

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Jan. 4, 2004

THE CREATION, PART I

Before there was time there was God. God decided that time should begin and so it did. In the beginning of time, God created the heaven and the earth. But the earth had no form and was empty and darkness covered the waters. God's Spirit moved upon the waters in the dark. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw the light and said that it was good. He divided the light from the darkness. "The light shall be called Day," He said, "and the darkness shall be called Night." That was the first day.

On the second day God created the sky and told some of the waters to be above the sky and some to stay below it. When the flood came (which you will hear about later) and it rained for the first time, the water above the sky fell. God called the sky Heaven.

The third day God said, "Let the waters gather together into one place and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters He called Seas. God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let grasses and trees and herbs grow on the earth and let them have seeds in themselves that will grow more grasses and trees and herbs." And it was so and good also.

—Joanna Booher



In the beginning God created
the heaven and the earth. Genesis 1:1.



Dorie's Decision

(Continued from last week.)

Dorie Duckworth enjoyed comfort and love with her newly found father and his wife. He helped her secure a job at Douglas Aircraft Company as an illustrator of designs in airplanes. Now Dorie had a good home, money of her own, nice clothes, a stable career and friends at work.

Life was wonderful for Dorie except for one thing: her father was not a Christian and he wanted nothing said to him about God or Jesus Christ. "Your religion may help you, but I don't want you to bother me about it," he told Dorie when she tried to testify to him. "You can go to church if you want but don't worry me about it."

Sad that her father felt this way, Dorie began to attend church alone. She always read her BIBLE and prayed every morning before she left the house. At church, she found friends who encouraged her to live right and she heard missionary reports of gospel work overseas. This greatly interested Dorie.

"My daughter," said her dad one day, "why won't you go with my wife and me to a good movie tonight. It is family friendly and it would be nice to go as a family."

Dorie smiled but shook her head. "No thanks, Dad, I don't watch movies. I'd rather read this good book I bought today."

"Okay," he said as he turned away.

Dorie sighed. She knew her dad would also drink beer and dance at the local bar after the movie. She did not want anything to do with

that life-style. Not only had she lived through the suffering that it brings, but she did not want to displease her heavenly Father who had helped her through the past years of mistreatment.

Soon Dorie saw that she had to make a choice between her earthly father and her heavenly father. One had abandoned and neglected her for years, but one had been her only Friend when everyone else had rejected her as a valuable person.

After living two precious years with her earthly father, Dorie said her good-byes and returned to California where she felt her heavenly Father wanted her to be for awhile. He had an awesome plan for her life.

((To be continued next week.))

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was in the beginning?
2. What did God create in the beginning?
3. Who moved on the face of the waters?
4. What did God call the light?
5. What did God call the darkness?
6. What did God create on the second day?
7. What did God call the dry land?
8. What did God call the waters?
9. What did God say when He saw what He had made?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 1:1-13.

(Answers: 1. God. 2. The heaven and the earth. 3. The Spirit of God. 4. Day. 5. Night. 6. The sky. 7. Earth. 8. Seas. 9. That it was good.)

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Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Jan. 11, 2004

THE CREATION, PART II

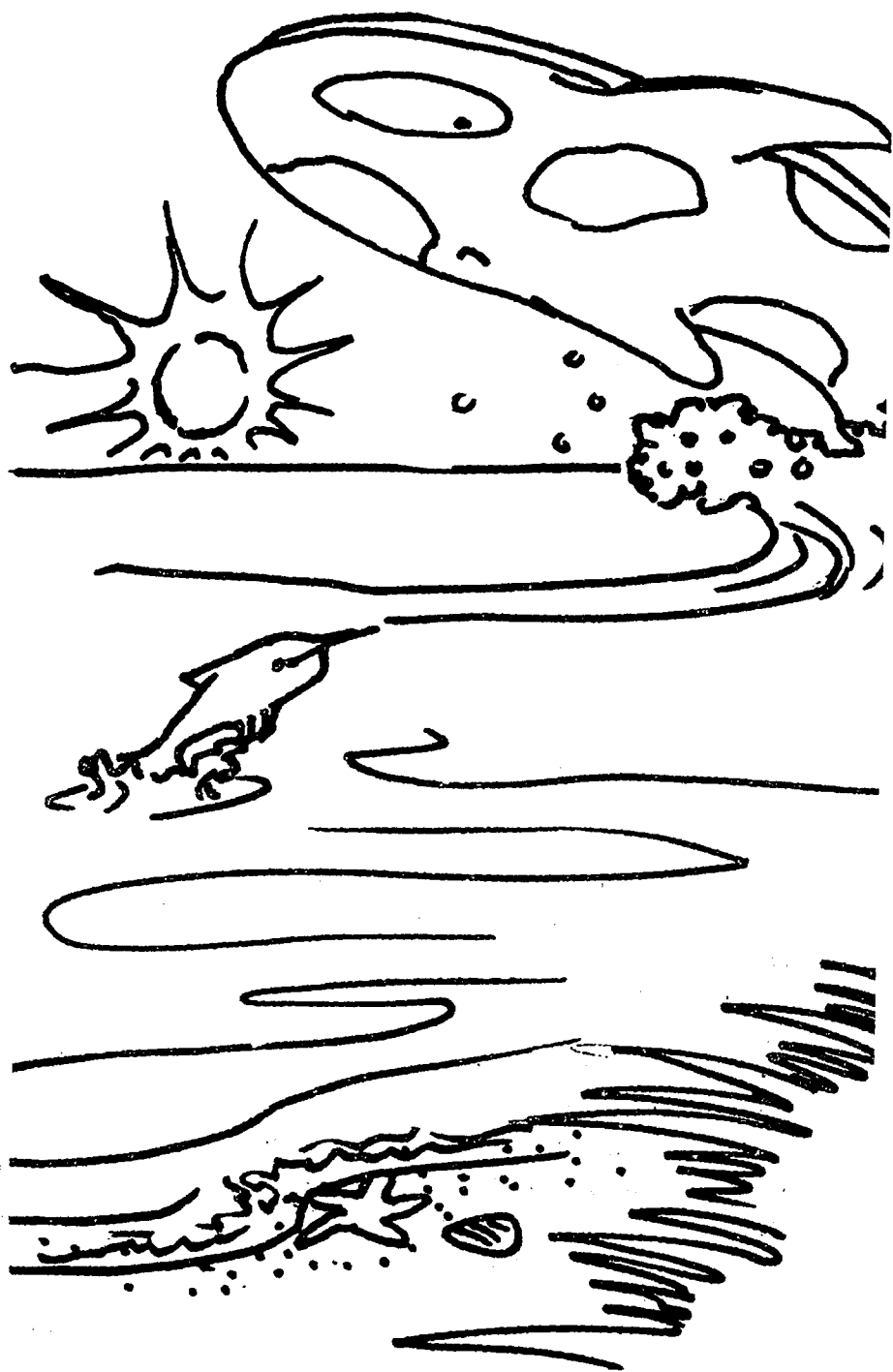
God had created a world with oceans and dry land and grass and trees; there was light and there was darkness. But would you want to live in a world that was dark and silent at night? There were no stars in the sky nor crickets in the bushes. Would you want to sail over an ocean that had no dolphins or fish in it? There were not even any people. God decided to add some more to His creation.

On the fourth day God created stars and planets and the aurora borealis and the sun and the moon and all the other lights in the sky. He commanded the lights and stars to be signs and seasons to us. He set the sun up to rule the day and the moon to rule the night. God saw what He had made and said that it was good.

The fifth day God said, "Let the waters bring forth lots and lots and lots of living creatures and let there be birds to fly in the sky." It was good and God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply."

On the sixth day God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures, cows, possums, raccoons and all creeping things." And God commanded the cows to have more cows and the possums to have more possums and all the animals to have more of their own kind. And God saw that it was good.

—Joanna Booher





And God blessed them, saying,
e fruitful, and multiply,... Genesis 1:22.

The Lord Blessed Dorie

(Continued from last week.)

After leaving her earthly father's house, Dorie went to work as an artist and found a tiny apartment to live in. Through the day Dorie felt the Lord was with her, but she felt restless like she really wasn't doing what He wanted her to do.

At church Dorie met Darlene, a sweet young woman who had been a missionary in New Guinea. Darlene became as a sister to Dorie since Dorie and Marie no longer had too many visits together. (Marie's husband was a drunkard and her life was sad like their mother's life.) Darlene's parents invited Dorie to come and live with them.

When Dorie moved in, Mr. McIntoch said, "From now on, Dorie, we are Mother and Daddy Mac. Our home is your home, Dorie, and we love you as our own daughter."

Finally—at last—Dorie had a Christian home with a wonderful family who worshiped and honored the heavenly Father!

"Some day, Dorie," said Darlene, "I plan to go back to New Guinea and tell the good news to those poor heathens. It feels so wonderful to know my life is being used to help others hear about the love of God for the first time."

Dorie remembered back to the day when she heard about God's love for the first time. She was an abused, rejected twelve-year-old living in an orphanage. Because she had accepted God's love and had learned to live by His Guidance, her life had become blessed and satisfying.

Now the Lord was speaking to her heart. *"Dorie, would you tell the people of New Guinea about my love?"*

"Yes, Lord," said Dorie though she knew it would mean leaving the happiest home and family she had ever been with. The Lord had been such a good, faithful Friend to her that Dorie wanted to always obey His voice.

In the autumn, Dorie and Darlene left together to attend a Christian col-

lege in Minnesota. Soon Dorie had other good friends, one of whom was Lloyd Van Stone. The Lord had called Lloyd to be a missionary to New Guinea also. Visiting about their burden for these people, Lloyd and Dorie found they had similar thoughts and plans for the future. They began to date and, in time, they fell in love. Lloyd asked Dorie to marry him and with a happy heart she said, "Yes!"

That night Dorie found a private place to pray and worship the Lord. She opened her BIBLE to receive a blessing from the Lord. Her eyes read, "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundred-fold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Matthew 19:29.

Truly, the Lord was rewarding Dorie for her faithfulness to Him.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God create on the fourth day?
2. What did God command to rule the day?
3. What did God command to rule the night?
4. What did God tell the waters to bring forth?
5. What did God command to fly in the sky?
6. When God blessed them, what did He say?
7. What did God tell the earth to bring forth?
8. On what day did God create the living creatures on the earth?
9. What did God say when He saw what He had made?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 1:14-25.

(Answers: 1. Stars, planets, the sun, the moon, all the lights in the sky. 2. The sun. 3. The moon. 4. Living creatures. 5. Birds. 6. "Be fruitful and multiply." 7. Living creatures and all creeping things. 8. The sixth day. 9. That it was good.)

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Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Jan. 18, 2004

THE CREATION, PART III

God had created a beautiful world, with animals and fish and birds. There were wide blue oceans, tall green-leaved trees and purple flowers.

But God wanted a friend, someone to love Him freely. The animals had to do what God wanted no matter what. God wanted someone who would choose to serve him. So God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit said, "Let us make man in our own image and in our likeness. And let us give him rule over the earth and over the animals and fish and birds." So God created man in His own image. He took the dust of the earth and formed it into the first man and called him Adam. God breathed His own breath into Adam's nostrils and Adam became a living soul—a human.

God gave to Adam dominion over the earth. He gave Adam the job of naming the animals and taking care of them. He gave him the fruits of the trees and plants to eat and gave to the animals the grasses to eat. And Adam took good care of what God had given to him.

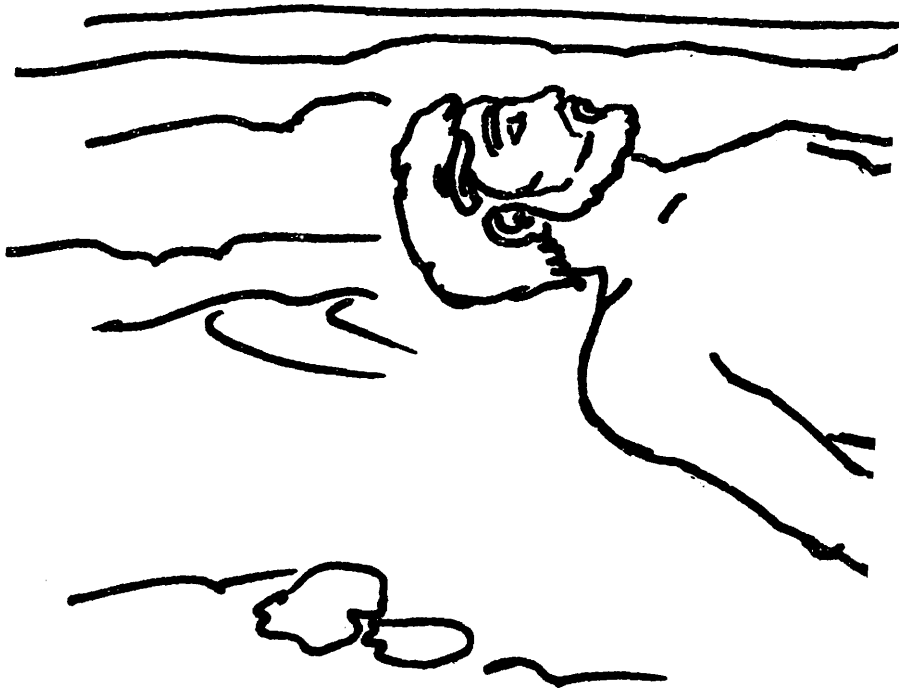
But still something was missing. God said, "It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him someone to help him." So God caused Adam to fall fast asleep and while he slept God took out one of his ribs and closed his side back up. Of the rib God created a woman and brought her to Adam. Adam saw her and said, "You are bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. You shall be called Woman because you were taken out of me."

And God saw everything that he had made and it was very good. He blessed all of His creation and said, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth."

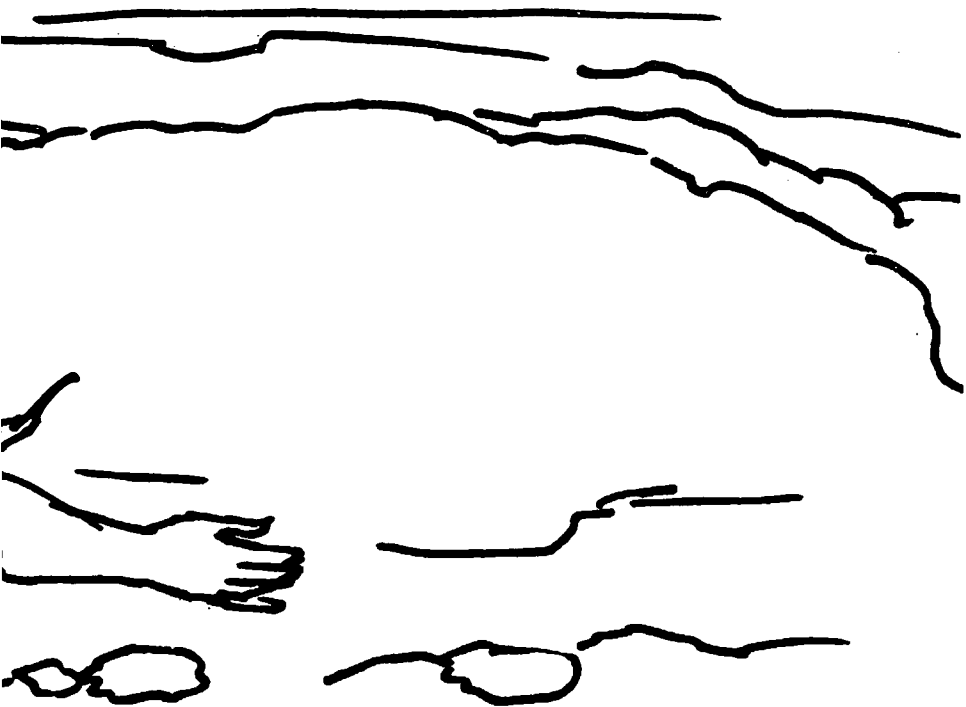
On the seventh day God rested from His work. He blessed the seventh day and commanded that it be a day of rest to all people.

—Joanna Booher

So God created man in
the image of God created he him
male and female created he them



is own image, in the
him; male and female
Genesis 1:27.



Good-bye Past, Hello Future

(Continued from last week.)

Llody and Dorie were married on June 15, 1948, in a chapel in Houston, Texas, where Lloyd had grown up. Wearing a borrowed wedding dress and veil, Dorie felt like a queen on her wedding day, and Lloyd treated her like one. They were so happy!

The next year was busy: they lived in a small apartment by the college in Minnesota, graduated together in May, and moved back to Houston where their son, Burney, was born. Now Dorie was doubly happy!

Dorie wanted her father to see his new grandson but he would have nothing to do with her after she had told him she planned to be a missionary. Her father wanted her to be a famous artist and work toward earthly riches. He had told her not to write, call or bother him as long as she was a Christian. Dorie knew her father was dying with congestive heart failure and she prayed continually for his salvation.

Dorie tried to make contact with her father but every time he hung up the phone without saying a word. Then when Burney was nearly a year old, Dorie heard through friends that her father had died. Lloyd took her to Tulsa to see her father's body and he comforted Dorie as she sobbed over his rejection of Jesus Christ.

Then came another hard blow when Dorie was asked not to attend her dad's funeral because he had declared *he had no children*. Lloyd and Burney attended while Dorie stayed in the motel room and found comfort from her heavenly Father.

The last time Dorie had seen her birth mother was at a cafe in Oakland, California. Dorie never spoke to her but just watched "Laura's" slim figure as she served coffee to customers. Sin had made Laura's attractive face look tired and hardened. Instead of feeling

angry at her, Dorie felt sorry for her mother and she prayed for her.

That autumn in October, Dorie gave birth to a baby girl they named Darlene. In her heart, Dorie promised the Lord that she would always love Darlene and be the best mother He could make her to be. Dorie had been rejected by her earthly mother and father, but she was determined that her two children would always *know* their mother loved them.

Releasing herself from rejections, cruelties, pain and sorrows of the past, Dorie chose to look toward the future with hope and a cheerful heart. Her heavenly Father had given her a kind, loving, Christian husband and two healthy, beautiful children. Now her life was so full of happiness and love that Dorie didn't want bitterness or bad memories of the past to spoil her present and future days. With her hand in the Lord's, she was ready to work for Him.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God want?
2. Whose image did God use to create man?
3. Out of what did God form man?
4. What was the first man called?
5. How did Adam become a living soul?
6. What did God give to Adam?
7. What did God see that Adam needed?
8. Out of what did God form Adam's helpmeet?
9. What did Adam call her?
10. What did God do on the seventh day?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 1:26-2:24.

(Answers: 1. Someone who would choose to serve Him freely. 2. His own. 3. Dust. 4. Adam. 5. God breathed His own breath into his nostrils. 6. Dominion over the earth. 7. An helpmeet. 8. Adam's rib. 9. Woman. 10. He rested.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Jan. 25, 2004

THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL

Adam and his wife were happy in the beautiful Garden of Eden. They walked and talked with God every day and He talked to them. They were innocent and pure and didn't even know that they were naked. They had God to talk to, each other to talk to, animals to play with, and all the trees in the Garden to choose from to eat of—except one. After God had created man and woman, He said, "You may eat of all the trees of the Garden of Eden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. For in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die." So they lived happily eating of all the other trees of the Garden except that one.

But one day the woman was walking in the Garden and she heard the voice of the serpent, the devil. He said, "Has God told you you cannot eat of all the trees of the Garden?"

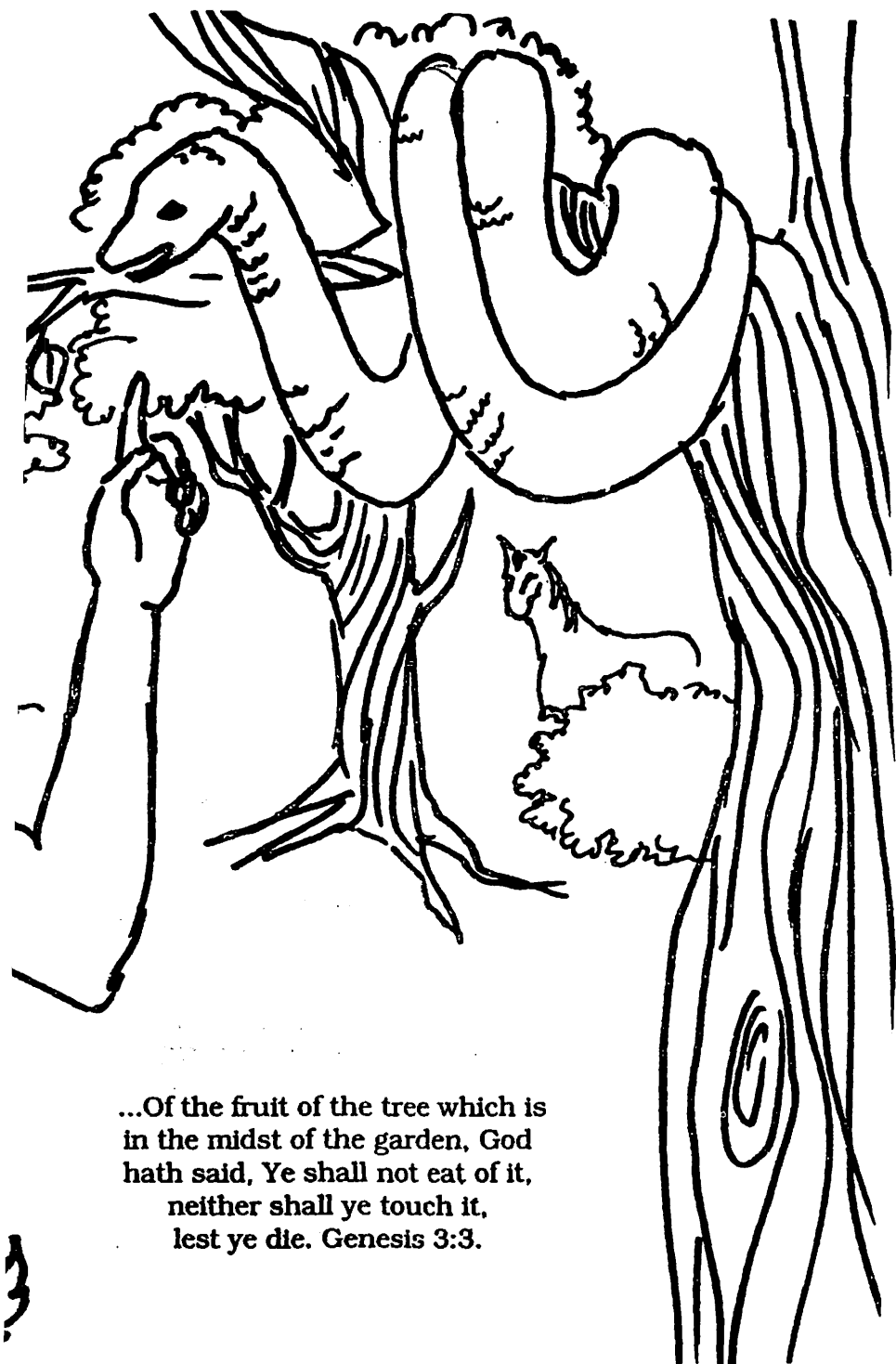
She shouldn't have even stopped to listen to him but she did. "God has said we may eat of all the trees of the Garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God says that if we eat of it we shall die."

"You shall not die," the serpent lied. "God knows that if you eat of it you shall be wise as gods, understanding good and evil."

Then the woman made a worse mistake; she looked. When she saw that the tree was so beautiful and the fruit looked so delicious she wanted some. She wanted to be as wise as God. So she plucked one and took a bite. Then she went to Adam and gave him some. And he ate it too. As soon as they had eaten it they felt terrible. They knew they had done wrong and sinned against God. Now they dreaded His voice and didn't look forward to His coming down to the garden to talk with them.

—Joanna Booher





...Of the fruit of the tree which is
in the midst of the garden, God
hath said, Ye shall not eat of it,
neither shall ye touch it,
lest ye die. Genesis 3:3.

Missionary Dorie

With Lloyd at her side and two babies in her arms, Dorie was hearing the Lord call her to be a missionary to the heathens of New Guinea, a group of islands north of Australia. Problems and then Dorie's bad health slowed down the plans they had of living in the Baliem Valley. After years of patient planning and perseverance, all the family moved into a hut among the Danis tribe in February of 1955.

Lloyd had prepared the way for his family by living there for ten months and he knew some of the native language. The Danis liked this kind white man who had come to live with them and they were excited to have his wife and two children. Greased from head to feet with pig grease, the men and women greeted "Mama Van Stone" with big hugs and pats. Dorie loved them in return from the tiniest baby to the oldest man.

Their hut was the center of attraction for the entire tribe. The Danis crowded around to watch the family's every move as they ate, washed themselves, and brushed their teeth. They thought the toothpaste was bird droppings and chattered in dismay at such a thing.

Darlene's doll was held by the men who thought it was a spirit when it cried, "Mama!" They left it alone, afraid of what it might do. The Van Stones had two cats to catch the rats around their hut. The Danis had never seen cats before and watched them closely. When one cat got sick and died, "Mama Van Stone" had it buried. Later, she saw a native wearing a gray fur hat—he had dug up the cat, ate it, and used the fur for a hat.

Dorie smiled at their ignorance and tried to show them how to live better. Because she had lived such a difficult past, Dorie knew how to touch the lives of these people with love. They felt she cared about them. By Dorie's example of motherly love, the native mothers learned how to care for their little ones.

Most importantly of all, Dorie and Lloyd wanted the natives to know about

God, their Creator, and how He had sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to give them a better life and an eternal home in heaven. They had to explain the gospel in the Danis language so they were always thinking of a new way to tell about God. Lloyd and Dorie worked continually at this difficult duty.

Through danger and trials, Dorie and her family worked and taught the Danis about the love of God. Then her health began to fail and Lloyd convinced her that they must leave New Guinea so she could live in better conditions. She did want to live to raise her children so after nine years of service to the Danis, Dorie said good-bye.

In America, the Van Stones have traveled across the country speaking about the mission work and the Call to Go into all the World and Preach the Gospel. Dorie has stayed faithful to the Lord even in her elder years. Today she is still speaking on the radio and to audiences about the Love of God.

(The end.)

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Who talked with Adam and his wife every day in the garden?
2. How many trees could Adam and the woman eat of?
3. Which tree could they not eat of?
4. Who talked to the woman as she walked in the garden one day?
5. What did the serpent ask her?
6. What did the woman say God told them would happen if they ate of the tree?
7. What did the serpent say?
8. What did the woman do after she looked at the tree?
9. Did she give some to Adam?
10. Did he eat it?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 3:1-6.

(Answers: 1. God. 2. All of them except one. 3. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 4. The serpent, the devil. 5. "Has God said you cannot eat of every tree of the garden?" 6. They would die. 7. "Ye shall not surely die." 8. She took some and ate it. 9. Yes. 10. Yes.)

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Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Feb. 1, 2004

SENT OUT OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN

God came down in the cool part of the day to talk with Adam and his wife as He usually did. But Adam and the woman had sinned and they knew that they were naked. Although the woman had stitched some aprons for them from leaves they were ashamed and ducked behind the trees and bushes when they heard God's voice.

"Where are you?" God called, though He knew just where they were—He always knows.

Adam crept out of the bushes. "I was ashamed because I was naked and hid myself," he said.

"How did you know you were naked?" God asked. "Have you eaten of the tree I told you not to?"

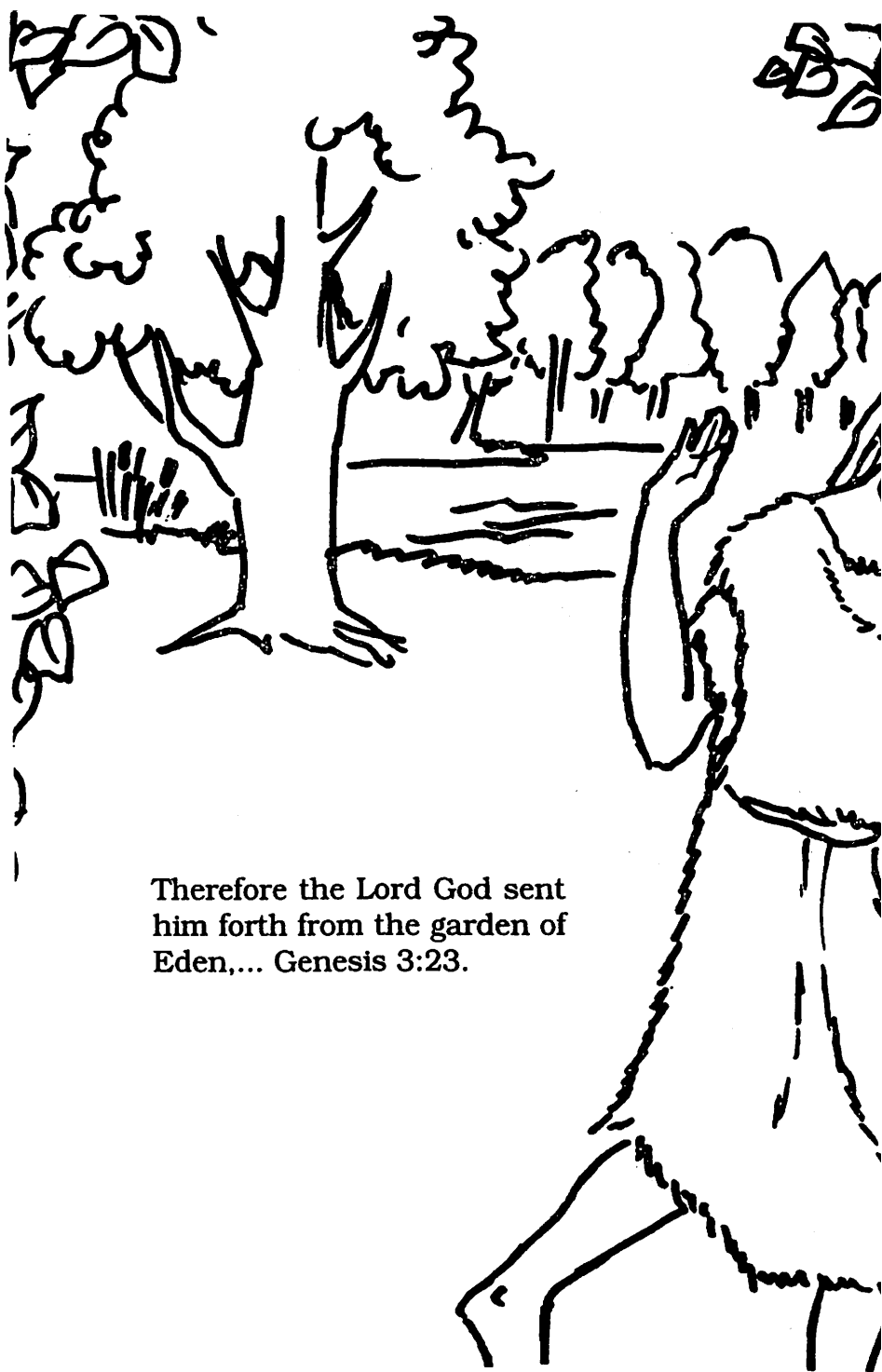
"It's the woman's fault," Adam said.

She came forward. "It's the serpent's fault," she said.

First God cursed the serpent. "On your belly you shall go and eat dust all the days of your life." To the woman He said, "You shall have pain and suffering and serve your husband." And to Adam, "Cursed is the ground for your sake. It will grow weeds and thorns and you'll have to work hard to grow food from it."

Then God made them coats of animal skins and sent them out of the Garden of Eden. He put an angel at the gate to guard it from anyone who might come in. Because also in the Garden was the Tree of Life, and if anyone ate of it they would live forever. All this Adam and his wife lost because they sinned. We always get in trouble when we do wrong.

—Joanna Booher



Therefore the Lord God sent
him forth from the garden of
Eden,... Genesis 3:23.



Hungry To Hear God's Word

(A true story.)

In the little country of Laos (south of China) live the Khmu tribe. They are the natives or the first ones to live in Laos. When the Lao tribe invaded the land 1,000 years ago, they drove the Khmu tribe into the mountains and took away the fertile valleys from them. As the Lao tribe became stronger, they made the Khmu people their slaves. Today, the Lao government is communist and the Khmu people are still "Kha"—a bad name for slave.

One reason why the Khmu people are mistreated is because many of them have become Christians since 1885. That's when a missionary named McGilery traveled there by elephant and brought the gospel to these poor people. Since then, the Khmu Christians find comfort in salvation from their suffering, hunger and rejection. After slaving long hours in the fields, they eagerly gather among the trees at night to sing, pray and listen to a Gospel Teacher. The *Bible* is not written in their language, so Teachers who can translate the Laos *Bible* travel from village to village and hold *Bible* camps.

Even though they study late into the night, no one falls asleep or complains about being tired. To them learning God's Word is a life line that will pull them out of the poverty and spiritual darkness that they are bound with. After the Teacher reads the *Bible* and instructs the group, he gives a test to see how much they learned.

One group of students stayed up late to study God's Word and took a

test early the next morning. Twenty-two of them made a perfect score and most were very close to it. The teacher said, "The reason they are so eager and have such zeal for the Lord is that they have been oppressed and have no freedom."

Missionaries left a *JESUS* film with one pastor who was the only one with a VCR. A few months later the pastor wrote that he was not able to sleep much since the film came because people came to watch it 24 hours around the clock. Even when he was sleeping, they would wake him up exclaiming, "Wake up! We want to watch it again!"

Let us be like Khmu Christians—hungry to hear God's Word.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Who came down to talk with Adam and his wife?
2. What did Adam and the woman do when they heard His voice?
3. Did God know where they were?
4. Who did Adam blame for his disobedience?
5. Who did Eve blame for her disobedience?
6. What was the serpent's curse?
7. What was Eve's curse?
8. What was Adam's curse?
9. What did God put at the gate of the garden?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 3:8-24.

(Answers: 1. God. 2. They hid. 3. Yes. 4. The woman. 5. The serpent. 6. To go on his belly and eat dust all his life. 7. To have pain and suffering and to serve her husband. 8. To have to work hard to raise food from the ground which was cursed for his sake. 9. An angel.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Feb. 8, 2004

CAIN AND ABEL

Life was not so easy after Adam and his wife were sent out of the Garden of Eden. Adam had to work hard. He got sweaty and blisters and sunburned and hungry too. His wife probably had to make a place for them to live and keep it clean and cook the food that Adam brought in.

After awhile, the woman had a baby—a son. She named him Cain. “For,” she said, “I have gotten a man child from the Lord.” And Adam named her Eve, because she was the mother of all living. Then she had another son and called him Abel.

Cain and Abel grew up working hard. Cain raised crops and Abel tended sheep. They worshipped God and brought their sacrifices to Him. Abel brought his most perfect lamb and sacrificed it. Cain brought vegetables or grain, but not his best. God saw that and liked Abel’s sacrifice and disliked Cain’s.

Cain became jealous. God said to him, “Why are you mad? If you do right I will like your sacrifice too.”

But Cain did not do right. Instead he hated Abel. One day when they were alone in the field, Cain rose up and killed his brother.

God saw it. He said, “Cain, where is your brother?”

“Am I my brother’s keeper?” Cain asked rudely.

“What have you done?” God said. “Your brother’s blood cries to me from the ground. Because you have done this, crops won’t grow for you and you will become a hunted man.”

“My punishment is more than I can bear,” Cain cried. “If you send me away from Your presence anyone who finds me will kill me.”

“I will set a mark upon you,” said God, “so that no one will kill you. If they do they will suffer a worse punishment than yours.”

So Cain was sent out from the presence of God and wandered through the earth.

—Joanna Booher





...And the Lord had respect
unto Abel and to his offer-
ing: But unto Cain and to
his offering he had not re-
spect.... Genesis 4:4-5.

Sixel

(A true story.)

Living by the standard of the Turkish government, Sixel should have been a happy man. He had studied and made good grades in school. He finished army service, worked for a big company and had plenty of money. He had a girlfriend and could travel wherever he wanted. But Sixel was not happy.

Even though Sixel memorized the Koran and went to the mosque five times a day for prayer, he did not believe in Ali. He felt so empty inside. Sometimes he would ask himself, "Who am I? What is the meaning of life?" The Koran did not give him any answers, nor did Ali. Sixel was very depressed.

At a young age Sixel decided to kill himself. He put some poison in his water and drank it all. His stomach started burning and then he passed out. The next thing Sixel knew he was lying on a hospital bed listening to a doctor talk to his parents. They thought medicine and treatment at a mental hospital would help Sixel.

After three months, he left that hospital because the doctors, medicine and treatment was not making him well. Still depressed, Sixel took 36 sleeping pills, hoping to die and end all his misery. His sister found him and took him to the hospital where they pumped his stomach. He had wanted to get away from trouble, but had he died and gone to hell, he would have been in worse trouble!

The Lord saw this sad, searching soul and He sent a missionary his way. In the market place, a man handed Sixel a New Testament in the Turkish language. Sixel was sick, shaking and crying most of the time, so he put the New Testament with his other books and left it there for two months.

One day, Sixel saw the New Testament laying on the shelf so he picked it up and began to read about Jesus. Never before had he read something so powerful! The words fed his soul and he was eager to learn more about Jesus Christ.

Back at the market place, Sixel eagerly searched for that missionary. At last he found him and together they went to church. Sixel loved the singing and he felt the power in Christian prayers. After the service, Sixel asked the missionary his questions: "Who am I? What is the meaning of life?"

The missionary read John 8:31 and 14:6 to Sixel. Then they talked. Every question that Sixel asked, the missionary answered with the Word of God. Sixel went to church several times, amazed at the truth that he heard. Never before had he learned so much about himself, others and about God and His Son. Sixel wanted to be a Christian.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Adam name his wife?
2. What were Eve's first two sons' names?
3. What did Cain do for a living?
4. What did Abel do for a living?
5. Did they both sacrifice to God?
6. Why did God like Abel's sacrifice better than Cain's?
7. Because of his hate, what did Cain do?
8. Did God see Cain kill Abel?
9. What was Cain's punishment?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 4:1-16.

(Answers: 1. Eve. 2. Cain and Abel. 3. He raised crops. 4. He tended sheep. 5. Yes. 6. Because Abel brought his best. 7. He killed his brother, Abel. 8. Yes. 9. He was sent out from the presence of God, his crops wouldn't grow and he would be a hunted man.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Feb. 15, 2004

NOAH AND THE FLOOD

More and more people began to fill the earth. Many of them lived a very long time and some of them were giants. A man named Methuselah lived for nine hundred sixty-nine years. A man named Enoch walked with God and didn't die because God took him. Men began to build harps and musical instruments and make tents and tools and things out of brass and iron.

But men also began to become more and more wicked. A man named Lamech killed a man for bruising him and another man for hurting him. Because of this God's heart was saddened for making man.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Noah loved God and served him, so God told him, "Noah, I am going to destroy the earth with a Flood. All men and animals on the earth will die. But I want you to build an ark and take two of every kind of animal into the ark with you so there will still be life left after the flood."

So Noah did as God told him. His wife and his three sons, Ham, Shem, and Japheth and their wives helped him. It took many years to saw and hammer the boat together and seal the outside with pitch then to gather enough food for all the hundreds of animals and themselves and put it into the ark.

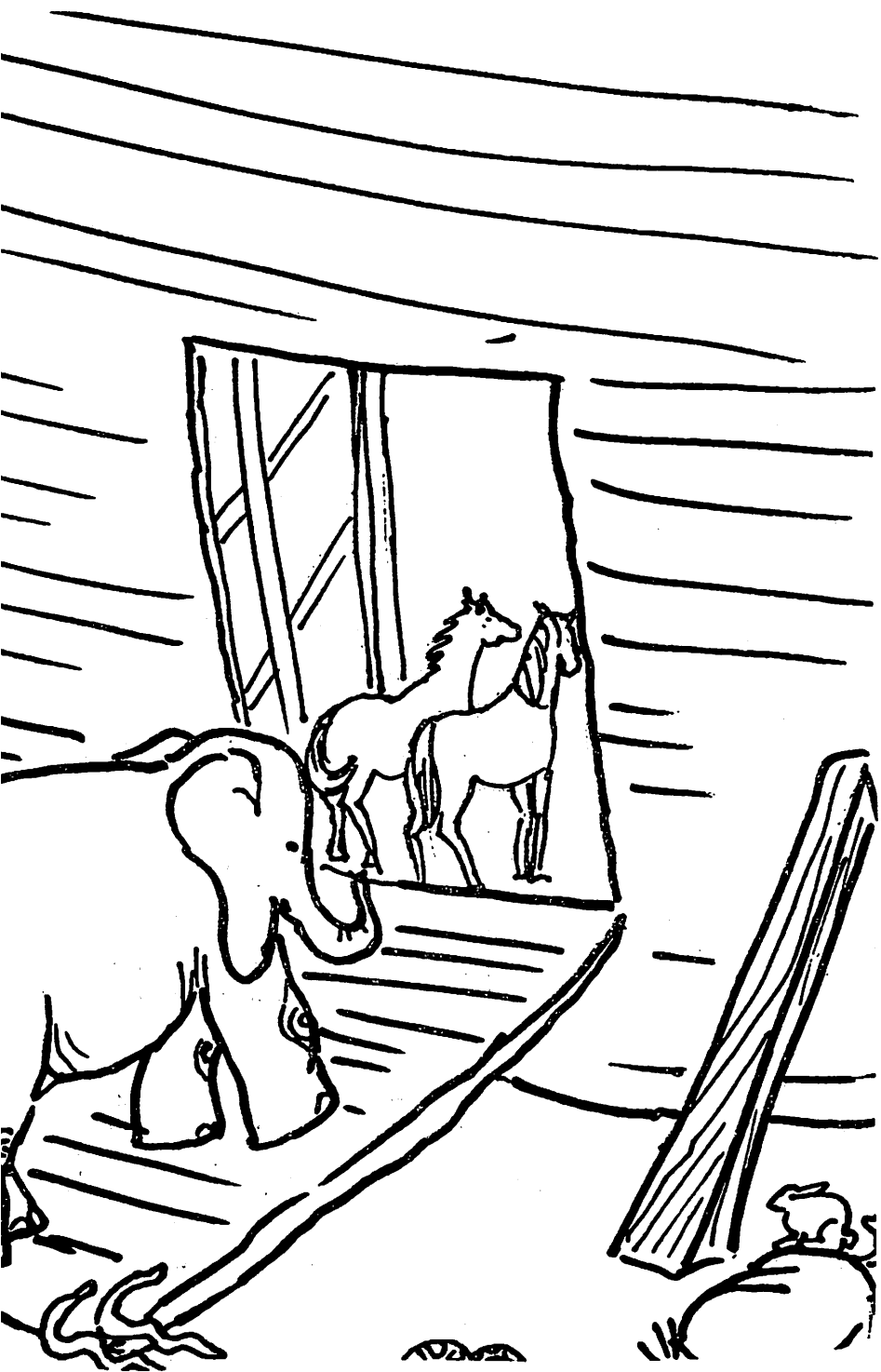
Finally God said, "Come into the ark, Noah, and your family, and the animals two by two. In seven days it is going to rain and pour." So they gathered into the ark, Noah, his family and the long string of animals. When they were all inside, God shut the door. The sky opened up, the ground opened up and it rained and rained and rained and rained—for forty days and nights.

All the people and animals on the earth died but Noah and his family were safe, floating on the waters in the ark.

—Joanna Booher

There went in two and two unto
Noah into the ark, the male and
the female, as God had com-
manded Noah. Genesis 7:9.





Sixel Finds Peace

(Continued from last week.)

At last Sixel had heard the answers to his questions, including the two most important ones to him: "Who am I? What is the meaning of life?"

From the *Bible* the missionary had explained to Sixel God's plan for his life and how Jesus Christ was the Way to eternal life.

"Sixel, do you believe that the blood Jesus shed on Calvary can take away your sins?" asked the missionary.

"Yes, I do believe," agreed Sixel.

"Then let us pray."

Together in a simple room the two men knelt down and Sixel prayed to the living God, his Creator, for the first time. He asked the Lord to forgive him of his sins. What happiness and peace he felt! This is what Sixel had needed for so many years and he had not known it!

Sixel was now a born again Christian, but he was still sick. He had problems with shaking, crying and loss of speech. It had been caused by the two times he tried to take his life with poison and an overdose of drugs.

"We will pray that Jesus will touch you and take away your illness," said the missionary.

Three months after Sixel was saved he was lying on his bed at night sleeping, when suddenly he felt a hand moving over his body. It stopped at his heart, then lifted. Sixel jumped out of bed and turned on the light—no one was in his room! Who had touched him?

Soon Sixel went back to sleep. In the morning when he woke up he felt differently. His heart was happy and he felt cheery all over. He sang songs and rejoiced for three or four days before he realized he had been healed. No longer did he start shaking and crying. He had been touched by the hand of Jesus!

Though they saw their son was healed and happy, Sixel's Muslim parents were angry that he was a Christian. "You cannot read that *Bible* in our house!" exclaimed his father. "You must forget this nonsense at once or else you cannot stay at our house nor come to visit us!" Sixel was not going to forsake the Lord after finding such peace and healing in Jesus.

In time the Turkish police learned that Sixel was a Christian. So far he has been arrested seven times and taken to the police station for questioning. Though the police mistreat and beat him Sixel says, "If you ask me, 'Where is a good place to share the gospel?' I can say to you, 'at the police station.' Because the police's job is to ask, my job is to talk about Jesus Christ! It is a good meeting place to talk. At one time I shared the gospel with 48 policemen...."

Sixel is a good witness for the Lord. Let us be eager to share the good news with others about us.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Who lived for nine hundred sixty-nine years?
2. Who did not die because God took him?
3. Who found grace in the eyes of God?
4. What did God say was going to come on the earth?
5. Why did God want to destroy the earth?
6. What did God tell Noah to build?
7. What did God tell Noah to bring into the ark 'two by two'?
8. Who shut the door?
9. How long did it rain?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 6:5-7:24.

(Answers: 1. Methuselah. 2. Enoch. 3. Noah. 4. A Flood. 5. Because the people were so wicked. 6. An ark. 7. Animals. 8. God. 9. Forty days and forty nights.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Feb. 22, 2004

THE RAINBOW

The ark floated safely up and up on the flood until the waters covered the highest mountain. Then the Bible says that God remembered Noah. After a hundred fifty days He caused a wind to blow over the earth and the waters to go down. The ark came to rest on Mount Ararat.

After forty days Noah opened the only window in the ark and sent out a raven to fly over the earth. Then he sent out a dove, but the dove didn't find any place to sit so she came back. He knew the waters must still be all over the earth. After seven days he sent the dove out again and this time she came back with a little olive leaf in her beak. Noah was so happy that the waters were going down. He waited seven days more and sent the dove out again. This time she didn't come back so he knew that the earth was finally dry.

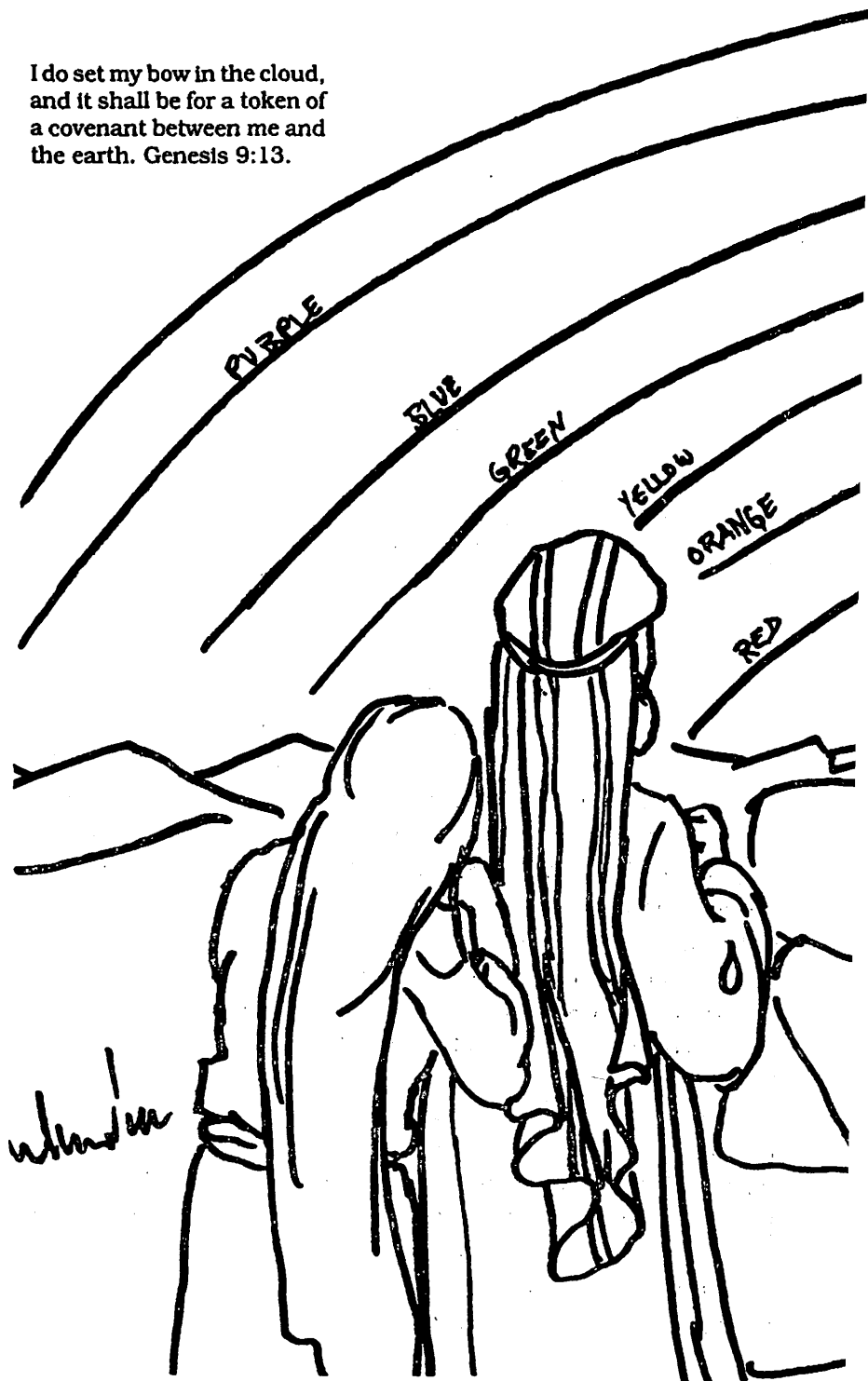
God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark with your family and all the animals and fill the earth again."

So Noah left the ark and built an altar to God to say, "Thank you."

God smelled the sacrifice of Noah and it was a sweet smell to Him. He said, "I will never again destroy the whole earth with a flood. I promise that for the rest of time there will be planting time and harvest time, and summer and winter, and day and night, and cold and heat. The sign of My promise is in the clouds—the rainbow. Every time I see the rainbow I will remember My promise to you."

—Joanna Booher

I do set my bow in the cloud,
and it shall be for a token of
a covenant between me and
the earth. Genesis 9:13.





From Ugly To Beauty

(A true story.)

Cement. Cold, hard cement. Made of sand, limestone, gravel, calcium and water, cement must be used in building highways, brick buildings or houses, and many other constructions.

Over one hundred years ago cement was needed in the northwest of the United States because cities were being built everywhere. Because he knew how to make cement, Robert Butchart bought a huge limestone quarry on the Saanich Peninsula in British Columbia, Canada.

He hired hundreds of men to dig the limestone out of the earth and horse carts hauled it to the factory where it was mixed and made into cement. Mr. Butchart was very busy and happy because he was helping to build highways and huge buildings, but Mrs. Butchart did not like everything her husband was doing.

Mrs. Butchart stood on the edge of the deep quarry the men had dug into the earth and she saw how ugly it looked. The huge, gray, rugged hole was a disgrace to the beauty of the Atlantic Ocean sparkling around it. She loved the fresh ocean breeze, the dark green forest that shaded the drab quarry, and she felt ashamed that her husband had destroyed God's creation in such a way.

Being an artist, Mrs. Jenny Butchart began to see the quarry as a garden where flowers, trees and water falls graced the earth. Enthused with her vision, she talked to her husband and convinced him that they needed to repair the quarry like God would want it to be.

Mrs. Butchart had the men to clear out acres of rubble and then they hauled in topsoil from nearby farms. All this was done by horses and carts so it was hard work and took a long time. However, Mrs. Butchart worked

on and on planting thousands of flower seeds, hundreds of trees and shrubs, laying sidewalks and bridges and draining bad water and replacing it with clear water.

Dangling over the deep quarry walls in a special chair, Mrs. Butchart tucked ivy and other green vines into every crack in the rocks. She wanted all the harsh ugliness to be covered with soft green beauty. The Lord sent the rain and blessed Mrs. Butchart's hard work. In time the quarry became a gorgeous sunken garden of wonder.

In the 1920's around 18,000 guests came a year to visit Mrs. Butchart's gardens and exclaim over its beauty. Today travelers still visit the Butchart Gardens on Vancouver Island.

This true story makes me think how the Lord Jesus can take a heart that is cold, ugly with sin, and make it into a beautiful garden that has a sweet fragrance. God creates beauty where He is. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. How much of the earth did the flood cover?
2. Who caused the waters to go down?
3. What mountain did the ark come to rest on?
4. What bird did Noah send out first?
5. What bird did Noah send out second?
6. Did the dove come back the first time?
7. What did the dove bring back the second time?
8. What did Noah and his family build to God?
9. What was the sign of God's promise to never again destroy the whole earth with a flood?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 8:1-9:17.

(Answers: 1. All of it. 2. God. 3. Mount Ararat. 4. A raven. 5. A dove. 6. Yes. 7. An olive leaf 8. An altar. 9. The rainbow.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Feb. 29, 2004

THE TOWER OF BABEL

Noah had children and his children had children and the earth became full of people again. And all of the people spoke the same language. So they got together and said, "Let's make a name for ourselves and become famous and powerful by building a tower and city that will reach into the sky.

So they mixed their clay and made bricks. Then they baked them and used teamwork to bring them to the right place and put them together with mortar.

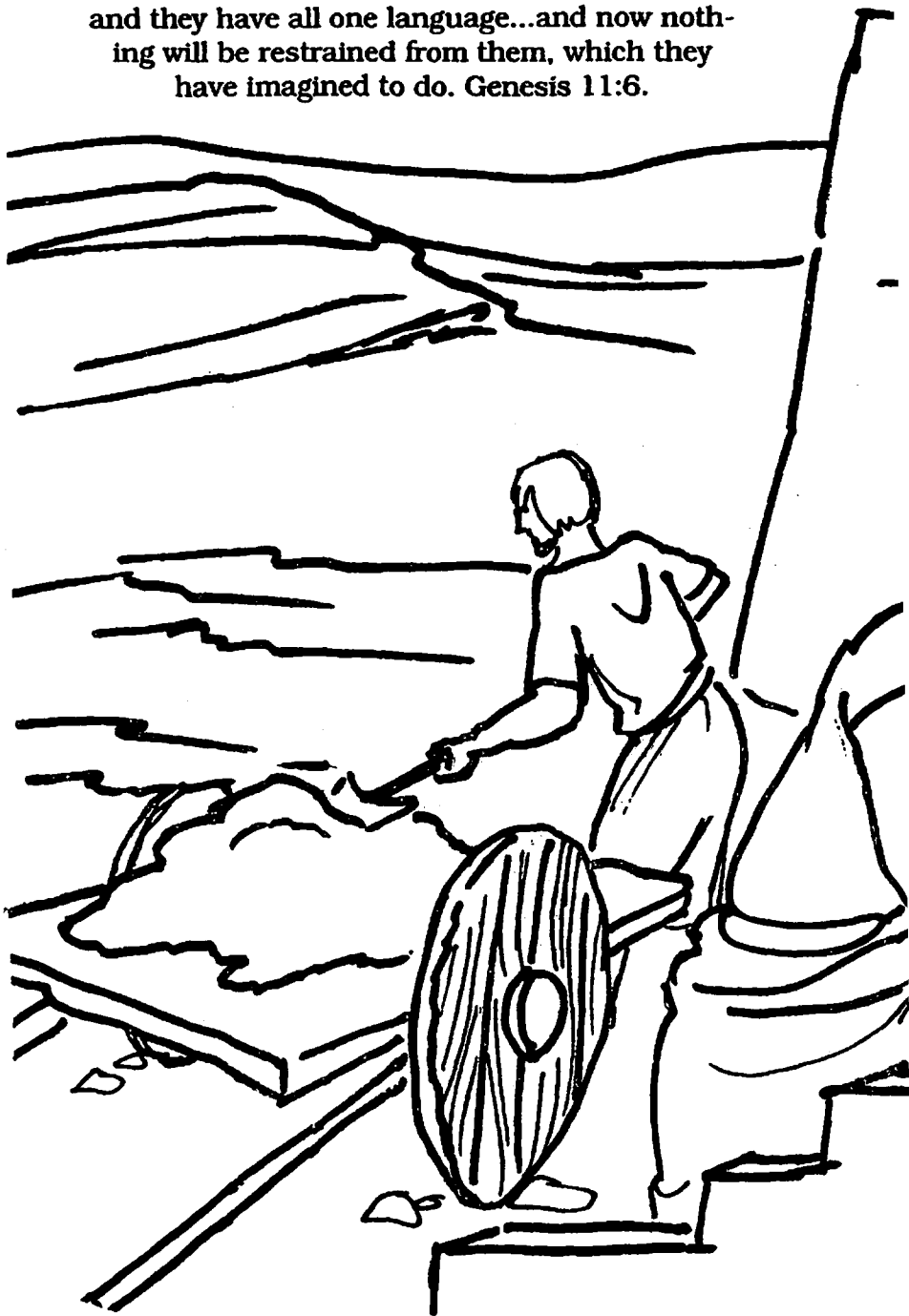
God came down to see what the people were doing. He said, "The people all have one language and can work together easily. And if they get together like this they will be able to do anything that they want to and nothing will stand in their way. So let us mix up their language so they will not be able to understand and talk to each other."

And that's what God did. Sure enough, the people started getting into fights and stopped working on the tower. They split into groups and scattered out over the whole earth. Some went north, some went east, some went west and south.

They never finished the tower. It was called, the Tower of Babel, because God mixed up their language there.

—Joanna Booher

And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one,
and they have all one language...and now nothing
will be restrained from them, which they
have imagined to do. Genesis 11:6.





Beginning Life

(Taken from *Birth of a Reformation*.)

"Wa-a-a!" cried the newly born baby as he snuggled close to his mother.

"There, there, little one," soothed his mother as she wrapped a cloth about him. "You'll be just fine. I know all about baby boys. You have four big brothers to romp with so I expect you had best be growing pretty fast to keep up with them."

"That runt won't make it," snorted the father, who stood looking on. "He looks frailer than the other boys did and I don't like hearin' sick babies cry."

"I will take care of him," said his mother. "Some good milk and sunshine will make this little one healthy—you'll see."

"Well," said his father as he walked to the bedroom door. "See that I don't have him crying in the night, botherin' my customers, and sure he don't keep you from workin'." With such a welcome to his new son, David Warner left his wife and family to attend to his tavern full of customers.

It was June 25, 1842, a warm, pleasant time to be born in Wayne County, Bristol, Ohio. The healing sunshine and his mother's love helped this frail boy to live one week, two, three, four weeks. The father still did not think the little runt would make it but at least his mother was able to stop the baby's weak crying before it became unbearable. Time would tell if he survived or not.

Carefully, Leah Dierdorf Warner, the mother, watched over her five young sons. She was born a Pennsylvania German and knew how to cook, sew, wash, iron and run a household. No doubt she was taught about the Lord and His ways of love, mercy and righteousness. She may have sung Bible songs to her boys and told them stories from the Bible.

We do not know if Mother Warner took her boys to church services or not, but she was the courage and strength in the home. While her husband was busy selling whiskey that destroys men, she was busy teaching good things to her young men.

Mother Warner took special care of her fifth son whom she named Daniel Sidney. His weak, frail body seemed to anger his father and he often hollered at the child for crying. This caused Daniel to cry more and he lay in fear of his father.

In a poem he wrote about his childhood, Daniel said:

*He lived, though life was bitter
gain, His youth a flood of tears,*

*His body doomed to cruel pain, His
mind to nervous fears....*

God had a special plan for this young man, as you will find out.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. All the people had the same what?
2. Why did they want to build a tower and city?
3. What did they want the tower to do?
4. Why did God come down?
5. Why could the people work easily together?
6. Why did God want to confuse their language?
7. What happened when God confused the people's language?
8. Was the tower ever finished?
9. What was the tower called?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 11:1-9.

(Answers: 1. Language. 2. To make a name for themselves. 3. To reach into the sky. 4. To see what the people were doing. 5. Because they had all the same language. 6. Because they would be able to do anything they wanted if they worked together so easily. 7. They fought and split up and spread out over the earth. 8. No. 9. The tower of Babel.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Mar. 7, 2004

ABRAM'S JOURNEY

Fathers had sons and those sons had sons and many sons after Noah Abram was born. Abram loved and served God.

God said to Abram, "I want you to leave your father and home and go to a land that I will show you. And I will make you a great nation and bless you, and you will be a blessing to others."

So Abram packed up. He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew, Lot, and all his things and set out across the country. He came to the land of Canaan and God appeared to him there. God said, "I will give this land of Canaan to your children, Abram." And Abram built an altar to the Lord.

Abram travelled on through Egypt to a place called Bethel. But the land there was not large enough for Abram and Lot too. Their servants began to quarrel.

So Abram said to Lot, "Let us not fight, my brother. Look at all this land before us. Let's split up. You take whatever land you want and I'll take what's left."

Lot looked out over the land. He saw a beautiful green plain with a river running through it. But also in this plain were the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot wanted that rich land though and chose it anyway. So Abram and Lot separated and Abram travelled further east.

God said to Abram, "Lift up your eyes, and look to the north, the south, the east and the west—for all of this land will I give to you. And I will make your children and children's children to be so many that they will be as many as the sand on the seashore. And this land will be their's forever."

—Joanna Booher

Now the Lord said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.
Genesis 12:1.





Childhood Days

(Continued from last week.)

Moving from Wayne County, David Warner took his family to a farm near New Washington, Crawford County, Ohio, in 1843. It was on this farm of 140 acres that Daniel S. Warner lived his childhood days. Their house of logs was about three fourths of a mile away from town where the father would go to the tavern at night.

Mother Warner would gather her five sons about her and read to them. They would do their school work on the kitchen table by the old oil lamp. All would be pleasant until they heard the footsteps of the father coming home. David Warner's clumsy footfalls and his heavy breathing let the family know he had been drinking too much liquor.

Quick as a flash, all the children rushed to their beds and covered up their heads. Hoping and praying that their father would quietly go to sleep, they feared for their mother who had to face his ugly temper.

In a poem called "Innocence" Daniel Warner wrote about these times:

*Like chickens when the mother bird
Gives signal of a foe,
The little peeps are quickly hushed,
All chicks are lying low,*

*So, when returning from the town,
The dreaded steps we heard,
All ran and quickly settled down,
And not a lip was stirred.*

*O horrors of the liquor fiend!
We've seen thy hell on earth.
Thy serpent coils around us twined,
The moment of our birth.*

How many lives and homes have liquor and other alcoholic drinks ruined? Millions. Daniel Warner lived under such terrible conditions like thousands of other children have done and are still living today. Though it is destructive and hurtful, yet there is help in Jesus Christ.

It is Jesus who can heal the pain that a drunk father causes, and it is by the saving power of Jesus Christ that a drunk can be delivered from his awful habit.

Best of all, through Jesus Christ there is power to never take a drink of whiskey, liquor, beer, wine, or any other alcoholic drink. Daniel learned to hate the smell and sight of that bad stuff when he was a young child and he did not follow in his father's bad habit of drinking.

Daniel liked to sing and dance, tell funny stories, and play tricks on people. He did well in school work and liked to play with his friends. Because he had a good mother and the Lord was watching out for him, Daniel Warner grew up to be a well-liked, friendly young man.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God tell Abram to do?
2. What did God promise to make Abram?
3. What was Abram's nephew's name?
4. When Abram came to Canaan what did God tell him?
5. At Bethel, who began to quarrel?
6. Who got the first choice of the land?
7. What did Lot choose?
8. What two cities were in the plain of Jordan?
9. How many children did God say Abram would have?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 12:1-13:17.

(Answers: 1. Leave his father and home and go to a land that God would show him. 2. A great nation that would be blessed and be a blessing to others. 3. Lot. 4. "I will give you this land." 5. Lot's and Abram's servants. 6. Lot. 7. The plain of Jordan. 8. Sodom and Gomorrah. 9. As many as the sand of the seashore.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Mar. 14, 2004

ABRAM BELIEVES GOD'S PROMISE

It came to pass that a group of kings made war on Sodom and Gomorrah. Sodom and Gomorrah lost and were carried away with their things by the enemy. And Lot was carried away captive too.

When Abram heard of it he got his trained servants together. He could have just figured Lot got what he deserved for getting so close to those wicked cities and let him stay captive, but instead he formed a rescue party.

He armed his servants, three hundred and eighteen of them, and attacked the enemy kings in the night. The kings fled and his army chased after them. Abram safely brought back all the captives and the spoil, including Lot.

The king of Sodom came out to meet him with the king of Salem, a priest named Melchizedek. Melchizedek blessed Abram and blessed God for the victory. The king of Sodom offered Abram all the spoil that he had brought back. But Abram would not accept any of it except some of the food and some of the spoil for his captains.

After these things God spoke to Abram again in a vision and said, "Don't be afraid, Abram. I am your shield and your reward."

Finally Abram asked, "Lord, what will you give me since I don't even have any children? My wife can't have any so all I have is a servant, Eliezer."

God said, "You shall have children. Look at the sky, Abram. Can you count the stars? That is how many children you will have."

Abram believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness.

—Joanna Booher



And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them:... So shall thy seed be. Genesis 15:5.



Through the Teens

(Continued from last week.)

As he grew older Daniel Warner found that he liked to entertain people by story telling and debating political issues. His father was a strong Democrat and the county they lived in was mainly Democratic. During election times, Daniel would stand on a store-box on a street corner "preaching" to the crowd about government problems and the "right" or "wrong" candidates for the job.

People would laugh at Daniel or cheer him on. Even his father took pride in his fifth son's good speaking abilities and bragged on him to others. This gave Daniel more confidence and less fear of his father during his teenage years.

Then came the Civil War. Daniel's older brother, Joseph, was drafted to fight for the North. Because Joseph was married with a family, Daniel volunteered to take his brother's place. How long Daniel was in the army we do not know but he found favor with the Captain. Being witty and good at writing, Daniel was assigned to be the clerk or secretary for the Captain. After the war, Daniel was discharged with honor.

Back home again, Daniel began to teach students in a one room schoolhouse. In the evenings he went out with friends. Though he went to dances and parties Daniel did not like to drink bad drink nor did he lose his purity.

One time his only sister, who was younger than he, became deathly ill. Instead of staying with his dear mother to help care for the child, Daniel went to a dance and did not come home until two in the morning. His mother came to his room and

reasoned with him about his careless, sinful life.

"Daniel, someday you will stand before the judgment seat of God and you will give an account of how you spent your life," said his mother as she left his room.

Daniel rolled out of bed and fell down on his knees before God, crying and praying for mercy. The Lord heard his prayer, and a few days later some friends asked him to attend a revival. Every night the messages deeply touched his heart.

On the way home from service one night, a friend asked Daniel, "What do you think religion is?"

"I don't know," replied Daniel, "but I am going to find out."

Soon Daniel was to learn about more adventure than he had in the war, more opportunities to speak and happier things to do than dance.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. Who made war on Sodom and Gomorrah?
2. Did Sodom and Gomorrah win?
3. Who was also taken captive?
4. What did Abram do when he heard?
5. Did Abram win?
6. Who was Melchizedek?
7. What did the king of Sodom offer Abram?
8. God told Abram, "I am your shield and your _____."
9. Did Abram believe God's promise?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 14:1-15:6.

(Answers: 1. A group of kings. 2. No. 3. Lot. 4. He got together a rescue party. 5. Yes. 6. The king of Salem and a priest of the most high God. 7. All the spoil. 8. Reward. 9. Yes.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Mar. 21, 2004

HAGAR

God had promised Abram that he would have as many children as the stars in the heavens. But years passed and Abram's wife, Sarai, still had not had a son. She did have a maid named Hagar. So she gave her maid to Abram so Hagar could have a child that Sarai could claim as her own.

Soon Hagar was expecting a child. But she became proud that she could have a child while Sarai, her mistress, could not and she despised her. This made Sarai angry and she complained to Abram.

Abram said, "She's your maid. You may do with her as you like."

Sarai spoke roughly to Hagar and Hagar ran away.

But as Hagar sat in the wilderness by a fountain, an angel spoke to her. He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, what are you doing here?"

She said, "I'm running away."

The angel said, "Go back to your mistress and submit yourself to her. Your son also will be a great nation. You shall call him Ishmael."

So Hagar went back and served her mistress.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old God made new again his covenant with Abram. He again promised that he would be the father of many nations and kings would be his children. Then He changed Abram's name to Abraham, which means "father of many nations" and changed Sarai's name to Sarah which means "princess." —Joanna Booher



And the angel of
Lord found her
fountain of water
the wilderness
Genesis 16:7



A New Christian

(Continued from last week.)

Thinking Daniel was going to play a trick on the preacher during the revival his friends laughed at him when he said he would find out what religion was. They were very surprised to see fun-loving Daniel go forward to the altar the next night. He knelt down, crying, and the preacher prayed with him. After confessing his sins to God, Daniel asked forgiveness and that the blood of Jesus wash away his guilt and shame.

Oh the glory that filled his soul! Right away his friends saw a change in Daniel. They saw a peace in his eyes that had not been there before. This was in February of 1865.

His mother was thankful and happy that her son had made the wisest decision of his life to follow Jesus. No more would he be out dancing late in the night but he desired other pleasures now. One of them was to read his *Bible* and sing good songs of praise to the Lord.

"Mother, I think I shall attend Oberlin College," he told her one evening.

That sounded fine to her, but Daniel did not attend college many months before he began to feel the Lord needed his help in the harvest of souls. In other words, God called Daniel Warner to preach the gospel and help others to be saved. Again his mother was happy about his decision, but his father was not.

"That son of yours needs to be using his speaking ability for something better than spouting out religion!" exclaimed his father. "I won't listen to this nonsense of his!"

No matter what the cost, Daniel Warner was willing to obey God rather than man. He preached his first ser-

mon on Easter night, 1867. His message was from the verse: "But those things, which God before had showed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled." Acts 3:18.

Daniel would learn the way of the cross, the suffering and the glory.

(To be continued next week.)

*Shall I tell you why I ceased from
folly?*

Why I turned away from sin?

*'Twas because the love of my Re-
deemer*

Fully won my heart to him....

*Tho all men may look on me with
wonder,*

At the change that's taken place;

*I will walk the downward road no
longer,*

Bless the Lord for saving grace.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was Sarai's maid's name?
2. How did Hagar feel when she found she was going to have a child?
3. What did she do to Sarai?
4. Was Sarai angry?
5. Who did Sarai complain to?
6. How did Sarai speak to Hagar?
7. What did Hagar do after her mistress spoke roughly to her?
8. Who found Hagar in the wilderness?
9. What did he tell Hagar to do?
10. What did God rename Abram?
11. What did God rename Sarai?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 16:1-17:15.

(Answers: 1. Hagar. 2. Proud. 3. She despised her. 4. Yes. 5. Abram. 6. Roughly. 7. She ran away. 8. An angel. 9. Go back. 10. Abraham 11. Sarah.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Mar. 28, 2004

ABRAHAM'S THREE VISITORS

As Abraham sat in the door of his tent one hot afternoon, he saw three men coming towards him. Quickly he ran and knelt before them.

"My Lord," he said, "If I have found favour in Your sight, pass not away from me yet. Please, rest under the tree and let me wash your feet and serve you some food."

So they sat while Abraham rushed into the tent and told Sarah to fix some small cakes and had a servant fix some meat. Then he stood by them while they ate.

They said unto him, "Where is Sarah, your wife?"

"In the tent," Abraham answered.

"Your wife, Sarah, shall have a son," they said.

When Sarah, who was behind the tent door, heard this, she laughed, for she was around ninety years old and past the age of having children.

"Why did Sarah laugh?" the Lord asked. "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

"I did not laugh," Sarah said, for she was afraid.

"No, but you did laugh," said the Lord.

The three got up to go on toward Sodom and Abraham went with them a little in the way.

The Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham the thing that I am about to do? I have heard of the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah and have come down to see if it is as bad as I hear."

The two other men went on toward the city but Abraham begged the Lord, "Lord, will you destroy the city if there are fifty righteous people in it?"

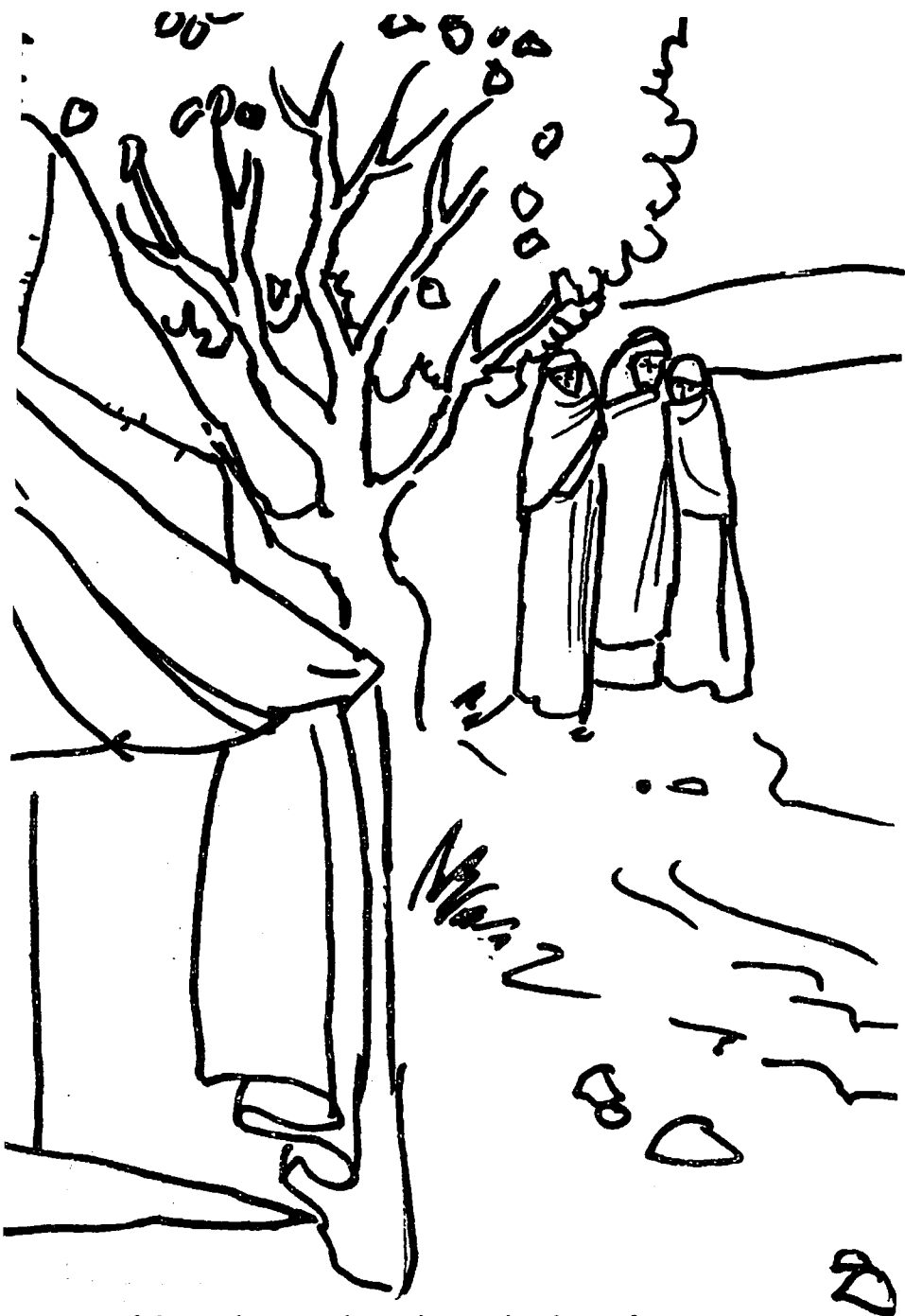
"I will not destroy the city if I can find fifty righteous,..." the Lord said.

"Oh Lord, please don't be angry," Abraham pleaded. "Will you destroy the city for ten's sake?"

The Lord promised, "For ten righteous, I will not destroy the city." Then He went on His way and Abraham returned to his tent.

—Joanna Booher





And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of
Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of
the day. Genesis 18:1.

Tamzen Warner

(Continued from last week.)

As a dashing young man with blue eyes, light brown hair, tall and slender, Daniel Warner was attractive. His voice was musical and his words well chosen.

So it was that he caught the attention of a sweet young lady and happened to say the right things to her. "Tamzen," he said to her, "will you marry me?"

How could she resist? "YES!" she responded with joy.

They were married September 5th, 1867, the same year he had begun to preach. Of course Tamzen was a Christian woman who knew she had married a preacher, but she did not know he would be traveling so much.

For a while, Tamzen may have traveled with Daniel. Then one day she had news for him. "You will be a daddy soon," she told her glad husband, "and I need more time to rest."

So she stayed home more and prepared for their first child. In a few months they had a healthy baby boy! The new parents were so happy and thankful to God! Daniel wanted to be a good father and love his son like the Heavenly Father loved him.

Their baby boy was born in the cold month of December, 1868. Perhaps he caught pneumonia—it is not known—but through an illness the Lord took the baby to heaven. Lying in Daniel's arms, Tamzen cried and cried. It was a sad time for both of them but the Lord gave them comfort.

The gospel work was calling to Daniel again. While her husband was busy holding revival meetings all over the state of Ohio, Tamzen was keeping house in a little place in the country. Perhaps she had a few hens to feed and gather eggs from every day. She may have had a cow or milked a neighbor's cow for the milk, and she probably had a cat or two to lap up the last drops.

Tamzen prayed for Daniel for she knew he was tired, riding horseback from one community to another, preaching at night and praying for the sick during the day. Then the first part of 1872, Daniel was at home with Tamzen when she gave birth to three little babies! Such tiny, helpless little ones born into a cold world! With the help of others the parents tried patiently to save the little darlings, but one by one, they died.

Tamzen was heartbroken and her health never did improve. Though many prayers were said for her, she died on May 26th. This left Bro. Daniel Warner alone with God.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. Who did Abraham see coming toward him as he sat in the door of his tent?
2. What did he do?
3. What did they say would happen to Sarah?
4. What did Sarah do when she heard?
5. Why did Sarah deny that she had laughed?
6. Where were the three men going?
7. Why did the Lord say He had come down?
8. What did Abraham beg the Lord to do?
9. How many did the Lord promise to spare the city for in the end?

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 18:1-33.

(Answers: 1. Three men. 2. He ran and knelt at their feet and invited them to sit under the tree while he served them. 3. She would have a son. 4. She laughed. 5. She was afraid. 6. To Sodom. 7. Because He had heard of the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah and came to see if it was as bad as He heard. 8. spare the city for the righteous' sake. 9. Ten.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 April 4, 2004

HANNAH'S VOW

Hannah was very sad. She had been married to Elkanah for many years, but they had no children. Elkanah loved her very much, but she still deeply wished to have a child.

Every year Elkanah went to worship and make sacrifices to God in a city called Shiloh. One year, when Hannah and Elkanah were visiting the Tabernacle to make sacrifices to God, Hannah wept and cried out silently to the Lord for a son. Hannah made a vow to God. "If you will give me a son, I will give him back to you, to serve you for the rest of his life," she promised.

When Hannah prayed her lips moved, but she did not speak out loud. One of the priests, Eli, saw Hannah and thought something was wrong. Hannah told Eli about her prayer. Eli blessed Hannah, saying, "Go in peace. May the Lord answer your prayers."

Not long after, Hannah's prayers were answered. Hannah had a son. She named her son Samuel, which means "asked of God." Samuel lived with his parents while he was a very small child. However, Hannah did not forget the vow she had made to God. When Samuel was old enough, Elkanah and Hannah took Samuel to the tabernacle to serve God and learn from Eli the priest.

—Monica Murphey



And she vowed a vow,
and said, O Lord of
hosts, if thou wilt...give
unto thine handmaid a
man child, then will I
give him unto the Lord
all the days of his life,...
I Samuel 1:11.



Traveling On

(Continued from last week.)

With the Lord's help, Bro. Daniel Warner continued his ministry as a circuit preacher. He traveled by train to the states west of Ohio. On June 25, 1873, he wrote in his diary: *This is my birthday. Thirty-one years of my hasty life have passed away. They have gone to eternity. Their record has all been entered upon the book by the Scribe of heaven....Oh, keep me pure in heart, that the remainder of life may all be given to God!*"

June 28th : Put in the day viewing the great city of Chicago. Nearly all the burnt district is built again with enormous buildings. It is wonderful to think that for miles we can walk streets built up on either side with magnificent buildings of brick, stone and marble, from three to nine stories high, iron fronts, etc., all built since the fire...I was much interested with all we saw."

Traveling on to Nebraska City, Bro. Warner crossed the Mississippi River and the Missouri River on steamers. He was happy to travel so quickly by the modern iron horse (train) and newly invented steamers.

Staying with one family and then another Bro. Warner spent his days teaching individuals the Word of God and most of his evenings he preached in country school houses. A lot of people were eager to hear him. Not only did he have a pleasant voice to listen to, but his messages were anointed by the Holy Spirit. Many souls were saved and lives were changed for the better under his preaching.

The Lord was also using this time to heal Bro. Warner's heart from the sorrow over his dear wife's death. As he walked or rode his horse over the prairie he felt the love of God surrounding him, encouraging him to

press onward in the high calling God had given him.

Winter came with its blasting winds of ice and snow. Bro. Warner still kept his monthly appointments.

In March, 1874, his diary said: (19) *Day meeting at half past ten. P.M. mounted a horse and rode in company with Bro. Figard to Mr. Pense's, two miles. Talked to them on the important subject of their souls' salvation. Returned with some headache...Thank God, my headache abated (left) and I spoke with liberty on the text, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man."* (22) *Sabbath. Beautiful morn. Met at 10:30 A.M., heard a number of brethren and sisters speak. Went to Indian Creek, where I had the pleasure of immersing the following persons...It was a glorious time! All were happy. We felt we were near heaven...(23) Quite cold this morn; I have to drive about thirty-five miles against the wind. It was a hard day's ride...O God! In mercy hear us and bless our efforts."*

The Lord was listening to Bro. Warner and He answered prayer for him in more ways than one.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. Why was Hannah sad?
2. Why did Hannah and Elkanah visit the temple?
3. What did Hannah pray for in the temple?
4. Who saw Hannah praying?
5. What is a vow?
6. What vow did Hannah make to God?
7. Did God answer Hannah's prayers?
8. What did Hannah and Elkanah name their child?
9. What does the name Samuel mean?

(Answers: 1. She did not have any children. 2. To make sacrifices to God. 3. A son. 4. Eli, the priest. 5. A promise. 6. If God would give her a son, she would give him back to God. 7. Yes. 8. Samuel. 9. Asked of God.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 April 11, 2004

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE EASTER?

Jesus, God's son, was born to Mary. He lived with His earthly parents for many years. Then Jesus began teaching and doing miracles.

One day Jesus came into the temple. Men had tables set up where they sold animals for people to sacrifice. It made Jesus very angry to see people using God's House as a market place. Jesus turned over the tables and got on to the men that were selling the animals. This made the religious leaders very angry. They also did not like to see all of the people that were following Jesus.

Jesus was arrested. Pilate, the governor, did not think Jesus had done anything wrong, but the religious leaders wanted Jesus killed. "Crucify Him," the angry mob yelled. Pilate gave the people a choice. Either Jesus could be freed or a very bad prisoner named Barabbas would be let go and Jesus would be killed. "Give us Barabbas!" the people cried.

Jesus was nailed to a cross. He died. Joseph of Arimathea came to Pilate and asked him for Jesus' body. Jesus was buried in a cave. The religious leaders put guards up in front of Jesus' tomb. They were afraid that some of Jesus' followers would steal His body.

Some of the disciples and people who believed in Jesus had thought Jesus would be king on earth. They were sad and confused. Two days later, some of the women went to the tomb, Mary Magdalene among them. The women were bringing perfumes and spices to put on Jesus' body.

When the women got to the tomb the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. Sitting at one side of the tomb was a man in a long, white garment. They were afraid. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. Jesus was crucified, but now He is risen. Go tell Peter and the other disciples what I have told you."

The women ran and did as they were told.

Jesus arose from the dead many years ago on Easter Sunday. Jesus has victory over death. Now everyone that is saved will be able to live in Heaven with Him after they die.

—Monica Murphey

Now when Jesus was
he appeared first to M



early the first day of the week,
Magdalene,... Mark 16:9.



Here Comes Sarah

(Continued from last week.)

Living alone without a house of his own, Bro. Daniel Warner worked hard for the Lord. He enjoyed riding horseback over the prairie of Nebraska, visiting church people, praying for the sick and preaching at different school houses.

Bro. Warner had the Lord with him but he was still lonesome. He prayed to the Lord about his need of a companion. The Lord understood and He brought a young woman by the name of Sarah into Bro. Warner's life. Sarah lived far away in Indiana so Bro. Warner wrote love letters to her and she wrote love letters back to him. Sarah's letters were nice to read, but it wasn't the same as having Sarah right with him to talk to and pray with. After asking the Lord for His approval, Bro. Warner decided to ask Sarah to marry him. She said, "Yes!"

Now he was ready to build a house and prepare for a wife and family. Right after Easter Sunday, in April 1874, Bro. Hoffer allowed Bro. Warner to select a place on his farm for a house.

Then within the week, other brothers gathered and built Bro. Warner's house. He was so happy to have his own house, bed and stove! He was preparing things for when Sarah would come to Nebraska to live with him.

Finally, it was time for Bro. Warner to travel all the way back to Sarah's house where she was getting ready for their wedding. On June 4, 1874, Bro. Warner wrote: *Thank God that the onward flight of time has brought the day in which my angel, Sarah, and I shall be joined*

in holy wedlock. I was out early to breathe the balmy air.... At four the ceremony was performed.... All passed off pleasantly.... Now a new leaf is turned, a new era begun in the history of my life.... May God assist me to make her life happy as far as it is in the power of man to do so.

Bro. Warner knew that his wife was a treasure, a gift from God, because he had prayed for her and prepared for her. Marriage is a very serious decision in life. First, be saved from your sins, live for the Lord and pray for your lifetime husband or wife. The one you marry will change your life either for good or bad. Bro. Warner learned this all too well in his lifetime.

(To be continued next week.)

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Jesus' mother?
2. What made Jesus angry?
3. What did Jesus do to make the religious leaders angry?
4. What choice did Pilate give the people?
5. Where was Jesus buried?
6. What happened when the women went to Jesus' tomb?
7. What did the angel tell the women to do?
8. What happened on Easter Sunday?
9. What prisoner was released instead of Jesus?

(Answers: 1. Mary. 2. To see the people using God's temple for a market. 3. He turned the tables over. 4. They could release Jesus or Barabbas. 5. In Joseph of Arimathea's tomb. 6. The stone had been rolled away from the entrance, and an angel was sitting on it. 7. To tell the disciples that Jesus is risen. 8. Jesus rose from the dead. 9. Barabbas.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 April 18, 2004

THE VOICE IN THE NIGHT

Samuel was still a young child when he went to live at the temple. One night, after all of the lights had been put out and the tabernacle was still and quiet, Samuel heard a voice calling his name. Samuel ran to where Eli was sleeping, thinking that Eli wanted him. "Here I am," said Samuel. "You called for me."

"I did not call you," Eli replied. "Lie back down."

"Samuel!" He heard his name called again! Once more Samuel went to Eli. Once again Eli told Samuel that it was not him that had called. "Go lie down again, my son." Eli told Samuel.

As Samuel was lying in bed he heard his name called for the third time. Samuel still thought that Eli had called for him. This time, Eli knew it was the voice of the Lord calling for Samuel. Eli said, "Go lie down. If God calls you again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'"

So when the voice of the Lord called Samuel's name for the fourth time Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, for Your Servant hears."

God did not have good news for Samuel. Eli had two very bad sons. Eli had not even tried to punish them for their wicked deeds. God told Samuel that he was going to bring judgment on Eli's sons. Eli was sad, but he said, "Let it be so." He knew his sons were evil and deserved to be punished.

—Monica Murphey

And he ran unto
calledst me.... I :



und said, Here am I; for thou
el 3:5.



Bro. D.S. Warner Was a Watchman

(Continued from last week.)

Sarah Warner liked the little summer house that her husband had built for her. Together they made a cupboard for her dishes and pans. Sarah put her things in the house to make it cozy.

How happy they were for the Lord's blessings!

Bro. Warner and Sarah liked to spy on a nearby prairie dog town. They had to hide and wait patiently so that the watch dog would not see them and send out a warning of danger. Secretly they laughed at the commanding adults and the chubby babies.

Prairie dogs will sit very still for several moments, sniffing the air and quietly looking around. Then with lightening quick motions they will flash into action and dig a hole or grab some berries or seeds. They dart in and out of the dozens of holes that enter the underground tunnels in which they live.

There is always at least one watch dog who constantly watches for danger. If the watch dog sees a coyote sneaking up to the dog town he will stomp his foot loudly and bark out warnings then disappear with the rest of the group into the ground. Hawks and eagles will sometimes dive in to pick up a careless prairie dog who did not listen for the warning or was too slow.

Within the Church of God the Lord has stationed watchmen who look for worldly dangers and who give warnings when they see sin and evil creeping in to steal away souls. These watchmen cry out against lustful pictures in magazines, books, on computer and TV screens and at theaters. They tell us to be careful where we go and what we do. Stay away from dirty talk and evil doers. God's watchmen preach

against these evil things and others so that souls won't be caught by the devil and taken to his hell. It is a wise person who heeds the warnings given by God's chosen watchmen and women.

Bro. D.S. Warner was one of God's chosen ministers to warn against sin in his time. He stayed over a year on the Nebraska circuit then he and Sarah moved back to Indiana. For years Sarah went with him, a companion in prayer and service. They had one son, Sidney, who lived to be a man.

In our song book, *The Evening Light Songs*, many poems that Bro. Warner wrote are set to music. One song of love and warning is #417.

1. *Oft my heart has bled with sorrow,
Not a friend my grief to share;*

*But I yielded, Christ to follow, And
he took my load of care.*

2. *Sin made all my life so bitter,
Jesus makes it sweet and pure;*

*Now I'm free from every fetter, Blest
with peace forever more.*

(Chorus) *Is there here a soul in
trouble? Whosoever needs a friend,*

*Jesus' love your heart will glad-
den, Bless and keep you to the end.*

(The end.)

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Samuel hear?
2. Who did Samuel think was calling him?
3. How many times did Samuel hear the voice?
4. Who did Eli say the voice was?
5. What did Eli tell Samuel to do?
6. Did God have good news for Samuel?
7. What did God tell Samuel?
8. What did Eli say when he heard the news?

(Answers: 1. God calling his name. 2. Eli. 3. Three. 4. God. 5. Samuel was to say, "Speak Lord; your servant hears." 6. No. 7. That Eli's sons were to be punished for their evil deeds. 8. "Let it be so.")

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 April 25, 2004

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

Moses was leading the children of Israel out of Egypt to Canaan, the land God had promised to them. The people of Israel were camped by Mount Sinai. The Lord came to Moses on Mount Sinai. God told him to build a Tabernacle, a place where the people could worship and make sacrifices to God.

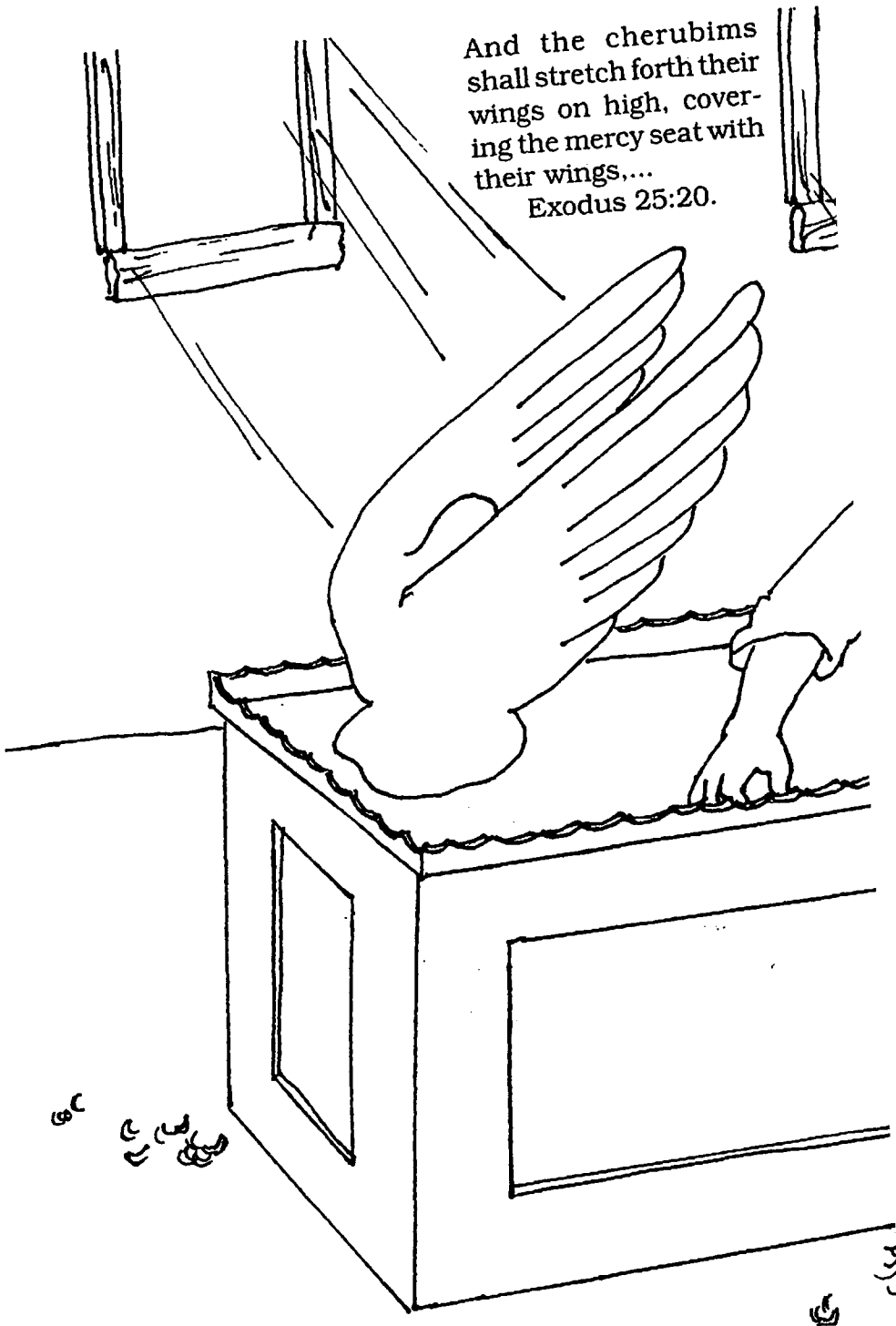
God told Moses to have an ark built to place inside the Tabernacle. This ark was not like Noah's ark. It was probably shaped more like a chest. The ark was to be made of wood, covered with gold inside and out. A mercy seat was to be placed above the ark. Two cherubims, made of gold, were to be seated on each end of the mercy seat. This mercy seat symbolized how God sat on His throne in heaven. The ark was called the Ark of the Covenant. They were to place the ark inside a room that the Lord called the Most Holy Place. Only the high priest was allowed inside this room. Only the sons of Levi were allowed to touch the ark. An Israelite man named Bezaleel worked hard on the ark and built it exactly the way God had instructed.

When the Lord had finished speaking with Moses, He gave Moses two tables of stone where He had written His testimony. This testimony was to be put inside the ark. While Moses was on the mountain talking with God, the Israelites asked Aaron to build them a god they could worship. "Moses has been gone a long time, and we do not know when he will come back," the people said. So Aaron made a golden calf. While the Israelites were worshipping the calf, Moses came back down the mountain. He saw the people worshipping an idol. This made him very angry. He threw down the tablets of stone, and they broke. However, once again the Lord came to Moses on the mountain. God wrote new stone tablets for Moses to put in the Ark of the Covenant.

Before the Israelites reached Canaan Moses died, and Joshua became the new leader of the children of Israel. The Israelites conquered Canaan and many neighboring cities. Joshua set up the Tabernacle of the Lord in Shiloh.

—Monica Murphey

And the cherubims
shall stretch forth their
wings on high, cover-
ing the mercy seat with
their wings,...
Exodus 25:20.





Dancing

Linda came into the kitchen where Mother was preparing supper. As Linda set the table she said, "A lot of my friends at school are talking about a big dance this coming Friday night. They are buying pretty new clothes and shoes. Sounds like a lot of fun."

Mother was quiet for minute as she put floured chicken in hot grease to fry. "Have you ever seen what kind of dances they do?" she asked Linda.

"No, I can't remember what names they called them," Linda replied thoughtfully.

"Well, I'm not familiar with the names of today's dances either. I just know that the few glances I have seen of them have let me know that they are suggestive and impure. I love my daughter too much to allow her to wiggle like that with some boy," Mother firmly declared, giving one chicken leg an extra hard poke with her fork.

Linda giggled at Mother's stern frown on the frying chicken. "I don't want to go anyway Mom. Buying new clothes and shoes sounds kind of nice but I don't care to wiggle like they do in those dances. I think it would be embarrassing."

"It would be for you, Linda, because you have been taught better conduct and poise. Girls with good character don't sell themselves cheap like that, and a boy who wants to dance with a girl in such a lustful way is not good company to be with. Movements that call attention to the body bring bad thoughts to the mind and lead to trouble."

"I know, Mom. You have told me this before and I see that it is true. When I hear the girls talking about the dance it sounds awesome but I know that really inside the girls are covering up a lot of fears and worries,

troubles and sorrows. That's why they are trying new makeup and nicer jewelry and new clothes—they don't want anyone to know how bad they feel inside."

"Right on, Linda," agreed Mother as she speared a chicken leg and brought it out of the skillet. "When we have the real joy of Christ within our hearts we feel happy and clean inside. Sometimes it makes us sing and jump and shout and praise the Lord, but our movements are not done to attract attention to the body."

Just then the grease popped in the skillet and one of the chicken legs jumped. Linda and Mother both dodged the specks of hot grease. "Now what kind of dance was that?" teased Linda.

Mother smiled. "It's called the chicken jig," she said placing a lid over the skillet. "And we don't want any more of it!" —Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. What land did God promise for the children of Isreal?
2. Where did God come and talk to Moses?
3. What did God tell Moses to do?
4. What was Moses supposed to put above the ark?
5. Who was allowed to touch the ark?
6. Who built the ark?
7. What had the other Israelites done while Moses was talking to God?
8. Was Moses happy about it?
9. Who was the new leader of the Israelites after Moses died?

(Answers: 1. Canaan. 2. Mount Sanai. 3. Build a tabernacle. 4. A mercy seat. 5. Only the sons of Levi. 6. An Israelite named Bezaleel. 7. Asked Aaron to build them a god. 8. No. 9. Joshua.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 May 2, 2004

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT IS TAKEN

The Israelites were fighting against the Philistines. Many Israelites were killed in the battle. When the elders of Israel saw their losses they said, "Let us bring the ark of the Lord from Shiloh. Surely that will save us from the hands of our enemies."

Some of the Israelites went to Shiloh to get the ark. Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phineas, went back to the battle with the ark and the Israelites that had come to get it. When they returned to the Israelite camp with the ark the tired and defeated soldiers felt glad. They let out a great cheer. When the Philistine's heard the shout they were afraid, but they fought as hard as they could.

The Philistines won the battle. Eli's sons were killed. So were many others. The Philistines took the ark.

Eli was afraid something would happen to the ark. He sat in Shiloh waiting for news of the battle. One man ran away from the battle to Shiloh. This man told the people of the city the bad news. The people of Shiloh wept. Eli heard the noise and asked why the people were crying. The man told Eli that his two sons had been killed and the ark had been taken during the battle. Eli was 98, an old man whose eyesight was failing. When Eli heard about the ark he fell backwards out of his chair and died.

—Monica Murphey

And the messenger answer
ark of God is taken. I Sam



d said, Israel is fled before the Philistines,...and the
17.



Color Traces

Mother switched on the kitchen light and gasped when she saw the floor. "Who colored on my tile floor?" she asked, demanding an answer from Randy or Allen who stood beside her.

Both boys shook their heads. "I didn't, Mama," they said in unison.

Mother frowned at the boys, "Well, who else could it be?"

"Roco did it," said baby Allen seriously.

"The dog didn't color on my floor," said Mama. "He might eat colors, but his paws won't hold colors to make a mark."

Mother looked at her sons a minute and they looked at the floor. "Did you write your name with the colors?" she asked them.

"Right here is my name," said Randy, pointing with his toe, "but Allen can't write his yet." Then he realized he shouldn't have said that. "Jerry and Linda know how to write my name, too, Mama."

"Randy and Allen, remember that you can't lie out of your naughtiness. You wrote on this floor with red and blue colors—didn't you? (They nodded) "Both of you tell me you are sorry for lying to me about what you did."

"We're sorry, Mama," they said, each giving her a hug.

"I forgive you both," said Mama, "and I'm sorry, too, because it is going to take a lot of time and work to clean this mess. I will get you each a damp rag with soap on it and you can start scrubbing right away."

"Alright, we'll clean it up," declared Randy, and Allen nodded his little head.

As soon as Mama handed them a rag, they knelt down on the floor and scrubbed with all their might.

"We'll have this clean in a minute," Randy said with labored breath.

Mother watched the boys while she prepared supper. A few of the red color marks were slowly coming off but most of the scribbles were being stubborn. The boys' arms worked slower and slower.

"All done!" announced Allen as he stood up to leave.

"No, you're not either!" said Randy pulling him back down.

"Wa-a-a!" cried Allen when his bottom hit the floor.

Mother decided to help. "Here, boys, let me spray this cleaner on the color marks and then you wipe again with your rags."

"Now it's coming off better!" said Randy. Finally, no trace of the color marks were left on the floor.

"Only write on what you have been given to write on," said Mother. "Remember, boys, it is a lot harder to undo your naughty deeds than it is to do them." —Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the Israelites fighting?
2. What did the Israelites decide to do when they saw they were losing?
3. Was it a good idea?
4. Who won the battle?
5. Who was killed in the battle?
6. What happened to the ark?
7. Who was waiting for news of the battle?
8. What happened after Eli was told the news?
9. How old was Eli when he died?

(Answers: 1. The Philistines. 2. Bring the ark to the battle. 3. No. 4. The Philistines. 5. Many Israelites and Eli's two wicked sons. 6. The Philistines took it during the battle. 7. Eli. 8. He fell backwards out of his chair and died. 9. Ninety-eight.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 May 9, 2004

THE HOUSE OF DAGON

The Philistines took the Ark of the Covenant to the temple of one of the idols that they worshiped in the city of Ashdod. They called the idol Dagon and worshiped Dagon, thinking he was a god. Dagon was part human and part fish. The ark was set beside Dagon.

When the Philistines woke up early the next morning, Dagon was on his face on the ground in front of the ark. The Philistines set Dagon back up in his place.

When the Philistines came to the temple the next morning, Dagon had fallen again, and Dagon's head and both of his hands were cut off. Only Dagon's body was left. The priests and the people who worshiped Dagon were afraid and would not go back into his temple.

The Lord punished the people that lived in the city of Ashdod until they were afraid. "The ark of the God of Israel cannot stay here. His hand is against us," the people cried.

All of the important people of Ashdod met together and decided, "We will take the ark of the God of Israel to Gath."

The Lord punished the people that lived in the city of Gath. They were afraid, so they sent the ark to Ekron. The people of Ekron cried, "They have brought the ark of God here to kill us!"

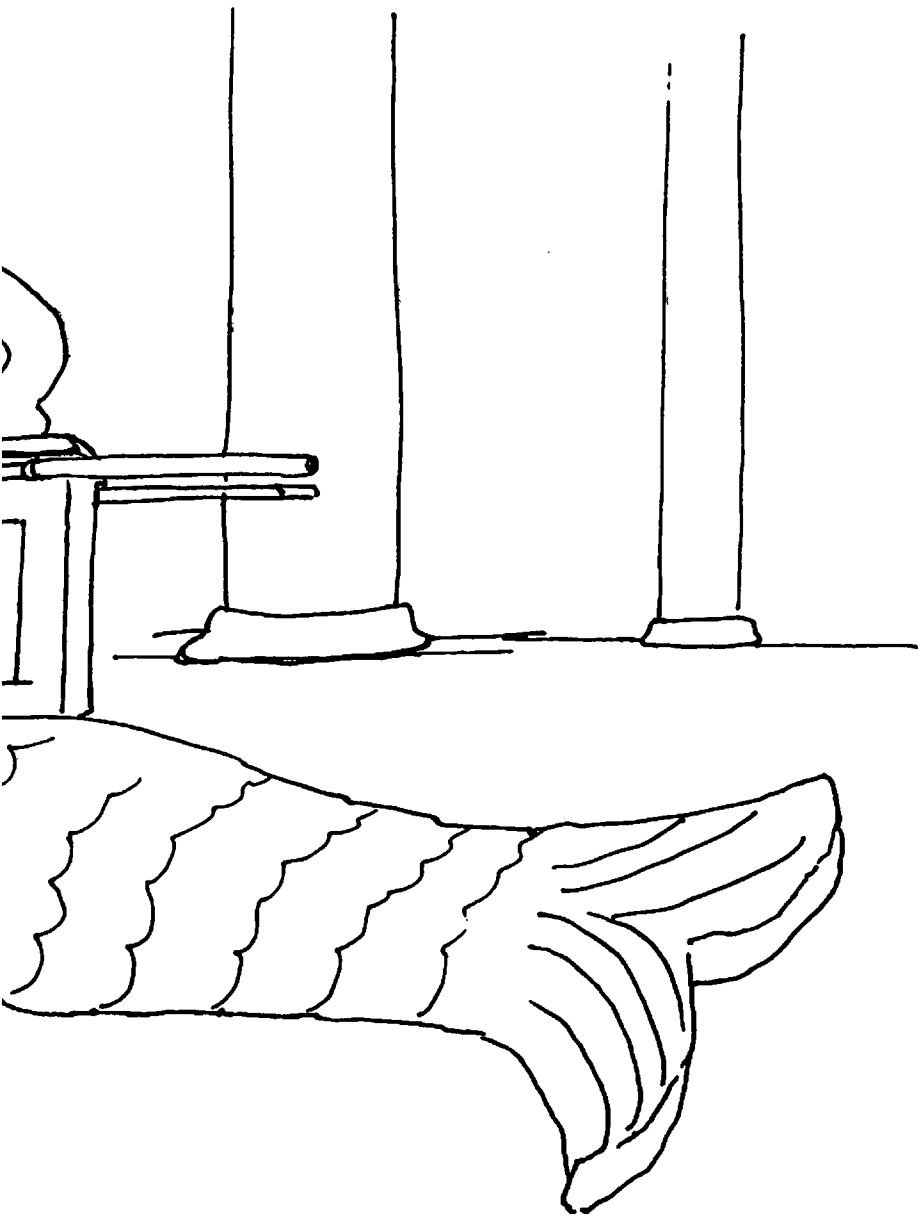
All of the important people of Ekron met together and decided, "We will send the ark of God back to Israel."

They put the ark on a cart and took it to Bethshemesh. The men of Bethshemesh looked inside the ark. Only the sons of Levi were allowed to touch the ark. These men died because they did not obey God's law.

This scared the others who lived in Bethshemesh. They sent for some men to come and get the ark. The men took the ark to Eleazar. The ark stayed in Kirjathjearim for a long time. —Monica Murphey



And when they arose early on the mo
fallen upon his face to the ground before



morning, behold, Dagon was
ark of the Lord;... I Samuel 5:4.

Mother, Mom, Mama

"Mom, do you know where my good tennis shoes are?" called Jerry from the front hall. "I have looked everywhere under this roof and I can't find them anywhere!"

"I think I saw them in the coat closet," Mom replied, coming into the front room. Did you check there?"

"No, I will though," Jerry said. "Ah, here they are! Thanks, Mom." He put them on and was soon out the door.

Then Linda called from her bedroom, "Hey, Mom, come and see this new blouse and skirt that I have on. Do you think you could sew up the side seams right here?"

"I think so," said Mother as she entered Linda's room and adjusted the skirt. "After you take it off leave it by my sewing machine and I will sew it as soon as possible."

"Thanks, Mom," said Linda. "I really like this outfit."

"Mama, where are you?" called Randy as he walked down the hall.

"Right here," replied Mother, peeking at him from the doorway. She put her arms around his shoulders as he hugged her waist. "Mama, I'm hungry. What are we having for supper?"

"Just come with me and find out," she replied. With their arms entwined, Mother lead Randy to the kitchen stove where she had a pot of beans simmering. She raised up the lid and stirred them.

"They sure smell good!" declared Randy. "Are they ready to eat?"

"They are almost done," replied Mother. "Let's wait a little while until Daddy comes home and then we will eat together as a family. You know how I love to have all the family around the table at the same time."

About that time, they heard a loud "Wa-a-a" coming from Allen's baby bed. "Let's go check on your sweet

baby brother," said Mother. "He needs some loving to let him know we are here."

Soon Allen was snuggled up in Mother's arms with Randy by her side on the couch. They were reading a story about the prophet Samuel and his obedience to the Lord when Daddy came home from work.

"Now it's time to set the table and eat," said Mother as she arose from the couch. So all the family washed their hands and sat down to eat. Together they bowed their heads and thanked the Lord for his blessings to them. In her heart Mother thanked the Lord that she was able to serve her family another day.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the Philistines take the ark of the covenant?
2. What happened to Dagon while the Philistine's slept?
3. What happened the next night?
4. How did this make the Philistines feel?
5. What did the people of Ashdod decide?
6. Were the people of Gath happy to get the ark?
7. Where did the people of Ekron send the ark?
8. What did the men of Bethshemesh do?
9. Why did these men die?

(Answers: 1. To the temple of Dagon. 2. He fell on his face. 3. Dagon had fallen again and his head and hands were cut off. 4. Afraid. 5. To take the ark to Gath. 6. No, they were afraid. 7. To Bethshemesh. 8. They looked inside the ark. 9. God told them only the sons of Levi were allowed to touch the ark.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 May 16, 2004

SAUL BECOMES KING

When Samuel was old the elders of Israel met with him. The Israelites wanted a king. God was displeased. He wanted to be the one to reign over Israel. However, God told Samuel to go ahead and do as they asked.

Samuel tried to warn the Israelites that a king would want all of their sons in his army and all of their daughters for his servants. The people still insisted that they wanted a king to lead them in battle and judge them.

Saul, the son of Kish from the tribe of Benjamin, was one of the best men of Israel. He was also very tall, taller than anyone else in the country.

One day Saul lost his donkeys. Kish said to his son Saul, "Take a servant and try to find the donkeys." Saul looked for the donkeys in many places for three long days but could not find them anywhere. They stopped in the city of Zuph, where his servant suggested, "There is a man of God in this city. Everything he says is true. Maybe he can tell us which way we should go." So the men went to the house of Samuel.

The day before, the Lord had spoken to Samuel. "Tomorrow, I will send a man to you at about this same time. He will be king over Israel and will save Israel from the hands of the Philistines." When Samuel saw Saul the Lord said, "This is the man that I was speaking of."

Samuel invited Saul to eat and spend the night. Samuel said, "The donkeys that were lost three days ago have been found." Saul ate with Samuel. Samuel took Saul to the city and anointed him with oil. "The Lord has anointed you to be king over His people," Samuel told Saul. Everything happened according to Samuel's words.

Samuel had all of the tribes of Israel together. They drew lots to see which tribe their new king would be from. The tribe of Benjamin was taken. Again, the families drew lots, and the family of Matri was chosen. The final lot fell to Saul. But where was he? He had hidden! When he was found, Saul went before the people. Samuel said, "See whom the Lord has chosen?" Saul was the first king of Israel. —Monica Murphey

And Samuel a
go up before n
with me today



and Saul, and said, I am the seer:
to the high place; for ye shall eat
tomorrow. 1 Samuel 9:19.



Steered Away From Business

Jerry's dad pulled up to a gas pump in their red dually work truck. Dad reached into his wallet to get some money. "Here, Jerry, put twenty dollars of gas into the tank and pay for it while I do some paper work."

"Okay," said Jerry as he hopped out of the truck. He pushed the right buttons on the pump and quickly had the gas flowing into the tank. Dad was busy with his calculator, pen and paper when Jerry was finished pumping the gas.

Quietly, Jerry went inside the store to pay for the gas. There was a long line of customers waiting to pay, so Jerry found the end of the line and stood there. While he waited, he looked over at the magazine rack. There were magazines about sports, popular people, racing cars, muscle building and girls.

A really sharp picture on the front of the racing car magazine caught Jerry's attention. He moved closer to the rack and took down the magazine. As Jerry turned the pages looking at cars, he also noticed that there were girls without much clothes pictured with the cars. Disgusted, he put that magazine back on the rack and picked up a sports magazine. It was okay but again he saw pictures that were not very good. Then Jerry saw one of his favorite players featured in the magazine, and as he read he forgot all about where he was and what he was supposed to do.

Suddenly Jerry felt a big hand grab his shoulder. "Jerry, I have been waiting fifteen minutes or so for you to come back out. What are you doing?"

Immediately Jerry put the magazine up and apologized to his dad. "I-I didn't realize I had been reading so long," he said, noticing that he wasn't in a line of customers anymore.

"Have you paid for the gas yet?"

"No, I'm sorry, Dad, I just started reading and suddenly you came in and..."

"Give me the money and I'll pay for the gas," said Dad sternly. "You go to the truck."

"Yes, sir," replied Jerry meekly.

In the truck, Dad had a few things to say to Jerry. "Keep your mind on your business when you are working," said Dad. "And don't ever waste your time reading junk magazines on store racks. Nearly every one of those magazines has lustful pictures in them. Not one of them is worth two minutes of your time, do you understand, Jerry, or do I need to impress it on your mind better?"

"I understand, Dad," replied Jerry. "It was a stupid thing for me to do."

Dad glanced over at Jerry and smiled. "Better ask someone smarter and stronger to help you out when you're tempted to do something stupid like that again. I still need the Lord's help myself, Jerry."

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the elders of Israel want?
2. Did this make God happy?
3. Who was one of the best men in Israel?
4. What did Saul lose?
5. How many days did Saul look for his donkeys?
6. What did Saul's servant advise him to do?
7. What did Samuel tell Saul?
8. What did the people do to decide who was king?
9. Why couldn't the people find Saul?

(Answers: 1. A king. 2. No. He wanted them to serve Him. 3. Saul. 4. His donkeys. 5. Three. 6. Find Samuel and ask him where the donkeys were. 7. That the Lord wanted him to be king. 8. Drew lots. 9. He had hidden.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 May 23, 2004

GOD IS UNHAPPY WITH SAUL

While Moses was leading the children of Israel out of Egypt to Canaan, Amalek came up from Egypt and attacked them. When Moses held up his hands during the battle, the Israelites beat the Philistines, but when his hands fell to his sides, the Philistines won. After this battle, Moses built an altar to God. Moses said, "The Lord has promised that He will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

The Lord spoke to Samuel. He remembered what Amalek had done to the Israelites. God commanded Saul to destroy Amalek and everything in his kingdom.

Saul and his army fought the Amalekites and won. Saul took Agag, the king, out of the Amalekites, but all of the other Amalekites were killed in battle. The Israelites also took the best animals and all that was good back to Israel.

The Lord was not pleased. God told Samuel, "I am sorry that I made Saul to be king. He has turned his back from Me and refuses to obey."

Samuel met with Saul. "You are blessed of the Lord," Saul praised, "and I have done everything God has told me to do."

"Then why do I hear the bleating of sheep?" Samuel asked.

"They have brought them from the Amalekites," Saul replied.

"The Lord told you to destroy everything of the Amalekites," Samuel rebuked.

"And I have obeyed what the Lord commanded," Saul said. "I have destroyed the Amalekites and brought back the king. The people brought back the oxen and the sheep to sacrifice to God."

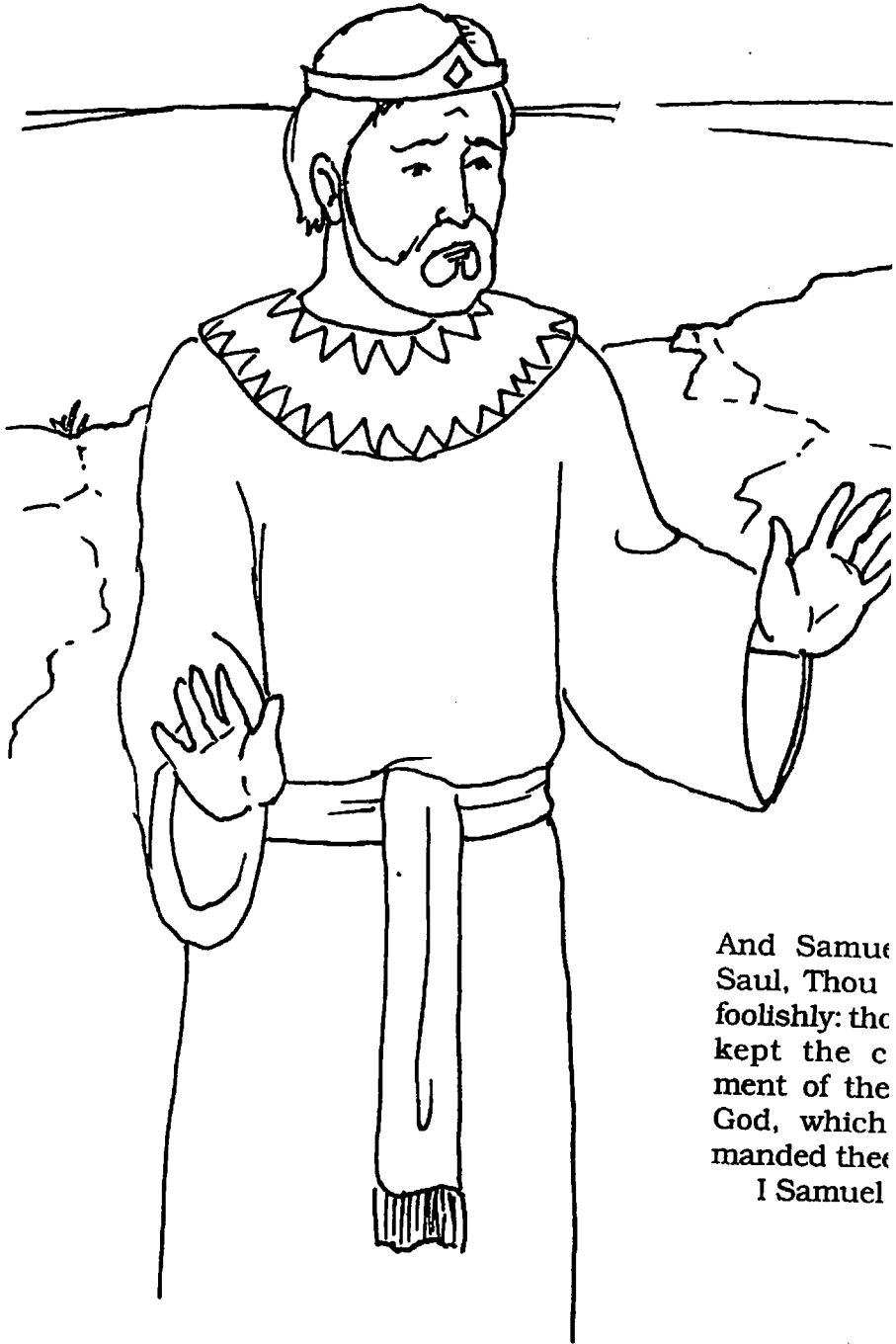
Samuel answered, "To obey God's word is better than to sacrifice, and to listen to God's voice is better than the best meats. Because you have disobeyed the Lord, He has rejected you from being king."

Saul said, "I have sinned. I have disobeyed God's commands. Forgive me, please, and come with me so that I may worship the Lord."

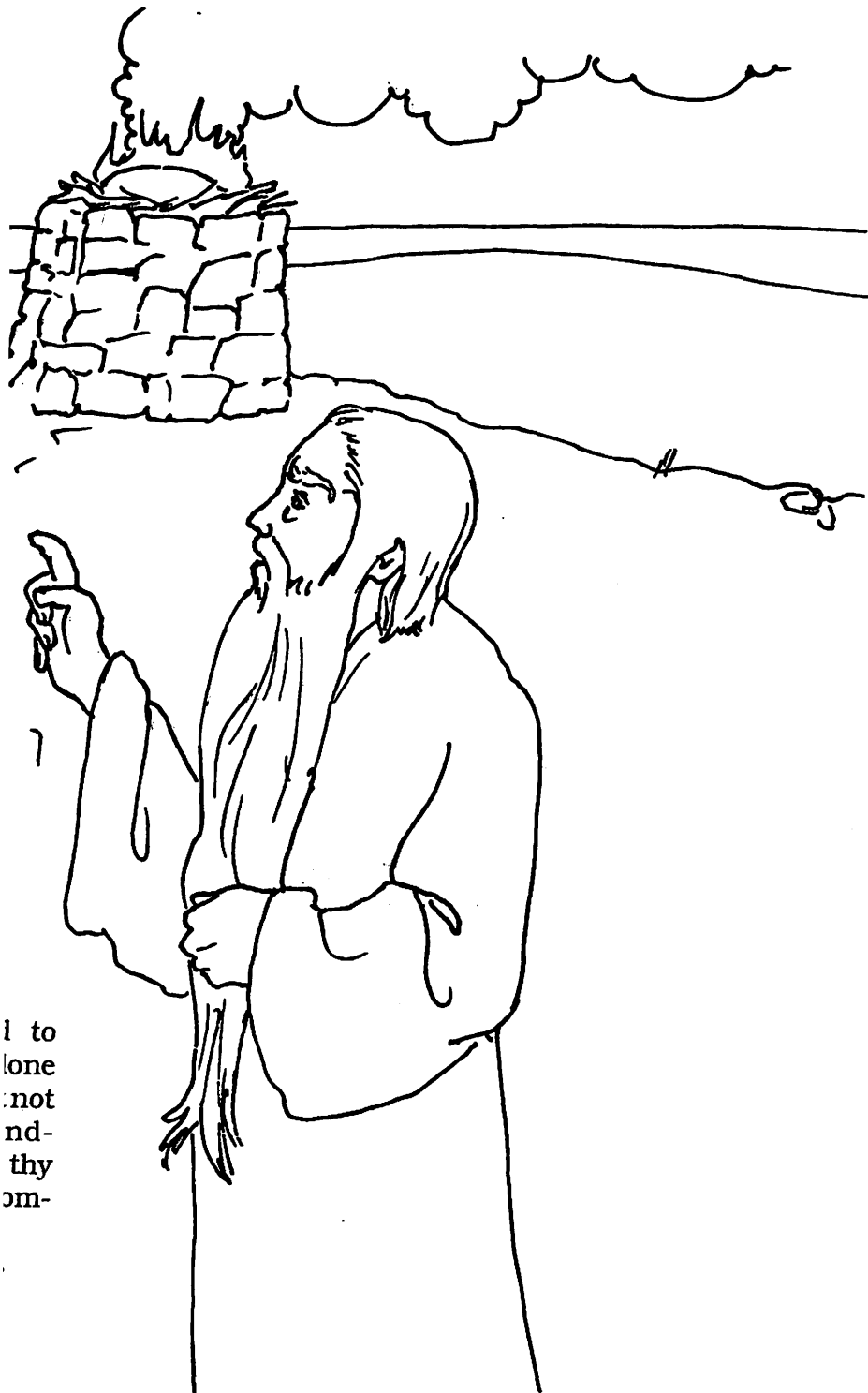
Samuel tore his clothes. "The Lord has taken away the kingdom of Israel from you today, just as I have torn my clothes apart."

Saul was truly sorry. "I have sinned. Please help me, that I may worship God again." Samuel could see that Saul meant his words, so Saul was again able to worship the Lord. The Lord remembered Saul's disobedience and was still unhappy that Saul was king.

—Monica Murphey



And Samuel
Saul, Thou
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God, which
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Searching For The True Way

(A true story)

In the country of Iraq there are thousands of Christians who are hungry for the written copy of the Word of God. Because the majority of Iraqi people are Muslims, who read and follow the Koran written by Mohammed, the *Bible* is not available in most bookstores. When Saddam ruled Iraq, Christians were allowed to read the *Bible* but Muslims were not allowed to do so. Christianity was tolerated, but Christians were not to share the gospel with anyone.

Two days after the U.S. military found and caught Saddam in a hole within Tikrit, his home town, a couple of Christian evangelists entered this private town. Many of the 30,000 citizens in Tikrit were angry that Saddam was captured because this cruel dictator had shown them favor in different ways. Hundreds of people were marching down the streets, chanting and causing trouble. Military tanks and troops were working to bring order to the streets of Tikrit.

People's faces looked worried, mad or afraid. Bombs were set off causing pain and death to its victims. Warnings of danger were all about, even signs were put out telling people not to make sudden moves.

In the midst of all this confusion, an American evangelist and his Iraqi Christian driver were looking for a dugout hole in the ground where the small group of Christians in this town worshiped. Often their small car was stopped in traffic jams. Policemen were attempting to direct the traffic through intersections and around the huge tanks parked in the streets.

When it was his turn to enter one four-lane intersection, the Christian driver stopped and asked the young

policeman who was directing traffic where a certain street was. During the quick conversation, the Christian handed the policeman a small gospel booklet, then drove on. The policeman, in his dark blue uniform, stood back up on the street curb and began to read the booklet. He did not look up at all when horns honked and angry drivers shouted at him and each other. He wanted to know what this Christian book had to say.

Though these two evangelists did not find the Christians' meeting place, they found eager hands ready to take gospel tracts from them as they walked down the sidewalks of Tikrit. Every tract was taken—not a one was thrown down or tossed away.

Right now thousands of people in Iraq are searching for something better. They want a new hope for tomorrow; an improved way of life. Only Jesus Christ can change hearts and minds for the better, because He cleans out sin in true believers and gives eternal life to the faithful. Let's pray for those in Iraq who are searching for the Truth. —Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God tell Saul to destroy the Amalekites?
2. Who won the battle?
3. Did Saul obey God and destroy all of the Amalekites?
4. What else did the Israelites take?
5. Did this make God happy?
6. What did Samuel tell Saul?
7. How did this make Saul feel?
8. Was Saul still allowed to worship God?

(Answers: 1. He remembered what they had done to Moses. 2. The Israelites. 3. No, he took the king. 4. The best of the animals. 5. No, Saul had disobeyed God. 6. That God had rejected him from being king. 7. Very sorry. 8. Yes, since he meant his words.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 May 30, 2004

ANOTHER KING FOR ISRAEL

The Lord spoke to Samuel. "Take your oil. Go to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem. One of his sons will be the next king." Samuel was afraid Saul would find out and kill him for anointing someone else king, but Samuel obeyed God.

Samuel met with Jesse's sons in Bethlehem. They were so strong and handsome. Samuel looked at Jesse's son, Eliab. Surely he was the one. God said, "Do not pay attention to what they look like. Man sees what they look like on the outside. I see what they look like in the heart."

Seven of Jesse's sons came before Samuel. "No, none of these are the ones. Are all of your children here?" Samuel asked.

"There is still the youngest. He is watching the sheep." Jesse told Samuel.

Jesse's youngest son was brought in. The Lord told Samuel, "Get up, and anoint him, for he is the one to be king."

Samuel took his oil and anointed David. God's spirit stayed with David from then on.

—Monica Murphey

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward.... 1 Samuel 16:13.





New Life From The Gospels

In a private place, in a quiet part of town, nearly 300 children gathered to sing about Jesus Christ and to rejoice in their Saviour. Their voices blended in such joy and hope that the audience of parents and other adults could feel the electric excitement in the air.

One of the songs that they sang told about Lazarus and how he was resurrected from the dead.

During the song three children stood out from the others and they were wrapped in white toilet paper from the bottom of their feet to the top of their heads. These three children represented Lazarus in his grave clothes. He had been dead for three days and was already lying on a shelf in a stone tomb when Jesus arrived among the mourners. The children sang about how Jesus had prayed to His Father a simple prayer, then He spoke to Lazarus and called him from the tomb of death.

When they sang about Lazarus' return to life on this earth, the three children were quickly unwrapped and set free to shout and praise the Lord. Happiness shone on each child's face, spilling over onto the audience who joined in with the celebration of life. Even those who did not speak Arabic like the children rejoiced in what they saw and heard.

This Christian program was performed in an underground church in Iraq. Though there is not full freedom to worship Jesus Christ in Iraq, that does not stop the sincere believers who are willing to lose their lives for the gospel's sake.

After the program, American missionaries gave gifts to the children. Again shouts of joy broke out in praise to their Saviour as the children found Gospels written in Arabic in their gift bags. They cannot buy the Word of God very easily in Iraq and so it was a wonderful treat to receive these Gospels that they could read.

Let us pray for these children who are living for Jesus Christ in a country where Islam is the major religion. They do not have permission from the government to tell others about the true God and His Son, but they are eager to learn about God and work for Him. May we be just that excited about the Word of God and His work.

—Sis. Connie Sorrell

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God tell Samuel to do?
2. How did this make Samuel feel?
3. Did Samuel obey God?
4. Where did Jesse live?
5. What did God tell Samuel about Jesse's sons?
6. Where was Jesse's youngest son?
7. What was his name?
8. Who did the Lord choose to be the next king?
9. What did God tell Samuel to do to David?

(Answers: 1. Go to Jesse's house to anoint the next king. 2. Afraid. 3. Yes. 4. Bethlehem. 5. That He sees their hearts, not what they look like on the outside. 6. Watching the sheep. 7. David. 8. David. 9. Anoint him with oil.)