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# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 14    July 5, 1992

## THE PEOPLE COMPLAIN

As the Israelites rested in their tents, they were not thinking of how good God had been to free them from Egypt. Instead, they began to complain. God heard their complaining and it displeased Him so much that He sent fire into the camp. Some of the complainers were destroyed by the fire. When the people cried to Moses, he prayed to the Lord. Again God was merciful and the fire was put out.

But the people still had not learned to be thankful. Some time later they began to complain that they had no meat to eat. Instead of asking the Lord for meat, they grumbled, "We remember the fish we ate in Egypt. But now we have nothing to eat except this manna."

When God heard the people crying, He was very angry. Moses was also very displeased with the people. He asked the Lord, "Why must I try to lead this people? They cry to me for meat but where can I get meat to give all these people? It is too heavy a burden for me, I can not bear all these people alone."

God saw Moses needed help so He told him to choose seventy men from among the elders and officers of the people. God promised to enable these men to help lead the people.

Then God told Moses, "Tomorrow you will eat meat. You will not eat meat just one or two days, nor even five, ten, or twenty days. But you will have enough meat to last a whole month!"

Moses could not see how this would be possible, but the next day the Lord sent a wind that brought quail from the sea. So many quail fell in and all around the camp that the people worked all day and night and all the next day gathering them.

But God was still displeased with the complaining people. He sent a plague upon the people. As they ate the meat they had gathered, many of the people became very sick and died.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“And when the people complained, it displeased**



Lord.” (Num. 11:1)

## Be Content at the Table



"Is this all we have to eat?" grumbled Daisy as she took her place at the supper table. "You know I don't like barbequed chicken, and there are always onions in the scalloped potatoes. I think I'm going to bed. I don't feel like eating any supper tonight".

No one had been able to say anything because Daisy's grumbling had been non-stop since she had entered the dining room. "Good-night," was all Daddy said as Daisy stood up to leave the room. She paused a moment wanting Mother to insist that she stay to eat, but Mother did not say a word.

"Please give me some potatoes," said Mike, who was sitting in the high chair.

"First, we must have prayer and thank the Lord for our delicious supper," said Daddy.

Daisy stood in the doorway, frowning at the table. "May I bake one of those frozen pizzas in the oven?" Daisy asked Mother.

"No, Daisy," replied Mother. "Sit down at the table and bow your head. Daddy is ready to pray."

Daisy obeyed, but she did not quit grumbling.

Now do you think Daisy was in any frame of mind to pray? Daddy paused a moment and cleared his throat before he began.

"Our kind Heavenly Father, we thank thee for all thy many good blessings. Forgive those of us who grumble foolishly, not content with the rich benefits thou hast given us to enjoy. We thank thee that there is food to eat and that the family is healthy. Please accept our humble thanks, and continue to give us our daily bread, in Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

After Daddy's prayer, everyone but Daisy began to enjoy their meal. No one spoke to Daisy as she sat looking at her empty plate. Soon dinner was over.

"Come and help me with the dishes, Daisy," said Mother.

Daisy opened her mouth to grumble, but instead her stomach growled. Her stomach was so hungry that she could hardly go to sleep that night. It woke her up bright and early the next morning.

Daisy hurried to dress, then went to breakfast, but when she got there, nothing was left to eat.

"If you are hungry, Daisy, I will make some more scrambled eggs," said Mother. "Thank the Lord, we have more eggs."

Daisy was patiently waiting at the table when Mother brought her breakfast and reminded her to pray before eating.

"Dear Lord, we thank you for all you do for us. Thank you for the good food we have to eat. I'm sorry I grumbled about supper. Please forgive me. I want to be more thankful. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. What did the Israelites do as they rested in their tents?
2. Who heard them and was displeased?
3. What did God send into the camp?
4. Later, what did the people complain about?
5. What did they remember eating in Egypt?
6. How many men did God tell Moses to choose?
7. When did God say they would eat meat?
8. God would give them enough meat to last how long?
9. What did God send to bring quail from the sea?

(Answers: 1. They complained. 2. God. 3. Fire. 4. They had no meat to eat. 5. Fish. 6. Seventy. 7. The next day. 8. A month. 9. A wind.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 11.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## MIRIAM BECOMES A LEPER

Miriam, Moses' sister, and Aaron, his brother, had been a great help to Moses as he led the people out of Egypt. But Miriam and Aaron became jealous of Moses because he was great in the eyes of all the people. They also found fault with him for marrying a wife who was not an Israelite. Miriam and Aaron said, "Does the Lord speak only through Moses? Hasn't He spoken by us also?"

God heard their murmuring and was not pleased. If Moses heard them, he said nothing. Moses was a very meek man. He would always defend the name of the Lord, but he did not try to defend himself.

Suddenly the Lord called to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of the congregation." When they came to the tabernacle, the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle. From there He called for Aaron and Miriam. When they came forward He said, "If there is a prophet among you, I will make myself known to him in a vision and will speak to him in a dream. But Moses is different. Because he is faithful, I will speak mouth to mouth with him and he will see my likeness. Seeing he is special to me, how is it that you were not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"

In anger the Lord left them, and the cloud lifted. Aaron looked at Miriam. She had been stricken with the awful disease of leprosy! Immediately Aaron cried to Moses for mercy. "I beg you, my lord, do not lay this sin upon us. We have done foolishly and sinned."

Moses was touched at the sight of the awful disease on Miriam and Aaron's sorrow. He cried to the Lord, "Heal her now, O God, I beg you." God heard the prayer, but He did not take the leprosy away immediately. Miriam was shut out of the camp for seven days; because she had leprosy. After seven days God healed her.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“And, behold, Miriam became le**



is, white as snow.” (Num. 12:10)

## Do You Believe?

The panel of four doctors stood before Mr. and Mrs. Donner with grave faces. One doctor held charts and test result papers that told about Paul Donner, who was very sick in the hospital.

"We have the results from your son's tests," said the doctor with the papers. "From all symptoms and indications, it appears that Paul has a rare form of leukemia."

The doctors offered words of encouragement, stating that Paul could have the most up-to-date treatment—but basically his sickness was incurable.

"Paul has been through so much lately," said one doctor, "that we feel it would help his morale if he would go home for awhile."

Paul was so glad to be home! Though at times he felt weak and sick, still he was able to play with David, who lived next door.

While Paul and David were setting out their trucks and cars, Paul became tired and laid down on the couch nearby. David came to stand by his best friend.

"I am so sorry you are sick," said David. "I will pray for you. That is what we do when we are sick. Jesus has healed me every time I have been sick."

Paul smiled weakly. "All the doctors and nurses have been so kind. They are doing all they can to help me."

"Jesus can help you—I know He can!" exclaimed David, "but, Paul, you have to believe Jesus can heal you. Do you believe?"

"I guess I believe," replied Paul slowly, "but I don't think Jesus cares about me too much. He is so busy with everyone else, you know."

"No, He isn't too busy for you," insisted David. "We can have prayer right now, but I think the ministers need to pray for you, too."

Kneeling down by Paul who was still lying on the couch, David prayed earnestly for his

friend. After prayer, Paul felt like playing again for a while.

"I had better go home now; it's getting dark outside," said David. "I will ask Mother to call the ministers to come and pray for you."

Paul nodded his head and smiled. Unless a cure was found soon, his time on earth was short.

David requested prayer for Paul in children's meeting. He had the pastor come and visit Paul and pray with him. David's parents visited with Paul's parents, and they decided to take Paul to church with David.

Paul listened to the message about salvation, then he whispered to David, "I want to get saved like the minister said to do." So David led Paul down the aisle to the altar. After church, Paul said, "Now I do believe Jesus can heal me; because I know he saved my soul. Thank you, David, for telling me about Jesus!"  
—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Who was Miriam?
2. Who had been a great help to Moses?
3. Why were they jealous of Moses?
4. Who heard their murmuring?
5. What kind of a man was Moses?
6. Who did God call to the tabernacle?
7. How did God say He would speak with Moses?
8. What happened to Miriam?
9. How long was Miriam shut out of the camp?

(Answers: 1. Moses' sister, 2. Miriam and Aaron, 3. Because he was great in the eyes of all the people, 4. God, 5. He was a very meek man, 6. Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, 7. Mouth to mouth, 8. She was struck with leprosy, 9. Seven days.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 12.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## THE TWELVE SPIES

The Children of Israel traveled again after Miriam was brought back into camp. The next place they camped was in the wilderness of Paran. Now they were very close to Canaan, the land God had promised them. One more march could take them to the end of their long trip.

The land of Canaan was not empty. Although God had promised it to the Israelites, people were living there who had been there for many years. These people had built fine cities and had rich gardens. God wanted the Israelites to conquer these people. God intended to fight for them and give them these good homes to live in.

One day the Lord spoke to Moses and said, "Send men that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give to the children of Israel. Choose a leader from every tribe of Israel."

Moses did as God commanded. He chose men who were leaders of their tribe, twelve men in all, and sent them to spy out the land which God had promised to give the Israelites. He instructed them, "Go up into the mountain and see what the land is like. See whether the people who live there are strong or weak, few or many. See if the land is good or bad, and see if the people live in tents or in cities that are strongholds. Be of good courage and bring back some of the fruit of the land."

The spies left their camp and went up and searched the land. For forty days they walked through Canaan to see what kind of place it was and what kind of people lived there.

The spies remembered Moses' instruction to bring back some of the fruit of the land, so before returning to their camp they cut down a branch with one cluster of grapes. This one cluster was so large they put a pole through the branch so two men could carry it. They also brought back pomegranates and figs.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





**“Send thou men, that they may  
search the land of Canaan.”  
(Num. 13:2)**

## Guarding Mansoul

In the great big space called Universe, on the planet Earth, there was a city named Mansoul, which was made to worship and serve the King who created all things.

Mansoul was a beautiful town with flowers of purity and innocence perfuming the air.

A tall thick wall encircled Mansoul to protect it from any intruding strangers. The only way to enter Mansoul was through one of its three gates: ear-gate, mouth-gate, eye-gate. Captain Resistance guarded these gates carefully as the King had told him to do.

One day a stranger gracefully glided to ear-gate and began to speak with smooth and flattering words.

"Captain Resistance, come visit with me," called the stranger. "You are such a good strong man. It is a shame that your King makes you obey so many strict rules. If you were serving the Master I serve, you would be free to do as you please. I rest when I choose, and I don't bother about watching any gates."

"What is your name?" asked Captain Resistance through mouth-gate.

"You mean you don't know who I am?" asked the stranger in surprise. "Perhaps you would like to meet my children?"

So saying, the stranger put his fingers to his lips and whistled shrilly. Immediately some of his children appeared.

Pretty little Lust fluttered daintily before eye-gate; which distracted Captain Resistance from his duty at ear-gate.

Captain Resistance told the stranger to take his children and leave right away.

"Oh, you just don't realize how much your King keeps you from the pleasures of this lovely earth," sighed the stranger.

"If you desire to visit with me or anyone else in the city, I believe you had better ask our King first," replied Captain Resistance.

Suddenly Captain Resistance noticed the flowers of purity and innocence wilting by the eye-gate which had seen Lust dancing before it. Now Captain Resistance was sure this stranger and his children would be harmful to the beautiful city of Mansoul. He summoned the Kneelers to ring the Bells of Prayer and call for the King's help.

Without another word, the stranger whistled to his children and then disappeared into a nearby valley.

When the King came, he said to Captain Resistance, "You did right by calling me. That stranger was the Devil who destroys every city that he enters. Keep diligent watch and always call me when a stranger comes; only I have the power to keep Mansoul safe from the Devil." —Connie Sorrell



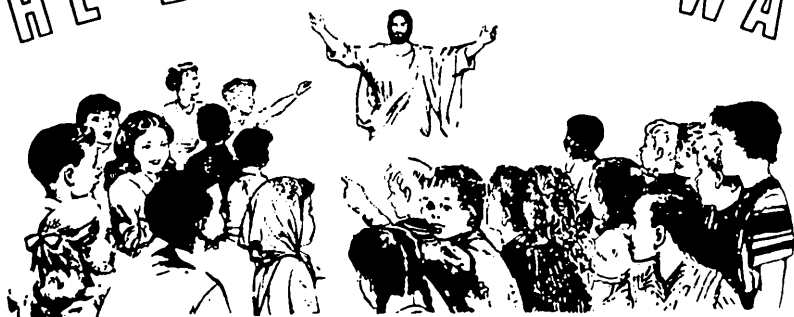
### Questions:

1. What land were the Israelites close to when they camped in Paran?
2. How many more marches would it take to reach the promised land?
3. Who built fine cities in Canaan?
4. What did God want the Israelites to do with these people?
5. Who told Moses to send men to search the land of Canaan?
6. How many men did Moses choose?
7. How long did the spies walk through Canaan?
8. What did Moses tell the spies to bring back with them?
9. How many men carried the cluster of grapes?

(Answers: 1. Canaan. 2. One. 3. The people who lived there. 4. To conquer them and take their cities. 5. The Lord. 6. Twelve. 7. Forty days. 8. Some of the fruit of the land. 9. Two.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 13:1-25.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## THE SPIES' REPORT

The spies had been gone from camp forty days. At last the Israelites saw them coming. Everyone was anxious to hear what they had to say and to see the wonderful fruit they had brought from Canaan. They had never seen such a huge cluster of grapes!

The spies came to Moses and Aaron, and all the people gathered around to hear what they had to say. Ten of the spies began to tell the people what they had seen. They said, "We came to the land of Canaan where you sent us. It surely is a rich land that flows with milk and honey. This is some of the fruit we picked there."

"But," they continued, "The people who live there are very strong. They live in cities that are very great and have strong walls all around them." The spies went on to name all the tribes of people who lived in Canaan: the Amalekites who lived in the south; the Hittites, Jebusites, and the Amorites who lived in the mountains; and the Canaanites who lived by the sea and along the coast of Jordan. "And besides all this," they continued, "We saw giants living there!"

As the people listened to the report of the ten spies, they became more and more fearful. Finally Caleb, one of the spies who had not spoken, quieted the people. "Let us go up at once and possess this wonderful land," he encouraged the people, "for we are well able to overcome it!"

But the ten spies answered, "We are not able to go up against the people. They are stronger than we are. All the people we saw there were so large they made us look like grasshoppers!"

Only two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought a good report of the land God had given the Israelites. The other ten refused to believe that God would give them this wonderful land.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“They brought up a  
which they had seen**



vil report of the land  
hed.” (Num. 13:32)



## Little-Faith

In *The Pilgrims's Progress*, Christian, who is on his journey to the Heavenly City, tells Hopeful a story about a friend of his named Little-Faith. Let us listen in and hear what Christian has to say about Little-Faith.

"As I walk past this place in the road, I remember what happened here to my friend, Little-Faith. He was a good man and traveled this narrow way also, but he never did recover from the robbery that took place here on his journey.

"Little-Faith had just awakened from a good sound nap when three, big, mean brothers came and caught him from behind. Faint-Heart held up a club and Mistrust tied his hands, while Guilt stood before him with a sneering look.

"'Hand over your purse of money,' said Faint-Heart," but before Little-Faith could do it, Mistrust had grabbed the purse of money from his pocket.

"'Look at all this silver!' laughed Mistrust. 'This will feed us for a few days.'

"'Stop, thieves, stop!' cried Little-Faith.

"Then Guilt bellowed an ugly roar and hit Little-Faith over the head with his big club, causing him to fall to the ground.

"Suddenly they heard someone coming down the road, and the three robbers fled back to Dead-Man's Lane, which, in turn, led to the Broad Way. It was Great-Grace who came to help Little-Faith on his way."

"Did Little-Faith leave the narrow way?" asked Hopeful. "Did he ever recovered from the blow and the loss of money?"

"Great-Grace nursed Little-Faith and helped him," continued Christian, "but Little-Faith kept picking at his wound and wouldn't let it heal."

"Poor man," said Hopeful.

There was silence for a moment as Christian and Hopeful each thought about Little-

Faith. If Little-Faith would have let the wound on his head heal, then he could have been happier along the narrow way.

"What about Great-grace?" asked Hopeful. "I wish to be sturdy and firm like he is."

"Yes, so do I," replied Christian. "He is one of the King's Champions. He is a full-grown man who has been through many battles, and every time wins the victory. He knows the Good Book through and through and can use that sword very wisely. As we grow in spiritual things and have learning experiences, we can be like him. Let us take time right now to study the Good Book and learn how to use it skillfully. We need not be like Faint-Heart, but we can be like Great-Grace if we put forth the effort." —Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

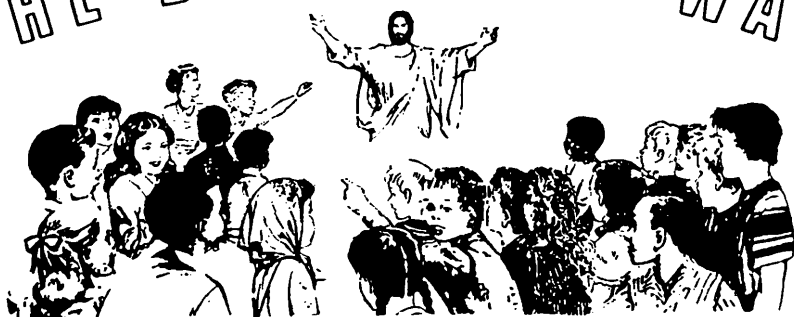
1. How long had the spies been gone from camp?
2. What were the people anxious to see?
3. How many spies first began to tell about what they had seen?
4. What kind of land did they say Canaan was?
5. What kind of people did they say lived there?
6. What did the Canaanite cities have around them?
7. Who quieted the people?
8. Why did the ten spies say they looked like grasshoppers?
9. How many spies brought a good report?

(Answers: 1. Forty days. 2. The wonderful fruit from Canaan. 3. Ten. 4. A rich land. 5. Very strong people. 6. Strong walls. 7. Caleb. 8. Because the people in Canaan were so large. 9. Two.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 13:26-33.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## THE ISRAELITES REBEL

When the Children of Israel heard the evil report of ten of the men who had gone to spy out the land of Canaan, they were so frightened they began to cry with loud voices. They would not listen to Joshua and Caleb's good report, and seemed to forget all about the many times God had fought their battles and delivered them from their enemies. All night long they cried; then they began to murmur. "We wish we had died in the land of Egypt," they complained. "Why has the Lord brought us to this land to be killed? We were better off in Egypt."

The people were so discouraged they began to make plans how they could go back to Egypt. "Let us choose a captain to lead us, and let's return to Egypt," they said.

When Moses and Aaron heard their plan, they fell on their faces. Joshua and Caleb, the two faithful spies, tore their clothes; because they knew the plan was very evil. They told the people, "The land which we searched out is an exceedingly good land. If the Lord is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us. But don't rebel against the Lord. Don't fear the people of Canaan. They will only be bread for us. They have no one to defend them; but the Lord is with us."

But the people were rebellious and wanted to stone Joshua and Caleb for telling the truth. Suddenly the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle before all the people. God told Moses He would destroy all the people. Moses begged Him not to destroy them, so for Moses' sake God spared the people. But He said that not one of the rebellious people would ever enter Canaan or even see it. Only Caleb, Joshua, and the children who were under twenty years of age would be able to enter the promised land. All those who had rebelled would die there in the wilderness.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

# REBELLION

is as the  
sin of witchcraft.



“A

an

**they said one to another,  
let us make a captain,  
let us return into Egypt.”**

**(Num. 14:4)**



## One Disobedience

Mother and Daddy were planning an evening out together for their wedding anniversary. Carefully and sternly they instructed their four children how to behave and obey the babysitter.

"There shall be no bossing or fussing," said Daddy. "I want you to be very nice to Aunt Hilda and play the games she has planned for you all."

Just then they heard the door bell ring. Aunt Hilda was there. The children said hello to Aunt Hilda and good-bye to Mother and Daddy. Then the long evening began.

"Daddy said we can enjoy ourselves, so let's pop some popcorn and have ice cream," said Tim.

Aunt Hilda wasn't sure; because Mother had not mentioned anything about those snacks. "I tell you what we'll do," said Aunt Hilda, "if you will play this game without fussing, then we will have some milk with the cookies I brought. If there is any fussing, we will have no snacks, but go to bed early."

The children enjoyed the games that Aunt Hilda had brought.

"You all have been so good!" exclaimed Aunt Hilda. "Now it is time for snacks before we say evening prayers."

Right then the telephone rang, calling Aunt Hilda away to a bedroom for a few minutes' private discussion. While she was gone, Tim got out the popcorn popper.

"Now, Tim, you know we are to just have cookies and milk," said Trina.

Tim went ahead and plugged in the corn popper and found the popcorn.

"Aunt Hilda told us not to get into the popcorn and ice cream," insisted Trina.

Tim put lots of oil in the popper and poured plenty of popcorn into the oil. Trina went to find Aunt Hilda while the boys waited for the popcorn to pop.

Aunt Hilda was almost ready to hang up the phone. "I smell something hot," she whispered to Trina. "What is it?"

"Popcorn," replied Trina. "The boys are making popcorn."

Aunt Hilda hung up the phone in a hurry.

"Boys, why are you disobeying me when I said plainly that I had cookies and milk and we were not to dirty the kitchen with popcorn clutter?" she asked.

"Tim, I will have to tell your parents about your disobedience," said Aunt Hilda. "I asked you not to make popcorn, but you refused to obey. This one sin of rebellion mars your good record of obedience for this evening."

—Connie Sorrell

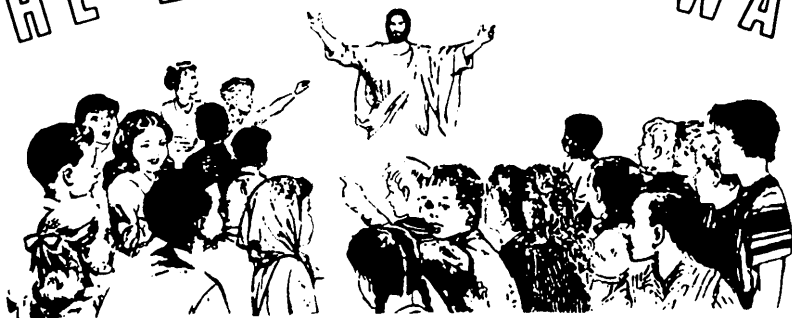
### Questions:

1. How many spies brought an evil report?
2. What did the people make plans to do?
3. What did Moses and Aaron do when they heard the plan?
4. Why did Joshua and Caleb tear their clothes?
5. What kind of land did Joshua and Caleb say Canaan was?
6. Who did they say would give them the land?
7. What did the people want to do to Joshua and Caleb?
8. What did God want to do to the rebellious people?
9. Who would get to go to Canaan?

(Answers: 1. Ten. 2. To go back to Egypt. 3. They fell on their faces. 4. They knew the plan was very evil. 5. An exceedingly good land. 6. God. 7. They wanted to stone them. 8. He wanted to destroy them. 9. Joshua, Caleb, and the children under twenty years of age.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 14:1-32.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 19    Aug. 9, 1992

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## A LOSING BATTLE

God did not destroy the people for their great sin of rebellion; because Moses begged Him to have mercy and spare them. But He would not allow them to enter the beautiful land that He had promised them. Instead, He commanded the people to turn back into the wilderness and away from the land of Canaan.

"You will not come into the land, except for Caleb and Joshua and your little ones. As for you, you will die in this wilderness, and your children will wander in the wilderness forty years, a year for every day that the spies were in Canaan," God told the rebellious people.

Then God sent a plague upon the ten spies who made the people murmur by their evil report, and they died. When the people heard that they would not be allowed to enter Canaan but must instead turn back into the wilderness, they were very sad and began to mourn. But they still would not obey the Lord—they decided to go to Canaan anyway.

Early the next morning they marched to the top of the mountain. "We are already so close to Canaan that we will go up to the place God has promised us," they said.

Moses asked them, "Why are you going to disobey the commandment of the Lord? Don't go into Canaan. The Lord is not with you, and you will be killed by your enemies. Because you have turned away from the Lord, He will not fight your battles for you."

But the people went on anyway, refusing to listen to Moses' warning. Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites, who lived in that mountain, came against them and fought with them. Without the Lord to help them, their enemies easily won the battle.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“Go not up, for the Lord is not among you  
that ye be not smitten before your enemies**

**(Num. 14**





## The Trail of Tears

The very first people to live on American soil were the Indians. These people did not know about the true God who had created them nor about his Son, Jesus, who had died for their sins. After white men came to live in America during the 1500's, missionaries began to teach the Indians about the true God and His Son, Jesus Christ. Not all Indian tribes would accept the true God, but one tribe, the Cherokees, began to believe in God and pray to Jesus. The Cherokee Indians lived a civilized peaceful life with all their neighbors.

One day, Little Crow, a Cherokee boy, ran into the house which his father had built. "Mother," he called, "we learned a new letter in school today. Let me teach it to you. Mother, why are you crying? What's wrong, Mother?"

"Wash your hands, Son, and come to the table. We will not discuss problems with an empty stomach," said Mother as she glanced at Father who was already at the table.

Little Crow obeyed, and when seated bowed his head while Father thanked God for the food. After supper, Father expressed his concern about a new law.

"I am afraid the Indian Removal Act will cause us to lose our home and farm," he said. "We will stay with our home and pray to God that President Jackson will change his mind. Some white men do not fear the true God nor live by His just laws. Let us pray."

A year later, Little Crow was with his family eating supper at the same table. They had just thanked the Lord for the meat, corn bread, and milk when suddenly some white soldiers burst through the door. Little Crow cried out in alarm, but his parents looked up peacefully.

"Gather what clothes you need and move outside," ordered the leader of the soldiers.

Little Crow began to cry, and Mother hugged him tightly as they moved outside. "I didn't get to finish my corn bread," he wailed. "I'm still hungry."

"Enough of the crying—get moving!" ordered the soldier. With other Indians, they walked for many miles until they reached a rough stockade. Here they spent a long hard winter, and Little Crow was cold and hungry most of the time. All of the Cherokees were forced to move across the southern United States and into Indian Territory 1000 miles away from their

native homes and farms. It was hot and steamy, and a disease called smallpox attacked the Indians. Like most of the Indian children, Little Crow became sick. His father carried him and he prayed, "Lord Jesus, please help my little son. Please don't let him die on this long torturous journey. Please give Little Crow strength to live and see the new land the Cherokees are to own."

Hundreds of Indians died along that trail, and the Indians cried as they dug shallow graves to bury their family and friends. This journey is still called the "Trail of Tears." It killed many Indians, and it did not help the American government either. It was a sad move.

"Little Crow, here is some warm chicken broth," said Mother. "Open your eyes and see our new land. Here, drink, and may God give you strength with each sip."

Weakly, Little Crow obeyed. He saw the sun smiling on the prairie grasses waving in the wind. He heard the birds singing in the trees by the creek, and he thanked God for saving his life.

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

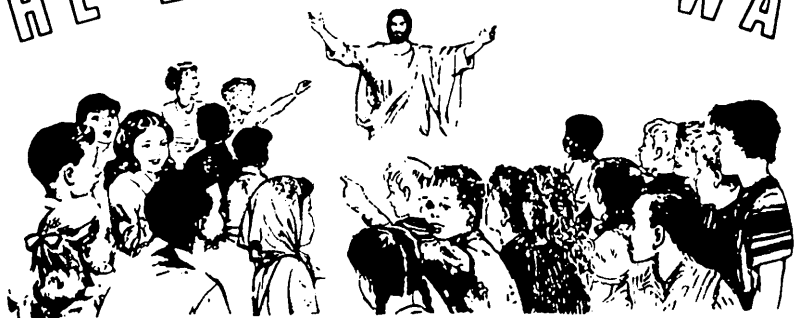
1. Why didn't God destroy the people for their great sin?
2. What would God not allow the people to do?
3. What did God command the people to do?
4. Who would get to go to Canaan?
5. How long would their children wander in the wilderness?
6. What happened to the ten spies?
7. What did the people decide to do?
8. Who warned them not to go?
9. Who won the battle?

(Answers: 1. Because Moses begged Him to have mercy and spare them. 2. To go to Canaan. 3. To turn back into the wilderness. 4. Caleb, Joshua, and the children who were under twenty years of age. 5. For forty years. 6. God sent a plague upon them, and they died. 7. To go to Canaan anyway. 8. Moses. 9. Their enemies.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 14:32-45.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    **Primaries**    (USPS549-000)    Part 20    Aug. 16, 1992

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## KORAH IS PUNISHED

Korah became very jealous of Moses and Aaron. Soon Korah found others who also felt they could lead the people just as well as Moses and Aaron. Dathan and Abiram along with two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly gathered against Moses and Aaron and accused them of lifting themselves up over the congregation.

When Moses heard their words, he fell upon his face in fear for them. He knew they were really speaking against God. Moses told Korah, "Tomorrow the Lord will show whom He has chosen. Take censers and put fire in them and incense, and bring them before the Lord."

The next day every man took his censer as Moses commanded and stood in the door of the tabernacle with Moses and Aaron. And Korah had all the congregation gather around the door of the tabernacle. Then the Lord told Moses and Aaron, "Separate yourselves from this congregation, so I may destroy them in a moment."

But Moses and Aaron fell on their faces and said, "O God, will you be angry with the whole congregation because of one man's sin?"

Then the Lord told Moses to warn the people to get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. When the people had moved away, Moses spoke to them. "You will see that the Lord has sent me to lead the people, and I have not made myself leader. If these men die a natural death, then the Lord has not sent me. But if the Lord causes the earth to swallow them up, then you will understand that these men have spoken against the Lord."

As soon as Moses stopped speaking, the ground where the evil men stood split open. All the men, their houses, and everything they owned were swallowed up; in the tabernacle a fire from the Lord burned up the two hundred and fifty men as they offered incense. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell



**“The earth  
opened  
her mouth,  
and  
swallowed  
them up.”**

**(Num. 16:32)**





## Mad Man

On April 20, 1889, a baby boy was born to German parents who lived in Austria, a country in Europe.

Early in life, the boy showed signs of a bad temper and never liked for anyone to disagree with him. When he became a young man, he decided to become educated in art and applied to the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. After taking an entry test, he was told, "You do not have talent to be an artist. Sorry, you can not be a student here."

"I will just become an artist, support myself, and be my own boss," declared the proud rebellious young man. And that is just what he did.

For a few years, he barely survived with such jobs as painting and selling postcards.

He lived in a "flop house" and passed his spare time reading newspapers and library books about occultism, hypnotism, and witchcraft. He had a good memory about what he read and enjoyed one-sided debates where he could draw attention to himself.

One day, his father was riding his bicycle home from work when a Jew in an automobile accidentally hit his father and killed him. The young man was very angry at the Jew who had enough money to buy a car when his father only had a bicycle. From then on he blamed the poverty about him on the "wealthy Jews," which was not the true reason.

When World War I broke out in 1914, this young man became a dispatch runner during the entire war. Though he was given a couple of honors, he never became an important officer, because he had such a violent temper and stubborn nature.

After the war, he decided to become a part of Germany's government. He had German blood in him, and he was mad that Germany had lost the war.

He began to speak before German soldiers, telling them that they had fought well and deserved a victory. He told them that they had not lost because they lacked bravery, but because certain rich people held back money that kept the government from advancing. This was a lie against the Jews.

He spoke with such force that he persuaded soldiers, generals, and government

officials to believe him. He worked on people's emotions and put fear in them if they even hinted that they disagreed. He insisted on having his way and finally, with sly craftiness, he became the *fuehrer*, or main ruler of Germany.

Before huge crowds of German people, he said: "You are great people and deserve better than you've had since the war. Listen to me, obey me, and I will lead you to a better life. Let us unite as one to bring about a strong Germany!"

The huge crowds of people cheered and soon were chanting: "Hail, Adolf Hitler!" for that was the *fuehrer's* name.

Hitler's temper, greed, and pride started World War II. Not only was Hitler a miserable man, but in twelve long years of ruling he destroyed billions of lives, ruined hundreds of cities, and left not one friend or relative to mourn his death. He took his own life before someone else could.

If Hitler could have learned obedience and self-control when he was a child, many innocent people would have been spared much cruelty.

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Who became jealous of Moses?
2. What did Moses do when he heard the words of the wicked men?
3. Who were the men really speaking against?
4. What did Moses say the Lord would show the people?
5. Why did God tell Moses and Aaron to separate from the people?
6. Who fell on their faces to pray for the people?
7. Whose tents did Moses warn the people to get away from?
8. What happened to them and their tents?
9. What happened to the two hundred and fifty men?

(Answers: 1. Korah. 2. He fell on his face. 3. God. 4. Whom He had chosen. 5. So He could destroy the people. 6. Moses and Aaron. 7. From Korah, Dathan, and Abiram's tents. 8. The earth swallowed them. 9. A fire from the Lord burned them up.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 16:1-35.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 21    Aug. 23, 1992

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## GOD SENDS A PLAGUE

When the earth split open, swallowing those who spoke against Moses and Aaron, all the people of Israel ran. They could hear the cries of the wicked men as they fell into the gaping earth. They watched in horror as the ground closed on them, burying them alive. They were afraid they would be swallowed up too.

Yet the very next day, the congregation of the Children of Israel gathered against Moses and Aaron. "You have killed the people of the Lord," they murmured.

As the people spoke, they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation. There they saw the cloud covering it, and the glory of the Lord appeared.

When Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of the congregation, the Lord spoke to Moses and said, "Get away from this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment." When Moses and Aaron heard this, they fell on their faces for fear.

Then Moses told Aaron, "Take a censer, and put fire in it from the altar. Go quickly to the congregation and make an atonement for them. The Lord's anger has brought an awful plague, and it is already on the people."

Aaron did as Moses commanded and ran into the middle of the congregation. He could see that the plague had begun among the people. Quickly he put on incense and made an atonement for the people. Then he stood between those who had already died of the plague and those who were still alive. Because he had made an atonement, the plague was stopped.

Fourteen thousand and seven hundred men died because they murmured against Moses and Aaron. Aaron went back to Moses at the door of the tabernacle and no one else died from the plague.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“They that died  
in the plague  
were 14,700.”  
(Num. 16:49)**





# Following the Wrong



When Hitler came to power in Germany in 1933, he surrounded himself with so-called friends who agreed with his ideas. Several wicked men worked with Hitler to lie about the Jews who had not caused any trouble, and to build up an army to harm other countries.

One man, Goebbels, wrote flattering reports about Hitler in his newspaper. He wrote: "Not only does he (Hitler) always make the right decisions about every question, but he is a person of quite unusual kindness, and such a splendid comrade (friend) that he captures everybody who comes within his sight."

Goebbels lied about Hitler because he wanted ruling power with him. He also retold the lies that Hitler told about the Jews causing trouble. When the German people read Goebbels' newspaper reports, they believed him; because they had not heard the truth.

Goring was another man who followed Hitler. He was a marshal who brought other men into Hitler's circle. He loved money and power. While Goring was becoming rich, millions of other people in his country were driven out of their homes and left penniless. Goring did not care about others—he was greedy. This man was following the wrong way.

Himmler was another very cruel man who is responsible for taking millions of lives. He had other men under him who were just as destructive. Himmler had a heart of stone.

Because Hitler and his followers wanted power, they began to take control of other countries around them. At first it seemed they would get what they wanted—supreme control of Europe. However, England, Russia, and America united together to stop these wicked men and their armies. History records this as World War II.

War is a terrible destructive monster. Though one side may "win," everyone suffers because of the loss of lives and the destruction to the cities and lands.

Pray for the rulers of all countries that they will not use their power to destroy lives.

Hitler and his followers did terrible things and thought they would get by. Then in June, 1944, Hitler's circle of followers began to realize they were losing. They did not have enough soldiers and weapons to keep fighting, but Hitler would not surrender or give up.

Then on May 8, 1945, Hitler took his own life; because he knew he would not win the war he had started. Goring was arrested by the Americans and was punished for his crimes. Goebbels, the newspaper reporter who told so many lies, took his life. Himmler was arrested, but he took poison to end his own life. Today, these men are punished in the Lake of Fire where liars, thieves, murderers, and all unclean people go.

Keep your heart clean from all the wickedness in this world. Do not follow someone who does not follow Jesus and His Holy Word. Follow Jesus and you will be spared the punishment that Hitler and his followers are suffering right now in eternity.

—Connie Sorrell

## Questions:

1. What did the people do when they saw the earth split open?
2. What were they afraid of?
3. What did the congregation of the people do the very next day?
4. What did they say Moses and Aaron had done?
5. What covered the tabernacle as the people murmured?
6. Who did God tell to get away from the congregation?
7. What was God going to do?
8. Why was the plague stopped?
9. How many men died because they murmured?

(Answers: 1. They ran. 2. They were afraid they would be swallowed up too. 3. They murmured against Moses and Aaron. 4. They said they had killed the people of the Lord. 5. The cloud. 6. Moses and Aaron. 7. He was going to consume the people. 8. Because Aaron made an atonement for the people. 9. Fourteen thousand seven hundred.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 16:41-50.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    **Primaries**    (USPS549-000)    Part 22    Aug. 30, 1992

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## AARON'S ROD

The Children of Israel had accused Moses and Aaron of putting themselves over the people to lead them. God wanted to prove that He had chosen Aaron to be the priest. So the Lord spoke to Moses and said, "Speak to the Children of Israel and have them take a rod; one for each tribe of Israel. Write the name of the prince of each tribe on the rods. You will write Aaron's name upon the rod of the tribe of Levi.

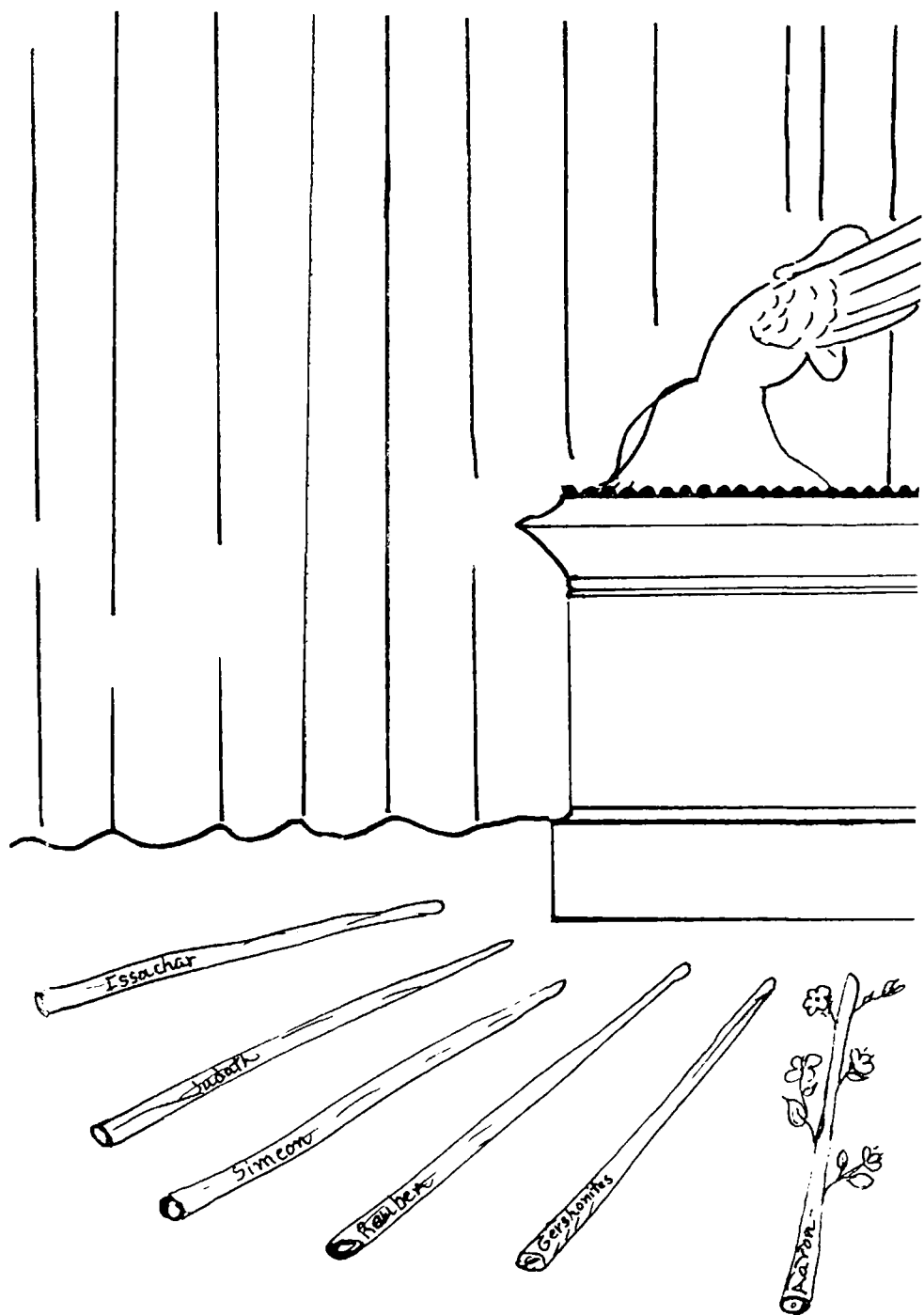
"Lay the rods in the tabernacle of the congregation before the testimony, where I will meet with you. It will come to pass that the man's rod whom I choose will blossom. Then I will make the murmurings of the Children of Israel against you to come to an end by proving whom I have chosen."

Moses told the Children of Israel what God had said, and every prince gave him a rod to represent their tribe. Aaron's rod was among them, making twelve in all. Next, Moses laid the rods before the Lord in the tabernacle.

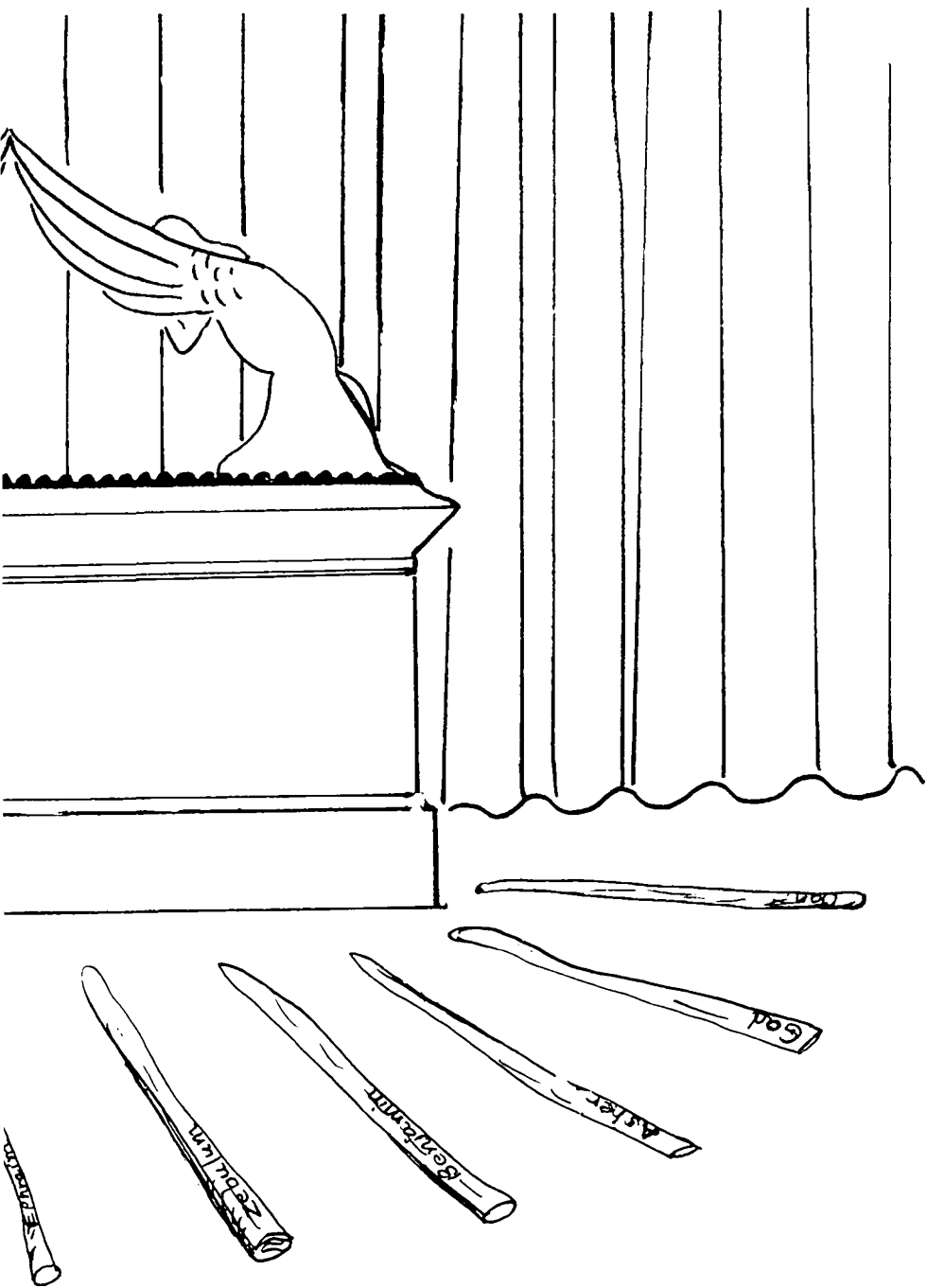
The next day, Moses went into the tabernacle and looked at the rods. He saw that Aaron's rod had budded. On it he saw not only buds, but flowers and almonds too! Moses brought all the rods out before the people, giving the rods back to the prince of each tribe. As the people looked, they saw that Aaron's rod was the only one that had budded and grown almonds. This was God's way of showing whom He had chosen.

The Lord told Moses to put Aaron's rod back in the tabernacle where it would be kept. This was to always be a sign to the people to keep them from rebelling against the Lord again. When the people began murmuring, the rod would be proof that the Lord Himself had chosen Moses and Aaron.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



“Bring Aaron’s rod before the testimony, to be



t for a token against the rebels.” (Num. 17:10).

## Obeying God's Word

After a quiet supper of cabbage soup, Father called all his family into the sitting room for family worship.

"Children," said Father, "I want to read to you from Luke 10:30-37 about the good Samaritan who helped the poor man who had been beaten and robbed. The Samaritan took time to be kind, and Jesus tells us to be this way also."

Father read from his German Bible about how two men turned away from the poor bleeding man, but the Samaritan, when he came by, had compassion on the hurt man. He dressed and bound up his wounds, put him on his own donkey, and took him to a nearby inn for care. The Samaritan paid for his stay at the inn as if this poor man was a family member. What a wonderful friend the good Samaritan had been to a total stranger!

"I want to be like that good Samaritan," said Father. "I do not plan to hurt anyone because they have different family blood lines than I do. I shall be kind to those who are hurting around me and do what I can to spare their lives."

All six of the Schindler children and their mother were quiet as they heard their father speak. They knew their German father was disagreeing with Hitler's firm decrees that the Jews were bad people. Father would be in danger of arrest.

"Father, we do not want to see you taken from us," cried Hans, the youngest son. "Couldn't you just let the government do with the Jews what it wants?"

"No, my son, God's laws are higher than man's laws. When governments make laws that disagree with God's Holy Word, then it is a Christian's duty to obey God's Holy Word instead. "Let us pray for ourselves that we will have the strength and courage to obey God. Pray for the poor suffering Jews and our fellow Christians in our country, and pray for the rulers of our country that they will stop their cruel destruction." Father brushed a tear from his eye as he led the family in prayer.

Soon Father was hiding strangers in a secret trap door under the kitchen table. He did not tell the children about all the things

he was doing, but they knew their father was a brave man to help these poor people.

Father was the owner and manager of a large enamel factory in Cracow, Germany. One day when he heard that a police raid would take place that night in the living area of the Jews, Father insisted that his factory workers must work all night. In this way, he saved the lives of those Jews working in his factory.

Every evening, the Schindler family would read a short portion of the Scriptures and pray for protection before they would go to bed. They knew that this was against the laws of their country, but they were trusting in God.

Every time the police raided Father's enamel factory, he was able to hide those in danger. At least 1100 people have thanked Oskar Schindler for saving their lives from destruction. He was one of many German Christian heroes who stood for what is right and just in God's sight. Because of his obedience, God spared his life and family, even though they lived in constant danger for several years.

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. What did God want to prove to the people?
2. What was the prince of each tribe to bring?
3. Whose name was to be written on the rod of Levi?
4. Where was Moses to lay the rods?
5. How many rods did Moses lay in the tabernacle?
6. When did Moses go back to look at the rods?
7. What did Moses see on Aaron's rod?
8. Why did Moses put Aaron's rod back in the tabernacle?
9. The rod was to prove that the Lord had chosen whom?

(Answers: 1. That He had chosen Aaron to be priest. 2. A rod. 3. Aaron's. 4. In the tabernacle. 5. Twelve. 6. The next day. 7. Buds, flowers, and almonds. 8. For a sign to the people. 9. Moses and Aaron.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 17.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 23    Sept. 6, 1992

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## WATER FROM A ROCK

After the people believed the evil report of the ten spies, God commanded them to turn back into the desert. They were on the very border of Canaan, but they could not go on; because they had rebelled.

The Children of Israel traveled until they came to the desert of Zin. In a place called Kadesh, they set up camp. Here Miriam, Moses' sister, died and was buried.

Before long, the people discovered there was no water for them and their animals in this place. They gathered together and went to Moses and Aaron to complain to them. "We wish we had died when our brothers did. Why have you brought us to this place to die? Why did you make us leave Egypt to come to this bad place where nothing will grow and there is no water to drink?"

Moses and Aaron listened to the people's complaints. Then they went to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and here they fell on their faces before the Lord. They knew that only the Lord could supply water in the desert for so many people and their animals.

Soon the glory of the Lord appeared to them, and the Lord spoke. "Take the rod, and gather all the people together, you, and Aaron, your brother, and speak to the rock before the people. The rock will give water. You will give the people and their animals water out of the rock."

Moses took the rod as God had said. He and Aaron gathered the congregation together in front of the rock. Then Moses said, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring water out of this rock for you?" Then Moses hit the rock two times with his rod.

Water came gushing out. There was plenty of water for all the people and their animals to drink.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





**“Moses lifted up his  
hand, and with his  
rod he smote  
the rock twice:  
and the water came  
out abundantly.”**

**(Num. 20:11)**

## Water for the Lake

"Ryan, let's make a road over this way," said Scott as he scooped a narrow trail in the dirt with a cupped hand.

Scott and Ryan were building roads for their trucks and cars in their backyard.

Two big friendly sycamore trees shaded most of the yard where the two brothers spent many happy hours. Mother had told the boys they could make their roads in the corner of the yard by the shed. She told them not to dig into any grass and to stay away from her flower beds. Sometimes she peeked out her kitchen window to check on the boys.

"Let's put a lake right here," said Scott. "That way my house will be right on the lake. We can go fishing then."

Ryan looked at the grassy place which Scott pointed to.

"I don't think Mother would like for us to put it there," he said. "That would dig up some of the grass, and it is by her flower bed."

"We can be careful with the grass and plant it back when we are through," said Scott.

"Okay," said Ryan.

"Why don't we put some water in the lake," suggested Scott. "It isn't really a lake without water."

"I know, but Mother doesn't like for us to play in the water," said Ryan. "She told us not to get muddy. We can just pretend there is water in the lake."

"We aren't going to play in the water," objected Scott. "The lake is too little. If we don't get muddy, Mother won't care if our lake has water."

"Okay," said Ryan, as usual. He picked up the sand pail and went to the outside water faucet. After three pailfuls of water, the lake was finally holding water, but the water did not stay. It sunk into the ground!

"What shall we do to make the water stay?" asked Ryan.

The boys thought for awhile, then Scott had an idea. "I know!" he said. "Plastic will hold water. Go get a plastic trash bag! Then we will lay it at the bottom of the lake and it will keep the water from leaking out."

Ryan hurried to get the plastic bag. He slipped into the house and came back outside with it. "Here, Ryan, hold the bag over

there while I pull it over here. Oops! Don't slide in the mud! Ryan, look at your feet!" Ryan looked down at the mud between his toes.

"I had better wash this off before Mother sees it," he said, "and I'll bring some more water for the lake."

As Ryan was coming back with a pailful of water, Scott did not see him and they bumped into each other. Splash! went the water over both boys.

"Help!" yelled Scott, as he sat down hard in the lake.

Mother heard Scott, and she came to the back door to see what was the matter.

"Boys! Why are you digging holes by my flower bed?" she asked. "Didn't I tell you to never dig into the grass and to stay away from my flower beds? Why have you disobeyed me?"

Both boys hung their heads. Scott's reasons for digging the hole had seemed so right until now.

"We are sorry, Mother," both boys replied. "We will fix it back like it was."

"Cover the hole with dirt and grass," said Mother, "but it won't look the same until new grass grows over it. Remember, there are always reasons why you should obey. Now I want you boys to come in and take a nap."

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. Who commanded the people to turn back into the desert?
2. Who died in a place called Kadesh?
3. Why did the people complain in Kadesh?
4. Who did the people complain to?
5. What did Moses and Aaron do at the door of the tabernacle?
6. Who spoke to them there?
7. What did God tell Moses to speak to?
8. How many times did Moses hit the rock with his rod?
9. What came gushing out of the rock?

[Answers: 1. God. 2. Miriam. 3. Because there was no water. 4. To Moses and Aaron. 5. They fell on their faces. 6. The Lord. 7. The rock. 8. Two times. 9. Water.]

Lesson Text: Numbers 20:1-11.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 24    Sept. 13, 1992

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## AARON DIES

It was time for the Israelites to leave Kadesh and travel again. Kadesh was near the country that belonged to the king of Edom. Moses sent messengers to this king, asking permission to walk through his land. "We will not pass through the fields or vineyards, neither will we drink water from your wells. We will stay on the highway until we are out of your country," Moses promised the king.

But the king of Edom answered, "You shall not pass through my land. If you do, I will come out against you with the sword." Again the Children of Israel begged the king to let them pass through his land, still promising to take nothing from him unless they paid for it. But the king still refused.

So the Children of Israel turned away from the land of Edom. They would have to take the long way around; because the king of Edom would not let them walk through his land.

When the Children of Israel came to Mount Hor, the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron. "Aaron will soon die," he told them. "Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up into Mount Hor."

All the congregation watched as Moses, Aaron, and Eleazar climbed up the mountainside. When they reached the place God had appointed, Moses took Aaron's priestly robes off of him and put them on Eleazar, Aaron's son. This meant that Eleazar would now be priest in Aaron's place.

Then Aaron died there on Mount Hor, as God said he would. Moses and Eleazar slowly made their way back down the mountain. When the people saw only the two of them coming back, they knew Aaron had died. He had been a faithful priest for many years. All the Children of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





**“Aaron died in the top  
of the mount.” (Num. 20:28)**

## How to Conquer

"The Lord shall fight for you."  
(Ex. 14:14).

How glad the Children of Israel must have been when Moses said these words to them on the shores of the Red Sea! For when they "lifted up their eyes, behold the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid."

The Egyptians had been cruel masters to them; and they had horses and chariots to pursue them with; and there was the sea close before them, and no boats! Perhaps some of the Israelites thought it was no use trying to escape, they only would be overtaken and conquered, and be worse off than before. And so, left to themselves, they would have been; but God fought for them in a way they never thought of. For "the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore."

What about your Egyptians—the angry temper or sulky looks, the impatient words, the foolish thoughts, the besetting sins that master you so often. Have you tried so often to fight against them and failed, that it seems almost no use, and you do not see how to conquer them or to escape them? Are you very tired of fighting, and "sore afraid" of being always overcome just the same as ever? Now hear God's true strong promise to you. "The Lord shall fight for you!" Will He really? Yes, really, and He will conquer for you too, if you will only believe His Word and trust the battle to Him, and let Him fight for you.

How? First, watch! and then the very instant you see the enemy coming, look up and say, "Come, Lord, and fight for me"; and keep on looking up and expecting Him to fight for you. And you will find that He does fight for you and gives you the victory; and you too will be

"saved that day," and will see "the Egyptians dead upon the seashore." Try Him, and trust Him; and you, even you, will be "more than a conqueror through Him that loved you." —Frances Havergal

When you meet with trials,  
And know not what to do;  
Just cast the care on Jesus,  
And He will fight for you.  
Gird on the heavenly armor  
Of faith, and hope, and love;  
And when the conflict's ended,  
You'll reign with Him above.  
—Frances Havergal

### Questions:

1. What king did Moses send a message to?
2. What did he ask permission to do?
3. What did the king threaten to do if they passed through his land?
4. Why did the people have to take the long way?
5. What mount did the people come to?
6. Who spoke to Moses and Aaron at this mount?
7. Who did He say should come up into the mount?
8. Who died on the mount?
9. How long did the Children of Israel mourn?

(Answers: 1. To the king of Edom. 2. To pass through his land. 3. To come out against them with the sword. 4. The king of Edom would not let them pass through his land. 5. To Mount Hor. 6. The Lord. 7. Moses, Aaron, and Eleazar. 8. Aaron. 9. Thirty days.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 20:14-29.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 25    Sept. 20, 1992

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## FIERY SERPENTS

The Children of Israel were ready to travel toward Canaan once more. King Arad, who lived in Canaan, heard that the Israelites were coming. He was determined to stop the people before they could reach Canaan, so he came out to meet the Israelites and fight against them. In the battle, King Arad took some of the people as prisoners.

The Children of Israel saw that they needed the Lord to help them. They promised the Lord, "If you will deliver King Arad and his people to us, we will completely destroy their cities."

The Lord heard the prayers of the people and answered them by giving them victory over King Arad and his people. Then Israel destroyed all the cities of Arad, as they had promised.

After the battle, the Israelites traveled on toward Canaan. They went by way of the Red Sea, in order to go around the land of Edom. It was a long hard road. The people got so tired and discouraged that they began complaining again. They spoke against God and against Moses. "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no water and bread here, only this manna which we hate!" they murmured.

Because of their complaining this time, the Lord sent fiery serpents among them. There were so many snakes that they bit the people, and many of them died.

The people rushed to Moses and confessed, "We have sinned; because we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us."

Moses did pray for the people. The Lord told him, "Make a fiery serpent, and put it on a pole. When anyone is bitten, if they will look up to the serpent of brass they will live."

Moses did as the Lord had said. If a serpent bit anyone and they looked up to the brass serpent, they did not die.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“The Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many people of Israel died.” (Num. 21:6)**



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## Information About Snakes

How would you like to open the kitchen cabinet and find a snake curled up on the shelf? Would you scream? Would you try to kill it? Would you run outside and never go back inside until Daddy or Mother killed that snake?

Back in the pioneer days of America, snakes were a common pest on prairies and in deserts. When people lived in a dugout in the ground or in a log cabin by a creek, sometimes a pioneer mother or daughter would open up a cabinet to get dishes and find a snake curled on top of them! Snakes were a pest because they liked to eat the mice that lived around people's grain. Though they ate the mice, not many people were very fond of keeping a snake around for this purpose.

Actually, only 10 kinds of snakes are poisonous though there are 2,400 kinds of snakes in the world. Usually snakes will not strike unless they are hungry or feel threatened.

Snakes do not have legs or ears. They feel vibrations or movements on the ground as they slither along. Also, a snake never shuts its eyes, but a see-through cap keeps its eyes open all the time. It sheds this cap with its skin every year. A snake keeps flicking out its tongue while moving along the ground; because it is the snake's sense of touch and smell.

The long, slender, forked tongue does not sting, but it is the hollow fang teeth that stab poison into the bitten victim. A snake must swallow its food whole. The bones of a snake's lower jaw are loosely connected to each other and to the skull. The snake can separate them and swallow an animal two or three times as thick as its head. The biggest snake, a python, weighs up to 200 pounds and can eat a victim weighing 100 pounds.

A newborn baby snake can live for months without food, and usually grown snakes only eat every few days.

In the winter when it is cold, snakes hibernate or sleep all the time.

If you are ever bitten by a rattlesnake, water moccasin, copperhead, coral snake, sea snake, gaboon viper, fer-de-lance snake, or a cobra, then you must be treated for a poisonous bite.

First pray, then find your parents or an adult. Leave the place where the snake is so that it will not strike again but **DO NOT RUN**. This will keep the poison from quickly spreading through your body.

An old-fashioned way to draw out the snake poison is to put a tight band above the bite. Then, with a sharp knife or razor cut an X over both fang marks. With your mouth suck on the X cuts, then spit out the poison. A person who has been bitten by a snake must drink plenty of water and juice to cleanse the poison from his body. There are people who have survived a poisonous snake bite, but it is serious.

If you ever see a snake, whether in your cabinet or not, it is best for you to call an adult to come right away. Do not take any chances of being snake bitten.

—Connie Sorrell

### Questions:

1. What king heard that the Israelites were coming?
2. Where did this king live?
3. Whom did the Children of Israel ask to help them?
4. What did they promise to do if they won the battle?
5. What did the people do when they got tired and discouraged?
6. Whom did they speak against?
7. What did the Lord send among the people?
8. What did the Lord tell Moses to make?
9. When a person was bitten by a serpent, what was he to do?

(Answers: 1. King Arad. 2. In Canaan. 3. The Lord. 4. To destroy all their cities. 5. They began complaining again. 6. Against God and Moses. 7. Fiery serpents. 8. A fiery serpent of brass. 9. He was to look up to the serpent of brass.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 21:1-9.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 43, No. 3    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 26    Sept. 27, 1992

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## GOD HELPS THE ISRAELITES

The Children of Israel traveled again, stopping from place to place to rest and then going on until they reached the wilderness of Arnon. Again they found themselves in a place with no water. But this time they did not complain. The Lord told Moses to gather the people together, and He would give them water. The people sang a song of thanksgiving to the Lord for the water He supplied.

When they got close to the land of the Amorites, the Israelites sent messengers to Sihon, king of the Amorites. "Let us pass through your land," they begged. "We will not turn into the fields or vineyards. We won't drink from your wells. We will go only on the king's highway until we have passed your borders."

But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his land. Instead, he gathered all his people together and went out to fight against the Children of Israel.

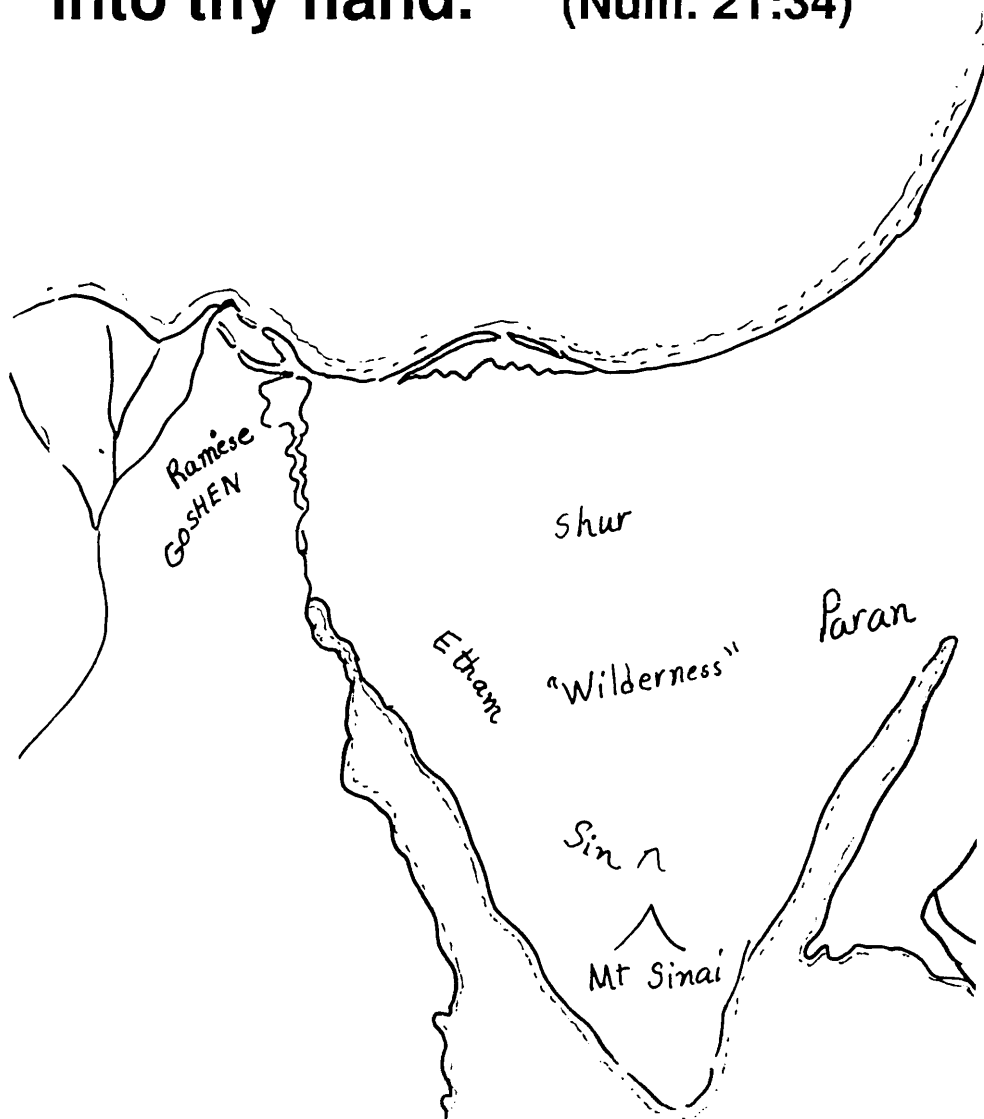
The Israelites won the battle against Sihon and his people and took possession of their land. They conquered their cities and lived in them. From there Moses sent spies to Jaazer. After they had spied out the land, they went to fight against the people who lived in Jaazer and drove them from their homes.

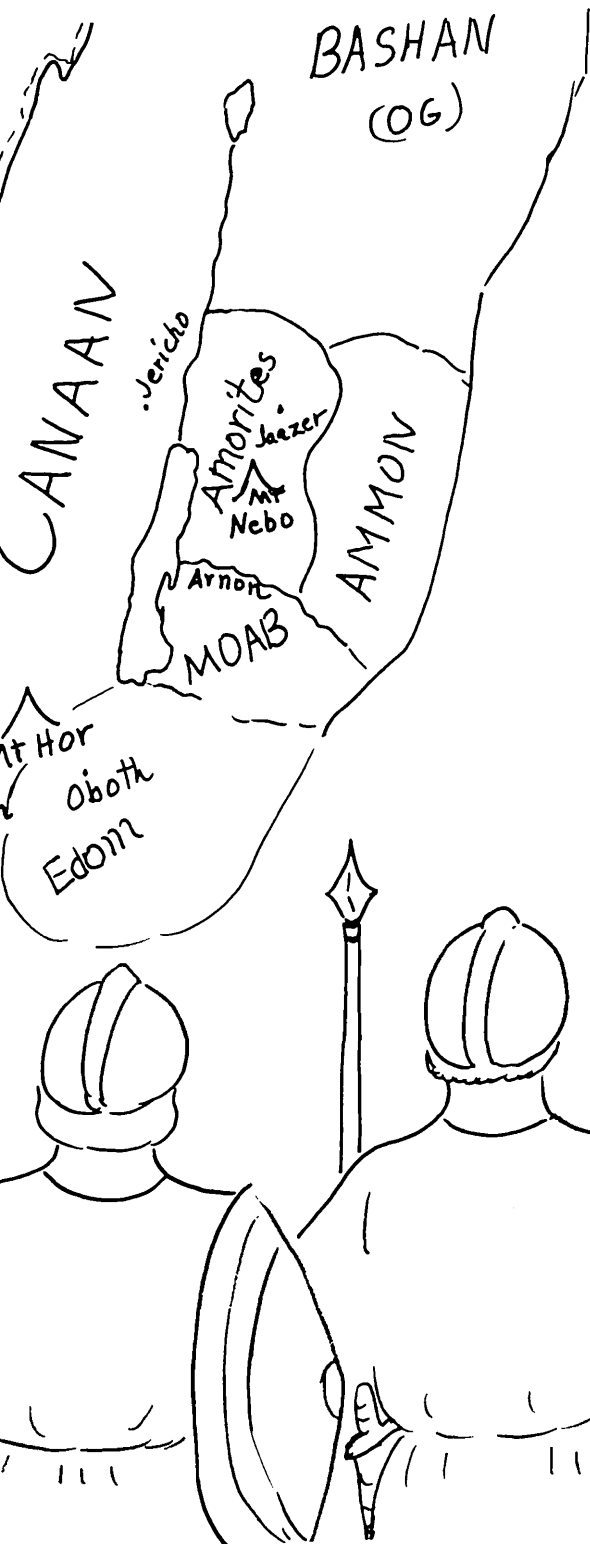
Next, the Israelites moved toward Bashan. Og, the king of Bashan, came out to fight against them with all his people. The Lord said to Moses, "Fear him not. I have delivered him into your hand and all his people and his land. You will do to him as you did to Sihon."

So the Israelites fought with King Og, his sons, and all his people. The Lord gave them a great victory over their enemies. Then they took possession of all their land.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**“The Lord said unto Moses,  
Fear him not:  
for I have delivered him  
into thy hand.” (Num. 21:34)**





# Healing Victories

(True Stories)

Kevin was sick; **really** sick! His stomach hurt; his whole body hurt. He hurt all over. Mother and Daddy didn't know what was wrong with him. They just knew their little boy was sick and he hadn't been well for two days.

Kevin had a fever and he slept a lot. When he woke up in the afternoon, his mother was by his bed putting cool cloths on his arms and forehead.

"Do you want some soup and crackers?" she asked Kevin.

Kevin shut his eyes—he felt so bad. "Just call Bro. Smith, please," he said. "Have Bro. Smith pray for me that Jesus will make me well."

Mother called Bro. Smith and he and another brother came over. They anointed Kevin with oil and prayed that in the name of Jesus all the fever and hurting would leave. They spoke a few words of encouragement and read some Scriptures about trusting Jesus for healing. Kevin went back to sleep before they left.

When Kevin woke up later that night, he felt some better. He wasn't so hot, though he still hurt some. Slowly, the hurting went away and Kevin began to eat soup and crackers again. In three days he was out of bed and playing with his brothers and sisters. Jesus had made Kevin well.

Later, in another town, a little girl named Melonie was sick. She was allergic to the damp mildew and pollen of flowers in the air. Melonie could hardly breathe at times, and it made her lungs hurt. When Melonie coughed and coughed, her mother and daddy would pray to Jesus and Jesus would ease the hurt and help Melonie stop coughing. Sometimes, Mother would call Grandma and Grandpa for prayer. They all would agree in

prayer that Melonie would be healed and not hurt when she breathed. Prayer worked every time. Melonie always thanked Jesus when He answered prayer and took away the coughing.

There are so many stories we could tell about Jesus healing boys and girls today! When He keeps us well and protects us from accidents, we want to thank Him for that also. Isn't Jesus wonderful! Can you tell some things about the healing power of Jesus?

—Connie Sorrell

Jesus  
cares  
about  
us!



## Questions:

1. Who gave the Children of Israel water?
2. What kind of song did the people sing to the Lord?
3. What did the Israelites send to Sihon, king of the Amorites?
4. What would Sihon not allow Israel to do?
5. Who won the battle when Sihon went out to fight the Israelites?
6. Who sent spies to Jaazer?
7. Who was Og?
8. What did the Lord tell Moses when Og came to fight?
9. Who gave the Israelites victory over all their enemies?

(Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. A song of thanksgiving. 3. Messengers. 4. To pass through his land. 5. The Israelites. 6. Moses. 7. The king of Bashan. 8. "Fear him not." 9. The Lord.)

Lesson Text: Numbers 21:10-35.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 14 Oct. 4, 1992

## BALAK SENDS FOR BALAAM

The children of Israel marched till they reached the plains of Moab. Here they pitched their tents. They had only to cross the Jordan River to reach Canaan, the land God had promised to give them. Their long march would soon be over.

Balak, king of the Moabites, knew the Israelites had defeated the Amorites and the people of Bashan. He and his people feared this great army of people. King Balak decided to send for Balaam, a prophet, for help. He wanted Balaam to curse the children of Israel so they could not take his land.

Messengers soon reached Balaam. They begged Balaam to come to King Balak and curse the Israelites so they would not be able to take his land. Balaam listened carefully to the messengers. He saw the rich gifts the king had sent. "Stay here tonight," he told the messengers. "I will ask the Lord, then tell you what the Lord says."

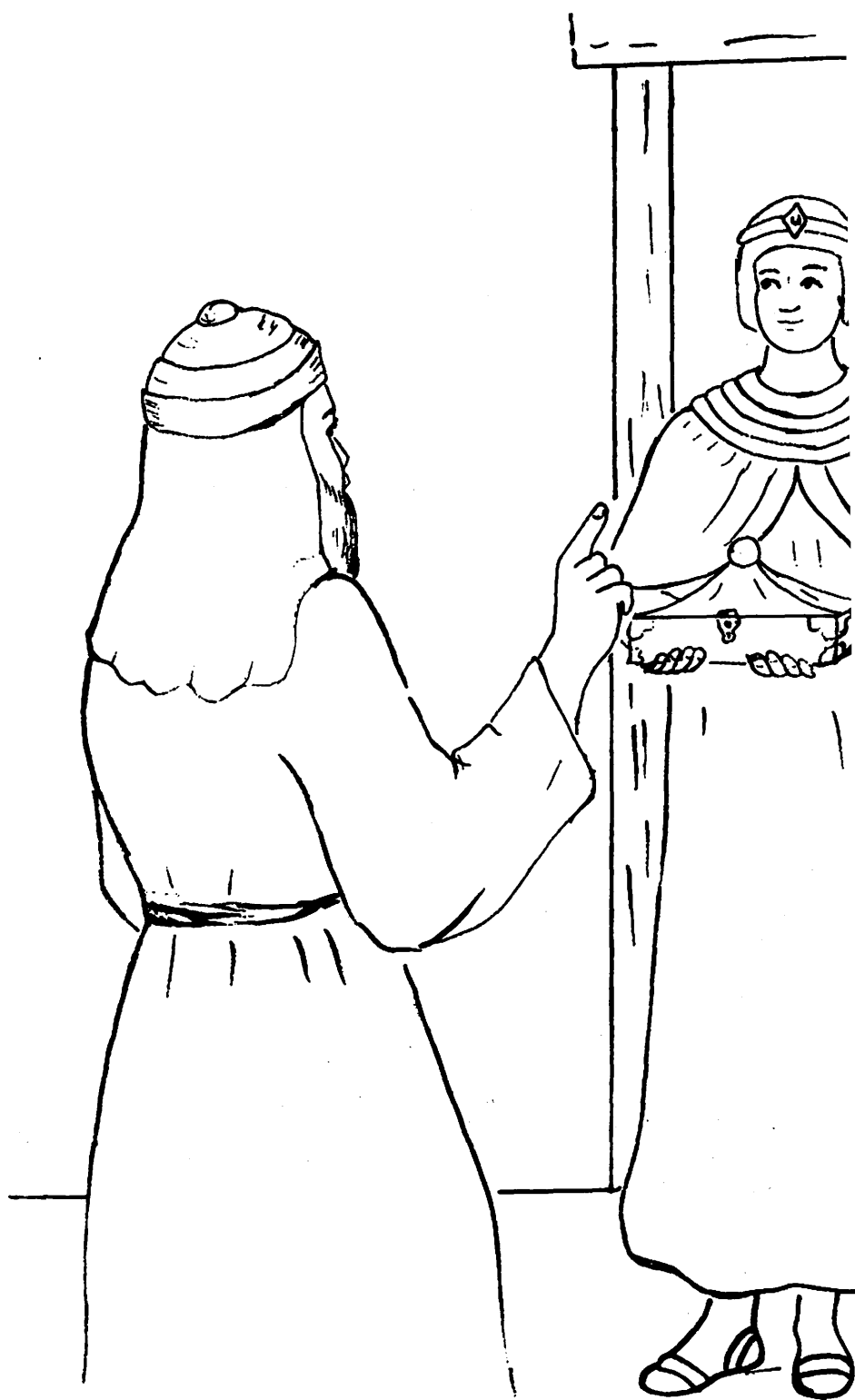
That night God came to Balaam and said, "Who are these men with you?" When Balaam told Him, God said, "You will not go with them. You will not curse this people because they are blessed."

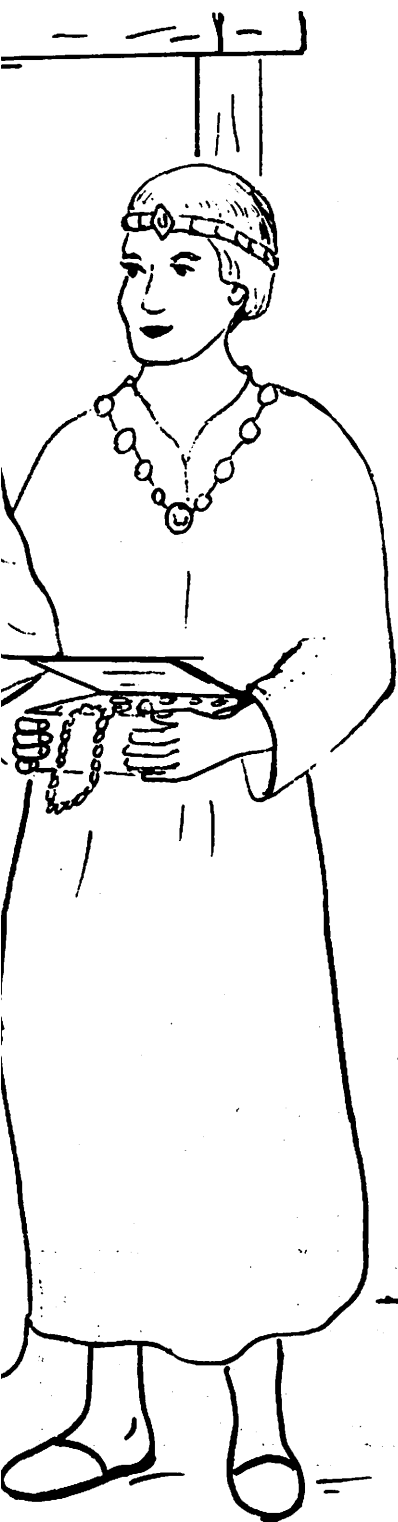
The next morning Balaam told the princes Balak had sent, "Go back home. The Lord refuses to let me go with you."

So the messengers went back and told Balak that Balaam refused to come with them. Immediately Balak gathered more princes who were more honorable than the first and sent them to beg Balaam to come. He promised to give Balaam great honor and do whatever Balaam told him, if he would only come and curse the Israelites.

"If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do more or less," Balaam told the messengers. "But stay here tonight. I will see what else the Lord tells me."

--Sis. Nelda Sorenson





## Brenda's First Job



"I need a job," said Brenda one Saturday afternoon. "I'm ten years old now, and I'm sure I could do something to earn money."

"What do you have in mind?" inquired Dad.

"Babysitting," answered Brenda.

"That's a big job," responded Dad.

"Let's talk it over with your mother when she returns from the market," said Dad.

When Mother arrived, Dad unloaded the groceries from the trunk. As Mother put away the food, Brenda sat down in a kitchen chair and asked, "Mother, do you think I'm old enough to babysit?"

"I don't know. You haven't had much experience with small children," Mother replied. "But if you'd like to try it, I can give Aunt Doris a call."

Mother and Aunt Doris arranged to bring Derrick over on Saturday for three hours. Mother and Aunt Doris would do some errands while Brenda watched Derrick.

Brenda got up very early Saturday. Aunt Doris and Derrick arrived. Derrick was a chubby baby almost ten months old.

"I'll be outside if you need me," Dad said as he headed outside.

"Don't worry, we'll be alright," Brenda assured him.

No sooner did Derrick see his mother leave, than he began hollering. "The bottle" thought Brenda. She ran and got it. Derrick threw it down and continued to cry. Brenda sang and gave him one toy after another until he finally stopped crying.

The next hour was spent trying to keep the little crawler from putting things in his mouth and pulling down anything he could reach. "I didn't know babies could get into so much," thought Brenda. Suddenly, she heard a "crash".

Derrick had pulled a plant down. Dirt covered him and he was crying. The plant lay overturned. She glanced at the clock. Mother and Aunt Doris would return soon. The phone rang.

Brenda ran to the door. "Dad, come quick, I need help." Daddy came in and cleaned little Derrick and put him to sleep. He then helped tidy the house. He returned to his mowing just before Mother and Aunt Doris arrived to see Derrick sleeping peacefully.

"How did everything go?" Mother asked.

"Let's just put it this way," Brenda said with a sigh, "It's a lot easier to watch Derrick when he's asleep."

—Altina Cox

### QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the children of Israel pitch their tents?
2. What did they have to cross to reach Canaan?
3. Who promised to give them the land of Canaan?
4. Who was Balak?
5. Who was Balaam?
6. Why did Balak send for Balaam?
7. Who told Balaam not to go with the messengers?
8. What did Balak do when Balaam refused to come to him?
9. Why did Balaam tell the messengers to stay overnight?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; Numbers 22:12a.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 22:1-21.

(Answers: 1. On the plains of Moab. 2. The Jordan River. 3. God. 4. The king of Moab. 5. A prophet. 6. To curse the Israelites. 7. God. 8. Sent more princes. 9. To see what else the Lord would tell him.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 15 Oct. 11, 1992

## A DONKEY SPEAKS

The first time he asked, God told Balaam that he must not go to King Balak. But when King Balak sent honorable princes with rich gifts to insist that he come, Balaam asked the Lord again. This time God told him, "If the men come to call you, rise up, and go with them. But be careful to do only what I tell you."

This was just what Balaam wanted to hear. The next morning he got up and saddled his donkey so he would be ready when the princes left. He did not wait for them to call him, as God had instructed.

As Balaam rode toward Moab, God was very displeased with him. He sent His angel to block Balaam's way. The donkey saw the angel standing right in the road with a sword in his hand so she ran into a field. Balaam could not see the angel. He hit the donkey to force her back on the road. The angel then stood on the road where there was a wall on each side. When the donkey saw the angel this time, she ran against the wall crushing Balaam's foot. Again Balaam hit the donkey.

The angel then stood in a place that was so narrow there was no place to turn off the road. When the donkey saw no other way to escape the angel, she fell down in the road. Now Balaam was very angry. He hit the donkey hard with his rod.

Then the Lord opened the donkey's mouth and she asked, "Why have you hit me three times?" Without thinking, Balaam answered, "Because you won't obey me. If I had a sword I would kill you!"

Just then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes. He saw the angel with a sword in his hand. Balaam was so scared he fell on his face. The angel told him that he was ready to kill him but the donkey had saved his life by turning out of the way.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## The Testimonies

The children were choosing their favorite songs. Charity chose "Oh How I Love Jesus." Johnathan chose "Jesus Loves Me." Kris and Pam both asked for "Blessed Be The Name." So the children began singing, "Blessed be the name, Blessed be the name. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

How Sis. Davis loved to hear the children sing praises to Jesus. When the song was finished they sang, "Oh, How I Love Jesus." Then they sang, "Jesus Loves Me."

Kenneth took the prayer requests.

"Pray that my Grandpa will get saved," said Tisha.

"Pray for my Daddy," said Jeanette.

"Pray for me that I'll be able to wait quietly after I've asked my mother for a drink," said Jeremy.

"That's a good request," said Sis. Davis, "What you are asking for is patience."

"Does anyone have an unspoken request?" asked Kenneth. Several children raised their hands. Then all the children knelt in prayer.

Kent prayed out-loud first, then Jeanette prayed. All the other children knelt quietly.

After prayer, the children knew it was time to testify.

Jessica was first. She loved to stand up for Jesus. "I thank the Lord for being saved, and that He answers my prayers," she said. She sat down.

"I thank the Lord for helping me to get an "A" on my spelling test," said Tim.

"I thank God for a new baby sister," said Lota.

When no one else stood up to testify, then Sis. Davis said, "Children, we not only can speak for Jesus with our words, but our lives can also be a good testimony for Him. If someone asks you to disobey your mother

or father, and you will not disobey, you are testifying for God. That's what the verse of the song means which says, "Let a holy life tell the gospel story, I am a child of God."

"Let's sing it," suggested Jeanette. The children sang and Paul dismissed the service. Then they went out to play a game.

—Altina Cox

## Let your life shine for Jesus!

### QUESTIONS:

1. When did God tell Balaam he must not go to Balak?
2. Why did Balaam ask God again?
3. What did God tell Balaam to be careful to do?
4. Who was displeased with Balaam?
5. What did God send to block Balaam's way?
6. Why did the donkey run into a field?
7. What happened when the donkey ran against the wall?
8. How many times did Balaam hit the donkey?
9. Who had saved Balaam's life?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done to thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? Numbers 22:28.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 22:22-35.

(Answers: 1. The first time he asked. 2. Because Balak sent honorable princes with rich gifts to insist he come. 3. Only what God told him. 4. God. 5. An angel. 6. Because she saw the angel. 7. Balaam's foot was crushed. 8. Three. 9. His donkey.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 16 Oct. 18, 1992

## BALAAAM'S SACRIFICES

Balaam knew he had not fully obeyed the Lord. If his donkey had not turned away to escape the angel's sword, he would have been killed. "I have sinned," he told the angel. "If you are displeased, I will go back home."

"Go with the men, but you must speak only the word I give you," warned the angel.

When King Balak heard that Balaam had finally come, he went out to meet him. "Why didn't you come the first time?" the king asked. "Don't you know I can give you great honor?"

"I have come," Balaam answered, "but I can only speak the words that God puts in my mouth."

The next day King Balak took Balaam up to a very high place where he could see many of the Israelites. Balaam told the king to prepare a sacrifice. When this was done, Balaam told the king, "Stand here by the burnt offering while I go seek the Lord. Perhaps He will meet me. Whatever He shows me I will tell you."

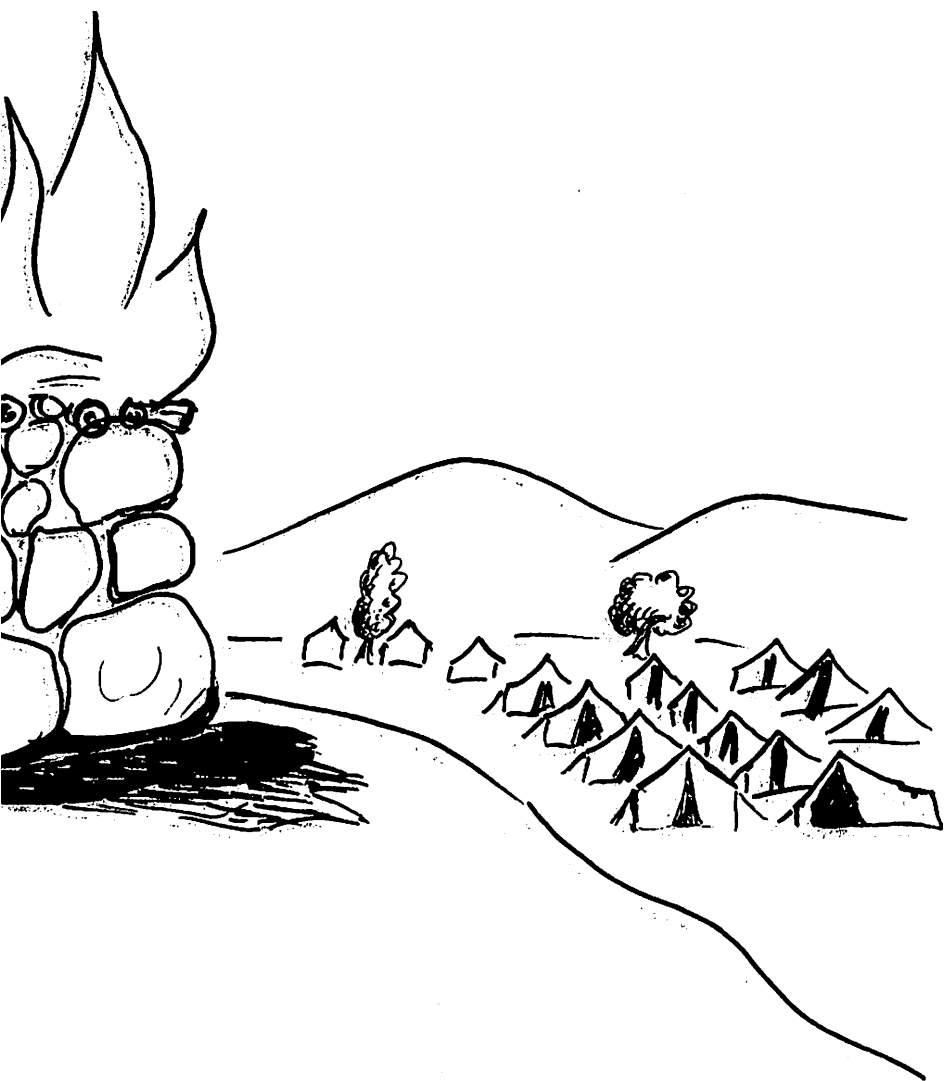
So Balaam climbed to a high place where God met him and told him the words he must speak. When he went back down to the altar he found the king waiting for him. The words God gave him to speak were not a curse, but rather a blessing on the Israelites. "What have you done to me?" the king shouted. "I brought you here to curse my enemies and you have blessed them!"

"I can only speak what the Lord puts in my mouth," Balaam reminded him.

Again the king took Balaam to the top of a high mountain where they offered a sacrifice. Again the words God gave him for the king were a blessing instead of a curse. "If you cannot curse them, don't bless them!" the king said angrily.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Cripple Charlie

(A true story)

"Cripple Charlie is coming. He's going to get you!" called Daren. I looked where Daren was pointing and there came a horrid looking man flopping this way and that as he walked down the side walk. I was terrified! Running as fast as I could I never stopped until I reached home and had locked the door behind me.

This happened every few weeks. We lived only three blocks from the elementary school. Usually we walked to school in groups of three or more. Most of the days we talked happily about the fun of yesterday's games or what was to happen at school on that day. But on days like this when I had to walk alone fear gripped me. It was not evil strangers I was afraid of, as things were fairly safe in those days, but *stories* told about Cripple Charlie by older children to us younger children. I soon began running carefully, while watching all around me every time I had to go home alone.

Charlie was a man born both crippled and retarded. He was tall with brown skin and black curly hair. Charlie loved to smile, or grin, I should say. I must admit, his smile did look a little devilish.

Charlie lived near the elementary school. He loved to be near children, so as he hobbled around visiting in the neighborhood he would pass by the school. Occasionally, he would enter the playground. When he came in the children would sound the alarm, "Beware, here comes Cripple Charlie." Frightened children ran into the school building, down the halls and into the protection of their classrooms.

One spring day Charlie hobbled onto the school ground. The cry rang out, "Here comes Cripple Charlie!" Some children ran. Others gathered around to see him.

Just then I saw a naughty boy grab a brick and run near Charlie. He threw it. Down went Charlie on the ground. He was hurt so bad he could not get up. He was not smiling.

The principal and some teachers came to help Charlie. His ankle had been injured. The naughty children were punished.

That day I learned that everyone has feelings. No longer did Charlie seem like a person to run from or fear. He could hurt just like me, and all he needed was a friend.

—Altina Cox



### QUESTIONS:

1. Who had not fully obeyed the Lord?
2. How did the donkey save his life?
3. What did the angel tell Balaam to speak?
4. Who went out to meet Balaam?
5. What did he ask Balaam?
6. Where did the king take Balaam?
7. Who told Balaam the words he must speak?
8. What did the king want Balaam to do to the Israelites?
9. Who gave Balaam words of blessing for the Israelites?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered a bullock and a ram on every altar. Numbers 23:30.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 22:36-41: 23.

(Answers: 1. Balaam. 2. By turning away from the angel's sword. 3. Only the word I give you. 4. King Balak. 5. "Why didn't you come the first time?" 6. To a very high place. 7. God. 8. Curse them. 9. God.)



# THE *BEAUTIFUL WAY*



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Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 17 Oct. 25, 1992

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## BALAAM BLESSES ISRAEL

Twice King Balak had taken Balaam to high places where they could see the camp of the Israelites. There he had built altars and waited while Balaam went higher to get the word of the Lord. Both times Balaam returned and blessed the Israelites. God had said they would be blessed and Balaam knew he had no power to curse them.

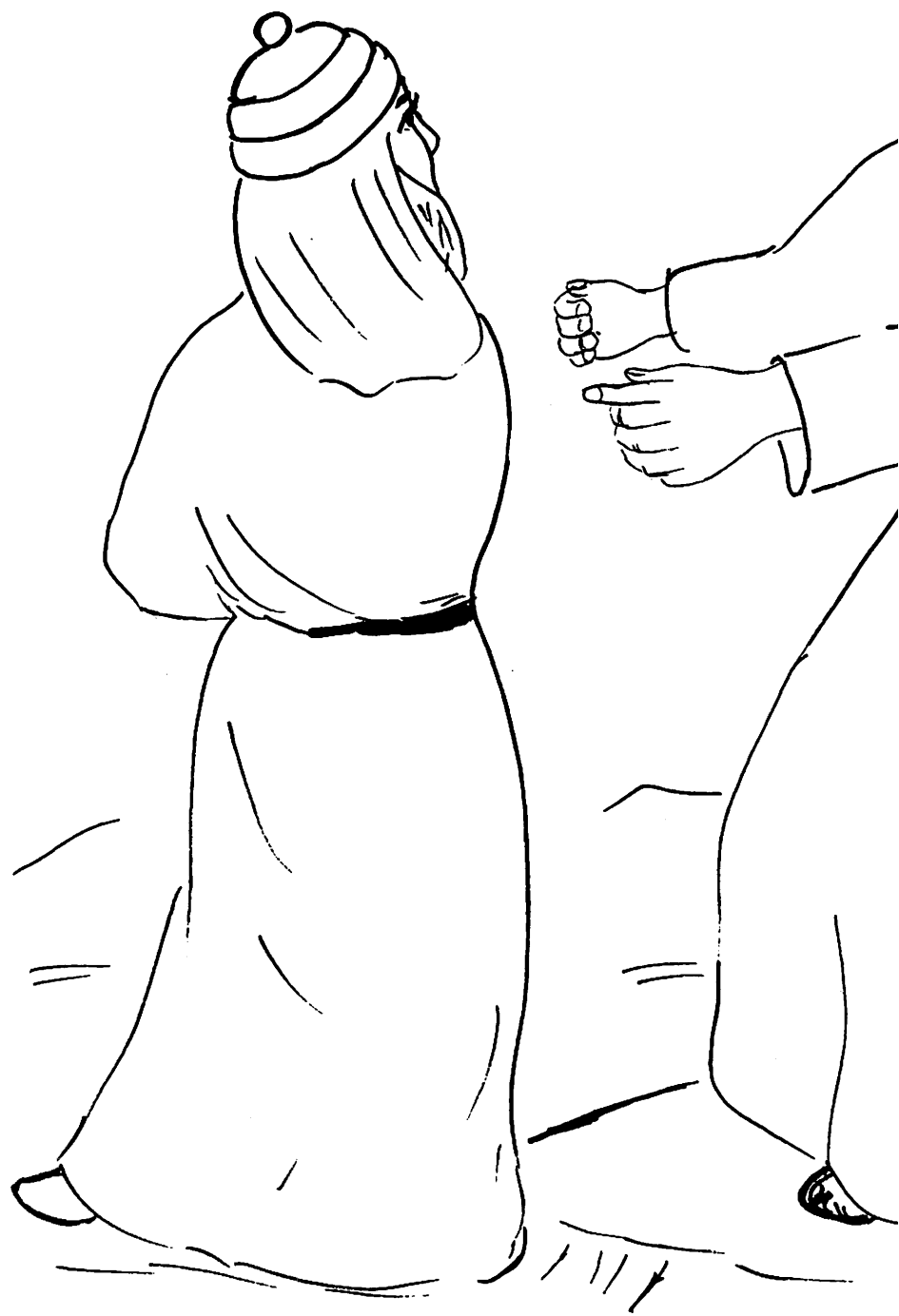
The king was still determined that Balaam would curse the Israelites so he took him to the top of Peor. After they had built altars and offered sacrifices, the spirit of the Lord came upon Balaam as he looked out over the Israelites. For the third time he blessed Israel as God gave him words, saying, "Blessed is he that blesseth thee, and cursed is he that curseth thee."

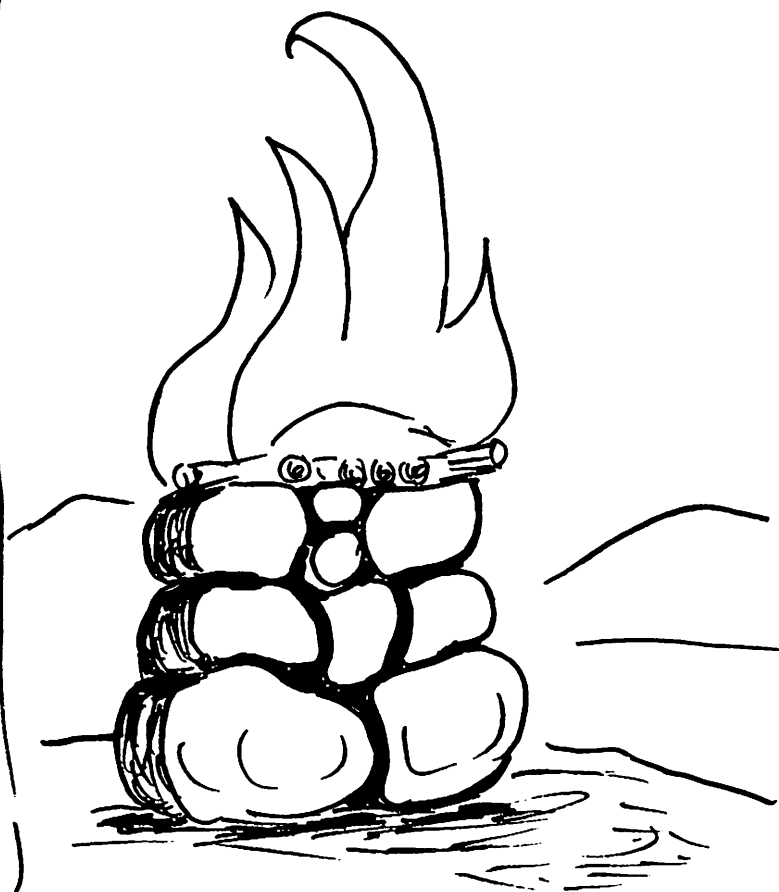
Angrily King Balak smote his hands together and said, "I called you to curse my enemies, and, behold, you have only blessed them these three times. Now, leave at once. I intended to give you great honor but the Lord has kept it from you."

Balaam had spoken only the words God gave him, but it was not in his heart to obey the Lord and bless the Israelites. He wanted the riches and honor the king offered. He told the king how to defeat the Israelites by causing them to worship idols. According to his plan, the Moabites and Midianites made friends with the Israelites. Soon the young men of Israel were marrying young women from Moab and Midian and going with them to the feasts of their gods.

God was greatly displeased with His people. He could not bless them because they had turned to the gods of their wicked neighbors. At Moses' command, all those who had sinned in this way were killed.

Later, in the battle against Moab and Midian, God gave the Israelites the victory. Balaam was killed in this battle because he had caused the children of Israel to sin. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## No Children Allowed

(90 cars did pile up because of fog in California in 1991)

"Hurry," called Asa to Tammy. "We're going for a ride in the mountains!"

"What a beautiful day," Mother explained. "The sun is shining brightly, and the rain is dried off the streets. I hate to drive in the rain."

"I'm glad you suggested a ride," Asa said to Father as he drove down the free-way toward the huge mountains ahead.

Asa and Tammy were sitting in the back seat busily reading signs and billboards along the highway. They were playing an alphabet game. The winner would find all the letters of the alphabet first. Tammy was searching for the letter "q" when she spotted a sign. "Quiet please, no children, pets or motorcycles," she read aloud.

"No children," Asa said rather puzzled, "What's wrong with children?"

"There's nothing wrong with children, but sometimes we can be noisy," explained Tammy.

"Wouldn't it be great to have a city where no adults would be allowed?" suggested Asa. "We'd never have to wash dishes or clean our rooms."

"Watch out!" Mother shouted.

The next instant Asa saw a pile-up of cars blocking the highway right in front of them. He shut his eyes tightly when he saw their black station wagon was crashing into a blue Nissan ahead of them. At the same moment a yellow Ford pick-up skidded into the door beside Tammy.

She screamed and fell against Asa.

An hour later they were rescued by a firemen's squad. By that time, Tammy had regained consciousness. None of their family was seriously hurt.

Later they learned that 90 cars had piled up because of dense fog. Hundreds of persons were hurt, and

ten people killed in the terrible smash-up.

On the way home Father said, "I'm sure we all see that we need each other."

"That's right," Asa said cheerfully. "I'm glad God made you to care for me."

"Yes son, and I'm thankful God gave your mother and I two wonderful children and that he protected us today."

—Altina Cox

### QUESTIONS:

1. How many times had the king already taken Balaam to curse Israel?
2. What did Balaam do instead of cursing the Israelites?
3. Why did Balaam have no power to curse the Israelites?
4. What came upon Balaam as he looked at the Israelites from Peor?
5. Why was the king angry with Balaam?
6. How could the king defeat the Israelites?
7. Who made friends with the Israelites?
8. What did the young men of Israel do?
9. What happened to all those who had sinned?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times. Numbers 24:10b.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 24:1-25.

- (Answers: 1. Twice. 2. Blessed them. 3. God had said they would be blessed. 4. The spirit of the Lord. 5. Because he blessed Israel. 6. By causing them to worship idols. 7. The Moabites and Midianites. 8. Married women from Moab and Midian. 9. They were killed.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 18 Nov. 1, 1992

## THE TRIBES OF RUEBEN AND GAD

When the children of Israel fought against Sihon, king of the Amorites and Og, king of Bashan, God helped them win the battles. After these victories, the children of Israel moved into the land they had captured. They found that this land was a good place for their large herds of cattle and sheep because there was plenty of lush green grass for them to eat.

The tribes of Reuben and Gad had large droves of cattle. They liked the rich pasture lands. Although the promised land was on the other side of the Jordan River, they told Moses, "This country is a good land for our many cattle. If we have found favor with you, let this land be our possession. We will not go over Jordan."

"Shall your brothers go to war while you sit here?" Moses asked them. "Why do you want to discourage the other tribes from going over into the land which the Lord has given them?"

The men came closer to Moses and explained, "We will build shelters here for our cattle and cities for our families. But we will go over the Jordan River with our brothers, ready to fight their enemies, until they have lands to live in. We will leave our families here and not return until the children of Israel have possession of the land that was promised to them."

"If you will do as you have said, and all of you will go over Jordan ready to help your brothers fight until God has driven all the enemies out, then afterwards you shall return and this land shall be your possession before the Lord," Moses told them.

So Moses gave the children of Gad and Reuben the land that had belonged to Sihon, king of the Amorites and to Og, king of Bashan. Here they built strong cities to protect their families and shelters for their cattle.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Caramel Corn

Seven year old Kenneth was happily packing clothes into his red suitcase. He was going to stay at his Uncle Ralph's ranch for three weeks.

"Remember to pray each day son," Dad reminded Kent.

"Be a good example for your cousins," said Mother, as she hugged and kissed him good-bye.

What fun Kent had! He loved fishing in the duck pond, and throwing rocks in the pond to watch the ducks fly.

Kent was also helpful with the work on the ranch. "I'm so happy to have you here," Uncle Ralph told Kent one evening, "Maybe some of your good ways will rub off on my boys."

Uncle Ralph's sons, Randy and Tracy, were older than Kent. One day Tracy said, "Kent's making us look pretty bad with his goodie, goodie ways."

"I'd like to teach him a lesson. Got any ideas?" asked Randy.

"Sure," answered Tracy. The next day Uncle Ralph was called into town. The boys finished mending the fence. Then Randy said, "Hey Kent, Dad said for you to paint the truck while he was gone. Here is the paint, and the brush."

This sounded strange to Kent, but willing to please his Uncle, he set out to do it. He picked up the brush to start painting and he seemed to hear his Dad saying, "Remember to pray." Kent laid down the paint brush and went into the house to pray.

He came out and got ready to paint. Again he felt he must go to pray.

The third time, he could almost hear his father's voice saying, "Remember to pray." Again he went into the house and prayed.

"Quit your stallin'," Tracy demanded when Kent came out of the house the third time.

Kent obediently dipped the brush into the paint and lifted the brush to paint the truck. At that moment Uncle Ralph drove up honking his horn. "Hey,

what you doin' there nephew?" he called in surprise!

Kent told him Tracy and Randy's words. Uncle Ralph was very ashamed of his sons. "Randy, get that bucket of caramel-corn out of the back and give it to Kent," he said. "I brought it for all you boys, but now I'm giving it only to him."

Kent felt a little sorry when he saw his cousins' sad faces. Then he remembered his mother's words, "Be a good example."

"Come on boys, have some," Kent called. The boys eagerly grabbed handfuls of caramel-popcorn. They all three munched happily together.

—Altina Cox

### QUESTIONS:

1. What two kings did the children of Israel fight?
2. Who won the battles?
3. Who helped the Israelites win these battles?
4. What did the Israelites do after the victories?
5. Why was the land a good place for their large herds of cattle?
6. What two tribes had large droves of cattle?
7. Who did they ask for possession of the land?
8. What did the two tribes offer to do after they had built cities for their families and shelters for their cattle?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben answered, saying, As the Lord hath said unto thy servants, so will we do. Numbers 32:31.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 32.

(Answers: 1. Sihon and Og. 2. The Israelites. 3. God. 4. They moved into the land they had captured. 5. There was plenty of green grass. 6. Reuben and Gad. 7. Moses. 8. Help their brothers fight their enemies.)





Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 19 Nov. 8, 1992

## MOSES' LAST MESSAGE

God told Moses, "Go up on Mount Abarim. From there you will see all the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. After you have seen it, you will be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother was."

When Moses heard that he would soon die, he asked the Lord to choose a new leader for the people. Moses told the Lord, "Let the Lord set a man over the congregation. This man will lead the people so they will not be like sheep which have no shepherd."

"Take Joshua the son of Nun, in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him," God said. "Bring him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation. Give him the command to lead the people so the children of Israel will know that they are to obey him." Moses did as God had said. Now the Israelites knew that Joshua would be their leader after Moses' death.

Moses had many things he wished to say to the people before he died. When he had called them together, he reminded them of the many times they had disobeyed the Lord. He reminded them of God's mercy in forgiving them and delivering them from their enemies. He told the people they must always obey the word of the Lord because then God would be with them and fight their battles. Moses talked to the people a long time. He knew it was his last message to them.

After he had told the people all that was on his heart, Moses walked out of the camp and began to climb the mountain. When he reached the top he could see for miles in every direction. "This is the land which I promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob," God told him. "I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not go there."

So Moses died there on the mountain, as God had said. No one ever found his grave because the Lord Himself buried him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Who Is Responsible?

One block, two blocks, three blocks—Darla was busy stacking her blocks to make a tower. She wanted to see just how high she could stack the blocks.

Mother was sitting at her sewing machine making a dress for Darla while Tony, her big brother, was nearby making roads to drive his cars upon.

Four blocks, five blocks, six blocks—Darla was holding her breath. WHAM! One of Tony's cars hit Darla's blocks causing them to topple to the floor.

"Tony, you did that on purpose!" Darla cried.

"I didn't do it," chuckled Tony. "This car did it."

"Come, children, let's eat lunch," said Mother breaking into their discussion.

Soon they were all happily munching on submarine sandwiches and drinking lemonade.

"Please hand me a napkin," said Tony, but before Mother could hand him one, he reached across the table to pull one from the napkin holder.

Oops! The napkin holder fell over which spilled Darla's cup of lemonade. "Tony, why didn't you wait for a napkin?" asked Mother.

"I didn't do it," replied Tony. "The napkin holder knocked over her lemonade."

"But your impatient hand overturned the napkin holder," said Mother as she soaked up the running lemonade. "Tony, tell your sister you are sorry."

"I'm sorry the napkin holder spilled your lemonade," he remarked.

"Tony and Darla, let's have a talk about being responsible," said Mother.

"That big word means: able to think or act with thought. Now what is the difference, Tony, between you and your toy car?"

Tony looked at the car in his hand. "It isn't alive like I am," he said.

"Very good," said Mother. "Because it isn't alive, it cannot think. You can think because you are alive. That means, a thinking person is responsible for what they do. The older you become, children, the more responsible you are. Remember to think before you do something."

"I was responsible for what happened. I must be more careful," said Tony. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who told Moses to go up on the mountain?
2. What would Moses see from the mountain top?
3. What did Moses ask the Lord to choose?
4. Whom did God choose?
5. Who had many things to tell the people?
6. What did he say they must always do?
7. Why did Moses talk a long time?
8. Where did Moses die?
9. Who buried Moses?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died; Deuteronomy 34:7.

**LESSON TEXT:** Numbers 27:12-23; Deut. 34.

(Answers: 1. God. 2. All the land God promised the children of Israel. 3. A new leader. 4. Joshua. 5. Moses. 6. Obey the word of the Lord. 7. He knew it was his last message to them. 8. On the mountain. 9. God.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 20 Nov. 15, 1992

## JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL

The Israelites were very sad when Moses left them. After Moses' death, they wept and mourned for him thirty days. There would never be another prophet who spoke to the Lord face to face as Moses did.

Then the Lord spoke to Joshua and said, "Arise and go over Jordan. Lead the people to the land which I have given them. Every place you put your foot, I have given you. No one will be able to come against you all of your life. I will be with you just as I was with Moses. I will not fail you nor forsake you. Only be strong and very courageous. Do according to all the law which Moses commanded you. Then you will prosper wherever you go. Think about the law of God day and night so you can obey all that it commands. If you do this, you will be prosperous and successful."

Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, "Go through the camp and command the people, 'Get ready because in three days you will pass over Jordan. You will go in to possess the land which God has given you.'"

The people gathered their belongings and prepared food for the march. Joshua then reminded the tribes of Reuben and Gad that they must go over Jordan ready to help their brothers take possession of their land. "Then you will return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it," Joshua promised.

The people listened to Joshua very carefully. "All that you command us, we will do," they promised. "Wherever you send us, we will go. Just as we obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. May the Lord your God be with you, as He was with Moses. Whoever rebels against your commandment, and will not obey all the words you speak, he will be put to death. Only be strong and of a good courage."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## The Pile Of Leaves

Tony and his dog, Romper, were having a grand time playing in the yellow, red, and brown leaves under the trees in the back yard. With a rake, Tony heaped the leaves into a big pile while Romper patiently and eagerly watched nearby.

"Take the land!" Tony called as he and Romper ran and jumped into the big pile of leaves. All afternoon the two played happily on the island built of leaves until Mother called from the back porch, "Tony, come and eat supper."

As Tony came to the table with clean yet damp hands and face, Daddy said, "Well, Tony what have you been doing this afternoon?"

"Oh, Romper and I have been playing on our Island of Canaan," replied Tony. "The island is made of only leaves but it is big enough for giants to live there. We have been spying on them."

"I see," said Daddy. "Could you tell me why you call your island, Canaan?"

"Wasn't Canaan the promised land, Daddy?" asked Tony.

"Do you remember the beginning story of Canaan?" asked Daddy. "Father Abraham lived in the Canaan area and he raised Isaac there who in turn raised Jacob, or Israel, there. Remember how Israel's ten sons sold their brother, Joseph, into slavery. Later, all of Israel's twelve sons and their families lived in Egypt because of the lack of food. Then time went by and Israel's children became slaves to the cruel Egyptians.

"Moses was the chosen man to lead them out of Egypt's slavery and into freedom. But when they went back to Canaan they saw that giants and

other fierce people were living there. The people of Canaan did not want them to take their land so terrible battles were fought."

"That's it!" cried Tony as he picked up his fork and knife. "Today we spied on the giants, but tomorrow we will fight them off the Island of Canaan. I'm going to win every battle."

"That's the way to be in life," said Daddy. "Stay happy where the Lord wants you and win every fight against the enemy. Tony, don't give away your Island of Canaan. Keep it there as long as you can." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

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### QUESTIONS:

1. How long did the people mourn for Moses?
2. Who did Moses speak with face to face?
3. Who did the Lord tell to lead the people over Jordan?
4. What were the people to do in three days?
5. What land were they to possess?
6. What did the people prepare for the journey?
7. What two tribes had to go over Jordan to help their brothers?
8. Who promised to do all that Joshua commanded?
9. What would happen to any one who didn't obey?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, . . . Joshua 1:16.

**LESSON TEXT:** Joshua 1.

(Answers: 1. Thirty days. 2. The Lord. 3. Joshua. 4. Pass over Jordan. 5. The land the Lord had given them. 6. Food. 7. Rueben and Gad. 8. The people. 9. They would be put to death.)
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# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 21 Nov. 22, 1992

## RAHAB AND THE TWO SPIES

Joshua had commanded the people to prepare to march across the Jordan River into the land that God had promised them. Just across the river was a strong city named Jericho. Thick high walls surrounded the city to keep enemies from entering or destroying it. Joshua knew they must first conquer Jericho before the Israelites could go further and possess all the land God had given them.

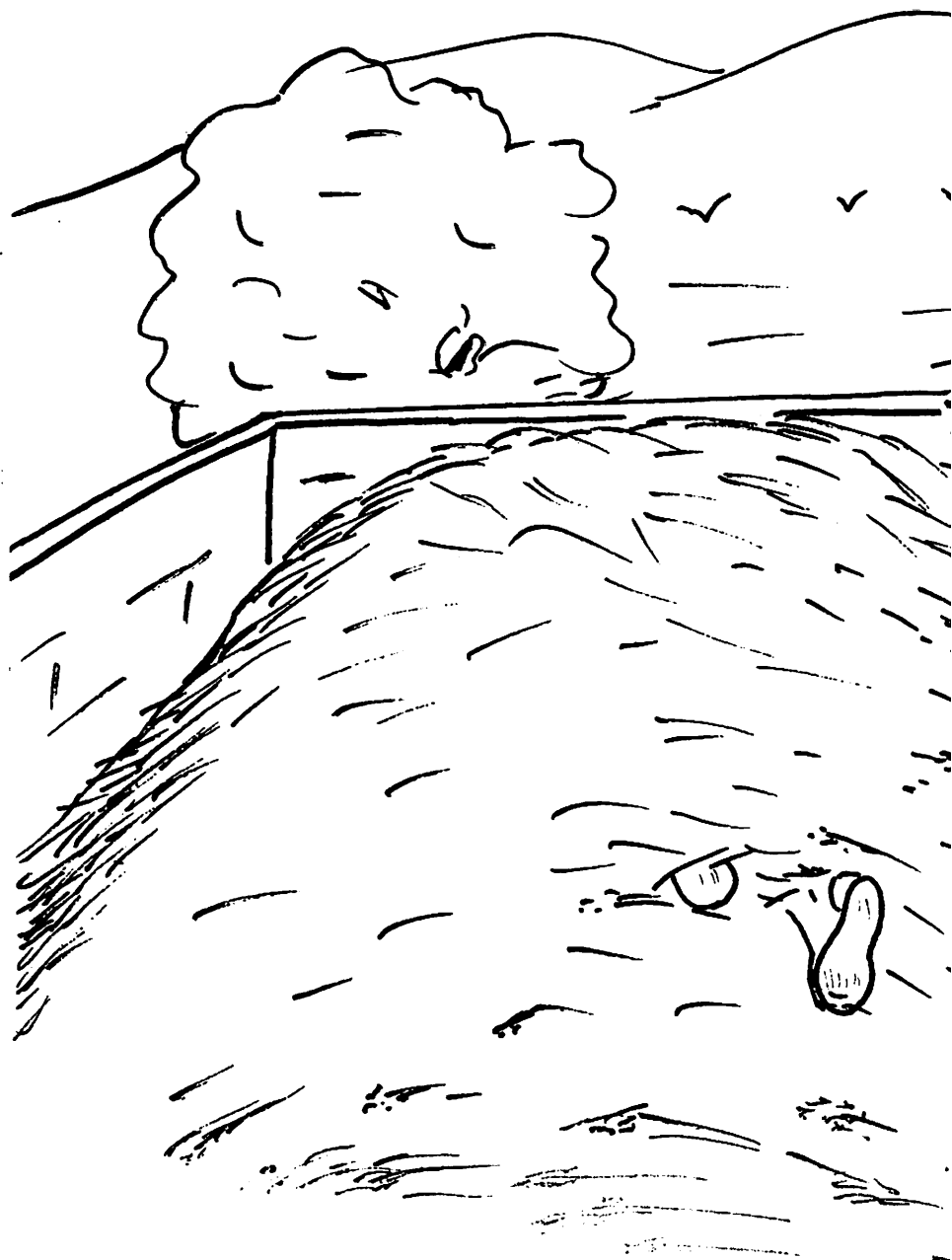
Secretly Joshua sent two men to spy out the city. He wanted to learn as much as possible about this strong city that they must capture. When the men reached Jericho, the gate was open so they went in. They came to a house on the wall that belonged to Rahab. Here they stopped to rest.

Meanwhile, someone who had seen the men walk through the gate hurried to tell the king that two strangers were in the city and were at Rahab's house. They suspected the two men were spies. "Two men of the children of Israel came in tonight to search out the country!" they told the king excitedly.

The king had heard about the Israelites who were camped just across Jordan. Everything he heard about them filled him with fear. These men must not be allowed to get back to the Israelites to tell what they had seen in Jericho! Immediately the king sent officers to Rahab's house to find the strangers.

As Rahab talked to the spies, she saw the officers coming. Quickly she told the men to climb to the roof of her house. Here she covered them with stalks of flax, until they were completely hidden.

"The king orders you, 'Bring out the men that have come into your house!'" the officers told Rahab. "About the time the gate is shut, when it was dark, the men went out," Rahab answered. "Go after them quickly and you may catch them."—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## The Train Engine Who Learned

"Darla, follow me," said Tony as he chugged around the kitchen table and then into the living room and around the rocker. "If you are going to be a good train car, you must follow the engine. Now move your arms like this and act like you are racing down the train track but don't run into me—I am the engine."

"Now we are entering a dark tunnel," announced Tony. He chugged down the hallway with Darla following close behind. "We are going into this bedroom and circling around the bed—oops, there is a wall in the way. Well, the wall won't move so I guess the train will have to back up. Scoot back, Darla, or I will run right over you. You don't want a train engine to flatten you out, do you?"

"Tony, I don't want to play train with you any more!" declared Darla. "I'm going to play with my dolls. They aren't so bossy!"

Darla left Tony standing in the middle of the bedroom all alone. How could he be a good train engine without any cars following? Tony went to Mother.

"No one wants to play train with me," he told Mother.

"I saw Darla playing very nicely with you," replied Mother. "What happened?"

"Oh, she didn't want to back up when I asked her to so, I nearly ran over her," said Tony with a shrug.

"Did you ask her nicely with a 'pretty please'? You see, Tony, there are two ways you can be a leader. One is by force and meanness, and the other way is by respect and compliments."

Tony thought about what Mother said as he went and found Darla. "Darla,

I won't run over you again if you will play train with me," Tony told her.

"Okay, Tony, I will play with you," she said.

This time Tony's voice had a softer tone to it when he said, "Line up behind me like this, Darla. Good. Darla, you make a good train car."

Out the back door went the engine and train car to circle around the trees in the back yard and to feed Romper some dog food. Because Tony had learned a valuable lesson in being a leader, he had a good friend to help him do the evening chores.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell



### QUESTIONS:

1. What river were the Israelites preparing to cross?
2. What strong city was just across the river?
3. Why were there strong walls around this city?
4. How many men did Joshua send to spy out the city?
5. Where did the men stop to rest?
6. Who sent officers to Rahab's house?
7. Who were the officers looking for?
8. Where did the spies hide?
9. Who ordered Rahab to bring the men out?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And the woman took the two men, and hid them, . . . Joshua 2:4a.

**LESSON TEXT:** Joshua 2:1-7.

(Answers: 1. Jordan River. 2. Jericho. 3. To keep enemies out. 4. Two. 5. At Rahab's house. 6. The king. 7. The two spies. 8. On Rahab's roof. 9. The king.)

# THE *BEAUTIFUL WAY*



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 22 Nov. 29, 1992

## A NARROW ESCAPE

After making sure the officers were gone, Rahab climbed back up to the roof where the spies were hidden. "I know that the Lord has given you this land," Rahab told the spies. "Everyone who lives here is afraid because we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you when you came out of Egypt. We heard what you did to the two kings of the Amorites, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. As soon as we heard these things our courage left us.

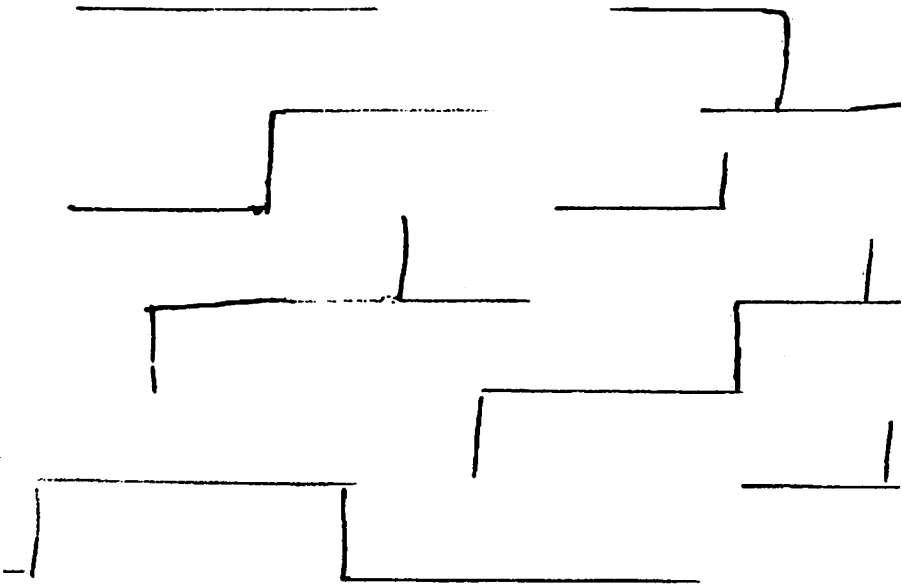
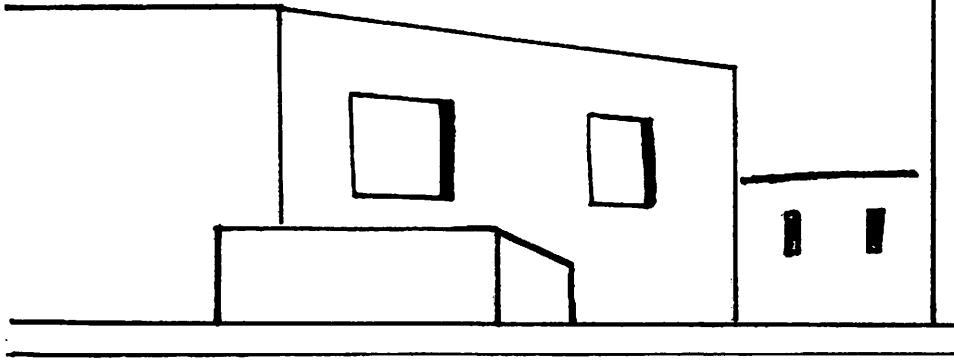
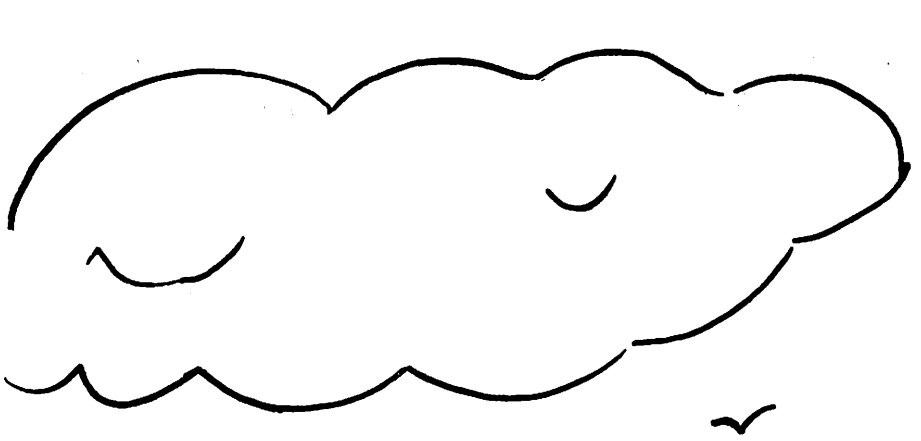
"Now, I beg you, promise me that you will show kindness to my father's house because I have showed you kindness. Give me a true token so I will know that you will save my father and mother, brothers and sisters, and their families from being killed."

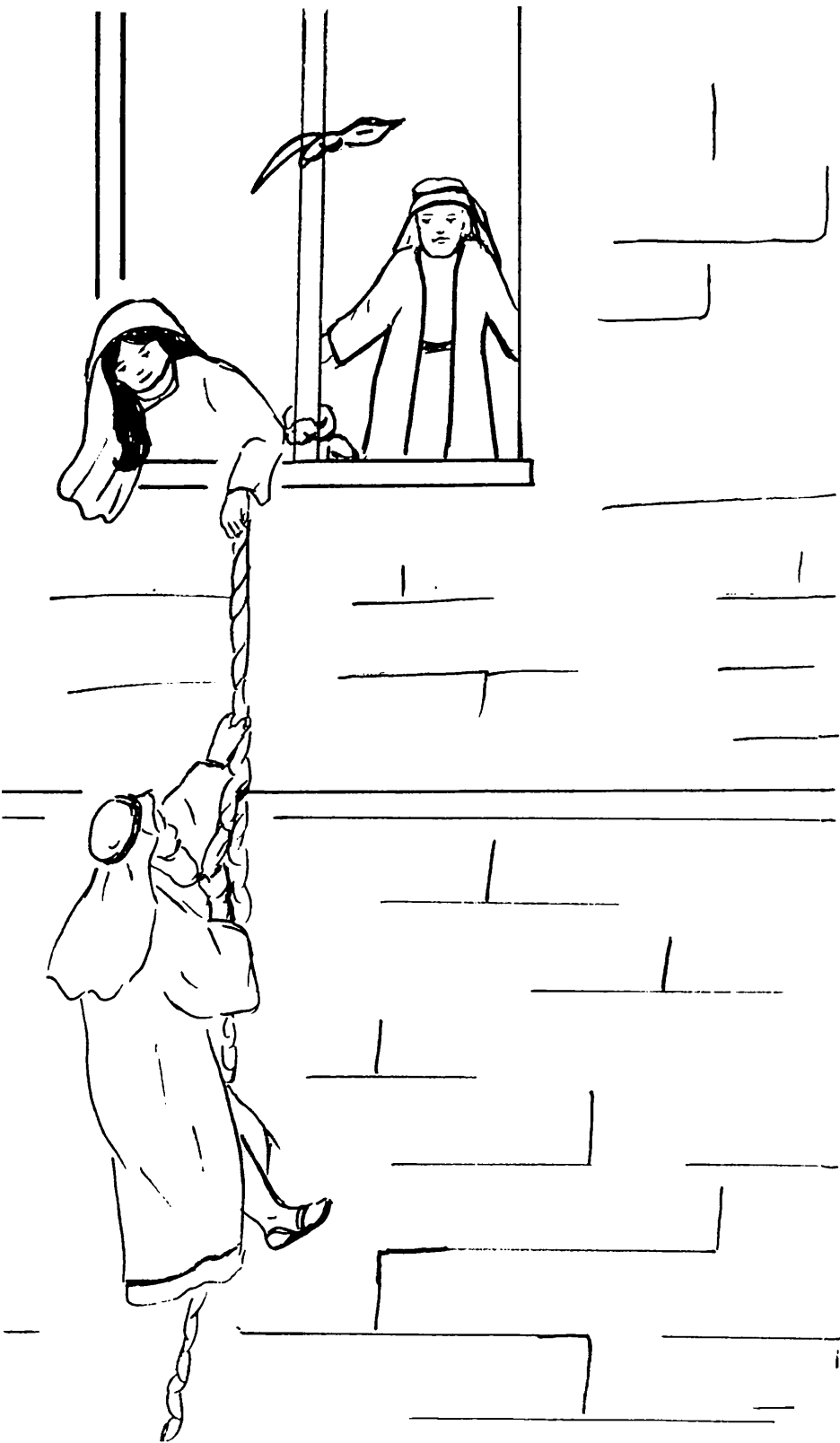
"Because you saved our lives, we will save yours and your family's," the spies assured her. "But you must not tell anyone about our business. When the Lord gives us this land we will show you kindness. Tie this red cord in the window of your house and we will not destroy it. No one inside the house will be killed, but we will not be responsible for the life of anyone who is not in this house."

"I will do as you say," Rahab answered. The city gates had been securely locked as soon as the officers went out in search of the spies. No one could leave the city through the gate. So Rahab dropped a strong rope out her window outside the city wall. The spies climbed down the rope to safety. "Go to the mountain and hide there for three days until the king stops looking for you," Rahab instructed.

The spies were glad to be out of the city safely. They did as Rahab had instructed. After three days they made their way back down the mountain to the camp of the Israelites.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Our Own Special Place

It was bedtime and Mother was tucking Darla into bed. "Mother, would you miss me if I died?" she asked.

"Why, of course I would miss you!" exclaimed Mother. "No one is just like my Darla."

"You could have another little girl like me."

"No, Darla, even if I had another little girl, she would not be just like you. You have a special place in our family and in our hearts. Your hair, your eyes, your skin color—they all blend together to make you one of a kind. Even though you favor your brother, Tony, yet your noses are not just alike. You have your own special look. No one can ever take your place."

"You have Tony. He is bigger and he takes a bigger place than I do," said Darla.

"But Tony is not you. He has his own special place but it does not crowd you out. You are a big part of our family and very important to us all."

"I don't act like Tony, either, do I?"

"No, not at all," smiled Mother. "You are quiet and rather shy while Tony is much more active and curious. You each have your own personality and the Lord wants to mold your personality for His service."

"He wants to mold me? What do you mean by that, Mother?"

"Remember how you take Play Dough, roll it, twist it, and poke it with your fingers?" Darla nodded.

"That Play Dough will make anything you want it to be, right?" asked Mother.

"Well, sorta," said Darla. "I wish I could make more things with it but I don't know how."

"The more you work with Play Dough, the better you will be able to form it and make it do what you want," replied Mother. "That is the way it is when God works with you. The more God works with your personality, the better person you will become."

Darla sighed. "Some day I want to lead the singing in church. Do you think God can help me do that?"

"Well, Darla, let God form you into a sweet girl. Then, if you have a talent for singing, He will use that talent as you give it to Him."—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who climbed back up to the roof where the spies were hidden?
2. Why were the people afraid of the Israelites?
3. What did Rahab want the spies to promise?
4. What must Rahab tie in her window?
5. What had been locked so no one could leave the city?
6. What did Rahab drop out her window?
7. How did the spies get out of the city?
8. Where did the spies go?
9. How long did they stay there?

**MEMORY VERSE:** Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall. Joshua 2:15a.

**LESSON TEXT:** Joshua 2:8-22.

(Answers: 1. Rahab. 2. They had heard what the Lord had done for the Israelites. 3. To save the lives of her and her family. 4. A red cord. 5. The city gate. 6. A strong rope. 7. They climbed down the rope. 8. To the mountain. 9. Three days.)



**THE**

# *BEAUTIFUL WAY*



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**Vol. 43, No. 4   Primaries (USPS540-000)   Part 23   Dec. 6, 1992**

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## **AN ANGEL'S VISIT**

One day God sent the angel named Gabriel to a city of Galilee, named Nazareth. A young woman named Mary lived in this small town. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph. Mary was all alone when Gabriel suddenly appeared before her and said, "Hail, you are highly favored and the Lord is with you. You are blessed above all women." Mary was troubled. "What does all this mean?" she wondered. "Do not be afraid, Mary," the angel assured her. "You have found favor with God. You will have a baby son and you will call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest. God will give the throne of David to Him and He will rule over the people of God for ever. There will never be an end to His kingdom."

"How can this be?" Mary asked, "I am not married."

"The Holy Ghost will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you," the angel explained. "This child will be called the Son of God." "I am the handmaid of the Lord," Mary answered, "Let it be as you have said."

Gabriel had more good news for Mary. "Your cousin Elisabeth is going to have a son also. With God nothing is impossible!" he said.

Gabriel then vanished as suddenly as he had appeared. Mary believed everything Gabriel had said. Her mind was in a whirl. She must share the news with someone, but who would it be? Then she thought about her cousin, Elisabeth. How happy she must be after praying for a son for so many years! Mary knew she could talk to her about the wonderful news.

So Mary made the long trip to Elisabeth's house. As soon as Elisabeth saw Mary, she knew that Mary would be the mother of the promised Savior. "You will be blessed because you have believed. The Lord will do all that He told you," Elisabeth assured her.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## The Christmas Tree

By the cozy fireplace Tony and Darla were lying on their stomachs coloring in their new Christmas coloring books. Mother was in her chair knitting a sweater for a Christmas gift and Daddy was working on business papers at his desk.

As Tony colored, he began to sing a song and the words were all about a Christmas tree.

"I like Christmas trees, don't you, Tony?" Darla asked as she picked up a red crayon. She sighed. "I wish we could have a big Christmas tree."

"We do have a big Christmas tree," said Tony. "Remember the one decorated at the town square? That tree is for everyone who lives in this town which means us."

Daddy and Mother had heard this conversation between their two children. Daddy put aside his papers and Mother laid down her knitting.

"Come, children, let's have a talk about the Christmas tree," said Daddy.

"We want you to know why we don't have one," said Mother.

Daddy picked up his Bible. "In Jeremiah 10:1-5, we read how the heathen had a custom of worshipping trees decorated with gold and silver. The Bible says: 'Learn not the way of the heathen . . . for the customs of the people are vain; for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, . . . they deck it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.' A heathen does not know the true God, so he does not

worship right. We know the true God and His Son, Jesus Christ, so we don't follow the way of the heathens."

"I don't want a Christmas tree now," said Darla quietly.

"In the town square, why don't they have baby Jesus in the manger instead of a tree?" asked Tony.

"It is sad," agreed Daddy. "We need to pray for our country because people are drifting farther and farther away from the true meaning of Christmas. We want to only worship Jesus like the shepherds and wise men did on the first Christmas."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who did God send to Nazareth?
2. Who lived in Nazareth?
3. Who was she engaged to marry?
4. What did Gabriel say would happen to Mary?
5. What would His name be?
6. Who was Elisabeth?
7. What was going to happen to her?
8. Who vanished as suddenly as he appeared?
9. Whose house did Mary go to?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. Luke 1:30.

**LESSON TEXT:** Luke 1:26-56.

[Answers: 1. Gabriel. 2. Mary. 3. Joseph. 4. She would have a baby son. 5. Jesus. 6. Mary's cousin. 7. She was going to have a son also. 8. Gabriel. 9. Elisabeth's.]

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 24 Dec. 13, 1992

## HIS NAME IS JOHN

Mary's cousin Elisabeth lived in Judea. Her husband, Zacharias, was a priest. Elisabeth and Zacharias both loved the Lord and served Him perfectly. For many years they had prayed for a son but now they were getting old and had never had a child.

One day while Zacharias burned incense in the temple, an angel appeared to him. Zacharias was filled with fear when he saw the angel. But the angel spoke to him and said, "Fear not. Your prayer is heard and your wife Elisabeth will have a son. You will call his name John. This son will bring joy and gladness to you and many other people. He will be great in the sight of the Lord because he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God."

"How can I know this will happen?" Zacharias asked in disbelief. "My wife and I are too old to have a child."

"I am Gabriel," the angel said. "I stand in the presence of God and am sent to tell you these things. Because you do not believe my words, you will not be able to speak until after your son is born."

The people wondered why Zacharias stayed in the temple so long. When he did come out he could not speak but only made signs with his hands. They decided he had seen a vision while in the temple.

Just as the angel said, Zacharias and Elisabeth did have a baby son. When the baby was eight days old, it was time to give him a name. Friends who gathered in for the happy occasion were sure he would be named Zacharias, so that is what they called him. "Not so," Elisabeth told them, "But he shall be called John."

The people made signs to Zacharias, asking him the baby's name. Zacharias asked for a writing tablet. On it he wrote, "His name is John." When he had done this, Zacharias found that he could speak. He began to praise God and thank Him for his wonderful baby son.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Love One Another

"Mother! Jack tripped me!" screamed Betty.

"I didn't either!" called Jack. "She fell down when she tried to kick me!"

"Children," said Mother, "the Bible says to love one another. You don't know how glad you should be to have each other. I didn't have a brother or a sister, and I wanted one so much. It's not fun being the only child."

"I wish I were an only child!" said Betty crossly.

"Me, too!" said Jack.

"Well then, you may be an only child for two weeks each," said Mother. "Grandfather and Grandmother want you to visit them on the farm for two weeks. We'll let each of you go for one week. Jack may go first, because he is older."

"Oh, goody!" cried both children together.

Jack didn't have as much fun on the farm as he thought he would. Betty had a good time by herself at home for a day or two. But soon she began to miss Jack, and when the week was over, she was glad. Now she could go to the farm.

Jack wasn't happy at home by himself. He wanted Betty to come back.

Betty didn't have much fun at the farm either. She didn't like to do things by herself. At last the week was over. Grandfather and Grandmother brought Betty home.

"Who would like to be an only child?" asked Mother.

"Not I!" said Jack and Betty together.

"I didn't have a good time at home, or on the farm either," said Betty.

"I didn't either," said Jack.

"I didn't like having just one at a time as well as when they both come," said Grandmother.

"Why not let them both come back to the farm for a week?" asked Grandfather.

So Jack and Betty both went back to the farm. This time they had a good time. When they went back home, they still remembered to be nice to each other.

"It's better to love each other, as the Bible says," said Betty. "We have a much better time that way."

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... let us love one another; for love is of God; .  
.. I John 4:7.

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### QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Elisabeth live?
2. What was her husband's name?
3. What had Elisabeth and her husband prayed for for many years?
4. What appeared to him in the temple?
5. What was promised to Elisabeth and her husband?
6. Why was Zacharias unable to speak?
7. What did the neighbors want to name the baby?
8. What did Zacharias and Elisabeth name the baby?
9. When did Zacharias find he could speak again?

**MEMORY VERSE:** And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying His name is John . . . John 1:63a.

**LESSON TEXT:** John 1:5-25; 57-80.

(Answers: 1. In Judea. 2. Zacharias. 3. A son. 4. An angel. 5. A son. 6. Because he did not believe the angel's words. 7. Zacharias. 8. John. 9. After he wrote, "His name is John".)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 25 Dec. 20, 1992

## A KING IS BORN

Cesar Augustus, the Roman emperor, commanded everyone to report to the city from which their family had come, to be taxed. Joseph and Mary had to make the long trip to Bethlehem even though the baby God had promised them was soon to be born.

Many people had to report to Bethlehem so the small town was soon overcrowded. After the long trip Mary was very tired. Joseph knew she must have a good quiet place to rest. He was willing to pay for a room at the inn but when he asked, he was told there was not a single room left. There was nowhere to spend the night except in a stable where the animals were kept. Mary was too tired to look further so they gathered straw for a bed so she could rest. There baby Jesus was born. Mary lovingly wrapped Him in swaddling clothes. His cradle was the manger which had been filled with soft hay.

Nearby shepherds were in the field watching over their flocks that night. Suddenly the shepherds were startled by a very bright light which shined all around them. Then they saw the angel of the Lord and they were terrified!

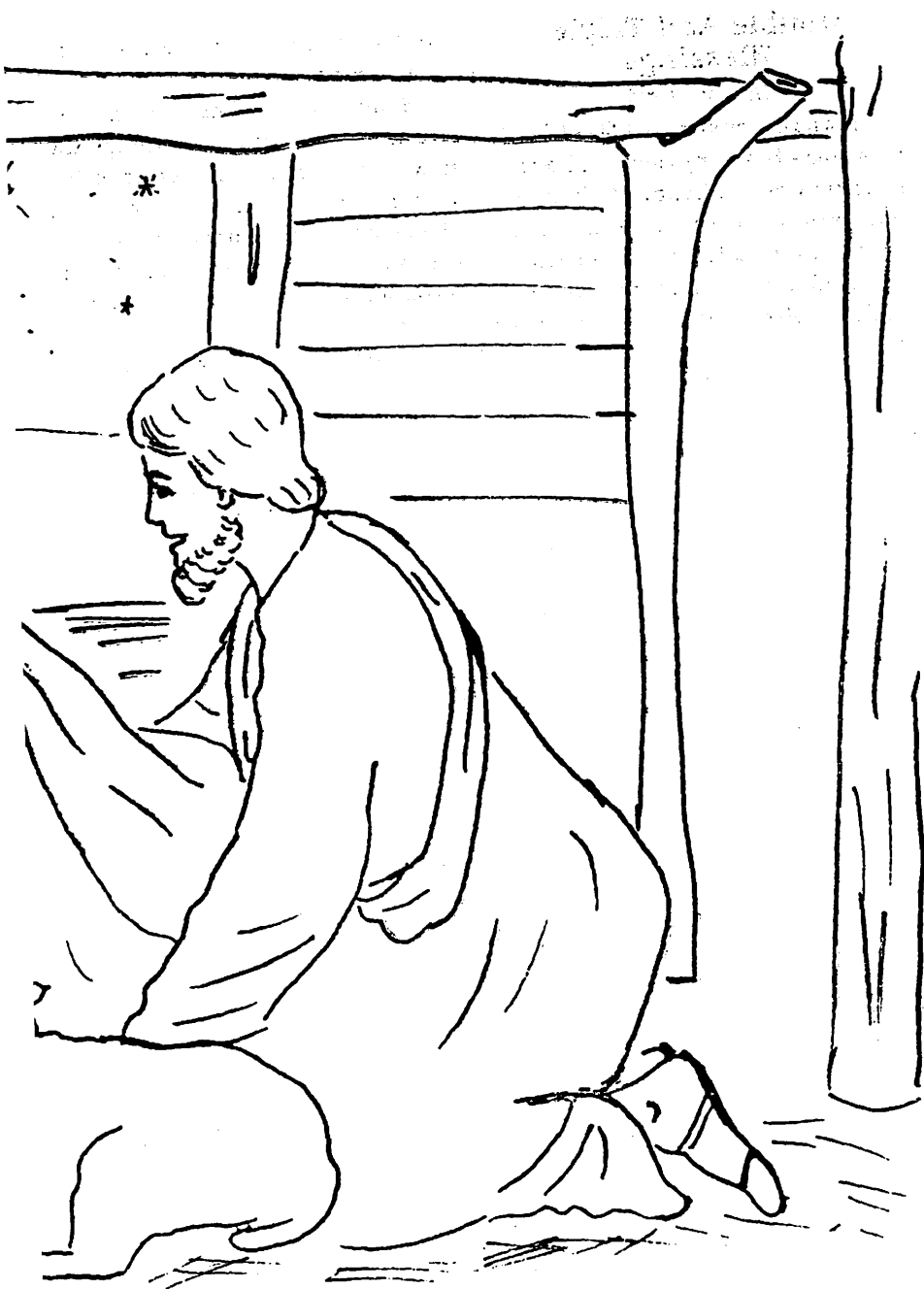
"Fear not," the angel told them, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord! You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

Then the startled shepherds saw a whole multitude of angels praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Quickly the shepherds left their sheep and hurried to Bethlehem. There they found the baby lying in the manger wrapped in swaddling clothes, just as the angel had said. As they returned to their sheep, they praised God for all they had seen and heard.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Double And Triple Blessings

(A true story)

It was December 23, 1910—Christmas time—but a tiny village in Czechoslovakia was not happy at all. It was not because the wind, ice, and snow were so bitter cold but it was because nearly all the small, humble cottages had a big black X painted on their door post.

A very dangerous disease called diphtheria was spreading from one house to another. When a black X was painted on the door post, it warned other people not to enter the house because they could get the disease that was there.

One young mother named Suzanna was crying very sadly. Within one week all three of her children had died with diphtheria. Now she had no children to eat her Christmas dinner and no one to wear the little clothes she had knitted and sewed for them.

Her husband, Jano, was very sad, also. He could not eat any bread and soup that night because he was sick. "I don't think I will live long either," he told Suzanna.

She began to pray. Her arms ached so much for her children and now her husband might leave her alone—what a dismal Christmas!

Suzanna gathered some kindling wood and built a fire for the night. All the while she was praying that the Lord would spare her husband's life.

The next morning dawned cold and gray. Suzanna looked out the small door window to the stern Tatra Mountains overshadowing their village. She remembered the scripture: "I will look to the hills from whence

cometh my help." Then she prayed for her husband's life.

Suddenly Suzanna saw an old peasant woman trudging through the snow to their house. In her hand the woman carried a jar of clear liquid. She knocked on the door. The woman held out the jar of clear liquid and told Suzanna how to wipe her husband's mouth with the liquid.

Suzanna did as the old woman had told her and it did help her husband. This gave Suzanna a touch of hope that Christmas time.

Later, Suzanna was blessed with nine children. Christmas once again became a time of rejoicing for Suzanna and Jano. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Caesar Augustus?
2. Where did Joseph and Mary have to go?
3. Who was very tired after the trip?
4. Where did they find room to rest?
5. What was usually kept there?
6. Who was born that night?
7. What was filled with soft hay for the baby's cradle?
8. Who did the angel appear to in the field?
9. What did they do as they returned to their sheep?

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

**LESSON TEXT:** Luke 2:1-20.

(Answers: 1. The Roman emperor. 2. Bethlehem. 3. Mary. 4. In a stable. 5. Animals. 6. Baby Jesus. 7. The manger. 8. Shepherds. 9. They praised God.)

**THE**

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



**Vol. 43, No. 4 Primaries (USPS540-000) Part 26 Dec. 27, 1992**

## **CROSSING JORDAN**

As soon as it was safe, the two spies hurried to tell Joshua what they had learned. "Surely the Lord has delivered all that land into our hands! The people of Jericho are afraid to fight because they think we are too strong for them."

Joshua now knew that the Lord would be with them in fighting against the great city of Jericho. Early the next morning the children of Israel broke camp and moved on to the very edge of the Jordan River. Here they set up camp again.

After three days of waiting, Joshua sent officers through the camp, "When you see the priests carrying the ark of the Lord, then move from camp and follow it," they told the people.

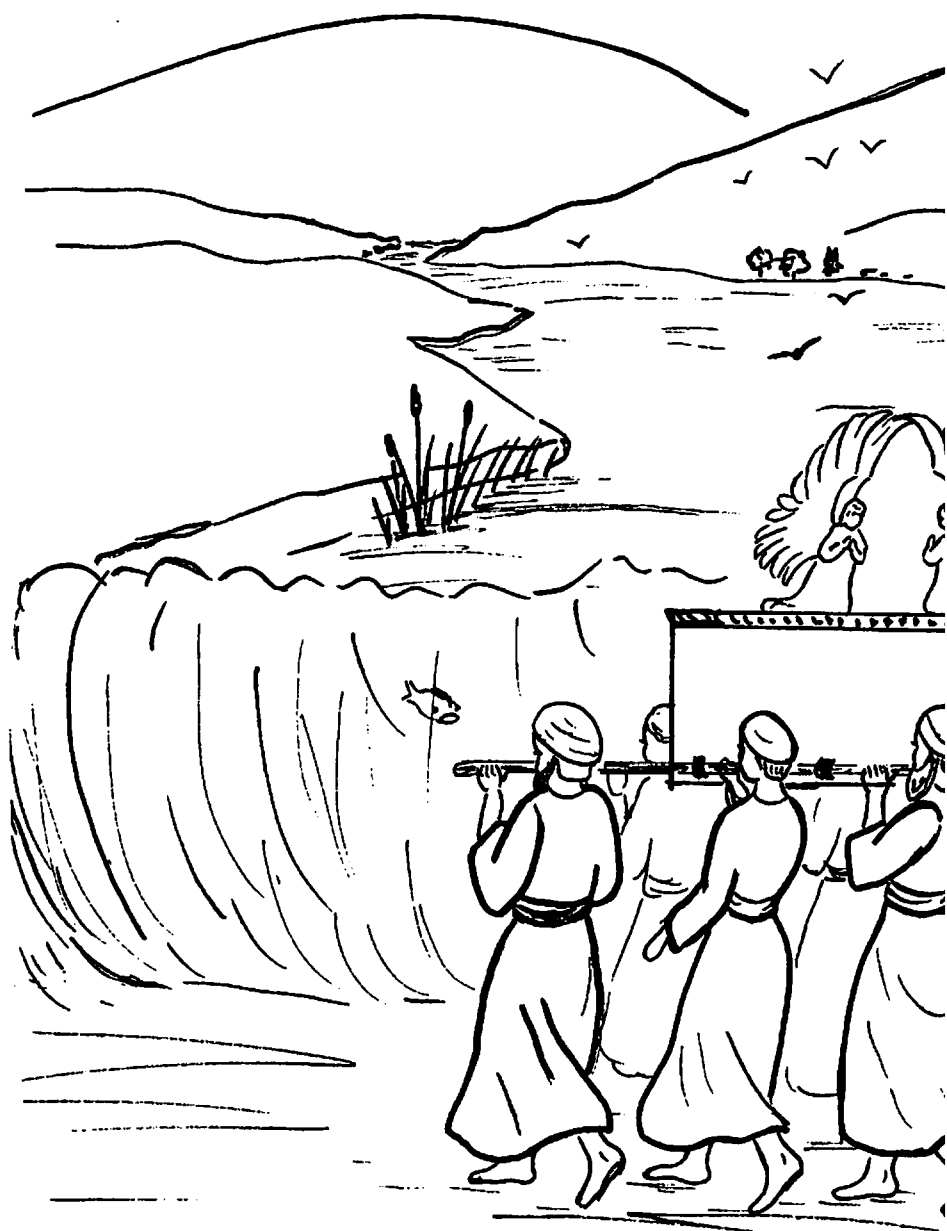
From their camp the children of Israel could look across the Jordan River and see the beautiful land of Canaan. But how could they get across the river? There was no bridge and they had no boats. While the people wondered, Joshua told them, "Be ready, because tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you!" The people were anxious to see how the Lord would help them this time.

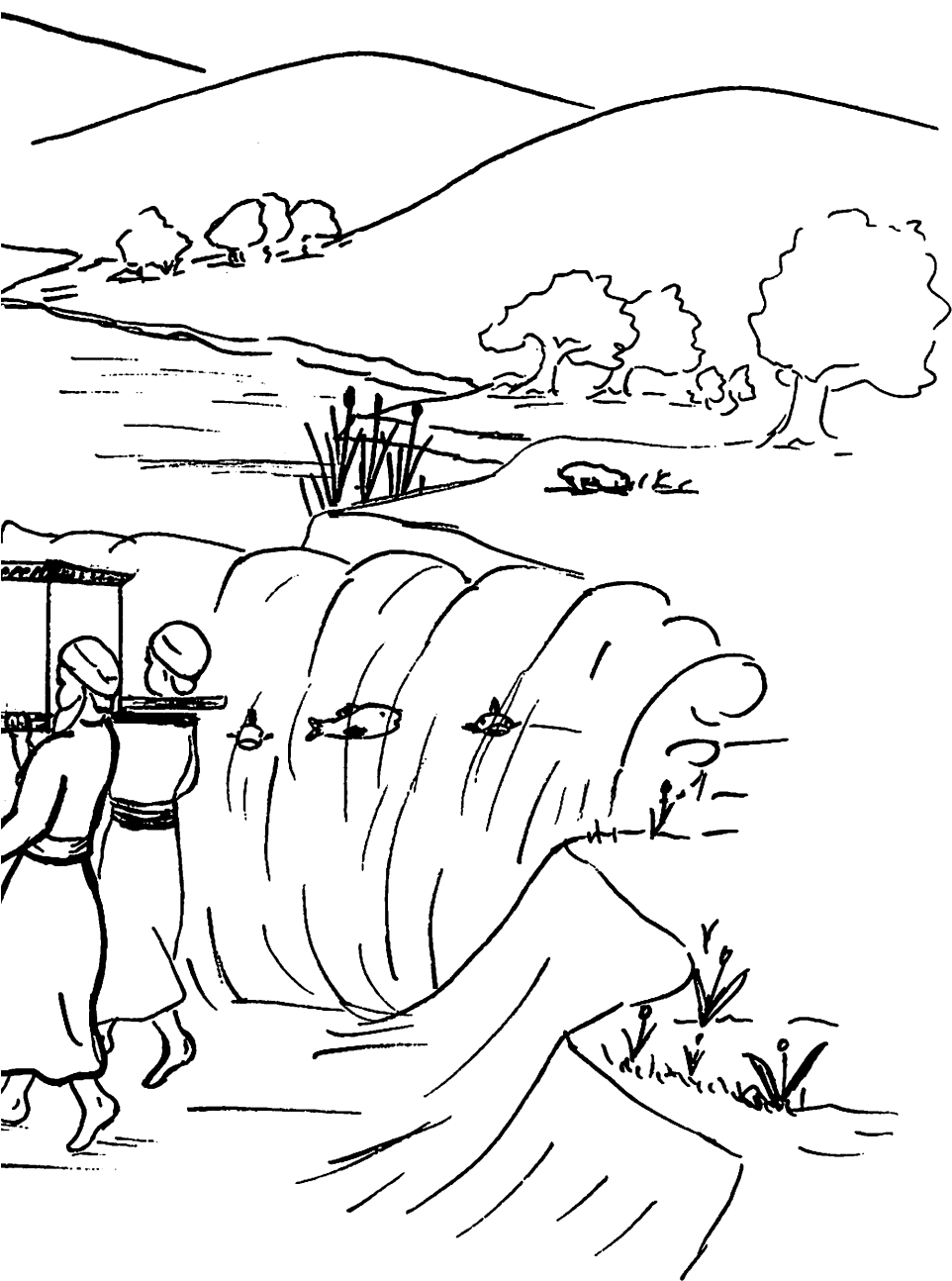
The next day Joshua told the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people." Then the people followed as Joshua had instructed.

"Command the priests that bear the ark, saying, 'When you come to the edge of the water of Jordan, you will stand still in Jordan,'" the Lord told Joshua. As the priests obeyed and stepped into the river, the rushing waters piled up as if they were being held back by a great wall. The people were able to cross the river on dry ground.

The priests that carried the ark stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan river until all the Israelites had passed over and were safe on the other side.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell





## Shortwave Friends Who Helped

"I feel like a frog in a deep well swimming around and around the edges trying to get out but without any hope," said Seth Keo, a young Cambodian refugee living in a dirty camp on the Thailand border.

He was talking on his shortwave 'ham' radio to Ned Raub who lived halfway around the world in Connecticut, USA. Ned felt very sorry for his friend who did not know where his family was—if they were alive—and who felt so hopeless.

"Be of good cheer, my friend," he told his sad friend. "I care and will try to help you."

Little by little Seth told Ned about his family and past. "When I was twelve," he said, "my father was killed by soldiers. The rest of my family ran away from our home where the fighting was so terrible. I became lost from my mother, brothers, and sisters. I was captured by the soldiers and forced to dig huge ditches. It was very hard. I was told that my family was killed but I wish I knew for sure what happened to them. I pray for them."

One day a new man in the camp told Seth that he had seen a note from Seth's mother on a bulletin board in the Philippine Islands. She was looking for him. Seth was excited! He told Ned, "My mother may be alive and living in the Philippines! Isn't that wonderful news? I just want to be with my family again."

Ned was happy for him and together they talked on their shortwave radios to persons in the Philippines which were thousands of miles

from both of them. A man named Cooter agreed to help Seth and he began to look for Seth's mother and family at a refugee camp there in the Philippines.

Ned and Cooter worked faithfully for Seth's reunion to his family.

When Seth finally walked off an airplane onto American land, where his family had been relocated, Seth and his mother hugged each other and were so very happy to be together again. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

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### QUESTIONS:

1. Who hurried to tell Joshua what they had learned?
2. Who was afraid to fight?
3. Who now knew the Lord would be with them?
4. Who were to carry the ark of the Lord?
5. What could the people see across the Jordan River?
6. What did the people do when the priests took up the ark?
7. What happened when the priests stepped into the river?
8. How did the people cross the river?
9. How long did the priests stand in the middle of the river?

**MEMORY VERSE:** and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground in the midst of Jordan. Joshua 3:17b.

**LESSON TEXT:** Joshua 3.

(Answers: 1. The two spies. 2. The people of Jericho. 3. Joshua. 4. The priests. 5. The beautiful land of Canaan. 6. They followed. 7. The water piled up. 8. They walked across on dry land. 9. Until all the people had passed over.)