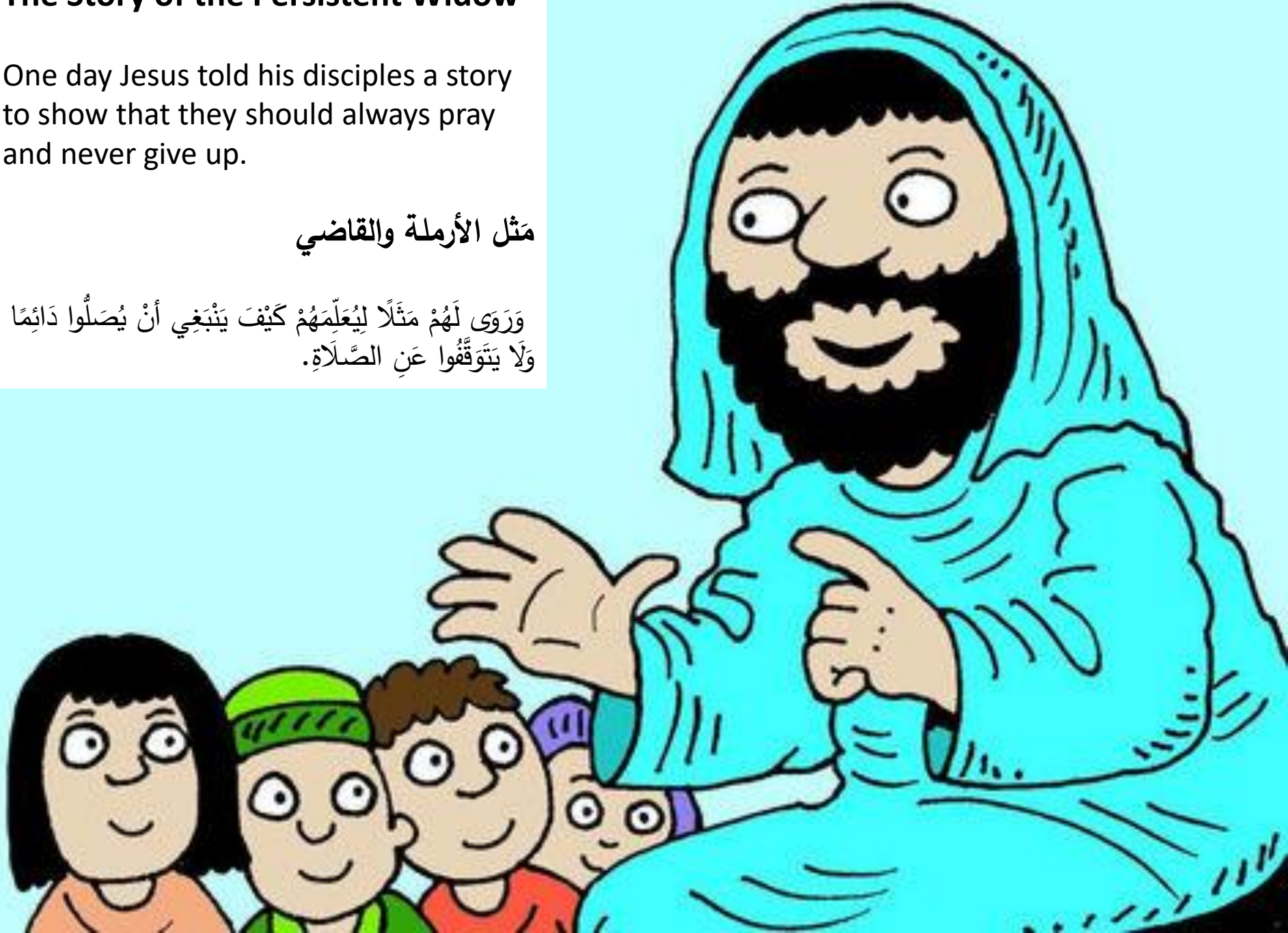


The Story of the Persistent Widow

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.

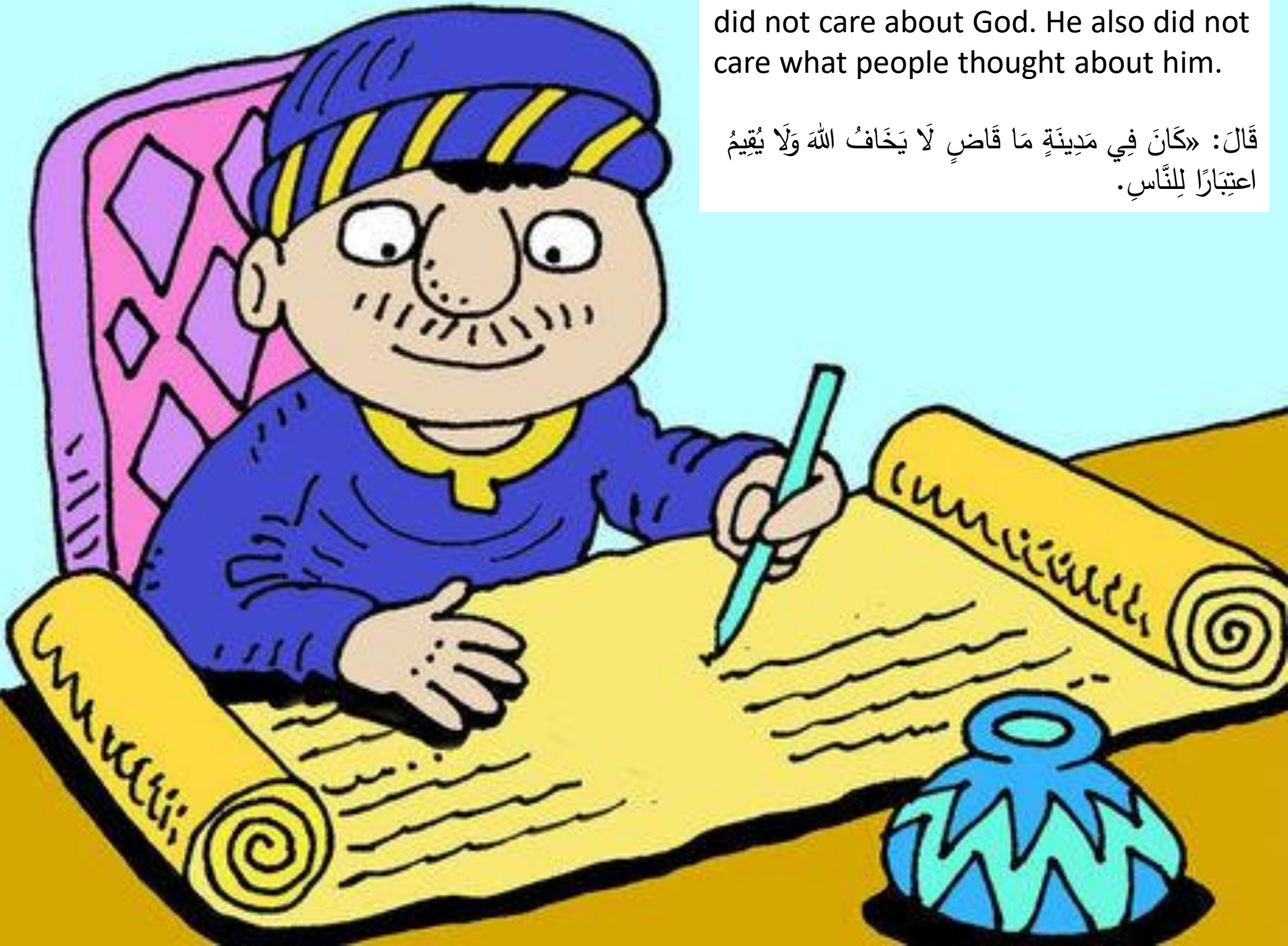
مَثَلُ الْأَرْمَلَةِ وَالْقَاضِي

وَرَوَى لَهُمْ مَثَلًا لِيُعَلِّمَهُمْ كَيْفَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يُصَلُّوا دَائِمًا
وَلَا يَتَوَقَّفُوا عَنِ الصَّلَاةِ.



“Once there was a judge in a town. He did not care about God. He also did not care what people thought about him.

قَالَ: «كَانَ فِي مَدِينَةٍ مَا قَاضٍ لَا يَخَافُ اللَّهَ وَلَا يُقِيمُ
اعْتِبَارًا لِلنَّاسِ.





In that same town there was a woman whose husband had died. She came many times to this judge and said, 'There is a man who is doing bad things to me.'

وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ الْمَدِينَةِ أَرْمَلَةٌ كَانَتْ تَأْتِي إِلَيْهِ
قَائِلَةً: أَنْصِفْنِي مِنْ حَضْمِي!



But the judge did not want to help the woman.

فَطَلَّ يَرْفُضُ طَلَبَهَا مُدَّةً مِنَ الزَّمَنِ.

The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy!'

غَيْرَ أَنَّهُ قَالَ لِنَفْسِهِ فِي نِهَايَةِ الْأَمْرِ: «صَحِيحٌ
أَنِّي لَا أَخَافُ اللَّهَ وَلَا أَقِيمُ اعْتِبَارًا لِلنَّاسِ. لَكِنَّ هَذِهِ
الْأَرْمَلَةَ تُزَعِّجُنِي دَائِمًا،





I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!"

لِذَلِكَ سَأَحُلُّ مُشْكَلَتَهَا لِيَلَّا تَأْتِيَ إِلَيَّ
وَتُرْهِقَنِي.»

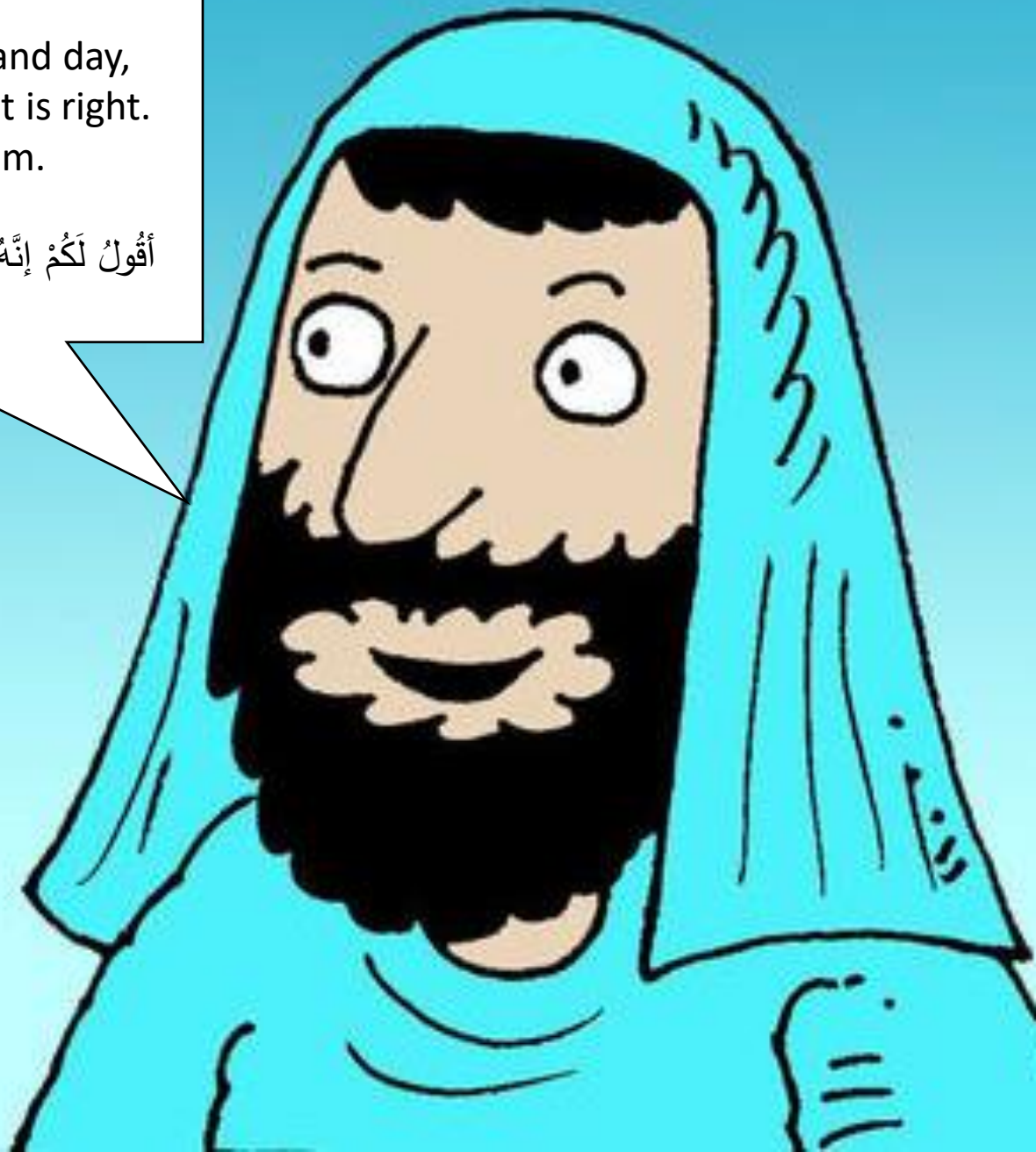


Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people?"

ثُمَّ قَالَ الرَّبُّ: «لَا حِظُّوْا مَا قَالَهُ
الْقَاضِي الشَّرِيْرُ. أَفَلَا يَعْْمَلُ اللهُ عَلَي
إِنْصَافِ النَّاسِ الَّذِينَ اخْتَارَهُمْ؟»

God's people shout to him night and day,
and he will always give them what is right.
He will not be slow to answer them.

أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنَّهُ سَيُنْصِفُهُمْ سَرِيعًا.



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Text from The Bible, Luke Chapter 18