

The Test of Faith



Once, a disciple of Jesus was very sick for many years. Whatever he ate had no effect. So, Jesus told him to fast for 48 days.



The other disciples were thinking...

How can
he do this?

**We thought
he was compassionate,
but he's making this sick
man fast.**



After 48 days the man became very thin and weak.



Jesus took a cup of warm milk with honey and a little butter on top.



He told the disciple...

Open you mouth!



The man was relieved He thought...

Finally,
I'm going to eat
something.

And then when the cup was on his lip...

**Don't drink.
This is your test.**



After 48 days of staying hungry, he was craving for the sweet aroma of the milk. The man was practically dead from starvation. But since he was a sincere disciple, he listened. When Jesus said keep your mouth open but don't drink, those who had faith knew that whatever Jesus said would be good for him, so they were waiting to see the conclusion of the lesson. Others gave up their faith and went away, never to return.



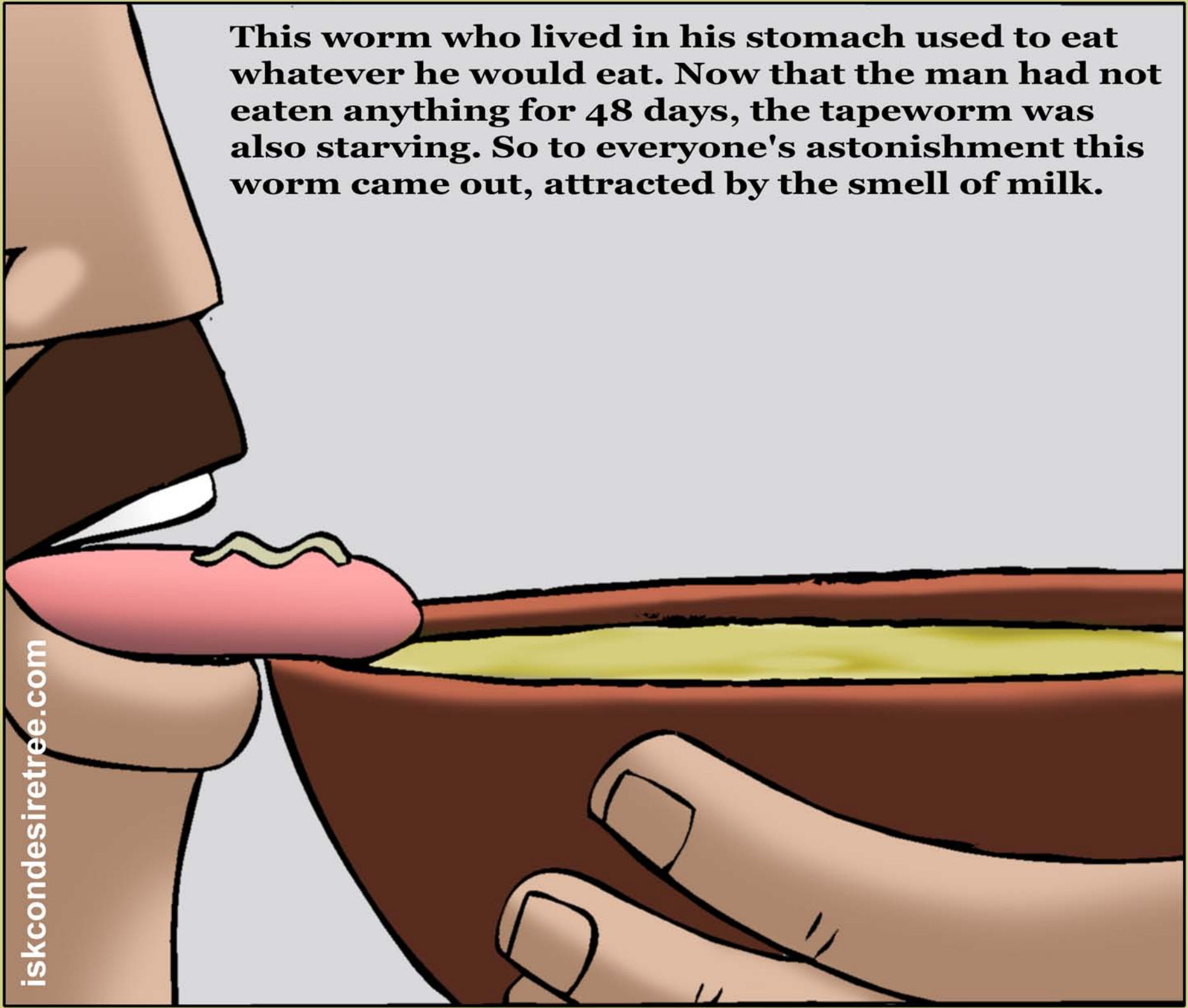
So for several minutes the man kept his mouth open and Jesus held the silver goblet right below his lip for a long time.



So after about half an hour, a tapeworm came out of his mouth.

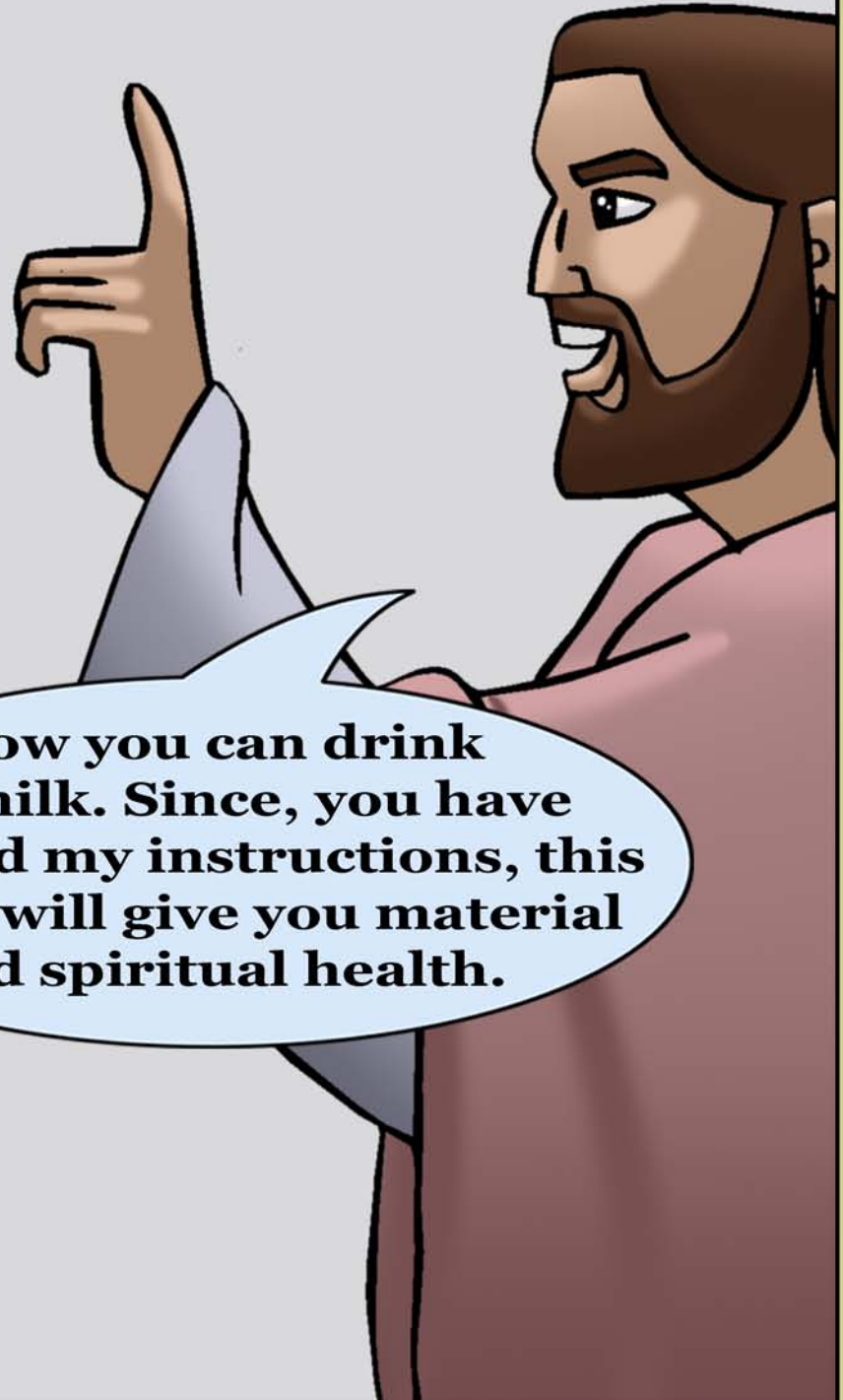


This worm who lived in his stomach used to eat whatever he would eat. Now that the man had not eaten anything for 48 days, the tapeworm was also starving. So to everyone's astonishment this worm came out, attracted by the smell of milk.



Jesus took two stones and killed it.





Now you can drink the milk. Since, you have followed my instructions, this nectar will give you material and spiritual health.

MORAL:

This story explains an important aspect of "faith". We must have complete faith in God and God's associates. Even when everything seems to be at its worse, we must never give up because everything that he does is for our own good.