

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 13    Jan. 7, 1990

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## THE MIGHTY WORD OF GOD

There was a time when there was no world at all. There was no sun to shine, nor moon, no blue sky above, or ground below. Instead of the world as we know it, there was nothing but great darkness. But even then God was there.

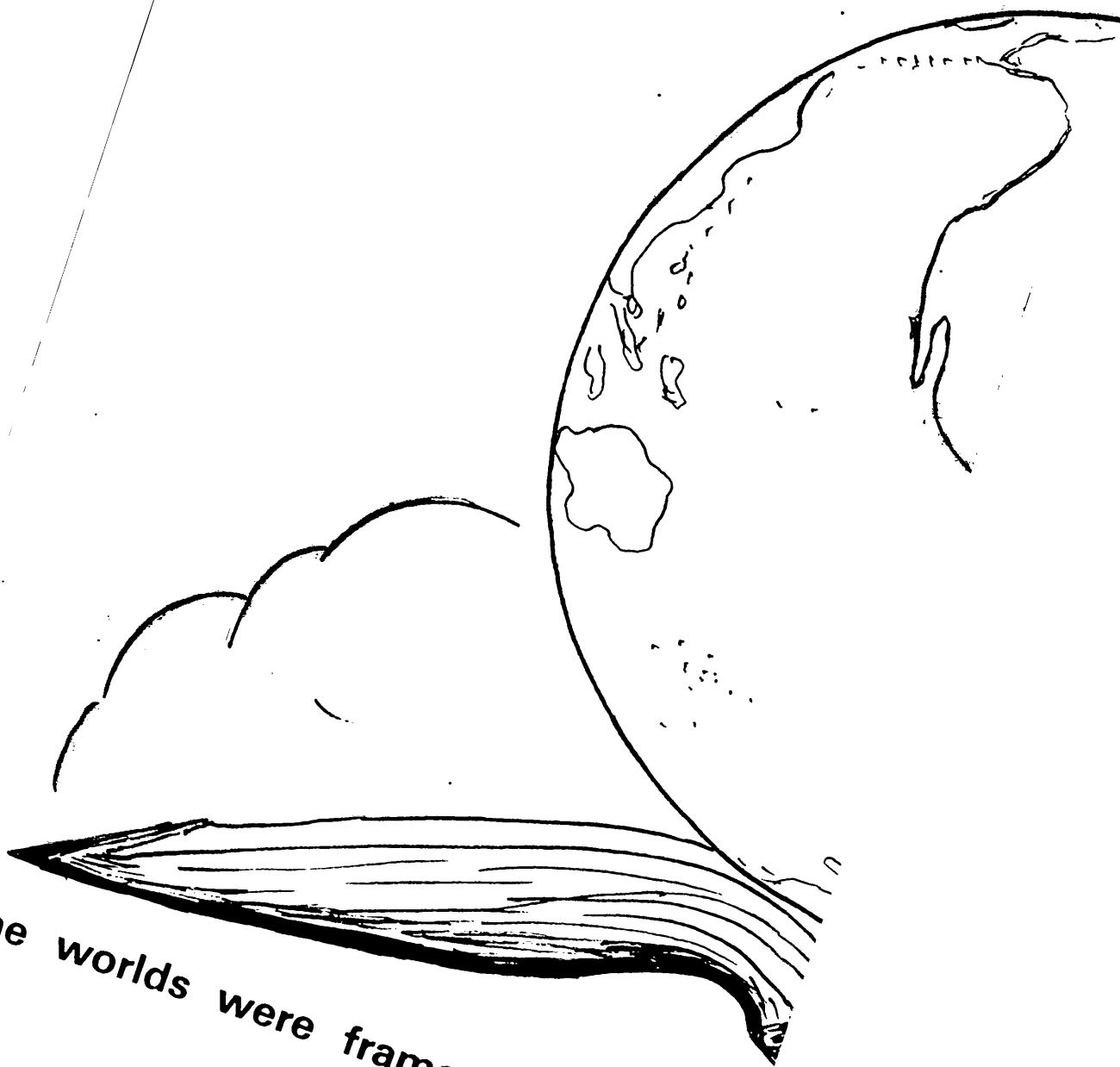
In the very first verse of the first book in the Bible, Genesis, we are told that God created the heaven and the earth. We know how long it takes men to do big jobs and make any big changes. But God created the day and night, heaven and earth, all the plants, the sun and moon, the great oceans and high mountains, fish to swim in the oceans, birds to fly through the air and every kind of animal to roam in the fields. Last of all He created man in His own image. And how long did it take God to do all of this? Only six days! You see, God only had to speak and it was done.

In our Bible, Apostle Peter wrote to remind everyone that by His Word God had created the world in the beginning. He warned that God's Word also said that He would destroy the earth when Jesus comes again to judge the world. Even then, people refused to believe that the earth would ever be destroyed.

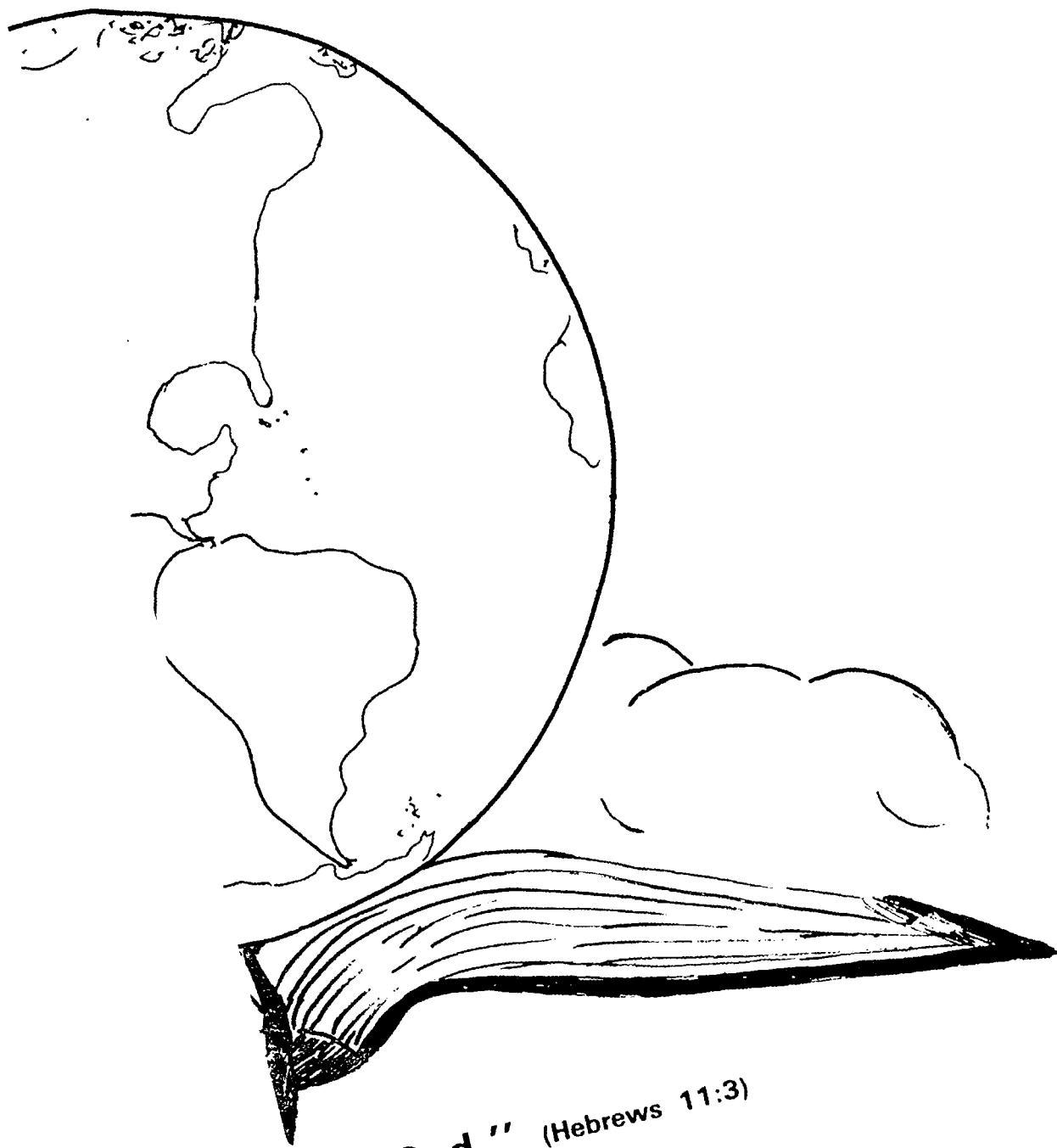
Peter reminded them how God had destroyed every living creature except those that were in the ark. For many years Noah had warned that the earth would be destroyed by a great flood but men never believed it would happen.

By the mighty Word of God the world was created, and by the great power of His Word it will suddenly be destroyed. God has warned us before it happens. He wants everyone to be saved so He sent Jesus to save us.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"The worlds were framed by the wo



of God." (Hebrews 11:3)

# God Speaks Into Being



"Well, Billy," said Daddy as he looked over at his son who was sitting beside him in the car, "you have been very quiet ever since we left the chapel. What is on your mind?"

Billy grinned at his daddy but he was thoughtful when he answered. "I'm going to learn to talk just a little bit, but when I speak, I want it to really count!"

"Oh," said Daddy as he smiled back at Billy. "Did your Sunday school teacher tell you that you needed to talk less and think more?"

"No," replied Billy, "but it was in Sunday school when I decided to not talk so much any more. You see, Daddy, that's the way God is. He doesn't talk very much at all but what He does say really counts. Wouldn't it be something to say, 'Earth, where are you?' and P—O—O—F! there was a round earth like one of my rubber balls I play hide-n-seek with. In the beginning, God just spoke Words and everything obeyed Him. He just said what He needed and there it was!"

"So you are going to do like that also?" asked Daddy. "Well, it is alright to be like God but you can never expect to have power like God has. Like you said, when God speaks even the wind, oceans,—all nature—obeys His voice. The sun and moon are still where God told them to be thousands of years ago when He spoke everything into being. Someday God will speak again to the earth, sun, and moon, and everything will come to an end."

"I know," said Billy. "I want to learn more about what God's voice sounds like so I will be God's friend and go to heaven with Him someday."

"Yes, Billy, me too. Me too," replied Daddy thoughtfully. "Perhaps I ought to do like you plan to do—talk less but really make each word count. God the Father, and Jesus the Son certainly set that kind of an example before us. Jesus always spoke only the right Words at the right time, and that pleased God. His Father."

"Well, Daddy, you're my father," said Billy slowly, "and since I'm your son, we could follow God the Father, and Jesus the Son, and talk just like they do."

"You mean, don't talk much like they don't talk much," said Daddy. "We could make it a game and keep score on each other for awhile, but you know when the father gives a command, the son must obey. Jesus said He did only the will of His Father who was up in heaven. God spoke the earth into being, but someday soon He will tell Jesus to come and end time on earth. Everything will be destroyed by fire."

"That's why I want to know God's voice right now," said Billy. "Then when He speaks the day Jesus comes, I will be ready to go to heaven with Him."

When Daddy and Billy came home from church that day, they felt the warm bond of love that only God can speak into being. —Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. Before there was a world, what was there?
2. Who was living even before there was a world?
3. Who created the heaven and the earth?
4. Where do we read about the beginning of the world?
5. How long did it take God to create the whole world?
6. Who did God create in His own image?
7. When were all but a few living creatures destroyed?
8. Who warned us that God will again destroy the earth?
9. Why did God send Jesus?



(Answers: 1. Nothing but great darkness. 2. God. 3. God and Jesus. 4. In the book of Genesis. 5. Six days. 6. Man. 7. In the flood. 8. Peter. 9. To save us, because He wants everyone to be saved.)



Lesson Texts: II Peter 3:1-10; Hebrews 11:3; Col. 1:16-17; Rev. 10:6.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## THOSE FIRST FIVE DAYS

We have studied how God, by His Word, created the whole world. By reading the first chapter of Genesis, we can learn the order in which the world was created day by day.

At the beginning there was nothing but great darkness everywhere. On that first day of time, God commanded, "Let there be light!" and there was light. God saw the light was good so He divided the light from the darkness. He called the light, day, and He called the darkness, night.

On the second day God made the beautiful blue sky above us. In it He placed the billowy white clouds to carry the moisture. He called the sky the heavens.

Next, God gathered the waters together and separated them from the dry land. He called the dry land earth and the waters He called seas. On the land He caused grass, trees and plants to grow to make it beautiful. This was the third day.

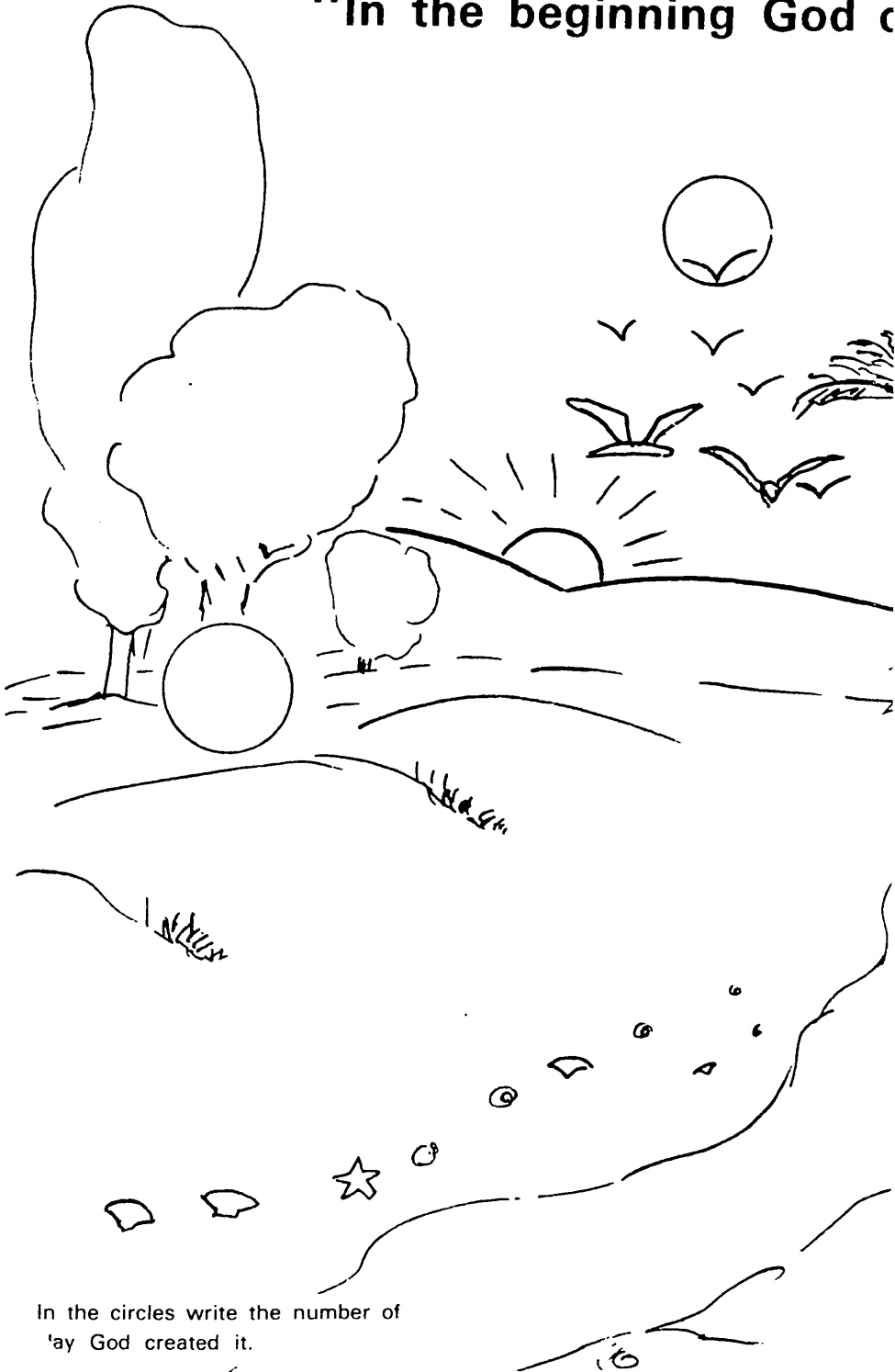
God saw that all His work was good, but He had more He wanted to do. On the fourth day God made the sun to rule over the day and the moon to rule the night. Even the many twinkling stars were placed in the sky by God's hand that day.

It was on the fifth day that God began to create living creatures. He made all kinds of fish to swim in the waters and the many kinds of birds to fly about in the sky above.

In only five days, God had made the world out of nothing and made the earth a beautiful place to live. It is important for us to know that it was God who created the entire world by His divine power.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"In the beginning God c



In the circles write the number of  
day God created it.

ated the heaven and the earth."

Genesis 1:1



## Together Both Are Right

Jason and Thomas went to the shop where their daddy was busy making a doghouse for Fido. The two brothers had a question they wanted to ask him.

"Hi, boys," he said. "I could use some help here with the building of this doghouse. Jason, would you please hold the wood still while Thomas and I mark it and then saw off the extra piece?"

Jason obeyed Daddy while Thomas popped the chalk line that Daddy stretched across the wood for a cutting mark.

"Now, boys, how was that?" Daddy asked with a smile as he turned off the saw.

"Very good!" said Jason. "Now, Daddy, we have an important question we want to ask you. Who made our house? Did you and some men build our house? Thomas says that God made everything we see, so God made our house, but I thought you said that you and some men built our house."

Daddy looked up into the face of each boy before he answered. "Together, both of your answers are right," he replied. "In the beginning, on day number three, God created grass, plants, and trees. Then on day number six, God made a man called Adam. God made Adam the ruler over all the plants, trees, and animals. Then as time passed by, Adam and his children began to use the wood from the trees that God made to build boats, carts, and houses."

"See," said Thomas. "God made the trees that make wood so He made the house—and He even made the men who built the house!"

"But God didn't come down here to our yard and put wood and nails together to build our house," insisted Jason. "Daddy built the house!"

"Boys," said Daddy. "notice how you are using two different verbs. Jason says that Daddy **built** the house and Thomas says that God **made** the house. All the materials in the house come from the earth that God made so God **made** the things in the house but it

was men who made God's materials useful in becoming a house. Some men and I took wood from trees and we sawed and hammered that wood until it became a useful frame for our house. God gave me and you the power to think and to use carefully the many plants, trees, and flowers, and all animals as we can best supply our needs. We must take good care of the earth. Never, never throw paper and candy wrappers or any litter on the ground or in water. It makes the earth ugly and we are not taking care of the earth as God wants us to. Also, never, never, start a fire with a match. Fire can really destroy the beautiful earth that God made."

"We don't want to destroy the earth," said Jason who was understanding now what Daddy was saying. We want to help you build things with the wood from the trees that God made."

"Good!" said Daddy. "I could use some more of your help with this doghouse. Together, we can get it finished before tonight." —Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Where can we read about the creation of the world?
2. What did God command on the first day of time?
3. When He divided the light from darkness, what did God call the light?
4. What did He call darkness?
5. On the second day, what did God create?
6. On what day did God make the earth, seas and green plants?
7. What did God make on the fourth day?
8. When did God begin to create living creatures?
9. What is important for us to know?

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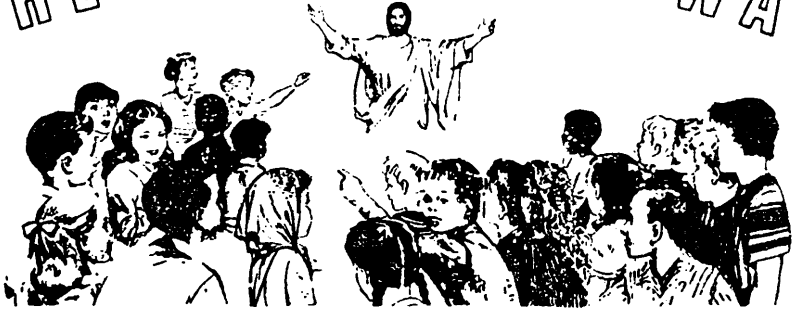
(Answers: 1. In Genesis. 2. "Let there be light." 3. Day. 4. Night. 5. The heavens. 6. On the third day. 7. The sun, moon, and stars. 8. On the fifth day. 9. That it was God who created the entire world.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 1:1-7, 9, 11-13, 16-17, 19-21, 23.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## GOD MAKES ANIMALS AND MAN

During the first five days of creation, God had created a beautiful world with living plants and creatures where there had been only great darkness.

On the sixth day God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing and beast of the earth after his kind." Now there were cattle grazing in the lush green fields and animals of every sort roaming the earth. God looked over all that He had made and saw that it was good.

However, God was not yet finished with creation. He planned to have people to live on the beautiful earth He had made. He said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." Man could enjoy the beauties of all that God had created and would love and worship Him, knowing He had made all these things. This man would care for the earth and all the animals.

Although man was created on the same day as the animals were, his creation was a very special act of God. Out of the dust of the earth He made the body, then He breathed into that body the breath of life. Man became a living soul. God called the first man Adam. God brought all the living creatures before Adam to see what he would call them.

Now Adam needed someone to help him. God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." So God made Adam a wife. Adam called his wife Eve.

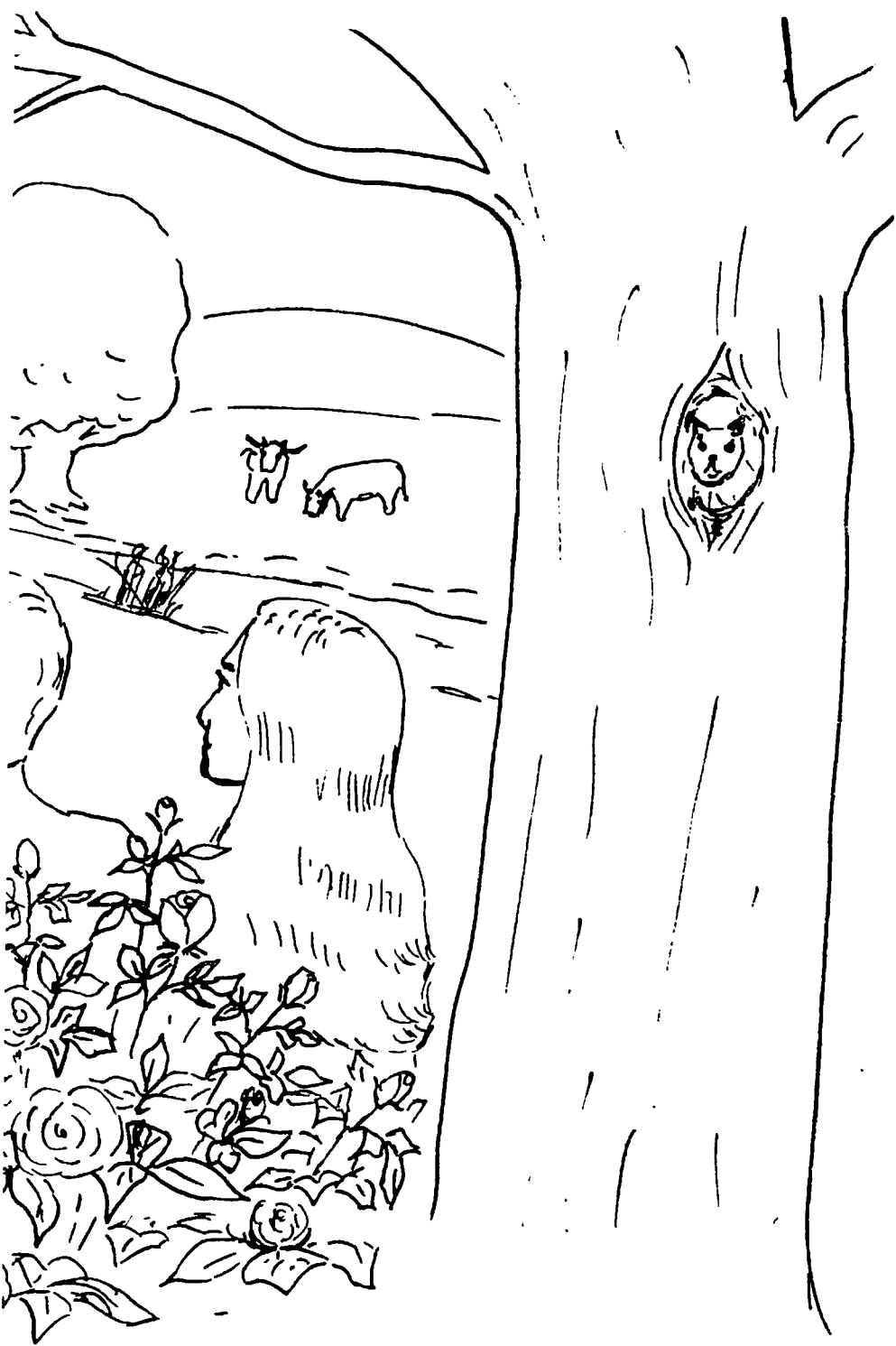
This was the end of the sixth day and God had finished His great work. God saw that everything He had made was very good.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“What is man that thou  
art mindful of him?”**

(Hebrews 2:6)





## Lesson In The Milk Barn

Terry watched Grandpa in the milk barn as he put milkers on the cow. The black and white cow stood patiently giving her milk as she ate feed and looked around at Terry and Grandpa.

"Grandpa," Terry asked, "why do we get milk from cows and not from horses?"

Grandpa smiled. "Each animal has its proper place, Terry," he replied. "Why do chickens lay eggs and not pigs?"

Terry laughed at that thought. "I know," he said, "because a fat pig would squash the egg as soon as it was laid!"

Grandpa laughed with Terry and then he let one line of cows out of the milk barn and let in another line of cows before he said any more.

"When we look at each animal and its place on the earth, we realize how great and wise God must be!" Grandpa told Terry. "God made each animal complete the very first day He made them."

"God made Adam, the very first man, that day also, didn't he, Grandpa?" asked Terry. "I would like to have been Adam so I could have named every animal!"

"That was a big job for Adam!" Grandpa let Terry know. "After awhile he realized he needed help, so God made Eve, a woman, and gave her to Adam for a helper. Adam and Eve were husband and wife forever and ever then, like God planned them to be."

"They didn't have divorces back in those days, did they, Grandpa?" Terry asked very seriously.

"No, oh, no," Grandpa replied as he shook his head. "God planned for a husband and wife to stay married just like He planned for a chicken to lay eggs instead of a pig. In the beginning, God planned marriages to last, and He wants it to stay that way. When husbands and wives disobey God's plans, they are unhappy and get into heart-aches and troubles. Remember, Terry,

that God planned for you to have only one living wife at a time—only one."

"Ah, Grandpa, I'm not going to get married," grinned Terry.

"Don't worry about those things now," Grandpa said as he squeezed Terry's shoulder. "You just live faithfully for God. Someday He will give you a wife just like He did Adam. Marriage is a wonderful thing when lived by the Bible."

Terry was quiet for awhile as he thought about what Grandpa said. Then he had to ask another question.

"Grandpa, if you were any animal, what one would you want to be?"

Again Grandpa smiled and then he let in a new line of cows to be milked before he said, "I believe I want to stay a human being, Terry. That's what I was made in the very beginning, and the plan of God is perfect. Animals don't change from what they were made to do, and we shouldn't either. We will be the happiest if we always obey God and stay in His plan for our lives."

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. What did God first create on the sixth day?
2. What did God create next?
3. Whose image and likeness was man made after?
4. Who would man love and worship?
5. Who would care for the earth and all the animals?
6. What did God call the first man?
7. Who gave Eve her name?
8. On what day did God finish the creation?
9. When God finished His great work, what did He see?

★★★★★★

made was very good.)  
the sixth day. 9. That everything He had  
4. God. 5. Man. 6. Adam. 7. Adam. 8. On  
and beasts. 2. He created man. 3. God's.  
(Answers: 1. Cattle, creeping things.



Lesson Texts: Gen. 1:24-26, 31; 2:1-2, 7, 18-24.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## SOME CHANGES ON EARTH

Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden called Eden. God had given them everything to make them happy. All that they knew was good. There was no sickness, nor wrong, nor sadness. In the cool of the evenings God would come into the garden and walk and talk with Adam and Eve!

God had planted a wonderful tree in the Garden of Eden. It was called the tree of life. Whoever ate the fruit of this tree would live forever. Another tree that grew in the garden was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit of this tree or they would surely die.

One day the serpent asked Eve, "Did God tell you that you should not eat of every tree of the garden?"

Eve answered, "We may eat the fruit of every tree except of the tree of knowledge of good and evil because God said if we eat of it we will surely die."

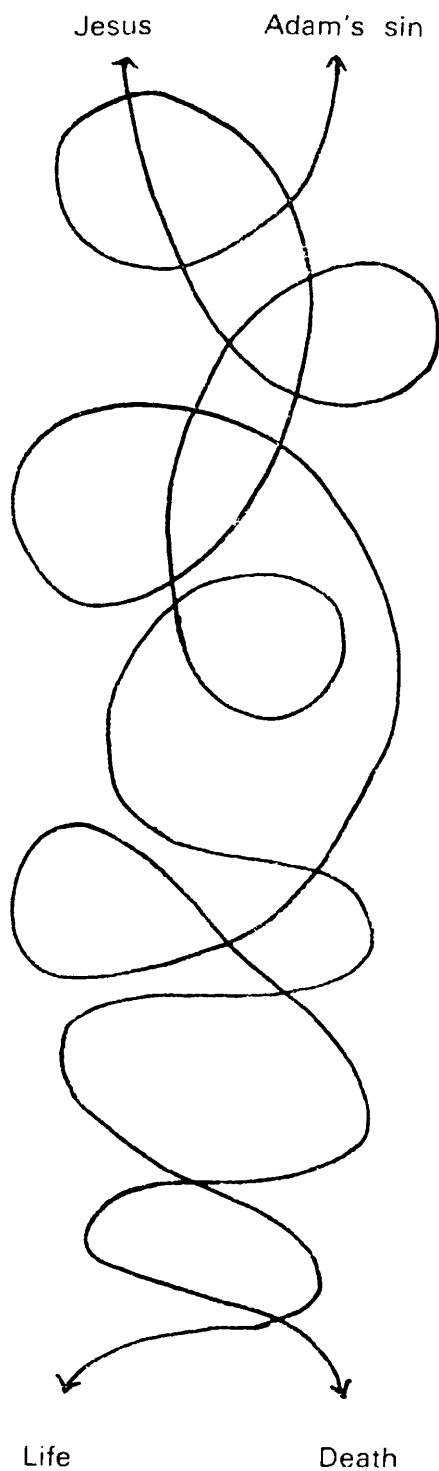
"You won't die," the serpent said. "God knows that if you eat fruit from this tree you will become as gods, knowing good and evil."

Eve looked at the fruit. It looked so good, and it would make her wise, too! Reaching up, she picked the fruit and tasted it. Then she gave some to Adam and he ate some too.

At once, Adam and Eve both knew they had disobeyed God. Their hearts had become wicked.

Terrible changes came on the earth because Adam and Eve sinned. They would have sadness, pain and trouble all their lives because they disobeyed.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

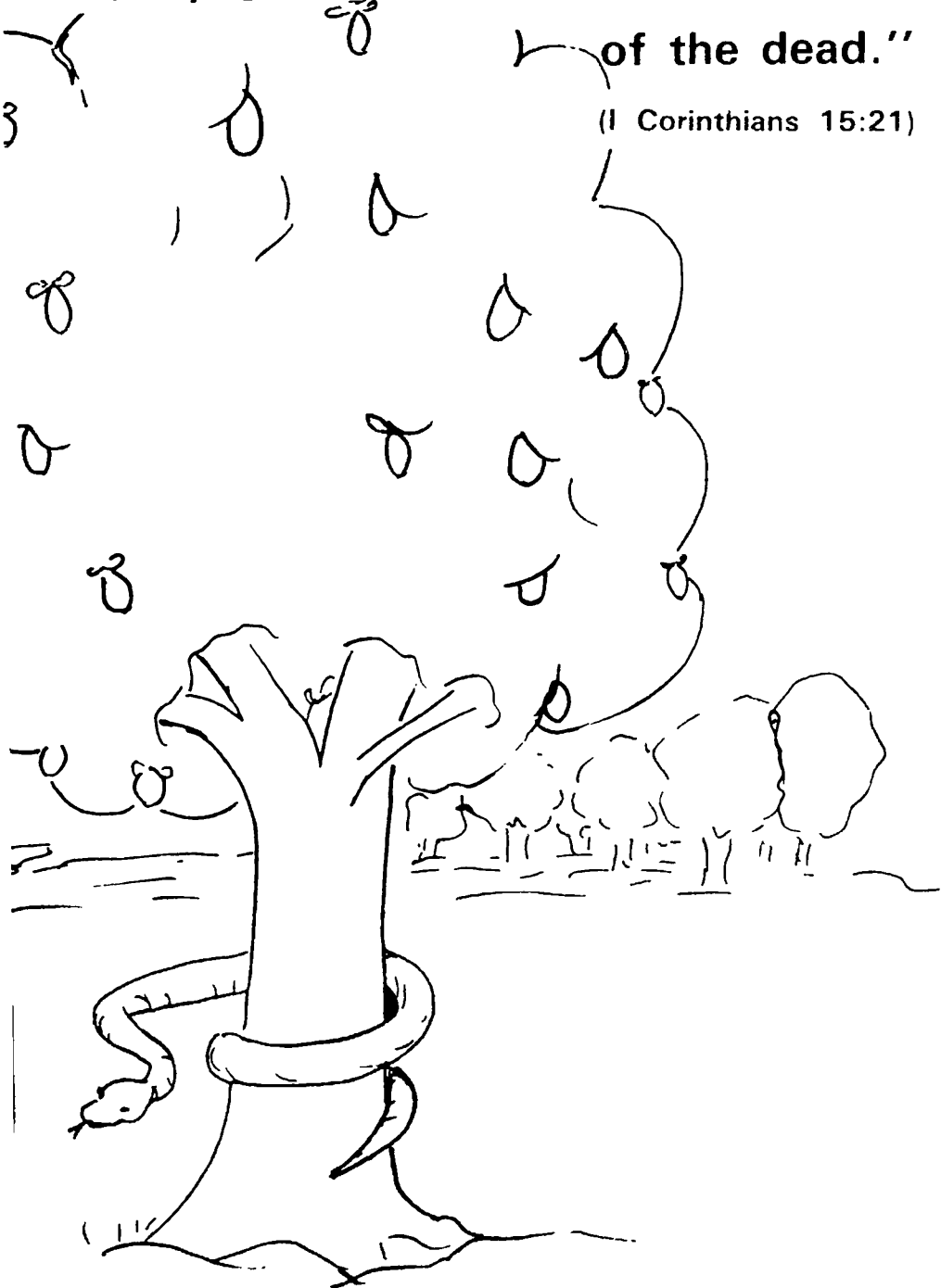


**“By man came**



leath, by [Jesus] came the resurrection  
of the dead."

(I Corinthians 15:21)



## Two Voices

The evening was cold and icy on the outside, but inside the Murry home, it was warm and pleasant. The Murry's had company visiting them. It was the Sherman family. Both families were very good friends with each other.

Joe Murry was in his bedroom trying to show Jeff Sherman some of his favorite cars and toys. "Let's play cars!" said Joe, and Jeff decided that would be nice! Joe Murry had so many nice cars! Jeff did not have nearly so many, but he didn't care until a selfish, squeaky voice began talking within Jeff.

"Joe has so many cars and you don't have this many," said the squeaky voice. "Why don't you take some of Joe's cars and put them with yours so you will have more."

Jeff put one of Joe's cars into his pocket. Jeff did obey that squeaky voice which really was the devil speaking to Jeff and causing him to take something that was not his. The two boys went on playing together, but for some reason Jeff did not feel as comfortable with Joe as he had felt before he put that car into his pocket. Now another voice spoke to Jeff and this voice was kind but very firm in commanding Jeff to "Take that car out of your pocket and give it back to Joe. You never, for any reason, take something that is not yours."

That second voice really made Jeff feel badly. He knew it was true—he should never have taken that car and put it into his pocket. Jeff put his hand into his pocket and felt of the car inside. He was just ready to take the car out and put it beside the rest of Joe's cars when that first squeaky voice spoke again to Jeff.

"One car doesn't mean that much to Joe. He doesn't know how many cars he has, and one car will really make you have more cars. Keep the car."

Once again, Jeff obeyed that squeaky voice which was the devil talking. Soon Joe invited Jeff to come eat some cake and ice cream with the families in the kitchen. While they were eating, Joe's

mother said, "Jeff, you are such a good boy! I am so glad that Joe can play with such an honest friend like you."

Jeff could hardly eat the piece of cake because now his heart was feeling very sad. Mrs. Murry thought he was an honest boy and she trusted him, but there he sat with one of Joe's cars in his pocket. Again the still, firm voice spoke to Jeff. "When you take even one thing that is not yours, you are stealing. That is not honest."

As soon as Jeff was finished eating, he washed his hands and hurried back to Joe's bedroom where they had the cars lined. Quietly, when Joe was not looking, Jeff took the car out of his pocket and put it back with the rest of Joe's cars. Then Jeff felt a nice warm feeling glow in his heart and he was so glad that he had obeyed that last voice, which was the voice of God.

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Where did Adam and Eve live?
2. Who walked and talked with them in the cool of the evening?
3. What would happen if someone ate the fruit of the tree of life?
4. What tree should Adam and Eve not eat the fruit of?
5. Who talked with Eve in the garden one day?
6. Who picked the fruit and ate of it first?
7. Why were Adam and Eve afraid to meet God?
8. What happened to Adam and Eve's hearts?
9. Why did terrible things come on the earth?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. In the Garden of Eden. 2. God. 3. They would live forever. 4. The tree of knowledge of good and evil. 5. The serpent. 6. Eve. 7. They knew they had disobeyed God. 8. They became wicked. 9. Because Adam and Eve sinned.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 3:6-13, 16-19, 21-23.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## SIN ALWAYS CAUSES TROUBLE

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they were driven from their home in the Garden of Eden. Angels with flaming swords guarded the tree of life so they could never return. Now Adam had to work hard and long to get food for Eve and himself.

One day a baby boy was born to Adam and Eve. This must have brought much happiness to them. They named him Cain. Later another baby boy was born to them and they named him Abel. As these two boys were growing up, they were interested in different things. Cain liked to farm and watch things growing in the ground. Abel enjoyed being around the animals and looking after sheep.

Adam and Eve could no longer walk and talk with God face to face as they had in the garden. Now they must worship Him by offering gifts to Him on an altar. These gifts were called sacrifices.

When Cain and Abel grew old enough to understand, Adam and Eve told them about the great God. They wanted their sons to love and please God.

One day Cain and Abel brought sacrifices to the Lord. Cain brought some of the fruits and vegetables he had grown in his garden. Abel brought some of the finest sheep from his flocks. God must have looked on Abel and seen his sorrow for his sins and his desire to be forgiven. God was pleased with Abel's offering.

God was not pleased with Cain's offering and this made Cain very angry. He was jealous of Abel because God accepted his sacrifice. Later when the brothers were in the field, Cain killed his brother, Abel. Sin had brought even more trouble to Adam and Eve's home.

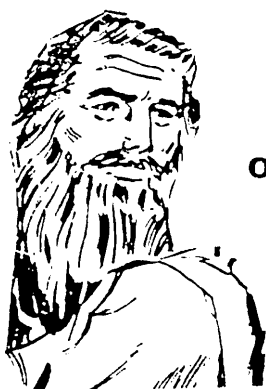
—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

# Who was the first man?

— — — —

Cross out the wrong picture.

Did he look like



or



Did the first baby look like



or



**“For the wages of sin is death; But  
the gift of God is eternal life.”**

**(Romans 6:23)**



## Two Quarters Missing

"Mother," said Debbie as she walked into the laundry room where her mother was putting a load of clothes into the washer. "Mother, someone has been in my piggy bank again and I am missing two quarters again. I just know I had two more quarters than I do now! One of the boys must be getting into my piggy bank, and that is stealing!"

"Now, now," said Mother calmly as she shut the washer lid and turned to look at Debbie who was very upset. "Don't be so hasty in accusing your three brothers of wrong doing. Are you sure the two quarters are not in your purse or coat pocket? Think and look good before you start accusing someone of stealing."

"But I already have looked good," declared Debbie, shaking her head. "I know someone was in my piggy bank because it was moved from the way I had it set. They were the two quarters Mrs. Hazel gave me for taking her the newspaper when the sidewalk was icy. I worked for those quarters!"

Mother sighed. "It would help, Debbie," she said, "if you would not be so upset. Let me ask your brothers myself and see what they say about this. Right now, you be quiet and patient and it will all go smoother. Okay?"

"Oh, all right," mumbled Debbie as she turned and walked quickly back to her bedroom.

Soon Doug came into the kitchen where Mother was now working. Mother looked up into Doug's face. "Doug," she said, "would you by chance know about two quarters Debbie is missing?"

"No," replied Doug, "why would I want her two quarters when I have my own money? I don't even go into her room anyway."

Then came Don into the kitchen and Mother asked him about the money.

"Why, is Debbie missing some money?" he asked. "She shouldn't be so careless with it."

"Don, she said it was in her piggy bank," said Mother, "and her piggy

bank had been moved. You didn't bother her piggy bank did you?"

"No," said Don shortly. "Tell her to recount her money."

Later, Dewy came into the kitchen where Mother was cooking supper. "Dewy," she said, "do you know anything about two quarters that Debbie is missing from her piggy bank?"

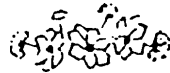
"Well," said Dewy, "if I found Debbie's two quarters, will she buy me a can of pop?"

"Dewy!" exclaimed Mother, "you don't take someone else's money without asking and then want them to buy . . ."

"But I didn't take Debbie's money!" interrupted Dewy. "I know where it is, though! It's in Don's pocket because I saw him put it there! Can I have something for finding it?"

"When Daddy comes home," said Mother, "we will tell him this story and each one will be rewarded according to his deed. Here is Daddy coming home now!"

Now, Sunday school class, you can finish this story. —Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Who guarded the tree of life?
2. What was the name of Adam and Eve's first son?
3. Who was Abel?
4. What did Cain like to do?
5. Who liked to be around animals?
6. How did Adam and Eve worship God?
7. What did Abel offer to God?
8. Whose sacrifice did God accept?
9. What did Cain do to Abel?

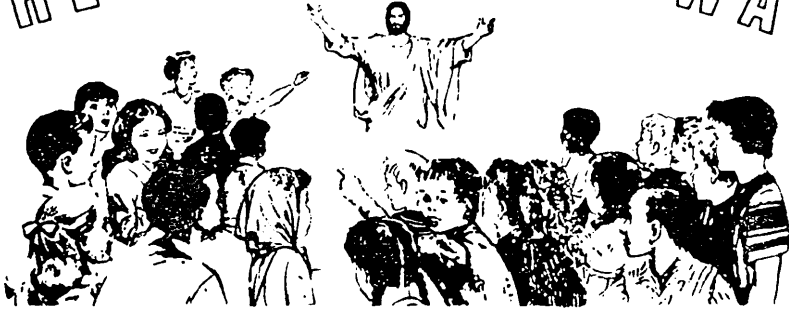
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(Answers: 1. Angels with flaming swords. 2. Cain. 3. Adam and Eve's second son. 4. To farm and watch things grow. 5. Abel. 6. By offering gifts to Him, called sacrifices. 7. Some of the finest sheep. 8. Abel's. 9. He killed him.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 4:1-12; Ezek. 14:13-14; Isa. 57:20-21; Rom. 6:23.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS559-000)    Part 18    Feb. 11, 1990

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## NOAH PREPARES THE ARK

While Adam and Eve were living so happily in the Garden of Eden, God told them of only one thing that they must not do. They could enjoy all the good fruit of every tree in the garden except one. But they disobeyed that one commandment. Their hearts became wicked and sin came into the world.

As the number of people increased on the earth, sin and wickedness also multiplied. Wickedness and evil became worse and worse until nearly all the world was evil. How sorry God was that He had made man! The people were no longer fit to live. Finally God decided the only way to get rid of sin in the world was to destroy these bad people with a great flood of water.

The Lord knew there was one good man who always tried to do right. His name was Noah. Noah had three sons and he taught them to do right and love God. The Lord wanted to save Noah, so He told him, "Build an ark. When it is finished you and your wife and your sons and their wives may go into the ark and be saved from the flood." God also planned to save a pair of each kind of living thing. These would also stay in the ark during the flood.

Noah believed God so he began building the ark. God told him just how it should be built.

As Noah worked, he tried to tell the people that a great flood was coming. Again and again Noah warned the people to repent of their sins or they would be destroyed. No one believed him and no one changed.

Although it took many years, Noah worked until the boat was finished.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Follow the dots to help  
Noah build the ark.



God saw that the wickedness of m

17



16



15 14

7 8



10 13

11 12 18

... was great [very bad]." (Genesis 6:5)

# Raphael Saw Noah's Ark

(A true story)

Wrapped in heavy clothing with a rope around his waist, eleven-year-old Raphael was climbing Mount Ararat with his father, Fernand Navarra. Mount Ararat is on the border of Turkey and Russia and it is very, very cold there most of the time.

Raphael and his father cut holes in the ice to make steps to climb on. Then sometimes they threw their ropes onto a sturdy ledge of ice and climbed up the ropes. Many times great big rolling rocks tumbled and fell, barely missing Raphael. Often he and his father would pause and pray to God for protection and thank Him for His help.

Raphael and his father at last reached the top of Mount Ararat and through the night they burned alcohol tablets to keep warm. When daylight came, they quickly ate dried fruit for breakfast. Then they moved carefully over the slick ice to a deep crack (crevice) where Raphael's father went down, down, down into the dark, icy ditch. He had a rope around his waist which Raphael held onto.

Soon Raphael called down, "Papa, have you cut off a piece of wood yet?"

At first his father didn't answer, then with tears of joy sounding in his voice, he called back, "I've found wood!"

The ship was very long and his father could only cut wood along the grain. Then he split off a piece about five feet long. The wood had been well preserved in the ice like something is kept frozen in a freezer. Raphael's father wrapped a rope around the wood then went to the top of that deep crack so he could take a picture of Raphael as he pulled the wood to the top also. The time this took place was 7 a.m., July 6, 1955.

Because the wood was so heavy and long, they had to cut it into three pieces so they could carry it down the mountain. Also, soldiers were waiting at the bottom and they would be angry that

Raphael and his father again climbed the mountain to see Noah's ark.

God protected Raphael and his father as they climbed down the mountain. At first the Turkish-Russian soldiers scolded them, but Raphael's father showed them his cameras and took their pictures so that they soon forgot to be angry.

Several wise men who know about scientific research, looked at the pieces of wood from Noah's ark. They did all kinds of tests to see what kind of wood it was, how old it was, how it had been cut, and other information. The wood is from the cypress tree which grows in Mesopotamia (Iraq), the cradle of civilization. At that time, the wood was dated 4484 years before Christ. Tests also showed that Noah had made the ark by hand with tools of stone.

In a museum in France, there is preserved in a showcase pieces of wood from the ark that Noah built.

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. While they were in the garden, how many things did God tell Adam and Eve not to do?
2. What happened to their hearts when Adam and Eve disobeyed?
3. What came into the world because they had disobeyed?
4. What did God decide to do with these bad people?
5. What man always tried to do right?
6. How many sons did Noah have?
7. What did God tell Noah to do?
8. What did Noah warn the people to do?
9. How many people believed him and changed?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

(Answers: 1. One thing. 2. They became wicked. 3. Sin. 4. To destroy them with a great flood of water. 5. Noah. 6. Three. 7. To build an ark. 8. To repent of their sins. 9. None.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 6:5-8, 10, 13-22.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 19    Feb. 18, 1990

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## THE FLOOD

Finally the ark was finished. When everything was ready, God told Noah to take into the ark his wife, his three sons, and their wives. Then God caused two of every kind of animal, bird, and creeping thing to go into the ark. Seven pairs of each kind of useful birds and animals came. When all were inside, God shut the door.

For seven days everyone in the ark waited in suspense. Then it began to rain. Great sheets of water poured down from the clouds, as though the windows of the sky had opened. The oceans began to rise over the land, and all the rivers and lakes overflowed their banks. Soon all the land was covered, and the people had to run to the mountains for safety. Still it rained. Now the people knew that Noah had told them the truth.

For forty days and nights it rained. Only Noah and his family were safe. The waters lifted the ark off the ground. Gradually, the water got lower until the ark quit floating and rested on one of the high mountains.

For more than a year Noah and those with him stayed inside the ark. Finally Noah believed it was time to uncover the ark and look out on the earth. What a beautiful sight the fresh, green earth must have been to them after being closed up so long!

God then told Noah to come out of the ark. Noah and his family were so thankful to be alive, the first thing they did was to offer a sacrifice to God. God accepted the offering and promised never again to destroy the earth with a flood.



"The Lord said, I will not again curse th



ground any more.” (Genesis 8:21)

# The Storm And Then The Rainbow

Rain was pouring down all around the big semi-truck that Jimmy was riding in. It was daylight, but because the rain clouds were so thick and the rain was coming down so hard, it seemed to Jimmy that it was close to nighttime.

The truck's long windshield wipers tapped as they dashed back and forth to help Jimmy's daddy see better. Jimmy looked over at his daddy who was quietly watching the road and his mirrors. His daddy looked so calm and patient though driving in that blinding rain which was very dangerous. Jimmy knew that in his heart, his daddy was praying to God for help and guidance.

Jimmy didn't like the rain either, because he knew that bad accidents can happen when a big truck is traveling down the highway in the rain. Usually Jimmy would be nervous and wiggle this way and that, hoping that the rain would soon stop, but this time Jimmy felt calm. He just knew God was in the truck cab helping them. Jimmy saw his daddy calmly sitting in his big cushioned truck seat, steadily driving that big powerful truck through blowing winds and pounding rain, and Jimmy prayed in his heart to God for protection.

The truck cab became stuffy and warm because they could not roll down the windows when it was raining outside. Without talking, they traveled mile after mile in blinding rain. Then the rain began to slow down and there were only drops hitting the windshield with a ping, ping, ping. Before long it wasn't raining at all.

From his high seat in the truck, Jimmy could see water puddles and ditches filled with water by the side of the highway. Then, looking up, Jimmy saw that the dark thick clouds were beginning to part and the sunshine was trying to peek through. They would soon be out of the storm!

Then something really nice happened. Through the parted clouds in the sky,

Jimmy could actually see the sun rays and the lines they made through the clouds. It was so pretty that Jimmy just looked and looked at the sun rays shining through the clouds, and then he saw something even more beautiful. Arching across the clouds where the sun was shining through, there was a perfect rainbow with colors of blue, green, yellow, orange, red, and purple.

Jimmy glanced over at his daddy who was already looking at the rainbow also. God had brought them through the blinding rain and over the dangerous highway in the big semi-truck. God had given them quiet strength and confidence through the storm, and now God was letting them see His favor with a rainbow in the sky.

God still puts rainbows in the sky for those who look for them.

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Who went into the ark?
2. When everyone was inside, who shut the door?
3. How long were they in the ark before it began to rain?
4. Where did the people run for safety?
5. How long did it rain?
6. How long did Noah and the others stay in the ark?
7. Who told Noah to come out of the ark?
8. What was the first thing Noah did after leaving the ark?
9. What did God promise?

\*\*\*\*\*

(Answers: 1. Noah and his wife, his three sons, and their wives. 2. God. 3. Seven days. 4. To the mountains. 5. Forty days and nights. 6. More than a year. 7. God. 8. He offered a sacrifice to God. 9. To never again destroy the earth with a flood.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 7:1, 11-12, 17, 23, 24; 8:1, 4, 8-11, 13-14, 18-19.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 20    Feb. 25, 1990

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## GOD'S GREAT MERCY

About 400 years after God had destroyed every living creature except those with Noah in the ark, He again looked down and saw the great wickedness of two cities, Sodom and Gomorrah.

The Lord sent two angels to Sodom to see if the city was as wicked as it seemed. They arrived at the city in the evening. Lot was sitting at the gate of the city when he saw these strangers coming. He greeted them with a low bow and asked that they stay in his home that night.

That evening the wicked men of the city tried to take Lot's guests by force to do them harm. The two told Lot, "Sodom is so wicked God is going to destroy it. You must get out of here."

Lot went to warn his sons-in-law that they would be destroyed if they did not leave the city. But they made fun of him and refused to leave.

Before the sun rose, the angels urged Lot to take his wife and two daughters and run for their lives. It was hard for Lot to leave his home and all he had. But God was merciful to him, and the angels forced him and his family to leave. They warned them, "Run to the mountains for your lives. Do not even look back."

However, Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

When Lot and his daughters were safely out of the city, God sent a great rain of fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah. Everything was destroyed. Only Lot and his daughters accepted mercy and were saved.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"The Lord said, My spirit shall not a**



Cover Lot's wife with glue, then  
cover the glue with salt.

ays strive with man." (Genesis 6:3)



## Listen To The Warning

It was evening church time and the chapel was full of people singing songs together. After prayer, two special songs were sung by a group of young people, then the preacher got up in the pulpit.

By now Jack and Jim were tired of sitting in their seats.

Jack leaned over and whispered to his daddy, "I want a drink of water. May I go get a drink?"

Daddy didn't say a word but shook his head "no."

Jack sat back on the bench and swung his feet for a minute then he whispered to daddy, "I need to go to the rest room. Can I go—I need to hurry!"

Daddy sighed a little, but he still shook his head "no" and told Jack to be still. That let Jack know he was going to sit there through the whole sermon, so Jack just laid his head back on the bench and shut his eyes. He pretended to be resting, but really he was thinking about flying airplanes and he could just picture the ground far, far below as he swung his airplane around and took off flying through the clouds like a carefree bird. He could feel the wind buck against his airplane but with a steady hand he straightened out his plane. Poor Jack was not hearing the message at all.

Jim was just as tired as Jack was, but Jim saw how his daddy and mother were listening so carefully to the preacher, so Jim decided to listen also. The more Jim listened, the more he wanted to hear! The preacher was telling everyone how to escape awful punishment at the end of time, and Jim sure didn't want to be punished!

"You must repent of your sins, believe on Jesus, and He will save your soul from the burning fire," the preacher said. Jim thought over these words as someone called an altar song. A small, calm voice inside Jim's heart began to warn him that he would not be ready to go with Jesus like he was. Jim knew he needed to repent of his sins at the altar. He tugged at his mother's sleeve.

"Mother," he said, "would you go with me to the altar?"

Right away Mother laid her song book down and put her arm around Jim's shoulders. Together they walked down the aisle to the altar. Jim knelt there and prayed and cried to Jesus to take away his sins and make his heart clean and pure. Jesus did answer prayer! Jim felt so much lighter and happier when he got up from the altar! It didn't seem hard at all to believe on Jesus and be saved from sin and the coming day of destruction when all the earth will be burned up with fire.

When Jim went back to his seat, his daddy hugged him also; he was so glad Jim was saved! Now Jack began to realize he had missed something. "Tomorrow night," thought Jack to himself, "I'm not going to think about flying but I'm going to listen and learn what's going on. I don't want to be unsaved!"

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. God looked down and saw the wickedness of what two cities?
2. Who did God send to Sodom, to see if it was as wicked as it seemed?
3. Who was sitting at the city gate?
4. What did he ask the strangers to do?
5. Who wanted to harm the two strangers?
6. What did the two angels tell Lot?
7. Who did Lot warn?
8. What happened to Lot's wife?
9. Who accepted mercy and was saved?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. Sodom and Gomorrah. 2. Two angels. 3. Lot. 4. To stay in his home that night. 5. The wicked men of Sodom. 6. That God was going to destroy Sodom so he must leave. 7. His sons-in-law. 8. She looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. 9. Lot and his two daughters.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 13:7-10, 12-13; 19:1.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## EVERY PERSON HAS SINNED

Adam and Eve sinned by not obeying God's command. He told them they should not eat any fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Their sin brought great trouble in the earth where there had been only peace and happiness. Their hearts were made wicked and now every child born into the world inherited this evil nature.

When Noah first stepped out of the ark and offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God, God was so pleased with the offerings that He promised, "I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth." God realized that because sin had come into the world, even young children have evil in their hearts.

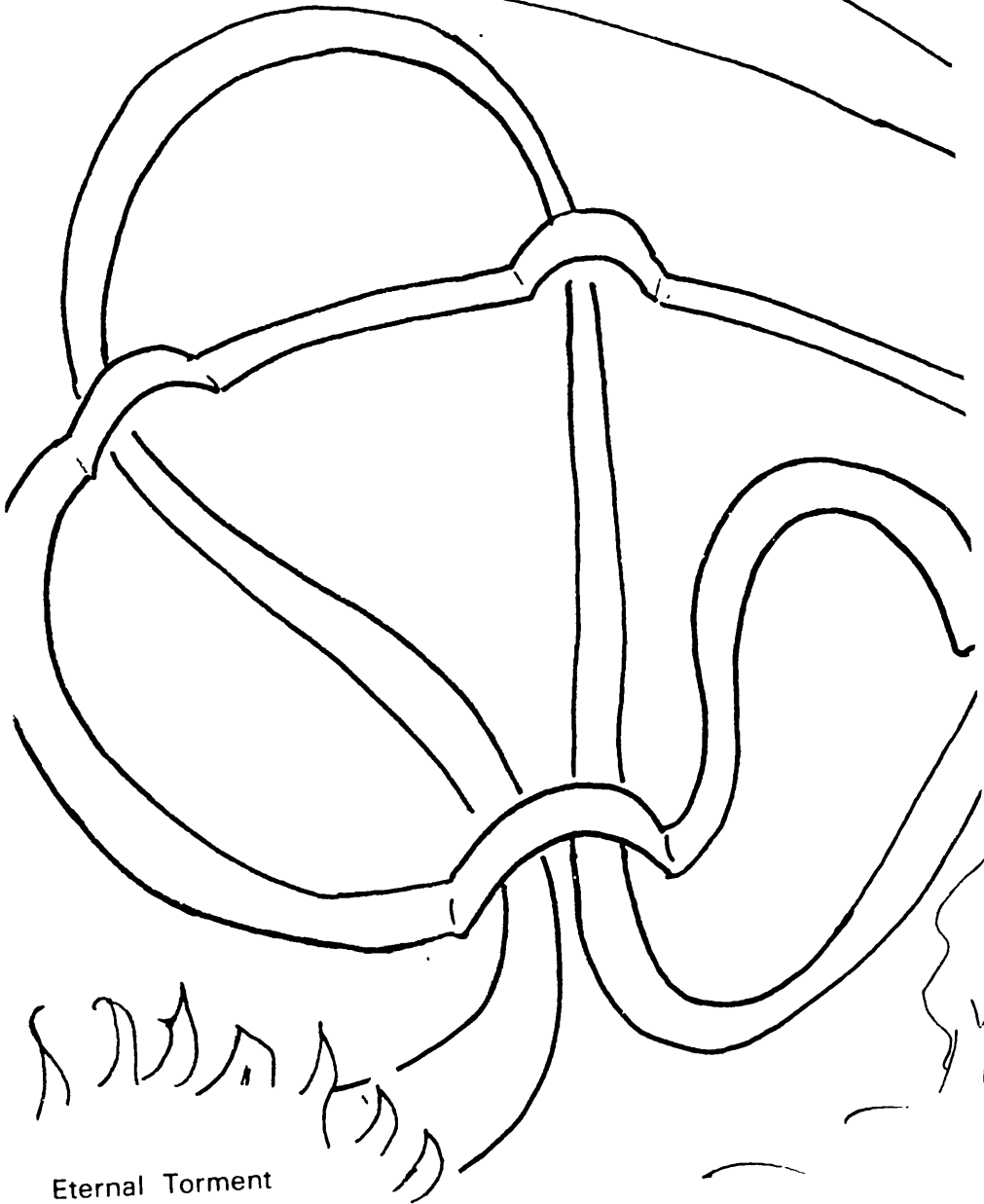
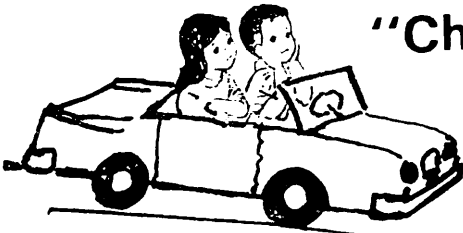
King David wrote in Psalms 58:8, "They go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies." It is in the nature of a child when he has done wrong to try to hide what he has done to keep from being punished. It is just a part of us to not always be truthful.

No doubt we have all been tempted to take something that doesn't belong to us. When we don't get our own way, it makes us very upset. This is all part of that sinful nature.

It is a sad fact that we all have a sinful nature, and because of this we have all sinned. But it is necessary that we should know this. Until we realize we have sinned, God cannot help us overcome this evil in our hearts. We must confess our sins to God who will forgive us freely, then our very nature will be changed and our hearts made as pure and clean as Adam and Eve's hearts were before they disobeyed God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

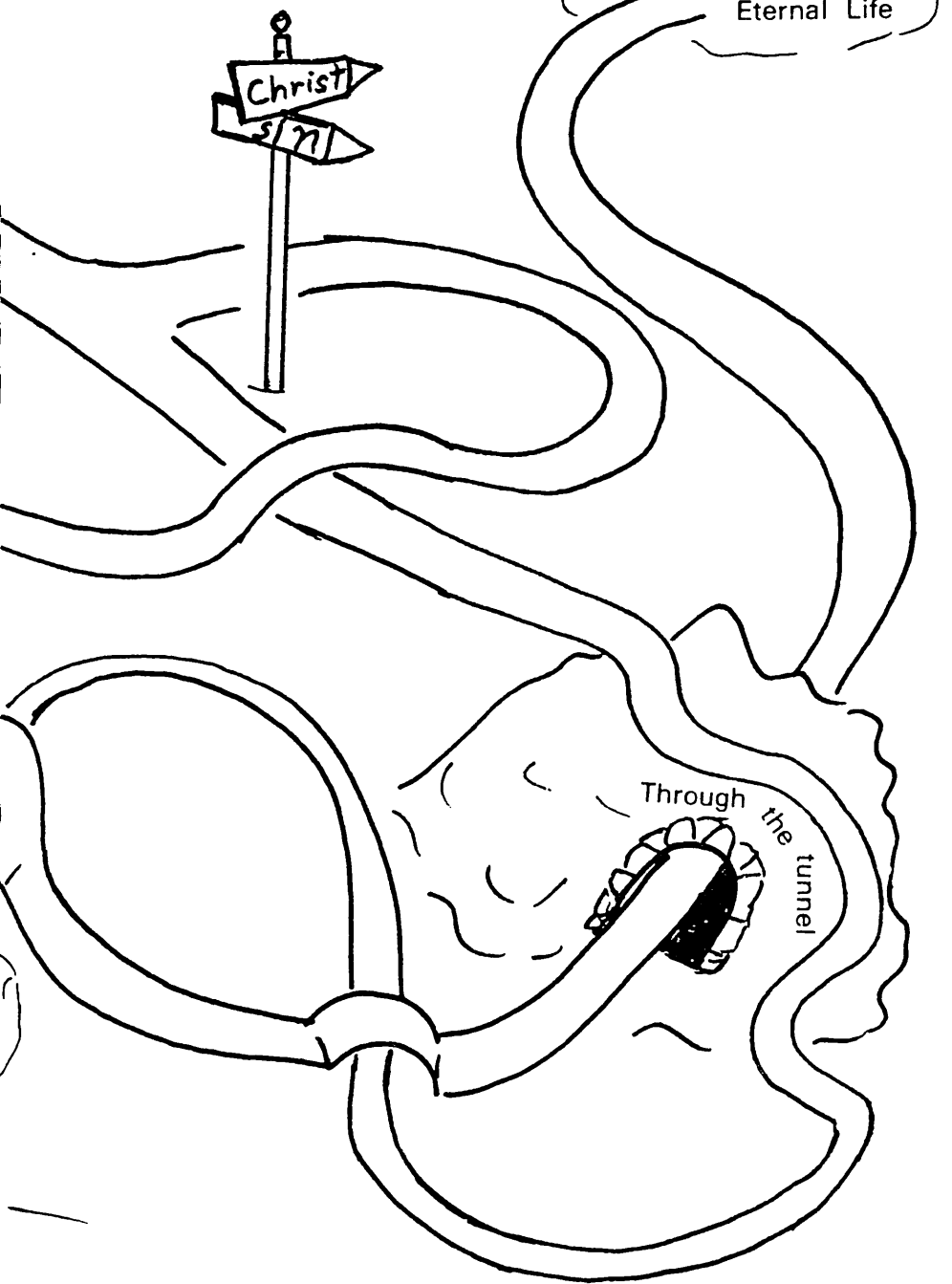
"Choose this day wt



Eternal Torment

n you will serve."

(Joshua 24:15)



## Impatient And Selfish

It was supper time at the Smith's house. All six family members, Daddy, Mother, Randy, Frank, Nancy, and baby Susie, were sitting at the table with their hands washed and their faces clean, ready to offer prayer before eating.

Baby Susie reached her fat baby hand over and pulled Mother's napkin away.

"Susie! No, no!" said Mother as she took the napkin from the baby. Susie hollered and grabbed for Daddy's butter knife which was on her other side.

"No, no, Susie," said Daddy. "You don't need that!"

Now Susie was really upset and she began to holler again. Daddy put his hand over Susie's mouth. "No, don't holler, Susie," he said. "Keep your hands still and let's pray."

Susie was quiet a minute as she watched everyone else bow their heads. She bowed her head also but her fat little hand was tugging at Mother's sleeve. Susie was hungry and she didn't want to wait. Right after prayer, Mother fed Susie, but Susie didn't think Mother hurried enough. While Mother was pouring Nancy another drink, Susie reached over to Mother's plate to grab a bite of food with her hands. She knocked the whole plate of food on the floor!

"Susie, you must learn to be patient!" said Mother with a firm voice. "Nearly the first thing every baby must learn about is patience. If you had accidentally knocked this plate on the floor, that would be pardoned, but because you were so impatient, Mother must slap your hand and tell you, 'No, no, Susie. Don't do this. Susie must learn to wait.'"

"I'm glad I'm not impatient like Susie is," said Frank. "I don't remember ever grabbing for my supper!"

"Oh, yes you did!" said Randy. "You still don't like to wait while Mother serves someone else. Sometimes you push and shove so you can be first."

"I wonder who wants to have the first piece of pie," said Daddy to the two boys. That made the boys begin to

eat their main meal so they could have dessert. Mother soon had the mess cleaned up and she ate some more supper. Everyone was ready for pie at the same time. Daddy gave Randy and Frank each a piece and then it was Nancy's turn.

"I want a bigger piece of pie than the boys have," said Nancy. "That's my favorite pie!"

"Well," said Daddy, "the pieces are all cut the same. This is a big enough piece."

"But I want more than that!" wailed Nancy.

"Do you think, Mother," asked Daddy, "that the next thing all babies and children must learn is to not be selfish?"

"Yes," agreed Mother. "It seems a baby isn't very old before it is impatient and selfish. It takes the blood of Jesus to wash away these bad seeds of sin."

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Who told Adam and Eve not to eat any fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil?
2. What brought great trouble in the earth?
3. What does every child inherit?
4. Who offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God?
5. What did God say was evil from a man's youth?
6. Why do young children have evil in their hearts?
7. Who has sinned?
8. Who will forgive us freely if we confess?
9. After God forgives us, what will happen to our hearts?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. God. 2. Adam and Eve's sin. 3. An evil nature. 4. Noah. 5. The imagination of his heart. 6. Because sin came into the world. 7. Everyone. 8. God. 9. They will be made pure and clean.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 8:21; Jer. 17:9; I John 1:8-10; Rom. 3:9-20, 23; 5:12; 6:20; 7:5.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## GOD PLANS FOR MAN'S SALVATION

God had great love for Adam and Eve. It hurt Him deeply when they disobeyed Him. Now God could not talk with them face to face because they had become wicked.

God had it in His heart to send Jesus to the earth. He knew that He was the only One who could break the power of the devil and set people free from sin and its awful effects.

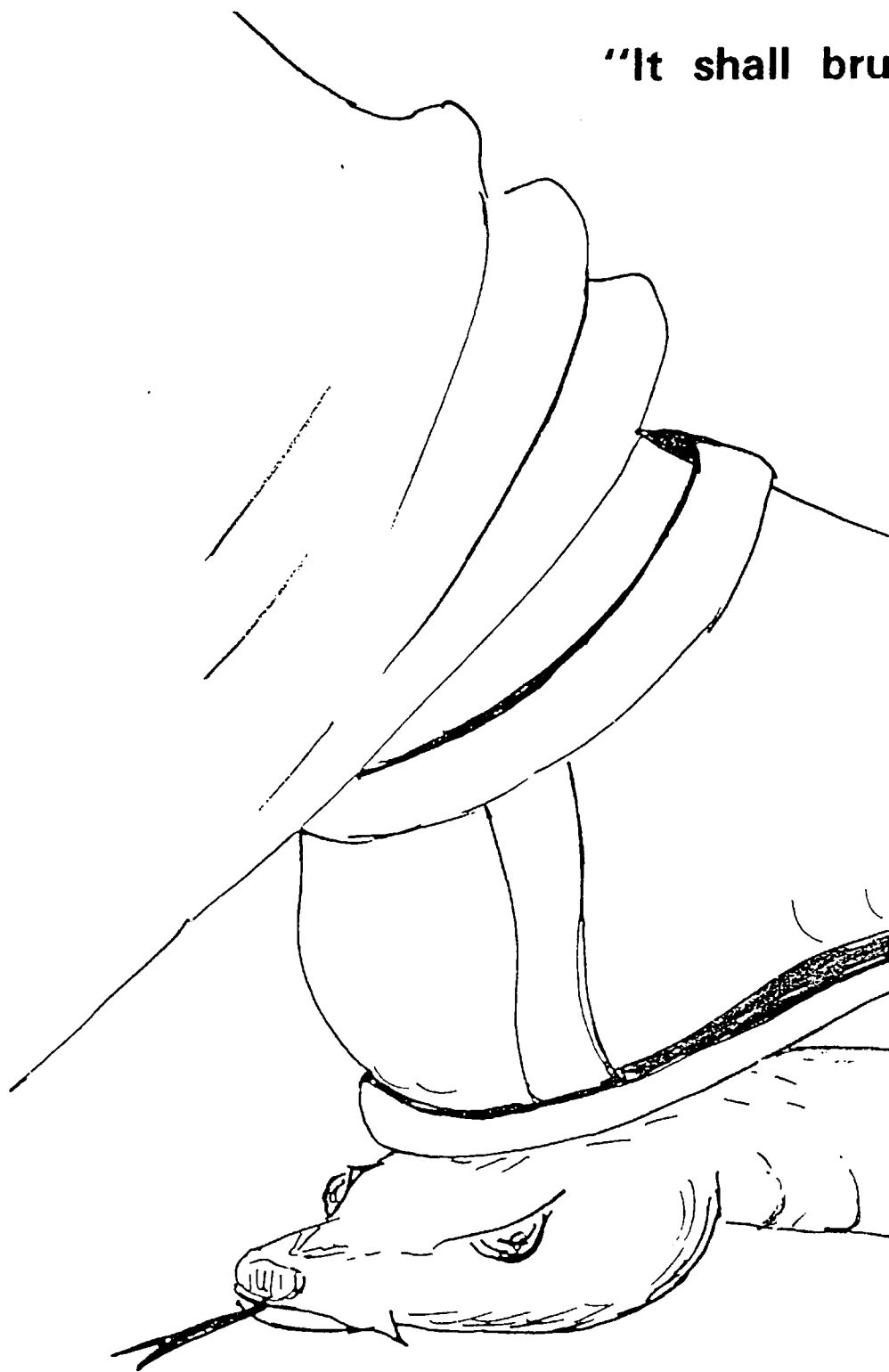
We have seen what terrible changes came on the earth because of Adam and Eve's sin. Sin entered the heart of every person that was born into the world. Adam's own son killed his brother. The world became so wicked that God finally destroyed it with a great flood. But even in this destruction, God showed mercy and saved every one who would believe the warnings and get into the ark.

When the two angels visited Sodom and Gomorrah, they saw how very wicked they were. The cities must be destroyed, but they did not destroy them until all who would believe and leave the city had escaped. God has mercy on every one who will believe and obey Him.

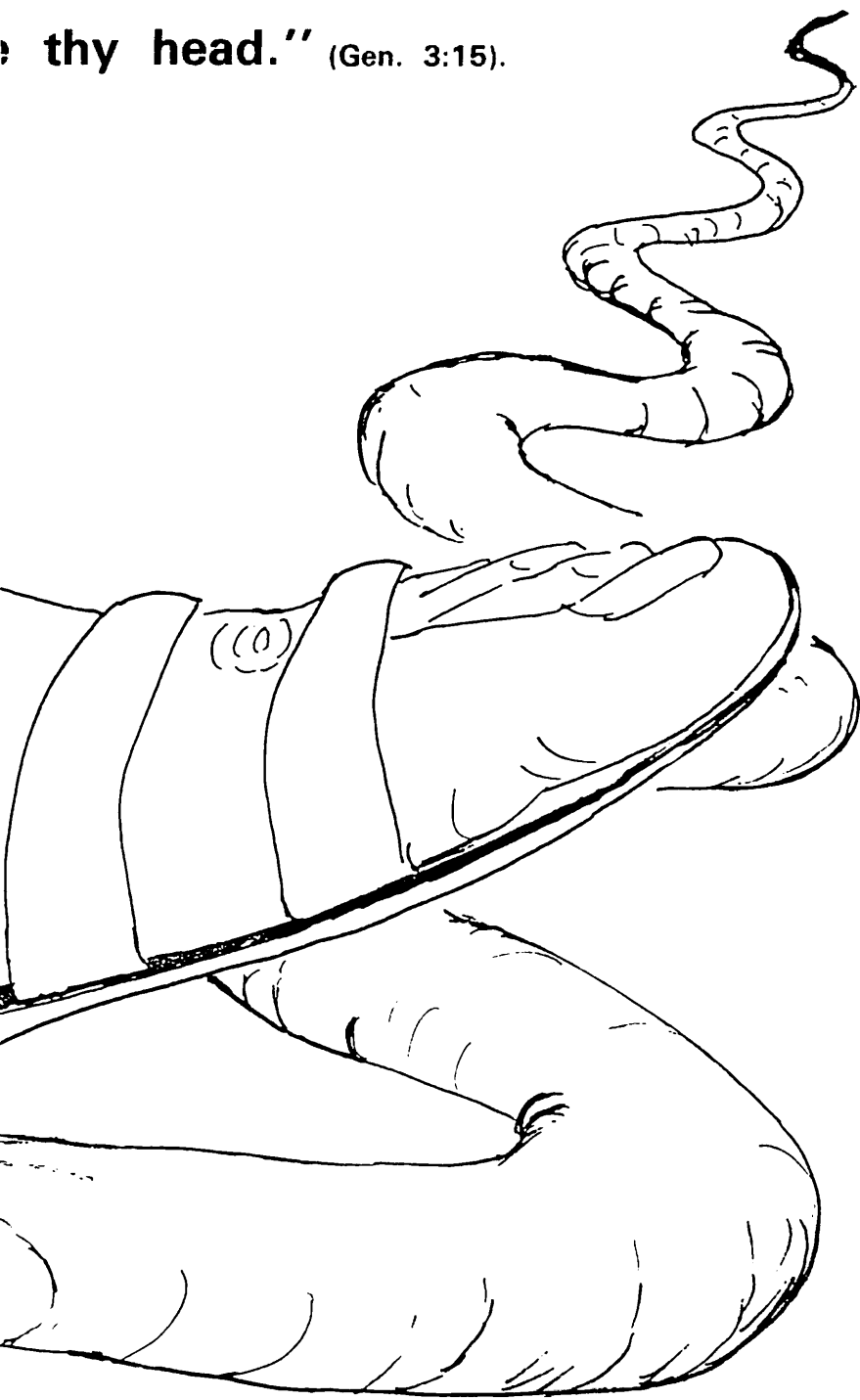
Jesus came as a tiny baby and grew up as other children do. He lived a perfect life so we could have an example to follow. Then He was willing to die so the devil's control over our hearts could be broken. Adam's disobedience brought sin and death unto the world. Jesus' obedience brought us righteousness and life. Jesus conquered the devil and sin so He could set us free if we see how sinful our hearts are and ask Him to save us.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"It shall bru



e thy head." (Gen. 3:15).



## Sin Punished, Love Sent



Adam and Eve disobeyed God.  
Adam and Eve did very bad.  
"They have sinned against me,"  
said God,  
"This makes my heart very sad."

"I will need to punish them,"  
said God.  
"Disobeying is awful to do!  
They must mind the commands of God  
But they need to know I love  
them, too."

So from the garden went the pair;  
Their heads were bowed in sinful  
shame.  
Their hearts were burdened down  
with care—  
Oh, could things ever be the same?

"Father, I feel so sad for them."  
It was Jesus speaking now.  
"Can I not some way rescue them  
And give them hope somehow?"

"Yes, yes, you can, my Son,"  
God said.  
"But death is the curse that will stay  
And blood of lambs must be shed  
To help remove their sins away."

"Someday I'll send you down, my Son,  
To be the last and perfect Lamb.  
Your shed blood will mark that done  
And save the children of Adam."

"Will I then suffer like this man?"  
It was Jesus speaking again.  
"Yes, you will suffer like this man."  
God said, "but you will have no sin."

This Jesus knew when He came down  
To earth from His place in heaven.  
Yet willingly He came on down  
To redeem all Adam's children.

Eve and Adam did do wrong.  
Disobeying is bad to do.  
But the Lamb of God has come along.  
Proving that God's love is true.

When Jesus suffered on the cross.  
Then His blood washed away our sin

And since then no one should be lost  
But follow Jesus right to heaven.

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Who did God have great love for?
2. Why couldn't God talk to them face to face any more?
3. Who was the only one who could break the power of the devil?
4. Why did terrible changes come on the earth?
5. How did God destroy the earth?
6. Who visited Sodom and Gomorrah?
7. What happened to these cities?
8. What kind of life did Jesus live?
9. Who is able to save us if we ask Him?



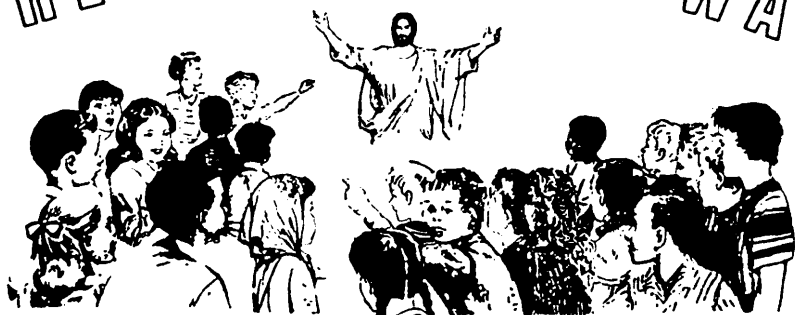
(Answers: 1. Adam and Eve. 2. They were wicked. 3. Jesus. 4. Because of Adam and Eve's sin. 5. With a flood. 6. Two angels. 7. They were destroyed. 8. A perfect life. 9. Jesus.)



Lesson Texts: Gen. 3:15; I Cor. 15:19-23, 49; Matt. 1:21; John 3:14-17; Gal. 3:22-25; Heb. 5:8-9; 7:25.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 23    March, 18, 1990

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## HOW TO KEEP SALVATION

Jesus came to break the power of the devil over us and set us free. We are saved when we confess our need and repent of our sins. Then, as we believe Jesus' promise, He comes into our hearts and gives us power to live free from sin. We don't have to obey the devil any more.

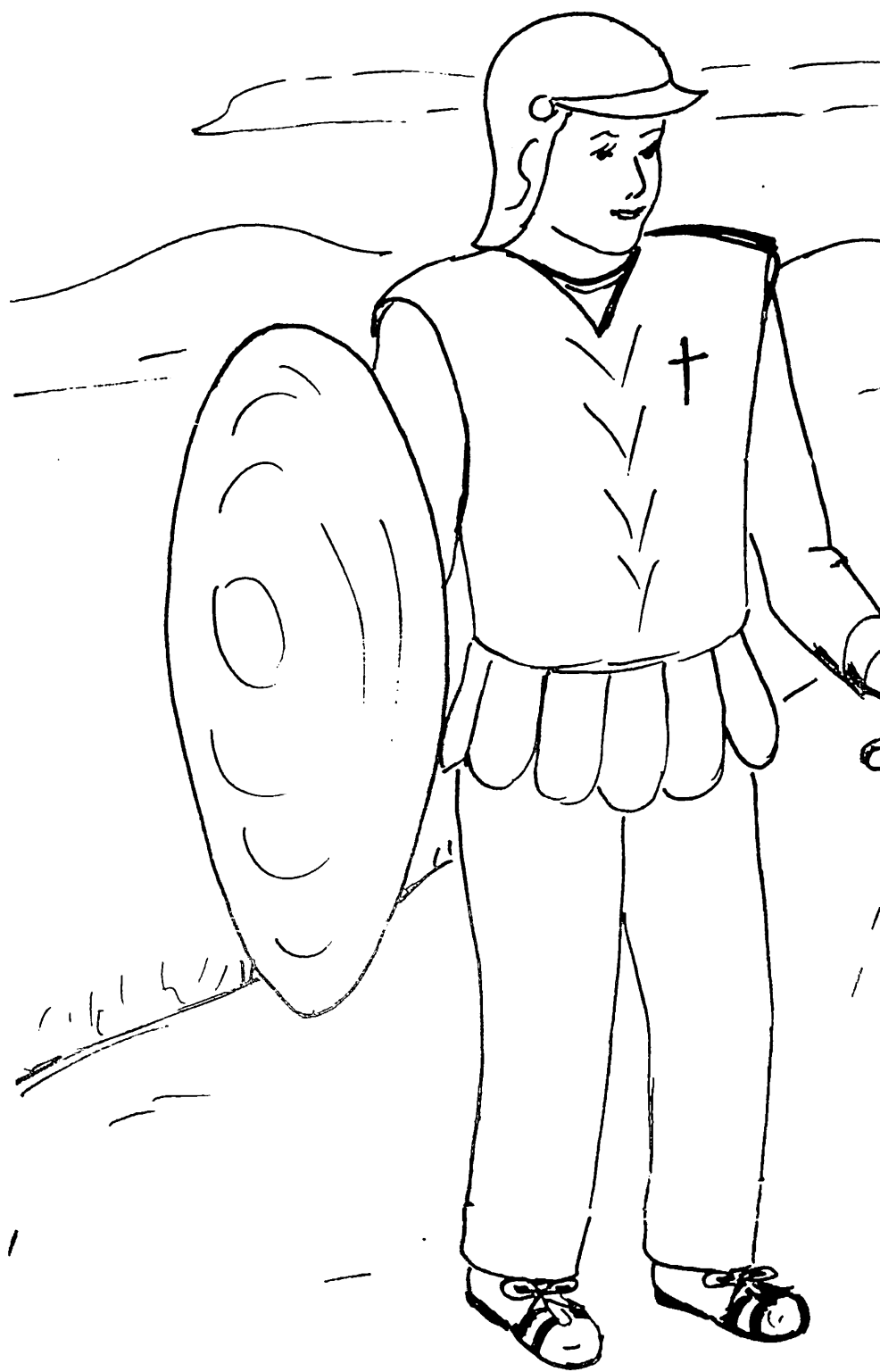
When a person gets saved, he escapes the kingdom of Satan and becomes a soldier for Jesus. This makes the devil very angry and he will make war against a new child of God.

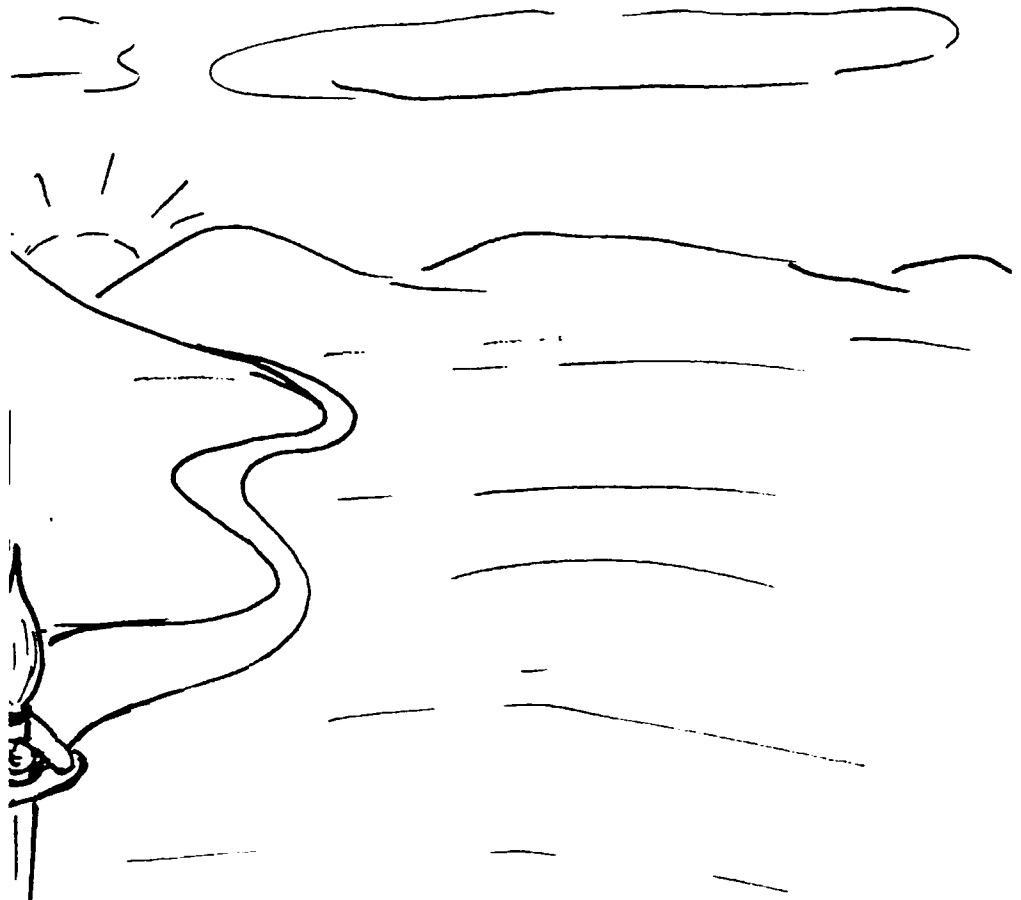
To protect himself, a soldier in Bible times wore armor. There would be a helmet to protect his head and a breastplate to cover his chest. The soldier would carry a shield to keep the enemies blows from harming him, and a sword with which to kill them. God also provides armor for His soldiers.

Our helmet is salvation. When the devil tries to bring evil thoughts, we know we don't have to accept them because Jesus has saved us. Our breastplate is righteousness. Because our heart is right with God and Jesus lives there now, the devil can't find any room there. Faith is our shield. When the devil threatens to destroy us for sure, we can lift up our shield of faith, which is our trust in God, and God will deliver us every time. We always want to have a good sharp sword in our hands. Our sword is the Word of God. Keep it sharp by studying and remembering what your Bible says. These Words are a powerful weapon against the devil.

After you are saved, make sure you have on the whole armor every day so you will win every battle against the devil and become a skillful soldier.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## **"Put on the whole armour of God."**

**(Ephesians 6:11)**

**Shield**

**Righteousness**

**Sword**

**Holy Spirit**

**Helmet**

**Faith**

**Breastplate**

**Salvation**

Match the armor to its correct name.

# The Enemy Is Sly

"Grandpa," said Tommy, "would you please tell me about when you were a soldier in the war?"

"Have you learned anything from my stories, Tommy?" asked Grandpa. "I would like to know if they are teaching you something good."

"Oh, yes, they are!" said Tommy. "I have learned that we can't trust the enemy; that we should be prepared all the time to defend ourselves; and that most of all, we must be alert!"

"Maybe that will remind you of a song in the *Evening Light Song Book*," said Grandpa. "Remember the song 'Watch and Pray'? One verse says, 'Watch and pray; the tempter may be near us; Keep the heart with jealous care, Lest the door a moment left unguarded, Evil thoughts may enter there.'"

"Back when we were fighting the Germans in World War II," began Grandpa, "one of the tricks the enemy tried on us was to train a handful of their most intelligent men to dress like us and act like us and go into our camp and spy on us. They must have gotten our uniforms off of dead men on the battlefield or from our soldiers who were taken prisoners of war. Anyway, one day when my troop was camped very close to the battle line, I was put on guard duty. I was ordered to check anything that moved; report anything suspicious; and shoot on sight if the enemy came near the camp."

"Now you remember that a front line soldier has a hard, dirty job. War with men fighting against men is not good at all. When I was in the war, I was not saved though I knew how to pray, because, like you, I had been taught at home the value of prayer. Since then, I have gotten saved."

"What happened while you were on duty?" asked Tommy.

"Well, as I was saying, I was on guard duty and I was rather jittery knowing that we were so close to the battle line. Suddenly I saw one of our men come out from around a small tree nearby. At

first I sorta asked myself how he got over there without me seeing him go there, and that really made me jittery thinking I was getting that bad at watching. The uniform and helmet he had pulled down on his head were American and when he passed by me, we just nodded to each other.

"Finally I decided I should report that soldier's strange appearance and see for sure who it was. I told the captain and he called the troop roll call, then we searched the camp. No soldier admitted to coming into camp from that tree and we never saw any sign of that soldier. Later, we learned that another troop caught an enemy spy dressed in one of our uniforms. He was working right along with the American soldiers while he spied on what they were doing and saying."

"That must have been the same man you saw, Grandpa," said Tommy excitedly.

"It may have been," agreed Grandpa. "Just remember, Tommy, the enemy is sly, so always watch and pray."

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Who came to break the power of the devil?
2. What must we do to be saved?
3. When we get saved, what do we become?
4. Who becomes angry when we escape from him?
5. What is our helmet?
6. What is our breastplate?
7. What is our shield?
8. What is our sword?
9. How do we keep our sword sharp?



(Answers: 1. Jesus. 2. Confess our need and repent. 3. A soldier for Jesus. 4. The devil. 5. Salvation. 6. Righteousness. 7. Faith. 8. The Word of God. 9. By studying and remembering what the Bible says.)



Lesson Texts: Rom. 5:1-2; 12:1-2; 13:12-14; Eph. 6:10-18; Heb. 5:12; 6:1.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 24    March 25, 1990

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## A CHRISTIAN'S DUTY

When we are saved, the Bible tells us we are like a branch of a fruit tree that has been removed from an evil tree and put into a good tree. We are taken from the devil's control and placed in Jesus' control instead.

Good fruit trees are valuable because they produce food for us. Jesus wants us to be fruitful so our lives can be a blessing to others.

The way a person thinks and acts is his fruit. If he thinks about how he can get even with someone, sooner or later he will find a way to do that person harm. This is not good fruit. If he thinks of how he can be nice to someone who has hurt him, he will find a way to be nice. This is bearing good fruit.

In Galatians we read what kind of fruit Jesus will cause us to have. It is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

Apples are fruit of an apple tree, and a banana tree will always bear bananas. If we bear good fruit, we know we are a branch of Jesus. But if the fruit we are bearing is hateful instead of loving, that is a good sign that we are not staying in Jesus. We must get busy reading the Bible and praying more seriously so Jesus can again produce His good fruit in us.

When a branch is broken off from a tree, it soon withers and dies. If we draw away from Jesus and refuse to read what He wants to tell us in the Bible or won't talk to Him in prayer, we cannot bear His good fruit. To bear good fruit we must stay in Jesus.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“As the branch cannot bear fruit of it more can ye, except ye abide in me.”**

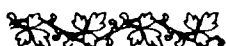


lf, except it abide in the vine; no

(John 15:4)



# Plants And Animals Obey God



It is a beautiful morning when the warm, yellow sun shines down upon the brown earth and the soft puffs of wind whisper to the tree buds, "It is time to wake up and unfold your green leaves."

Daddy and mama birds sing sweet songs as they gather twigs and bits of things to make a nest for their spring home. Soon they plan to have round eggs to patiently sit upon. Then, in due time, they expect baby birds to hatch from their eggs. What a busy time that will be then! Baby birds are always such hungry beggars and the nest must be made very snug so they will not fall out. Though daddy and mama birds are very busy, they still take time to sing merry songs among the budding tree limbs. God made the birds to sing for Him, and for us.

Deep down in the soft, damp ground, different kinds of seeds are popping open like popcorn in a popper. Pop! pop! pop! go the seeds and out comes a baby plant just like the mama plant the seed had come from. Soon tender green leaves will be opening out for a kiss from the morning sun. These tender baby plants will grow and some will bloom yellow daffodils, purple pansies, or red tomatoes and green beans. Some plants become big, thick vines which grow fat watermelons or orange pumpkins. Every seed knows just what it is supposed to grow and it does just that. At the beginning of time, God told every plant what to do and ever since then, each plant has obeyed God's command.

In lakes and ponds and flowing creeks fish are bubbling to the top of the water where ice had been sealing them under. Before long they will be snapping at flies and probably some will snap a fly on a hook at the end of a fishing pole which an excited boy may be holding. Then that boy will pull the fish into his net and that night he will eat fish for supper. Yes, God put those fish in the water just like they live today.

When God first made the sun and earth, the trees and plants, the birds and butterflies, and the fish in the water: when God made bears and all other animals, He told them what to do and all things have obeyed God ever since.

Now for people, because we are special, God has written in His Word, the Bible, what He wants us to do. God plans for everyone to obey His Word and someday go to heaven to sing praise to Him. If you and I are wise, we will obey God like plants and animals do in the springtime. —Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Where do we read that we become like a branch of a tree when we are saved?
2. Who wants us to be fruitful?
3. What is a person's fruit?
4. Name some fruit you will bear when you are a branch of Jesus.
5. What kind of fruit does an apple tree bear?
6. If we bear good fruit we know we are a branch of whom?
7. What happens to a branch when it is broken off from a tree?
8. When we don't read our Bibles and pray as we should, what are we doing?
9. Where must we stay in order to bear good fruit?



(Answers: 1. In the Bible. 2. Jesus. 3. The way he thinks and acts. 4. Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. 5. Apples. 6. Jesus. 7. It withers and dies. 8. Drawing away from Jesus. 9. In Jesus.)



Lesson Texts: Rom. 7:4-5; 6:22; Eph. 5:8-12; Gal. 5:22-23; Phil. 1:10-11; James 3:17-18; John 15:4-5, 8.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 14      April 1, 1990

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## HOW JESUS LIVED

Jesus came to earth as a little baby. As He grew, He knew He was God's own Son. He knew He had been sent to earth to help sinful man find his way back into God's favor. All about Him Jesus saw sorrow, sin and sickness. He saw how badly His help was needed. As He went from one city to another, people would bring their sick ones and those who were tormented by the devil and Jesus would heal them and cast out the devil.

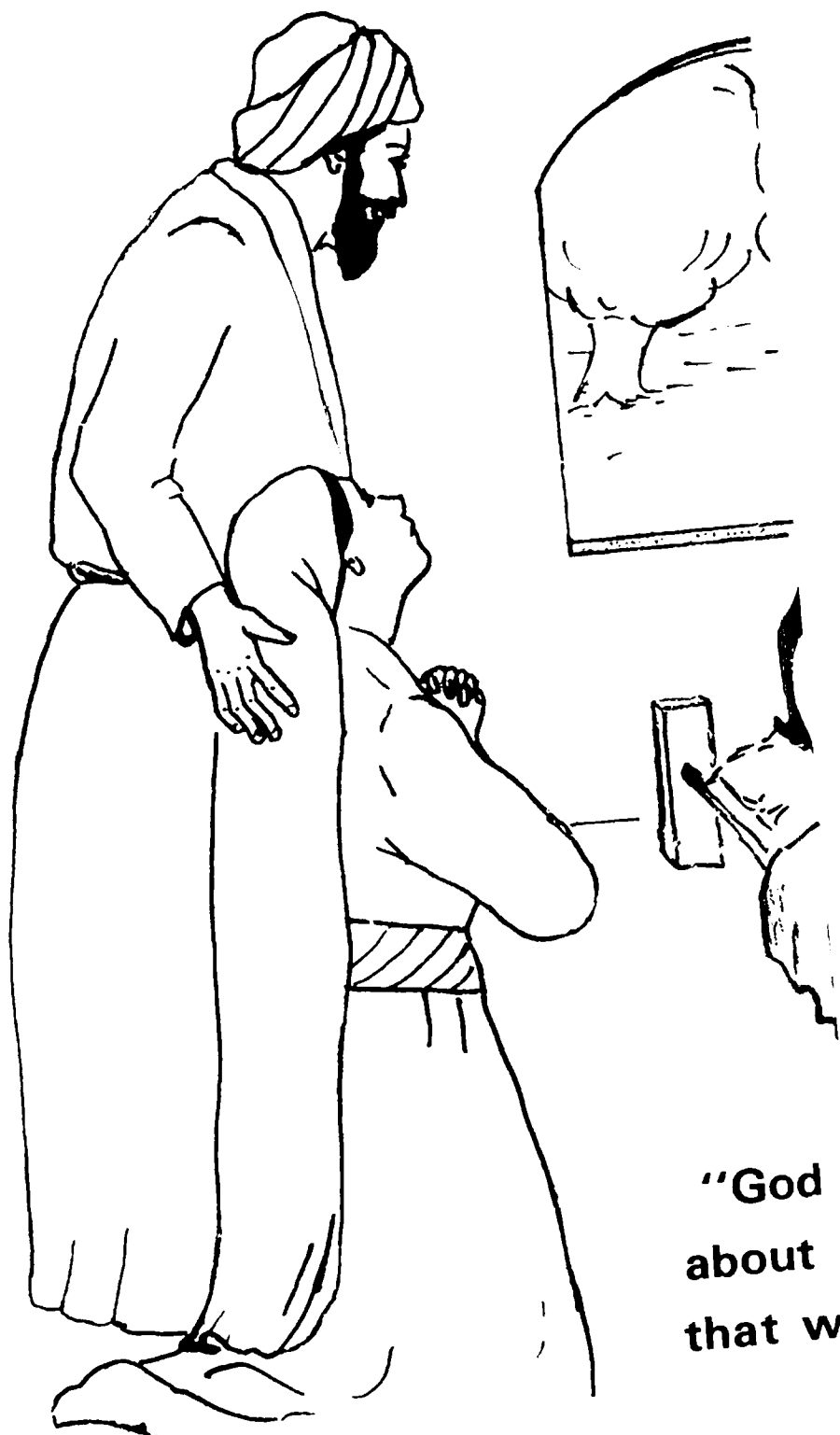
One man could not bring his little son to Jesus because he was so sick. The father came begging Jesus to come quickly and heal his son because he was about to die. Jesus told him, "Go your way. Your son lives." When the father returned home, he found Jesus' Words were true; his son was well!

When another father came asking Jesus to come heal his little daughter, Jesus started towards the house where she was. On the way, so many people gathered around Jesus, He was hindered from going quickly. Soon someone told the father, "Your little girl is dead. There is no need to trouble Jesus." Jesus heard the words. He told the father, "Don't be afraid; only believe." When Jesus spoke to the little girl, life came back into her body and she was made perfectly well.

The people flocked to be near Jesus so they could see the great works He did and hear the Words He spoke.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all wrote books about the many good things Jesus did. At the end of his book, John tells us, "There are also many other things which Jesus did." Jesus lived His whole life helping others.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"God  
about (   
that we**



**ointed Jesus who went  
ng good, and healing all  
oppressed of the devil.”**

**(Acts 10:38)**

## Healings Today

Not long ago a little boy and girl laid in bed very sick with a high fever. The little boy was on the top bunk and the little girl was on the bottom. They had been sick for 6 days now and the mother and father, grandparents, and others were praying to Jesus to heal them both very soon.

The mother knew Jesus could heal them. She remembered when she had been sick one time as a little girl. Her fever had been very high for several days. Then Jesus had slipped into the room and had given her a healing touch so the mother knew that Jesus could heal because she had felt His healing power when she was little.

The father knew Jesus could heal because he remembered the many times Jesus had healed him. One time he had been run over by a car. All the saints nearby had gathered and prayed for him. Soon he was up and playing again though his head was bandaged. Later on, all that was left was a scar. The father had also been healed of a ruptured appendix and water poisoning so he knew Jesus could heal his little children also.

In a few days, Jesus healed the little boy, but He decided to take the little girl to heaven to be with Him. The father and mother cried because they missed their little girl, but they knew she was in a better place with Jesus. Then they were happy because Jesus had healed their little boy!

When we pray we must believe. Not only do we trust Jesus to heal a sick person, but we also trust the wisdom of God. We know that all of us will die someday. Jesus doesn't want us to stay in this world of trouble and suffering. He wants us to come to heaven and be in that wonderful place with Him someday. Some of us will go to heaven sooner than others, but it is important that we live for Jesus and obey our parents.

Let us always remember that Jesus heals today. There are so many stories that we could tell. One time a little girl

was hopping around in her brother's bedroom showing him a flag that she had from school. Suddenly she lost her balance and fell. The hard, round flag stick jabbed right into the back of her mouth and tore a hole in her throat. It bled and bled while brother and sister quickly worked together to stop the bleeding. They prayed to Jesus because the blood was running down her throat and also out of her mouth. That is a hard place to stop bleeding. Then Jesus came into the room and quieted the frightened girl and He stopped the bleeding. They called Mother and Daddy who came into the room right away. They all had prayer again for healing. After a week of eating very carefully, the little girl was better and soon she was well again. Jesus heals today!

Can you tell some things about the healing power of Jesus?

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Who had Jesus been sent to help?
2. What did Jesus see all about Him?
3. What would Jesus do to the sick people who were brought to Him?
4. Why did the father of the little boy want Jesus to come quickly?
5. What did Jesus tell him?
6. When the father returned home, what did he find?
7. When another father was told, "Your little girl is dead," what did Jesus tell him?
8. Who wrote books about the many good things Jesus did?
9. Who wrote, "There are also many other things which Jesus did"?



(Answers: 1. Sinful man. 2. Sorrow, sin, and sickness. 3. Heal them. 4. His son was about to die. 5. "Go your way. Your son lives." 6. His son was well. 7. "Don't be afraid; only believe." 8. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. 9. John.)



Lesson Texts: Phil. 2:5-7; Acts 10:38; Luke 4:40-42; Matt. 9:35; Mark 6:31-34; Matt. 14:20-21; John 21:25.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 16      April 15, 1990

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## THE RESURRECTION

After Jesus had died on the cross, a rich man named Joseph went to Pilate and begged to be able to take Jesus' body and bury it. Pilate gave him permission, so Joseph carefully prepared the body and laid it in his own new grave.

Jesus' enemies were afraid that the disciples of Jesus might come and steal His body. They knew Jesus had said He would rise again the third day. They feared His body would be stolen; then His disciples would tell the people that He had risen from the dead. Pilate told them to make the grave as secure as they could. A great stone was rolled over the door of the grave. After sealing the stone, they posted guards around the grave to make sure no one could steal Jesus' body.

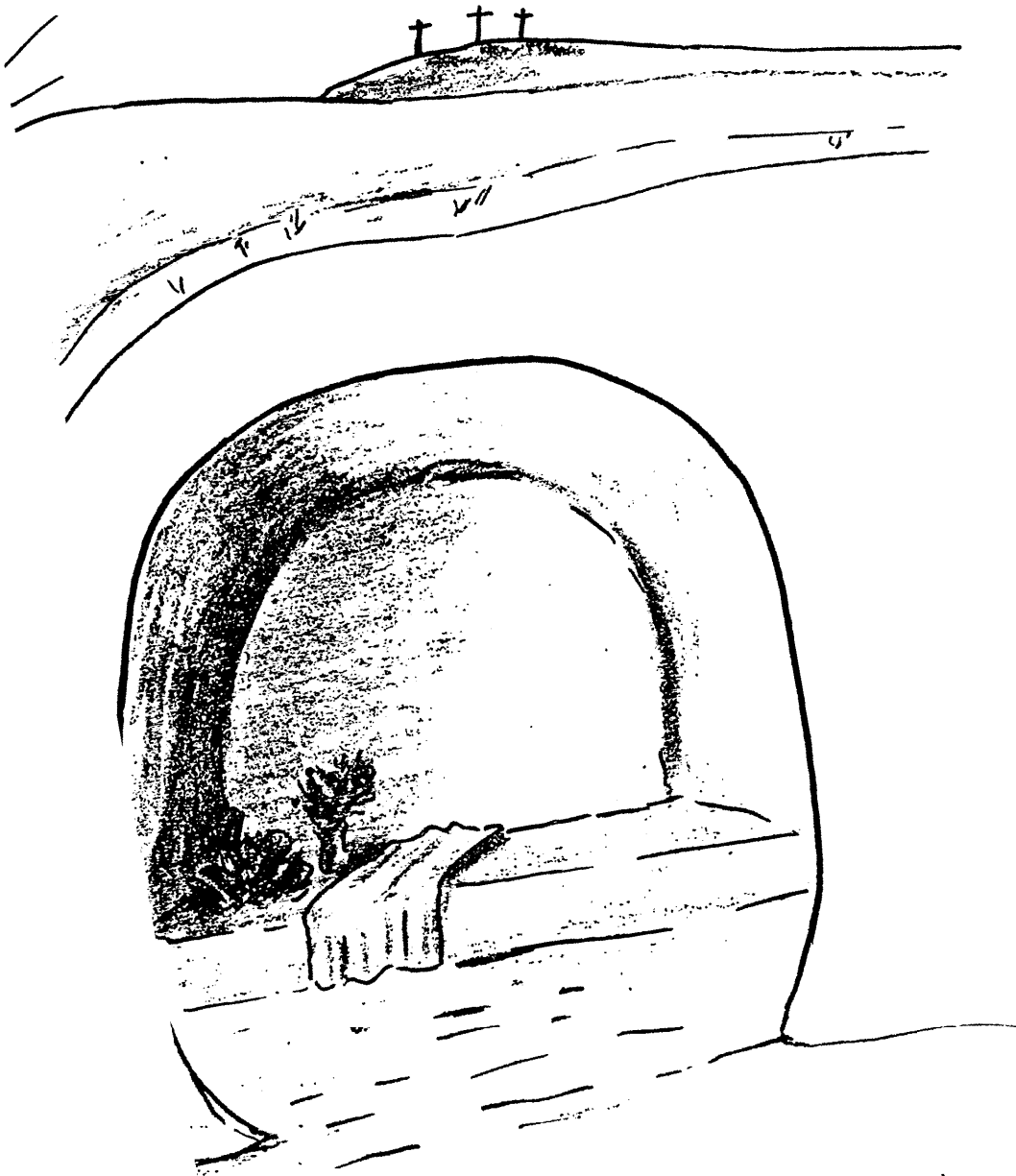
The guards watched carefully all day and night; nothing happened. Just at the crack of dawn of the first day of the week, the ground suddenly began to tremble. There was a great earthquake as the angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled back the heavy stone that sealed the grave. The angel then sat upon the heavy stone. The guards were so frightened they became as dead men.

Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary had come very early to see the grave. The angel told them, "I know you are looking for Jesus. He is not here: for He is risen from the dead."

Quickly the women ran to tell the disciples. As they went, they met Jesus. When they saw Him, they fell at His feet and worshiped Him. Jesus told them, "Don't be afraid. Tell the disciples to go to Galilee. They will see me there."—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"He is not here: for He is risen."**  
(Matt. 28:6)



# Easter

Linda was helping Mother set the table. It was Easter Sunday and they were having uncles, aunts, and cousins to come and eat dinner with them.

"Be careful, Linda," said Mother, "you don't want to soil your new dress. Make sure you set 14 places. This roast is nearly done and then we shall be ready to eat."

"Oh, I just love to have company over for dinner!" said Linda happily as she went about helping Mother. "Easter is special isn't it, because Jesus arose from the tomb on this day, right, Mama?" Mother nodded, so Linda kept talking. "Why do we call it Easter then? Did Jesus tell us to?"

Mother smiled. "Jesus told us to remember His death and resurrection by the grape juice and unleavened bread," she said, "but the name was given by Englishmen because the Jewish pass-over began in the Anglo-Saxon's month of Eastermonath."

"Oh, I see," said Linda though a rather empty look was on her face. "Then do you know why people color eggs and have Easter bunnies?"

Mother was too busy stirring gravy to answer Linda right away. Then the company arrived and it was time to eat. They enjoyed a peaceful dinner of delicious food and then after the dishes were washed, all the family gathered outside on the patio to enjoy the warm afternoon sunshine.

"The delicate white Easter lilies you have on the table are so lovely," commented Aunt Sue to Mother. "White lilies always remind me of the pure white robes the Scriptures speak about."

"Perhaps that is why they have come to be popular on Easter," replied Mother. "I like traditions that remind us of Jesus and His mission here on earth."

"You never told me about the Easter bunny and colored eggs," said Linda who was sitting nearby. All her little cousins wanted to hear the story also.

"There are many different stories about how the bunny and eggs were put

into Easter," said Mother. "Some stories are cute and seem to have a good meaning with them. However, the rabbit, bunny, or hare—whichever you may call it—is the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess symbol. The night before they celebrated the first day of spring, children would make a nest either around their house or near their barn. Then, in the early morning of the first day of spring, the children would rush to their nest to find colored eggs that the bunny supposedly left. We know there is no "Easter Bunny" just like we know there is not a Santa Claus at Christmas. These things can really take away from the beauty of Jesus Christ and His simple story of life here on earth."

All the adults had heard Mother talking, and Uncle Ed spoke up to add, "It was so nice to have Ordinance Service this week before Easter Sunday," he said. "There is strength and hope in the true remembrance of that first morning when Jesus arose from the dark tomb. Remembering the truth satisfies me."

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Who begged to take Jesus' body and bury it?
2. Who were afraid Jesus' disciples might steal His body?
3. What was rolled over the door of the grave?
4. Who watched the grave carefully?
5. What happened just at dawn?
6. Who came down from heaven?
7. What did he do?
8. Who became as dead men?
9. Where did Jesus tell His disciples to go?



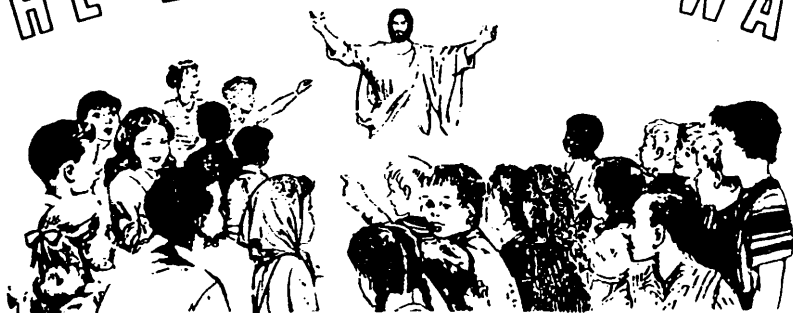
(Answers: 1. Joseph. 2. His enemies. 3. A great stone. 4. Guards. 5. The earth trembled. 6. The angel of the Lord. 7. He rolled back the heavy stone and sat on it. 8. The guards. 9. To Galilee.)



Lesson Texts: Matt. 27:59-66; 28:1-10.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 17      April 22, 1990

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## THE WALK TO EMMAUS

Two disciples of Jesus walked along the road from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus. As they slowly walked along, they talked about all the things that had happened in Jerusalem. They spoke of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus and about what the women had told them after they visited Jesus' empty grave.

As they talked, Jesus, Himself, came up and walked along with them. The disciples did not know it was Jesus. Jesus asked, "What are you talking about? Why are you so sad?"

One of the disciples, named Cleopas, asked, "Don't you know what things have been happening in Jerusalem?"

The disciples told Him how Jesus had been condemned to death and crucified. They told Him about the angel who had appeared to the women at Jesus' tomb and that the tomb was empty.

Jesus then began to show them by the Scriptures that Christ would have to suffer these very things and that He would rise the third day, proving that He was indeed the Saviour.

When they came to Emmaus, the two disciples begged Jesus to stay with them because it was getting late. Jesus went in with them and as they sat down to eat, Jesus took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them. At once their eyes were opened and they knew Him! Immediately, He vanished.

The two disciples were so happy, they hurried to Jerusalem to the room where the other disciples were. When they had shut the door, they told about seeing Jesus. Suddenly, Jesus stood there with them. He was alive!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory."** Luke 24:26



# Beautiful Light

(A true story)

A few short years ago, a Jewish girl, like most other Jews, did not believe Jesus had arisen from the tomb. She had been told the lie that Jesus had been stolen away and that was all she knew.

Then one day this girl, whom we shall call Ruth, became very sick. She was in the hospital and the doctors didn't know if she would live. Then she saw a vision that God sent to her.

A beautiful, glorious light shone all around Ruth—light more beautiful than the sunshine. Next, Ruth heard a choir singing and it was the most beautiful singing she had ever heard. The harmony was perfect and Ruth listened closely to hear the words they were singing. She couldn't understand the words because they were in Hebrew, the old Jewish language. Then into the light came a man dressed in a white robe. His face was shining and His eyes were kind but commanding. He just stood before Ruth with His arms outstretched, looking right into her eyes. Ruth felt a very deep respect for this One in white and felt herself kneeling before Him.

From that time on, Ruth began to get better. Though Ruth never told anyone about this vision, she could not forget it and she said the Hebrew words over and over to herself so she would remember what they were.

A few years passed by and Ruth married and became a nurse. One day, Ruth met a man in the hospital who was very sick. The man was a good Christian who read the Bible and believed in the saving grace of Jesus. Ruth heard from him more about Jesus than she had ever heard. She had not heard that Jesus was truly the Son of God. She had just thought of Jesus as a good prophet. Ruth would hear this Christian man pray to Jesus and that would touch her heart.

As time went by, the man became weaker and weaker until Ruth knew it would be just a few hours before he

died. His wife and children were with him and Ruth was helping to care for him. Suddenly, the room lit up with a beautiful glorious light. Each one saw it and felt the presence of a Divine Being. The sick man smiled and then stopped breathing.

Ruth remembered her vision and knew that was the same light she had seen. Now she was determined to know what those Hebrew words meant. Ruth had written them down long ago, so she took the words and found a Hebrew professor who could tell her what they were. He told her that the beautiful choir had been singing, "Praise to the Son of God!" Now Ruth knew it was Jesus Christ she had seen!

Ruth became a Christian and she told others that Jesus was alive, for she had seen Him and she knew He took those who believe on Him to heaven.

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Who walked along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus?
2. Who came up and walked with them?
3. Did they know who He was?
4. What did Jesus ask?
5. What was the name of one of the disciples?
6. What did the two beg Jesus to do?
7. What happened when they recognized Jesus?
8. Where did the two disciples go after they knew they had been with Jesus?
9. Who suddenly appeared with the disciples?



(Answers: 1. Two of Jesus' disciples. 2. Jesus. 3. No. 4. "What are you talking about? Why are you so sad?" 5. Cleopas. 6. To stay with them. 7. He vanished. 8. To Jerusalem. 9. Jesus.)



Lesson Texts: Luke 24:13, 15-24, 27-33, 35-36.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 18    April 29, 1990

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## JESUS SERVES THE FISHERMEN

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His apostles different times. Last Sunday our lesson told us about how He walked with two disciples as they were on their way to Emmaus. Later our lesson told us how He appeared to a number of the disciples as they were gathered together behind closed doors in Jerusalem. Today our lesson tells us how Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias.

One day Peter told the other disciples, "I'm going fishing!" The others decided to go with him, so they all got into a ship. They fished all night long but didn't catch a fish.

The next morning Jesus stood on the shore watching the ship. The disciples did not know it was Jesus. Jesus called to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They called back, "No!"

Jesus told them, "Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and you will find fish."

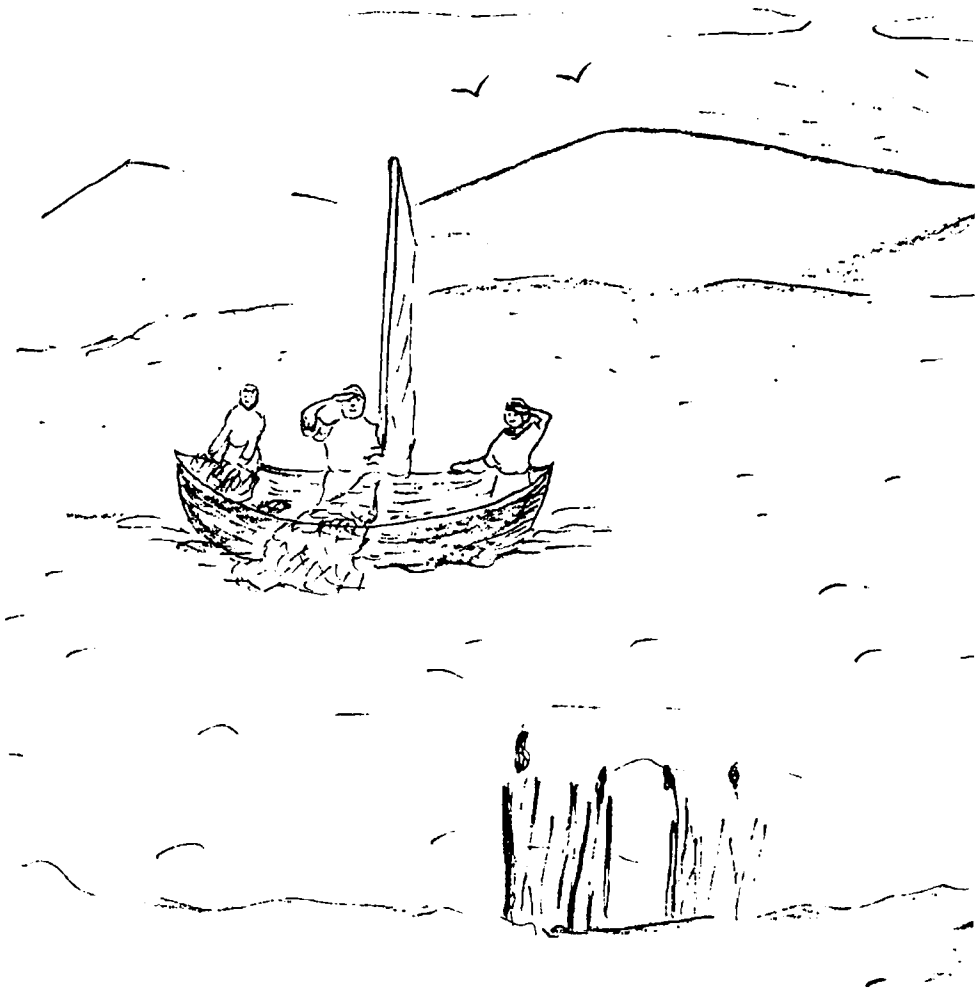
When they let their net down on the right side of the ship as He told them to, they caught so many fish that they couldn't pull their net back up, it was so heavy. It was a miracle!

John told the others, "It is the Lord!"

When Peter heard that it was Jesus, he jumped into the sea and swam to shore to meet Him while the others came in the ship, dragging the net full of fish behind them.

When they got on shore, they saw that Jesus had a fire built with fish and bread cooking on the coals. He said, "Come and eat," then served them fish and bread. Even after His resurrection, Jesus still served others.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister.”**

**(Matt. 20:28)**



# Fishing

"Daddy, wouldn't you rather be fishing than reading the newspaper?" asked David as he sat down beside his father.

"I guess," said Daddy from behind his newspaper.

"Jimmy said his daddy knows where there are a lot of fish in a nearby pond. They are going fishing Saturday," stated David with a hint in his voice that he would like to do the same.

Daddy didn't answer, so David tried to hint in another way. "Jesus baked fish one time for the disciples and they really did enjoy eating them," he said. "Jesus even told the disciples where to fish so they could catch more. He thought it was good to go fishing."

Now Daddy lay down his paper. "It is okay to go fishing," he said with a smile, "but sometimes it is not convenient. It takes a lot of work to get poles and tackle ready, and then you need to go where there are plenty of fish. You need to go at the right time when fish are biting and you need to know where they are biting."

David was now the one quiet for a moment. then he said, "Well, we can just ask Jesus where the fish are biting! He told the disciples where to fish!"

This answer caused Daddy to laugh. "Well, well, well," he said, "Jesus does have the answers and you do have the faith to get the answers! Maybe we could find where some fish are biting after all! Tell me, David, do you know how the disciples caught fish?"

"They didn't use poles, but they used nets so they could catch more at a time," replied David.

"Yes," said Daddy. "Last week I was reading about their way of fishing, along with a description about the nets. If the fishermen were near the shore or in shallow water, they used the cast net. It is large and round like a circle. At the edges of the circle, there are weights which draw the net down. The net is spun out flat over the water surface. Then the weights quickly pull it down over the fish. With a cord attached to the center of the net, the fishermen pull the net up out of the water. All the fish

are then caught into the mesh of the net. This method of fishing is still used today on the Sea of Galilee. Out in the ship, fishermen use a drag net. They hold the mouth of these nets wide open while the ship moves gently through the water. Startled fish are caught into the net. When it is full, the fishermen pull the net up and dump the fish onto the bottom of the ship. Fish that are too small or cannot be eaten, are thrown back into the water."

"We could go fishing with nets if you want to," said David who liked what Daddy had said.

"We had better try the poles and fishing hooks," replied Daddy. "That is what I am used to using. Maybe Uncle Andrew won't mind if we fish in his pond. Did you say you wanted to fish this Saturday?"

David's eyes shone as he nodded his head.

"If you will help me do some things around the house," said Daddy, "then we will try to go fishing Saturday."

—Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. Where were the two disciples going when Jesus walked with them?
2. Who did He appear to in Jerusalem while they were behind closed doors?
3. In our lesson today, where was Jesus when He appeared to the disciples?
4. Who said, "I'm going fishing"?
5. Who decided to go with him?
6. How many fish did they catch that night?
7. Who stood on shore the next morning?
8. What did He tell them to do?
9. Who served them fish and bread when they got to shore?



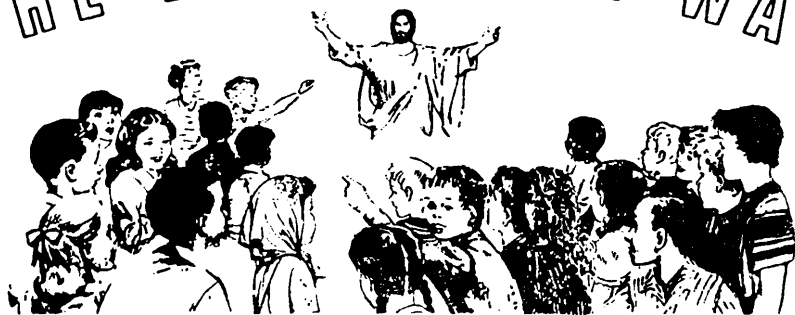
(Answers: 1. To Emmaus. 2. To a number of the disciples. 3. At the Sea of Tiberias. 4. Peter. 5. The other disciples. 6. None. 7. Jesus. 8. To cast their nets on the right side of the ship. 9. Jesus.)



Lesson Texts: John 21:1, 3-15.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 19      May 6, 1990

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## JESUS SHARES WITH OTHERS

The two disciples who had met Jesus as they walked towards Emmaus hurried back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples. When they reached the room where the disciples were, they closed the door. Then, as they told how Jesus had walked and talked with them, Jesus, Himself, stood with them!

He said, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them the nail prints in His hands, and His side where the soldier had pierced Him with a sword.

Jesus talked with His disciples showing them that everything that had happened to Him was needful that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. He wanted them to know that He was indeed the Christ sent from God. Just as He had been sent, He was sending these disciples to tell others how they could have their sins forgiven.

One disciple, named Thomas, was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. Gladly the others told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But Thomas refused to believe them. He said, "Unless I put my finger in the print of the nails in His hands and put my hand on His side where He was pierced, I will not believe."

Eight days later Jesus again appeared to the disciples. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus told Thomas, "Put your finger in my hands and your hand on my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas knew it was really Jesus. Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you believe. Blessed are those who believe even though they have not seen me."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“These [things] are written, that ye’ r  
Christ, and that believing ye might**



ight believe that Jesus is the  
ve life through His name.” (John 20:31)

# Help For The Snakebite

(A true story)

It was a warm spring day and Todd, who was 12 years old, wanted to take his dog and romp in the woods. "Just be careful," said his father, "and watch for rattlesnakes."

Todd promised he would be careful as he and Hop, the dog, raced each other out the back gate and into the thickets and woods beyond. Soon, Todd and Hop spotted a bird. Todd was jumping over a ditch to get a closer look when he felt his foot slam down on something that moved. Right away his foot felt really hot. Todd looked down and saw a big rattler holding onto his shoe and foot.

Todd remembered that his father had said if a snake bites you, don't run because it sends the poison through your body quicker, but Todd didn't know what to do. He was so far from the house that he knew his parents would not hear him call. He felt so dizzy and weak, yet he tried to walk just a short way. Then he fell, too weak to go farther. He was feeling hot and sick when suddenly Someone strong and quiet picked Todd up.

Todd was hurting so badly that he just leaned his head over on His shoulder. Over a third of a mile Todd was carried and from a deep Voice, Todd heard words of comfort. "You will be very sick," said the Voice, "but you will be alright."

Through the gate and up thirteen steps, Todd was carried and then put down. As he hung onto the door and turned around to thank... to thank... the man was gone! All his eyes saw was a form in white leaving the porch.

"Todd, what's wrong," asked Bob, Todd's older brother who came to the door just then. Todd's mother rushed into the room just in time to hear Todd weakly murmur, "I've been bitten by a rattlesnake."

Quickly they pulled Todd's shoe off. His foot was an ugly purple mass. "Oh, God," prayed his mother, "help us!" Todd was unconscious or in a deep sleep,

and he was shaking in convulsions. They carried him to the pickup and his father drove 17 miles for help.

After two days, doctors gave up hope for Todd to live, but Todd's parents kept praying for their son.

Then a miracle happened. Todd began to improve. In a couple more days Todd slowly opened his eyes and called to his mother and father who were waiting near his bed.

"Todd, we've been so worried about you!" said his father. "Can you tell us what happened?"

"Mom... Dad..." said Todd, hesitatingly. "I know you may not believe me—but I want to tell you something."

Then he told his parents about the strong arms that had carried him and about the deep Voice that had comforted him. No one but Todd had seen Him, but somehow everyone who heard the story knew it was Jesus that had carried Todd to his house.

Jesus is alive and still doing miracles today!

—Connie Sorrell

(A true story taken from a Christian oriented magazine.)

## Questions:

1. Who said, "Peace be unto you"?
2. What did Jesus show the disciples?
3. Why had Jesus been crucified and resurrected?
4. Which disciple was not there when Jesus appeared?
5. What did he do when the others told him they had seen Jesus?
6. Who told him, "Do not doubt but believe"?
7. Who did Jesus say were blessed?

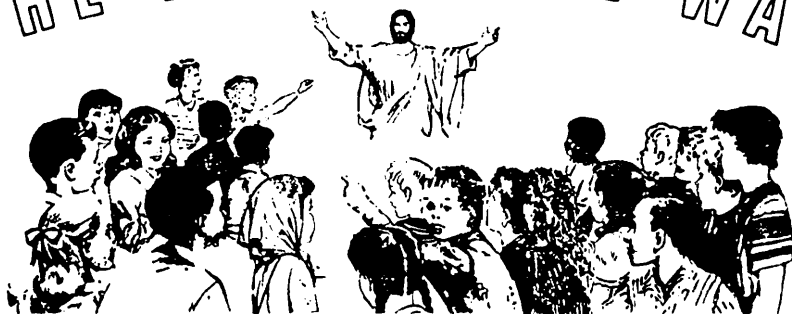


(Answers: 1. Jesus. 2. The nail prints in His hands, and His side where the soldier had pierced Him with a sword. 3. To fulfill the Scriptures. 4. Thomas. 5. He refused to believe. 6. Jesus. 7. Those who believe even though they haven't seen Jesus.)



Lesson Texts: John 20:19-22, 23-31; I Cor. 15:5-6; Acts 1:3.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 20      May 13, 1990

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## THOSE LAST WORDS OF JESUS

For forty days after Jesus rose from the grave, He often appeared to His disciples. He talked with them about the Kingdom of God and carefully explained the Scriptures. Jesus wanted the disciples to understand the Scriptures because they had told beforehand about His death and resurrection. He had made the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament come true.

At their farewell meeting, Jesus told them, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." He told them that He would save everyone who believed and was baptized.

Jesus promised to always be with them, even to the end of the world. Because He would be with them, those who believed would be able to cast out devils in His name and they would lay hands on the sick and they would be healed.

Knowing that they would need special power to carry out His commands, Jesus told His disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they were given power from on high by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus then walked with the disciples as far as Bethany. Here He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, Jesus was lifted up into heaven until they could no longer see Him.

The disciples went back to Jerusalem. They were not sad but very joyful. They knew Jesus would always be with them as He had promised.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.”**

**(Matt. 28:19-20)**





# Why I Know

(A true story)

Do you believe that Jesus arose from the grave? Do you believe that Jesus is alive today and sitting at the right hand of God, His Father? I hope you believe, because it is true!

How do you know that Jesus is alive? I will tell you how I know! One time when I was a young girl, I went to the altar during altar call at church. I felt so guilty for my sins—sins such as being proud and stuck-up; not being honest; getting angry easily; fussing with my brothers and sister; and many other sins that I am too ashamed to mention. I felt guilty and heavy in my heart about these sins, so I was crying when I knelt down to pray at the altar.

My grandmother came to pray with me. She told me I had to truly believe in my heart that Jesus would take away those awful sins, forget them, and make my heart pure inside. Oh, yes, I believed Jesus could do it, I said! So we prayed. I knew exactly when Jesus heard my prayer. Suddenly my guilty, heavy heart felt light and joyful! I felt an instant change come over me and I knew that touch came from Jesus.

Jesus! The One who calmed the tossing Sea of Galilee—He had visited my heart and spoken peace to it!

This is one reason why I know that Jesus is still alive today. Has Jesus ever taken your load of sins away? Have you ever asked Him to? When you hear Jesus visiting your heart, asking in a quiet voice to come in, then open up your heart to Him! Jesus will take away your sins and save your soul from hell.

There have been other times when I knew Jesus was there helping me. Two times I have been very sick and weak, lying in bed for a few days. Some saints came to pray for me. One time from a deep sleep I remember hearing them pray for the Lord to bring me back. From His throne in heaven, Jesus looked down, heard their prayers, and touched and healed me!

Another time, Jesus helped me when I was in a problem. My husband and I

were accused of trusting Jesus. The police came and arrested us and put us in jail. We were told it was illegal in America to trust Jesus like we do.

We prayed and fasted and saints all around in America and some in foreign countries prayed that Jesus would release us from this law and the police. I remember praying earnestly to Jesus that if He could find 1 person, or 2 persons, or 3 persons that believed in Him, that He would please put them on the jury that would judge in our trial.

Yes, Jesus answered prayer! It was a miracle—Jesus found 12 persons who all agreed that He is alive and can heal sick people who pray to Him! One more time Jesus had mercy on us!

Now these are just some of the reasons why I know that Jesus is living today and still doing miracles. Do you know some things that Jesus has done? Tell others what He has done for you!

—Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. For how many days did Jesus appear to His disciples after He rose from the grave?
2. What did He talk with His disciples about?
3. What did He explain to them?
4. Who has all power in heaven and earth?
5. Who did Jesus promise to save?
6. How long did Jesus promise to be with them?
7. Where did Jesus tell His disciples to stay until they were given power?
8. Where did Jesus walk with His disciples before He blessed them?
9. What happened while He was blessing the disciples?



(Answers: 1. Forty days. 2. About the Kingdom of God. 3. The Scriptures. 4. Jesus. 5. Everyone who believes and is baptized. 6. Always. 7. At Jerusalem. 8. To Bethany. 9. He was lifted up into heaven.)



LESS . Texts: Matt. 28:16-20; Mark 16:16-20; Luke 24:46-53.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 21      May 20, 1990

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## GOD'S NEW PROPHET

God saw Elijah hiding in a cave. God asked, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah reminded the Lord of all that had happened in Israel. "The people have forsaken your law, thrown down your altars, and even killed your prophets. I am the only one left and now they want to kill me," Elijah said.

God told him, "Go out and stand upon the mountain before the Lord." Elijah did as God commanded him.

God then caused a strong wind to sweep across the mountain so violently that even the rocks broke in pieces. But God was not in the wind. Next a great earthquake shook the mountain; but God was not in the earthquake. A fire then broke out; but God was not in the fire.

When everything was quiet after the fire, Elijah heard a still small voice. At once he knew this was the voice of God. Wrapping his coat about his face, Elijah stood in the door of the cave to listen.

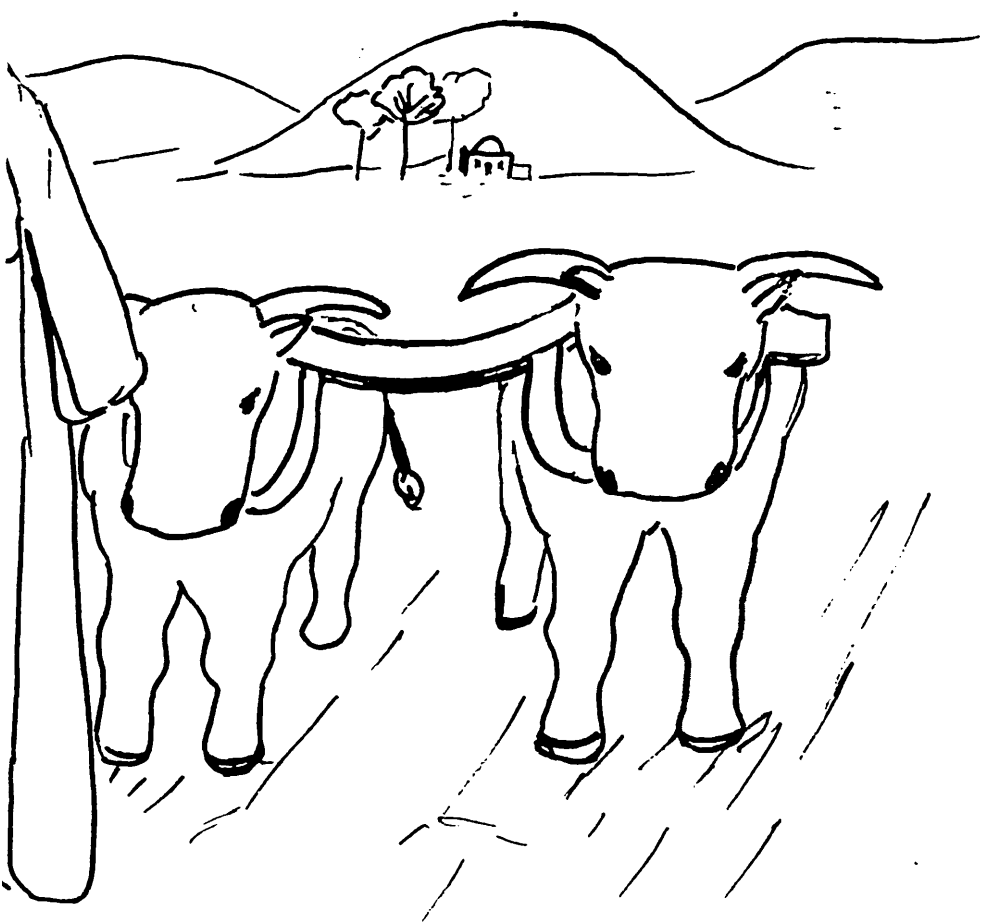
God told him, "Go back to Israel and anoint Elisha to take your place when you die." God also told Elijah that He had seven thousand people in Israel who still loved and worshiped Him only. Elijah was not the only one left who served God.

Now Elijah was not afraid to go back to Israel. He did as the Lord commanded.

He found Elisha plowing with oxen in his father's field. Elijah threw his coat over Elisha's shoulders. This was a sign that Elisha was to take Elijah's place as a prophet of God.—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“Then he arose and went after Elijah,  
and ministered unto him.” (I Kings 19:21)**



## An Important Question

"Mother, how do you know when it is God speaking to you and not the devil?" Jennifer asked her mother as she stood drying the dishes Mother had washed.

"Usually God's voice is gentle but very firm," replied Mother. "He will never go against the written Word of God, so it is very important that you keep the Word of God in your heart. Then you can check the voice to see if it is agreeing with the Bible."

Jennifer was quiet for awhile as she dried a few more dishes. Then she said, "Today we talked about what we want to be when we grow up. I don't know yet what I want to be. I said I would just let God tell me."

"Oh, I see," said Mother. "Don't worry about it, honey. God has special plans for each one of His children. If you will obey His voice day by day, when you get to be a young adult, God will let you know what you can do with your life. Even then, God sometimes makes changes for our good, so the best thing to do is live every day for God and He will take care of the future."

"Well, most of the girls want to get married someday and have a boy and girl of their own, but I don't think any of the boys want to get married."

"God will take care of that, too," replied Mother as she smiled at Jennifer. "Be friends with everyone and put love for God and Jesus first in your life. Then love Mother and Daddy and help us out. The Bible tells you to do this, you know. Then someday when God gives you a husband, you will be a good wife because the Lord is living in your heart. Boys should put the Lord first in their lives, also. Live for God and He will direct your path or future, as one Scripture says."

Jennifer helped Mother finish with the dishes and next came bedtime. After the evening Bible story and prayer, Jennifer asked Mother to tell how she had met her daddy.

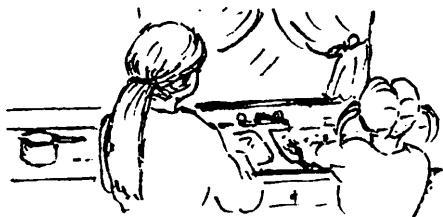
Mother began: "I didn't even know about him until I was 12 or 13. I didn't think there was any boy I would marry,

so I planned to live with my parents and maybe go to college. I was not even thinking about a boyfriend when I met him, but somewhere down inside, I knew he was special. I just continued to live for the Lord and let Him work a lot of things out for me. Sometimes we can get into a big hurry and spoil God's plans. Learn to be patient with life, and God will time each thing just right. We both loved God and we loved each other. Because we put God first, our marriage and our future has worked out alright."

Jennifer sighed. "Well, I'll try to be patient, but I want to make sure I will hear God's voice when He talks to me."

"Learn the Word of God and obey your parents," said Mother, "and you will have a good chance of hearing God's voice each time He speaks to you." Then Mother kissed her little girl.

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Who was hiding in a cave?
2. Who saw him there?
3. What did God tell Elijah to do?
4. What swept across the mountains, breaking rocks in pieces?
5. What shook the mountain?
6. What happened next?
7. How did God speak to Elijah?
8. Who did God tell Elijah to anoint?
9. What was Elisha doing when Elijah found him?



(Answers: 1. Elijah. 2. God. 3. To go out and stand on the mountain. 4. A strong wind. 5. A great earthquake. 6. A fire broke out. 7. In a still small voice. 8. Elisha. 9. He was plowing in his father's field.)



Lesson Texts: I Kings 19:9-13, 15-16, 18-21.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 22      May 27, 1990

## ELISHA GETS HIS WISH

Elijah knew that he would soon go to heaven. He went from place to place visiting the prophets for the last time. Knowing that Elijah would soon leave him, Elisha went everywhere with the old prophet. At each place Elijah told Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord wants me to go on." Each time Elisha answered, "I will not leave thee."

When Elijah and Elisha reached the Jordan River, the old prophet took off his coat, wrapped it together, and hit the water with it. At once the water parted and the two walked across the river on dry ground.

When they were on the other side, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken away from you."

Elisha quickly answered, "I beg you, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me!"

Elijah answered him, "You have asked a hard thing. But, if you see me when I am taken from you, you will receive your wish."

As they walked on, a chariot of fire drawn by horses of fire suddenly appeared, separating them. As Elisha watched, he saw Elijah taken up to heaven by a whirlwind.

When Elisha looked down, he saw that Elijah's coat had fallen to the ground. He picked it up and walked back towards the Jordan River. When he reached the river, he wrapped the coat together and hit the water, just as Elijah had done. The waters parted.

When the other prophets saw Elisha, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha!" Elisha had received his wish.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"I pray thee, let a double portion of  
thy spirit be upon me." (II Kings 2:9)**





# To Be Like Who?



"I'm tired of playing cars," said Timmy as he sat down on Scott's front porch with two Hot Wheels in his hand. "Isn't there something else we can play—it's so hot and boring today."

"Well, we could play some kind of a game," replied Scott.

"I don't want to play any ole games," grumbled Timmy. "Let's do something exciting—something fun. I know what we can play! Let's play boxing! I can be Mike Tyson and you can be anyone you want to be."

"Oh, I don't want to play boxing," sighed Scott. "Mike Tyson isn't any hero to pretend like anyway. He's already lost as the champion."

"He's still a champion to me!" declared Timmy. "When I grow up I want to be a boxer just like Mike Tyson!"

"Not me!" retorted Scott. "My daddy said he may think he has the world swinging around him, but deep inside he isn't happy. You wouldn't be happy either, Timmy, if you were a boxer. You would have to have a wicked heart to beat up another man."

"I'll just be a Christian boxer," replied Timmy more quietly.

"Now, Timmy," said Scott, "you can't be a Christian and fight other guys. The Paul in the Bible quit hurting people after he saw Jesus and got saved. Paul had been taking people to jail, but God told him not to do that anymore but to preach about Jesus. Have you ever heard the stories about Paul and what all happened to him after he was saved? He really had a lot of fun and excitement! One time he was shipwrecked at sea and when they finally got to land on an island, a snake bit Paul and he just threw it in the fire and went on—didn't even die. That's the kind of men who live for God. I want to be big and strong like that someday!"

"Well, Paul lived a long time ago," said Timmy. "Nobody is like that today."

"Oh yes there is!" defended Scott. "Last year my daddy hurt his foot real-

ly bad and he could hardly walk because there was so much pain, but soon Jesus took away the pain and then He healed Daddy's foot sooner than anyone thought it would heal. You can really be strong when you pray to Jesus."

"I don't know," said Timmy. "I like the strongness that beats up people."

"And someday, someone will beat you just like someone finally beat Mike Tyson," replied Scott. "If you have strongness from Jesus, then you will have peace in your heart and go to heaven after you die. Boxing doesn't give you all that stuff."

"Okay, okay," Timmy sighed. "Maybe we ought to be like Paul and pretend we get shipwrecked. I can be Paul and you can be whatever you want to be."

"Alright," agreed Scott, "then I'll be like Jesus and tell you what to do!"

"You can't be Jesus!" declared Timmy.

"Yes, we can all be like Jesus," Scott said. "The Bible says so." And he began to tell Timmy about Jesus.

—Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. Who knew that he would soon go to heaven?
2. Who went everywhere with him?
3. What did Elisha answer when he was told, "Stay here"?
4. What happened when Elijah hit the water with his coat?
5. What did Elisha wish for?
6. What did Elisha have to do to get his wish?
7. What suddenly separated the two prophets?
8. How was Elijah taken to heaven?
9. What had fallen to the ground?



(Answers: 1. Elijah. 2. Elisha. 3. "I will not leave thee." 4. The water parted. 5. A double portion of Elijah's spirit. 6. He had to see Elijah when he was taken away. 7. A chariot and horses of fire. 8. By a whirlwind. 9. Elijah's coat.)



Lesson Texts: II Kings 2:1-15.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 41, No. 2      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 23      June 3, 1990

## SOME CHILDREN MOCK ELISHA

The prophets knew that the spirit of Elijah rested upon Elisha. He was now their master and teacher.

The prophets wanted to send fifty men across the Jordan River to search for Elijah's body. They thought they might find it on top of some mountain. Elisha knew that God had taken him to heaven so he told them not to go. The prophets would not rest until they had looked for Elijah's body, so Elisha gave them permission to go.

After searching everywhere for three days they returned to tell Elisha that they had not been able to find the body. Elisha told them, "Didn't I tell you not to go?"

While Elisha stayed with the prophets at Jericho, the men of the city came to him and said, "Our city is in a pleasant place, but we do not have good water to drink and our land is barren because of the bad water."

Elisha said, "Bring me a new bottle and put salt in it." When this was done, he took the salt to the springs where the people got their water. Throwing the salt into the water he said, "Thus saith the Lord, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren land." The waters were healed, just as Elisha said.

One day as Elisha walked towards Bethel, some children came out of a city and began mocking him. Looking back toward the children, Elisha rebuked them in the name of the Lord. Soon, two bears came out of the woods and attacked the children. Forty-two children were torn by the bears because they did not respect God's prophet.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Let the elders that rule well be cou**



ted worthy of double honour."

(I Tim. 5:17)



## Chickens In Church

Once upon a time there was an elderly sister whom we shall call Sis. R. who attended the church. She was a rather quiet, calm, elderly sister with deep creases on her face that came from hard work under the hot sun for many, many summers. She would stand straight and tall, looking like an Indian with her long grey braid trailing down her back.

Sis. R. would stand and watch the little children run and play after church. Sometimes there would be a smile playing at the corners of her mouth as one child or so would think to speak to her. She had raised 9 children of her own and the playing children probably made her remember her own sweet children. Then after awhile she would walk home from church.

Sis. R. lived all by herself now and no doubt she felt very lonesome after having a houseful of busy children when she was younger. That was probably why she kept so many chickens—to keep her company. Not only did she have chickens, they lived with her. All day long chickens scratched for bugs and things in her small fenced in yard. Sis. R. would feed them grain and talk to each one by name as if they all were her little children. Then at night, they would come into her house and roost on her shelves in the kitchen and bathroom. She kept them safe from owls, hawks, dogs, or cats that might be looking for a meal of chicken.

One Wednesday night when Sis. R. was getting ready for church, two little baby chicks hatched out of their eggs. Though their mama hen was nearby guarding them, Sis. R. felt motherly over these two helpless baby chicks. What if something happened to them while she was at church? To make sure they would be safe, Sis. R. stuck them in some Kleenex and into her apron pocket. Away she went to church with two chicks peeping in her pocket.

At church she stood up and testified and told about the sweet baby chicks that everyone had heard peeping during service.

After church Sis. R. walked down the steps and went around the corner to walk home when something very shameful happened. Some children began to tease Sis. R. and call her names. She heard, and no doubt it hurt her heart, but she never said a word and she never looked at the children. But someone told the children's parents.

The parents took their children over to Sis. R.'s house where they politely told her they were very, very sorry for what they had said and promised to never do such a thing again. She smiled and took it all very sweetly. Then do you know what the children did to make it right? They helped Sis. R. tidy up her yard and clean up her house.

Never, no never, make fun of older people for any reason.

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Whose spirit rested on Elisha?
2. What did the prophets want to search for?
3. How many men went to look for it?
4. How many days did they search?
5. Why was the city of Jericho barren?
6. What did Elisha throw into the water?
7. Where was Elisha going when the children mocked him?
8. What came out of the woods?
9. How many children were hurt?

(Answers: 1. The spirit of Elisha. 2. Elisha's body. 3. Fifty. 4. Three days. 5. The water was bad. 6. Salt. 7. To Bethel. 8. Two bears. 9. Forty-two.)

Lesson Texts: II Kings 2:16-25.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 41, No. 2    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 24    June 10, 1990

## THE VALLEY OF WATER

When Elisha was a prophet, King Jehoram ruled over Israel and he did not worship the true living God. He served the idol named Baal which was a false god made of stone.

One day King Jehoram became angry at the king of Moab, so he gathered two other kings with him and together they agreed to fight against the king of Moab. After these three kings had gathered a great big army together, they started marching towards Moab for battle. After seven days, they came to a desert place where there wasn't any water.

The king of Judah was with King Jehoram and he said, "Let us ask a prophet of God what we should do." This king of Judah worshiped the true living God.

They called Elisha who scolded King Jehoram for his wicked ways. However, because the king of Judah worshiped the true living God, Elisha asked God what should be done.

"Make this valley full of ditches," said Elisha, "for the Lord said, 'you shall not see wind, neither shall you see rain; yet this valley shall be filled with water that you may drink, both you and your beasts.' And this is a small thing in the sight of the Lord."

The soldiers began to dig ditches right away. Then, in the early morning, they found that the ditches were full of water. God had quietly sent special water to that great army of men.

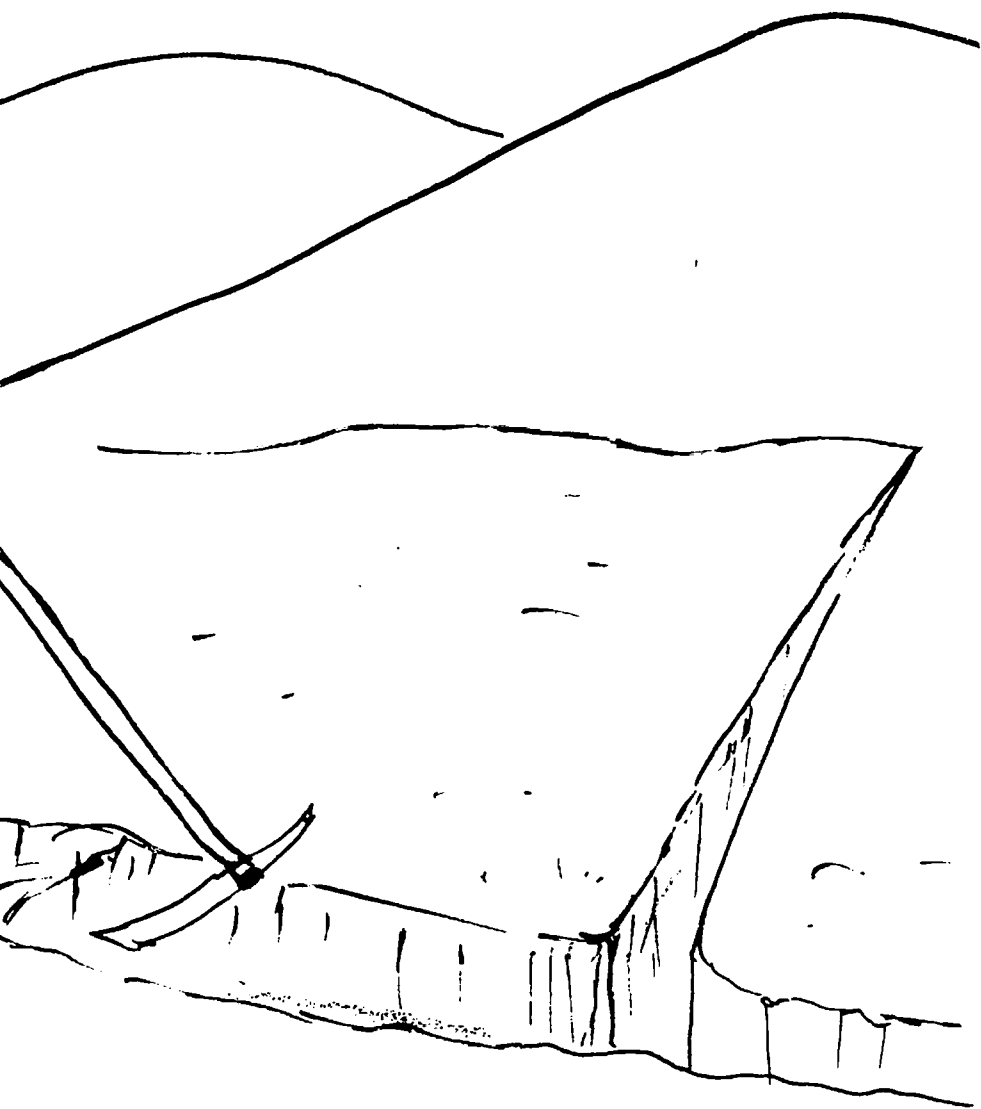
After drinking of this good water, the soldiers gained strength and went out to battle. They won the victory because they had asked the Lord for help.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell



**"I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt  
have no other gods before me."**

(Ex. 20:2-3).



# Worship God Only

(Based on a true story)

Mother heard the front door bang shut and she looked up from her sewing to see Randy come to her with a very disgusted look on his face.

"Why, Randy, what is wrong," Mother asked as she put her arm around his shoulders.

"Oh, I'm so tired of playing with Medith. He has such a bad temper and he says 'Oh my —' all the time. I just told him to go home until he learned how to play nicer."

"I see," said Mother quietly. "I am glad you do not want to say that bad saying and pick up Medith's ugly ways. You are a brave soldier to stand for what is right and always honor the true living God in your heart."

Randy sighed then sat down beside his mother for a while to watch her sew. Finally he asked a question that was troubling his mind. "Mama, why does Medith have to say 'Oh my —'? Doesn't he know that grieves God's heart?"

"Son, he hasn't been taught to worship the true living God like you have been," replied Mother. "He only knows the heart worship of money, pride, lust, and the pleasures that do not satisfy. We need to pray for Medith and his family. Maybe we can be a light for the truth, so in their dark minds they can see the love of God."

"I try to be nice, but Medith is hard to please," said Randy. "If he doesn't get his way, he throws some of my toys or calls me bad names."

"When this happens, come inside," said Mother. "But sometimes when you are playing with Medith, sing some songs about Jesus, like 'Jesus Loves Me' and 'I Have The Joy, Joy, Joy.' Then perhaps Medith will ask you why you're singing and you can tell him about Jesus and God and how God doesn't want us to say His name in vain. If you need me to help you, I can talk to Medith also."

A few days later, Randy did get a chance to talk to Medith. Like a big

strong soldier of God, Randy carefully told Medith that he didn't say bad things which hurt God. Medith had never heard it was wrong to say, 'Oh my —' and he really listened to Randy. "Where did you learn all this stuff?" he asked Randy.

"You need to come to Sunday school," said Randy. "We learn it there at church and then each night we read Bible stories at my house before we go to bed."

"Ask your mother if I can come and listen," said Medith eagerly. Like most children, his heart was needing Someone to worship. Mother took special time to read Bible stories to Medith and they took him to Sunday school as much as possible.

Medith was more careful not to say bad words around Randy and he was somewhat more pleasant to play with after this.

Dear children, worship Jesus in your heart, and learn not to break His rules. You will be a much happier person!

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Did King Jehoram serve the true living God?
2. How many kings gathered together?
3. What did the great big army need?
4. Which king served the true living God?
5. What did the Lord tell Elisha to do?
6. Did they obey the Lord?
7. Even though it never rained, what filled up the ditches?
8. Did they win the victory because they asked God for help?



(Answers: 1. No! 2. Three. 3. Water. 4. The king of Judah. 5. To dig ditches. 6. Yes. 7. Water. 8. Yes.)



Lesson Texts: II Kings 3:1-18.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 41, No. 2    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 25    June 17, 1990

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## HELP FOR A FAITHFUL WIDOW

The Old Testament tells us this story about a prophet and his wife who had two good sons. They were poor and had to borrow money from a man called a creditor. Then, one day, the prophet died and went to heaven.

While they were yet crying and missing their father, a man came knock-knock-knocking at their door. It was the creditor! He told the poor mother that she must pay him back all the money or else he would take her two sons to be his servants.

Elisha had known her husband and that they had served the Lord faithfully. God told Elisha what to tell this poor mother. "What do you have in your house?" he asked her.

"Nothing but a pot of oil," she replied.

"Go," he said, "and borrow many empty vessels from your neighbors. Then pour oil from your oil pot until all the other vessels are full of oil."

Right away the mother and her two sons obeyed Elisha. The Lord increased the oil from her oil pot until every borrowed vessel was full. Happily, this mother hurried back to Elisha to see what else to do.

"Go," he said, "and sell this oil. Then pay your bill and you shall keep your two sons and your home."

Again the mother obeyed the man of God and she sold all the oil which had poured from her oil pot. She paid back the borrowed money to the wicked creditor and saved her two sons from slavery. Because she was faithful and obedient, God rewarded this poor widowed mother.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

**"But the Lord is faithful, who shall  
stablish you, and keep you from  
evil."** (II Thess. 3:3).





# Behind The Iron Curtain

(A true story)

Brother Andrew is a man called by God to smuggle Bibles behind the iron curtain where Bibles are forbidden. Not very many years ago in 1955, Bro. Andrew attended a meeting in Poland where he learned just how wicked and hateful a communistic government can be. Leaders of such countries and their police take Bibles and burn them. They hurt Christians who believe in God and obey His voice. There are leaders and police in other countries who still do not like God's Word. They are wicked and live for the devil. This is a true story about how Bro. Andrew first began taking precious Bibles into countries where the police say, "No Bibles!" but the faithful Christian people say, "Praise God!" and hide their precious Bibles from the police.

The Lord worked a miracle for Bro. Andrew so that he received a visa or visiting permission to enter Yugoslavia, a country that does not like Christians. Anyway, Bro. Andrew stuffed his small blue volkswagon car with Bibles and good tracts to take to suffering Christians in Yugoslavia. He prayed faithfully to God for help and protection because he knew it would only be a miracle if he could get those Bibles through the iron curtain.

Do you know what the 'iron curtain' is? Along every country there is a border which is marked by gates on the highways. At these gates in communist countries, soldiers will search cars and ask questions. If they do not like what they see, they will take things like books, jewelry, nice clothes, and nice things, and the police will keep them. Sometimes the visitor will not be allowed across the border after all but must go back where he came from; but if the visitor can go behind the iron curtain or cross into the other country, then the visitor is watched and must check into stations all the time he is there. If the police see that person is a Christian, often they will make him leave right

away. Therefore, it is just as hard to be a Christian and take Bibles through these border guards as it is to beat a hole through an iron curtain with your hand.

Bro. Andrew had a car packed full of Bibles and good tracts and was about to be checked by the iron curtain police. Right there in his car, Bro. Andrew bowed his head and prayed to God for help. "Please, Lord," he prayed, "help their eyes to not see the Bibles and good tracts!"

When Bro. Andrew drove up to the gate, the police had him take out a suitcase which they searched, and they poked around in his car and looked right over the Bibles but never seemed to see them. They finally let Bro. Andrew put things back into his car and he drove away with everything he had brought! This was a very big miracle from God!

In secret meetings, Bro. Andrew gave out the precious Bibles that Bible-hungry Christians kissed and held tightly to their hearts. Because Bro. Andrew was faithful and obedient to take Bibles through the iron curtain, many suffering Christians have been able to read the Bible and live by God's Holy Word. —Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. What had the father been?
2. How many sons were in the family?
3. They borrowed money from a creditor and who came to get that money after the father died?
4. Since the widow did not have any money, the creditor was going to do what?
5. What did Elisha tell her to do?
6. Who increased the oil?
7. How was she able to pay back the bill and keep her sons?

Answers: 1. A prophet. 2. Two. 3. The creditor. 4. Take her two sons to be slaves. 5. To borrow vessels and pour oil from her pot into these. 6. God. 7. She sold the oil and paid the creditor.)

Lesson Texts: II Kings 4:1-7.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## REWARDED FOR GIVING TO ELISHA

Elisha, the prophet of God, was very tired from walking a long, long way to Shunem.

A rich, kind lady noticed the tiredness of Elisha, so she asked this man of God to come eat at her house and rest there also. Elisha ate all he wanted of bread, then he went and laid down for a rest. After that, every time Elisha came to Shunem, he would visit this rich lady and her husband.

One day this rich lady said to her husband, "Behold, I know that this is a holy man of God. Let us make a little chamber (room) on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, a table, a stool, and a candlestick." And her husband let her do so.

The next time Elisha came to Shunem, he was very pleased to find a special room just for him! The Lord then told Elisha to bless this rich lady for her kindness.

"Thou hast shown us so much care," Elisha said, "what is to be done for thee: Do you want honor from the king? Do you want guards from the captain of the army?"

"No, no," replied the kind lady, "I am satisfied."

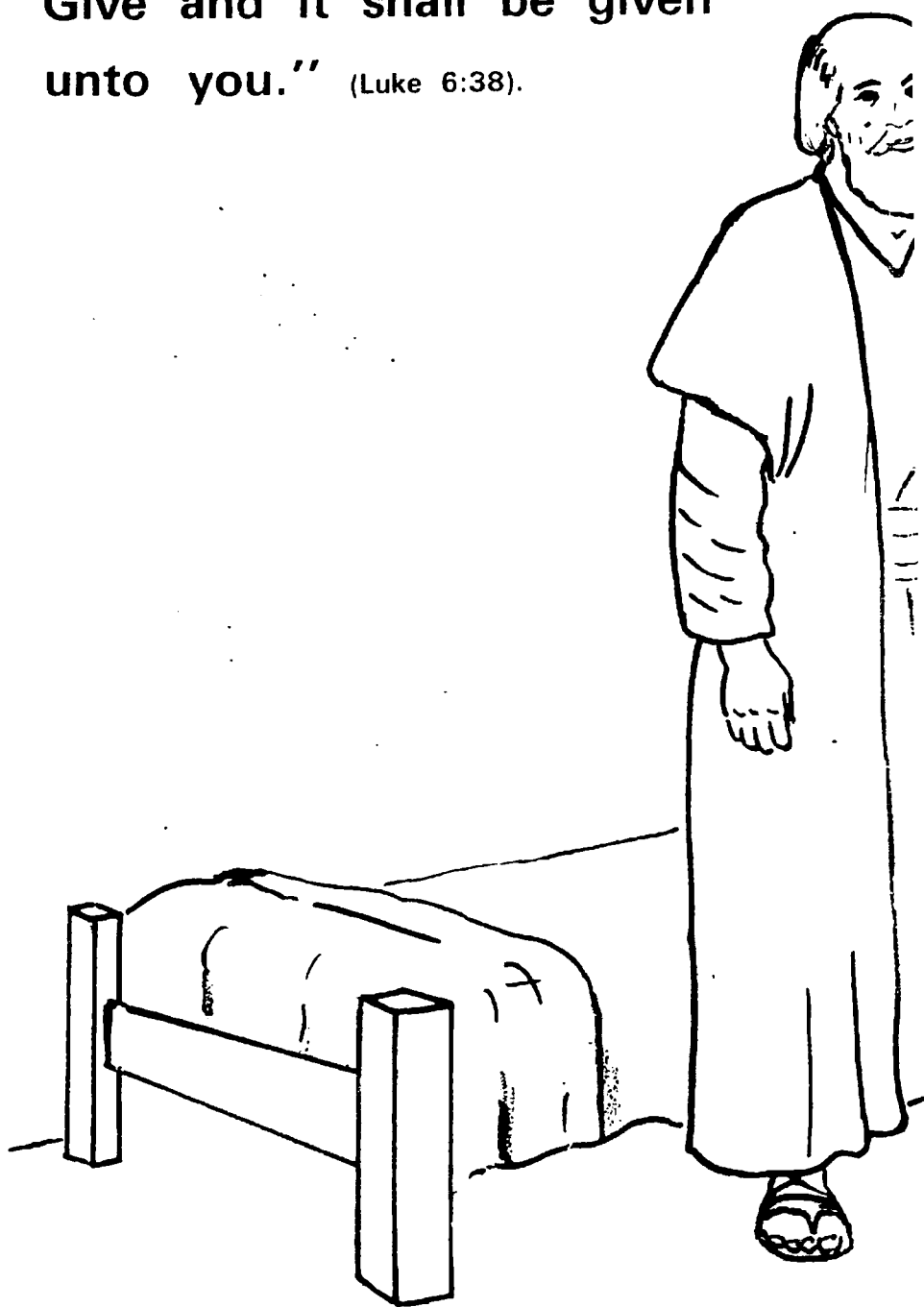
"What then is to be done for her?" Elisha asked her servant.

"She doesn't have any child to make her happy," replied the servant.

Then said Elisha, "About this time next season, you shall have a son of your own to hold in your arms."

Oh, the kind lady could hardly believe her ears! God had seen her faithful kindness to His prophet and so God blessed her and her husband with a healthy baby son! —Sis. Connie Sorrell

**“Give and it shall be given  
unto you.”** (Luke 6:38).





# Charlotte's Mission

Sandra sat next to her mother on the big Greyhound bus. In her arms she held Charlotte, her favorite doll. They were all three going to see Grandmother and Grandfather who lived a long way from Sandra's house.

At one bus stop, Sandra watched a mother and five children climb on board the bus. She noticed that the two girls wore clothes much too big for them, that the three boys had holes in the knees of their pants, and that the mother looked thin and tired. It made Sandra's heart hurt for them and she quietly prayed to the Lord for their needs.

Sandra watched as the family moved down the aisle until they were near her and her mother. She saw the girls settle in a seat across from hers. Sandra smiled at the oldest sister who smiled back and then she looked down at Charlotte whom Sandra held carefully in her arms.

When Sandra saw the other girl's eyes looking at Charlotte, she looked down at her doll also. Mother had made the dress that fit so nicely on Charlotte who looked so much like a real little baby. As the bus began to move again, Sandra played with her doll. She had Charlotte patty-cake, bounce on her knee, drink a play bottle, and do all sorts of things that Sandra remembered real babies doing. All this time, the other little girl watched with shiny eyes while her brothers and sister took naps.

Soon Sandra herself became sleepy and took a nap. She dreamed that she was a little girl wearing a dress much, much too big for her. The only thing she could find comfort in was Charlotte whom she hugged tightly in her arms. When Sandra woke up, she knew that Jesus was talking to her heart about something. Should she give Charlotte to that little girl? Would that little girl know how to care for Charlotte? As the bus sped down the highway, Sandra's mind was tossing these thoughts back and forth.

Finally, Sandra made up her mind. Just as they were getting off the bus, Sandra went over to the little girl and gently laid Charlotte in her arms. The girl's eyes lit up for joy as she had not expected Sandra to do this.

The little girl's mother thanked Sandra and her mother saying, "Last week, our baby girl died leaving our arms very empty. My oldest daughter here helped so much with little Andrea. I think that is why she watched your doll so closely—it reminded her of her baby sister. Thank you."

Sandra climbed off the bus feeling light and happy as she hugged Grandmother, then Grandfather. She knew now why Jesus had wanted her to give Charlotte to that little girl. Jesus had taken their baby sister to heaven to be with Him, and He had wanted Charlotte to comfort the sad big sister. Since Sandra had willingly obeyed Jesus, the little girl was comforted and Sandra felt warm and cheery inside her heart.

—Connie Sorrell



## Questions:

1. Was Elisha tired and hungry after his long walk?
2. Why did the rich lady invite Elisha to her house?
3. Did she think Elisha was a man of God?
4. Did her husband let her make a room for Elisha?
5. After Elisha saw his room, how did he want to reward this kind lady?
6. What did the kind lady not have?
7. Did the Lord reward the kind lady?
8. What did He give her?

(Answers: 1. Yes! 2. So he could eat and rest. 3. Yes! 4. Yes! 5. He asked if she wanted honor or service from the army. 6. A child. 7. Yes! 8. A baby boy.)

Lesson Texts: II Kings 4:8-17.