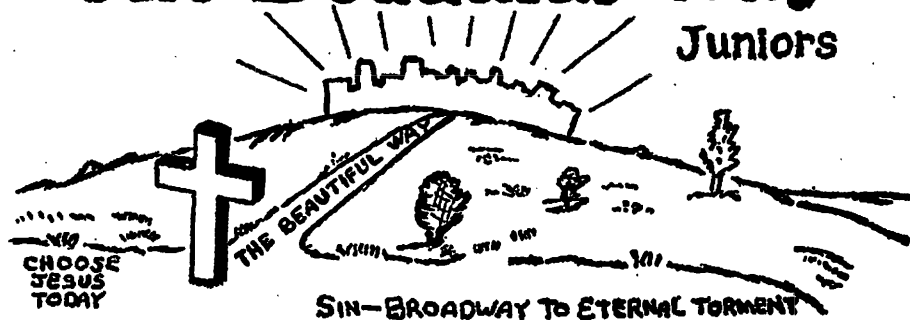


The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part One

Jan. 3

Dear Boys and Girls:—

We are presenting some facts that I do trust you will memorize and understand about the Bible.

The book of Matthew was written in 38 A. D.; Luke in 63 A. D., and 2 Tim. in 66 A. D. Our Scriptures for today's lesson were chosen from these books.

Today we will study about the most wonderful book in the World. Jesus called the Old Testament, "the holy Scriptures." Our Bible is divided into two parts. The word "Testament" means the same thing as Covenant. It goes a little beyond the meaning of "Scripture." It gives us the idea of the character of the writings of the Bible. God made a covenant with Noah, then with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, with the Israelites, and finally with all men through Christ. This covenant is found in both books of the Bible.

The Old Testament tells us about a nation (the Israelites) and the New Testament gives us an account of a Man (Christ). That nation was founded and cared for by God to bring Christ, the Man, into the world. When Jesus

was here on earth they had the Old Testament books as we have them today. "The canon (complete collection of the books that are accepted as of Divine authority) of the Old Testament was practically fixed sometime between 457 B. C. and 277 B. C." Since it was a gradual process it was brought together over a period of years. In our printed lesson today we find Jesus referring to the Old Testament as the "Holy Scriptures." The New Testament canon was not settled until three or four hundred years after Christ's birth. Many attack the genuineness of certain books of the New Testament, but those who will honestly investigate will find that every book of the New Testament holds unmistakable proof of its divinity. There are 639 both direct and indirect quotations from the Old Testament found in the New Testament.

The Bible is called Holy Scriptures, Testament, or Covenant. Its form came to us through oral traditions, (Exod. 20:1; Matt. 5:2) tables of stone (Exod. 31:18) ancient roll, manuscripts, and finally was printed as a whole book by Miles Coverdale in 1535 A. D.

The Old Testament originally was written mostly in the Hebrew language, but some of the books were written in Aramaic. The New Testament was written in Greek. About 200 years before Christ the Old Testament was translated into Greek, the language of the days of Christ, which He used, and the apostles. Some of the ancient manuscripts are still in existence. In 1603 A. D., 54 scholars were appointed to make the translation of the Bible into the English language and it appeared in 1611 A. D. This is the one we use today called the King James version. We believe it to be the one that we should follow and not the new translation called the Standard Revised Version of recent years.

In our lesson Jesus mentioned the Old Testament books that spoke of Him. First, He spoke of the "law of Moses" which are the first five books of the Bible, and were written by Moses. Jesus told the people if they did not believe that, they would not believe Him. Genesis tells us of the creation and the beginning of all things. We must believe the Bible and not man's account or theories. Jesus said they "do err" because they do not believe in the "power of God." There are eight books called the books of the prophets, and twelve other books, including the Psalms that speak of Jesus' coming. (25 in all.)

The Bible has 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 in the New. Neither the books in the Old nor New Testament appear in the order in which they were written. We must remember this fact. Originally the Bible did not have chapters nor verses. It might help us to remember this as expressions might be divided into chapters that should appear together. In 1250 Cardinal Hugo divided the Bible into 1,189 chapters and in 1561 A. D., Sir Robert

Stephens divided the Bible into 31,173 verses.

There are three ages to remember in Bible history. The Pre-Mosaic Age reaches from the beginning to the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. The Mosaic Age reached from there to the New Testament. The Gospel Age reaches from the beginning of the New Testament, in the early years of Christianity to the end of time. There are three dispensations of Bible History. The dispensation of the Father reaches from the beginning to the birth of Christ. The dispensation of the Son, Jesus Christ, begins with His birth and ends with the day of Pentecost. The dispensation of the Holy Spirit reaches from the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost to the end of time. In this day, man's only opportunity to be reconciled to God is through the Holy Spirit. Matt. 12:31, 32. —Aunt Marie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

B—etter
I—nquire into the
B—ible. It will
L—ast in
E—ternity.

—o—

Lesson 1, January 3, 1971

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Matt. 22:29; 2 Tim. 3:13-17; Luke 24:44, 45-48; John 5:46

Matt. 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

2 Tim. 3:13 (Paul wrote Timothy) But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Luke 24:44 (Jesus said to his disciples) And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

John 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.

Memory Verse: For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 2 Peter 2:21.

Central Thought: The "holy Scriptures" are true and unfold to mankind

God's will and reveals Himself to them as He dealt with them down through the ages.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do people err and fail to obey the Scriptures?

2. What does verse three tell us about evil men?

3. "But _____ thou in the _____ which thou hast _____" from the Bible.

4. Have you known the holy Scriptures from a child? What are they able to do for you?

5. Name four ways the Scriptures, which are in the Old Bible, are able to help you.

6. How does verse 17 say the Scripture will furnish the man of God?

7. Whom did Jesus say wrote about Him years before He came to this earth? Where is it found in the Old Bible?

8. Who helped the disciples to understand the Scriptures?

9. What did they write about Jesus?

10. Were the disciples who lived in Jesus' day witnesses that the things that had been written about Him came true?

11. Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament. What did Jesus say about believing what Moses wrote? Where does the first book in the Bible say man came from?

12. The old Bible tells us about a nation of God's people called the Israelites. Who does the New Testament tell us about?

13. Read the letter to Boys and Girls and ask questions on what was read.

(Note to Teacher: It would be well to make a list of questions from the letter to boys and girls and review the class on them from time to time.)

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| F. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing | 194 | 237 |
| G. TOTAL | 1387 | 1430 |

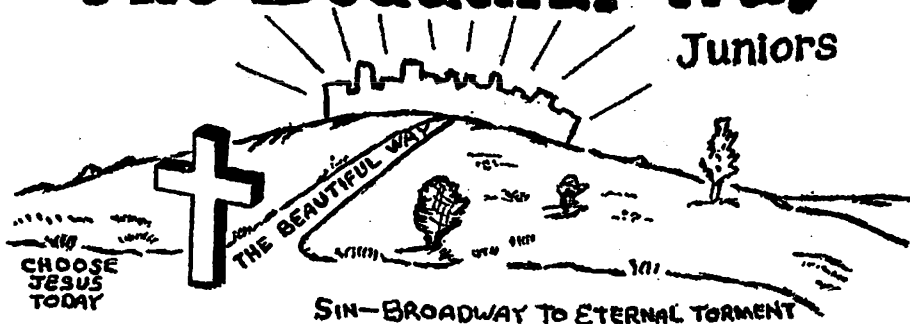
I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

—L. D. Pruitt, Publisher

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Two

Jan. 10

If Jesus Came to Your House

If Jesus came to your house
To spend a day or two—
If He came unexpectedly,
I wonder what you'd do.

Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room
To such an honored Guest,
And all the food you'd serve to Him
Would be the very best.

And you would keep assuring Him
You're glad to have Him there—
That serving Him in your own home
Is joy beyond compare.

But—when you saw Him coming
Would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome
To your heav'nly Visitor?

Or would you have to change your
clothes
Before you let Him in,
Or hide some magazines and put
The Bible where they'd been?

Would you turn off the radio
And hope He hadn't heard,
And wish you hadn't uttered
That last, loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music
And put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in,
Or would you rush about?

And I wonder—if the Saviour spent
A day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing
The things you always do?

Would you keep right on saying
The things you always say?
Would life for you continue
As it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation
Keep up its usual pace,
And would you find it hard each meal
To say a table grace?

Would you sing the songs you always
Sing and read the books you read
And let Him know the things on which
Your mind and spirit feed?

Would you take Jesus with you
Ev'rywhere you'd planned to go,
Or would you maybe change your plans
For just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet
Your very closest friend,
Or would you hope they'd stay away
Until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay
Forever, on and on,
Or would you sigh with great relief
When He at last was gone?

It might be interesting to know
The things that you would do
If Jesus Christ in person came
To spend some time with you.

—Mrs. Louis Blanchard

The Tale of the Plant

I once had a plant given to me for my birthday. It had beautiful red and green leaves. I set it upon my office desk a little ways from the window. Soon we noticed that the new leaves were not as large and not nearly so red as they had been. Before long they were not red at all.

After some weeks the plant looked as if it were going to die. Not wanting that to happen, I asked the florist what should be done for it. She said it needed plenty of sunshine. So we took it home and put it in the east window where it would get the morning sun. That was just what it needed. Again the leaves became beautiful and red.

But sad for the poor plant, it came time to move. Then there was no sunny window. But day by day it became sicklier and sicklier—then final-

ly died. It could not live without the sun.

Is that not like the boy who becomes a Christian? He needs to talk with Jesus every single day. One day away from the sun weakened the plant. One day away from Jesus will weaken you. Many days away from the sun ruined the plant, and more days away killed it entirely. And so if you fail to pray, your Christian life will soon die.—M.L.H.

Temple Building

The ancient Greeks worshiped many gods, and in order to win their favor they would construct beautiful temples. But they were just as careful to make the upper sides (the places where the human eye couldn't see) as perfect as the parts that all could see. Why were they so careful? Because they thought that their gods could see the upper side and the hidden parts as well. This, they felt sure was certain to win the god's favor.

Every Christian boy and girl is building a temple for the one true God. It is being built by deeds, thoughts, words, actions, and prayers. But if you put bad material into your temple when no one else is looking, be sure you remember that God can see every thing you do.

—Selected.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a tent. Under it write, "Be nice to everyone."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Do you know any boys or girls who take dope of any kind? We know that it is in the schools in so many places

that people are getting alarmed for our young people and juniors. I'm afraid of dope, myself. I never want to take anything that would cause me not to have the right use of my mind. Boys and girls do terrible things when they are on dope. They steal, lie, commit terrible sins with their bodies, and some have even killed so they can get more dope. Recently I read in the paper about a boy who said he had been hooked on dope for six years when God delivered him. He said he was caught stealing in a store by the police because he had to have money to buy more dope. He was put in jail and a woman came there preaching and handing out Bibles. He got saved. He said only God can help "dopeies" as he called them. I am told there is terrible suffering to those who are treated to get off dope. It is very dangerous to fool around with. Shun it, boys and girls, worse than you would a snake.

Hagar was Sarah's maid and belonged to her. We are told that slaves and even their children belonged to their master. Sarah did not have any children, so she wanted Abraham, her husband, to have a son by her maid. Of course, this is wrong, and we know it is since Jesus came and taught us how to live right. They did not know this was wrong because in that day they did not have the laws of God to live by. Anyway, Hagar had a son by Abraham and she called him Ishmael. Since he was Abraham's son, God said he would become a great nation. His descendants are the Arabs of today. But God had promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a son of their own even if they were real old. Old people do not have children according to nature. Abraham was 99 years old and Sarah was 90. But God wanted them to have a son as through their family He wanted

to bring Jesus Christ to the world. This He did.

One day three men came to Abraham's tent. One was the Lord and the other two were angels. We should always treat all people nice and then if an angel should come to see us, we would treat him nice. Abraham was a kind man and he ran to meet them and treated them well. In those days everyone wore sandals and their feet were tired and dirty at the end of a journey. It was a custom to bring water so they could wash their feet. This Abraham did. He fixed them a wonderful meal.

Sarah could not believe it when she heard them tell Abraham she would have a son. She laughed, yet she was almost afraid. After a gentle rebuke, she believed. The Lord asked her, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Boys and girls, we must never doubt God. He can do anything. Jesus said, "All things are possible to him that believeth." We must have faith in God to do those things for us that seemingly cannot be done. God created the world and made everything in it and surely He can perform miracles, can't He? I believe God. Don't you? —Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, January 10, 1970

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM AND SARAH

Gen. 16:15; 17:1, 5, 10, 19; 18:1-4, 8;

Heb. 13:2; Gen. 18:10, 13, 14

Gen. 16:15 And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael.

17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old, and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be

Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

18:1 And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

3 And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

4 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

Heb. 13:2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Gen. 18:10 And he [the Lord] said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

13 And the Lord said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

Memory Verse: He [Abraham] staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God. Romans 4:20.

Central Thought: Faith means simply taking God at His word.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the name of Hagar's son, who was also Abram's son?

2. What did God tell Abram when he was 99 years old?

3. What was Abram's name changed to? Who would he be a father to?

4. What did God tell Abram would be the name of the son born to Sarah?

5. Who appeared to Abraham in the plains of Mamre as he sat at his tent door?

6. What did he do when he saw the three men? Who were the men?

7. What did he say to them?

8. How did he treat them?

9. How are we to treat people when they come to our house?

10. If Jesus came to your house, how would you treat Him?

11. What did the Lord say about Sarah?

12. What did Sarah do when she heard it?

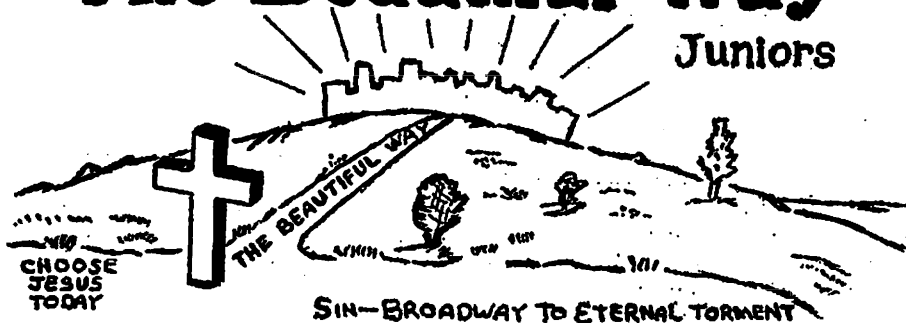
13. Why do you believe there is nothing too hard for the Lord to do?

14. Can you see God's mighty power in a cyclone? I believe God can do anything, don't you?

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Part Three

Jan. 17

Guardian Angel

"Mother, are angels behind everybody?" Cindy asked.

Mother was so busy combing Cindy's hair and telling the other children what to do as they got ready to go to Sunday School that she did not answer her. After dinner that day, Cindy's mother was talking with her grandmother, when all of a sudden she thought about Cindy's question. So Grandmother said, "Why, yes, Cindy, everyone who is saved has a guardian angel. All small children are saved, and they have an angel watching over them. All big people who are saved also have an angel watching over them."

"I don't know why she asked that question, unless she got the idea from a picture Aunt Frances gave the children," Cindy's mother said as Lonnie ran to get the picture. They showed it to Grandmother. It was a picture of two small children running after some pretty butterflies. They were real close to a cliff with a river way down at the bottom. There was a

large angel hovering over those two children.

"I have always been real fond of a picture almost like that one," said Grandmother. "It was two children on a bridge with an angel hovering over them. We should always love Jesus so His angels will be over us and around us."

"Why do some children get hurt, then, if an angel is always over them?"

"There are normal things that happen in life to everyone, and sometimes God permits things to touch lives for certain purposes of good to that person or someone close to that one. God always does everything right," Grandmother answered. "We must not question God's ways."

"Where in the Bible does it say that we have an angel?" Daddy asked.

"In Matt., the 18th chapter where it talks about one of God's little ones being offended or harmed by others. There is a 'woe' pronounced upon them," Grandmother answered. "Then it goes on to say, speaking of God's

little ones, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones: for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." (ver. 10.) That means a guardian angel is watching the face of the Father to go to the help of that one when He tells them to go."

"Did you hear what Sister Juanita told about the accident in front of their house?" Mother asked Grandmother. When she said she did not know about it, she continued, "She said that one evening she called Lori and Julie in as it was beginning to get dark. Randy had not been feeling well and he was sitting on the porch swing. All of a sudden there was a crash. Two cars had crashed together right there on the corner where they lived. A piece of metal from the wreck flew right under the swing where Randy was sitting and hit the house with such force that it crumpled the metal piece. Had it hit Randy, it would have killed him. If the girls had still been in the yard, it might have killed them. Sister Juanita thanked the Lord for protecting her children."

"Surely their guardian angel was close by to help them," Grandmother said. "It pays to be one of God's little ones." —Sister Marie Miles

JESUS WEPT

"What is the shortest verse in the Bible?" Sister Brown asked her Sunday School class.

"Oh, I know that verse!" Randy said with a big smile.

"I do, too," Nellie said. "It is 'Jesus wept.'"

"That is right," Sister Brown said. "Jesus wept over Lazarus when he

died. Jesus loves us the same today. He knows when we are sad and He comforts us as He did Lazarus' two sisters. —M. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a throne and put the name of God upon it. Draw a toothpick man kneeling before the throne. Write underneath, "Come boldly to the throne of grace for help."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you ever stop to think just what prayer means? Do you wonder why people kneel to pray? Let us think about what we are doing when we pray. We cannot see God with our natural eyes, but we can see Him with our spiritual eyes. The writers of the Bible tried to help us understand just a little of what God is like, although He is a Spirit. Paul tells us when we pray to "come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Can we not in our minds picture a big throne such as kings in ancient days sat upon as the people came to them? Sometimes the throne would be in a large place with a big seat on it with steps leading up to it. Many thrones were covered with gold and had beautiful velvet curtains around the sides with gold chains and other rich ornaments. Each throne was probably different, but each was beautiful. The king sat on the throne with velvet robes and a crown on. Perhaps he would be pleasant, and perhaps not, as he looked at those who came before him. Some kings held a spear in their hand. In one account of a king in the Bible he had a spear or scepter of mercy

which he held out to those who wanted to speak to him. If he didn't extend this scepter, the person was in danger of being killed. We are talking about earthly kings. The throne where God is sitting is different, yet if we can compare it in our minds, it might make God more real to us. Our God is a God of mercy, yet He requires us to obey His laws. As we kneel in prayer before Him, we know He has power to show mercy and power to deny us. We should come in such a way that He will look upon us with mercy and hear our pleas.

In our lesson Abraham talked to the Lord who was in the form of a man. He must have been Jesus Christ as no one has ever seen God face to face. Notice how Abraham approached Him. He was very humble and recognized the Lord to be great and that he himself was very small. He pled for mercy for Sodom where Lot, his nephew, and his family, were. Abraham loved all those people, although they were very wicked. When we pray to God we want to think of Him as being very, very great and we very small. Yet, He has told us to come boldly before Him and ask what we need. That would mean we should not be afraid nor timid, but know that He loves us and that He is great, yet we know He will hear our pleadings before Him because He promised to hear.

Six times Abraham asked God to spare the city if he could find enough righteous people. How sad that as we find out later, the Lord and the angels could not find even ten righteous people in Sodom.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, January 17, 1971

SIX EARNEST PRAYERS ANSWERED

Gen. 18:17, 19, 20, 22-33; Luke 18:7, 8a

Gen. 18:17 And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

20 And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous:

22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the Lord.

23 And Abraham drew near and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for fifty righteous that are therein?

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

26 And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:

28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

33 And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

Luke 18:7 (Jesus said) And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8a I tell you that he will avenge them speedily.

Memory Verse: The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16b.

Central Thought: Our heavenly Father grants us the privileges of sons, yet as Lord of all wisdom, power, justice, and divine sovereignty we must recognize that He knows best and has designs that He is working out in this world as well as in our lives.

QUESTIONS:

1. Since no one has seen God face to face, would not the reference in our lesson to the Lord mean Christ?

2. What was the Lord sure Abraham would do in his household?

3. What does it mean for parents to "command" their children?

4. What was wrong with the two cities, Sodom and Gomorrah?

5. Where did the two men or angels go? What did the Lord do?

6. What question did Abraham ask the Lord?

7. For how many righteous people did Abraham ask the Lord to spare the city?

8. Discuss verse 25. Who is the "Judge of all earth"?

9. Did Abraham receive an answer to his first prayer or petition before the Lord?

10. How did Abraham come before the Lord the second time? Would not "dust and ashes" mean we are made out of the dust and when we die our bodies will go back to something like ashes?

11. What was the answer to the second prayer or request?

12. What was the answer to the third prayer?

13. How did Abraham come before the Lord in asking Him to spare the city if thirty righteous people could be found? What was the Lord's answer?

14. What was the Lord's answer when asked to spare the city for twenty righteous people?

15. What did He say about ten righteous people?

16. Would it not mean when it says that Abraham "left communing" that he quit asking and rested all his care and thoughts for Sodom and Lot and his family in God's care? Are we to trust God's wisdom?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Four

Jan. 24

Jake Makes a Change

Jake Hopkins lived with his father in a great big house. His mother had died when he was about six years old. She had taught him about God. After she died, his father never mentioned God. Jake's father had come to Littletown with his own father and had watched the town grow. He had added much to it by building the largest building in the town. Jake's father was very proud of that building, and of his name. He called it the Hopkins building. Jake's father had a lot to say in the town, and not many dared to cross him.

Jake went to school and seemed to be a quiet, obedient boy. His father never paid much attention to him as he was always found doing as he had been bidden. He took pride in this, and often remarked that a Hopkins always did the right thing.

Now Jake was a good boy, but it seemed to rub him the wrong way when his father would brag on him to others. He began to feel that his

father thought he was a coward and afraid. He listened to these evil things that the devil brought to his mind. Of course, he didn't know it was the devil. He began to hate the big house, and as he grew older he wanted to get out of it. He wanted to do things and see what the other boys did and where they lived. He began to slip out at night when his father thought he was in bed. One night he went with his new friend Bill. At different times Jake bought treats for Bill, who lived in the poor district of Littletown. Bill thought Jake to be a "regular fellow" as he called those who could keep a secret, and were looking for thrills. Jake followed Bill down into a basement, past a lot of broken barrels and on through a rickety door. There were several other fellows in the musty room. Bill told them who Jake was and that he found that he would be just the one they needed to join their club. Now, these boys did not have much to do, and their parents did not care where they went, just so long as they did not bother them. In fact, most of

these boys' parents drank and did not bother to see about their sons. They did not love their children as Christian parents love and care for theirs. So these boys met here in this place to smoke and think of ways to get some money to do things they wanted to do. They did not know that an idle brain is the devil's workshop. Time went on and Jake Hopkins continued to slip out and join the gang. His father did not know about this.

One night his father was sound asleep when the telephone rang. When he answered it, the policeman was on the other end of the line. "Come down to the police station. We have your son here."

"You are wrong about that," Mr. Hopkins answered. "My son is in bed."

"There is no use checking, because he is here now," was the answer. "He was caught in a robbery."

"Not a Hopkins," Mr. Hopkins angrily answered. "A Hopkins is honest and would never do a thing like that."

"All right, no more talk. Just come down," the policeman said, and hung up the phone.

Mr. Hopkins was surprised when he checked and found that Jake was gone. He rushed down to the police station. There he saw his boy sitting with hand cuffs on. He said, "What is going on here? You are a Hopkins, and there must be some mistake. A Hopkins would never steal nor rob anyone."

"Now don't start that!" Jake retorted angrily. "I am sick and tired of hearing that. I have heard that all of my life. I don't even want you here. Just go home and leave me

alone." Mr. Hopkins started to grab his son, but was restrained by the policeman. Soon he had to leave because his son did not want him. They put Jake behind bars.

The news about Jake spread all over the town. The minister was concerned about him. He felt this was a serious thing, so he visited Jake, but Jake seemed to be hardened. The minister asked one of the Sunday School teachers who was a motherly sort of person, to visit him. She went, praying that God would help her. She loved all boys and felt that there was good in Jake if only she could reach him and bring it out. She thought about him living so many years without a mother. Her heart went out to him in his trouble.

"You don't mind if I visit with you, do you, Jake?" Sister Brown asked, as the guard locked her in the room with Jake. Jake did not answer her, but tried to look bored. "I heard that you were in some trouble, and I am sure you need help. There are times in our lives when we can't help ourselves, and we need others."

(To be continued)

The Bible says, "A soft answer turneth away wrath." When someone gets angry with you and says ugly things, you answer them real softly and kindly. They will get over being angry quicker.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a toothpick boy and girl. Draw a circle above them. Write "Pure Thoughts" in the circle and draw a line down to the boy and girl. Draw a circle below them. Write in the circle "unpure thoughts." Draw a line up to

them. Write underneath these words: "God gives all pure thoughts that we should listen to."

Dear Boys and Girls:

God has given you a wonderful life. He has planned many good things for you and you should be thankful to Him. He has given you a father and mother to care for you while you are young and until you are able to go out into the world and face it for yourself. When you were born you were so helpless that if someone had not fed you you would have died, but your parents loved and cared for you. They still care for you. You can do a lot of things for yourself, but God has planned it so that parents are to care for children and teach them how to face the things of the world.

It is wonderful how God made your body. Every part of your body has a purpose and its purpose is pure, clean, and holy. It is very sad that many laugh and make evil remarks about parts of the body. There is nothing evil about your body, but it is pure and holy. The thing that makes any part of the body seem evil is for it to be used in an evil way. Because of so much sin in the world, the Lord wants us to keep our bodies covered. That is called modesty. It is a shame to show our nakedness, not because the body is evil, but because of the sin that is in the world. Others looking at partly clothed bodies have wrong thoughts which God looks upon with wrath. God wants you to dress to please Him and not to cause others to sin. Many girls today wear shorts or short dresses. This is against God's Word. When people get out of God's plan, they become sinful, unholy, and unclean. Don't listen to dirty jokes. God wants you to have a pure, clean mind. Many pictures are shown on

television that are evil. Too many of the people seen on television have on too few clothes and do evil deeds. This grieves God.

Our lesson is about the wickedness in Sodom. These men were wicked and even had the young people doing wickedly. They wanted to take the two men who were angels and Lot's guests, and treat them wickedly. God was displeased with all their evil. He smote the people with blindness. Even in their blindness they still tried to find the door. It is sad to think of people so filled with sin. Our nation is becoming more wicked every day. We need to live right and pray for others of our nation lest the whole nation be punished. Boys and girls, strive to keep your minds clean and pure and filled with good thoughts. Dress and act in a lovely, pure way, and God will bless you. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, January 24, 1971

"KEEP THYSELF PURE"

1 Tim. 4:12; 5:22b; 2 Peter 2:7b;

Gen. 19:1-11; Rom. 1:28.

1 Tim. 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 Tim. 5:22b Neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

2 Pet. 2:7b Just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

Gen. 19:1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even: and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

3 And he pressed upon them greatly and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. (deeds against the use of nature.)

6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,

7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

9 And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door.

10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

Rom. 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind,

to do those things which are not convenient.

Memory Verse: Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. Titus 1:15.

Central Thought: God loves the sinner, but He hates impurity of mind, body, and soul. A nation full of Sodomites will be punished if they do not repent.

QUESTIONS:

1. In what way can young people be examples?

2. What does purity mean?

3. How can we keep ourselves pure?

4. How did Lot feel every day as he heard the talk of the wicked people in Sodom?

5. Where did the angels who had left Abraham talking with the Lord find Lot?

6. How did Lot treat the men who came to the gate of Sodom?

7. After the men had eaten, what happened outside Lot's house?

8. What did Lot do in verse 6?

9. Were the wicked people ready to do evil even to Lot?

10. How did Lot's two guests help him in verse 10?

11. What did God cause to happen to the wicked men of Sodom?

12. Does it pay to do wickedly and to allow evil thoughts to stay in your mind?

13. Did God make our bodies pure and clean? Then we should always think clean and pure thoughts about our bodies and those of others. Is this right?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Five

Jan. 31

Jake Makes a Change

(Continued from last week's paper)

"I don't need your help," Jake said. "I just want to be left alone."

"Jake, you are not half as bad as you think you are." Jake jumped to his feet. Before he could say anything, Sister Brown went on, "You are really frightened inside and being frightened makes you act as you do." Before Jake could think, he slapped Sister Brown on the face. She just sat there, acting like she scarcely felt the blow. This alarmed Jake. He felt so ashamed. "Jake, there is nothing to be afraid of." Her voice was low and full of compassion.

"I'm sorry," Jake said. "I don't hit women."

"Perhaps it was my fault because I made you angry," Sister Brown said. "I'm glad you are sorry, because I know your mother was a Christian and she would be glad to know that you are sorry." At the mention of his mother, he thought about how his father had pushed her around with his bragging. He re-

membered his father telling her that she didn't have Hopkins blood in her, but she ought to be glad she had married a Hopkins.

"He pushed my mother around, but he isn't going to push me around," Jake said. "I'm not going to take it."

"Jake, there are things wrong in this world. For a long time before you were born, things were wrong. A lot of things need to be corrected. People have been pushing others around and not considering them for many years. But we can't correct all the wrongs in this world. There is something wonderful in you. If we could get that thing going in the right direction, you would be all right. You are rebelling against the wrong things you have seen in others. You don't like pride, bragging, and someone who wants to step on others. If I had a son like you, I would be proud —."

"Proud of a jailbird?" Jake said with a half smile.

"Your mother would not turn her back on you because you made a mistake," Sister Brown said. "I have heard that you had a real wonderful

mother who helped others who were in trouble. I know Someone else who won't turn His back on you, either. There are many Jakes in the world who have made mistakes. I, for one, love you——."

"Love!" Jake said, "Even after I slapped you?"

"Yes, even after you slapped me. You want to do big things. Why not do big things in the right way? My time is up. May I see you again?"

"Jake fought the tears as he said, 'I'd be glad to see you.'"

Sister Brown went and talked to the man Jake and the other boys had robbed and asked him to be lenient with him. She also asked the Judge to remember that this was his first offense and to give him a chance again. When she told Jake that she felt things were going to work out for him, he was glad. She could tell that he had been thinking and that God had been dealing with him. It was hard for him to stay hard-hearted even though he tried. He kept remembering that Sister Brown had said she loved him. He felt she had proved it to him because he had slapped her and she had not even seemed to notice it. She believed that he could do big things. He thought much about those big things that she seemed to think he could do in a right way that would not cause him to get in trouble. He knew that his dad always wanted to do big things, but he didn't want to be like him. Often he wondered just what Sister Brown meant.

(To be continued)

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

"Ruth, tell me how many books

are in the Old Testament," Sister Brown said.

"I think there are 39 books," Ruth answered slowly.

"That is right. Now, Darrell, you tell me how many books are in the New Testament." Sister Brown looked over at Raymond who was whispering. She always asked a question about the Bible the very first thing when she started teaching her Sunday School class. "Don't you remember how we can tell the number in the New Testament if we know how many books are in the Old Testament?"

"Oh, I know now. Take 3 times 9, which is 27. There are 27 books in the New Testament," Darrell answered quickly.

"Yes, that is right." —M. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw two cities that are on fire. Draw four toothpick people leaving it. Underneath write, "Escape for your life."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Jesus warns us that people will be living as they did in the days of Sodom when He comes to take His people out of this world before He destroys it. Just think how God sent the angels to take Lot and his family out of that wicked city and how it was hard for them to leave it. They lingered and the angels took hold of their hands and led them out. Oh, how great is the mercy of God! Boys and girls, the Lord wants to take everyone to heaven that will go. He won't make people go. You must be willing to follow Him. God has told us in the Bible how to live. That is His great mercy shown to us. He has not

left us to wander around but lets us know we must forsake sin and do right to be ready for heaven. You need to seek the Lord in your youth. People who have lived many years in sin are bound by habits and they have lost a desire to do differently. They don't seek God nor see their need of Him. When they are told about the final destruction and the fire and brimstone waiting the sinner in hell they are hardened by sin and are not stirred to change their lives. It is a dangerous thing not to keep a tenderness toward God and the right. Never yield to wrong, but fight against it with all your might and with the power God will give you if you will only pray to Him.

After you have started living for God, don't look back. Lot's wife looked back. She was older and had many ties to the wicked city. Notice how Lot's daughters were obedient. They were young and eager to do right. They believed what the angels told them and hurried away from the wicked city before it was destroyed. Boys and girls, believe God's Word and obey it. Never look back to the sinful things of the world. The devil is a liar when he tells you that you can have a good time in sin. What looks like a good time is just a cover-up for what the devil has planned ahead for you. Some boys and girls yield when asked to smoke just once, or taste strong drink just once, or try dope just once, or give in on other lines just once. Oh, be strong and stand for right! Fight against evil. Look to God and He will see you through.

Today you can see the place where Sodom and Gomorrah was. It is called the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea is about 40 miles long and the north end is 1000 feet deep in some places. The south end

is not more than 15 feet deep. Those who have explored this region said that there were evidences that population ended abruptly around 2000 B. C. Pillars of salt and sulphur, pitch, asphalt, etc., are found around the Dead Sea. It does not pay to disobey God.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, January 31, 1971

"LAY HOLD ON ETERNAL LIFE"

Gen. 19:13-19, 22-26, 28, 29b;

Luke 18:28-30, 32

Gen. 19:13 For we [two angels] will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord; and the Lord hath sent us to destroy it.

14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:

19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast

magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

28 And he [Abraham] looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29b God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities.

Luke 18:28 (Jesus said) Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

32 Remember Lot's wife.

Memory Verse: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

2 Peter 2:9.

Central Thought: The world is the city of destruction, and we must separate ourselves from it or we cannot be saved.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did the cry of sins to be punished go up before the face of the Lord from Sodom and Gomorrah?

2. What did Lot tell his children? How did they take his warnings?

3. How are people taking the preaching of the gospel? What will happen if they do not repent?

4. Early in the morning, what did the angels tell Lot to do?

5. What did they do when Lot lingered, or waited?

6. When they arrived on the plain, what did the angels tell them?

7. Did Lot want to go to the mountains? Why not?

8. Why could not God destroy the cities until Lot was out?

9. When did God send fire and brimstone out of heaven upon the cities?

10. What happened to the cities and the people?

11. What happened to Lot's wife? Are we to look back when we start out to serve God?

12. What did Abraham see early in the morning as he looked toward the cities?

13. Why was Lot spared?

14. How were they living in the days of Lot?

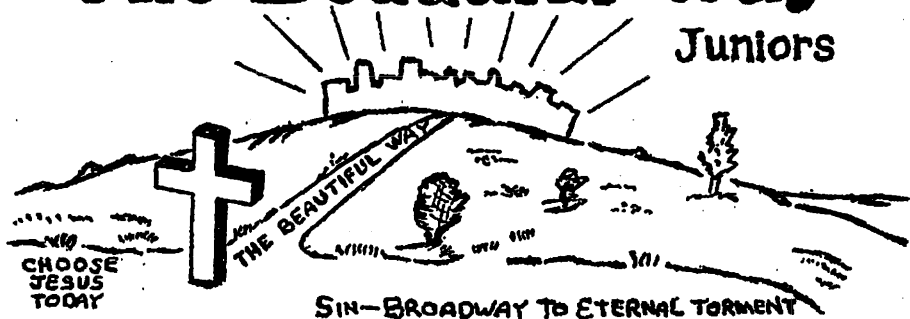
15. Did Jesus tell us the same story as was written in Genesis concerning the two cities?

16. Is wickedness getting hold of more people every day? Are we living near the end of time?

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Vol. 22, No. 1

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Part Six

Feb. 7

Jake Makes a Change

(Continued from last week's paper)

"You mean that Jesus would take my punishment and let me go free?" asked Jake after Sister Brown told him how sin had to be punished, but Jesus had come to this world and died on the cross that he might be freed from the punishment that awaited everyone who sinned.

"Yes, He died on the cross and did it that you and I might be forgiven of our sins. Jesus was innocent, and was without sin. He was God's only Son. Oh, how He loved you and me! He forgave my sins when I prayed and asked Him to, with godly sorrow. Don't you want your sins to be forgiven? Don't you want that awful load lifted from your soul? The Bible said, 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'" (1 John 1:9.)

Jake thought for a long time, and then buried his head in his arms. He was fighting from being heard as he

cried. Sister Brown prayed for him. Then Jake prayed until he found peace to his soul. Oh, how glad he was that he had let Jesus take his load of sin! His face lit up because Jesus was now his Saviour. He loved Jesus because He first loved him.

Time passed by and the trial came up. Jake was released on good behavior. The first Sunday after he was allowed to go home, he went to Sunday School. He tried to get the other boys to go with him. Now he was doing something for God, the One whom he loved.

Some of the boys made fun of him, but this only made him more determined to live for God. He knew that they were taking notice of the change in his life. One boy even threatened him and accused him of telling things they did in the basement. This he denied, because he had left his old life. Now he was living a new life. He knew the boys longed to be doing just as he had, but they were doing the wrong things. He wanted them to get the thrill of doing right things and knowing God's blessings. He told

the boys it took great courage to live for God. One day he said to Bill, "Did you ever hear about Daniel who refused to quit praying and was put in the lions' den by the king?"

"I suppose he never prayed again?" Bill said with a sneer.

"Why, he prayed right there in the presence of those lions and God shut their mouths. The king couldn't sleep, and the next morning he let Daniel out. Then he had the men who had plotted against Daniel thrown in, and the lions ate them up."

"Well, Jake, I hated to admit it, but you have caused me to know that God is real. Could I go with you to Sunday School next Sunday?"

"Yes," Jake said, with a deep feeling of good in his heart. Now he was doing something that brought much greater joy than meeting in a musty old basement and plotting wrong and evil things to do. How glad he was to be saved!

—M. Miles

About Shetland Ponies

The Shetland Islands are north of Scotland in the Atlantic Ocean. A famous breed of ponies originated on these islands. They are noted for their long tails and manes, their rough coat, and their short stature. Little children like Shetland ponies because they are small enough for them to ride.

If you raise your own pony, you will probably not have to break him to the harness and saddle because they are made gentle by their loving masters. The sturdy little animals make good pets if they are treated well.

If a Shetland pony is not well cared for and is allowed to become

wild, then he must be trained. The training is sometimes hard on the pony because the trainer has to break his bad habits.

Children are sometimes like ponies. If they have grown up loving their Master, the Lord Jesus, they will not have to be trained to serve Him. They will not have formed bad habits that must be broken. They will have formed the good habits of truth and obedience.

When your Sunday-school teacher or your mother tells you how to please the Lord, be thankful that you are being taught while you are young so that you will not have to be taught by hard experiences.

It is hard to teach a stubborn child. If you refuse to learn, the Lord will have to teach you another way, and it will not be pleasant.

—Selected

Abraham was nice to some strangers who came to his house. Later he found out they were angels. The Bible tells us to be nice to strangers because we never know if we are entertaining angels or not.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Write the name "Isaac" on the blackboard and then make some dotted lines to the word "Jesus." Write on the dotted lines "3000-plus years."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Are you enjoying the snow? It always makes me think, as the Bible tells us, how when our sins are forgiven, we are made whiter than the snow. We think nothing could be whiter than the snow, but if you take some snow and melt it you will find some dark particles

of dirt in it. Perhaps some of you live where you never see the snow. I hope some day you will get to play in the snow.

Our lesson today is very interesting. Just think—Isaac was born over 3000 years before Christ, and yet they were both children of promise. God had promised Abraham and Sarah that in their old age they would have a son and from that son's family Jesus Christ would be born thousands of years later. How wonderful that was! Notice the Scriptures in our lesson that bear this fact out. Both Jesus and Isaac were named before their births. They were named by God. We notice that they both were born just at the time God said they would be and had promised their parents. God's Word never changes. He speaks and it comes to pass just as He said. Jesus' Father is God. Joseph was His foster father. We must remember that because that makes Jesus the Son of God, yet the son of man, also. He was in the flesh. He was God in the flesh. He was without sin. He could die for the punishment of our sin. All sin must be punished. Jesus will take our sins and forgive them if we will accept the fact that He took our punishment, and then with real deep sorrow we ask forgiveness of God and turn away from sin. We then must live daily to please the Lord and not ourselves nor sin.

Don't you know Sarah was happy when she held her little son in her arms! After God promised Abraham he would have a son, he and Sarah waited for 30 years for him to come. She laughed and stated that all would laugh or rejoice with her. Today we rejoice because Jesus came to us from Isaac's family. Then when Jesus was born, after the angels promised Mary she would have a son and His name would be

Jesus, the angels in heaven rejoiced and the shepherds glorified God. Mary was happy and rejoiced, too. All were glad God had done as He promised.

It will be wonderful when we get to heaven and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and see our blessed Lord, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Today we are glad that Jesus came and we desire to please Him because of His great love for us in suffering such great suffering so we can go to heaven.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, February 7, 1971

ANALOGY BETWEEN BIRTH OF ISAAC AND JESUS

Gen. 17:19; 21:2, 5-7; Matt. 1:1, 2a, 21
Luke 1:32, 35, 46, 47; 2:11, 20; Matt. 8:11

Gen. 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

21:2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his Son Isaac was born unto him.

6 And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.

7 And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have borne him a son in his old age.

Matt. 1:1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2a Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob;

21 And she [Mary] shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

46 And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord.

47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Matt. 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

Memory Verse: And if ye be Christ's then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal. 3:29.

Central Thought: Throughout the history of Abraham's family, God was working out His way to bring His "only begotten Son," Jesus Christ, into the world.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was to be the name of the son born to Sarah and Abraham?

2. Did the "everlasting covenant and his seed after him" refer to Jesus who was to come from Abraham's family? (This was said over 3000 years before Jesus was born.)

3. "Sarah conceived and bare Abraham a son in his old age at the _____ of which _____ had spoken to him."

4. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born?

5. How did Sarah feel about her son? Did she mean that we would rejoice also when she said, "All that hear will laugh with me"? Why?

6. How do you think she felt when she said, "Who would have said that I would bare a son to Abraham in his old age?"

7. How does the generations of Jesus begin?

8. What was to be the name of Mary's son? What would he do?

9. Read verse 32. Was David related to Isaac?

10. When the Holy Ghost overshadowed Mary, what was the name of the "holy thing" that was to be born to her?

11. Read verses 46 and 47 and tell how Mary felt about her son of promise.

12. Where was Jesus born when the time of the promise was fulfilled?

13. Tell how the shepherds felt about Jesus and His coming.

14. Why do we rejoice today when we think of Jesus' birth?

15. Where will we who are saved or "born again" go after death? Who will sit down in the kingdom?

○

"Love thy neighbor as thyself."

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Seven

Feb. 14

Send Food to John

On the summit of Washington mountain, overlooking the Housatonic Valley, stood a hut, the home of John Barry, a poor charcoal-burner, whose family consisted of his wife and himself. His occupation brought him in but a few dollars, and when cold weather came he had managed to get together only a small provision for the winter. The fall of 1874, after a summer of hard work, he fell sick and was unable to keep his fires going. So, when the snow of December, 1874, fell, and the drifts had shut off communication with the village at the foot of the mountain, John and his wife were in great straits.

Their entire stock of food consisted of only a few pounds of salt pork and a bushel of potatoes; sugar, and flour had, early in December, given out; and the chances for replenishing the larder were slim indeed. The snowstorms came again, and the drifts deepened. All the roads, even in the valley, were impassable, and no one

thought of trying to open the mountain highways, which even in summer, were only occasionally traveled; and none gave the old man and his wife a thought.

December 15 came, and with it the heaviest fall of snow experienced in Berkshire county in many years. The food of the old couple was now reduced to a day's supply, but John did not yet despair. He was a Christian and a God-fearing man, and His promises were remembered; and so, when evening came, and the north-east gale was blowing, and the fierce snowstorm was raging, John and his wife were praying and asking for help.

In Sheffield village, ten miles away, lived Deacon Brown, a well-to-do farmer fifty years old, who was known for his piety and consistent deportment, both as a man and a Christian. The deacon and his wife had gone to bed early, and, in spite of the storm without, were sleeping soundly, when with a start the deacon awoke, and said to his wife: "Who spoke? Who's there?"

"Why," said his wife, "no one is here but you and me; what is the matter with you?"

"I heard a voice," said the deacon, "saying, 'Send food to John.' "

"Nonsense," replied Mrs. Brown, "go to sleep. You have been dreaming."

The deacon laid his head on his pillow, and was asleep in a minute. Soon he started up again, and waking his wife, said: "There, I heard that voice again, 'Send food to John.' "

"Well, well!" said Mrs. Brown. "Deacon, you are not well; your supper has not agreed with you. Lie down and try to sleep."

Again the deacon closed his eyes, and again the voice was heard: "Send food to John." This time the deacon was thoroughly awake. "Wife," said he, "whom do we know named John who needs food?"

"No one I can remember," replied Mrs. Brown, "unless it be John Barry, the old charcoal-burner on the mountain."

"That's it!" exclaimed the deacon. "Now I remember, when I was at the store in Sheffield the other day, Clark, the merchant, speaking of John Barry, said, 'I wonder if the old man is alive, for it is six weeks since I saw him, and he has not yet laid in his winter stock of groceries.' It must be old John is sick and wanting food."

So saying, the good deacon arose and proceeded to dress himself. "Come, Wife," said he, "waken our boy Willie and tell him to feed the horses, and get ready to go with me; and do you pack in the two largest baskets you have, a good supply of food, and get us an early breakfast, for I am going up the mountain to

carry the food I know John Barry needs."

Mrs. Brown, accustomed to the sudden impulses of her good husband, and believing him to be always in the right, cheerfully complied; and after a hot breakfast, Deacon Brown and his son Willie, a boy of nineteen, hitched up the horses to the double sleigh, and then, with a month's supply of food, and a "Goodbye, Mother," started at five o'clock on that cold December morning for a journey that almost any other than Deacon Brown and his son Willie would not have dared to undertake.

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a toothpick man and show him to be bound hand and foot. Underneath write, "Bound with sin and habits."

Dear Boys and Girls:

If you were in a room with an ugly monster who told you to do terrible things and never let you go out into the light and sunshine, you would feel terribly mistreated and under bondage. This ugly monster might be real nice at times just to keep you under his spell. But how happy you would be when a man dressed in white and had a lovely smiling face came to the door and bound the ugly monster and let you go free!

Many are under bondage to Satan today and he makes them do such awful things that they are ashamed of themselves. But, dear boys and girls, Jesus has come to set you free from bondage to Satan. If you will come to Jesus and ask Him to forgive you and help

you live for Him, He will set you free from that old ugly monster, Satan, who gets you into trouble.

Hagar and Ishmael lived in the same house with Sarah and Isaac. Hagar was Sarah's maid. She had a son by Abraham. When Isaac was born, Ishmael was about 14 years old. One day Sarah had a feast for Isaac. Ishmael made fun of him and mocked him in such a way that Sarah did not want him and his mother to live in the same house with them any longer. This grieved Abraham, but God told him it was all right to send them away.

Paul tells us the story of Ishmael and Isaac in the New Testament. He compares this to Jesus who sets us free from sin, and the law of Moses which keeps one under bondage. Ishmael was born of the woman of bondage, or a slave, but Isaac was born of the free woman, Sarah, and was a child of promise which Paul compares to the children of God through the Spirit, by Christ.

Today the children of God are persecuted and ridiculed by the children of the world, just as Ishmael did Isaac. Those who make fun of God's children who are living right, will not inherit eternal life unless they change their ways. They will be cast out into outer darkness where the devil is. Now we want to be children of God, do we not? Don't be surprised if you are not accepted by those who do not love God. They may make fun of the way you dress, but you must dress in a way that your body will be covered. They may want you to go to the show or to many worldly places or watch evil things that are shown on television. If you don't they will make ugly remarks about you. You just remember that you are children of freedom and they are under bondage. You are joint heirs with Christ. Some

day you will be taken to a wonderful place where you will only know perfect joy and be with Jesus. Sad to say, those who ridiculed you will be cast out into an awful place. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, February 14, 1971

ALLEGORY OF FREEDOM AND BONDAGE

Gen. 21:8-13; Gal. 4:22-31

Gen. 21:8 And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son even with Isaac.

11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

Gal. 4:22 (Paul wrote) For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a free-woman.

23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

27 For it is written. Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

30 Nevertheless what saith the Scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free-woman.

31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

Memory Verse: Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Gal. 5:1

Central Thought: Those who are saved are children of promise and are free from sin. We are heirs and joint heirs with Christ but while in this world will be persecuted by the worldly minded, or children of bondage.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Ishmael, Hagar's son, do at the feast Abraham made for his promised child, Isaac?

2. What did Sarah tell Abraham to do with Hagar and her son Ishmael?

3. How did Abraham feel about sending away his son Ishmael, born to Hagar, Sarah's maid?

4. What did God tell Abraham to do? Who was to come through the seed or family of Isaac?

5. What does verse 22 tell us about Abraham's sons?

6. Which son was by the bondwoman, Hagar, born after the flesh?

7. Who was Isaac's mother? Was he a child of bondage or freedom?

8. In verse 24 two covenants are mentioned. Mt. Sinai is where God gave Moses the law. What does this verse say the law given on Mt. Sinai gendereth or brings one to?

9. There was a city of Jerusalem in Paul's day. Paul said that Jerusalem is under _____ with _____ children, which is compared to those who are not saved and are under bondage to Satan.

10. The church of God, the New Jerusalem came down from God out of heaven and is from above. What is she to all of us who are saved?

11. The desolate are of the bondwoman of Satan. Does Satan have more children, or people serving him, than Christ, or she (meaning Sarah) that has a husband?

12. Verse 28 tells us we are of whom and are children of promise, which means of Christ?

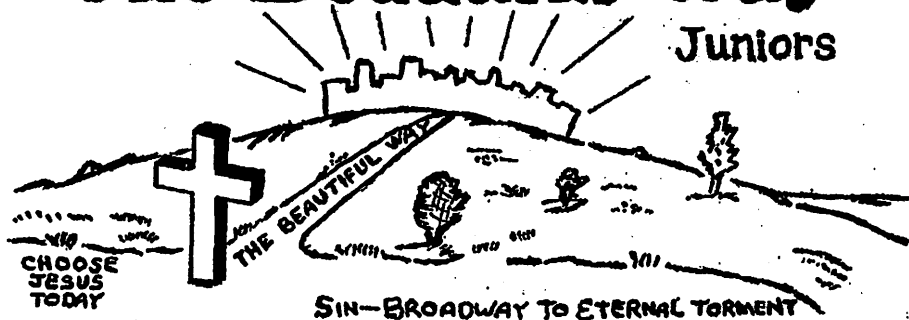
13. Those who are born after the flesh, meaning those who are not saved, persecute or make fun of those who are saved and are born after what?

14. If the bondwoman, or those who are not saved, are cast out, then they shall not be heirs with whom, which means inheriting eternal life?

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Part Eight

Feb. 21

Send Food to John

(Continued from last week.)

The northeast storm was still raging, and the snow falling and drifting fast; but on, on, went the stout, well-fed team on its errand of mercy, while the occupants of the sleigh, wrapped up in blankets and extra buffalo robes, urged the horses through the drifts and in the face of the storm. That ten-mile's ride, which required in the summer hardly an hour or two, was not finished until the deacon's watch showed that five hours had passed.

At last they drew up in front of the hut where the poor, trusting Christian man and woman were on their knees praying for help to Him who is the "hearer and answerer of prayer;" and as the deacon reached the door, he heard the voice of supplication, and then knew that the message which awakened him from sleep was sent from heaven. He knocked at the door, it was opened and we can imagine the joy of the old couple, when the generous supply of

food was carried in, and the thanksgivings that were uttered by the starving tenants of that mountain hut.

—Touching Incidents

I'll Never Steal Again— If Father Kills Me For It

A friend of mine, seeking for objects of charity, got into the room of a tenement house. It was vacant. He saw a ladder pushed through the ceiling. Thinking that perhaps some poor creature had crept up there, he climbed the ladder, drew himself up through the hole, and found himself under the rafters. There was no light but that which came through a bull's-eye in the place of a tile. Soon he saw a heap of chips and shavings, and on them a boy about ten years old.

"Boy, what are you doing here?"

"Hush! don't tell anybody—please, Sir."

"What are you doing here?"

"Don't tell anybody, Sir; I'm hiding."

"What are you hiding from?"
"Don't tell anybody, if you please, Sir."

"Where's your mother?"

"Mother is dead."

"Where's your father?"

"Hush! don't tell him! don't tell him! but look here!" He turned himself on his face, and through the rags of his jacket and shirt, my friend saw the boy's flesh was bruised, and the skin broken.

"Why, my boy, who beat you like that?"

"Father did, Sir."

"What did your father beat you like that for?"

"Father got drunk, Sir, and beat me 'cos I wouldn't steal."

"Did you ever steal?"

"Yes, Sir. I was a street thief once."

"And why don't you steal any more?"

"Please, Sir, I went to the mission school, and they told me there of God, and of heaven, and of Jesus; and they taught me, 'Thou shalt not steal;' and I'll never steal again, if Father kills me for it. But, please, Sir, don't tell him."

"My boy, you must not stay here; you will die. Now, you wait patiently here for a little time; I'm going away to see a lady. We will get a better place for you than this."

"Thank you, Sir; but please, Sir, would you like me to sing a little hymn?"

Bruised, battered, forlorn, friendless, motherless, hiding away from an infuriated father, he had a little hymn to sing.

"Yes, I will hear you sing your little hymn."

He raised himself on his elbow and then sang:

"Gentle Jesus, meek and mild,
Look upon a little child;
Suffer me to come to Thee.
Fain would I to Thee be brought,
Gracious Lord, forbid it not;
In the kingdom of Thy grace
Give a little child a place."

"That's the little hymn, Sir. Good bye."

The gentleman went away, came back again in less than two hours, and climbed the ladder. There were the chips, and there was the little boy with one hand by his side, and the other tucked in his bosom, underneath the little ragged shirt—dead.

—John B. Gough
(Taken from "Touching Incidents.")

AN ADVENTURE

"Now listen closely to my story, and when any of you know who the story is about, speak up and tell me," Sister Brown told her class. "One day a father took his son and they went up a mountainside together. The boy loved his father and his father loved his son very, very much. In fact, he loved him so much that God was afraid that this man might love his boy more than he loved God. We must never love anyone or anything more than we love God. God is our heavenly Father and is wonderful. Now this boy asked a question. He said, 'Father, where is the sacrifice that we are going to offer?' The father said, 'The Lord will provide.'"

"Isaac and his father Abraham!" shouted the Sunday School class.

"That is right. God tested Abraham and proved that he loved God best."

—M. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a spring coming out of the side of a hill. On the stream of water write "Fountain of eternal life."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Some boys and girls like to study about George Washington because we always connect truthfulness with him. But some boys and girls do not always tell the truth and they do not like to think about George Washington. We don't know too much about him, but a number of things are told concerning his being truthful. We are told that when he was asked who chopped down the cherry tree, he said he did. Then I read recently that he was very fond of horses. His mother had a beautiful colt, which was very wild. One day he tried to ride the colt, and in trying to throw George, the colt fell backwards and broke a blood vessel and died. George went into the house and told his mother all about it and did not try to defend himself. Another time a man offered to give a fine horse to anyone who could ride him to the next town without being thrown. George mounted and rode away and soon came back, still on the horse. The man said, "The horse is yours," but Washington refused it, saying that he had been thrown once and had remounted. He could have had the horse and no one but him and God would have known about it, but he wanted to tell the truth. "The law of truth was in his mouth." (Mal. 2:6) Boys and girls, let the law of truth be in your mouth. Those who tell the truth are admired and trusted.

Our lesson is about a mother and a lad who probably was about 17 years old. Abraham gave Hagar her freedom. He hated to see his son go away with

her, but God had commanded it to be. They could visit but not live there as we learned in last Sunday's lesson how Ishmael had acted very unruly. It does not pay to sin as sin brings punishment.

We find Ishmael a very submissive boy after he and his mother got lost in the wilderness and their meat and water were gone. They were in trouble, but we are glad that Ishmael and Hagar knew how to pray. They called upon God in their trouble. God said He heard Ishmael's prayer. There had been water close by but they had not seen it. God caused Hagar to see it. She got water for her son and he revived. From that time they lived in the wilderness. There was plenty of food, such as wild animals for them to kill and eat. Ishmael's family became a great nation. His people are the Arabs of today that we read about who live close to Israel but don't get along very well with them.

Only through God can we find real peace. Boys and girls, don't look anywhere else for peace. You might be offered many things at school by others that are wrong, but you must do right. Pray to God now because you might come to a place where you need Him real bad, and He will help you.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, February 21, 1971

"GOD OPENED HER EYES"

Gen. 21:14-21; Luke 24:31, 32, 45

Gen. 21:14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

15 And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

16 And she went and sat down over against him a good way off, as it were a bowshot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice and wept.

17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

21 And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

Luke 24:31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him [Jesus]; and he vanished out of their sight.

32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.

Memory Verse: And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see. Luke 10:23.

Central Thought: Our souls are blest and nourished, not by the creation of

new facts and truths, but by opening of our eyes to see those already given.

QUESTIONS:

1. Since Hagar had been a servant and Abraham sent her away, would she have her freedom?

2. What did we learn in last Sunday's lesson that Ishmael did wrong? Did Abraham want to send them away?

3. What did Abraham give to Hagar? Where did she and her son go?

4. After they had wandered around and the water was all gone where did Hagar lead Ishmael, who was about 17 years old?

5. After leaving him, how far away did Hagar go? What did she say and do?

6. Whose voice did God hear? What did the angel of God say to Hagar?

7. Who opened Hagar's eyes? What did she see and do?

8. Was God with Ishmael? Where did he dwell? What did he do?

9. Where did he get his wife?

10. Ishmael's descendants are the Arabs of today. True or false.

11. Jesus was walking with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and they were very sad because Jesus had been crucified. They told Jesus about it and after He preached them a sermon what did He do for them?

12. After they knew it was Jesus who walked with them, what did they say about their talk?

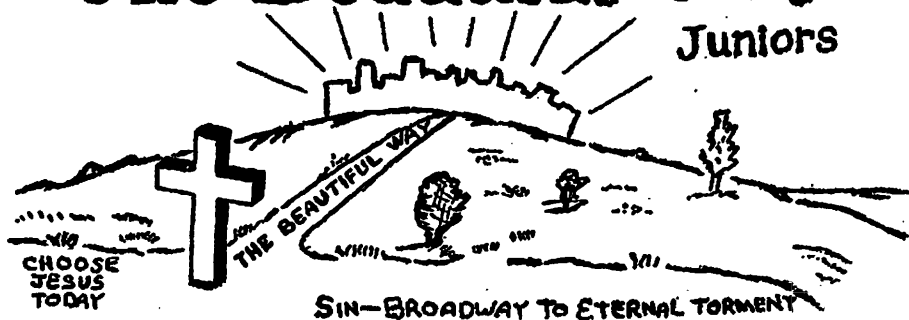
13. Later, how did He help them to understand the Scriptures?

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

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Part Nine

Feb. 23

The Lost Lamb

John and Mary lived in a tent in a little valley between two very high hills. They had a baby brother only a few months old. John was seven and Mary was five. They didn't have beds to sleep in, and no table or chairs as do the children of today. There was no radio, not even a stove in the tent. Mother cooked in a big kettle over an open fire outside the tent. They had to sleep on the ground. Mother made them soft beds out of dry grass and covered it with the skins of wild animals their daddy had caught for food. They spent most of their time running up and down the hills and playing in the great outdoors while Mother worked trying to make them as comfortable as possible. Their father was a shepherd. He took care of Mr. Rogers' sheep and in turn was paid a small salary and given enough ground to raise a small garden. Every morning their daddy left the tent before daylight, and sometimes didn't get home until after dark. Mr. Rogers had told him that

he would have to pay for any sheep that got lost or killed by wild animals if he failed to take proper care of them. So their daddy watched them very carefully. John and Mary had asked to go with him many times, but he always said no, for he was afraid they might get lost or hurt. He felt they were too little to go.

But one day they begged so hard that he said they might go the next day if they promised him to mind and stay close to him, for he didn't have time to run after them. Mother fixed a lunch for them, as, of course, they promised to mind him.

Next morning, early, they followed Daddy and the sheep up the hill. The sun was making the sky red in the east as they climbed the hill. As they went along, the children noticed a pretty little creek way down in the next valley, and John wondered if they might stop and play for a while. Daddy said, "Yes, if you will not go far, for I am going to let the sheep rest here. They like to get a drink out of the creek." The children ran as fast as they could to see which one could get their shoes

off first and wade in the clear water. My, how good it felt to their tired feet! Splash! went the water as it came to their knees. Daddy sat on a rock and watched them play as the sheep grazed here and there in the pretty green grass. What a good time they had! Both were sorry when Daddy said they must get their shoes on and be on their way. They were not ready to leave, but must mind Daddy.

They began to round up the sheep. When they were all together, one little lamb was missing. They looked behind every bush, in every hole, and down along the creek, but no sign of the lamb. What could have happened to it? It was one of the best lambs, and Daddy would lose a whole week's pay if they didn't find it. They hunted until finally Daddy said they must go on. Surely some wild beast had found it. Mary and John felt very bad about the poor little lamb.

The pretty flowers were nodding all along the way, but they were not seen by the children, for their minds were back with the lost lamb. When they arrived over in the next valley, Daddy said, "While the sheep are eating, we had better eat our lunch, too." The children scarcely realized what they were eating for their minds were still on the lamb. They wondered if it was hurt, or if it had just strayed away. After lunch, Daddy lay down to rest while the sheep ate, so the children wandered away, for they had forgotten their promise to stay near by.

They went back up the hill where they had lost the lamb, thinking they might find it up there some place. They went from hill to hill, always watching and listening for the call

of the lamb. All at once John noticed the sun wasn't shining so brightly as it had been, and the shadows were longer. "Mary, we must hurry back, or Daddy will be worried. I forgot we were supposed to stay there with him."

They turned and went down the hill as fast as their legs would take them. They ran a long time it seemed, and still there was no sign of the sheep, nor their father. They looked all around to see how far they had to go yet, for Mary was getting real tired, but every hill looked the same to them. They called, but there was no answer. Mary wanted her Daddy, and John realized they were lost. He didn't want to frighten Mary, so he tried to act brave.

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw an altar. On top of the altar write the word "Me." Underneath it write, "Here am I ready to obey."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did your mother or father ever tell you to do something you just did not want to do? You felt tired and hated to do what you had been told. Girls dislike very much to do the dishes and boys often dislike cutting the grass out of the fence-row or some other jobs that need to be done. There are sometimes rules at school or in the home that you don't like to have to obey. Yet they are rules and our parents have spoken and children must obey. Well, maybe you can understand a little of how Abraham felt that day as he took his only son whom he loved and which had been given to him in his old age, up the mountainside to do as God had

commanded him. I am sure there would be a difference in doing this and just not wanting to do something. Abraham loved God so dearly that he loved him more than his own son. He loved God so much that he would do anything he asked him to do. He knew God was his Master and that he would be blessed in his heart if he obeyed Him. He also had faith in God to perform miracles. He knew that God knew best. Now if you felt the same about your parents and those who made the rules you would obey with a better attitude than you do, I am sure. Some boys and girls obey, but they fret and have a rebellious attitude in their heart. That makes them feel miserable. They cause others to feel bad, too. You still have to obey, so why not do it with a better feeling? Have faith in them that they know best. Boys and girls, each one in the home, school, and town has a part to do. It is not fair that a few do it all. So, take your share with a smile, won't you?

Notice what Abraham said when he left the young men who came with him to the foot of Mount Moriah, which was 42 miles from his home. He said, "I and the lad will go yonder and worship and come again to you." He had faith to know that God was going to work something to help him out. Then when God called to him on the mount, what did God find Abraham doing? There he had Isaac bound on the altar with his knife raised above him. Still Abraham knew God knew best and he answered, "Here am I." Boys and girls, although some things might seem hard that God requires you to do, remember that He is looking down upon you and when He calls, you should answer as Abraham did, "Here am I obeying you." This will please your Lord and God.

He has great blessings awaiting those who obey. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, February 28, 1971

SIMPLE OBEDIENCE BRINGS GREAT BLESSINGS

Genesis 22:1-14, 16-18

Gen. 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I tell thee of.

3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up and went unto the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

14 And Abraham called the name of the place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen.

15 And said, by myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies:

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed: because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Memory Verse: Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he

had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? James 2:21.

Central Thought: The most distinguished of God's servants are often subjected to the greatest trials.

QUESTIONS:

1. Would the phrase, "After these things" refer to some of the other trials Abraham went through such as leaving his home and living in the land of Canaan and sending Hagar and Ishmael away from his home?

2. What did Abraham answer when God called him?

3. What did God tell Abraham to do?

4. Did Abraham wait? How soon did he obey?

5. What did Abraham see on the third day of his journey? (It was 42 miles to Mt. Moriah.)

6. What did Abraham tell the young men who came with him?

7. What did Abraham take with him as he went up the mountain?

8. What did Isaac ask his father?

9. What was Abraham's answer?

10. What did Abraham do when they came to the place?

11. After Abraham obeyed, what did the Lord call to him?

12. Should we always be doing what God has told us, even if it is hard? Can we say, "Here I am, obeying You"?

13. What did the Lord tell him to do? What had he proved to God?

14. What did Abraham finally offer on the altar as a sacrifice?

15. What did God say the second time?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Ten

Mar. 7

The Lost Lamb

(Continued from last week's paper)

Finally, it was beginning to get dark, and Mary was crying. Then he thought of the story his mother had read to them the night before. It was about the Good Shepherd who had found the lost sheep. John said to Mary, "Don't cry anymore. Let's kneel down right here and pray. Jesus can help us find the lamb, and our Daddy, too."

So they knelt down and asked Jesus to help them find their daddy and the lamb. "Please, Jesus, we are lost, and we don't know which way to go."

When they got up, John stood there a while listening and looking back down in the valley. Mary said "Come on, John, let's go. It's getting real dark."

But John had heard something. He walked a few steps, then stopped to listen again. "Don't you hear that noise, Mary? It is coming closer. Sounds just like a wolf. Do you think it could be? Daddy says there

are wolves in the hills, and sometimes they kill the sheep."

Mary was really frightened now. "Maybe a wolf killed our little lamb. I hear the noise now," said Mary as they stood there shivering.

"John, what will we do? They are coming closer. Hear them?"

"Mary, all we can do is pray again," so down on their knees they went and this time they were really in earnest for the wolves were pretty close.

Almost as soon as they said Amen, the noise stopped, but they could see the wolves now going down the hill the other way. There seemed to be several of them. John said, "Mary, what do you know about that? God has answered that prayer already. He has made the wolves go away. I know He will answer the other prayer too." They started down the hill on the opposite side, and they walked quite a distance when both children heard the bleating of a lamb. They stopped and listened to see where the sound was coming from. It didn't sound too far away, so they ran as fast as they could to where it seemed to be. In a bramble bush they found

the lost lamb. John worked and worked to get it loose. Then they ran on with the lamb following close behind them. As they ran, they thanked Jesus for answering two of their prayers. Now, there was only one to be answered, and they believed they would soon find their Daddy.

By this time it was so dark it was hard to see the path. Away off they saw a little light shining through the dark. Could that be coming from their tent? But, no, it wasn't, for they heard Daddy calling them, and both answered him at the same time. Daddy was carrying a lantern. Were they glad to see him! He picked them both up in his arms and was very happy to see them safe. He thanked the Lord for protecting them. They weren't far from home, now. Mother was standing in the door waiting. She had been so worried when Daddy brought the sheep home and reported the children lost.

Before he went back out, they had knelt and asked the Lord to protect their little ones and guide him to them. She had supper all ready and two little hungry children were happy to be home again where they were safe. After supper, Daddy took them on his knees and said, "You children were very naughty today. Didn't I tell you to stay close to me?" Of course, they remembered, but they had just forgotten. "John, you both disobeyed me. What do you think I should do about it?"

Both children hung their heads in shame. Finally, little Mary said, "Jesus brought us home. We prayed, and He sent the wolves away, and helped us find the lost lamb. Jesus heard our prayers, Daddy."

"Yes," said Daddy. "I am glad you thought to pray, and am happy Jesus answered, but that isn't answering my question. You children did disobey me, you know. You know we have a rule that when you disobey your mother or me, you must be punished. Now, what shall I do to you?"

John said, "I guess you will have to whip us, Daddy, but I am bigger, and I was the cause of Mary getting lost, so I should get the hardest whipping."

Daddy decided they both were guilty, so he whipped them both. Then he sat down and talked to them and told them how Daddy loved them, and Jesus loved them even more. Jesus must feel sorry because they had disobeyed. Jesus wanted them to be good children and mind their mother and daddy. They were both so sorry and were soon on their knees at Daddy's side asking Jesus to forgive them. John and Mary never forgot that experience.

The Good Shepherd is out seeking His sheep today. If you are a lost lamb, come and be found.

—Iva Brenner

Watch your thoughts. The Bible tells us to think about lovely things. If you think evil things, it will show on your face. Thinking about good and lovely things will make you look sweet and pleasant.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a well. Underneath write, "Work and kindness bring blessings."

Dear Boys and Girls:

I do trust that all of you remember to pray to the Lord. Prayer is the key

to your strength and power to live right and obey God. It is just like a magnet that has drawing power. Prayer draws power from God to you. You do not always have to kneel down to pray. You can pray as you go to school or on the playground. Even in school you can pray. You do not have to say any words out loud, but pray and say to God lower than a whisper, "Oh Lord, I love you and I want you to help me now to do right." Or maybe you are being asked to do something wrong. Even while the person is talking, say a prayer lower than a whisper: "Lord, help me to do right now." You will feel the power coming down from God to help you. But it is good to kneel before the Lord when you can. We want to let our precious Lord and Saviour know that we humble ourselves before Him as He is great, mighty and good.

Sarah had died and was buried. Abraham was getting old and he thought about his son, Isaac. He wanted him to have a good wife. He wanted his wife to be one who loved God, so he called his most trusted servant who had been with him for 54 years. He asked him to go back to his own family and get a wife for Isaac. He did not want Isaac to take one of those who lived around them for a wife as they worshipped idols and did not believe in the one and true living God. Eliezer loved God and he felt the weight of this task. He took ten camels and left for Mesopotamia where Abraham's brother, Nahor, lived.

In those days the women took care of the flocks. They would bring them in the evening to the well to water them. In our lesson we notice that Eliezer went to the well and there he prayed. He asked God to show him which one He chose for Isaac, or "she that thou hast

appointed." He wanted the girl that God chose. His choice was not important, but God's was. You should remember this when you are old enough to think about getting married. Before he had finished praying Rebekah did as he had asked God to let the one whom He chose do. She asked him if he wanted a drink and she drew water for his camels. She was very fair and kind. She felt it was right that she be kind to a stranger. She was not afraid to work to show her kindness. Eliezer rejoiced because he knew that God had heard and answered his prayer quickly.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, March 7, 1971

ABRAHAM'S SERVANT SEEKS A WIFE FOR ISAAC

Genesis 24:1-4; 2 Cor. 6:14

Genesis 24:10b, 11-21

Gen. 24:1 And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things.

2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant [Eliezer, Ch. 15:2] of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh:

3 And I will make thee swear by the Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell:

4 But thou shalt go unto my country and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

2 Cor. 6:14 (Paul writes) Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Gen. 24:10b And he [Eliezer] arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water.

12 And he said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water:

14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: Let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac: and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.

15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.

18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.

20 And she hasted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again

unto the well to draw water, and drew for his camels.

21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the Lord had made his journey prosperous or not.

Memory Verse: In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:6.

Central Thought: The will and design of God should be the ultimate aim of our desires and prayers.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Abraham do in his old age that was real important?

2. Why did he not want Isaac to take a Canaanite woman for his wife?

3. Where did Abraham want his faithful servant Eliezer (Gen. 15:2) to get a wife for Isaac?

4. What does it mean not to be yoked up with unbelievers?

5. Should saved people marry unsaved people? (Read last part of 1 Cor. 7:39.)

6. Where did Eliezer go? (Nahor was Abraham's brother.)

7. Read Eliezer's prayer in verses 12-14. Read twice the phrase "she that thou hast appointed" and explain it.

8. What happened before Eliezer finished praying?

9. What did the damsel Rebekah look like?

10. In verse 18, does it tell us that Rebekah did as Eliezer had asked God to have the one He chose do?

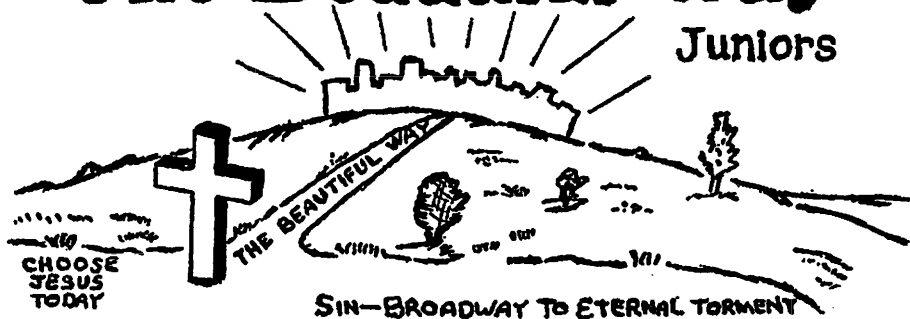
11. Was Rebekah afraid of work? What did she do that proved this?

12. Does it pay to show kindness to everyone?

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Part Eleven

Mar. 14

Paul's Vision

While Paul was praying, in a trance
The Saviour heard he speak:
"Depart, I send thee far from hence,
The Gentiles shalt thou seek."

Then Jesus spoke to him one night,
To Paul so far from home:
"Fear not, but witness with your
might,
I'm sending you to Rome!"

While on the ship tossed on the sea,
An angel came to him
And whispered hope of victory
Though hope did seem so dim.

—Leslie Busbee

she said to her Aunt Mary one day, "why all the children will stay over at Jane's and play with her so much more than they will play with me. Her dolls are not half as nice as mine, and she has hardly any toys. Besides she isn't very pretty and her hair is as straight as a stick. And look how much room we have here."

Now, Aunt Mary loved her little namesake very much, and she hated to see her unhappy. So she was sorry to have to say what she felt was the real reason that Mary was alone much of the time. "You know," she said slowly, stroking her little niece's bright curls, "straight hair does not necessarily make one unattractive. Haven't you often heard grandma say that 'pretty is, as pretty does'? Maybe Jane is nicer about letting the other children play with her dolls and her toys than you are. Does Jane ever say, 'Don't take that carriage, that's mine'? I don't believe she would ever say to the other children, 'You'll have to play the game that I want, because aren't we playing on my lawn?' "

How Mary Made Friends

Mary was a very fortunate little girl. She lived in a nice home with a lovely lawn all around and plenty of room to play. She had any number of toys, but still she was not quite happy. "I don't see,"

Then Mary's little head began to hang down a bit. She remembered having said almost exactly those words. And she remembered too some things she felt sure Aunt Mary didn't know about, how she had hid candy and just slipped bites of it when the others were around and she thought they weren't looking, and other things like that.

Then she glanced up. "Aunt Mary" she asked slowly, "do you think that if I wouldn't be selfish that the other children would like better to play with me?"

"Well," answered her aunt, "I couldn't be sure, but I don't think selfish people have so many friends and they are never as happy as their unselfish friends even if they have ever so many more toys."

"All right," said Mary, "you don't know, and I don't know, but I'm going to find out if being selfish has kept me from having friends."

She was as good as her word and often after that when she wanted to ride her bicycle herself she would remember just in time and say, "Let's take turns riding so we can all have fun." She learned to play the games that her playmates wanted, and she was surprised to find that very often they would make her choose a game. She found, too, that a little bit of candy shared with her friend tasted better than lots more eaten "on the sly."

It was not long until the children all came to Mary's lawn to play, Jane along with the rest. Before Mary was through her lunch, she would hear, "Ma-ree," and she never more had to beg her friends to come over and play with her.

—Sel.

"YOU—YOU"

A little girl had taken her brother's nickel and put it in her shoe. He looked everywhere for it and his sister even helped him, but she knew all along where it was. She wanted to buy a candy bar that cost a dime and she only had a nickel of her own.

"Who, who, or who got my nickel?" Allen asked with tears. Mary did not say anything. She went to bed when Mother said they could look for it again in the morning. As Mary turned out the light and got into bed, without praying, she felt bad. All of a sudden, she heard a noise outside. She covered up her head, but she heard someone saying, "You-o-o, You-o-o-o." It kept saying that and she began to cry. She could hear her brother asking, "Who, or who got my nickel?" Again the noise or cry came from outside. Mary began to cry and she ran to her mother, telling her about the noise. Her mother said, "Why, that is just an owl saying, 'Who, who-o-o.'" But Mary kept crying. Finally she told her mother about the nickel. Her mother saw how sorry she was. They prayed together. Mary went to sleep and the owl did not bother her any more as she determined to give her brother back his nickel.

—M. Miles

Sensing Danger

Scientists tell us that ants will leave their nests, taking their babies with them, twenty-four hours before a forest fire sweeps over their nests. Also rabbits with burrows made in low-lying ground will leave long before a flood occurs. By some peculiar power that God has given them they

sense the coming danger and flee.

We should ask God to help us sense the dangers of sin, and flee from them.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a toothpick man with head bowed in prayer. Write underneath, "Abraham's servant thanks God."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you ever ride a horse? I am sure if you have not, you have at least seen horses that are being ridden. The horses have on their heads straps that go over their ears and buckle underneath their jaws, with what is called a bit in their mouths. This bit is a piece of iron with rings on each side to hook the lines to that the rider holds in his hands. When the rider wants the horse to turn to the right he pulls on that right line, and if he wants the horse to turn to the left, he pulls on the left line. When he wants the horse to stop, he pulls both lines together. Of course, he does it gently as it hurts the horse's mouth if it is pulled too hard. That is the way a horse is guided.

The Lord wants us to be easier to guide than a horse or a mule. Mules are real stubborn and sometimes they buck and rear up. The driver has to pull hard on the bit and it hurts the mule's mouth greatly. But we have more understanding than a horse or a mule. We should be guided without having to be hurt. Be willing to obey God's Words.

When I was a little girl and any of us children acted out of order when we had company, my mother gave us a stern look. She did not even have to speak, because we knew by her look that we

had better straighten up and do right, or when company left we would surely get into trouble. She guided us right by her eye. That was better than being embarrassed in front of company by being corrected openly. No one knew but Mother and us. The Lord is the same way. He wants to guide us gently, but we must be willing to be guided.

In our lesson we find Abraham's servant pausing to thank the Lord for leading him to the right one God wanted to be Isaac's wife. He gave Rebekah some jewels and gold to wear. Of course, they did not know that it was wrong to wear gold in those days. Today God does not want us to adorn the outward body. Read 1 Tim. 2:9; 1 Pet. 3:3, 4. It shows pride. We are to adorn our lives with kindness, quietness, and godliness. That is what Jesus loves and looks for, and that is what helps us to be a blessing to others.

Joyful feet make haste. Rebekah ran to tell others at her home all that had happened. Her brother, Laban, ran out to meet the man. How happy he was to know that this man had come from his Uncle Abraham's home! He took him to his home and there treated him royally. It is wonderful to be led by God. Then all things will go well.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, March 14, 1971

THANKFULLY RECOGNIZING GOD'S LEADINGS

Genesis 24:22-27; Psalm 32:8-11;

Genesis 24:28-32a

Gen. 24:22 And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold: 23 And said, Whose daughter art

thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?

24 And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor.

25 She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.

26 And the man bowed his head, and worshipped the Lord.

27 And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master's brethren.

Psa. 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.

11 Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

Gen. 24:28 And the damsel ran, and told them of her mother's house these things.

29 And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban: and Laban ran out unto the man, unto the well.

30 And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, Thus spake the man unto me; that he came unto the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the well.

31 And he said, Come in, thou blessed of the Lord; wherefore standest thou without? for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels.

32a And the man came into the house:

Memory Verse: For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Romans 8:14.

Central Thought: There is a sure path for those who are led by the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

1. After she had watered the camels, what did the servant give Rebekah?

2. Read 1 Tim. 2:9. Are we to wear gold today? Why did the servant give gold to Rebekah?

3. Whose daughter was Rebekah?

4. After Rebekah told Abraham's servant there was room for him in their home, what did he do?

5. In his prayer, he mentioned that God had given him mercy since he had followed the right way. Who did he say led him?

6. Should we always pause and thank the Lord for the good things He gives to us?

7. How can we be guided by God's eye? Can you compare this to a mother's look to her child?

8. How are horses and mules guided? Why are they guided this way?

9. What comes to the wicked? What is given to those who trust in the Lord?

10. What should the upright in heart and the righteous do?

11. Whose joyful feet made haste? What was her message?

12. What did Laban, her brother, do when he heard the message?

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Part Twelve

Mar. 21

The Stowaway

On board an English steamer, a little ragged boy, aged nine years, was discovered on the fourth day of the voyage out from Liverpool to New York, and carried before the first mate, whose duty it was to deal with such cases. When questioned as to his object in being stowed away, and who had brought him on board, the boy, who had a beautiful sunny face, that looked like the very mirror of truth, replied that his step-father did it, because he could not afford to keep him, nor pay his passage out to Halifax, where he had an aunt who was well off, and to whose house he was going.

The mate did not believe the story, in spite of the winning face and truthful accents of the boy. He had seen too much of stowaways to be easily deceived by them, he said; and it was his firm conviction that the boy had been brought on board and provided with food by the sailors.

The little fellow was very roughly handled in consequence. Day by day

he was questioned and requestioned, but always with the same result. He did not know a sailor on board, and his father alone had secreted and given him the food which he ate. At last the mate, wearied by the boy's persistence in the same story, and perhaps a little anxious to inculcate the sailors, seized him one day by the collar, and dragging him to the fore, told him that unless he told the truth, in ten minutes from that time he would hang from the yard-arm. He then made him sit down under it on the deck. All around him were the passengers and sailors of the mid-way watch, and in front of him stood the inexorable mate, with chronometer in his hand, and the other officers of the ship by his side. It was a touching sight to see the pale, proud, scornful face of that noble boy; his head erect, his beautiful eyes, bright through the tears that suffused them. When eight minutes had fled, the mate told him he had but two minutes to live, and advised him to speak the truth and save his life. But he replied with the utmost simplicity and sincerity, by asking the mate if

he might pray. The mate said nothing, but nodded his head, and turned as pale as a ghost, and shook with trembling like a reed in the wind. And then all eyes turned on him, the brave and noble fellow—this poor boy whom society owned not, and whose own step-father could not care for—knelt with clasped hands and eyes upturned to heaven. There then occurred a scene as of Pentecost. Sobs broke from strong, hard hearts, as the mate sprang forward and clasped the boy to his bosom, and kissed him, and blessed him, and told him how sincerely he now believed his story, and how glad he was that he had been brave enough to face death, and be willing to sacrifice his life for the truth of his word.

—Touching Incidents

Watching the Corners

There is a boy in my home town whom the merchants hire to wash their windows every week. He is about twelve years old and has a bright, sunny smile every time you see him. His mother washes clothes, and he washes windows, and the two of them seem very happy.

I wondered why it was that the storekeepers wanted no one but this boy to do their window washing. One day I stopped him as he came whistling down the street, and asked, "Bobby, why do all the merchants always get you to wash their windows? Do you do it better than others?"

Bobby looked at me and replied, "Why, I guess it must be 'cause I watch the corners. I try to get the corners as clean as the middle. I want to do all my work well."

That was it, of course. He "watched the corners." He did not neglect the little things.

I wonder if you are "watching the corners" of your life! Are you wiping away those little spots of deceit and disobedience? Do you ever look into yourself to see if you are clean all the way through?

Remember, the window of your soul is a million times more important than any other window in the world. Are you trying to keep it spotlessly clean? You'll have to "watch the corners" to do it. There is only one thing that will wash away the stain of sin, and that is the blood of Jesus. Let Jesus wash your heart clean and help you to keep it so. —Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a rough, bumpy road that leads upward to a circle in which the word "Heaven" is written. Underneath it write "Faith will take us to heaven."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Eliezer, Abraham's servant who had been sent to get a wife from Abraham's family for Isaac, sat down to eat. Before he ate, he said that he must tell them about his mission. They were ready to hear him. He began by saying the Lord had greatly blessed Abraham. We do not know if Nahor, Abraham's brother and Rebekah's father, had heard very much from Abraham since he had left his family at the call of God and had gone to dwell in Canaan. In those days very little news was sent between people as it generally had to go by those who walked or rode camels. It was not like today when we can pick up the phone and talk to people across the

states or even across the ocean. I am sure that Eliezer had much to tell them about how God had led Abraham and had cared for him. Perhaps he told them about Lot and his narrow escape from Sodom and how Abraham had prayed for him. He told them about Abraham being exceedingly rich. Then he told about God giving Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age, and the promises of God made to them about Isaac being the son through whom the Messiah was to come and the nations would be blessed. Then he related how God had heard his prayer and led him right to Rebekah and how she had done just as he had asked God to let her do, by giving him a drink and offering to water his camels. When he finished, he asked them how they would answer him concerning Rebekah going back with him to be Isaac's wife. He had faith in God and they had faith in God. Two faiths met that day, and they said, "This thing proceedeth from the Lord." They knew God was in it, and they had faith to believe He would take care of their daughter. When Rebekah was questioned as to whether she would go or not, she was ready to go. She had faith in God's leadings, also. The servant wanted them to let her go immediately, but they wanted her to wait a week or ten days. When she was asked, she consented to go right away. So they sent her away with her nurse who had cared for her from childhood. Her name was Deborah. (Genesis 35:8.)

What a meeting on that calm summer's night! Isaac had gone out in the field to pray and meditate. Maybe he thought about the time he and his father had gone up the mountainside and he had asked his father where the sacrifice was, and his father said, "The Lord will provide." This probably inspired Isaac's faith to know surely the

Lord would provide him a wife. Isaac was waiting with faith and in meekness. Rebekah was coming by faith in God with Abraham's servant. When Eliezer told all to Isaac, his faith met Rebekah's faith, and love sealed their union. He took her to be his wife. Jesus said, "What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." —Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, March 21, 1971

FAITH MEETS FAITH

Gen. 24:33-35a, 36, 40, 49, 50, 58-60, 63-67; Matt. 19:6b, 9

Gen. 24:33 And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told mine errand. And he said, Speak on.

34 And he said, I am Abraham's servant.

35a And the Lord hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great:

36 And Sarah my master's wife bare a son to my master when she was old: and unto him hath he given all that he hath.

40 And he said unto me, The Lord before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house:

49 And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me: and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left.

50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the Lord: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good.

58 And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

59 And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men.

60 And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.

63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming.

64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel.

65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself.

66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Matt. 19:6b What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Memory Verse: But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb. 11:6.

Central Thought: It is a blessed life to trust God completely, even when He leads us into the unknown.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Eliezer, Abraham's servant delay his meal?

2. What did he tell Nahor and Bethuel, Rebekah's father and mother, and her brother Laban, about Abraham?

3. Can you tell anything you have learned about Abraham that is not mentioned here that Eliezer may have said?

4. What was the name of the son given to Sarah who was to be Abraham's heir when he died?

5. According to Abraham, who was sent by the Lord to go with Eliezer to get Isaac a wife?

6. In verse 49, what did Abraham's servant ask?

7. What did Laban and his mother, Bethuel, answer? (No doubt Rebekah's father was very old at this time and Laban was handling the business.)

8. What did they ask Rebekah? What was her answer?

9. Who went with Rebekah?

10. How was Rebekah to be the mother of thousands of millions?

11. What was Isaac doing in the field when he saw them coming?

12. Did Isaac have faith? What kind of faith did Rebekah have?

13. What did Rebekah ask when she saw Isaac? What did she do?

14. What did the servant tell Isaac when he met him?

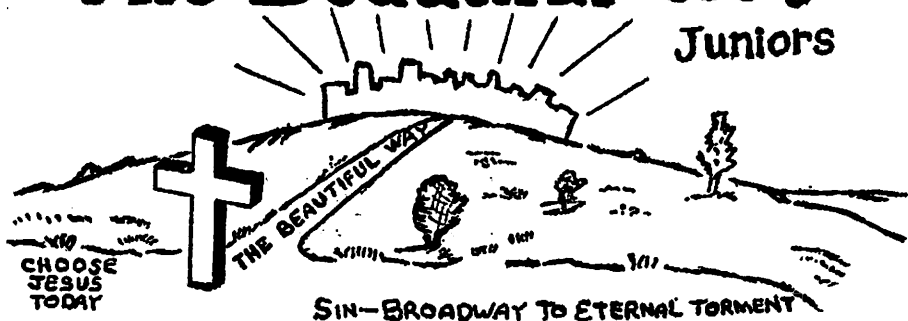
15. Can we say that faith met faith and love sealed the union of Isaac and Rebekah?

16. What did Jesus say about marriage?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part Thirteen

Mar. 28

Daddy Knew Best

Suzie came down with the measles one day. She missed a few days of school because of this. But when Saturday came, she wanted to go to her cousin's wedding. She thought she was well enough to go, but her daddy thought it would be best for her to stay at home. She begged to go, and Daddy finally consented, even though he thought she should not be out yet. She got her way and went, but it rained that day and she was out in the dampness. Within a few days she was down sick again. How bad it made her feel to think her daddy had warned her and she had not listened! Now she was paying for it.

God has given us parents to guide us and help us through life. If we fail to take heed to their instructions, we will always regret it. They have been through many of the same things we are going through and when they instruct us we should listen and not try to contend for our ways. Because they are helping us

not to make the same mistakes they have in the past. Let us be thankful we have parents who are concerned about us. —Janice Allen

A Would-Be Murderer's Arm Paralyzed

A prominent minister in Canada relates the following remarkable instance of God's miraculous care over His people: "I am frequently impressed by the Spirit to perform actions, at the time unaccountable to myself. These impressions are so vivid that I dare not disobey them.

"Some time ago, on a stormy night, I was suddenly impressed to go to the distant house of an aged couple, and there to pray. So imperative was the call that I harnessed the horse and drove to the spot, fastened the horse under the shed, and entered the house unperceived, by a door which had been left open. There, kneeling down, I poured out my petitions to God, in an audible voice, for the divine protection over the inmates; after which I departed and

returned home. Months after, I was visiting one of the principle prisons in Canada, and moving amongst the prisoners, was accosted by one of them who claimed to know me. I had no recollection of the convict, and was fairly startled when the latter said: 'Do you remember going to such a house one night, and offering prayer in the dark for the inmates?' I told him I did, and asked how he came to know anything about it. He said: 'I had gone to that house to steal a sum of money, known to be in the possession of the old man. When you drove into the yard, I thought you were he, and intended to kill you while you were hitching your horses. I saw when you spoke to the horse you were a stranger. I followed you into the house, and heard your prayer. You prayed God to protect the old people from violence of any kind, and especially from murder; and if there was any hand uplifted to strike them, that it might be paralyzed.' Then the prisoner pointed to his right arm, which hung lifeless by his side, saying: 'Do you see that arm? It was paralyzed on the spot and I have never moved it since. Of course, I left the place without doing any harm, but am here now, for other offenses!'

—Reported by Lily Blakeney Howe.
Taken from "Touching Incidents"

Behave in Meeting!

Have you ever gone to meeting and seen some of the children whispering and writing notes while the minister was preaching? That doesn't look nice, does it? One time there was a little girl who was guilty of this. She was a minister's daughter and had

been taught to behave in meeting. Oh! how grieved her father was when he looked back in the congregation one day when he was preaching and saw his little girl talking and playing instead of listening to the message. He loved her and wanted her to grow up and have respect and love for the truth of God. Since he had taught her how to behave in meeting, he knew he must correct her. He paused, called her by name, and asked her to go and sit with her mother. This was very embarrassing for the little girl, but she knew she had done wrong. This taught her a lesson she never forgot. As she grew older, how she did appreciate having been taught this by her father! Boys and girls, God loves us and wants us to show our love to Him by giving our attention to His Word. —Janice Allen

If anything troubles your heart, just tell the Lord Jesus about it. He knows what to do to make it right for you.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a city in the sky with a path leading to it. Underneath write, "We are pilgrims on our way to heaven."

Dear Boys and Girls:

I am sure that you loved Abraham as we have studied about him. He was tested and tried, but he lived for God and loved Him with all his heart. He had faith in God. When God spoke to him, he believed. He truly was a man of faith. Today we must be people of faith. I have seen boys and girls who had faith in God. One boy had so much faith that he would pray for others when they were sick and God would heal them.

Boys and girls, we should believe that God will do just as he has told us He will do.

After his death, Ishmael and Isaac buried their aged father. He lived to be 175 years old. After Sarah died, he had married a woman by the name of Keturah. He had six sons by her, but he gave gifts to all of his sons and sent them away from Isaac. Isaac alone was to live in Canaan and was the son of promise. It was through his family that Jesus Christ was to come thousands of years later. God blessed Isaac, Abraham's son.

The book of Hebrews tells us that Abraham was a pilgrim and a stranger in the land in which he lived. We know that God asked him to leave his home and family and go out to this land that He had promised to give to his children's children. He dwelt in tents and had no certain dwelling place. When Sarah died he found that he did not own even a foot of land to bury her in. Truly he was a pilgrim. He could have gone back to his home country, but he wanted to obey God.

Boys and girls, this is not really our home. We are only here a short time. We see people dying all around us. We are all just pilgrims here. We are journeying to our long home. The home we choose after death will be our eternal home and our real home. We must be sure we are choosing God's home, as Abraham did who said he sought a city whose builder and maker was God. He did not want to dwell in a city made by man. Such will pass away, but that city God makes for us will be forever. I want to go there, don't you?

A missionary came home from toil and hard, patient labor on the missionary field. As he sailed into port, he was so glad to see his homeland again. On

board the same ship was a man who had fought for his country and was considered a hero. When the ship arrived in port, many were there to greet the hero and give him a great home-coming. The missionary for God walked ashore unnoticed. He asked God about it, and the answer came to him, "You are not home yet." Boys and girls, when we fight the battles of life here for God and are ready to die, we will have a great welcome in heaven. God will send His angels to carry us there. There we will be, as Abraham was, "gathered to his people." We must be ready to die in the faith.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, March 28, 1971

ABRAHAM DIES IN THE FAITH

Gen. 25:7, 8, 9a, 10, 11; Heb. 11:9a

10-16; Galatians 3:7-9

Gen. 25:7 And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years.

8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

9a And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field.

10 The field which Abraham purchased of the sons of Heth: there was Abraham buried, and Sarah his wife.

11 And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac; and Isaac dwelt by the well Lahairoi.

Heb. 11:9a By faith he [Abraham] sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles

10 For he looked for a city which

hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having seen the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Gal. 3:7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Memory Verse: For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God,

an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Cor. 5:1.

Central Thought: Since this country is not our home, we should be making preparations to go to the country that will be our eternal home.

QUESTIONS:

1. How old was Abraham when he died?

2. Where was Abraham gathered to when he died?

3. Who buried Abraham? Where?

4. By faith, where did Abraham live? What did he live in?

5. What kind of city was Abraham looking for?

6. What did Sarah judge God to be when He told her she would have a son in her old age?

7. How many people "sprang from" or descended from Abraham's family through Isaac, the son of his old age?

8. Those who were faithful like Abraham, died in the faith, having seen the promises afar off and embraced them. What was that promise they believed?

9. What is a pilgrim and a stranger?

10. If you say you are a pilgrim, what are you telling others, according to verse 14.

11. If you wanted to go back into sin, or were mindful of that country that you came out of, what could you do about it? Would that be wise?

12. What is the better country that you are going to? What has God prepared for those who are not ashamed to call Him their God?

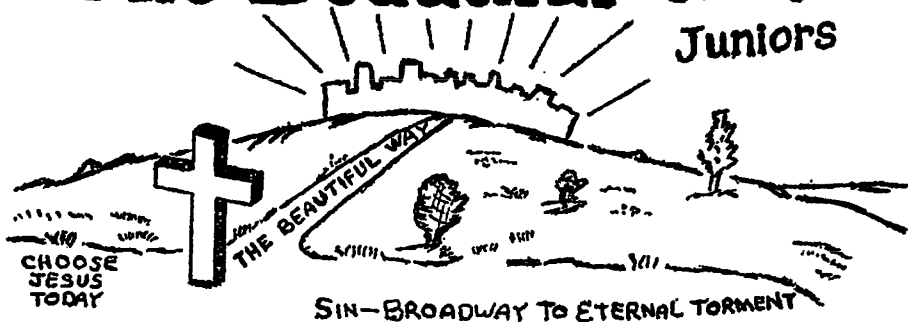
13. If we are of faith, whose children are we?

14. What was the gospel given to Abraham?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part One

April 4

Willie the Orphan

Willie was a very silent little boy. The village children said he had no fun in him, and few of them cared to ask him to join their merry games and parties. He seemed to like his own company better than theirs, and often when their wild shouts were sounding along the lanes or down the street, he might be found, alone and silent, in a sheltered nook where there were few passers-by, and where no one noticed him.

And there was not much joy or cheeriness in his home; for Willie lived with the village cobbler, and in return for doing his housework and running his messages, the old man had agreed to teach him his trade. He was a cross old man, and the country people had named him "Crosspatch." So it might have been thought that Willie would be glad of a little play and merriment in the rare times when the old man told him there was nothing in particular for him to do, and he might be off if he liked. But there was a reason for these silent ways of Willie's, which everyone thought

so strange. Two months ago, a black hearse had stopped outside the corner house of the street, where his mother had kept the village shop, and had borne her away forever from his sight, and all he had left of her now was a long green mound in the grave-yard, which he could well distinguish from many other green mounds, and where he had planted primroses and violets, which, whenever he could get so far, he watered and tended with loving care.

Poor little Willie! His heart was under that grassy mound, and his eyes were often turned in the direction of the grave-yard, wishing that his mother would come back, longing to feel her arms just once more pressed round him, and to hear her calling him, "My little Will." And he never would do so again. Oh, how often he said this to himself, with such a weary aching at his heart!

A year ago it had been very different with little Willie. He had been living there in the pretty house at the corner of the street, where other people were living now. That

corner house was his birthplace; and before he could remember, it was from there that his father had been borne to the grave-yard, near the place where his mother now lay.

She had kept a shop, such as are in most villages, where were sold bread and groceries and other provisions, besides tapes and cotton, and everything that the poor people around might want, and that they could get there without making a journey to the nearest town, which was twelve miles distant from Netlebridge.

How quickly the days passed then! There was plenty of occupation, but not too much; there was plenty of play for Willie, and a glad welcome home in the evening. Everything that mother did was for her little boy; and oh, how sadly he missed her now!

Then had come days when a change seemed to pass over his mother. She was no longer bright and active and cheerful; he could not hear her singing over her work; and when she bid him goodnight, her arm fell round his neck with a fond clinging embrace, and it was almost in a whisper that she said, "Goodnight, my little Will."

He did not know what it meant; he never thought his mother could be ill, and the idea that she was dying did not enter into his mind. So often when she lay restlessly tossing in her large arm-chair by the fire, he was playing about with his companions; and now it was a bitter thought to him that all these hours he might have spent with her if he had known that she was going to leave him so soon.

Then, one day, he remembered, when he was playing on the village

green, and the boy next him had pointed to his mother's door, and said, "There's a lady been and gone to see your mother." And he had seen a light figure pass from their cottage and walk up the street. Ladies did not generally go to their shop! he wondered what she had been there for.

And then he had forgotten all about it until he went home in the evening to the little parlor behind the shop, and saw something white over the mantelpiece; and when he looked closer he saw that there was printed there in large letters a text, "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin;" and he saw that his mothers eyes often seemed to turn to the text and rest there.

"Where did that come from, dear Mother?" asked Willie at length.

"The lady brought it; she's a nice lady, Willie," said his mother. "She's the aunt to the two young ladies that have come to live at the Villa, they that have the big black dog."

"Oh I know," Willie said. "And what did she come here for?"

"She heard I was ill, and she came to talk to me about God and heaven."

This was said in a low voice, but it entered with a chill sound into Willie's very heart. He had never before thought of all this. And now it seemed all at once to be such a dread reality. His mother ill, and the lady coming to talk to her about God and heaven: could his mother be going to die?

(To be continued)

Draw a shelf and put dishes and pans on it. Below the shelf on the floor draw a broken dish and a pot with the handle broken off. Label the ones on the shelf, "vessels of honor," and on the floor, "vessels of dishonor."

Dear Boys and Girls:

We are going to study about Isaac and Rebekah and God's purpose for their sons.

Ishmael had twelve sons when he died. His families became the Arabian people we know today. Ishmael died at the age of 137. Isaac was 123 years old when Ishmael died.

Isaac was a quiet man and of a very gentle nature. He was obedient to the laws of God and he loved Rebekah very much. When they had been married twenty years and did not have any children, Isaac prayed to the Lord to give them a child. God heard his prayer and gave them twin boys, whom they named Esau and Jacob. Before they were born Rebekah asked the Lord about them. God told her that she was to have twins and one would be stronger than the other and the one born first (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob). Both would be heads of great nations.

In our lesson in Romans we read where the Apostle Paul refers to Rebekah and her twin boys. God brings it out that even before they were born He knew all about them. He chose Jacob to be the one through whom He would bring Jesus Christ to the world. Paul goes on to discuss and answer the question about whether God was unrighteous in making this choice. He says that we can't reply against God. He makes of us the kind of vessel which pleases Him. But remember boys and girls, we can be a vessel of honor if we will obey God's commandments. God uses us in the way He wants

to use us. Just as in a house there are vessels that are pretty and are set out for everyone to see, and then there are other pots that are put away in the cabinet. The owner of that house can put his pots, dishes, etc., anywhere he wants to. It is his business. All are useful if the pot will be just a pot. If we will be obedient, we will be vessels of honor, but if disobedient, then we will become vessels fitted for destruction, or for hell. No one has to be a vessel for hell, but we can be a vessel of honor and be ready for heaven.

What kind of vessel are you? Are you filled up with selfish interests, unkind thoughts, desiring to look like the world by wearing ungodly clothing or very scant clothes? Boys and girls, we must be emptied out of all ungodly things and be filled with good things from God.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, April 4, 1971

VESSELS OF HONOR AND DISHONOR

2 Tim. 2:19b, 20, 21; Rom. 9:10b, 11-14, 20-24; 1 Thess. 5:9; Eph. 1:11, 12a

2 Tim. 2:19b The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

21 If a man therefore purge himself from these [sins], he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

Rom. 9:10b When Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

11 (For the children [Esau and Jacob] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

14 What shall we say then. Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

1 Thess. 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Eph. 1:11 In whom [Christ] also we [saints, ver. 1] have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

12a That we should be to the praise of his glory.

Memory Verse: Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely. Rev. 22:17b.

Central Thought: God can use only vessels that are filled with His goodness.

QUESTIONS:

1. How old was Isaac when Ishmael died?

2. What kind of man was Isaac? What did he ask God for?

3. We who love Christ are to depart from what?

4. What kind of vessels are in a great house?

5. If a man does not have sin in his heart, what kind of vessel will he be?

6. What were the names of Isaac and Rebecca's children?

7. What did God say about them before they were born? (verse 12, Esau was born first.)

8. Would verse 13 be explained like this: "Jacob have I chosen, and Esau have I rejected to be the head of the nation through whom I will bring Jesus Christ"?

9. Is this wrong for God to choose Jacob instead of Esau to be the head of His chosen family?

10. Can God do with His people, whom He made, just as He pleases?

11. What does verse 21 tell us?

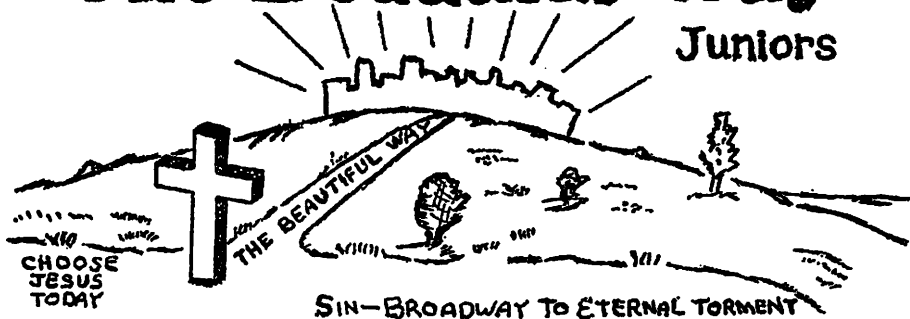
12. How long does God endure the vessels who refused to obey Him before they become vessels of destruction, or ready for hell?

13. Has God appointed you and me to be vessels of wrath, or can we obtain salvation?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Two

April 11

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

"Mother, are you very ill?" asked Willie in a low still whisper, drawing nearer to her, so that his face was close to hers, and his large dark eyes were wide open, and fixed with a keen questioning look.

"Aye, my little Will," she said, stroking back his brown hair lovingly.

"Mother, are you going to die?" asked the little boy again, as the sad, sad truth seemed coming nearer and clearer.

There was no answer at first, only a little choking sob from his mother, ending in a long fit of coughing. Then she lay back exhausted on her pillows.

"God knows, my boy," she whispered, and her eyes turned and rested again on the large black letters of the text, on which the firelight was brightly flickering.

"Oh, Mother! Mother! are you going to leave me?"

This was all Willie could say. He had never thought of it before, and now the truth had suddenly come into

his heart, with all its withering certainty. It seemed too sad to believe, and yet he must believe it.

Then she became weaker and weaker. Soon she was not able to come into the shop at all, but lay on the large chair by the fire; while her little boy attended to the customers with a heavy heart. How pleased he once had been when she had allowed him, on rare occasions, to stand behind the counter and weigh out half and quarter pounds of sugar. But now when the villagers came into the shop for their small purchases, it was with a very grave face and sober manner that he placed the money in the till, and tied up the sugar in white and blue paper. And when his young companions looked curiously as he took down the bottles of sugar candy and peppermints, and portioned them their halfpenny-worths, there was only a very faint smile on his face. Other times he had thought himself in a very pleasant position as he stood there; but now as he remembered why it was that he was there, and why his mother lay silently in

the other room, a bitter, bitter throbbing came at his heart, and a little sob would rise in his throat as he heard her ceaseless coughing. Then in the evening, when he had put up the shutters, she would tell him to fetch his father's Bible, and say, "Willie boy, I didn't read it when I ought, but I want to know the way to heaven."

Then as he read chapter after chapter, not thinking himself of what he was reading, she would breathlessly listen, trying to cough as little as possible; they read a great many chapters in this way. One evening he had been reading the last chapter of Revelation, and when he had reached the part where it says, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely," he felt his mother's trembling hand laid heavily on his shoulder, and when he looked up he saw that large tears were flowing from her closed eyes, and that her frame was shaking with the sobs she could not keep back. "Whosoever will," she whispered presently. "Whosoever will." "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." I will."

By and by she opened her eyes again, and looked earnestly at him. "Willie boy, remember He is your Saviour, too. Willie, will you come to heaven? Will you come, my darling child?"

"Oh, Mother, Mother!" and poor Willie sobbed out some of the grief and tears that had been gathering since that sad night when he first knew that his mother was going away from him.

That was the last talk that they ever had together. The next morning she was much worse, so much nearer the grave that she only spoke to him

in a whisper; but still often and often her eyes, grown so much larger and brighter of late, rested on the text that the lady had hung on the wall.

The lady had come again and again to see her, speaking cheering words of life and peace; and the messages of heaven-sent comfort had brought gladness to her heart.

A neighbor's wife came in to attend on Willie's mother; and she seemed to think it her duty to keep the little boy away from his mother, and so he sat alone and dreary behind the counter in the shop. Indeed he did not remember very accurately about these sad days at all. It seemed like a bitter dream to him, now that he sat weary and wretched, looking back on it all.

But at last the end came, and the neighbor's wife came out from the back parlour and told him that his mother was dead.

"I'd have told you sooner, Willie," she said, "so that you might have seen her go, poor dear, only it was all of a sudden; and she went off like a lamb, and looking as happy as a babe, she is now."

And then she was buried. Her brother came from his factory work in a city a hundred miles away; and he "did his duty by her," he said, in providing a decent funeral; and many of the neighbors followed her coffin to the grave.

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw an empty tomb, or cave. Write underneath it, "He has risen."

Dear Boys and Girls:

I am sure that as you went to the stores this past week, all that you saw to remind you of Easter was the stuffed animals or candy eggs and baskets, etc. But boys and girls, those things are not the reason we have a day called Easter. The real reason for Easter is because that is the time Jesus arose from the grave. Remember how they put our precious Lord and Saviour, who was innocent, on the cross and He died for our sins. Sin had to be punished, for God said the soul that sinned would die, but Jesus "was made sin" for us. He took our punishment so we could through Him be saved from sin and God would look upon us with love and favor. Thank the Lord, He did not stay in the tomb in which He was laid! Soldiers were put around His tomb and a seal put on the grave. Those who crucified Him thought the disciples might take His body away because Jesus had told them He would arise. They seemed to believe He would more than the disciples who had been with Him all the time. They felt that He was the Son of God and probably did not think He would die, but when He did they were troubled and did not understand it. We thank God that in the morning an earthquake shook the ground and the stone rolled away from the grave. Our Lord and Saviour came forth out of that grave. It did not have power to hold Him. The soldiers fell down as dead men. Nothing could stand in God's way when He spoke. The seal could not hold Jesus in the grave, nor could the soldiers stop Him from coming forth. Thank God, today we are serving a living Christ. He is up in heaven and is sitting on the right hand of God. He is alive and is hearing us when we pray to Him and will answer if we are living according to His will. Today

we are thankful that Jesus did arise. Many saw Him after He came out of the grave. He appeared to the disciples at different times and one time He appeared unto more than 500 brethren. (Read 1 Cor. 15:4-8.)

Boys and girls, because Jesus arose from the grave, we will arise, too, in the last day. Jesus will come in a cloud and the trump will sound. Jesus will be our Judge, then. Those who are saved will arise from the grave, and if any are alive, they will arise and together all the saints will meet Him in the air. The judgment then will be set. I want to be ready when I die so that I will arise to meet my Lord and Saviour in the air. If I am here on earth when He comes, I want to meet Him because this old world will be burned up. Today we love our Lord for His great love to us.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, April 11, 1971

A RESURRECTED CHRIST

John 20:8-21

John 20:8 Then went in also that other disciple [John], which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed [not that he had risen].

9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

Memory Verse: He is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. Mark 16:6b.

Central Thought: Today we are not looking at the cross but at the empty tomb.

QUESTIONS:

1. In the scriptures we are told about Mary finding the empty tomb and telling Peter and John about it. Both ran to the tomb, but John out ran Peter and waited at the tomb or cave for him. Did they believe Jesus had risen, or did they, like Mary, think His body had been taken away?

2. What does verse nine tell us they did not understand?

3. Why was Mary weeping? What did she see when she looked into the tomb again?

4. What was said to her, and what was her answer?

5. Through her tears she saw someone standing by. Who did she think He was?

6. What did she ask Him?

7. How did Mary know it was Jesus who spoke to her?

8. What did He say to her?

9. Where did He mean He would go when He said He would ascend to His Father? (What did He tell the thief on the cross before He died? Luke 23: 39-43.)

10. What did Mary tell the disciples the second time?

11. What is the first day of the week? Where were the disciples?

12. What happened while they were there?

13. What was the first thing Jesus said to the disciples?

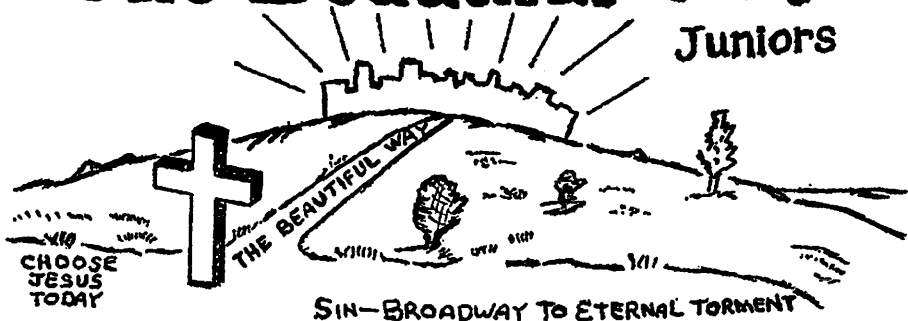
14. Then what did He say to them?

15. Why do we observe Easter?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Three

April 18

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

There was one real little mourner there; one little heart that felt as if its joy was gone and buried now, and as if it must break with the weary load of grief that lay upon it. The people saw the little white face that looked so cold and stony, and they said he did not seem to take it to heart much; for Willie did not cry, and he did not speak much; only in the night, when he lay alone in the little room where his mother used to come every night to see him snug and comfortable, the weary loneliness broke forth in sobs and tears that showed what a weight was on his heart, and what a bitter longing he had to see her once more, and to hear her bright loving voice.

On the morning after the funeral his uncle called him into the back parlour, saying he wanted to speak to him by himself. Willie did not love his uncle; he had a kind of creeping fear of him; for he was a hard man, and he had taken no pains to win the boy's heart to him.

"Well, my boy," said John Carpenter, as he stood silently before him, "you know something has to be done with you, and I have been thinking what it's to be; so I have two things to give you the choice of. There is not much left after the funeral's paid, and the doctor; but it would help toward setting you up in business, if ever you should begin. So now, will you come home with me to Manchester, and if you behave your self I daresay you'd get along with your aunt and the children. You can read and write and all that, you know. Or else, if you don't like that, here's another thing for you. Old Spencer wants a boy to look after his place and run errands, and do what he's told, and get taught the trade for all that. Now, you may take that place, if you have a mind."

Willie thought a moment. True, it did not particularly matter to him what became of him now; the only feeling he had was that he wished they would let him alone, and let him stay by himself in the dear old home, where he had lived so many

bright years with his mother; and it seemed to him that this could easily be done, and that he could go on selling in the shop, and arrange things as she had done.

"Couldn't I stay here, Uncle?" he said at length. "Mother wouldn't want for me to go away, I think."

"Don't be foolish, Willie," said his uncle. "I gave you your choice; now choose." Willie gave a deep sigh—a hopeless, weary kind of sound it was. Then, if he must take either of these two, it should be the last. Better to stay by the old place, if he could not live in it, and to be near the spot where his mother lay. And besides that, he would have chosen almost anything sooner than to live with his cold, hard uncle, who even now seemed hardly able to speak softly or kindly to him, and with a number of strange boys and girls whom he had never seen.

"Then I think I'll stay here," he said.

There was a kind of cold smile on the uncle's face as the little boy said this. "All right, then," he answered, "and a happy life of it to you, my boy. Only don't think you'll be able to change your mind if you and old Spencer fall out."

This was Willie's choice, and that was how he came to be living with the old cobbler, whose house stood facing the village green, and a little way removed from his own dear old home. He could see its roof, and the trees in the garden, from the window of his little room now, and he could watch the smoke curling up from the cottage fire, which he once used to light for his mother, and the figure of a little girl flitting about in his old garden haunts.

It was a dreary life that he led in the old cobbler's cottage. Up early in the morning, and to work as soon as he was dressed; there was the old man's fire to light, and the water to fetch from the well; the windows and doors to open, and the little shop to be put tidy, and so on all through the day.

Then sometimes the old man would call him to come by the side of his bench for a lesson in shoe-mending, and this was a thing that poor Willie disliked almost more than anything else. His master told him that he was stupid, and that he never would be any good at the trade; but he was not stupid, only the joy was gone from his life, and the energy for work or play seemed to be gone with it. He was a weary little boy, with no one to love him, he thought.

There was a little nook in a lane that led out of the village, which he had discovered, and where he could steal away and stay as long as he thought he might not be wanted in the cobbler's house. He liked to sit there in the spring evenings, when the golden stars were beginning to hang their lamps out, and the silver moon was lighting the sky. The moon seemed a kind of friend to him, it looked so pure, and calm, and peaceful, and shone down on him with a bright loving gaze. And he liked to look up where his mother had gone; that was all he knew about it; she had gone to heaven, and he wished that he could go, too. It was a happy land to him, only because she was there, and the world was lonely and miserable to him without her. But it was, oh, so far, far away!

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw clouds and write "heaven" on them. Draw a pot with steam coming from it. On the pot write the name of sins. Underneath write, "Are you selling your soul for a mess of pottage?"

Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we will study more about the first twins spoken of in the Bible—Esau and Jacob. The boys were quite different. Jacob was of a quiet nature like his father, yet he was cunning like his mother. Esau was a man who loved to hunt. Jacob was a man who stayed at home and was not interested in hunting.

It seems that Esau was very tired and hungry when he came in one day from hunting. He felt if he did not get something to eat right away he would die. When we think of Esau being very hungry, we think of Jesus who fasted forty days and nights and was hungry. The devil was right there to try to get Jesus to obey him. Even though Jesus was very hungry, he would not obey the devil by turning the stone to bread. Boys and girls, it could be that you would desire something very much and the devil would show you a way to get it. It is better to turn your back and run than to do something wrong. Sin will cut you off from your spiritual birthright, which is to live in heaven with Jesus. We must always keep our soul's eternal welfare in mind. You can get many things you desire in this life by doing wrong, but you will lose your soul. Eternity never ends, but time in this world will come to an end. The things in this world will be burned up. We must choose our lives wisely and plan for the future in eternity.

Esau's birthright was that at his father's death, as the elder of the two boys, he would be given a double portion of his father's goods, and also be chosen as the one through whom Christ was to come in the future. His family was also to have been given by God the land of Canaan according to the promise to Abraham. Esau thought only of the present and how hungry he was. Jacob took advantage of this and said, "I'll give you a mess of pottage if you will sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am at the point of death, and what profit will a birthright be to me now?" So he sold Jacob his birthright. God had told Rebekah before they were born that the younger was to have the birthright, but Jacob took things into his own hands. We find that he suffered much over this. It pays to wait on God. It pays to resist doing wrong now that we might not lose our soul in hell.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, April 18, 1971

SACRIFICING THE FUTURE FOR THE PRESENT

Gen. 25:27-34; Heb. 12:1b, 15-17

Gen. 25:27 And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents.

28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

29 And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint:

30 And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.

31 And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.

32 And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?

33 And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he swore unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.

34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way; thus Esau despised his birthright.

Heb. 12:1b Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

Memory Verse: To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. Revelation 3:21.

Central Thought: People today are thinking only of this life and are wanting any worldly pleasure they can get, but are forgetting that their soul will live somewhere in eternity.

QUESTIONS:

1. Describe Esau and Jacob.
2. Isaac was a quiet man. Could that be the reason he liked Esau's hunting? Why did Rebekah love Jacob?

3. Pottage is a broth or gruel made from grain or a bean called lentils. (Sod means to boil).

4. What was Esau's trouble when he came from the field?

5. Who was called Edom, which means red?

6. What was the birthright Jacob spoke of to Esau?

7. What is the spiritual birthright of every person? Can this be "sold"?

8. Why did Esau sell his birthright to Jacob?

9. Was it right for Jacob to take advantage of his brother, even if God had already promised his mother the birthright would be given to him?

10. What did Esau do after he had eaten and drunk?

11. What are we to lay aside that we may run with patience to heaven?

12. What are we to look diligently, or carefully about?

13. A profane person is one who despises or makes fun of God, His Word, and sacred things. Who was called a "profane" person in our lesson? Could you be a profane person? How?

14. Later Esau was sorry he had sold his birthright. How did he seek to get it back?

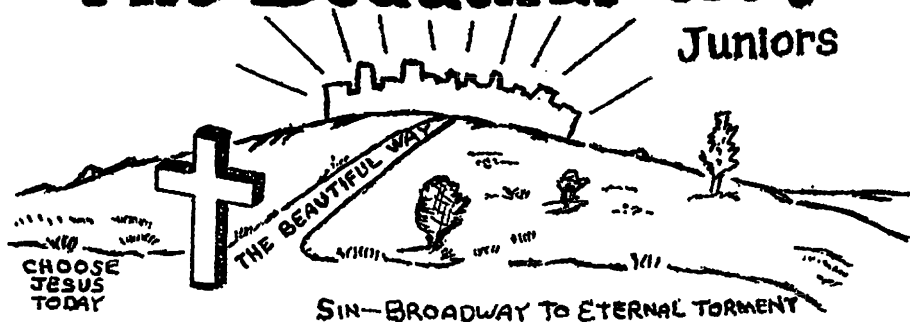
15. If we continue on in sin and turn God down, when will we be sorry and try to repent, but can't?

Mother dropped her thread. Johnny ran and picked it up. Mother smiled and patted Johnny on the head for being so kind to her. Grandmother saw it and later she bought Johnny something very nice. It pays to be kind.

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Juniors



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Part Four

April 25

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

CHAPTER II LITTLE ETTA

One afternoon in the early spring, after the old cobbler had been very busy all the day, and had kept his little assistant pretty well occupied, he rose from his work, and bidding Willie put away the things, and tidy up the place, he went into the back room where he slept, and came out again in half an hour, with his grimy face cleaned, and his best hat and coat on. Then he took the house door-key from the peg on which it hung, and turned to Willie who stood by, not knowing what it meant.

"Now, boy, will you stay in or go out? It must be one or t'other. I'm going off to my club, and I must lock up the place. So will you be locked in or locked out?"

"Out," said Willie. An evening in the lanes and fields was certainly better than in the cobbler's dull cottage.

So the old man turned the key, and walked away down the road to the next village; and Willie was left with

a whole afternoon and evening at his disposal—a dreary time it must be. He could hear the boys playing on the green, and at first, from the impulse of habit, he was turning in the direction from which the sounds came. And then he felt as if he could not play, and he turned slowly toward the grave-yard, which was about half a mile distant.

He must pass the old house on the way, and as he came to the little garden gate, he stood and looked in. It seemed just the same—the door was partly open, and he could see the little parlour that opened into the shop. There was a young-looking woman in his mother's old chair; and she sat there just as his mother used to do, with her work in her hand, and near the shop door, so that she might hear any call that might come. She was not like his mother, but she had a soft, gentle face, and she spoke in a cheery voice to a little maiden who was sitting on a stool near her, with a large cat on her lap.

Willie stood there at the gate for a long time looking at them both, hardly being able to stir, and there

was a very sad woe-begone look on his sober little face.

At length the little girl saw him. "Oh, Mother," she said, "there is a little boy standing at the gate. Shall I tell him to go away?"

"No; you'd better see what he wants first, Etta, dear," said the mother; "may be he's come to buy something."

"No, he doesn't look as if that is it," said Etta; "but I'll go and see."

So she put the cat gently down on the rug, and sped out to the gate. "Little boy, what do you want?" she said. "Don't you know customers come right into the shop?"

"I'm not a customer," said Willie, with a little bit of a smile. "I was only looking in. I used to live here once with my mother, just like you do with yours."

"You?" said Etta very doubtfully, as she looked at his shabby dress; for two months' wear and tear, without his mother's careful hand, had sadly changed his appearance for the worse. But his lip had quivered, and Etta was sorry directly she had spoken for her unkind tone.

"I did," said Willie. "She and I lived many a year here."

The mother had heard what he was saying, and now she came to the shop door.

"Come in, little boy," she said. You're the little fellow that lives with old Spencer, aren't you?"

So Willie followed Etta into the old room. But it was too much for him when he came in; it was all so like the old times—the old happy times, which could never, never come again; and when he heard the great clock begin to strike, which hung behind the door, he threw himself on

the floor, and cried and sobbed just as he sometimes had done in that first week, when nobody had seen him.

"Mother, what's the matter with him?" asked Etta wonderingly.

"Hush, Etta," said the mother gently; "don't you know his mother died?"

"Did she? Oh, poor little boy! I wish I hadn't said that just now."

And Etta's own tears fell.

"Don't cry, my little fellow," said Mrs. Hearn soothingly. "Tell me about it. You used to live here, didn't you?"

"Yes," said Willie, when he could speak, "and it looked so like it at the gate. You looked like my mother looked. Oh Mother, Mother!"

"There, don't cry so. Poor little fellow," said Mrs. Hearn.

"You live with old Spencer, don't you?" she asked presently. "Has he given you a holiday?"

"He's gone off somewhere," said Willie; "and he locked the door, so I can stay out."

"And what are you going to do with yourself until he comes back?"

"I don't know," said Willie, his lip trembling again. "I suppose I'll go and see how the violets are getting on."

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw four wells with stone around them and a frame over the top where a bucket can be attached. Underneath write "Isaac's wells of peace."

Dear Boys and Girls:

I wonder if any of you ever saw a well dug by hand? I doubt if many of you

have, for wells are dug with drilling equipment nowadays. In the days of Isaac wells were dug with shovels and picks. I once heard Sister Sam Abbott tell about Bro. Abbott and her digging a well. When the hole got so deep they could not reach it from the top of the ground they built a frame across the top and put a rope on it so one could let the other down into the hole to dig. Sister Abbott said she wanted to be the one who reached water first, but they hit rock before they got to the water. The neighbors said they could not go through the rock and they might as well quit digging, but Bro. Sam Abbott just drilled right through the rock and out came the water. They had a good well of water.

In the days of Isaac a well was a great possession. In war the enemy would fill up a well. Isaac's father had made a peace treaty with King Abimelech of the Philistines years before (Gen. 21:25-31), but now he broke that treaty. He had become jealous of Isaac when he saw how God prospered him. Did you ever get something new and have others turn against you or treat you coldly? Jealousy and fear are awful things to have on hand. Boys and girls, don't ever let that get into your heart. Rejoice with those who have nice things. The Bible tells us to rejoice with those that rejoice and weep with those who weep. Do you sometimes find it easier to feel sorry for someone when in trouble than to rejoice with those who are getting new things such as a new bicycle or electric train or new clothes? If they should fall and break an arm, you can feel sorry quicker than to rejoice with them. Boys and girls, this is something you need to guard against.

Isaac wanted peace. Boys and girls, there is a price to pay for peace. Some-

times you have to be mistreated or be shunned and yet be forgiving to have peace. Only God can enable you to live this way. Most boys and girls want to hit back and take up for their own way. They are not willing to pay the price of being a peacemaker. Isaac paid the price. It was a big job for him to move on to another place and to dig another well, but he did. He paid that price. He had peace in his heart and he strove for peace with others. You, too, can keep peace. Finally King Abimelech came and made a peace treaty with Isaac. He said, "We saw certainly that the Lord was with thee." Can that be said about you?

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, April 25, 1971

PEACE WITHIN BRINGS PEACE WITHOUT

Gen. 26:6, 12-17, 19-22a, 23-26a, 28, 29, 31

Gen. 26:6 And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:

12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him.

13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.

19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley and found there a well of springing water.

20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdman, saying, The water is our's: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.

21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

22a And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not:

23 And he went up from thence to Beersheba.

24 And the Lord appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

25 And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the Lord, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

26a Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar,

28 And they said, We saw certainly that the Lord was with thee: and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, even betwixt us and thee, and let us make a covenant with thee:

29 That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the blessed of the Lord.

31 And they rose up betimes in the morning, and sware one to another: and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.

Memory Verse: If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceable with all men. Romans 12:18.

Central Thought: You can never run away from your own thoughts and the memories of deeds you have committed. If you are at peace with God and yourself, you often can be at peace with others.

QUESTIONS:

1. How much did the land of Gerar where Isaac sowed yield? Who caused it to yield like that?

2. Tell about Isaac's riches.

3. How did those who lived around him feel toward him?

4. Why is it easier for you to feel sorry for boys and girls in trouble than to be glad when they receive something real nice?

5. What did envy cause the Philistines to do to the wells?

6. What did Abimelech tell Isaac to do? Where did he go?

7. What did Isaac's servants do there? What happened?

8. What caused the trouble between Isaac's servants and the other herdmen?

9. Did Isaac quarrel with them? What did he do?

10. Did someone strive for that well, also? What did Isaac do?

11. What did the Lord say to Isaac in Beersheba?

12. In verse 25 what did Isaac do?

13. What did Isaac say unto Abimelech who came to see him?

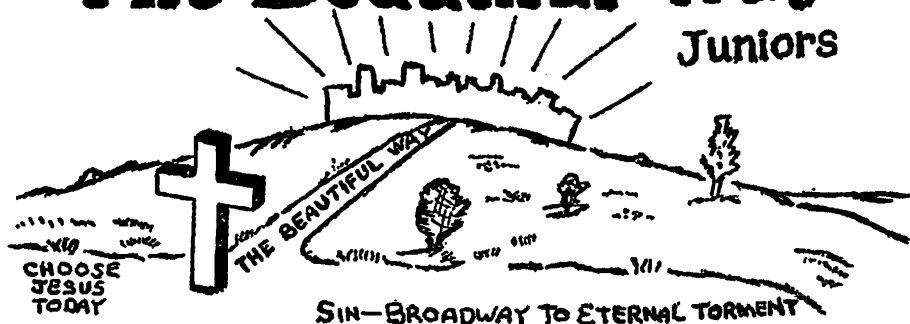
14. What was Abimelech's answer?

15. Did it pay for Isaac to work for peace?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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April, May, June, 1971

Part Five

May 2

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

First Mrs. Hearn did not understand that he meant the flowers that grew on his mother's grave. But she soon thought of what it was he meant, and she said, "I wouldn't be always going there if I were you. She isn't there, you know."

"No, she's in heaven, I know," said Willie with a sigh "But that's all I know of her. And heaven's so very, very far away."

"My Etta's going out, up to the ladies at the Villa, or else I'd ask you to stop with her," said Mrs. Hearn presently. "She likes to go up there, Etta does; the ladies have an afternoon class of a Sunday, and to-night they're giving lunch to the children as goes there."

"I'll tell you what you'll do," she said again quickly, as a bright idea occurred to her, "I shouldn't like to send you up there, you know, with Etta, being as how the ladies didn't ask you. But you just go up by and by and stay near the door, and one

of the ladies will be sure to see you, and ask you in."

Willie looked very doubtfully, as he wished them good-bye, and went away.

"And, little boy, what's your name?" asked the kind woman. "Willie? Well, Willie, you must come some evening when old Mr. Spencer gives you leave. You tell Etta, and then you can come up in the afternoon and eat with us."

This was a great pleasure in store for Willie. It was really something to which he could look forward, and his heart warmed toward the kind, gentle woman, who spoke so like his own mother.

He was more doubtful about her other little plan of going up to the door of the Villa. He was a very shy, quiet little boy, and the grand white house was a very magnificent place indeed to him; the ladies, too, seemed a different kind of creatures from the people that he knew. He had sometimes seen them during the few months since they had come to stay awhile at the Villa, two young

ladies with their aunt; and he had looked from the cobbler's shop as they passed through the village with a kind of admiring fear. One of the young ladies had turned her head toward him, and as her eye met his, he half fancied that a kind smile had passed over her gentle face. But it could not surely have been for him.

However, he thought that at any rate he would go up to the road that led to the ladies' house, by-and-by when the party had begun, and see what it was all about, and why little Etta looked forward to it with such pleasure. It was only four o'clock now, and his master would not be back until between nine and ten. So for nearly an hour he wandered about in his old listless way, here and there among the fields and lanes, until he found himself at the end of the road that led to the back entrance of Nettlebridge Villa.

He could see even in the distance that something more than usual was going on; the large yard gates were thrown wide open, there was an arch of greenery over the gateway, and while he stood there looking he heard the notes of a hymn sounding from within. It was a very pleasant sound, and he thought he would go a little nearer.

By-and-by he reached the gates, and when he had found a comfortable little corner (for Willie had a great liking for wayside nooks and corners), he settled himself there to listen if the children would sing again; for although his courage had brought him so far, it would not take him any farther.

The family of Nettlebridge Villa consisted of Miss Graham and her two nieces, Emily and Fannie, with

their youngest brother. They had come to the village for the spring and summer months; and one of the first things that they had noticed was the absence of a Sunday School in the village, and the great number of little boys and girls who seemed to have no way of spending the long afternoon, except indeed in ways in which it would have been better not to spend it for;

"Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do."

There was a large room in the courtyard, which had once been used as a kind of lumber room; and the thought struck Fannie, the younger of the girls, that this would be a good place for their school. It would be quite large enough, she said, and they would have it all to themselves. Miss Graham and Emily had thought over this plan, and it seemed more practicable than some of Fannie's ideas; so it was not very long before from forty to fifty village children were assembled there in the afternoon, once every week, to be taught from God's holy Word. They were learning to love the gentle ladies who were so kind to them, and who always spoke in such loving, persuasive words. Even the wildest village boys who came into the school would obey the ladies; and Miss Graham could be firm as well as kind.

(To be continued)

Remember Jesus loves you and wants you to love Him.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Write this: Jacob lied in three ways
1. By his words. 2. By his actions.
3. By his deeds.

Dear Boys and Girls:

The rest of the story recorded in the Scriptures should be read so you can understand the printed portion. God had promised Rebekah before Esau was born that Jacob, even though born last, would receive the blessing of carrying the lineage of Isaac through whom Jesus was to be born into the world. But Isaac seemed not to know this and he continued to treat Esau as if he were to have that blessing. Esau had married a woman of the Hittites who was an idol worshipper and whose people were to be punished because of their gross sins. This marriage was a grief to Isaac and Rebekah.

Isaac was old and blind. He told Esau to go hunting and make him one of his good dishes of deer meat which he liked so well. Isaac was going to give Esau his blessing because he was old and near the end of his life. Rebekah heard Isaac tell Esau this so she called Jacob and told him to kill a kid (young goat) and she would make a savory dish for Isaac. Jacob was to take the dish and pretend he was Esau with the deer meat and get the blessing before Esau returned from hunting. After she fixed the meat dish, she put goat skins on Jacob's arms and neck because Esau was a hairy man and Jacob was a smooth man. This was very wrong. God would have taken care of the blessing had Rebekah left things up to Him. We studied about Esau and how in his hunger Jacob took advantage of him and got Esau to sell his birthright. Now again Jacob was willing to do as his mother said. Boys and girls, it is wrong to be deceitful. Jacob suffered over this as we will study later. We always reap what we sow.

Our printed portion brings out the six ways that Isaac blessed Jacob. When Esau arrived he wept because Jacob had

already received the blessing. Esau was then blessed in three ways. Notice that when Isaac knew that Jacob had received the blessings he trembled exceedingly. God caused him to tremble because of his desire for Esau to have the blessing. Isaac realized at this time that he had been going against God's will in desiring for Esau to have the blessing, so he stated, "I have blessed him, yea, and he shall be blessed." He did not change, even though he did not like the way Jacob had done.

The blessing that God would give him the dew of heaven—"cursed be everyone that curseth thee and blessed be he that blesseth thee" is the promise of Jesus to come. Everyone who turns away from Christ will be cursed and those who turn to Him will be blessed. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, May 2, 1971

ISAAC BLESSES JACOB

Gen. 27:22-34; Heb. 12:17; Heb. 11:20

Gen. 27:22 And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.

23 And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

24 And he said, Art thou my very son Esau? And he said, I am.

25 And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine, and he drank.

26 And his father Isaac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

27 And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the

smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed:

28 Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine:

29 Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.

30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

32 And Isaac his father said unto him, Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.

33 And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, and he shall be blessed.

34 And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father.

Heb. 12:17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

Memory Verse: Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds. Col. 3:9.

Central Thought: Even through all the evil purposes and schemes of men God still works out his great designs.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who helped Jacob fix himself to deceive his blind father and thus receive the blessing before Esau could return from hunting with his venison (deer) dish? (Gen. 27:17).

2. What did Jacob do to make himself appear to be Esau?

3. What did Isaac say about Jacob's voice and hands?

4. Did Isaac think then that Jacob was Esau?

5. How did Jacob lie by word?

6. In verse 25 how did Jacob lie by his actions? Did he have a venison meat dish?

7. Who in the New Testament gave a kiss of betrayal? (Matt. 26:47-50)

8. What did Jacob smell like?

9. What was the first blessing? Would not the "dew" be the future blessings of the Holy Spirit to come after Christ went away from the earth?

10. What was the next blessing?

11. How are people cursed who reject salvation that came through Christ?

12. How are people blessed when they receive salvation through Christ?

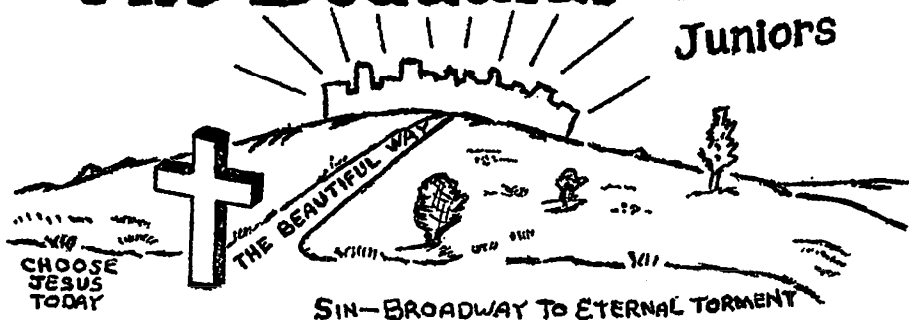
13. Who came as soon as Jacob left? What did he bring? What did he say?

14. What did Isaac tell Esau after he trembled exceedingly because of the presence of God upon him? (last part of verse 33)

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Six

May 9

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

Her heart's desire was that the children might be saved, and every day her nieces joined with her in praying that God would bless their efforts; for without His blessing there is never any good done.

This evening was the first treat that they had given. Great had been Emily and Fannie's pleasure in arranging for it; and there had been plenty for them to do, even with the help of the servants. All the morning Fannie had been bustling here and there, and when everything was finished, she had coaxed her brother to help her to make the laurel arch, intermixed with bright spring flowers, which had surprised and delighted the children as they came in at the gate.

But all this time we are forgetting little Willie, who was crouching in the corner, where he thought he would not be noticed.

He was seen, however; and any little boy would have found it very difficult to escape Fannie Graham's

bright eyes. She was passing from the house door to the schoolroom, laden with a tray filled with huge slices of cake, which she told her aunt with great glee had been already filled for the third time, when her eye fell on little Willie, sheltered in the gateway. She came nearer to see who it was.

"Well, little boy," she said, in a quick, bright voice, which, kind as it was, made Willie start and rise to his feet, "what are you doing there? Did Miss Graham ask you to come?"

"No, please ma'am," said Willie, touching his cap, and blushing to the roots of his hair.

"Well, would you like a piece of cake?" asked Fannie. "But stop a moment. There, wait until I come back. I must put this tray down somewhere."

And she ran away, leaving Willie in rather a doubtful state, between fear and pleasure. Certainly Mrs. Hearn's plan had succeeded so far, for one of the ladies had seen him, and perhaps she was going to ask him in; yet Willie felt quite shy and

frightened, and almost inclined to run away again.

"Emmie," said Fannie, as she began quickly passing her cake tray, "there's another little fellow outside the gate; a pale little fellow, in shabby black clothes. Shall we let him in, too?"

Emmie shook her head doubtfully as her eye ran over the well-filled tables.

"Oh, please, ma'am—" said a little girl sitting near. It was little Etta. She knew who the young lady meant and began to speak, stopping as she remembered that perhaps it was not quite her business.

"Well, Etta," said Emily, "do you know him? What have you to say?"

"Please, ma'am," said Etta, reddening, "his mother died, and he was crying; and my mother told him if he came up here somebody might ask him in."

"Well, Fan," said Emily, smiling, as he has had half an invitation, I think you may give him the other half. I daresay some of you children up here will make room for him."

Etta looked up and smiled brightly, as she began to squeeze herself into a very small space. The other children crowded together, encouraged by Miss Emily's kind smile.

It was a very novel scene to Willie, as Fannie led him into the room crowded with children of all sizes. It was a long, light room, with white-washed walls, on which were hung Scripture texts, which reminded him very much of the one which had been such a joy to his mother. Long tables ran down the room near the walls, covered with cups and saucers and well-filled plates. Soon he found him-

self seated there, and a thick slice of bread and butter were put before him.

Lunch had been half over before Willie came in, but he had time to make a very good one before the cups and plates were taken away; for some of the little people seemed to eat as if they did not expect to get another such meal for a year.

When the last had finished, on a sign from Miss Graham all the children rose to their feet, and again Willie heard a hymn, another such as the one to which he had listened before. When this was finished, the schoolroom door was thrown open, and the whole party removed to the field at the front of the terrace; it was a large field which had not yet been left for mowing, and as Emily's and Miss Fannie's ponies had been taken away, there was plenty of room for games of all sorts.

And play they surely did, as Willie had not played for many long months, and until every little boy and girl there was hot and breathless; but still even then they did not stop, until at length the evening shadows began to fall, and the moon was beginning to show her silver crescent. Then Mr. Charles, Miss Graham's nephew, mounted a tree in the yard, and called the band of children.

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw two hearts. Label one "good," and the other "bad." Under the good heart write, "Good thoughts and good actions." Under the bad heart write, "Bad thoughts and bad actions."

Dear Boys and Girls:

It never pays to do wrong. Rebekah

and Jacob both knew that Jacob was to receive the blessing, but they could not wait on God to work it all out. They had to try to work it out themselves. Isaac did not seem to understand that Jacob was to be the one through whom God would bring salvation to the world in the future through Jesus, but God would have helped him to understand if Rebekah and Jacob had been patient. Now poor Jacob was hated by Esau who had in mind to kill him after their father's death. He thought all would be his, then. How horrible for such a thought to be in one's mind. It was a work of the devil. Rebekah was also in trouble. She suffered with the thought that perhaps both her boys would be killed. She told Jacob that he would have to leave home and go to her brother's home until Esau's anger cooled off, and then she would send for him. But those "few days" turned out to be 20 years before Jacob returned. We do not have any record that Rebekah ever saw Jacob again after he left that day. I know she grieved over her boy as there is no love like a mother's love. Boys and girls, love your mother and help her.

Esau had married heathen women. They did not believe in the true God. This was a great grief to Isaac, as well as to Rebekah. Rebekah was very weary with their heathen practices, and no doubt she saw them teaching her grandchildren heathen idol worship. She told Isaac that they should send Jacob back to her brother, Laban, and there he could get a wife who believed in the true God. Isaac called Jacob and advised him not to marry a daughter of Canaan, then he sent Jacob to his mother's home. Before Jacob left, Isaac blessed him with the same blessing given to Abraham. Isaac was convinced now that surely Jacob was the one chosen of God through

whose family would come Jesus, the Christ, the Saviour of the world. Poor Jacob had to leave his home and no doubt he was very, very sad.

Esau wanted to gain the favor of his father. He knew he had displeased him with his heathen wives. He was being a hypocrite because he thought perhaps he could get something out of his father by marrying someone closer to his father. He had hatred in his heart and was not acting from pure motives. So he married a girl in Ishmael's family. Ishmael was dead at this time. Esau's purpose was wrong because Ishmael had not been chosen of God for the blessing, nor his family.

We should never let ill-will get into our hearts for it will grow into hatred. We must have a clean heart and live right. Never say one thing when you mean something else for that is being a hypocrite.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, May 9, 1971

ESAU'S HYPOCRISY AND ANGER; JACOB FLEES

Gen. 27:41, 42, 46; Gen. 28:1-4, 7-9;
Matt. 23:28; Matt. 15:8

Gen. 27:41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

42 And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee.

46 And Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth: if Jacob take a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these which

are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?

28:1 And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.

2 Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother.

3 And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people;

4 And give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land wherein thou art a stranger, which God gave unto Abraham.

7 And that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Padanaram;

8 And Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan pleased not Isaac his father;

9 Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife.

Matt. 23:28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

15:8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

Memory Verse: If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom

he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 1 John 4:20.

Central Thought: Jacob was no sooner blessed than he was banished. The very rage of the wolves seeking to destroy God's children works for good, drawing them closer to God and each other. Hypocrites are always trying to secure favor.

QUESTIONS:

1. Name the three ways in which Esau was blessed. (Read Gen. 27:39, 40)

2. Why did Esau hate Jacob?

3. What was he planning to do after his father's death?

4. What did Rebekah say to Jacob when she heard about this?

5. Does a person reap what he sows? How do you suppose Jacob felt now?

6. What did Rebekah say to Isaac about Esau's wives and what she wanted Jacob to do?

7. Should those who love God marry one who does not love God? Why?

8. What did Isaac tell Jacob?

9. Where did he want Jacob to get his wife?

10. Read verses 3 and 4 which are the blessing from God that Isaac gave to Jacob.

11. What did Esau do when he knew that his wives did not please his father?

12. Do you think he was a hypocrite? He did it only to gain a point with his father.

13. What did Esau have in his heart? Did he do as Jesus said many do, "outwardly appear righteous"?

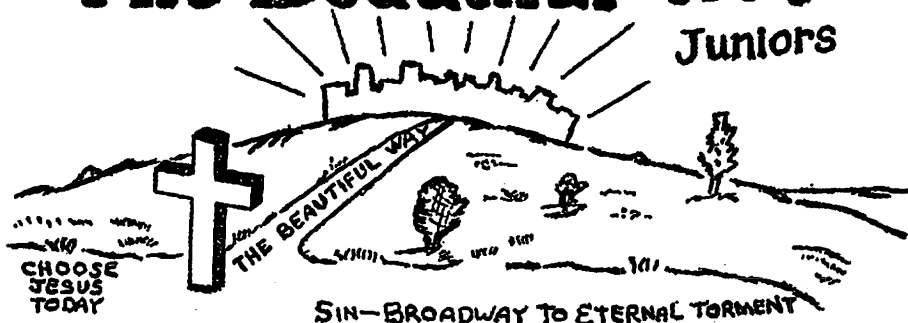
14. How can people honor God with their lips and mouth only?

15. How can a person be far in his heart from God?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Seven

May 16

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

When they came into the school-room again, they found that a change had taken place; the tables had been taken up and piled against the wall, and the long forms were arranged more as they were generally seen.

"Now, children," said Miss Graham's kind voice, "what hymn shall we sing?"

Many were suggested; but the general favorite seemed to be "The Happy Land," which was one most of them knew by heart, and Miss Graham decided that it should be the one.

Willie had never heard it before, and it sounded to him very sad and very true as the words, "Far, far away," were sung again and again. The happy land! that was where his mother had gone—far, far away; so far that he knew nothing at all about it, only what she had said to him that evening, "Will you come there, Willie? Jesus is your Saviour, too."

The children sang the hymn lustily, and when they had finished they sang the last verse over again; so that

Willie was able to learn some of the words; and as he said to himself,

"Come to that happy land,
Come, come away."

the deep wish came in his heart, "I wish I could."

Then Miss Graham's voice was heard again.

"Shall we talk a little about the hymn, dear children? Now, I'm sure," she said, and if there was only one attentive little listener there, that one was Willie, "you all know what happy land we have been singing about, and I am sure you all wish to go there some day. You think you know what it is to be happy, don't you? You thought you were happy this evening, while you were playing and amusing yourselves. But see how soon it comes to an end; and oh, dear children, everything in this world must come to an end; but in that happy land God has promised us pleasures for evermore. I think all of you could tell me the way to that land with your lips; but could your hearts answer me, 'Jesus is the Way'? You

have often said, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved' but you have often said that without knowing Him as your Saviour, and being glad in the thought that His home was yours. For He has promised a home to all those who trust in Him. You know you deserve to be lost forever, but the kind Lord Jesus, God's dear Son, bore the terrible punishment of sin on the cross, that you, believing in Him, might escape your bitter punishment, and live with Him in that happy land forever. And, oh, it is a happy land; for God has promised to make all those who 'believe in His Son' happy with Him forever."

She did not say much more; and when the children had sung some more hymns, and the lady had prayed that God would bless them with His richest blessing, and bless to them His truth which they had heard, they went away.

CHAPTER III WILLIE'S NEW FRIENDS

"Did you like it, Willie?" asked Etta, as the bustling little crowd moved out of the courtyard gates, and down the road that led to the village. Willie had whispered to Etta might he go back with her; for the kind little girl and her mother had won an entrance into his lonely little heart, and he felt as if he could talk to them and liked to be with them better than with anyone else. Besides they reminded him of his mother.

"Oh, I should think I did, just," said Willie.

"Which part did you like best?" asked Etta again, "the food or the games we played?"

"It was all very nice, but I liked the time when Miss Graham was talk-

ing, and we were singing best of all. I didn't use to, but I do now."

It was a very peaceful little face that the moonlight shone down on as other children had gone on before Etta said this.

They were walking alone now; the them to the village, all with more or less noise and shouting. Some of them were running races as they neared the houses; and if the country people had not been aware before of the ladies' party, they must surely have known now that something more than ordinary had happened.

"Oh, Etta," said Willie, "I did like what the lady said, but I couldn't understand it. Didn't she mean that the happy land is where my mother has gone? That's far away, any how."

"Did your mother love Jesus?" asked Etta.

"I don't know," said Willie; "she was good, my mother was."

"But people don't go to heaven because they are good, Willie."

"Well, she prayed then. I know she did, and 'most always she was praying when she was ill."

(To be continued)

Billy loved to sing. Raymond lived next door but he was always grumbling and complaining. Raymond played with Billy. He watched him be happy and cheerful. Raymond began to be cheerful and happy too. It pays to be happy.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a ladder. Make a circle and put the word "Lord," at the top and a circle below and write on it the word,

"Jacob." Underneath write, "Angels take our prayers up and bring the answers down from heaven."

Dear Boys and Girls:

How would you feel if you had to leave home because your brother threatened to kill you? Poor Jacob was a sad boy as he walked that lonely road. No doubt he was looking for some comfort somewhere. He was now far from his mother and father, his best earthly friends. He was on his own. Where can a person look in those times but to God, their Creator? God loves us and sees us everywhere we go. He knows all about us. God has all power and can help us regardless of where we go or where we are.

No doubt, Jacob was very sorry for his sins. He probably wept as he lay down on those stones out there under the starry sky. He may have looked up and wished he could see the God that his father had taught him to worship. He wished he could feel his touch of comfort. While troubled in his thoughts, he went to sleep. God was faithful to help him when he was in need, just as He will help us in times of need. It might be in a way different from giving us a dream, but He will help us. However, God has given me a few dreams that were a great blessing to me and also very informative as time passed by. Yet all dreams cannot be taken as having a special meaning as we generally dream every night.

What a beautiful ladder that must have been with the angels going up and down upon it. It reached from earth to heaven. Don't you like to think about it being the angels taking our prayers up and then bringing down the answers? You know that angels are "ministering spirits" and they help us. The Lord was

at the top of the ladder and he spoke to Jacob and blessed him, promising that He would bless him and be with him. Jacob was alarmed when he awakened. He said, "The Lord was here and I knew it not." He called the place the House of God and took the stones he had used for a pillar and poured oil on them and worshipped the Lord. He promised the Lord that he would serve Him as his God if He would go with him and bring him back to that place again. Jacob was now a changed boy. Now he was not afraid. He knew that God was with him. Now he could go forth with courage. His sins were forgiven and his mind at rest. How wonderful it is to have God as our best Friend in life! He will never leave us nor forsake us even if others do. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, May 16, 1971

JACOB'S VISION OF THE HOUSE OF GOD

Gen. 28:10-22; 1 Tim. 3:15

Gen. 28:10 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.

11 And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

13 And, behold, the Lord stood above it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread

abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not.

17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

18 And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

19 And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on,

21 So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God:

22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

1 Tim. 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Memory Verse: For the time is come

that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 1 Peter 4:17.

Central Thought: Christ touched the earth through his death and resurrection and became the ladder for us to climb to reach our eternal home.

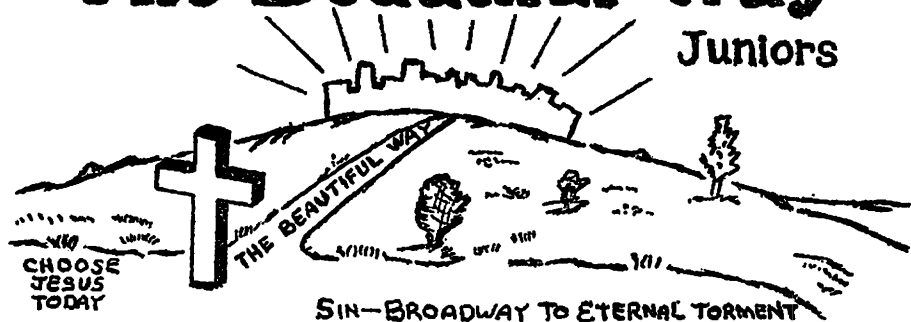
QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Jacob go?
2. What did Jacob do after having walked all day, just as the sun was going down?
3. Tell how you think Jacob must have felt as he lay down on the ground far from home on his way to a strange land, knowing that his brother had threatened to kill him.
4. How did God answer his prayer?
5. What do we have for the angels to take up to heaven to God and what do we want them to bring back to us?
6. What did God say to Jacob in his dream?
7. Tell more about what the Lord said.
8. What does verse 15 tell us the Lord said?
9. What did Jacob say when he woke up?
10. What did Jacob do with the stones on which he slept?
11. What did he name the place where he had the wonderful vision of the Lord and the angels?
12. What vow did Jacob make to the Lord?
13. What did he do with the stone after he had poured oil on it?
14. Today we are in the spiritual house of God if we are saved. What does Heb. 12:22, 23 tell us about it?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Eight

May 23

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

"But it isn't because people pray that they go to heaven," said Etta again gently. "It's because Jesus died. Everybody's bad, you know, Willie—your mother and you, and my mother and me; and God knew how bad we were, that we must be punished, and so He gave His only Son to be punished instead of us. Wasn't it kind of God? and wasn't it kind of the Lord Jesus? So if your mother repented of her sins and believed in the Lord Jesus as her Saviour, she's in the happy land now."

"Oh, Etta!" said Willie in a still low earnest voice, "I'm sure my mother is in heaven. Where else could she be?"

"What did she use to talk about when she was dying?" asked Etta after a little silence.

"She didn't talk much; she used to make me read the Bible to her in the evenings. And she had a text hung on the wall that she was always looking at."

"What was it?" said Etta.

"I can't remember it quite, but it was about the blood of Jesus and sin. She was always saying it to herself. 'Twas hung just over the chimney-piece."

"Oh, I know!" said Etta, and she clapped her little hands joyfully together. "Willie, I do believe your mother is in heaven. I know the text; it is, 'The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.' You see, she knew that she was bad and needed to have her sins forgiven. She knew that the Lord Jesus would be her Saviour too, because He died for her. I'm quite sure she must have repented and asked forgiveness for all her sins and is now in heaven. Oh, I'm ever so glad!"

Etta turned her little happy face toward Willie to see if there was not a joyous smile on his pale, sad face; and as she noticed that it was as grave and sad as ever, she said, "Why, Willie, I thought you'd be ever so glad to find out about your mother. Does it not make you glad to think of her being happy in the happy land forever?"

"Yes," said Willie presently, "I was sure all along 'twas all right about Mother. I'm only a little more sure about her now. Someway I didn't think of thinking anything else about her. But I'm not at all sure about myself. I don't know now as I'm going there at all. I'm not like you, Etta. I don't know anything about God and heaven."

By this time they had reached the home where Etta and her mother lived, and as they reached the door, Etta looked sadly at Willie, and said, "Poor little boy! I'm ever so sorry for you. It must be so dreadful to have neither your mother nor the Lord Jesus."

Soon Mrs. Hearn's kind face appeared at the door.

"Well, children, have you had a nice evening? Will Master be back, little boy?" she asked. "If he isn't, you might stay here a bit. Or maybe you had better be back bright and early tonight, and then ask him to let you come here the next afternoon he can best spare you. You just tell Etta when she's passing to school, and then we'll have a little cake made when you come, won't we, Etta?"

"And then, Willie," said Etta, as he was going away, "if you come as early as you can, we'll go out into the garden and talk—you know about what."

And with a little nod and smile, Etta turned into the cottage with her mother, to tell her about the poor boy who was so lonely and unhappy.

It was nearly nine o'clock when Willie reached the cobbler's house, but there was no light in the small window, and when he came nearer he found that the door was still fast

locked. But this was no hardship to him; the nights were not very cold, and his friend the moon was shining very sweetly down on him; he would much rather stay out for a little in the spring night, and he had a great deal to think about. So he wandered on a few steps until he came to a large oak tree, which grew by the roadside, and sat down on the gnarled old roots.

There was a very calm scene of beauty before him. The thatch-covered cottages were just peeping from the trees, and beyond the village the dark outline of the hills was clear the stars were shinning away in the deep blue. Near by the river was flowing and its stream glittered and quivered in the moonlight. But Willie was not thinking of or looking at all this.

He began to think of what the lady had been saying, and little Etta. He did not know why, but it seemed to make him feel more lonely than before. He had thought that his mother had gone to heaven, of course, and that some day or other he should go there too—he had never questioned it. But now it was different; they had said that the way to that happy land was to repent and be saved in the blood of Jesus Christ, and Willie had never thought about Him at all. He had never spoken to Him; for when night after night he had knelt down beside his little bed to "say his prayers," it really was only saying; for his heart had not spoken at all.

Willie remembered all this now. "I don't know how to repent," he said wearily to himself. "If Mother were here I'd ask her. I think she knows now, at any rate. Oh, Mother, Mother, I wish you were here." And,

wearied out with his excitement and this new anxiety, he threw himself on the soft grass by the roadside.

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a garden patch and a toothpick boy planting corn. Then draw another patch with corn growing in it. Underneath write, "We reap what we sow."

Dear Boys and Girls:

How many times do you hit someone and then he hits you? Could that be some reaping what you sowed? Many people in the world today feel that they must get even with anyone who does them a wrong. How sad this is, but we find it to be true. We, who love God, do not do it that way. We let God take care of those who do us wrong. But when we do wrong we are sowing bad seeds and those seeds will grow and bring forth some fruit. If you let a little ill-will be in your heart it will grow and will reap hatred soon. Boys and girls be careful what you sow.

Our lesson is about Jacob, who went to his uncle's home. He walked alone for 450 miles. I am sure he was happy when he saw the well and some men told him that they knew his Uncle Laban. After his long journey, he had arrived safely at his new home. When Rachel came with her sheep, he watered them. He rejoiced and wept. He was glad to see one of his relatives and also was glad to know he was with those whom he then felt would be good to him but he was soon deceived.

Jacob loved Rachel. Her father, Laban said if Jacob would work for him 7 years he would give him Rachel. Jacob worked hard and the seven years seemed

to pass quickly away because of his great love for Rachel. When the time came for him to be given her in marriage he was given her sister, Leah. In those days the bride was heavily veiled and he did not see her until the next day as she was brought to his chamber in the evening and possibly late. Oh, how disappointed Jacob was to find that he had been deceived. No doubt he thought about the time when he took goat meat to his father to eat and had skins on his arms so his father would think he was Esau and he received the blessing. Now he was reaping what he sowed.

Boys and girls, remember our memory verse which tells us that we will reap what we sow. If we do evil we will reap some evil. If we confess our sins the Lord forgives us and lightens the reaping. He helps us bear up under it. If we do not confess our sins remember that eternal damnation awaits those who go on in their sins. But those who confess their sins will be in heaven in glory with Jesus and all that is wonderful.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, May 23, 1971

REAPING WHAT YOU SOW

Gen. 29:1, 2a, 5, 6b, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21a-23, 25-28, 30

Gen. 29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east.

2a And he looked, and behold a well in the field,

5 And he said unto them, (Men by the well) know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know him.

6b Behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep.

11 And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept.

14 (Rachel tells Laban) And Laban said to him, Surely thou art my bone

and my flesh. And he abode with him the space of a month.

15 And Laban said . . . What shall thy wages be?

17 (Laban had two daughters) Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured.

18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.

20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.

21a And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled.

22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast.

23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him and he went in unto her.

25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah; and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?

26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.

27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet other years.

28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also.

30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah,

and served with him yet seven other years.

Memory Verse: Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Gal. 6:7.

Central Thought: God is faithful to help those who love Him even if they are reaping what they have sown.

QUESTIONS:

1. Jacob left Bethel after seeing the vision of the ladder and where did he go?

2. What did he see in a field?

3. What question did he ask of the men?

4. Was Laban the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's mother?

5. Who was coming with Laban's sheep?

6. What did Jacob do when he saw Rachel?

7. Who was Rachel's father?

8. When Laban heard that Jacob had come what did he say?

9. After Jacob had been there a month what did Laban ask him?

10. What was the name of Laban's two daughters and what does our lesson tell us about them?

11. How long did Jacob say he would be Laban's servant for Rachel?

12. Why did the seven years seem only a few days to Jacob?

13. Which daughter was given to Jacob after the marriage and feast?

14. What did he say to Laban when he knew he was deceived and not given Rachel?

15. What was Laban's answer?

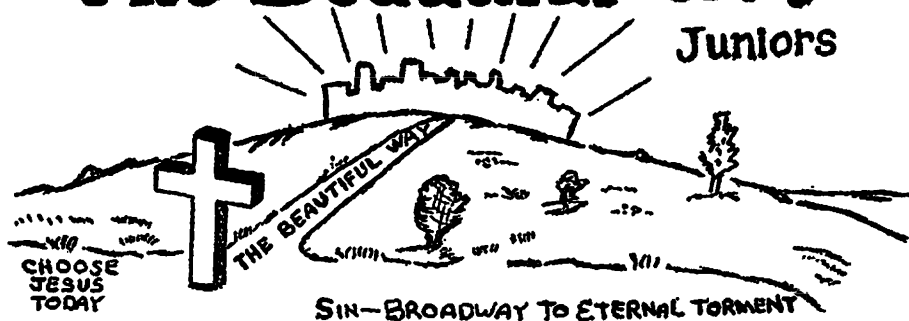
16. Whom had Jacob deceived when he was at home?

17. Do we reap what we sow?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Nine

May 30

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

But he had not very long to stay; presently he heard footsteps coming along the road, and by the bright moonlight he could see the old cobbler's bent figure moving quickly toward the village. He jumped up and reached the door about the same time as his master.

"Eh, boy," said the old man, as he saw him; "what have you been doing all this time?"

"I've been up with the ladies at the Villa," said Willie.

"Been up to their Sunday School classes, eh? Well, you've had something to do. So've I, but not of the same sort, I fancy. What did they give you, then?"

"Milk and cake, bread and butter," said Willie. He was not fond of talking to Mr. Spencer, so he made his answers as short as possible. He was soon lying in the little bed in the corner of the cobbler's dark room. How different this was from the clean little bed which had always been so neatly made by his mother! Some-

times when he looked round on the dirty time-stained room, where, even on the brightest days the sun seemed to shine through a dull shadow, his fancy could see the other pretty chamber that he had called his own, and where there was plenty of room for all his little treasures. They were not much use to him now, he sometimes sadly said to himself.

Some days passed on without anything particular happening, except that every morning and afternoon, when he was in the cobbler's shop, as Etta passed to school she gave him her little nod and smile, and sometimes said cheerily, "Mind and tell me when you can come. Mother asks me always whether you're coming."

One morning the old shoemaker seemed in a more pleasant mood than usual; perhaps something agreeable had happened to him. Willie did not know, but it struck him that this would be a good opportunity to ask for a leave of absence. It was not without having to summon a good deal of courage that he was able to do this, but he was very anxious to

go, for more than one reason.

The old man demurred at first, and said he'd much better stay at home, specially him who was so slow over everything. Then he changed his mind, and said he might go; "and mind and tell Mrs. Hearn her boots must be almost worn out," he said with a little laugh, that struck Willie as not being a very pleasant one.

So he watched anxiously for Etta to pass. By and by she came along the road, merrily tripping with her basket of books on her arm.

"Oh," she cried, as she saw Willie's face peering out of the door, "I know what you're going to say. You are coming, aren't you? I'm glad it's to-day, because it's a half-holiday, and besides I don't think Mother has so much to do."

"I shan't be able to come early," said Willie; "not until master closes shop at six."

"Well, never mind. You'll come as soon as you can."

But he was able to go earlier than he expected. His master's cousin was passing that evening through the village on his way to the town, and called to see the old cobbler in the afternoon, intending to spend a little time with him; and as the moonlight was still bright and clear, he would finish his journey by night. So when the two old men were seated together in the kitchen, he came near and timidly asked if he might go.

"Oh, yes," said the cobbler; "be off with you."

Very likely he was glad to have his hard-worked little attendant out of the way on the present occasion.

It was so strange to be going to his own old home. It gave him a feeling which he could not quite under-

stand. "Of course," he said to himself, "I'm glad; of course I am." And yet he did not know how it was, the thought of being there made the tears very nearly flow. Then he was afraid he might feel himself so much at home in his mother's old house, that he might behave himself as if it were his home still. It was about four o'clock as he stood outside the garden gate, waiting for Etta to look out and see him. She soon did. "Ah," she cried joyfully, "so you've come. You are earlier than I thought. But, you see, I'm all ready. And now we can get out."

"Etta, my birdie," said the mother, "we'd better eat first, since Willie has come. We thought you weren't coming til six, my dear," she said to Willie; "so Etta and I meant to put off having supper till then. But we might just as well have it now, since you've come."

"Did you ever taste my mother's cake?" asked Etta, as the three sat by the little round table before the kitchen fire, just the same little table that he had so often sat by before. It was all so natural, that when he looked up he almost expected to see his mother on the opposite side of the table; and when the shop bell tingled just as it used to, he was jumping quickly from his seat to go and see who it was. "No," said Willie, "but my mother used to make cakes sometimes like this one, I think."

"I'll tell you how this is made," said Etta. "I know, you see, because I've always watched Mother; and on my next birthday I'm to make one myself, aren't I, Mother? You must come then, Willie. But I'll tell you how Mother makes this; first she gets a big pan, and then she puts in the

flour and the currants and sugar and lemon-peel, and all the other stuff, and mixes them up well; and then she puts it all into a tin that has something rubbed over it."

(To be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a great big eye. Write above the eye the words, "God sees all things." Then draw lines down from the eye.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Maybe for some of you school is out. I do trust that you will take this summer to read the New Testament through. It would please me very much if you would do so and then write and tell me about it. I will send you a certificate stating that you have read the New Testament through and I will sign it. Maybe your Sunday School teacher can send in all of your names together when you let her know that you have finished reading the New Testament through. My address is on this paper at the bottom of the last page. Why not start to day?

While Jacob lived at Laban's home and worked for him God gave him eleven sons and one daughter. Jacob wanted to leave but Laban asked him to stay and he would pay him wages. So he agreed to work and be paid in cattle, sheep, and goats.

Our lesson today begins with Jacob, what his brothers-in-law were saying about him because he had greatly increased in cattle and other animals, which required many servants to care for them. Jacob talked to his wives about their father and it seemed Laban did not feel good toward him anymore. But Jacob felt comforted because he said

that the God of his father had been with him. Another thing he said, "you know that with all of my power I have served your father." Jacob worked hard and was careful to keep Laban's flocks strong by caring for them. Laban had also become rich through his help. Laban said that the Lord had blessed him because of Jacob. (Gen. 30:27) God can see all things. He saw how Jacob treated Laban and how Laban treated Jacob. God today sees you and me. He knows all about us and those around us. It is so comforting to know God sees us, and also sees our needs. God can help us and will not let more come to us than we can bear. He will help us when things become too hard. If other boys and girls push you down or say bad words to you be assured that God heard them and saw it all. He may let that person do it often because He knows what is best. God is all-wise, but when God works, things are different. We want to pray to God and ask Him to help us to be kind to those who treat us wrong. When we have good feelings toward them, God will help us out. God loves them as much as he does you. God is trying to help them too. God loved Laban just like he loved Jacob and he wanted to help them both. But now God saw it was time for Jacob to go back to his own country and God told him he would be with him. So Jacob left and did not tell Laban. He was afraid he might not let him leave.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, May 30, 1971

GOD SEES GOOD AND EVIL

Prov. 15:3; Gen. 31:1-9, 11, 12b, 13, 14a, 16, 20.

Prov. 15:3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Gen. 31:1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory.

2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.

3 And the Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee.

4 And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock.

5 And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.

6 And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

7 And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me.

8 If he said thus, The speckled shall be thy wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ring-straked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ringstraked.

9 Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me.

11 And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: And I said, Here am I.

12b I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee.

13 I am the God of Bethel, where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

14a And Rachel and Leah . . . said . . .

16 For all the riches which God hath taken from our father, that is our's and

our children's: now then, whatsoever God hath said unto thee, do.

20 And Jacob stole away unawares to Laban the Syrian. in that he told him not that he fled.

Memory Verse: For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. 2 Chron. 16:9a.

Central Thought: We want the changing of peoples ideas toward us to cause us to love Jesus more who does not change and sees all things.

QUESTIONS:

1. How many children did Jacob have while at Laban's home?

2. What did Jacob hear that was said about him?

3. How did Jacob think Laban felt about him?

4. What did the Lord say to Jacob and the promise he made him?

5. What did Jacob say to Rachel and Leah?

6. What did God allow to happen to Jacob but did not allow him to be hurt?

7. In verse 8 how did Laban pay Jacob wages but would change it often?

8. Did Jacob say that God helped him receive Laban's cattle for wages?

9. What was Jacob's dream?

10. Do you remember what happened at Bethel? (Gen. 28:12, 19)

11. What did Leah and Rachel tell Jacob they would do?

12. How did Jacob leave?

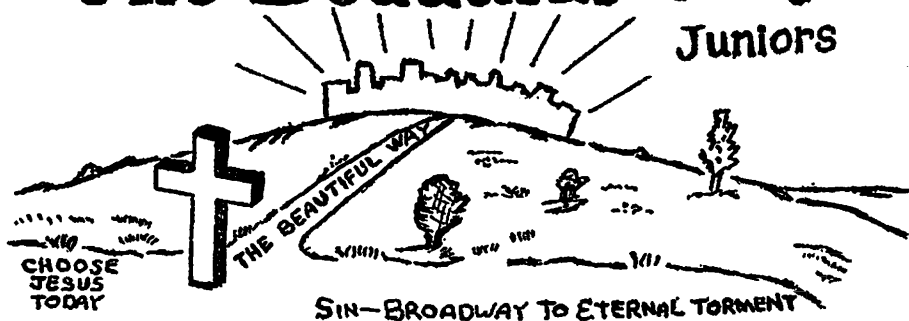
13. Did God look down upon Jacob and Laban and see all they each did?

14. What does God see about us?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Ten

June 6

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

"You've forgotten one thing," said Willie, beginning to look cheerful. "I am not quite sure what it is, because people put in different things. It's something you could get in the shop."

"No," said Etta, shaking her head confidently. "I think you're making a mistake. There isn't anything else in the shop. Mother doesn't like spices."

"No, it's not spices."

"Willie's right, Etta," said Mrs. Hearn, smiling. "You have forgotten one thing that I sent you into the shop for this morning."

"Well, I can't remember it then, Mother," said Etta. "What is it, Willie?"

"It's baking powder," said Willie; "but you're not so very far wrong. Maybe your mother puts soda; and, you see, 'tisn't that as makes the cake, it only makes it rise."

When the meal was finished, and Etta had helped her mother to wash the cups and saucers, and put them neatly on the kitchen shelf, she put

on her hat, and the two children went out.

"Which way shall we go?" asked Etta, as they stood at the end of the garden. "Would you like to go to the woods? I expect the primroses are gone; but maybe there are some wild roses come now."

Willie looked eagerly when she first asked him; but then he said nothing, and waited for Etta to speak again.

"Would you like to go anywhere in particular?" asked Etta again. "You know you must choose now, Willie, because I can go anywhere I like any day, but you have only this one."

Willie hesitated a little longer, and then said, "I'd like very much if you would come to where they put my mother. And I'll show you the flowers on her grave."

"Very well," said Etta, soberly.

They walked on together along the road that led to the grave-yard, until the tall pillars of the gateway came in sight, and they passed in and trod softly on the neatly-kept gravel walk,

taking care not to tread on the grass that bordered it on each side.

Willie's mother's grave was in a distant corner of the burying-place, among a crowd of other long, low green mounds; but he knew it well, and it needed no searching to walk straight to the spot, close beneath the wall. It was touching to see the effect of the time and care and labor he had given to it; his pet rose-tree was placed at the head in its earthenware flowerpot, and all around were primroses and violets planted. Of the two little faces that looked down on it now, one was a very grave and the other a very sad one.

"Oh, Etta," said Willie at length, in a very weak, pitiful voice, "I do so wish I could see my mother again! You can't think what it feels like to know I never shall any more."

"Poor, dear Willie," said Etta, taking his hand kindly, while the tears gathered in her own eyes. "I'm so sorry for you, and you know we care for you, my mother and me."

"Oh, I do know you do," said Willie, "and it's ever so much better since I've got to know you; but it isn't like having my mother, you know."

"No, I know we couldn't love you like your mother did. But there's somebody else does, better."

"Not better," said Willie, "nobody could do that."

"Yes," said Etta, eagerly; "the dear Lord Jesus is a great deal kinder and more loving than any one else could be."

"Oh, Etta," said Willie, "I want you to talk to me like we were talking the other night, like the lady talked."

"What is it that you want to know

about? I think the lady said almost everything."

"Yes, but I want to know," said Willie, "the lady said that if we want to go to heaven we must accept Jesus as our Saviour, and I don't know how."

"Why, it is only to be sure that Jesus' blood will wash away sins and then ask Him to wash yours away. God says you are bad, and you believe that don't you? Well, God says that the Lord Jesus was punished for you so you might be forgiven and go to heaven. Of course, if you don't believe what God says, and if you won't turn away from your sins and turn to the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you can't go to heaven, Willie."

(To be continued)

SWEETNESS OF LIFE

A little girl sat at the table, alternately stirring and sipping her drink. Presently, with tears of disappointment in her eyes, she exclaimed, "Mother, it won't come sweet!" Then the mother realized that she had forgotten to put in the sugar. This done, the sugar itself did the rest. No amount of stirring or trying can make our lives sweet; but when we let the Lord Jesus enter and take possession of our hearts, He makes them pure and lovely. Sweetness of life is only possible as He who is the sweetness dwells within.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw some gifts wrapped with a bow. And then write on them "peace gifts."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Have you started reading the New

Testament through? I will be looking forward to hearing from you this fall.

Poor Jacob, no doubt he felt sad when he saw Laban coming. He had slipped off while he was sheering sheep because he was afraid he would not let him go. Laban no doubt was very upset but God spoke to him in a dream and told him to be careful and not harm Jacob. When he caught up with them he asked Jacob, "Why did you steal away secretly from me? You did not let me kiss my sons and daughters. I have it in my power to harm you but the God of your father spoke to me and told me not to harm you" Jacob told him he was afraid he might take his wives from him. He told Laban that he had worked for him faithfully for 20 years and he had changed his wages ten times. If the God of Abraham had not helped him he would have sent him away without anything. Finally Laban and Jacob made peace. They piled up some stones for a witness between them that they would never harm each other. After Jacob offered a sacrifice Laban arose the next morning and kissed his sons and daughters and departed. The Lord did help Jacob out as he left when God told him too. to.

In our lesson today we read where Jacob went on his way. He had to face another enemy who was more fierce than Laban. When Jacob left his home 20 years before; he fled because his brother Esau had threatened to kill him for deceiving his father and getting the birthright. Now he would have to face him again. But boys and girls notice how Jacob faced this problem. He wanted forgiveness and peace. But for peace there is a price to pay. We can't have our way but we need to be willing to be humble and take the lowly side. When others do you wrong

you want to forgive them or God will not forgive you your sins. Be willing to do all within your power to bring about peace. Notice that Jacob even called Esau, "Lord" which was a title of deep respect. Not that he was his God and Lord but just a manner of taking the place of a servant as he calls to himself in our lesson. He also gave him presents. The Bible tells us "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him, if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head." Jacob sent gifts to Esau to show him he wanted peace. Read in the unprinted part of your lesson the hundreds of animals he sent to Esau. He took the humble side which is a lesson for us.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, June 6, 1971

JACOB SEEKS FORGIVENESS FROM ESAU

Matt. 6:15; Gen. 32:1-13, 16, 18, 20.

Matt. 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Gen 32:1 And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.

2 And when Jacob saw them he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

4 And he commanded them saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now:

5 And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.

6 And the messengers returned to

Jacob saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks and herds, and the camels into two bands;

8 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it then the other company which is left shall escape.

9 And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the Lord which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:

10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

11 Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

12 And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

13 And he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother;

16 And he delivered them (animals) into the hand of his servants, every, drove by themselves; and said unto his servants, Pass over before me, and put a space betwixt drove and drove.

18 Then thou shalt say, They be thy servant Jacob's; it is a present sent unto my lord Esau: and, behold, also he is behind us.

20 And say ye moreover, Behold,

thy servant Jacob is behind us. For he said, I will appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterward I will see his face; peradventure he will accept of me.

Memory Verse: And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. Mark 11:25.

Central Thought: There is only one road to travel to find peace and that is the road of humility.

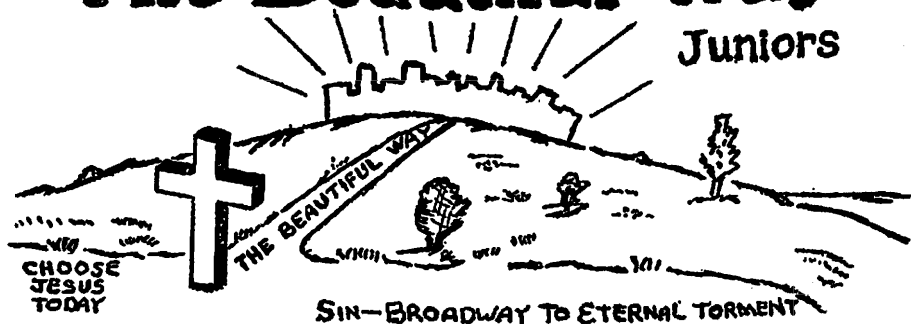
QUESTIONS:

1. Did Jacob leave Laban in peace?
2. As Jacob went on his way whom did he meet?
3. Why did Jacob send messengers to Esau instead of having his parents tell them he was coming home?
4. What did he tell the messengers to tell Esau?
5. How did he address Esau and what did he call himself?
6. What answer did the messengers bring back from Esau?
7. How did Jacob feel about the news that he heard from Esau?
8. What did he do?
9. Read verse 9 and tell how Jacob started his prayer.
10. Jacob said, "I am not _____ of the _____ of all the _____."
11. What did he say in his prayer in verse 11?
12. Did Jacob remind God of his promises to him and what were they?
13. What did Jacob send to Esau?
14. How did he send his gifts and in what manner?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Eleven

June 18

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

"I think," said Willie presently, "if He were here on earth now, as He used to be, 'twould make it much easier."

"There's a text I think I'll say to you, Willie; it's like as if 'twas for you I think. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you; and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30 He took the little children up in His arms and blessed them; and I'm sure He wouldn't turn you, away. Willie, Jesus loves you, and wants to take you to heaven to live with Him. He is coming back again some day to raise all the people out of the graves and will take the ones who have been washed in His blood home to heaven with Him."

"Oh," said Willie eagerly, his great dark eyes becoming more earnest, "I do wish He were here now! I wonder

would He raise my mother up?"

"He will some day," said Etta.

"Oh, but I want her now," said Willie, his sorrowing little heart quivering at the joy it would be, welling itself up in a little bitter sob.

"Miss Graham says that when the Lord Jesus was on the earth, and the people were crying, He cried, too. That was at Lazarus' grave. We are at a grave now, Willie, and I am sure Jesus sees you crying; and Miss Graham says He holds out His arms to everyone of them to come; and He wants to save you and love you. Isn't it nice to have Him love you, Willie?"

It was very quiet in the country grave-yard; there were no passers-by to break the still silence that followed when Etta had finished speaking. Only the birds were singing their young spring chorus, and farther off the cows were lowing and the sheepbell's soft tinkle was ringing faintly. It was a very peaceful spot where the evening calm was gathering; but there was a little storm-tossed heart beating within the pale

child who lay with his head on the low grave.

No one had need to tell Willie of his heart's evil now; he knew that very well; and it was a heart knowing its own bitterness that was faintly giving its first look to the One who had borne its griefs and carried its sorrows, as well as died that the sinful child might be pure and clean.

"I'm very tired, Etta," said Willie at length. "I mean I'm tired of thinking and trying." He gave a weary little sigh. "If the Lord Jesus was here, I wouldn't know what to say to Him, except that I'm very tired, and I want to be happy. I'd only be able to lie at His feet."

"And oh, Willie," said Etta eagerly, "you can do that now every bit as well. I believe you are lying at His feet. Oh, Willie, if you are, He won't send you away, 'cause He promised. He said, 'Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.' And I'm sure the Lord Jesus has got His arms round you, Willie."

There were tears in little Etta's eyes as she said this, and her voice was very thick and quivering; for it was something of her own heart's story that she was telling now.

A little smile broke over Willie's face, a little restful smile, and the first gladness he had known since that sad time when his mother had been taken away, began to shine into his heart. He had some One really to love him now, some One who had loved him so much as to die for him. He was feeling the arms that had been stretched out on the cruel cross when He bore our sins in His own body on the tree now thrown around him, and his weary little heart could rest itself where there is rest for the

weary and joy for the sad.

CHAPTER IV THE OLD COBBLER

The old cobbler's house was generally a very silent and cheerless one: there were no bright children's voices, or sounds of busy housework; for until Willie had come to live there, he had been the only dweller in a house which had been meant for a family. So the only sounds that could generally be heard were the knocking and hammering that the old man made as he sat working on his bench.

"Why don't you have a canary to keep you company, Mr. Spencer?" a neighbour's wife had asked him. "You must be lonely here all day by yourself without any one around you."

"I thank'ee," said the cobbler, grimly; "my own company's enough for me. I'm too glad not to have a lot of children squalling round me, without going out of my way to get more noise."

Yet the time had been when the sound of a child's voice had been very welcome to old Spencer; when his two sunny-haired boys had played and crowed and laughed with him as he sat on that same bench, there was not a more pleased father in the village. But that was long, long ago; and sad, dark days had come in between, when sinful indulgence had thrown its dark shadow over his home and a woeful time of selfishness and home neglect had begun, ending in a story which no one dared mention to the old cobbler now. The villagers said he was never the same man after little Dick and Tommy died. And indeed it seemed as if some sad tale

must account for the strange, forbidding way in which the old man looked and spoke.

(To be continued)

Draw a rope. Put a circle at each end. Write "You" in one circle and "God" in the other circle. If both are pulling on the rope at each end which should give in first? Who is the wisest and most powerful? If you give in to God and His ways, will he pull you right up into heaven?

Dear Boys and Girls:

How do you feel about a big boy wrestling with a little boy. Wouldn't it seem foolish for a little boy to try to wrestle with a great big boy? Well in our lesson we see a man who is nothing, in comparison with the angel of God wrestling with him. Of course it was dark and Jacob did not know it was the angel of God until the breaking of the day and then he realized who the man was. He then held on to him until he blessed him.

Notice how Jacob took care of his family. He divided them into two companies. He sent all of them over the brook Jabbok and there he stood guard alone. He knew that Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men. He did not know what might happen. The last he had seen Esau he had threatened to kill him. He did not know if his presents would be accepted or not.

Boys and girls, let us think about Jacob and his life. Jacob always was wanting his own way. He schemed and planned to get his way. He wanted Rachel for his wife and he didn't let anything stop him. He worked hard for 14 years for her. So you can see that he was very, very determined to get just what

he wanted. When he was at home he wanted the blessing and deceived his father to get it and took the results which meant he had to leave home. God is not pleased for us to want our way so much that we will do anything to get it. We want God's way and then be willing to suffer anything to go God's way. That is the only way we will get to heaven. For 20 years God had dealt with Jacob. But still he tried to work out his own plans. God wanted him to let him work for him.

In the wrestling, Jacob kept resisting the angel of God that wrestled with him until God had to touch the "hollow of his thigh, and his thigh put out of joint." The angel did not do this until after wrestling all night. Jacob was a broken man. The angel of the Lord wanted to go, but Jacob felt his need of God. He had surrendered. He clung to God. He said he would not let the angel go until he received the blessing. Jacob meant "supplanter." He confessed he had been that kind of person. After his confession, God changed his name to Israel which meant a prince of God. From that day the family of Jacob was called Israelites.

We should not want our own way, but should choose God's way, which is truth and right. Then we will be ready for heaven and to be used of God.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, June 13, 1971

JACOB QUILTS STRUGGLING AND SURRENDERS

Luke 9:24; Gen. 32:21-32

Luke 9:24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

Gen. 32:21 So went the present over

before him: (Jacob) and himself lodged that night in the company.

22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two women-servants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok.

23 And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.

24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

29 And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

31 And as he passed over Peniel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.

32 Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

Memory Verse: And he said to them all, If any man come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. Luke 9:23

Central Thought "A religion that costs us nothing is to us worth nothing."

QUESTIONS:

1. Losing one's own life would mean not wanting to please self and having one's own way, but having God's way. What did Jesus say we would find if we lost our life and did not try to have our own ways and please ourselves?

2. To whom did Jacob send presents?

3. What did Jacob do about his animals,

4. Why did Jacob stand guard and whom did he expect to come to meet his wives, children, and servants? him?

5. Who wrestled with him that night until the break of day?

6. Since we have been studying about Jacob can you name something that he wanted that he did not get?

7. In wrestling with the angel of God did he still want to be the victor?

8. What did the angel of the Lord have to do to break him and overcome him?

9. Is it a dangerous thing to resist God and God's ways?

10. In verse 26 Jacob is a broken man. He now had surrendered to God. What was he now begging for?

11. The name of Jacob meant, "supplanter." Did Jacob confess that he was a supplanter?

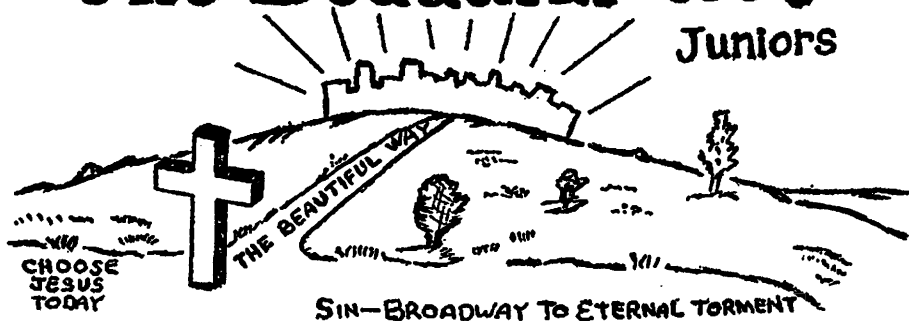
12. God blessed him and changed his name to what?

13. Did the angel tell Jacob his name? Then what did he do to him?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Twelve

June 20

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

But now that Willie had this new gladness in his heart, it began to show itself in his face; he was much more ready with his work, and one might hear his clear boy's voice singing over the dark, silent house.

"I say, boy," shouted the old cobbler, at length, as one morning he had heard for a long time Willie's favourite hymn, "stop that noise, will you? or if you must sing, sing something true next time."

"Something true!" said Willie to himself; "whatever can he mean?"

He mused over what the old man had said, but still it puzzled and perplexed him.

It was getting dark, on the evening of this same day, too dark for work; so the old man called for his pipe, and settled himself into the chimney corner, though there was no fire there, and Willie kept his favourite place by the window. He had taken an affection for this place at first, because from it he could see the tops of the trees that grew around his own home.

He still was thinking of what the old man had said in the morning; and as he thought, "Could master have meant that there is no happy land?" he took a glance at the face in the chimney corner. It was a hard, cross old face, and one on which his eyes did not rest with content; indeed he had always had a fear and shrinking from the old man. Yet now as Willie gazed at the worn lines on his brow and cheeks, a feeling of deep pity stole into his heart; "for he must be dreadful lonely, not even to think there is any happy land," he said to himself.

"What are you staring at, eh, little fellow?" asked the cobbler at length.

Willie started as he remembered that all the time his eyes had been fixed upon the old man.

"I was thinking," he replied slowly, "about what you said this morning."

"Dear me! Did I give you something to think of all day? What was it then? Hope it did you some good."

"Master," said Willie, after a long pause, and it was rather timidly that he spoke, "what was it you

meant when you said, 'Sing something true'?"

"Why I meant what I said, to be sure. If you must be hollering over the house, 'twould be just as well to holler 'the truth.' "

"I was singing the truth. I was singing, 'There is a happy land, far, far away.' "

"And I say there ain't no happy land. Or if there is, sure enough it's far, far away. You're about right there. It's too far for me to know anything about it."

Neither of them spoke again for some time, and the darkness fell and gathered in the gloomy room. The chill mist was rising from the river without, and there was a chill that Willie felt—the cloud that for years had closed in on the old man's heart, the cloud of unbelief. Could it be possible that the old man had heard of all these beautiful things that had made his own heart so glad, and yet that he would not believe them, that he would not have them for himself, and did he not want to believe that there was a bright home? Oh, it was true! Willie was sure of that; for had not God said it? And yet it was all of no use to his poor hard old master, if he turned away from what God had said. "I s'pose it's them ladies up to the Villa that's been teaching of you all this," said Spencer presently. "A nice little amusement for 'em, when they're in the country."

"Master," said Willie, drawing nearer to the old man in the gathering darkness—he almost forgot to whom he was speaking, so earnest he was, and his eyes were fixed on the old man's face—"it's really true; there is a happy land, and my mother's there. And your two little boys that

the neighbours tells of, don't you want to see them again some day?"

The old man started up angrily. "Who told you anything about me?" he asked roughly. "You mind your own business, boy." And then he added in a lower, softer voice, "If there is e'er a happy land, it's there they are."

He put down his short black pipe, and leaned back in the chimney corner.

By-and-by he spoke again.

"Willie boy, you can sing that there song if you like."

"Shall I sing it now, master?" asked Willie.

"Aye, if you will. Sing it for yourself, not for me."

And Willie's sweet young voice rung out the glad words that told of a home far away—a home that his own heart echoed was his; and the notes fell on the old man's ear, and a strange feeling crept into his heart, such as had not entered it for many long years.

"Master," said Willie, when he had finished, "a little while ago I didn't know for sure that I was going to the happy land. But I'm sure now."

"And what makes you so sure?" asked the old man.

"Because I found out that God says so in the Bible, and then o'course I was sure."

"Aye," said the old man, "I used to think so once. But I'm too wicked, too wicked for the happy land, Willie boy. Did you know what I did? I killed my own children, I did."

"Oh, master, you didn't mean to! You didn't do it o' purpose."

(To be continued)

THE GREATEST CHOICE

One time three little girls were telling each other what they wanted to be. One said she wanted to be an author. The third said she wanted to be a lamb in Christ's fold. Which do you think was the greatest choice?

The last, of course. It is greater to be only a little lamb in Christ's fold than to have the highest position one can have in this world. The least thing we can be for Christ is far, far greater than being a king, or president, or a ruler of any kind over this world.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a cross and then draw two toothpick boys kneeling at the cross. Underneath write, "Through Christ we forgive each other."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Sometimes I think that fathers get neglected. Sometimes boys and girls just think of father as the one who goes off and works and brings in the pay check. But fathers are more than that to you. They love you as your mother does, but do not have time to be with you as much. They enjoy your showing love and care for them. They come home many times so tired that your noise might make them speak a little quickly to you but just remember they do not mean that they do not love you. After rest and you have been quiet they will enjoy your doing something nice for them. You know at school sometimes it seems that you have so much trouble. Maybe some one grabs your cap or books or maybe they knock you down. You are glad to be home where you will have someone who is fair with you. Daddy maybe doesn't have anyone to knock

him down, but he has many other problems that are just as hard. Love your daddy and appreciate him.

Aren't we glad that Esau and Jacob are at peace? Poor Jacob had for 20 years carried the thought that his brother Esau would kill him when he saw him again. Oh! how he did pray and seek God to soften Esau's heart. God heard and answered his prayer. But in our past lessons we studied how Jacob was very humble and sought to have peace. He still loved his brother even if he had threatened to kill him. Boys and girls, Jesus wants us to love those who do us wrong just the same. Treat them nice even if they do not treat you nice. God will bless you if you will.

The last part of our lesson is what Jesus tells us to do about those who do us wrong. Jesus puts a "woe" upon those who do wrong to one of God's little ones. It is a serious thing to harm God's children, and the one who does will have to deal with God. God will not let his little ones perish but will help them.

If someone does you wrong you are to go to him alone and talk to him and see if it can be cleared up. If it can't then you are to take someone else with you and talk about it. If it isn't cleared then you can take it before a number who are in the church or the ministers. If that person will not hear them then he is bound by God's Word here and in heaven. When he confesses to God and those here on earth and asks forgiveness then he is free. We have to deal with God and man when we do wrong.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, June 20, 1971

BROTHERS BECOME RECONCILED

Gen. 33:1a, 4, 8, 11, 16; Matt. 18:7, 14-18

Gen. 33:1a And Jacob lifted up his

eyes, and looked, and behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men.

3 And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

4 And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

8 And he said, What meanest thou by all this drove which I met? And he said, These are to find grace in the sight of my lord.

11 Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it.

16 So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir.

Matt. 18:7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Memory Verse: But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57

Central Thought: It is God's will that we be at peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ and all people.

QUESTIONS:

1. How do you think Jacob felt when he looked out across the field and saw Esau coming with 400 men?

2. After dividing his family what did he do?

3. Do you think his bowing before Esau helped to tender his heart also?

4. What did Esau do when Jacob came near him?

5. What question did Esau ask of Jacob?

6. Why did Jacob want Esau to take the "blessing" or droves of animals he had sent him?

7. Did he take the gifts? Then what did he do?

8. Offense means "injury, trespass, or cause of displeasure." What does Jesus say about the person through whom offenses come?

9. Is it the will of God that any of his children perish?

10. If someone trespasses against you what are you to do about it?

11. If he will hear you, what have you done?

12. If he will not hear you, what is the next step you are to take?

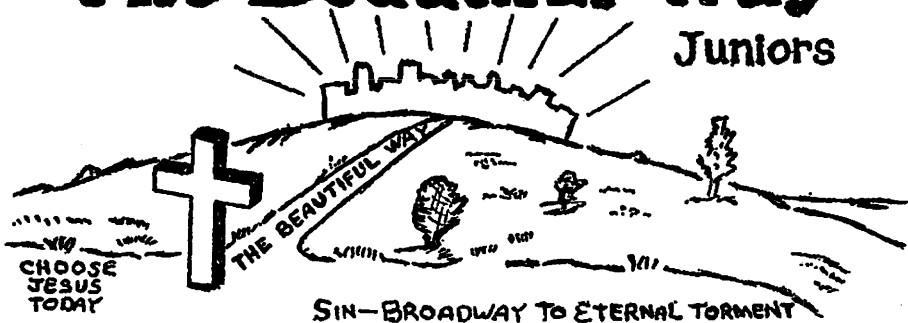
13. If he still will not be humble and try to get the problems fixed up then what are you to do?

14. If he will not hear the church, what is the result?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part Thirteen

June 27

Willie the Orphan

(Continued from last issue)

"I did it, though," the old man said gloomily. "I'll tell you about it, little boy. It's a thing I've never spoke of, though I believe all them round here know it well, and I suppose you do. I don't know how it is, may be it is that you mind me of them that's gone, and I've had no one in the house with me since they went, and you seem different to other children. I go over the story to myself sometimes of an evening, and I'll just think it out loud, and you can listen if you've a mind. 'Twas to this house we came when we were first married, and I thought everything was going to be as I wanted it. Someway the house usen't to look so dark then as it does now; indeed I remember I used to think it looked quite pretty on a sunshiny day; and when I had time of an evening, I got my spade and worked about in the garden; there were pretty flowers there then, and the rose trees used to climb all over the wall. I used to think 'twould be so nice when they grew high

enough to reach her window, I mean my wife that you've never seen. She used to say she loved me, and that she'd do anything for me; and so she did, only she died. She went off into a kind of consumption, just when our little boys were beginning to toddle about on the floor. She used to go singing about over the house just as you were doing this morning, and sometimes when I was at work she used to bring her work and sit where you are now.

"And then, before she took ill, I began to get bad. I began to think whether I wouldn't sometimes go out of a winter evening; and then I went oftener and oftener, and I didn't know what I was doing; but I was neglecting my wife, and I didn't notice that she was getting thinner and thinner, and that her cough had a hollow kind of sound.

"At last the doctor told me she was dying, and then I stopped for a little, and I was as kind to her as I could be; but I couldn't keep her from dying: and she did die, with her big blue eyes looking at me so

kind and loving, and at the two little boys. I didn't go out of an evening once until she died. But after she was gone they came to me again, and wanted me to go out with them; and, oh! but it was lonely in the house on the dark winter evenings all by myself when the little fellows were in bed, and I thought it would make little difference to them, and I'd take just as good care of them the other part of the day.

"But I went on getting worse and worse, and the money that should have been spent on them was spent on myself, making me not fit to take care of them. But they was getting on, bright, bonnie little fellows they were, with their mother's blue eyes and her curly hair. They used to crawl up and down the stairs, and shout and laugh, and as I sat at my work here I liked to listen to them, and I'd think then that I'd stay at home and work harder for them. But when the evening came it all went away, and I'd go out just the same. And then that evening"—old Spencer's voice became deeper, and the lines on his face furrowed still more—"I'd been down in the cellar, and when I went out in the evening I left the trap-door open. I thought I'd shut it in the morning before the little ones was up. But I slept on and on, and that was because I'd been out all night drinking. And they fell down that old trap-door, and I've never spoken to them since."

Willie had listened breathlessly to this sad story of sin and sorrow, and when it was finished he leaned back in his seat by the window, quivering with horror and pity.

He had heard that the cobbler's two little sons had been killed by

falling down into a deep cellar on a sunshiny spring morning, years and years ago, when the grown-up people in the village and the old men and women were young; but he had never accurately known until now that it was by their own father's sin and neglect that it had happened. And it seemed too dreadful almost to believe, or at any rate to realize; so all he could say was, in tones of deep pity—

"Oh, master, 'twas a dreadful thing!"

"Aye, it was dreadful," said the old man bitterly. "And then, when 'twas done, I gave myself up for lost; only I set myself never to touch the drink again. But I shut myself away from every one; and I hated every one, and the sun, and the flowers, and everything. And then I thought I wouldn't believe in anything happy; so that's how it is that I came to tell you 'twas lies you were singing."

(To be continued)

Dishonest, Lord? No, nevermore
Shall heart of mine yet hold in store
The evil seed that grows and bears
Such evil fruit. For now the tares
Are rooted out and never can
Spring forth to cheat, defraud a man,
Myself, or God, as long as I
Do yield myself and always try,
By grace divine, to do His will,
That He my soul may ever fill
With Holy Spirit. Thus the three
In one shall e'er abide with me.

—Jennie C. Rutty

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Draw a long box and write on it the word, "body." Then draw a smaller circle above that box and write on it the word, "soul." Underneath write the words, "Her soul was in departing."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Death is just as sure as life. I am sure that it touches you deeply when friends and loved ones pass away. They had been here and you had known them, but after death you did not see them again in this life. Many times the question is asked, "Where does a person go when he dies?" One thing you should remember is that you are made up of two parts. One part is your body or clay house which was made of dirt. Then you have a soul which is the other part. When you die your soul, or the other part of you, separates from your body. Then your body does not have any feeling, nor any mind. It is completely nothing, but your soul has a memory and feeling. Luke 16:25. It is the real "you," and will live on somewhere. In our lesson Rachel died and the Bible says, "her soul was in departing." Her soul departed or left her body and she died. Now Jesus gives us a glimpse of where those who are saved and have their sins forgiven go. When Lazarus died, the angels came for his soul and took him to a place of rest, which was called Abraham's bosom. Wasn't that wonderful? We need not be afraid to die if we know that the angels are coming for our soul. And we know that the angels will come for us if we love Jesus and have asked him to forgive us of our sins and we are living daily to please Him. But when the soul of the rich man left him Jesus tells us that he was in hell or in torment and was begging for mercy. Boys and girls, these are real truths and are to be considered. You should be ready to die at any time and you can be if you will only come to Jesus and seek forgiveness of your sins and quit sinning and live for God.

Esau went back home but Jacob moved to a place and bought some land and stayed for a while and then moved to another place. His two sons Simeon and Levi killed some men in a city and this grieved Jacob. Then Reuben, the oldest son, committed a sin and Jacob was grieved. These three boys were the oldest in the family and one of them should have had the birthright, but when Jacob died he gave it to Judah the fourth son. So we read that Jesus came through the family of Judah. The Jews are called Jews because we study mostly in the New Testament about the tribe of Judah. So remember this.

Our lesson begins with God telling Jacob to go up to Bethel. This is where Jacob saw the ladder which reached from earth to heaven and the angels were ascending and descending on it. This was the first night he was away from home, on his way to his uncle's.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, June 27, 1971

HER SOUL WAS IN DEPARTING

Gen. 35:1, 7a, 11-13, 16, 19; 2 Cor. 5:1, 6, 7, Luke 23:43; Luke 16:22, 23; 1 Pet. 1:17; Gen. 35:28-29

Gen. 35:1 And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother.

7a And he built there an altar,

11 And God said unto him, I am God almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;

12 And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.

13 And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him.

16 And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: And Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

19 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.

2 Cor. 5:1 (Paul says) For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, and house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
Luke 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, (converted thief) Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

Luke 16:22 (Jesus said) And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

1 Pet. 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

Gen. 35:28 And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.

29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Memory verse: All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust

again. Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward. Ecc. 3:20 21a

Central Thought: When we die our soul separates from the body which is its house of clay and goes to the waiting place for the departed souls until the judgment.

QUESTIONS:

1. After Esau left Jacob, he moved to different places and built him a house or spread his tent. In the beginning of our lesson what does God tell him to do?

2. Why had Jacob been to Bethel before?

3. What did he do there at Bethel?

4. What did the Lord say to Jacob there?

5. What land did God promise to Jacob and his family?

6. Rachel died when her son was born. What does it mean when it says, "her soul was in departing"?

7. What did she name the little boy and what did Jacob change his name to?

8. What is the difference between the earthly house and a house not made with hands?

9. Paul was saved. Where does he say he would be if he was absent from the Lord?

10. Where did Jesus say he would be with the converted thief?

11. Who carried the soul of Lazarus to the resting place in Abraham's bosom?

12. Where did the rich man go and how was he feeling there?

13. How can we know if we will be carried by the angels to be with Jesus when we die?

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