

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Jan. 13, 2002

## FIRE FROM HEAVEN

King Ahaziah was the king of Samaria. One day, Ahaziah got sick. He sent messengers to ask Baalzebub the god of Ekron if he would get well.

The angel of the Lord came to Elijah and said to him, "Go speak to the messengers of King Ahaziah."

Elijah did as God said. The messengers turned around and went back to King Ahaziah. Ahaziah said, "Why did you come back?"

The messengers said, "A man came to meet us who said, 'Go back and tell the king the Lord says, Is it not because there is no God in Israel that you go to ask of Baalzebub? You will not get well.'"

Ahaziah said, "What kind of man was he?"

The messengers said, "He was wearing hairy clothes and a leather belt."

Ahaziah said, "It is Elijah."

The king sent one of his captains with fifty men to Elijah. The captain said to him, "Thou man of God, the king says, Come down."

Elijah said, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and burn you up." When Elijah said that, fire came from heaven and burned up the captain and his fifty men.

Ahaziah sent another captain with fifty men to see Elijah. The captain said, "O man of God, the king says, Come down quickly."

Elijah said, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down and burn you up." Fire came down and burned up the men.

Ahaziah sent a third captain and fifty men to Elijah. This captain came and fell down on his knees. He said, "O man of God, please let our lives be precious in your sight. Fire came down and destroyed the other two captains and their men. Please have mercy on us."

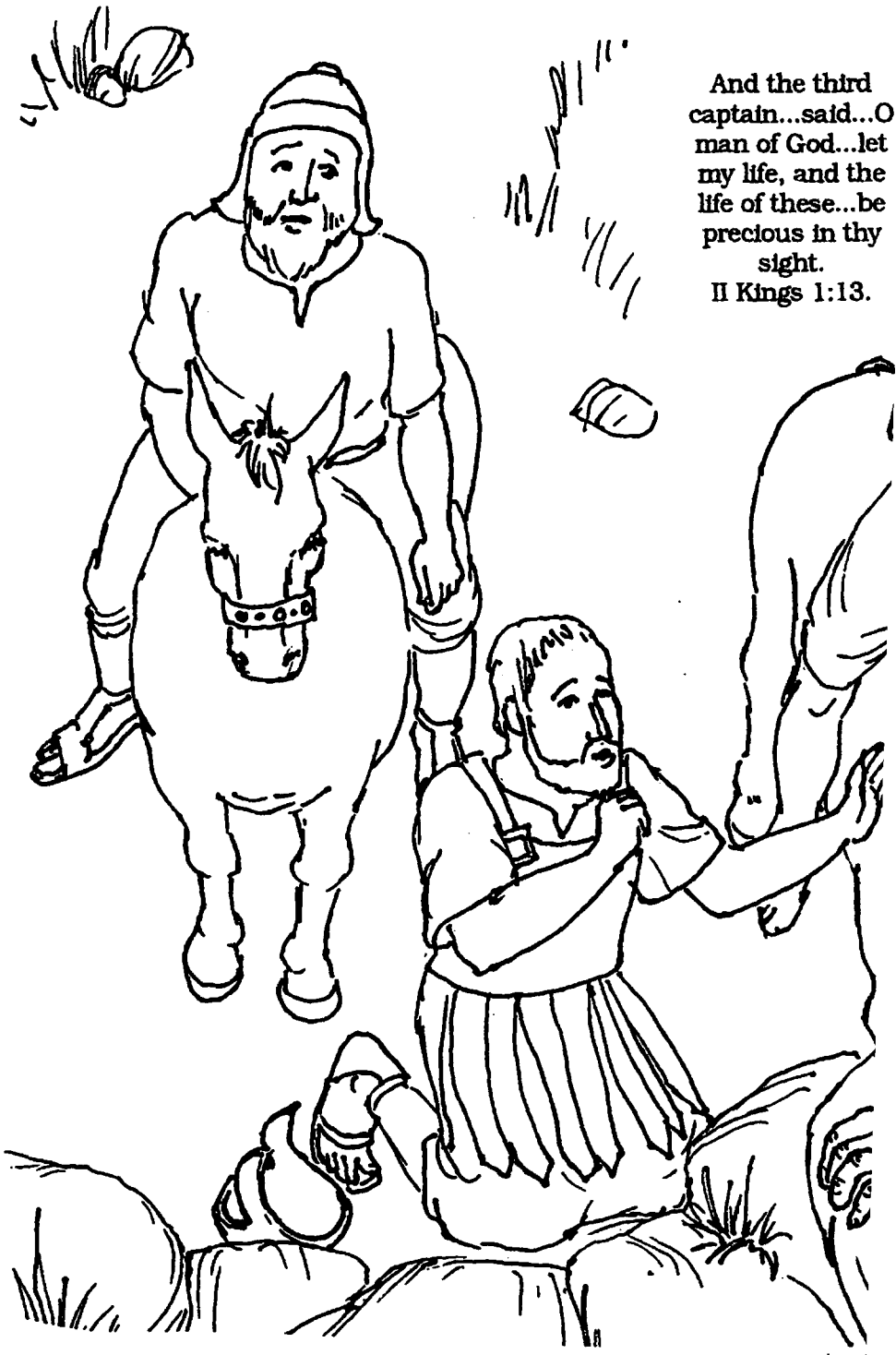
The angel of the Lord said to Elijah, "Don't be afraid. Go with the captain."

Elijah got up and went with the captain to the king. He said to Ahaziah, "Because you went to ask of Baalzebub, is it not because there is no God in Israel? You will not get well but die in your bed." So Ahaziah died as the Lord had said.

—Joanna Booher

And the third  
captain...said...O  
man of God...let  
my life, and the  
life of these...be  
precious in thy  
sight.

II Kings 1:13.





## Faithful In Small Things

Sitting in a rocking chair by a warm fireplace, Mother was reading to Jerry, Linda, Randy and baby Allen. The Bible story was about Elijah and how God answered prayer for him so many times.

At the close of the story, Jerry exclaimed, "Wow! I would like to do great things like Elijah! It would be neat to have fire zap men like that!"

"Now, Jerry," said Mother with a smile. "God caused this fire, not Elijah. God wanted the King and his men to fear Him. You should say you would like to have faith like Elijah had."

"If it takes faith, that's what I want," agreed Jerry. "Why doesn't God send fire like that today? People don't have enough faith?"

Mother nodded. "God's people need to have more faith and be more willing to please Him. Pray and study the Word of God. Put it into your heart that you might not sin against God. As you learn His voice and obey Him, your faith will grow. Then He can use you when He needs a duty done."

"But I want to do something big for God, like Elijah did," said Jerry. "We don't have big miracles happen anymore."

"Yes, we do!" disagreed Linda. "The Lord healed Sis. Carmen of cancer when the doctors said she wasn't going to live and when Bro. Mack had his car accident, the Lord kept him from getting hurt. The police said it was a miracle because the car was so messed up."

"Well, that's common miracles," said Jerry. "I want to see big miracles happen."

"Remember this, Jerry," said

Mother. "Big things usually grow from the little things. Start right now in being faithful in the small duties and God will increase your responsibilities when He sees that you can do them."

"I have been faithful in small things like praying before school tests or when I need to find something and before we take a trip I ask the Lord for protection."

"That is all good," replied Mother. "Now let's kneel in prayer to Jesus before we go to bed. We want to thank Him for all the small daily miracles He has done for us this day."

So all the children knelt by their chairs and each one prayed before bed time. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What happened to Ahaziah?
2. Who did Ahaziah want to ask if he would get well?
3. Who went and spoke to Ahaziah's messengers?
4. What did God say would happen to Ahaziah?
5. What did the captain say the king wanted Elijah to do?
6. What did Elijah say would happen if he really was a man of God?
7. What happened to the captain and his fifty men?
8. What did the third captain do when he came to Elijah?
9. Did Elijah go with the third captain to the king?

### LESSON TEXT: II Kings 1.

(Answers: 1. He got sick.  
2. Baalzebub the god of Ekron.  
3. Elijah. 4. He would not get well.  
5. Come down. 6. Fire would come from heaven and burn them up.  
7. They were burned up. 8. He fell down on his knees. 9. Yes.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Jan. 20, 2002

---

## HORSES OF FIRE

The time came for Elijah to leave this earth. Elisha was with him. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here in Gilgal. The Lord wants me to go to Bethel."

Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went to Bethel together.

The sons of the prophets at Bethel said to Elisha, "Do you know that Elijah is going to be taken away from you today?"

Elisha said, "Yes, I know it. Be quiet."

Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please. The Lord has sent me to Jericho."

Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, I will not leave you." They went to Jericho.

The sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master today?"

Elisha said, "Yes, I know it. Be quiet."

Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here. The Lord has sent me to Jordan."

Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, I will not leave you."

Fifty sons of the prophets went to the river Jordan and watched Elisha and Elijah. Elijah took off his mantle, wrapped it together, and hit the water with it. The water divided and Elisha and Elijah went across the river on dry ground.

After they had gone over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what you want me to do for you."

Elisha said, "I want a double portion of your spirit."

Elijah said to him, "This is a hard thing that you ask, but if you see me taken away, you will have what you ask."

As they went on, a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared. The chariot separated Elijah from Elisha and Elijah was carried up into heaven.

Elisha picked up Elijah's mantle that he had dropped and went back to the river. He hit the waters with the mantle and said, "Where is the God of Elijah?" The waters parted and Elisha walked across.

The fifty sons of the prophets saw Elisha and said, "The spirit of Elijah is on Elisha."

— Joanna Booher



There appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire...  
Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. II Kings 2



## To Be Like Grandpa

During church services, Randy liked to sit by Grandpa and Grandma. He loved to hear Grandma's soprano voice blending with Grandpa's deep bass. When Grandpa sang the very low notes, the bench would tremble. Tingles would crawl up and down Randy's back, and oh, how he loved that! He would swing his legs in time to the music and laugh quietly when he felt the tingles.

At prayer time, Randy's grandparents sometimes requested needs for unsaved loved ones or for a sick person. After everyone had knelt to pray, often Grandpa would lead in prayer. Grandpa prayed so loudly and sincerely that Randy was sure Grandpa's prayer went up through the roof of the chapel, flew past the clouds, and straight to the throne of God. If God heard anyone's prayers, it was Grandpa's.

As the preacher brought forth the message, Grandpa boomed out "Amen" and "Praise the Lord." This made Randy sit up straighter and pay more attention to what was said. If Grandpa agreed with something that much, it was worth noticing.

After church, during the noon day meal, Dad asked Randy, "Did you listen to the preacher this morning?"

"Yes, sir," replied Randy between mouthfuls of mashed potatoes and gravy.

"What did he talk about?" continued Dad.

Randy swallowed. "He told us to do good and not evil."

"Did you hear any stories?"

"He told about the good Samari-

tan who helped the hurt man by the side of the road."

"Good!" praised Dad.

"When I sit in church by Grandpa, I always listen really good," said Randy. "He says 'Amen' at the important things and I like to hear Grandpa sing."

"Oh," said Dad, raising one eyebrow. "So you need to sit by Grandpa in order to listen?"

"Grandpa makes church funner," replied Randy. "Some day when I grow up, I want to be like Grandpa. I want to have a deep voice that makes the bench tremble when I sing and I want to pray loudly like Grandpa so God will hear me, too."

"Good!" exclaimed Dad. "Grandpa is a great man to learn from." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was with Elijah?
2. What did Elijah tell Elisha to do at Gilgal?
3. Would Elisha stay at Gilgal?
4. What did the sons of the prophets say was going to happen to Elijah that day?
5. Did Elisha know that Elijah would be taken away?
6. What did Elijah hit the water of Jordan with?
7. What happened to the waters?
8. What did Elisha ask Elijah for?
9. Did Elisha get what he asked for?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 2:1-15.

(Answers: 1. Elisha. 2. Stay there. 3. No. 4. He would be taken away. 5. Yes. 6. His mantle. 7. They parted. 8. A double portion of his spirit. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Jan. 27, 2002

---

## ELISHA, THE PROPHET

Elisha went to Jericho. The men of the city said to him, "Our water is very bad. The water makes the ground not to grow food."

Elisha said, "Bring me a new jug and put salt in it." They brought it to him. Elisha went to the spring, where the water came out of the ground. He threw the salt in. He said, "Thus says the Lord, 'I have healed these waters. There will not be any more death from these waters or ground that won't grow food because of them.'" And the waters were healed unto this day.

Elisha left Jericho and went up to Bethel. As he went, children came out of the city. They made fun of him. They said, "Go up, you bald head. Go up, you bald head."

Elisha turned around and cursed them in the name of the Lord. Two female bears came out of the woods and tore forty-two of those children.

The king of Israel ruled over the Moabites. He made them give him sheep. But, one day, the king of Moab decided he didn't want to give the king of Israel sheep any more. He stopped.

The king of Israel called two other kings to help him fight against the king of Moab. They took a seven-day trip to Moab. They ran out of water on the way. They were all very thirsty and their cows were too.

One of the kings said, "Is there not a prophet around so we can ask the Lord what to do?"

A servant said, "Elisha is here."

The three kings went and asked Elisha what they could do. Elisha said, "Dig ditches in this valley. The Lord says there will not be wind nor rain but this valley will be filled with water for you all to drink. This is a very easy thing for the Lord. He will give the Moabites into your hands too."

In the morning there was water in the valley for all of them to drink. The Moabites came to fight against them but the Israelites beat them and chased them all back to their own country. —Joanna Booher



There came...little children out of the city and mocked him and said..., Go up, thou bald head. II Kings 2:23.



## Advice To A Chef

(Based on a true story.)

One time a man asked a chef, "Do you cook food that will make people look fit and healthy?"

"Yes, I surely do," replied the chef, who was proud of the food he prepared.

"Do you eat your own cooking?" questioned the man.

"Certainly," answered the chef as he raised his head a little higher. "What a dumb question!" he thought.

But the man had a reason for asking. He had noticed that the chef was very thin and pale, so he said, "If you cook and serve food that is healthy and makes people feel and look good, then you are a poor advertisement for your cooking. Either you need to eat more of your cooking, or change your method of cooking."

The chef frowned. He did not like his food to be critized plus this man had spoken badly about his looks. He had nothing to say to the man, but when he was alone, he thought about what the man had said.

Looking in a mirror, the chef saw that his face appeared worried and tired. "Well, I am worried," he said to himself. "I am not selling enough food at the resturant to keep my family fed so I am not eating much to save on expenses. Should I eat more and take from my hungry little ones? No, God forbid!"

When he thought of his family, love for them swelled in his heart. A voice spoke to him, "You have a lovely wife and healthy children. Who has given them to you?"

"The Lord has," he thought.

"And who cares for them?"

"The Lord has cared for us."

"If the Lord has cared for you and your family in the past, don't you think He will care for all of you today and in the future?"

"Yes, He can."

"Then smile and don't look so worried. Be more cheerful when customers come to eat at your restaurant."

The chef took this advice and began to greet his patrons with a smile. To his surprise, his old customers brought their friends to his restaurant and soon he had more orders than what he could hardly fill in one day. The secret to his progress was to serve his good food with smile.

In the Christian life, we need to serve others with a smile and show them the Beautiful Way by our actions.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What was wrong with Jericho's water?
2. What did Elisha throw in the spring?
3. Were the waters healed?
4. Who made fun of Elisha?
5. What came out of the woods and tore the children?
6. How many kings went to fight against the king of Moab?
7. What happened to the three kings on their way to Moab?
8. What did Elisha say to dig in the valley?
9. Who filled the ditches with water?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 2:19-3:24.

(Answers: 1. It was bad; it made the ground not to grow food. 2. Salt. 3. Yes. 4. Children. 5. Two female bears. 6. Three. 7. They ran out of water. 8. Ditches. 9. God.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Feb. 3, 2002

## THE POT OF OIL AND THE KIND WOMAN

There was a woman who was married to one of the sons of the prophets. They had two sons. One day, the woman's husband died. A man came to her and said, "Your husband owed me money. I will have to take your sons and make them slaves unless you pay me."

The woman had no money. She went to Elisha for help. She told him what the man said.

Elisha said to her, "What do you have in your house?"

The woman said, "I don't have anything except a pot of oil."

Elisha told her, "Go and borrow pots and pans from your neighbors. Borrow a lot. Take them home and shut the door. Fill each of the pots and pans with oil."

The woman did as Elisha said. She filled pot after pot and pan after pan. Finally she said to her son, "Bring me another pan." And her son said, "There aren't any more." There was still oil in her own pot though.

The woman went to Elisha and told him what had happened. Elisha said, "Go, and sell the pots and pans of oil. Pay the man you owe and live off the rest of the money."

One day, Elisha went to Shunem. A rich woman lived there with her husband. The woman asked Elisha to come and eat at her house. Elisha went and ate. Every time he went past there again, he stopped to eat at her house.

The woman said to her husband, "I believe this is an holy man who comes by to eat with us. Let us make a little room for him with a bed, table, stool and candlestick. Then he can stay there when he wants to."

Elisha came by and the woman showed him the room they had made for him. Elisha said to his servant, Gehazi, "Ask the woman what she would like me to do for her."

Gehazi asked the woman and then told Elisha, "She has no children."

Elisha told the woman, "This time next year you will have a son."

The woman did not believe Elisha but his words came true. In the next year, she had a little boy.

—Joanna Booher



And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. II Kings 4:6.



## Spreading The Gospel

(A true story.)

Handing out Christian papers is a crime in the Soviet Union of Russia but many Christian people do this anyway.

Sister Solovieva was arrested for giving Christian tracts to young people and for helping an elderly lady with her garden. While in jail awaiting her trial, she told other prisoners about Jesus Christ and some became believers.

Finally, Sister Solovieva was called to stand before a judge in a Russian courtroom. She did not ask for an attorney to defend her because she wished to speak for herself, by God's grace.

When the judge asked Sister Solovieva what she had to say about her crime, she replied: "I wish to tell the court that to my knowledge nowhere can the law ask the right to control how I use money honestly earned and forbid that I should help those in need.... The leaders of this country aim to take away the most basic rights of citizens and make it impossible for them to live...I don't consider the spreading of Christian literature a crime. I give out tracts and will continue to do so whenever I have any opportunity."

The judge sent Sister Solovieva to prison for making this statement. He wanted all her gospel tracts burned and she was told to never speak about God or Jesus again.

Sister Solovieva would not agree to this and she did not whine or beg for his mercy. She was willing to risk her freedom and life to give the gospel to others about her.

Yes, it was hard on the body to

survive in prison, but her soul fed continually on His Word and she sang songs of praise to God. Others learned about the Lord from Sister Solovieva so that her witnessing continued in spite of the judge's desire to stop her.

Are we willing to tell others about Jesus or hand out gospel tracts? Do we shrink away when someone "accuses" us of being an old-fashioned Christian? When others about us are doing wrong, do we stand for what is right?

We need to have godly courage to obey the Lord and not yield to evil influences that want to stop the gospel work. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Did the woman whose husband died have any money?
2. What did the man whom she owed say he would do to her sons?
3. Who did the woman ask for help?
4. What did the woman have in her house?
5. What did Elisha tell her to borrow?
6. Did the woman have enough oil to fill all the pots and pans?
7. Were the woman and her sons able to live off the rest of the money?
8. What did the rich woman make for Elisha?
9. Did Elisha want to do something nice for her?
10. What did Elisha say she would have the next year?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 4:1-17.

(Answers: 1. No. 2. Make them slaves. 3. Elisha. 4. A pot of oil. 5. Pots and pans. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. A room. 9. Yes. 10. A son.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Feb. 10, 2002

## THE ONLY SON

The woman of Shunem had a son as Elisha had said. She loved her son. One day the boy was out in the field with his father. The boy said to him, "Father, my head, my head."

The father said to another boy, "Carry him in to his mother."

The mother held her boy on her lap until noon. Then he died. The woman put him in Elisha's room and went to her husband. She said, "Let me take a donkey and ride to the man of God."

Her husband said, "Why? It is not the sabbath or the new moon."

The woman said, "It shall be well." She saddled her donkey and said to her servant, "Drive. Don't slow down unless I tell you."

They came to mount Carmel where Elisha was. Elisha saw them coming and said to Gehazi, his servant, "Go and ask the Shunammite woman if everything is all right."

Gehazi asked her but all she said was, "It is well."

She came up to Elisha and fell down at his feet. She said, "Didn't I want a son? Didn't I ask you not to lie to me in telling me I would have a son?"

Elisha told Gehazi, "Go and see the boy. Don't stop for anything. Lay my staff on his face."

The woman said to Elisha, "I won't leave you." So Elisha got up to go see her son too.

Gehazi came to the Shunammite's house. He went in and looked at the boy. He laid Elisha's staff on his face but the boy did not move.

Elisha came in and saw that the boy was dead. He closed the door. He prayed to God. Then he bent over the boy and put his hands on his hands, his face on his face. The boy's body got warm.

Elisha went and walked back and forth in the house. He went back and bowed over the boy and put his hands and face on his hands and face. The boy gasped seven times and opened his eyes.

Elisha called for the Shunammite woman. She came in and he said, "Take up your son." She bowed down at his feet. Then she took up her son and went out.

—Joanna Booher



He...prayed unto the Lord.  
II Kings 4:33.



## The Great Physician

(A true story.)

A group of Christian women were banished to a concentration camp in the cold Siberia wasteland in the Soviet Union. Working hard without much food or sleep, the women became thin in body but because they were rich in faith, they did not get sick. Cold and hungry all the time, they fed their souls by singing together songs of praise to Jesus, the Son of God.

The officers and guards over the women were catching colds, coughing and sneezing, and they noticed that their prisoners were not coughing.

"Perhaps they have brought some medicine with them," reasoned one officer. But after a thorough search in the poor women's drafty dorm, not a trace of medicine was found.

The daughter of the prison director became deathly ill and the doctor said there was nothing more he could do for her. Secretly, in the night, the prison director went to the Christian women's dorm. Quietly, he let himself inside, startling the women who were struggling to keep warm by a small fire.

"I-I have come to ask a small favor from you," stuttered the confused man. "My daughter is very ill. Would you pray to your God and ask Him to heal her? The doctor said she will soon die..."

"Yes, gladly," replied the women.

The director left as quickly as he had come. All through the night the women prayed that the Lord would heal this man's daughter.

In a few days a couple of the

Christian women overheard two officers talking.

"It is awesome how that daughter of the camp director is well," said one officer.

"I don't think the doctor knew what he was doing when he said she wasn't going to live," replied the other.

"Maybe he used some powerful medicine," suggested the first.

"No, he didn't have anything that would help. He just wasn't right about her."

The two women smiled at each other. The Great Creator and Physician had healed the girl.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. How many sons did the Shunammite woman have?
2. What did the boy say to his father?
3. What happened to the boy as he sat on his mother's lap?
4. Who did the Shunammite woman want to go see?
5. Who did Elisha send to see the woman's son?
6. Would the woman leave Elisha?
7. Did the boy wake up when Gehazi laid Elisha's staff on his face?
8. What did Elisha do after he closed the door?
9. Did the boy come back to life?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 4:18-37.

(Answers: 1. One. 2. "My head, my head." 3. He died. 4. Elisha, the man of God. 5. Gehazi. 6. No. 7. No. 8. Prayed to God. 9. Yes.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Feb. 17, 2002

---

## MIRACLES

Elisha came to Gilgal. The sons of the prophets were all sitting around him. Elisha said to his servant, "Make a great big pot of boiled vegetables for the sons of the prophets."

One of them went into the field and found a vine growing gourds there. The man gathered a lap full and brought them back. He chopped them up and put them in the pot. No one knew if they were safe to eat.

They cooked the pot of vegetables and poured it out for everyone to eat. As the men were eating some of them cried out, "O man of God, there is death in the pot." They could not eat any more.

Elisha said, "Bring some meal." Elisha threw it into the pot of vegetables. Then he said, "Pour out so everyone can eat." And there was no more harm in the pot.

A man came to see Elisha. He brought him twenty loaves of barley bread and ears of corn. Elisha said, "Give this food to the people so they can eat."

The man said, "This isn't very much food. You want me to give it to these one hundred people?"

Elisha said, "Yes. The Lord has said that they will all have enough to eat and will even have leftovers."

So they set the barley bread and corn before the people and they ate. They ate and had leftovers as God had said.

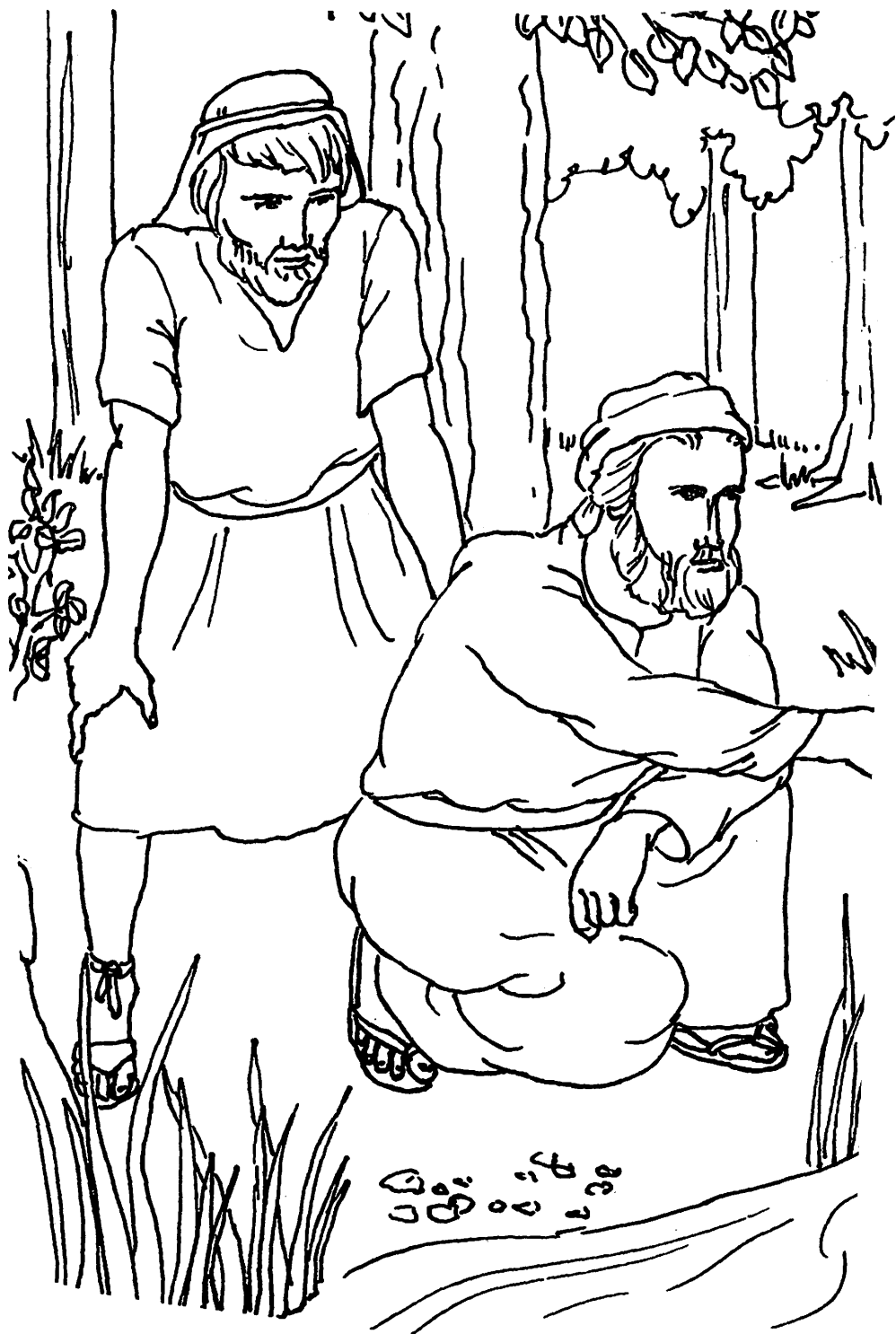
The sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "This place where we are staying is too small. We would like to go to Jordan and make a place to stay there. Would you come with us?"

Elisha said, "I will go."

They went to Jordan and cut down trees for their new home. As one of them was cutting down a tree, his ax head flew off and fell in the water. The man said, "Alas, master! I borrowed that ax head. What shall I do?"

Elisha said, "Where did it fall?" The man showed him the place. Elisha cut down a stick and threw it in the water. The iron ax head floated back to the top. The man was able to pick it up off the water.

—Joanna Booher



He cut down a stick, and cast it  
in...and the iron did swim.

II Kings 6:6.



## Within The Fence

(A true story.)

Shawn was a very busy boy at two-years-old. He loved to help his dad with the chores, feeding the pigs and cows, and checking the fence for any breaks or holes.

"We don't want any of our animals out on the highway," his dad said to him. "Cars and trucks rush past our house all the time. The highway is a very dangerous place. Animals nor little boys don't need to walk on this highway." Shawn listened and nodded his head.

One morning Shawn's mother was washing clothes. "Come and help Mommy, please," she said to Shawn as she carried a basketful of damp things to the clothesline in the back yard. Shawn followed his mother and was happy to hand her clothespins when she needed one.

Shawn began to play. He pretended some of the clothespins were animals and he made a fence for them.

"Stay right here," said his mother. "I need to get another basketful of clothes. I will be right back, Shawn, so you stay within this back yard fence."

Shawn nodded at his mother who disappeared into the house for a minute. When Mother came back outside, she saw Shawn was not playing with the clothespins any more. "Shawn! Shawn, where are you?" she called, putting down her basket.

Shawn did not answer so his mother quickly searched around the back yard. No Shawn was in sight. "Lord, help me find my son," she prayed as she looked toward the cow pasture.

Her heart thumped loudly as she ran along the fence calling out,

"Shawn! Shawn!" She checked the pigpen but saw no Shawn. In a frantic dread, she turned toward the highway. "Surely Shawn would not go to the highway after all we have warned him about the busy road. Please, Lord, protect Shawn!"

Cars and trucks flashed by.

"Shawn! Shawn, where are you?"

Suddenly, an old black pickup stopped in the middle of the road. The driver jumped out of his truck, and without saying a word he walked directly to the pigpen. He reached over the fence, pulled Shawn out of a clump of weeds, and handed him to his mother.

"Take care of this one," he said. Then he left. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS

1. What did Elisha tell his servant to make in the big pot?
2. What did someone find in the field that grew gourds?
3. What did the men say was in the pot after they started eating?
4. What did Elisha throw in the pot?
5. Was the food all right after that?
6. How many men did Elisha want to feed with the twenty loaves and corn?
7. Were they all able to eat and have leftovers?
8. Where did the man's ax head fall?
9. What happened to the ax head after Elisha threw a stick in the water?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 4:38-44, 6:1-7.

(Answers: 1. Boiled vegetables.  
2. A vine. 3. Death. 4. Meal.  
5. Yes. 6. One hundred. 7. Yes.  
8. In the water. 9. It floated.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Feb. 24, 2002

---

## THE SICK CAPTAIN

Naaman was a captain of the king of Syria's army. But he had leprosy. Leprosy eats away at people's skin until they die.

Naaman's wife had a little servant girl from the land of Israel. She said, "If Naaman were in Samaria the prophet there could heal him."

Naaman told his king what the little girl said. The king sent gifts and a letter to the king of Israel. He said, "I am sending my captain, Naaman, for you to heal."

The king of Israel said, "I can't heal anyone."

Elisha sent a message to the king. He said, "Send Naaman to me. There is a prophet in Israel."

Naaman came with his chariot and servants and stood outside Elisha's door. Elisha sent this message to him: "Go and wash in the river Jordan seven times."

When Naaman heard this he was angry. He said, "I thought Elisha would come out and pray to God and wave his hand. We have better rivers back home to wash in." He drove away.

Naaman's servants said, "If the prophet had asked you to do some great thing wouldn't you have done it? Why won't you just wash and be clean?"

So, Naaman went down to the river of Jordan. He had to wash seven times, but the seventh time he came out clean.

He came back to Elisha and said, "Now I know there is no God in all the earth but in Israel. Please, let me give you gold and silver and fine clothes."

Elisha would not take anything and Naaman left. Gehazi, Elisha's servant, saw all the things Naaman wanted to give Elisha. Gehazi wanted those things.

Gehazi secretly left Elisha and went and asked Naaman for some of the gifts. Naaman was glad to give him some. Then Gehazi went back to Elisha.

Elisha said, "Where have you been, Gehazi?"

Gehazi said, "I didn't go anywhere."

Elisha said, "I know you went and took gifts from Naaman. Now you will have leprosy instead of him." Gehazi turned white with leprosy and left.

—Joanna Booher



Now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in  
Israel. II Kings 5:15.



## By His Testimony

(A true story.)

Artem Hivuk was a minister in the Soviet Union who won children to Jesus. Being a small man, he would join the children on the street and talk to them about their Creator and His Son. Charmed by his kindness and sincerity, the children liked Hivuk and begged to hear more of his stories.

In school they were told there was not a God but Hivuk's messages were more convincing. He explained why God made men and women, the promised Saviour who was Jesus, and how He has made a place for believers to live some day in heaven. Little by little, one by one, many children in Znamia believed Hivuk's stories. He answered questions that satisfied their spiritual hunger for truth.

Some of them did not want to wear the red scarf of the Pioneers, a club for young Communists. They were kind and thoughtful, respectful and obedient because they had learned Jesus was that way. Their change of attitude pleased their teachers, but when the children refused to wear the red scarves, they were questioned.

"I believe there is a God," said one girl. "The Pioneers say there isn't a god, so I don't want to be with them anymore."

"But it is your duty to support the laws of our land," said her teacher.

"Yes, unless the law tells me to not obey God," replied this brave girl.

"Who has been teaching you about a god?" asked her teacher in anger.

"I know there is a God who made

us. We did not just happen to be but He has a plan for all of us," said the girl.

The teacher was furious. "You must not talk to anyone who tells you such lies," she said. "Whoever it is must be arrested."

This girl nor any of her friends told on Artem Hivuk. For a few years, he was able to work with the children and the Lord blessed his ministry. Then one day he was caught and arrested on the street.

As Hivuk stood before a judge in a courtroom, he folded his arms and said, "Peace be with you, brethren and sisters." He was sent to prison for sharing the truth with children, but he was happy because many of those children found salvation through his testimony.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the captain of the king of Syria's army?
2. What disease did Naaman have?
3. Who told about the prophet in Israel who could heal?
4. Who did the king of Syria ask to heal Naaman?
5. Who was the prophet in Israel?
6. What did Elisha tell Naaman to do?
7. Did Naaman want to wash in Jordan?
8. Was Naaman healed after he washed in Jordan?
9. Who got leprosy instead of Naaman?

### LESSON TEXT: II Kings 5.

(Answers: 1. Naaman. 2. Leprosy. 3. His wife's servant girl. 4. The king of Israel. 5. Elisha. 6. Wash in Jordan seven times. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. Gehazi.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Mar. 3, 2002

---

## GOD'S ARMY

The king of Syria came to fight the king of Israel. He put his soldiers in secret camps. He did not want the king of Israel to know where they were. But each time the king of Syria made a camp, Elisha sent a message to the king of Israel.

Elisha told the king, "Be careful when you pass that place. The Syrians are there." The king of Israel sent his men and found them.

The king of Syria said to his servants, "Which one of you is telling the king of Israel where my camps are?"

One of his servants said, "None of us are. But Elisha, the prophet of Israel, tells his king the things you say in your bedroom."

The king of Syria said, "Go and find out where Elisha is so I can get him."

Someone told him, "Elisha is in Dothan." The king sent a big army with chariots and horses to Dothan. They gathered around the city at night.

When Elisha's servant got up in the morning, he saw the big army around the city. He said to Elisha, "Alas, my master, what shall we do?"

Elisha said, "Don't be afraid. There are more on our side than on theirs." Elisha prayed, "Lord, open his eyes."

The servant looked and he saw the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around Elisha.

Elisha prayed to God, "Lord, make the army of Syria blind." God made them blind as Elisha asked. Elisha said to the army, "This is not the way or the city. Come with me. I will take you to the man you are looking for." Elisha led them to Samaria where the king of Israel was.

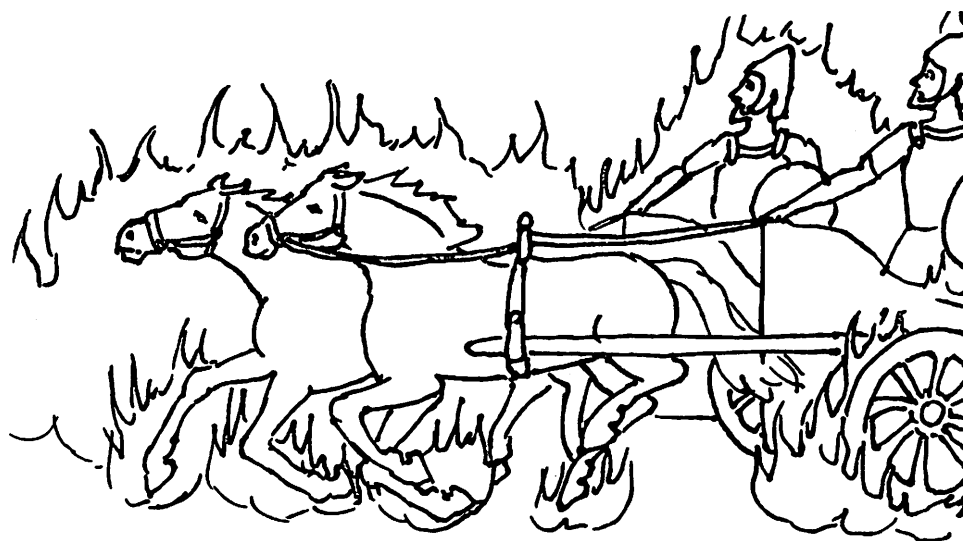
When the army was in Samaria, Elisha prayed, "Lord, open their eyes." The army looked around and saw they were in Samaria.

The king of Israel said to Elisha, "Should I kill them?"

Elisha said, "No, feed them and send them home."

The king of Israel made a big feast and fed the army of Syria. Then he sent them home. The army of Syria did not come into the land of Israel any more.

—Joanna Booher





The mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire  
round about Elisha. II Kings 6:17.

## Help in Gray Suits

(A true story.)

Mike and Ruben were best of friends. They were neighbors who liked to play computer games together. One summer both men had health problems that kept them from working at a job so they had more time to visit.

With Ruben's help, Mike was able to get in and out of his wheel chair at a local store where they had bought some computer software.

"Thanks, Ruben, for your help," said Mike. "You're a present help in time of trouble."

"Oh, don't exaggerate!" Mike replied. "I won't always be with you like the Lord is. He's your 'present help.'"

Mike shook his head. "The Lord has forgotten me. He never seems to be there when I need him the most so I don't expect miracles to happen for me."

"Don't give up on Him," replied Ruben. He climbed into the passenger side of Mike's old blue Chrysler. Mike steered the car through heavy traffic on Arrow Highway. Then he had to stop at a red light.

When the light turned green, Mike pushed down on the gas pedal—but the car wouldn't go! It sputtered then stopped in the middle of a very busy intersection. Ruben looked out his window and saw a row of cars and trucks coming straight toward them. "They are going to hit us! Help us, Lord!" Ruben cried out as he put his hands over his eyes.

Suddenly, Ruben felt the car move. He looked to see a man dressed in a neat gray suit beside the car and another man in a gray suit was behind them. Together they were pushing and guiding the car toward

the side of the highway. Mike was watching the men also.

The car was barely out of the intersection before the rush of traffic was upon them. Quickly and silently the two men did their deed of kindness, then turned and left in a red vehicle. Ruben and Mike did not even have time to thank the men but Mike leaned over the steering wheel and whispered, "Thank you, God."

"I believe the Lord heard our cry," said Ruben softly. "He was a present help in time of trouble. Mike, He hasn't forgotten you—we just lived through a miracle."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who made camps of soldiers to fight against Israel?
2. Were the camps supposed to be secret?
3. Who found the camps every time the king of Syria made them?
4. Who did the king of Syria think was telling on him?
5. Who did the servants say was telling the king of Israel?
6. What did the king of Syria send to Dothan to get Elisha?
7. What were in the mountains around Elisha?
8. What did Elisha tell the king of Israel to do to the Syrian army?
9. Did the Syrians come back to Israel any more?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 6:8-23.

(Answers: 1. The king of Syria. 2. Yes. 3. The king of Israel's men. 4. His servants. 5. Elisha. 6. A big army. 7. Horses and chariots of fire. 8. Feed them and send them home. 9. No.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Mar. 10, 2002

## FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE

The people of Samaria were very hungry. The king of Syria had come to fight against them. His army was around the city. He would not let the people come out to get food.

The king of Israel came to Elisha. He said, "Why should we trust God any more?"

Elisha said, "The Lord says that tomorrow flour and barley will be sold in the gate of this city."

One of the king's lords said, "Even if God opened the windows of heaven, could this happen?"

Elisha said, "You will see it with your own eyes, but you won't get to eat any of it."

There were four lepers that sat outside the city of Samaria. They said to each other, "Why are we sitting here until we die? If we go into the city we will die because there is no food. If we stay here we will die. Let's go to the Syrian camp and see what they do to us."

They got up and went to the Syrian camp. There was no one there. The Lord had made the Syrians to hear the sound of many horses and many men coming. The Syrians said, "The Hittites and Egyptians have come to help the king of Israel!" They left their tents and horses and donkeys and ran.

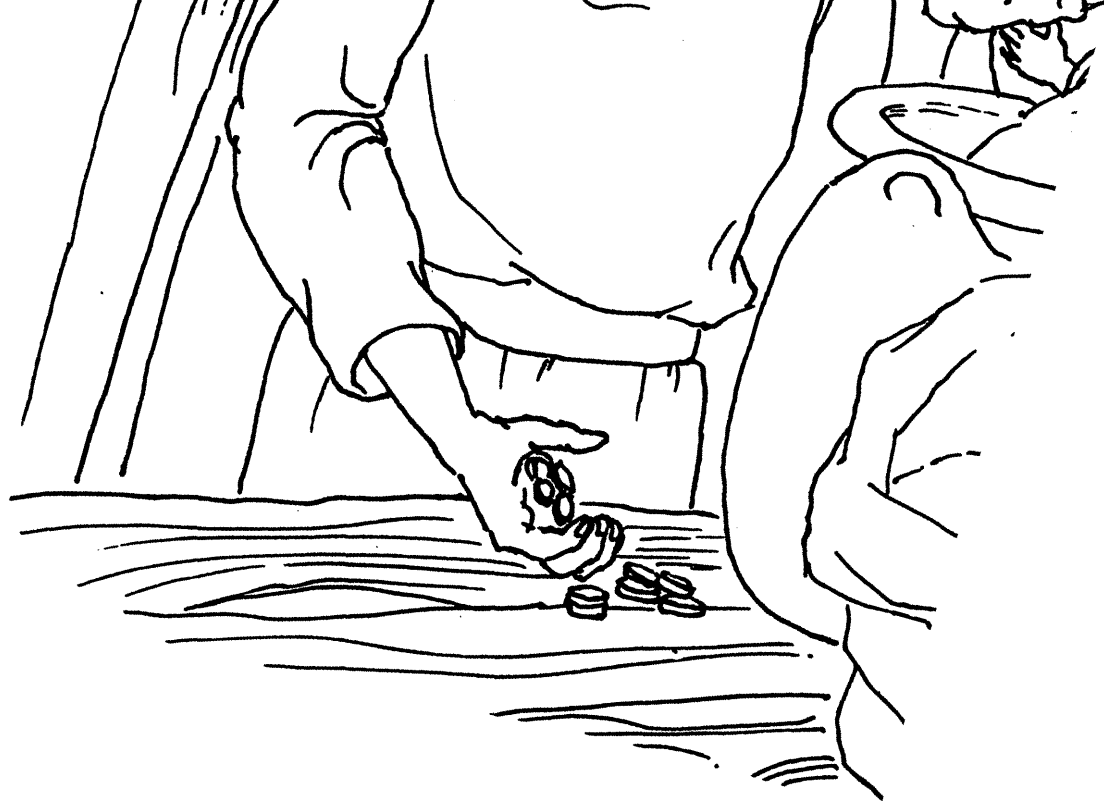
The lepers found much food in the camp. They found gold and silver and fine clothes too. They ate the food and took some of the nice things.

Then they said to each other, "We are not doing right. We are eating and drinking and the people in the city don't have any food. Let's go tell the king what has happened."

They went and told the gatekeeper who told the king. The king sent out messengers to see if it was true. The people came out and got the food. They sold the flour and barley in the gate. The king's noble who didn't believe this would happen was at the gate. He saw them selling the flour and barley. The people came so fast to get the food that they trampled him. He died without ever getting to eat the food.

—Joanna Booher







Flour was sold...and...  
barley...according to the  
word of the Lord.  
II Kings 7:16.

## Trust God Against The Wind

"Listen to that cold north wind rattle the windows!" exclaimed Mother. "It sure does sound rough and mean."

"It IS rough and mean," agreed Dad as he and Jerry took off their boots, coats and hats. "That wind is testing the strength of everything to see what it can knock over. I saw a few shingles on the ground so I will need to check the roof for leaks in the next day or so."

"The wind won't break any windows, will it?" questioned Randy.

"I don't think so," replied Dad. "This house is built pretty sturdy. We might see a few tree limbs or trees fall down."

"Well, I'm going to pray that won't happen," said Linda.

"Are you going to pray for trees?" asked Jerry with a chuckle.

"Yes," Linda said. "We need every tree on this place and we certainly don't want our big oak tree to fall. Then we would lose our tire swing and tree house."

"Come to the table and let's eat," said Mother. "We need to thank the Lord for a nice house to live in that protects us from the weather."

After each one washed their hands and found their place at the table, everyone bowed their heads and Dad said the blessing. Linda silently asked the Lord to watch over all the trees. Randy prayed that the windows wouldn't break from the wind.

While they were eating, the family could hear the wind howl around the house, trying to come in.

"I sure am glad this house is sturdy," said Randy to Mother as

she tucked him into bed that night.

"Yes," said Mother. "Let's not trust so much in the sturdiness of the house, but let's trust in the Lord's protection."

The next morning the wind had gone but it had left its mischief behind. Trash cans had turned over, spilling a mess for the wind to scatter. A few electric lines were down and roof shingles littered the yard. Tree limbs dropped on the ground and some trees had fallen but not on Linda's place. The Lord had heard her prayers. Not one tree was harmed and not one window was broken. It is safe to trust in the Lord.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What would the king of Syria not let the people of Samaria have?
2. Who did the king of Israel come to talk to?
3. Where did Elisha say they would sell flour and barley tomorrow?
4. Who did not believe Elisha?
5. What did Elisha say would happen to the noble?
6. Who went to the Syrian camp?
7. What did the Syrians hear in the night?
8. What did the lepers find in the camp?
9. Did Elisha's words about the noble come true?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 6:24-7:20.

(Answers: 1. Food. 2. Elisha. 3. In the gate. 4. The king's noble. 5. He would see the food but not get to eat it. 6. Four lepers. 7. The sound of many horses and men. 8. Food and gold and silver and fine clothes. 9. Yes.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Mar. 17, 2002

## THE CRAZY DRIVER

Elisha called one of the children of the prophets to him. He said, "Take this box of oil and go to Ramothgilead. Find Jehu and ask him to go into a private room. Pour the oil on his head and say, 'The Lord says you are king of Israel.' Then leave very quickly."

The young prophet went. He found Jehu sitting with other captains. He said, "I have a message for you." He took Jehu into the house and poured the oil on his head. He said, "The Lord says you are king of Israel. The Lord says you must destroy Ahab's family because they killed His prophets."

The young prophet left very quickly. Jehu came back out. One of the men said to him, "Is everything all right? Why did that man come to see you?"

Jehu told them that the prophet had anointed him king. The captains all took off their garments and put them under Jehu. They blew trumpets and said, "Jehu is king."

King Joram of Israel was visiting King Ahaziah of Judah in Jezreel. Jehu drove his chariot to Jezreel. A watchman on the tower saw him coming. He told King Joram, "I see a group coming. I think it is Jehu because he drives crazy."

Joram and Ahaziah got their chariots ready and went out to see Jehu. Joram said, "Is everything all right?"

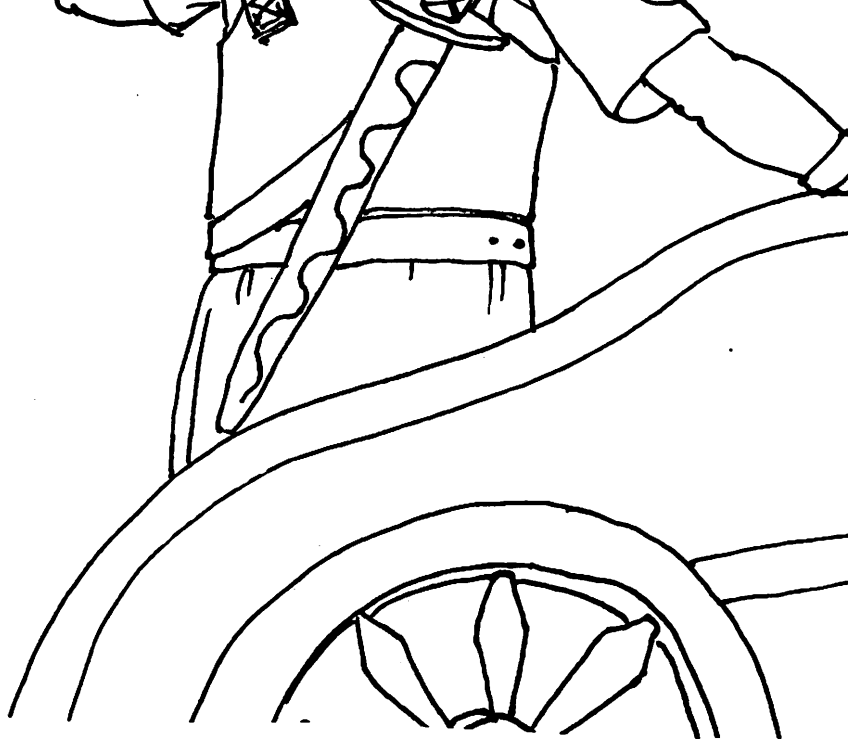
Jehu said, "How can everything be all right while your mother, Jezebel, keeps doing wicked things?"

Joram turned around to get away. Jehu shot him with his bow and arrow. He had Ahaziah killed and drove his chariot to Jezebel's house.

Jezebel painted her face and fixed her hair. She sat in a window and looked out as Jehu came. She called him a murderer. Jehu said, "Who is on my side up there?" Three men looked out the window. Jehu said, "Throw her down."

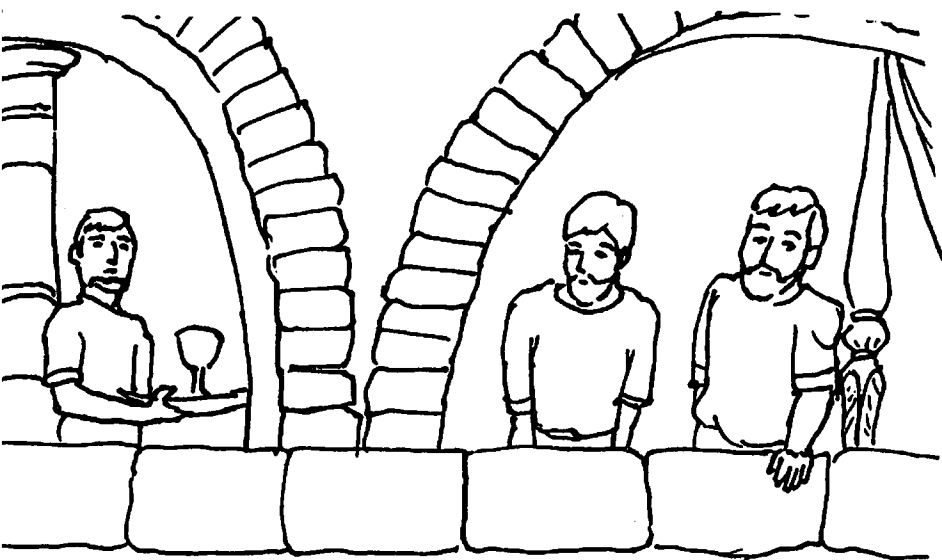
They threw Jezebel out the window and she died. After that, Jehu killed Ahab's family. He also killed the prophets of Baal and broke down their temple.

—Joanna Booher

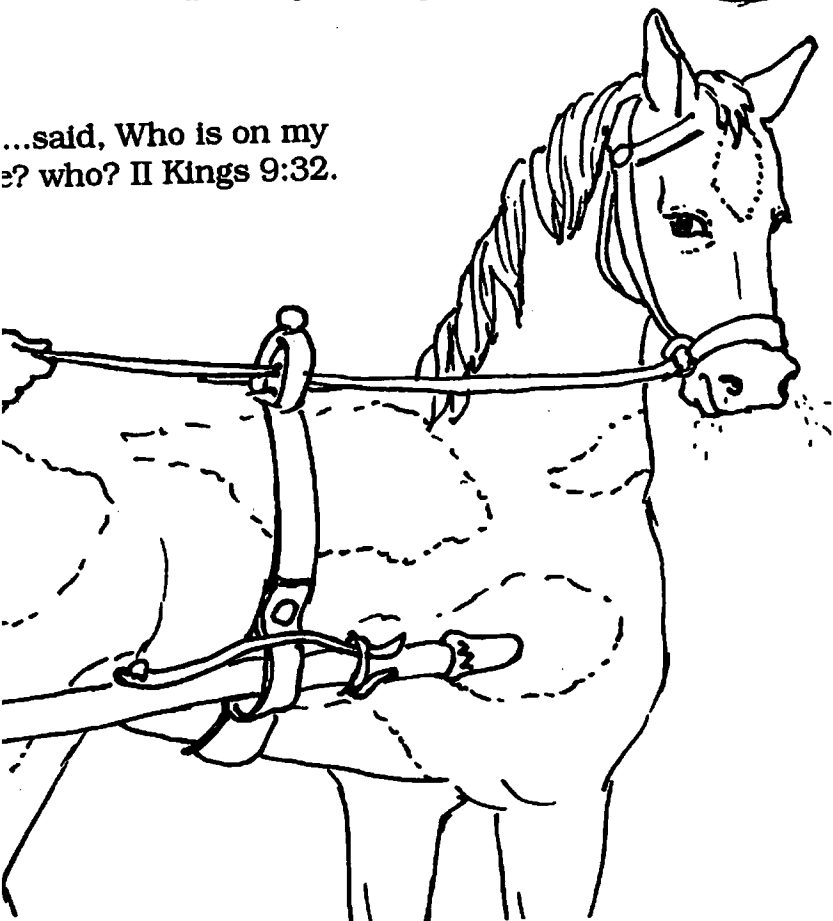








...said, Who is on my  
e? who? II Kings 9:32.



## Sledding Fun

"Look at the snow!" called Jerry to Linda and Randy who came running to the window where he was. "We can go sledding today!"

"Yip-p-ee!" shouted Randy. "Let me get my coat and boots right now!"

"We had better ask Mother first," said Linda as she went toward the kitchen.

Mother said, "Wait until it isn't snowing so heavily and the snow is packing on the ground more."

All morning the children watched and waited while they prepared boots, coats, gloves, hats and scarves. Finally Mother said they could go.

In a flurry the children dressed warmly then raced to the shed to get their sleds. As they pulled their sleds to their favorite hill, they saw other children coming also.

"Hey, let's have some sled races!" called Jerry to his friends. Soon everyone was at the top of the hill, lined up and prepared to race.

Beside Jerry was his best friend, Don. "Don't get too close to me, but give plenty of room between us," said Jerry.

"Just make sure you don't get in my way," teased Don as he straightened his sled runner.

"Don't get in MY way," retorted Jerry. Then he called out, "On your mark! Get ready! Get set! GO!"

In a flash twelve sleds pushed off and began sliding down the long, snowy hill. With his right foot, Jerry shoved against the white ground, rushing his sled in front of Don's.

Don skillfully lowered his body and pushed past Jerry. Suddenly the boys were even but at the foot of the hill, Don's sled was about five

inches in front of Jerry's.

"You won!" Jerry called out to Don. "Let's do it again!"

"Yeah! Let's race again!" shouted everyone!

During all the excitement and fun, Linda noticed a new boy sitting by a tree, near the hill. Quietly, he was watching the sledding fun. Linda pointed him out to Jerry. "He must not have a sled, Jerry. He looks about your size. Maybe you can invite him over and he can use my sled some."

"Okay," agreed Jerry. The boy was happy to join the fun. Jerry and Linda let him take turns using their sleds. Sledding and playing is always more fun when shared with others. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who sent the young prophet to anoint Jehu?
2. What did the prophet say Jehu was after he anointed him?
3. Why was Jehu supposed to destroy Ahab's family?
4. What did the captains blow on after they heard Jehu was king?
5. Where did Jehu go to see the two kings?
6. How did the watchman say Jehu drove?
7. What did Joram ask Jehu?
8. Who did Jehu say was doing wicked things?
9. Who was thrown out of a window?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 9:1-37, 10:11, 10:18-28.

(Answers: 1. Elisha. 2. King of Israel. 3. Because they had killed God's prophets. 4. Trumpets. 5. Jezreel. 6. Crazy. 7. "Is everything all right?" 8. Jezebel. 9. Jezebel.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Mar. 24, 2002

---

## SEVEN-YEAR-OLD KING

A wicked woman named Athaliah wanted to be queen of Judah. When her son died, she killed all of his sons and family. She missed one though.

Baby Joash was the son of the king that died. Joash's aunt hid him from Athaliah in the temple. Joash lived in the temple for six years. His nurse took care of him.

When Joash was seven, Jehoiada, the priest, called the rulers and captains and mighty men. He brought them into the temple and showed them Joash, the king's son.

Jehoiada said, "On the sabbath day I want three groups of you to guard the gates to the temple. I want two groups to guard the temple around the king. If anyone comes near the king, kill him."

The men did as Jehoiada said. They came to Jehoiada on the sabbath day. Jehoiada had a bunch of spears and shields that King David had put in the temple. Jehoiada gave the men the weapons. They all stood with their spears and shields around the boy king.

Jehoiada brought Joash out and put a crown on him. They made Joash king and clapped their hands. All the people said, "God save the king."

Athaliah heard the noise. She came to the temple. She saw the little king next to a pillar and heard the people shouting and blowing on trumpets. Athaliah did not like it that the people were making another king instead of her. She tore her clothes and said, "Treason, Treason."

Jehoiada told his guards, "Take her out. Do not kill her in the temple." The guards took Athaliah out and killed her.

Jehoiada made a covenant with the people that they would serve God. All the people went into the temple of Baal and broke it down. They broke the altars and idols completely.

Joash was seven years old when he became king. He served God. The temple was coming apart in some places. Joash had it fixed. He served God all the days that Jehoiada was there to teach him. —Joanna Booher

They



ed their hands, and said, God save the king. II Kings 11:12.



## Jerry The Boss?

Jerry, Linda, and Randy were in the den having a deep brothers and sister visit. In a demanding voice, Jerry said to Linda, "You know what, I can make you say what?"

"What did you say?" asked Linda, without realizing she had obeyed Jerry who laughed at his slyness.

"I can make Randy look for a bug on this pillow," said Jerry.

"What bug on the pillow?" asked Randy looking on the pillow.

"Ha! Ha! Ha!" laughed Jerry. "You all just aren't as smart as I am. See, you listen to me and I'll tell you what to do."

"I'm not going to listen to you any more," declared Linda as she reached for a book to read.

"Pick up that book, Linda," Jerry said, "and drop it," he added as she dropped the book to disobey Jerry.

"Leave me alone, Jerry!" she said a bit angry.

"Ha! Ha! Get angry, Linda! See, I can make you angry!"

"I don't want to hear you any more!" said Linda as she started toward the door.

"Leave, Linda, leave this room now!" said Jerry and that stopped Linda.

"Hush, Jerry! Don't talk to me!"

"Get angry, Linda! I want you more and more angry!"

"Oh, I'm getting out of here!" she said as she walked out.

"Okay, Randy, let's play a game. Hey, Randy, where are you going?"

"Somewhere, where you aren't," replied Randy as he left. Jerry laid on the couch chuckling when Dad

entered the room and walked toward his easy chair.

"Sit down in that chair, Dad," said Jerry as his dad sat down. "Pick up that newspaper and read it."

Dad picked up the paper. "Hey, sonny boy," said Dad, "Hop up and go get my glasses out of the truck. Then pop me some popcorn and bring me a glass of juice."

Jerry frowned. "Why can't Linda and Randy do something?"

"Because some pip squeak ran them off," said Dad as he gave his son a knowing look. "Hurry, Jerry, I'm waiting,"

Keep peace with your brothers and sisters. They will be a help to you in life. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who wanted to be queen?
2. What did Athaliah do to her son's sons and family?
3. Who was hidden from Athaliah?
4. Where did they hide Joash?
5. What did Jeholada give the men to guard Joash with?
6. What did all the people say when Jeholada crowned Joash?
7. What happened to Athaliah?
8. Who did Jehoiada say all the people would serve now?
9. How old was Joash when he became king?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Kings 11, 12.

(Answers: 1. Athaliah.  
2. Killed them. 3. Joash.  
4. In the temple. 5. Spears and shields. 6. "God save the king." 7. She was killed.  
8. God. 9. Seven.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Mar. 31, 2002

## THE BEST GOD

Hezekiah was a good king. He was twenty-five years old when he became king. He did what was right and pleased God.

Hezekiah opened the temple and had it fixed. He had the Levites get ready to offer sacrifices to God. He said, "God has let other kings come into our land. They have taken us as slaves in their countries. This happened because we did not serve God. Let us serve God now so He will be good to us."

The priests and Levites cleaned God's house. Then King Hezekiah and the rulers came to the temple. They offered sacrifices to God and sang songs. They bowed their heads and worshipped God.

Hezekiah sent a message to all the people of Israel and Judah. He asked them to come to Jerusalem for the passover feast. Many people came. Hezekiah prayed for them, "The good Lord pardon every one that prepares his heart to seek God." God heard Hezekiah's prayer.

Sennacherib, the king of Assyria came to fight against Jerusalem. Hezekiah said to his people, "Don't be afraid. He has an arm of flesh, but we have God on our side."

Sennacherib sent messengers to Jerusalem that said, "I have captured many other people and cities. They trusted in their gods to save them and their gods didn't. What makes you think your God is going to save you?"

Hezekiah prayed to God and said, "Save us, O Lord, so everyone will know that you are the only God."

Isaiah, the prophet, sent a message to King Hezekiah. He said, "The Lord heard your prayers. He knows what Sennacherib has said. He made Sennacherib and let him capture all those other cities. But now He is going to destroy Sennacherib because he is talking bad about Him."

The next night, the angel of the Lord went into Sennacherib's camp and destroyed many many men. Sennacherib woke up and his men were dead. He went away and lived in Nineveh. —Joanna Booher







Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered...out of the hand of  
the king of Assyria? II Kings 18:33.

## To Die For An Ant

"Mama, come and look at all these ants," called Randy from the backyard. He was watching a line of ants marching toward their den with crumbs of cake in their mouths. "How can they see where they are going with such big loads in their way?"

Mother and baby Allen came to see the ants Randy was pointing to. "Some of them carry loads as big as they are," commented Mother. "You know, ants are mentioned in the Bible?"

"Are they?" asked Randy.

"In Proverbs, it says that the ants are little but wise. They know how to prepare their meat for the winter in the summertime. Ants are busy providers and housekeepers. Each one has a duty and they know how to do it."

"Look at those two ants talking," said Randy as he pointed to a couple of ants. "That one ant helped the other one after he asked."

"It looked that way," said Mother with a smile. "Ants are wise, like the Bible says."

Randy was fascinated with the ants and spent a lot of time for several days watching them work. One afternoon Mother knelt down by Randy as he lay in the grass watching them. "Are you learning any more about them?" she asked him.

Randy nodded. "They are so small and have their own little world right around this tree. I have been feeding them crumbs that they like."

"If you wanted, you could smash all those ants in a little while," said Mother, "but I see that you don't want to."

"No, why should I hurt them?" replied Randy.

"Do you suppose God sometimes looks at us as little ants on this great big ball we call earth? He can easily destroy us but he hasn't yet. Instead, he had mercy on us and made his son become an ant to die for us."

A smile spread over Randy's face as he watched his tiny friends. "I like these ants, but I wouldn't want to be one. I don't think I would die for them, either."

"Now you know how Jesus felt when he was here among us," said Mother. "He loved us tiny folks very much." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of king was Hezekiah?
2. Why did Hezekiah say they had been taken as slaves?
3. Who did Hezekiah serve?
4. What did the priests and Levites do to God's house?
5. What did Hezekiah offer to God at the temple?
6. What feast did Hezekiah ask Israel and Judah to come to?
7. Who came to fight against Hezekiah?
8. Why did Sennacherib say Hezekiah's God couldn't save them?
9. Who destroyed Sennacherib's men?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Chronicles 29, 30; II Kings 18, 19.

(Answers: 1. A good one. 2. Because they did not serve God. 3. God. 4. Clean it. 5. Sacrifices. 6. The Passover. 7. Sennacherib. 8. Because the other people's gods didn't save them. 9. The angel of the Lord.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 April 7, 2002

## BAD KING, GOOD KING

Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king. He did wicked things that made God unhappy with him. He made altars to worship Baal. He prayed to the sun, moon and stars instead of God. He even made an idol and put it in God's temple.

God spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they would not listen. So God let the king of Assyria take Manasseh away to Babylon. Manasseh was put in chains.

Manasseh did not like being in chains in Babylon. He prayed to God. God heard his prayers and answered them. God let Manasseh go back to Jerusalem.

Manasseh knew then that God was "The" God. He took away the idols he had made. He fixed God's altar and gave God offerings of thanksgiving. He told all the people that they must serve God too.

Manasseh died and his son, Amon, became king. Amon was a wicked man and his servants killed him. Amon's son, Josiah, became king after that.

Josiah was only eight years old when he became king. He wanted to serve God. When he was twelve years old he started to clean up the city of Jerusalem. He took down the idols and places where the people worshipped idols.

When Josiah was eighteen he told some men to fix God's temple. One of them found a book of Moses' law in the temple. It was brought to King Josiah and read to him. When Josiah heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes and cried.

Josiah said to his men, "God is very angry with us because our parents have not obeyed the words of this book. Go and find out what God is going to do to us."

Josiah's men found a prophetess named Huldah. She said, "God is going to punish the people because they have done wrong. But since King Josiah has humbled himself and cried, God will not let it happen to him. He will die in peace before it happens."

Josiah promised God that he would obey the words of His Law. He made the people serve God all his life.

—Joanna Booher





In the eighth year of  
(Josiah's) reign,...he  
began to seek after the  
God...And they brake  
down the altars of Baalim  
in his presence....  
II Chronicles 34:3-4.

## Playing With Witchcraft

"Jerry has some mail," reported Linda as she brought letters from the mailbox into the kitchen where Mother was cooking supper. "Should we open his letter to see what it says?"

"No, Linda, we will let Jerry open his own mail," replied Mother. "He will tell us what it is about, I am sure. Now finish setting the table. Dad and the boys will be coming in soon."

Before long the family was seated around the table and Mother handed Jerry his letter to open. He pulled out a small card from the envelope....

"Oh, it's about a birthday party!" exclaimed his little brother, Randy. "Jerry, please read it to us."

"Okay, it says I am invited to a Harry Potter birthday party for Adam Brown. 'Come and have some magical fun! We will have the sword and the stone and Hedwig the owl. Each one will have a magical broom so we can play Quidditch. Please dress like Harry or Ron or any other character in the Harry Potter series.'"

After Jerry read his invitation, there was silence for a minute, then Jerry sighed, "Well, I know that's one birthday party I won't be going to."

"You're right, son," agreed Dad. "We don't play around with witchcraft and the evil spirits connected to it."

"Why do so many people like Harry Potter?" asked Linda.

"Because he is treated so badly by his aunt, uncle and cousin, and he appears to be a good wizard," replied Mother. "Many children re-

late to Harry because he faces the same every day problems that most of us face, but unusual things happen to get him out of the problem. It sends a message of false hope to children."

"There are actual witch spells, curses and magical art in the Harry Potter stories," added Dad. "The devil does have power and it is dangerous to tamper with his power. God says in His Word not to allow a witch to be among us, and witchcraft is a work of the flesh. There is so much good to learn about God, that we don't have time to waste reading and playing in the devil's world of evil."

Everyone around the supper table agreed with Dad.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Was Manasseh a good king at first?
2. What did Manasseh worship instead of God?
3. What did God let happen to Manasseh?
4. Who did Manasseh say was "The" God after he came back to Jerusalem?
5. How old was Josiah when he became king?
6. How old was Josiah when he wanted to serve God?
7. What was found in God's temple?
8. Did Josiah want to hear what God had to say to them?
9. Did God do good things for the kings who served Him?

**LESSON TEXT:** II Chronicles 33, 34.

(Answers: 1. No. 2. The sun, moon and stars. 3. The king of Assyria took him away to Babylon. 4. God. 5. Eight. 6. Eight. 7. A book of Moses' law. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 April 14, 2002

---

## FOUR OBEDIENT BOYS

When God's people were being bad, God often let them get in trouble so they would repent. One of those times that they got in trouble was when King Nebuchadnezzar came and took them away from their home. King Nebuchadnezzar made them go far away to Babylon and serve him there.

King Nebuchadnezzar decided that he wanted a bunch of Israelite boys to be taught his language. He wanted smart boys, who knew how to act in his palace.

Four of the boys Nebuchadnezzar found were named: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The king gave them new names. Their new names were Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

King Nebuchadnezzar also wanted them to eat his kind of food. He wanted them to eat rich meats and drink wine.

Daniel saw the meat and wine that they were supposed to eat. He did not think God would want him to eat it.

Daniel told the prince of the eunuchs that he did not want to eat the king's food. The prince liked Daniel but he said, "The king wants you to eat this food. If he sees you getting skinny, I will get in trouble."

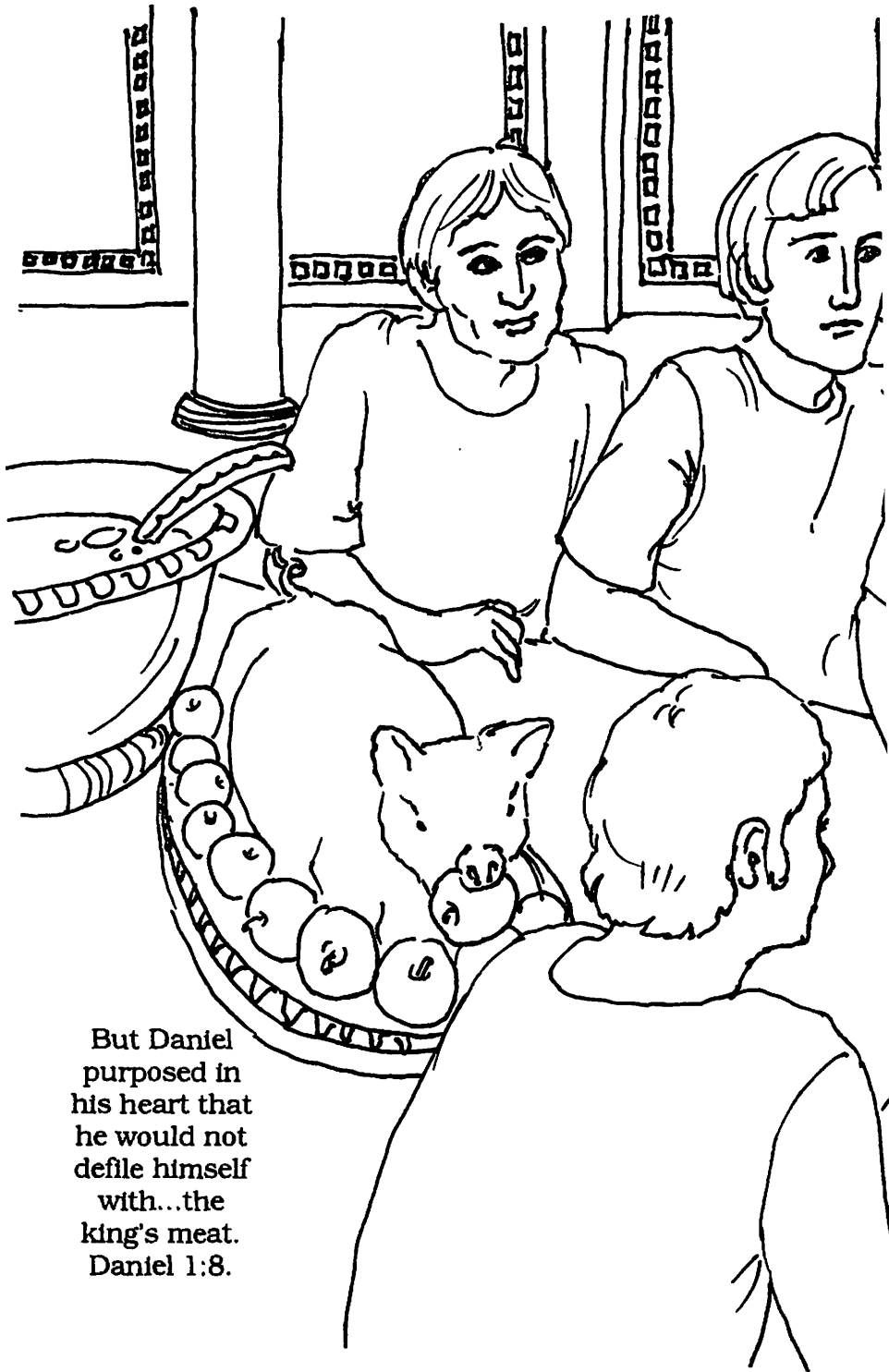
Daniel spoke to the prince's servant. He said "Feed us vegetables and water for ten days. Then see how we look and do what you want with us."

The servant of the prince agreed. After ten days he looked at Daniel and his friends. They looked more healthy than all of the other boys! From then on the servant let Daniel and his friends have their vegetables and water instead of the king's rich food.

God blessed Daniel and his friends because they obeyed Him. He made them very smart. He made Daniel able to understand dreams.

The time came for all the boys to be brought before King Nebuchadnezzar. When the king talked to Daniel and his friends, he found that they were ten times smarter than all the wise men in his whole kingdom.

—Joanna Booher



But Daniel  
purposed in  
his heart that  
he would not  
defile himself  
with...the  
king's meat.  
Daniel 1:8.





## Power Over Evil

(A true story.)

Pastor Emmanuel Allah Atta was in the pulpit preaching to 75 members of his congregation in a chapel in Bahawalpur, Pakistan. Suddenly, three men dressed in black, loose-fitting shirts and carrying automatic weapons burst into the chapel. The pastor had just finished his sermon on prayer. He had read scriptures about the need to pray during the trials and tests of life.

One of the gunmen rushed up to the pulpit and faced the pastor. "Throw down your Bible and deny Jesus!" demanded the radical Muslim.

"I will not!" declared Pastor Emmanuel. He hugged his Bible to his heart and turned away from the gunman.

The gunman began shooting. Pastor Emmanuel was shot in the back. As he fell to the floor, he looked lovingly at his four-year-old daughter who later said, "Daddy went to sleep and he's in heaven with Jesus."

The three gunmen opened fire on the congregation, shooting for six minutes and killing fifteen people. In one corner of the chapel, eight family members huddled together, the older ones attempting to shield the younger ones from the bullets. All of them died leaving thirteen-year-old Kanwal and seventeen-year-old Khurum alone. The sister and brother went to live with their grandparents and must now work to make money instead of finishing school.

After this terrible attack on October 28, 2001, some teenage Christian boys were angry and wanted to attack Muslim Mosques (or houses of prayer) and burn them to the ground. Older, seasoned Christians talked to them.

"No, we will return good for the evil they have done," replied the Se-

nior Christians. "Jesus tells us to pray for our enemies and do good to them that harm us. That is what we will do."

The Christians prayed for peace and the Muslims were surprised that no harm came to them for the evil that had been done. Christian missionaries still give medical aid to Muslims and treat them kindly. One elder Muslim leader finally admitted that the Christians had better conduct than the Muslims.

It takes divine love to show kindness to those who are hateful in return. Pray for God's love when you are tempted to feel angry at someone who has hurt you. That is true power over evil.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God let the Israelites be taken away from their homes?
2. What kind of boys was King Nebuchadnezzar looking for?
3. What did King Nebuchadnezzar want to teach the boys?
4. What kind of food did King Nebuchadnezzar want the boys to eat?
5. What did Nebuchadnezzar do to the boys' names?
6. Did Daniel want to eat the king's food?
7. Why didn't he?
8. How did Daniel and his friends look after they ate vegetables for ten days?
9. What did God do for Daniel and his friends because they obeyed Him?

### LESSON TEXT: Daniel 1.

(Answers: 1. So they would repent of being bad. 2. Smart boys. 3. His language. 4. Rich food. 5. Changed them. 6. No. 7. Because he didn't think God would want him to. 8. Healthier than all the other boys. 9. Made them very smart.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 April 21, 2002

---

## WHO CAN UNDERSTAND DREAMS?

One night, as King Nebuchadnezzar slept, he dreamed. It woke him up. But then he couldn't remember what he had dreamed.

Nebuchadnezzar called for all his magicians and astrologers. He said to them, "I dreamed a dream that bothered me. Tell me what it means."

The magicians and astrologers said, "O king, live forever. Tell us your dream and we will tell you what it means."

Nebuchadnezzar said, "I don't remember it. But you must tell me what it means or I will have you killed."

The magicians and astrologers said again, "Let the king tell his servants what he dreamed and we will tell him what it means."

Nebuchadnezzar said, "You are just trying to waste time. You know I don't remember and you are thinking up lying words to tell me."

The men said, "There is no one on earth who can tell the king his dream. Only the gods know and they aren't telling us."

Nebuchadnezzar was very angry. He commanded that all of the wise men in Babylon be killed.

Daniel and his friends were wise men. The king's servant came to Daniel's door to get him. Daniel said to the king's servant, "Why is the king in such a hurry to have us killed?"

The king's servant told Daniel what happened. Daniel told his three friends that they should pray that God would tell them the king's dream.

God showed the dream and the meaning of it to Daniel in the night. Daniel thanked God and went to the king.

Nebuchadnezzar said to Daniel, "Are you able to tell me my dream?"

Daniel said, "No man can tell you what you dreamed. But there is a God in heaven who knows and can tell us." Then Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar what God had showed him.

Nebuchadnezzar said, "It is true. Your God is a God of God's." Nebuchadnezzar made Daniel ruler of Babylon and gave him many gifts. Daniel asked that his three friends be made rulers of Babylon and he sat in the king's gate.

—Joanna Booher

Daniel...said...there is  
a God in heaven that  
revealeth secrets,...  
Daniel 2:27-28.





## Caring For The Hungry

"Jerry, would you please take out the trash for me?" asked Mother as she put away the last clean dish after supper.

"Yes, ma'am," replied Jerry. He pulled out the full trash bag from the can, tied the bag, and put a clean bag into the trash can. He went out the back door and to the alley where the big trash barrel sat.

As Jerry threw the trash into the barrel, he heard a whimpering sound. He looked around. Was it a cat? A puppy? Or maybe a baby?

"E-e-e, ah-ah!" it cried.

Jerry looked along the fence and under some bushes. Finally, he found a skinny, scared puppy lying on a dirty rag. "Oh, you poor little thing," said Jerry as he reached down to pick it up. But as his hand touched its head, the puppy growled.

"I won't hurt you," Jerry said kindly. "You must be very hungry." Gently he stroked the puppy's back. "I would say you are about six weeks old. You still need your mother. What happened to her?" He stood up and looked into a few neighbors' back yards in hope of finding the puppy's mother.

"It looks like you dropped in from nowhere," Jerry said to the puppy as he bent down to rub its brown, floppy ears. "Come home with me and get some warm milk into your tummy."

Jerry carefully picked up the puppy and carried it home. As he entered the kitchen he called, "Mother, do we have some milk? I have a hungry baby puppy who needs warm milk."

Linda and Randy came running to see the puppy before Mother left her sewing to help. "He looks sick,"

said Linda.

Mother poured milk into a saucer and warmed it in the microwave. "You may need to bottle feed him, Jerry. He may not know how to lick milk with his tongue."

The puppy was too young or weak to lap up the milk so Jerry squeezed milk into a dropper then dripped the milk into the puppy's mouth. Eagerly, it drank the milk. Then it ate one of Allen's soft sausage sticks.

"Can we keep the puppy?" Randy asked Mother. He lovingly stroked the puppy's back as Jerry fed it.

"I guess," said Mother. "If you all will take care of it." And of course, they all agreed they would.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did Nebuchadnezzar's dream do to him?
2. Did Nebuchadnezzar remember his dream?
3. What did Nebuchadnezzar want his wise men to tell him?
4. What did Nebuchadnezzar's wise men want him to tell them?
5. What did Nebuchadnezzar say he would do to his wise men if they did not tell him?
6. Why did the king's wise men say they did not know his dream?
7. Who did Daniel ask to tell him the king's dream?
8. Did God answer Daniel's prayer?
9. Who did Nebuchadnezzar say was God?

### LESSON TEXT: Daniel 2.

(Answers: 1. Woke him up. 2. No. 3. What his dream meant. 4. What he dreamed. 5. Have them killed. 6. Only the gods knew and they weren't telling them. 7. God. 8. Yes. 9. Daniel's God.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 April 28, 2002

---

## MEN IN THE FIRE

Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, made a big idol of gold. He sent for all his rulers to come and see his idol. When they were all there, someone shouted, "To you it is commanded, O people, that when you hear music, you must fall down and worship this idol. If you do not fall down, you will be thrown into a fiery furnace."

The music played and the people bowed down. Some of the rulers came to the king and told him that three men had not obeyed him. Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Nebuchadnezzar was very angry. He called Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to him. He said, "I'll give you one more chance to worship my god. If you don't, I will have you thrown in the furnace. Who will be able to save you then?"

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego said, "O King, our God can save us. But, if He doesn't, we still won't bow down to your god."

Nebuchadnezzar was very, very angry. He commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter. He told his strongest men to tie Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them in the fire.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego fell into the furnace. The fire was so hot that it killed the strong men who threw them in.

Suddenly, King Nebuchadnezzar stood up. He asked his counselors, "Didn't we throw three men into the fire? I see four men walking around in there. And the fourth man looks like the Son of God."

Nebuchadnezzar called out, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the most high God, come out."

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego walked out of the fire. The king and his rulers were amazed. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were not hurt. They did not even smell like smoke.

Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. If anyone says anything against their God, he will be killed. Because no other God is able to save like this." —Joanna Booher

He...said...I see four men loose walking in the mids





the fire, and they have no hurt;... Daniel 3:25.



## China Made

(Based on facts.)

One Saturday afternoon Mother and Linda were shopping like many mothers and daughters like to do.

"Mother, look how many colorful figurines there are on these shelves. I counted six aisles with several shelves on each side and every shelf is loaded with figurines."

"They are colorful and cute," said Mother. "And they are cheap enough," she added as she picked up one and noticed the price on the bottom.

Linda was holding one also. "How come these figurines are all made in China? Do the Chinese make porcelain the best?"

Mother smiled. "I wouldn't call these figurines the best porcelain because they are rather coarse compared to glazed or refined porcelain. If you notice the detail on each piece, though, you will see that they are handpainted. Do you know what I think when I look at these cute bears, bunnies and other animals?" "No, what do you think?" asked Linda.

"I think about the hands who have created these figurines. The Chinese workers are actually slaves to their government. The hands that painted these figurines may have been chapped from poor care and perhaps weak from lack of food. The person might be a Christian in prison because he or she would not deny Christ. China has more Christians in prison than any other nation in the world. Because prisoners and government slaves make these things, the Chinese leaders can sell their products to Americans so cheap."

"Is it wrong to buy things made in China?" asked Linda.

"I don't think so but it really doesn't help the poor Chinese people—it just puts more money into the hands of

their leaders. What I do, Linda, is pray for the person who made the figurine. I see in my mind the face of a Chinese person and I ask God to send his love to that one and help them in their trials of life. There is an estimated 100 million Christians in China and the church is growing there. It is because they suffer so much that they seek God for something better."

Linda glanced down an aisle with rows and rows of figurines made in China. "When I look at these hundreds of figurines, I will remember to pray for the people in China. They need Jesus to bless them."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did King Nebuchadnezzar make?
2. What did the king want his rulers to do in front of the idol?
3. What three men did not obey the king?
4. Who did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego say could save them?
5. What did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego say they would do if their God did not save them?
6. What happened to the men who threw Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the fire?
7. How many men did Nebuchadnezzar see walking in the fire?
8. Who did the fourth man look like?
9. Were Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego burned in the fire?

### LESSON TEXT: Daniel 3.

(Answers: 1. A big idol of gold. 2. Fall down and worship. 3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. 4. God. 5. Not bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's god. 6. The fire killed them. 7. Four. 8. The Son of God. 9. No.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 May 5, 2002

---

## THE PROUD KING

•King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed a dream. It bothered him. He commanded all his wise men to come and tell him what his dream meant.

None of the king's wise men knew. Then Daniel came in. King Nebuchadnezzar told Daniel what he had dreamed.

Daniel was amazed when he heard the dream. He did not say anything for an hour.

King Nebuchadnezzar said to Daniel, "Don't let my dream or the meaning of it bother you."

Daniel said, "O King, may this dream be to your enemies. You dreamed of a great big tree in a field. The tree was so big it filled the whole earth. All the cows and horses and animals came to the tree and stood in its shade. The birds came and built their nests in it. Then an angel came from heaven and said, 'Cut down the tree.'"

Daniel said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "The tree in your dream is you. You are big and powerful and everyone serves you. When the angel said for the tree to be cut down, he meant that you would become like an animal until seven times pass. Please, O King, do right so God will not do this to you."

A year went past. King Nebuchadnezzar was walking in his palace. He said, "Isn't this my kingdom, that I built with my own power?"

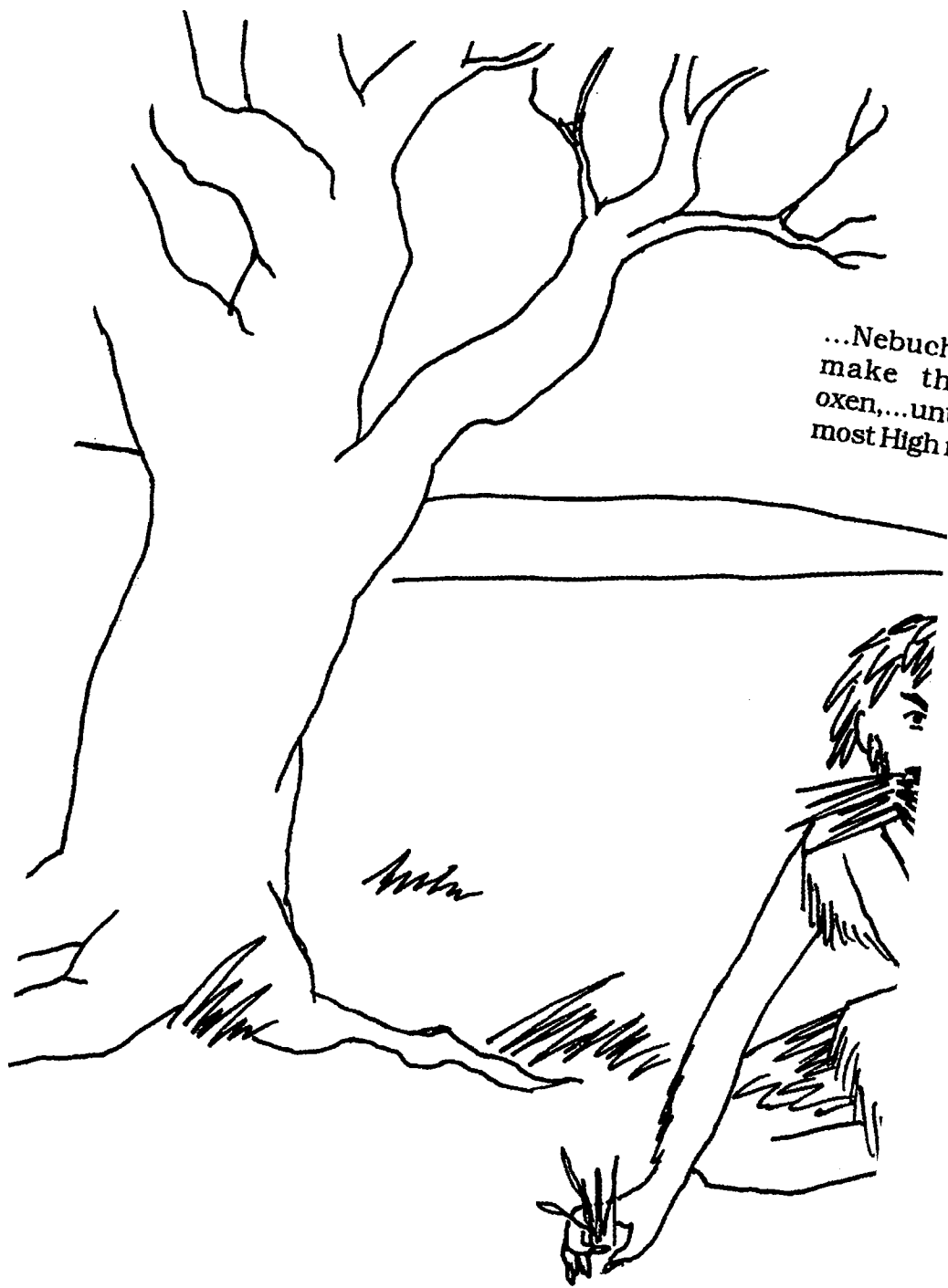
As soon as he said this a voice came from heaven that said, "Nebuchadnezzar, your kingdom is taken away from you."

In that same hour, King Nebuchadnezzar was made to leave his palace. He went out into the field and ate grass like an ox. His hair grew long like feathers and his fingernails grew like claws.

At the end of seven years God gave Nebuchadnezzar's right mind back to him. He looked up to heaven and thanked God. He said, "God lives forever. He can do whatever He wants with people. No one can stop Him."

The people made Nebuchadnezzar king again. King Nebuchadnezzar praised the God of heaven Who is able to make the proud people humble.

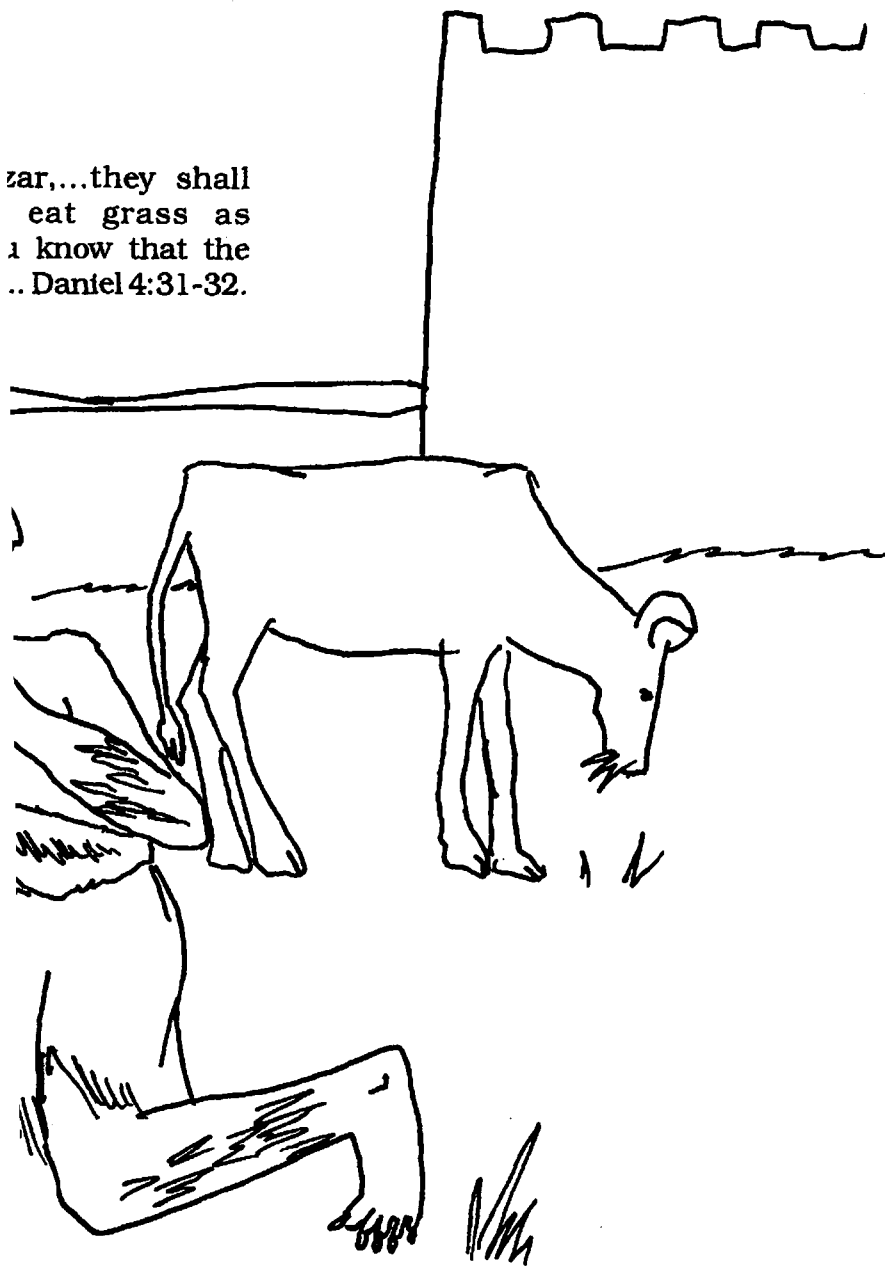
~Joanna Booher



...Nebuchadnezzar  
make the  
oxen,...until  
most High r

*scribble*

zar,...they shall  
eat grass as  
I know that the  
... Daniel 4:31-32.



## I Want To Believe In God

(A true story.)

With several other Christians in a house church in China, Wang Zhaomin was praying and worshipping Jesus Christ when a group of people broke into the house and shouted, "Don't move. We're from Xiao County Police Station." Next they ordered the Christians to line up one by one and put all their money and valuable things on the floor.

Wang took 200 yuan (about \$25) from his pockets and a watch and laid them on the floor. Some of the police searched the house, knocking and throwing things around. They took more money, a Christian book, hymn books, praise-song tapes and two tape recorders.

One officer stood in front of Wang and yelled, "Who taught you to believe in God?"

"No one," he replied. "I want to believe in God myself."

"Nonsense," he yelled back. "These meetings are cults and anti-party. Take him away," he ordered.

Officers handcuffed Wang so tightly that his wrists bled. He was shoved into a car and taken to Xiao County Police Station where he was questioned, stayed true to Christ, beaten and sent to a detention house. Later he was accused by the Communist government of "meeting unlawfully and joining a cult." The Labor-Education Committee ordered Wang Zhaomin to work with Brigade Two in Datong District.

Every day Wang and other prisoners work eight hours without food removing rocks from a mountain. They only have one meal a day which is half a box of rice, a small bowl of soup, and a tiny piece of salty vegetable without any oil. Often the men

are dizzy from hunger, and their hands are cut and bloody from the rocks, but they dare not stop working because guards will beat them.

Wang Zhaomin was arrested May 3, 1999, and today he is still in prison because he prays to Jesus Christ and believes in his Father of love. He is telling about God's mercy and love to fellow prisoners that they may know Him and feel His blessings in their hearts. If you would like to send a card to Wang Zhaomin, here is his address. Please pray for him and other Christians who are in prison because they love Jesus. Wang Zhaomin, Team #2; Qishan Lao Gai Camp; Datong District, Huainan City; Anhui Province; People's Republic of China.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did Nebuchadnezzar's dream do to him?
2. Were Nebuchadnezzar's wise men able to tell him what his dream meant?
3. Did Daniel like the king's dream?
4. What big thing was in the field in the king's dream?
5. Who was the tree?
6. What did Daniel tell the king to do so he would not become like an animal?
7. Who did Nebuchadnezzar say had built his kingdom?
8. What happened to Nebuchadnezzar when he became proud?
9. What did God give Nebuchadnezzar after seven years passed?
10. Who did Nebuchadnezzar thank?

### LESSON TEXT: Daniel 4.

(Answers: 1. Bothered him. 2. No. 3. No. 4. A tree. 5. Nebuchadnezzar. 6. Do right. 7. Himself. 8. He became like an animal. 9. His right mind. 10. God.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 May 12, 2002

## THE HAND ON THE WALL

Belshazzar, the grandson of Nebuchadnezzar, became king. He decided to have a big party. He invited a thousand of his lords and a bunch of his wives. He took the gold and silver cups that had been in God's temple and drank wine out of them.

As Belshazzar and his lords and wives praised their idols, a hand appeared on the wall. The hand wrote words.

Belshazzar was afraid. His legs shook. He called for all his wise men and said, "Tell me what the writing on the wall says. Whoever can tell me, I will give him a purple robe, a gold necklace and make him the third ruler in my kingdom."

None of Belshazzar's wise men could tell him. This made Belshazzar even more afraid.

The queen came in and said to Belshazzar, "Don't be afraid. There is a wise man named Daniel who worships the holy gods. He can tell you what the writing says."

Daniel was brought before the king. Belshazzar said to him, "Can you understand the writing on the wall? If you can, I will give you gifts."

Daniel said, "You may keep your gifts or give them to someone else. I will read the writing to you."

"O King, the most high God gave your grandfather, Nebuchadnezzar, this kingdom. Nebuchadnezzar became proud and God made him like an animal. Then Nebuchadnezzar was humble and thanked God. But you have not been humble. So God sent the hand to write on the wall. It says: Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin. This means: God has weighed you in the balances and you don't weigh enough. Your kingdom will be given to other people."

Belshazzar commanded his servants to put the purple robe on Daniel and give him a golden necklace. He said that Daniel was now the third ruler in the kingdom.

That night, an army of Medes and Persians came into the city. They killed Belshazzar and made the city their own. They also made a new king named Darius.

—Joanna Booher

In the same hour came  
man's hand, and wrote





h fingers of a  
aniel 5:5.



## Puppy Check-Up

Jerry was good to care for the baby puppy that he had found. He kept her in a box with a towel in a corner of the kitchen. Once the puppy was fed and felt safe, she didn't whimper but she did cry when hungry again. Jerry, Linda and Randy took turns feeding her milk through a dropper every two hours or so. In the night, Jerry or Mother took care of the puppy but one night they both helped her.

"Do you think my puppy is better?" Jerry asked Mother as he held the puppy close to his chest.

"She is stronger," replied Mother. "We will take her to a veterinarian and have her checked. I don't want a sick or diseased puppy with my children."

"Oh, she is okay," said Jerry.

"For your sake, I hope so," said Mother. "She will be a lot of care but you children have been helpful with her so I am willing to do my part. Now let's go to bed so we can get up and take her in the morning."

The next day the children were eager to take the puppy to the vet. "Now I do want to warn you of one thing," said Mother after they were all in the car. "If the vet tells us that the puppy is badly ill, then we will bravely tell the puppy bye-bye and let the vet keep her, okay?"

No one wanted to agree, but Mother insisted, so they knew it would be so. Jerry carried the puppy into the vet's office. Mother signed on the waiting list, and soon the nurse called for them.

"Oh, I see you all have found yourselves a puppy," said the

friendly vet. "Want me to check her over and see if she is okay?"

"Yes," said Mother. "If she is curable, we can keep her. Otherwise you get to have her." The vet gave Mother a knowing look and began his check-up.

After awhile, he said, "I think a wormer pill is all she needs now. In a few days, she will need her first puppy shots to be legal in town. We will give her the pill and you may take her home."

"Hurray!" shouted the children. They thanked the vet and then they thanked Mother who had to pay the vet, buy the dog food, and help them care for the puppy.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What was Nebuchadnezzar's grandson's name?
2. What did Belshazzar decide to have?
3. Whose cups did Belshazzar and his lords and wives drink out of?
4. What appeared on the wall?
5. What did the hand write on the wall?
6. Who could understand the writing?
7. Who sent the hand?
8. What did God say would happen to Belshazzar's kingdom?
9. When did God's words come true?

**LESSON TEXT:** Daniel 5.

(Answers: 1. Belshazzar. 2. A party. 3. God's cups. 4. A hand. 5. Words. 6. Daniel. 7. God. 8. It would be given to other people. 9. That night.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 May 19, 2002

---

## THE NEW LAW

King Darius made Daniel president of his kingdom. Darius liked Daniel so much he made him more important than all of his presidents and princes. This made them mad.

They decided to catch Daniel doing something wrong. They wanted to get him in trouble. But he did not do anything wrong.

They said to each other, "We will have to get Daniel in trouble for serving his God."

The princes and presidents went to King Darius and said, "O King, live forever. We have all decided to make a decree: No one can pray to a god or man, except you, for thirty days. If they do, they will be thrown in a lion's den. Please sign this decree and make it a law."

King Darius signed it.

Daniel heard about the new law. He went home. He had his windows open where he prayed facing Jerusalem. Daniel knelt down and prayed to God, just like he always did.

The princes and presidents saw him. They went to the king and said, "Daniel is not obeying your law."

King Darius was very unhappy with himself. He did not want to throw Daniel to the lions. He tried to think of a way to change the law, but he couldn't.

Night came. King Darius commanded and Daniel was thrown into the den of lions. Darius said to Daniel, "Surely, your God, Whom you serve so faithfully, will save you from being eaten by the lions."

King Darius went back to his palace. He did not sleep or eat all night. He did not want to hear any music.

Early in the morning, King Darius hurried to the lion's den. He called out, "Daniel, has your God saved you from the lions?"

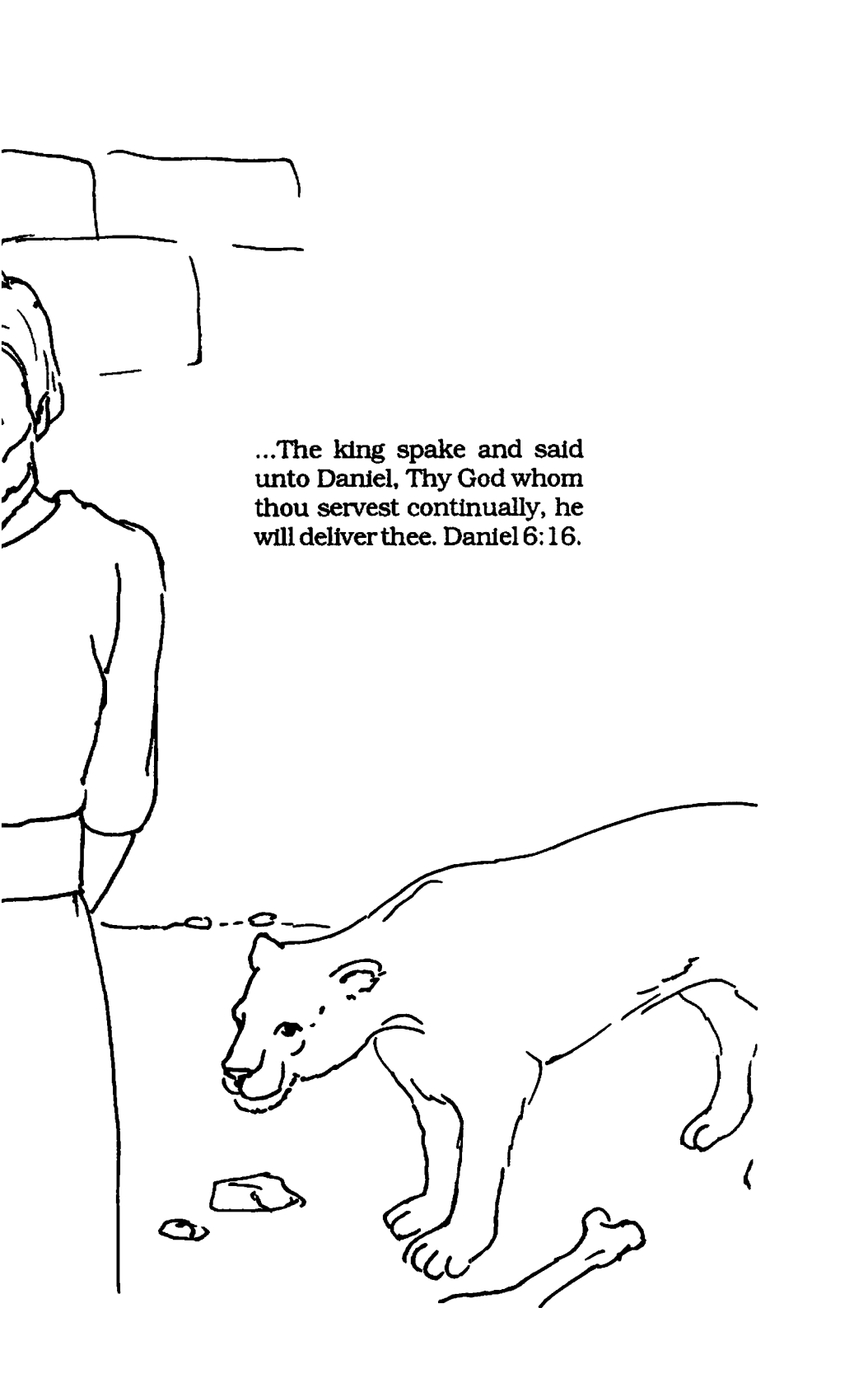
Daniel answered him, "O King, live forever. My God sent His angel, who shut the lions' mouths and they could not hurt me."

Darius was very glad. He had Daniel taken out of the den and those other men thrown in. The lions ate them.

King Darius made a decree. He said everyone must fear Daniel's God.

—Joanna Booher





...The king spake and said  
unto Daniel, Thy God whom  
thou servest continually, he  
will deliver thee. Daniel 6:16.

## Rocks Under UV Light

Linda was setting the table while Mother was busy cooking at the stove. "Today a man talked to our science class about rocks and minerals," said Linda. "It was really interesting. He had smooth rocks he had taken from the bottom of cool springs in Colorado. He had crystal rocks from caves, and red sandstone rose rocks from Oklahoma. God just made all kinds of rocks and Mr. Wright said he believes God made them like they are and it didn't take millions and millions of years of change to form them."

"That is an interesting thought," said Mother. "If God can make a whole galaxy of stars with His words, then He can make stones and rocks the way they are today."

"That's what Mr. Wright believes. But, Mother, you should have seen these rocks we really liked. They were the ones he showed us at the last. When Mr. Wright laid them on the table, they looked like just common gray, white and black rocks. Then we turned off the lights and he shone a flashlight on the rocks and they still looked common, but when he shined an ultraviolet light on those same rocks, they glittered and sparkled with bright colors. I saw green, orange, red, blue and other pretty colors in those rocks. We could hardly believe they were the same rocks."

"That does sound neat," said Mother. "Where did those rocks come from?"

"All different places," replied Linda. "They just have to have some crystallized mineral in them. I think they are quartz rocks." Linda was quiet for a few minutes while she

finished putting a glass at the top of each plate. Then she said, "You know what I thought about when I watched those rocks become beautiful under that special light?"

"No, what did you think?" asked Mother.

"Well, I thought about how we are just common, ole' people without much beauty until the light of Jesus comes shining down on us and then He reflects His beauty in us."

"What a deep thought, Linda!" exclaimed Mother. "You're right—only the light of Jesus makes us lovely on the inside and only His blood applied can wash away our sins. Thanks for sharing that lesson with me, Linda," said Mother. "It has cheered my heart."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who did King Darius make more important than all his presidents and princes?
2. How did this make the presidents and princes feel?
3. What did they try to do to Daniel?
4. Who did the new law say people were allowed to pray to?
5. Who did Daniel pray to?
6. Did Daniel stop praying to God?
7. Did Daniel get thrown in the lion's den?
8. Why did King Darius think Daniel's God would save him?
9. Why didn't the lions eat Daniel?

**LESSON TEXT:** Daniel 6.

(Answers: 1. Daniel. 2. Mad. 3. Get him in trouble. 4. King Darius only. 5. God. 6. No. 7. Yes. 8. Because he served him faithfully. 9. God sent an angel who shut their mouths.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 May 26, 2002

---

## THE GIRL WHO BECAME QUEEN

One of the kings after Nebudchadnezzar was Ahasuerus. One day, King Ahasuerus had a party. There were a lot of people there. There was much food and wine. It was a very rich party and lasted for many days.

On the seventh day, King Ahasuerus was feeling very happy. He said, "Tell the queen, Vashti, to come in. I want everyone to see how beautiful she is."

But Queen Vashti said she would not come. This made King Ahasuerus very angry. He asked his counsellors what he should do. They said to him, "Your wife has disobeyed you. If everyone finds out, other men's wives will disobey them too. This would not be good.

If it please the king, let Vashti be no longer queen. Let the king find someone else to be his queen."

King Ahasuerus liked this idea. He had his officers look for all the beautiful women in his kingdom. He wanted them brought to his palace and he would pick one of them to be his new queen.

There was a beautiful young woman named Esther. She was a captive Jew. Her parents had died and her cousin, Mordecai, took care of her.

The king's officers found Esther and brought her to the king's palace. Hegai was the man who took care of all the women at the king's palace. He liked Esther and gave her seven maids and the best place in the palace.

Esther's cousin, Mordecai, came by every day to see how she was doing. He told her not to tell anyone she was a Jew. Esther obeyed him just as though he were her father.

Each woman had to stay in the palace for a year and then they would go in to see the king. They could take anything with them when they went to see the king. When Esther's turn came, she did not ask for anything except what Hegai told her to take.

King Ahasuerus loved Esther more than any of the women that came to see him. He put the royal crown on her head and made her his new queen.

—Joanna Booher

And the king loved Estl  
crown upon her head,.





ie set the royal  
er 2:17.



## A Brave Man's Testimony

Mehdi Dibaj was a brave man. Once an upper class Muslim living in Iran, Mehdi heard about Jesus Christ through Christian foreigners and when traveling from Iran. He studied the Bible, liked what he read, and believed on the God who inspired the writing of Holy Scripture. The more he learned about the love of God and His Only Son, the more Mehdi wanted everyone to know about Him. A well-learned man, Mehdi translated Christian radio programs and books into Farsi, the common language of Iranians. He knew this was illegal to do but he wanted his fellow countrymen to learn about the true God who created mankind after His own image.

In 1985, Pastor Mehdi Dibaj was arrested and accused of denying the Muslim faith. In court, he was given a chance to defend himself and this is what he said:

"Men choose a religion, but a Christian is chosen by Jesus Christ. To be a Christian means to belong to Christ. Jesus asked me to renounce even my life, to follow Him faithfully, not to fear the world even if my body must perish. I prefer to know that God, the Almighty, is with me, even if it means that the whole world is against me.

"I am in God's hands. For 45 years I have walked with the God of miracles, and His goodness is for me a shadow that protects me in His love.

"The God of Daniel, who protected his friends, protected me during my nine years in prison, and all torments changed to my good, so that I have the fullness of love and gratitude.

"Of all the prophets, Jesus alone was resurrected from the dead, and He remains our living Mediator forever. I gave my life into His hands. For me, life is an opportunity to serve Him, and death is the privilege of getting to be with Him."

For saying this, he was condemned to death. When his Christian friends in other countries heard this, they wrote letters to the Iranian government who released Mehdi from prison to stop the political pressure. Later, though, Dibaj was killed in a village park probably by some Muslims.

Dibaj is with the One who chose him to be His. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS

1. Why were a lot of people at King Ahasuerus' palace?
2. Who did Ahasuerus want to come to his party?
3. Did Queen Vashti obey her husband?
4. Did Ahasuerus like it that his wife disobeyed him?
5. What did Ahasuerus' counsellors tell him to do?
6. Who took care of Esther since she had no parents?
7. Did Esther obey Mordecai when he told her not to tell she was a Jew?
8. Why did Hegai give Esther seven maids and the best place?
9. What did Ahasuerus think of Esther?

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

(Answers: 1. He was having a party.  
2. Queen Vashti. 3. No. 4. No.  
5. Make someone else queen.  
6. Mordecai 7. Yes. 8. Because he liked her. 9. He loved her more than all the other women.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 June 2, 2002

## THE JEWS' ENEMY

Mordecai, Esther's cousin, sat in the gate of the king. One day he heard two of the king's servants talking bad about King Ahasuerus. They wanted to hurt him.

Mordecai told Queen Esther what the two men had said. Esther told the king and the king had those two men killed. What Mordecai had done was written in a book.

King Ahasuerus had a servant named Haman. Ahasuerus made Haman more important than his other servants.

When Haman went out of the king's gate, everyone was supposed to bow to him. But Mordecai did not bow. This made Haman angry.

Haman went to the king and said, "There is a group of people in your kingdom who don't obey your laws. They live like they want to. It is not good for them to be in your kingdom. Make a law saying that they will all be killed."

King Ahasuerus gave Haman his ring so he could make the law. The law said that on a certain day, all Jews would be killed. The law was put out where people could see it.

Mordecai was a Jew. When he saw the law, he tore his clothes and started to cry. He put on old scratchy clothes and ashes. Esther heard what Mordecai was doing. She sent a message to him to ask him why he was crying. She also sent nice clothes for him to wear.

Mordecai would not wear the clothes. He sent her a message telling her about the law. He told her to go to the king and ask him to save their lives.

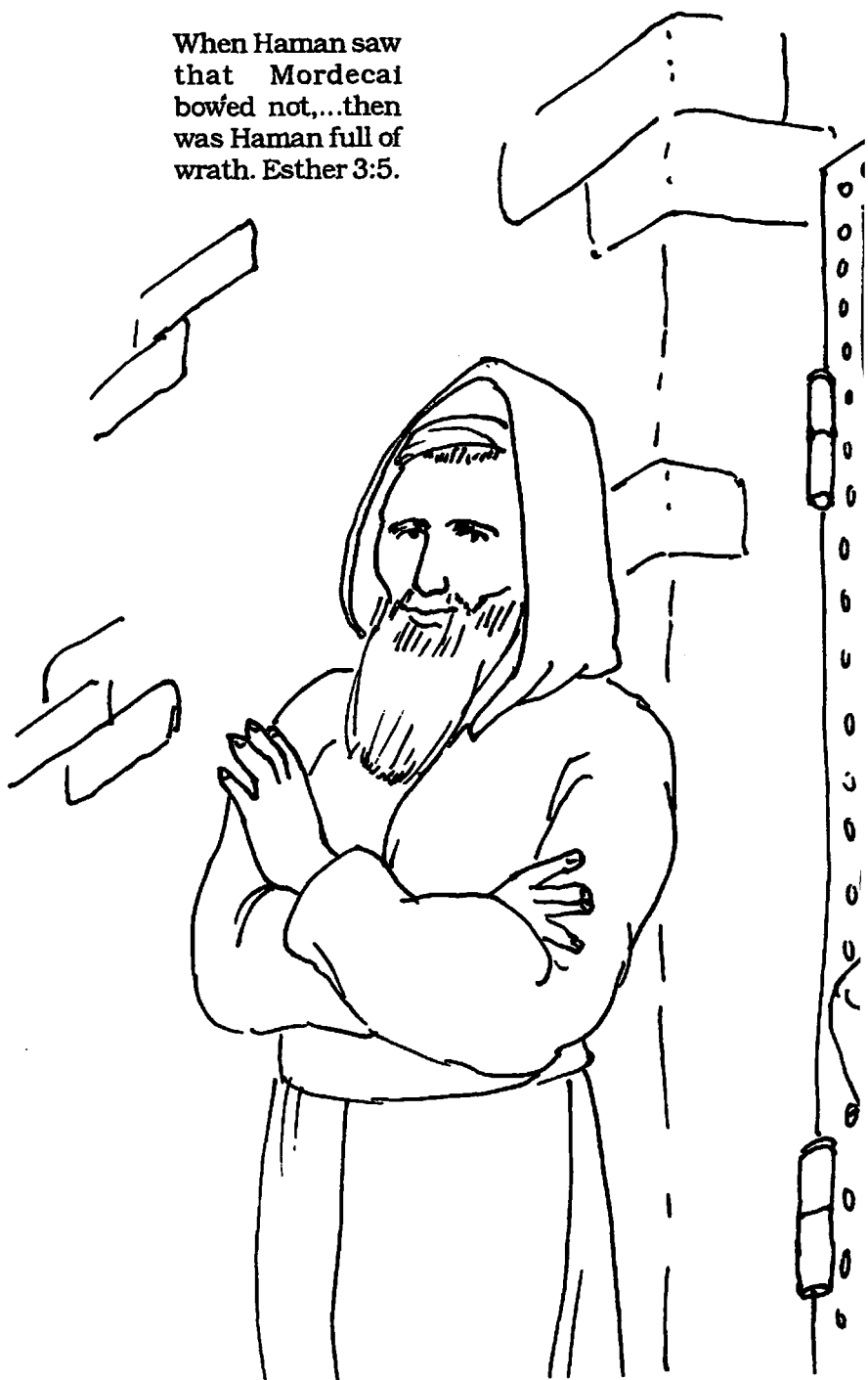
Esther said, "Everyone knows that if a person goes to see the king without being invited, they will be killed. The only way they will live is if the king holds out his golden scepter to them."

Mordecai said, "You will die anyway. And who knows, maybe you are queen because you were meant to save our lives."

Esther told Mordecai that she would do it. She said she would not eat for three days and then she would go to see the king. "If I die, I will die," she said.

—Joanna Booher

When Haman saw  
that Mordecai  
bowed not,...then  
was Haman full of  
wrath. Esther 3:5.





## Called By God

(A true story.)

Bill looked at the sign spray painted on the side of an empty building in New York City. The bold letters said: "Jesus doesn't live in Brooklyn."

"That cannot be true," said Bill to himself.

The narrow, concrete streets of Brooklyn are cluttered with litter. Run down buildings have messages of evil spray painted on many walls. The 70,000 children who live in this area learn early how to lie, steal, fight, smoke cigarettes, take illegal drugs and follow other immoral ways. Bill decided the children of Brooklyn needed to know Jesus could live there.

Bill knew about survival. His alcoholic mother pushed him out of the house at the age of fourteen. Bill had never known his father and his "family" was so split apart that he was left on the streets alone.

It was at this time a race car driver noticed Bill sitting on a culvert for several days and he knew Bill's despair. So he offered to pay Bill's way to a Christian camp.

At camp, Bill heard the gospel story for the first time. He walked down the aisle, knelt at the altar and got saved.

Back in his hometown, Bill went to live with a pastor and his wife. He went to church regularly and worked odd jobs as he made his way through high school. Bill had potential to make big money. He raced cars for awhile, then worked for a Ford agency, but all the while he had a desire to do something for Jesus.

Then Bill read that sign in Brooklyn, one of the most evil places in America. He knew he was called to bring the message of hope, love and peace to the troubled, unloved children and youth. He wanted to introduce them to Jesus.

To draw the youth, Bill dressed in old blue jeans and went to the "hang-outs." He mixed among them and talked with them about their futures, their problems and the hope that Jesus Christ offers. Some cursed Bill, some ignored him, some were touched but unmovable, and some accepted his invitation to come with him to a chapel where they could learn more about Jesus.

In time, a few of these young people accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and surrendered their lives to Him. Now Bill has others to help with his plans to bring the neglected children to Sunday School. Jesus gives Bill the strength and courage to do what he is called to do. The love of Jesus is spreading in Brooklyn.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who wanted to hurt the king?
2. What did Mordecai do when he heard the king's servants wanted to hurt him?
3. Where was it written what Mordecai had done?
4. What was everyone supposed to do for Haman?
5. Who did not bow to Haman?
6. What did Haman want to do to all the Jews because Mordecai would not bow to him?
7. Did the king let Haman make his law?
8. What did Mordecai tell Esther she must do?
9. What did Mordecai say might be the reason Esther was queen?

**LESSON TEXT:** Esther 2:21-4:17.

(Answers: 1. Two of his servants. 2. Told Queen Esther. 3. In a book. 4. Bow to him. 5. Mordecai. 6. Kill them. 7. Yes. 8. Ask the king to save their lives. 9. She was meant to save their lives.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 June 9, 2002

---

## BEFORE THE KING

Haman had made a law saying that on a certain day, all the Jews would be killed. Queen Esther and her cousin Mordecai were Jews. But no one knew that Queen Esther was a Jew.

Mordecai told Queen Esther to go to King Ahasuerus and ask him to save the Jews. Anyone who went to see the king without being invited would be killed unless the king held out his scepter to them. Queen Esther said she would go to see the king anyway.

On a certain day, Queen Esther went to the king's court. When King Ahasuerus saw Esther, he was glad. He held out his golden scepter to her. Queen Esther came up to him and touched the scepter.

King Ahasuerus said to Esther, "What would you like, Esther? You may have anything, even half of my kingdom."

Esther said, "All I want is for you and Haman to come to a dinner I will have for you today."

King Ahasuerus told Haman to come quickly. They both went to Esther's dinner. At the dinner, King Ahasuerus asked Esther again, "What would you like, Esther? I will give you whatever you want."

Esther said, "All I want is for you and Haman to come to another dinner I will have for you tomorrow."

Haman was very pleased that he was invited to the Queen's dinner. As he went out of the king's gate, he saw Mordecai. Mordecai did not bow to him. This made Haman angry.

Haman got home and called for his friends and wife to come. He told them how rich he was and how many children he had. He told them how only he and the king were invited to dinner with the Queen. He said, "We are invited tomorrow too. But I still am not happy as long as Mordecai does not bow to me."

Haman's wife said, "Why don't you build a gallows to hang Mordecai on. Then you will feel better when you go to the Queen's dinner tomorrow."

Haman liked that idea. He had the gallows built that very night.

—Joanna Booher





When the king saw Esther...  
she obtained favour in his  
sight. Esther 5:2.



## Crashed!

(A true story.)

Don, Phil and Gerald were a geological team searching for copper-bearing rock in the mountains of Costa Rica. This one summer morning they were flying a small Bell 47 helicopter. Gerald was a good pilot who knew how to get in and out of low places.

"Let's land on that mountain peak," suggested Don, pointing to a mountain thick with tall trees and tropical jungle. Gerald nodded. He circled the helicopter around the mountain and began a descent into the jungle. The rain had stopped but there is always a damp mist in this area.

Gerald was able to land the helicopter on a ledge. Then while he throttled the craft, Don and Phil climbed out and gathered some rock samples. Soon they were back in the helicopter's plexiglas bubble. Gerald advanced the throttle and with a roar they began to rise. Large trees 100 feet tall were all around them.

The three men were silent but Don was praying in his heart. Flying in such thin air at 7,000 feet was very dangerous. That was one reason why he and his wife prayed together before he left for work. He knew his wife was at home praying for him now.

Suddenly, fifty feet above ground, the helicopter quit climbing. The engine stopped. Immediately, they crashed into a huge tree trunk. Everything went black for the three men. When they finally came to, the helicopter was broken and shattered all around them. Each man had bruises, cuts and one had a couple of broken ribs but it was a miracle they were alive. Gerald worked with the radio and—wonder of wonders—it worked! He began to send out a message for help but could not get any reply.

In the cold, damp jungle the men prepared for the night. They ate a little

canned food. Then from their survival kits they took out plastic one-man tube tents. As darkness fell around them, the night creatures came to life. They heard grunts and growls circling their campsite. "Lord, please protect us from these jaguars," prayed Don. Suddenly, Phil began to scream! He was having muscle spasms but his screaming scared away the jaguars!

Next morning the men gathered their flares and watched for a rescue helicopter. No person had answered Gerald's message for help but Don assured the others that God would send help. That day they saw a large chopper searching the mountain. Don sent up his flare and soon the men were rescued. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who made a law saying all the Jews would be killed?
2. Did anyone else know Esther was a Jew?
3. What would happen if someone went to see the king without being invited?
4. Did Esther go see the king?
5. How did Ahasuerus feel when he saw Esther?
6. What did Esther ask the king to do for her?
7. Who did Esther want to come with the king to her dinner?
8. How did Haman feel since he got to go to the queen's dinner?
9. How did Haman feel when Mordecai still did not bow to him?
10. What did Haman have built to hang Mordecai on?

### LESSON TEXT: Esther 5.

(Answers: 1. Haman. 2. No. 3. They would be killed. 4. Yes. 5. Glad. 6. Come to a dinner. 7. Haman. 8. Very pleased. 9. Angry. 10. A gallows.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 June 16, 2002

---

## ESTHER'S WISH

The night before Queen Esther's second dinner, King Ahasuerus could not sleep. He asked his servant to come and read a book for him. The servant read in the book how Mordecai had saved the king.

King Ahasuerus said, "Did we ever do anything nice for Mordecai because he saved me?"

The servant said, "No."

Right then, Haman came to see the king. He wanted to ask the king if it was all right to have Mordecai hanged on his gallows.

King Ahasuerus heard that Haman was there. Ahasuerus said to Haman, "What should I do for the man I want to honour?"

Haman thought to himself, "Who would the king want to honour more than me?" He said to Ahasuerus, "You should put your robe and crown on the man you want to honour. Let him ride on your horse and have your most important servant walk in front of him saying, 'This is the man the king has honoured.'"

King Ahasuerus said to Haman, "Go and do just what you have said to Mordecai."

Haman went out and put the king's robe and crown on Mordecai. He put him on the king's horse and walked in front of him through the city. He said, "This is the man the king wants to honour."

When Haman was done, he ran home and cried. Then he hurried to Queen Esther's dinner.

At the dinner, Ahasuerus asked Esther again, "What would you like me to do for you, Esther?"

Esther said, "If it please the king, would you save my life and the lives of my people. We are to be killed."

Ahasuerus said, "Who would dare to do that?"

Esther said, "It is this wicked Haman."

Ahasuerus was very angry. Haman was afraid. One of the king's servants told Ahasuerus, "Haman has built a gallows to hang Mordecai on."

King Ahasuerus said, "Hang Haman on them instead."

After that, Ahasuerus made Mordecai his very important servant. The Jews were not killed after all. Queen Esther had saved her people.

—Joanna Booher

...Let my life be given  
people." Esther 7:3.



and my



## Keep The Same Pattern

One evening Dad came home from work with a few boards in the back of his pickup. "What are these for?" asked Randy as he stood on the bumper and looked into the truck bed.

"Don't you think that puppy has outgrown her box by now?" asked Dad. "I think it is time she has her own house."

"Yippee!" shouted Randy. "Hey, Jerry! Come and see the wood Dad bought to make a doghouse for Ruby."

Jerry came running and helped Dad unload the lumber. "Can we help you make the doghouse, Dad?" he asked.

"Yes, I was hoping you would offer to help," said Dad. "We will get started right after supper tonight."

At the supper table the boys hardly talked because they wanted to finish eating and start work on the doghouse.

Soon they were ready to build. Dad got out his tape measure and pencil. "Jerry, I'm going to measure and mark how long we need the side boards. Then you can use the pattern to mark and cut more boards by."

"Okay," agreed Jerry. He and Randy watched as Dad measured, marked and cut a board. Then he wrote a "P" on the board. "Use this board only to measure and mark each board. After you have ten finished, we will measure and cut boards for the front and back of the house."

Jerry began with Randy looking on. The boys talked while Jerry worked. In awhile, Jerry looked puzzled. "Hey, what happened to my board marked with a 'P'? I've lost it."

Dad overheard Jerry. "Find your pattern before you cut anymore boards, Jerry. You will be cutting them all different lengths if you don't use the same pattern every time."

They stood all the boards up on one end and noticed right away that Dad was right. Already three boards were each a little longer than the one pattern.

Later, in family worship time, Dad mentioned the boards and the importance of keeping the same pattern. "That's the way it is in the Christian life," said Dad. "If we all will pattern our lives by Jesus Christ, then we will come together in unity of heart and mind. He is the perfect Man that we must mark or notice."

Before going to bed, Jerry said, "Thanks, Dad, for building a doghouse for Ruby and for teaching us about Jesus." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. What was wrong with Ahasuerus the night before the Queen's dinner?
2. Who did the king's servant read to him about?
3. What did Ahasuerus want to do for Mordecai?
4. Who did Ahasuerus ask what he should do for the man he wanted to honour?
5. Who did Haman think Ahasuerus wanted to honour?
6. What did Haman do after he had to honour Mordecai?
7. What did Queen Esther ask King Ahasuerus to do for her?
8. How did King Ahasuerus feel when he knew Haman was trying to kill his queen?
9. What happened to Haman?

**LESSON TEXT:** Esther 6, 7, 9:4.

(Answers: 1. He couldn't sleep. 2. Mordecai. 3. Honour him. 4. Haman. 5. Himself. 6. Went home and cried. 7. Save her life and the lives of her people. 8. Very angry. 9. He was hung on the gallows he built for Mordecai.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 June 23, 2002

## JOB

There once was a man named Job. He feared God and hated evil. He had seven sons and three daughters. He also had a lot of sheep, camels, oxen, donkeys and a very big vineyard. He was the richest man in the east.

Job's sons liked to eat together. When they got together, Job would go and make a sacrifice to God. He sacrificed for his children so God would forgive them if they had sinned.

There was a day when the sons of God came before the Lord. Satan came with them. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan said, "I have come from walking up and down in the earth."

The Lord said, "Have you thought about My servant, Job? There is no man like him. He is perfect."

Satan said, "Job doesn't serve You for nothing, does he? You've given him lots of things. Take away all those things and he will curse You."

The Lord said, "You may take away all of Job's things. But don't touch him."

One day Job's sons were eating together. A servant came to Job and said, "We were plowing with the oxen when the Sabeans came. They stole the oxen and killed the servants. I am the only one who lived to tell you."

While the servant was speaking, another servant came. He said, "Fire came from heaven and burned up the sheep and all of your servants."

Another servant came. He said, "The Chaldeans stole your camels. They killed the servants."

While he was talking, another servant came. He said, "A great wind came out of the desert. It hit the house where your children were eating. The house fell and killed them all. I am the only one who lived to tell you."

Job tore his robe. He shaved his head and fell down on the ground. He said, "I was born without anything and I will die without anything. The Lord gave me all those things and now He has taken them away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." Job did not sin or say anything against God.

—Joanna Booher

...The Lord gave, and the  
Lord hath taken away;  
blessed be the name of the  
Lord. Job 1:21.







## From Hopeless To Hopeful

(A true story.)

DeJay grew up in Lumberton, NC, among eleven brothers and sisters. He was a nervous, uneasy type fellow who didn't have patience with anyone or anything. If he tried something once and it didn't work, DeJay gave up. That's why he quit school at an early age and began plowing fields for his dad who was a sharecropper. (That is a hired man who works a landowner's fields for part of the crop it produces.)

This slow work was trying to impatient DeJay and he began to drink liquor. He wanted to escape life and fill the void he felt within but he was only making his life more miserable.

His sister lived in Boston so DeJay moved there to live with her and work at a bar selling liquor. He became more and more unhappy. Maybe it was self-control and discipline that he needed, he thought.

DeJay enlisted in the Army. After rigid training, he was sent to the Vietnam War. There he became very unhappy and started taking drugs like heroin. Now DeJay was drunk or high on drugs so much that he finally was discharged from the Army.

Back in the United States, very ashamed of himself, DeJay didn't even want his parents to see him as the junkie he was. He roamed from city to city, sleeping on the streets, stealing and fighting for survival. Many times he ended up arrested and in jail. DeJay was homeless, felt hopeless and was ashamed of himself.

One night he decided to take his own life and jump out of his misery. He drove a car down by a lake, parked, got out and jumped into the

lake. DeJay didn't know how to swim but after he touched the bottom, he sprang back up to the top, reached the shore and drove off.

In Chicago at a bar, DeJay fell off of a bar stool and was rushed to a hospital. He told the doctor and others that he wanted to stop drinking and change his life. One worker told him, "If you have an honest desire to change your life, I know where you can go to get help." This worker took him to a mission where a sign above the door read: "Jesus Saves."

Here DeJay was treated kindly and helped. He learned about Jesus and had his sins washed away by the blood of Jesus. DeJay felt full and happy within his heart. That was several years ago. Now DeJay is a chaplain helping other men and women who need to change and get saved.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. How many children did Job have?
2. How many animals did Job have?
3. What did Job do for his children when they got together?
4. Who came with the sons of God before the Lord?
5. What kind of man did the Lord say Job was?
6. What did Satan say Job would do if God took away his things?
7. Did God let Satan take away Job's things?
8. How many days did it take for Satan to take away Job's things?
9. Did Job sin against God?

### LESSON TEXT: Job 1.

(Answers: 1. Ten. 2. A lot. 3. Offered a sacrifice for them. 4. Satan. 5. Perfect. 6. Curse Him. 7. Yes. 8. One. 9. No.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



---

Vol. 53, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 June 30, 2002

---

## THE END OF JOB

One day the sons of God came before the Lord. Satan came with them. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan said, "I've come from walking up and down in the earth."

The Lord said, "Have you thought about My servant Job? He is still perfect, even though you took away all of his things."

Satan said, "A man will do anything to save his life. If You make his body hurt really bad, he will curse You."

The Lord said, "You may do to him what you want, but don't kill him."

Satan went and made boils come on Job. Job sat in ashes and used a broken pot to scratch his boils.

Job's wife said to him, "Do you still fear God? Curse Him and die."

Job said, "You talk like a foolish woman. The Lord gave me good things. Can't He give me bad things too?" Job did not sin with his words.

Job had three friends who heard what had happened to him. They came to visit him. When they saw him, they tore their robes and cried. They sat in the dust near Job and did not say anything to him for seven days.

After seven days, Job said, "I wish I had never been born."

Job's friend, Eliphaz, said, "You must have done something wrong or God would not be doing this to you."

Job's friends, Bildad and Zophar, thought Job must have sinned too.

Job said, "You are not good comforters. I wish that I could talk to God. I want to know why He is treating me bad when I have done right."

Finally God spoke to Job and said, "I made the whole earth and I made you. Who are you to tell Me that I have not treated you right?"

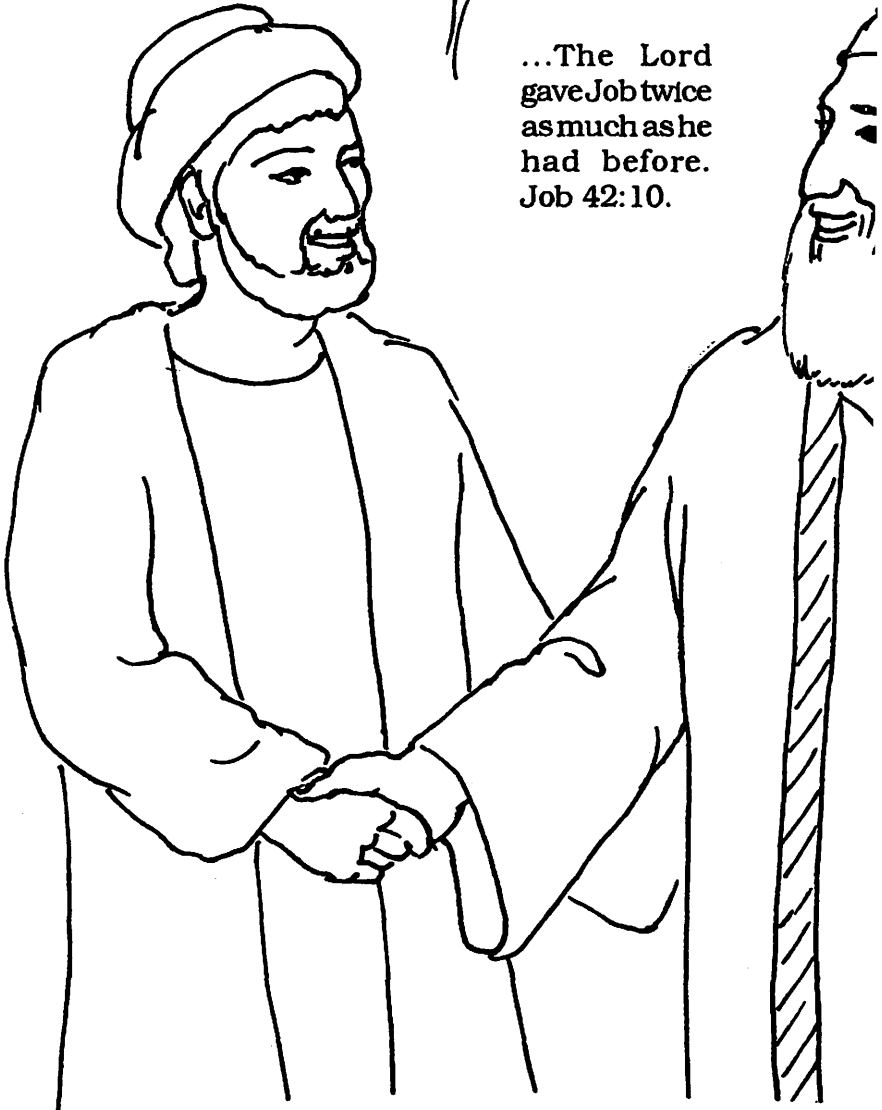
Job said to God, "I repent of what I said. I know that You can do every thing You want."

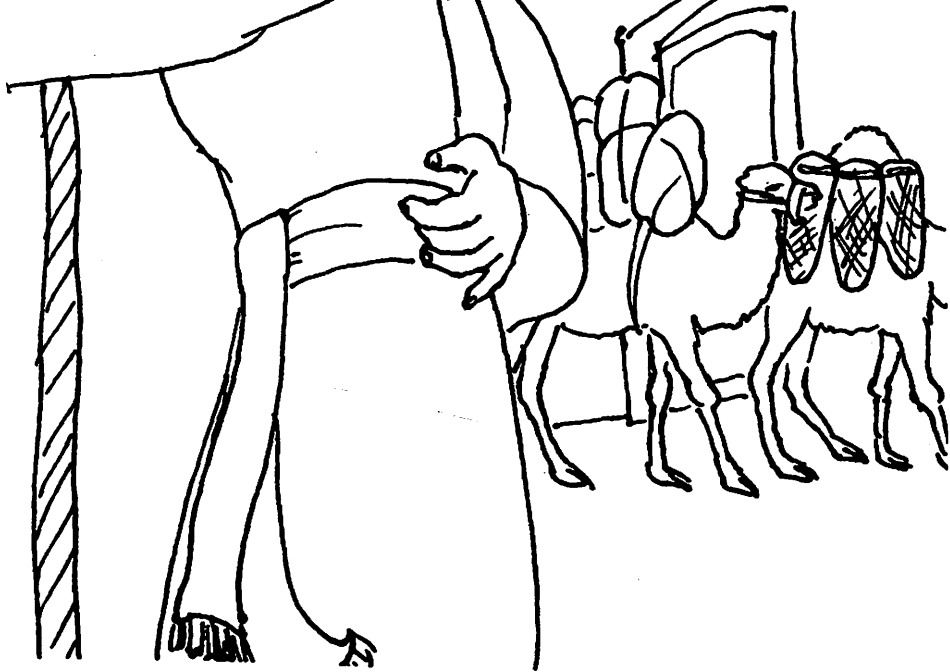
The Lord accepted Job. Job's family and friends came to see him and comforted him. The Lord gave Job twice as much riches as he had before. Job had seven more sons and three more daughters. The end of Job was better than his beginning.

—Joanna Booher



...The Lord  
gave Job twice  
as much as he  
had before.  
Job 42:10.







## Neighborhood Peace

"Mrs. Nipet hollered at me again!" declared Jody as she came into the kitchen where Mother was kneading bread dough.

"Oh, Jody, you weren't riding your bike on her sidewalk, were you?" asked Mother as she patted the dough.

"No, I wasn't even near her old driveway," said Jody in disgust. "I was giving my little brother a ride on my bike and she called out of her door and said, 'Little girl, you're going to wreck your bike into that parked car!' It is none of her business what my brother and I do on my bike! Besides, we were a long ways from that parked car."

"What a bad attitude, Jody," said Mother. "I don't think she meant any harm. What did you say back?"

"Well," said Jody, looking closely at the round dinner rolls Mother was shaping. "Well, I didn't say much to her."

"Jody, how many times have I told you that if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all. Respect older people even if they don't talk nicely to you."

"Well, Mrs. Nipet probably didn't get enough spankings when she was a little girl because she became a grouchy adult!" declared Jody.

"Do you want to grow up to be grouchy, Jody? Then you had better train yourself right now to be sweet and thoughtful. When you are young you mold your personality and when you get to be an older person, you will be what you made yourself. Let the Lord mold you into a blessing. Maybe I need to speak to Mrs. Nipet about what was said."

"That's okay, Mother," said Jody quickly. "She probably won't remember it anyway."

"Just the same," said Mother, "I want you to take two hot rolls and we

will go visit her."

As soon as the rolls were out of the oven, Mother and Jody went to visit their neighbor. Mrs. Nipet was surprised to see them.

"Jody brought you some fresh, hot rolls," said Mother.

"Why thank you!" exclaimed Mrs. Nipet very pleased. "A while ago I was afraid this girl and her brother would ride their bike into our neighbor's car. I know you don't want to pay for any car damage so I called to the children. They need to be more careful."

Politely, Mother visited with Mrs. Nipet. When they left Mrs. Nipet had a smile on her face.

"Jody, learn to understand someone before you cast judgment on them," said Mother. "Work to be a peacemaker like Jesus."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

### QUESTIONS:

1. Was Job still perfect after Satan took away his things?
2. What did Satan say Job would do to God if he hurt really bad?
3. What did the Lord say Satan could not do to Job?
4. What did Satan make come on Job?
5. Who came to visit Job?
6. Why did Job's friends think God was doing this to him?
7. What did Job say he had done?
8. Was it right for Job to say God had not treated him right?
9. Did God accept Job?

**LESSON TEXT:** Job 2-42.

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Curse Him. 3. Kill him. 4. Boils. 5. His three friends. 6. Because he had sinned. 7. Right. 8. No. 9. Yes.)