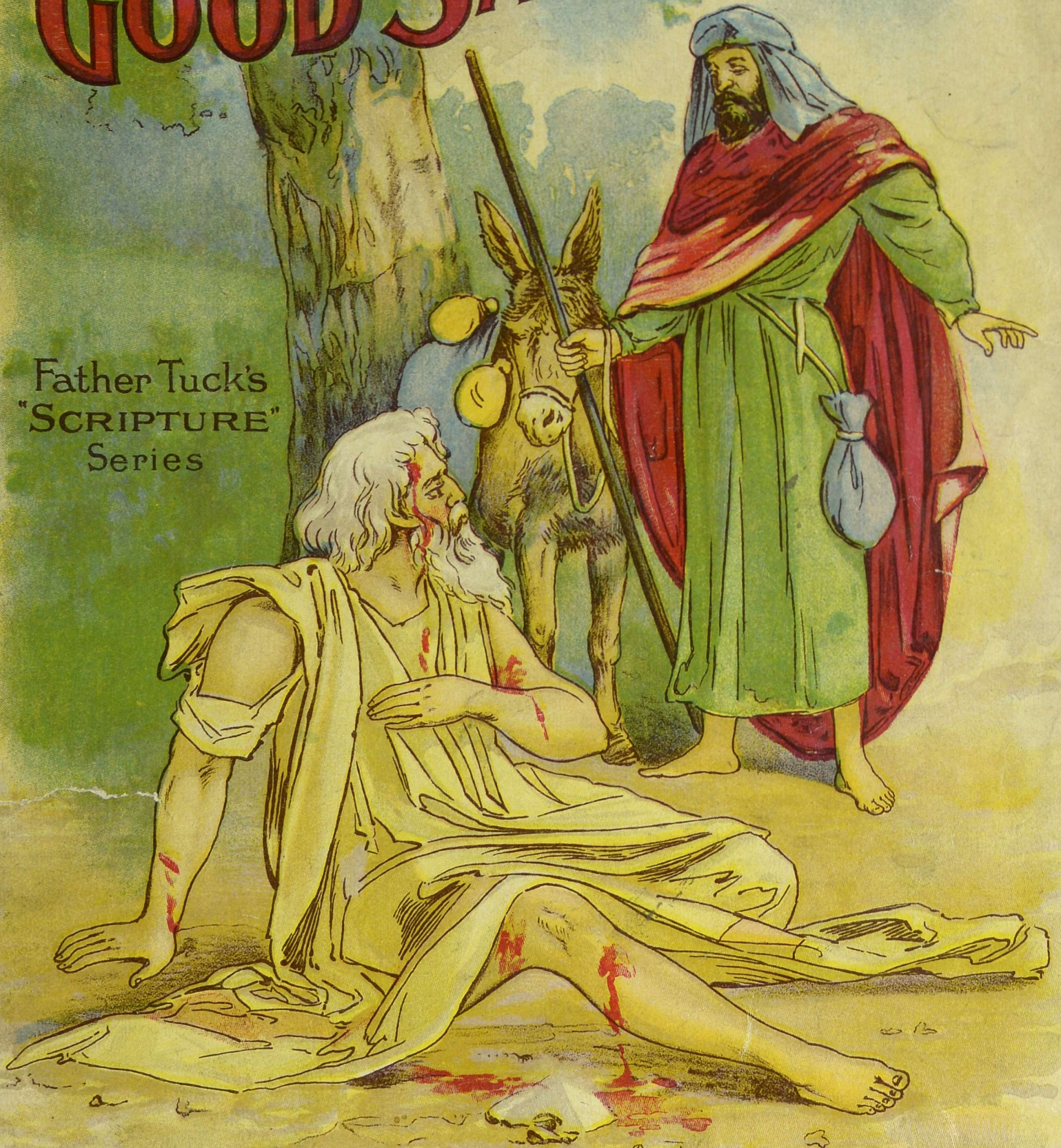


# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

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# The Good Samaritan.

**D**URING the time that Jesus was on earth He went about teaching the people, and when He wished to make some of the things about which He was teaching very plain, so that all the people could under-

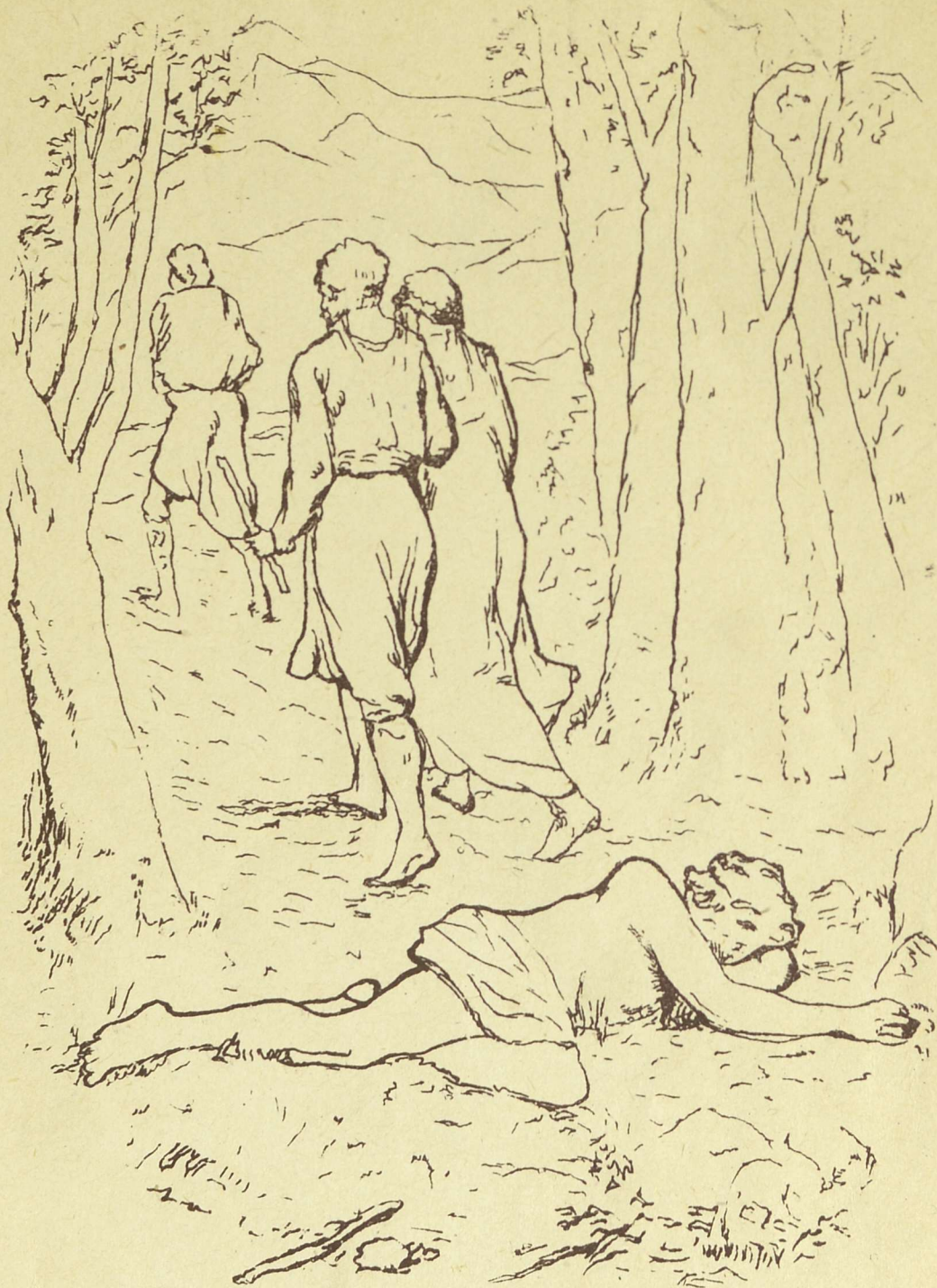
stand just what He meant, He spoke in parables, or stories.

At one time, just after Jesus had been telling the people about heaven and the sort of life they must lead to be with God, a lawyer asked Him, "What shall I do to inherit



eternal life?" Jesus, knowing that the man was a lawyer, said to him, "What is written in the law?"

The lawyer replied, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself." This was just the answer that Jesus desired, so He said to the lawyer, "Thou hast answered right; this do and thou shalt live." The lawyer evidently did not fully comprehend what Jesus meant, so he asked, "And



who is my neighbor?" Jesus then told the "Parable of the Good Samaritan," which is about a man who traveled from Jerusalem to Jericho. There was not much traveling in those days, and the road was full of robbers who lay in wait for lonely travelers, whom they would rob of everything they possessed, even their clothing, and then run away, leaving the poor

traveler dying or perhaps dead. Jesus said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded





*The Levite and the wounded traveler.*

him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was, and



when he saw him he had compassion on him and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on

the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, 'Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again I will repay thee.'"



When Jesus had told this story He asked, "Which now of these three thinkest thou was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves?" The lawyer, knowing then just what Jesus meant, said, "He that showed mercy." Jesus told him to go and do likewise,



*The Good Samaritan leaving money with the inn-keeper.*



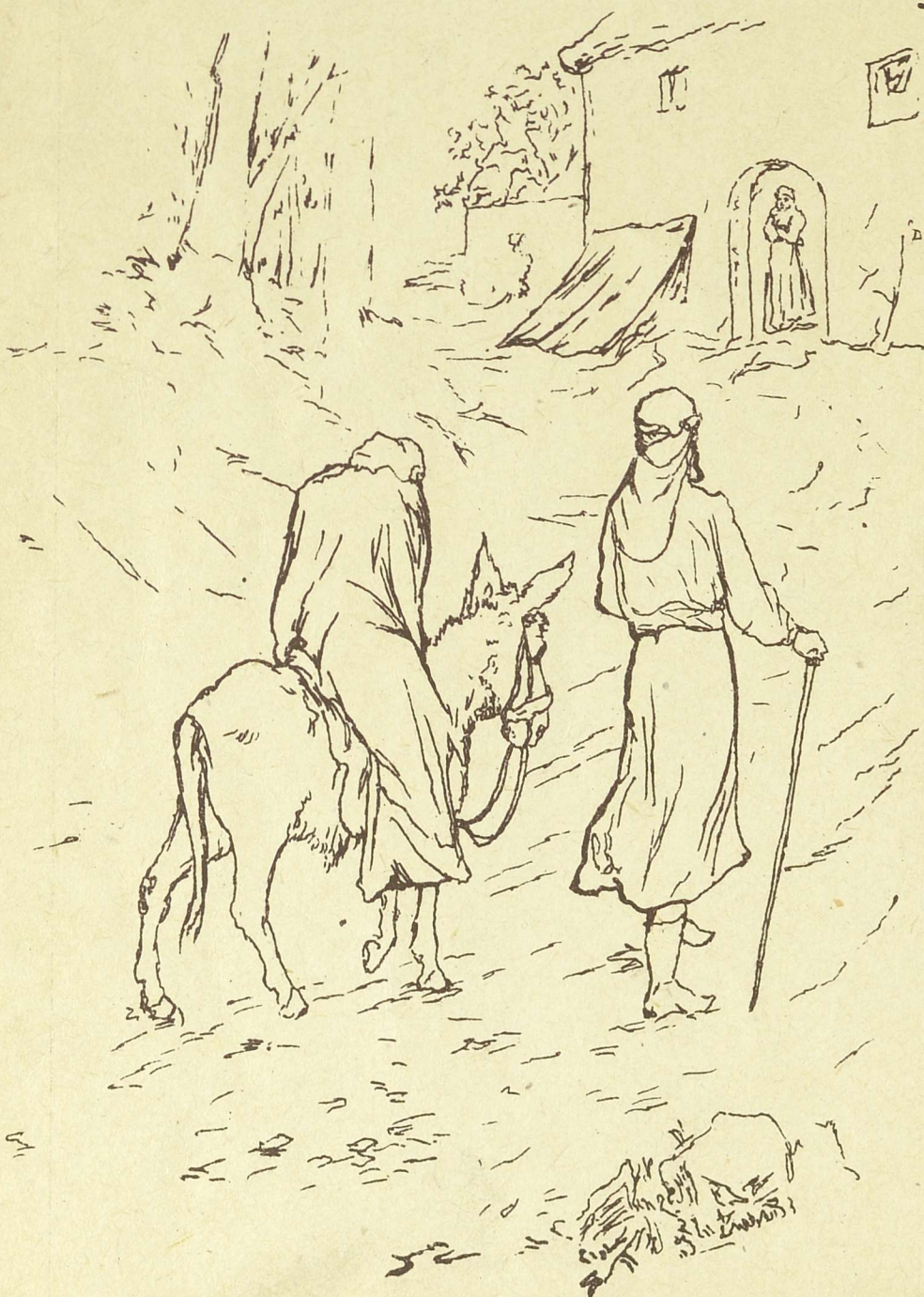
meaning that if any one wished to inherit eternal life he should show mercy to everyone, because everyone in trouble or distress was his neighbor.

Jesus wanted to teach the people to love one another more than they had and to consider each other neighbors, no matter what the differences in their lives might be, doing toward one another just what they would wish everybody to do unto them. Jesus told the people that "God is love," and in the prayer which we call the



Lord's Prayer, He taught them to say, "Father, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive others who trespass against us." So if we wish God to forgive us the wrong things we do against Him, we must forgive one another the wrong they do us. We must think that every one is our

neighbor, and if we know any boy or girl who is in trouble, we must try to help, like the Good Samaritan, and not pass by like the priest nor the Levite in the story that Jesus



told. Then we will be doing just what God wishes, and keeping the Golden Rule:

“Do unto others as you would  
That they should do to you.”

Jesus wishes us to be kind to everyone with whom we come in contact, and if we will keep the Golden Rule and try to be like the Good Samaritan we will be doing our part to make people happy. Jesus will love us and help us if we love and help others by giving them our sympathy and showing them that we are willing to be their neighbors.





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