

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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STEPHEN SAINT, SON OF A SLAIN MISSIONARY

"For years, I'd thought Timbuktu was just a made-up name for 'the ends of the earth.' When I found out it was a real place in Africa, I developed an inexplicable fascination for it. It was in 1986 on a fact-finding trip to West Africa for Missionary Aviation Fellowship that this fascination became an irresistible urge.

"Timbuktu wasn't on my itinerary, but I knew I had to go there. Once I arrived, I discovered I was in trouble. I'd hitched a ride from Bamako, Mali, 500 miles away on the only seat left on a Navajo six-seater airplane chartered by UNICEF.

"Two of their doctors were in Timbuktu and might fly back on the return flight, which meant I'd be bumped, but I decided to take the chance. Now here I was, standing by the plane on the windswept outskirts of the famous Berber outpost.

"There was not a spot of true green anywhere in the desolate brown Saharan landscape. Dust blew across the sky, blotting out the sun as I squinted in the 110-degree heat, trying to make out the mud-walled buildings of the village of 20,000. The pilot approached me as I started for town. He reported that the doctors

were on their way and I'd have to find another ride to Bamako.

"Try the marketplace. Someone there might have a truck. But be careful," he said. "Westerners don't last long in the desert if the truck breaks down, which often happens."

"I didn't relish the thought of being stranded, but perhaps it was fitting that I should wind up like this, surrounded by the Sahara. Since I arrived in Africa the strain of the harsh environment and severe suffering of the starving peoples had left me feeling lost in a spiritual and emotional desert.

"The open-air marketplace in the center of town was crowded. Men and women wore flowing robes and turbans as protection against the sun. Most of the Berbers' robes were dark blue, with 30 feet of material in their turbans alone. The men were well armed with scimitars and knives. I felt eyes were watching me suspiciously. Suspicion was understandable in Timbuktu.

"Nothing could be trusted here. These people had once been prosperous and self-sufficient. Now even their land had turned against them. Drought had turned rich grasslands to desert. Unrelenting sun and windstorms had nearly annihilated all animal life. People were dying by the thousands.



IN THE BEGINNING

Genesis 1:1-13

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

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

John 1:3

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Hebrews 1:10

10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

The Message: God tells us plainly that He created the earth and the universe. We must believe His Word.

Questions:

1. Who created the heaven and earth?

2. What did the earth look like when God first created it?

3. What did God do with the light?

4. What did He call the light?

5. What did He call the darkness?

6. On what day did God remove earth's covering of water and let dry land appear?

7. What did God call the firmament?

8. What did God call the dry land?

9. On what day did God create grass and fruit trees?

Verse to Memorize

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. Hebrews 11:3

Let's



Talk . . .

The first chapter of Genesis tells us plainly that God is the Creator of all things. All the matter necessary for His later working He miraculously created—that is, made out of nothing. There was not any pre-existent matter; God created all.

God revealed this to Moses and he wrote it as the first principle of truth in the Bible. Genesis is not the only place this fact is stated. Jesus, Himself, referred to "the creation which God created." (Mark 13:19) John, Jesus' beloved disciple, wrote: "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." John 1:3. Hebrews 1:10 says, "And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:"

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 13:1, "...In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established." God, by speaking through Moses, Jesus, John and the writer of Hebrews, carefully established the fact that He created the heaven and the earth. He gave us a firm foundation because this truth is basic to our belief of the entire Bible.

You have probably heard of the Theory of Evolution. This is an idea that everything we see about us, the whole universe, just happened by chance. Some explain that a Big Bang billions of years ago started our universe. The matter, which came from this unexplained explosion, "just happened" to cool into stars. Our sun, one of those stars, "just happened" to have planets around it. One of these

planets, Earth, "just happened" to be the right distance from the sun and to have just the right mixture of water and other elements.

Then, they say, as Earth cooled, chemicals in an ancient sea "just happened" to come together in the right way, and these dead chemicals came alive. As ages passed the first living cells "just happened" to take on plant and animal characteristics. As more ages passed these tiny cells "just happened" to cluster together to become larger living creatures.

As even more time passed, living creatures "just happened" to become more and more complex. Somehow some living creatures "just happened" to turn into other living creatures—fish became amphibians and reptiles. Some of these "just happened" to turn into birds and mammals. And eventually one line of living creatures supposedly turned into human beings.

This theory is presented as the "scientific" view of origins. School textbooks, many teachers, as well as newspapers and magazines and even encyclopedias often present this theory as if it is fact.

Yet none of this can be proven. Dr. Edwin Conklin, biologist, Princeton University, said, "The probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop."

How could people believe such a ridiculous theory? Romans 1:28 explains: "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind ..." When people reject God they turn from the very source of wisdom and truth. They will believe the unbelievable rather than acknowledge Him as their creator! —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—References: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards; "A Scientific Analysis of Genesis" by Edward F. Blick

"I went from person to person trying to find someone who spoke English, until I finally came across a local gendarme (policeman) who understood my broken French. 'I need a truck,' I said. 'I need to go to Bamako.'

"Eyes widened in his shaded face. 'No truck,' he shrugged. Then he added, 'No road. Only sand.'

"By now, my presence was causing a sensation in the marketplace. I was surrounded by at least a dozen small children, jumping and dancing, begging for coins and souvenirs. The situation was extreme, I knew. I tried to think calmly. What am I to do?

"Suddenly I had a powerful desire to talk to my father. Certainly he had known what it was like to be a foreigner in a strange land.

"But my father, Nate Saint, was dead. He was one of five missionary men killed by Auca Indians in the jungles of Ecuador in 1956. I was a month shy of my fifth birthday at the time, and my memories of him were almost like movie clips: a lanky, intense man with a serious goal and a quick wit. He was a dedicated jungle pilot, flying missionaries and medical personnel in his Piper Family Cruiser.

"Even after his death he was a presence in my life. I'd felt the need to talk with my father before, especially since I'd married and become a father myself. But in recent weeks this need had become urgent. For one thing, I was new to relief work. But it was more than that. I needed Dad to help answer my new questions of faith. In Mali, for the first time in my life, I was surrounded by people who didn't share my faith, who were, in fact, hostile to the Christian faith, locals and Western relief workers alike.

"In a way it was a parallel to the situation Dad had faced in Ecuador. How often I'd said the same thing Dad would have said among the Indians

who killed him: 'My God is real. He's a personal God who lives inside me, with whom I have a very special, one-on-one relationship.'

"And yet the question lingered in my mind: Did my father have to die? All my life, people had spoken of Dad with respect; he was a man willing to die for his faith. But at the same time I couldn't help but think the murders were capricious, an accident of bad timing.

"Dad and his colleagues landed just as a small band of Auca men were in a bad mood for reasons that had nothing to do with faith or Americans. If Dad's plane had landed one day later, the massacre may not have happened. Couldn't there have been another way? It made little impact on the Aucas that I could see. To them it was just one more killing in a history of killings.

"Thirty years later it still had an impact on me. And now, for the first time, I felt threatened because of who I was and what I believed. 'God,' I found myself praying as I looked around the marketplace. 'I'm in trouble here. Please keep me safe and show me a way to get back. Please reveal Yourself and Your love to me the way you did to my father.'

"No bolt of lightning came from the blue. But a new thought did come to mind. I could wire Bamako to send another plane. 'Where's the telecommunications office?' I asked another gendarme. He said, 'Telegraph transmits only if station in Bamako has machine on, message goes through. If not,' he shrugged, 'no answer ever comes.'

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. God. 2. It had no form, was dark and empty. 3. He divided it from the darkness. 4. Day. 5. Night. 6. On the third day. 7. Heaven. 8. Earth. 9. The third day.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 11, 2009

THE SON OF A SLAIN MISSIONARY

(Continued from last week)

Stephen Saint's urge to visit Timbuktu put him in great danger. In his desperation he breathed a prayer for protection and guidance.

"Now what? The sun was crossing toward the horizon. If I didn't have arrangements made by nightfall, what would happen to me? This was truly the last outpost of the world. More than a few Westerners had disappeared in the desert without a trace.

"Then I remembered that just before I'd started for Timbuktu, a fellow worker had said, 'There's a famous mosque in Timbuktu. Many Islamic pilgrims visit it every year. But there's also a tiny Christian church, which virtually no one visits. Look it up if you get the chance.'

"I asked the children, 'Where is Eglise Evangelique Chretienne?'

"The youngsters were willing to help, though they were obviously confused about what I was looking for. Several times elderly men and women scolded them harshly as we passed, but they persisted. Finally we arrived, not at the church, but at the open doorway of a tiny mud-brick house.

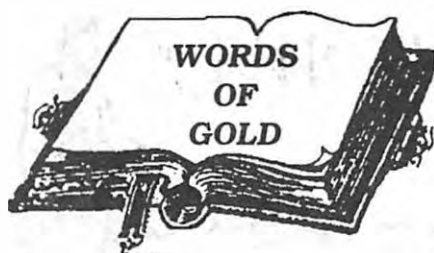
"No one was home, but on the wall opposite the door was a poster showing a cross covered by wounded hands. The French subscript said,

'and by His stripes we are healed.'

"Within minutes, my army of waifs pointed out a young man approaching us in the dirt alleyway. Then the children melted back into the labyrinth of the walled alleys and compounds of Timbuktu. The young man was handsome, with dark skin and flowing robes. But there was something inexplicably different about him. His name was Nouh Af Infa Yatara; that much I understood.

"Nouh signaled he knew someone who could translate for us. He led me to a compound on the edge of town where an American missionary lived. I was glad to meet the missionary, but from the moment I'd seen Nouh, I'd had the feeling that we shared something in common.

"How did you come to have faith?' I asked him. The missionary translated as Nouh answered: 'This compound has always had a beautiful garden. One day when I was a small boy, a friend and I decided to steal some carrots. It was a dangerous task. We'd been told that Toubabs [white men] eat nomadic children. Despite our agility and considerable experience, I was caught by the former missionary here. Mr. Marshall didn't eat me; instead, he gave me the carrots and some cards that had God's promises from the Bible written on them. He told me if I learned them, he'd give me an ink pen!'



GOD, THE GREAT CREATOR

Genesis 1:14-25

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth.

18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

The Message: God saw that all He created was good.

Questions:

1. What would divide the day from the night?
2. How many great lights did God make?
3. What do we call the greater light that rules the day?
4. What lesser light rules the night?
5. What other lights did He make?
6. What day were the sun, moon and stars made?
7. What did God make on the fifth day?
8. What did God command when He blessed the fish and fowls?
9. What did God command to bring forth the cattle, creeping things and beasts?

Verse to Memorize

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelations 4:11

Let's



Talk . . .

Our lesson tells us how the sun, moon and stars were created. The sun, the greater light, was made to shine in the daytime—just as it does now. All our solar system was set in perfect order from the beginning. The moon as well as the sun travels in such perfect orbits that seasons, days, months and years can be predicted precisely.

Our well ordered universe could not have developed by accident from chaos. Anything which starts with disorder ends in more chaos, not precise order. If a great explosion rips through a building it becomes a heap of rubble, not a better-constructed building. How can scientists ignore such obvious facts? It is because they insist on explaining everything without God.

Yet it is the very order of the universe that enables scientists to discover and describe the natural laws that govern it. Our universe is a cosmos. The word "cosmos" comes from a Greek word meaning "orderly universe." Scientists have found that the entire universe behaves in an orderly way, with all things following their own sets of laws.

As they have studied these laws, scientists find that if these laws were just slightly different, life could not exist. Our existence depends on a great number of precise rules that govern nature. For example, only the precise amount of gravity on the Earth allows people and animals to walk about freely, and yet not fly off into space. There was no margin for

error in the establishment of these laws. The more that is learned about the universe, the more awesome and strange it appears. Yet everything is ordered; everything is ruled by natural laws whose only possible source is God!

Our lesson tells us that God created different kinds of sea creatures to live in the water. He created the birds of many kinds to fly in the sky as well as cattle, creeping things, and beasts to live on land. Each was created after its own kind. All the animals on Earth now have come from these original animals which God created. A fish was created to be just that. It will never be a dog or a cat, much less a man!

We can study even a single feather and discover a world of wonders. Each feather is a marvel of engineering design. Barbs extend from each side of a center shaft. Smaller barbules grow out of both sides of the barbs, and these have tiny, microscopic barbicels. These barbicels are tiny hooks and some birds have over a million barbicels on a single feather! The hooks fit into the next feather's barbules, weaving the whole together. If the barbs are pulled apart, the bird hooks them back together by running its beak through the feather, much like we zip a zipper! This makes it possible for the wing to flare and hold air as the bird flies. Such intricate detail could never happen by accident!

Even a casual study of nature reveals such wisdom, order and beauty of design we cannot doubt that they are the handiwork of God! To leave Him out leads us to all kinds of absurd conclusions. How can anyone believe the entire universe is a product of chance? Only by ignoring God Who is Himself the source of all wisdom and knowledge.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

"You learned them?" I asked.

"Oh, yes!" he exclaimed. "Only government men and the headmaster of the school had a Bic pen! But when I showed off my pen at school, the teacher knew I must have spoken with a Toubab, which is strictly forbidden. He severely beat me."

"When Nouh's parents found out he had portions of such a despised book defiling their house, they threw him out and forbade anyone to take him in; nor was he allowed in school.

"But something had happened: Nouh had come to believe that what the Bible said was true. Nouh's mother became desperate. Her own standing, as well as her family's, was in jeopardy.

"Finally she decided to kill her son. She obtained poison from a sorcerer and poisoned Nouh's food at a family feast. Nouh ate the food and wasn't affected.

"His brother, who unwittingly stole a morsel of meat from the deadly dish, became violently ill and remains partially paralyzed. Seeing God's intervention, the family and the town's people were afraid to make further attempts on his life, but condemned him as an outcast.

"After sitting a moment, I asked Nouh the question that only hours earlier I'd wanted to ask my father: 'Why is your faith so important to you that you're willing to give up everything, perhaps even your life?'

"I know God loves me and I'll live with Him forever," he replied. "I know it! Now I have peace where I used to be full of fear and uncertainty. Who wouldn't want to give up everything for this peace and security?"

"It couldn't have been easy for you as a teenager to take a stand that made you despised by the whole community," I said. "Where did your courage come from?"

"Mr. Marshall couldn't take me in without putting my life in jeopardy. So he gave me some books about

other Christians who'd suffered for their faith. My favorite was about five young men who willingly risked their lives to take God's good news to stone-age Indians in the jungles of South America."

"His eyes widened as he continued. 'I've lived all my life in the desert. How frightening the jungle must be! The book said these men let themselves be speared to death, even though they had guns and could have killed their attackers!'

"The missionary translator said, 'I remember the story. As a matter of fact, one of those men had your last name.'

"Yes," I said quietly, 'the pilot was my father.'

"Your father?" Nouh cried. "The story is true?"

"Yes," I said, 'it's true.'

"The missionary and Nouh and I talked through the afternoon. When they accompanied me back to the airfield that night, we found that the doctors weren't able to leave Timbuktu after all, and there was room for me on the UNICEF plane.

"As Nouh and I hugged each other, it seemed incredible that God loved us so much that He'd arranged for us to meet 'at the ends of the earth.'

"Nouh and I had gifts for each other that no one else could give. I gave him the assurance that the story that had given him courage was true. He, in turn, gave me the assurance that God had used Dad's death for good.

"Dad, by dying, had helped give Nouh a faith worth dying for. And Nouh, in return, had helped give Dad's faith back to me."

—Stephen Saint

Answers: 1. Lights. 2. Two. 3. The sun. 4. The moon. 5. The stars. 6. The fourth. 7. The fish and fowl. 8. "Be fruitful and multiply." 9. The earth.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 18, 2009

A MARVELOUS MIRACLE

Shortly, before leaving China, Mr. K. Vatsas, a Norwegian missionary associated with China Inland Mission, related to me the following story:

"Years ago, in the city of Oslo, the capital of Norway, lived a little seven-year-old school girl named Sigrid Berg. One day one of the pupils at the school she attended pushed her down the stone steps of the school building. At first the injury did not seem to be very serious. But gradually the child grew worse until hip-disease developed, and she was compelled to use crutches.

"Later the child was confined to her bed. Several doctors attended her. From an opening in her hip the poisonous fluid had to be drained off with tubes. She grew still worse, until her spine was affected, and one side of her body became paralyzed. Her speech also was affected, so that she could not speak distinctly. After the fall one leg ceased to grow, and remained several inches shorter than the other. In order to keep her leg straight, a sandbag was fastened to it. A strap was attached to her shoulder and fastened to the bed to keep her in position. The child's hair also fell off from the side of her head that was paralyzed. She could not take solid food, but was given liquid

nourishment through a tube. She lay in bed in this condition for about two years, gradually growing worse and worse. The doctors finally gave up her case as hopeless, though they still attended her in the home.

"Many prayers were offered for the child. On one occasion Mr. Bolzius, a famous Swedish man of faith, through whose prayers many had been healed, came to Oslo. The pastor of the church to which the child's parents belonged, brought Mr. Bolzius to the home to pray for the little girl. He fell on his knees and began to pray but suddenly he arose and said, 'I have nothing to do here.' With his big hand he stroked her hair, and said, 'My little girl, you are going to Jesus.' Then he said good-bye, and left.

"One day some time after this, Sigrid was reading the 53rd chapter of Isaiah in her Norwegian Bible. She was greatly struck by the 4th verse. In the Norwegian version it reads that Jesus bore our 'pains' and 'sicknesses.' She called her mother and said, 'O mother, Jesus has borne our sicknesses, as well as our sins, on the cross. Do I still need to be sick?'

"From this time Sigrid began to have faith that the Lord was going to heal her. Another day she read Matthew 9:35, where it says that Christ healed 'every sickness and every



GOD CREATED MAN

Genesis 1:26

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 2:7, 19-20

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

Genesis 2:18, 21-24

18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he

a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Genesis 1:31

31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

The Message: It is clear that God made man distinctly different from the animals He had already created.

Questions:

1. Who said, "Let us make man?"
2. Over what was man to have dominion?
3. Of what did God make man?
4. How did man become a living soul?
5. Who named all the creatures?
6. Why did God make an help meet for Adam?
7. What did God do to Adam before taking a rib from him?
8. What did God do with the rib from Adam?
9. Why did Adam call her woman?

Verse to Memorize

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:...

Psalms 139:14

Let's



Talk . . .

Those who reject God as their creator are anxious to prove that man just evolved. They contend that millions of years ago our ancestors were much like the apes we see today!

In 1891, Dr. Eugene Dubois went to Central Java in search of fossils of man and apes. Within a year he had dug up the top of a skull, a fragment of a left thigh bone, and three molar teeth. They were not found together, but within 50 to 75 feet of each other.

Evolutionists of the time were thrilled with the find. With so little to work with they "reconstructed" a creature that supposedly lived 750,000 years ago!

It was not until 1922 that scientists decided that this Java man, as he was called, was just a big blunder. What Dr. Dubois had actually found was the skull of a gibbon, the leg and premolar of a man, and two molars of an orangutan! Yet for 30 years the Java man had been exhibited in museums and books as the missing link between man and ape. They had taken plaster of Paris to connect the skull of a gibbon, one tooth of a man and two of an orangutan and produced something that looked like a man!

Again in 1926 the Science Newsletter announced, "A perfect skull of prehistoric man is found. This find turned out to be the knee bone of an extinct elephant!"

Another famous so-called link between ape and man was the Piltdown man. Around 1910, Charles Dawson found a reddish-brown skull in a gravel pit. Later a jawbone of about the same color and two dark teeth were

found in the same pit. Using these, Dr. Arthur Smith of the British Museum created a bust of how he imagined this ape-like man looked. He named it the Piltdown man and placed it in the museum.

Articles about the Piltdown man were written in children's science textbooks along with pictures of him. Yet he consisted of only three parts; the rest was plaster of Paris!

In 1949, Kenneth P. Oakley examined these bones under new methods and proved that they were not old. Using a microscope, Mr. Oakley found file marks on the teeth. The teeth had been filed to look like man's teeth, also the black paint on the teeth could be scraped off. The teeth and jawbone were found to be those of a modern orangutan. It was nothing but a hoax (a prank.)

In 1922 the Nebraska man, another ape-like man, was created out of plaster of Paris. He was supposed to have lived in this country one million years ago. What fossils did they have to construct the Nebraska man? One tooth! Years later it was discovered that this tooth belonged to a peccary, a species of a pig now extinct in the United States!

Another missing link that was exhibited in the museums and whose pictures you see in books is called the Heidelberg man. Yet he is really just one jawbone! It seems that when there is a great desire to create an ape-man, it can be done from plaster of Paris and very little evidence, whether it is a pig's tooth, the top of a skull and the jawbone of an orangutan, or just one jawbone!

The search continues for ape-man fossils, but without success. Each uncovered fossil of man is found to be basically like man is today, for that is how God created him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

disease among the people.' She said to her mother, 'Is Jesus the same today as when He was on earth?' The mother replied, 'He will come in His own time.' Sigrid slightly mistook her mother's words and thought she said, 'Jesus will come when He has time.' She thought He was very busy, and that He would come when He could spare the time. With this thought in mind, she asked her mother to get out her dress and put it on a chair beside the bed, so that when Jesus came to heal her she could get up and dress quickly.

"One day Sigrid was all alone in her room. Suddenly a bright, white light seemed to break through the ceiling, and illuminated the room. At the same moment the child heard a voice saying, 'Sigrid, you can arise, you are healed.' Sigrid replied, 'But how about the sandbag that is tied to my leg?'

"Suddenly the sandbag loosened and dropped away from her leg. In a twinkling she sprang out of bed, and as she stood on the floor, she noticed that her two legs were of equal length. She was so happy that she began to dance for joy.

"Just then her mother opened the door. When the child saw her mother, she exclaimed joyfully, 'O mother, both of my legs are the same length now; Jesus has healed me.'

That same day the mother suggested that the little girl should walk to the house of the doctor, and show him what had happened. The child walked the entire distance of two miles with her mother to the home of the doctor, Prof. Nicolaisen. When he saw her and heard the story, he exclaimed, 'This is a miracle!'

"Years later, preparatory to going to China as a missionary, she went to the U.S.A. and spent some time in study at the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago. Before leaving for China,

however, she returned to Norway to visit her people. While at her home, a number of doctors came together in Oslo. Professor Nicolaisen told some of them about the little girl who had been instantly healed years before.

In order to prove his statements, Professor Nicolaisen asked her to come to his house, so that he could demonstrate the case before his professional associates. She compiled with his request. The doctors made a thorough examination, and had X-ray pictures taken. They also looked up the records, and examined the symptoms of the case put down by the doctors who had attended her.

Following their complete and thorough examination, they unanimously declared that the young woman was every whit whole; and not only was this true, but—wonder of wonders!—the tissues of one side were ten years younger than those of the other; the little girl was just ten when she was healed.

After years of service as a missionary in China she returned to Norway. One day she saw a woman with crutches. Her heart went out in compassion to the stranger. As the two talked together, the cripple told how she had read about the instantaneous healing of a girl in Norway. She only wished she had the faith of that little child. The little child, who was then Mrs. G. Vatsas, said to her: 'I am the little girl that was healed.' About a year later this cripple was healed too!"

—George T. B. Davis

Answers: 1. God. 2. Over the fish, fowl, cattle, creeping things and the whole earth. 3. Dirt. 4. God breathed the breath of life into him. 5. Adam. 6. Because God said it was not good for him to be alone. 7. Put him into a deep sleep. 8. From it He made a woman. 9. Because she was taken out of man.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 25, 2009

HOW HENRY FOUND PEACE

Henry belonged to a family whose father, mother and nine brothers and sisters were infidels. A camp meeting was in progress in the community in which he lived, and he attended for the purpose of having some fun. As he was listening to the preacher, the Holy Spirit used the message, and he became deeply convicted of his need of a Saviour. After the man of God had finished his sermon, sinners were invited to come forward to accept Christ as their Saviour. Henry found his way to an altar, and there with other penitents, he was begging for mercy and forgiveness.

After the meeting was dismissed the people left the tent, but Henry refused to leave. He told the Christians who were praying for him, that he did not know until an hour ago, that there was a God in Heaven, and that he would not leave the spot until he had found peace and forgiveness, and could walk out a child of God.

After Henry had resolved to find the Lord at any cost, it suddenly dawned upon him that his father would despise him, his mother would laugh at him, and his brothers and sisters would drive him away from home. But he purposed in his heart that he would stick to God, and if everybody on earth would forsake him, he was going to stand firm.

Just before he got home, he turned into the woods, and knelt down, and prayed that God would help him to be faithful; for he realized that he was going into a den of lions. The God who delivered Daniel out of the lion's den, heard and answered Henry's prayer, as we shall see.

After arriving home, he sat with them around the supper table; no one spoke a word to him, nor did he say anything, but he was happy in the Lord.

About a week had passed. His brother Tom helped him split rails. As they were sitting on a log resting, Henry asked him whether he knew that he had been saved down at the camp meeting? Tom looked at him and with tears running down his face, he said, "We have all noticed the change in you. Mother says you look and talk just like an angel. You don't swear, and you don't drink, nor do any thing wrong."

Tom wanted this same experience, for he knew that he was a sinner and that he must be saved in order to get to Heaven. So he and Henry went to the meeting and God met Tom and he was gloriously saved. Now both of these new converts had a deep concern for the salvation of their loved ones.

One evening, just before bedtime, Henry asked his mother whether she would mind if they would read a chapter from the Bible and have prayer.



FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Genesis 3:6, 8-13, 16-20

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid. . .

11 And he said, . . . Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice

of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

The Message: Adam's sin caused tragic changes in the earth, in man, and the whole course of nature.

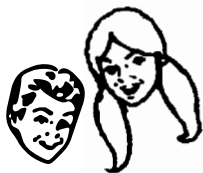
Questions:

1. Why did the woman want to eat the fruit?
2. Who walked in the garden in the cool of the day?
3. Why did Adam and his wife hide?
4. Who did Adam blame for his sin?
5. Who did his wife blame?
6. How did the woman's life change after she disobeyed?
7. In what way did the ground change?
8. How did Adam earn his bread after he sinned?
9. What did Adam name his wife and why?

Verse to Memorize

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
1 Corinthians 15:22

Let's



Talk . . .

God placed Adam in the beautiful Garden of Eden and told him he could eat all the fruit he wanted of every tree of the garden except one. It was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God warned him to not eat its fruit, adding, "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Adam passed this warning on to Eve.

Adam and Eve may have passed by that tree of knowledge of good and evil many times, choosing to obey God and not to eat its fruit. Perhaps they made the right choice for years, the Bible does not say. But one day Satan found Eve near the tree of knowledge of good and evil. She was alone. By lies and flattery he confused and fooled her, and she ate the forbidden fruit. Then Adam decided to disobey God. He could have refused but instead he also ate the fruit.

God planted this one special tree in the Garden of Eden and then commanded Adam not to eat its fruit. It might seem that the tree was planted just to trap Adam. That was not the reason it was there. Adam and Eve had a very clear choice to make. If Adam was to be like God, he must choose between right and wrong. They could obey God and do what was right or they could disobey God and do what was wrong.

So long as Adam and Eve did what was right, death had no power over them. But the moment they disobeyed, their bodies began to grow old and die, just as our bodies do today. And at that moment Adam and Eve "knew good and evil" just as we do. They constantly faced the temptation to

do things that were not right. Adam and Eve had sinned.

Sin brought other devastating changes. God could no longer talk face to face with Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening. Sin had made an impassable gulf between God and His creation. By Adam's disobedience sin entered into the world. Sin brought death. Death then passed upon all men. (Romans 5:12.)

Every human being who has ever lived has also sinned and chosen to do things he or she knows are wrong. That is why God sent His son, Jesus, to the world to die on the cross. He died to pay for our sins and to offer forgiveness to us. He died too so that we might be truly good. By trusting in Him we find power to make right choices every day.

The Theory of Evolution would have us believe that our ancestors were animals and that we are no different from them. Like animals we do have a physical body. God fashioned man's body from the dust of the ground, but his spirit came from the very "breath" of God. This made him like God in spiritual powers. He was given the powers to think and feel, to communicate with others, to discern and discriminate, and, to a certain extent, to determine his own character.

But beyond this, that breath of life made man a living soul. Unlike animals we do not stop existing when our bodies die. Our soul is eternal, meaning it will never die. When our body dies our soul will live forever in one of two places. It is our choice. If we choose to do evil we will live forever in the torments of hell. But if we accept Jesus as our Savior, His blood atones for our sins. We are made pure before God and will live forever with Him in Heaven!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

The mother's lips began to quiver, and she told him he could do any thing he wanted to do. By this time she was sobbing, and over in the corner, one of the sisters was also sobbing. Both were under deep conviction, and before Tom arose from his knees, the mother, sister and another brother had found the Lord as their personal Saviour.

Earnest prayer was offered and the revival fires kept on burning until every one in the infidel family had found the Lord. What a wonderful transformation!

Henry, who had been an infidel, became a preacher of the Gospel. The old godless home was changed into a Christian home.

—S. J. Graybill

The Lord will work this miracle of His grace for all who will come to Him. Whether they are infidels, skeptics, drunkards or gamblers, whether they have climbed the ladder of morality and religion, or have fallen into the gutter of vice and shame, all who come to Him with a penitent, broken and contrite heart will find forgiveness, pardon, peace and deliverance through the blood of Jesus which was shed on Calvary. He is no respecter of persons, for He says, "...Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out," John 6-37.

"Come unto Me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. God said to a backslidden people, "Come now, and let us reason together:...though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18.

God wants us to come and He wants us to come NOW. "...Behold, NOW is the accepted time; behold, NOW is the day of salvation." II Corinthians 6:2. There is danger in delay. Felix, after listening to Paul's

preaching, trembled and said, "...Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Acts 24:25 There is nothing on record telling that he ever turned to the Lord. Agrippa said to Paul, "...Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." Acts 26:28. But he failed to make his decision for Christ. How important it is that we decide to live for Christ at once!

When the prodigal son came to himself, he made a resolution and said, "I will arise and go to my father." He did not put it off, but with a determined heart "he arose, and came to his father," confessing his sins, and in turn he received his father's embrace and forgiveness. The father freely lavished his love upon him by giving him the best robe, shoes for his sore feet, a ring for his hand. A feast was prepared for this wayward, sin sick, penitent son. This story shows us what God will do for everyone who will turn away from sin and seek His pardon and forgiveness.

But remember, we must come just like the prodigal. We must feel our guilt and unworthiness and confess our absolute dependence upon His mercy and grace for the remission of our sins. We must come just as we are.

*"Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!"*

—Charlotte Elliot

Answers: 1. It looked good and she thought it would make her wise. 2. God. 3. They knew they had sinned and were afraid. 4. His wife. 5. The serpent. 6. She had trouble bearing children and her husband ruled over her. 7. It grew thorns and thistles. 8. By working hard. 9. Eve. Because she was the mother of all.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Feb. 1, 2009

KIBOKO!

Their camp was near a muddy river, where crocodiles and hippopotamuses shared the water. The land was fairly smooth and here and there were trees in the background. At night Uncle Rick, Aunt Ruth, Jackie and Scotty headed for their tent where they slept under a fine white netting to keep off mosquitoes and other insects. The native guides, however, slept outside by the fire.

On their first night out Uncle Rick had a long talk with Scotty and his cousin.

"Never drink water unless it's been boiled. It can make you very sick here in Africa. Don't go near the river unless a grownup is with you. You see, the crocs are very dangerous. But Kiboko is also very dangerous!"

Jackie murmured, "Wow!" but Scotty frowned a little. He'd never heard of a hippo killing anything. Maybe... maybe Uncle Rick had sort of got it mixed up a little.

After all the others were asleep, Scotty crept to the door of the tent. There he prayed, "Help me, Lord, to win Jackie to you. And Sabo too." Scotty added sadly, "Poor Sabo, he has never even heard the name of Jesus!"

Sabo was a boy of about twelve, the son of one of the native guides. His village was in a jungle clearing, and his home was made of grass. Sabo spoke only a few words of English.

The next morning the sun shone brightly and the crocodiles lay warming themselves lazily on the riverbanks.

"This is the greatest adventure I've ever known," thought Scotty. He was sitting a little apart from the others when Sabo edged up close to him. Sabo's eyes were wide and sober and his black hair glistened in the sunlight. Sabo bowed his head as he had just seen Scotty do.

"Why?" he asked.

Scotty understood at once. "Why, I was thanking God for my food, Sabo!"

Sabo cocked his head. "God?"

Scotty didn't know what to say to make the other boy understand. Then he said the words very slowly so Sabo could follow. "God is good. He loves us. He lives in a place called Heaven."

"Heaven. God—is good?" Sabo, the black boy asked.

"Oh, if only there was someone who spoke his language! Someone to make him understand!" thought Scotty.

The guides went with Uncle Rick into the tall grass that morning. Scotty, Jackie and Sabo wandered about near the tent. The river was strictly forbidden, because of the crocodiles. Uncle Rick had told them many people in Africa were killed each year by the vicious crocs.

Suddenly, Jackie pointed toward a great, awkward lump some distance away. "What on earth is that?" she asked. Scotty squinted against the sun.



GOD IS OMNIPOTENT!

Romans 1:18-21

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead: so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Jeremiah 32:17

17 Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

Luke 9:43

43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. . .

Acts 4:24

24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which has made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

Colossians 2:2-3

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgment of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Hebrews 11:3

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

John 5:46-47

46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.

47 But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

Luke 16:31

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

The Message: Our faith in God is greatly increased as we see Him as the Creator of the entire universe!

Questions:

1. How is that which may be known of God made manifest to men?
2. How do we know the invisible things about God?
3. What happened to men who knew God but did not glorify Him nor thank Him?
4. How did Jeremiah know that nothing was too hard for God?
5. In Acts 4:24, when the saints prayed, what did they say the Lord God had made?
6. In Christ all the treasures of _____ and _____ are hid.
7. How do we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God?
8. Who would not be persuaded even if one rose from the dead?

Verse to Memorize

Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:
Jeremiah 32:17

Let's



Talk . . .

God created man in His own likeness so He could talk with man and reveal Himself to him. Even in nature, God carefully left an imprint of His very character, just as a skilled workman is often known by his work. The variety, order, beauty, and harmony that are found in nature all portray God. The systems built into living creatures are wonders of design. They show the touch of an intelligent Maker—God!

God reveals Himself so vividly in all of His creation, men are left without excuse for ignoring Him. Because they see the wonders of all His creation and yet refuse to acknowledge Him, God's wrath is upon them. Their foolish hearts become darkened because they rejected the truth revealed to them. This explains how 'scientists' can still hold to such futile and foolish theories as the Theory of Evolution when all nature points to a Divine Creator. They have personally rejected God and refuse to acknowledge Him in His handiwork.

It makes a wonderful difference when we see God in everything! When Jeremiah considered God's great power in creating the heavens and the Earth, he had to exclaim, "Nothing is too hard for thee!"

One definition of science is "knowledge, as of facts or principles." Paul tells in Colossians 2:3 that wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Christ. Those who

would be wise and knowledgeable must go to Him. These treasures are not hidden from us, but for us, in Christ. But unless we press after the full knowledge of them, they will be hidden to us.

This is the case of those who refuse to acknowledge God. Romans 1:21 says they "...became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." Those who refuse to accept God as the Creator embrace any theory that eliminates God. Paul says they have their "...understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart." Ephesians 4:18. Paul warned Timothy to avoid such false science. (1 Timothy 6:20.)

God revealed to Moses how He created the heavens and earth. Moses wrote it down in the very first chapter of the Bible so this truth would be handed down through all generations. Then in all nature God again verified that He was the Creator, leaving His divine imprint in the many wonders of the universe.

Jesus aptly predicted, "...If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Luke 16:31. The greatest miracle will have no effect on those who are determined not to believe. Behind the Theory of Evolution is Satan's intent and determination to destroy our faith. If he can cause people to disregard God as their Creator, then it will be simple for them to disregard Him as their Redeemer.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "Unlocking the Mysteries of Creation" by Dennis R. Petersen

"Doesn't look like anything I've ever seen before. Let's take a look." Sabo followed them slowly whittling on a piece of wood.

The closer they got to the strange thing, the bigger it looked. And, whatever it was, it was in a gooey mud puddle. Sabo kept whittling, paying little attention to the white boy and girl.

Scotty stopped and picked up a stick. "What do you know about that? It's Kiboko himself! He's found a big puddle of mud and he's making himself right at home in it!"

They were only a dozen yards from the sleeping hippo now. Even from here, he looked harmless and awkward. Surely, thought Scotty, an animal so big couldn't run very fast or be so very dangerous. He eased forward another two yards. Scotty frowned. "I thought Kiboko lived in the water."

At mention of Kiboko Sabo suddenly stopped whittling. His black eyes looked as big as saucers and he began to tremble.

"Kiboko!" Sabo yelled. He motioned for Scotty and his cousin to run, but by now Scotty was frozen in his tracks. Jackie too seemed unable to run. Her face was white and she looked awfully scared.

Suddenly without warning the mud puddle exploded! The earth seemed to rock. Mud and water flew in every direction. Kiboko was on a rampage!

"Go!" Sabo shouted to Scotty. "Go! Kiboko bad!"

Too late Scotty saw that he had been wrong about the hippo! Its weight and size didn't seem to matter, and he steamed toward Scotty like a locomotive!

Then something happened. Sabo moved in front of Scotty, shouting and waving his arms wildly. The hippo paused, then took off after the native boy. Scotty went sick inside when he saw those terrible jaws open, snatch up Sabo, and toss him to the ground.

The sound of a powerful rifle brought both Scotty and Jackie out of the nightmare. It sounded again. And

again. The hippo lay dead against the green grass, and a strange man was coming forward to see about Sabo.

Scotty forced himself forward. He was sick with fear. "Never—oh, never again—would he doubt Uncle Rick when he told Scotty that certain animals were dangerous!"

The strange man spoke to Sabo in his native tongue. Sabo sat up, rubbing his legs. The man smiled.

"He's all right. Just shaken."

"Mister, I don't know who you are, but you sure came along at just the right time!"

The man looked back at Sabo. "I'm Tim Foley—a missionary. I'm trying to make my way into some of the out-of-the-way villages."

Scotty sighed deeply. "Oh, Mr. Foley, please, won't you tell Sabo about Jesus? I've tried, but I can't make him understand."

Mr. Foley returned to his jeep and then brought some pictures to show Sabo. Several guides waited by the jeep. One of them held the rifle that had saved Sabo's life. Then, for a long time, Mr. Foley talked to Sabo, while the boy's face showed keen interest.

"I told him about Jesus, how Jesus gave His life for Sabo, just as Sabo almost gave his life for you. He understands and wants to know the Jesus way."

Jackie looked wistful. She knew that Sabo had almost given his life for her too. "Now I can see it too," she said slowly. "how Jesus took my place on the cross. He must love me an awful lot!"

"He does," Scotty said.

—Selected

Answers: 1. He has shewed it to them. 2. By the things He has made. 3. Their foolish heart was darkened. 4. He knew God had made the heaven and earth by His great power. 5. The heaven, earth, sea and everything in them. 6. Wisdom and knowledge. 7. Through faith. 8. Those who would not believe Moses or the prophets.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 8, 2009

BLACK FRITZ

Bruce and Fred climbed up on their father's knee, and begged him for a story before they went to bed.

"Shall I tell you a story of a boy or a girl?"

"Of a boy, please—a brave boy."

"A number of years ago there was a boy named Harold. His mother was a widow, and she loved the Lord Jesus. Her son also was a bright happy Christian. When Harold grew up, he decided to go to sea on a merchant vessel. When he left home, his dear mother kissed him and said, 'My dear boy, be true to the Lord Jesus wherever you are and whatever it may cost.'"

The very first evening on the ship, Harold knelt to pray. The other men had never been in the habit of praying, and so they decided it would be fun to mock this new young boy. They shouted at him, but still he knelt silently before the Lord. One of the biggest men poured a jug of cold water over his head. But still he prayed on. Many times they tried to make him feel ashamed of his Saviour, but when Harold thought of how much the Saviour suffered for him, he asked God to keep him true and faithful. He often thought of that verse, 'Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not...' 1 Peter 2:23.

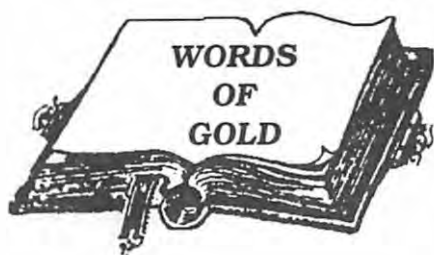
"These things were only the beginnings of Harold's sufferings. The ringleader in all the persecution was a young man named Fritz. For some reason they all called him 'Black Fritz.' He was in the habit of calling Harold all kinds of nicknames, which were then taken up and used by the others. After that Harold would go up to the top of the mast where he could be alone with the Lord in prayer. There he told the Lord of his troubles, and then came down strengthened and comforted.

"One day a severe storm came on very suddenly, tearing one of their highest sails. The captain ordered black Fritz to go up and take in that sail. Now it happened that Fritz was very brave when doing mischief to others, but he was a coward at heart. When he looked at the swaying mast, and the torn sail, he turned very pale and shook all over. Just then brave Harold stepped up. 'Please, captain, let me go up there in Fritz' place.'

"The captain looked amazed, 'But my boy, you have only been on board three months and you don't know the danger of this work.'

"Yes, sir, I wish to go up in Fritz' place,' he returned.

"Every eye on board was fixed on Harold while he was up at the top of the swinging mast. He quickly and carefully finished his work and came



THE GREAT FLOOD

Genesis 6:5, 7-9, 13-22

5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth . . .

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

9 . . . Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

13 And God said unto Noah . . .

14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood: rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

15 And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

The Message: The wickedness of men was so great that it grieved God that He ever created man. He decided to destroy this wicked generation by a flood.

Questions:

1. God saw the _____ of man was great in the earth.
2. Who found grace in the eyes of the Lord?
3. Noah was a ____ man.
4. What did God tell Noah to make?
5. How many windows and doors were there to be?
6. How many stories high was the ark?
7. What was God going to bring on the earth to destroy it?
8. What people were to come into the ark?
9. How many of each animal was brought into the ark?

Verse to Memorize

. . . God saw that the wickedness of man was great, . . . and the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth: . . .
Genesis 6:5,7

Let's



Talk . . .

Noah was 600 years old when he finally went into the ark! He had been working hard for years building the ark and gathering food for his family and the many animals. No doubt he was ridiculed and laughed at for building a huge boat on dry land. He may have wondered himself when the time would come to make use of it!

At last the Lord said it was time for Noah and his family to enter the ark with the animals. Then God shut the door.

Soon the rain began to fall! Springs broke out all over the land and water gushed from the openings. It has been estimated that the earth contains fifty times as much water in the ground as it does in rivers. All this water gushed from underground, rain poured from the sky. Soon the streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes were overflowing. Torrents of water flooded the earth for forty days. Even the highest mountain was covered!

After the ark had floated 150 days, God stopped the fountains of water and made a wind pass over the earth. Two more months passed. Finally, after five months and floating about 500 miles from where it was built, the ark ran aground on Mount Ararat. There it stuck! (Mt. Ararat is located in Turkey, near Russia and Iran. It is 17,011 feet high. Scientists have found what they believe to be the ark near its summit.)

When eight months had passed, the tops of the mountains could be seen. Noah then turned a raven and

a dove loose. The dove came back to the ark. After seven days he sent it again, this time it returned with an olive branch. Noah then knew that the water was down below the trees which had survived the flood. Waiting seven more days, he sent the dove out again. It never returned.

Noah removed a covering from the ark and looked out. He could see bare land! It was another month and twenty six days before the ground was firm and dry. At this time God spoke to Noah telling him it was time to leave the ark so he, his wife, his sons and their wives, and all the animals left the ark.

Noah was so thankful to once more be on dry land! He built an altar and offered burnt offerings on the altar in thanksgiving to God. God was pleased with the sacrifice. He gave the beautiful rainbow as a pledge that He would never again send a flood to destroy every living thing on the earth.

Noah was 601 years old when he came out of the ark. For a whole year he and his family and the animals had stayed together in the big ark. God had instructed him how to make it, so they could be saved from the flood.

Most of us have heard this story of Noah and the ark so many times we can repeat it by heart. But do we accept it as fact, not just a story? Is there any concrete evidence that such a flood did actually occur?

One of the best evidences of the flood is the multitude upon multitudes of fossils found in the Cambrian layer of earth. This indicates that sudden death came to animals all over the world at the same time. The Pre-Cambrian layer which is just below this level has almost no fossils.

The earth as well as the Bible speaks to us saying, "There was a world-wide flood."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

nimbly down again. When he was safe on deck again, black Fritz fell down at his feet and cried, 'A pious and God-fearing boy you may be, but you are not a coward. Please tell me what made you act like that toward me when I have always been your enemy?'

Father got just this far in his story when he said, "And now, boys, can you guess whom this story speaks of?"

"It sounds just like our good Uncle Harold, but who could wicked black Fritz be? We don't know anybody like that."

"That; I am sorry to say, was myself; but after I learned to know Harold's Saviour as my own, we became fast friends. He is now as dear to me as a brother, and that is why he always wants you to call him Uncle Harold."

Bruce and Fred never forgot that story; and they too soon learned to know themselves as sinners, and to trust the Lord Jesus as their own Saviour.

—Messages of the Love of God

A Lesson From a Chipmunk

One morning Jamie and her mother were sitting on the back patio. "Have you memorized your Bible scripture for Sunday School?" Mom asked.

"No, not yet," replied Jamie. "Why do we have to memorize Bible scriptures anyway? We will probably never need them again."

Mom sat quietly thinking how to answer Jamie. Just then a chipmunk scurried across the back yard to the pecan tree. The chipmunk discovered a pecan and quickly picked it up and ran across the yard, under the fence and buried it in the neighbor's yard. Mom smiled as she realized how to answer the question.

"Jamie, watch that chipmunk that's running to our pecan tree." Jamie and mom sat quietly together as they watched the chipmunk once again scurry to get another pecan and carry it to the neighbor's yard to bury

it. "Do you know what that chipmunk is doing?" Mom asked.

"Yes," replied Jamie, "It is storing food for the winter."

"That's right," Mom replied. "And it is starting before the winter storms hit and it cannot find any food. Those pecans will help it to survive." Mom looked at Jamie. "Someday you might face storms in your life, and you will not know what to do. But if you store up those Bible verses in your memory now, you will have them to fall back on during the stormy times in your life."

"I understand now," said Jamie. "Even if I could not find a Bible, and needed help in times of trouble, I would be able to remember what the Bible says."

"That is right," said Mom. "There are places in the world that do not allow people to have Bibles, and if that ever happened to you, you would be prepared because you memorized many important scriptures that God has given to us to help us survive."

"Mom, I am going to study my Bible scriptures now. Thanks for helping me understand." Jamie gave her Mom a kiss and ran off to memorize her Bible verse.

When Jesus lived on earth, He faced temptations and trials. It was His knowledge of Scripture that protected Him and helped Him obey His heavenly Father. If Jesus needed the Scriptures, we need them too!

Verses you learn now will help you in the future.

*Thy word have I hid in mine heart,
that I might not sin against thee.*

Psalms 119:11

—Selected

<p>Answers: 1. Wickedness. 2. Noah. 3. Just. 4. An ark. 5. One window, one door. 6. Three. 7. A flood of waters. 8. Noah, his wife; his three sons and their wives. 9. Two; a male and a female.</p>

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 15, 2009

THE TROUBLE WITH STEALING

Eddie's father was a coal miner and they lived in a mining settlement called a "patch." The brown houses were all alike and sat side by side in long rows along a dirt road leading to the mines. Eddie's father was not very well. The coal dust had gotten into his lungs and sometimes he could not go to work at all. They were very poor.

"I wish I had a bike like Tony Larkin!" Eddie would tell Mother sometimes. "I wish I had a baseball and a bat or—or even some candy!"

Mother would glance at him with scolding eyes, but Eddie whispered angrily, "I want things so bad I could steal them!"

Eddie's mother did not like the sound of this at all. "Steal!" she said. "Doesn't God's Commandment say, 'Thou shalt not steal?' For shame, Eddie!"

But Eddie would not be ashamed. "I don't care—" he mumbled, kicking the toe of his shoe against the floor. "I could still steal!"

"Well, if you do," Mother said quietly, looking hard at him, "you will be sorry. God says not to steal, and He means it. No one ever benefits from stealing."

But Eddie did not believe her. That afternoon when his father came home from the mines so tired that he went

to lie down right after bathing, Eddie crept into his room. He saw his father sleeping on the bed. Then he saw the loose change laying on the dresser.

Eddie tiptoed up to the dresser and looked at the money—some pennies, a nickel, and a dime. Quickly he snatched up the dime, made a fist around it, and scampered out of the room, down the steps and out the front door. He headed straight for the company store!

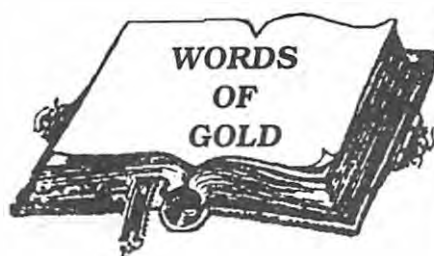
He bought a dime's worth of gum drops. Oh, how he loved gum drops! His mouth watered just thinking about them!

But he could not eat them right here. If Mother looked out the dining room window, she could see him.

Well, that was one of the troubles with stealing: you had to hide—and sneak. But that was just a small trouble, so who cared?

He went down the hill and around behind the chicken coop, but when he was halfway down the hill, his mother came out of the house and headed straight toward him! She was walking her fast, busy walk that meant business! And that was another trouble with stealing: if Mother found out, she would punish.

Eddie was sure that she had found out, and he did not want to be punished. He started to run and ran smack-dab into Tony Larkin!



WE SERVE A MIGHTY GOD!

Psalms 104:24

24 O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Nehemiah 9:6

6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Job 5:9-10

9 Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:

10 Who giveth rain upon the earth, and sendeth waters upon the fields:

Psalms 8:3-4

3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Psalms 40:5

5 Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.

Psalms 107:31

31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Exodus 15:11

11 Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

Job 9:10

10 Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

Job 26:14

14 Lo, these are parts of his ways: but how little a portion is heard of him? but the thunder of his power who can understand?

Psalms 136:4

4 To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever.

The Message: Praise and wonder should fill our hearts when we consider all that God has made!

Questions:

1. What is full of God's riches?
2. What all has the Lord made?
3. In Nehemiah 9:6, who worships the Lord?
4. According to Job how many are the great, unsearchable and marvelous things the Lord does?
5. What question came to David's mind when he considered the great works of God?
6. What should men do for God's goodness and wonderful works to them?
7. Who does great things without number?
8. How much of God's great ways do we understand?
9. What endures forever?

Verse to Memorize

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.
Psalms 104:24

Let's



Talk . . .

Although he was created on the same day as animals, man's creation was a special act of God. God's design was to make man in His own image. So, after creating man's body, God breathed into his nostrils and "man became a living soul." The male and female of animals were created at the same time. But woman was made from a rib of the man, and became a living soul. Their children were also living souls.

God created man with much greater abilities than animals. He gave man a complex mind and reasoning powers that make him capable of solving problems and making decisions. Instilled in each animal is an instinct unique to its particular species. By following this God-given instinct animals do many wonderful things. But when presented with problems outside the bounds of their instinct they have no power of reasoning to use in solving such problems.

Let's look at the ant as an example. Ants live in colonies. Their duties are so specific that they must have help from the other ants to stay alive. Each ant does the job it was born to do. Some gather food, some clean and feed the babies. Others are equipped with a nozzle in the head for squirting chemicals which tangle the legs and antennae of their enemies. These are the soldiers that protect the columns of ants as they carry food to the nest.

Ants also make good "dairy farmers". Wood ants keep herds of aphids (their cows) underground. Some even

build barns for their herds! Although the ant can do many things, it cannot reason nor choose the kind of work it does. The worker cannot say, "I'm tired of always carrying food. I'm going to be a soldier."

These instincts are far too complicated to have happened by chance. They show the touch of their intelligent Maker—God!

Man's decision-making powers go beyond an animal's instinct. He can change his occupation and make other decisions as well as communicate intelligently. He can reason and therefore understand many things. Through this understanding man has used what God created in wonderful ways. As an example, he has learned to harness electricity and put that power to many uses.

The car you ride in has a complicated engine that mixes gasoline and air. Man learned that if a spark flashes at just the right time it explodes the gas and air mixture. The energy of that explosion can then be transferred through the transmission to turn your car's wheels.

No one looking closely at your car and the complicated systems we take for granted would ever imagine that it had "just happened." There is too much evidence that it was the result of careful planning and design. The elements of each system work together in ways that are far too complicated to have happened by chance.

Like our car whose design shows the touch of an intelligent maker, so the systems built into living creatures are also wonders of design. An honest observation of nature will always cause us to acknowledge the power and wisdom of God!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell
—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards; "Unlocking the Mysteries of Creation" by Dennis R. Petersen

Before Tony had a chance to say even one word, Eddie quickly said, "Wh-what have you got to trade? I'll trade you a dime's worth of gum drops if—if you've got a good trade!"

Well, Tony liked gum drops, too. So he searched through his pockets for a "trade" and sure enough he found a big, red rubber band. "Here," he said. "I'll trade you this rubber band for the gum drops. It would make a real good slingshot."

Eddie did not have time to waste, so he quickly took the rubber band and handed Tony the bag of gum drops. "There," he whispered to himself. "Now she can't say I stole the dime because there are no gum drops to prove it." But that was the third trouble with stealing: you had to lie to keep from being punished.

Eddie put the rubber band in his pocket and walked around to the front of the company store pretending nothing had happened. "Hello, Mother," he said when she walked up onto the steps.

"Hello, Eddie," she replied—with-out even asking him about the dime!

What if—what if she didn't even know he took it? What if she came up to the store, not to punish him—but to buy something?

"Wh-what are you going to get?" he asked Mother, feeling frightened and disappointed inside.

"Powdered sugar," she answered. "To make icing for the rolls."

Powdered sugar! And here he had gone and traded those wonderful gum drops for an old rubber band! And that was the fourth trouble with stealing: even if you might have gotten away with it, you feel sad inside.

"Well," Eddie said to himself when Mother had gone into the store and he started back down the hill again, "a rubber band for a sling-shot is better than nothing."

But when he reached into his pocket for the rubber band, it was gone. He had lost it!

That, thought Eddie sadly, was the fifth and most-important-of-all trouble with stealing: you never benefit. Mother had been right, after all. When it was all done, Eddie had nothing to show for the dime, and he was ashamed and sorry he had stolen it in the beginning.

That night at supper when Mother smiled and passed him the plate of poppy seed rolls after they had said the blessing, Eddie could not take one. He felt bad inside because Mother looked at him with such love and trust in her eyes. He did not deserve love and trust, and he knew it. So he told his mother and father, his two brothers and his sister all about the bad thing he had done.

When he finished telling them, they looked at one another. Then his father said, "We will thank our Saviour again."

So they bowed their heads and Father prayed, "Oh, Lord, we thank Thee for teaching our son the sadness and wrong of stealing—"

And when they had finished praying the second time, all of Eddie's family smiled at him, and all the badness of the past few hours was erased. Eddie felt good now, happy and relieved.

"Here," Mother said, passing him the poppy seed rolls again "I'm sure this will more than satisfy your sweet-tooth now!"

And never—never in his whole life did a poppy seed roll taste so good to Eddie!

—Selected

Answers: 1. The earth. 2. Heaven, earth, the seas and everything in them. 3. The host of heaven. 4. Without number. 5. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?" 6. Praise the Lord. 7. God. 8. Only a little portion. 9. God's mercy.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 22, 2009

THE INFLUENCE OF THE FAMILY ALTAR

Night was settling down. The evening shadows were filling the land. The drowsy twitter of the birds sounded from the trees on the academy campus next to our home.

A rap came at the front door. Mother answered the call. A man, with a pail in his hand, stood in the shadows.

"Please, ma'am, could you give a poor man a bite to eat?" he asked.

"Why—yes, I think so," and she stood with a puzzled look on her face. "That voice sounds familiar, who can it be?" she thought.

In that moment of hesitation, the man stepped from the shadows and exclaimed: "Mother, do you not know me?"

"Oh, Arthur," she cried. "I knew that voice though you tried to change it. Still there was something familiar in its tones. Come in! Come in!" and she gave him a welcoming kiss.

"Who was it?" you ask.

It was my oldest brother. He was an engineer on the Big Four railroad. The end of his division was just fourteen miles away. He had taken the electric car down to our village to spend the night with us. I had been away busy in the Lord's work for two or three years. How glad we were to have brother home for a little visit!

Visiting around the supper table and after supper, recalling childhood days and young manhood and womanhood days, the evening seemed to go on wings. We saw Father look at the clock, then he said:

"Olive, bring the Bible, we must read and get ready for bed. Arthur will have to get away early in the morning. He needs a good rest."

I do not remember the Bible reading that evening. What I do distinctly remember was our kneeling in prayer. Father prayed, Mother prayed, then I, being the oldest of the children, prayed. Arthur was next in years. It was his turn to pray. For long he had wandered away from Father's house in the ways of sin. We knelt in silence, no one else offered to pray. It was Arthur's turn. Presently a sob broke the silence and he began: "O Lord, Thou knowest I have wandered far away from Thee. My heart has become as hard as the iron rails over which my engine runs. Please forgive me tonight, dear Lord. Take me back into the fold."

We all were holding on in faith and prayer. When he had finished his prayer with thanksgiving for salvation, the four younger children prayed. What a time of rejoicing we had, knowing brother Arthur had come back to Father's house! We were almost-too happy to sleep.



ANIMALS TEACH US

Job 12:7-10

7 But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee:

8 Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.

9 Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?

10 In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

Job 35:11

11 Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?

Proverbs 6:6-9

6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

Proverbs 30:24-31

24 There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise:

25 The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;

26 The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks;

27 The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;

28 The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.

29 There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going:

30 A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;

31 A greyhound; an he goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up.

The Message: All created things proclaim the omnipotence and wisdom of God, their Creator.

Questions:

1. What can teach us more about God, the Creator?
2. How will it help us to consider the ant's ways?
3. What does a sluggard love to do?
4. What four things are little yet very wise?
5. When do the ants prepare their meat?
6. Where do conies make their houses?
7. What goes out in bands, as if they had a king to direct them?
8. What lives in king's palaces?
9. What four things are 'comely in going'?

Verse to Memorize

Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?

Job 35:11

Let's



Talk . . .

We can admire the wisdom and power of the Creator in all His creation. Man has been taught many things by the lower animals. It is said that the first suspension bridge across the Niagara was constructed using the principles learned after observing a spider.

The scripture in Proverbs tells us to consider the ways of the ant and be wise. Even though ants are tiny and very weak, yet they are hard workers. God gave them such wisdom that they gather and prepare their winter food supply in the summer when food is plentiful.

There are many different kinds of ants, and there are many amazing patterns in ant behavior. One of the strangest patterns is found among South America's "army" and Africa's "driver" ants.

These ants march in columns, attacking and eating any living thing in their path. In some parts of the world it is dangerous to tie up an animal because if a column of army ants comes by, it will sting the animal to death and eat it.

The army ants march in a long column, with soldier ants at the head. Worker ants follow, many carrying the larvae of the next generation. These larvae give off a certain message. As long as the message-scent is given off, the army keeps on marching.

But when it is time for the larvae to hatch into ants, the army halts. The soldiers and workers find a place between tree roots or stones and literally create a living nest from their own bodies.

This living nest of clinging ants even has rooms where the birthing infants can be placed. It has passageways along which others can travel, and a chamber for the queen. The queen begins to swell and within a week, she starts to lay eggs. In a few days there are some 25,000 eggs in the living nest. At the same time, the birthing ants in the other rooms emerge, to become the workers who will carry the just-laid eggs!

The army with its 25,000 new recruits, many carrying the eggs of its next generation, marches off again, ready to attack, kill, and eat. Even the largest of animals run from army ants! The individual ant may be small. But enlisted in an army, the marching ant is one of the most feared of jungle creatures!

Science fiction stories and movies have told of vicious giant ants or other insects that took over the world. This is not possible for an interesting reason. While there are millions of kinds of insects, all have one common trait that limits their size. Insects have no lungs. Instead, they have breathing tubes that run the length of their bodies. These tubes draw oxygen from the air. While some insects have ways to pull air into the tubes, yet the longer the tube the less effective they are in providing the oxygen all living animals need.

In other words, the way insects breathe determines that they cannot grow to giant size and live! Larger insects would never be able to absorb the amount of oxygen they would need to keep them alive. It is easy to see the hand of God in this. He did not create Earth to be mastered by insects, but to be a home for humankind. In His wisdom He designed insects with a built-in limitation that guarantees they will never grow to gigantic size.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

Back through the years the family worship period had been a regular part of our day. Each child was taught to pray at the family altar as soon as he learned how to formulate a petition. That blessed habit of family prayer with each member taking part was, no doubt, what caused dear brother Arthur to pray his way back to God at our family altar that evening. It was his turn to pray. He could not let it go by.

Are you keeping the family altar intact? It may mean the salvation of your loved ones. Yea, and of many others too.

"Don't forget to pray!"

—Olive E. Bean, Gospel Herald

NOBODY'S SON

A young father had gone from his western prairie home to a distant town on business. He was detained overnight so could not return home to his little family. As he laid down to sleep he prayed for God's protection over his young wife and baby who were alone at home.

At that very moment his wife was tucking the baby into its little crib. As she did so, she suddenly looked up and noticed a man's foot showing from below a heavy drape! She turned pale. Terror filled her heart! But then, as she glanced around the room her eyes lighted on a plaque on the wall. On it was written, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him." Psalms 103:13. These words comforted and calmed her. She was sure that God saw her danger and God would care for her and her little one.

She knelt down by the crib and prayed. In a low voice she asked that sinners might be led to Christ, and that those who were meditating crime might repent and be saved. She prayed for God to care over herself and her babe, claiming His power and promise

to save. She then calmly sat down, a look of peace settling on her face.

With a sudden movement the robber swept the drape aside and stood right in front of her. In a low husky voice he told her he had heard her prayer for protection and that her prayer was already answered. He would not harm her. "My mother prayed for me too," he told her. "But now she is dead and I am a wanderer for whom no one cares. O! lady pray for me as long as you live. Pray for 'Nobody's son,'" and he hurried out.

Years later this same woman was listening to a preacher tell the story of his conversion. A large company listened as he told of the young mother's prayer that had first awakened him. She realized then that her prayers had been answered. This was the robber that she had prayed for so long! Now here he was, telling others of the great salvation offered to all who will take Jesus as their own Saviour.

It was a joy to them to meet! He thanked her for her prayers and told her that he was no longer "Nobody's son" but a child of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

What honor to God and blessing to the robber flowed from this dear woman's faith! By FAITH in Christ we become God's children and then we trust our loving Father to care for us all along our pathway down here. He never, never disappoints faith. Have you proved this?

"...Have faith in God." Mark 11:22.
—BIBLE TALKS FOR YOUNG AND OLD

Answers: 1. The animals (beasts) and the birds (fowls.) 2. It will make us wise. 3. Sleep. 4. The ant, the conies, the locusts and the spider. 5. In the summer. 6. In the rocks. 7. Locusts (grasshoppers.) 8. Spiders. 9. The lion, the greyhound, the he goat and a king.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Mar. 1, 2009

ON HIS OWN TWO FEET

The boy had fallen down while running home from school and skinned his left knee. It was no more than a scratch; it didn't even tear his pants. But that night his knee began to ache. Nothing much, he thought. After all he was thirteen and the son of a frontiersman, of real pioneer stock. He ignored the pain, said his prayers and went to bed along with his five brothers.

His leg was worse the next morning but he had to get up at 6:00 a.m. to do his chores before going to school. But two mornings later his leg hurt too much for him to drag himself into the barn. It was Sunday and they all left for Sunday school. The boys came home afterwards but their parents stayed on for the preaching service. Sunday was their parent's day off so the boys did all the chores and even fixed Sunday dinner. They were raised in a God-fearing home by strict parents who taught them to take responsibility.

The boy stayed home and studied the Bible trying to select texts he would use as it was his turn to lead the family devotions one night the next week. He was hoping to bring up a subject that would start a good discussion but he felt so bad he fell asleep. By the time the boys had dinner ready

he had climbed into bed.

His shoe had to be cut off and his leg was all swollen and discolored. His mother bathed his knee and foot and wiped his sweating forehead then had them send for the doctor. "Why, oh why, hadn't he told someone," she fretted.

The doctor said they'd have to cut off his leg, that it was very unlikely he could save it. Infection had set in badly and red streaks ran up his leg; the sign of blood poisoning.

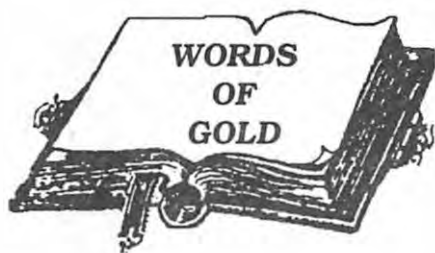
The boy exploded—"I'd rather die than lose my leg! Leave me alone!"

The parents were surprised at his reaction as all their sons were raised to show them great respect.

The doctor said the longer they waited the more leg he'd have to cut off. The boy kept insisting, "No! You're not going to cut my leg off. Leave me alone!"

He called for his big brother, Ed, and had him promise that if he went out of his head, which a person often does when they have a high fever, he must not let them cut off his leg. Ed promised and stood guard outside of his brother's door. He told the doctor, "Nobody is going to cut that leg off!"

For two days and nights Ed stood guard, not even leaving to eat. He heard his brother going in and out of consciousness, babbling in pain.



WE NEED EACH OTHER

Romans 14:19

19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

1 Corinthians 1:10

10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Philippians 2:2-4

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

John 13:34-35

34 A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another: as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 15:12-14

12 This is my commandment. That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Romans 15:1-3

1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.

3 For even Christ pleased not himself;...

Galatians 6:2

2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Ephesians 4:32

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

The Message: We should be willing to deny ourselves to help others. Jesus is our example.

Questions:

1. What things should we follow after?
2. What should not be among us?
3. How can we be perfectly joined together?
4. How should we esteem each other?
5. What was the new commandment Jesus gave?
6. How will men know we are Jesus' disciples?
7. What is the greatest love one can have for his friends?
8. Who should bear the infirmities of the weak?
9. Whose burdens should we bear?

Verse to Memorize

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!
Psalms 133:1

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus died for all of us. The same blood redeems all that accept His sacrifice. By this we are all born into one spiritual family. We are children of the same God and Father and are going to the same Heaven. We have the same needs, the same enemies, and the same joys.

There is no friendship so strong and pure as that which results from having the same attachment to the Lord Jesus. Because of this, Christians in the New Testament are represented as being "perfectly joined together." We are all parts of the same body, and members of the same family. Consequently we are told to love one another, to bear one another's burdens, and to study the things that make for peace, and things by which we may benefit one another.

We need each other! The Bible tells us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. We draw strength, knowledge and courage from each other as we worship together. God designed that we should each be a member of His body, dependent on each other and all dependent on Him.

God shows this truth even in nature. Many times in the plant and animal world we find two different living creatures which live in strange relationships with each other. In many cases one, or both, could not even exist without the other!

Some insects seem to enjoy munching on wood. Wood is mostly hardened cellulose. Humans cannot digest cellulose in any form. Termites actually live almost exclusively on

wood. Yet the fact is that termites cannot digest cellulose either!

How can termites, which eat wood, live on a food they cannot digest? In their intestines they have tiny organisms called flagellates. These tiny animals can live only in the absence of free oxygen. If they are left in the open air, they quickly die. What these organisms can do, however, is digest wood! So when the termite eats his meal, it is the tiny animals living inside his body that digest it for him.

What happens if the two are separated? In an experiment, termites were exposed to extra oxygen to kill their flagellates. Then the termites were fed their usual lunch of wood. The termites ate the wood—but could not digest it. When the same termites were reinfected with the flagellates, they were again able to digest cellulose.

This is one of the many examples in nature of a symbiotic, or mutual, relationship. The termite could not live without the flagellate because it would be unable to digest the wood it eats and would starve to death. The flagellate, outside of the intestine of the termite, would be poisoned by oxygen and die. Together, each lives. Separated, each will die!

Such relationships are very difficult for the Theory of Evolution to explain. Clearly the termite could not have existed before the flagellate developed. And the flagellate could not have developed in the open air, away from the dark safety of the termite's intestine.

As we look at the world God created we discover that many different kinds of mutual and symbiotic relationships are found in nature. Each is a quiet witness to the fact that God, not chance, is the best explanation for the world in which you and I live.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

The parents knew their son would never forgive them if his leg was amputated. They hardly knew what to do. The doctor kept insisting he had better amputate, and when they refused he got mad and stomped out of the house saying, "It's murder! Nothing but a miracle can save the boy now!"

The family looked at each other. The same thought hit them all at once—they had forgotten their faith in the turmoil of their fear. Why, the boy's grandfather was a minister who really believed in the power of prayer.

The family began taking turns, praying around the clock at the boy's bedside. When the doctor came back he couldn't believe what he saw. The swelling was going down! The doctor said his own little prayer of thanksgiving.

The family continued their prayers and every day the boy grew a little stronger. In three weeks the boy was up on his feet.

That boy was Dwight D. Eisenhower. He later went to West Point and became a general in WWII. He went on to become the 33rd president of the United States, serving two terms. He was highly popular and respected by the people.

BULLDOG TOM

Tom was a poor drunken fellow who made a meager living selling things from door to door. Among his other vices, he was fond of dog fighting and he would generally be seen with some of his dogs at his heels. People called him Bulldog Tom.

But one day he heard the Gospel preached on the street corner. Tom had by this time tasted some of the bitterness of sin, and he was very miserable. He heard this wonderful good news that the Son of God loved him and had died for him, and that He was willing to receive him and save him from his sins.

It was indeed good news to Bulldog Tom: He believed it and obeyed it. He cast himself at the feet of his Lord and received forgiveness of sins. He became a new man. He put away his old drunken ways, and among other things the dog-fighting went. He began to adorn the doctrine of Christ his Saviour. He went on so well that other Christians said: "Look here, Tom, we've been Christians longer than you have, but you seem to have outstripped us. You got rid of your old ways. How have you done it?"

And this is what Tom said: "When I was training my dogs to fight, I did not allow them to have bones. Bones are not good for dogs in training. Sometimes when I was out with one of my dogs, he would see a bone on the road and would go for it. I would say 'No!' and the dog would look up at me. Presently he would look down again at the bone, and again I would say, 'No!' So long as I could keep that dog looking up at me, we got past all the bones in safety.

"It's like that with me and my Lord," said Tom. "There are old temptations and my old companions inviting me to come along and have a good time with them as before. But in my heart and conscience the Holy Spirit says, 'No, Tom!' Then I lift up my eyes to my Lord; and while my eyes are ever toward Him, I get past all the old temptation in safety."

What a beautiful and simple manner of walk! "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Galatians 5:16.

—Messages of the Love of God

<p>Answers: 1. The things that make peace. 2. Divisions. 3. In the same mind and judgment. 4. As better than ourselves. 5. To love one another. 6. If we love one another. 7. To lay down his life (die) for him. 8. The strong. 9. One another's.</p>

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 8, 2009

JUST IN TIME!

I was spending the afternoon of the Lord's Day distributing tracts among a number of miners. The men were enjoying the pure air and sunlight after working all the week in the dark, unwholesome atmosphere of the mine.

I was crossing the last field that separated me from my own garden gate when I met two young miners coming slowly towards me. I stopped as we were about to pass each other, and selecting two little books from the few that remained in my hand, I held out one to each. Each took the little book and thanked me; and one fine, strong, healthy, and handsome young man of about twenty-five, stood still and read out the title of it, 'JUST IN TIME.'

A deep feeling of solemnity crept over my soul, and looking up into his frank, open countenance, I said: "Yes, my friend, and God grant you may be just in time for Heaven."

Going home I prayed, "Lord, save him." Tuesday night, I had retired to my room, when a loud knocking at the door made me throw open my window.

"Who is there?" I asked.

"Sir; are you the gentleman who gave a young man a booklet on Sunday afternoon called 'Just in Time?'"

"Yes, I am."

"Please come at once," he said.

Hastily I dressed and went out into

the summer night, guided by my companion. On our way, he told me that his mate had gone down the shaft that afternoon as usual, and had jumped out of the bucket ere it reached the bottom and was caught and crushed. His breast bones were broken in, and he was lying there, his friend said, in terrible agony, unable to speak, and just gasping for breath, while his life seemed ebbing fast away.

By the time the young man had finished his story we reached the cottage: There lay the fine strong man, whom I had seen only two days before in the full vigor of health and youth, now absolutely helpless.

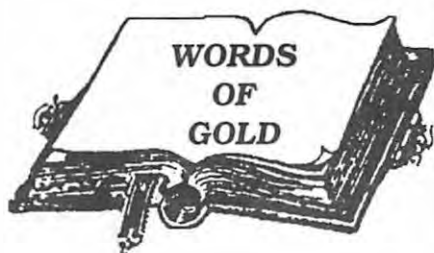
He looked fixedly at me as I entered, and tried to speak; it was useless.

"Shall I read with you and pray for you?"

He made a low hissing sound, the only approach to "Yes" he could make.

I read to him, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." I spoke to him of the love of God in desiring his salvation and of the efficacy of the blood of Christ to save him.

I told him he was lost and ruined by nature, but that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. I told him that



GOD'S WORD

Exodus 19:3, 6-7

3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, . . .

6 . . . These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8, 12-17

1 And God spake all these words, saying,

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, . . .

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain . . .

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: . . .

13 Thou shalt not kill.

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

15 Thou shalt not steal.

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

17 Thou shalt not covet . . .

Exodus 31:18

18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God,

Exodus 32:16

16 And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.

Isaiah 59:21

21 As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD: My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.

The Message: The Ten Commandments were given directly to all Israel by God's audible and terrible voice. The people were so frightened they begged that God would speak to them only through Moses.

Questions:

1. Who did the LORD call to out of the mountain?
2. What did Moses tell the elders?
3. Out of what land did the LORD bring the Israelites?
4. What is the first commandment God gave?
5. What were they commanded to not make?
6. What day was to be kept holy?
7. What were the commandments written on?
8. How were they written?

Verse to Memorize

And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.

Exodus 32:16

Let's



Talk . . .

The Bible clearly states that God created our universe, our Earth and all living creatures. It tells us that God created human beings in His own image. We believe that God created all things partly because the evidence of science shows it is the best explanation for what exists. However, the main reason we believe in creation is because we trust what the Bible tells us.

The Bible is God's Word to human beings. It reveals things about God and His actions that we could not discover in any other way.

In the Bible we learn that God created the stars and Earth and animal life simply by speaking them into existence. We discover that human beings were made in God's image and likeness. In the Bible alone we find the explanation of why only humans can appreciate beauty, invent new things, and tell the difference between right and wrong. And only in the Bible do we learn about sin and about God's plan to bring us eternal life through Jesus Christ.

The Bible's claim to be revelation is important to us when we think about origins. That claim means that, while the Theory of Evolution was made up by mere human beings, God Himself communicates with us through the Bible.

Some people view the Bible as nothing more than a human writing. They think that the Bible is merely a report of what different men have thought about God. If this were true, the Bible would contain only good religious ideas. No one would have

to respect the guesses of its writers about creation or even about sin and salvation.

What kinds of evidence should we look for to show that the Bible is God's word? First, it would need to be historically accurate. God doesn't make mistakes. Also, there should be something about the Bible that is clearly supernatural.

At one time, scholars said Moses could not have written the first five books of the Bible. They argued that there was no written language in Moses' time. Archaeologists have worked for many years in the lands mentioned in the Bible. Through their findings we now know that Moses could have written these books in any of several different well-developed written languages used in his time.

Scholars also doubted the accuracy of Daniel's accounts of the names of rulers and other details of his time. But archaeological discoveries have shown that Daniel was right in naming the rulers of his time, and the critics were wrong. In fact, Daniel had information that a person writing hundreds of years later could not have had! Nelson Glueck, a famous Jewish archaeologist, wrote, "No archaeological discovery has ever controverted (proved wrong) a biblical reference." He calls the Bible's history "incredibly accurate."

Archaeological discoveries have shown that customs of 2,000 years before Jesus fit the Bible's account of Abraham. The Genesis account of Joseph in Pharaoh's court uses just the right technical terms and refers to practices followed in Egypt's royal court 1,800 years before Jesus. Again and again archaeological finds have proved the accuracy of the Old and New Testament historical accounts.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

Jesus had been seeking him and wanted him. I explained that having done the work by which sin could be put away out of God's sight, He could now give the knowledge of the forgiveness of all sins through His precious blood.

I read to him the story of the father and the prodigal (Luke 15) and also the brief prayers of the Pharisee and the publican in Chapter 18 and repeated this verse, "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."

His face changed; hope lighted it up, despair had fled. He signed for a drink and his wife held the glass of water to his lips. He drank a little, and then to the amazement of all, he who had been unable to utter a sound beyond the low hissing, said in a clear voice, and with eyes lifted up as though he saw the one to whom he was speaking: "Just in time! God be merciful to me, a sinner, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen!"

He had scarcely uttered the last word when his head fell back on the pillow, a little shivering sigh escaped him, and we were in the presence of the dead.

Never shall I forget the scene. To many a one present it was a warning word from the brink of eternity, and God used it for a blessing.

"There is but a step between me and death."

"The Lord . . . is not willing that any should perish" 2 Peter 3:9.

"Behold, now is the accepted time..." 2 Corinthians 6:2

"Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." Hebrews 3:15.

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Proverbs 27:1.

—Pilgrim Tract Society

THE MEAT LOAF

Recently, God sent a raven to supply for some starving children in

India. It happened like this:

One day two missionaries planned a special lunch together on the porch of the hospital where they were working. Before her friend arrived, one lady unpacked the meat loaf she had made and went inside to get something she had forgotten. She returned just in time to see a large raven snatch up the meat loaf and fly away! She screeched and waved her arms, but the raven was too far away to be frightened by the woman.

They ate the remaining part of their lunch, never dreaming they would ever hear what happened to the meat loaf. A few days later, however, a poor Hindu woman came to them wanting to know about the Christian's God.

"Three days ago," she said, "My children were starving and I had nothing for them to eat. Knowing that no one would help me, I decided to say a prayer to every god I knew. I knelt and prayed to the god I thought most likely to help me. Then I waited for an answer. No answer. I prayed to another god. Nothing happened. This I did to all the Hindu gods. Not one sent me food.

"Then I remembered the Christian's God. Not knowing how to pray to Him, I just told Him I needed food for my starving children. Before I got up off my knees a large raven swooped down and dropped a nice meat loaf beside me! Now I want to serve this God. Can you tell me how?"

Aren't you happy that you know how to serve such a caring God? Do you have a need? Trust Him and He will supply it. —Selected

Answers: 1. Moses. 2. The words which the LORD commanded him. 3. Egypt. 4. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. 5. Graven images. 6. The Sabbath. 7. Two tables of stone. 8. By the finger of God.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 15, 2009

THE ARTIST AND THE GYPSY GIRL

Many years ago, in the city of Dusseldorf there lived an artist by the name of Stenburg. He had been hired to paint a great picture of the Crucifixion. He was doing this, not from real love for Christ, nor faith in Him, but for money and fame.

One beautiful spring morning, Stenburg was seeking recreation in the forest when he came upon a gypsy girl plaiting straw baskets. She was gifted with more than usual beauty, and the artist determined to engage her as a model for a picture of a Spanish dancing girl. So he bargained with Pepita to visit his studio three times a week to pose as a model.

At the appointed hour she arrived. Her eyes roved over the studio; she was filled with wonder as she looked at the pictures. The large one (that of the Crucifixion) caught her eye.

Gazing at it intensely, she asked in an awed voice, as she pointed to the figure on the cross in the center, "Who is that?"

"The Christ," answered Stenburg carelessly.

"What is being done to Him?"

"They are crucifying Him."

"Who are those about Him with the bad faces?"

"Now look here," said the artist, "I cannot talk. You have nothing to do but stand as I tell you." The girl dared not speak again, but she continued to gaze and wonder.

Each time she came to the studio, she was more fascinated by the picture. Then again she ventured to ask a question; for she longed to learn more concerning the meaning of the picture.

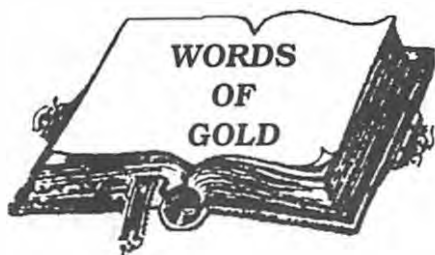
"Why did they crucify Him? Was He bad—very bad?"

"No, very good."

That was all she learned at one interview, but it added a little to her knowledge of that wonderful scene.

At last, seeing that she was eager to know the meaning of the picture, Stenburg one day said, "Listen, I will tell you once for all, and then ask no more questions." He told her the story of the Cross. It was all new to Pepita, though so old to the artist that it had ceased to touch him. He could paint that dying agony, and not a nerve of his quivered. But the thought of the Saviour's sacrifice wrung Pepita's heart. Tears filled her eyes, and she could scarcely control her emotion.

On her last visit to the studio, she stood before the great picture, loath to leave it. "Come," said the artist, "here is money, and a gold piece over."



JESUS, GOD'S SON

Isaiah 7:14

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Matthew 1:18

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Jeremiah 23:5

5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Matthew 1:1

1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Micah 5:2

2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Matthew 2:1

1 ...Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king . . .

Isaiah 35:5-6

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6 Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

Matthew 9:35

35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Isaiah 53:12

12 . . . and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Matthew 27:38

38 Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.

Zechariah 12:10

10 . . . and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced,

John 19:34

34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

The Message: Bible prophecies about Jesus and the miracles that He performed show that He truly was the Son of God.

Questions:

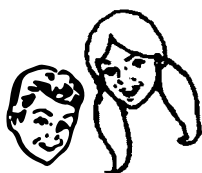
1. Who would give a sign concerning the birth of Jesus?
2. According to prophecy, who would bear a son?
3. Who fulfilled this prophecy?
4. Jesus was also known as the son of _____.
5. According to prophecy, where was Jesus to be born?
6. Who was king when Jesus was born?
7. Who healed every sickness and every disease?
8. With whom was Jesus crucified?
9. Why did the soldiers pierce Jesus' side?

Verse to Memorize

All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, . . .

Matthew 21:4

Let's



Talk . . .

The fulfilled prophecies in the Bible show us that what the Bible says truly is from God. We can trust the Bible. We can be sure it is God's Word. Many prophecies in the Bible are about Jesus. These prophecies do more than show that the Bible is the Word of God. They also show that Jesus, who fulfilled the prophecies, is in fact the Son of God.

The Old Testament promised that God would send a leader to deliver His people. The promised leader would be someone that God appointed to save His people.

Long before Jesus was born, the Jewish people realized that many prophecies were about this leader. The New Testament shows us that Jesus Christ fulfilled those prophecies!

Here are some Old Testament verses with the New Testament record of their fulfillment:

Jesus was to be betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9; John 13:18; Matthew 10:4), who was paid thirty pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12; Matthew 26:15.) This money was to be thrown down in God's house and then used to buy the field of a potter (Zechariah 11:13; Matthew 27:5, 7.) Jesus was to be silent when falsely accused (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26:59-63; 27:12-19.) Jesus was to be mistreated, (Isaiah 53:3; Matthew 27:26), spit on (Isaiah 50:6; Matthew 26:67) and mocked (Psalm 22:7-8; Matthew 27:31.) Dying, Jesus was to pray for His persecutors (Isaiah 53:12; Luke 23:34.) People would gamble for His clothes (Psalm 22:18; John 19:23-24.)

Long before Jesus was born, these and other Old Testament passages were recognized as prophecy about the promised Messiah.

Then Jesus was born. And not just one or two of the Bible prophecies fit His birth, life and death. All the prophecies about His first coming fit perfectly!

How likely is it that a person could "just happen" to fulfill all these predictions so perfectly? In *Science Speaks*, Dr. Peter Stoner uses probability theory to test how likely it is that just eight of the many prophecies about Jesus could happen by chance. His results, checked by the American Scientific Affiliation, show that the chance any man might have lived from when the prophecy was made to the present time, and fulfilled all eight is just 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000. Dr. Stoner illustrates by saying that if we took that number of silver dollars and spread them over Texas, they would cover the whole state two feet deep! Dr. Stoner then explains:

"Now mark one of these silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly, all over the state. Blindfold a man and tell him that he can travel as far as he wishes, but he must pick up one silver dollar and say that this is the marked one.

"What chance would he have of getting the right one? Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing these eight prophecies and have them all come true in any one man, from their day to the present time, providing they wrote in their own wisdom."

Bible prophecy about Jesus could not have "just happened" to be fulfilled. God must have spoken through the prophets. And Jesus must be the Son of God, as the Bible says He is.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

"Thanks master." Then, again turning to the picture, she said, "You must love Him very much, when He has done all that for you; do you not?"

Stenburg could not answer. Pepita, her heart sad, went back to her people, but her words had pierced Stenburg like an arrow. God's Spirit sent the gypsy girl's words home to his heart. He could not forget them. "All that for you" rang in his ears. He became restless and sad. He knew he did not love the Crucified One. He did not know the peace of God.

Some time after, Stenburg was led to follow a few poor people who gathered in a retired place to hear the Bible read and the Gospel preached. There, for the first time, he met those who had a living faith. He was made to realize why Christ hung upon the Cross for sinners; he realized that he was a sinner, and therefore Christ was there for him, bearing his sins. Thus God led the artist to the knowledge of salvation, and he began to know the love of Christ, and could say, "He loved me, and gave Himself for me."

Now he longed to make that wondrous love known to others; but how could he do it? Suddenly an idea flashed upon him. He could paint! His brush could tell the love of Christ! Praying for God's help in the work, he painted as never before; and the picture was placed among other paintings in the famous gallery of Dusseldorf. Underneath he placed the words: "All this I did for thee; what hast thou done for me?"

One day Stenburg saw a poorly dressed girl weeping bitterly as she stood beside the picture. It was Pepita.

"O Master, if He had but loved me so!" she cried.

Then the artist told her how He died for her, poor little gypsy girl though she was, as well as for the rich and great. Stenburg did not weary now of answering all her questions. He was as eager to tell, as she was to hear, of the love of Christ. As it was presented to her, she received it. She went from that room a sinner, saved and rejoicing in that wonderful love. Thus the Lord used Pepita's words to bring the artist to Himself, and then used the artist's words to reveal Himself to her.

Long after this a wealthy young nobleman found his way into that picture gallery. As he gazed upon the picture and the words beneath it, God spoke to his heart. He was Count Zinzendorf. From that day he became an earnest Christian. He later was known as the father of the Moravian Missions, by means of which God led thousands of souls to Himself.

—Moody Church News

IT WON'T COME SWEET

A little girl sat at the table alternately stirring and sipping her drink. Presently, with tears of disappointment in her eyes, she exclaimed, "Mother, it won't come sweet!" Then the mother realized that she had forgotten to put in the sugar. This done, the sugar itself did the rest.

No amount of stirring or trying can make our lives sweet; but when we let the Lord Jesus enter and take possession of our hearts, He makes them pure and lovely. Sweetness of life is only possible as He who is the sweetness dwells within.

—Selected

Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. A virgin. 3. Mary. 4. David. 5. In Bethlehem. 6. Herod. 7. Jesus. 8. Two thieves. 9. It was prophesied that they would.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 22, 2009

LOST IN THE WOODS

In November, 1901, we were traveling by team with a heavily loaded covered wagon to our new home in Oklahoma Territory. We had traveled many days over the mountains and through the forests; fording the streams and sleeping beside a camp fire at night.

Our food supply was running low and the cow had dried up. There were six in the party. We would get up before daylight and my sisters would cook breakfast over the camp fire. On this particular morning the only food we had was what they called minute pudding. It was nothing more or less than paper hanger's paste. We had no milk or sugar to put on it either.

As soon as it was light enough to see, we got the horses hitched to the wagon and tied the chicken coops on. With the cow and calf following behind, we started along the trail for the west. The morning was cold and cloudy. The great forests were dark, and we were many miles from any habitation or village. I started on ahead of the wagon, carrying an old muzzle-loading rifle, looking for game of some kind for our evening meal.

I had gone only a very short dis-

tance, when I saw a large flock of wild turkeys dash across the road through the brush some distance ahead of me. I started out to follow them, thinking I would be able to shoot one as it became lighter. I had followed them some distance when I lost track of them so I turned back in the direction I thought I had come. After walking a long ways I stopped to listen for the wagon bumping over roots and rocks. It could usually be heard for a long distance but I could hear no sound of it! I called to my father, but got no answer. I then changed my course and walked a long ways again, listening for the wagon, but caught no sound of it.

I saw lots of game that morning, but soon found that my rifle lock was out of order and I had no way to fix it in the woods. I sat down on a fallen tree to think of how to get back to the wagon. Being reared in a timbered country, I was used to the woods, and loved to roam through them. But this day was dark and cloudy so I was unable to determine the directions. My rifle was out of order, I had nothing to eat, and I was lost in the big forest. I was in a bad fix!

I was good on foot and twenty years old. I could go a long ways in a day. I now looked around about me and decided on a way to go. I started



LIFE AFTER DEATH

Daniel 12:2

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Matthew 25:46

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Luke 20:36-38

36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

37 Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

38 For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living; for all live unto him.

John 3:15-16

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 6:47

47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

John 6:54

54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 10:28

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither

shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

2 Corinthians 5:1

1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

1 Timothy 4:8

8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

Titus 1:2

2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

The Message: There is eternal life after our natural death. Some will go to everlasting punishment but the righteous will go to be with the Lord in Heaven.

Questions:

1. Daniel speaks of those "who sleep in the dust"; who is he talking about?
2. Who will have life eternal?
3. Where will the wicked go?
4. What did Moses shew when he called God the God of Abraham?
5. God is not a God of the dead but of the _____.
6. Who shall not perish?
7. What will we receive if we believe on Him?
8. What is more profitable than bodily exercise?
9. Who cannot lie?

Verse to Memorize

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Let's



Talk . . .

According to the Theory of Evolution you are just an intelligent animal, in a race of animals that developed by chance. Other animals die and are gone and, so the Theory of Evolution teaches, you will die and be gone, too. Death is your destiny—and your end. This gives us no hope for the future.

But the Bible teaches us differently. Genesis 2:7 says, "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." This means we are eternal, as God Himself.

The Bible tells that one day God will act to end this universe and to destroy our Earth. The universe had a definite beginning, and it will have a definite end.

But the story does not end with the destruction of this universe. The Bible says, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thessalonians 4:16-17 God has a wonderful future for us who have accepted Jesus as our Savior!

Just as there is Heaven, there is hell, too. Human beings are too important just to stop existing. The Bible tells us that God wants us to spend eternity with Him. He wants us to be with Him so much that God's

Son became a human being and died to pay for each person's sin. Those who realize that Jesus is Lord, and who follow Him as the Savior, can have their sins forgiven and can look forward to everlasting life.

But many ignore God's Son. They will not obey Him as Savior and give up their sin. God has done everything He can do to forgive human beings and bring them to Heaven, yet some people just refuse to turn to God.

The Bible tells us about the tragic future of these people, too. Revelation describes a "...lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.... Revelation 21:8. Jesus also talked about hell fire. (Matthew 5:22.) So each individual will exist forever. Some will be with God. But some will be separated from God in a place of terrible punishment.

This is the tragic error of the Theory of Evolution. Evolution teaches that there is no need for God: everything can be explained without Him. If the devil can make us believe that God really did not create all things as the Bible says, then he can make us believe that Jesus did not really come to save us from our sins. If he can make us believe that people just die and that is the end, he can convince us that there is no need to deal with our sin.

But people are not animals but are God's creations. Death is not the end. We will exist forever and forever. Jesus said, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." He will come into our heart and life if we will confess our sins and accept Him as our Savior. He will then give us power over sin and show us how to live for Him. We will know then that we are ready to meet Him and live with Him in Heaven for eternity.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

—Reference: "It Couldn't Just Happen" by Lawrence O. Richards

on a straight line and went as far as I thought would take me to the wagon trail. Then I called, but received no answer, except my own voice returning to me. Then, after walking a long distance in another straight direction, I would turn and call again. I did this several times, but to no avail.

I decided I was badly lost! By this time, the paper hanger's paste was getting very weak in my stomach. After resting a while, I tried once more to locate the trail, and after a long walk, stopped to rest under a great oak tree, a giant of the forest. I stood my rifle up against the tree and sat down to think what to do next. The more I thought about my condition, the worse I felt. As I sat by that great tree, every mean thing I had ever said or done passed through my mind in a moment of time.

It came to me, when I was about two years old, how my mother had taught me little childhood prayers. I said them every night as I knelt by my little bed. As I grew older, I had turned away from the little altar. I remembered hearing a preacher tell how God had led His children through the wilderness. I thought, "Why can't God lead me out of this wilderness?"

I realized I was not only lost in a big forest, but lost eternally. I got down on my knees, with my face on the roots of the great oak and told God how badly I was lost, how I wanted to get back to the wagon, and I told Him all the mean things I had done.

While the tears rolled down my face in telling God my troubles, there came up before me a little ten cent rusty, stinking muskrat trap that I

had stolen probably six years before from a neighbor boy. I had forgotten all about it, but God had not. There is an all-seeing eye watching you. God commands us all to repent (Luke 13:5.) When I asked God to forgive me, the power of God splashed all over me.

I told Him if He would show me the way back to the wagon and forgive me all of my sins, I would always remember Him and know that He heard me always. The tears rolled down my face like rain. I prayed and prayed till I prayed through, and God answered. I then arose and looked about me, and everything seemed different. I picked up my rifle and started out through the great forest, not having any choice of any certain direction to take. It seemed like someone was leading me by the hand, sometimes running and always going in one straight direction. I went that way for hours, and, all of a sudden, the sun broke out from behind a cloud in the west about one hour high. At the same time I stepped into the wagon trail: Looking back toward the east, there, coming around the bend, was the old team and wagon, Father, Mother and Sisters.

They had driven all day. I had walked and run all day yet we came to that same place at the same time.

Dear friend, would you ask, "Does God answer prayer today?" He certainly does!

—Evangelist Ward Ruggles

<p>Answers: 1. The dead. 2. The righteous. 3. Into everlasting punishment (hell.) 4. That the dead are raised. 5. Living. 6. Whoever believes on Him. 7. Everlasting life. 8. Godliness. 9. God.</p>

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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A PRODIGAL GIRL COMES HOME

"Are you going out tonight, Mary?" The speaker, a frail old woman seated in an old wooden rocker, looked wistfully into her daughter's face as she spoke. But she received no answer.

"You'll stay at home tonight, won't you, Mary?" she asked presently. Still no reply. The sad old face grew sadder still. She knew that Mary's going meant she must sit uncared for, neglected, hungry and thirsty, unless a kind neighbor chanced to come in.

"I'm so tired, Mary," she said by and by, "You'll put me to bed before you go, won't you?"

"No, I won't" she replied crossly, "I ain't got time. I'm afraid Jen'll be gone now before I get down there. I'll be back in time to put you to bed."

"Yes, you said that last night, but you didn't put me to bed. Mary; my back does ache so," pleaded the mother.

"O shut up, I ain't got time, I tell you." And Mary hurried away.

The poor old woman buried her face in her hands and sobbed aloud, "O God, my Father," she cried, "how long? Have mercy, Lord, save my daughter. O give me back my Mary, my pure little girl."

Mary, returning for something she had forgotten reached home just in time to hear those last words. They sank into her sin-hardened heart like a barbed arrow. She turned quickly away. She would not let her mother know that she was near. But how those words rang in her ears! Her eyes filled with tears, but she dashed them away savagely. "Pshaw!" she said, "what a softy I am! I must hurry up down to Jen's."

But when she reached the house where her companion in sin lived, Jen had already gone. Mary stood trying to decide what to do. Like a wail of woe, she heard again her mother's prayer. The pathetic, pleading look in the dim old eyes came vividly before her and found somewhere in the hard heart a tender spot. "I might have put her to bed," she thought, "I wish I had. I'll go back and do it."

Her mind was busy as she walked toward home. She let her thoughts wander in the past when she was her mother's "pure little girl." That was before her father died, before mother had that terrible fall that made her a helpless cripple—oh, it was way, way back before they came to this wicked city. She remembered her first step into sin, and after that first step Satan had cunningly led her on and tightened and strengthened his cords about her heart until—ah, there



JESUS' ARREST

John 18:1, 3-8

1 . . . Jesus . . . went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden. . .

3 Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons.

4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?

5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he . . .

6 As soon then as he had said, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.

7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth.

8 Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he . . .

John 19:1-4, 6-11

1 Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him.

2 And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe,

3 And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands.

4 Pilate . . . saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.

6 When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.

7 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.

8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;

9 And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?

11 Jesus answered, Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

The Message: Jesus loved us so much He gladly suffered the agonies of the cross so that we can be saved.

Questions:

1. Who was with the band of men and officers?
2. What did they carry?
3. What did Jesus ask them?
4. What happened when He told them who He was?
5. What did Peter do to the high priest's servant?
6. Who put a crown on Jesus and of what was it made?
7. Who found no fault in Jesus?
8. What did the chief priests and officers do when they saw Jesus?
9. What saying made Pilate more afraid?

Verse to Memorize

. . . Jesus . . . endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

Let's



Talk . . .

How could the Jews have so much hatred for Jesus? He did nothing but good as long as He was with them. He healed their sick, He fed them in the desert, and He taught them the true way to serve God.

The chief priests and scribes were determined to do away with Jesus. These were the religious leaders. They were the very ones who taught the common people about God. And, although they appeared to be holy and to love God, in their hearts there was much evil. They loved the praise and honor of men more than they loved God.

The common people followed Jesus in great crowds listening gladly to His gracious words. They felt a commanding power in the words He spoke. He taught them with authority as He told them about God and how to serve Him. It was evident; He knew God personally! His messages told of the deepest truths, yet they were so amazingly simple that even the children could understand.

It made the Jewish leaders furious to see the multitudes that gladly heard Jesus and followed Him about. They felt threatened; their power over the people was slipping away from them.

So they determined to find some way to kill Jesus. To take Him by force in broad daylight was out of the question. This could cause an uprising of the common people who loved and followed Jesus. These people would rather stone them than to see Jesus killed! They wondered how they would ever capture Jesus. Not daring

to take Him in public, they did not know where to find Him in private.

Then, suddenly, the problem was solved! Judas, Jesus' own disciple, came to the chief priests. "What will you give me and I will deliver Jesus to you?" he asked. Quickly they offered him thirty pieces of silver to lead them to Jesus by night. Judas did not bargain for more. He seemed glad to take what they offered.

The chief priests could hardly believe their good fortune! They did not even send for Judas; they would never have thought to do that. Jesus' own disciple betray Him? Never! But here he was, volunteering to lead them to Jesus. The chief priests gladly agreed to pay him to do just that.

Judas knew where to find Jesus. He had often gone with the other disciples and Jesus into this garden to pray. Judas led the band of armed soldiers straight to this place. Jesus knew what was taking place. He knew the awful persecution and, finally, death that He must soon endure.

When Judas and the band of men came, Jesus went out to meet them. They did not need their weapons to capture Him. Jesus had prayed through. His purpose in coming to the world was to die for the sins of the people. He was ready to suffer so we might be saved. "I am He," Jesus boldly volunteered. He answered with such power and courage the soldiers ran backward from Him and fell to the ground.

Later, after examining Jesus, Pilate told the Jews, "I find in Him no fault at all!" Yet, to please the Jews, he commanded Jesus to be cruelly scourged and then turned Him over to the soldiers who mocked Him. Then, dressed in a purple robe and a crown of thorns on His head, Pilate told the mob, "Behold the man!" At the sight of Jesus the chief priests and officers began shouting, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!"

—Nelda Sorrell

was no trace of the "pure little girl" in this blighted, hardened sin-stained woman.

She stopped abruptly, "It's no use thinking of it," she muttered. "I'm too far gone—might as well go to the devil first as last. There's no help for me." And turning again, she walked rapidly down the street till she came to a low saloon which she entered.

"Have you seen Jen tonight?" she asked presently. "Yes," replied the man, "she was here a while ago. She was going up to the Rescue Mission to learn a new song."

"I'll go and find her," said Mary. "We'll be back soon."

When she reached the mission the song-service was over. She wondered if Jen was inside. She would just go in for a minute and see. So she slipped quietly into a back seat. A young man was reading Jeremiah 18:4. "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again another vessel..." Then in a short, earnest address, the speaker applied this Scripture to the human lives which God, the Potter, intended for Himself—vessels of honor for His house, but who had been spoiled by sin.

"O sin-bound soul, the Divine Potter is able to take the marred, stained and broken clay, and make it again, a beautiful, clean pure vessel. He longs to do it. Will you let Him take your fallen sinful life and make it over?"

Mary heard no more. She put her head down on the back of the seat in front to hide her tears. Oh, how hideous her life looked! how blackened, how broken, how marred! Was it indeed true that God could make anything out of it?

By and by they sang a hymn, and the service was dismissed with an earnest invitation to all who were tired of sin to remain after the meeting.

Mary's head was still bowed. Shall she go or stay? Somehow tonight she had grown suddenly sick of her life of sin. She longed for this new creation of which she had heard tonight. Yes, she would stay. If God could make her new, pure and clean, she would give herself to Him!

She hardly knew how she reached home that night. There was in her heart such peace as she had never before known. At the door she paused a moment and looked at her mother. The poor old head had fallen forward in a painful position and she was sleeping. Mary quickly crossed the room and raised her in her arms.

"Is it Mary?" murmured the old woman sleepily.

"Yes, mother," cried Mary, as she kissed her over and over and then carried her to bed, "it's your Mary come back—the old Mary made pure and clean. The blood of Jesus cleanseth from all sin. That's what they said at the mission. O Mother, can you forgive me for all my cruelty to you?"

"Yes, my daughter!" exclaimed the old woman, "O, God be praised for all His goodness to me!"

Those were happy days that followed. Mary toiled unceasingly for her mother's comfort. A soft easy chair soon took place of the hard old rocker. A wheel chair made it possible for the two to make their way to the mission where Mary had yielded herself to the Potter, to be made a vessel meet for the Master's use. —Mrs. H. M.

Answers: 1. Judas. 2. Lanterns, torches and weapons. 3. "Whom seek ye?" 4. They went backward and fell to the ground. 5. Cut off his right ear. 6. The soldiers; thorns. 7. Pilate. 8. They cried, "Crucify Him, crucify Him." 9. That Jesus was the Son of God.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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I KNOW MY REDEEMER LIVES

Tap. Tap. Tap. At the sound of Bro. Jacob's baton on his pulpit the choir shuffled to their feet. Sarah ducked into the pew beside her best friend, Marie.

"You're late," the tall brunette winked at her.

Sarah grimaced as she lifted her songbook to hide her mouth. "My lousy computer would not send that e-mail forever..." she began.

"Sarah," Bro. Jacob interrupted. "Could you tell us what we're about to sing?"

Sarah snatched a glance at Marie's open songbook. "I Know?" she guessed.

"I know what?" he pressed. Snickers trickled around the room.

Her face warmed as she shot another covert look at the page. "That My Redeemer Lives."

"Thank you," Bro. Jacob said with a slight smile. "And what does that mean to you?"

Her eyes drifted blankly to the ceiling. "Um..."

Marie cupped her hand beside her mouth. "I shall conquer death," she whispered.

"That since Jesus conquered death...we will too," Sarah stated triumphantly.

"Very good," Bro. Jacob's eyes twinkled. "Marie, could you sing the first verse for us?"

Marie's eyes flickered only momentarily with surprise before her rich contralto voice broke into song.

"Now remember, next choir practice is Wednesday at 6:00!" Bro. Jacob called as the young people tramped out. "And Easter's only a month away so practice, practice, practice! Oh, Marie and Sarah, could I have a word with you?"

Marie scooped up her books and approached the pulpit. Sarah slunk along behind.

"Girls, I'd like to compliment you on your harmony," Bro. Jacob beamed. "And I'd like you to do something for me." He flipped open the book with one hand. "Could you two try a duet...Just the third verse," he explained. "Sarah, work on the alto and you, Marie, on the soprano. I may have Daniel and Robert do the same thing with another verse. I think it would sound nice—add some variety."

The two girls' voices bounced back and forth in the soft evening breeze as they walked home.

"It goes like this—" Marie set her books under a green leafy tree and sat down on them.

"Well, couldn't we add something?" Sarah protested, grasping the sheet of music as she dropped beside her. "Like maybe go into minor or something?"

"I don't think so." Marie retrieved



JESUS' DEATH

Mark 15:15, 17-19

15 And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

17 And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head.

18 And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!

19 And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him.

Luke 23:27, 33-34

27 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.

33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them: for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Matthew 27:39, 41-42, 45, 50-52, 54

39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,

41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

The Message: God showed by many miraculous signs that Jesus was truly His son!

Questions:

1. Why did Pilate release Barabbas and deliver Jesus to be crucified?
2. At what place did they crucify Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say while He hung on the cross?
4. What did the mockers say to Jesus while He was on the cross?
5. What happened between the sixth and ninth hour?
6. After Jesus died, what was torn in two from the top to the bottom?
7. And the _____ did quake and the _____ rent.
8. What were opened and who arose?
9. What did the centurion and those with him say about Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

... Truly this was the Son of God. Matthew 27:54

Let's



Talk . . .

God loved His only Son, Jesus, deeply—much more than the best earthly father could love his son. How then could such a Father Who has all power allow weak and puny men to spit in His Son's face, to mock Him, to beat Him and finally put Him to death in the most cruel way?

And why would Jesus allow men to cause Him such shame, agony and even death? When Peter tried to protect Jesus and attacked His enemies, Jesus told him to put up his sword. He told him, "Don't you know that I can now pray to my Father and He will immediately give Me more than twelve legions (72,000) of angels to defend Me?" (Matthew 26:53.) Jesus certainly was not defenseless! Yet He allowed His tormentors to shame and abuse Him. Why?

It was because of love. Love caused God to willingly offer His only Son. Love caused Jesus to suffer and die that you and I could be saved and some day live forever with them in Heaven! John 3:16 explains: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God created man in His own image so He could be near him. He longed to talk to him as He did with Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden. His plan was for man to enjoy a wonderful life and to always love Him in return.

But all that was changed when Adam and Eve sinned. They disobeyed God and ate the fruit that God told them they should not touch. This sin unleashed the forces of evil in their hearts and lives. They lost God's presence and protection when they believed the devil's lie and obeyed him rather than God.

God was deeply grieved. But He still loved man. Immediately He planned a way that men could be rescued from Satan's grip. One day He would send a Savior to break the power of the devil and give men power over sin and evil.

This would require a great sacrifice. Not just any sacrifice would do. The lambs sacrificed under the law had to be perfect, without blemish of any kind. These lambs were the type of the only sacrifice that would bring man back to a state where he could once more be acceptable in God's sight. Jesus, God's only Son, was the only one who was worthy to be this sacrifice.

As Jesus hung on the cross the sky suddenly became dark even though it was noon, when the sun is normally at its brightest. It was as if all nature was in mourning. For three hours the sun was darkened while Jesus suffered in agony.

No doubt all heaven was standing in attention as Jesus fulfilled the plan of our salvation and died on the cross. When Jesus said, "It is finished!" the great veil of the temple was torn from top to the bottom. An earthquake shook the place, rocks were broken in pieces and the graves of saints were opened!

The soldiers watched all this in great fear. The centurion was convinced. "Truly this was the Son of God!" he declared.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

her paper with a teasing look of condescension.

"Now, come on, let's get serious. She cleared her voice stuffily.

Sarah flattened beside her. "At least raise it," she groaned. "I can't sing that low."

The sun had set and rain was pattering down as they jogged across the wet road. Then suddenly there was a screeching of tires and blinding headlights and Sarah went flying into the curb but Marie flipped and slammed back into the road. Sarah opened her eyes once and saw rushing figures and heard shouting voices, then everything mercifully went black.

Sarah clenched her icy hands and braced her trembling legs against the cold metal of her chair. The casket, bedecked with flowers, lay before her. Her eyes burned as she stared straight ahead. Her mother, beside her, gently squeezed her hand.

The minister stood and approached the casket. "This is a sad occasion for all of us," he began. "The passing of Marie Norman was a shock none of us expected ..."

Sarah's mind drifted away. She remembered waking up in a hospital room with a pounding headache. But she was soon able to go home, having only a mild concussion and bruises. Marie had been killed instantly.

"It's not fair," Sarah bit her lip, "Marie never got to do anything. It wasn't fair of God to take her when she was this young..."

"Now we might think it's not fair for God to take someone so young—" the minister continued. "Who knows what she might have done for God! But we also know that God knows everything. He knows best."

"But why?" Sarah thought bitterly. "Why would God see it best to take her now?"

Sarah sat on her bed staring

out into the sunlight. She absently fingered her fading bruises.

Her mother's voice drifted up to her from the phone downstairs. "Oh, I don't really think she feels like doing that yet. It's only been two weeks since the funeral. Well, I'll tell her. All right... Good-bye."

A few moments later mother's kind face appeared at the doorway. "Honey, that was Bro. Jacob on the phone. He was wondering if you're still interested in singing in the choir for Easter."

Sarah didn't feel able to turn her head or speak for the lump in her throat.

Mother sat carefully on the edge of the bed. "You haven't been to practice or any other function in weeks. Won't you go tonight?"

Sarah walked down the street toward the church but couldn't bring herself to go in. So she slumped down on the grass outside.

The choir voices drifted out to her through the open windows.

*He lives and grants me daily breath:
He lives and I shall conquer death:
He lives my mansion to prepare:
He lives to bring me safely there."*

And she cried as the words sank into her soul. She finally saw that life is a gift, not a right; each moment is a gift. She would see her friend again. Because He lives she would live also. When Bro. Jacob asked her again if she wished to sing in the choir she agreed, and Easter morning stood and sang as a solo what had been the duet.

—Joanna Booher

Answers: 1. To please the people. 2. Calvary. 3. "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." 4. "Come down and we will believe." 5. Darkness was over all the land. 6. The veil of the temple. 7. Earth, rocks. 8. Graves, saints. 9. Truly this was the Son of God."

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 12, 2009

NAN'S EASTER LILY

"An Easter lily! An Easter lily!" Nan kept repeating it softly to herself as she left the broad, clean street where the church stood and entered the crowded tenement district where the place she called home was located.

This had been her first day at Sunday school. As she climbed the stairs that led to the room she and her mother occupied at the very top her mind was far away from the dirt and poverty all around her. She was thinking of the sweet-voiced lady who had told them about Easter, and of a wonderful Being who had died on the cross in order that other lives might be made purer and sweeter.

"Did you ever see an Easter lily, mother?" Nan asked as she slowly crossed the room to where her mother was preparing their frugal dinner.

A far-away look came into the tired eyes of the woman as she raised her head from the pan in which she was warming over some scraps of meat and potatoes.

"Yes, I saw one once," she said slowly, "but it is so long ago, that I had almost forgotten it. I only remember that it was a beautiful white blossom that stood between green leaves and that smelled very sweet."

Nan's eyes glowed, and she clasped

her hands together almost as if in prayer. "I'm going to have one next Sunday, Mother; one of those beautiful white blossoms," she exclaimed in a low, awed tone. "It's goin' to be in a flower pot and I'm to set it in the window."

Nan's mother had turned again to her task of preparing dinner and to lay a strip of white cloth over the table.

"I've got to earn that lily," she said at last, voicing her thoughts aloud.

"What can you do to earn it?" her mother questioned.

"I've got to get another child to go to Sunday school," Nan answered. "Jimmie Kane, maybe. The teacher said the lame and the blind used to crowd to hear the man she called Jesus. Sure, Jimmie's lame enough."

"I hope it will be one of his well days so he can limp there. He has broken his crutch, you know."

The day that Nan carried Jimmie his invitation was not one of his "well days," however, and he lay in bed with a red spot on each hollow cheek.

"I'll be there, Nan, if I have to crawl," he promised, his eyes shining. Although he might not have a lily for his own, he could see them and smell their fragrance, Nan assured him. "The reason I'm to have one will be 'cause I got a new Sunday school scholar," she explained.



I HAVE SEEN THE LORD!

John 20:1-6, 8, 10-16, 18

1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre

3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple . . .

4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter

5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying. . .

6 Then cometh Simon Peter . . . and went into the sepulchre . . .

8 Then went in also that other disciple . . . and he saw, and believed.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

The Message: *Jesus honored Mary Magdalene's faith and loyalty by appearing to her first after His resurrection.*

Questions:

1. When did Mary Magdalene go to the sepulcher?
2. What had happened to the stone?
3. Who did she run to tell?
4. What did Peter do when he got to the sepulcher?
5. What did Mary do after the two disciples went back home?
6. What did she see when she looked into the sepulcher?
7. Who did she think Jesus was?
8. What did Mary tell the disciples?

Verse to Memorize

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene . . . Mark 16:9

Let's



Talk . . .

Mary Magdalene's heart ached with grief. She had watched helplessly as the soldiers fastened Jesus to the cruel cross. Through her tears she had seen Him hanging there between the two thieves. She had heard His voice—"It is finished!" He had shouted. Then His head dropped to His chest.

When it was all over she knew her Lord was dead, yet she could not leave. She stayed at the scene while Nicodemus and Joseph worked quickly to prepare Jesus' body for burial. Finally, they had tenderly lain the body on a limestone ledge in the new tomb. Mary watched while they heaved the massive stone into place across the opening to the tomb. It was dark when the two men turned to leave.

Mary knew she, too, must leave. But as she turned toward home she determined that she would return as soon as the Sabbath was over. She would bring spices and the things necessary to give Jesus a proper burial.

The hours seemed to drag on endlessly for Mary. Saturday's sun finally dipped below the mountains; Sabbath was over. Now she could prepare the spices. Then, long before sunup, she started for the tomb.

By now Mary must have realized that it would be impossible for her to remove the great stone that covered the mouth of the tomb. She had watched as it took all their strength for the men to roll it into place. Then, as she came in sight of the tomb, she stopped and gasped. The stone had already been pushed aside—the tomb was empty! Someone had already been there and taken the body!

Mary ran to find Peter and John. "They've taken the Lord's body out of the tomb," she said breathlessly. "I don't know where they've put him!"

Peter and John could not believe her words. They ran to see for themselves. John was younger than Peter and easily outran him. When he got to the tomb he stooped down and peered into the tomb. He could see the empty grave clothes that Joseph had wrapped around Jesus' body. But when Peter reached the tomb he boldly went right into the tomb to investigate. John was right behind him. It was true! Jesus' body was not there; only the grave clothes.

After dashing to tell the disciples about the empty tomb, Mary was too tired to run any further. She let the disciples race ahead while she trudged slowly back to the garden tomb. By the time she got there, Peter and John had come and gone. She stood by the empty grave and wept.

Finally stooping down to peer into the tomb, Mary saw two angels. One was sitting at the head and another at the foot where Jesus' body had been.

"Woman, why are you weeping?" the angels asked.

She answered, "Because they have taken away my Lord and I do not know where they have laid him." As she spoke she sensed that someone was standing behind her.

Mary turned and saw a man whom she supposed was the gardener. He too asked, "Why do you weep?"

"Sir," she pleaded, "if you have carried away my Lord, tell me where you have laid Him."

"Mary!" He said.

Instantly she knew it was Jesus! She fell at His feet and cried, "Rabboni! Master!" Jesus, her Lord, was alive!

Overjoyed she ran to find the disciples. "I have seen the Lord!" she exclaimed breathlessly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Fortune favored Jimmie, however, and he made a very respectable entrance into Sunday school with his broken crutch. As he gazed admiringly around the picture-lined room, Jimmie decided that it would be a pleasant place in which to spend other Sundays besides Easter.

As they walked home together, Nan noticed that he cast an occasional longing glance towards the beautiful Easter lily that she hugged so closely, almost as if she feared she would lose it.

The idea came to Nan then; but she immediately put it from her. Give the fragrant, pure, white flower that she had just gained possession of to Jimmie Kane? To be sure it was only by his willingness to be her guest at Sunday school that she had acquired it; but what of that? The lily was hers, and this was the way she had earned it.

She was perfectly willing that Jimmie should enjoy its beauty with her, yes, indeed! She would invite him to come every day and look at it and smell its fragrance—every day until it faded. Then there was another bud that would soon unfold. She had discovered it by chance when she was reveling in its beauty. Why, Jimmie would get almost as much pleasure out of the flower as she would, without being bothered with the care of it, either.

Nan nodded her head to her mental advisor in a very satisfied manner, and forthwith stuck the lily up to Jimmie's nose, just as if he had not been delightedly sniffing its fragrance all the way.

Then this little inward tormenter began to quiz her. What about the days when Jimmie can not climb the stairs; when the fever burns his cheeks and he has to lie quiet on his cot, and look at the bare walls of his sunless room—what then? Will

Jimmie be getting as much pleasure out of the flower then as you will?

Nan's steps came to a halt so quickly that Jimmie imagined she might be thoughtfully seeking to give him a rest, and he said; "I ain't tired, Nan. Better get your lily home 'fore it freezes; seem's if it was growin' colder."

The hot tears burned Nan's eyelids and her voice choked as she said, thrusting the lily towards him, "Here, Jimmie, you take the lily and keep it for me." Then realizing that the crippled boy could not bear its weight, she snatched it back, saying: "I'll carry it into your house and set it on your window sill. Our room's too high up for it to do well. I'll come and see it ev'ry day. But you must promise to keep it well watered," she cautioned.

Jimmie stood aghast at the wonderfulness of it all. He did not remonstrate; somehow he could not. He silently limped along beside Nan, opened the rickety door and followed her into the room.

"There, doesn't that look fine," she chirped, bravely swallowing a rising sob, as she arranged the lily on the windowsill close to Jimmie's little cot. "I'll come tomorrow and see how it's doin'. Goodbye."

Nan was flying down the alley like a wild thing before Jimmie had hardly grasped the fact that she had really given him her precious Easter lily.

"I reckon it's like the cup of cold water 'in His Name' that nice lady was tellin' us about awhile ago," she murmured, as she climbed her narrow stairway, with a smile chasing away her tears.

—Light and Life Evangel

Answers: 1. The first day of the week while it was still dark. 2. It was taken away. 3. Peter and John. 4. Went in. 5. Stood at the sepulcher weeping. 6. Two angels. 7. The gardener. 8. That she had seen the Lord.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 19, 2009

SKATES FOR SHOES

Tony Garcia crawled from under the porch with a rag held tightly in his hand. He climbed the tree to some old boards which he called his tree house. He untied the rag and carefully counted the pennies, dimes, nickels and the one quarter that had been hidden in it.

"Just enough to buy those skates!" he said to himself.

He had left school and gone to another street to the paper office to get papers to sell, just as he had done for almost a year now. He didn't make much selling papers, but he had found a few other jobs that increased his earnings. However, most of it had been given to his father to buy frijoles (beans) for the family.

The store was already closed tonight, so Tony carefully tied the money back in the rag, climbed down the tree and threw it back under the porch for safekeeping. "Tomorrow I'll have my skates! But right now, I'll play a little ball with the boys before supper," he said to his little brothers, and turned to go down the dusty, unpaved road.

"Tony, Tony!" he heard his mother calling. "These water buckets need to be filled."

"Yes, Mamma, I'm coming," Tony called back. Tony used to try to get out of helping around the house, but since he learned about Jesus at the Spanish Mission in El Paso, he was

different. True, sometimes he caught himself about to act like he used to, then he would remember what Jesus would do and he would try his best to do that. He liked the happy feeling that was his since Jesus came into his heart. He wanted it to always stay. Already he had learned that shirking his duties at home made the happy feeling leave.

He brushed by his sister Lupe, who sat in the doorway with the baby in her lap. He picked up the two empty buckets and went out of the yard and across the next lot to a dripping hydrant that served six families with water. Tony carried the two sloshing buckets back to the porch and sat them down. He filled the tin wash pan with water then took the buckets on to the kitchen.

He returned to the wash pan and scrubbed his face and hands with soap and a brush. He had just remembered that tonight was the night his papa and mamma had promised to go to the mission with him. He had begged them many times to go, but never before had they promised. He combed his hair looking at himself in the broken piece of mirror that hung just outside the door. He then went inside to remind them of their promise. It took a little persuading, but they finally decided to leave the baby with Lupe and take the two smaller boys and go along with him.

It was a warm, spring evening and



BURIED TALENTS

John 12:24-25

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you. Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.

Matthew 25:15-20, 22, 24-29

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents . . .

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord . . . I have gained two other talents beside them.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord . . .

25 . . . I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant . . .

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

The Message: We must use the talents God has invested in us or we will be as unproductive as grain that was never planted.

Questions:

1. What is necessary for a grain of wheat to be fruitful?
2. What will happen if we love our natural (self) life?
3. If we hate the worldly life, what will we gain?
4. How did the man determine how many talents to give each one?
5. How many talents did he gain that had been given five talents?
6. Which one gained two talents?
7. How much did the man with one talent gain?
8. What did he do with his one talent?
9. To whom was this one talent given?

Verse to Memorize
Give, and it shall be given
unto you . . . Luke 6:38

Let's



Talk . . .

An Egyptian mummy was discovered which was thought to be thousands of years old. It was well preserved and in its hand were several grains of wheat. All those years, that grain had lain dormant. It was well preserved and, when it was planted, even sprouted. But after that many years there was still only the few grains that had been placed in the mummy's hand so long ago. It had been useless. Had they died and reproduced, those few grains could have multiplied to feed perhaps millions of people. But, wrapped in the mummy's hand, they neither increased nor served as food.

Jesus used nature as a parable to show why He came to earth to die for sinners. He compared Himself to a grain of wheat. He likened His death to a grain that is planted and decomposed in the ground. His resurrection was like the blade that springs up from the dead grain. So by His death Christ gave life to thousands of living Christians. Our salvation is all owing to the dying of this "corn of wheat."

The same law applies to our life. If we love our own worldly life better than Christ, we will lose our right to eternal life. But if we hate our life in this world and prefer the favor of God, we will keep it unto life eternal. In his commentary on this scripture Matthew Henry remarked, "Many a man hugs himself to death, and loses his life by over-loving it."

In the next parable of our lesson Jesus teaches us our responsibility of

improving whatever talents He gives us. As His servants, we are never to be idle.

Everyone has at least one talent. Our own soul is this one talent. It will take all our time and effort to keep it pure and holy so we will be ready whenever the Lord calls us to give account of how we have lived our life.

In addition to this the Lord gives each of us the responsibility of helping others. Our "Verse to Memorize" says, "Give, and it shall be given unto you." This command implies the truth that each of us has something we can give.

In II Kings chapter four we read the story of the widow whose sons were to be sold because of a debt she could not pay. When Elisha asked her if she had any resources whatever she answered, "I have nothing in the house, except a pot of oil." This little pot of oil of itself was not enough to pay the debt and meet the widow's need. But, like the loaves and fishes that Jesus multiplied, God used it to produce the abundance needed.

God asked Moses what he had in his hand. It was only a rod but God used it to produce the plagues in Egypt and lead the Israelites to freedom. Dorcas' sewing needle was the instrument she used to help the poor widows. Little could she realize that generations later we are reading of her saintly charity accomplished by that little needle!

The pot of oil represents that talent which each of us has as a gift from God. It may seem small and useless to us. But if we utterly yield it to God He can make it a channel of endless wealth and blessing to others and ourselves. Humbly and prayerfully put your little talent into the hands of God. He will gladly turn it into a blessing beyond all we can ask or think!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

many people crowded the streets. Tony kept pushing on past the movie advertisements which his parents stopped to read, until they came to the bus stop. Here they waited a short while for the bus that would take them to the part of town where the mission was.

As they neared the mission, Tony heard the song he loved, "There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus. No, not one, no, not one!" Tony led his family to an empty bench. There were about thirty-five people there. Tony paid no attention to who was there. He came to worship Jesus by singing praises and listening to the speaker. Tonight the speaker was to be a missionary from Europe. Tony's parents did not sing, but he noticed that his papa patted his foot in time with the music.

After several songs and prayer, the speaker stood up. "I will tell you about the needy children in Europe," he said.

Tony and his family listened carefully as the man told of hungry, cold boys and girls in Europe. He said that each one should help those who are poor. "Everyone, even the poor in our country have much more than children in many other countries," he said. Tony was listening carefully as he told about a twelve year old, Tony Stacconi of Italy. Tony had walked more than two miles through the snow without shoes to get a loaf of black bread for his sick mother.

Tony Garcia felt his heart ache as he listened to the story of the other Tony who had no shoes. Suddenly, he remembered his precious money; he could give that! Then swiftly came to mind the long desired skates. In Tony's heart the battle was on! It was a real battle, for Tony had worked and saved a long, long time to buy the skates. But the other Tony had no shoes. Finally the thought came that Jesus had given much more than skates for him, and surely that other Tony was as well loved by Jesus as he. "I have

plenty of everything I need," thought Tony. "I really have more. I can share. I will give to Jesus!"

When the preacher asked those who could give to raise their hands, Tony's was one of the first to go up. "I'll give money for shoes for Tony. Shoes are better than skates to buy! Right?"

Tony did not see the look of amazement that came into his papa's and mamma's face. They knew how badly he wanted the skates, and how long he'd been saving. Each of them thought "What a fine boy is our Tony. Perhaps we too, should ask Jesus to come into our hearts so we too could do as he is doing." They were sure in their hearts that he was doing as Jesus would do.

On the way home that night, his father asked, "Tony, is it hard to get Jesus to live in your heart? Will He live in any heart?"

"Yes, Papa, He is good and will come in and live in any heart that will do like He does." Tony hastened on with a Scripture he had heard so often at the mission. "Jesus says in His book, 'Come unto Me and I will give you rest.'"

"I will do it," Papa said, "and we will go the mission church many times, eh, Mamma?"

"Si, si, Papa. I geev Heem my heart when I hear our Tony geev Heem the pesos."

Tony felt tingly, excited, and very full like he would almost burst all at the same time. The Book said, "Give and it shall be given unto you." He had given his skates and Jesus had given him his papa and mamma to be Christians with him!

—Selected

Answers: 1. It must fall into the ground and die. 2. We will lose our (eternal) life. 3. Eternal life. 4. According to each one's ability. 5. Five. 6. The one who had two. 7. None. 8. He buried it. 9. To the one with five talents.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 26, 2009

THE STRANGE WIND

Mrs. Nevius' face showed signs of grief and care, but her smile toward her children was cheery, as she placed the meager supper of potatoes, bread and preserves upon the table. "I'll put some bigger sticks upon the fire," she said. "Our woodpile is almost gone, but I sent William down to Mr. Johnson's coal yard to order some coal, though we cannot pay for it yet."

Just then the door flew open and the stalwart William, her twelve year old, rushed into the room. "Mr. Johnson's the meanest man that ever was!" he exclaimed. "He wouldn't trust us for even a pound of coal! He told me I was big enough to pick up all the wood we needed along the road."

"He never lost money by this family, and he never will," quietly remarked Mrs. Nevius. "I would have paid him right away, only there were a lot of extra expenses during your father's illness and the funeral bills were large, and we had to have potatoes and flour. However, I am sure that the Lord will provide; so we must not worry."

William sat down, so did Ruth, Mary and John. When all were seated, they bowed their heads and Mother asked the blessing. William watched his mother as she slowly ate the

small piece of bread and potato on her plate.

John wanted more food and so did William, but he knew it was less painful if he didn't ask for more.

After they finished with supper, Mother said, "It's cold tonight, and we want a pleasant evening. William please go to the shed and get some wood. Ruth will do the dishes and I'll play with Mary and John as their father used to do, before they go to bed."

In a few moments William returned and threw a large armful of wood into the box. "There are only two or three more such piles out there," he said. "we haven't enough wood to last us two days."

"Well, then, maybe we'd better not burn any more tonight. I'll put the little ones to bed, and we can sit by what fire we have until it goes out." said Mrs. Nevius.

At last William blurted out: "Mr. Johnson told me to pick up chips along the road. I know where I can find some pretty big chips, enough to keep us warm all winter."

"Why, William, what do you mean?" his mother asked.

"I mean his old rail fences over by the canal basin. There's no moon this week, and they wouldn't be missed until spring. And by that time nobody can tell where our wood ashes came



GOD SUPPLIES!

I Kings 17:10-15

10 . . . And when he (Elijah) came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13 And Elijah said unto her . . . make me thereof a little cake first . . . and after make for thee and for thy son.

14 For thus saith the LORD . . . The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail . . .

15 And . . . she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

II Kings 4:1-4, 6-7

1 Now there cried a certain woman . . . unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead . . . and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

2 And Elisha said unto her . . . tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.

3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours

4 . . . thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

The Message: *If we are living to please the Lord we can always depend on Him to supply our needs!*

Questions:

1. When Elijah came to the gate of the city, what did he ask of the widow woman?
2. How much food did she have in her house?
3. What did Elijah tell the widow to do before she fixed food for herself and her son?
4. What was the creditor going to do with the widow's two sons?
5. What did Elisha ask the widow?
6. What was her answer?
7. Where was she to get empty vessels?
8. What was she to put into the empty vessels?
9. What did Elisha tell her to do after the vessels were full?

Verse to Memorize

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:19

Let's



Talk . . .

God's promises are like checks made out to our name. They are useless unless we meet the conditions and accept them by faith. God loves to prove His power and fulfill His promises. He allows us to face trouble and have great needs. That is the time to prove Him by claiming His promise.

The events recorded in the Bible were written to reveal truths that would be applicable all down through the years of time. These two stories tell of two widows who were in desperate need. They illustrate to us God's great power and mercy. He does not forget those who are in dire need but promises to be right there to help them.

There had been no rain in Israel for a long time. Crops would not grow and many people were at the point of starving. God told Elijah to go to the brook named Cherith. There He had ravens bring him food every morning and every evening. But after awhile the brook dried up.

Then God told Elijah to go to a city named Zarephath where a widow would give him food. So, Elijah obediently walked to that city. Just as he was going through the city gates he saw a widow gathering sticks. "Bring me a drink," he told the woman. Then, as she turned to do so, he added, "And bring me a piece of bread also."

"I have no bread," the woman answered. "I have only a little oil and a handful of meal. I'm gathering sticks now to make a little cake out of it. Then we will die—we have nothing more to eat."

But Elijah persisted. "Make me a little cake first. Then make something for yourself and your son. The Lord has promised that you will not run out of oil or meal."

The widow did as Elijah said and the Lord kept His promise. Each time she went to make bread there was more oil and more meal. Elijah ate with them for many days.

The second poor widow was left with a debt and no way of earning money to pay it. Her husband had died leaving her penniless. The creditor demanded his money and when she could not pay he said that he would take her two sons to be his servants. The widow was desperate; she could not pay the debt but neither could she stand to see her sons become slaves!

Elisha was a great prophet, mightily used of God at that time. He knew this widow's husband well because he was also a prophet. The widow decided if there was any help for her it would be through this great man of God so she went to him and told him her predicament.

After listening carefully, Elisha asked the widow if she had anything at all to pay the debt with. She answered, "I have nothing in the house except a pot of oil!"

It seemed so insignificant in comparison to her problem. Little did she dream that her little pot of oil could be turned into a fountain of wealth by God's divine power!

So, in each of us, God has invested something that, if utterly yielded to Him, can become a channel of endless wealth and blessing to ourselves and to others. We must use what He has given us, though it seems so little. It is not our ability but how fully we are yielded to God that will accomplish amazing results through His power.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

from. Oh, that's a great idea!"

"No, William," said his mother sternly, "that is not a great idea. That's a very poor idea. Your father was an honest man. You remember that the day before he died he commended us all to God's care and said that God would take care of us. No, no, you must not think of such a thing." And Mrs. Nevius buried her face in her hands and burst into sobs.

"Well, Mother, I don't want to be a thief; but we'll have to get wood somewhere or we'll freeze to death before the winter is over."

"We might better freeze than steal," said Mother. "But I believe God will take care of us, and we have tomorrow to plan what to do."

"Well, children, Jesus said, 'Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.' We cannot do anything tonight and worry does us no good. Suppose you get your Sunday school books and study your lesson for next Sunday."

After a few minutes with her book, Ruth exclaimed: "See, Mother, how our Bible story matches our case! It's about the poor widow who asked Elisha what she should do to pay her debts. He told her to borrow vessels and pour oil into them; and she kept on pouring until she had enough to buy everything she needed. Isn't that wonderful?"

"That's just like the Bible," said William; "but such things don't happen nowadays."

Ruth paid no attention to William. She continued reading.

Soon she spoke again, "Here it tells about the Israelites. When they needed food in the wilderness, God sent a great wind which brought quail that fell all around the camp, and everybody had all the meat he could eat."

After a moment Ruth turned her head toward the window, listening. "Why, the wind is rising now. Just

hear how it moans in such a queer way over the canal," she cried.

"It'll take a pretty big wind to blow us coal or wood," remarked William doubtfully.

After the Sunday school lessons were learned, the mother offered prayer commending herself and family to their father's God; and the three left the chilly kitchen for the warmth of their beds.

While the children slept, the listening mother heard the bleak wind whistling around the little cottage.

The next morning William built the fire to warm up the house before the family got up. It made William feel good to do what his father had done, "But I won't be able to do this many more days," he muttered as he opened the kitchen door to go bring in more wood.

"Why, oh why, what's this?" he called. "Wood, sticks, big and little, piled up along the bank by the door. And the canal is full of logs clear down to the turn! I never saw anything like this in my life before!"

"Mother! Ruth! All of you come down here quickly," he called. "Just look!" In a moment the whole family, clad in their night robes or wrapped in blankets, was crowded at the kitchen door. As far as their eyes could see, the canal was full of driftwood, which in places the wind had pressed upon the bank. There was enough fuel at their door to last them the entire season. —Selected

Answers: 1. A drink of water. 2. A handful of meal and a little oil. 3. Make him a cake first. 4. Make them bondmen (slaves). 5. "What do you have in the house?" 6. "Nothing but a pot of oil." 7. Borrow them from the neighbors. 8. The oil. 9. Sell the oil and pay her debt and use the rest of the money to live on.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 3, 2009

A MAN EATING SHARK

(A true story)

Mungo lived in the West Indies. He worked as a servant to a very rich man. The man's large estate bordered on an ocean bay. The beautiful bay was a natural harbor for ships, but swimming there was extremely dangerous! Sharks lived in its water!

One big shark was a constant threat! From his hiding place behind a large underwater rock, he would suddenly emerge to terrorize the bay. The sailors named him "Blue Peter." The sailors had seen Blue Peter attack when he was hungry! It seemed that Blue Peter didn't eat often. But when he was hungry, he ate whatever was nearest him. He would attack a child as readily as he would an animal. The old sailors told about a time when old Blue Peter had bitten a man's arm right off his body.

Everyone who had lived very long in the area knew about Blue Peter. He was "Public Enemy Number One". The government of the island offered a large reward to anyone who should kill him.

One day the proud stubborn son of Mungo's boss decided to go swimming. In vain his older brother tried to persuade him not to go. The boy ran to the edge of the ocean and plunged into the surf. He swam some distance

out from the shore. The older boy watched from the shore, all the while, straining his eyes for old Blue Peter. Suddenly he froze motionless! Blue Peter darted from his hiding place behind the big rock! He hesitated just a moment then started gliding swiftly toward the younger boy.

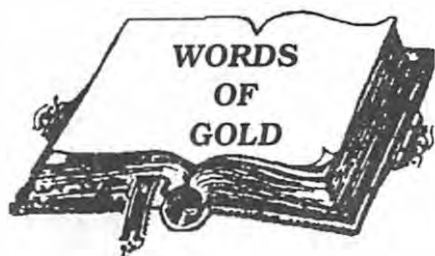
The younger boy saw the shark and called loudly for help. He swam faster and faster, but his speed was no match for that of Blue Peter, who swam daily in the water.

Mungo, who was working nearby, saw what was happening. He ran for the shore and dove in! He swam to the boy just in time to see the terrible jaws of the shark close on the boy's arm! With one huge tug the arm ripped from the boy's body. The heroic Mungo grabbed the wounded boy and swam with him until they were near the shore. Then Blue Peter struck again, this time taking off one of Mungo's feet and part of his leg.

What could exceed the horror of those who watched from the shore? Happily, however, there was help at hand, so that Mungo and the boy were saved from death.

The boy recovered from his swim at the cost of losing an arm. Eventually brave Mungo also got well, but he had to stump about with a wooden leg.

Blue Peter continued his reign of terror. Mungo never forgot his old



GOD, OUR REFUGE

Psalms 46

1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

4 There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

5 God is in the midst of her: she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

7 The LORD of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Proverbs 18:10

10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . .

20 . . . and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Hebrews 13:5-6

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

The Message: It is safe to place our full confidence in God!

Questions:

1. Who is our strength?
2. God is a _____ help in trouble.
3. Because God is our refuge we will not _____ even though the earth should be removed.
4. What two verses in Psalms 46 are identical?
5. What must we do in order to know that God is God? (Psalms 46:10.)
6. The name of the Lord is what kind of a tower?
7. The righteous run there and are _____.
8. Who said He was with us alway?
9. What can we boldly say?

Verse to Memorize

. . . If God be for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31

Let's



Talk . . .

A refuge is a place of shelter, protection, or safety. It is anything available for our aid, relief, or escape. God has promised to be all this to us! He did not promise those who serve and trust Him that they would never have trouble. But He did promise to be present with them in that trouble to help them just when it is most needed.

Jesus' last words to His disciples as He sent them out to preach the Gospel were, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." These words gave John Paton, missionary to the cannibals, courage even though his life was constantly in danger.

He knew that he had not undertaken this work on his own. Since God had directed him here he knew that he had God and the vast resources of His power with him. He wrote, "I was conscious that our Lord Jesus was near me and that through Him I was strong enough for any assignment that He had given or might give."

Courageously he told the natives plainly of their wickedness. He faithfully pointed them to the Lamb of God who is able to save from sin. In every possible way he showed them the contrast between their evil ways and the Christian way of living.

One morning when Paton went out at daybreak he found that armed men surrounded his house. These warriors were muttering fiercely that they had come to kill him at once!

These natives had one strange habit. They always made a speech before taking action. So the savage warriors would not kill Paton until

their chief had made the following speech: "Missi (their name for missionary), we love the ways and practices of our fathers, which you and other missionaries oppose. We killed the last foreigner that lived in Tanna before you came here. We murdered the teachers and burned down their houses. Now we are determined to kill you, because you are changing our customs and we hate the Jehovah worship."

"Seeing that I was entirely in their hands," Paton said, "I knelt down and gave myself away, body and soul, to the Lord Jesus, for what seemed the last time on earth."

The savages grew strangely quiet when they saw him kneel in prayer. When he got up off his knees he told them again about Jesus' great love for them. Then they turned and walked away, muttering that he would yet be killed if he did not leave the island at once!

Several days later, while a large number of natives were assembled, a man rushed furiously at Paton with his axe and attempted to take his life. And the very next day a fierce-looking chief followed him around for four hours, frequently pointing his loaded musket at him as if to shoot. Paton quietly went on with his work silently praying for God's protection.

What was the secret of his great courage? It was his faith in the promise of God's presence! He explains: "My faith enabled me to grasp and realize the promise, 'Lo, I am with you always.' In Jesus I felt invulnerable."

The safest and wisest thing you can do is to give your life to God now, while you are young. Throughout your life He will be your Guide, a present help in any trouble you meet. You must have His strength and protection because the devil is like a roaring lion. Without God's help we are no match for him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

enemy. He resolved to someday end his murderous career FOREVER!

He went to work on his plans for vengeance. First he hunted until he found a large wooden barrel. Then he went to work buying large, spiked nails and the very largest fish hooks that were on the island. Mungo fastened these hooks to the inside bottom of the barrel. Soon the inside of the barrel was full of sharp hooks and nails. Mungo also drove the spiked nails all the way through the barrel. Now his trap was made!

News soon spread that on a certain day, Mungo was going to kill Blue Peter. On that day hundreds of people gathered to watch. Just before going into the water, Mungo tied fresh, bloody beef as bait on the hooks. He tied the barrel securely onto his boat. In his hand he took a large coil of rope and a cutlass (a short, thick sword used by sailors). He stepped into the boat and shouted to the people watching, "I will give Mr. Blue Peter a bit of breakfast."

For a long time Mungo rowed around the rock without sighting his enemy. Then suddenly, Blue Peter darted out! He smelled the blood! Into the barrel went the shark's head. Mungo plunged the sword deep into the side of the shark. The shark tried to back out of the barrel, but was caught by the hooks. One was in his mouth, one on the side of his head and another hooked under his gill. Mungo wasted no time. He stabbed the shark again and again. Every time the shark moved to jerk loose, the sharp spiked nails stuck into his sides. Blood was spurting from all parts of the shark. When the shark's lurching had subsided enough for Mungo to row, he went back to the shore, as the people shouted and cheered.

The threat of old Blue Peter was

gone forever! Brave Mungo's two heroic encounters with Blue Peter strikingly remind us of the two greatest events in the world: the two appearances of our Lord, Jesus Christ. **He first came in grace:**

Mungo went to save the boy. "... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." 1 Timothy 1:15. Mungo lost his leg. The Lord Jesus gave up His life. He died to save others

It would be unthinkable that the boy in the water would refuse Mungo's aid. Indeed he cried for help. Yet how many there are who refuse help from Jesus, the only Saviour and the sinners' Friend! Have you trusted Him? He is your only hope. Without Him you will surely sink down to hell and perish forever. . . forever.

He will come again in judgment:

Mungo's last trip was to slay his great enemy. The Lord Jesus is coming to judge the world, and it will be the end of Satan's tempting power. Those who refuse Jesus' grace now will be counted as His enemies in that Day. Believe on Him now, dear reader, and live for Him. In this way you will be eternally safe.

"... Now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.... and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:26, 28.

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." Revelation 1:7.

—Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. God. 2. Present. 3. Fear. 4. Verses 7 and 11. 5. Be still. 6. A strong tower. 7. Safe. 8. Jesus. 9. "The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 10, 2009

THE DAY AFTER MOTHER'S DAY

We celebrated Mother's Day in the loveliest way," remarked Billy Stone as he met Miss Fowler, his Sunday school teacher, and walked along beside her. "We gave Mother a present."

"How nice! I suppose you love her very much, don't you?"

"Lots!"

"Well, Billy, my man," said Miss Fowler, stopping a moment at the corner where she was to turn off, "don't forget your lesson last Sunday. You know what our Bible tells us about how true love shows itself."

Yes, Billy knew. He walked on thinking of it, and presently his round face grew very sober.

"Yesterday we told Mother that we gave her the present with our love. Today is only a day later, and I would not get up in time for breakfast. I was late at school; I made the twins mad and I sneaked out of the back door so as not to have to go for the mail. I can't see how anybody, by looking at the way I've acted, could tell that I liked my mother at all."

It was beginning to rain when Billy reached home. He and the twins, who had been playing in the yard, all went into the kitchen together. Mrs. Stone, at work in the next room, looked out of the window with a sigh. She had so much to do, and there was liable to be trouble when the children must stay indoors.

Billy thought of this, too.

The twins were hanging their hats up with a shuffle.

"I say, Robin," asked Billy, abruptly, "how much do you love Mother this afternoon?"

Robin turned and stared at him. What a queer question; it was not a bit like a boy!

"Why?" he giggled. "Do you want me to write poetry about it?"

"Poetry!" sniffed Billy. "I want to know how much—just how much—that isn't poetry, is it?"

"That's arithmetic," said Dora. Dora was the eldest of them all. She was bolstered up in a big armchair by the fire; she had been ill for several days.

"How much?" repeated Robin. "How can you tell how much you love a person?"

"In plenty of ways," said Billy wisely. "I'll tell you one right now. I love Mother a boxful."

With that he picked up the kindling box and marched out to the shed.

A light broke upon the twins.

"Oh-oh!" cried Harry, "that's what you mean, is it? Well, I love her a pailful," seizing the water bucket and starting for the pump.

"I love her a scuttleful," said Robin, and he plunged down the cellar after coal.

Mrs. Stone heard the noise of the children and glanced anxiously at the



HANNAH'S GIFT

I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24, 26-28

11 And she (Hannah) vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and . . . wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life . . .

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come . . . that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD . . .

24 And when she had weaned him, she took him . . . unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD: as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

I Samuel 2:1, 11, 18-21

1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. . .

18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she . . . bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

The Message: *Hannah's longing for a son was not a selfish desire. She asked this gift from the Lord so that she could offer him back to God.*

Questions:

1. What did Hannah pray for?
2. What did she vow if God answered her prayer?
3. What did she name her son?
4. Where did she take him after he was weaned?
5. For how long did she lend him to the Lord?
6. What did Samuel's mother make him every year?
7. Who blessed Hannah and her husband, Elkanah?
8. How many more children did Hanna have?

Verse to Memorize

. . . a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.
Proverbs 31:30

Let's



Talk . . .

Hannah has been called the prayerful mother. She lived at a time when the people of Israel in general had turned from serving God. In her own home there was trouble. Elkanah, her husband, loved her and treated her kindly but he had another wife. Her name was Peninnah. Peninnah had children, while Hannah had none.

Peninnah did not let Hannah forget that she was childless. She often provoked Hannah by reminding her that the Lord had kept her from having a child.

But Hannah worshipped God with all her heart. She knew He could grant her greatest desire—to have a son. Every year she went from her home at Ramah to the temple at Shiloh to worship with her husband. Every year her most fervent prayer was for a child.

This yearly journey became difficult for Hannah as she saw parents and children coming together. As her husband made his sacrifices in the tabernacle, he would give portions to his other wife, Peninnah and to her sons and daughters. Though he gave Hannah, a "worthy portion," it was much smaller because she had no children.

Finally on one trip Hannah was so troubled that she wept and would not eat. Her husband asked her kindly, "Why are you crying and why won't you eat? Why are you so grieved? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

Hannah did not want to trouble her husband. Though she had no appetite, she ate and drank to please him. Then, as quickly as she could

get away, she got up and went into the tabernacle to pour out her heart to God. She was crying so much she could hardly pray but she vowed that if God would give her a son she would give him to the Lord and he would be dedicated to the Lord's service all his life. Hannah prayed from the depths of her heart but made no sound; only her lips moved.

Eli, the priest, sat nearby. Seeing her lips move, but not understanding her silence, he decided she was drunk.

"No, my lord," she answered Eli respectfully; "I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord."

When Eli saw her sincerity he told her, "Go in peace and the God of Israel grant you your petition."

Hannah went her way. She was sure that God would answer her prayer for a son.

And God did give her a son. Hannah named him Samuel, meaning "asked of God." Hannah was a loving devoted mother. She carefully taught little Samuel, preparing him for his service to God.

Finally, when Samuel was weaned, Hannah dressed him for his first trip to the tabernacle, where she was to leave him. Hannah's strong faith in God helped her. She confidently placed her small son in His great hands. It was a great sacrifice for her to return to her home in Ramah without him, but she had dedicated him to the Lord. She would prove true to her promise.

Each year when Hannah returned to worship she brought a little coat for Samuel. She was pleased to see that her young son joyfully performed many small duties in the tabernacle.

Wise, godly mothers are a gift from God. Those who have their mother's prayers to guide them are truly blessed!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

door. "I hope there is no mischief on foot; I'm in a hurry to get the sewing done."

Kitty Stone had roused herself from her book in the old-fashioned kitchen window seat to listen to Billy and the rest. So far she had said nothing. But when the kindling box and the pail and scuttle were full the covers of Kitty's book went together with a snap.

"Don't you think," she said, "all of us together, if we hurried, could love Mother this room full before she came in and caught us? I'll clean the stove out and polish it"

They worked like beavers. The last tin was hung on the nail and the last chair set back to the wall when Mrs. Stone's step was heard coming rapidly down the hall.

She looked around the tidy room and when she saw how spic and span it was, and when she saw the ring of smiling faces, she kissed them every one, and her own bright face was as bright as the brightest.

"There's no mother in the country," said Mrs. Stone, "that has such children as mine!"

"There, now, do you not see?" said Billy to Robin. "Can't you tell how much you love a person? We're going to make every day Mother's Day!"

—Unknown

HONORING GOD

Charlie was going home with his uncle. All night they were on a boat that was furnished with tiny beds on each side of the cabin, called berths. When it was time to go to bed, his uncle said: "Hurry and jump into your berth."

"May I first kneel and ask God to care for us?" asked Charlie.

"We'll be taken care of," said his uncle.

"Yes, but Mother always told me not to ever take anything without first asking for it."

Charlie's uncle had nothing to say

to that, so Charlie knelt down, just as he did at his bed at home, and asked God to care for them through the night. That was honoring God. It took courage, but Charlie set a good example.

IN A LION'S BEDROOM

How would you like to spend a night in a lion's bedroom? "Not at all," you reply. But that is just what a young man once did. He lived in a little village in England, but when he grew up he decided to be a soldier. So he enlisted in the army and was sent to Africa with his regiment.

One night, when out with some other soldiers, he somehow got separated from them and after wandering about for some time he realized he was lost. He was very, very tired and seeing a cave he went in and was soon fast asleep.

Suddenly he heard a terrible roar, and then pat, pat, pat, something was entering the cave. With horror he watched the lion stalking in the very cave in which he was. At once he lay down again and pretended he was asleep. The lion came up and sniffed him and then went to a corner of the cave, lay down, and was asleep.

The young soldier remembered that David, king of Israel, had been delivered from the paw of the lion, and lying there on the sandy floor of the cave he cried to God to save him as He had saved David.

Before long he could hear by the way the lion breathed that it was in a deep sleep. Still praying in his heart the young soldier crept softly from the cave, and soon found his friends as the dawn was breaking. What a wonderful experience of God's deliverance he had to tell them!

—Selected

Answers: 1. A son. 2. That she would give her son to the Lord. 3. Samuel. 4. To the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 5. For as long as he lived. 6. A little coat. 7. Eli. 8. Three sons and two daughters.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 17, 2009

A STRANGE MESSAGE

(A true story)

Eleven year old Susan looked at the scanty plate of food which her mother sat on the table in front of her. Her little brother Jerry sat across the table and was almost finished eating his dinner. At the end of the table her littlesister Nancy waited patiently for prayers to be said before eating. Mrs. Matthew, Susan's mother, slid into the chair at the other end of the table and bowed her head to offer thanks.

"Oh, I forgot," Jerry said as he laid his fork across his plate.

Susan thanked God for the food and asked Him to always supply them with food. (Little did she realize how serious was their need of food, for Mrs. Matthew had divided what food she had and put away enough for the children to have breakfast. After that, she didn't know what they would eat. There was no money to buy more food. She had looked everywhere for work, without finding any.)

"Aren't you going to eat?" Susan asked her mother when she noticed that Mother was just sitting at the table thinking.

"No, not tonight," Mrs. Matthew answered.

"Why, aren't you hungry?" Nancy asked.

Before mother could answer Nancy's question, Jerry said, "I'm still hungry, can I have some more?"

"You better run on and get ready

for bed, Jerry, and let that do for tonight," Mother said.

"But I'm still hungry," Jerry protested.

"You won't feel so hungry if you get busy doing something else," Mother assured him. "Now get yourself washed up, brush your teeth and get into your night clothes."

Jerry left the table dragging his feet like each weighed a hundred pounds. Susan didn't ask her mother the second time about eating. She was sure that mother wasn't eating because there was not enough food. "When would things ever be different? Why did Daddy die anyway? Now things were so awful! Mother worked every day when she could find work, but got paid so little—maybe fifty cents, sometimes maybe sixty cents for working the whole day." Susan felt bitterness welling in her chest. "Why? why, had all this happened? Things would be even worse now that winter was coming. It had snowed all day and was still snowing. How could mother pay utility bills or buy warm winter clothes for all of them?"

Her thoughts were interrupted by Jerry's voice as he asked, "Mother, does God know we are hungry?"

"Yes, God knows we are hungry," she heard her mother say to him.

"Then God will give us something to eat, won't He?"

"Yes, He will," was Mother's answer, but Susan noticed a falter in her voice and looked up in time to see her



GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL

I Samuel 3:1-13, 15

1 And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli . . .

2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place

...
3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;

4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD . . .

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

11 And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

12 In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house . . .

13 For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

The Message: God calls and uses those who are busy serving Him, even young children!

Questions:

1. What child ministered to the Lord?
2. What old priest did he serve?
3. Who called him one night?
4. What did he reply?
5. To whom did he run?
6. Who did not know the Lord yet?
7. How many times did he run to Eli?
8. What did Eli tell him to answer if God called again?
9. What did Samuel fear to do?

Verse to Memorize

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.
Proverbs 20:11

Let's



Talk . . .

Hannah wanted a baby boy more than anything else. Her desire was so strong she even prayed, "O Lord, if You will give me a son I will give him back to You to serve You the rest of his life." God heard Hannah's prayer. Before another year passed God gave her and her husband a baby boy. Hannah named him Samuel, which means, "asked of God."

When Samuel was old enough to help serve in the tabernacle she knew the time had come to fulfill her promise to give Samuel to God. Bringing him to Eli, the high priest, Hannah said, "One year when I came up to the tabernacle with my husband, I prayed for a son. I promised that if He would grant my desire I would give him, to serve God here in the tabernacle. As long as he lives he shall belong to the Lord."

Eli was old and could hardly see. He was glad to have Samuel's help.

One night Samuel was lying in bed after a busy day. Suddenly he heard a voice calling him. Immediately he answered, "Here I am." Thinking that it was Eli who called he ran to him, and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Eli was surprised. "I didn't call you," he answered. "Go back and lie down again." Samuel went back and laid down.

Soon the voice spoke again, "Samuel!" The boy rubbed his sleepy eyes and hurried to Eli's bedside.

"Here I am," he said, "for I heard you call."

Again Eli told him, "I did not call. You may go back to bed."

The voice called Samuel the third time. When Samuel ran to Eli, the old man knew that God wanted to speak to the boy. Eli said, "Go and lie down. If the voice calls you again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant listens.'"

Samuel went back and laid down again. Soon he heard the voice of God calling, "Samuel, Samuel!"

"Speak; for your servant is listening," the boy answered.

God talked with Samuel that night. He told him that Eli's sons would soon be punished for the evil things they were doing. Eli, too, would be punished because he let them serve as priests even though he knew they were evil.

When it was morning Samuel got up early to do his work. He was glad to be busy—he didn't want to face Eli. How could he break such bad news to the kind old priest? Eli waited. When Samuel did not come he called to him and asked, "What did the Lord tell you? Do not hide it from me."

Obediently Samuel told him all the words of the Lord. Eli bowed his head and said, "Let the Lord do what He sees is best."

Just as Samuel began serving God when he was a very young child, you are never too young to give your heart and life to God. As you carefully live for Him, He will make you wise and strong in faith. Samuel became a great prophet and was a blessing to his entire nation. God will also bless you and make you a great blessing to others.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

mother wipe a tear from her face. She also thought she saw traces of doubt that she had never seen before upon her mother's face.

Susan laid awake until her mother came to bed. "What did you read from the Bible tonight?" she asked, for her mother was singing as she dressed for bed.

"I just read about God causing the raven to bring bread to Elijah. I know He will also supply for us!"

The next morning the children were expecting to go to Sunday school, but Mrs. Matthew said, "You children must stay home today, you have no boots to walk in this deep snow. I will go alone."

"And you will bring us back some food?" Jerry asked.

"Yes, I will," Mother promised. Susan was surprised at the positive answer that her mother gave to Jerry. She watched as her mother put on her coat and boots and started through the deep snow. "I wonder what Mother will bring home for us?" she said to herself. "Poor Mother ate neither supper nor breakfast, so that we could have her food."

Through the morning Susan caught herself glancing out the window, wondering if she would see her mother coming with a package in her hand or not. Shortly after twelve o'clock, she glanced out. There was Mother! A large package was in her arms! "Jerry! Nancy!" she called.

Jerry darted out the door, only to be pulled back by Susan. "She won't get here any sooner by you getting yourself in the way," Susan scolded. "Stay in here where it's at least a little bit warm."

"Mother, where did you get this food?" Susan asked as her mother unloaded several of their favorite foods.

"My Sunday school teacher gave me some money in an envelope. There was a letter to explain it. I'll read it to you." Mother gave the children a fruit of their choice and sat down near the stove to read the letter.

Dear Mrs. Matthew:

I have been saving money a long time to buy a new dining room table. Last night I went to sleep and was awakened by a voice that said, "Give Mrs. Matthew the money you have saved for the dining room table."

I asked my husband if he had said something. "Nope," he answered rather sleepily.

"Someone just spoke to me saying to give my money to Mrs. Matthew."

"Go back to sleep," he said. "There's nothing to it."

I went back to sleep and after a while the voice spoke again, saying the same thing. I awoke my husband again. He was really disgusted this time and told me to forget it and go to sleep! I lay awake a long time before I could go to sleep this time. I didn't want to give up the money, nor did I know any person by the name of Mrs. Matthew. After all, I had saved a long time. Finally, I fell asleep and was again awakened by the voice telling me to give the money. I awoke my husband and asked if he knew a Mrs. Matthew.

"A poor lady by that name has been coming to Sunday School lately," he said.

"Then I must give her the money," I said.

"You just had a crazy dream," he said. "We hardly know the woman."

I am giving this money to you, for I feel God told me to do so. I also feel like I will go crazy if I don't! Use it wherever needed.

God bless you!

"That's a lot of money!" they all exclaimed as Mother showed them the money. "Yes, it is a lot of money. I would work many weeks for this much money if I could find work."

"Maybe months!" Susan said.

—Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Samuel. 2. Eli. 3. God. 4. "Here am I." 5. Eli. 6. Samuel. 7. Three times. 8. "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth." 9. Tell Eli what the Lord showed him.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 24, 2009

MY BRUSH WITH DEATH

The work in the garden seemed endless. I looked down the rows of beans, peas and carrots. I saw the hateful weeds that had to be pulled. I imagined myself swimming in the river, diving from a makeshift diving board, the wind whistling past me. Then I opened my eyes to the weeds again.

"Hey, Pete, let's go swimming!" Bike brakes squealed as Tom slid to a stop at the edge of the garden.

"Can't until this weedy garden is all cleaned out," I griped. "Say, if you help we can lick it in no time. Then we can go."

"Well, okay," Tom said. "Dad won't let me swim alone. If you have to do this first, I'd better help, or it'll be too dark."

When the town clock struck three, we finished the work.

"Instead of dumping out these baskets why not leave them here at the edge of the garden, Pete? Then your dad can see how many weeds we pulled," Tom suggested.

"Okay with me," I said. "Let's get rolling." In half an hour we were at the river.

Our diving board was rigged on a high bank, 15 feet above the water. At this point, about a quarter of a mile above the dam, the water was fairly calm at this time of year. There was

considerable force in the current, but Tom and I were strong swimmers.

Tom climbed the rickety platform of our diving board and did a "cannonball" feet first into the water.

"Watch this, Tom," I yelled, as he swam for the bank.

On the board, I balanced, facing the shore. My toes clung to the hot wood. Then I sprung out, throwing my legs up. I didn't break my dive in time. Instead of a smooth entry into the river, I slammed on my back.

When I did, a searing pain flashed in my back and exploded in my head. It left me weak, unable to kick my legs. The current caught me, and carried me downstream toward the dam. I used my arms to keep my head out of the water, but I couldn't fight the current.

"Help, Tom!" I yelled. "The current's got me!"

Faster now, closer to the dam, the current swept me along. Fear paralyzed my arms as I thought of the canal turbines for the electric company's generating station on the opposite bank. I was caught in the current. The turbines ahead of me were like meat grinders.

Terrible pains raced up and down my back and neck. I had to swim to the right, out of that current, or I was dead. I tried kicking my legs again, but this brought blinding waves of



GIVING YOURSELF TO GOD

Romans 12:1-2, 9-21

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place

unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 6:13

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

The Message: It is only reasonable that we give ourselves to God. He created us and, through Jesus, bought us back from sin. We belong to Him!

Questions:

1. What are we to present as a living sacrifice to God?
2. This is our _____ service.
3. We must not be conformed to this _____.
4. We are to be transformed by having what renewed?
5. Then we can prove what is that _____, and _____, and _____ will of God.
6. Abhor (hate) that which is _____; cleave to that which is _____.
7. What should you do to those who persecute you?
8. If your enemy is hungry or thirsty, what should you do?
9. How can we overcome evil?

Verse to Memorize

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 6:20

Let's



Talk . . .

In the first verse of our Bible lesson Paul begs us to give ourselves to God. Then he tells us this is only reasonable. God created us for Himself, therefore we belong to Him. Sin separated us from God but He loved us too much to leave it that way—He redeemed us. To redeem means to rescue by paying a price. It cost God the dearest thing He had—Jesus, His only Son. Therefore we also belong to Him because He bought us.

God made us in His own likeness and He has a plan and purpose for each one of us. Paul wrote: "...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit..." I Corinthians 2:9-10.

God wants us to know Him so well that we will speak to Him often. He inspired men to write the Bible so we could learn how much He loves us and how we can live to please Him. Once we see God as He really is and see His great plan for our life we will realize it is not only reasonable to give Him our life, it is also our greatest privilege!

It is especially important that you young children give your lives to God. He will then keep you from the awful traps the devil has set for you. He can guide you through the decisions that determine the course of your lives and that will eventually determine where you will spend eternity! God can accomplish great things through young, dedicated lives.

Last week we studied about Samuel. Hannah, Samuel's mother, gave him to the Lord even before he was born. While he was still very young Hannah brought Samuel to Eli the priest. There in the temple Samuel ministered before the Lord. Soon the Lord was speaking directly to young Samuel. As he grew older God spoke through him to the people. Samuel was a great prophet and accomplished much for God during his long life.

Daniel and his friends were young when they were taken as captives into Babylon. There they were taught another language. They saw strange gods being worshipped all around them. But Daniel and the others knew God personally. Ever since they were very young they had been careful to always obey His commands. They knew God would stand by them if they were faithful. God used them in that wicked country to prove that the God they served was the one true God!

Moses was taken from his godly parents to live in Pharaoh's house when he was very young. But his mother had carefully taught him about the true God. Moses believed in God. When he was grown, he chose to serve God rather than live as a prince in Egypt. God used him to deliver the Israelites from slavery.

Have you given yourself to God so you know He is guiding your life? Do you know Him so personally you can tell Him all your troubles? Do you let Him make all the important decisions for you? Are you reading your Bible, God's letter that He had written to you?

The wisest decision you can ever make is to give yourself to God. Let Him work out His beautiful purpose for your life. He will always be with you to bless you and make you a blessing to many others!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

pain and made me weaker than ever. I prayed for help, still thrashing my arms, and asking God to give me the strength to swim out of the current.

Presently, a calmness overcame the fear that had gripped me. I felt new power in my body. My arms began to stroke more effectively through the water. It was as if someone else were moving me as if I were a puppet.

Ahead of me was the catwalk across the top of the dam. I reached up with one hand and grabbed it. Then when my hand started to slip, I threw my other arm up. My nails dug into the soft, mossy wood.

The undertow pulled at my legs, trying to draw me down. I clung, screaming at the top of my voice, to the soft wood of the catwalk.

"Help! Help me!" I cried.

My fingernails broke off. My fingers had just started to slide off the catwalk edge when someone grabbed my arm.

I guess I passed out then. When I woke up, I was lying on a cot. Tom and a man I'd never seen before were looking down anxiously at me.

"We'll get you to a doctor," the man said. "You had a close call."

"How'd you get me here?" I asked, unable to believe I was alive.

"I'm the watchman for the power company. Your buddy here rode his bike down to the dam and yelled at me. When I saw you coming downstream in the current, I thought you were a goner. You were just kinda floating along in it, like a cork. I'd crawled out on the catwalk, but still couldn't help ya.

"Suddenly ya started to stroke real good for a minute. That little burst of speed pulled you clear of the current, and to the catwalk. Then I grabbed ya and here we are. Here comes the paramedic."

The watchman straightened as

the paramedic came into the room. After a quick examination, he said, "You've got a pretty badly dislocated right hip. Can't figure out how you could swim at all with that hip-how'd you do it?"

"I prayed," I said, with a silent thanks to my Saviour.

Christ had saved my life that day and I dedicated myself to Him. I pray He will guide me into His plan for my life.

—A True Story

THE FRIENDLY BALLOON

(Fun with science)

Blow up a rubber balloon as large as you can. Double the tube back and tie it with a string. Get another string three or four feet long. Tie one end to the balloon and the other end to a ceiling lamp fixture or other support. Let the balloon hang level with your head. Then rub the balloon lightly but rapidly with a piece of woolen cloth. Now have someone walk close to the balloon.

When a person comes within a few inches of the balloon, what happens? The balloon flies toward the person because it is charged with a coating of static electricity.

For us to be friendly and draw others to Christ, we must be charged with the love of God like the balloon was charged with static electricity. We get charged with God's love by praying to Him and reading His Word, the Holy Bible, with an attitude of willingness to do only what pleases Jesus.

Christ's Spirit in us will make us attract other boys and girls to Christ.

... Let us love one another: for love is of God. . . 1 John 4:7.

—Selected

Answers: 1. Our bodies. 2. Reasonable. 3. World. 4. Our mind. 5. Good, acceptable, perfect. 6. Evil; good. 7. Bless them. 8. Feed him and give him a drink. 9. With good.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 31, 2009

A CONVERTED GANGSTER

In a remote section of Brazil where the Gospel had been blessed to many, a missionary had arranged to baptize 30 native converts. Satan raised up opposition, however, and some of the unbelieving relatives sought to oppose this step of faith. They even offered Venancio, a gangster chief, a sum of money if he and his band of outlaws would break up the service. Venancio agreed.

The Christians heard of the enemy's plans but determined to proceed with their service even at the risk of their lives.

A large crowd was on hand to witness the baptismal service and the 30 new converts stood by the creek. They sang a few hymns and Gustavo began to preach.

Then they heard the galloping of horses and 20 horsemen approached with Venancio at their head. Riding past the crowd of spectators the men with their pistols drawn stopped in front of the little Christian band.

The crowd drew back terrified, while the believers stood motionless on the river bank. But Gustavo continued to preach.

Then suddenly Venancio rode a few steps forward, turned toward his men and yelled, "Whoever harms these people is a dead man." He kept his pistol pointed at his own men all

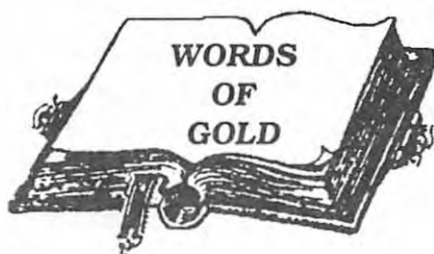
during the rest of the sermon. When the preaching ended he gave an order and they all rode away.

How the believers praised God! Tears of gratitude flowed freely as one after another the Christian converts stepped into the water and were baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

About two years later the niece of another missionary received a request for a Bible from a man in a Brazilian prison. When she took him the Bible he told her this story:

He had been saved two years ago through reading a New Testament. After his conversion he had suffered much reproach and persecution from his fellows. But one day a prisoner came to him and said, "I have watched you in this prison. I have seen how the others persecute you and I marvel how you can be so patient under such injustice. I am convinced that your religion is real."

With joy the Christian told his fellow prisoner of the saving grace of God through the work of the Lord Jesus on the cross. But the man turned sadly away. "No," he said, "my sins are too great and too many. God would never forgive me. Don't you know that I am the gangster chief, Venancio? Once I burned down a church. I have shed blood, and have many other crimes on my conscience.



GOD CAN DO ANYTHING!

**Numbers 11:4-6, 16,
18-23, 31-32**

4 ... the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?

5 We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick:

6 But our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.

16 And the LORD said unto Moses

...

18 ... say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh. . .

19 Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days:

20 But even a whole month. . .

21 And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen. . .

22 Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD's hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

31 And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round

about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.

32 And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp

Jeremiah 32:27

27 Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Luke 1:37

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

The Message: *There is nothing too hard for God. With Him all things are possible!*

Questions:

1. What was it that the children of Israel wanted so badly that they wept?
2. What did they remember eating in Egypt?
3. The Lord said He would give them enough flesh to eat for how long?
4. How many footmen were with Moses?
5. Did Moses think it was possible for God to supply so much meat?
6. How did God bring in the quails?
7. How long did it take the people to gather the quails?
8. For with God nothing shall be

Verse to Memorize
For with God nothing
shall be impossible.
Luke 1:37

Let's



Talk . . .

God worked so many miracles for the children of Israel in order to deliver them from slavery to the Egyptians. They should never have doubted His love or His power!

Someone estimated that it would take about 1500 tons of food each day to feed that multitude of people that walked out of Egypt under Moses' leadership. It was calculated that to bring that much food each day would require the equivalent of two freight trains, each at least a mile long!

Then, too, they were in the desert. They would have to have firewood to cook the food. That would take approximately 4000 tons of wood just for one day. Yet God accomplished all this for them day after day, even though their journey lasted forty years!

Of course they had to have water. If they only had enough to drink and wash a few dishes, it would take 11,000,000 gallons each day. It would take a freight train with tank cars 1800 miles long to carry that much water!

God brought them across the Red Sea in one night. If they had walked double file, the line would have been about 800 miles long and would have required 35 days and nights to get across. So there had to be a space in the Red Sea about 3 miles wide so that they could walk 5000 abreast in order to get over in one night.

Each time they camped their campground would have been two-thirds the size of the state of Rhode Island, or a total of 750 square miles. Of course Moses did not figure all this

out before he left Egypt. He knew God was as able to take that multitude safely to Canaan as He was able to deliver them from the Egyptians. Moses believed in God. God took care of all the details for him.

After witnessing such a miracle of God's provision day after day, you would think the people would have been content with all God gave them. But some among them began to weep and complain because they had no meat. They complained about the manna that God sent every day to feed them.

God heard them wishing they were back in Egypt where they had fruit and vegetables to eat. He was greatly displeased yet once more He gave them what they asked for. When God told Moses that He would send them enough meat to eat for a month, Moses found it hard to believe. He reminded God that there were 600,000 footmen with him. In addition there were many other men, women and children!

In effect, Moses was telling the Lord that what He had promised was impossible. God told him, "You will see whether My word will come to pass or not!"

God works in mysterious ways! This time He used the wind to accomplish His will. So many quails came that the people worked two days and a night gathering them. He brought in such an abundance there was plenty for each one to eat for a month.

Like the title of this lesson says, "God can do anything!" When you face an insurmountable problem just remember that you can trust Him to take care of all your needs and any problem you might face! God said, "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?" Jeremiah 32:27

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"But one thing I am thankful for," he went on, "In some strange way I was once prevented from shedding innocent blood. Some Christians were to hold a baptismal service and I was determined to prevent it even if it meant that some would lose their lives. I planned to give them a few minutes to clear the place and then I would start shooting.

"But suddenly I saw shining beings above the preacher and the converts waiting to be baptized. They must have been angels. When I recovered from my fright, I commanded my men not to harm those people. . . ."

The Christian prisoner continued to speak to Venancio and encouraged him to trust in the Lord whose grace was greater than all his sins.

The day came when Venancio knelt with his friend in his cell and they prayed together. There God met Venancio and saved him.

That was the beginning of a wave of blessing behind the dark prison walls. "The people which sat in darkness saw great light. . . ." Matt. 4:16. Others began to come to Christ through their testimony and the warden assigned them a hall in which to meet. Venancio became a pastor to the little group as they sought to walk with the Lord and waited for His coming from Heaven.

Such is the transforming power of the grace of God. —Selected

A GREAT MUSICIAN

Felix Mendelssohn was one of the world's greatest musicians. When he heard that there was a very wonderful organ in the old cathedral of Freiburg he longed to be able to play it.

So one day he traveled to the little town and went into the building where the organ was. Having found the old man who was in charge, he asked permission to play the organ for a

little while. But the old man shook his head and said, "No! No stranger is ever allowed to play on that wonderful organ."

But Mendelssohn talked so long and so lovingly about the organ, and begged so hard to be allowed to play on it for just a little while, that at last the caretaker gave his consent.

The stranger began to play and the old man listened. Soon the great building was overflowing with the grandest melody it had ever heard. It rolled out of the doors and windows into the town and fields beyond. Never before had the organ played such glorious music.

As the playing stopped, the old man with eyes full of tears laid his hand on the stranger's shoulder and exclaimed, "Wonderful, man! Who are you?"

When he heard the name Mendelssohn, the old man drew back and cried, "And I refused to let you play my organ!"

May this story remind us that a heavenly Stranger waits at the heart's door longing to enter. His name is Jesus. He is "...the chiefest among ten thousand." Song of Solomon 5:10. He is able to fill your heart with such joy and gladness as could never be known before, and that forever your only regret will be that you did not let Him in sooner.

"Son, give me thine heart..." Proverbs 23:26.

Can you say, "He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God..."? Psalm 40:3. —Selected

<p>Answers: 1. Flesh (meat) to eat. 2. Fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. 3. A whole month. 4. Six hundred thousand. 5. No. 6. By a wind. 7. All day, all night and all the next day. 8. Impossible.</p>

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 7, 2009

KISS OF FORGIVENESS

Don brushed his red hair off of his sweaty forehead and adjusted his fishing rod. "I'd give anything if I knew how to swim! I'd be in that water before you could stop me!"

"You'd better not! I can hardly swim and the current is very swift for a good swimmer. Besides, the water's too cold," Ken, Don's older brother said. "I had to promise Mother I wouldn't take any dangerous chances and I said I'd see that you didn't either."

"I won't. I promise. I'm as scared as you are of drowning."

All was silent for a while. Don pulled in his line. "Fish aren't biting today," he said, mopping his brow again. "I guess it's just too hot."

"That guy over there just caught one. I saw him bring it in. Looked like it might have been a bass! I think I'll try casting a little farther out," Ken said. He drew in his line. Then, standing up, he took a step closer to the steep river bank and threw with all his might. He lost his balance! "Catch me!" he yelled.

Ken caught the tree branch that hung overhead. Don caught Ken's leg. He hung in mid air! The branch broke! Screaming and kicking the two boys hit the water!

Ken caught one glimpse of the other boy as he ran, calling, "Help! Help! Some boys are drowning!" Ken fought to keep afloat. He caught

another glimpse of the boy and then went under. The water was so cold! He curled up in a ball to warm himself, and then he remembered that he must stay relaxed and flat so that he would at least float. Yes, he could float until someone came to get him, but what about Don? He couldn't even float!

Struggling, he swam to Don and took him by the arm. Don clutched him around the neck. "Turn me loose!" he shouted. "You'll pull us both under!" Don loosened his grip. The current tore them apart. Ken was fighting for his life. The next time he spotted Don, the other boy had him by the back of the neck and was swimming with him toward the shore. Soon he was pushing him up the bank.

The current was taking Ken down the river. He tried to fight against it and bring himself to shore, or at least near to the other boy, but each time he tried, he went down. "If I can just keep myself afloat," he thought, "maybe the boy will help me." It seemed that hours passed before he felt the boy's hand on his foot.

Ken was cool-headed and lay still while the boy pulled him to shore. Don had run down the river and was at the bank to help Ken up.

"Get back away from the bank!" Ken commanded. "I don't want to pull you in again." Don obeyed.

The bank was higher at this point and the river deeper. Ken stood on the



THE BLESSING OF GIVING

Mark 10:17-22

17 And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

19 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

20 And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

Luke 6:38

38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Acts 20:35

35 . . . remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Malachi 3:10

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2 Corinthians 9:7

7 . . . God loveth a cheerful giver.

The Message: Those who give freely are promised great blessings and a rich reward from the Lord.

Questions:

1. What did the man who came running to Jesus call Him?
2. What question did he ask?
3. Jesus told him, "Thou knowest the _____."
4. How did Jesus feel towards this man?
5. What did Jesus tell him to do?
6. If he obeyed Jesus said he would have _____ in _____.
7. How did the man feel as he left Jesus?
8. It is more blessed to _____ than to _____.
9. What kind of giver does God love?

Verse to Memorize

. . . remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said,
It is more blessed to give
than to receive. Acts 20:35

Let's



Talk . . .

A minister, hearing about a great need in a new mission field, told his congregation. He knew many in the audience were well able to give generously but even as he spoke he could tell they just weren't interested. He sat down with a heavy heart while the collection plate was passed.

Meanwhile, in the last pew a little crippled girl sat who was about nine or ten years old. She had lost part of her leg in a terrible accident. The future looked bleak until some kind friends in the church bought her a pair of crutches. They changed her life completely! She was like a ray of sunshine, cheery and bright, as she went hobbling about on her new crutches.

She sat alone this morning listening intently to the minister. "I wish I could give something," she thought, "but I can't. I don't even have a penny!"

Then a very soft voice spoke to her heart, "There are your crutches!" She drew back at the thought—she could not give her crutches.

"Yes," the voice persisted. "You can; and if you did then other people would learn about the Lord Jesus. He has done so much for you. When others learn about Him He will bless their lives too. Give your crutches!"

"No, no!" she said passionately.

"Yes!" the quiet voice insisted.

It was a fierce battle for the little girl but finally she knew what she must do. She waited for the collection plate with tears in her eyes.

The one taking the collection hesitated when he came to her. "It is

only cripple Maggie," he thought. "It isn't worth passing the plate to her." But, out of courtesy, he passed the plate to her. In her childlike simplicity she picked up her crutches and tried awkwardly to balance them on the plate!

The man choked back tears when he realized the great sacrifice little Maggie was making. He put out his hand to steady the crutches on the plate and started walking back up the middle aisle of the church with the plate and crutches.

This caught the attention of everyone. They all knew Maggie—how could she give her crutches? Suddenly the banker blew his nose; it was a moment of high emotion. The merchant reached for his checkbook.

The minister said, "Our little friend has given us a wonderful example of sacrifice!"

Then someone spoke up, "I want those crutches and will give \$50 for them!"

"Pass the plate again," someone else insisted. And when it came back the next time there was a large amount of money for the missionary work.

Little Maggie happily hobbled out of the church on her crutches. She had obeyed and the Lord not only met the need but gave her crutches back too!

—Adapted from *Quiet Talks with Workers*, by S. D. Gordon

Giving to God is the very best investment and it is an investment everyone can make. Jesus said that if you give you will receive; your return will be greater than what you gave. So, the more you give to God, the more He will give you!

Never hesitate because you have very little to give. God will bless your sacrifice, as He did Maggie's, to meet the need. The young boy gave his lunch to Jesus and with his gift Jesus fed a multitude of people, with food left over!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

boy's shoulders. He went under, but bounced back up, and at the same time gave Ken a big push upward. They tried this again and again until Ken scrambled up the bank to safety.

The boy struggled to get up the bank himself. He went down again and came up a little farther down the stream. He struggled again to get up the slippery bank. Then he sank back into the water.

"He's not swimming!" Ken called. "He must have passed out!" The boys were running along the bank. "He's gone under again!" Ken called.

"And he's not coming back up!" Don shouted back at him.

Just then Mr. Crout drove up in his jeep. "What's going on down here?" he demanded.

"Look! Look!" Ken answered. "He's drowning! He got us out but he's drowning himself!" Ken pointed down the river.

Mr. Crout jumped in his jeep. Honking as he went, he sped away down the river bank. He slammed on the brakes a little ahead of the boy and threw something into the water.

Ken and Don had been running along the bank. They fell down in exhaustion but kept watching Mr. Crout. He threw something into the river again.

"He's lassoing that boy!" Don shouted. "Look!" Then they saw Mr. Crout pulling him in. They ran to Mr. Crout.

"It is too late. I'm afraid that he's drowned," Mr. Crout said.

"He saved both of us!" the two boys shouted. Then between gasps of breath they told what had happened.

Several days later, Don and Ken followed close beside the casket as it was taken to the cemetery. They felt sad. They wondered if John, the boy's little brother, who went to school with them, and his father and mother would forever hate them. They wondered what good thing they could do to get the family to forgive them.

How surprised they were when John's father came to them right after the funeral and said, "Boys, I know you did not want to cause my son's death. I don't want you to feel bad about it." He then affectionately kissed both Ken and Don. "Now I want to pray for you boys," he said. Then, placing one hand on Ken's head and the other one on Don's, he prayed that God would watch over them and bless them to be great men for Him. What a soothing feeling came over Ken. He could tell by the look on Don's face that he felt the same.

A couple of weeks later, Ken heard that a preacher had been at the funeral and had seen what John's father had done. When he preached that night he told his audience, "I have seen something that I had never seen before. A father kissed two boys who had caused his son's death. That is just what God in His great love is doing: kissing one who comes to Him believing in the Lord Jesus, notwithstanding the fact that their sins were the cause of the death of His Son."

One man in the audience, who was judged to be one of the worst characters in the country, came up to the preacher and said, "Does God kiss all who repent like that?"

"Yes, God, for Jesus' sake, will forgive all those who come to Him, just as the father forgave the two boys."

"Then I will come right now!" he replied, and he did.

Can you, dear reader, forgive as did this father? And will you come to God and receive His wonderful kiss of forgiveness? —A True Story

Answers: 1. Good Master. 2. "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 3. Commandments. 4. He loved him. 5. Sell his possessions and give to the poor then come and follow Him. 6. Treasure, heaven. 7. Sad and grieved. 8. Give, receive. 9. A cheerful giver.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 14, 2009

MY LAST TRACT

Every Sunday afternoon, after the morning service at their church, the pastor and his eleven-year-old son would go out into their town and hand out Gospel tracts. This particular Sunday afternoon, as it came time for the pastor and his son to go to the streets with their tracts, it was very cold outside as well as pouring down rain. The boy bundled up in his warmest and driest clothes and said, "Okay, Dad, I'm ready."

His pastor dad asked, "Ready for what?"

"Dad, its time we gather our tracts together and go out."

Dad responds, "Son, it's very cold outside and it's pouring down rain."

The boy gave his dad a surprised look, asking, "But Dad, aren't people still going to hell, even though it's raining?"

"Son, I am not going out in this weather," Dad answered. Despondently the boy asked, "Dad, can I go, please?"

His father hesitated for a moment then said, "Son, you can go. Here are the tracts. Be careful son."

"Thanks Dad!!" And with that he was off and out into the rain.

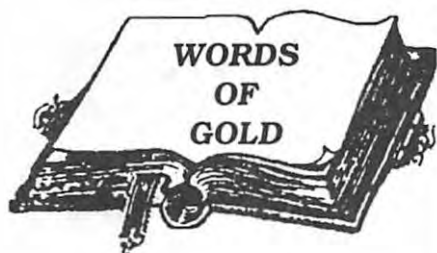
This eleven-year-old boy walked the streets of the town going door to

door and handing everybody he met in the street a Gospel tract. After two hours of walking in the rain he was soaking wet and down to his VERY LAST TRACT. He stopped on a corner and looked for someone to hand a tract to, but the streets were totally deserted.

Then he turned toward the first home he saw and started up the sidewalk to the front door and rang the doorbell. Nobody answered. He rang it again and again but still no one answered. He waited but still no answer. Finally this eleven-year-old trooper turned to leave but something stopped him. Again, he turned to the door and rang the bell and knocked loudly on the door with his fist. He waited, something holding him there on the front porch. He rang again, and this time the door slowly opened.

Standing in the doorway was a very sad looking elderly lady. She softly asked, "What can I do for you, son?"

With radiant eyes and a smile that lit up her world this little boy said, "Ma'am, I'm sorry if I disturbed you, but I just want to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU. I came to give you my very last Gospel tract which will tell you all about JESUS and His great LOVE." With that he handed her his last tract, and turned to leave.



THE BIBLE LIVES ON

**Jeremiah 36:1, 2; 4-7;
10-16; 21-23**

1 . . . this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel . . .

4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch . . . and Baruch wrote . . . all the words of the LORD . . . upon a roll of a book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying . . .

6 . . . go thou, read in the roll . . . the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day. . .

7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way . . .

10 Then read Baruch . . . in the ears of all the people.

11 When Michaiah . . . heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

12 Then he went down into the king's house . . . and, lo, all the princes sat there . . .

13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

14 Therefore all the princes sent . . . unto Baruch, saying, Take . . . the roll . . . and come. So Baruch . . . came unto them.

15 And they said unto him, Sit down

now, and read it in our ears. So Baruch read it in their ears.

16 Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid . . . and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll . . . And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king. . .

22 Now the king sat in the winter-house . . . and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

The Message: *We have the privilege of having a Bible because men were willing to give their lives to preserve it!*

Questions:

1. Who did the word of the Lord come to?
2. What did the Lord tell him to do with the words He gave him?
3. Who actually wrote the words?
4. Why did Jeremiah want the words of the Lord read to the people?
5. What did the princes ask Baruch to do?
6. When they heard the words they were _____.
7. Where was the king sitting?
8. What did the king do after three or four pages were read?

Verse to Memorize

All scripture is given by
inspiration of God . . .

II Timothy 3:16

Let's



Talk . . .

Your Bible is the most precious Book you own. Maybe it is not the most expensive one in dollars and cents, but it has lived on in spite of evil men's desire to destroy it.

In our lesson God told Jeremiah to write down His words warning Israel that they would be punished if they did not confess their sins and turn from their wicked ways.

The people and the princes gladly listened to God's message. But when the words were read to the king he became angry. Taking his knife he cut the roll into small pieces and threw them into the fire until the whole roll was burned up.

However, this did not destroy the words of God. God repeated His message to Jeremiah so they could be recorded again.

Many years later, William Tyndale realized that the common people needed to be able to read the Scriptures for themselves. One day a fellow student expressed the attitude of most people of that time when he said, "The Bible is not necessary. All the people need is the word of the pope!"

Passionately Tyndale shouted, "I defy the pope and all his laws; and, if God spares me, I will one day make the boy that ploughs in England to know more of the Scriptures than the pope does!"

It was not an idle boast. Tyndale went right to work to make an English Bible that all the people could read. Some people thought it was evil to put the Bible in terms the common man could understand. The pope knew his power would be broken if the people could understand the Word of God for

themselves. He sent spies to arrest Tyndale. After spending over a year in prison he was hung and his body burned on October 6, 1536. But this did not stop translators. It just stirred them on to greater efforts.

Adoniram Judson, a missionary to Burma, translated the New Testament into Burmese. Before he could have it printed, he was thrown into prison.

His wife buried the precious translation for a while, but she knew it could not remain there safely. She made a pillow from a roll of cotton and placed the translation inside of it. The guards permitted her to give the pillow to her husband to sleep on. For seven months he slept on this hard pillow.

When Judson was taken to another prison the keeper threw the pillow away. A native Christian saw it and took it home as a keepsake. Later the New Testament translation was found safely preserved and complete. God had worked a miracle to preserve this portion of His Word.

A young man went to New York City to find a job. He went from place to place without success until he finally went to a place and applied for a position as a clerk. At first he was told that there was no opening. But as he was looking for some letters a Book fell to the floor. The young man quickly picked it up and wiped off the covers carefully.

"What Book is that?" the manager inquired.

"It is a Bible, sir."

"What do you plan to do with it in this big city?"

"Read it, sir. I promised my mother I would read it every day."

The man was impressed and hired him.

—Selected

Don't let your Bible stay under a pile of other books or lie around unread. In order for it to guide your life, you must read the Bible carefully every day.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

She called to him as he departed, "Thank you son. And God bless you!"

Well, the following Sunday morning in church, pastor Dad was in the pulpit and as the service began he asked, "Does anybody have a testimony or want to say anything?"

Slowly, in the back row of the church, an elderly lady stood to her feet. As she began to speak a look of glorious radiance came from her face as she said, "None of you in this church know me. I've never been here before. You see, before last Sunday I was not a Christian. My husband passed on some time ago, leaving me totally alone in this world."

Last Sunday, being a particularly cold and rainy day, it was even more so in my heart. I came to the end of the line where I no longer had any hope or will to live. So I took a rope and a chair and ascended the stairway into the attic of my home. I fastened the rope securely to a rafter in the roof then stood on the chair and fastened the other end of the rope around my neck. Standing on that chair, so lonely and brokenhearted, I was about to leap off when suddenly the loud ringing of my doorbell downstairs startled me.

"I thought, 'I'll wait a minute, and whoever it is will go away.' I waited and waited, but the ringing doorbell seemed to get louder and more insistent and then the person ringing also started knocking loudly. I thought to myself again, 'Who on earth could this be? Nobody ever rings my bell or comes to see me.' I loosened the rope from my neck and started for the front door. All the while the bell rang louder and louder."

"When I opened the door and looked, I could hardly believe my eyes. There on my front porch was the most radiant and angelic little boy I had ever seen in my life. His SMILE, oh,

I could never describe it to you! And the words that came from his mouth caused my heart, that had long been dead, to leap to life as he exclaimed with cherub like voice—"Ma'am, I just came to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU."

Then he gave me this Gospel tract that I now hold in my hand. As the little angel disappeared back out into the cold and rain, I closed my door and read slowly every word of this Gospel tract. Then I went up to my attic to get my rope and chair. I wouldn't be needing them any more. You see, I am now a happy child of the KING. Since the address of your church was on the back of this Gospel tract I have come here to personally say thank you to God's little angel who came just in the nick of time. By doing so he spared my soul from eternity in hell."

There were now no dry eyes in the church. And as shouts of praise, and honor to the King resounded off the very rafters of the building, Pastor Dad descended from the pulpit to the front pew where the little angel was seated. He took him in his arms and sobbed uncontrollably.

Probably no church has had a more glorious moment. And probably this universe has never seen a father that was more filled with love and honor for his son except for one—this FATHER also allowed His Son to go out into a cold and dark world to tell us of God's love. Because of Him we are saved. —Selected

Answers: 1. Jeremiah. 2. Write them in a roll of a book. 3. Baruch. 4. He hoped they would turn from their evil way. 5. Bring the roll and read it to them. 6. Afraid. 7. In the winterhouse. 8. He cut the roll with his knife and burned it in the fire.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 21, 2009

A GIFT ON FATHER'S DAY

"I was never so humiliated in all my life! It was bad enough when you began associating with those fanatical church people; but now you even refuse to go to a social dance! What's the matter with you anyway?"

Mr. Alvin Montgomery waved his arms as he shouted, "Answer me! Are you trying to ruin us?"

"No Daddy, I don't want to ruin you. I am a Christian now, and in order to—to be true to the Lord I must refuse to do anything that would grieve Him. That's why I don't care to go to the dance Friday night," Jean his daughter answered. "Why will that ruin you?"

"Simply because everyone I meet asks about you. People all over town have heard that you have taken up religion, and I have become the laughing-stock of my friends."

Jean looked up at her father. "I didn't think you would be angry with me; honest I didn't."

He assumed immediately that she was softening, and continued pleading, but with a calmer voice.

"I know you didn't, but now you can see how it has affected all of us. Please give up those foolish notions. Let's make things just like they were before you made this awful change."

He waited for an answer. "Let me think it over the rest of the day," she requested. "Let's talk again tomorrow morning."

He left her with the assurance that

her Christian faith had been broken. In the meantime Jean was engaged in a battle. Down in her heart she knew that she would never be happy again with the same old sinful crowd. Salvation in Jesus Christ took the thrill out of worldly pleasure. Was it a "foolish notion" as her father had said? Did she make an "awful change"? She had never been really happy before the Lord Jesus Christ became her own Saviour, and she knew that none of her immediate family was happy. Their life consisted of dinners, dances, parties, and scurrying here and there. Was it wrong for her to permit the blood of Jesus Christ to wash her sins away and make her God's child? Jean was sure that it was not wrong. The change she had made was not "awful"; it was a joyous change.

But how was she to face her father? Jean knew that she must remain true to God. At the same time, however, she longed to encourage friendship with her father and to eventually win him for Christ. What was she to do?

An hour later, Jean sat in the home of Mrs. Alfred Barnes, who was her Sunday school teacher. It was she who had led Jean to Christ.

After hearing her student's problem, she said, "I'm sorry your father is so set against your being a Christian, Jean." Jean dropped her head on one arm and sobbed.

"Do you believe, Jean, that if you follow the instructions of God's Word that He will work out this problem for you?"



A GODLY FATHER

Genesis 21:3, 5

3 And Abraham called the name of his son . . . Isaac.

5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

Genesis 22:1-5; 7-13

1 . . . God . . . said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

2 And he said, Take . . . Isaac . . . and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning . . . and took . . . Isaac his son . . . and went unto the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham . . . saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said unto his youngmen, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven . . .

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad . . . for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

The Message: A godly father must be an example in great faith and obedience to God!

Questions:

1. What was Abraham's son's name?
2. How old was Abraham when his son was born?
3. What did God tell Abraham to do with Isaac?
4. How soon did Abraham obey?
5. What did Isaac ask his father?
6. What did Abraham answer?
7. After he built the altar what did Abraham do to Isaac?
8. Who called to Abraham out of heaven?
9. What did he offer instead of Isaac?

Verse to Memorize

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God . . . 1 John 3:1

Let's



Talk . . .

What comes to your mind when you think of a father? Do you picture someone that is strong and always ready to protect you? Do you think of someone who tries to always provide his family with everything they need? Do you think of someone you can go to when you are in trouble? True godly fathers, such as Abraham, have all these qualities. Those who have such a father should truly thank God!

I read a story about a father whose little son was extremely sick with diphtheria. That disease is so highly contagious that the little boy had to be kept away from other people.

One day the boy asked his father, "Daddy, am I going to die?"

The father had taught his boy to always tell the truth. Now he must do as he had taught. So, even though it was painful, he told the little boy that it looked like he would soon die.

After watching anxiously to see what effect his words had on his little son, the father finally asked, "Son, you are not afraid, are you?"

Looking up at his father trustingly the little boy replied, "Daddy, if God is like you are, I won't be afraid."

Every child should have a father who shows them what God is like. But many children do not have a father or they may have a father who has hurt, disappointed or even deserted them. Yet everyone has a heavenly Father!

God is that Father. He is always ready to help us when we call on Him. Even the most caring earthly father cannot always be there when his child is in need or in grave danger. Many times a natural father cannot help,

though he longs to. The father we mentioned above would have done anything to save his son from the dreadful disease of diphtheria, but he was powerless to help.

But nothing is too hard for your heavenly Father! The prophet Jeremiah was so well acquainted with God he said, "Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee." Jeremiah 32: 17. When God spoke to Abraham, He told him, "I am the Almighty God." He wants us, also, to know that we can bring every problem to Him. There is nothing He cannot do!

It would not help to have a strong, powerful Father if He was not concerned about us or our needs. But God wants us to know that He loves us deeply and cares about everything that we face. He inspired David to write, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him." Psalms 103:13.

So, as the very best Father, God is always ready to do good things for His obedient children when they ask. He knows that we do not understand many things so He loves to instruct us. When we do wrong He is anxious to forgive us and draw us back to Himself in love.

When great trouble came to Job one of his visitors wisely advised him, "Acquaint now thyself with him (God), and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee." This is sound advice. Talk to God often in prayer. Confide your deepest secrets to Him. Tell Him your needs and desires. Read the letter He wrote, the Bible, to learn how to please and serve Him. Make Him your dearest Friend and you will always have unspeakable peace and happiness. What an honor and privilege to have such a Father!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Jean was startled. "Why, yes, but does the Bible tell me what to do?"

"The Bible has an answer to every problem, dear. Shall we find out what it says?"

Together they thumbed through the pages of the Bible. "You are perfectly right in your decision about dancing and worldliness."

"And I know the things I used to do are not pleasing to the Lord," Jean added. "No girl can possibly remain pure on the dance floor." She blushed slightly as thoughts of the past haunted her.

"The other problem to solve, now, is what to do about your father. Read Colossians 3:20," said Mrs. Barnes.

Jean read, "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." Why, Mrs. Barnes, if I do that I will have to go to that dance. My father will demand that I go!

"The Bible plainly teaches that children are to honor and obey their parents. If you follow God's instructions, He will take care of you. Do you believe that?"

"Yes, but—what—if—?"

Mrs. Barnes laid her hand tenderly on Jean's arm. "If your father demands that you go, then go in the Lord's name and He will deliver you."

The next morning Jean heard a rap on her door. It was her father. "Well, Jean, what have you decided?" he asked abruptly.

"I'd rather not go to the dance—" she began hesitantly.

"What! Do you mean that you refuse to do what I have asked?"

"I didn't say that, Daddy. I said I'd rather not go. I'm going to obey you, though."

Her father gasped. "Do you—do you mean that you will go if I insist?"

"Yes," Jean explained. "I will go if you insist. I don't want to, but the Lord will work it out some way."

He had never seen her that way before. Her dark eyes were wet with tears, but he saw in them innocence and love. She was so different from the crowd that would be at the dance.

A lump formed in his throat, and he swallowed hard. Somehow, he didn't want her to go as much as he did the day before. He didn't want to see pure, loving Jean in the arms of godless, immoral men, swinging to the tune of some beastly number.

Like a flash he made up his mind. They could say what they wanted to. Jean would not be forced to go with that crowd against her will.

Jean, his voice broke as he uttered her name. "I don't want you to go. Something tells me that you are far better than the rest of us and I want you to stay that way."

"Daddy!" she exclaimed and she was in his arms crying for sheer joy.

Months later Jean gave her father a gift for Father's Day. He opened it carefully, and found it to be her own photograph. At the bottom was written neatly, "To the best dad in all the world. Jean. Psalm 116:1." Then she was gone.

"Psalm 116:1," he mused. "I wonder what that verse says? Where's that old Bible we had around here?" He found it under a pile of magazines and papers, and he read, "I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications."

Alvin Montgomery laid the open Bible on a nearby table and walked softly but deliberately up the stairs to Jean's room. The door was open a crack. Without making a sound, he pushed the door open, slipped in and fell on his knees at her side.

"Oh, Daddy! I didn't know—"

"I kind of surprised you, didn't I Jean? I just came to tell you that I want to love Him, too. I figured Father's Day was a great time to make that change."

—Selected

Answers: 1. Isaac. 2. One hundred years old. 3. Offer him for a burnt offering. 4. He arose early the next morning to obey. 5. "Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 6. "God will provide." 7. Bound him and laid him on the altar. 8. The angel of the Lord. 9. A ram.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 June 28, 2009

I FOUGHT WITH A TIGER

A wounded, spotted tiger (leopard-ess) was lurking in the brush among the trees just a mile from the Inspection Bungalow! This was the news that greeted us when Ruth and I and our two little children arrived at Vaghard, January 13, to take the Gospel to the villages in that area.

Ordinarily, these beasts confined their activities to the more mountainous section of Dindori, from whence they would slip in and kill the goats at the edge of the villages. But the long drought had dried up the mountain streams, and this spotted tiger had sought water at the lake near the bungalow.

There we were—staying in a house with the windows broken out of the doors, without even the protection of a gun. On trips to the usual "tiger belt," I always carried my 30.06 Springfield rifle. This time it was nearly twenty miles away at home in Dindori. Should I return for it? Ruth and little Philip and Karen might be in real danger.

On the other hand, we had come to reach the lost natives of the Vaghard section, and I must have a message ready to take to them early in the morning before the people went out in the fields, or took their cows and buffaloes out to graze. I remained to study and pray.

The fourteenth was a beautiful day. Madhu, my camp helper, and I left early for the village five miles away. We had a blessed meeting with the natives. God was speaking to their hearts as they

heard the Word in their native tongue. On our return to the bungalow, I had little more than sat down to breakfast when the gardener rushed in to tell me in great excitement: "Sahab, the wounded tiger has attacked Ashok! He is badly hurt. Will you get him and take him to the dispensary at Dindori and return and kill the tiger?"

"Yes, Tukaram," I assured him. "I will go and get Ashok and take him for treatment." But how could I answer the other part of his request? Wounded tigers are extremely dangerous. But if I refused, what defense did they have against the beast? Besides, it might be a means of winning them to Christ. For the sake of the Gospel I decided to risk my life, and I told Tukaram, "Yes, I'll bring back my rifle and try to kill the tiger."

After Ashok was safely in the care of Nurse Ella Schafer at Dindori, I returned to Dindori with my rifle, a hunting knife, and a good supply of cartridges. It was 2 o'clock in the afternoon by that time, and I found a crowd of probably a hundred natives, awaiting me. With the tiger only fifty feet away from them, crouching out there in the bush, I felt that someone would get killed. I didn't realize it would come so near to being me!

Rifle filled with cartridges, one shell in the barrel, and with ten natives following me with spears, I advanced cautiously into the brush to search out the wounded animal. When I had gone perhaps fifty feet, I suddenly realized I was alone! The natives had deserted me!



DARE TO PROVE IT!

Matthew 5:14

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Philippians 2:14-16

14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

1 Timothy 4:12-13, 15

12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

1 Peter 2:21

21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

Romans 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 John 2:6

6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Ephesians 5:10

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

Ezekiel 36:27

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

The Message: We are to be lights in the world, proving the truth and power of God's word by our lives.

Questions:

1. Ye are the ____ of the world.
2. What city cannot be hid?
3. We are to do all things without ____ and ____.
4. We are to be an example of the ____.
5. Who left us an example by suffering for us?
6. What must we offer to God as a living sacrifice?
7. How can we be transformed?
8. What are we to prove?
9. What will God put within you to cause you to walk in His statutes?

Verse to Memorize

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

1 John 2:6

Let's



Talk . . .

Joseph, Moses, Timothy, Daniel, and countless others stand out as great men in the Bible. They possessed a faith in God which caused them to stand head and shoulders above their peers. Although they were surrounded by evil they proved that God is able to keep us faithful no matter what opposition we meet. They are proof that, by God's help, we can also be powerful tools in His hand!

One secret common to all these Bible heroes is that they purposed in their hearts, while they were still young, that they would always obey God. Believing that God's commandments were the highest authority, they dared to prove it, though it brought them face to face with death. They faced lions, giants, and angry kings and rulers but stood boldly because they knew God was able to deliver them.

Devotion to God cannot begin too early. Little children do not need to wait until they are grown to work for God. In fact, children who do little for God while they are young are likely to do little or nothing for Him later.

Joseph had eleven brothers and all of them except one were older than him. These older brothers hated him because it was evident that Jacob, their father, loved Joseph more than all his other sons. When Jacob gave Joseph a beautiful coat of many colors it made his brothers even more envious of him.

Joseph told his brothers that he had dreamed that they had all bowed down to him. From that time they

looked for some way to get rid of him. God had His hand on Joseph. He prevented his brothers from killing him. Instead he was sold as a slave to Egypt. There God used him to save the lives of his hateful brothers and their families. Joseph is a much better person to admire than one of today's sports heroes or entertainment stars that so many idolize.

The Bible challenges us to be like Joseph. His dedication to God allowed him to live righteously, even under the most trying circumstances. If your life was recorded in the Bible, would it inspire others to be faithful as Joseph's does?

Moses was very young when he was taken from his home to live in the Egyptian palace. He was taught all the wisdom of the Egyptians and educated in a system of science and religion which did not reverence God. But he remained faithful to the God of his parents and never forgot what he was taught by them in those first few years of his life.

As the son of Pharaoh's daughter, Moses may have become the next ruler of Egypt. But the Bible tells that when Moses was grown, he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Instead he chose to suffer affliction with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. (Hebrews 11:24-27.)

Moses became a strong young man and undoubtedly gained the favor of all around him. He was surrounded by idol worshipers who cared nothing about the one true God and pleasing Him. The riches of Egypt were available to him if he chose to follow their idolatry. We should admire him. In such a hostile environment, he yet stood firm in his convictions and loyal to God. Even though there is evil all around us we can honor God by our lives as Moses did!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

A few steps farther into the brush I crouched, rifle pointing straight in front of me. Then it happened! About thirty feet ahead of me, I heard the roar of the mad-dened beast, and the next thing I knew, the tiger had sprung at me. I fired, and for some unknown reason, the cartridge failed to go off. There was no time to reload, for in an instant, the tiger hit my rifle barrel with such force that the rifle was sent flying.

Somehow—by the grace of God, I'm sure—I knew I had to try to choke the tiger to death. As we rolled about on the ground, I got the great cat's head between my knees and squeezed, but the head slipped away. After the tiger's escape, I noticed it was not only panting, but surprised at my comeback.

And then I saw God undertake for me in a very real way. During the combat, my left leg was badly wrenched, and the powerful claws had torn open the back of my shoe and it flew off. During this momentary lull in the battle, I had become so groggy and so sick from the smell and loss of blood, so near passing out that I had even forgotten to try to retrieve my rifle. It was just then that I felt it under my stockinged foot. I knew God had directed me to it!

In a trice I had it in my hands, inserted a cartridge, and fired—and nothing happened. What a sickening feeling came over me! This was my chance and the gun had failed again! My heart cried out to God in prayer, even as I heard the beast roaring and ready to spring again. Quickly another cartridge slid into place and again I fired. Dimly I heard the explosion and saw the tiger slump. I pumped another cartridge into its head and saw the eyeball protrude and knew the battle was over. I praised God for His intervention and for taking me through one of the hardest physical battles of my life.

"But is it over?" I wondered. Blood was flowing from the gash near my eye. My left hand was practically useless as blood poured from the hand and arm. My chest had been raked and my left leg was clawed in many places.

"Help! Come help me!" I cried over and over, but the cautious natives would not risk coming so near to the tiger for fear that it might not really be dead. At last a government man made his way to where I sat leaning against a tree. A tourniquet was quickly tied on my left wrist, and pressure applied near my temple.

Not even realizing I was in a state of shock, I struggled through a small swamp enroute to the truck, refusing to be carried. Someone brought me a drink of water. Then, because no one else could do so, I drove the heavy truck back to the bungalow, carrying on it the dead body of the beast that had nearly ended my life.

The gruesome sight of me almost shocked Ruth to death when I arrived at the bungalow in my torn, bloodsoaked clothing. There was urgent need of help and I was rushed into the operating room. Skillful hands began the task of cutting away my muddy, clotted clothing, and cleaning the wounds. Then the stitches were taken, and with rest and care, I found the wounds healing in just a few days.

Looking back over the nightmare experience, I can trace God's hand so clearly, directing me in the fight with the tiger. I realize how He gave wisdom and clarity of thought just when it was needed, and strength to win the battle. Already we see indications that this nearly-fatal experience is opening some homes in Dindori to listen to the Gospel, where previously Ruth had been refused entrance.

It is the earnest prayer of our hearts that God may use this experience to the means of bringing many hearts to know Christ as Saviour. Thus again will "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

—Selected

Answers: 1. Light. 2. One that is set on a hill. 3. Murmurings, disputings. 4. Believers. 5. Christ. 6. Our bodies. 7. By the renewing of our minds. 8. What is acceptable to the Lord. 9. His spirit.