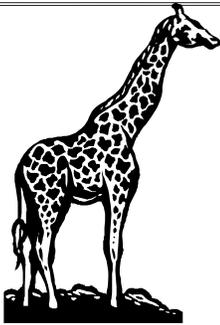


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 1 - 1st Quarter - Issue #4



CREATION CORNER

Genesis 1:25 "And God made the beast of the earth after his kind."

Last week we looked at the 'Fire Breathing Beetle' and talked about how silly it was to believe that it could have gradually evolved. Now I want to share another silly story they tell in evolution, it's called:

HOW THE GIRAFFE GOT ITS LONG NECK

The giraffe used to look just like other grazing animals in Africa, but while the other animals were content to eat the grasses growing in the field and the leaves on the lower branches, the giraffe felt that the survival of his fittest depended on reaching up and plucking leaves from still higher branches. This went on for a time, as he and his brothers and sisters kept reaching ever higher.

Only those that reached the highest branches of leaves survived. All the other giraffes in the meadow died from starvation, all because they were too proud to bend down and eat the lush vegetation that all the other animals were eating. So only the longest-necked giraffes had enough food to eat. All the other giraffes starved to death. Sad story, don't you think? But that is the story

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they try and tell you of how the giraffe grew its long neck.

Picture the tragic scene: Dead giraffes lying about in the grass while the short-necked grazers, such as the antelope and gazelle, walked by them, having plenty to eat. So there is a lesson for us; do not be too proud to bend your neck down and eat. Oh, you say, but their necks were, by that time, too long to bend down to eat the grass! Not so; every giraffe has to bend its neck down to get water to drink. Darwin's giraffes died of starvation, not thirst.

So that is how the giraffe acquired its long neck, according to the pioneer thinkers of a century ago, the men who gave us our basic evolutionary theories. Here's what Darwin said back when evolution was being imagined.

"So under nature with the nascent (developing) giraffe, the individuals which were the highest browsers and were able, during dearths, (Times of no rain) to reach even an inch or two above the others, will often have been preserved . . . By this process long-continued . . . combined no doubt in a most important manner with the inherited effects of increased use of parts, it seems to me almost certain that any ordinary hoofed quadruped (ani-

mal with four feet) might be converted into a giraffe.”—*Charles Darwin, *Origin of the Species* (1859), p. 202.

Gather around boys and girls, and listen; we're not finished with giraffes yet. The story goes something like this: "Once long ago, the giraffe kept reaching up into the higher branches to obtain enough food to keep it alive. But, because only those giraffes with the longest necks were fittest, only the males survived—because none of the females were as tall! That is why there are no female giraffes in Africa today." End of tale. You don't believe it? Well, read on:

This issue [of how the giraffe got its long neck] came up one time in a class in the University of Toronto. The teacher was telling this story as if it were true and I'm sure the students were believing the evolution fairy tale.

But someone asked the teacher if male giraffes were taller than the females. He stopped as he began to realize this fact would certainly change his story. After a while he said, 'I don't know. I shall look into it.' Then he told the class that if there was a difference [in male and female giraffe neck lengths] it could show the story was not true.

He never did come back with an answer to the question; but, we can find it for ourselves. Books on animals tell us that the male giraffe is 2-3 feet taller than the female. Yet the books keep telling the silly giraffe story to prove evolution.

There's another fact that also shows this is a silly story; they have never found a fossil of any other giraffes with medium necks. And yet they claim it developed slowly over millions of years.

Evolutionists cannot explain why the giraffe is the only four-legged creature with a really long neck and yet everything else in the world [without that long neck] survived. Many short-necked animals, of course, live side by side in the same place as the giraffe. Darwin even mentioned this in his book, but tried to explain it away and ignore it.

I want to tell you another wonderful thing about the giraffe; because he has such a long neck, he has to have very high blood pressure to pump blood up to his brain 20 feet high! But he also has a special way to drop that pressure when he bends down to drink or his brain would burst.

Just like our friend the beetle, God made the giraffe with all his parts, there's no way it could have gradually evolved! = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

WALL OF PROTECTION

"We have nothing to fear...except as we forget how God has led us..."

In the late 1700s General Napoleon was making war in Europe. Here is a story of faith and trust that happened back then.

The province of Schleswig, on the south shore of the Baltic Sea, was then a part of Denmark. Denmark was friends with Napoleon and that made the army from Sweden and Russia very mad at them. On the road between Stralsund and the capital city of the province, Schleswig, the army was traveling, wrecking villages and killing people as they went.

In one village the old widow, Bertha Schmidt, watched in her cottage with her grandson Karl, and his bride. They had piled furniture against the door, but that wasn't much protection against the attack on an angry army. At any moment they expected the cruel soldiers to appear.

It was a wintry night in January when this wonderful story of faith, trust and God's answer to prayer happened. The aged widow sat with her eyes fastened on her Bible. She raised her eyes and with a bright look said, "Round us a wall our God shall rear, and our proud foes shall quail with fear!"

"What! Dear mother," replied Karl, "Is your faith as strong as that? Do you really expect God to build a wall around our poor hut, strong and high enough to keep out an army?"

"Has not my son read," replied the mother, "that not a sparrow falls to the ground without our Father?"

Karl did not answer and the family sank again into silence.

Just at midnight there was a lull in the storm. They heard the great clock striking the hour of twelve.

At the same moment the faint sound of martial music caught their straining ears. The fatal time had come.

In the house the family drew closer together and as the aged mother returned the pressure of the grandson's hand, she again repeated, "Round us a wall our God shall rear, and our proud foes shall quail with fear!"

The music drew near with the confused sounds of tramping and shouting. Soon shrieks

were heard and the crackling of flames that told that the destruction was taking place.

But no hostile foot came into the widow's cottage, it stood quiet and unharmed amid the uproar, as if the angels were encamping round about it. At length the noise ceased, the storm died away and all was deathly still.

After waiting until morning and wondering at the strange silence, Karl at last opened one of the shutters. Then they understood the strange silence. The snow had piled high around the cottage, completely encircling it with a drift. The snowy wall of white had shut them in, covering the cottage from sight and from danger.

The trusting mother said,
"Faithful is He who hath promised: He also hath done it!"

"Thus the cottage was defended
By the wondrous wall of snow,
"Build, Dear Lord, a wall around us,"
Sang the mother, soft and low." = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

A FAITHFUL FRIEND

There was once a farmer who had a dog that had been very useful to him. But the dog was getting old, and sad to relate, his ungrateful master made up his mind to get rid of him by drowning him. So one day he took the dog with him to a large stream near his farm, and getting into a boat, rowed out to the deepest part of the river. He had brought along a heavy stone, which he had tied to a cord and this he fastened around the dog's neck. Then he threw him into the water.

The poor dog sank, but the cord broke, and as he rose to the surface with a whine he tried to get into the boat again. Unmoved, his cruel master pushed him off a number of times with an oar.

At last the heartless man stood up in the boat with the oar in his hands, intending to strike the dog a blow that would send him to the bottom. However in the attempt, he lost his balance, and fell into the water himself. He could not swim and would have drowned, but when the noble dog saw his master struggling in the water, in spite of the cruel treatment he had just received from him, he swam up to him, caught hold of his clothes, and brought him safe to land.

Cruel, heartless wretch! We exclaim, to treat the noble dog so; he deserved himself to drown. At

any rate we hope he had a change of heart and well repaid his faithful friend for his devotion by showering him with kindness for the rest of his days.

But stop and think a minute. Let us go back 2,000 years ago to the time when Jesus the Son of God came into this world. Though He was God Himself, the truth and the light, yet in His hands He brought nothing but love and blessing for poor ruined man. He went about doing good; healing the sick, giving sight to the blind, raising the dead, feeding the hungry, and bringing joy to the weary and sad.

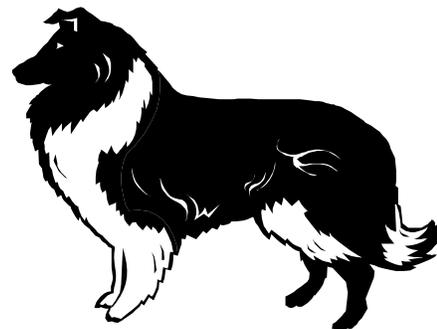
And yet what did man do with Him? They cried out "Away with Him," and nailed Him on a cross of wood.

How cruel is man's heart. But that is your heart, and mine, too. The Bible says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9 We will take His blessings from His hands one minute, but will get rid of Him the next, so we can have our own way.

But now let us look at dear Jesus on the cross, and see His love! Not a word of scorn or anger, not a finger raised to fight back; "He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb." Isaiah 53:7. It is all love going out to a world of guilty sinners. Then we hear Him pray, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

Though the cross was the place where men tried to get rid of Him, in His death it became the place where He saves all who come to Him giving their hearts to Him and asking Him to forgive their sins.

The faithful dog of our story turned around and saved his master's life, but Jesus saves not for time only but for all eternity; He gives eternal life to "Who-soever will believe." = ^ .. ^ =



ADVENT HISTORY

We are continuing our stories about the life of the messenger of the Lord for these last days, Ellen White. We started our story when she was a girl. Her name was Ellen Harmon then.

For this story, look around your house and see if you have a very large Bible, like a family Bible. If you don't, you can use any large book. Take that large book and put it on the flat palm of your left hand, then try holding it up with your arm stretched out. You will not be able to hold it for long. Now read our story for today.

Part 5 - HOLDING UP THE BIBLE!

Ellen Harmon was not strong after her accident. She was often sick. She could not take long walks or carry heavy loads. In her visions Jesus gave her special strength. Sometimes she did things that even a strong man could not do.

She would move her arms gracefully and yet if even a strong man tried to hold her hand still, he could not. Like we said last week, when in vision she did not breathe but her heart kept beating just the same. She did not know what was happening in the room where she was, but saw and heard only the things Jesus was showing to her.

One of the reasons Jesus did these things was to show the people that Ellen's visions were really from God and not just imaginary. You see, many people did not believe the visions were real, some thought they might be from the devil.

One time there was a man named Dr. Brown who had boasted that if she had a vision when he was there, he could make it stop. He was a spiritualist. So at one meeting he was there and Ellen had a vision; the people told him, "OK, now show us you can make it stop."

He went up and examined her, and then he went pale and began to shake. "She doesn't breathe!" he cried. He ran to the door wanting to leave but the people wouldn't let him out until they asked him, "What is it doctor?"

"God only knows", he cried, "Let me out of here!" and he ran out the door.

One day she was in a room with other people. They were praying. While they were praying, Jesus gave her a vision. On a table near Ellen lay a large Bible. It was very heavy. It weighed eighteen pounds.

Ellen picked up the Bible. She held it out on

her left hand. The other people watched. They said: "She cannot hold the Bible long. It is very heavy!"

Her mother said: "When Ellen is not in vision she cannot even lift that Bible. Jesus must be giving her special strength."

Everyone was looking at Ellen. She was still holding the heavy Bible. She was walking around with the Bible on her left hand. For more than a half hour she held the Bible. She was also reading the texts without looking at them and with no breath coming from her mouth! Only God can do something like that. This was her third vision.

The people said: "This is wonderful, A strong man could not hold that Bible on his hand like that for more than two minutes. Surely the Lord is giving Ellen special strength."

The Holy Bible was always a very precious book to Ellen. At another time while in vision Ellen held another Bible. It, too, was a large Bible. It weighed many pounds.

She held it on one hand high over her head. With the other hand she turned the pages.

She pointed to many verses. She was not looking at the Bible. She was looking toward heaven. All this time she was saying verses. The people listened.

They said: "She is not reading, for she is looking toward heaven. Does she know to which verse she is pointing?" Ellen was still holding the heavy Bible. Her sister stood on a chair so she could watch as Ellen pointed.

She looked toward heaven all this time. She pointed to the verses and said each one right. We have a list of 50 verses she read and pointed out one time. You can find the list in the book 'Early Writings' or ask Temkit to email it to you if you would like to see it.

After the vision Ellen told the people what Jesus had said to her. She told them of the things, that she had seen. Anyone, who ever saw Ellen in vision, never forgot how wonderful it was. They knew it was from Jesus! = ^ .. ^ =

BUILDING FOR JESUS

This week TEMKIT is starting a new section to talk about our Christian characters. Did you know what is the only thing we can take to heaven with us? It's not our toys, or books or even our Bibles! It is our character. All those who go to heaven will have a character like Jesus.

What is a character? Well, it is what we are,

our real selves. It is what we say, how we think about things and how we act. Jesus has a perfect character, and did you know that everywhere in God's great universe his children have characters just like that! Only in this world that chose to follow Satan are people selfish. Only here is God's law of love broken.

Because we are born here and grow up here where Satan has his evil kingdom, we don't understand God and His law very well. It is more natural for us to be selfish like Satan than loving like Jesus. But when we give our hearts to Jesus and choose to become like Him, then His power is given to us to choose His ways and live His kind of life.

So each week we are going to have stories and talks to help us learn more about building a character for Jesus.

The first thing I need to tell you about is something that even many grownups have not yet learned, but it is most important. It is only by choosing to have Jesus' character instead of ours that we become like Him. The only power we have is to choose. But when we do, Jesus sends us the power to be able to change.

If we try to change ourselves, we can try so hard, but we can't do it! The Bible asks us if a leopard can change his spots. He can't! It also asks us if we can make ourselves taller by trying. Of course we can't, but Jesus is the Creator. He is the One who made us. He can change the leopard's spots and he can change our character.

But, and this is a big but, Jesus gave us all a precious gift when He made us. It is the gift that makes us people and not puppets. It is called 'Free Choice' or 'Free Will'. He never forces us to change.

So we can't change ourselves by trying. Jesus can change us, but only if we want to be changed. So that is the secret; Our Choice! We choose, we pray and tell Jesus we want to change some of our habits. We tell Him we are sorry we have been doing this wrong thing. We ask Him to forgive us and wash away the bad thing with His blood.

Then we do one more thing, we tell Jesus that we don't want that sin any more. We ask Him to take it away and give us Power to do right! He will Always say 'yes' to that prayer. Remember, Jesus never makes us do things; we Choose; Jesus Changes.

So we learn, and we pray and we choose and Jesus gives power and changes us. Then we learn

more, and pray more, and get more power from Jesus and change more; and that's how characters are built. = ^ .. ^ =



WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5:

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days. There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

"THE PLAN OF SALVATION"

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

Genesis 3:15.

Read Genesis 3:8-24

Sunday

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

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

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

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

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

He was giving them a chance to repent, but Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent, and they both blamed God. Adam said "The woman which Thou gavest to be with me; and when Eve said "The serpent", she was saying 'why did God make the serpent.'

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

Monday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thought - Isn't it sad that when people do wrong they always try and get others to do it too!

Tuesday

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday

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

Many people, who don't understand God's loving character, think that God was very harsh to put all those curses on Adam and Eve for their disobedience. But these curses, each one of them were things that were needed to make it easier for

them in their fallen state to be able to believe in the Redeemer and be saved from sin.

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

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

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

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

Thursday

Text: Genesis 3:23 “Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.”

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

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

looking for the magic 'fountain of youth'.

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

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

Friday

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

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

They came to the gates of Eden to worship and make the sacrifice. When he offered that first lamb and saw it die, it was a terrible lesson about what sin does, in bringing pain and death to all who choose it. It is important to understand that when people were to offer the lambs on the altars to God, it was not a gift they were giving to God. Oh, No! It was to show God that they accepted the Gift He was going to give for them. Later on people forgot about the coming Saviour and thought they could pay for their own sins by sacrificing lots of animals.

That is the difference between the real sacrifices and the offerings the pagans made to their demon gods. Those pagan offerings were a gift to please the demon god, but the real sacrifice was to accept the gift God made to us. To say, "I am sorry for sin and I need the Saviour to wash my sins away.

Thought - So you see, people in the Old Testament times were saved by faith in Jesus' blood, just the same as we are. Everybody who goes to heaven will be there because of the gift of Jesus, the Son of God. = ^ .. ^ =

