

teemit For CHILDREN

Bible Lesson Quarterly Year 1 - 1st Quarter - BEGINNINGS

We are going to start our series of Bible Story Lessons in the beginning, even before CREATION! Have you ever wondered where Satan came from?? And how do bad things happen when Jesus is so good and kind? Well, we are going to learn all about it!

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible, just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days.

There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

Weekly Bible Lesson #1: "LUCIFER, SON OF THE MORNING"

**MEMORY VERSE: "How art thou fallen from Heaven O Lucifer, son of the morning?"
Isaiah 14:12**

Sunday

Text: Ezekiel 28:2 "Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:"

Bible Parables - The Bible teaches many things by using parables. A parable is a story made to teach a lesson.

The twenty-eighth chapter of Ezekiel tells of the overthrow of the prince of Tyrus or the city of Tyre, which was a very strong, wealthy, proud, and wicked city on the Mediterranean Sea, near Palestine. But by reading verses 12-15, it will be seen that this chapter has a second meaning, and these verses refer more especially to some being standing at one time in high position in Heaven. It shows him to have been very wise, beautiful, and powerful, and near to the presence of God.

This can only mean Lucifer, now known as the devil, and Satan. The Bible is full of object lessons; and kingdoms, men, animals and events are often taken to teach important lessons. Christ did much of His teaching by parables. He took things as He found them in the world to teach great Gospel truths.

In this chapter the power and beauty, the pride and wickedness, and the final overthrow of Tyre were taken to represent the high position of Lucifer in Heaven, his sinful pride and rebellion, and his fall.

Thought - Name some parables that Jesus told.

Monday

Text: Ezekiel 28: 12-15 "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was

thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.”

Satan was once a beautiful, powerful angel in Heaven. His name then was Lucifer, which means, “ Son of the Morning,” or, “Shining One, Son of the Dawn,” His position in Heaven, his beauty, power, and final end, are well described in Ezekiel 28:12-19.

Lucifer, or Satan was the wisest being in the universe, next to God and Christ, for God said, “Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom.” Verse. 12. He was a very beautiful being, for the text says he was perfect in beauty.”

He has been in the Eden home of Adam and Eve. “Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God.” Verse 13.

He was a great musician, and doubtless led the music and singing of the hosts of angels in their morning and evening songs of praise to God. Verse 13 says, “The workmanship of thy tabrets (a kind of musical instrument) and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.”

Thought - The angels sing and praise God morning and evening. Do you remember to pray and sing to Jesus morning and evening and thank Him for all the good things He gives you?

Tuesday

Text: Ezekiel 28:14 “Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so.” and **Exodus 25:20** “And the

cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.”

The above text shows that he was “created” by the power of God. All the angels were created full grown, and not born as children. Hence this text is describing some heavenly being.

“Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so.” Verse 14. Lucifer’s position was by the throne of God, with his wings outstretched above it. A ‘Cherub’ is an angel.

The ark built by Moses was a copy of heavenly things. On the top of this ark were two cherubim with their wings covering the ark where the glory of God rested. See Exodus 25:20. This represents Lucifer’s position as covering cherub, close to the throne of God in Heaven.

Jesus also stood near the throne and sometimes appeared to be like an angel. Jesus, before He was born on earth, was known as “Michael” the Archangel. But Jesus was the Son of God; He was not created like Lucifer was. In fact the amazing thing is that it was Jesus who created Lucifer!

Thought - See if you can find a picture of the ‘Ark of the Covenant’ and see the two angels with their wings stretched over the ark. Maybe you could draw and color your own picture of the ‘Ark’.

Wednesday

Text: Ezekiel 28: 15-19 “Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine

heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more."

Lucifer was "the anointed cherub." Anciently the prophets of the Lord anointed the kings to show that they were appointed of God to govern and command. They poured a little oil on them and had special prayer to dedicate them to a certain job. Lucifer was, next to the Son of God, the anointed commander of the hosts of heavenly angels.

All his wisdom, beauty, power, and position were given him by God who had created him. The Creator fitted him for the work He wished him to do and the place He desired him to occupy. Lucifer owed everything which he possessed to his Lord.

But, like some people who have riches and power, he became proud of his glory. He forgot that it was all the gift of God. The text says, "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty." Ezekiel 28: 17.

Thought - Which is better a pretty face or a kindly heart?

Thursday

Text: Isaiah 14:13,14 "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."

The Son of God was above him, and equal with His Father. Lucifer was second to Christ; but, considering his beauty and power, he decided that he ought to be equal with God.

The prophet Isaiah says of him, "Thou hast said in thine heart, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will be like the Most High." Chapter 14:13,14. ('Stars' in this place means the angels.) But Jehovah could not permit this. The very thought of it by Lucifer was sin, for it was pride and the exaltation of self. Only the Son of God could be equal with the Father.

Also although Lucifer did not seem to know it, God's Son, whom we know as Jesus was the One who created him. It was foolish of Lucifer to be jealous of the Creator who made him!

Thought - Being jealous and wanting what doesn't belong to you can make you very unhappy!

Friday

Text: Luke 10:18 "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

Then rebellion came into the heart of Lucifer. He went among the angels and told his story. He told them many lies and made them think God was unfair. They loved him as their leader, and many took sides with him.

The loyalty of all the angels was tested. Nearly one-half their number took sides with Lucifer. Then there was open rebellion in Heaven. Lucifer had a vast army at his command, and he felt strong enough to defy God.

But rebellion could not be allowed in Heaven. The rebel host must be sent out. God could destroy them at once, for if He could create them He could also destroy them. But God is love and He didn't want all His children to serve Him out of fear. Some of the angels had almost believed Satan but had remained loyal to God. If Satan was destroyed on the spot some of them wouldn't understand.

Lucifer had said that God was unfair and

severe, to have a law to guide His universe. He claimed that laws were not needed in Heaven. Satan had to be given time so every one could see that his ideas were wrong and God's law was good and fair to all. So God allowed the rebellion to develop and do its work, that all the universe might see the awful results of sin. This will be an object lesson through all eternity.

Jesus told His disciples, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven." When he was cast out, one third of the heavenly angels went with him. We don't know how many that was but it is a lot!

Thought - Think of some of the sad things that come from sin. Think of how happy we will be when in heaven these sad things are gone forever! = ^ .. ^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #2: "SATAN, PRINCE OF DARKNESS"

MEMORY VERSE: "I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." Psalm 23:4

Sunday

Text: Revelation 12:7 "There was war in Heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon and the dragon fought and his angels."

Last week we learned how the beautiful angel, Lucifer was jealous of Jesus. He and the angels who agreed with him had become God's enemies, or rebels against His government.

Just what was it that Lucifer got so jealous about? Well the special messenger God gave to His people in these last days, Ellen White, was shown many details about this. God had a special counsel with His Son and Satan didn't get to know what they were planning. He thought he should be part of this counsel. He forgot that he wasn't God; he was a created being.

We know a secret about that counsel. It was then that God decided what to do if any of His created children should fall into sin. They planned that if it happened, Jesus would come all the way down from His throne in heaven and would die to save the sinners! Here God was planning to lovingly come all the way down, while Lucifer was selfishly trying to go up and take God's place. How very strange! The problem was Lucifer became selfish and proud, while God was unselfish and humble.

The Father, the Son and the good angels all tried to show Lucifer the right way and he almost stopped going wrong, but then his pride got up and he would not admit he was wrong. There was nothing more that could be done; he refused to obey God's law. He and those who followed him could not be allowed to remain in Heaven.

Thought - Are rules important? God's rules protect His children.

Monday

Text: Revelation 12:9 "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

The Son (Jesus) was appointed by the Father to take command of the true angels, and drive out the rebels. Lucifer took command of the angels who had rebelled with him, and was determined to stay in Heaven. Of course Satan could not win in such warfare.

Then "there was war in Heaven: Michael (Jesus) and His angels fought against the dragon and the dragon fought and his angels." Revelation 12:7.

We don't have any idea how this war was fought, but we do know that when God tells people to leave, they leave whether they like

it or not! Remember how Jesus sent the people out of the temple when He was here on earth? He said, "Go", and they went!

When Lucifer sinned and fell, his character and work were so changed that the beautiful name he had in Heaven was also changed. In Revelation 12:9, he is called "the dragon," "that old serpent," "the devil," and "Satan."

Instead of being pure and holy, kind and unselfish, he was now sneaky and dishonest, cruel and full of hate. All heaven was sad at the fall of Lucifer.

There is another interesting name Satan has: Beelzebub or Baalzebub. It means "lord of the flies" or "lord of the restless ones" (also the 'dung god'). Satan and his angels never have any peace or happiness now they have rebelled. The only 'fun' they have is when they are hurting, lying, and destroying. People who serve Satan never have real joy and peace in their life either!

Thought - Doing wrong always makes us and others unhappy even if at first it might seem fun.

Tuesday

Text: Isaiah 14:12 "How art thou fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, Son of the Morning, how art thou cut down to the ground."

Christ refers to this when He said to His disciples, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from Heaven." Luke 10:18.

When Lucifer woke up to the fact he was now out of heaven, he felt afraid and trembled. He saw an angel from heaven passing and he called and asked if he could speak to Jesus. Jesus came to talk to him.

Satan said he wanted to go back to heaven. He said he was sorry.

Jesus wept about Satan's unhappiness but He could not allow him back in heaven. Jesus knew that Satan's heart was not changed. He was still rebellious.

Once Satan knew he could not go back, all his hatred of Christ came out. He deter-

mined to do everything he could to hurt and destroy.

Thought - Have you ever seen someone who loves to hurt and break things? That is Satan's spirit.

Wednesday

Text: 1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour"

When Satan knew that he had lost Heaven forever, his heart was filled with anger and hatred for all that was good. His history since then shows that from that time his motto was "Evil, be thou my good." Revenge filled his heart in which the love of God once abode, and all his wonderful powers were turned against God and His work. Every artful device of evil angels has been used since then to lead man to follow them in sin and rebellion against God. It is well for man to know the strength of the foe he has to meet. Satan and his angels have on earth the same wisdom that they had in Heaven before their fall.

To this is added six thousand years of experience in their dreadful work. In Heaven Satan's influence was so great that he was able to deceive and lead into rebellion one third of the angels. His power to deceive man is very great. With such power and influence at his command, we can never overcome the devil in our own strength. When we let go our hold upon God we go onto the enemy's ground, and are "taken captive by him at his will." 2 Timothy 2:26.

Thought - Always pray for Jesus to keep you from Satan's snares!

Thursday

Text: 1 John 4:4 "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

Christ has twice conquered the devil, once

in the great battle in Heaven when Satan was cast out, and again as a man on earth when He met all his temptations and came off victorious. And think about all the times Jesus 'cast out devils'! Whenever Satan confronts Jesus, Satan is always beaten.

Satan is to Jesus a beaten foe. If we trust our Lord fully He will give us strength in every hour of need, and thus we may become "more than conquerors through Him that loved us". Romans 8: 37

The heavenly angels are stronger than Satan's angels and if we ask God in Jesus name to keep us, they watch over us and mean old Satan cannot harm us.

Paul calls Satan "The prince of the power of the air." Ephesians 2:2. He causes terrible storms, tidal waves, and other awful disasters. Only the restraining hand of God prevents him from bringing destruction to the world more awful than it has yet known. In Hebrews 2:14, we learn that the devil has "the power of death." This is because sin brought death, and Satan is the author of sin. He claims all who die as his, but Jesus will bring them from "the land of the enemy" at the resurrection.

Thought - By praying and giving our hearts to Jesus every day we have good an-

gels to care for us.

Friday

Text: Ezekiel 28:19 "Thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more."

But some glad day sin and death and Satan will be destroyed. Paul declared that Christ, by His death, opened the way by which He "might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." Hebrews 2:14.

The Lord says through the prophet Ezekiel, "I will bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes. ...Thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more!" Ezekiel 28:18,19. Then, with the stain of sin all gone, God will have a clean universe, as free from sin as it was before rebellion entered Heaven.

Sadly, many people love Satan's evil ways and they won't let the loving Jesus save them from sin. They will have to die with Satan at that time.

Thought - Try to think about how wonderful it will be to live in a world where there is no cruel devil anymore!

Details in this lesson are taken from the Signs of the Times articles "The Great Controversy" by E.G. White 1879 =^..^=



"Get thee hence, Satan."

Weekly Bible Lesson #3: "CREATION"

MEMORY VERSE: "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31

Read Genesis 1**Sunday**

Text: 1 John 4:8 "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

I would like to stop and think for a while about what creation tells us about how God feels about His children. We are told that God is love, but we have many ways of thinking about love. In our language 'love' can mean a lot of things; we 'love' our parents; we 'love' our friends; our mommy 'loves' our daddy; we 'love' our Teddy Bear; we 'love' our pet; and we 'love' to play games. You can see that 'love' can mean different things.

Well, the kind of 'Love' that is God's is very special. It means He is always unselfish and He does everything for the best good for others. He doesn't do things just for Himself. Even before God created any one else, He was still unselfish. The Father loved the Son and the Spirit and they loved each other and the Father too. They were never selfish.

God decided to create beings that could love Him back. For this to happen, He had to let them have what we call a 'free will.' He could have made people who could only do what He wanted them to do. But then they would not be free, and they could not really love God. If you have a doll or a robot and when you push a button it says "I love you!" it is not the same as when your little brother or sister runs up and says "I love you!"

God didn't want just puppets; He wanted his children to love Him because they chose to. So He made them free. He knew they might choose to sin, and that would break His heart, but He had to take the chance.

God created because He is love and He wants to love us. We were made able to love Him back, because we learn how wonderful He is and because He loves us.

Thought - God's kind of love is unselfish. Think about what 'unselfish' means.

Monday

Text: Job 38:7 "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy."

I want you to think about what Creation of the Earth must have been like. God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit came down. It was the Son, Jesus, who 'spoke and it was done'. The angels were watching and the people that lived in other created worlds knew about it also. In our text, the 'Morning Stars' means the angels; and the 'sons of God' means the beings on other worlds. It was a wonderful event and everybody was so happy about it. Just imagine every one watching; the Son of God begins to speak and as soon as He spoke —things appeared!

Now if I want to make something, and I say to you that I am going to make a cake, can I just say "Let there be a cake?" No, I have to go and get the things cakes are made out of, and then I have to put them together and bake it in the oven and make the cake.

But when Jesus speaks, things are there! He doesn't have to go get the ingredients or His toolbox; right away the things are there!

Thought - Jesus' Word has POWER and Jesus' Word is the Bible. That means there is real POWER in the Words of the Bible. Store them up in your mind and you will be strong in the Lord!

Tuesday

Days of creation—Read them in Genesis 1.

1 - The world was all dark. Jesus said, "Let there be light!" and there was light.

2 - All living things would need air to breath. Jesus said, "Let there be air" (the

Bible calls it a firmament) And there was air and a beautiful blue sky and it was very good.

3 - The whole world was nothing but water! Jesus said, "Let the dry land appear." And land and hills and valleys and sandy beaches appeared. But there was nothing on them. Then Jesus said, "Let the land bring forth plants and trees and flowers and fruit" and so it was. There were things good to eat and pretty things to see everywhere. Think of all the kinds of fruit and vegetables that we can eat! How many can you name?

4 - Now Jesus created the Sun to shine in the daytime and the moon to act like a mirror and shine at night. He probably made our solar system then also and He made it possible for us to see the beautiful stars at night. We know that there were other stars and planets already made before our world was made.

Think what the world was like then. It was very pretty, the tall trees, the sweet flowers, the green grass on the hills and valleys. But it was very quiet, just the sound of the breeze in the trees.

5 - On the fifth day all that was to change! Jesus said, "Let there be living things in the water and the air" and instantly there were fish of all sizes and colors, great whales and starfish and crabs and all kinds of things! There were also birds flying in the sky and perching in the trees, walking on the ground and above all singing! Singing praises to their Creator. The air was full of music.

6 - On the sixth day Jesus said, "Let the earth bring forth living things." What a wonderful scene! There were animals of every size and shape. Monkeys, elephants, tigers, dogs, camels, horses. (How many animals can you name?)

Thought - What kinds of things that God made do you like best?

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 1:26 "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:"

God did something very different when He made man. He did not just say, "Let there be a man." No, the Bible says He formed man of the dust of the ground and then breathed His own living breath into him, and man became a living soul!

God called the first man ADAM and the first thing Adam ever saw was the lovely face of Jesus his Creator! God loved Adam very much. He told him that all this pretty world with all the lovely things was all for him. Adam's first job was to name the animals and when he did this he saw a boy and a girl of each animal. He wondered where his girl was.

Then Jesus caused Adam to go to sleep and He took one of his ribs and made a WOMAN! When Adam woke up he called her EVE and she was his wife. Jesus performed the first marriage!

Eden

Even though the earth was full of lovely things, God did even more for Adam and Eve; He made them a beautiful garden and gave it to them to be their home. We can't even imagine how pretty it was, but someday, if we are faithful, we will see that garden! Yes, before the flood, that garden was taken to heaven and it is still there.

Thought - Wouldn't it be nice to live in a lovely garden?

Thursday

Text: Genesis 2:3 "And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."

God loved Adam and Eve so much that the first whole day they ever had, He came to spend it with them. His work was done and it was perfect, and now He made the Sabbath as a time to enjoy all the things He had made.

Jesus came to be with His children. They walked together and talked together and saw all the beautiful perfect creation. There were no bad or hurtful things anywhere. It was a

world ruled by love! They even sang songs with the angels.

God still wants to be with us in a special way on the Sabbath. It is a time to enjoy Creation, to learn more about God and Jesus and to count our blessings and sing sweet songs to Praise Him. He promises to be with us on that day. He made the Sabbath so we would never forget that He made us and loves us.

Thought - Try and imagine the whole world peaceful and lovely, nothing bad anywhere.

Friday

Text: *John* 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

I want you to think for a moment about other lessons from the Creation Story. When Jesus saves a sinner and recreates him, He does much the same things as He did when He created the earth.

First He sends LIGHT. Light means truth. When the sinner reads or hears truth from the Bible he begins to think about God.

Second He sends AIR. Air in the Bible

refers to the Holy Spirit, Who comes to the sinner and begins to teach him and show him his sins and helps him to repent so Jesus can forgive him.

Third PLANTS. Well the Bible tells us when we have God's light and we repent and the Holy Spirit comes in, then we bear fruit. It says "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance;" Galatians 5:22,23 Think for a moment about what these things mean.

Fourth HEAVENLY LIGHTS. "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;" Malachi 4:2 as Jesus power comes into our lives, Just like the plants grow by the power of the sunlight, so we begin to grow up to become more like Jesus.

Fifth BIRDS. We are so full of happiness when we really belong to Jesus that our hearts are full of joy. We begin to sing praises to Him just like the birds.

Sixth MAN. Finally, as we are saved from our sins, we become new men and women, or boys and girls with characters like Jesus!

Seventh SABBATH! When we are real 'born again' Christians, we rest in Jesus and enjoy being with Jesus. We know we are His children and we can trust Him to always love us and take care of us.

Thought - Try and see other lessons that the Creation Story can teach us. = ^ .. ^ =



Weekly Bible Lesson #4: "THE FALL"

**MEMORY VERSE: "And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die."
Genesis 3:4**

It is a good idea to read Genesis 2:15-25 and Genesis 3:1-14

Sunday

Text: Genesis 2:8 "And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed."

Adam and Eve were given a lovely garden by God to be their home. Their job was to take care of it. Now when we take care of gardens today, it is hard work. We must dig and hoe and water and pull weeds. But it wasn't like that then. We don't really know just what they needed to do to care for the Garden of Eden, but we know it was fun for them.

There are many mistakes people make about the story of Adam and Eve so we're going to look at the truth Jesus gave to our last day messenger, Ellen White. Adam and Eve did not wear clothes like we do, but they were not bare as pictures show them. They had a 'robe of light', which is like what the Angels wear. It was beautiful and came from God. Someday if we are faithful, we will have this 'robe of light' to wear also.

God only gave them one rule; they were not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Jesus and the angels told them all about Satan. They were told that he would try to tempt them and get them to join with him. But he could not bother them as long as they obeyed God and stayed away from the tree. Only at the tree was he allowed to tempt them. Jesus and the holy angels visited Adam and Eve and talked with them often.

Eve was warned also by the angels to stay close to her husband. God knew that if the two were together, they would not easily be fooled. It was not a hard test that God gave them. They had hundreds and thousands of

trees to eat from. They even had the wonderful 'Tree of Life'. They had all of Eden and the whole world was theirs. God made it as easy for them as He could, but He had to test them to see if He could trust them to obey Him.

Thought - Do you think God was fair and kind to Adam and Eve?

Monday

Text: Genesis 2:17 "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Remember how we learned that Satan was cast out of heaven because he would not obey God? He was never able to go back and he was terribly angry about it.

He started to plan to trick Adam and Eve and get them to think God was not fair to them. He wanted to cause them to fall and be unhappy like he was.

We are told that this idea was so horrible that many of his angels did not want to help with it. Satan said he would do it himself. He made plans to trick the happy pair. He knew they would not join him if he told them the truth, so he planned to lie to them. He was the very first liar! And boys and girls, he is a liar still. He always tricks and lies, because if he told the truth—people would run from him.

Satan is able to make us think that bad things are fun; and that if we obey God we won't have any 'fun'. But I want to tell you that there is no lasting happiness in the things God has said not to do. Obeying God gives happiness and joy; yes, and 'fun' too. Obeying Satan brings sadness, pain and death.

Thought - What are some things that Sa-

tan gets people to do that they think is 'fun' but really hurts them?

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 3:1 "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

Now the stage was all set. Satan had planned his lies and set his trap. Adam and Eve had been taught and warned about the danger. Eve was given an extra warning to stay close to Adam. It was a lovely day. Every day was lovely in Eden, it never rained back then, a mist at night watered everything.

Eve was enjoying everything and before she knew it, she had wandered away from Adam. She remembered the angel's warning and for a moment felt afraid. Then she did something very foolish, she said to herself, "I can take care of myself. I don't need to stay with Adam all the time." So she kept going. Eve got too smart for her own good.

I want to tell you that whenever we feel that little warning voice, whenever we feel afraid that we are doing something we should not do, we should turn around and run away! If we keep going, Satan has us. That warning fear is the Holy Spirit. And we should not get too smart and think we know better than God.

Eve looked up and there was the Tree of Knowledge right in front of her. She started to think out loud, "I wonder why we aren't supposed to eat that fruit; it looks OK to me?" And Satan, speaking through the serpent said, "**Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?**"

Thought - See how Satan tried to twist God's words? He still does that today.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 3:2 "And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the

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

Now the serpent was a pretty, flying creature that ate fruit. When Eve looked around to see who had talked to her, she saw this animal and she was surprised. Now if Eve would have seen an angel, she would have been afraid and ran away, but seeing the serpent, she didn't worry. Often Satan tricks us by coming as something nice and pretty to see.

Eve answered him as our text shows, and right away Satan lied to her. He spoke with a musical voice, and he said, "**Ye shall not surely die.**" His words meant that God had lied to them. Many times Satan's lies sound like music to our ears, his tricks look bright and shiny, his ways seem like fun. By the way, one of the best ways to stop Satan from lying to you is not to talk to him at all!

Now Eve had to decide, should she believe what God had said, or what the serpent was saying to her? Think about it for a minute; God had given them everything good, He had shown that He loved them; but the serpent hadn't done anything for her at all. He was telling her that God was trying to take something away from her.

Thought - SIN = fun at first - leads to pain, sadness and death.

Obedying God = May be hard at first - leads to happiness, joy and eternal life!

Thursday

Text: Genesis 3:6 "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."

Now the serpent plucked the fruit and put it in her hand. Look at Genesis 2:17 and Genesis 3:2. See how Eve had added to

what God said? Satan gets us to add our own ideas to God's Word. Then he could say to her, "Well you are touching the fruit and you are OK."

Then he told her a nasty story about God; that He was selfish and just wanted to spoil their fun. God had always been good to Eve—and yet she chose to believe this stranger. The selfish pride that made Satan fall, now led to Eve's fall. She wanted to be a God, just like Satan had wanted to be.

The serpent told her that if she ate the fruit—she would be as smart as God! She ate the fruit and it did seem at first that she was smarter. But it was only the excitement that sin causes. Now she started to work for Satan, she took some of the fruit to Adam.

Thought - If Adam and Eve had been together like God said, Satan would not have fooled Eve so easy!

Friday

Text: Genesis 3:7 "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

Eve hurried to Adam and showed him

the fruit and told the story. She seemed so happy about it. Now the Bible tells us Adam was not fooled. But Adam allowed his love for Eve to come before His love for God. After listening to Eve's story, he began to think, maybe she was right, and anyway, if she was going to die, he would die with her. He took the fruit and quickly ate it.

For a few moments they thought everything was wonderful. Sin can do that. Satan can give you happy feelings, but that is all he can give, just feelings.

All at once they saw something; their lovely 'robe of light' was gone! They were naked. The Bible said they took fig leaves and sewed them together to make aprons. What poor clothes that made!

Where before they had been happy and free, now they were afraid, naked and ashamed. They now had the knowledge of evil and it was very sad. When God came to the garden and called them, where before they had ran happily to meet their Creator, now they hid themselves. Next week we'll learn what happened.

Thought - Have you ever felt afraid of someone who loved you because you knew you had done wrong? = ^..^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #5: "THE PLAN OF SALVATION"

MEMORY VERSE: "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" Genesis 3:15

Read Genesis 3:8-24

Sunday

Text: Genesis 3:9 "And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?"

We left Adam and Eve in our last lesson, hiding from God, wearing an apron of leaves and most unhappy. At first they had imagined they were getting higher and smarter, but then they felt afraid and sad. Their peace and joy was gone.

Now they began to do some things that

people have been doing ever since. They began to think, "It's only a little thing. Maybe it doesn't really matter that much. God is too loving to have us die for such a little thing."

Already they had begun to quarrel with each other and blame each other and now they hear God's voice calling sadly, "Where are you?"

Did God know where they were? Of course! He knows where each one of us is always. When Adam and Eve came out, God asked if they had eaten of the tree He told them not to eat from.

He was giving them a chance to repent,

but Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent, and they both blamed God. Adam said “The woman which THOU gavest to be with me; and when Eve said “The serpent”, she was saying ‘why did God make the serpent.’

Thought - Isn't it strange that the hardest thing to do, when we do wrong, is to admit it and repent? Satan leads us to blame everything and everybody but ourselves.

Monday

Text: Genesis 3:11 “Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?”

Did God know what they had done? Oh, yes! As soon as Eve and then Adam fell into Satan's snare the news went through heaven, the angels threw down their crowns and harps and wept, sadness filled every heart.

They had a council to decide what to do. Jesus went and talked with his Father. They decided that Jesus would pay the price for man's sin and that way man could have a second chance to choose to obey God.

Jesus told the angels that He would have to come to earth as a human baby; live a pure, perfect life; and then die a cruel death to pay for man's sins. At first the angels couldn't be happy about this. They loved Jesus and couldn't bear the thought of the terrible price He would have to pay. Some of them bowed before God and offered to die for man. But only the life of the Creator could pay for our sin.

Jesus told the angels that they would all help with the plan and that when He came to earth He would have to have their help and protection. He told them that they would help also by taking care of all the children, and all those who chose to obey God rather than Satan.

All heaven would work together to lift up fallen man so they could be saved.

Satan was so happy that his cruel plan had worked. Now Adam and Eve were fallen like he was.

Thought - Isn't it sad that when people

do wrong they always try and get others to do it too!

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 3:14 ‘And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.’

Then God said to the serpent first that it was to be cursed. Where before it had been able to fly, now it would go on its belly and not even have legs. And then came the wonderful words of our memory verse; “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

Now this promise made to the serpent was actually made to Satan but also to Adam and Eve and all of us. It was telling about the plan of salvation and how the redeemer would come born of a woman and even though He would suffer from what Satan would do, He would eventually crush the head of Satan, and sin would come to an end.

The ‘enmity’ spoken of here is the most wonderful gift that God gave to Adam and Eve. If He had not given that gift, there is no way that fallen man could ever be saved from sin. Now that man had obeyed Satan, they would never have had any desire to do right and resist the devil. But this ‘enmity’ meant that there would be a power at work for the heart of mankind urging them to seek the good and reject the evil. It is part of our conscience.

Thought- If you find yourself wanting to do something that you know is wrong, you can ask Jesus to give you ‘enmity’ against that thing and He will do it. He will make it so you don't like it or want to do it any more. That is the wonderful gift of “enmity.”

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 3:17 “Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;”

Many people, who don't understand God's loving character, think that God was very harsh to put all those curses on Adam and Eve for their disobedience. But these curses, each one of them were things that were needed to make it easier for them in their fallen state to be able to believe in the Redeemer and be saved from sin.

Adam was told that he would now have to work hard to raise his food. But this hard work was really to be a blessing to him. Hard work is one of the best things to make us happy in this sin sick world. The pleasure of working with our hands and enjoying the results of our work is a true blessing. Working hard also keeps us from sins, that people who have little to do, often get into. If you want to have true happiness, learn to work with your hands and be helpful.

They were also told that they would eventually return to the dust they were made of; that meant they would die. But they also knew if they placed their faith in the coming Saviour, and were faithful, someday they would be raised again to live forever with Jesus.

God now made them coats of the skins of animals for them to wear. We aren't told in the Bible what these animals were, but in the old, old Chinese writing, the word for 'righteous' is an illustration of a sheep over the symbol for 'me'; because the sin offering was to be a 'lamb', likely these first clothes were made from sheep-skins. It was a lesson to them to show that everything would suffer and die because of their sin.

Thought – How different the world was, now that sin had come into it!

Thursday

Text: Genesis 3:23 “Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden

of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.”

It seemed very hard to Adam and Eve to have to leave their garden home, but it was really for their best good. They could not be allowed to eat of the tree of life any more. Angels with glittering beams of light that looked like swords were sent to guard the tree and nobody ever ate of it again. But someday all the faithful ones will again be able to eat of the Tree of Life in heaven.

The story of Eden and the fall of man is found in different forms in the legends of the people of the world. The idea of a tree that could give life and healing and a 'fountain of water of life' was widely believed. Some of the early explorers who came to the 'New World' in the 1500s were looking for the magic 'fountain of youth'.

That tree and the river of life is kept now in heaven, John saw it there in a vision and tells us about it in Revelation.

Thought – Someday, if we are faithful, we will all eat fruit from that wonderful tree!

Friday

Text: Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Adam and Eve now knew that God meant what He said, the penalty of sin was death; but they also had the hope of the coming Saviour. They were to offer a lamb on an altar to show that they had faith in the Saviour that would come and pay the price of their sin. Adam was shown that his Creator would have to suffer for man's sin and he felt very sorry.

They came to the gates of Eden to worship and make the sacrifice. When he offered that first lamb and saw it die, it was a terrible lesson about what sin does, in bringing pain and death to all who choose it. It is important to understand that when people were to offer the lambs on the altars to God, it was not a gift they were giving to God. Oh, No! It was to show God that they accepted

the Gift He was going to give for them. Later on people forgot about the coming Saviour and thought they could pay for their own sins by sacrificing lots of animals.

That is the difference between the real sacrifices and the offerings the pagans made to their demon gods. Those pagan offerings were a gift to please the demon god, but the

real sacrifice was to accept the gift God made to us. To say, "I am sorry for sin and I need the Saviour to wash my sins away.

Thought - So you see, people in the Old Testament times were saved by faith in Jesus' blood, just the same as we are. Everybody who goes to heaven will be there because of the gift of Jesus, the Son of God.
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Weekly Bible Lesson #6: "CAIN AND ABEL"

MEMORY VERSE: "And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9

Read Genesis 4:1-16

Sunday

Text: Genesis 4:1 "Eve...bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD."

It must have been a wonderful event when the first little baby was born on this earth. Remember that Adam and Eve had not ever been children, they were made as grownups. They had never seen a baby. I'm sure it was a most thrilling event indeed.

Eve knew that the promised Redeemer was to be born of a woman and there are hints in the original Bible language that say that she may have thought Cain was the promised Redeemer! She called him Cain, which meant, I have gotten a "man from the Lord". When his brother was born she called him Abel, which meant 'useless'. It just might be that Eve spoiled Cain when he was growing up, letting him have his own way too much.

Now you must remember that Cain and Abel were not the only babies that Adam and Eve had born to them. We don't really know how many; but they lived for hundreds of years and must have had dozens and dozens of babies. Soon there were grand-babies as well. The family got bigger quickly and spread out on the earth. The Bible only tells us about three because they were the ones most important to the Bible record.

Some people have wondered who Cain married when he grew up. They have made up many silly stories about this. But it is really simple; Cain married one of his sisters.

Thought - Eve thought Cain was the Savior, what a sad disappointment she later had!

Monday

Text: Deuteronomy 6:7 "Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children"

Our special messenger, Ellen White, tells us many things about Adam. He taught each of his children and told them the story of his sin and why they had to leave Eden. He told about the promised Savior. He told the story over and over to his grandchildren, and so on for many generations because Adam lived for more than 900 years!

Some of his children were angry with him for the mistake he had made. They didn't like it that their life was made harder. They hated God and rebelled against Him. Others were glad of the promise that the Redeemer would come and they would obey God and offer sacrifices to show their faith in the Gift God was going to send to save them.

Adam saw the changes that came into the world because of sin. It made him feel very sad.

Thought - How hard it must have been

for Adam to tell the story of his sin over and over again! But he faithfully did it.

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 4:2 “And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.”

Now Cain and Abel were very different, even though they were brothers. It wasn't just because Cain was a gardener and Abel was a shepherd. No indeed. Cain was rebellious and proud while Abel was humble and obedient.

When they were boys, if their Mom and Dad told them to do something, Cain would argue but Abel would obey.

As they grew up, their father Adam taught them all about the promise of the coming Savior. He showed them the angels guarding the Tree of Life. They went on Sabbath to the gate of Eden and there sacrifices were offered. They knew that the lamb was to point them to the coming Lamb of God that would die for their sins. Both of them were taught all about the difference between sin and obedience.

Thought - If you find yourself acting like Cain, you better pray to Jesus to make you like Abel.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 4:5 “But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.”

When the time came that these young men were old enough to start offering their own sacrifices, something happened. Abel carefully chose his best lamb from his flock of sheep. He took the lamb to the altar and he killed the lamb and offered the blood to show he was sorry for sin and chose to be saved by the promised Savior. God honored Abel's faith by sending fire to burn up the lamb.

At the same time Cain brought an offering. But Cain was proud. He didn't think he

needed any Savior. He brought God fruit from his garden. We are told that he didn't even care if it was the best. “That is good enough,” Cain thought, “God should be glad I bring Him anything. After all it is my own garden and I did all the work.”

Like we learned last week, the sacrifices are to show faith in what God gave to save us; it is not something people give to Him. We can't give anything to God as it is all His to start with. That would be the same as if I came to your house and took your bike and gave it to you and said “Here is my gift to you.” That would be silly wouldn't it?

There was no blood to show faith in the Savior in Cain's offering. Cain didn't even think he had any sin to worry about. He was proud, rebellious and disobedient but he thought he was just fine.

God did not burn up Cain's offering and Cain was angry with God—and with his brother.

Thought - when we do wrong and someone tells us, we are angry! If we weren't wrong, we would not feel angry.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 4:6 “And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?”

God is so very patient with us! Here Cain was disobedient and angry for no good reason. Yet God talked to him and asked him what was the matter. God told him that if he would do right, his offering would be accepted just like Abel's was. God wasn't being nicer to Abel than to Cain.

Cain could still have gone and got a lamb and offered it and everything would be just fine. But instead he didn't listen to God. He hated his brother and his hate got bigger and bigger every day!

Finally he got Abel to go with him out into the fields and then he tried to get Abel to say that God wasn't fair in how He had treated their Mom and Dad. Abel, who was usually quiet and would obey his brother,

spoke up and said that God was so very kind that he was going to send His Son to die for man. He told Cain that if he would just obey God everything would be OK.

Cain got so angry now that we are told he was insane! He killed his poor brother Abel and hid the body. Then he went back home as if nothing had happened.

Thought - How sad it was that the very first baby Eve had—was the first murderer!

Friday

Text: Genesis 4:9 “And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper?”

God gave Cain some time to cool off and think about what he had done. I am sure the Holy Spirit made him think about all the happy times he had playing with his baby brother. But Cain did not repent.

Finally God asked Cain, “Where is your brother?”

God knew where Abel was, but He wanted to give Cain one more chance to repent, to say he was sorry. But Cain gave a rude answer to God. Sin makes us so stupid. Cain even thought he could fool God and he wasn’t even afraid to be rude to God.

God told Cain that the ground was now cursed again because of the murder of Abel. Cain never felt sorry for what he had done, he only felt sorry for himself.

The reason why God didn’t let Cain be killed for the terrible deed he had done was to show to the universe what happens when wicked men are allowed to live on in sin.

Soon almost the entire world was wicked. So wicked that God finally had to do something about it, or there would be no good people left alive.

Thought- Remember if you want to be wise, obey God. Sin makes every one stupid. = ^ .. ^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #7: “SETH AND ENOCH”

MEMORY VERSE: “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.” Hebrews 11:5

Read Genesis 4:16-26, 5:1-24

Sunday

Text: Genesis 4:15 “And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.”

Now you remember in our last lesson, we learned that Cain was never sorry after he killed his brother; he was just sorry for himself. He went on hating God and doing as he pleased. He and his children would not obey God or keep His laws.

God let Cain go on living, even though he deserved to die for the terrible deed he had done, and we see what happened. Cain’s children and grandchildren were the same, they wouldn’t obey God. They became more and

more wicked. They were smart and invented many things. We are told that Cain built the first city. God’s plan was for people to live in family groups on large farms. Satan knew that in cities he could turn people away from God easier.

Cain’s people invented musical instruments, weapons, and false worship. Cain’s great grandson took more than one wife. He also was a murderer and proud of it.

Adam taught every one to obey God, but Cain’s family would not listen. Things just got worse and worse.

Thought - When we do something wrong, let us tell God right away we are sorry and ask Him to help us not do it any more. It is very sad when people get so bad they can do

bad things and boast about it!

Monday

Text: Genesis 4:26 “And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.”

Although we know that Adam and Eve had many children, both boys and girls, the next one the Bible tells us about was Seth. We are told that Seth was more like Adam than either Cain or Able. He chose to obey God and he taught his children to do this also. Now Seth, and the people who chose to obey God, found they had to stay away from Cain and his wicked family to keep from learning their bad ways.

This is where we now find two groups of people, the family of Cain, called the ‘sons of man’ and the family of Seth called the ‘sons of God’. The women in the family of Cain learned how to wear jewels and decorate their faces and how to be very attractive in a bad way. They learned to dance and play music that made people forget God. They had parties and holidays and worshipped nature and idols. Many of the sons of God ended up marrying these women who had learned evil things and then they stopped following God and their children became very wicked.

Those who wanted to obey God and belong to Him and some day be able to go to heaven had to stay away from all these things.

Thought - If I want to obey God and have Jesus get me ready to go to heaven I have to be careful who I play with, who I listen to, and where I go!

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 5:27 “And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.”

People back then lived a long time, many over 900 years! They were much bigger than people today, stronger and a lot smarter. We

have no idea the kind of things they used to do.

Now Seth had children and grandchildren and finally there was born a boy named Enoch. Enoch was determined to follow God all the way. As he grew up he stayed away from the wicked people as much as he could. He stayed out in the country and not in any of Cain’s cities.

He had a little boy named Methuselah, and as he watched that little boy grow up he learned a lot about the love of God. Enoch was a prophet and God sent angels to tell him about things that would happen even down to the end of time.

Enoch loved God so much that there was nothing he liked better than to talk to God in prayer and think about what God taught him. Enoch tried to tell the people to stop being wicked and repent and follow God and have faith in the promised Saviour. He would also tell all the people what God taught him. Some people learned to love God because of what Enoch would teach them. They gave their hearts to God and He could take away their sin, and they became sons of God too.

When Enoch was on earth most of the people were wicked and there were only a few that would follow God and obey him. Enoch was shown that God was going to have to send a flood to stop the wickedness or soon the sons of man would end up destroying everybody and there would be no way the Saviour could come to the earth. His little boy’s name meant that he would live until the year of the flood. Methuselah became the oldest man and when he died, that very year the flood came.

Thought - God sends angels and the Holy Spirit to teach every one who wants to learn about Him. He will do this for you also if you ask Him.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 5:23,24 “And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and

five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him."

Some times people will say, "If I only lived in a better place, I could be more like Jesus." Well when Enoch lived on earth, it was a lot like today. It had become very wicked. Enoch made sure he spent time praying and talking to God. He stayed away from the kinds of things that would cause him to forget God.

He didn't have a Bible to read, people back then didn't need books, because their minds were so good that they never forgot anything. Whatever God told to Enoch, he remembered, and told other people.

Enoch continued to grow more heavenly while talking with God. His face would shine with a holy light when he would teach those who would hear his words of wisdom. The Lord loved Enoch, because he steadfastly followed him, God would not permit Enoch to die like other men, but sent his angels to take him to Heaven without dying. In the presence of the righteous and the wicked, Enoch was removed from them. Those who loved him thought that God might have left him in some of the places he used to go to pray, but after looking, and being unable to find him, they knew God had taken him to heaven. Enoch is really the oldest man because he is still alive!

Thought - When we go to heaven we will meet Enoch and talk to him.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 6:5 "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."

The ones who didn't want to obey God became more wicked all the time. The Bible says they were so evil that God felt sorry He had ever made them. Our text tells us that every thing they even thought about, or wanted to do, was only evil all the time.

The people who loved God had to live

away from them, in places far from the wicked cities. God's people lived simple lives as farmers and gardeners, the way God wanted people to live.

When we see pictures of the people back then, often it shows them dressed in crude clothes and using simple tools. But we really have no idea what they had or what they dressed like. But if you live for hundreds of years and you never forgot anything you learned and you never got sick, why there is no telling what you could make and build and invent!

There were many, many people on earth then, millions and millions. Enoch had been shown that there would be a flood and his son Methuselah and his children lived to hear Noah preach, warning the people.

Thought - Imagine how good you could get at doing something if you could practice for hundreds of years.

Friday

Text: Hebrews 11:5 "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

Did you know that God's messenger wrote about Enoch over 520 times? His example is for us who are expecting soon to see Jesus come and to go home with Him.

When we are tempted to say, "Oh, I can't live for Jesus where I am, there are too many things to tempt me and too many people who are mean to me and make me angry", Then remember how Enoch lived in a world so wicked that God had to destroy it, and he walked with God for over 300 years.

Enoch was 'translated'. That word means to be taken to heaven without ever dying. There will be a group of people when Jesus comes who will also be taken to heaven without dying.

Have you ever thought about living in heaven? Talking with Jesus and the angels? For us to be ready to do that, we have to

practice it here. Think about how you talk to your family, how you act at home. Is it like you would do in heaven?

Angels are watching you and Jesus knows all about what you do and say. You can talk with Him every day and learn how to live from His Holy Word.

Jesus didn't do anything different for Enoch that He does not want to do for you or me. If we seek to obey Jesus, asking Him to teach us and give us power, He will do it for us too.

Thought - What was Enoch's secret? He learned to know Jesus, and to know Him is to love Him more and more every day!
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Weekly Bible Lesson #8: "NOAH, AND THE ARK" Part 1

MEMORY VERSE: "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man." Luke 17:26

Sunday

Text: Genesis 6:5 "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."

In our last lesson we learned how the wicked family of Cain just got worse and worse until almost everybody was wicked and the few people who still loved and obeyed God had to live in lonely out of the way places. Many of the ones who served God got caught up with the fun and parties, the dancing and music, and the attractive women. They married these worldly women, and then they would gradually forget God and became wicked too. They also married many wives instead of one like God had said.

They made idols to worship, and taught their children that these idols, made with their own hands, were gods, and to worship them. They also worshipped the things of nature. They did not think of God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and did not thank Him who gave them all the lovely things that they had. They even said there was no God in heaven, and gloried in, and worshiped, the works of their own hands.

They loved to hurt and kill animals. They used them for food, and this made them more fierce and cruel, and they didn't even care when people were killed.

If they wanted their neighbor's things or his house or anything, they would steal it. If they were angry with someone, they would just kill them. When the people of God tried to tell them to stop this evil and obey God they would just laugh at them. God could see if He didn't stop the evil, soon everybody would be dead.

Thought - God does everything He can to help people to do right, but often they refuse. That makes Him very sad.

Monday

Text: Genesis 6:6 "And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart."

Finally God said He would just wait one hundred and twenty years and then they would be destroyed.

God looked for someone to do a special job for Him and he saw Noah who was the great grandson of Enoch. It says "Noah found grace in the sight of the Lord" and More than one hundred years before the flood the Lord sent an angel to faithful Noah, to tell Noah He was going to send a flood to wash away all the evil in the world and to make known to him that He would no longer have mercy upon the wicked people. But He wanted to warn them and give them a chance to be saved. He would teach Noah, and make him a faithful preacher to warn the world of the coming flood.

Noah was to preach to the people, and also to build an ark as God should direct him for the saving of himself and family. He was not only to preach, but his example in building the ark was to show all that he believed what he preached.

He was to build the huge boat on dry land. He was told just how to build it and what to make it out of. It was important that he follow the directions carefully because that boat or 'Ark' was to save the lives of all the people who would believe God and some of all the animals too.

God told him to also gather lots of different kinds of food and seeds to take onto the Ark after it was finished for the people and all the animals to eat, and to plant gardens again when the flood was over.

Thought - Noah had faith to do what God asked; we must have faith to obey God too.

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 6:8 "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD."

This was a big project that God gave to Noah. He had to sell his belongings and put all his effort into building it. Methuselah and other ones in Noah's family helped to build the ark. Many of these died before the flood came and they will be saved.

Noah's 3 sons grew up helping to build the Ark and every day Noah would preach to the people and warn them that a flood was going to come and they must come with him into the Ark, and so be saved. For 120 years Noah built and preached to the people. Every blow on the ark also preached to the people that Noah believed God. Some of the people believed at first, but then the leaders and scientists would tell them that Noah was crazy and there could never be a flood.

The ark finally was finished and it was BIG! This was no funny little boat like we see in storybooks about Noah and the Ark; it was as big as an aircraft carrier and made very carefully. Remember God made the plans. There was room for all the animals

and lot's of people if they would only believe God and come in.

Thought - If you had lived in those days, would you have gone on the ark? Think about it.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 7:1 "And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation."

God gave one last sign to the people that what Noah was saying was true; Angels were sent to collect from the forest and field the beasts, which God had created. Angels went before these animals and they followed, two and two, male and female, and clean beasts by seven (pairs). These beasts, from the most ferocious, down to the most gentle and harmless, peacefully and solemnly marched into the ark.

The sky seemed clouded with birds of every kind. They came flying to the ark, males and females, by sevens. The world looked on with wonder—some with fear, but they had become so wicked from rebellion that even this miracle of God's power only impressed them for a moment. Then they went back to making fun of Noah and God. For seven days these animals were coming into the ark, and Noah was arranging them in the places prepared for them.

Noah asked them one last time to come into the ark, but they scoffed and laughed and mocked him. So he and his family went in alone, 8 people from a whole world.

Thought - It was God who chose the animals to keep alive, some very large animals such as many dinosaurs, were not taken on the ark and so died in the flood. God knew man was getting weaker and smaller and could not have these huge animals around.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 7:7 "And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons'

wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.”

Everything was now ready for the closing of the ark. Noah could not close it himself. The people are there making fun, when they see an angel, coming from Heaven, as bright as lightning. He closes that big outer door, and then goes up to Heaven again.

Seven days the family of Noah was in the ark before the rain began. In this time they were getting things ready for their long stay while the waters should be upon the earth.

And these were days of blasphemous (making fun of God) merriment by the wicked. They thought because the prophecy of Noah didn't happen right away after he went into the ark, that he was wrong, and that the world could not be destroyed by a flood.

Before this, there had been no rain upon the earth. A mist had risen from the waters, which God caused to come at night like dew and watered the plants so the people thought rain couldn't happen.

Even though they had seen the wild beasts march tamely into the ark, and the mighty angel shut the door, yet they hardened their hearts, and had a wicked party, making fun of God's power.

Thought - If I saw that angel shut the door, I would want to be inside, wouldn't you?

Friday

Text: Psalm 91:11 “For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.”

On the 8th day the dark clouds gathered and the storm broke. First they saw all their idols and rich houses and temples destroyed by lightning, then the water poured down, and spouted up through the ground.

The animals that were not taken on the ark ran to men, hoping they could save them, but no-one could help anybody now.

Some pounded on the ark and begged Noah to take them in, but that door was shut by the angel, and nobody could open it. It was too late—they had laughed at God and His warnings and now they all perished in the raging waters.

Even Satan was afraid that he might be destroyed too, the storm was so fierce. He was very angry with God for destroying the wicked people that he controlled. God made him stay right in the storm and watch it all.

On the Ark the animals were scared also, but Noah and his family trusted in God. Even though the Ark was carefully made and very strong, only God's angels kept it safe through that terrible storm.

Thought - We are safe when we belong to Jesus, no matter what happens! = ^ .. ^ =



Weekly Bible Lesson #9: "NOAH, AND THE ARK" Part 2

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

Read Genesis 8**Sunday**

Text: Genesis 7:24 "And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days."

For forty days and nights the terrible storm raged, it must have been a trying time for the little family in the Ark. High above the highest mountains rose the waters; but Noah and his family were safe in the ark, under the care of God. The Lord had shut out all Noah's foes, and he was never more to hear their taunts and sneers.

The boat was swept here and there and sometimes it seemed they would be destroyed but Noah believed God. He knew that God was caring for them.

Some people think Noah and his family were only in the ark for forty days, but that was how long the storm lasted; they were in the ark for a whole year.

As the waters began to abate, the Lord caused the ark to rest upon the top of a group of mountains, which had been preserved by his power and made to stand fast all through that violent storm. These mountains were close together, and the ark moved about and rested upon one, then another, and was no more driven on the endless ocean. This gave great relief to all within the ark.

Thought - Imagine being there and knowing that no other people or land animals were alive in the whole world except on that boat.

Monday

Text: Genesis 8:1 "And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged."

After the storm, this world must have been a mess, deep water surged everywhere and floating bodies and mats of uprooted trees and vegetation were to be seen. God began a great burial process. A great wind came up and would blow first one way and then another. This caused everything to get washed back and forth and covered over with layers of sand and dirt. The word 'asswaged' gives us the picture.

This is where the layers came from; that the evolution people try to tell you took millions of years to lay down. No, it actually only took a few months. As the dead animals and vegetation were buried deep in the ground, the process was started that gave us fossils, oil and coal. There were huge forests and rich plant life before the flood, even the best we have on earth today cannot come close to what there was before, so there was a lot of layers buried to become oil and coal.

You see the ONLY way that fossils can happen, is for a dead animal to be quickly buried deeply in mud before it decays—this is what happened after the flood. They try and tell you that fossils are still being formed today and that animals that die become fossils, this is NOT true and evolution cannot explain why. The only place in this world where the 'geologic column' of layers exists is in the evolution books—not in the world.

Thought - Can you think why people who don't love God want to think there was no flood?

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 8:5 "And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen."

Here and there in the world we see the evidence of those great winds that buried

everything; there are places where heaps of bones of all kinds of animals and fish and birds are all mixed together in a common grave. The reason fish are there is because of the great winds driving the water full of rocks and dirt to cover the dead things and some fish got in there also. Evolutionists make up many strange stories to try and explain what their eyes see so plainly—but their hearts will not admit.

There were several great changes that happened in this world at the time of the flood. Before this the whole world was warm and there was no winter. The earth was changed to be slanted, what we call 'on its axis'; this made the seasons. Something else happened at that time which froze the ends of the earth.

The special firmament that God had placed around the earth in the beginning had collapsed and that was where a lot of water for the flood came from. The air was richer in oxygen, before the flood and that was why such large animals could live.

There was also a great crack in the earth that came, making the oceans miles deeper than they had been, this allowed much water to flow rapidly off the land. This was how the great canyons and such things were made.

The flood was the third 'curse' that came upon the earth and now it was very different from when God said 'it was very good'. We still have much beauty and the wonder of creation around us, but as man insists on living wickedly and away from God it gets spoiled more and more.

Thought - When you hear someone start saying, "Millions of years ago..." then know he is telling a fairy-tale.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 8:13 "and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry."

By the time the water was dried up and most of the mess all buried, the earth was

all twisted and ragged mountains and cliffs with deep canyons were to be seen. We can see the evidence of the terrible storm and winds in the layers of rock folded and set on edge all over the world. Evolution cannot explain it, but they try, because they just don't want to believe God.

Anxiously did Noah and his family watch the waters go down. They wanted to go out upon the earth again, and Noah sent out a raven, which flew back and forth, to and from the ark. Not receiving the information he desired, he sent forth a dove, which finding no rest, returned to the ark. After seven days the dove was again sent forth, and came back with an olive leaf in her beak. There was great rejoicing by this family, which had so long been shut up in the ark.

Then an angel descended from Heaven and opened the door of the ark. Noah could remove the top, but he could not open the door, which God had shut. God spoke to Noah through the angel and told him to go with his family out of the ark, and bring with them every living thing.

Thought - Can you imagine how happy the animals and birds all were to go free again?

Thursday

Text: Psalm 118:29 "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

Noah did not forget Him who had taken care of them, but made an altar and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt-offerings on the altar, showing faith in Christ the great sacrifice, and saying thank you to God for their lives. Noah's offering pleased God; He accepted the sacrifice, and blessed Noah and his family.

Thought - For everything God does for us, we should worship Him and give Him thanks.

Friday

Text: “While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” Genesis 8: 22

God did not want man to be terrified when clouds and rains came, fearing another flood. God made a special promise to Noah and his family; and He put a lovely rainbow in the sky as a sign of that promise.

“And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.”

A rainbow is seen in Heaven round God’s throne, also above the head of Jesus, as a symbol of God’s mercy to all on the earth. When man, by his great wickedness, provokes the wrath of God, Jesus, pleads for him, and points to the rainbow in the cloud, as a sign of God’s great love for man; also to the rainbow above the throne and upon his head, a sign of the glory and mercy from God resting there for all who are sorry for their sins.

Thought - Next time you see a rainbow, remember God’s love for us all. = ^ . ^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #10: “REACHING FOR HEAVEN”

MEMORY VERSE: “God thundereth marvelously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we can not comprehend.” Job 37:5

Read Genesis 11

Sunday

Text: Genesis 9:29 And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.

Shem lived 600 years

His son lived 438 years

A few generations later Serug lived 230 years

His son lived 139 years

Haran, who was the father of Lot, was the first man to die before his father died.

See how the lives got shorter after the flood? There was more than one reason, but one thing that caused it was that God gave them permission to eat meat if they wanted to; this was because it would take a while for crops and trees to grow again— but because He allowed them to eat meat, did not make it good for them.

Another reason life was shorter, was that conditions were different after the flood. Studies show there was less oxygen, the plants and soil were less rich and the weather was harsher.

Thought - God’s best diet for people was a plant diet.

Monday

Text: Jeremiah 18:12 “And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.”

It is hard to believe that people could forget what was right so quickly, but sadly some of the children of Noah soon began to do wrong. Some followed his example, and obeyed God’s commandments; others were unbelieving and rebellious.

Some of these refused to believe in God, and in their own minds they thought the flood was just an accident of nature. Others believed there was a God, and that He had caused the flood, and they were like Cain, angry and hating God, because He had destroyed the wicked race and cursed the earth by the flood.

These people who were enemies of God, were bothered by the good lives, deeds and words of those who loved, obeyed, and exalted Him. They moved away from where the family of Shem lived and went to the plains of Shinar to make a strong city.

Thought - Let us ask Jesus to remind us

to always do right.

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 10:8, 9 “And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.”

Some of the evil knowledge from before the flood began to be used again by the people, and the idol gods and Satan's false worship was set up again. Some say it was brought from before the flood by Ham's wife, who was of the line of Cain.

Two of the sons of Ham, Cush and Canaan became very wicked. Canaan became the head of a race of idol worshippers and Nimrod, the son of Cush, became a cruel and wicked King who later was worshipped as a god. He was a hunter of fierce animals but he did not love God.

This text actually means that he was a mighty man in rebellion against God. He built a city on the plains of Shinar.

Some ancient legends say that he was so wicked that the family of Shem executed him. We know he died quite young. His wife, Queen Semaramis told the people after his death that he was the sun god and she was the moon goddess, Queen of Heaven. She had a baby boy named Tammuz and she told the people that he was Nimrod, the sun god, born again.

Thought - It was way back there that the idea of worshipping a woman and her son started, not from Mary and Jesus.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 11:1 “And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.”

The ones who did not love God left the others and moved a distance from them, and chose a large plain to live in. they built a city, and then got the idea to make a large tower to reach unto the clouds, and all stay

in the city and not be scattered in the earth.

They thought that they would be safe in case of another flood, for they would build their tower higher than the waters at the time of the flood, and all the world would honor them, and they would be as gods, and rule over the people. They wanted to become as wicked as the ones killed in the flood and to use force to get rid of God's people.

This tower was made to exalt its builders, and was to get all the people on earth to worship idols. Before the work of building was finished, people lived in the tower. Richly decorated rooms, with beautiful furniture were made for their idols.

Those who did not believe in God, imagined that if their tower could reach unto the clouds, they would be able to find the reasons for the flood.

Thought - None of these people believed God's rainbow promise. Like Adam and Eve, they thought God would tell a lie.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 11:7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

They were proud and thought they could beat God. But he would not permit them to finish this evil work. He knew that Satan would work through them to kill all the good people from the earth.

They had built their tower very high, when the Lord sent two angels to confound them. Men had been given the job of carrying word from the top of the tower to the bottom to ask for what was needed for the work. The first would tell the second, and he the third, until the message reached those upon the ground.

As the word was passing from one to another, the angels confounded their language. That is, all of a sudden instead of everybody speaking the same language there were a lot of different languages, and they couldn't understand each other. When the word reached

the workmen on the ground, they would send up what they thought was asked for, but after all the hard work of getting it up the tower—it was the wrong thing.

Those people who had thought they were smarter than God could not figure out what had happened. They began to fight and hurt one another and were in a sad confusion.

Thought - God has such wonderful ways to do what He needs to do.

Friday

Text: Genesis 11:9 “Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.”

There was no way to build any more on that tower. Angry at one another, and not

knowing what had happened, they went with those they could understand, and moved away into the world. This is where different nations, speaking different languages, came from.

Lightning from heaven, as a token of God’s wrath, broke off the top of their tower, and cast it to the ground. Thus rebellious man is taught that God is supreme.

Satan’s plan to have his super-race again was spoiled and he was angry. Do you know he has been trying to get his One World Government ever since, but he has never been able to do it?

The people who are making the New World Order today are trying to finish the work Satan started at Babel. They even use a picture of the broken tower or a pyramid with the top not yet on as their symbol.

Thought - We can trust God to know how to take care of us. = ^ .. ^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #11: “COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM”

MEMORY VERSE: “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,” 2 Corinthians 6:17

Read Genesis 12

Sunday

Text: Genesis 12:1 “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred , and from thy father’s house , unto a land that I will shew thee:”

After the tower of Babel was stopped and the people scattered, families settled in various parts of the land. Some of the descendants of Shem settled in a place called Ur of the Chaldees. Now I must tell you who these ‘Chaldees’ were; they were religious priests of the ‘Mystery’ religion started by Nimrod and those who rejected God. They were considered magicians or wizards. Since most of the people refused to follow God, He left them to go their own way and looked for someone who wanted to follow Him.

A young man named Abram was growing up in that country but he was different from most of his family and friends. He started early in his life to try to learn about the real God and did not worship the idols like everybody else. When God saw that Abram wanted to follow Him he began to help him and guide him. But God knew that if Abram stayed there with his family, the temptation to worship idols would be too great and he could never get to really know God as much as he wanted to.

God told Abram when he was a young man and had married Sarai, to move out away from Ur and go towards the land of Canaan. When Abram first told his family he was going, his father and many relatives came with him. They traveled to Haran, where they stopped for a while as Terah, Abram’s father was too old to keep travel-

ing. Soon Terah died, and then Abram and his own family and Lot, his nephew went on towards Canaan and the others stayed at Haran.

Thought - If you really try to get to know and understand God, He will help you also, just like He helped Abram.

Monday

Text: Genesis 12:7 "And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him."

Because of the increasing wickedness of the people, God chose to teach His truths to Abram and promised to bless him and his children and make of them a great nation and that the land of Canaan would someday be theirs. He was told that it would be of his family the Messiah would come.

Where ever Abraham went he built an altar to the God of Heaven and taught his family and servants to worship Him always. He knew that the offered lambs pointed to the Messiah whom God would send.

So Abram lived in tents and wandered about in the land of Canaan, but he did not own that land. He believed God, that one day, his children would have that land, and he also looked to the promise of the New Earth and the City of God.

Thought - It took faith and courage for Abram to leave all his friends and family and go to a strange land and live as a stranger there.

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 12:10 "And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land."

The Bible is true, and when it tells us about people, it tells us the mistakes they made as well as the good things. It shows us

how everybody learns lessons in their lives. There came a famine in the land of Canaan and Abram took his family into the land of Egypt for a while, so they could have food for their animals and themselves.

While there he said to Sarai his wife, "You are very beautiful; and I am afraid that one of these Egyptians will want to take you as his wife. So tell people you are my sister so they won't kill me to get you." This was partly true as Sarai was Abram's half sister, but she was also his wife, so it was a lie. Abram wasn't trusting fully in God, when he did that. He also wasn't being very kind to Sarai.

Sure enough, the people saw Sarai was lovely and the Pharaoh found out and took her to be with his women. But God caused bad things to happen to Pharaoh and his house and then God showed him that Sarai was Abram's wife. He called Abram and said "Why did you tell me she was your sister?" And he told them to take her and go their way.

Thought - All of us have to learn lessons as we follow God and learn more about him.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 13:9 "Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left."

After Lot's father had died, Abram had taken care of the boy and he had grown up with him. Now he had many animals as well as Abram and there wasn't room enough for them all to live together. Their servants began to fight over the pastures so Abram said that Lot could choose where he wanted to go and Abram would go the other way. Abram was the older and it should have been his choice, but he was unselfish and let Lot choose. Abram had given Lot everything but Lot was not grateful to Abram.

Lot saw the rich plains of Sodom and he chose to go there. Abram kept his promise

and went the other way. Now Sodom was a wicked city and it was not a smart thing for Lot to go close to it, but he did, and before long he moved right into that wicked city! Some say that the wife he married was from that city.

Soon after this, God spoke to Abram and promised him that his children would be like the dust, there would be so many, and the land of Canaan was to belong to them.

Thought - It was selfish of Lot to choose the best for himself; being selfish leads to sadness.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 14:12 “And they took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.”

There came the day when some armies attacked Sodom and Gomorrah and killed some of the kings and took all the people away for slaves, Lot and his wife also. Someone escaped and came and told Abram and after praying for guidance and blessing, he took his trained servants and went to rescue Lot. He attacked the army and defeated them and brought back Lot and his family as well as the other people and much goods.

The king of Sodom came out to honor Abram when he returned and said he should have all the riches. Abram would not accept anything for himself even though by rights he could. He said he didn’t want the heathen to say that they had made Abram rich.

He wanted only God to be honored. One thing he did was to give tithes of all to Melchizedek, who was a priest of God, and he blessed Abram; the rest went back to the owners.

Abram was glad to get back to his peaceful life.

Thought - Lot should have learned a lesson from that and left Sodom.

Friday

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

God spoke again to Abram shortly after this, as he was thinking about that horrible war and wondering how God could give the country to his children when he had none. But God told him to look at the stars and count them if he could. “Your children will be like that”, God told him.

God also showed him that his children would be slaves in a foreign land for 400 years but that they would be brought out and come back to Canaan to live there. Abram believed the promise but he couldn’t understand how it could happen because Sarai his wife was old now, and so was he. How could they ever have a baby?

Thought - God sometimes asks us to believe Him even though we can’t understand how His promises can happen. = ^ .. ^ =



Weekly Bible Lesson #12: "FIRE FALL AT SODOM"

MEMORY VERSE: "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Hebrews 13:2

Read Genesis 18, 19

Sunday

Text: Genesis 18:2 "And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground".

Abraham was sitting in his tent door in the heat of the day when he saw three men traveling. He ran to greet them and asked them to come and wash their feet and rest in the shade and he would prepare food for them.

He was kind to all strangers and did not know that these were heavenly visitors. He asked Sarah to help prepare the meal and he himself went and picked a calf to cook for the men. This was no snack, but a hearty meal, he set before these strangers.

The Bible says that he stood by them as they ate, in other words he was their waiter.

Thought - It is wise to be generous and kind.

Monday

Text: Genesis 18:10 "And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him."

Now something happened that caused Abraham to see these were not ordinary travelers. They asked where was Sarah. He said she was in the tent. Then they told him that this time next year, she would have a son.

Sarah listening in the tent laughed to herself because she knew she was much too old to have a baby. Then Abraham knew that this was the Lord.

The Lord said, "Why did Sarah laugh? Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

Then Sarah was afraid and said that she didn't laugh, but the Lord said, "Nay, but you did laugh." Then the three got up and continued on their way and Abraham walked a ways with them.

Thought - Jesus knows all our thoughts.

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 18:23 "And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?"

Then the Lord told Abraham that the wicked city of Sodom was about to be destroyed! The two angels kept on their way but Abraham stood before Jesus. He asked Him not to destroy the good people with the bad in Sodom. He knew Lot was there and he thought surely there would be many good people there. He said, "Will you destroy it if there are fifty good people there?"

The Lord said, "No I won't destroy it if fifty are there.

Then Abraham said, "what if five are lacking". And the Lord said "If there are forty five, I won't destroy it. Then Abraham thought about Sodom and what he had heard about it, and asked for forty, then thirty, then twenty. Finally he asked if the Lord would save Sodom if there were only ten people that were good there.

Jesus said He would! That is how kind our Dear Jesus is! Then He went on His way towards Sodom.

It is because of God's people in the world that the Lord keeps things running here. Even the wicked owe their lives to God's people.

Thought - Sometimes when the wicked drive away God's people, or kill them, some terrible disaster hits them.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 19:1 “And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground.”

Sodom was a terribly wicked city. The people were very rich and very cruel. They spent their time in entertainment and vile practices. Whenever a stranger would come to Sodom, they would abuse them and even kill them. History tells us they would sometimes chain people in the town square and leave them to starve to death while they tortured them every day.

The wicked things they did and invented made it so that God had to remove them as a warning, or these terrible deeds would spread everywhere, and the earth would be as bad as before the flood again!

The two angels came alone to the gates of Sodom in the evening, and there was Lot who did just as Abraham had done, and ran to meet them and asked them to come and stay at his house. Now Lot knew about the cruel treatment the people of Sodom would do to strangers, so he urged them to come with him. He wanted to protect them. Finally they agreed.

Thought - God's true people care about others and try to help them.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 19:5 “And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? Bring them out unto us, that we may know them.”

When Lot and his family were about to go to bed the people of Sodom surrounded the house and tried to get the men who had come there. Lot tried to protect them, but it was the angels who had to protect him. They pulled Lot back inside and made the wicked men blind.

Then they told Lot to go and gather up his family and hurry out of Sodom as it was

going to be destroyed. This was a shock to Lot. He hurried to tell his married daughters and their husbands, but they laughed at him and thought he was crazy.

The angels told Lot and his wife and two unmarried daughters to leave and run for their lives to the mountains. Finally the angels took them by the hands and hurried them out. “Escape to the mountains and don't look back”, the angels warned.

Even then, Lot tried to argue with the angels. He wanted to stay in one of the small cities nearby. His faith was weakened from living in a wicked place and seeing wickedness every day. Because of Lot arguing and not hurrying away as the angels had said, just as they reached the small city, his wife turned to look back as the terrible firestorm hit Sodom. She was turned into a pillar of salt.

Thought - We need to be careful that we don't get used to wickedness and think it is OK.

Friday

Text: Genesis 19:24 “Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven”

When the people of Sodom were starting to get up in the morning, they thought it was just the same as any other day. They were planning what they were going to do to Lot and those strangers. Lot's sons in law were laughing at the crazy old man who had tried to save them. They were no more wicked that day than the day before but God draws a line and when people pass over it, that is the end of His mercy.

The fire and brimstone rained down out of heaven on those wicked cities. They were totally destroyed. When Abraham got up that morning, he looked towards Sodom. He saw the smoke like a great furnace pouring up into the sky. He knew then that there was not even ten good people there. He must have wondered what happened to Lot.

Many cities today are just as wicked as Sodom. Soon God will draw the line again. Jesus told the people in His day that because they would not listen to Him or be-

lieve Him, they were even more wicked than the people of Sodom.

Thought - It is important for us today, to believe God's Word and obey it. = ^ .. ^ =

Weekly Bible Lesson #13: "THE TWO SONS"

MEMORY VERSE: "Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised." Hebrews 11:11

Sunday

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

Think for a moment about Abraham. God had promised him that he would be the father of nations and that the Messiah would come through his line and here he was old, and his wife was old and he had no children at all!

God had even changed his name from 'Abram' to "Abraham" which means 'father of a multitude'. Just imagine someone asks your name, you say 'Abraham' and they say, "Oh, how many children do you have?" and you say "None." That would make you feel strange, wouldn't it?

Abraham believed God, the Bible tells us; but he had no idea how this could happen. So when Sarah one day suggested that he take a second wife and so have a son by her, he began to think about it.

He knew it was not God's plan for men to have more than one wife, but finally he did what Sarah said and married Hagar, Sarah's maid. Sure enough a boy was born and named 'Ishmael' meaning 'God will hear'. But this brought a lot of trouble into Abraham's family. To learn more about that - read the story from the Bible.

Thought - When we try our own ideas to help God out, we get into trouble!

Monday

Text: Genesis 18:10 "And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him."

Remember last week how we learned that Jesus told Abraham, Sarah would have a son, when He visited him about the destruction of Sodom? Well, sure enough, just like Jesus said, she had the son and they called him 'Isaac', which means laughter, because Sarah had laughed when the Lord told her about it.

Now when Isaac was weaned, Abraham had a party for him and Sarah saw Ishmael making fun of Isaac. Now poor Ishmael, he had thought he was to be heir of all Abraham had, and now here was this new son. It was hard for him.

Sarah told Abraham to send Ishmael and Hagar away. Abraham felt bad and prayed about it. God said that he was to send them away. You see, God never gave men permission to have more than one wife, even if it was the custom, it still was not right.

Abraham felt sad, but he obeyed and sent away the boy and his mother. God promised to take care of Ishmael and make him a great nation also, and He did. Ishmael's children are the Arabians. The Jews and the Arabs have fought always and still do! What a lot of trouble could have been saved if Abraham had not had that other son!

Thought - Even if everybody else does

something that is wrong, it does not make it right!

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 22:2 “And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.”

Sarah and Abraham were so happy with their son Isaac. They watched him grow up from a babe to a child, and finally a teenager. They taught him all about God and how he was to be the one through whom the Messiah would be born. Isaac was a good and obedient boy, and made his parents very happy.

Then came the terrible night when God spoke through an angel to Abraham and told him to go and offer Isaac for a burnt offering! Imagine the pain and shock to Abraham! It would have been easier for Abraham to die if God wished, but his son Isaac? The promised miracle baby? How could God ask this of him?

Abraham knew God’s voice, but he couldn’t believe this command. He prayed for God to explain it, but no answer. He went out to where he had met angels and talked with them, but no one came to talk to him. It was dark, everyone was asleep. The stars shown bright over his head and he remembered the promise ‘Your children will be like the stars’. How could this come true if Isaac died?

We are told that Abraham went in and looked at Isaac sleeping in his bed and at Sarah as she slept. At first he was going to wake her and tell her about it. But then he thought, no, she might not be able to bear that thought and he knew he must obey God.

Thought - We need to trust and obey God no matter what happens.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 22:3 “And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.”

Finally, Abraham wakened Isaac, and told him to come with him, and left early in the morning to go to the mountain to make that terrible sacrifice. He did not tell Isaac the whole story yet, and as they traveled and Isaac chatted away to his father, Abraham’s heart became heavier with every step. He would gladly have died in Isaac’s place, but no, God said to offer Isaac.

For three days they traveled; Finally Abraham saw a cloud on top of a distant mountain and he knew this was where God wanted him to make the sacrifice. He told his two servants to wait there, while he and Isaac went to the mountain alone. He put the wood on Isaac’s strong shoulders and took the fire in the burner and headed to the mountain, his heart like a lump of lead in his breast.

Verse 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?”

Thought - Imagine what Abraham felt like when Isaac asked him that question.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 22:8 “And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.”

At last they were on the mountaintop and they built an altar just in the way God had told them to do. Then, finally, Abraham had to tell Isaac the truth. At first he could not believe what his father was saying, he was

to be the offering?

Isaac was young and could have run away from his old father, but he loved God also and felt honored that God had asked for him as a special offering. He knew he was a miracle baby, and he was obedient to God's wishes. Both he and his father knew that God could raise him up from the dead, from the very ashes of the burnt offering.

They hugged and kissed each other and their tears fell fast. Finally Abraham lifted the knife to slay his precious son. Suddenly the voice of the angel was heard; "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

Then they looked, and there was a ram caught in the bushes by his horns. They went and got the ram and offered it, in place of Isaac. God did provide an offering.

Thought - Imagine how happy Abraham and Isaac were as they returned from the mountain together.

Friday

Text: Galatians 3:29 "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Abraham had a few times distrusted God. When he lied about Sarah being his wife, twice, he wasn't really trusting God. When he married Hagar, he wasn't trusting God.

God gave him this great test, probably the hardest test any human was ever given, to show that Abraham would be faithful and therefore worthy to be called the father of all the faithful people who would believe in Jesus. God gave Abraham a special understanding of the great sacrifice God was making in giving His only Son.

Dear children, I want you to think about the great sacrifice God made for you and me in giving Jesus to die for our sins. The angel called to Abraham and gave him a ram to offer instead. But Jesus had to come and God had to see his precious Son, mocked, tortured and dying in agony on the cross. There was no other way for God to be able to save you. No other way! There was no Ram could take the place for Jesus. The Angels, who love Jesus wanted to come and snatch Jesus out of the hands of the cruel men, but God had to say, "No."

The darkness around the cross and the terrible earthquake on that day, told a little bit about the anguish of God the Father as His dear Son suffered for our sins.

Sin is terrible. It is deadly. That is why Jesus offers to take it out of our lives forever. His death pays the cost for your sins to be forgiven, and the power of Jesus' perfect life is given to you, so you can live an obedient life like Jesus; then go home to live forever with the One who loves you so much.

Thought - God loves you dear young people; Jesus would have died for just you, if you were the only sinner. = ^ .. ^ =

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