



THE ARK OF THE COVENANT
שֶׁבֶט אֲרֹן הַבְּרִית
100
אמממממממ
1990 113 202

וַיַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ אֶלְיָשָׁב
וְיֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
And they shall make
an ark of acacia wood



THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD
שֶׁבֶט אֲרֹן הַבְּרִית
150
אממממממ
1990 113 202

וַיַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ אֶלְיָשָׁב
וְיֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
And thou shalt make
a table of acacia wood



THE GOLDEN CANDLES
שֶׁבֶט אֲרֹן הַבְּרִית
200
אממממממ
1990 113 202

וַיַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ אֶלְיָשָׁב
וְיֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
And thou shalt make
a candlestick of pure gold



THE ALTAR OF INCENSE
שֶׁבֶט אֲרֹן הַבְּרִית
300
אממממממ
1990 113 202

וַיַּעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ אֶלְיָשָׁב
וְיֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
וְאֵלֶיךָ יֵהוּדָה
And thou shalt make
an altar to burn incense

THE HOLY VESSELS OF THE SANCTUARY.

"And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount".

GOOD COMPANY

THE CHRISTADELPHIAN FAMILY MAGAZINE

Supplement to Logos

Issue No. 102 August 1990



Dear Boys and Girls,

How time flies! The last day for sending to the printer has come round again, and I must send off this letter at once, or....

When we are young we do not realize how quickly time slips away, except on special occasions, like a holiday at the seaside, or a Sunday School Treat, when the time to go home arrives all too soon.

As we grow older we will find the years will pass by like a flash. The Bible refers to the rapid passing of our lives and bases upon it an important lesson;

"We spend our years as a tale that is told. The days of our years are three score and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four score years, yet is their strength, labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off and we fly away. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" Psalm 90:9-12.

Christendom teaches that man is immortal, but that is an untruth. God desires us to remember that we do not live for ever. Many are the illustrations employed in the Bible to show the fleeting character of human life. Have you ever breathed on a glass window and noticed how quickly the steamy effect disappears? "For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" James 4:14.

When you have enjoyed an outing in the country, have you ever picked the red poppies and other wild flowers of the field? If so, you must have noticed how quickly they fade and wither, even before you reach home again. "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away" 1 Pet. 1:24.

Yes; God would have us number our days and apply our hearts unto wisdom. "Remember NOW thy Creator in the days of thy youth". That means that we must daily strive to learn God's Will as revealed in the Bible so that we may obey His commandments. God has promised a great reward for those who are faithful — a life that will know no ending. We are children for a few years; a few more years and we reach the prime of life, then a few more years and we grow old and feeble and die. But those who will be made partakers of eternal life will be for ever in the prime of life; not life such as we now possess accompanied with aches and pains, sorrows and disappointments, but life that will be free from all evil problems — glorious eternal life.

"And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:10.

May we boys and girls, be found worthy in the day of Christ's return to receive this precious gift of God.

Your Friend

Good Company

"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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THE LUNG FISH

The more we contemplate and examine the wonders of the animal world, the more we grow to appreciate the greatness and grandeur of the All-wise Creator, who knew everything and thought of everything when His agents the Elohim went forth on the fifth day to create all the fish of the seas and rivers. Thousands of different kinds were created, so that whatever conditions would come upon them they would still exist. Of course we know that man has interfered, and has caused and is still causing the destruction of many of these wonderful creatures. God is not responsible for that and neither is He pleased, and in the not too distant future He will send His son back to this earth who will "destroy those who destroy the earth".

One of the amazing creatures that was created on that day 6000 years ago is the Lung fish. It is this fish that Evolutionists look at dumb-founded and stunned, unable to answer satisfactory why such a fish exists. Can you imagine a fish with lungs, which would actually drown if it stays under the water! The Lung fish has no gills, and therefore must breathe in air through its mouth above the surface of the water. But it is essential that this fish has lungs as you will soon see.

There are three countries where these strange fish are found, South America, Africa and Australia. They live in lakes and swamps, but when climatic conditions of their environment deteriorate to such an extent that other species of fish die, these remarkable creatures find a way of surviving long periods of severe drought. As soon as the rivers begin to run dry and the water level becomes dangerously low, the Lung fish bury themselves into the mud, nose first. By more or less folding their bodies in half, end upwards so that its nose is just below the muds surface. As the mud dries out, these metre long fish secrete a mucus which on hardening is transformed into a kind of protective waterproof cocoon. Breathing is made possible by a "chimney" built in the top part of the refuge; when the water evaporates it fills with porous slime, allowing air to filter through.

Wrapped safely inside this cocoon and thus spared the usual rigors of drought, the fish is nevertheless confronted by a different problem! During the entire time that it remains a subterranean prisoner it lives off of its own fat, needing only to breathe every few hours, and its heart slows down to three beats a minute. If conditions are very severe this may be the home of the Lung fish for up to seven years. The first drops of rain herald the end of its long imprisonment. The dry, cracked soil absorbs the water, softening the cocoon, and with the air being cut off it awakens the Lung fish who breaks the protective covering and noses its way to the surface, much thinner



and smaller than when it first burrowed into the slime seven years earlier, but still alive!

Yet this is not the only amazing fact of this wonder of creation. Not only does the Lung fish require air to survive, but God has created this fish with pectoral fins, which enable them to raise up the front part of their body and adopt a crouching posture rather like that of lizards. Thus furnished with a breathing mechanism that allows them to utilize the oxygen in the atmosphere and also a means of locomotion permitting them to haul themselves over dry land. These strange fish can move about by night through the thick waterside vegetation and if necessary travel from pool to pool.

There is a wonderful lesson that this fish teaches those who have an understanding of God's plan and who look forward to that time when the Lord Jesus Christ returns back to this earth. That is the hope of the resurrection. Those faithful men and women who sleep in the dust of the ground are waiting for the time when the Lord will be in the earth, when "he shall come down like rain upon the mown grass; as showers that water the earth". It is to that time that we all long. Then the words will be fulfilled "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour My spirit upon thy seed, and My blessing upon thine offspring".

A Boring Job

Some people may find that their jobs are rather boring, but this is not the case for the woodpeckers! There are many varieties of woodpeckers throughout the world, nearly 210 species, but possibly the most interesting one lives in America. Many of our readers may have had the privilege of seeing a real woodpecker hard at work and heard the familiar sound of a rat-a-tat-tat, as the woodpecker bangs its sharp, stout beak against the wood.

The size of the woodpecker ranges from just a few centimeters to 15 centimeters long from the tail to the beak. The smallest of them feed on caterpillars, whilst others feed on ants and grubs which it extracts from inside trees with its extraordinary long tongue. These birds have straight, hard beaks with extra hardened points on them. The construction of their head is different to all other birds, as they have a specially constructed skull; so much so that they can move their head more than a hundred times a minute and remove up to 30 metres of bark in just 15 minutes. It is energized by powerful muscles, and built in shock absorbers between the bones. In fact the whole body of the woodpecker has been designed for the purpose of drilling wood. The claws and tail feathers form a tripod to steady the bird as it picks and drills holes into the tree.

The woodpecker, by their acute sense of hearing knows exactly where to drill in the tree for insects. They tap, then pause, listening for the sounds of the insects in the tree. The tongue of the woodpecker is perhaps the most remarkable instrument of the bird. In most cases it is barbed, and measures about four times the length of its beak! When the woodpecker has drilled a hole it pokes its sticky tongue in and out like a snake, until the ants, believing it to be a worm invader, swarm all over it. The woodpecker then whips the unsuspecting ants into its mouth.

One gentleman who studied the behavior of the woodpecker noted one of these birds landing on his favorite oak tree. Seeing the blurred head of the woodpecker furiously hacking clouds of splinters and sawdust out of his favorite tree, the man shouted at the bird, scaring it away. He then decided to wrap heavy wire mesh around the tree in an attempt to discourage further attempts by the woodpecker



of drilling into his favorite tree. But the woodpecker was soon back, and this time the man found the wire mesh in shreds, and the bird busy drilling deeper into his tree. Finally after finding the going a bit tougher through the wire, and after repeatedly being scared away the woodpecker was heard by the owner of the tree drilling away on other trees in the forest.

Several years later there was a severe storm which snapped his beautiful oak tree right where the woodpecker had been drilling. Deep within the trunk the man discovered a big colony of carpenter ants, and a labyrinth of galleries they had gnawed inside. It was then when the man realized, that, had he allowed the woodpecker to clean out the ant nest, he would still have his beautiful oak tree, only made more rustic by the familiar drilling marks of the woodpecker.

These two wonderful creatures, the lung fish and the woodpecker, which God has created are oddities, there are no others like them. Instinctively they know exactly what to do.

We have been taught by God's Word, we know what to do, but the question is, do we do it? God's promises are sure, His purpose is certain, let us never doubt, but look with trust and faith to the day when the Lord Jesus Christ will return and when the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

G. Hollamby.



THE DISCIPLES

men whom the Lord chose

THADDEUS

It is recorded that before the day the Lord selected his closest associates, his disciples, he went up into a mountain and continued the whole night in prayer to his Father. All the great events in the Lord's life find him or leave him in prayer to his Father. What a wonderful lesson and example we have to follow, one who in every situation of life "committed his way unto the Lord, and He shall direct thy steps".

The sun having risen, Jesus returns from the night-long communion with the Father on the solitary mountain side, and comes to where the disciples were assembled, possibly in their hundreds. He then informs them that he is about to "ordain twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach and to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out demons." One by one their names were called, and they would step forward and stand before Jesus.

"Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him".

Each time the twelve disciples are recorded by name, they are mentioned in pairs, for that is how they were sent out by the Lord to preach the Kingdom of God. This was done by the Lord for a purpose, firstly for witness (2 Cor.13:1), and also for fellowship. Thus they would help each other and learn to co-operate together. When two walk together agreed, it is a great aid to a more effective service. The wise man taught, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up".

It is incredible how that the Lord paired up his disciples that each would help the other. Peter the hot headed disciple was coupled with his brother Andrew, who was much more deliberate and thoughtful. Thomas the doubter went with Matthew, a man who saw in all the actions of the Lord a fulfillment of prophecy (as his gospel shows). Philip who was rather shy and retiring was joined with Bartholomew, also known as Nathanael, who had an earnest conviction and didn't hesitate to apply it. Simon the Canaanite (a former member of the Zealots, a national party of violent, determinate and hot-headed people) whose upbringing made him reckless of consequences, was linked with Judas, whose training as a man of the city made him careful of material matters.

The disciple we are to closely consider this month is Thaddeus. Very little is recorded of this man, being only mentioned once in each of the gospel records, and once in Acts. Four of these five occurrences are in the listings of the 12 Apostles, and the only other reference is in John 14:22, where Thaddeus asks the Lord a thoughtful question on the night before his crucifixion, "Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not to the world?".

He is mentioned by the name of Thaddeus in Matt. 10:3 and Mark 3:18, but in Luke 6:16 and John 14:22 he is called Judas. Amongst the 12 disciples of the Lord there were 2 Judas's. They both had the same privileges and blessings that such a close association with the Lord would have brought. One is mentioned frequently, the other we have only a fleeting reference here and there. One was known by the name Judas Iscariot, which means "Praise the man of the city", whilst the other was called Judas Thaddeus, which means "Praise the man of the heart". This is what motivated Thaddeus and drove him on, when later in life situations would have risen which would have provided him the opportunity to praise the man of the heart, the Lord Jesus Christ. Judas Iscariot however

Continued on page 11

Competitions

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand

ENTRIES RECEIVED FROM OVERSEAS READERS

CANADA: Ewen Road: Kevin & Daniel Leadbeater, Jonathan Robinson, Darren & Rebecca Penler. **St. Johns:** Joel Robinson. **Maple Ridge:** Katie & Debbie Making. **Okanagan:** Naomi Ferrie. **ENGLAND:** Camborne: Luke, Matthew & Peter Orton, Daniel Fitch. **Colchester:** Susanna Ebbs. **Glasgow Central:** Carolyn Smith, Nathan Bailey. **Ormskirk:** Alexia & Adam Milton. **Redruth:** Benjamin, Deborah & Lydia Reynolds. **Sowerby Bridge:** Daniel Aaron. **NEW ZEALAND:** Wellington: Naomi Fleming. **SOUTH AFRICA:** Nina & Wladek Czerepowicz. **USA:** Lancaster: David, Jacob, Rachel & Rebekah Mason. **Reseda:** Shannan & Gideon Gibson, Jillian Burns, Amalia Pavone. **USA RHODE ISLAND:** Westerley: Bethany Locke. **EUROPE:** Luxembourg: Katie Mason.

ENTRIES RECEIVED FOR COMPETITION 101

N.S.W. Ballina: Debbie, Ben, Philip & Peter Window, Matthew, Abigail, Anthony & Joel Hartley. **Boolaroo:** John Little, Lynette, Lauren & Jared Wiltshire, Michelle Jamieson, Stephen & David Glachan. **Cabramatta:** Janet, Esther, Sharon & Rosanne Whitehead, Evelyn & Irene Baird. **Campsie:** Nicole, Abigail, Luke, Angela & Belinda Mansfield, Shannon, Karlle & Jared Pogson, Shem, Nathanael & Jemima Jamieson. **Gosford:** Tim, Rachel & David Axentieff, Teal Goodworth, Benjamin & Melissa Feine. **Granville:** Fiona & Joanne Russell, Joshua, Rochelle & Andrew Hadley. **Lismore:** Hayley, Sean & Rachel Benson, Sarah, Anna, Joshua, Dale & Luke Smith, Shane, Leah & Rebekah Steele, Scott, Simon, Shelley & Anna Jones, Nicole James, Joeline Mulcany, Alicia Hart. **Mittagong:** Benjamin Carroll, Ronald & David Nancarrow, Melissa & Joanna King, Andrew Urwin, Kylie, Jonathan & Andrew McKinlay, Martin Russell. **Punchbowl:** Leah & Amy McClure, Elisabeth Hammond, Ben Joseph, Steven & Nicholas Wolstencroft, Anthony Shead, Nathan & Sharon Coad, Scott Maunder, Jeremy Stone, Mark Olsen, Alison & Jacqui Verdich, Nathan Strelton, Peter Ceiley. **Riverwood:** John & James Dennes, Stuart Bowen, Tegan & James Woodberry, Andrew, Peter & Philip Rosser, Ben, Kathryn, Julia & Nathan Gilmore, Lorna, Erik, Ingrid Kruger, Adam & Gavin McGuigan, Miriam Hindmarsh. **Yagoona:** Peter & Matthew Walters, Tiffany & Hope Steele, Douglas & Melinda & Terry McKinlay, David & Benjamin Wolstencroft, Rachel McAllister. **Shaftsbury Road:** Belinda Errington. **QUEENSLAND:** **Coorparoo:** Jeremy, Aaron, Kerren & Jessica Venn, Emily Symes, Katherine & Elizabeth Ward, Robyn, Patrick & Diana Dangelmayr. **Eungella:** Julie & Vicki Cameron. **Redcliffe:** Suzanne & Carmel Riley, Myles Evans. **Rockhampton North:** Tim Black. **Townsville:** Benjamin Callabiano. **Wilston:** Aleisha, Amanda & Nicole Clark, Michael, Linda, Leah & Joanna Kilgus, Caleb Witton, Melinda, Katie & Matthew Papowski, Rebecca & Sarah White, Peter, John & Abigail Sweatman, Nathan, Narelle & Jeffrey Venn, Eleanor, Adam & Amelia Clarke, Fiona Jose, Jennifer, Louise & Benjamin Hagen, Sandy, Sarah Jane, Bradley & Tammy Dawson, Jeremy & Susanna Malcolmson. **S.A. Aberfoyle Park:** Jennifer, Kathryn & Philip Galbraith, Lisa Watson. **Brighton:** Lisa Bailey, Michael & Stephen Atkins, Vanessa, Michael & Daniel O'Callaghan, Kylie, Simon & Michael Neil. **Cumberland:** Carolyn Wigzell, Tirzah & Hannah Islip, Samuel & Amy Johns, Jordana Boyle. **Enfield:** Michael Pickard, Caleb Piekart, Luke Hyndman, Tamara Pitt, Jamie & Natasha Scott, Danielle Smith,

Sharon, Deborah, Joanne & Ben Cowie, Elisa, Aaron & Joshua Smith. **Glenlock:** Jeremy & Amanda Lunn. **Kingston:** Susanna & Roger Elfenbein. **Salisbury:** Benjamin Tonna, Tamar, Alana & Samuel Mutch, Daniel Falzon, Bobbie Keane, Jarrod Edgecombe, Jared & Glen Wright, Josh Ruben, Joshua Bavin, Jonathan Williams, Sarah Hauser, Jeremy Butler, Adam Kohler, Jesse Bennet. **Tea Tree Gully:** Thomas & Samuel Burney, Rachel & Peter Bain, Philip Wigzell, Alicia Farrow, Debbie Robson, Felicity Main. **Woodville:** Reuben, Toby, Rikki, Andrew, Jemima & Justin Cridland, Joshua & Shane DeVries, Brenton & Daniel Mitsos, Naomi Hornhardt, Katherine, Christie & Paul Stubbins, Rebecca Waller, Jared, Caleb, Alicia & Andrew Mansfield, Theodore Athanasidis, Sarah & David Rogers, Tamara Shrive, David Peronace, Sarah Spruyt. **TAS.** **Hobart:** Nigel Binnus. **Launceston:** Anna & Kiril Bracey, Joanna, Philip, Timothy & Susanna Herron, Sara, Adam & Jemima Crewes, Brendan & Luke Niejaik, Paul Dangerfield, Matthew & Darrell Petet, Kemuel Kitto, Josie & Jeffrey Dow, Melanie Johnson, Christina Kingston. **VIC.** **Blackburn:** Jessica Glover. **Mt. Waverley:** Amelia Mackay, Kerry & Joanne Ward, Khia McLean. **Warragul:** Nathan, David, Rachel & Gemma McKinlay. **W.A. Albany:** Asher, Jesse & Micah Fryer. **Gosnells:** Carolyn, Simon, Miraim, Benjamin, Daniel & Bronwyn Deadman, Leah, David & Nathan Oliver, Naamah & Janelle Staggs, Karen & Shimon Spina, Simon & Shelley Moore, Kathryn Bain, Reuben & Arielle Carder, David Berry, Daryl & Adrian Maddin, Aleza, Jordan, Matthew & Nathanael Hunter. **Manjimup:** Jasmine Brown. **Perth:** Amanda Van Der Meulen, Marissa Danby, Calista Helms, Nathanael & Jonathan & Michelle Gould, Sheryl Jose, James, Ben & Sharon Hurn, Heidi & Crystal Hawkins, Natasha Kersting, Braide Van der Moe, Steven & Luke Bundesen, Wayne, Jeremy & Gregory Williams, Daryl & Craig Farren, Leonie Rowe, Jessica Bain. **Stirling:** Jannah, Nathan & Jared Schipper, Daniel, Simon & Sarah Johnson, Justin Slater, Tamara & Jeremy Quartermaine, Fiona Harrison, Nathanael Harrison, Mason & Daniel Linden.

CORRESPONDENCE: **N.S.W.** Amanda Spencer. **Gillingarra:** Bronwynne & Samuel York. **Great Western:** Jonathan & Cherrilyn Thomas. **Wongan Hills:** Nathan Evans.

100 MARKS

Evelyn Baird (Cabramatta), Nathan Gilmore, Kathryn Gilmore (Riverwood), Sharon Coad, Jeremy Stone, Leah McClure (Punchbowl), Fiona Russell (Granville), Luke Orm (Lismore), Melissa Whiteside (Gosnells), Verity Lewis, Amanda Clark, Nicole Clark, Aleisha Clark, Kellie Lewis, Michael Kilgus (Wilston), Sharon Case, Rodney Case, Kiril Bracey (Launceston), Stewart Hill, Jeremy Hill, Sonya Hill, Samuel Burney (Tea Tree Gully), Brendan Gore (Enfield), Tamar Edgecombe (Salisbury), Stephen Jeffress, Joshua Smith, Aaron Smith, Timothy Cresswell (Enfield), Shem McAllister, Hayley Wilson, Julie Rose Wilson (Woodville), Daniel Leadbeater (Canada, Ewen Road), Gideon Gibson, Shannan Gibson (U.S.A. Reseda), Rebekah Mason, Jacob Mason, David Mason, Rachel Mason (Lancaster).

200 MARKS

Jennifer Hagen (Wilston).

400 MARKS

Jasmine Brown (Manjimup).

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than Sept. 1st for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company

Competitions 8 and under

JUNIOR STORY

Daddy and Mummy, Jenny and Paul, and baby Samuel were having a camping holiday for a few days. Daddy had found a lovely place for them to camp, near a small stream. Paul and Jenny loved to go camping, it was so different from being at home.

Each day the children helped to fetch the water from the stream in plastic bottles and buckets. It seemed everyone was always thirsty and there was washing water needed too! Once the sun had set each evening, Daddy would light the gas light and place it near their tent so they could all see whilst it was dark.

"When Jesus was a boy, the water for washing did not come from a tap like we have at home", said Daddy, "but the water had to be carried to the home in a tall jar which was made of clay." "These jars or waterpots were carried by the women and girls on their heads," said Mummy, "they would have been much heavier than the plastic things we use."

"A man called a potter would make the pots on a potters wheel," said Daddy. "To make the many different pots or jars, the man called the potter would sit on the ground, and put wet clay on a wheel which he turned with his foot, and using his fingers and hands he would carefully mould the clay into pots and jars to store things in." "The potter or his son would then take the pots, on the back of a donkey to the market place, to sell. Other people would buy the pots and jars to use in their homes," said Daddy.

The potter must have been very busy," said Paul. "Yes, i'm sure he was," said Daddy. "What we should try to remember is, that God is working with us to mould us into the kind of people that will be useful to Him in His Kingdom, just as the potter tried to mould the pots into the right shape for people to use. We could make a little pot like the shape the potter made too," said Mummy, "but as we do not have a potter's wheel or any clay, we could make it from bread dough or plasticine."

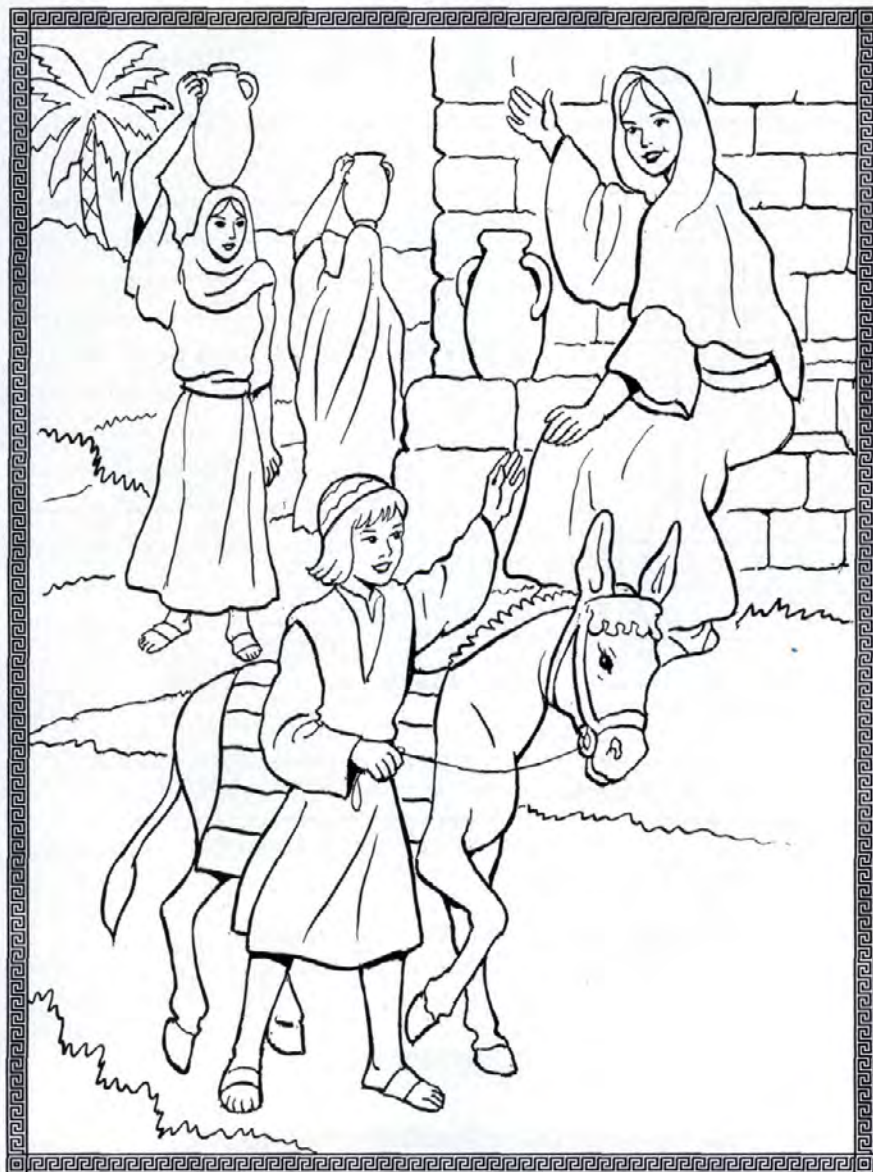
Mummy showed the children how to make a little pot. It wasn't easy to make the pot the right shape. "I hope I will be the right shape to be in God's Kingdom," said Paul. "I hope I am too," said Jenny.



JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name.....Age.....

Sunday School.....



Senior Competition 9 and over

Name.....Age.....

Sunday School.....

1 WHICH BOOK 10 Marks

This competition was sent by Daniel Yearsley from New Lynn Sunday School in New Zealand.

X	G	M	A	H	L	O	N	J	K
Q	M	H	F	S	V	W	A	X	D
Y	E	N	T	A	B	A	O	M	E
Y	H	A	O	U	M	X	M	W	B
V	E	A	S	I	R	I	I	Q	O
K	L	N	J	G	L	S	N	V	R
W	H	A	X	Y	Q	I	J	E	P
G	T	C	V	J	K	Y	H	V	A
Q	E	L	I	M	E	L	E	C	H
S	B	O	A	Z	G	D	I	E	D

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....
- 8.....
- 9.....
- 10.....
- 11.....
- 12.....
- 13.....

1. In the word square colour the letters

G J K Q S V X Y in green.

2. Now find the thirteen words which all belong to as well known Bible story.

Write the words in the spaces provided (in any order)

2

In each line are the names of two creatures in the Bible. In each case the letters remain in the correct order. Unscramble the names for 5 marks.

1. BWEOLAFR = **BEAR** and **WOLF**
2. LDIOOVNE =
3. CLAOMBLT =
4. CFROALGF =
5. GFOIASTH =
6. MDEUELRE =

3

1. How many waterpots were at the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee?.....
2. How many books in the Old Testament?.....

followed his ancestor Cain, who built the first city. When Cain was rebuked by God, he did not repent, but rather turned his back on God and sinned further (Gen. 4:7-8). Judas Iscariot showed an equivalent action when he was condemned by the Lord for criticizing Mary, and it was there where we hear the first of the six sayings of Judas which led to his downfall. Instead of taking the opportunity and repenting, he threw his opportunity to the wind for 30 miserable pieces of silver and sold his Lord.

In John 14:18-25, Judas Iscariot had now left the little company in the upper room, and we read how the Lord was trying to comfort and help his disciples, preparing them for the great shock and the despair which would flood over their lives in the next few days. In v19,21 Christ states "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him". Judas Thaddeus could not grasp the reason why Christ could be manifested to them and yet was not manifested to the world. So he asked the question "Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not the world?" This would have confused all the disciples, for they thought that in less than 24 hours the Lord would be king, yet it was a genuine desire from Thaddeus to grasp exactly what the Lord meant. The Lord gently reminds Thaddeus "If a man love me, he will keep my words; and the Father will love him, and will come unto him, and make our abode with him". How in the weeks ahead would Thaddeus have thought about these words, realizing the importance of them and the comforting hope which they provide.

That is all we hear of the disciple Judas Thaddeus, he was a disciple who spoke from the heart, one who looked to the future, a striking contrast to Judas Iscariot who wanted all for the present. If we take the example the later provided, we will end up with the condemnation which he received. Yet the great promise that the Lord left for Judas Thaddeus was, that if we love him, if we are prepared to sacrifice our time, our pride, our energies for him, then we will keep his words and God will love us, and both God and Christ will come and dwell in our hearts and make their abode with us.

D. Goodwin.

A Well of Wisdom.

- Actions speak louder than words, but not as often.
- The past can be constructive by analysing its mistakes.... then forgetting them.
- The task in front of us is not as great as the power behind us.
- Mud thrown is ground lost.
- A little deed is better than big intentions
- Worry destroys our ability to concentrate



Camera Corner



Dear Good Company Readers,
Our Sunday School held its end-of-the-year Prizegiving in December last year. Here is a photo of my class doing a play on the Gibeonites. We are dressed up in our old clothes and shoes, with mouldy bread in our pouches. After the plays and songs, we had a delicious tea prepared for us by Auntie Angie Gibbs, and Auntie Adrian Middlemiss. Then a few more items were presented, and we were given our prizes. I received The Story of the Bible, Volume Two. We all had a very enjoyable time, and had lots of fun.

Your friend in New Zealand,
Naomi Fleming.

FROM NAPTON ON THE HILL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pictured from left to right is Timothy Sutcliffe (4), Paul Evans (7), Simon Sutcliffe (6), Gemma Evans (5), who all have certainly been very busy making a model of the Tabernacle with the tribes of Israel encamped around. Paul made the Holy Place and the Most Holy and put in the ark, inside the ark he placed two little tables of stone. He also made the brazen altar, and included some priests busy offering the animals brought to the door of the Tabernacle by

the people. Simon made the white linen curtains, with coloured threads of blue, purple and scarlet, which surrounded the Tabernacle. He also did the coverings for the Tabernacle with the same materials that were used in the wilderness. Together Paul and Simon put in the posts and tent pegs which held up the curtains. Gemma made the table of Shewbread with twelve loaves of bread on it, one for each tribe. She also had the job of colouring the ground a sandy brown, and erected all the tents of Israel. Timothy made the Lampstand for the Holy Place, and the Laver where the priests washed.

While we were making the model we tried to learn why God commanded Israel to make all these things. When we had put our models in the right place we put the coverings over

the Tabernacle and it was complete. We even made labels to show what we had made and to see where the tribes were camped around the tabernacle, with the four standards of the Lion, Ox, Man and the Eagle. Most of all we enjoyed spraying our models gold. We did this out in the garden so we didn't make too much mess. Today we have learnt of Moses' death before he could enter into the Promised Land, but we don't feel too sad, because we know that soon he will be raised up to be in God's Kingdom when Jesus returns. Love to all our Good Company friends,

Paul, Simon, Gemma and Timothy.

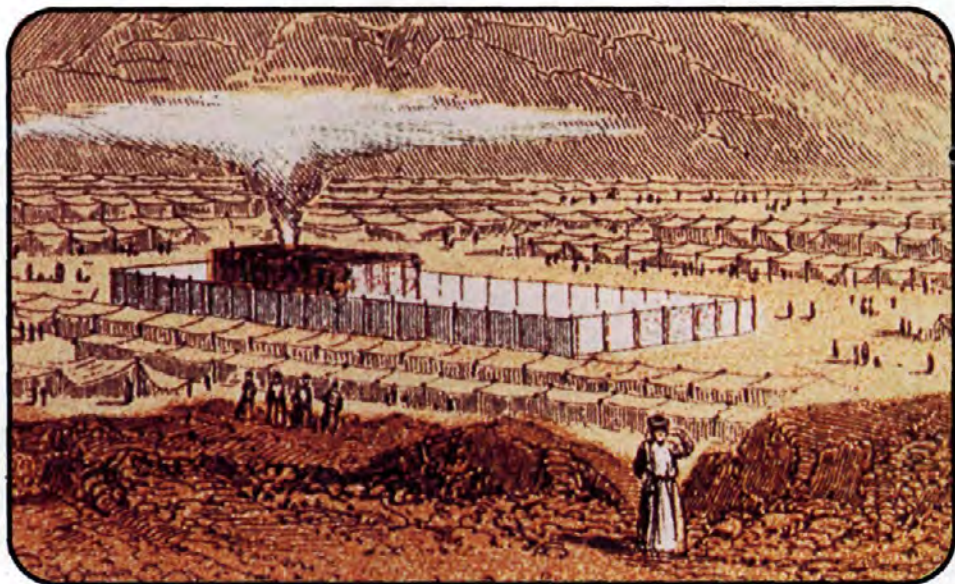


THE HOLY VESSELS OF THE SANCTUARY

This set of stamps was issued in July 1985. The four stamps in the set depict four of the utensils of the Tabernacle as reconstructed by Mr. Moshe Levine, author of the book: "The Tabernacle: Its Structure and Utensils". Mr. Levine claims to be a descendant of the Levites, and constructed a model of the Tabernacle and its utensils using the same kind of material (gold etc.) wherever appropriate. In his work, however, he was guided, not merely by the Bible, but also by Jewish commentaries and traditions related thereto - so that the form of the utensils depicted on these stamps vary from that which is generally accepted (see for instance his construction of the Table of Shewbread).

The tabernacle was divided into two parts: the Holy Place and the Most Holy. The former was twice the size of the latter. Whereas all Israel could gather at the door of the Outer Court, only the Priests and Levites engaged in the work of worship were allowed inside. This was as far as the Levites were permitted as they were excluded from the Holy Place. The priests entered the Holy Place to show their daily dedication to Yahweh before Whom they presented themselves for service, praise and fellowship. Here they were separated (or sanctified) from the rest of the encampment and the outside world. Only the High Priest was permitted into the precincts of the Most Holy each year on the Day of Atonement, with the blood of the sacrifice.

The Ark of the Testimony, the Ark of the Covenant, was situated in the Most Holy Place. It was in the form of an open box constructed of acacia wood overlaid with gold both inside and outside. It measured 3'9" (1.143m) long, 2'3" (.685m) high by 2'3" wide. Around the top holding it together was a golden wreathen crown, whilst at the base were four corner feet. Fastened to the ark were four rings through which two staves, also made of wood overlaid with gold, were permanently left for bearing the ark from place to place. Inside the ark were placed the golden pot of manna, the tables of the Law, and Aaron's rod that budded, typical of the sustaining Word of Truth, the Way of Righteousness, and Divine selection and resurrection. The cover of the Ark was the Mercy Seat, with the two cherubim formed of the same piece of pure gold as the Mercy Seat each end. The four faces of these cherubim looked toward each other, and down toward the Mercy seat upon which was sprinkled the blood of the Atonement Sacrifice. Thus symbolizing co-operation (the four faces united), consideration (looking towards each other), and dependence (down towards the Mercy Seat). Between the two cherubim shone forth the Shekinah Light, the manifestation of Yahweh,



teaching that His people are called to that end: to manifest Divine Glory: first in word, then in deed, and ultimately in being.

The Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place is described in Exodus 25:23-30. The table stood on the right side in the Holy Place, over against the northern wall. It was made of acacia wood, overlaid with gold, and measured 3ft long by 18" wide and 2'3" high. It too had a border of gold which edged the table, like a wreathen crown, which was a fitting symbol of the crown of Righteousness. It was carried by two Shittim wood covered staves, which were inserted into gold rings located on the four side legs. On the table were placed the twelve loaves of unleavened bread; two piles of six, each topped with a bowl of pure frankincense. These loaves were changed each Sabbath. The Israelites provided the ingredients for the unleavened loaves, demonstrating the total co-operation and dedication of the whole nation. The description in Exodus was not followed in the construction by Mr. Levine as represented on the stamp. He has provided twelve receptacles in which to place the various loaves, expressive of the Hope of Israel.

The Seven Branched Lampstand or Menorah. This was made of one piece of pure gold (Lev. 25:31); and beaten into shape according to the pattern shown to Moses. It had a central stem with six branches, all of which had bowls, knops and flowers. The total weight of the Lampstand was approximately 130lbs. On the top of each branch was a golden lamp, and it was the duty of the priests to dress and replenish these lamps every morning and evening. The lamps were always to be burning brightly. The olives were supplied by Yahweh but gathered and crushed by the Israelites. No natural light was able to penetrate the Holy Place from outside. So the wisdom of this world; the "natural religions" of today must be excluded from the Ecclesia. The Lampstand is wrought in the symbolism of the apocalypse, as representative of the Ecclesia of God (Rev. 1:20). The light of the Lamps illuminated the Table of Shewbread (or the Bread of the Presence), even as the light of the Truth illuminates the Hope of Israel. The stamp shows the arms of the Lampstand all level, but the specifications of the Law imply that the central stem was higher than the others which branched out from it. This of course like so

many things in the Tabernacle represented the Messiah.

The Altar of Incense. In contrast with the Brazen Altar of sacrifice in the outer court, the Altar of Incense was made of acacia wood overlaid with gold, and had a horn on each corner (Exo. 30:1-3). It was closer to the Most Holy than the other articles of furniture in the Holy Place. It was foursquare, measuring 1'6" x 1'6" x 3" (45cm x 45cm x 90cm). On it was burned incense every morning and evening, at the same time that the attention was given to the trimming of the Lampstand, this was the regular daily part of service performed by the priests. Incense is a symbol of prayer (Psa. 141:2). On these occasions it was linked with the brasen altar, because burning coals were taken from this altar to burn the incense on the altar of gold. As gold is the symbol of a tried faith, the Israelites were taught that the elements of acceptable prayer involve personal sacrifice and tried faith. On the Altar of Incense was also found a crown of gold suggesting the victory of faith (see 1 John 5:4).

The Tabernacle, its furniture, its sacrifices, and its forms of worship were all shadow institutions pointing forward to the reality found in the Lord Jesus Christ (see Heb. 9:11,23). Further information can be obtained from "The Law of Moses" by Bro. Robert Roberts, "The Christadelphian Expositor" by Bro. H.P. Mansfield, or "The Tabernacle in the Wilderness" by Bro Keith Cook.

??? Question Answered ???

In our last issue of Good Company we asked the question, "What is it that God cannot see.... that Kings and Queens can sometimes see.... that common people always see?" We had many replies to the question. Naomi Fleming from New Zealand sent in this excellent answer.

"God cannot see An Equal. Many quotes prove that God can see no equal. Here are two of them. "To whom shall ye liken Me, or Shall I be equal? saith the Holy One" (Isa.40:25). "To whom will ye liken Me, and make Me equal and compare Me, that we may be alike?" (Isa. 46:5). These are rhetorical questions. God doesn't want an answer. There IS NONE! He just wants to emphasise the fact that there is no-one equal with Him. Isaiah 45:21 declares, "There is no God else beside Me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside Me". In John 5:18 the Jews sought to kill Jesus because they thought that he made himself equal to God. The Jews obviously thought that there was none equal with God, which was true. But they suggested that just because Jesus said that he was the son of God, he was making himself equal to God, which was not true. Christ was not equal with God; he was God's son. Children are below their parents. We are told to "honour thy father and thy mother".

There are many quotes proving that kings and queens sometimes have equals. In Esther 2:4 Queen Vashti finds that though she is above all the women in the king's province, her husband, king Ahazuerus was still above her, and could remove her from being Queen.

In Psalm 55:13, David says, "It was thou, a man mine equal, my guide". So David who was a great king still had "an equal": Ahithophel. But, Solomon was such a wise king "that there was none like him, neither before him, neither arose any like unto him" (1 Kings 3:12)..

When the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth to be king, he will have no equal on earth, but God will still be higher than him, as is shown in 1 Cor. 15:27-28.

Christ was born equal with everyone else, he was able to sin, and was a little lower than the angels (Heb. 2:7). But after he had been killed without ever having sinned, he was made immortal and put above us; yet not as high as God, who is above all things..

All the members of the ecclesias are 'lively stones' in the temple of God, Christ being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20, 1 Pet. 2:5, 1 Cor. 3:17). One person is not a jewel, another a pebble, another a boulder, once we are baptised we are all stones, the same, equal. We all have equal opportunities to enter the kingdom of God. Only God Himself is superior; without equal."

BE THANKFUL

BE THANKFUL... for sunshine and rain; contrasting beneficent seasons; a fruitful earth with abundance of varied foods and containing fuel, metals, timber, ect., to supply every need.

BUT REMEMBER! you neither make nor control them; you simply help yourself liberally to another's property; even the All-Powerful, All-wise Creator's. What rent are you paying Him for His mercifully-lent good things?

BE THANKFUL! for life itself, with all its powers and privileges; with physical and mental capacities far above the beasts; for health and strength; the innate powers to appreciate and admire beauty, excellence, wisdom, mercy, and goodness.

BUT REMEMBER! You did not make yourself nor your splendid capacities, so seldom used. You are the property of the Creator of all. Are you using His endowments for His honour and service? Or are you misapplying them to your own selfish unearned gratification?

BE THANKFUL! For an open free Bible; men and women were burnt to death for having it in the past; for an inspired revelation of God's will and purpose proved true by fulfilled prophecies; for God's wondrous longsuffering and mercy in permitting this iniquitous generation to live (a generation which ignores and denies the Bible, while professing to be "Christian", and follows its own human invented God defiant system of religion); for the revealed purpose of a cleansed and glorified earth to be the everlasting abode for the righteous only when "the wicked are destroyed;" for God's wondrous mercy in opening a way of approach unto Him, whereby you can be accepted if conformable.

BUT REMEMBER! You have no right at all, but are a sinner needing mercy and forgiveness; you can give God nothing but implicit obedience; that not everyone that says "Lord! Lord!," will be saved, but only a "few" who "do the will of God;" that He reasonably requires the self-sacrificing devotion of your whole life to His requirements, the "crucifixion of the flesh with its affections and lusts;" belief, faith, baptism, and obedience to all His commandments.... then "happy are ye if ye do these things"... your future is achieved... little by little... the journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.

GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 103 NOVEMBER 1990

Supplement to LOGOS

Women of the Bible

"...For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of Him; Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord..."



Dear Boys and Girls,

I was puzzling my brain for something to write about, when a little girl in a house nearby started practising on the piano. I must confess at first I felt a little irritated, for she was playing those melodious tunes called scales, you know how they go - la, la, la, up to the top, and then la, la, la, down to the bottom. This over again with sometimes a wrong note as a variation, necessitating a fresh start. So commenced the idea on music.

There is frequent reference to music in the Bible, both vocal and instrumental. One of the oldest and sweetest of musical instruments is the harp. It is still a favorite to-day, and blends with the human voice probably better than any other instrument. This is why the saints in the Book of Revelation are depicted as singing the song of redemption accompanied by the music of harps (Rev. 5:8, 14:2). David was a very skillful player on the harp. Remember, when as a young man, he was engaged to play before Saul to remove the depression from which that disobedient king suffered. How wonderful it would be to hear David sing some of the Psalms to his own accompaniment upon the harp! If you follow David's faithful example you may be permitted this pleasure in the Kingdom of God.

The harp was not the only musical instrument played in Bible times. Various stringed and wind instruments find mention. When Israel's Kingdom was at the height of its glory in the days of Solomon it must have been a most impressive experience to be present at the Temple services. The music was appointed and arranged by men acting under the inspiration of God. Imagine an orchestra of four thousand (1 Chron. 23:5) and the voices of the many thousands of Israel who had assembled to keep the feasts of the Lord. How the Temple courts must have re-echoed with their songs of praise. Read the moving account given in 2 Chron. 5:12-14. But, alas, Israel was unfaithful to God: taken into captivity, and the beautiful Temple services ceased. Well may their captors have said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion". How could they sing the Lord's Song in a strange land? So they hung their harps upon the willows.

When Christ returns to reign on David's throne, the temple will be re-built and its beautiful worship restored. Not only Israel, but all nations will then assemble to keep the feasts of The Lord, and Christ and his immortalised friends of all ages will be there to lead these Songs of Praise. How glorious to be present in that day! You can be, if now you render a loving obedience to the Truth.

"Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee."

"Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for Thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth."

Your Friend

Good Company

"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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Our Amazing World!

DID YOU KNOW?

A shell fish eater a "Starfish", can use its arms to exert enormous pressure on shell fish to prize them open. They have five arms, and should one of them be bitten off or lost, then another arm will grow in it's place.



Did you know that a bee makes only a few drops of honey during its whole lifetime!

Dwarf Spiders make webs about the size of a postage stamp. But the tropical "Banana Spider" spins a web that's 30 feet (9 metres) across. Imagine walking into that whopper of a web!



"Tree Frogs". Some varieties have webbed feet, that are not used for swimming - but gliding preventing heavy falls as they drop from trees to the ground. The flying frogs can glide for about 15 metres.



That the "Indian Tailor Bird" makes a nest out of leaves, by punching holes with their beaks along the edges of one or more leaves. They then stitch them together with tree or grass fibres to form a pouch which hangs about 3 feet (1 metre) above the ground. Its young are hatched and fed in this "container". Only Tailor Birds build their nests like this.

The "Ostrich is the biggest bird in the world weighing about 350 pounds. The smallest is the "Bee Hummingbird". It would take three of these little birds to weigh as much as one ostrich feather.

There is a Turtle called "Fisher Turtle", that has a long nose and floppy fringes on its jaws. By moving these it attracts small fish and other water creatures then suddenly it opens its mouth and the prey is sucked in by the rush of water.

A "Whirligig Beetle" spends most of its adult life zipping across the surface of a lake or pond. Each eye is divided into two parts. With the upper half of each eye, the beetle watches what is on and above the water watching at the same time what is in the water with the lower half. If you had eyes like the Whirligig Beetle, you could spot an ant crawling across the floor while you were watching a fly walking on the ceiling!

The "Golden Mole of the Desert" lives in the Namib Desert of South Western Africa. It escapes the heat by swimming through the sand, catching and eating lizards and insects. It has no eyes or external ears.

Many mountain animals have thick coats that protect them from the extreme conditions - hot or cold. Preventing overheating by the glare of the sun on one hand; or the effects of freezing, in ice and snow conditions. Alpine animals have larger lungs and hearts to compensate for extremely cold temperatures and scarcity of air. Some cold blooded creatures can be frozen in ice without dying, and again reviving sometimes as much as 3 years later. These creatures are called "Spring Tail".

There is a "Sightless Shrimp" from Texas that is totally blind. Yet it scavenges in the bottom of shallow lakes and dark caves, finding scraps of food with its front claws satisfying its hunger. When feeding in caves it often collects food that "Bats" have dropped into the water below.

In the natural sense there are many lessons we can heed from these creatures apart from the wonder of their creation. There are myriads of other creatures including man, the first of them "male and female" who were created on the 5th and 6th days. It takes faith to believe this doesn't it? But it is TRUE. God the Creator had myriads of angels to assist Him, in the six days of creation, and much can be accomplished when thousands and thousands work together. Have you ever seen a motor car being made or built? Thousands of workers are involved being on assembly lines. Each person places a part - bolts, wheels, doors, in the respective places - and a car is manufactured in a few minutes, when it is known how many are rolling out of the various factories throughout the world.

How much greater God is than man, there is really no comparison. So if you should read in your nature books about evolution, and how many millions of years certain creatures were evolving to reach their present state, DISREGARD such, for only true science and the Bible go hand in hand. All creatures, trees, and living things were made to suit the environment in which they were placed. God is not mocked.

Man of course during the past 6000 years has upset many things on the face of the earth. How we look forward to the seventh millennium - about to dawn, when all things will be made new. Even so come Lord Jesus.

G. Hollamby.

**"Try your best, and learn to be satisfied
with the results"**

Women of the Bible

Hannah, Ruth and Huldah were three outstanding women who greatly influenced their contemporaries, and the course of Israelitish history.



IT WAS IN
THIS BOY'S
PRAYERS
FOR HIMSELF
AND HIS PEOPLE



AND GAVE HIM
TO A PEOPLE
YOU HAD NOT
KNOWN
BEFORE



WHO WAS NOT
KNOWN IN
JERUSALEM
BEFORE

Hannah Affairs in Israel just prior to the birth of Samuel were in a lamentable state. The priests, the religious leaders of the people, who should have been examples of righteousness, were given over to all descriptions of wickedness, and their indulgent father, Eli, the high priest, made little effort to check them. Israel themselves were walking after their own ways, and trying to combine worship of God with the worship of idols. God was not unmindful of what was happening, and though He did not interfere immediately, retribution was impending. Before the evil-doers were swept away, however, a righteous man had to be raised up to take their place, and this was done in the remarkable way recorded in the first few chapters of Samuel.

At the feast of the Passover when all hearts should have been glad, a poor woman was seen weeping. This was not the first occasion. What should have been a time of happiness was to Hannah a time of misery. Hannah had no children and she felt the deprivation keenly. That she was the favorite wife of her husband only tended to aggravate matters for Hannah's double portion aroused the jealousy of Peninnah and she gave vent to her ill-feelings by taunting Hannah because of her childlessness. Hannah did not retaliate with unkind actions or spiteful remarks, nor did she become sour and ill-tempered. She bore the trial patiently, suffering in silence, until she felt her heart was at breaking point, and then she took her trouble to God, and poured out her soul unto Him.

On this visit, Hannah, with tears streaming down her face, was praying silently, only her lips moving. In the 14th verse we are brought face to face with a failing which causes a lot of misery and unhappiness in life - misunderstanding! Poor Hannah had fled from the domestic persecution to the Temple, only to be called back into the stern reality of life. Eli the High Priest noted what he thought was a drunken woman and upbraided her. But when he heard her sorrowful story, he added his plea to hers, and soon a joyful Hannah had her dearest wish fulfilled.

What a comforting lesson we all can find in this. How many times has Hannah's beautiful example encouraged us to lay our troubles before the Lord. Our trials may not be of the same nature as Hannah's, but troubles are, and we find them hard to bear. We are bidden to cast our burden on the Lord, and Hannah has shown us how.

She did not make the mistake of thinking that prayer was useless – that God would have given her a son in the first instance if He had wished her to have one. The Scriptures encourage prayer – “Is any afflicted? let him pray”, says James. And Christ gave the parable of the importunate widow to show that “men ought always to pray and not to faint” (Luke 18:1).

And we read that after her prayer Hannah “went her way, and did eat and her countenance was no more sad”. Here is another point worthy of note. Having put the matter in God’s hands, she fretted no longer. If He gave her a child, well and good, and if not He had some wise purpose in withholding one, and she would not murmur at His wise decrees.

Just consider the mind of Hannah and the hallowed importance she saw in her annual visit to the Temple. Year after year she had gone, wounded in heart, tried more than ordinarily by the unfeeling provocations of Penninah, yet though depressed in spirit she never excused herself from going, never yielded to weakness or impatience. How often do we yield to some trivial excuse for staying away from our weekly appointment with Christ? Again, how often have we in times of distress turned to God and in our prayers promised that if our petition was granted we would be so much better, and then if our prayer has been heard do we not go on our way rejoicing and more often than not forgetting our promise? Not so with Hannah, never for a moment did she lose sight of the vow which she had made.

In following the example of Hannah, we must shun that of Penninah. It was natural that Penninah should feel a little jealous at Elkanah’s devotion to Hannah and she found an outlet for her feelings in provoking Hannah. The world is full of Penninachs. It is gratifying to human nature to make unkind remarks when it feels upset, but it is quite contrary to the spirit of love and sisterly kindness enjoined upon us in the New Testament.

Then, too, we may not be unkind intentionally but how often do we make others suffer through our want of thought? If one is afflicted, let us be sympathetic, but do not let us “rub in” the trouble. If for instance one has lost the use of a limb, they do not want to be constantly reminded of that fact, and of the good things that they miss through the loss, nor do they want to be continually told that if they had done this, that or the other, they would not be suffering in the way they do. That is not administering comfort, neither is it in the least degree helpful. Let us endeavour to be tender and considerate in our treatment of others.

The Lord heard the prayer of Hannah and in process of time Samuel was born. When he was quite a little child, Hannah, in accordance with her vow, took him up and handed him over to Eli’s care. She had promised to lend him to the Lord and she was not slack in keeping her promise. It would not have been altogether an easy matter for she must have missed very much the childish prattle, the pitter patter of the little feet and the loving arms, that so often encircled her neck. To make such a vow under the distressing circumstances that surrounded Hannah was easy (like many of ours), but to keep it – oh, how difficult! yet she never lets the reminder of her covenant fade from her memory. Samuel became daily more and more precious to her eyes and heart, but he was the Lord’s. She nursed him not for herself but for God. What a wonderful lesson this teaches all mothers in the truth. Should not they all endeavour to rear up their children to God? Does not Hannah’s history teach also that mothers must begin early? Hannah had vowed and dedicated her child to God, it follows that all her training would be in harmony with that dedication. And so the time came for Hannah to redeem her vow. Multitudes brought their offerings, turtle doves, and other oblations, but Hannah’s priceless offering – we leave it to a mother’s thoughts of Hannah’s offering as she stood before the high priest with her son, for he was the offering.

She had named the little boy Samuel, or Shemuel, a combination of Shem (Name) and El (God). She said: “I have asked him of Yahweh” (1 Sam. 1:20). However, the word Shem does not only denote Name but also Family, for a family prevents a name dying out. She sought a family from God, and received her dearest wish, and returned the child unto Yahweh.

The prayer, or song of Hannah (1 Sam. 2:1-10) is a remarkable prophecy based upon the birth of her son. In it she reveals herself to be a prophetess indeed, seeing beyond the rivalry of her adversary and the work of her son, to a greater rivalry between the two women of the Apocalypse: the Bride of Christ and Jezebel, or Babylon the Great, and the ultimate triumph of the King Messiah. It is a song that Mary also took upon the lips just prior to the birth of her Son (Luke 1:46-55). Hannah’s song concludes with the statement: “He shall give strength unto his King, and exalt the horn of His Christ” (1 Sam. 1:10).

HANNAH is recognised by Judaism as one of the seven prophetesses of the Bible.

Ruth Commentators tell us that the book of Ruth was written with the object of showing David’s ancestry, but there is a great deal more to be learnt from it than that.

RUTH the Moabitess was a woman who rose from obscurity to riches and honour. Her name is derived from “reuth”, signifying “a female friend”. Her characteristics have given rise to such words in the English language as “ruthless” which denotes actions devoid of that grace, thoughtfulness and kindness which characterised this one time heathen Moabitess. Ruth married into an Israelitish family that had left the Land of Promise for the plenty that Moab promised. However, the family found only trouble and tragedy in the land of their exile.

Continued on page 11

COMPETITIONS

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

BALLINA, Philip Window, Peter Window, **BOULAROO**, Jonathan Alchin, Jessica Glachan, James Glachan, Kim Glachan, Stephen Glachan, Esther Goddard, Mark Goddard, Michael Goddard, Melita Goddard, David Jamieson, Jane Jamieson, Michelle Jamieson, John Little, **CABRAMATTA**, Benjamin Calabiano, Esther Whitehead, Janet Whitehead, Rosanne Whitehead, Sharon Whitehead, **CAMPSIE**, Nathanael Jamieson, Shem Jamieson, Angela Mansfield, Belinda Mansfield, Carmel Mansfield, Jonathan Mansfield, Nicole Mansfield, Alcia Mansfield, Jared Pogson, Karlie Pogson, Shannon Pogson, **GOSFORD**, Luke Axsentieff, David Axsentieff, Rachel Axsentieff, Tim Axsentieff, Daniel Fitzgerald, Leah Fitzgerald, Linda Fitzgerald, **GRANVILLE**, Andrew Hadley, Rochelle Hadley, Fiona Russell, Joanne Russell, Joshua Warner, **LISMORE**, David Whitehead, Linda Whitehead, Robyn Whitehead, Alicia Hart, Anna Jones, Scott Jones, Shelley Jones, Simon Jones, Luke Orng, Matthew Orng, Anna Smith, Joshua Smith, Luke Smith, Sarah Smith, Sarah Spinaze, **MITTAGONG**, Benjamin Carroll, Jenny King, Joanna King, Melissa King, Cameron Madden, Natalie Madden, Andrew McKinlay, David McKinlay, Jonathan McKinlay, Kylie McKinlay, David Nancarrow, Ronald Nancarrow, Andrew Unwin, Emily Unwin, **NEWCASTLE**, Renee Martin, **PUNCHBOWL**, Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Ben Joseph, Scott Mauder, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Katharine Shead, Nathan Stretton, Nicholas Wolstencroft, Steven Wolstencroft, **RIVERWOOD**, John Dennes, James Dennes, Miriam Hindmarsh, Stephen Hindmarsh, Ben Gilmore, Julia Gilmore, Kathryn Gilmore, Lorna Kruger, Erik Kruger, Gavin McGuigan, Adam McGuigan, Andrew Rosser, Peter Rosser, Philip Rosser, James Woodberry, Tegan Woodberry, **YAGOONA**, Paula McAllister, Rachel McAllister, Malinda McKinlay, Matthew Walters, Peter Walters, Aaron Wolstencroft, Debbie Wolstencroft, Daniel Wolstencroft, Joshua Wolstencroft, Lauren Wolstencroft, Aiona Wyszynski, Kathryn Wyszynski, **COORPAROO**, Diana Dangelmayr, Patrick 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100 MARKS: Kevin Leadbetter, Jessica Brown, Timothy Sutcliffe, John Unwin, Leah Chilvers, Rachel Axsentieff, Ben Gilmore, Tamara Pitt, Timothy Leadbetter, Jeremy Buttler, Tanya Pickett, Thomas Burney, David McKinlay, Shane DeVries, Ashley Barrett, Sharon Cowie, Rebecca Cowie, Ben Cowie, Natalie Maddin, Simeon Wiggell, Abigail Cowell

200 MARKS: Emma Cowell, Helen Spray, Atheleen Spray, Anna-Rachel Spray, **400 MARKS:** Seleen Spray

JUNIOR STORY

Paul and Jenny's baby brother was growing and growing. He couldn't talk to Jenny and Paul yet, and he couldn't walk either, but he loved to crawl around the floor and play with them. Sometimes Mummy let Paul and Jenny push baby Samuel in his pram when they went out shopping, or for a walk in the park.

One day when they were out walking with Mummy, Jenny and Paul saw a lady being pushed along in a chair with wheels, a bit like baby Samuel's pram. As they passed by, the lady in the chair with wheels smiled at them all, and she stopped to talk to Mummy for a while. Paul and Jenny felt sorry to see that the lady could not walk.

As they went on their way again Mummy told the children how the lady's legs weren't strong enough to walk on. "Will she ever be able to walk again?" asked Jenny. "No," said Mummy, "it is sad, but the lady tries to be as happy as she can be". "If Jesus was here he could make her better couldn't he," said Paul. "Yes", said Mummy. "Jesus could. But we must remember that soon Jesus will come back to the earth, and then when God's Kingdom is set up and Jesus Christ is King, there won't be any more sick people, or people who cannot walk".

"We learnt a lesson in Sunday School about a man who couldn't walk" said Paul. The man always sat outside the beautiful gate of the temple and asked people for money so that he could buy food, because he couldn't go to work". The poor man had never been able to walk since he was born", said Jenny. "One day when the apostles Peter and John were going into the temple, the man asked them for some money. But Peter told the man that he had something better to give him than money". Peter said to the man 'In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk'. The man got up straight away didn't he", said Jenny. "Yes," said Mummy, "and where did he go after that?" "Into the temple to thank God for making him well," said Paul. "Good children," said Mummy, "you have remembered that story very well".

"Soon our baby Samuel will learn to walk", said Mummy, "and then he will be able to run about and play with you, but this man wasn't able to walk till he was a grown man". That night in their prayers to God, Paul and Jenny remembered to thank God that they and their family and friends were all well and that they had good strong legs to walk on.



JUNIOR COMPETITION 8 and under

NAME.....

SUNDAY SCHOOL.....AGE.....

Make a Beautiful Gate that will open so that you can still read the poem inside.

Cut pieces of paper to fit over the page. Colour or decorate.

PASTE GATE HERE

**At the Beautiful Gate the lame man would wait,
And put out his hand, you see,
For he had no money, he could not work,
No money to buy his tea.**

**When Peter and John came along one day,
Along to the Temple to pray,
The lame man looked into Peter's eyes,
And listened to what he did say.**

**"Silver and Gold have I none,
But such as I have I give unto thee,**

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS
CHRIST OF NAZARETH
RISE UP AND WALK."**

**The lame man heard what Peter said;
He got up, leaped up from his bed,
Went into the Temple straight away,
Thanking and praising God for that day
When he got up, leaped up from his bed.**

PASTE GATE HERE



Camera Corner



URHONIGBE SUNDAY SCHOOL, NIGERIA.

This photo full of happy faces was sent to us by the secretary of the Urhonigbe Sunday School, brother Sunday Silva. He writes that all the children enjoy receiving the Good Company magazine, and are endeavouring to complete the competition pages, which they will send to Aunt Liz Hollamby. Pictured in the right of the photo is sister Mary Silva, on the left is brother Timothy Okhoto, the superintendent. Brother Sunday Silva is second back on the left.



PEN-PAL PLEASURES

"Just over 5 years ago I advertised in the Good Company for a pen-friend from Australia, and I was really pleased with the replies I got. One of them was a girl from Newcastle, named Sarah Alchin. We wrote to each other for about 4 and a half years, then I received a letter from Sarah stating that her father was coming over to the south island of New Zealand to do a series of studies, and that all the family would accompany him. I was really excited, and even more so when it was arranged that they were to stay at our place. Finally on the 8th of July they arrived. That afternoon went so fast with all the excitement and everything. Lots of photographs were taken and I have enclosed one of Sarah and myself. In the evening there was a fraternal tea at the hall and afterwards Uncle Garnet gave the study entitled "Out of Egypt have I called My son". The

next day was Sunday and as Uncle Garnet was taking the senior Sunday school class, I was allowed in it. The lesson was on Samuel, when the Lord called to him. Then there was the Memorial meeting and Uncle Garnet gave the exhortation, continuing on from the previous night's study. Unfortunately shortly after the meeting they had to leave, but I really enjoyed their stay and I hope to see Sarah and her family again. I enjoy doing the Good Company competitions and reading the magazine. I think it is excellent how Good Company has a penfriend system, so that children growing up in the truth can communicate and encourage others from all around the world in the ways of God. It's amazing how friendships can be built up over the years with writing letters, and it's most important that we have such contact with other young people who are also learning the ways of God. From Helen Spray.

SYMBOLS USED IN THE BIBLE

There are many symbols used in the Divine Word to express certain ideas. A beast is used to describe an empire, horns for kings, waters for people, rivers for nations, a woman for a governing city. Over the next few issues God Willing, attention will be given to the use of symbols in Scripture and their interpretation. This list would make an excellent index in the back of our Bibles, so whenever we are doing the daily readings and we come across an unusual passage we can quickly refer to our markings and see clearly what God wants us to know. For example it is recorded in 2 Peter 3:10 that "the heavens shall pass away with a great noise", and again in verse 12 "the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved". What is the apostle Peter telling his readers? Is this literally going to happen as some of the churches teach? What are the "new heavens and new earth" that he describes in verse 13? We hope that by the time you have read this article and marked it in the back of your Bible, you will be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you (1 Peter 3:15).

THE HEAVENS

The word "heavens" is mentioned often in the pages of God's Word. On some occasions it has a literal meaning and on other occasions a symbolic. Symbolology is something which is used to represent something else. The Hebrew meaning of the word "heavens" is "lofty" and the Greek meaning is "elevation". By combining these meanings we have the phrase "lofty elevation" which is of course a description of those people who are in lofty and elevated positions, those who rule the land. The Governments and Political Authorities. As well as symbolic heavens we have also symbolic earth. The earth speaks of common people who are ruled by the heavens, the Governments. In Isaiah 1:2 we find the phrase "Hear, O heavens and give ear O earth". This particular phrase cannot be taken literally because heavens do not hear, neither does the earth give ear. This is a symbolic phrase calling upon the governments, rulers and people to hearken carefully to what God is about to say. Throughout the scriptures there have been many nations mentioned, their rulers coming under the title of heaven's, and describing the time when they were in power, ruling various parts of the world. We have the Egyptian Heavens, Assyrian Heavens, Idumean Heavens found in Isaiah 34:1,2,4,5. The Babylonian Heavens are portrayed in Isaiah 13:1,10-13; the Roman Heavens in Col. 1:23, Eph. 6:12. When reading the Word of God, in order to understand when the word "heaven" is literal or symbolic we must first understand the context of the whole chapter, this will then clearly show whether it is literal or not. A verse cannot be taken on face value, this is the mistake in which many religions of the world fall to their own condemnation, for we must worship God in sincerity and in truth. The chart below outlines for us four main sections.

1. The First Heavens Mosaic.
2. The Gentile Heavens.
3. The 2nd Heavens Millennial.
4. The 3rd Heavens in the 8th Millennium.

AD70 saw the conclusion of the Mosaic Heavens, when the nation of Israel, the house of Judah was scattered, and the Temple destroyed no longer were sacrifices able to be offered. Then followed the Gentile Heavens, the time period we are in today (Luke 21:26) which are soon to be shaken. This will be completed by the Lord Jesus Christ and it will usher in the commencement of the 2nd Heavens, that being the 1000 years of the Millennium (Isaiah 65:17-18, 2 Pet. 3:13). This new heavens and new earth, or new government will be under the control of the Lord Jesus Christ and the saints. Then at the end of the 1000 years the 3rd Heavens will be realised, when God will be all and in all. A glorious time when death will be completely swallowed up in victory. The Apostle Paul had the privilege of being caught up to the 3rd Heavens, where he saw a glorious scene of "unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter" 2 Cor.12:4. May our understanding of these symbols increase our knowledge, as we apply those necessary principles, in order to enter into the Kingdom of God and enjoy the two remaining heavens and beyond.

his Master in mind. He had a fervent desire to please his Lord. Would it be that each time we open our mouth it could be said that we had the truth in mind. Thus John's contact with the Lord changed and perfected his character. His writings reveal him as a gentle, patient man of strength and will. Tradition records that after the ascension of Christ, John proceeded to Asia, preaching the gospel. He was brought under persecution by Domitian, and was taken bound to Rome where it is said he was baptised in boiling oil. Tradition tells that he was taken out alive and sent to Patmos, where he wrote of the wonderful vision of the future which his Lord revealed, in the book of the Revelation. John's work is not yet complete. He must yet "prophecy again before many peoples, nations, kings and tongues" Rev. 10:11. John will rise, to personally witness the accuracy of that great prophecy given through him.

T. Mansfield.

**Children whatever you say in a whisper or clear.
Say nothing you would not like God to hear.
Whatever you read, though the pages may allure,
Read nothing of which you are not quite sure.
Consternation at once would be seen in your look
If God should say solemnly "Show Me that book".**

**Whatever you write with haste or with heed,
Write nothing you would not like God to read.
Wherever you go, never go where you fear
God's question being asked you,
"what doest thou here?"**

**What ever the pastime in which you engage,
For the cheering of youth or the solaces of age,
Turn away from each pleasure you'd shrink from
pursuing
If God should look down and say -
"What are you doing?"**

Submitted by Kin Bracey (Launceston)

GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 104 JANUARY 1991

Supplement to LOGOS

Prophets of Israel

• ISAIAH • JEREMIAH • EZEKIEL •



JEREMIAH hauled out
of the dungeon by
Ebed-melech the
Ethiopian

Dear Boys and Girls,

We are constantly reminded of the wickedness of man. How pleasant it is to consider the goodness of God. This thought was emphasized as I was looked out of our kitchen window over to a nature reserve. Here I saw the birds fluttering from tree to tree, without a care in the world, making the most of the warm sunlight. The sky was a lovely deep blue, with just a small puff of cloud floating in the distance. The tall stately gum trees swayed gently in the breeze, whilst some leaves glided earthwards, landing on the little yellow wild flowers which gave a splash of colour to this lovely picture. The scene was so peaceful and beautiful, it reminded me of the words of a hymn:

**"Thy goodness, Lord our souls confess,
Thy goodness we adore,
A spring whose blessings never fail,
A sea without a shore."**

How true are these words! But when we consider the attitude of mankind towards God, how He is ignored, His Word dishonored, and His commandments despised, it seems amazing that God should lavish daily upon man so many good gifts. Nevertheless the Apostle Paul reminds us that God does exist and that "He left not Himself without witness in that He did good and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness"

We do not need much imagination to picture how terrible things would be if the rulers of the world today had the power of God. Things are bad enough when even limited by God the fury of mortal man is shown in Iraq and such places.

Behold therefore the goodness of God! Small wonder that this theme forms such a large part of the Psalms. "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness"

The goodness of God, however, is not confined to the good gifts which pertain to this life, as the hymn also reminds us: "But chiefly thy compassion Lord, Is in the gospel seen; There like a sun Thy mercy shines, Without a cloud between"

You know that the gospel embraces the good news of the Kingdom of God and the gift of eternal life. All men are mortal as the result of sin and die. God in His infinite goodness provided His Son, Jesus made in all points like as we, yet he willingly lay down his life that we might have hope through him. God raised Jesus from the dead and he became the firstfruits of them that sleep. Soon he will return to raise the dead, those who have believed and obeyed God's commands and reward the faithful with eternal life. Eternal life on this earth under the present conditions of prevailing wickedness, would not be enjoyable, but God is sending His son, the Lord Jesus Christ to destroy the wicked and establish a divine Kingdom upon the earth. Then the beauties of the earth will be enjoyed without the terrors of war, or of those other evils which now afflict mankind. There will be glory to God in the highest and upon earth peace and goodwill toward men.

Your Friend,

Uncle Philip

"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

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Our Amazing World

The Prankster of the Sea **The Porpoise or Dolphin.**

The dolphins are beautiful creatures — not fish but an air-breathing mammal. They are very fast swimmers, can kill sharks and for what is known, have the world's best sonar equipment. Their brain is very similar to that of a human beings; a most loving animal who enjoys the company of mankind.

Pliny, the elder wrote of a wild dolphin that took a boy for a ride at Hippo, a Roman settlement in Africa. Roman coins of 74 BC depict such a scene. The young dolphins are born about one metre long, and immediately surface the water to take a breath of air. They breathe through a single nostril, a blowhole on top of its head that immediately closes on contact with water. This is also the source of

its voice, which has lips that the creature can vibrate, and so make sounds. I have heard them singing. Their sense of hearing is the keenest of any animal. They can even stay

under water for six minutes, before coming up for air. The

mother suckles her young for about one and half years during which time another adult female assists to bring up the baby and fight off the sharks.

The young have no teeth when born, but they slowly develop with up to fifty in each jaw.

They feed on squid as they grow older.

The baby can see as soon as it is born, it hears clearly, and recognises mother's call, and talks only as dolphins can. Should an attack from a shark be encountered the



SYMBOLS USED IN THE BIBLE

The Earth

The word *earth* in the Hebrew is *eretz* which means to be firm. It is once translated "nations" in Isa. 37:18. As the heavens represent the elevated lofty positions of governments and rulers, the earth represents the common people of nations being ruled over.

Examples of these are found in the following quotations: Deut. 32:1,44; 31:30; Isa. 1:2,10; Isa. 34:1, nations, people, earth, cp. Isa. 65:17,8; Micah 1:2. Also the following show the earth is synonymous with people, Gen. 11:1,9; Josh. 23:14; 1 Chron. 16:23,30,31,33; Psa. 69:34; Isa. 11:9; Jer. 51:7,25.

The word *earth* in Isa. 24:1,6,18-20 is used as a symbol of the whole nation of Israel. This is not literal because the earth will not be empty, spoiled, devoured, broken or dissolved but the people were to be expelled from the land.

The people of Judah were to be driven out of their land by the army of Babylon, causing the territory to become politically 'void and empty' (Jer. 4:22,23,28).

In 1 Chron. 16:23,30,31,33; Isa. 1:2; 44:23 it speaks of the strength and faith of the northern tribes as "earth", prior to their scattering. Jer. 4:22,23,28; Joel 2:10 show the weakness of Judah as "earth" before captivity. Mark 13:31; Heb. 12:26; Isa. 51:6; all speak of Judah after captivity, stating that 'the heavens and the earth shall pass away...'

Gentile people are mentioned in Scripture as "earth" in the context of the time prior the Millennium; 'let the heavens and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moveth'. The new "earth" wherein dwelleth righteousness 2 Pet. 3:13 is synonymous with the purpose of God when all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord (Num. 14:21). That is all humanity (the earth) will be taught of his ways and walk in his paths (Isa. 2:3).



DAVID

David was a man of faith,
 Courage and trust – but never safe!
 Saul came after him, jealous as can be,
 But David never gave up – a lesson we must see!

by Michael Furgusson



SEEKING A PEN PAL?

A most exciting hobby for young people, is to develop a friendship through correspondence, especially with those who love God's Ways. You can learn of the life and environments of other young people in different parts of the world, and share in their joys. Just write to "Aunt Liz" and she will make sure that a letter arrives especially for you, from your new friend.

COMPETITIONS

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTY LIZ

Send entries to Mrs Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Walkerville, South Australia 5330. New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand

BALLINA Philip Window, Peter Window. **BOOLAROO:** Fiona Jamieson, James Glachan, David Glachan, Stephen Glachan, Melita Goddard, Michelle Jamieson, John Litter, Marguerita Ryan, Jeremy Ryan. **CAMPSPIE** Carmel Mansfield, Jonathan Mansfield. **GRANVILLE** Joshua Warner. **LISMORE** Hayley Benson, Paul Benson, Rachel Benson, Sean Benson, Alicia Hart, Anna Jones, Scott Jones, Shelley Jones, Simon Jones, Luke Ormig, Matthew Ormig, Joeline Mulcany, Anna Smith, Joshua Smith, Luke Smith, Sarah Smith, Rebekah Steele, Shane Steele, Amy-Lee Vallance. **MITTAGONG** Benjamin Carroll, Jenny King, Joanna King, Melissa King, David McKinlay, David Nancarrow, Ronald Nancarrow, Andrew Unwin. **PUNCHBOWL** Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Kerry Mansfield, Scott Maunder, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Anthea Shead, Nicholas Wolstencroft, Steven Wolstencroft. **YAGOONA** Rachel McAllister, Matthew Walters, Peter Walters. **COORPAROO** Diana Dangelmayr, Patrick Dangelmayr, Robyn Dangelmayr, Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward. **REDCLIFFE** Myles Evans. **TOWNSVILLE** Elizabeth Caltabiano, Jonathan Caltabiano. **WILSTON** Adam Clarke, Amelia Clarke, Eleanor Clarke, Fiona Jose, Roseanne Jose, Joanna Kilgus, Leah Kilgus, Linda Kilgus, Michael Kilgus, Kellee Lewis, Nathan Lewis, Katie Papowski, Matthew Papowski, Melinda Papowski, Abigail Sweatman, John Sweatman, Peter Sweatman, Narelle Venn, Nathan Venn, Rebecca White, Sarah White, Caleb Witton. **YARRAMAN** Michala Elton, Julia Cameron, Vicki Cameron, Emma Pollard, Julie Pollard, Rose-Maree Pollard.

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READERS WRITE

To Dear Aunty Beth Lean,

Thank you for the book, Ways of Providence. I am enjoying reading it. I am trying to build up my own small library. I am hoping to obtain the Story of the Bible Volume 3. Could you please tell me when it is out. So far I have got Story of the Bible Volume 1, which I was sent through doing the Good Company Competitions. They are fun to do. I have also got Story of the Bible Volume 2 which Mum and Dad gave me, and the Ways of Providence that I have just got. Thanks again for the book. Love from Atheen Spray.

We are glad that you enjoy reading Atheen, for this is a valuable hobby which it is important to develop in your youth. There is no end to the many books you can read but the selection that you have are amongst the most important in Christadelphia today. Perhaps you can write to us and tell what you learnt by reading Ways of Providence. By the way, Uncle Graeham is busy editing the Story of Bible Volume 3 and hopes God Willing to produce it early this year.

Dear Aunty Liz Hollamby,

Our Nanna grew up in a village in Italy. They have wells for their water. Nanna used to carry a pot of water made of copper, and she thinks it carried about 20 litres of water. She visited Italy 5 years ago and things have changed a lot since she was there. They now have running water in the houses, but it is closed at night so if they want water at night they have to get it from the well. The river our daddy used to swim in isn't clear or fresh any more but heavily polluted by factories. Our Nanna used to take the weeks washing down to the river to wash it. We really enjoy the Good Company,

love from Hevel, Baruch and Shimon Spira.

Junior Story



One day Paul decided to count the money that he had been saving in his money box. He counted the money very carefully. Altogether he had two dollars and five cents.

When Mummy called them all for lunch Paul quickly began to put his money back into his money box, but as he did this he knocked one piece onto the floor, and it rolled away. "Oh dear" said Paul, "I'll have to look for my piece of money later".

After lunch he came back to his room and looked for his lost coin but he could not find it. Daddy came in and helped him too. "We'll turn on the light", said Daddy, "and then perhaps we'll see the money." And they did

see the little coin too. It was right under Paul's bed. At last it was found. "I am so happy", said Paul. Mummy and Jenny were glad Paul had found his money too.

"Let's all go out in the sunshine and I'll tell you a Bible story about a lady who lost a piece of money", said Daddy.

"There once was a lady who had ten pieces of silver money. But one day she lost one". The lady looked and looked for her piece of money just like Paul did" said Daddy. "The lady had no electric lights as we have. The lady had to light an oil lamp so that she could see, and she had to sweep her dirt floor very carefully while she searched. "Did she find the money?" asked Jenny. "Yes," said Daddy "she did find it, and she was so happy that she called her friends over to her house to tell them how happy she was".

"And now we can be happy together too, because Paul found his money can't we" said Jenny. "Yes" said Daddy, "but there is a special meaning to the story which Jesus told about the lady who lost the money".

"All the people in the meeting are very special people to God, just like the money that the lady lost was very special to her". "If any one in the meeting turns away from God, and begins to get lost in the darkness of the world, we should try to show them the light of God's Word. Then they will want to come to the Meeting again and that will make God and his angels in heaven very happy, just as the lady and her friends were happy too.

"I'll always remember that story now," said Paul, "when I think about the money that I lost, and found again."

JUNIOR COMPETITION

NAME

SUNDAY SCHOOL AGE



Colour in
10 pieces
of money.

Colour in
the lamp



Was Paul happy or
sad when he found
his piece of money?
(Ring the word)

HAPPY

SAD

“God's Word is a lamp unto our
feet and a light unto our path.”



Who Am I?

Send in by Jane McDermott (Whyalla)

5 marks

1. My first is in apricot and its **also** in peach.
2. My second is in swim **but not** in beach.
3. My third is in leash **but not** in dog
4. My fourth is in rain **but not** in fog
5. My fifth is in post **but not** in pole
6. My sixth is in horse **but not** in foal.

* Read the clues, then write down the letters **in order** as you find them, in the boxes for each line.

* Now use the right letters to find the name of the man who washed his hands of everything.

2 8 11 17 22 29

A	1	2	3	4	5
B	6	7	8	9	10
C	11	12	13	14	15
D	16	17	18	19	20
E	21	22	23	24	25
F	26	27	28	29	30

What is **the next** letter in each of the following lines.

They are all books of the Bible.

e.g. MMLJ = Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

5 marks

- 1) G E L N D J J
- 2) R C C G E P C
- 3) T T T T T
- 4) H Z H Z
- 5) E N E J P



Fill in the missing words.

5 marks

- 1) The wall in Revelation 21:17 measured _____ cubits
- 2) There shall be no _____ there. Rev. 22:5
- 3) Behold I come _____ Rev. 22:7
- 4) _____ are they that do his commandments Rev. 22:14
- 5) Even so come _____ Rev. 22:20



Examples of Faith

Let us be like the faithful men and women of old,
Who obeyed Yahweh and did what they were told.

Abraham was willing to offer up his son,
Even although Isaac was his one and only one.

Esther was faithful saving God's people the Jews,
Noah was faithful leading the animals into the ark in twos.

Ruth was a faithful woman, to Boaz she bare Obed,
Joseph was a great man in Egypt, doing all that God said.

Moses was faithful when he crossed the wide Red Sea,
And his love for God is an example for you and for me.

Daniel manifested great faith when thrown to the Lion's den,
For God had shut their mouths showing He was with him.

Paul was faithful although the Jews gave him much strife,
So that in the end they even took away his own life.

Jesus had disciples, all but one, faithful and true;
Judas Iscariot betrayed him into the hands of the Jews.

We also can be faithful like these men and women of old,
If we daily read God's Word and practice what we are told.

We should say our prayers to God, and ask for help each day,
Seeking for guidance and for strength to help us on the way.

Julie Cameron (Queensland)



PROPHETS OF ISRAEL



Isaiah: The Statesman Prophet

The scene of Isaiah's ministry was Jerusalem, and his main vision related to that city of hallowed memories (Isa. 2:1). His wife was a prophetess (Isaiah 8:3), and bore him two sons, whose names captioned his message (Isa. 7:3; 8:1-4). His name means "Yahweh will save" and, therefore, is similar to Jesus, whom he typed, and whose glory he saw in anticipation (Isa. 6; John 12:41).

Isaiah was a statesman prophet; the associate of kings whom he advised, and sought to guide. He was an ardent patriot, with a deep love for Yahweh and the nation. He was a bold, true statesman, seeking no court favour, and denouncing all foreign alliances which Yahweh would not endorse (Isa. 7:3; 37:22; 30:1-3).

Isaiah ministered during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. In all, they reigned for a period of 113 years. He probably commenced his ministry late in the period of Uzziah, and continued on until early in the time of Manasseh. According to tradition, he was placed inside a hollow tree and sawn asunder at the command of Manasseh (Heb. 11:37). During the course of his ministry, he was required to appear before kings (cp. Isaiah 36:37), and at other times to humiliate himself before the people (Isa. 20:2).

He was an historian (2 Chron. 26:22; 32:32), a prophet, and a poet. His book is made up of 66 chapters, forming a miniature Bible with its 66 books.

He expressed his message in majestic language. No other Old Testament writer uses so many beautiful and picturesque illustrations, epigrams and metaphors as Isaiah. He presents the royal dignity of the Lord Jesus Christ, and predicts the divine glory of the Kingdom he will establish at his coming.

The stamp depicts the prophet as statesman, expressive of the royal dignity of his God-given message. The drawing above presents the glorious picture of his second chapter: a sword merging into a plowshare; warriors converted to worshippers; the mountain of Yahweh's house established in the top of the mountains, and exalted above the hills, with people flocking to worship there (Isaiah 2:2-4).

It will be a joyous festival indeed when this vision becomes a reality in the earth.

Jeremiah: The Prophet of Suffering

Whereas Isaiah predicted the sufferings of Messiah, Jeremiah experienced them in measure. He enacted many of the afflictions of the Lord, and thus dramatised him as Yahweh's suffering servant before the people.

Jeremiah's name signifies: "He whom Yah Appoints and Exalts". He was born a priest, but became a prophet by divine call. He ministered during the period of the reigns of Josiah, Jehoiakim, and Zedekiah: an epoch of about forty years, at the conclusion of which he witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem. Christ, likewise, ministered about forty years before the destruction of the city by the Romans. And in many other ways, Jeremiah typified the Lord's ministry and sufferings.

He was called to the prophetic office through a vision (Jer. 1:1,4-16), and his book supplies us with more details of his life, methods and work, than of any other Old Testament prophet.

His call and consecration antedated his birth (Jer. 1:5). He was a man of humility and modesty, and felt himself incapable for the onerous task set him. He suffered as no other prophet; he was persecuted by many, including his own relations.

It was Jeremiah's lot to minister at a time when all things in Judah were rushing down to the final and mournful catastrophe; when political excitement was at its peak; when the worst passions swayed the various parties; and the most fatal counsels prevailed ... to see his own people whom he loved with the tenderness of a woman, plunge over the precipice to political and national ruin.

Jeremiah was timid and retiring (Jer. 1:6); he was deeply sympathetic, with an intensity of feeling, so that he lived and suffered the teaching of his message (Jer. 9:1-4). He entered into the feelings of both Yahweh and the people. His sympathy with the people was such that he could almost plead against the threatened punishment as too severe (Jer. 4:10,19,20; 10:23-35; 14:7-13); but there came a

change as he found the people refused to respond. He found that they were stubborn and antagonistic. He suffered their derisive mockery, discovered their thankless plots against his life; endured their bitter persecution; and was so driven by their cruel treachery as to cry out that Yahweh should punish them — not from a spirit of revenge, but motivated by a sense of outraged justice and kindness (Ch. 11:19-20; 18:18-23; 20:10-12; 32:16-23; 42:20-22). As one writer described it: "Every prediction of coming judgment is soaked in tears; every pleading is punctuated with sobs."

He was completely faithful. Though his sensitive nature shrank from the task set him, he continued it to the bitter end, feeling the pain of his message, yet determined to do the bidding of Yahweh though none should hearken (Ch. 1:19; 7:27).

According to tradition, he was stoned to death in Egypt by the Jews who forced him to retreat to that country. It is said that when Alexander entered Egypt he rescued his bones from obscurity and buried them in Alexandria. See Hebrews 11:37.

The stamp depicts the mourning prophet, and the calamity of Jerusalem. At its top Jerusalem is shown in flames, and the stamp itself shows the land as desolate with even the beasts of the field fled. Perhaps Jeremiah 9:10 best depicts the stamp: "For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none can pass through them; neither can men hear the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beasts of the field; they are gone."

Jeremiah, however, was not exclusively a prophet of doom, but also of hope. "Yahweh will punish — but Yahweh will restore" was his theme (Jer. 30:15-18). He will yet live to see the latter, and to enter into the inheritance that he purchased in faith when he was imprisoned (Jer. 32:8-15).

Ezekiel: Prophet of the Exile

He was called to his office at thirty years of age (Ch. 1:1) and typified the Lord Jesus, who likewise entered into his public ministry at the age of thirty. His name signifies: "El will strengthen", and as he is constantly referred to by his title: Son of Man, his name and title points forward to the Lord Jesus: El will strengthen the Son of man (see Psa. 80:17).

He was contemporary with Jeremiah and Daniel, and like Daniel was taken into captivity to Babylonia (Ch. 1:3). He ministered to the Jews in exile, and found that his teaching had an impact upon them. It prepared them for the restoration to the land after the fall of Babylon.

The top of the stamp depicts the ziggurat of Babylon, the river Euphrates, and the willow trees upon which the exiled Jews hanged their harps, refusing to sing the songs of Zion in the land of their captivity (Psalm 137). On the stamp are symbols of the cherubim, por-

tion of the initial vision of the prophet.

Ezekiel was a man of determination and stern resolve, who was undeterred by opposition (Ezek. 3:8-9). He was commanded to proclaim the Word irrespective as to results (Ch. 2:5-7), and did so in faith and with courage. Words did not come freely from him (Ch. 3:26), but when they did they were weighty and impressive. Later, after the fall of Jerusalem when his prophecies had been vindicated by events, he found himself speaking much more fluently (Ezek. 33:22), and much more readily accepted by his fellow Jews. He seems to have been held in high respect by the Jews (Ezek. 33:21), though they did not always heed his words. He seems to have been somewhat austere, standing aloof from much of what took place about him, condemning the apostasy of Judah by symbolic action as well as by words.

He is called the Son of Man over 100 times; and as he was a man of sign (Ezek. 24:24) the title is suggestive of the Lord whom he typed.

He was a priest, and was married (Ezek. 24:16-17). He lived in his own house at Tel Abib (Ezek. 3:24; 8:1). The sudden death of his dearly-beloved wife came as a shock, but he was commanded not to mourn (Ezek. 24:16-17), for her death was overshadowed by a death of even greater sadness: that of Judah and Jerusalem. He enacted many of the prophecies that he proclaimed; including the visit to the Temple of the Age to Come, the appearance of which he describes in great detail in the closing chapters of his book. The great theme of his book is the oft-recurring statement: "They shall know that I am Yahweh". It occurs 29 times in proclaiming judgments on Jerusalem; 24 times in judgment on the Gentiles; 17 times in predicting the restoration and final blessing on the nation of Israel.

According to Jewish tradition he was murdered by a fellow-exile whom he had rebuked.



A Well of Wisdom...

Let us not say "When we are older we will read more, and do thus and so" The time may never come and in any case we shall have lost the opportunity of good eyesight and elastic minds and brains in the impressionable state for moulding.

The gem cannot be polished without friction; nor man perfected without adversity.

Remember when you talk you only repeat what you already know; but if you listen you may learn something.

The following is a copy of a speech given by young Hannah Bailey (11 years old) from Christchurch New Zealand. She was asked by her school teacher to prepare a talk to give to the class on whatever subject she liked. Hannah decided to speak about "Why I am Happy to be a Christadelphian". The reason she chose this title was because she was always having to explain to her classmates why she did not attend school camps or discos, and why she does not swear. Hannah's teacher said she gained the respect of her classmates who were very interested in her speech, and looking at her Bible marking, also her Sunday School Project book. Over half the children in the class had never seen a Bible!!

Perhaps this can encourage other children not to be afraid of telling others about the wonderful hope we all have - for we never know where it might lead.

"Why I am Happy to be a Christadelphian"

I would like to tell you why I am so happy to be a Christadelphian.

"Christ-a-what?"

A Christadelphian. It means "brethren in Christ". Christadelphians are a group of people who study the Bible and try to do the things that it says. This means we try and live a good and wholesome life that would please God. Anyone would think that I lead an uninteresting boring life.

"What do you do all day without a T.V.?"

"What do I do?! Somehow I try to fit in all these things: Sunday School homework, Piano Practice, Violin Practice, Maths homework for my tutor, Bible Readings, Reading books, also my Sunday School Project and of course playing with my brother and friends. Now, where do I fit in time to watch T.V.? Besides, watching T.V. doesn't help me to think for myself or do things for myself. Nor does it teach me good morals. I don't want to end up a square-eyed vegetable!

"Apart from T.V., you don't have Christmas, no Easter, you don't go to discos and you're not allowed to swear! You poor thing".

I am not quite an under-privileged, poor, left out, denied person you think I am. We may not have Christmas or Easter, but how many children go to Bible Camps twice a year with their family. Here hundreds of Christadelphians gather together for a week or more. We meet old friends, talk and play, go on outings, play tennis, go in orchestras, do craftwork, go swimming and many other activities. We also do lots as a family, such as family Bible Readings every night, and read a book as a family.

We have family outings such as going on picnics or to the beach. We also have a family Bible marking night once a week, which I can show in my Bible here. We have also been on many trips around New Zealand, and have travelled to Australia! In fact we have a lot of friends from many parts of the world. Some of them I write to.

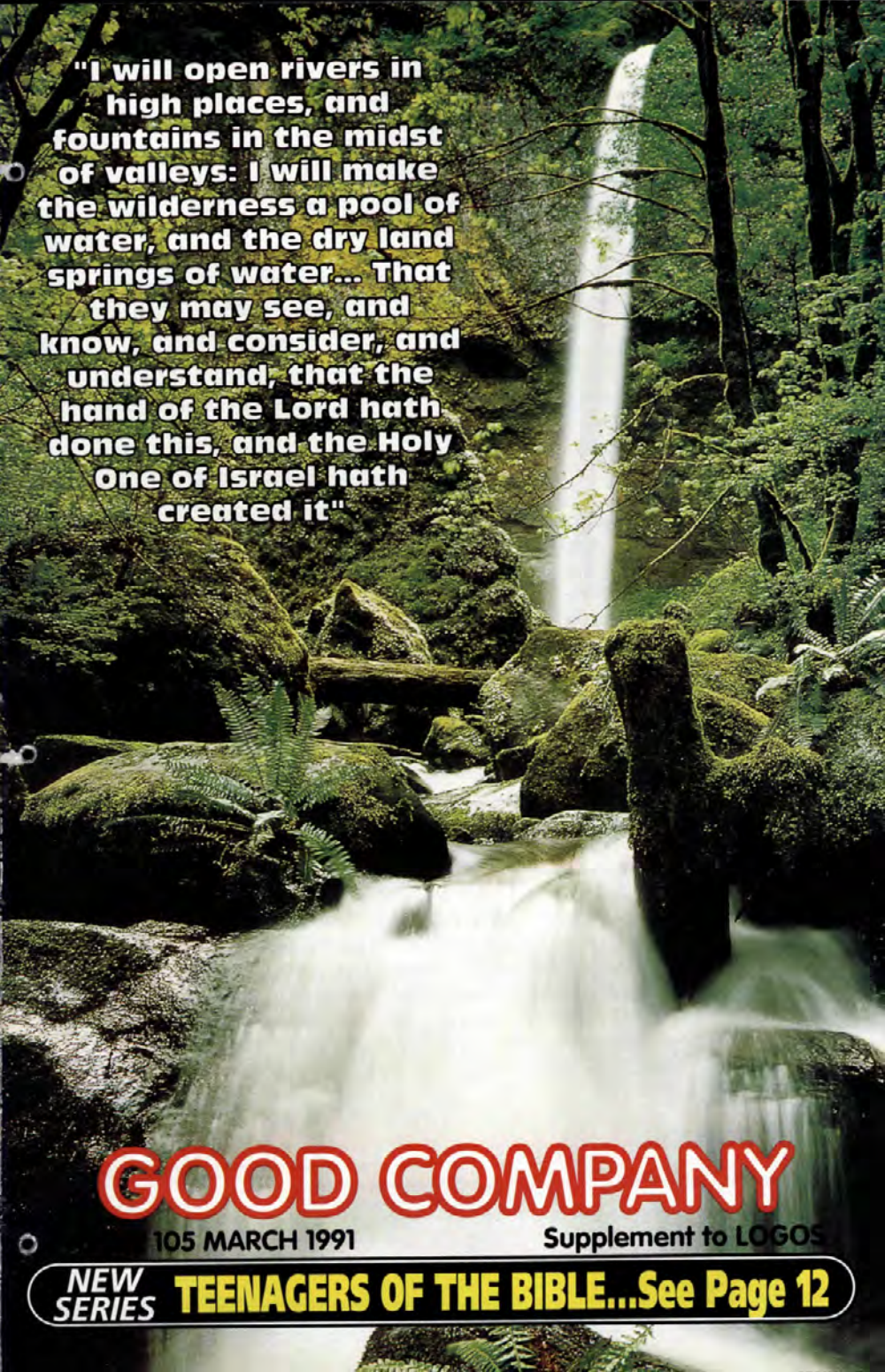
Now that I have told you all about the things we do, you may think a lot of it revolves around the Bible and how boring it must be. Boring!!! We don't need to read our horoscopes or tea leaves - we have this book which gives us a very clear outline of what has, is and will happen in the world.

Christadelphians know from the Bible that the Lord Jesus Christ will soon return as he said he would and overthrow the kingdom of men, and set up God's Kingdom and make the world a happier place to live in.

So then, being a Christadelphian is not quite the boring dull inactive life people seem to think it is.

Thank you very much for listening to my speech. I hope you have learnt why I like being a Christadelphian.

"Be ye ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you of the Hope that is within you with meekness and fear"



**"I will open rivers in
high places, and
fountains in the midst
of valleys: I will make
the wilderness a pool of
water, and the dry land
springs of water... That
they may see, and
know, and consider, and
understand, that the
hand of the Lord hath
done this, and the Holy
One of Israel hath
created it"**

GOOD COMPANY

105 MARCH 1991

Supplement to LOGOS

**NEW
SERIES**

TEENAGERS OF THE BIBLE...See Page 12

My Dear Boys and Girls,

It would be idle to imagine that in these days when the dark clouds of war overhang the world, that you boys and girls would be unconcerned at what is happening. Many people in the Middle East have to carry gas masks everywhere, taking cover in the shelters which have been provided. You may wonder why your Christadelphian parents are not so anxious and worried at the future as are those who do not know the Truth revealed in the Bible. The confidence of Christadelphians is founded on two solid Scripture facts. Firstly, that no harm can befall them except by the will of God; and secondly, that the evils which are now so rapidly developing were foretold in the Bible, and are a sign that the return of Christ is near.

Let us consider fact No. 1. The Bible reveals that the angels of God, though unseen, are at work in the earth, guarding and protecting those who put trust in God and are obedient to His teaching.

"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him and delivereth them" (Psalm 34. 7).

"Are they not all ministering Spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1. 14).

These passages do not teach that Christadelphians will necessarily escape all the consequences of the evil which abounds, but they do mean that no harm can come to them except that which God permits for their ultimate good.

Now for fact No. 2. You know that the Bible contains many prophecies. These like the rest of the Scriptures are God given, and therefore infallible. Some of these relate to the condition of things that will cover the earth in the day of Christ's return. Daniel said that there should be a time of trouble such as never was (Dan. 12:1-3). Jeremiah foretold that evil should go forth from nation to nation (Jer. 25:32). Christ predicted that there should be on the earth distress of nations with perplexity, and men's hearts failing them for fear (Luke 21. 25), and he added:

"When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh".

The Scriptures teach that God is in control of the destinies of nations, and He uses them to fulfil His will, whether it be to punish wickedness in the earth, or to bring about political situations in harmony with His purpose. The evidence for this you will appreciate when you are older. It is contained in that wonderful prophetic dream of the Image given to Nebuchadnezzar, and in greater detail in the Book of Revelation.

Christ's own people will not be left among the nations during the worst stages of the time of trouble, but will be taken away to receive eternal life, and to assist Christ in destroying all human misrule and misery and in establishing upon this earth the Kingdom of God.

Your friend,

Uncle Philip

"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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Our Amazing World

“It comes in like a bomb, a bomb in feathers. You hear an insect-like thrumming and see suspended in the air a metallic missile with propellers going at the rate of 75 beats a second. Too fast for the human eye to perceive, except as a blur. Rays of light flash from its throat patch. Suddenly the tiny visitant may dart backward, drive off a roving bee, make a side swipe at a king-bird, then roar off at 30mph (50km), spraying the neighbourhood with beauty and leaving wonder in its wake. All this in less time than it takes to say its name,

THE RUBY THROATED HUMMING BIRD”

“Marvels and Mysteries from our Animal World”



These birds to my knowledge only appear in the Northern Hemisphere, so we down under in Australia have not this delight to share with our readers overseas of witnessing this wonder of God's creation. These tiny creatures are not moths, but birds, weighing only 1/10 of an ounce = 360 birds to 1 Kilogramme. Yet for all this, many flowers are too fragile to support this little bird's weight. So what did the Creator do? In His wisdom He gave it power to hover, so that it can still sip nectar and capture insects that hide deep inside the most delicate petals. Of any other bird they are the most controlled in flight - they can even fly backwards.

Proportionally they have very large wing muscles and a big heart, yet everything these birds do seems to be done in a hurry. Their nests — just large enough are built in a day — a work of art — beautifully camouflaged with mosses, making it almost invisible as it is perched on a branch, or a piece of rope and at times on an orange. The nest is lined with thistle-down, woven together by the needle like beak, of the female. She lays two eggs each about the size of a pea, white in colour out of which comes a creature covered in gems. We look forward to the day when in righteousness we too shall sparkle in the Age to Come.

But back to the narrative ... When the young are hatched they are only a little larger than a finger nail and of course large throated, expecting to be fed all the time. The tongue of the 'hummer' is unique in the bird world, having two tubes, but how nectar ascends them (or is drawn into them) is unknown. Besides nectar they eat very small insects some of which are caught in flight, but mainly they eat insects that are found in flowers. They are very selective in choosing flowers which have trumpet shaped throats where the nectar is deep-seated, and being out of reach of bees and other birds. Its only rival is the butterfly, but the quick-tempered 'hummer' quickly sends them flying.

Even as we attract various birds into our gardens, so in America and other Northern countries, people grow particular varieties of flowers, so that these little gems can be observed feeding. Whilst doing this they are carrying pollen from blossom to blossom on their feathers, pollinating some flowers which are dependent upon them for this. There are over 300 kinds of humming birds and have been referred to as rainbow, rubies, amethyst, topaz, violet (ethereal), beryl, sapphire. Where have we heard these names before? They are found as stones in the breastplate of the High Priest - and also in Revelation 21 as the gems of Heavenly Jerusalem. We also must be as jewels for that is what we read in Mal. 3:17, but perhaps we can leave that for another subject about OUR AMAZING WORLD God Willing.

These little birds would remind us of Hymn 150, "Who are these like stars appearing, these before God's throne who stand?" For should we hold one in our hand and turn it around, it is like a gem, showing forth a heavenly radiant colour, glowing suddenly emerald green, which is the colour that represents RESURRECTION. But the colour is not of itself, it is caused by the reflection of the sun through tiny mirrors, as the tiny barbs of the feathers refract the light, like a cut diamond. It has been described as a living rainbow which captures the sunlight and turns it into a jewel on wings. HOW AMAZING.

This portrays the saints in glory as the rainbowed Angel, shall go forth having been healed by the Sun of Righteousness with healing in HIS BEAMS; to heal the nations. How we need the Lord Jesus Christ to return.

We know that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. It doesn't matter how young we are dear children, or how old we are Brethren and Sisters, let the Light that comes from God's Word shine in our hearts. Though we are very small now our hearts can be big — filled with knowledge of the things of God. Let this Light shine in us — whether at home, at school, in the ecclesia, or in the world. Always trying to prevent the darkness of this world from overshadowing us, and may the time soon come, when the



CAMERA COVIEB



"TRAIN UP A CHILD..."

This photo was sent to us by Lydia Cowell, and pictures a recent Outing held by the Wellington Sunday School. It was a wonderful occasion to let off a "bit of steam", so after their Sunday School examination they all enjoyed a picnic. Lydia writes that she had "10 or more turns on the train, and Uncle Ray brought his boat along so we were also able to ride the waves."

From The Westerly Sunday School USA



Dear Aunty Liz, I am writing to tell you about the Westerly Ecclesia Sunday School, Rhode Island, U.S.A.. In my class there is only one student, and that is me, infact there are only 6 students in our School. My teacher is Auntie Zoe Quindazzi, and this year she is teaching me all about Jesus and his life, which is very interesting. I also have a big sister, Heather who is 10 years old. I hope to continue receiving The Good Company magazine and completing the competitions. the photo is of me and my teacher, Aunty Zoe. Love to all my Good Company friends, Bethany Locke.

From The Lismore Sunday School NSW

Pictured is a class of happy, smiling faces from the Lismore Sunday School in NSW Australia, sent to us by Samantha James. It shows her class proudly holding their project books which they all enjoy doing. Pictured is Michelle Norton, Sarah Halpin, Sean Benson and Steven Poole, and behind them is some excellent work they have done at Sunday School.



Light of the world THE SAVIOUR, will return and look upon us in mercy, may we in some small way reflect the Glory of Yahweh, which must be mirrored in our lives NOW.

So even as we have examined the small things of God's creation how GREAT are the lessons which we can learn. As this little bird is very selective in the flowers it chooses to get its food, so we likewise must learn to be very selective in that which we read feeding ourselves with words of profit not the "junk food" of the world. Daily we must gather pollen and spread the saving Truths of the Gospel as we rub shoulders together. How wonderful are the lessons that we can learn from observing God's glorious creation and applying those principles in our lives. G. Hofflamby

A Well of Wisdom..

- The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one has to do.
- A face without a smile is like a lantern without a light.
- God wants men who are empty of themselves to fill them with Him.
- The greatest illusion of life is the forgetfulness of death.
- You can't expect clear sailing when you kick up a storm.
- Never despair about lost opportunities. There are always many waiting as those that have just passed. The wise thing is to begin – NOW; just where you are.

FATHERLY COUNSEL

To the young on starting life

One word of advice as we part: never forget the mediocrity of your station, and the humble form in which I send you into the world. Let your modesty equal your littleness, and do not seek to make a noise or to shed forth any lustre. Your destiny is to be useful and not to shine. Try to do some good as you pass along, and do not be diverted from your object by the obstacles or contradictions you may encounter. All who meet you will not look on you with favorable eye. Some when they see you appear beside them, will be indignant at your audacity, and will hinder your progress; others more skilful, without being benevolent will refuse their aid to you. Be not angry, but proceed on your way with simplicity, and if you have the good fortune to meet, as I hope you may, some charitable soul, who will take an interest in your youth, and help you forward, accept his assistance with gratitude, and profit by his hints and advice, so as to reach the goal more safely, and to perfect yourself.

Finally reader, whoever you are, who love what is true and right above all things, without party spirit or acceptance of persons, should you meet this poor little child on the high road of the world, I recommend it to your benevolence; and you will not meet with ingratitude.

Competitions

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Walkerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

BOULAROO: John Littler, **CAMPSIE:** Carmel Mansfield, Jonathan Mansfield, Jared Pogson, Karlie Pogson, Shannon Pogson
GOSFORD: Kate Taylor **LISMORE:** Alicia Hart, David Ornig, Sarah Spinaze, Tabitha Burney **MITTAGONG:** Kylie McKinlay, Rodney McKinlay, Maxine Crowther
PUNCHBOWL: Kerry Mansfield, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Sarah Stretton
YAGOONA: Peter Walters, **COORPAROO:** Carl Crowther, Leon Crowther, Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward, **YARRAMAN:** Michala Elton, Emma Pollard, Julie Pollard
REDCLIFFE: Myles Evans, **TOWNSVILLE:** Benjamin Caltabiano, **WILSTON:** Leah Case, Benjamin Hagen, Jennifer Hagen, Louise Hagen, Roseanne Jose, Nathan Lewis, Abigail Sweatman, John Sweatman, Peter Sweatman, Jeffrey Venn, Matthew Venn, Narelle Venn, Nathan Venn, Caleb Witton
ABERFOYLE PARK: Brenton Hill, Jacintha Story, Merrilee Story, **BRIGHTON:** Leah Archer, **CUMBERLAND:** Hannah Islip, Tirzah Islip, Christopher Lawrie **ENFIELD:** Jerushah Bell, Seth Bell, Aaron Smith, Danielle Smith, Elisa Smith, Joshua Smith, Sarah Walman,
GOLDEN GROVE: Ben Cowie, Deborah Cowie, Rebecca Cowie, Sharon Cowie, Darrell Petiet, Matthew Petiet, Tamar Jamieson, Abigail Jamieson, **GLENLOCK:** David Mee **SALISBURY:** Alana Mutch, Samuel Mutch, Tamar Mutch, **TEA TREE GULLY:** Philemon Burney, Aletheia Burney, Timon Burney, Alicia Farrow, **WOODVILLE:** Joel Catchlove, Alicia Mansfield, James Mansfield, Brenton Mitsos, Cherallee Scolyer, Damien Scolyer, Stephanie DeVries, Anthony DeVries Reuben Cridland, Rodney Wilson, Andrew Wilson **LAUNCESTON:** Anna Bracey, Kiri Bracey, Paul Dangerfield, Brendan Niejalke, Luke Niejalke,
BLACKBURN: Melanie Howell, **MILDURA:** Samuel Churches, David Van Bergen
MOUNT WAVERLEY: Khia McLean,

WARRAGUL: David McKinlay, Gemima McKinlay, Nathan McKinlay, Rachel McKinlay
GOSNELLS: Arielle Carder, Barak Carder, Reuben Carder, Shelley Moore, Simon Moore, Jamin Whiteside, Melissa Whiteside,
PERTH: Anthea Hayles, Clara Helms, Calista Helms, James Hurn, Leonie Rowe,
STIRLING: Daniel Johnson, Sarah Johnson, Jared Schipper, Simon Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Nathan Schipper, Luke LePoidevin, Bronte LePoidevin, Laura Fergusson,
CANADA: **MAPLE RIDGE:** Katie Making, Debbie Making **OKANAGAN:** Naomi Ferrie
CORRESPONDENCE WA: **WONGAN HILLS:** Kimberley Evans, Nathan Evans
ENGLAND BARNSELY COPE ST.: Matthew Ravenscroft, Peter Colston, Luke Brown, Rebekah Brown, Samuel Brown, Hannah Brown, Jessica Brown, Deborah Reynolds, Lydia Reynolds, Benjamin Reynolds
ORMSKIRK: Adam Mitton, Alexia Mitton
NEW ZEALAND CHRISTCHURCH SUBURBAN: Megan Ashton, Steve Lloyd, Hannah Bailey, Sarah Bailey, Kate Campbell, Mark Ashton, **KERI KERI:** Simon Clark, Susi Clark, Rachel Clerk, Larry Clark,
PALMERSTON NORTH: Samuel Alexander, David Alexander, Laura Saunders-francis, Vincent Saunders-francis **TIMARU:** Helen Spray, Anna Rachel Spray, Selene Spray, Rebeka Spray **WELLINGTON:** Naomi Fleming, **USA RESEDA:** Shannan Gibson, Gideon Gibson, **ROCHESTER:** Rebecca Leathersich, Amanda Leathersich, Stacey Leathersich, Tim Leathersich, Scott Leathersich.
100 Marks Natalie Madden (Yagoona), Lorna Kruger (Riverwood), Matthew Petiet (Golden Grove), Darrell Petiet (Golden Grove), Jonathan Mansfield (Campsie), Carmel Mansfield (Campsie), Amelia Mackay (Mount Waverley), Leah Cowell (Wellington), David Alexander (Palmerston North), Leah Jolly (Wellington).

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than April 1st for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company.

senior competition

1. Nathanael Harrison from the Stirling Sunday School in Western Australia has sent us this section of our competition. (4 Marks)

Instructions: 1. Look up the quotes to find the missing words of this bible passage.
2. Find out where this quote comes from.

And he (Isa. 7:3 2nd word) unto (Dan. 6:24 17th word). Go ye (Dan. 3:20 23rd word) all the (Psa. 22:27 6th word) and (Luke 4:18 15th word) the (Mark 1:1 5th word) to every (Gen. 2:19 39th word).

He that (Rom. 3:26 21st word) and is (Matt. 3:6 3rd word) shall be (2 Sam. 22:4 17th word) but he that (1 Cor. 14:24 11th word) not shall (Luke 22:42 5th word) (Rom. 14:23 6th word).

(Mark ____: ____ - ____)

2. Amanda Clark from the Wilston Sunday School in Queensland asks us to use the quotes listed to find the names of the Prophets.

2 Kings 19:2 _____ (4 Marks)

Jeremiah 26:18 _____

Hosea 1:2 _____

2 Chronicles 36:12 _____

3. This puzzle was submitted by Timothy Yearsley from New Zealand.

(1). Fill in the words in the puzzle and you will find the name of a book of the New Testament in the shaded boxes. (2) Write out the words of verse 5 in chapter 2 of this book.

1. After 2nd Samuel (8 Marks)

2. Before Philemon

3. Last book of N.T.

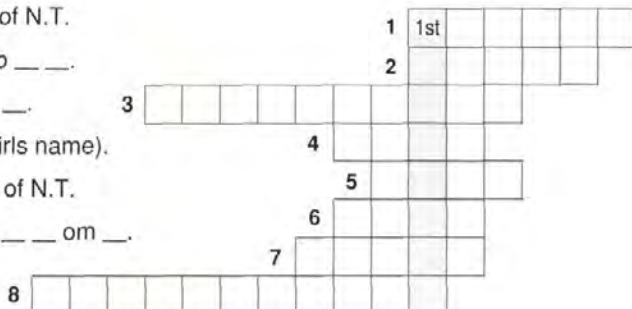
4. Lived in Ro ____.

5. 3rd J ____ H ____.

6. ____ u ____ h (girls name).

7. 23rd Book of N.T.

8. D ____ ter ____ om ____.



SYMBOLS USED IN THE BIBLE

The Sun

The literal Sun was originally appointed "to rule the day" (Gen. 1:16) and therefore a ruler is often symbolised by the sun rising in power. This is illustrated by Joseph's dream cp. Gen 37:9-10. Here Joseph sees the Sun, Moon and the eleven Stars bowing down to him. Jacob his father, as head or ruler of the family is represented here by the Sun, his mother by the Moon, and brothers by the Stars.

In Isaiah 13:10-11 the removal of king Belshazzar is described as the "darkening of the sun". This refers to the loss of his power as king over Babylon. This is also demonstrated in Eze. 32:7-8 where Pharaoh of Egypt is pictured as lamenting, for God says that He will "extinguish him... cover the sun with a cloud". From these relatively simple occasions of sun-symbolology we are able to unfold the meaning of a more difficult passage.

In Jer. 15:9 we are told that Jerusalem's sun shall go down "whilst it is yet day". This is referring to the Babylonian siege and removal of Judah's king. He as the ruler is represented by the sun. Although in this case her king/sun was no longer a power ie. she had no more temporal power. Notice though that nothing is said of her moon and stars, which mean that her religion and individual statesman were not extinguished for as we know in the return from captivity there was still priests and rulers. However in Joel 2:10 a worse state was prophesied when the sun and moon and stars would withdraw their shining, showing that in AD70 all aspects of the Jewish nations would be destroyed by the Roman armies. This event is also prophesied in Dan. 8:9-12, by the words "casting down of the whole host of heaven", which is also described in 2Pet. 3:10-12, "the heavens shall melt with fervent heat".

When Christ returns He as the Sun of Righteousness (Mal. 4:2) will displace the existing earthly powers, (Luk. 21:25, Isa. 24:23). As Christ's kingship is for 1000 years Isaiah 60:20 will be fulfilled "the sun shall no more go down". In that day the light of the sun will be sevenfold (Isa. 30:26) and in the political heavens will be seen the glory and handiwork of God. Psalm 19:1-

HIP HIP HURRAH

Phrases and expressions may sometimes be used thoughtlessly, merely because it is customary to do so, but with careless disregard to its actual meaning. One such phrase is "Hip Hip Hurrah". Brewster's Dictionary claims that "when the German Knights headed a Jew hunt in the Middle Ages they ran shouting Hip Hip Hurrah, meaning 'Jerusalem is lost to the infidel and we are on the road to paradise.' 'Hip Hip' meaning — Jerusalem is destroyed. 'Hurrah' (Slavonic) meaning — On the road to Paradise. When this was enquired of a Jewish friend the meaning of the phrase, and his reply was: 'It was a term used by the Romans and Crusaders in battle as a means of encouragement and triumph'."

Readers can judge this matter for themselves impressing upon them the fact that one cannot consistently "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" and shout "Hip Hip Hurrah" at the same time.

PART ONE

Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness

Samuel

by Bro Shane Kingsbury

This is the first in a series to highlight the wonderful role many teenagers have played in manifesting the Truth to the World. Yes, Teenagers — that group who often feel inadequate or unable to fully carry the torch of the Truth. But there is abundant evidence to show that God provides opportunities in our teenage years for the development of His will in our lives.

God has recorded MANY details concerning teenagers who have been thrust into challenging situations with only their family education and, as it were, some Sunday School lessons to guide them in making serious decisions. As society fragments, teenagers will be increasingly called on to make life-directing decisions. It will be rewarding, then, for us to see how the "Patriarchal Teenagers" wrestled with, and determined, the decisions that would effect them eternally. Let your mind roam through the Scriptures for in these pages there are more teenagers than you would think... Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, Daniel, Timothy, Esther, and, of course, the Lord Jesus Christ — all who, as teenagers, accepted the priority of the Truth and demonstrated a significant faith and response to the call of the Truth.

For a number of reasons we will first consider the young man Samuel. He was called, and chosen, by God to introduce His king, the "Beloved", to Israel. Samuel outlined the conditions of that Kingdom, and was present when that king was revealed for the first time. Samuel was called at a very tender age, in the midst of the most appalling moral decay which, significantly, was called a day of "no open vision". Notice the relevance of this teenager to the calling and election of teenagers today, world-wide in the body of Christ. We are in the time period when THE Beloved is to be introduced to the world, so we have a responsibility to explain the conditions of THE Kingdom to the world. And, as we live in an age of no open vision, surrounded by a corrupt society, it is a great challenge to ignore those obligations and to stand aside.

Before considering the two Books that bear his name, we will draw the Scriptural profile of Samuel. Samuel is portrayed in Scripture as the first of the group of Messianic Prophets which continued in a long unbroken line stretching to John the Baptist. Consider the following testimonies:

Acts 3:22-24; **"For Moses truly said into the fathers... A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto Me...Yea and all the prophets FROM Samuel...have likewise foretold of these days."** Samuel here is a historical "benchmark"—a figure in history, so significant that an entire era begins with him.

In the "Chapter of the Faithful" (Hebrews 11), Samuel is again recognised as the beginning of an era: **"for time would fail me to tell of ... Samuel and of the Prophets."** (v. 32) In



Acts 13:16-20; Paul compresses an amazing stretch of history beginning with the Exodus, and passing through the wilderness and the Judges era, without naming one person: **"Until Samuel the Prophet."** He is recognised by Paul as ushering in a new era in Israel's history. In Psa. 99:6 **"Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those that called upon Yahweh... and He answered them."** Here again, Samuel is recognised as the beginning of a new era in Israel's history, a new era in prophetic petitioning.

All of this began when a young boy responded to the call of Yahweh, and who, as a teenager, held fast to the Truth in a generation of great corruption. To understand this great man, we need to appreciate the great woman that stood behind him: his mother Hannah. For, behind a great man there is often a great woman. His mother Hannah was among a group, who, in the Scriptures, was of great significance; but as far as the world was concerned they were of no interest, for she was BARREN. In a society of advanced medicine and changing values, that is not as significant as it was in the days of Hannah, for to be barren was to be smitten, afflicted of God and a person of sorrows. There is much in 1 Samuel 1,2 which echos the feelings of Isaiah 53, and Hannah provides a wonderful shadow of the Suffering Servant.

Hannah means "Grace" or "Favour" and her name would have been a point of some thoughtless comments, seeing she was barren. It appears from 1Sam. 1 that Hannah was sorely provoked because of her condition, and greatly distressed. This would be magnified each year as she went to Jerusalem to keep the feasts, for there other mothers would proudly show their newborn children. Sooner or later all provocation will have its effect; and the only answer to this is prayer. So Hannah turned to prayer. But what a prayer! In this we learn a most significant thing about Samuel. He was one of only three men plainly identified in the Bible as a Nazarite! There was Samson, in the period of the Judges, Samuel, as the first of the Messianic prophets, and John the Baptist, who was the last of the Messianic prophets. If ever one wanted scriptural theme for an interesting subject, then the Nazarite would qualify as one of the greatest. Why? Because in a welter of laws under the Mosaic era, the Nazarite stands out as a voluntary decision, and one in which at least two things were unique!

The Nazarite Vow in Numbers 6 had two amazing results, apart from the voluntary aspect which is always greater than law. 1. **A man and a woman could achieve equality, as the vow could be taken by either.** 2. **It was the only sacrifice that provided for offering upon the altar a part of the human body** (Num. 6:18).

The significance of the Nazarite Vow cannot be overstated. Why? Because of all the people God could have used to introduce His son into the world, He chose a Nazarite. John the Baptist was borne into a family of impeccable qualifications as a Levitical priest. But he was called to be a Nazarite! There are very great implications here for teenagers, but they will form the basis of a separate article.

Suffice to observe here that Hannah intended Samuel's vow to be for LIFE. 1Sam. 1:11 says **"I will give him unto Yahweh all the days of his life."** Here is our first significant parallel. *The calling of brethren and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ is for life. There is no half measure in this matter. And all the teenagers of the Bible that we will be examining, knew and accepted that.*

When Hannah's fervent prayer for a manchild had been heard and Yahweh blessed her, she named her child "Samuel" which means "Asked of God". But he was more than that! he was the "ANSWER of God." Throughout his life Samuel represented the ANSWER of God. Recall Psa. 99:6, **"He ANSWERED them."** So Samuel's name came to represent a prayer AND an answer to prayer.

We might think that when Samuel was born, Hannah would proudly go to Jerusalem at the time of the feast and show off her new son, for all the sceptics had been shown wrong! But Hannah makes the unusual request of her husband Elkanah: **"But Hannah went not up, for she said unto her husband... I will not go up until the child be weaned... and then I will bring him**

that he may appear before Yahweh, AND THERE ABIDE FOREVER."

Was this a case of a possessive mother wanting time alone with her child? Hannah's mind was far above that type of thinking! She knew what conditions were like at Shiloh! There two of the most vile characters with their followers were to be found: Hophni and Phinehas and their corrupt Bible School. Their names stand for Violence and Deceit. Literally in the Hebrew the word Hophni means: "Hollow of Hand" and Phinehas: "Serpent's Mouth". Hannah made sure that Samuel was able to stand on his own two feet before he went into that company! You see, weaning has a far greater significance to the Hebrew than physical sustenance. At 12 years of age a Hebrew boy has a Bar-Mitzvah ceremony at which the impending teenager declares that he has become "a son of the commandment" and must obey the law independent of his family. The Lord Jesus stated that he would so act: **"Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business."**

So Hannah had a few precious years to ensure that Samuel was firmly based in the Truth and understood the significance of his calling. And, with ourselves, it is the same today. Up to the age of 12, prior to the tempestuous teen years, parents and children have an incredibly precious time to form bonds and identify priorities that will have to withstand the assaults of a degenerate world.

Finally the day came when Samuel was ready. How old was he? He must have been old enough to worship, for 1Sam. 1:28 says that when Samuel was taken to Eli at Shiloh **"He worshiped Yahweh there."** Regardless of his actual age young Samuel soon came to feel the challenges of the corrupt company round about him.

1 Samuel 2 describes this corrupt Bible School. Not only were Hophni and Phinehas committing appalling crimes, but they had young servants as understudies, and v13 records **"And the priests custom with the people was that when any man offered sacrifice, the PRIESTS SERVANT came while the flesh was in seething with a flesh-hook of three teeth in his hand... and struck it into the pan."** The priests' servant came with a Trinitarian Flesh-Hook! And if that wasn't bad enough, the offerers were told to hand over the fat to the priest, and if they didn't they would get a good hiding for their trouble. **"He would answer him, nay, but thou shalt give it me now, and if not, I will take it by force."** (v. 16).

The moral decay of the last days often puts terrible pressures on us, and that is true. But imagine what a challenge it would be for young Samuel to come into an environment of religious corruption and violence? Yet, in the midst of this terrible record, a ray of sunshine falls across the pages of the Word. Verse 26: **"And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour with Yahweh and also men."** What a wonderful echo here of Luke 2:52; **"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and Man."**

One person who was watching Samuel's growth closely, was his mother Hannah. Yes, she had taken him to Eli and returned home again to Ramah, but as all good mothers she had him in her mind and prayers and particularly made provision for his growth. v19 says **"Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him, from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice."**

Ah we say, how quaint, bringing Samuel a little coat! But there was far more than that involved. Here is a clear declaration that Hannah was providing a covering as he grew. Isn't that what all parents would wish to do? Hannah was a caring and thoughtful mother, for her son who was a perpetual Nazarite. Did you know that the record suggests that Hannah was a Nazarite too? Look closely at 1Sam11:15. v11 shows a very good understanding of Numbers 6, and the fact that the Nazarite Vow stood head and shoulders above the Law because it was voluntary. One of the main prime requisites of the Nazarite Vow was to abstain from Wine and Strong drink (Num.6:3). Look at what Hannah says to Eli when he had mistakenly judged her to be intoxicated. v15 **"I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink..." Words straight out of the Nazarite Vow!**

Can you see the implications of Hannah being a Nazarite, as well as her son? The vow allowed **"either a man or a woman..."** and for Samuel to understand what the Nazarite Vow

meant, there could be no better way than for his mother to show him. There are very urgent implications here for all parents. If you want your child to grow up in the spirit of Christ, then don't just tell them what to do, show them what to do!

With the deep division of practices between Hophni and Phinehas, and their father Eli who was basically a faithful man, one would expect Samuel to be shown serving Eli. But the record states with great significance in 1Sam.3:1; **"And the child Samuel Ministered unto Yahweh."** This must be the ultimate priority, and reflects Samuel's mind as a Nazarite. His mother had taught him well. He was not there to minister to Eli, but to Yahweh. And Jesus had the same priorities. **"My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me."**

1Sam. 3 is extremely important in the development of Samuel, as he grew into a young man. He was faced with conditions very similar to our own, and we can find great empathy with him. v1; **"And the Word of Yahweh was precious in those days for there was no open vision..."** We too live in a day of no open vision, for which reason the Word of Yahweh is very precious. The prophet Isaiah 26:3 makes a comment about the power of the mind in such situations. **"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed upon Thee."** The margin says for "mind" – "imagination". How true that is. We live in a world that is fighting to control our imagination. All sorts of diversions are available today, as in the days of Noah we read that **"...the imagination of the thoughts of their heart was only evil continually."**

It is for this reason that our early years in Sunday School and at home are absolutely vital. Young people have a very vivid imagination and it can be used for good or ill. Consider how another young man, who as a teenager made a lifelong decision because he SAW the promised land. Heb.11:24; **"By faith, Moses WHEN HE WAS COME TO YEARS, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter..."** Some commentators suggest that Moses was in his late teens, when this decision was made. What a decision! He could have had more than the heart could wish! But his mind was set fast ... **"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season... for he endured as SEEING HIM WHO IS INVISIBLE..."** guess where this man's mind was most of the time!?

So Samuel walked that same path. 1Sam.3:2 **"It came to pass at that time when Eli was laid down, in his place and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see."** Most commentators place this scene as during the night hours **"... when Eli was laid down."** But the record is suggesting further that Eli was laid down permanently, and was confined to bed. He was now unable to attend to all the duties that his sons Hophni and Phinehas were ignoring. It was for this reason that the Lampstand was about to go out. No one but Eli had been looking after it. And now comes that climactic moment in Samuel's life. Was God going to allow the Lampstand to go out? Only if there was no one faithful enough to tend to it. And thanks be to God and Hannah there was a young man with faith to not only tend to the Lampstand, but to tend to the Light of the Truth!

1Sam.3:3; **"And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of Yahweh, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep..."** this verse has implications for young men and women of the Truth everywhere. Inevitably one generation passes on, no longer able to perform those vital duties to ensure that the Light of the Truth shines forth... and God acts everytime. There is a call issued to young people throughout the world, respond to the call of Yahweh.

1Sam.3:4; **"Yahweh called Samuel, and he answered... here am I."** That Samuel was not being presumptuous is shown by the fact that he thought it was Eli calling. It also supports the idea that Eli was confined to bed. Yes, we might think that our calling comes from our parents or friends in the Truth, as they encourage us to respond to the invitation of the Truth... but ultimately it is the voice of God.

And will we respond? We may not if our attention is elsewhere, or engaged in affairs that take us away from God. Samuel sets us a very powerful example of one who was ready to serve... day or night!!





ISRAEL IN THE BALANCE

This stamp was issued as the Memorial Day Stamp in 1974. It graphically illustrates Israel in the balance with a net-camouflaged steel helmet on a striped prayer shawl, which some of the Israeli soldiers were still wearing, as on the Day of Atonement, 1973, in the midst of prayer, they were called to war.

On Memorial day, Israel mourns its fallen heroes. Dedicated to those who died so that the nation might be born and flourish. Memorial Day was chosen as that preceding Independence Day which is celebrated on the third day of the Jewish month of Iyar - the anniversary of the foundation of the State.

The list of wartime martyrs grows unhappily longer. Nearly 6000 fell in the 1948 War of Independence; the Sinai Campaign of 1956 added its toll, as did the victory of the Six Day War of June 1967.

But, to quote a Jewish source: "Acclaimed in military circles everywhere for its expert handling against overwhelming odds, the Six Day War engendered a sense of exhilaration and accomplishment. Jerusalem was regained and the Western Wall of Herod's ancient Temple was back in Jewish hands, while the conquest of the Sinai Peninsula, of the Golan Heights and of the west bank of the Jordan gave the land protection from its enemies."

The following six years witnessed great progress throughout the land. Then, on October 6th, 1973, the Day of Atonement, the most hallowed day in the Jewish Calendar - when the members of Israel's civilian army were gathered together for communal worship, the enemy suddenly attacked, armed with the most diabolical and sophisticated Soviet-manufactured missiles.

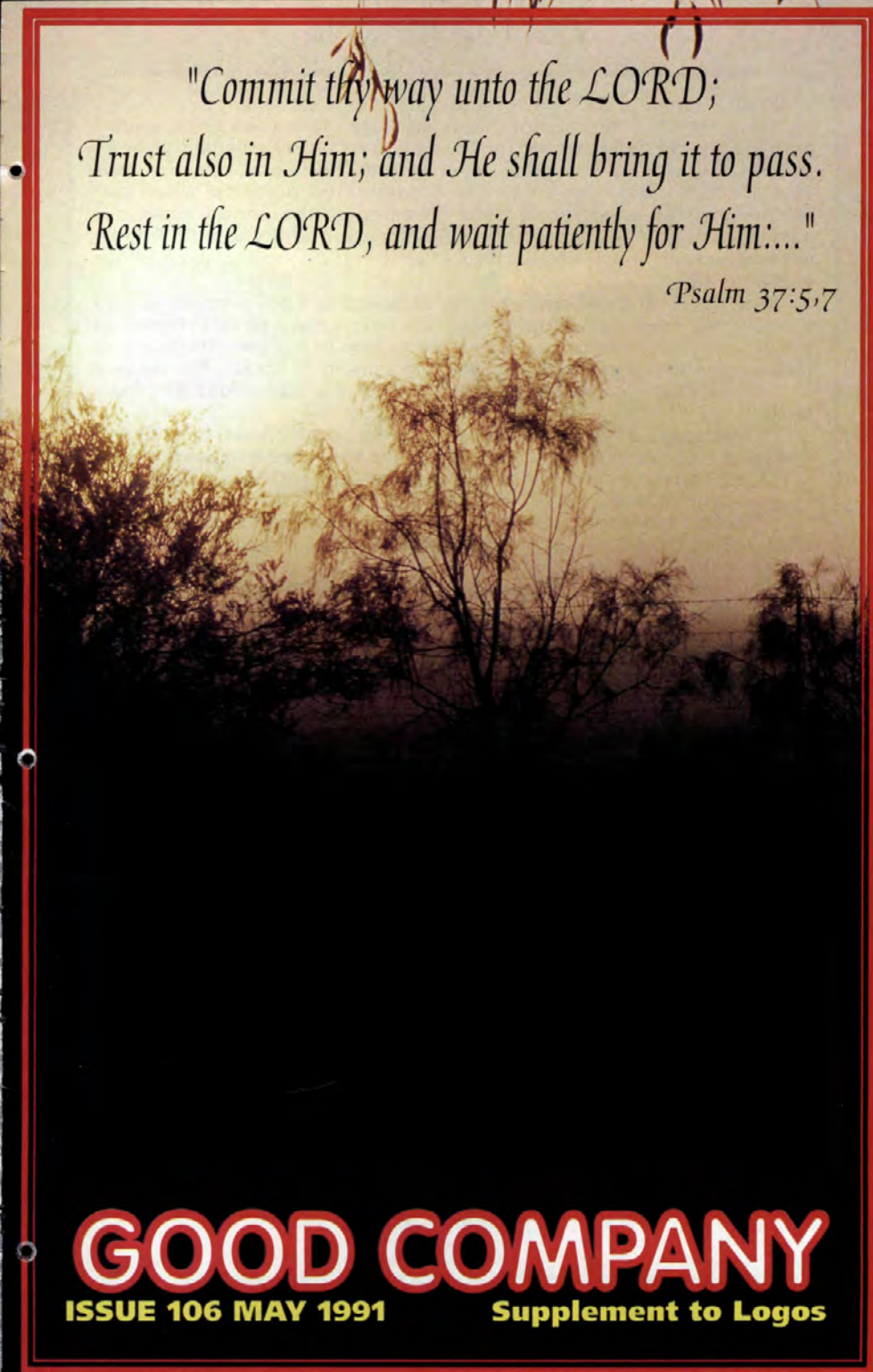
Immediately the reservists' call-up went into effect. On this holiest day of the year for Jews, when the roads are normally deserted, when there are neither radio nor television programmes and only the chanting of prayers breaks the silence, emergency orders were sent out over the radio and by telephone. Trucks raced through the streets collecting men and boys streaming out of the synagogues and hurrying them off to their bases. Many were still wearing their "Taliith."

For several days Israel's fate hung in the balance while the world awaited the final outcome. Could this small nation, with a working population of barely one million, hold its own against the combined strength of the Arabs backed by the Soviet? But it did. The enemy was turned back, and once again, Israel was saved out of disaster. Once again the symbol of the burning bush not consumed was displayed before mankind; once again it could be said of the nation: "When thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee" (Isa.43:2). The time will come when Israel will be completely humbled; when reverses shall force Jews to proclaim: "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of Yahweh" (Mat.23:39).

Then they will see and recognise their Messiah, and will be completely saved by a victory that will exceed that of the Red Sea in its wonder and its effect (Jer.16:14-18).

*"Commit thy way unto the LORD;
Trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.
Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him:...."*

Psalm 37:5,7



GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 106 MAY 1991

Supplement to Logos

My Dear Boys and Girls,

What useful little members our ears are. When we were young perhaps we did not think so, for then our ears always seemed to be in trouble. It wasn't an enjoyable experience that first made us conscious that we had ears – I refer to the oft-repeated occasion when our mother insisted on washing them! Then come the period when our ears (speaking of boys) seemed to be made for adults to pull. Finally, we reached the stage – let us pass over it quickly – when we had our ears boxed.

In spite of all these unfortunate experiences I am sure we are all thankful we have ears, and can hear. We have grown so accustomed to the ordinary sounds that reach us – the talking of people – the noise of traffic – the barking of noisy dogs – the singing of birds – the melody of music – that we can forget that hearing is a marvellous gift from God.

People speak of the wonders of the radio or telephone, but the real marvel is that we can hear sounds at all. We know the explanation:

"The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made them even both of them" Prov. 20:12

Sometimes people lose the power of hearing, maybe as the result of an accident, or through old age, or some other cause, in which case their situation is very sad indeed.

You will remember when Christ was upon the earth he healed many who were deaf. This was a miracle which caused the astonished people to exclaim: *"He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak"* Mark 7:37.

The blessing of Christ's healing power will again be experienced when the Kingdom of God is established.

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped". Isa. 35:5

Those who are to assist Christ in this glorious work will be those who have used their ears to hear the instruction of God now. It is possible to have excellent hearing and yet not to hear what is said to us. Sometimes boys and girls at Sunday School or at meetings have not heard a word that the teachers have addressed to the classes. The fact is we can listen with ease to that which appeals to our natural tastes, but it requires an effort to listen to the things of God. Let us always remember that God is pleased when we listen intently to what His Word records. *"Unto you who hear shall more be given"* Mark 4:24.

I hope all the boys and girls who read this letter will make the effort and will hearken to the teaching of God, whether it come from parents or Sunday School teachers, so that they may in the end be found worthy of association with Christ in the glories of his reign.

Your friend,

Uncle Philip

P.S. There is nobody as deaf as he who will not listen.



"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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OUR AMAZING WORLD

The Lyre Bird

There are more than 8500 species of birds created by God in our Amazing World! Some have similar characteristics, they fly, they run, and some swim, but they never cease to astound us. Not the least interesting of these is "Natures Amazing Mimic" the Lyre Bird. These birds, in particular the male, can mimic almost any sound. They roam many parts of Eastern Australia Rain Forests, roving the Great Dividing Range which runs from north to south of the continent of Australia.

The Lyre bird can imitate the sounds of many birds – but that is not all, the sounds of an axe hitting tree trunks... twanging of wire fences... car horns and engines... and even the puffing of trains have all been heard mimicked by this strange copycat! A pet Lyre bird in Victoria is known to reproduce the sounds of a piano and violin. One report I have read tells of a writer from Sydney who took his typewriter to the Hawkesbury River to finish writing a book; when returning to the same place again, he was unnerved to hear typewriters chattering all around him – Lyre birds again!

Their name is such because of the shape of the fully framed tail of the male bird resembling the curved arms of a lyre (a Greek musical instrument).

The female birds are quieter and not so pretty (that's not really like mankind is it?). There are two relatives, "The Prince Albert Lyre Bird" and the "Superb Lyre bird". Much of their time is spent scratching amongst sticks and leaves, tearing decaying logs apart with their powerful feet, seeking food of insects, worms and small land mollusks found in mulch in forest gullies.



During mating time the male scratches up a number of mounds about one metre across, where he dances and sings to woo his bride. Having travelled in some of these areas mentioned, we have heard them more frequently than actually seeing them, which seems to be the general rule. This is just the opposite to that which was required when I was a boy. We were to be seen and not heard! We were to think before speaking, consider if what we were going to say was true – not nasty – not telling idle tales

PART TWO

Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness

Samuel

by Bro Shane Kingsbury

In our last segment we left Samuel as a young boy, hearing what he thought was the call of Eli, as the aged man lay confined in bed. The lamp of Yahweh was about to go out in the Tabernacle. This was a sad hour as Eli's two sons Hophni and Phinehas had developed a corrupt Bible School, and were apparently nowhere to be found to attend to the basic duties of the Tabernacle. So Yahweh calls Samuel, and here begins one of the most significant responses to God in the annals of Teenage service to God.

In 1 Sam.3:4; it is evident that whilst Samuel had lain down in the dark hours of the night, he was alert for the slightest need of Eli, and in so doing fulfils one of the basic principles of the Bible: **"In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these my servants, ye have done it unto me."** And at the first call Samuel **"ran unto Eli and said, here I am, for thou callest me"**. This was repeated again without either Eli or Samuel realising that the call came from Yahweh.

The record explains why Samuel did not realise that it was God calling for it says.. **"Now Samuel did not yet know Yahweh...."** Some have concluded that Samuel was ignorant of Yahweh; but this would be inconsistent with the education given him by Eli, and also his calling as a Nazarite. What we are being told is that Samuel had not yet reached that critically important point of dialogue with Yahweh. This conclusion is supported by the next statement of v7; **"...neither was the word of Yahweh yet revealed unto him."** The record is clearly saying that Samuel had not to this point reached the age and maturity that he could be called as a prophet.

But the time had now come for this teenage servant of Eli to speak to the Father, and to begin one of the most fascinating periods of Israel's entire history, when after the long period of the Judges, in which there was no open vision, there was now to be commenced by a teenager a long line of prophets stretching to John the Baptist!

Eli, finally perceives that something absolutely momentous was occurring, and he instructed Samuel how to respond. How Eli's old heart must have been beating. He knew what his sons had been doing, but for reasons perhaps of old age, he had been able to do little to restrain them. Any message from God now would be sure to contain judgements against these vile men. But Eli waits for Samuel to be ordained a prophet and bring his message. And it was more than a message! In 1 Sam.3:9 Eli instructs Samuel on how to respond to the next call. **"Speak Yahweh, for Thy Servant heareth."**

Think carefully about what is happening here. God has called Samuel twice, and twice Samuel has not understood what was happening. There comes a time in the life of a teenager when perception in Godly things undergoes a significant change. The emphasis turns from response to parental requests, to response to the voice of God, in our case through the Word, but still a very significant change and a wonderful thing to behold. Samuel's experience is being recorded for Teenagers today who will, without doubt recognise their own time when it comes.

Samuel was absolutely truthful in his response to the suggestion of Eli. Eli had directed Samuel to say v9 **"Speak Yahweh for Thy servant heareth.."** but Samuel, according to v7 **"did not yet know Yahweh.."** so he deliberately changes his response slightly to v10.. **"Speak, for Thy servant heareth.."** He does not use the memorial name until he understands and responds personally to Yahweh.

There is here a sound principle. It is desirable that young children learn to understand and respond to Yahweh, before using that all important memorial Name.

Continued on page 11

Good Company Competitions

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Walkerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

BALLINA: Philip Window, Peter Window **BOULAROO:** Jessica Glachan, James Glachan, Kim Glachan, Lauren Wiltshire, Jared Wiltshire, Naomi Lake, Johanna Lynch, Emma Taylor, Daniel Taylor, Zoe Lake, Amy Schofield **CAMPBELL:** Angela Mansfield, Belinda Mansfield, Nicole Mansfield, Alicia Mansfield, Jared Pogson, Karlie Pogson, Shannon Pogson **DUNOON:** Renee Patch, Ashley Barrett, Kirralie Barrett **GOSFORD:** Kate Taylor **GRANVILLE:** Andrew Hadley, Rochelle Hadley, Joshua Warner **LISMORE:** Linda Whitehead, Ashley Benson, Paul Benson, Rachel Benson, Sean Benson, Alicia Hart, Nicole James, Anna Jones, Scott Jones, Shelley Jones, Simon Jones, Luke Ormig, Matthew Ormig, Anna Smith, Joshua Smith, Luke Smith, Sarah Smith, Tabitha Burney, David Ormig **MITTAGONG:** Benjamin Carroll, Jenny King, Cameron Madden, Natalie Madden, Andrew McKinlay, David McKinlay, Kylie McKinlay, David Nancarrow, Ronald Nancarrow, Martin Russell, Sally Russell, Emily Unwin **PUNCHBOWL:** Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Kerry Mansfield, Scott Maunder, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Anthea Shead, Nicholas Wolstencroft, Steven Wolstencroft, Adam Pogson, Sarah Stretton **RIVERWOOD:** Belinda Dennes, Luke Hamlin, John Dennes, James Dennes, Stuart Bowen, Ben Gilmore, Julia Gilmore, Kathryn Gilmore, Nathan Gilmore, Anna Kruger, Erik Kruger, Gavin McGuigan, Adam McGuigan, Andrew Rosser, Peter Rosser, Philip Rosser, James Woodberry, **SYDNEY:** Belinda Errington **YAGOONA:** Paula McAllister, Malinda McKinlay, Terry McKinlay, Matthew Walters, Peter Walters, Benjamin Wolstencroft, David Wolstencroft, Margaret Wolstencroft, Nathanael Wolstencroft, **COORPAROO:** Emily Symes, Jeremy Venn, Jessica Venn, Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward, Joshua Venn **REDCLIFFE:** Lesley Evans, Myles Evans, Samuel Evans, Suzanna Riley **TOWNSVILLE:** Elizabeth Caltabiano, Jonathan Caltabiano **WILSTON:** Alisha Clark, Amanda Clark, Adam Clarke, Amelia Clarke, Eleanor Clarke, Nicole Clarke, Fiona Jose, Roseanne Jose, Joanna Kilgus, Leah Kilgus, Linda Kilgus, Michael Kilgus, Felicity Lewis, Nathan Lewis, Varily Lewis, Matthew Papowski, Melinda Papowski, Abigail Sweatman, John Sweatman, Peter Sweatman, Narelle Venn, Rebecca White, Sarah White, Caleb Witton, Isaac Witton **ABERFOYLE PARK:** Brenton Hill, Felicity Hill, **BRIGHTON:** Abigail Moorhouse **CUMBERLAND:** Jordana Boyle, Hannah Islip, Tirzah Islip, Amy Johns, Samuel Johns, Naomi Phillips, Hannah Thomas, Danielle Samwell, Kelly Samwell, Kathryn Wigzell, Rolland Johns, Christopher Lawrie **ENFIELD:** Jerushah Bell, Seth Bell, Brendan Gore, Rebekah Horwood, Daniel LePoidevin, Nathan Petiet, Ruth Pickard, Jamie Scott, Natasha Scott, Aaron Smith, Danielle Smith, Elisa Smith, Joshua Smith, Ben Keynes **GOLDEN GROVE:** Matthew Petiet, Johnathon Derecki, Darrell Petiet, Simeon Petiet, Hannah Travers, Jesse Bennett, Tamar Jamieson, Rebekah Kemp, Sarah Kemp, Abigail Jamieson, Simeon Barr, Joanna Black, Belinda York, Kathy Black, Sharon Cowie, Ben Nolan, Amanda Black, Rebecca Cowie, Sara Travers, Deborah Cowie, Samuel Barr, Philip Nolan, Ben Cowie, Anthea Fergusson, Luke Hyndman, Samuel Travers **GLENCOCK:** Jeremy Lunn, David Palmer **MURRAY BRIDGE:** Naomi Thomas **SALISBURY:** Haylee Bavin, Joshua Bavin, Sharon Forster, Joshua Hauser, Sarah Hauser, Alana Mutch, Samuel Mutch, Lydia Minkenko, Tamar Mutch, Hannah Ridings, Joanne Ridings, Benjamin Tonna, Joanna Derecki, Sarah Osborn, **TEA TREE GULLY:** Peter Bain, Rachel Bain, Philemon Burney, Samuel

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100 MARKS: Sarah Johnson, Danielle Smith, Elisa Smith, Brenton Hill, Hannah Islip, Joanne Ward, Tamar Jamieson, Abigail Jamieson, Jenny King, Joanna King, Shannon Pogson, James Glachan, Karlie Pogson, Sarah Crewes, Reuben Cridland, Jessica Glower, Nina Hoppe, Scott Maunder
200 MARKS: Cheralae Scolyer, Belinda Gore **300 MARKS:** Julia Gilmore, Rebekah Pearson

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than **JUNE 1st** for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company

Good Company

SENIOR COMPETITION 9 & OVER

On a piece of paper write out the names of the books of the Bible that you find in the word square below.

Submitted by Emma Cowell
(Wellington, NZ)

A	J	U	D	G	E	S	☆	A	E	D
M	S	I	S	E	N	E	G	C	S	E
O	☆	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	T	U
S	☆	☆	L	E	U	M	A	S	H	T
E	X	O	D	U	S	L	U	K	E	E
P	N	E	H	E	M	I	A	H	R	R
E	☆	E	Z	R	A	J	O	B	☆	O
T	Z	E	C	H	A	R	I	A	H	N
E	L	E	V	I	T	I	C	U	S	O
R	U	T	H	I	H	C	A	L	A	M
☆	H	A	N	O	J	O	E	L	☆	Y

☆ Total Marks for whole competition: 15 marks

There are ... men's names in this word square below.

Submitted by Verity Lewis & Linda Kilgus
(Wilston)

J	E	R	E	M	I	A	H	☆	N	☆
M	D	G	Z	C	J	O	S	I	A	H
A	A	I	E	A	☆	D	☆	☆	D	A
T	V	D	K	I	P	A	U	L	S	L
T	I	E	I	N	J	N	J	M	E	E
H	D	O	E	☆	O	I	O	A	T	S
E	O	N	L	M	N	E	B	R	H	U
W	R	A	O	I	A	L	U	K	E	H
☆	E	D	T	C	H	H	A	R	E	T
☆	H	A	N	A	N	I	A	S	☆	E
H	A	M	☆	H	S	U	S	E	J	M

Carolyn Thiele from the Cumberland Sunday School asks in which book of the Bible would you find mentioned:

- (i) Creation; (ii) Solomon's Temple; (iii) Journey of Israelites; (iv) The Lord is my shepherd; (v) Jesus is born; (vi) Noah's ark; (vii) Elisha; (viii) Daniel in lion's den; (ix) Jesus is killed; (x) Elijah.

The names in the below word square remind us of the

12 a _ _ _ _ _

Submitted by Amanda Lunn
(Glenlock)

M	A	T	T	H	E	W	W
☆	P	E	T	E	R	☆	E
☆	H	J	A	M	E	S	M
S	I	N	O	M	I	S	O
U	L	1	2	☆	L		
E	I	T		A	O		
D	P	N	H	S	J	N	H
D	J	O	O	E	U	D	T
A	O	M	M	M	D	R	R
H	H	I	A	A	A	E	A
T	N	S	S	J	S	W	B

The words in the square below remind us of the stories of

_____ the prophet.

Submitted by Jared Schipper
(Stirling)

T	H	G	U	O	R	D	J
☆	D	U	O	L	C	E	☆
F	O	U	R	M	Z	☆	☆
☆	B	☆	☆	E	R	I	F
S	A	☆	B	A	H	A	☆
T	A	E	☆	L	☆	W	G
S	L	A	M	I	N	A	O
E	A	☆	D	U	S	T	D
I	M	P	R	A	Y	E	D
R	B	☆	N	I	A	R	U
P	P	E	O	P	L	E	M

Continued from page 6

There is nothing magic about the Name. But it does represent a level of understanding that the young Samuel was only just beginning to perceive.

"And Yahweh said to Samuel..." There begins now a time of Divine revelation that had not occurred for many years. But Samuel was deeply afraid of the judgements that were to come on the house of Eli, as was revealed in the prophecy now placed into his hands by God. **"And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of Yahweh...and Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision."** What a night that must have been! For the first time in his life Samuel had spoken with God! But the message had been one of judgement against the man that he had come to regard as his father. Samuel was torn apart with conflicting emotions. But as the dawn broke he began to see that if it was his duty to open the doors of Yahweh's house, then it was also his duty to open up the Word of Yahweh as well!

This realisation, that we must face the Truth of Yahweh, coming as it does with condemnation of sinful flesh, along with the more easily conducted duties, marks a milestone in the development in the Teenagers of the Bible. We must be prepared to espouse ALL the Truth.

Note how Eli speaks to Samuel, in the morning. He uses that phrase that is so revealing...and is an echo of the time when Jesus came to years and no doubt had to resolve the same conflict as we see here... 1 Sam.3:16; **"Then Eli called Samuel and said... SAMUEL MY SON..."**

How that tender father-to-son greeting must have torn Samuel's heart, and how it must have torn the heart of a greater son than Samuel, as he stood in the temple, disputing with the Rabbi's and knowing that he had to reveal ALL the Truth. Here there is an echo of Samuel's experience **"whist ye not that I must be about my Fathers business?"** Finally we see Samuel matured in a matter of hours.. v18; **"And Samuel told him every whit and hid nothing from him..."**

Here is the ultimate sign of maturity for teenagers. That they might walk in the steps of Samuel! How soul searching that can be. I remember in my own case, my mother (none of my family were in the Truth) threatened to take her life if I went ahead and was baptised. She lived alone and had nothing in life but her children. I spent several sleepless nights agonising over this situation...and finally accepted that Yahweh was in control and could if He willed, prevent my mother from taking this terrible step. I was baptised...and she moderated her stand. I was called up for military service nine days later. How important was that decision then to the magistrate who heard my application for exemption from military service.. He was able to see that my decision was not just one of convenience, and after a two day hearing I was granted total exemption.

1 Sam.3:19-20; There follows now one of the most heart-warming sections of Scripture in the whole of the Old Testament..**"And Samuel grew, and Yahweh was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground."** Think about that statement, **"And did let none of his words fall to the ground."** It is evident that what came out of Samuel's mouth, was the Word! And God could rightly **"let none fall to the ground."**

To the teenage readers we say.."Could it be said of all that comes out of our mouth, Yahweh would be pleased to let none of them fall to the ground?" Are there words coming from our mouth those of which we are ashamed ? Yet even one of the greatest men in the Bible admitted this..."**I am of uncircumcised lips..."** Moses spoke those words in Ex.6:30.

"And all Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of Yahweh." Notice the marginal rendition in the A.V for "established". The word means "faithful", a rare quality in Israel! Here is Samuel, as a teenager, showing an example which older people could not show! In a later series we will introduce other young men who in their youth captured that elusive quality of "faith".

"From Dan." What a sad commentary! Read the record of Judges 17 & 18 to see the terrible record of this tribe, way up north. They have the dubious distinction of being the only tribe that walked away from their inheritance. And a teenager features in their history, but we will not highlight this here, for it is a story of confusion, ignorance and

Good Company

failure. The one redeeming feature is found in 1 Sam. 3:20 where at least the news of Samuel had penetrated to the tribe of Dan, way up in the north. Thus, walking in the midst of Israel was a teenager revealing to the nation of Israel what faith really meant! The implications for teenagers today are obvious.

"And Yahweh appeared again in Shiloh; for Yahweh revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh, by the word of Yahweh. What a wonderful comment this is. After years of no open vision there has at last appeared a man to whom Yahweh could reveal Himself. And it was to a teenager! But notice the type of vision. This was not face to face as Moses experienced. This appearance was one in which there is great relevance for us. For Yahweh appeared **"by the word of Yahweh."** And that is exactly how He appears to young men and women today! We may lament the fact that we do not have the overpowering visions as the prophets.. but we have something just as powerful..the Word!

1 Sam.4:1 **"And the word of Samuel came to all Israel..."** That is the last we hear of Samuel for some 20 years! This is not to say that Samuel faded into the background, but he apparently set up his home at Ramah and developed a "circuit" which took him from there to Mizpeh and other places throughout Israel manifesting the Word of Yahweh. There is no doubt however that the record from here to the end of 1 Sam. 6; is silent about Samuel, and speaks of the terrible catastrophe that befell Israel.. The Ark of the Covenant was lost to the Philistines. Let us take a look and try to understand what happened during this period, that we might appreciate Samuel's dramatic and powerful appearance again in 1 Samuel 7.

1 Sam. 4:1; **"Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle."** It is doubtful if this was the immediate effect of Samuel for as the record goes on to show, Israel took this action without consulting Yahweh, and in ignorance of the fact that Hophni and Phinehas were still there, influencing and poisoning the people like gangrene. **"And pitched beside Eben-Ezer and the Philistines pitched in Aphek."** What a classic standoff this is - Israel in their false confidence and bravado pitch beside "The Stone of Help" (Eben-Ezer). They neither knew of the real Stone of Help nor understood the

**I often think of times to come,
Am I doing what our Lord would have done?
He is watching us, we can not hide,
Although I know we've often tried.**

**We always sin, from day to day,
We need to stop and think and pray.
Ask yourself throughout the day,
Am I going the right way?**

**Very soon Christ will return,
We as children must study and learn,
So when he comes our light will shine,
Bright and strong, yours and mine.**

*by Debbie Making
Maple Ridge Sunday School.
Canada.*

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principles of salvation as the record will show. Samuel is not mentioned because he apparently was not amongst this shallow crew. There is a marked difference here to a later occasion when another teenager (David) faced the Philistines although until his appearance the camp of Israel knew they could not take on the Philistines and cowered for 40 days until David's arrival.

1 Sam.4:2; "And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel, and when they joined battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines... And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, Wherefore hath Yahweh smitten us today before the Philistines? Let us fetch the Ark of the Covenant of Yahweh out of Shiloh unto us that when it cometh amongst us it may save us out of the hand of our enemies." What a sad testimony this is of Israel's spiritual understanding. Note that there is no thought of Samuel and his mediation. Much later they realise that mistake.

Read the two verses again. Firstly there is this outrage that Yahweh had smitten them, and for what reason? No thought at all of the terrible crimes being perpetrated by Hophni and Phinehas, and the absence of any action against them. And then the next statement takes your breath right away! They thought that the solution is to race down to Shiloh, get the ark on a wheel barrow, and race it up to Eben-Ezer "that when IT cometh amongst us IT may save us" They thought that God's salvation could be obtained by a bit of quick religious quackery! And the following language positively drips with significance!

1 Sam.4:4; "So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence THE ARK OF THE COVENANT OF YAHWEH OF ARMIES, WHICH DWELLETH BETWEEN THE CHERUBIM; AND THE TWO SONS OF ELI, HOPHNI AND PHINEHAS WERE THERE!" What weighty and significant words are these! Consider the moral contrast between the former words emphasising as they do the moral content of God's name and the latter, highlighting the evil moral presence of Hophni and Phinehas! The two cannot co-exist together, particularly in light of the actions now taken to bring the Ark up in a "fruit barrow"! But the actions of the ELDERS of Israel reaches a new height of ignorance and presumption!

1 Sam.4:5; "And when the Ark of the Covenant of Yahweh came into the camp, ALL ISRAEL SHOUTED WITH A GREAT SHOUT!" Now why did they do that? A moments thought will reveal just what it was they were expecting! Can you recall a previous occasion when the ark was with them, and with a great shout victory was theirs? Bear in mind the Philistines lodged in Aphek which means "a fortress". They were trying to duplicate the circumstances of Joshua and Jericho! On that occasion (which was vastly different) The people gave a great shout as the Ark went round the walls of Jericho. But on that occasion the people were united and faithful under Joshua.

Now we have those two corrupt priests, Hophni and Phinehas, the people in confusion, and the baseless belief that the Ark held some kind of spell, that when "IT cometh amongst us IT may save us." They could not have been more wrong! They had in their possession..."The Ark of the Covenant.." with all the responsibility that went with it..."of Yahweh of Armies" and all the expectations that accompanied that ..."which dwelleth between the Cherubim" with the weight of responsibility that carried! And the record say..."and the earth rang again." The Hebrew implies that the cliffs and rocks of Aphek carried back their hollow cry. Nothing happened to the Philistines. The Israelites were expecting a great earthquake and the roar of crumbling rock! All they got was the hollow echo of their own voices! This day was one of the greatest tragedies in all Israel's history. In the consequent uproar, the Philistines strengthened themselves and the Ark of the Covenant was taken by them for a period of many years.

There was no further record of Samuel until after many years. The teenager Samuel, had grown to full adulthood and re-appears in a wonderful restoration and victory of Israel against the Philistines. And it is there where we will take up our pen in the next issue God Willing and will see the final ministrations of Samuel before the King, in Beth-Car.."The House of a Lamb".



World Stamp Exhibition Tel Aviv תערוכת בולים עולמית תל אביב

ISRAPHIL 85 ישראפיל 85



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Attempting the Impossible

This souvenir stamp was issued in 1985 for the World Stamp Exhibition called Israphil. It is an impossible attempt to link the three religions: Christianity – so called, Judaism and Islam together. It is claimed that they have a common basis: belief in one God. But the Unitarianism of Islamic and Judaistic beliefs is contrary to the Trinitarianism of Catholicism. Whilst all three repudiate the true Messiah or Redeemer.

Where all are astray is in the ignorance of the doctrine of God Manifestation as exhibited in the Lord Jesus Christ. Catholicism views him as the second person of the Trinity: Judaism merely as a great teacher: Islam as a lesser prophet.

What all must ultimately recognise is that he is the greatest of the Prophets to whom it is incumbent upon all to hearken (Deut. 18:18); not only a great teacher, but the manifestation of the Father in every way.

Jesus asked of the Pharisees, "What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he?" They answered, "The son of David". The Lord responded, "Why then does David in spirit call him Lord?" (Matt. 22:42-46). There was no answer to that question. It baffled the Pharisees. Because the Lord is more than the Messiah, the Son of David. He is the Son of Yahweh, the manifestation of the Divine Glory (Luke 1:32; 2 Sam. 7:12-14). It is this that the whole world must recognise before it can embrace the Truth. The Jews will be compelled to acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ not merely as their Messiah, but as the

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manifestation of Yahweh. They must comprehend the doctrine of God Manifestation in Christ before they will be brought within the compass of the Divine covenant in the age to come. Zechariah predicts: "I Yahweh will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon Me (Yahweh) whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him (the Lord Jesus Christ) as one mourneth for his only son..." (Zech. 12:10). In rejecting Jesus, the Jewish people reject Yahweh (see Matt. 10:40; John 5:23; 13:20), in crucifying him they repudiate the principle of God Manifestation. Before they will be accepted in the Age to come, they must recognise this, and see in Jesus Christ the manifestation of the Father (1 Tim. 3:16). They will be compelled to say "Surely God is in thee" (Isa. 45:14). To recognise him as "The wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). This requires that they acknowledge the Divine begettal of the Lord, the revelation of the Divine character in flesh, and his identification with Yahweh. For so-called Christians it requires the rejection of the Doctrine of the Trinity; for the Bible teaching is God in multiplicity, not God in Trinity. Christ's followers will likewise manifest the Divine excellencies as "heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ" (Rom. 8:17. See Rom. 5:1-2; 2 Pet. 1:4; Rev.3:12). Islam too, must reject its false concept of Mohommed, to accept the Truth in Christ Jesus. This all mankind will do ultimately (Jer. 16:19-21).



READERS WRITE

I thought I would write you a letter to tell you how much my family likes the Good Company. I am 9, my brother is 6 and I have a little sister called Jemima who is 3. She loves to colour in her competition while we do ours, and she is really funny. My name is Sarah, it means "Princess". My brother is called Adam, our first man, and Jemima means "White Dove", which is a symbol of peace. Jemima's hair is snowwhite but she doesn't give us much peace! Did you know that Jemima was one of Job's daughters? From Sarah Crews.

Thank you for the book, it was very nice. I went for a swim today after I had helped Dad milk the cows. Dad and Mum brought me a ten speed bike, and I can even change the gears on it! I let Dad use it to bring in the cows. We are having Vegetable Pie for tea and Mum is now serving it up so I'll have to go. Love from Simon Clark (New Zealand).

At the moment in the United States it is winter. It is cold but we probably won't have any snow for a while. It is nice where we live for we are not in a big city but in a small town between Batavia and Rochester. In our family there are 5 children and 2 adults. Scott is the oldest child and I am the next, then Becky, Timothy and Amanda. My parents are Linda and William and we all live in an old farm house well over 100 years old. Our Ecclesia is in Rochester with 17 people of which 8 are children. Recently we had a Sunday School picnic in a nearby park. We played games including Bible jeopardy which is a trivia game where you pick the category then someone gives you the answer and you give the question. Just before that we went to the Buffalo Ecclesia, and after the Meeting all the different Sunday School Classes did a special item. My class with Scott and Becky had written papers on the Tabernacle, each of us doing a different section. The class Timothy is in did Bible charades, and the class Amanda is in did the Ten Plagues, and the class from Buffalo did some Parables. Lots of Love to all our Good Company friends, Stacey Leartheisech. (U.S.A.)

A Well of Wisdom...

→ Grumbling is one of the easiest things in the world to learn, but it is the most unprofitable after it is learned. It is useless to one who engages in it, for it never made a rough road smoother, a heavy burden lighter, or a long day shorter. It never mends ills, it always adds to them. And it is a useless business to other people, for it furnishes wares that nobody wants.

→ Punctuality is a form of faithfulness. It is in keeping of a covenant. Unpunctuality will generally be found associated with looseness in other matters. God is punctual in the execution of all His works, whether in the movement of the heavenly bodies or the fulfilment of His plans and promises; and His children are commanded to be like Him.

→ God is not angry with those who chew the cud, but with the unclean beasts that take His Word, bolt it, and think nothing more about it.

Bro. R. Roberts

GOOD COMPANY

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Supplement to Logos

"Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad... let the field be joyful, and all that is therein; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice"

Psalm 96:12



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My Dear Boys and Girls,

While turning over the pages of an Encyclopaedia recently, I came across the subject of writing, which was defined as follows: "The art of communicating ideas on some more or less durable surface, by means of signs intelligible to the eye, with a view to their transmission to others, or their preservation for future generations." Handwriting is still one of the three "R's" taught in every school, but judging from the atrocious writing of even the most educated people, the teachers efforts do not appear to be very successful. Most forms which are sent out by government departments requires of the person filling it in its details, to do so in block letters so that it can be read. There are two reasons why handwriting is not treated seriously in these days, firstly the invention of printing, and secondly the use of the typewriter. The latter is of fairly recent origin, and most letters sent out by business houses are now typewritten. The art of handwriting was certainly affected to some extent by the introduction of the printing press. Previously, not only letters but all books were written by hand, and if you visit a Museum, you will see many examples of beautifully illuminated books all done by hand.

In olden times handwriting was carved in stone, or impressed on clay tablets which were then baked. It was also written on papyrus and skins and on many other substances. At Ur of the Chaldees, in the time of Abraham, there were big libraries, and later both Alexandria in Egypt and Athens in Greece were noted for vast libraries.

One of the most impressive instances of writing is that recorded in Exodus. Moses had ascended Mount Sinai to receive the divine Law for the nation of Israel, and it is written:

"And God gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God" (Exo. 31:18).

In the book of Genesis occurs the interesting account of how God confounded the language of the people at Babel. There is no doubt this was also the origin of the differing forms of writing adopted by various nations, some of these characters you may have seen, such as Hebrew, Greek, Egyptian, Chinese, German, etc. 'In the good providence of God, the Holy Scriptures are to be found today in every important language that is written. Yet how few there are that appreciate these Holy Writings—Writings given by inspiration of God through Holy men of old, and preserved in the providence of God so that all can read them and come to know their saving truth. People will spend time and money on novels and other trashy writings of men, to the neglect of God's Word. Things will be very different when Jesus returns then the Holy Scriptures will be valued and loved.

For then I will turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the Name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent" (Zeph. 3: 9).

Uncle Philip



"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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Our Amazing World

THE SLOTH



Though the sloth as an animal is not recorded in the Bible, the characteristics of this peculiar creature, are mentioned in type many times. It depicts a person of lazy, indolent and feeble disposition, one who is missing opportunities—but this does not indicate necessarily that the sloth is such whilst living his or her life.

But should we be like this animal it is time to wake up! Snap out of such habits for we have not been created in vain. God has a wonderful purpose with us if we desire to manifest His ways; for we have been separated to become His children.

There are two types of sloth's, some have two toes, whilst others have three toes on each foot. Their toes are very useful, not only for walking, but unlike most mammals, hanging by all four legs from horizontal limbs of trees. These powerful hooked toes or claws also enable it to make its way very slowly through the overhead jungle.

These odd fellows live with many other animals, such as pythons, monkeys, some of the smaller cats and beautiful birds in large rain forests, in the Amazon and other valleys of South America. These areas are constantly wet, hot and humid, a climate where the air is perfumed by all sorts of jungle odours.

The sloth in appearance is a most unusual sight. In size they are about

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as big as a large domestic cat. Their neck and head are the same proportion so that the head appears to grow straight out from its powerful shoulders, and swivels 270° (360° is a full circle) so it always has a good view in all directions, whilst hanging upside down. It has no obvious ears and the eyes look dreamy and half closed. They have teeth in their cheeks, not in the gums, and feed on leaves and buds of flowers etc. These animals are most peculiar for their arms are longer than their legs, and the hair on their body grows from the tummy to the back, in the opposite direction to other animals. When hanging upside down the water runs off very easily as each hair is singularly grooved. This groove becomes infested with an algae plant that makes the Sloth look green and marvellously camouflaged in its surroundings; which does not worry the Sloth for caterpillars and moths living on the Sloth then feed on the algae!!

But for all this, they are capable of defending themselves from other animals should it be necessary by slashing with their claws and biting them. These are rare occasions for prevention is better than cure. The Sloth must have a certain awareness in relation to being hidden and camouflaged, for added to the above, they sometimes look like a termites nest, a mess of dead leaves, or even a bunch of mouldy fungi, so that when being passed by a ten metre python or cunning jaguar this animal is hidden. This definitely proves the wise saying "Prevention is better than cure".

When a sloth does come down to the ground, possibly once a week, they move by sprawling out on their tummies, and with a swimming action drag themselves along at a snail's pace, but should they take to water they can swim quite well. Along with all this, the female has one baby at the beginning of the dry season.

Now let us look at the Scriptural lessons we can learn from this unique creature. You must realise that we too are unique, and everyone of us differs in some way from the other.

The sloth has a brain, but only uses a section of it particularly for its survival. We have brains, part of which we use for the same purpose as the sloths, to survive; but we also have the power to think about habits that are greater than the natural — we have the ability to think of things spiritual — if we have a knowledge of the Bible. In Proverbs 19:15 it reads that "slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger". Here the wise man alludes to a person who is idle, as one who is slothful with the result that they shall hunger. The Sloth actually sleeps 18 hours a day, and when moving along a branch averages about 2 metres a minute. Even when they are in a hurry, they can only manage about 4 metres a minute.

The lesson for us is that if we are like the sloth, (and we have no reason to be such), we are not putting to good use the ability God has given us, and we will suffer spiritual hunger. In Proverbs 18:9 a slothful one is a great waster, but you see a sloth doesn't waste time. They know no other way of life, but should we waste time, when we know we should be doing something useful?

It would be good for us all to turn to the quotation in Proverbs 12:24,27. Here we have two aspects of slothfulness, v. 24 "the diligent",

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Camera Corner



SCARLETT ROAD SUNDAY SCHOOL, TORONTO CANADA

We are delighted to welcome the young people of Scarlett Road Sunday School to the pages of our magazine. There are about 40 students in the school all studying Stage 4 of the C.S.S.A.



"My name is Debbie Making and I am 13 years old. I live in Mission B.C. which is a small town with one main street and one shopping mall. This year we have had some major flooding, but fortunately it didn't affect us because we live on a hill leading up to a small mountain. In the summer we go for walks through the trails and see many wild flowers and interesting types of fungus. Our meeting is half an hour drive from our house. My best friend is Sarah Bartholomew, and she lives in Vernon and goes to the Okanagan Meeting. I have two brothers, Ryan 14 and Wayne 10 and my little sister Katie. The picture was taken just before we left for Sunday School".

Debbie's sister, Katie writes, "I like to do the Good Company entries and count up my points. I hope someday I will be able to visit Australia and see my pen-pal, Miriam Hollamby"

Last November our Sunday School had its annual Junior Youth Camp at Hebron. The theme for the weekend was Jonah the Prophet. On our arrival we played some games and then did a reading, before going to bed. On Saturday I did a talk on Jonah 1-2, after which we had a bike hike to a lookout area 10kms away. When we got back we had a well earned drink. We then had another reading and a couple of talks.



Later we had some outdoor games and water fights, it was great! Meanwhile the girls had prepared a lovely tea which we all enjoyed. Afterwards we received prizes for the best eater, talker and sleeper etc. We then had a group photo taken, before we packed and left. It was a most enjoyable time which we will remember for a long time. From Brenton Hill, Aberfoyle Park Sunday School.

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Continued from page 4

one who is eager and energetic in the things of God, and rules his life well; not so "the slothful", he practises deceit, but really is only deceiving himself. This verse illustrates to us a comparison; we have the opportunity to be active and energetic or slothful. Like the men in the parable (Matt. 25), who were given 10 and 5 talents respectively, we can enthusiastically use them, or we can be like the slothful and hide our talent in the earth, and receive the condemnation of our judge.

In v. 27 perhaps it is a little clearer to see the lesson. Here the slothful person is always making excuses, knowing he should complete the job, but never doing so. Never really accepting God's blessings; in comparison to those diligent ones who concentrate upon obtaining and holding that which is precious.

The Apostle Paul commands us not to be slothful, and means not to be dull of learning. Are we eager to hear God's word? Jesus advises that we should not be 'slothful servants' but use our God given abilities to their greatest capacity. Do good wherever we can in helping others. Time is very precious — do not waste it, we must "redeem the time" using every second to the best advantage. Let us always "Remember NOW Thy Creator in the days of thy youth", and may our considerations of the Sloth help us to appreciate the wonderful lessons that nature can teach us of our Wonderful God.

— G. Hollamby



The Sizzling Sun

If you should hike across the Nullabour Plain (in Aust, which covers 200,000 square km) in the mid-December, you might think that the big blazing ball in the sky was aiming a lot of its fiery heat directly at you. But this would hardly be true, for the sun squanders most of its energy in empty space. Our planet gets only about **one part in 200,000,000** of the sun's output of light and heat.

Of this tiny fraction of the total, the trees, shrubs, grass, and other plants capture and store only **one part in 600**. Yet this amount equals all the energy in 300,000,000,000 tons of high-grade coal each year, or 820,000,000 tons a day. We would need 20,500,000 coal cars, each carrying 40 tons, to haul a single day's production. With each car 40 feet long, the train would stretch for 155,000 miles, (more than 6 times around the world at the equator). If this train traveled at 60 miles per hour, and you had to wait at a crossing for it, you would have to be patient for 3 and a half months until you saw the caboose pass, and could start your motor and be on your way!

"If ye can break My Covenant of the day and My Covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season... Then may also My Covenant be broken with David My servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne..."

Competitions

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

BOULAROO: David Glachan, Stephen Glachan, Johanna Lynch, Amy Schofield, Rebekah Mein, Andrew Mein
CABRAMATTA: Jessica Baird, Evelyn Baird, Irene Baird
CAMPSIE: Nathanael Jamieson, Shem Jamieson, Abigail Mansfield, Carmel Mansfield, Jonathan Mansfield, Luke Mansfield, Nicole Mansfield, Alicia Mansfield, Karlie Pogson, Shannon Pogson, Michaela Pogson, Hannah Mansfield
DUNOON: Renee Patch, Ashley Barrett, Kirralee Barrett
GOSFORD: Luke Asxentief, Tim Asxentief, Catherine Howard
GRANVILLE: Rochelle Hadley, Fiona Russell, Joshua Warner, Jessica Warner, Claire Harden, Erin Reid
LISMORE: Alicia Hart, Luke Oring, Matthew Oring, Anna Smith, Joshua Smith, Luke Smith, Sarah Smith, Tabitha Burney, David Oring, Andrew Hadley
MITTAGONG: Jenny King, Joanna King, Melissa King, Natalie Madden, David McKinlay, David Nancarrow, Ronald Nancarrow, Martin Russell, Sally Russell, Emily Unwin, Melissa Carroll, Amy Cato, Rebekah McKinlay, Walter McKinlay, Jessica Pogson
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NEWCASTLE: Michelle Jamieson
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WESTERLEY: Bethany Locke, Heather Locke, Amanda Schlageter
WICHITA FALLS: Jodie Davis, Jeri Davis
CENTRAL AFRICA: McDonald Msindira.

100 Marks: Jessica Bain (Perth), Belinda Mansfield (Nicole Mansfield, Angela Mansfield (Campsie), Amelia Clarke, Adam Clarke, Fiona Jose, Leah Kilgus (Wilston), Bronwynne York (Correspondence), Nathan Gilmore (Riverwood), Tamara Shrive (Woodville).

200 Marks: Damien Scolyer (Woodville).

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than Sept. 1st for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company

JUNIOR STORY

One Saturday morning, when the children came to the table to have breakfast, Daddy asked, "Who heard the rain last night?" "I didn't," said Jenny. "Neither did I," said Paul. "Well you must have been very sleepy children" said Daddy. "It did rain last night, and now the world outside is all fresh and new, and I think after breakfast we will all go for a walk and see what we can see".

Outside the sun was shining, and all the leaves on the trees looked shiny. "It's very lovely, isn't it," said Mummy.

A little bird flew into a tree close by and sang a very pretty song. The ants were busy, and the bees too. "It's all so peaceful and quiet", said Mummy, "I'm glad we have decided to have a walk today". Baby Samuel clapped his hands. He was happy to be out in the sunshine too.

Across their path the children saw some silvery trails. "Snails", said Paul. Paul had seen snails eating vegetable leaves in the garden sometimes, and he knew they left a silvery trail behind them. He also knew that Daddy and Mummy didn't like snails in the vegetable garden.

A pretty coloured butterfly came close to Jenny, but flew away again. "God has made so many lovely things for us to see, hasn't He" said Jenny.

"Yes, and God made all the little creatures for a reason," said Mummy, "even though we don't like some of them so much". "Like mosquitoes, and biting things, and snails" said Paul. "Yes," laughed Mummy, "but bees make nice honey for us remember, its just that we get in their way sometimes". "All the little creatures are going about doing what they have to do, they only bite us if we get in their way."

"When we get home, I'm going to draw some pictures of some of the things we have seen" said Paul. "Good idea," said Daddy. "We'll put your little table and chairs out in the sunshine for you to work on". "God has given us this day to enjoy, and it's much too nice a day to stay indoors".

Junior Competition

NAME

SUNDAY SCHOOLAGE.....



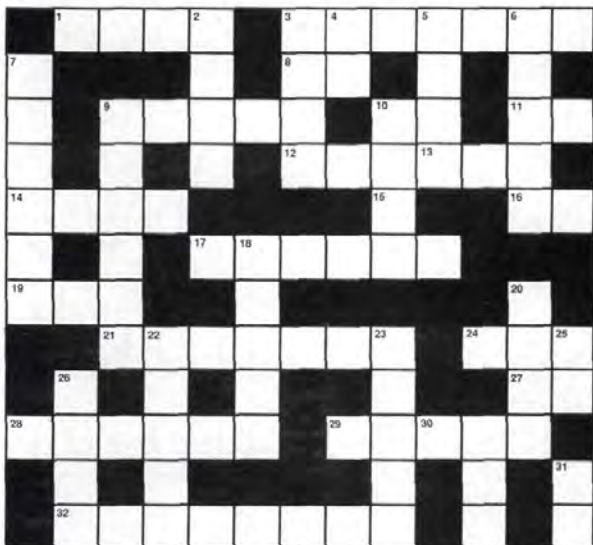
SENIOR COMPETITION

Competitions 9 and over

And they asked him (Jesus) saying, "Master but when shall these things be?" Use a concordance to find where these words are spoken in the New Testament then you will be able to find most of the answers to this crossword in that chapter. (10 marks).

ACROSS:

1. what ... will there be v.7;
3. and for ... after those things v. 26; 8. there shall not ... hair v. 18; 9. moon, and in the ...; 10. I find ... fault Lk. 23:4; 11. but ... words v.33; 12. begin ... come to pass v. 28; 13. but ... unto them v. 23; 14. things that shall ... to pass v. 36; 16. and ... that day v. 34; 17. powers of ... shall be shaken v. 26; 19. then shall they ... the Son of man v. 27; 21. sea and the waves ... v. 25; 24. ... and the waves v. 25; 27. For ... a snare v. 35; 28. hair of your head ... v.18; 29. coming in a cloud with ... v.27; 32. gifts into the ... v.1.



DOWN:

2. the time draweth ... v.8; 3. the ... state of that man Lk. 11:26; 4. lay their hands ... you v. 12; 5. then ... that the desolation v. 20; 6. many shall come in my ... v.8 (plural); 7. shall be in divers ... v.11; 9. own selves that ... v. 30; 15. shall these things ...? v.7; 18. are coming on the ... v.26; 20. failing them for ... v. 26; 22. fruit (singular) v.37; 23. with power and great ... v.27; 25. ...for these things v. 6; 26. yourselves ... at any time v. 34; 30. but the ... is not by and by v.9; 31. ... shall be betrayed v. 16

Jared Schipper from the Stirling Sunday School in W.A. asks us to unjumble these Bible locations and cities. The capital letters is the first letter in each name. (5 marks)

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Jmealruse | 7. Epsuesh |
| 2. Glioba | 8. Bthhemele |
| 3. Jndroa | 9. Torsa |
| 4. Btlhee' | 10. Dna |
| 5. Gatiala | 11. Jheoirc |
| 6. Bryblao | 12. Bere-bheas |



Three Notable **SYNAGOGUES**

The Greek word **synagogue** is equivalent to the Hebrew **knesseth**, "assembly" or "gathering". The knesset is today known as the Parliament of Israel, whereas a synagogue is considered to be a place of worship. It should be, nevertheless, the house of divine "rule". The word is mentioned only once in the O.T.: *Psa. 74:8*, but frequently referred to in the N.T. The Lord taught in the synagogues of Jewry (*Matt. 4:23*), and condemned the hypocritical actions of those who met there (*Matt. 6:2,5; Mk. 12:39*). He warned the apostles that they would be scourged and beaten in the synagogues (*Matt. 10:17; 23:34; Mk. 13:9*). Before his conversion Saul consented to the persecution of the Christians (*Acts 22:19; 26:11*) and sent letters to the synagogues in Damascus for that purpose (*Acts 9:2*).

Since those days, Jewish synagogues have been established in the lands of exile to maintain the influence and teaching of Judaism. Tel Aviv's **Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora** features a series of meticulous models reproducing famous synagogues throughout the world. Three of these are featured on this set of stamps.

Some Christian countries enacted severe laws restricting synagogue buildings to be low and inconspicuous. The 14th century **Altneuschul Synagogue** is one such. It was built below the street level in the Jewish quarter of Prague, and on entering, a worshipper is forced to descend some steps. Its name means "Old-New Synagogue" for it was originally the "New Synagogue", but received its present name when a newer one was later built. This name inspired the title of Theodore Hertzl's novel of a utopian Jewish State in the Middle East: "Altneyland" (Old-New Land). The Gothic-style building is gloomy and mysterious, and has given rise to many legends, most famous of which was the story of the "Golem" – the man made monster created by Rabbi Judah Loew of Prague, to save the Jews of the city who were under attack.

Moslem rule also subject Jewish houses of worship to severe limitations. It was required that the height of any synagogue would be lower than that of the lowest mosque in the town. Generally, therefore, synagogues in these countries were small buildings, often little more than rooms. But there were exceptions, and in some places monumental edifices were built. Such a one is the **Main Synagogue** in Aleppo, Syria. It was built in the 9th century and architecturally it was influenced by the mosques in Cairo. In the central internal courtyard was placed the reader's raised roofed platform. The congregation sat round in porticoes, whilst the main ark (there were seven altogether) was placed in a niche in the wall. The most famous ancient Hebrew Bible manuscript, the **Ben Asher Codex**, was kept in this synagogue – and when the building was burnt down in a pogrom (1947), a member of the congregation rescued the precious document from the flames, and it was later smuggled out of Syria and into Israel.

With the spread of Emancipation in the late 18th century, Jews emerged from the ghettos into which they had been confined, and were recognised as equal citizens. Their synagogues became magnificent and prominent buildings, for Jews

Good Company

as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel, but Yahweh thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them, and they were smitten before Israel." And then there was a marvellous transformation amongst the CHILDREN of Israel: "1 Sam. 7: 14: "And the MEN of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they come under Beth-car." So now the CHILDREN (like SAMUEL) had grown to be MEN! And they chased the Philistines as they could have always done, not in their own strength but in the strength of Yahweh."

And this section of Samuel's life closes at a marvellous place: BETH-CAR! Heb. "The House of the Lamb". Samuel had finally introduced Israel to the key to salvation, The Lamb of God. And so we say farewell to Samuel until another time, reflecting as he does one of the "Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness".

A Well of Wisdom...

To walk in wisdom's ways requires a man to make up his mind meanwhile to become a fool; because the wisdom of God is esteemed foolishness by the world, and the man a fool who embraces it. A truly enlightened man will be able to bear the reproach gladly, because he knows that, in becoming a fool in the estimation of the wise of this world, it is, as Paul puts it, "that he may be wise".

On Tuesday evening we had a respectable company; but on Thursday night a few drops of rain fell from the clouds, which as effectually kept the people at home as if it had rained snares, fire and brimstone.

The Truth is not altered by numbers or noise. The ways of wisdom are quiet and indomitable, and can receive or lose nothing at the hands of the multitude. The Lord in Gethsemane, under the silent stars, was a very insignificant incident apparently compared with the roar of the Jewish multitude that demanded his crucifixion, or the tramp of the Roman cohorts that overthrew Jerusalem, yet that quiet incident controlled the issues of eternity, while the human noise died away in eternal night. The Truth has its Gethsemane now, while the world prospers and rejoices.

There is no end of knowledge that a man can do without; but there is a knowledge that a man must have. A man must know God and the Lord Jesus Christ; and he must know and engrave upon his mind the knowledge of what line of thought and action will commend him to their approbation.

God will help those whose affections are set on things above and not on things on the earth. That is, He will help them in attaining the object of their endeavour, as children of God. He may not help them in the sense of prospering them in this present world; this might be helping the direction of destruction, though pleasant for the time being. He will help them in the sense of so manipulating the circumstances of their lives, that they will be guided and kept in the way that leads to life.

Bro. R. Roberts



**"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard,
that the everlasting God, Yahweh, the
Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not,
neither is weary? there is no searching of His
understanding. He giveth power to the faint;
and to them that hath no might He
increaseth strength... But they that wait
upon Yahweh shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings as eagles;
they shall run and not be weary; and they
shall walk and not faint"**

GOOD COMPANY

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Good Company

Dear Boys and Girls,

I am going to tell you something about eating — one of the most pleasant of our daily experiences. Of course you all know what eating is. All healthy children are fond of eating. Many times at Sunday School tea's we have seen young eyes glisten with delight when something "extra special" has been placed in front of them, and when sometimes all manners are forgotten in the flurry to get plates ready for their serving!!

There is nothing wrong in partaking of the good things which God has caused the earth to bring forth, and I hope all our readers enjoy their share. It is in the blessings of life that we have yet another witness of the goodness of God, for the faithful apostle Paul declared, ***"He left not Himself without witness in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and goodness"***.

Where many people do wrong is in forgetting God, the giver of these good gifts. They fail to realise that if they would please Him and obtain everlasting life they must not be merely content with natural food, but must earnestly seek for spiritual food — reading and obeying the Scriptures.

Faithful Job realised this. We read that when his seven sons and three daughters were feasting together, Job offered up a burnt offering to God in case his sons should have sinned against God.

It is for this reason which prompts your parents, when they arrange a little feast for young people, to set apart a certain time for reading the Bible and speaking about God. They do not want you to grow up like little heathens, but like little Josephs and Daniels.

So do not regard Bible lessons as irksome, but remember that God is pleased when boys and girls desire to learn His will.

When the Israelites in olden times had plenty of food, they thought little upon God, and so God caused them to hunger, to teach them this important truth: ***"And He humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that He might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of Yahweh doth man live"*** (Deut. 8:3).

It is written that when Jesus returns and the wicked are destroyed ***"in this mountain (Zion) shall Yahweh of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things"*** (Isa. 25:6). This will be an wonderful feast, for not only will the people receive of the good fruits of the earth, but they will also receive great lessons and teachings from the Word of God.

Your Friend,

Uncle Philip



"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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GEMSTONES

The Bible's many references to precious stones teach important lessons concerning our personal development. For, ultimately, it will only be people who reveal spiritual beauty and glory like a polished gemstone, who will enter into God's kingdom. He said that the redeemed will be like "jewels", selected by God to sparkle in the Age to come (Mal. 3:7).

But before a precious stone can glisten with beauty it must be carefully prepared, polished and perfected by the craftsman. God is the Craftsman, and He is selecting from the stones of the earth those upon whom He desires to reveal His glory.

Notice how God Himself is described as a **Rock**. The Psalmist calls Him, the "Rock of our salvation (Psa. 95:1). This describes His quality of **dependence, stability and reliability**. From such a rock must come the gemstones of saints who must endeavor to reveal the same qualities as they see in Him.

A gemstone is a rock that has been moulded, fashioned and faceted with many sides: all of which are formed to reflect and refract light so as to reveal the beauty of the gem. God is light (1John 1:5), and the spiritual gemstones that are found hidden in the earth of flesh, must be discovered, fashioned by the skill of the artificer, and placed in the light. Then they will shine forth with a wondrous beauty. But it is only when they remain in that light (in the influence of God) that their glory will be seen. If you take the most beautiful gem stone into a dark place its true beauty is hidden. So there is no reflection of God's glory when we remain in darkness. But God has "called us from darkness" and He requires us to remain "in His marvellous light" (1Pet. 2:9). Gemstones glisten forth in all the colours of the rainbow, and really reveal the lessons of the rainbow in the creation on earth.

Gems are not found everywhere. To search for gemstones we have to go to the right places. True friends are like such gemstones. We find them in Christadelphian Ecclesias or Sunday Schools, but not in the society about us. Those of the world are like useless rocks that cannot be shaped by the art of the Divine Jeweller. Compared with ordinary stones, precious gemstones are less than one in a million rocks. So are those in the truth today.

Ever since I was a young boy, I have been interested in collecting stones, and found it a very interesting hobby — one that I can recommend to you. So, instead of stopping indoors to play games on computers and such like, ask Mum and Dad to take you gem-hunting. You will enjoy being out among God's handiwork, and will learn many important lessons as well. This hobby has taken me to many parts of Australia to look for valuable gemstones. I found them only where conditions have been suitable for them to develop. And, the exciting part is when

Junior Story

One day when Paul and Jenny went to visit the farm, they saw their big cousin Robert sawing some wood. Robert let Paul have a turn at sawing the wood too. "Do you know what a man who works and builds with wood is called?" asked Robert. "He is called a carpenter, isn't he?" said Jenny. "That's right," said Robert, "and do you know the name of a man in the Bible who was a carpenter?" "Yes, Joseph was a carpenter" said Paul, "and Jesus helped Joseph in the carpenter's workshop".

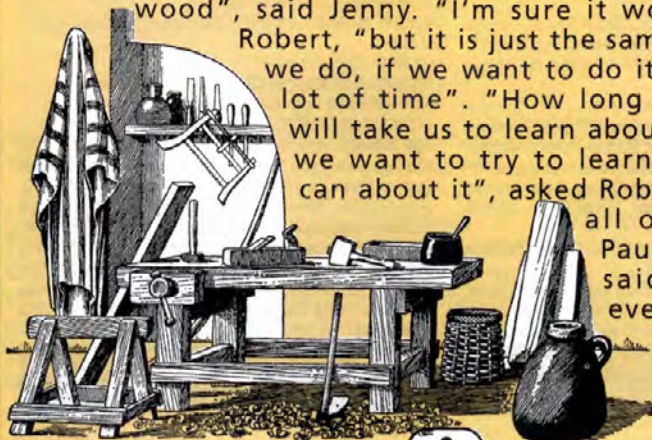
"What kind of things did they make?" asked Jenny.

"Well, we know that the houses were mostly made of stone or clay in the days when Jesus was a boy", said Robert, "but there were timber or wooden parts in the roof, and of course the door would be made of wood, too. There were wooden ploughs too, that the farmer would use to get his field ready for planting his seed, and wooden yokes which helped to keep the animals walking side by side as they pulled along the plough. The wood for the yoke had to be very smooth so that it didn't hurt the oxen's necks". "Perhaps Jesus may have helped Joseph to make the wood very smooth", said Paul. "He may have," said Robert, "but we do not really know, do we".

"When Jesus grew to be a man though, he had some other work to do. Jesus became a great teacher. We read stories about him teaching the people in the Bible. Sometimes Jesus taught the people while he was in a boat on the water. The boat was made of wood too".

"It would have taken a long time to build a boat of wood", said Jenny. "I'm sure it would have" said Robert, "but it is just the same with anything we do, if we want to do it well, it takes a lot of time". "How long do you think it will take us to learn about God's Word, if we want to try to learn as much as we can about it", asked Robert. "It will take

all our lives", said Paul. "That's right," said Robert, "and even then, we will not know it all, will we!".



JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:



Write down the names of Two Tools that you think a Carpenter would use in his workshop

1 2

SENIOR COMPETITION

9 and over

Name:

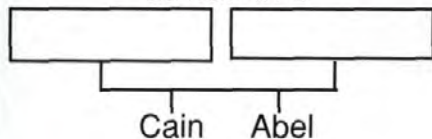
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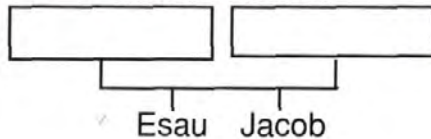
Mothers and Fathers



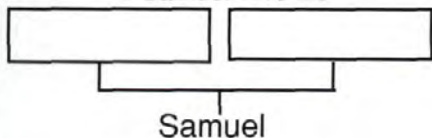
Genesis 4:1-2



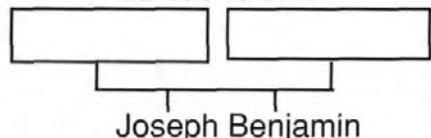
Genesis 25:19-26



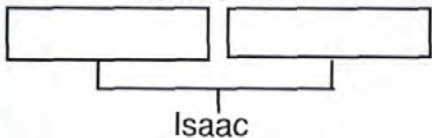
1 Samuel 1:19-20



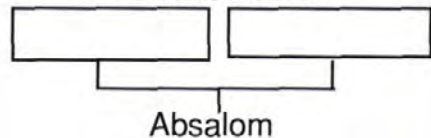
Genesis 35:23-27



Genesis 21:1-3



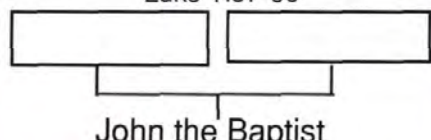
2 Samuel 3:2-3



2 Samuel 12:24



Luke 1:57-66



HOW ARE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE RELATED?

- (a) Elisabeth and Mary
- (b) Joseph and Manassah
- (c) Judas (not Iscariot) and James
- (d) Absalom and Tamar

HOW WELL CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

- (e) This man was thrown into a dry WELL by his brothers?
- (f) At this WELL a young girl gave water to a stranger?
- (g) A prophet was let down into a muddy WELL?

this article we will understand this significance in a new light.

The book of Esther has always been accepted by Jewish scholars as Canonical (ie. a true part of Scripture). External proof of Mordecai has been found in a cuneiform text (a text inscribed with ancient alphabetic characters in the shape of arrows) which mentions Mordecai, who was a high official in the Persian Court of Shushan during the reign of Xerxes. It is indeed a remarkable book!

The palace of Ahasuerus was in Shushan. We can imagine the glory and majesty of this palace and the rich and exotic court kept by Ahasuerus. The first chapter of Esther introduces us to Shushan the palace, and we join the court at the time of a huge feast held by Ahasuerus to highlight the vast extent and power of his dominion: *"In the third year of his reign he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; THE POWER OF PERSIA AND MEDIA, the nobles and princes of the provinces being before him"* (ch. 1:3). Notice that the record (highlighted) suggests that this was a special gathering designed to impress all who were present with the vast power of the realm and its majesty. This feast may be regarded as a "progressive" style such as we can hardly conceive. There was the splendour of the King's court, for v. 4 records: *"When he shewed the RICHES of his GLORIOUS Kingdom and the HONOUR of his EXCELLENT MAJESTY.."*

But the most incredible thing is that this feast lasted six months! The record continues: *"(for) many days even an hundred and fourscore days"*. That is 180 days! It is evident that the King was in attendance for part of each day, that the feast was "progressive", and that the dignitaries of the provinces came and went by rotation — so that they were present at the feast for, perhaps, seven days and then went back to their province while the next group of dignitaries came and went in like fashion.

There have been some mighty feasts conducted by men over time but this one was intended to surpass them all! So, when the 180 days had concluded, the King then commenced another feast! This time it was for the servants and dignitaries of Shushan the palace, and had a splendour all of its own. *"The King made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both great and small, seven days in the COURT OF THE GARDEN of the King's palace"* (Est. 1:5).

The glory of this setting is given in some detail in v. 6 and the language appears to have been chosen to convey the *majesty* and *beauty* of the occasion which stands out later in contrast to the ugliness of sinful human nature (Queen Vashti) and the fresh beauty of the godly Esther. *"Where were white, green, and blue hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen, and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble. The beds were of gold and silver upon a pavement of red and blue and black and white marble"* (ch.1:6).

Pause and let the imagination portray the scene. *"And they gave them drink in vessels of gold (the vessels being diverse one from another) and royal wine in abundance according to the state of the King"* (v. 7).

The picture is completed by the words of v. 8, showing that there was absolute freedom by each person present to assuage their thirst

and appetite as they wished. *"And the drinking was according to the law. None did compel; for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure"*.

Our imagination staggers at the last phrase. We know the capacity of mankind for excess. To be given "carte blanche" for seven days must have allowed for great liberty in the feasting. How remarkable that this scene is eclipsed by that of even greater pride and arrogance presented by the Queen of Ahasuerus, Vashti.

The Hebrew name "Vashti" means, "beautiful woman". And so she was – skin deep!

Concealed underneath this beautiful fleshly facade was a most undesirable character of arrogance. The character of Vashti is a contrast to the beauty of character of Esther. *"Also Vashti the Queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to King Ahasuerus"* (v. 9).

Notice the emphasis on the phrase *"the house which belonged to Ahasuerus."* The Persian Law stated that the King was supreme. On the seventh day he commanded that Vashti should be brought with the Crown Royal for the gathered court to admire his greatest treasure, his beautiful Queen. But Vashti refused the King's command. There is almost a ominous silence in the record. Such a thing had never happened in the thousands of years of Persian rule. We are left in no doubt as to the effect on the King: *"therefore was the King very wroth, and his anger burned in him."*

The King was renowned for his wise judgments and this situation sorely tried him. His example set the domestic atmosphere throughout all Persia. As was his custom, he consulted his wise men concerning this new situation. They concluded that this insolent behaviour by Vashti would effect domestic order throughout the land, and that she must be replaced. The decree of the King with his wise men was that: *"let the King give her royal estate unto another that is better than she."*

A search for her successor began throughout the whole realm. A quiet, thoughtful man called Mordecai, together with his young cousin Esther, were working out their own salvation in fear and trembling, and had no idea of the whirl of history that was about to engulf them.

There is an echo here for the urgency of our own position. We may well be just a teenager, tucked away in some far away corner of this land. But if Providence determines that our life be woven into the web of history then it will be so.

But there was something **different** about Esther. At first glance she might appear as any normal teenager. A closer look would reveal a deep sadness along with her beautiful countenance.

Why should this lovely young girl be sad? We know that her parents were dead and we can only speculate on what had caused this. The record simply says: *"For she had neither father nor mother"* (ch. 2:7). In this light, the work of Mordecai is full of pathos. Being Esther's cousin (and it would seem much older) Mordecai took upon himself to look after her. He did much more than that, for the marginal translation says *"he NOURISHED her"*. What a lovely word

Good Company

picture to express the keen interest he had in her wellbeing and spiritual development. The verse goes on to say that he took Esther "as his own daughter."

Thus is presented a beautiful harmony in this little family scene, as it lived in the difficult environment of Persia — a type of the homes of faithful families in this far-off day. In our next issue (God willing) we will learn of the tremendous challenge that threatened the happiness of the beautiful Esther, and how God worked unseen for her safety. 

Our Readers Write...

My name is Cameron Madden and I go to Mittagong Ecclesia in N.S.W. I have been collecting all my Good Company Competitions and now have 100 marks which I am sending to you. I do enjoy doing my Good Company and learning all about Jesus and the Bible. I go to Sunday School with my two friends who are Benjamin and Ronald. We all have lots of fun listening to the stories of the Bible that our teacher tells us. During our lessons we do lots of colouring in, cutting-out and pasting into our books. Mummy has helped me write this letter because I am only 6 years old, but I am starting to learn to write and read now at school. I am looking forward to the rest of this years Good Company, because my sister Natalie and I sit down and do them together. Bye for now, Cameron and Natalie.

My name is Carolyn Wigzell and I go to Cumberland Sunday School. My teacher is Auntie Julie Phillis, and every week we learn more about Jesus and his life. I enjoy doing the Good Company and also reading about the wonderful things God has created. Our Heavenly Father has blessed us by giving us food, clothing and shelter, but most importantly His glorious Word, the Bible so that we may be in His glorious kingdom. Love to all my Good Company friends, Carolyn Wigzell.

A Well of Wisdom...

- ▶▶▶▶ It's better to be thought a fool than to open your mouth and to remove all doubt.
- ▶▶▶▶ Friendship doubles our joy and divides our sorrow.
- ▶▶▶▶ When we review the days proceedings, have our thoughts been wholly about self? If so, how unworthy must we feel.
- ▶▶▶▶ Many people are under the impression that if they lead peaceable, moral lives, all will be well. But what of God? Have they no duty to perform towards Him?
- ▶▶▶▶ The unjust steward saw that he had only one hope, which he had to clasp within a very short time or else it would be for ever lost. How does our wisdom, as touching our one hope, compare with his?
- ▶▶▶▶ What affliction have we passed through that Christ has not experienced? We think much of an operation, but let us remember the agony that Christ endured when his hands and feet were nailed to the cross— and all on our account!
- ▶▶▶▶ When a full mind meets an empty one, it must not despise but teach.
- ▶▶▶▶ If Paul deemed it necessary to warn faithful Timothy to hold fast to the Truth, how earnestly he would speak to us. Let us be on our guard lest we fall.
- ▶▶▶▶ Christ always improved the occasion by teaching a lesson from what was transpiring; and so do faithful men today. They turn the conversation into profitable channels.

Good Company

Dear Boys and Girls,

One of the big words that you will unfortunately hear at school is the word *Evolution*. It simply means that God did not create man as it declares in the Bible, but that man evolved during millions of years from a piece of seaweed. This teaching is not only untrue, but it is wicked, inasmuch as it contradicts the Word of God which clearly states:

"In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made He him; Male and female created He them" Gen. 5:1-2

"I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by My great power" Jer. 27:5

God has not only described how He made man, but He has explained the reason why the world is in a sinful and mortal condition (Rom. 5:12), and more, He has promised a glorious time when this will be changed when the earth will be filled with men and women who will be sinless and immortal. This is the wonderful promise that God offers to all who believe His Word and obey His conditions (2 Pet 1:4).

Yet man today spurn God, they ignore His Word, despise His commands, and ridicule His promises, to the extent that there appeared in our newspaper an article which was headed *"SA schools must teach evolution"*. It said that the Education department has instructed State schools not to teach the Biblical story of creation as an alternative to evolution.

Isn't it amazing that so many of the "learned" should reject completely God, His Word and His promises to mankind, and prefer to teach the foolish speculations of those who attribute man's origin to seaweed, jellyfish and monkeys?

Jesus stated that *"Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent and hast revealed them unto babes"* and how true that is today. A little girl about 9 years old after listening to a lecture wrote:

"EVOLUTION. Some people think that there is a speck on the ground and that turns into an ant and the ant turns into a frog and the frog turns into a monkey and the monkey turns into a man, but its Rubbish. God created man, he was not anything before he was man. When you go to the zoo you do not see a monkey one day and a man the next. No an ant is an ant a frog is a frog a cat is a cat and a dog is a dog and a man is a man. It is only what people think when they don't believe or read the Bible the Holy Bible they think all sorts of things that are not in the bible."

How this simple statement clearly shows that a little child instructed in the Scriptures can better understand the why and wherefore of Creation than the very learned scientists who reject the Sacred Volume.

If you boys and girls give diligent heed to God's Word and obey Him you will be partakers of that glorious immortal nature that will come, not by a process of evolution, but *"in a moment in the twinkling of an eye"* (1 Cor. 15:52) when Jesus returns from heaven to reward his faithful servants.

Your Friend,

Uncle Philip



"Good Company and Good Conversation are the very sinews of Good Character".

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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THREE RULES FOR READING

Some people read but never learn! Their eyes move along letters, but their minds do not interpret the meaning. They read with a closed mind, devouring words but live in a famine of ideas. Reading is an important technique that must be properly developed if we are to benefit. It is not a natural quality; it must be learnt, cultivated, developed. Unfortunately, skills that were acquired a century or more ago, are rapidly being forgotten in this age of quick and easy reading. The strong, virile, descriptive language that was commonplace then is rapidly being replaced by slang, slur and stammering. Books like *Elpis Israel*, which was originally written for those who did not understand the Scriptures, are now considered to be difficult reading for brethren and sisters! The British author, Charles Dickens, who held the world enthralled with his articles and novels, had a skill in narration that enabled his readers to create their own pictures in their minds. But such a style is sadly lacking today. The reason for this is the advent of "digest reading" with comic cuts and short stories, which limit the need of readers to exercise their minds upon more difficult expositions. It certainly makes easy reading, but does not develop the important muscles of the mind!

LET'S LEARN TO READ!

There are three basic rules for those who aspire to good reading habits. The first is **CONCENTRATION**. This demands full attention to the words being read. It is a skill not easily learned, for there are so many distractions in life, and when a reader allows these to deflect him from his purpose, he develops a "butterfly mind" that darts from one thing to the other. An ability must be trained to exclude all else, so that only the words you read are allowed to dominate the thoughts, and "ring around" in your mind. The reader must weigh up each word he reads, and so give it proper strength, meaning and place in the sentence.

The second rule is **VISUALISATION**. This quality enables the mind to work at the same time as the eyes read. You must try to actually see what is being described. Reading Joshua 6 we would see Israel marching around Jericho! We smell the dust that the soldiers are stirring up... hear the trumpets sounding the long, wailing blast. . . watch the inhabitants of the city peeping over the wall. It doesn't really matter how you picture the actual city, but with such a picture in your mind, you will give it a permanent impression on the memory.

It is only partly true that "a picture tells a thousand words," for rarely will one picture convey as much as can be portrayed by a thousand words! But when our brain converts into a mind-

picture the words read by the eyes, all the elements of that description are embedded in our memory.

The third rule for profitable reading is **INVOLVEMENT**. When reading a narrative, you must become part of the scene, an observer by the way. If you are reading a road-map, become the car, travelling down the road, turning the corners... if you are reading a text book, perform in the mind the experiments being discussed. Then your reading skills will be enhanced, and you will enjoy a living experience, not possible with brief digest-style reading.

BOOKS THAT GOD WRITES

God has given us His book as a revelation of His will. It shows us how to obey and walk in His Ways. The first recorded occasion of public reading is described in Exodus 24:7, where, under the giant, rugged Mount Sinai, the book of the Covenant was opened and read by Moses to all the people of Israel to which they replied: "All that Yahweh hath said will we do and be obedient."

Very soon, in that same place, another book will be opened and read. This book records the lives of all God's people, and is still being written by the angels who observe our ways and doings. When all the responsible are raised from the dead and gathered together from every place, there will be a public reading of this book: "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God" (Luke 12:8). What a wonderful experience to hear the Lord Jesus read our name from his book of life!

DOING THE DAILY READINGS

Reading is a Divine command which we should not neglect. Even the kings of Israel were instructed to write a copy of the Law, and read from it every day: "It shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear Yahweh his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes to do them" (Deut. 17:19). They were the king's "daily readings" which gave him strength and understanding to wisely rule God's people. The result of his reading is described as "learning, keeping, doing. This is the ultimate purpose of reading, whether to ourselves or to others—for what we read must have a practical application in life. It is foolish to read and not apply. We might as well not bother reading at all!

Reading aloud gives emphasis to the mind, and allows the participation of others. Through the very act of expression, we remember more when we read aloud. We must avoid easy, lazy reading which sometimes occurs when we read alone, or when we do not concentrate on our reading. For when words are missed, ideas are lost, and thoughts are not heeded—all because the mind is on a different tangent from the eyes!

The daily readings must be injected with the drama, excitement and movement that the original author intended. Notice, for example, in Neh.8:8 where the reading of the Bible resulted in a wonderful reaction. It was read:

- * **DISTINCTLY**—every word was clearly pronounced so that all could understand.
- * **GIVING THE SENSE**—by emphasis, tone, volume and punctuation.
- * **CAUSE UNDERSTANDING**—feeling the emotion injected, following the drama of the account.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST READER

The Lord Jesus Christ often read from the inspired scriptures in the synagogue. It was "his custom" so to do (Luke 4:16-20). His reading was remarkable, not only for the expression and emphasis he gave, but because of the *mind* that instructed the voice! Luke records the occasion at Nazareth, when Jesus was called upon to read. Imagine the scene! The Master majestically and in dignity walks to the front, obtains the Holy Scroll of Isaiah, and slowly unrolls the parchment until he came to a certain place; then proceeded to read to the audience: "The Spirit of Yahweh is upon me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set

CAMERA CORNER

ARDINGLY, ENGLAND



Here is a picture of our little Sunday School at Ardingly, U.K. Up to now we have worked in families, but this year we have formed the Sunday School on a more 'official' basis and we now meet in the village hall (we do not own our own meeting rooms). Our members are Reuben Bettam (7) Joseph Holman (4) Sarah Holman (11) and Abigail Holman (8). We have three different classes, so its nearly personal tuition at the moment! We have to travel about to meet other Christadelphian children and we feel that our Heavenly Father has helped us a great deal to find others of like precious faith with whom we can meet. Sarah and Abigail have penfriends in Australia to whom they would like to say "hello" to Belinda Gore and to Esther and Ruthie Hill.

MOOREBANK, AUSTRALIA (N.S.W.)



Michael Hindmarsh from Moorebank Sunday School (NSW) sent us this photo of their new Sunday School which commenced on April 14th, with 14 students. They are John, Micah, Hannah and Emily Day; James, John and Naomi Dennes; Michael, Jonathan, Stephen and Miriam Hindmarsh; Phillip Milliken; Tegan and James Woodberry. We also have 3 little ones who will soon join us: Joshua Dawe; Kaitlyn and Chloe Porter. We all received a special poster and certificate to show that we were at Moorebanks first day of Sunday School.

GOLDEN GROVE, AUSTRALIA (S.A.)

Arise, Shine For Thy Light Is Come



The Golden Grove Sunday School (SA) commenced in September 1990 with 61 students. We assembled each Sunday afternoon in a hired hall, learning of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. During this time, the members of the Ecclesia laboured hard to complete the building of our own Ecclesial Hall. This photo was taken on June 16th, the first Sunday in our new Hall. May Yahweh's blessing continue to be with us as we labour joyfully together till the return of our Lord. James York (S.S. Secretary)

at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of Yahweh." Then he closed the Scroll, handing it back to the minister in charge, and sits down.

Luke says that "all eyes were *fastened* on him... they wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth." Nothing would be as impressive, so dramatic and enlightening, than to have seen the reading of the Scroll by the very one who claimed to be the fulfilment of its words!

THE REACTION OF READING

Reading without reaction is merely reading to pass time away! This is the sort of reading so popular today with the 'paper-back brigade'. True reading will create in us the power of the book being read. This is shown in Hab. 2:2, where the reading causes one to run for safety. To understand what you read is important, but it is greater when it directs action. Reading, whether silent or aloud, must then be demonstrated in practical ability—otherwise it is meaningless, a waste of valuable time. That is what motivated the Ethiopian who was returning home from Jerusalem reading in his chariot (Acts 8:28). Ignoring the passing scene, he was deeply immersed in a passage from Isaiah—but was reading without understanding. Not being familiar with the subject, he needed additional help, and this was provided by Philip, who joined him on the journey, and explained the prophecy to him. The reaction was immediate; understanding what he read, he sought for the benefits of baptism.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF READING

The Pharisees were "digest-readers". They did not understand what they read, nor bothered to search the meaning of the words. They certainly did not follow their reading with action. The Lord commented: "Do as they say, but not as they do, for they say but do not" (Matt 23:3). It is not sufficient just to read; we must interpret the word into action—we must read behind the words!!

The expression, "Have ye never read" was a common indictment used by the Lord. On every occasion except two, the word "read" condemns the readers. The Lord Jesus was the "Word made flesh," and constantly directed his followers to the writings of Moses and the prophets. "Search the Scriptures," he declared, "for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." Yet for all this they still read with closed eyes!

Reading is part of the Spirit's education. The apostolic instruction was: "Till I come, give attendance to *reading*, exhortation, doctrine" (1 Tim. 4:13). It is significant that *reading* is mentioned first, for the Scriptures provide that means of expressing its thoughts to others. The daily readings, the personal study, the reading of the Truth's literature, all help to make a person able to "exhort, to expound, to provide good works."

THE REWARD OF READING

There is a blessing attached to reading. "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear and keep the words of the prophecy" (Rev. 1:3). It is only by reading the Word that we are able to develop the required faith that looks beyond the present. The Spirit says they will be blessed not only because they "hear" but because they "read". The personal application of the eyes, and the emotion of the mind, all help to impress the words read.

The most wonderful reading ever to take place is shortly to occur, when Christ will read out before the assembled angel hosts at Sinai the names of his followers approved to receive the blessing of eternal life: "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God" (Luke 12:9). To them he will say: "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord." If we are to hear these words, we must prepare today by reading ourselves rich in the words of the Truth. We must read our lives aloud to those about us—as we apply the things we learn. Then we shall be true readers, for the Word will dwell in us for evermore.



COMPETITIONS

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Walkerie, South Australia 5330
(or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to
Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

CAMDEN: Todd Mason. **CAMPSIE:** Nathanael Jamieson, Shem Jamieson, Angela Mansfield, Belinda Mansfield, Carmel Mansfield, Jonathan Mansfield, Luke Mansfield, Nicole Mansfield, Alicia Mansfield, Jared Pogson, Karlie Pogson, Shannon Pogson, Michaela Pogson. **DUNOON:** Ashley Barrett, Kirralee Barrett. **GOSFORD:** Catherine Howard. **GRANVILLE:** Andrew Hadley, Rochelle Hadley, Joshua Warner, Jessica Warner, Kuni Pearsall. **LISMORE:** Linda Whitehead, Alicia Hart, Anna Jones, Scott Jones, Shelley Jones, Simon Jones, Luke Ormig, Matthew Ormig, Leah Steele, Rebekah Steele, David Ormig, Rachelle Steele. **MITTAGONG:** Jenny King, Joanna King, Melissa King, Cameron Madden, David McKinlay, Jonathan McKinlay, Kylie McKinlay, Ronald Nancarrow, Martin Russell, Sally Russell, Andrew Unwin, Rebekah McKinlay, Walter McKinlay. **PUNCHBOWL:** Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Scott Maunder, Nicholas Wolstencroft, Steven Wolstencroft, Michelle Coad, Clare Maunder. **RIVERWOOD:** Belinda Dennes, Ben Gilmore, Julia Gilmore, Kathryn Gilmore, Nathan Gilmore, Lorna Kruger, Erik Kruger, Gavin McGuigan, Andrew Rosser, Peter Rosser, Philip Rosser, Ingrid Kruger, Christian Miranda, Aaron Miranda, Luke Hamlin. **YAGOONA:** Malinda McKinlay, Terry McKinlay, Matthew Walters, Peter Walters. **COORPAROO:** Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward, Andrew White, Belinda White, Felicity White, Michael White. **REDCLIFFE:** Samuel Evans. **ROCKHAMPTON NORTH:** Ashley Bundesen. **WILSTON:** Aleisha Clark, Adam Clarke, Amelia Clarke, Eleanor Clarke, Nicole Clark, Benjamin Hagen, Jennifer Hagen, Louise Hagen, Roseanne Jose, Joanna Kilgus, Leah Kilgus, Linda Kilgus, Michael Kilgus, Susanna Malcomson, Abigail Sweatman, John Sweatman, Peter Sweatman, Jeffrey Venn, Matthew Venn, Narelle Venn, Nathan Venn, Rebecca White, Sarah White, Caleb Witton, Isaac Witton. **YARRAMAN:** Tracey Cameron. **ABERFOYLE PK:** Merrilee Story, Lisa Watson. **BRIGHTON:** Leah Archer, Abigail Moorhouse, Julia Moorhouse, Nathan Moorhouse. **CUMBERLAND:** Abi Phillips. **ENFIELD:** Rebekah Horwood, Stephen Horwood, Leah Payton, Nathan Payton, Nathan Petiet, Adrian Petiet, Michael Pickard, Caleb Pickard, Aaron Smith, Danielle Smith, Elisa Smith, Joshua Smith, Sarah Walman. **GLENLOCK:** Jonathan Healy. **GOLDEN GROVE:** Tamar Smith T.T. **GULLY:** Stephanie Elfenbein, Susannah Elfenbein, Jonathan Main, Peter Bain, Rachel Bain, Philemon Burney, Aletheia Burney, Timon Burney, Alicia Farrow, Felicity Main, Elizabeth Main, Kirsty Pitt, Daniel Knowles. **WOODVILLE:** Andrew Cridland, Justin Cridland, Reuben Cridland, Rikki Cridland, Toby Cridland, Shane DeVries, Alicia Mansfield, James Mansfield, Jared Mansfield, Nathan

Mansfield, Brenton Mitsos, Cherallee Scolyer, Damien Scolyer, Tamara Shrive, Christie Stubbins, Katherine Stubbins, Paul Stubbins, Rachel Stubbins, Hayley Wilson, Rodney Wilson. **LAUNCESTON:** Leah Case, Philip Taylor, Anna Bracey, Kiri Bracey, Leah Chivers, Jeffrey Dow, Josie Dow, Brendan Niejalke, Luke Niejalke, Elise Galbraith, Rodney Case. **BLACKBURN:** Karlie Mansfield. **CHIRNSIDE PARK:** Davy Morgan, Deborah Morgan. **MILDURA:** Samuel Churches, David Van Bergen. **WARRAGUL:** David McKinlay, Gemima McKinlay, Nathan McKinlay, Rachel McKinlay. **ALBANY:** Asher Fryer, Jesse Fryer, Micah Fryer, Reuben Fryer. **GOSNELLS:** Arielle Carder, Barak Carder, Reuben Carder, Shelley Moore, Simon Moore, David Oliver, Leah Oliver, Nathan Oliver, Janelle Stagg, Naamah Stagg, Nathanael Weldon. **PERTH:** Jessica Bain, Ashley Bain, Estelle Hawkins, Andrew Hurn, Michelle Hurn, Philip Hurn, Sharon Hurn, Verity Smith. **STIRLING:** Bronte LePoidevin, Claire Saville, Michael Fergusson, Jared Schipper, Nathan Schipper, Bryon Spittle, Luke LePoidevin, Laura Fergusson, Carrie Moore. **CANADA:** EWEN RD: Kevin Leadbetter, Daniel Leadbetter, Kristine Leadbetter, Tara Macfarlane, Rachel Macfarlane. **MAPLE RIDGE:** Katie Making, Debbie Making, Wayne Making. **OKANAGAN:** Lori Sargent, Beth Sargent. **CORRES. WA GIL-LINGARRA:** Samuel York, Bronwynne York, Jonathan Rogers. **WONGAN HILLS:** Kimberley Evans, Nathan Evans. **UK: BARNSELY COPE ST.:** David Ravenscroft, Matthew Ravenscroft, Peter Colston, Luke Brown, Rebekah Brown, Samuel Brown, Hannah Brown, Jessica Brown. **CORNWALL:** Susannah Tooth, Johanna Tooth. **GLASGOW CENTRAL:** Carolyn Smith, Jennifer Smith. **NOTTINGHAM:** Sally Standeven. **STH. AFRICA:** Nina Hoppe, Wladek Hoppe. **USA RESEDA:** Elisabeth Hatcher. **HOUSTON (WILTSHIRE):** Kimmy Langston, Jennifer Langston. **HUDSON:** Joshua Stormont. **RHODE ISLAND:** CRANSTON: Tiffany MacAdams, Heather MacAdams. **WICHITA FALLS:** Jodi Davis, Jeni Davis. **NIGERIA:** Opara Onuono, Onuono Onuono. **200marks** Daniel Scolyer (Woodville), Andrew Hadley (Granville), Nathan Coad (Punchbowl), Nathan McKinlay (Warragul), Michelle Jamieson (Newcastle). **100marks** Emily Unwin (Mittagong), Joel Catchlove, Rikki Cridland, Tamara Shrive, Naomi Hornhardt (Woodville), Rochelle Hadley (Granville), Elizabeth Caltabiano (Townsville), Reuben Alderson (N.Z.), Sarah Kemp, Rebekah Kemp (Golden Grove), Nigel Binns (Hobart), Rebecca Waller, Lisa Watson (Aberfoyle Park), Simon Neil (Brighton), Anthea Shead (Punchbowl), Sara Walman (Enfield), Sharon Leadbetter (Boronia), Michael Matteson, Gabriel Matteson (Cranston, USA), Linda Fitzgerald (Gosford).

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than Dec. 1st for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company

JUNIOR STORY

Mummy was teaching Jenny to knit. Jenny found it quite hard to begin with, but soon she was able to hold the needles and wind the wool around, and do the stitches properly. While Jenny was doing her knitting, Mummy told Jenny about the girls who lived in the land of Israel long ago.

"Girls did not go to school in Bible times," said Mummy, "but they learned to do many things at home. They did not buy wool from the shops like we do. The mothers would teach the girls how to spin sheep's wool and goat's hair into long strong thread, which they would weave into cloth or material to make clothes for all of the family".

"The girls in Bible times became very clever at spinning the wool," said Mummy. "From a bunch of wool a girl or mother would twist the tufts of wool with her fingers, pulling and twisting till the thread became longer and longer".

"The work of making the thread into cloth was called weaving", said Mummy, "and it takes quite a long time to weave a piece of cloth".

"We made a weaving pattern at school", said Jenny. "Our teacher cut some slits in a piece of paper, and then we wove some other pieces of different coloured paper through the slits". "Yes," said Mummy, "that is a good idea, but there is another way of doing a waving pattern too, by tying many pieces of wool to a stick, and tying the other ends to another stick. Once you have done this you can weave wool in and out of the strands of wool in a different direction to make a piece of cloth". "I would like to do that," said Jenny.

"While we are doing things with our hands we can think about the wonderful things God has done", said Mummy. "For God gives us everything we need, food and clothes and homes to live in, and we should thank God every day for His love toward us."

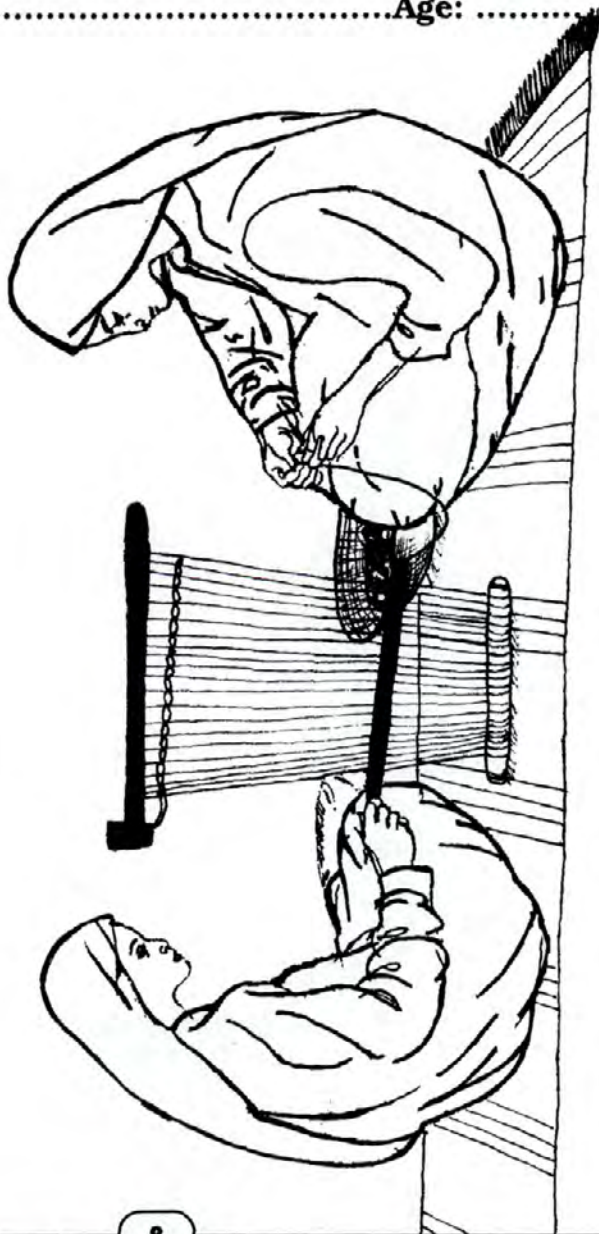


JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:

She seeketh wool and flax
and worketh willingly with
her hands (Prov. 31:13)



SENIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:
9 and over

Find the letter with the number and work out the quote. Submitted by Simon Clark (11yrs) from KeriKeri Sunday School, N.Z.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

2 5 1 18 25 5 15 14 5

1 14 15 20 8 5 18 19 2 21 18 4 5 14 19 ,

1 14 4 19 15 6 21 12 6 9 12 20 8 5 12 1 23

15 6 3 8 18 9 19 20

Where does this quote come from?

Answer

Submitted by Leah Jolly (Wellington S.S.). For each letter write down the letter that comes before it, then finish the quote from Deuteronomy 6.

BOE	UIPV	TIBMU	MPWF	UIF	MPSE	UIZ
HPE	XJUI	BMM	UIJOF	IFBSU	...	

Write down the name of a Book of the Bible in which the following letters are found e.g. SAL SAMueL or PSALms. The letters always appear in their correct order.

- | | |
|----------|--------|
| 1. ROB | 2. MAE |
| 3. TESSA | 4. EVA |

OUR AMAZING WORLD

PRICKLY PORCUPINE

This amazing creature, a little smaller than a beaver, oftentimes called a quill pig and sometimes mistaken for a hedgehog, is called The Porcupine. It measures about 750mm long (30"), and although a very placid creature which does not like fighting, it has hidden weapons that can kill a lion. Living in the northern forests of North America, they are chunky and appear to have a pushed in nose — this is for a purpose, because it is very sensitive. Their tails are 150mm long (6") and they weigh about 12kgs (25lbs).

They bristle with quills sprouting from their head and back and when they walk or trudge along they rattle. These quills sprout from their bodies like hollow tubes, pointed and barbed, and are only lightly fixed to their bodies.

Porkies, as they are called, move through life at their own speed, ambling along through the underbush in forests, muttering to themselves in grunts, sniffs and squeaks. No cares as they seem to gaze into space, in a world of their own — evidently with a built-in sense that all things were made for them. We must never imagine that we are the only "pebble on the beach" which is another way of saying or thinking "everything is just for me". Thinking we are somebody when we are not. Jesus the supreme example "made himself of no reputation and took upon him the form of a servant" (Phil. 2:7).

Porkies sometimes do have accidents, they fall or slip into water, but their quills, which are filled with air, keep them afloat, just like a cork. Here is a motto for us in daily life — *Be prepared!* On other occasions they may tumble from a tree, and the quills serve as a cushion to break their fall. They mainly feed on bark and the tender tips on branches of trees. Porcupines are rodents or gnawing mammals — whereas a hedgehog eats insects. Porkies are not aggressive, that is they do no look for fights. Here is another lesson for us, which should be quite plain. Be placid like these creatures, they try not to get mixed up with their offenders, doing their best to get out of the enemy's way. Bro. Roberts in *Diary of a Second Voyage* shows how we can follow this good characteristic. He records: There were 3 passengers whom Bro. Roberts names "Eglon" because he was a very fat person and two "Boon" companions, who continuously tried to upset Bro. Roberts and his family. It was suggested to Sis. Roberts by a passenger on the ship that Bro. Roberts should complain to the Captain, and Sis. Roberts reply was "No! Mr. Roberts is a man of peace in personal things", and leaves things rather than fight. Bro. Roberts remarks: "It was not our part to strive with such a creature". May we take a lesson from our pioneering brother. It is not easy to do what he did.

Back to the Porcupine, they often tuck their heads under a log to protect their nose which we have mentioned is very tender, in this position the quills are raised and the tail flaps from side to side — and a wise intruder will pass by. Should the enemy try to touch one in this position the tail drives into the intruder (perhaps a fox or a lynx) many quills which soften and swell after entering the flesh, the hooked barbs have the effect of moving the quill deeper into the enemy's flesh, how painful! The fox or lynx usually dies. But the

Good Company

porky will then lumber away, climb a tree and start chewing twigs, as if nothing had happened.

Most animals become aware of them, for the porky has 30,000 quills. The quills are not thrown or shot as some think, but as the tail lashes the quills fly out in many directions — not able to send them in any set direction, but it is proven to be an excellent way of protection.

They are not lazy animals, but appear to be such, on the other hand whilst we have no reason to be lazy, are very often found not doing the things we should, for instance Sunday School homework, Project work, helping with the dishes. God likes willing workers.

Talk about being odd, they have a fancy for salt, and have been known to enter a wood cutters camp, discovered the butter, and having eaten all of it then eat the wooden bowl in which it was kept, for it possibly had absorbed some salt into it.

A naturalist observed a sudden attack between a porcupine and a skunk. The skunk shot an ill-smelling fluid over the porky, but it retaliated and the battle was lost to the skunk. Although porky didn't smell quite the same — the daintily marked skunk was riddled with barbed quills and only lived for a short time.

The life span of these creatures is 6-10 years, and overcome most of their enemies which may attack. Occasionally the Fisher, associated with the weasel family manages to fatally wound a porcupine.

Mother porkies have offspring which are often 275mm long (11") herself being 750mm (30"). In proportion these babies are the largest in the mammal family, and they are larger than the new born cub of a black bear. Not only this, but they have quills 23mm or $\frac{1}{2}$ " long before they are born.

I don't know about the affect on your minds boys and girls when you hear or read such amazing things God has created and yet "Eye hath not seen nor ear heard what wonderful things will be revealed in the Kingdom". Many of us know the conditions and requirements that we may be partakers in the glorious age soon to dawn upon the earth (Isa. 11). Now is the time to prepare ourselves.

G. Hollamby



PART TWO

Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness

Esther

by Bro Shane Kingsbury

We left Esther in our last issue, being nourished by Mordecai. The decree for a new Queen had gone forth, and all the fair young girls were being considered. Esther was caught up in this net of Ahasuerus and we wonder what fear and trepidation must have beset this young teenager. Suddenly the nurture and care of Mordecai appeared to have been swept away. Now Esther was amongst alien people with values that differed markedly from her own.

We pause at this point. Our title is "Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness" and we have set about to observe and understand how God has at many points in history called upon **teenagers** to bear the full yoke of responsibility when in the teen years. It will be of great benefit to observe the characters and actions of these teenagers as they grow to maturity, accepting the role placed upon them, and demonstrating that at this age a great deal can be done to manifest Yahweh.

We pick up the record at Esth.2:8; *"Esther was brought also unto the King's house to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women."* The Bible abounds with examples of young people (and old) being led as it were into the furnace of life. Jeremiah says in Lamentations 3:27; *"It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth..."* And so Esther, not knowing whither she was to be taken, went, believing that Yahweh had not forsaken her.

Esther found favour with the king. We can only imagine the circumstances and the demands that she faced, but one thing is certain... Mordecai had prepared her well.

We could imagine Esther at every opportunity letting people know that she was a Jewess and that she had a special calling in life. She could have railed on her captors about the Hope of Israel and the destiny of the Jews... but no. There is a time to speak and a time to refrain from speaking and we are told in Esth.2:10; *"Esther had not shewed her people, nor her kindred; for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it."*

Here was faith and trust of a marvellous kind. Esther was prepared to accept the advice of an elder. Here is a lesson for our teenagers. Very often advice given is regarded as "inconvenient" or "uninformed" and it comes as a considerable surprise later to find that the advice was correct and timely. One thing is certain about Esther, she was not a young girl of pride or earthly ambitions, and she positively *radiated* her faith in ways not evident by mere words alone. It is lovely to see the dedication and care by Mordecai. *"And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her."* So often teenagers are

unaware of the all consuming care that is extended to them by their elders. And Mordecai is a lovely type of the Angels whose job it is to *"minister to them who shall be the heirs of salvation."*

We are told in Esth.2:12 that Esther was in the court for twelve months undergoing a purification process, *"six months with oil of myrrh and six months with sweet odours."* This purification process has great significance for the teenagers of whom Esther is a forerunner. No doubt in Esther's mind, as in the mind of all other true servants of Yahweh, the king was supplanted by THE KING and all that was done was done as unto God. This is an extremely important principle that changes our earthly service into one of the highest order. Think about the materials of purification and the time period involved. This period of dedication by Esther gave her the opportunity to clearly discern in her mind that she was serving THE KING, even Yahweh Mighty One of Israel. Her purification with myrrh was very significant. Myrrh and Aloes were brought to Jesus for his burial and are powerful preservatives against corruption. (John.19:39)

So is the Word today. It is able to guide us away from those corrupt influences in life, and needs to be applied over a period of time. There are no "quick fixes" in spiritual matters. It is not unusual for a young person preparing for baptism to spend 12 months in the preparation, and particularly with a person from outside the Truth, it is a period of cleansing and purifying from the old way of life.

In this record, King Ahasuerus represents the Supreme Ruler and as the story unfolds we can see a marked cameo of him representing God, Mordecai stands for the one who walks in the midst of the court, the Lord Jesus, and Esther represents a lovely picture of the Bride who is being prepared for presentation to the Supreme Ruler with the assistance of the Kings chamberlain who represents those who are sent forth to minister to them who shall be the heirs of salvation, the Angels. With this typology in mind the record takes on a new and powerful significance.

Esth.2:14; explains that with the review of the fair young women by the King, none was called again except they found favour in the eyes of the King, and that he called for them again by *name*. Here is a picture of those who DO find favour with THE KING, and who are then called by name as a mark of His favour. We read through the Bible and we see many examples of this, *"Abraham, Abraham"*, and *"Samuel, Samuel"* as the call goes out from God to show His favour and acceptance. These calls are but a cameo of the great call that will go out one day, calling the faithful one by one from the coldness of the grave to join the living to gather at the Judgement seat of Christ.

Now when Esther's turn came to be called to the king, she is identified by her full title as *"Esther, the daughter of Abihail, the uncle of Mordecai"*. So we learn that Esther's father was called "Abihail" or "Father Almighty." What a grand patronage Esther had! And so Esther went in to the King. All the women had access to all the finery, jewellery and face paint they could wish for! But not Esther. The record says of her, *"she required nothing but Hegai appointed."* This says a lot. Esther had no worldly aspirations for cosmetic beauty, her beauty lay

in her meek and quiet spirit, her spiritual awareness, and her unshakable faith. She truly was a daughter of the Almighty! And as ever these qualities had a big impact on all who knew her and of course the great King Ahasuerus. Esth.2:16; *"So Esther was taken unto King Ahasuerus into his house royal, in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign."*

It appears that Queen Vashti held the throne for only SIX years. Six of course is the day on which man was created and the number six represents *flesh*. Esther came into the King on the *seventh* month. The seventh day was the day on which God rested from Creation and all was very good. How beautifully Esther represents that same achievement!

Following this acceptance of Esther by King Ahasuerus we read that Mordecai continued to follow closely her welfare by sitting in the gate where the Kings matters were dealt with. It was during this time that Mordecai became aware of a plot by two of the King's aides to assassinate the King. He was able to get a message through to Esther, who warned the King. As a result of this, enquiry was made and the two guilty men were hanged on a tree. This incident stayed in the mind of Ahasuerus and was important later in the salvation of Esther and the Jews.

So Esther continued as Queen. What a difficult time this must have been for Esther! It highlights one important factor, Esther had gone into the King's palace with, as it were, only her Sunday School lessons to guide her. Yes, she had the teaching of faithful Mordecai as well. This is of critical importance to our young people. Esther had no idea that she was going to be thrust into such a position of prominence, and very often our young people have situations come upon them quite unannounced, requiring the most spiritual responses and application.

I think of my own daughter Leah, who at 15 years of age was told she had cancer, and perhaps no more than 12 months to live. How important then was her Sunday School preparation to enable her to respond to this devastating news and seek baptism. She matured overnight and died twelve months later, having taken on the sin covering name of Jesus Christ and a frame of mind that enabled her to endure the most paralysing pain and suffering. I think of another of Leah's friends who some time later was involved in a fearful car accident and was able to draw on the strength of her knowledge from the lessons of her parents and her Sunday School as she lay in hospital, facing the possibility of never walking again. These are all teenagers who in their youth bore the yoke of suffering and were able to draw on the strength of their knowledge of the Truth.

We will look at Joseph a little later on and see another startling example of a young man who at seventeen years of age was snatched away from his warm family home to tread the courts of Pharaoh King of Egypt. How important to HIM was his Sunday School and home instruction!

The critical importance of these formative years as a teenager cannot be overstated. Look at all the teenagers of the Bible and you will find people who valued their instruction in Godly things for they knew that they could be called upon at ANY time to bear the name of Yahweh.



Moshe Dayan



Born in Israel in 1915 at Degania (south of Tiberias), Moshe Dayan was a son of the land who became a fighter, soldier, military commander, and politician — accredited with statesman qualities.

Moshe Dayan had a high profile in the first generation of the State of Israel. A highly recognisable personality with a black patch over his left eye as a result of losing that eye as a commander of a Haganah force that was part of the allied invasion of Syria in 1944.

At the outset of the War of Independence, Dayan served as the officer for Arab affairs in the Haganah headquarters. Later, as commander of Jerusalem, Dayan got his first opportunity to display his diplomatic skills. He participated in negotiations with King Abdullah which resulted in a series of agreements at the end of the war. Dayan fulfilled a decisive function in shaping the character of the Israel Defence Forces, and in developing a new military doctrine which was crystallised and reached its peak in the Sinai Campaign of 1956, which he commanded as Chief of Staff.

Significant events in his life included:

- 1956** Chief of staff during the Sinai campaign
- 1967** Appointed as Defence Minister on the eve of the Six Day War (June 1967). A position he held during and after the Yom Kippur War.
- 1974** After the resignation of Prime Minister Golda Meir on 11th April, 1974, Dayan did not join the Rabin government.
- 1977** Accepted an invitation of the Likud leader, Menachem Begin, to serve as Foreign Minister in his cabinet.

As Foreign Minister, Dayan initiated the first contacts with Egyptian representatives preceding President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. Dayan fulfilled a central role in the Camp David Conference and the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt. He resigned from the cabinet on 23rd October, 1979 because of differences of opinion over the implementation of the agreement regarding autonomy for the Arabs of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. Dayan's approach sought to achieve a continued Israeli military control of the territories together with a centrally-planned settlement effort (in his formulation: Jews should never again be made foreigners in any parts of Eretz-Yisrael) while opposing the extension of Israel sovereignty over the territories or the running of the day-to-day lives of the Arab inhabitants.

This stamp depicts Dayan with the familiar black patch which is somewhat symbolic of the single-minded view he had on what was best for Israel. In the background there is shown a plough and the I.D.F. insignia. Strong-willed and determined as he was, this characteristic unfortunately has its disadvantage as the nation has displayed a stubborn attitude to the source of their salvation — as the Apostle Paul states in Romans 11:25 "... blindness in part is happened to Israel — until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in".

The greatest military commander is soon to be revealed in the earth (Zech. 14:3) who will implement the Divine view and establish a theocracy upon the earth (Zech. 14:9) and Israel's borders will finally be safe and secure, never again relying on their own strength to maintain peace.

"And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Iesus whom I preach unto you, is Christ"



GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 111 MAY 1992

Supplement to LOGOS

Dear Boys and Girls,

The destruction of God's wonderful world both morally and enviromentally is constantly in the news. It is a sober reminder of man's folly and inability to manage this earth. Many of you may have heard of the drastic problems affecting the water in our River Murray. The dreaded "blue-green algae" along with all the other pollutions pour into this river rendering some parts of the Murray unfit for drinking. This is a serious problem, for Australia is the driest continent in the world and relies heavily on this river for that important comodity of water.

Water is one of God's precious gifts to man. His *"good treasure from heaven"*, but alas, how few are thankful to God for sending water for the needs of both man and beast. They ignore God's goodness and use the rivers as a means of disposing their waste products with irreversible results that destroy these waterways. What a contrast man's selfish foolishness is to God's goodness! The scriptures speak frequently of the care God has for His creation—

"Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water" Psa 65:9

"He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst." Psa 104:10-11

Water is used in the Bible as a beautiful type of the refreshing goodness of the gospel message. But today religious leaders have filled this clear spring with choking foul pollutions, so that instead of giving life and refreshment it kills and destroys. Amos prophesied of these days, as a time of *"famine of hearing the words of the Lord"* when those in their vigour of youth will "faint for thirst".

How important it is as young people, that we drink deeply of that living water from which we *"shall never thirst...but it shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life"*. The day is coming when those "times of refreshing" promised by God, will become a reality upon this earth. For He shall send His Son the Lord Jesus Christ to cleanse it from all the filth and polution that man has achieved in his 6000 years of rule, and usher in that time of peace. In that day there will be seen *"a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb"*. This will have the wonderful effect of cleansing all peoples, nations languages and tongues, filling this earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Your Friend

Uncle Philip

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

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Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

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MORAL PRINCIPLES FOR SOUND LIVING

These three stamps were issued on 17th August 1976 to commemorate the impending Jewish New Year (Year 5737). The tabs given in English and in Hebrew bear the caption "By three things is the world preserved; by truth (ha'emeth), by judgment (hadiyn), by peace (hashalom).

According to the Jewish sages of ancient times, the World stands on three foundations – Justice, Truth and Peace. They add that the three are interrelated - if there is Justice, there is Truth, and where there is Truth, Peace is to be found. Truth and Justice are essential prerequisites to Peace and constitute its surest safeguard, yet the world has never seen these three qualities in operation. Constantly deceit, corruption and violence are the order of the day (Isa. 59:13-15), yet God declares the time is coming when in the City of Truth (Zech 8:3) the Prince of Peace shall reign upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to establish it with Judgment and Justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of Yahweh of Armies will perform this. (Isa 9:7)

When the Israelites commenced a new "civil year", it was during the seventh month of the "religious year", which under the Mosaic ordinance was a day of "memorial of blowing of trumpets." It was followed by ten days of contrition terminating on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:24-28). Israelites were expected to meditate upon the past, and recall the sins they had committed that they might be forgiven on the Day of Atonement. Hence the New Year was a commemoration of

it from its peaceful sleep.

The bat is the only mammal with the power of flight. Their fingers are joined together with an elastic membrane, and to me it is the softest rubber-like fabric I have ever touched. They cannot fly as fast as some birds, but at full speed — which is quite fast it can make a right angle turn in little more than its own length, and can carry twice their own weight whilst in flight.

Relative to its size, this amazing creature lives for a long time. For example of a field mouse rarely lives longer than a year, a horse lives to an average about 17 years, yet the bat, about the size of a mouse lives for 15 year or more!

They are immaculate animals in their habits, for they clean themselves each morning and after their meals. That, in itself is a lesson for us, for cleanliness is next to Godliness. The Bible on the two occasions out of the three mentioned, they are termed unclean. This means that they were not to be eaten.

The greatest percentage of their food is a diet of fatty insects, from which they suffer no ill effects. Whilst keeping busy they are warm blooded, but when asleep they become cold blooded and go into a dormant state termed 'hibernation'. Somehow the bat drops its body temperature and on falling asleep the heart slows from 180 beats a minute to 3 beats per minute. They can be placed into cold storage in a 'state of death' for a considerable period of time, this is usually done whilst waiting for testing and analysing.

How interesting is this to us? Those who in like manner fall asleep in Christ and await his return, shall be tested and analysed at the judgment seat. Now is the time for preparation.

The saying, "blind as a bat" is not true because they can see, and also have a greater sense of eyesight. They have a sonar or echo location system for finding their way about or locating insects etc. whilst flying. This is done by the bat sending out invisible beams. These supersonic signals, unheard by humans, speed forth at 5 times the speed of sound. When the beam strikes an object, even a small insect, an echo returns to



the bat. Scientists estimate that on a size ratio, the bats' sonar system is several million times more sensitive and efficient than any radar or sonar device designed by man. Experiments have been conducted in dark rooms where loud speakers producing noise 2,000 times as intensive as the echo of the

bats' beep, and on the same frequency. Added to this, hair-thin wires were strung up in the same area, and with their echo in their brain (which weighs only a fraction of a gram), the bats were still able to fly with the noise and through the maze of wires without accident. Man's invention of

continued on page 11

Junior Story

Paul and Jenny were very excited. It was holiday time, and they were going on a holiday to visit Mummy's sister who lived a long way away. Mummy's sister Auntie Kate, and her husband Uncle Jeff had three children, who were cousins of Paul and Jenny and baby Samuel. What a nice time they would have together.

It took quite a few days of travelling in the car before they arrived at Uncle Jeff and Auntie Kate's house, but at last they did get there, and the children had many happy days together, talking, playing and visiting different places.

One day, Uncle Jeff told the children they were going to do something very special. After breakfast they went by car down to the wharf where they boarded a big boat that took them far out to sea. "We are going to an island," said Uncle Jeff, "but this is a very special island. Remember, we read in the Bible about the apostle Paul, when he was shipwrecked." "There were people living on the island, weren't there," said Jenny. "Yes," said Uncle Jeff, "and that is why the island we are going to see is a special island. This island is a coral island, and no one lives there at all." "We will have to keep our shoes on while we are on the island," said Auntie Kate, "because the island is made up of many small sharp sea shells and coral.

The big boat they were on could not take them right up to the island's shore, and so they had to travel in small boats which had glass in the bottom of them. What wonderful things they were able to see under the water. Beautiful coloured fish, coral, sea-weed grasses, and even a big turtle. "So many beautiful things God has made for us to see under the water, hasn't He," said Uncle Jeff.

On the island the children walked carefully along the tracks and looked about them at the strange trees. They saw a few birds, but nothing else. The water around the island was very blue, the sun was shining, it was truly a beautiful day that God had given, and which they had all enjoyed.

"Not just for today," said Daddy later, "but every day which God gives to us we should be thankful, shouldn't we."

GOOD COMPANY

The Family Magazine

Junior Competition

NAME:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: AGE:



Senior Competition

NAME:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: AGE:

PLACE NAMES of the BIBLE



by Leah Slattery
Christchurch N.Z.

CLUES:

Cana; Aphek; Joppa; Athens; Gilgal; Shiloh; Babylon; Bethany; Ephesus; Jezreel; Nineveh; Samaria; Shechem; Ashkelon; Damascus; Michmash; Beersheba; Bethlehem; Bethsaida; Capernaum; Jerusalem; Kirjatharba; Jabeshgilead; Timnathserah; Bethhaccherem.

WORK OUT THE VERSE AND WHERE IT COMES FROM by Merrilee Story & Keren Lund

Matt 6:23 1st word
Gen 37:16 5th word
Matt 5:48 2nd word
Gen 1:5 21st word
1 Chron 2:8 2nd word
Matt 6:10 2nd word
1 Jhn 4:4 3rd word
2 Cor 4:7 18th word
Zeph 2:6 1st word
Psa 57:3 24th word

Job 6:29 14th word
Jude 1:7 4th word
1 Cor 12:30 2nd word
2 Pet 3:11 5th word
1 Cor 13:7 3rd word
2 Pet 3:11 7th word
2 Thess 3:16 16th word
Act 2:41 16th & 17th word
Act 1:11 23rd word

Answer:

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.

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100 MARKS David Glachan Boolaroo; Sharon Cowie, Rebecca Cowie, Ben Cowie Deborah Cowie, Abigail Jamieson Golden Grove; Wladek Hoppe South Africa; Luke Orton, Peter Orton, Jessica Brown, Peter Colston England; Kristine Leadbetter Canada; Brenton Mitsos, Sam Shrive, Naomi Hornhardt Woodville; Matthew Orng Lismore; Kathryn Gilmore Riverwood; Samuel Churches Mildura; Miriam Hindmarsh, Michael Hindmarsh, Stephen Hindmarsh, Moorebank; Joshua Smith, Aaron Smith, Caleb Plekart, Enfield; Glory Ibobo, Omosete Osohon, Charles Imaralu, Sunday Utomwen, Lydia Silva, Efezuwa Uworuya, Nigeria; Leah Chilvers, Susanna Herron, Joanna Herron, Anna Bracey, Tim Herron, Philip Herron, Launceston; Leah Archer Brighton.

200 MARKS Matthew Orton Camborne, Kevin Leadbetter Canada.

continued from page 6

counter-action would have weighed many kilograms, and still crashed!!!

THE CREATOR'S WAYS ARE PAST FINDING OUT

Man asks the question, how does the bat avoid a collision? How does it distinguish echoes bouncing off insects from those bouncing off branches etc.? How can a single bat recognise its own echo and fly collision-free through a cave teeming with thousands of other bats and their calls? This is not for man to understand, but one thing seems certain, that each bat has a different wave length. I failed to state that whilst the bat is hunting its food, up to 200 beeps a second are emitted — and what makes it more intriguing is that the insects or whatever, are being caught, not in the bats mouth, but in a membrane that stretches between their hind legs. Shaping this like a pouch, their food is caught, after which they reach in and eat their catch whilst still flying.

The female bat usually have only one baby each year and select a place called a "maternity ward" where their young may be born.

Dear young people, let us always remember that although we do not know the secrets of many creatures our Creator has made, His word can teach us the secret of God-manifestation in us, that is the theme of the Bible from cover to cover. God requires people to assist the King (Jesus Christ) to rule the world in the glorious Kingdom soon to be established on earth. It is thought that bats have a photograph — A VISION — ever before them of their locality. We too must have a good picture of what the present 'world' is like, it is fraught with danger. Let us leave it behind and seek to have a vision of the glorious Future Kingdom to be established on the Earth. When all things shall be made new. Perhaps then, we may be able to learn the secrets of the bats, and many other things that puzzle us. As for today let us SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto us.

— G. Hollamby.

Our Sympathy Expressed

The Launceston Sunday School was deeply saddened recently by the sudden death of one of our children Sarah Crews, aged 10, eldest child of Bro Gordon and Sis Ruth Crews. Sarah took ill at our Sunday School Picnic and died three days later in hospital in Melbourne.

Sarah was a lovely young girl with a kindly and co-operative nature. She was always willing and helpful. With her brother Adam and sister Jemime she was a regular contributor to the Good Company competitions. Sarah's passing away has been felt very deeply by her family, by the Ecclesia and by her many Sunday School friends. — Naomi King (S. S. Secretary).

We, also, received this sad news with grief. That Sarah should be removed from life at such a young age is very difficult to understand. Like faithful Job, we can only exclaim: "Yahweh gave; He has taken away: Blessed be the Name of Yahweh". Since all things work together for good, we must rest upon the comfort of the Scriptures at such times, and seek the Father's wisdom in these experiences. Sarah's enthusiasm and lovely qualities remain as an example for other young folk. Let us labor together to encourage one another so that our lives are worthwhile and helpful to all our associates in the circumstances of life. — Ed.

READERS WRITE

Double Trouble or Terrific Twins??

These lovely twins sent a photo in to Auntie Liz. They are Tiffany and Heather MacAdams from Cranston RI in America.

Katies "One in a Million!"

"I enjoy the *Good Company* and especially like the Camera Corner, competitions and Reader's write. It's certainly true that the magazine is a *Good Company* to me, as we are the only Christadelphians in the whole country of Luxembourg. Bye for now, Katie Mason."

Dear Uncle
Pip
We are going
too miss
this issue
of the *Good
Company*
Luv
Stephen & Matthew

Editors Apology

Due to the pressures of our modern age, Uncle Philip thought nobody would notice if he let the *Good Company* slip by for the month of April. This was not to be the case as two regular readers, Stephen and Matthew Armonis missed their copy at Sunday School.

Faith

Have you ever asked yourself,
Do I really have much faith?

Have I faith in the Lord,
That He helps and keeps me safe?

We mustn't do our own thing,
And say He'll keep me from all danger,
We have to try and do what's best,
Like Jesus did from the manger.

We must try to help each other,
to do what's always right,
And we have to remember always,
that for the Truth we have to fight.

Tracey Cameron 11, Yarraman S/S

Philip Taylor writes. "I am 11 years old and go to the Launceston S.S. My dad is a woodturner and he makes souvenirs and sells them all over Tasmania in souvenir shops. I have 4 sisters older than me and I am the only boy. We have a dog and some chooks and my bird Reuben who loves meal times and tries to peck at the food. Love to all my *Good Company* friends."

PART FOUR

Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness

Esther

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury

We come now to that fearful time when Haman is sending out the posts with that message of death and destruction to the Jews. Esther 3:13: *"and the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to DESTROY, to KILL and to cause to PERISH, all Jews in one day".*

We know that the young woman Esther was to play a key role in the salvation of her people. For five years, she had pondered why she had been called to that all powerful position of Queen of the Kingdom of Persia. It is always important that we understand the way God moves in our affairs and see that His purpose sometimes takes YEARS to come to fruition.

The words of the Apostle Paul then are relevant: Heb. 10:36: *"For ye have need of patience, that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise".* Esther and Mordecai had that patience and Scripture abounds with reminders of the value of patience.

Mordecai, upon hearing the terrible news of the impending demise of his people, now gives vent to his sorrow by clothing himself in sackcloth and ashes and goes into the middle of the city, to let be seen publicly the degree of his sorrow. Mordecai's example effected many other Jews who also lay in sackcloth and ashes and many wept and fasted.

One would imagine that the first thing Mordecai would do would be to send an urgent message to Esther to present herself to the King and plead mercy on behalf of Mordecai and all the Jews. But Mordecai does not do this at this stage. Why? There is no question now that Esther's position with the King was not engineered by Mordecai for personal or racial benefit. For now would have been the right time to call upon her.

Esther initially was unaware of the reason for Mordecai's lament and she shows her compassion and care by sending him new clothing to take away the sackcloth and ashes. This is a lovely indication that Esther was caring for and aware of Mordecai's needs.

Much to the surprise and consternation of Esther, Mordecai declines the new clothing. This was not an act of bad temper, but a simple expression that his position was so acute that only God could bring about a change.

Think for a moment about Mordecai's actions.

An unalterable decree (such is the custom in Persian Law) had gone forth decreeing DEATH to the Jews. There was no way that the decree could be reversed. It is in many ways similar to our own position where God has decreed death to sinful mankind. There is no way that God can alter that decree without abdicating His authority. Even His own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, could not escape it. Only God, as Supreme Ruler (and as Ahasuerus, in the story before us, as supreme ruler), can decree a solution that maintains the decree, yet provides a way of restoration.

Esther has sent new clothing to Mordecai, but he has refused to change from his mourning clothes as long as the edict of Haman stood. Becoming very concerned now, Esther sends Hatach, one of the courtiers to Mordecai with a commandment that he reveal what and why he was mourning. This suggests that Haman the Agagite had moved with great speed and (secrecy within the palace) to get the decree against the Jews published. It requires Mordecai to give Hatach a copy of the edict, for the palace inhabitants to know what had occurred.

Esther was aghast at the news that came back from Mordecai. She advises that she has

not been into the King's court for the past month, and was not aware of the decree. The only way she could gain access to the King was by invitation and acceptance by the golden Orb that he used in matters of acceptance or rejection. To come before the King uninvited, was to suffer a certain death.

Mordecai sends back a message that if she does not petition the King she will die along with all the other Jews. And he adds that very significant phrase (Esth. 4:14): "...and who knoweth whether thou art come to the Kingdom for such a time as this..."

Suddenly all of Mordecai's teaching about accepting our lot in life, after praying about it to God, made sense. Esther now knew that she was the only one in a position to seek salvation from Ahasuerus. Now all of the years of uncertainty and separation from Mordecai made sense.

We need to pause at this point and think about that.

There are often periods of time in our life when we cannot find an apparent reason for the events that have occurred. Patience and prayer will eventually make it clear to us. Here Esther had to wait five years for clarification as to why she was selected queen... but even so, she could die in the process of trying to save her friends. The next few words from Esther are amongst the loveliest to be found in all Scripture... Teenagers are counselled to listen to the very heart of a young woman who has come to the realisation that greater love hath no man (or woman) than he (or she) should lay down her life for their friends.

Esther 4:16, *"Go gather together all the Jews that are present, in Shushan and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink, three days, night nor day; I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so I will go in unto the King, which is not according to the law... and if I perish... I perish".*

What dramatic and moving words are these! Here is a young woman, with the world at her feet, preparing to sacrifice all for ONE chance to save her people.

Truly we are looking at an example of a young girl who is presenting us with a "Growing Example of Godliness". Whilst some may contend that God is absent from this record, just look at the way Esther is fulfilling the role of the "suffering servant" who poured out life unto death! Here is a young woman who thought it not a thing to be grasped at to be equal to the great Ruler, who takes upon herself the form of a servant... she humbled herself and became obedient unto death..."

How we can apply the words of the Apostle Paul, concerning Esther who is a shadow of that greater Suffering Servant... *"Let this mind be in you"*.

The young woman Esther reaches out over the centuries and touches the hearts of those whose sad eyes behold the selflessness of this sacrifice.

There is no doubt that the Lord Jesus would himself have pondered the spiritual mind of this delightful young woman and drawn encouragement and consolation from her example. As Jesus beheld that faithful group of women that ministered to him, how often he must have heard echoes of the words of Esther. The Lord could not have missed the request of Esther that she and her people fast for THREE days... for Jesus himself would endure three days in the tomb for the sake of his people.

Young men and women should realise that as Esther's example has endured down through the centuries, so present day examples of faith, courage and conviction can have a most powerful effect on their contemporaries and those that follow. How often the Apostle Paul drew strength from another teenager that we will consider (God willing)... the young man Timothy. These situations really do happen today! The age of God manifestation is not over! The faithful examples of young brethren and sisters have a powerful effect on others who sometimes wonder whether there are any at all who are prepared to live the Truth.

It is a wonderful thing to correspond with young people in the Truth, to hear their achievements and their failures, but who are prepared to press on, as did Esther...

(To be continued) 

On the Mountain with the Lord

PART 2

When Jesus said: *"Blessed are the poor in spirit,"* what sort of people had he in mind? Not necessarily those who have little or no money – although the *"poor in spirit"* are more often than not poor in purse. None the less there have been exceptions. Abraham had great riches but he was *"poor in spirit."* He always followed God's way and not his own. When God told him to leave his country and his relatives, Abraham did not refuse and say, in a highminded way: "This will mean a lot of trouble, I prefer to stay where I am." No, Abraham obeyed. *"He went out, not knowing whither he went"* Heb.11:8. This showed that Abraham was *"poor"* and humble *"in spirit."*

He showed this again when God told him He intended to destroy Sodom. Abraham was afraid that many good people in Sodom would be destroyed with the wicked. So he pleaded with God to spare Sodom for the sake of the good people. In supplicating God Abraham did not show self-will and haughtiness. He confessed that he was *"but dust and ashes."*

This is the mind or spirit that pleased God. He said through Isaiah: *"To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and that trembleth at My Word"* Isa. 66:2. God showed that He was pleased with Abraham by calling him His *"friend"* James 2:23. Also by promising that all nations should be blessed in him and his seed. Gen. 22:18.

People can now show poorness of spirit by believing the things promised to Abraham and obeying Christ's commandments as they are bidden to do, Gal 3:29. To turn away from hearing the promises made to Abraham, and to refuse to learn and strive to keep Christ's commandments, is to show a haughty spirit.

Although Abraham was very rich, the poor in spirit, as has been said, are not usually to be found amongst the rich. Paul says: *"Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called."* God is not pleased with the poor because they are poor, nor is He angry with the rich because they are rich. God looks on the heart, and only those who are *"poor in spirit"* will be blessed with salvation. It is this class of people that dwell with "the High and Lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose Name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place *with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit*, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Or, as Christ said in the Sermon on the Mount; *"Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

As little folk you can learn to be *"poor in spirit"* by showing an interest now in your Sunday School lessons, that from an early age like many *Teenagers who are examples of godliness* recorded for your benefit in God's Word, you too may **"Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth."**

(To be continued) 

CAMERA CORNER



Left: The group at the Bible School
Below: Jeremy Lunn, Natasha Bounaparte, Aunty Jill Lunn, Samantha Bounaparte, Miriam Knowles



Singapore Bible School

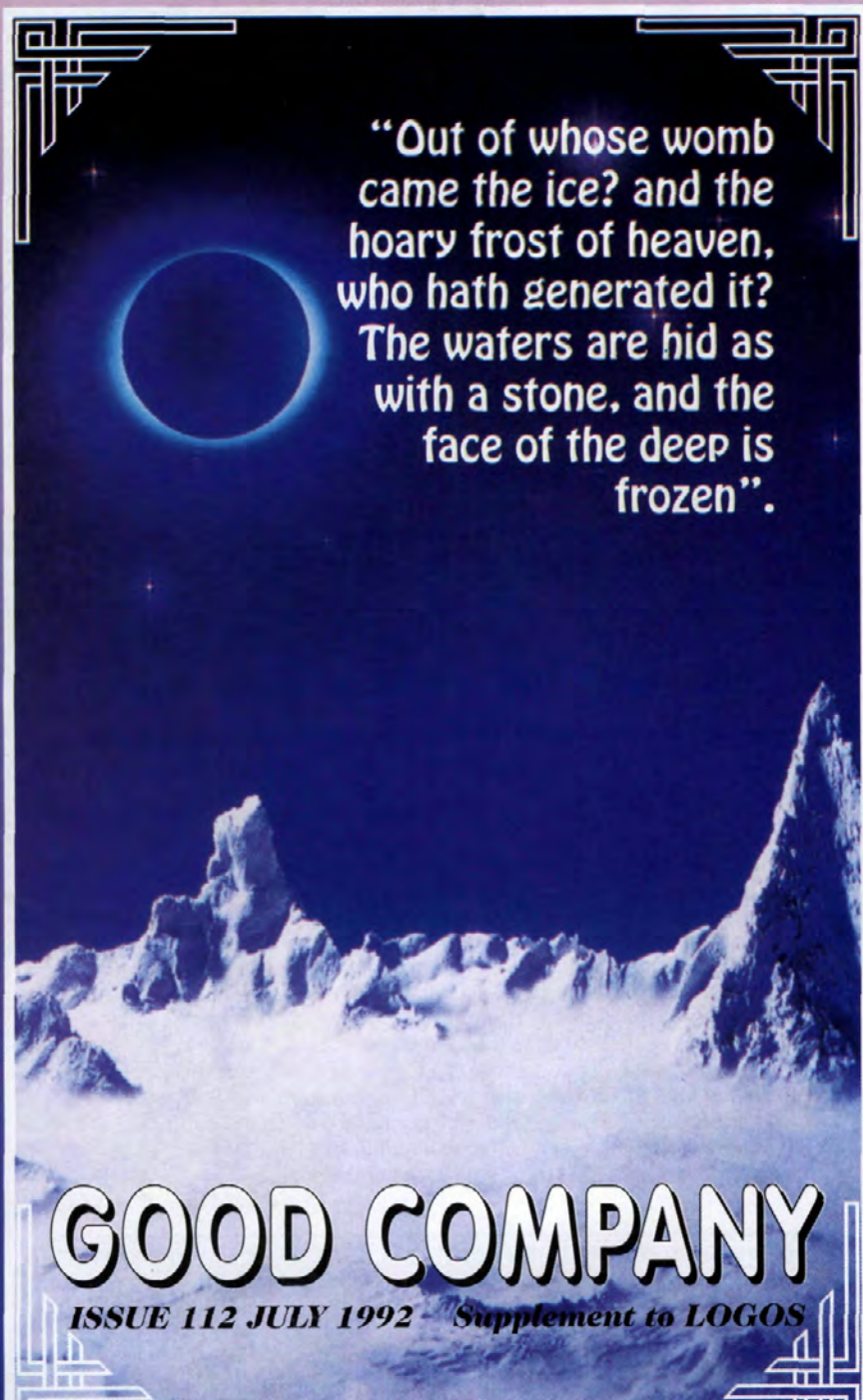
Simeon Wigzell submits these photos of the recent Bible School held in Singapore. Each day four studies were undertaken: Uncle Carl Parry spoke on the daily readings of Luke, Uncle John Lunn on Malachi, Uncle Graeham Mansfield on the Altars of the Bible, and Uncle Andrew Knowles on the Life of Daniel. We had 2 public lectures with a total of 12 strangers present. The School was conducted in a special conference resort on the Indonesian island of Batam, at which members from Australia and Singapore attended. It was an outstanding success, and all thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.



Maple Ridge Sunday School

The names from left to right from bottom to top. Mark Hestermann, David Hestermann, Darian Sharp, Haydn Sharp, Ryan Making, Auntie Gail Hestermann, Jessica Reed, Debbie Making, Wayne Making, Trevn Sharp, Amy Hart, Sarah Bennett, Emily Reed, my cousin Cynthia Making, Dinah Soolaman, Jessica, Kevin Ferguson, Melissa Reed, Jordan Blumenauer, my cousin Kenny Making, Joanna Sooloaman, cousin Tiffany Making, Isaac Isobie, Me Katie Making, Eden Blunemauer, Hannah Isobie, Cousin Krystal Making, Kyle Isobie, Matthew Bennett, Esther and Uncle Tim Isobie, Jason and Auntie Rose Soolaman, Auntie Gladys Hart, Mommy (Auntie Brenda Making),

Auntie Joanie Bennett, Dad (Uncle Mike Making), Auntie Charlene Ferguson, Auntie Lee Making, Uncle Dale Sharp, Auntie Bev Ferguson, Auntie Sheena Sharp, and Uncle Rafeek Soolaman holding the door. Sent in by Katie Making.



"Out of whose womb
came the ice? and the
hoary frost of heaven,
who hath generated it?
The waters are hid as
with a stone, and the
face of the deep is
frozen".

GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 112 JULY 1992 - *Supplement to LOGOS*

Dear Boys and Girls,

As I sit in my study considering what to write to you, I am hindered by a continual sound of "tick, tick, tick" — reminded me that *time* is rushing by, and the moments gone were lost forever. It was the sound of my faithful timepiece, the clock, which is another reminder of the solemn fact that all life is governed by *time*.

From the moment we were born our lives are controlled by time. Our first response is, of course, for feeding time (an need which often remains even when we grow old). Then, as little children, we disliked a certain time: *bedtime*, when we pleaded with our parents to let us stay up just a little bit longer! Soon, however, after many attempts, we were at last able to "*tell the time*" ourselves.

As we grow older we learn that time is short and fleeting. Perhaps for weeks we have looked forward to a Sunday School outing, but when the day comes, oh! how quickly it passes! This is repeated on a certain day each year when friends wish us "*many happy returns of the day*". Yet the older we get, the more rapidly our birthdays seem to come and go.

The Bible teaches us to remember that we do not live for ever: that our lives only last for a very, very small part of time. This is reinforced when our parents show us photos in the family album of our grandparents who may have already died. Perhaps we grow thoughtful and ask, "*Can God die?*" and we are told that the limitations of time do not apply to God. Of Him, the Psalmist declared: "*Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth, and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God*" (Psalm 90:2).

"*Oh, I wish I could live forever*" is a thought we have probably all expressed at some time, but, in fact, we can! God has promised that He will give us everlasting life if we believe the Truth revealed in the Scriptures, and obey His commandments. This precious gift is to be a reality very soon when Christ returns to raise the dead. The Lord Jesus said to the people of his day: "*And this is the will of Him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day*" (John 6:40).

What a glorious time it will be when the evil from which we all suffer, will be no more, when death shall be abolished and time will merge into eternity. In that day our bodies will be changed from mortal to immortality, and we shall dwell upon the earth for all time, in a state of perfect happiness and free from all sin.

"*God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away*" (Rev 21:4)

Boys and Girls, these are the true promises of God, which He has offered to the world. You may receive them if you devote your present time to understanding God's Word and obeying His commandments. But, remember that our days are limited for soon, God will send His Son to the earth, to fulfil His grand purpose. Then, there will be "*time no longer*"! (Rev. 10:6).

Your friend,

Uncle Philip

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

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Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcomed.

Edited by: Philip J. Mansfield. Cost of additional copies for Sunday Schools: \$5 yearly.
Donations for Competition Awards and production costs are appreciated.



Discovery of the DEAD SEA SCROLLS



One of the most dramatic archeological finds of all time occurred in 1947 when it was announced that manuscripts of the book of Isaiah, older by something like a thousand years than any previously known Hebrew copy of the Old Testament, had been found in a cave near the Dead Sea.

They had been discovered by accident. A boy, **Muhammad Adh-Dhib**, had lost a goat. He pursued it in the mountainous parts of the western coast of the Dead Sea, until, as it leapt higher and higher up the craggy, limestone cliff, Muhammad became tired, and rested a while in the shade of an overhanging crag. Suddenly his attention was drawn to a small hole in the cliff face. Like any good Bedouin in endless search for treasure, he picked up a stone and threw it through the hole, listening for the sound as it struck home. Instead of the expected thud against solid rock, he heard the metallic ring of pottery. He tried again, and heard the stone crash among potsherds.

Next day, he took a friend with him, and they pulled themselves up to the cave, but instead of gold and silver they found old leather, a number of jars, and bundles of rags in some of the jars. They took some of the booty back to the camp, and, removing the wrappings, they came upon folds of smooth, brown leather inscribed with strange writing, and which stretched from one end of the tent to the other.

It meant nothing to them, and nothing was done, until some time later, when a trader by the name of **Shahin**, known locally as Kando, purchased some of these finds for a pittance, believing he might be able to use the leather in his



cobbler's business. But he, too, saw the writing, and took it to the *Syrian Convent of St Mark* in Jerusalem. The *Syrian Metropolitan* purchased the scrolls for £24, and then commenced to hawk them around to ascertain their value. This had to be done with care, for it is illegal to acquire archaeological items of value in such a way.

Ultimately the value of the discoveries was realised, and properly conducted expeditions were carried out to try and obtain further data. They date back to the time of the Second Temple, to the sect of the *Essenes*. The *Essenes* were a religious group who lived a communal life, tilling the soil, and studying the Bible. They condemned trade, slavery and the taking of oaths. They lived a life of separateness.

Nearby the cave of Qumran is a small fort. It could have been that the scrolls were hidden in the cave by the *Essenes* at the time the Romans invaded the land.

The find includes the *Treasure Scroll*, Commentaries on the book of Nahum, Habakkuk, the Psalms, and Isaiah (the completed copy of Isaiah was found the very year the peace treaty was signed with Egypt — cp Isa. 30:8). The scrolls vary in size from the small Habakkuk, 141 cm long and 13 cm high, to that of the more than 7 metre length and approximately 25 cm high of Isaiah. The scrolls are all written in ink on the hairy side of pieces of leather, with various sheets sewn together with threads of flax.

Originally, the section of the land in which the scrolls were found, was in the hands of Jordan; but came under the control of Israel after the Six Day War. The scrolls are today housed in the *Shrine of the Book*, in Jerusalem.

The stamps issued by Jordan, show the Dead Sea, the site of the caves at Qumran, the section of the Dead Sea adjacent thereto, and a copy of the Scroll.

Qumran is situated between En-gedi and the northern point of the Dead Sea. When the scrolls were found it was difficult to gain access, but today an excellent road leads to the area, and excavations of the site have taken place.

A Well of Wisdom...

- ★ Temper is so good a thing that we should never lose it.
- ★ "Death and life are in the power of the tongue," says Solomon. Each of us possesses a tongue; how do we use it?
- ★ Money is a good servant but a dangerous master.
- ★ "Do we rejoice when we see people walking in the truth? John, the beloved disciple did.
- ★ A puff of wind and Praise weigh alike.
- ★ One who thinks he can live without others is mistaken, but he who thinks others cannot live without him is more mistaken.
- ★ Everybody lays his load on a willing horse.



Our Amazing World

WHO LIKES SNAILS?

Whether you like it or not, the slimy snail in your garden is a most remarkable creature with some staggering qualities. The snail can exist almost anywhere. It makes a luscious and tasty dish on any menu and is a delicacy in French restaurants. It is extremely useful to scientists in medical research. One author has succinctly declared: *"There is no telling where the snails silver trail may lead"*.

The ordinary everyday snail is an astonishing creature. It has no skeleton and although fragile in appearance, is nearly all muscle. Snails are *gastropods*, meaning that they only have one foot, which is muscular; with a distinct head which has two very sensitive "horns", as they are often called. Just touch a snail and you will see how sensitive it really is, for it will react instantly by secreting itself under its shell. I do not know whether girls touch snails, but I know that lots of boys do!

A snail can pull 200 times its own weight. I can not think of any man-made semitrailer that could even match that. Depending on the weather conditions, snails hibernate for several months in winter or summer. When they get waterlogged in heavy rain they go to sleep and dry out, and, should the hot sun dehydrate them — not totally — they are able to go to sleep until some moisture wakes them up.

In Australia we see thousands, possibly millions, that crawl up fence posts, iron telegraph poles and dry bushes and still remain alive in scorching heat during the summer months, only to revive when winter comes, to feed and mate. The snail I have just described is a small variety snail which is white with darker bands around it. Ignoring its slimy ways, the motion of this creature is one of utmost grace. The body glides without any sign of effort, with the appearance of waves passing along the body. Remember what we are describing: the common snail which, when seen, we can not squash quickly enough for our personal liking. But, perhaps next time we shall examine it carefully — it will not bite!

Wherever they crawl, the silvery



discharge which shines in the sunlight is a protective carpet on which they travel. In fact, they have even been coaxed to crawl along the edge of a razor blade without being cut.

A full-sized snail can extend its antennae to about 19cm (3/4 of an inch). On the ends of these are the eyes, but they are very shortsighted. I do not suppose he or she has to see very far, because they move, oh, so slow! Notice that I wrote *he or she*. This is to indicate that they are bi-sexual. They have a very keen sense of smell which helps them find new green meals and tasty fruit; then the tiny mouth starts working.

Just try to imagine these next details, because they cannot be detected without a microscope: The mouth is as small as a pinhole. Though the mouth is so small in it are 25,600 teeth (imagine having your dentist checking that many!). These teeth are so effective, that, if you put a snail into a cardboard box, it will simply eat its way out to freedom. Should the teeth wear down they are automatically replaced by nature. The same process takes place if the shell is broken: its house is repaired by the principles of nature. Their remarkable sense of smell not only leads them to good food, but also away from danger.

Young snails are hatched from eggs. A suitable position is selected near a tree where food abounds, or amongst grass roots. A hole about 75mm (3 inches) deep is dug and up to 26 eggs are dropped into the nest, which is then carefully covered, leaving no trace of what has taken place. Everything thing is done according to the principles of life set in motion by the Great Creator. It would be impossible for mere "chance" to direct such things, as the theory of evolution propounds.

The eggs hatch in about 3-6 weeks, and although the baby has a paper-thin shell, it is almost perfect when it crawls from the egg and climbs out of the nest. It is fully equipped to cope with a normal snail's life, for seeking food and finding shelter.

Snails are also useful for chemical purposes, and science uses gastric juices from them to treat problems in the human body.

There are lessons we learn which leave no room for evolution – as shown in the following competition:

Question 1 — What came first: the egg or the snail?

Question 2 — What lesson do we learn from the sensitivity of its eyes?

Question 3 — Find a snail and measure it. How long it can stretch its body?

Question 4 — On which day of creation did God form the snail?

Question 5 — The snail is directed by instinct in the things it does. How are we directed?

Question 6 — Have you a favourite animal? Please tell us what it is.

Prizes will be awarded, but you must remember to include your name, age and address.

I nearly forgot to mention that if you find lots of snails in your garden, don't destroy them. I understand (although I have not tested this out yet) that they are simply scrumptious to eat. Some 250 millions of them are swallowed every year in France and they are considered delicious dainty in many other countries, including America. Happy chewing!

— G. Hollamby.

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 1ST FOR NAME TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT ISSUE

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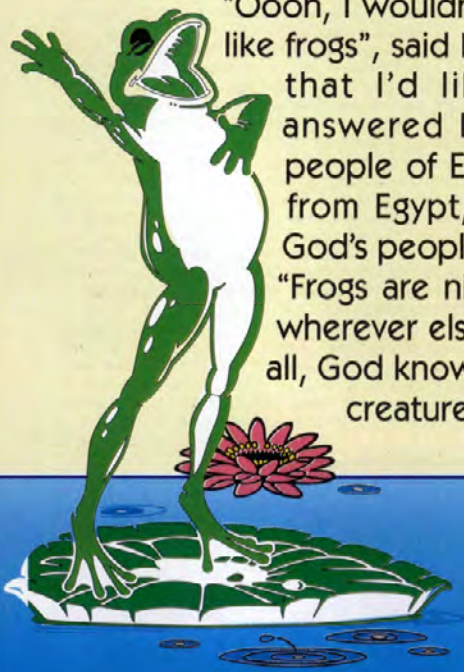
JUNIOR STORY

One day, when Daddy and Mummy were walking with Paul and Jenny and little Samuel by a pond, they heard a funny croak. "Do you think that was a fish noise?" asked Daddy. "No", said Paul laughing, "that was a frog noise, Daddy". "I think you are right," Daddy answered, "it was a frog noise".

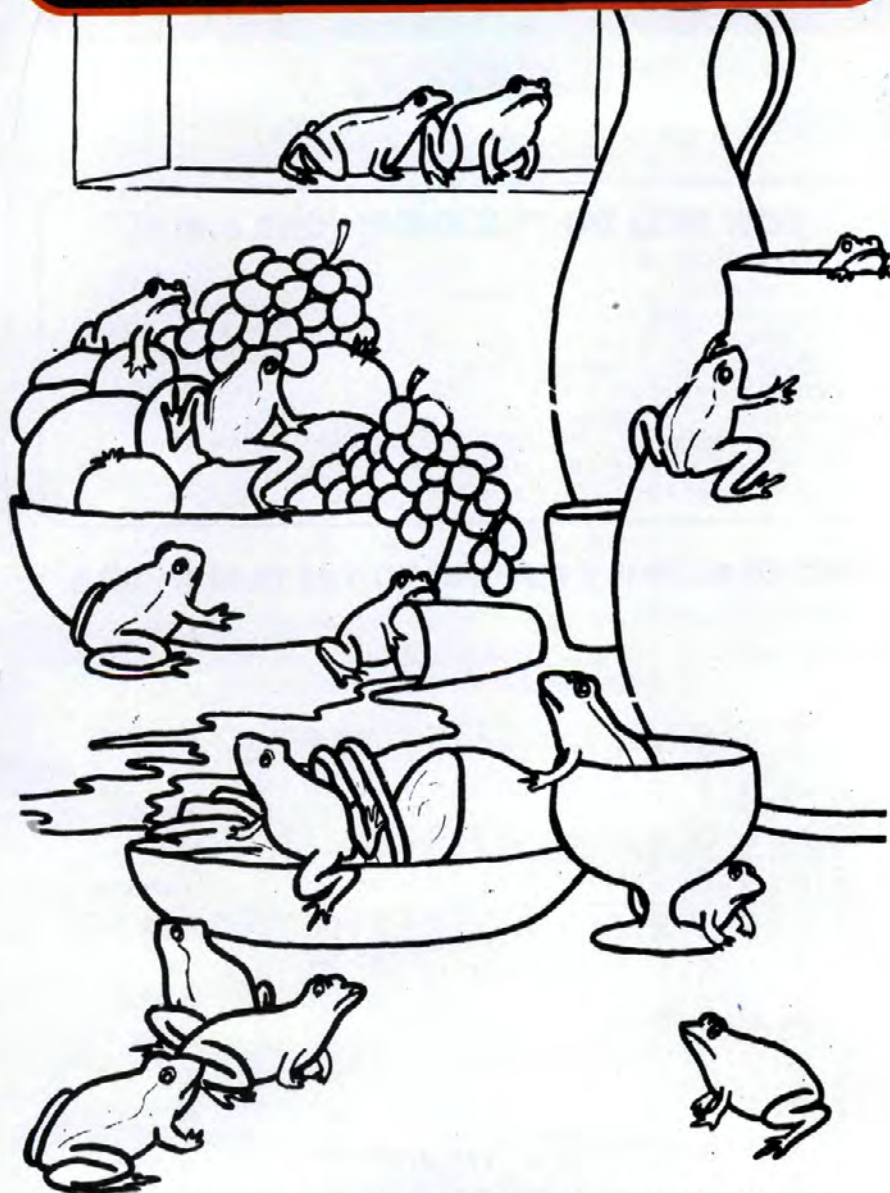
"I imagine there are quite a few frogs in this big pond", said Mummy. "I'd like to catch lots of those frogs and take them all home," replied Paul. "Well, I think that it would be a good idea if they all stayed where they are", said Mummy, and then added: "Do you remember the story about Moses, when the wicked Pharaoh would not let God's people, the children of Israel, go out of Egypt? God sent a plague of frogs? There were frogs all over the place! Just imagine, frogs everywhere! In your drink and in your food, on the table, on the floor and in your bed!"

"Oooh, I wouldn't like that," said Jenny. "Well, I like frogs", said Paul, "but I don't really suppose that I'd like *that* many frogs." "No" answered Daddy, "and neither did the people of Egypt. God took the frogs away from Egypt, but Pharaoh still did not let God's people go".

"Frogs are nice in ponds," said Mummy "or wherever else God has put them, and, after all, God knows the best place for all the little creatures He has made, doesn't He!"



JUNIOR COMPETITION



HOW MANY FROGS CAN YOU
SEE IN THIS PICTURE?

SENIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIBLE!

1. How many books are in the New Testament?
2. How many books are in the Old Testament?
3. How many books in the Bible?
4. Job is the book in the Bible.
5. 2 Peter is the book in the Bible.
6. Noah's ark was on the water days.
7. The ark was cubits.
8. In Exodus, chapter God told Moses the plans for the Tabernacle.
9. Psalm says "the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want ..."
10. How many years after Naomi's husband died, did her sons die also?

Competition by
Naomi Phillis & Carolyn Thiele
(Cumberland)

Competition by Andrew Wilson (Woodville)

FIND 25 WORDS RELATING TO THE TABERNACLE

1. In the word square, find the 25 words listed below.
2. 13 letters will be left unused. Write them down in order and you will discover the person who was able to enter the Most Holy Place (8 Marks).

B	A	R	S	S	T	E	K	C	O	S
C	H	A	P	I	T	E	R	S	T	G
P	O	M	E	G	R	A	N	A	T	E
H	E	S	N	E	C	N	I	T	L	L
N	I	K	S	S	R	E	G	D	A	B
E	E	I	I	S	K	O	O	H	V	H
Z	I	N	L	B	E	A	T	A	E	S
A	L	G	V	H	Y	V	P	R	R	N
R	I	R	E	I	L	L	A	K	E	R
B	O	A	R	D	S	I	O	T	H	O
S	D	A	E	R	B	W	E	H	S	H
Y	L	O	H	T	S	O	M	V	A	T

ARK	MOST HOLY
ASH	OIL
BADGER'S SKIN	POMEGRANATE
BARS	RAM
BEAT	SHEWBREAD
BOARDS	SILVER
BRAZEN	SKIN
CHAPTERS	SOCKETS
HOLY	STAVES
HOOKS	TENT
HORNS	VEIL
INCENSE	
LAVER	
LEGS	

On the Mountain with the Lord

PART 3

Last issue we learnt that Christ said that the "*poor in spirit*" would be blessed and added: "*for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" What did Jesus mean by this?

Some little folks are taught that Jesus meant the "*poor in spirit*" would go to heaven. This is a mistake. Jesus was not speaking of heaven, where God dwells. He was speaking of the heaven-like kingdom which he, Jesus, will establish on the earth when he returns.

In this kingdom Jesus will put an end to all the wickedness that now exists. People will no longer be terrorized by robbers, muggers and criminals. Nor will illness, famine and death be a problem, because Christ will ultimately do away with all these evils. The earth will then be a place of pure delight. At the day of judgment the "*poor in spirit*" will be chosen by Christ to help in bringing about this glorious state of things.

No one is born "*poor in spirit*". We can only become so by continual effort. When we are very little, we want to do just what we like – to seize another child's toy and cry if we cannot get it. Our parents teach us not to do this and they punish us if necessary. As we grow older, our waywardness does not leave us. We want to please ourselves instead of obeying our parents who often have great trouble in making good obedient children of us. There has to be much teaching and sometimes much punishment.

When we grow up, God expects us to take ourselves in hand and learn what is His will and submit to it. This requires constant effort. Those who make the effort and overcome their evil tendencies and waywardness will be greatly rewarded. They will reign, as kings and priests, with Christ upon the earth. Christ taught in the Discourse on the Mount: "*Theirs is the kingdom of heaven*". The "kingdom of heaven" and the "kingdom of God" are the same. It is called the kingdom of heaven because it is of God who is in heaven. All its laws will have come from heaven. The king, the Lord Jesus, will have returned from heaven. "Heaven's will" (Mat. 6:10) will then be done on earth. The "*poor in spirit*", who will be changed like the Lord Jesus, will have received their glorious, never-dying bodies, through God's power, from heaven.

The promise concerning this kingdom is the good news, glad tidings or gospel which was made known in the covenants made with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David. Jesus told his disciples of all these wonderful promises and later told his disciples to teach these things to all nations. He said also that every one that heard these things was to speak of them to others. That is why we are telling you of them so that you may try to grow up "*poor in spirit*" and share in the Promises when Jesus returns to the earth.

To be continued



through the ages have drawn strength from Esther's words.

Esther finally reached that point where the command would be given for acceptance or immediate dismissal to destruction. The pendulum of Providence began its swing. The record says that "*Esther obtained favour in his sight: and the King held out the golden sceptre that was in his hand... and Esther drew near and touched the top of the sceptre...*" In the typology, the sceptre of the Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth represents the Lord Jesus Christ, and how fitting it is that Esther identified her life with the top of that sceptre. All young people who wish to come before the Supreme Ruler, to seek life for themselves and their family, must make contact with the top of the sceptre... the Lord Jesus Christ. The words of Num. 24:17; are fitting "*A Sceptre shall rise out of Israel...*"

Having received permission to speak to the King, Esther now comes to that fearful moment when she is invited by the King to speak her request. She could have come straight out with her petition, but she wants an opportunity for the King to see *Haman* as he really is... as we must see our mortal bodies and sinful habits for what they really are.

Esther invites the King and Haman to a banquet that she has prepared. Now why should she do that? We must be given the opportunity to observe that the corrupt powers of sin and death are at work not only to take half the Kingdom but ALL the Kingdom!

We can be sure that Esther would have found the responsibility on her young shoulders, a great burden. We ought not to think that these Biblical characters drifted through life, instinctively making the right decisions. Far from it. Even in the case of the Lord Jesus there were occasions when he felt that burden too. John 11:33: "*he groaned in the spirit...*" and; John 11:38: "*... groaning in himself*".

The way the record of Esther is compiled, it is evident that she was having a great battle in herself as to whether she could petition the King, as Haman was now wearing the King's ring. Esther 5:6: "*And the King said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, what is thy petition, and it shall be granted thee...*" Here is Esther's big chance. But she delays her petition, and seeks to have the king return for a further banquet. Esther 5:7: "*Then answered Esther and said... 'My petition is... and my request... is... both you and Haman are invited to a banquet that I will prepare tomorrow'*". No doubt the last few words came in a rush, as Esther nervously introduced the reason for her appeal, and to prepare for Mordecai's petition. Haman left with no idea that his days were numbered.

As he emerged from the palace, Haman felt a glow of pride and joy that he was now amongst the elite of Shushan the palace. He walked to the gate of the King, people bowed before him like the wind rustling through a field of wheat... except for ONE person. Mordecai REFUSED to bow to him. Now you would image that ONE person in the hundreds who bowed, would be of no consequence, but as with pride everywhere, Haman would not be content until EVERYONE made obeisance to him. The glow of pride evaporated in an instant and Haman was consumed with an anger that burnt like a fire. Again as with pride, he contained these feelings, for it would have been unethical to come from the King's banquet with a frown on his face. What a seething mass of emotions in Haman's heart, as he walked with a fixed smile on his face!

When Haman arrived home he had to boast about his new status and the golden future that lay ahead of him. Haman gathered his family and friends and recounted his achievements and boasted of his status. The record says in Esther 5:11 "*that he TOLD them of the glory of his riches...*" The Hebrew for TOLD indicates a repetition of telling. He told them over and over again!

But burning deep in Haman's heart was this all-consuming hatred for Mordecai, that eventually came pouring out like poison as he recounted his achievements... "Yet all this availeth me NOTHING, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the King's gate".

To show what sort of person Haman had chosen as a wife, and what friends he had, Esth. 5:14 says: "*Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high... that Mordecai may be hanged...*" Fifty Cubits! In the smallest measure of 1/2 metre per cubit this would have been 25 metres high! His wife and friends were exactly like Haman... out for a cruel revenge against the Jews.

The clock of history was ticking away the hours until the deadline for the execution of all the Jews in the kingdom.

to be continued 

ANTARTICA

Through the Eyes of a Christadelphian

With forty-five other participants I boarded the *MV Icebird* at Hobart for an Antarctic Expedition. In the distance, the figures of those who came to farewell us seemed to decrease in size as we slowly headed down the Derwent to the open sea for our voyage to Casey in Antarctica. I was leaving behind many happy memories of the brethren and sisters and the ecclesia in Hobart, to which I had arrived from Queensland some nine weeks beforehand. Whilst in Hobart I shared in the joy in the one hope of Israel, and the patient waiting and preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, as I experienced the friendship of the family of faith. Now to leave them was a great wrench for me especially after having earlier left my home and family in Queensland. I had prayed earnestly that whatever I did I would be guided by the mighty hand of our heavenly Father and that I would act in a manner worthy of one called as a brother of Christ.

It was not long before we saw a dramatic change in the weather. Yet worst was to come as the weather forecast was for turbulent seas ahead.

As I gazed out over the waters I was reminded of the principles of baptism, that continues through our lives. As we progress in our walk to the kingdom we have to face turbulent times that will come: the storms of life as our ship of faith endeavors to maintain its course. Preparation in all things is of paramount importance. Our lives can become like the incident of Peter as recorded in Mat. 14:29-31; he walked upon the water as did Jesus, but when the waters became rough he lost sight of his goal and began to sink. So we pray for continuing strength that we may stay buoyant in faith.

The forecast proved to be correct as by late afternoon the seas had developed from a heavy swell to gale force with winds blowing at 50 knots. This rough weather continued throughout the night, making attendance at meal times very sparse — and I felt sorry for the chef's efforts who always turned out an excellent cuisine, but not many were there to appreciate it!

The following days were spent wallowing in heavy seas. As a result the captain decided to slow down the vessel to a mere 4 to 5 knots which made progress easier. In seas like this, it was not hard to appreciate just how frightened the disciples would have been on the Sea of Galilee, when they were in the midst of such a storm. When one compares the flimsy craft they were on, to the vessel upon which I was travelling, I wondered how I would have reacted if I were with them! During this period I conversed in prayer and felt a sense of security.

After two days the winds had eased and the sea was quite calm. All around mountainous icebergs in varying sizes engulfed us. One was estimated at 15 kms long, rising out of the sea like a huge mountain. At this time my fellow travellers, whom I had not seen since we left Hobart, emerged from their cabins, with cameras in hand to

record the wonders of the scene — the creation of our God.

The following day was even more spectacular. We were now in sea ice, and the *Icebird* was being utilised to its full extent. The ship would gracefully rise upon the ice and the sheer weight of the reinforced bows would crash through the ice, making its own passage. Every now and then we would pass a group of *Adelie* penguins who would look up quizzically at the ship, perhaps thinking to themselves, "what is this monster that comes crashing into our world, disturbing our peace?" Then they would scatter out of the way, to a safer haven. We also noticed the occasional *Weddel* seal that just seem to laze around completely unconcerned at the intrusion of humans from the north.

Now our first glimpse of the continent Antarctica, and our destination, Casey, came into view. It was to be our home for the next twelve or more months. It was 10pm and still broad daylight when we dropped anchor, only to see many people waving us a welcome. To them, the ship that had brought us, was their means of transport home.

It was ten days since we had departed Hobart; ten days of changing weather and contrasting scenery and certainly full of mixed emotions. But we were finally in Antarctica. As I looked at the frozen sea, the ice-swept hills and plains, which, in reality, are a desert of ice, I sensed that I was intruding upon a part of the world that perhaps God had not intended for man. I saw in all this a true balance of nature; a balance of sheer wonderment and beauty; something which I had never seen before in my entire life. Even in this white wilderness I could not overlook the fact that this is all part of God's great work as He shaped the wonders of the world. Here, indeed, was a great wonder to behold — harsh, bleak, but holding a beauty all of its own; a sight unlike any other part of this world I had witnessed.

Later: six weeks has past since I arrived at Casey station, where my job as the station electrician has kept me busy. There is always plenty of work to be done before the start of the long, cold, dark winter sets in. My accommodation is very comfortable in a well-equipped room of my own, where I am able to retire when I wish to be alone, and consider the daily readings and other words of enlightenment. It is most uplifting to know that I can still enjoy moments of peace with the Lord and the Word, and in conversation with the Father.

At this time of year Station life is very busy, as the temperature is between 5-6°C, which is surprisingly quite comfortable, providing one wears the correct clothing. I seem to be blessed in being with a good group of expeditioners and often uplifting topics of conversation arise when we get together. I found it amazing how people, who are isolated, seem to turn to God more readily for guidance and help, but also mainly for comfort.

During a recent field training course we were taught the skills of survival in sub-zero temperatures. This involved being taken away from the station for three days, living in tents and instructed in survival skills. One included abseiling into a crevice, a small opening in the ice, approximately 8 metres deep, and which opened into a cavernous hole where I experienced such chrystine beauty. It was like a temple or cathedral made of solid ice with icicles and stalagmites hanging from the sides and ceiling. Some sunlight filtered through a crack, reflecting on these huge icicles, highlighting brilliant colors that are to be seen in frozen ice. The peace and the silence in the crevice was almost overwhelming and made me feel very humbled, but privileged, to be there and to feel the closeness of God in a place of such natural beauty.

I look forward to the rest of my stay here at Antarctica. I feel there is a purpose in all we do as we wait for Christ's return. In whatever circumstance we find ourselves we must serve the Lord to the utmost of our ability.

— A. Taylor.

**"I have set watchmen upon
thy walls, O Jerusalem,
which shall never hold their
peace day nor night; ye that
make mention of Yahweh,
keep not silence, and give
Him no rest, till He establish,
and till He make Jerusalem a
praise in the earth"**



GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 113 SEPTEMBER 1992

Supplement to LOGOS

Dear Boys and Girls,

Our household has been a little noisy during the day and at night over the past week, for our little eight-month old son is getting some new teeth, and he obviously wants to share this ordeal with our neighbourhood! Yet, it is somewhat painful for us all, not to mention his little red, blistered gums.

But not only is cutting teeth a painful experience for little ones like our son, but all through life, teeth can cause pain and anguish, even up to the time of old age when *"the grinders cease because they are few"*, as the wise man wrote. We learn valuable lessons from the function and purpose of our teeth. If we constantly eat lollies and soft sweet foods, the effects will first be seen in our teeth, as holes and decay sets in. These need to be repaired by the dentist, causing much distress to Dad's pocket! So the pain we experience in our mouth should remind us of the vanity of life, and guide us towards those lasting and eternal qualities only found in the Bible.

Good food is essential to the development of teeth. This principle has a spiritual lesson also. The Bible tells us *"that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God"* — this is the food of true sustenance.

Teeth are mentioned on numerous occasions in God's Word. In Psalm 57 David describes the men that hid with him in the cave of Adullam, as those *"whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword"*. They voiced such hatred for King Saul, yet David was able to control them, so none lifted any spear, arrow or sword against Yahweh's anointed.

Solomon declared that *"confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint"*. To try biting an apple with a broken tooth would cause immense pain making it impossible to eat the apple — so is an unfaithful "friend". His help is sought, but at the crucial time he gives no support and therefore he lets his friend down, causing distress and hurt.

The phrase *"weeping and gnashing of teeth"* occurs five times in Matthew's Gospel. On each occasion it refers to those who have been rejected, as with sorrow and bitterness they witness the joy and happiness of those who are blessed with immortality and rejoice with the Lord.

There was a group of people who, on one occasion, acted against the disciples of the Lord, when in frustration and anger the mob *"gnashed upon Stephen with their teeth"* because they were unable to resist the wisdom with which he had spoken unto them. But even although they stopped Stephen's mouth on that day, he will again be heard, very soon, as with all the faithful he will be raised from the grave to receive his reward in God's Kingdom.

Your friend,

Uncle Philip

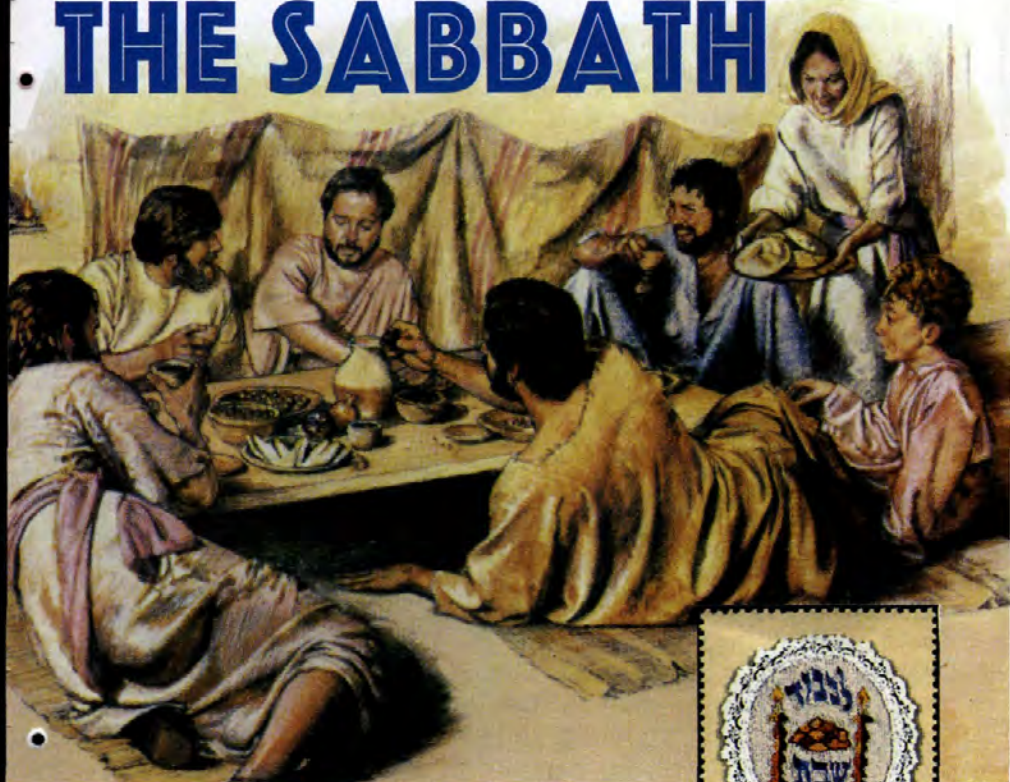
"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

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THE SABBATH



Sabbath-keeping was "a sign" commanded of God exclusively to Israel (*Exod. 31:12-17*). It was based on His rest from the labour of creation, pointing forward to the millennial rest (*Exod. 20:8-11*), and of rest from the servitude to the works of the flesh, as exemplified by the experience of the Israelites in Egypt (*Deut. 5:15*). However, the priests working in the Temple were exempt from its observance (*Matt. 12:5*), and because Christ's followers have been elevated to that status of priests (*1 Pet. 2:9*), sabbath-keeping is not for them. Nevertheless, there is a "keeping of the sabbath" to the people of God (*Heb. 4:9*), for they are expected to "rest" from the works of the flesh, as God rested from His labour on the seventh day (*Heb. 4:10*). The seventh day "rest" points forward to the rest of the Kingdom yet to come.

The enemies of Israel "mocked at her sabbaths" (*Lam. 1:7*), as they mocked at all the restrictions imposed upon the people by the Law of Yahweh. Yet mankind generally would be better for the

observance of this principle, rather than giving every day to the gratification of the flesh. Medical authorities are agreed that the rest and recuperation of physical energies one day in seven is an excellent provision. But though this is so, the "rest" enjoined of Yahweh was not primarily for physical needs, but for spiritual development. The sabbath was intended as a day of mental activity and dedication in the spirit of Isaiah 58:13. Yahweh was honored by Israelites honoring the Sabbath; and Christ honored it by observing its true principles - resting from the works of flesh, and dedicating oneself to the will of Yahweh (*Isa. 42:21; Matt. 12:8*). A true worshipper is called upon to do that every day, and not merely one in seven.

Unfortunately, Jewish tradition has robbed it of much of its significance, so that today, the sabbath is turned into a period of personal gratification rather than that of dedication unto Yahweh.

This stamp depicts a piece of embroidery such as may be placed on the table on the Sabbath. The mistress of the house lights two candles (previously these were oil lamps). They symbolise the light of truth. One corresponds to "remember the Sabbath day" (*Exod. 20:8*), and the other to "observe the Sabbath day" (*Deut. 5:12*). For each meal two whole loaves of bread, corresponding to the double portion of manna received for the Sabbath (*Exod. 16:22-26*), are placed on the table covered with a cloth. The cloth covering the bread is embroidered as in the illustration. Special services are conducted at the synagogues and special Psalms recited. When the head of the house returns from the synagogue, he joins his children and guests in chanting time-honored psalms, including a song of praise for his wife taken from Proverbs 31:10-31.

Then a blessing is recited over the wine while the bread remains covered, in order — so it is said — "not to cause offence that the wine is first sanctified". When the day is over, further prayers are recited, including one over spices to encourage the mind saddened by the conclusion of the day. There are restrictions on activities on the sabbath. In some hotels provision is made for this by providing automatic lifts, so that orthodox Jews do not have to press the buttons to drive it - the lifts stopping at every floor! These restrictions, however, only serve to blind Jews to the true significance of the sabbath rests. In ancient times they paid scant respect to the sabbath rest (*see Amos 8:5*), and, unfortunately, both Jew and Gentile do that today: the latter more so than the former. It is rather significant that modern Jews have replaced the oil lamps with the candlesticks.

The words embroidered on the cloth as depicted in the stamp are "*livvod Shabbat*" and signify "to honour Sabbat."





Our Amazing World

The Aussie Kangaroo

Although kangaroos are now seen in parks and zoos throughout the world, its original habitat is Australia. In fact there are many varieties, which include wallabies and other marsupials. It is recorded, that when Captain Cook came to Australia in 1770, landing on the coast of New South Wales (east coast of Australia), his men were sent to scout for food on the mainland. They carried back to the ship, "Endeavour" an animal that was much different from any they had ever seen on land or sea. They described it as: "over five feet tall, a delicately shaped head, with a deer like neck. It sloped down to a heavily muscled hind quarters tapering up to a tail 3-4 feet long (over a metre). It had big soft eyes, a twinkly nose, and rabbit lips. Its hands were similar to mans, and on closer investigation — a large fur-lined pocket... but when the captain's mariners asked the aborigines, 'What is it' they shrugged their shoulders and murmured 'kangaroo', which means when translated 'It would be hopeless to tell you'."

Yet, notwithstanding this vivid description, it is a marsupial because the female has a pouch. The different species of this animal are headed by one called "a boomer", his mate "a flyer" and their baby "a joey". The boomer which has huge hind legs, can clear a fence about 2.75 metres high. This creature at birth is about as big as a bee and is able to grip its mother's fur with two hands already developed, and crawls to the



protective pouch, normally making this journey all on its own. The baby now fastens itself to a milk gland, and the milk is pumped into this tiny joey-to-be by the mother. When it is four months old, it grows a fur coat all over the body, which is still the same in shape and detail as described above. It now pops its head out of the pouch, and at times jumps right out to nibble some grass, but, when danger lurks it quickly scrambles back into the pouch of the "flyer" who bounds away to safety.

We live in an area where we see kangaroos in the wild, or, as we call it, "the scrub". Often we see them in large numbers bouncing along together, making a graceful sight. However, when the mother is being chased, she sometimes throws her baby out of the pouch (if the joey is old enough), and hides it in a bush. She will return later to pick it up again, after the danger has passed.

The boomers love to have fun together, boxing and sparring with each other, yet rarely do they lose their tempers. They are not boxing to win, but just for sport. The old man kangaroos, of certain areas, are redish in colour and are quite dangerous if cornered. Whippet dogs and stag hounds are sometimes used to hunt them, and some dogs have been killed in one blow from the "Big Red's" spurred hind legs. Normally their method of escape is speed and dodging. They can scale a broad jump of 7 metres and continue at speeds of 25 MPH (or 40KMS) for long distances over any type of country — across hills, down valleys, through trees, over fences. On occasions it has been known for kangaroos to wade into swamps when dogs were chasing them, and when the dogs came towards them the old man 'roo would grab them, and drown them by holding their heads under water.

In some places of the outback survival of the kangaroos are threatened, usually because of drought, and in other places they become a menace to the farmers by eating crops and sheep-feed. This is similar to the world in which we live. For, like the kangaroo, some people are starving and others have more than enough and are in need of nothing.

How we long for the Kingdom to be established upon the earth!

The kangaroo can teach us many lessons when we understand the principles taught in the Bible. The survival of Christadelphians in today's world, depends upon us drinking deeply of the water of life: God's Word. We must feed upon things that are spiritually good. We must be careful not to be found in places where we can be tempted and led to do things God would not like — and certainly flee from danger as quickly as we can. Now is the time for us all — young and old to think upon these things.

God's Kingdom will come, when everything shall be conformable to the environment; when peace will dwell amongst mankind, and all creation will be blessed. Then, all people will learn of God and His ways.

— G. Hollamby



FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Walkerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 1ST FOR NAME TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT ISSUE.

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CAMPBELL: Nathanael Jamieson, Shem Jamieson

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- 100 MARKS** David Orng (Lismore); Tim Black (Rockhampton); Debbie Robson (TTG); Kimberley Evans (Wongan Hills); Elisa Smith (Enfield); Simon Gibbs, Matthew Gibbs (Salisbury); Caleb Witton, Isaac Witton, Fiona Jose, Roseanne Jose (Wilston); Tiffany MacAdams, Heather MacAdams (Cranston)
- 200 MARKS** Narelle Venn (Wilston); Jamin Lean (NZ)
- 300 MARKS** Myles Evans (Redcliffe); Naomi Flemming (NZ).

JUNIOR STORY

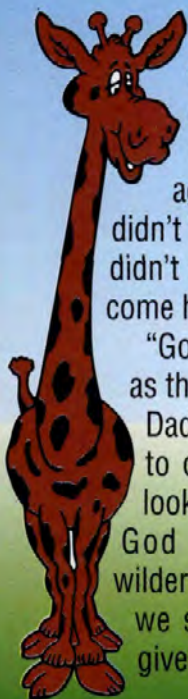
ONE Saturday all the Sunday School children and their families went for an outing to the zoo. It was the first time that baby Samuel had been to the zoo, and he would have to ride in his pusher because his little legs would get very tired if he had to walk around all day. But Paul and Jenny had good strong legs, so they didn't mind walking at all.

There were many animals of all different kinds in the zoo and the children had a lovely day. They had a picnic lunch and cool drinks under the shady trees, and in the afternoon they all had an ice-cream as a special treat.

That night after tea, and a nice warm bath, Daddy, Mummy, Paul and Jenny sat down to do the Bible Readings, and they read the story about the children of Israel who had to walk in the wilderness for forty years. "Well, my legs got a bit tired walking at the zoo today," said Paul, "I'm glad I didn't have to walk all that way that the children of Israel had to walk."

"Just think," said Daddy, "dust and dirt, and hours of walking, carrying everything they had with them. Little children crying and wanting to be carried, bigger children wondering when they would be able to stop and have a rest again. They didn't have cool drinks and ice-cream, and they didn't have lots of things to look at like we have seen today. They didn't have shady trees to sit under to have lunch or a house to come home to, or a bath to get clean in either."

"God wanted to teach the children of Israel lessons as they walked through that wilderness," said Daddy. "God wanted to teach those people to obey Him and to know that God would look after them if they put their trust in Him. God gave them food and water in the wilderness. God gives us all we need too, and so we should thank God every day for all that He gives us, shouldn't we!"

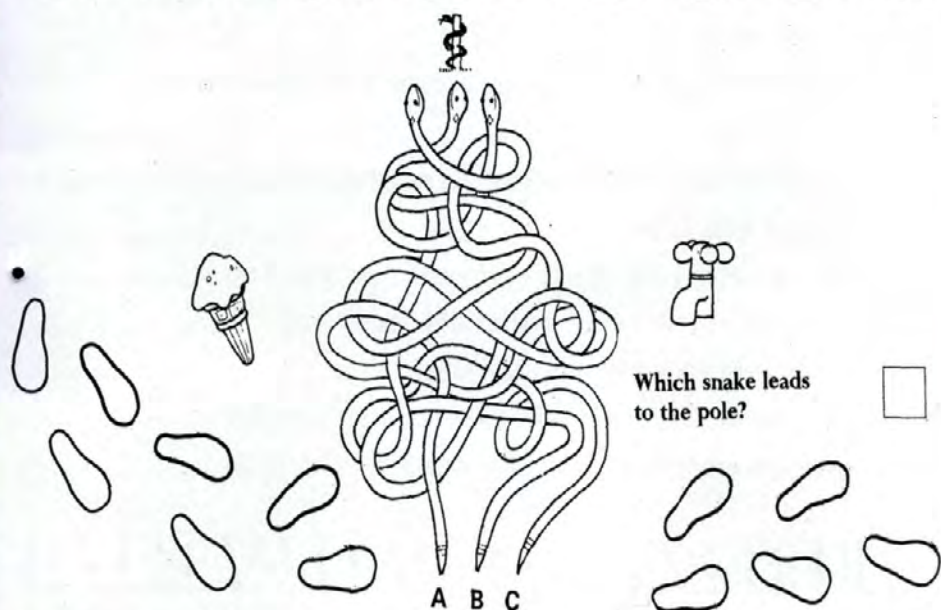


JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age: Issue 113

In the Wilderness



- 1 Colour the picture.
- 2 Put a circle around the two things the children of Israel did not have in the wilderness.
- 3 Trace over the names of the two men who led the children of Israel through the wilderness.

Moses

Joshua

SENIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age: Issue 113

PARABLES

- 1 What was lost while ninety-nine were safe? (Luke 15:4).....
- 2 Of the two men who went to the temple to pray, one was a Publican. What was the other? (Luke 18:10).....
- 3 What the sower scattered (Matt. 13:4)
- 4 After he'd wasted his money, the prodigal son was hired to feed these (Luke 15:15)
- 5 When a man found this in a field he went and sold everything he had so that he could buy the field for himself (Matt. 13:44)
- 6 One house was built on a rock. On what was the other built? (Matt. 7:26)
- 7 What sort of seed grew into a tree in which the birds nested? (Luke 13:19).....
- 8 The merchant found one of great value (Matt. 13:46)
- 9 What object was lost, causing a woman to sweep the house? (Luke 15:8).....
- 10 Who sowed tares among the wheat while the farmer slept? (Matt. 13:25).....

MISSING VOWELS

FILL IN THE MISSING VOWELS TO FIND THE QUOTE

P__ _ L__ _ N__ _ P__STL__ _ F__ J__S__S CHR__ST
BY TH__ W__LL__ _ F__ G__D__ _CC__RD__NG T__
TH__ PR__M__S__ _ F__ L__F__ WH__CH__ _S__ _N__
CHR__ST J__S__S.

THIS QUOTE COMES FROM

On the Mountain with the Lord

PART 4

GOD is very good to man. He causes delicious fruits to grow— oranges, apples, grapes, bananas and many other nice things which gladden the hearts of boys and girls. He also provides things from which cool clothing for summer and warm clothing for winter are made. He gives also beautiful flowers upon which to look is a joy. The earth is full of God's bountiful gifts which man richly enjoys.

The people who, whilst breathing the lovely mountain breezes, sat listening to Christ's teaching were daily partaking, more or less, of all God's gracious gifts. And yet Christ said: **"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted"** (Matt. 5: 4).

Why did Jesus say this? Because, on account of sin, men have to suffer pain, sickness and death and other things that cause them to mourn.

Not every one that mourns is blessed. Nor will every one that mourns be comforted. The Scriptures tell us this. Then what did Jesus mean when he said: **"Blessed are they that mourn"**? Christ was speaking to his disciples—to those who would be obedient to his teaching (verse 1).

Obedying Christ brings laughter, jeers and scoffs from the disobedient. It has done this in all ages, causing much mourning to those who have had to endure it. Obeying Christ often brings worse things than these, such as persecution, imprisonment and death. Then what did Christ mean when he said: **"For they shall be comforted"**?

You have all heard of the apostle Paul and how he was persecuted, imprisoned and beheaded. Just before he was put to death he told us how he would be comforted. This is what he said: **"The time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them, also that love his appearing"** (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

The comfort is to be given by Christ at his coming. All the obedient will then be made free from sin, suffering and death. They will forever enjoy all the riches of the earth in the kingdom of God. They will be made very much higher than the present kings of the earth. Christ will exalt them to sit with him on his throne. It is a great comfort to the obedient to know that this great honour has been promised to them. But what a joy it will be to find themselves acknowledged as Christ's faithful obedient friends and to be given a place in the kingdom!

At this time the wicked will mourn for their own folly in disobeying Christ. These will not be comforted: **"Then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn when they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven"** (Matt. 24:30). If the disobedient would remember that there is to be **"weeping and gnashing of teeth"** when they find themselves shut out of the kingdom they might repent and receive the comfort promised.

To be continued



CAMERA CORNER

THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH



Tea Tree Gully Sunday School

This photo sent in by Susanna Elfenbein shows the happy smiling faces of the Tea Tree Gully Sunday School. There are 100 students and 21 teachers. Uncle Graham Wigzell is the superintendent with Uncle John Hill as secretary. Aunty Ruth Gibson is superintendent of the lower school.



Benjamin, Lydia, Deborah and Esther Reynolds sent this photo, taken recently after a Bible School. They comment "We enjoyed ourselves there, made a lot of new friends and learnt a lot about different people in the Bible. Three of us won prizes at the school and Uncle Jim Cowie presented them to us. It is now summer here in England and the weather is very warm, so we have been to the beach several times.

PART SIX

Teenagers of the Bible – Growing Examples of Godliness

Esther

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury

Chapter Six of Esther opens with the king, unable to sleep one night. Despite having music played during the night hours, he calls for "*the book of records of the chronicles*". No doubt this action was guided providentially, for the king discovers the record of an earlier plot by Bigthan and Tereshto overthrow him and the role that Mordecai played in its discovery and suppression.

Four people were sleepless that night. There was the king who had called for the *Chronicles* to read. There was Haman, as he plotted the gallows for the morning, and who could not stand the thought of Mordecai refusing to fall down before him. There was Queen Esther, who probably spent the night, as she did previously, in prayer and fasting. And there was Mordecai, knowing the edict that had gone out only days before, and who was waiting desperately for news from Esther as to whether the king had granted her petition.

The king asked the historic question: "What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this..." His advisers said: "None".

How typical this was of the Lord Jesus Christ. Mordecai saved the life of one ruler. By his actions the Lord Jesus Christ has saved a multitude of rulers! And what honour and dignity hath been done to THAT man? Why, he was stripped naked, crucified, left in the company of criminals, and in the heat of the Judean sun! There remains a great righting of the reward for that man!

As the king discussed these matters of his State, he sensed movement in the shadows of the outer court. He demanded: "Who is in the court?" Haman was there; he could not wait until morning! He was taking an awful risk of death by coming to the king unbidden. The king's advisers say: "Behold, Haman standeth in the court". Notice the difference in this procedure from that of Esther's entry. Haman came into the court excited with the anticipation of hanging Mordecai. He is consumed with this mission, and overlooks the danger of immediate execution because of his unbidden entrance, simply because the king was absorbed with what should be done for Mordecai. So the king says of Haman: "Let him come in". Haman rushes in, filled with the urgency of his own desire, and makes a fatal mistake. All persons coming before the king were required to touch the top of his sceptre (as Esther had done) as acknowledgement of his role as King Supreme. It appears that Haman forgot. This would have been viewed with consternation by his advisers. However it seems that (whilst the awful mistake was not lost on the king) he was so taken up with the failure to reward Mordecai that he suffers this momentous lapse by Haman until the matter with Mordecai was set right. It may well be that the king knew of Haman's hatred for Mordecai and decided to punish Haman

by his own words.

The king asked Haman what honour he would bestow on a man whom the king wished to reward. The king would have watched the kaleidoscope of emotions flicker across Haman's face as he thought about it. The record says in Esther 6:6: *"Now Haman thought in his heart, to whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?"*

With all the emotions of self grandeur and a blossoming lust for power, Haman blurts out that such a man should be dressed in *"royal apparel that the king weareth... and the crown royal which is set upon his head ...and be led through the city by one of the most noble princes"* on horseback. With a face glowing with anticipation Haman blurted out confirmation to the king that he was indeed questing for power. He hung on every word the king spoke.

Then fateful words came crashing down around his ears... *"do even to Mordecai the Jew..."* There is great significance in these words. The king was telling Haman that he was aware that Mordecai was a Jew! With haste Haman had to elevate Mordecai in the terms of his own aspirations, and lead him through the city.

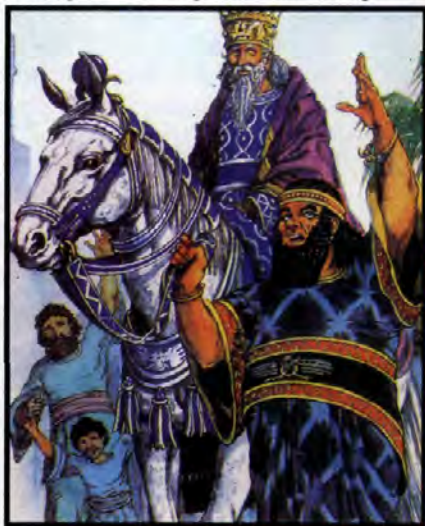
Spare a thought for Mordecai; he knew nothing of the king's search through the *Chronicles*, nothing of the conversation between the king and Haman. All he knows is that Haman hates the very ground he walks on and he is determined to crush all Jews. Then suddenly Haman appears with his face "dragging on the ground", to dress up Mordecai in the king's finery and lead him through the city to the acclamation of all people!

There are echoes of history here. So many times over the centuries, plots to eradicate the Jews have failed and resulted in their elevation and recognition. And the day is yet to dawn when the enemies of Israel will *"take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew"*.

Now see the change in status! Esther 6:12: *"And Mordecai came again unto the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house, mourning, and having his head covered"*. If Haman felt bad, there was worse to come from his own family and friends. They said of his position with Mordecai: *"Thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him"*. This is typical of those who are friends purely for gain. As soon as they perceive that the advantage is lost, they turn away.

In all of this Haman had almost forgotten the second banquet that Esther had arranged to present her petition on behalf of her people. There was a knock at the door, and there stood the king's chamberlains to convey him to that feast.

Esther 7:2 records that this was not just an ordinary banquet, but a *"banquet of wine"*. As such it has great significance for us. Esther was at her Lord's table partaking



of bread and wine (as was the custom), and seeking an opportunity to plead for her life and that of her people. That is our position as we come before our Lord each first day of the week. We have an opportunity each week to examine ourselves, and be reminded that our sins could well separate us from our Lord, and to seek reconciliation as Esther does here in type.

It appears that Esther held her peace until invited by the king. How that time must have dragged by. She was not asked again of her petition until the second day of the feast. Esther's patience was again shown as she waited for Providence to move at her prayers. And that time soon came. Just as Haman was beginning to relax and think that all was well, the king said to Esther... *"What is thy petition, Queen Esther?"* How Esther's emotions must have almost choked her. Here was her moment! But did she have the courage, in the presence of her enemy, to plead for her life? Then the words came tumbling from her trembling lips. *"For we are sold, I and my people, to be DESTROYED and to be SLAIN and to PERISH"*. Can you imagine the expression of horror on the face of Haman? The king demanded... *"Who is he and where is he... that has presumed in his heart to do so?"*

Esther rose and turned. Could she do it? Could she show the king that he had erred in judgment giving Haman his authority? She turned slowly to Haman and saw a look of horror pass over his face as she said... *"The adversary and the enemy is this wicked Haman"*.

There must have been an ominous silence as the king and Haman looked at each other. The face of the king clouded in anger as he saw that Haman had abused his authority. He was faced with the most terrible position. His word had gone forth and could not be reversed according to Persian Law. The king did a very significant thing. He strode out into the palace garden, to wrestle with himself. Do you see the parallel, as another man faced with a decision between right and wrong, wrestling with himself... in a garden? The Lord Jesus faced a similar issue in the Garden of Gethsemane. Was he going to capitulate to the law of sin and death that was irreversible, or was he going to reveal for all to see where the real adversity lay by allowing himself to be crucified?

The decision was made, for as the king returned, he found Haman falling upon Esther, the queen. Here was the enemy! Similarly, Jesus allowed himself to be lifted up on that stake that all could see, that sinful flesh had to be put to death. The record says simply that *"they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai"*.

There will be a memorial for Haman and all for which he stands, in the deserts of Moab in the Kingdom Age. Ezekiel 39:11 mentions a valley, in which will be constructed a CITY called "Hamon-Gog" which in the Hebrew is almost identical to *"Haman of Agag"*. This mausoleum city will be a feature of the journey by worshippers to Jerusalem in the kingdom, and it will hold a memorial of the antitypical Haman: Russia, who will make one last attempt to annihilate the Jews, as did his name-bearing predecessor in the days of Esther.

It seems fitting that the principle here recorded of the days of Esther, where God determined that His people will never be annihilated, receives momentous recognition in the future mausoleum city of Hamon-Gog.



PAUL

God's Chosen Vessel

**Paul on his way to Damascus,
was blinded by a great light,
Three days later Ananias came to him,
with Gods Power gave back his sight.**

**Paul went on many journeys,
to preach the Word of God,
many of the gentiles listened,
but many of the Jews would not.**

**Paul made a lot of friends,
but lost a few as well,
yet during his time in prison,
he knew God would keep him well.**

**Paul encouraged many people,
to read from Gods great book,
Some were instantly baptised,
the Word from the Scriptures they took.**

**Paul really lived on the Scriptures,
and would have died for all,
he knew that God was with him,
and so he stood very tall.**

**Paul was a good man,
although at first he was really bad,
he really loved the Scriptures,
what a faithful life he then had.**



GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 114 DECEMBER 1992

Supplement to LOGOS

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

Dear Boys and Girls,

Of all the words we constantly use, the one that causes much delight and joy in most families is the word *"holidays"*. So when recently Uncle Graeham gave me a "few days off" from Eureka Press, you can imagine the excitement that erupted in our house at just the mention of this word *holidays*! It was planned to visit our Grandparents on their farm in Western Australia, a distance of over 2000 kms. After many preparations the long trip commenced, and 3 days later we arrived there safely.

As on most farms, there are many different animals that city folk don't regularly see. There were pet emus, baby lambs and goats, sheep dogs, chickens and even kangaroos, and like people, they all behaved in different ways. The emus continually seemed to be poking their inquisitive "nose" into places where it shouldn't be, whilst the baby goats would constantly be caught nibbling at the forbidden flowers, and when reprimanded, in annoyance, would butt and push around those of little stature. Even the dogs when tired of all the attention would growl, baring their gleaming white teeth, at any who failed to hear, whilst the little chickens would run helter-skelter under their mother's protective wings at the slightest sound of danger.

But out of all the little animals that the children became most attached to (and mind you, wanted to take home!) were two baby lambs. These poor little lambs of only a few days old had lost their mothers, and if it had not been for the kind-hearted shepherd, who when inspecting the flock heard their pitiful bleating, they soon would have perished. Thus there was *"much rejoicing"* when the little lambs were brought home!

Out of all the animal kingdom, God used the lamb as a wonderful symbol of His own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. It wasn't the stubborn goat — or the savage dog — but the quiet submissive lamb-like qualities that were perfectly manifested by the Lord. John declared, *"Behold the Lamb of God, which beareth away the sin of the world"*, and throughout his whole life right up to his death the Lord displayed that humble and lowly spirit, even though he was *"oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth."*

What wonderful lessons are to be learned from this, and may we strive to emulate those outstanding qualities displayed so perfectly by the Lord, and not be like *"sheep going astray"* but ready and waiting for *"the chief Shepherd who shall appear and ye shall receive a crown of gold that fadeth not away"*.

Your Friend,

Uncle Philip

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., and distributed as a supplement to Logos magazine, providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older.

Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcome.

Edited by: Philip J. Mansfield. Cost of additional copies for Sunday Schools: \$5 yearly.
Donations for Competition Awards and production costs are appreciated.

Thistle Stamps

"Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life, thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee and thou shalt eat the herb of the field" Genesis 3:17-18.

In view of these words of Scripture, it is appropriate that Israel should issue a "Thistles" series of stamps. The Hebrew word on the stamp is *qowtsim*, and is derived from a root signifying to prick. It is a word that is used to describe the prickly member of a plant, and also as the name



of such prickly plants. In Genesis 3, the word is *Dardar* and denotes a thorn; elsewhere *Chowach* is used which comes from a verb signifying to pierce.

Israel is noted for the profusion of prickly plants. This is attributed to its climate, and particularly to the hot dry summers. These plants use large amounts of water. In winter and spring they develop large, tender leaves which use up and waste the water. With the advent of summer, these leaves wither and the plant produces stems bearing small, prickly leaves and thorns which develop on different parts of the plant. Hence, in winter they rob the land of precious water, and in summer they constitute a real harassment to farmer, shepherd and hiker alike.

The "*compositae* family" boasts a large selection of thorny plants. There are dozens of species, some of which are common in fields, on uncultivated tracts and along the roads. The three thistles forming the subjects of this series of stamps all belong to this family.

The beauty of their flowers camouflages their evil. Artists, and all those with an aesthetic sense, delight in their appearance; but the practical worker in the field, the farmer or the shepherd view them only

as a menace. Thistles, therefore, are an appropriate symbol for sin. Hence the earth was cursed with their presence when sin made its appearance, and Paul takes up the theme in Hebrews 6:8, and shows that the earth (representing human nature) is capable of bearing either herbs or thistles and he aligns the latter with the curse. Job does so likewise in Job 31:40.

Thorns and thistles flourish on neglected land. Hence the power of Christ's parable in which is implied the need to clear the ground of such if there is to be spiritual growth (Matt. 13:3-8). Sin can look most attractive to the man of flesh, like the flowers of the thistle; but to the practical man that looks for spiritual growth it appears as thorns and briars, harmful to proper growth, and painful to those who tolerate it.

Among the "last words of David" was a reference to the "sons of Belial" (worthlessness) whom he likened to "thorns". He declared that they could not be taken with hands, because of their spurs. He looked for the coming of one who though he would be pierced (see margin) would take hold of the thorns, and destroy them in the same place as where he was pierced (2 Sam. 23:6-7). This is a prophecy of the ministry of the Lord Jesus. He conquered sin, although he was pierced and died on the stake, and he will destroy sin as politically manifested at Armageddon in Jerusalem at his second coming. Consider the analogy of the thorns or thistles to the leaders of Jewry in the days of the Lord. They were beautiful in appearance, in the garments they wore, and their pretensions to righteousness; but they were dangerous and harmful to such as the Lord.

The stamps depict three kinds of thistles: The *Scolymus*, the *Echinops* and the *Artichoke*.

THE SCOLYMUS is an annual, common in uncultivated areas and fields. It sprouts at the beginning of winter and develops a rosette almost free from thorns. In the spring, a flowery stem grows out of the centre which can reach up to two meters in length. The stem develops thorns all along its length and there are even prickles on the small leaves. The thorns can be particularly sharp. The *Scolymus* flowers into a profusion of yellow inflorescences (flowers) that open up as the sun rises and close two to three hours later. As the fruit ripens, the whole plant turns white, hardens and remains in that state until it rots away with the coming of the next year's rains. Its seeds provide food for the birds, and the Hebrew name for goldfinch is "*Scolymus bird*". This thistle is supposedly mentioned several times in the Bible: "*the thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon*" (2 Kings 14:9); "*as the lily among thorns*" (Song of Songs 2:2).

THE ECHINOPS is a perennial found in uncultivated areas. In the summer it is dormant with its parts lying above the ground, dry and withered. It revives in the winter as a rosette of prickly leaves. In the spring it produces spiky stems at the head of which develop prickly

round flower clusters, 5-10 cms in diameter and blue to violet in colour. The Echinops blooms when the surrounding countryside is already turning yellow. After the inflorescences have flowered they dry up, turn brown and break up into seeds.

THE ARTICHOKE is a perennial growing mainly in the heavy soil of the northern valleys. Its leaves dry up in the summer. In the winter it develops large, broad, spiky leaves from which, in the spring, there grow prickly stems bearing large crown-like clusters. Each cluster is enclosed in an involucre and each of its scales ends in a sharp thorn. As the blossoming begins, the whole involucre has a purple-violet colour, the same as the large cluster which is more than 10 cms high, and 6-8 cms in diameter.

The full menace of the thorns and thistles of the land is apparent, in springtime. Figuratively, that is the time of resurrection. When the Sun of Righteousness appears, there will be manifested growth out of the earth in the form of the resurrection. All types of plants will be manifested among those so raised: from the fruit tree to the thistle. But as the thorns develop on the thistle in spring and summer, so the Judgment Seat will make manifest the true character of everyone, and the difference between flowers and thistles will then be evident to all. 

Meet a new Sunday School **Eastern Suburbs, W.A.**



This photo, sent by Sis. Cindy Higgs, was taken on the first week of Sunday School. She writes "I'm sure all our children would be delighted to see themselves grinning out of the pages of their little Good Company books" We notice that the teachers are also smiling; perhaps the photo was taken before Sunday School!

**Our Amazing World.
Oddities in the Ocean...**

The Shrimp, Crab and Crayfish.

"Oh Yahweh," declared the Psalmist, "how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all: the earth is full of Thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts".

How true are those words, for hidden in the depths of the sea are found many intricate creatures that witness the existence of a Wise Creator. In this issue we consider the Crab, Shrimp, and Crayfish. Found on the eastern and southern coasts of Australia they vary in size from just a few centimetres to almost a metre in length and weigh up to 8 kgs. They are called *Decapods* meaning that they have ten legs – including two claws, which vary in size.

The *Banded Coral Shrimp* is only a small decapod, but one beautifully coloured. It lives in coral, rock crevices and in caves under the water. It is here where we discover that the shrimp has a most unusual habit – cleaning fish. The shrimp clings inside these crevices with only its feelers projecting out. This attracts the interest of many fish who congregate around these protruding feelers and receive a "free body clean". The shrimp cleans away parasites, fungi or any excess skin sustained from an injury, off the fishes bodies – a natural health treatment that is without charge!

Our next creature the *Soldier Crab* is one of over 600 species of the crab family found in Australia. These crabs enjoy one another's company, living together in large families, sometimes called armies (but not the fighting type). I believe that most of you at some time would have been to the beach and seen the tide come in and go out. The moon is largely responsible for this movement as it waxes and wanes. As the tide begins to recede it leaves behind the beautiful smooth sand on the beach. Suddenly this smooth surface is drastically disturbed as, erupting from beneath the surface in just a few moments, large numbers of crabs push their way up, emerging from the sand. The peaceful scene has changed! Unlike other crabs who walk sideways, the soldier crabs walk forward towards the receding seawater, feeding on seaweed fragments that have been left on the sand. They gradually form groups which merge into armies which number at times in their thousands. Later in the day

Competitions

FOUR PAGES OF COMPETITIONS CONDUCTED BY AUNTIE LIZ

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330 (or to Logos Office, Adelaide). New Zealand readers send to Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, New Zealand.

BOOLAROO: David Glachan, Stephen Glachan, Lauren Wiltshire, Jared Wiltshire, Johanna Lynch, Amy Schofield, Andrew Mein, Naomi Schofield, Matthew Wiltshire **CABRAMATTA:** Daniel Callabiano, Benjamin Callabiano, **CAMDEN:** Jay Mason, Tod Mason **CAMPBELL:** Luke Mansfield, Hannah Mansfield, **CESSNOCK:** Naomi Metcalfe, **DUNOON:** Renee Patch, Ashley Barrett, Kiralee Barrett, Aaron Ivan, Melissa Patch, Jason Shaw, Samuel Patch, Hannah Patch, **GEORGES HALL:** Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Michelle Coad, **GOSFORD:** Luke Axsentoff, Daniel Fitzgerald, Leah Fitzgerald, **GRANVILLE:** Joshua Warner, Jessica Warner, Nicholas Harden, Andrew Hadley, Rochelle Hadley, Ashleigh Hadley **LISMORE:** Hayley Benson, Paul Benson, Rachel Benson, Sean Benson, Alicia Hart, David Orlig, **MITTAGONG:** Jenny King, Joanna King, Melissa King, Andrew McKinlay, Jonathan McKinlay, Ronald Nancarrow, Andrew Unwin, Melissa Carroll, Rebekah McKinlay, Walter McKinlay, Lee Benson, Leanne Cato, Emily King, Laura Leadbetter, Brendan Leadbetter, **MOOREBANK:** Emily Day, James Dennes, John Dennes, Miriam Hindmarsh, Philip Milekian, Naomi Dennes, Tammy Phillips, Simone Phillips, Kaitlyn Porter **PUNCHBOWL:** Sarah Stretton, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Nicholas Wolstencroft, Steven Wolstencroft, Keturah Wolstencroft, Melody Kingston, Luke McClure, Aleisha Wolstencroft, Rachel Kingston, **RIVERWOOD:** Belinda Dennes, Ben Gilmore, Julia Gilmore, Kathryn Gilmore, Nathan Gilmore, Gavin McGuigan, Rachel Casey, Tegan Woodberry, James Woodberry, Jacqueline Casey, **YAGOONA:** Matthew Walters, Peter Walters, Katie Wolstencroft, Margaret Wolstencroft, Jonathan Walters, **COORPAROO:** Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward, **REDFCLIFFE:** Samuel Evans, Nina Gonnell, Andrew Evans, **TOWNSVILLE:** Nathanael Gonnell **WILSTON:** Aleisha Clark, Adam Clarke, Eleanor Clarke, Nicole Clark, Benjamin Hagen, Jennifer Hagen, Louise Hagen, Fiona Jose, Roseanne Jose, Abigail Sweetman, John Sweetman, Peter Sweetman, Caleb Wilton, Isaac Wilton, Benjamin Kilgus, Michael Kilgus, Leah Kilgus, Linda Kilgus, Joanna Kilgus, Sarah White, Rebecca White, **YARRAMANG:** Michala Elton, Vickie Cameron, Tracey Cameron, Linda Weick, Rachel Weick **ABERFOYLE PARK:** Sarah Clothier, Kathryn Galbraith, Jacintha Story, Merrilee Story, Lea Watson, Eleanor Brumby, Abigail Moorhouse, Julia Moorhouse, Nathan Moorhouse, Deborah Clothier, Stephen Brumby, Josephine Brumby **CUMBERLAND:** Jessica Lawrie, Hannah Islip, Tirzah Islip, Christopher Lawrie, Anton Gurd, Roseanne Gurd, Hayden Gurd, Ariel Gurd, Carmen Gurd **ENFIELD:** Belinda Gore, Brendan Gore, Nathan Petiet, Adrian Petiet, Ruth Pickard, Michael Pickard, Jamie Scott, Natasha Scott, Aaron Smith, Danielle Smith, Eliza Smith, Joshua Smith, Louise Hooper, Kally Hooper, Daniel Ryan **GOLDEN GROVE:** Leah Travers, Briannah Rilstone, Ben Cowie, Deborah Cowie, Rebecca Cowie, Sharon Cowie, Darron Steele, Julia Steele, Ben Ethell, Jacinta Ethell, **SALISBURY:** Jarrod Edgecombe, Hannah Ridings, Jason Edgecombe, Caleb Pickart, Matthew Payton, Lisa Ridings **TEA TREE GULLY:** Stephanie Ellenbein, Daniel Bain, Susannah Ellenbein, Jonathan Bain, Peter Bain, Rachel Bain, Alicia Farrow, Miriam Knowles, Felicity Main, Anna Fotheringham, Jonathan Knowles **WOODVILLE:** Andrew Cridland, Reuben Cridland, Naomi Hornhardt, Stephen Armonis, Darren Mitsos, Nathan Mansfield, Rebekah Mansfield, David Peronace, Cherallee Scolyer, Damien

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100 MARKS: Jodi Davis, Jeni Davis (Wichita Falls) Shem Jamieson (Campsie) Jenny Hagen, Ben Hagen (Wilston) Katie Making (Maple Ridge) Tamara Shrive (Woodville) **200 MARKS:** Louise Hagen, Narelle Venn (Wilston) James Dennes, John Dennes (Moorebank) Daniel Leadbetter (Eween Road) Priscilla Thoms (Wellington)

Entries must be posted to Auntie Liz Hollamby no later than JAN. 1st for your name to be included in the next issue of Good Company

JUNIOR STORY

One day when Daddy and Paul were driving in the countryside they saw a big harvester cutting down the ripe stalks of wheat in a field. Daddy stopped the car to watch the big machine working for a while.

"It doesn't take very long for the big harvester to cut the wheat, does it", said Paul. "No", said Daddy, "but in Bible times men had to cut the wheat using a sickle held in the hand".

First the men would hold a bunch of stalks together, and then they would cut the stalks with the sickle, which had a sharp, curved end on it.

The mothers and girls would gather the stalks of grain, and tie them up into bundles. The boys would then load the bundles of grain onto the backs of donkeys, and take them to the threshing floor, where the grains of wheat or barley would be shaken off the stalks.

The grain was used to make bread and little cakes for the families in Israel to eat.

The people in Israel were always very happy when they had good crops, and they gave praise and thanks to God for all He had given them".

We are thankful too, aren't we, for God gives us the sunshine and the rain to make the crops grow, so that we may have food to eat as well.

JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:

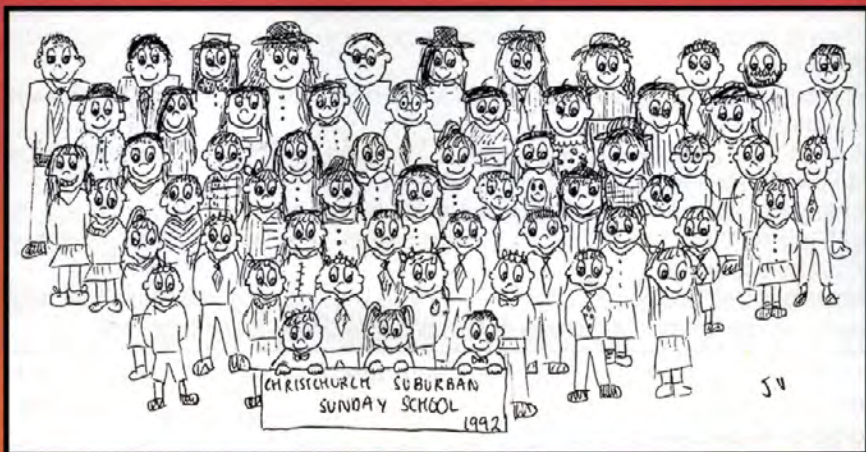


• GOOD COMPANY •

the Family Magazine

What of the lobster? It was created in a fashion just right for its own environment. But we live in an environment where we must continually make a choice. God desires us to follow His Ways. Sometimes the lobster gets "cranky", what about us? Cranky can also mean "out of order" and that applies to ourselves many times in many different ways. We have been given a brain much larger than 2 pinheads, but for all that we do not always allow it to call us to order. May we, who live in a world that does not know God, nor right from wrong, in contrast so order, or pattern, our lives on God's Word. How? by reading it daily.

— G. Hollamby.



This "photo" of Christchurch Sunday School was "taken" by Josie Vogel. They certainly do look an attentive group with eyes wide open!



Heather MacAdams writes to clear up any confusion from a photo published in Good Company with the comment that she was a twin. Her letter is reproduced as written:

Dear Uncle Fillup,
Thankyou for puting our pictures in the magazine. It was fun to see. Me and Tiffany are not twins, but we no that we look alike it. Tiffany is 5 and I am 7. Tiffany is bigger than me.

PART SEVEN

Teenagers of the Bible – Growing Examples of Godliness

Esther

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury

We concluded last issue with Haman hanging on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai. However, Mordecai was now elevated to walk before the King and given the King's signet that had been removed from Haman. Esther appealed to the King for a reversal of the death decree but found that even with Haman killed, the King was unable to reverse his decree. As with ourselves, even though the Lord Jesus has laid down his life, the death decree is still operative. But the difference now, as it was in the days of Esther, is that she and her people had a way of escape. The Jews were permitted to fight for their lives!

Following further appeals from Queen Esther, the King Ahasuerus issued the following decree for the Jews, **"to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them..."** 8:11

This was the beginning of a period for Esther, Mordecai and the Jews almost unparalleled in history, which has great significance for us. Notice the record **"to gather themselves together"**. How important that is today, as then. Esther and her people knew that to survive they had to gather together, and prepare themselves for their only chance of survival. This is our position also. We, upon whom the ends of the age are come, must now gather ourselves together like never before, and learn that we are indeed also fighting a battle of life and death, following the example of one of the great Teenagers of the Bible. There is a great role to be filled by young sisters and young brethren today. We are fighting the battle for survival. The young people are at the front line, because they are having to bear the brunt of the assault by the world. The degree to which our young people can **"gather themselves together"** is the degree to which the Truth will survive. Nobody is exempt from this battle, for the record in Esther states **"to stand for their lives... both little ones, and women"**. Here was a battle in which EVERYONE had to learn to use the sword!

So the posts rode out into all the provinces. And the message? Esther 8:13, **"that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies"**. What sort of mood would you expect amongst the Jews? Esther 8:15-16, records **"And the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad... The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy and honour..."**

Now, why was this? One would imagine mourning and fear as previously, when the first decree was given (Esther 4:3). It is evident that the Jews had been bound together like never before in captivity... and they knew that God was with them! And they had those two wonderful people, Esther and Mordecai in positions of power and prominence. Think for a moment what this is telling us.

At a time of great crisis, there was a young woman, possibly still a teenager, standing fast for the salvation of her people, despite the great demands that her position had made

upon her and the ordeal she had gone through with Haman. Here is a shining example for all young people. And there was Mordecai representing the older members of the Ecclesia, advising and encouraging Esther by his words and by his example. What a delightful partnership and how keenly we need to heed this example of co-operation between old and young today.

The effect of the second decree was not limited to just the Jews. Esther 8:17 records **"And many of the people of the land became Jews, for the fear of the Jews fell upon them"**. Here was one of the greatest periods of "Gospel Proclamation" in the entire period of captivity when the Jews initially fearing the Persians, now put the fear of the Jews upon the Persians!

Never let a teenager in the Truth feel that they are unable to make a contribution! In the outworking of Providence, their role might be a crucial one!

Now give some thought to the practical implications of the Jews' position. Yes, they had gathered themselves together, and they rejoiced and had light, but the day of reckoning was rapidly approaching when they would have to take up the sword and translate all their thoughts into action. One can picture how nervous retiring people who had never seen a sword, let alone used one, would have suddenly found a sword thrust into their hand, and training began in earnest. Young people and old would be out in the fields practising sword strokes and defences! Cries of "I can't do it" changed to "I can do it", as the seriousness of the situation came home to them. The death decree spares no-one!

There is a lesson there for us. The weapons of our warfare are not physical swords, but swords nonetheless. All members of the Ecclesia must become proficient in the use of the Sword of the Spirit that is sharper than any two-edged sword.

We rejoin the record at chapter 9. Again that phrase that is used three times in this section, opens the record in verse 2 **"The Jews gathered themselves together"**. The Hebrew for "gathered themselves together" is *qahal* which is translated 86 times by Young as "Congregation" or literally "Ecclesia"! So there were Ecclesias all over Persia forming together for this last desperate battle against the enemy. This is equally applicable to us today. The Apostle Paul says in Heb. 10:25: **"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together"**. Paul could be quoting these words straight from the book of Esther! And so the record tells us that **"the fear of them (the Jews) fell upon all people"**. Much of this was due to their preparations for defence, and to the power and regality of Mordecai **"And Mordecai went out from the presence of the King in ROYAL APPAREL of BLUE and WHITE, and with a GREAT CROWN of GOLD, and with a garment of FINE LINEN and PURPLE"**.

As that fateful day arrived the record says in Esther 9:5; **"Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them"**. How many untold stories there must be of that day! All had been faced with the prospect of either taking that dreadful sword and wielding it or losing their life. Likewise today there are monumental battles as Christadelphians realise that they must fight for their lives or die! Many teenagers would have had to overcome their fear of death and take up the sword in defence of family and friends! Without doubt there would have been many an internal conflict within the people, but there were NO options. We need young people today who MUST take up the Sword of the Spirit in defence of their own lives and those of others.

Of all the enemies put to the sword, none were more significant than the ten sons of

Haman. Here was a veritable pit of vipers! Ten is known as a number of "ordinal perfection" or a complete number. Once you reach ten, you start again with two 1's, and so on. The ten sons of Haman represent the complete seed of the Serpent. They would not have been easy targets. Like with all men of the flesh there is natural cunning, to escape punishment but when faced with Divine retribution, all the cunning in the world serves no purpose.

Were the ten sons of Haman Teenagers? It is quite possible that at least some of them were. What a contrast then between Esther and the young people of her age who were standing for their lives, and the sons of Haman!

There is something most unusual about the death of the ten sons of Haman, and it is important that we pause to look at it. The record says in Ch. 9:12: **"And the King said unto Esther the Queen: The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the Palace, and the ten sons of Haman..."** The record of the ten sons of Haman being slain, is also recorded in an earlier verse that singles out the prominent men that were slain, including... (v. 10) **"the ten sons of Haman"**. So we have been told twice that the ten sons of Haman were slain. Now in verse 12, the King summarises the achievements of the Jews as listed above, and asks Esther **"What is thy request further?"** The astonished reader then hears Esther ask the King... **"Let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the Gallows..."** (v13). But the ten sons of Haman had already been certified TWICE as being slain! Why does Esther make this request?

Esther knew, as did our Lord Jesus Christ, that not only must sinful flesh be put to death, but must be displayed clearly for all to understand the principle. This was why Jesus died upon a stake, crucified, for all the world to see.

Jesus makes a critically important statement in this respect in John 3:14: **"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the Wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up..."**

Here is a clear declaration that not only was Jesus to be put to death, but the cause of death, his mortal body, should be displayed for all the world to see.

In recognition of this principle, Esther then asked that the ten sons of Haman be hanged for all to see on the Gallows.

There is another aspect of this battle that stands out. Esther 9:10 **"...on the spoil laid they not their hand..."** Ahasuerus had specifically told them that they could, Esther 8:11 **"...and to take the spoil of them for a prey..."**. The purpose of this battle was not to obtain worldly wealth. This battle was not about obtaining worldly wealth. Neither is ours. The issue at stake is life, or death. The classic example is our Lord Jesus Christ who showed in his life that material possessions are of no consequence in this great battle against sin.



A Well of Wisdom...

Exhortation does not consist in presenting something new, but in making us more perfectly realise what we already know.

If we are hard at work in the truth, we shall have no time for criticising. It is the spectators – those who take no part – who find fault. Naturally there are faults in each one's work. No man is perfect.

On the Mountain with the Lord

Part 5

Many would be very familiar with Christ's words of blessing: **"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."** These words show clearly that the righteous are to enjoy their reward on the earth and not in heaven, as people who know very little of the Scriptures try to make us believe. At present the earth is in the possession of those who are proud and disobedient to God, and who act on the maxim that *"might is right."* But, as you know, Christ is coming in power and great glory to claim the earth for his inheritance, and those who will not acknowledge him as king in that day will be destroyed. He is going to share his inheritance, not with the great ones of the earth, but with the meek and lowly in heart, who have served him faithfully while he has been away.

To reign as kings with Christ is a reward worth working and waiting for. It is a great honour to be a king now. It will be a much greater honour then, and a real pleasure too. It can hardly be much of a pleasure now, when kings live in fear and dread of bullets and bombs. But the kings who assist Christ will be of divine nature so that wicked men will be unable to do them any harm.

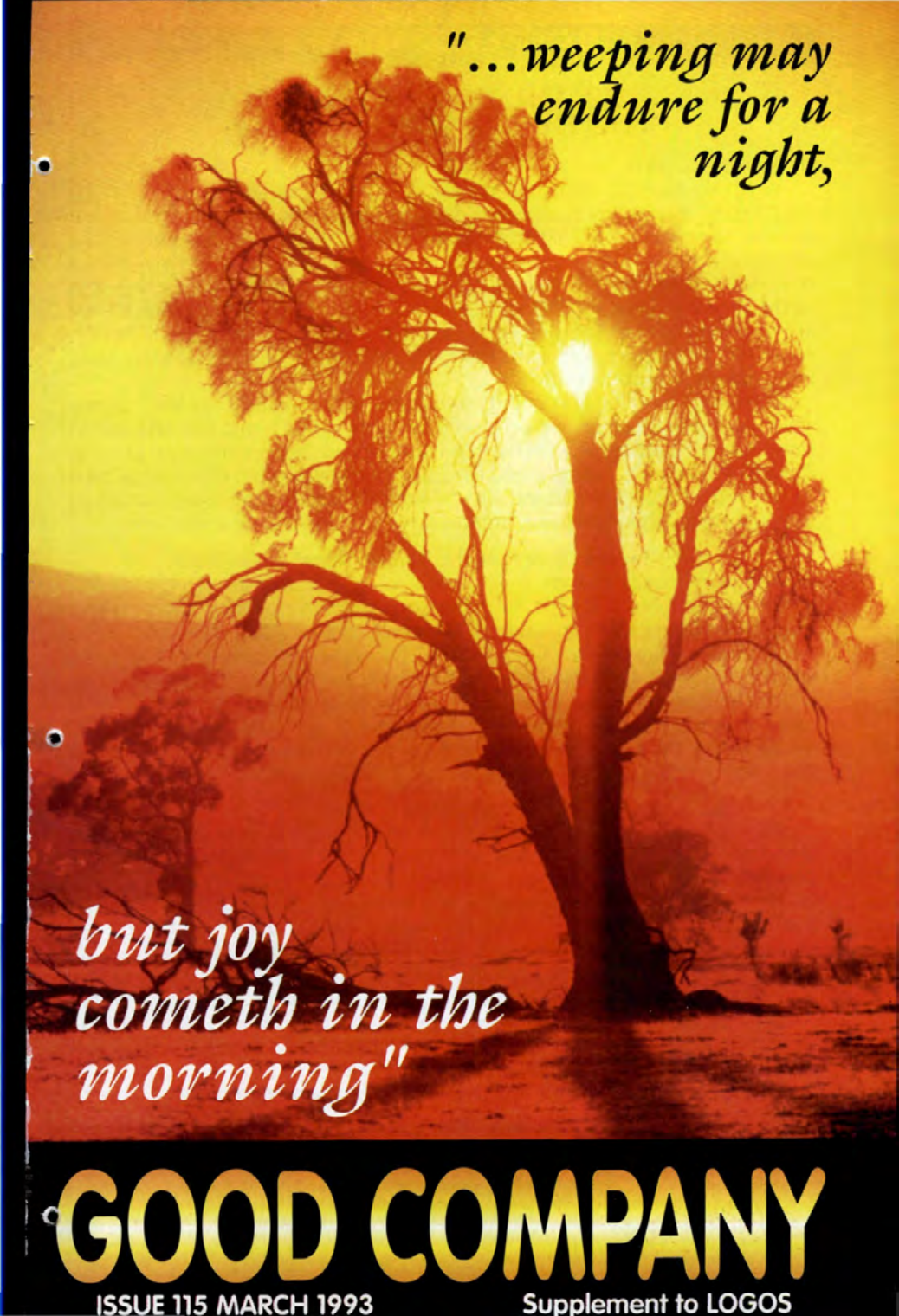
As we hope to be among the meek to whom this wonderful inheritance is promised, let us make sure we understand what Christ meant by meekness. We must not think that being meek is the opposite of being bold and brave. The Bible gives us two notable examples of meekness. Jesus said: **"I am meek and lowly in heart."** And Moses is described as the meekest man on earth. If ever two men had courage, Moses and Jesus did; but it was not courage of the swashbuckling type. It was courage to do what God has commanded, and to refrain from doing what He has forbidden.

To be meek is to be humble and submissive to God's commandments, and to be ready to suffer injury and indignity rather than disobey God by retaliating or seeking revenge. We remember how the cruel soldiers mocked Jesus and spat upon him, and how patiently he bore it. He could have killed them all with a word,

but it would not have been right for him to have used the Spirit power he possessed in that way at that time. The first time he came as a Lamb. When he comes again, it will be as a Lion. And so with us. If we are lamb-like now, he will give us the power to be lion-like at his coming.

To be continued





*"...weeping may
endure for a
night,*

*but joy
cometh in the
morning"*

GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 115 MARCH 1993

Supplement to LOGOS

A GAME FOR EVERYONE **The Brown's Bible Game**

Dear Boys and Girls,

When Brother G. Mansfield (editor, *Logos*) was in UK recently, he was delighted to meet many readers of *Good Company* personally, and found great interest in this colorful magazine from "down under". But not only did he enjoy talking to many young people, he found himself involved in a remarkable BIBLE GAME when he and Sister Mansfield stayed for a few days at the Brown's home in Harrogate. Brother Richard and Sister Linda Brown are members of the Barnsley Cope Street Ecclesia, and their lovely family, consisting of Samuel, Rebekah, Luke, Hannah and Jessica, constantly plied their visitors with conversation.

The family took the opportunity to test the editor's knowledge with a game which has been designed and developed by them — and found him wanting in some respect! Perhaps it was that the children had much more experience at its skills than did he, but he found the game so enjoyable and educational, that he wants to share it with all our *Good Company* readers, and to encourage its use. It is especially valuable for families driving to and from the meetings.

Rules for the "People of the Hidden Name" Bible Game

The game needs to have 3 or more players. The first player thinks of a person in the Bible, and tells the others the *first letter* of the person's name. The other players must try and guess who it is. To do this they must ask a question about the person without saying the name they believe might be the answer. The first player then responds by using the name of the person about which the questioner has given his clue, and he must then say whether that name is correct or not. If the first player cannot say who the questioner is asking about, the player must ask the questioner for the name, and then must give all players a clue to the hidden name.

Example

Player 1 thinks of "*Jesus*"; therefore gives the first letter: "*J*". Player 2 asks a question: "*Was he a leader of Israel?*" Player 1 answers: "*No, it wasn't Joshua*". Player 3 asks: "*Was he swallowed by a fish?*" Perhaps player 1 doesn't know who this is "*I do not know who you mean!*". Player 3 then gives the name of his answer: "*Jonah*", which was not the correct answer, and requests a clue from player 1, who offers: "*It's in the New Testament*". Player 4 asks: "*Is he the Son of God?*" Player 1 answers: "*Yet, it is Jesus!*".

It may sometimes be necessary to have a time limit to each question: perhaps 20 seconds, as the game becomes more difficult and involved. The benefit is a developing knowledge of all Bible characters and events, as all players become involved in the question and answer process.

Try it soon, and enjoy this experience with the *Logos* editor.

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., and distributed as a supplement to *Logos* magazine, providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older. Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcome.

Edited by: Philip J. Mansfield. Cost of additional copies for Sunday Schools: \$5 yearly. Donations for Competition Awards and production costs are appreciated.

OUR AMAZING WORLD

THE AFRICAN BAOBAB TREE

WHEREVER we look in our amazing world we can acknowledge that nature is truly an unmistakable witness to the existence of an All-wise Creator. Whether we consider the fauna and flora, God's hand is evident therein. This is certainly revealed in a remarkable tree known as the world's oddest tree, the Baobab Tree. One writer records: "No tree gives so vivid an impression of the vastness, variety and magnificence of Africa as does the BAOBAB TREE."

The Baobab tree is enormous, spanning nearly 40 feet (12 metres) across at the base of its trunk! A mature Baobab is really a reservoir of water. Inside its wrinkled bark the spongy wood is saturated with moisture, capable of storing more than 100,000 litres of water. Thirsty elephants have been known to attack the great trunks with their tusks, leaving them dying wrecks. The bark is a coppery colour, yet strangely wrinkled like an elephant's skin. In October lush green leaves with beautiful white flowers appear; the petals, which feel like thick wax, give off no scent until squashed — and then instead of a sweet aroma there is a very unpleasant smell. By December large pear-shaped fruit is produced, which is called by the natives "monkey bread".

Because of their usefulness (for almost all parts of the tree are used), these trees have become the objects of worship to some. In Zimbabwe, for instance, the tree is a "TOTEM" — being a plant that reminds people of their ancestors — and so they pray to it.



But we know that only God, the Creator of all things, is to be praised and thanked for what He has done for all people upon the earth. For us, God has preserved His wonderful book — the Bible, wherein is His wisdom revealed. Therefore, irrespective as to what others about us do, let us make full use of this great benefit given to us.

The Baobab tree's soft and springy wood can be pounded into a fibre, suitable for making ropes and floor mats. Much of the tree can be eaten, especially if other foods are in short supply. The fruit has a pleasant flavour, refreshing when raw, which can also be mixed with water and boiled, and then eaten as stewed fruit. By grinding the black seeds in the fruit, a substitute for coffee is made. But again the mythology of man enters into it, for, according to some people, should these seeds be eaten, the eater runs the risk of being bitten by a crocodile.

The Baobab leaves are rich in vitamins, tasting like spinach; whilst the roots of young Baobabs, are similar to asparagus. What wonderful things have been provided by our Creator! Native doctors prescribe the use of various parts of the tree for the cure and treatment of kidney troubles, breathing problems, and even toothache and such like. Of course in our society, modern medicines here been manufactured for such illnesses.

As we think of the conditions of some of our friends — many of them Christadelphians, who live in "third world countries", do we appreciate the benefits we receive and thank our Heavenly Father, by showing in our lives the respect for such?

There are also many domestic and household usages of this tree. When dried hard the shell from the fruit makes a useful container for liquids or powders. Also when the seeds are burned soap can be made from the ashes. The bark is also valuable in tanning leather and for the waterproofing of hats, and the trees can survive repeated stripping of their bark for such purposes. Even the interior of the tree can be burnt out, attracting wild bees to come and live in it. Houses can be carved out from its huge trunk. One town in Africa had a waiting room at a bus stop (a hollow Baobab tree) that could accommodate thirty people with ease. In the Sudan area these trees are used as water tanks, keeping water sweet and clean during dry seasons.

It is quite remarkable that in all this the natives believe that there is someone, or some power, who supplies these things for man's existence. It reminds us of the action of Apostle Paul who at Athens saw a subscription to THE UNKNOWN GOD, whom they ignorantly worshipped. This God is declared in all the things He has created — may we never be persuaded otherwise, for evolution and all other theories are false.

The life span of these amazing trees is unknown, being a type of immortality. There are no rings in the wood as in other trees. Neither is there a crashing down of the Baobab tree — but a slow process of decaying back to earth.

I hope you still use the 'Christadelphian Instructor' at Sunday School. In his formation of such Brother Roberts showed great insight so that even from a very early age we might in a godless society continue to believe that, "In the beginning GOD CREATED the heavens and the earth, and all things therein". We should be godly people who delight in the laws of Yahweh, for such are like trees planted by the river of water that bringeth forth their fruit in season; their leaves shall not fade, and whatsoever they do, shall prosper in the hand of Yahweh (Psalm 1:3).

G. Hollamby.

Creation



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

These Festival Stamps were issued on September 7th, 1965 to commemorate the Jewish New Year 5726. The Inscription on the Tabs reads: "The Creation of the World" followed by: Day One, Day Two, Day Three and so on.

The title of the first book of the Bible in Hebrew is *Bereshoth* signifying: "In the beginning". The first incident recorded is the creation of heaven, earth and the re-ordering of the earth. The creation of heaven and earth (Gen. 1:1) took place in the remote past, and there is no indication of how long these orbs were in existence before the creation of Adam. The re-ordering of the earth, however, occupied six days of 24 hours each, and took place about six thousand years ago; according to Bible chronology.

Day One — "Let there be light" (Gen. 1:2). The light of the sun penetrated the encircling gloom, to distinguish between Day and Night. This constituted the work of the first day.

Day Two — "Let there be a Firmament" (Gen. 1:6). An expanse was formed between the bulk of waters upon the earth, and those above it. The latter were formed into clouds that floated high above the earth in the firmament thus created. The firmament was called "heaven". It is to be distinguished from the "heaven" of v. 1.

Day Three — "Let the earth bring forth grass and herb" (Gen. 1:11). On this day earth appeared, and verdure (grass), together with plants propagated by seeds (herb yielding seed) appeared

followed by fruit trees.

Day Four — "Let there be lights in the firmament" (Gen. 1:14). The heavenly bodies were caused to shine forth in their fulness, to "rule" over the earth. They were already in existence; and the word "made" in the statement: "God made two lights" is the Hebrew "*asah*" and can signify "appointed" as in Psalm 104:19. They were appointed their functions and status.

Day Four — This day brought the earth to the stage when it was ready for life.

Day Five — "Let the waters bring forth abundantly" (Gen. 1:20). This is better rendered: "Let the waters swarm with a swarm of living souls" — Heb. *sheretz chayyah nephesh*. Aquatic and aerial life thus made their appearance. The oceans swarmed with life, and birds filled the sky above with their song.

Day Six — "Let us make man" (Gen. 1:26). After the beasts of the earth had been produced, the Elohim formed the crowning achievement of creation: man. He was made in the image of God, and designed to reflect the glory of his Creator (v. 26). He was offered dominion over all lower forms of creation, and had the blessing of God pronounced upon him (v. 28). He was made in two forms: male and female: the two in marriage forming one.

At the epoch of creation God saw that all He had made was "very good" (Gen. 1:31). However sin intervened to mar the original "very good" state of creation, and to bring it under the curse. That curse can be removed in Christ, the second Adam. In him the blessing pronounced in the beginning, and the dominion over the rest of creation that was promised, will be realised. This forms the basic message of God to humanity, and the foundation of the Gospel.

The six days of creation are capable of figurative application, relating to the development of God's spiritual creation among men (Rev. 3:14), leading to the millennium when the seventh day rest will find its reality (Heb. 4).

Israel was taught to view the week of creation in that way. Concerning the Sabbath, they were told: "It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel for ever; for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested" (Exod. 31:17). Here the word "made" is *asah*, and can signify to appoint, shape, or reform from existing materials as in Exod. 32:4,31. 

On Speaking to Others — privately and publicly.

No one has the right to speak unless he has something to say, and he has no right to say it publicly unless it is publicly important, and what is publicly important to say should be said so distinctly and audibly that the public present can hear it.

It is necessary to cultivate a habit of thinking clearly and continuously — of thinking, too, your own thoughts — and you must do this, not by vague fancies but by trains of ideas logically arranged and by accustoming yourself to think a subject *through*, instead of merely thinking vaguely *about* it.

COMPETITIONS

ENTRIES RECEIVED

AUSTRALIA

BALLINA: Philip Window, Peter Window.
BOOLAROO: David Glachan, Kim Glachan, Stephen Glachan, Michael Goddard, Lauren Wiltshire, Johanna Lynch, Amy Schofield, Andrew Mein, Rebecca Mein, Naomi Schofield **CAMPSIE:** Karlie Pogson, Michaela Pogson. **DUNOON:** Renee Patch, Ashley Barrett, Kirralee Barrett, Aaron Ivan, Melissa Patch, Samuel Patch, Hannah Patch, Leah Patch, Esther Patch
GEORGES HALL: Nathan Coad, Sharon Coad, Michelle Coad, Elisabeth Hammond, Daniel Hammond, Jonathan Hammond **GRANVILLE:** Andrew Hadley, Rochelle Hadley, Jeremy Harden, David Horne, Adrian Russell, Fiona Russell, Joanne Russell, Joshua Warner, Jessica Warner, Claire Harden, Erin Reid, Kuni Pearsall, Sascha Pearsall, Ashleigh Hadley, Nicholas Harden
LISMORE: Alicia Hart, Tabitha Burney **MOOREBANK:** James Dennes, John Dennes, Naomi Dennes
PUNCHBOWL: Sarah Stretton, Scott Maunder, Amy McClure, Leah McClure, Clare Maunder, Luke McClure
RIVERWOOD: Belinda Dennes, Kathryn Gilmore, Nathan Gilmore, Lorna Kruger, Erik Kruger, James Woodberry, Philip Milliken **SHAFTSBURY ROAD:** Belinda Errington **YAGOONA:** Matthew Walters, Peter Walters, Daniel Wolstencroft, David Wolstencroft, Jonathan Walters, Alyce Wassell. **COORPAROO:** Elizabeth Ward, Katherine Ward, Leah Bowden, Annette McGahey **REDCLIFFE:** Samuel Evans, Suzanna Riley, Nina Gonelli, Andrew Evans. **WILSTON:** Aleisha Clark, Benjamin Hagen, Jennifer Hagen, Louise Hagen, Fiona Jose, Roseanne Jose, Joanna Kilgus, Leah Kilgus, Linda Kilgus, Michael Kilgus, Susanna Malcolmson, Abigail Sweatman, John Sweatman, Peter Sweatman, Ben Kilgus. **YARRAMAN:** Michaela Elton, Vickie Cameron, Leah Mackinnon, Daniel Mackinnon, Bradley Mackinnon, Brett Mackinnon, Matthew Mackinnon, James Mackinnon, Sharon Mackinnon, Tracey Cameron, Rachel Weick. **ABERFOYLE PARK:** Merrilee Story, Lisa Watson, Rebecca Waller, Sarah Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Simon Johnson, Abigail Moorhouse, Julia Moorhouse, Nathan Moorhouse. **CUMBERLAND:** Hannah Islip, Tirzah Islip. **ENFIELD:** Miriam Mc George, Amy McNeil, Sarah McNeil, Nathan Petiet, Adrian Petiet, Michael Pickard, Aaron Smith, Danielle Smith, Elisa Smith, Joshua Smith, Kerrilee Temple, Amber Crabbe, Jamin Richards, Ruth McNeill, Melissa Horgan, Emma Horgan. **GOLDEN GROVE:** Ben Cowie, Deborah Cowie, Rebecca Cowie, Sharon Cowie, Rebekah Kemp, Sarah Kemp. **MURRAY BRIDGE:** Naomi Thomas. **SALISBURY:** Hannah Ridings, Lisa Ridings, Joel Ridings. **TEA TREE GULLY:** Stephanie Eifenbein, Philemon Burney, Aletheia Burney, Timon Burney,

Debbie Robson, Anna Fotheringham, Jonathan Knowles. **WOODVILLE:** Stephen Armonis, Vanessa Pitt, Emily Pitt, Andrew Cridland, Reuben Cridland, Naomi Hornhardt, Alicia Mansfield, Caleb Mansfield, Hannah Mansfield, James Mansfield, Nathan Mansfield, Rebekah Mansfield, Brenton Mitsos, Tara-Lee Mitsos, Darren Mitsos, David Peronace, Cherallee Scolyer, Damien Scolyer, Rohan Scolyer, Tamara Shrive, Samuel Shrive, Hayley Wilson, Rodney Wilson, Geoffrey Goodwin, Jarrod Wilson, Marcia Mansfield. **HOBBART:** Lauren Philp, Jonas Harries, Richard Pearce, Amos Scull. **LAUNCESTON:** Leah Case, Anna Bracey, Kiri Bracey, Leah Chilvers, Philip Herron, Timothy Herron, Susanna Herron, Benjamin Plail, Brendan Niejalke, Luke Niejalke, Roseanne Smith, Nicole Galbraith, Elise Galbraith, Jessica Dodd, Pepper Smith. **MILDURA:** Samuel Churches. **WARRAGUL:** David McKinlay, Gemima McKinlay, Nathan McKinlay, Rachel McKinlay, Leah McKinlay **GOSNELLS:** Arielle Carder, Barak Carder, Reuben Carder, Shelley Moore, Simon Moore, David Oliver, Leah Oliver, Nathan Oliver, Janelle Stagg, Naamah Stagg, Marcel Jansen, Kate Wilding. **PERTH:** Ashley Bain, Jessica Bain, Steven Bundesen, Felicity Jose, Louise Jose. **STIRLING:** Carrie-Anne Moore, Emily-Jo Moore. **YOKINE:** Callum Jones, Jordan Jones, Kezia Jones.

CORRESPONDENCE

SA: PENOLA: Neville Schulz. **QLD:** Naomi Galbraith, Ben Galbraith. **WA:** WONGAN HILLS: Amanda Van der Meulen, Pippa Kalajzic, Lisa Kalajzic.

CANADA

EWEN RD: Kevin Leadbetter, Daniel Leadbetter, Kristine Leadbetter. **SHELBURNE:** Priscilla Hodge. **TORONTO COSBURN AVE:** Katy Dawes, Robyn Finner, Jonathan Hill, Janet Finner, Amy Hill, Heidi Higgs, Cassandra Higgs, Heather Westwood

ENGLAND

ARDINGLY: Sarah Holman, Abigail Holman. **ABERDARE:** Matthew Ward. **BARNSELY COPE ST.:** Anna Ritmeyer, Ben Ritmeyer, Daniel Ritmeyer, Nathaniel Ritmeyer **CAMBORNE:** Luke Orton, Peter Orton. **CORNWALL:** Susannah Tooth, Johanna Tooth, Esther Reynolds, Benjamin Reynolds, Deborah Reynolds, Lydia Reynolds. **GRIMSBY:** William Hamilton. **KINVER:** Paul Round. **NAPTON ON THE HILL:** Gemma Evans, Paul Evans, Timothy Sutcliffe, Timothy Cather. **NOTTINGHAM:** Sally Standeven.

AMERICA

RHODE ISLAND: CRANSTON: Michael Matteson, Gabriel Matteson, Danielle Matteson, Tiffany MacAdams, Heather MacAdams, Scott MacAdams.

NIGERIA

Opara Onuoha, Onuoha Onuoha, Ihuoma Uwasomba.

AWARDS

100 MARKS: RACHEL MACFARLANE (Ewen Road), LORI SARGENT (Okanagan Central), JOHANNA LYNCH (Boolaroo), KEMUEL KITTO (Launceston), JOSIE DOW (Launceston), JEFFREY DOW (Launceston), DANIELLE SMITH (Enfield),

RENEE PATCH (Dunoon), MICHELLE COAD (Georges Hall), ABIGAIL MOORHOUSE (Brighton), CARRIE-ANN MOORE (Stirling), SHANE DEVRIES (Woodville), TAMARA SHRIVE (Woodville), ADRIAN PETIET (Enfield), NATHAN PETIET (Enfield).
200 MARKS: ALEISHA CLARK (Wilston).

JUNIOR STORY



Often in the summertime after tea, Daddy, Mummy with Paul, Jenny and Samuel, liked to spend time outside. The air was warm, the sun still shone in the sky and there was time for the whole family to do something together.

There was always plenty to do. They would play games, or go for a walk, and sometimes they would look for little creatures or insects in the garden.

One night Jenny found a lovely green caterpillar on a leaf of a small tree in the garden. "The Bible tells us about the caterpillar," said Mummy. "Yes", said Daddy, "Let us see what it does say about the caterpillar". Daddy opened his Bible and the children listened while he read out some of the verses.

"There were caterpillars in the land of Israel long, long ago, and we still see caterpillars here today," said Daddy, "God made them all".

"Let us sing our song about 'All things Bright and Beautiful'," said Jenny. So they all sang...

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

"It is a lovely song," said Daddy, "and reminds us of the very first things we read about in God's book, the Bible. God has control over all of the beautiful things that we see about us, and surely in all that He did God made everything very well".

GOOD COMPANY COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangeman Road, Walkerie, South Australia 5330
(or to Logos Office, Adelaide).

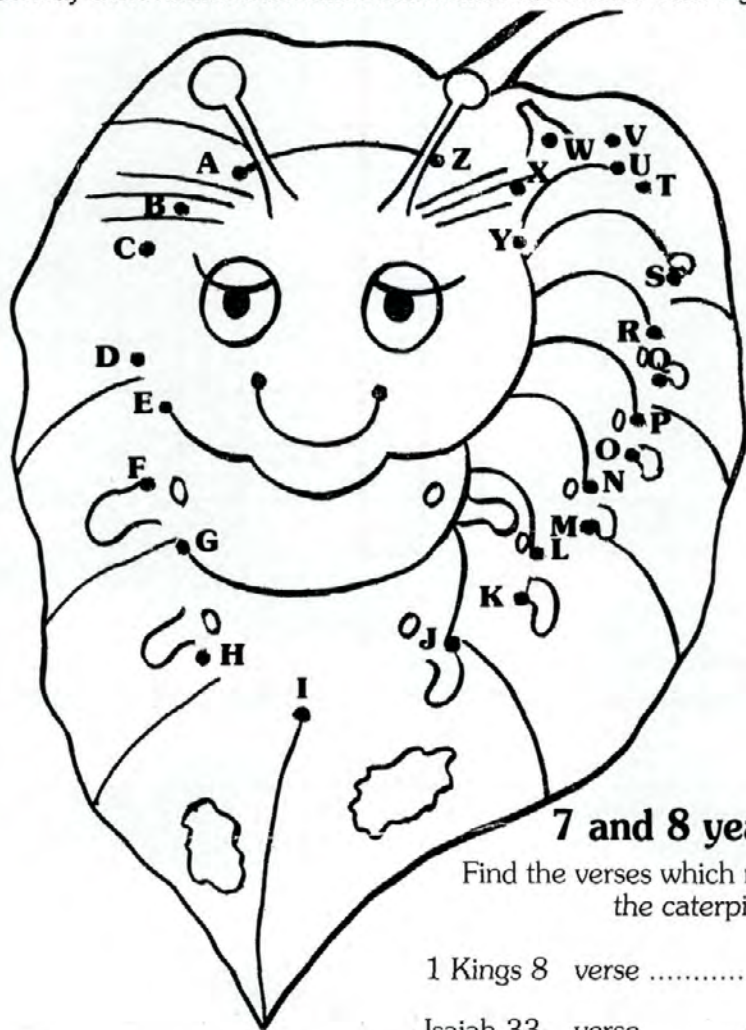
New Zealand readers send to: Mrs. Beth Leon, 16 Koro Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1ST FOR NAMES TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT ISSUE.

JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:



7 and 8 year old

Find the verses which mention
the caterpillar in...

1 Kings 8 verse

Isaiah 33 verse

Psalms 78 verse

Joel 1 verse

SENIOR COMPETITION

Name:

Sunday School: Age:

ULMSEA

SMEOS

MTOIHTY

HURT

HAJOUS

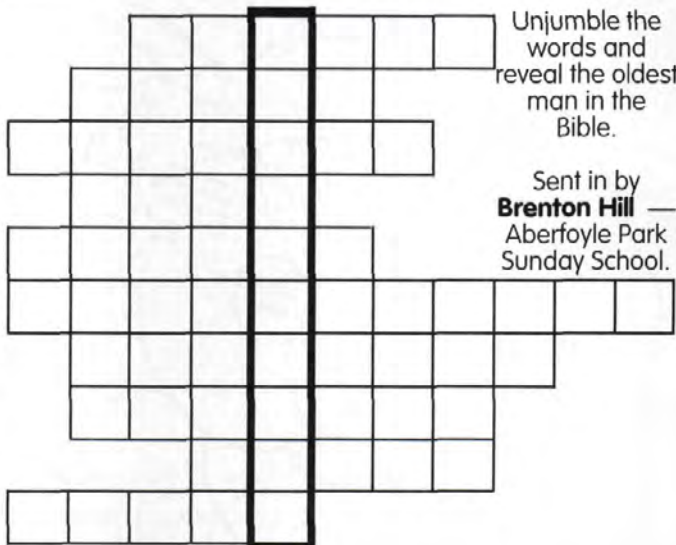
CRJSHTEUSS

MNHEIHAE

LPUR

BACLE

NJHOA



Unjumble the words and reveal the oldest man in the Bible.

Sent in by
Brenton Hill —
Aberfoyle Park
Sunday School.

The oldest man is

From which Psalm is this verse taken:

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"

Name the fathers of these children.

Sent in by **Vincent Saunders-Francis**, Wellington (N.Z.).

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Seth | 7. Caleb |
| 2. Obed | 8. Joshua |
| 3. Samuel..... | 9. Jonathan..... |
| 4. Absalom..... | 10. Hezekiah..... |
| 5. Jonah..... | 11. Isaiah |
| 6. Methuselah | 12. Ephraim..... |

On the Mountain with the Lord

Part 6

Most boys and girls can remember occasions when they felt very hungry, and know how much they enjoyed the meal that ended that uncomfortable craving for food. They are well aware of what thirst is too, especially in the summer-time at the end of an afternoon's play, and realise how welcome a cool, refreshing drink can be. In the natural sense hunger and thirst are experienced by all human beings. Even little babies cry loudly for their milk if it is not forthcoming at the right time.

But Jesus spoke of a hunger and thirst that is experienced by very few people. He said "**Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.**" What did he mean? To hunger and thirst after anything means to have a great longing for it, and Jesus was pronouncing a blessing on those who have a great longing after righteousness — who are anxious to do what is right themselves, and who like to see people around them walking in the ways of God. This longing is not natural to us — it has to be acquired. Boys and girls who do their daily Bible readings, and who pay attention in Sunday School and at the meetings are developing that *hunger and thirst after righteousness* of which Jesus speaks. As they progress, they will find that the world and its ways will become more and more distasteful to them, and, instead, they will become more and more interested in the things of the Truth.

Those who are striving to please God often feel unhappy in a world of people taken up with pleasing themselves and serving sin. Righteous Lot was vexed at the evil doings of those around him. David and Jeremiah were distressed at the prosperous condition of the wicked in their days. Faithful men of all ages have grieved over the wickedness prevailing in the earth. But God has no intention of allowing the earth to remain for ever in the hands of the wicked. It is Christ's promised inheritance, and he is coming to take possession of it.

Then those who hunger and thirst after righteousness will be filled. And how will that be done? First, their sinful nature with its evil promptings will be changed to the glorious sin-free nature that Jesus now possesses. No longer will they have to force themselves to do what is right against their native inclinations. They will wish to do no other. And then they will have the honour of helping Christ to remove the curse of sin and death, and to bring about a state of righteousness and blessing in the earth. It will be a time of great joy to those once hungry and thirsty souls. They will always be able to do those things that bring joy to God, for pleasing God is the foundation of everlasting happiness.



To be continued

READERS WRITE

Sarah Holman from Ardingly Sunday School writes: "Recently we met with the KEY group (Kent Ecclesias Youth Group). For activities we meet once a month and each month we meet somewhere different because a different member organises it. Today it is our turn. We are going to a local park which has tennis courts, golf courses, pitch and putt, refreshments, mini train rides, playing grounds, a children's play area and more. After that we will go back to the village hall for tea and then Uncle Stephen Hughes is giving us a talk on Egyptian mummies which he is studying in

the British Museum. It should be fun.

*Elizabeth Hatcher from United States of America: "My brother, my cousin April Milligen and I are the only children at the Thousand Oaks Sunday School. My brother Matthew is 3. He takes around the collection bag for Sunday School. He does a good job! Jason Robinson is only 1½ years old and little Courtney Bevans was just born some weeks ago. I love coloring the *Good Company* pictures. I cannot wait to get 100 marks so I can get something. I wish that the *Good Company* came every day."*

CAMERA CORNER



These pictures, submitted by Roger Dowling (SA), is of a group photograph of the 1992 Fiji Youth Conference held at Pacific Harbour.



PART EIGHT

Teenagers of the Bible – Growing Examples of Godliness

Esther

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury

One phrase is constantly repeated through the record of Esther so as to impress it into our minds:

Esther 8:11: *"to gather themselves together"*.

Esther 9:2: *"gathered themselves together"*.

Esther 9:15: *"gathered themselves together"*.

Esther 9:16: *"gathered themselves together"*.

The Bible only repeats things when of critical importance, and therefore there is a special lesson to be seen from the life of this young woman Esther.

Esther not only made a sacrifice for her people, but provided a wonderful example for young people of every generation. One day in God's mercy we will have the opportunity to thank Esther for her example, and how surprised she might be to learn that her dedication and courage saved not only her people but helped multitudes that have lived in later times.

The final tally of those slain is given in Esther 9:16, *"...and slew of their foes seventy five thousand"*. Try and picture that number of people. Think of some of the larger regional towns near you, that may be about that size. The Jews, teenagers, adults and elderly had to slay 75,000!

The record of Esther is full of poignant moments. There are few as significant as Esther 9:17, *"On the thirteenth day of the month Adar, and on the fourteenth day ... they rested"*. The thirteenth day was Haman's proposed *"holiday"* when all the kingdom could assassinate Jews!

You may recall the earlier record, how Haman threw a dice (or cast Pur) as recorded in Esther 3:7, *"In the first month, that is the month Nisan... they cast Pur, that is the lot, before Haman from day to day and from month to month..."* So Haman thought he would have a little contest and the throwing of the dice showed *"that upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month"* (v. 13) was the big day for Haman to win. Remarkably the day chosen was just before passover! So the matter actually fell against Haman, and that day has been memorialised ever since by the Jews in the feast of PURIM.

Notice that the word PURIM is the plural of PUR, which means *"to cast the lot"*, and for hundreds of years since the Jews have been reminded that their destiny is *not* determined by a chance *lot*, but by the predetermined purpose of God

On the first day of every week, we pause to remember the work of him who surpassed the efforts of Esther and made it possible for the whole world to triumph over the unchangeable decree of death, for Jesus stated that *"WHOSOEVER believes should not perish"* (John 3:15).

Mordecai sent letters proclaiming the Good News (that is, The Gospel), to those

who were, *"nigh and far"* (v. 20), and there is an echo of this in Acts 2:39, as, on the day of Pentecost, the Good News was proclaimed *"to you (nigh) and to all that are afar off (far)... is the promise made"*.

As Peter spoke these words on Pentecost, thoughtful Jews listening to him couldn't fail to recognise the message of Esther! There may well have been a young man standing there and listening, by the name of Saul of Tarsus, a student of Gamaliel, and who was filled with fury as he heard words like this. Later, he came to think much about Esther and the wonderful work of redemption that she did in her times, and how close he (Saul) had come to the same destiny as Haman! Perhaps he pondered why Esther had requested that Haman's ten sons be hanged in public. As he began to see the similarity to his own position as persecutor of the ecclesia, so the significance of Jesus' public crucifixion would be impressed upon him, and he was able to say, *"I am crucified with Christ"* (Gal. 2:20). Jesus had done nothing worthy of death, but he, Saul of Tarsus, had been involved in another public decision as he had *"put down a pebble"* (Acts 8:1) and *"consented"* unto the death of Stephen — another man who had done nothing worthy of death!

Perhaps these lessons tumbled into his mind, as he spent three days in darkness, after he arrived in Damascus! Mordecai had written that three days — the 13th, 14th and 15th of Adar (Esther 9:21) should be kept to *remember the work* of Esther, Mordecai — and most of all Yahweh, who had saved them.

The next few words from Esther 9:22 might well have burnt an indelible impression into Paul's mind: *"that they should make unto them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor"*. The words of Jesus in the *Discourse on the Mount* would have been repeated faithfully by those whom Saul persecuted: *"blessed are the poor... for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"*.

Esther's influence stretched further than she could possibly imagine at the time! So the events of this time were memorialised and the words of that memorial in Esther 9:22-32 contain phrases that parallel the experience of the apostles. Esther 9:26 states: *"Therefore (1) all the words of this letter (2) and of that which they had seen (3) and which had come unto them..."*

The record of this wonderful young woman, Esther, who began her public appearance as a nervous young teenager, has blossomed before our eyes into the full beauty of her Hebrew name, *Haddassah*, "The Myrtle". May her example encourage all teenagers who read these words and show that God looks to people of teen years, to show His Name to the World!



Never mind about the age of the sun, nor of its having shone for years untold. The point is, it shines *now* for your benefit and for mine (Mat. 5:45). And it is not only the sun which has to be considered in this way; but the countless other creature blessings which are born afresh to us every day. We live in times when God is ignored, and His good gifts attributed to the mere workings of nature (evolution). No, the sun shines, the rain falls, and the seasons return, not by chance, but as the result of a loving arrangement of God, set agoing at Creation's start, but at the same time unceasingly controlled (Deut. 28:12, 23). Let us then forget that the sun has been shining for ages, and remember that it commenced to shine this very morning — by the wonderful provision of our Father — for your happiness and wellbeing, and for mine. How delightful is the thought! — A. T. Jannaway.

BIBLE MARKING SECTION

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"

A most important habit is that of a consistent marking of one's Bible, therefore we plan to run a section in *Good Company* of simple fundamental subjects that can easily be marked in the back of your Bible. We commence with the first:

WHY I BELIEVE THE BIBLE

The words **HOLY BIBLE** mean "**Separate Book**". The Bible is unique, for there is no other book anywhere that can compare with its outstanding credentials.

40 different writers were used — not one contradicts the other.

Some were kings, prophets, priests, leaders, statesmen, doctors, shepherds, fishermen.

They came from different countries: Arabia, Babylon, Israel, Asia, Italy, Patmos. Greece.

They wrote over a period of 1600 years.

The book has three different languages: Hebrew, Chaldean, Greek.

Most importantly it claims to be the *Word of God* Himself.

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" **2 Peter 1:19-20**

The Bible PROVES itself.

Its PREACHING is consistent.

Luke 24:44 — "All things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses and in the prophets, and in the Psalms concerning me" — **cp v27.**

Acts 28:23 — "Expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses and out of the prophets".

It outlines the PURPOSE of life.

Isa 45:18 — "For thus saith Yahweh that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am Yahweh; and there is none else".

Hab 2:14 — "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh as the waters cover the sea".

It provides a PROMISE of hope.

1 John 1:25 — "This is the promise that He hath promised us, even eternal life"

2 Peter 1:4 — "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust".

It is confirmed by the PAST.

• Flood • Rameses Stone • Jericho • Moabite Stone • Dead Sea Scrolls

It is verified by PROPHECY.

Jer. 51:37, Isa. 13-14 **BABYLON** to become heaps.

Nah. 2:10 **NINEVEH** became empty void waste.

Eze. 29:15, 30:13 **EGYPT** the base of nations; no more a prince rules.

Eze. 30:13 **MEMPHIS** destroyed.

Eze. 26:4,5,12,14 **TYRE** to see the spreading of nets.

Luke 21:24 **JERUSALEM** to be "trodden down".

Jer. 30:10, Deu. 28:64 **ISRAEL** scattered, preserved, regathered.

Eze. 21:27 No king in **ISRAEL** until Christ returns.

Dan. 2 **EMPIRES** march on a predicted course for 2500 yrs.

Eze. 38:4-7 **RUSSIA** to head a confederate force of nations.

Rev. 16:13 **DEMOCRACY** uncontrollable.

Rev. 11:18 **ENVIRONMENT** threatened.

Rev. 16:16 **ARMAGEDDON** a reality.

**THE BIBLE IS FULL OF FULFILLED PROPHECIES OF ACTUAL EVENTS TO OCCUR;
ACTUAL GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS; ACTUAL PEOPLE; ACTUAL NATIONS.**

**"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?
by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word"**

Psalm 119:9

Sitting in the Fields



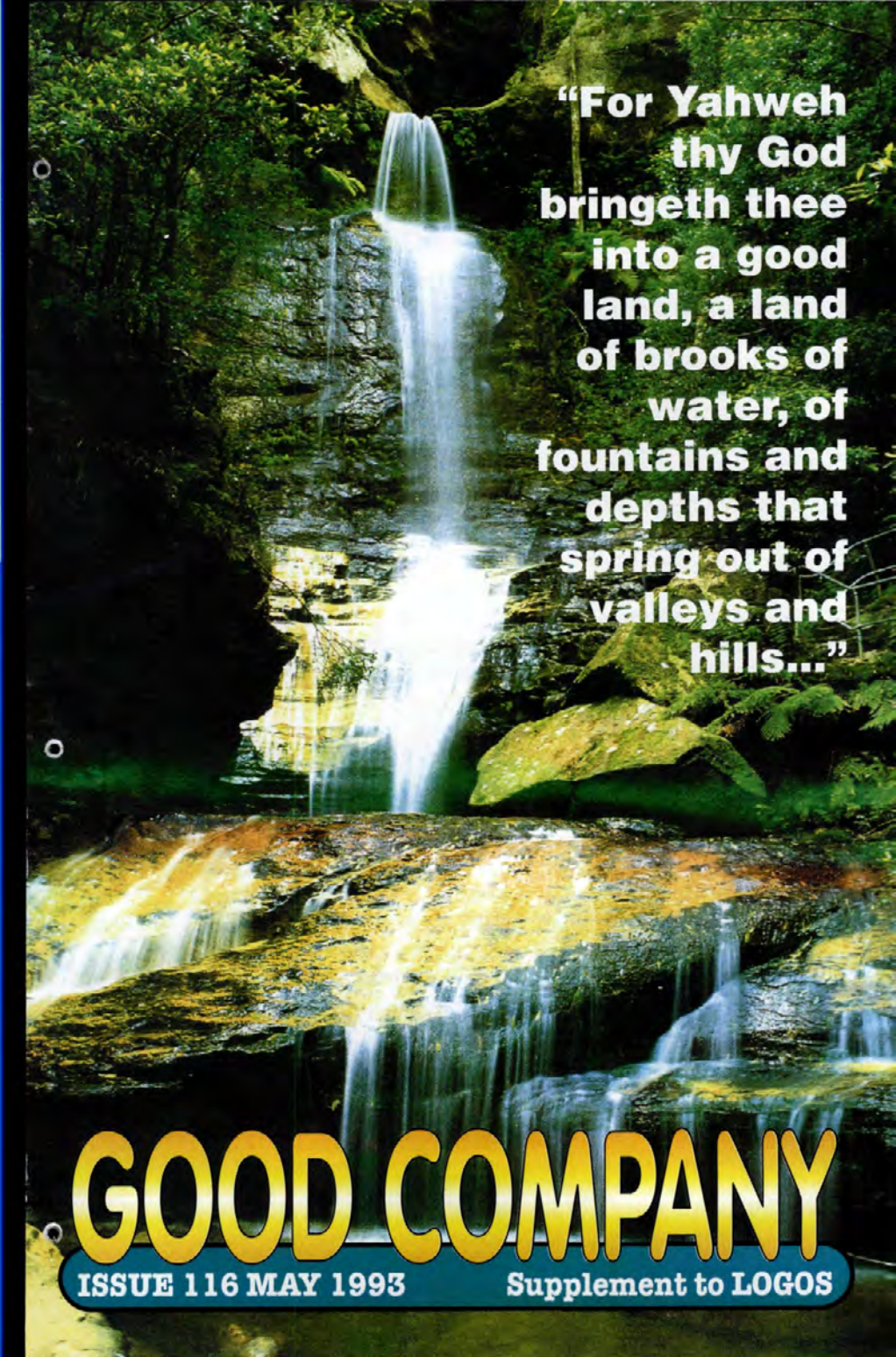
Sitting in the fields one day,
I watched the ducklings, while at play.

I saw a pretty butterfly,
And then a little bird go by.

While a worm went down its hole,
I watched the antics of a foal.
I saw a fish swim down a river.
A rabbit's whiskers seemed to quiver.

What a happy day it's been,
Sitting here, beside the stream.
I will watch another day,
And maybe they will let me play.

Deborah Harrington (10 yrs) Boronia S.S.



**“For Yahweh
thy God
bringeth thee
into a good
land, a land
of brooks of
water, of
fountains and
depths that
spring out of
valleys and
hills...”**

GOOD COMPANY

ISSUE 116 MAY 1993

Supplement to LOGOS



Dear Boys and Girls,

I want to tell you of an incident that happened recently in our house. Aunt Trish was busily sewing in the dining room, when all of a sudden to her horror she heard a little scratching coming from under the kitchen cupboards. Very bravely she scampered out to find me, and together we tip-toed back into the kitchen, only to see a fat little beady-eyed mouse disappear behind the fridge. This was the beginning of a week of terror for Aunt Trish, as night after night we would load the mouse trap, only to rush out the next morning and find the cheese stolen by our uninvited night visitor.

No doubt many of your parents have had similar scary experiences with mice, for there seems to be no place that is exempt from them. You may consider mice very amusing, but older folks do not think so, for they know how very destructive and dirty these little rodents are, and how they convey disease to food.

There are many ways people try to catch mice, ranging from a dear pussy cat, to the spring traps which often go off and catch mum's fingers when she is setting them. In spite of all this, mice still live and thrive. They form part of the curse which is on the earth as a result of sin. We gather this from an interesting event in the days of Eli. The Philistines were a wicked and idolatrous nation, and they took captive the Ark of God, so God plagued the people and their **"land was marred with mice"**, because of which the Philistines made five golden images of mice and sent them back with the Ark of God **"peradventure He should lighten His hand from off them"** (1 Sam. 6:5)

In addition to mice, the curse of God lies heavily upon the nations today in many ways, because the nations are wicked. They despise God's Word, and do not heed His commandments. But the faithful can rejoice that a happier time is in store for the earth when Jesus returns, and the curse is removed, and the wicked are destroyed.

"Let the field be joyful and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before Yahweh, for He cometh to judge the earth: He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His truth" Psalms 96:12-13

Your friend

Uncle Philip

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

GOOD COMPANY is the Christadelphian Family Magazine published bi-monthly by Logos Publications, 632 Burbridge Rd. West Beach 5024, S.A., and distributed as a supplement to Logos magazine, providing interesting information upon Bible topics for young and older.

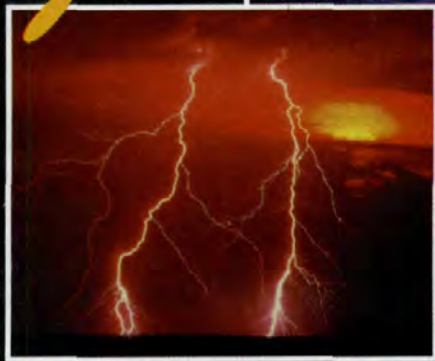
Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcome.

Edited by: Philip J. Mansfield. Cost of additional copies for Sunday Schools: \$5 yearly.
Donations for Competition Awards and production costs are appreciated.



OUR AMAZING WORLD

Lightning



LIGHTNING! AN AMAZING NECESSITY FOR MANKIND

One of the most awe-inspiring acts of nature which instills a sense of fear in all peoples is the sudden and repetitive flash of lightning. This mighty natural phenomenon is but another dramatic example of how the Creator continues to sustain His glorious creation on earth, for without lightning plant life would not exist.

There are about 22 million tonnes (per square kilometre) or 14 million tons (per square mile) of gas named nitrogen, which makes up 78% of the world's atmosphere. This amazing provision has an important purpose which enables plant life to survive and produce. But to achieve this the atmosphere must undergo a series of chemical reactions — yes, you've guessed it — lightning commences this reaction — but how does

When lightning occurs it heats up the air particles to astonishingly high temperatures, which produces this gas called Nitrogen. This, then, when mixed with oxygen, forms an oxide, which becomes soluble in water. The rain that usually accompanies the storm dissolves the oxide, and carries it to the ground. This diluted nitric acid falls to the ground and in due course reacts on the metals in the soil producing a fertilizer on which plants can feed and develop. I hope this is not too hard for you to understand — but here is the wonder of it all:

All around the world the earth is being bombarded by lightning at a rate of more than a hundred times each second, during which, as has been stated briefly, the lightning changes the upper air into a fertilizer for plants of all descriptions.

Here are a few more details of what happens during a thunder storm. I was prompted to write this, as during the past few months South Australia has had more thunderstorms than previous records of our state have shown.

Briefly then, a thunder cloud is being formed, when humid air begins to rise from the earth. As I write, these are the conditions outside, for last night a house was struck by lightning only a few kilometres from our home.

We have all seen these majestic cloud formations. Humid hot air rises from the earth, and beautiful clouds are formed looking like a cauliflower or a mushroom. These clouds are made of billions of ice crystals, with the weight of ice and water amounting to 300,000 tons or tonnes. Mind boggling isn't it! Within these huge clouds floating in the atmosphere, is a moist current rising at a gale force of 30 metres per second or 100 feet per second, shaping the clouds into a chimney-like formation.

The moisture condenses and freezes into hailstones, dancing about like table tennis balls in front of the nozzle of a vacuum cleaner. During this turbulence, there is a separation of electric charges — some being generated positively and others, in the lower portion, negatively. What a lot of things are happening during the seconds all this takes place between the sky above and the earth, some thousands of metres or feet below! Then, as these huge clouds drift, the negative charge at the base of the cloud has brought about a positive charge on the earth beneath it, and this positive electrified charge follows the cloud on earth like a shadow. Imagine it climbing trees — chasing chimneys — towers and steel poles — racing into houses — following water pipes and aerials in an effort to get closer to the cloud above. There is an attraction for each other (positive and negative).

Then suddenly a thin white arm of light flashes down, perhaps 50 feet (17 metres) to a leader, sent out from the cloud. It increases in power, then reaches down to a distance of 100 metres or 300 feet, and in a few seconds (at the longest), the sparkling spear of light that deceives the eye, hurtles up, not down^o as it appears. The flashes of lightning occur at

about 40 pulses per second, the heat generated in the path of light rises so quickly that the surrounding air breaks the sound barrier whilst moving away. Result: thunder!! and this is usually accompanied with heavy rain, and continuing rumbling.

This same effect is produced on a much smaller scale when an aeroplane breaks the sound barrier at speeds of 1,100 km per hour.

We see in all of this a continuing miracle of creative power for the benefit of all living things.

What is the lesson we learn from this phenomenon of nature? Is anything too hard for Yahweh? Nothing.

Note: Do you know that there are two chapters in the Old Testament that read the same almost word for word. I'll give you a clue. One is in the Psalms and the other is in the 2nd book of Samuel.

The first correct answer will be awarded with a special prize — please date your letter when posted, as this will allow our overseas readers to answer. Send letters to: Mr G Hollamby, 4 Andrew St. Waikerie 5330 S.A.

Here is the question:

Name the chapters concerned and quote the verses which speak of thunder and lightning.

— G. Hollamby.



The Four Seas of Israel

One of Israel's unique tourist attractions is that it has its shores on four well-known seas.

The Mediterranean is the link between Europe, Asia and Africa, and its coastline provides Israel with its longest border. Its coast is one of Israel's major tourist places, with such sea-side cities as Nahariya, Haifa, Caesarea, Netanya, Herzlia, Tel Aviv-Yaffo, and Ashkelon, being developed with the visitor in mind. Promenades and walkways along sea fronts, hotels and recreation areas serve local tourists and visitors from abroad.

The Sea of Galilee is the largest fresh water reservoir in Israel. It is some 21 kms (13 miles) long; at its widest point it is 12 kms (7.5 miles) across, and it contains some 4 million cubic metres of drinking water. After the Sinai Peninsula was returned to Egypt, the number of people visiting *Lake Kinneret*, as it is called in Hebrew, has grown significantly. Areas around the Kinneret famous for their beauty include Tiveria (Tiberias), Ein Gev, the Bay of Amnon and the Semakh Beach.

At the southern outlet of the River Jordan, at the lowest point in the surface of the globe, some 400 m (1200 feet) below sea level, lies the **Dead Sea**. It was created in the formation of the vast Syrian-African Rift Valley, and though its waters are too saline for anything to live in, the sea is rich in minerals. Along its shores are several hot springs and health spas, which provide opportunity for health tourism all the year round. Visitors come to the ten hotels on the Dead Sea coast, to take advantage of the healing qualities of the sea, the thermal springs, the black mud treatments and the special curative sunlight.

The Bay of Eilat and the **Red Sea** area are Israel's southern tip. Tourism is the principle source of employment in the region and the Government assists with a special tax status granted to the area.

The Post Office Cancellation design for these stamps features the Israeli tourism symbol representing two of the twelve spies sent by Moses to scout the land of Canaan around 2000 BC. Today's official emblem for tourism is also "calling" — "come (as a tourist) and spy out the land for yourself, experiencing the benefits (the fruits) of this land!"

But in the day of Israel's true glory, when the centre of world government and divine administration will be at Jerusalem, tourists will come as pilgrims — not to spend their time relaxing on the shores of Israel's four seas, but to view the grand designs of the vast temple complex of worship and praise — to participate therein, to the honour of Israel's God and Prince Jesus Christ. Instead of the seafront promenades and walkways being the main attraction, people will come to wonder at the colonnades, pillared galleries and beautifully sculptured figures of the Temple. This will be the central attraction for the tourist. They will be constructed not only for beauty and pleasure, but for instruction and enlightenment in divine principles. The peoples of the world will *"walk about Zion, tell the towers, mark the bulwarks, and consider the palaces, so to tell it to the generations following"* (Psa. 48:12-13).

People of all languages and nations will visit the land of the Jews for a different reason than the tourists of today. Then they will say: *"for we have heard that God is with you"* (Zech. 8:23). The motive for touring Israel will have completely changed, for it is prophesied that *"many people shall go and say, Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh"* (Isa. 2:2). In that day, the emblem of the spies will take on new meaning, for all people will enjoy the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem.

COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: **Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangeman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330**
(or to Logos Office, Adelaide)

New Zealand readers send to: **Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.**

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100 MARKS

Fiona Harrington (Boronia), Shena Harrington (Boronia), Lorna Kruger (Riverwood), Lisa Watson (Aberfoyle Park), Darrell Petiet (Golden Grove), Tamar Jamieson (Golden Grove), Andrew Jamieson (Golden Grove), Hannah Ridings (Salisbury), Amy McNeill (Enfield), Cherallee Scolyer (Woodville).

200 MARKS

Belinda Dennes (Riverwood), Leah McClure (Punchbowl), Amy McClure (Punchbowl).

300 MARKS

Samuel Bailey (Christchurch Sub.).

JUNIOR STORY



Jenny and Samuel loved to look at story books together. Little Samuel's favourite story was about David the shepherd boy who killed the great giant Goliath. Jenny had learned about that lesson in Sunday School, and she thought David was very brave.

As Jenny was reading Samuel the story, Mummy came and sat down beside them. "David threw stone", said Samuel. "Yes", said Mummy "but who helped David?" "God did", said Samuel. "That's right," said Mummy. "God made that little stone hit Goliath, and he fell down dead".

"Boys in Israel long ago would have learned to throw stones from a sling, just like boys today love to throw stones, and see if they can hit things," said Mummy. "How many stones did David pick up, Samuel?" Mummy asked. Samuel held up his hand with all of his fingers up in the air. "Five" he said. "That's right," said Mummy, "you have learned that story very well".

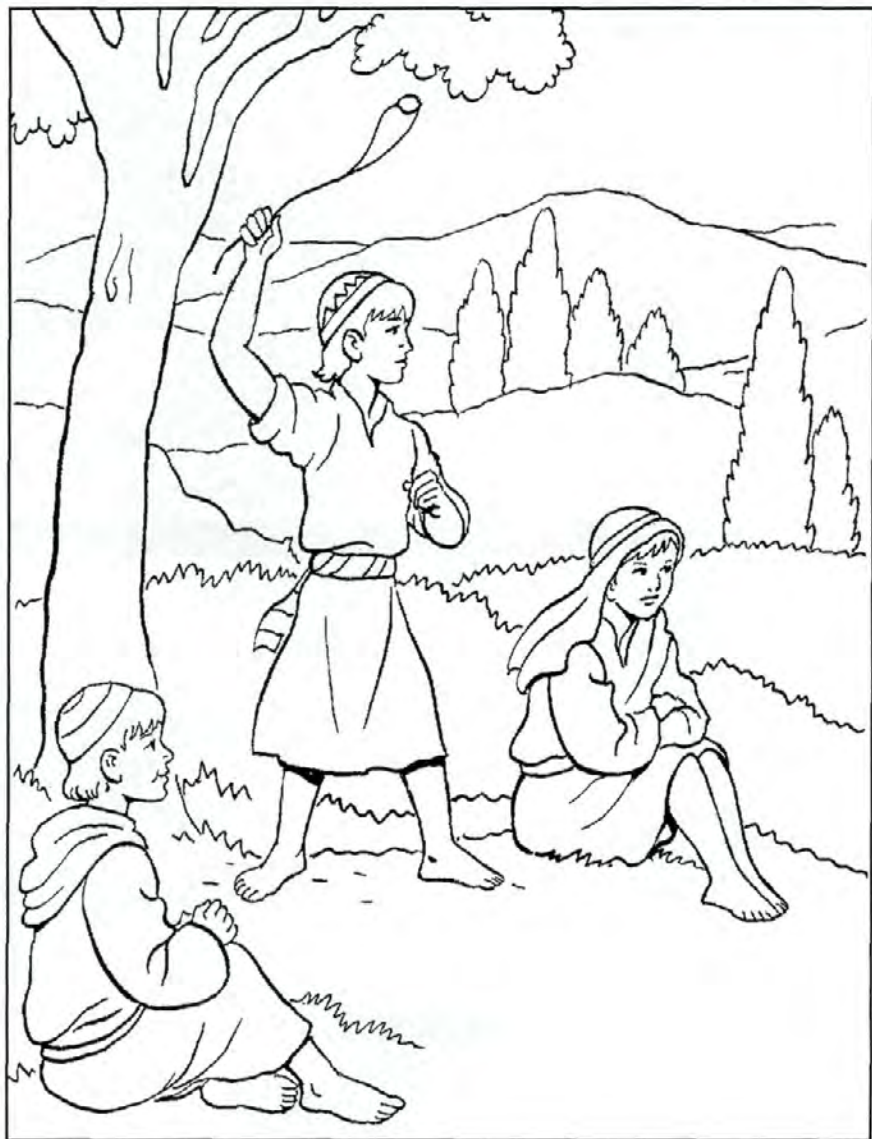
"What was it, Jenny, that gave David the courage to go out and fight that great giant?" asked Mummy. "His faith and trust in God" said Jenny.

We should always remember that, and put our faith and trust in God too, just like David did.

JUNIOR COMPETITION

Name.....

Sunday School.....Age.....



SENIOR COMPETITION

Name

Sunday School Age.....

WORD SEARCH

Birds of the Bible

CRANE	DOVE
EAGLE	OWL
PARTRIDGE	PEACOCK
PIGEON	QUAIL
RAVEN	SPARROW
STORK	VULTURE

A	B	C	E	R	U	T	L	U	V
E	V	O	D	E	F	G	H	E	P
S	S	J	K	L	M	N	G	E	I
T	O	P	Q	R	S	D	C	A	G
O	T	U	A	V	I	W	R	G	E
R	X	V	Y	R	Z	L	A	L	O
K	E	A	T	B	R	W	N	E	N
N	C	R	D	E	F	O	E	G	H
J	A	L	I	A	U	Q	W	K	L
P	M	N	K	C	O	C	A	E	P

KINGS OF ISRAEL & JUDAH

Tick the right box (Submitted by Amanda Clark, Wilston)

Name	King of Judah	King of Israel	Did Right	Did Evil	Reference
Ahab					1 Kings 16
Asa					1 Kings 15
Hezekiah					2 Kings 18
Omri					1 Kings 16
Manasseh					2 Kings 21
Josiah					2 Kings 22
Pekah					2 Kings 15
Zedekiah					2 Chron. 36

LONGEST & SHORTEST

- What is the longest verse in the Bible? Esther v
- What is the shortest verse in the Bible? John v

BIBLE MARKING SECTION

**"To the law and to the testimony;
if they speak not according to this Word
it is because there is no light in them"**

CORRECT BELIEF ESSENTIAL

DOES IT MATTER WHAT WE BELIEVE? It matters a great deal if we are to accept the teaching of the Scriptures. The general and popular view in religious circles today is that it does not matter at all what we believe *as long as we are sincere* in our belief. That this thinking is dangerous as it diverts the real attention away from God's life-giving Word, will be evident from the following summary:

Bible declares there is only ONE WAY.

Matt 7:14 "...strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it"

Eph 4:4 "There is **ONE** body, and **ONE** Spirit, even as ye are called in **ONE** hope of your calling; **ONE** Lord, **ONE** faith, **ONE** baptism..."

Correct belief – a divine commandment.

John 4:24 "...they that worship Him **MUST** worship Him in spirit & in truth"

2 Tim 2:15 "Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing** the Word of Truth"

Correct belief provides a future.

Mark 16:16 "He that **believeth** and is baptised shall be **saved**..."

John 3:16 "...whosoever **believeth** in him should **not perish** but have everlasting life"

Rom 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto **salvation** to every one that **believeth**"

1 Tim 2:4 "...who will have all men to be **saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth"

Disbelief results in eternal death.

John 3:36 "he that **believeth not** the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him"

John 12:48 "He that **rejecteth me**, and receiveth not my words, hath One that judgeth him"

Psa 49:20 "Man that ... understandeth not is like the beasts that perish"

God shown to be just.

Rom 2:12 "many as have sinned without law shall perish without law..."

Examples of wrong worship

Gen 4:3-5 *Cain*

Lev 10:1 *Nadab /Abihu* "...offered strange fire before Yahweh which He commanded them not"

1 Sam 15:24-26 *Saul* "...I have transgressed the commandment of Yahweh ...thou hast rejected the Word of Yahweh, Yahweh hath rejected thee"

1 Chron 15:13 *David* "...sought Him not after the due order"

2 Kings 5:11 *Naaman the Syrian* "...I thought, he would come out"

Matt 22:11 *Guest* "...a man which had not on a wedding garment"

The greatest sin is that of false worship cp. 2 King 22:17

IS IT THEN ENOUGH TO BELIEVE AND REST CONTENT? By no means. The Gospel believed must be obeyed in baptism, which then introduces one into a position in which they can do what before was impossible "*work out your own salvation*".



**Pictures taken
at a recent
Bible Marking
Class held at
Woodville**



PART 1

Teenagers of the Bible - Growing Examples of Godliness

Miriam

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury

MIRIAM - THE TRUE SISTER OF ISRAEL

Miriam, the sister of Moses is worthy of inclusion in our series on "Teenagers of the Bible". Although she does not receive the emphasis of her brother Moses, she presents a true to life image of a Teenager who acts with true heroism, for you would all remember the occasion when without regard to her own safety, she acted to preserve the life of her baby brother Moses, and thus prompted one of the most significant and moving developments in the history of the Truth.

Her name in Hebrew means "bitterness" or "rebellion"! She was the antithesis of this when young, but she did have moments later in her life, which no doubt gave her cause for reflection! As we have come to understand the Divine record, we have learnt that therein people are revealed by God for what they really are. Miriam is no exception.

Although a young woman of outstanding faith, and despite having grown into the select rank of Prophetess, she learns, along with the rest of us, the treachery of a body that is prompted by sin.

Miriam is first introduced in Exodus ch.2 as a young "maid", possibly "the maid" of v5 and v8, a bonds slave to Pharaoh's daughter. We should distinguish between the "maidens" in the early part of v5, (her companions), and her "maid" of the latter part of v5, who was a young female bonds slave.

When Moses was born, he was "hid" 3 months by his parents. A closer look at the word "hid" shows it to be a Hebrew word which means "treasured". The word is rendered in Job 23:12; as "esteemed" and in Ps.17:14 as "hid treasure". There is no doubt that he was more than just "hidden"! Here was a young child that was recognised as a "Godly child" and was treasured in the same way that this word is used in Psa.119:11; "Thy Word have I HID in mine heart."

Moses' parents risked terrible punishment for their action, but their faith was greater than Pharaoh's threats! When Moses as a 3 month old babe could no longer be hidden from the "death squads" of Pharaoh, his parents put him in a basket in the reeds of the Nile. This is highly significant, as that basket is described as an "Ark" and the word is the same for the Ark built by Noah! We can see some eternal lessons mirrored as that Ark was carefully made and placed on the waters of the Nile.

There were a number of eyes carefully watching that Ark, as it floated on the "**brink**" (Heb. "*lip*" or "*backwater*") of the river. There were the parents who had committed Moses to God's Providential care, and the Angel of the nation of Israel, and there was a brave young maid called Miriam.

The record suggests that the plan and location for the placement of Moses was carefully thought out. If Miriam was "**the maid**" who attended to Pharaoh's daughter it would explain how Miriam came to be allowed by Pharaoh's daughter into a place which was far more significant than we would assume.

The narrative suggests that Pharaoh's daughter came to "**wash** [herself]" by the river. But notice that the word "**herself**" is in italics, and not in the original text. Note also that the Nile was worshipped as a deity. It appears that Pharaoh's daughter had a special place set aside for the ritual worship of the Nile, and that this is what she was doing, is indicated by the word "**wash**". This word "**wash**" has sacred connotations, and is used in this way in Ex.30:18; "**Thou shalt also make a laver of brass to WASH withal...**" and again in Ex.40:32; "**..and when they came near unto the altar, they WASHED as Yahweh commanded Moses.**"

So when we read of Pharaoh's daughter coming to "**WASH**" it represents her as coming to a sacred place, to perform a ritual involved in the worship of the Nile. One of the reasons why she came to this place, no doubt, was the fact that, according to Egyptologists, such a place would be fenced off out into the river to prevent crocodiles which inhabited the Nile (and were worshipped from a safe distance!) from snatching one of the worshippers in the water!

This would answer the following questions:

- (1) Why Pharaoh insisted on Hebrew male children being thrown into the Nile.
- (2) Why Moses' parents chose this place for Miriam to secretly place Moses in the Ark. Any other place would have carried a terrible risk from man-eating crocodiles which would have devoured all other Hebrew children.

So it appears that Miriam made the most of her position as a bonds slave to Pharaoh's daughter, to (1) place Moses into the sacred area of the river, and (2) be on hand to retrieve the Ark and suggest that the babe be nursed for her by "**a Hebrew woman**" (her mother!)

It is highly probable that Pharaoh's daughter had either just lost a child of her own, or was unable to have a child. She would perceive the discovery of Moses as more than just "**chance**". She would see it as a direct gift from the gods of the Nile, hence ensuring that Moses would be accepted by Pharaoh, and would give him a unique status.



Wise is the man who uses his stumbling blocks as stepping stones.

On the Mountain with the Lord

Part 7

Jesus continued: "**Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.**" The listening crowds were becoming astonished. It was so different from that which they had been accustomed to hear from the scribes and Pharisees. These men did not talk about the pure in heart. They boasted in their knowledge of the law, and by outward display sought to impress the people with their righteousness. They were the blessed. "**This people which knoweth not the law are cursed**", they said.

Outward appearances did not deceive Jesus. He could read men's hearts, and knew the wicked hearts of the scribes and Pharisees. They honoured themselves, but dishonoured God. They pretended to hold the law in high esteem, but made it of none effect through their traditions. They made long prayers in public, and in private robbed widows. They made boast of their alms-giving in order to obtain the praise of men. All their works they did to be seen of men.

How different were the disciples (except Judas). Their great desire was to please God, and they were as anxious to think rightly and act rightly when they were alone, as when they were in Christ's presence. It is they, and all who follow their example, whom Jesus accounts blessed, because their hearts are pure.

No one has a clean or pure heart by nature. Hearts have to be made clean and kept pure. They are not soiled by smoke and dirt like faces and hands, but by evil thoughts — thoughts that prompt disobedience, untruthfulness, dishonesty, unbelief, love of pleasure more than a love of God. And how can hearts be kept clean? David answers the question. After asking: "**Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?**" he replies, "**By taking heed thereto according to Thy (God's) Word.**" Jesus said to his disciples: "**Ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.**"

God's Word, read carefully day by day and closely heeded, purifies the heart, and keeps it free from the evil thoughts that are ready to take possession of it. A neglected heart soon becomes "**an evil heart of unbelief.**"

Many boys and girls find keeping clean to be a tiresome business. It is not worthwhile, they say. but supposing a kind friend were to say he was coming one day to take the children with clean hands and faces for

an outing to the Zoo or a trip to the sea-side. Washing would be worthwhile then, would it not? Jesus is to make it very worthwhile for those who keep their hearts clean and pure while he is away.

Man's wickedness has raised a great barrier between God and mankind. We cannot see God, we cannot see Jesus Christ. We do not even see the angels now. But the time is coming when sin and sinners will be rooted out of the earth. Then not only will the pure in heart enjoy the company of Jesus and the angels, but they will have the supreme honour of seeing God. Shall we, boys and girls, share in that great honour?

To be continued 

DAVID

The Hero of Israel

David was a great man of old,
The principles of the Truth he tried to uphold,
He had many faults, but don't we all?
It is human nature that makes us fall.

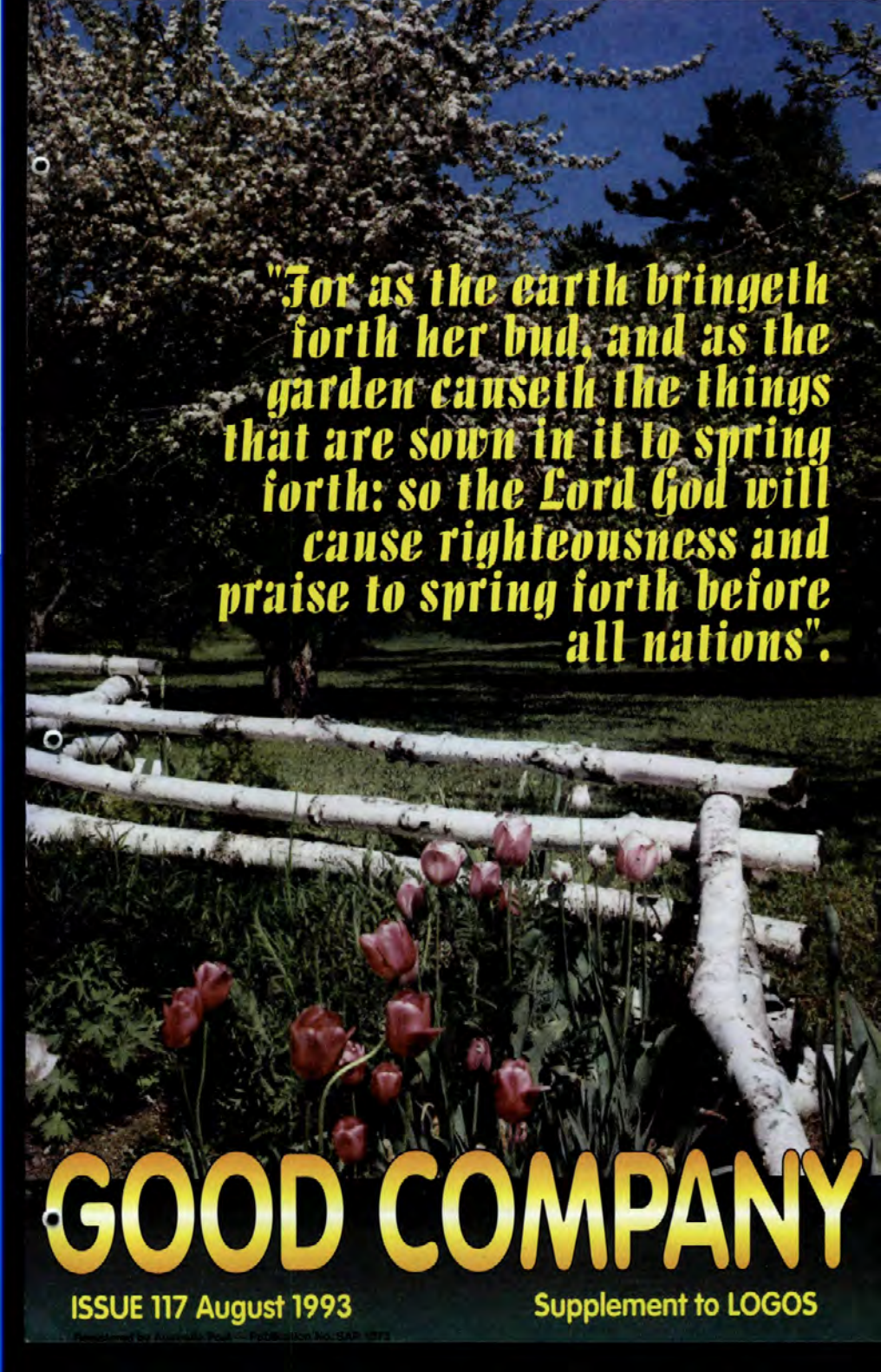
He killed a lion and he killed a bear,
When they came to his flock to tear.
He killed a giant with a stone and sling,
And praises to Yahweh he often did sing.

David had quite a few sons, whom he did spoil,
They ended up causing him much sorrow and toil.
He had quite a few wives, Bathsheba was one,
She bare unto him Solomon, a baby son!

King David had fought with many valiant men,
He gave up his life at the age of threescore and ten.
He now awaits for our Saviour's return,
For which all our hearts should longingly yearn.

This poem was composed by Julie Cameron, Yarraman S.S. (Qld.). She writes "For my school work I had to make up a poem or story about a hero, so I thought I'd write a poem on David. After all he was Israel's Hero, "Saul hath slain his thousands but David his ten thousand!"



A scenic landscape photograph featuring a white log fence in the foreground, with several red tulips in bloom. In the background, there is a large tree with white blossoms and a clear blue sky.

**"For as the earth bringeth
forth her bud, and as the
garden causeth the things
that are sown in it to spring
forth: so the Lord God will
cause righteousness and
praise to spring forth before
all nations".**

GOOD COMPANY

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Supplement to LOGOS

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Dear Boys and Girls,

June was a very sad time for our family. Our beloved grandmother who, only a few weeks earlier, had been informed that she had terminal cancer was confined to hospital. For three weeks we watched her deteriorate very rapidly until on the night after her eightieth birthday she called all the family in to say goodbye. She struggled on for a few days suffering much pain before finally lapsing into a coma.

As we stood around her bed watching her agony, my eyes filled with tears, for here in front of me was my Grandmother. My mind raced back over earlier times, days of happiness and joy, those days which all children experience, but they were now memories... as the cruel cold hand of death claimed yet another.

Yet what a wonderful hope Grandma has, for any day now, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, all those that sleep with her in the dust of the earth resting peacefully in those memorial graves shall awake to hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ and will come forth. Not to the life which we now experience, filled with pain, suffering and bitter disappointments, but a time when ***"God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away"***.

What a powerful lesson can be learnt by death, and how important it is that we consider the end of life before it is too late. The wise man declared ***"Remember NOW Thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say I have no pleasure in them"***. We are all apportioned a certain time to work out our salvation, to one it may be threescore years and ten and if by strength they be fourscore it is in labour and sorrow, but to another life may be short, cut off in the prime of youth. Let us recognise and appreciate every second that God has granted to us, developing in our lives those qualities that are pleasing to Him, so that when His Son returns we may be privileged to see again all those of past ages who have passed into the article of death, clothed with immortality.

Your friend

Uncle Philip

"GOOD COMPANY and GOOD CONVERSATION are the very sinews of GOOD CHARACTER"

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Comments, articles, poems and photos are welcome.

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Donations for Competition Awards and production costs are appreciated.



monarch

viceroy



OUR AMAZING WORLD

Butterflies

Of all the wonderful insects seen fluttering around the garden, one that causes much delight and joy to both young and old is the Butterfly. They are seen in many different colours, shapes and sizes. Some travel only short distances during their life span whereas others migrate distances of over 2,000 miles, (or 3,200 kilometres). About 650 miles (or 1,000 kilometres) is travelled over water.

The intelligence the Creator has given them is **AMAZING**. In the garden they seem to aimlessly flutter about from tree to tree or flower to flower. Beautiful creatures they are, as we see them with our natural vision, but when they are examined with a microscope an amazing thing is revealed. They have minute feathers on their wings, each having a quill, and in detail like a bird's feather, but so tiny.

The **Monarch Butterfly** is found in U.S.A. and Southern Canada - in fact it has migrated to nearly all parts of the world. Whilst migrating to certain areas for breeding, they select certain trees for swarming - so hang in large clusters to rest which is a spectacular sight. They also live in Australia. The Monarch does not taste nice, not even to birds, thus differing from butterflies which birds can eat, which seems strange for their main diet is nectar and honey. Like most other butterflies, it lays eggs which look like a cluster of little gems, then it dies. But life is continued for the family by the appearance

of brightly coloured caterpillars, which have black and yellow stripes. These feed on the milk weed plant (sometimes called cotton bush), and are poisonous to animals that graze. This is nature's protection showing the Creator's power and organisation - nothing has been done without a purpose. Then when the caterpillar reaches a certain size it goes into hibernation. Having fastened itself by a silken thread to a tree or shrub, an amazing transformation takes place inside the cocoon. The caterpillar turns into a grey fluid inside the cocoon, that becomes green on the outside. The grey fluid whirls around inside — not haphazardly, but in an order — how? unknown to man. After some time, the EMBRYO, as I call it, has changed into a beautiful butterfly.

During the final development of the butterfly it has been described that a type of pump, activated by movements of the creature, blows air into the wings, for they have two sides of fabric strengthened by those black ribs which is stronger in ratio to any man-made material. Where is there any room for evolution? The butterfly then continues in the same 'biological' cycle keeping the species alive.

In Romans chapter 12, we are told by the Apostle Paul, that we are not to be conformed to this world, but be *'transformed'*. This word means in simple terms — that we must change from the normal creatures that we are, to people who love God to do those things that are right, and which God loves us to do. This is likened to the process that takes place inside of this creature as described above, but this change also takes place in our minds directing our movements. Our bodies do not change in shape etc. as the butterfly's does. We are members of the human race who must strive to develop the mind of Jesus, so that at the resurrection we shall be changed into glorious beings.

As we watch these wonderful creatures in all their beauty, displaying their wings, frolicking in the sunshine, seemingly rejoicing because they are alive, we are led to exclaim, *'WHAT IS MAN THAT THOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?'* The life of a butterfly is like a vapour which endureth for a little while, then vanishes away.

In Jesus Christ we can type all these changes for as in the natural — so in the spiritual.

TO THE PARENTS WHO READ THIS: May we be wise and consider our children who follow after us, in a time of worldwide distress. **'PARENTS SHOULD LAY UP FOR THEIR CHILDREN'** and provide for those who survive them, so that the TRUTH might be passed on to them, in this present age.

CHILDREN: All of these bright and glorious creatures which are God's handiwork have been given to us for pleasure and profit.

Our God is all wise, all powerful and a God of love. At the appropriate time in our lives may we see the need to put on the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ in baptism and to commence that transformation into a new creature which will be completed by the love and mercy of our God at the return to the earth of His Son and we shall be made like unto the Angels unable to die anymore.

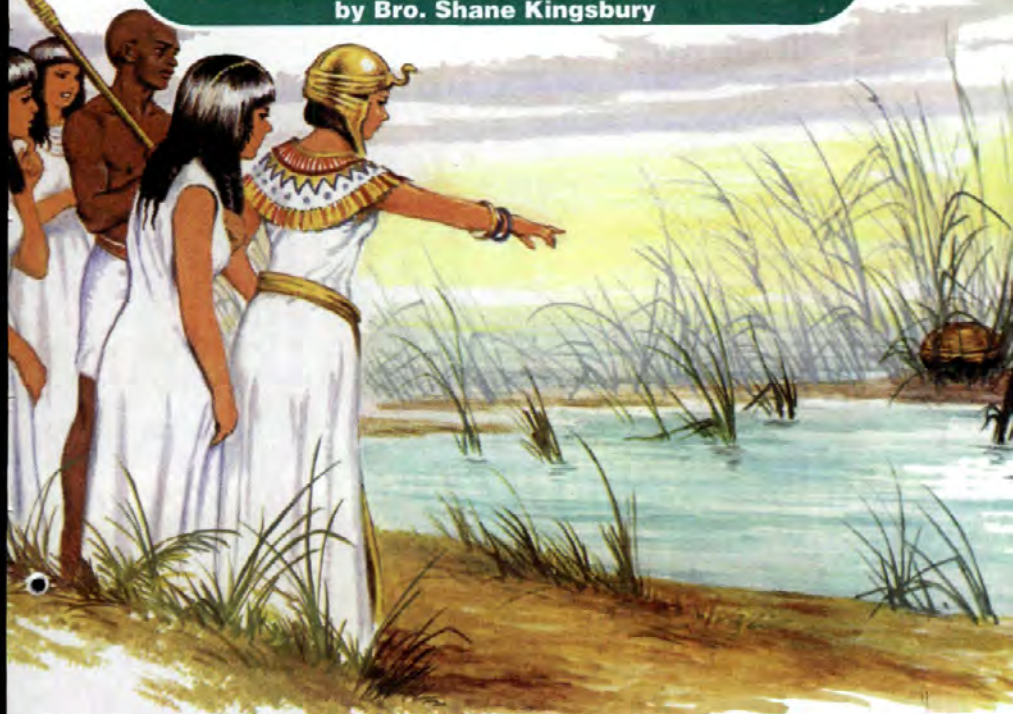
G. Hollamby



Teenagers of the Bible – Growing Examples of Godliness

Miriam

by Bro. Shane Kingsbury



The name "*Moses*" bestowed by Pharaoh's daughter is commonly understood to mean "*drawn out*" of water. Whilst this is true, remember the PLACE where he was "*drawn out*", and the religious significance of "*the water*", and you will see that his name was bestowed as a recognition that he was a CHILD OF THE NILE DEITY! It was not just "*the water*" but *THE water*! All of this was possibly known by Miriam as she went about her duties that day with her heart beating wildly. ***His sister stood afar off to wit what would be done to him.*** It seems that Providence had placed Miriam into the household of Pharaoh's daughter!

By her courage and ingenuity she was instrumental in Moses being spared from Pharaoh's edict that all the male Hebrew children should be put to death. Ex. 1:22; ***And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.***

The record states that when Moses was born, his parents saw that he was a "***goodly child.***" The Hebrew for "***goodly***" is "*towb*" and means "*pleasant*" particularly "*before God*". Thus the RSV translates the words of Stephen in

Acts.7:20: **"and (Moses) was beautiful before God."**

By what means Miriam became maid to Pharaoh's daughter we do not know, but evidently she was a trusted, capable and thoughtful girl. She was probably a beautiful child also, which would have endeared her to Pharaoh's daughter.

It may well be that Miriam came up with the idea of constructing the ark to save her beautiful baby brother, thus obeying Pharaoh's command to **"cast the male children into the river"**, revealing an understanding of both letter and spirit of the law. It seems that Miriam would have spent quite some time by the river helping Pharaoh's daughter with her ritual cleansing.

Miriam may then have realised that there was a chance (with Yahweh's providential help) that Moses might be *"discovered"* by her mistress.

But whilst we have this traditional Sunday School picture in our mind, as suggested by the record of Moses floating safely in the reeds, and being taken up by Pharaoh's daughter, just spare a moment for what may have actually happened on that river.

The edict to cast the male children into the river not only ensured their death, but subjected them to cruel attack by crocodiles! Of course we don't like to think of things like that! BUT THAT'S THE REALITY OF EGYPT! We ignore it at our own peril. The world of the Egyptian today is no different - and we are far too protected from the reality of cruel humanity!

And do you realise that Miriam had no guarantee that her mistress would RESCUE Moses? She might have ordered that the child be tipped into the water. How do you think Miriam was feeling?!

There is no doubt that both Miriam and her parents agonised in prayer for Moses. Is this a reality of life today. Are our Teenagers offering prayers for their brothers and sisters? Or are our Teenagers too busy with books and records and clothes and "going out"? God will hear the prayers of Teenagers in matters of daily guidance every bit as effectively as those who have accepted the Truth in baptism. It is only in the matter of personal sin and forgiveness, that Teenagers who are un-baptised are unable to ask intercession by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us not be deluded by the traditional representation of Moses floating amongst the reeds. The scene was CHARGED with crushing ANXIETY and there was the possibility of witnessing a horrible death for Moses. How we appreciate the courage of Miriam!

There is no further scripture reference to the slaughter of male Hebrew children after the discovery of Moses, and it may well have been regarded by Pharaoh as an omen from the gods. If so, then Miriam's actions could have contributed to the salvation of her nation!

If Miriam was the **"maid"** of Pharaoh's daughter then there may have been many opportunities for Moses and Miriam to speak to each other in Pharaoh's court, and again it would seem that Miriam was a profound influence on her younger brother, encouraging him in the things of God.

Our Teenage girls should pause and examine themselves as to whether they are following Miriam's selfless example. Are they devoting time to the younger members of their family, encouraging them in the things of God? Or do they regard the younger members as just a bit of a nuisance and a bother? Miriam certainly didn't!



COMPETITIONS

Send entries to: **Mrs. Elizabeth Hollamby, 9 Strangeman Road, Waikerie, South Australia 5330**
(or to Logos Office, Adelaide)

New Zealand readers send to: **Mrs. Beth Lean, 16 Karo Place, Glendene, Auckland, NZ.**

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100 MARKS

Deborah Hart, Elizabeth Hart (Kilcoy), Joshua Smith, Aaron Smith (Enfield), Cheralee Scolyer, Hayley Wilson (Woodville), Kiri Bracey, Elise Galbraith, Roseanne Smith (Launceston), Beth Sargent (Okanagan), Leah McClure, Amy McClure (Punchbowl), Kathryn Gilmore, Gavin McGuigan (Riverwood), Deborah Cowie (Golden Grove), Luke Ormig (Stirling), Hannah Ridings (Salisbury), Kezia Jones, Callum Jones, Jordan Jones (Yokine), Rebecca Mein, Andrew Mein (Boularoo), David Higgs, Mark Higgs, Ben Hurn (Eastern Suburbs), Wayne Williams (Perth), Tim Carter (Napton-on-the-Hill), Lee Benson, Ronald Nancarrow (Mittagong).

200 MARKS

Nicole Galbraith (Launceston), Sharon Coad (Georges Hall), Gemma Evans, Paul Evans, Simon Sutcliffe (Napton-on-the-Hill), Rebekah Mansfield (Woodville).

300 MARKS

Joanna Kilgus (Wilston), Timothy Sutcliffe (Napton-on-the-Hill).

JUNIOR STORY



One of the very special things Paul and Jenny liked to do was to play a game pretending to be someone or something they had learned about from the Bible. Daddy was especially good at thinking of things to be. This kind of game helped the whole of the family to enjoy a happy time together, and at the same time they were all learning more about God's wonderful book, the Bible.

To make the game more interesting the family dressed up from the clothes box, used props from around the room and made various noises. It was great fun.

One night when it was Daddy's turn, he dressed himself up, and then dashed off into Paul's bedroom. When he came out again, he had Paul's silver toy trumpet. He held the trumpet up to his mouth, took a deep breath and blew. Mummy and Paul and Jenny were thinking hard. "Are you a man in a band?" said Paul. "No, I'm not", said Daddy, but I'll give you a clue. "When someone blew a trumpet, it made some other people do something". Mummy smiled, but she didn't say anything. Jenny was thinking hard. She was thinking about the silver trumpet. Suddenly Jenny jumped up. "I know, Daddy," she said. "We read about the silver trumpet being blown to tell the children of Israel to move from the place where they were, to another place didn't we". "That's right, Jenny", said Daddy. "It was a very special kind of sound wasn't it, so that the people would know exactly what they were to do. It would have been a very loud sound from the trumpet, for there were many people who would need to hear it".

"God worked out His plan for the children of Israel very carefully as they wandered in the wilderness. He didn't just leave them to work out things for themselves, but He gave them very special instructions about how they were to do everything. God looked after them and showed them the way in which to go. Many of those people did not love and obey God, and so they died in the wilderness". "We are in a type of wilderness now aren't we", said Mummy. "So we should learn to love and obey God and to do what He asks us to do, then we can have a hope of being in God's Kingdom soon to come. What a wonderful time that will be".

JUNIOR COMPETITION

8 and under

Name

Sunday School

Age

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING?



Daddy acted out picture number.....

SENIOR COMPETITION

9 and over

Name

Sunday School Age

1. Write down the name of the person who said these words. Look up the underlined words in a concordance.

a. "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God....."

Answer:

b. "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go?"

Answer:

c. "Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?"

Answer:

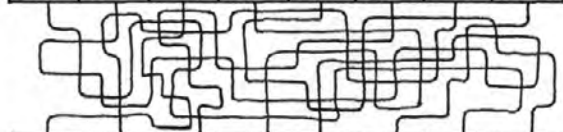
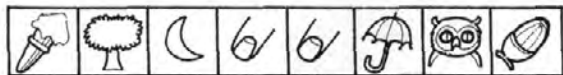
d. "...make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house;"

Answer:

e. "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee,; for we be brethren"

Answer:

2. First put the first letter of the picture in the right box by following the lines then write out the Bible verse which includes this word



--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The Bible verse is:

.....

.....

3. Supply the missing term

a. Ham, Shem and

b. Peter, James and

c. Shadrach, Meshach, and

d. Ananias and

e. Aquila and

On the Mountain with the Lord

Part 8

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

A peacemaker is one who tries to keep peace, and does not encourage or stir up strife. Paul describes strife as a work of the flesh, and peace as a fruit of the spirit. He implies by this that quarrelling comes easy and natural to us, and peacemaking does not. We have to learn from the bible how to be peacemakers. Let us look at one or two passages that will help in this direction.

"A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." We remember how Gideon's gentle answer calmed the angry Ephraimites; and, on the other hand, how Rehoboam's harsh reply aroused the Israelites' anger and led to the division of the kingdom. However greatly provoked, we must try and meet angry words with a gentle answer.

"By pride cometh contention" means that many quarrels arise through people having too high an opinion of themselves. The Scriptures make it plain that we must be humble if we are to please God. Let us hope that none of us is tempted to stir up strife among friends. Those who engage in that wicked work, Solomon tells us, are an abomination to the Lord.

When we find it difficult to control our natural feelings, let us call to mind the passage: **"He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city"** (Prov 16:32). We hear much at school about the world's heroes who have captured cities, sunk fleets, and conquered kingdoms. But the hero in Christ's eyes is the one who rules his spirit in accordance with Bible precepts, and leads others to do the same.

And what of the results? The world rewards its heroes with honour, but it cannot take away trouble and sorrow from them, or stay the hand of death which puts an end to everything. But there will be no end to glory, honour, peace and happiness with which Christ will reward his faithful ones.

Even in this life the righteous have a peace of mind that the world knows nothing of — a peace that comes from faith and trust in God and a good conscience. David refers to this when he says: **"Great peace have they which love Thy law; nothing shall offend them."**

You have heard, no doubt that many leaders are endeavouring to establish world peace, but these men leave God entirely out of their considerations. Under these conditions there is no way peace can be realised under present conditions. While the world is wicked — and it will remain so till Christ comes, there can be no lasting peace for it. ***"There is no peace, saith Yahweh, unto the wicked"*** (Isa 48:22).

When Christ comes to destroy the wicked and give the earth to the righteous, then peace will flow like a river. Then ***"the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever."*** Let us learn to be peacemakers now, that we may be among the children of God at that time.



Camera Corner



This picture sent in by Matthew Cooper is of the Manitoulin Island Sunday School. They have 5 classes and Uncle Lloyd Cooper is the Superintendent. This year they are learning all about the wonderful work of the apostles. In this picture you can see me, all my brothers and my cousins. My brother Jeff is the first person (at left) in the front row. I am the second person (at left) in the second row. My brother Lucas is the fourth person in the same row. He is sitting on my oldest brother Barry's knee.

BIBLE MARKING SECTION

"when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing wherein few, that is eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto **EVEN BAPTISM** DOTH NOW SAVE US..."

WHY I NEED TO BE BAPTISED

BAPTISM: from Gk word "*Baptizo*" signifies to *immerse, dip, plunge, to tinge*. Used by Greeks to signifying the dyeing of a garment. However it is **more** than just immersion — baptism is an act in which is seen a **change** of colour or appearance in an article. To dip a piece of cloth into clear water is immersion — it is not baptism! but to add dye to the water and then dip the cloth is baptism in the primary signification of the word. No translator has ever ventured to render the words as *sprinkle, pour, splash*, in any version!

BAPTISM — A CONDITION OF SALVATION.

Mark 16:16 "He that believeth AND IS BAPTISED shall be saved"

John 3:5 "Except a man be born of water ...he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God"

Acts 2:38 "Repent and be baptised EVERY ONE OF YOU"

Acts 10:48 "He COMMANDED them to be baptised..."

CHRIST SHOWED THE EXAMPLE.

Matt 3:15 "...for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness"

Mark 1:9 "Jesus was baptised of John in the Jordan"

PAUL SAW THE NEED OF BAPTISM.

Acts 9:18 "...received his sight forthwith & arose & was baptised"

Acts 22:16 "...arise and be baptised, and wash away thy sins..."

ALL BELIEVERS OF GOSPEL WERE BAPTISED.

Acts 2:41 "they that gladly received his word were baptised"

Acts 8:12 "...they believed... the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised"

Acts 16:15 "...she was baptised and her household"

Acts 16:33 "the keeper of the prison was baptised "he and all his"

Acts 18:8 "many Corinthians hearing believed & were baptised"

Acts 19:5 "when they heard this they were baptised"

INVOLVES COMPLETE IMMERSION

Matt 3:16 "Jesus, when he was baptised went up straightway out of the water"

John 3:23 "John was baptising in AEnon ...because there was much water there"

Act 8:36 "Here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptised ...both went down into the water"

SYMBOL OF DEATH, BURIAL & RESURRECTION

Rom 6:3-6 "...are baptised into his death. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death ...planted together in the likeness of his death"

Col 2:12 "buried with him in baptism wherein also ye are risen with him"

DIVINE METHOD INTRODUCING BELIEVING SINNERS "INTO CHRIST".

Rom 6:3-4 "that so many of us are baptised into Jesus Christ"

Gal 3:27 "baptised into Christ have put on Christ"

Col 2:12 "buried with him in baptism wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God who hath raised him from the dead"

OUT OF CHRIST THERE IS NO SALVATION FOR ANY SINNER

1 Cor 15:22 "as in Adam all die even so in Christ shall all be made alive"

Eph 2:12 "at that time ye were without Christ ...having no hope ...but now in Christ"

IN BAPTISM WE OBTAIN FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS

Act 2:38 "Be baptised ...for the remission of your sins"

Act 22:16 "Be baptised and wash away thy sins"

2Pet1:9 "...purged from his old sins"

DECLARATION OF GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Rom 3:25-26 "...to declare His (God's) Righteousness for the remission of sins"

What good does the water do to me? Nothing. But it is a demonstration of ones earnest desire to conform to the ordinances and requirements of God, who has purposely made use of things which to some seem unimportant, that His Name may be honoured.

"God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty...that no flesh should glory in His presence"

He has appointed and commanded baptism. It is part of His Will: and we know what Jesus has said,

**"HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER
the same is my brother, and sister and mother"** Mark 3:35.

Shall we be stones in God's building, of which Christ will be the chief corner-stone? If so, our preparation must take place now, for there will be no hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of iron heard in the house when the day of erection arrives. When trials come upon us, let us remember that they are God's tools for fashioning us into fit stones for His house.

IS THE BIBLE TRUE?

Dear Good Company Readers,

A few months back I attended the opening Woodville Bible Marking Class, to find out what the young people are studying this year. The evening's class was based on a book called "*Is the Bible True?*" This book is made up of articles which were originally published in a monthly magazine which was very popular with boys and girls and older people too, called *GOOD COMPANY* (what a coincidence!) published by Robert Roberts over a hundred years ago, first in 1890.

When I came home, I wanted to find out this bit about the "Old" *GOOD COMPANY* and see if it was similar to the "New" *GOOD COMPANY*, with puzzles, and animal stories, and famous "Teenagers of the Bible" sequels, etc. I found the book, "*Is the Bible True?*" tucked away in a dark corner of the bookshelf with quite a bit of dust on it. I felt guilty, not so much because of the dust, but because I had never really opened it to read it. After all, I knew that the **BIBLE IS TRUE**. But did you know that the Bible is mainly a history book? Yes, the narrative is so interwoven with history that the two cannot be separated without all that is written crumbling to pieces. In this, the Bible is like no other book. The history of other religious movements and their writings can be easily separated from their miracles and legends. Catholicism, for example, Mormonism, Mohammedanism, and other "isms". This is because they are man made systems and writings built into and around parts of history without affecting the course of events at all. But the Bible spans all of man's history. God is the sole Author of the Bible and the moving force behind all world events (Dan.4:17) therefore without God in the Bible, there is no narrative left, for all its stories crumble to pieces, like a giant jigsaw puzzle which has been scattered all over the place with most parts missing and the rest doesn't fit. To illustrate that, Brother Roberts has taken certain people and events from the Bible and "turned them inside out".

For example, **ABRAHAM**. He came from Ur, a wealthy and highly developed city by modern standards. He left this comfortable, even luxurious environment suddenly with Sarah and trekked many hundred miles south-west, without the faintest idea of where they were going! When Abraham was 75 years old, he left the rest of his family behind at a city called Haran, and with Sarah and his nephew crossed the river Euphrates and arrived in the small land of Canaan which was occupied by warlike tribes. There he wandered up and down the countryside, living in tents and keeping separate from its inhabitants, hoping for a son and heir. During a famine in the land he went into Egypt where he became rich, but decided to return to Canaan. After a total of 25 years in the land Sarah had a son, but when Isaac was about 17 years old, his father decided to offer him up as a sacrifice, but was prevented. We'll stop here. Does all this make sense? Of course, not. Without God in the account of Abraham's life the story does not hold together at all. With God in the narrative, all becomes logical, deeply significant and Abraham is worthy of our admiration and following as the **FATHER OF THE FAITHFUL**.

MOSES AND THE EXODUS - Elevated from a slave child who was to be drowned, to a high position in Egypt, Moses interfered between a Hebrew and

an Egyptian in a quarrel, and for some reason killed the Egyptian, not the Hebrew! He then ran for his life into the desert, looked after sheep for 40 years and then went back to Egypt to bring the Hebrews out from slavery there, but he didn't think he could really do it. He went all the same, but had some serious disagreements with Pharaoh and then waited for natural disasters to influence Pharaoh to let his people go. These happened, ten in all, one after the other, until Pharaoh virtually threw the Hebrews out of the country. On top of that, the Egyptians gave them valuable things, such as silver and gold. For 40 years, 600,000 men, plus women, children and livestock wandered around in the Sinaitic peninsula without proper food, but were kept alive. They did this until all the generation that came out of Egypt had died off through natural circumstances, apart from two individuals, and the second generation entered into the land of Canaan. Can you see the point? Take God out of the Exodus and the Wilderness wanderings and the story becomes impossible, for only by miracle could this have been achieved.

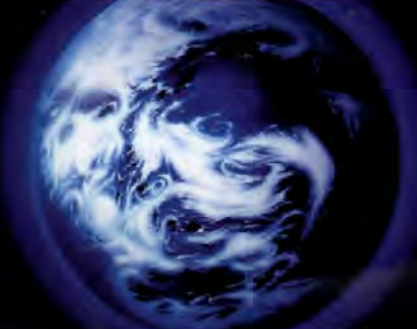
As another example, Israel's national anthem recorded in Deut. 32, is AGAINST Israel. All humanly written national anthems and patriotic songs glorify and honour their people and rulers, praising the nation's achievements in some way, or boast of the fall of oppressors, like the French National Anthem, the Marseillaise. You would not read anything like this *"The Australians have always been a stiffnecked, rebellious, vicious people, ready to execute their best men and leaders in vengeance for reproving them and because they did not supply them exactly with what they wanted. Throughout their history they have proven themselves as careless, hopelessly materialistic, pleasure seeking, immoral, hateful. In the end they got so bad that they were thrown out of their country and scattered to the four corners of the earth there to lead a miserable existence."*

Of course, you would not find such a terrible national record anywhere! No nation would write this about itself. But God wrote similar words about Israel. Bro. Robert writes: *"There is a calm underrating of the Jews from beginning to end, the ignoring of human prowess, or achievement, of any kind. Instead, a majestic confirmation of divine rights and accurate forecasting of the tragedy (thousands of years before these tragedies happened) of Jewish history."* All of which proves it is not a human composition, but Divine.

Is the Bible true? We know it is, but the book explains the why and how in detail. Read it before you talk to your friends about the Bible, and let us know your thoughts about God's True Book, the Bible.

Rene Adams

TRULY I LIVE...



*all the earth
shall be filled
with My Glory*