

Somebody told me about Jesus

An older man and his brother Jethro

Somebody told me about Jesus.

It was my brother, Jethro.

Of course, I had heard a bit about Jesus. Most people have these days. But religion was never a particular priority of mine. I mean, I go to Synagogue, like everyone else. But I'm not into following the latest ideas, or listening to the new young Rabbis, who always take themselves so seriously.

So, Jethro is my brother. There are just the two of us. Our parents are long gone, and our sister died in childbirth twenty-three years ago. The baby would have been her first. Such a tragedy! Her husband was never the same afterwards.

Obviously, Jethro and I are both married, and we have children to look after us in our old age...so God has blessed us. But, whereas Jethro always takes an interest in everything new. I prefer the old ways. I like to do things the way they have always been done.

So, when we heard that Jesus, the new Rabbi, was coming to our town, Jethro got very excited and was determined to see him. Whereas I had work to do, so I told Jethro to tell me if anything interesting happens.

Like I said, Jethro went off all excited to see and hear this Jesus speak...and he wasn't disappointed!

Apparently, Jesus went to Absalom's house. We've known Absalom since we were children together. His parents were rich and had the biggest house in town. Now he owns it, and he seems to think that just because he has the biggest house, that he should have the biggest say in the town council!

Never did like him very much!

Anyway, Absalom invited Jesus, his disciples and just about everyone else to come and have lunch at his house, and Jesus went. Then, as they were eating lunch and Jesus was talking to the crowd of people who had squeezed in to hear him, some men outside started ripping Absalom's roof apart to lower a friend of theirs into the room. They were hoping Jesus would heal him of his paralysis.

Actually, I know the man. Not by name, you understand. But I've seen him many times in the marketplace begging. I think he had a building accident some years ago

and broke his back. Some of his building friends look after him, I think. It must have been them who tore the roof apart. They'll probably want to be paid to fix it!

Anyway, Absalom was really upset about his roof, shouting at the men to stop. Now that I would have loved to have seen!

He even asked Jesus to do something! But Jesus just waited until the room fell quiet, and then the first thing he did was tell the sick man that his sins were forgiven.

I was amazed when Jethro told me that! No one can forgive sins except for God. Even I know that, so Jesus should have known it. So, I said to Jethro, "Well, that's it then. He's clearly a charlatan. He either doesn't know what he's talking about or he's a fool. I hope you didn't waste anymore time listening to him?"

But then Jethro said that Jesus, to demonstrate he had the power to forgive sins, told the man to get up and walk...and he did! He was completely healed!

I couldn't believe it at first, but Jethro swore it happened. And now I've seen him with my own eyes. The man is still perfectly well, and everyone is talking about it. It seems like half the town saw the miracle.

Truth be told, I now rather wish I had seen it for myself.