



**animate**

# Rachel Held- Evans



# Noah and the Ark



# Joshua and the Battle of Jericho



# David and Goliath

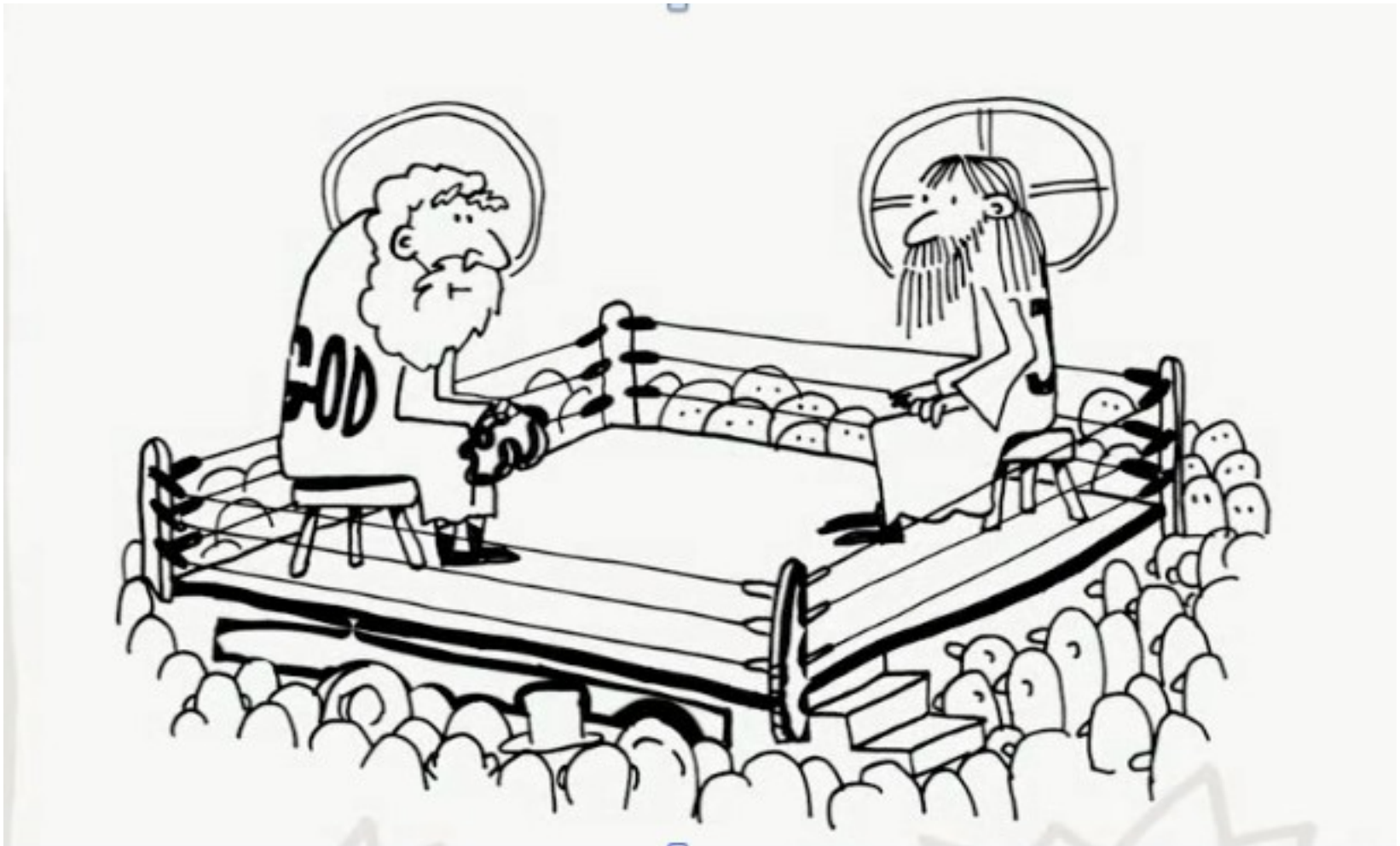


# Jonah and the Whale



# Queen Esther







# Old Testament

- Does God command indiscriminate violence?
- Does God – or did God ever – endorse slavery?
- Is it God's will that women should be subservient to men?



# The Bible

- Was written by our religious ancestors in biblical Israel.
- The Bible is a human product.
- The Bible tells us how our religious ancestors saw things, not how God sees things.



# The Bible Tells Us:

- Our religious ancestors' stories about God and their experiences of God
- Their convictions about what God is like and what the will of God is
- Their wisdom about the way we should live
- Their praise and prayer



# The Bible Tells Us

- About our religious ancestors' grief and despair
- About their puzzlement and questioning
- Their ethical teaching



# Where in the Old Testament do you find these questions:



- Why do bad things happen to good people?
- Does God hear the cries of the oppressed?
- Will there ever be a good king?

# Rachel says that the Old Testament tells us:



- Words that articulate the human experience
- God is good
- God is present
- Love is stronger than death
- Giants can be beaten



fairy taLes are more than true;  
NOT BECAUSE they teLL us that DRAGONS exist,  
BUT BECAUSE they teLL us that  
DRAGONS CAN BE BEATEN.

— GK CHESTERTON





# Exodus 16:1-16



# Matthew 4:1-11





# What is your favorite Old Testament Bible story from your childhood?

Do you have a different understanding of the story now?

Thank you

