock and of the fat thereof. And Yahweh had respect unto Abel and to his offering; but unto Cain and to his offering He did not have respect. And Cain was very angry and his face fell.



...And Yahweh said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why is your face fallen? If you do well, shall you not be accepted? And if you do not well, sin lies at the door".

By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous.

THE FIRST MURDER

...And Cain talked with his brother Abel: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother...and slew him.

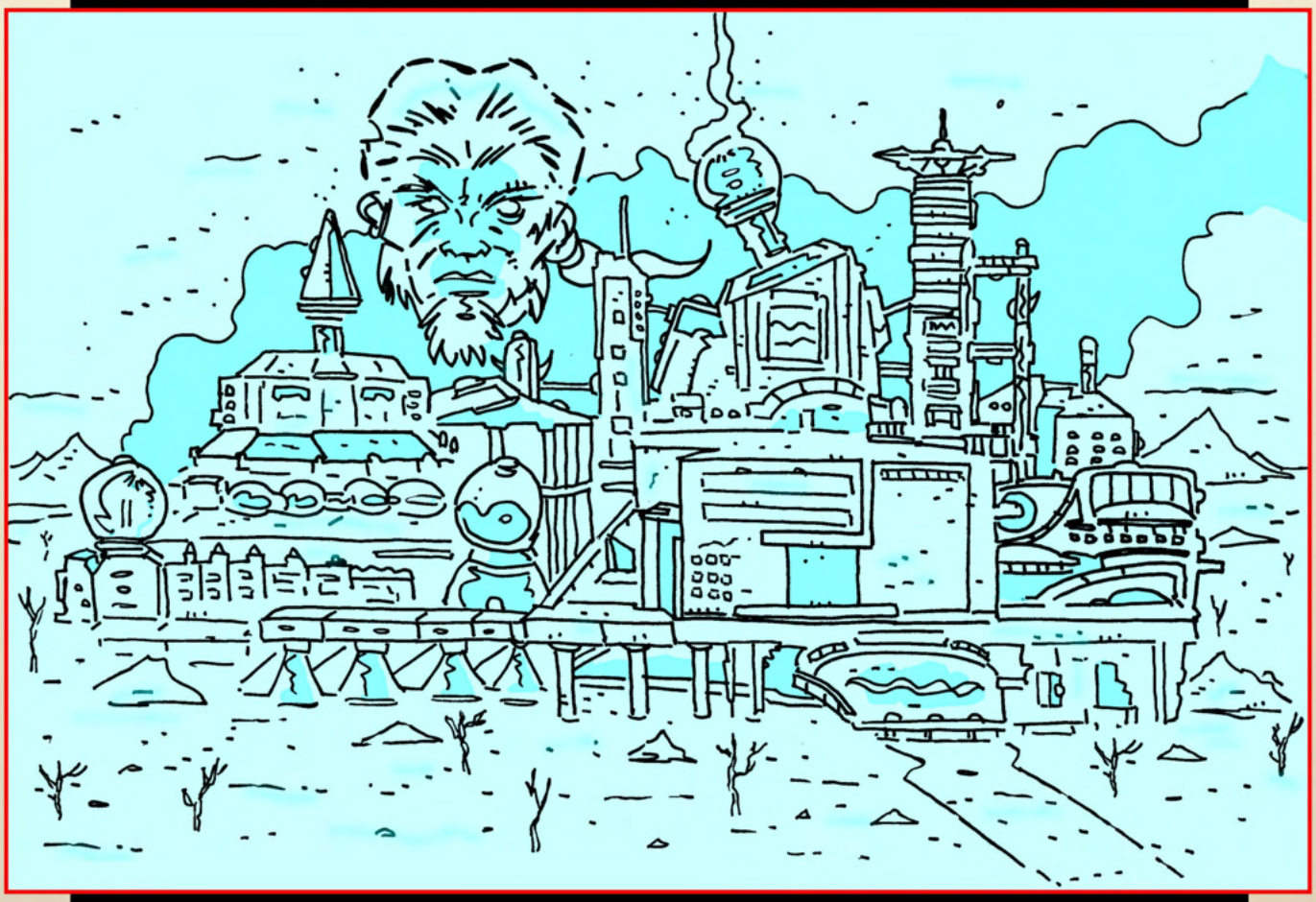
Cain was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

MARK OF CAIN

...And Yahweh set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

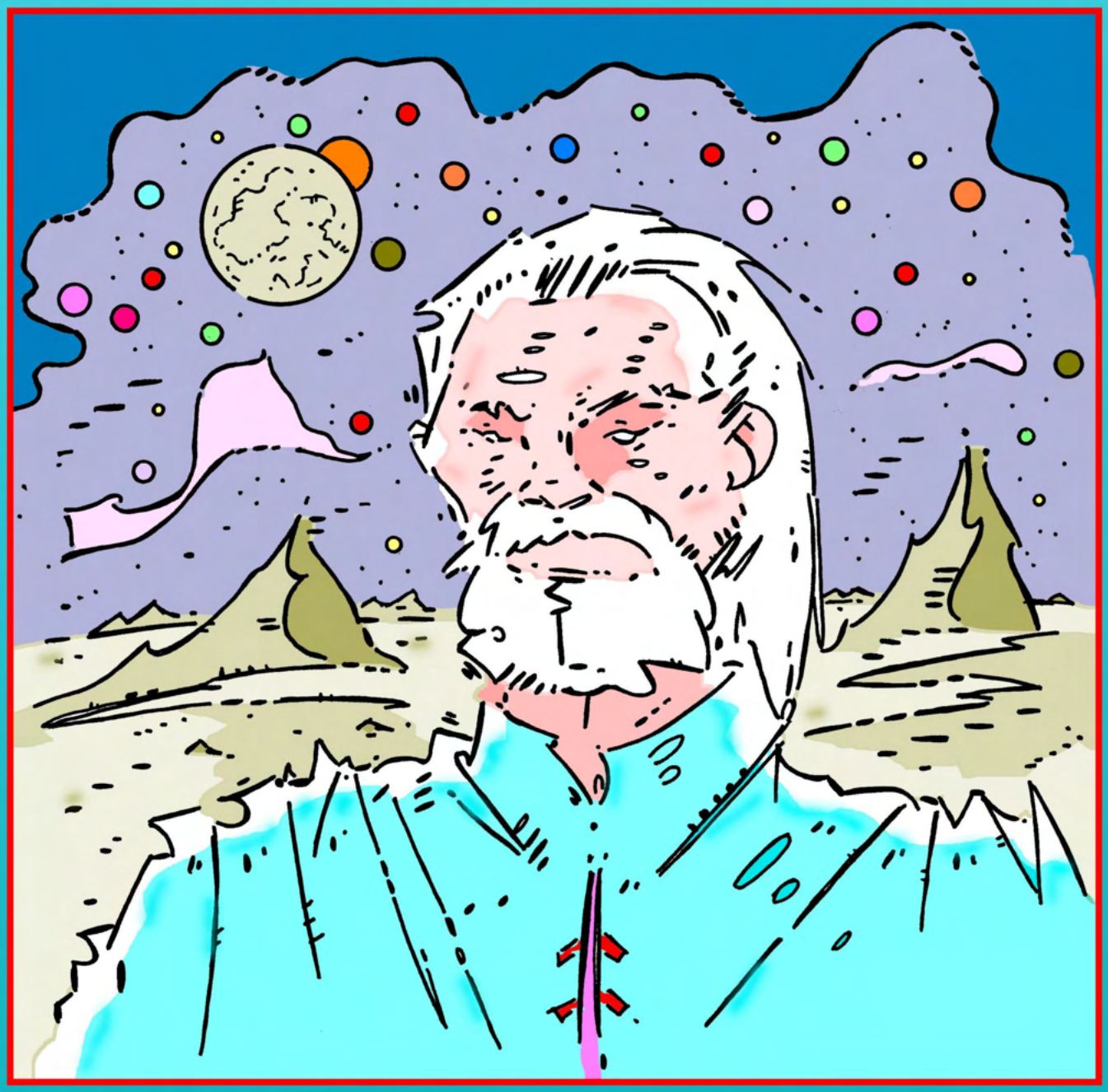
THE FIRST CITY

...And Cain went out from the presence of Yahweh, and dwelt in the land of Exile, on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife intimately; and she conceived, and gave birth to Enoch: and he built a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.



NOTE: This Enoch is not to be confused with the later Enoch, the prophet, who descended from the line of Seth.

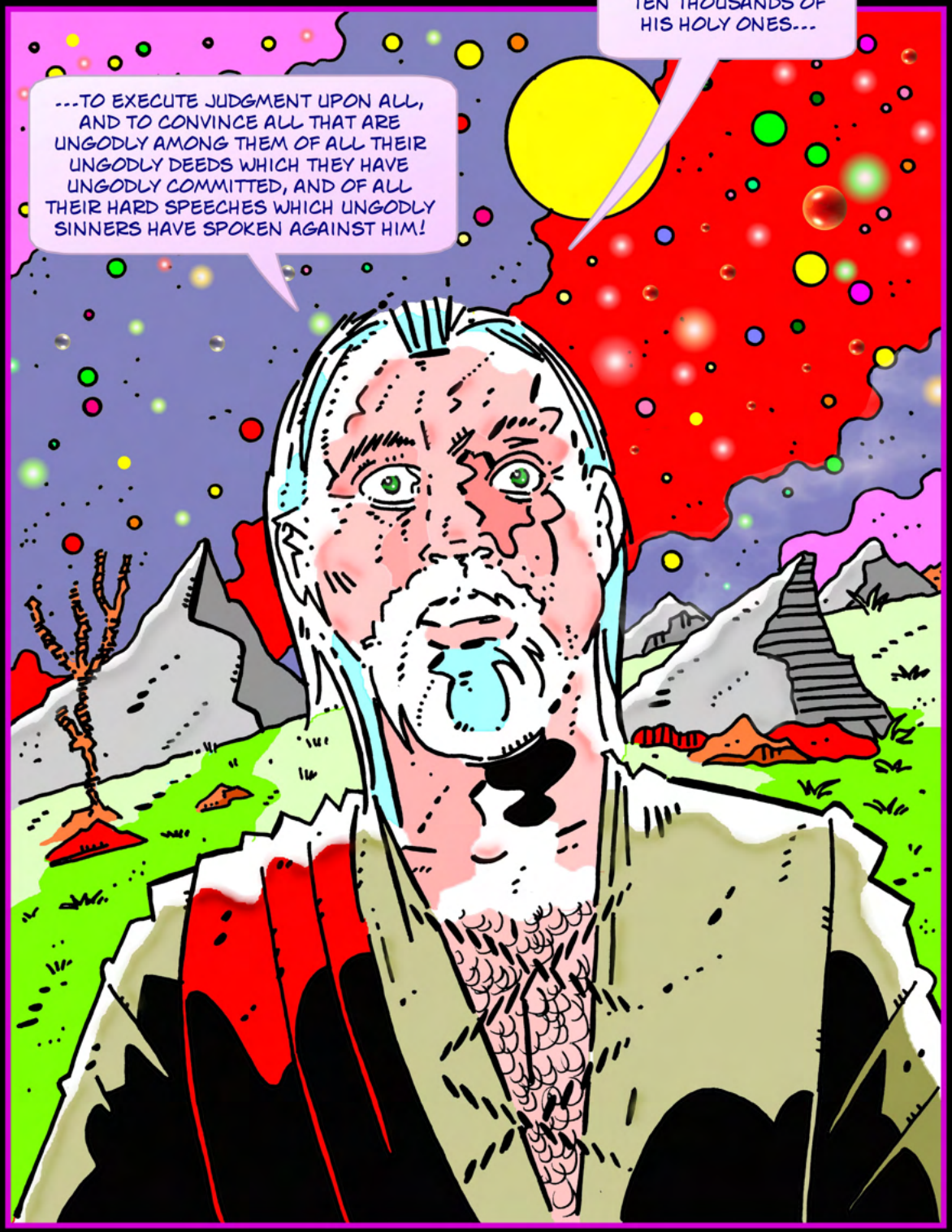
SETH: THE MESSIANIC SEED



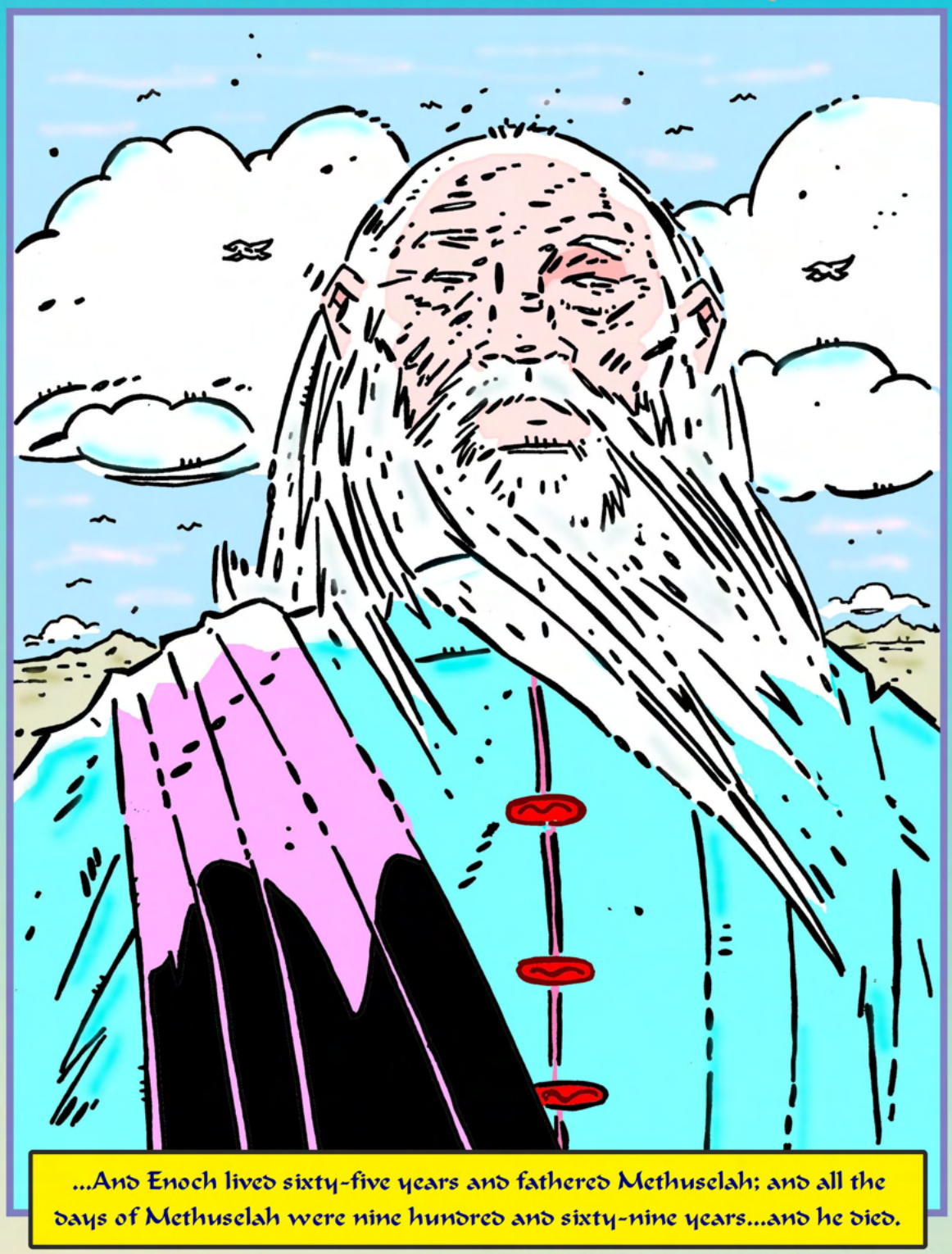
...And Adam had intimate relations with his wife again; and she bare a son,
and called his name Seth ("appointed"):
"For God has appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew".
And to Seth also there was born a son; and he called his name Enosh ("man"):
then men began to call upon the Name of Yahweh.

ENOCH
A PROPHET OF GOD

...And Enosh fathered Cainan, and Cainan fathered Mahalaleel, and Mahalaleel fathered Jared, and Jared fathered Enoch. And Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying:



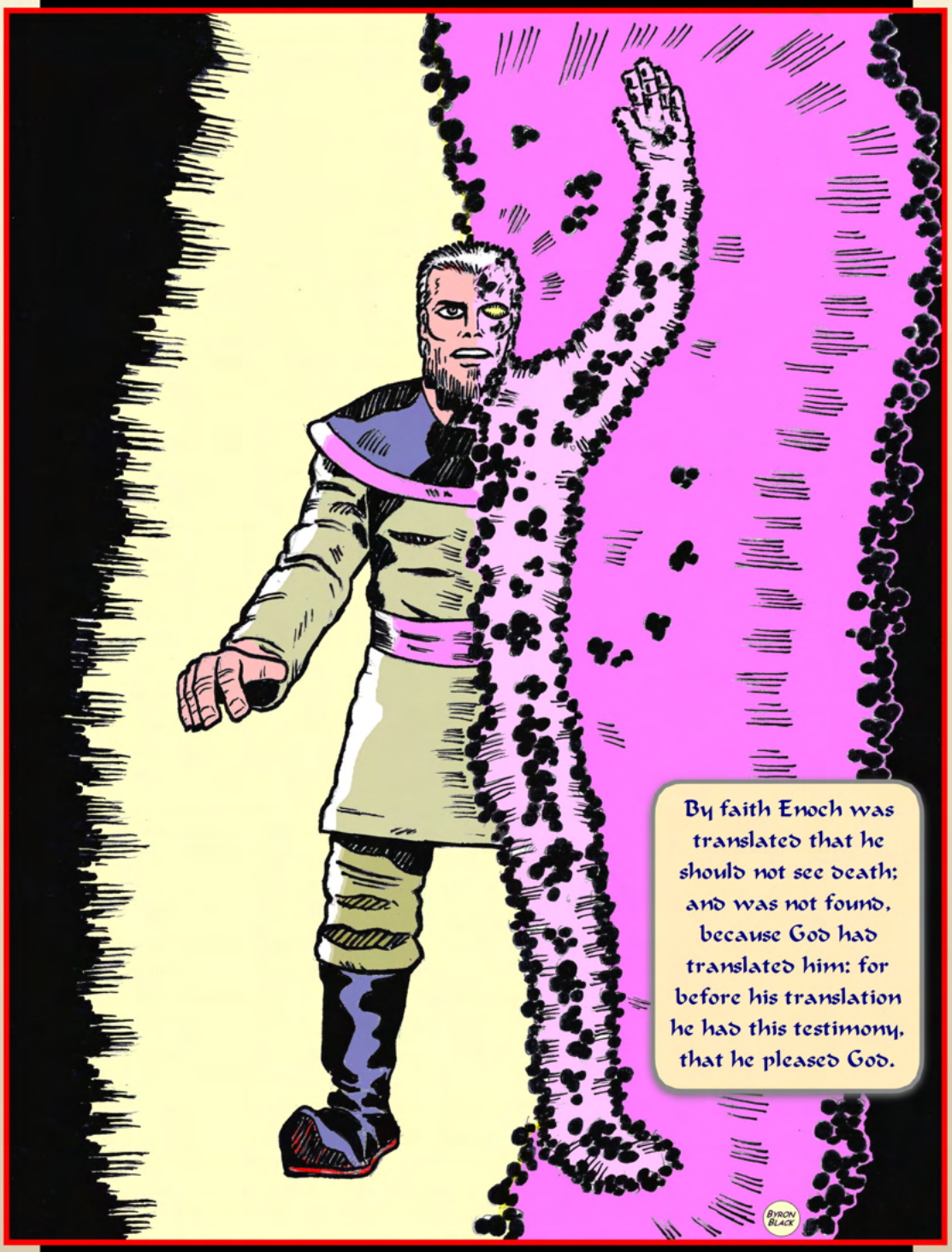
METHUSELAH
THE OLDEST MAN WHO EVER LIVED!



NOTE: SOME SCHOLARS INTERPRET METHUSELAH'S NAME TO MEAN "AT HIS DEATH, IT SHALL BE SENT". THE GREAT FLOOD OCCURRED IN THE YEAR OF HIS DEATH.

THE TRANSLATION OF ENOCH

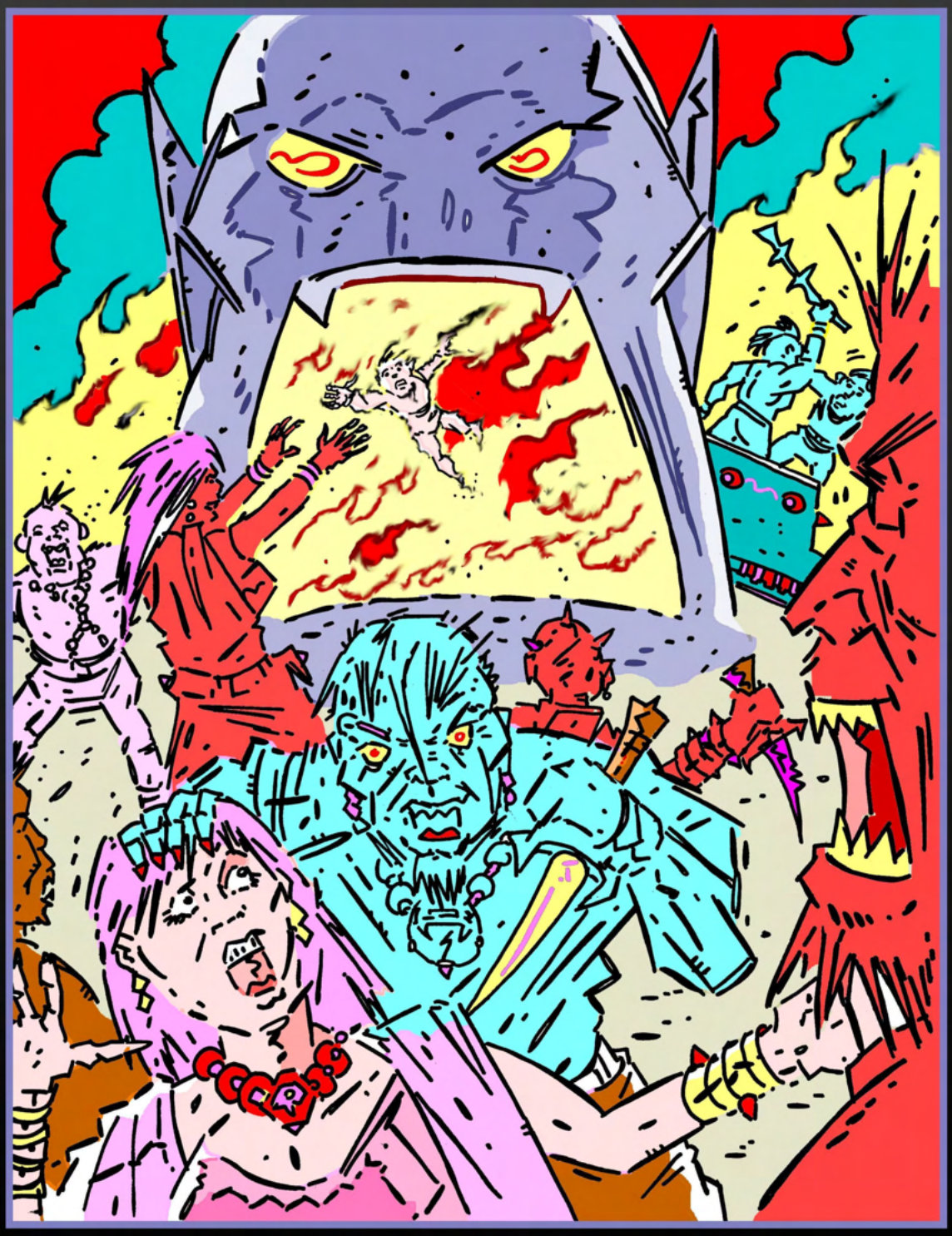
...And Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah three hundred years, and fathered sons and daughters. And all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.



ART BY BYRON BLACK

DAYS OF NOAH

...And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the Earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually...



...And Yahweh regretted that He had made man on the Earth...
and it grieved Him at His heart.

NOAH

...But Noah found grace in the eyes of Yahweh. Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

THE END IS NEAR.

...AND YOU SHALL TAKE UNTO YOU OF ALL FOOD THAT IS EATEN, AND YOU SHALL GATHER IT TO YOU; AND IT SHALL BE FOOD FOR YOU, AND FOR THEM.

FINAL CALL

The longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved...
God did not spare the old world, but saved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly...

THE STORM HITS!

In the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and they did not know until the flood came, and took them all away...

...All the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened...and the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights...

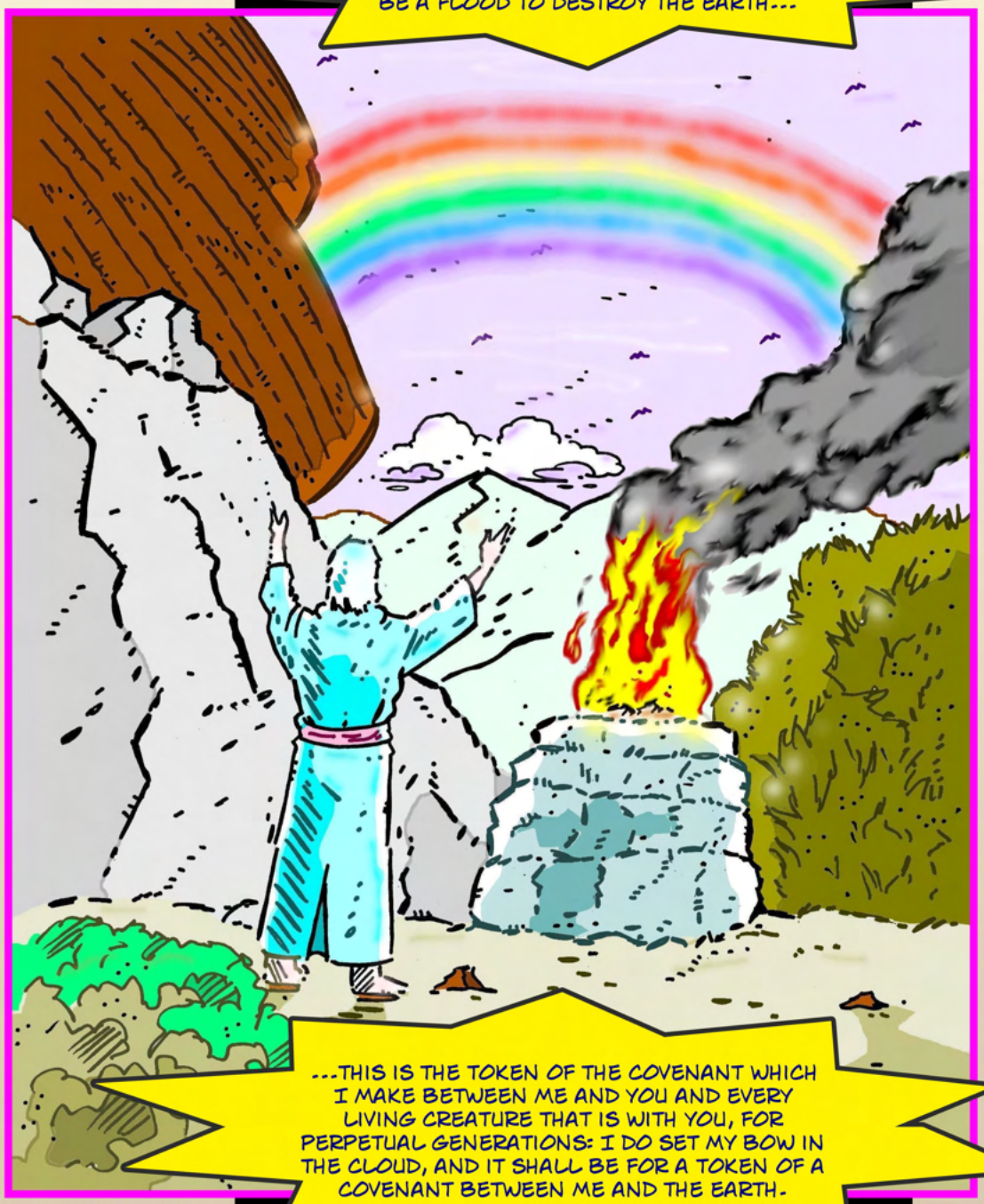
DELUGE!

...And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters...and all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth, and every man: all in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died...

...And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the livestock that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided; the fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; and the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat...

THE FIRST RAINBOW

THE TOKEN OF GOD'S MERCY



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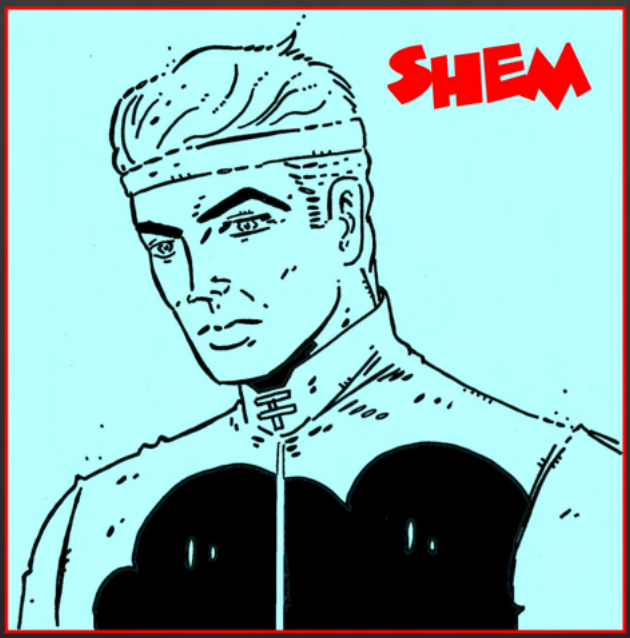
ART BY THE LATE LUISA FELIX / INKS BY JR

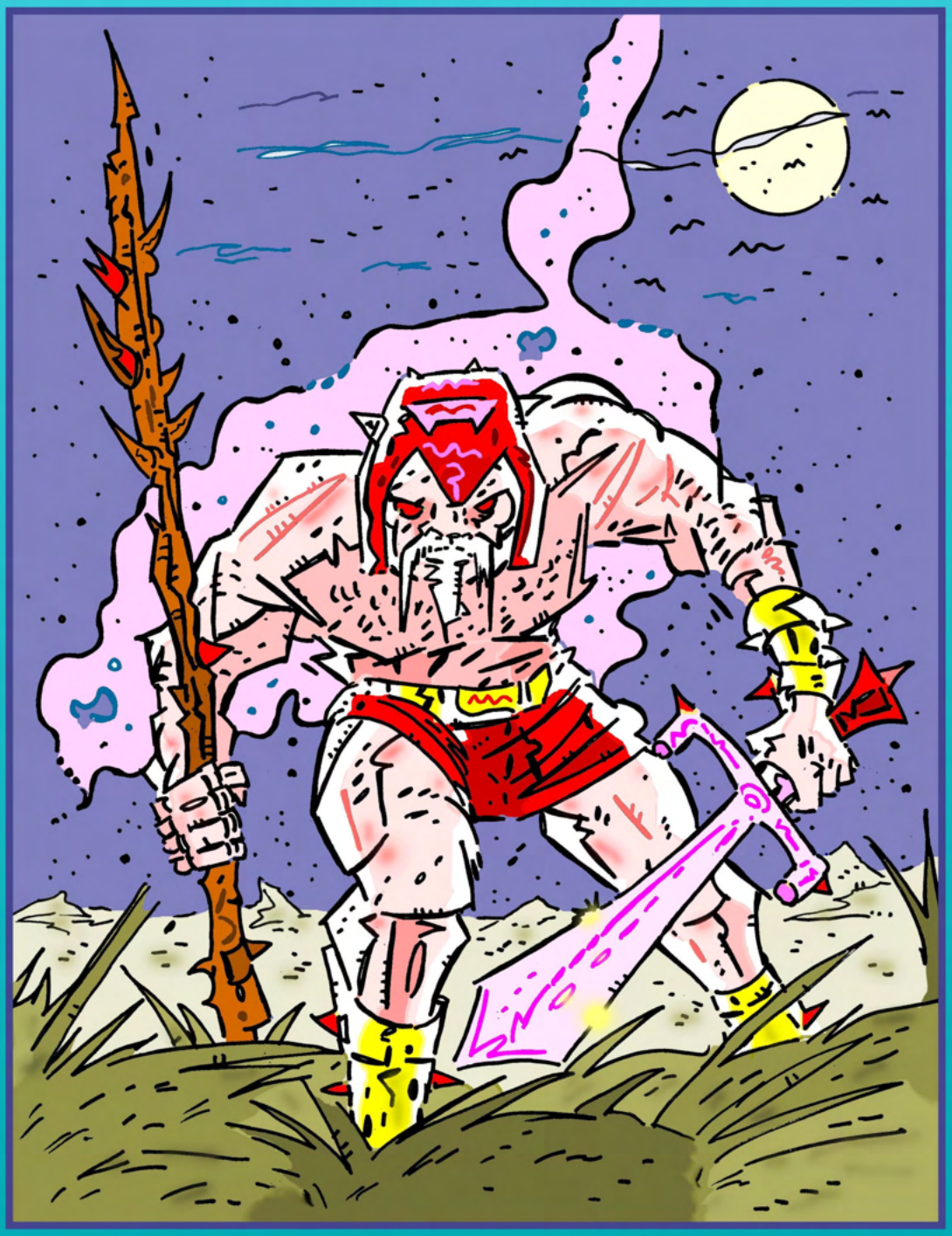


MY THREE SONS

...these are the three sons of Noah; and of them was the whole earth overspread...

NIMROD
FATHER OF BABYLON

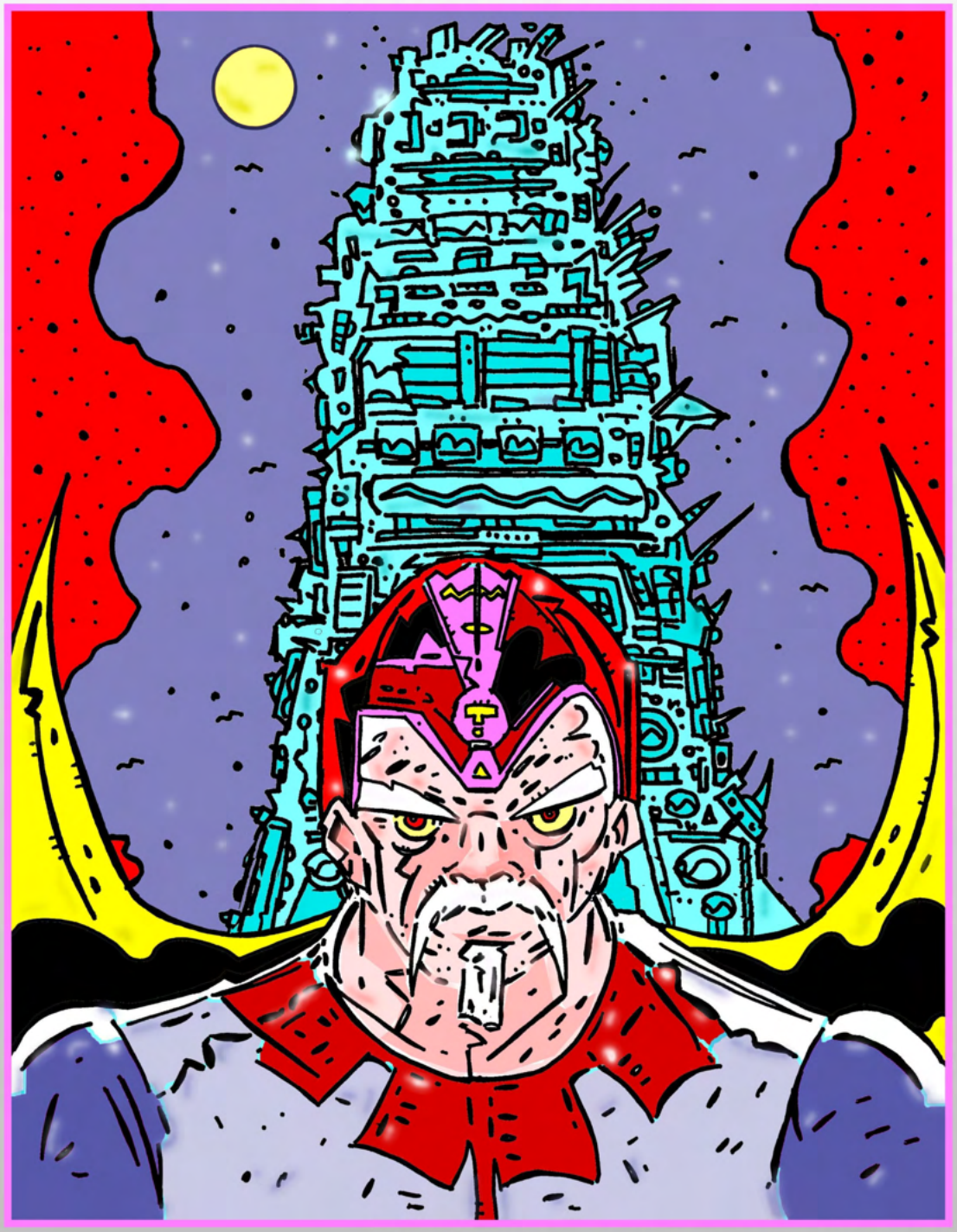
Nimrod (a descendant of Ham) began to be a mighty one in the earth...
he was a mighty hunter before Yahweh...



...And the beginning of his kingdom was BABEL...and the whole
earth was of one language, and of one speech...

THE TOWER OF BABEL

...And they said, "Come on, let us build ourselves a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make ourselves a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."



...And Yahweh came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built...

NOTE: THE HEBREW WORD TRANSLATED "BABEL" IS THE SAME WORD WHICH IS ALSO TRANSLATED "BABYLON"; THIS WORD MEANS "CONFUSION".

CONFUSION!

And Yahweh said, "Behold, the people are one, and they all have one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Come, let Us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech".

So Yahweh scattered them abroad from there upon the face of all the earth: and they ceased to build the city. Therefore the name of it is called BABEL (Confusion); because Yahweh did there confound the language of all the earth: and from there did Yahweh scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth...

WHEN THE EARTH WAS DIVIDED!

...And unto Eber (from whence we derive "Hebrew"; a descendant of Shem) were born two sons: the name of the one was PELEG ("division"): because in his days the earth ("land") was divided: and his brother's name was Joktan ("small")...

NOTE: This is an interesting and often overlooked passage. The earth being divided may have referred to the confusion of tongues which occurred at the tower of Babel, resulting in the creation of assorted large language "tribes". But the Scripture here seems to specifically refer to the land or earth itself. A few verses later we read more specifically of the tower of Babel incident in which it is stated: "...by these were the NATIONS divided in the earth after the flood". To my mind (and I could be wrong!) this seems to imply two different events- one referring to the peoples (the "nations" or tribes) and one regarding the earth's land-mass itself.

Consider this statement concerning God's creation of the land and seas: "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto ONE PLACE, and let the dry land appear" (Genesis 1.9). Was there initially one large conglomeration of waters surrounding a huge land-mass thus making it easier for people to populate, settle and traverse it? Modern scientists have theorized that our continents originally formed one land-mass and were at some point in our history split apart (divided) by some sort of catastrophic event (Divine intervention?).

It's possible that in conjuction with God's intention that there be a division of peoples post-Babel, that once specific groups had separated themselves into large tribes (based on language affinity) they naturally physically separated themselves as well from the other tribes with whom they could no longer communicate. After this process was completed God may have furthered the intended separation by then splitting (dividing) the land into several separate continents each containing a large tribe of people thus creating our concept of "nations".

TO BE CONTINUED!

GOD AND I PROJECTS

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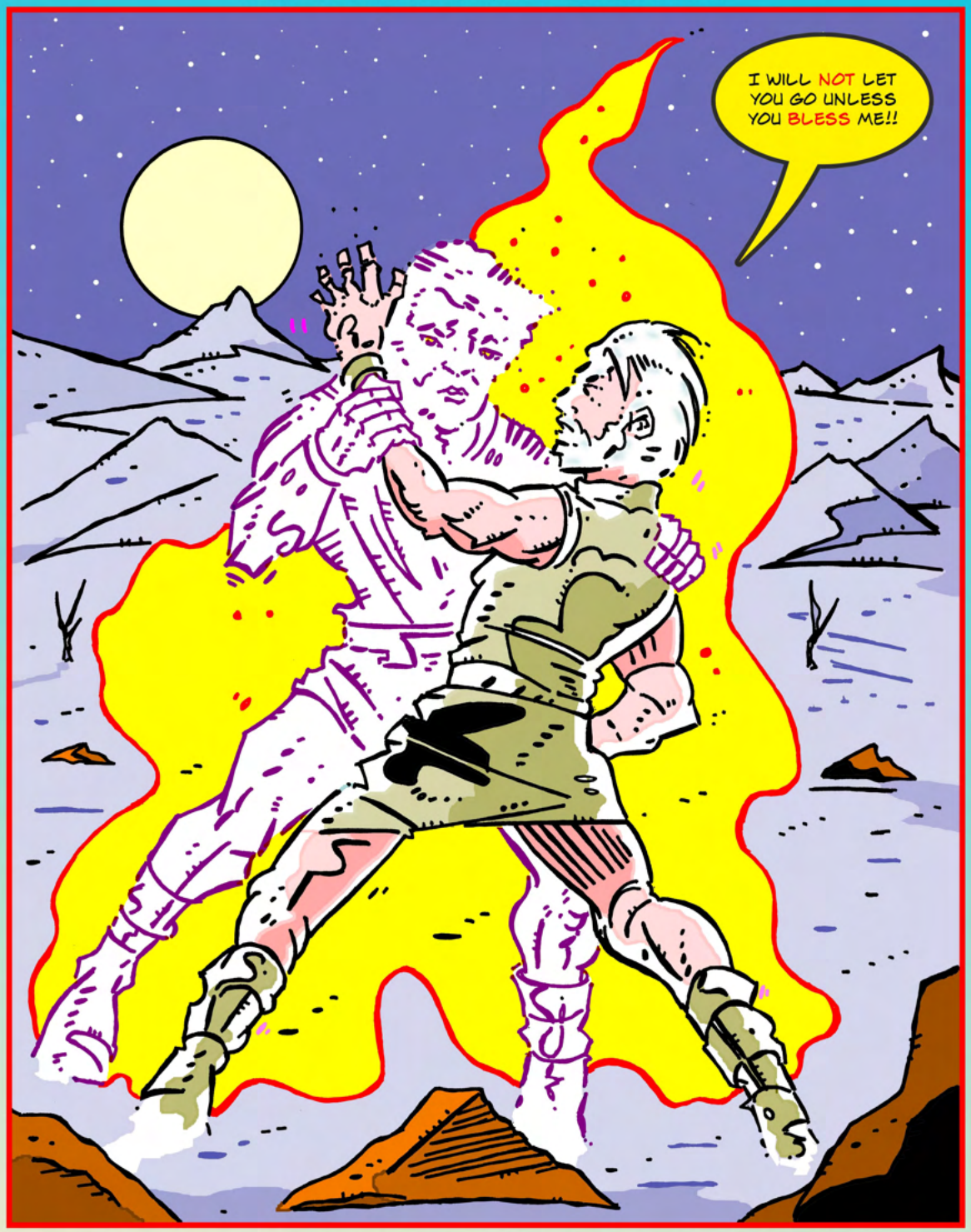
SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE WONDERFUL ARTISTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE CREATION OF THIS BOOK!

JACOB WRESTLES WITH GOD

I WAS ALWAYS PRETTY GOOD AT PLAYING CHECKERS. I HAD DEVELOPED A STRATEGY WHICH WAS FAIRLY DIFFICULT TO BEAT. YET, WHEN MY SON WAS VERY SMALL AND WE PLAYED CHECKERS TOGETHER SOMEHOW HE WOULD ALWAYS, SURPRISINGLY, WIN! HIS HAPPINESS AND SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT MEANT WAY MORE TO ME THAN MY "WINNING" A GAME.



ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING STORIES IN THE BIBLE IS THAT OF JACOB (WHO LATER BECAME "ISRAEL") STRUGGLING WITH A MYSTERIOUS "MAN" THROUGHOUT A BLEAK AND LONELY NIGHT. THE "MAN" TURNED OUT TO BE GOD! AMAZINGLY, JACOB "PREVAILED" IN THIS HEAVENLY "WRESTLING MATCH"! DO WE REALLY BELIEVE THAT ANY MORTAL MAN COULD WRESTLE WITH THE ALMIGHTY CREATOR AND ACTUALLY "WIN"? OUR HEAVENLY FATHER HAD AN IMPORTANT LESSON HE WANTED TO TEACH NOT ONLY JACOB BUT ALL OF US REGARDING OUR DEALINGS WITH HIM. PERSEVERANCE, DETERMINATION AND PASSION ARE THE KEYS TO SUCCESS IN PRAYER!