

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Jan. 6, 1991

GOD LEADS ABRAM

God had scattered the people of Babel so they wouldn't become more wicked. The people moved in all directions and built cities. But most of the people still did not worship God and serve Him.

Not far from Babel, the people built another city. These people worshiped the moon-god named Ur, so they named their city after their god.

Near Ur lived a man named Terah. He had three grown sons whose names were Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran died and left a son named Lot. One day Terah decided the family should move to Canaan, so they took all they owned and began the long journey. When they reached a place named Haran, Terah died. He was 205 years old.

Abram was not like those who lived around him. Like Noah, he worshiped God. One day God spoke to Abram. He told him, "Leave this country, your relatives, and your father's house. Go to a land that I will show you. I will bless you and make you a great blessing. Through you, all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Abram did not understand all that God said to him. Already he was getting old, and he did not even have one child. How could the world be blessed through his family when he had none? He did not understand that God would give him a son and that many years later, Jesus would be born into the very family of Abram. This way Abram's family gave all the world a blessing by giving them a Saviour.

Although Abram did not understand all that God told him, he obeyed through faith. This means that he obeyed God and believed what God said, because he was sure God would keep His promise.

—Sis Nelda Sorrell



"Abram departed, as the Lord ha



and spoken unto him." (Gen. 12:4)

God's Calling

"Christmas was such a happy time this year!" Gary said to his mother as he stood nearby her in the kitchen where she was making hot rolls for supper.

"Yes, it was nice to be with all the family again," replied Mother. "We probably won't see Uncle Ryan and Aunt Sue again for a long time. Do you remember what country they traveled from?"

"Germany!" replied Gary. "I liked seeing the pictures Uncle Ryan took and hearing his stories about people so hungry for freedom and truth. When I grow up, I want to be a missionary like Uncle Ryan. I want to hand out tracts and Bibles to people. It would be exciting to travel and work for Jesus!"

"Yes, it is exciting," agreed Mother, "but there are also hard times and lonely days. Remember, while they have been in Germany these nine months, there have been three weddings, a new baby girl, and two deaths in our family. Aunt Sue said she longed to be with the family at these times and to hug little Angela, but she couldn't."

"And Grandpa so wanted to talk to Uncle Ryan before he died," remembered Gary quietly. "I think it would be hard to be so far away from your dad when he is dying."

"Yes," said Mother, brushing away a tear. "We are thankful that they are willing to work for the Lord in a faraway land, but we miss them and they miss us. That is called a sacrifice. We let them go, and they give their time so that others may hear about Jesus and the Truth that will set them free."

"God must be pleased with them going, for He has answered many prayers for them, sometimes in unusual ways," said Gary. "One was that time when they were needing money for the train so they could get to a meeting in another town. God told Uncle Ryan to pack his Bibles and tracts and to stand in line at the train station. Uncle Ryan obeyed the Lord though he didn't have money for the ticket. While standing in line behind a well dressed man, a sad looking woman suddenly came up to the man and crying asked him not to leave that night. Uncle Ryan could tell by what they said, that they were having marriage troubles. He handed this couple a tract and a Bible. They acted surprised, but thanked Uncle Ryan. After

taking a while longer the man said, 'Okay, I won't leave, but what shall I do with my ticket?' Then he asked Uncle Ryan where he was going, and finding it to be the same place, he gave his ticket to Uncle Ryan, just before the train stopped at the station. Uncle Ryan handed the ticket to the conductor and rode the train to the meeting. That was all directed by God, wasn't it, Mother?"

"Yes, it was," Mother blessed many we know called Germany. Even would very willing for mission-foreign



Germany

Gary, it said "God has them so times that the Lord them to many. though I miss you much, I am you to be a country, if

God calls you. But make sure you are called. Just to go because it sounds exciting is not reason enough to forsake family and friends."

Gary was thoughtful while he watched Mother cover the hot rolls with a clean towel so they could rise before baking.

Then Gary said, "One thing I can do is stay saved, so that if God ever calls me to be a missionary I will be ready to go."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who scattered the people of Babel?
2. Who lived near Ur?
3. How many sons did he have?
4. How old was Terah when he died?
5. Who was different from the people around him?
6. Who did he worship?
7. Who spoke to Abram one day?
8. Who would be born into Abram's family many years later?
9. What was Abram sure of?

[Answers: 1. God, 2. Terah, 3. Three, 4. 208 years old, 5. Abram, 6. God, 7. God, 8. Jesus, 9. None, none that God would keep His promise.]

Lesson texts: Gen. 11:27-12:20.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Jan. 13, 1991

ABRAM MAKES A CHOICE

Abram obeyed God. He left his brother, Nahor, and his family at Haran and started toward Canaan as God had commanded. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, their servants, and all their animals with him. When he reached a place named Bethel, he built an altar and offered a sacrifice to God.

Abram was now a very rich man. He had many servants, flocks and herds of animals, and much gold and silver. Lot also had many servants and animals. Wherever Abram and Lot settled, it looked like a small city.

Soon there was trouble between the servants. Both Abram's and Lot's servants tried to get the best land and the most water for their master's animals. There was not enough water and pasture for them all.

Abram heard about the trouble. He could see how hard it was for the servants to find enough pasture and water. So Abram told Lot, "Let there be no quarrel between us or between our servants. The whole land is before us. Let us separate. If you choose the west country, I will go east; but if you want the east country, I will take the west." God had promised all this land to Abram. Abram could have chosen the best land for himself. Instead, he offered Lot the first choice.

Lot looked out over the green valley with the Jordan River running through it. Selfishly, he chose the best land for himself and moved there.

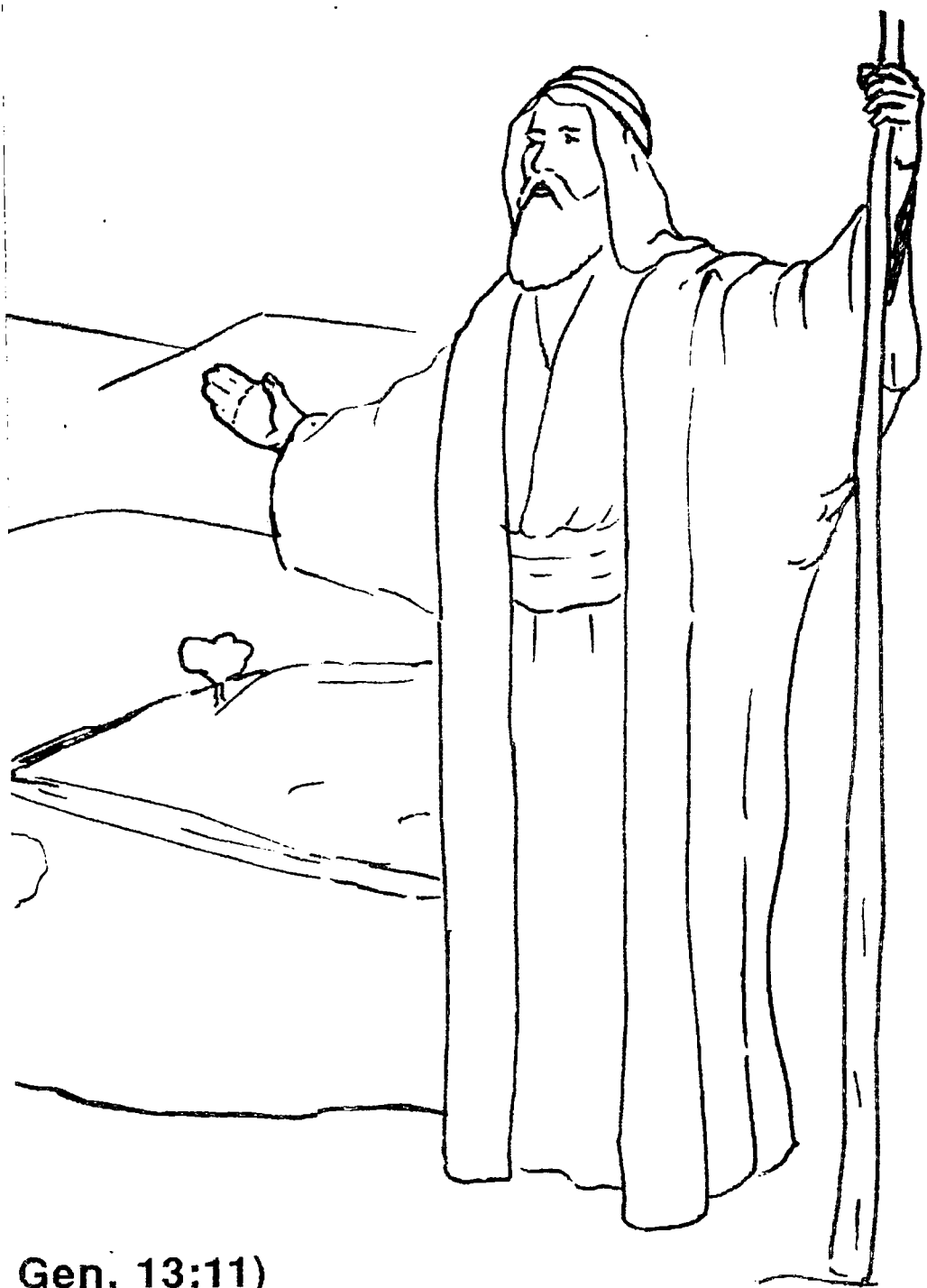
God saw how Abram gave up the best land just to keep peace. He was well pleased. Again He talked to Abram and told him, "Lift up your eyes and look in every direction. All the land that you see I will give to you and your children."

Wherever Abram moved, he always built an altar. Here he worshiped God and talked to Him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan." (



Gen. 13:11)

One Blue Lego

Jim and Donna were in the living room playing nicely with their legos. Jim was building a big truck with black wheels and a blue cab. Donna was making a house with windows and doors in the blue walls.

"Now I need one more blue lego to finish my truck. Do you have an extra one?" he asked Donna.

Donna gathered up the few remaining legos she had set out for her house. "I need every one of these," she told him. "You can look in the lego bucket for more blue ones, if you want one."

Jim dug around in the bucket but couldn't find another blue lego.

"Now I have my house all finished!" declared Donna. "How do you like it?"

Jim looked at Donna's house for a minute. "Well, I think you need another window in it," he said. "Why don't you take out two blue legos right here on this wall."

"I don't want any more windows in my house!" Donna replied. "I like it just the way it is!"

"Then I'll just make a window in your house," said Jim as he reached for Donna's lego house.

"Stop! Stop! Don't tear up my house!" cried Donna. She reached for her house and broke the roof off as she tried to yank it from Jim.

Donna burst into tears. "Now, look! You've broken my house," she cried.

"I did not," said Jim. "You did! You pulled the roof off. I was only taking two legos out of the wall."

"Mama! Mama! Jim is taking all my legos, come and look at what he did to my house!" Donna hurried to the kitchen where Mother was. "Mama, just come and look at what Jim did to my lego house," wailed Donna. Mother followed Donna into the living room. She had heard the children's argument but had hoped they would settle it themselves.

Jim was carefully putting the roof back on Donna's house just as Mother and Donna came into the room. "I didn't mean for her house to be torn up," he told Mother. "I just thought her house would look better with another window and I was going to help her make the window. See, here is the other window. Does that look bad, Donna?"

Donna looked at her house. Really, it looked pretty nice with another window in the back wall. "Okay, I guess it will be all right," she agreed.

Without speaking a word, Mother went back into the kitchen. Jim and Donna settled down to play peacefully with their legos again. Jim put the blue lego into the needed place on his lego truck.

"How do you like my truck?" he asked Donna.

"It looks pretty nice," she replied. "I may have given you that blue lego if you would have said 'please' to me."

"I'm sorry," said Jim. "Let's not fuss any more, okay. 'cause we are brother and sister." —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who obeyed God?
2. Who was Sarai?
3. Who was very rich?
4. What did Abram's and Lot's servants both want?
5. Who heard about the trouble?
6. Who said, "Let us separate"?
7. Who chose the best land for himself?
8. Why did Abram give up the best land?
9. What did Abram always build wherever he moved?

Answers: 1. Abram, 2. Abram's wife, 3. Abram, 4. The best land and good water for their master's animals, 5. Abram, 6. Abram, 7. Lot, 8. He wanted to keep peace, 9. An altar.

Lesson texts: Genesis 13.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Jan. 20, 1991

ABRAM RESCUES LOT

When Lot chose the best land for himself, it seemed he was making a wise choice.

In the land that he chose were two cities, Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot pitched his tent near Sodom. He could make much silver and gold by selling his sheep and cattle in these cities.

The people of Sodom, however, were very wicked. Sodom was not a good place to live because the men of that city cared nothing for God. Lot made a sad mistake by moving his family there.

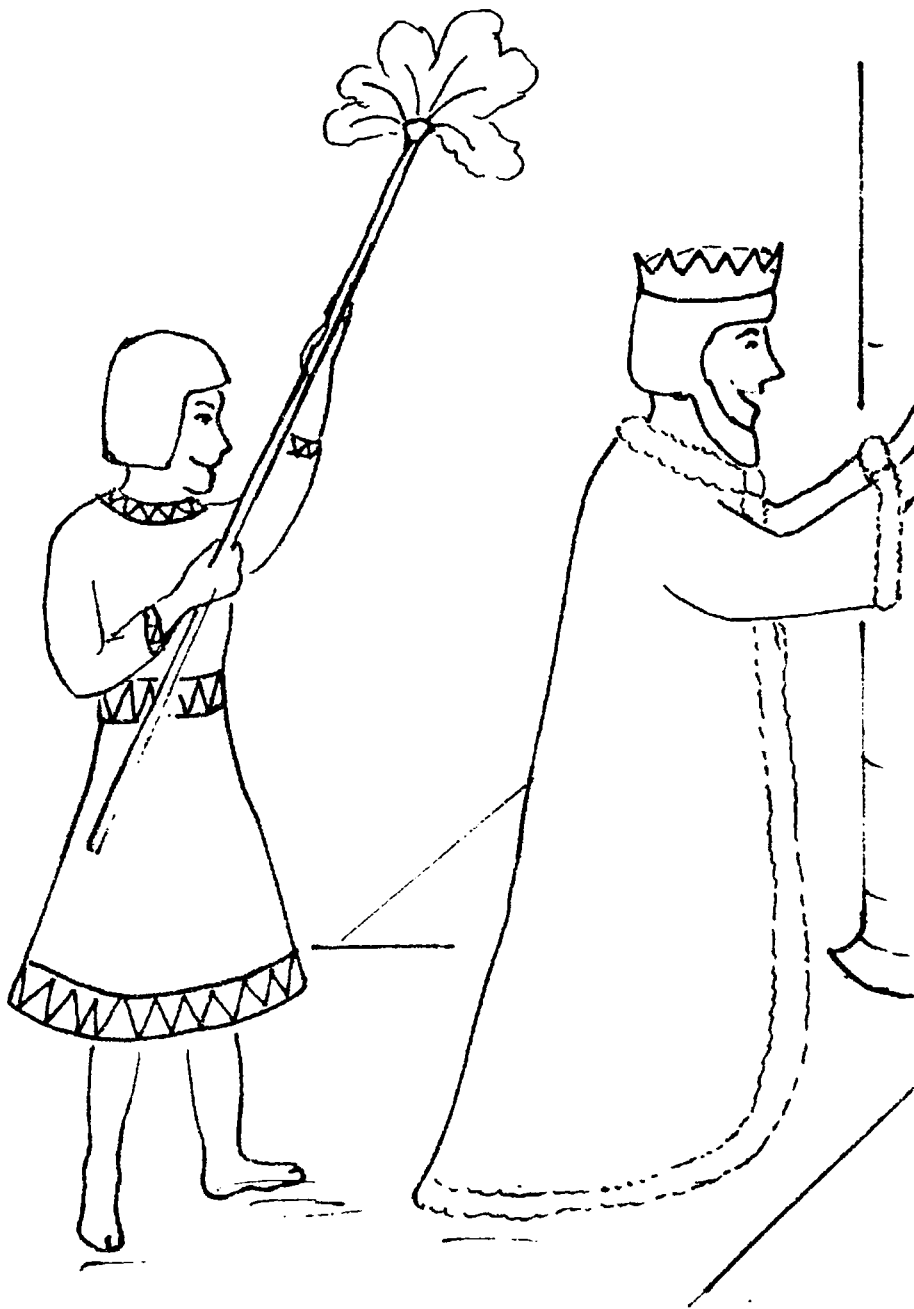
One day trouble came upon Sodom. There had been a war, and the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, and three other cities had gone out to battle. They were defeated. The conquering soldiers then entered Sodom and Gomorrah. They forced their way into rich men's houses, and took everything they could carry away. They even captured people for slaves. Lot, his wife, and his children were taken with the others.

One captive escaped and ran to tell Abram what had happened. As soon as Abram heard about the battle and what had happened to Lot, he gathered men together. He was anxious to rescue Lot and the other captives.

Abram marched with his men until they finally overtook the enemy. It was night and their enemies were asleep. Abram and his men rushed upon them. The enemy soldiers were so frightened, they thought a great army had come against them. They weren't prepared to fight, so they ran away. They left the captives and all the goods they had stolen.

Abram rescued Lot and all the other people and returned everything that had been stolen to the king of Sodom. The king wanted to repay Abram, but he refused. He had promised God that he would not keep anything for himself.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"He brought back all the goods, a



nd his brother, Lot." (Gen. 14:16)

Ahn's Deliverance

When the Japanese soldiers had stormed into the country of Korea, they had closed many churches or put false idols at the doors of churches. Any Christian who refused to bow before the idols of stone was put into prison. Ahn, a Korean woman, was held captive in prison because she had refused to bow before the idols of stone.

Prison conditions were very bad. Ahn was not a very strong person and it was only by God's mercy that she even survived.

In her cell there were nearly 20 other women. Some of the women were there because they were thieves, murderers. By the grace of God, Ahn was able to testify to these poor women and tell them of God's love. This made the head jail keeper very mad. Ahn was punished and sometimes not given food for several days. Each time Ahn was at the point of death, God would touch the heart of a top official who would order Ahn to be given food.

Gradually, the message spread through all the prison cells that Ahn in cell number two was in touch with a God who could see and hear and answer prayer. The light of God began to shine out of Ahn in that dark cruel place.

One thing about Ahn that amazed the other Korean prisoners was that she did not feel bitter and angry at the Japanese for destroying their homeland. Instead, Ahn learned the Japanese language and testified to some of the jailers. We know that only the love of God helped her do this.

One day a jailer came to her cell and said very excitedly, "The Japanese have bombed the island of Hawaii of America!" she told Ahn. "Now Japan is at war with the U.S.A!"

Later she told the tragic news that atomic bombs had destroyed two big cities in Japan. "The Japanese rulers

are having a big meeting," she told Ahn. "They want to punish the Americans for what they have done. In order to please their gods the Japanese have ordered that every person under Japanese rule bow to their idols when the bells ring at nine o'clock Thursday morning. Any one who refuses to bow will be put to death."

Ahn knew she was facing death. Thursday morning came and went, however, the bells did not ring. Soon the jailer hurried to Ahn's cell. "The Japanese rulers who oversee Korea were in an airplane which has crashed into the sea between Japan and Korea."

God had spared Ahn's life once again. Later, she was freed from prison and came over to America to tell her testimony of deliverance. —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who chose the best land for himself?
2. What two cities were in the land he chose?
3. Where did Lot pitch his tent?
4. Why was Sodom not a good place to live?
5. What were the enemy soldiers going to do with Lot and the people they had captured?
6. Who told Abram about Lot's capture?
7. Who went to rescue Lot and the other people?
8. What did the enemy do when Abram and his men rushed upon them?
9. Why didn't Abram let the king repay him?

Answers: 1. Lot 2. Sodom and Gomorrah 3. Towards Sodom 4. The people there were very wicked 5. They were going to make them slaves 6. A captive who had escaped 7. Abram 8. They won 9. He had promised God that he wouldn't keep any thing for himself

Lesson texts: Gen. 14.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Jan. 27, 1991

HAGAR RUNS AWAY

When Hagar was a little girl she lived in Egypt. At one time Abram and his household moved to Egypt because there was a famine in the land of Canaan. When they returned to their home in Canaan, they brought Hagar with them. She was Sarai's servant. While living in Abram's house, Hagar learned about the true God.

One day Sarai became very displeased with Hagar. When Sarai punished Hagar severely, Hagar ran away. She hurried along a lonely sandy road toward her old home in Egypt. Finally, she became so tired that she stopped to rest by a fountain of water. Here the angel of the Lord found her. He asked her, "Hagar, where are you going?"

"I'm running away from my mistress, Sarai," Hagar answered.

"Go back to Sarai and obey her," the angel said. "God will give you a son. He will grow up to be a strong man."

Hagar knew that God had spoken to her. She obeyed the angel and went back to serve Sarai. Later Hagar had a son as God had promised. His name was Ishmael which means, "God hears."

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him again. Abram fell on his face and listened as God spoke to him. God said, "I will make a covenant with you."

Abram knew that a covenant was a promise between two people who each agreed to do something for the other. In this covenant God promised to give Abram and Sarai a son and Abram promised to serve God faithfully. To remind Abram of His promise, God changed Abram's name to Abraham which means, "The father of many." Sarai's name was changed to Sarah which means "princess."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

What do these names mean? Draw a line to the right name

Ishmael

"Princess"

Sarah

"God hears"

Abraham

"The father of many"

"The angel of the Lord said unto her



, Return to thy mistress." (Gen. 16:9)

Joe's Punishment

Joe sat on his back porch step kicking the sidewalk with one boot toe. By the look on his face and by his actions it was very plain that Joe was angry.

Soon Joe's friend, Tony, came walking by. "Come and play football with the rest of the guys down at the schoolground," Tony called to Joe.

"I can't," replied Joe. "I can't have any fun for a whole week."

"How come?" asked Tony.

"Oh, it's because my mom is a worry wart," blurted out Joe. She was all worried about me yesterday 'cause I went to the schoolgrounds and played with you guys before coming home. Dad and Mom had already said that if I did that one more time, I couldn't play games with the boys for a whole week. I don't know why it matters if I come home first. I just say 'Hi' and run out the door again."

Tony hardly knew what to say, so he just said he was sorry about it and went on to the schoolgrounds.

Soon Joe's big sister came out on the porch. "Joe, you can play games with me," she said kindly.

"Girls can't play football like boys," Joe said.

"No," she replied, "but we don't have to play football. We can have fun playing other games like Memory, or . . ."

"I don't want to play any of those games," said Joe with a kick of his boot. "I want to have some action." So Joe's big sister went back inside to leave her brother pouting on the back steps.

Later that evening Joe's favorite uncle came by for a visit. He had already been clued in about Joe's punishment. Though Joe tried to be cranky, soon he found himself laughing with his uncle.

Just before his uncle left, he said to Joe, "Be thankful your parents love you so much that they want to know where you are at all times. Obey your parents and always ask their permission before you go somewhere; it is really for your own safety. Now will you promise me, Joe, that you won't be cranky this week but will help your mother, play games with your sister and do some things

with your dad? There is no need of wasting a whole week only pouting."

Joe nodded his head in agreement. "I will try," he said.

"Good," said his uncle. "I will be praying for you that God will give you extra grace to be a man about staying home."

The next two days Joe helped his mother without complaining, and he played a couple of games with his sister. Then came some sad news that really opened Joe's eyes.

A boy walking home from school was stopped by a young man who asked the boy for help in finding his dog. The boy went with the man, but the man did not hunt for a dog. Instead he beat the boy very badly and left him to die under some bushes. Four hours later another man found the boy and called for help.

The cruel man injured the boy for life. Joe felt very sorry that he had been so angry with his parents. He told them, "Now I understand why you want me to come home first before I play ball or go somewhere else. That way you will know I'm all right and will know where I am. It is really for my own safety."

—Connie Sorrell

"Obey your parents."

Questions:

1. Where did Hagar live when she was a little girl?
2. Where did Hagar learn about God?
3. Why did Hagar run away?
4. Where did she stop to rest?
5. Who found her there?
6. What did the angel tell Hagar to do?
7. What does Ishmael mean?
8. What was Abram's new name?
9. What does Sarah mean?

Answers: 1. In Egypt. 2. In Abram's home. 3. Sarah was displeased with her and had punished her. 4. By a fountain of water. 5. The angel of the Lord. 6. To go back to Sarah and marry her. 7. It means "God hears." 8. Abraham. 9. It means "princess."

Lesson texts: Gen. 16-17.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Feb. 3, 1991

THE LORD VISITS ABRAHAM

While Lot was living in Sodom, Abraham continued to live in his tent home under the oak trees. Here Abraham could worship God and talk to Him. He was not surrounded by wicked men as Lot was. One day while he sat in the door of his tent, he saw three strangers. Abraham ran to meet them.

"Please don't go on," Abraham begged. "You can rest under the tree while I have some food prepared for you. After that you may go on your way."

When the strangers agreed to stay, Abraham hurried to tell Sarah to make some cakes for the men while he prepared meat for them. When everything was ready, Abraham brought the food to his guests. While they ate, he stood by them. After they had eaten, one visitor asked, "Where is Sarah?"

Abraham answered, "She is in the tent."

The visitor then told Abraham that Sarah would soon have the son that had been promised to them. Sarah found this hard to believe so he added, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

When the men started on their journey, Abraham walked with them a little way. By now he knew his visitors were not like other men. Two of them were angels and the other was the Lord. As they walked, the Lord told Abraham, "I am going to visit Sodom and Gomorrah to see if these cities are as wicked as I have heard."

The other two visitors went on, but Abraham wanted to talk to the Lord. He knew that if the Lord destroyed Sodom, Lot would also die. Abraham loved Lot, so he begged the Lord to spare the city. Finally the Lord promised to spare the city if only ten righteous people could be found living there. The Lord then went on towards Sodom and Abraham returned to the tent.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"The Lord appeared to Abra



ham in the plains of Mamre." (Gen. 18:1)



He Kept His Promise

Francine was as happy as she could be riding astride her father's shoulders as he climbed steadily up a mountain of the Alps. Here on the quiet beautiful mountainside she seemed to forget the hunger and fear of the village below. Sometimes she would fall asleep as her head would nod like the blue Alpine flowers in the gentle breeze. Sometimes she would reach her hands high above her head in hopes that she could reach the clouds that seemed so close to her. When Francine went to the mountains, she felt the close presence of a Great Being. She liked this feeling. She did not then know it was God, because she had not been told about Him.

Francine had been taught to trust in Hitler as a god. The people were told to trust him to lead their country out of hunger and trouble. As time passed, however, the ruler Hitler failed his country. He had lied to the people. Francine was so angry that she said she would never trust any god or man again. She thought because Hitler failed that everybody fails. She decided to make her way in life by her own strength.

Francine studied hard in school and then went on to be a dentist. She was hired to work at an American military hospital stationed in her country. One day a speaker came to talk to them at the hospital. He talked about a great God that lived in the heavens but would answer prayer for those who would believe in Him deep inside. Francine was hungry for the true God. She asked the speaker: "Is He really real? Will He really talk to me?"

The speaker smiled and said, "Ask Him to speak to you."

That night Francine did ask God to speak to her. God did! She recognized His presence at once. It was the same Presence she had felt so often on the mountainside. She became acquainted with the only real God. She soon learned to love and trust Him.

Later, God promised Francine a husband. Two years, then three years went by and Francine met the man she believed God wanted her to marry, but the man did not want to marry her. She began to feel that God had broken His promise.

On her next birthday, Francine was very sad. She was far away from her family and

friends, and nobody had sent her a birthday card, so she quietly walked to a store to buy herself a card. There was only one birthday card in the rack. It had blue Alpine flowers on the front. Inside, the card read:

"Blessings on your birthday.

*What God has promised, that will
He also do. (Romans 4:21).*

Again she felt God's presence and her faith was renewed. God could put love in that man's heart for her—only God could do that. Two years later Francine became very sick. She was not afraid to die, but she really wanted God to keep His promise. Francine and the man she loved were still friends, and he came to visit her often while she was sick. One day when he came to visit he said, "I think God wants us to be together. Will you marry me?"

Soon Francine was well. They married and today they work as missionaries in Austria. They tell other people about the God of the heavens who is faithful to keep His promises.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Where did Lot live?
2. Who lived in a tent under the oak trees?
3. Who did Abraham see one day while he sat in his tent door?
4. What did Abraham beg the strangers to do?
5. What did one of the visitor's promise?
6. Who were the strangers?
7. What cities was the Lord going to visit?
8. Why did Abraham beg the Lord to spare Sodom?
9. The Lord promised to spare Sodom if He found how many righteous people living there?

Answers: 1. In Sodom. 2. Abraham. 3. Three strangers. 4. In tent while he made them some food. 5. That Sarah would soon have a son. 6. They were two angels and the Lord. 7. Sodom and Gomorrah. 8. Because he loved Lot and did not want him to be destroyed. 9. Ten.

Lesson texts: Gen. 18.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Feb. 10, 1991

LOT LOSES HIS HOME AND WIFE

As Abraham talked to the Lord, begging Him to spare Sodom for Lot's sake, the two angels went on towards Sodom. It was evening when they reached the city gates. Lot was sitting by the gate when he saw the two strangers approaching. Lot greeted the strangers with a low bow and said, "Come to my house and stay all night. You can get up early and go on your way."

When the two angels refused, Lot insisted. He knew the men of Sodom would harm the strangers. Finally the angels consented to go with him.

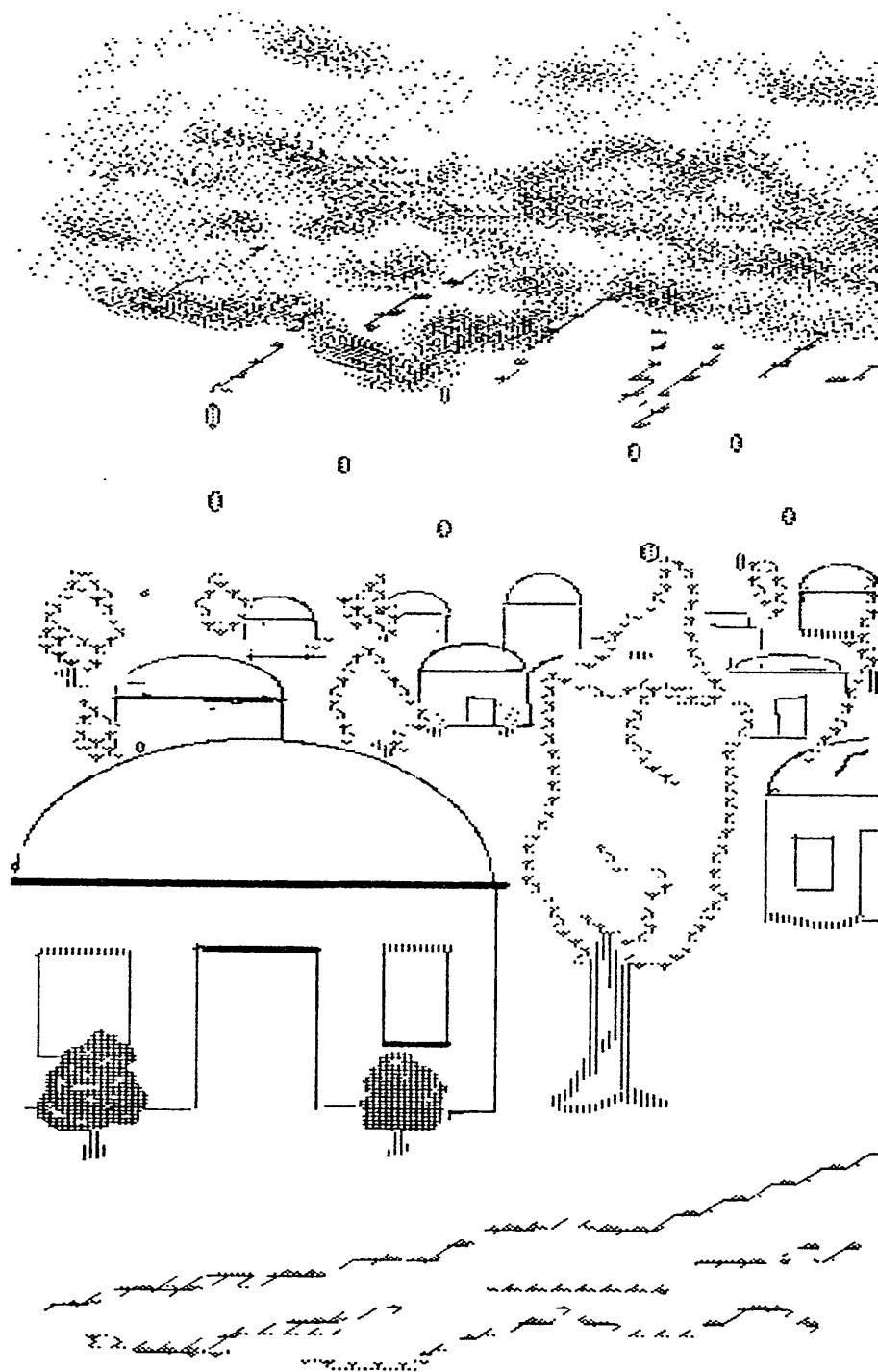
The news soon spread over the city that Lot had two strangers at his home. The wicked men of the city surrounded Lot's house. They banged on the door and demanded, "Where are the strangers that came to your house? Send them out to us."

Lot stepped outside the door and closed it behind him. He begged the men not to harm his guests, but the men threatened to hurt him. They tried to break the door down. At this, the angels pulled Lot inside to safety and caused the wicked men to become blind so they couldn't even find the door.

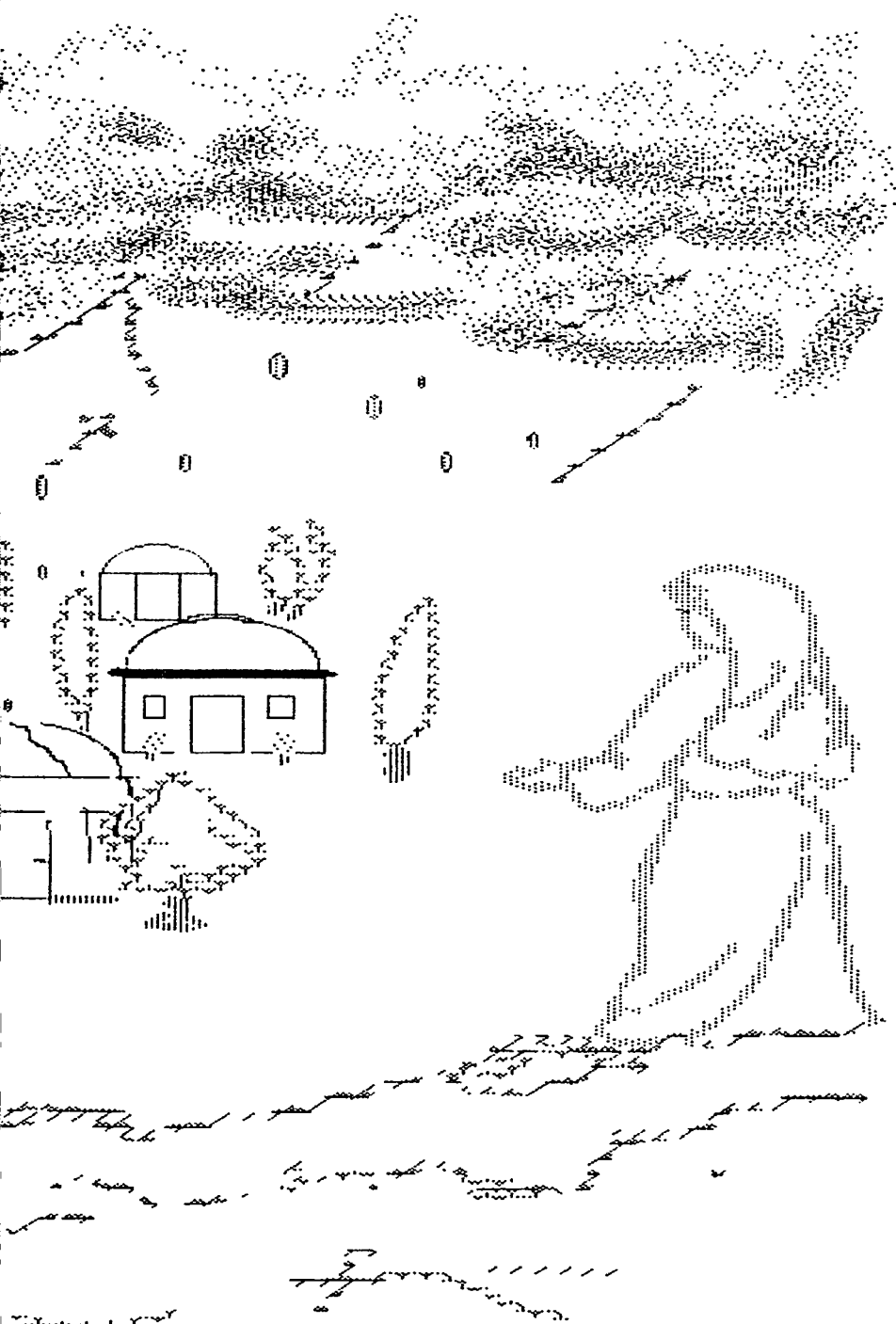
Then the angels told Lot that the Lord was going to destroy Sodom. They told Lot to gather his family together because they must leave the city. Before the sun came up the next morning the angels insisted that Lot and his family run for their lives.

It was hard for Lot to leave his home and his riches. God was showing him mercy in warning him to escape but still he was slow in leaving. Finally the angels took him and his wife and daughters by the hand and led them out of the city, ordering them to run for their lives and not look back. But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Lot's wife looked back from behind him,



and she became a pillar of salt." (Gen. 19:26)

The Dead Sea

(Note to teacher: Please use a map of the Holy Lands, perhaps the one in the back of your Bible, to show the children where the Dead Sea is located.)

Over by the country of Israel, there is a very large body of water known as the Dead Sea. Sodom and Gomorrah once were busy cities right where the Dead Sea is located. When God destroyed these cities with fire and brimstone, He pounded them down below the earth's surface. Then water from the Jordan River flooded over their smoking remains and these two cities have been at the deep bottom of the Dead Sea ever since.

Do you know why it is called the Dead Sea? Hardly anything grows or lives in the waters of the Dead Sea. Nearly all of the Dead Sea is surrounded by high rocky cliffs that have no sign of life on them. Holes and caves are in these pale-yellow sulfur cliffs. When it is hot in the summertime, the Dead Sea gives off a warm mist, or steam, which lowers the water in the Dead Sea. This causes tall shapes of salt to form along its borders.

Do you remember what happened to Lot's wife who looked back when Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed? She became a pillar of salt, didn't she?

The Dead Sea is so full of salt that it is seven times more salty than any other sea. This is why fish cannot live in it. At the top, or north end, the river Jordan dumps its muddy waters into this sea, and when the river fish hit that salty water, they quickly die. Some birds that eat fish such as the kingfisher, gull, and duck, live here and eat these fish, otherwise this sea which is 53 miles long and 10 miles wide has no fish or plants or animals in or around it. It is quiet and dead.

This should be a stern warning to all of us. What God commands will happen, and what God does will last forever. Sin and disobedience will be punished. Sometimes

the Devil will tempt children to think that lying is funny. A friend may tell sly lies and others may laugh, but don't you laugh. It isn't funny to tell lies and be dishonest, because God says that all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone. (Rev. 21:8).

Remember, brimstone and fire poured down on Sodom. Another name for brimstone is sulfur. At the first of this story, I told you that the Dead Sea has pale-yellow cliffs of sulfur. When this sulfur burns, it has a blue flame and a sickening odor.

Perhaps hell is somewhat like the Dead Sea, set on fire with men and women sinking into it. It has been found that the bottom of the Dead Sea keeps falling deeper and deeper, just like the lake of fire which keeps growing larger and larger.

Let us always obey God and escape the eternal lake of fire. Lying, stealing, cursing, disrespect, and disobedience will bring punishment. The Dead Sea over Sodom and Gomorrah prove this to us. Also, remember Lot's wife.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. What did Abraham beg the Lord to do?
2. Who went on to Sodom?
3. Who was sitting at the city gate?
4. Where did the angels spend the night?
5. Who banged on Lot's door?
6. What did the angels do after they pulled Lot back inside?
7. When did Lot finally leave Sodom?
8. Who left Sodom with Lot?
9. What happened to Lot's wife when she looked back?

Answers: 1. To spare Sodom for Lot's sake. 2. The two angels. 3. Lot. 4. At Lot's house. 5. The wicked men of the city. 6. They caused the wicked men to become blind. 7. Before the sun came up. 8. His wife and two daughters. 9. She became a pillar of salt.

Lesson texts: Gen. 19.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Feb. 17, 1991

ISAAC, THE PROMISED SON

When God first told Abraham to leave his home and family, He promised Abraham that he would be the father of a great nation. For many years Abraham had thought of God's promise to him. He wondered how his family would be great since he did not yet have a son.

Abraham was ninety-nine years old when God again spoke to him and told him, "You will be a father of many nations. Sarah, your wife, will bear you a son at the set time next year. You will call his name Isaac."

Later the Lord appeared to Abraham with the two angels. They told him that Sodom would be destroyed. At this time God again promised Abraham and Sarah that they would soon have a son even though they were both very old.

Finally the day came when God gave Abraham and Sarah a little baby boy. They named the baby Isaac, which means "laughing." How happy they were with the wonderful little son God had given them.

Abraham and Sarah were so proud of Isaac that they gave a great dinner to show him to their friends when he was still a little boy barely able to walk. At this feast Hagar's son, Ishmael, made fun of little Isaac. Perhaps he was jealous of the little boy. When Sarah saw Ishmael making fun of Isaac, she told Abraham, "Send Hagar and Ishmael away. I do not want Isaac to grow up with Ishmael."

So the next morning, Hagar and Ishmael left Abraham's house and started towards Hagar's old home in Egypt. When it looked like they would die because they had no water, an angel spoke to Hagar. He showed her a well of water. Hagar and Ishmael never returned to Egypt. They lived in the wilderness, far from other people.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Abraham was an hundred years old, w



When his son Isaac was born." (Gen. 21:5)

A New Baby Brother

— — — — —

"Mother, may I go over to Linda's house?" asked Peggy, who was holding Linda's hand at church.

"Oh, I don't know," replied Mother. "Linda's mother may not feel like company right now."

"Please, may I go," pleaded Peggy. "I want to see and hold her new baby brother."

"My mother won't mind," said Linda. "She is so busy with my brother that she will hardly know Peggy is there."

Peggy's mother laughed. "New babies do take much time and care," she said, "that is why I think Peggy should wait a while before she goes to visit. Why don't you come to our house, Linda, then Peggy can see your baby brother when we both come to visit. I want to bring your brother a gift, soon."

These plans were made and the girls had a fun time at Peggy's house. Peggy still wanted to see Linda's baby brother, so in two days Mother and Peggy went to Linda's house.

The baby was so cute! He had a fringe of black hair, a smooth round nose, and wrinkles around his eyes. Peggy was so pleased when she was given the baby to hold. He was such a soft warm bundle laying in her arms and lap. She put her cheek down on his little forehead.

"Thank you for the boy clothes," Linda's mother told Peggy's mother. "I had a nice baby shower before Linda was born, so really I just needed boy's clothes. It means so much when friends remember a new baby with a gift. I often remember who gave what, and think of that person when I use their gift."

Peggy's mother nodded. "We are so happy that God has given you a sweet little boy to raise for Him. We know your boy will get plenty of tender love and care."

Both mothers looked over at the baby in Peggy's arms. Linda was sitting close by, patting her brother gently.

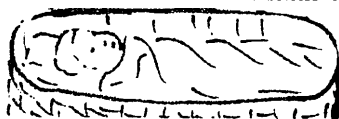
"I am so glad I have a little brother," she said. "Now that makes me a big sister! I don't

want to ever teach him bad things or lead him into trouble. Even if he gets into my toys and tears things up, I won't get angry with him, but I will love him anyway."

"That sounds like a devoted big sister," said Peggy's mother with a smile. "You will be teaching him how to share, how to be kind to someone who is hurt, how to be polite and say all the magic words, and how to obey Mother and Daddy. Big sisters or brothers are very important to younger ones."

Linda began to giggle. It looks like I'm going to be very busy with the baby also," she said. "I already help Mother dress him and I do errands around the house for Mother. I really like being a big sister!" Everyone laughed and felt so happy.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who promised Abraham that he would be the father of a great nation?
2. How old was Abraham when God spoke to him again?
3. What was Abraham's wife's name?
4. What was the baby's name to be?
5. When the Lord came to tell Abraham that Sodom would be destroyed, who came with him?
6. What does "Isaac" mean?
7. Who made fun of Isaac at the feast?
8. Who told Abraham, to send Hagar and Ishmael away?
9. Who helped Hagar find water in the wilderness?

Answers: 1. God 2. He was ninety-nine years old. 3. Sarah 4. Isaac 5. Two angels 6. Hagar 7. "Laughing" 8. Ishmael 9. Sarah 10. Abraham

Lesson texts: Gen. 17:15-21; 18:9-15; 21:1-21.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Feb. 24, 1991

ABRAHAM'S GREATEST TEST

Abraham loved his son, Isaac, more than anything else in the world. One day, God gave Abraham a very hard thing to do. God wanted to see if Abraham loved Him more than his son. So He asked Abraham to take Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice on an altar.

Abraham knew Isaac was the special son God had promised him. He did not understand why he should sacrifice his beloved son, but he was ready to obey God. So, early the next morning Abraham and Isaac started on the long journey. For two days and nights they traveled. Finally on the third day, Abraham looked up and saw the place where God had told him to go.

Abraham told his two servants to wait there for them while he and Isaac went on to the place where they would worship God. As they walked on, Isaac asked his father, "Where is the lamb that we will offer?"

Abraham answered, "My son, God will provide a lamb to be offered."

When they came to the place God had shown Abraham, they built an altar. After laying wood on the altar, Abraham tied Isaac's hands and feet. He laid Isaac on the wood just as he would a lamb that he was offering. As Abraham was just ready to offer Isaac, an angel called out, "Abraham, Abraham."

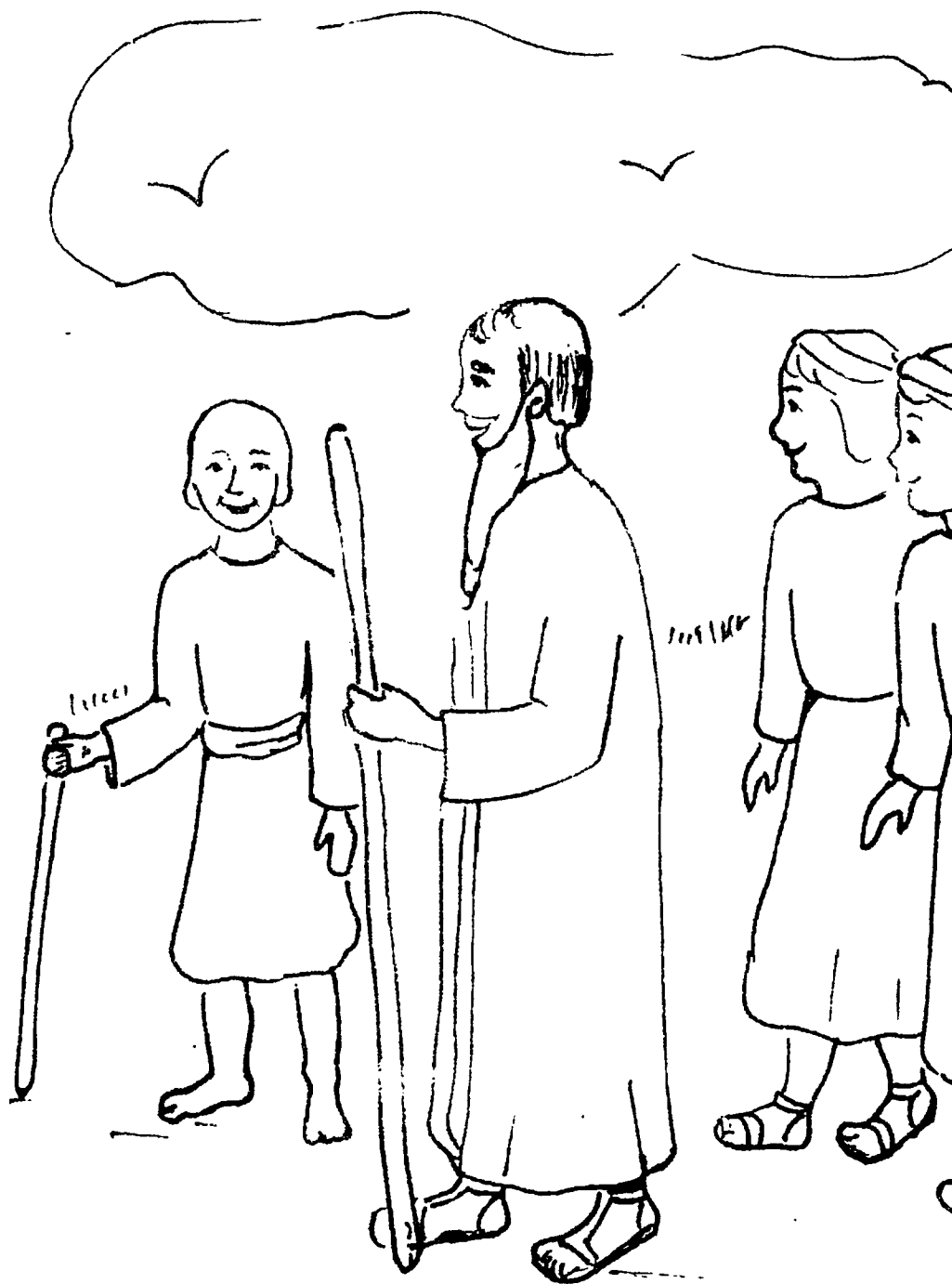
"Here I am," Abraham answered.

The angel told Abraham, "Let Isaac go and do him no harm. Now I know you fear God, because you were ready to give God your beloved son."

When Abraham looked around, he saw a ram caught by its horns in the bushes. He offered the ram to God instead of Isaac.

Abraham and Isaac were very happy as they started back home together. They knew God was pleased because they had obeyed Him. Isaac knew his life was important to God, for God had sent an angel to save him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"By faith Abraham offere



d up Isaac." (Heb. 11:17)

Sacrifice and Consecrate

It was bedtime and Daddy was reading the evening Bible story.

"Because I am a father," he said, "I can understand how Abraham felt as he was about to sacrifice his only son to the Lord. A father sees a part of himself in his son. When the son feels sick or sad, the father feels the same with him. When the son does well and receives honor, the father feels happy and pleased that his son is honored. No doubt Abraham's heart was very heavy, but he knew what the Lord had asked him to do. Abraham may have felt a part of himself dying as he prepared to offer Isaac as a sacrifice unto the Lord. How happy he was when the angel called, 'Stop,' just in time to save Isaac.

After a moment's silence, little Andy asked his daddy, "You wouldn't ever do that to me, would you Daddy? You would never offer me to the Lord, would you?"

Daddy replied, "What God asked Abraham to do was an example of what God did with Jesus, His only Son. God does not expect parents to actually do this today. I love each one of you, children, and I never want to do you any physical harm. However, when each of you were born, I gave you to the Lord that He may use you and your life to serve Him."

"Oh, I know what you mean," said Randy. "You want us to live for God and let Him control our lives. You do not want the Devil to live in our hearts, but you want God to have us and keep us in His care."

"That is right. My, what a smart boy you are!" exclaimed Daddy. "Yes, today God does not ask us to *sacrifice* our children, but He wants us to *consecrate* our children. Let's look in the dictionary and find the meaning of the word *consecrate*."

Andy hurried to the bookcase where he picked out Daddy's worn dictionary.

"Here it is," said Daddy. "Consecrate means 'to set apart as holy; to dedicate.'"

"Children, remember you are set apart from the wickedness of the world and you are the Lord's. As you grow up, listen to the voice of God and obey Him. Some day God will ask you to give yourself to Him. Mother and I have given you to the Lord for His service, but some day God will want you to come before

an altar of prayer and give your life, body, and soul to Him."

Lisa nodded her head. "I already hear God talking to me," she said. "He always tells me to do good."

"That's right," said Daddy. "Obey God and it will save you many, many troubles. Remember that you have been set apart from the world, and the Lord will protect you as long as you stay in His care."

Andy had been quietly thinking, but now he said, "When we come before an altar today, we bow in prayer, don't we? It isn't the same kind of altar that Abraham and Isaac had back then, is it?"

"You are right," said Daddy. "They lived under the old law before Jesus came. Today we live under the law of grace. Because God gave His only Son on the cross for the sins of all people, we can plead the blood of Jesus and live free from the power of the Devil. I gave each one of you to the Lord, and if you will let Him, God will bless your lives that you may please and serve Him. Now let us all kneel and have a word of prayer."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who gave Abraham a very hard thing to do?
2. What was the hard thing Abraham was asked to do?
3. Why was Abraham asked to do this?
4. When did Abraham start on his way to obey God?
5. Who would provide the lamb to be sacrificed?
6. Who called Abraham by name?
7. What did the angel tell Abraham?
8. Why was Abraham happy as he returned home?
9. Why was Isaac happy?

Answers: 1. God. 2. To offer Isaac as a sacrifice. 3. To see if he loved God more than anything else. 4. Early the next morning. 5. God. 6. An angel. 7. To let Isaac go and do him no harm. 8. He knew he had pleased God. 9. He knew his life was important to God.

Lesson texts: Gen. 22:1-19.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Mar. 3, 1991

REBEKAH, ISAAC'S WIFE

One day Abraham called his oldest servant and told him, "Go back to the country I came from, and bring a wife for my son, Isaac." Abraham was now a very old man and his wife, Sarah, had died. Abraham wanted Isaac to have a good wife who would help him love and serve God.

The faithful servant took camels and rich gifts and started back to Abraham's old home. It was a long trip. As he went, the servant begged God to lead him to Abraham's family and show him a good wife for Isaac.

It was evening when the servant finally reached the place he was going. Outside the city was a well where the women of the city came to get water. The servant let his camels stop by the well to rest. As he waited, he prayed, "O Lord, I pray that the young woman I ask to give me a drink will say, 'Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also,' then I will know this is the one you have chosen to be Isaac's wife."

Before the servant had finished his prayer, he saw a beautiful young woman coming to draw water. When the servant asked her for a drink, she held her pitcher so he could drink all he wanted. Then she drew water and let the thirsty camels drink their fill.

The servant knew God had heard his prayer. When he asked the young woman her name, she told him she was Rebekah, the granddaughter of Abraham's brother. Rebekah was willing to go with the servant to become Isaac's wife. She left her family and started on the long trip to Isaac's home.

One evening, Isaac had gone out into the field to think about God. When he looked up, he saw the camels coming. He hurried to meet them. Isaac took Rebekah to be his wife. Isaac loved Rebekah and thanked God for her.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"Thou shalt take a wife for my son
of my kindred, and of my
father's house." (Gen. 24:10)**



Prayer Comes Before A Happy Wedding

It was almost time for the wedding, and Rick was very excited. He was to carry the Bible, and Lucy was to carry a basket of flowers. As his mother combed his hair in the church nursery, she again told him how he was to do things.

"I know, I know," said Rick. "I'm just ready to do it!"

Mother smiled. "The wedding won't take very long, but remember to stand quietly until the groom tells you to take Lucy's hand and go back down the aisle."

"It won't take as long as rehearsal practice, will it?" asked Rick. "That took forever!"

"Now, Rick," said Mother, "it wasn't that long. Just be very patient, and there will be cake and punch later. Now don't drop the Bible, but carefully hand it to Bro. Sanders. I know you will do just fine!"

"Honey, they are ready for Rick," his father said. Rick hurried with his father to the main entrance of the chapel where they were to meet Lucy. Lucy whispered to Rick, "I want to see exactly when Janet becomes Aunt Janet. Will you help watch with me?"

Rick said he would. Then he asked, "Do you know where the cake and punch are?"

"Sh-sh, someone scolded, so they stood quietly until it was their turn to go down the aisle. Rick became nervous about halfway to the altar. He just knew the Bible would slip out of his wet shaking hands. Lucy was walking too slowly, and he had to wait on her. Finally they reached the front, where kind Bro. Sanders, Greg, and his best men, and the bridesmaids were waiting.

Everyone in the audience stood, as the bride and her father entered the door. She looked like a lovely happy princess in her white ankle-length gown. Janet lived for Jesus, and she had prayed for Jesus to give her a pure saved husband. Now her prayers were being answered.

As the bride came up the aisle, Rick looked up at the groom. Greg also looked very happy. He didn't seem to see anyone else but

Janet. Greg had also prayed for a pure saved wife. He was happy his prayers were now answered.

After what seemed like a long time, Rick and Lucy heard Bro. Sanders say, "Now I would like to present to you, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Jones." Now they knew it was during the vows and prayer that Janet became their Aunt Janet.

Later, when Rick was happily eating a large piece of wedding cake, someone asked him, "What did you like best about the wedding?"

"Well," he said thoughtfully, "I guess I liked seeing how happy Janet and Greg were. They looked so happy, that it made me feel so happy, that I forgot to be nervous any more!"

Those who heard Rick laughed with him. Then later when he was alone with his parents, Rick said, "I'm going to pray for a wife and have a happy wedding like Uncle Greg did. He was the happiest person I have ever seen."

"That's a very good idea," said Rick's father, "and we will be praying with you."

—Connie Sorrell

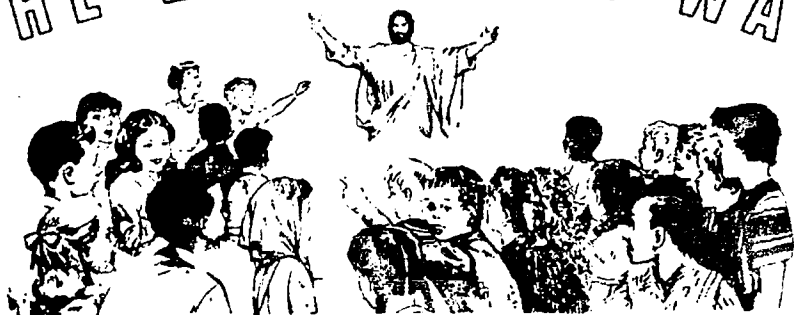
Questions:

1. Who did Abraham send back to his old home?
2. Why did he send him?
3. Where did the servant let his camels rest?
4. What did the servant do while he waited?
5. Who came to draw water?
6. What did Rebekah do when the servant asked for a drink?
7. Who went out to the field to think about God?
8. What did he see when he looked up?
9. Who loved Rebekah and thanked God for her?

Answers: 1. His eldest servant. 2. To bring a wife for Isaac. 3. By the well. 4. He placed. 5. Rebekah. 6. She gave him and his camels a drink. 7. Isaac. 8. The camels' camels. 9. Isaac.

Lesson texts: Gen. 23 & 24.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Mar. 10, 1991

JACOB AND ESAU

Isaac and Rebekah had been married many years, but still they had no children. Isaac was like Abraham; he wondered how God could fulfill His promise to make them a great nation if they had no children. Rebekah wanted a child so very much that Isaac prayed and asked God to give them a baby.

God answered Isaac's prayer by giving them two children instead of one. Rebekah had twin boys! Usually twins are just alike, but these were very different. The first baby boy was reddish and covered with soft hair. He was named Esau which means, "hairy." The second baby boy was named Jacob.

The twins boys didn't look alike, and they didn't like the same things. Esau loved to hunt and spend his time outdoors. Jacob stayed near his tent home. Isaac loved Esau because he would bring him meat that he had killed in his hunts. Rebekah loved Jacob.

One day Jacob was cooking when Esau came in from the field. Esau was so hungry he felt faint. The food Jacob was fixing smelled delicious! He said to Jacob, "Feed me some of that red pottage, for I am weak with hunger."

Jacob answered Esau, "I will give you this food, if you will sell me your birthright in exchange for it."

"What good will a birthright do me if I die of hunger?" Esau answered. So he agreed to give Jacob his birthright in exchange for the food.

The birthright usually belonged to the oldest son. It meant that when the father died, he would become the head of the family, receive most of his father's wealth and enjoy God's special blessings. But Esau did not value his birthright as he should have; he willingly gave it up to satisfy his hunger.

—Sis Nelda Sorrell



**"And the boys grew: and Esau was
and Jacob was a plain man, c**



a cunning hunter, a man of the field;
dwelling in tents." Gen. 25:27

For and Against the Law

In a dark doorway of a street shop in Brooklyn, New York, stood a tall, middle-aged man. He was dressed in nice sport clothes which had the scent of liquor on them. In his hand was a cigarette which he puffed nervously, while watching the strangers passing by.

Presently he spied a police officer making his evening rounds. The man quickly drew back into the shadow of the shop porch and pulled his hat down over his face a little more. He had an appointment at this particular place with an old friend, or else he would have left when he saw the policeman.

Only the street lights pierced the foggy blackness of night when the officer came to the doorway. He checked the door lock and glanced inside the shop. He then stepped back to the sidewalk and spoke to the man.

"Stranger in these parts?" the officer asked the man.

"Yes, sir, I am a stranger now. I grew up in Brooklyn, but I left exactly 20 years ago tonight."

"You must be here for some special reason," said the officer.

"Yes, Sir, I am," said the man as he ground out his cigarette with his foot. "I'm supposed to meet an old friend of mine right here tonight."

"Oh," said the officer. "Looks like life has been good to you these 20 years since you have been gone."

The man was irritated by the nosy officer but he kept polite. "I've had some luck in life," he said. "I wonder if my old friend has done half as well in these wretched parts."

"He probably has," replied the officer, then stood on the sidewalk for a moment in silence.

"I will be moving on in a while," said the man. "If my old friend does not come before too long, I will know he has forgotten all about this appointment. I will not be back in these parts, so I doubt I ever see him again."

At these words, the officer nodded to the man and moved on down the street and was soon out of sight. The man continued to look up and down the nearly empty street. He pulled from his pocket a gold watch and gave his friend 10 more minutes to come before he would leave.

With a sigh, 10 minutes later, the man stepped out of the doorway and began hurrying down the street. Just as he reached the street corner, two police officers grabbed him from behind, while another officer put handcuffs on him. "You are under arrest," they told him. Though angry, the man said not a word. He knew what his charges were. He was one of the biggest drug traffickers wanted on the FBI search list.

Once the man was in a police car headed for the station, one of the officers handed him a note. The note read:

Dear Tom,

I kept the appointment. I was the officer who talked with you tonight. I already knew you were wanted by the FBI and it was tough to know if I should turn you in. I decided loyalty to the law was also loyalty to you. You are ruining your life and the lives of others in the destructive game of drugs. Perhaps we can visit soon.

Please still count me as your friend,
David Paul

One friend was working for the law and the other was against the law.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who had been married many years?
2. How many children did they have?
3. Who had promised to make Abraham and Isaac a great nation?
4. What did Rebekah want very much?
5. How did God answer Isaac's prayer?
6. What does 'Esau' mean?
7. What did Esau love to do?
8. What was Jacob doing one day when Esau came in from the field?
9. What did Esau give Jacob in exchange for the food?

Answers: 1. Isaac and Rebekah. 2. None. 3. God. 4. A child. 5. By living their lives. 6. A little. 7. He loved to hunt. 8. He was working hard. 9. His birthright.

Lesson texts: Gen. 25:19-34.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Mar. 17, 1991

ISAAC, THE PEACEMAKER

Because there was a famine in the land, Isaac moved his family to Gerar. Gerar was in the land of the Philistines. There the Lord said to Isaac, "Don't go into Egypt; stay in this land. I will make you a great nation and your family will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth." So Isaac stayed there.

Soon Isaac was very rich. He had so many animals and servants that the Philistines were jealous of him. One day their king, Abimelech, commanded Isaac, "Go from us; because you are much mightier than we are."

Isaac left where he was and moved his company to a valley in Gerar. Abraham had dug wells here many years before, but the Philistines had filled the wells with dirt, so Isaac could not get water from them.

Isaac ordered his servants to dig the dirt out of one of the wells. How hard they worked, digging and digging until finally they came to the clear bubbling water.

But they did not get to enjoy the cool clear water in peace. The herdsmen of Gerar fought Isaac's herdsmen saying angrily, "The water is ours!"

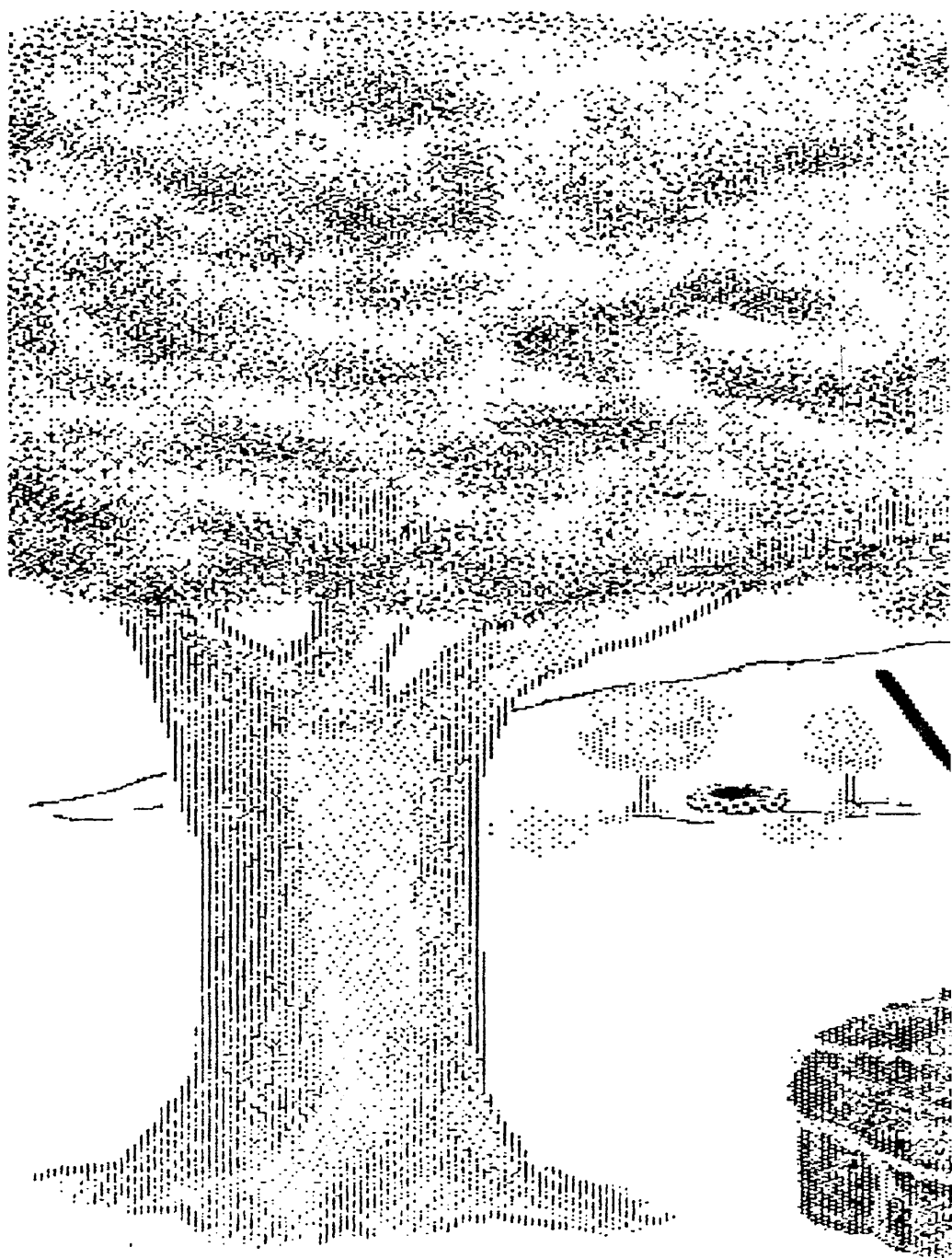
Isaac's servants knew very well they had done the hard work to get to the water. They were ready to fight for it, but Isaac told them to leave it and dig out another well.

Again his servants worked hard digging deep into the ground, until they found water. Again the men of Gerar fought for the water and claimed it for their own. And again Isaac moved his company and dug yet another well. This time the wicked herdsmen did not make trouble. Isaac said, "Now the Lord has made room for us."

God was very pleased that Isaac had been a peacemaker. That very night He talked with Isaac and blessed him.

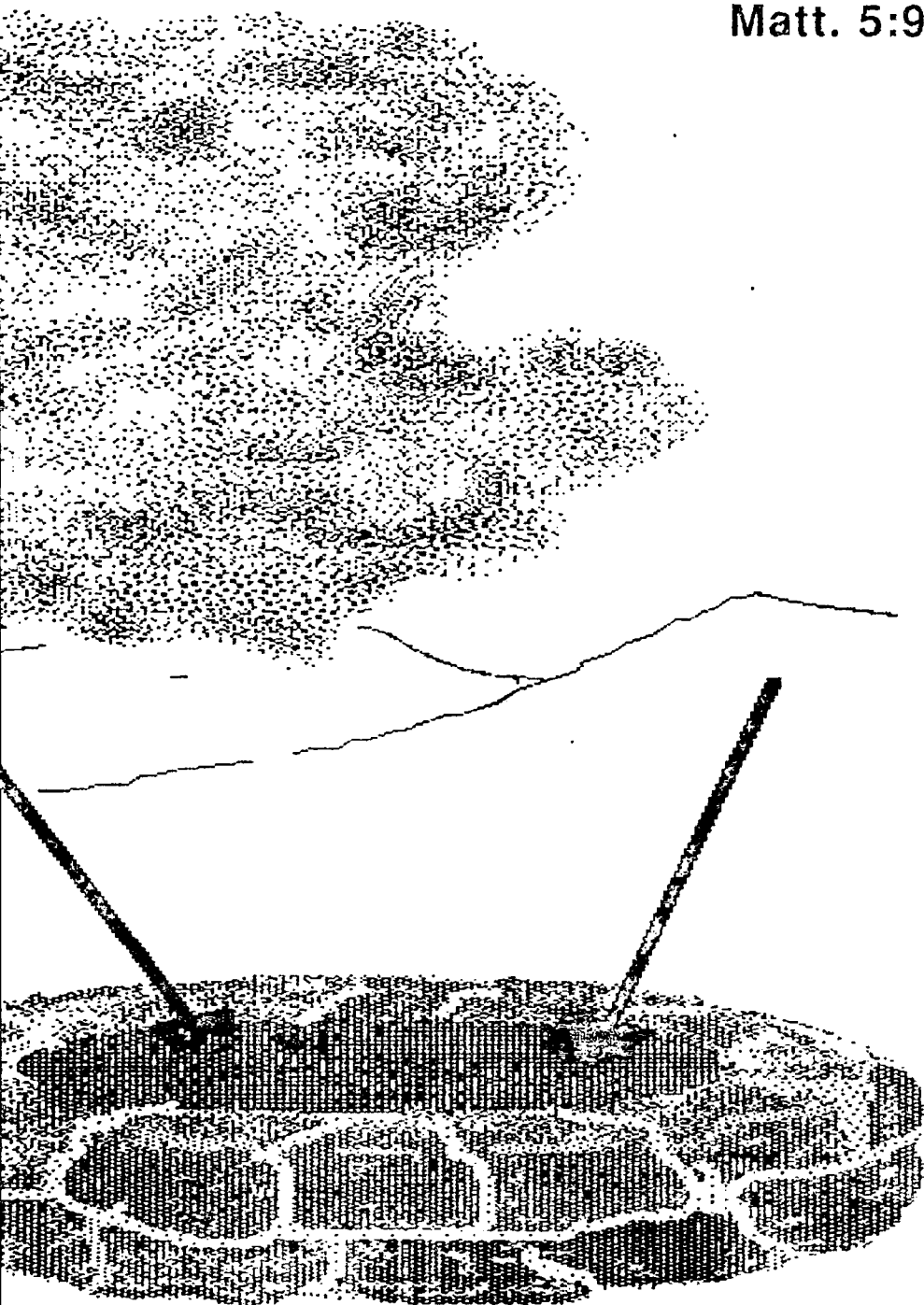
—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they



shall be called the children of God."

Matt. 5:9



Peace at the Fort



Tom rode his bike into Skip and Scooter's driveway. "Come on," he called to the twins, "let's go build a fort down on the creek bank. I have two skid flats — one for the roof and one for the floor. We can dig farther into that tall creek bank by our old tree swing."

While Tom was talking, Skip and Scooter were getting on their bikes. "Let's go get Dave to help us," said Skip.

"But we don't want the Wrecker boys to come because they would tear it up," said Scooter.

"They think they are so much bigger and tougher," said Skip, "and they aren't the nicest friends either. Mike is so bossy," he added.

Soon the four boys were down at the creek, busy digging out a hollow in the creek wall. Once in a while, one of the boys would go to the nearby vine swing. Tightly holding on, the boy would swing back and forth across the creek. It was great fun! Dave was swinging across the creek when he saw the Wrecker boys riding bikes through the woods toward them. Dave ran to the fort and in a low voice warned the others.

"Oh, no!" groaned Tom. "They may take these skids or try to tear them up."

"We won't let them," said Skip.

"Yeh," said Scooter, "we'll fight them away!"

"I don't want to fight," said Dave. "My dad says fighting never proves a thing, because both sides are losers."

"What do you mean?" asked Skip.

"Well," said Dave, "even if you get your way, after the fight is over, you won't really be happy. You would feel guilty about hurting someone else. Then there will always be someone else bigger and meaner than you who will someday push you around like you did others, so it is best not to pick fights but to make peace."

"Then we will let you talk for us," said Tom, just as Mike and Don Wrecker pulled their bikes to a stop right above the fort.

"Hey, what are you doing here?" Mike asked the boys.

"Well, what are you doing here?" Dave asked him.

"We thought we would ride our bikes around the trails," Mike replied. "But it looks like you guys need help here."

"You would probably rather ride your bike than do this messy work," said Dave.

"Come and ride bikes with us," said Don.

The four boys exchanged looks. They knew if they went to ride bikes with the Wrecker boys, then those boys would expect to help build the fort.

"We just don't want someone to tear up our fort," said Dave. "If you can really promise not to mess things up, then we might let you play with us."

The two Wrecker boys promised not to tear down any of the fort. Soon six boys were busy building the fort. Mike began to boss the others. This was making the other boys wish he wasn't there. Dave felt sorry for him so he said, "Mike, have you ever been to Sunday school? I think if you would go to Sunday school, we'd all like you better. Do you think you could come with me sometime?"

Mike shrugged his shoulders, but the look in his eyes made Dave ask his parents if Mike could go to Sunday school with them. They let the two boys go with Dave, who was a good peacemaker.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who told Isaac not to go into Egypt?
2. Why were the Philistines jealous of Isaac?
3. Who commanded Isaac, "Go from us."
4. Who had dug wells at Gerar many years before?
5. Who filled the wells with dirt?
6. What did Isaac order his servants to do?
7. Who said, "The water is ours!"
8. What did Isaac do instead of fighting?
9. Why was God pleased with Isaac?

Answers: 1. God. 2. He was very rich. 3. Abimelech. 4. Abraham. 5. The Philistines. 6. To dig the dirt out of the wells. 7. Abimelech and others. 8. He had his servants dig more wells. 9. He had been a peacemaker.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Mar. 24, 1991

HERE COMES THE KING!

Jesus and His disciples were going to Jerusalem for the Pass-over. As they walked towards the city, Jesus said to two of His disciples, "Go to the village nearby. As you enter the village, you will see a colt (donkey) that has never been ridden. Untie him and bring him to me. If anyone asks why you are taking the colt, tell them that the Lord has need of him."

So the two disciples hurried to the village to do as Jesus had told them. In the village they found the colt, just as Jesus said they would. As they were untying the colt, some people nearby asked, "Why are you untying the colt?" When the disciples told them Jesus needed the colt, they let it go.

When the disciples reached Jesus, they spread their coats on the colt's back for Jesus to sit on. Jesus mounted the young donkey and again started towards Jerusalem. As He rode along, many people spread their clothes along the road for Jesus to ride on. Others cut branches from palm trees and spread them on the ground. Then they walked before Him shouting, "Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord."

There were Pharisees in the crowd who did not like for the people to honor Jesus. They told Jesus, "Master, rebuke thy disciples!"

Jesus said to them, "If the people were to keep quiet, the stones would immediately cry out!"

The people in Jerusalem hurried out into the streets to join the crowd. They asked, "Who is this?"

Those following Jesus answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Blessed is
the King
of Israel
that cometh
in the
name of
the Lord."
(John 12:13)**





Praise Jesus Today!



People praise Jesus today just as they did back in the days when He walked into the city of Jerusalem. There is such a powerful love in Jesus that it can cause the stony heart to praise Him.

One time a six-year-old boy lay very still and lifeless in a hospital bed. Because his kidneys were not working any more, the doctors had told his parents that he would not live long. They could not heal him. The father knew about Jesus, but had let his heart become bitter and cold towards Him. Now as the father watched his son lie there dying, the father began to cry to Jesus for help. He asked Jesus to forgive him, to help him be a Christian father, and to give him grace to serve the Lord. After the father prayed, the wonderful peace of Jesus blessed his soul and calmed his nerves. Jesus then told the father to lay hands on his son and pray that his kidneys would work again. God answered prayer right away! In two days, this little boy was doing so much better that the doctors could only say that a miracle had happened. Jesus had healed the boy! The father and his son praised Jesus over and over again for His blessed healing touch.

An elderly woman fell one time and hurt herself quite badly. After that she had to use a walker so she wouldn't fall when she walked. One Friday she was busy in her garden planting seeds. As she crawled on her hands and knees, she thought about Jesus and how He sank beneath the cross when He carried it to Calvary. She prayed to Jesus that He would help her bear her cross, which was her walker. After the last seed was planted, she stood up, stretched, and walked to her house. As she started into the house, she realized she was walking without the walker. Praising Jesus for His healing, she put the walker away and did not use it again.

Back in 1964, a fierce drought (lack of rain) killed a poor farmer's hay, barley, and wheat crops. All the farmer had left was a field of corn, and he needed it so badly to feed his cows. Right in the middle of that dry

cornfield, the farmer knelt and prayed to Jesus. At the end of his prayer, he said, "Now, Jesus, show me that you heard my prayer."

As he was walking back towards his house, a freshening rain began to fall out of a nearly cloudless sky. The farmer praised and thanked Jesus for answering prayer! Later when he began to harvest the yellow ears of corn, he found a very unusual ear. Several red kernels of corn formed a neat cross among the yellow kernels. The farmer's family still has this ear of corn which wears a red cross.

We should praise Jesus for His goodness today! Praise the Lord! —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Where was Jesus going?
2. Who did Jesus send to a nearby village?
3. What did Jesus say they would find just as they entered the village?
4. What did Jesus tell them to do with the donkey?
5. What did some people ask as the disciples untied the colt?
6. What did the people do as Jesus rode on the young donkey?
7. What did the people shout as they walked before Jesus?
8. Who wanted the people to be quiet?
9. What would have happened if the people had kept quiet?

Answers: 1. To Jerusalem. 2. Two of His disciples. 3. A young donkey. 4. To untie it and bring it to Him. 5. They asked, "Why are you untying the colt?" 6. They spread their clothes and palm branches on the road for Jesus to ride on. 7. They shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is the King of Israel who comes in the name of the Lord!" 8. The Pharisees. 9. The stones would have been rolled out.

Lesson texts: Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-40; John 12:12-19.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Mar. 31, 1991

AN EMPTY TOMB

The wicked Jews wanted to kill Jesus. It seemed that all the people were following Him to hear His words and see the wonderful things He did. They knew they could never find Jesus doing wrong, so they were glad when Judas, Jesus' own disciple, agreed to betray Jesus to them.

Jesus was betrayed by Judas and captured. After condemning Jesus to death, they crucified Him. Jesus' disciples and followers sadly watched as His body was laid in a tomb.

Mary Magdalene and other women who followed Jesus, anxiously waited for the Sabbath to pass. At the very first ray of light on the first day of the week, they hurried to Jesus' tomb. As they went, they wondered who would roll the heavy stone away from the door of the tomb.

But when they came within sight of the tomb, they saw that the tomb was open. God had already sent an angel who had rolled away the stone.

Entering the tomb, the women saw an angel in shining white clothes. "Don't be afraid," he said. "You are looking for Jesus. He is risen; He is not here. Go and tell His disciples and Peter that Jesus has gone to Galilee. You will see Him there, just as He told you."

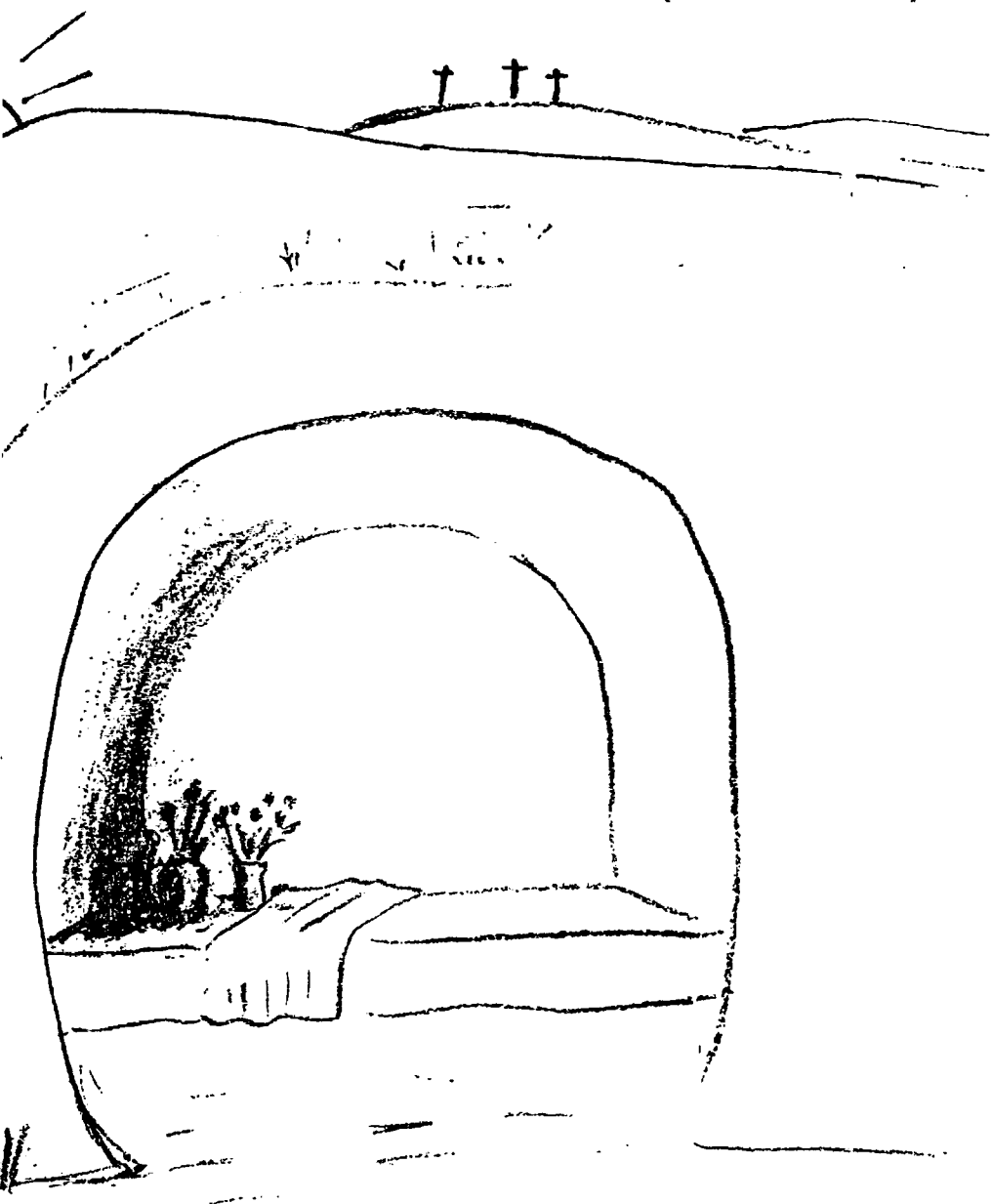
When the women told the disciples, they could not believe the good news. Peter and John ran to the tomb. It was just as the women had said!

Later Mary Magdalene returned to the garden alone. As she stood by the empty tomb and wept, Jesus appeared to her. Blinded by her tears, she did not recognize Him at first. Jesus called her by name. She then knew it was Jesus. Gladly she hurried to tell the others that she had seen Jesus.

The tomb was empty because Jesus was alive! —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"He is risen; He is not here:
behold the place where they
laid Him." (Mark 16:6)**



Witness of an Empty Tomb

One peaceful Sunday afternoon, Mike was sitting on the front porch with his grandfather. Mike loved to visit his grandfather who told so many interesting stories. This moment seemed like a good time for a story, so Mike asked, "Grandfather, you have been many places, where were you the happiest?"

"Well, son, what do you mean? I've lived in eight states in this country, and when I was in the service overseas, I stayed in three different countries. The happiest place is right at home where your grandmother is."

"I mean did you ever have a special kind of happiness when you were sight-seeing, like when you were flying in an airplane, or sailing in a ship, or going underground through tunnels? What sort of excitement made you the happiest?"

"Now come to think of it," said Grandfather, "I have never told you much about my visit to the land where Jesus once walked and taught while He was on earth. I guess the most outstanding place I have been in is the Garden Tomb north of the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem. Every time I think of that place, I feel a quiet excitement in my heart."

Grandfather fell silent for a few moments as he recalled his visit. Then with a faraway look in his eyes, he continued, "I went to visit Jerusalem with some other servicemen who were on leave also. Some of the men were talking and joking when we toured this area, but when we entered the Garden Tomb where Jesus tomb was, everyone quit talking, and a quiet stillness came over us. It seemed that we were in the actual place where Jesus had victory over death. Someone began to sing:

*"Because He lives, I can face tomorrow:
Because He lives, all fear is gone, . . ."*

"And Mike, that is just how it is. The tomb is empty; no one has ever found Jesus' body, because He is in heaven sitting at His Father's right hand receiving mercy and grace from His Father to give to us."

"What did the tomb look like, Grandfather?"

"It is hand-cut out of stone like the wealthy Jews had their tombs made in the days of Christ. Matthew tells us that the tomb was

'hewn' in a rock. John tells us that the tomb was near the Hill of Golgotha, and we found that to be true. I could see where a great stone had been there like Matthew said. I had to stoop low when I entered the tomb. Inside the tomb's weeping chamber there was a room large enough for four or five people just like Luke said there was. To my right was the lower opening leading to the grave. I saw the burial ledge with a pillow cut in the rock. It was such a blessed place to be that I began to weep. It was there that God touched my story heart and I realized I needed a living Saviour in my heart. Later, I was saved and have lived saved ever since."

Grandfather sat silent again as if thinking about the faraway past.

"I would like to visit the Garden Tomb, some day," said Mike.

Then Grandfather looked down at Mike and smiled. "It is one way to witness that Jesus arose again, but the greatest witness that Jesus arose from the tomb is that He now lives in the hearts of men, women, boys, and girls, who believe and are saved by His grace. He arose from the tomb, and some day we who are faithful will arise to meet Him in the clouds. Let's be ready, Mike."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who wanted to kill Jesus?
2. Who agreed to betray Jesus?
3. What did they do with Jesus after they condemned Him?
4. Who hurried to the tomb first?
5. Who had rolled the stone away?
6. What did they see when they entered the tomb?
7. Where would the disciples see Jesus?
8. Who ran to the tomb?
9. Who did Mary Magdalene see when she went to the garden alone?

Answers: 1. The wicked Jews. 2. Judas. 3. They crucified him. 4. Mary Magdalene and other women. 5. An angel. 6. An angel. 7. In Galilee. 8. Peter and John. 9. Jesus.

Lesson texts: Matt. 28: 1-15; Mark 16: 1-11; Luke 24: 1-12; John 20: 1-18.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 April 7, 1991

JACOB GETS ESAU'S BLESSING

Isaac was now very old. His eyes were so dim that he could barely see. Before he died he wanted to bless his oldest son, Esau, so he called Esau. Isaac said, "My son, I am very old. Before I die, I want to bless you. Take your bow and arrows and go to the field and kill a deer. Make me some delicious venison. Bring it to me and when I have eaten, I will bless you." So Esau went to the field to hunt for venison as his father had asked.

Rebekah was listening while Isaac spoke to Esau. Quickly she called Jacob and told him what had been said. She had a plan for tricking blind Isaac into giving the blessing to Jacob instead of Esau. Jacob was not sure that Isaac could be fooled. He answered his mother, "Esau my brother is a hairy man, but my skin is smooth. If my father feels me, he will know I am not Esau. He might give me a curse instead of a blessing!"

But Rebekah urged Jacob to do as she said. So Jacob killed two young kids and brought them to his mother. She cooked the meat just like the venison that Isaac loved. Next Rebekah put one of Esau's robes on Jacob and covered his hands and neck with the hairy skin of the goats. Giving Jacob the meat she had fixed, she sent him in to Isaac.

Isaac was surprised when Jacob brought the meat to him. He wondered how Esau had found a deer so quickly. Jacob told him the Lord had helped him. Isaac still was not sure so he felt Jacob's hands. Finally Isaac ate the meat and gave Jacob the blessing.

Jacob had barely left when Esau came to Isaac with the meat he had fixed. Now Isaac knew he had been tricked. He had given the blessing to Jacob instead to Esau!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"Thy brother came and hath
taken away thy blessing."**

(Gen. 27:35)

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Welcome Home

Randolph loved caring for his father's sheep out on the plains of New Mexico. The land was mostly desert, and grassland was hard to find. Randolph would lead the sheep ten to 15 miles away from home so they would have good grass to eat on the cooler side of the mountain. He would stay with the sheep for several days before leading them on the long journey back home.

Each sheep in the flock became special to Randolph. Though the animals kept Randolph company, he yearned for a closer friend.

One day Randolph took a different way to the mountain grassland. After walking all morning in the heat, Randolph felt thirsty and so did the sheep. He began to look for water and soon found a shack by an old-fashioned well. The old man who lived in the shack was a hermit. All he had for company was a big black dog—and he read the Bible.

As Randolph drew water from the well so the sheep could get a drink in the troughs, this old man asked Randolph if he was a Christian. Randolph said he was not. "That's too bad," said the old man. "You probably get lonely at times, but if you knew God and Jesus and had a Bible to read, you wouldn't feel so lonely. Here, I will give you a Bible and let you see for yourself."

Randolph took the Bible with a hurried thank you, but he did not plan to read it, well, maybe just a verse or two now and then. However, the more Randolph read his Bible, the more he wanted to read. It seemed like the words in the Bible filled a hunger within him, like the smoked meat and cornbread filled his stomach.

During the next year Randolph stopped by to see the old man often. He became friends with him, his black dog, and most importantly, with Jesus. "When I go home to be with Jesus," the old man told Randolph, "I want you to have Pal, my dog."

It wasn't long until Jesus did take the old man home, and Randolph took Pal with him. Randolph and Pal became very close friends while caring for the sheep. Randolph would often read the Bible aloud so Pal could be friends with Jesus also.

Then one day Randolph was called away from the sheep because the United States government wanted him to serve them. Randolph had to tell Pal good-bye. He prayed

that Jesus would protect them both until they were together again. While Randolph was gone, he wrote letters to his family, but he wondered if Pal understood why he had to leave and if Pal would care about him when he returned home.

When the United States government finally released Randolph to go home, he climbed off the train, gathered his bags, and began the three-mile walk home. He was anxious to see his family and to find out if Pal would still care for him.

It was dark when Randolph neared the home place and trudged down the rutted drive, he heard the deep, rumbling growl of Pal alerting the family of an intruder. Randolph stopped and gave the bird call whistle he used to call Pal with.

There was complete silence, then in the darkness Randolph saw the black dog leap at him. He dropped his bags and tried to hug the happy dog who insisted on licking his face. Had Pal forgotten Randolph? No. Neither does Jesus forget His own. As Pal was overjoyed to welcome Randolph home, so Jesus is overjoyed to welcome home His friends.

—Adapted by Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was very old and unable to see?
2. What did he want to do before he died?
3. What did Isaac ask Esau to do?
4. Who was listening to what Isaac told Esau?
5. Who did Rebekah want to have the blessing?
6. What did Rebekah do to make Isaac think Jacob was Esau?
7. Why was Isaac surprised when Jacob brought the meat to him?
8. Who came to Isaac right after Jacob had left?
9. Who got the blessing instead of Esau?

Answers: 1. Isaac; 2. He wanted to bless his oldest son, Esau; 3. To kill a dinosaur for the meat for him to eat; 4. Rebekah; 5. Jacob; 6. She put Esau's robe in him and covered his hands and neck with goat's hair; 7. He didn't think Esau could find a deer so quickly; 8. Esau; 9. Jacob.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 27:1-40.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 April 14, 1991

JACOB'S DREAM

Esau was very angry when he found that their father had been tricked into giving his blessing to Jacob. He hated Jacob and planned to kill him after their father, Isaac, died. Their mother, Rebekah, heard of Esau's plan. She called Jacob and said, "Your brother, Esau, plans to kill you. You must leave at once. Go to your Uncle Laban, who lives at Haran. Stay with him until Esau forgets what you did to him. When he is no longer angry, I will send for you."

Rebekah did not tell Isaac about Esau's plan to kill Jacob. She told him that the ways of Esau's heathen wives troubled her, and that Jacob must not marry one of these heathen women who lived nearby.

So Isaac called Jacob to him. After blessing him again, he commanded Jacob, "You must not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan. Go to Laban, your mother's brother, and take one of his daughters to be your wife." Immediately Jacob obeyed and left on his trip to Laban's house.

Jacob traveled alone. When the sun set, he fixed a place to spend the night. Finding a smooth stone to use as a pillow, he lay down to sleep. As he slept, God sent him a wonderful dream. He saw a ladder that reached all the way from earth to heaven. On the ladder were beautiful angels, climbing up and down from heaven, to earth, and back to their heavenly home. Jacob dreamed that God spoke to him and said, "I am the God of your grandfather Abraham, and the God of your father Isaac. The land on which you are lying I will give to you and to your family. Through your family I will bless all people. I will be with you and protect you wherever you go. I will bring you back to this land. I will never leave you until I have fulfilled this promise.

—Nelda Sorrell





"He dreamed,
and behold a
ladder set up
on the earth;
and the top of
it reached to
heaven: and
behold the
angels of God
ascending
and decending
on it."

(Gen. 28:12)

While Big Brother is Gone

Bill and Mike were brothers who shared the same bedroom. Whenever Bill was gone to school, Mike liked to get Bill's toys and play with them. Bill did not like for Mike to do this, so when he caught Mike with his things he became rather upset.

During the day Mother would tell Mike to put Bill's things back, which he would do while complaining that Bill had so many more toys than he had. He did not stop to think that Bill was two years older than he was. He just wanted to play with all of the toys any time he pleased.

One day while Bill was at school and Mother was in the garden hoeing, Mike slipped into the boys' bedroom. He took Bill's favorite radio-controlled car down from the shelf that was supposed to be too high for him to reach. Bill had let Mike work the controls a time or two, so Mike thought he knew just how to operate the car. He backed the car up on the bedroom floor, then he turned the wheels and circled the car around like a doughnut. Boy! Was this fun!

Mike drove the car into the hall and raced it into the dining room. How exciting it was to be in full control of such a fast car! Mike was pleased with his driving. He decided to drive Bill's radio-controlled car through another doorway and into the kitchen. As he pushed the control trigger and turned the steering dial, the car sped out of sight, and he had to run after it. But the car had not zipped into the kitchen. Instead, it turned too sharply, slipped under the gate across the cellar doorway, and fell down to the hard cement floor below. Crash! Mike's excitement crashed when he heard the car crash. Really scared now, Mike hurried down the steep stairway to check the car. One wheel was broken off and the back bumper was cracked. The top of the car was scratched, also.

What should Mike do now? He thought he would hide the car so Bill would never see what had happened. He put the car and its

controls far behind several jars of canned tomatoes on a cellar shelf.

Then Mike climbed the stairs, fastened the gate, and skipped outside to find his mother. She smiled at Mike and he tried to smile back. All morning Mike could not get his mind off of the car.

At first Bill did not notice the car was missing. When he did miss it, he began to look for it. Mike went outside to play in the sand box. He did not want Bill to ask him where it was.

At the supper table Bill was worried because he could not find his car. This is when their father learned about the missing car. When Mike became afraid to hide the car any longer, he went and brought it back from the cellar.

When Bill saw his car he began to cry.

Their father took the car in his hands. "I think I can fix the car all except for taking off these scratches," he said. "Mike, I believe you should be punished for playing with your brother's car. I hope this will teach you to never again just take something of your brother's without first asking.

From then on Mike did not even try to reach his brother's shelf that was supposed to be too high for him to reach.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was very angry?
2. Why was he so angry?
3. What did he plan to do?
4. What did Rebekah tell Jacob he must do?
5. Where did she tell him to go?
6. What did Jacob use for a pillow?
7. Who sent him a wonderful dream?
8. What did Jacob see in his dream?
9. Who spoke to Jacob in his dream?

Answers: 1. Gen. 2. Jacob had tricked Isaac and stolen his blessing. 3. He planned to kill Jacob. 4. He must leave tonight. 5. To his uncle's home. 6. A smooth stone. 7. God. 8. A ladder with angels going up and down. 9. God.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 27:41-46; 28.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 April 21, 1991

JACOB AND LABAN

Jacob awoke from the wonderful dream God had given him. Now he knew that God was with him as he traveled to the strange land where his Uncle Laban lived.

It was a long trip to Haran, where Laban lived. Finally one evening Jacob saw some shepherds near a well. When Jacob was close enough, he asked the men, "Where are you from?"

When they told him they were from Haran, Jacob knew he had finally reached the end of his long trip. "Do you know Laban, the son of Nahor?" Jacob asked the men.

"We know him," they answered. "His daughter, Rachel is coming now."

Jacob hurried to meet Rachel. He told her, "I am your relative, the son of your father's sister, Rebekah." Rachel ran to tell Laban that Jacob had come. Laban hurried to meet him and welcome Jacob to his home.

At first Laban was very kind to Jacob. After he had worked a month, Laban asked him what he wanted for pay. Jacob told Laban he would work for him seven years if he would give him Rachel to be his wife. Laban agreed.

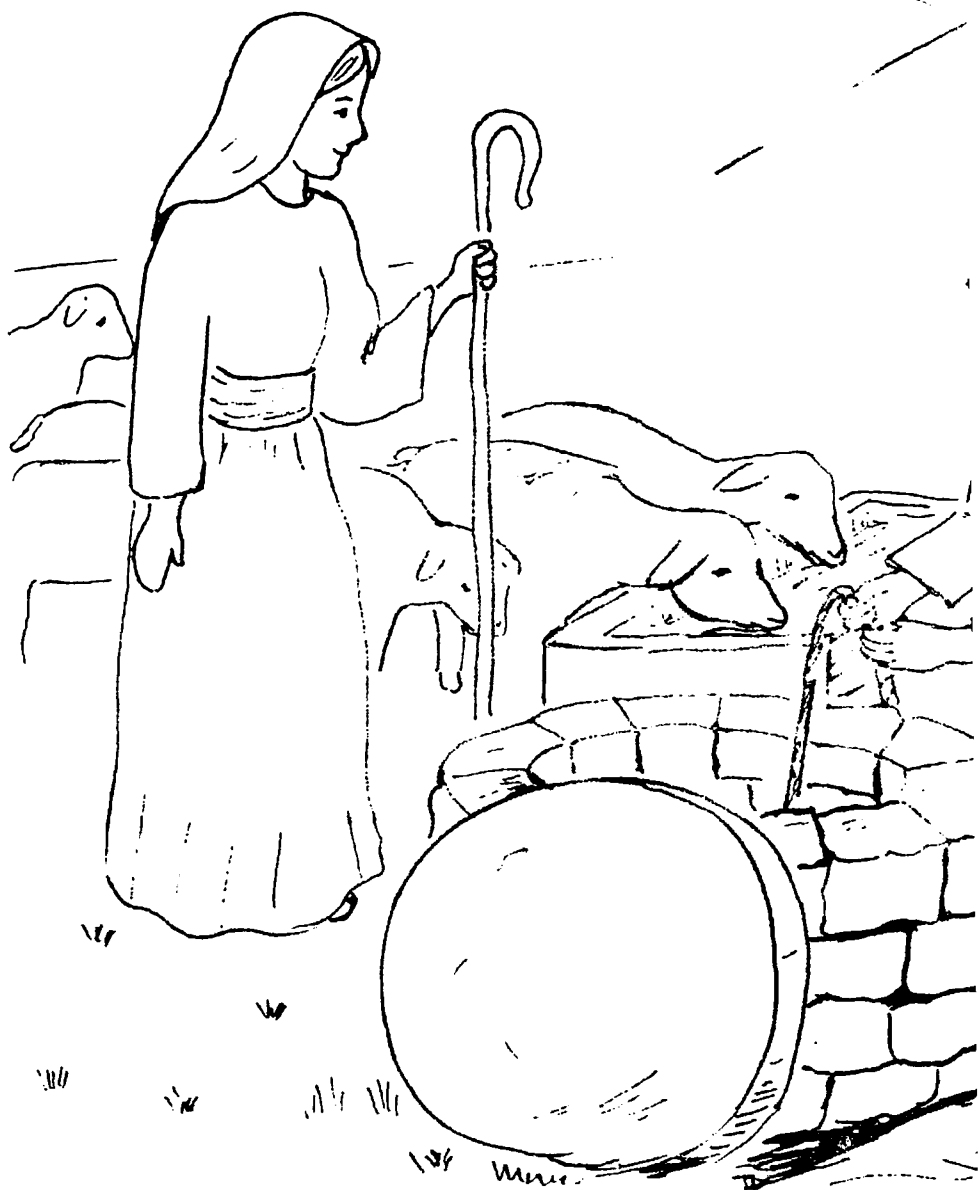
When seven years had passed, Laban arranged for a great wedding feast. But instead of giving Jacob, Rachel, to be his wife, Laban gave him Leah, his older daughter. When Jacob saw that he had married Leah instead of Rachel, he demanded, "What have you done? I served you for Rachel. Why have you cheated me?"

Laban told Jacob that he could have Rachel also if he would work for him another seven years. Jacob had tricked his blind father, now Laban had tricked him. He had to work 14 years for Rachel.

—Nelda Sorrell

**"Rachel was beautiful
and well favoured."**

(Gen. 29:17)





Missionary Vision

At the young age of 11, Twyla Ludwig was deeply touched by the stories of the starving people in the poor countries of Africa. When she grew up and married, she explained her concern and burden to be a missionary to her husband. He did not feel any call to be a missionary—he wasn't even saved. But Twyla Ludwig had a vision and she began to pray.

Every day she would go to the woods and pray for her husband's salvation. One day he found her there which touched his heart so much that he soon became a Christian. Shortly after his salvation, his wife became deathly ill. The doctors had given up on her chance of living. Now her husband began to pray. He promised the Lord he would do anything if only his wife would be healed. Since the doctors had given up on her, Twyla Ludwig began to search the Bible for verses about God's healing power. With a red marker she underlined the verses and memorized them for her daily meditation. When her faith reached out and made contact with God's sceptre of mercy, she became completely well.

Now the Lord had healed Twyla, so her husband was called upon to keep his part of the agreement. He was soon preaching. The family moved from their large, successful farm to a small town where Bro. Ludwig became the pastor.

Twyla Ludwig still had a burden to work in Africa. She took training classes at a school to prepare for missionary work and she wrote constantly asking for a mission board to sponsor them. No one would give them any money so they could travel overseas to the faraway land where so many poor people desperately needed help. Finally one church board told them that if they would raise the money to get over to Africa, then they would pay them a monthly salary.

Twyla Ludwig began to speak at various churches concerning their missionary burden for Africa. Within a few months they had enough money to travel by ship and railroad to the Kenya province of southeast Africa, close to the equator.

On October 31, 1927, their ship steamed into the harbor of Mombasa, and the Ludwigs stepped on to the land that Twyla had dreamed about for so many years. She was

happy to at last be in the land of Africa, but oh, her heart was already aching for the many needs of the people.

Many were sick simply because they did not know how to be clean with their food and personal habits. Soon she was teaching them to wash under their fingernails, to clean their sores and bandage them, and to cook with clean water. She helped mothers with their new babies and she prayed for the wives when they came to her bruised and bleeding after their husband had beaten them.

Every morning and night Bro. Ludwig had worship services at the mission. Though witch doctors threatened and cursed any who would accept "Jesu Christo," still many of the people became Christians. They lived happily and peacefully before other native heathens who recognized the change for good in them.

Because Twyla Ludwig had a vision to be a missionary in Africa, thousands of suffering people learned about Jesus, healer of both soul and body.

May the Lord give us each one a vision to reach out to others with this good news of "Jesu Christo" who takes meanness out of the heart and puts peace and happiness there instead.

—Adapted by Connie Sorrell

(To be continued)

Questions:

1. Who was with Jacob as he traveled?
2. Who was Laban?
3. Where did Laban live?
4. Who told Jacob that Rachel was Laban's daughter?
5. How did Laban treat Jacob at first?
6. How long did Jacob agree to work for Rachel?
7. At the wedding feast, who did Laban give to Jacob?
8. Who had Jacob tricked?
9. How long did Jacob have to work for Rachel?

Answers: 1. God 2. Jacob's uncle 3. Haran 4. The shepherds 5. Hardly 6. For seven years 7. Leah 8. His blind father, Isaac 9. 14 years

Lesson Texts: Gen. 29.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 **Primaries** (USPS549-000) Part 17 April 28, 1991

JACOB STARTS FOR HOME

Jacob had been in Haran for 14 years. He wanted to return to his home in Canaan but Laban did not want him to leave. Laban told him, "I have learned by experience that the Lord has blessed me for your sake. Tell me what pay you want and I will give it to you."

Jacob answered, "I will take care of your flocks again if you will give me all the cattle and goats that are speckled and spotted and all the sheep that are brown." Laban agreed, so Jacob separated these from Laban's flocks and had his sons take care of them while he continued to work for Laban. Whenever an animal was born that was speckled and spotted or brown, it was added to Jacob's flock.

Soon Jacob was very rich. Besides all his great possessions, Jacob also had 11 sons and a daughter. Laban's sons became jealous and accused Jacob of taking their father's wealth. Laban was jealous, too.

The Lord appeared to Jacob and said, "Return to Canaan, the land of your father, and I will be with you." So Jacob prepared to leave at once while Laban was away shearing his sheep. When Laban came home and found Jacob had left and taken everything he owned, Laban was angry. Jacob had been gone three days. Laban decided to overtake him.

Laban may have planned to make Jacob return to Haran. He took several men and hurried after Jacob. Seven days later they came in sight of Jacob's company near Mount Gilead.

However, God was watching over Jacob, as He had promised. God warned Laban in a dream that he must not harm Jacob. After promising never to harm each other, Jacob and Laban separated. Jacob continued on his way toward Canaan and Laban returned to Haran.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"The Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the



land of thy fathers, and I will be with thee."

(Gen. 31:3)

Let Your Yea be Yea

As missionaries living among the Kenya African tribe, Dad and Mama Ludwig, as they were called, had a big job teaching these heathen people about God, Jesus, and the Bible way to live. They were pleased that many of them accepted "Jesu Christo" as their personal Saviour, but even these new Christians had so much to learn.

One day Dad Ludwig could not find his shaver. He looked in every pocket and corner of his toiletry case but could not find his shaver. He looked under his bed, around his shoes, and among his clothing but still could not find his shaver. Finally he spoke to the two young men who were hired to cook for the family.

"Have you seen my shaver lately?" Dad asked in the native language, moving his hand up and down his face in the shaving motion.

"No, we do not have your shaver," both men declared, wagging their heads back and forth.

"If you see my shaver," said Dad Ludwig, rubbing his stubby chin, "then I want you to bring it to me."

"How much money will you give us if we find your shaver?" asked one of the men.

Dad thought for a moment before he answered. He decided they knew where the shaver was and had hidden it in order to receive money for its return. If he paid them to return the shaver this time, they would hide something else for more money.

"I won't give you any money for its return," Dad told the two cooks, "but if my shaver isn't found before too long, I may be finding two new cooks." With this, Dad Ludwig walked out of the kitchen to let the men think the situation over.

It wasn't long until one of the cooks brought his shaver to him and declared that a rat must have carried it to the kitchen broom closet. Dad Ludwig thanked him for the shaver, but that day he preached on the subject, "Let your communication be Yea, yea; Nay nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." (Matt. 5:37). God is not pleased with those who use trickery for profit.

Later that spring Dad Ludwig came upon an old man who was digging up sweet potatoes from the mission's garden.

"Why are you stealing our sweet potatoes?" he asked the man.

"Oh, Dad, I am not stealing," he replied. "It is day time and thieves only steal at night. I was just borrowing some of your sweet potatoes."

Dad Ludwig did not say much more but walked the narrow path after the old man who went to his mud-thatched hut. Then Dad Ludwig picked up the old man's red rooster, tucked it under his arm, and turned to leave.

"Why are you taking my rooster?" asked the astonished old man.

"I am taking it to my place," replied Dad Ludwig.

"But you can't steal my rooster!" cried the man, following after Dad.

"I am not stealing it," said Dad. "Thieves steal at night and this is daylight. I'm just borrowing your rooster."

The old man turned back around and picked up the sweet potatoes he had stolen. "I'm sorry! I am sorry!" he called after Dad Ludwig. "Here are your sweet potatoes. Please give me back my rooster!"

Dad Ludwig gladly handed back the rooster. He wanted to teach this man an important lesson: Sin is sin whether it is done in broad daylight or slyly done in the night.

—Adapted by Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. How long had Jacob been in Haran?
2. What did Jacob want to do?
3. Who didn't want Jacob to leave?
4. Which of the cattle and goats did Jacob want for his hire?
5. How many sons did Jacob have?
6. Who told Jacob to return to the land of his father?
7. Where was Laban when Jacob left Haran?
8. How long had Jacob been gone when Laban came home?
9. Who warned Laban in a dream that he must not harm Jacob?

Answers: 1. Thirteen years. 2. He wanted to return to his home in Canaan. 3. Laban. 4. The speckled or spotted cattle and the white ewes. 5. Eleven. 6. God. 7. Near Shechem. 8. The angel. 9. God.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 30:25-43

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 May 5, 1991

JACOB WRESTLES WITH AN ANGEL

Jacob knew that he was obeying God by returning to Canaan. God had promised to protect him, but still Jacob was fearful of meeting his brother, Esau. It had been many years since he had seen Esau. He hoped that Esau had forgotten his anger towards him, but what if Esau still wanted to kill him? God knew Jacob was afraid, so He sent angels to encourage him.

Jacob decided to send messengers to let Esau know that he was coming. When the messengers returned to Jacob, they told him that Esau was coming to meet him. He was bringing 400 men with him!

Now Jacob was terribly afraid. He thought Esau planned to kill him. Jacob decided to divide his company into two groups. If Esau attacked one group, the other group could escape. Jacob begged God to protect him and his family. The next morning Jacob took hundreds of animals from his flocks and sent his servants to meet Esau. The animals were to be a gift to Esau. Jacob hoped Esau would be pleased and do him and his family no harm.

That night Jacob moved his family across a brook, but he stayed on the other side to pray. As he prayed, a stranger came and wrestled with Jacob. At daybreak Jacob realized he was wrestling with an angel. The angel said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking."

Jacob answered, "I will not let you go until you bless me."

The angel asked, "What is your name?"

"My name is Jacob," he answered.

"The angel told Jacob, "Your name is no more Jacob, but Israel because you are as a prince, having power with God and men." Israel means "a prince of God." Now Jacob was sure God would protect him and his family.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Jacob was left alone; and there
wrestled a man with him until the
breaking of the day." (Gen. 32:24)**





Growth in Understanding

"Mother, you love Sarah more than me because you always let her go places and do things, but I don't get to! It's just not fair!" Nancy said these awful words as she pouted over her mother's decision to let Sarah go to Rhonda's house to play. "I'm nearly as big as Sarah and I have to do housework also. I think I should be able to go over and play with Debbie since Sarah can play with her friend today."

"No," said Mother quietly. "You shall stay with me. Your words just now prove to me that you sometimes act too young to go visiting alone with a friend."

"I am not too young!" declared Nancy.

"Yes, but you are. I would be very embarrassed if you pouted like this over at Debbie's house. You must stay with me until you are able to control your temper."

"Sarah has a temper too and you don't keep her home. You just don't like me," pouted naughtily Nancy.

"Yes, I love you so much that I will stop you from acting like this. In the Bible in Hebrews 12:6, it tells us that the Lord chastens or punishes every child that He loves. Parents do the same to their children when they are naughty. I have heard too much sassiness from you and will not hear one word more. Now I need your help in the kitchen. You can make the blueberry muffins this time."

Nancy washed her hands, got out the mixing bowl, and muffin mix. She was still trying to pout, though she liked making the muffins. Nancy was quiet for some time while she stirred eggs and milk into her muffins. Then as she put tablespoons of muffin batter into the muffin pans, she said, "But it is true—you do love Sarah more than me."

"Now Nancy," said Mother, grieved over her attitude, "you know better than that. Here, look at my two hands. Which hand do you think I ought to cut off? Is one of my hands more valuable than the other?"

"I suppose your right hand would be more valuable," said Nancy, "because you write with it and eat with it too."

"No, my left hand often helps my right hand, so it is used at the same time. When I write, I often hold the paper with my left hand. When I type, I must have both hands.

Also, to play the piano I need both hands together. Both of my hands work together to help me, and I need both of them very much. I need both of my daughters also. The sooner a child learns that she or he cannot do everything a sister or brother does, the happier that child will be. Learn to fill your own important place and let the other children fill theirs, without having any jealousy in your heart toward them. Each child has a special, unique place of their own. You are loved because you are you."

Nancy was silent while she finished filling the muffin pans. When they were in the oven, she began to set the table without Mother asking her to do so. She stirred the gravy and helped put potholders and dishes on the table.

Daddy and the boys thought the muffins were very good. They were just eating the last crumbs when Sarah came home. Nancy ran to meet her. "Oh, Sarah," she said, "I made the blueberry muffins this time, and the boys thought they were good. Did you have a nice time at Rhonda's house? Come and tell me all about it!"

Mother could see that in one evening Nancy had grown a foot taller in her understanding of others.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was Jacob obeying by returning to Canaan?
2. What had God promised to do?
3. Who was Jacob afraid to meet?
4. Who did God send to encourage him?
5. What did the messengers tell Jacob when they returned?
6. What happened as Jacob prayed?
7. Who was wrestling with Jacob?
8. What did Jacob tell the angel he must do before he would let him go?
9. What does "Israel" mean?

Answers: 1. God. 2. To prosper him. 3. Esau. 4. Angels. 5. That Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men. 6. A stranger wrestled with him. 7. An angel. 8. "I will bless thee." 9. "A prince of God."

Lesson Texts: Gen. 32.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 May 12, 1991

JACOB MEETS ESAU AGAIN

Jacob had wrestled with the angel all night. When morning came, the angel blessed him and left. Jacob joined his family who had camped on the other side of the brook. As they prepared to start on their journey again, Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming towards him with a whole army of men—400 in all!

Quickly Jacob divided the children among his wives and servants for their protection. Going ahead of them, he went to meet Esau. As he walked he bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he was near his brother.

Esau ran to Jacob and threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. Both brothers were so happy they cried for joy. God had changed Esau's heart.

Afterwards Esau asked "Who are all these beautiful women and wonderful children?" Jacob told him of how God had blessed him greatly while he was in Haran. He had given him a fine family.

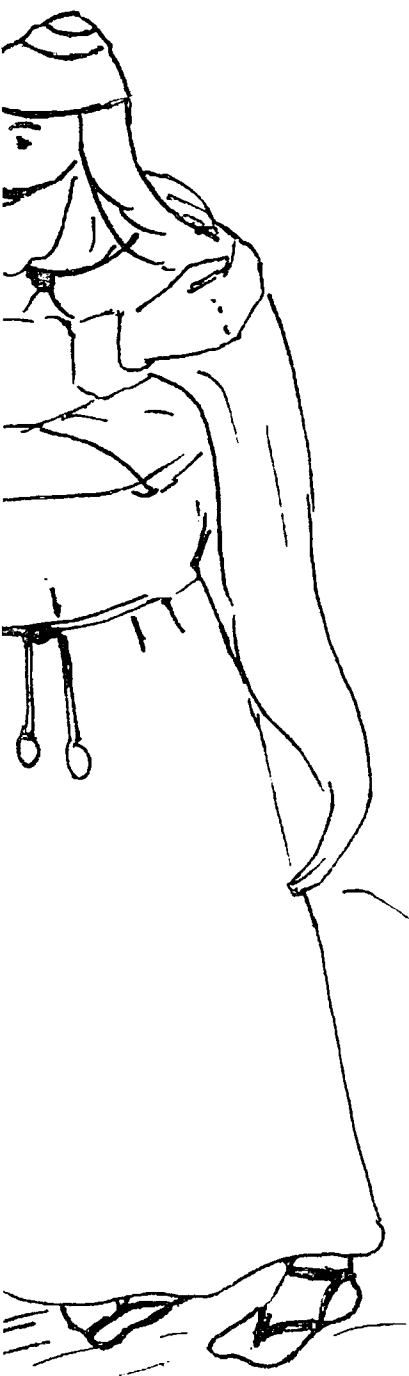
When Esau asked about all the animals that he had sent, Jacob told him they were gifts for him. At first Esau refused to take them because he had great herds himself. After Jacob kept insisting, He finally accepted the animals as a gift.

Esau begged Jacob to return home with him, but Jacob explained, "I will need to travel much slower than you because my children are tender, and my flocks are young." Next Esau offered to leave some of his men with Jacob to help him. Again Jacob refused, saying that he would not need them.

So Esau returned to his home and Jacob traveled on toward Canaan, the land of his father. At Shechem Jacob bought a field, built an altar, and worshiped God. He thanked God for His protection. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"Esau ran
to meet him,
and embraced
him." (Gen. 37:5)**



God, the Giver of All Good Gifts

Mike was hungry. He had been playing with his truck. Mother was busy in the kitchen with her baking. Mike ran into the kitchen, "Mommy, I'm hungry," he said. Mother took the apple pie from the oven. Then she said, "How would my big boy like jelly and bread?"

"Yum, yum," said Mike.

Mother took two slices of bread from the package. She spread one slice with butter, and the other slice with grape jelly. Then pressing the two slices together, she cut it crosswise and handed both pieces to Mike.

Mike took a bite. "Oh, thank you, Mommy," he said. "It surely is good."

I thought you would like it," said Mother. "Aunt Kay sent us the grape jelly. She made it."

"Where did she get the grapes?" asked Mike.

"Uncle Jack planted the grapevines for her," said Mother.

"What made the grapes on the vine?" asked Mike.

"God sent the sunshine and the rain," said Mother, "and the grapes grew on the vines. They grew and grew in the bright sunshine. Then Uncle Jack gathered them, and Aunt Kay made the good jelly. She shared it with us. Aren't you glad?"

"Oh yes, Ma'am," said Mike, taking another big bite of his bread. "But if God hadn't sent the sunshine and the rain we wouldn't have this good jelly, would we, Mommy?"

"No, Mike," said Mother. "God is the great Giver of all the good things in life. It is God who gives us the good earth to grow foods in. It is God who gives us everything in life. Without Him, we would have nothing."

Mike had eaten every bite of his bread. He looked up into Mother's face and said, "Mommy, I would like to thank God for that good bread and jelly."

"We will bow our heads, Mike," said Mother, "and you can do that right now." Then Mike and Mother bowed their heads.

Mike said, "Thank you, God, for the good grape jelly that you sent the rain and sunshine to grow grapes for. And thank you for all the other good things you give us. Amen."

Then Mike ran back to play with his blocks.

—Selected

God is good.

Questions:

1. Whom did Jacob see coming towards him?
2. How many men were with Esau?
3. How many times did Jacob bow before Esau?
4. What did Esau do when he came to Jacob?
5. Who had changed Esau's heart?
6. At first, why did Esau refuse the animals Jacob offered?
7. What did Esau beg Jacob to do?
8. Why did Jacob have to travel slowly?
9. What did Jacob do in Shechem?

Answers: 1. Esau. 2. 400. 3. Seven times. 4. He threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. 5. God. 6. He had great hearts himself. 7. To return home with him. 8. Because of his children and flocks. 9. He built an altar and worshipped God.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 33.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 May 19, 1991

JOSEPH, THE DREAMER

Jacob had 12 sons, but he loved Joseph more than any of them. Because he was his favorite, Jacob made Joseph a beautiful coat of many colors. His brothers envied him because Jacob loved him most.

When Joseph was 17 years old he had two strange dreams. In both dreams he saw his brothers, and even his father and mother bowing to him. When he told his brothers the dreams, they hated him even more.

One day Jacob sent Joseph to see how his brothers were. They had taken the flocks to new pastures and had been gone many days. Obediently Joseph set out on the long trip. He had trouble finding his brothers, but finally Joseph saw the flocks in the distance.

Joseph's brothers spotted his brightly colored coat far across the field and knew he was coming. They said, "Look, here comes the dreamer! Let's kill him. Then we will see what will become of his dreams."

Reuben, the oldest, did not want to harm Joseph. He told his brothers, "Let us not kill him. Throw him into this pit." He planned to come back later and rescue Joseph and take him to his father.

The others agreed. When Joseph got to them, they grabbed him and took off his beautiful coat. Then they threw him into the pit and sat down to eat their lunch. While they were still eating, a company of merchants came by on camels. They were on their way to Egypt.

Quickly the brothers decided they would sell Joseph to these merchants for a slave. Then they would be rid of him without killing him.

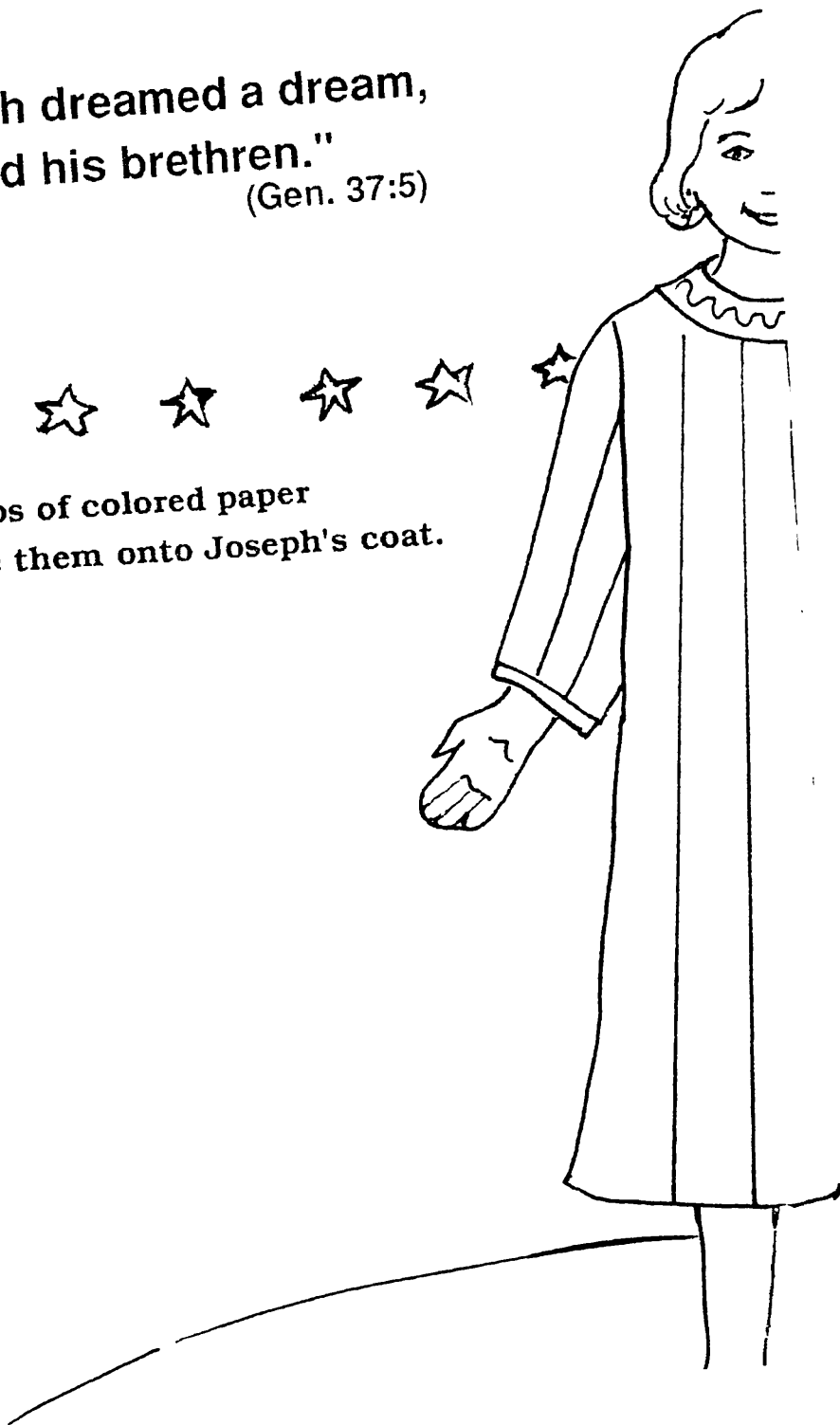
The merchants paid the brothers 20 pieces of silver. Then taking Joseph, they started towards Egypt where they would sell him to be a slave.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Joseph dreamed a dream,
and told his brethren."
(Gen. 37:5)**



**Cut strips of colored paper
and glue them onto Joseph's coat.**





Fifty Cents

"But why can't you go to the store?" asked Judy. "My mother lets me go."

"Mother says I have to wait until I'm older before I cross the street by myself," said Kara slowly.

"But you won't be by yourself," insisted Judy. "You will be with me."

"I'll go ask Mother," said Kara.

"And ask her for some money too."

Kara looked and looked for Mother. Then she remembered. Mother was next door. Just then Kara saw two quarters lying on the piano.

She took the quarters and ran out the door to Judy who was waiting.

Kara did not tell Judy that she had not asked Mother, nor did she tell Judy where she got the money.

When they came to the street, Judy took Kara's hand carefully and then they both crossed the street.

In the drugstore were all kinds of wonderful things to buy. It was hard for Kara to make up her mind. Then she decided on bubblegum and hard candy. But somehow she did not feel very happy on the way home.

"I have to go in now," said Judy. "It is nearly time for supper."

Mother had returned and was hurrying to get supper. "Please help me set the table, Kara," she said. Without saying a word, Kara helped Mother.

At supper Kara kept thinking about the wrong she had done. In the middle of the meal the doorbell rang. The newsboy was collecting money for the newspaper delivery.

"Where is the rest of the money I put on the piano?" asked Mother. "Fifty cents is missing."

Kara acted as if she were going to cry. Mother got more money from her purse, paid the boy, and came back into the kitchen.

"Mother, I'm sorry," said Kara. "I took the money to spend at the drugstore. And I went to the store with Judy without telling you."

"That is very serious," said Daddy.

"I'm really sorry," said Kara again.

"I'll never, never do it again. Do you suppose God will forgive me?"

"Kara, God always forgives us when we are truly sorry. We forgive you too," said Mother gently. "If you mean never to do it again, perhaps we can find a way for you to earn fifty cents to pay back the money."

"Oh yes, yes!" said Kara, smiling again. "I want to do that." She felt as if a big load was lifted from her heart. How unhappy she had been when she was doing wrong, and how happy she felt to be forgiven!

—Selected

Questions:

1. How many sons did Jacob have?
2. Which child did Jacob love most?
3. What did Jacob make Joseph?
4. How old was Joseph when he had two strange dreams?
5. In the dreams, who did Joseph see bowing to him?
6. Where did Jacob send Joseph?
7. Where did Joseph's brothers throw him?
8. To whom did they sell Joseph?
9. Why did the men take Joseph to Egypt?

Answers: 1. Twelve. 2. Joseph. 3. A beautiful coat of many colors. 4. 17 years old. 5. His father, mother, and brothers. 6. To see about his brothers. 7. Into a pit. 8. To some merchants. 9. To sell him to become a slave.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 37

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 May 26, 1991

JOSEPH, A SLAVE AND PRISONER

Joseph was tired from walking. Finally the camel caravan he was with arrived in the strange land of Egypt. Here, Joseph saw people who looked different from his own people, and they spoke a strange language. The merchants took Joseph to the chief city of Egypt and sold him as a slave.

The man who bought Joseph was a very rich officer in the king's army. His name was Potiphar. Potiphar soon learned that Joseph was a good slave because God was with him. He made Joseph overseer in his house and trusted him to take care of all his business.

But one day Potiphar's wife asked Joseph to do something that was very wicked. Joseph told her he could not do this because he would be sinning against God. Day after day she tempted him. When Potiphar's wife saw that Joseph would not sin, she was very angry. When Potiphar came home, she told him lies about Joseph. Potiphar believed her and was so angry that he had Joseph thrown into prison.

Joseph had been wronged again, but God had not forgotten him nor the wonderful dreams He had given to Joseph. God was preparing Joseph for the time when those dreams would come true. Joseph did not understand God's plan, but he trusted God.

Even as a prisoner, Joseph did not blame God nor feel sorry for himself. Instead, he was cheerful and tried to be helpful in the prison. The prison keeper watched Joseph. Finally he decided Joseph was the very person he needed to help care for the prisoners. He gave Joseph full charge of all the prisoners. Now Joseph was as busy as he had been at Potiphar's house. God was still with him and made everything he did turn out good.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"The Lord was with Joseph, and
showed him mercy." (Gen. 39:21)**



Earning Work

Aaron was wanting to earn some money of his very own. He wasn't very old, so there weren't too many things he could do for pay. He already cleaned his bedroom, took out the trash, vacuumed the carpet, and dried the dishes when Mother asked him to. Now Aaron wanted to work for someone besides his parents. He had been praying to Jesus about this for several days—and no one but Jesus knew it.

Aaron was riding his big wheel down the sidewalk in front of the neighbor's house where Mr. Nelson was busy washing his car in the driveway. Quickly, Aaron jumped off his big wheel and hurried to Mr. Nelson.

"Can I help you wash your car?" he asked.

Mr. Nelson looked rather surprised at his offer. Then he smiled at Aaron. "Do you think a young man like you can handle such a big job?"

"No, Sir, I can't do it all by myself, but I can help you," answered Aaron.

"All right, then, here is a bucket of soapy water. I want you to make sure the back bumper, license plate, and tail lights are all clean. Think you can do it?"

"Yes, Sir!" replied Aaron. Carefully he scrubbed the back part of the car with the sudsy sponge. Then he stood back while Mr. Nelson sprayed off the soap with clean water.

"Looks like you did a nice job," said Mr. Nelson with admiration in his voice. "Do you think you can do the front of my car just as well?"

"Yes, Sir," said Aaron with a big smile. Soon he had the front lights and bumper looking clean and shiny.

"Very good!" said Mr. Nelson. "Have you ever vacuumed before?"

"Yes, I have vacuumed for my mother several times," replied Aaron.

"You must be a very good helper for your parents," said Mr. Nelson. "If you can vacuum my car nicely, then I will give you two quarters, which is 50 cents."

Aaron was very happy to vacuum the car for Mr. Nelson. He took out the floor mats, gave the big pieces of trash to Mr. Nelson to throw away, and then he carefully vacuumed under the seats and in every groove of the car

floor. Mr. Nelson was very pleased with Aaron's work.

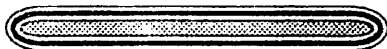
"For such a young boy, you are quite a worker," he told Aaron. "Here are your two quarters, and I may have you help me again in two weeks or so, because a car is just like a house—it needs cleaning very often."

Happily, Aaron rode his big wheel home to show his parents the fifty cents he had earned. His parents were very pleased with him.

Later, Mr. Nelson talked to Aaron's father about Aaron's ability to work. "You are doing a good job in teaching Aaron to work while he is young," said Mr. Nelson. "He was so respectful and did each task so faithfully that I would like for him to help me whenever possible. I will give him fifty cents each time he helps me like this. If he stays faithful to his work, he will really be successful in life."

That night in family worship, Aaron thanked the Lord for answering his prayer about earning some money. Mother and Daddy thanked the Lord that Aaron was learning to be a good, faithful worker.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Where did the merchants take Joseph?
2. Why did they take him there?
3. Who bought Joseph?
4. Who asked Joseph to do something wicked?
5. Why did Potiphar have Joseph thrown into prison?
6. Who had still not forgotten Joseph?
7. What did Joseph try to do in the prison?
8. Who gave Joseph full charge of all the other prisoners?
9. Who made everything Joseph did turn out good?

Answers: 1. To the marketplace of Egypt. 2. To be sold as a slave. 3. Potiphar. 4. Potiphar's wife. 5. He borrowed the lies his wife told about Joseph. 6. God. 7. He helped him. 8. The prison keeper. 9. God.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 39

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 June 2, 1991

JOSEPH INTERPRETS DREAMS

Even though Joseph was a prisoner, he was willing to be helpful. Soon the prison keeper gave Joseph charge over all the other prisoners.

About that time Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, became very displeased with two of his servants, his chief butler and his chief baker. Pharaoh had both of them taken to prison. Here Joseph cared for them. One morning Joseph noticed that both of these prisoners looked very sad. He asked them, "Why do you look so sad today?"

"We have both dreamed strange dreams and there is no one to tell us the meaning of our dreams."

Joseph said, "God can reveal the meaning of dreams. Tell me your dreams."

The chief butler told Joseph, "In my dream I saw a grapevine with three branches. While I watched, the vine budded, blossomed, and grapes grew on it. I had Pharaoh's cup in my hand, so I took the grapes and squeezed the juice into his cup. Then I gave the cup to Pharaoh."

"The interpretation is that in three days, Pharaoh will ask you to again be his butler," Joseph said. "I beg you to tell Pharaoh that for no fault of mine, I was put in this prison."

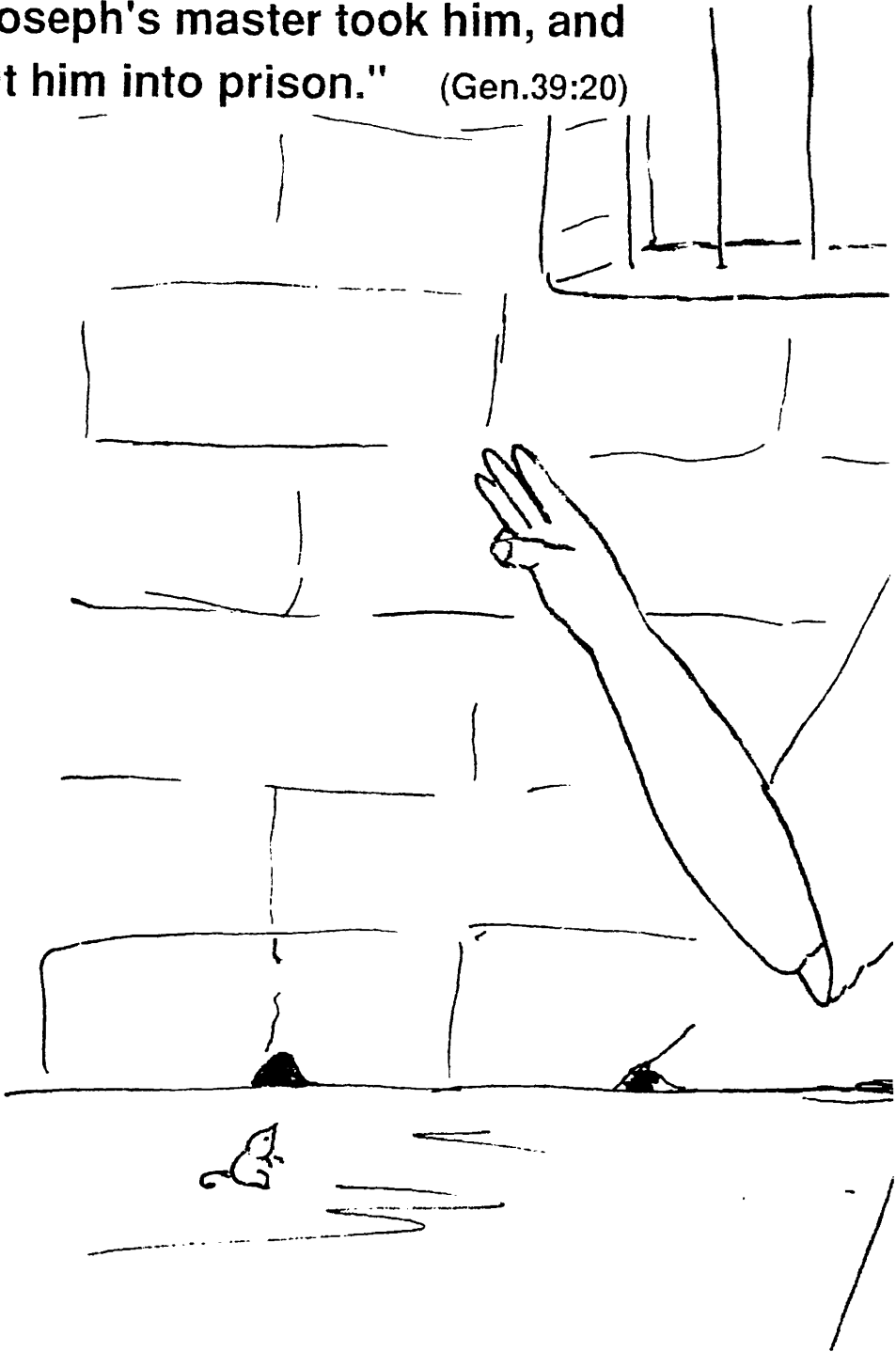
When the baker saw the butler's dream had a good meaning, he said, "I dreamed that I was carrying three white baskets of baked goods for the king, and birds ate the food out of my three baskets."

"In three days, Pharaoh will hang you, and the birds will eat your flesh," Joseph told the baker.

After three days, the butler was brought out of prison to again serve Pharaoh and the baker was hanged, just as God had shown Joseph.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Joseph's master took him, and
put him into prison." (Gen.39:20)**





Funny Dreams

It was in the middle of the night when Mother heard someone in her bedroom. Startled, she turned over to see who it was. There stood Jimmy with his eyes wide open and trembling from the coolness of night.

"Come and see what's on my bed!" he whispered sleepily to Mother. "Come right now and get it off my bed!"

Mother crawled out of bed and followed Jimmy to his bedroom. "See right there," he said, pointing a finger to the foot of his bed. "There was a rabbit on my bed, right there!" Let's find it and put it in a box so it can't get on my bed any more."

They looked under the covers, under the bed, and around the bed but could not find the rabbit any where. "Honey, I think you were only dreaming," Mother told Jimmy. "Let me tuck you back into your nice warm bed and you go back to sleep. Don't you worry a bit about any rabbit coming to your bed."

Jimmy did as he was told, but he still insisted there was a rabbit on his bed until his eyes again closed in sleep. The next morning Jimmy told everyone at the breakfast table that there was a rabbit on his bed in the night. Everyone laughed at this, and his big brother laughed loudest of all. Jimmy was hurt and his big brown eyes filled with tears.

"Now you all stop laughing at Jimmy," ordered Daddy. "Jimmy did see a rabbit on his bed, but it was in a dream. Sometimes dreams can seem very real, can't they, Jimmy?"

Jimmy nodded his head. He was glad Daddy was not laughing at him.

"I know the difference between what I dream and what really happens," laughed his brother. "Dreams are usually stupid and don't make much sense."

"I had a dream that seemed really real," said Jimmy's big sister. "I dreamed that Karen and I were skating down the street when a motorboat started chasing us and we couldn't hide from it and . . ."

"See what I mean!" laughed his big brother. "You should know a boat can't go on the street."

"It is true that we should not believe or worry about all dreams," said Daddy. "Usually a dream will have several things from

real life jumbled together and you can trace the thoughts back to what has happened. Your sleepy mind is just working overtime when you dream. However, sometimes God has given dreams for a message. You will know when you have a special dream from God. It will stand out very clearly in your mind. Otherwise, we should not worry about what we dream, nor should we have faith in just any dream."

The family soon forgot all about the rabbit dream until two nights later Mother was checking each child before she went to bed when she found big brother awake.

"I just had the craziest dream," he told Mother. "I dreamed that I was riding my bike down the street when a lake and motorboat suddenly got right in my way. I swerved to miss the boat and I hit a big clump of bushes. Rabbits started hopping out of the bushes in all directions. When I got off my bike to catch some of them, they started chasing me. Then I told myself, 'Oh, this is a dream,' and I woke up."

Mother chuckled. "I think we can trace this dream back to some things said at the breakfast table the other day. Now you go on back to sleep and rest your weary mind."

In a short time, everyone in the family was sound asleep. —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who became displeased with the butler and baker?
2. Where did he have them taken?
3. Who took care of them?
4. Why did they look sad?
5. Who can reveal the meaning of dreams?
6. After three days what happened to the butler?
7. What did Joseph beg the butler to do?
8. After three days, what happened to the baker?
9. Who told them what would happen?

Answers: 1. Pharaoh. 2. Prison. 3. Joseph. 4. They dreamed dreams and did not know what they meant. 5. God. 6. He was restored to his job as chief butler. 7. To tell Pharaoh about him. 8. He was hanged. 9. Joseph.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 40

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 June 9, 1991

FROM SLAVE TO RULER

One night Pharaoh had two strange dreams. The next morning he was very troubled. He called his magicians and wise men and told them the dreams. None of them could tell him the meaning of his dreams.

When the chief butler heard about Pharaoh's strange dreams, he remembered the dream he had while in prison. He remembered how Joseph had told him what his dream meant. Everything he told him had come true! For two years he had forgotten, but now he also remembered that Joseph had begged him to tell Pharaoh how he had been put in prison unjustly.

When the butler told Pharaoh about Joseph, Pharaoh sent for him at once. Joseph hurried to shave and change his clothes before coming before the king. He must have wondered why Pharaoh was calling for him.

Pharaoh waited anxiously. When Joseph finally came, he told him, "I have dreamed a dream and there is no one who can tell me what it means. I have been told that you can understand a dream and interpret it."

Joseph answered, "The wisdom doesn't belong to me. It is God who will give the meaning of your dream."

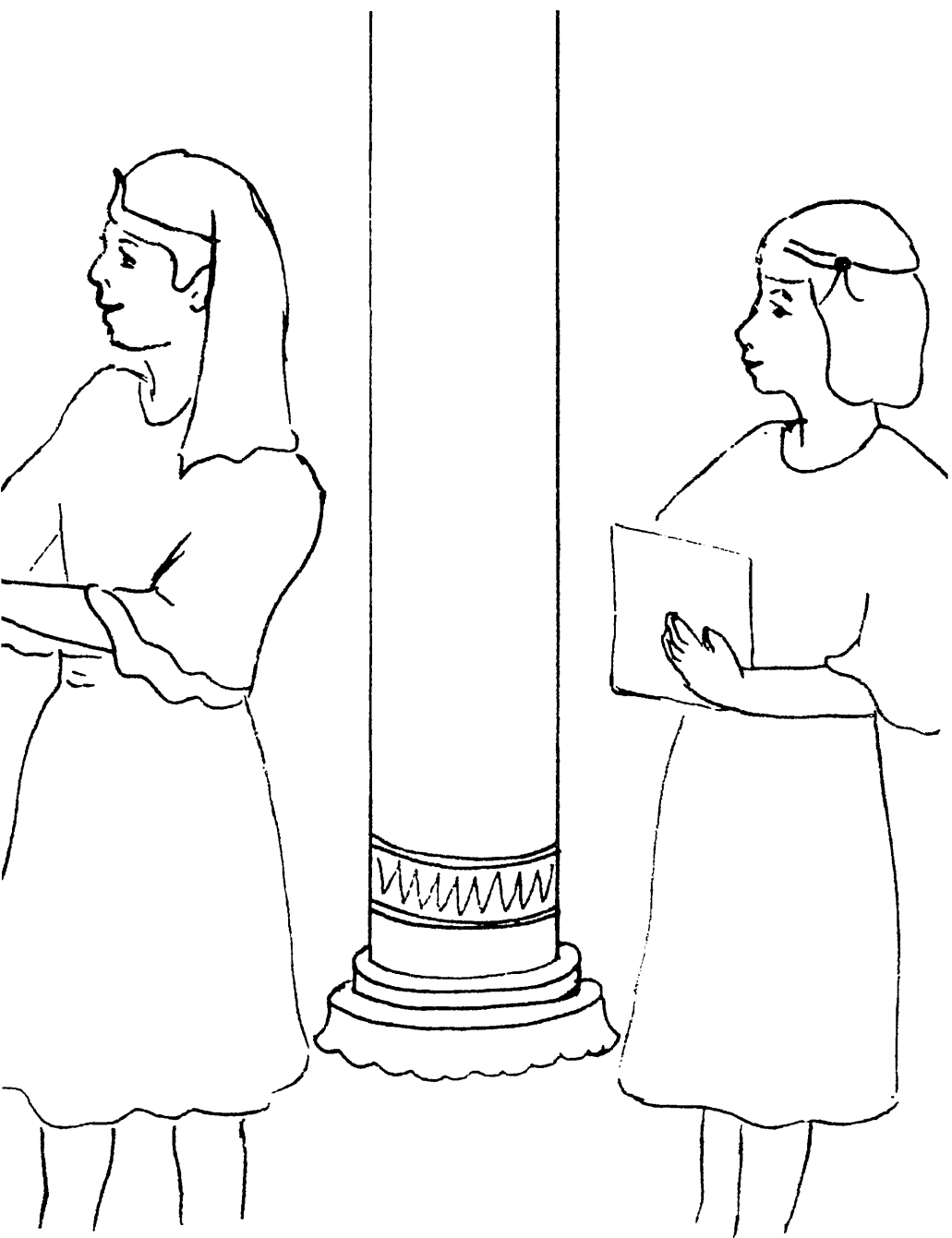
Pharaoh then told Joseph his two dreams. Joseph said, "Both dreams have the same meaning. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. There will be seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. You must appoint a wise man to store up enough food during the seven good years to last through the seven years of hard famine."

Pharaoh listened carefully. He said, "Since God has shown you all this, there is no one as wise as you. You will be overseer of my kingdom and ruler over the people. I am the only one who will be greater than you."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Thou shalt be over my house; only in the throne will I be greater than you." (Gen. 41:40)



From Nothing to Something

Linda Simons lived on Manhattan Street of New York City. Her life was broken and ruined by sin. She was the mother of three children, but the government had her children and she didn't know where they were. This made her very sad.

Linda didn't have a husband and she didn't have a house of her own. She was all alone in a very wicked area. She didn't have any money and nobody would hire her so she could make some money. Without any money, she couldn't buy food to eat. Linda was hungry, lonesome, and scared.

As Linda looked hungrily into a restaurant, a well-dressed man walked out. "Mister, I am hungry," she begged. He flipped a quarter to her and went on his way. Then she begged from a couple of neatly dressed ladies who each gave her money. Soon Linda had enough money to buy a meal, which she gobbled down quickly. The sun was setting and she wanted to find a place to sleep before dark.

With cold winter wind whipping about her, Linda wrapped her heavy coat tighter about herself. She was thankful for the coat and wore it night and day for two reasons: she did not have any other clothes than what she was wearing, and she did not want someone to steal her coat.

At the door of a city shelter, Linda stopped and looked inside. She shuddered as she saw the dirty, tassled-headed men and women crawling onto smelly cots where they would snore away the night. Linda's heart began to ache. She longed for something better. Linda didn't know how to pray. She had only heard God's name used as a curse word, which is disrespectful and grieves God. Now for the first time, Linda used God's name with a plea for help. "Oh, God, help me! I don't want to keep living like this! I want to change my life!"

Linda walked on down the street to buy some cheap wine that would help her forget life for a while and make her go to sleep. The Devil had her in such a trap that she did not know where to go for God's help.

In a few days Linda met two young women who were talking to the homeless people about Jesus who could lead them to a better

life. It sounded good to Linda, but she did not know if God could do anything for her. Diane and Amy began talking to Linda.

"Jesus loves you, Linda," said Diane.

Linda shrugged. "That's hard to believe," she said.

"Jesus can wash away all the sins of your past," said Amy, "and He cares about what you want to become. He knows about the inner longings of your heart."

Linda began to cry. The women told her about a place where she could start life over if she really wanted to.

"If you're serious about wanting to change your life, meet us Wednesday—and be sober," Amy said.

Linda was serious when she met them the next Wednesday. They took her to a women's shelter. Here she went to school and Bible studies and worked in the kitchen. Later she was trained to operate a computer.

Most importantly, Linda knelt before Jesus and asked Him to wash away all her past sins. She became a new person in Christ Jesus. No more was she a dirty, huddled figure on a street corner, but she was a clean, neatly dressed woman living in a decent home. She prays now that someday she will find her children and lead them to Jesus who satisfies the longing in the soul.

—Adapted by Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. How many strange dreams did Pharaoh have?
2. Who did he tell about his dreams?
3. Who did the butler remember when Pharaoh told his dreams?
4. How long had he forgotten about Joseph?
5. Who sent for Joseph?
6. Who did Joseph say would give the meaning of the dreams?
7. How many years of plenty would there be?
8. What did Joseph advise Pharaoh to do?
9. Whom did Pharaoh appoint to oversee the storing of food?

Answers: 1. Two. 2. He told his magicians and his men. 3. Joseph. 4. Two years. 5. Pharaoh to God. 6. Seven. 7. To appoint a wise man to store up food. 8. Joseph.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 41.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 **Primaries** (USPS549-000) Part 24 June 16, 1991

JOSEPH'S DREAMS COME TRUE

After seven years of plenty, a great famine spread throughout Egypt and the surrounding countries. When their food was gone, people came to Joseph to buy grain. Even in Canaan no grain would grow so Joseph's father, Jacob, said to his sons, "I have heard that there is corn in Egypt, go and buy some for us."

All of Joseph's brothers except Benjamin went to buy corn. Jacob would not let Benjamin go because he feared losing Benjamin as he had lost Joseph.

Anyone wishing to buy food in Egypt must come to Joseph. As the brothers bowed before him, they did not know that this young ruler was Joseph. It had been more than 20 years, but Joseph knew his brothers at once. As they bowed before him, he remembered the dream God had given him. He wondered if his brothers were still cruel and selfish, so he acted like he did not know them. He spoke roughly to them, and accused them of being spies.

The ten brothers explained to Joseph that they were honest men who had an aged father and younger brother in the land of Canaan. "We have only come for food for our families, not as spies," they said.

How glad Joseph was to hear that his father Jacob was still alive. He also noticed the brothers spoke kindly of Benjamin. They were not jealous of him.

Joseph began to plan how he could see Benjamin. He had his brothers put in prison. After three days he sent for them. He told them he would keep only one in prison. The others could take the food to their families, but they must bring Benjamin to him or he would know they were spies.

To each other, the brothers said, "We are suffering because of our cruelty to Joseph." They did not know that Joseph understood what they said. Tears came to Joseph's eyes when he saw that they were sorry for their sin against him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Joseph remembered the dreams I



ne had dreamed of them." (Gen. 42:9)



Always Follow Good Ways

"Don't do it, Bob," Billy implored, "you know Dad will find out when he gets home."

"Aw, you're just a fraidy cat," Bob said, "You're afraid to do anything that is fun."

"I'm not afraid, but I know Dad has a good reason, when he says not to do something," answered Billy, as he went into the house again.

Bob went into the woods anyway with Dad's gun. He was sure nothing would go wrong. After all, what could happen? Dad had shown Bill and himself how to carry a gun, and all the safety rules. "Billy never wants to do anything," Bob thought.

That is the way it was with the boys as they grew up. Bob was determined to do things that he shouldn't whether it was at home or school. He seemed to delight in getting into trouble. Billy was altogether different. He loved his Dad and Mom and didn't want to cause them any worry over him.

Of course, when Dad got home he noticed the gun was missing from its usual place. "Who has my gun?" Dad asked Mom. "I've told the boys not to use it unless I'm with them."

"I don't know where the boys are right now," Mom answered. "Billy has been in and out of the house all afternoon. I haven't seen Bob though."

Both boys were at the supper table, when Dad mentioned the gun being missing. "Oh, I had it," Bob told him. "I didn't do anything wrong with it, and it is back in its place."

Dad looked sternly at Bob. "Yes, the gun is back, but don't you remember what I said?"

Bob looked troubled and uncomfortable when he answered. "You said not to take it unless you were with us. That is a dumb rule anyway. Nothing happened this afternoon, did it?"

Mother looked as though she could cry. "Bob, Bob, why must you always try to get by with things that you should not be doing. If you keep up like this, you will have lots of trouble and heartaches."

"Oh, you just think Billy is perfect," Bob answered disgustingly.

"Well, Bob, you wait and see where your troublemaking will get you," Mom implored Bob. "Look at Tom, he had his own way, no matter what his folks said or did."

"Yes," Dad said, "and now he is in prison because he wouldn't listen to anyone."

"Don't worry about me. I'll never do anything that bad," Bob sneered.

Bob was his own boss, it seemed. He would not yield to the call of the Lord. When all of a sudden he was in serious trouble, then it was too late, he had to pay the price.

Billy gave his heart to the Lord when he was a young boy. He tried to follow Jesus' example, listening to his Dad and Mom's teaching. As he worked for the Lord, God blessed him with many friends, happiness and joy.

Remember, boys and girls, God's way is always the right way. "The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness." Prov. 15:9. —Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

Always do what's right!

Questions:

1. To whom did the people go when their food was gone?
2. Who sent his sons to Egypt to buy corn?
3. Why didn't Jacob let Benjamin go to Egypt?
4. How long had it been since Joseph had seen his brothers?
5. What did Joseph remember as his brothers bowed before him?
6. What did Joseph say his brothers were?
7. Where did Joseph put his brothers?
8. How long did he keep them in prison?
9. Who must they bring, when they came again?

Answers: 1. To Joseph. 2. Jacob. 3. He was afraid he would lose him. 4. Twenty years. 5. His dreams. 6. Spies. 7. In prison. 8. Their wives. 9. Benjamin.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 42

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 June 23, 1991

JOSEPH'S BROTHERS RETURN

The famine was still in the land. The corn that Joseph's brothers had bought in Egypt was almost gone, so Jacob told his sons, "Go again, and buy food."

Judah said to his father, "The governor told us, 'You shall not buy food again, except your brother is with you.' If you send Benjamin with us, we will go again. If you do not send him, we can not go."

"Why did you tell the man you had a younger brother?" Jacob asked.

"The man asked if we had a younger brother. How could we know that he would say, 'Bring your brother'?"

Still Jacob refused to let Benjamin go to Egypt. When the food was almost gone, Judah told Jacob, "Send Benjamin with me. I will make sure nothing happens to him."

This time the brothers took gifts for the Egyptian ruler. Taking the gifts and Benjamin with them, they again came before Joseph. When Joseph saw Benjamin with his brothers, he ordered his servant to take them to his house. "These men will eat with me," he said in a strange language. "Prepare a feast."

Joseph's brothers were even more afraid. Why were they being taken to the ruler's house? When Joseph came home at noon, they gave him the presents they had brought. Joseph spoke kindly to them, asking about Jacob. When he turned to Benjamin he said, "God be gracious to you, my son." Then Joseph rushed from the room to hide his tears of joy.

When the men were seated, they were surprised to see that their places had all been arranged in the order of their ages. Joseph sat at a separate table. He sent each brother food from his table, but to Benjamin he sent five times more.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





**"Take your
brother, and
go again unto
the men."**

(Gen. 43:13)

A Brother-Sister Conversation

Marie and Gary were in the back yard swinging on their swing set and they were having a nice visit together.

"Daddy will be coming home from work soon," said Gary. "See how the yellow sun is slipping behind the green treetops over there? When we don't see the sun any more, then that means Daddy will be home and we will go in to eat supper."

"I'm getting hungry," said Marie. "I do hope Mother has made fried chicken and mashed potatoes. That is my favorite supper. Maybe when I grow up I will be a good cook like Mother is."

"I want to be like Daddy," said Gary. "Then I can wear a little beeper and have people call me to fix their computer. I already like to push buttons and unscrew things, and Mother told me I need to learn to put things back together after I take them apart. It takes a good thinker to be what Daddy is."

"I guess I need to be a good taster to be what Mother is," said Marie. "She says that a way to get kinda fat is when you eat some of everything you cook, so I'll probably be kinda big like Mother is, too."

"Well, I wonder who our baby brother will be like," said Gary. "Maybe he will be like Grandpa and build cabinets with wood. He probably could use a hammer well because he sure knows how to bang his hand on the highchair tray."

"Or Willie could be like our other Grandpa and milk cows all the time," said Marie. "Then I could make butter from the cream like Grandma does. You like buttermilk biscuits, don't you? Well, Grandma makes them from the milk off the butter—I saw her do it once. Have you?"

"Computer repairmen aren't interested in making biscuits," said Gary. "But they do like to eat them! When you learn how to make good butter and buttermilk biscuits, let me come and eat with you."

"You can come and eat with me any time you want," said Marie. "Even after brothers and sisters get married, they visit one another. Daddy stops in and eats with Aunt Lily often, and sometimes Mother talks to Uncle

Frank on the phone, which Daddy says makes the phone bill so high. Mother used to play with Uncle Frank like I play with you, and I guess she misses playing with him so much that she can't stop talking with him once they get on the phone."

"Well, brothers and sisters should live close together like Daddy and Aunt Lily do," said Gary. "Then they can eat together more often and it doesn't cost so much when they talk on the telephone. Let's never live so far apart when we grow up."

"Okay," said Marie. "I couldn't send you buttermilk biscuits over the telephone anyway."

"Oh, look at the sun," said Gary with his finger pointing to the west. "The sun is hiding behind the trees. Listen! I hear Daddy's car in the driveway. Let's go in and wash up for supper before Mother calls."

Then the brother and sister hurried inside where the family soon gathered around the supper table.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Why couldn't Joseph's brothers grow corn where they lived?
2. What did Jacob tell his sons to do?
3. Who must go with them to Egypt?
4. Who told Jacob he would make sure nothing happened to Benjamin?
5. What did Joseph tell his servant when he saw Benjamin?
6. Why did Joseph rush from the room?
7. Why were the brothers surprised when they were seated?
8. Who sent each brother food from his table?
9. Who did he send the most food to?

[Answers: 1. There was no time to do so. 2. To "Gather in, and buy food." 3. Benjamin. 4. Judah. 5. He said, "These men will eat with me." 6. He hid his ears of joy. 7. They were all seated in the order of their ages. 8. Joseph. 9. To Benjamin.]

Lesson Texts: Gen. 43.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 June 30, 1991

JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN

After eating with Joseph, his brothers were ready to go back home with the corn they had bought. Joseph told his servant, "Fill the men's sacks with food. Then put every man's money in the mouth of his sack. In the sack of the youngest one, put my silver cup and his money."

Early the next morning the men left for home. Before they had gone very far, Joseph's servant came rushing after them. He demanded, "Why have you taken my master's silver cup?"

"God forbid that we should do such a thing," the brothers said. "If you find the cup in anyone's sack, that person shall die and we will all be your servants."

Every man quickly opened his sack. The servant started with the sack of the oldest and searched inside every sack. When he came to Benjamin's sack, he found Joseph's silver cup!

The brothers were filled with fear, but they all turned back towards Joseph's house. They would not return home without Benjamin. When they came to Joseph's house, he was there. They fell down on their faces before him. Joseph asked them sternly, "What is this that you have done?"

The brothers begged Joseph to keep any one of them except Benjamin. "Our father will die if Benjamin does not return," they explained.

Joseph saw that his brothers were very different than when they had sold him to be a slave. Quickly he ordered the Egyptian servants to leave the room. Then in great excitement he said, "I am your brother, Joseph."

Joseph saw the fear in his brothers' eyes. "Don't be angry with yourselves, that you sold me. God was sending me to Egypt to save the lives of our family." Then beginning with his youngest brother Benjamin, he hugged and kissed them all.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"I am Joseph
your brother,
whom ye sold
into Egypt."**

(Gen. 45:4)





Separated for a Season

(Based on a true story)

Ruthie was a little Jew baby born in 1941 in a Jewish neighborhood in a city in Poland. Being a Jew meant that her great-great-grandfathers several hundred years ago were Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Being a Jew meant that her parents still worshiped God in the old way that Moses had written in the Old Testament. Being a Jew in Poland during World War II meant little Ruthie could be killed, because a wicked man named Adolf Hitler had ordered all Jewish people to be killed.

Even before Ruthie was born, Hitler's soldiers had strung up a high barbed wire fence around her neighborhood, and everyone living within this fence became prisoners. One day Hitler's soldiers drove trucks into the Jewish neighborhood and began to pull them from their homes and load them into trucks. Then Hitler's soldiers robbed and set fire to their homes. Ruthie and her parents were able to escape from these cruel soldiers then, but they knew it would not be long before they would be carried away also. Ruthie's parents prayed for God's protection and most of all, they prayed for Ruthie's safety.

Since Ruthie was just a little baby, her parents knew they could not hide with her because she would cry sometimes and this would let the soldiers know where they were. The only way to save Ruthie would be to let some kind person have their daughter.

One evening a Polish woman patted Ruthie and said, "It is a shame—she is such a pretty baby." Quickly Ruthie's father asked the woman, "Could you find a place for her?" The Polish woman whispered, "I will talk to my sister."

Two days later the woman said her sister would take Ruthie. Everything would have to be done secretly so the soldiers wouldn't stop them. About 4:00 on a warm Sunday afternoon, Ruthie's parents put her into a baby carriage. They pushed her carriage up to the guard standing duty at the gate of the barbed wire fence and showed him a pass. The guard let them through. They went out onto the sidewalks of the town where they met the woman who agreed to take Ruthie. Without a word said, Ruthie's carriage was quickly taken by the Polish woman and her parents walked away. The parents went back home through another gate and Ruthie went to live

with kind people who were willing to risk their lives for her sake.

While Ruthie was well cared for, her parents had to hide in the woods, in barns, and constantly run from Hitler's soldiers. This was a very sad time for Poland.

Ruthie's parents missed her so much that her mother was often ill. They prayed that someday they could have Ruthie back again. Ruthie probably did not miss her parents as much because she was so young and the Polish sisters were very kind to her. She did not realize it then, but God was merciful to spare her life and give her a nice place to live while other family members were suffering and dying.

Then in July, 1944, other foreign soldiers came into the city and pushed Hitler's soldiers out. No more would Hitler's soldiers kill the Jews. Right away, Ruthie's parents went to find her. She was three and half years old now.

At first she did not know them, but soon they won her love. They were thrilled to be together again. Truly God had been merciful to them.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. What did Joseph's servant put in the mouth of every man's sack?
2. What did he put in Benjamin's sack along with his money?
3. Who came rushing after Joseph's brothers?
4. What did he ask the brothers?
5. What did the brothers promise if the cup was found?
6. In whose sack was the cup found?
7. What was the first thing his brothers did when they came back to Joseph?
8. When Joseph saw his brothers had changed, what did he tell them?
9. Why did God send Joseph to Egypt?

Answers: 1. His money. 2. Joseph's silver cup. 3. Joseph's servant. 4. "Why have you taken my money? Show me the cup!" 5. That the person who had the cup would take all the brothers would be Joseph's servants. 6. In Benjamin's sack. 7. They bowed down before him. 8. "I am Joseph." 9. To save the lives of his family.

Lesson Texts: Gen. 44; 45:1-24.