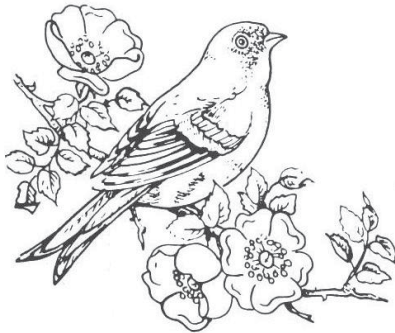


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 2 - 1st Quarter - Issue #2



CREATION CORNER

“As Birds Flying”

Isaiah 31:5 “As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem;”

The bronze cuckoo of New Zealand abandons its young and flies to its off-season feeding grounds, located far away. After the babies hatch, they become strong enough to fly. But they have never seen their parents and have no adult bird to guide them. Added to this is the fact that, when their parents left New Zealand, they flew to a place where no other bird in New Zealand flies to. So, as soon as these babies are strong enough for vigorous flight, what do they do? Why, they fly after their parents—and take exactly the same route. Here is the story:

The young set out each March on a 4,000-mile migration from their parents' breeding grounds in New Zealand. They fly west to the ocean's edge- and keep going. How would you like to do that? The Pacific is an incred-

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ibly big ocean.

With no bird to instruct or guide them, these young birds accurately follow the path of the parent flock over a route of 1,250 miles of open sea. Arriving in northern Australia, they turn north, fly to the ocean's edge-and start off again. Arriving in Papua New Guinea, they head off again. This time they fly the grueling distance to the Bismarck Archipelago.

Just one slight error in direction, and they would die. Why? Because not one of the birds can swim.

The same God, who unerringly guides these little birds, will guide us also. Trust Him! = ^ .. ^ =



HISTORY

JESUITS IN JAPAN

Japan, for centuries always copied whatever China did. So when the true Christian church came into China and was established there; its teachings were brought to Japan also. It is not widely known, but much of the teachings they call Buddhism today, were stolen from the true church. As the early Christians preached of the Saviour and the second coming, people began to leave Buddhism and join the Christians, so the clever leaders began to teach that Buddha was a compassionate saviour and that he would come again. People today say Christianity copied Buddhism; it was the other way around!

The Jesuits arrived in Japan in the mid 1600s and like always, started to use force and cruelty to force the people to 'convert' to Romanism. They made a mistake here though, because the Buddhist priests were just as good at this game as they were.

The Jesuits were there for about 100 years and they would oppress the people and kill and drive away the Buddhist priests.

It was very sad because Japan grew to associate the cruel, wicked Jesuits with Christianity. It is greatly to the credit of the Japanese people that they bore with patience for a long while the Jesuit presence. Finally they believed that the safety of the realm was at stake, and at last they put up the signboards all over Japan, "Christians to the Sea."

Once the Jesuits were driven out or killed, Japan shut her doors to all foreigners for centuries. Christianity had been made to stink to them and they wanted no part of it.

How different history might have been had loving, true Christian Missionaries been able to enter Japan and bring again the True Gospel that centuries before had been known in the Orient! = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

CATS TO THE RESCUE part 2

Here are some more true examples of brave and helpful cats. Cats have even protected people from harm by animal attackers.

Fluffy, a heroic cat from Sarasota, Florida, jumped between his owner and a ready-to-strike four-foot-long rattlesnake. Fluffy quite literally took it on the chin, getting the snake's venom-

ous bite instead of his master. Happily, brave Fluffy made a complete recovery.

And as we've seen, some of the most incredible cat heroes are the wartime wonders. There are entire battalions of them. During World War II, anxious Europeans probed the skies for sights and sounds of a possible air raid. Many soon discovered they could rely on the furry pet curled up at the hearth for up-to-the-minute reports.

Most cats, it has been reported, showed unmistakable signs of agitation long before air-raid sirens sounded. Some even knew whether a particular family was in danger.

One cat would alert his owners to an impending attack by jumping up and scratching their gas masks hanging on the wall. Then, remarkably, he would run to the neighbor's house next door and do the same.

The cat's ability to save lives by predicting raids in wartime England was so prized that many were given the Dickin medal, a special award inscribed "We Also Serve", for animal heroes.

Finally, apart from saving human lives, cats even seem to have an uncanny knack for protecting other animals. They've shown remarkable tenderness to animals they normally shun, like the cat that suckled a dead dog's puppies, or another that nursed three young abandoned squirrels as if they were her own flesh and blood.

A cat named Fingal was a regular four-legged branch of the ASPCA. The pet turtle of Fingal's family had a habit of falling over onto his back and getting stranded there, unable to right himself.

Whenever this happened, Fingal would run excitedly to some member of the family and lead them to the rescue. And if one of the household's pet rabbits took sick, Fingal would be the watchful nurse until the crisis passed.

These stories appeared in Cats magazine:

One night, a farm horse got a leg caught in the jaws of a farm machine and, unable to free itself because its harness was somehow tangled up in the mess, was slowly being strangled.

The family's black cat Freddie, who usually slept in the barn, managed to get into the farmhouse, leaped onto the stomach of its owner, and kept racing back and forth from the bed to the window alerting them in time to save the

filly.

Evangeline Seper had a cat named Totry, a shy tortoiseshell that had been lifelong friends with a stray tom named Pewter. One night, Totry “meowed” Seper awake from the yard outside.

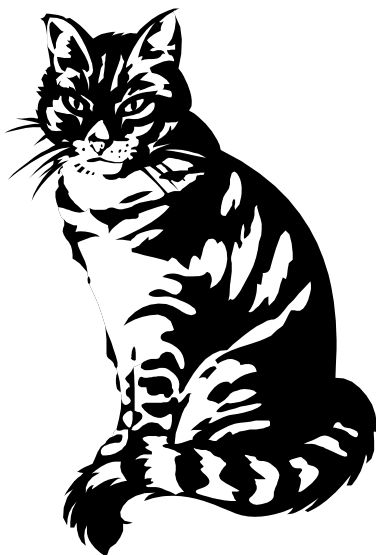
But when the sleep-dazed Seper went to the window, she saw only some nondescript shadows beneath the big tree in the yard. Hearing no further cries, Seper promptly went back to sleep. When she woke the next morning and checked beneath the tree, she found Totry sprawled on top of an extremely ill Pewter.

Failing to awaken Seper during the night, Totry had apparently decided to keep Pewter warm and protected until morning by putting her body over his.

Mitts, a seven-toed tomcat, was normally very aloof. So it didn’t surprise Oori Giehrl one bit that Mitts completely ignored the abandoned newborn kitty Giehrl had found. After several days, it was apparent that even Giehrl’s valiant efforts were not saving the life of the gray kitten, which she’d named Spunky. The kitten was breathing its last.

Suddenly Mitts leaped into Spunky’s tiny box, frightening Giehrl half to death. Naturally, she expected to see Spunky dangling from Mitts’ jaws. Instead, she found Mitts licking the teeny gray stray, just like a mother-cat would. From then on, Mitts became a foster dad, eventually helping Spunky survive.

Of course, when the crisis passed, Mitts totally ignored Spunky once again. Typical.
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STORY LESSON

My Body Temple – Alcohol the Enemy!

If you put a little alcohol into your eye, your eye would become very red. When men take alcoholic drinks into their stomachs, the delicate membrane lining the stomach becomes red in the same way.

How do we know that alcohol has such an effect upon the stomach? Many years ago there lived in Michigan a man named Alexis St. Martin. One day he was, by accident, shot in such a way that a large opening was made right through the skin and flesh and into the stomach. The good doctor who attended him took such excellent care of him that he got well. But when he recovered, the hole in his stomach remained, so that the doctor could look in and see just what was going on. St. Martin sometimes drank whiskey, and when he did, the doctor often looked into his stomach to see what the effect was, and he noticed that the inside of his stomach looked very red and inflamed.

If St. Martin continued to drink whiskey for several days, the lining of the stomach became very red and raw like a sore eye. A sore stomach cannot digest food well, and so the whole body becomes sick and weak.

What would you think of a man who would keep putting pepper or alcohol or some other irritating substance into his eyes every day, keeping them sore until he destroyed his eyesight? It is equally foolish and wrong to injure the stomach and destroy one’s digestion by the use of alcoholic drinks!

Alcohol, even when it is not very strong, not only hurts the lining of the stomach, but injures the gastric juice, so that it cannot digest the food well. The liver, as well as the stomach, is greatly damaged by the use of alcohol. You will recollect that nearly all the food digested and absorbed is filtered through the liver before it goes to the heart to be distributed to the rest of the body.

In trying to save the rest of the body from the bad effects of alcohol, the liver is badly burned by the fiery liquid, and sometimes becomes so shriveled up that it can no longer produce bile and perform its other duties. Even beer, ale, and wine, which do not contain as much alcohol as do rum, gin, and whiskey, have enough poison in them to do the liver a great deal of harm, and to injure many other organs

of the body as well.

But alcohol does more than hurt your body; it also makes a fool and a slave out of those who use it! A man, who holds a very important office in the largest prison in the United States, told some interesting stories.

His special work is to interview prisoners as they come in. He asks them about their homes, their families, their work, their education, and particularly what it was that led them to commit the crime that brought them into prison.

Do you know what most of these poor prisoners tell him? Can you guess?

You should know. Everybody should know. They say, "It was drink, sir."

You know what that means? It means that before they broke the law they had been taking alcoholic drinks such as beer, wine, or whisky. These things are known as "drink".

Here comes a boy of fifteen—there are scores of them here as young as this. He has stolen somebody's car, and has been arrested and sent to prison.

"Well, son," says this kind friend of the prisoners, "why are you here?"

"We started drinking, sir, and—" The same old story.

Here comes a lad of eighteen. He has murdered an old woman, mistakenly expecting to find money in her house. "Why did you do it?"

"Drink, sir. Had a drop too much, I suppose, and didn't realize what I was doing."

Oh, the sad tragedy of it all! In his particular prison there were more than two thousand five hundred young men—their average age only twenty-four—who blame drink for their fall. Sometimes the prisoners are released on their promise to be good and lead a better life. All too many come back, and have to face their kindly interviewer again.

"Why are you here again," he asks, "after having been given your liberty?"

"Oh, sir," is the reply, "I went into a saloon. I couldn't help it. And then—"

Another slave! Just one of thousands upon thousands, in bondage to drink. None of us can take a wiser step than to promise before God, that with His help, we will never, never, NEVER taste a drop of the evil stuff. It is the only way to keep ourselves free from its clutches. Let's make the promise now-and keep it! = ^ .. ^ =

MISSION STORY

SUDDEN PERIL AT THE JOURNEY'S END

The ox pulled transport wagons of the South African veldt country were heavy and very large. It took many oxen to pull them. Pioneer missionary of Africa, G. S. Thomas, told this amazing story of how God saved his family.

"Toward the close of the journey we experienced a most merciful interposition of divine Providence. We had arrived within about six miles of the station, and were come to the bottom of a steep hill; so steep that one team of oxen was unable to pull the wagon to the top. We therefore took the team out of the other wagon, in which were my dear wife and child, and having fastened these in front of the other team, the word was given, 'Trek! trek!' and the wagon soon began to ascend the hill; when suddenly, just as we gained the summit, the trek-tow, or that by which the oxen were attached to the wagon, broke, and in an instant it began to descend the hill with fearful velocity toward the other wagon. All were panic-stricken, but nothing could be done to save either the wagon or my wife and child. She saw the danger with horror, but there was no time to escape; she had merely time to clasp the babe to her bosom and cry, Lord, save us!"

And He did save; for just as it got within a yard of the two oxen still attached to the pole, without any apparent cause, it turned suddenly round along the side of the hill and stopped of itself, without sustaining the least injury or injuring anything else. Had it turned to the other side, it would have fallen over a precipice two or three hundred feet deep. To our God alone we ascribe the praise." = ^ .. ^ =





Year 2: 1st Quarter:

“THE WONDERS OF REVELATION”

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 2: “THE SEVEN CHURCHES”

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.

MEMORY VERSE: “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

Revelation 3:20

Note: We could spend a lesson on each church, but we will just see a few points. You can learn much more about these messages as you read the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy books. We are also going to have a Sabbath section for some of these lessons, as they are large.

Read Revelation 2:1-7

Sabbath

Text: Revelation 1:20 “The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.”

2:1 “Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.”

In the first chapter Jesus starts talking about the 7 churches and tells John to send the messages to them. Now there were more than 7

churches in John's day, so we know that the number and the names of these churches has a prophecy meaning. Seven in Bible numbers means complete or perfect. The seven churches means all God's people both back then and also down through the ages to the end of time.

It is important to understand that some of the Greek words, that John originally used to tell us about what Jesus showed him, are a bit different than we see them in English. The word used for 'churches' meant congregations, or groups of believers. And the word 'angels' means 'messengers'.

In each time in history, God's true people had a special 'message' and Jesus showed us that all who carry that message for their times are carefully held in His hand. He watches them with love. He 'walks among the seven candlesticks'; this means He is always with His true people, guiding and teaching them.

These 'churches' stand for different periods in history, but the lessons in the messages to them, are also for all of God's children in all times.

Ephesus is the first, and it was the church of John's time. Its time was from Jesus' resurrection to around the death of the last of the apostles. This early church was pure and eager to spread the truth about Jesus to the entire world. They watched carefully, so that those who were false and meant to sneak in and do the church harm were sent away and the true believers were carefully taught.

But already there was a problem in this church; Jesus said 'they had left their first love'. By John's day there had come into the church those who wanted to rule and tell all others what to do. They were already looking to men, and not as much to Jesus, as they had been at first. Jesus warns them to go back to their first love or he would 'remove their candlestick'; they would cease to be His people.

Thought - Always remember that the lessons and promises in each of these 'churches' are meant for all God's children.

Sunday

Read Revelation 2:8-11.

Text: Revelation 2:8,9 “And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.”

Smyrna means a sweet smell, like a perfume. This was the time when God’s people went through a terrible persecution by the emperor Diocletian. They would “have tribulation ten days.” This refers to the ten years of persecution from A. D. 303-313, where thousands were slain. Their faithfulness as they stood for His truth, was like a sweet perfume to God.

Though some of the people in the first ‘church’ had not gone back to their ‘first love’, many had, and now in this church they stood bravely for the truth. This is one church that Jesus has nothing bad to say about them.

Persecution has a way of making the church very pure, because selfish people are afraid to join it, and those who do join are ready to die for it. There were many martyrs during those ten years and if we are faithful, we will meet them when Jesus comes and raises them to take them home with all of His people.

There were some in the beginning of the time of this church, who were pretending to be Christians, but were not, and were just there to harm the church. Because this is a prophecy, ‘Jews’, here mean Christian believers, because after the death of Jesus, the real Jews were no longer God’s special people. The persecution no doubt got rid of the false ones.

The promise to this ‘church’ was that if faithful, they would not be ‘hurt by the second death’. This means they would be raised to have Eternal Life.

Thought - How kind Jesus was to point out to these dear people going through this terrible time, that He had also been dead and rose again, so they, if faithful, would also.

Monday

Read Revelation 2:12-17.

Text: Revelation 2:12,13 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan’s seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who

was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.”

Pergamos means ‘lifted up’. This was when Constantine pretended to be a Christian, and it began to be popular to be a Christian. This church covers the period of 323- 538. During this time we see the rise of the Papacy, the idea that the Bishop of Rome should rule the entire world as a ‘god on earth’. This letter is addressed to those who were clinging to the truth and not going along with the wrong that was coming in to the ‘Christian church’.

In all these letters we notice that Jesus does not see as people see. He does not recognize the ones who have rejected His truth and are bringing in their own ideas as His ‘church’. One of the things Jesus was telling these people that they were doing wrong, was they were allowing the people who had the wrong ideas to stay and teach among them.

We see here the worship of idols coming in, and the ‘faithful martyr ‘Antipas’ dying for his faith. Who was this? It wasn’t just one person, but meant those who refused to go along with the idea of the Bishop of Rome being the ‘papa’ or pope over the church. Many were killed or had to flee for their lives.

The doctrine of the ‘Nicolaitans’, was the idea that the death of Jesus on the cross meant God’s law no longer had to be kept. And Balaam was the one who led Israel into joining with pagan idol worshippers to celebrate their holidays.

Jesus promises those who remained faithful that they would eat of the ‘hidden manna’ and have a white stone with a new name.

Thought - I sort of think that the stone with the new name meant they would be members of the heavenly church, even though they were being thrown out of the wicked church that was claiming to be God’s church, and having to flee for their lives into the wilderness.

Tuesday

Read Revelation 2:18-28.

Text: Revelation 2:18-20 “And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that

woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols."

Now in Thyatira, which means 'sacrifice and humility', we see God is no longer talking to that great 'church' that had set itself up as the 'ruler of the world' but rather to His true 'church' hiding in the wilderness. This is the church of the 1260 years of papal persecution, from 538-1798.

Jesus is pleased with their works as they humbly do their best to serve Him and still share His truths with the world, though often it cost their lives. These 'works' were so wonderful that Jesus mentions them twice.

But there is a problem; they were allowing 'Jezebel' to come among them. Who was this? Well, in the Bible Jezebel was the wicked wife of Ahab that led Israel into idol worship. So here it is meant that they were compromising by allowing teachers from Rome to come in among them.

This message talks about 'adultery'; in the Bible God says when His people join with earthly rulers and also with pagan idol worshippers, that they commit adultery, just like a wife who runs away with another man, not her husband. Jesus calls His true church His 'Bride'.

As long as these churches of the wilderness remained pure and stayed completely true to the Bible Truth, they had great protection from God. Sometimes even armies sent out to destroy them were smitten with terror and fled away without ever coming near to the people of God. Other times God sent fog or storms to help his people and hide them from their enemies.

But when they made deals with the Romans, and began to give in, on even 'small' points of truth, God could not protect them so well, and terrible slaughters occurred.

Thought - When Satan can't get us to go all wrong, he tries to get us to decide it is OK to just give in a little bit, to make others happy. But once we do this, Jesus cannot keep us safe and soon Satan gets us all the way. Never give in to wrong, even a 'little bit'!

Wednesday

Read Revelation 3:1-6.

Text: Revelation 3:1,2 "And unto the angel of the

church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God."

Sardis means 'what remains', and we see Jesus saying that there were still some good things remaining in this church, but they needed to be strengthened. This is the time of the Protestant churches that grew out of the reformation.

Although they started out as 'Thyatira', humble and faithful, they soon stopped seeking for truth, became proud, and stopped learning new truth from the Bible. Instead they made 'creeds' and decided they would not believe anything that their fathers had not believed, so Jesus could not teach them anymore. He told them that even though they thought they were so good, they were really spiritually dead.

He says here, that there were a few faithful ones among them, and if they were overcomers, they would remain in His Book of Life. He warned the others that if they did not 'watch', He would come as a thief and they would not know it. This is exactly what happened as when the 'Great Advent Awakening' began to happen in the 1830s, most of the churches of the world rejected it.

Thought - There are many still today, who think they are 'alive' and just fine spiritually, but they are really dead to Jesus and His claims on their lives.

Thursday

Read Revelation 3:7-13.

Text: Revelation 3:8,9 "I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee."

Philadelphia means 'Brotherly Love' and this is one of the 'churches' that Jesus has nothing bad to say about. This is another place where we see that Heaven does not look at things the

way we do. No history book made by man would have declared that the Advent Movement and the Millerites of the 1830s -1844 were the 'True Church' for that time; but this is exactly what we see in this message.

Here again we see false Christians, 'that say they are Jews and are not'. These were the ones in the popular churches who rejected the message from heaven about the end of the great prophecy of the 2300 days in 1844.

As they rejected this, they threw the true believers out of the churches and forbade them to preach about the coming of Jesus. Then when this did not stop the Advent Movement, they made fun of them and told ugly jokes. At this period for the first time in Protestant churches, they began to have church banquets, parties and fairs, and all kinds of entertainment in the churches.

In the Sardis church Jesus warned that most of the church was dead or ready to die spiritually. Now most of the church became fallen, the 'synagogue of Satan'. As they rejected the message of Jesus' soon coming, they showed they did not truly love Jesus, and Satan came in with his ways and they welcomed him.

The true believers went through hard times, as they were scorned and cast out of their churches, and even sometimes their families, for believing in Jesus soon coming. But Jesus says, don't worry, I have given you an open door and nobody can shut it. This was the door to the Most Holy place in the heavenly sanctuary.

The Advent believers were disappointed terribly when Jesus did not come to earth on Oct. 22 1844, BUT they were thrilled later to learn about the door opened in heaven, and how they could by faith see Jesus, as he did the work of deciding who's names would be left in the book of life and go to heaven with Him when He returns.

Thought – Soon the people who are alive on earth will be judged; this will happen as they decide whether they will obey God's Word and the commandments, or obey what men tell them to do, and disobey God.

Friday

Read Revelation 3:14-22.

Text: Revelation 3:17, 18 "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art

wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

There are two churches that Jesus said nothing bad about, but here is the saddest church of all, for Jesus has nothing good to say about them. This is our time and it is important that we understand this message. Laodecia means 'Judged' for we live in the time when the judgment is taking place in heaven to see who will go home with Jesus and who will not.

The sad thing about these people is that they think they are perfect, when they are not right at all! What can we do? We must believe what Jesus tells us, that we are a mess— poor, blind, miserable and naked.

Then we must repent and be sorry for our sins and pray, asking Jesus for 'white raiment'; His perfect character, 'Gold'; which means the Faith and Love of Jesus, the kind Jesus had when here on earth. The 'eyesalve' for our spiritual eyes, means we need to have the Holy Spirit to teach us and guide us as we study the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy writings. Then, in the strength of Jesus, we will obey what we find there.

Jesus is outside the hearts of the people in this 'church', He warns them He may have to reject them, but He is trying so very hard to get them to open up their hearts and let Him in, so He can save them.

The people of this church will end up in two groups; the largest group will keep thinking they are just fine and nothing is wrong with their churches. They will obey men's rules and be lost. The other group will believe Jesus' Words, they will repent and ask Jesus to come in and take charge of their lives. Jesus and the Holy Spirit will work in them and with them, and they will be ready to meet Jesus!

Thought – We don't want to be lost and think we are just fine! We need Jesus in our hearts!
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