

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## THE MESSAGE OF THE ARROWS

Saul would not stop hunting David. David came to his friend, Jonathan, and said, "Why does your father, King Saul, want to kill me?"

Jonathan said, "My father would not kill you. I would know if he was trying to."

"It is true that he wants to kill me," David said. "He is not telling you because he knows you love me."

Jonathan said, "I will help you in any way."

David said, "Your father is giving a feast tomorrow. I am supposed to be there but I will not be. I will hide instead. If your father is mad at me you will know he wants to kill me."

Jonathan said, "I will tell you if he is. Hide in the field and I will come to shoot arrows. I will send a boy to fetch them. If I tell the boy, 'The arrows are past you,' you will know my father wants to kill you."

Then Jonathan told David that he knew David would be king. "Promise me that you will be kind to my family," Jonathan said.

David promised.

The next day was the feast. King Saul noticed that David was not there but he did not say anything. "Something must have happened to him," he thought.

The second day David still was not there. Saul said to Jonathan, "Where is David?"

Jonathan said, "His brother asked him to come home."

When Saul heard this, he became very angry. "Why are you hiding him? Don't you know you will never be king as long as David is alive?!" he said.

Jonathan said, "What has he done wrong?"

Saul threw his javelin at Jonathan. Jonathan left. He knew his father planned to kill David.

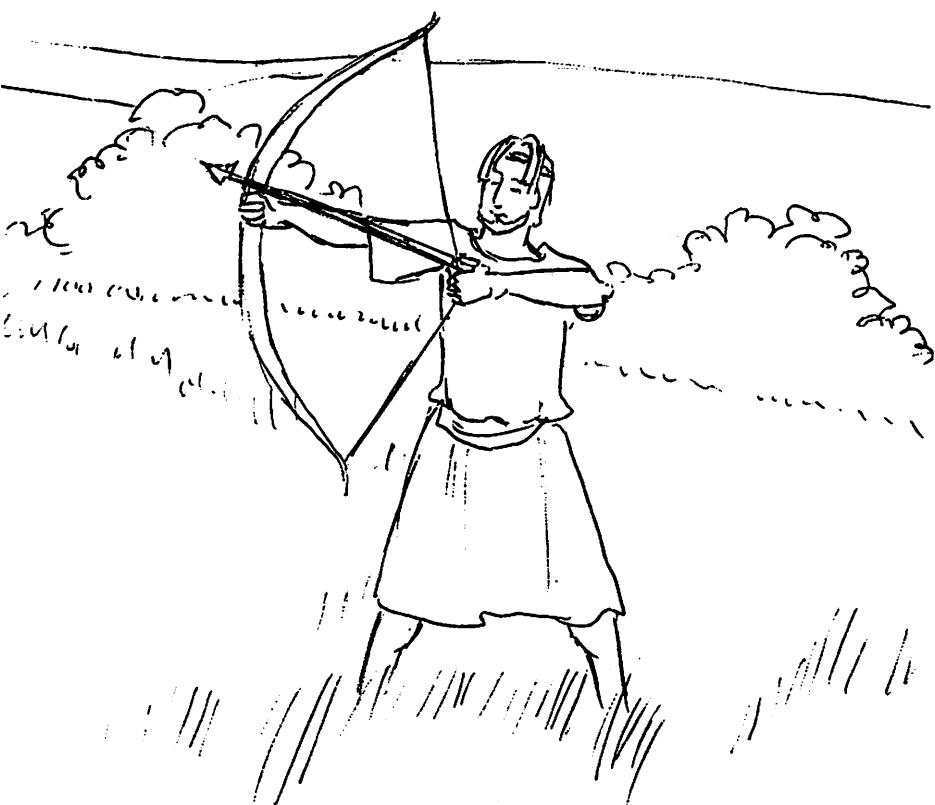
Jonathan went out to shoot arrows. As the boy ran to fetch them, he shot another one past him and called, "The arrow is beyond you." Then he sent the boy back to the city.

David came out of hiding and they hugged each other. They knew they would probably not see each other again. Then David went away and Jonathan went home.

—Joanna Booher



As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.  
1 Samuel 20:36.



# Honor The Freedom Fighters

(Factual Names)

A Red Cross uniform lay beside a Bronze Star on top of a cabinet in the lobby of Statesman Club Retirement Center. A bullet, chunk of metal, a battered Bible, and other fifty-year-old items were there. Black and white pictures told some of the story why.

These are personal souvenirs of World War II. The elderfolks who live at this retirement center loaned their keepsakes to the supervisor who made this display. David Wirth wanted to honor the men and women who served the United States of America in World War II. Mr. Wirth was surprised to learn many secrets about these courageous veterans.

Bob Estep was an engineer who helped build Navy ships for battle. Doug Strickland flew in a bomber jet over enemy territory. Fred Murnane was in the U.S. Army. These men, along with thousands of other military people, helped defend our nation and others from evil rulers.

Because men and women in the past years were willing to fight, today we have freedom to worship together at church buildings and we can elect our government leaders by voting. These are great freedoms that we must be thankful for. Let us appreciate the older people who gave time, energy, talents and prayed prayers for the freedom we enjoy today.

In a cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, row after row of white grave stones mark places where brave soldiers are buried. These men and women gave their lives in battle. Let us respect them and their families for their ultimate sacrifice.

Many war veterans carry wounds on their bodies from gun or bomb shells. Duncan Threlkeld was a war

surgeon who helped hundreds of injured men in a makeshift hospital tent at the war front. Because he helped save so many lives, Mr. Threlkeld won a Bronze Star, which is a high military award.

Anna Lee McFall was a Red Cross nurse who also helped the wounded. These elder folks have many interesting stories that they can tell.

Perhaps you may know someone who served our country in war. Ask them to tell you about it. Always appreciate the freedom that America has.

Others in our past history have fought for it and many gave their lives that we may live free today. Most important of all, thank God for our freedom and always pray for our nation. We want to keep this heritage.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who was trying to kill David?
2. Did Jonathan know his father wanted to kill David?
3. Did Jonathan want to help David?
4. What did Jonathan ask David to promise?
5. What did Saul say the first day David was not at the feast?
6. How did Saul feel when Jonathan told him David could not come?
7. What did Saul throw at Jonathan?
8. What did Jonathan say when the boy ran to get the arrows?
9. Did this mean it was safe for David to come back?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Samuel 20.

(Answers: 1. King Saul.  
2. No. 3. Yes. 4. To be kind to his family.  
5. Nothing. 6. Angry.  
7. His javelin. 8. "The arrow is beyond you."  
9. No.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 July 8, 2001

## DAVID'S BAND

David ran from Saul and came to Ahimelech, the priest.

Ahimelech said, "Why are you alone?"

David said, "The King has sent me on special business. I cannot tell anyone what it is. Do you have anything for me to eat?"

Ahimelech said, "I have only the shewbread, that only the priests are supposed to eat. But if you are clean I will give it to you."

So David took the shewbread. "Do you have any weapons?" he asked. "I had to leave so fast that I did not bring any with me."

Ahimelech said, "I have here Goliath's sword, that you took from him. You may take it."

David took the sword and ran away to another country. He came to Achish, the king of Gath.

The servants of King Achish said, "Is not this David? Didn't the Israelites sing 'Saul has killed thousands but David ten thousands'?"

David heard them saying this and he was afraid. He pretended to be crazy. He let himself drool and scratched at the walls.

King Achish said, "Why have you brought a crazy man to me? Do I want a crazy man in my house?"

So David was able to run away from Gath. He went and lived in a cave. When his brothers heard where he was, they came and lived with him.

More men came to live and fight with David. They were men who were in trouble or were in debt. David became a leader over them.

Saul heard that David was hiding and had men with him. He said to his servants. "Will none of you help me? Are you all on David's side?"

One man said, "I saw David. Ahimelech the priest gave him food and a sword."

Saul sent for Ahimelech and the priests and said, "Why have you helped my enemy?"

Ahimelech said, "I did not know David was your enemy. He has always served you."

Saul was angry and had all the priests killed.

One priest escaped and told David. David was very sorry. "I have caused the deaths of all these men," he said.

—Joanna Booher



And t  
Philis  
behol  
ephod



est said, The sword of Goliath the  
hom thou slewest in the valley of Elah,  
here wrapped in a cloth behind the  
amuel 21:9.

# The Storm Of Tears

(A True Story.)

Dawn sighed as she watched a big passenger plane land on the Seattle airport runway. This jet was her way home. She was ready to return to Washington D.C. where her family lived.

In time the arriving passengers came down the extended hallway to the terminal so that the oncoming passengers could board the plane. With her handbag in hand, Dawn made her way down the hallway. She edged herself down the aisle of the plane and squeezed into a middle seat on Row Four.

Dawn found a place for her handbag and buckled her seatbelt. Then her eyes saw the babies already on board the plane. There were five of them on the first row with three adults caring for them. The babies were awake and fussing as their attendants organized bottles, blankets and other baby items.

The plane door was closed, announcements were made, and the plane began to move down the runway. As soon as the plane left the ground, all the babies began to cry. The crying echoed around and around and down the aisle of the plane. Every passenger on the plane could hear the babies cry and many began to complain.

Finally a passenger asked one of the babies' attendants, "What is the matter with your babies?"

"I am sorry about the crying," replied the attendant. "These babies are weary. We have traveled all the way from Korea so they can be adopted to waiting parents."

"Would it help if some of us held them?" asked another passenger. So

the babies were passed down the aisle and one by one someone took a baby to hold. Dawn held a baby girl wrapped in a fluffy white blanket. She smiled at the little black eyes staring up at her.

As soon as the babies were snuggled into caring arms, the crying stopped. Compassionate hearts and gentle hands calmed the storm of tears. All through the flight the babies were contented to drink their bottles and sleep in the arms of friends.

Sometimes we can be in heart-breaking trouble and cry little rivers down our cheeks. Then Jesus comes to our rescue. He takes us in His arms of love and He calms the fears that rage within us. We are safe in His care. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who did David go see?
2. What did the priest give him to eat?
3. Whose sword did the priest give to David?
4. What was the name of the king of Gath?
5. How did David feel when he heard the Philistines talking about him?
6. What did David pretend to be?
7. Did King Achish want David around when he acted crazy?
8. What did King Saul do to all the priests?
9. How did David feel when he heard the priests were dead?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Samuel 21-22:23.

(Answers: 1. Ahimelech, the priest.  
2. The shewbread. 3. Goliath's.  
4. Achish. 5. Afraid. 6. Crazy.  
7. No. 8. Had them killed. 9. Sorry.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 July 15, 2001

## THE LORD'S ANOINTED

Someone told David, "The Philistines are robbing the Israelites at Keilah."

David asked God, "Shall I go and fight the Philistines?"

God said, "Yes, go."

David's men were afraid. They said, "Aren't we running for our lives already? Why should we go to fight for Keilah?"

David asked God again and God said, "Go, fight, and save the city of Keilah."

King Saul heard that David had gone with his men to fight at Keilah. He called his men to go and fight against David. "David is shut in," he told his men. "He is in a city that has gates and bars."

God told David that he was not safe in Keilah so David took his men and fled. King Saul came after him every day but God would not let Saul catch him.

David was hiding in the woods. His friend Jonathan came to him there and encouraged him. "Fear not," he said. "My father will not catch you. You will be king and I will be next to you. My father knows this." Then Jonathan went back to his home.

Saul's men came close to catching David one time. They were coming on one side of a mountain and David was running with his men on the other side.

Suddenly, news came to Saul, "The Philistines have moved into the country! Come back and chase them out." So Saul had to go home.

Another time, David and his men were hiding in a cave. Saul came by the cave not knowing they were there. He went in to relax.

David's men said to David, "Now, kill him."

But David said, "I will not kill the Lord's anointed king." He cut a piece off Saul's robe instead.

Saul went out of the cave. David came behind him and called, "My King! I could have killed you today but I didn't. Why are you trying to kill me?"

Saul cried and said, "Is that you, my son, David? You have been a better man than I. When you are king, please be merciful to my family."

Then King Saul went home. But David went into hiding again.

—Joanna Booher



Behold, this day thine eyes have seen  
The Lord had delivered thee to day into mine hands:  
and some bade me kill thee:...



that the  
and in the  
el 24:10.

## Preparing For Monark

"It is almost time for Monark Springs Camp meeting," said Dad at the supper table. "This week I will check over the car and make sure everything is in good running condition."

"Yes, thank you," said Mother. "I plan to get all the laundry washed early so that we can pack by Friday morning."

"That will be good," said Dad. "We need to have all our bedding, towels, clothes, ice chest and everything ready so we can leave when I get home from work Friday evening."

"Yeh," cheered Jerry, Linda and Randy. Even baby Allen smiled and cooed because he knew his family was happy. Through the year the family thought about Monark and the wonderful time they have with the family of God. Truly, this camp meeting was the highlight of their summer.

"Right now might be a good time to go over our basic camp meeting rules," said Dad. "It is nice to be with our friends and family but we must have some order in our visit. What is our number one rule?"

"Be ready to eat when the bell rings!" said Jerry with a sly grin.

"Now, Jerry," Dad replied with a smile. "That isn't rule number one. There are three services each day and I always say..."

"...Be ready for church when the bell rings!" finished Linda.

"That's right," nodded Dad. "Have your hands and face clean, your hair combed and make sure your clothes are tidy. Take your Bible and be ready for church. In the afternoon you can attend

children's meeting when it is time. You may play with your friends in between services but do not leave the camp grounds without permission from Mother or me. Also, don't go into someone's cabin without permission. Always ask first."

"Be respectful to the grownups," added Mother. "If an adult tells you to be quiet or not to run or anything else good, then say, 'Yes, ma'am' or 'Yes, sir' and obey politely."

"Yes," agreed Dad. "We want to be respectful to others."

The entire camp ground is special and we need to be reverent while there." —Sis Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who were robbing the Israelites at Keilah?
2. Who told David to go save Keilah?
3. Did David's men want to go?
4. Who heard that David was at Keilah?
5. Did King Saul catch David at Keilah?
6. Who came and encouraged David in the woods?
7. Who was hiding in the cave when King Saul went in to relax?
8. What did David's men tell David to do?
9. Did David kill King Saul?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Samuel 23:1-24:22.

(Answers: 1. The Philistines. 2. God. 3. No. 4. King Saul. 5. No. 6. Jonathan. 7. David and his men. 8. Kill King Saul. 9. No.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 July 22, 2001

## NABAL THE FOOL

David was living in the wilderness of Paran. Not far away there lived a man named Nabal. Nabal was a rich man and he had a lovely wife named Abigail.

One day, David heard that Nabal was shearing his sheep. David sent some of his men to see Nabal. They said to Nabal, "We are David's men and have been kind to your shepherds. Would you be kind enough to give us some of the food you have since this is a good time for you?"

Nabal said to them, "Who is David and his men? Why should I give food to you?" and he sent them away.

The men came back and told David what Nabal said. David said, "Everyone put on your sword. Nabal has treated us very badly. We are going to go and destroy him."

One of Nabal's servants had heard how Nabal spoke to David. He went to Abigail and told her what had happened.

Quickly Abigail gathered bread, meat, corn, raisins, figs and wine and put them on donkeys. She got on a donkey herself and went to see David. But she did not tell her husband anything.

David and his men were coming down a hill when Abigail and her train of donkeys met them. Abigail got off her donkey and fell on her face before David, "Blame me, my lord, for this evil," she said. "Please don't pay attention to what Nabal said. His name means foolish and he is. Please accept this gift of food and have mercy on me when God makes you ruler someday."

David said, "God bless you and blessed is your advice. If you hadn't met me, I would have destroyed your home." David accepted Abigail's gift and sent her away in peace.

Abigail went home. Nabal was having a feast and was drunk. Abigail did not say anything to him until the next morning. When she told him what she had done Nabal's heart became as a stone.

Not long after, Nabal died. When David heard that Nabal was dead, he sent and took Abigail as his wife.

—Joanna Booher

And Nabal answered David's servants, and s  
and who is the son of Jessie? there be many s  
that break away every man from his master.



Who is David?  
ts now a days  
nuel 25:10.



## From A Hawk's View

(Retold story of history.)

Genghis Khan was honored as a great king and warrior. He led his army into China and Persia, and he conquered many lands. In many countries men told about his daring deeds.

One morning he and a party of huntsmen rode their horses into the woods to hunt for deer. On the king's wrist sat his favorite hawk who was trained to hunt. All day the men rode through the woods but they found very little prey because the land was so dry. By evening the men were hot and thirsty.

"Let us return home," said the huntsmen.

The king nodded. "Take the short path home, my men. I will come later by the longer path."

So the men left the King to follow the path that led through a valley between two mountains. As he rode, the king looked for water.

At last, to his joy, he saw water trickling down over the edge of a rock. As he leaped from his horse, his hawk flew high above him while he took his silver cup and carefully filled it.

Finally, the cup was full. Just as he raised it to his lips, there was a whirring noise and the cup was knocked from his hands. The precious water was spilled on the ground. The king looked up to see his pet hawk fly away.

The king picked up the cup and again filled it with the slow trickle from the rock. Just as he raised the full cup to his lips, the hawk swooshed down and knocked it again. The king was upset with his hawk for such a deed but when the hawk knocked a third cup of water

from his hands, the king was angry.

The king yelled to the hawk, "I will punish you for this!" The next time he had water, the king drew his sword and when the hawk swooshed down to knock the cup, the king speared the bird.

In killing the hawk, the king dropped his cup into a hole where he could not get it. "Well, then, I will go to the source of the trickle and drink from the spring," declared the king. He climbed and climbed up the rock until at last he came to the source, but he did not want to drink.

There in the water lay a huge, dead, poisonous snake. Somehow his hawk had known if he drank of that water, he would have died. The king was sorry he had angrily killed his hawk who had saved his life.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Where were David and his men living?
2. Who was the rich man who lived nearby?
3. What did David's servants ask for?
4. Was Nabal nice to them?
5. What did David want to do when he heard how Nabal acted?
6. What did Abigail do when she heard how Nabal acted?
7. Did David accept Abigail's gift?
8. What happened to Nabal after a few days?
9. Who asked Abigail to be his wife?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Samuel 25.

(Answers: 1. In the wilderness.  
2. Nabal. 3. Food. 4. No.  
5. Destroy Nabal. 6. She got food together and went to meet David. 7. Yes. 8. He died.  
9. David.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 July 29, 2001

## DAVID'S SECOND CHANCE

The Ziphites came to King Saul and said, "Isn't David hiding in the hill of Hachilah?" So Saul got his men together and went to find David. He camped with his men before the hill. But David and his men were hiding in the wilderness.

David saw that Saul was coming after him. He sent spies who found out that Saul was there.

One night while Saul and his men were sleeping, David snuck down to the camp with Abishai. They saw where Saul was sleeping with a spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner, his guard, was sleeping too.

Abishai, David's man, said, "Here is your chance. Kill Saul."

David said, "I will not kill the Lord's anointed king. Saul's day to die will come. God will take care of it. I won't. But take his spear and his jug of water and let's go."

Saul and his men did not wake up because the Lord had put them in a deep sleep. David and Abishai went up on a hill some distance away. David shouted down at the camp, "Abner! Abner!"

Abner woke up. "Who calls to the king?" he asked.

David said, "Abner, you're in big trouble. You're supposed to take care of the king. Where are his spear and water jug?"

Saul knew David's voice and said, "Is that you, my son David?"

David said, "It is I. Why are you trying to catch me? What have I done wrong?"

Saul said, "I have sinned. Come home, David. I won't harm you anymore."

Saul sent one of his men over to get his spear back. Saul went home and David went away.

David decided to go to the land of the Philistines. "Saul probably won't try to catch me there," he thought. So, he went to Achish the king of Gath and lived in a city called Ziklag.

When Saul heard that David was in the land of the Philistines, he left him alone and didn't seek him anymore.

—Joanna Booher





David said furthermore, As the Lord liveth, the Lord shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and shall perish. I Samuel 26:10.

# Overcoming Violence

(A true story)

Rose is a young mother who lives in Nigeria, Africa. She and her husband were taught about Jesus Christ at an early age. They attended a private Christian school where they learned Bible verses and spiritual songs.

During these years, the government of Nigeria encouraged Christian missionaries to come and teach about Jesus. Now in these last six or seven years, the government has become controlled by Muslims. These Muslims are forcing the Sharia Law to be obeyed especially in the northern states of Nigeria. By the Sharia Law, it is illegal to worship any god but Ali, who is a man-made god.

Because Rose and her husband believe in the one true God who sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world, they do not honor Ali or any other god or goddess. Hundreds of other Christians are true to God and His Son, Jesus Christ. Today these Christians are being persecuted.

In her home town of Kaduna, Rose heard the shouting and saw the burning done by Muslim mobs and she began to pray. Her oldest daughter was at school but her two young sons were at their house with her. Quickly, Rose locked her two young sons in the house.

"Don't let anyone in this house, you hear?" she ordered her sons. "I am going to get your sister from school."

Then Rose set off on a bicycle toward the school. On the way, she ran into a radical Muslim mob. They told her that women were not to ride bikes, and they threatened her. Rose was praying earnestly for wisdom and protection. Suddenly, one of the men grabbed her bike and told her to

run.

Run she did! "God helped me," she said. "God did not let them do anything to me. He was completely in control."

When she arrived at the school, her daughter was not there but had been taken to a military base for safety. Finally, she found her daughter and returned home where her two younger children were waiting.

The next day, Rose's husband left for a Christian gathering. A Muslim mob attacked the Christians and her husband was killed. This has left Rose and her children very sad but they hope to see him again in heaven. "The same God who allowed Stephen to be stoned, allowed Peter to escape from prison. God has been faithful, and His grace has been sufficient," said Rose to her friends.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who was chasing after David?
2. What did David do after dark?
3. What did David's servant tell him to do?
4. Did David kill Saul?
5. Who was sleeping beside Saul?
6. What did David take from Saul?
7. Why did David say Abner was in trouble?
8. What did Saul call David?
9. Did Saul try to find David after he went to the land of the Philistines?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Samuel 26-27:4

(Answers: 1. King Saul. 2. Sneaked down to Saul's camp. 3. Kill Saul. 4. No. 5. Abner. 6. His spear and water jug. 7. Because he was supposed to protect Saul. 8. His son. 9. No)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Aug 5, 2001

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## A PROPHECY FULFILLED

Samuel, the prophet, died. The Israelites buried him and mourned for him. The Philistines came to make war with the Israelites and King Saul. When King Saul saw the Philistines he was afraid.

King Saul tried to find out what God had to say, but God did not answer him. So Saul said to his servants, "Find a woman who has a familiar spirit, so I can find out what to do from her."

People with familiar spirits were witches and servants of the devil and God had ordered the Israelites to kill them.

Saul's servants told him, "There is a woman with a familiar spirit at Endor."

Saul went to the woman at night and asked the woman to call Samuel up.

The woman did. When she said she saw an old man coming up, Saul bowed his face to the earth.

Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me to bring me up?"

Saul said, "The Philistines have come to make war on us and God does not answer me."

Samuel said, "This has happened just as God said it would. He said your kingdom would be taken away from you and given to someone else. This is because you did not obey God. Tomorrow when you go to fight, you and your sons will die."

When Saul heard this, he fell on the ground and was very afraid.

The woman said to Saul, "Please, get up and eat."

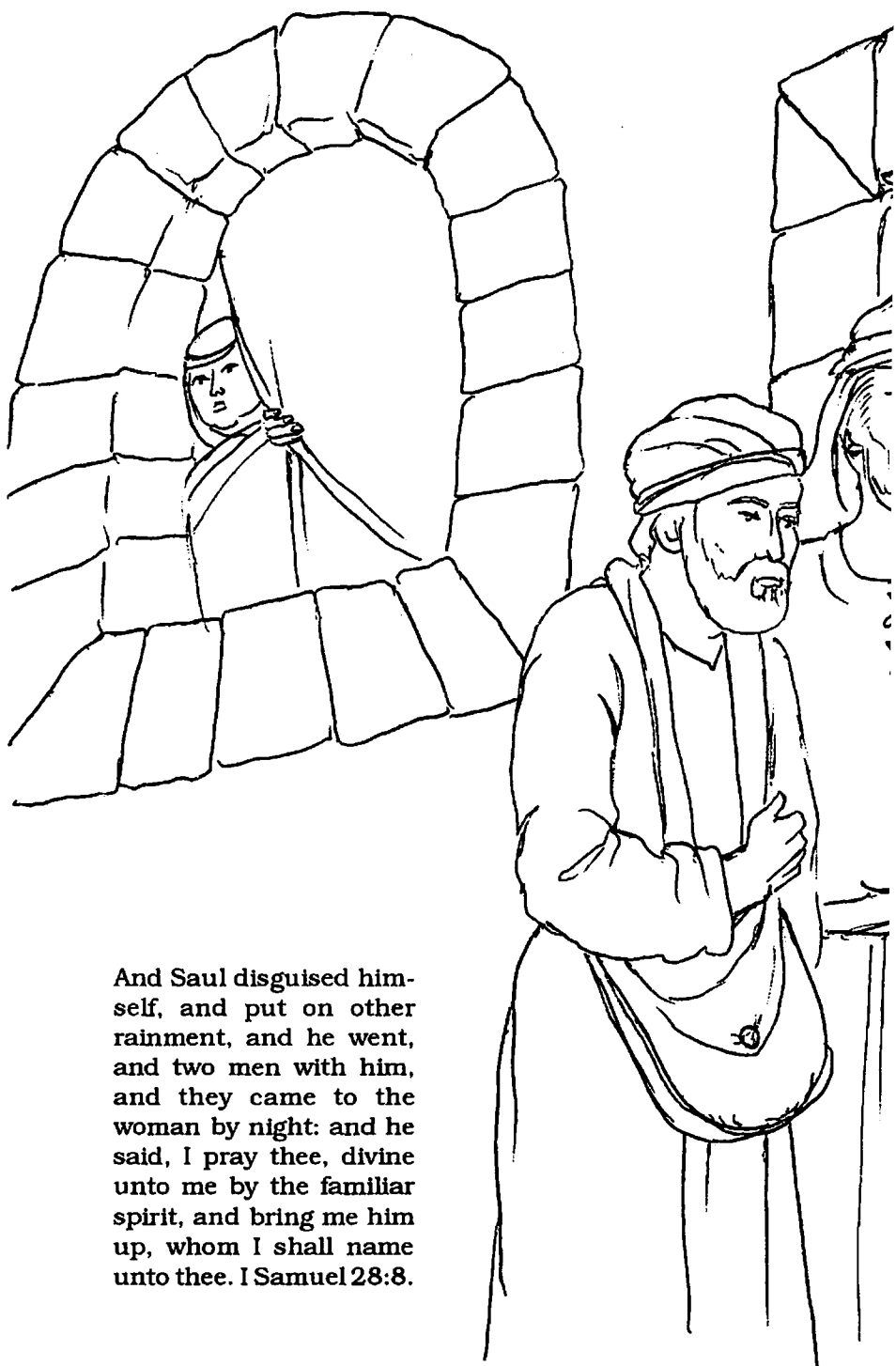
Saul did not want to eat but his servants made him. Then he and his servants went away that night.

The Philistines came and fought against Israel and the Israelites were beaten as God said. King Saul, his son Jonathan, and his other sons were killed.

When David heard it he was very sad. He wrote a song of mourning for his friend and King Saul. It said, "How are the mighty fallen! Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives...they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions."

David did not hate Saul even though he had tried to kill him.

—Joanna Booher



And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. I Samuel 28:8.



## Spreading Good News

(True accounts.)

Evil people and wicked deeds seem to be ruling in our world today. The news reports tell about murders and robberies, beatings and abuse. Sometimes we wonder, "Are there any good things happening in our world today?"

Jesus said that in the last days, "...This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations;..." Matthew 24:14. Today, right while all the bad things are happening, hundreds of Bibles are traveling into many nations where Bibles have not been before or where they are forbidden by man's law.

In Sudan, a small band of missionaries opened a few cartons of New Testaments. Thousands of Sudanese waited patiently in the hot, dry bushes for one. The Bibles were written in the Bari, Moru and Dinka tribal languages of that area. Throughout that month, 3,600 New Testaments were given away. As one truck was pulling out, a young man named Alex ran up to the truck. Gasping for breath, he blurted out: "I heard you have Bibles! We have only one Bible for the 400 in our village!" A missionary put a Bible into his hands. The young man shouted with joy!

In Laos, two Hmong Christians walked more than 500 kilometers to meet missionaries with Bibles. Their hair was sticking out and their faces were burned from the sun but they didn't care. They were excited to get Bibles. Carefully they put them in their bags, shook hands with the missionaries, then slipped out the door and walked back home. They are willing to risk their lives for God's written Word.

Missionaries handed little children Bible picture books to read in

Egypt. With fingers pointing, the children chattered excitedly in Arabic while talking about Bible characters. "That's Jesus!" one would say. For the first time in their lives, these children are hearing about the Gospel that will set them free from sin.

"He Lived Among Us" is a children's Bible story book printed in Urdu which is the native language of Pakistan. Three thousand copies have already been given out and there is a great demand for more words of life! Children and their parents are eager to hear about this loving Saviour called Jesus.

Looking beyond all the evil about us, we see many people hungry for the good news that Jesus Christ loves them, will save them from sin and take them to heaven some day. Are you spreading this good news?

—Sis Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What prophet died?
2. Who came to fight against King Saul?
3. Did God answer Saul?
4. What kind of person did Saul ask his servants to find?
5. What had God told the Israelites to do to witches?
6. Who did Saul want to talk to?
7. Who did Samuel say would die the next day?
8. What did David say Saul and Jonathan were in their lives?
9. Did David hate Saul?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Samuel 28:1-25, II Samuel 1:22, 27.

(Answers: 1. Samuel. 2. The Philistines. 3. No. 4. A person with a familiar spirit. 5. Kill them. 6. Samuel. 7. Saul and his sons. 8. Lovely and pleasant. 9. No.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Aug 12, 2001

## WHO STOLE OUR FAMILIES?

David was living in the land of the Philistines. The Philistine king, Achish, trusted David as his faithful servant. He gave him a city called Ziklag to live in with his men and their families. But David did not love the Philistines.

When the Philistines went to fight King Saul, Achish asked David to come fight with him. The other Philistines did not trust David, however. They said, "He can't come fight with us! Remember how the Israelites sang, 'Saul has killed his thousands but David has killed ten thousands'?"

So Achish asked David to stay in the land of the Philistines and not come fight with them against Israel. David did. He took his men and went back to Ziklag.

When David's men got there, they saw that Ziklag was burned and everything was stolen. David and his men wept.

David did not know what to do. His men even felt like stoning him. But David encouraged himself in the Lord. He asked God, "Should I go and try to bring back our families?"

God said, "Go. You will surely win and bring back everything."

David took six hundred men and chased after the men who had stolen their families. They came to a stream. They left two hundred tired men there and went on.

They found an Egyptian in the field. He was hungry and weak so they fed him. Then David asked him who he was. He told them he was a servant of the Amalekites who had burned Ziklag.

David asked, "Can you bring us to the Amalekites?"

The servant said, "Yes, but please, don't give me back to my master."

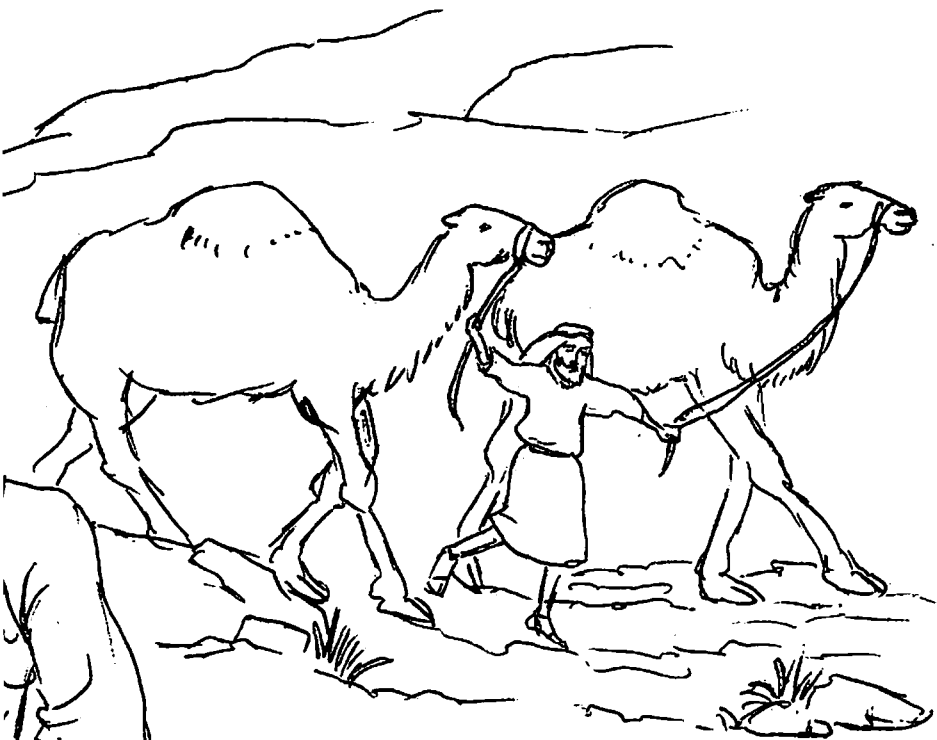
The servant brought them to the Amalekite camp. They were all eating and drinking. David and his men attacked. The Amalekites were destroyed except four hundred men who got away on camels. David and his men got back all their wives and children and things.

They happily brought them all back home.

—Joanna Booher

And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives. I Samuel 30:





## At Times Like These

(Based on a true account.)

Brakes screamed.

Tires skidded, searing long black marks on the concrete highway. Metal crashed and glass shattered. Smoke and dust bellowed from beneath the two crushed vehicles.

Silence.

Then crying and screaming vibrated from the jumbled heap. Another car driver called 911 on his cell phone as he steered his car around the accident, stopped and ran over to help the victims.

In the car was a family—Dad, Mom and five children. The car was lying on the driver's side pinning everyone within. At a glance it seemed impossible to get anyone out, but Bob Harris began to pray.

"Lord, help me to get these people out of here," he prayed as he tugged at a door handle. Suddenly the car door opened and he was able to unbuckle the boy's seatbelt who was sitting next to that door.

By the time the ambulance arrived a few minutes later, Bob had helped all except the Mother out of the car. The couple in the pickup was able to climb out by themselves.

"Is she pinned inside the car by the steering wheel?" one of the emergency technicians asked.

"Yes, I think so," replied Bob. He did not know this family but he was praying for them. The mother wasn't moving or calling for help. He didn't know how she would be when they cut her out of the car.

Other people had stopped to help also and Bob noticed more than one person wipe tears from their eyes. The children were cut and crying. EMT workers were checking for broken bones and then carrying the victims to cots. Immediately two of the

children were sent by helicopter to a specialist at a distant hospital.

Still the mother was motionless, trapped in the car.

It is at times like this that a Comforter is needed. Bob was praying openly for the wounded family. When the mother was finally released from the car, a white sheet was laid over her. Bob bowed his head.

It is difficult to understand why accidents happen. Blame can be laid on this person or on this reason. Life will always have problems too big for us to understand, but if we have Jesus Christ with us, we will have the grace and strength to make it through with victory. —Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Where was David living?
2. Did the Philistines want David to fight with them?
3. Did David like the Philistines?
4. What had happened to Ziklag?
5. What happened to David's family?
6. What did David's men feel like doing to him?
7. What did David do to himself?
8. Did God say David could get his family back?
9. Did David and his men get their families back?

### LESSON TEXT: I Samuel 30.

(Answers: 1. In the Philistine land. 2. No. 3. No. 4. It was burned. 5. They were captured. 6. Stoning him. 7. Encouraged himself in the Lord. 8. Yes. 9. Yes)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Aug 19, 2001

## WHO WILL BE KING?

David had rescued his family from the Amalekites. Now he was back home in Ziklag.

A man came into David's city with his clothes torn and dirt on his head. He came to David and fell down before him.

David said, "Who are you? Where have you come from?"

The man said, "I escaped from the battle between Israel and the Philistines."

David said, "What happened?"

The man said, "The Israelites were beaten and Saul and Jonathan were killed."

David said, "How do you know?"

The man said, "I saw Saul. He was leaning on his spear. He told me to kill him because he wanted to die. So, I killed him and brought his crown and bracelet to you."

When David heard this, he tore his clothes and wept. All his men wept with him. They mourned until the evening.

David told one of his men to kill the man who said he had killed Saul. "His blood be on him," David said, "because he has killed the Lord's anointed king."

The Philistines took Saul's body and put it up on a wall. Some men of Jabesh heard about this. They went at night and stole Saul's body back. Then they buried it under a tree.

David heard how the men of Jabesh had buried Saul's body. He sent a message to them that said, "Blessed are you of the Lord for showing kindness and burying Saul."

There were twelve tribes of Israel. One of the tribes, the tribe of Judah, made David king over them. The other tribes of Israel followed Abner, Saul's captain. Abner made one of Saul's sons the king. So David was king of Judah and Ishbosheth, Saul's son, was king of the rest of Israel.

David had a servant named Joab. One day, Joab and David's men came to a pool and sat down. Abner and his men were sitting on the other side. Joab and Abner's men got into a fight. Joab's brother, Asahel, was killed by Abner. This was part of a long war between King David and King Ishbosheth.

—Joanna Booher

Then David took hold on his clothes,  
likewise all the men that were with him.



rent them; and  
nuel 1:11.



# One Horseshoe Nail

(History legend.)

In 1485, King Richard the Third of England was preparing for the fight of his life. An army led by Henry, Earl of Richmond, was marching against him. Whoever would win the contest would rule England.

Early on the morning of the battle, Richard sent his groom to the stable to make sure his favorite horse was ready. The blacksmith was busy nailing iron horseshoes on the army's horses.

"Is the King's favorite horse shod and ready to go?" asked the groom.

"No, I must prepare more iron and more nails," replied the blacksmith.

"Be quick!" commanded the groom. "The king wishes to ride at the front of his troops today!"

Right away the blacksmith went to work. He heated a bar of iron in red coals and from it hammered and beat out four horseshoes. He put the king's horse in the stall and, after the shoes were cool, he nailed them on. But when he came to the fourth shoe, the blacksmith discovered that he needed one more nail to secure the horseshoe on the horse's hoof.

Just then the groom came rushing into the stable. "Hear the trumpets are blasting! It is time for the battle! I must have the king's horse now!"

"But I need one more nail to fasten his shoe more securely," replied the blacksmith. "It will only take me a moment to hammer out another nail."

"No, I have no more time to wait!" declared the groom. "Release the horse now!"

"Very well," replied the blacksmith as he opened the stall gate. Quickly the groom saddled the horse then took him to the king.

Soon King Richard was riding be-

fore his troops, encouraging his men to fight. In the thick of the battle, Richard saw some of his men in a far field fall back from fighting. He must stop them before his entire line of men retrieved. Spurring his horse, he was galloping across the field, when the loose horseshoe fell off and the horse dropped to the ground dumping King Richard.

When the men saw their king fall, they began to run. So King Richard lost the kingdom all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

It is best to take care of little things right away.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

## QUESTIONS:

1. What did the man with torn clothes have on his head when he came to see David?
2. Who did the man say was dead?
3. What did the man bring to David?
4. Was David happy that Saul was dead?
5. What did the Philistines do to Saul's body?
6. What did the men of Jabesh do with Saul's body?
7. Did all the people want David to be their king?
8. Who was the man who made Ishbosheth king?
9. Did David and Ishbosheth have a fight?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Samuel 31:8-13, II Samuel 1:1-16, 2, 3.

(Answers: 1. Dirt. 2. King Saul and Jonathan. 3. Saul's crown and bracelet. 4. No. 5. Put it up on a wall. 6. Buried it. 7. No. 8. Abner. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Aug 26, 2001

## TOO MUCH FIGHTING

David was king of Judah. Ishbosheth, Saul's son, was king of Israel. There was a war between them. Abner was Ishbosheth's servant and he tried with all his might to keep Saul's son as king. But David's men grew stronger and stronger while Ishbosheth's men grew weaker and weaker.

One day, Ishbosheth said something to Abner that made him mad. So Abner sent messages to David. He said, "Make a deal with me and I will give Israel to you."

Abner came to see David. He told him what the tribes of Israel had to say about him being their king. David made a feast for him and sent him away in peace.

Joab had been out fighting with David's men. He came back and heard what happened. He was angry with David, "You sent Abner away in peace?" he said. "He probably was here just to spy on you."

Secretly Joab sent messengers to Abner to tell him to come back. When Abner came, Joab took him aside to talk with him alone. Joab killed Abner because he had killed his brother, Asahel.

When David heard it, he was very sorry. "I am not guilty of the death of Abner," he said. "Let the guilt of Abner's death be on Joab and his family."

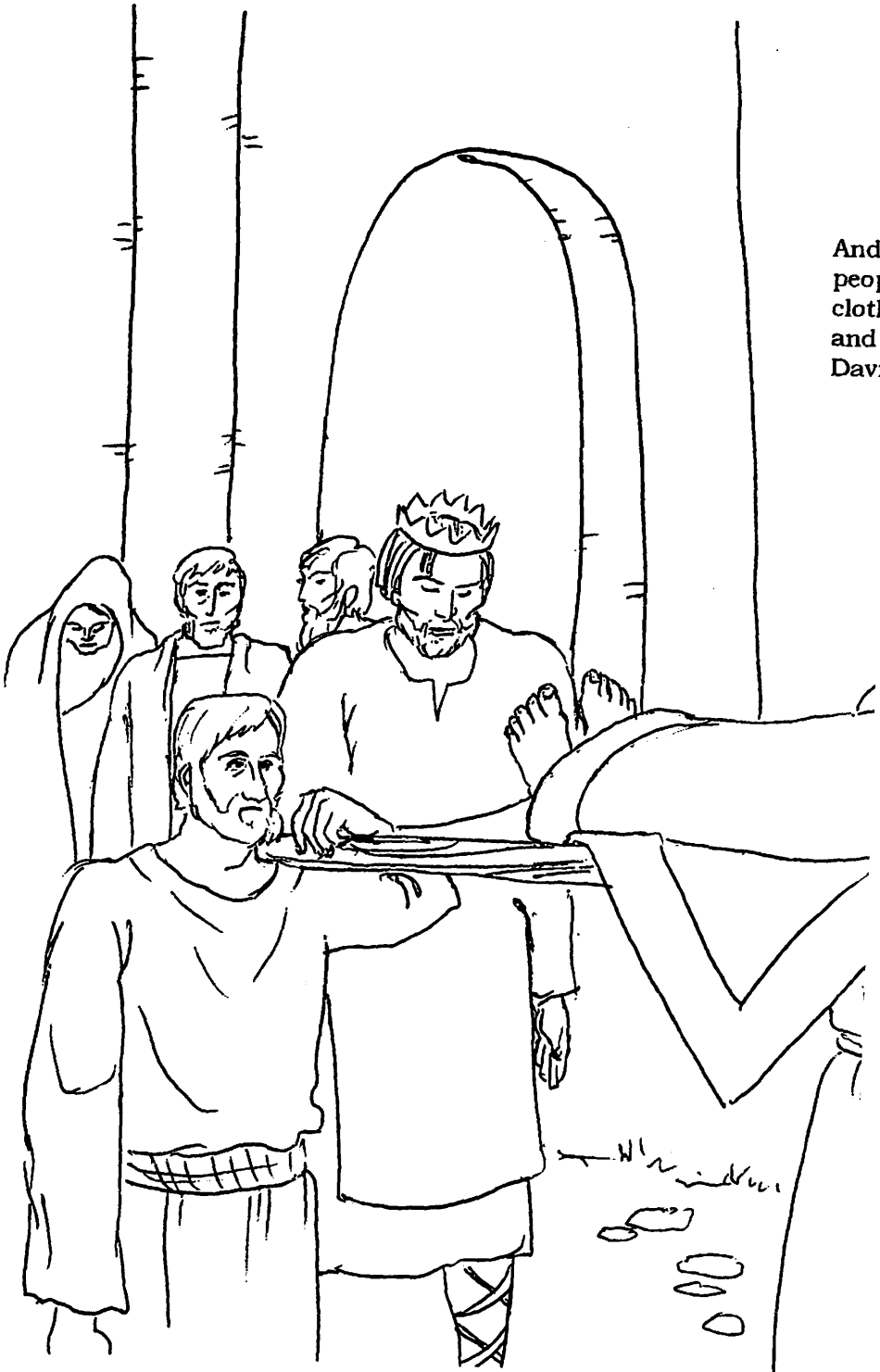
David went to Abner's funeral and wept. He would not eat food that day. All the people saw how sorry he was about Abner. They were glad to know that he had not meant for Abner to die.

Ishbosheth heard how that his servant Abner was dead. This troubled him. One day he was lying on his bed in his house. Two of his servants came in and killed him. Then they ran away and told David what they had done.

David said to them, "Someone else told me he had killed Saul. I was angry with him and had him killed. But I am much more angry with you. You killed a good man while he was in bed." David had his servants kill the two servants. Then he buried Ishbosheth with Abner.

—Joanna Booher

And  
peop  
cloth  
and  
Davi



said to Joab, and to all the  
were with him, Rend your  
d gird you with sackcloth,  
1 before Abner. And king  
self followed the bier.  
II Samuel 3:31.



## Better Than Moon Walking

(A true story.)

Mary Ellen knew about Jesus. She had gone to church when she was a young girl, but she had never asked Jesus to come into her life. She thought she could handle life by herself without bothering Jesus.

Time went by and Mary Ellen married Jim Irwin who worked at Kennedy Space Center. Together they had five children which kept Mary Ellen very busy while her husband spent long hours at the space center. Jim and Mary Ellen were too busy with the cares of life to be friends and in time they began to fuss and argue with each other. This made Jim spend more time at the space center and Mary Ellen was more lonely than ever. The children rebelled and fussed because their parents were not agreeing.

Jim was training to be a moon-walking astronaut. He was reaching for the moon while his family life was falling apart. Mary Ellen was not happy about her husband's successes. One Sunday afternoon, she screamed at him, "I'm leaving!" Then she got in her car and began to drive.

As she drove she turned on the radio and a program called "Unshackled" was being told. She had heard these true stories before about how Jesus Christ had saved souls and changed lives for the better. She listened as she drove along a waterway where shrimp boats docked. Being an artist, she decided to stop and sketch the scene before her.

While her fingers drew a picture of the docks, the gray boats, murky water, and floating trash, a voice spoke to her. "Your life looks like

this. Aimless. Worthless. Useless."

Then Mary Ellen thought of the ones whose lives were changed in the "Unshackled" stories. Sitting alone on a littered seashore, she cried out to God: "...Do something with my life, God. Please!" She came to realize she could not handle life but she needed the humble strength of Jesus to take control.

Mary Ellen began to study the Word of God and she got saved. Then the Lord talked to Jim while he was walking on the moon. In 1971, after the Apollo 15 spacecraft returned to earth, Jim asked Jesus to save him. Their children saw the good changes in their parents and they turned to Jesus. Together Jim and Mary Ellen began a ministry called High Flight. Living for Jesus is better than moon walking.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Was David the only king?
2. Whose men grew stronger and stronger?
3. Who wanted Ishbosheth to be the king?
4. What did Abner say he would make with David?
5. Did David send Abner away in peace?
6. How did Joab feel when he heard Abner had gone in peace?
7. What did Joab do to Abner?
8. Was David happy about what Joab had done?
9. What did David do to the two servants who killed Ishbosheth?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Samuel 3, 4.

(Answers: 1. No. 2. David's. 3. Abner. 4. A deal. 5. Yes. 6. Angry. 7. Killed him. 8. No. 9. Had them killed.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Sept 2, 2001

## DAVID AND THE ARK

The ark of God was in the house of Abinadab. It had been there ever since the Philistines had stolen it and sent it back. That was twenty years ago.

David got thirty thousand men and went down to get the ark. They set the ark on a new cart and two sons of Abinadab drove it. David and all the people played on harps and instruments as they went with the ark.

They came through a threshingfloor and the oxen shook the ark. Uzzah, a son of Abinadab, put his hand on the ark to hold it still. Only the Levites were allowed to touch the ark. God smote Uzzah for his error and he died.

David was afraid when he saw what happened. He let the ark stay in a house nearby.

The ark of God stayed in the house of Obed-edom for three months. God blessed Obed-edom and his house.

It was told David that God had blessed Obed-edom because of the ark. So David came to bring the ark to his city. He and Israel brought the ark with gladness. They shouted and blew on trumpets and David danced before the Lord with all his might.

David brought the ark into the tabernacle and offered burnt sacrifices to God. He blessed the people in the name of the Lord. Then he gave them all food and they went home.

David said to Nathan, the prophet, "I live in a house made of cedar, but the ark of God lives in a tent."

That night, the Word of the Lord came to Nathan. God said, "Tell David this, 'Thus says the Lord: You want to build me a house? In all the time that I have been the God of Israel I have never asked for a house of cedar. I made you king, David. And I am going to bless you. Your name will be very great. You will have a son and I will make him great too. He will build a house for me. Your kingdom will be forever.'"

David said, "You are great, Oh God. Just because I wanted to do something for You, You say You will bless me and my son too. There is none like You, Oh Lord."

—Joanna Booher



And it was told king David, saying, The Lord hath blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with gladness.

II Samuel 6:12.



## The Needed Belly

(Version of I Corinthians 12:14-26.)

One time a man had a funny dream in which his hands and feet, mouth and brain decided to rebel against his stomach.

The hands said to the stomach, "We work all day long with wood, saws, and hammers until we are covered with blisters and cracks just so we can feed you. We are tired and think you ought to do this work yourself."

"We feel the same way," said the feet to the stomach. "We walk back and forth all day in work until we ache with soreness. You take all the food and don't work near as hard as we do."

"That's right," agreed the mouth. "I bite and chew all the food that goes into you, fat stomach. If you had to work as hard as I do, you wouldn't be so big and lazy."

"And what about me?" called the brain. "Do you think it's easy being up here, having to think about where the next meal is going to come from? I am tired of planning for this good-for-nothing stomach!"

One by one the other body parts were persuaded to stop working for the stomach, which growled that it was hungry. The body members would not listen to the stomach. "Just let him complain!" they murmured. "We don't need that lazy belly anyway!"

However, each body member began to feel weak and not able to function like usual.

"Why are we so tired?" said the hands. "We can't lift a thing any more!"

"We can hardly walk at all," said the feet. "We don't have any energy."

"I don't think I can think any more," said the brain.

The mouth longed for a bite of food but didn't want to break the agreement.

Finally, the heart spoke in a faint voice, "The stomach was taking the food, that's true, but it was feeding all of us with it. Each of you must help the stomach eat, so it can help you."

"I think the heart is right," said the brain. So he told the mouth what food to eat and he ordered the hands and feet to move and get it. Soon the body was working again.

Then the man woke up from his dream and he said, "Each body member has a special place and we must all work together correctly, or nothing works at all."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Where was the ark of God?
2. How long had it been there?
3. What did David and the people do as they went with the ark?
4. Who touched the ark?
5. What did God do to Uzzah?
6. How did David feel when this happened?
7. What did God do to the house of Obededom?
8. How did David feel when he brought back the ark to the tabernacle?
9. What did David want to do for God?
10. What did God say He would do to David?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Samuel 6, 7.

(Answers: 1. In the house of Abinadab. 2. Twenty years. 3. Played on instruments. 4. Uzzah. 5. Smote him. 6. Afraid. 7. Blessed it. 8. Glad. 9. Build Him a house. 10. Bless Him.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Sept 9, 2001

## DAVID'S KINDNESS

Jonathan, the son of King Saul, had a son named Mephibosheth. He was only five years old when his father was killed with Saul. When his nurse heard the news she was afraid. She picked him up to run away and hide. But, she dropped him and his feet were hurt. They were hurt so badly that he was lame after that.

Years later, King David said to his servants, "Are there any of Saul's relatives alive? I want to show them kindness for Jonathan's sake."

There was a man named Ziba who had been a servant of Saul. David called Ziba to him and asked, "Are any of Saul or Jonathan's children alive still?"

Ziba said, "Jonathan has a son named Mephibosheth who is lame on both his feet."

"Where is he?" asked David.

"He lives in the house of Machir," Ziba said.

David sent for Mephibosheth. When Mephibosheth came in, he bowed low before David. David said, "Don't be afraid. I want to show you kindness because of your father, Jonathan. You may have all your grandfather's land and eat bread at my table always."

David did as he promised. He called for Ziba and told him, "I have given Mephibosheth King Saul's land and I want you to take care of it for him. Till it and raise food for Mephibosheth. But Mephibosheth will eat at my table."

David had a friend who was the king of Ammon. This king died and his son, Hanun, became king. David said, "I will be nice to Hanun because of his father." He sent servants to comfort the new king.

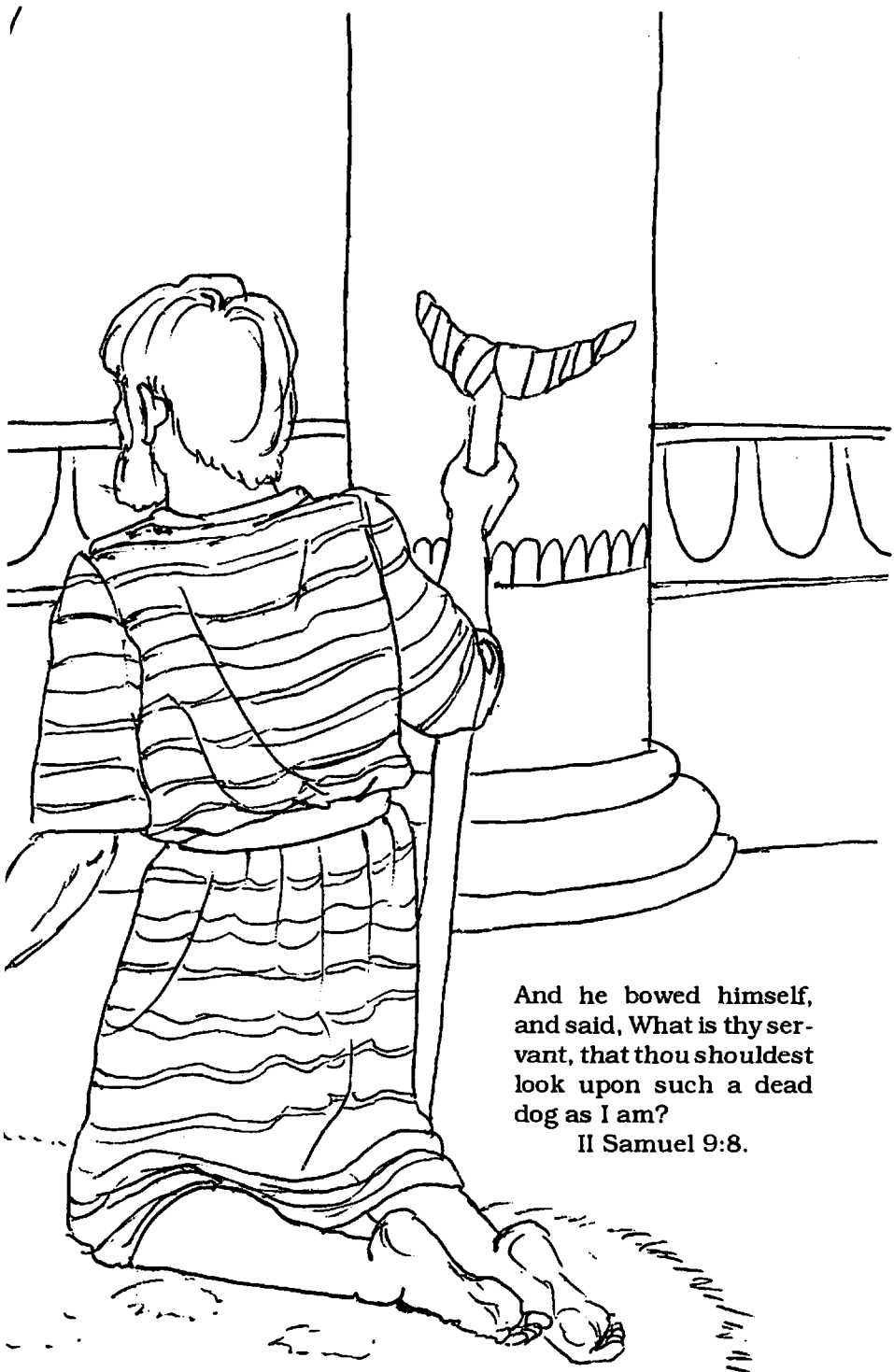
The servants of Hanun said to their king, "Do you think David really meant to be nice to us? We think he sent his servants to spy on us."

Hanun took David's servants and cut off half their clothes and shaved off half of their beards. David's servants were ashamed.

David was not happy with how Hanun had treated them. He got together his army and fought against the people of Ammon. He won a great victory.

—Joanna Booher





And he bowed himself,  
and said, What is thy ser-  
vant, that thou shouldest  
look upon such a dead  
dog as I am?

II Samuel 9:8.

## Rare Kindness

(Based on a true happening.)

Early every morning, Monwan would visit the local grocery store to buy supplies for his sidewalk stand. He always bought several packages of chicken, lettuce, tomatoes, twenty or so bottles of milk and a dozen donuts. Then he would hurry to his little kitchen where he fried the chicken golden crusty and tossed a crisp red and green salad.

At lunch time, busy lawyers, secretaries, and other business people would stop at Monwan's stand to buy from his tempting array of food.

Monwan greeted his customers with a smile and nod, happy to be of service to those passing by. He could not speak much English but each person who bought from him also received a word of cheer. Perhaps that is why he sold out each day.

Then Monwan would hurry home to care for his elderly mother. All day his mother sat in an easy chair crocheting baby booties and such to sell at a weekend auction. Between what Monwan made at his stand and what his mother made from selling her crocheting, they were able to pay their rent and buy a few needs for themselves.

One morning Monwan came into the grocery store and picked up his regular supply of groceries. At the register, he laid out several packages of chicken. They cost more per pound and he was concerned about the extra cost.

While the clerk scanned his groceries, a tall, neatly dressed lady began to lay her groceries after his.

"That will be \$62.58," said the clerk to Monwan.

Quickly, Monwan counted out his money. "I am sorry," he said, "please put back two packages of chicken. I do not have enough money."

The tall lady leaned toward the clerk. "How much does he need?" she asked quietly.

Monwan overheard the lady and he grinned at her with embarrassment. "Sorry, I stop line," he said.

"Oh, I understand. I have been where you are before," she said. "Let me give the money you need. The Lord has been good to me and I want to share some of His goodness with you."

Monwan was overwhelmed. "Oh, you don't know me..." he stammered. But the lady wouldn't take no for an answer. She handed the clerk an extra five dollars that finished paying for Monwan's bill. Both said to each other, "God bless you," and Monwan left with tears in his eyes. That day he had an extra big grin for his customers.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Mephibosheth?
2. What happened when Mephibosheth's nurse dropped him?
3. What did David want to do to Saul's relatives?
4. What did David say he would give to Mephibosheth?
5. Where would Mephibosheth eat from then on?
6. For whose sake did David want to be kind to Saul's relatives?
7. What king did David want to be nice to?
8. Was Hanun nice to David's servants?
9. What did David do to the people of Ammon?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Samuel 4:4, 9, 10.

(Answers: 1. Jonathan's son. 2. He became lame. 3. Show them kindness. 4. His grandfather's land. 5. At David's table. 6. Jonathan's. 7. The king of Ammon. 8. No. 9. Fought against them.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Sept 16, 2001

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## DAVID'S SIN

One time, while David's men were off fighting a war, David stayed home. He was up on his roof and he saw a beautiful woman. He wanted her to be his wife so he sent and asked who she was.

Her name was Bathsheba and she was someone else's wife. But, David wanted her anyway so he took her.

Bathsheba's husband was Uriah and he was fighting in the war. David sent a message to his servant Joab. It said, "Put Uriah in the worst part of the battle. Then let him die there."

Joab did as David said and sent back the news, "Uriah is dead."

David said, "That's all right. Everybody dies sometime."

But, God did not like what David had done. God sent His prophet, Nathan, to David. Nathan said, "There were two men who lived in one city. One was rich, the other was poor. The rich man had a lot of flocks of sheep. The poor man had only one little lamb. He loved his little lamb.

One day, a friend came to see the rich man. The rich man wanted to give the man something to eat. He did not want to use one of his own sheep. So he took the poor man's little lamb and killed it for his friend to eat."

David was very angry when he heard this story. "The rich man who did this will surely die. And he will give the poor man four lambs. The rich man had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "Thus saith the Lord, 'You are the rich man. I made you king of Israel and gave you many things. You have many wives. But you took someone else's and killed him. You have disobeyed My commandment. From now on there will always be fighting in your family.'"

David said, "I have sinned against the Lord."

Nathan said, "The Lord has forgiven you and you will not die. But your child of Bathsheba will die."

Bathsheba's baby got very sick and after seven days it died.

Later, Bathsheba had another baby. His name was Solomon and the Lord loved him.

—Joanna Booher

And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man.  
Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I anointed  
thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out  
of the hand of Saul. II Samuel 12:7.





## A Hungry Soul

(A true story.)

Sick and tired, unkept and forsaken, Jean wandered into a little restaurant called "The Roost" in Baltimore, Maryland. A middle-aged woman in a big white apron spoke to her from behind the food counter. "Honey, you look hungry for food of two kinds. Let me help you."

With that, the Lady of the Roost, Doris Williams, served up a plate of fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, greenbeans and black-eyed peas.

"Oh, thank you, Miss," said Jean with a smile. "I don't mind washing dishes for it."

Doris waved her hand at the thought. "Before you leave, I want to tell you my secret recipe for a healthy life," she told the girl.

Later, in the kitchen, Doris told Jean her testimony about how Jesus Christ made a good change in her life.

"I was at my wit's end, girl. I had this restaurant going and my daughter was in medical school in Washington, D.C. and my business slowed down. I got behind on my rent at the apartment so they put my furniture out on the sidewalk. The only thing I could do was put my hands on the furniture and turn my face up toward heaven and ask God to please hold the rain. Finally, I got help to put it at a friend's house and I slept here at the restaurant for awhile. "It was tough. I prayed for the Lord to bring in the "taste buds" out there and I would feed them.

Doris told the Lord the business was His and He could do with it what He wanted. Not long after this, her business began to prosper again. Today she is doing so well that she gives many a homeless person a free

meal but they must listen to her testimony about Jesus Christ. Some of her homeless friends she sends to a mission home to learn more about Jesus.

"Charles, here, he went to PGM in Chicago," said Doris as she pointed to a young man at the grill. "He used to do drugs and all that stuff but the Lord took that wickedness out of him."

Jean was hungry to have what Doris and Charles told her about. She was tired of her life of sin. She wanted to be saved by the blood of Jesus and one day she did ask Jesus to save her. Later she and Charles were married and they witness to others about the saving power of Jesus.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Where was David while his men were fighting a war?
2. What did David see from his roof?
3. Did David care that Bathsheba was someone else's wife?
4. What did David have done to Uriah?
5. Did God like what David had done?
6. Who came and told David about the rich man and poor man?
7. How did David feel when he heard what the rich man did?
8. Was David sorry for what he had done?
9. Did God forgive David?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Samuel 11, 12:1-24.

(Answers: 1. At home. 2. A beautiful woman. 3. No. 4. Had him killed in battle. 5. No. 6. Nathan. 7. Angry. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 27 Sept 23, 2001

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## DECEITFUL ABSALOM

David had a son named Absalom. Absalom was a handsome man and had much hair on his head. Every year he shaved it off because it was so heavy. It weighed seven pounds. Absalom secretly wanted to be king.

Men of Israel came to King David to hear his judgment on their problems. Absalom went and stood in the gate. When the men came, he called out to them, "Where are you from?"

The men would say, "We are of the tribes of Israel."

Absalom would say, "See, your matters are right and good. But there is no one here to listen to them. Oh, if only I were judge in Israel. I would do people justice."

Absalom was very friendly and so he stole the hearts of the people of Israel.

After forty years Absalom told the King that he needed to go to Hebron. David said, "Go in peace."

Absalom sent men throughout the land to tell the people, "When you hear the trumpets sound say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'"

The news came to King David, "The hearts of the people are for Absalom to be king."

David said, "We must hurry and get away. Absalom may come here to kill us and the city." David and his family and servants went away to hide. Many people went with him.

The people did not want David to go out to battle against Absalom. They did not want him to get killed. So David did not go out and fight. But he told the soldiers, "Be gentle to Absalom for my sake."

The battle was in the woods. Many people were killed. Absalom tried to get away. His mule went under a tree and Absalom was caught by his hair in the tree. His mule kept going.

Someone told Joab that Absalom was hanging in a tree. Joab went and killed Absalom and put him in a pit and piled stones over it. David was not happy to hear his son was dead. Even though his son had tried to kill him, he mourned for him.

—Joanna Booher



And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel. II Samuel 15:6.



## The Thief

(A true story.)

John Valjean was a wood-chopper's son but while very young his father and mother both died leaving him and his sister homeless. One winter day John was without work and they were starving for food. In the night we went to a baker's shop and broke out the window with his fist. Then he took a loaf of bread.

The next morning he was arrested for stealing, his bleeding hand convicting him. For this crime, he was sent to the galley on a ship. An iron collar was put around his neck and a chain then bound him to his seat. He had to row oars which is hard work and he was given very little food nor much sleep.

In this way he labored for four years. Two times he tried to escape and each time he was caught and three more years were added to his sentence. In all, John served nineteen years as a galley slave just for stealing one loaf of bread.

All this time, John's heart was hardened and bitter toward the authorities. When he was released, no one would have anything to do with John. No one would give him work, nor a place to stay, nor food to eat. John lived more like an animal than a man.

One day he entered a good Christian man's home and he shouted in a harsh voice: "I am a galley slave. Here is my yellow passport. Now that you know who I am, will you give me a little food?"

"Sit down, my brother," said the good man. "Warm yourself by my fire and eat of my food. Let us pray first."

All this was new to John but he was grateful for food and wolfed it

down in a hurry. Then the good man showed him to a real bed and left John to sleep.

In the night John awoke, took the pillowcase and filled it with silverware and candlesticks then fled from the house.

In the morning the good man found his silver gone. "Well, I should have sold it and given the money to the poor anyway," he thought. Soon the police brought John back with the silver. "Let him keep the silver," said the good man. "He needs it more than I." He persuaded the police to leave and John was amazed at the Christian's kindness. He stayed to live with the good man and learned how to be honest and good himself.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Absalom?
2. What did Absalom look like?
3. What did Absalom want to be come?
4. What did Absalom do to the men who came to hear judgment from David?
5. What did Absalom plan to do at Hebron?
6. What did David do when he heard Absalom was trying to become king?
7. Did David want his son to be hurt?
8. What caught Absalom's hair?
9. Who killed Absalom?

### LESSON TEXT: II Samuel 14:25, 15.

(Answers: 1. David's son. 2. Handsome and with a lot of hair on his head. 3. King. 4. Was friendly to them. 5. Become king. 6. Ran away to hide. 7. No. 8. A tree. 9. Joab.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol 52, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 28 Sept 30, 2001

## DAVID'S SACRIFICE

David wanted to know how many fighting men there were in Israel and Judah. He sent Joab to go and count them all.

Joab said, "David, you can see there are a lot. Why do you want to know how many?"

But Joab did as David asked. It took him and his men nine months and twenty days to count all the people.

The number of the fighting men was twelve hundred thousand men. After David heard, he felt bad. He knew God was not pleased with him for counting the people.

A prophet named Gad came to David and said, "What do you want to happen to you? You have three choices: seven years of famine, or be chased by your enemies for three months, or have three days of great sickness on the people."

David said, "I have done wrong. But let me fall into the hand of the Lord. He may have mercy on me."

God sent his angel to punish David. Many people got sick and died. The angel put out his hand to destroy Jerusalem. God said, "That's enough," and the angel did not kill any more people.

The angel stopped at the threshingfloor of Araunah the Jebusite.

David said, "Oh Lord, I have sinned in counting the people. But, these people, they have done nothing wrong. Please, just punish me."

The prophet, Gad, came to David and said, "The Lord wants you to go and build an altar to Him in the threshingfloor of Araunah."

So David went to Araunah. When Araunah saw him coming he bowed down to the earth and said, "Why has my king come to see me?"

David said, "I want to buy your threshingfloor so the Lord will stop the sickness."

"Take it," said Araunah, "And here are oxen to sacrifice and wooden instruments to burn."

David said, "I will surely pay you for it. I will not offer a sacrifice to the Lord that didn't cost me anything."

David paid Araunah for the threshingfloor and offered a sacrifice to God. God had mercy on the people and stopped the sickness. —Joanna Booher



...So David |



: the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels  
of silver. II Samuel 24:24.

## Respect and Honor

Do you know the Ten Commandments by heart? It is good to learn and live by these laws written in God's Word. (Exodus 20:3-17.)

Jesus said that he came not to destroy but to fulfill the old laws. He put love and mercy into the law. When He was asked what was the greatest law, Jesus said: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength; this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

If we will love the Lord and love others as ourselves, then we will obey all the ten commandments and go beyond that with mercy and forgiveness as Jesus did.

There are other creeds and laws that teach integrity and self-discipline. The boy scouts have a list of laws which read like this:

"A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, reverent."

This is a good list of wonderful traits to have.

The girl scout law reads like this:

"I will do my best: to be honest, fair, help where I am needed, be cheerful, be friendly and considerate, be a sister to every girl scout, respect authority, use resources wisely, protect and improve the world around me, and to show

respect for myself and others through my words and actions."

Always in life we will have rules and laws to live by. The sooner we learn to obey and appreciate these boundaries, the better our lives will be.

Any time God's laws are disobeyed, sin and punishment follow. People suffer when they do not obey the laws that God has set down for man to follow.

Let us learn to respect the laws of God and live at peace with one another and with our Creator.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did David want Joab to do to the people of Israel?
2. Did Joab want to count the people?
3. Did it take a long time to count the people?
4. Why did David feel bad for counting the people?
5. Who was Gad?
6. Whose hand did David want to fall into?
7. What happened to many people?
8. What did God want David to do so more people would not die?
9. Did David want to use the threshingfloor for free?

### LESSON TEXT: II Samuel 24.

(Answers: 1. Count them. 2. No. 3. Yes. 4. Because he knew God was not pleased with him. 5. A prophet. 6. The Lord's. 7. They died. 8. Build an altar at the threshingfloor. 9. No.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Oct. 7, 2001

## THE NEXT KING

King David got old. One of his son's, Adonijah, wanted to be king. Adonijah got chariots and horsemen and fifty men to run before him. He called his friends to a feast. His friends were Joab and Abiathar, the priest. He called his brothers too, but he did not call King David's friends: Nathan, the prophet, Benajah and David's son, Solomon.

Nathan heard what Adonijah was doing. He said to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, "Go and say to David, 'Did you not swear to me that Solomon would be king after you? Why then is Adonijah king?'"

Bathsheba went into David's room and said these things to David. While she was speaking, Nathan came in and bowed on his face before David.

Nathan said, "My lord, O king, have you said that Adonijah is supposed to be king? He has made a feast today and the guests are saying, 'God save King Adonijah.'"

David said, "As the Lord lives, surely Solomon, my son, will be king after me."

David called for Zadok, the priest, and Benajah and Nathan. He said, "Put Solomon on my own mule. Take him with my servants to the fountain 'Gihon.' Anoint him there as king of Israel. Blow the trumpet and say, 'God save King Solomon.' Then take him and put him on my throne."

That's what Zadok, Nathan and Benajah did. When the people said "God save King Solomon!" they also piped on flutes and rejoiced with great joy so that the earth shook with the sound.

Adonijah and all his guests heard the noise. When they heard what was happening, they were afraid and went home.

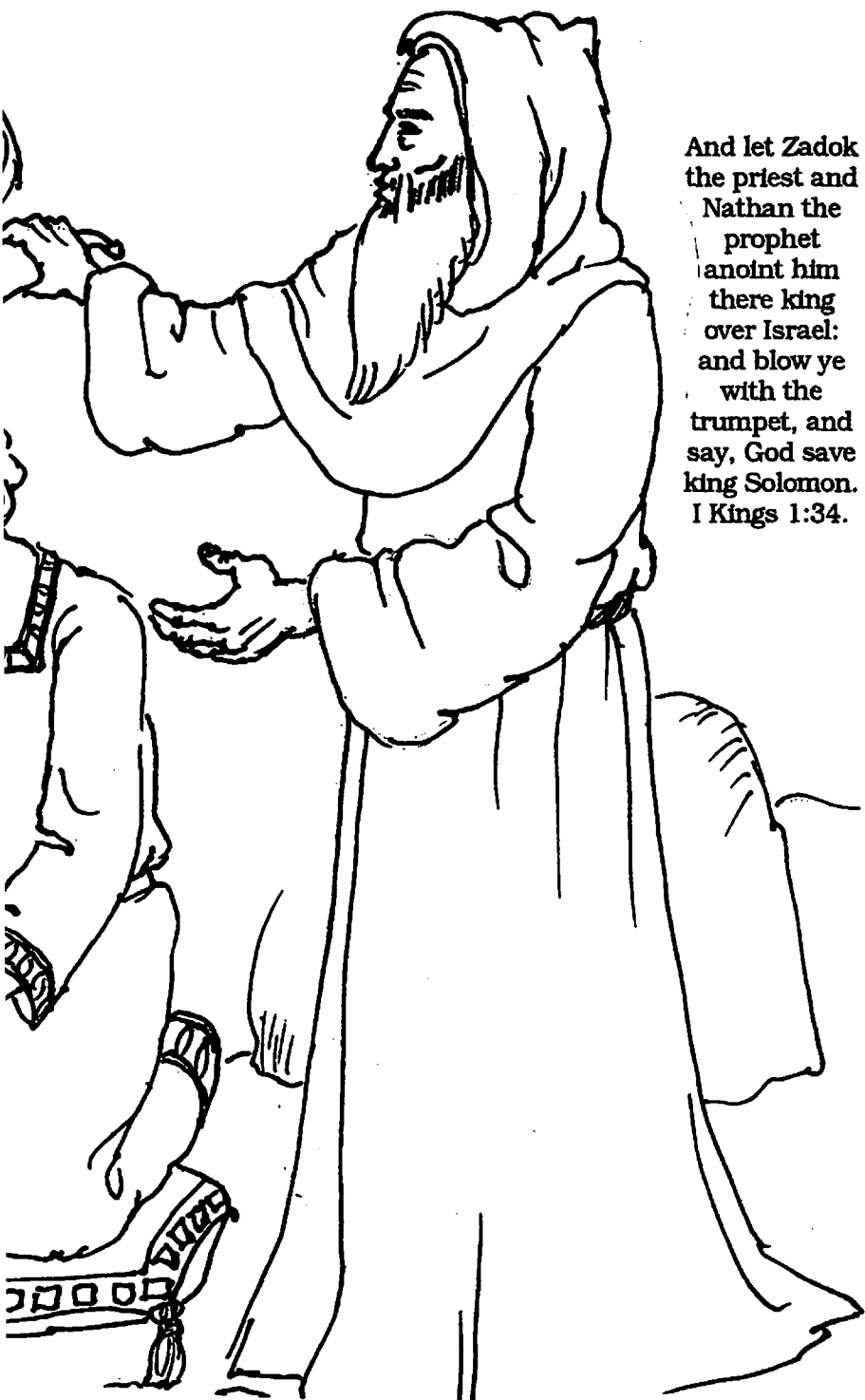
Adonijah ran into the temple and caught hold of the horns on the altar. He sent a message to King Solomon saying, "Please don't kill me."

King Solomon said, "If you are a worthy man, you won't die. But if wickedness is found in you, you will die."

Adonijah came and bowed to King Solomon and the King said, "Go home."

—Joanna Booher





And let Zadok  
the priest and  
Nathan the  
prophet  
anoimt him  
there king  
over Israel:  
and blow ye  
with the  
trumpet, and  
say, God save  
king Solomon.  
I Kings 1:34.

## The Broken Healed

(A true story.)

Reving up his motorcycle, Asif sped down a street in Pakistan. He felt good as he raced along, swerving to miss other vehicles or people. Suddenly, Asif saw a big jeep rushing toward him. Before he could turn away, the jeep hit Asif and his motorcycle.

The next thing Asif knew, he was lying in the dusty road with terrible pain surging through his leg and back. His leg was bent backwards and Asif knew it was broken. Sweating and bleeding, Asif forced himself to stay awake and think what he should do.

Then something very unusual happened. An unknown woman knelt beside him and began to pray to Jesus Christ.

"Why is she praying to Jesus?" thought Asif. "Does she not know that I am a Muslim? She shouldn't pray for me."

Asif went in and out of a deep sleep. At first he wanted to tell the woman to leave, but he was too weak and in so much pain. When he awoke, she was still praying. Like a light switch turned on, Asif felt a surge of energy move through his body. The pain eased up. He glanced down at his leg. It had turned frontwards and looked normal.

The woman helped Asif to his feet. He felt dizzy but the intense pain was gone. "I know this leg was broken!" thought Asif. "Now it is straight! Jesus must have healed my broken leg!" He turned to thank the woman, but she was gone. "Who is this Jesus?" he thought. "I must know more about Him."

Later, that same woman gave Asif a Bible. Right away he went home and began to read. In the New Testa-

ment, he learned how Jesus did many miracles of healing. Asif believed what he read, but he still wanted to know more about Jesus. So he went to the Mosque or Islam Temple and asked the mulvi, or religious leader, about Jesus.

"Why are you talking about Jesus?" sneered the mulvi. "Are you interested in Him?"

"How could I not be interested?" Asif asked. "He healed me."

This made the mulvi angry. With the help of others, the mulvi locked Asif in a room. They poured poison down Asif's throat and they left him to die. Asif was very sick but he prayed for Jesus to help him. Around midnight, a bright light shone and Jesus appeared. Asif said, "Jesus, this life is for You; as long as I am on earth, I will work for You."

The next morning, Asif escaped. Today he is witnessing to others about the true Son of God.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who wanted to be king?
2. Who made a feast?
3. Whose friend was Joab?
4. Whose friend was Nathan?
5. Who was Bathsheba?
6. Who did David want to be king next?
7. Were the people glad when they heard that Solomon was king?
8. What did Adonijah's friends do when they heard the news?
9. What did King Solomon tell Adonijah to do?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Kings 1.

(Answers: 1. Adonijah.  
2. Adonijah. 3. Adonijah's.  
4. David's. 5. Solomon's mother.  
6. Solomon. 7. Yes. 8. Went home, 9. Go home.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Oct. 14, 2001

## THE WISEST KING

David said to Solomon, "I am about to die. Be strong and obey God. If you obey Him, He has promised to keep a man on the throne of Israel. He will also bless you in all that you do. You are wise and know how to give the bad people what they deserve and the good people what they deserve."

Then David died and was buried in the city of David.

Solomon loved God and obeyed Him. One night the Lord came to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask what I shall give you."

Solomon said, "You have been very kind to my father, David, and to me. You have made me king over many people. But I do not know much. Please give me an understanding heart, so I will know how to judge these people."

Solomon's words pleased God. He said to Solomon, "Because you have not asked for riches or a long life or the death of your enemies but for understanding to judge, I will give you this. You will be the wisest man that ever lived. I will also make you very rich and if you obey Me, you will live long."

Two women came to King Solomon. One of them said, "Both of us women live in one house. I had a child and then she had a child. One night she accidentally smothered her child in her sleep. She woke up in the night and found her child dead. She came over and gave her child to me while I was asleep and took my child. When I woke up, my child was dead! But then I saw that it was not my child. But she says that the dead child is mine and the living child is hers."

King Solomon said, "Bring me a sword." When they brought the sword he said, "Cut the living child in two."

"No!" one of the women said. "Let her have the child."

The other woman said, "Let it not be my child or her child. Go ahead and kill it."

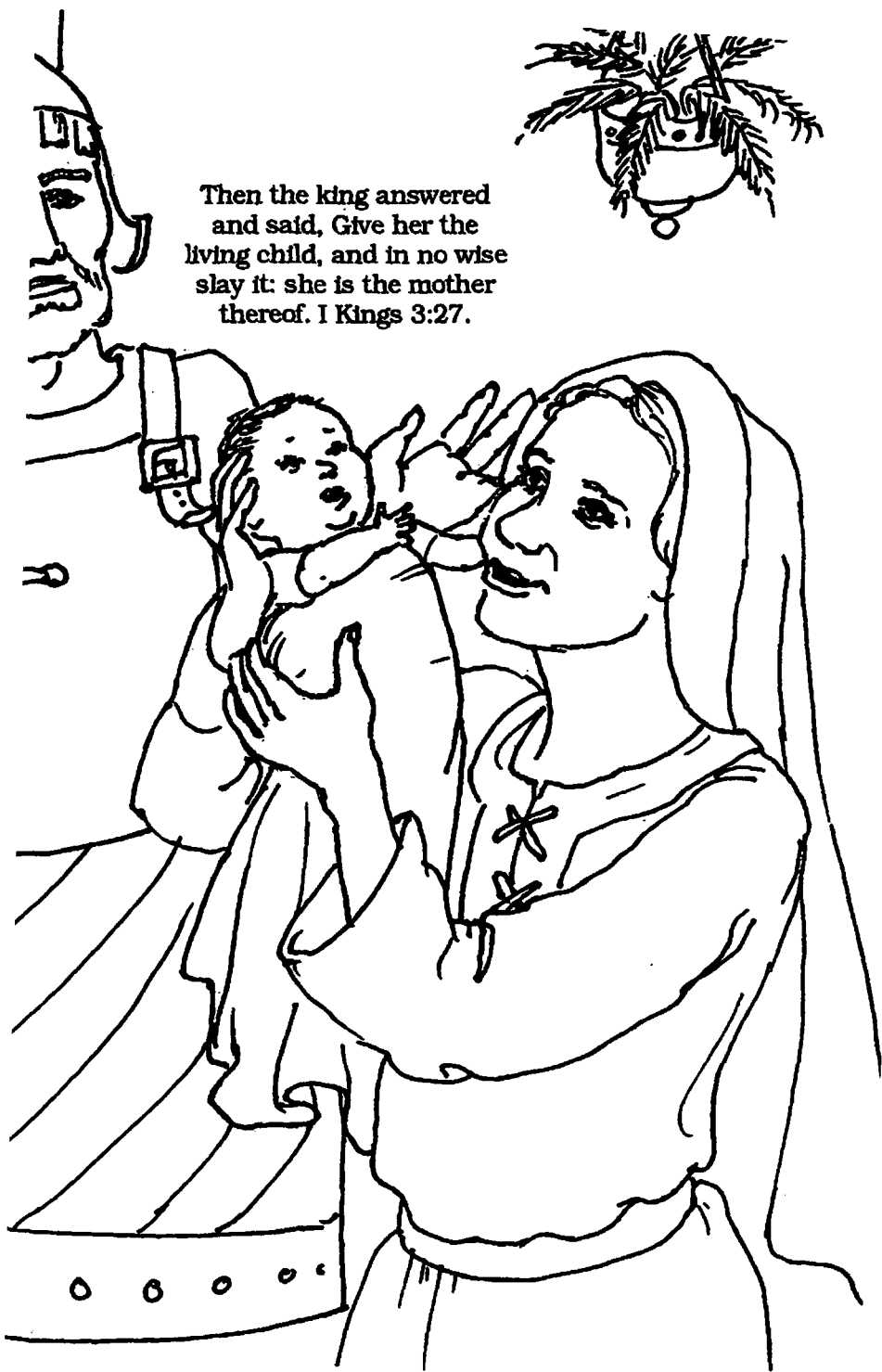
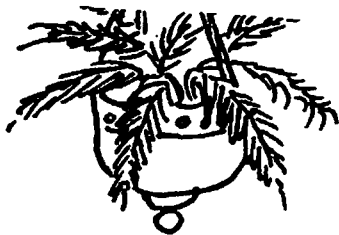
King Solomon said, "Give the child to the woman who wanted it to live. She is the mother."

Everyone saw how wise King Solomon was and they feared him.

—Joanna Booher



Then the king answered  
and said, Give her the  
living child, and in no wise  
slay it: she is the mother  
thereof. I Kings 3:27.



## The Kicking Bronco

(A true story.)

Tom, a cowboy in Wyoming, was hired by a guide who took tourists, or visitors, into secluded mountain areas for their summer vacation.

"This first trip into my hidden camp we need to take supplies," said Johnny the guide. "Let's saddle up two riding horses. The other ten horses we'll put packsaddles and supplies on."

Slowly, calmly, Tom saddled eleven well-behaved horses but when he came to the last horse, this bronco looked at Tom and rolled his eyes. He started snorting and stomping. No way did he want a saddle on him!

Finally, Tom had to tie up one hind leg while he slapped on the saddle and two panniers: one held a chain saw and one a can of gas. The bronc went to kicking as soon as he was released but when he saw the other horses leave, he took his place in the line.

Johnnie led the way along the south fork of the Shoshone River. It was hot. Pesky flies buzzed around the two men and twelve horses. The horses twitched their tails at the flies and that ornery bronc, number eight, would kick at them. They went along a rocky trail and crossed fast-running water.

Then they climbed a high, narrow trail called the catwalk. It was cut into solid rock on the side of the mountain, one hundred yards above the river. As Johnnie led the horse train up along the catwalk, Tom, who was last, began to pray. "Dear God, let the horses go along this trail without any accident."

The horses stepped carefully, swaying under the weight of their panniers. Then that ornery bronc stopped right at the most narrow place. He started kicking at the flies

and sure enough, he slipped off the catwalk. Down, down he tumbled with his head between his front legs. He rolled like a wagon wheel over the rocks and scrub brush until he stopped by the river's edge. There he lay dead still.

Tom was sorry. He followed the rest of the horses into camp and then told Johnnie he would ride down stream and get the things out of that bronc's panniers. As Tom came around a bend of the river, that ornery bronc came running to greet them! He was covered with gasoline but he looked fine. As Tom led the horse into camp, he exclaimed to Johnnie, "Lookie here! I reckon God looks after horses too!"

"Well, someone sure did," replied Johnnie.

From then on that horse behaved himself and became the best pack horse. He learned not to kick about the flies. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who died?
2. Who came to Solomon in a dream?
3. What did God tell Solomon to do?
4. What did Solomon ask for?
5. Did God give Solomon what he asked for?
6. Did God give Solomon more than what he asked for?
7. What happened to one of the women's children?
8. What did Solomon say to do to the living child?
9. Which woman wanted the child to live?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Kings 2:1-4, 3:5-28.

(Answers: 1. David. 2. The Lord. 3. Ask for what He should give him. 4. An understanding heart. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. It died. 8. Cut it in half. 9. The real mother.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Oct. 21, 2001

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## A HOUSE FOR GOD

A man named King Hiram was a good friend of David. When he heard that David had died and that Solomon was king now, he sent his servants to see him.

King Solomon sent a message back to King Hiram. He said, "You know how that my father, David, wanted to build a house for God, but God did not want him to because he fought so much. Now, I want to build this house for God. Please send me many of your big cedar trees to build with."

Hiram was glad when he heard this message. He sent many cedar and fir trees down to King Solomon. He floated them to him on the sea. In return, King Solomon gave King Hiram much wheat and oil every year.

So King Solomon built the temple for the Lord. He had very many men to work for him. Many of them cut trees down. Many of them cut stone in the mountains. Many of them carried the stone and wood and tools to the temple. All of the stone was cut before they put it in the temple so there was no sound of iron hammer, ax or saw in the temple.

It took King Solomon seven years to build the temple. When he was done, he had a ceremony to dedicate the temple. He called all the people together. He prayed to God and said, "Lord God, there is no one like You. How can I ask You to come and live in this house? Even the heaven and earth is not big enough for You. But, please, when we pray, look on this house and hear our prayer and forgive us."

Then King Solomon had a feast for all the people. It lasted fourteen days.

After that, God came to Solomon in a dream again. He said, "I have heard your prayer and have come to live in this temple. If you will do right, I will hear your prayers and bless you forever. But if you do not obey Me, then I will take you away from your land and will not remember this temple that you made for Me." —Joanna Booher

And the king commanded, and they brought great stones for the  
foundation of the house.



costly stones, and hewed stones, to lay the  
Kings 5:17.



## Active Fun

Paul and Loren were seated on the school bus together.

"Paul, it's too bad you don't have a TV," said Loren. "You should have seen the last Ninja Turtle cartoon. It was so funny!"

"I don't have to have a TV to see something funny," replied Paul. "My family does exercises every morning before school and that is funny."

"You do?" said Loren, impressed. "How do you find time to do that?"

"Well, as soon as my two brothers and I wake up, we have a race to the bathroom. Then we do pull-ups and pull-on's putting on our clothes."

"Oh, those kind of exercises," laughed Loren. "I guess my family does those exercises every morning too. We can't watch TV before school because it makes us slower getting ready but I like it in the evenings. Really, Paul, TV's aren't that bad."

"They aren't that good either," replied Paul. "We have plenty of live entertainment at our house."

"So what kind of exercises does your family do in the evenings?" teased Loren.

"We have BP's and MT's at our house," said Paul. "They are more healthy than Terrible Vision."

Loren was quiet for a little while but then curiosity got the best of him. "What are—are BP's and MT's?" he asked. "Just come to my house some evening and I will show you," chuckled Paul. "You will have a good time, I guarantee it."

The parents agreed that Loren could visit Paul the next afternoon. As soon as the bus dropped off the boys, Paul said, "First, let's have a snack. Then I need to do my chores." At last Paul took Loren to the family den.

"Who made all these wooden toys

and model cars?" asked Loren. "These are really neat."

"You are looking at our Building Pride," said Paul. "In the evenings we often make things together."

"Then this must be your BP's," guessed Loren laughing.

"Yes," said Paul. "Would you like to help me make this one model car?" The boys worked until supper time on the car. After a good meal of homemade chicken and dumplings, Loren was ready for MT.

"What games do you know how to play?" asked Paul. "We have many Mind Teasers."

"You know, Paul, you all do have fun evenings," said Loren.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the good friend of David?
2. What did King Solomon ask King Hiram to send him?
3. Did King Hiram want to send cedar trees to King Solomon?
4. How did King Hiram send the trees to King Solomon?
5. What did King Solomon give King Hiram in return?
6. Where did the men cut the stone for the temple?
7. Was there a sound of any iron tool in the temple?
8. How many years did it take to build the temple?
9. Was God pleased with the house Solomon had built for Him?

LESSON TEXT: I Kings 5, 6, 8, 9.

(Answers: 1. King Hiram. 2. Cedar trees. 3. Yes. 4. He floated them on the sea. 5. Wheat and oil. 6. In the mountains. 7. No. 8. Seven. 9. Yes.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Oct. 28, 2001

## THE DAYS OF SOLOMON

The queen of Sheba heard of the great wisdom of Solomon. She came to see him with a very great train of camels bearing spices, gold and precious stones. She asked King Solomon all the questions she had and he answered them all.

When the queen heard of King Solomon's wisdom and saw his house and all his servants and their clothes, she was amazed. She said, "It was true, everything I heard about you and how great you are. I did not believe it when I heard it. But I did not even hear half of how great and wise you are. Blessed be the Lord which made you king."

The queen of Sheba gave King Solomon much gold, spices and precious stones. The king gave her whatever she wanted of all his riches. Then she left and went to her own country.

King Solomon had a navy which brought him gold, sandalwood, precious stones, silver, ivory, apes and peacocks. King Solomon made the sandalwood into pillars for the temple of God and into harps for the singers. He had a throne made of ivory. It had six steps going up to it and twelve lions stood on the steps.

All the glasses that King Solomon drank out of were gold. None were silver. This was normal for King Solomon because he was so rich. Everyone came to hear the wisdom of Solomon and they brought him gifts.

But King Solomon also loved many strange women. These women prayed to idols. These women turned King Solomon's heart from serving the true God.

When Solomon was old, he built altars to other gods. The Lord was angry with Solomon and said, "Because you have done this, I will take away your kingdom and give it to your servant. But I will not do it while you are alive because of your father, David. And I will not take all of it away because of your father, David." —Joanna Booher





So king Solomon  
exceeded all the  
kings of the earth  
for riches and for  
wisdom. I Kings  
10:23.

## Balls Of Trouble

(A true story.)

One day a little old lady went to visit the zoo with other senior citizens. She had been to the zoo several times before and she had come to feel sorry for the poor animals locked into exhibits. The animals looked so bored.

For instance, what did the poor bear have to do? He just paced back and forth, back and forth wearing out his feet on the concrete slab. The lion did the same. Even the monkeys didn't have anything to play with.

So this dear elder lady took it upon herself to bring something for the animals to play with in the zoo. She brought them some balls: orange balls, green balls, blue balls, rubber and plastic balls—two grocery sacks full.

This elder lady really had fun throwing balls into the different animal exhibits or cages. She threw a big blue one to the seal who played with it in the water. The monkeys were given a couple of balls which they tossed at each other. The elephant threw her ball aside because it didn't taste good.

After she had given away all of the balls, the little old lady left the zoo feeling very pleased with herself. She could just imagine what fun all these different animals would have playing with these balls. She did not stay to see what the animals actually did.

Most of the animals ate their balls. It made a terrible mess for the zoo keepers to clean up. One of the big lions bit down on her rubber ball and her big teeth became stuck in the ball. She could not get the ball out of her mouth and she could not eat it. This made the lion angry. She roared, pawed at her face, then tried to scrape the ball off by wiping her nose along her concrete floor.

By the time the zoo keepers realized what had happened, she had her nose bloody from scraping it along the concrete. She could not get that ball out of her mouth.

So the veterinarian took a tranquilizer gun and put her to sleep with a dart. Quickly the zoo keepers cut the rubber ball off of her teeth. When she woke up, she could open and shut her mouth again.

Sin can often look like those balls—simple fun. The devil throws "balls of sin" at us hoping that we will bite down and not be able to let go. Don't play with the devil's balls of lying, cheating, cursing, looking at dirty pictures and other sins. Don't play around with sin. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who came to hear Solomon's wisdom?
2. Did the queen of Sheba believe that King Solomon would be so rich?
3. What gifts did the queen of Sheba give to Solomon?
4. Did King Solomon give the queen gifts?
5. What brought to King Solomon sandalwood, gold, silver, ivory, apes and peacocks?
6. What was King Solomon's throne made of?
7. Who made King Solomon so wise and rich?
8. Who turned King Solomon's heart from serving the true God?
9. What did God say He would do to King Solomon?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Kings 10; 11:1-13.

(Answers: 1. The queen of Sheba. 2. No. 3. Gold, spices and precious stones. 4. Yes. 5. His navy. 6. Ivory. 7. God. 8. The strange women. 9. Take his kingdom away.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Nov. 4, 2001

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## REHOBAM OR JEROBOAM?

There was a man named Jeroboam who was a servant to King Solomon. King Solomon saw that Jeroboam was a hard worker so he made him a ruler.

Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem one day wearing a new garment. The prophet, Ahijah, met him. Ahijah tore the new garment off of Jeroboam and tore it into twelve pieces. Ahijah said, "Take ten of the pieces. This means that God will give you ten of the tribes of the kingdom. God will give one tribe to Solomon's son for David's sake. If you obey God, He will make your family the rulers forever."

King Solomon heard about what Ahijah had said so he tried to kill Jeroboam. Jeroboam ran away to Egypt.

King Solomon died and was buried with his father, David. All the people came to Shechem to make his son, Rehobam, king of Israel. The people called for Jeroboam to come too.

All the people and Jeroboam said to Rehobam, "Your father, Solomon, made us work hard. If you will not make us work so hard, we will serve you."

Rehobam decided to ask his counsellors what he should say to the people. He asked the old men first, "What should I say to the people?"

The old men said, "If you will be kind to the people today, they will serve you forever."

Rehobam did not like their advice. He went to his friends and asked them what he should say. His friends said, "Say to the people, 'My father made you work hard, but I will make you work even harder. My father whipped you with whips, but I will whip you with scorpions.'"

When the people and Jeroboam came back to Rehobam to see what his answer was, Rehobam said what his friends had told him to say.

The people did not like his answer at all. They said, "Why should we serve you. Let's go home." And that's what they did. Only the tribe of Judah stayed to serve Rehobam.

So ten tribes went with Jeroboam and one was left for Rehobam. This happened just as God said it would.

—Joanna Booher

And the king answered the  
people roughly, and forsook  
the old men's counsel that  
they gave him. I Kings 12:13.





## Right Track

The phone rang at Ricky's house and Mrs. Morton answered.

"Mrs. Morton, we have your son here at the police station," said the chief of police. "He was arrested for stealing a radio from a department store. Could you please come here? We would like to talk with you."

"Yes, I will be right there," replied Mrs. Morton. She cried as she gathered her keys and went to her car. Ever since her husband, a police officer, had been shot and killed, Ricky had become a troubled teen. He had never skipped school or stolen things before his father died. Now he seemed to be doing everything his father had stood against.

When Mrs. Morton arrived, Ricky was sitting on a chair between two officers. His sad, lonely look made her heart ache for him. Ricky did not look at his Mother.

The police chief cleared his throat. "Mrs. Morton, Ricky was caught with the radio on his person after he had left the front door of the store. He really doesn't have a chance to plead 'Not guilty' but he may be able to do community work to compensate for this misdemeanor."

Mrs. Morton nodded. "Please intercede with the judge on Ricky's behalf and ask if that is possible."

"Okay," said the Chief. He wrote down some notes, then turned to Ricky. "Ricky, I will send you home with your mother because I know she is an honest woman who will teach you right if you will listen to her and obey her."

The chief leaned forward in his chair. "Son, look at me." Ricky forced his eyes to look at the Chief. "I don't want you skipping school any more nor stealing anything else. Your dad would be very grieved if he knew you

were doing what he arrested criminals for doing. You work on good grades in school, help your good Mom, and don't hang out with any gangs or get involved with drugs. Some day I want you back in here for another reason than committing a crime."

Ricky asked, "What for?"

"I want you in here applying for a job," said the chief as he stood up and offered his hand to Ricky. "Your dad was a good, honest man and we need more of them on the police force. Set high standards, live by them, and some day you may be as good as your dad was."

Ricky smiled as he took the Chief's hand for a hearty shake. From then on, he made a change in his life and followed in his father's footsteps.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was King Solomon's servant?
2. What did the prophet Ahijah do to Jeroboam's garment?
3. How many pieces did Ahijah give to Jeroboam?
4. Who was King Solomon's son?
5. What did the people ask Rehoboam to do?
6. Who did Rehoboam ask for advice from first?
7. Did Rehoboam's friends give him good advice?
8. Whose advice did Rehoboam follow?
9. How many tribes stayed with Rehoboam?

**LESSON TEXT:** I Kings 11:26-12:19.

(Answers: 1. Jeroboam. 2. Tore it in twelve pieces. 3. Ten. 4. Rehoboam. 5. Not make them work so hard. 6. The old men. 7. No. 8. His friends'. 9. One.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Nov. 11, 2001

## THE DISOBEDIENT MAN OF GOD

King Jeroboam made two golden calves and put one in Bethel and the other in Dan. He built an altar to the calves. This was a sin for the people came to worship the calves.

A man of God came and saw the altar at Bethel and King Jeroboam burning incense on it. The man said, "O altar, altar, thus says the Lord, 'Men's bones will be burnt on you.' This is a sign that this will happen: The altar will break open and the ashes will pour out."

When King Jeroboam heard this he stretched out his hand toward the man of God and said, "Lay hold on him!" Right away, his arm shriveled up. The altar broke open and the ashes poured out.

King Jeroboam said, "Please, pray for God to heal my arm." The man of God did and God healed him. Jeroboam asked the man to come home and eat with him.

The man of God said, "I cannot. God has said I must not eat or drink here or go home the same way I came."

A prophet lived near there who had two sons. His sons told him about the man of God and what he had said and how the altar broke open. The prophet got on his donkey and went after the man of God. He found him under a tree and said to him, "Come home and eat with me."

The man of God said, "I cannot. God told me not to."

The prophet said, "But God told me to tell you that you should come with me and eat." But the prophet was lying.

The man of God went with the prophet and ate and drank. While they were eating, the word of the Lord came to the prophet and he said to the man of God, "God says, because you did not obey Him, you will not be buried with your fathers."

The man of God went toward home but a lion found him and killed him on the way. This happened because he disobeyed what God had told him.

—Joanna Booher

He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him. I Kings 13:18.





## Confessing Faults

"Oh, Mom, why do I have to go to prayer meeting every Wednesday night? I'm tired of church." Dean complained.

"Shame on you," replied Mother as she dampened a washcloth for Dean's face. "You should be happy to go to church and hear how the good Lord has blessed others during the week. I love going to church!"

"Well, you're not me!" declared Dean. "I get tired of going and sitting still."

"Dean!" Mother's voice was sharp. "I don't want to hear you complain like this. It is a privilege to freely attend church services. Thousands of people have died for this privilege that you are scorning. Don't complain one more time."

Dean did go to church with his mother. He frowned and slumped on the bench. Anyone who looked at Dean knew that he was grumpy about something. Mother was ashamed of her son and she prayed that he would get saved from sin.

That Friday morning, Dean woke up with a terrible pain in his side. His mother came in his room and to his bed. "Oh, it hurts so bad!" cried Dean. "Please help me!"

"Let's pray to Jesus and ask Him to help you," said Mother. She laid her hand on Dean's shoulder and began to pray but after ten minutes of prayer, he still was suffering.

"We need to call for prayer," said Mother. "James 5:14 says, 'Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; And the prayer of faith shall save the sick.' Do you want to obey this scripture, Dean?"

Dean nodded his head. He was in terrible pain and whatever it took to

get relief, he was ready to do it.

Mother called on the telephone and soon the pastor, his wife and another minister came into Dean's room.

"Dean, do you believe Jesus can heal you?" asked the pastor. Dean nodded his head. "Well, we are going to anoint you with oil and pray to the Lord for you."

The pastor put the oil on Dean's forehead. They bowed their heads in prayer. Dean felt a warm feeling inside and then the pain left. He turned his head toward his mother, "I will never complain about going to church again," he said. "I thank the Lord for healing me." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did King Jeroboam make for the people to worship?
2. Who came by as Jeroboam was burning incense?
3. What did the man of God say would be burnt on the altar?
4. What did the man of God say would happen to the altar as a sign?
5. What happened to King Jeroboam's arm when he stretched it out?
6. Was the man of God allowed to stop anywhere and eat?
7. Who came and told the man of God that God wanted him to come and eat?
8. Was the prophet telling the truth?
9. What happened to the man of God because he disobeyed God?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Kings 12:26-13:24.

(Answers: 1. Golden calves. 2. A man of God. 3. Men's bones. 4. It would break open and ashes pour out. 5. It shriveled up. 6. No. 7. A prophet. 8. No. 9. A lion killed him.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Nov. 18, 2001

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## WICKED KINGS

The son of King Jeroboam was sick. Jeroboam said to his wife, "Take ten loaves, some brittle cakes, and a bottle of honey and go to the prophet Ahijah. He is the one who told me I would be king. Ask him if our son will get better. Put on different clothes so he will not know who you are."

Jeroboam's wife did as Jeroboam said. Ahijah was old and his eyes could not see very well. Before Jeroboam's wife got to Ahijah's house the Lord said to Ahijah, "Jeroboam's wife is coming. She is not going to tell you that she is his wife. She wants to know if their child will live." Then the Lord told Ahijah what to say.

When Ahijah heard the sound of Jeroboam's wife's feet at the door, he said to her, "Come in, wife of Jeroboam. Why are you pretending to be someone else? I have bad news for you. Go tell Jeroboam, thus says the Lord, 'I made you king of Israel and took the kingdom away from David's sons to do it. But you have not obeyed Me. You have done evil. All of your sons will die and not be buried except this one.' But, this one will die as you go home. You will bury him and mourn for him. The Lord will raise up a different king over Israel. Israel will also be punished because they have served other gods."

Jeroboam's wife went home and as she did, her son died. The people of Israel buried him and mourned for him.

Nadab, Jeroboam's son, became king after his father died. Another man, named Baasha, plotted against him and killed him. Then, Baasha was king. While Baasha was king he killed all the sons and family of Jeroboam, so the prophet's words became true as God had said.

Baasha was a wicked king and there were many wicked kings after him. God did not like their doings and the kings usually destroyed each other. One of the wickedest of these kings was Ahab...and that's another story.

~Joanna Booher

And it was so, when Ahijah  
door, that he said, Come in  
to be another? for I am se



the sound of her feet, as she came in at the  
wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself  
ee with heavy tidings. I Kings 14:6.



## True God

"Maha, it is time for prayer," said his father sternly.

Obediently, Maha laid his bicycle against his house and knelt beside his father, facing the East, toward Mecca where Allah dwells. Maha is a Muslim who lives in Egypt. All his life he has been told that Allah is god and Mohammed, who wrote the Quaran, is the Great Prophet.

After kneeling, Maha hopped on his bike to ride with his friends. "Wait for me, Fathia!" he called. His feet were pumping the pedals in a fast spin when all at once a black dog walked onto the road in front of him.

BAM! "OW-OW-OW!" howled the dog as he rolled from the impact.

Maha flew through the air, slid on his shoulder, then landed on his back. "Help me!" he wailed.

His friends hurried to his side. "Are you alright?"

Maha groaned in reply. They helped him to his feet.

"Come to my house and let my mother bandage your bleeding shoulder," said Fathia.

Fathia's mother was in the kitchen listening to a radio program. She quickly turned it off when the boys came in.

"Oh, Maha, let me help you with your shoulder," she said. Carefully she cleaned the scraped skin, put salve on it, and then a fresh bandage. The other boys had gone outside to ride by the time she was done.

"May God help it," she murmured to Maha.

"Allah?" asked Maha. "Allah is too busy to care about me." He paused a moment, then said, "I have heard about the Christians' Jesus on a radio station. They say He cares and heals."

The woman nodded and smiled. She leaned forward and said, "Jesus does care. He puts love and peace in the heart."

"Who told you?" asked Maha.

She explained about a radio program that she listened to and how it had changed her life. Later, Maha dialed his radio to that station and learned about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He was especially touched when he heard how Jesus fled to Egypt as a baby to escape the wicked King Herod.

The more he heard about Jesus, the more he liked Him. In his heart, he began to pray to Jesus. Peace and quiet joy filled his heart like never before.

Maha did not want to kneel to a false god any more. He prayed to the true God and His Son, Jesus Christ, who answers prayer.

—Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Whose son was sick?
2. Who did Jeroboam send to see Ahijah?
3. Could Ahijah see very well?
4. Who told Ahijah that Jeroboam's wife was coming?
5. Would Jeroboam's son get better?
6. What would happen to all of Jeroboam's sons?
7. Who killed all of Jeroboam's sons?
8. Was Baasha a good king?
9. What usually happened to the wicked kings?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Kings 14:1-20, 15:25-30, 16:1-28.

(Answers: 1. Jeroboam's. 2. His wife. 3. No. 4. The Lord. 5. No. 6. They would die and not be buried. 7. Baasha. 8. No. 9. They destroyed each other.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Nov. 25, 2001

## THE KING WHO TRUSTED GOD

King Rehoboam of Judah died and his son, Abijah, was king. Abijah was a bad king. He died and his son, Asa, became king.

King Asa did what was good and right before God. He took down the altars to strange gods and broke the idols. He told his people to serve God and obey His commandments.

God gave King Asa peace and no one came to fight against him for awhile. In this time of peace King Asa was able to build walls around some of his cities. One day Zerah, the Ethiopian, came to fight against King Asa with a thousand thousand men and three hundred chariots.

King Asa had many men to fight for him, but he did not have as many as Zerah. Asa prayed to God, "Lord, it doesn't matter if we have few or many soldiers. You can help us to win against Zerah. We are trusting in You, Lord."

The Lord helped King Asa and his men. The Ethiopians ran away from them. God helped King Asa and his men to destroy the Ethiopians and to bring back many sheep and camels and riches.

As they came back, a man named Azariah came out to meet him. The Spirit of the Lord was on him and he said to Asa, "The Lord is with you while you are with Him. But if you disobey Him, he will leave you too. Be strong and you will be rewarded."

When King Asa heard these words, he took courage. He got rid of all the idols in the land of Judah and Benjamin. He fixed the altar of God. He did not let his mother be queen anymore because she had made an idol. He tore down her idol. With all the people of Judah and Benjamin, he made a covenant with God to follow Him with all his heart. The Lord blessed them and gave them peace.

When King Asa got older, someone else came to fight against him and he did not trust in God to help him. He got some people to help him instead of asking God to. This did not please God and so He let more people come and fight against Asa. God wanted King Asa to trust in Him.

—Joanna Booher



So the Lord smote t  
fore Asa, and before  
Ethiopians fled. II C



tiopians be-  
ah; and the  
cles 14:12.

## Best Friend

(Based on a true story.)

Richard was a loner. At school he would not speak much to anyone, and so he didn't have close friends. After school he would go home, take a snack to his bedroom, and stay there all evening by himself.

Mrs. Morgan worried about her son. She would knock on his bedroom door and call to him, "Richard, come with me to visit Aunt Becky and her boys."

Silence.

"Richard, did you hear me? Come out and let's go visit Mack, Bob and Aunt Becky."

Finally, Richard replied, "I don't want to go."

Mrs. Morgan coaxed and pleaded, but Richard would not leave his bedroom. "Oh, well, I'll just go myself," she said.

At her sister's house, Mrs. Morgan said, "Becky, I'm so worried about Richard. He just locks himself away from everyone, including me, and I can't understand why."

"Maybe he likes it peaceful so he can think," said Becky.

Mrs. Morgan shook her head. "I don't think that's it. I'm afraid he isn't happy. Ever since his dad left, he has been slipping farther and farther into a silent shell. I think he is grieving about his dad."

Richard's mother was right about that. He did miss his dad. He didn't want to make friends with anyone for fear that they would leave him also. Why get close to someone and then hurt so much when that person decides to leave? Richard had decided to not make friends so he would not be hurt by them.

After Richard graduated from high school, his mother insisted he

join the army. Boot camp was tough with officers yelling commands all day long. In the last week of training, Richard took several sleeping pills and went into a coma. An officer found him and he was rushed to the hospital.

When Richard woke up, an officer had a message for him. "We won't need you in the army. You can go back home today."

Back in Chicago, Richard roamed the streets at night and slept in the parks during the day. In time, a police officer told Richard about a Christian mission that would feed him.

At the mission, Richard heard about Jesus Christ. When he learned that Jesus would never leave him nor forsake him, Richard prayed and asked Jesus to be his best friend. He even has other friends now.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. When Asa became king, did he do what was right?
2. Who came to fight against King Asa?
3. Who had more men?
4. Who did King Asa ask for help?
5. Did God help King Asa and his men?
6. Who did Azariah say would be with Asa if he would be with Him?
7. What did King Asa get rid of?
8. What did Asa and the people promise to do?
9. Does God want people to trust Him?

LESSON TEXT: II Chronicles 14, 15, 16.

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Zerah, the Ethiopian. 3. Zerah. 4. God. 5. Yes. 6. God. 7. The idols. 8. Follow God with all their hearts. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Dec. 2, 2001

## GOD TAKES CARE OF HIS PROPHET

There was a king named Ahab who was a very wicked king. He did more evil in God's sight than any king before him. He married Jezebel, a woman who served the god Baal, and built a house for Baal.

There was a prophet named Elijah in that time who said, "As God lives, there will not be dew or rain until I say so."

The Lord told Elijah to go to a creek by the river Jordan. The Lord said, "Drink from the creek and hide there. I have commanded ravens to feed you." Elijah did as God said. Ravens came and fed him meat and bread every morning and every evening.

One day, the creek dried up. God said to Elijah, "Go to Zarephath. I have commanded a widow there to feed you."

Elijah went to Zarephath and saw the widow woman picking up sticks. He said to her, "Please get me a drink of water." The woman went to get it and he said, "Please also bring me a bit of bread."

The widow woman said, "I don't have any bread to give you. I only have a little flour and a little oil. I am gathering sticks to make a fire to cook one little cake. My son and I will eat it and die."

Elijah said, "Don't be afraid. Make me a cake first. God has said that the oil and flour will not run out until it rains again."

The widow woman did as Elijah had said. When she went to make another cake, guess what...there was enough flour and oil to make another, and another. One day, the widow's son got sick. He got so sick that he died. The widow woman was very sad and blamed Elijah for the death of her son.

Elijah took the boy upstairs and laid him on his bed. He prayed to God, "Why did You let this happen, O Lord?" He stretched himself on the boy three times and said, "Please, O Lord, let this boy come to life again."

God heard Elijah's prayer and the boy came to life. Elijah gave the boy to his mother and she said, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that God speaks through you."

—Joanna Booher





and Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but  
ake me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make  
r thee and thy son. I Kings 17:13.

## Under Angel Wings

(A true story.)

Arriving home from morning church service, Brenda set the baby car seat in the doorway of the kitchen and living room. She softly patted her sleeping four-month-old son.

"We need to drive to the grocery store for a couple of things for lunch," she told two-year-old Charity. Then as the two of them went by the garage, Brenda told her husband, "Listen for the baby. He will probably sleep until I get back from the store. I will hurry."

"Okay," agreed Wayne. He was in the garage talking to Kenny, a neighbor man.

Brenda had not been gone very long when suddenly Kenny glanced behind Wayne and a look of fear leaped into his eyes.

"Your house is on fire!" he cried as Wayne turned to see black smoke billowing from his back door.

"The baby!" Wayne yelled.

The two men raced to the front door, opened it, and faced black smoke. "I'm going in," Wayne told Kenny. "Don't come after me but call for help."

Wayne knelt and crawled close to the floor where there would be more oxygen. "I don't know where the baby is," he thought, "and I can't see my hands in front of my face. Lord, please help me find the baby. Keep him safe. He isn't crying. Please don't let this smoke get him!"

Carefully Wayne crawled along the floor, reaching out with his hands, hoping to grab the baby's car seat. His eyes stung. His nose and mouth gasped for air. His chest ached. Once he fell on his belly, his heart pounding, his head hurting from the smoke and heat.

Finally, he touched the car seat and pulled it behind him toward the front door. He burst into the open outdoors and drew the baby after him.

Sirens sounded in the distance then came closer as police and fire trucks rushed to Wayne's house. They saw him all covered with black soot bent over a clean baby in a spotless car seat.

In disbelief, Brenda drove to her driveway, rushed across the lawn to her baby, scooped him into her arms, and kissed his soft skin. He still smelled like baby powder.

Surely the Lord had protected this little boy while he slept. It was as if an angel had spread her wings about him to keep him from smoke's harm. God had cared for him.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the wicked king?
2. What did Elijah say there would not be until he said so?
3. Where did God tell Elijah to hide?
4. What came and fed Elijah at the creek?
5. What happened to the creek?
6. Who did God say would take care of Elijah next?
7. Did the widow think she had enough to feed Elijah and herself?
8. Did the widow run out of flour and oil?
9. Who raised the widow's son to life again?

**LESSON TEXT:** 1 Kings 16:29-17:24.

(Answers: 1. Ahab. 2. Dew or rain. 3. By a creek. 4. Ravens. 5. It dried up. 6. A widow woman. 7. No. 8. No. 9. God.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Dec. 9, 2001

## GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

After three years of no rain the Word of the Lord came to Elijah. God said, "Go tell Ahab that it will rain."

Elijah said to Ahab, "Get your four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and come up to mount Carmel. Bring all the people of Israel too."

When everyone was there Elijah said, "How long will you not make up your minds? If God is God then serve Him. If Baal is god then serve him. Let the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal offer a sacrifice to him. And let me offer a sacrifice to God. The God that answers with fire will be the true God."

The prophets of Baal built their altar and cut up their bullock and put it on the wood. Then they prayed, "O Baal, hear us," from morning til evening. No fire fell from heaven. The prophets shouted and danced around and cut themselves with swords.

Elijah built his altar. He cut up his bullock and put it on the wood. He made a deep trench around the altar. He told the people to pour water on the sacrifice. "Do it again," he said. "Do it the third time." The sacrifice was very wet.

Elijah knelt down and prayed, "Lord God, show that You are God." Fire fell out of heaven and burnt up the sacrifice and licked up the water that was all around it.

The people fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, He is the God. The Lord, He is the God."

Elijah had all those prophets of Baal killed, then went up to the top of mount Carmel. He knelt down and told his servant, "Go, look over the sea."

The servant came back and said, "I don't see anything."

Elijah told the servant to go look again. He told him to do this seven different times. On the seventh time, the servant said, "I see a cloud the size of a man's hand."

Elijah said, "Go tell Ahab, 'It's going to rain.'"

Ahab drove his chariot to Jezreel. Elijah picked up his robes and ran in front of him all the way. And the rain came down. —Joanna Booher

And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock  
four barrels with water, and pour it on the burr



leces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill  
ice, and on the wood. I Kings 18:33.



## Pennies from Angels

(A true story.)

McKay was an only child who lived in a small town in Texas. He was a happy boy who enjoyed ball games, picnics and bedtime stories. He also liked for his mother to play hymns on the piano, especially at night before he went to sleep. On Sunday morning his parents took him to Sunday school and church.

When McKay started to school, his grandmother gave him a pickle jar full of pennies. "I'm going to show this to my class for show-and-tell!" McKay told his mother excitedly.

From then on McKay was always on the look out for stray pennies. "Let's look for pennies while we walk to the park," he would tell his parents, and sometimes they would see a copper flash on the ground. McKay would scoop up the penny with a whoop and later it would go into his pickle jar. His friends would also help him look for pennies laying around. McKay never outgrew hunting for pennies.

When he was eleven, McKay went to a summer camp in the Texas hill country. After a week, he came home and told his mother, "I have gotten saved." She was happy for him.

On a September evening in 1995, McKay was at home while his parents were attending a business meeting. A man came to the back door and told McKay that his parents had been in a bad car accident and needed him to come to the hospital. When McKay stepped out onto the porch, the man grabbed him, threw him into the trunk of his car and later shot him.

McKay's parents were sick with grief. They could not eat nor sleep, but they cried and begged God for comfort.

One afternoon McKay's mother climbed into her car to run an errand.

A copper flash caught her attention. She picked up the penny and held it close, thinking of McKay. A few days later, she found a new penny laying on her porch step. One of McKay's friends called to tell her that he had found four stray pennies in front of the locker they had shared.

At odd times and places, McKay's family and friends would find a penny or so to comfort their hearts. His mother told his father, "Every time I find a penny, it is like McKay is with me."

"McKay can't come down from heaven," said his father gently. "No," agreed his mother, "but angels can. I think God's angels are dropping pennies to let us know McKay is happy and waiting for us to join him some day."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. How long had it been since it rained?
2. On what mountain did Elijah tell everyone to meet?
3. How many prophets of Baal were there?
4. What did Elijah tell the people they should do if God is God?
5. What were Elijah and the prophets supposed to do?
6. How was the true God supposed to answer their prayers?
7. Which God answered by sending fire?
8. What size of cloud came out of the sea?
9. Did God send rain?

### LESSON TEXT: 1 Kings 18.

(Answers: 1. Three years. 2. Mount Carmel. 3. Four hundred and fifty. 4. Serve Him. 5. Build an altar to their God. 6. By sending fire down on their sacrifice. 7. The true God. 8. A cloud the size of a man's hand. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Dec. 16, 2001

## ELIJAH RUNS AWAY

Elijah had defeated the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel and had killed them. Ahab went and told his wife, Jezebel, what had happened. She sent a message to Elijah saying, "You are going to be dead tomorrow." She was very angry.

Elijah ran away. He went into the wilderness and sat down under a juniper tree. He said to God, "Let me die now. I have done enough." He lay down and went to sleep.

An angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."

Elijah looked up and saw a cake on the hot stones and a bottle of water near his head. He ate and drank and went back to sleep.

The angel woke him again and said, "Get up and eat. Your trip is going to be very long."

After Elijah ate and drank he got up and walked for forty days and forty nights without eating again. He came to a mountain and went into a cave.

The word of the Lord came to him. God said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah said, "I have done great things for You, God. And now they are trying to kill me. I am the only one left who is serving You."

God said, "Go and stand outside." When Elijah was outside, God made a great wind to go past him. The wind was so strong it broke the rocks on the mountain. Then God made an earthquake to shake the ground. Then God made a fire to spring up. Then God spoke to Elijah in a very quiet, whispering voice, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

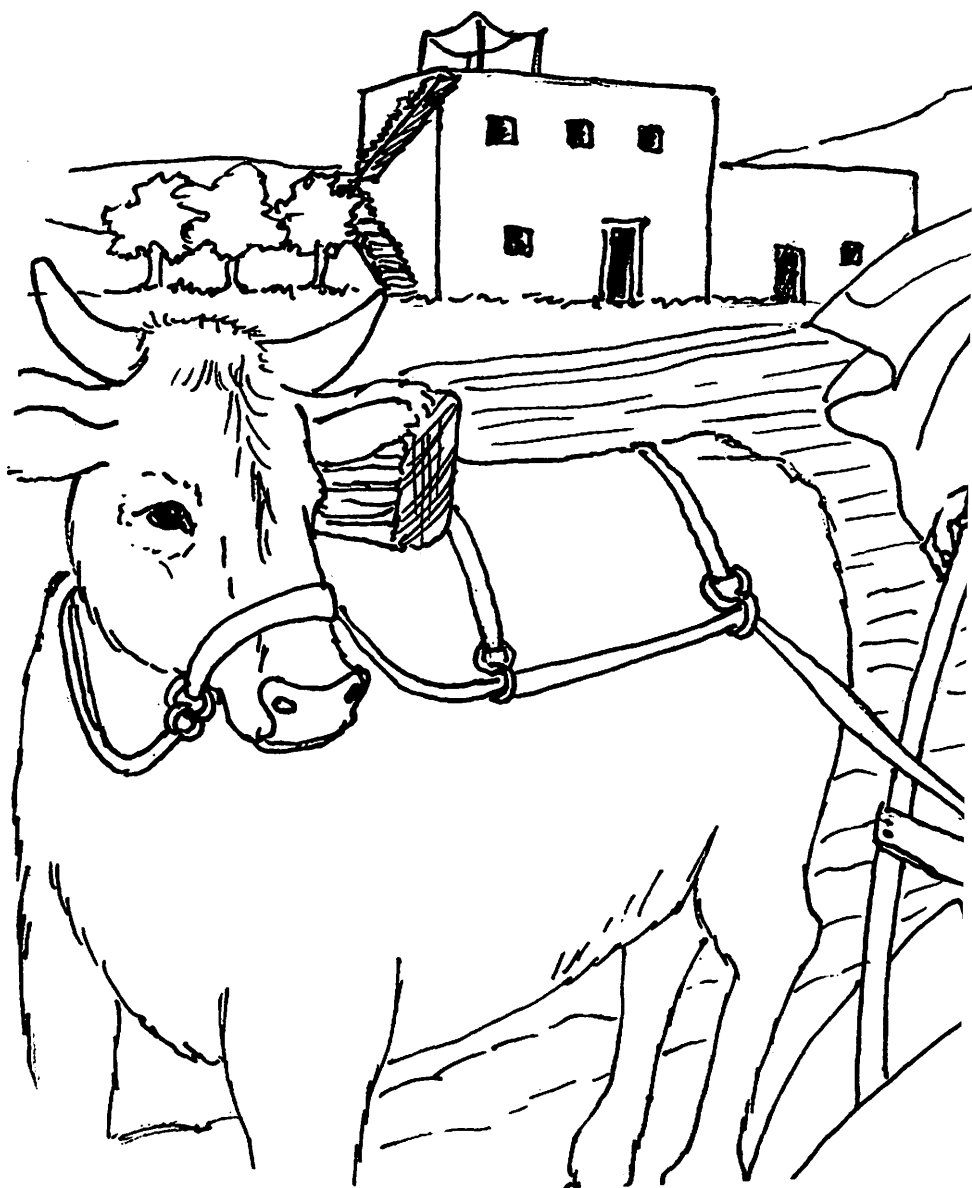
Elijah said, "I have done great things for You, God. And now they are trying to take away my life. I am the only one left serving You."

God said, "Go back. I want you to anoint Elisha to be the prophet after you. I have seven thousand people who are still serving Me."

Elijah went back and met Elisha in a field plowing with twelve yoke of oxen. Elijah threw his cloak over him. Elisha sacrificed the oxen and said goodbye to his parents. Then he came and followed Elijah.

—Joanna Booher

So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphan  
he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast h



was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and  
tumbled upon him. I Kings 19:19.



## Early Randy

Jerry and Linda were already up and listening to Christmas songs when Randy woke up and came waddling into the living room.

"Is it 'Tistmas yet?" asked two-year-old Randy.

"No, tomorrow is Christmas day!" exclaimed Linda. "Eat this piece of candy from your calendar and you will only have one more piece left. That means that tomorrow will be Christmas day!"

Eagerly Randy took the little candy from his calendar that had once held 25 pieces of candy.

"When is 'tomorrow?" asked Randy.

"Tonight you will go to bed and sleep. When you wake up, it will be 'tomorrow'," answered Jerry.

Randy didn't reply because his mouth was full of candy.

Soon the children were laughing and playing together while they listened to "O Holy Night," "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" and other Christmas hymns.

By afternoon, Randy was tired so Mother laid him down for a nap. Then Jerry and Linda went into the kitchen to help Mother make Christmas cookies. They liked to sprinkle the green and red sugars on the stars and ribbons that they cut from the cookie dough.

Two hours of baking joy passed by very quickly. Then Mother heard a little noise in the living room. "Randy, did you wake up?" called Mother as she came into the living room. She turned on the light. Yes, Randy was awake and he was already busy.

"Merry 'Tistmas!" he exclaimed as he held up a newly unwrapped

toy of his. "I woke up and now it's 'Tistmas!" he said.

Mother smiled at Randy's mistake. "Don't open any more, Randy," she said. "You are still too early."

"But I woke up and ate the 'tandy," declared Randy.

By now Jerry and Linda had joined Mother and they were laughing. Randy felt like he had given Christmas day plenty of time to arrive!

"Bring your new truck into the kitchen," Mother told Randy. "You can play with it while we finish baking the Christmas cookies."

The next morning, everyone opened their presents. It really did pay to wait. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who wanted to kill Elijah?
2. What did Elijah do when he knew Jezebel wanted to kill him?
3. What was Elijah doing under the juniper tree?
4. What did the angel tell him to do?
5. What did God say to Elijah in the cave?
6. Is God strong and mighty?
7. Should Elijah have been afraid of Jezebel?
8. How many people did God say were still serving Him?
9. Who did Elijah anoint to be prophet after him?

### LESSON TEXT: I Kings 19.

(Answers: 1. Jezebel. 2. Ran away. 3. Sleeping. 4. Get up and eat. 5. What are you doing here, Elijah? 6. Yes. 7. No. 8. Seven thousand. 9. Elisha.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Dec. 23, 2001

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## GOD COMES TO EARTH

About two thousand years ago, in the city of Jerusalem, there was a priest named Zacharias. He and his wife served God faithfully but they had no children.

Zacharias went into the temple as he did once each year to burn incense. While he was there the angel, Gabriel, appeared to him. Zacharias was afraid but the angel said to him, "Don't be afraid. God has heard your prayers. Your wife, Elisabeth, will have a son and you will call his name John. He will turn many people's hearts back to God and will prepare the way of the Lord."

The angel, Gabriel, was sent to a girl named Mary next. She was engaged to a man named Joseph. Gabriel said to her, "You are highly favored. Blessed are you among women."

Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel would say. Gabriel said, "Don't be afraid. God has blessed you. You will have a son and will call his name Jesus. He will be called the Son of God."

The time came for Elisabeth to have her baby. She had a boy and called him John.

The time came for Mary to have her baby too. She and her husband, Joseph, had to leave their home and go to the town of Bethlehem to be taxed.

Many people were in Bethlehem to be taxed and all the inns were full. The only place Joseph and Mary could find to stay the night was in a stable where the animals were kept.

Mary had her baby, Jesus, in the stable that night. Angels sang from the sky. They told shepherds about Jesus' birth. They said, "We have good news for all people. A Saviour is born today. You will find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. His name is Christ the Lord."

John grew up to be John the Baptist. He preached for people to repent of their sins. He preached that the Lord was coming.

Jesus grew up. He lived as God's Son on earth. One day He died on a cross to save people from their sins.

—Joanna Booher





the angel answered and  
into her, The Holy Ghost  
come upon thee, and the  
r of the Highest shall over-  
ow thee: therefore also  
oly thing which shall be  
of thee shall be called the  
f God. Luke 1:35.

## Pinching Dimes

(A true story.)

Sixty years ago during the 1930's, the United States went through a depression which meant most families did not have very much money. It was certainly that way at Clara's house. Her father lost his job at the factory so he worked for the government paving streets and roads.

Clara, her two brothers and two sisters, ate brown pinto beans and corn bread for lunch, supper, and sometimes for breakfast. However, at Christmas time it was different.

"Clara, I need you to go to the store for me," said Mother. "Here is some money to buy cornmeal. The clerk should give you a dime and some pennies in change. Please bring the change back to me."

"Yes, ma'am," said Clara as she put on her old, worn coat. It was near Christmas and Clara loved to go to the grocery store this time of year. She drank in the delicious smells of cinnamon and other spices, knowing that they would soon have a lovely Christmas dinner at their house.

At the store, Clara bought the needed cornmeal and was careful to bring the dime and pennies back to Mother.

"Thank you, Clara," said Mother as she took the change. Clara noticed that Mother put the pennies into her purse but the dime went into a jar in the cabinet.

Visiting with friends at school, Clara realized that some of them weren't going to have a lovely Christmas dinner. Sandra said her parents didn't have a dime to spare for an expensive turkey. Mary said their family was saving for a new baby and that would be their Christmas.

Clara told Mother about her friends. "Couldn't we help their families some way?" she asked.

"I don't know, Clara," said Mother. "I am pinching every dime for our Christ-

mas. Let's pray and maybe the Lord will increase the little that we have." So they prayed.

Christmas Eve, Mother began to prepare Christmas dinner. Clara helped. She stirred the pumpkin pie mixture and poured it into four pie crusts. Mother set them in the oven to bake. Then Clara helped with the dressing—two big pans full and some in the turkey. Clara had not seen so much delicious food in a long time.

"Clara, the Lord has blessed this year," said Mother. "I believe we will have enough to share with your friends." Christmas morning Clara was so happy to go with mother and father as they took some of their Christmas dinner to Sandra's and Mary's families.

"How can you afford to do this?" asked Sandra's mother.

"Through the year I save back each dime I get," said Clara's mother. "Then at Christmas time I spend them for our family dinner. The Lord increased my little dime collection." —Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What was the priest's name?
2. Who appeared to Zacharias while he was in the temple?
3. What did Gabriel say would happen to Elisabeth?
4. Who was Gabriel sent to next?
5. What did Gabriel say Mary would call her son?
6. What did Gabriel say Jesus would be called?
7. In what town was Jesus born?
8. Who did angels tell that Jesus was born?
9. What did Jesus do to save people from their sins?

**LESSON TEXT:** Luke 1:5-35, 57-60, 2:1-12.

(Answers: 1. Zacharias. 2. Gabriel, the angel. 3. She would have a son. 4. Mary. 5. Jesus. 6. The Son of God. 7. Bethlehem. 8. Shepherds. 9. He died on a cross.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 52, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Dec. 30, 2001

## THE KING WHO POUTED

King Ahab lived in a palace at Jezreel. A man named Naboth had a vineyard next to the palace. King Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard. I would like to use it for a garden. I will give you another vineyard or I will pay you for this vineyard."

Naboth said, "This vineyard was given to me by my father. I will not give it to you."

King Ahab did not like to hear that. He went home to his palace and lay down in his bed. He turned his face to the wall and would not eat.

Jezebel, his wife, came and said to him, "Why are you sad and not eating?"

King Ahab told her, "Naboth will not give me his vineyard."

Jezebel said, "Don't worry about it. I will get Naboth's vineyard for you."

Jezebel wrote letters to the elders of the city. She signed Ahab's name on them and sealed them with his seal. The letters said, "Make a feast and honor Naboth. Then have two bad men come and say, 'Naboth said wicked things about God.' Take Naboth out of the city and stone him."

The elders of the city did as Jezebel told them. When Jezebel heard that Naboth was dead, she told Ahab, "You have your vineyard now."

King Ahab got up and went to see his new vineyard.

God sent Elijah down to see Ahab. When King Ahab saw Elijah he said, "Have you found me, my enemy?"

Elijah said, "I have found you, because you are doing evil things. The Lord says you will die a bad death and all your sons will die too. The Lord says that the dogs will eat Jezebel when she dies."

When Ahab heard all these words, he tore his clothes and dressed in sackcloth. He did not eat and he walked sorrowfully.

The Lord saw how King Ahab acted. He said to Elijah, "Do you see how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because of this I will not bring evil in his days but in the days of his sons." —Joanna Booher

And Jezebel  
his wife said  
unto him,  
Dost thou now  
govern the  
kingdom of  
Israel? arise,  
and eat bread,  
and let thine  
heart be  
merry: I will  
give thee the  
vineyard of  
Naboth the  
Jezreelite.  
I Kings 21:7.





## Enemy Games

Chris was just leaving school when he heard a friend call, "Hey, Chris, would you like to come over to my house this afternoon? Two other guys are coming over and we are going to play this game I got for Christmas. Want to join us?"

"I don't think so," replied Chris. "I haven't asked my mom."

"You can call her from my place," replied Marvin. "Are you coming? We don't have time to wait."

Chris thought his mother probably would let him go but he did not know Marvin very well.

"Don't keep us waiting," said Marvin. "Just come on. The more we have, the better it is."

Chris let Marvin persuade him. Soon the four boys were in Marvin's backyard under a couple of shade trees.

"See this book?" said Marvin to his friends. "It tells us the rules for Dungeons and Dragons. I'm going to read to you some of the characters in this game and you can pick which one you want to be. I'm going to be the Dungeon Master. I've been playing for awhile so I already have some of the game made-up."

Suddenly, Chris knew he was in the wrong place with the wrong crowd. His parents had warned him about this game.

"I think I had better go home after all," he said. "I do have a lot of homework to do."

"Are you already scared?" mocked Marvin.

"No," replied Chris, "but I know about this game and it isn't any fun. Who wants to be an elf, dwarf or gnome? I don't and I don't care to learn about chants and spells. If I had known you were playing this game, I would not have come."

The three boys stared at Chris who was surprised at his own courage. Then Marvin said, "You wouldn't be good at this game, I can tell. You have to know

how to live in a land of castles, thick forests and robbers. If you don't believe in magic spells, you won't get out alive."

"If you believe and practise witchcraft, you will die," replied Chris. "Back in the old Bible time, witches and wizards were burned. I was told not to deal with games that have make believe fighting and killing, stealing and lying. It does lead to death. Now I had better go." So saying, Chris arose and silently left the other boys.

About halfway home, Chris began to feel very good inside. He had tried to be polite about his feelings but he could not join into such wicked play. In his heart, he prayed for the other boys.

The next day at school, the two boys told Chris that they had also decided not to play the game with Marvin. They liked Chris' stand against an evil game.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who had a vineyard next to King Ahab's palace?
2. What did King Ahab want Naboth's vineyard for?
3. Did Naboth want to give his vineyard to King Ahab?
4. What did Ahab do as he lay in his bed?
5. What did Jezebel say she would do for Ahab?
6. Who did Jezebel write letters to?
7. What did Jezebel have done to Naboth?
8. Did God like what King Ahab had done?
9. What did Ahab do when he heard what God would do to him?

### LESSON TEXT: I Kings 21.

(Answers: 1. Naboth. 2. For a garden. 3. No. 4. He turned his face to the wall and would not eat. 5. Get Naboth's vineyard. 6. The elders of the city. 7. She had him stoned. 8. No. 9. He humbled himself.)