

WIS 16

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Jan. 5, 1992

A SONG OF MOSES

In our last lesson we read of how God helped the children of Israel escape from Pharaoh and his great army. Do you remember what God told Moses to do when he cried to Him for help? God told Moses to stretch his rod out over the Red sea. When he obeyed, the waters divided and rose up like walls leaving a dry path through the sea for the Israelites.

Then, as Pharaoh and his army followed hard after them, the Lord told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so the waters will come together again." When Moses obeyed, the walls of water crashed down on Pharaoh and his army with swirling fury. Pharaoh was drowned and his army destroyed by the raging waters that covered them.

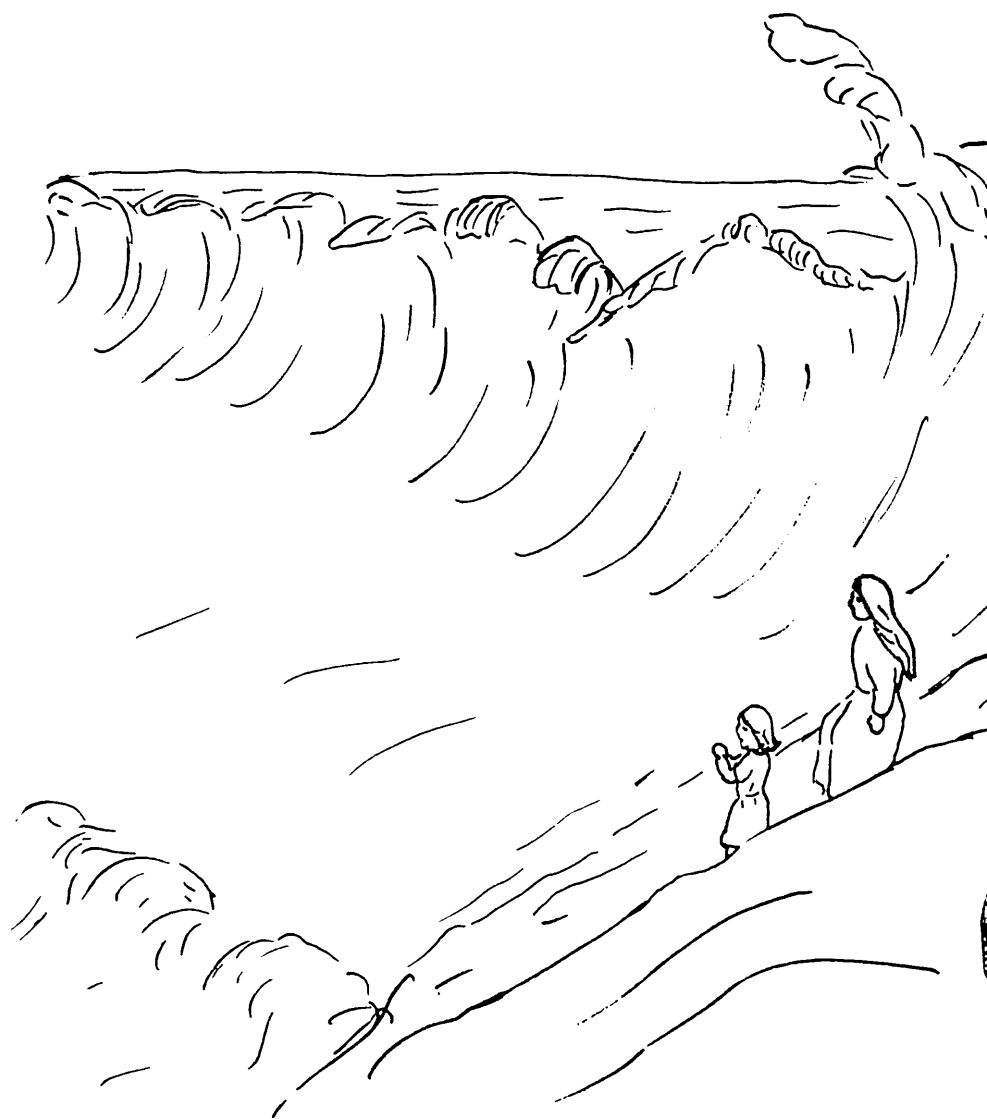
When the Israelites were safe on the other side of the sea, they looked back across the water. Pharaoh's entire army was caught in the angry rushing water. The people knew that it was the Lord who had delivered them from their awful enemy.

Moses and the Israelites were so grateful for their deliverance that they sang a song to thank God. The people sang, "I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea." In their song they thanked God for being their strength and their salvation.

"The Lord is a man of war," they sang. "Pharaoh's chariots and his army hath He cast into the sea. The waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap. The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will draw with the sword, my hand shall destroy them.' Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"The Lord is my
strength and song,
and he is become
my salvation." (Ex. 15:2)**





Saved by Answered Prayers

Chris and Mandy were coloring in their new Christmas coloring books when Daddy turned on the radio to hear the weather report.

"... There will be temperatures below zero in the northern part of the state. Sleet and icy rain is expected to fall, making traveling conditions hazardous. The state highway patrol is advising minimum driving. . . ."

Daddy turned to Mother who was in the kitchen. "Well, Honey, I guess we had better call the folks and tell them we can't come their way for Christmas. It sounds like another winter storm is on its way."

"Oh, no!" cried Chris and Mandy. "We always go to Grandma's for Christmas!" said Mandy. "Grandma will be so disappointed!" said Chris. "Please, let's go right now before the storm comes!" they said together.

Daddy looked at Mother a minute, then said thoughtfully, "We might be able to beat that storm before it comes, and the snow plows will have the roads cleared before we leave there. Honey, do you think you could be ready in 30 minutes?"

Soon they were on the road headed towards their grandparent's house. About one hour out of town, they drove into the storm. Sleet was pounding on the roof of the car and ice was glazing the road. Daddy had to slow the car and drive almost at a crawl. Everyone began to pray, first to themselves, and then out loud, as they felt the car tires slip at times. Other cars on the road would pull to the shoulder to stop, but their car would slide into a ditch. Even semi-trucks and trailers would slide off the shoulder, clip off the markers and land in the ditch. People were stopping at gas stations and some were already renting a motel room until the ice storm passed.

Carefully, Daddy kept a steady hand on the steering wheel and a light touch on the gas pedal. No one was sleeping. No one

was talking or laughing. Everyone in their car was praying to God for protection.

The gray snow clouds were getting darker and the night chill was in the air when Daddy finally pulled their car into Grandpa and Grandma's driveway. Because they had to travel so slowly on the icy roads, it had taken them twice as long to get there.

"We are so glad to see you here safe and sound!" exclaimed Grandma as they came laughing into her warm kitchen. "We have been praying for you all ever since we heard the weather report and knew you were out on the roads."

"We saw several accidents along the way," said Daddy, "but the Lord took care of us. Surely He has answered our prayers today!"

"Yes, thank the Lord," agreed Grandpa.

Later that evening when the family gathered around for family worship, Chris and Mandy were able to sing praises from their hearts because they knew a living Saviour had truly guided them that day.

—Connie Sorrell

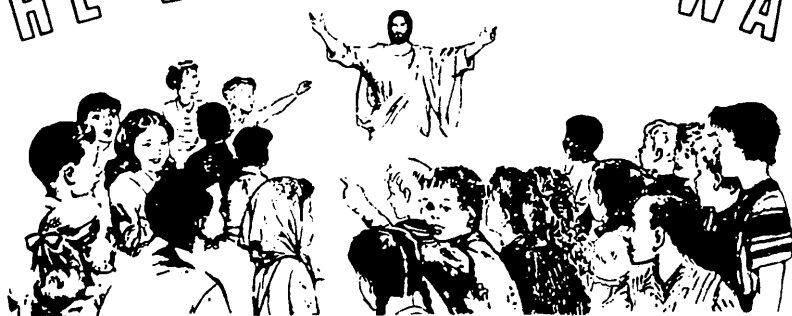
Questions:

1. Who followed close behind the children of Israel?
2. Why couldn't the children of Israel go forward?
3. Who cried to the Lord for help?
4. What did God tell Moses to do?
5. What happened when Moses obeyed?
6. What happened when Moses stretched his rod out over the water the second time?
7. What did Moses and the Israelites do when they saw they had been delivered?

(Answers: 1. Pharaoh and his army. 2. The Red sea stretched out before them. 3. Moses. 4. To stretch out his rod over the Red sea. 5. The waters divided and rose up like walls. 6. The walls of water crashed down on Pharaoh and his army. 7. They sang a song of thanks to God for delivering them.)

Lesson texts: Ex. 14:21-31; 15:1-10.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Jan. 12, 1992

SONG OF DEBORAH AND BARAK

The children of Israel had forgotten God. They worshiped idols like their wicked neighbors. When the king of Canaan attacked them, God did not help them. The Canaanites easily won the battle.

The Canaanites had ruled over Israel for 20 years when God told Deborah, a wise woman who loved and worshiped God, what to do to be delivered from the Canaanites. Deborah believed God and obeyed His instructions.

Deborah called for Barak, a brave soldier. When Barak came, she told him, "The Lord wants you to take 10,000 men and go to meet the enemy. God will give you victory over the Canaanites."

Barak knew the enemy was very strong. He told Deborah, "If you will go with me, I will do as you say." Deborah agreed to go.

When they saw the army of the enemy, Deborah urged Barak, "Up! Today is the day God will deliver our enemies into your hand." God fought for Israel that day and they won a great victory over the army of Canaan.

Just as Moses and the Israelites had sung a song of praise to express their thankfulness to God, Deborah and Barak sang a song of thanksgiving to God. They knew that without God's help they could not have defeated the Canaanites.

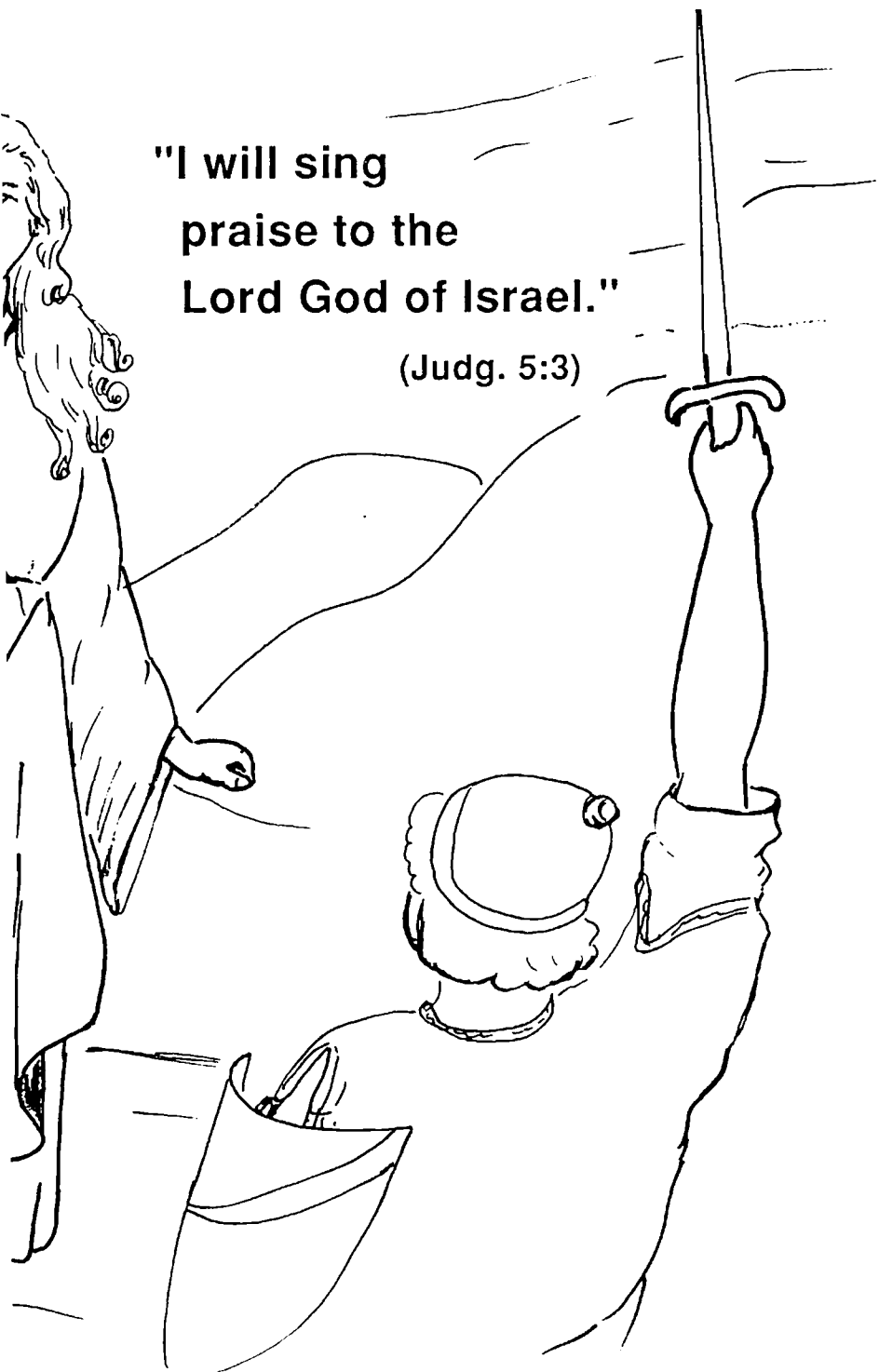
The song was to remind the people of God's mercy to them, even though they had sinned against Him and worshiped idols. They sang about how God had chosen Deborah and Barak to lead Israel. They told about the courage of Jael, the brave woman who captured the captain of the Canaanite army when he came to her tent. He thought he had escaped, but Jael killed him as he slept.

The song urged the people to offer themselves willingly to serve God and to always praise Him for His mercy to them. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"I will sing
praise to the
Lord God of Israel."**

(Judg. 5:3)



An Obedient Soldier Wins Victory

Tom had been busy building a fort with his Lincoln logs. He had stacked each log carefully so that there were square windows and rectangle doors. Then he laid the green slats across the red rafters and put the yellow chimneys on top.

Tom had just finished building the fort and was putting the plastic men in their stations when Greg opened the bedroom door which caught the corner of the fort and knocked two whole sides down.

"Now just look what you did!" exclaimed Tom as he jumped up to face Greg. "You need to be more careful when you open a door!"

Greg was very tempted to tell Tom he shouldn't build so close to a door, but he remembered the Bible verse which says: "A soft answer turneth away wrath," so instead, Greg said, "I'm sorry, Tom. Let me help you build it back." Quickly the boys repaired the fort. "Do you want to play with me?" asked Tom.

"No, I think I will go to David's house and see what he is doing," said Greg. Then he saw the disappointed look on his brother's face and he thought about brotherly kindness and what it meant.

"Okay, Tom, I'll play with you for a while," he said. The boys played together very well for some time. Then Mother called them to lunch.

"Now I have a small bag of chips for each of you, but two different kinds," Mother told them. "Choose which kind you want."

Tom quickly grabbed the cheese crunches which were Greg's favorite chips also. Greg was tempted to holler, but he remembered that Jesus had said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God," and Greg thought he would be happier if he would just quietly eat the other bag of chips.

After lunch the boys didn't want to play with the fort any more. "Let's go over to David's house to play," said Greg.

"First we have to put all these Lincoln logs away," said Tom.

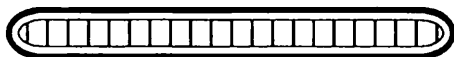
Greg was tempted to tell Tom he could put them up by himself since he was the one who got them out, but Greg realized it would only be fair to help Tom since he had played with them also. They had just put the last one away when Mother said, "Boys, I would rather you not go outside in the cold, but come sit here beside me on the couch and I will read you a story."

Neither boy complained, though they had wanted to play outside. Mother read to them about the children of Israel and how the Lord gave them victories in battles whenever they were obedient to Him.

"You know today we are in a battle against the enemy of our souls," Mother said. "When the Devil tempts us to do wrong and we don't do it, then we win a victory over the Devil. Victory comes in obeying God's Word."

Greg nodded his head; he had won some victories that very day. "Can we sing, 'I'm in the Lord's Army'?" he asked Mother.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who had the children of Israel forgotten?
2. Who attacked the children of Israel?
3. Who was Deborah?
4. What did God tell Deborah?
5. Who did Deborah call for?
6. What did God want Barak to do?
7. Who fought for Israel that day?
8. Who captured the captain of the Canaanite's army?

[Answers: 1. God. 2. The king of Canaan. 3. A wise woman who loved and worshiped God. 4. He told her what to do to be delivered from the Canaanites. 5. Barak. 6. He wanted him to take 10,000 men and go to meet the army. 7. God. 8. Jael.]

Lesson texts: Judges 4-5.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Jan. 26, 1992

SONGS OF HANNAH AND MARY

Hannah had no children. More than anything else Hannah wanted a son. Every year Hannah would go with her husband to Shiloh to bring an offering to the Lord. This year when Hannah went to Shiloh, she begged the Lord to bless her with a baby boy. Eli, the high priest, watched Hannah. Her lips moved but she said nothing; she was praying in her heart to God. When Eli saw how much she wanted her prayer answered, he told Hannah, "Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant you your petition."

God did answer Hannah's prayer and gave her a baby boy. Hannah named her son Samuel.

When Samuel was old enough, Hannah took him to Eli at Shiloh. She told Eli, "I am the woman whom you saw praying. I prayed for this child and the Lord gave me my desire. Now I am giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he will belong to the Lord."

Then Hannah praised the Lord for answering her prayer. She said, "My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, I rejoice in my salvation."

For many years the people who worshiped God had looked for the promised Saviour. One day an angel appeared to a young woman named Mary. The angel told Mary that she would be the mother of a son whom she would name Jesus.

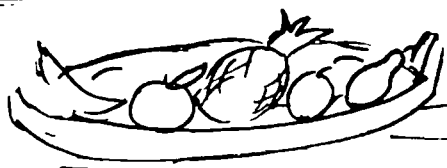
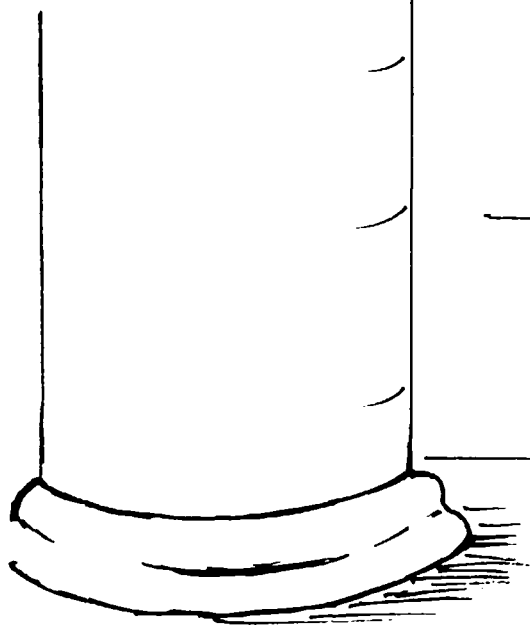
Like Hannah, Mary thanked the Lord with a song of praise. Mary said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. He hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."

Mary praised the Lord for His help and mercy to His people. She thanked Him for remembering His promise to send a Saviour. It was a great honor to be chosen as the mother of this wonderful baby!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"My soul doth
magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath
rejoiced in God
my Saviour."**

(Luke 1:46-47)





Telling Jesus

When you have been out for a day, what do you look forward to as you come home in the evening? Why do you run so eagerly into the house, and look so bright? You want to tell "all about it" to someone whom you love—father, or mother, or brothers and sisters; and you can hardly talk fast enough to pour it all out. You begin at the beginning and tell everything—the pleasures and the mishaps, what has been done, or what has been said.

When each day is over and you go to bed, what do you tell Jesus? Do you tell Him everything too? Perhaps you do not tell Him anything at all; or perhaps you only tell Him of something that you have done wrong and are sorry for; you never thought of such a thing as telling Him *everything*! Yet He loves you better than your dear family who listened to all your little stories.

When the apostles had been away, they "gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told Him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught." Can you not fancy the gentle gracious Master listening to everything so kindly, so patiently, letting them tell Him all their mistakes and all their successes, all that had made them glad and all that had made them sorry? And can you not fancy the disciples sitting at His feet, looking up into His face, and seeing how interested He was

in all they had done, and not wishing to keep anything back from such a dear Master, and finding their own love to Him growing warmer and brighter for this sweet hour of talk with Him! How different if they had just said a few cold words to Him and never *told* Him anything! Try this tonight! It will be such a help, such a comfort, and before long you will find it such a joy to tell Jesus everything!

—Frances Havergal

Questions:

1. Who had no children?
2. What did Hannah want more than anything else?
3. Why did Hannah and her husband go to Shiloh every year?
4. Who saw Hannah's lips move as she prayed?
5. What did Hannah name her baby boy?
6. Where did Hannah take Samuel when he was old enough?
7. Who appeared to Mary one day?
8. What would Mary name her baby son?
9. How did Mary thank the Lord?

(Answers: 1. Hannah. 2. A son. 3. To bring an offering to the Lord. 4. Eli. 5. Samuel. 6. To Eli at Shiloh. 7. An angel. 8. Jesus. 9. She thanked the Lord with a song of praise.)

Lesson texts: I Sam. 1, 2:1-5; Luke 1:26-55.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Feb. 2, 1992

A HYMN ABOUT CREATION

When David was a young boy, he cared for his father's sheep. During the hours David spent alone with the sheep, he learned to play his harp very well. David loved to sing about God's goodness and greatness. We can read many of David's songs in our Bible. They are called the book of Psalms.

After King Saul disobeyed God, there were times when his mind was very troubled because God had left him. Saul's servants told him to find someone who could play sweet music on the harp. They felt this would soothe Saul's mind and he would be well again.

One of the servants told King Saul, "David, the son of Jesse is cunning in playing. He is also strong and wise. He is a handsome young man, and the Lord is with him."

So Saul called for David to come. When David played his harp for the king, Saul began to feel better. David lived at the palace so he could be near when King Saul needed him to play for him.

Years later David himself became king of Israel. When King David looked at the wonderful world God had created, he saw God's great glory. He wrote, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him: and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

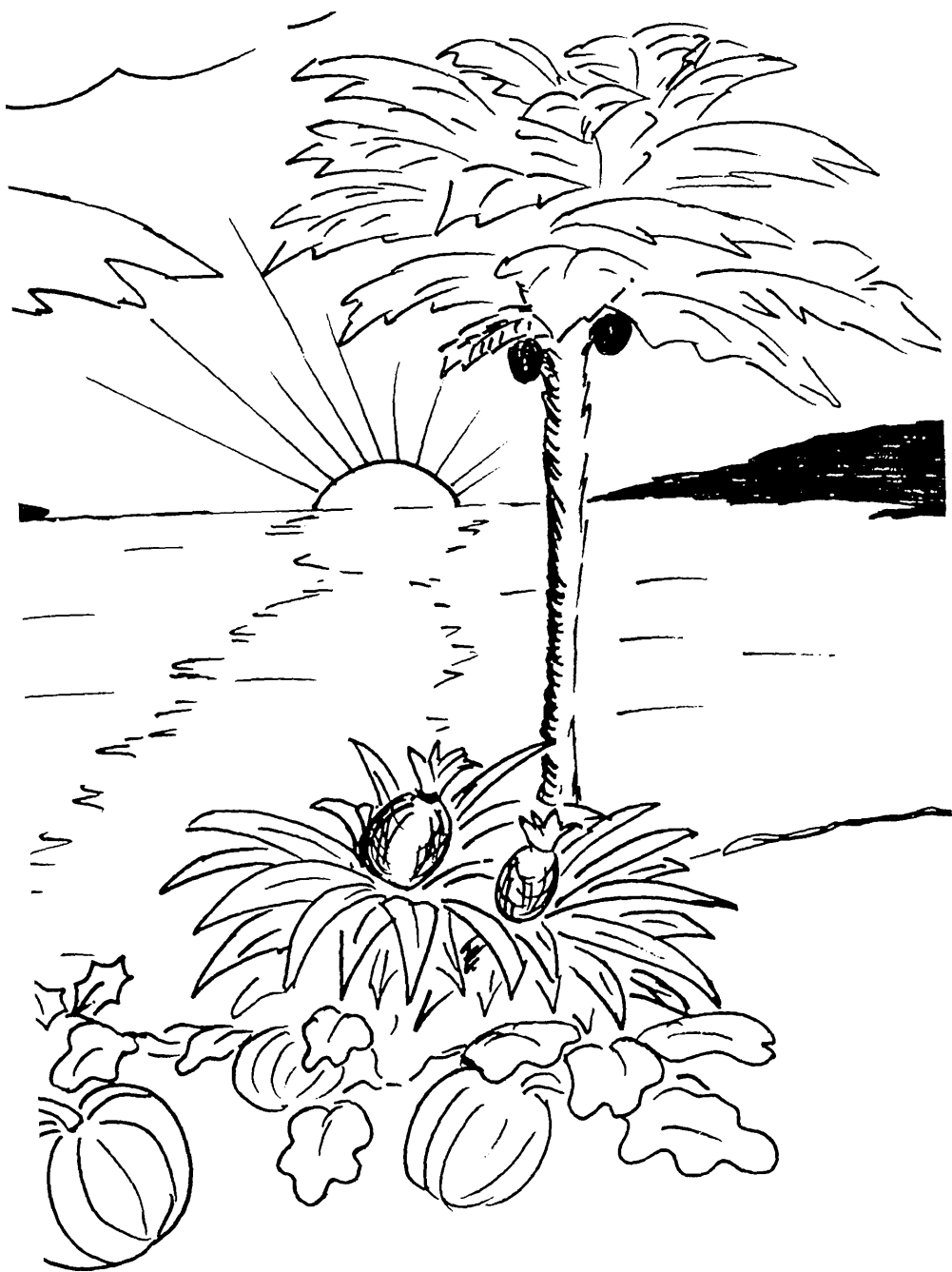
"Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

"O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"O Lord our Lord, how excellent i



ly name in all the earth!" (Ps. 8:9)

The Obedient Birthday Gift



"Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you . . . !"

Ryan smiled as his friends sang to him. Then he bent down and blew out the seven candles on his birthday cake.

"Hurray! Now it is time for you to open your birthday gifts," said his mother.

Ryan did not have to be told twice. As he tore off the paper from each gift, he told the person who gave it to him, "Thank you!"

After he was finished opening his gifts and they had all eaten some ice cream and cake, Mother said, "I believe Daddy has a big gift for you waiting in the barn. Go find your daddy first so he can show you where it is."

Ryan and his friends raced out the door and out to the barn. Daddy was waiting for them by the barn door.

"Don't rush into the barn whooping and making so much racket," he said teasingly. "You might frighten the gift!"

The boys became as quiet as excited boys can be. Daddy led them through the barn to a back stall where stood a pretty little paint pony munching on hay.

The boys almost whooped excitedly, but Daddy stopped them just in time.

"If you will be quiet, patient, and wait your turn, each one of you can have a ride on Sugar, Ryan's new pony," he said.

Daddy already had the bridle and saddle on Sugar. Since it was Ryan's birthday, they all agreed he could have the first ride.

Daddy helped Ryan swing up onto the creaking leather saddle. It fit Ryan just right! He held onto the saddle horn at the front of the saddle as Daddy led the pony out to the barnyard. Daddy showed Ryan how to guide the pony by gently tugging the reins. The reins were fastened to the bit in the pony's mouth and all Ryan had to do was gently tug the reins toward the way he wanted to go.

The pony was patient and gentle, and Ryan talked to her as he rode her around the barnyard fence. Though she was three times bigger than him, yet she obeyed him.

"You are my very own special pony," he said as he stroked her neck. "We will ride together every day and become the best of

friends. I am so glad to have you for my very own!"

Ryan was so busy talking to Sugar that he forgot the other boys were waiting their turn. The boys called to him, so he turned Sugar's head with the reins and she walked back to the barn where they were standing. All the boys eagerly took their turns riding Sugar, and they were not ready to go when their mothers came for them!

Finally all the boys had gone home, and only Ryan, Daddy, and Sugar were standing in the barnyard.

"Lead her into the barn, Son," said Daddy. "We need to take off her saddle and bridle. Then you can brush her with the curry brush while she eats some grain. Take good care of your pony and she will be a good friend to you."

"I will take very good care of her!" promised Ryan. He obeyed Daddy, taking time to rub Sugar's velvety nose.

Ryan was so happy to have Sugar that he began to sing, "Jesus is good to me, Jesus is good to me . . ."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did David do when he was a young boy?
2. What did David learn to do while he was alone with the sheep?
3. What did David love to sing about?
4. Where can we read many of David's songs?
5. Why was King Saul's mind troubled?
6. When did King Saul begin to feel better?
7. Why did David live at the palace?
8. Whom did God make a little lower than the angels?
9. Who made man to have dominion over all the animals?

(Answers: 1. He cared for his father's sheep. 2. He learned to play the harp. 3. God's goodness and greatness. 4. In the Bible. 5. Because God had left him. 6. When David played his harp for him. 7. So he could be near when King Saul needed him to play for him. 8. Man. 9. God.)

Lesson texts: 1 Sam. 16:12-23; Ps. 8:1-9.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 **Primaries** (USPS549-000) Part 19 Feb. 9, 1992

A SONG OF JOY!

In David's song found in the 84th Psalm, he tells how much he loves the house of God. David loved to go to the tabernacle where he could worship God. He wrote, "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and flesh crieth out for the living God."

The tabernacle was located in Jerusalem, the city where King David lived. King David went to the tabernacle often. But at the time David wrote this song, he had been forced to leave Jerusalem to keep from being killed by his own son, Absalom.

Absalom was not like his father David. He was a very handsome and proud young man. More than anything else, Absalom wanted to be king. He wished to be king so much that he thought of a plan to take the kingdom away from his own father.

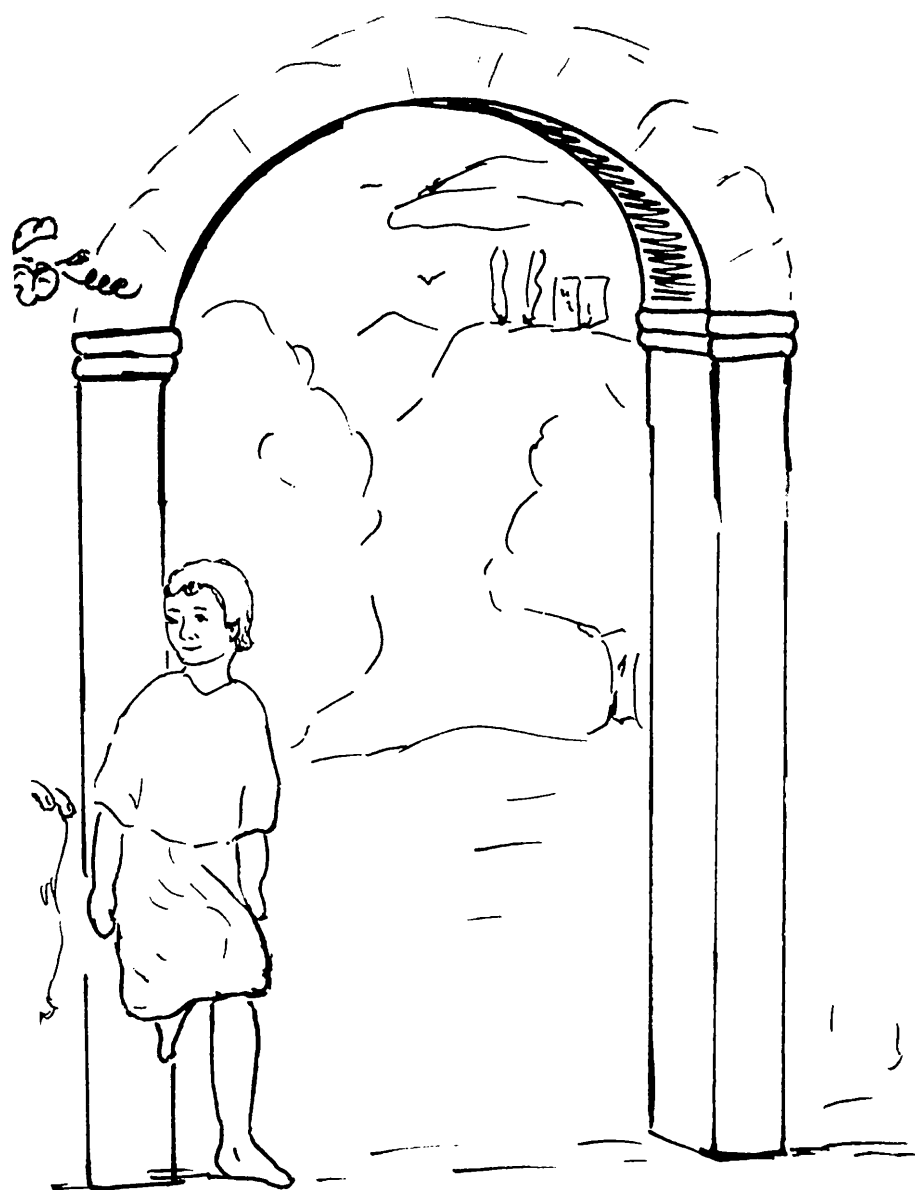
First Absalom won the hearts of the people. He told them how much he would do to help them if only he were king. Then one day he gathered all his followers together outside Jerusalem. They planned to make Absalom king then return to Jerusalem and take the city and the kingdom by force.

David was busy being a good king. He did not even think about his own son doing such an evil thing. He would have been taken by surprise and maybe killed, but a messenger hurried to Jerusalem to tell him to run for his life.

In this psalm we can see how much David missed going to the tabernacle where he could meet God and worship Him. He wrote, "Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





**"Blessed are they
that dwell in thy house."**

(Ps. 84:4)

Joyful Worship



Camille and her parents had just sat down on their bench at church when Bro. Adams called number 38. The chapel was quiet as everyone found number 38 in their song books. Then Sis. Smith began to sing, and everyone joined in singing with the leader:

"Once again we come to the house of God,
To unite in songs of praise;
To extol with joy our Redeemer's name,
And to tell His wondrous ways."

Camille sang with the congregation as much as she could. She could feel the bench rumble as her daddy sang the low bass notes and she attempted to sing alto with her mother's sweet voice. She looked around at the congregation of familiar faces, then suddenly caught her breath.

Why Camille didn't know Lucy Anderson would be here and so were her parents! She remembered when her parents had asked them to come to church and she was pleased that they had finally come. She wondered what they thought of the singing.

At the close of the song, some of the saints freely praised the Lord.

"Thank God for the Bible way!" said Bro. Jacobs.

"Number 54," someone else called number from the *Evening Light Songs* book. Everyone turned to this number and began to sing. After two more songs, the pastor stood up to take prayer requests from the congregation. Then everyone knelt down by their bench and began to pray. The Holy Spirit moved across the congregation and someone led out in prayer. After prayer, there was a testimony of thanksgiving for answered prayer. Then one of God's chosen ministers went behind the pulpit to preach.

As Camille quietly listened to the message, she glanced over at Lucy who was listening also. Camille wished she could tell what Lucy was thinking.

After church Camille hurried over to visit with Lucy.

"Oh, the singing was so beautiful!" Lucy exclaimed. "I've never been to church where there isn't a piano, organ, or some sort of music playing, but you all don't need any because everyone sang in tune."

Camille laughed. "We all sing from a joyful heart—maybe that's why we stay together."

"Do you always kneel when you pray? How do you know who will pray? Do you not have a program here at your church?" Lucy was so full of questions that Camille hardly had time to nod or shake her head.

"This is the Church of God, Lucy," she said with a smile. "We let the Lord have His way throughout the whole service. Each member of the congregation does what the Lord tells them to do or say, and there is joy in the service of the Lord because the worship comes from the heart. Lucy, you must come again!" —Connie Sorrell



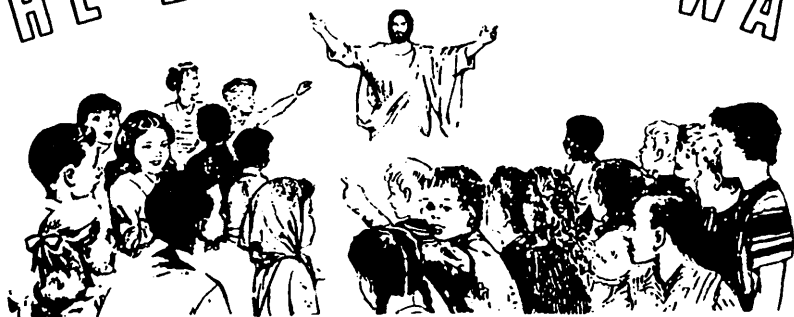
Questions:

1. Where did David love to go?
2. Where was the tabernacle located?
3. Where did King David live?
4. Who wanted to be king more than anything else?
5. What did Absalom do first?
6. Who did Absalom gather together outside Jerusalem?
7. What did they plan to do?
8. Who was busy being a good king?
9. Who told David to run for his life?

(Answers: 1. To the tabernacle. 2. In Jerusalem. 3. In Jerusalem. 4. Absalom, David's son. 5. He won the hearts of the people. 6. His followers. 7. They planned to make Absalom king. 8. King David. 9. A messenger.)

Lesson texts: II Sam. 15:1-17; Ps. 84:1-12.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Feb. 16, 1992

PRAISE FOR SALVATION

David had a thankful heart. In Psalm 103, he reminded himself that he had many blessings to be thankful for. He wrote, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:"

David named many things God does for all who love and serve Him. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Even little children can thank God for these blessings. When you are sorry for doing wrong, God is always ready to forgive you as soon as you ask. God will heal you when you are sick. He protects you many times from dangers that you don't even see. If you look around you can see many, many ways God is blessing you.

David describes God as a loving father. He tells us, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." A good father knows how weak his little child is. God also remembers that we are weak and must always have His help and strength.

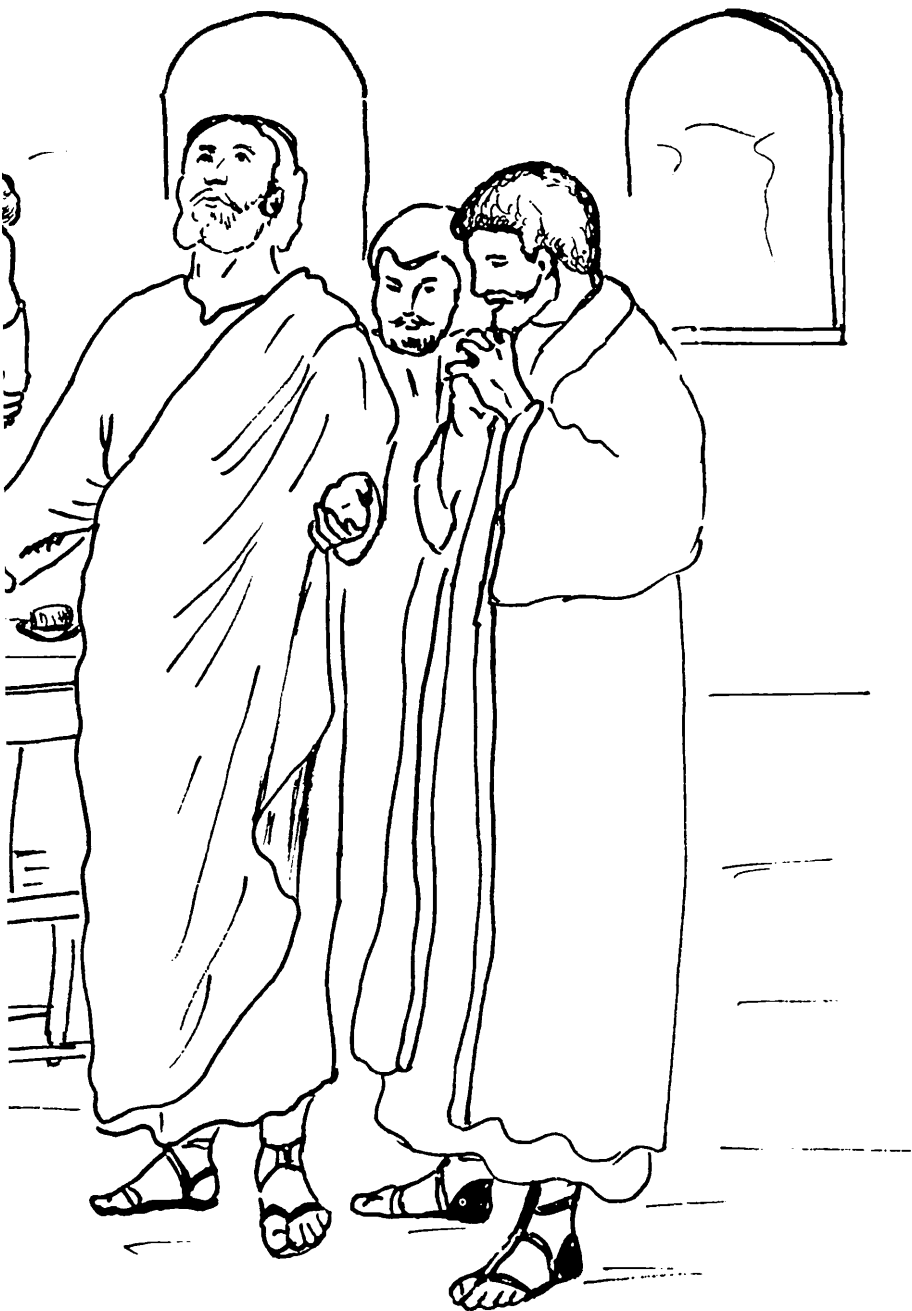
"For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;"

Even if you should live to be a very old person, your life is short compared to eternity. David said our life is like a flower in the field that soon dies. Yet God watches over us and shows us mercy. His mercy will never end. Like David, we should always be thankful for God's many blessings to us!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and



forget not all his benefits."

(Ps. 103:2)

Hudson Taylor's Vision

Nearly 130 years ago, two young men walked the streets of Ka-shing in China and handed out salvation tracts to the hundreds of people passing by. Never before had these Chinese people heard about the God who had created them nor about His Son, Jesus Christ, who had died for their sins. The two missionaries could not hand out tracts fast enough, and some of the people would help themselves to a tract from the pouch they carried.

The Chinese read the tracts then looked at the foreign missionaries who were so eager to tell them about this God who was new to them.

"Tell us more! Who is this God? Where is His temple?" Young and old, rich and poor, they all crowded around Hudson and Edkins who tried to answer the questions as quickly as they were asked.

Soon word reached the Buddha priests that men of God were in their city. These false priests invited Hudson and Edkins to come and preach in their temple, which they did.

The Buddhists worship an idol of Buddha which is a Chinese man with a bald head sitting cross-legged, eyes nearly shut, and hands folded over his potbelly. After Hudson and Edkins had preached, the priests asked them if they wanted to see their "Holy Man." Hudson thought they were going to show them the idol, Buddha, but he was very shocked when he saw their "holy man."

Upon his request, a Chinese man had been bricked into a tiny, cold, damp cell. Through a small inner window the priests handed him rice and water daily. He could never get out because he was bricked in.

Hudson asked the priests why this man wanted to exist this way and they said, "In order for man to crush out his sins, he has to be cut off from all natural

desires. So to be free from his sins, this man has asked to be removed from temptations. Now he is a 'holy man.' "

A deep pain struck Hudson's heart as he thought how deceived this poor man was! He gave the man some salvation tracts and left there with a continual prayer for the needy souls in China. Jesus had died for these people's sins and they did not even know it!

Later, in his own room, Hudson looked at the map of huge China and he saw it was divided into 12 parts. He prayed, "Lord, send me 24 missionaries so there can be two in each province. Thank you, Amen."

Not only did the Lord send 24 missionaries within a year, but as time passed, Hudson Taylor helped over 800 missionaries to spread the salvation story to the hungry souls of China.

—Connie Sorrell



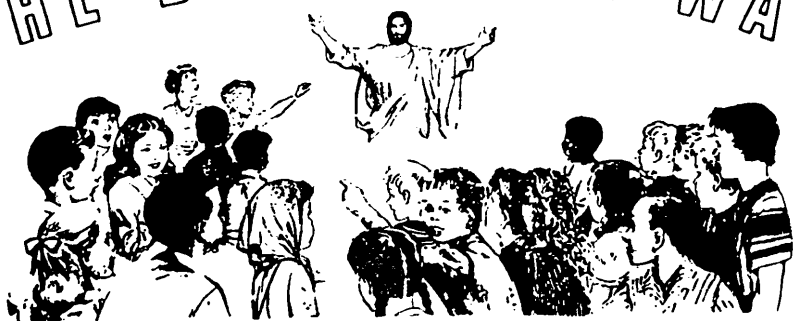
Questions:

1. Who had a thankful heart?
2. What will God do for you when you are sorry for doing wrong?
3. What does God do for us when we are sick?
4. Who protects us even when we may not see danger?
5. How does David describe God?
6. Like a good father, what does God remember about us?
7. What did David say our life is like?
8. Who watches over us and shows us mercy?

(Answers: 1. David, 2. He will forgive you. 3. He heals us. 4. God. 5. He describes God as a loving father. 6. He remembers that we are weak. 7. He said it is like a flower of the field. 8. God.)

Lesson texts: Ps. 103:1-17.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Feb. 23, 1992

A SONG ABOUT LOVE

When David died, his son Solomon became king in his place. Solomon was not like his brother, Absalom, who had been proud and selfish. Solomon knew he must have God's help to be a good king.

Solomon remembered how David served God and offered sacrifices to Him. So Solomon took one thousand burnt offerings and sacrificed them on an altar. As he watched the offerings burn, Solomon prayed, asking God to help him. God heard his prayer and appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God told Solomon, "Ask what I shall give thee."

Solomon answered God, "You showed great mercy to my father, David. Now you have made me king instead of my father and I am but a little child. I don't know how to rule this great people. Give me a wise heart to judge your people so I will know good from evil."


God was very pleased that Solomon's greatest desire was to be a wise king. He told Solomon, "Because you have asked for wisdom instead of long life or riches for yourself or power over your enemies, I will grant your desire. I have given you a wise and an understanding heart so that there has never been anyone so wise, nor will there ever be.

"And I will also give you what you didn't ask for. I will give you both riches and honor more than any other king that you know."

When Solomon woke up, he knew God had spoken to him in his dream. He believed God would do all that He had promised. Solomon offered more sacrifices to thank God for hearing his prayer.

God gave Solomon great wisdom. He was also very rich and powerful. We can read the wise sayings of Solomon in the book of Proverbs. He also wrote a book of songs. These songs describe the great love that Christ has for His Church. Many times in these songs Solomon spoke of Christ as being a bridegroom and the Church as His beautiful bride.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"I have loved
thee with an
everlasting love."**

(Jer. 31:3)



A Parable of Five Wise and Five Foolish Virgins

Charity knocked on Fancy's door. "Are you ready for the wedding?" she asked. "Faith and Hope have already left."

Fancy looked at herself in the mirror one more time before she went out the door.

"Don't forget your lamp," reminded Charity.

"Yes, I have it right here," said Fancy, "but do remind Loosey, Idle, and Silly. Those girls are always forgetting something!"

As they walked by each girls' house, Charity was careful to remind each one to bring their lamp. The bridegroom always came in the darkest time of night and it was important to have their lamps burning when he came.

Faith and Hope were already under the almond tree when the rest of the girls arrived.

"Have you waited very long?" asked Charity.

"Not too long," replied Faith. "We have come prepared to wait a while anyway."

"Well, I trust he doesn't take too long to come," exclaimed Silly. "I already feel tired, and I don't think too clearly when I'm tired."

"Just do like me" said Idle who had already set her lamp down and was resting against the almond tree.

"Idle, you should not do that," said Peace. "You may go to sleep. It is possible to rest and yet be watchful."

"I think she looks rather comfortable," said Envy. "I believe I will stretch out on the lawn beside her."

Soon all ten of the girls were sitting or lying on the lawn under the almond tree. Around midnight, all were asleep—even Peace and Joy were nodding their heads—when the cry came: "The bridegroom is here! Come with your lighted lamps to meet him!"

What a quick scurry took place under the almond tree!

"Oh, no, my lamp has gone out!" cried Idle.

"I hardly have any more oil!" exclaimed Loosey and Silly together.

Fancy's lamp was flickering, and Envy's was out of oil also.

"Charity, give us some of your oil," said Envy. "Faith and Hope could spare some for us also. Peace and Joy, you have plenty to share."

However, these five girls were in a rush and not eager to share their precious oil.

"I believe if you hurry you could still buy some oil from the merchants," said Hope.

With sighs and moans, the five foolish girls turned back toward town, but already the voice of the bridegroom could be heard leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills, singing, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away."

Joy felt so blessed that she began to sing: "My Beloved is mine and I am His."

...
The five wise girls followed the bridegroom into the marriage parlor and He shut the door. —Connie Sorrell

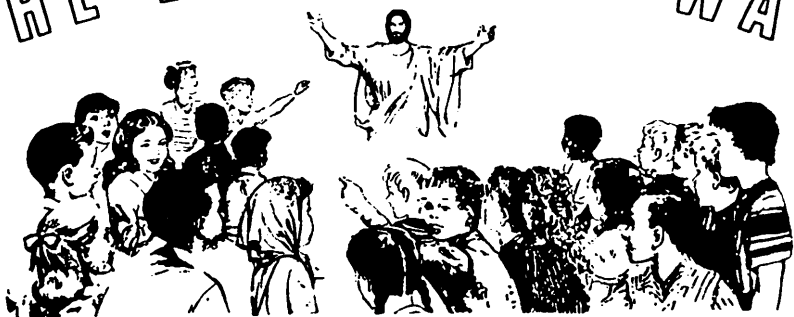
Questions:

1. When David died, who became king in his place?
2. Whose help did Solomon need to be a good king?
3. How many burnt offerings did Solomon offer to the Lord?
4. What did Solomon do as he watched the offerings burn?
5. How did God appear to Solomon?
6. What did God tell Solomon?
7. What did Solomon ask for?
8. What did God give Solomon?

(Answers: 1. Solomon. 2. He needed God's help. 3. One thousand. 4. He prayed. 5. In a dream. 6. "Ask what I shall give thee." 7. A wise heart to judge the people. 8. Great wisdom.)

Lesson texts: 1 Kings 3: 14-15; Song of Sol. Song 2:8-17.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Mar. 1, 1992

SONG OF THE VINEYARD

The song in our lesson today is a song of warning to the people. The man who wrote this song was a prophet named Isaiah. A prophet is a person who tells people the messages that God gives him.

In this song Isaiah gives the message in the form of a story about a vineyard. This vineyard had been carefully planted in good soil. All the rocks were picked up and a fence built around it for protection. The very best vine was planted in this vineyard and everything possible done so the vineyard would be very fruitful. But instead of good grapes, the vineyard only produced wild grapes.

Isaiah asked in his song, "What more could have been done to the vineyard?" Then he gave them God's warning, "I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down."

Isaiah then explained to the people of Israel that they were God's vineyard. God had chosen Israel as His special people. He had taught them His laws and delivered them from their enemies. He had even given them their own land to live in. He wanted a people who would love and serve Him and teach other people how to live godly.

The Israelites had forsaken God. They no longer obeyed His laws. Instead of teaching their ungodly neighbors how to serve God, they began to worship their neighbor's wicked idols rather than God.

God was using Isaiah's song to warn His people to turn from their sins or He would punish them. Years later God allowed the Israelites to be taken away from their homes by enemies because they did not change their wicked ways.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"Even a child is known by his doings, whether I



work be pure, and whether it be right." (Prov. 20:11)

Jewish Sabbath Day

Daniel watches with shining eyes as his big brother, Solomon, puts on his prayer cap and prepares to leave with their father for the synagogue. Already at the manly age of 13, Solomon looks so grown-up to young Daniel who can hardly wait until he too becomes 13 and can publicly read the Torah at the synagogue.

Now Father is ready. Solomon hurries to meet him at the front door. Fastened to the top right-hand of their doorpost is a wooden box which stores written verses of Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Father is very firm upon keeping these verses there so that the family is blessed when they pass under their doorpost.

Besides his prayer cap, Father also wears his prayer shawl and a box holding portions of the law which is fastened around the forehead by a leather band. This is to obey the Scripture mentioned earlier which says the law must be as frontlets before the eyes.

Daniel stays at home with his mother and sister. He sits down by the seven burning candles which Mother always lights Friday night before sunset. Mother hands Daniel their home copy of the Holy Scriptures and Daniel reads his portion. His schoolmaster, a rabbi at the synagogue, has taught him to read in Hebrew, Aramaic, and English.

After he is finished reading, he hands Mother the Holy Scriptures. When Father and Solomon come home, they will together recite this portion of Scriptures. Then Father will turn toward Jerusalem and pray. He will ask God Almighty to bless his family and protect them from evil.

For supper they eat cold chicken, boiled eggs, and brown bread left from last night's supper. Mother never cooks on the Sabbath. The children are not allowed to play. Father sits in his favor-

ite chair and relaxes. God commanded that the seventh day of the week be a day of rest, and they must obey every commandment to the letter.

When the sun sets, the Sabbath is over and Daniel goes to bed planning for tomorrow. It will be the 14th day of the Jewish month Adar and there will be festivals to celebrate Purim. The story of brave Queen Esther will be read and all will rejoice that she was willing to save her people from destruction.

Dear children, let us pray for the Jews who do not know Jesus Christ. They still pray to the true God, but they are headed for destruction because they do not apply the blood of Jesus Christ to their sins. In prayer we can take this matter to our Friend Jesus and ask Him to save the Jews who were once God's chosen people. —Connie Sorrell

*Pray for people who don't
believe in Jesus.*

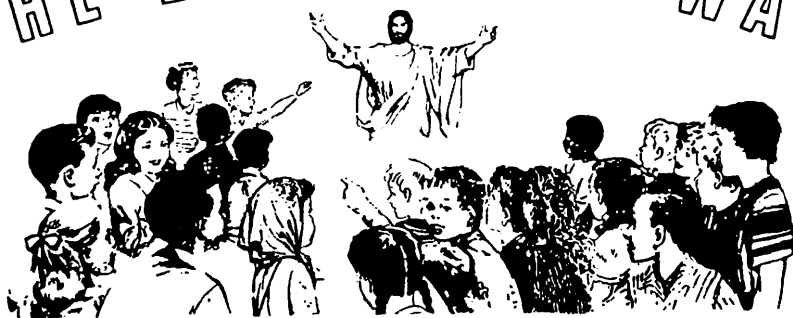
Questions:

1. What kind of song is in our lesson today?
2. Who wrote this song?
3. What does a prophet do?
4. What is Isaiah's story about?
5. What grew instead of good grapes?
6. Who was the vineyard?
7. Who chose Israel to be His special people?
8. Who had forsaken God?
9. What happened to the Israelites because they didn't change?

(Answers: 1. A song of warning. 2. Isaiah. 3. He tells the people the messages God gives him. 4. A vineyard. 5. Wild grapes. 6. The people of Israel. 7. God. 8. The Israelites. 9. They were taken away from their homes by enemies.)

Lesson texts: Isa. 5:1-7.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Mar. 8, 1992

LEARNING TO PRAY

Jesus loved to talk to God in prayer. Many times He would get up very early to pray, other times He would spend all night talking to His heavenly Father.

Once when Jesus and His disciples were together, Jesus had just finished praying. One of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray like John taught his disciples."

So Jesus gave them a model prayer. He said, "When you pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

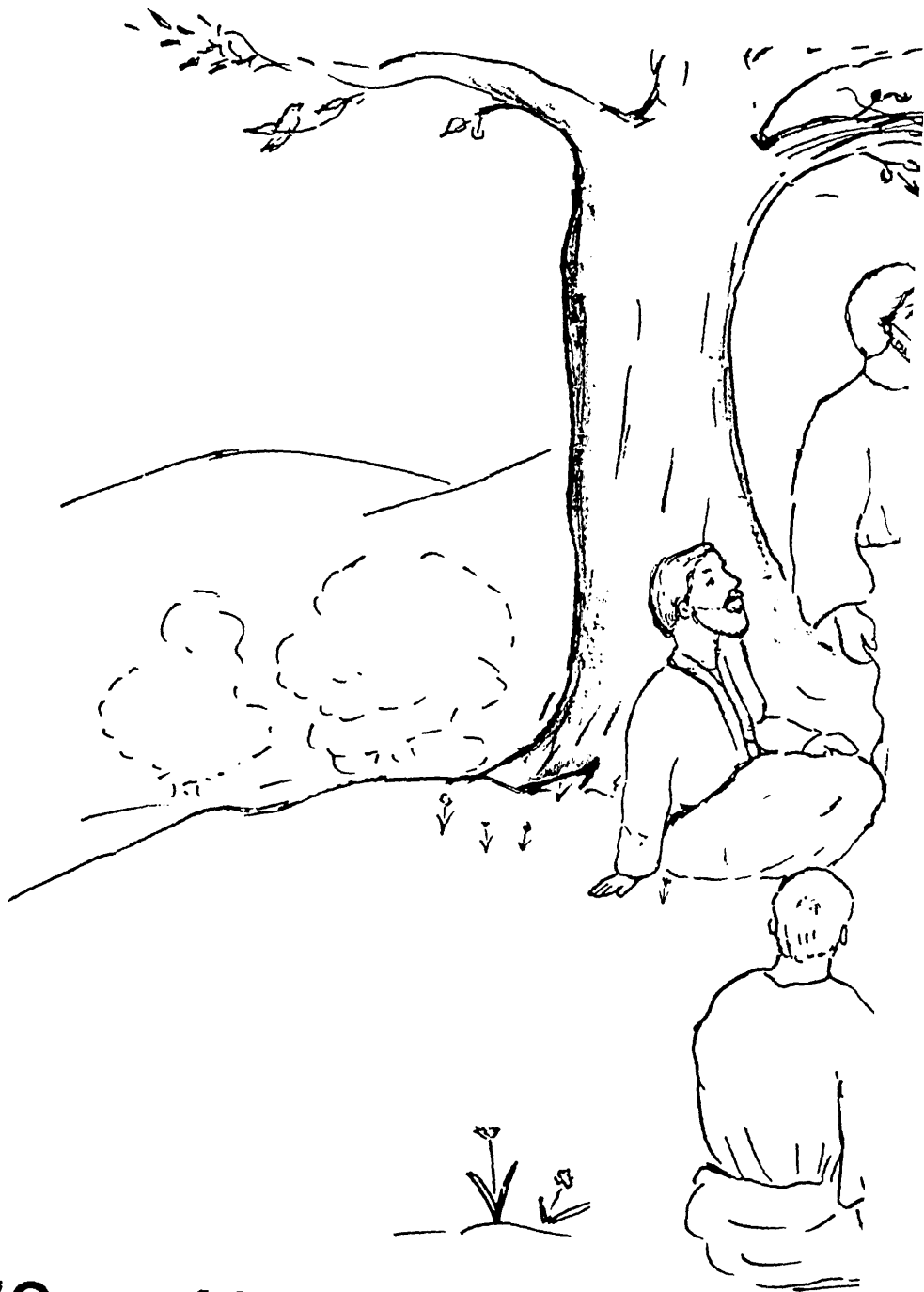
"Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil."

Jesus then told them a short parable, or story, to teach them more about prayer. He told them that if any one of them had a friend and would go to this friend at midnight and ask him to loan them three loaves of bread because unexpected visitors had come, the friend might say, "Don't trouble me. The door is shut and my family is in bed. I can't get up and give you bread."

"Even though he will not get up and give you bread because you are his friend," Jesus said, "yet, because you keep on asking, he will get up and give it to you so you will let him go back to sleep."

By this Jesus was teaching His disciples to continue to pray for the things they needed, even if God did not answer prayer right away. He promised them, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



"One of his disciples said un



him, Lord, teach us to pray."
(Luke 11:1)

The Miracle Request

Georgi bent his head down, as he walked the dark country road leading to the Varago's wooded farmland. As he walked, Georgi prayed for God's protection, and he prayed for a Bible—one of his own. Though he told himself it was a "miracle request," something deep inside him inspired his faith to believe that he would someday own a Bible.

Georgi's Poppa had owned a Bible, but the KGB (Soviet police) had taken his Bible when they had arrested Poppa two years ago for teaching young Soviet boys and girls how to pray to God. Georgi was not sure what prison camp his dear Poppa was in, but he was sure the treasured Bible had been burned. Georgi prayed for his poppa's safety and return. Then he prayed again for a Bible.

After a quick glance behind his shoulder to see if he was being followed, Georgi quietly stepped into the green bushes by the side of the dirt road. Ahead he could see a dark covering of woods. As he drew nearer, he could see the light of a lantern beckoning him like an old friend. Georgi quickened his step.

As Georgi entered the lantern's circle of light, he felt the fellowship of love and concern these young people had for one another. It made him feel warm and good inside. Surely it was better to be a part of this loving circle than to be a member of the Young Pioneers, the communist youth party.

These young people were so kind to Georgi and his momma since Poppa had been taken away. Though it was illegal to help a family whose father was in a prison camp, once in a while one of his Christian friends would hand him some kopecks, enough to pay his bus fare home from the market.

Tonight Georgi noticed two new faces in the circle. While everyone else sang praises to God in a hushed whisper, these two did not sing but looked around the group. At first glance, Georgi worried that they might be spies from the police, but

upon further observation he saw that joy was on their faces which showed their hearts were agreeing with the songs.

Later someone in the circle explained that these were two young American Christians who wanted to share God's love with them. Like everyone else in the circle, Georgi was very glad to meet them and praise God with them.

However, the greatest joy of all came just before Georgi slipped back into the bushes to start his walk home. One of the American boys took Georgi's hand and shook it carefully, and as he removed his hand from Georgi's, he left a small Russian Bible in the palm of Georgi's hand. Georgi smiled and hugged his new friend whom God had used to answer his "miracle request."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did Jesus love to do?
2. What did one of Jesus' disciples ask Him to do?
3. What did Jesus tell them to ask for, day by day?
4. What should we pray to be delivered from?
5. What did the man ask his friend to loan him?
6. Why did the friend say he couldn't give him bread?
7. Why would the friend finally give the man bread?
8. What should we do if God doesn't give us what we need right away?
9. What did Jesus promise those who ask?

(Answers: 1. To talk to God in prayer. 2. To teach them to pray. 3. Their daily bread. 4. From evil. 5. Three loaves of bread. 6. Because he and his family were already in bed. 7. So he would let him go back to sleep. 8. We should continue to pray. 9. That they shall receive.)

Lesson texts: Matt. 6:1-10.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Mar. 15, 1992

JESUS PRAYS FOR YOU

While Jesus was on earth He went about doing good. Whenever He saw a need, He stopped to help. He healed those who were sick or blind or lame. He loved to take the little children in His arms and bless them. He provided food for the hungry people. He even raised people from the dead and gave them life again.

Many people loved Jesus. Many followed Him to hear the words He spoke and see the many good works He did. But there were wicked men who wanted to put Jesus to death. Because they were wicked, these men did not like to hear Jesus teaching the people how to please God. These evil men watched Jesus closely to see if they could catch Him in any mistake. When they could not find anything bad about Jesus, they found men who would twist what He said to make it sound bad or wrong.

Jesus knew that one day His enemies would put Him to death. He knew He must die on the cross, because this was the only way He could save men from the power of sin.

The night before Jesus was crucified, He was with His disciples. He knew He would need strength to be able to suffer what was before Him. He lifted up His eyes toward heaven and prayed, "Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee."

Jesus also prayed for His disciples. He knew they would need special help when He could no longer be with them. "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."

In His prayer Jesus even remembered you and me. He prayed for us when He prayed, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word." —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"Neither pray I for these alone
believe on me through**



**out for them also which shall
their word;" John 17:20**

The Ascension

"Mother, come look at this picture in the *Bible Story Book*," called Donna from the couch where she had been sharing the book with her brother, Robbie.

"Describe the picture to me," answered Mother who was in the kitchen busy making supper.

"Well," began Donna, "there is a group of people looking up toward Jesus who is dressed in white and is floating up toward heaven in a white cloud, and above the white cloud there are angels smiling on Jesus. I don't remember seeing this picture before. Can you read us this story?"

"Children, come into the kitchen and I will tell you the story," replied Mother. "After supper, I can read it to you, also."

"Was this picture taken before or after Jesus died on the cross?" asked Donna as she and Robbie sat down on a kitchen chair.

"This picture wasn't taken, Donna, because there were not any cameras in those days. An artist painted this scene so that we could better understand what Jesus' ascension was like."

"Remember, after Jesus was crucified on the cross, He arose from the tomb and went again to His disciples. For 50 days He appeared unto them different times and encouraged them to believe on Him, follow Him, and to teach all people about Him.

"Jesus never planned to live on the earth forever, but He had often told them, 'I go to prepare a place for you' and 'I go unto the Father who hath sent me.'"

"This picture shows us how Jesus ascended into the clouds to again be with the angels and His Father. Now

Jesus has a special place on the right hand of God. We are to always pray in the name of Jesus who has great favor with His Father."

"I like this picture," said Donna tenderly. "Jesus looks so peaceful and free."

"Perhaps we should display this picture as much as we do the cross," said Mother. "We have victory, peace, and freedom because Jesus talks to His Father for us today."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who went about doing good?
2. What did He love to do to the little children?
3. Who wanted to put Jesus to death?
4. Why did the evil men watch Jesus closely?
5. Could they find anything bad about Jesus?
6. Jesus knew that His enemies would do what?
7. Who was Jesus with the night before His crucifixion?
8. Who would need special help when Jesus was no longer with them?
9. Did Jesus pray for you and me?

(Answers: 1. Jesus 2. To take them in His arms and bless them. 3. Wicked men. 4. To see if they could catch Him in a mistake. 5. No. 6. Put Him to death. 7. His disciples. 8. His disciples. 9. Yes.)

John 17:1-11, 16-17, 20-21.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Mar. 22, 1992

PRAISE TO CHRIST

There was a time when the apostle Paul had done everything he could to keep those who loved Jesus from worshiping Him. You may remember how he was on his way to Damascus one day to capture any Christians he could find. He intended to bring them back to Jerusalem where they would be kept in prison or killed.

Do you remember what happened that day that made a great change in Paul? A bright light shone from heaven. It was so bright it blinded Paul. He fell to the ground. Then he heard a voice from heaven say, "Why are you persecuting me?"

Paul answered, "Who are you, Lord?"

The voice said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting."

Paul answered, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

From that very day Paul lived for Jesus and did everything he could to help others know and believe on Jesus too. Paul went many places telling the people that Jesus could save them from their sins. Paul was thrown in prison by the enemies of Jesus, just as he had captured Christians before Jesus spoke to him. But even in prison Paul kept busy working for Jesus. When he could no longer travel from place to place preaching the gospel, he wrote letters to encourage Christians. Some of these letters are in our Bible.

One letter was written to the Philippians. In this letter Paul told the saints that if they had found the comfort of Jesus' love, they should share it with others. They should love and serve one another. They should not be selfish, but put the needs of others before their own interests just as Jesus had. By living like Jesus they could help others come to Him so they could be saved.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Every tongue should confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"**



er."

2:11)



Six Thousand Hymns for Jesus

By mid July of 1849, 500-800 persons were dying a week in New York City alone. The "Death Blow" or cholera disease had first started in Russia, India, Persia, swept through Europe and then hit the United States with a staggering blow. It was a terribly contagious disease and those who were not sick shunned the task of nursing those who were, because they were fearful of contacting it themselves.

Fanny Crosby, a young instructor at the New York Institution for the Blind, volunteered her services to Dr. Clements in helping the sick and dying. Fanny became more and more overwhelmed by the horrors of those lying in beds lined up and down the long halls of the hospital.

Working day and night, Fanny was busy talking to herself as she rushed down one isle, when a familiar voice called her name.

"Miss Crosby? Is that you?" called the little girl's weak voice. The little girl was nearly blind.

Fanny reached down and felt along the bed covers until she touched the little girl's outstretched hand. It was damp and cool though the room was warm and she was well covered. Fanny forgot for a while all other needs in the hospital as she took her favorite pupil in her arms.

Fanny stroked her hair and spoke softly to the little girl for though Fanny was blind herself, she could "see" that the child would not live long. The little girl said, "Miss Crosby, I am going home, and I just wanted to bid you good-bye and tell you that I love you."

Soon the little girl had gone home to be with Jesus leaving Fanny Crosby

heartbroken. Up to this point in her life, Fanny had not wanted to think about Jesus, but now her thoughts turned to Him often as she continued her weary task in the hospital. Finally she was dismissed respectfully from the hospital, but her heart was heavy and under great conviction. She knew that she was not ready to meet Jesus as her little friend had been.

In the fall of 1850, Fanny attended a revival and was wonderfully saved November 20. The Lord began to flood her soul with hymns of praise which she continued to write until she died at 95 years of age. Some of her 6,000 hymns are in the *Evening Light Songs*. She wrote #65 "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" in memory of her little friend who had led her to Jesus, and she wrote #194 "Blessed Assurance" to express how precious salvation was to her.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Why was Paul on his way to Damascus?
2. What blinded Paul?
3. What did Paul hear from heaven?
4. Who was speaking to Paul?
5. What did Paul tell the people?
6. Who threw Paul in prison?
7. What did Paul do in prison?
8. What should we do for one another?
9. How can we help others to be saved?

(1. To capture any Christians he could find. 2. A bright light. 3. A voice. 4. Jesus. 5. That Jesus could save them from their sins. 6. The enemies of Jesus. 7. He wrote letters to encourage the Christians. 8. We should love and serve one another. 9. By living like Jesus.)

Lesson texts: Phil. 2:1-11.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Mar. 29, 1992

THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS

John the apostle sat all alone. He was far from his home, his family and friends. It was the Lord's day. Christians everywhere would be gathering to worship God together.

Perhaps John was thinking about the happy times he had spent with Jesus many years ago, when he was a young man. John had leaned on Jesus' breast and stayed close to Him. But that was many years ago, before cruel and wicked men took Jesus and crucified Him.

John was an old man now. There were still wicked men who were determined to destroy every Christian. These men had captured John and sent him to this lonely island as a prisoner. Most of those who had been closest to Jesus had died. Many of them had been killed because they were Christians.

Alone on the island this Lord's day, John suddenly heard a voice speaking, so he listened carefully. These words were carefully kept so we can still read them today. They are called the book of Revelation.

Jesus showed John a vision of many people who were in heaven because they had been faithful. John wrote these words which he heard, "And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

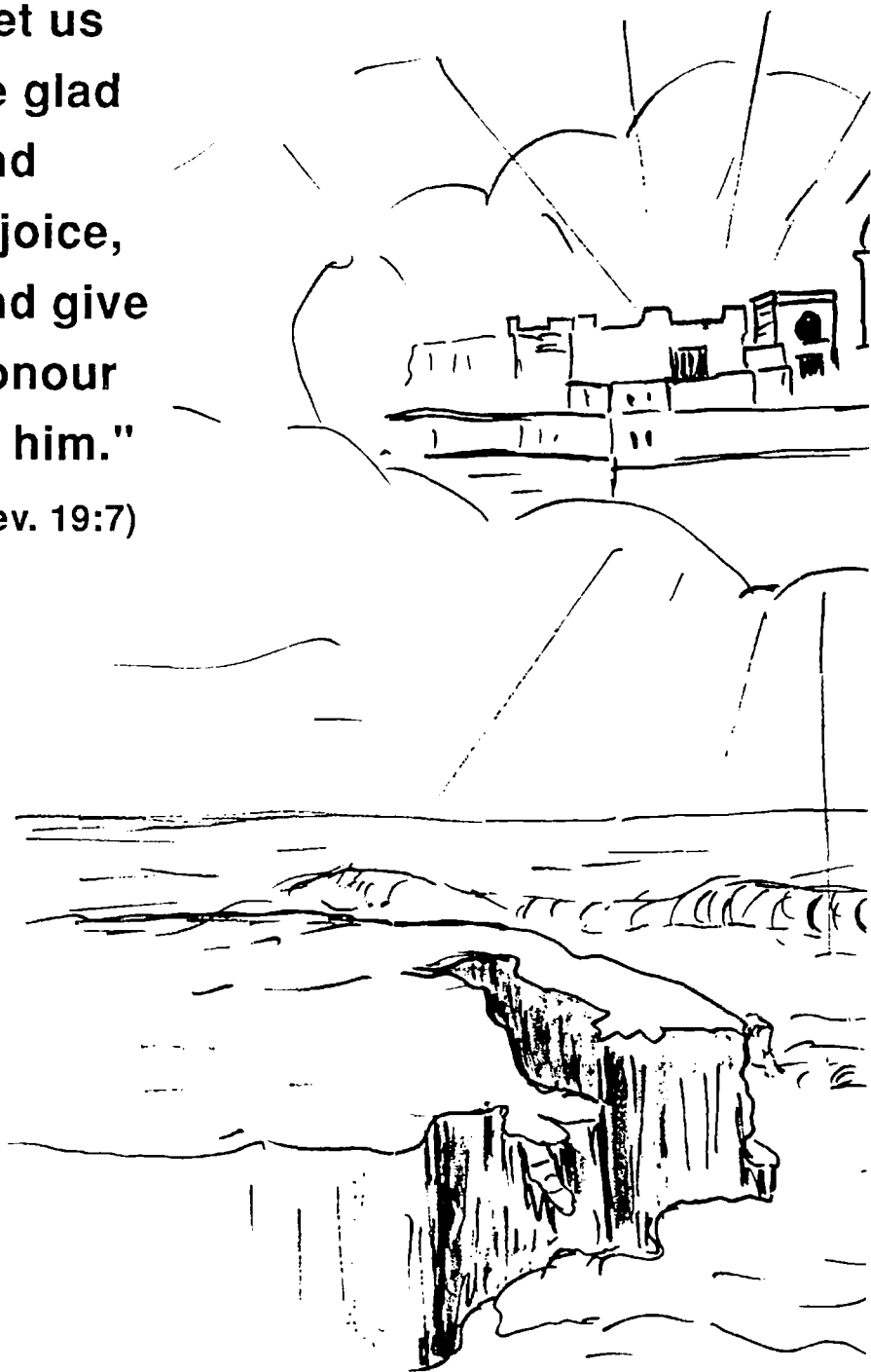
Later, John wrote, "And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:"

We should always be thankful and praise God for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. Then, if we live for Jesus, we can praise Him in heaven with those whom John saw in his vision.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"Let us
be glad
and
rejoice,
and give
honour
to him."**

(Rev. 19:7)





"The Messiah"

By Handel



George Handel had worked several days composing his forty-third opera piece. As he conducted the Royal Orchestra and Choir he listened to the harmony and flow of the music. Did each instrument blend? Was the melody heard through each movement?

Not only was King George the Second to attend this opera in 1741, but already every seat was sold out to the wealthiest noblemen and ladies of England and Ireland. All the money from this performance was to be given to the Foundling Hospital of Dublin, Ireland.

The Foundling Hospital was a place that took orphan children or children whose parents left them to live in the streets. The caretakers for the Foundling Hospital provided food, shelter, clothing, and some education for the children until they were able to support themselves.

Handel had been deeply touched by the poorness of Dublin's Foundling Hospital. It had made him think of Jesus who came to earth as a poor needy baby. Handel remembered how Jesus had helped the needy, fed the hungry, and healed the sick when He was a man. Though the rich men of Israel crucified Jesus, yet they had not destroyed His kingdom. Jesus was alive and sitting on His throne by the right hand of God, His Father. Handel felt that King Jesus wanted him to help the Foundling Hospital and he determined to compose a piece of music that would attract a crowd such as would be attending.

A quiet hush settled over the tightly crowded audience as Handel made his quiet way behind the podium which was in clear view of the orchestra, choir, and audience. Handel turned and bowed respectfully before King George II who

was sitting in his royal chair in the royal box balcony where he could also be seen by everyone. King George II nodded his head in reply to Handel's bow. Handel turned to his musicians and all eyes watched as his arms raised then made their downward swing which began "The Messiah" in its first performance.

Immediately it won the attention of the waiting audience who enjoyed the rhythmic rise and fall of the music. When the choir began to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" praising Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords, suddenly King George II was so overwhelmed by the majesty of Jesus Christ that he stood up and as customary when a King of England stands, so does all those in his presence.

It has been over 250 years since "The Messiah" was first heard, yet today it is a very popular piece. Often people stand when they hear the "Hallelujah Chorus" not only because King George II did, but because Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who sat all alone?
2. What day was it?
3. Whose breast had John leaned on?
4. Who was an old man?
5. Who had captured John?
6. Where had they sent John?
7. Who spoke to John on that Lord's day?
8. What did His voice sound like?
9. What did He tell John to do?

(Answers 1. John. 2. The Lord's day. 3. On Jesus' breast. 4. John. 5. Wicked men. 6. To an island. 7. Jesus. 8. Like a blast of a trumpet. 9. He told him to write down the things he saw and heard.)

Lesson texts: Rev. 15:2-4, 19:1, 4-10.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Apr. 5, 1992

GOD FEEDS THE ISRAELITES

It had been over two months since the children of Israel left Egypt. God had divided the water of the Red Sea and saved them from Pharaoh and his army who followed close behind. As they saw the water crash down on Pharaoh and his men, the people knew they would never be slaves to the Egyptians again.

After the children of Israel left the Red Sea, they set up camp in the wilderness. Before long they became hungry. Instead of asking for God's help, they began to murmur against Moses and Aaron. "We wish we had died in Egypt," they complained. "There we had plenty of meat and bread to eat. You have brought us into this wilderness to kill us all with hunger."

God told Moses, "I have heard the murmurings of the Children of Israel. Tell them that by evening they will have meat to eat, and in the morning they will have plenty of bread."

That evening quail came flying into the camp. More and more came until the ground was covered with them. That evening the people had meat for supper as God had said they would.

The next morning the people looked out of their tents and saw a heavy dew on the ground. When the dew had lifted, the ground was covered with small round things that were as white as frost. "What is this?" the people wondered. They called it manna. Moses told them, "This is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat."

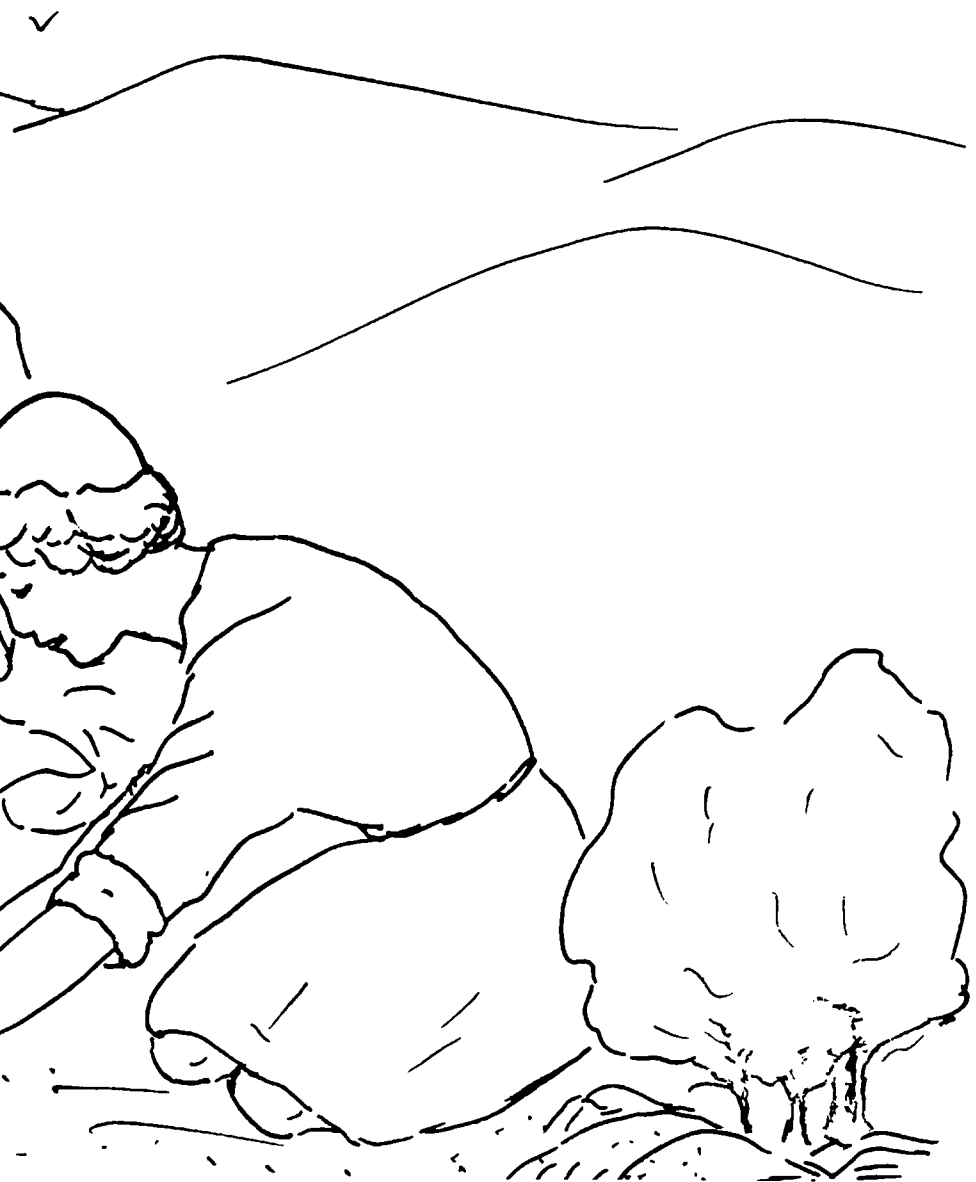
Moses told the people God's instructions for gathering manna. "Each morning you must gather enough for each person in your family for that day," he told them. "No one must keep it until morning."

Some of the people disobeyed and tried to save some of the manna overnight. The next morning the manna stank and had worms in it. Moses was very angry with those who did not follow God's command. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"At even ye shall eat f
ye shall be filled w**



sh, and in the morning
n bread." (Ex. 16:21)



One Hundred Hungry Children

Over 150 years ago, George Mueller paced the floor of his office in the orphanage he had started on Wilson Street in Bristol, England. Right then the babies in the infants' house needed milk but there was no money to buy milk for them nor for the other 65 children living under his care.

Henry, Mr. Mueller's friend, came into the office. "George," he said, "you must let some of your friends at the church know that you need money today. I know there is someone who will want to give money to the Lord's work. You must tell them you have a need and they will be glad . . ."

"No!" interrupted Mr. Mueller. "I made a covenant with the Lord before this work started two years ago that I would never beg for money. The Lord has never failed me and I believe He will prove faithful again."

"Sure He will be faithful," agreed Henry, "but you don't expect the money to rain out of heaven, do you? The Lord uses people to bring you money so you can buy food and clothing for these children. Other people are interested in this work and they are willing to give money, but they must be told there is a need."

"God will do the telling," replied Mr. Mueller. "He is faithful to burden the heart of those listening to Him that they need to give. Before the orphanage opened, my wife and I were praying for money to buy kitchen items. We had barely risen from our knees when a stranger knocked at our back door. He hardly said a word to us but unloaded an armful of bundles on our doorstep, then left. As we unwrapped the bundles, we found pans, plates, knives, forks, spoons, and cups. The Lord has His way of answering prayer."

As Henry left Mr. Mueller's office, he promised not to beg money for the orphanage from any of their friends. When alone, Mr. Mueller knelt once again by his chair and prayed for five pounds worth of

milk for the babies and food for the older children. Then he arose and went to have devotions with the children.

"Someone is here to see you, Mr. Mueller," announced one of the boys.

It was a well-dressed lady in fine silk and jewelry. After greetings she explained to Mr. Mueller that she had sold some old jewelry and felt impressed to give the money to God.

"It isn't much," she confessed, handing Mr. Mueller over five pounds of money, "but I believe you are doing a wonderful work and I would like to give a little to your orphanage."

"Thank you, Madam, for listening to God and for giving to His orphanage," said Mr. Mueller. "The profits from your jewelry sale will feed 100 children today."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. How long had it been since the Children of Israel had left Egypt?
2. What did God do to save the people from Pharaoh and his army?
3. What crashed down on Pharaoh and his men?
4. Who did the people murmur against when they were hungry?
5. Who heard the people's murmurings?
6. What came flying into the camp that evening?
7. What did the people call the bread the Lord sent them?
8. When were the people to gather manna?
9. What happened when some disobeyed and kept manna overnight?

[Answers: 1. Over two months. 2. He divided the water of the Red Sea. 3. The water. 4. Against Moses and Aaron. 5. God. 6. Quail. 7. Manna. 8. Each morning. 9. The manna stank and had worms in it.]

Lesson Text: Exodus 16.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Apr. 12, 1992

A LITTLE COLT SERVES JESUS

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem with His disciples. At the same time many people from all over the country were also making their way to Jerusalem for the Passover.

When Jesus and His disciples came to a town near the Mount of Olives, Jesus called two of His disciples. "Go to the village nearby," He told them. "When you first enter the village, you will see a colt tied that no man has ever ridden. Untie the colt and bring it to me. If anyone asks you why you are taking the colt, you will tell them, 'Because the Lord has need of him.' "

So the two disciples walked to the nearby village. When they got there they saw the colt tied nearby, just as Jesus said they would. While they were untying the colt the owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" The disciples told them the Lord needed it. So they let the disciples take the colt to Jesus.

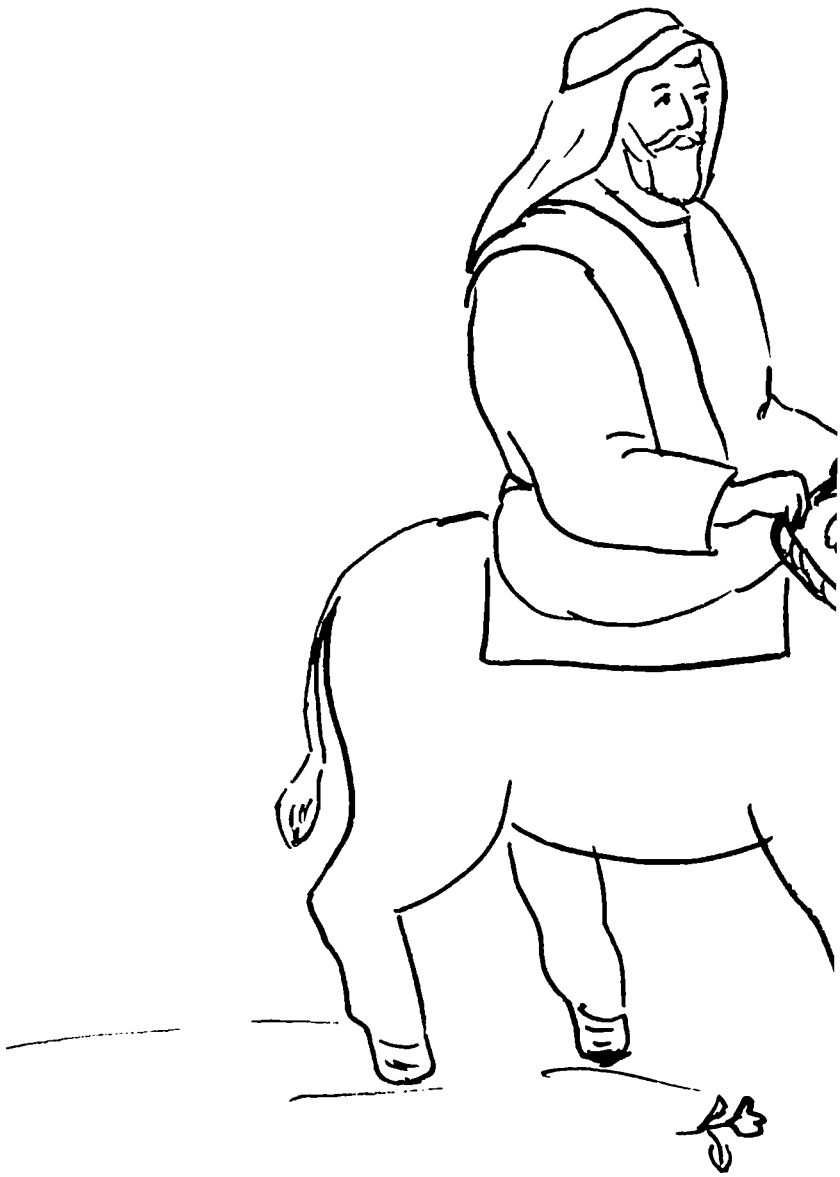
When they had come with the colt to Jesus, they put their coats on it for Jesus to sit on. Other people spread their clothes on the ground for the colt to walk on as it carried Jesus toward Jerusalem. Soon a great crowd of people gathered and began following.

As they walked, the people rejoiced and praised God with loud voices. They praised God for the many mighty works they had seen Jesus do among them. They said, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest."

But not everyone in the crowd was praising God. There were Pharisees there who didn't like hearing the people praising God and calling Jesus a king. They told Jesus, "Master, rebuke your disciples."

But Jesus answered them, "I tell you that if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**"They brought the col
garments on him; and h**



Jesus, and cast their
seat upon him." (Mark 11:7)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Apr. 19, 1992

HE IS RISEN!

Mary, Jesus' mother, and other women stood by the cross and sadly watched as Jesus died. They watched as His body was taken down, quickly laid in a grave nearby and a great stone rolled over the door of the grave, sealing it. Sorrowfully, the women returned to their homes. They could do nothing more until the Sabbath was over.

Mary Magdalene waited anxiously while the long hours dragged by. As soon as the Sabbath had passed, she hurried to Jesus' grave. It was still dark, but Mary could think of nothing but to be near Jesus.

When she got close, she saw the stone had been rolled away from the door of the grave! Quickly, Mary turned and ran to find Peter and John. Breathlessly she told them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the grave, and we don't know where they have laid Him!"

Peter and John ran as fast as they could to see if the grave was really open. John reached the grave first and stooped down to look in. But as soon as Peter came, he went inside. There he saw the grave clothes that Jesus' body had been wrapped in. Still wondering what could have happened, Peter and John went back home.

But Mary could not leave, she must find Jesus! As she wept by the grave, she stooped down and looked inside. There she saw two angels. They asked her, "Why are you crying?"

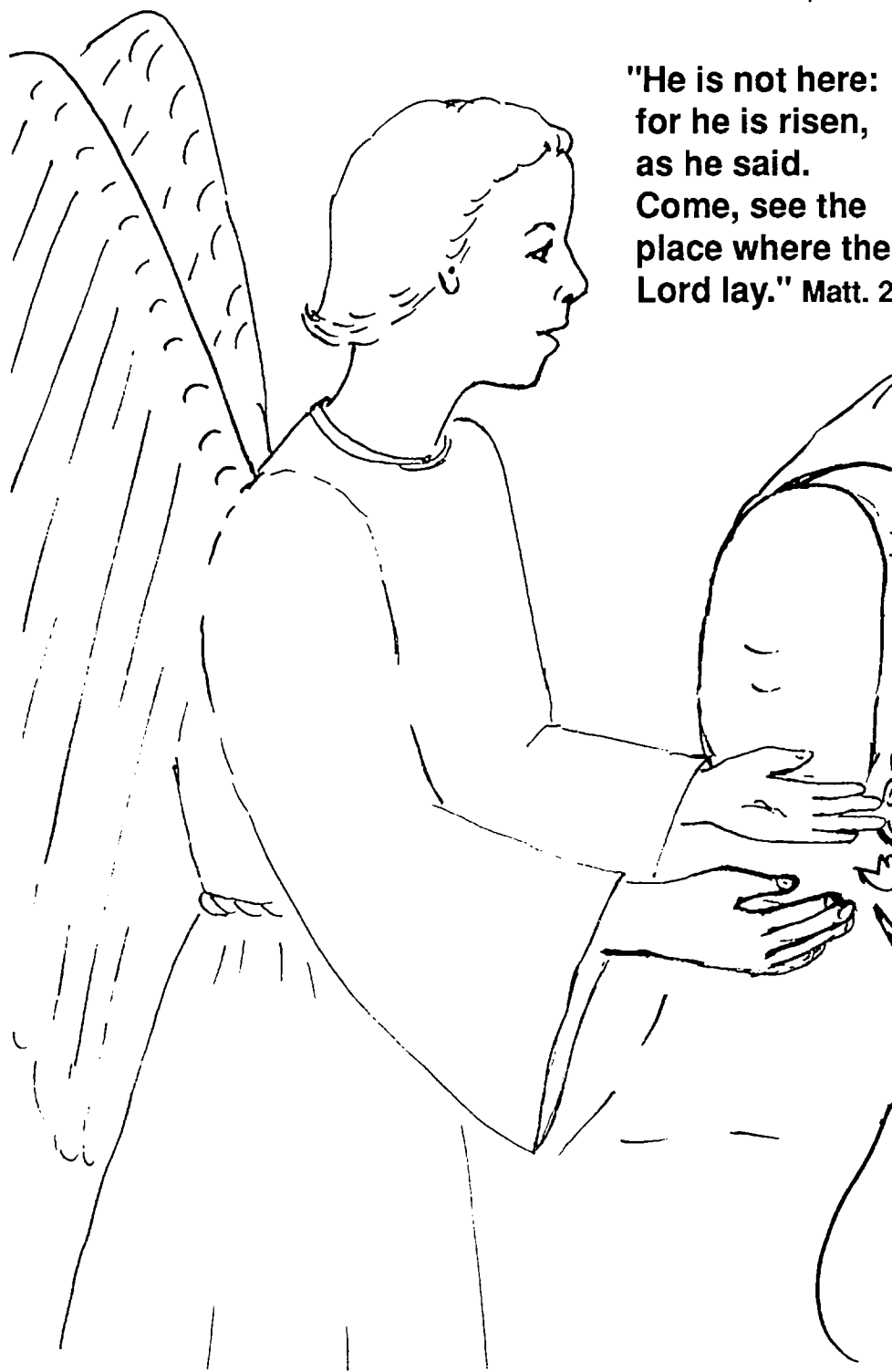
"Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have laid Him," Mary answered. Turning around, Mary saw Jesus.

Jesus asked her, "Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" Mary, supposing He was the gardener, said, "Sir, if you have taken Him, tell me where you have laid Him and I will take Him away."

Jesus then spoke her name. Immediately Mary knew it was Jesus. Again she hurried to find the disciples. She could not wait to tell them that she had seen the Lord and to tell them His words.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**"He is not here:
for he is risen,
as he said.
Come, see the
place where the
Lord lay." Matt. 2**





Easter Birds

Leon awakened early with the birds chirping merrily outside his upstairs bedroom window. From where he was lying, he could see a red-breasted robin and his mate swaying in the breeze while perched in the treetop. They looked so happy and free against the blue sky and the pink-edged, white fluffy clouds of the sunrise.

"Oh, wouldn't it be wonderful to fly free like a bird!" thought Leon. "Then I could do as I please. I wonder where these robins are building their nest."

Leon hopped out of bed so he could better observe the tree branches. Sure enough, he saw the beginnings of their nest right in a branch just below his window. Now he could watch them as they built their nest, laid the eggs, hatched the chicks, and raised them. How wonderful!

Leon hurried to his parents' bedroom. "Come and see who is living by my bedroom window!" he called excitedly.

Both Father and Mother came to quietly look at the happy birds and their new nest.

"I hope the cat doesn't climb up and bother the nest," worried Mother.

"Yes," agreed Father. "Also, you must be quiet by this window, Leon. If you make a lot of noise, they may decide to move somewhere else."

"I will be very quiet," promised Leon. He already felt a special friendship toward these carefree singers.

"Now let's hurry and get the farm chores done before Sunday school," said Father. "Today is Easter Sunday and we don't want to be late!"

Mother had Leon's suit and shirt laid on his bed when he came in to dress for church. Quickly he peeked at the nest before he left.

There was a large crowd at church and Leon was crowded between his parents. He thought about his birds sitting loose and free and he wished he was with them.

As the pastor preached, he spoke about Jesus and the dark day of death that brought salvation, which means we can

wash away our sins in the blood of Jesus. Then he explained how on the third day, Jesus arose from the tomb which was the resurrection from death to life. Next was the ascension when Jesus went up into the clouds to be with His Father. If we are faithful, then on the last day we will also arise into the clouds and be with Jesus. In heaven we will be freer than a singing bird.

Leon liked that thought: freer than a bird. Not one living person, animal, or bird is completely free from trouble while living on this earth. Everything will die sometime. Only people will be resurrected from the dead, and those who know Jesus will ascend into heaven to live free from trouble forevermore.

"I know what I will call my birds," Leon told his parents on the way home from church. "He is Resurrection and she is Ascension, to remind me that some day I too will fly into the clouds!"

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who stood by the cross?
2. Who waited anxiously for the Sabbath to pass?
3. Where did she go as soon as the Sabbath was over?
4. What did she see when she got close to the grave?
5. Who did Mary run to find?
6. Who went inside the grave?
7. When Mary looked into the grave, what did she see?
8. Who did Mary see when she turned around?
9. Who did Mary think He was?

[Answers: 1. Jesus' mother and other women. 2. Mary Magdalene. 3. To Jesus' grave. 4. She saw that the stone was rolled away. 5. Peter and John. 6. Peter. 7. Two angels. 8. Jesus. 9. The gardener.]

Lesson Text: John 20:1-18.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 **Primaries** (USPS549-000) Part 17 Apr. 26, 1992

WATER IN THE DESERT

For three days the Children of Israel had marched through the desert without finding water. Without water the people and their large herds of cattle would soon die. Finally they reached Marah. There they found plenty of water. But when they tasted the water they found it was so bitter they could not drink it.

The people complained to Moses, "What shall we drink?" When Moses cried to the Lord, the Lord showed him a tree and told him to cut it down and throw it into the water. When Moses obeyed, the waters were made sweet.

There in the desert God made a promise to His people. He told them He would keep the people safe from all the diseases that He had brought on Egypt if they would always listen to Him and obey all His commandments.

After God had given the Israelites quail for meat and manna for their bread, the people camped in another place where there was no water. Again the people began to murmur against Moses. They asked, "Did you bring us up out of Egypt to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"

And again Moses cried to the Lord. "What shall I do for the people?" Moses asked the Lord. "They are almost ready to stone me!"

The Lord told Moses, "Go on before the people. Take your rod that you used when you hit the water of the Red Sea. And take with you some of the elders of Israel.

"I will stand there before you on the rock in Horeb. When you hit the rock with your rod, water will come out of the rock so the people can drink."

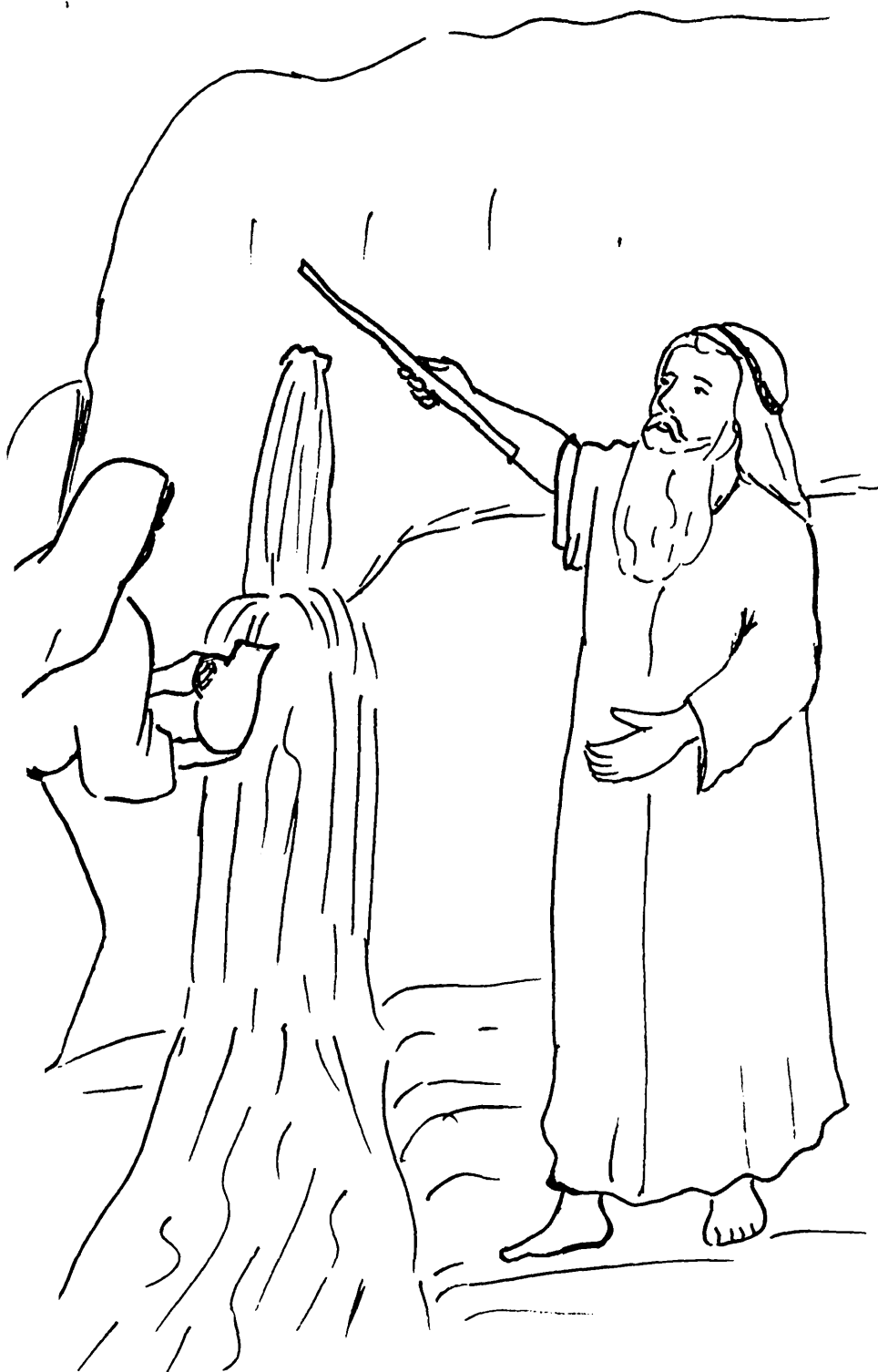
Moses did just as the Lord told him. When he hit the rock with his rod, cool refreshing water gushed out for the people to drink.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“The
people
did
chide
with
Moses,
and
said,
Give
us
water
that
we
may
drink.”**

(Ex. 17:2)





Trash in the Water

Paul and Brenda jumped out of their family station wagon as it came to a stop by the ocean beach. Quickly they slipped on rubber gloves and each grabbed a large garbage bag. Then they raced down to the beach and joined their friends for a Coastweek Cleanup Day.

Mr. Mason was speaking to the group of young people. "Again we will have a contest to see who can bag the most pounds of trash. That does not mean that you go mostly for the heavy trash like rubber tires, old ropes, or metal items. Remember, we are here to clean up *all* destructive trash. Plastic is lightweight and water currents carry it farther. As most of you know, there is twice as much plastic washed up on the shore than there is anything else. In the next six hours let's comb this ten-mile stretch of beach thoroughly!"

A cheer went up as Mr. Mason ended his talk. Everyone was ready to fill their own trash bags by the end of the day.

Paul and Brenda, like their friends, realize that water is a very important resource on this earth which God created. In fact, a person's body weight is two-thirds water and one-third solids. A person must have water to live. Every day it is important to drink at least four cups of water, besides milk, juice, fruit, and vegetables with water content. Two days without water can cause sickness. Water is very important to our bodies, so we must take care of our streams, rivers, lakes, and oceans.

It may seem like the earth has plenty of water, but if large amounts of trash are dumped into it yearly, some day there may not be enough clean water to drink!

People can not drink ocean water because it is too salty, but in the ocean there are many fish which people enjoy eating. Filthy water can kill fish or make them too sick for us to eat.

As Brenda was picking up trash, she found a dead fish washed onto the shore. It was entangled in a plastic six-pack holder that had cut into the fish's body. Paul found a dead sea gull with a plastic bag stuffed in its beak. He showed it to Mr. Mason.

"Yes," said Mr. Mason. "The curious sea gull pulled at the plastic, then could not

cough it out of its beak. The plastic smothered it. Sea turtles have been known to swallow up to 15 plastic garbage bags, mistaking them for jellyfish. Then, unable to eat, the turtles starve. Whales also eat garbage bags. One whale was found with 50 bags in its stomach. Some fish eat plastic which can also kill fish-eating birds. We must do what we can to clear away this destructive trash! Keep up the good work, Paul!"

That was exactly what Paul intended to do. At the end of the day when everyone weighed in their trash, Paul won first place. When he was asked to make a short speech, Paul said, "When God first created this earth, it was very beautiful without any trash. After God created man, He told him to take care of the garden, or the earth. I believe that command has been passed down to you and me today. We must keep our water, air, and land clean and livable for as long as God allows us to use it. God told us to. Besides, our lives depend on it!"

—Connie Sorrell

Help take care of our earth!



Questions:

1. How long had the people marched without finding water?
2. Where did they find plenty of water?
3. Why couldn't the people drink the water?
4. What did God have Moses throw in the water to make it sweet?
5. Who made a promise to the people there in the desert?
6. Why were the people almost ready to stone Moses?
7. Who did Moses cry to?
8. What did God tell Moses to hit the rock with?
9. What happened when Moses hit the rock?

[Answers: 1. Three days. 2. In Marah. 3. It was bitter. 4. A tree. 5. God. 6. They had no water to drink. 7. To the Lord. 8. His rod. 9. Water gushed out.]

Lesson Text: Ex. 15:23-27; 17:1-7.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 May 3, 1992

HANDS UP FOR VICTORY!

After God gave the Israelites water out of the rock, the people set up camp there in the desert. One day the people looked out and saw an enemy, Amalek and his warriors, coming to attack them.

Moses chose a brave young man named Joshua to lead the people into battle. Moses instructed Joshua, "Choose men and go out and fight with Amalek tomorrow. I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."

So Joshua did just as Moses told him. He took the men he had chosen and went out to fight with Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill where they could look down and watch Joshua and his men fight the enemy.

While Moses watched, he held his hands up toward heaven with the rod in his hand. He was begging God to help His people win this battle. The Israelites were not warriors; they must have God's help.

At first the children of Israel were able to drive their enemy back into the wilderness. Then Moses' arms got very tired from holding the rod up so long. When his arms fell to his sides, the enemy turned on the Israelites and drove them back. When Moses held the rod up toward heaven again, the Israelites began to win.

Aaron and Hur saw that Israel could not win the battle unless Moses' hands were held up. So they brought a stone and put it under Moses and he sat down on it. Then Aaron stood on one side and Hur on the other and held Moses' hands up until the sun went down. With their help, Moses was able to hold up the rod until Joshua completely defeated the enemy and drove them back into the wilderness.

Moses knew that God had fought this battle for them. He built an altar there to thank God for defeating the enemy and giving His people the victory.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“When Moses held up his hand,
Israel prevailed.”** Ex. 17:8–16



1

Just recently Karla had called the hospital where she had been born 26 years ago. They were kind and helpful and had promised to trace down her mother if at all possible. Now, every time her telephone rang, she answered

—Connie Sorrell

(Answers: 1. Amalek and his warriors. 2. Joshua. 3. Aaron and Hur. 4. Joshua and his men fighting the enemy. 5. The rod. 6. To help His people win the battle. 7. Aaron and Hur. 8. God. 9. An altar.)

Lesson Text: Ex. 17:8-16.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 May 10, 1992

JETHRO

News of the Israelites' escape from Egypt soon reached Midian where Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, lived. When Jethro heard that the people had escaped the great Egyptian army and had marched right through the Red Sea on dry land, he wanted to know more.

So Jethro left Midian and went to the camp of the Israelites. Moses was glad to see his father-in-law. He took him into his own tent and was soon telling Jethro everything God had done to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. He told him how God had delivered the Israelites from Pharaoh's army and let them cross the Red Sea on dry land. He gladly told Jethro how God had sent quail and manna for the hungry people and how God even caused water to gush out of a dry rock.

When Jethro heard all the wonderful things God had done for His people, it made him very happy. He rejoiced and said, "Blessed be the Lord who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians. Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods." Then Jethro offered a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to God.

The next day Jethro watched as Moses sat all day judging the people. That evening Jethro asked him, "Why do you judge the people alone?" Jethro saw the job was too big for Moses to handle by himself. He would soon wear out.

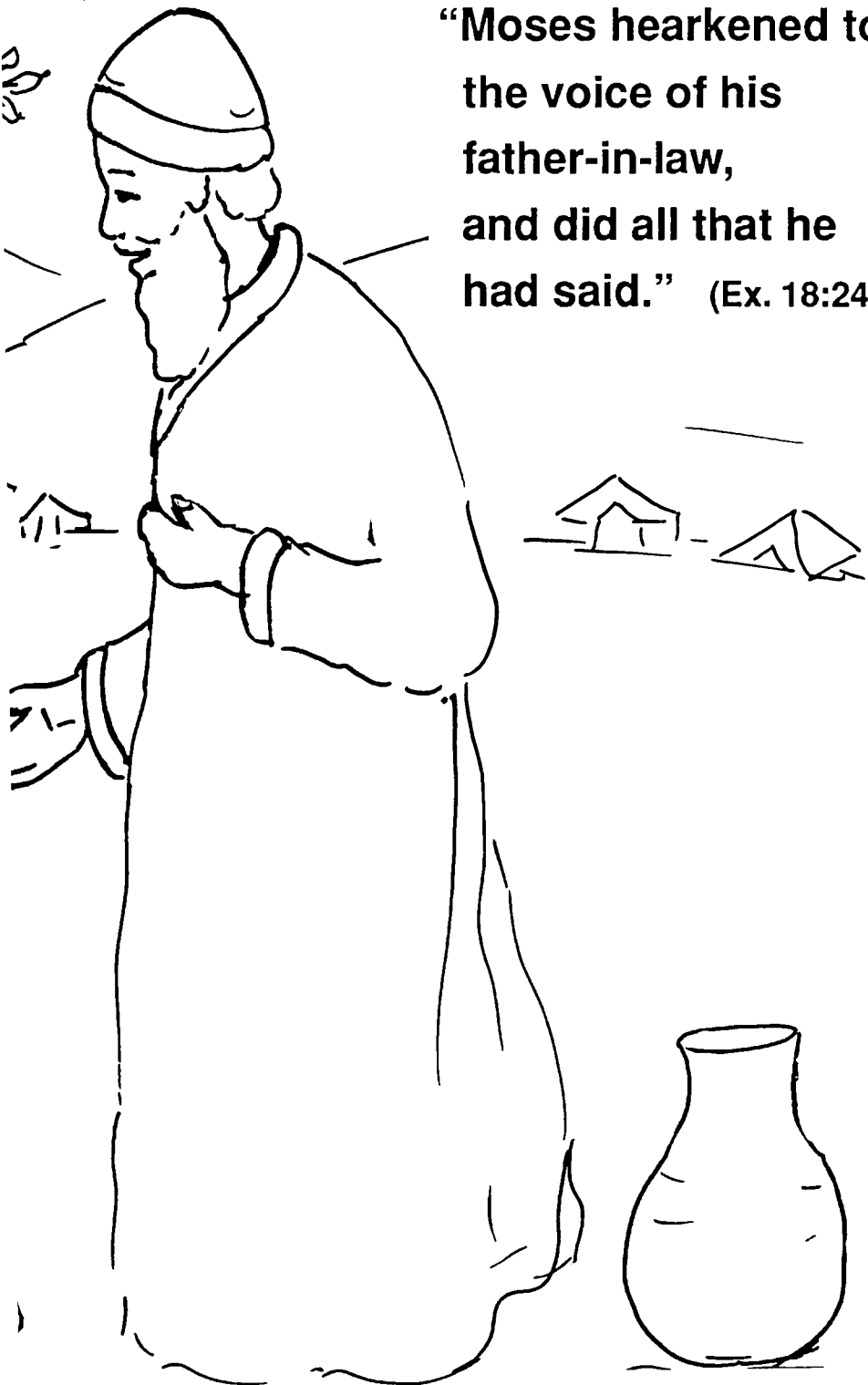
So Jethro advised Moses, "Choose able men who can judge the people; men who fear God, who love truth and hate covetousness. Set these men as rulers of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. Let them judge the people at all times. Every great thing that they cannot judge will be brought to you but they will judge the people in the small things."

Moses saw that Jethro's plan was good. He did as Jethro said.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“Moses hearkened to
the voice of his
father-in-law,
and did all that he
had said.” (Ex. 18:24)**



Obeying Daddy

Daddy's old, dusty, two-ton truck backed slowly into the driveway. It was loaded with fine grey gravel to fill in the potholes in the worn gravel driveway. Tyon and Kyle jumped out of the truck cab and watched as Daddy lowered the tailgate.

"Boys, go get the two shovels in the tool shed. I want you to scoop out all this gravel before sunset tonight."

"Race you to the shed!" challenged Tyon as both boys went to obey their daddy. Soon they were back, each with a shovel. Daddy told them what to do.

"Right now you must shovel the gravel out of the truck bed," he said. "Now I need to go see someone about another job, and I'm leaving you boys here to work. I want you to get at least half this load off the truck before I get back. You can do that if you both keep working. Then when I come back, I'll move the truck forward down the driveway and help you fill in the potholes. Do you understand?"

Both boys nodded their heads. "What time will you be back, Daddy?" asked Tyon.

"I'll be back by 4:30. Keep busy until I come back." So saying, Daddy got into the car and drove off.

Tyon and Kyle climbed up on the big, big load of gravel. As they shoveled, the warm sunshine became hotter and hotter.

"I need a drink of water," said Tyon, leaning on his shovel while he wiped the sweat from his face.

"Let's go in the house and get one," said Kyle.

They left their shovels standing against the truck while they went inside to get a drink. It felt so nice and pleasant inside Mother's tidy house. They were tempted to stay and rest, but they knew Daddy would be back expecting the truck to be half-way empty. The sunshine really seemed hot now, but they kept working. Right at 4:30 Daddy drove in.

"Boys, you are doing a good job!" Daddy said. He was so pleased that he handed them each a special cool drink. Soon all

three were ready to shovel the last half of the load when two neighbor boys came riding by on bicycles.

"Do you need some help unloading that gravel?" they asked. "We would be glad to help if you have two extra shovels."

"Sure you can help!" Daddy answered. "Tyon and Kyle have done plenty of sweating this afternoon. I think they would like some friends to help. Let me find you each a shovel."

Soon five workers were busy with the gravel and the job was completed over two times faster.

"Thanks for your help," Tyon and Kyle told their friends. "We could have used it this afternoon, but we didn't think about it or know if you would want to help."

"We were glad to help," their friends replied.

"Looks like we've got it done by sunset, boys," said Daddy. "I appreciate everyone's help. Now let's see if Mother has a big supper ready for some big appetites."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was Jethro?
2. Where did Jethro live?
3. Who told Jethro all the wonderful things God had done?
4. How did Jethro feel when he heard about God's goodness?
5. Who said, "Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods"?
6. What did Jethro offer to God?
7. What did Moses do all the next day?
8. Why did Jethro advise Moses to choose able men?
9. Who saw that Jethro's plan was good?

[Answers: 1. Moses' father-in-law. 2. In Midian. 3. Moses. 4. He was very happy. 5. Jethro. 6. A sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. 7. He judged the people. 8. To help him judge the people. 9. Moses.]

Lesson Text: Exodus 18.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 May 17, 1992

GOD SPEAKS TO THE PEOPLE

Three months after leaving Egypt, the Israelites came to Mount Sinai. There, at the foot of the mountain, they set up camp.

As the people set up their tents, Moses went up the mountain to talk to God. There God called to Moses and gave him a message for the people. He told them, "If you will obey my voice in everything I command you and keep my covenant, then you will be a special treasure to me above all people. You will be a kingdom of priests to me and an holy nation."

So Moses came and called the elders of the people. He told them all the words the Lord had spoken. When the people heard God's words they said, "We will do all that the Lord has asked."

When Moses told the Lord the words of the people, He said, "I will come to you in a thick cloud, so the people may hear when I speak with you. Then they will always believe the words you say. Now, go to the people. Tell them to wash their clothes and be ready, because on the third day I will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mount Sinai. Warn the people not to go near the mount because if any animal or person touches the mount they will be killed."

As the third day dawned, loud thunder awakened the Israelites. Looking out their tent doors they saw lightning coming from a thick cloud. The whole mountain was covered with smoke because the Lord had come down on it in fire. When they heard a loud blast of a trumpet, the people trembled for fear.

Moses brought the people out before the mountain to meet with God. Then Moses spoke to God and God answered him in a voice so the people could hear. God wanted the people to know that the words Moses spoke to them were those that God had given him. They were to always obey Moses' words because they were the commandments of God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



“Moses spake, and God ans



red him by a voice.” (Ex. 19:19)

"Hello, Dear God"

Amanda had a telephone to her ear and she was busy talking as she set the table for her dolls.

"Yes, I would like to speak to 'Dear God,' please. I know He is very busy, but I won't talk long. Thank you."

There was a pause in the conversation, then Amanda continued. "Dear God, I just wanted to speak with you today. I thank you for the nice weather you have given us lately. Mama's flowers and roses like it too. Do you have roses blooming where you live?"

Amanda listened for a moment. Then her face lit up with a smile and she nodded. "I thought you had roses in heaven. Well, some day I want to come and see them but I'm not very old yet so I guess I better wait a while. Are you still writing what I do in your little black book?"

Another pause, then a smile. "Good! So you did write down that I gave mother a sweet Mother's Day card. Did you write down that I shared my Skittles with my brother? He really took more than half of them, but I didn't fuss because that gets on Mama's nerves. Have you been talking to my daddy lately? He hasn't told you anything bad about me, has he?"

A frown drooped across Amanda's face. "I really didn't mean to fuss about planting seeds in the garden, but my back got tired. I'll tell Daddy I'm sorry as soon as I see him tonight. Well, I had better hang up the phone and feed my dolls. I have supper ready and Daddy is coming in the door from work. Bye, Dear God, I'll talk to you later."

Amanda laid down the telephone and sat down to eat a play lunch with her dolls. She bowed her head to bless the food.

"Dear God, we thank you for the food we eat. Thank you, Dear God, for all the nice things you have given us. Help me to be good. Amen." After closing her prayer, Amanda ate lunch with her dolls.

That night at the supper table, she had a very serious question to ask her daddy. "Have you been talking to Dear God on the telephone, Daddy?"

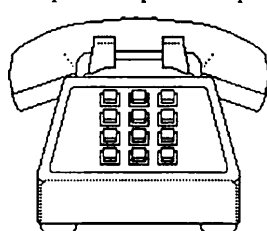
Daddy smiled. "I haven't talked to Him on the telephone actually, but I do visit with Him every morning. Why?"

"I'm just sorry, Daddy, that I fussed so much the other day when I planted seeds for

you in the garden. I told Dear God I was sorry and I want to tell you, too. I'll try not to fuss ever again."

"That's a good girl," said Daddy as he hugged Amanda. "Now help Mother with the supper dishes and get ready for bed."

Before Amanda went to bed that night, she picked up her telephone one more time.



"Hello, Dear God," she said, "I just wanted to let you know that I told Daddy I was sorry."

There was a pause and then a smile crossed

her face. "Oh, so you had already marked it out of my little black book. Thank you, Dear God, for talking to me today. Now please watch over me while I sleep and we will talk again tomorrow. Good-night."

Amanda laid down her telephone. Then she climbed into bed and sweetly dreamed.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. How long had the Israelites been gone from Egypt?
2. What mountain did they come to?
3. Who went up the mountain to talk to God?
4. Who said, "We will do all the Lord has asked"?
5. Who was coming down to the mount on the third day?
6. What would happen if a person or animal touched the mount?
7. What awakened the Israelites on the third day?
8. Why was the whole mountain covered with smoke?
9. When Moses spoke to God before the people, what happened?

(Answers: 1. Three months. 2. To Mount Sinai. 3. Moses. 4. The people. 5. God. 6. They would be killed. 7. Loud thunder. 8. God had come down on it in fire. 9. God answered him in a voice so the people could hear.)

Lesson Text: Exodus 19.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 May 24, 1992

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Mount Sinai shook while smoke billowed from it as if it had been a great furnace. The people trembled at the loud blast of a trumpet that got louder and louder. Then a loud voice spoke saying, "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage."

There from Mount Sinai God gave the people laws they must obey. We call these laws the Ten Commandments. They are:

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. (I am the one true God, the one you must worship.)

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. (You must not worship idols or gods made by men.)

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. (You must not speak or think lightly of the Lord.)

IV. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. (You must rest and worship the Lord on the seventh day.)

V. Honor thy father and thy mother. (Love and obey your parents.)

VI. Thou shalt not kill. (You must not take the life of any person.)

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery. (Husbands and wives must love and be faithful to one another.)

VIII. Thou shalt not steal. (You must not take things that do not belong to you.)

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. (You must not tell a lie about anyone.)

X. Thou shalt not covet. (You must not want something that is not yours.)

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

1. Thou shalt have no other_____before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven_____.
3. Thou shalt not take the_____name of the Lord thy_____in vain.
4. Remember the sabbath day, keep it_____.
5. Honor thy_____and thy_____.
6. Thou shalt not_____.
7. Thou shalt not commit_____.
8. Thou shalt not_____.
9. Thou shalt not bear_____witness against thy neighbor.
10. Thou shalt not_____.



**“I will give thee a law and
commandments which I
have written.” (Ex. 24:12)**

The Bears' Commandments



Let's pretend for awhile that bears can talk and think like people. Let's pretend that all the bears had a meeting one day. Now we will listen to their meeting.

"Quiet, Bears, quiet!" roared Grandpa Bear, and all the bears became quiet. "Now we have called this meeting together to discuss some needs that we have among us. I have noticed in my long lifetime that we need to have more law and order in our society. Therefore, I have taken great pains to learn from man how to read and write and have written some good laws for us to live by. After I am finished, if you have any more suggestions then I will listen to you; but first I ask that you hear what I have written.

1. Bear only the Creator on your heart and mind.
2. Do not bear to speak God's name foolishly.
3. Respect your parents who bear with you.
4. Husbands and wives must always forebear.
5. Never bear away someone else's things.
6. Do not bear lies.

As Grandpa Bear read the laws he had written on an old tree trunk, all the bears listened quietly. They had never heard of such laws before. All of them were wondering the same question: Where had Grandpa Bear gotten these laws? One baby bear raised his paw and bravely asked him.

"They came from someone smarter and greater than bears, my cub," replied wise old Grandpa Bear. He stood stroking his grey muzzle while every bear eye watched. "I believe that if we live by these laws, then we will be wiser and greater also. Now I will leave these written laws right here by the edge of this meadow. Any time one of you can not remember a law, then feel free to come to this old tree trunk to read it."

There was a long, silent pause before Grandpa Bear's oldest brother raised his paw. "Brother Bear," he said, "you have forgotten that I nor any of the other bears know how to read. How can we obey these laws when we can not read them?"

A surprised look came over Grandpa Bear's face. He *had* forgotten that he was the only bear who had gone among people and learned to read and write. He looked out over the many, many bears gathered before him. He could not possibly teach all of them to read and write. What should he do?

In the middle of the crowd, a mother bear was waving her paw. "Could you please make the laws easier for me and my cubs to remember?" she asked.

"That is what we will do!" exclaimed Grandpa Bear. He thought and thought for awhile. Then he took his marker and wrote these words:

BEAR LOVE FOR EVERYONE!

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What billowed up from Mount Sinai?
2. What got louder and louder?
3. Who spoke to the people with a loud voice?
4. What do we call the laws God gave the people to obey?
5. Who is the only one we must worship?
6. Whom does the fifth commandment tell us we must we love and obey?
7. What is the sixth commandment?
8. What does it mean to bear false witness?
9. What does "covet" mean?



(Answers: 1. Smoke. 2. The blast of a trumpet. 3. God. 4. The Ten Commandments. 5. God. 6. Our parents. 7. Thou shalt not kill. 8. To tell a lie about someone. 9. To want something that is not yours.)



Lesson Text: Exodus 20-24.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 May 31, 1992

A GOLDEN CALF

God still had many things to tell Moses. He wanted Moses to be able to instruct the people how they should live. The Lord told Moses, "Come up to me into the mount. I will give you tables of stone on which I have written my commandments."

Then Moses took Joshua and went up the mountain. For six days they waited while the glory of the Lord covered the mountain like a thick cloud. On the seventh day God called Moses. Leaving Joshua, Moses went higher up the mountain to talk with God.

Meanwhile, the people could look up and see the glory of the Lord upon the mountain. The top of the mount looked like fire, and flames shot up into the sky day and night. The people knew Moses was in that thick cloud talking with God.

The days stretched into weeks and still Moses did not come back. The people began to wonder if he would ever return. One day they told Aaron, "Make us gods to go before us. We don't know what has become of Moses."

Aaron told the people to bring him their gold. When he had melted it, he made it into the shape of a calf. The people told each other, "These are the gods that brought us up out of Egypt." Then Aaron built an altar and the people worshiped the golden calf.

God was very angry when He looked down and saw the people's awful sin. God was ready to destroy the Israelites, but Moses begged Him to spare them.

When Moses came into the camp he saw the people worshiping the calf. No wonder God had been so angry with the people! In his own anger, Moses threw down the tables of stone on which God had written the commandments and they broke in pieces. Then Moses took the calf, burned it and ground it to powder, then threw it into the water.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“He saw the calf,
and the dancing.”**

(Ex. 32:19)





Bow Only to God

It was already after supper when a knock came on the Nelson's door. When Sis. Nelson came to answer it, two little neighbor girls asked, "Can you tell us a Bible story?"

"Yes, we can have a Bible story tonight," replied Sis. Nelson. She stepped outside on her porch where the cool evening breeze carried the fragrance of sweet flowers.

"Let's sit right here on the porch step by my favorite cedar tree," said Sis. Nelson. Each girl took her place beside Sis. Nelson. "Now, do you remember what our last story was about?"

"We talked about Moses and how he led God's people through the Red Sea," said Amy, who was the oldest.

"Very good, Amy," replied Sis. Nelson. "Now we will tell some more about Moses as he leads the Children of Israel."

Sis. Nelson told again of how God brought the Children of Israel out of Egypt by a pillar of a cloud by day and one of fire by night. Not only was God real to them in these two pillars, but He also opened the Red Sea and let them walk across it. Then God destroyed the Egyptians when the huge waves crashed down on them as they tried to cross. God had also heard the Children of Israel cry for bread and sent sweet bread from heaven. From a hard rock, God poured out pure water for them to drink. When an enemy nation warred against them, God gave them the victory as long as Moses' hands were lifted to God.

"God sure did a lot of things for them, didn't He, Sis. Nelson?" said Amy.

"Yes, God loved them and He kept His promises to them," agreed Sis. Nelson. "But you know what they did when Moses went up on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments? Those naughty Children of Israel began to doubt if God was real or loved them. They gathered together gold and silver and made a golden calf. Then they bowed before it and praised it for doing everything God had really done. Now that would be just like me bowing

here before my favorite cedar tree and saying, 'Thank you, cedar tree, for food to eat, clothes to wear, and a house to live in. I thank you, cedar tree, for keeping us well and protecting us against harm.' You would think I was rather silly, wouldn't you?"

Both girls nodded. "I wouldn't ever be that silly," said Amy.

"Some are yet that silly, though," said Sis. Nelson. "What would you think if I laid a dollar bill on the kitchen table and prayed to it for food, clothing, and all things?"

"Pretty silly," remarked Amy.

"Millions of people worship money in their hearts like that. They trust in their jobs and the money they make from them. People will give their whole life to making money and forget about God until it comes time for them to die. Then they realize too late that God really had given them life and all things. Since they did not worship Him for it, He does not know them at the judgment seat. In your hearts, always worship God, for He alone gives life and good things. Now let us pray."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who had many things to tell Moses?
2. Where did God tell Moses to come?
3. Who did Moses take with him?
4. How long did the glory of the Lord cover the mountain?
5. What did the top of the mountain look like to the people below?
6. What did the people tell Aaron to make for them?
7. What did Aaron make out of the gold?
8. Who saw the people's awful sin?
9. What did God want to do with the people?

[Answers: 1. God. 2. Up into the mount. 3. Joshua. 4. Six days. 5. It looked like fire. 6. They told him to make gods for them to worship. 7. A calf. 8. God. 9. He wanted to destroy them.]

Lesson Text: Exodus 24:12-18; 32.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 June 7, 1992

MOSES' FACE SHINES

When Moses went up the mountain to talk to God the first time, God gave him two tablets of stone. On these tablets God had written His commandments. God wanted the people to always have these laws with them to remind them how they must live to be His chosen people. Moses carefully carried the tablets back to camp. But when he saw the people dancing around the golden calf and worshiping it, he became so angry he threw the tablets to the ground, breaking them.

So the Lord told Moses, "Cut out two tablets of stone like the first tablets. I will write on these tablets the words that were in the first tablets, which you broke. Be ready in the morning to come up to Mount Sinai. Meet me at the top of the mount. No one is to come up with you. No one must come near the mount, not even your animals."

Moses made the tablets of stone. The next morning he got up early and went up the mount, taking the tablets with him. When he got to the top, the Lord came down in a cloud and spoke with him. God told Moses how to lead the Children of Israel. God talked with Moses for forty days and nights. Then God wrote the Ten Commandments on the two tablets of stone as He had done before.

Aaron and all the Children of Israel were anxious to meet Moses as he came down the mountain. But when they saw his face they were afraid to come any closer. Moses didn't know that his face was shining because of the glory of the Lord. He could not understand why the people were afraid of him. He called to the people. Aaron and the elders came back and talked with Moses. They told him why the people were afraid.

Because the glory of the Lord made his face shine so brightly, Moses put a veil over his face while he spoke with the people. But when he went in before the Lord to speak with Him, Moses took the veil off, until he came out again.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

“Moses’ face shone.”
(Ex. 34:35)





OK

A man who saw the accident hurried to it and pulled Kathy's mother out of the car. Her legs were on fire but he managed to smother it. Then they heard Kathy calling for help.

"Where is she?" the truck driver asked.

But when the truck lunged forward, Kathy screamed in more pain than before. By now fire was flaming 300 feet into the air. Everyone lost sight of Kathy and no one could get very near the melting heat.

"I'm going in to help her!" cried the brave firefighter as he rushed through the flames to Kathy who was pinned under the truck.

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Publisher
920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey.
Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster:

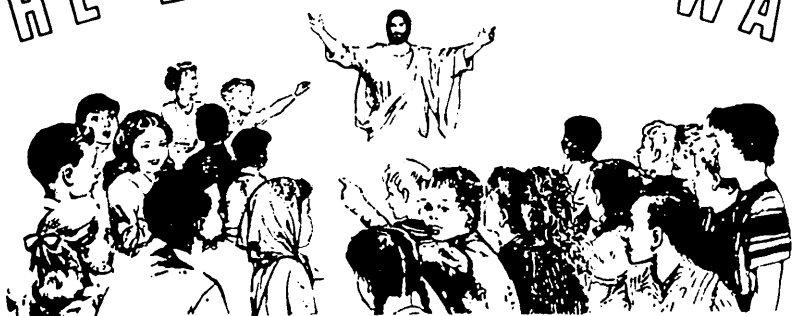
"Dear God, how much more can she take?" prayed the firefighter. Suddenly he felt the truck raise enough that he could gently, but quickly, pull Kathy out from under the truck. He rushed with her out of the flames. They were free! Soon the fire was put out, also.

—Connie Sorrell

1. What did God give Moses the first time he went up the mountain?
2. What was written on them?
3. What happened to the first tablets?
4. Who told Moses to cut out two more tablets of stone?
5. Where was Moses to meet God?
6. Who came down in a cloud?
7. How long did God talk with Moses?
8. Why were the children of Israel afraid of Moses?
9. What did Moses put over his face while he talked to the people?

Lesson Text: Exodus 34.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 **Primaries** (USPS549-000) **Part 24** **June 14, 1992**

THE PEOPLE BRING GIFTS

The first rules that God gave the people commanded them to worship Him alone. God wanted the people to know He was always with them as long as they obeyed Him. He knew the people would need a place to come and worship so He told Moses, "Speak to the Children of Israel and tell all who are willing to bring an offering to me."

God told Moses the people could bring gold, silver, brass, precious stones, wood, and different kinds of fabric. No one was commanded to give any certain amount. They were to give it willingly as an offering to God. These materials would be needed to build a tabernacle where God could live among the people. The people would come to this tabernacle to worship God.

God told Moses, "I have called Bezaleel and filled him with the spirit of God. I have given him wisdom, understanding and knowledge to work in gold, silver and brass and to be able to cut and set precious stones, to carve wood and do all kinds of woodworking. I have also called Aholiab and have given other people wisdom to be able to make everything as I have commanded you."

The people gladly brought their gifts for the building of the tabernacle. Those who were skilled gave their time to make the things needed to furnish it. They were anxious to have a tabernacle where they could go and worship God and know He was always near.

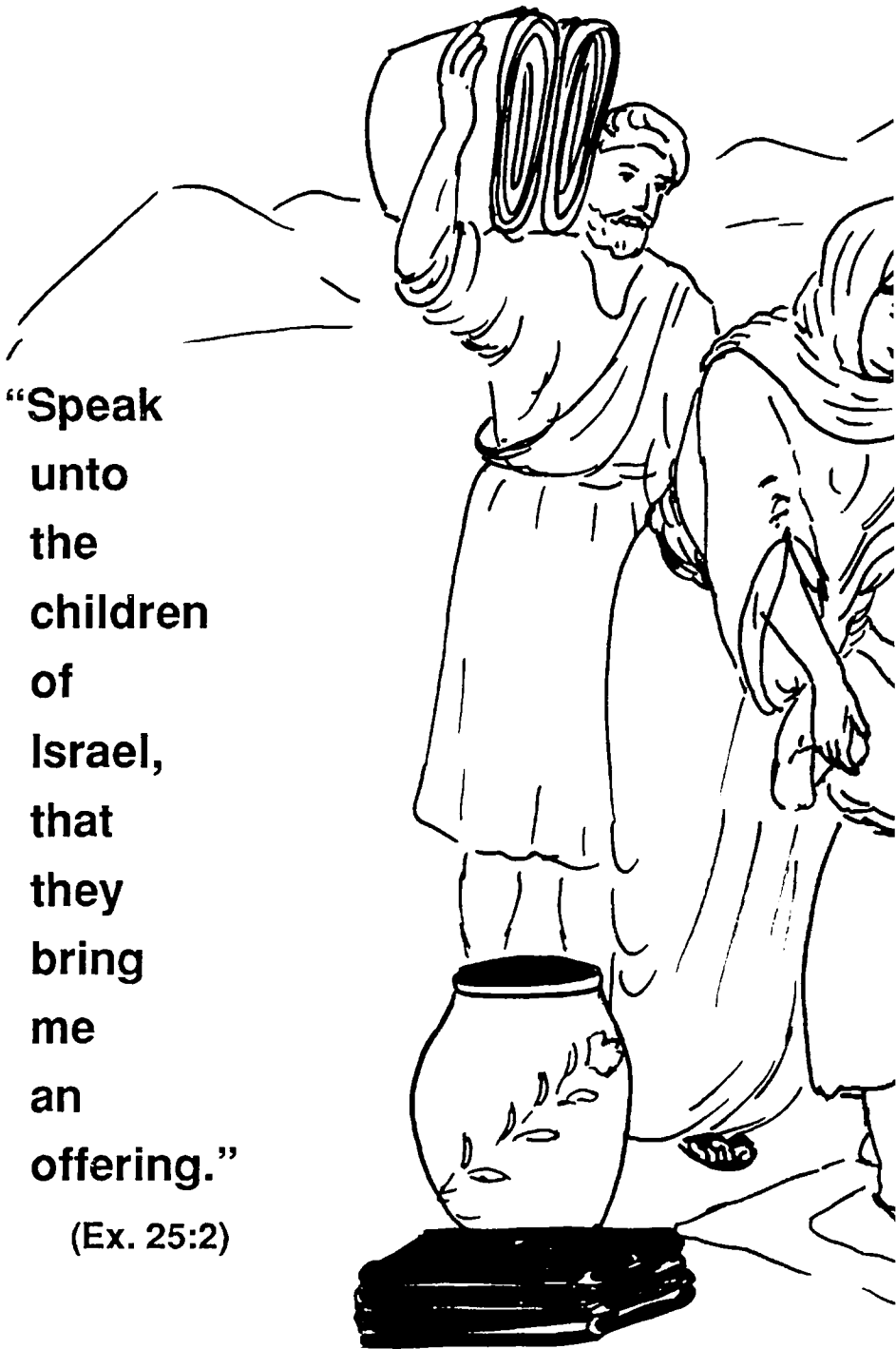
The Children of Israel lived in tents because they were traveling toward the land God had promised to give them. The tabernacle would also be made like a large tent. It was to have board walls and a top of cloth and animal skin. Then it could be easily taken apart and moved when the people were ready to travel.

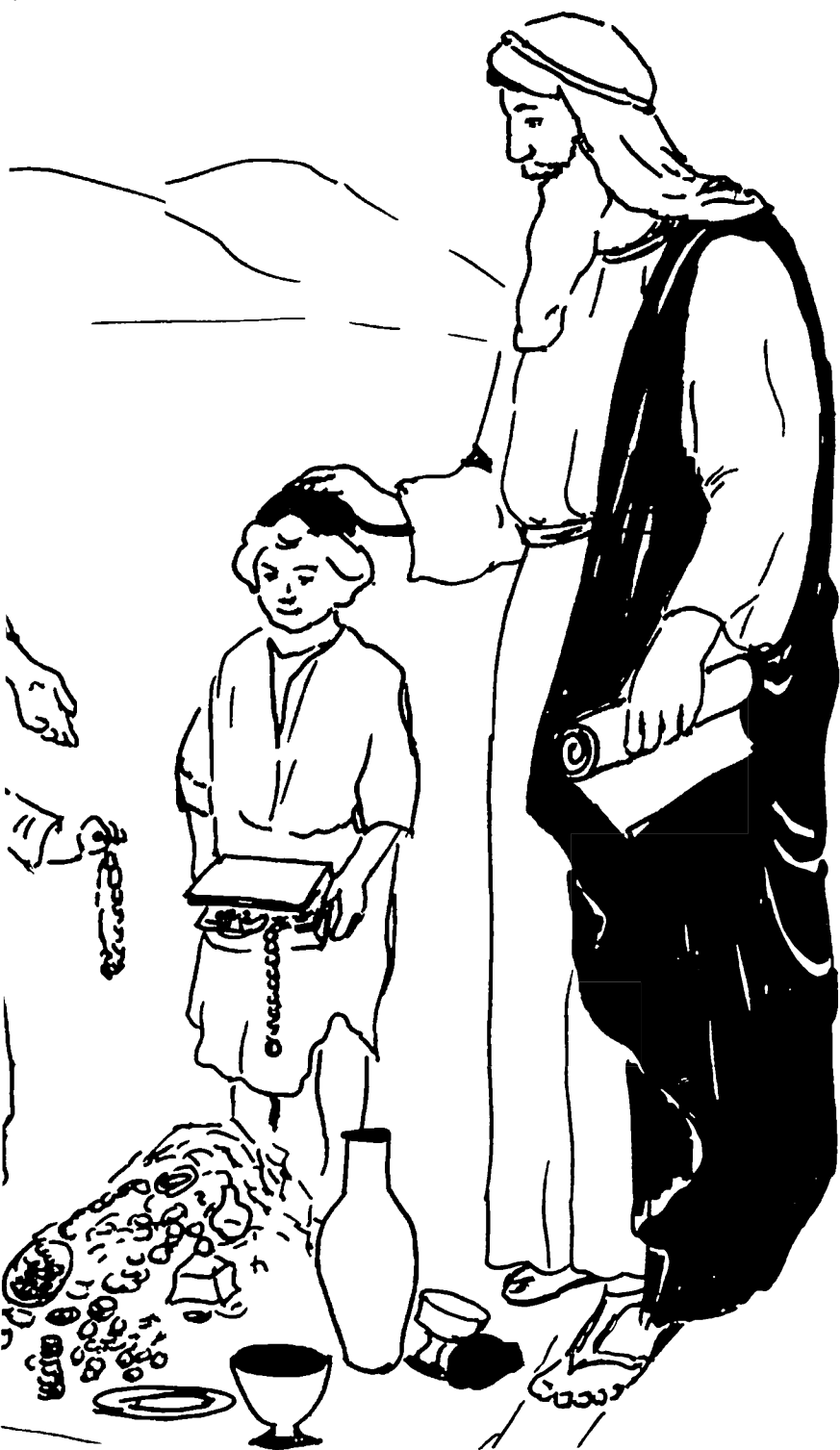
God told Moses the kind of furniture to put inside the tabernacle. He told how the furniture was to be made and just where it should be placed. When everything was ready, God told Moses to set up the tabernacle in the middle of the camp.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“Speak
unto
the
children
of
Israel,
that
they
bring
me
an
offering.”**

(Ex. 25:2)





THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 June 21, 1992

THE TABERNACLE

Finally the tabernacle was finished and set up in the middle of the camp. All around it was an uncovered space called a court. Curtains of fine linen made the outside walls of the court.

Near the door of the court was a great altar called the altar of burnt offering. It was covered with brass and had a long pole on each side. Whenever the Israelites moved their camp, the priests put the poles upon their shoulders and carried the altar along.

Near the altar was a large basin called a laver. It was filled with water for the priests to wash their hands and feet. Farther inside the court stood the tabernacle. The walls were made of boards covered with gold. The roof was made of four curtains, one laid above the other. The inner curtain was beautiful cloth, but the outer curtains were made of skins to keep the rain out. The front of the tabernacle opened into the court.

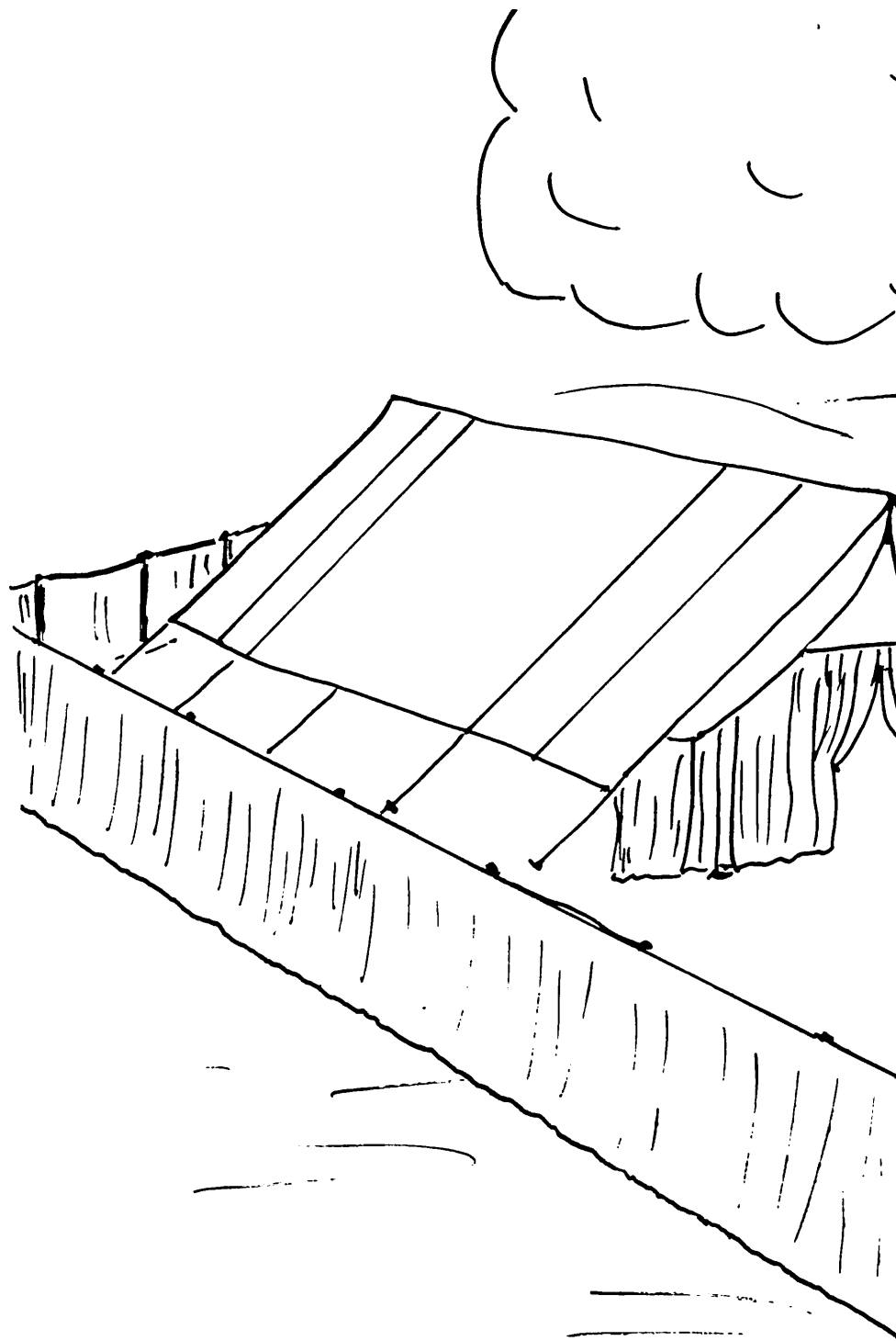
From the roof hung a curtain that divided the tabernacle into two rooms. The first room opened into the courts. It was called the "holy place." The second room was called the "holy of holies."

In the holy place were three pieces of furniture: a table, a golden candlestick, and a small altar. The table was covered with gold and on it were twelve loaves of bread. The golden candlestick held seven burning lights. The small altar was called the altar of incense because sweet perfumes were burned there.

The second room contained only the ark of the covenant. This ark was a chest covered inside and out with gold. The lid was called the mercy seat. At each end of the mercy seat was a golden cherubim. Inside the ark were the Ten Commandments written on the stone tables.

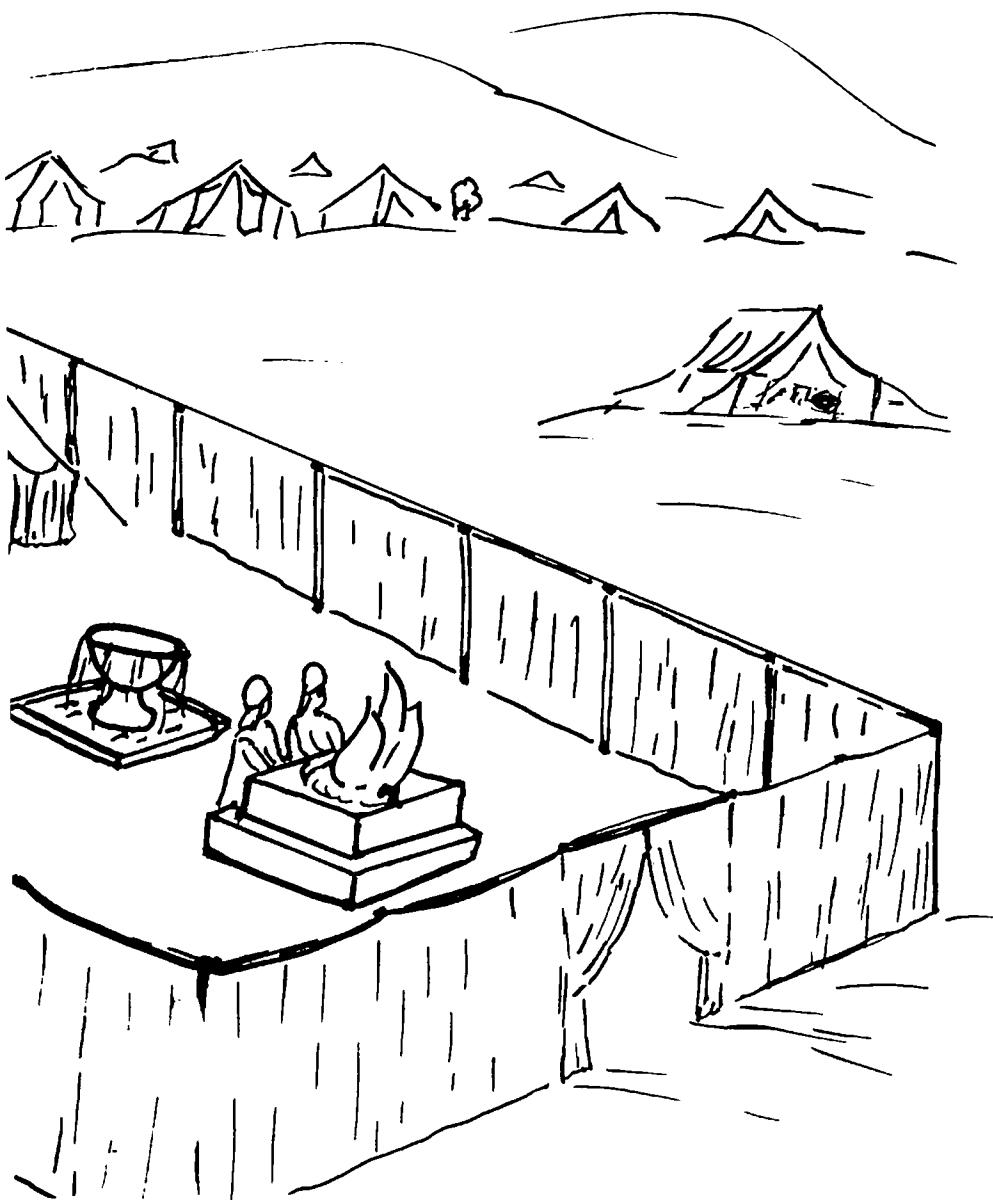
When the tabernacle was set up in the middle of the camp, God filled it with His glory. Every day the cloud rested upon the tabernacle, and every night a cloud of fire was there. When the people saw these things, they knew that God was living among them.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“The glory of the Lord
filled the tabernacle.”**

(Ex. 40:34)



Buddy's Fireflies

"Daddy! Mama! Look what I have in this jar! Aren't they pretty?" Buddy came bouncing up the porch steps to show his parents the fireflies flickering in his fruit jar.

"Yes, they are pretty," replied Mother as she stopped the porch swing with her toe and made room for Buddy to sit beside her.

"Their light really stands out against the dark shadows of the woods," said Daddy, "but you hardly notice them during the daytime when the sunlight is brighter than their light."

"What makes them give off light any way?" Buddy asked his daddy.

"Fireflies have a luminescent light which means that they radiate energy when tiny, tiny atoms undergo a change inside their lower body," said Daddy.

"Hum," said Buddy, trying to understand those important sounding words. Each one was quiet and thoughtful while they listened to the night creatures play their tunes and the nearby woods breath in the gentle wind.

Finally Buddy spoke again. "Do you know what a firefly makes me think about?" he asked. His parents didn't know, so he went on speaking. "Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world,' so I think of Jesus when I look at a firefly." Buddy held up his jar and looked at the three fireflies within. "Only there is just one Jesus and I have three fireflies. I guess they all can't remind me of Jesus."

"Well, Buddy," said Daddy, "you can call all your fireflies Christians, because followers of Jesus Christ are to be lights of the world also. Jesus is the main light like the sun. Where He shines, there is no darkness. When we get saved, Jesus' light comes to live in us and shine out into the dark world around us. Christians are to be lights for Jesus."

"I understand that," replied Buddy cheerfully. "Since Jesus died on the cross to wash away our sins, He can now come into our hearts to live. Jesus doesn't live in

a church building, but in the hearts of people who are saved and love Him."

"That's right, Buddy," agreed Daddy. "We need to keep our bodies dressed with modest clothes, bathe, wash and comb our hair. When we do this, we take care of the Lord's temple since Jesus lives in our bodies like our souls."

"I know," said Buddy. "We don't want the light of Jesus to leave us so we don't do anything that will put His light out. That means we don't tell dirty jokes, or lie, or steal, or do wicked things."

"Buddy, you have a good light of understanding," Mother said as she hugged him. "Bad thoughts and naughty actions do turn out the light of Jesus within us. Always keep the light of Jesus living within your heart and mind."

"I want to, Mother," replied Buddy. "Do you all think I ought to let my fireflies out of the jar since I don't know what to feed them and they will probably die in here?"

"That's a good idea," said Daddy. "Let them go out into the woods to help keep it lit."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Where was the tabernacle set up?
2. What was all around the tabernacle?
3. Why did the altar of burnt offering have a pole on each side?
4. What was filled with water?
5. Who washed in the laver?
6. How many rooms did the tabernacle have?
7. What was the first room called?
8. What was inside the ark?
9. Who filled the tabernacle with His glory?

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 ■ (Answers: 1. In the middle of the camp. 2. A court. 3. So the priests could carry it. 4. The laver. 5. The priests. 6. Two. 7. The holy place. 8. The Ten Commandments. 9. God.) ■
 ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Lesson Text: Exodus 40.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 June 28, 1992

THE CLOUD LIFTS

While the Children of Israel were still camped near Mount Sinai, God reminded Moses that it had been one year since the Israelites had eaten the Passover supper in Egypt. Every year the Israelites were to keep the Passover so they would never forget the night God delivered them out of Egypt.

Moses told the people that it was time to keep the Passover. So each family again prepared a supper like the one they had eaten one year before. On that night the death angel had gone through Egypt killing the firstborn in every house that did not have blood on the doorposts.

Some time after the Israelites had kept the Passover, the people saw the cloud lift from above the tabernacle and float slowly away. The people knew the Lord wanted them to break up camp and move. They had lived near Mount Sinai for nearly a year. The people were glad to again be on their way to the land God had promised them.

Each of the twelve tribes had a certain order in which to march. As the people prepared to leave, Moses talked to his father-in-law. He told him, "We are traveling to the place that God has promised us. Come with us and you will receive good. The Lord has promised good things for the Children of Israel."

"I won't go," Jethro answered. "I will go back to my home and my family." "Don't leave us," Moses begged. "We need you to guide us through the desert." But Jethro returned to his own home. When all was ready, the people began to march in order. First went the ark of the Lord. For three days the people marched as the cloud led the way across the desert. Finally the cloud stopped. There the people set up their tents and rested.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“Whether it was by day
was taken up, they**



by night that the cloud
rneyed.” (Num. 9:21)

The Hand of God

David felt uneasy. He had always thought of himself as big and tough so he did not really want to admit the uneasy feeling he felt, yet it was there just the same.

On a beach with his motorcycle gang. David told his buddies that he would be back in an hour. He wanted to be alone for awhile away from their drinking, smoking, and loud music. He didn't want them to detect the uneasy feeling that he had.

As he watched the white sea gulls swerve and dip in the gold and rust sunset, David wished he could be as free as they were. Two years ago when he finally left his hometown to cruise with "his good ole buddies," he had thought he would be free at last. He knew he was breaking his father and mother's heart, but they had hindered him from really having fun, so he thought.

His parents were always talking to him about God and how he needed God to control his life. He did not want someone else to ruin his life—he wanted to live it as he chose best. His mother had said she prayed for him constantly that the hand of the Lord would protect him and lead him back to safety before too late. Maybe that's why he felt so . . . David chuckled at the thought, trying to uproot and destroy the very memory of his mother's words.

David picked up a rock and threw it aimlessly into the ocean which was constantly rolling in big waves then slipping cowardly back again. What was there in life, anyway? He had tried it all in the fast hard life he was living. Nothing was exciting any more. He had lived to please himself, which he thought he had better do because no one else seemed to care to please him.

As David glanced up again into the sunset, he caught his breath. There plainly against the now crimson, fiery sunset was a white cloud in the shape of a big hand. His heartbeat quickened, but he could not move. He saw that big hand with its five fingers slowly move into the shape of a

hand with a pointing finger. It was pointing at him!

The hand began to melt away and the sun fell below the dark ocean line. Yet David stood there powerless to move. For the first time in his life, he felt God's presence. It was like God had pointed to him to turn from the burning torment his life was in. What should he do?

Then David could take it no longer. He crumpled down on the warm sandy beach and began to weep and call on God. After hard weeping for some time, David began to feel light and free like he could join the sea gulls in their flight. It was a peaceful lightness that he had never felt before. He was in awe of its quietness.

David arose to his feet, but he dreaded going back to his old friends. Now he felt like having a good long talk with a special older couple back home. He quickened his step. As soon as he could, he would be headed home. Mother would be pleased to see that God's hand had guided her son home.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Where were the children of Israel camped?
2. How long had it been since they had eaten the Passover supper?
3. How often were they to keep the Passover?
4. Who told them it was time to keep the Passover?
5. Who killed the firstborn of those who didn't have blood on their doorposts?
6. What lifted from above the tabernacle?
7. What did God want them to do?
8. Who did Moses ask to go with them?
9. How long did the people march?

(Answers: 1. Near Mount Sinai. 2. One year. 3. Every year. 4. God. 5. The death angel. 6. The cloud. 7. To break up camp and move. 8. His father-in-law. 9. Three days.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 9-10.