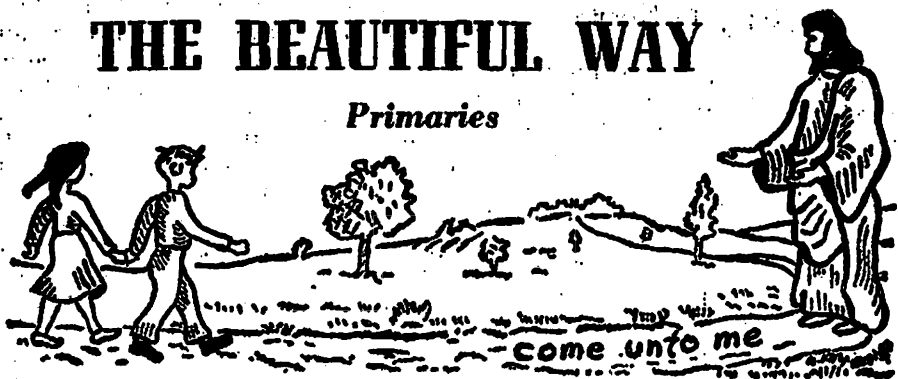


THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 19, No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1968

Part 14.

July 7

THE KING REFUSES TO LISTEN TO JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 38:14-18; 39:1, 2, 6-10

"Tell me all that God is going to do," King Zedekiah (Zed-uh-kye-uh) said to Jeremiah the prophet. After the king promised he would not have Jeremiah punished or put to death, the prophet said to him, "This nation of Judah has become very sinful. God is very unhappy because of their sins. They lie, cheat, and steal. God is going to punish this nation. The big army of soldiers who are camped outside the city will come in and burn it and take the people captive. But if you will go out and give yourself into their hands, the city will not be burned and your life will be spared."

King Zedekiah would not listen to the words of God spoken to him by Jeremiah the prophet. He thought he knew best. He stayed in the city. The army of Babylon came and burned the city. They took Zedekiah and put out his eyes. They took many people as captives back to their city of Babylon. Jeremiah was given the choice of going with them or staying. He stayed in the city with the poor people. People today are not listening to God. They will be punished for their sins just as the king and his people were.

Memory Verse: Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death. Jeremiah 21:8.

Betty Is Sorry

"Betty, come here!" Mother called. Betty ran into the house. She knew she had done wrong and knew that she would be punished. She wished she had been obedient. She had not meant to disobey, but Rover, her dog, had run up to the corner and she ran after him. Mother had told her if she went up to the corner again she would be punished.

"Mother, I am sorry," Betty said as she came into the house. "I won't go up to the corner again."

"Dear, that is what you told me before. You must learn to remember. The only way you will remember is to be punished. I am going to have to spank you," Mother said, and she did. Betty was sent to her room to think it over.

Soon Betty heard footsteps and in walked Daddy. He came over and took her in his arms and she cried some more.

"I understand that my little girl has been disobedient again," Daddy said as he looked into Betty's tear-stained face.

"Rover went up to the corner," Betty said.

"That didn't mean that you could go," Daddy replied. "Betty, you must learn to obey. Boys and girls who do not obey get into lots and lots of trouble. Let me tell you about a little boy who disobeyed. He wanted to go skating on the ice. His mother told him not to go, but he disobeyed. He was skating and having fun on the ice when it broke and he fell into the cold, cold waters under the ice.

Others had to work hard to get him out. They were nearly frozen, all because of this boy's disobedience. When they finally got him out he was nearly dead. They took him home. His mother was sick in bed. When she heard the men coming and was told that her boy had fallen in, it was such a shock to her that she became very, very ill. So you see, all of this was caused by a boy's disobedience. It never pays to be disobedient. When you grow older and learn to obey Mother and Daddy, you will know how to obey the rules in school and the laws of the land. Most of all you will know how to obey God's rules which you must do if you want to go to heaven. You do want to go to heaven, don't you?"

"Yes, Daddy, and I will try hard to obey Mother," said Betty. "Shall I go tell Mother I am sorry? I don't want her to get sick because I disobeyed."

"Well, I don't think Mother is sick, but she will be glad to know you are sorry," Daddy said. —M. Miles

—o—

QUESTIONS:

1. Did the prophet tell King Zedekiah all God said?
2. Why was God going to punish the people?
3. Did King Zedekiah obey God's words spoken to him through Jeremiah?
4. Was the city burned?
5. What happened to King Zedekiah for not obeying?
6. What will happen to us if we disobey God?

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Part 15

July 14

PEOPLE IN A STRANGE LAND

Lamentations 5:1-7, 15-22

For days the people marched along the road. They were often tired and sad. They were being taken to a strange land. Sometimes they looked back toward Jerusalem. They could still see the smoke rising from the burning buildings. Finally they arrived in a strange land. They thought about their homes and longed to be back there. How they wished they had not sinned! They wished they had obeyed God and listened to the prophet Jeremiah. They were in trouble. Many of the fathers had been killed. There were many children left orphans. Now they looked to God. They prayed, "Oh, Lord, remember what has come upon us. We have sinned. The joy of our heart has ceased. Help us, O Lord!" The people knew that God could help them. They were sorry they had sinned. How they wished they had lived for God instead of doing evil!

Boys and girls, we should love God and live for Him when all is going well. We should thank Him for all the good things He does for us. We will save ourselves much trouble if we will remember God at all times. When we are in trouble He will help us.

Memory Verse: Hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy. Psalm 130:7.

Tommy Finds Jesus

Tommy was a newsboy in a big city called New York. One day he saw a big carriage stop. It was pulled by horses because there were no cars in that day. Mr. Brown, the driver of the carriage, bought a paper from Tommy. Mr. Brown looked at Tommy and he thought to himself that he would like to help Tommy find Jesus. He said, "Tommy, would you like to ride in my carriage?"

"Oh, Mr. Brown, there is nothing I would like better! I have never had a ride in a carriage."

"I'll tell you what," Mr. Brown said, "if you will go to meeting with me tomorrow night I will take you for a ride in my carriage. I will also buy you a nice supper and take you home afterward."

Tommy smiled. Then a sad look came into his face. "Mr. Brown, I would like to go with you, but I can't. I must sell my papers. You see, Mother and I would not have anything to eat if I didn't sell my papers."

Mr. Brown said, "Don't worry about that, Tommy. I will buy all your papers tomorrow so you can go."

The next evening Mr. Brown came to the corner in his carriage. He bought all of Tommy's papers. Then away they went. Tommy had the thrill of riding in a carriage for the first time. He loved to watch the horses run fast.

After they had eaten supper Mr. Brown and Tommy went to church. Mr. Brown took Tommy to the front seat so he could be near the preacher.

He wanted Tommy to be saved and love Jesus.

When the preacher gave an invitation for the people to accept Jesus as their Savior, Mr. Brown kept watching Tommy to see if he would go to the altar, but he did not go.

Finally Mr. Brown said to Tommy, "Don't you want to be saved and give your heart to Jesus?"

Tears came into Tommy's eyes. He said, "Yes, I would like to, but I can't on crutches." Mr. Brown picked Tommy in his arms and carried him up to the altar. The preacher said, "Tommy, Jesus died on the cross for you. Will you give Jesus your heart?"

Tommy said, "I will."

Tommy prayed, "Dear Jesus, please forgive all of my sins. Come into my heart. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Amen."

Mr. Brown was so happy that he cried for joy because Tommy had found Jesus. Tommy was happy, too.

—Adapted

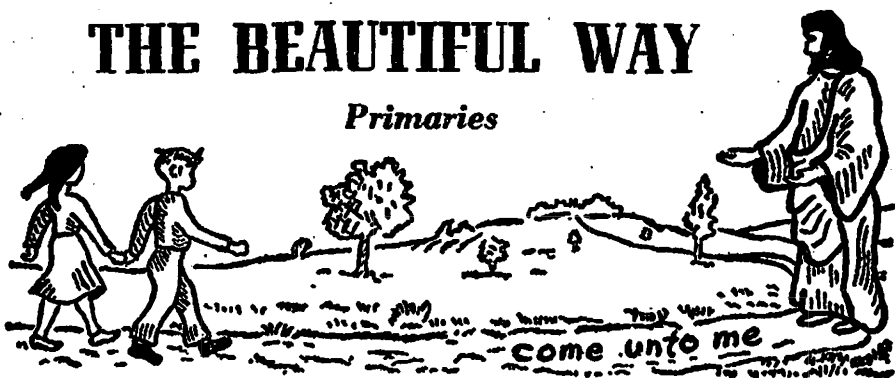
When we trust God, we can wait for Him to put us in the place He has for us.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why were the people marching away from their homes?
2. Were the people sorry they had sinned against God?
3. Did they pray to God and ask Him to help them?
4. Should we only pray when we are in trouble?
5. What will cause the Lord to have mercy on us and help us?

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Part 16

July 21

EZEKIEL THE PROPHET

Ezekiel 18:26-32; 36:26-28

Ezekiel's father was a priest. Ezekiel was taught to love God. One day when an army came to Jerusalem Ezekiel was taken away as a captive. He marched many miles from his home. He had to live in a strange land. God talked to Ezekiel. He wanted Ezekiel to take a message from God to the people in the strange land. At first he felt he could not do it but God caused him to see a vision. He saw the heavens open and God's hand was upon him. He was then willing to tell the people what God wanted them to know.

The people were unhappy and were blaming their fathers for their troubles. They said that because their fathers had sinned they were taken away in a strange land. God told Ezekiel to tell the people that each one would be punished for his own sins. He told them to be patient and wait on God for they would be in this strange land a long time. Ezekiel told the people that God wanted to take out their stony hearts and give them hearts of flesh. They would be kind and loving if they obeyed God. God loved His people and was grieved when they would not obey Him.

Memory Verse: A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you. Ezekiel 36:26.

Mary's Tender Heart*

"It's a pretty evening, isn't it?" Mother was talking to little Cindy as they sat on the patio watching the big round sun set in the west. "Isn't the sunset beautiful?"

"The sun is so big," Cindy said as she held up her little arms to make a circle. "It's bigger than this. Where does the sun go?" asked Cindy.

"It goes on the other side of the world to give warmth and light to the rest of the world while we sleep. God has such a wonderful plan for the big world He made. It's just perfect. He knew we needed darkness so we could sleep. Our eyes need to rest and our body can sleep better when it is dark."

"Oh, Mother, look at little Jerry! He fell down." Across the vacant lot on the sidewalk Jerry and his brother and sister were walking along. Little Jerry stumbled and fell. He lay there crying while his brother and sister looked at him. Mary had her arms full of groceries and Cindy could hear her telling Ralph to help Jerry up. Ralph just stood there and told Mary he would not do it. All the time Jerry was crying and holding his hand to his mouth. He had hit his face on the hard sidewalk and cut his lip. Finally Mary put down her groceries and went back to help Jerry. Ralph started to walk on home.

"Oh, how could Ralph treat poor Jerry like that?" Cindy asked. Mother was watching and wondering if

*parable

she should go and help Jerry. As she watched she saw that Mary was taking care of Jerry. Mother felt sad when she thought how hard-hearted Ralph seemed to be. She wondered if his mother had taught him to have a tender, soft heart like Jesus wanted him to have.

"Cindy, which one do you think has a tender heart, Ralph or Mary?"

"Oh, Mary has the tender heart," replied Cindy. "That's what our Sunday school lesson was about—a hard heart and a tender heart. Jesus wants to take that hard heart out of Ralph. His heart is a stony heart," Cindy declared.

"Yes, we need to pray for Ralph," Mother added. We are so glad that Mary has a heart of flesh, a tender, kind heart. That is the best kind of heart to have. Cindy, don't forget to keep your heart tender like Jesus wants it to be." —M. Miles

Postage stamps are small things, but they have much power. However, they are good only when they stick to their job. Why don't you try to be like the postage stamp and be useful?

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the name of the prophet in our lesson today?
2. If we sin, will we be punished?
3. Does God see us when we sin and do wrong?
4. What kind of heart does a sinner have?
5. What kind of heart does a saint have?

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Part 17

July 28

DANIEL PRAYS TO GOD

Daniel 9:3-6, 17-19

"Did Daniel pray today?" asked one of the men who hated Daniel. When the men found out that Daniel opened his window and prayed to God, asking Him for blessings, they ran to the king and told him to make a law forbidding anyone to ask favors of anyone but the king. They wanted Daniel to be punished for praying. "Oh Daniel, is thy God able to deliver thee from the lions?" King Darius called down into the lions' den where Daniel had been put when he prayed. The king loved Daniel but after he had been tricked into making the new law he could not change it. "My God hath sent his angel and has shut the lions' mouths because I am not guilty of any wrongdoing," Daniel answered.

The king commanded that Daniel be brought up out of the lions' den and all the wicked men who had tricked the king be put there instead. They did not have God on their side and the lions rushed upon them and killed them.

Daniel prayed for the people who were captives in the strange land. He asked God to let the people go back to their homes.

Memory Verse: O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake. Daniel 9:19.

Lindy and the Lion

Lindy was just a little girl the first time her mother took her to the zoo. They saw all kinds of wild animals and birds. The thing that made Lindy's eyes big with fright was the wild lion. It was behind strong bars, but it was growling and lashing its tail. Once it roared, and that was a pretty awful thing to hear.

Lindy, or Lindy-Mae, to use her full first name, was so frightened by the lion that she couldn't get it out of her mind. She kept talking about it. Late that night she awakened screaming. "What's wrong, Lindy?" asked her mother, rushing to her side.

"Oh, Mamma, I just dreamed about that lion. I'm afraid it might get loose and get me."

"Now, Lindy, you are a big girl seven years old, and you saw the heavy bars on that cage. Besides, that was a pretty old lion. Also, we live twenty-five miles from the zoo." Then she paused. "Lindy, the best reason to forget that lion is because God takes care of His children."

Lindy looked at her mother. Her eyes were big as she asked, "But, Mamma, how would God take care of me if that lion got loose?"

"I know how He took care of a man in the Bible when the man was thrown right into a cage of lions."

"Oh, tell me about it, Mamma. I seem to remember it, but I'd like to hear it again."

"Well, to make it short, they told this man Daniel to stop praying to the God in heaven."

Lindy nodded her head. "But he wouldn't. He was going to pray and serve God no matter what they did. I remember."

"Yes, that's right. He went right on serving the Lord. Sure enough then, they threw him right into the lions' den, but the story doesn't end there!"

"Well, I guess Daniel knew God would take care of him but he was not quite sure how He would do it," Mother said. "The lions just looked at him, but never touched him. God had closed their mouths and that's all there was to it."

Lindy nodded her head. "That's what I must remember. God made the lions leave him alone."

"That's right, Lindy. God will protect you, not only from lions, but from all evil and wrong things if you pray to Him. Knowing Jesus as your very own Savior takes care of everything in your life."

46
Jesus was always courteous. He loved even the unlovely people. Can you do that? Jesus was filled with pity for others. Courteous people are polite and very thoughtful of others.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is our lesson about today?
2. Where was Daniel put?
3. Who helped him out of the lions' den?
4. Why was he put there?
5. Who is your best friend in heaven and in earth?

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Part 18

August 4

GOD IS RULER OF MEN AND NATIONS

Isaiah 45:1-6, 18, 22, 23

"Who forgot to lock the gates?" the surprised people of Babylon asked. King Cyrus changed the river and walked down through the river bed under the wall into the great and powerful city of Babylon. The prophet Isaiah had foretold that this would happen nearly 200 years before. Isn't the Bible wonderful?

We have been studying about the poor people who had been taken from their city of Jerusalem to Babylon as captives. Now God wanted them to go back home. He caused King Cyrus to overthrow the great city of Babylon so the people could be freed. It is wonderful how God cares for those who will look to Him.

God is great and there is none else beside Him. God said, "Look unto me and be saved." He said that every knee would bow and every tongue would confess. Boys and girls, if we don't confess here we will in the Judgment. It pays to confess our sins and be saved now and bow before God who is great and mighty. He is worthy to be worshipped. All the earth belongs to Him and He just lets us use it. He rules over all.

Memory Verse: Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth for I am God, and there is none else. Isaiah 45:22.

Alice Tells Bobby

One Sunday Alice received Jesus as her Savior. How happy she was! Jesus forgave her sins.

The next Sunday Alice asked her teacher, "Hadn't I better tell my little brother Bobby about Jesus?"

The teacher said, "That's a fine thing to do, Alice. Perhaps you can bring him to the Savior."

When Alice got home, she told Bobby about Jesus. She said, "Bobby, I received Jesus as my Savior. He forgave my sins. Won't you receive Jesus, too? He loves you and He died for your sins."

Bobby said, "Yes." How happy Alice and Bobby were!

A Dummy Christian

Sam Lee was a Chinaman. He had to learn many things when he came to our country. One day he saw a dummy in a store window. He asked a friend, "What is that? That man does not speak. He does not move. He just stands still in a nice suit."

His friend said, "That is a dummy, Sam Lee. He is not real."

That night Sam Lee went to meeting. He was a Christian. He loved Jesus. He prayed, "Oh, God, forgive me. For a long time I have been a dummy Christian. I have not talked about Jesus. I have not worked for Him. Help me to tell others about my Savior."

God helped Sam Lee. He began to tell others about Jesus.

A Minister and a Child

A minister went to preach in a village where there was no church. He preached in the schoolhouse. A few people came who did not seem to care much about God or His Word. He preached many times, and, said he, "I had but one thing to encourage me."

"What was it?"

"It was the attention of one little girl, who kept her eyes fixed on me, and seemed to be trying to understand every word I said. She was a great help to me."

What! Can a child be a great help to a minister? Yes, oh, yes! How? By paying attention to the message from God's Word. Think of that, and when you go to meeting, fix your eyes on the minister and try to understand all he says, for he is speaking to YOU as well as to the grown-up people. He is telling about the Lord Jesus who loves the little ones, and said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

QUESTIONS:

1. How did King Cyrus get into the city?
2. Did God want him to overcome the Babylonians so the people of God could go home?
3. Did our lesson tell us who was great and mighty?
4. Whom are we to look to for salvation?
5. Will every knee of all the people in the whole world bow before God?

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Part 19

August 11

THE CAPTIVES RETURN HOME

Ezra 1:1-4, 2:68, 69; 3:10-13

“Did you hear what King Cyrus said?” the captives asked each other. “Oh happy day! Now we can go home!” It had been almost 70 years since they left their homes in Jerusalem and had seen the city burning. Now, according to what Jeremiah had said, they were getting to go home. He had told them they would be in the strange land 70 years. King Cyrus told the people to go and rebuild the city and the temple of God. Those who did not want to go were to give silver, gold, beasts, besides a freewill offering for the house of God in Jerusalem. That must have been a busy time. Boys and girls helped their parents get ready for the journey. When they got home again the men built the foundation of the temple. The people praised the Lord. The old men wept for joy. Many shouted. The people had sinned and were punished, but now they had returned. Boys and girls, you can return to the Lord if you have sinned. Ask Jesus to forgive you. The angels and saints rejoice when a sinner returns to God, and you would be happiest of all.

Memory Verse: All the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. Ezra 3:11.

Animals Learn to Obey

Did you know that animal babies are punished when they disobey their parents? They must learn to mind, because strict obedience is the only thing that will save them from the many troubles and dangers that beset the wild creatures in the woods.

Did you ever watch the mother dog or mother cat correct her little ones? Many times she will punish them for not obeying her. She wants them to stay close to her.

One time I was in Yosemite Park. We had driven far up into the mountain to watch the bears being fed. The bears are not too dangerous when they have plenty of food. There were grandstands for us to sit on and watch them eat at their feeding ground. I was sitting up on the grandstand and I saw a mother bear come down out of a tree. She came down very slowly. She sat down at the foot of the tree for a while and then took a few steps away from it and sat down. Her two little baby bears, called cubs, were running up and down the trunk of the tree. Finally they came down and went over to their mother. She turned around and took her paw and slapped both of them and growled. Up the tree they scampered. They stayed up there from then on. She no doubt had told them to stay up in the tree and she would bring them something to eat, but they had disobeyed her and she punished them.

Boys and girls, God wants us to obey our parents when we are small. God has told our parents to punish

children when they disobey. Did you not know that it will save you from many troubles and dangers in life if you will always obey your parents?

Once a man told us about a zoo where there were Japanese apes who had a baby. Like many little boys and girls, the baby ape resented being put to bed in the evenings. He would continue to play around and did not pay any attention to his mother who kept calling for him to come in. Finally the ape, reaching the end of her patience rushed out and hauled the angry squealing infant into the kennel. Then a steady whacking sound could be heard while the youngster redoubled his noise, howling from pain instead of temper.

If you disobey Mother or Daddy, ask God to forgive you. Ask Him to help you to remember to obey them. Thus you will please Jesus and your heavenly Father. —M. Miles

IMPrudence is an imp that is bold and saucy. He likes to call attention to himself and what he has done.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why were the people of God in a foreign land as captives?
2. Who stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus to let the people go home?
3. How did the people act when they arrived home and had the foundation of the temple laid?
4. Is it possible for a boy or girl who sins to return to God for forgiveness?
5. Who is made happy when a sinner repents?

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Part 20

August 18

THE PROPHETS HEAR EXCUSES

Haggai 1:1-9; Ezra 5:1

The people were happy to be back in their homeland again. They worked hard and tried to build their houses to live in. At first they started to build the temple and great rejoicing was heard when the foundation had been laid. But there were some people who tried to hinder the building, so they used that for an excuse to stop working on it. God was displeased with this. For fifteen years the people had not worked on the big temple of God. God sent a message to the people through his prophet Haggai. The people began to make excuses as to why they hadn't worked on it. God would not accept their excuses. God said to them, "Consider your ways. You have built your homes, but my house lies in waste."

Are people today making excuses for not doing as God tells them to in His Word? When we stand before God He will not accept our excuses.

Finally a man began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem. Many others helped him and God was pleased. We should not neglect God's work in order to tend to ours. Put God first.

Memory Verse: Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? Haggai 1:4.

Excuses Hinder

"Lynn, why didn't you empty the trash box?" Mother asked as she came into the kitchen and saw it still sitting just where she had left it.

"Oh, I had to park all my cars," Lynn said as he pushed another car in the corner beside his truck.

"You can play after you do your work," Mother said as she stood there waiting for Lynn to get up off the floor and empty the box.

Mother continued to clean house. She stepped outside to shake her dust mop. There on the porch stood the trash box. "Lynn, what are you doing?" she called as she looked around and saw Lynn digging in the ground.

"Oh, I found a little seed on the porch and I wanted to plant it," Lynn said as he got up and went over to the porch and again picked up the trash box.

Mother went back to her work. As she was dusting the windowsill she looked out into the yard. There she saw the trash box sitting in the yard. Lynn was nowhere to be seen. "Lynn! Lynn!" called Mother. Lynn came running around from the side of the house. When Mother saw him she said firmly, "Lynn, if you do not empty that box immediately you are going to be punished. I am tired of your excuses. You are going to have to learn that some thing must be done first. What I tell you to do must be put ahead of the things you want to do. Work comes before play."

"But, Mother, I just chased that chicken out of the yard that is al-

ways scratching in our flowers. She might dig up my seed and it would not grow," Lynn said.

"She wouldn't do too much scratching while you went to the alley to empty the trash," Mother said in a firm tone. "Did you know that there are a lot of people in the world today who are going to miss heaven because they do not do what God tells them to do before they do other things? Jesus has taught us to 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.' I want you to learn to obey Mother first and then do the things you want to do. But what I say must be done first. If you learn to obey Mother first, then you will have learned to obey God first when you are older and your life will be blessed of God."

"Mother, you are right," Lynn said as he picked up the trash and went straight to the alley and emptied it all into the big trash can. —M. Miles

—○—
The person who is afraid of being hurt always gets hit.

QUESTIONS:

-
1. Was God unhappy because the people did not build His house?
 2. Whom did He send to tell the people to work on it?
 3. Did the people build their own homes?
 4. Did God accept their excuses? Will He accept excuses today?
 5. Did a man finally arise who built the temple of God?

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Part 21

August 25

EZRA TEACHES THE PEOPLE

Ezra 7:6, 10; Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5, 6.

Ezra loved God very, very much. Ezra also loved the Bible. He read it and would write it for others to read. He lived in a strange land where the captives had lived. God talked to his heart. God told him to go back to Jerusalem and read to the people the laws of God. Many of them were not obeying God's laws.

Ezra started off on his long journey and many others went with him. The king sent vessels along for the temple and others gave Ezra much silver and gold. Finally Ezra arrived in Jerusalem. The people were glad to see him and wanted to hear the laws of God read. All the people gathered into the street before the water gate. Ezra stood upon a pulpit of wood so he would be higher than the people. When Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, they all stood up. There he read the laws of God from morning until mid-day. Ezra praised the Lord God who had made the heavens and the earth. When the people heard the law of God read, they said, "Amen." They worshipped God.

Memory Verse: The hand of our God is upon all them for good that see him; but his power and wrath is against all them that forsake him. Ezra 8:22.

Be Nice to Jane!

Diane was happy. "Sue said she would go to Sunday school with me this morning," she told her mother. Then she stopped smiling. "I hope Jane won't be there!" she said.

"You should not say that!" said her mother. "Jane cannot help being retarded. Jesus loves her, too, you know!"

When Diane and Sue got to Sunday school, there was Jane. "Hi, Diane!" she said.

"Hi, Jane!" said Diane. "Your dress is pretty!" Jane tried to say something, but the other girls could not understand her.

"She is retarded," Diane told Sue when Jane could not hear her. "She cannot learn very much, or talk much either."

Sue watched to see if the other boys and girls were nice to Jane. They all said nice things to her. When the teacher came in, she put her arms around Jane. "I'm glad you came today," she said.

Jane tried to listen to the teacher. But she had a hard time sitting still. Jane, would you like to go and get a drink?" the teacher asked her after a while.

While she was gone, the teacher said, "Please remember to pray for Jane every day. She wants to be like the rest of you. She wants to learn and to talk so that people can understand her. Let us pray that God will help her. I am glad that you girls are all so nice to her. You are pleasing God by making her feel like one of you."

"I wish Jane had stayed home today!" said Diane at dinner. "I am afraid Sue will not want to come back to Sunday school with Jane in our class!"

After dinner Sue came over to play with Diane. "Our whole family is going to come to your Sunday school," she said. "I have a little brother who is retarded. Daddy and Mother have always stayed at home with him. They did not think they could take him to Sunday school and church. But everyone is so nice to Jane. I told them about it, and they said they would go next Sunday and take Sammy. He will have a good time in Sunday school, too."

"Oh, Mother," said Diane later, "I am so glad that Jane came to Sunday school today!"

SHARING

There is no joy in keeping things
All to oneself, you know.
The happiest child is he who is
Unselfish, and who so
Makes use of blessings God doth give
To spread a lot of cheer
Around him every single day
In every month and year.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is our lesson about today?
2. Did the king help Ezra go on his trip to Jerusalem?
3. What did Ezra do when he got to Jerusalem?
4. What did the people all do when Ezra opened up the book of God?
5. What did the people say?

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 19, No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1968

Part 22

Sept. 1

NEHEMIAH REBUILDS THE WALLS

Nehemiah 1:2-4; 2:2-7, 17, 18; 4:15-20; 6:15, 16.

"How are the people in Jerusalem? What does the city look like?" Nehemiah asked of some men who had come from Jerusalem to Shushan the palace. "The people are in trouble and are very poor. The walls of the city are broken down and the gates were burned with fire." Nehemiah wept when he heard this. He fasted and prayed, asking God to have mercy upon the people and forgive them. "Why are you so sad?" asked the king as Nehemiah waited on him. "Let the king live forever," said Nehemiah. "Why should I not be sad when the homes of my fathers lie in waste? Won't you send me to rebuild the walls of the city?" The king sent Nehemiah to Jerusalem. After he looked over the city he talked to some of the leaders and told them why he had come. They said, "Let us rise and build." Some enemies tried to hinder the building of the walls. The men worked with weapons by their sides. Watchmen were placed along the wall to blow the trumpet to warn the people if the enemy came close. God helped them and they were able to get the wall built again to protect the people against danger.

Memory Verse: The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build. Nehemiah 2:20.

The Town of Ono

"I liked our Sunday school lesson," Bill said as he and Larry stacked bricks.

"What was it about?" asked Larry.

The boys had gone with their father to help stack bricks at a building that had been torn down.

"It was about Nehemiah building the walls of a city. They had trouble from some bad people and they had to work with their weapons tied to them. They had some watchmen placed along the wall with trumpets. When they saw the bad people coming they were to blow the trumpets to warn the workers."

"Were they going to have to fight alone?" Father asked as he listened to the boys talking.

"No, God said that he would fight for them," Bill answered.

"Did your teacher tell you about the trick the enemies tried to play on Nehemiah?" asked Father.

"No, tell us about it," said Bill.

"It was Sanballet who tried to get Nehemiah to go to the town of Ono and talk to him. He sent four invitations but Nehemiah would not go," Father told the boys.

"Ono," repeated Larry. "That is some name for a town."

"Now I remember that name," Larry remarked. "Our teacher said that the devil lives in the town of 'O-no, that isn't wrong,' to all the commandments of God."

"That is a good thought," Father added. "When you tell the devil that it would be wrong to steal something

that he shows to you, he will quickly say, 'O-no, that isn't wrong.' "

"Our Sunday school teacher told us that looking at those terrible murder stories on TV was wrong, but when I told Sue that she said, "O-no, that isn't wrong," and right away I remembered what our teacher had said about that town of the devil's." Bill said.

"That reminds me of something Jack did," Larry said. "He told a lie and said it was just a little white lie. I told him that there was no difference between white lies and black lies. Lies are all wrong. He said, 'O-no, white lies are all right.' "

"Boys, remember that the watchmen on the walls of God's city will blow the trumpet when they see anyone coming from the town of O-no and as Nehemiah told the people that 'God shall fight for us,' We do not have to do wrong. —M. Miles

Imprudence is an imp that acts without thinking well about what he is doing. He makes many mistakes because of his careless decisions.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who told Nehemiah about the walls of Jerusalem being broken down?
2. How did the king know that Nehemiah was sad?
3. What did the people say when Nehemiah told them the king had sent him to rebuild the walls?
4. What kind of walls does God build around us? (See Isa. 60:18.)
5. Who is our enemy?

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Part 23

Sept. 8

CONFESSION AND PROMISES

Nehemiah 8:1, 8, 17, 18; 9:32-38

Ezra read to the people out of the Bible. They wept when they knew they had disobeyed God. They were sorry. They wanted to obey the law of Moses as God had commanded. The leaders talked to Ezra. They prepared to keep the feast of Tabernacles. The people brought willow sticks and made booths. They put tree branches on the top. They were to live in these booths for seven days. This was to help them remember that their fathers had lived in booths when they first came out of Egypt (Lev. 23:43) and also to remind them that God had brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt and given them the land of Canaan. During this feast Ezra continued to read to them from the Bible. Soon after the close of the feast the people gathered together in Jerusalem. The Levites led the people in prayer to God. They confessed their sins. God had punished them. They said that God was right and they were wrong. They now had other kings ruling over them and they were in trouble. They promised to be faithful to God.

Memory Verse: For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments. Ezra 7:10.

Lou Makes a Wrong Right*

"Someone tore up my pretty picture that I made in school yesterday," cried Lillie. "I never can keep anything with a brother and a sister around all the time."

Lillie went back into her bedroom and threw herself on her bed and was crying. Mother felt sorry that her picture that she prized so much had been torn. She called Lou and Bill into the house. She told them about the picture being torn up and asked them, "Now, which one of you tore up Lillie's picture?"

Lou stooped over and picked up her doll and hugged her real tight. Bill sat down on the floor and reached for his car. Neither one of them said a word. Mother waited a moment and then said, "It is better to say that you did it now than for Mother to find out later which one did it, because your punishment might be more severe." Mother still waited and they still did not say anything. "Well, maybe we had better pray to Jesus to help you to confess that you did wrong. Come on over and let us kneel here by the divan." Lou and Bill came over and they knelt beside Mother. Mother prayed and told Jesus all about the picture that was torn up and ask Jesus to help Lou or Bill to confess which one did it. Mother waited and she heard Lou crying. "Did you do it, Lou?"

"Yes," sobbed Lou. "I am sorry. I didn't mean to but Bill wanted to see

it and I jerked it when he took hold of it."

"Lou, don't you see how naughty that was to jerk it away? You both could have looked at it and then put it back and Lillie would still have her pretty picture. What do you think you ought to do to make it right with Lillie? She is on her bed crying. Don't you feel sad too?"

"Yes," answered Lou. "I'll give her my nickel that Uncle Jim gave me."

"All right. I think that would be nice," Mother said. "First, why don't you pray and ask Jesus to help you not to be naughty again and to help you share things with Bill? You know that you have that trouble and Jesus can help you with it."

After Lou prayed, she went to the bedroom and gave Lillie her nickel and told her she was sorry. Lillie smiled through her tears and told Lou to keep her nickel. She was touched when she saw tears in Lou's eyes.

When Daddy heard all about it he told Lou he was glad she was willing to confess her wrong to Jesus and to Lillie.

—M. Miles

Serving God keeps us busy and out of mischief.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who read to the people from the Bible?
2. Did the people want to obey the Bible?
3. What kind of a feast did they keep and how?
4. Did they confess their sins?
5. Did they promise to do better?

*parable

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Primaries



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Part 24

Sept. 15

QUEEN ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE

Esther 4:8, 13-16; 7:1-7

"Here is a copy of the decree that all the Jews be killed," Mordecai said to the messenger Queen Esther had sent to find out why her Uncle Mordecai sat in sackcloth by the gate. "Tell her that she must ask the king to have mercy upon her people."

Esther was a Jewess but the king did not know it. She knew that if she went before the king uninvited that he could have her put to death if he did not hold out his sceptre. She asked that the Jews fast and pray with her and her handmaids for three days. She then went before the king and asked that he and Haman, the man who had asked that the Jews be killed, come and eat with her the next day. On the second day they ate with her, she said to the king, "Oh King, if I have found favor in thy sight, let my life and the lives of my people be spared."

"Who is he and where is he that would dare to do this?" the king asked in anger. "It is this wicked Haman," answered Queen Esther. Haman was shocked to find out that the queen was a Jewess. The king sent word that the Jews should fight for their lives.

Memory Verse: Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? Esther 4:14.

Who Can Work in the Dark?

It was storming outside. The wind blew. The rain came down. Thunder made a big noise. All at once the lights went out.

"Oh," said Mother, "I was going to buy some candles, but I kept forgetting."

"What shall we do?" asked Phillip.

"I guess we might as well go to bed," said Mother. "We can't do anything in the dark."

"But I can't see to go to bed!" Susan cried. "I can't find my pajamas in the dark. I can't undress without a light!"

"That is pretty bad!" said Father. "So many of the creatures God has made work in the dark. It is bad you cannot even undress!"

"Tell us about the creatures that work in the dark!" begged Susan. So they all sat down.

"Do you remember Grandfather's beehive?" asked Daddy. "There are no lights in there! There is only a little hole for a door, where the bees go in and out. Not much light can get in there. But the bees make the little six-sided rooms where the eggs are laid. They put eggs in them and later they feed the little wormlike things that hatch out. They keep the hive clean. They do all the work of the hive in the dark."

"Ants live down in the ground. It is dark down there. But they build wonderful homes and store away food for the winter. Some of them even raise a kind of food that is like mushrooms, down there in the dark."

"Moles live down in the ground, too. They hardly ever come out in the light. But they dig long tunnels and hunt for their food."

"The kingfisher is a bird that lives on fish. It makes a tunnel in the bank along a river or lake and makes its nest at the end of the tunnel. Very little light comes in through the tunnel, but the birds make a nest of fishbones. They feed their babies there in the dark until the little birds are big enough to come out."

Just then the lights came on. "I think I will undress in the dark anyway, just for fun," said Susan. "If so many of God's creatures can work in the dark, I can, too!"

WHAT SAND TEACHES US

Sand is very unceratin. Sand teaches us some things God wants us to know. Time is something like sand. You can take a handful of sand, but you can't hold it very long before it is slipping through your fingers. So with time. What you have now is yours, but you cannot hold on to any that is past. Time is bringing you to the judgment. There is no time in eternity. Now is the time to be saved.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Queen Esther's uncle?
2. Why did he sit in sackcloth at the gate?
3. How did Queen Esther help her people?
4. Was Haman afraid?
5. What did the king do to help the Jews who were to be killed?

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Primaries



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Part 25

Sept. 22

JONAH GOES TO NINEVEH

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 4:1-4, 11

Jonah disobeyed God. God told him to go preach to the people of Nineveh, but he got into a boat and went the opposite direction. He was thrown overboard and God prepared a great fish and it swallowed Jonah. Jonah prayed while in the fish's belly and it vomited him up on dry land. God again told Jonah to go down to Nineveh and preach. This time Jonah went. He went up and down the streets and called out, "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown." The people were afraid and called upon God. They called a fast and sat in sackcloth from the smallest child to the oldest. God looked down and saw their works and had mercy upon them. He forgave them and did not destroy the city.

Jonah went outside the city and waited for it to be destroyed. When it did not happen, he was unhappy about it. God let a gourd grow over to shade him. Then a worm ate the vine. God wanted Jonah to know that He had pity for the thousands of people in the city just as Jonah had pity for the gourd that the worm destroyed. God wants us to love all the peoples of the whole world.

Memory Verse: I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness. Jonah 4:2.

Visiting Grandmother

"When are we going to your house, Grandma?" asked little Doris.

"Just as soon as I get the dishes taken care of," answered Grandmother. When all was finished they got into the car and went to Grandma's. The children always enjoyed staying with Grandmother while their parents went out for the evening. She gave each one a sucker and then got her ironing board out and started ironing. The children wanted to play a game. Grandmother hung the donkey on the wall and they took turns trying to pin the tail on the donkey blindfolded. Doris and Lon thought it was real funny when their big brother Jake couldn't even find the donkey. Lon just had to help him when he got close so he took his hand and put it on the donkey. The children enjoyed their play for quite a while. When they got tired of the game Grandmother got the Bible story book and Nancy read to the other three children about Adam and Eve, the first man and woman that God had made to live in the beautiful garden of Eden.

"I don't know why they had to sin," Jake said. "I am sure they felt sorry to leave that beautiful garden."

"Well, dear, why do people want to sin today? They will never get to go to the beautiful heaven that God has made for them. It is because they listen to the devil and not to God. I hope that all of you will never listen to the devil and let him get you to do wrong. You should listen to Jesus for He will teach you how to do right

and how to live for Him. He is so good to us. I do love Jesus, don't you? I don't know what we would do without Him."

"I don't know what I would do, either," said Jake.

After Grandmother finished her ironing she told the children to get ready to go home. She took them back home so they could get ready for bed.

"Let me see who can get your pajamas on first," Grandmother said as she sat down in the big rocking chair. The children hurried as fast as they could. Nancy, being the oldest, was first, and Jake next. Little Lon was next. Dear little Doris had to have help as she got both feet in the same leg of her pajamas.

"Now let us all kneel and pray to Jesus," Grandmother said. "Who will pray first?" Doris said she would. All the children prayed and off to bed they went after they gave Grandmother a big kiss. —M. Miles

IMPOLITENESS is an imp that we should try to shun. His twin brother POLITENESS is kind and thoughtful. His company is always wanted.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is our lesson about today?
2. What happened to Jonah when he went out on a boat?
3. Did Jonah preach the message God told him to?
4. Did God destroy the city of Nineveh? Why?
5. Should we love all the peoples of all the world?

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Part 26

Sept. 29

ISAIAH TELLS ABOUT JESUS

Isaiah 61:1, 2, 8-11; Luke 2:25, 26

God talked to Isaiah. He told him that He was going to send a Savior, which would be Jesus, to the world. God told Isaiah that Jesus would preach good tidings to the people. He said that Jesus would comfort those who are sad. Jesus would set the people free from the bondage of sin. He would open blind eyes and heal the sick. Jesus would bring joy and peace to the world.

Did you ever see a bride all dressed up for her wedding? Isaiah said that those who had their sins forgiven would be like a beautiful bride. They would have their hearts clean. They would wear robes of salvation. One day Simeon, who lived in Jerusalem, came into the temple. He was a good man and loved God. God talked to him. He told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah or the Christ who was to come to the world to forgive sins.

He rejoiced greatly when he saw the baby Jesus. He knew that He was the Savior of the world. Today we rejoice because we can have Jesus live in our hearts. He helps us to live right so we will be ready to meet Him in peace when we die.

Memory Verse: In the hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began. Titus 1:2.

Jane Loves Jesus

"Do you think that Jesus love me?" asked little Jane. Mary was sitting with Jane and her two brothers and had just finished reading them a story. In the story a little girl had wandered away from home and a woman had taken her into her house. While she had waited for her mother to get her, the lady had told her about Jesus. She told the little girl that Jesus loved her and one time had lived in this world. He was a little boy but had grown up and taught the people that they could be saved from their sins and be ready to go to heaven when they die. She told the little girl that Jesus loved her, too. Jane listened carefully. She could see that little girl who had been cared for by the woman as she sat there and heard the story of Jesus. When Mary came to the part where the woman said that Jesus loved all those who were lost and had wandered away from God's house, Jane just knew that the little lost girl felt real happy since she knew that Jesus loved her, too, since she had got lost.

"Yes, Jane, Jesus loves you," Mary said with a smile.

"Well, I never was lost," Jane said.

"Dear, in God's house all the people do what He says and obey Him," Mary explained. "They can't live in God's house when they disobey. They leave God's house and wander away. If they tell a lie they go farther away from God's house. If they steal something that does not belong to them, they go farther and farther away. Soon they get so far away that

they can't seem to find their way back. Some people just keep on going away, but once in a while some one will stop and begin to cry. They want to go back but don't know the way. God hears their cries and He sends the Holy Spirit to bring them in. When they come to the door of God's house, Jesus is there. They fall down and ask Jesus to forgive them and tell Him how sorry they are that they left. They promise to obey all the rules in God's house. Jesus opens the door and lets them in. The angels rejoice and all the saints rejoice. Those who had been lost are the happiest of all. Have you been obedient to Jesus and the rules which are written in the Bible? Everyone obeys the Bible in God's house. Can you think of anything you have done that was wrong?"

"No," said Jane.

"Well, then you aren't lost," Mary said. "You are in God's house and Jesus loves you."

"I am glad," Jane said. —M. Miles

Jesus loves you, and He wants you to love Him with all your heart.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who did Isaiah tell us would come into the world?
2. What would Jesus do when He came?
3. Who is in the prison house of sin?
4. Who did God tell Simeon he would see before he died?
5. Did Simeon see Jesus Christ?

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Primaries



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Oct., Nov., Dec., 1968

Part 14

Oct. 6

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH JESUS

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:12-15

Before Jesus came to this world, God taught the people how to live right through His prophets. Do you remember how Moses gave the people the Ten Commandments? God told Moses to tell the people not to tell lies, not to steal, and not to love any idol, but to love God. Then we read how God told Isaiah about Jesus' coming to this world and how He would suffer for our sins. (Read Isaiah 53:1-12.)

The people were happy when Jesus came to teach them. Multitudes followed Him. Jesus was just like God, except He lived in a body such as you and I have. He was pure and holy. He did no sin and that is the reason He could die for our sins. How we love Him! Jesus arose from the grave and today He is sitting on the right hand of God in heaven. We have faith in Him. His disciples wrote the things Jesus did and taught in the New Testament. We must not forget these things. It is best to be saved today. If you put it off, your heart will become hard. When you get saved, stay saved. If you fail, ask God to help you.

Memory Verse: God . . . hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son. Hebrews 1:1, 2.

A Dog Named Rover

"Did Rover go to heaven?" asked Jackie as he followed his mother in the house as she dusted the furniture. Rover, Jackie's dog, had died and Jackie's father had put him in the pickup and taken him out and buried him.

"No, dear, dogs don't have souls," Mother said, "they just have bodies."

"Then I won't ever get to see Rover again, will I?" Jackie said with a fresh flood of tears as he leaned over the chair.

Mother stopped her work and took Jackie in her arms. "Now, dear, Mother knows you loved Rover very much, and I loved him, too. We will miss him a lot, but you must not cry like this. Rover was getting old and almost blind. It was hard for him to get around. He has been a good dog, but now he doesn't suffer any pain. It is all over for him. His body will go back to dust. Only people have souls that live in their bodies now and will live forever in eternity. People were given minds capable of great knowledge so they could know what is right and what is wrong. Dogs do not have that kind of knowledge. They are not able to choose where they want to go. It wouldn't be right to make them choose if they wanted to go to heaven or hell when they are not smart like people. So God didn't give animals souls. In Eccl. 3:20 we read, "Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?" You see, beasts or dogs just die and that is

the end of them. I am sure there is another dog that we can get to live here with us. We can give it a good home as we did Rover, don't you think?"

"Maybe another dog could run better, too," Jackie said as he got out of his mother's lap.

"Mother, when I die I want to go to heaven," Jackie said as he looked at his mother.

"Yes, Jackie, you must pray to Jesus and do as He tells you to do and He will take you to heaven when you die. Be sure that you always tell the truth even if you might bring trouble to yourself. It is better to be punished here for doing the wrong thing than to go to hell and burn forever in that terrible lake of fire. Be sure you are always honest. Never take anything that does not belong to you. Most of all, love Jesus with all your heart." —M. Miles

—o—

QUESTIONS:

1. Who told the people how to live right before Jesus came?
2. What are some of the Ten Commandments Moses gave?
3. What kind of body did Jesus put on when He came to this world?
4. Why should we be careful to remember what Jesus tells us to do and say?
5. What is apt to happen if we put off getting saved?

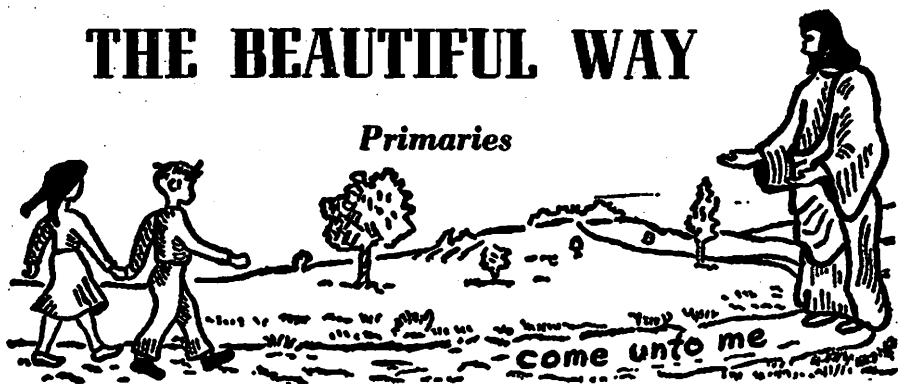
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Did you ever look at the lily? The growth of the lily and our own growth both teach us a lesson of the power and wisdom of God.

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Part 15

Oct. 13

CHRIST, OUR MEDIATOR

Hebrews 4:14-16; Esther 4:10-5:4

If Betty would stand between George and Ruth, she would be called a mediator as she helped them to understand each other after they had disagreed. Jesus is the mediator between us and God. We must remember though, that God did not do anything against us. He is full of love, but we are at fault. We sinned and became His enemy. God sent Jesus here to tell us He loved us and had forgiven us. We must ask Him to forgive us and accept Jesus as our mediator or go-between.

Queen Esther wanted to ask the king not to let the Jewish people be killed. If anyone went before the king unless he asked them to, and he did not hold out his sceptre (a long golden rod), that one would be killed. Esther asked the people to fast and pray to God with her for three days. She said, "If I die, I die." After three days she stood shaking before the king. "Will he hold out the sceptre, or not?" she thought. He did and she told him her request. He granted it to her. God is always holding out the sceptre of mercy to us so we can come to Him with our requests.

Memory Verse: Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy. Hebrews 4:16.

Bill is a Go-Between

Robert and Jack were the best of friends. They played together and took turns pushing each other in the wagon. But one day Jack hit Robert and knocked him down. Robert was very surprised. "I wonder why he did that to me," thought Robert. "I have never at any time done him wrong." Robert still loved Jack. He had even forgiven him for hitting him. He longed for Jack to play with him again. He wondered what to do. All of a sudden he thought of a plan. He would ask Bill to take Robert a gift; a gift of his love to him. He would send him some apples. He remembered how well Jack liked apples.

Bill was glad to do this for Robert. Of course, Bill didn't know if Jack would be nice to him or not. He even wondered if Jack would hit him and be mean to him. But Bill loved Jack even as Robert did. So he agreed to go see him.

After Bill told Jack how much Robert loved him and missed him, Jack was in tears. He was so ashamed of himself. "Do you think Robert will forgive me?" he asked Jack.

"Yes, he will if you will ask him to," answered Bill. Bill was happy that Jack was sorry. He was glad he had been a mediator between the two boys. He started to leave and Jack said, "Wait a minute. I want to send Robert a gift, too." Soon he returned with all the money he had in his piggy bank and said, "Take this to Robert as a gift to pay for all the mean things I have done to him."

Bill was happy to bring Jack and Robert back together. Jack asked Robert to forgive him and they were both happy again. They played together as if nothing had happened.

Boys and girls, we sinned against God for no reason. We hurt God very, very much. But He still loved us. He sent His only Son to be a mediator between us and God. He gave His Son as a gift to us to show His great love. Jesus, God's Son, has told us how much God loves us and will forgive us for our sins if we will but ask Him.

I am glad I asked Him, and now Jesus, my mediator, has taken back the penalty, my gift for my sins. Do you know what it is? It is the precious blood of Jesus. When God looks on me now He doesn't see sin but He sees the blood of Jesus covering them and has washed them away. Now God and I are the best of friends and I don't sin any more.

—M. Miles

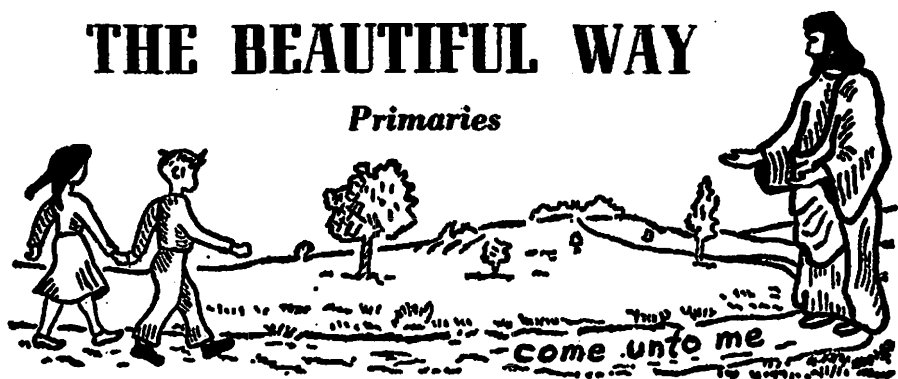
QUESTIONS:

1. What is a mediator?
2. Who is our mediator?
3. Tell about Queen Esther and her request to the king.
4. Did the king hold out his golden rod to her?
5. Is the golden rod of mercy held out to us all the time by God?

IMPenitence is an imp that does not say, "I'm sorry" when he hurts others. He doesn't even ask God to forgive his sins. He is really bad.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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Part 16

Oct. 20

RUNNING THE CHRISTIAN RACE

Hebrews 12:1-4, 7-15

Did you ever run in a race? Did you pick up a piece of iron to carry with you? The Apostle Paul tells us that running a race is like going to heaven. We should get rid of every heavy thing. Sin is heavy. We can't carry it and get to heaven. We must come to Jesus and ask Him to take away all sins. Lies, ugly words, stealing, fighting, and many other such things are sins we must get rid of. Then we will be ready to run. Paul tells us that many are watching as we run this race. The chapter before our lesson tells us about those who were faithful in the past and ran the race to heaven and won the crown. Joseph, Moses, Samuel, and Daniel were named. Today there are those who are watching us run the race. Our parents, brothers and sisters, saints, friends, neighbors, and God see us. Do they see us obeying God?

Our parents punish us when we are naughty. God will punish us, also, when we are not careful to please Him. We should ask Him to forgive us and then watch more carefully to do right. If we live like Jesus did, we will receive a crown of life in the end.

Memory Verse: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. Hebrews 12:1, 2.

Getting Ready to Run

"I'll race you down to the pond!" Daddy called to Betty. Betty dropped her little play iron and her ironing board. She took her two little dolls out of her pockets and laid them down beside her iron. She took off her shoes and stockings. Daddy had stopped to pull some weeds while he waited for Betty. She took so long that he turned around to see what she was doing.

"You don't need to take off your shoes and stockings," Daddy said. "You must really be aiming to win."

"Just a minute, I'll be there," she called as she dropped her sock. Off she ran to catch up with Daddy. He looked at her and laughed. He saw her eagerness and the twinkle in her eye. He saw sunshine in her face. He knew that she intended to beat in the race to the pond.

"What took you so long?" Daddy asked as he wondered what reason Betty had for doing as she did.

"Well, in our Sunday School lesson we studied about Paul. He told about the Christian race. Sister Brown told us that a person would run faster and better if he took off his shoes and laid down every heavy thing he had. That is what I did."

"What did you lay down to be able to run well in the Christian race?" asked Daddy.

"Well, telling lies, talking ugly, pouting, disobeying Mother and Daddy, and— and—" Betty was trying to think of something else.

"Not coming when Mother calls," added Daddy.

"Oh yes, Sister Brown said that God would punish us just as Mother and Daddy do when we do wrong so we will remember to do right and not get off the path to heaven," Betty said as she walked along toward the pond with her hand in Daddy's.

"God must love us a great deal to do that, don't you think so, Betty?"

"Yes, I guess He does. I know you and Mother love me when you punish me," Betty said. "I know that I might fall in and drown if I go to the pond by myself. That is why you spanked me two weeks ago. I am never going to do that again."

"How about that race?" Daddy said as he and Betty ran down to the pond.

—M. Miles

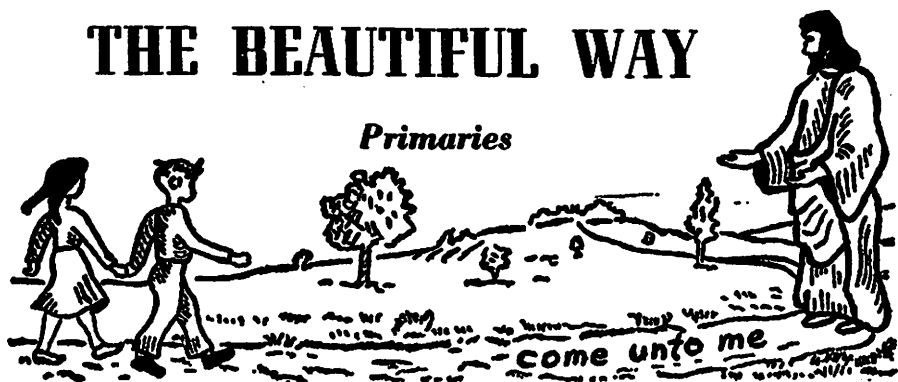
QUESTIONS:

1. How do we get ready to run in the Christian race?
2. What are some of the sins we are to lay aside?
3. If we slow up in running or get off the track, what will God do to help us?
4. What will we receive if we finish our race to heaven?
5. Who is watching you as you run your Christian race?
6. Explain what running a Christian race means.
7. Is there only one winner in this race? Explain your answer.

Lola's face beamed as she told her mother that she did not let someone else suffer because she admitted her mistake when she was accused. Jesus loves honest children.

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Primaries



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Part 17

Oct. 27

OBEDIENT CHILDREN

1 Peter 1:13-21; 2:9, 10

Peter preached to the people. He told them they must be obedient children. He told the people about the great love that God had for them. Peter said, "God loved you before He made this great big world. God knew that you might sin. He knew that sin would make you very unhappy. God wanted you to be happy in this wonderful world He made. He sent His Son to come here to take away your sin." Peter told them that they could not buy happiness with money. He said, "You must be sorry for your sins and turn away from them. You can be happy then. This will also make God happy. You will belong to God's great big holy nation. It is a clean and pure nation. The people in this nation praise the Lord. They thank God for making them happy again. At the end of the world they will not be afraid to stand before God. They will love Him." Don't you want to be a part of that holy nation? We must live clean, holy lives that we may be able to show to others how God wants them to live. That will bring honor and praise to His name before the people.

Memory Verse: Because it is written, Be ye holy: for I am holy. 1 Peter 1:16.

Diana is Frightened

"Can you come out and play?" Lula asked Diana when she came to the door in answer to her knock.

"Oh, I guess I could, but I want to watch television," Diana said. "Why don't you come in? There are a lot of funny things on now."

"Oh, no!" Lula answered quickly. "I don't like to watch television. Why don't you come out and play?"

"Well, in a little while," Diana answered as she turned her eyes back to the television screen. "Oh! Why did he kill him? Oh, that is terrible!" Diana said as she ran out the door, covering her face with her hands. Lula ran over and put her arms around Diana as she sat on the porch and cried. Her mother came out to see what she was crying about.

"Did something hurt you?" Mother asked, as she began to look at Diana.

"No, Mother," Diana said, looking up with tears on her face. "I'm all right."

"What made you scream so loudly and scare us? What is the matter?"

"I didn't want them to kill that nice man," Diana said.

"Oh, that's it," Mother said as she turned to go back into the house. "You will have to get used to things like that. Daddy and the boys won't turn the television off just because someone gets killed. That happens all the time."

"I wish I lived at your house, Lula," Diana said. "You don't have to watch television."

"Do you have to watch it?" asked Lula.

"Well, it's on all the time. Daddy and the boys won't even leave it to come to dinner now. Mother serves their meals on TV trays. Does your mother do that?"

"No, Diana, we do not have a TV in our house. Did you forget?"

"Well, I know I have never seen one there but I thought you might have one in the bedroom. Why don't you have one?"

"Daddy and Mother say it causes bad dreams. If we see people killed all the time it makes us think it is not so bad. The Bible says, 'I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes.' It puts evil thoughts in the minds of those who watch it."

"I am going to tell my mother and daddy what the Bible says right now. Perhaps they didn't know it was wrong to watch television." M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to be obedient children of God?
2. What do you think of someone who obeys?
3. How do we become children of God?
4. What kind of nation do we belong to when we are saved?
5. Will we be afraid to stand before God in the end of the world?

When a boy or girl has a coating on his tongue that shows that his body is sick. When you use your tongue to say unkind words, that tells that your heart is sick.

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Part 18

Nov. 3

PETER TELLS ABOUT SUFFERING

1 Peter 3:13-17; 4:12-17

Peter was one of Jesus' disciples. He heard Jesus teach about suffering for good. Many years after Jesus had gone back to heaven, Peter wrote in a book about suffering for good. He tells us not to be afraid to suffer for having done that which is right. Peter said that God would bless those who suffer for the good they have done. He told us to return good for evil.

Peter tells us that a thief will suffer for stealing or taking something that does not belong to him. He might be put in jail if he is caught stealing, but he is not happy when he has to suffer for the wrong he has done. God does not bless him. If someone hit you because he thought you had done him wrong, what would you do? If you do not hit back because Jesus told you to live peaceably, you will get a blessing from God. You are suffering for good and not evil. If someone makes fun of the way you dress because you want to please God, you are suffering for good. What does our memory verse say about suffering like this? Some day we will go to heaven where we will never suffer again.

Memory Verse: If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

Jesus Makes Larry Happy

"That's mine!" Bill yelled, as he snatched his truck away from Larry.

Larry just let him have the truck and walked over and picked up a book. "You can't have that, either," said Bill as he grabbed the book. Larry sat down on the floor and reached over and picked up a block. Bill took it out of Larry's hand and stood watching Larry to see what else of his things he was going to play with. Larry sat there for a while and then he got up and sat in the rocking chair. Bill ran over and tried to hold all the things he had taken away from Larry and push Larry out of the chair all at the same time. Soon he dropped everything and began to tug at the chair. Larry got up and let him have the chair. Bill sat in it and picked up all the things he had dropped. He sat there looking at Larry. Someone else was also watching Larry. Grandmother had seen it all. She had come with Larry and his mother to visit Bill and his mother. Larry and Bill were both her grandchildren and she loved both of them. She felt sad because Bill was being so selfish with all of his playthings. She was glad to see how Larry was being so nice and kind. He had not tried to hold on to anything, but just let Bill have all of his things. She wanted Larry to know that Jesus was pleased with him. When Larry came and stood by her chair, she put her arm around him. He climbed up into Grandmother's lap. Now Bill loved his Grandmother, too. He came over and

climbed into her lap, too. She loved both of the boys.

"Bill, do you feel happy today?" asked Grandmother as she looked into his face.

"No, Larry wants all of my things." Bill said.

"Larry, are you happy today?" asked Grandmother.

"Oh yes, I'm happy!" answered Larry.

"Why are you happy?" Grandmother asked. "Bill has been very selfish and has not let you play with anything."

"Our Sunday school teacher said for us to watch and see how much we could suffer for Jesus by being nice when someone did us wrong. She said we would be happy and I have found that it is true," smiled Larry.

"Larry, I hope you will always remember to do that," Grandmother said as she gave Larry a big hug.

—M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Peter?
2. Did Peter suffer for Jesus' sake?
3. Do people suffer for doing evil?
4. Do some people suffer for doing good?
5. Does Jesus bless those who suffer for doing good?
6. Does He bless those who suffer for the evil they have done?

Happy children are those who are willing to obey their mother, father, teachers, and other grown people who know best.

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Part 19

Nov. 10

CHRISTIAN LIVING

2 Peter 1:3-11; 2 Peter 3:9-11

Peter loved God. He wanted all people to love God, too. He wrote his book in the Bible to tell us how to live to be ready to go to heaven. We need to have faith. We need to love Jesus and all people. We must desire to know more about Jesus and how He wants us to live. We should love to hear the Bible read. Peter tells us that we are not to please ourselves, but to please God.

Peter said, "God is not like man who makes a promise and does not keep it." God has told us that this old world will be burned up one of these days. Jesus will come bursting through the clouds. All who love and serve Him will be taken up in the clouds to heaven. Since we know this, we should be careful to live right and obey Jesus. He will help us to be ready. He is hoping others will get saved and be ready when He comes. He does not want anyone to go to hell. He wants to save all the boys and girls and men and women in the world. He knows that if they go to hell there is no way to get out of it. It will be terrible for those who go there. No one needs to go there for all can be saved.

Memory Verse: Be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blemish. 2 Peter 14b.

When the Hindu Girl Sang

I know that some girls do not like to wash dishes. Most little girls do not like this work. They would rather play than help Mother in the kitchen. They do not like to do other things, either, for Mother. It is like this with little girls in other countries, too.

A missionary told of a little Hindu girl in South India, who was much like you are on this line. She was seven years old, and how she did hate to take her share of the duties in the home! Some of her work was to clean the brass water jugs. The water does not run through pipes in the homes of most of the people in India as it does in yours and mine.

But one day this little girl came to the missionary and said, "Satan doesn't come very close to me if I sing all the time I am rubbing the brasses. He runs away when he hears me sing. So I sing very loud, and that drives him away. He doesn't like hymns."

This little Hindu girl had learned a secret many children, or even grown people, in America have not learned. But the Bible tells us of times when the people of the Lord praised Him, and then Satan had to go. He could do no more to harm God's people. One time the people of Israel began to sing praises to the Lord when a great army was about to fight against them. Then the Lord beat their enemies back, and they could do nothing against them.

It would be a good thing for us to do the same, when Satan comes to

tempt us, or to make us do wrong. Satan cannot stand hearing praises to the Lord. It makes him run away. He wants all the praise for himself. Next time Satan comes to tempt us, let us begin to praise the Lord, and see Satan leave us.

All of Me for Jesus

Two little eyes to look to God;
Two little ears to hear His Word;
Two little feet to walk His ways;
Two little hands, to work for Him
all my days.

One little tongue to speak His truth;
One little heart for Him in my youth;
Take them, Lord Jesus, and let them
be
Always obedient, and true to Thee.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Peter tell us how to live for God?
2. Are we to be kind and love God and others? Why?
3. Does God make promises and then break them?
4. What will happen to this old world some day?
5. Where will all those who love Jesus go?

God did not ask us to give Him our heads, our hands, nor our feet, but He wants us to give Him our hearts. The secret is that when you give Him your heart, He also has your head, hands, and feet.

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Part 20

Nov. 17

JESUS IS REAL

1 John 1:1-5; 2:1-6

Today we read what a man who saw Jesus and knew Him told us about Him. John held Jesus' hand. He touched Him and looked upon Him. John knew Jesus. He tells us that Jesus was really and truly the Son of God, but He had real flesh and bones just like we have. John heard Jesus' voice. He loved Him. He wanted all people to love Jesus, too.

John writes about light and darkness. Do you like darkness? When the light is turned on, you don't mind if it is dark outside, do you? John tells us that God is light. When we obey the Word of God we are walking in the light. Those who do evil things are in darkness. We need Jesus with us all the time so we can have light. Doing wrong things brings darkness. Jesus has to leave those who do wrong and that leaves them in darkness because He is the light. If you tell Jesus you are truly sorry you have sinned, and you will not do it again, He will come again and you will have the light with you. We must keep all the words of Jesus.

Memory Verse: We do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 1 John 2:3.

Helping Others in Danger

"Do you like that place where you are living?" Bill asked James one day as they played together on the beach.

"Oh, yes!" James replied quickly. "I help Daddy a lot. I watch to see if any ships are coming in."

"But, James, you live out on that island and it is just a big rock. No one ever comes and it must be very lonesome."

"Yes, Bill, but when I know that I am helping someone who might be in trouble, I don't mind being out there," James assured Bill. "You see, we keep the lighthouse lights on all the time and when a storm is making the waves roll high, the captain of the ship can see where he is. He can come closer and send out a call for help and we can get help to him. Daddy says we are life-savers. Daddy thinks he has the best job in the world. I think so, too."

"Well, of course it is wonderful to help others in danger," said Bill, slowly, "but I know you must get real lonesome."

"Well, yes, at times I would like to see you and all of the other boys, but we can't leave because the lights would go out and someone would be lost in the storm. You know, Bill, we went to Sunday school with our cousin and the teacher said that Jesus was the Light of the world when He was here, but after He left, He said we were to be lights. She said that He gave His light to us to carry in our hearts."

"You mean that when Jesus comes into our hearts we have a light?" asked Bill.

"Yes; isn't it wonderful that we can help others come to Jesus to be saved if we will keep that light burning just as we help others to be saved in the storm when we keep the light at the light house burning?"

"That is a wonderful idea," Bill agreed. "We sing a song which says: 'Someone far from harbor you may guide across the bar, Brighten the corner where you are!' That means to do all the nice things you can for Jesus right in your home and wherever you are. If you do that you are letting others know that you belong to Jesus and they will want to belong to Him, too."

"I guess that would be the same as carrying a light in your heart. It will help others find Jesus because that light will shine out from you," James said.

"Now that you have explained it to me, I agree with you that this would be a nice place to live." —M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Did John see Jesus?
2. Did he touch Him?
3. Did John tell us that Jesus would forgive our sins?
4. Is Jesus called Light? Why?
5. Do you like light or darkness?

"While it is said, Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." Heb. 3:15.

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Part 21

Nov. 24

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

I John 2:7-11; 3:11-18

John loved Jesus very much. John saw Jesus show His love to the sick when He was here on earth. John saw Jesus feed those who were hungry and show love to everyone. He heard Jesus say, "Love one another." After Jesus went back to heaven John wrote some letters to us. John said, "My little children, let us not love in word, but in deed and in truth." John also told us about hate. When hate comes into your heart, it chases love out. Hate and love won't live in the same heart together. We don't want hate to live in our hearts, do we?

One time there were two brothers. One was named Cain and the other named Abel. Cain offered some fruit to the Lord but God wanted a lamb offered. When Abel offered the lamb, God blessed him. This made Cain feel bad at Abel. He let hatred come into his heart. Soon his heart was full of hatred. He killed his brother. John tells us that Cain let the wicked one be his master. Cain killed his brother because Abel's works were good and his own were not. Hate is an awful thing to have on hands.

Memory Verse: A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you. John 13:34.

It Always Pays to be Kind

"Ouch! That hurts!" cried Peggy.

"Mother, Mary pulled my hair and it hurts," Peggy said, running to her house, crying. Mother heard Peggy crying so she called Mary into the house.

"What do you want?" Mary asked as she slowly walked into the house.

"I am going to punish you," Mother said. "I have told you again and again not to pull Peggy's hair. That is very naughty."

After Mary was punished, she cried and cried. Later she went back out to play. Linda was sitting in her brother's wagon under the tree. Mary went over and Linda let her sit by her. Would you like for me to tell you a story?" Linda asked Mary.

"Oh, yes!" Mary said.

"One time a little boy went to the mountains to pick some flowers for his sister's birthday. A big boy came and jerked the flowers out of the little boy's hands and stomped on them. The little boy was going to run home and tell on the big boy. The big boy picked up the little boy's white cat and held it over the cliff saying that if he didn't come back he would drop the cat over the side. About that time the cat scratched the big boy because he was not liking the way he was being held. The big boy dropped the cat and it fell into the water. It tried to climb out and the little boy tried to reach for the cat and fell over the cliff and hurt his leg. The big boy was then sorry for all he had done. He hadn't meant to really hurt the cat nor

the little boy. He had just wanted to tease. But his teasing ended up in a big injury for the little boy was made a cripple for many years."

"That big boy should get a spanking and maybe he would be nicer," Mary said as she remembered her spanking.

"Jesus wants us to be nice to others and love them. If we do a little wrong, then it will be easier to do a big wrong," Linda told Mary. "If I were you I would not be pulling Peggy's braids anymore. Jesus tells us to be like Him. He always did nice things to others when He was here."

—M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Did John hear Jesus tell others how to live right?
2. What did Jesus tell the people about love?
3. Will love and hate live in the same heart together?
4. Did Cain hate Abel?
5. What did his hatred cause him to do?
6. If you act naughty to someone are you showing your love?
7. What is the best way to show your love to someone?
8. What is the difference between love and hate?

Are you doing anything to cause someone to turn away from Jesus? This grieves the Lord.

We need not be afraid wherever we go when we know that Jessu is with us.

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Part 22

Dec. 1

JESUS CAME IN THE FLESH

1 John 4:1-6; 2 John 7-9

God made a promise to all the people. He told His prophets to tell the people that He would send Jesus, His Son, here to live in this world. God always keeps His promises. Jesus did come. God was His Father and Mary His mother. That made Jesus the Son of God and the son of Mary. Jesus had a body made of flesh just like ours. He was born a baby and laid in a manger. Jesus was seen by the shepherds and the wise men. Many saw Jesus when he was a little boy. Jesus grew up and began to teach people about God when He became a man. He told them about heaven and how to live so they could go there. Then He died on the cross, but arose from the grave. He went back to His Father in heaven. Some men said Jesus was not the Son of God. In our lesson John called these people false prophets. John said, "Don't listen to those who say Jesus is not the Christ." We know that Jesus did come. He died for our sins that we might become the children of God. Without Him we would all be lost.

Memory Verse: Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 1 John 4:2.

Darlene's Lost Bible

Darlene opened her suitcase in the motel. "Mother! My Bible is not in my suitcase!" she cried.

"Did you put it in when we left the other motel this morning?" her mother asked. "Think hard!"

"No," said Darlene. "I was reading it when you called me to go to breakfast. I laid it down on the bed and forgot to put it in."

"We will write to the motel manager," said Daddy. "I remember his name. I think he will send it to you."

Darlene and her parents came home from the vacation trip. A week later a package and a letter came for Darlene.

Darlene opened the letter. She read, "Dear Miss Moore: Here is your Bible. I know you missed it, but I am glad you left it in my motel."

"I saw you reading that Bible. I wondered why a little girl would want to read a Book like that. I decided to read some of it myself. That is a wonderful Book!"

"I read all the verses with the red lines under them. Some of the verses said that everyone has sinned. I never had thought before about my being a sinner."

"Some of the verses said Jesus came to take away sin. So I asked God to forgive my sins, for Jesus' sake. Now I am a different person. I do not want to do the bad things I used to do. I want to please God now. Thank you so much for leaving your Bible."

"Oh!" said Darlene, "I am glad I forgot my Bible this time. I know what I want to do. I will save my money instead of buying candy and ice cream. I will buy a Bible and mark it the way Grandmother marked mine. Then when we go on a trip next summer, I will leave the Bible open in one of the motel rooms where we stay. Maybe someone else will read it and be saved."

"That is a good way to work for God," said Mother. —Selected

A STRING OF BUSY BEES

Be hopeful, be cheerful, be happy, be kind. Be busy of body and busy of mind. Be earnest, be trustful, be firm and be fair. Of all misbehavior, be sure to beware. Bethink ere you stumble, of what may befall. Be true to yourself, and be faithful to all.

QUESTIONS:

1. Does God keep His promises?
2. Did He send His Son to this world?
3. Were there some people who would not believe that He was the Christ?
4. Did John tell us to believe them?
5. What are those men called who say that Jesus is not the Christ?

It is very important to love your neighbors.

Some day Jesus will give a crown to those who have won others to Him.

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Part 23

Dec. 8

JOHN WRITES TO THE CHURCHES

Revelation 1:9-11; 3:7-13

John was called the beloved disciple because he loved Jesus with all his heart. He knew that He was the Son of God. He was sure that He was the Saviour of the world. After Jesus went back to heaven, John told others about Jesus. Some tried to stop him from talking about Jesus. John wanted others to know that He truly was the promised King who was to come. He saw Jesus die on the cross and then come alive from the grave. Some people liked to hear about Jesus, but some didn't like to hear about Him. The ruler became afraid. He put John on a very small island named Patmos. One Sunday John was praying and God spoke to him. It sounded like a trumpet. The voice said, "I am the First and the Last." John listened. God said, "Write what you hear and see. Send the letter to the seven churches of Asia." John saw many things which he wrote. We can read it in the book of Revelation. He told one church that He was pleased because they loved Him and He would keep them in the time of trouble. That same promise is for us if we love Him and do what He tells us.

Memory Verse: Let us love one another: for love is of God.
1 John 4:7.

Jesus' Helpers

Here is a game for Sunday school children. Have the children close both hands and say this verse:

"My hands are Jesus' helpers,
They help me now to say
How many ways I show my love,
As I serve Him day by day."

Then everyone tries to think of different ways hands can serve Jesus. Each time someone tells a way, the children raise one of their fingers. This continues until all ten fingers have been raised.

The Lonely Road

The night was dark. The road was lonely. Johnny was afraid.

That afternoon Johnny had gone to town. It was late when he started home. Now he had to walk several miles alone on the dark, lonely road.

The wind blew in the trees. It sounded to Johnny like someone crying. A rabbit hopped across the road. Johnny thought the rabbit was a bear. How scared he was!

Suddenly Johnny heard a cheerful voice calling him. It was his father's voice. Johnny's father was the strongest and bravest man he knew. Joyfully Johnny called out, "Here I am, Father."

In a moment Johnny's father reached him. He said, "Johnny, this is a dark night, so I came to walk home with you."

Johnny was not afraid when his father walked with him.

Sometimes our way is dark and lonely. We should not be afraid. God is with us. He says, "Fear not; I am with thee." —Sel.

A FRIEND OF JESUS

To be a friend of Jesus,
I help and share each day,
I must make others happy
By what I do and say.

It is not always easy,
A friend of His to be,
But Jesus knows I love Him,
And He gives His help to me.

FILL IN THE SPACES

"If a man _____ me, he will _____ my words: and my Father will _____ him, and we will _____ unto him, and make our _____ with him." (John 14:23).

QUESTIONS:

1. Did John see Jesus go back to heaven?
2. Did he enjoy telling others about Jesus?
3. How did John get to the island of Patmos?
4. Did God talk to him there?
5. What book of the Bible contains the things John saw on the island?

Saved boys and girls will have peace and be gentle and kind.

God will be with you on the school bus and at school just as He is at home.

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Part 24

Dec. 15

WHAT JOHN SAW

Revelation 7:9-17

John was wide awake when God let him see some wonderful things. He let John see things that were to come. He wrote it all down in a book in the Bible. John saw Jesus Christ on a throne. Many beautiful angels were around Him. John looked past the throne and there were thousands and thousands of people. There were boys and girls, men and women, from all nations dressed in white robes. The white robes showed that each one loved Jesus and did not have any black sin in their hearts. John listened. All the people were shouting and praising God. They loved Him for taking all their sins away. The angels were bowing and saying, "Glory and thanksgiving to God forever."

Someone told John that those who were in heaven would never be hungry again. They would never be thirsty. Jesus would take good care of them. And Jesus would wipe all the tears from their eyes. Isn't that wonderful! Everyone is happy in heaven. There is no darkness in heaven. No one will suffer from pain of any kind in heaven. Let us all live for God so we can go there.

Memory Verse: Thanksgiving, and honour . . . be unto our God for ever and ever. Revelation 7:12.

A True Story

When Alice Marie was five years old, she became very sick. The Christian doctor said to Alice Marie's father, "Your little girl won't get well unless Jesus heals her. Shall we pray and ask Him to heal her?"

Alice Marie's father was a minister. He believed that Jesus could heal his little girl. He said, "Yes, let us pray."

The father and the doctor prayed together. The father said, "Dear Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician. Long ago when You were on earth, You healed many sick people. Please heal Alice Marie and make her well."

Jesus answered the prayer. He healed Alice Marie. Now Alice Marie is grown-up. She still thanks Jesus for making her well.

Telling Others

One time a man laid a piece of cake on a table. Then he put an ant on the table, near the cake. The ant went to the cake. Then he went to the edge of the table and ran down the table leg. In a moment he found some other ants. He must have told them about the cake because they followed him. He went back to the table and led them up to the leg of the table to the cake.

God wants us to lead others to Jesus. We should tell our friends about the Saviour.

AT THE WELL

To Jacob's well, a woman came,
Where Jesus sat to rest,
"Give Me to drink," He said to her,
As though He were her guest.

And though a stranger she was to Him

He did not think it odd
To talk to her and tell her of
The wonderful gift of God.

FILL IN THE LINES

Use these words: SEE BLIND
"One thing I know, that, whereas
I was _____, now I _____."
(John 9:25.)

TIME TO SPARE

There is always time to find
Ways of being sweet and kind;
Time to send the frowns away,
Time a gentle word to say;
Time for helpfulness, and time
To help the weak to climb,
But there is no time to spare
For unkindness, anywhere.

QUESTIONS:

1. Was John asleep when he had the dream or vision?
2. Did he see Jesus sitting on a throne?
3. Could anyone number the people who were before Him?
4. What kind of robes did the people have on?
5. Will God wipe away all our tears in heaven?

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 19, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1968

Part 25

Dec. 22

JESUS OUR SAVIOUR

1 John 1:1; Luke 2:25-39

Simeon loved God. The Holy Spirit let Simeon know that he would not die until he saw Jesus. One day he felt led by the Spirit to go into the temple. Just as he went in he saw Mary and Joseph coming with the baby Jesus. He knew right then by the Spirit that Jesus was the promised Saviour of the world. He walked over and took Him in His arms. He blessed God and said, "Now let me depart in peace. My eyes have seen Jesus who came to bring salvation to the Jews and the Gentiles. He is a light to them so they will know how to get to heaven." Mary and Joseph looked on and wondered about it all. There was also a prophetess named Anna who lived in the temple. She served the Lord night and day with much prayer and fastings. She came in at that moment. She gave thanks to the Lord for Jesus who was to bring redemption to Israel. She told everyone she saw about Jesus. She had been waiting for Him to come and was so glad to be able to tell the people that He had come at last! Have you ever waited a long time for something to happen? Then you know how she felt.

Memory Verse: The word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory. John 1:14a.

Poor Rich Boy

One Saturday morning, Danny stood watching Sam ride his new bicycle. It was beautiful! Danny felt so bad because he didn't get a bicycle that he cried.

"Danny," his mother asked; "what is the matter? You look so unhappy."

"Nothing," Danny said.

"Do you still feel bad because you did not get a bicycle?"

"I guess so. I prayed every night that I would get a bicycle and I did not get one. Sam didn't pray and he got one. Why?"

Mother frowned. "Danny, Sam's folks have lots of money and they are able to buy a bicycle. Your daddy has been sick and out of work, and we had no money to buy you one."

Danny went out front and watched Sam as he rode by. This time Sam stopped to talk to Danny. "Would you like to ride my bicycle?" he asked.

"I sure would," Danny said.

"How about coming over to my house to play?" Sam asked.

"I'll go ask my mother," Danny said.

The two boys rode Sam's bicycle all morning. When it was dinner time Danny said, "I must go home now."

"Stay for dinner," Sam's mother said. "I'll phone your mother. It will be all right."

"It isn't fair," Danny thought. "Why was I born in a poor family? Sam has all the fun."

When they sat down to eat, Danny bowed his head to pray. No one else did.

"Sam, why don't you go to Sunday school with me next Sunday?" Danny asked.

"We don't go to church," Sam's mother said.

"Don't you ever pray or read your Bible?" Danny asked.

"Of course not," Sam said. "We don't have a Bible and we don't pray."

As soon as Danny was through eating he said, "I think I'll go home. Thanks for everything. I've had a nice time."

Danny hurried home. He ran in the house calling, "Mom! Mom!"

"Oh, you came home?" his mother said. "I was afraid you wouldn't want to ever come home again after being at Sam's house."

"Oh, Mom, I am so glad I was born here and not at Sam's house."

"Why, Danny?"

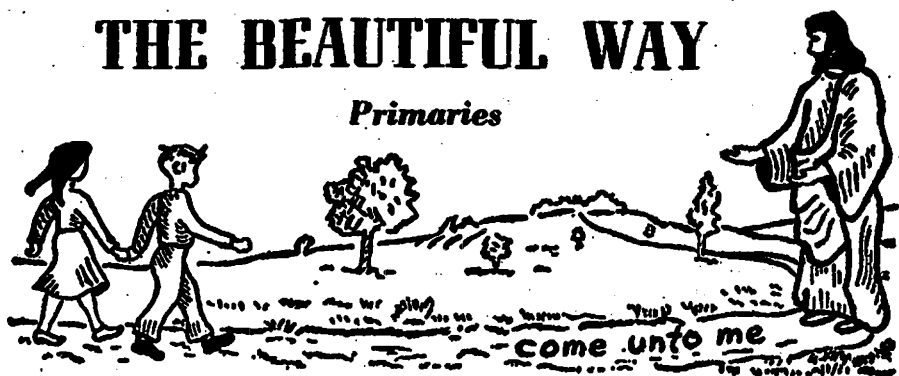
"Well, Mom, Sam does have lots of toys. But he and his family don't have Jesus or a Bible. And they never go to Sunday school. I would rather have Jesus than lots of money and toys."

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Joseph and Mary take the baby Jesus?
2. What was the name of the man who saw them?
3. How did he know that Jesus was the Saviour of the world?
4. What was the name of the prophetess who came in at that time?
5. Did she tell everyone that the Saviour had come?

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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Part 26

Dec. 29

THE NEW JERUSALEM

Revelation 21:3-8; 22-27; 22:17

God talked to John on the island of Patmos. He wrote it down for us to read. God showed him a beautiful city. Its name was the New Jerusalem. God was right in the midst of that city. He wanted to be with His people. All is happiness in that city. God wiped away all tears. There is no sin in that city. The devil can't get into that city. All is pure and holy there.

Jesus is still sitting on the throne and He told John to write down what he saw. Jesus said, "I am the beginning and the ending and all I say is true." All can drink of that big fountain in the city and will never be thirsty.

Now the voice told about the wicked. They can't go to that city. All those who tell lies will be cast into a big lake of fire. It will burn forever and ever.

God will be in that big city and there will not be a moon nor the sun because God and Jesus will be the light in that city. All whose names are written in the Book of Life will be in that city. The gates will never be shut because there will be no night there.

Memory Verse: I will be his God and he shall be my son.
Revelation 21:7b.

The Wooden Man

Dick looked out of the window. He saw soft white snowflakes falling. And down there in front of the drug-store, Dick saw the Wooden Man with his hand pointing toward the big glass door of the store.

Mother called, "Dick, I want you to go to the store for me."

"I don't want to go. I'm afraid."

Mother was surprised. "Why?"

"They put that Wooden Man there, and he always looks at me!"

"Oh!" said his mother, "that Wooden Man won't hurt you. He's not real. He's just there to make people stop and look. When people see his hand pointing toward the door of the store they might go inside to buy something. I like the Wooden Man."

Dick shook his head. "I don't! He looks at me. He might grab me."

Then Mother reminded Dick that God helps people when they want Him to help them. "Jesus will go with you. He can help you not to be afraid."

Dick started toward the store. He kept looking at the Wooden Man. And then, suddenly he saw that the Wooden Man was not looking at him. Snowflakes had lightly covered the Wooden Man all over with a soft white blanket. Even his eyes were covered. He couldn't see anything!

Suddenly Dick felt sorry for the Wooden Man. He didn't feel afraid any more. He walked right up to the Wooden Man. He reached up on tiptoes and brushed the snow from the Wooden Man's head and eyes and face. "There, Wooden Man!" he said, "now you can see again!"

And to Dick's surprise, the Wooden Man's eyes seemed friendly and kind.

Dick ran into the store. He gave Mother's note and money to the clerk. The clerk gave some change and a package to Dick. Then Dick ran out the door, waved good-bye to the Wooden Man, and ran home.

"You know what, Mother? I wiped the snow from the Wooden Man's face. And now he likes me, I think. I'm not afraid of him anymore."

Mother said, "I knew God could help you."

Then Dick went to the window to watch the cars and the snow and the Wooden Man by the store.

SOLDIER'S ARMOR

Boys and girls who have come on the Lord's side and become Christians are enlisted to be soldiers of the Christ. The soldier is promised the whole armor of God and the Sword of the Spirit. The whole armor is for the soldier's protection. The only piece the soldier has for attacking the enemy is the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. Are you fully clothed with the whole armor of God? (See Ephesians 6:10-18.)

QUESTIONS:

1. Did John write many things God showed him?
2. Did he tell us about a beautiful city?
3. What did he call the beautiful city?
4. Will those who tell lies go to the city?
5. Will God wipe away all our tears?